

How rOpenSci performs peer-review

Mauro Lepore

<https://github.com/maurolepore/ropensci-review>

Outline

- Introduction
 - Who are you and me?
 - Why this process and why talk?
- Two crucial components
 - The way we communicate.
 - The way we build and review software.
- Wrap up
 - Takeaways.
 - Questions and comments.

Introduction

Who are you and me?

About you:

- You're curious about rOpenSci's review process.
- You may want to author, review, or edit an R package for rOpenSci.

About me:

- I build tools to help researchers get the most out of their data.
- Before I was a biologist.
- I joined rOpenSci in 2018 and played different roles.

Why this process and why talk?

- [Why do we review software?](#)
- The whole process is complex and can feel overwhelming. This talk helps by:
 - highlighting the most important stuff.
 - showing you where you can find the rest.

Two crucial components

Two crucial components

- The way we communicate
- The way we build and review software

Two crucial components

“[Helping to improve software] in a kind and respectful way is just as important as the technical aspect”.

– Yanina Bellini Saibene

The way we communicate

Be kind and respectful

- “It’s like when I hold the door open for someone.”
- “Even when someone volunteers their time, there is a cost of their time and effort.”
- Setting expectations for open source participation

The way we communicate

Examples

- A reviewer provides feedback.
- An editor rejects a package that is out-of-scope.

The way we build and review software

For authors

- [Package categories in scope for rOpenSci review.](#)
- [Guide to building a package.](#)
- [Guide to submitting a package.](#)
- [Choose between different types of submission.](#)

The way we build and review software

For reviewers

- [Guide for reviewers.](#)
- [Template for reviewers.](#)

The way we build and review software

For editors

- [Guide for editors.](#)
- [Template for editors.](#)
- [@ropensci-review-bot help.](#)

Wrap up

Takeaways

- Be kind and respectful.
- The process is complex but you'll find lots of help.

Questions and comments?

Thank you!

Mauro | maurolepore@gmail.com