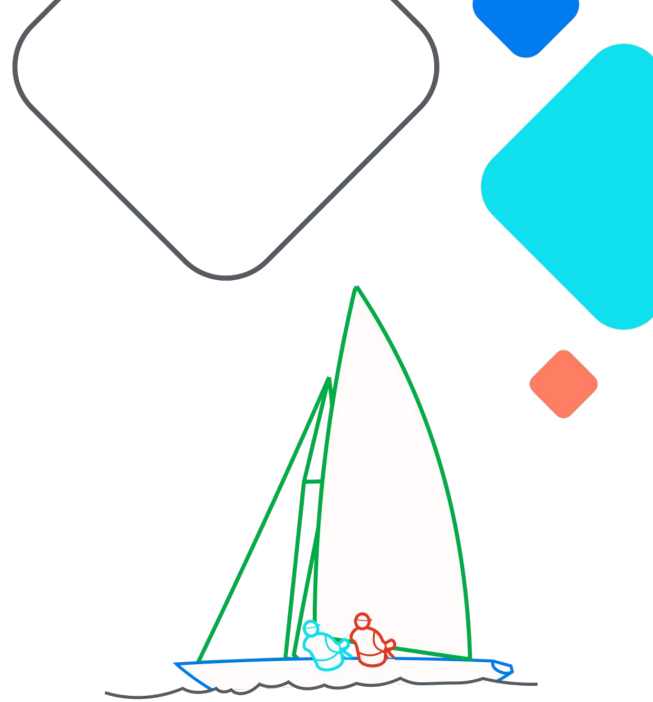


My Journey to Committer Status

What I learned and How it Can Help You

Nikolas (Niko) Oliveira



 **Airflow Summit**

Let's flow together

September 19-21, 2023,
Toronto, Canada

Who am I

- Apache Airflow committer
 - 2.5 years in the community
- Sr. software engineer at Amazon
 - Amazon Managed Workflows for Apache Airflow (MWAA)
 - Founding member of the Amazon Apache Airflow Open Source Team

My Journey: Plug into the Community

- I navigated myself to OSS work, now what?
- Get connected with the Community!
 - Join the Airflow Slack: One of the best ways to get close to users and observe how they use Airflow and the issues they have.

My Journey: Plug into the Community

- I navigated myself to OSS work, now what?
- Get connected with the Community!
 - Join the Airflow Slack: One of the best ways to get close to users and observe how they use Airflow and the issues they have.
 - Join the dev email list: High level community decisions and topics discussed here

My Journey: Plug into the Community

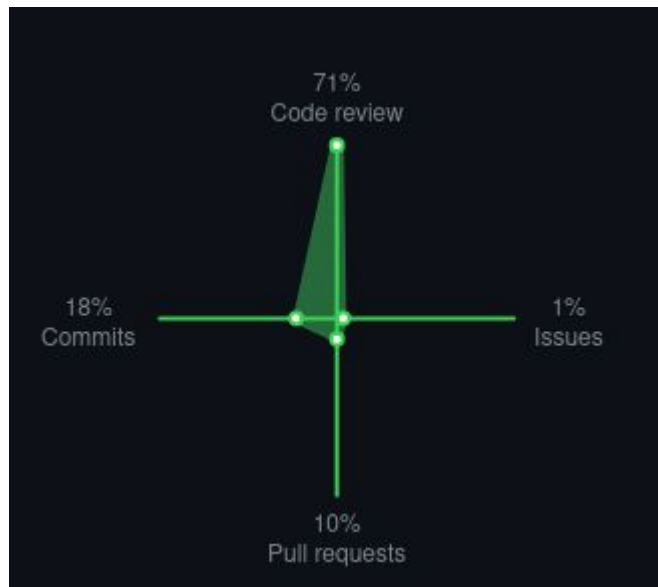
- I navigated myself to OSS work, now what?
- Get connected with the Community!
 - Join the Airflow Slack: One of the best ways to get close to users and observe how they use Airflow and the issues they have.
 - Join the dev email list: High level community decisions and topics discussed here
 - Github Issues/Discussions: In depth/threaded conversations about ideas or issues

My Journey: Explore the code

- Start looking into the code, some good places to start:
 - Writing/fixing Operators, Hooks and other end user code
 - Provider packages are generally a good entry point
 - Writing/fixing development tooling, Breeze is a great place to start
 - If you see something, fix it!

My Journey: Review Code

- Be sure to review code not just write it
- This is a great way to give you a broad exposure across the code base
- It is also an integral piece of a healthy community
- Approve Pull Requests even though your approval isn't binding



My Journey: Review Code Tips

- Add more context and details than you think you need.
 - Make your code as easy to review as possible

My Journey: Review Code Tips

- Add more context and details than you think you need.
 - Make your code as easy to review as possible
- Make sure your PR is mergeable
 - Rebase often and tests should be passing

My Journey: Review Code Tips

- Add more context and details than you think you need.
 - Make your code as easy to review as possible
- Make sure your PR is mergeable
 - Rebase often and tests should be passing
- Be empathetic in your feedback, communicate clearly and stay positive
 - Communication online is difficult; tone of voice, body language, etc are not available

My Journey: Review Code Tips

- Add more context and details than you think you need.
 - Make your code as easy to review as possible
- Make sure your PR is mergeable
 - Rebase often and tests should be passing
- Be empathetic in your feedback, communicate clearly and stay positive
 - Communication online is difficult; tone of voice, body language, etc are not available
- It's easy to point out an issue, but better to also provide a solution

My Journey: Find or Start an Initiative

- There are usually many small initiatives ongoing that you can take part in
 - Often of the recipe: do some thing **foo** to all code **bar**
 - E.g.: Update **start_date** and **catchup** for all Google Provider example DAGs

My Journey: Find or Start an Initiative

- There are usually many small initiatives ongoing that you can take part in
 - Often of the recipe: do some thing **foo** to all code **bar**
 - E.g.: Update **start_date** and **catchup** for all Google Provider example DAGs
- Start your own initiative
 - E.g.: Ensure there is an example DAG, doc file for all AWS operators
 - Be sure to publicize your initiative to get the community involved

My Journey: AIP - Airflow Improvement Proposal

- Proposing and leading a large initiative is a great step towards committer status
- Learning the AIP process: write, review, discuss, iterate, vote
- AIP-51: Executor Decoupling
- Build a project board out of your AIP tasks and let the community join the effort

My Journey: Get a Mentor

- A mentor is a fantastic resource
- Someone who is already a committer/PMC member is a good option
- A mentor can ensure you stay on the right track and give you their best estimate of your progress towards committer status
- Elad was an invaluable resource for me!
- Feel free to reach out if anyone is interested and in need of a mentor

My Journey: Join Groups and Teams

- In our community we have a few dedicated groups folks can join
- This will give you extra experience and visibility across the community
 - Triage Team: This team gets more access to modify Github Issues to aid in the process of triage
 - Security Team: This team gets more exposure to the security issues Airflow receives
- I joined the Triage team before becoming a committer and joined the security team afterwards
- Helps to show that you can perform the role before receiving the invitation

Other Tips and Tricks

- Be consistently active

Other Tips and Tricks

- Be consistently active
- Manage your expectations

Other Tips and Tricks

- Be consistently active
- Manage your expectations
- Test Release Candidates and vote on them

Other Tips and Tricks

- Be consistently active
- Manage your expectations
- Test Release Candidates
- Be vocal with your opinions, Apache is a flat structure, all voices are important

Other Tips and Tricks

- Be consistently active
- Manage your expectations
- Test Release Candidates
- Be vocal with your opinions, Apache is a flat structure, all voices are important
- Community over Code

Questions?



github.com/o-nikolas



linkedin.com/in/niko-oliveira-aws

Do We Need More Committers?

- Airflow is very popular and sees an incredible amount of contribution traffic:
 - 2597 total contributors
 - 4k+ opened PRs over the last year
 - 200+ active contributors per month
 - 100+ First time contributors per month (cumulative of code, reviews, issues, etc)
- Part of a healthy community is a reasonable ratio of folks producing code to folks who are capable to thoroughly review and merge code