

**COP701: Software Systems Laboratory**

# **Assignment 3**

# Assignment 2

Due on **Friday, 14 Oct**

Feedback?

# Objectives

Extend an existing software system with your own modifications

Why?

- **Learn by example:** architecture of a successful, well-designed system
- Get experience in **navigating & modifying such systems**
- See what allows an architecture to **support unanticipated changes**

# Which system? What modifications?

**You decide!**

Pick an open-source project, add some big features and/or fix some major bugs

But there are some rules. Most importantly:

- It should be a **moderately popular program/library**, ideally one you've used
- What you add should be a **similar amount of work** to previous assignments
- **Submit a proposal** so that we can check that your choices are reasonable

# More about that

- Project should be **moderately well-established**: lots of people are using it
- Should be a **software system** (application or large library) not e.g. code for one specific algorithm
- Amount of work **similar to previous assignments**, proportional to group size
- Prove that your planned work **isn't already done**: open issues, doc pages
- If you've **done something like this already**: don't just submit that, do something more on top

# Proposal document

Due on **20 October** (1.5 weeks from now)

Should describe:

- **Existing project**, what it does, its architecture & major components
- **Planned changes**, what components it will affect, how much work is needed
- **Why it is new** with supporting evidence

We will give feedback within a few days

# Final submission

Due on **10 November** (3 weeks after proposal)

Fulfil **all 4 additional requirements** on course webpage

Submit a PDF report as usual

Instead of submitting code, include a link to your Git project in your report

# One more thing...

What if your planned work turns out to be too easy, or too hard?

- If **much less work** than expected: extend the plan and do something more
- If **much more work** than expected: document the difficulties, what all you tried, what more would be needed

In all cases, it's **your job to convince us** that what you have done is a comparable amount of effort to previous assignments

We will evaluate you more on honest effort than on plan completion



**Questions?**