

The Limit of Freedom: We are free only within the limit of freedom (NPU/Amy)

Knowledge is a common human heritage. Software automates knowledge. The Free Software Movement is engaged in a political fight to make software a common human heritage. However, post-science would like to take issue on the popularly accepted concept of Freedom.

The question is "Are We Free?" The last debate between the economist Milton Friedman and Post-Science Institute was about whether the Free Market is free. Post-science believes that the market is regulated by NON-VIOLABLE laws of nature, as all motions of material objects are regulated by non-violable laws of nature in science. For example, after investors have determined the market price, a rigorous mathematical relationship can calculate the rate of return. When the rate of return drops below zero, a financial crisis occurs.

The question for software is whether we can freely write software without any constraint. This is Technical Freedom, in contrast to Political Freedom promoted by Richard Stallman. Currently, over 90% of software budget is for maintenance or updating. We can almost ask whether the value of the manually updated software is positive or negative, for it has to be manually updated to infinity in time. Thus, a necessary requirement for software should be permanence through automatic updating based on the solution of completely automated software. Accordingly, all living things are designed for permanent existence through the propagation of DNA, which is an example of completely automated software.

A free software movement is to free software from all the unjustified political, technical, and economic barriers in software usage. The Free Software Movement consists of only Political Freedom for software, which relates to the user's freedom in running, knowing, modifying, and distributing software. Post-Science Institute and Northwestern Polytechnic University join a free software movement by introducing Technical Freedom for software, freeing software from technical barriers, namely, the learning curve and the update cost of software.

Software will become a big issue in the coming years. The association of Northwestern Polytechnic University with any free software movement can put NPU into the software mainstream of the future.

Let me introduce our speaker with one final remark: A way to make a lot of money is to sell an addictive product, and we are all addicted to the addictive software of Bill Gates, except our Speaker, Richard Stallman.