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CLASS : F.Y. B.Sc CS

SUB : FOSS

Practical No. 2

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Q2.

Learn at least three different open source licenses and create a brief report about them



Apache License 2.0

The Apache License is a permissive free software license written by the Apache Software Foundation. It allows users to use the software for any purpose, to distribute it, to modify it, and to distribute modified versions of the software under the terms of the license, without concern for royalties.

a. History

Beginning in 1995, the Apache Group (Later the Apache Software Foundation) released successive versions of their well-known httpd server...

In January 2004, ASF decided to depart from the BSD model and produced the Apache License 2.0

Idea:

The Apache License 2.0 makes sure that the user does not have to worry about infringing any patents by using the software. The user is granted a license to any patent that covers the software. This license is terminated if the user sues anyone over patent infringement related to this software.

c. What problem does it solves?

Solved in 2.0 by defining most important terms and separating the permissions into identifiable sections. The Apache and ASF project-specific stuff should be separated out of the license proper so that both ASF and non-ASF projects can use the license terms unaltered.

d. Detailed licensing model.

The 2.0 version of the Apache license, approved by the ASF in 2004, helps us achieve our goal of providing reliable and long-lived software products through collaborative open source software development.

e. In which popular Software are released under this license?

All ASF software is released under the Apache license, unless it is specified otherwise.

f. Any popular news associated with this license?

Wakefield, MA, April 24, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Apache Software Foundation (ASF), the all-volunteer developers, stewards and incubators of more than 350 open source projects and initiatives, announced today Apache® SkyWalking™ as a Top-Level Project (TLP).

g. Popularity.

According to research by White Source, the most popular permissive licenses are MIT and Apache 2.0, with BSD in a distant Third Place.

h. Impact :

The Apache Software Foundation has been home to numerous important open source software projects from its inception in 1999. Successes range from Geronimo to Tomcat to Hadoop, the distributed computing system that now serves as a linchpin of the big data realm.

MIT

MIT

The MIT license is a permissive free software license originating at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the late 1980s. As a permissive license, it puts only very limited restriction on reuse and has, therefore, high license compatibility.

a. History

A joint project between IBM, MIT, and Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) in 1983 seems to be the origin of the MIT license. The reason it only seems to be the start is that there were multiple different versions used at varying times with changes to the exact text.

b. Idea.

The MIT License is a permissive free software license originating at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the late 1980s. As a permissive license, it puts only very limited restriction on reuse and has, therefore, high license compatibility.

c. What problem does it solve?

The MIT license gives users express permission to reuse code for any purpose. Sometimes even if code is part of proprietary software. As long as users include the original copy of MIT license in their distribution, they can make any changes or modifications to the code to suit their own needs.

d. Detailed licensing model.

A common form of the MIT license is this (taken from the open source initiative's website; this is identical to the "Expat license" and different from the license used in the x-source code):

e. Which popular software are released under this license

Notable projects that use the MIT License include the X Window System, Ruby on Rails, Node.js, Lua and jquery. Notable companies using the MIT license Microsoft (.NET core), Google (Angular) and Facebook (React).

f. Any popular news associated with this license?

→ A major barrier to the adoption of Facebook's React front-end library has been its license. Facebook chose to use a BSD-derived license that contained some troubling terms surrounding patent litigation... just under the popular MIT license.

g. Popularity.

As of 2020, according to WhiteSource Software the MIT license was used in 27% of four million open source packages. As of 2015, according to Black Duck Software and a 2015 blog from GitHub, the MIT license was the most popular free software license, with GNU GPL v2 coming second in their sample of repositories.

h. Impact.

The MIT license gives users express permission to reuse code for any purpose.

GNU GPL

The GNU General Public License (GNU GPL or simply GPL) is a series of widely-used free software licenses that guarantee end users the freedom to run, study, share and modify the software.

a. History of License

The GPL was written by Richard Stallman in 1989, for use with programs released as part of the GNU project. The original GPL was based on a unification of similar licenses used for early versions of GNU Emacs (1985), the GNU Debugger and the GNU C compiler. These licenses contained similar provisions to the modern GPL.

b. Idea

The GNU General Public License, often shortened to GNU GPL (or simply GPL) lists terms and conditions for copying, modifying and distributing free software. The GPL was created by Richard Stallman in order to protect GNU software from being made proprietary.

c. What problem does it solve?

The GNU General public License (GNU GPL or simply GPL) is a series of widely-used free software licenses that guarantee end users the freedom to run, study, share, and modify the software.

d. Detailed Licensing model.

The license were originally written Richard Stallman, former head of the Free Software Foundation (FSF) for the GNU project, and grant the recipients of a computer program the rights of the free software definition.

e. Which popular software are released under this license?

While the 'GPLv2 or any later version' clause is considered by FSF as the most common form of licensing GPLv2 software, Toybox developer Rob Landley described it as a life-boat clause.

f. Any popular news associated with this license?

GPL Initiative Grows Over 40%, More than 60 companies have joined the campaign for greater predictability in open source licensing.

g. popularity.

As has ~~histo~~ historically been the case, the free software, copyleft GPL v2 is the most popular license choice according to Black Duck. Besides high profile projects such as Linux or MySQL, the GPL has been the overwhelmingly most selected license for years.

h. Impact.

It's actually had a tremendous impact. First, many very common Unix applications, such as GNU Emacs, have been released under the GPL, and are used by countless numbers users everyday.