

Open source
is for real, and
it's for **you**

Sebastian
Rahtz

Summary

What is OSS
Watch?

Open source
software

Levels of
involvement

Licences

Developing
using open
source

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Sebastian Rahtz

OSS Watch

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- 1 Summary
- 2 What is OSS Watch?
- 3 Open source software
- 4 Levels of involvement
- 5 Licences
- 6 Developing using open source

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- Misunderstandings
- Licensing
- Development methodology
- Attitude

What is OSS Watch?

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OSS Watch is the open source software advisory service for UK HE and FE

- 1 OSS Watch is not an advocacy group
- 2 Our role is to promote awareness and understanding
- 3 OSS Watch has a range of outreach activities

OSS Watch: the open source software advisory service for UK HE and FE

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- The Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) provides ICT services to UK higher and further education institutions.
- It is funded by the UK higher and further education funding councils.
- In 2003, JISC set up **OSS Watch** to provide unbiased advice and guidance on free and open source software for UK higher and further education.
- Our audience is
 - strategic IT decision-makers
 - IT managers and technical staff
 - software developers
 - academic end-users
- OSS Watch is based within the Research Technologies Service at the University of Oxford.

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- We provide a website and a wiki:
<http://www.oss-watch.ac.uk/>
<http://wiki.oss-watch.ac.uk/>
- we provide briefing notes and guidance materials
- we run conferences and workshops
- we provide consultation by e-mail to
info@oss-watch.ac.uk
- we do research
 - 2003: national survey on OSS use in HE and FE
 - 2006: national survey on OSS use in HE and FE
 - 2006: JISC study on models for sustainability in OS
- we provide newsfeeds:
<http://www.oss-watch.ac.uk/rss/>

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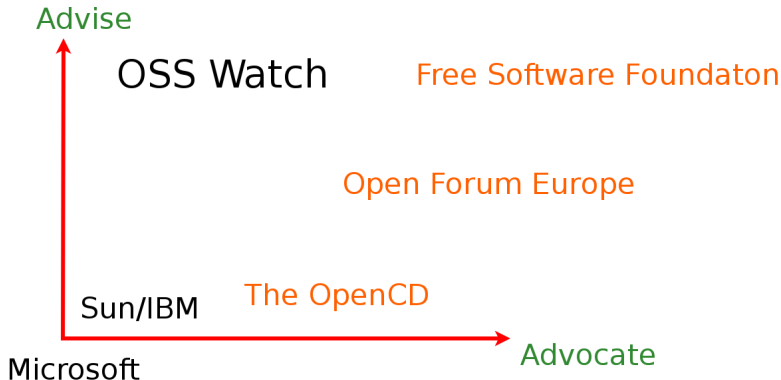
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Open source software

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- 1 Software quiz
- 2 What is open source software?
- 3 Clearing up misunderstandings
- 4 Reasons people consider open source software
- 5 Open source is mainstream
- 6 Why do people work on open source?
- 7 Open source is about community

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Do you use

- Photoshop for removing red-eye
- Microsoft Office for word-processing
- Firefox web browser
- Acrobat Reader for PDF files
- Java for running programs
- Apache web server
- Skype internet telephony
- PHP for scripting
- oXygen XML editor

in your daily life? are they open source?

Quiz answers

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	No cost	Commercial use	Give to friend	See
Photoshop	no	yes	no	no
Office	?	yes	no	no
Firefox	yes	yes	yes	yes
Acrobat	yes	yes	no	no
Java	yes	yes	yes	no
Apache	yes	yes	yes	yes
Skype	yes	yes	yes	no
PHP	yes	yes	yes	yes
oXygen	?	?	no	yes

What is open source software?

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Open source software is software for which:

- the **source code is available** to the end-user;
- the source code **can be modified** by the end-user;
- the **licensing** conditions are intended to **facilitate** continued **re-use** and wide availability of the software, in both commercial and non-commercial contexts;
- the **cost** of acquisition to the end-user is **often minimal**.

Clearing up misunderstandings

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- Another term that is often used is **free software**.
- 'The term *free software* is sometimes misunderstood: it has nothing to do with price. It is about freedom.' (Richard Stallman)
- The use of *free* is unhelpful as in English it has two meanings. French has *libre* and *gratuit*.
- 'To understand the concept, you should think of free speech, not free beer.' (Richard Stallman)
- 'Free software is often used in a political context, whereas open software is a more commercially oriented term. ... Open software is commonly used to describe the business case for free software, focusing more on the development process rather than any underlying moral requirements.' (Kim Johnson)

Clearing up misunderstandings (2)

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- Open source software may or may not cost money.
- Although open source software may be free, you should consider the total cost of ownership.
- As with proprietary software, this often bears little relation to the cost of acquiring the software.

Clearing up misunderstandings (3)

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- You don't necessarily have to run Linux: ...
- ... you can use open source software on Microsoft Windows.
- For example, TheOpenCD contains a collection of open source software that run on Microsoft Windows.
- TheOpenCD has software for tasks such as word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, e-mail, web browsing and image manipulation.
- <http://theopencd.org/>
- We should not choose software solely on the basis of open source. **Interoperability and open standards** for data are equally important.

Evaluating open source solutions

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Some tools are readily available:

Business Readiness Rating <http://www.openbrr.org/>

Open Source Maturity model

<http://www.navicasoft.com/pages/osmm.htm>

Top Tips for Selecting Open Source Software

<http://www.oss-watch.ac.uk/resources/tips.xml>

Strathclyde study: investing in software and services

http://www.insight.strath.ac.uk/projects/sw_service

Why do people **work** on open source?

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- The desire to learn technical skills by joining an open source project is strong.
- Typical reasons for staying in open source are:
 - improving skills: 32%
 - ideology: 31%
 - improving software: 24%
 - seeking recognition: 12%

How do people **interact** in open source

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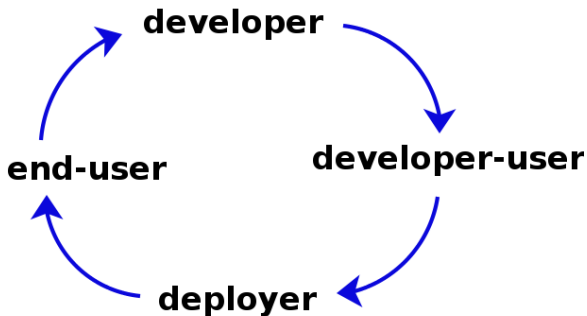
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Those who *merely* deploy open source software are also part of the open source community.

Why do **companies** work in open source?

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- implementation of open standards might as well be done in a shared way to save costs (**Example: use XML for data interchange, use ICS for calendar data**)
- making 'needed improvements' only to open source is economically efficient. Work on the things you care about (**Example: embedded Linux on network router**)
- the revenue margin on licences is 85%, on support 54%; eg IBM and Novell are now depending more on services than licensing (**Example: a £100,000 IBM solution depending on Linux, Apache — and Java**)

Levels of involvement

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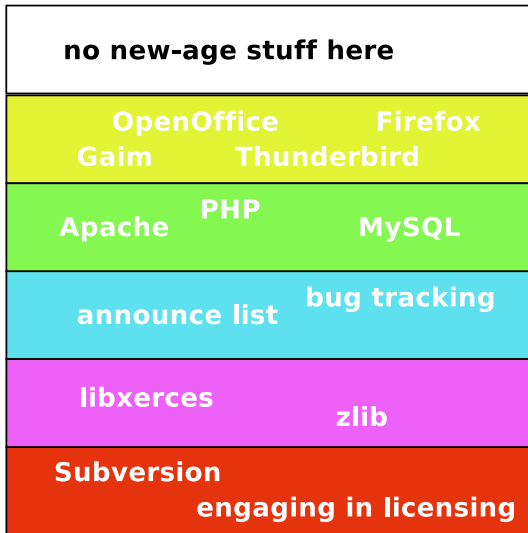
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Using

Running

Engaging

Depending

Committing

Level -1: OSS not wanted here

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Microsoft and Oracle all the way. We don't use the web.

Level 0: using OSS, but don't know it

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So you've never written a line of Perl, compiled a program using GCC, or used a Linksys router?

Level 1: using OSS in your daily life

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Web browser Firefox

Mail client Thunderbird, Evolution

Office Open Office

Desktop Linux with Gnome

Picture editing Gimp

Music Rhythmbox, XMMS, Audacity

Messaging Gaim

... oh and the wretched games ...

The desktop

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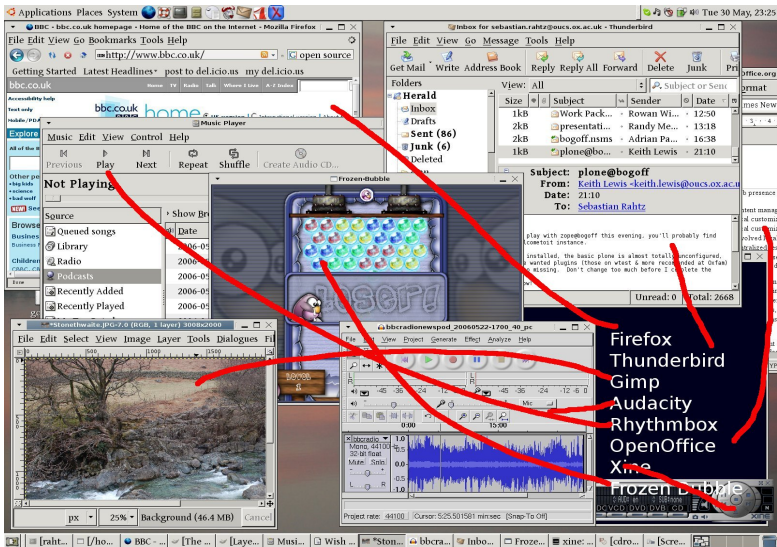
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Firefox
Thunderbird
Gimp
Audacity
Rhythmbox
OpenOffice
Xine

Frozen Bubble

Level 2: running OSS as part of your work

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How do we spend our days?

Programming Perl, Python, PHP

Web server Apache httpd

Database server MySQL

Servlet container Tomcat, JBoss

Operating system Ubuntu Linux

XSL processor xsltproc

... and so on

Level 2: running OSS as part of your work (2)

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Finding support:

- The documentation for the software.
- The person at the next desk.
- Your staff: you pay them to understand this stuff.
- The web: use Google to find information about your problem.
- The bookshop: any software worth using has a shelf-full of books about it.
- Training courses: lots of companies offer training.
- Consultants: pay a man in a suit (or with a ponytail) to come in and fix things.
- The people who wrote the software.

Level 3: engaging with an OSS project

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- Most projects will have a mailing list or a forum where questions are asked and answered.
- You have the source code: so you could ask questions about the code
- Requests and queries are often handled through tracking software.
- If you make changes to your local copy of the software, it is better to feed them back; otherwise, you will have a maintenance headache when the next release comes out.

Level 4: using OSS as part of your code

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- If you are developing code, you may find that some downloadable library of software is useful.
- If the licence permits, you can download it and use it with your code.
- As before, you may report bugs, request enhancements, or supply code to fix bugs
- Once again, if you make changes to your local copy of the library, it is better to feed them back; otherwise, you will have a maintenance headache when the next release comes out.

Level 5: contributing to an OSS project

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- A typical SourceForge project is phpMyAdmin.
- Its project page is at: `http://sourceforge.net/projects/phpmyadmin/`
- Towards the bottom left of this page you will find links pointing to other pages, including those for *Bugs*, *Feature Requests*, *Public Forums*, *Mailing Lists* and *CVS Repository*.

Sourceforge information

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The screenshot shows the SourceForge website for phpMyAdmin. The browser window title is "SourceForge.net: phpMyAdmin - Mozilla Firefox <2>". The page layout includes a navigation bar with "File", "Edit", "View", "Go", "Bookmarks", "Tools", and "Help". The main content is divided into two columns.

Left Column:

- Latest News:**
 - phpMyAdmin 2.7.0-pl1 is released** (2005-12-07)
 - phpMyAdmin 2.7.0 is released** (2005-12-04)
 - phpMyAdmin 2.7.0-rc1 is released** (2005-11-20)
- News archive »**
- Public Areas:**
 - Bugs:** (42 open / 1,907 total) Bug Tracking System
 - Support Requests:** (18 open / 812 total) Tech Support Tracking System
 - Patches:** (11 open / 281 total) Patch Tracking System
 - Feature Requests:** (192 open / 850 total) Feature Request Tracking System
 - Translations:** (4 open / 718 total) Updated Translations Tracking System
 - Themes:** (9 open / 23 total) Downloadable themes for phpMyAdmin
 - Public Forums:** (18,926 messages in 3 forums)
 - Mailing Lists:** (10 total)
 - CVS Repository:** (19,986 commits, 388 adds) Browse CVS

Right Column:

- Project Details:**
 - Project of the month for:** December 2002
 - Project Admins:** lem9, swix
 - Developers:** 8
 - Development Status:** 5 - Production/Stable
 - Intended Audience:** Developers, End Users/Desktop, System Administrators
 - License:** GNU General Public License (GPL)
 - Operating System:** OS Independent (Written in an interpreted language)
 - Programming Language:** PHP
 - Topic:** Front-Ends, Dynamic Content, Systems Administration
 - User interface:** Web-based
 - Donors:** ptaele, energydrinker, rkevinbrown
 - Project UNIX name:** phpmyadmin
 - Registered:** 2001-03-18 02:07
 - Activity Percentile (last week):** 100.00
 - View project activity statistics**
 - View list of RSS feeds available for this project**

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- Online Meetings Made Easy TRY IT FREE!**
- splunk** Download Now!

ThinkGeek advertisement: REALISTIC LIGHT & SOUND FX, MOTION SENSOR CONTROLLED SOUND FX, AUTHENTIC METAL HILT, GET IT AT ThinkGeek.

Level 5: contributing to an OSS project (2)

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- The Bugs page for phpMyAdmin is at:
`http://sourceforge.net/tracker/?atid=377408&group_id=23067&func=browse`
- SourceForge uses a request tracker system for tracking the handling of bug reports.

Sourceforge bug tracking

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SourceForge.net: Bugs - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

[phpMyAdmin](#)
[Donate to project](#)
[Stats](#)
[RSS](#)

[Summary](#) | [Admin](#) | [Home Page](#) | [Forums](#) | [Tracker](#) | [Themes](#) | [Translations](#) | [Bugs](#) | [Support Requests](#) | [Patches](#) | [Feature Requests](#) | [Mail](#) | [Tasks](#) | [Screenshots](#) | [News](#) | [CVS](#) | [Files](#)

[Login and Submit New](#) | [Browse](#) | [Admin](#) | [Search](#)

Assignee: (?) Status: (?) Category: (?) Group: (?)

Any Open Any Any

Show only: Submitter username: Summary keyword:

Sort By: (?) ID Descending Browse

Fixed bugs remain listed as 'open' bugs with a priority of '1', as long as no new release has been made with the fixes in it. The developers add a prefix like '(in 2.6.0)' to indicate in which version this bug is fixed. To see if a bug still exists in current snapshots, take a look at the 'Resolution' status of that item.

Request ID	Summary	Open Date	Priority	Assigned To	Submitted By
1377215	Tons of errors with E_STRICT	2005-12-09 08:30	5	nobody	nijel
1376522	Does not find newly created config	2005-12-08 11:02	5	nobody	nijel
1376391	(in 2.7.1) Can not select insert as new row	2005-12-08 07:55	1	nijel	nijel
1376314	cant create a new table (no privs)	2005-12-08 06:24	5	lem9	lmfsilva
1375755	CREATE TABLE doesn't reload left frame	2005-12-07 14:33	5	nobody	nijel
1375752	Wrong page after insert	2005-12-07 14:31	5	nobody	nijel
1375387	(in 2.7.1) Invalid Table selected on db change	2005-12-07 06:56	1	cybot_tm	zotteltier_de

Level 5: developing an OSS project

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- The final commitment is when you release your own software under an open source licence.
- You provide the ability for people to download the software, to report bugs, to request enhancements, to supply patches and to provide the means for others to alter the code.
- If you do not want to provide all the supporting infrastructure yourself, your project could be hosted at SourceForge.

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- 1 What is open source software? (again)
- 2 The licensing conditions for OSS
- 3 Criteria of the Open Source Definition
- 4 The Open Source Definition
- 5 The Big Five
- 6 Does any of this impact me as a casual user/deployer?
- 7 Licence mingling

What is open source software? (again)

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Open source software is software for which:

- the **source code is available** to the end-user;
- the source code **can be modified** by the end-user;
- the **licensing** conditions are intended to **facilitate** continued **re-use** and wide availability of the software, in both commercial and non-commercial contexts;
- the **cost** of acquisition to the end-user is **often minimal**.

The licensing conditions for OSS

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- There is a body called the *Open Source Initiative*.
- <http://www.opensource.org/>
- This body maintains the Open Source Definition (OSD).
- This is a list of ten criteria for a licence to pass for it to be an *open source licence*.
- The OSI's website gives the details of 58 OSI-certified licences.
- So *open source software* is software released under a licence that has been certified by the Open Source Initiative.

The licensing conditions for OSS (2)

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- The OSI is **not** a legislative body.
- Instead, its authority resides entirely in the fact that the open source community
 - recognizes it as the maintainer of the Open Source Definition (OSD);
 - is willing to participate in the OSI certification process;
 - has not set up a viable alternative.

Criteria of the Open Source Definition

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- free redistribution
- source code
- derived works
- integrity of the author's source code
- no discrimination against persons or groups
- no discrimination against fields of endeavour
- distribution of licence
- licence must not be specific to a product
- licence must not restrict other software
- licence must be technology-neutral

The Big Five

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The Big Five (2)

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- The licences that are most often used are:
 - The GNU General Public License
 - The GNU Lesser General Public License
 - The Modified BSD License
 - The Apache License v2
 - The Mozilla Public License
- The OSS Watch site has briefing notes on each of these licences.
- For more details, go to `http://www.oss-watch.ac.uk/resources/ipr.xml`
- If you are wanting to work out which licence to use, look at these briefing notes.

Does any of this impact me as a casual user/deployer?

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If you stay as a pure user, no (i.e., there are no aspects of the licence that need concern you).

But if you plan to:

- redistribute software;
- integrate the software with your own systems;
- fix problems with the software;

you are bound by the licence you got with the software.

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- What happens if you produce open source software that uses more than one piece of open source software?
- It would be nice if all open source software could be combined without restriction to produce new open source software.
- Unfortunately this is not the case.
- It depends on the licences being used.
- **Two licences which each meet the requirements of the Open Source Definition . . .**
- **. . . may nevertheless contain terms which make them incompatible with each other.**

Developing using open source

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So is open source for real, and for you?

What challenges do open source projects face?

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Projects *tend* to start small, and often go in one of seven directions:

- stay small: **remains a nerd tool**
- gather users but no new developers: **frustrated users**
- fragment when primary leader loses interest:
unattractive for new people
- develop power but with minimal documentation:
no way to find the power
- grow within an expert community:
high price for admission
- go commercial: **stops being 'free'**
- simply die

The usual panacea is **'you need to build a community'**

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it's for **you**

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Summary

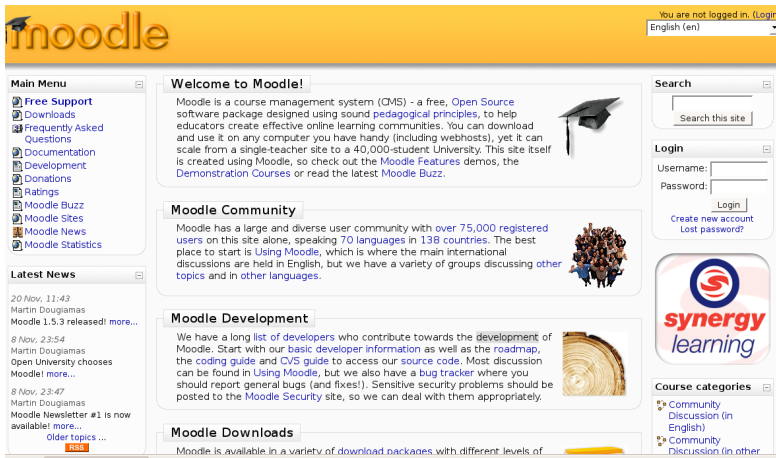
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The screenshot shows the Moodle website homepage. At the top, there's a yellow header with the Moodle logo (a graduation cap and the word 'moodle' in orange). To the right of the logo, it says 'You are not logged in. (Login English (en))'. Below the header, the page is divided into several sections:

- Main Menu:** A list of links including Free Support, Downloads, Frequently Asked Questions, Documentation, Development, Donations, Ratings, Moodle Buzz, Moodle Sites, Moodle News, and Moodle Statistics.
- Welcome to Moodle!** A central section with a graduation cap icon. It describes Moodle as a free, Open Source software package designed using sound pedagogical principles, to help educators create effective online learning communities. It mentions that Moodle can scale from a single-teacher site to a 40,000-student University.
- Moodle Community:** A section with a group of people icon. It states that Moodle has a large and diverse user community with over 75,000 registered users on this site alone, speaking 70 languages in 138 countries. It mentions that the best place to start is Using Moodle.
- Moodle Development:** A section with a tree trunk icon. It mentions a long list of developers who contribute towards the development of Moodle. It starts with our basic developer information as well as the roadmap, the coding guide and CVS guide to access our source code. It mentions that most discussion can be found in Using Moodle, but we also have a bug tracker where you should report general bugs (and fixes!). Sensitive security problems should be posted to the Moodle Security site, so we can deal with them appropriately.
- Moodle Downloads:** A section at the bottom with a download icon. It mentions that Moodle is available in a variety of download packages with different levels of...
- Latest News:** A section on the left with a list of recent news items, including 'Moodle 1.5.3 released' and 'Open University chooses Moodle! more...'. It also includes a link to 'Older topics ...'.
- Search:** A search bar on the right side of the page.
- Login:** A login form on the right side of the page with fields for Username and Password, and a Login button. It also includes links for 'Create new account' and 'Lost password?'.
- synergy learning:** A logo for synergy learning on the right side of the page.
- Course categories:** A section on the right side of the page with a list of course categories, including 'Community Discussion (in English)' and 'Community Discussion (in other...)'.

More pragmatically

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Apache Projects

- [HTTP Server](#)
- [Ant](#)
- [APR](#)
- [Beehive](#)
- [Cocoon](#)
- [DB](#)
- [Directory](#)
- [Excalibur](#)
- [Forrest](#)
- [Geronimo](#)
- [Gump](#)
- [IBatis](#)
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- [Incubator](#)
- [Jakarta](#)
- [James](#)
- [Lerna](#)
- [Lucene](#)
- [Maven](#)
- [MyFaces](#)
- [Perl](#)
- [Portals](#)
- [SpamAssassin](#)
- [Struts](#)
- [TCL](#)
- [Tomcat](#)
- [Web Services](#)
- [XML](#)
- [XMLBeans](#)
- [XML Graphics](#)

Apache-wide

- [Conferences](#)

Welcome!

The Apache Software Foundation provides support for the Apache community of open-source software projects. The Apache projects are characterized by a collaborative, consensus based development process, an open and pragmatic software license, and a desire to create high quality software that leads the way in its field. We consider ourselves not simply a group of projects sharing a server, but rather a community of developers and users.

Support the Apache Software Foundation

You are invited to participate in The Apache Software Foundation. Our [membership](#) consists of those individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative open-source software development through sustained participation and contributions within the Foundation's projects. Of course, you can contribute to the foundation in many ways:

[Buy Apache Gear](#) [Donate your old car](#) [Donate via PayPal](#) [Support FAQ](#)

Latest News

If you would like to keep up with news and announcements from the foundation and all its projects, you can subscribe to the new [Apache Announcements List](#).

Make plans for ApacheCon US 2005 in San Diego

Remember that [ApacheCon US 2005](#) will be held in San Diego, California on December 10-14, 2005. ApacheCon US will offer a wide spectrum of top-quality sessions, as well as two days with full- and half-day tutorials. [Please make plans to join us in San Diego.](#)

Request for Proposals for System Administrators

The Apache Software Foundation is [seeking proposals to help us document, automate, and maintain our systems for a three-month term](#). Proposals for longer-term maintenance may be solicited later. This is a paid position with a deadline for submissions of December 2.

Farewell to Nicolas Chalumeau

Foundation

- [FAQ](#)
- [Licenses](#)
- [Public Records](#)
- [Donations](#)
- [Thanks](#)
- [Contact](#)

News

- [Conferences](#)
- [Other Events](#)

How it works

- [Introduction](#)
- [Meritocracy](#)
- [Structure](#)
- [Roles](#)
- [Collaboration](#)
- [Infrastructure](#)
- [Incubator](#)
- [Other entities](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [Voting](#)

Get Involved

- [Mailing Lists](#)
- [Version Control](#)
- [Developer Info](#)

Download

- [from a mirror](#)

Types of open source communities

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- Developers who want to work on a shared project
- Users of software who want to get better results from it
- A community with a problem which is solved by software
- Programmers who find it gets software developed faster
- A procedural infrastructure to provide long-term stability

Communities of practice

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- informal networks that emerge from a desire to work more effectively or to understand work more deeply among members of a particular speciality or work group.
- small groups of people who've worked together over a period of time and through extensive communication have developed a common sense of purpose and a desire to share work-related knowledge and experience.
- communities of apprentices where newcomers learn by gradually going from peripheral participation to full participation in the community.

Caveats on the nature of communities

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- there are **communities of users** and **communities of developers**
- what differentiates open source communities from user groups?
- how are they different from advocacy groups?
- what about open content groups like Wikipedia
- is community the only way of developing good software?
- you can't control the community because of the OSI licence
- can you have several communities for the same bit of software?

Community tensions

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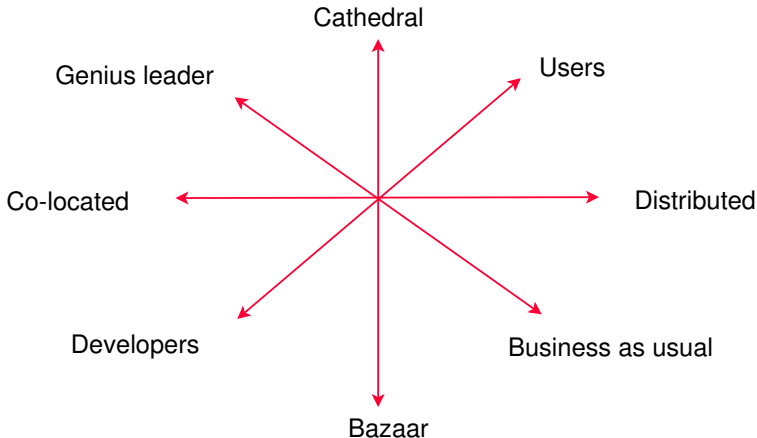
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Shining examples of community

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Apache web server (etc) a technical strategy; formal democratic management; enviable reputation for quality

Firefox web browser Committed non-technical evangelists and plugin writers

uPortal portal framework shared development between academia and business

Debian Linux Articulated policies and procedures; no prima donna leaders

Moodle VLE a community of **teachers** which merges seamlessly into developers; charismatic leadership; self-hosting

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A free Linux distribution:

- multi-architecture (11 architectures)
- very large (1000 developers, 10000 packages)
- volunteers (although some do it as part of their real job)
- distributed (Europe, America, some Australia, not much in Asia or China). European developers seem to tend towards being loner volunteers, in US people are from companies

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documents

- Debian Social Contract; Debian wants to move to a social contract which says "free" not "free software"
- policy documents
- developers reference

forums

- IRC for direct access, good for answers
- mailing lists (100+, covering user, developer, announce), good for discussion
- bug tracking system, for archiving
- developer web portal
- package tracking system
- face-to-face meetings, eg at conferences

Debian constitution and officers

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- developers
- technical committee (meritocracy, appointed but not removeable; resolves technical disputes)
- project secretary (handles votes)
- project leader (yearly election by developers; talks at meetings, represents Debian, talks to companies, motivates people, coordinates work)
- delegates (appointed by leader to do a job)
- release manager
- teams: release, ftp masters, web, new maintainer, ports, security, publicity
- users reach consensus on decisions, on mail lists
- Software in the Public Interest (SPI). US non-profit which owns trademark, holds money, does legal matters

How does Moodle work?

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Moodle is a benevolent dictatorship. Some characteristics:

- Over 4000 registered Moodle sites
- Moodle is entirely self-hosting
- There are support forums in many languages
- <http://moodle.com> offers commercial support through Moodle Partners
- Partners pay royalties to The Moodle Trust to further Moodle development

General community developer rôles

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The visionary has the Big Idea & makes the long-term decisions

The leader makes the medium-term decisions

The programmer implements the functionality and makes the short-term decisions

The tester finds the bugs

The apprentice programmer fixes the bugs

The documentor writes the manual

The communicator tells other people how good it all is

The distributor packages it up for new users to try

How many of these rôles can safely be filled by one person?

Characterizing development communities

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Many open source software development groups have common characteristics:

- small groups of people who have worked together over a period of time and have developed a common sense of purpose
- communities of apprentices where newcomers learn by gradually going from peripheral participation to full participation
- collective understanding of the community by its members and accountability to each other
- shared repertoire of languages, tools, artefacts, etc, produced by the community.

Requirements for a formal community

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- named rôles
- written rules (remember the OSI licence)
- communication channels
- discouragement of dissent
- leadership
- legalities, copyright etc

Top tip: start with your web presence

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1 Tell people in a **simple**, summary, way what you are up to:

- This is what the software is supposed to do
- This is who it is aimed at
- There are its main features
- These are the main software or other dependencies
- Here are some screen shots
- This is the developer community
- Here are **licence**, **download** and **install** instructions

to have a nice mixed community

Some people don't want to encourage you

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The Linux Kernel Archives

Welcome to the Linux Kernel Archives. This is the primary site for the Linux kernel source, but it has much more than just Linux kernels.

Protocol	Location
HTTP	http://www.kernel.org/pub/
FTP	ftp://ftp.kernel.org/pub/
RSYNC	rsync://rsync.kernel.org/pub/

The latest stable version of the Linux kernel is:	2.6.14.3	2005-11-24 22:15 UTC	F V VI C Changelog
The latest prepatch for the stable Linux kernel tree is:	2.6.15-rc5	2005-12-04 06:02 UTC	V VI C Changelog
The latest snapshot for the stable Linux kernel tree is:	2.6.15-rc5-git1	2005-12-05 08:01 UTC	V VI C Changelog
The latest 2.4 version of the Linux kernel is:	2.4.32	2005-11-16 19:13 UTC	F V VI C Changelog
The latest 2.2 version of the Linux kernel is:	2.2.26	2004-02-25 00:28 UTC	F V VI C Changelog
The latest prepatch for the 2.2 Linux kernel tree is:	2.2.27-rc2	2005-01-12 23:55 UTC	V VI C Changelog
The latest 2.0 version of the Linux kernel is:	2.0.40	2004-02-08 07:13 UTC	F V VI C Changelog
The latest ac patch to the stable Linux kernels is:	2.6.11-ac7	2005-04-11 18:36 UTC	V VI C Changelog
The latest mm patch to the stable Linux kernels is:	2.6.15-rc5-mm1	2005-12-05 06:51 UTC	V VI C Changelog

F = full source, V = view patch, VI = view incremental, C = current [changelogs](#)
Changelogs are provided by the kernel authors directly. Please don't write the webmaster about them.
[Customize the patch viewer](#)



Some people really want to establish a technological lead

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Welcome to LAMS

About LAMS

LAMS is a revolutionary new tool for designing, managing and delivering online collaborative learning activities. It provides teachers with a highly intuitive visual authoring environment for creating sequences of learning activities. These activities can include a range of individual tasks, small group work and whole class activities based on both content and collaboration.

If you want to trial LAMS, click [here](#) to get an account on one of our demonstration servers.

About LAMS International

LAMS International is the organisation that provides a range of services built around the LAMS software. These services include; technical support, hosting, training, integration and software development.

Click [here](#) for more information about these services.

Latest news

LAMS International is pleased to announce that we have been accredited to supply two innovative LAMS-based products under the Curriculum Online eLC initiative. LAMS eLC provides a library of digital lesson plans aligned to the National Curriculum that can be purchased by government schools in Britain using eLC's. For more information on the LAMS eLC Scheme click [here](#).

For further information on the Curriculum Online eLC initiative click on the logo.

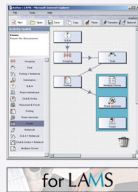


LAMS has announced the release of a new version of the software - V1.0.2. Complementing this release are three LMS integrations, a suite of new services and support contracts from LAMS International, and the announcement that LAMS International has joined the Moodle Partner network to help support combined Moodle/LAMS installations. [more...](#)

Press Releases

10/11/2005 LAMS announces new version, LMS integrations, services and Moodle Partnership

24/10/2005 Sakai and LAMS integration released



Some people are so big they don't need to describe what they do

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- Alcatel Selects MySQL Cluster for its Next-Generation Telecom Network Products
- MySQL 5.0 Downloaded One Million Times in First Three Weeks
- MySQL 5.0 Now Available for Production Use

Articles

- Guaranteeing Data Integrity with MySQL 5.0
- MaxDB for SAP Hosting - Technical Whitepaper

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Community-building methods

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- reward contributors by acknowledgement
- communicate your vision (**Gnu ePrints implements OAI**)
- make your etiquette plan
- be open and democratic (don't make all decisions at physical meetings at the pub)
- have a good flexible infrastructure
- have an IP policy and a clear licence

Acknowledging contributors

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81178 registered Moodle users

Jump to...

Moodle » 10216 users with pictures (recent visitors are at the top)

