

# Knowledge, Power and free Beer

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# Outline

- 1 Free Beer
  - Hard and soft Ware
  - Patent recipes
  - Free of charge
- 2 Knowledge
  - Alternatives
  - Free Software in general
- 3 Power
  - Distribution
  - Special programs

# Hard Ware

- Vendor and vendee can

- ① Weigh it
- ② Bite it
- ③ Throb it
- ④ ...

→ both are able to check the ware

- Rights of the vendee

- ① Ownership
- ② Alteration
- ③ Sale

- Duplication not worth the effort

# Soft Ware

- Is it really ware?
  - 1 Weight?
  - 2 Checkable?
  - 3 ...
- Rights of the buyer of the license
  - 1 Right to use
  - 2 No changes
  - 3 No selling
- Duplication prevented by technical means

# Fresh fish



- Market: vendee and vendor able to evaluate ware
- Does soft ware stink?
- No pain, no gain.  
... but how much pain is inside soft ware?

# The progress

Patent No. EP0394160; Applicant(s): IBM (US)

- License fee for these slides?
- DE10108564:  
Usage of dates in archived files

# EU: Council versus Parliament



# Soft ware is not for sale

- Free of charge: Going once, going twice ... BANG
  - 1 *Download here* → “free beer”
  - 2 See everything, hear everything - but say nothing
  - 3 Free Software
- Where's the catch?

# The catch: Free $\neq$ free of charge

- Crucial: free usage of the code
- Free in the sense: “free speech”
- Free speech requires
  - Time to prepare
  - Competence
  - Sometimes courage
- costs
- Exact definition: *Debian Free Software Guidelines*

# Wikipedia

- Free knowledge
- Just try: [de.wikipedia.org](http://de.wikipedia.org)
- Look up own special field
  - ... and he saw that it was good.  
*or*
  - ... he made it better.

# WikiPedia is taken serious

## Subject: *Wikipedia* knows the shit

Date: Sun, 27 Mar 2005 16:18:36 -0200  
From: Christian <VPYLGHQ@interacti.net>  
To: aids-std@rki.de

Newest penis enlargement system:

- Increases the penis length and girth
- Medically Proven ([source: wikipedia](#))
- No Surgery
- Permanent Results
- Proven Traction Method
- 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

Find more info here: ...

## SpamAssassin: 17.1 points, 5.0 required

pts	rule name	description
0.1	SATIS_GUAR	BODY: Mail guarantees satisfaction
17	BAYES_99	BODY: Bayesian spam probability is 99 to 100%

# As You Like it

- Long term continuous functionality
- Egal, welches Programm Funktionalität bereitstellt
- Functionality = Program + Service
- Reasonable amount of cost is acceptable
- Program free of charge  $\longrightarrow$  more money for service left
- Open sources  $\longrightarrow$  kostenlose Mitarbeiter
- Quality increases with the number of users . . .
- . . . , who have understand the principle and report bugs

# Get the facts

An open operating system has not only advantages



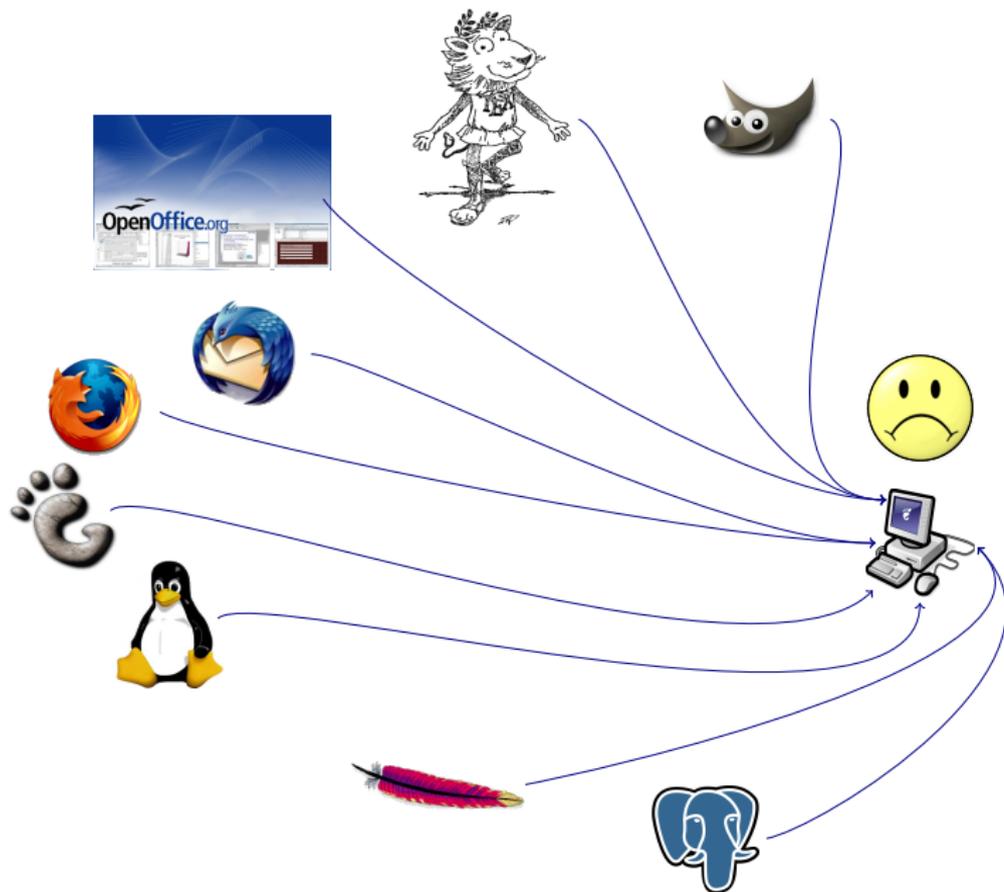
## Get the facts

*“First they ignore you,  
then they laugh at you,  
then they fight you,  
then you win.”*

*– Mahatma Gandhi*

Since about 2002 phase 3.

# Linux from scratch



# Distribution



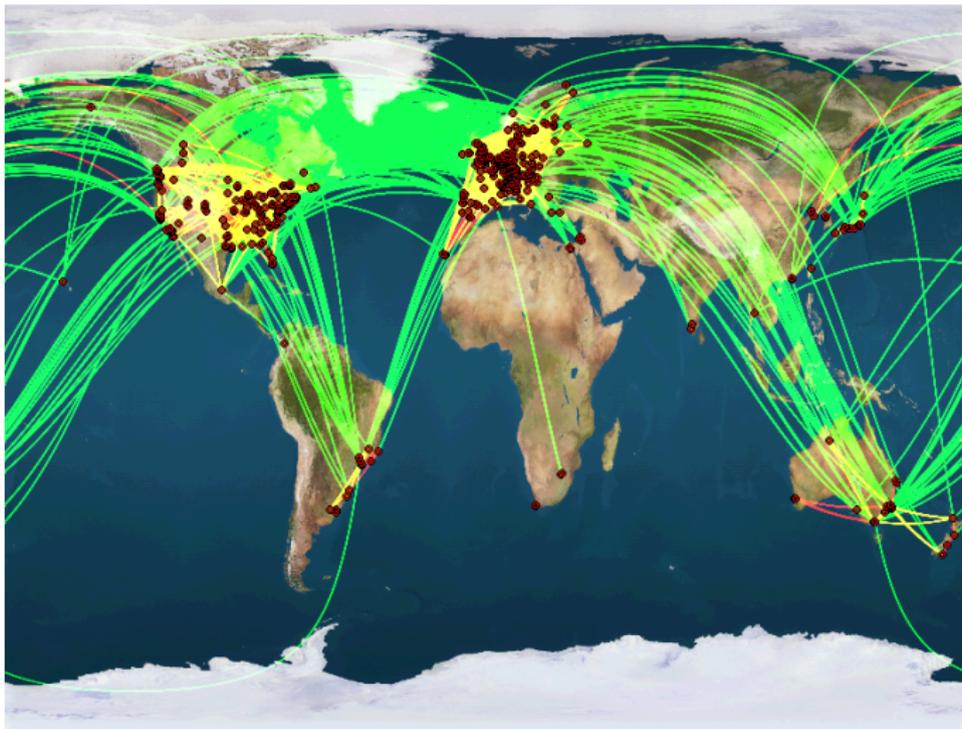
# The missing link

- Distributor serves mass market
- Special software is missing (i.e. OTRS)
  - Solution: Many specialists build a distribution

# Debian



# Web of trust



# Specialists in the evolution

- Development of Free Software is evolutionary process
- Very successful in case of many users
- Special software has small user base
- Profile of the envisaged user:
  - Unreasonable effort to install upstream programs
  - No interest in administration
  - *Specific subset* of available free software
- Profile of administrators:
  - Limited time frame
  - Lack of specialist knowledge

# Special applications



# Everything's going to be fine

- Premature for euphoria
- Developer really appreciate support
- First competitions with proprietary systems
- Questions to software producers
  - What is the sense of a dongle?
  - How can fast bug fixing be ensured?
  - What will be lost if the code is released?
  - ...

This talk can be found at  
<http://people.debian.org/~tille/talks/>  
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