

# Own it

## Working with a changing open source community

Selena Deckelmann  
PostgreSQL Global Development Group

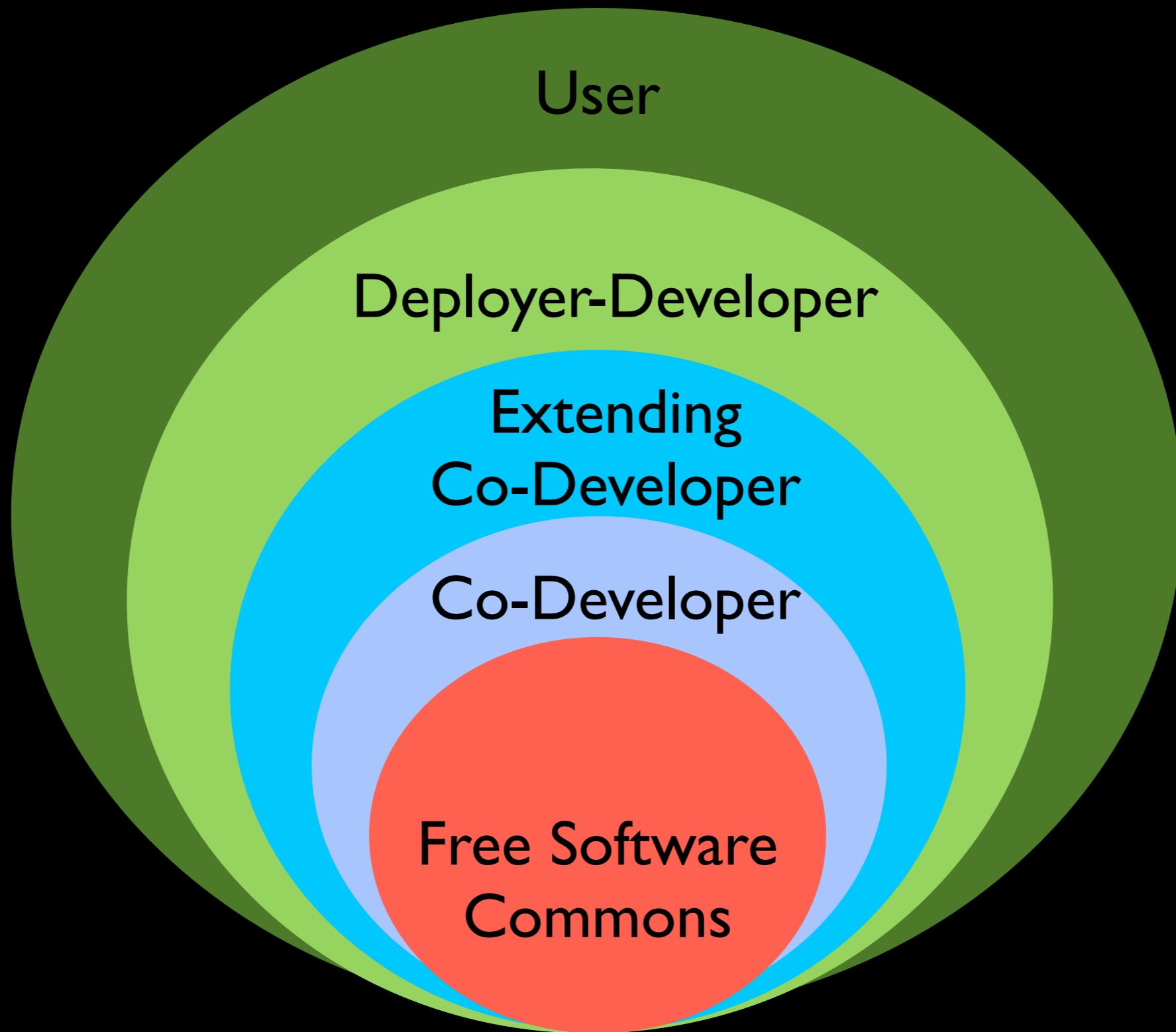
“[C]ommunities are composed of individuals who collaborate toward a common goal but **do not share a common employer** and are **not governed by an employment hierarchy.**”

The Role of Participation Architecture in Growing  
Sponsored Open Source Communities  
Joel West and Siobhán O'Mahony

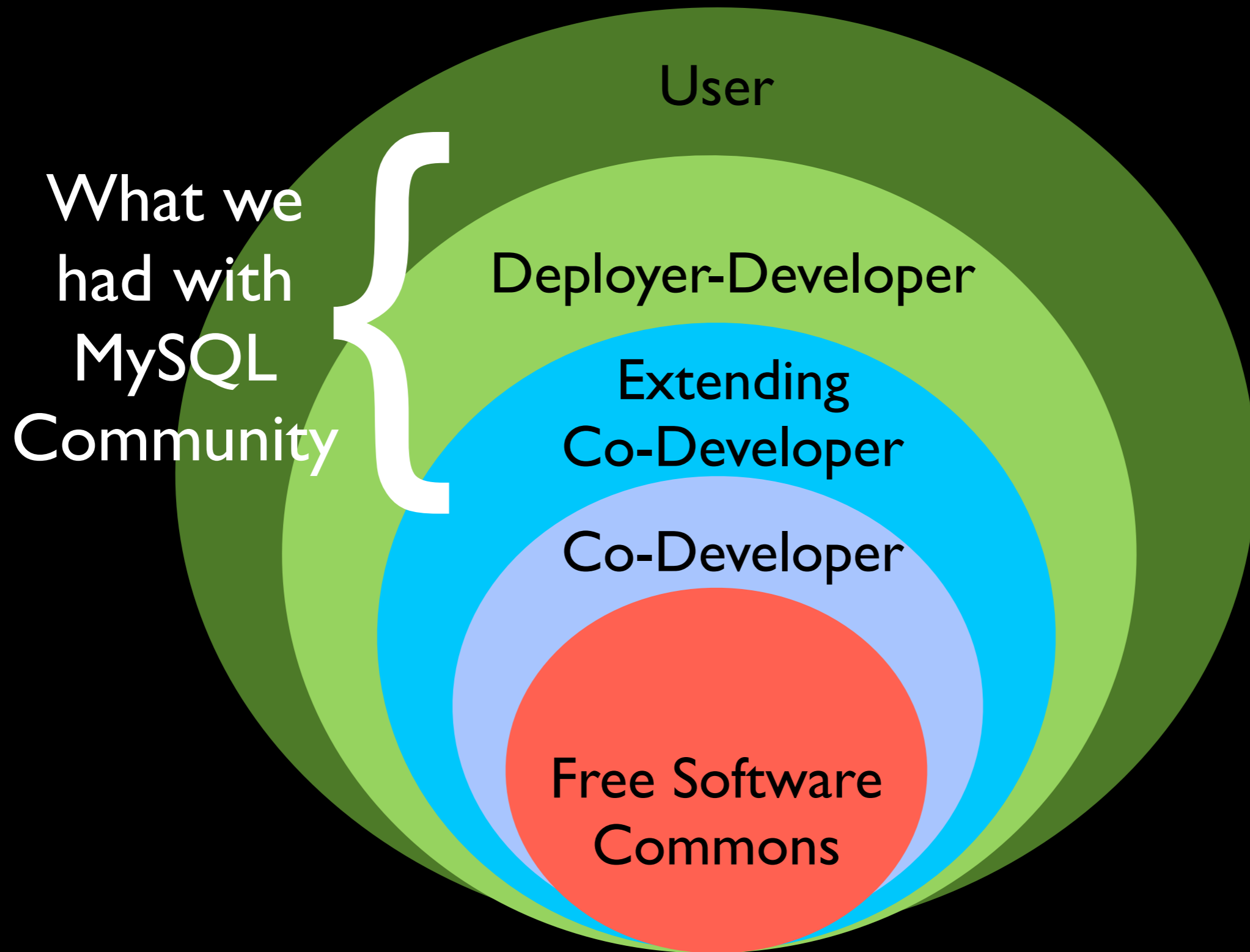
Forks open doors.

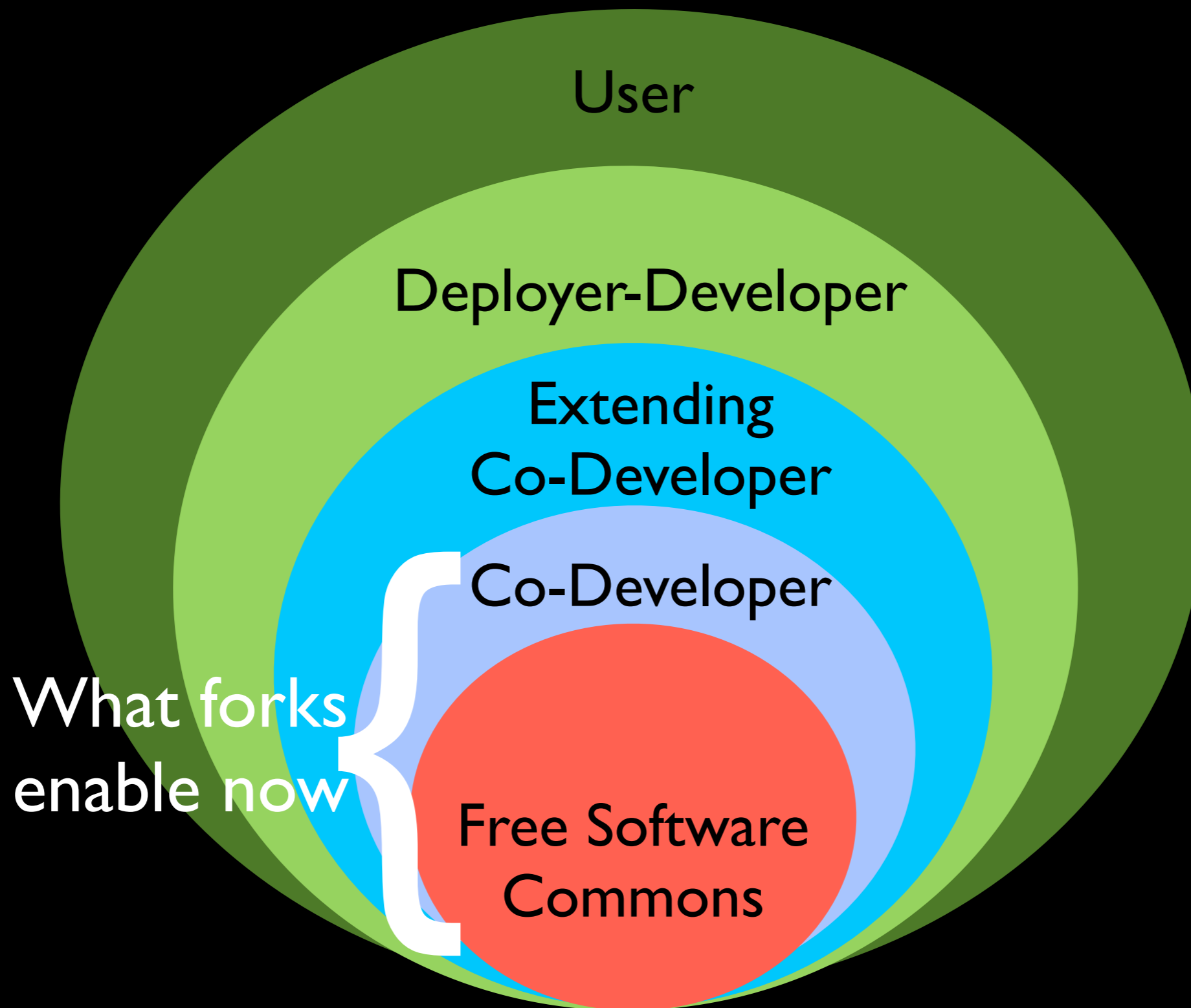
- MySQL
- Percona Server
- MariaDB
- MySQLAtFacebook
- Google patchset
- Drizzle

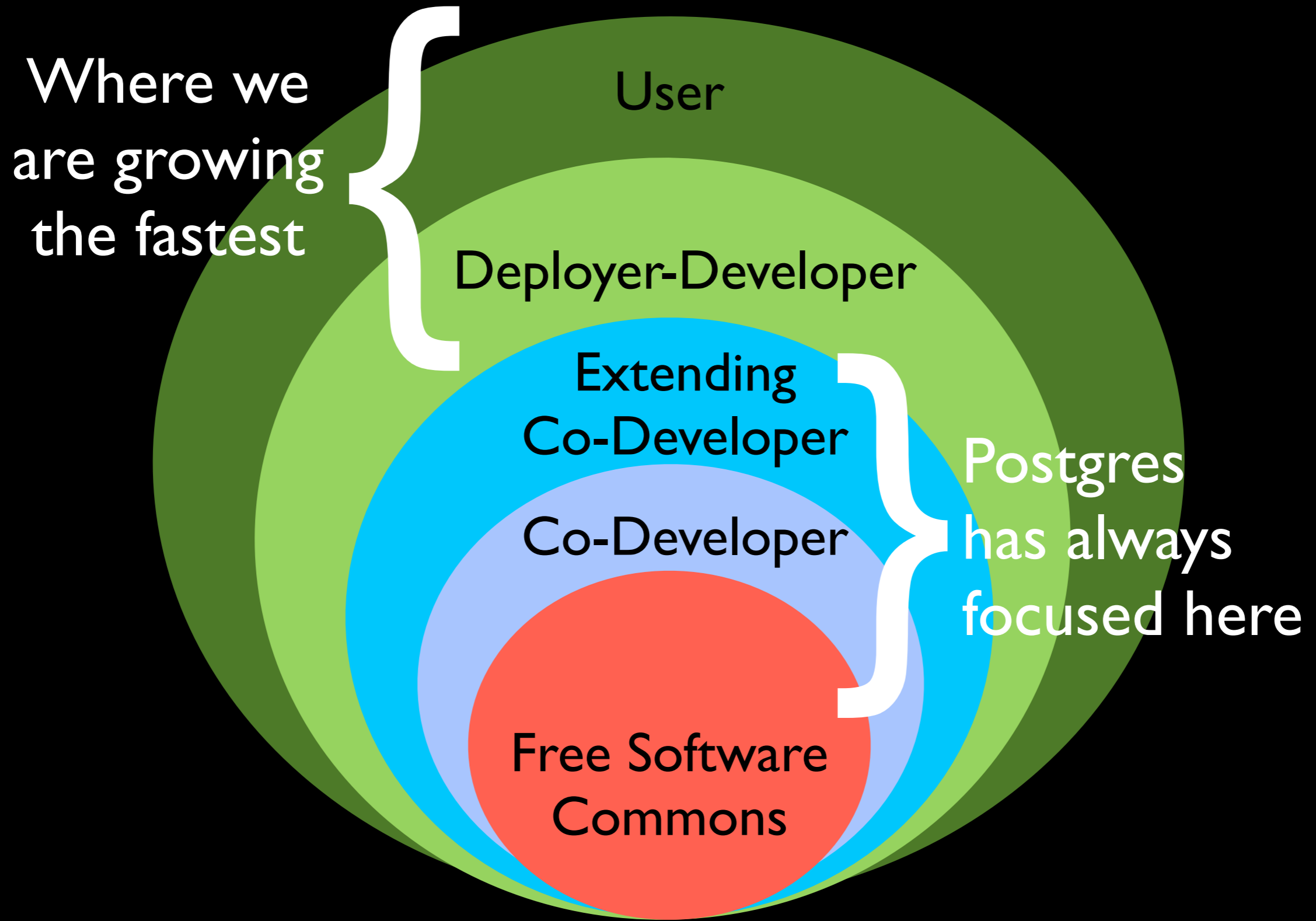
- MySQL - Core
- Percona Server - Branch and Redist
- MariaDB - Branch and Redist
- MySQLAtFacebook - Branch
- Google patchset - Branch
- Drizzle - Fork



From <http://webmink.com/essays/community-types/>







# Microsoft Encarta Officially Succumbs to Wikipedia



March 30, 2009 by Adam Ostrow

37

“However, the category of traditional encyclopedias and reference material has changed. People today seek and consume information in considerably different ways than the past.”

Free Practice Account.

Wikipedia? For  
ng in the 90s via CD-  
nounced that it's  
that Wikipedia is the



world's definitive reference guide.

Microsoft acknowledges as such in an [FAQ](#) they've setup explaining the move and what existing Encarta customers can expect. The company writes, "Encarta has been a popular product around the world for many years. However, the category of traditional encyclopedias and reference material has changed. People today seek and consume information in considerably different ways than in years past."

That's quite the understatement. As [PaidContent](#) [points out](#), the crowd-edited Wikipedia boasts 2.7 million entries in English versus just 42,000 for Encarta. Need further confirmation of why Wikipedia is simply a better model? News of Encarta's discontinuation has already reached the [product's entry](#) on Wikipedia.

[Print Story](#) [Email Story](#)

<http://mashable.com/2009/03/30/microsoft-encarta-to-close/>

# Ingredients

- Revision control
- Peer review
- Public discussion

“Companies or foundations that run open source project are not software firms, they are community management firms whose communities happen to make software. Consequently to survive and thrive these projects need to invest less in enhancing governance structures or employees who will improve their capacity to code.

“Instead, we should consider skills and structures that emphasize facilitation, mediation, and conflict management – tools, skills and structures that will enable the community to better collaborate.”

<http://eaves.ca/2006/12/17/community-management-as-open-sources-core-competency/>

“owning” code

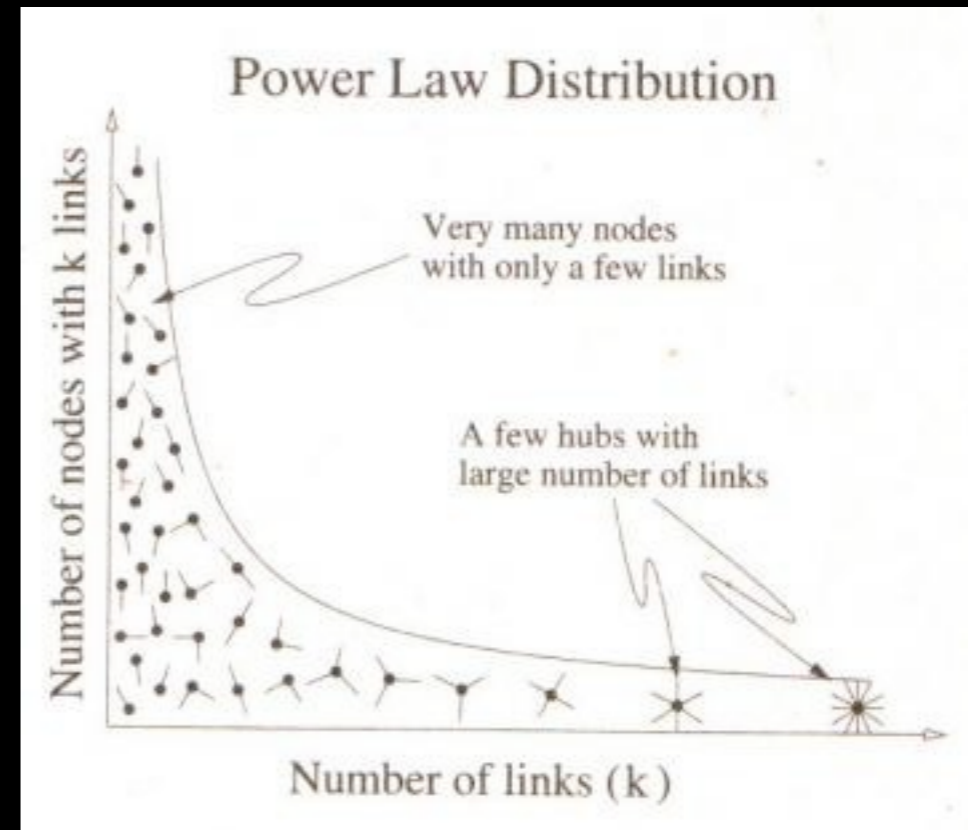
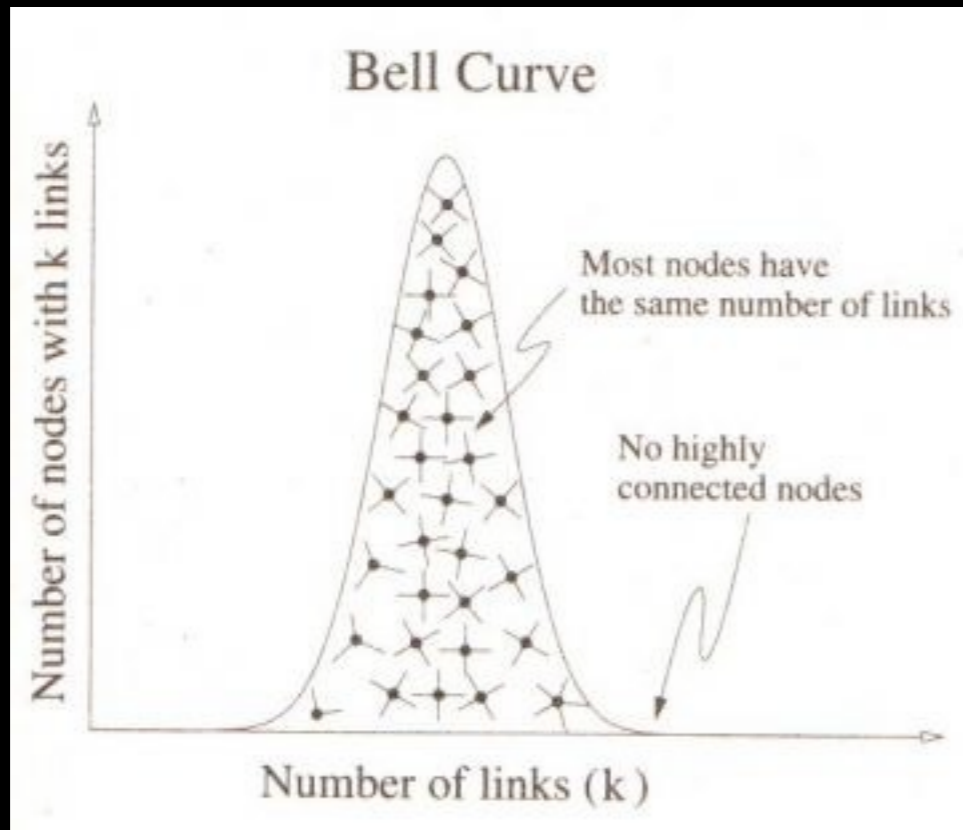
==

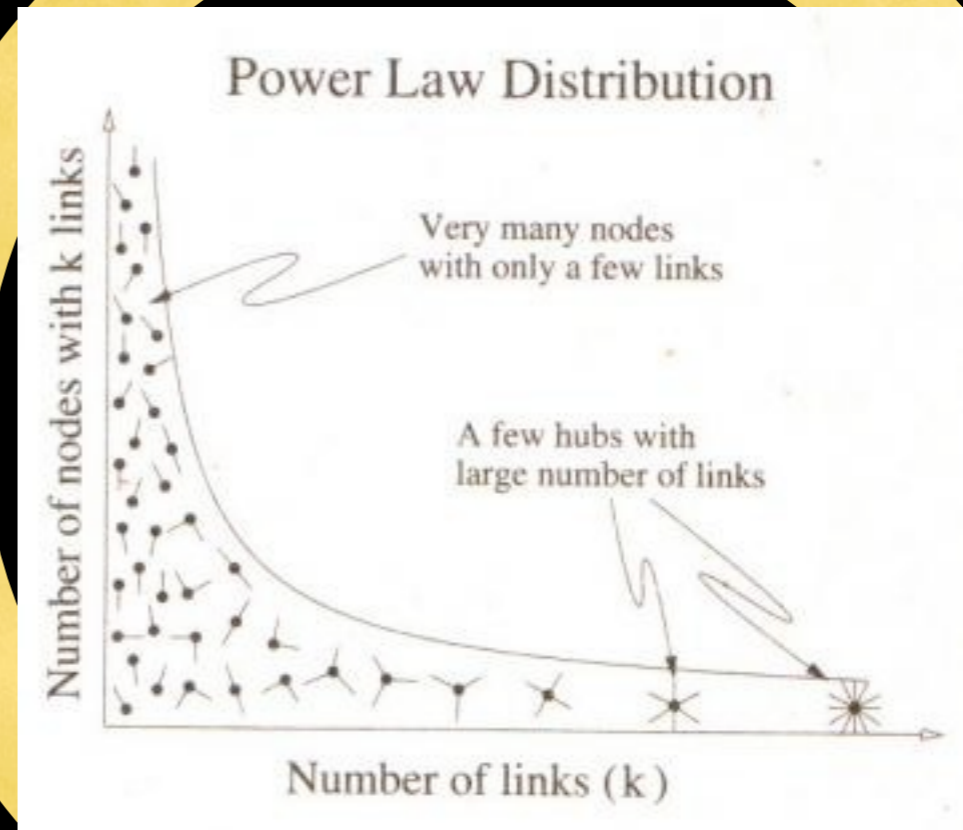
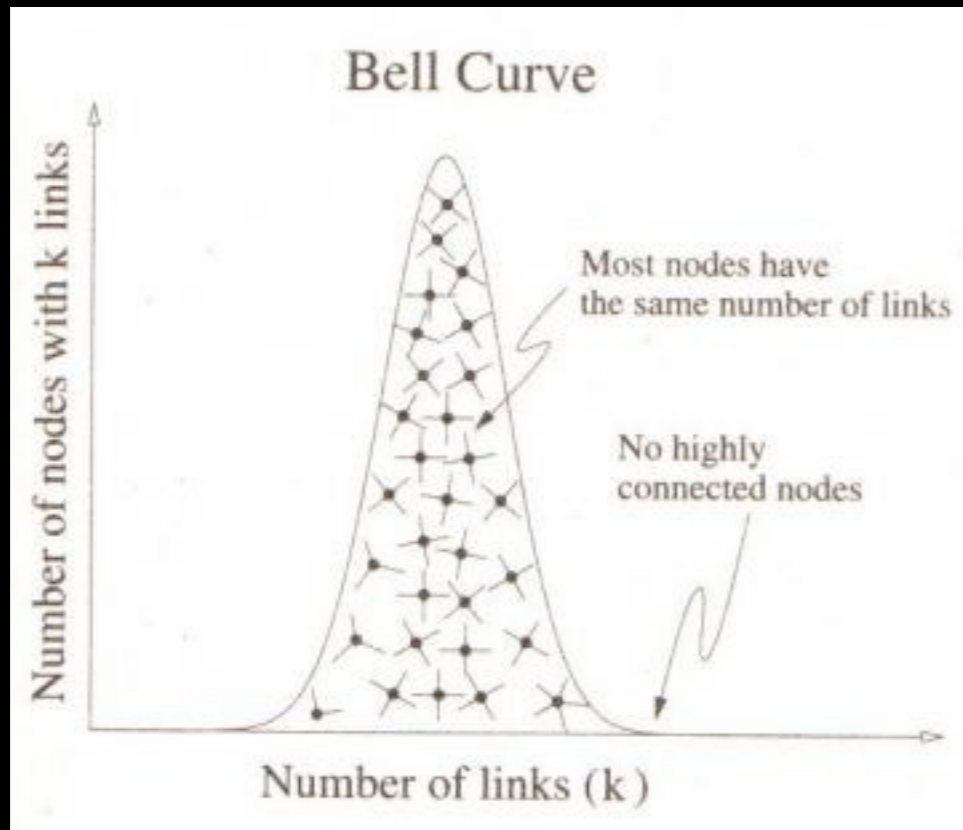
first class project citizen

How does that affect  
businesses?

Open door #1  
Make friends

# Trust and reputation





People are not  
companies.

Developers must have  
relationships and represent  
your company.

Community is that  
friend that helps you  
move.

Core developers are  
catalysts.

Open Door #2  
Chunk it

(“it” == contributions)

# The Pottery Barn Rule

# Huge patches suck

- Unknown contributors: too much at stake to support
- Trusted contributors: too much to review, digest and spend time on while other work goes on in parallel OR is stopped to deal with the huge patch
- It sucks for the developer (and company) to be rejected after all that work

You will have to change  
your code.

- "Get someone from the community involved in your ideas as early as possible so that you can even get half-baked ideas vetted early, rather than creating something in a vacuum."
- "[C]oncentrate on the smallest portion of the idea you can execute perfectly."
- "Resist the temptation to build a giant patch all at once, as those are much less likely to be reviewed usefully and therefore committed."

[http://wiki.postgresql.org/wiki/Submitting\\_a\\_Patch](http://wiki.postgresql.org/wiki/Submitting_a_Patch)

Get out of  
your oval office.

Open Door #3

Take responsible action

Do-ocracy

People are already  
doing things.

Contribute what the  
community needs.



## CommitFest 2011-Next (Open)

[New Patch](#) - [Activity Log](#) - [CommitFest Top](#)

The most recent three comments for each patch will be displayed below. To view all the comments for a particular patch, or to add a comment or make other changes, click on the patch name.

**Status Summary.** [Needs Review](#): 12, [Waiting on Author](#): 1, [Committed](#): 2. [Total](#): 15.

### Pending Patches

Patch Name	Status	Author	Reviewers	Last Activity
<b>SQL Features</b>				
<a href="#">Add json contrib module</a> <a href="#">Patch</a> by joeyadams on 2011-03-29: Switched to PostgreSQL 9.1 extension interface (and dropped PostgreSQL 8.4 and 9.0 compatibility) <a href="#">Patch</a> by joeyadams on 2011-04-05: Brought back pre-9.1 compatibility <a href="#">Patch</a> by joeyadams on 2011-04-05: Handle pre-9.1 versions better using ugly trick from ip4r	Needs Review	Joey Adams	Nobody	2011-04-05
<b>Internals</b>				
<a href="#">Add ability to constrain backend temporary file space</a> <a href="#">Patch</a> by markir on 2011-02-18: Initial version. <a href="#">Patch</a> by markir on 2011-03-10: With documentation, plus adds guc category RESOURCES_DISK. Still open to suggestions about better name for the guc - temp_space? work_space?	Needs Review	Mark Kirkwood	Nobody	2011-03-10
<a href="#">triggered change notification</a> <a href="#">Patch</a> by kgrittn on 2011-02-22: Initial version. <a href="#">Patch</a> by kgrittn on 2011-02-23: v2 - use syscache; fix error messages	Needs Review	Kevin Grittner	Nobody	2011-02-23
<a href="#">Binary in/out for aclitem</a> <a href="#">Patch</a> by rsmogura on 2011-02-23: Initial version.	Needs Review	Radosław Smogura	Nobody	2011-02-23
<a href="#">WIP: pg_hba.conf field-specific keywords</a> <a href="#">Patch</a> by direvus on 2011-04-01: Initial version.	Needs Review	Brendan Jurd	Nobody	2011-04-01
<b>Replication</b>				
<a href="#">Replication timeout</a> <a href="#">Patch</a> by MasaoFujii on 2011-03-11: Initial version.	Needs Review	Fujii Masao	Nobody	2011-03-11

# Peace Corp Model

# Things you can do now

- User Groups
- Answer questions
- Fund travel
- Sponsor conferences
- Comment on blog posts

# What Business Can Do

Make Friends.

Chunk it.

Take responsible action.

# Thanks.

@selenamarie

selena@chesnok.com

http://chesnok.com