

PRACTICAL 3: BASIC UNDERSTANDING ON FREE AND OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE

a) Describe Open-Source Software with Example

Open source software (OSS) is software that is distributed with its source code, making it available for use, modification, and distribution with its original rights. Source code is the part of software that most computer users don't ever see; it's the code computer programmers manipulate to control how a program or application behaves. Programmers who have access to source code can change a program by adding to it, changing it, or fixing parts of it that aren't working properly. OSS typically includes a license that allows programmers to modify the software to best fit their needs and control how the software can be distributed.

Ex: Mozilla Firefox, VLC media player etc.

b) Describe Free Software with Example

Free software is computer software distributed under terms that allow users to run the software for any purpose as well as to study, change, and distribute it and any adapted versions. Free software is a matter of liberty, not price; all users are legally free to do what they want with their copies of a free software regardless of how much is paid to obtain the program. Computer programs are deemed "free" if they give end-users ultimate control over the software and, subsequently, over their devices. The right to study and modify a computer program entails that source code the preferred format for making changes be made available to users of that program. While this is often called "access to source code" or "public availability", the Free Software Foundation (FSF) recommends against thinking in those terms because it might give the impression that users have an obligation (as opposed to a right) to give non-users a copy of the program.

Ex: Linux kernel

c) Difference between Free and Open-Source Software

FREE SOFTWARES	OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE
i) Freedom to run program for any purpose ii) Freedom to study about program iii) Freedom to distribute copies of software iv) Freedom to modify/improve program and release improvements to public	i) It has distribution of Licence ii) Availability of source code iii) Free Distribution iv) Integrity of Authors Source Code