
Subject: Re: Continuing Linux Education

Posted by [David Kastrup](#) on Wed, 08 Feb 2006 01:33:35 GMT

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Mark Hadfield <m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz> writes:

> JD Smith wrote:

>> [snip]

>> Mostly habit and inertia, but Emacs at (unreleased) version 22

>> actually surpasses XEmacs in many ways, at least for what I do. It

>> builds trivially for X11 on all Unixes and OSX, for Carbon under

>> OSX, Windows, etc. Some of my most used modes, like AUCTeX, target

>> GNU Emacs by default.

I think that is an unfair characterization. AUCTeX works as well as can be expected on XEmacs, and that is due to a lot of hard work by the AUCTeX developers. We even offer a finished XEmacs package from the download site of AUCTeX <URL:<http://www.gnu.org/software/auctex/>>. It is a pity that XEmacs development policies thwart our work and support of XEmacs at every turn. For example, XEmacs is distributed with outdated AUCTeX packages due to policy reasons (XEmacs does not accept packages that are not maintained in the XEmacs package CVS, have the XEmacs package structure and are built by the XEmacs package build system). Those policy reasons mean that packages intended for Emacs are only infrequently checked into XEmacs, and often by volunteers not intimate with the code.

More often than not, packages running on both Emacs and XEmacs are quite better maintained on Emacs. Of course, there are some XEmacs-only packages, too.

> Yes, I just tried the Emacs (version 21.1) that's currently bundled
> with Cygwin and was pleasantly surprised.

Guffaw. 21.1 would be rather old. 21.4 is the last `_released_` version, but many people nowadays work with a snapshot of what is to become 22.1.

> Unfortunately Emacs on our Cray T3E is stuck at version 19.28, and
> it's a bit sparse!

Uh, yes.

--

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