



Programming Club IITM

OSS - 1

# Open Source Session - 1

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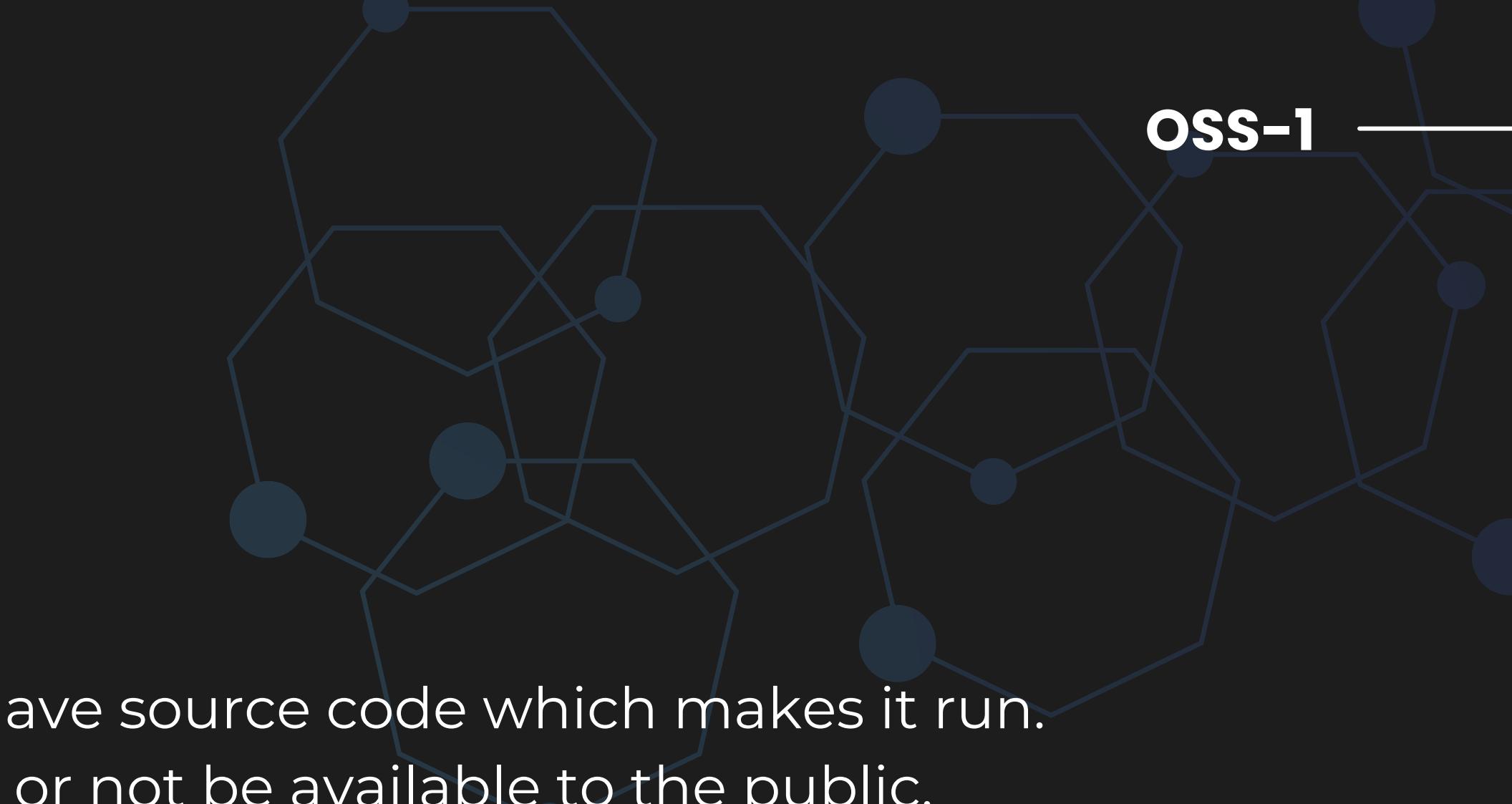
Exploring, Contributing and  
Growing with the  
Community

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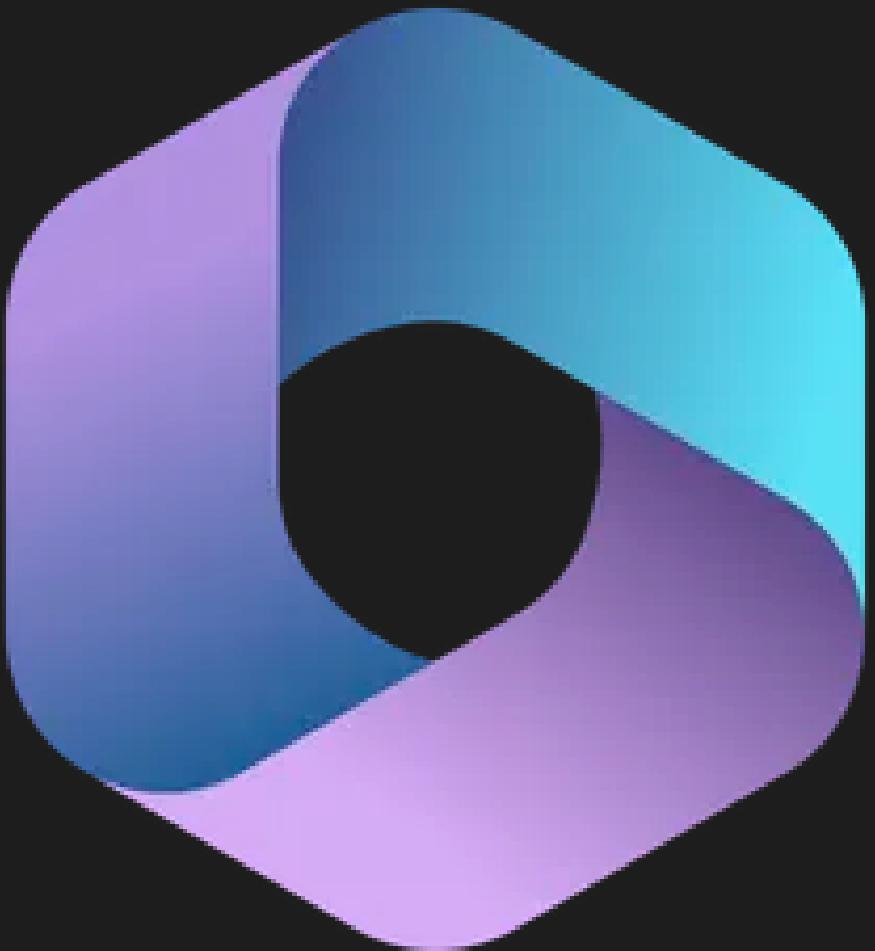
# What is Open Source?

- Every software you use must have source code which makes it run.
- This source code can either be or not be available to the public.
- A software company which creates a particular software may choose (happens in most cases) to hide the source code from the public by licensing it (Closed Source).
- On the other hand, the source code of Open Source Software are available to the public over the internet.





# Understanding with an example:



Guess the software by their logos..., and find out which one of them is open-source.



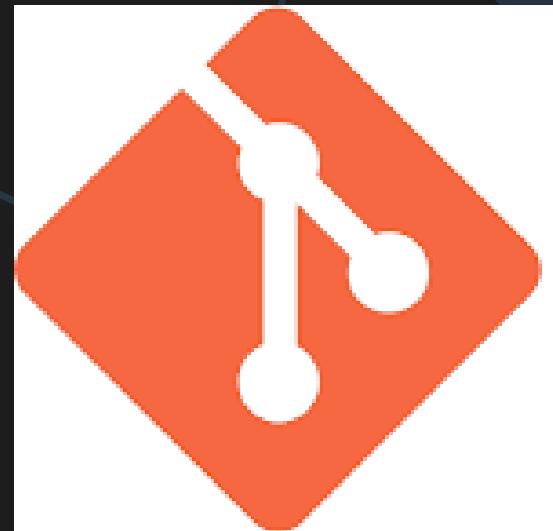
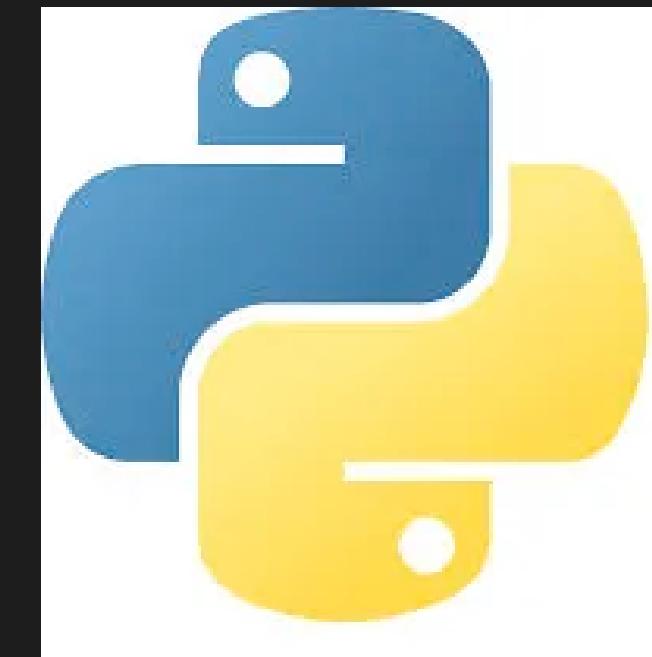
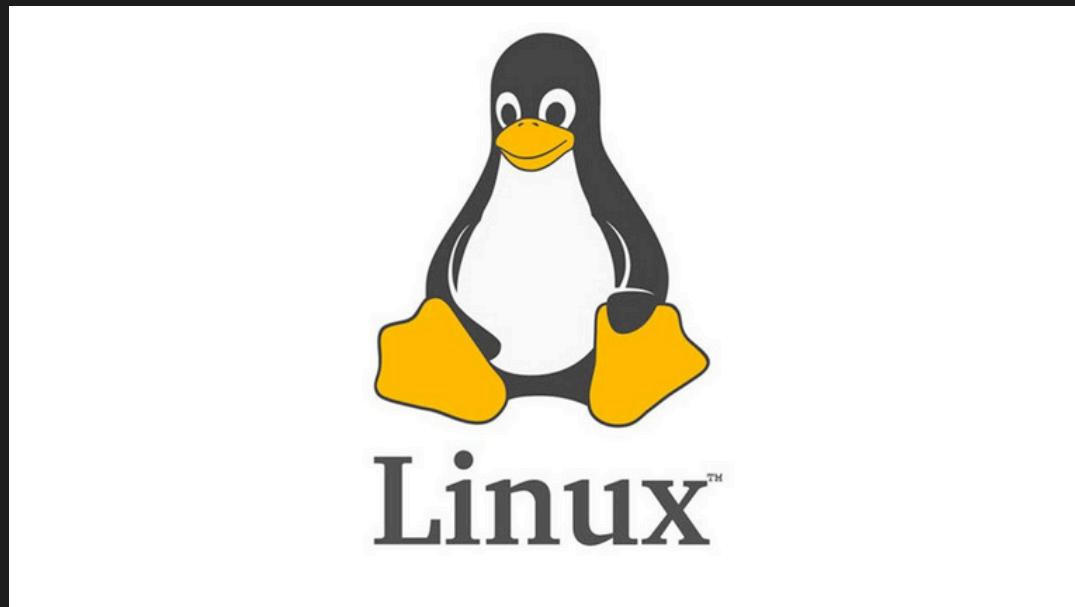
# What is Open Source? ...Cont.

- Anyone on the internet has the right to view, modify and distribute the source code of an open source software.
- Open source software are built on the principles of transparency, collaboration and community.
- There are different types of open source licensing, some of them are MIT, GPL (General Public License), and Apache.

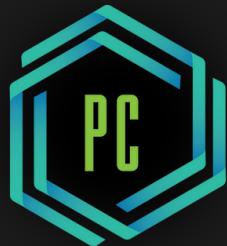




# Popular Open Source Software

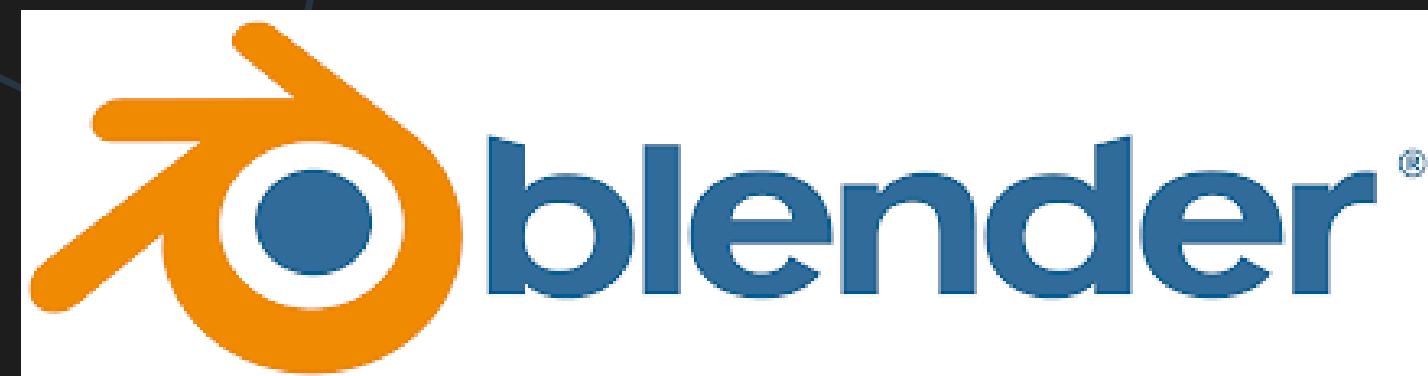


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# Popular Open Source Software

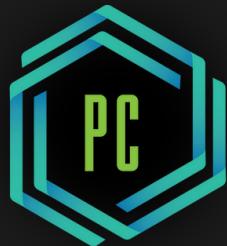


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# Why Open Source Matters?

- Encourages Innovation and Fast Development
- Increases Software Reliability (Community Review = Less Bugs)
- Promotes freedom – no vendor lock-in
- Builds a learning culture for skill development



# Why Should Students Care?

- Hands-on learning beyond textbooks
- Exposure to real-world software practices
- Opportunity to work with global developers
- Enhances your resume and credibility
- Builds confidence and problem-solving skills



# How to Start?

- Start Small
- Fix typos, improve documentation
- Report bugs or suggest features
- Explore Good First Issues on GitHub
- Learn Git & GitHub Basics (fork, clone, commit, pull request)
- Join the Community (Software Dependent)
- Be Consistent – even small contributions matter



[Beginner Friendly Repos](#)



# One Contribution Path

- Step 1: Choose a project you use or like.
- Step 2: Understand its README & Contribution Guidelines.
- Step 3: Look for “good first issue” or “help wanted” tags.
- Step 4: Make your first pull request.
- Step 5: Get feedback, learn, and grow.
- Step 6: Be patient.



# Some Tips & Tricks

- Avoid taking up issues for which you have zero idea of.
- It is highly possible that you get stuck in between, try asking for help through the dedicated communication channels which a lot of repositories have.
- Always follow the coding style used by the project.
- Submit your code as part of a merge request/pull request.



# HACKTOBERFEST

- An annual October event encouraging open-source contributions.
- Organized by DigitalOcean and partners.
- Register on the Hacktoberfest website.
- Make 6 pull requests to eligible repos during October.
- Rewards: Swag, T-shirts, or plant a tree.
- Great way for freshers to kickstart contributions.

[Link to Site](#)

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# What's special for IITM students?

***Leaderboard + Prizes specifically  
for IIT Madras Students***

**Join Discord Server to be a  
part of the Leaderboard**



**SCAN ME**



# Google Summer of Code (GSoC)

- A global program by Google to support open source.
- Students get to work on real-world OSS projects for stipends + mentorship.
- Duration: Varies (90/175/350 Hours).
- Learn from experienced developers.
- Build a strong portfolio.
- Recognition from the open-source community.
- Applications usually open in March every year.

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## Advantages of being a GSoC Contributor

- Real life experience of software development.
- Exposure to pioneers in open source field.
- Community building from around the world.
- Major point in resume that recruiters look for.
- One of the best ways to earn in summer.



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**What's special for IITM students?**

**GSOC MENTORSHIP BY  
PROGRAMMING CLUB WITH THE  
HELP OF PAST GSOCERS**

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# Guests for the session



Advik  
GSOC 2024, LPython



Sanika  
GSOC 2025, Project Mesa



Achintya  
GSOC 2025, OWASP  
Foundation



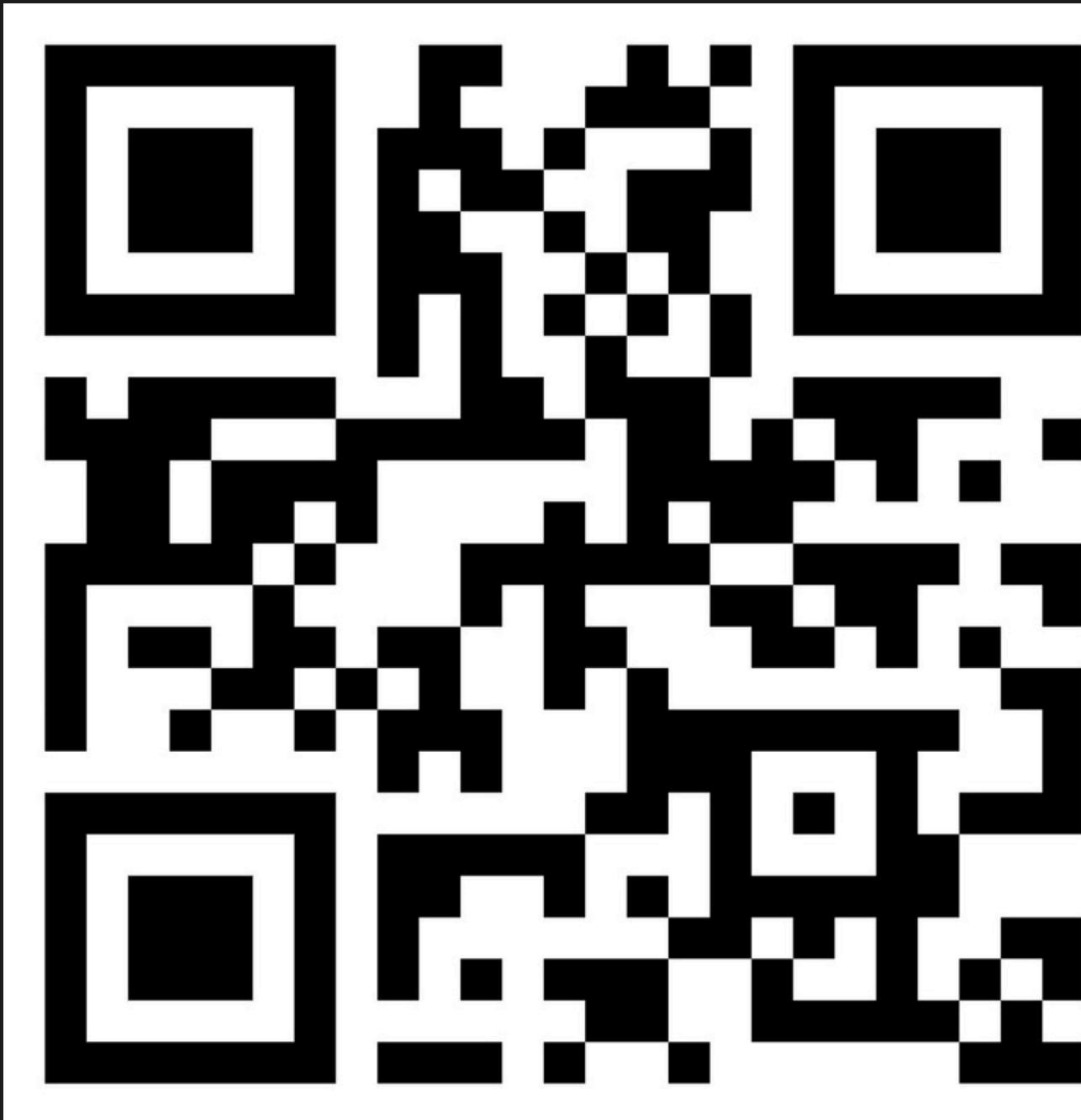
# GSOC Mentorship - What's in for you ??

- Guidance from past GSOCers.
- Interaction with Insti's best software developers.
- Help in proposal building.
- Part of exclusive open source community in IITM.
- I don't know what else do you need :D

*Last year was the first time for this mentorship - and we got 4 successful GSOC contributors with just 2.5 months of mentorship. Guess how much more we can do this year !!!*



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# Thank You