SBOM journey for an Open Source Project - Apache NuttX RTOS -

Apache NuttX PMC Chair:
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WHO AM I



Open Source advocate

Member of several communities

Apache NuttX RTOS chair

Open Source Software Architect in Sony OSPO

DISCLAIMER

The facts expressed in this presentation are my own and not necessarily represent my employer strategy or opinions



Apache NuttX (RTOS)

- small footprint open-source real-time operating system (RTOS)
- ° technical standards compliance
- ° **scalable** from 8-bit to 64-bit micro-controller environments
- ° **available** for 400+ boards
- documentation
- welcoming community
- ° **wide use** in commercial products







History

2007 released under the permissive BSD license by Gregory Nutt.

2019 donated to Apache Software Foundation.

2022 graduated to a top-level project under Apache License

2024 Governance - Project Management Committee 24 members

Products using NuttX

- Digital audio recorders
- Bluetooth headphones
- Drones & Robots
- Protection Equipment
- RFID Readers
- IoT devices
- Fiscal printers
- Fitness trackers

Forks

- TizenRT.
- Google ARA













Companies using NuttX

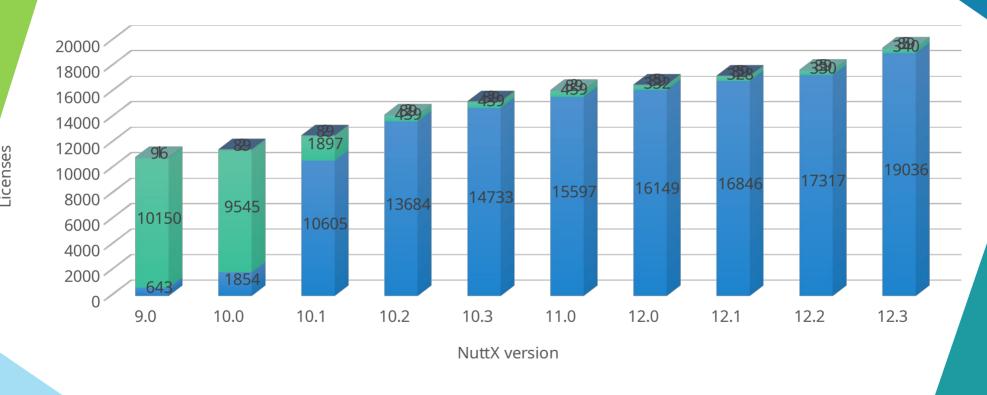
- Sony
- Xiaomi
- Samsung
- **Fithit**
- Motorola Mobility
- Haltian
- 3DRobotics
- Daruma
- VergeAero
- Many others

Apache NuttX Powers World's Smallest Lunar Robot in Japan's Historic Autonomous Lunar Exploration Mission



In an historic milestone in lunar exploration, Japan landed Lunar Excursion Vehicle 2 (LEV-2), the world's smallest lunar robot. capturing historic images from the moon's surface with integrated **NuttX-powered technology in its Sony Spresense board.** The collaborative effort involved the National Research and **Development Agency Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency** (JAXA), Takara Tomy Corporation, Doshisha University, and the incorporation of NuttX in the SPRESENSE TM board by **Sony Group Corporation**, showcasing the robust real-time capabilities essential for the success of the mission. As **Apache NuttX makes its mark on the moon**, this cosmic success not only marks a huge technological achievement but also shows the potential of open-source innovation in space. Ongoing data analysis, including driving logs, holds the promise of revealing further insights, with results anticipated for future publication.

License distribution



■Apache ■BSD ■MIT ■GPL/LGPL

License selection

```
Arrow kevs navigate the menu. <Enter> selects submenus ---> (or empty submenus ----). Highlighted letters are
[ ] excluded <M> module < > module capable
                                                       Build Setup
                System Type --->
                                                       Arrow keys navigate the menu. <Enter> selects submenus ---> (or empty x
                RTOS Features --->
                Device Drivers --->
                                                       submenus ---). Highlighted letters are hotkeys. Pressing <Y>
               Networking Support --->
                Crypto API --->
                                                       includes, <N> excludes, <M> modularizes features. Press <Esc> to
                File Systems --->
                Graphics Support --->
               Memory Management --->
                                                       exit, <?> for Help, </> for Search. Legend: [*] built-in
                Audio Support --->
                Video Support --->
                                                      Wireless Support --->
                Binary Loader --->
                Library Routines --->
                                                                Use components that have BSD licenses
                Open Asymmetric Multi Processing --->
                Application Configuration --->
                                                                 Jse components that have GPL/LGPL licenses
                                                                 Use components that have MIT licenses
                                                                 Jse components that have Eclipse Public Licenses
                                                      х
                      < Exit > < Help > < Save > < Load >
                                                                 Use components that have ICS license
```

Exclude the unwanted licenses during setup



A software Bill of Materials (SBOM) is **a list** of all components present in a codebase, including **license**, **version**, and **metadata** which allows security teams to quickly identify license or security risks.

SBOM TYPES

Design - of intended design of included components (some of which may not exist) for a new software artifact.

Source - created directly from the development environment, source files, and included dependencies used to build a product artifact.

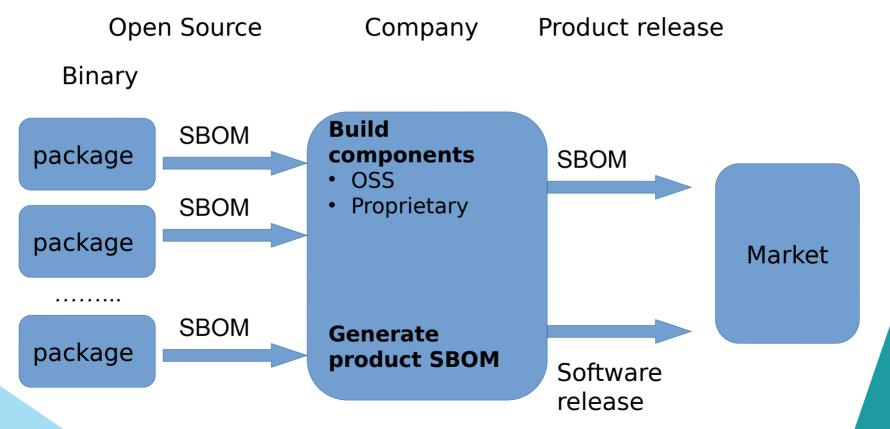
Build - generated through the analysis of artifacts during Build

Analyzed - generated through analysis of artifacts after its build.

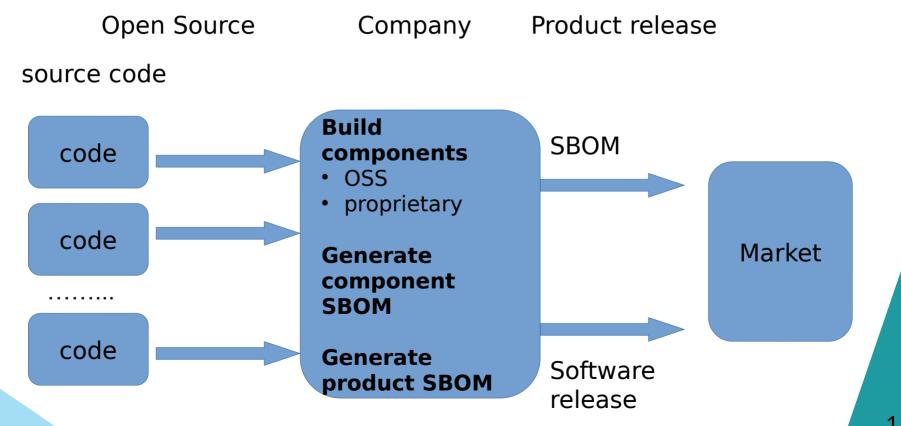
Deployed - provides an inventory of software that is present on a system.

Runtime - generated through instrumenting the system running the software, to capture only components present in the system, as well as external call-outs or dynamically loaded components.

Open Source in a product



Open Source in a product





Software Package Data Exchange - open standard for communicating SBOM, including:

- ° components
- licenses
- ° copyrights
- ° security references

https://spdx.dev



Version 2.x

(https://spdx.github.io/spdx-spec/v2.3/)

defines an SBOM document, which contains SPDX metadata about software. The document itself can be expressed in multiple formats, including JSON, YAML, RDF/XML, tag-value, and spreadsheet

Version 3.0

(https://spdx.github.io/spdx-spec/v3.0/)

SPDX 3.0 allows users to communicate information at a much more granular level without having to package it as "envelope" data.

This page lists Open Source tools that support SPDX.

Cavil CycloneDX CLI distro2sbom FOSSLight FOSSology GitHub Self-Service SBOMs GUAC (Graph for Understanding Artifact Composition) in-toto (ib4sbom Nix / Nixpkgs ntia-conformance-checker Open Source Software Review Toolkit (ORT) Parlay Protobom REUSE	Augur	(
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?

sbomaudit	(
sbomdiff	⊕
sbommerge	(
sbomqs	⊕
sbomtrend	\oplus
sbom-tool	⊕
ScanCode Toolkit	\oplus
SCANOSS	\oplus
SPDX Golang Libraries	⊕
SPDX Java Libraries and Tools	⊕
SPDX JavaScript Libraries	(
SPDX Maven Plugin	(
SPDX Online Tools	(
SPDX Python Libraries	(
spdx-sbom-generator	(
SW360	⊕
Syft	⊕
Tern	⊕
Yocto Project / OpenEmbedded	(+)

RTOS landscape

RTOS	License	Format	Governance	Activity(30 days)	SBOM
Azure-RTOS	Microsoft Software License	Plain text	Microsoft	Archived	NO
Contiki-NG	BSD-3-Clause license	Plain text	Community	Low	NO
FreeRTOS	MIT	SPDX	Community	Low	BUILD
mbed OS	Apache 2.0	SPDX	ARM	Low	NO
myNewt	Apache 2.0	Plain text	ASF	Low	NO
NuttX	Apache 2.0	SPDX	ASF	High	BUILD (WIP)
RIOT	LGPL-2.1	Plain text	Community	Moderate	NO
RT-Thread	Apache 2.0	SPDX	Community	Moderate	NO
CMSIS-5	Apache 2.0	SPDX	ARM	None	NO
Tyzen RT	Apache 2.0	Plain text	Samsung	Moderate	NO
Zephyr	Apache 2.0	SPDX	Linux Foundation	High	BUILD

Inspired by Kate Stewart 1



Perfect case

old code

multiple licenses

Less known licenses

Tools can give false positives Community can help!

```
crypto/xform.c: migrate to SPDX identifier
    Most tools used for compliance and SBOM generation use SPDX identifiers
    This change brings us a step closer to an easy SBOM generation.
    NOTE
    The code was reported as GPL by FOSS ID
    and Xiaomi scanned the file xform.c with Black Duck Security and it showed
   that the license was BSD-3-Clause and no risk was reported.
    Since there is no clause on the license it was concluded as OBSD
    Refference
   https://github.com/apache/nuttx/pull/15252
   Signed-off-by: Alin Jerpelea <alin.jerpelea@sony.com>
diff --git a/crvpto/xform.c b/crvpto/xform.c
index 3802112b2f..5e4c28445e 100644
--- a/crvpto/xform.c
+++ b/crypto/xform.c
  1 -1.6 +1.18 @@
  * crvpto/xform.c
  * The authors of this code are John Ioannidis (ji@tla.org),
```

Defined local SPDX identifier

To docontribute to
SPDX identifier
database

include/crypto/sha1: migrate to SPDX identifier

Most tools used for compliance and SBOM generation use SPDX identifiers This change brings us a step closer to an easy SBOM generation.

define NuttX local NuttX-PublicDomain identifier

"Public Domain" is a concept distinct from copyright licensing; it generally means that the work no longer has any copyright protection or ownership, and therefore requires no license permission in order to use, copy, modify, distribute, perform, display, etc.

In the United States – and many jurisdictions – copyright protections

In the United States - and many jurisdictions - copyright protections attach automatically to creative works upon creation if they satisfy certain minimum criteria.

"Public Domain" would thus represent a significant change to the legal status of the work.

The rules around "Public Domain" often vary or are unspecified jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Adding to the confusion, some jurisdictions may not even recognize the concept of "Public Domain" (or similar). As such, a license may nevertheless be required or implied in these cases. Even in the U.S., there is no clear, officially-sanctioned procedure for affirmatively placing copyright-eligible works into the "Public Domain" aside from natural statutory expiration of copyright. The bottom-line is, there are few if any objective, brightline rules for proactively placing copyright-eligible works into the Public Domain that we can broadly rely on.

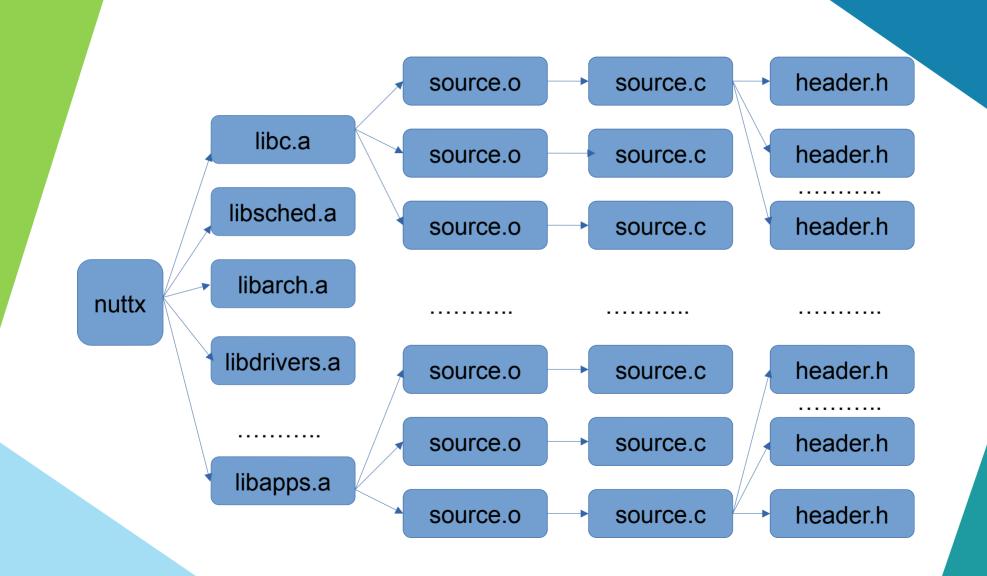


OBJECTIVES

- $^{\circ}$ make it fully automated
- ° existing build system

Collected information:

0 1



NuttX Build system

Makefile based Generates Make.dep filles

```
./libs/libc/bin/Make.dep
./libs/libxx/Make.dep
./mm/bin/Make.dep
./arch/arm/src/Make.dep
./fs/Make.dep
./binfmt/Make.dep
./boards/Make.dep
./boards/arm/cxd56xx/common/Make.dep
./drivers/Make.dep
./sched/Make.dep
```

```
fs_initialize.o: ../fs/fs_initialize.c \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/nuttx/config.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/nuttx/reboot_notifier.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/nuttx/irq.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/stdint.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/nuttx/compiler.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/arch/types.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/arch/inttypes.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/limits.h \
  /home/me/nuttx/nuttx/include/limits.h \
```

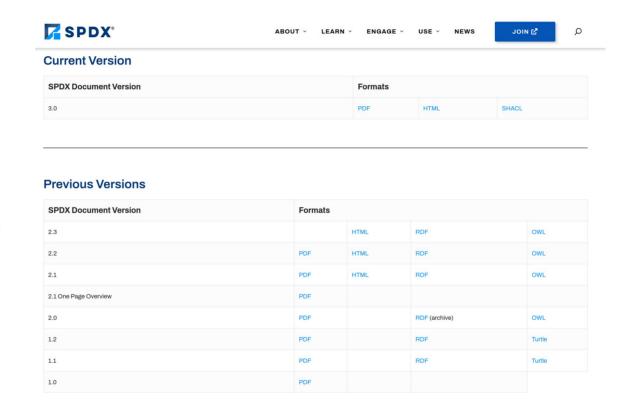


build_sbom_dep.map



fs/fs_initialize.c
include/nuttx/config.h
include/nuttx/reboot_notifier.h
include/nuttx/irq.h
include/stdint.h
include/nuttx/compiler.h
include/arch/types.h
include/arch/inttypes.h
include/limits.h
include/arch/limits.h

WE HAVE A PROBLEM!



What version?

Detailed specifications



https://spdx.github.io/spdx-spec/v2.3/file-information/

Detailed examples

```
spdx-examples / software / example10 / spdx2.3 / hello-source.spdx.json
  goneall and nishakm Move the software examples into the software profile
   Code
            Blame 128 lines (128 loc) · 3.25 KB
                "SPDXID": "SPDXRef-DOCUMENT",
               "spdxVersion": "SPDX-2.3",
               "creationInfo": {
                 "created": "2022-10-28T17:24:21Z",
                  "creators": [
                   "Person: Nisha Kumar"
                  "licenseListVersion": "3.18"
      10
               },
      11
               "name": "hello",
      12
               "dataLicense": "CC0-1.0",
      13
               "documentDescribes": [
      14
                 "SPDXRef-hello-source"
      15
      16
                "documentNamespace": "https://github.com/spdx/spdx-examples/example10/spdx",
      17
               "packages": [
      18
      19
                   "SPDXID": "SPDXRef-hello-source".
      20
                   "name": "hello".
      21
                   "downloadLocation": "NOASSERTION",
      22
                   "originator": "Person: Nisha Kumar",
      23
                   "licenseDeclared": "MIT",
                   "licenseConcluded": "NOASSERTION",
      24
                   "copyrightText": "Copyright (c) 2022 Authors of Hello",
      25
      26
                   "homepage": "https://github.com/spdx/spdx-examples",
      27
                   "filesAnalyzed": true,
      28
                   "primaryPackagePurpose": "LIBRARY",
      29
                   "hasFiles": [
                     "SPDXRef-hello-pv".
      31
                     "SPDXRef-hello-init",
      32
                     "SPDXRef-hello-pyproject",
                      "SPDXRef-hello-license",
      33
      34
                      "SPDXRef-hello-readme"
      35
```

OBJECTIVES

- ° make it fully automated
- ° existing build system
- ° SPDX 2.3
- ° JSON SBOM format

Collected information:

- ° file hashes
- ° licenses
- ° relationships

for sources and build artifacts

SBOM - SPDX 2.3 - Header

```
"SPDXVersion": "SPDX-2.3",
"DataLicense": "CC0-1.0",
"SPDXID": "SPDXRef-DOCUMENT",
"DocumentName": "NuttX-12.8.0",
"documentNamespace": "https://github.com/apache/nuttx/spdx",
   "Comment": "Generated by NuttX build",
   "Creator": "Person:user",
   "Tool": "nuttx build sbom.py",
   "created": "24/01/2025 10:41:41"
```

5BOM - SPDX 2.3 - source

```
"FileName": "fs/fs_initialize.c",
"FileType": "SOURCE",
"SPDXID": "SPDXID-File-fs/fs_initialize.c",
"checksum": "SHA1: 968c701f562262dd07b8421cd10c14abc66f8596",
    "Apache-2.0"
    "Apache-2.0"
    "NOASSERTION"
    "NOASSERTION"
```

5BOM - SPDX 2.3 - headers

```
"FileName": "include/nuttx/config.h",
"FileType": "SOURCE".
"SPDXID": "SPDXID-File-include/nuttx/config.h",
"checksum": "SHA1: 86b4672a2d57a2121a51ca0c53b86df00da86006",
    "NOASSERTION"
    "NOASSERTION"
                                     "FileName": "/usr/lib/gcc/arm-none-eabi/13.2.1/include/stdarg.h",
                                     "FileType": "SOURCE",
    "NOASSERTION"
                                     "SPDXID": "SPDXID-File-/usr/lib/gcc/arm-none-eabi/13.2.1/include/stdarg.h"
                                      "checksum": "SHA1: 5d5992d7ea977abf4ae526880f995c19d4865aaa",
    "NOASSERTION"
                                         "NOASSERTION"
                                          "NOASSERTION"
                                          "NOASSERTION"
                                          "NOASSERTION"
```

Challenges - external projects

nuttx/apps/math/libtommath\$ ls CMakeLists.txt Kconfig Make.defs Makefile

Possible fix

- license check
- SPDX identifiers
- Upstream contribution

Alternate fix Patch licenses after integration

```
CONFIG_LIBTOMMATH_URL ?= "https://github.com/libtom/libtommath/archive"

LIBTOMMATH_VERSION = $(patsubst "%",%,$(strip $(CONFIG_LIBTOMMATH_VERSION)))

LIBTOMMATH_ZIP = v$(LIBTOMMATH_VERSION).zip

LIBTOMMATH_UNPACKNAME = libtommath
UNPACK ?= unzip -o

$(LIBTOMMATH_ZIP):
          @echo "Downloading: $(LIBTOMMATH_ZIP)"
          $(Q) curl -0 -L $(CONFIG_LIBTOMMATH_URL)/$(LIBTOMMATH_ZIP)

$(LIBTOMMATH_UNPACKNAME): $(LIBTOMMATH_ZIP) -> $(LIBTOMMATH_UNPACKNAME)"
          $(Q) $(UNPACK) $(LIBTOMMATH_ZIP)
          $(Q) $(UNPACK) $(LIBTOMMATH_VERSION) $(LIBTOMMATH_UNPACKNAME)
          $(Q) touch $(LIBTOMMATH_UNPACKNAME)
```

Some thoughts

- Available SBOM information may be overwhelming
- Open Chan and SPDX are welcoming communities
- ° **SPDX identifier** may be missing for your dependencies
- ° Join the **open source community**!

THANK YOU!