



Knowledge,
Power and
free Beer

Andreas Tille

Free Beer

Hard and soft ware
Patent recipes
Free of charge

Knowledge

Alternatives
Free Software

Power

Distribution
Special programs

Knowledge, Power and free Beer

Andreas Tille

Debian

June 16, 2007

Knowledge,
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• Hard and soft ware
• Patent recipes
• Free of charge

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• Alternatives
• Free Software

Power

• Distribution
• Special programs

- 1 Free Beer
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 - Patent recipes
 - Free of charge

- 2 Knowledge
 - Alternatives
 - Free Software in general

- 3 Power
 - Distribution
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Special programs

- 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

- Duplication not worth the effort

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- Alteration
- Sale

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- Is it really ware?

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- Rights of the buyer of the license

- Duplication prevented by technical means

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Fresh fish

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

Fresh fish

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Patent No. EP039

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Patent No. EP0394160; Appli

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Patent No. EP0394160; Applicant(s): IBM

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

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

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

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Usage of dates in archived files

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- 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?

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The catch: Free $\neq$ free of charge

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Distribution

Special programs

- 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*

The catch: Free $\neq$ free of charge

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Distribution
Special programs

- Free knowledge
- Just try: wikipedia.org
- Look up own special field

● ... and find out that it was good

● ... and the world is better

● ... the more it better

● ... the more it better

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Wikipedia is taken serious

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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%

Wikipedia is taken serious

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

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Distribution
Special programs

- Long term continuous functionality
- Functionality matters, name of the program does not
- Functionality = Program + Service
- Reasonable amount of cost is acceptable
- Program free of charge → more money for service left
- Open sources → contributors
- Quality increases with the number of users ...
- ... , who have understand the principle and report bugs

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Get the facts

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An open operating system has not only advantages



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

– Mahatma Gandhi

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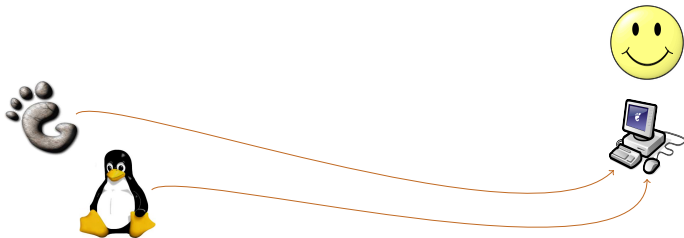
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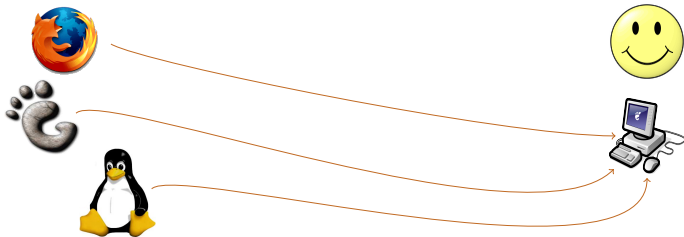
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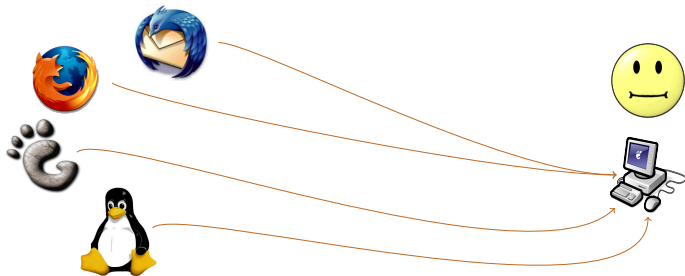
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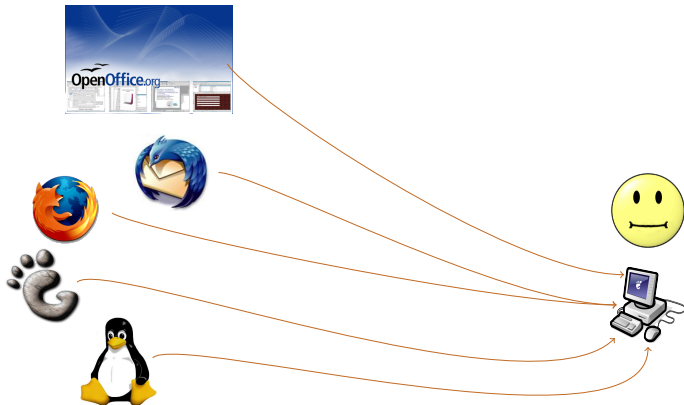
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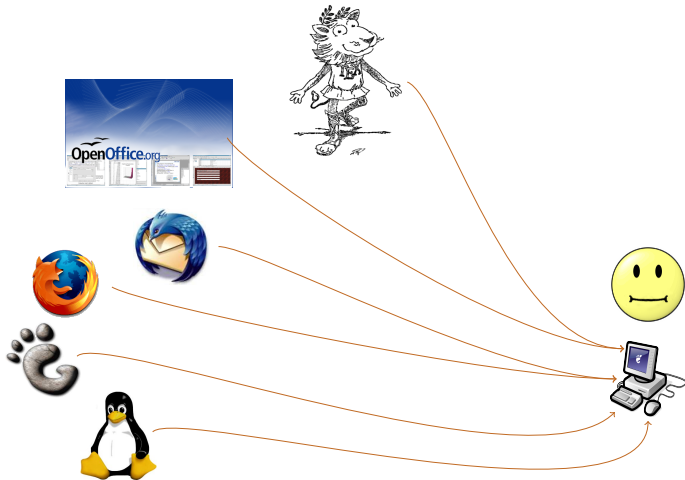
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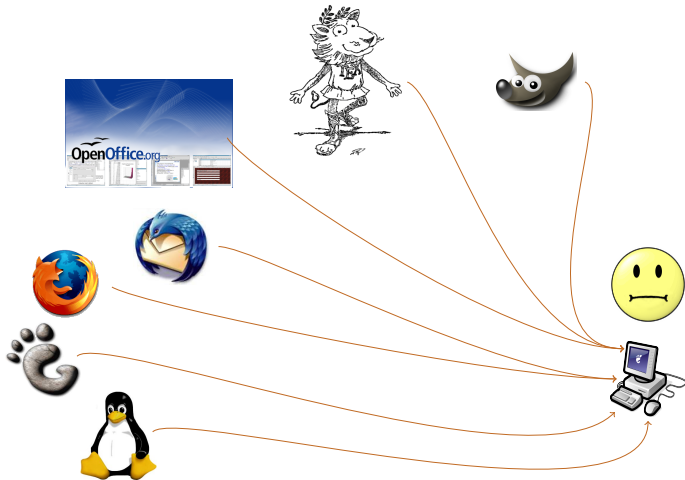
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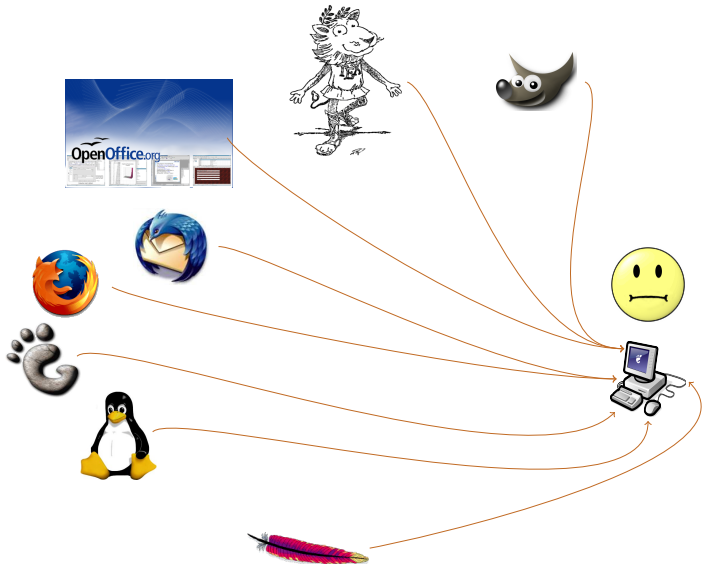
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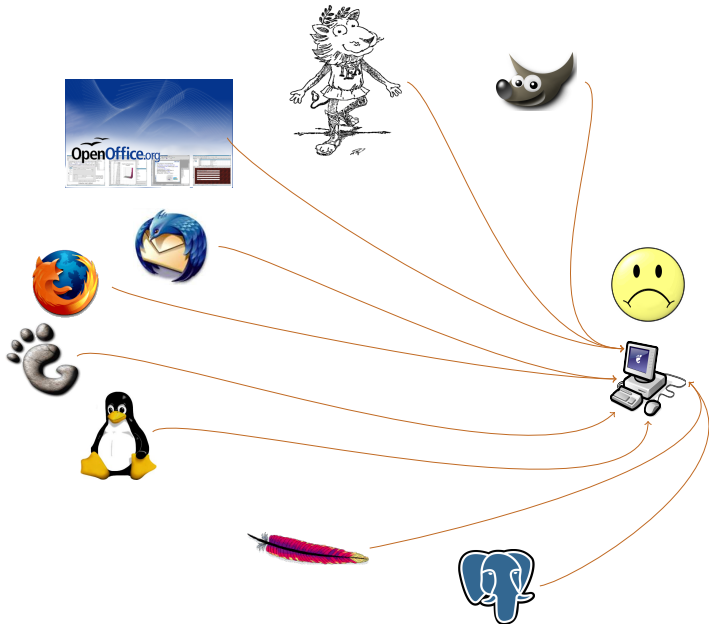
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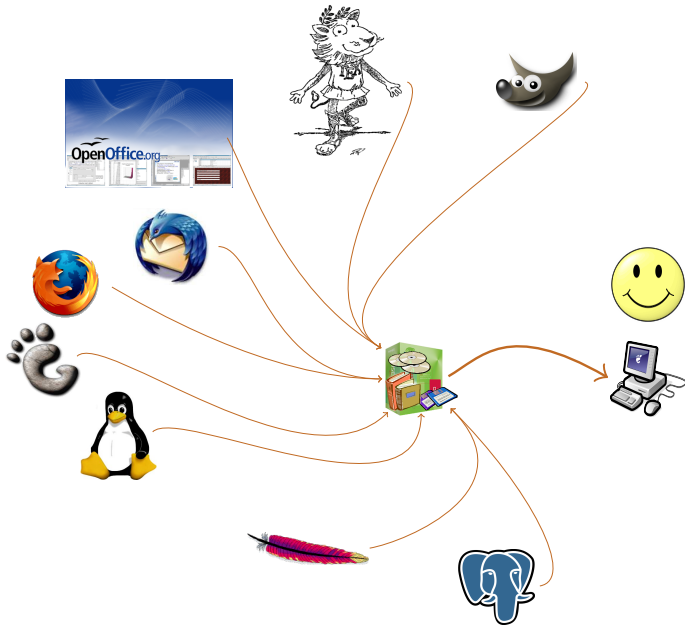
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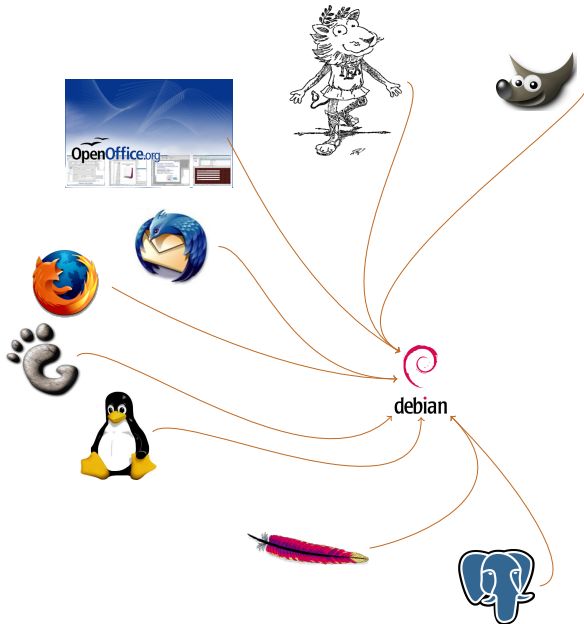
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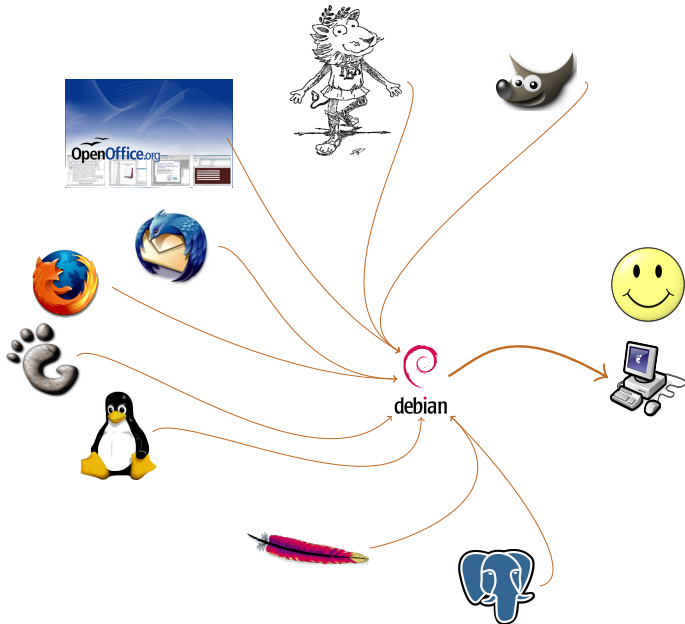
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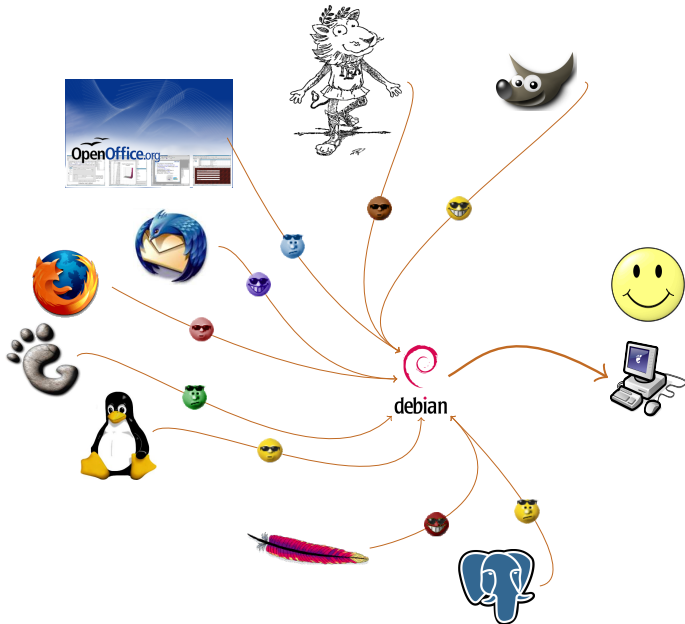
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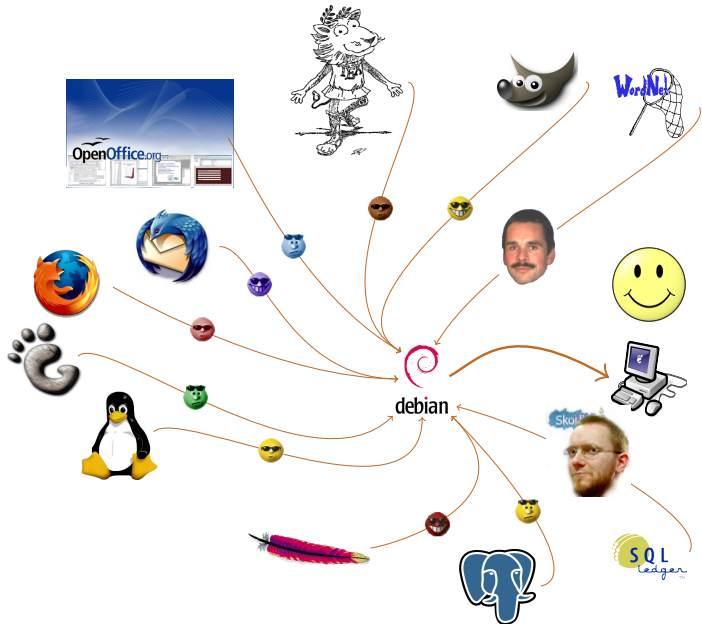
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The missing link

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Distribution
Special programs

- Distributor serves mass market
- Special software is missing
→ Solution: Many specialists build a distribution

The missing link

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Web of trust

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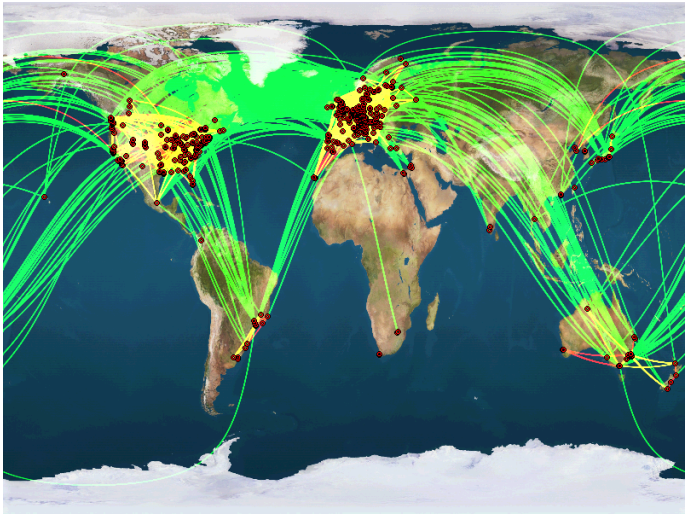
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- Development of Free Software is evolutionary process
- Very successful in case of many users
- Special software has small user base
- Profile of the envisaged user:
- Profile of administrators:

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- Development of Free Software is evolutionary process
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- Profile of the envisaged user:
 - Unwilling to install updates/ programs
 - No interest in administration
 - Specific subset of available free software
- Profile of administrators:



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- Development of Free Software is evolutionary process
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- Profile of the envisaged user:
 - Unreasonable effort to install upstream programs
 - No interest in administration
 - Specific subset of available free software
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Special applications

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Special applications

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Special programs

- Premature for euphoria
- Developer really appreciate support
- First competitions with proprietary systems
- Questions to software producers



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 - How can last bug fixing be ensured?
 - What will be lost if the code is released?



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

