



Knowledge,
Power and
free Beer

Andreas Tille

Free Beer

Food and software
Patent recipes
Free of charge

Knowledge

Alternatives
Free Software

Power

Distribution
Special programs

Knowledge, Power and free Beer

Andreas Tille

Debian

June 24, 2005

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

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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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Hard Ware

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- Ownership
- Alteration
- Copy

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- 3 Sale

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- Is it really ware?

- 1 Weight?
- 2 Checkable?
- 3 ...

- Rights of the buyer of the license

- Duplication prevented by technical means

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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?

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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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- DE10108564:
Usage of dates in archived files

EU: Council versus Parliament

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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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Special programs

- **Crucial: free usage of the code**
- Free in the sense: “free speech”
- Free speech requires
 - No time to prepare
 - No competition
 - No government's support→ costs
- Exact definition: *Debian Free Software Guidelines*

The catch: Free \neq free of charge

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- Crucial: free usage of the code
- Free in the sense: “free speech”
- Free speech requires
 - Time to prepare
 - Compliance
 - Goodwill & courage

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

→ www.freiheit.at → www.freiheit.at/FreeSoftware

or

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• ... and he saw that it was good.

•

• ... he made 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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Special programs

- Long term continuous functionality
- Egal, welches Programm Funktionalität bereitstellt
- Functionality = Program + Service
- Reasonable amount of cost is acceptable
- Program free of charge → more money for service left
- Open sources → kostenlose Mitarbeiter
- 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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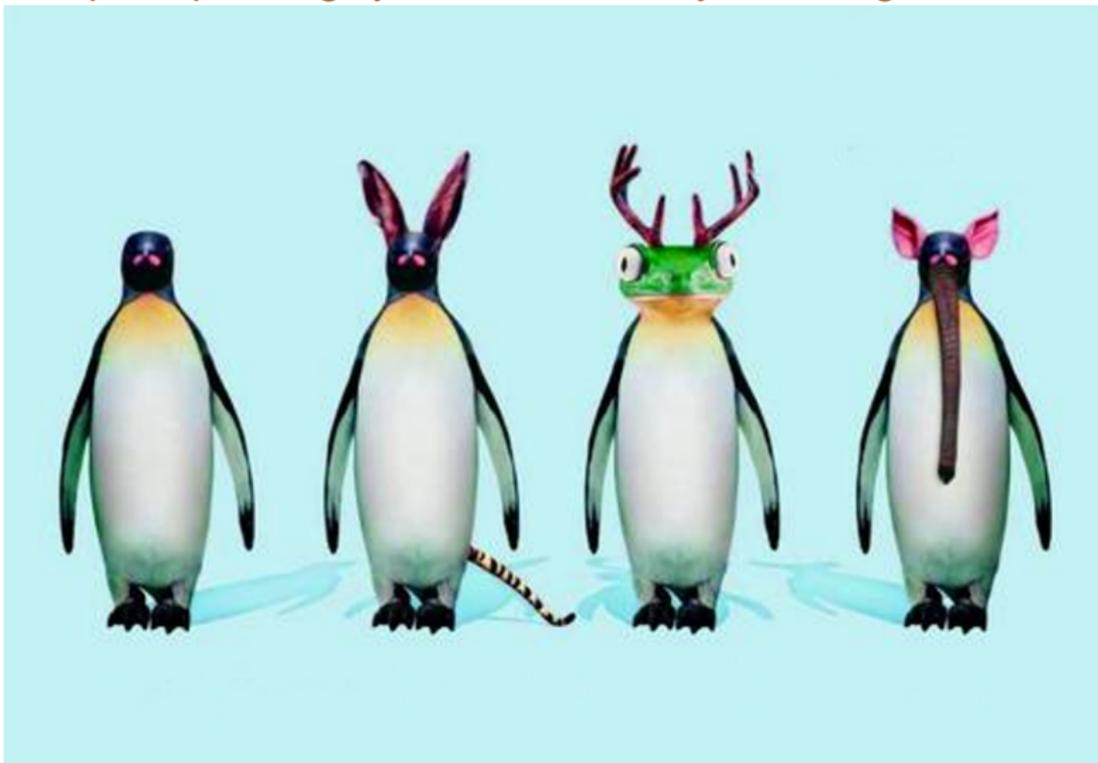
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An open operating system has not only advantages



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Power

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Special programs

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

– Mahatma Gandhi

Get the facts



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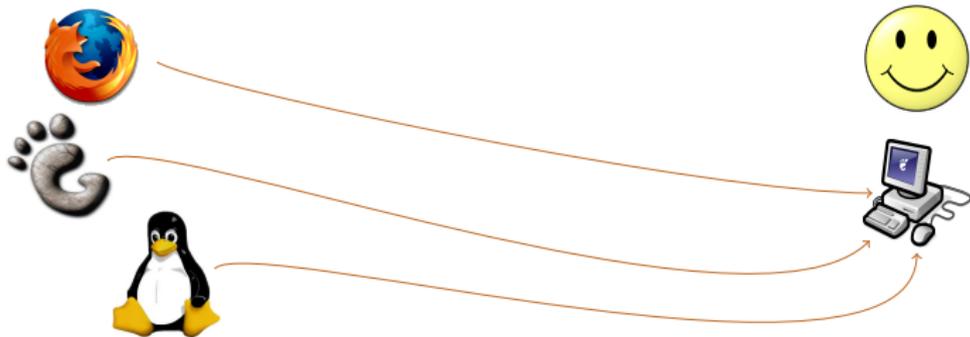
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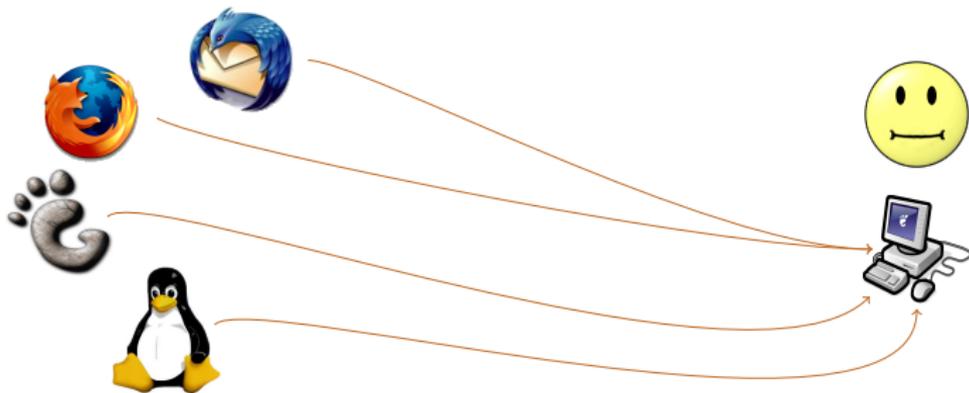
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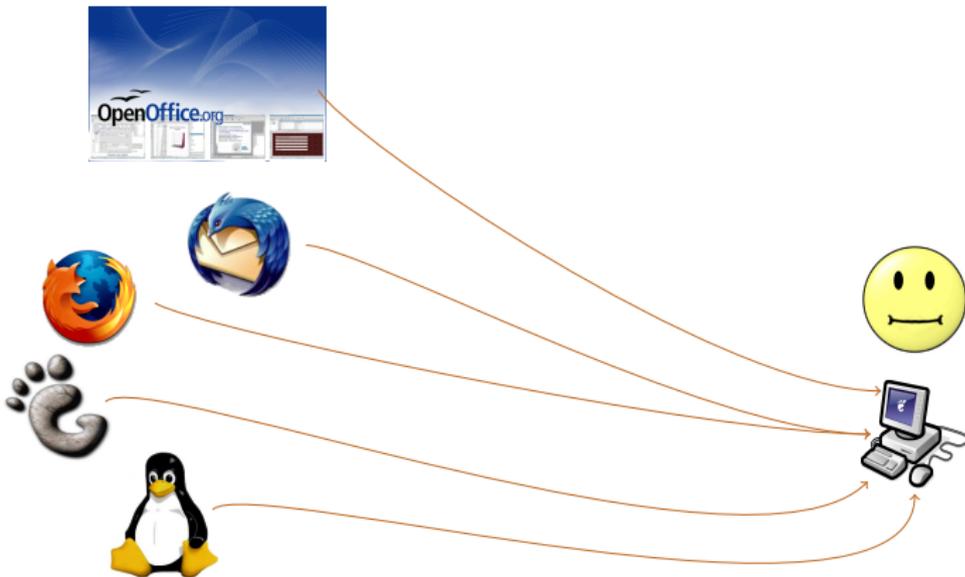
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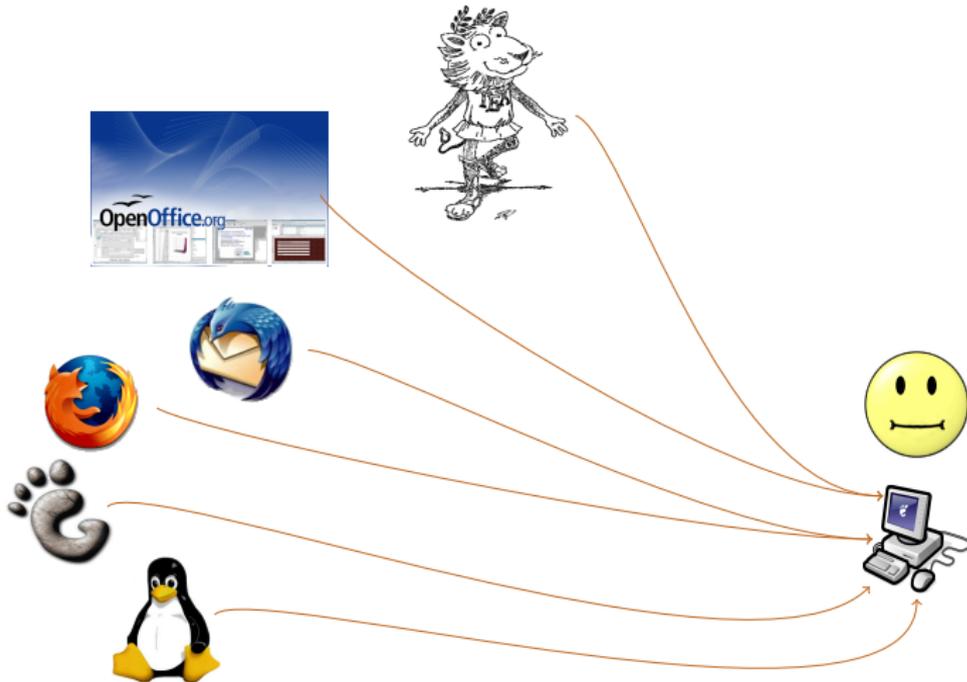
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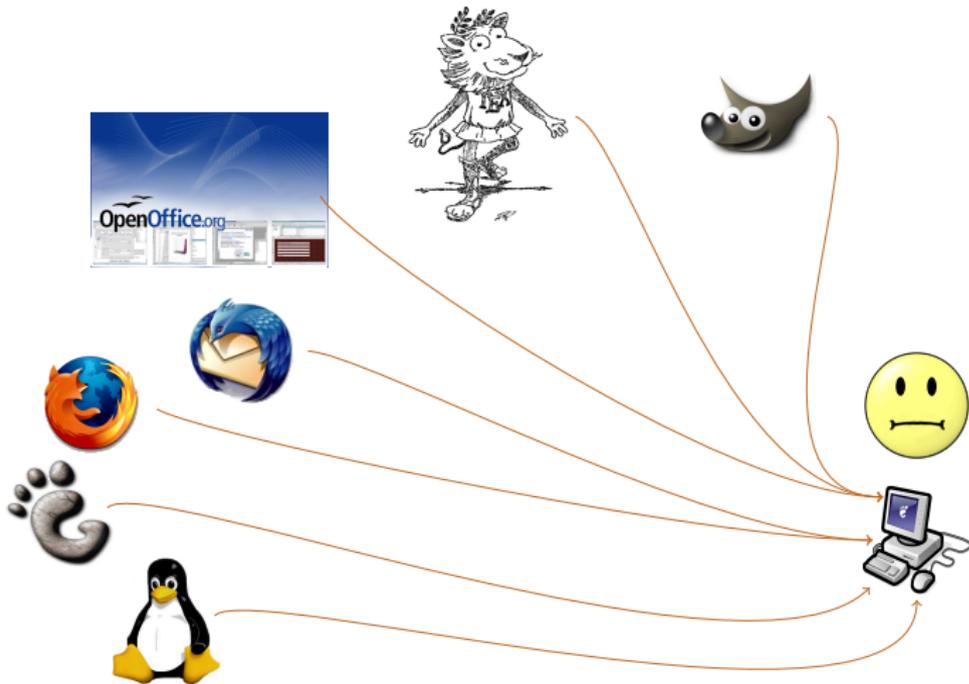
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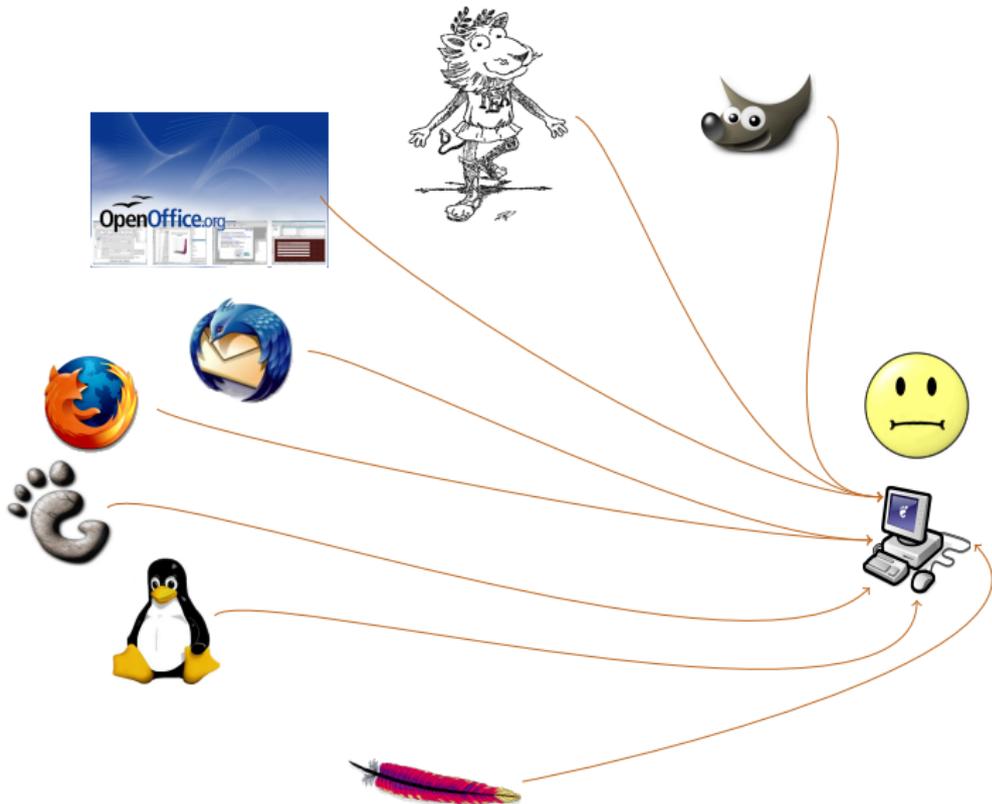
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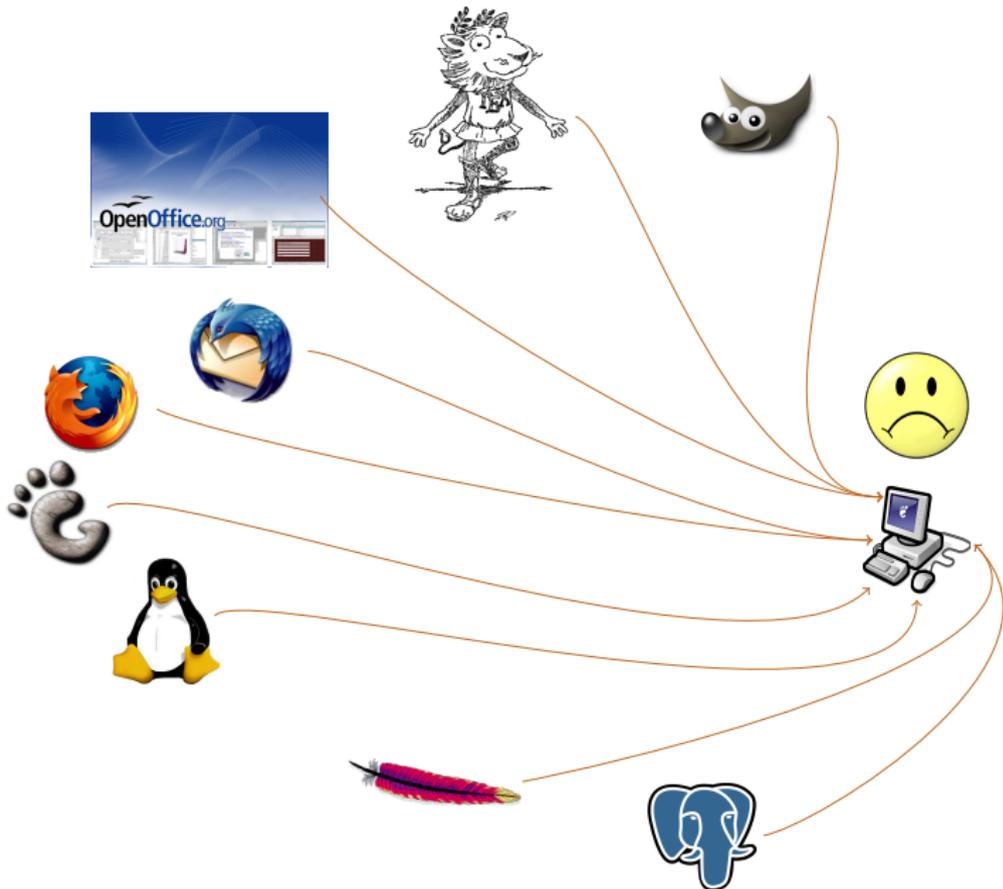
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The missing link

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Distribution
Special programs

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



The missing link

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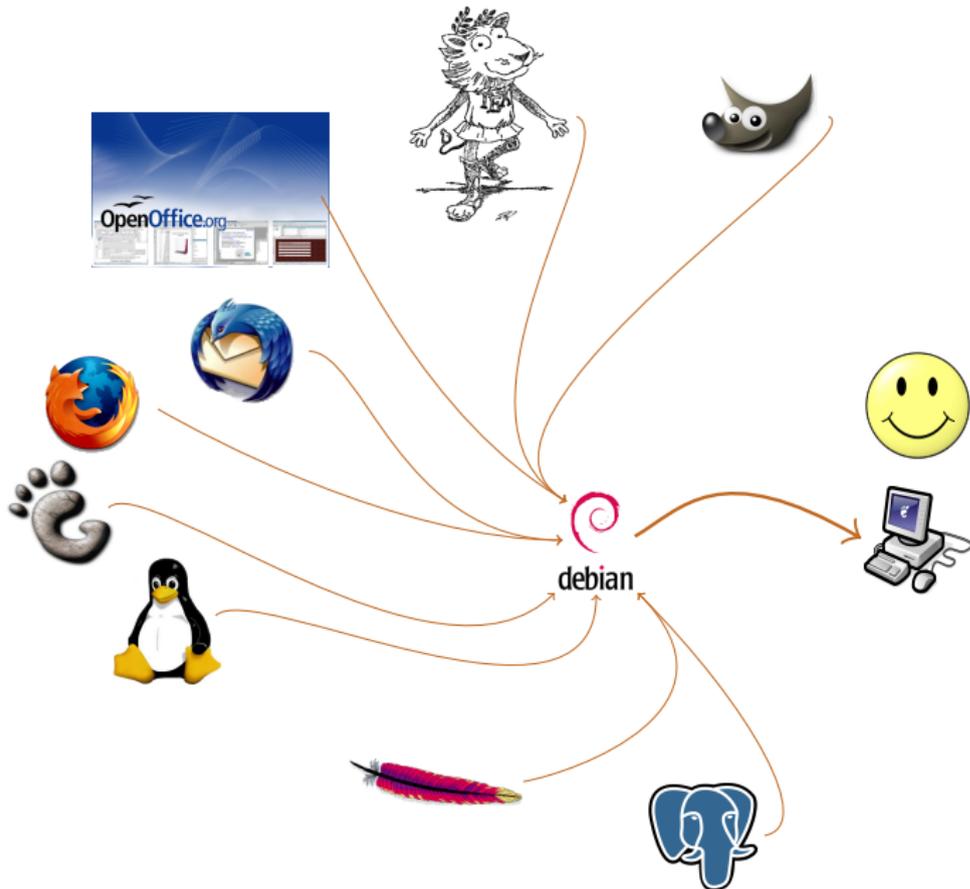
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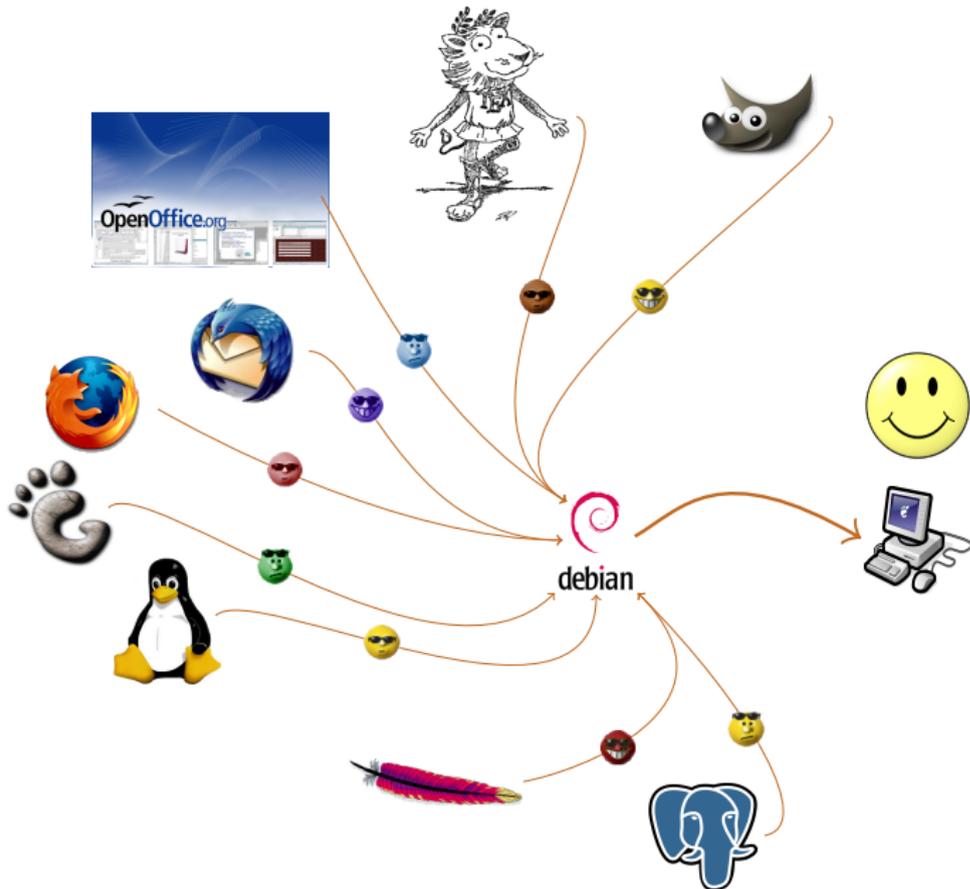
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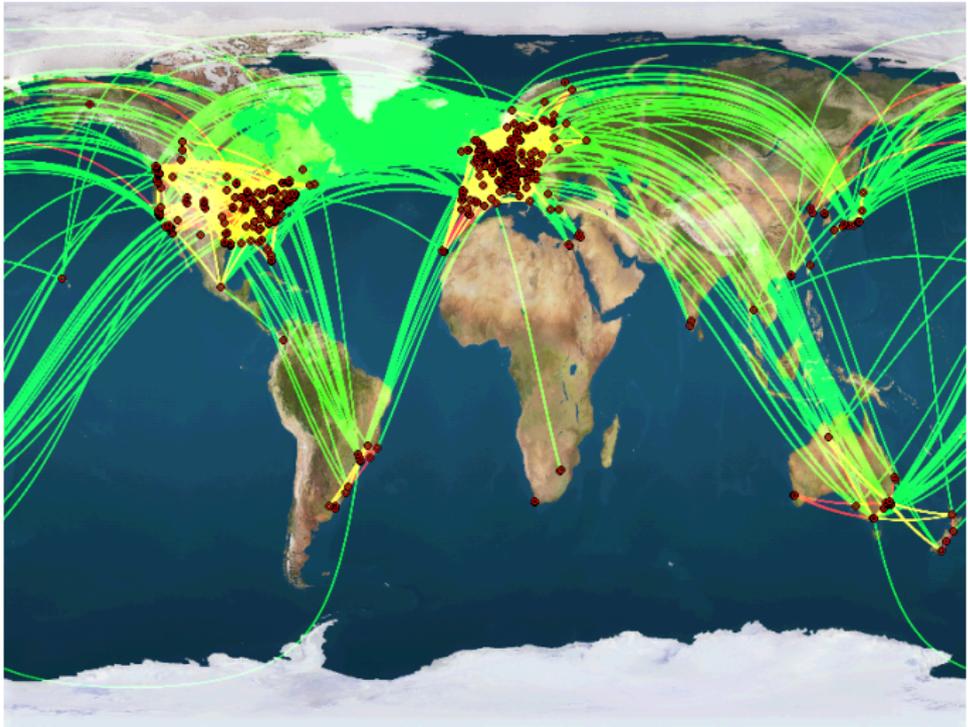
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Distribution
Special programs

- 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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Distribution
Special programs

- 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:
 - Unwilling to invest in costly development
 - No interest in advertisement
 - Specific subset of available free software
- Profile of administrators:

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Distribution
Special programs

- 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:

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 - No interest in administration
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- Profile of administrators:
 - Limited time budget
 - Lack of economic incentives

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Special applications

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Distribution
Special programs

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

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• What is the purpose of a developer?

• How can best bug fixing be ensured?

• What will be lost if the code is released?

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- Questions to software producers
 - What is the sense of a dongle?
 - How can best bug fixing be ensured?
 - How can I be sure if the code is optimized?

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

