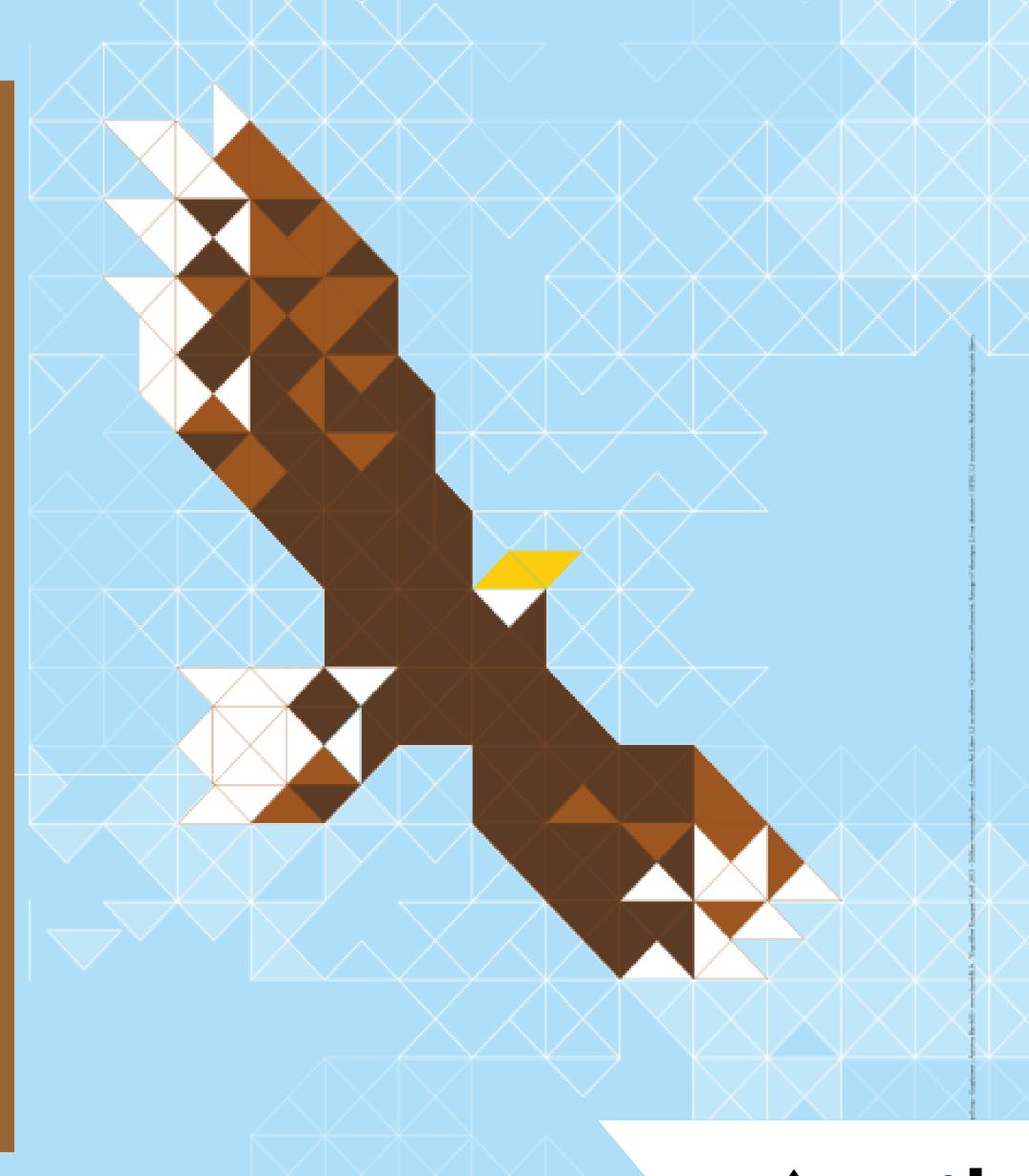
Free/Libre alternatives to

GAFAM's Internet

A review of French initiatives

Marianne Corvellec & Jonathan Le Lous April.org

> LibrePlanet 2016 March 19th, 2016 Cambridge, MA, USA







# 0 - About April.org

- > Founded 1996, in France
- Close to the FSF ever since
- Promoting and protecting Free Software
- 3,600 members, 3 full-time employees, many contributors
- > French-speaking

• For reference: Allorge L., Couchet F. (2014) "Free Software activism: European perspective and experience", LibrePlanet http://www.april.org/libreplanet-2014-les-22-et-23-mars-2014





# WHAT IS FREE/LIBRE SOFTWARE?

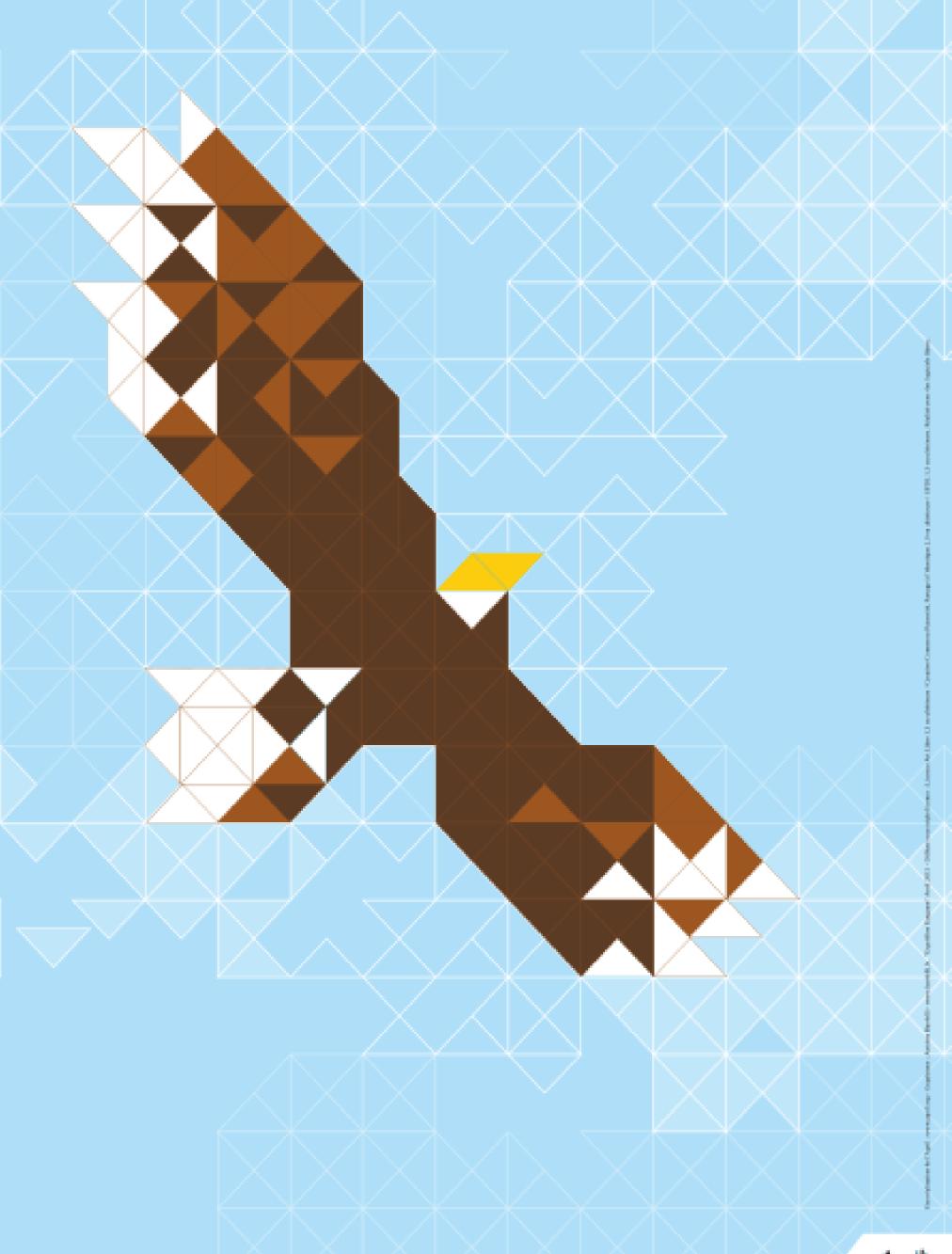
e use digital technology every day for obtaining information, exchanging, communicating, buying, etc. These actions, whether private or public, are processed by computers, whatever their shape: laptops, Internet servers, mobile phones, tablets, game consoles, internet boxes, etc. To carry out these actions, these machines use software that handles our data. It is thus important to know who writes the software, who manages it, and for which purpose. While not everyone has the capacity to write software or understand how it works, we all have the possibility to decide whom we trust.

[Please note that "Free Software" refers to freedom, not price. This is why we use the term "Free/Libre Software".]

#### FREE/LIBRE SOFTWARE AND ITS FOUR FREEDOMS

Even nowadays, most software that is distributed through classical channels is proprietary, meaning that its license includes usage restrictions. On the contrary, software is called "Free/libre Software" when it explicitly grants, through its license, the freedom to run it without any restrictions, as well as the freedom to study how it works, copy it, modify it, and redistribute it. What makes these four freedoms possible is access to the software's source code — its "recipe".

By choosing Free/libre Software, not only do you have the opportunity to enjoy these four freedoms, but you are also joining large communities of users and developers that share the same goals and respect your freedom. By deciding to install Free/Libre Software (which is often also gratis) on your digital devices, you are helping to share and improve programs that are available to absolutely everyone.



## 1.0 - About GAFAM's Internet

- > The Internet à la Google
  - Service-orientation
  - Web-centric Internet





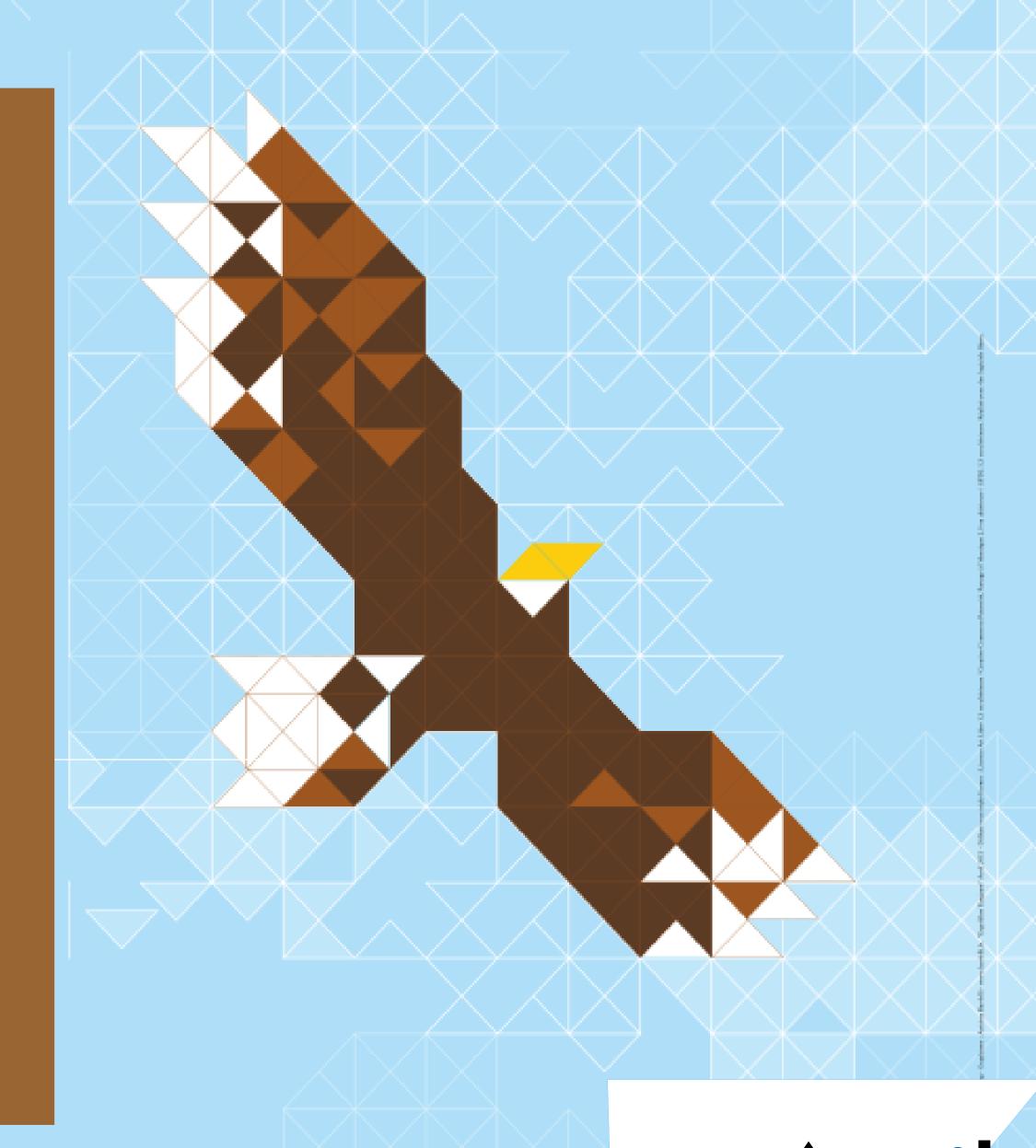
#### 1.1 - Openness vs Freedom

- Wired (2015) « Open Source Software Went Nuclear This Year »
- Open innovation (business model)
- What about freedom? And privacy?
- Public players?
- Proprietary software + public cloud = one step further into the dark side





Let's de-Google-ify the Internet!







# 2.0 - About Framasoft.org

- > Founded 2004, in France
- Popular education
- Promoting Free Software, Free Culture, Free Services
- 3 full-time employees, a large community
- Flagship project to offer free/libre alternatives to dominant proprietary services



• For reference: https://degooglisons-internet.org/?l=en





# 2.1 - Project « de-Google-ify the Internet »

- > [Why] Dominance of GAFAM is a threat to:
  - Innovation, competition
  - Independence
  - Open, decentralized Web
  - Privacy
- > [What] An initiative about:
  - Awareness
  - Proof of concept
  - Inspiration, dissemination
- For reference: https://degooglisons-internet.org/?l=en





# 2.2 - Project « de-Google-ify the Internet »

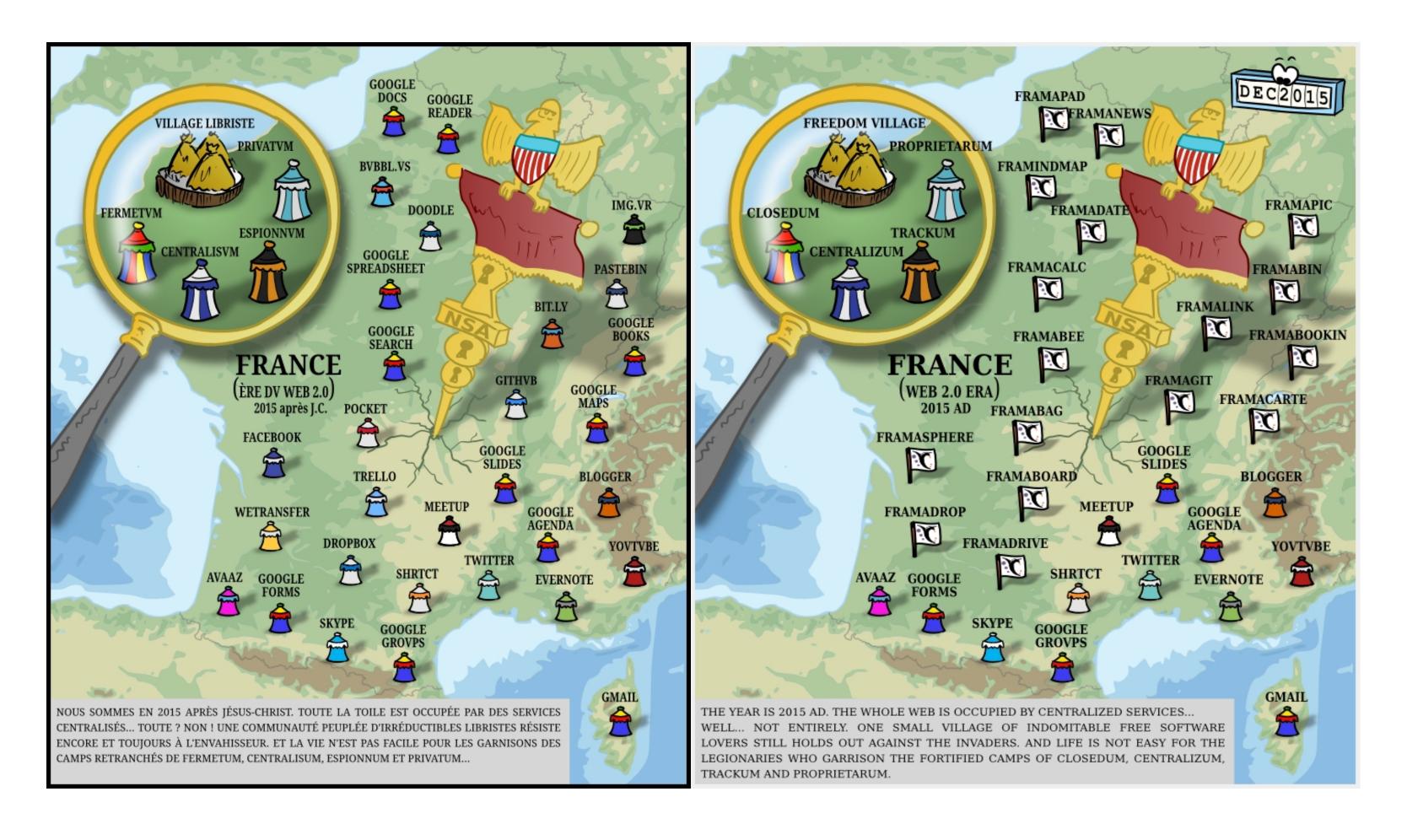
- > [When] A 3-year roadmap:
  - From Oct 2014 to Oct 2017
- How] A neutral, non-aggressive, non-commercial space to:
  - Decentralize the Internet
  - Promote self-hosting
  - Use > 25 alternative services

• For reference: https://degooglisons-internet.org/list





# 2.3 - Campaign progress

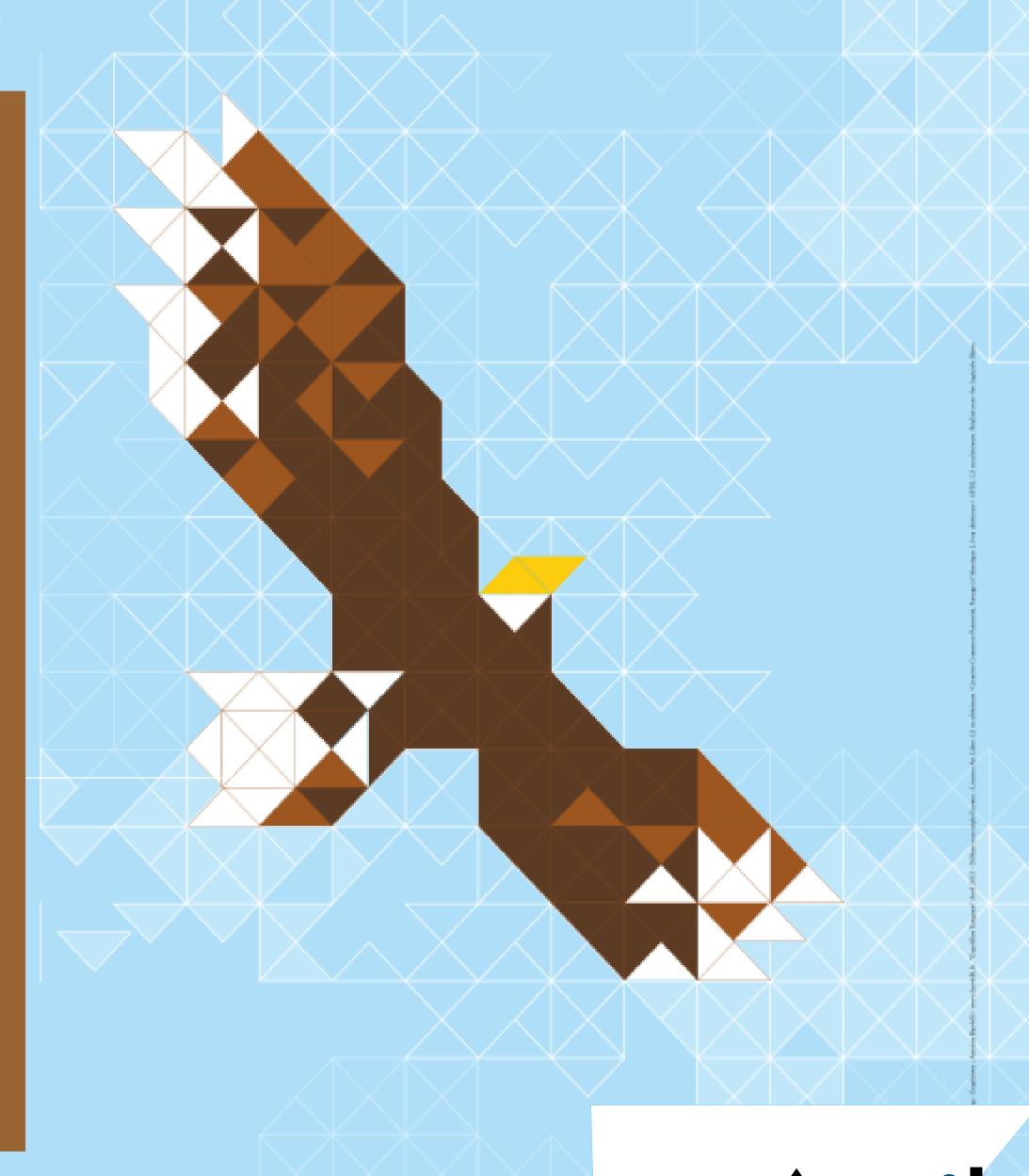


Oct 2014 – Oct 2015





What's next?







## 3.0 - Empowerment

- 'Well intentioned' centralization?
  - Reminiscent of Big Brother (Facebook?)
- Citizen-driven initiatives
  - Free Software technologies
  - Digital commons
  - Data privacy





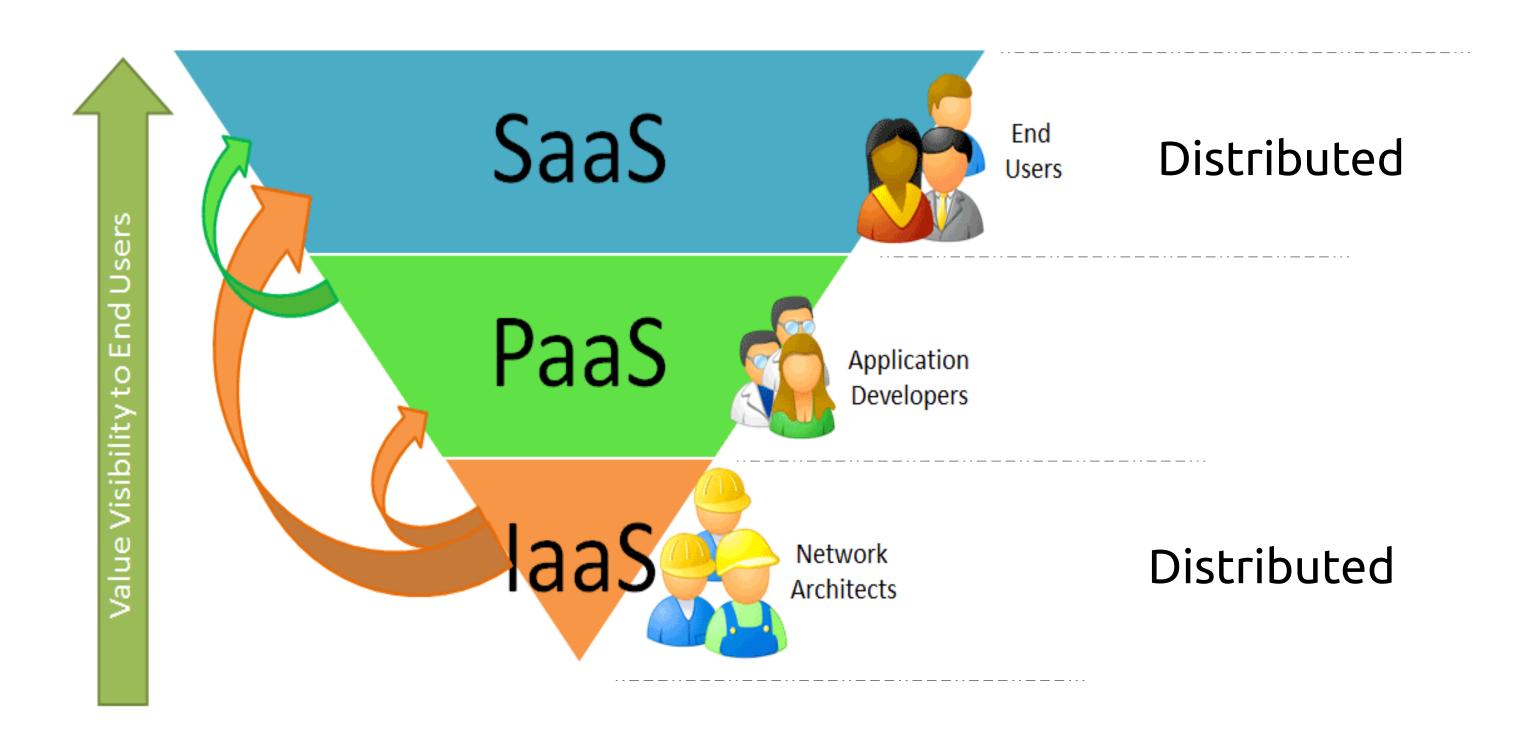
# 3.1 - Local players vs global corporations

- Organize locally, regionally
  - Self-hosting
  - Let everyone install their own services (for themselves, their organisation, or their company).
- Share globally
  - Standards
  - Porting





#### 3.2 - Two levels of decentralization







# 3.3 - SaaS alternative example: Ring

Who? All users (people and industry)

thanks to the contributors

**What?** Free communication platform

(voice, video, text, files)

Why? Freedom - To exchange data

respecting privacy

**Where?** GNU/Linux - OS X - Windows Android - Connected devices

Ring

Session Sunday 11:35





#### 3.4 - Call for action

- What about community clouds?
- BYOCC (Build Your Own Community Cloud)
  - Recipes for a cloud framework bundle (GNU/Linux, OpenStack, Puppet, KVM, ...)
- Call to Technical Foundations for support!







Thank you :-)

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