OpenOffice

Introduction:

Apache OpenOffice, formerly known as OpenOffice.org is a Open-source Office suite program. It was an open-sourced version of the earlier StarOffice, which was acquired by Sun Microsystems in 1999, for internal use. Sun open-sourced the OpenOffice in July 2000 as a competitor to [Microsoft Office](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft_Office) releasing version 1.0 on 1 May 2002.

Idea:

OpenOffice was created as an alternative to Microsoft Office as open-source software, It included a word processor, a spreadsheet, a presentation application, a drawing application, a formula editor and a database management application. It can also read a wide variety of other file formats, with particular attention to those from Microsoft Office.

Problem solved by it:

OpenOffice was a cheap alternative to Microsoft Office and had covered major features provided by other paid office suite softwares. OpenOffice was primarily developed for Linux, Microsoft Windows, Solaris and later for OS X, with ports to other operating system.

Licensing Model:

OpenOffice was distributed under the GNU Lesser General Public License version 3(LGPL), Early versions were also available under the Sun Industry Source License(SISSL).

Intention behind making it:

Intention of OpenOffice.org was to build an open-source development community around the software and to provide a free and open alternative to Microsoft Office. The other was to make OpenOffice a leading international office suite that will run on all major platforms and provide access to all functionality and data through open-components based APIs and an XML-based file format.

Special features:

1. Writer:

A word processor analogous to Microsoft Word or WordPerfect.

1. Calc.:

A spreadsheet analogous to Microsoft Ofice Excel or Lotus 1-2-3.

1. Impress:

A presentation program analogous to Microsoft Powerpoint or Apple Keynote. Impress could export presentations to Adobe Flash Player installed. Presentation templates were available on the OpenOffice.org website.

4. Draw:

A vector graphics editor comparable in features to the drawing functions in Microsoft Office.

5: Math:

A tool for creating and editing mathematical formulas, analogous to Microsoft Equation Editor. Formula could be embedded inside other OpenOffice.org documents, such as those created by writers.

6: Base:

A database management program similar to Microsoft Access. Base could function as a front-end to a number of different database systems, including Access Database(JET), ODBC data source

Popularity:

Sun Microsystems announced that it would make the source code of OpenOffice available for download with the intention of building an open-source development community around the software and of providing a free and open alternative to Microsoft Office. The new project was known as OpenOffice.org and the code was released as open source on 13 October 2000. The first public preview release was Milestone Build 638c, released in October 2001 (which quickly achieved One Million downloads); the final release of OpenOffice.org 1.0 was on 1 May 2002. OpenOffice.org became the standard office suite on linux and spawned noteworthy competition to Microsoft Office, achieving 14% penetration in the large enterprise market by 2009.

Conclusion:

The whole OpenOffice project has been donated to Apache Software Foundation,renamed as Apache OpenOffice and is currently at its decline. In terms of popularity, Apache OpenOffice has lost to its derived work LibreOffice.