OVS Inclusive Naming

OVS + OVN Conference Prague, 20th - 21st November 2024

Simon Horman



A Tale in Three Parts

- Why?
- What?
- How?



Why Inclusive Naming?

- Language shapes our communication
- Communication is vital to a community
- Normalisation of exclusive terms excludes people
- We should do better



What is Inclusive Naming?

- Understanding terms that are exclusive
- Seeking alternatives that are inclusive
- Coming to consensus in the community
- Like naming in computer science, this is the hard part



Word List

- Surveyed existing work in this area
- Consulted with peers
- Proposed adopting inclusive naming Initiative's Word List v1.0

In patches

- Documented adoption of word list
- Addressed high priority words in documentation, comments and code, avoiding external API changes
- Renamed primary development branch as main



Aras for Future Work

- Tooling
- Address naming in external APIs
- Awareness (this talk?)



- Thanks to Jakob Meng, Aaron Conole, Ilya Maximents and others for your support
- Thanks to Mark Michelson for Inclusive Naming work for OVN

