# Free as in Freedom
## A step towards Software freedom

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# Who am I?

- 27 years old.

- M.Sc. in Computer Science, Uppsala University 2011.

- B.Sc. in Software Engineering, Salahaddin University 2006.

- I am a free and open source software advocate.

- I have some activities against copyright infringement.

- My research interest is type systems.

# The Expected Outcome

- Get introduced to Software Freedom.

- Differentiate between FOSS and stolen (or cracked) software.

- Get rid of your installed stolen software.

- Learn how to find a legal and free alternative to your illegal(pirated) software.

# Free as in Freedom

- Free as in freedom, not as in food.
- To achieve software freedom, a program's users must have:
  - The freedom to run the program, for any purpose.
  - The freedom to modify the program to suit your needs.
  - The freedom to redistribute copies, either gratis or for a fee.
  - The freedom to distribute modified versions of the program.

# Richard Stallman

- Sept 1983 started the GNU project and thus the free software movement.

- Pioneered concept of copyleft.

- Wrote Emacs, GCC compiler.

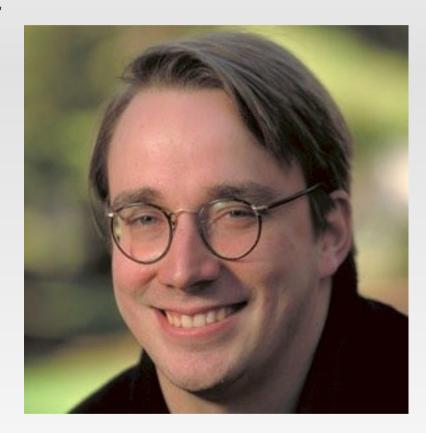- MacArthur 'Genius Grant' recipient.

# GNU Project

- Is a free software, mass collaboration project, announced on September 27, 1983, by Richard Stallman.

- It initiated the GNU operating system, software development which began in January 1984.

- The founding goal of the project was, in the words of its initial announcement, to develop "a sufficient body of free software […] to get along without any software that is not free".

# Linux for Humanity

- Is a Unix-like computer operating system, based on the Linux kernel.

- It's development is one of the most prominent examples of free and open source software collaboration.

- The Linux kernel runs on a highly diverse range of computer architectures.

- It is widely used on servers, for its reliability, scalability and security.

# Linus Torvalds

- Initiated development of the Linux kernel.

- Now acts as project coordinator.

- Implementer of GIT, a distributed version control system.

# Windows vs. Linux

- Linux is free, while Windows costs about 150$.

- Linux, unlike Windows, is well known for its reliability, security and scalability.

- Most of Linux applications are free.

- Unlike Windows, Linux is rapidly developed.

- Linux has more than an option for its Desktop Environment, like: GNOME Classic, Gnome Shell, Unity, KDE, LXDE, XFCE among others.

# Why Should We Care?

- Free and Open Source programs, unlike their proprietary counterparts, respect our freedom.

- They often cost *ZERO* dollars!

- They are inherently more secure (because of the way they are developed).

- Bugs are detected and fixed very early.

- A huge community is behind them!

- You can find help and support anywhere, for FREE.

# What is Bad About Proprietary Software?

- No one can 100% trust others (be them companies, developers or service providers).

- Proprietary formats (and software) lock the users to the vendors.

- We can not modify the proprietary programs to match our needs.

- It is unethical when a license asks the users not to help their friends, neighbours and other fellow humans.

# Why Should We Open Source Our Programs?

- For the sake of freedom!

- It is immoral, when you write a program and sell it to someone, then tell him, if you lend it to your neighbour, I sue you!

- There are plenty of ways to collect money while you are developing for free and open source software programs.

- You can gain money from donations, (Wikipedia runs on donations!)

- Other developers help you fix bugs and introduce new features.

# A Few Examples of FOSS

- Linux based Operating Systems (e.g. Ubuntu)

- Wikipedia

- Firefox and Chromium

- Android Operating System

- Java, PHP and Python

- LibreOffice and OpenOffice.org

- Netbeans and Eclipse IDE

- Apache, Tomcat and MySQL

- GIMP and Inkscape

# Free Licenses

- GNU License:
  - General Public License (GPL)
  - Lesser General Public License (LGPL)
  - Affero General Public License (AGPL)
  - Free Documentation Licence (FDL)
- Mozilla Public License (MPL)
- Apache License
- MIT, BSD, CDDL and *more*

# Software Piracy

- Or "Illegal Software"

- Pirated software hurts everyone.

- From software developers to retail store owners, and ultimately to all software users.

- Furthermore, the illegal duplication and distribution of software has a significant impact on the economy.

# Detect the Cancer

- In Wikipedia search for your suspected application.

- Look at its licensing field.

- If it was "proprietary" or "freeware" then it is a non-free software.

- Alternatively you can go to the application's website and find the licensing terms of it.

# And Remove It

- Google the name of the application + alternative, like:

  - MS Office + alternative

- Search for the application's name in these two sites:

  - http://www.osalt.com

  - http://www.alternativeto.com

# Questions?

*"The only stupid question is the one that is not asked"*

*English Proverb*