

Karma Server for Mailing Lists

- Karma server is intended for rating the mailing lists posts
- share the ratings with friends
- & enable search within posts

[http://wiki.techinc.nl/
index.php/
Karma_server](http://wiki.techinc.nl/index.php/Karma_server)

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Goals

- Increased involvement in the "consensus building processes"
 - by making "barrier to entry" even lower
 - *"if it was not on the mailing list it did not happen"*
 - **easier writing**
- More efficient handling of mailing list posts
 - saving time, by reading only rated posts ;-)
 - **easier reading**

Mailing lists are consensus-building tool

- Tool for participatory decision making processes
 - enabling archived discussions
 - with the goal of reaching a consensus
- Based on **contributing** to the discussion
 - by submitting the idea or proposal
 - by commenting
 - by saying “I agree” or “I disagree”

Mailing lists as a consensus-building tool

- Used for a long time and in many communities
 - technical standardisation bodies (IETF, W3C)
 - Internet governance (Regional Internet Registries, ICANN)
 - technical communities (NANOG, UKNOF, NLNOG...)
 - free and open software (and hardware) communities (RedHat, bufferbloat)
 - community projects such as hackerspaces
 - artists & activists at nettime, ...

Most people are lurkers

- All these mailing lists are **open!**
- Anyone can participate: but how many do?
- RIPE NCC: 9000 “members”, 20+ lists, 1000’s people subscribed: 100 people “write”
- NANOG: 1000’s subscribed, 100’s “write”
- Rating could make this *easier*

Not all posts are equal

- I would like to be able to **RATE** the posts
- I would like to be able to **SHARE** my ratings
- I would like to be able to **SEE** my friend's ratings of mailing-list posts
- I would like to be able to **FIND** tagged posts
- ... and I want to do it *in my email client!*
- **others may want to use web / forum interface**

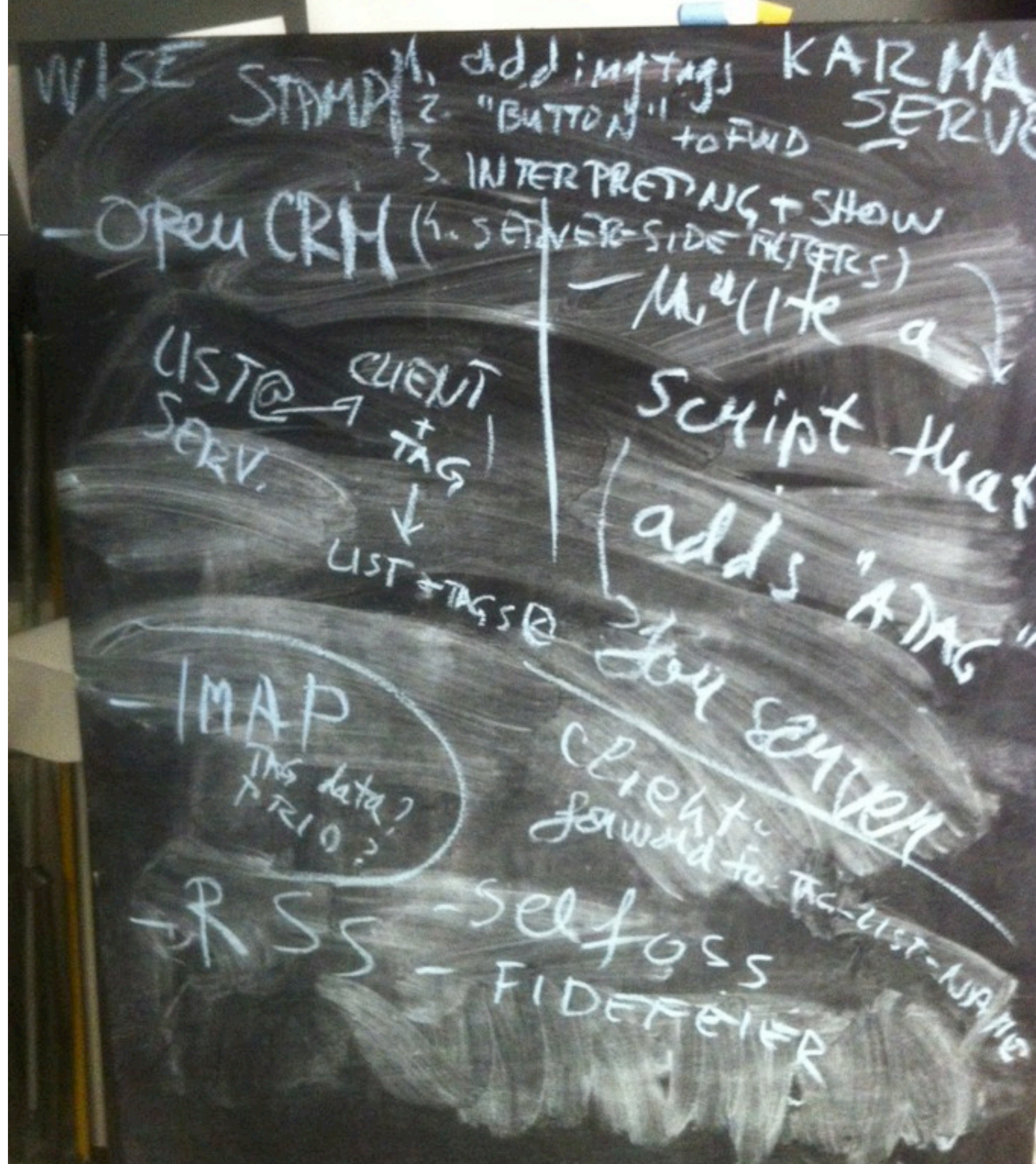
Possible solutions:

- Modified IMAP clients, enabling rating
- Modified IMAP server
 - one server for all the lists (per org.)
 - accepting ratings from clients
 - able to share the ratings
- And/or additional **karma** server

Karma Server

- Collects tags/ratings
- Distributes tags/ratings
- Communicates with IMAP server
- Communicates with web server

- Workshop results at hackathon at UnlikeUs conference in Amsterdam



Call to action



- Questions to YOU

- Is there interest for this?
- Is there already something like this?

- Take part - join our project

- Based on the ideas of: Emile Aben, Arnd Marijnissen, and Vesna Manojlovic BECHA@xs4all.nl

- http://wiki.techinc.nl/index.php/Karma_server

- <https://github.com/becha42/karma-server-project>

To do:

- Re-write

- IMAP server software
- IMAP clients software
- Write karma server code
- Write an Internet draft / RFC about it (which working group?)
- Maintain the GitHub for code
- Promotion & community building
- RIPE (NCC), NANOG, IETF... would have to start up new IMAP servers / services
 - “Everyone” would have to install new clients
 - “Everyone” would have to subscribe to the new IMAP servers

Karma Server

- Open questions:
 - unified tags or free-for-all?
 - +1 / -1
 - choosing to see only certain people's tags?

Similar implementations?

- email tagging already exists - but not sharing!
- web: "slashdot", digg, reddit
- Facebook groups
- RIPE NCC has the rating of posts, as web app, only for wg-chairs
- perlmonks.org (encourages voting)