

Chapter - 1

FREE AND OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Free Software

Definition by Richard Stallman's:

It means software is freely accessible, free to use, changed, improved, copied, distributed without any payments.

Four kinds of freedom

- ▶ Freedom to run the program for any purpose
- ▶ Freedom to redistribute copies.
- ▶ Freedom to study how the program works
- ▶ Freedom to improve the program and release your improvements to the public.

Open Source Software

Definition: The categories of software / programs whose licenses do not impose much conditions.

Features:

1. Freedom to run and use the software
2. Modify the program
3. Redistribute copies of either original or modified program (without paying royalties to previous developers).

It can be freely used for modifications, but it does not have to be free of charge. Its source code is available.

Criteria for the distribution of open source software

1. Free distribution
2. Source code
3. Derived works
4. Integrity of the Author's Source code
5. No discrimination against fields of endeavor.
6. Distribution of License
7. License must not be specific to a product
8. License must not restrict other software

FOSS (free and open software)

Free software- no payments

Open source software- for technical progress

OSS and FLOSS

- ▶ OSS- Source code is available
(open source modified and redistributed software) free of cost or with nominal charge.
- ▶ FLOSS- (free libre and open source software)

FSF(free software foundation)

Founded by Richard Stallman in 1985 to support GNU project.

Non-profit organization created for the purpose of supporting free software movement

GNU (free and open source)

Objective : To create a system compatible to unix but not identical with it.

Now it offers a wide range of software, including applications apart from operating system.

Proprietary software (neither open nor freely available)

Definition-

Its use is regulated and further distribution and modification is either forbidden or requires special permission by the supplier

Source code is not available.

Freeware

- ▶
- ▶ Free of cost
- ▶ Copying and further distribution but not modification.
- ▶ Source code is not available
- ▶ Eg. MS IE

Shareware

- ▶ Right to redistribute copies
- ▶ After a certain period of time license fee should be paid.
- ▶ Source code is not available.
- ▶ Modifications is not possible.

Objective- to increase user's will to pay for the software. Limits functionality after a trial period of 1-3 months.

Some Softwares

LINUX

- ▶ Linux: - free and open source software.
- ▶ It can be downloaded from www.linux.org
- ▶ Linux is a part of popular webserver program LAMP (Linux,apache,MySql, PHP).

Mozilla

- ▶ Freeware
- ▶ No source code available
- ▶ free internet software

It can be download from www.mozilla.org

Apache Server

- ▶ Apache HTTP server is an open source web server.
- ▶ It is component of LAMP.

It can be downloaded from www.apache.org

Quick Review

Software	Source code	Free	Modification	Redistribution	Example
OSS	YES	May or may not	YES	YES	
FLOSS	YES	YES	YES	YES	Linus
GNU	YES	YES	YES	YES	Project
FSF	YES	YES	YES	YES	GNU not unix
Proprietary s/w	NO	NO	NO	NO	Oracle, VB
Shareware	NO	Trial period	NO	NO	python
Freeware	NO	YES	NO	YES	IE, Mozilla

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