

That's a nice Postgres you have there, would be a shame if you were to lose it...



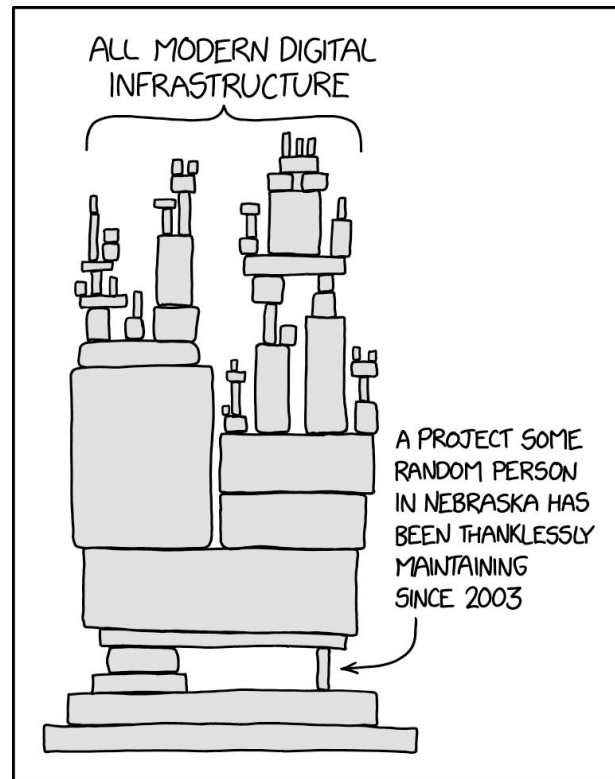
whoami

- Open Source Community @ Aiven
- Ex-Microsoft, Grafana Labs
- Devopsdays organizer
- Community over Code organizer
- Meetup (you guessed it) organizer



The State of Open Source Software

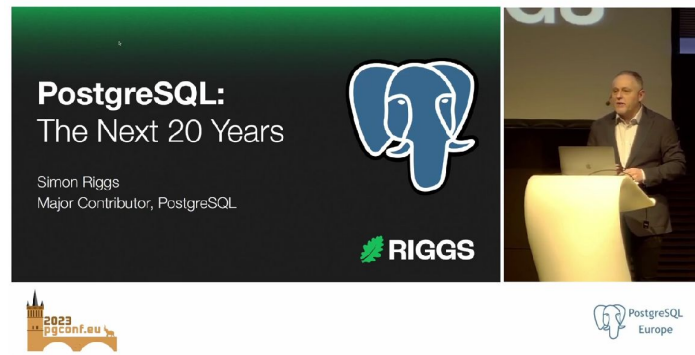
- 90% companies use open source (OpenUK report)
- FOSS constitutes 70-90% of software solutions (Linux Foundation)
- 89% contain open source more than 4 years out of date (2023 Synopsis Report)
- 84% contain at least one known vulnerability
- 44% are solo maintainers (2023 Tidelift report)
- 58% have considered quitting the project
- 22% have actually quit maintaining a project



Popularity contest

PostgreSQL: The next 20 Years, Simon Riggs, PGConf EU 2023

- Most Popular Database for Pro Developers
 - 49% of 60,369 responders
- Most Admired Database by Developers
 - 71% of 75,996 responders
- Most Desired Database by Developers
 - 42% of 75,996 responders, with the nearest other database only 24% desired



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8W-J36lxYv4>



<https://survey.stackoverflow.co/2023/>







Money makes the world go round

- 12M USD from companies to FOSS in 2023 is not a sustainable single model for the ecosystem
- Most maintainers are unable to do the work **unless companies hire them for it**

Over 3/4 of unpaid maintainers would prefer to get paid

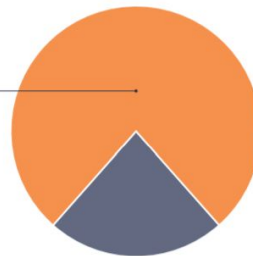
MYTH:

“
MAINTAINERS PREFER
TO WORK ON OPEN SOURCE
AS AN UNPAID HOBBY.”

REALITY:

77%

of unpaid maintainers
would like to get paid



n=194

People make the world go round too

- A very homogenous [community](#)
 - Postgres Core: 7/7 are white dudes
 - Major: 41/39 are dudes
 - Contributors: 94/91 are dudes
- Maintainer burnout & succession planning
- Diverse roles and recognize not-code contribs



Participating in the development community

Information about the mailing lists is available on the [Mailing Lists](#) page, also reproduced here for your convenience.

Mailing List Culture

The PostgreSQL community exists world-wide on our mailing lists. As you dive into our community, you will encounter people with wildly varying levels of expertise for databases, software development and system administration. Excellent technical and professional advice is given freely on the mailing lists, but there is no guarantee or expectation that anyone can solve any particular problem. Flaming or personal attacks are not tolerated on our mailing lists, IRC or related forums connected to the postgresql.org site.

Above all, the PostgreSQL community's expectation is that each person treats the other with respect, and grants each other the benefit-of-the-doubt when it comes to terse or critical language. The Robustness Principle applies to participation in our community: Be conservative in what you send; be liberal in what you accept.

That said, **our community is known for its aggressive and technical discussion style.** For those unfamiliar with our community, our discussions can come across as insulting or overly critical. Please keep in mind that as a new contributor, you are encountering a new culture. Every culture has different rules about appropriate behavior, social norms, and expectations. Much like when learning a new language or visiting a new, unfamiliar country, your experiences while joining the PostgreSQL community will undoubtedly include an "adjustment cycle". That can and likely will include high and low moments, friendly or otherwise.

As with any encounter with unfamiliar culture, **you must take some time to get acquainted.** Take extra time to communicate clearly. Ask for clarification if you're confused or a response doesn't make sense to you. Be careful to avoid personal attacks if someone makes a mistake. If there's one universal constant, it is that everyone makes mistakes.

Remember that we are a learning community, and with few exceptions, people are communicating with the intention of learning, sharing and refining ideas.

Thank you

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[Cracking the Code to Executive Support](#), Addie Girouard @ FOSDEM 2024