# Software and Licences

Lecture 3 - COMPSCI111/111G SS 2018

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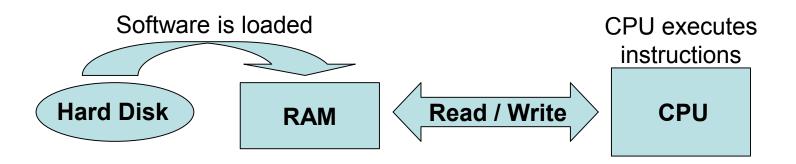


## Today's lecture

- Describe what software is
- Understand the legal protections for software
- Learn about the different software licences
- Identify different kinds of software

#### What is software?

- Aka 'programs' or 'apps'. Instructions and other data used by the computer
- User can perform tasks and interact with the hardware through software
- ► Loaded from secondary memory into primary memory, where it is executed by the CPU



#### Kinds of software

- System software:
  - Operating system (eg. Windows, macOS)
  - Device drivers
  - Diagnostic and maintenance tools (eg. Disk Cleanup)
- Application software:
  - Used by users to perform tasks on the computer

#### File formats

- All data on a computer is stored in binary
- However, a program encodes files in its own way; this is the file format
- A program will be unable to open a file if it does not understand the file format

The beginning of a file using the PDF format

#### Standards

- ► File formats sometimes follow a standard; an agreed way of encoding data (eg. webpages use the HTML5 standard)
- Standards can be:
  - Open
    - Published openly
    - Free to use
    - ► Eg. HTML, PDF
  - Proprietary
    - Owned by a company
    - ▶ Others can use the standard if they pay for a licence
    - ► Eg. MP3

#### File extension

- Used by the operating system to determine a file's format
- Eg. the .docx file format opens by default with Microsoft Word

Graphics	.jpg , .png , .gif	Video	.mpg , .avi , .divx
Sound	.mp3 , .wma , .ogg	Programs	.exe , .com , .bat
Text	.txt , .doc	Program Code	.c , .java , .cs , .py

## Copyright

- Software is protected by a range of IP rights
- Copyright:
  - Protects the expression of an idea
  - Copyright Act 1994, s14(1)(a): literary works (includes software) is protected by copyright
  - > s21: author owns the copyright
  - s111: copyrighted material can be used by others if they have a licence



#### **Patents**

- Patents:
  - Protect an idea from being copied by others
  - ▶ Patents Act 2013, s11(1): a computer program is not an invention and therefore can't be patented
    - Exception for software in embedded systems

#### Kinds of software

## Proprietary software

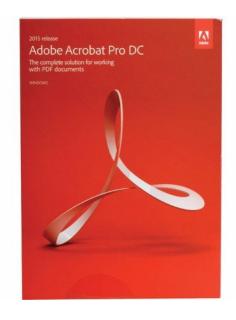
- Owned by an individual or company
- Types:
  - Commercial
  - Shareware
  - Freeware
  - Semi-free (for non-profits)

## Open source software

- Freely available
- Anyone can use or edit the software's source code

#### Proprietary software - commercial

- Software that a user must purchase to use
- Examples: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat, SPSS





#### Proprietary software - shareware

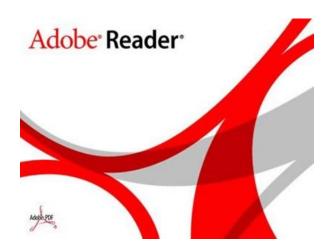
- User has a trial period in which to evaluate the software, and purchase it if they want
- Nagware: software keeps reminding the user to purchase the full version
- Crippleware: software that works with limited functionality until the user purchases it
- Freemium: software with a free tier and paid tier





#### Proprietary software - freeware

- Software is free to use but source code is not publically available
- Freeware can be a loss leader or adware
- Some freeware is known as abandonware; software no longer maintained but still available





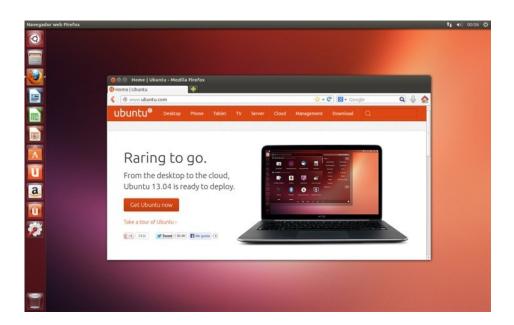
### Open source software

- Software that is free to use and whose source code is public
  - Anyone can use or modify the source code
  - Anyone can create a derivative work from the source code
- Open source movement started in the late 1980's and outlined in the Open Source Definition
- Open source software licences (eg. Apache, GNU) are not as restrictive as commercial software licences

## Open source software

Examples of open source software







#### User interfaces

- Two kinds of user interface
  - Command line interface (CLI)
  - Graphical user interface (GUI)
- Key difference is that a CLI is text-based while a GUI graphically-based

#### Command line interface

- User enters text commands to perform tasks
- Can complete tasks very quickly by combining commands
- Can be difficult to use the text commands if you don't know or understand them

```
C:\Users\Anujkunar\Doumloads\dir /?
Displays a list of files and subdirectories in a directory.

DIR [drive:][path][filenane] [/A[[:]attributes]] [/B] [/C] [/D] [/L] [/N]
[/O[[:]sortorder]] [/P] [/Q] [/R] [/S] [/T][[:]timefield]] [/N] [/X] [/4]

[drive:][path][filenane]

Specifies drive, directory, and/or files to list.

A

Displays files with specified attributes.

A Bisplays files with specified attributes.

B Read-only files

B Files ready for archiving

B Read-only files

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B Files and for summary

Display the thousand separator in file sizes. This is the default. Use /-C to disable display of separator.

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New long list format where filenames are on the far right.

List by files in sorted order.

New long list format where filenames are on the far right.

List by files in sorted order.

S By size (snallest first)

E By extension (alphabetic)

B y date/tine (oldest first)

C Freix to reverse order

P Pauses after each screenful of information.

Display alternate data streams of the file.

Display alternate data streams of the file.

Display alternate data streams of the file.

C Creation

A Last Recess

W Last Written

Uses vide list format.

New Jong list format

New Jong list format is that of /N with the short name inserted.
```

## Graphical user interface

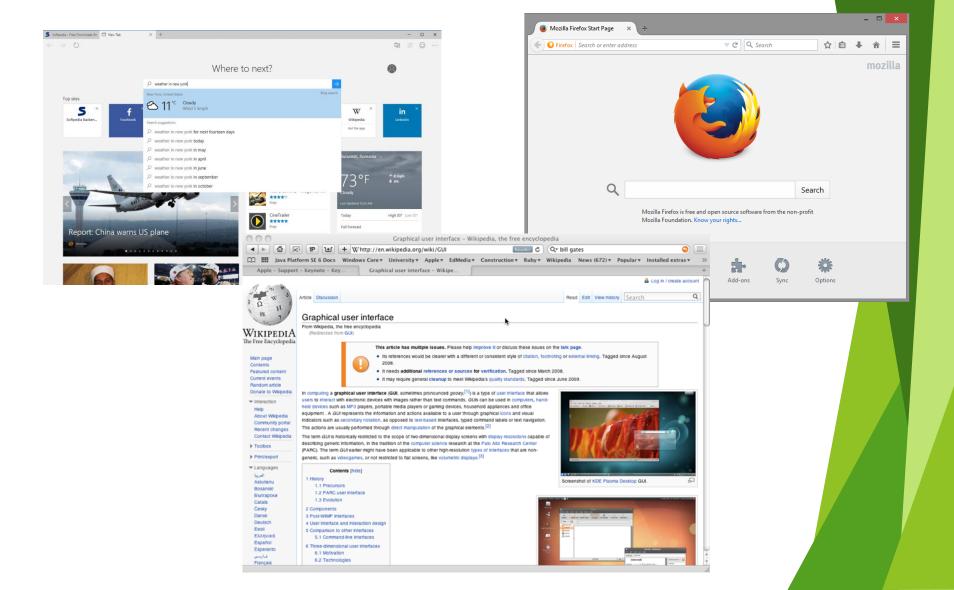
- User performs tasks using the software's graphical elements (eg. windows, pointers, icons, menus)
- Generally easy to use, especially for new users
- Can be inefficient for experienced users, but keyboard shortcuts help to make GUIs more efficient



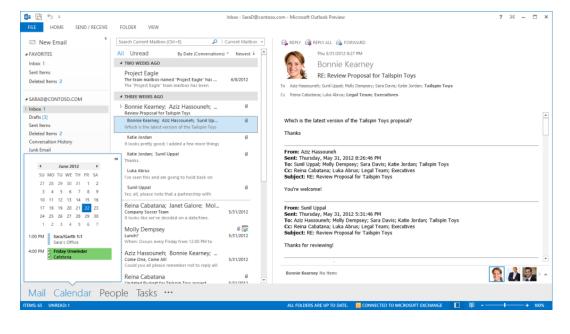
## Application software

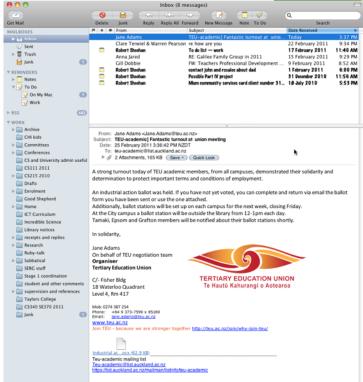
- Two kinds of software: system and application
- Very wide range of application software

#### Web browsers

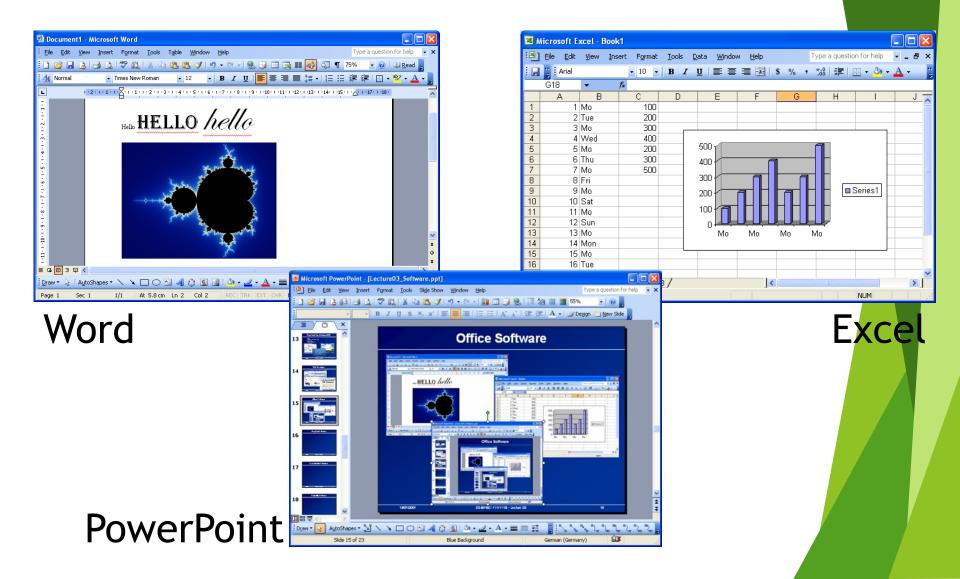


#### **Email clients**



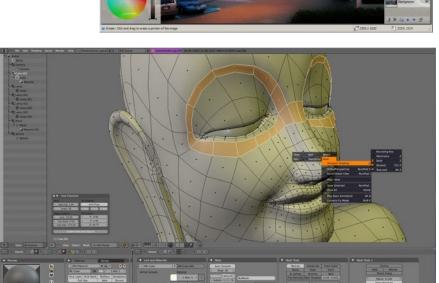


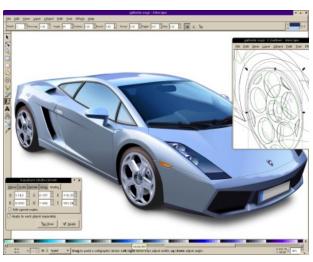
#### Office software

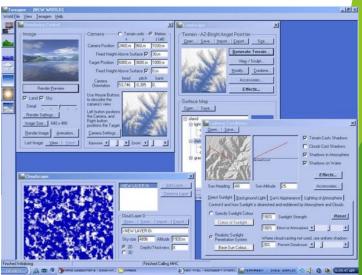


## **Graphics software**

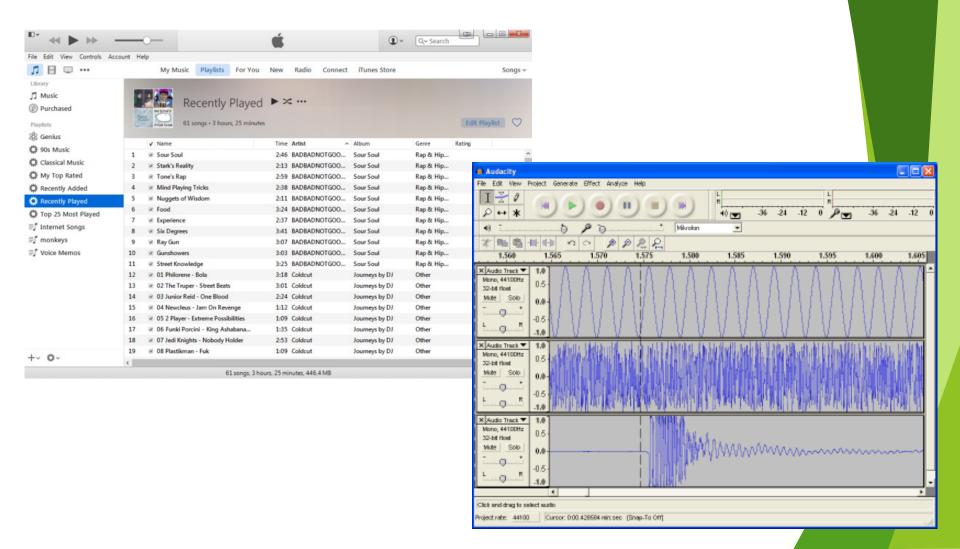








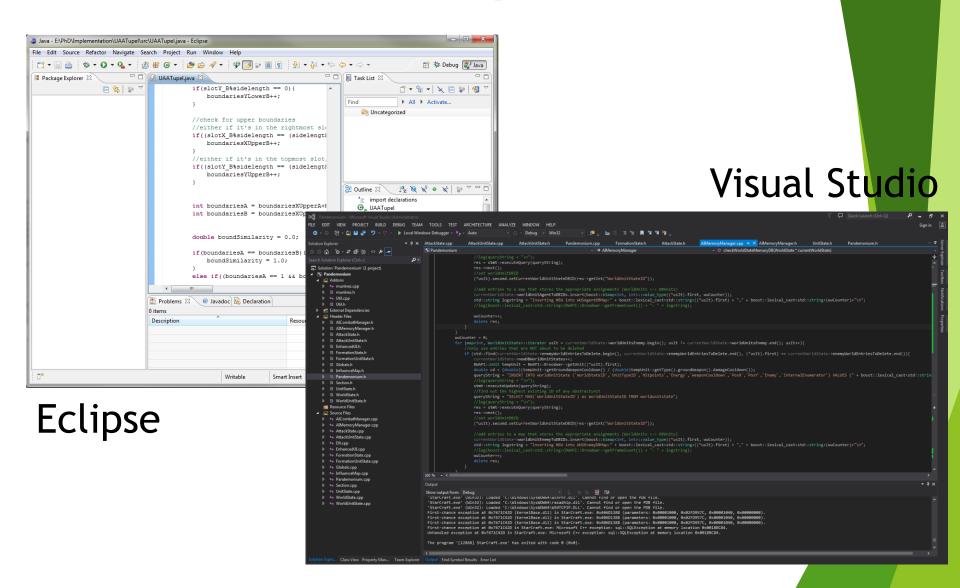
#### Music software



## Security software



## Software development tools



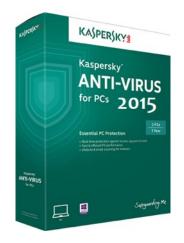
#### Software failure

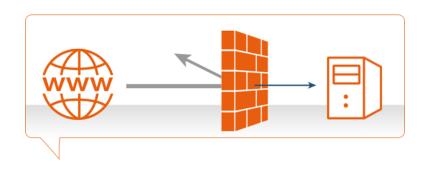
- Sometimes errors occur in software, which lead to crashes or error messages
- Generally can't be fixed by the user but you can:
  - Google your problem to see if there's a solution
  - Report the problem to the developer
  - Check for program updates since developers include bug fixes in these updates



#### Malware and viruses

- Malicious software (malware) can damage a user's computer, data or apps
- Viruses attach themselves to other programs, where they can cause damage and spread to other computers
- Protect your computer and data with anti-virus software and a firewall





#### **Answers**

What kind of licence is best for software you want to give away for free?

What is one advantage of the CLI and one disadvantage of the GUI?

## Summary

- Software allows users to perform tasks with their computer
- Software is protected by copyright. Users receive a licence to use software
- Proprietary software vs open source software
- CLI vs GUI
- Different kinds of software can be used to perform different tasks