

# Free software

## Another digital world is possible

---

Matthieu Puyo   Florian Birée

Licence 3 Informatique  
Université Paul Sabatier

May 2009

# Summary

- 1 History
- 2 Definition
- 3 Economic model
- 4 Freedom of the network

# History – The beginning

Once upon a time

- 70s: hardware selling
- 80s: software license selling
- 1983: creation of the GNU project (GNU's Not Unix) and of the Free Software Foundation by Richard Stallman

# History – part two

And they lived happily...

- 1992: Linux kernel, GNU/Linux system
- 90s: the use of free software grow just like the Internet
- 2000s: Mozilla Firefox, OpenOffice.org

# History – free culture

...ever after.

The idea of free software has been transposed in other domains:

- **Encyclopedia: Wikipedia** <http://en.wikipedia.org/>
- **Music: Jamendo** <http://jamendo.com/>
- **Pictures and documents: Wikimedia commons**  
<http://commons.wikimedia.org/>
- **Litterature: Wikisource** <http://en.wikisource.org/>

# Definition – The four freedom

## Starting from zero

The four freedom of a free software:

- Freedom 0: the freedom to run the program, for any purpose.
- Freedom 1: the freedom to study how the program works, and adapt it to your needs. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.
- Freedom 2: the freedom to redistribute copies so you can help your neighbor.
- Freedom 3: the freedom to improve the program, and release your improvements to the public, so that the whole community benefits. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

# Definition – Licenses

What you have the right to do

- A software can be use only if the user accept a contract with the author.
- This contract or license have to give the four freedom. Unless that the software cannot be free.
- Main licenses: GNU GPL, BSD...
- Licenses for other creations: Free Art License, Creative Commons...

# Economic model – build around free software

The spirit of freedom

There is a great amount of corporation witch are specialized in free software:

- Red Hat
- Mandriva
- The Mozilla Corporation

# Economic model – I want to break free

I love you, me neither

A lot of other corporations integrated free software in their office or in their products:

- Google, Yahoo!
- IBM, Sun, Novell, Bull
- Apple

# Internet – reason of the success

## When the tigers broke free

Despite other existing computer networks, Internet has the following specificities:

- The network is fully decentralized; no one can control the content of Internet.
- The net neutrality: network operators (ISP) are not content producers.
- Internet works thanks to free softwares; free softwares are developed thanks to Internet.

# Internet – too free for them?

## The Internet, the HADOPI and the lobbies

- During the last years, the usage of Internet become more and more centralized. The warranty of the decentralization against the control of the network has disappear.
- With the pretext to protect people, governments want to filter and censure the network.
- ISP become content producers, and tend to favour their own content.

# Some links

Any questions?

- Free software list: <http://framasoftware.net/>
- The GNU project: <http://www.gnu.org/>
- The GNU/Linux distribution **Ubuntu** : <http://ubuntu.com/>
- Linux User Group of Toulouse: <http://toulibre.org/> (next meeting the 20th May)

This presentation has been realised by the following free softwares:  
 $\text{\LaTeX}$ , Beamer, Impressio and Debian GNU/Linux.