

2011

THE GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION OF WOMEN  
IN COMPUTING INDIA



# FOSS for World Domination

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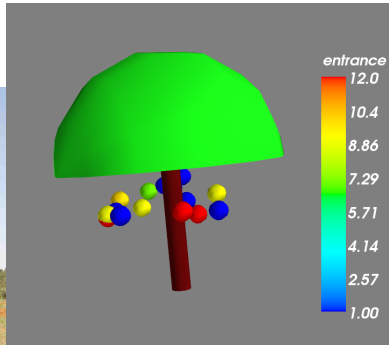
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# FOSS + Ecological Data



# Snapshots from using FOSS for research



# Interdisciplinary ...

Interdisciplinary Madness!		
I work in	but get paid by	My Advisor is in
_____	_____	_____
(Lab)	(Program)	(Department)
...but my <i>real</i> Advisor is in	Officially, I'm part of	...even though my office is in
_____	_____	_____
(another Department)	(Research Center)	(Basement of another building)
Most of my classes are on	yet technically, my degree is in	So basically, I belong
_____	_____	_____
(Stuff I haven't seen since High School)	(Major other than my undergrad's)	(Nowhere)

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“Piled Higher and Deeper” by Jorge Cham  
[www.phdcomics.com](http://www.phdcomics.com)

# FOSS to the rescue ...

- ▶ Community-driven development
- ▶ Diversity of projects
  - ▶ \*nix
    - ▶ Ubuntu, Debian, Fedora
  - ▶ Version Control
    - ▶ git, svn, hg
  - ▶ Content Management
    - ▶ drupal, joomla, plone, django, wordpress
  - ▶ Art and Graphics
    - ▶ GIMP, TuxPaint, Blender

- ▶ Options for scientific research
  - ▶ Python (NumPy, SciPy, Mayavi, Matplotlib), R, Scilab,  $\text{\LaTeX}$
- ▶ Usability, scalability, adaptability
  - ▶ Mozilla, OpenOffice, MySql, Apache

# Reasons why YOU should use and participate in FOSS

- ▶ Makes world domination easier :)
- ▶ Life changing AND life-simplifying
- ▶ AIN'T rocket science! Not necessarily just for programmers!
  - ▶ Documentation and Technical writing
  - ▶ Art, Design, and Graphics
  - ▶ Education and awareness ... virtually anything!
- ▶ 'Free' – as in 'Freedom' and as in 'Free beer'
- ▶ Gender-neutral, meritocracy . . .
- ▶ FUN! How often can one learn and get mentored for FREE?!

# How do I get started?

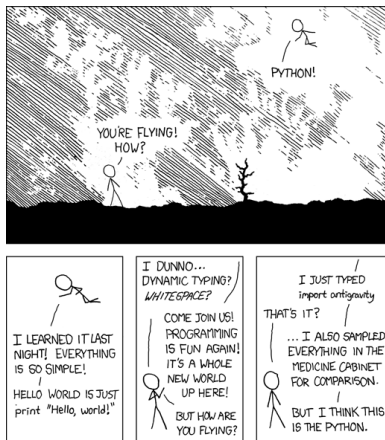
- ▶ Get on Mailing lists – lurk initially and gauge the community
- ▶ Be an active user! Be a PROactive user!
- ▶ Grab opportunities – GSoC, GHOP
- ▶ Read and write documentation. Help make translations.
- ▶ Participate in and organize community events



# How do I get started?

- ▶ Try hanging out at forums, irc
- ▶ Help with advocacy, user support, testing, usability ...
- ▶ File bug reports and request features
- ▶ Remember that coding is not difficult! Try some :)

# With all your powers combined, I am Captain FOSS!



“Python” from xkcd