

# **Examining Determinants of Controls in Open Source Software Development**

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## **Abstract**

The increasing popularity of open source software (OSS) development as a credible business strategy and the engagement of OSS communities with outside entities raise the question of how OSS projects are controlled and governed. Since control mechanisms contribute to the success of OSS development, it is important to understand which factors determine their effectiveness. This paper investigates determinants of OSS control mechanisms in OSS projects through a qualitative case study approach. Our preliminary findings identify product core competency and community leaders' technique background as predictors of two formal controls (outcome and behavior control respectively) in OSS.

## **Keywords**

Open source software (OSS), control mechanisms, determinants of control