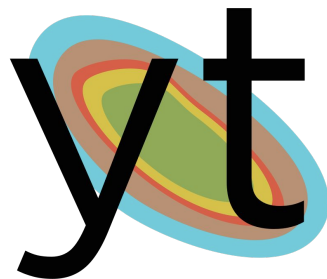# Open Governance Best Practices for HPC Software Projects

Nathan Goldbaum

Who am I?

- PhD 2015, did simulations of Milky Way-like Galaxies

- Member of yt steering committee, former lead maintainer, contributed to the Enzo cosmological hydrodynamics code

- Software Engineer at Quansight, working to improve sustainability of open source software infrastructure
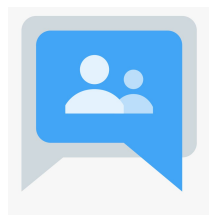
Work in the open

Project discussions happen in public

Public code hosting, code review, issue tracker

Publicly accessible low-latency chat

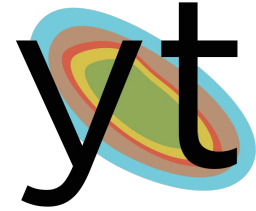# Adopt a Project Governance Document

- Enumerates explicit roles

- Has an onboarding path from new contributor to developer to maintainer

- Establish rules for resolving conflicts

https://github.com/yt-project/governance/pull/1

https://github.com/jupyter/governance

https://tiny.cc/scgovernance has suggestions for what should go into a governance document

Build Consensus Using Formal Design Documents

- Consider effects of changes on users and downstream developers

- Allows comments and suggestions from stakeholders

- Reserved for major decisions or design efforts

matplotlib

https://matplotlib.org/3.1.1/devel/MEP/index.html

NumPy

https://numpy.org/neps/

yt

https://ytep.readthedocs.org/

Create an Inclusive Community

- Provide guidelines for acceptable behavior via a code of conduct.

- Document and maintain a process for receiving and adjudicating reports of violations.

- Build an inclusive culture and exhibit it in project communications. Project leaders set the tone and can encourage or destroy an inclusive culture through their actions and words.

https://www.contributor-covenant.org/

Ten Simple Rules for Helping Newcomers Become Contributors to Open Projects:

https://github.com/gvwilson/10-newcomers