



Open source as a career

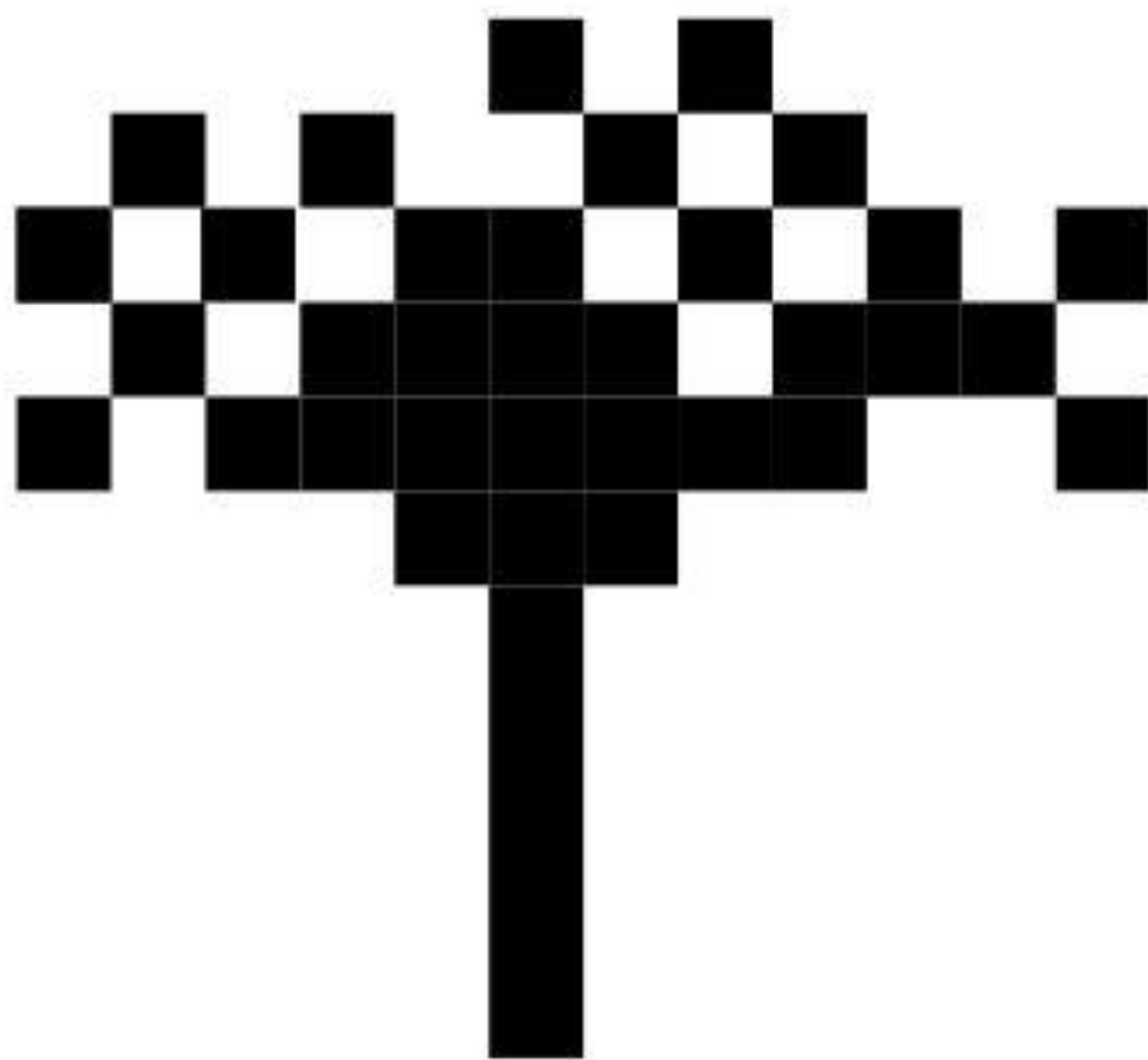
Being a full time open source developer in the Bitcoin space

**Find your
passion!**

Who are you?

Hi, I'm Calvin

- Working on layer 1 scaling



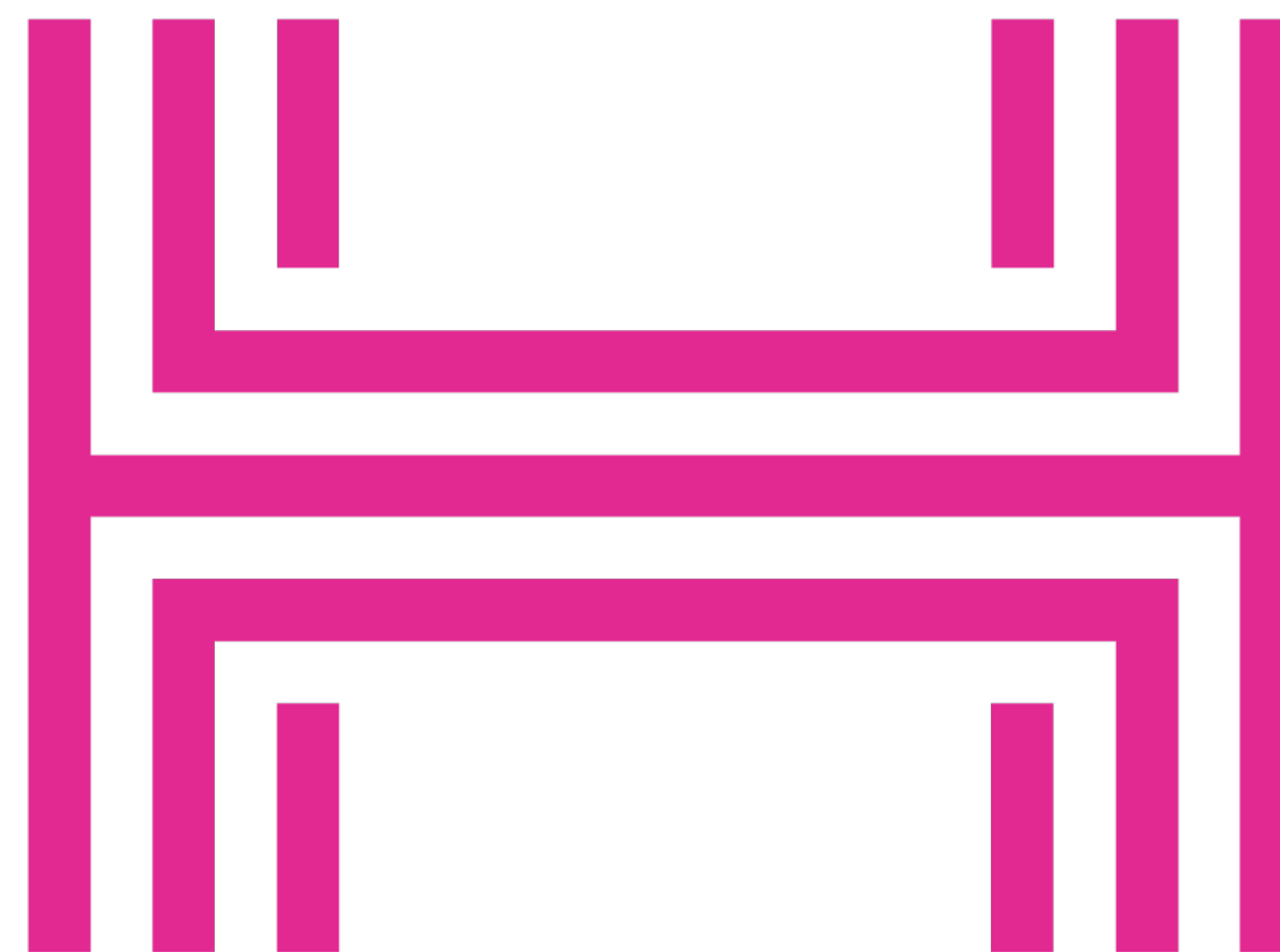
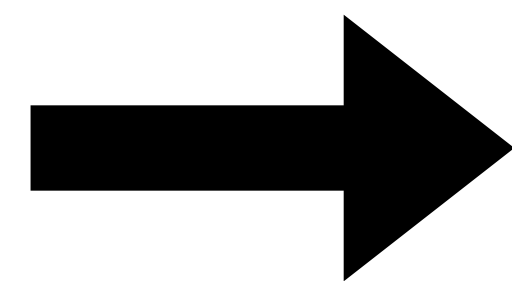
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Who are you?

Hi, I'm Calvin

- Working on layer 1 scaling
- 4th year of open source development

 BitMEX



Who are you?

Hi, I'm Calvin

- Working on layer 1 scaling
- 4th year of open source development
- **Passionate about using Bitcoin trustlessly!**

Bitcoin Core -

Overview

Send

Receive

Transactions

Wallet:

Balances

Available:

BTC

Pending:

BTC

Total:

BTC

Recent transactions

BTC

I wanted to run a node...

Was very difficult to do so!

I found my passion...

**Make it easy for *everyone*
to use Bitcoin trustlessly**

It's hard!

Being a funded Bitcoin open source developer

3 cons of open source work

My personal experiences

- Getting funding is not easy

**Grantors expect prior
contributions**

My personal case

As a Utreexo contributor

- Started my contributions on August 2019

My personal case

As a Utreexo contributor

- Started my contributions on August 2019
- First PR merged in October 2019

My personal case

As a Utreexo contributor

- Started my contributions on August 2019
- First PR merged in October 2019
- **First funding in August 2020**

**A year of contributing without
expectations of getting funded**

**Years of contributing without
expectations of getting funded**

**Passion
required**

Not profit motivated

3 cons of open source work

My personal experiences

- Getting funding is not easy
- Raises are *extremely* rare in OSS funding

**My grant amount has been the
same for 3 years**

3 cons of open source work

My personal experiences

- Getting funding is not easy
- Raises are *extremely* rare in OSS funding
- Grants are unstable

**Typically a year. Shorter grants
are 6 months**

**Open source funding needs
improvement**

“I’m considering moving onto non-Bitcoin projects after Utreexo”

Me, a month ago

“You are gonna be bored”

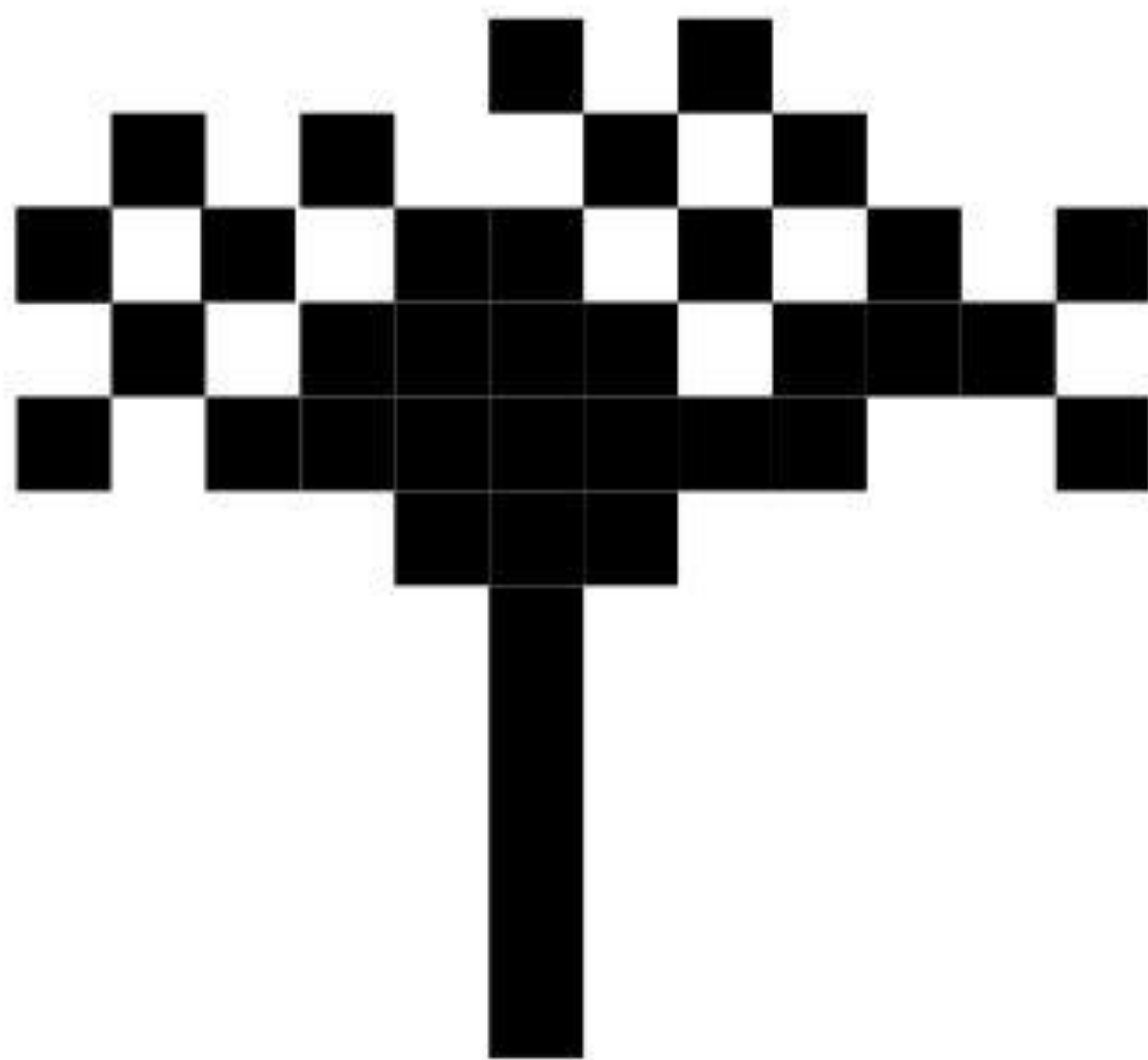
My friend

3 pros of open source work

My personal experiences

- **Complete autonomy**

I get to work on what ***I'm***
passionate about



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3 pros of open source work

My personal experiences

- Complete autonomy
- Solving fun problems

Out of Order Block Validation with Utreexo Accumulators

BitMEX Research 20 May 2021

Abstract: In this piece, BitMEX grantee [Calvin Kim](#) explains why the order in which blocks are validated does not

3 pros of open source work

My personal experiences

- Complete autonomy
- Solving fun problems
- Improving what I'm
passionate about

I want a full node on my phone

**I want a faster initial block
download**

How do I find my passion?

“I want to be a Bitcoin developer, where do I start?”

A lot of people

**Did you ever use Bitcoin
trustlessly?**

**Being a power user of Bitcoin
helps you find pain points**

Summer of Bitcoin

contribute.

a global, online summer internship program focused on introducing university students to bitcoin open-source development and design



Summer of Bitcoin

What is it?

- Internship program for university students

Summer of Bitcoin

What is it?

- Internship program for university students
- Mentors from different open source projects

Summer of Bitcoin

What is it?

- Internship program for university students
- Mentors from different open source projects
- Example projects for you to choose

How do I get funding?

How do I get funding?

Application stage

- Look for grantors that share your vision

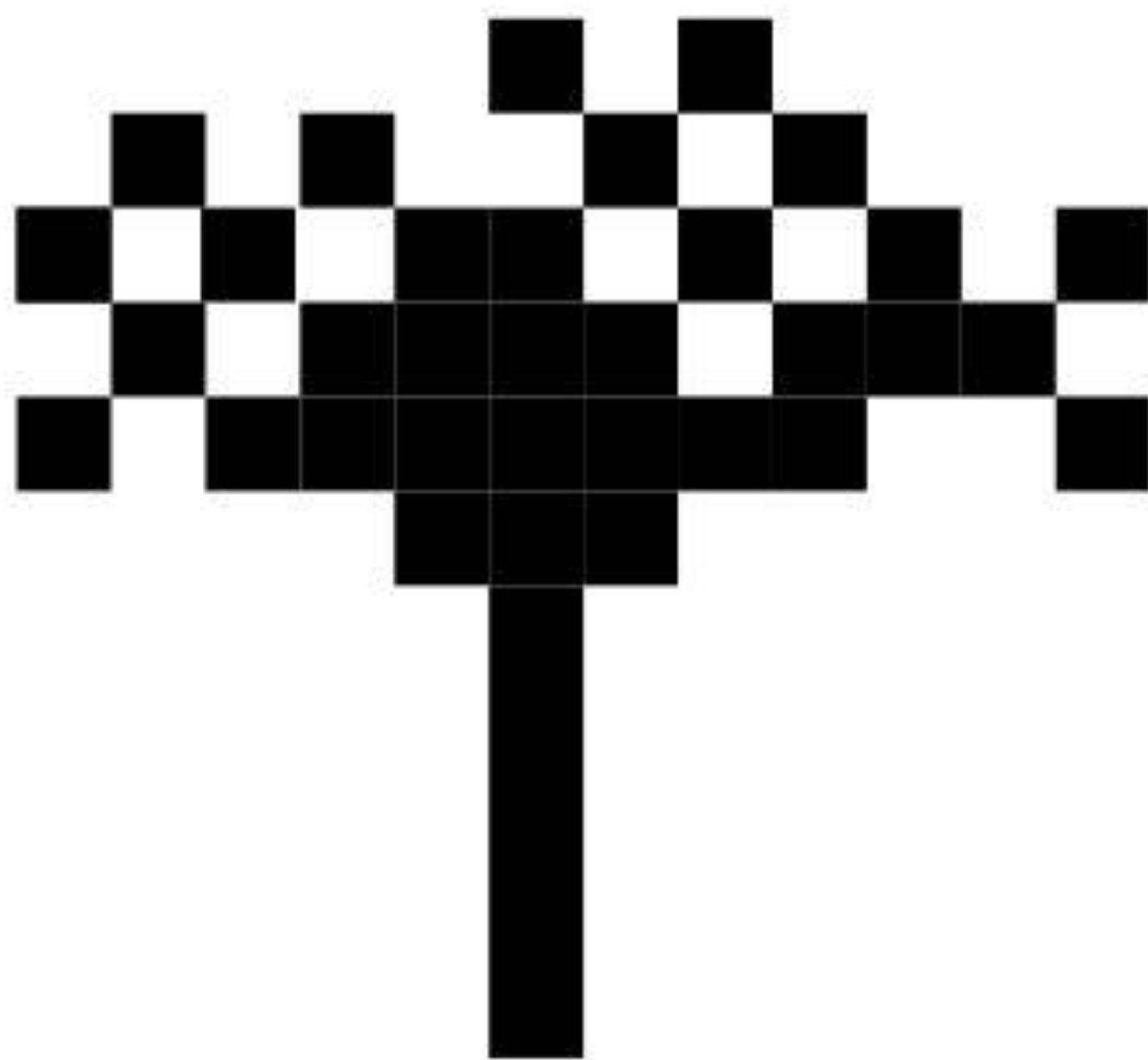
- spiral.xyz
- opensats.org
- brink.dev
- hrf.org/devfund
- vinteu.org

- spiral.xyz → Design, Rust, Lightning
- opensats.org → Maintainers, protocol design
- brink.dev → Bitcoin Core
- hrf.org/devfund → UX, privacy
- vinteu.org → Brazilian

How do I get funding?

Application stage

- Look for grantors that share your vision
- How does your work help Bitcoin?



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How do I get funding?

Application stage

- Look for grantors that share your vision
- How does your work help Bitcoin?
- Be steadfast

Steadfastness

Appreciated by all grantors

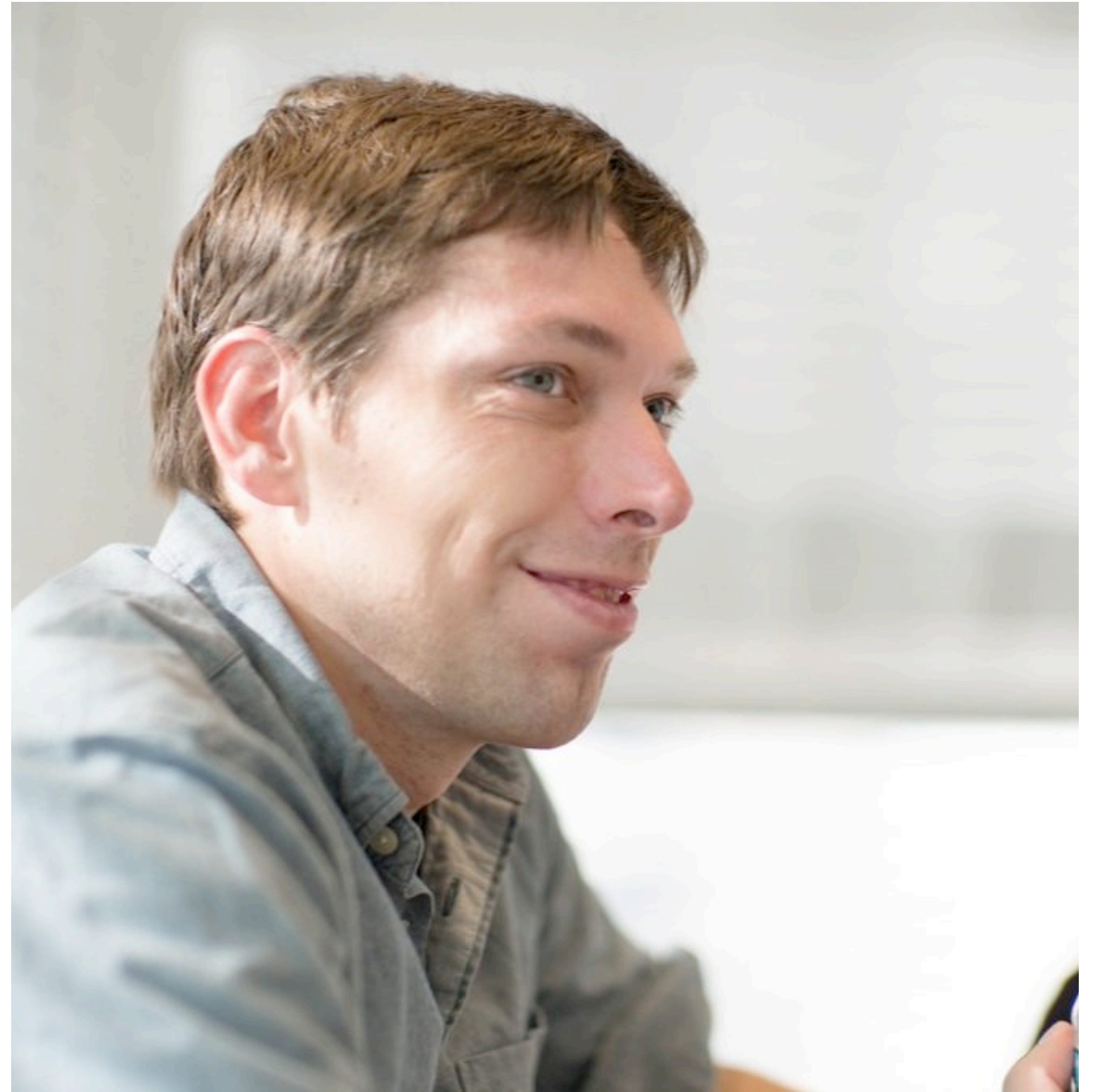
My secret sauce...



Tadge Dryja

Prominent Bitcoin developer

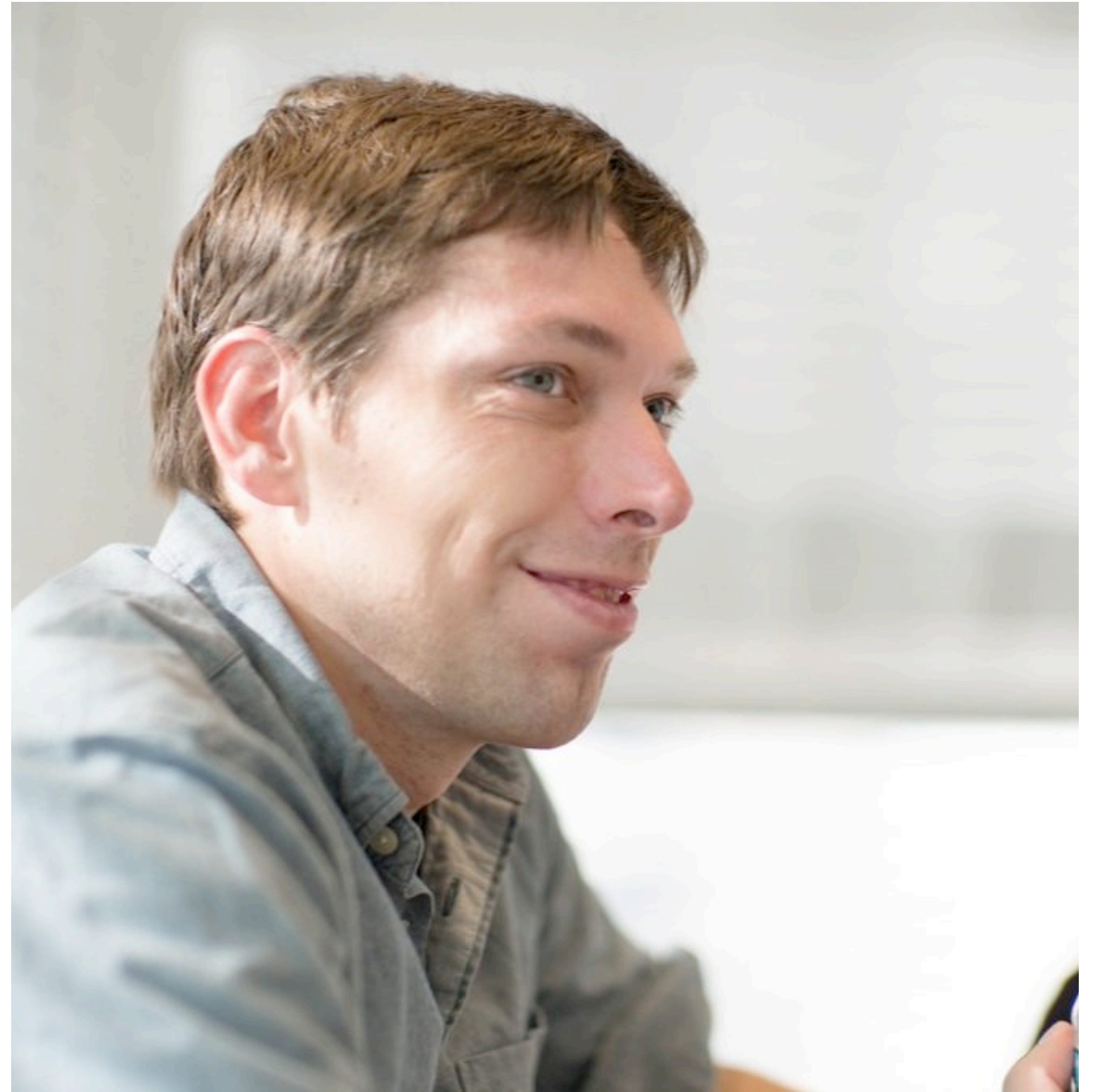
- Lightning Network paper co-author



Tadge Dryja

Prominent Bitcoin developer

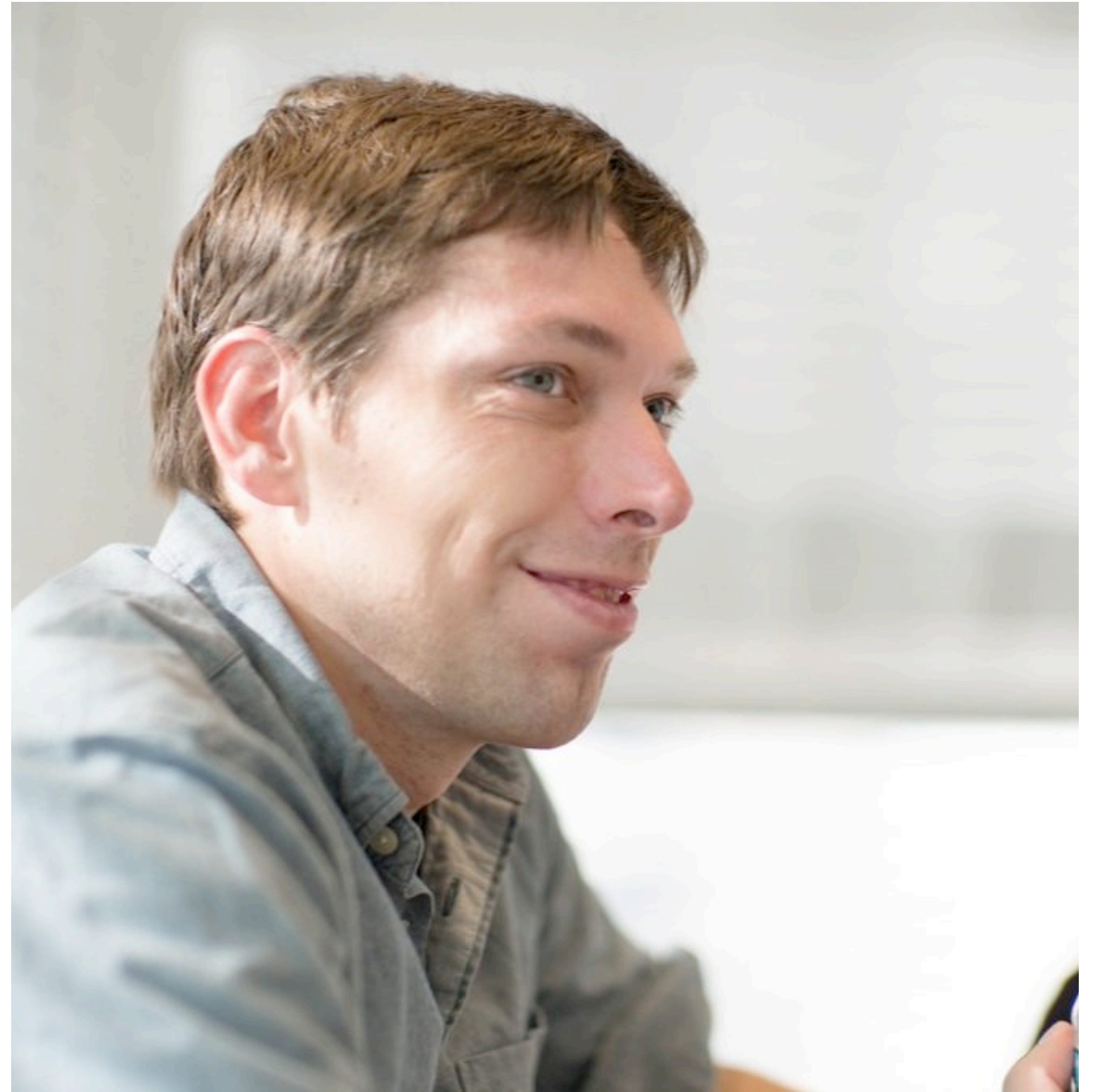
- Lightning Network
paper co-author
- Discreet Log
Contracts paper
author



Tadge Dryja

Prominent Bitcoin developer

- Lightning Network paper co-author
- Discreet Log Contracts paper author
- Utxrexo paper author



I didn't have to sell Utreexo

**Contributing to a project that
has a prominent developer**

Closing thoughts

**Why do you
like Bitcoin?**

**Improve what you
like about Bitcoin**

**Those who do this well
usually get funded**

Slides



github.com/kcalvinalvin/slides-for-indonesia-bitcoin-conference-2023