

Maintainers Don't Scale

All Things Open 2017, Raleigh NC

Daniel Vetter

@danvet



Maintainers Don't Scale

All Things Open, Raleigh NC, Daniel Vetter, @danvet

Not About Burnout

- Cult of Busy
- known the progression and early signs
- Jacob Kaplan-Moss: „What part of „... for life“ don't you understand?“

Kernel Merge Process

- `git send-email + git apply-mbox`
- 80% of patches applied by maintainers
- remaining 20% directly applied
- pull requests up the hierarchy

New Model

- all regular contributors have commit rights
- group of maintainers for coordination
- Emily Dunham „Life is better with Rust's community automation“

Before the Rant, Some Good Stuff

- git
- commit messages
- bisecting

boutique trees

... and bus factors

checks and balances (lack thereof)

Peer-Reviewed Maintainer's Patches

Intel GFX	97%
graphics core	95%
GFX overall	75%
everything else	25%

no anonymous feedback

Code of Conflict

revolutions (not so pretty)

mesh vs. hierarchy

downsides of fixed roles

a maintainer's manifest (towards)

it's about the people

recognize your power

accept your limits

be a steward, not a lord

be a steward, not a lord

questions?

@danvet