

# Software Heritage

## the Universal Archive of our Software Commons

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# Software Heritage

THE GREAT LIBRARY OF SOURCE CODE

L LEM GEOMETRY

USER'S PAGE NO. 5 E5 S3

P0705 GIVEN RR TRUNNION AND SHAFT (T,5) IN TANGNB,+1, FIND THE ASSOCIATED  
 R0706 LINE OF SIGHT IN NAV BASE AXES. THE HALF UNIT VECTOR, .5(SIN(S)COS(T),  
 R0707 -SIN(T),COS(S)COS(T)) IS LEFT IN MPAC AND 32D.

07072	REF	1		23,2000				SETLOC INFLIGHT		
07074				23,2041				BANK		
07076	REF	1						COUNT# 44/GEDM		
0708				23,2041	47135 0	RRNB		SLOAD	RTB	
0709	REF	4	LAST	201	23,2042				TANGNB	
07091	REF	5	LAST	250	23,2043				CDJLOGIC	
0710				23,2044	41401 1			SETPD	PUSH	TRUNNION ANGLE TO 0
0711				23,2045	00001 0				0	
0712				23,2046	57556 0			SIN	DCDMP	
0713				23,2047	14043 0			STOOL	34D	Y COMPONENT
0714				23,2050	41546 0			COS	PUSH	.5 COS(T) TO 0
0715				23,2051	47135 0			SLOAD	RTB	
0716	REF	5	LAST	324	23,2052				TANGNB +1	
0717	REF	6	LAST	324	23,2053				CDJLOGIC	
0718				23,2054	71406 0	RRNB1		PUSH	COS	SHAFT ANGLE TO 2
0719				23,2055	72405 0			DMP	SL1	
0720				23,2056	00001 0				0	
0721				23,2057	14045 0			STOOL	36D	Z COMPONENT
0722				23,2060	41356 1			SIN	DMP	
0723				23,2061	77752 1			SL1		
0724				23,2062	24041 1			STOVL	32D	
0725				23,2063	00041 1				32D	
0726				23,2064	77616 0			RVQ		
R0727	THIS ENTRY TO RRNB REQUIRES THE TRUNNION AND SHAFT ANGLES IN MPAC AND MPAC +1 RESPECTIVELY									
0729				23,2065	14025 0	RRNBMPAC		STOOL	2D	SAVE SHAFT CDU IN 21.
07291	REF	43	LAST	299	23,2066				MPAC	SET MODE TO DP. (THE PRECEDING STORE
A07292										MAY BE DP, TP OR VECTOR.)
0730				23,2067	40234 0			RTB	SETPD	
0731	REF	7	LAST	324	23,2070				CDJLOGIC	
0732				23,2071	00001 0				0	
0733				23,2072	73406 1			PUSH	SIN	TRUNNION ANGLE TO 0
0734				23,2073	77676 0			DCGMP		
0735				23,2074	14043 0			STOOL	34D	Y COMPONENT
0736				23,2075	41546 0			COS	PUSH	.5COS(T) TO 0
0737				23,2076	47135 0			SLOAD	RTB	PICK-UP CDU'S.
0738				23,2077	00026 0				21D	
0739	REF	8	LAST	324	23,2100				CDJLOGIC	
0740				23,2101	77650 1			GOTO		
0741	REF	1			23,2102				RRNB1	

```
/* This routine exploits a fixed 512 byte input buffer in a  
* VAX running the BSD 4.3 fingerd binary. It send 536  
* bytes (plus a newline) to overwrite six extra words in  
* the stack frame, including the return PC, to point into  
* the middle of the string sent over. The instructions in  
* the string do the direct system call version of  
* execve ("/bin/sh"). */  
  
static try_finger(host, fd1, fd2) /* 0x49ec, <just_return+378  
    struct hst *host;  
    int *fd1, *fd2;  
{  
  
/* ... */  
  
    for(i = 0; i < 536; i++) /* 628,654 */  
        buf[i] = '\0';  
    for(i = 0; i < 400; i++)  
        buf[i] = 1;  
    for(j = 0; j < 28; j++)  
        buf[i+j] = "\335\217/sh\0\335\217/bin\320^Z\335\0\335\0
```

<https://github.com/arialdomartini/morris-worm>



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

## Distinguishing features

- **executable** and **human readable** knowledge (an *all time new*)
- naturally **evolves** over time
  - development history is key to its understanding
- complex: large web of **dependencies**, millions of SLOCs

## Definition (Commons)

The **commons** is the cultural and natural resources accessible to all members of a society, including natural materials such as air, water, and a habitable earth. These resources are held in common, not owned privately. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commons>

## Definition (Software Commons)

The **software commons** consists of all computer software which is available at little or no cost and which can be altered and reused with few restrictions. Thus *all open source software and all free software are part of the [software] commons. [...]*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software\\_Commons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_Commons)

# Software is spread all around



## Fashion victims

- many disparate development platforms
- a myriad places where distribution may happen
- projects tend to migrate from one place to the other over time

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## One place...

... where can we find, track and search *all* source code?

A word cloud of terms related to software fragility, including 'damage', 'disaster', 'malicious', 'obsolete', 'dependencies', 'attack', 'aging', 'tear', 'media', 'reference', 'deletion', 'storage', 'dangling', 'wear', 'corruption', 'encryption', and 'format'. The words are arranged in various sizes and orientations, with 'damage' and 'disaster' being the largest. The background features a faint world map and several large, stylized arrows pointing in various directions.

damage  
disaster  
malicious  
obsolete  
dependencies  
attack  
aging  
tear  
media  
reference  
deletion  
storage  
dangling  
wear  
corruption  
encryption  
format

Like all digital information, FOSS is fragile

- inconsiderate and/or malicious code loss (e.g., Code Spaces)
- business-driven code loss (e.g., Gitorious, Google Code)
- for obsolete code: physical media decay (data rot)



A word cloud of terms related to software fragility and digital information loss. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with some overlapping. The largest words are 'damage', 'disaster', 'malicious', 'obsolete', 'deletion', and 'attack'. Other visible words include 'media', 'aging', 'tear of', 'dependencies', 'dangling', 'wear', 'corruption', 'reference', 'storage', 'encryption', and 'format'. The background features a faint world map and several large, stylized arrows pointing outwards in various directions.

damage  
disaster  
malicious  
obsolete  
deletion  
attack  
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aging  
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If a website disappears you go to the Internet Archive...

... where do you go if (a repository on) GitHub goes away?



# Software Heritage

THE GREAT LIBRARY OF SOURCE CODE

## Our mission

Collect, **preserve** and **share** the *source code* of *all the software* that lies at the heart of our culture and our society.

**Cultural Heritage**



**Industry**



**Research**



**Education**



**Software Heritage**

**Open approach**

- 100% FOSS
- transparency

**In for the long haul**

- replication
- non profit

# Archiving goals

Targets: VCS repositories & source code releases (e.g., tarballs)

## We DO archive

- file **content** (= blobs)
- **revisions** (= commits), with full metadata
- **releases** (= tags), ditto
- (project metadata)
- **where & when** we found any of the above

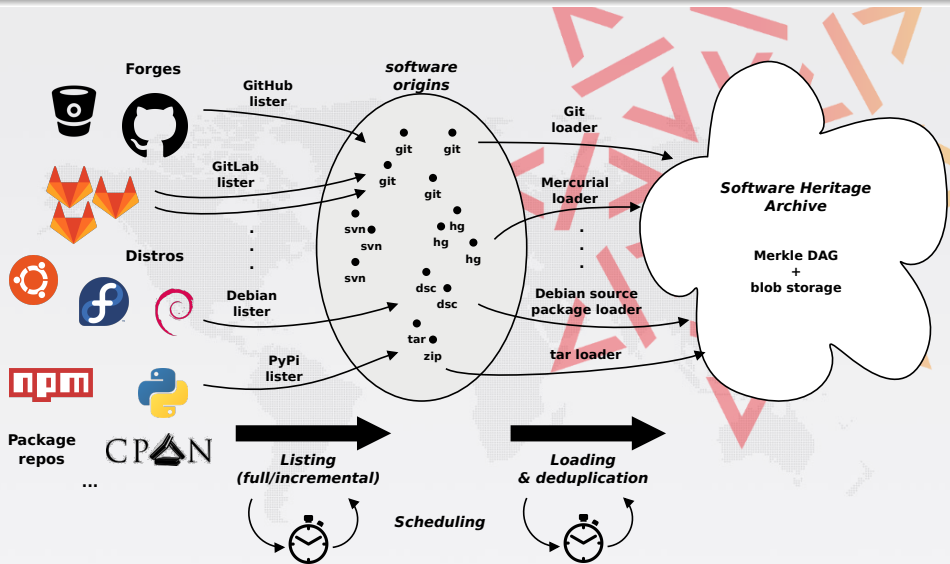
... in a VCS-/archive-agnostic **canonical data model**

## We DON'T archive (UNIX philosophy)

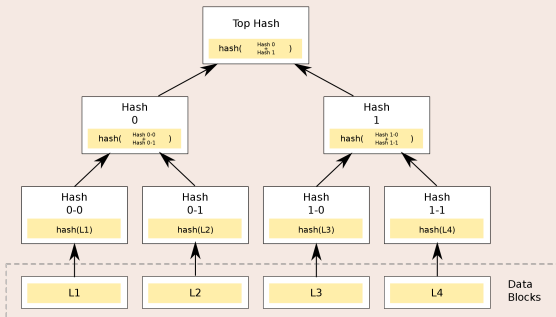
- homepages, wikis → collaboration with the Internet Archive
- BTS/issues/code reviews/etc.
- mailing lists

Long term vision: play our part in a *"semantic wikipedia of software"*

# Data flow



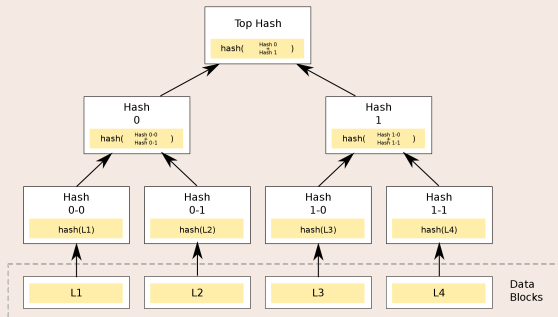
## Merkle tree (R. C. Merkle, Crypto 1979)



Combination of

- tree
- hash function

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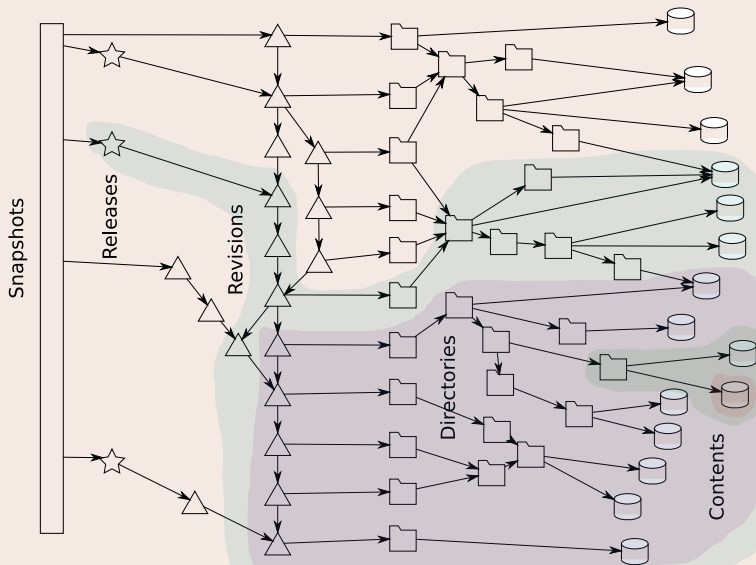
Combination of

- tree
- hash function

## Classical cryptographic construction

- fast, parallel signature of large data structures
- widely used (e.g., Git, Bitcoin, IPFS, ...)
- built-in deduplication

# The archive: a (giant) Merkle DAG





# SHA1 collisions considered harmful

```
create domain sha1 as bytea
  check (length(value) = 20);
create domain sha1_git as bytea
  check (length(value) = 20);
create domain sha256 as bytea
  check (length(value) = 32);

create table content (
  sha1          sha1 primary key,
  sha1_git      sha1_git not null,
  sha256        sha256 not null,
  length        bigint not null,
  ctime         timestamptz not null default now(),
  status        content_status not null default 'visible',
  object_id     bigserial
);

create unique index on content(sha1_git);
create unique index on content(sha256);
```

## Our sources

- GitHub — full, up-to-date mirror
- Debian — daily snapshots of all suites since 2005–2015
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- Gitorious, Google Code — local copy (Archive Team & Google)

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## Some numbers



150 TB blobs, 5 TB database (as a graph: 4 B nodes + 40 B edges)

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The *richest* source code archive already, ... and growing daily!

## Planned features...

- *lookup* by content hash (done)
- *download*: wget and git clone from Software Heritage
- *provenance information* for all archived code and metadata
- *browsing*: wayback machine for archived code and its history
- *full-text search* on all archived source code files

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... and much more than one could possibly imagine

all the world's software development history in a single graph!

# An ambitious, worldwide initiative

Inria as initiator



- .fr national CS research institution
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## Supporters and *early partners*

ACM, **Nokia Bell Labs**, Creative Commons, **DANS**, Eclipse, Engineering, FSF, OSI, GitHub, GitLab, IEEE, Informatics Europe, **Microsoft**, OIN, OW2, SIF, SFC, SFLC, The Document Foundation, The Linux Foundation, ...



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## Going global

building an *open, multistakeholder, nonprofit* global organisation

## Software Heritage is

- a revolutionary *reference archive* of *all* FOSS ever written
- a unique *complement* for *development platforms*
- an international, open, nonprofit, *mutualized infrastructure*
- at the service of our community, at the service of society!

## Come in, we're open!

`www.softwareheritage.org` – *sponsoring, job openings*  
`wiki.softwareheritage.org` – *internships, leads*  
`forge.softwareheritage.org` – *our own code*

# Questions?