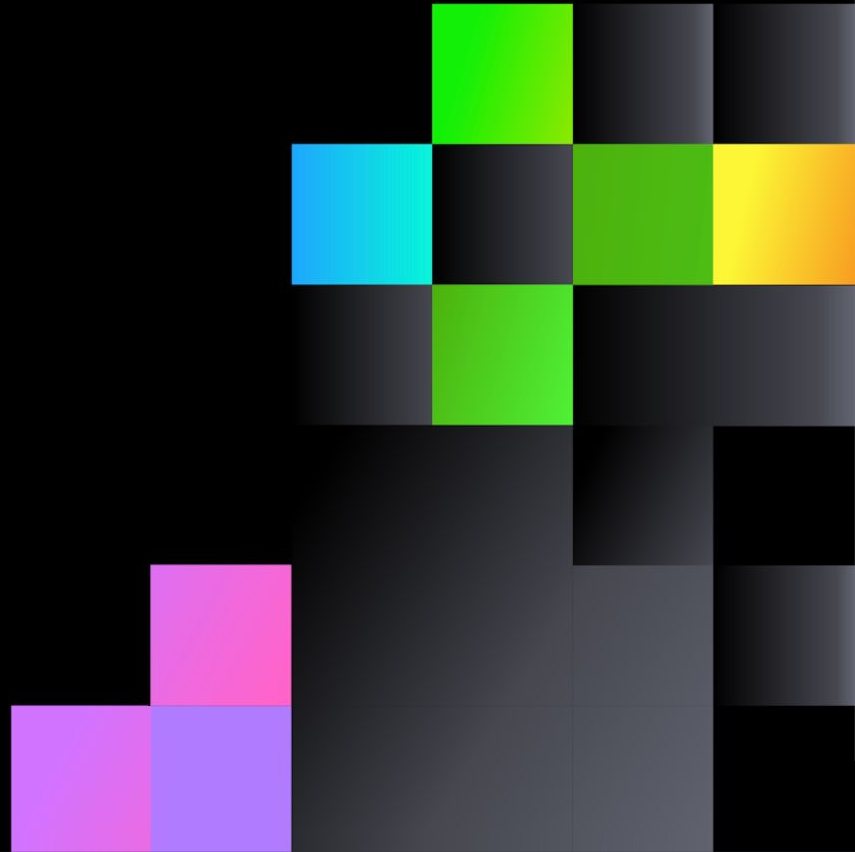


# Maintaining an open source project

Without burning out



# Who I am



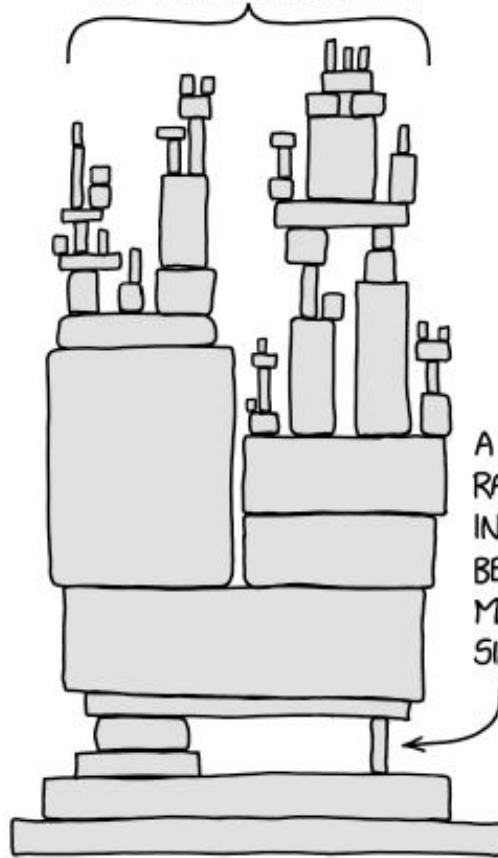
**Natanael Copa**

*Software engineer*

- Creator of Alpine Linux
- Work on KOs for Mirantis
- Open source contributor since 2001
- Passionate about simple, maintainable code

@ncopa on fosstodon.org

ALL MODERN DIGITAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE



A PROJECT SOME  
RANDOM PERSON  
IN NEBRASKA HAS  
BEEN THANKLESSLY  
MAINTAINING  
SINCE 2003

xkcd.com

# Lessons I have learned

Don't be the only one

Make it easy to contribute

Build a supportive community

Set boundaries

# Don't be the only one

*Make yourself replaceable to make the project sustainable*

What happens if you get hit by a bus?

Avoid being the bottleneck

# Make it easy to contribute

*People wants to contribute - make it easy to do so*

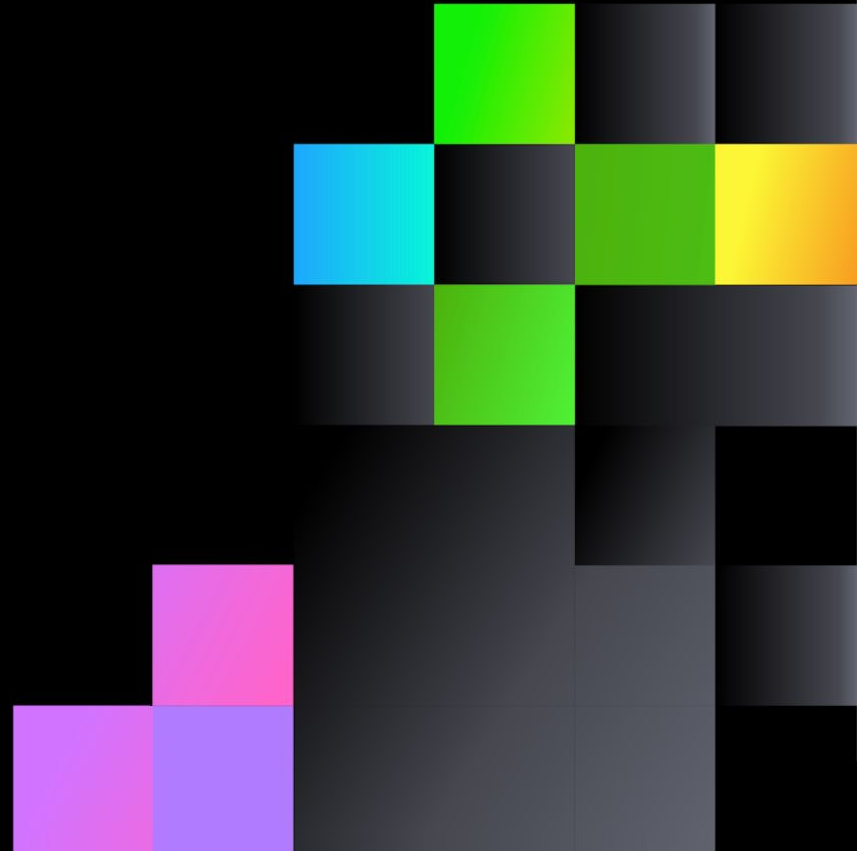


# Make it easy to contribute

- Simple contribution flow
- Document code/commit style
- Delegate responsibility

# Build a supportive community

*Friendly projects are resilient projects*



# Build a supportive community

- Code of Conduct
- Friendly community
  - Is a security feature
  - Makes it fun to contribute
- Focus on the positive



**“Perfect is the enemy of  
good”**

**– Voltaire**

# Set Boundaries

*You can't do everything – and you shouldn't try*

# Set boundaries

- Define what your project is - and isn't
- Learn to say no
- Take breaks

# Recap

**Don't be the only one**

**Make it easy to contribute**

**Build a supportive community**

**Set boundaries**

# Questions

