

# Ethical Aspects of Using, Writing, and Distributing Software

*Thursday 31 July 2025 12:00 (30 minutes)*

I will argue why the classical Four Software Freedoms (Use, inspect, improve, share) are much more than utopian dreams of idealists with long beards. On the contrary, in addition to them providing an inclusive social contract fostering software development in a process resembling the scientific process itself, it is also an important ingredient to FAIR software that is sustainable in both senses of the word.

## Sustainability

AI / Sustainable Programming & Footprint

**Primary author:** DEMLEITNER, Markus (Universität Heidelberg, Zentrum für Astronomie)

**Presenter:** DEMLEITNER, Markus (Universität Heidelberg, Zentrum für Astronomie)

**Session Classification:** Ethics