

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Asahi Linux developer Hector Martin & Linus Torvalds // kernel drama](#)

Hackers - February 7, 2025, 8:12 pm

Hector was complaining and being dramatic.

Linus called him out.

Hector is stepping away from being an official upstream dev

<https://archive.is/rESxe>

Quote:From Hector Martin <>

Date Fri, 07 Feb 2025 03:21:46 +0900

Subject [PATCH] MAINTAINERS: Remove myself

I no longer have any faith left in the kernel development process or community management approach.

Apple/ARM platform development will continue downstream. If I feel like sending some patches upstream in the future myself for whatever subtree I may, or I may not. Anyone who feels like fighting the upstreaming fight themselves is welcome to do so.

Signed-off-by: Hector Martin <marcan@marcan.st> MAINTAINERS | 1 -
1 file changed, 1 deletion(-)

```
diff --git a/MAINTAINERS b/MAINTAINERS
```

```
index
```

```
1e930c7a58b13d8bbe6bf133ba7b36aa24c2b5e0..c9623439998709c9d6d6944cbd87e025356422d  
a 100644
```

```
--- a/MAINTAINERS
```

```
+++ b/MAINTAINERS
```

```
@@ -2177,7 +2177,6 @@ F: sound/soc/codecs/cs42l84.*
```

```
F: sound/soc/codecs/ssm3515.c
```

ARM/APPLE MACHINE SUPPORT

-M: Hector Martin <marcan@marcan.st>

M: Sven Peter <sven@svenpeter.dev>

R: Alyssa Rosenzweig <alyssa@rosenzweig.io>

L: asahi@lists.linux.devbase-commit: 40384c840ea1944d7c5a392e8975ed088ecf0b37

change-id: 20250207-rm-maint-af7cccc22871

Best regards,

--

Hector Martin <marcan@marcan.st>

The drama ensues!

Here's Linus' comments about complaining on social media (about upstream contribution disagreements, delays, and inaction on Rust implementations):

Quote:From: Linus Torvalds <torvalds@linux-foundation.org>

To: Hector Martin <marcan@marcan.st>

Cc: "Dave Airlie" <airlied@gmail.com>,

"Jason Gunthorpe" <jgg@nvidia.com>,

"Greg KH" <gregkh@linuxfoundation.org>,

phasta@kernel.org, "Christoph Hellwig" <hch@lst.de>,

"Danilo Krummrich" <dakr@kernel.org>,

"Miguel Ojeda" <miguel.ojeda.sandonis@gmail.com>,

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daniel.almeida@collabora.com, aliceryhl@google.com,

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"Miguel Ojeda" <ojeda@kernel.org>,

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"Boqun Feng" <boqun.feng@gmail.com>,

"Gary Guo" <gary@garyguo.net>,

"Björn Roy Baron" <bjorn3_gh@protonmail.com>,

"Benno Lossin" <benno.lossin@proton.me>,

"Andreas Hindborg" <a.hindborg@kernel.org>,

"Trevor Gross" <tmgross@umich.edu>,

"Valentin Obst" <kernel@valentinobst.de>,

"open list" <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>,

"Marek Szyprowski" <m.szyprowski@samsung.com>,

airlied@redhat.com,

"open list:DMA MAPPING HELPERS" <iommu@lists.linux.dev>,

"DRI Development" <dri-devel@lists.freedesktop.org>

Subject: Re: On community influencing (was Re: [PATCH v8 2/2] rust: add dma coherent allocator abstraction.)

Date: Thu, 6 Feb 2025 09:58:36 -0800 [thread overview]

Message-ID:

<CAHk-=wi=ZmP2=TmHsFSUGq8vUZAOWWSK1vrJarMaOhReDRQRYQ@mail.gmail.com> (raw)

In-Reply-To: <208e1fc3-cfc3-4a26-98c3-a48ab35bb9db@marcan.st>

On Thu, 6 Feb 2025 at 01:19, Hector Martin <marcan@marcan.st> wrote:

>

> If shaming on social media does not work, then tell me what does,

> because I'm out of ideas.

How about you accept the fact that maybe the problem is you.

You think you know better. But the current process works.

It has problems, but problems are a fact of life. There is no perfect.

However, I will say that the social media brigading just makes me not want to have anything at all to do with your approach.

Because if we have issues in the kernel development model, then social media sure as hell isn't the solution. The same way it sure as hell wasn't the solution to politics.

Technical patches and discussions matter. Social media brigading - no thank you.

And I'll add this reply here, from Dr. Greg to Linus:

Quote: I truly wish that technical patches and discussions were the currency that matter but I believe we are struggling with that, at least in some venues in the kernel development process.

No one should construe that statement as an endorsement of berating people on social media as the 'fix'.

I come at this from the perspective of having worked on Linux since around December of 1991. I first met you and Tove in 1995 at the Free Software Conference at MIT that Stallman sponsored. When we first met, I told you that cancer patients in North Dakota were enjoying more time with their families because of what we were able to do with Linux and optimizing medical processes at our Cancer Center.

RedHat paid me to speak at a number of conferences in the 90's talking about how Linux was going to dominate enterprise computing, given that it was about technology people doing the 'right' technology thing.

I'm seeing things that make me regret those words.

Probably the last technical contribution of my career is leading an initiative to provide the Linux community a generic security modeling architecture. Not to supplant or replace anything currently being done, but to provide a flexible alternative to the development of alternate and/or customized workload models, particularly in this era of machine learning and modeling.

Four patch series over two years, as of yesterday, not a single line of code ever reviewed.

For a contribution that touches nothing outside of its own directory and does nothing unless people choose to execute a workload under its control.

We were meticulous in our submissions to avoid wasting maintainers time. We even waited two months without hearing a word before we sent an inquiry as to the status of one of the submissions. We were told, rather curtly, that anything we sent would likely be ignored if we ever inquired about them.

We tried to engage, perhaps to excess, in technical discussions attempting to explain why and how we chose to implement what we were proposing. Including input from advisors who are running production IT systems that feel that there needs to be better approaches to addressing their security needs.

There were never any relevant technical exchanges. The discussion consisted of, we have decided to do things a certain way, no

discussion, if you don't like that you should really consider doing something other than submitting to upstream Linux.

The all powerful sub-system maintainer model works well if the big technology companies can employ omniscient individuals in these roles, but those types are a bit hard to come by. Lacking that, there is the tangible risk of stifling innovation and Linux is the only place that innovation can occur in the operating system space.

Not sure what the fix is, from a project management perspective the technology industry has never faced a challenge like this. The fork model, which was the classic protection in open-source, doesn't work at this scale.

We have a Code Of Conduct that we can't scream or hurl four letter words and insults at one another. Maybe it already exists but a Code Of Standards for maintainers would seem to be an imperative if we are going to move forward productively. Jim are you listening?

Obviously respect and open-mindedness to new ideas appears to be the grease that makes all of this run smoothly. Unfortunately that seems to be about as rare a commodity as omniscience in our industry.