Contributing to open source projects

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Overview

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Motivation - why contribute to open source?

- Skill development
- Giving back to the community/ to society
- Helping others grow
- Exploration of interests
- Building a professional network
- Feedback from highly qualified people
- Building a public portfolio

Possibilities of contributing to open source

- Organising events (workshops, meetups, sprints, conferences)
- Designing (UX & UI improvement, branding, merchandise)
- Newsletter writing
- Documentation (usage examples, tutorials, translations)
- Maintenance (labelling issues, closing issues)
- Public relations (managing social media accounts, answering questions)
- Code (submissions and reviews)

Finding the right project

- Does it have an open source licence?
- Which projects do you use?
- Which projects do you want to use?
- Look for issues with the tags “easy”, “good first issue”, “help wanted”
- Welcoming community?
  - Are new contributors welcomed?
  - Is the communication professional, supportive, and friendly?
  - Inclusive community?
- Is the project active?
- Check social media and newsletters for upcoming workshops and sprints

Navigating a project

Read

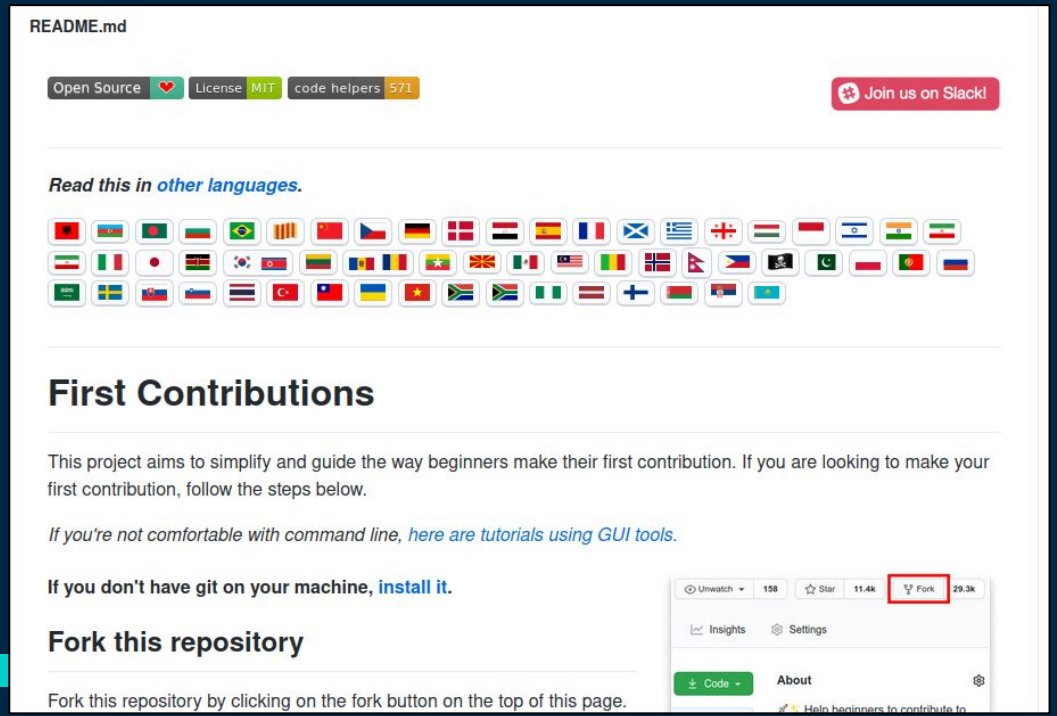
- The README file
- The “Contributing” documentation
- The Code of Conduct
- Additional documentation if applicable

Look through

- Issue tracker
- Pull requests
- Discussions in mailing lists, forums, chat channels

Contributing code

If you have never contributed to an open source project before, you can start with this: https://github.com/firstcontributions/first-contributions


README.md

Open Source | License MIT | code helpers 571

Join us on Slack!

Read this in other languages.

First Contributions

This project aims to simplify and guide the way beginners make their first contribution. If you are looking to make your first contribution, follow the steps below.

If you're not comfortable with command line, here are tutorials using GUI tools.

If you don't have git on your machine, install it.

Fork this repository

Fork this repository by clicking on the fork button on the top of this page.

Unwatch 158 | Star 11.4k | Fork 29.3k

Insights | Settings

Code | About

Walks you through the standard open source workflow of

fork -> clone -> edit -> pull request

Contributing code

Ways of getting started with contributing to a project of your choice

- Opening a pull request - do this
  - For small fixes
  - For working on a contribution that was asked for or that has been discussed
- Opening an issue - do this if
  - You would like to discuss an idea
  - You would like to propose a new feature
  - Report a bug/ an error

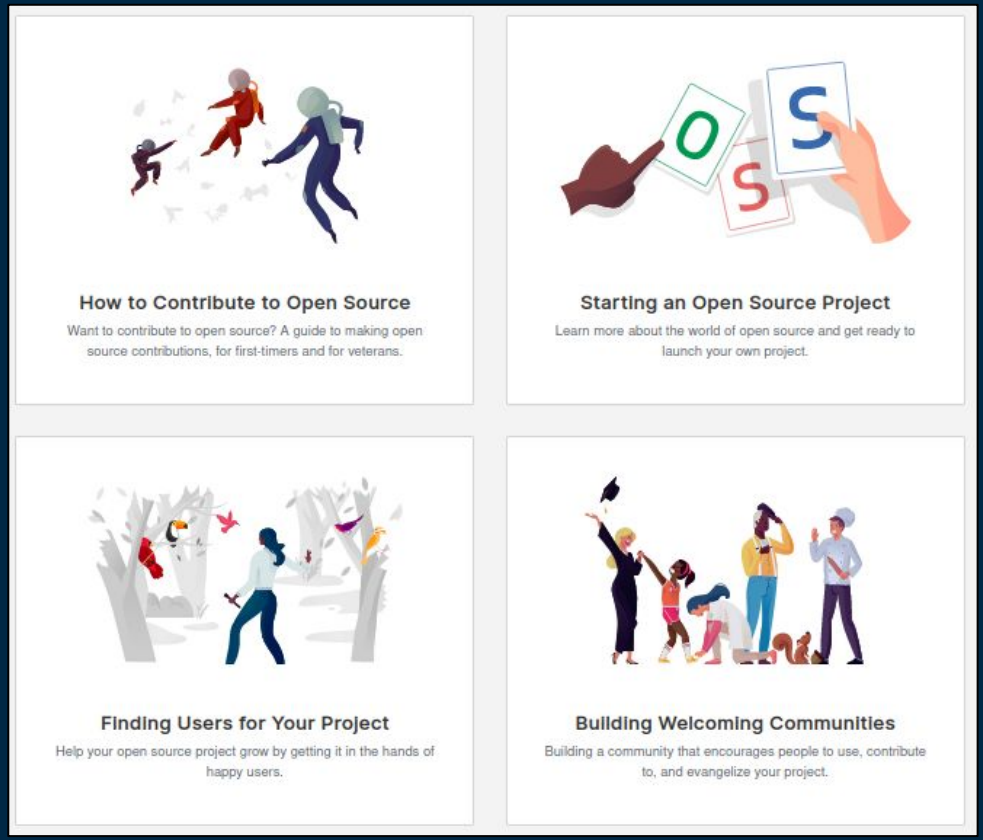
Contributing code

Hooray! You made your first code contribution! What happens next?

- You don’t get a response
  - After a week or two you could ask for a reviewer
  - If you still don’t get a response - it’s ok, it happens. Don’t get discouraged!
- You get a change request
  - This is normal and a great opportunity for you to enhance your skills.
  - If you can’t figure out how to implement the changes, you can ask for help.
- Your contribution gets declined
  - This is also not uncommon. You can ask for clarification if needed.
- Your contribution gets accepted
  - Your changes get merged into the main branch of the repo and you made your first contribution!

References

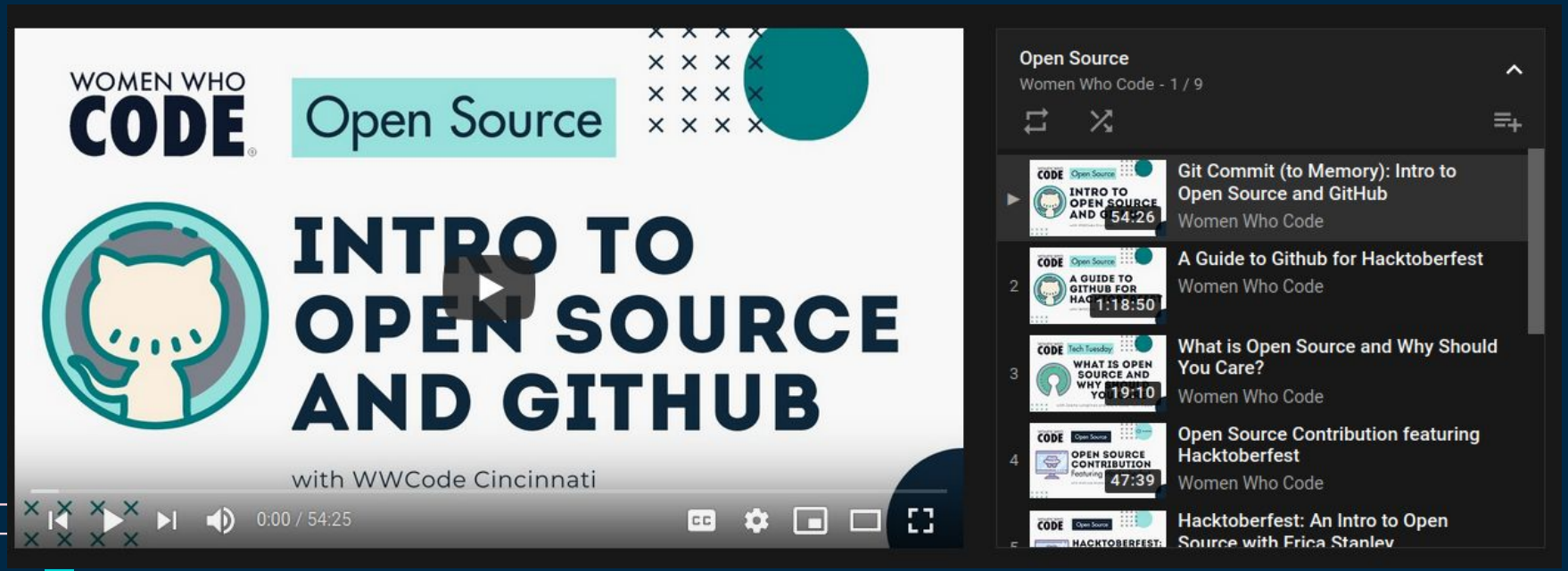
https://opensource.guide



References

Women Who Code Open Source Playlist:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRrzSAz9uOo&list=PLVcEZG2JPVhcolw04px15_IrBa9Upt_ry

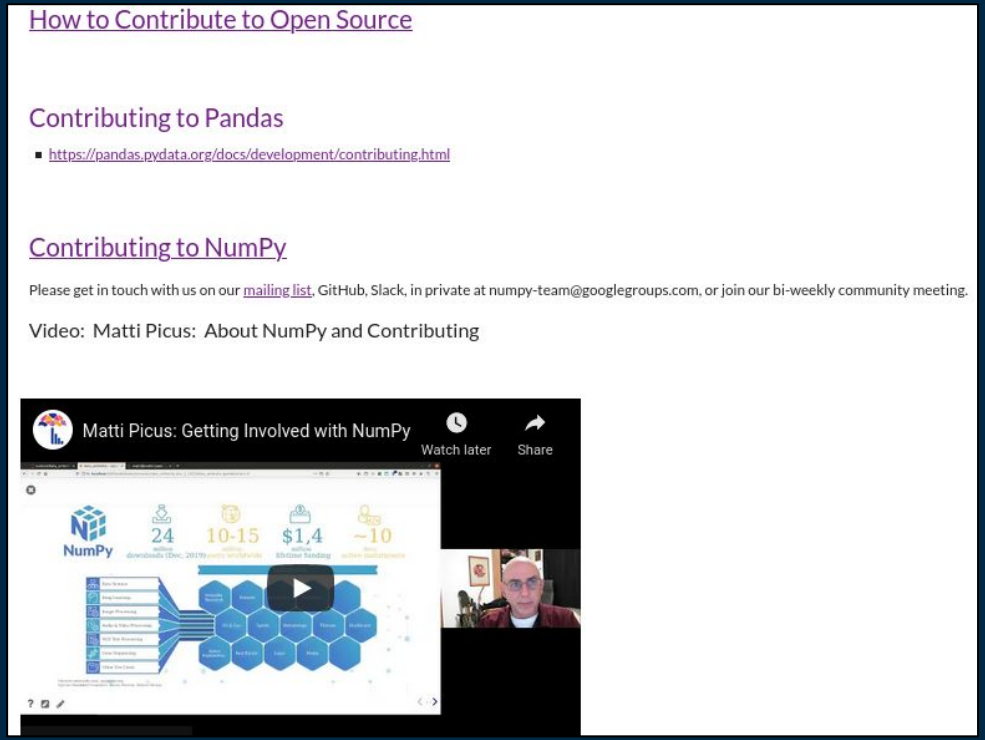


References

Data Umbrella

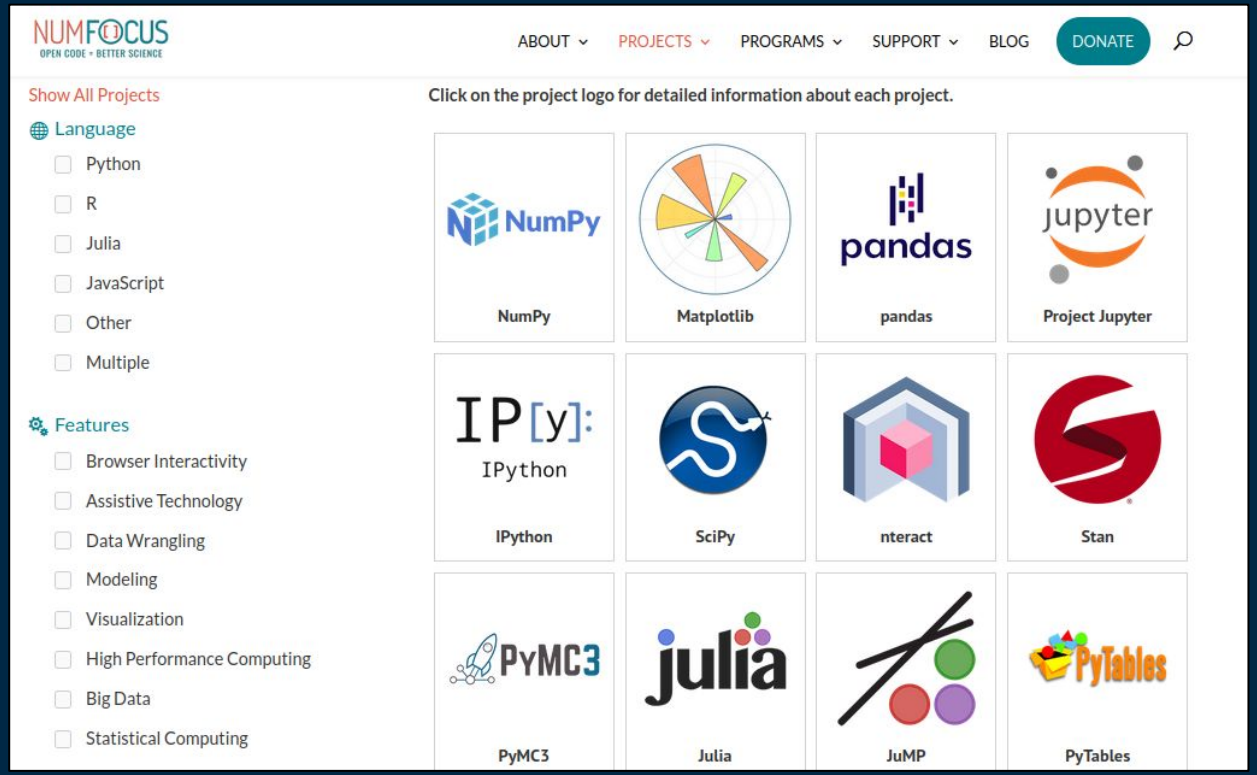
https://www.dataumbrella.org/open-source/contributing

https://github.com/data-umbrella/data-umbrella-scikit-learn-sprint



References

https://numfocus.org



Let’s connect! :-)

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Thank you!

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