



The Cultural Meaning of 'Open Source'

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FLOSS

- Free (Libre) and Open Source Software
- History of 'Hacking'
- What model for FLOSS?
- Who's the Hacker?
- One Hack a Day
- Defective by Design or DRM

'Free as free speech, not free beer'

- The freedom to run the program, for any purpose (freedom 0).
- The freedom to study how the program works, and change it (freedom 1).
- The freedom to redistribute copies (freedom 2).
- The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others (freedom 3).

(Free Software Foundation (1983))

Open Source (1998)

- Source Code is readily available (freedom 1 & 3)
- Free (Libre) distribution
- Derived works maintain same terms of license
- License contamination

“In conventional marketing terms, our job was to rebrand the product, and build its reputation into one the corporate world would hasten to buy...the strong association of the term 'free software' with hostility to intellectual property rights, communism, and other ideas hardly likely to endear it to an Management Information Sys manager' (Raymond 1999)

Free vs Open Source?

- “Open Source is a development methodology;
Free software is a social movement”

Richard Stallman, “Viewpoint: Why ‘open source’ misses the point of free software,”
Communications of the ACM 52 (June 1, 2009): 31.

What the Hack?

- ARPAnet (1969): first transcontinental high-speed computer network
- Unix & C (1971-78) first PC (1975) Apple (1977)
- 1984 FSF/GNU first free software operative system (MIT)
- 1985 GNU Manifesto (Gnu's Not Unix) & GPL (General Public License or Free Software)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2xfrApGO4>

1991 Linus Torvall (Uni of Helsinky)

On Aug 25, 2011 Happy 20th Birthday Linux!

Hello everybody out there using minix

I'm doing a (free) operating system (just a hobby, won't be big and professional like gnu) for 386(486) AT clones. This has been brewing since April, and is starting to get ready. I'd like any feedback on things people like/dislike in minix, as my OS resembles it somewhat (same physical layout of the file-system (due to practical reasons) among other things).

I've currently ported bash(1.08) and gcc(1.40), and things seem to work. This implies that I'll get something practical within a few months, and I'd like to know what features most people would want. Any suggestions are welcome, but I won't promise I'll implement them :-)

<https://wiki.ubuntu.com/HardwareSupport/Machines/Netbooks>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iu78P6mr198&feature=related>

Cathedral vz Bazar

Commercial Software

- Hierarchical system
- Small, secretive, tightly-knit group of people

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_QOoU1MDoVA

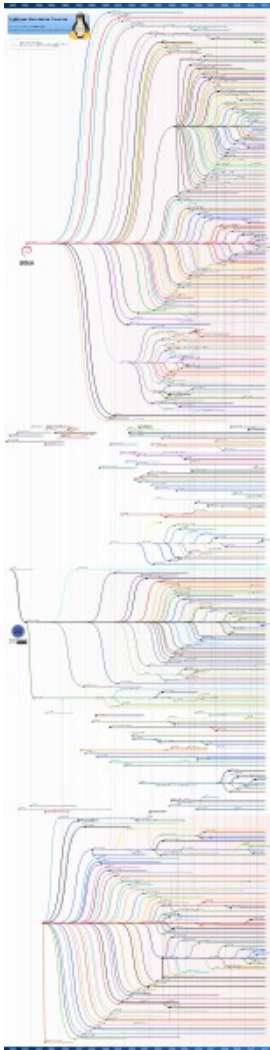
Linux

- Weekly release
- Casual hack over the internet
- Huge number of contributors/testers

What the Hack?

“the 'Real Programmers' typically came out of engineering or physics background. They were often amateur radio hobbyists. They wore white socks and polyester shirts and ties and thick glasses and coded in machine languages, half of dozen ancient languages now forgotten”

“Encountering Linux came as a shock. Even though I have been active in the hacker culture for many years, I still carried in my head the unexamined assumption that hackers amateurs, gifted though they might be, could not possibly muster the resources or skills necessary to produce a usable multitasking operating sys”



<http://www.kernel.org/>

<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8c/Gldt.svg>

3 Issues for further discussion

- FLOSS model
- Hackerdom
- iBad/DRM

What model for FLOSS?

- Bazaar (Raymond)
- 'Benevolent Dictator' (Ljunberg)
- Gift economy
- Knowledge sharing (open/peer-reviewed)
- Clandestine practices (e.g. piracy, 'Cyberterrorists'?)
- Hacktivism (Wikileaks)
- 'Hackers are political actors' (Alleyne 2010)





Powerpoint yourself!

- Libreoffice (Impress)
- Linux Debian/Ubuntu
- GIMP
- Zotero
- Firefox
- Wikipedia

One Hack a Day

'The movement, as a practice of discussion and argument, is made up of stories. It is a practice of storytelling: affect- and intellect-laden lore that orients existing participants towards a particular problem, contests other histories, parries attacks from outsides, and draws in new recruits' Kelty

'A “hack” is an efficient and often unconventional application of technology... The hack is no longer the exclusive act of the hacker. When we make a web mash-up, a music or video remix, we are involved in this blurring of the lines between software and content, and we are also part of a blurring of the lines between hackers and everyone else...We are all hackers'

(Alleyne 2010)

What the Hack?

- Linux 4 Hope <http://www.linux4hope.org/>
- OWN <http://own.spc.org/drupal/>
- Mendeley <http://tinyurl.com/clypn5p>
- DeptfordTV (CCTV 'sniffin') <http://tinyurl.com/bpo223d>

Digital Restriction Management (DMR)

- Defective by Design: Kindle

'Amazon knows what Amazon books you have on your Kindle, and we strongly suspect that it also has the back door capability. Via the wireless connectivity of these devices, Amazon can hold data about everything you read. Also via the connectivity, Amazon can delete books from Kindles.' (Stallman)

- Defective by Design: Windows 8

“The truth is that Microsoft's move removes control from the end user and places it in the hands of Microsoft and the hardware vendors. The truth is that it makes it more difficult to run anything other than Windows. The truth is that UEFI secure boot is a valuable and worthwhile feature that Microsoft are misusing to gain tighter control over the market. And the truth is that Microsoft haven't even attempted to argue otherwise..“
(Linux geek)

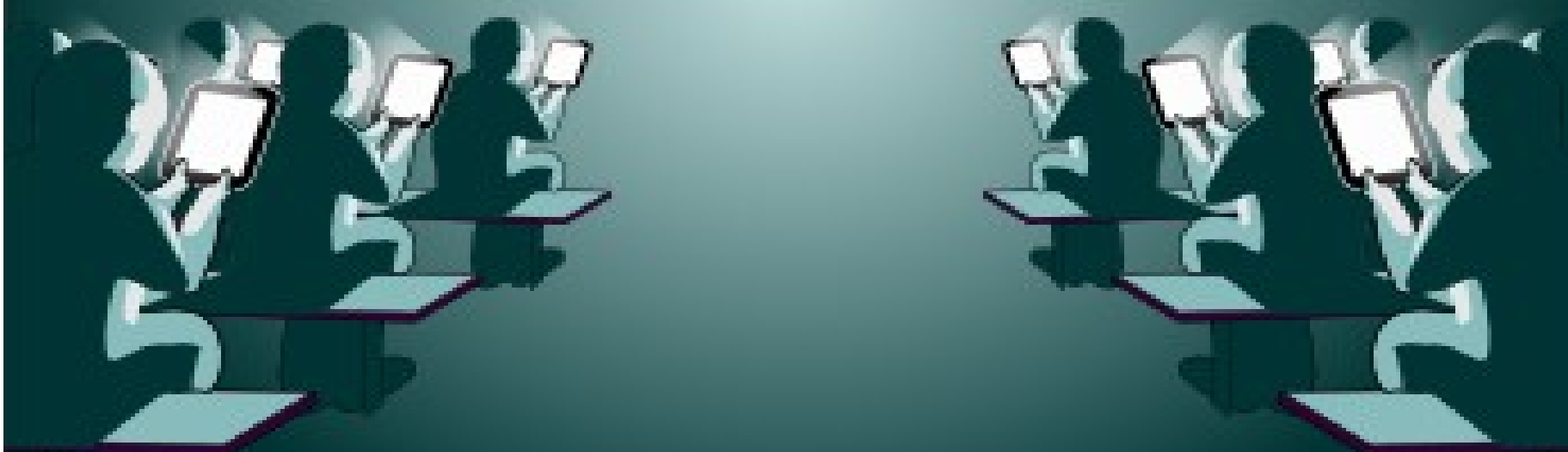
Digital Restriction Management (DRM)

- Defective by Design: iPhone

“The iPhone should not include DRM or prohibit users from installing software not signed by Apple. There is no reason not to allow users to install application via methods other than the app store. Even propriety phones such as Windows Mobile, Palm, Symbian, and Blackberry phones allow the installation of free software, at least partially protecting the freedom of their users.” (user's feedback)

'The original sin behind the Microsoft case [Explorer vis Netscape] was made much worse. The issue wasn't whether it would be possible to buy an iPhone (2007) without Apple's Safari browser. It was that no other browser would be permitted' (Zittrain's blog)

You'll see why this year WILL be like "1984"



DefectiveByDesign.org



Design+hardware+software= iBad

- Stallman: “Steve Jobs, the pioneer of the computer as a jail made cool, designed to sever fools from their freedom, has died.”
- "This is the phone that has changed phones forever," Mr. Jobs said.

FSF: We agree. A snake oil salesman not satisfied with his business of pushing proprietary software and Digital Restrictions Management (DRM) technology into your home, Jobs has set his sights on getting DRM and proprietary software into your pocket as well.”

- Jobs' success at hypnotizing millions of people into a perverse love for the walled garden is more dangerous to freedom in the long term than [Microsoft co-founder] Bill Gates's efficient but brutal and unattractive corporatism. People feared and respected Microsoft, but they love and worship Apple - and that is precisely the problem, precisely the reason Jobs may in the end have done more harm than good.

Digital Gatekeepers

'The fact that apps must routinely seek approval masks how extraordinary the situation is: tech companies are in the position of approving one by one the text, images, sounds that we are permitted to find and experience on our most common portals to the networked world' (Zittrain 2011)

<http://futureoftheinternet.org/the-pc-is-dead-why-no-angry-nerds>

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