

GPLv3

License of *Software Freedom*

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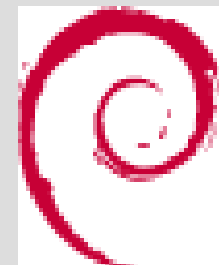
AOSS Conference&Showcase 2007

Who am I?



- National Institute of AIST (2000-)
- Information-Processing Agency (2001-2004)
- **Free Software Development & Promotion**
- NPO: Free Software Initiative of Japan (2002-)
 - Linux-M32R.ORG
 - CODEblog.ORG
 - Google SoC
 - U-20 Programming Contest in Japan

GNU Developer (1989-)
Linux Kernel Developer (1993-)
Debian Developer (2005-)



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What's GPL?

- License of Software
 - which protects “Software Freedom”
- GNU General Public License
 - GNU ... GNU Project
 - GNU's Not Unix!
 - General Public
 - For everyone
- License
 - Based on copyright law
 - Declares permission and conditions
- License used for Free Software

What's Free Software?



- 0: To run the program, for any purpose.
- 1: To study how the program works, and adapt it to your needs. (*)
- 2: To redistribute copies so you can help your neighbor.
- 3: To improve the program, and release your improvements to the public, so that the whole community benefits. (*)

(*) Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

Brief History of FLOSS

- 1984: GNU Project has started
- 1985: Free Software Foundation founded
- 1991: Linux development has started
- 1998: Open Source Software Movement
- 199X--: More and more software
Apache, Mozilla, MySQL, PostgreSQL,
PHP, Perl, Python, Ruby...
- 200x: Got Attentions by Governments
- 2003: 1st AOSS Symposium
- 2005: 1st CodeFest Asia
- 2007: 5th CodeFest Asia

GNU Project (1)

- Richard M. Stallman started the project
- Goal: UNIX compatible replacement of Free (Free as in Freedom) Operating System
- Many software from GNU:
 - GCC (GNU Compiler Collection)
 - GNU Debugger
 - GNU Binutils
 - Bash
 - GNU Coreutils (text, shell, file)
 - and MORE!
- De-facto Standard of Development Environment



GNU Project (2)

- Actually, GNU Project's most important contribution is the license: **GNU GPL**
- GNU General Public License
 - which protects users' freedom
- More than half software projects adopt GNU GPL
 - Linux
 - GNU Project
 - MySQL (dual)

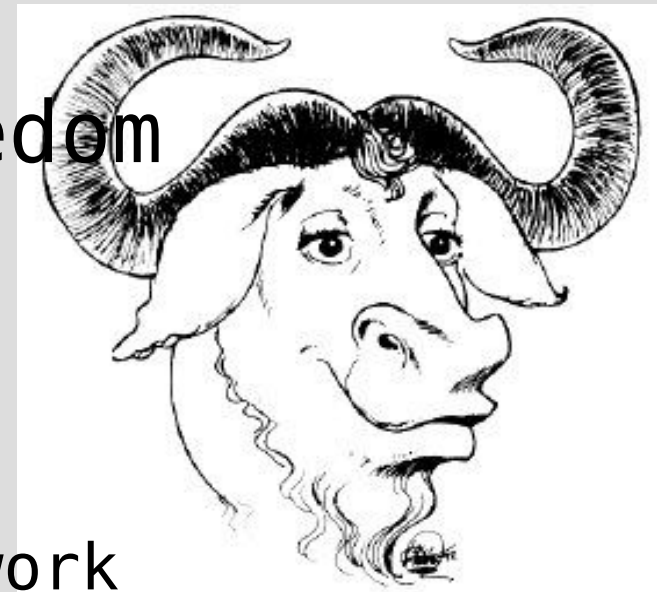


Free Software and Licenses

- *Copyright* matters
 - We can use/study/redistribute/modify
 - It is untrue: no copyright issues
- Three major category of Free Software:
 1. Public Domain
 - no copyright
 2. Permissive Licenses (BSD/MIT, ...)
 3. ***Copyleft***
- Best practice:
 - Never write your own license,
But use well-known license

Copyleft

- Copyleft: The method to protect the freedom to use/study/redistribute/modify software
- GNU GPL: An implementation of Copyleft
- Permission of four freedom
- Condition
 - Distribution
 - Source code requirement
 - Modification
 - Same license for covered work



Structure of GPL

- Preamble
- Terms & Conditions
 - 0 .. 17
- How to apply GPL to Your New Programs

How to apply GPL

- You have copyright
 - if not, you can't
- Attach notice saying
 - Program name and what it does
 - Copyright notice (holder and year)
 - License applied
 - version (or later)
 - no warranty
 - pointer to the full notice
- Interactive display of notice
- Get copyright disclaimer if needed

GNU GPL History

...1988	Each GPL (Emacs, GCC, ...)	
1989	GNU GPL version 1	10
1991	GNU GPL version 2	12
	+ Software Patents, Geo limitation	
2007	GNU GPL version 3	18
	+ Anti-Circumvention Law	
	+ Licence Compatibility	
	+ Software Patents	
	+ GNU Affero GPL	
	+ Note on Warranty & Liability	
	- Geographical limitation	

GPLv3 Process

- 18-month discussion
- Five International Conferences
 - USA, Brazil, Spain, India, Japan
- Five discussion drafts
- Discussion Committees
- Commenting system by Web

Changes in GPLv3

- Threat against Freedom
 - Tivoization
 - Software Patents (MS&Novel deal)
 - DMCA, EUCD
- License Compatibility
 - Apache
- Internationalization
- Internet
 - P2P

Threats against Software Freedom

- Proprietary Software Business
 - No freedom of users
- Monopoly of Software industry
- Control of Development Environment
 - “Java Trap”
- Software patents
which makes software proprietary
- Tivoization
 - No modification possible

Tivoization

- Verify program using cryptography
- Digital signature which forbids users modification
- GPLv3 Section 6
- “Corresponding Source”
 - Installation Information
 - Requirement of key to users
 - Not needed to publish it

Software Patents

- Avoiding inclusion of patented code purposely
- Avoiding division of community
- GPLv3 Section 11

Non-free format & DMCA

- Unauthorized copy ... illegal
- Circumvention of copy protect (technological measures) ... illegal too by DMCA
- GPLv3 Section3
 - avoids violation of DMCA

Summary

- GPL is license for Software Freedom
- GPL protects users' freedom
 - to use/study/modify/copy/publish
- Freedom matters
- We fight against threats
 - Tivoization
 - Software Patents

References

- <http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/philosophy.html>
- <http://www.gnu.org/philosophy/free-sw.html>
- <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/licenses.html>
- <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-faq.html>
- <http://gplv3.fsf.org/>
- <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/license-list.html>
- <http://www.softwarefreedom.org/>