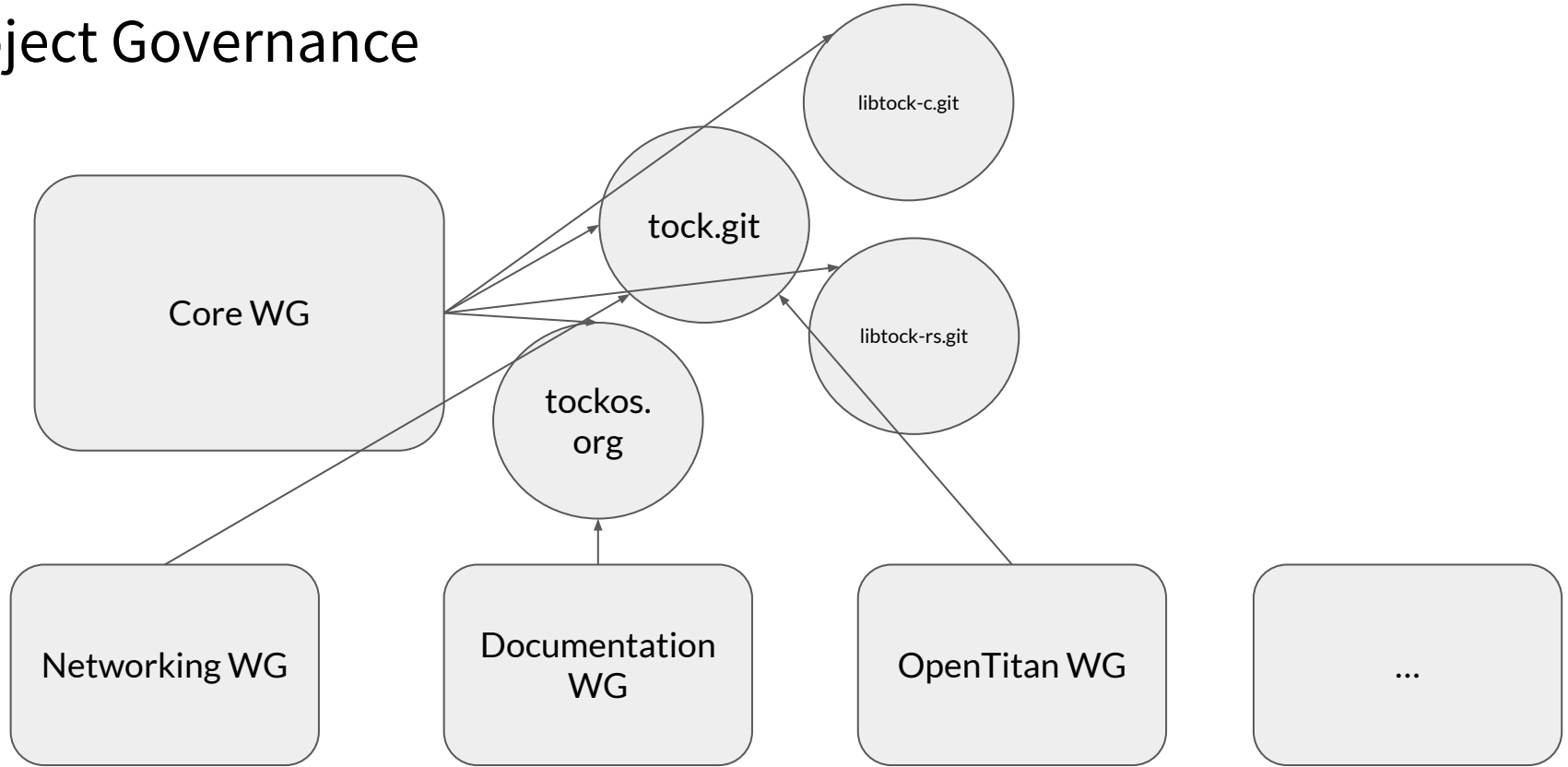




Discussion: Governance & Funding

TockWorld 7 | June 2024

Project Governance



Core WG

- Formally holds the commit bit to everything under <https://github.com/tock>
- Domain, website, mailing list, chat, etc
 - These increasingly moving to foundation
- Who gets to be a Core WG member?
 - First, ideally more a service than a privilege
 - Longer “proven” contributors
 - Active (i.e. will look at PRs)
 - Understands the unwritten goals and invariants of the Tock project
 - By vote of current Core WG members
- Who gets removed from Core WG?
 - ???

Other Working Groups

- Delegate ownership over Tock “assets” (modules, crates, repos, web pages, etc)
- Has at least one Core WG member, not necessarily lead
 - Goal is to have at least one path of communication with rest of project
- Decision making determined by WG
- Membership determined by WG
- Core WG can “disband”

Discussion: Governance

Feedback on structure?

Which working groups would people join?

Funding: What needs funding?

- **Basic assets**
 - Mailing lists, Slack, domain registration, web hosting, etc
 - \$1000s/year
- **Events**
 - TockWorld, tutorials, outreach
 - \$10,000s/year
- **Safety and security**
 - Research and development
 - Auditing, fuzzing, etc
 - \$10,000s - \$100,000s / year
- **Test infrastructure and development**
 - E.g. treadmill
 - Release management and testing
 - \$10,000s - \$100,000s / year
- **Research & Development**
 - Taking advantage of newer and future hardware
 - Supporting new use cases
 - \$100,000s - \$1,000,000s / year

Funding: etc...

- Development and support for dependencies
 - LLVM
 - Rust, cargo, etc
 - Newlibc or alternative
 - ...

Funding now

- Basic assets: personal expenditures or limited unrestricted funds
- Cobbled together from tangentially related research grants
 - Amit, Pat, Brad, Phil funding grad students who also contribute
- Borrowing against Brad's tenure case
- Limited time – specific funding from NSF to make an open source ecosystem
 - ~\$1.5M (minus the heavy University tax)
 - Bootstrap testing, reliability, and security infrastructure

Take-away: Current funding story is *not sustainable*

Discussion: Funding

What are in-common goals that are valuable for companies to fund?

Where should we expand to have more stakeholders who can fund?

- Chip vendors?
- Medical devices?
- Java Card?

How can we leverage existing users & contributors to attract others?

- Can we go public?



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