



## Assignment 7: Readings on Open Source, Part 2

### 1 Overview

The next set of readings has a few different objectives. One is to give you practical advice on contributing to open source projects. Another is to paint a picture of what it might be like and what to expect. Last is to introduce you to the technology of issue trackers and IRC channels.

### 2 Readings

There are four different readings that are now relevant:

1. A Beginner's Very Bumpy Journey Through The World of Open Source by Shubheksha Jalan. This is a very short article about her experience as a novice programmer trying to make a contribution to an open source project. It is just a bit of good advice and encouragement.
2. How to Contribute to Open Source Without Coding by Craig Buchek. Another very short article on the different ways that one can contribute to open source projects.
3. GitHub's Guide to How to Contribute to Open Source (uncredited). This is a very good and succinct guide that includes how to contribute, how to find a project, and the actual steps, procedures, and outcomes of trying to make a contribution.
4. In the book *Producing Open Source Software, 2nd edition* by Karl Fogel, the two sections of Chapter 3 on Bug Trackers and on IRC (pages 62 to 69 Of the PDF.) This is technical reading.

### 3 Your Weekly Blog

Please update your blog with your reactions to one or more of these articles. You are free to write what you want, but if you need some suggestions, or things to think about, consider how you will search for projects based on what you read, or what you would prefer to do first to contribute to a project, or what kinds of projects you would like to be a part of, and so on. Also, which of the methods of communication seem better to you, from the discussion of IRC and Chat. Feel free to write anything else in your blog that you think is relevant. You should post to `2018-10-10-week05.md`.