

# The Evolution of Open Source at the Linux Foundation

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## What is open source software?

Open source software (OSS) is a type of computer software in which source code is released under a license in which the intellectual property holder grants recipients the rights to study, use, change, sell and distribute the software to anyone and for any purpose. Open source software may be developed in a collaborative public manner. Open source software is a prominent example of open collaboration.







Adapted from: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source\\_software](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source_software)

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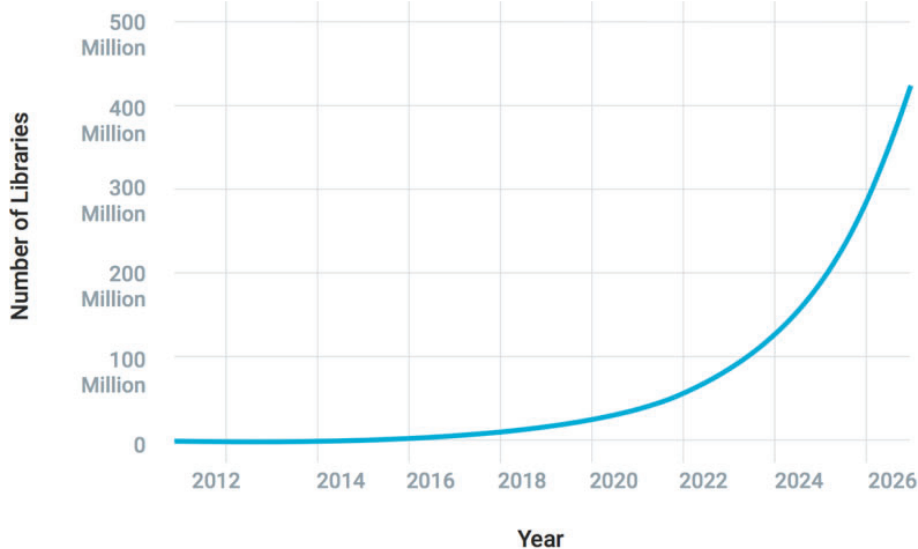
# Open source evolved with decades of systems evolution to address the needs of developers, admins and users

	Mainframe Programs	UNIX	Free Software "GNU is Not UNIX"	Linux	"LAMP" Stack	Open Source is the norm
<b>Systems Trend</b>	 Centralized, monolithic systems	 Modular software on distributed systems	 Free software revolution against proprietary UNIX	 GNU/Linux platform wins commercial ecosystem support	 FOSS leaps to server middleware	 FOSS becomes the core of software
<b>Key Issues</b>	Limited access, slow evolution	Fragmented proprietary systems	Social movement thrived but incomplete and limited adoption	"Proprietary vs FOSS" FUD	"Proprietary vs FOSS" FUD v2.0	Sustainability of the core projects
<b>Business model trend enabled</b>	System and HW support	Volume SW licensing	Self support	SW support subscription	Open core and new business models	Cloud service model
	1955	1970's	1983	1991	1998	2005+

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## Open Source is on an exponential growth curve, making it readily accessible to developers building production-ready systems



[:] SourceClear

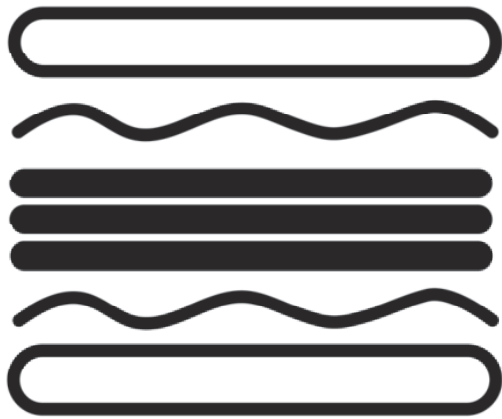
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<https://www.sourceclear.com/resources/the-busy-managers-guide-to-open-source-security/chapter1/>

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Today open source generally comprises 80-90% of a modern system's total codebase



Use Open Source Libraries to Solve Problems  
Open Source Code (~70%)

Write Custom Code  
Custom Code (~10%)

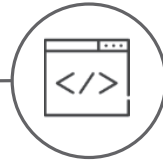
Choose a Framework  
Open Source Code (~20%)

We all see the open source ecosystem is still accelerating

**31M+**  
Open Source  
Developers



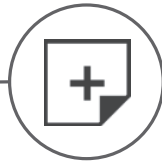
**41B+**  
Lines of Code



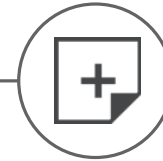
**10,000+**  
New Versions  
per Day



**96M+**  
Repositories on  
GitHub



**1,100**  
New Projects a  
Day



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## Title search: The Evolution of Open Source at the Linux Foundation

Also available as part of the eCourse  
[2020 Advanced Patent Law \(Austin\) eConference](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  
25<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Patent Law Institute session  
"Increasing Innovation and Transforming Industries through Open Source"