



# What it's like to accidentally maintain an open source project

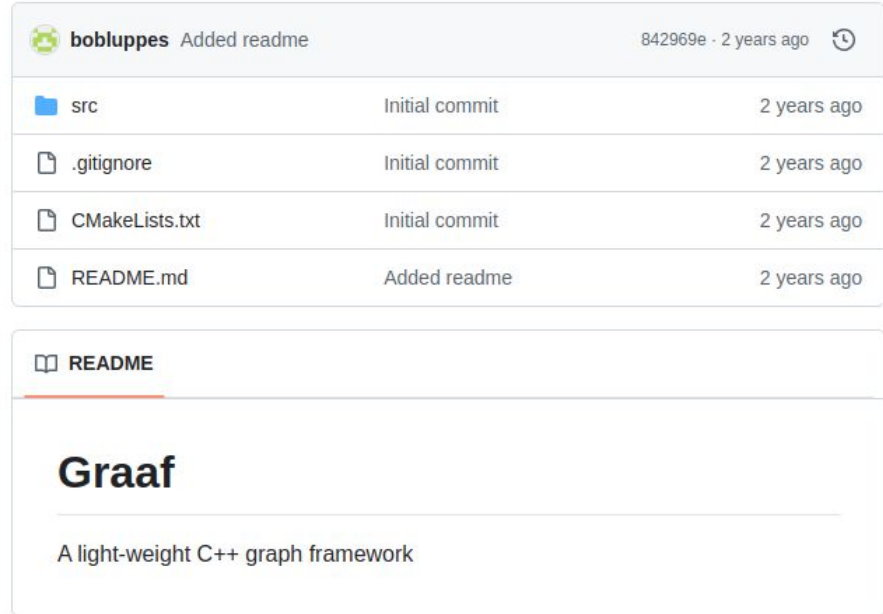
And the lessons learned along the way

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Bob Luppés  
[github.com/bobluppés](https://github.com/bobluppés)

# The Beginning

- Hobby Project
- Goal: learning
- Open source it?
  - Logo
  - MIT License
  - Issue to improve test coverage



The screenshot shows a GitHub repository interface. At the top, a commit by user 'boblupes' is highlighted, with the message 'Added readme' and a timestamp of '2 years ago'. Below this, a table lists the files included in the commit: 'src' (Initial commit), '.gitignore' (Initial commit), 'CMakeLists.txt' (Initial commit), and 'README.md' (Added readme). The 'README' file is selected, showing its content: the title 'Graaf' and the description 'A light-weight C++ graph framework'.

File	Commit Message	Time
src	Initial commit	2 years ago
.gitignore	Initial commit	2 years ago
CMakeLists.txt	Initial commit	2 years ago
README.md	Added readme	2 years ago

**README**

## Graaf

A light-weight C++ graph framework

# More Issues & PRs

- Good issues
  - **Clear scope:** implementation of a *specific* algorithm (+ reference impl.)
  - **Clear starting point:** provide interface in the issue
  - **Definition of done:** implementation + docs + tests
  - **Labels:** *help wanted, good first issue, etc.*
- Bad issues
  - **Complex scope:** i.e. things I would not know to start myself
  - Example: graph isomorphism

# Community and Feature Requests

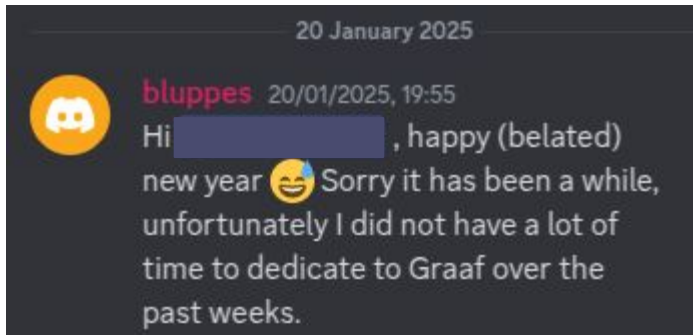
- Providing support for developers
  - Wiki
  - Discord
- Feature Requests
  - Larger vertex ID types
  - Tree support
  - ~~Geometric graphs~~



Image from <https://www.playmodes.com/home/astres/>

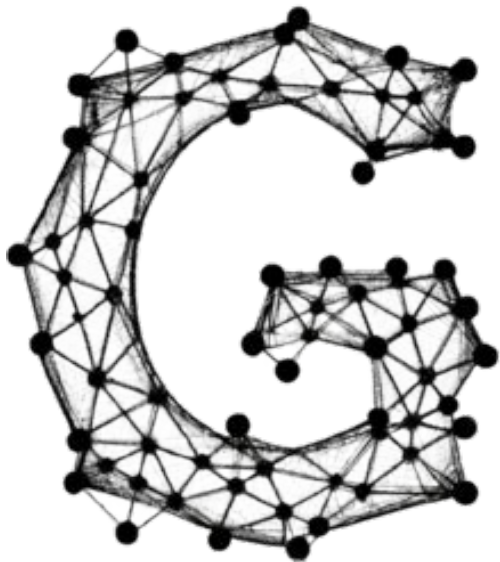
# Life gets in the way

... and that's fine!



# Conclusion

- Do not underestimate enthusiasm of kind strangers on the internet
- Put effort into writing good issues
- Provide a channel to support developers
- Don't be afraid to say no
- **It is OK if life gets in the way**



Thanks!

[github.com/bobluppes/graaf](https://github.com/bobluppes/graaf)

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