

Software Heritage Project aims to save source code

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The Software Heritage Project aims to save software source code for accessibility, discoverability, and posterity.

An effort has begun to collect the source code to as much software as possible, with the aim of building the canonical reference database of software.

Dubbed the Software Heritage Project, and created by the French national science and technology institute INRIA, efforts towards collating source code for reference and posterity began last year.

'We decided to start working on Software Heritage more than a year ago, and we have now shown its feasibility,' explained INRIA chief executive Antoine Petit of the project's history.

'In order to scale up worldwide, the time has now come to open it up to the widest, national and international contributions.'

Software Heritage already has two major partners in the bag: DANS, a subsection of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research, and Microsoft.