



The Ubuntu Patch Pilot Program

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Who am I



You can send patches to Ubuntu now

- There is an easy process to get your contributions uploaded to Ubuntu
- No need to directly contact a potential sponsor
- Just submit a patch in a Launchpad bug
- The Patch Pilot program process will ensure your patch gets attention



Package maintainership



Ubuntu

- Packages have maintainers
 - Team
 - Group of people
 - Single person
- Packages are maintained collectively
 - No single owners



Ubuntu Development

- Development release
 - Packages are imported from Debian
 - sync/merge

Debian unstable => Ubuntu `${SERIES}-proposed` => britney => `${SERIES}`

- **Stable Release Updates**
 - Review process
 - `${SERIES}-proposed` => britney => `${SERIES}-updates`



Ubuntu archive

- Series
 - focal, jammy, plucky, ...
- Pockets
 - release, updates, security, proposed, backports
- Suites
 - oracular, plucky-proposed, focal-security, bionic-updates, ...
- Components
 - **main, restricted, universe, multiverse**



Components

	Free Software?	Supported by
main	yes	Canonical
restricted	no	Canonical
universe	yes	Community
multiverse	no	Community

This does not apply to security related support. With Ubuntu Pro, Canonical applies security fixes to all components.



Components

	Source packages
main	2379
restricted	17
universe	36357
multiverse	498



Canonical maintains ~**7%** of the packages in the archive (Ubuntu base packages)



The remaining **93%** of the packages are maintained by the community

Not entirely true: +1 maintenance shifts, transitions, migration issues, etc.



Expectations

Canonical employed core developers are most likely not actively looking at bugs filed against packages in **universe**.

For instance, when you file a bug against mercurial (VCS package), there is a chance it will be a long time until you get a response unless some community developer is working on that package.



How can **universe** bugs get fixed?



Fixing universe bugs

- Debian Maintainer
 - Some DDs/DMs check LP bugs for their packages
- Community uploaders
- **Non uploader contributions**



Non uploader contributions

- Contributor submits patch or merge proposal for a Launchpad bug
- Someone with upload rights for that package reviews and sponsors
 - But only if they are monitoring the bug, right?



The sponsoring queue

DATE QUEUED	SUMMARY	ITEM	TYPE	SOURCE PACKAGE	ORIGIN	LAST COMMENT	STATUS	IMPORTANCE	COMPONENT	DATE CREATED
2024-08-12	lp:~racb/ubuntu/+source/hello:test-ubuntu-sponsors-reporter	test-ubuntu-sponsors-reporter		hello ()	core branches	tsimonq2	1 comments		main	2024-08-12
2025-01-19	Jammy clevis forces argon2id for keystlots	2073429	sru	clevis (jammy)	unseeded bugs	tsimonq2	In Progress	High	universe	2024-07-17
2025-01-22	dracut-install does not install compressed wildcard blobs	2095518	sru	dracut (jammy, noble, oracular, plucky)	i386-whitelist bugs	vicamo	In Progress	High	main, universe	2025-01-22
2025-01-24	[SRU] Upgrade to media driver version 24.3.4 in Noble	2095074	sru	intel-gmmlib (noble)	i386-whitelist,kubuntu bugs	mckeesh	New	Undecided	universe	2025-01-16
2025-01-28	os-prober leaves filesystems (lvm-thin, lvm snap) mounted	1987679	sru	os-prober (focal, jammy, noble, oracular, plucky)	core bugs	mikeaa	In Progress	Medium	main	2022-08-25

Last updated at: Sun, 02 Feb 2025 10:34:47 -0000

Statistics

Total requests: 5

Average request age: 9 days, 17:40:43.214890

Request Types

Sync requests: 0
Merge requests: 0
Upgrade requests: 0

Legend

Row Color

Over one week old.
Over two weeks old.
Over three weeks old.
Over four weeks old.





Ubuntu Patch Pilots

- Ubuntu uploaders take ~4 hour shifts
 - Work on the sponsoring queue
 - Available in IRC (**#ubuntu-devel** @ libera)
 - Not necessarily Canonical employees
 - Canonical dedicates ~2 developers/day as "pilots"
- Not exclusive for universe packages
- **Priority goes to non-canonical related work**



Useful links

The sponsorship queue:

<http://sponsoring-reports.ubuntu.com/general.html>

The Patch pilot program announcement:

<https://discourse.ubuntu.com/t/ubuntu-patch-pilots/37705>



Thank you! Questions?

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