Intellectual Property Licensing & Software

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Intellectual Property (IP)

- IP are intangible human creations
 - Animal and AI creations don't count!
- Many products have IP
- Some are obvious (music, movies, software)
- Some are not obvious (smells, vegetables)

Protecting Intellectual Property

- Four pillars of protecting IP
 - Trademarks
 - Trade Secrets
 - Copyrights
 - Patents

Using Intellectual Property

- The use of IP is negotiated through Licensing
 - Via a contract between IP owner and the user
- Licensing controls every aspect IP's use
- As an IP user:
 - You never buy the IP, so you never own it
 - You only buy a revocable license to use it
- Using software puts you under its license(s)

Groupings of Software Licenses

- Proprietary
 - Anything goes
 - Freeware / Shareware / Freemium
- Free and Open Source
 - "Permissive": e.g. MIT/BSD-like
 - "Copyleft": e.g. GPL-like