

FIRMS' CONTRIBUTION TO FLOSS COMMUNITIES

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Outline

- Introduction
- Contribution
- Literature Review
- Research Question
- Research Methodology

Introduction (1/2)

- According to the latest EU (Ghosh 2006) study, at the end of 2005, the code of FLOSS projects had been developed
 - 61.2% by individuals
 - 19.2% by companies
 - 5.6% by universities, and
 - 7.9% by foundations.
- This trend changes since more and more key players of the IT industry are declaring their strategy to support and contribute to the FLOSS community.

Introduction (2/2)

- FLOSS Environment
 - Now (Riehle, 2008)
 - **Commercial open source**
 - **Professional open source**
 - **Community open source**
 - Future (Fitzgerald, 2006)
 - **FLOSS 2.0**: “whole-product” concept.
 - A network of interested parties with complementary capabilities can form an ecosystem to offer a professional product.

Contribution

- There has been done an extensive analysis about the developers' motivations, but on the other hand the firms' behavior on contributing to FLOSS communities has not attracted so far a lot of attention.
- So, the main contribution of this research is to shed a light at the motivations of firms on contributing to FLOSS communities and the type of contribution.
- Also, does the phenomenon of the Tragedy of the Commons affects the contribution of firms' to FLOSS communities and the relationship between individual developers and firms?

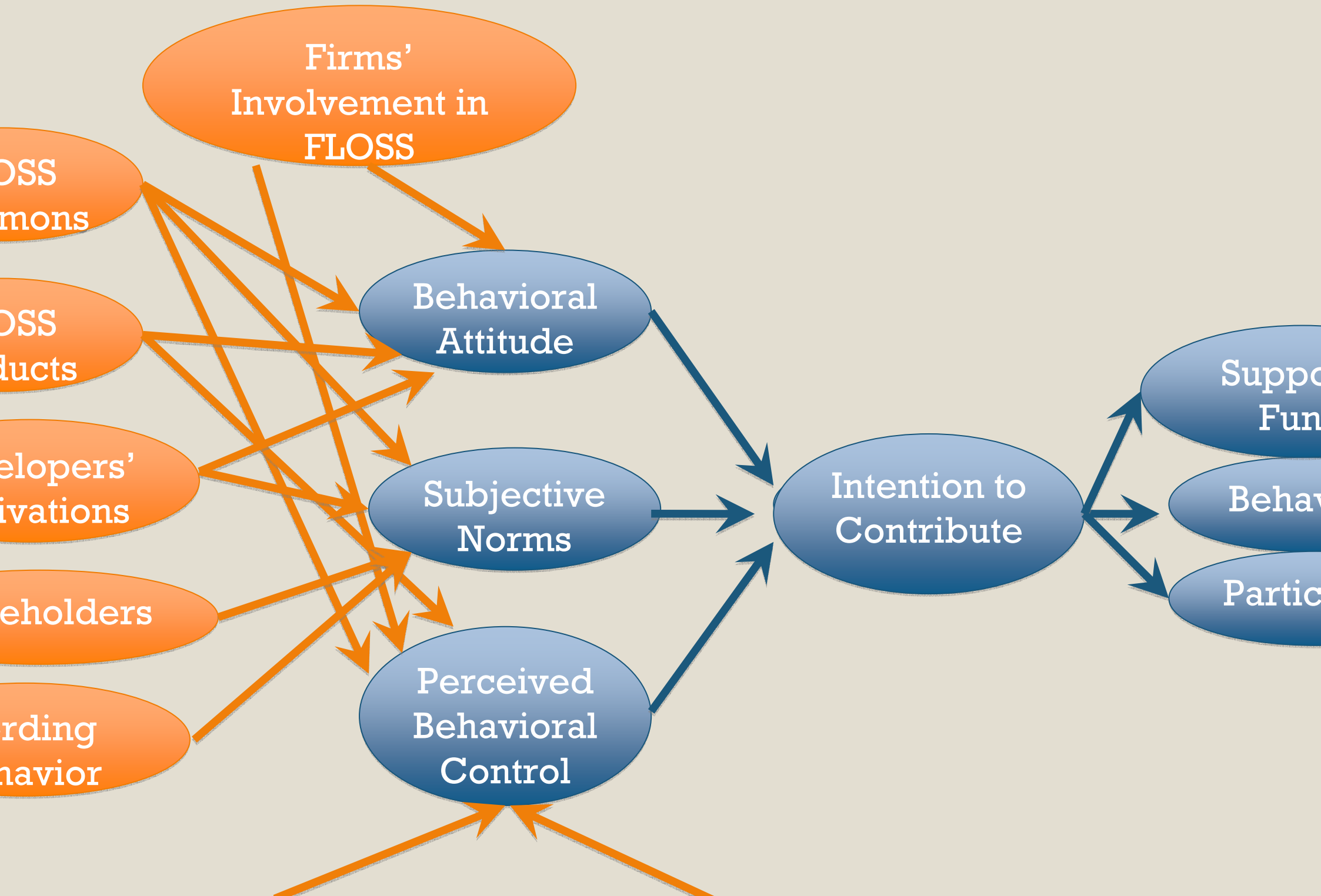
Literature Review

- Firms' involvement in FLOSS
- FLOSS products
- Developers' intrinsic and extrinsic motivation
- Commons and Free Libre Open Source Software
- Other

Research Question

- Why firms contribute to FLOSS communities?

Research Model



Research Methodology

- A qualitative analysis (semi-structured interviews) is used in order to define correctly all the factors that are going to affect the intention of the firms to contribute to FLOSS communities.
 - The result of this qualitative analysis is the validation of a structural model.
- A quantitative analysis (survey) that is going to be used in order to identify why firms would contribute in the development of FLOSS projects.
 - The analysis of these data will end up to the validation of the research's hypotheses of the structural model, which was built

Thank You!!!

Any Questions?