Debian GIS
Introducing a Debian Pure Blend for Geographic Information Systems

Andreas Tille
Debian

LSM, Montpellier, 9. July 2014
1. The Blends concept

2. The Debian GIS team

3. Selected packages
Debian

GIS Applications in Debian

Andreas Tille (Debian)

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The name

"Debian Internal Projects" became
"Custom Debian Distributions" $\rightarrow$ total failure
DebConf 2008 "Debian Internal Solutions"???
People popped up for the only purpose of *bikeshedding*
Vote ended up in "Debian Pure Blends" in short "Blends"
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Similar structures in other distributions

- **Fedora Geo Spin**
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- **Ubuntu GIS**
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- **FreeBSD Ports: Geography**

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- Making a certain topic "hot"
- Attract users of the specific working field interested in Debian
- Teach users & developers how to work together with Debian (via Blend team)

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Why GIS in a Debian Blend?

- Following the example of Debian Med and Debian Science
- Specialised software has a comparatively small user base
- Complex packaging tasks are profiting from developer team
- Pushes Debian into a field of dominant proprietary software

*Turn Debian into the distribution of choice for GIS applications*
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*Turn Debian into the distribution of choice for GIS applications*
Waking up in the morning and realising that somebody else has solved your problem from yesterday
Available Blends tools and formalisms

- General creation of metapackages based on tasks files *(blends-dev)*
- Web sentinel *tasks*
- Web sentinel *bugs*
- Web sentinel *"thermometer"* designed for Debian / Ubuntu GIS
- Handling of scientific citations
- Making use of *UDD* for several purposes (web sentinel, citations, prospective packages in VCS, upload + bugs statistics)
- *Debian GIS policy*
- *Sponsoring of Blends*
- *Suggested: Mentoring of the Month*
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Top 10 people discussing on Debian GIS mailing list

- Francesco P. L: 1033
- Paolo C: 517
- Hamish: 428
- Petter R: 249
- Andreas T: 233
- Steve H: 190
- Sebastiaan C: 143
- alex b: 105
- Paul W: 101
- Silke R: 96
Top 10 Up loaders of Debian GIS

Debian GIS

Pkg OSM

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Debian GIS
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Top 10 Debian GIS developer discussion

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Top 10 bug hunters of Debian GIS packages

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Top 10 contributors to VCS

Debian GIS

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Why two packaging teams

- packaging GRASS was historic root of Debian GIS
- that’s why the pkg-grass name came up first
- since there are people who consider OSM different enough to create a separate packaging team pkg-osm was started
- turned out that there is quite some common set and splitting man-power does not make sense
- packages maintained by pkg-osm will be merged into pkg-grass repository that remains the single Debian GIS repository
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Cooperation UbuntuGIS & OSGeo

- OSGeoLive creates live medium based on UbuntuGIS
- since Ubuntu is based on Debian it makes sense to work together
- currently there is some effort to consolidate the packaging in pkg-grass repository (on alioth.debian.org)
- work together, do not reinvent the wheel
- working on this is one goal of a GSoC project
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The free geographic information system

geospatial data management and analysis, image processing, graphics/map production, spatial modeling, and visualization

used in academic and commercial settings around the world, as well as by many government agencies and environmental consulting companies

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Quantum GIS

- manages, analyzes, and displays databases of geographic information
- shape file viewing and editing
- spatial data storage with PostgreSQL/PostGIS (also packaged)
- map composition
- display of various georeferenced raster and Digital Elevation Model formats
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Sorry that’s the wrong question.

Debian is a **Do-O-cracy**
== the doer decides what will be done

So if you, yes **you**, will package qgis in Debian than Debian will support qgis

Finally such a "you" decided to do the work

But if you ... again I mean **you** have some interesting application in mind which should be in Debian according to your opinion it is up to you to start the work ...

... and the Debian GIS team will help you to finalise your work
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- there is a package anyway for those who disagree

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- drivers for Garmin devices are in qlandkartegt-garmin package
- testing selfmade Garmin maps
- frontend to the GDAL tools
- straightforward interface especially suited for non-scientific users
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- **tilelite**  lightweight Mapnik tile-server
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- **libjs-openlayers**  JavaScript library for displaying map data in web browsers
- **osmjs**  osmium-based Javascript framework for OSM data
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  - *tasks of Debian GIS*
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  - *package thermometer*
  - *mailing list*
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- unfortunately lacking publicity (via talks like this etc.)
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→ Do good things and talk about it
This talk is available at

http://people.debian.org/~tille/talks/

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