

Presentation
Introduction and motivation
Supporting innovation with free software
FLOSS business models
Economic impact
Sustainability

Assignment: Ten myths about FLOSS business models

Assignment: "Yockai Benkler on the new open source economics"

Assignment: "Leadbeater on open innovation"

Activity: identify FLOSS business models

Activity: the open core debate

Activity: build your FLOSS business model

Economic Aspects of Libre Software

Master on Libre Software (URJC)

<http://master.libresoft.es>

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LibreSoft

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we study libre software

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Dynamics and goals

- Statements based on "Ten myths about FLOSS business models", by Carlo Daffara
<http://www.groklaw.net/articlebasic.php?story=20070828132340846>
- Each one can be right or wrong (or arguable).
- Work in groups to give simple answers supporting or rebating the statement.
- Document your answers with factual arguments, if possible (links, data, etc.).

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Statement 1

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FLOSS does not prevent prices from being established for it.

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Statement 2

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FLOSS licenses aim to suppress any ownership claims, they are hostile to intellectual property rights.

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Statement 3

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FLOSS development is mainly driven by ad-hoc altruism and volunteer effort.

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Statement 4

If I release my software to the FLOSS community, thousands of developers will suddenly start working for me, for nothing.

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Statement 5

Many big companies and firms (even outside software development business) use FLOSS.

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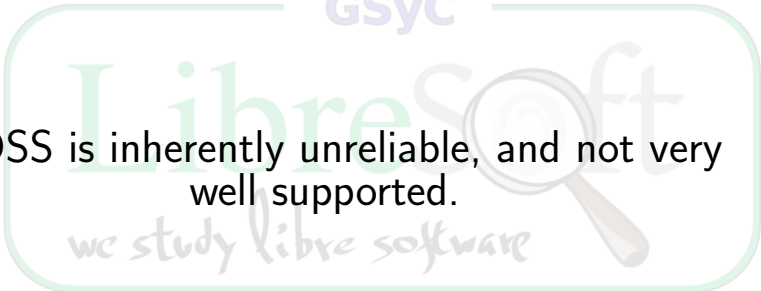
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Statement 6

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FLOSS is inherently unreliable, and not very well supported.

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Statement 7

Private companies contribute to FLOSS,
since they can get profit in exchange.

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Statement 8

Widespread FLOSS projects are invariably funded by large private companies.

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Statement 9

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FLOSS software has achieved to become a market leader in certain sectors.

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Statement 10

If a company leading a FLOSS project is acquired, the new owner can lock the source code and force all its customers to pay for it.

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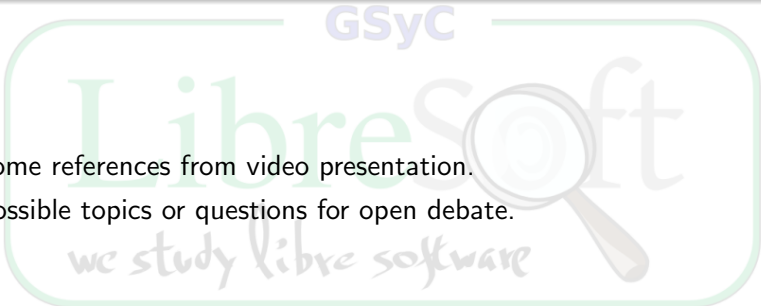
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Dynamics

- 
- Some references from video presentation.
 - Possible topics or questions for open debate.

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Internet changes information economy

- 19-20th century: High cost as initial requirement for starting mass circulation of info.
- <http://setiathome.berkeley.edu/>
- <http://www.chem.ox.ac.uk/cancer/pancreaticcancer.html>

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Needed capital is distributed

- Apache vs. Microsoft IIS.
- <http://beamartian.jpl.nasa.gov/welcome>
- Crowdsourcing, wisdom of crowds...

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New production models, massive distributed communities

- Google PageRank.
- Wikipedia vs. Encarta.
- <http://www.crowdspring.com/>
- P2P networks