Making a Career out of Open Source Software Testing

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Target audience

Anyone who wants to make a career in software Testing and Don’t know

- Where and how to start
- How to get hands on
- Get real time experience
- Using Open Source as Gateway
Disclaimer

**IT IS NOT**

- A JOB OFFER OR A PROMISE OF THE SAME
- A DEFINITIVE WORKFLOW FOR GETTING A JOB

**IT IS ABOUT**

- KNOWING HOW TO START EXPLORING
- WHERE TO START EXPLORING
- USING OPEN SOURCE S/W FOR LEARNING
About Me

- Having about 12 years work experience, across Enterprise Storage, Servers and Platforms
- In Red Hat for last 4 years
- Working as PQE in Red Hat Storage Team

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Why This Talk

- Before joining Red Hat didn’t have much open source exposure
  - My major contribution to opensource was editing wikipedia pages
  - Surprisingly understood it is very easy to contribute to opensource
  - taking this opportunity to share my learnings
What is Open Source

Taken from wikipedia

Open source is a term denoting that a product includes permission to use its source code, design documents, or content. It most commonly refers to the open-source model, in which open-source software or other products are released under an open-source license as part of the open-source-software movement. Use of the term originated with software, but has expanded beyond the software sector to cover other open content and forms of open collaboration.
What is Open Source

FREE AS IN FREE SPEECH NOT AS IN FREE BEER
What Is Software Testing?

To check if a piece of software works as expected

- Validation: checking if we built it right (does the specs meet requirements)
- Verification: checking if it was rightly built (does the product meet specification)
How does it feel to Be a Quality Engineer

- **GO/NO-GO**: Gate keeper of Quality and to the shipment of the product

- A better product with awesome quality is better than a great product without quality

- **ART**: Makes you exercise your interests and creativity on breaking a product

- **TECHNOLOGY**: You get to learn the product deeper and broader to be able to achieve above
What’s required to be S/W Quality Engineer

- INTEREST, INTEREST, INTEREST
- CURIOSITY TO EXPLORE AND UNDERSTAND THE PRODUCT
- DESIRE TO KEEP LEARNING
Where to Start

- Understand what is software testing in detail
- Manual Vs Automation
- Levels and Methods of testing
  - Eg: Unit, Integration, System level
  - Eg: Functional vs Non-Functional
- You can start with Documentation (Content Development/Testing)
RAISE YOUR FIRST BUG

- Understand Bug Life cycle, Software Development Life cycle

- Raise Your first bug, that is what will be an immense booster
  - Even a documentation or CLI help Bug can catapult your confidence
How to Use Open source Projects to Learn

- **Choose an area of interest**
  - Eg: databases, frontend technology, backend, storage, network, etc
- Find out if there are open source technologies in interest areas
- Visit their website and/or github page
- Join the users and devel or any other mailing list groups
- Read the documentation
- Try your hands on installing it, and if it is not easy/smooth reach out to the mailing list/raise bugs
- **See if the have automation framework and you can contribute to their automation**
How does this benefit

- You get a platform to have real time experience in testing a software product

- You can contribute to the open source community

- You get a great opportunity to network and learn with many Open Source Experienced Community Members

- You can prove yourself which may lead to one of the community members recognizing and offering an internship/job

- Explore switching roles in other areas like Software development, community moderators, content/documentation development, etc
Eg: Gluster

- **Interest**: Chosen as Storage file systems and you chose Gluster
- Now Go to [https://www.gluster.org/](https://www.gluster.org/)
- Read and understand [https://www.gluster.org/community/](https://www.gluster.org/community/)
- Subscribe to gluster-users and gluster-devel
- Understand the product [https://docs.gluster.org/en/latest/](https://docs.gluster.org/en/latest/)
- Participate in Community Meetings.
- Find if automation framework exists [https://github.com/gluster/glusto-tests](https://github.com/gluster/glusto-tests)
Q&A