

# Open Source 101



# Who am I?

## **Greg Lund-Chaix**

Variously known as “propeller-head” and “techno-geek”  
since 1994

State of Oregon – Oregon ED-NET and DAS IRMD,  
1994-2006

Oregon State University – Open Source Lab,  
2006-present

# What is open source?

- Generally accepted to include software that can be freely downloaded, used and modified.

- Open Source Initiative

<http://opensource.org/docs/osd>

1. Free Redistribution
2. Source Code
3. Derived Works



# Who uses open source?

# Who uses open source?

- Google
- Yahoo
- Amazon
- Charles Schwab
- many others

The Google logo, featuring the word "Google" in its characteristic multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, blue, green, red).The Pandora logo, with the word "PANDORA" in a blue, serif font.The Yahoo! logo, with the word "YAHOO!" in a red, bold, serif font.The Charles Schwab logo, with the word "charles" in a lowercase, italicized serif font and "SCHWAB" in a uppercase, sans-serif font.The Amazon.com logo, with the word "amazon.com" in a black, sans-serif font and a yellow smile arrow underneath.The BBC News logo, with "BBC" in a white, bold, sans-serif font above "NEWS" in a white, bold, sans-serif font, all on a red rectangular background.The Flickr logo, with the word "flickr" in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font and "LOVES YOU" in a small, pink, uppercase, sans-serif font above it.

# Who uses open source?

- TiVo
- HD televisions



# Who uses open source?

- Nokia
- Motorola



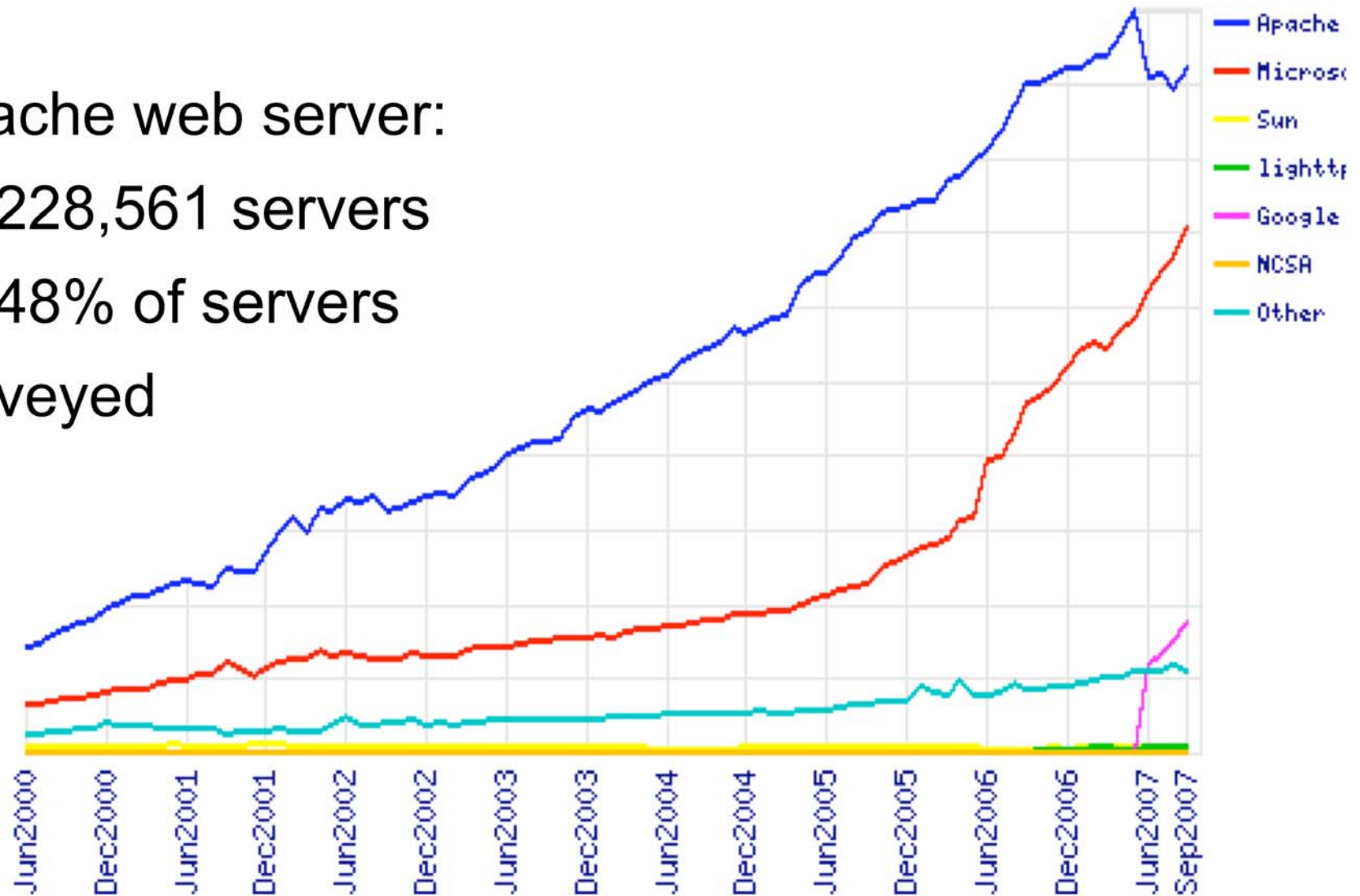
# Who uses open source?

- In-flight entertainment
  - Delta
  - Continental
  - United
  - Virgin America



# Who uses open source?

- Apache web server:  
68,228,561 servers  
50.48% of servers  
surveyed



# Common myths

1) Open source = Linux

# Common myths

## 1) Open source > Linux

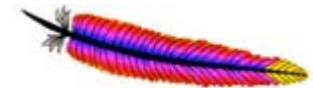


# Common myths

2) Open source only runs on Linux

# Common myths

## 2) Open source runs on everything



# Common myths

3) Open source isn't ready for the enterprise

# Common myths

3) Open source is already in the enterprise

*charles*SCHWAB

YAHOO!

amazon.com

flickr LOVES YOU™

PANDORA®

BBC  
NEWS

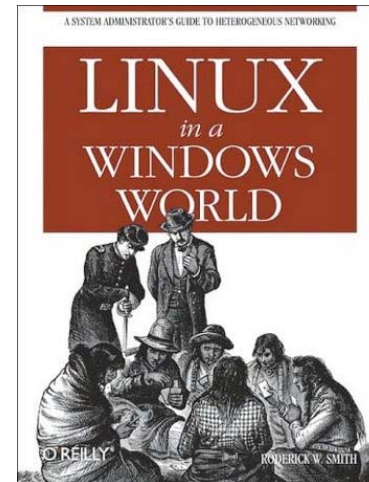
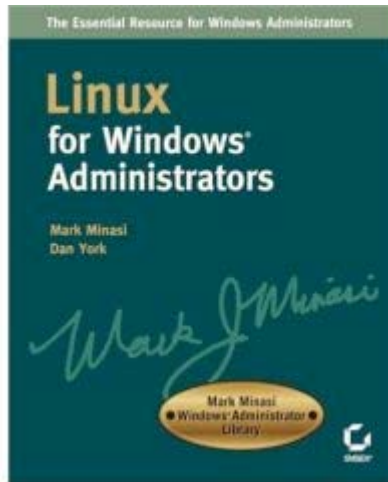
Google™

# Common myths

4) Open source and commercial software are mutually incompatible

# Common myths

4) Open source and commercial software are working together



# Common myths

5) It's totally FREE!

# Common myths

5) It's totally FREE!

“Free as in speech” not “free as in beer”



# Who makes open source software?



# Who makes open source software?

- Boston Consulting Group 2002  
“Hacker Survey”
  - 684 respondents from various SourceForge projects
  - More than 50% of open source project contributors are IT professionals
  - 30% of respondents were paid contributors
  - Averaged 11 years of IT experience

# Benefits

- “Owning your own destiny” and avoiding vendor lock-in
- Employee professional development and personal growth
- Customization and access to source code
- No recurring licensing costs

# Risks

- Licensing incompatibility
- Source code availability
- Uncontrolled proliferation
- Software quality
- Security?

# How to find open source projects

- Google & Yahoo
  - Most major projects have a web site with forums, mail lists, bugtracker, download, etc.
- SourceForge.net
  - 100,000 projects
  - 1,000,000 registered users

# How can I get involved?

- Encourage your team to experiment in a controlled environment
- Join projects mail lists/forums
  - “Lurk” for a little while to learn the community's culture
- Not all participation is writing code
  - Report bugs
  - Documentation help is almost always welcomed
- Mentorship
  - Mentoring programs for new contributors to the community

# Succeeding with Open Source

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2005 Addison-Wesley Publishing

Chapter 1 free download:

<http://www.navicasoft.com/pages/bkoverview.htm>



# Questions?

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