

IS Development and Implementation in a Business Context Winter exam, December 2016		
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Written Group Project

A literature study on barriers organizations face when adopting open-source software

Your group report has to be handed in on WISEFLOW no later than 19 December 2016 at 12:00

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1 Introduction

Over the last 15 to 20 years, *free/libre and open-source software* (FLOSS/FOSS) has become a major source and driver of innovations in the IT [O4] [O7]. It has changed the software tools, created new business models, developed processes of managing communities and engineers and gave new possibilities of litigation in courts [O28]. Software products such as Linux Kernel or Apache Hadoop have altered many aspects of everyday life and launched exiting new opportunities.

What differentiates among many other aspects FLOSS programs from their proprietary counterparts is having their machine instructions available on the Internet, in the plain text, for more see appendix 6.1. Thus, everybody can download and use such software free of charge and be able to modify it to further improve its functionality. With that, free software became an integral part of the \$350B software industry [O21]. As a result, start-ups and even large enterprises such as Huawei or Google today almost entirely rely on open technologies [O28].

As noted in journal articles by [20], [25], [15] or [57], OSS has become in recent years emerging topic among researchers and practitioners. And even though free software can be "very viable alternative" for some companies and be indeed beneficial [15] [73] [78], FLOSS persists to be only partially integrated in many firms. Hence, as the use, quality and availability of open-source rose dramatically [25] [67], there is a stream of literature which analyses these adoption challenges in various contexts and from different angles.

In this study I conduct a literature review on the subject of what barriers companies in the public and private sector face in order to successfully integrate such software into their IT landscape. The study is going to focus on answering following research question: What hinders broader FLOSS adoption in organizations? In essence, I attempt to "search for convergence among multiple and different sources of information to form (...) categories" of adoption barriers [83]. Based on existing studies, my goal is to structure them according to the *Technology*, *Organization* and *Environment* (TOE) framework [59].

1.1 Delimitations

To stay within the boundaries of *IS Development and Implementation in a Business Context* course, it is necessary to clarify and restrict this report.

At first, even though there are differences between *open-source software* (OSS) and *free software* (see appendix), I am considering them for my literature study equivalent in meaning as many researchers use both phrases interchangeably. In fact, to overcome any potential issues, I use expression *free*(*llibre*) *and open-source software* that captures both contexts.

Moreover, contrary for example to articles by [20] or [25], I don't restrict myself to a specific group of organizations which are my unit of analysis. Hence, my study also includes those whose primary business activities aren't related to the development of software, e.g. in the healthcare or public sector. In these areas, the software merely supports such enterprises in conducting their daily operations and is only used for internal purposes with no goals of further (non-)commercial distribution.

As described by [45], companies can benefit with FOSS in five various ways. However, I delimit myself only to adoption of free computer programs for corporate applications and their development processes. Lastly, I narrow myself to barriers which are relevant for primary adoption of FLOSS. This type, as explained by [15], [12] and [54], is about firm's initial decision happening

at the organizational level ('managers go ahead') and my goal is to investigate what challenges managers see in their initial reasoning about FLOSS [20] [27].

1.2 Structure

In a case reader finds himself not knowing what OSS is and what are its characteristics, he is referred to the appendix chapter 6.1 where this and other aspects are further explained.

Chapter 2 continues first by collecting primary and secondary literature resources and then discussing challenges which can influence FLOSS adoption. To structure these barriers, an extension is applied to the TOE framework that "identifies three aspects of an enterprise's context that influence the process by which it adopts and implements a technological innovation" [60] [59]. Consequently, by mapping these challenges to the above theory, a new Figure 5 is derived showing what inhibiting factors various authors in the field have explored and found out.

Lastly, before wrapping-up this review with a conclusion, chapter 3 leads to a discussion of my limitations and implications for both practitioners and researchers.

1.3 Methodology

In the next chapter, I review and organize specific adoption barriers that organizations are and might be facing based on the modified TOE framework. Therefore, the study attempts to follow guidelines that are "particularly tailored for information systems research", written by [58] & [61] in which authors describe how to conduct a systematic literature review. In fact, this work has a mission to gather available knowledge and evidence from the field and organize and present this information in a new systematic way to other researchers [61] [58].

The review examines qualitative data from studies using a general inductive approach [58] [68]. According to [68], it primarily uses "detailed readings of raw data to derive concepts, themes, (...) through interpretations made from" authors' studies. From the sheer size of the available literature which a sample of is inspected, the inductive way allows me to find "dominant or significant" themes with relation to adoption barriers that are observed in scientific findings [68].

Subsequently, by coding my data I categorize these underlying integration challenges based on the TOE framework which allows me to gain a meaning from a complex set of literature works "through the development of summary themes" presented by individual barriers [59] [68]. Ultimately I develop categories that "convey key themes and processes" which inhibit companies to integrate such free software [68].

2 Barriers of FLOSS adoption

2.1 Literature review

By searching Scopus and flosshub.org databases in order to explore available literature in primary and secondary sources, I look for books, journal articles and conference proceedings with relation to FLOSS barriers and its adoption. Additionally, I complement it with search queries including keywords such as 'OSS', 'open (-) source software', 'free software', 'F(L)OSS', 'adoption', 'inhibit(tors)', 'barrier(s)', 'factor(s)', 'challenge(s)', 'integration', 'organization(s)' and 'company(ies)' in Google Scholar for working papers and reports from even unreliable internet sources.

Through these two processes, I gather a variety of English documents and filter out those which have been written before year 2000 when the research into OSS took off [67]. Even though those

keywords have been found, each document is also skimmed for its content and abstracts are read to exclude those which are beyond the scope of this paper due to my delimitations and objectives.

Being passed this practical screen, reports coming from different sources are included into my study resulting into 33 articles [58]. In addition to diverse sources, they are both theoretical as well as empirical (both quantitative and qualitative research) and are set in multidisciplinary academic fields such as managerial and organizational studies [79].

Moreover, I gather such a sample with what other scientists refer to as a *snowball effect* [87]. This is the "*most widely employed method of sampling in qualitative research*" that is used across "*various disciplines* [*in*] the social sciences" [87]. Thus, not only I scan documents for topics but for citations these authors have referenced too [58] [61]. If a paper is found to be important to my goals, it is added into a database in order to further increase relevancy of my literature findings. Hence, 33 initial articles are now enriched by adding extra 30 studies through such snowballing of additional references [87].

Unfortunately, my research isn't fully reproducible. Nonetheless, with five exceptions [36] [50] [57] [69] [71], in order to legitimize my non-systematic choice of literature and increase its quality I look for articles with a citation count greater than 3 and coming from peer-reviewed journals or conferences. Because I consider some documents too general and otherwise unfit for my objectives, they are excluded from this review as well. A result of this quality appraisal, from 63 literature works I review and thoroughly read only 44 of them.

2.1.1 Carrying out qualitative inductive study

After a classification of works, a literature database in MS Word is created supported by two figures in the appendix. Next, during close readings of all articles, I summarize them in order to extract adoption barriers. In fact, being critically important step it allows me to establish labels for key inhibiting challenges [68].

Given my primary goal to develop these barriers for subsequent use in the TOE framework, it is recommended to "compile a concept matrix" what I call an inhibitor matrix [61]. By conducting open coding, during which a text segment covering a theme from "each article [is] assigned to one of the broad categories derived from the literature review", an Excel file with information about mentioned hurdles is established [68] [85].

Therefore, to create such a core outcome of this inductive analysis, while iteratively analyzing each document and its content, I try to identify challenges that authors mention explicitly as well as implicitly. These parts of text or phrases are then labeled and naturally there might be links between them which at first I don't try to structure (i.e. a non-hierarchical list of codes is created). When I am not able to assign a code using my existing coding scheme, I make a new category as I see it fit [85]. As a result, initially I list over 50 different barriers at various levels both high-level (e.g. risk factor) and low-level (e.g. documentation issues).

However, because of working alone, it should be noted here that this labeling of text isn't supported by an independent parallel review of the same documents. If it has been indeed the case, this literature study would gain an additional trustworthiness by being possible to conduct further "peer debriefings and stakeholder checks" [68].

After all articles are read, summarized and labeled accordingly, because of labels' quantity I reduce their overlap and overall redundancy [68]. Hence, for each challenge I try to link it to other

obstacles to establish a plausible hierarchy. The goal is now to decrease such a large number and derive primary categories that are able to encompass those from the initial extraction of raw data. Subsequently, this small number of high-level categories ought to capture all individual challenges that have been found during reviewing 44 documents [68]. Therefore, I now proceed to examining TOE framework which forms my foundation for mapping over 50 individual challenges.

2.2 Technology-Organization-Environment-Individual framework

Having both qualitative and quantitative studies in my review, I now aggregate and discuss adoption barriers of OSS by proceeding with their qualitative synthesis focusing on trying to "find common concepts" while "keeping in mind [related] context" [79] [58].

TOE framework "is a fundamental approach to investigating a firm context that influences the process by which it adopts (...) and diffuses technological innovations" [69] [59]. Having a "solid theoretical basis [and] consistent empirical support", TOE examines 3 areas by which a company implements a technological innovation such as FLOSS [60] [69]. While the first one refers to technologies that are available to and used by the firm, the next one deals with organization's size or complexity of its structure. The environment then describes a context in which industry or competitors influence its operations [60] [69]. Even though the theory covers well above-mentioned elements, individual factors such as user's rejection are insufficiently described as shown by several studies [82] [65] [74] [71]. As a result, what many researchers have done is to include a new dimension, namely the individual factor (TOEI) and consequently I follow this approach too [19] [27] [50].

Hence, building on theoretical underpinnings of the theory and my inhibitor matrix, I now map over 50 individual barriers into 4 large dimensions, each of them consisting of several categories that overall explain FLOSS inhibitors studies observed. As a result of this inductive analysis and iterative creation of categories, I present challenges being mapped according to the TOEI in Figure 5 and Figure 7. This gives an insight into what kind of factors, collected across 44 studies, companies face when considering integrating FLOSS into their environments. Based on this, in the following I explore selected challenges in a more detailed fashion [68] [58].

2.2.1 Technological inhibitors

The single most frequently mentioned inhibitor in the category of non-functional challenges is the technological vendor lock-in. Because organizations widely use proprietary formats which FLOSS can only partially support, the move to alternative computer programs has a wide spectrum of work-related implications regarding employees' productivity. Therefore, such a non-interoperability between 2 types of applications leads to rejection of OSS in the first place as it is non-conformable to commonly exchanged closed standards [50] [27] [19]. At the governmental level, [89] [53] suggest different policies one of which is to require proprietary software to support open standards or apply a principle of providing explanation and commitment for using the OSS [88].

Another pressing issue firms have mentioned is security and privacy of FLOSS solutions [53] [77] [40] [81]. This is strongly related with the quality of software per se as well [37] [26]. Indeed, proprietary programs are sometimes seen to have higher quality because of having full-time dedicated developers [82] [73] [53]. However, as known from widespread examples of Flash Player and Windows OS, the fact that programs are closed-source doesn't increase their quality and security and this applies vice-versa too [37].

The factor of reliability and confidence in the software is also mentioned as adoption barrier [76] [27] [57] [50]. Due to the fact that majority of developers aren't paid for their contributions in the

open-source, their voluntary effort can stop at any time. Therefore, usual lack of roadmaps and clarity in the future ("questionable longevity") doesn't encourage companies to adopt it because if they do integrate such FLOSS which is later being abandoned, the maintenance costs for bug fixing and development increases significantly [72] [27] [7] [44]. Overall, project's reputation plays an important role because the more popular computer program can get, the more users/developers it will attract, and thus further increase its trustworthiness and reduce likelihood of being left behind [50] [75] [76].

Speaking of OSS maturity, which together with the quality "varies considerably", studies mention that free software often doesn't have certain functionalities when compared to proprietary commercial counterparts [80] [30] [27] [25] [51]. Moreover, in order to be recognized and integrated into the company, as reported by [82] & [72], FLOSS has to fit organizational operations and have a tangible value to them too [27]. Other researchers found selection challenges where due to software availability (including its discovery problems) [7], variety (which fork to pick) [44] and ownership questions [27], choosing a right open-source program is more difficult than the proprietary one [7].

The situation is also further complicated by the lack of commercial support by the community [7] [27] [36]. In the inhibitor matrix, this is likewise the most cited technological reason which prohibits companies to adopt OSS for their systems. In fact, due to existing IT architecture, used systems and perceived challenges of integrating any kind of technological innovation in enterprises, companies want to have somebody with an expertise who can help them to overcome initial teething problems [30] [44]. And a lack of commercial open-source vendors thus inhibits use of free software [82].

2.2.2 Organizational barriers

Here the most significant barriers are missing financial and human resources. Firstly, because companies already have proprietary products, they need to consider switching costs that include both hidden as well as sunk expenses [76] [33] [82] [30] [81]. However, even though the price for the right to use FLOSS doesn't apply, firms may "hire programmers to supplement their IT staff" which needs to be included into TCO as well [72] [78]. Furthermore, particularly in developing countries low acquisition costs may actually discourage free software adoption [50] [51]. Interestingly, as documented in the hospital setting, successful integration of FLOSS can result into losing existing financial support provided by governments and other organizations too [77] [33].

Secondly, companies report lack of internal availability and external accessibility of knowledgeable IT personnel being another significant inhibitor for FLOSS adoption [48] [51] [33] [76]. Indeed, given that employees are used working with proprietary software, they need to be provided with adequate training which further complicates transition by increasing time and costs [43] [15] [95] [76] [71]. Here, many of individual factors also arise such as users' resistance, fear and hostility towards free software due to feeling being deskilled and undervalued [81] [75] [19] [71].

Nowadays, there is a tendency to focus on organization's core competences and missions and hence IS and their support are often outsourced. Thus, due to required negotiations with vendors, companies devote their limited resources to existing proprietary applications rather than trying something new [81] [82].

Technological and organizational satisfaction with existing systems plays a critical role in FLOSS non-adoption as well. Where there is no user demand, there are no reasons to implement it either

[72] [27] [82]. Additionally, if the company accesses proprietary software though purchasing agreements for low costs, there is no need in considering switching to alternatives, nota bene when these agreements are signed e.g. at the state level and cannot be influenced [19] [25]. In developing nations, a high level of piracy inhibits corporate transition to low cost solutions too [69] [75].

If an organization is small, it may lack a whole IT department and skilled employees who can support FLOSS integration and programs [74] [78] [84]. On the contrary, the larger the enterprise is, the more probable open-source adoption can be successfully accomplished [81]. Further, studies show that lack of managerial support, its awareness of alternatives and organizational structure are also burden for corporate change [6] [69] [19] [89].

Lastly, project management itself is responsible for many issues. When it has been mandatorily decided to proceed with a migration, projects are often unsuccessful due to a time rush, lack of detailed planning, training and pilot trials and overall insufficient project governance [82] [6] [27]. Therefore, as shown on case study of [15], the best strategy is when employees themselves voluntarily demand and adopt OSS. As a result, the change is less painful and employees are more motivated to learn using such FLOSS programs.

2.2.3 Environmental challenges

The last major category of inhibitors is related with the environment in which firms operate. In fact, studies report that while *economic and country differences* e.g. in terms of infrastructure play a minor role in FLOSS non-adoption [53] [74] [76], various *policies* on the other hand are critical. For example, at the governmental level studies report that procurement models are discriminatory, nontransparent and inflexible enough for free software, thus hindering its market expansion [88] [49] [81]. In addition, political pressures and the lack of support or even a position toward OSS technology significantly inhibits any actions that enterprises undertake – especially relevant in the regulated sectors supported by public funds such as in education and healthcare [89] [36] [33] [11] [64] [74]. As reported in the latter case by [81], politics and the changes in power structures are "a critical factor" that decides "how OSS would be used in the future, even before getting to the technology [and other] portion[s] of [open-source] adoption".

Corporations have also mentioned socio-cultural challenges. For example, [77] have confirmed that concept of elder is relevant for any kind of investments as in Malian society people of higher age carry larger decision power than those of younger age. Thus, if elders aren't convinced, the project fails because employees are reluctant to follow instructions without having a blessing from older people. Similarly, Hofstede's cultural power distance is important as well [74]. Indeed, the higher the distance between different employees is, the less likely company will adopt a novelty such as OSS because "the hierarchical distance between (...) employees and (...) managers is wide" and "because new things may threaten the existing power structure" [74]. Furthermore, localization of FLOSS has been also found to be a barrier due to e.g. in French speaking Mali not everybody can understand English which is the main language in the IT field [53] [55].

Next, it should be noted that market itself, its structure and conditions play a role in decision about FLOSS migration too [82] [88]. [49] report that "type of industry matters" because those related with IT are faster to adopt new technology. Additionally, if industrial or organizational culture is rather conservative it doesn't support choice of free software either [19] [33]. As shown again on the example of [77] and confirmed by [53], local needs and requirements e.g. adaptability to the market have to be appropriately addressed through engaging with local communities and commercial

partners too. Here FLOSS openness strongly encourages its further customization and cooperative behavior, especially relevant in the provincial public bodies [88].

Lastly, what I have identified are challenges related to the unreliable or otherwise unclear information on the side of OSS projects and commercial vendors [36] [33] [27] [82]. As [78] report, such a lack of a marketing effort consequently goes hand in hand with a poor interpretability of a public discourse as well. Indeed, information about OSS needs to improve both qualitatively and quantitatively. Furthermore, due to lack of people's and organizational awareness [15] [19] [27] [30], open-source vendors have to invest more time and resources into educating their future customers. Therefore, the advanced use of FLOSS in the academia helps to promote it as being *the* alternative to the proprietary software.

2.2.4 Individual factors

Employees always hold a key to successful adoption of new innovations. Therefore, as suggested by TAM framework, they need to perceive FLOSS to be useful and easy to use – thus allowing them to further advance their productivity [50] [2] [65]. However, if end-users have a proprietary mindset due to never working with OSS, they naturally see a possible change from widely used to a niche and cheap software as being demotivating for their careers while at the same time being de-skilled because of not having a higher value to their employer who would pay for proprietary programs [81] [19] [15] [71]. Thus, what consequently occurs are organizational resistance, fear and wholesale individual rejection of using such free software.

Moreover, companies who would like to consider FLOSS often lack early adopters, "individuals who connect their organization with external knowledge and can bring the organization in contact with new innovations", which at best should be a top-manager promoting and "support[ing] its introduction" in the company [19] [75] [69] [27] [89]. Having such boundary spanners is particularly relevant because individuals and organization lack awareness of OSS [71]. Hence, the main task of these champions is to motivate users to try free software and show its benefits which consequently should encourage broader open-source adoption [24].

Last but not least, another mentioned challenge are employees who don't tolerate any temporary inconvenience resulting from updates or a migration that FLOSS adoption would bring [19]. Simplified, workers just want to use their programs in a productive matter anytime. And any disturbance caused by adapting to new technology and programs isn't in their primary interests.

Even though being its own category, individuals constantly interact with all other dimensions. In fact, as described in above sections, many of challenges which inhibit open-source adoption go back to people as it is them who cannot speak English, lack knowledge and skills to support transitioning effort and are unaware and unable to select free computer programs which their employers would benefit from. Not to speak about convincing organization and managers of OSS benefits in general.

3 Discussion

As already mention in the chapter 2.1, my review suffers from being unreliable as other authors can't replicate my findings to the full extent. By working alone certain biases are harder to militate against as well. Due to engaging in the FLOSS developer community I have established a particular view and gained experiences that might skew my perceived significance of specific barriers which otherwise would be much more important for the organization. To mitigate such a possible influence on the study, a cautionary opinion of a fellow researcher could bring a new angle on how to look at inhibiting factors for integrating OSS in corporate landscape.

As described, to increase trustworthiness of the study, it is beneficial having a second coder not only to discuss steps at various stages but also to "create a second set of categories from the raw text" [68]. As a result, by combining both inhibiting matrices, researchers can overcome common misunderstandings of same articles and extract the most relevant information.

Initially this study come from an assumption that companies who want to integrate OSS face a lot of challenges. And indeed, according to the various studies I am able to examine, in industries such as healthcare or in public bodies this proves to be a fact. Nonetheless, it is important to distinguish between different sectors of the economy and regions where free programs are being adopted as clearly in the ICT sector the question isn't if to adopt it but rather where, what and to what degree [88]. Notably in the healthcare, papers talk about IS and support being outsourced to external vendors. Hence, much of the concentration on OSS adoption should be aimed at these software houses as they ultimately being responsible are capable of bringing such open principles in the source code to the client [79]. Last but not least, another limitation of this research is being one-sided and not considering facilitating factors for open-source adoption too. Because of these limitations, my conclusions should be looked in light of these study design constrains [62].

Based on the acquired knowledge, reviewed literature and relationship with a theory of resistance and its views [94] [95], I can observe a following order in which companies might approach FLOSS adoption. First they need to solve issues related with the environment which has the most outside influence on the final implementation decision. Subsequently, firms need to tackle both technological and organizational issues at roughly the same time. For one, they have to see greater benefits behind such an integration as people are affected. In fact, these individuals have to be convinced and be on board about the need to such change because it is them who ultimately use such programs for their tasks. Secondly, barriers associated with IT need to be examined because e.g. if the OSS isn't compatible to the proprietary counterpart at all, the adoption won't be perceived well by the company as it is affecting its productivity.

4 Implications

My literature study helps practitioners to understand what kinds of risks they have to prepare for and take care of in order to successfully integrate OSS into their environments. This examination of barriers is especially important for managers because my research – together with others [44] [27] – provides a thorough look on various issues organizations from different industries and angles are facing when considering OSS.

For researchers this study adds an additional value in terms of having a starting point which they can further use to investigate. For example, this review doesn't work with companies and their experiences and hence it doesn't perform a confirmatory study of my findings too. In Danish context this might be different from what researchers in other regions have found. Similarly, I don't contribute to the knowledge of how to mitigate such a great number of risks that companies face. Additionally, I ask myself what if barriers aren't the key issue and it is rather a question of open-source advantages that aren't clearly communicated and explained to decision makers who base their understanding on misinformation. Given that studies confirm that there is a lack of reliable data, I believe this is an area that needs to be investigated as well, supported with suggestions of how to improve managers' knowledge. Certainly these are the fields where more investigation can be conducted and my study helps laying out the groundwork.

Overall, my findings shed new lights on OSS adoption barriers and it can help leaders from various departments to make more informed decisions. Thus, this work should provide an overview into what elements are prohibiting broader spreading of FLOSS – even though it is considered by many today as an initiative of a strategical significance [14] [53] [86] [27]. Subsequently, executives should use this information while navigating their organizations towards greater OSS adoption.

5 Conclusion

To summarize, at the beginning I set to review literature which talks about different problems companies face when considering FLOSS in their corporate environments. By conducting an inductive qualitative study, I found a number of barriers that have been categorized and structured according to TOEI framework, resulting into 19 major categories of inhibiting challenges.

While in the technological dimension, vendor lock-in, technical maturity and lack of external support were the most mentioned ones, at the organizational level companies lack financial and human resources and don't have a managerial support and awareness which prevents them to undertake a risk of adopting open-source principles and technology in their IS. On the environmental side there are cultural elements, policies & legal frameworks and lack of consistent information that further hinder FLOSS integration. Lastly, individual factors such as employees being demotivated, resistant to a change and lacking an interest of becoming a champion of the new technology don't contribute to the open-source considerations either.

Concluding, many issues that have been presented in this study aren't specific to the FLOSS only but to the adoption of any kind of technological innovation in general. Therefore, given that open-source has unlimited trialability, companies can start small and over the time – if it proves to be useful from the technological and organizational perspective – increase its use keeping in mind a need for sufficient communication and training if it impacts end-users' productivity. Indeed, OSS isn't cost free as it takes its price in firm's changes and employee morale, and thus faces a resistance from those affected [6] [88].

6 Appendix

6.1 Introduction for the reader (upon own discretion)

Given that I have assumed the reader has an insight into open-source field, in case he or she has not, in this chapter I want to provide a point of reference for two major categories of software, namely the free/libre and open-source and the proprietary one. By introducing necessary terminology to establish a basic understanding of the field, I outline important characteristics in order to be able to compare them and explain what benefits FLOSS has compared to the traditional closed-source computer programs. Therefore, this section will be to a large degree narrative and descriptive in nature.

6.1.1 Free/Libre and Open-Source Software

The open-source started to gain traction in the mid- and early-1980s, right at the time when personal computers become accessible and could be used by the wider public [O28]. All along the focus of the new and rising industry has been on the hardware where companies were fiercely competing and software was seen just an add-on on top of it [B4]. Therefore, manufacturers encouraged technicians and scientists to share their improvements to programs with a hope of benefiting clients who would become more loyal to these builder corporations. Due to the Internet not being widespread and software written for a specific machine and its architectural platform, "it was therefore in the manufacturer's [own] interests for machine-specific code and knowledge [about it] to spread as widely as possible" [B4].

Yet as the IT industry was slowly taking off with innovations both in hardware platforms and in how the software has been produced (so-called *write once and run everywhere* paradigm), the sharing of it became undesirable [B4]. Producers of hardware started to enforce their copyright so that their customers – not being able to inspected and modify the source code – could not improve the computer programs themselves. Consequently, by using a proprietary licensing, clients of such hardware would be forced to pay for additional software features and/or bug fixes.

STALLMAN'S BELIEF

In January 1984 a programmer named Richard Stallman resigned, being prevented from modifying a computer program of the new printer, from his position at MIT AI Lab in order "to develop an entire operating system, including all associated software, that would not be subject to proprietary licensing" [O24] [B6]. In fact, because of developing hostility to such closed-source works, he invented GNU General Public License (GPL) family which ensures that programs remain free. But not in a sense of 'free beer', but rather it would stand for the freedom which it gives to the user [B2]. To realize his newly formed belief in what he called *free software* and accomplishing his new goal of developing entire operating system, he founded Free Software Foundation (FSF) which would promote such ideals and computer innovations.

Free software, as defined by FSF and Richard Stallman, gives their users four essential freedoms: "the freedom to run it, to study and change it, and to redistribute copies with or without changes" [O29]. However, even though many computer programs are developed publically on the Internet with an access to the source code, they are inherently not free. As an example the founder of FSF talks about systems such as Digital Rights Management (DRM) which restrict abovementioned rights by not allowing the user to change or copy the software or other media [O29].

By the end of 1980s, there were many projects and communities which shared a similar ideology, namely that a source code should be available for everybody free to share, modify and redistribute [B4]. Thus, usually these projects were licensed under the GPL conditions. Because of Richard

Stallman's ideology which (still) considers proprietary source code to be injustice to the user imposing on him malicious functionalities, already at that time many other developers didn't share his 'radical' point of view [O30]. Nevertheless, even today they continue to work on these projects together because in many cases they are able to produce software of very high quality compared to their proprietary counterparts offering same functionality [B4].

As the world turned more attention to this new paradigm, companies were also willing to devote their time, hardware and financial resources to help developing and maintaining such free computer programs [B4]. However, what seemed to be unfortunate naming, developers had to explain that 'free' doesn't stand for the price of software (although it is indeed zero cost) but rather for its freedom, the liberty (from Spanish *libre*). Therefore, many companies which obviously have a commercial purpose have either rejected the freedom part (and thus ignored such software completely; until 2014 including Microsoft) or were faced with the dilemma where they "wanted to support particular free programs in one aspect of their business, but continue marketing proprietary software in others" [B4] [B2]. Hence, 'free' became a term with an intentional "anti-business message" and further split the community into two camps [B2] [O17] [57].

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The other community around programmers including Eric Raymond with Tim O'Reilly didn't share Stallman's views with regard to the injustice to the user as they have never perceived it that way [B6]. Their desire grew to create an alternative word which avoids using 'free' due to misunderstandings while at the same time keeps the spirit of such software making it "viable in the business world" too [B4] [14] [27].

For marketing purposes, in 1998 they coined a new phrase *open-source* and founded Open Source Initiative (OSI) to promote such computer programs in the society without enforcing moral binding contracts with freedom which FSF does through the use GNU General Public License [B4] [O32]. OSI defined that in order to be called the open-source, a license to the accompanying source code must fulfil their ten requirements¹ and be approved by them [O28]. Besides this legal definition, open-source – looked from a different angle – can be also seen as a development process which uses "*practices of open collaboration for superior results*" [O28].

Therefore, as noted in my delimitations, strictly speaking *free software* is not the same as *open-source software* [9]. These terms represent two complementary philosophical viewpoints and in fact FSF considers free software (the one 'under GPL') to be a subset of OSS, as depicted in Figure 1.

Therefore, an umbrella term *free/libre and open source software* is preferred to stay neutral while together with separate terms, this expression will be used for meaning the same kind of computer programs. Namely ones that have their source code accessible in the plain text under the open-source license which "grants individuals, groups, and organizations extensive rights to use, modify, and redistribute the binary and source-code of the original and modified/derived works, without requiring license royalty fees" [25]. Here my choice is also consistent with other authors such as [20] [57] [85] [86] who agree that there are only minor differences in the meaning and use these terms synonymously.

¹ "The Open Source Definition", https://opensource.org/osd, Retrieved on 22 Dec. 16

6.1.2 Proprietary software

On the opposing side of the river, there is non-free, so-called proprietary software. To paraphrase [B6], due to the fact that source code is kept secret, users cannot change and redistribute such computer programs as the end-user license agreement (EULA) they acquire and have to accept does not permit them doing that. This means that software vendor, which can be both an individual as well as a company, provides or otherwise sells the end-user an intangible work that has to be used within certain boundaries and under specific conditions [32].

An early and one of the most famous examples of proprietary software is MS-DOS by Microsoft. In the hacker community there is a powerful principle that sharing information, incl. computer source code, is ethical and 'good' [O19]. However, Bill Gates and Paul Allen, who in the mid-1970s wrote and sold their first computer program to the MITS Corporation, turned this paradigm upside down [O27]. In 1976 Bill Gates, finding out that their sold program was pirated by these hackers [O19], published An Open Letter to Hobbyists arguing that software should not be shared without author's explicit permission. Since then, he developed his company to be a leader in commercializing proprietary source code.

It is important to note that terms commercial and proprietary have different meanings. Commercial software means that it has a purpose of being sold to the interested third-parties. This can happen e.g when the software is offered on the retail shelf or the open-source license does not fit a customer and he requests a commercial one from the vendor. For the latter case, these commercial licenses are usually offered by the same developers and companies who contribute to the open-source version. And because there can be many organizations contributing to the same OSS, customers can choose between several of them and don't be bound to a single one as it is with the proprietary software vendor. An example of such behavior is Collabora Inc.² which offers its own, enterprise ready version of office suit called Collabora Office. Interestingly, in one-year period between March 2014 and 2015, developers employed by this company have contributed close to 30% of all code changes in LibreOffice, an open-source version upon which Collabora Office is build [O13].

Even though it may seem that proprietary software is very homogeneous, there exist different types of it. A commonly known one is freeware which has nothing to do with freedom but this time rather with its price. It is in fact distributed gratis to everybody albeit may be limited in terms of functionality. Yet, because the source code is (still) not available, what has been attempted many times to various proprietary programs is to reverse-engineered them. Meaning go backwards in the software development life-cycle and create own open-source implementation with regard to nonfree functionality. This is of course usually, depending EULA license, not legally permitted.

6.1.3 Comparison between two types

In 1999 Eric Raymond, who first published a paper and later a book called *The cathedral and the* bazaar [B5], contrasted two development models of open-source he was able to observe. Namely, traditionally "led by command and control approach" software projects have been developed as a cathedral, i.e. they were carefully crafted by a small group of developers [O28] [38]. Such software, potentially released with the final source code, was only then published when the work was really done because usually the development process itself was closed. However, as [B5] saw on Linux Kernel, the development style of open-source became more like a bazaar type of activity. This

² https://www.collabora.com/about-us/open-source/open-source-projects/libreoffice.html, Retrieved on 22 Dec. 16

means that it was developed incrementally and evolved rapidly with the mantra "release early, release often"

[O28].

Moreover, another characteristic of software such as Kernel is being developed by a large, geographically dispersed community of experts in their respective fields e.g. in networking, audio and video [O28]. The communication between these developers happens on various virtual channels such as mailing-lists and IRCs which are publically accessible and due to the written form searchable too [O28]. And this is also what distinguishes FLOSS from the traditional style of development and communication. On the one hand firms creating proprietary software naturally follow a development process which is hidden, hierarchical with top-down decision-making and centers on assigned tasks to individuals. But on the other hand, in the FLOSS communities a meritocracy (all decisions are publically and openly discussed and "contributions are judged transparently on the basis of their merits"), egalitarianism (everybody can contribute anytime) and self-organization (people finding their projects and the way they contribute in the development process on their own) is leading the way forward [38] [O28].

Such an *open collaboration*, a term Riehle et al. (2009; 2016a) propose, makes therefore open-source software being a distinctly unique artefact which has prompted new research in it, from different angles such as the nature of collaboration between actors or types of relationships between contributing organizations and larger community [31] [20]. The research is in early stages as noted by many scientists but already based on widely known examples such as above-mentioned Kernel, studies suggest that common assumptions of how the software should be developed, having worse quality than the proprietary one and non-existing support are in many case unjustified and false [O14] [1] [14] [29] [26] [37].

[79] [92] [93] [14] [9] [32] further provide a detailed look into many of FLOSS characteristics which however are beyond the scope to describe and explain in this chapter. Therefore, following two subsections examine selected and important features of free and non-free computer programs with regard to business models and software licensing. Finally, in chapter 6.1.3.3, a Table 1 is provided summarizing contrasts with additional elements from literature while also benefits of FLOSS are discussed.

6.1.3.1 Business Models

Traditional proprietary software has a very 'intuitive' business model. If the end-user wants to use a certain product – due to the fact that the development is kept closed and unless it can be downloaded free of charge – he has to pay a license fee to the vendor [O28]. However, with the open-source – if it is on the Internet and everybody can download and use it gratis – a question arises how can a company create a sustainable business model?

In the above-mentioned (simplified) situation, there are just two players – the vendor and the user – which interact with each other. Yet, according to [O23], in the open-source communities two additional actors exist. Firstly, there are independent contributors who develop FLOSS in their free time and secondly there are different foundations which provide a basic infrastructure and governance processes for software projects. Hence, the demander of software can look for FLOSS not just at businesses but such foundations too. In comparison to the non-free software, vendors employing own developers with no outside contributors have to act to a degree as a foundation themselves in order to foster their proprietary ecosystem e.g. by providing an access to the API.

As reported by [O20], three main types of revenue streams from open-source software can be distinguished. At first, there is a model where a foundation produces FLOSS and multiple firms are building commercial products around it [O23]. Looking at Hadoop, while Apache's version is free to all, versions from companies such as Hortonworks or MapR are not. In fact, they are additionally bundling many commercial add-ons and offering training and support services that enhance the basic functionality of the FLOSS product. This is firm's way to differentiate in the marketspace even though they all draw from the same upstream version of open-source Hadoop.

The other business model is a 'singular' one where an open-source project has usually one vendor which commercially supports and develops it further. For example, this applies to the Automattic's WordPress CMS. The business model here is to provide *best binaries* to all in order to create the community-driven engagement. Subsequently, if third-party wants to have premium plugins, legal warranty and superior maintenance, it can purchase these services separately.

Last but not least, another example of how a company producing open-source product can create a revenue stream is RStudio Inc³. Consistent with what [35] describe, it offers its server version of IDE with two types of licenses – the first edition is available under the open-source terms of AGPL v3 license while the other is a commercial version which has additional features such as enhanced security, administrative dashboard and priority support for a price of \$9,995 per year. Indeed, here the company chose a hybrid strategy as it is differentiating its product between types of use by withholding certain features in the open source version. The commercial one is clearly aimed at corporate environments where for example single-sign-on and encryption are necessary.

These hybrid business models such as *dual-licensing* above have been previously studied and described in the literature [53]. While [21] and [35] give a rather broader overview how to set up a business-oriented open-source company and what are its potential revenue streams, [47] studied different hybrid business models of IBM, Apple and Sun and how they evolved their proprietary systems for the new era of open-source. [5] later conducted a study among 275 Italian open-source firms where they confirmed that those companies mainly choose hybrid types to "*profit from both the two production paradigms*". This is also validated in a study by *The 451 Group* [O31] and again by [4]. Later [46] discussed how JBoss J2EE software has adapted its business model in several phrases from providing purely training services over the consulting, mission-critical support and growth through an ecosystem with partners.

At such, due to inherently richer structure, FLOSS allows companies to differentiate themselves in wider sense, and subsequently this impacts the choice of the business model as well. Indeed, [35] have investigated various business forms and found out that license of the software, developer communities and unique features of product and the market play a significant role in the choice of the business approach for the open-source company. These in fact usually pursue multiple of them at the same time.

As the industry shows, because FLOSS lacks license fees for the right to use such programs, businesses have been moving towards service-oriented models e.g. in a form of *Software-As-A-Service* and offering clients enterprise support, training and consulting services [20] [21] [O18]. Not so long ago, a new trend has emerged too when companies both producing proprietary (e.g. Adobe's Creative Cloud) and open-source software (e.g. Red Hat Enterprise Linux) have started to use subscription-based pricing [35] [13]. Therefore, as can be observed, being an open-source player

³ "RStudio", https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/, Retrieved on 22 Dec. 16

doesn't mean to have a static business model [20]. On the contrary, these companies have to constantly adapt their revenue stream in order to satisfy their clients and (OSS) communities.

6.1.3.2 Intellectual property and software licensing

Because software – being an intangible good – can be easily copied, the law offers three types of protection – the copyright, trademark and patents [O28]. The first one is very much relevant to the IT industry because it gives the right to author to exclude somebody from reproduction and modification of the medium he created. At such a source code is usually automatically copyrighted and a software license is needed to give the licensee a permission to use it [O28].

The most common proprietary license contract between the end-users and vendors is so-called *end-user license agreement*, an example of such is Microsoft Windows EULA [O3]. This spells exactly what is permitted to do with such software and what are restrictions in its use. Unfortunately, for many programs these licenses are not publically available and can be additionally negotiated between the parties themselves [B1]. In the example mentioned above, however, if the user doesn't agree to certain parts of the license during the installation process of the operating system, then he is simply not allowed to use this computer program. Furthermore, any kinds of reverse engineering are not permitted and the user is also not allowed to redistribute or resell such software. In accordance with these and many other limitations, software licensing (a right to use such computer programs) become *the* way of having a sustainable revenue stream for companies that commercialize proprietary software.

In the FLOSS community, software licensing is a legal field in itself as "OSS license are surrounded by a lot of confusion" because developers (who use them) are not legal experts [42]. Whereas in the proprietary products the situation is fairly simple due to explicitly written and signed contracts between parties, in the open-source environment (where in a base case no contract and signature is needed), the choice of the right license for the company "can strongly influence the return on software investment" and correspondingly its growth [13] [O31].

Open-source software licenses are public documents accepted by the OSI and grant "the right to receive, display, perform, modify and redistribute some piece of software free of charge" [O28]. Nonetheless, besides giving certain rights, open-source licenses can put obligations too such as always requiring attribution and inclusion of the license document in the proprietary source code. Unfortunately, there are many different licenses and their different versions and hence mixing multiple distinct licenses can lead to legal errors, with severe financial consequences.

In principle, two families exist: the reciprocal ('copyleft', 'viral') and permissive one, see Figure 1. The later one, for example the MIT or Apache v2.0, allow such computer programs to be included and redistributed in the proprietary software. Additionally, by being business friendly, it allows enterprises to take e.g. Apache Hadoop, modify it and commercialize on the market without ever open-sourcing modifications which have been applied to it. While at the beginning of the open-source movement, the trend was to have more restrictive licenses, today it is the opposite as many statistics of open-source projects show [O10] [O28] [O6] [O9].

The reciprocal licenses are more restrictive than the other type because they place specific conditions on the use of such software in other programs. Especially, they intend "to keep software from becoming proprietary" and to be even included in such applications [O24]. The GNU General Public License family is the most famous example of "explicitly require[ing] that derivative works be distributed under the terms of the GPL License and also that derivative works may only be permitted to

be distributed under the terms of [this] license" [B1]. In practice, any kind of modifications to the GPL software must be publically available (copyleft principle) and GPL software cannot be included in the software "that does not use the same [viral] license", with some exceptions such as LGPL v3.0 [42]. Consequently, developers argue that these copyleft licenses impose a freedom on software which is as bad and "evil" because once these licenses infect a part of the software everything else has to be open-sourced as well [O25]. If this is not done, and later found out, costly litigations can take place [O16].

6.1.3.3 Benefits of FLOSS software

To conclude this introduction section, at the beginning I have asked what are the advantages and disadvantages of FLOSS compared to their proprietary counterparts. My goal was also to outline relevant characteristics of both types and compare them. As result, I present in Table 1 how free and non-free computer programs might be described, regarding to e.g. their communities, development style or a business model of the vendor.

From a point of view of the enterprise, which has still to adopt (or migrate to) such an OSS and wants to keep adequate security and quality experienced from the proprietary products, it is important to extensively evaluate individual advantages and disadvantages of such move, as presented for example by [27]. Therefore, I assessed and additionally added (where applicable) 'plus', 'minus' and 'neutral' signs to articulate whether a characteristic or a feature could be beneficial to such company or not. And even though, benefits of open-source software (slightly) prevail both in my examination as well as in other literature studies, each company has to evaluate FLOSS advantages based on its own activities, needs and relevant factors [37] [26].

For example, significant determinant for a management decision can be costs savings [O1]. These usually in a form of licensing rights can be indeed substantial, however, a total costs of ownership (TCO) of such software can vary significantly (be both lower and even exceed of the proprietary one due to additional services in the support and training for employees and need for proprietary components) [27]. With regard to the various studies conducted on this topic by authors such as [41] or [28] and (marketing) reports published by companies e.g. [O26], managers have to critically assess their objectivity as each camp may lobby its own preference(s) [37] [14].

Nonetheless, authors such as [B7], [O12], [37] or [O1] agree that FLOSS allows companies to leverage agility, flexibility and speed of the development which is found in large community projects such Debian OS and LibreOffice. With adoption of these free programs companies benefit by gaining a greater customization ability and due to open-source code they are allowed to hire developers to implement company-specific, closed-source, modifications. Because using such free/libre and open-source software is gratis, firms can quicker evaluate software's possibilities by starting small and increasingly growing its adoption in internal applications (*trialability*) [O1]. Once they later require commercial, mission-critical, support they can freely choose usually from several providers, thus avoiding complex negotiation processes with a single company. Furthermore, they also avoid vendor lock-in as the commercial OSS such as Red Hat Enterprise Linux is built upon free-software and offers community maintained versions as well – in case of a downgrade.

Finally, as suggested by [37] and [26], "open-source model appears [to be] most viable for generic context-independent applications" such as office suits, web browsers or CMS. Authors continue by saying that if on the other hand company highly relies on the custom-made software fulfilling industry-specific requirements, the use of open-source can be only partially beneficial – mainly in terms of permissively-licensed technologies that do not require open-sourcing such distinct systems.

Overall, they conclude that "there is no clear-cut dominance of open-source over proprietary software or vice versa" [37].

For organizations wanting to adopt such an OSS – an IS innovation [2] – a careful consideration of various types of factors mainly technological (software security, quality, reliability and stability) but also business ones (above-mentioned total costs of ownership, credibility and availability of vendors offering commercial support, responsibility for legal liability) have to be done [23] [O1] [O11] [22].

Features and characteristics	Free software	Non-free software
Primary actors in the	Vendors (which employ own	Vendors
ecosystem	developers)	End-users
	End-users	
	Independent	
	developers/volunteers	
	Software Foundations	
Source Code	Full public access, either	Usually kept secret, with
©	under permissive or copyleft	restrictions in how to use the
	licensing	final program. No rights to
	•	copy, modify or redistribute.
Standards [44]	Will implement open,	Will implement proprietary
©	industry wide, standarts but	standard (e.g. "docx") and
	unless closed standarts are	can (partially at least)
	provided at least in a binary	implement open ones as well
	form, compatibility with	(e.g. "odt").
	closed standarts may not	
	exists (or be easily developed)	
Development style	"bazaar" type of activity	"cathedral" type
	Decisions discussed in public	Decisions are internally
	– accessible to anybody	discussed, without outside
	anywhere. Hence processes	influence.
	and style are transparent,	Imposed processes and tasks,
	meritocratic, egalitarianistic,	status more relevant than
	self-organizing	merits.
Coordination &	Open style, most of it is in	Hierarchical, usually very
Communication	public domain.	formal and top-down
©	Developers choose what	coordination to avoid overlap
	they want to work at	
	themselves, but can lead to	Developer get their tasks
	duplicate efforts, lack of	assigned
	proper UX/UI and	
D	documentation.	NT
Providing contributions &	Potentially from all involved	No outside contributions are
further development of	players.	allowed – only the vendor
software	Judged based on their	develops it further.
©	quality/merit.	
	Anybody can do it if	
Eraquancy of navy negation	following rules (if any exists).	Dananda hut usualle than :-
Frequency of new program releases	"release early, release often"	Depends, but usually there is a time distance in
	paradigm (nightly builds)	months/weeks between them
Costs for the year is cost for	Gratis for download and thus	
Costs for the user, i.e. cost for	attractive for him, albeit	Unless it is freeware or
the right to use the	attractive for fiffi, albeit	shareware, users pay a price
\odot		

software [27]	can come with come	to offset costs of the Darn
software [37].	can come with some restrictions/limitations in use due to specific license or a feature set. TCO can exceed the one of non-free SW	to offset costs of the R&D and development. The price differs based on many factors that are set by the vendor.
Feedback from the user	Because bug systems/mailing lists and other tools are public, constant flow of feedback in form of reporting issues and suggestions. Can however overwhelm developers and distract them from work.	E.g. depending on the size can be limited and very fragmented (e.g. on Reddit, Facebook, Twitter, privately per email etc.). Thus, usually intensive small group meetings with users are conducted.
Number and dedication of developers [18] [17]	Depending on project's size/popularity can be a large motivated group. Yet, overall less dedication especially if not employed to work on it full-time.	Limited by firm's resources. But given that it is their daily job, they are (should be) fully dedicated to it.
Incentive for developers [39] [3] [18]	Recognition, respect, tournament for the most and best contributions → immediate rewards. Gaining experience, skills for future employment → delayed rewards.	No competition between developers but monetary incentive to deliver the work.
Business Model & Commercialization for software vendor	Dual licensing (commercial and community edition) Offering complementary plugins/extensions or services Commercial support, consulting, training	Perpetual licensing (e.g. per socket, per core or user) Subscription-based Commercial support, consulting, training
Customer support provided by either software category	Online and free from community of users and developers. Documentation, manuals, forums and chats exist where user can seek free help. Separately, a commercial variant can be purchased too.	Usually with a purchase of such software some form of ongoing support is provided by the vendor with email/phone as defined in the contract or SLA. Free community engagement if software is widely used (e.g. MS Office) and vice-versa.
Intellectual Property Rights [14]	Copyright (permissive vs. copyleft licenses)	Copyright can be negotiated but is usually protected by contractual agreement (under

	T	T
	(If possible attempt to avoid)	certain conditions seeing
	software patents	source code can be allowed).
	Trademarks	Software Patents
	Customer can be sued if 👝	Trademarks
	found to infringe IP rights	Company makes sure that
	(see e.g. GPL enforcement)	their customers will not be
		sued.
Software foundations [O28]	Unique to the FLOSS – user	Role of foundation is
	(e.g. Kuali) and developer	absorbed by the vendor, yet
	(e.g. Eclipse) ones.	consortia and standardization
	Promote & develop various	bodies e.g. ISO can be
	projects and cover e.g.	established too.
	infrastructure costs	
Software testing	Free and public community	Closed test suites and quality
©	effort	assurance processes
Software quality [37]	Inconclusive. It varies based on	size, importance, popularity of
- '	project and many other factors.	
6	even exceed the one of the close	ed-source.
	+ -	
Software security [40] [32]	Issues are much easier	Usually perceived as less
[34]	exploited because of open-	secure (e.g. Adobe Flash, MS
6	source code but they can also	Windows) even though it is
	much quicker fixed. Because	developed by a dedicated
	of "many eyes" in the	team of full-time developers.
	community, customer can	The customer has to trust the
	perceive such software as	vendor of not having any
	more secure. + -	backdoors inserted.

Table 1 shows a self-made characterization of free and non-free software. "Plus" sign means advantage, "minus" sign is disadvantage and "plus-minus" refers to both depending on perspective for the company (essentially neither positive nor negative). The "target" icon on the left shows whether this characteristic can be relevant to the organization. Only those are evaluated, which are deemed to be relevant for the adoption of FLOSS in the company.

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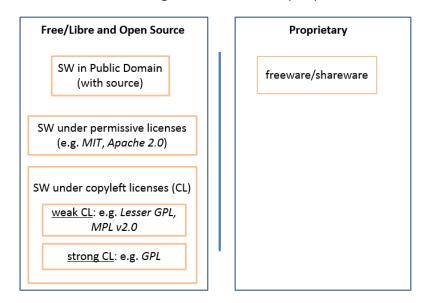
	http://www.techrepublic.com/article/open-source-pioneer-munich-debates-report-that-
	suggests-abandoning-linux-for-windows-10/
[O41]	Vaughan-Nichols, Steven J. (2015). "It's an Open-source World: 78 Percent of Companies
	Run Open-source Software." ZDNet. 16 Apr. 2015. http://www.zdnet.com/article/its-an-
	open-source-world-78-percent-of-companies-run-open-source-software/. Results of more
	recent is available here: http://www.northbridge.com/2016-future-open-source-survey-results ,
	Retrieved on 22 Dec. 16

6.3 Abbreviations

API	Application programming interface
COTS	Commercial off-the-shelf (software)
CMS	Content management system
EULA	End User Licence Agreement
FLOSS	Free/Libre and open-source software
FOSS	Free and open-source software
FSF	Free Software Foundation
GPL	GNU General Public License
IDE	Integrated development environment
IRC	Instant Relay Chat
IS	Information System(s)
IT	Information Technology
NA	Not available
OSI	Open Source Initiative
OSS	Open-source software
R&D	Research and development
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SME(s)	Small and medium-sized enterprises
SW	Software
TCO	Total Costs of Ownership
UX/UI	User Experience / User Interface

6.4 Others

2 Categories of Software (SW)



Self-made but inspired by https://www.gnu.org/philosophy/categories.html and Macredie & Mijinyawa (2011)

Figure 1 shows two categories of software.

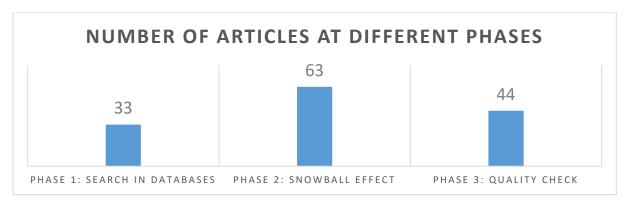


Figure 2 shows different phases of gathering articles that are reviewed.

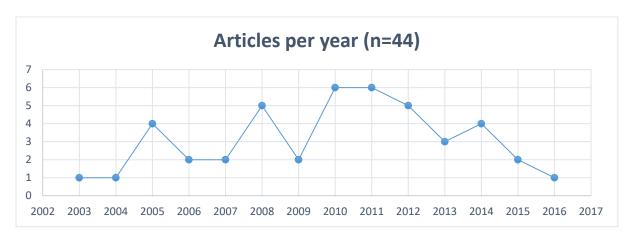


Figure 3 displays number of documents per year that are used in my study.

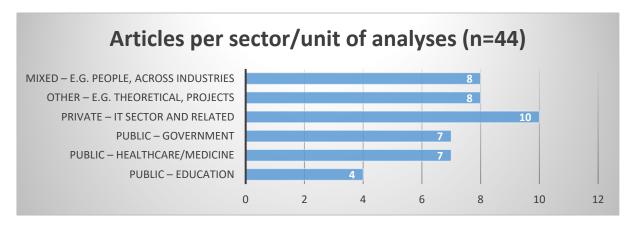


Figure 4 illustrates different sectors/units of analysis.

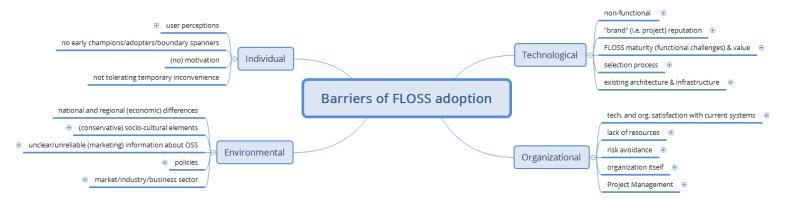


Figure 5 summarizes individual barriers from the scientific literature into 4 primary dimensions (TOEI) and 19 secondary factors. An expanded look is shown in Figure 7.

Protocol for IS Development and Implementation in Business Context

Steps to Conduct in Order to Hand-In the Paper

- 1. Read "overall" papers such as [9] and [20] to get an overview of the FLOSS topic
- 2. (after clarifying final Research Question with Nikolaus) Plan how to write this
 - a. Read articles how to write literature review [58] [68]
- 3. Write chapter One
 - a. Outline ideas & structure
 - b. Establish methodology for the introductory part (i.e. here just for chapter 2) and outline how second part will be done
 - c. Make necessary graphic(s)
 - d. Check for style & grammar AND appropriate context & meaning & logic & objective which must be clearly explained
- 4. Think how to write chapter Two (as detailed as possible)
- Gather necessary sources [albeit unsystematically] from Google Scholar, flosshub and books!
- Write & Outline methodology → as detailed as possible because it will be my guideline ← follow [58/68]
- 7. At same time, start gathering relevant adoption literature which talks about barriers and factors (because usually seen together)
 - a. [Theoretically from 1985 (due to FSF) but practically from >2000]
 - b. Create MS Word database and Excel file that will capture all the "things"
 - c. Go over all sources and categorize & put them into it [again 58/68]
 - d. Make them iteratively small(er) number, directly in XMind
 - e. Make Table/Graphic in the middle "barriers for adoption"
- 8. Once done, back to writing:
 - Update established methodology and revise <u>all text</u> for clarity & meaning & logic ("red-line") – from chapter 0 until 2.1
 - b. Explain updated version of TOE(I) framework

Figure 6 is how my research protocol looks like at the very end.

- Go (subjectively) over some (!) most important barriers and write something to each -> Chapter 2.2 ← try to link them as well
- Finish up & hurry up with short discussion (mainly limitations but also see "resistance and TAM presentations"), implications and conclusion (short this one too)
- 10. Make Excel and Word look nicer and append them into the document

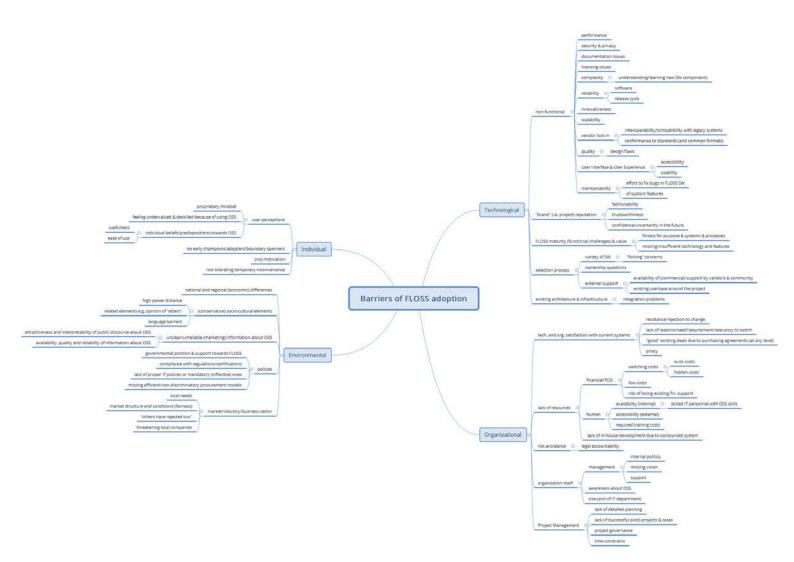


Figure 7 provides a detailed look on categorization of FLOSS integration challenges.

																	Orga	nizational	
		existing archite	ture		Brand/R	eputation					Lack of Ressourc	PC .					satisfaction		
Literature Number	existing user base & community	integration problems	Existing architectu		confidenc e/uncerta	brand	fashionab	switching Costs/TCO/sun k costs		ressoures/budge	lack of financial support and risk of	Availability/accessibi	training costs of	systems is outsourced - dependancy lack of inhouse		"Good licensing deals"/existing	Lack of reasons/resistance to switch		piracy
[72]								x				x	x		x		x		
[71]			x	x	x			x				x	x				x		
[73]								x				x					x		
[75]			x			x						x	x			x	x		x
[76]			x		x	x		x					x				x		
[74]								x				x							
[77]		x									x	x	x				x		
[78]		x	x					x				x							
[80]	x											x							
[81]		x								x		x		x		x			
[82]		x	x				x	x		x		x	×			x	x	x	

Figure 8 shows here only an excerpt from the Excel sheet. The full matrix is provided in the supplement. It should be noted that confusing labels of individual barriers (e.g. "switching costs/TCO/sunk costs") have been taken into account later when creating a final mind map seen in Figure 7. Therefore, this is workbook needs to be considered as a "very raw" version of my inhibiting categories.

Article/	Source/	Public/Private	Summary/Conclusion	Adoption barriers identified/cited	Adoption factors identified/cited
Citation count	Conference	Sector and type of study			
"Factors Influencing Adoption of	Proceedings of the	2 US based firms, one	Through multi-site case study and	Similarly to [52]:	Costs savings, "factors, including, technological
Open Source Software – An	Fifteenth Americas	in SW solutions space	framework by Kwon & Zmud (1987)	Technological support (availability, reliability,	attributes, network externalities, organizational
Exploratory Study"	Conference on IS	and another in	[52], interviews with 12 informants are	scalability → not in mission-critical systems);	capabilities, vendor lock-in, and influence of the user
		telecommunications	conducted to find critical factors that	Structural (deployment affects);	community",
Bhadauria et al. (2009) [2]		industry.	influence OSS adoption.	Organizational operating environment and	enhanced trialability,
				business strategy; Individual (tech. users	easy-of-use, human capital
3 (Google Scholar)		Explorative		comfortable with functionality); Task related	
		Empirical		(suitability for low-end apps and non-updatable	
		Qualitative		environment)	
"Critical success factors for migrating	IFIP International	Government, private	Using a case study approach, 3		Gaining competitive advantage with better financial
to OSS-on-the-desktop: common	Conference on	industry, educational	organizations in South Africa that have		performance by avoiding fines from The Software
themes across three South African	Open Source	institution in S.	migrated from non-free to free desktop		Alliance;
case studies"	Systems	Africa	environments are analyzed to uncover		support of top management; user awareness and
			success factors.	_	communication; detailed planning/analysis/ testing;
Brink et al. (2006) [6]		Exploratory			training; (pilot projects and) partial migration; support
		Empirical			
8 (Google Scholar)		Qualitative			
"An empirical study on software	(Journal) Software	Chinese software	Based on 47 projects in 43 surveyed	Learning OSS components; technical issues (bug	Modifiability, low-license costs, standardized function
development with open source	Process:	companies	companies, authors investigate how	fixes needed); lifecycle costs (selection,	and architecture
components in the Chinese software	Improvement and		Chinese companies decide to use,	maintaining, upgrades etc.); requirements	
industry"	Practice	Explanatory	integrate and maintain FLOSS-based	compliance – legal/IP exposure (and avoidance of	
		Empirical	systems. They aim is to establish	it); adaptation and configuration;	
Chen et al. (2008) [7]		Quantitative &	guidelines to ease FLOSS-based		
		Qualitative	development.		
28 (Google Scholar)					
"Migration discourse structures:	IFIP International	Regional government	Munich's migration to FLOSS ended up	- software monopoly & lock-in	Lower purchasing costs, end of vendor lock-in, cross-
Escaping Microsoft's desktop path"	Conference on	in Germany	into complete restructuring of IT	- not necessarily economic or technological	platform
	Open Source		organization.	reasons for switching, → "always political"	
Dobusch (2008) [11]	Systems	Theoretical &	Uses interviews and structuration theory		
		Empirical	with discourse analysis to explain why		
8 (Google Scholar)		Explanatory	and how this could happen.		
		Qualitative			
"Open source software adoption:	Chapter in a book	Irish public hospital	Discuss a conducted longitudinal single-	Knowledge deficit & awareness	Cuts in IT budget
anatomy of success and failure"	"Multi-Disciplinary		site case study of two OSS deployments	Mandatory/voluntary use	

F: 11 (2011) [15]	Advancement in	Exploratory	(desktop office suit and email	No initial trial & missing training and support	
Fitzgerald (2011) [15]	Open Source	Empirical (but theory	application) in the organization	Negative image	
27 (0 1 0 1 1)	Software and	heavy)	(secondary adoption).	"downplay the observability of the differences	
37 (Google Scholar)	Processes"	Qualitative	77. 0.100	between" OSS	
"Open source software adoption:	ACM SIGMIS	476 undergraduate	Using Self-Determination theory, a	FLOSS Vendors need to look at:	institutional pressures to adopt OSS;
motivations of adopters and	Database: the	students in Asian	theoretical model to identify individual	-Users awareness of OSS	source code availability; avoiding vendor lock-in;
amotivations of non-adopters"	DATABASE for	setting	motivational factors is constructed and	-OSS usefulness for users	costs; ease of use; individual intrinsic & extrinsic
	Advances in IS		subsequently assessed with a survey.	-Differences in expectations between developers	motivation factors and amotivation (beliefs in capacity,
Li et al. (2011) [24]		Mixed methods		and users (understand users' needs better)	effort and strategy)
		(theoretically-			
19 (Google Scholar)		grounded)			
"A discriminant analysis of	(Journal)	FLOSS adopting and	Based on a survey of 215 companies	Perceived uncertainty (reliability) in (technical)	Internal and external human capital as a critical factor
organizations' decision to adopt open	Technological	non-adopting firms	(CIOs), a discriminant analysis of firm's	service and support leading to high switching	to adopt FLOSS
source software"	Forecasting and	in China	adoption behaviors was conducted.	costs	
	Social Change				
Li et al. (2013) [48]		Exploratory			
		Empirical (with a			
3 (ScienceDirect)		"theoretical angle")			
		Quantitative			
"Open innovation in secondary	ACM SIGMIS	Secondary software	A field study interviewing 13 managers in	16 factors categorized in 4 categories (technologica	l, organizational, environmental and individual) that
software firms: an exploration of	Database: the	sector in Europe	companies investigates how managers	may affect FLOSS adoption	
managers' perceptions of open source	DATABASE for	1	perceives benefits and drawbacks of		
software"	Advances in IS	Theoretical &	FLOSS.		
		Empirical		10 benefits and 11 drawbacks are identified too	
Morgan & Finnegan (2010) [27]		Exploratory			
8 71.1		Quantitative			
45 (Google Scholar)		(3			
1) (Google Genomi)					
"Organizational adoption of open	Communications of	NA	Introduce and discuss barriers and offer	5 categories: knowledge barrier, legacy	
source software: barriers and	the ACM	- 111	potential remedies for them.	integration, forking, sunk costs and technological	
remedies"	the richi		potential remedies for them.	immaturity	
Terricules				Immacuity	_
Nagy et al. (2010) [30]					
71 (Google Scholar)					

"Barriers to open source software adoption in Quebec's health care organizations" Paré et al. (2008) [33] 38 (Google Scholar)	Journal of medical systems	Healthcare in Canada Empirical Exploratory Qualitative	15 CIO interviews are conducted from the Canadian healthcare organizations to identify main barriers to their adoption of FLOSS.	At first 11 challenges was identified. These were discussed with interviewers resulting into 7 main ones: lack of resources & expertise, responsible 3 rd party and information sharing policies; politics; reliability issues; conservative nature of healthcare and finally hidden costs for maintenance and support	-
"Barriers to Mission-Critical Open Source Software Adoption by Organizations: A Provider Perspective" Poba-Nzaou & Uwizeyemungu (2013) [36]	Proceedings of the Nineteenth Americas Conference on IS	Software industry in Canada and France Empirical Exploratory Qualitative	Conducted a Delphi study of 29 experts in FRA and CAN to research barriers in adoption of mission-critical OSS.	Identify 3 categories (environmental, organizational, OSS specific) with 19 challenges	-
0 (Scopus) Keyword: TOE "A strategic analysis for successful open source software utilization based on a structural equation model" Sohn & Mok (2008) [43] 35 (Google Search)	Journal of Systems and Software	77 IT companies in Korea Explanatory Theoretical at first, later carried out a mixed empirical study with surveys and interviews	Develop a structural equation model to investigate relationships between quality factors and OSS utilization. Furthermore, they want to find out what affects OSS utilization and suggest "utilization" index.	Developers sharing their knowledge. For increase in utilization, legal protection of IP must be ensured.	Following quality factors (ISO/IEC 9126) are found to be relevant: "functionality, efficiency, and sharing have significant influences on OSS utilization directly, while portability, reliability, and maintainability influence OSS utilization indirectly." Flexibility, portability
"Organizational adoption of open source software" Spinellis & Giannikas (2012) [51] 40 (Google Scholar)	Journal of Systems and Software	US Fortune 1000 companies Explanatory Empirical Quantitative	Through a scrapping 278 million web server logs, examine organizational factors and behaviors when adopting OSS.	Switching costs, loyalty, level of trust, risks, knowledge barriers, integration with legacy systems, forking, sunk costs and tech immaturity [30]. Categorize their research questions into technological, organizational and individual factors.	Lower costs/TCO, software features, portability, avoidance commercial license management, customizability, quicker deployment, company's growth stage

"Challenges in using open source software in product development: a review of the literature" Stol & Ali Babar (2010) [44] 17 (Google Scholar)	Proceedings of the 3rd International Workshop on Emerging Trends in Free/Libre/Open Source Software Research and Development	NA Explorative literature review	Present and discuss in detail 21 challenges of adoption that may arise, based on reporting in 17 studies.	5 categories with 29 individual challenges: product selection; documentation; community, support and maintenance; integration and architecture; migration and usage; legal and business	-
"A limited revolution—The distributional consequences of Open Source Software in North America" Thakur (2012) [49] 11 (Google Scholar)	(Journal) Technological Forecasting and Social Change	USA and Canada (NA) Explorative Empirical Qualitative	By conducting interviews with people from academy, industry, NGOs and government, author examines distribution of FLOSS benefits and costs in the society.	Firm's industry and size; skills requirements of OSS; Restrictive gov. policies and laws (e.g. DMCA, software patents, market structure); Legal/procurement bias towards non-free software	Reduced costs, security, efficiency
"Barriers to open source ERP adoption in South Africa" Tome et al. (2014) [50] 2 (Google Scholar) Keyword: TOE	The African Journal of Information Systems	Various organizations in South Africa Explorative Mixed methods (deand inductive & qualant)	By means of a survey with 158 responses, investigated adoption of FLOSS ERP systems in South African context.	22 barriers, used in questionnaire were identified and grouped into individual, organizational, technological and environmental category. Further, it showed that generally accepted challenges with FLOSS might not relate to the FLOSS ERP due to unique application type.	-
"Social innovation with open source software: User engagement and development challenges in India" Bhatt et al. (2016) [55] 3 (Google Scholar)	(Journal) Technovation	Social enterprise in India Explorative Empirical Qualitative & inductive methods of analysis	A longitudinal single-case study of a social enterprise, 9 employees and its FOSS product offered to e.g. farmers in India.	socio-cultural barriers and issues surrounding literacy and language; lack of engagement	Cost savings; increased productivity; trialability; experimentation; customization; free distribution; quicker response to market demands; "desire for [country's] independence, a drive for security and autonomy and a means to address IP rights enforcement"
"An empirical investigation into the adoption of open source software in Information Technology outsourcing organizations"	Journal of Systems and Information Technology	482 employees in Indian IT services firms (working for	Develop a conceptual model based on TOE framework to identify factors and to what extent they influence adoption of OSS in global IT outsourcing firms	Reliability, legal concern, software costs, management support (most important), OSS support availability and software vendor	-

		clients in various	serviced by Indian IT vendors. Using a	relationship are relevant barriers for OSS	
Ramanathan & Sundaresan (2015) [57]		sectors)	survey, they found out that 84% use to some degree OSS.	adoption by IT outsourcing organizations.	
		Explanatory		License concerns and IT outsourcing strategies	
1 (Scopus)		Theoretical and Empirical validation Quantitative		are not significant for OSS adoption.	
"Factors affecting the success of	Journal of Systems	283 OSS projects	By using 3-year long longitudinal analysis	OSS Design flaws	"complexity, modularity and responsibility assignment can
Open Source Software"	and Software	Explanatory	of 283 OSS projects examining their popularity and developer activity, authors		be adjusted to enhance developer activity. More importantly, these can be adjusted in the current version to
Midha & Palvia (2012) [62]		Empirical Quantitative	try – based on Cue Utilization Theory – understand impact of success, intrinsic	Table 3	improve technical success and project popularity in future versions"
47 (Google Scholar)			and extrinsic, factors.	Path coefficients for all the models. Structural path Conclusion H1: Technical success → Market success H2a: License type → Market success H2b: License type → Market success Supported at 1, 14 H2b: License type → Technical success H3b: Developer base → Market success H3b: Developer base → Market success Mixed results H3b: Developer base → Technical success Mixed results H3c: Developer base → Technical success H4: Language translations → Market success H5: Responsibility assignment → Technical success H6: Complexity → Technical success H7: Modularity → Technical success Supported H7: Modularity → Technical success Supported	"project administrators should select restrictive licenses, such as GPL, when starting a project to attract more contribution from developers"
"A theory-grounded framework of Open Source Software adoption in SMEs" Macredie & Mijinyawa (2011) [25] 35 (Google Scholar)	European Journal of Information Systems	10 SMEs in IT sector in UK Theoretical, and later empirical Explorative & Explanatory	Present theory-grounded framework, based on decomposed theory of planned behavior, which allows to explore factors influencing OSS adoption (what and why). Later authors evaluate it on the 10 UK SMEs in IT sector	Human capital Financial constrains for switching	License cost-saving; lack of drivers; functionality; support community; web media; innovativeness; capital investment; internet infrastructure
		Qualitative			

"Toward an empirical assessment of the benefits of open source software" Russo et al. (2003) [63] 13 (Google Scholar)	International Conference on Software Engineering	"several" small public bodies in Italy Empirical (case based) Explorative	With focus on OpenOffice suit, authors report a (successful) deployment of it in 10 townships	Costs of transition, interoperability and integration, costs & time for training employees; hostility to use/change resulting into reduced productivity of people; lack of user experience	-
"Perceptions on F/OSS adoption" Ozel et al. (2007) [64] 5 (Google Scholar)	IFIP International Conference on Open Source Systems	Public administrators from 13 European countries Empirical Explorative Quantitative & qualitative	Conduct a survey to capture perceptions of FOSS adoption. Conduct statistical tests and discuss adoption in public bodies among users familiar with FOSS concept.	Quality of FOSS and its user friendliness; politics; resistance to change; compatibility (docs. vs. odt)	-
"Seeing eye to eye? An exploratory study of free open source software users' perceptions" Gwebu & Wang (2010) [65] 18 (Google Scholar)	Journal of systems and software	168 responses from FOSS community users and students completed survey in the USA Theoretical, later empirical Exploratory Quantitative	Develop a typology for classification of FOSS individual users (and their perceptions which influence adoption) into market segments. While focusing on user perceptions, use empirical survey to assess findings, concluding that different users' groups perceive FOSS differently.	Perceived usefulness, ease of use, risks, compatibility; learning costs, concerns over reliable software and SW updates by vendors/community	-
"Managerial and technical barriers to the adoption of Open Source Software" Holck & Pedersen (2005) [67] 44 (Google Scholar)	International Conference on COTS-Based Software Systems	Danish Hospital Theoretical Exploratory	Authors "develop and discuss the hypothesis that a major barrier may be the 'customer's' uncertainty and unfamiliarity with OSS vendor relationships". Attempt to answer what are the barriers and how they affect managerial business decisions. Examine a case in Danish hospital.	Unfamiliarity and uncertainty with vendor/FLOSS accountability Existing software architecture Lack of reliable procurement models that includes legal, technical, corporate policy and business elements	-

"Identifying business barriers and	Proceedings of the	Danish educational	Authors examine decision making	Similarly to [67]: Lack of support, compatibility	
enablers for the adoption of open	13th International	institution	challenges for managers when they are	with proprietary technology	
source software"	Conference on		confronted with OSS adoption and try to		
	Information	Theoretical	answer why OSS is not more widespread		-
Holck & Pedersen (2004) [66]	Systems	Exploratory	in private and public organizations.		
	Development				
20 (Google Scholar)					
"Adoption of Open Source Software	International	55 individuals in IT	After identifying and organizing 24	These were found to be relevant:	
by Organizations-A Framework for	Journal of	industry in Kenya	adoption challenges using TOE	Org.: costs, innovation, early-adopters	
Kenya"	Computer		framework, authors explore the extent of	Tech.: perceived reliability & security &	
	Applications	Empirical	OSS adoption in organizations and	scalability, functionality	
Gichira et al. (2012) [69]		Qualitative	conduct survey with interviews among	Env.: lack of widespread use, OSS awareness and	
		Exploratory	employees in IT sector.	piracy	-
0 (Google Scholar)					
				in addition to: fashionability, interoperability,	
				lack of management support, quality	
"Commercial adoption of open	International	111 responses from	Based on innovation adoption theory,	These are found significant:	Technological benefits outweigh costs (e.g. open source
source software: an empirical study"	Symposium on	350 different	authors derive a framework consisting of	Individual: staff resistance, perception of being	code); availability of OSS-literate personnel (e.g. from
source software, an empirical study	Empirical Software	organizations	environment, organizational, individual	undervalued & deskilled if using OSS and	university); top management and individual
Glynn et al. (2005) [19]	Engineering		and technological factors for adoption.	unwilling to tolerate "teething problems"	("champion") support for OSS; benefits from
(2009) [19]	28		Then it was validated on a single case and	Technological: current architecture is stable &	community sharing; limited budget;
89 (Google Scholar)		Theoretical, later	a survey was constructed to find out that	coherent,	
(8)		empirical	software houses and firms in	Organizational: already favorable arrangements	
		Quantitative	communications are far head in OSS	with vendors, hard to switch e.g. due to	
		Explanatory	adoption.	(commercial) maintenance	
			1	Environmental: no other success story	
				ĺ ,	!

"Selection Criteria for Open Source	International	Public bodies in	Along three dimensions (system,	System (software) quality: reliability, usability,	
Software Adoption in Malaysia"	Journal of	Malaysia	information and service quality) of the	performance efficiency, functionality	
-	Advancements in		Delone and McLean IS success model	Information (code) quality: maintainability,	
Chamili et al. (2012) [70]	Computing	Theoretical, later	authors suggest selection criteria	security	
	Technology	empirical	(characteristics) for adoption in public	Service (user support) quality: support &	-
4 (Google Scholar)		Exploratory	organizations. A survey is conducted	documentation, reliability, community,	
		Qualitative	among IT/management users in public	competence & credibility, communication	
			bodies in Malaysia.		
"Perceptions of open source versus	Journal of Research	20 individuals from	Conduct 20 interviews with Chief	The most important are lack of support, security	Avoidance of vendor price increases (cost perception);
commercial software: Is higher	on Technology in	higher educational	Information and Chief Academic Officers	and quality issues	controlling own destiny; flexibility for needs;
education still on the fence"	Education	institutions in US	to investigate characteristics of OSS and	and quanty issues	controlling own destiny, healblifty for needs,
education still on the lence	Education	mistitutions in Co	interest in moving to OSS technology.		
Rooij (2007) [72]		Exploratory	Moreover, ask what would they be willing		
1001) (2007) [72]		Empirical	to pay for open-source solution.		
35 (Google Scholar)		Qualitative	to pay for open source condition.		
"Investigating Factors Influencing	International	Public and private	With a survey of 560 individuals,	Individual: low confidence; lack of technical	- staff awareness
the Adoption and Use of FOSS in	Journal of Research	higher educational	investigate factors influencing adoption	support, capacity to implement and awareness;	- code modifications; low costs – licensing &
Tanzanian Higher Learning	In Business And	institutions in	and use of FOSS and propose Individual-	staff resistance	scalability;
Institutions: Towards an ITOE	Technology	Tanzania	Technological-Organizational-	Technological: missing/bad infrastructure or lack	trustworthiness
Framework"			Environmental (ITOE) framework.	of supporting technology	-fulfillment of standards/policies
		Explorative		Organization: TCO; proper IS/IT strategy	-collaboration and knowledge sharing
Kisanjara & Tossy		Empirical		Environmental: complexity; unfit for purpose	
(2014) [71]		Quantitative			
0 (Google Scholar)					

"Adopting open-source software applications in US higher education: A cross-disciplinary review of the literature" Rooij (2009) [73]	Review of Educational Research	higher educational institutions in US Explorative Empirical Qualitative	Investigate key drivers of FOSS adoption from a literate review of 58 articles in the higher institution environment.	Costs for implementation of FOSS, with skilled IT personal and (!) users of these systems; Vendor support for Learning Management Systems; potential risks stemming from security, training, use, maintenance; Fit for the pedagogy/learning context	Adoption driven by desire to have social and philosophical benefits, software development benefits, security and risk management benefits, software adoption life cycle benefits, and total cost of ownership benefits
46 (Google Scholar)					
"Multi-level framework of open source software adoption" Qu et al. (2011) [74] 24 (Google Scholar)	Journal of Business Research	NA (data from 3 sources) Empirical Quantitative Exploratory	Develop and test multi-level framework specifying country-level, firm-level and cross-level factors in firm's OSS adoption. Firms in countries with high power distance unlikely to adopt OSS. Firms in less-developed countries, more likely.	Country with high-power distance; having more economic resources	Individualism orientation of country; countries with strong IT-competences (both are not statistically supported by data); country's uncertainty avoidance orientation
"Open Source Software (OSS) Adoption Framework for Local Environment and its Comparison" Laila & Bukhari (2010) [75] 3 (Google Scholar)	Innovations in Computing Sciences and Software Engineering	Diverse firm with stable IT in Pakistan Theoretical, later empirical Explorative Qualitative & Quantitative	First provide a framework for adoption of OSS in the Pakistani context and compare it to other methods developed by researchers from advanced countries. Then, an empirical survey was conducted with 30 responses which derived order of importance.	1. Intrinsic: existing stable IT infrastructure, lack of skilled staff and supporting organizations 2. External: lack of awareness, existing purchasing agreements, 3. Technological: training 4. Individual: resistance to change, brand reputation, being undervalued	- Governmental support, avoiding piracy, open standards - low costs/TCO, top management support, organization's size -individual importance to many -tech. benefits, functionality, dissatisfaction with existing prop. system
"An exploratory framework for assessing open source software adoption" Miralles et al. (2006) [76] 17 (Google Scholar)	Systèmes d'Information et Management	11 nation and multinational companies and their CIOs [including Spanish context] Empirical Exploratory Qualitative	Using configurational typology approach, 11 cases (through CIOs interviews) are analysed to present framework which tries to examine under which cases OSS adoption may unfold. Also present company groupings and their adoption cases when they might consider OSS.	Based on 11 interviews with CIOs, following are found to be relevant: Risk aversion to non-proven system and having a quantity of different platforms; Costs for switching; user-non-interest; organizational constrains	Mainly TCO, technological attributes and vendor lockin but also reputation and network externalities; "user-community effects"

"Open source challenges for hospital information system (HIS) in developing countries: a pilot project in Mali" Bagayoko et al. (2010) [77] 29 (Google Scholar)	BMC medical informatics and decision making	Hospital in Mali (Africa) Explorative Empirical Quantitative	A case study presents a pilot project that implements OSS hospital information system in Mali. Authors share their results using a questionnaire asking 13 users of HIS to report their experiences.	Security risks; cultural aspects; IT literacy; (developer) maintenance and support	Quality medical information; Costs of proprietary system
"Antecedents of open source software adoption in health care organizations: A qualitative survey of experts in Canada" Marsan & Paré (2013) [78] 12 (Google Scholar)	International journal of medical informatics	18 experts in Quebec (CAN) health and social service sector 10 IT suppliers in province Explorative Theoretical at first, later empirical Qualitative	Asking what factors influence OSS adoption in healthcare setting, authors through interviews develop a research model for investigating antecedents of OSS adoption.	Costs for switching, (in)compatibility with organizational needs, lack of expertise and IT (size of teams) people with skills required for the switch, maintenance and support, standardization (hl7), external expertise, political clarity, difficulty in finding right information	TCO still less than with proprietary, attractiveness of topic and public discourse
"Common characteristics of open source software development and applicability for drug discovery: a systematic review" Årdal et al. (2011) [79] 14 (Google Scholar)	Health Research Policy and Systems	Literature study of 47 papers Explorative	Analyse existing OSS research through a systematic review of OSS characteristics and focus specifically on their applicability in the drug discovery (in all phases).	Barriers for adoption of OSS in drug discovery projects: Attracting participations (physical assets are necessary, financial returns); Management of volunteers (PMs, milestones, funding/salaries) and quality; Legal: IPR protection; Physical contains (knowledge sharing similar to OSS principles while labs require physical goods); Business/incentive model for scientists	Allows research to be quicker performed with reduced labor costs (due to community) and avoidance of duplicate effort.

"Free/Libre open source software in health care: a review" Karopka et al. (2014) [80] 11 (Google Scholar)	Healthcare informatics research	Literature review (healthcare) Explorative	Investigate current adoption of FLOSS in healthcare setting.	Professional support and lack of legal liability and accountability; FLOSS governance; software documentation; "support the clinical workflows"; required in-house skills; adaptability to local needs	Dissatisfaction with proprietary vendors; lower acquisition costs; utilization of large community
"An Empirical Investigation into the Adoption of Open Source Software in Hospitals" Munoz-Cornejo et al. (2008) [81] 20 (Google Scholar)	International Journal of Healthcare Information Systems and Informatics	Managers involved with IT in hospitals in US in 3 areas Explorative Empirical Mixed-methods using grounded perspective	Explore current adoption of OSS (along with factors influencing it) in hospitals and try to answer what are benefits and disadvantages of OSS in this domain. A survey (30) and interviews (5) are conducted.	Vendor support, complexity and required expertise of domain, lack of skilled IT personnel and fear of being de-skilled, lack of mature OSS, management support, negative user perceptions and missing OSS champion, favorable existing agreements, (perceived) lack of security & quality & accountability & privacy protection/legislation and policy	Limited financial resource, functionality and user experience, top management support, pressure to upgrade IT systems, government support, reduction of bugs and development costs, no more vendor lock-in, adherence to standards
"Something for nothing: management rejection of open source software in Australia's top firms" Goode (2005) [82] 160 (Google Scholar)	Information & Management	Australian top- publically listed firms Explorative Empirical Qualitative	Through a survey of 500 ASX firms and their CTOs & CIOs (and 108 responses), investigate why they reject open-source.	Environmental: insufficient market acceptance, lack of policy, fashion effects Organizational: infrastructure problems, lack of resources & support & strategic planning User: personal rejection/fear/resistance, lack of skills System: security, complexity, relevancy to operations; system or training costs	-
"A Human Capital Perspective of Organizational Intention to Adopt Open Source Software" Li et al. (2005) [84] 28 (Google Scholar)	International Conference on Information Systems 2005 Proceeding	Organizations in Singapore Empirical Exploratory Qualitative	Through a survey of 81 CIOs, take a human capital perspective on adoption OSS in organizations. Confirm that if firm has enough internal skilled people, adoption intention will greatly increase.	Human capital (accessibility and availability), switching costs, organizational/IT department size	-

"Foresighting FLOSS (free/libre/open source software) from a developing country perspective: The case of Turkey" Yildirim & Ansal (2011) [53]	Technovation	Private and public bodies in Turkey Exploratory	Examine strategic factors, through a technology foresight & Delphi survey and panel (n=112), that affect deployment of FLOSS in Turkey. Conduct a SWOT analysis to identify strengths and weaknesses of FLOSS adoption in the country. Suggestions are	Switching costs, training costs, sharing knowledge and availability of human skills, stability and security, immature communities	Lower hardware and labor costs, flexibility & local needs, decreases piracy, technological independence, social and ethical benefits
12 (Google Scholar)		Empirical Qualitative	developed.		
"Policy recommendations for public administrators on free and open source software usage" Bouras et al. (2014) [88] 8 (Google Scholar)	Telematics and Informatics	European public organizations	Provides 25 policy recommendations/ framework on adoption of FLOSS in public organizations.	Politics, policy issues, governmental support, market fairness (non-discrimination), existing architecture, procurement, enabler of interoperability, compliance	Costs effects (with licensing), re-usable SW, customization, data openness, redistribution rights
"Adopting open source software in public administration: The importance of boundary spanners and political commitment" van Loon & Toshkov (2015) [89] 3 (Google Scholar)	Government Information Quarterly	Dutch local administrations Explorative Empirical Quantitative	Attempt, with a survey among 65 Dutch municipalities, to reveal factors that explain differential success in diffusion of OSS.	Lack of early adopters ("boundary spanners") and activists, political commitment, switching costs, standards	No license costs, flexibility

Table 2 displays my database of all included articles (phase 3) and their summaries. Additionally, below, I document number of articles per year and industries/sectors where they come from.

Year	Number of articles
2003	1
2004	1
2005	4

2006	2
2007	2
2008	5
2009	2
2010	6
2011	6
2012	5
2013	3
2014	4
2015	2
2016	1

Industry/Sector (unit of analysis)	Count	#
Public – education	4	[66, 72, 71, 73]
Public – healthcare/medicine	7	[15, 33, 67, 77, 78, 80, 81]
Public – government	7	[11, 63, 64, 70, 53, 88, 89]
Private – IT sector and related	10	[2, 7,27, 36, 43, 57, 25, 69, 75, 55]
Other – e.g. theoretical, projects	8	[30, 44, 62, 74, 79, 84, 65, 24]
Mixed – e.g. people, across industries,	8	[6, 51, 49, 50, 19, 76, 82, 48]