OSS Leftovers

By *Roy Schestowitz*
Created *15/09/2019 - 11:15am*
Submitted by Roy Schestowitz on Sunday 15th of September 2019 11:15:21 AM Filed under OSS [1]

- **Workarea Commerce Goes Open-source** [2]

  The enterprise commerce platform ? Workarea is releasing its software to the open-source community. In case you don?t already know, Workarea was built to unify commerce, content management, merchant insights, and search. It was developed upon open-source technologies since its inception like Elasticsearch, MongoDB, and Ruby on Rails. Workarea aims to provide unparalleled services in terms of scalability and flexibility in modern cloud environments. Its platform source code and demo instructions are available on GitHub here.

- **Wyoming CV Pilot develops open-source RSU monitoring system** [3]

  The team working on the US Department of Transportation?s (USDOT) Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment Program in Wyoming have developed open-source applications for the operation and maintenance of Roadside Units (RSUs) that can be viewed by all stakeholders.

  The Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) Connected Vehicle Pilot implementation includes the deployment of 75 RSUs along 400 miles (644km) of I-80. With long drive times and tough winters in the state, WYDOT needed an efficient way to monitor the performance of and manage and update these units to maintain peak performance. With no suitable product readily available, the WYDOT Connected Vehicle team developed an open-source application that allows authorized transportation management center (TMC) operators to monitor and manage each RSU at the roadside. The WYDOT team found that the application can also be used as a public-facing tool that shows a high-level status report of the pilot?s equipment.

  [...]

For other state or local agencies and departments of transportation (DOTs) wishing to deploy a similar capability to monitor and manage RSUs, the application code has been made available on the USDOT?s Open Source Application Development Portal (OSADP). The code is downloadable and can be used and customized by other agencies free of charge. WYDOT developed this capability using USDOT funds under the CV Pilot program as open-source software and associated documentation. The application represents one of six that the program will be providing during its three phases.

- **[You Too Can Make These Fun Games (No Experience Necessary)](#)**[4]

Making a videogame remained a bucket list item until I stumbled on an incredibly simple open source web app called Bitsy. I started playing around with it, just to see how it worked. Before I knew it, I had something playable. I made my game in a couple of hours.

- **[From maverick to mainstream: why open source software is now indispensable for modern business](#)**[5]

Free and open source software has a long and intriguing history. Some of its roots go all the way back to the 1980s when Richard Stallman first launched the GNU project.

- **[Analyst Watch: Is open source the great equalizer?](#)** [6]

If you had told me 25 years ago that open source would be the predominant force in software development, I would?ve laughed.

Back then, at my industrial software gig, we were encouraged to patent as much IP as possible, even processes that seemed like common-sense business practices, or generally useful capabilities for any software developer.

If you didn?t, your nearest competitor would surely come out with their own patent claims, or inevitable patent trolls would show up demanding fees for any uncovered bit of code.

We did have this one developer who was constantly talking about fiddling with his Linux kernel at home, on his personal time. Interesting hobby.

- **[Scientists Create World?s First Open Source Tool for 3D Analysis of Advanced Biomaterials](#)**[7]

Materials scientists and programmers from the Tomsk Polytechnic University in Russia and

Germany's Karlsuhe Institute of Technology have created the world?s first open source software for the 2D and 3D visualization and analysis of biomaterials used for research into tissue regeneration.

[...]

Scientists have already tested the software on a variety of X-ray tomography data.

?The results have shown that the software we?ve created can help other scientists conducting similar studies in the analysis of the fibrous structure of any polymer scaffolds, including hybrid ones,? Surmenev emphasised.

- [Making Collaborative Data Projects Easier: Our New Tool, Collaborate, Is Here](#)[8]

On Wednesday, we?re launching a beta test of a new software tool. It?s called Collaborate, and it makes it possible for multiple newsrooms to work together on data projects.

Collaborations are a major part of ProPublica?s approach to journalism, and in the past few years we?ve run several large-scale collaborative projects, including Electionland and Documenting Hate. Along the way, we?ve created software to manage and share the large pools of data used by our hundreds of newsrooms partners. As part of a Google News Initiative grant this year, we?ve beefed up that software and made it open source so that anybody can use it.

- [Should open-source software be the gold standard for nonprofits?](#) [9]

Prior to its relaunch, nonprofit organization Cadasta had become so focused on the technology side of its work that it distracted from the needs of partners in the field.

?When you?re building out a new platform, it really is all consuming,? said Cadasta CEO Amy Coughenour, reflecting on some of the decisions that were made prior to her joining the team in 2018.

- [Artificial intelligence: an open source future](#) [10]

At the same time, we?re seeing an increasing number of technology companies invest in AI development. However, what?s really interesting is that these companies - including the likes of Microsoft, Salesforce and Uber - are open sourcing their AI research. This move is already enabling developers worldwide to create and improve AI & Machine Learning (ML) algorithms faster. As such, open source software has become a fundamental part of enabling

fast, reliable, and also secure development in the AI space. So, why all the hype around open source AI? Why are businesses of all sizes, from industry behemoths to startups, embracing open source? And where does the future lie for AI and ML as a result?

- [How open source is accelerating innovation in AI](#) [11]

  By eradicating barriers like high licensing fees and talent scarcity, open source is accelerating the pace of AI innovation, writes Carmine Rimi

  No other technology has captured the world?s imagination quite like AI, and there is perhaps no other that has been so disruptive. AI has already transformed the lives of people and businesses and will continue to do so in endless ways as more startups uncover its potential. According to a recent study, venture capital funding for AI startups in the UK increased by more than 200 percent last year, while a Stanford University study observed a 14-times increase in the number of AI startups worldwide in the last two years.

- [Adam Jacob Advocates for Building Healthy OSS Communities in ?The War for the Soul of Open Source?](#) [12]

  Chef co-founder and former CTO Adam Jacob gave a short presentation at O?Reilly Open Source Software Conference (OSCON) 2019 titled ?The War for the Soul of Open Source.? In his search for meaning in open source software today, Jacob confronts the notion of open source business models.

  ?We often talk about open source business models,? he said. ?There isn?t an open source business model. That?s not a thing and the reason is open source is a channel. Open source is a way that you, in a business sense, get the software out to the people, the people use the software, and then they become a channel, which [companies] eventually try to turn into money.?

  [...]

  In December 2018, Jacob launched the Sustainable Free and Open Source Communities (SFOSC) project to advocate for these ideas. Instead of focusing on protecting revenue models of OSS companies, the project?s contributors work together to collaborate on writing core principles, social contracts, and business models as guidelines for healthy OSS communities.

- [New Open Source Startups Emerge After Acquisition, IPO Flurry](#) [13]

  After a flurry of mega-acquisitions and initial public offerings of open source companies, a new batch of entrepreneurs are trying their hands at startups based on free software projects.

- **[TC9 selected by NIST to develop Open Source Software for Transactive Energy Markets](#)**[14]

    TC9, Inc. was selected by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to develop open source software for Transactive Energy Bilateral Markets based on the NIST Common Transactive Services.

    Under the contract, TC9 will develop open source software (OSS) for agents for a transactive energy market. The software will be used to model the use of transactive energy to manage power distribution within a neighborhood. Transactive Energy is a means to balance volatile supply and consumption in real time. Experts anticipate the use of Transactive Energy to support wide deployment of distributed energy resources (DER) across the power grid.

- **[Open Source Software Allows Auterion to Move Drone Workflows into the Cloud](#)**[15]

    ?Until today, customizing operations in the MAVLink protocol required a deep understanding of complex subjects such as embedded systems, drone dynamics, and the C++ programming language,? said Kevin Sartori, co-founder of Auterion. ?With MAVSDK, any qualified mobile developer can write high-level code for complex operations, meaning more developers will be able to build custom applications and contribute to the community.?

- **[ApacheCon 2019 Keynote: James Gosling's Journey to Open Source](#)** [16]

    At the recent ApacheCon North America 2019 in Las Vegas, James Gosling delivered a keynote talk on his personal journey to open-source. Gosling's main takeaways were: open source allows programmers to learn by reading source code, developers must pay attention to intellectual property rights to prevent abuse, and projects can take on a life of their own.

- **[20 Years of the Apache Software Foundation: ApacheCon 2019 Opening Keynote](#)**[17]

    At the recent ApacheCon North America 2019 in Las Vegas, the opening keynote session celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Apache Software Foundation (ASF), with key themes being: the history of the ASF, a strong commitment to community and collaboration, and efforts to increase contributions from the public. The session also featured a talk by astrophysicist David Brin on the potential dangers of AI.

[OSS](#)

Source URL: http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/128149

Links:

[1] http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/72

[2] https://todaysecommerce.com/2019/09/11/workarea-commerce-goes-open-source/

[3] https://www.traffictechnologytoday.com/news/connected-vehicles-infrastructure/wyoming-cv-pilot-develops-open-source-rsu-monitoring-system.html

[4] https://www.wired.com/story/you-make-fun-games-no-experience/

[5] https://www.computing.co.uk/ctg/opinion/3081346/from-maverick-to-mainstream-why-open-source-software-is-now-indispensable-for-modern-business

[6] https://sdtimes.com/os/analyst-watch-is-open-source-the-great-equalizer/

[7] https://sputniknews.com/science/201909111076763585-russian-german-scientists-create-worlds-first-open-source-tool-for-3d-analysis-of-advanced/

[8] https://www.propublica.org/nerds/making-collaborative-data-projects-easier-our-new-tool-collaborate-is-here

[9] https://www.devex.com/news/should-open-source-software-be-the-gold-standard-for-nonprofits-95540

[10] https://www.itproportal.com/features/artificial-intelligence-an-open-source-future/

[11] https://techerati.com/features-hub/opinions/open-source-key-ai-cloud-2019-machine-learning/

[12] https://wptavern.com/adam-jacob-advocates-for-building-healthy-oss-communities-in-the-war-for-the-soul-of-open-source

[13] https://www.theinformation.com/articles/new-open-source-startups-emerge-after-acquisition-ipo-flurry

[14] http://automatedbuildings.com/releases/sep19/1909090209tc9.html

[15] http://www.tuxmachines.org/https

[16] https://www.infoq.com/news/2019/09/apachecon-gosling-open-source/

[17] https://www.infoq.com/news/2019/09/apachecon-opening-keynote/