

The software-heritage project will collect all free available software

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By Newday Media Agency

July 01, 2016 8:20 AM

With the project the French State Research Institute for Informatics and automation of INRIA is committed the ambitious goal, to gather all freely available software, to organize, and easily accessible. The software heritage project will be up to its name and put together the cultural heritage of the software. The announcement referred to a “modern library of Alexandria”. The collection will be a reference database of the entire available source code. The French Government “Institut national de recherche en informatique et en automatique” (National Research Institute for computer science and Automation), short INRIA. is comparable to the German Max Planck Society according to Wikipedia. The collection will be a kind of reference book for software which one reflects the development of the software over the years and after recyclable code helps developers on the other hand in the search. Internally, the collection runs has been a good year. The team has collected over 20 million software projects with more than two and a half billion source files according to the announcement. For comparison: GitHub has published at the same time an extensive collection of stored in the administrative service, the open-source repositories to the Datenanalyse with Google’s BigQuery, projects containing 2.8 million. With the opening, INRIA simultaneously around the world looking for people who want to contribute further code to the collection. The project will be given a distributed infrastructure to secure the long availability and reliability of the archive. More information can be found on the project page of the software heritage. The current list of supporters lists well-known companies and institutions, including among others the Eclipse Foundation, which include free software Foundation, GitHub, GitLab, the Linux Foundation and Microsoft.

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