

FSF/FSFE/GNU: The Commons Clause Against Copyleft, GCC/Loongson and Sustainable Computing (FSFE)

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- [A Fresh Concern About Open-Source Software](#) [3]

The issue came to a head last week due to two separate licensing decisions in the space. First, the database project Redis, which is known for its ability to store data in memory, announced it would use a new kind of license called "The Commons Clause," which looks like open source (in that the source is available to use and modify) but doesn't fully fit the standard because it allows the project to require that some commercial clients pay for use.

The problem for Redis Labs, the maker of the software, was that many cloud providers, such as Amazon, use its software but don't contribute to its upkeep.

"Cloud providers contribute very little (if anything) to those open source projects. Instead, they use their monopolistic nature to derive hundreds of millions dollars in revenues from them," the company wrote on its licenses page. "Already, this behavior has damaged open-source communities and put some of the companies that support them out of business."

- [Loongson 3A1000/3A2000/3A3000 Processor Support For GCC](#) [4]

A compiler engineer working for Loongson Technology Co is looking to land a number of improvements to these newer MIPS64 processors into the mainline GCC code-base.

Paul Hua of Loongson Tech sent out a number of patches to improve the GNU Compiler Collection's support for these Chinese MIPS64 CPUs. In particular, the six patches officially add support for the 3A1000, 3A2000, and 3A3000 series processors. Also, there is support for the older Loongson 2K1000 processor series.

- [Sustainable Computing](#) [5]

Recent discussions about the purpose and functioning of the FSFE have led me to consider the broader picture of what I would expect Free Software and its developers and advocates to seek to achieve in wider society. It was noted, as one might expect, that as a central component of its work the FSFE seeks to uphold the legal conditions for the use of Free Software by making sure that laws and regulations do not discriminate against Free Software licensing.

This indeed keeps the activities of Free Software developers and advocates viable in the face of selfish and anticompetitive resistance to the notions of collaboration and sharing we hold dear. Advocacy for these notions is also important to let people know what is possible with technology and to be familiar with our rich technological heritage. But it turns out that these things, although rather necessary, are not sufficient for Free Software to thrive.

[GNU Legal](#)

Source URL: <http://www.tuxmachines.org/node/115189>

Links:

[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/144>

[2] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/106>

[3] <https://associationsnow.com/2018/09/open-source-software-licensing-concern/>

[4] https://www.phoronix.com/scan.php?page=news_item&px=Loongson-3A1000-3A3000-GCC

[5] <https://blogs.fsfe.org/pboddie/?p=2307>