

How to Start Your Open Source Contributor Journey

Blockchain is waiting for you!



Ecosystem Development Team



Barrie is the Senior Technical Writer for Tendermint, where she manages technical content to grow the blockchain developer base. Contributor to developer docs and tutorials for Starport and other open source codebases for the Cosmos SDK and maintainer of other developer-focused content that enables users to build their own blockchain apps.



Sonia is a Developer Relations Engineer at Tendermint where she helps developers build the most powerful tools for distributed networks. She has been involved with open source from the past four years and part of several open source communities like Firefox, Chromium and Kubernetes. She is passionate about blockchain, open source tooling and open source communities. Apart from having lots of interest in computing in general, she loves to advocate for open source, minority groups and teach students.

Who are we?

One of you!

Open Source sounds great, but...

- I am not a good enough programmer to contribute to open source
- I don't know the project well enough to contribute
- I don't write code, so I have nothing to contribute
- Contributing is hard and intimidating



Starport

<https://github.com/tendermint/starport>

Cosmos SDK

<https://github.com/cosmos/cosmos-sdk>

Cosmos Community

→ Code → Docs → Tutorials → Blogs → Workshops → Events

many more...

Why are we here? What will we talk about?

- Why do so many people around the globe contribute to open source?
- Why is open source software important to blockchain development?

Just see the LA Blockchain Summit
Mission Statement!

- Mass-adoption of blockchain technologies fosters exposure, education, collaboration, sustainable investing, and development
- Educational content accessible to everyone for free

**Blockchain technology
fulfills its full potential
only if it is accessible
and available to all.**



Reason-1

Improve the software you use and rely on

- When you find a bug in an open source software you use
- Look at the source to see if you can patch it yourself
- Contribute the fix
- Enjoy the next version with your fix
- Wash, rinse, repeat

Improve existing skills

Open source is a safe place to improve and build skills

It's not only about code, it's about helping the community

There is a task for you:

- Coding User
- interface design
- Graphic design
- Writing
- Even organizing

Reason-3

Find people who follow your passion

- Meet people with similar interests
- Open source projects are warm, welcoming communities
- We keep coming back for years
- Build connections
- Make friendships

Mentor and be mentored

- Work with others on a shared project
- Explain how you do things
- Teaching is the best way to learn something!
- Learn how they do things
- Ask for help
- Learning and teaching are fulfilling activities

Build your digital footprint

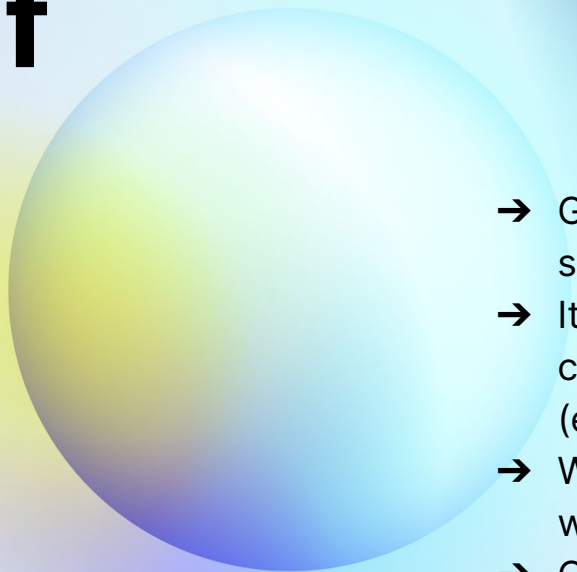
- Build public artifacts
- Grow a reputation
- Enhance your career
- Start a career
- Change a career
- GitHub is a digital resume

Polish your people skills

Open source is a safe space to use leadership and management skills

- Learn to work remotely with cross-culture teams
- Resolve conflicts, in codebase and in negotiations
- Organize teams of people
- Prioritize work
- Support and collaborate in PRs and issues

Empower Yourself

- 
- Gratify, empower, affirm, be seen
 - It's empowering to make changes, even small ones (especially small ones)
 - When you see a typo on a website or in the docs, go fix it
 - Change how you see and experience the world

Open Source Roles

What does everyone do?

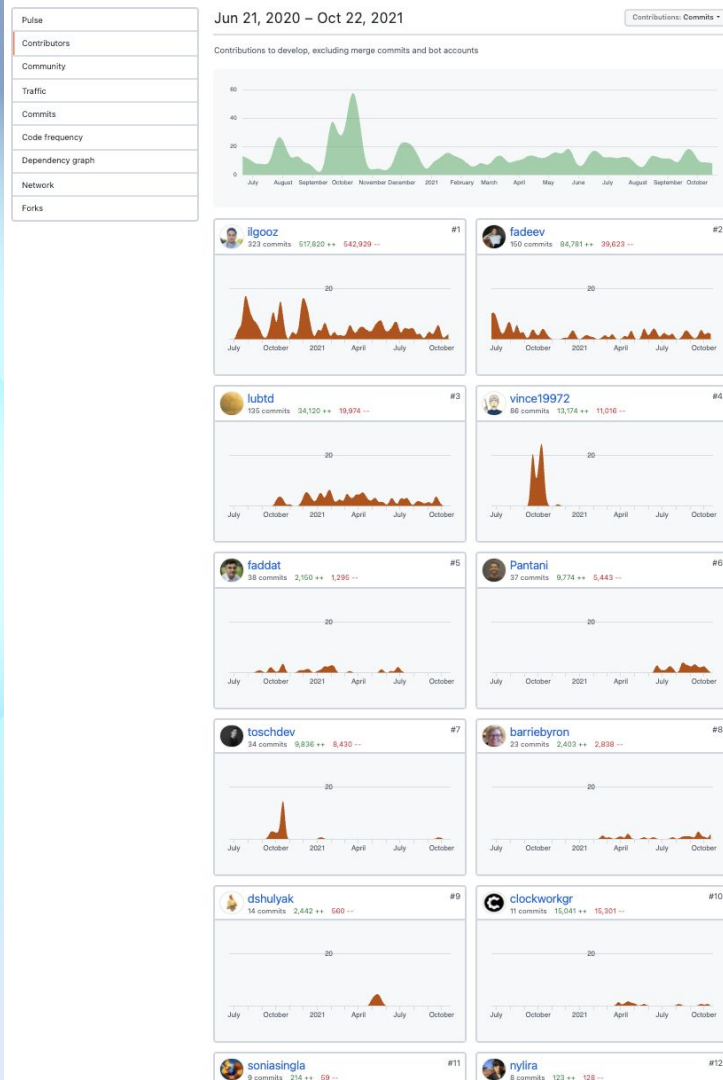
There's a place for you!

Projects are organized with these people

- **Author:** People or entity that created the project
- **Owner:** People with administrative ownership
- **Maintainers:** Contributors with project responsibility, vision, management; might also be authors or owners
- **Contributors:** You! Everyone who contributes to the project
- **Community members:** You again! People who use the project

Meet the people behind Starport

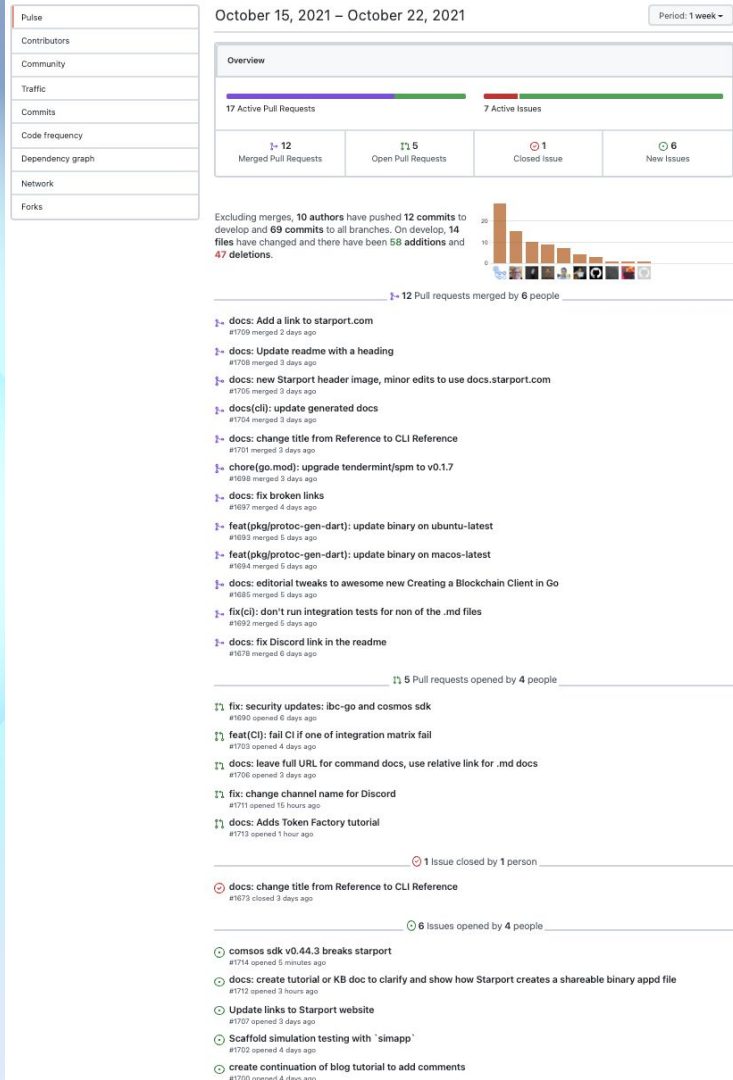
- Talk about project and contributor.md file and docs/contributing files
- Who works on the tutorials?
- <https://github.com/tendermint/starport/blob/develop/docs/contributing/index.md#who-works-on-the-tutorials>
- Meet the people behind Starport and contributors.



Check the project pulse

- Select a healthy project
- <https://github.com/tendermint/starport/pulse>

COSMOS



Read before you jump

- Practice the 15-minute rule
- Check the Discord servers
- Do a web search
- Look at repo issues

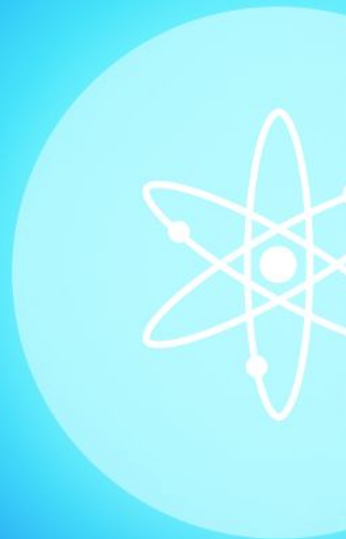
Docs: Read, write, fix

- GitHub projects
- Look for /docs directory
- Look for /contributing
- Write the Docs global community of people who care about documentation
- Cosmos SDK resources [cosmos-sdk/DOCS_README.md at master · cosmos/cosmos-sdk](#)
- Starport docs resources <https://github.com/tendermint/starport/tree/develop/docs/contributing>



CØSMOS OCTOBER

CODE FEST



Open Source Souvenirs

- How can you contribute to the Cosmos Ecosystem?
- How to contribute to open-source projects as a non-coder?



Learning resource souvenirs

- Starport Developer Guide with walkthrough tutorials, build a chain in minutes

<https://docs.starport.com/>

- Starport Codebase

<https://github.com/tendermint/starport>

- Starport Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXMndYLK7OuvjvEISeSWJ1Q/about>



HackAtom VI

- Cosmos is the second-largest blockchain ecosystem after Ethereum. Please join in building the decentralized web!
- HackAtom VI is the biggest hackathon in Cosmos history with a total prize pool of more than \$1,000,000 in ATOM.
- November 11 and ends December 8
- Come and join us and hack!
- www.hackatom.org



Stay connected

We're on LinkedIn and GitHub!



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