

# OpenOffice.org and GNU/Linux distributions

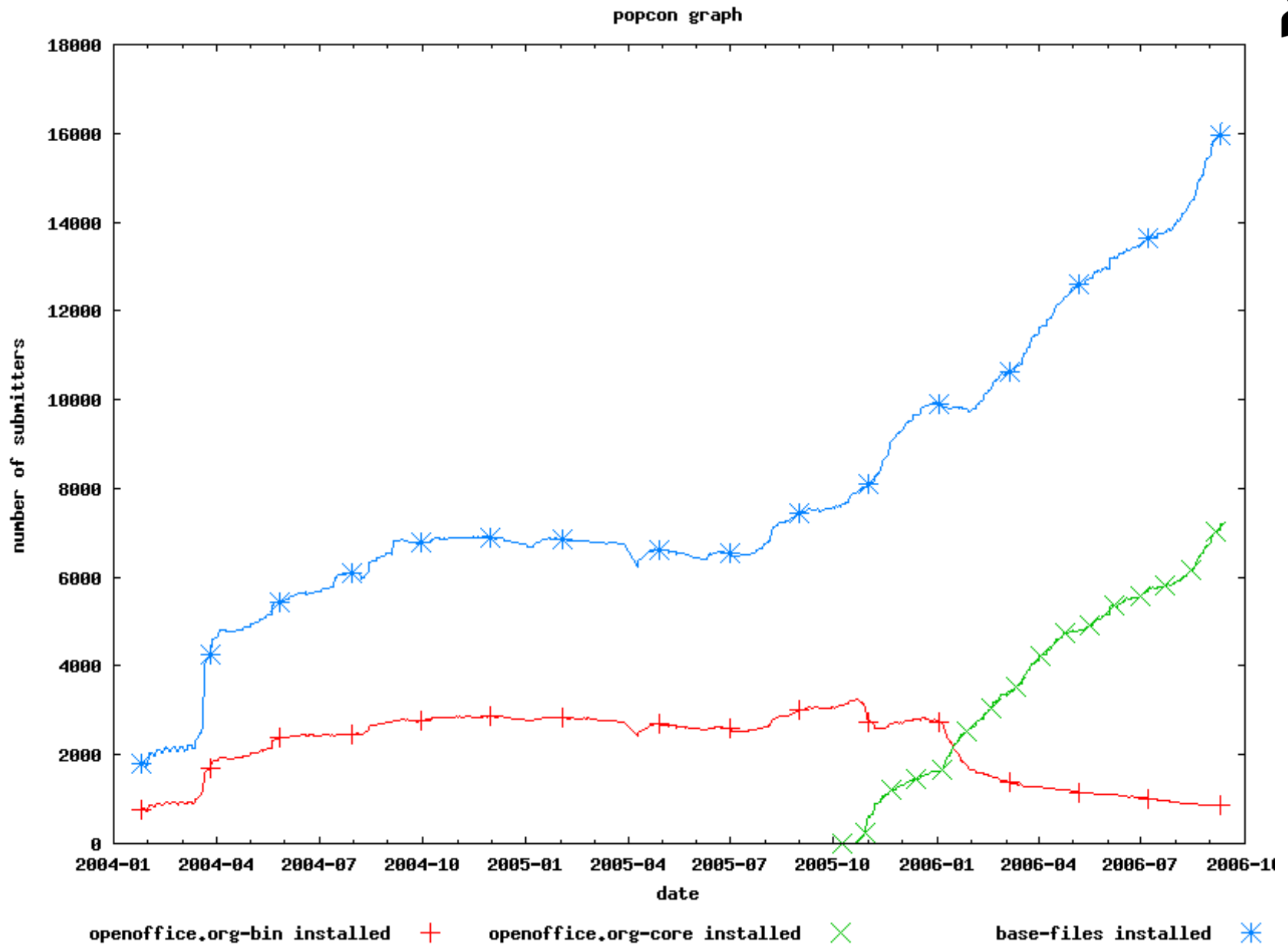
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# Agenda



- ~ OpenOffice.org (non-)popularity (<http://popcon.debian.org>)
- ~ Are we “Open Source”?
- ~ Architectures
- ~ Building and Libraries
- ~ (Packaging) Issues
- ~ What should we do?

# OOo popularity



# Modules' popularity

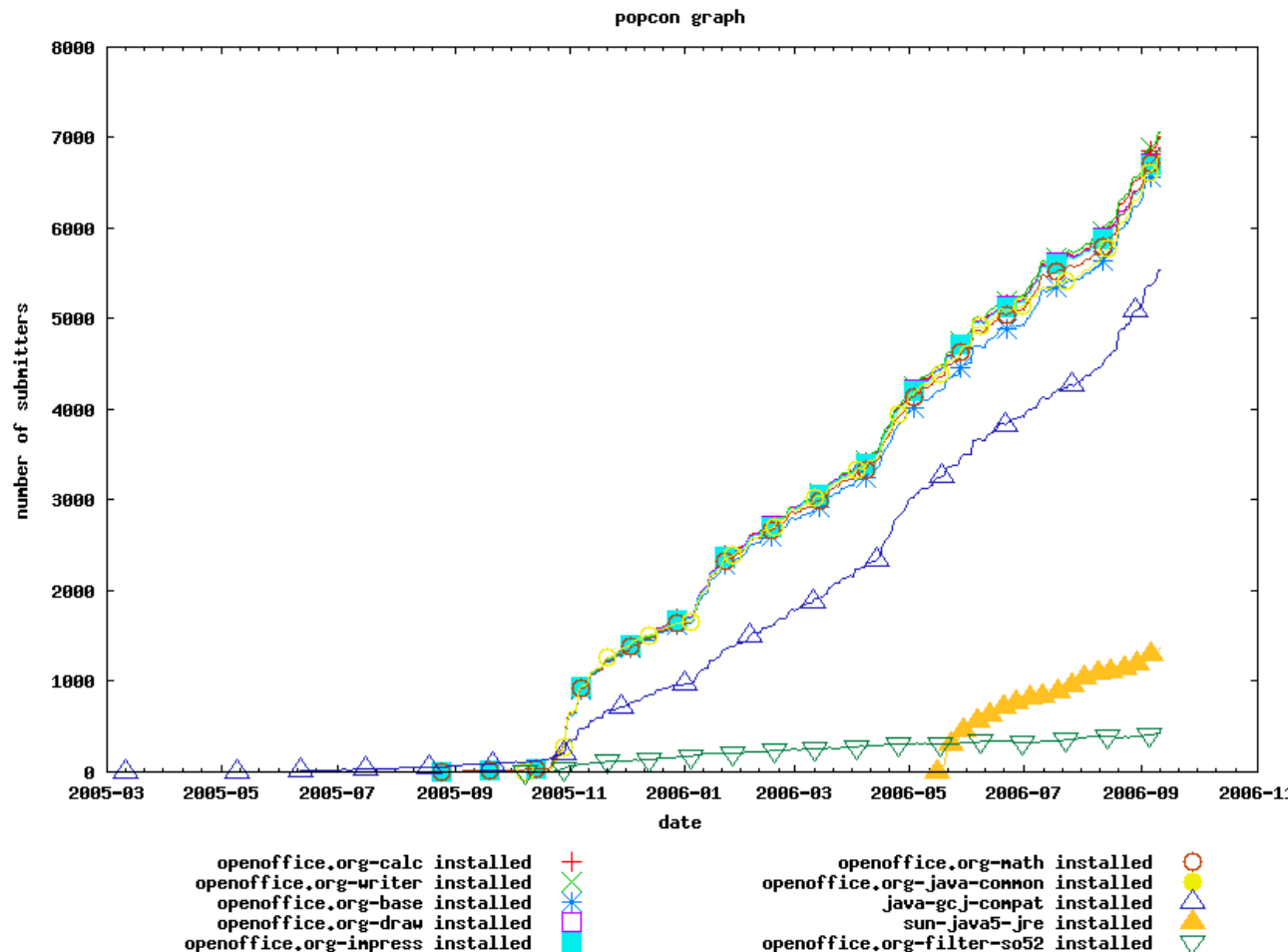


~7043 people installed all components

30 more installed writer, -base not often installed (-313)?

-> Java

People often just install 1 component for e.g. watching a .doc



# Background: Debian



- ~ free GNU/Linux distribution
- ~ project; founded 1993 by Ian Murdock
- ~ three archive sections
  - **main**: must meet the “Debian Free Software Guidelines” (which basically is the “Open Source Definition)
  - **contrib**: must also be free software but can also (build-)depend on non-free things or things not in Debian at all (Example: mplayer-using mozilla plugin)
  - **non-free**: stuff not free

# Developer Survey



- Contributor survey showed that many contributors do expect that OpenOffice.org contains no proprietary software
- Documentation also is important for those
- “We should help people climbing the open source ladder and become evangelists” (Erwin Tenhumberg, “What OS lovers want”).
  - That means, though, that we really should provide a suitable environment for “evangelists” -> make OOo and its contents completely free.

- OpenOffice.org is a “Open Source” project
  - can we really say this? Still: non-free parts
    - external/common, Issue open since years, solution exists since months
    - **Developers Guide** / XML Spec
    - illegal or at least questionable legality/license (of) hyphenation patterns
    - usage of non-free gpc (thankfully optional now)
    - Need of proprietary JMF (now partially solved due to GStreamer)
  - Open Source also means that the build must be able to do using free tools and libraries

# external/common/\*.jar



- ~ Issue 21678
- ~ Sun proprietary
- ~ “normal” xalan, xerces, xt exist
- ~ Issue open since ~**3 years**, retargeted to various releases
- ~ still unfixed
- ~ no progress visible in the issue although there **is** a solution available: Use “normal” xt... - and build it during the OOo build if necessary (Issue 59985)



# hyph\_{da,en,it,nl,ru}\*



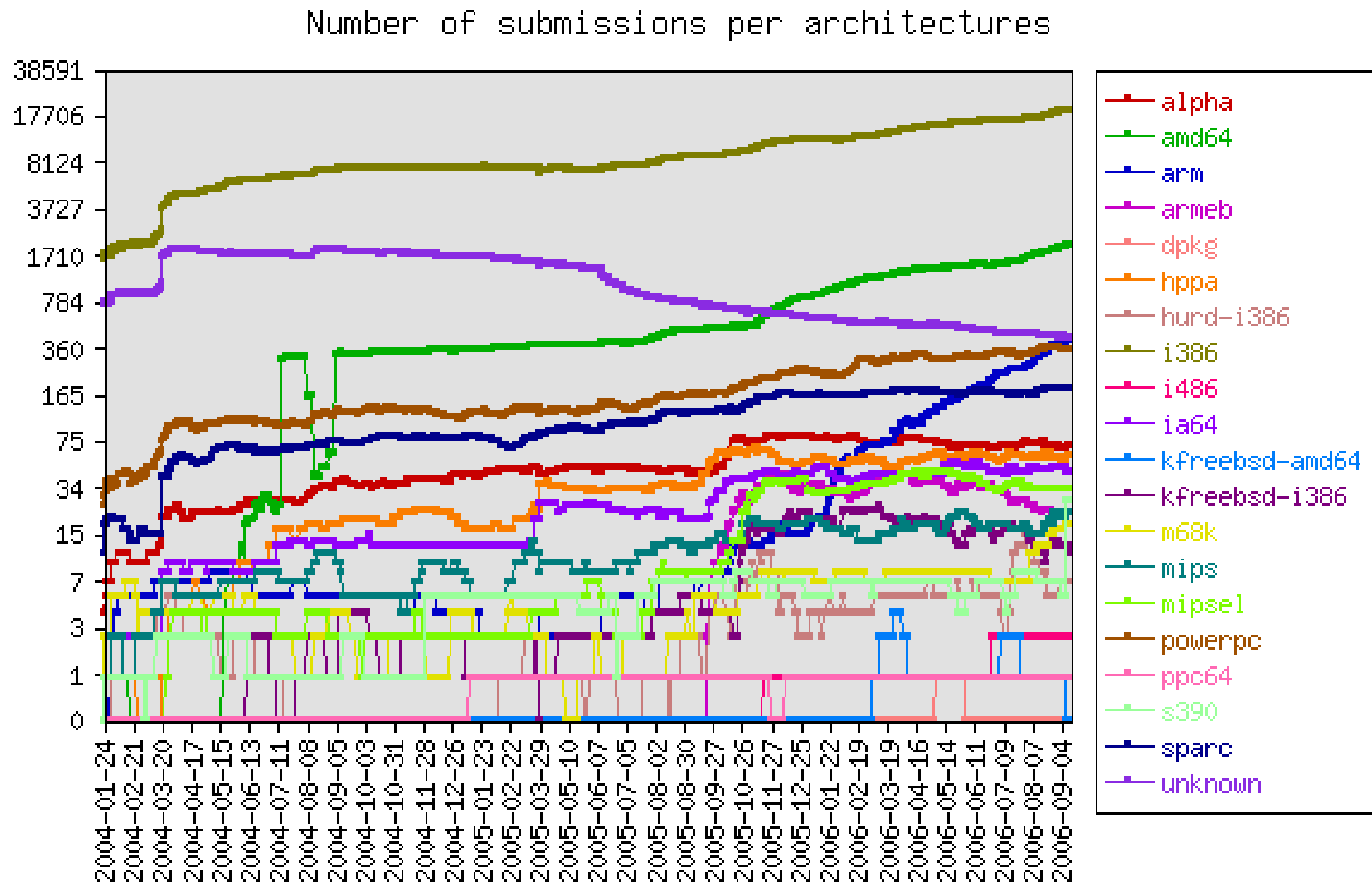
— Can we:

- take a hyphenation pattern with non-free license from TeX and re-license it under (L)GPL? -> NO (but done on some dicts at stardiv)
- take a GPLed hyphenation pattern and put it under LGPL for OOo? -> NO (done on stardiv)
- base on a LPPLed hyphenation pattern and redistribute without following LPPs clauses? -> NO

— Novells lawyers asked, no answer yet

— Removed from the source and binary pkgs

# Architectures



# Architectures



- There's not only i386 on the world
- Debian supports i386, powerpc, mips, mipsel, sparc, arm, alpha, ia64, amd64, hppa
  - for OOo currently: i386, powerpc, sparc (1.1.x also had s390)
- Sun only does Linux/i386, no tests on other platforms, no visible participation in amd64 porting
- OOo got a bad reputation for no stable x86\_64 version yet

- /opt **not** allowed for distris, only for big “third-party” packages
- config should be in /etc (or /opt/etc) (and *\*only\** config) and arch-indep stuff in /usr/share/...
  - sofficerc a symlink makes OOo segfault (Issue 55065). Hardlink not possible. Ugly workaround needed.
  - different config layers the solution?
- public UNO libraries should be in /usr/lib
  - symlink breaks with \$ORIGIN

# LFS Support



- OpenOffice.org 1.1.x installer broke on large disks (Issue 26865)
- easy fix (build with `-DLARGEFILE_SOURCE -D_FILE_OFFSET_BITS=64`)
- would have been a good fix for 2.0.0..
  - didn't happen, reluctant to make this only in my build
  - still not resolved
  - kr thinks it won't even change external ABI
- can we fix it? (Even if not determined to be needed it makes sense to have it)

# Building



- slow, especially with many languages
  - helpcontent2
  - binfilter
  - officecfg (also with xsltproc, which improves build time and should be used per default)
- installation fails

# Libraries



- OpenOffice.org uses (almost) all their libraries internally
  - even getopt, readdir\_r parts from glibc
  - makes package size bigger than needed
  - contains bugs/misses features in new versions
  - sometimes not buildable
- --with-system-\* already there mostly
  - Problem: Feature patches to the libraries
- Build everything if possible instead of shipping binary only things (unowinreg.dll)

# Packaging



- OpenOffice.orgs packaging through the installer bad and inconsistent
  - nothing happened
  - bugs not cared about
  - upgrading packages not easily possible (file conflicts)
  
- lots of mvs in debian/rules (error-prone)



## Examples:

- most .res files in -coreXY, some in -calc binfilter res in e.g. calc when binfilter is in -coreXY (Issue 40383)
- some base files into -coreXY when they belong into base (Issue 68252)
- Mozilla plugin doesn't work when enabling globally
  - admins do **not** want to change every users' user account to enable/disable the plugin, especially since the user can change that
    - disabled completely :(

# ooo-build



- common patch repository for many distros
- often accused at being a fork
- needed because some important fixes do not get accepted upstream
- testbed for patches
  - better quality once patch enters OOo CVS
- backporting important patches from development
- adding patches which make sense/are really needed, but get not accepted upstream....

# What should we do?



## — Brainstroming...

- create a team consisting of Suns REs/important Sun people and distribution packagers for coordinating? Meeting(s)?
- handling important packaging issues quicker?
- no feature patches in-tree
- configure/installer options enabling FHS compliancy when wanted
- keep internal libs up-to-date to avoid diverging and conflicts or just use the systems one where rock-stable (libc, zlib, ...)
- start embracing the FOSS philosophy

# Questions?