

NEW OPEN SOURCE DEAL FOR WEB3

*ETC SUMMIT
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BORIS MANN

- 15 years ago, worked on building out the Drupal community, built the first commercial company around Drupal, helped form Drupal Association
- Last year, focused on Ethereum community, helping out with the Ethereum Magicians, Core Devs
- Fission is building developer tools: decentralized Firebase with user controlled data





WHAT DOES OPEN SOURCE MEAN?

The problem with the term open source is that everyone means something different when they use it.

Some people just mean licensing.

Some people think of a particular community's set of practices.

Others think that it means some kind of fuzzy democracy and mob rule.

DEFINITION OF OPEN SOURCE

1. Legal innovation of licenses
2. Way of working together on code, collaboratively, asynchronously, remotely
3. Ideology of code re-use & sharing

COMMONS BASED PEER PRODUCTION

Lots of people work on it,
everybody benefits from it, and
then people can build upon it
(even in a revenue generating
fashion)

Ted Leung: Explaining Commons Based Peer Production, er, Open Source (2005)



FREE AS IN PUPPIES

- The classic explanation of open source is that it is “free as in speech” (a license or ideology) not “free as in beer” (no cost)
- I like to say open source is “free as in puppies” — congratulations, you just got given an untrained young animal that needs care and feeding if you expect it to succeed!



LICENSING INNOVATION

- For the first time in 15 years, we're starting to see licensing innovation again
- Cloud providers making record profits vs. open source, VC-funded businesses (except it's not that simple...)
- Quiz time: What's your favourite license?



DATA ETHICS

- We are starting to see people care about data — specifically, ****their**** data
- What requires software developers or companies to act in certain ways with data?
- From principles (Fair Data Society, Local First Software) to licenses (Cryptographic Autonomy License, Icepick)



BLOCKCHAINS, WEB3 & OPEN SOURCE

- As builders & users of blockchains & Web3, how do we need to think about open source?
- What can we learn from “open source”?
- What challenges does open source have, that might find solutions in new blockchain & Web3 tools?
- Why should we care about open source and its evolution?



ETHEREUM STACK GOVERNANCE

MAIN NET

NETWORK GOVERNANCE

CORE DEVS

PROTOCOL STANDARDS

OPEN SOURCE

Open source is the
foundational layer for
blockchains



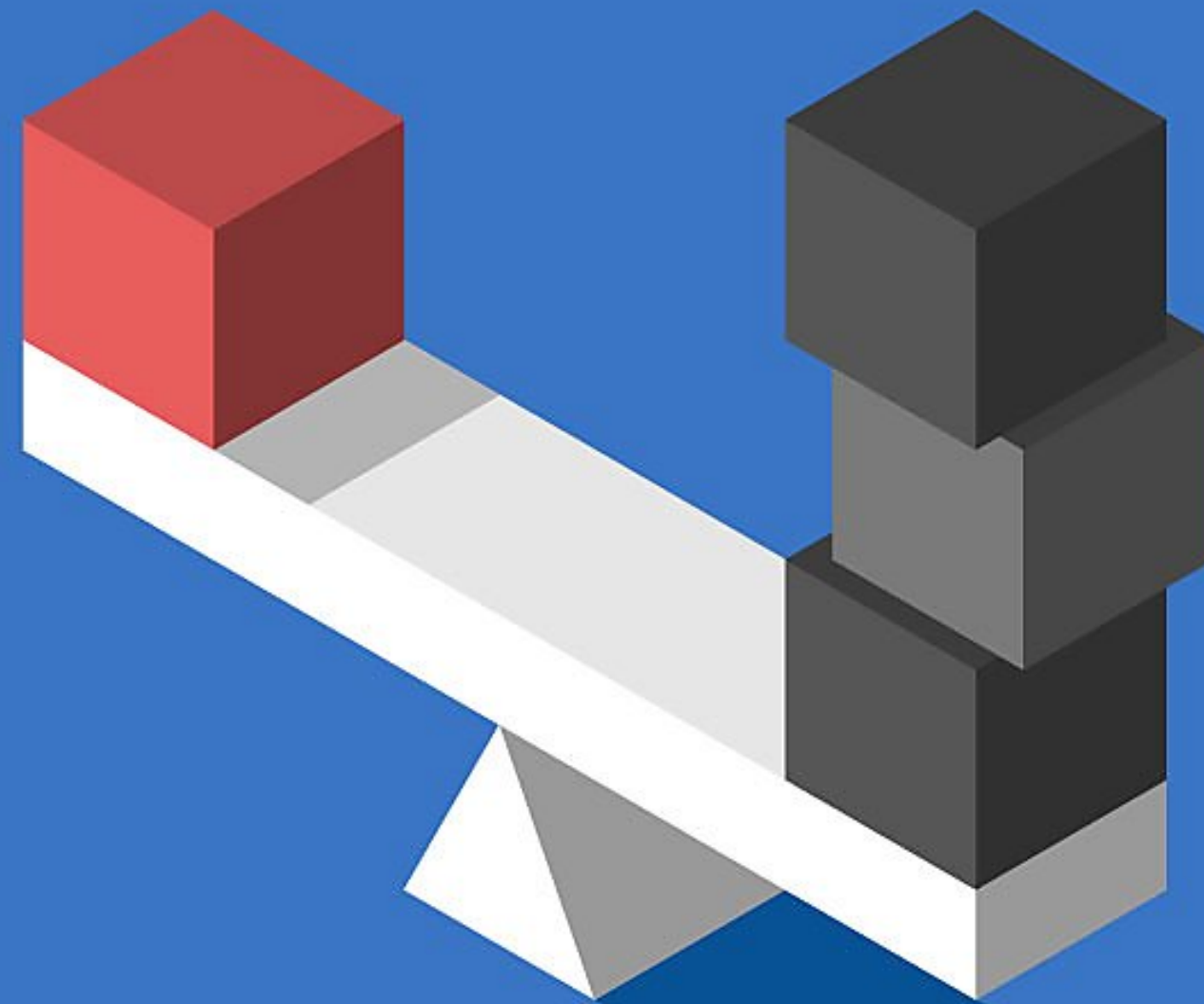
DAPP DEVS NEED TO CARE

- If you're building a dapp on top of the Ethereum Stack, you need to care about the layers of the stack
- Get involved in the stack, from standards to code contributions, to make sure your dapp will succeed on top

If you're not contributing code,
community, or ca\$h, you should go
build on AWS





MAKERS AND TAKERS

Balancing
Makers and
Takers to
Scale and
Sustain Open
Source



- What's the formula for incenting more makers?
- We don't need to punish takers, but we do need to celebrate and potentially reward makers

PUBLIC GOODS VS COMMON GOODS

	<i>Excludable</i>	<i>Non-Excludable</i>
<i>Rivalrous</i>	<div> Private Goods Food, clothing, cars, personal electronics</div>	<div> Common Goods Fishing grounds, forests, oceans, parks</div>
<i>Non-rivalrous</i>	<div> Club Goods Cinemas, private parks, broadband TV</div>	<div> Public Goods Lighthouses, radio, street lighting</div>

PUBLIC GOODS VS COMMON GOODS

- The open source layer of clients, middleware, wallets, and so much of our blockchain ecosystems, are **public goods**: more people consuming them doesn't cost anyone anything (but maybe "support" or "onboarding" does)
- Filling blocks with transactions (and state bloat!) are **common goods**: we can't exclude anyone, but if blocks are full or low resource clients can't sync, other people can't use them

F*CK OPEN SOURCE SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is another way to say subsistence .

This is why the common phrase “open source sustainability” isn’t ideal.

We should set our goals higher than subsistence.

Folks who work on open source have a right to thrive and to be fairly compensated for our labor.

[Feross: The funding experiment recap](#)



A NEW DEAL

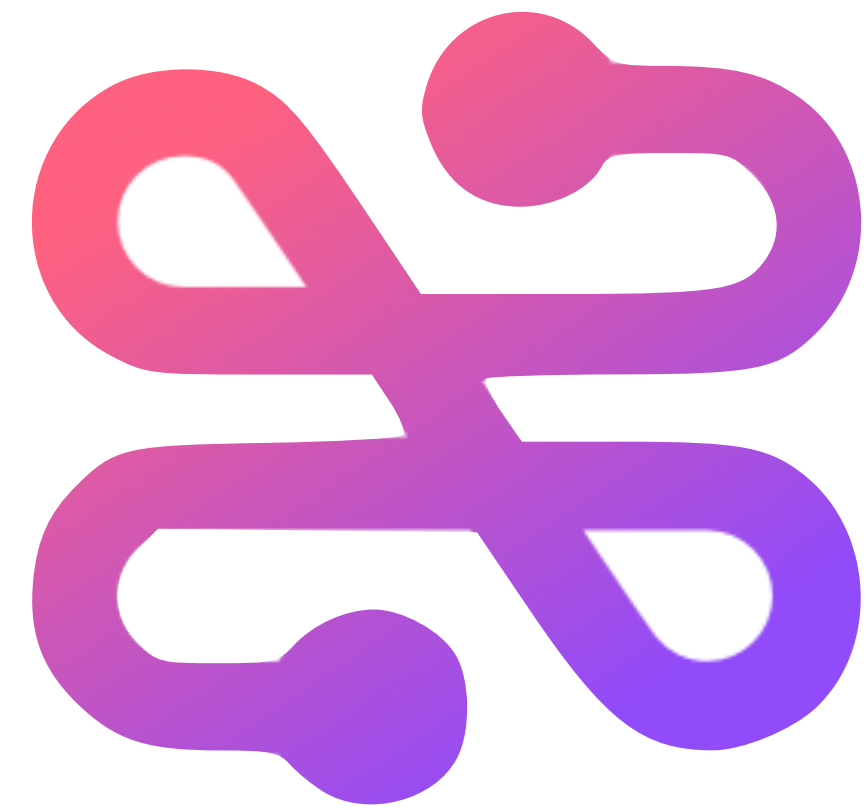
- Open source is a key enabler and foundation for Blockchains & Web3
- We are practicing **commons based peer production** while building & operating global public blockchains
- Figuring out a New Deal for Open Source is crucial if we expect to keep our systems running for decades





A THRIVING ETHEREUM STACK

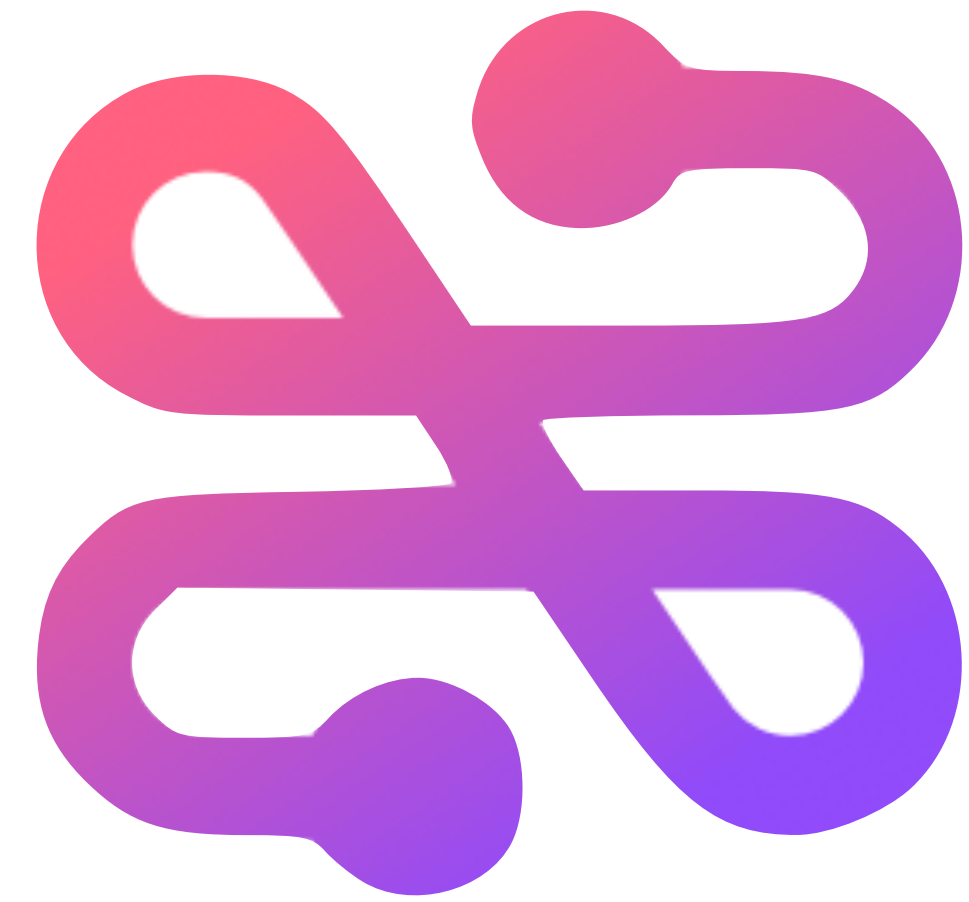
- The “Ethereum Stack” is millions of lines of open source code plus standards that guide interoperability, and is much bigger than any single main-net chain or market cap
- Let’s continue the momentum of the Ethereum Stack community, and solve creating the conditions for thriving open source contributors



fission

**A constellation provider rather than a cloud provider,
built on open source**

We are building a “decentralized Firebase”, a backend-as-a-service that can run from your laptop, uses emerging Web3 tech, and gives developers the tools to keep data user-controlled.



fission

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