

# Free & Open Source Software

Ádám T. Kocsis (adam.kocsis@fau.de)

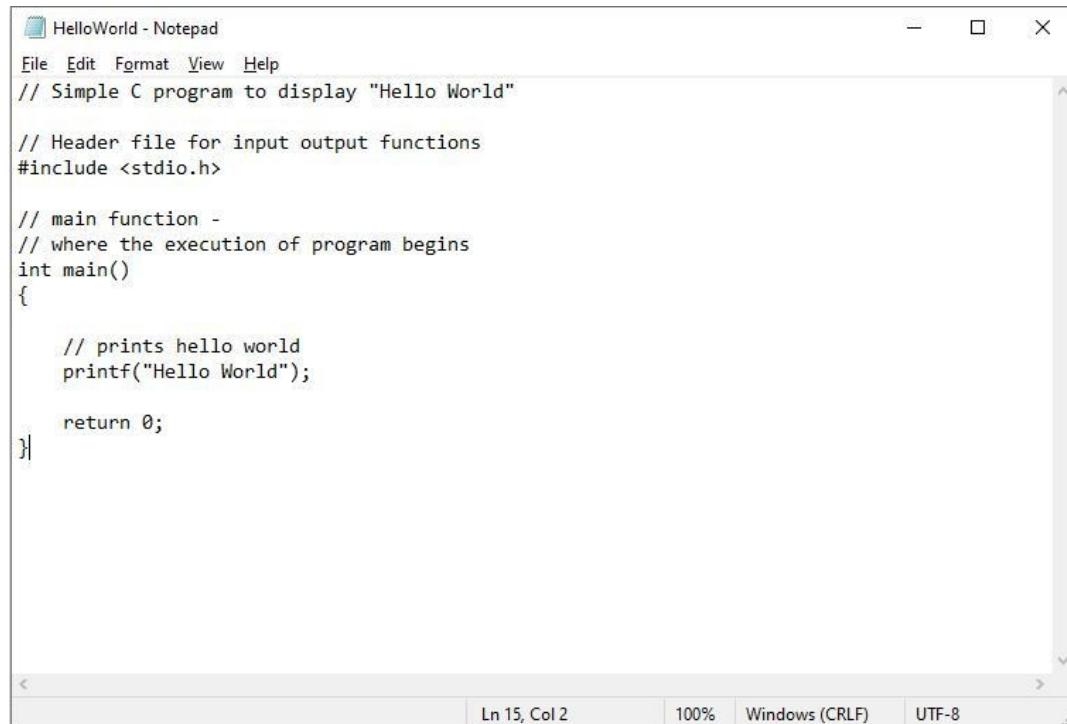


2023-10-10: Computers in Geosciences

# How are application software built?

## The source code

- Human-readable
- A language of some sort



The image shows a Windows Notepad window titled "HelloWorld - Notepad". The window contains the following C program code:

```
File Edit Format View Help
// Simple C program to display "Hello World"

// Header file for input output functions
#include <stdio.h>

// main function -
// where the execution of program begins
int main()
{
    // prints hello world
    printf("Hello World");

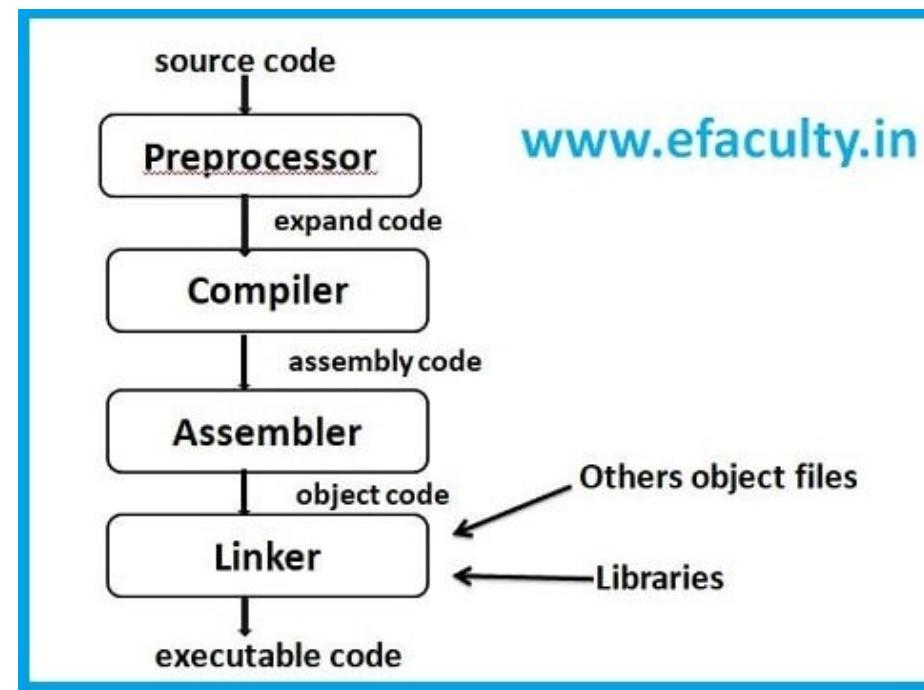
    return 0;
}
```

The status bar at the bottom of the Notepad window displays the following information: < Ln 15, Col 2 100% Windows (CRLF) UTF-8 >

# How are application software built?

The building process (*sensu lato* compilation)

- Translate the source code to executable
- One way deal, i.e. irreversible process – the exact source code cannot be recreated!



Insert: compilation hello.exe

# How are application software built?

# Result: binary executable

- Modification is limited
- What the program does is cryptic (almost black box)
- Specific to Operating System and Architecture!

## Download selection

- gplates\_2.3.0\_win64.exe
- gplates\_2.3.0\_win64.zip
- gplates\_2.3.0\_Darwin-x86\_64.dmg
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-18.04-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-20.04-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-20.10-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-21.04-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-21.10-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-22.04-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-22.10-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_ubuntu-23.04-amd64.deb
- gplates\_2.3.0\_src.zip
- gplates\_2.3.0\_src.tar.bz2

# Free and Open Source Software?

## Result



- You don't need to use binaries from the authors (no charge or restrictions)
- You can modify the program's behavior
- You can see what the program does



# SOURCEFORGE



# Original paradigm

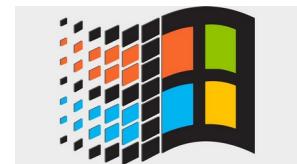
*Software only for specific hardware!*

- No transferability
- Apple still does this



# Same Hardware → Different Software

- Proprietary operating systems
- Expensive, opaque
- **UNIX** (1969, AT&T Bell Labs)



Ken Thompson and  
Dennis Ritchie

**UNIX**<sup>®</sup>

A Standard of The Open Group®

**AIX**

**XENIX**

**solaris**<sup>™</sup>

**BSD**

**hp** **UX**



It's a UNIX system.  
I know this.

# A Free operating system?

Richard Stallman

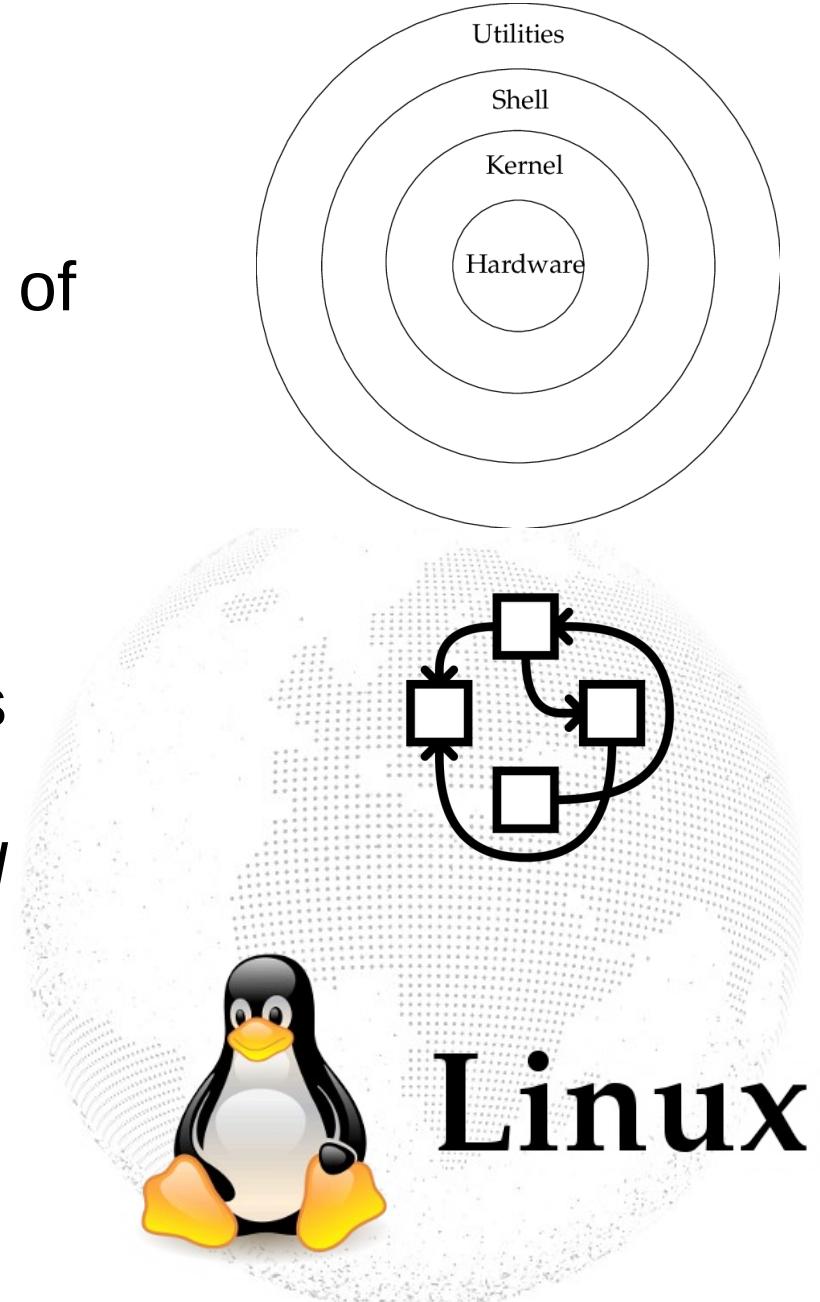


- *@MIT: GNU is Not UNIX (1983)*
- Unix-like OS: Modular design
- do one thing, but very good!
- Hundreds of software (including R!!)
- Works well with other open source software

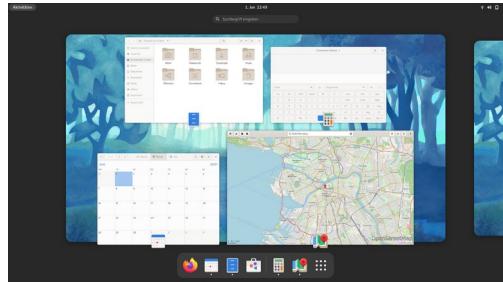


# The Kernel

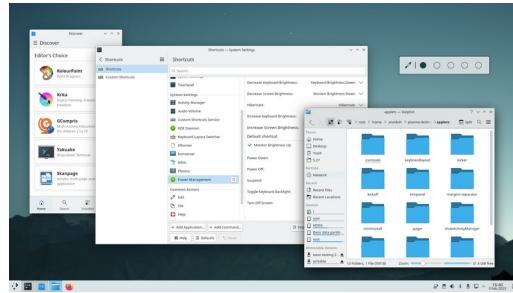
- The most important package of the OS, is built around this: Windows uses **NT**, MacOS: **Darwin**
- Handles hardware resources
- Original plans for GNU: *Hurd*
- 1991 UNIX-clone Minix was rebuilt by Linus Torvalds



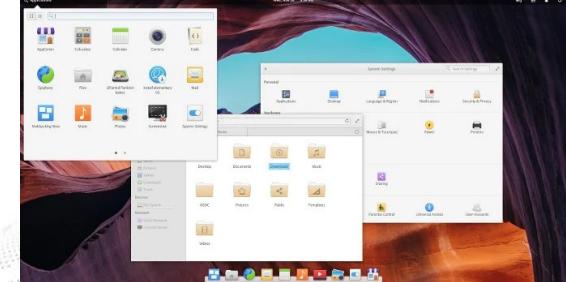
# The Desktop Environment



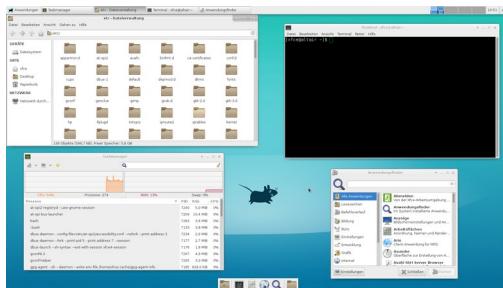
- Gnome



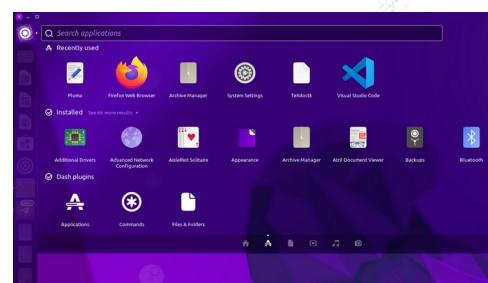
- KDE



- Pantheon



- XFCE



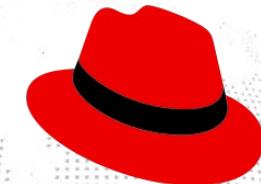
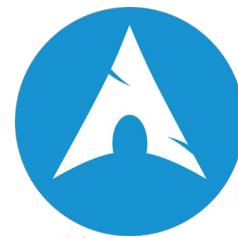
- Unity



- Budgie

# Package management

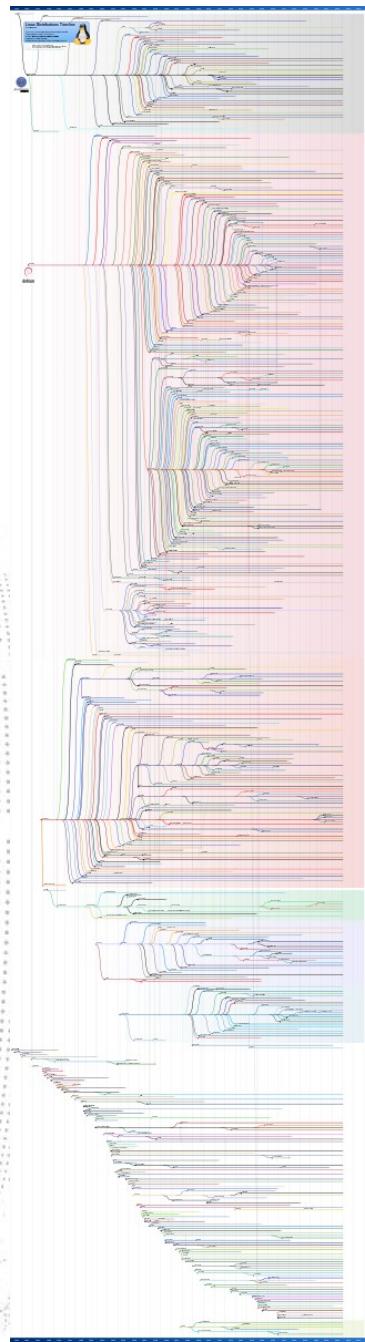
- You can build programs yourself, but it is easier to use pre-built ones
- Most important/prevalent ones



Primary Distribution	Debian	Arch	Red Hat
Manager Program	dpkg/apt	pacman	Re
Package extension	.deb	(AUR)	.rpm

# The Phylogeny

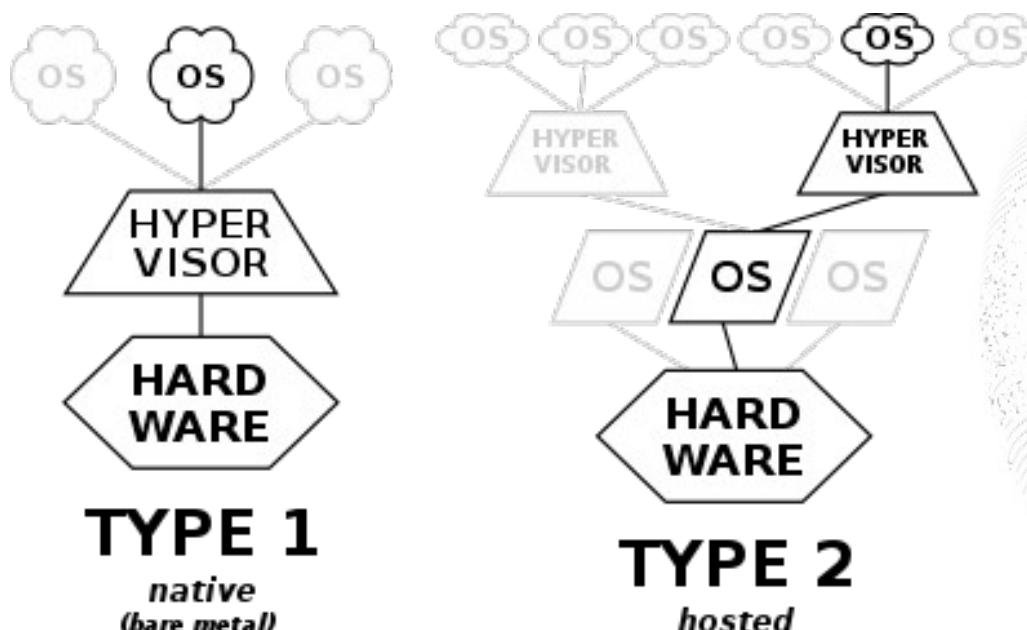
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linux\\_distribution#/media/File:2023\\_Linux\\_Distributions\\_Timeline.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linux_distribution#/media/File:2023_Linux_Distributions_Timeline.svg)



# Try them!

In virtual computers...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1JVqd8M3Yc>



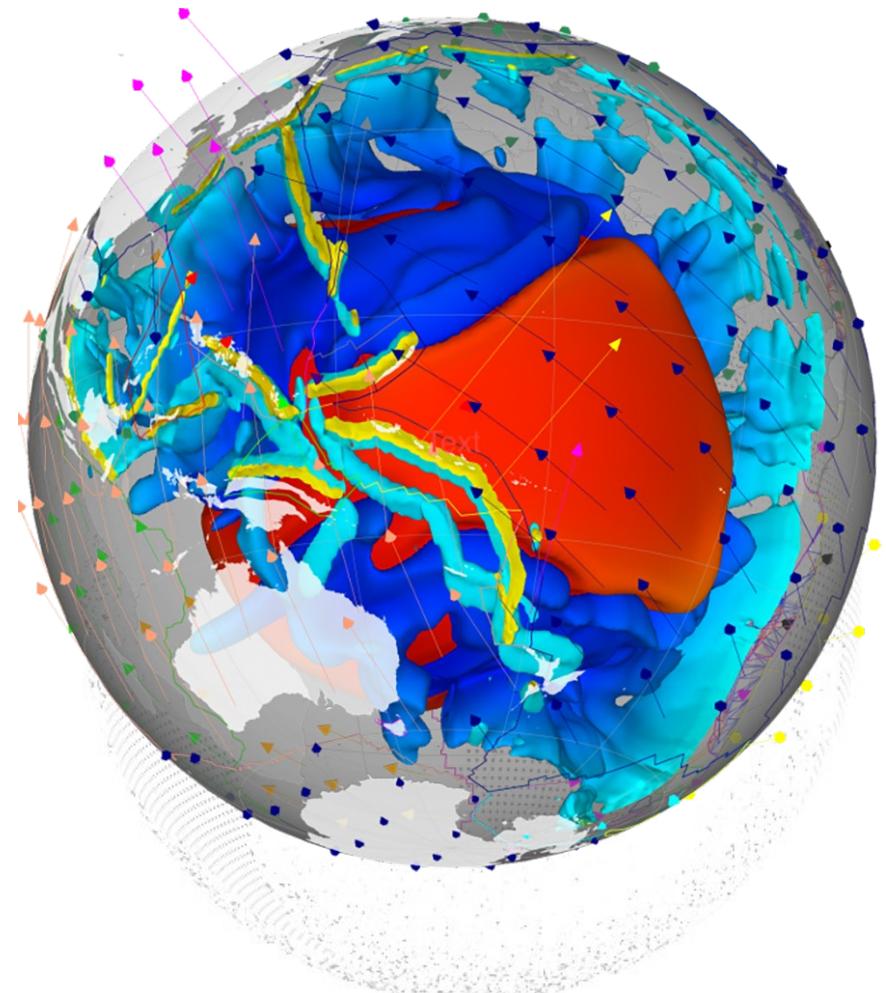
# Inkscape

## *Vector graphics*



# GPPlates

*Plate tectonic reconstructions*



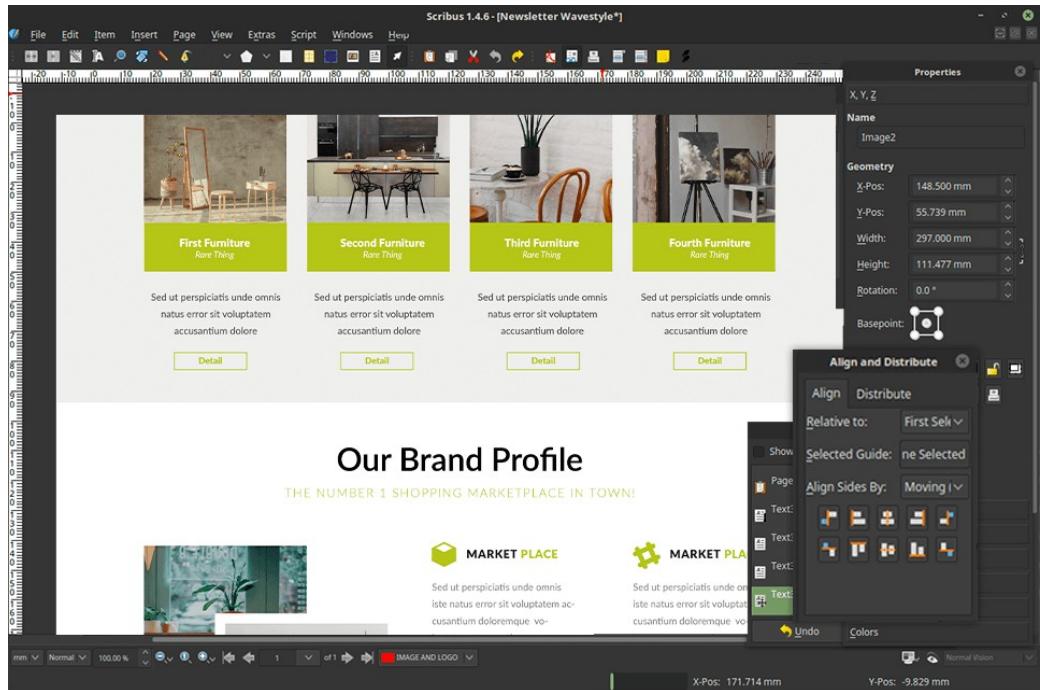
# GIMP

*Raster graphics editor*



# Scribus

## *Publishing (InDesign)*



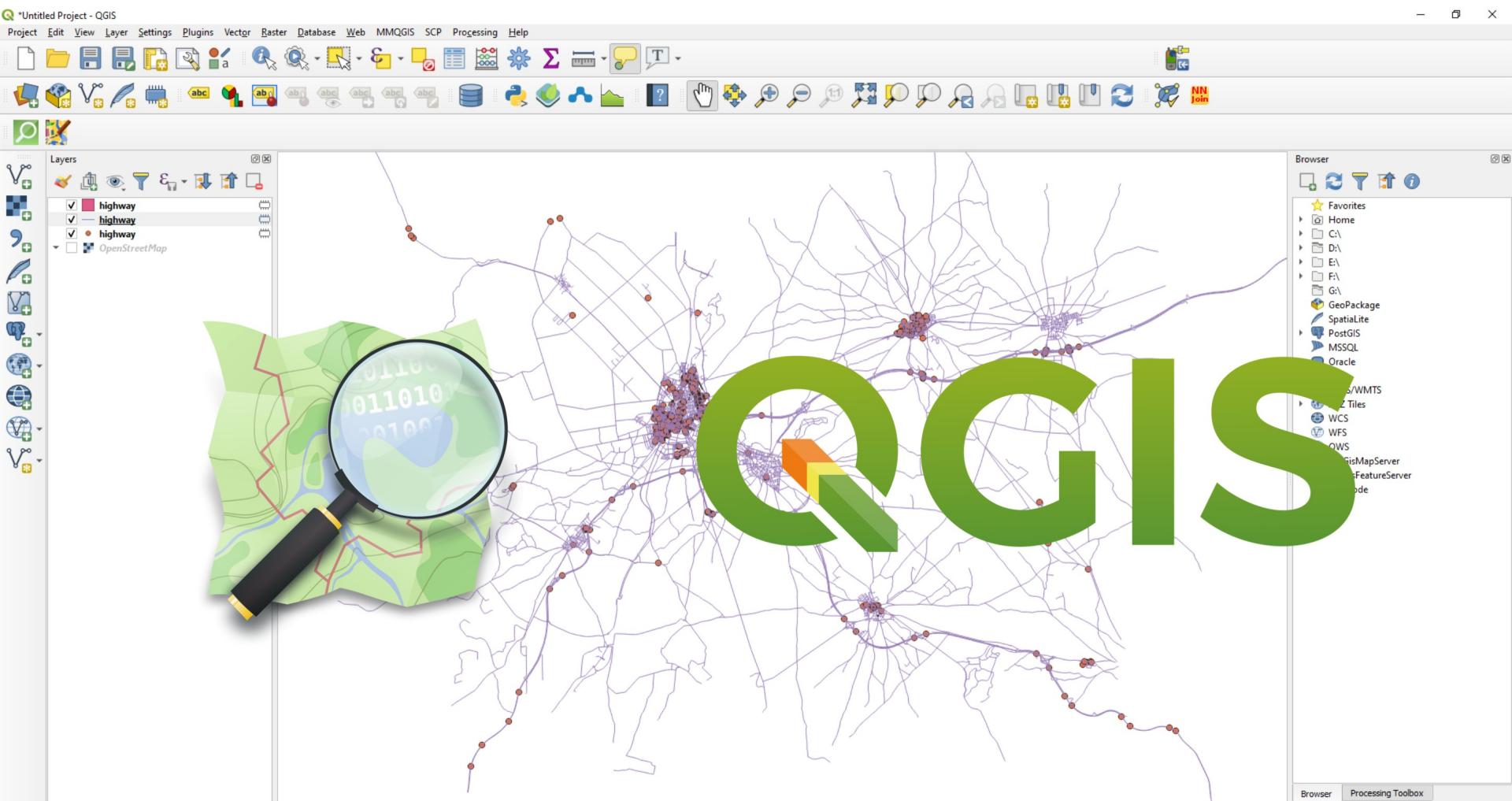
# Blender

*3D Graphics, Modelling, Shading,  
Animation, Rendering*



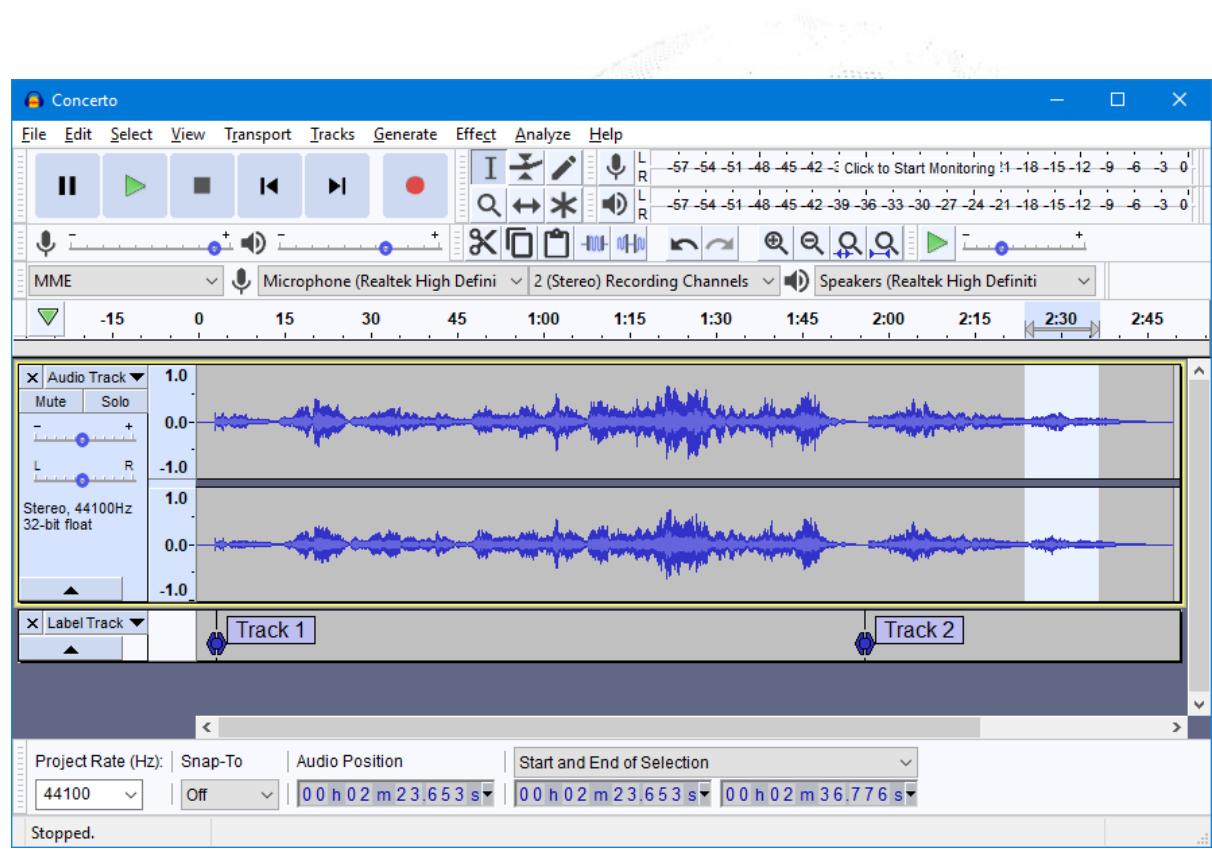
# QGIS

## *Open source GIS*



# Audacity

*Sound and music editor*



# Libreoffice

*Open source office*



# Hundreds of command line tools, e.g.

*Multimedia:*  **FFmpeg**



*Images:*



*Compiler:*

*Document conversion:*

