# PLUME and RELIER

To improve the visibility of software produced
by research laboratories

http://www.projet-plume.org/en

Jean-Luc Archimbaud, Véronique Baudin, Teresa Gomez-Diaz

PLUME, UREC/LAAS/LIGM, CNRS

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# Plan

# $p$lume - The target public

The (French speaking) academic community:

- Universities, "Grandes Écoles"
- CNRS: research laboratories, all scientific domains
- other research entities: CEA, INRA, INRIA, INSERM, ...
- in total: around 10 000 computer science engineers and technicians
- plus researchers, professors, students, ...

Plus satellites: international, industry, ...

# *plume* - Motivation

## What happens in the academic community regarding software?

The reasons to launch PLUME (january 2007):

- a lot of software is used : useful, efficient, free (FLOSS)
- a lot of software is developped within the community
- a lot of experts around: users, developers
- no organization/structure inside the community to share this knowledge
- software developers/users: usually isolated in their labs
- recurrent question:
  how to find the right software to solve my professional needs?

*plume* - The project

- **PLUME** 🇫🇷

  **P**romouvoir les **L**ogiciels **U**tiles **M**aîtrisés et **E**conomiques
  dans l'Enseignement Supérieur et la Recherche
  http://www.projet-plume.org/, plume@urec.cnrs.fr

- **PLUME**-**FEATHER** 🇬🇧

  **P**romoting economica**L**, **U**seful and **M**aintained softwar**E**
  **F**or the **H**igher **E**ducation **A**nd **THE R**esearch community
  http://www.projet-plume.org/en, plume@urec.cnrs.fr

- **RELIER**

  **RE**férencer les développements **L**ogiciels **I**nternes
  de l'**E**nseignement supérieur et de la **R**echerche

  Reference software within
  the French higher education and research community
  http://www.projet-plume.org/relier, relier-pilote@services.cnrs.fr

# plume - Four main goals

Four main goals regarding software in the French higher education and research (academic) community:

- share competences and value knowledge
- promote software produced by the community
  free/open source software from Academia (FOSSa)
- create and lead a developers' community
- promote the use of and contributions to
  free/open source software (FOSS)

Questions and goals lead to set up the PLUME platform:

http://www.projet-plume.org/

# plume - The platform today

Platform open on october 2007, now there are 6 types of software index cards (statistics, sept. 2010):

- oriented to potential users:
    - (293) used and "validated" cards: in production on at least 3 sites
    - (31) "to be validated" cards: in production on 1 or 2 sites
    - (9) "on test" cards

- with informations related to software:
    - (185) resource cards (articles, FAQ, events, ...)

- oriented to research, labs, entities, evaluation, ...:
    - (191) (dév. ESR) cards: developed within research labs
    - (48) (dév. ESR) English cards

11 archives (up-to-date information), +200 cards waiting on the pipeline
1418 members, 617 contributors (write, review),
25 theme managers, 1 chief editor

# RELIER - Motivation
## What happens with the software produced at research labs?

- some labs and universities produce a lot of software
  - for research: experiments, publications, ...
  - for everyday needs: management, bibliography, ...

- some are FOSS software

- some are distributed sometimes not in the best conditions

- most of them are unknown software

- most of them should be useful for other
  researchers/labs/projects/industry

- there is no national repository (no stats, ...)

# RELIER - The project

To reference and to index the labs/universities' software without regarding their status of completeness, documentation or distribution.

RELIER produces:

- Dév ESR cards ▮▮
- PLUME-FEATHER cards ▩
- specific fields:
    - ▸ (Scientific) publications
    - ▸ Laboratories
    - ▸ Head institutions (Universities, CNRS, INRA, ...)
- Pages listing software developpements of laboratories, institutions
  http://www.projet-plume.org/laas

# PLUME-RELIER - To help developers

- Documents to study problems related to software developement inside research labs and to propose solutions...

  http://www.projet-plume.org/referentiel-doc-dev

  - FAQ: Forges
  - Why free licences for research software
  - FAQ: Licence & copyright
  - Guide for research labs software
  - Distribute lab's software: legal and administrative recommendations

- Tutorials, schools, whorkshops, ...
  - ENVOL, PLUME days, FOSSA, ...

- Academic tool: project to set up a national forge
  - coordination?, management?, complement of existing ones?
  - survey: 300 answers

# PLUME-RELIER - Conclusion

We think that PLUME is a good tool:

- to share knowledge about FLOSS used in the academic community
- to improve the visibility of software produced by research laboratories

The more PLUME is used, the more PLUME is useful:

- June 2009: 389 published cards - 134 675 page read - 798 members
- June 2010: 725 published cards - 200 026 page read - 1334 members

If you wish to participate:

- http://www.projet-plume.org/participer
- plume@urec.cnrs.fr