

# Software Heritage

## key infrastructure for Open Science and Software Science

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November 27, 2024



**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

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<https://www.jaime-arias.fr>



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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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Outline | Share | Cite

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.entcs.2015.04.010>

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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>.

The screenshot shows a ScienceDirect article page. At the top, there's a header with the ScienceDirect logo, a search bar, and navigation links for 'Journals & Books'. Below the header, the journal title 'Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science' is displayed, along with the volume information 'Volume 312, 24 April 2015'. The main title of the article is 'A Symbolic Model for Time Constraint Programming', authored by Jaime Arias, Michell Guzmán, and Carlos Olarte. Below the title, there are links for 'Show more', 'Outline', 'Share', and 'Cite'. The DOI is listed as <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.entcs.2015.04.010>. A note indicates the article is 'Under a Creative Commons' license. To the right of the article summary, there's a cartoon illustration of a person with their hand over their mouth, with the text 'SHHHHH...' above it. Another person is shown behind them with the text 'IT'S OK BRO.. IT'S OK' below. A red decorative border surrounds the right side of the page.

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Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science Volume 312, 24 April 2015

ELSEVIER

A Symbolic Model for Time Constraint Programming

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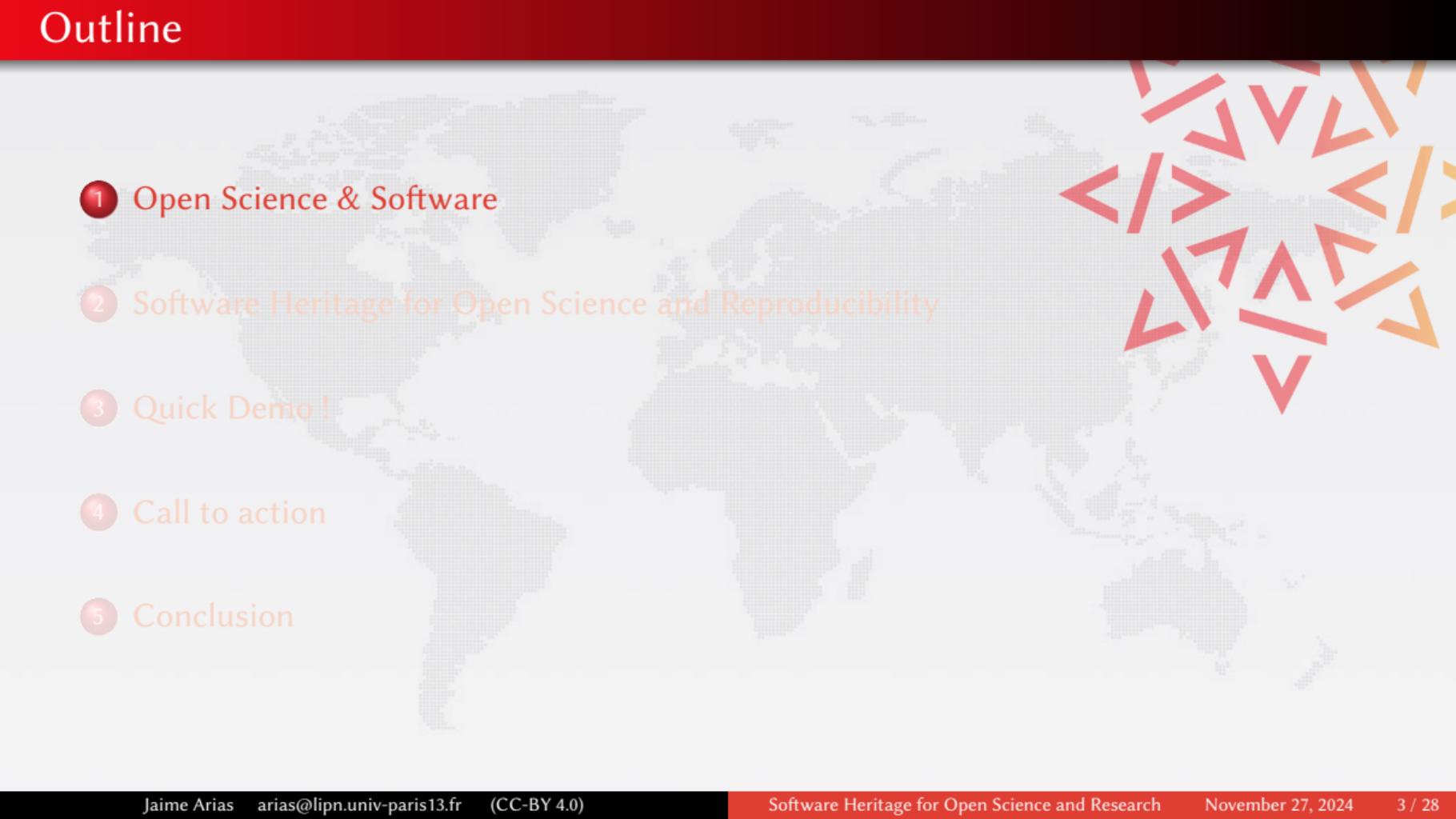
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# Outline

- 
- ① Open Science & Software
  - ② Software Heritage for Open Science and Reproducibility
  - ③ Quick Demo !
  - ④ Call to action
  - ⑤ Conclusion

# 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 ...
              CADR   BURNBABY
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## Quake III source code (excerpt)

```
float Q_rsqrt( float number )
{
    long i;
    float x2, y;
    const float threehalves = 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 * ( threehalves - ( x2 * y * y ) ); // 1st iteration
// y = y * ( threehalves - ( x2 * y * y ) ); // 2nd iteration, this
can be removed

    return y;
}
```

# Software source code is precious knowledge

Harold Abelson, Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs (1st ed.)

1985

*“Programs must be written for people to read, and only incidentally for machines to execute.”*

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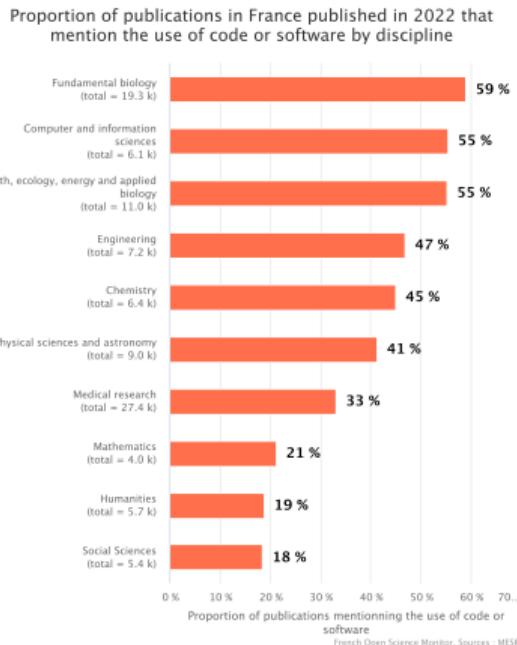
Art. L. 112-2 du Code de la Propriété Intellectuelle

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*



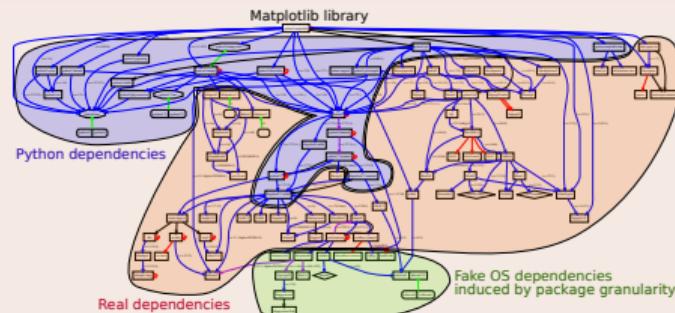
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## Complexity

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



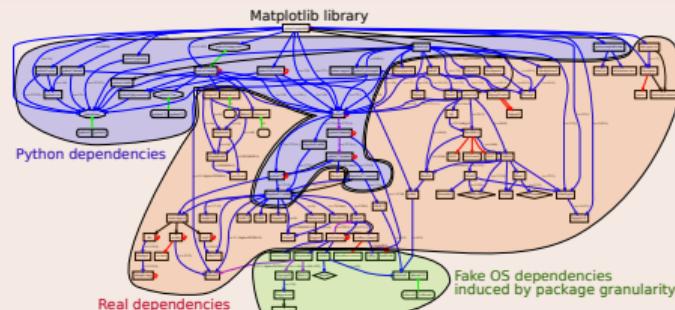
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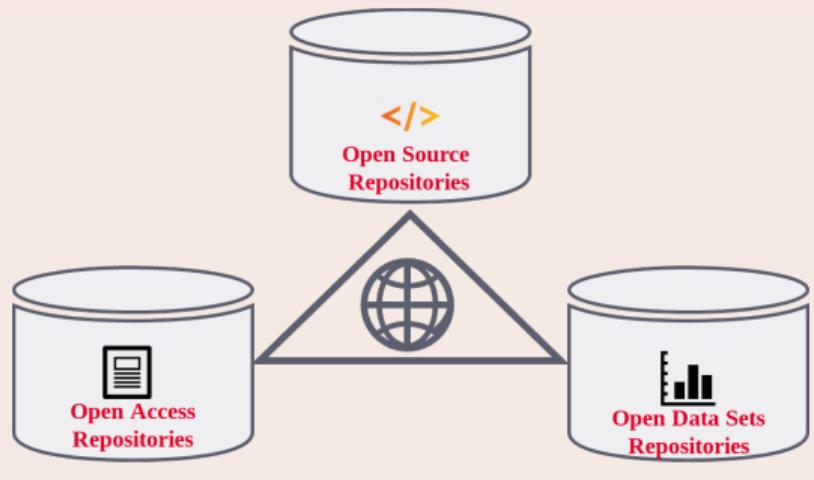
## The human side

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

and so many more facets ...

# Software is a pillar of Open Science

Key pillar: software



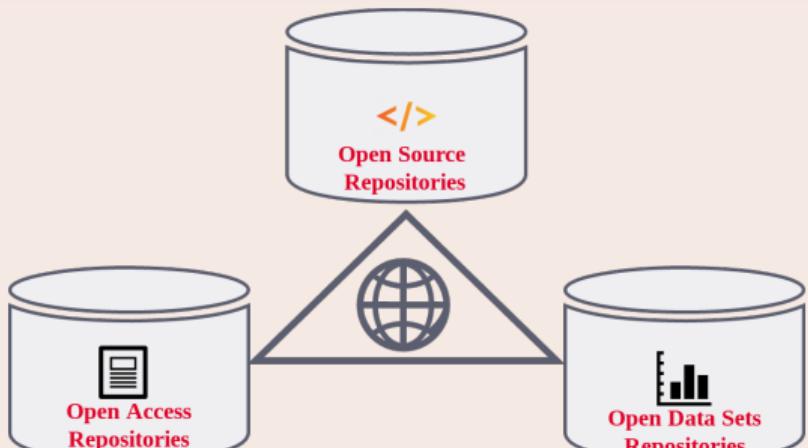
Links are **important**

Nota Bene

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

# 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*

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*)

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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

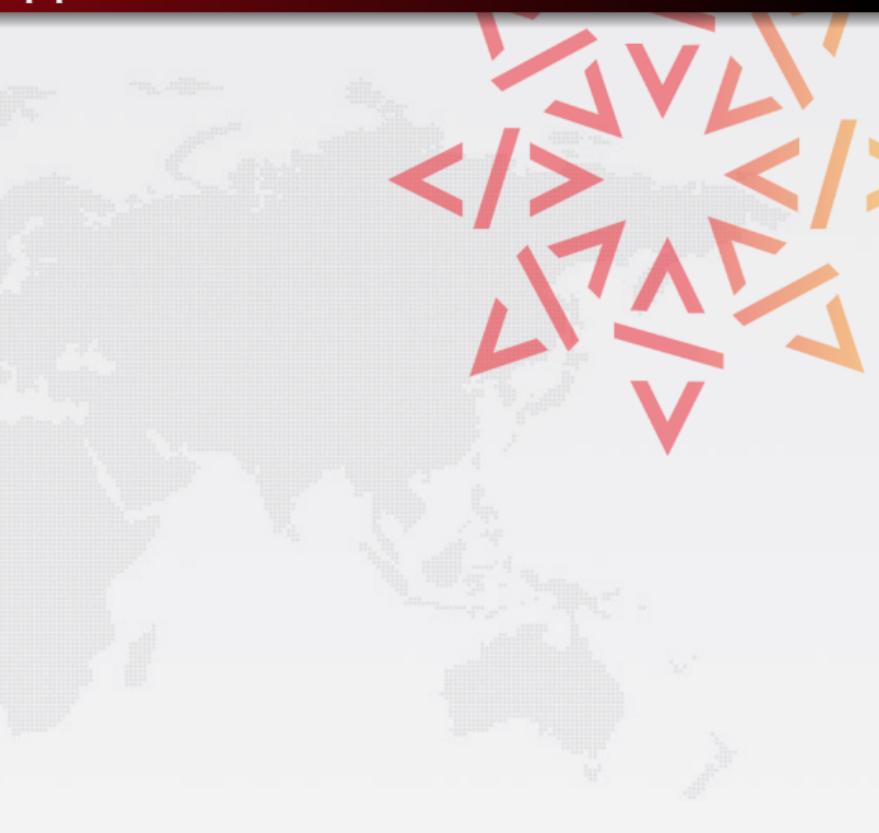
- Software Heritage
- example: [archived version of biblatex-software](#)

# 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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Rely on *software forges*

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- free commercial ones: BitBucket, GitHub, GitLab, ... (e.g. [imitator](#))

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## C: a mix of the two

The screenshot shows a digital interface for managing software artifacts. At the top, there are two status indicators: "Artifacts Available" (green icon) and "Artifacts Evaluated & Functional" (red icon). Below these are sections for "Authors/Contributors" (with a link to "Authors Info & Affiliations") and "DOI" (with a redacted URL and "Version: 1.0"). A "Description" section contains a note about a source archive and a GitHub link. Under "Assets", there is a "Read Me" link and a blue button labeled "Download (3.5 KB)".

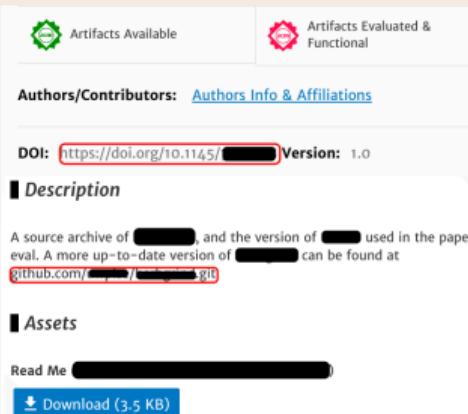
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Can get no satisfaction...

- A** *Poor user experience*
- B** *No preservation guarantee*
- C** *Can do so much better*

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2015: the first big bad news

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

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**We need a universal archive of software source code:**

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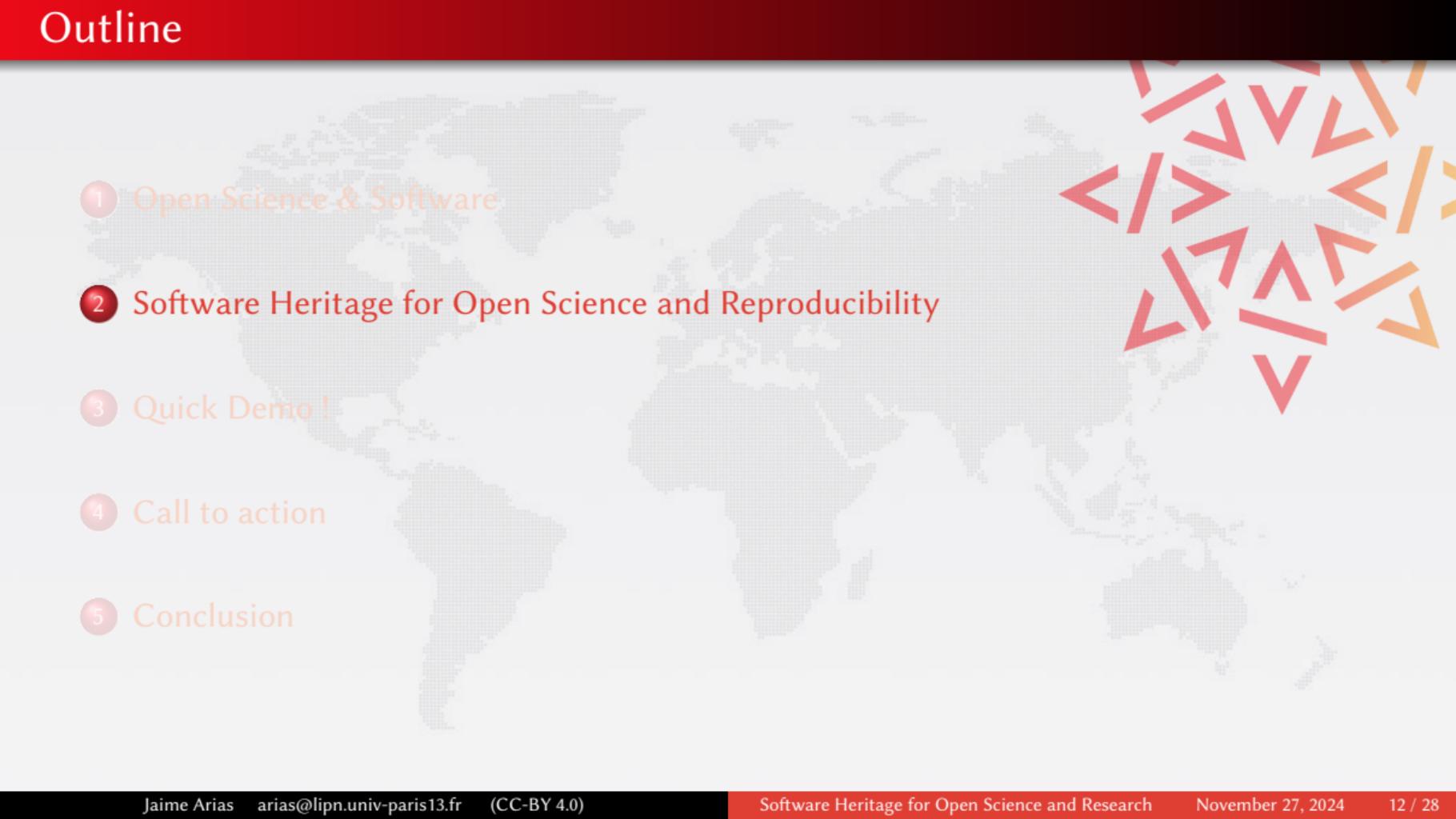
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**We need a universal archive of software source code: now we have one!**

# Outline

- 
- 1 Open Science & Software
  - 2 Software Heritage for Open Science and Reproducibility
  - 3 Quick Demo !
  - 4 Call to action
  - 5 Conclusion



# 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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## Reference catalog

Debian  
CPAN  
Sourceforge  
Maven  
Bitbucket  
GitHub  
GoogleCode  
GitLab  
CMake  
CTAN  
CRAN

**find and reference** all  
software source code



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## Reference catalog



**find and reference** all  
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## Universal archive



**preserve and share** all  
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**find** and **reference** all  
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## Universal archive

damage  
disaster  
media  
attacking  
obsolete  
dependencies  
dangling  
weird  
corruption  
storage  
reference  
deletion  
format

**preserve** and **share** all  
software source code

## Research infrastructure



**enable analysis** of all  
software source code

## Sharing the vision



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



And many more ...

[www.softwareheritage.org/support/testimonials](http://www.softwareheritage.org/support/testimonials)

## Sharing the vision



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
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Inria

Diamond sponsor



Platinum sponsors



Gold sponsors



Silver sponsors



Bronze sponsors



# The largest software archive, a shared infrastructure

One infrastructure  
open and shared



# The largest software archive, a shared infrastructure

One infrastructure  
open and shared



The largest archive ever built



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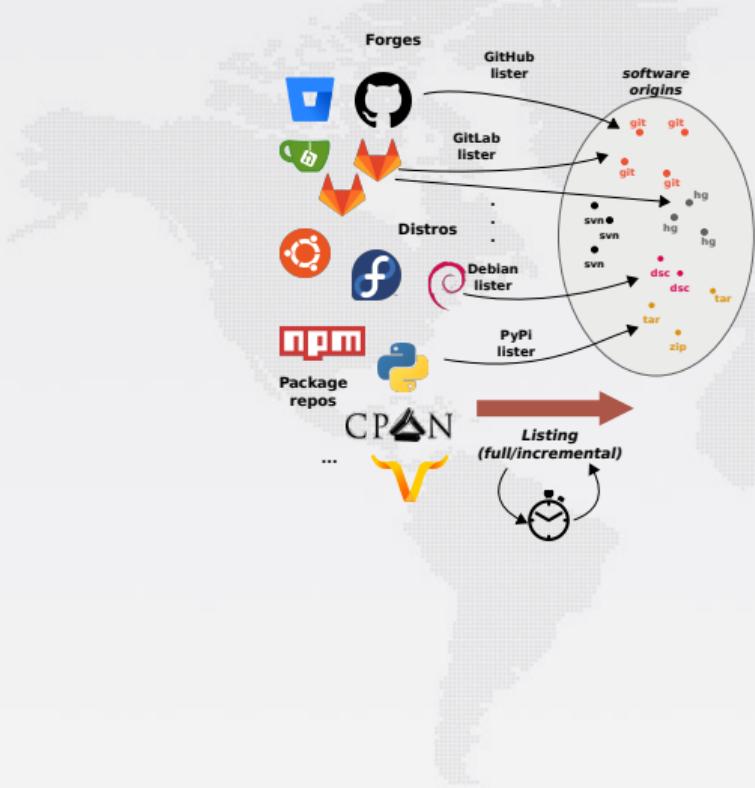


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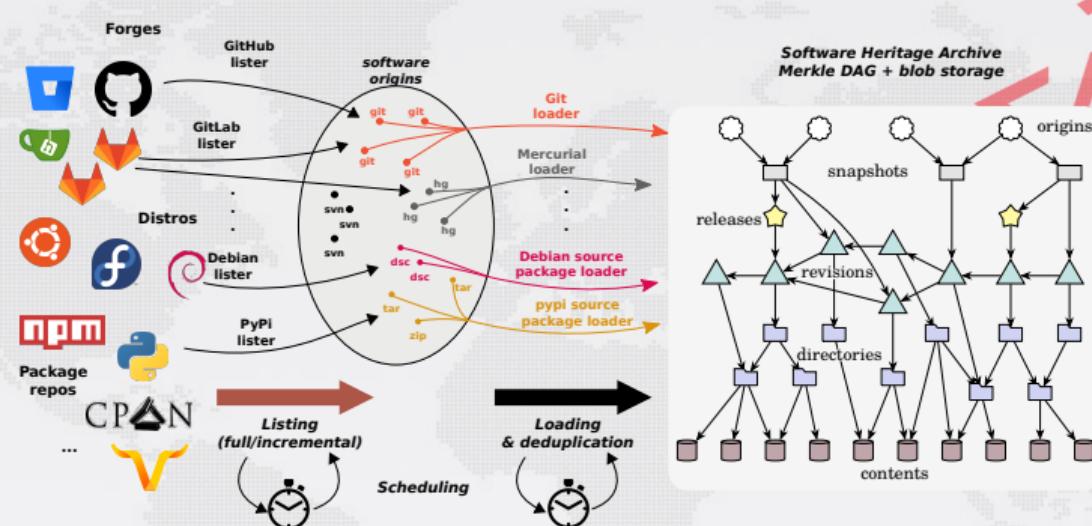


Bitbucket	56,983 origins	git
R	26,599 origins	53,297 origins
GitHub	197,883,004 origins	gitiles
+++ git	2,926 origins	GitLab
Gogs	172 origins	GO
Guix	14,482 origins	heptapod
GNU	354 origins	NixOS
launchpad	503,631 origins	Maven
	312,461 origins	
	14,482 origins	

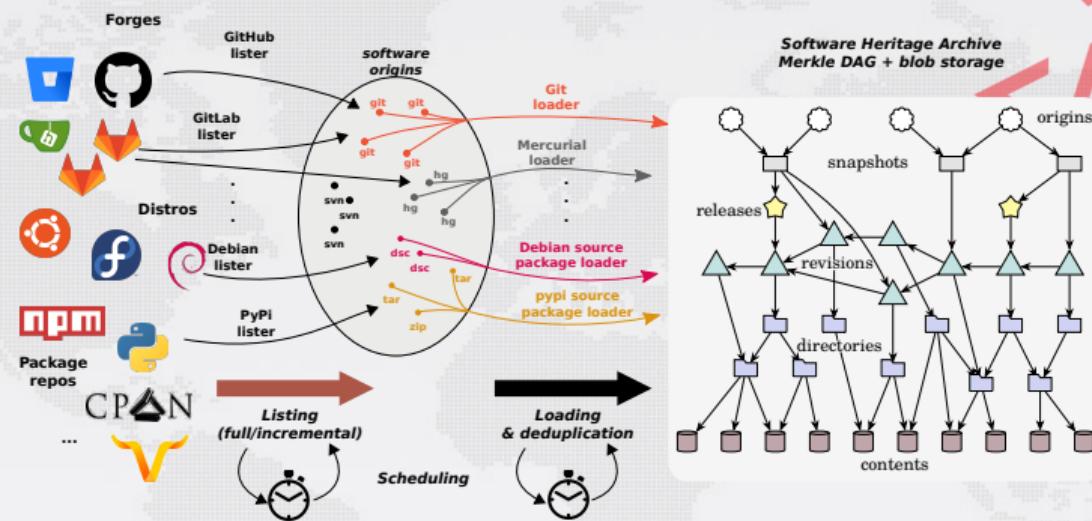
# Software Heritage: a *radically different* approach to archiving



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*Global development history* permanently archived in a **uniform data model**

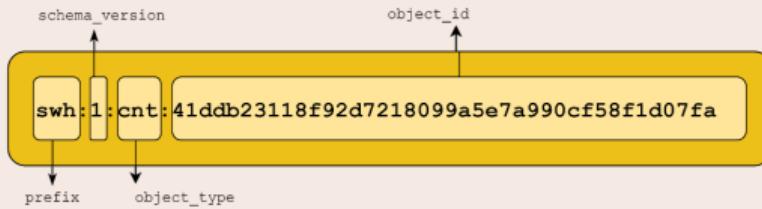
- over **20 billion** unique source files from over **300 million** software projects
- ~2PB (compressed) blobs, ~50 B nodes, ~700 B edges

# Software Heritage is *radically different*, cont'd

## Software Hash Identifiers (SWHID)

[see swhid.org](http://see.swhid.org)

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

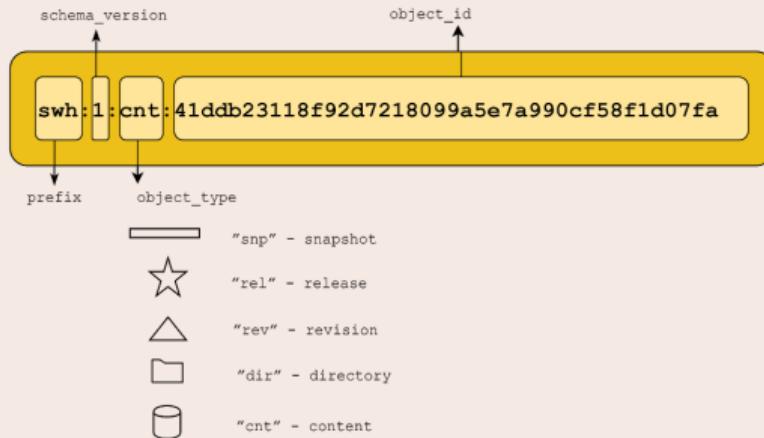


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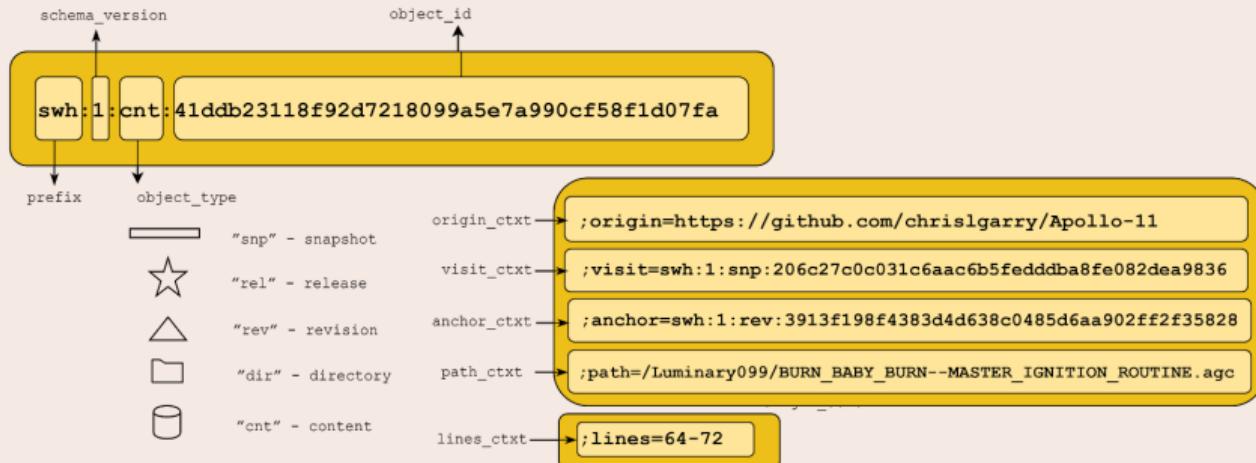


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In [SPDX 2.2](#); IANA registered "swh: "; [WikiData P6138](#); ISO standard

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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!

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a code listing from the Apollo 11 mission. The code is presented in a monospaced font, with line numbers on the left. The code itself is a series of assembly-like instructions, likely from a flight software. The browser interface includes a navigation bar with links for Home, Development, Documentation, and a prominent 'Donate' button. On the left, there's a sidebar with icons for search, download, and other functions. A red box highlights the 'Permalinks' section on the right, which contains a summary of the object being viewed, including its SWHID and a detailed description of the object type. Below this is an 'Iframe embedding' section containing the same information, with options to copy the identifier or permalink. At the bottom of the right panel, there's a checkbox for 'Add contextual information' and two buttons for 'Copy identifier' and 'Copy permalink'.

```
242 TC PHASCHNG # PREVENT RECALLING R60
243 OCT 04024
244
245 P63SPOT3 CA BIT6 # IS THE LR ANTENNA IN POSITION 1 YET
246 EXTEND
247 RAND CHAN33
248 EXTEND
249 BZF P63SPOT4 # BRANCH IF ANTENNA ALREADY IN POSITION 1
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251 CAF CODE500 # ASTRONAUT: PLEASE CRANK THE
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254 TCF GOTOPOOH # TERMINATE
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260 TC POSTJUMP # OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD ...
261 CADR BURNBABY
262
263 #
```

# Software Heritage is *radically different*, cont'd

A quick tour as a user

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

The image shows a dual-pane interface. On the left is a terminal window displaying OCaml code for a 'simplemapper' function. The code implements a map-reduce operation across multiple cores, using parallel tasks and a fork/join pattern. On the right is a PDF document titled '6. Conclusions' which discusses the design and performance of the Parmap library, highlighting its minimalist disruption principle and efficient implementation.

```
1 let simplemapper ncores compute op =
2 (* init task parameters *)
3 let In = Array.length al in
4 let ncores = In/ncores in
5 (* create descriptors to mmap *)
6 let fdarr=Array.init ncores (fun i ->
7 (* spawn child *)
8 for i = 0 to 1
9 match Unix.I
10 0 -> (* el
11 (let
12 let
13 let
14 let
15 let
16 exit
17 | -1 -> fail
18 | pid -> 0
19 done;
20 (* wait for al
21 for i = 0 to 1
22 (* read in all
23 let res = ref
24 (* accumulate
25 for i = 0 to 1
26 res:= ((u
27 done;
28 (* combine all
29 combine !res;
```

6. Conclusions

Parmap is a minimalist library allowing to exploit multi-core architecture for OCaml programs. It has been designed with the goal of providing parallel map and reduce to OCaml programmers in a fairly natural way, such that the “minimal disruption” principle stated by Cole in his skeleton manifesto paper is enforced. In fact, in order to use Parmap, it is sufficient to substitute the calls to `List` functions with calls to the equivalent Parmap functions. The clean and efficient implementation of Parmap is such that nearly optimal speedups are achieved on state-of-the-art multi-core architectures when suitable grain computations are parallelized. The full source code of the Parmap library is available under the LGPL licence from <http://gitorious.org/parmap> (also archived on Software Heritage), and is now also incorporated in the GODI OCaml distribution system.

The authors would like to thank Paul Vernaza, François Berenger and Pierre Chambart for stimulating discussions about Parmap, Jérôme Vouillon for his contributions to the code that greatly improved its efficiency, Pietro Abate for help with the build system, and Jérôme Maloberti for creating the package for the GODI OCaml distribution system.

A “minimal disruption” skeleton experiment:  
seamless map & reduce embedding in OCaml<sup>†</sup>

M. Danellutto<sup>a</sup>, R. Di Cosmo<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Dip. Computer Science, Univ. of Pisa, Largo B. Pontecorvo 3, 56127 Pisa, Italy  
<sup>b</sup>Unité Paris Diderot, Sorbonne Paris Cité, PPS, UMR 7126, CNRS, INRIA Paris-Rocquencourt, F-75205 Paris, France

Figure 1: Simple implementation of the distribution, fork, and recollection phases in Parmap (slightly simplified from the [actual code](#) is the version of Parmap used for this article)

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

## 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

- 
- 1 Open Science & Software
  - 2 Software Heritage for Open Science and Reproducibility
  - 3 Quick Demo !
  - 4 Call to action
  - 5 Conclusion

# 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 reproducibility
- *from the source code*



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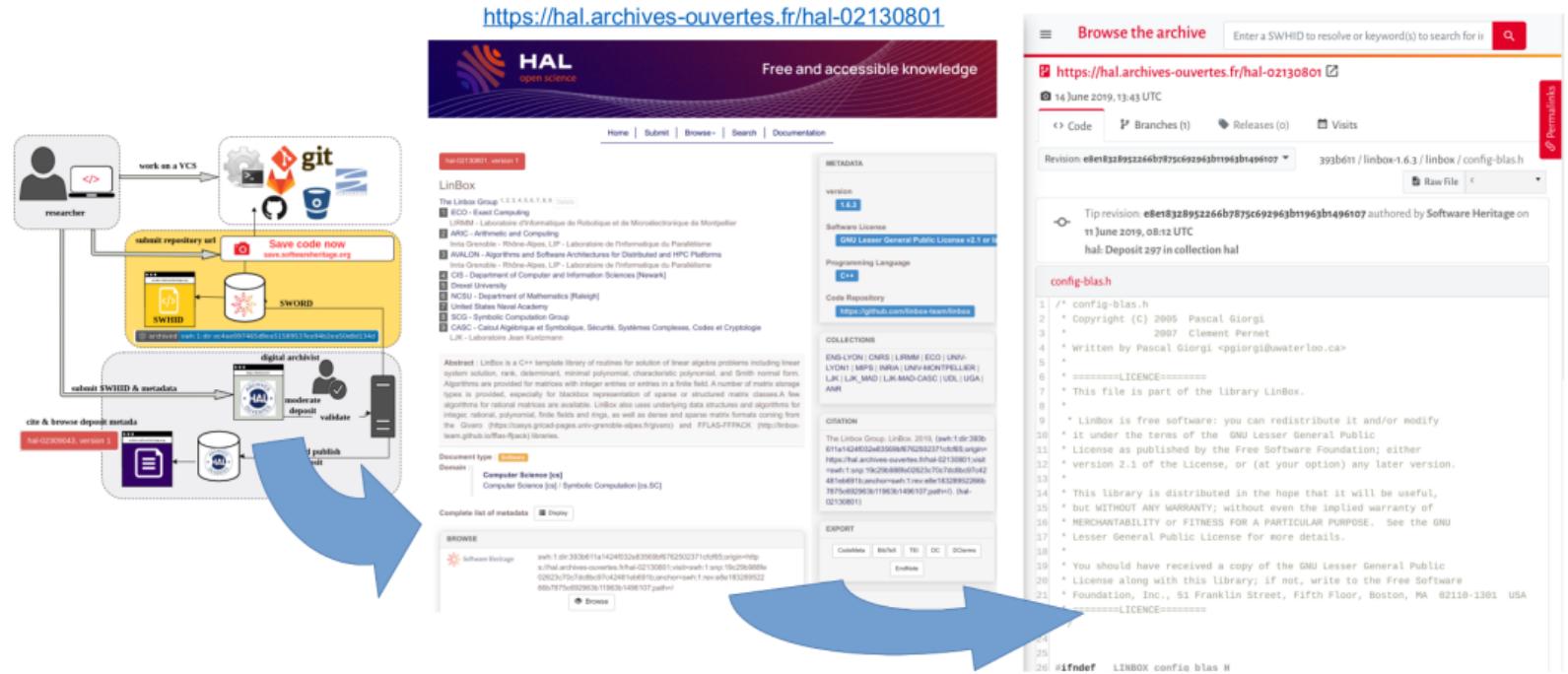


- environment control
- support cluster deployment
- *from the source code*

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



with minimal user overhead!

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

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

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- 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](#))
- reference in the HAL portal (french partners, see [online HAL documentation](#))
- cite software using the [biblatex-software](#) package (in CTAN and TeXLive)

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- train students, colleagues

- engage journals, conferences, learned societies

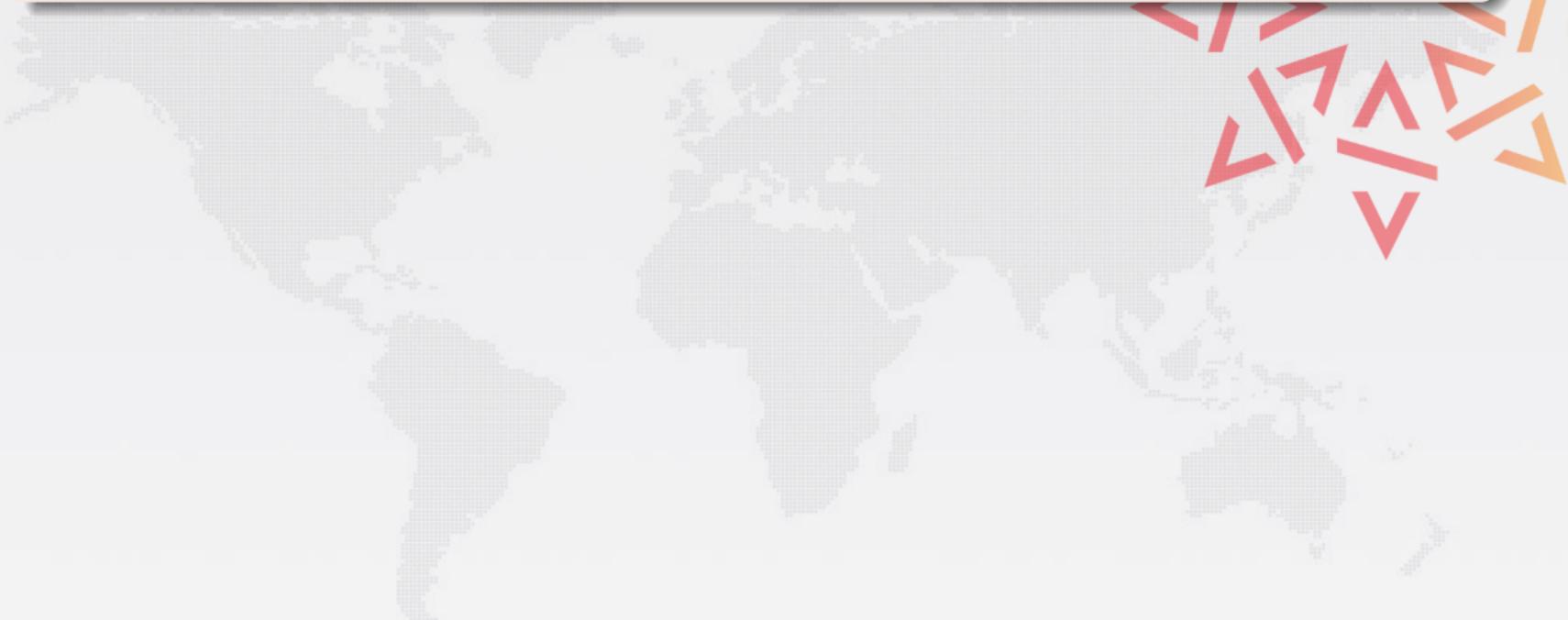
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# A rally flag for a grand vision

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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A lot more is needed

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You can help!

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

# Join a growing and active community

## Team



# Join a growing and active community

## Team



## Ambassadors



# Join a growing and active community

## Team



## Ambassadors



## Contributors to the platform

```
[13:21:32] <@erik> from last time I ran it? It very likely is
[13:21:47] <@erik> we had a v2 on the edges in a single year
[13:21:48] <@erik> ah
[13:21:48] <@erik> I think I was remembering the L2P time on granet rather than the one (on the previous
[13:21:48] <@erik> graph) on the big mem telecom machine
[13:54:01] <@zack> wasn't it something like 10-14 days (on granet)?
[13:55:11] <@erik> zack: it depends on the number of weights you use
[13:55:23] <@erik> -had something like that to do the parameter sweep
[13:55:24] <@erik> -but then I settled on a few good gamma values
[13:55:44] <@erik> -then afterwards it was only ever ~3-4 days
[14:02:57] <@zack>
[15:19:35] <@jpmens> @vlorente: when Jenkins meant to kick in I didn't think the CI would mean you pasting test
[15:19:35] <@jpmens> results in comments :P
[15:19:59] <@jpmens> alternatively, I could try to get it working locally - for some reason tox doesn't run here,
[15:20:00] <@jpmens> confirming it can run with tox
[15:20:48] <@vlorente> Jenkins is down until tomorrow evening (paris time)
[15:20:59] <@vlorente> bad day for submitting your code :(
[15:21:18] <@vlorente> er yeah I just fixed that issue
[15:21:31] <@vlorente> but the fixed swi.scheduler is not pushed to pypi because jenkins
[15:22:25] <@jpmens> @vlorente: ah
[15:23:40] <@vlorente> in the meantime, you can change apply this patch: https://gitlab.softwareheritage.org/-/
[15:23:40] <@vlorente> or import psycopg2
[15:23:44] <@vlorente> as an ugly workaround
[15:24:13] <@vlorente> actually, just adding "pytest-postgresql < 4.0.0" should do it
[15:25:00] <@vlorente> when Jenkins is back online I'll push a new release of swi.scheduler without the missing
[15:25:00] <@vlorente> dependency on psycopg2
```

Nicks
& Aphare
& armes
& arj
& amroba
& ar-jan
& bchowdhuri
& cmatrix01
& cdm
& deesix
& ericson2314
& fransbernt
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& Guest92
& hultedal
& hptar
& jayeshv
& jinver
& KShivamurthy
& landraijn
& marmotte

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Nicks
& Alphare
& armes
& arj
& amrota
& ar-jan
& bchowdhuri
& cmatrixm
& cdm
& deesix
& elmer
& frankster1
& gquery
& Guest92
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& hptar
& jayeshv
& jinver
& KSHvantu
& landraijn
& marmotte

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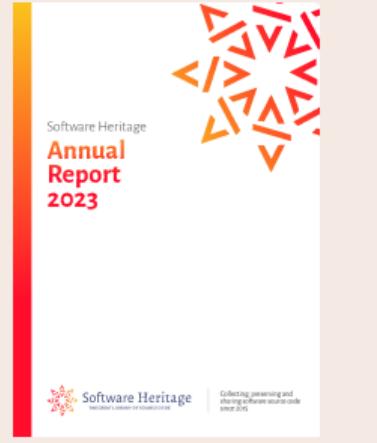
# Report and videos

## Annual report



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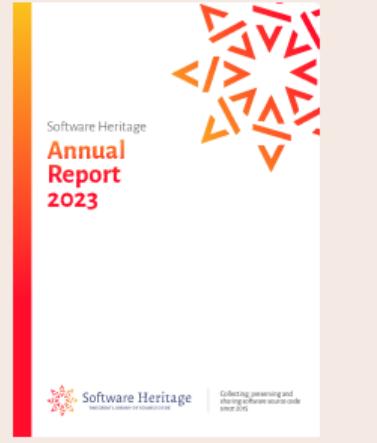
5 years in 5 minutes

[Link](#)



# Report and videos

## Annual report



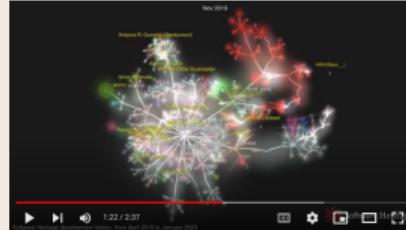
5 years in 5 minutes

[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.