Software Heritage

key infrastructure for Open Science and Software Science

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Software Heritage

THE GREAT LIBRARY OF SOURCE CODE

Hello!

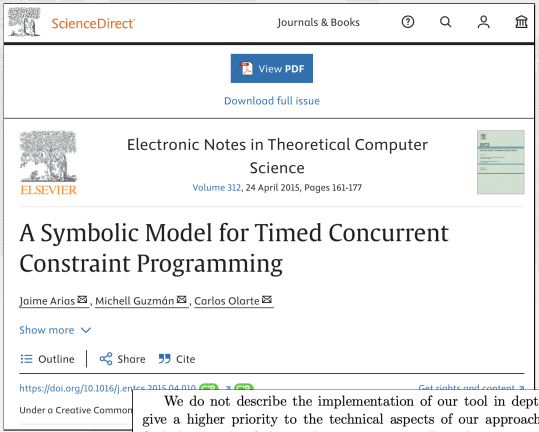
I am **Jaime Arias**

- CNRS Research Engineer @ LIPN
- Member @ Collège Codes Sources et Logiciels
- Ambassador @ Software Heritage

You can find me at:

arias@lipn.fr
https://www.jaime-arias.fr

TL;DR



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ELSEVIER

Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science

Volume 312, 24 April 2015, Pages 161-177

A Symbolic Model for Timed Concurrent Constraint Programming

Jaime Arias ✉, Michell Guzmán ✉, Carlos Olarte ✉

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We do not describe the implementation of our tool in depth here in order to give a higher priority to the technical aspects of our approach. The reader can find the details of the implementation as well as the execution of the examples described in this paper at http://www.labri.fr/perso/jarias/symbolicMC.

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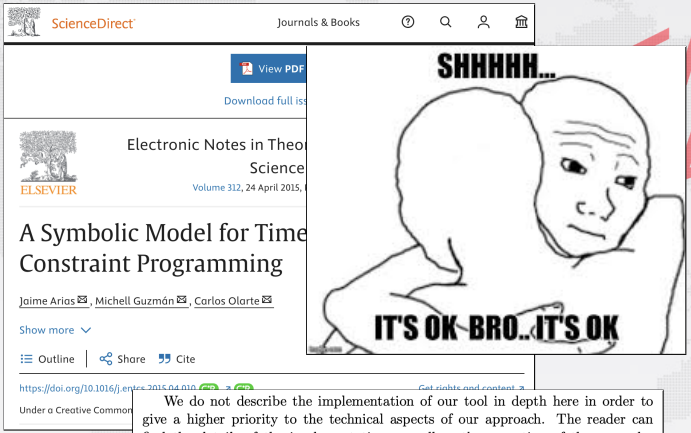

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Outline

Software *source code* is precious knowledge

Apollo 11 source code (excerpt)

```
P63SPOT3        CA      BIT6            # IS THE LR ANTENNA IN POSITION 1 YET
                EXTEND
                RAND    CHAN33
                EXTEND
                BZF     P63SPOT4        # BRANCH IF ANTENNA ALREADY IN POSITION 1

                CAF     CODE500         # ASTRONAUT:    PLEASE CRANK THE
                TC      BANKCALL        #               SILLY THING AROUND
                CADR    GOPERF1
                TCF     GOTOPOOH        # TERMINATE
                TCF     P63SPOT3        # PROCEED       SEE IF HE'S LYING

P63SPOT4        TC      BANKCALL        # ENTER         INITIALIZE LANDING RADAR
                CADR    SETPOS1

                TC      POSTJUMP        # OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD ...
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Quake III source code (excerpt)

```
float Q_rsqrt( float number )
{
    long i;
    float x2, y;
    const float threehalfs = 1.5F;

    x2 = number * 0.5F;
    y = number;
    i = * ( long * ) &y; // evil floating point bit level hacking
    i = 0x5f3759df - ( i >> 1 ); // what the fuck?
    y = * ( float * ) &i;
    y = y * ( threehalfs - ( x2 * y * y ) ); // 1st iteration
// y = y * ( threehalfs - ( x2 * y * y ) ); // 2nd iteration, this
can be removed

    return y;
}
```

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"Programs must be written for people to read, and only incidentally for machines to execute."

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Sonatype Survey 2017

80% to 90% of a new application is … just to **reuse**!

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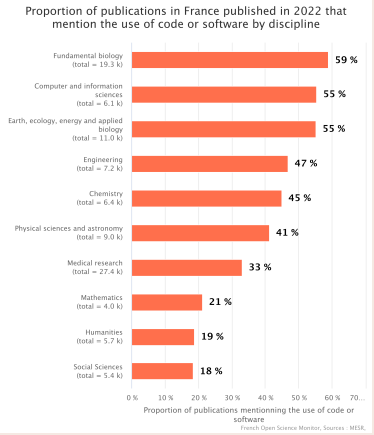
Art. L. 112-2 du Code de la Propriété Intellectuelle 1994

"Sont considérés notamment comme œuvres de l'esprit au sens du présent code: …
13o «Les logiciels, y compris le matériel de conception préparatoire»; … "

Software is a pillar of Open Science

Software powers modern research



Over 20% of articles using software across all disciplines share it

2024 French Open Science Monitor

Source code is *special* (software is *not* data)

Software *evolves* over time

- projects may last decades
- the *development history* is key to its *understanding*

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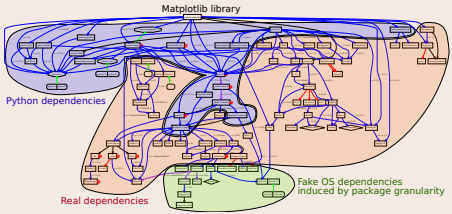
- the *development history* is key to its *understanding*

Complexity

- *millions* of lines of code
- large *web of dependencies*
  - easy to break, difficult to maintain
  - *research software* a thin top layer
- sophisticated *developer communities*



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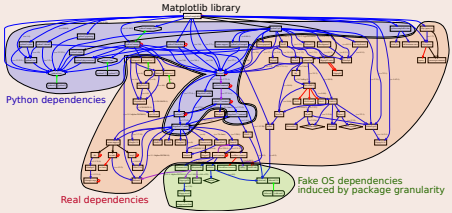


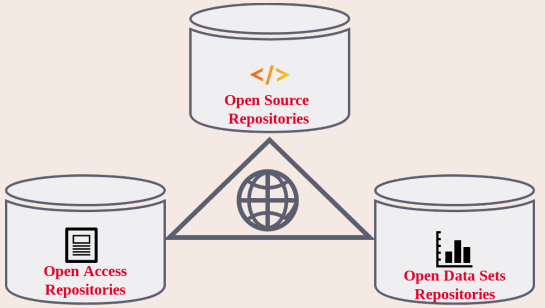
The human side

design, algorithm, code, test, documentation, community, funding

and so many more facets …

Software is a pillar of Open Science

Key pillar: software



Links are important

Nota Bene

software may be a *tool*, a *research outcome* and a *research object*

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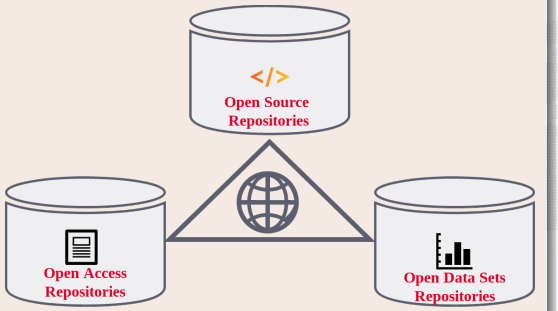

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software may be a *tool*, a *research outcome* and a *research object*

access to the *source code* is essential!

Preserving (the history of) source code is necessary for *reproducibility*

Fundamental needs for software in Open Science (selection)

Archive

Research software artifacts must be properly archived

make sure we can *retrieve* them (*reproducibility*)

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make it easy to *discover* and *reuse* them (*visibility*)

Cite/Credit

Research software artifacts must be properly cited *(not the same as referenced!)*

to give *credit* to authors (*evaluation*!)

Where is the source code?

Collaborative development platforms (aka "forges")

- BitBucket, GitLab(.com), GitHub, etc.
- support for version control, issues, etc.
- example:
  - https://depot.lipn.univ-paris13.fr/cosyverif/cosydraw
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Archives

- Software Heritage
- example: archived version of biblatex-software

Archive and reference: some popular approaches that do not fit the bill

A - Since the ~~1970's~~ 1990's

.zip or .tar file on:

- ~~ftp server~~ (e.g. gnu)
- web page (example)
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B - Since the 2000's

Rely on *software forges*

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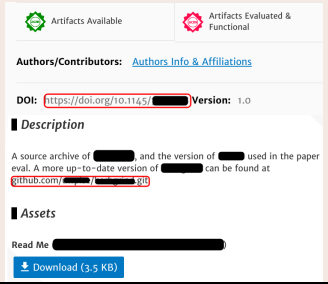

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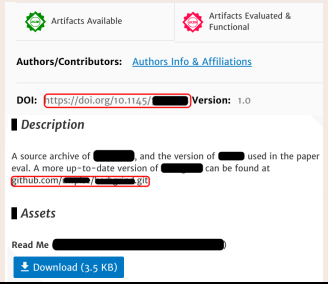

Can get no satisfaction…

A *Poor user experience*

B *No preservation guarantee*

C Can do *so much* better

Forges are *not* archives!

2015: the first big bad news

Google Code and Gitorious.org shutdown: ~1M endangered repositories

- broken links in the web of knowledge

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We need a universal archive of software source code: now we have one!

Outline

Software Heritage

THE GREAT LIBRARY OF SOURCE CODE

Collect, preserve and share *all* software source code

Preserving our heritage, enabling better software and better science for all

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Research infrastructure

enable analysis of all software source code

Sharing the vision

And many more ...

www.softwareheritage.org/support/testimonials

Sharing the vision

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

And many more ...

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The largest software archive, a shared infrastructure

One infrastructure
open and shared

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One infrastructure
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The largest archive ever built

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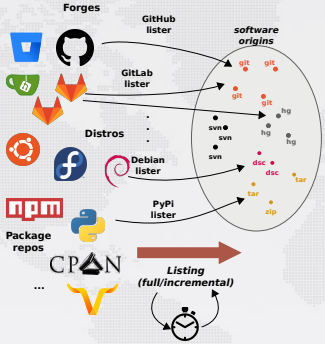
The largest archive ever built

Bitbucket		git
2,509,402 origins	56,983 origins	24,600 origins
R	debian	
26,599 origins	136,338 origins	53,297 origins
GitHub	gitiles	GitLab
197,883,004 origins	10,171 origins	4,216,298 origins
git	Gogs	GO
2,926 origins	172 origins	971,549 origins
Guix	GNU	heptapod
14,482 origins	354 origins	1,207 origins
launchpad	Maven	NixOS
503,631 origins	312,461 origins	14,482 origins

Software Heritage: a *radically different* approach to archiving



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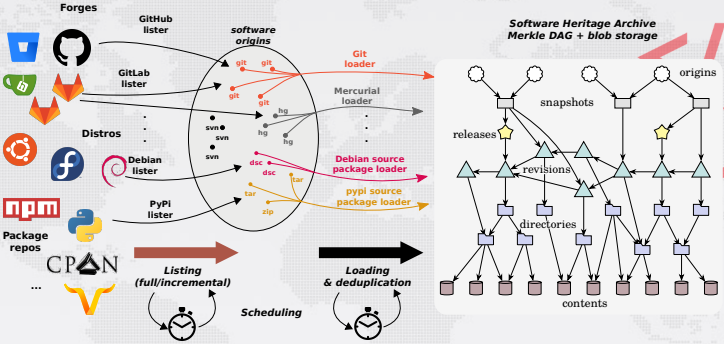

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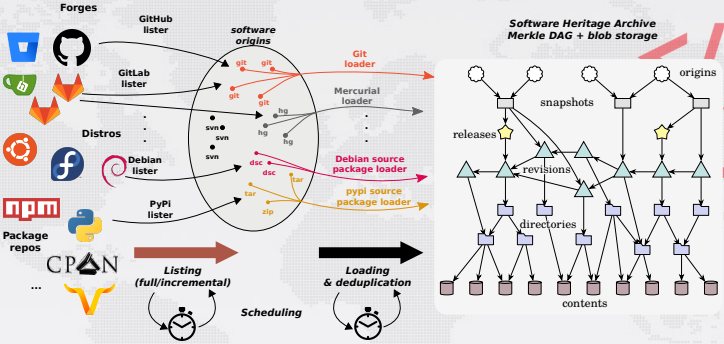


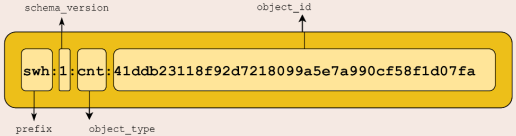
Global development history permanently archived in a uniform data model

- over 20 billion unique source files from over 300 million software projects
- ~2PB (compressed) blobs, ~50 B nodes, ~700 B edges

Software Hash Identifiers (SWHID)

see swhid.org

50+B intrinsic, decentralised, cryptographically strong identifiers, SWHIDs



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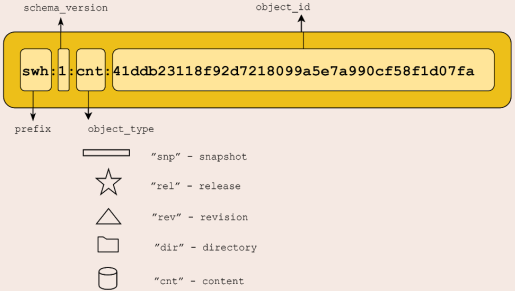

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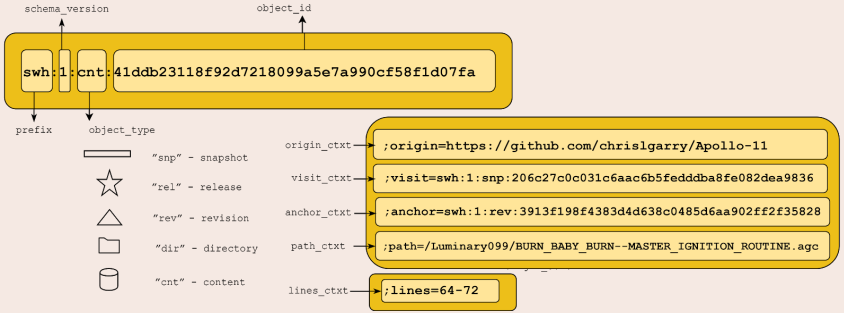

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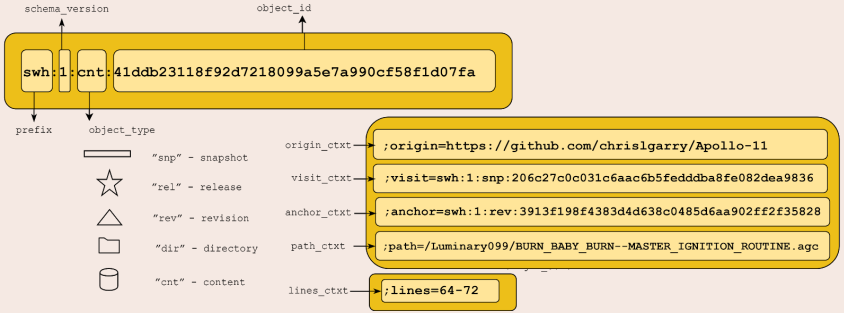

In SPDX 2.2; IANA registered "swh:"; WikiData P6138; ISO standard

Software Heritage is *radically different*, cont'd

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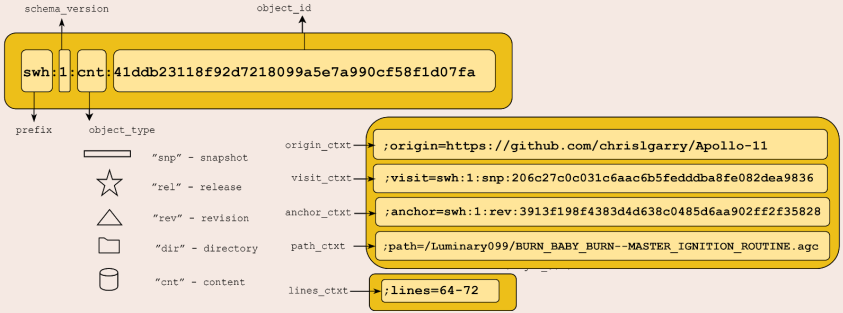

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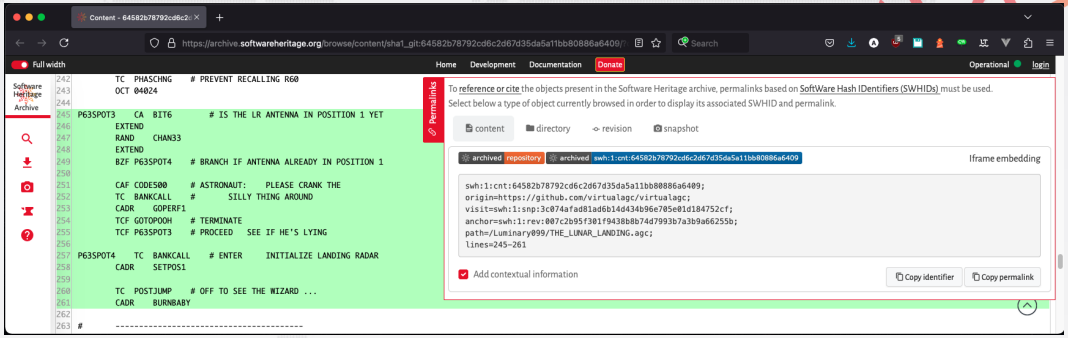
Full fledged *source code references* for traceability, integrity and reproducibility

Examples: Apollo 11 AGC, Quake III rsqrt; Guidelines available: HOWTO and ICMS 2020

Software Heritage is *radically different*, cont'd

A quick tour as a user

- designed for source code: Browse (e.g. Apollo 11 excerpt) like on a developer platform, not a document archive!



- reference source code: all granularities, using SWHIDs (full specification available online)
  - SWHIDs *guarantee integrity* like in *blockchains*

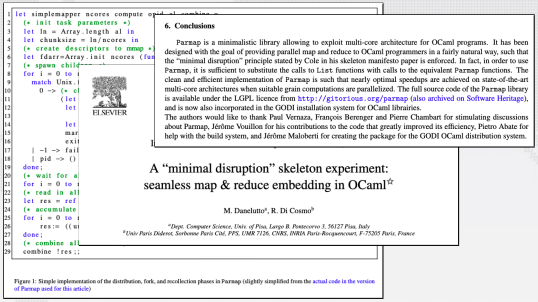


Figure: Compare Fig. 1 and conclusions in the 2012 version and the updated version

Software Heritage is *radically different*, cont'd

Getting software archived

- automated harvesting: over 290 million software origins, your researchers' work may already be there (actually, here)!

Software Heritage is *radically different*, cont'd

Getting software archived

- automated harvesting: over 290 million software origins, your researchers' work may already be there (actually, here)!
- universal archive: *all* source code from *all* platforms (BitBucket, GitHub, GitLab, your own forge, etc.)
  - trigger archival of *any code* in one click with the updateswh browser extension
  - use webhooks to automatically archive *your code* (a GitHub action is available too)
  - journals, libraries, open access portals may *deposit sourcecode and metadata*
    - Example article from IPOL
    - Example article from eLife

Outline

A walkthrough

- Browse (e.g. Imitator [excerpt], your work may be already there !)
- Trigger archival, use the updateswh browser extension, configure the webhooks
- Get and use SWHIDs (full specification available online)
- Cite software with biblatex-software package from CTAN
  - Overleaf ACMART template available
- Example in journals: article from IPOL
- Example with adt2amas: code source, archive in SWH, curated deposit in HAL
- Extracting all the software products for Inria, for CNRS, for CNES, for LIRMM or for Rémi Gribonval using HalTools
- Curated deposit in SWH via HAL, see for example: LinBox, SLALOM, Givaro, NS2DDV, SumGra, Coq proof, ...

An example of long term reproducibility for HPC

(re)create fully reproducible binaries from source… https://guix.gnu.org/

- functional package manager
- bit by bit reproductibility
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- functional package manager
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… with a focus on HPC https://hpc.guix.info/

- environment control
- support cluster deployment
- *from the source code*

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- functional package manager
- bit by bit reproductibility
- *from the source code*

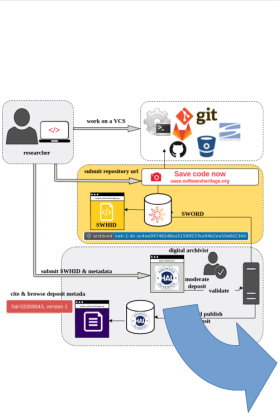
… with a focus on HPC https://hpc.guix.info/

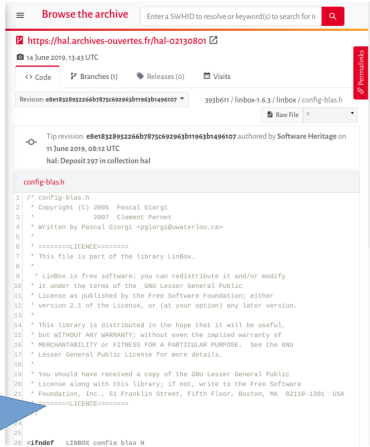
- environment control
- support cluster deployment
- *from the source code*

connection with Software Heritage

- source code *archival and identification* for `guix` and `nix`
- automatic fallback for missing sources (see experience report)

HAL and Software Heritage: building a curated software catalog





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with minimal user overhead!

Outline

Call to action: best practices for ARDC are available… today!

Archiving and referencing

For all source code used in research (*yes, even small scripts!*)

- ensure it is archived in Software Heritage (see save code now)
- get the proper SWHID for your software (see detailed HOWTO)
- add it to research articles for reproducibility (see detailed HOWTO)

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For software you want to put forward (*mention in your CV, reports, etc., get citations and credit for it*), do the following extra steps:

- add codemeta.json with description (see the codemeta generator)
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- train students, colleagues
- engage journals, conferences, learned societies

Outline

A rally flag for a grand vision

Bring together academia, industry, governments, communities

"to build a reference, global infrastructure for open and better software"

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Software Heritage is the first brick ...

- vendor neutral
- open source
- a worldwide initiative
- a long term initiative

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Software Heritage can be the *catalyser* of a way bigger undertaking

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Software Heritage can be the *catalyser* of a way bigger undertaking

You can help!

use, disseminate, contribute, build&adapt research tools, ...

Join a growing and active community

Team

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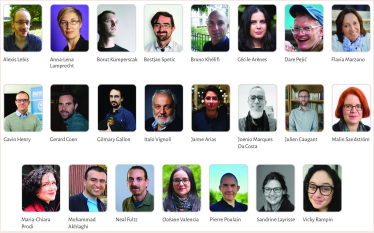
Team

Ambassadors



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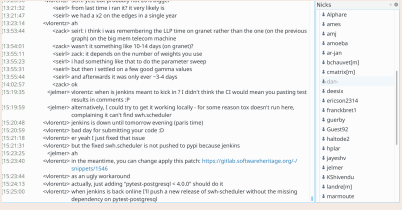
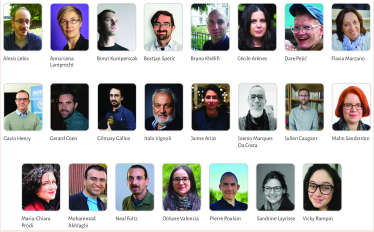
Team

Contributors to the platform



Ambassadors



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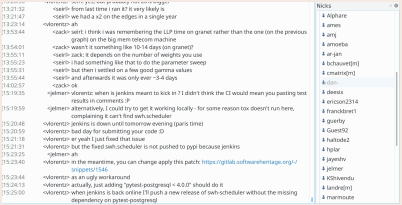

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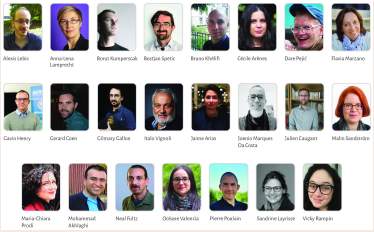

Work with us!

Big Data Development and Architecture Engineer

The Software Heritage project Software Heritage is a universal software source code archive project, whose aim is to recover, preserve for the very long term and share all publicly available source co...

March 1, 2024

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DevOps Engineer

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Fullstack Python Developer

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https://softwareheritage.org/jobs/

Report and videos

Annual report

Report and videos

Annual report

5 years in 5 minutes

Link

Report and videos

Annual report

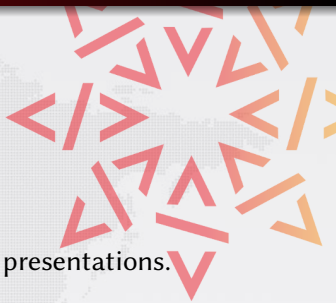
5 years in 5 minutes Link

Evolution of our codebase Link

it's a long road, but together we can make it

Thank you

Credits



This presentation reuses material from Roberto di Cosmo's presentations.