Linux and Me

An End Users Perspective
And lessons learnt along the way

This is not intended to be a comparison or endorsement
of any particular Linux Distribution

Linux and Me

- Why 'Linux'

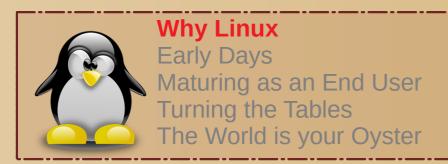- Early Days

  2005-10

- Maturing as an End User

  2010-15

- Turning the Tables

  2015-....

- The world is your oyster

Why Linux
Early Days
Maturing as an End User
Turning the Tables
The World is your Oyster

Why Linux

- Needed to use desktop + laptop

- Needed office etc. on each pc - worried about licensing infringement

- Outlook 2000 froze due to my e-mail size – the final straw...

- Linux is Free

- What I did
- Lessons Learnt

My Early Days

Search / Distrowatch

- Searched for the 'best linux desktops'

Debian

- Installed but didn't recognize all my hardware

Ubuntu

- Worked but each upgrade would pose problems that I couldn't solve

PCLinuxOS

- Worked out of the Box
- Recognized my desktop / laptop hardware
- Upgrades didn't cause any problems
- Monthly Magazine

2005-2010
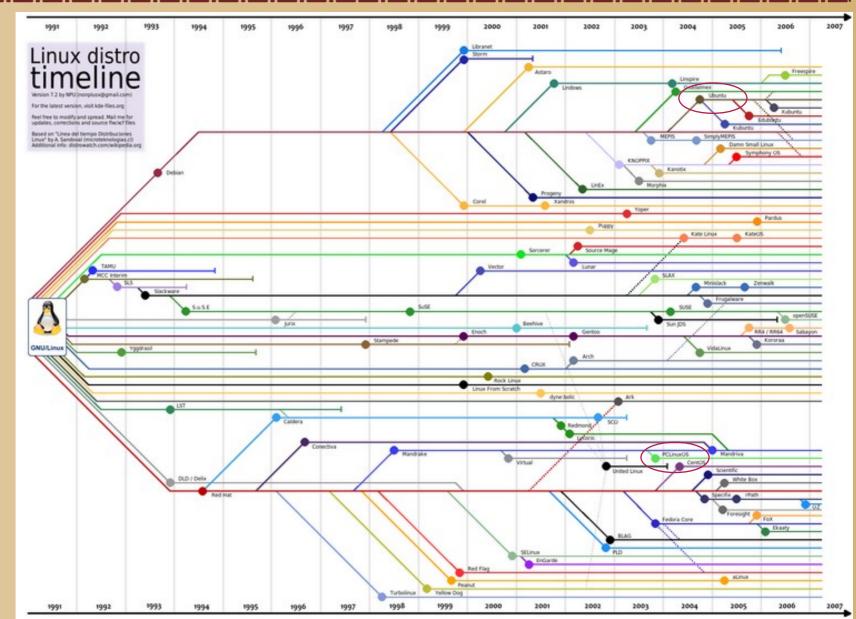
My Early Days

Hon'ble
Mentions:

SUSE
Fedora
Puppy

Linux distro
timeline

Version 7.2 by NPU (nonplusa@gmail.com)

For the latest version, visit kde-files.org

Feel free to modify and spread. Mail me for
updates, corrections and source files!

Based on "Linea del tiempo Distribuciones
Linux" by A. Sandoval (microteknologias.cl)
Additional info: distrowatch.com/wikipedia.org

Why Linux
Early Days ← → - What I did
- Lessons Learnt
Maturing
Turning the Tables
The World is your Oyster

My Early Days

Frustrations

- Hardware didn't work

- Frequent Distro Upgrades that 'destroyed' the pc

- Lost my personal files

Lessons Learnt

- Select the 'right' Distro for your Hardware....

- Select a Distro that doesn't have Upgrades

- Disk Partitioning

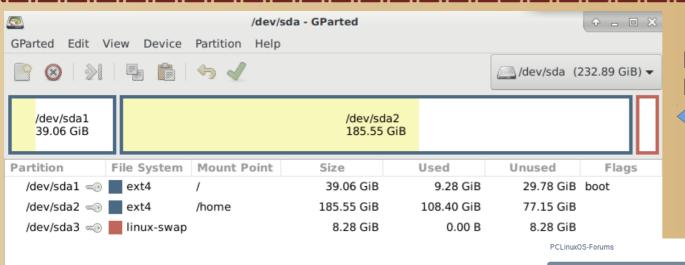- ✔ The web & user forums are a great source of information / guidance

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My Early Days

/dev/sda - GParted

GParted   Edit   View   Device   Partition   Help

/dev/sda (232.89 GiB)

/dev/sda1	/dev/sda2
39.06 GiB	185.55 GiB

Partition	File System	Mount Point	Size	Used	Unused	Flags
/dev/sda1	ext4	/	39.06 GiB	9.28 GiB	29.78 GiB	boot
/dev/sda2	ext4	/home	185.55 GiB	108.40 GiB	77.15 GiB	
/dev/sda3	linux-swap		8.28 GiB	0.00 B	8.28 GiB	
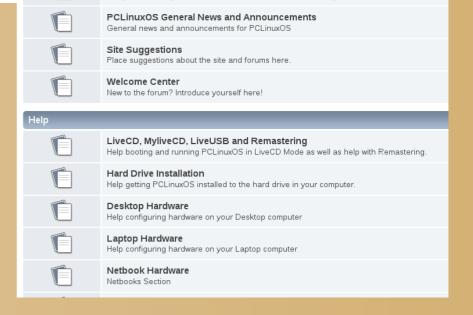
Partitioning – The Data Saver

Forums – The Life Saver

PCLinuxOS-Forums

Website
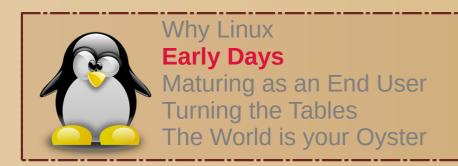
Usage Rules PLEASE READ
Usage rules and guidelines for PCLinuxOS website and mailing list

PCLinuxOS General News and Announcements
General news and announcements for PCLinuxOS

Site Suggestions
Place suggestions about the site and forums here.

Welcome Center
New to the forum? Introduce yourself here!

Help

LiveCD, MyliveCD, LiveUSB and Remastering
Help booting and running PCLinuxOS in LiveCD Mode as well as help with Remastering.

Hard Drive Installation
Help getting PCLinuxOS installed to the hard drive in your computer.

Desktop Hardware
Help configuring hardware on your Desktop computer

Laptop Hardware
Help configuring hardware on your Laptop computer

Netbook Hardware
Netbooks Section

My 2 Key Takeaways

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Why Linux

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Maturing as an End User

Rolling vs Point Release

- Constant stream of updates
- Everything is 'shiny and new (latest)'
- Enamoured by ArchLinux

Manjaro

- Uses a copy of Arch Repositories after some additional tests
- Access to the AUR – Arch User Repository

Antergos

- An easy way to install Arch
- Uses Arch Repositories
- Access to AUR

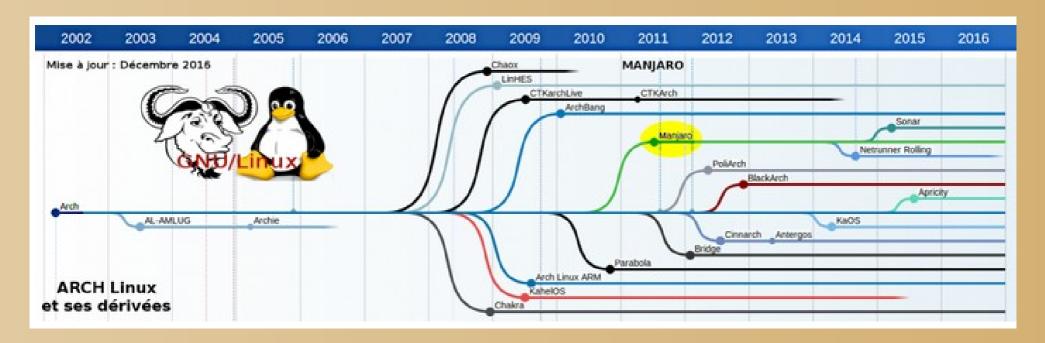## PCLinuxOS

- Has most of the software that I needed
- PC Inventory increased
- Occasionally updates would 'bork' my desktop

2011-2015

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Maturing as an End User

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Maturing as an End User

Frustrations

- Update Frequency
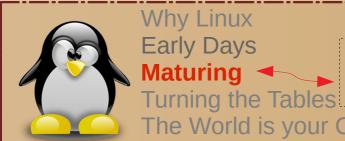
- Updates borked the install – time spent resolving the 'issue'

- Learnt a lot of Linux – not much else...

- Managing multiple Pcs – desktops / kids laptops...

Lessons Learnt

- Don't wait too long...

- Get smart people between you and the distro

- Became more confident with Linux and understood how different components worked

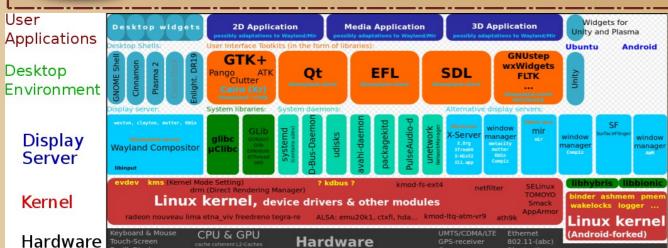- ✓ Improved the way I posted questions in the forums

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Maturing as an End User
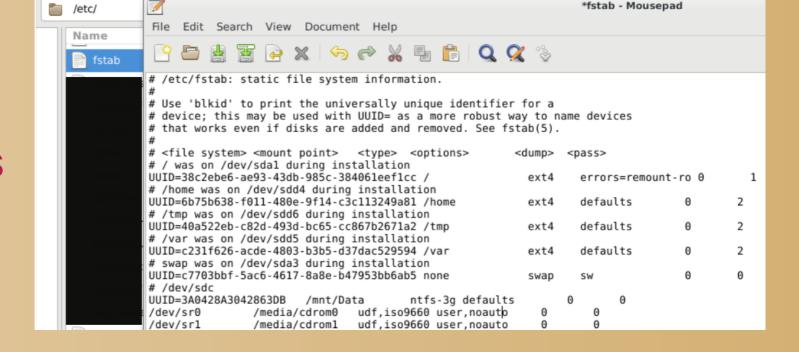
Structure of a Distribution – distro hopping saver

FSTAB – your network saver

My 2 Key Takeaways

*fstab - Mousepad

```
# /etc/fstab: static file system information.
#
# Use 'blkid' to print the universally unique identifier for a
# device; this may be used with UUID= as a more robust way to name devices
# that works even if disks are added and removed. See fstab(5).
#
# <file system> <mount point>   <type>  <options>       <dump>  <pass>
# / was on /dev/sda1 during installation
UUID=38c2ebe6-ae93-43db-985c-384061eef1cc /          ext4    errors=remount-ro 0       1
# /home was on /dev/sdd4 during installation
UUID=6b75b638-f011-480e-9f14-c3c113249a81 /home      ext4    defaults        0       2
# /tmp was on /dev/sdd6 during installation
UUID=40a522eb-c82d-493d-bc65-cc867b2671a2 /tmp       ext4    defaults        0       2
# /var was on /dev/sdd5 during installation
UUID=c231f626-acde-4803-b3b5-d37dac529594 /var       ext4    defaults        0       2
# swap was on /dev/sda3 during installation
UUID=c7703bbf-5ac6-4617-8a8e-b47953bb6ab5 none       swap    sw              0       0
# /dev/sdc
UUID=3A0428A3042863DB   /mnt/Data       ntfs-3g defaults        0       0
/dev/sr0        /media/cdrom0   udf,iso9660 user,noauto     0       0
/dev/sr1        /media/cdrom1   udf,iso9660 user,noauto     0       0
```

- What I did
- Lessons Learnt

Why Linux

- Linux is Free

- Drivers included

- As lightweight as you want it to be

- Runs efficiently on old hardware – less e-waste

- Feeds my packrat habit

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Turning the Tables

What do I want?

- Became more aware of what I wanted from my Computing Experience
- Stability vs Shiny and New
- Software for the work I do

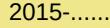## Open Source Comes of Age

- Significant improvements in Software
- Think of some computing activity – there's an open source solution for that....

Debian

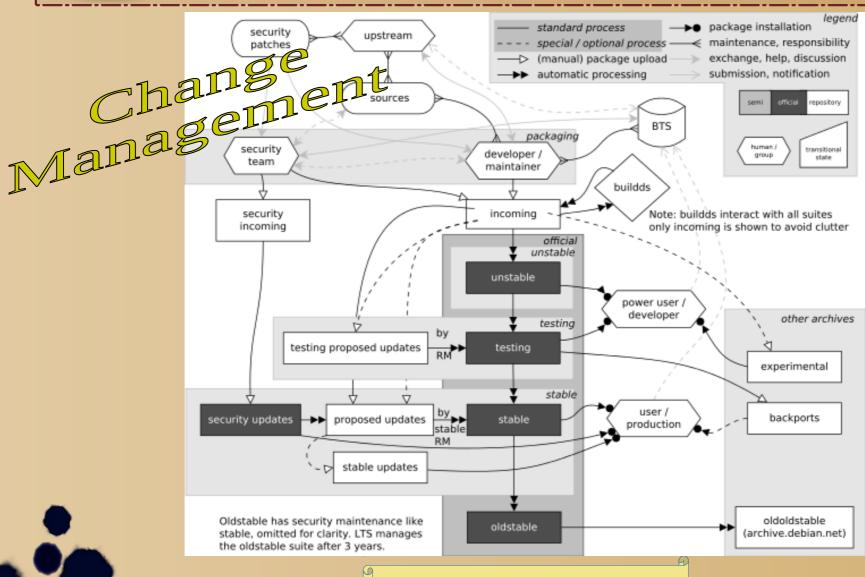- In development since the 90's
- Many distros based on it
- Has a large 'repository' of software catering to your sensibilities

Debian Releases

- Stable – Rock Solid
- Testing - A 'rolling distro'
- Development – Cutting Edge

2015-......

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Change Management

2015-......

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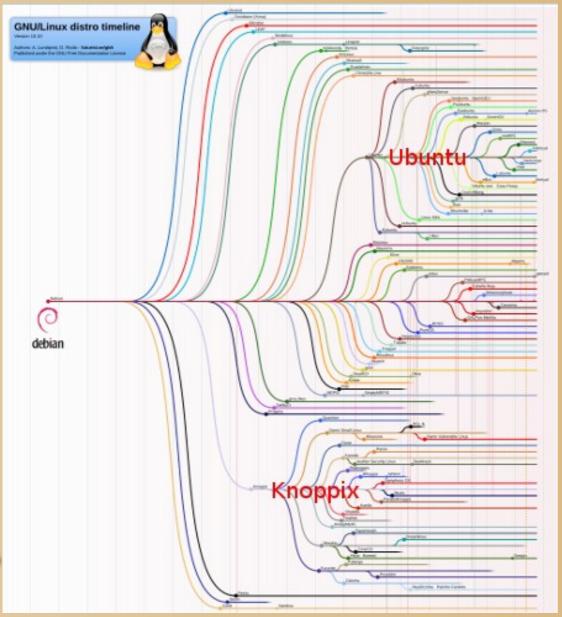# Turning the Tables

GNU/Linux distro timeline

Debian Derivative Examples

- Stable – MX Linux, AntiX, Tails

- Testing - Kali, Makulu

- Development – Deepin, Siduction

- Ubuntu, Linux Mint, Sparky

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Turning the Tables

Category	Objective	Examples
Office Suite	Write documents, tabulate, present....	LibreOffice, OpenOffice, AbiWord....
Communicating	Web Browsing, E-mail	Firefox, Google Chrome, Thunderbird
Audio	Listen to Music, Radio or Edit Audio Files	Clementine, Audacity, LMMS, gPodder
Graphics	Create, edit and manage Images	GIMP, Inkscape, Digikam, Simple Scan
Video	Edit and create home videos	Openshot, Kdenlive
Media Center	Share Audio / Video / Pictures files across your network	Kodi, Plex
Other	Expense Tracking, Genealogy, Ebooks, Backup, Virtualization	Gnucash, Gramps, Calibre, Syncthing, VirtualBox

2015-......

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Turning the Tables

Challenges

- Software Availability

- Security

- Privacy

- System Availability vs Currency

2015-......

Lessons Learnt

- Debian Repository / .deb Packages

- Firewalls, ssh vs nfs vs samba

- Truecrypt / Zulucrypt

- Availability key for me – review change log
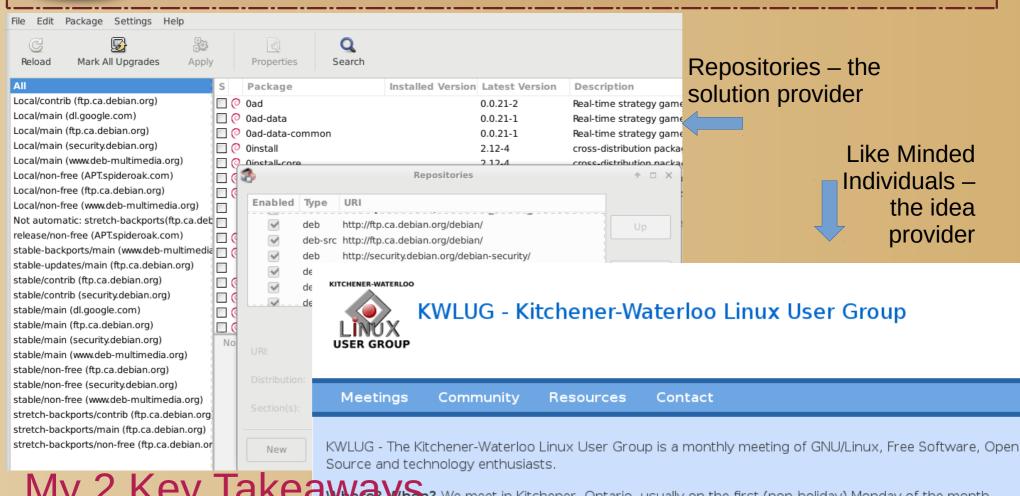
- ✔ Improved my ability to manage my pc....

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Maturing as an End User

Repositories – the solution provider

Like Minded Individuals – the idea provider

File	Edit	Package	Settings	Help

Reload | Mark All Upgrades | Apply | Properties | Search

	S	Package	Installed Version	Latest Version	Description
All					
Local/contrib (ftp.ca.debian.org)		0ad		0.0.21-2	Real-time strategy game
Local/main (dl.google.com)		0ad-data		0.0.21-1	Real-time strategy game
Local/main (ftp.ca.debian.org)		0ad-data-common		0.0.21-1	Real-time strategy game
Local/main (security.debian.org)		0install		2.12-4	cross-distribution packa
Local/main (www.deb-multimedia.org)		0install-core		2.12-4	cross-distribution packa
Local/non-free (APT.spideroak.com)					
Local/non-free (ftp.ca.debian.org)					
Local/non-free (www.deb-multimedia.org)					
Not automatic: stretch-backports(ftp.ca.deb					
release/non-free (APT.spideroak.com)					
stable-backports/main (www.deb-multimedia					
stable-updates/main (ftp.ca.debian.org)					
stable/contrib (ftp.ca.debian.org)					
stable/contrib (security.debian.org)					
stable/main (dl.google.com)					
stable/main (ftp.ca.debian.org)					
stable/main (security.debian.org)					
stable/main (www.deb-multimedia.org)					
stable/non-free (ftp.ca.debian.org)					
stable/non-free (security.debian.org)					
stable/non-free (www.deb-multimedia.org)					
stretch-backports/contrib (ftp.ca.debian.org)					
stretch-backports/main (ftp.ca.debian.org)					
stretch-backports/non-free (ftp.ca.debian.or					

Repositories

Enabled	Type	URI
✓	deb	http://ftp.ca.debian.org/debian/
✓	deb-src	http://ftp.ca.debian.org/debian/
✓	deb	http://security.debian.org/debian-security/
✓	de	
✓	de	
✓	de	

Up

URI:

Distribution:

Section(s):

New

KITCHENER-WATERLOO

KWLUG - Kitchener-Waterloo Linux User Group

LINUX USER GROUP

Meetings   Community   Resources   Contact

KWLUG - The Kitchener-Waterloo Linux User Group is a monthly meeting of GNU/Linux, Free Software, Open Source and technology enthusiasts.

Where? When? We meet in Kitchener, Ontario, usually on the first (non-holiday) Monday of the month, beginning at 7pm. (Directions)

How much? Our meetings are free of charge and open to anybody with an interest in Linux and/or free software.

My 2 Key Takeaways

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- Linux is Free

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- Free as in Freedom 🚫 Free Beer
  - Right to run the software the way you like
  - Right to see how the software actually works
  - Right to redistribute the software to help others
  - Right to improve the software and submit them to the public – copyleft...

- GNU - is a recursive acronym for "GNU's Not Unix!"

  – Knowledge Sharing

What Next??

What do I want to do?

- Gathering data

- Analysis

- Visualization

Open Source Comes of Age

- Python

- R

- ....Tensor Flow, Hadoop....

How did Linux Help

- Am not as GUI dependent

- Command Line doesn't scare me any more

- Try and understand what a command means

Knowledge Sharing

- Like minded individuals

- Willingness to Share and Improve together
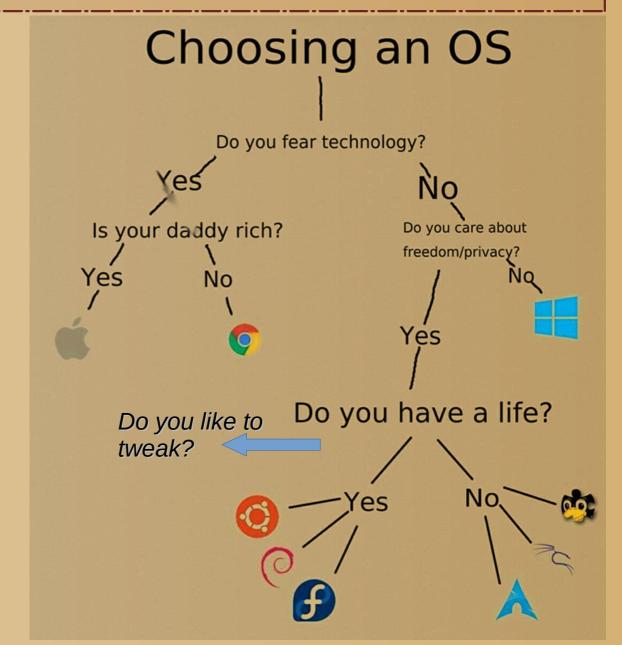
- These are tools for all of us to use and learn from...

2015-......

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Why Linux

PARTING THOUGHT
- SAW THIS ON REDDIT ON FRIDAY...

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PARTING THOUGHT