

Arch Linux Projects

What's out there, who's in charge,
and most importantly –
what you can do to contribute!

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About Me

- Arch Developer since early 2007
- Arch user since mid 2006
- Started by contributing to pacman
- Freelance software developer based in Chicago, IL



Basis for this presentation

(Un)surprisingly, there are a lot of pieces that come together to keep a distro on its feet and active. Although Arch has one of the smaller development staffs of the “well-known” distros, we have a lot of projects under our belt that we maintain. These encompass everything from the homepage to the initscripts to our server repository management tools. This talk will attempt to showcase some of these projects and give a glimpse into the Arch underbelly.

You may also be interested in this talk if you are looking to contribute to Arch but aren't sure where to start. Coming from a guy who became a developer due to his work on pacman, I hope it will also show how getting involved can earn you the respect of the current developers and eventually member status in a project.



What's out there?

- Packaging: pacman, namcap, abs, srcpac
- System: dbscripts, devtools, initscripts, mkinitcpio, netcfg
- Web: Archweb, AUR
- Install/Live CDs: AIF, archiso
- Various Community Projects
- <http://projects.archlinux.org/>



Who's in charge?

- Whoever wants to be
- Primarily developers with some TU help
- Projects have an owner on the site
- Some projects are more active than others

Let's go to the code!



Arch Linux Projects

a fast webinterface for the git dscm

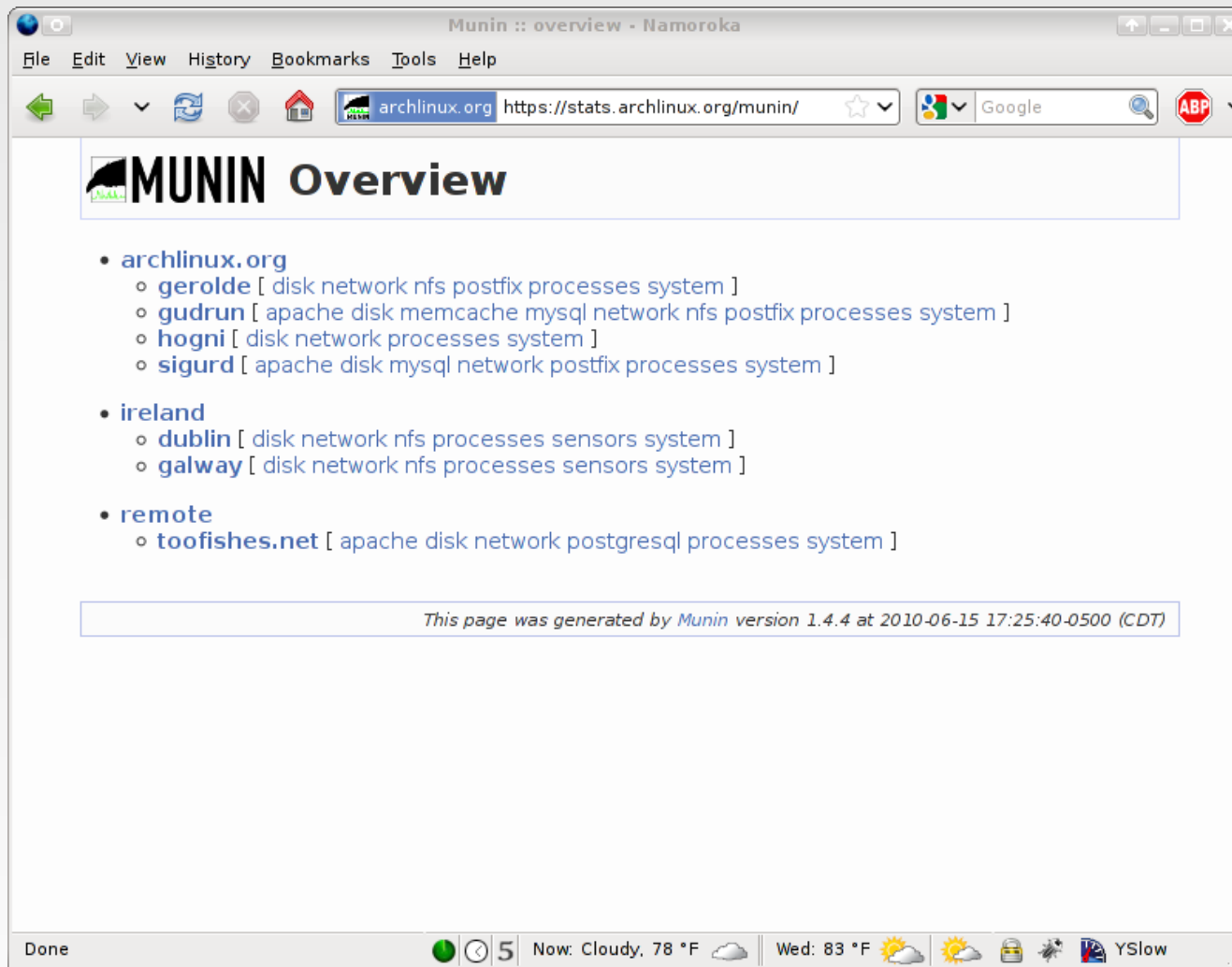
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Name	Description	Owner	Idle
<i>Arch Linux Projects</i>			
abs.git	Arch Build System scripts	Allan McRae	2 weeks
aif.git	AIF is the ArchLinux Installation Framework	Dieter Plaetinck	3 weeks
archboot.git	Repository for archboot	Tobias Powalowski	2 days
archiso.git	The official archiso scripts repo	Aaron Griffin	4 weeks
archweb.git	Arch website code	Dan McGee	4 days
aur.git	Arch User Repository (AUR)	Loui Chang, Callan Barrett	11 days
dbscripts.git	Official repo DB scripts	Aaron Griffin	3 weeks
devtools.git	The official devtools repository	Aaron Griffin	6 weeks
initscripts.git	Arch Linux initscripts repository	Thomas Bächler	6 days
kde-build.git	KDE build scripts to automate package creation and updates	Pierre Schmitz	6 days
linux-2.6-ARCH.git	Arch Linux kernel patch repository	Thomas Bächler	4 weeks
mkinitcpio-nfs-utils.git	ipconfig and nfsmount tools for root on NFS, ported from klibc	Thomas Bächler	4 months
mkinitcpio.git	The official mkinitcpio repository	Thomas Bächler	5 days
namcap.git	The official namcap repository	Hugo Doria	29 hours
netcfg.git	netcfg network scripts repository	James Rayner	4 months
pacman.git	The official pacman repository	Dan McGee	29 hours
server-misc.git	Miscellaneous server scripts for archlinux.org	Aaron Griffin	19 months
srcpac.git	The primary srcpac repository	Andrea Scarpino	3 months
wpa_actiond.git	Daemon that connects to wpa_supplicant and handles connect and disconnect events...	Thomas Bächler	4 months
<i>Developer Projects</i>			
users/allan/pacman.git	Allan's pacman working tree	Allan McRae	38 hours
users/dieter/releng.git	Arch-releng helper scripts	Dieter Plaetinck	4 weeks
users/francois/perl-cpanplus-pacman.git	CPANPLUS::Dist plugin to package CPAN modules for Arch Linux via pacman	François Charette	5 months
users/francois/texlive-localmanager.git	A shell and command-line utility to manage TeXLive on Arch Linux	François Charette	32 hours
users/francois/texlive-scripts.git	Collection of scripts to manage the TeXLive packages	François Charette	32 hours
users/thayer/archweb-branding.git	Arch Linux website branding repository	Thayer Williams	4 months
users/thayer/archweb.git	Thayer's archweb working tree	Thayer Williams	8 weeks



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Other random projects



Munin :: overview - Namoroka

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archlinux.org https://stats.archlinux.org/munin/ Google

MUNIN Overview

- **archlinux.org**
 - **gerolde** [disk network nfs postfix processes system]
 - **gudrun** [apache disk memcache mysql network nfs postfix processes system]
 - **hogni** [disk network processes system]
 - **sigurd** [apache disk mysql network postfix processes system]
- **ireland**
 - **dublin** [disk network nfs processes sensors system]
 - **galway** [disk network nfs processes sensors system]
- **remote**
 - **toofishes.net** [apache disk network postgresql processes system]

This page was generated by Munin version 1.4.4 at 2010-06-15 17:25:40-0500 (CDT)

Done 5 Now: Cloudy, 78 °F Wed: 83 °F YSlow



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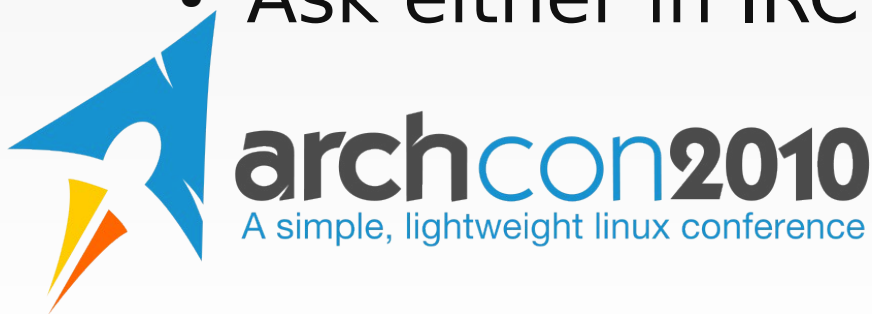
How to get involved

- Learn GIT
- Clone your favorite project's repository
- Dig into the code
- Find something **you** want to fix and fix it!
- Submit a patch using `git format-patch`
- Congrats, you are a contributor



How it really works

- You submit a patch but no one looks at it
 - Ping it or ask who is in charge of the project
- Your patch gets rejected
 - We've all had this happen before. Don't take it personally and resubmit with requested fixes
- You don't know where to start
 - Ask either in IRC or on a relevant mailing list



Not a great coder?

- Translations
 - Both pacman and the AUR are localized
- Bug triage
 - Assigning bugs to package maintainers, making sure they have enough info, cleaning up the trash
- Wiki editors
 - Making sure the wiki articles are helpful and clear

Ideas for things to do

- Namcap
 - Add more rules and checks
 - Make it faster and betterer
 - Migrate to Python 3
- Web stuff
 - Figure out a better way to deploy design changes across all major sites
 - Deploy a better full text search engine for the BBS and wiki



Ideas for things to do

- Archweb
 - Integrate mirror check into main site
 - Add more geolocation/location-aware stuff
 - Localize it?
- Build server
 - Work with Daniel Griffiths on PKGBUILD.com
 - Get a fully automated build system working



Contact Info

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- Jabber: [toofishes@jabber.org](jabber:toofishes@jabber.org)
- IRC: toofishes (please don't PM me!)

