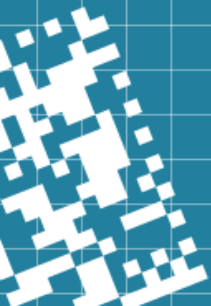
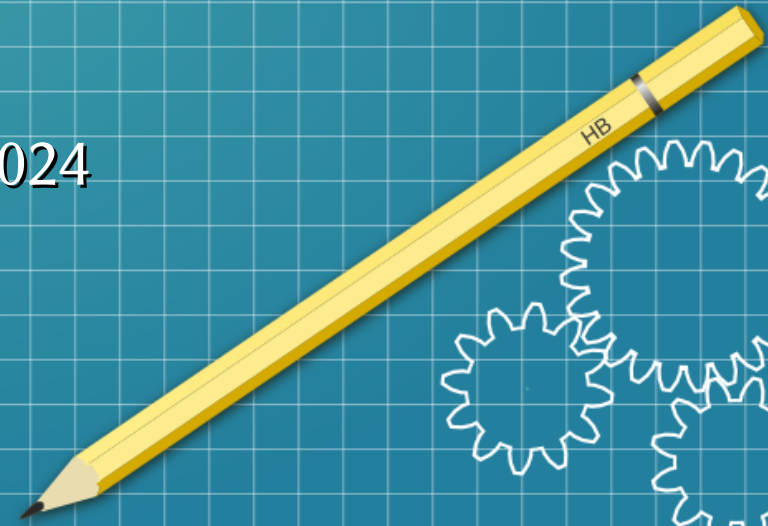


What the open source community means to me

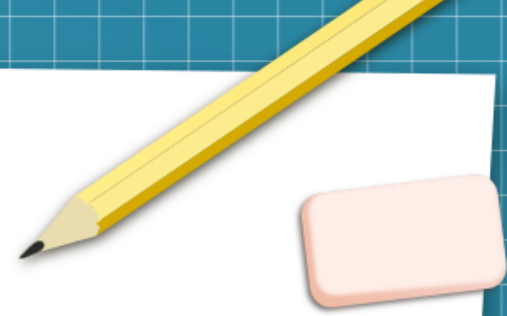
Florian Effenberger

SFSCON
Bolzano, November 8, 2024

<https://effenberger.org>
florian@effenberger.org



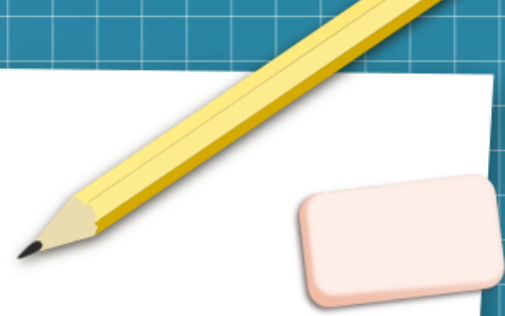
Hi, I'm Florian! :)



- started my journey with **OpenOffice.org** in 2004 marketing project lead and infrastructure
- **shared my knowledge** as freelance IT journalist mostly 2006-2014
- co-founded the **LibreOffice** project and the nonprofit **The Document Foundation** in 2010
statutes co-author, first chair of the board, since 2014 **executive director**
- unexpectedly turned my hobby into my profession

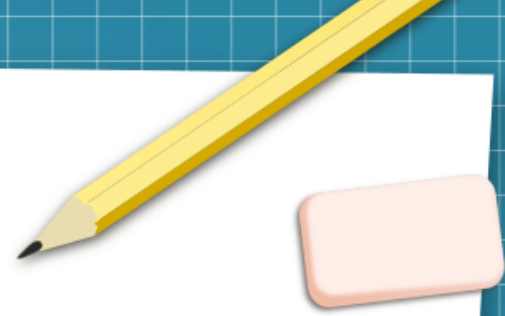
<https://effenberger.org> and [@floeff](#) on the various social networks

Statement I



free and open source is
a **license model**

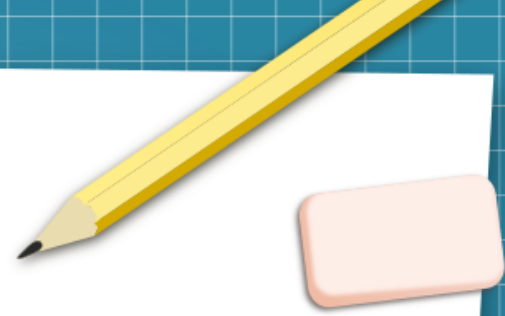
Statement I



free and open source*) is
a license model

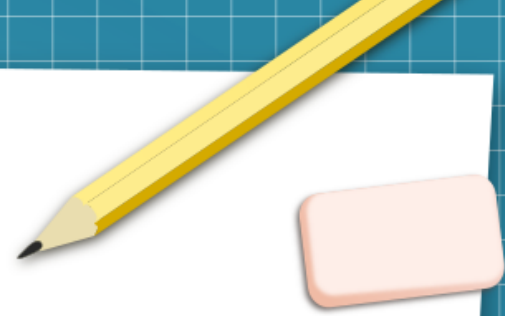
**) for the purpose of this talk, I use both terms interchangeable*

Statement II



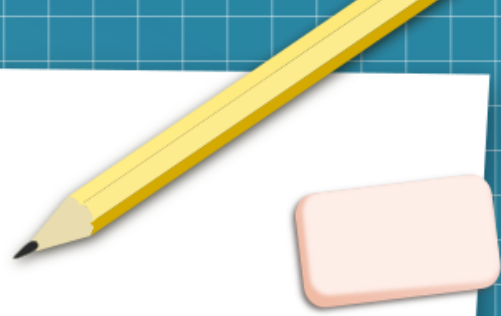
free and open source is
a **development model**

Statement III



free and open source is
a **paradigm how to
work together**

Statement IV



free and open source is
a life's philosophy

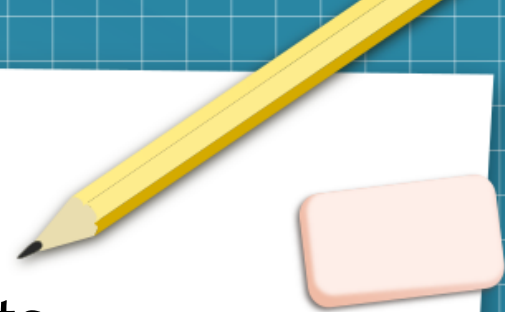
From user to contributor



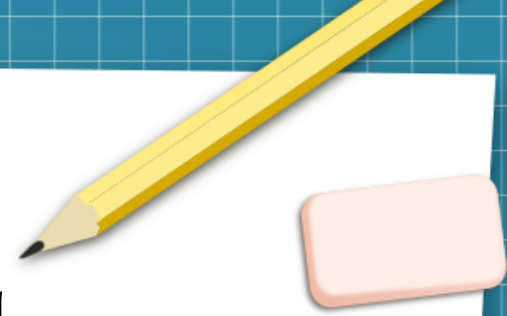
- let's be honest: the price (free of charge) can be an **entry point**
- possibility for “**do it yourself and learn**” can be another entry point
- **software and documentation** publicly available
 - manuals and howtos
 - mailing lists, forums and **help from the community**
- **many ways** to contribute
 - development, **documentation**, localization, release engineering, mentoring, UX and design, quality assurance, web development, infrastructure, marketing

Credit of trust

- just **“try and do”** to explore your skills and talents
- flat hierarchies encourage to try out things uncomplicated
→ help to **discover your strengths and interests**
- you are **“taken by the hand”**, given trust and responsibility
- **full and respected community member** from day one
- your **opinions and contributions** do matter



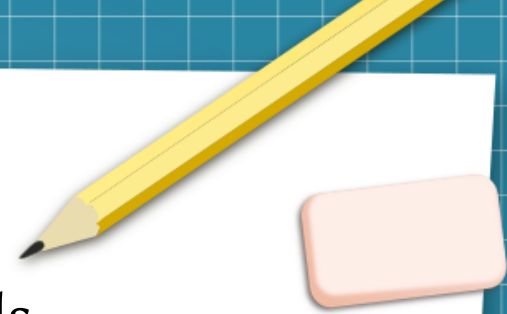
Friends around the globe



- **open minded people** have friends around the world
- you widen your view, redefine your own position and **learn for life**
- you **get to know foreign countries** in a different way: the mentality, the philosophy and the reality of life
- **different people** with different **cultures, backgrounds, professions, age and languages**
- **supposed barriers** often only exist in our heads

A life's philosophy

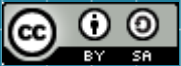
- **an open mentality** with joint goals and shared ideals
- **open to everyone** - independent of age, profession, education
- it is crucial to **share knowledge** and support “newbies”
- **be motivated and motivate**, show appreciation and respect
- of course, no short of discussions, arguments and “**strong characters**”
- not only FLOSS, but also **open data, open knowledge, open standards etc.**





Any questions? :-)

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