
Introduce Linux

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- Linux has its roots in UNIX which was developed starting in 1969
- As Bell Labs made the source code available at relatively low cost, UNIX spread quite fast in universities
- Commercial versions of UNIX were developed as well
- Later licensing issues and quarrels between UNIX vendors prevented a genuine standardization of UNIX

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Introduce Linux

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- Linux started as a study project of Linus Torvalds in 1991
- He made the source code of the kernel available under the GNU General Public License (GPL)
- Many joined the project over the Internet and Linux developed quickly
- Strictly speaking, Linux is just the operating system kernel

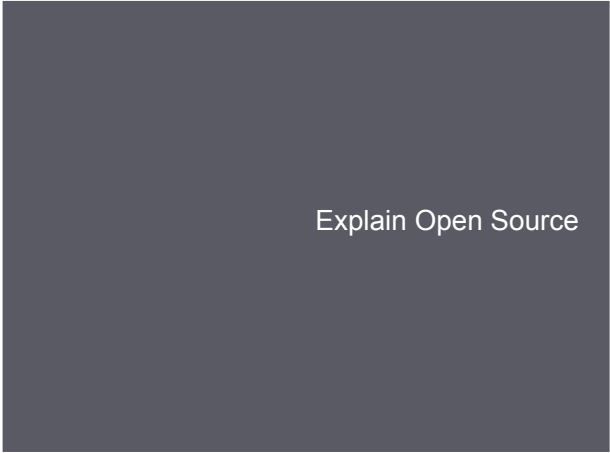
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Introduce Linux

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- Linux and large amounts of software are readily available on the Internet
- Distributors create software packages that ease Linux installation and facilitate integration of application software
- Many distributions are downloadable at no cost on the Internet
- Commercial distributors charge for the added value of hard- and software certifications, maintenance and support

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Explain Open Source

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- Open Source Software (OSS) means that the source code for a program is available, not only the compiled program.
- The opposite is closed source software, where the vendor only publishes the compiled program and keeps the source code as a trade secret.
- Sometimes OSS is also referred to as free software. This means that the source code is free for others to read and learn from it. It does not necessarily mean no cost, although this is often the case too.

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Explain Open Source

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- Open Source Software is copyrighted as any other software.
- The rules and regulations allowing distribution and modification are detailed in the accompanying license
- The best known OSS license is the GNU General Public License (GPL), but there are others as well
- The licenses state under which circumstances the software may be modified, whether modifications need to be published as Open Source Software, and similar issues

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