

# slcon

Munich, 22 June 2013

# Schedule

- 10.00 Welcome and dwm, arg
- 10.45 st, 20h
- 11.30 musl, nsz
- 12.15 sta.li, arg
- 14.00 runit and ignite, chneukirchen
- 14:45 costs of abstraction, nsz
- 15:30 suckless web ideas, 20h
- 16:30 next generation and suckless ev, arg

# Welcome

- First slcon ever
- Thanks to chneukirchen and all contributors

## Some facts

- Founded in 2006, previously wmii.de
- Initially dwm, dmenu, now various projects
- Philosophy is spreading
- IRC channel lurker base grew from 10 to 140
- Approx. 60k downloads of dwm-6.0
  - > userbase probably around 10k
  - > It was time to have the first slcon

# Future of dwm

- Almost finished project
- However:
  - X changes
  - Users come up with new ideas
  - New approaches appear (Wayland/Mir)
  - Architecture and design is always questioned/revised (suckless principle)
- Recently: has the dwm development stopped?
  - > No, only suspended for personal reasons



So what are the  
next steps?

# Next steps in dwm development

- libsl separation and re-use
  - Drawing code API-abstraction
  - Utility code abstraction
- Drawing code API allows different implementations
  - X11/Xft
  - X11/cairo
  - X11/whatever
  - Wayland? (probably not)
- Reuser of libsl in other projects like dmenu and hopefully st (needs to be discussed)

# Plan

- 6.1 around Oct 2013
  - All next steps included
- 6.2 in 2014 (probably the final release)  
-> remember, dwm is finished
- Thanks



# Future of sta.li

- Current state: still vaporware
- Contradicting approaches and plans
  - starch
  - **sabotage**
  - uclibc
  - **musl**
  - android
  - installer vs out of the box/netbootable
  - different filesystem layout wishes
  - different user/group handling wishes
  - single user vs multi user
  - **nldev/mdev**
  - etc

# sta.li fs

/bin - all executables

/boot - all boot files

/dev - devices

/etc - system configuration

/svc - services

/home - user directories

/root - the root home

/var - spool, run, log, cache

/share - man pages, locales, dependencies

/devel - development environment

/devel/include

/devel/lib

/devel/src

# My take on it

- To me the sta.li/ page still explains what sta.li should be
- I'm investigating android as base after looking into the options, but with musl instead of bionic
- Reasons
  - Google almost killed the traditional /etc and user/group handling
  - It is not designed for servers (no real sta.li goal from my perspective)
  - The core of the android build system is actually sane (most of it is actually insane, though)

# Plan

- Tonight: git.sta.li launch
- android based prototype until Aug 2013
- Problem: lack of time
  - See my later talk in the afternoon how to tackle this
- We need to collaborate, it is impossible to achieve with 1 man power
  - > Requires agreeing what to do and how
- Thanks

# Next generation

- How to spread the suckless idea further?
- What about the new contributors?
  - So far there are several kinds of contributors
    - long time contributors
    - short time contributors
    - sporadic contributors
- How to further develop the suckless philosophy?
- How to change the decision making process?

# Idea: suckless e.V.

- Formal legal entity
- Possibility to hire students working on projects
  - GSOC rejected us 3 times, now we do it ourselves
- Easier to organize things and to find sponsors
- Easier to build up the suckless certification system ;)
- You tell me what else would be possible...

# Closing summary