



Kernel driver prog. day 4

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Upstream ↔ Downstream

- Linus Torvalds kernel tree and the tarballs released from it are used as the source / base for the kernel used in Linux distributions
- Distributions often make their own changes and derivative distributions may make more changes on top of this
- In this model Linus' original code is called the upstream and distributions are downstream, with derivative distributions being downstream of the downstream

Kernel devel process



- Each kernel release sees an amazing amount of change, for the 4.2 release:
 - 13,555 changesets
 - From 1,569 developers
 - Adding 1.09 million lines of code
 - Removing 285,000 lines of code
 - In just 10 weeks
- So how does all this code get in Linus' tree?

Kernel devel process

- Linus merges in pull-requests with changesets from subsys maintainers
- Subsys maintainers merge in pull-requests from sub-subsys maintainers, driver maintainers and / or merge changes themselves directly
- This depends on the size of the subsystem and the number of contributors to a subsystem

Questions?



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Hands on: Coding time!



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