LLW 2024

Hermine: Open Source compliance with an automated, community-driven tool

Vision & history

A community-driven approach for (mostly FOSS) licences understanding

- Building a **common way of complying with Open Source Licences**. We want every (non FOSS Expert) lawyer to benefit from open source best practices/knowledge and adapt these practices to their specific needs.
- **Our challenge** : to design a digital common (both a software, a database and a community of practice) that allows any lawyer to comply with any Open Source Obligation.
- in line with the dynamics of OS licences from the beginning (general licences, reuse of clauses, use of exceptions, etc.).

Vision & history

Our methodology:

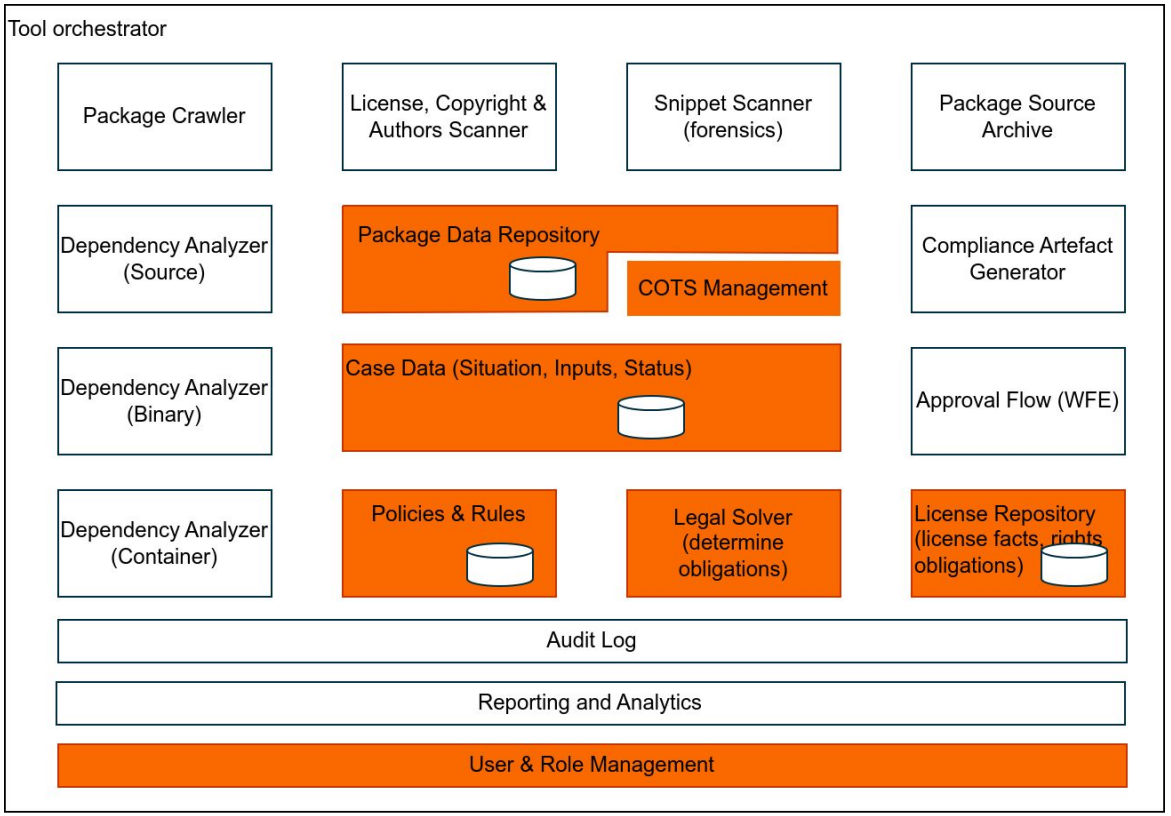
1) Building a **consensus** :
   - which would bring a community-driven shared understanding of licences WHILE still allowing flexibility for private reinterpretation within each organisation
   - Concretly, we worked on the methodology of analysis (defining a common "canvas") and the result of the application of this methodology by a community of (non FOSS experts) lawyers (the reference consensus).
2) with a **automated application** in mind:
   - at the level of licence analysis and at at the level of application,
   - Applying the FOSS policies (integrating compliance in CI/CD processes).

Vision & history

Our mindset:

- FOSS and Open Data
- End-user-driven project (Lectra, Orange, OVH Cloud, Enedis, RTE, inno³)
- Don't reinvent the wheel / on the shoulders of giants
- A scope as small as possible / as large as necessary

Where we are on the map

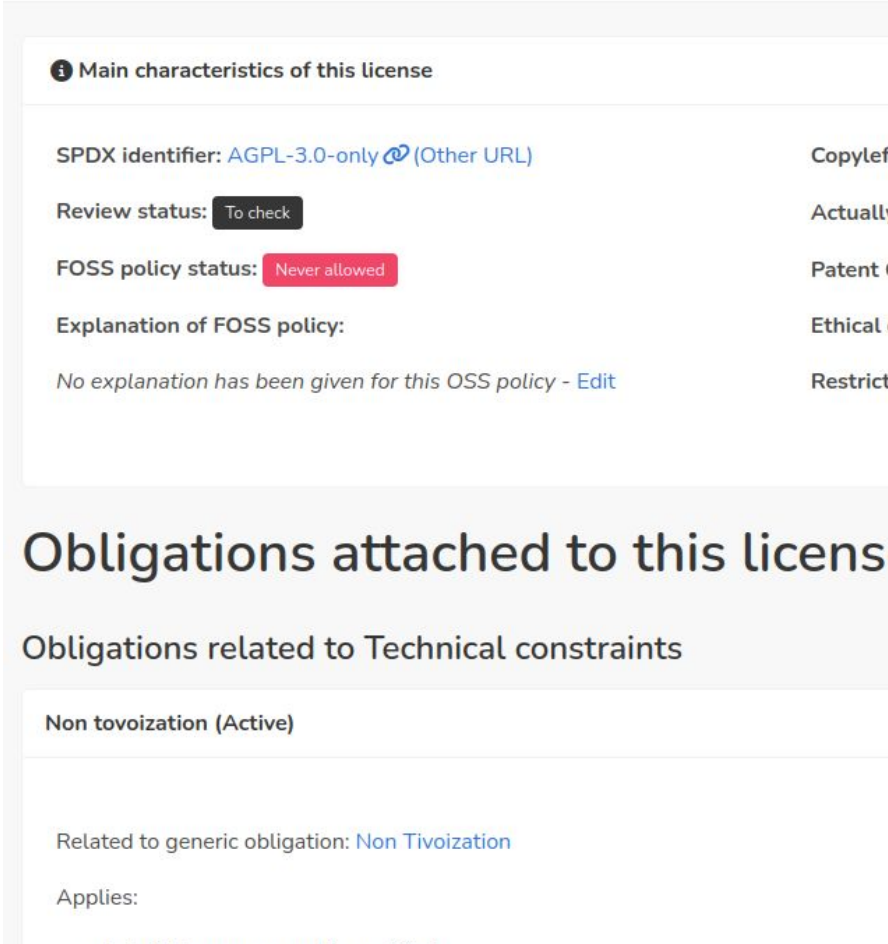


Standards we rely on

- For licence IDs: SPDX + NexB's/DejaCode LicenseRef-s
- SBOMs: ORT's evaluated model (scopes !)+ SPDX (+ CyclonDX ASAWHT)
- For Components IDs: PURL
- For curations: ORT's format (still WIP)
- Licence analysis data: Goal is to converge AMAP with OSADL (not that simple) (and others FOSSlight, etc.)

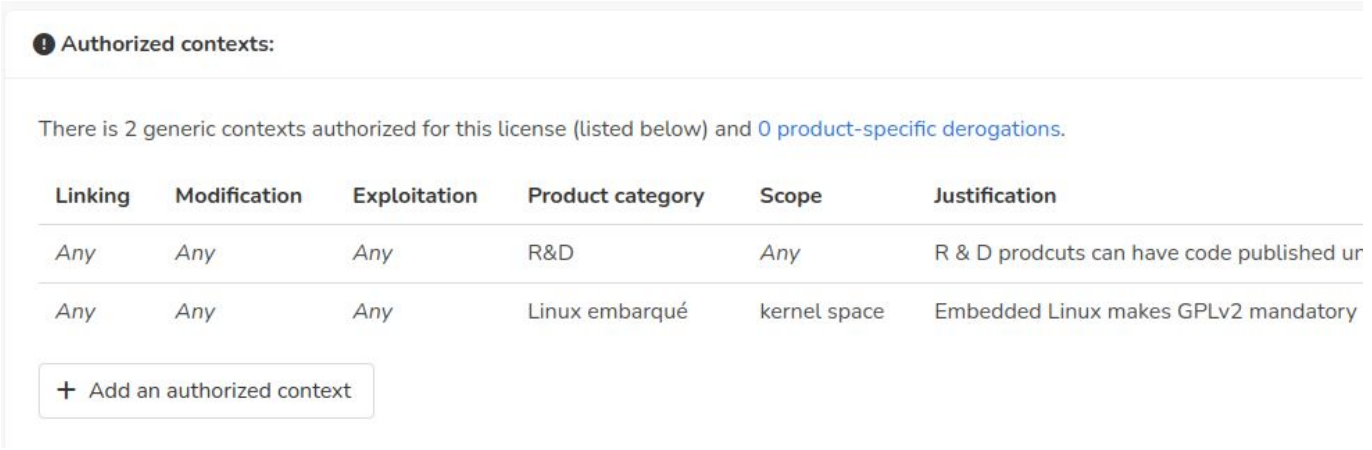
Licence analysis

- Main characteristics :
  - Copyleft, Patent grant, Choice of law
  - Foss policy status
- Obligations
  - Passive / Active
  - Trigger :
    - Modification status
    - Exploitation (distribution source / non-source)
  - **Related Generic obligation**



Licence analysis : policy status

- Always/ Never / Depends on the context :
- « Authorized contexts » :
  - Technical criteria: exploitation, modification, linking type
  - « Business » criteria : the category of your product



Authorized contexts:

There is 2 generic contexts authorized for this license (listed below) and 0 product-specific derogations.

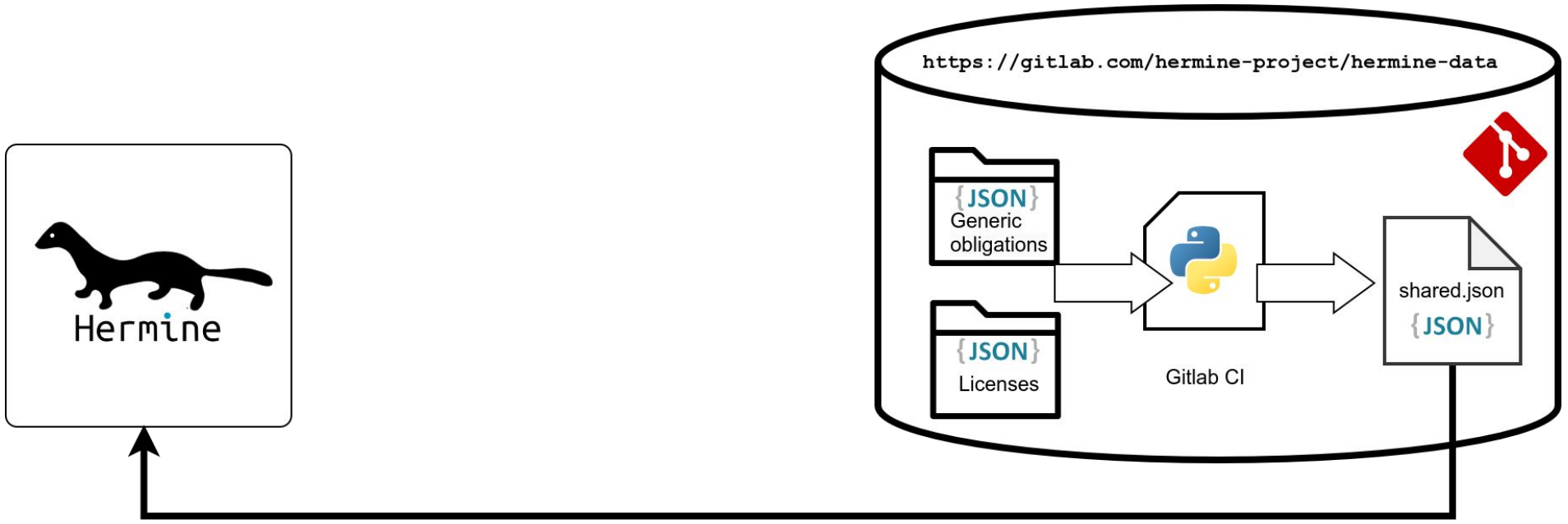
Linking	Modification	Exploitation	Product category	Scope	Justification
Any	*Any*	*Any*	R&D	*Any*	R & D prodcuts can have code published ur
Any	*Any*	*Any*	Linux embarqué	kernel space	Embedded Linux makes GPLv2 mandatory

+ Add an authorized context

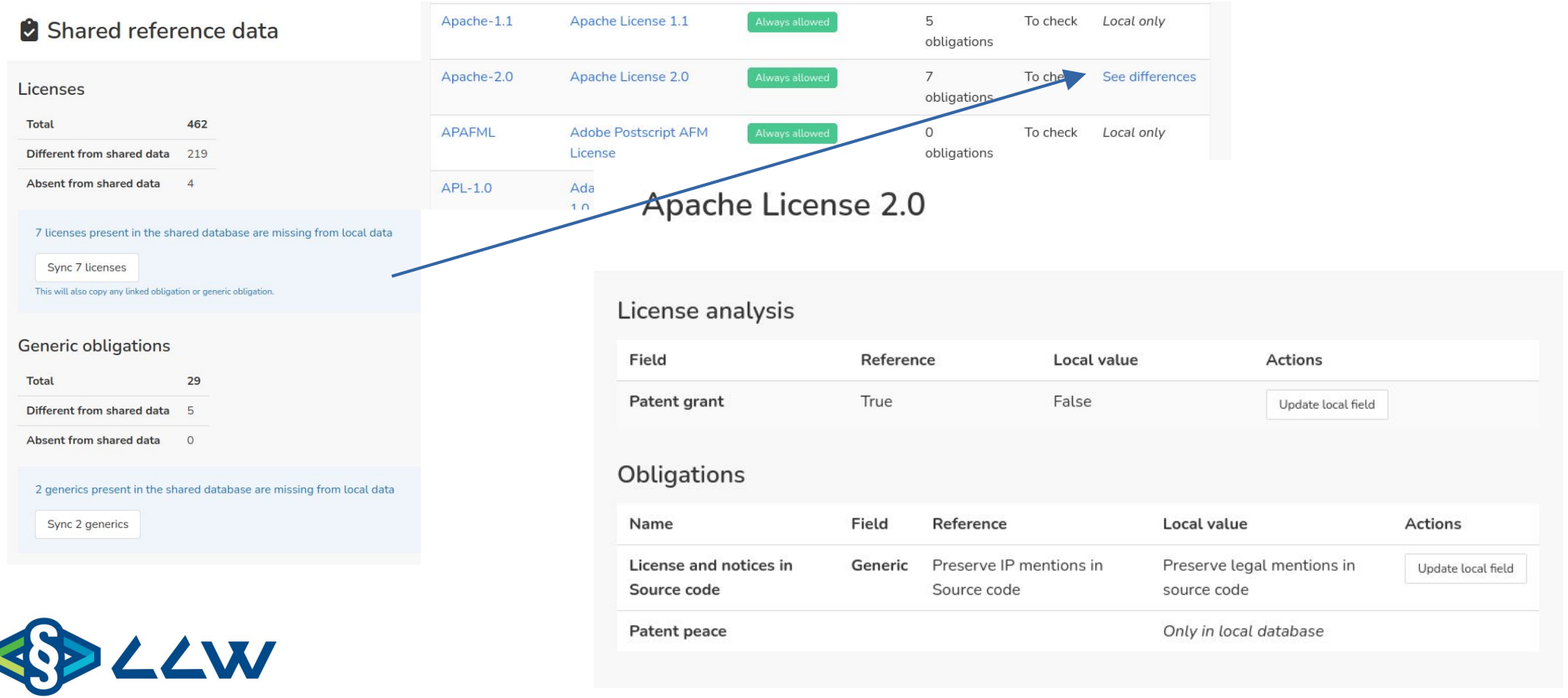
Generic obligations

- Grouping obligations from licences considered functionnally equivalent and that could be handled by the same process.
  - « The name of the Copyright Holder may not be used to endorse or promote products derived from this software without specific prior written permission. » (Artistic-1.0)
  - « Neither the name of the copyright holder nor the names of its contributors may be used to endorse or promote products derived from this software without specific prior written permission. » (BSD-3-Clause)

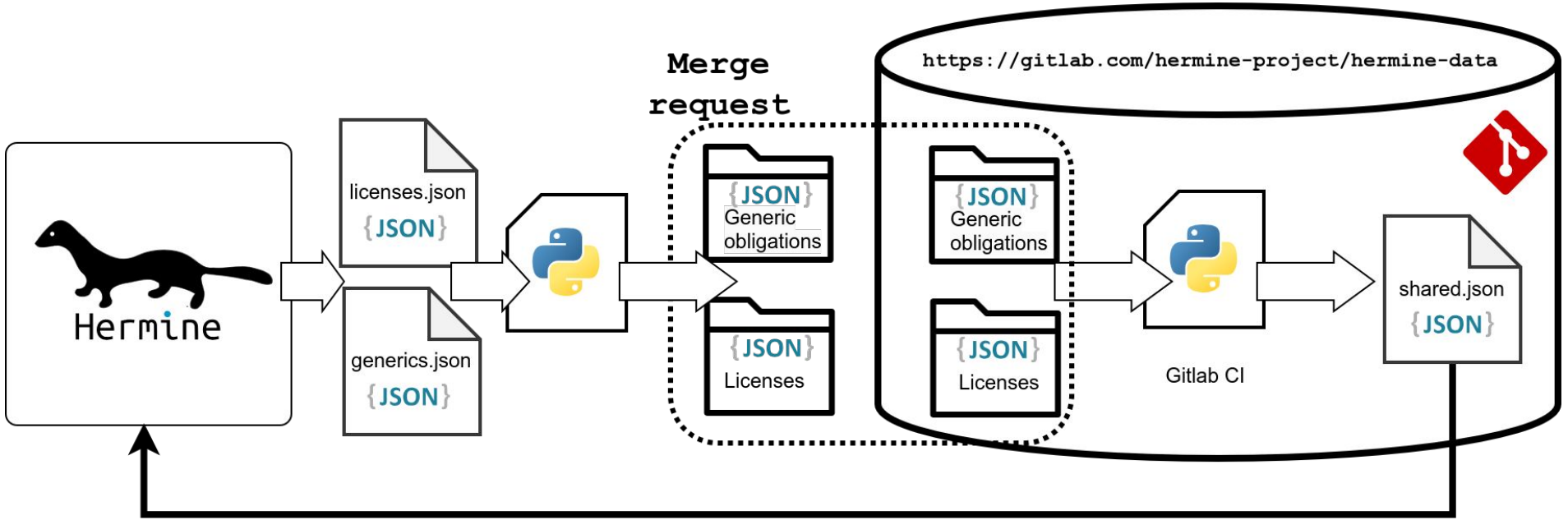
Using reference data



Using reference data



Contributing to reference data (WIP)



Thanks !

Questions ?

Front page photo Statyn "Poseidon med brunnskar" på Götaplatsen i Göteborg. Utförd av Carl Milles.

Ingesting, validating data

- Importing raw SBOMS
- Adding information
- Validating data (curations / choices)