Trisquel GNU/Linux
new architectures and other challenges

What is Trisquel?

- A fully-free **GNU/Linux** OS

- Based on Ubuntu/Debian

- Focused on
  - **Freedom:** 100% recycled free software
  - **Privacy:** default settings to protect confidenciality
  - **Accessibility:** made for *all* users

- For PC, ARM and POWER architectures

- Easy to contribute to

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The road to Aramo

Big tasks for v11

- Debian-installer (netinstall)

- Abrowser (Firefox) packaging

- New architectures: arm64 ppc64el

- Compatibility with Radeon GPUs

- Bring back support for 32 bit PCs

Debian Installer

- Used for custom installations and servers

- Dropped by Ubuntu in favor of *Subiquity*

- Source code still present, binaries missing

- Many packages needed to be rebuilt, customized or ported from Debian

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Abrowser Packaging

- Trisquel distributes its own flavors of Mozilla applications to remove licensing issues and provide better privacy defaults:

  – Abrowser, based on Firefox

  – Icedove, based on Thunderbird

- Ubuntu started to package Firefox and other applications as *snap* packages instead of *deb*. We had to port the *deb* sources from Debian directly

- Key build dependencies were missing too

New arch: arm64 ppc64el

- In Trisquel 10 we added 32bit ARM (armhf)

- Now adding 64bit ARM and OpenPOWER support
  - Building ARM on Raspberry Pi 4
  - Building ppc on Talos II station

- To do:
  - Specific platform support
  - Bootloader work
  - Installation instructions and packaging

Support Radeon GPUs

- AMD graphics cards use 2 drivers in the Linux kernel:
  - Radeon, for pre-2014 cards
  - Amdgpu, for later cards
- Both require nonfree binary firmware blobs.
  - **Radeon:** can now work without blobs, but doesn't enable 2D/3D acceleration.
  - **Amdgpu:** does not work, but has been set in Trisquel to default to Vesa drivers, providing native resolution non-accelerated graphics
- More testing is needed, please report!

Revert support for 32 bit

- Ubuntu dropped support for the i386 (x86 32 Bit) architecture in 2019

- Trisquel 9 shipped without any support for i386

- For Trisquel 10 there was the goal to bring support back, by compiling the missing packages

- We failed.

What is next?

- We are looking for help
  - Contributing is very easy
    - Customize packages with shell scripts
    - Automated builds and testing repositories for contributors.
    - More reviewers welcome
  - Improve observability and alerts
  - Improve Continuous Integration

Other tasks

- New website
  - Upgrade Drupal to current version
  - New site design, more accessible and responsive
  - New forum/lists setup, move to Mailman / Hyperkitty
  - Improve the wiki editing tools
  - More community presence from dev site

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More information

- Support and community:
  - https://trisquel.info/download
  - https://trisquel.info/documentation
  - https://trisquel.info/forums
  - https://listas.trisquel.info

- Development:
  - https://devel.trisquel.info
  - Trisquel-devel at https://listas.trisquel.info

Thanks!
Questions?

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