"Would you like to do this?"

Dan Langille
Feb, 2010

1. TITLE

The Microphone as Mirror

What the BSD community says about itself.

2. PREMISE

BSD is alive and well

Thank you.

Enjoy BSDCan 2010

3. INTRODUCTION

The Microphone as Mirror

What the BSD community says about itself.

Who am I?

I'm not a developer

```
int active = 0;
```

Not too hard

```
void (*notify)(struct in6pcb *, int) =
        in6_rtchange;
```

Too hard

No BSD Certification

```
sshd_enable="YES"
```

Not too hard

/etc/wpa_supplicant.conf

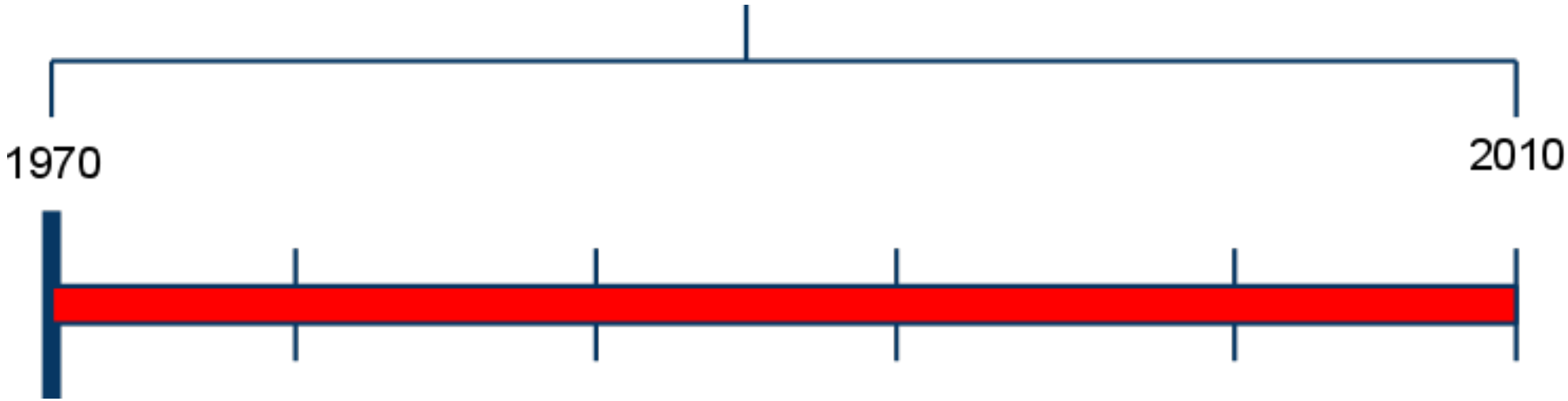
Too hard

I haven't been around that long

History of BSD

History of BSDTalk

Some of the people in this room



"I'm not an expert. I just interview them."

"I'm not an expert. I just interview them."

189 Episodes
20 Dec 2005 - 30 April 2010

Demonstrated ability to listen

Demonstrated ability to listen

Unfortunately I have been asked to talk

4. METHODS

The Microphone as Mirror

What the BSD community says about itself.

Self-reflection

The Microphone as Mirror

What the BSD community says about itself.

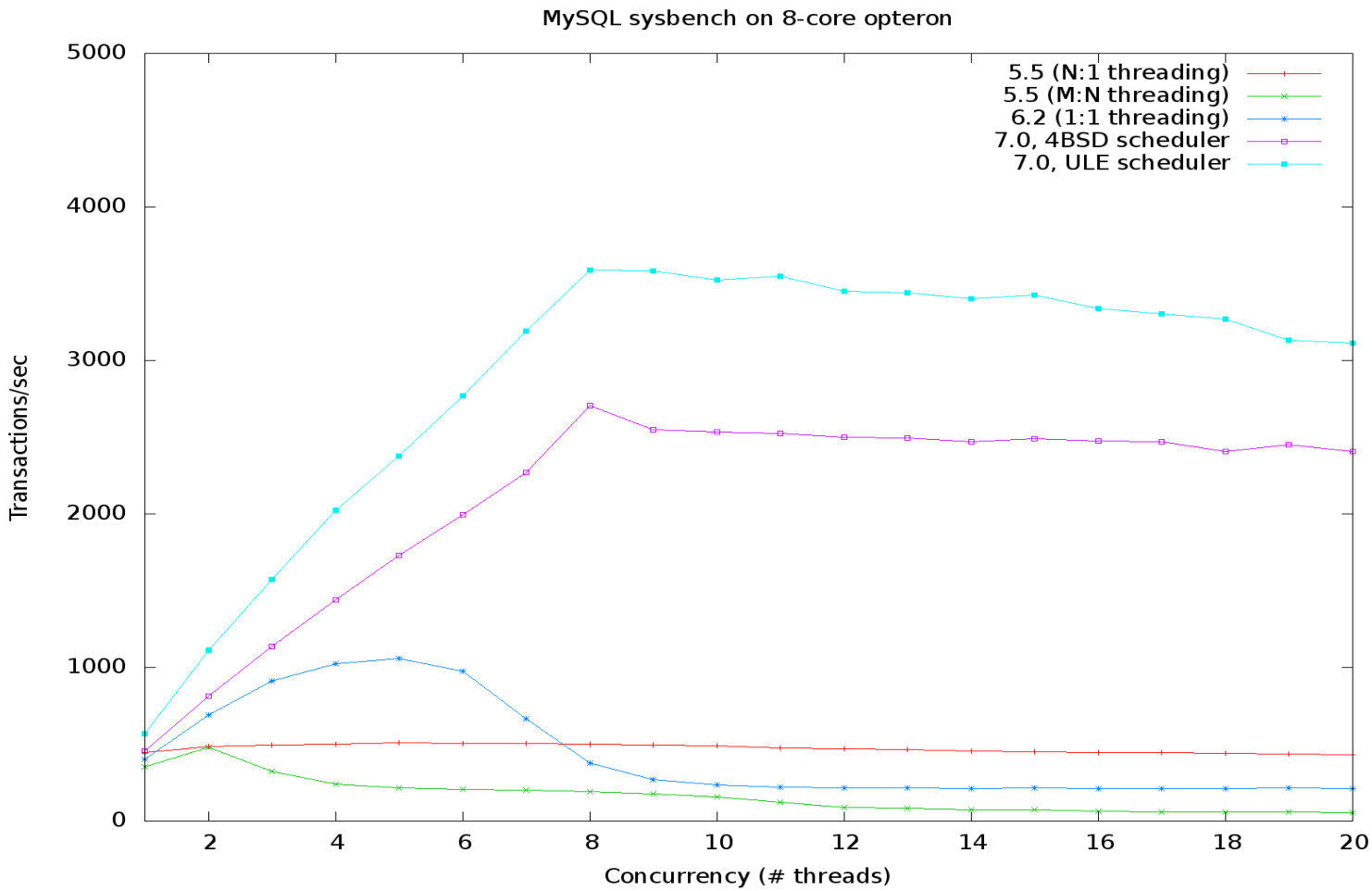
4. FORM

Status Report

Status Report

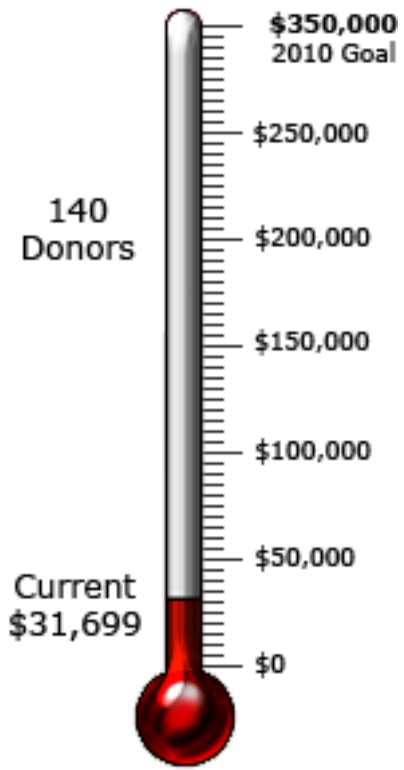
Not Technical - Not Financial

Technical Status Report



http://people.freebsd.org/~kris/scaling/mysql-freebsd.png

Financial Status Report



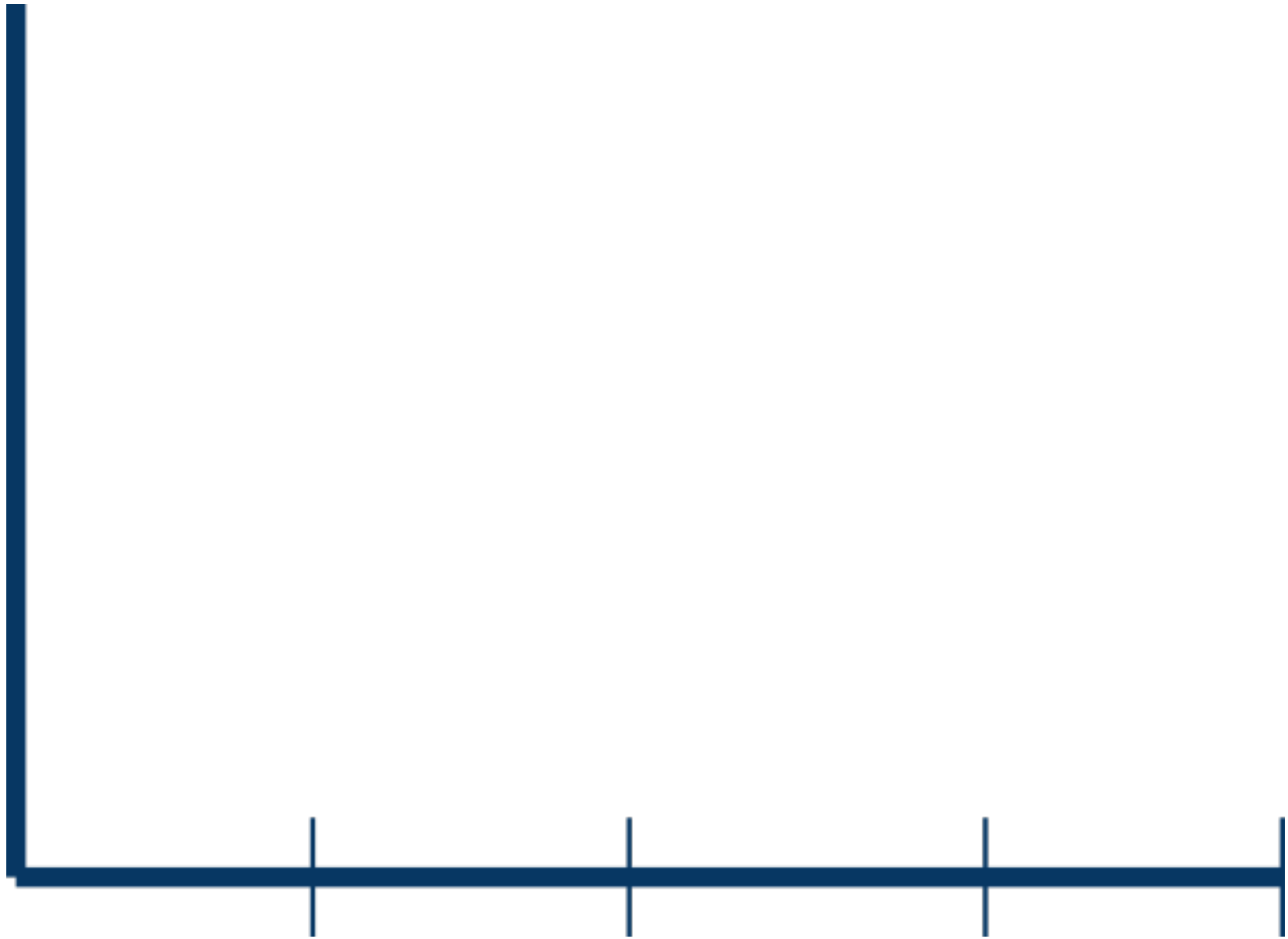
http://www.freebsdfoundation.org/donate/

Status Report

What the BSD community says about itself.

Community Status Report

How do you graph that?



6. DEFINITIONS

Status Report

What the BSD community says about itself.

BSD

How broad is my definition?

Operating System

"1BSD was an add-on to Sixth Edition Unix rather than a complete operating system in its own right"

DragonFly - FreeBSD - NetBSD - OpenBSD
FreeNAS - Freesbie - PC-BSD -
DesktopBSD - MidnightBSD - MirOS

Permissive License

BSD, MIT, X11, ISC, etc

PostgreSQL - Webmin - Yaws - Varnish - Contiki OS - PCC - Unbound - Theorarm

Community

How do I define it?

The BSD Community

People willing to talk to me

Myself - Developers - Authors - Publishers - Users - Advocates - Hosting Providers - System Administrators - Conference Organizers - Consultants - Researchers - Manufacturers - Bloggers - Other podcasters - Companies that write proprietary software for the BSDs - RMS

7. RESEARCH

A collection of podcast anecdotes?

"We have more communication, I think, between the individual groups than we used to. There seem to be fewer personal differences, also, than there used to be."

Greg Lehey
BSDTalk55
July 2006

"I guess if there's one thing I want to say, it's that one of the things we're horribly bad at in the FreeBSD project is actually involving our users."

Poul-Henning Kemp
BSDTalk48
October 2006

"Thing that I was happy about is that there are many people that were ready to help me with my troubles"

Momchil Bojinov
Comments on BSDTalk11
January 2006

Graphing this is going to be harder than I thought

Add in a little science

$$P(A_i|B) = \frac{P(B|A_i)\,P(A_i)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A_i)\,P(A_i)}{\sum_j P(B|A_j)\,P(A_j)}$$

Most common word or phrase

Most common word or phrase

"um"

Most common comment

Most common comment

"Buy WOW Gold"

Perhaps my sample size
is too small

8. PRIOR ART

Attending your own funeral(s)

What would people say about you?

Obituary

BSD, 28, of Berkeley, CA died Monday, Sept. 19, 2005. Born July 3, 1976, it was the creation of a cluster of pot-smoking hippies who went to Illinois and came home with a reel of tape. Rather than smoke the tape, they uploaded it and hacked on it a little.

http://uncyclopedia.wikia.com/wiki/BSD_is_Dying

Eulogy

Responses to survey on the death of BSD
Open Systems Today - 1992

Feel free to let us know of you are in the audience

BSD gave just about everyone a chance to touch an OS, to try to make it better and to try to make a mark on the world. And that so many did is a tribute to the success of BSD.

I predict that BSD will not actually die with the demise of CSRG at UCB. It will actually come back somewhere else, maybe called something different. But the need and the desire is there so it will live on.

Mike Trimberger

BSD inspired many changes to Unix from conception, and is really what started the whole openess and sharing of Unix software...

The ball is now in the court of those of us
who admire this software and want it to be free.

Brian de Alwis
Cognos Incorporated, Ottawa CANADA

BSD Unix has been dead for years. I haven't seen a 4.3BSD system running in a long time. Vendors that sell 4.3BSD-based systems still haven't fixed half the bugs it came with. The release of 4.4BSD will have almost no impact on current Unix users, and most vendors will ignore it.

Mark Lottor
Network Wizards

With the breakup of BSD, volunteer efforts will become crucial to the development of UNIX. This means cheap hardware will become the preferred medium of expression...There will continue to be a BSD UNIX, in 386BSD. And its competition will be LINUX and GNU's forthcoming HURD.

The winner in this competition will be the industry, and the user.

Jeffrey Kegler
Algorists, Inc.

Lawsuit

I can't discuss our legal situation here but wish to extend thanks to all of our supporters. My mailbox has been quite lively the last few months.

We are continuing on our release schedule and will be conducting business as usual.

Rob Kolstad
Berkeley Software Design, Inc.

Aug 12 1992
comp.unix.bsd

Confusion

I had expected to hear something by now. Has anyone else heard anything about this tape? Has the AT&T lawsuit affected the release? Is this just another slipped release date? Am I dreaming?

Mark "Hoek" Frost
Pyramid Technology Corporation

Aug 11, 1992
comp.unix.bsd

Defiance

Product quality has been in steady decline since SVR3. It appears that AT&T/USL believes that the addition of features is what makes an operating system "business ready." During this same period, I have seen the Berkeley variant rise steadily in quality and robustness.

If USL wins, the world will be much worse off.

Daryl V. McDaniel
Micronetics

Sept 4, 1992
comp.unix.bsd

What does not kill me...

How do you measure the strength of a community?

Reputation?

“Two of the most famous products of Berkeley are LSD and Unix. I don’t think that this is a coincidence.”

—Anonymous

Quoted in the Unix Haters Handbook, IDG Books 1994

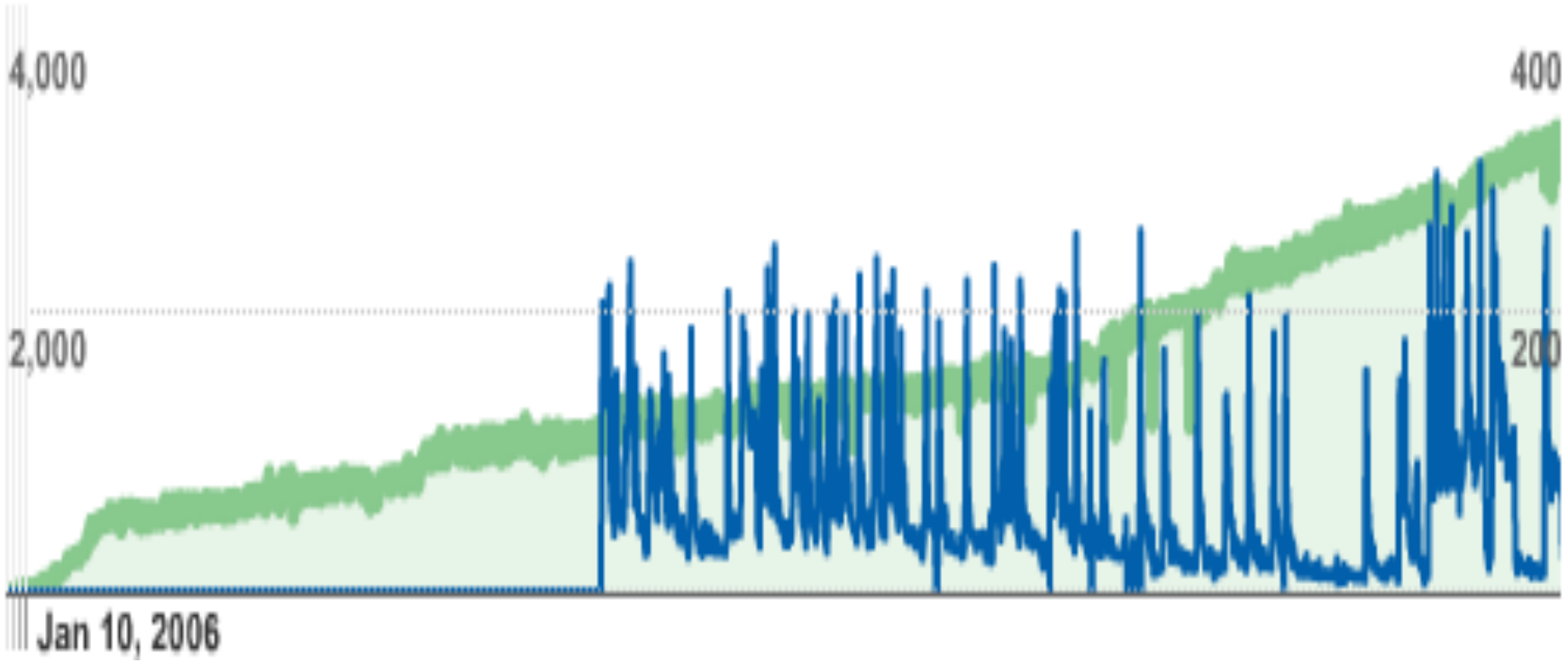
Developers?

That's the reason that we make such a point of giving credit to the UNIX community in our releases -- they do the work! Three and a half people, no matter how dedicated, can't possibly generate or maintain the amount of software included in the 4BSD system. The contributed software acknowledgements for NET/2 listed roughly 150 separate contributions.

Speaking of which, we're always looking for volunteers to work on the project! ;-}

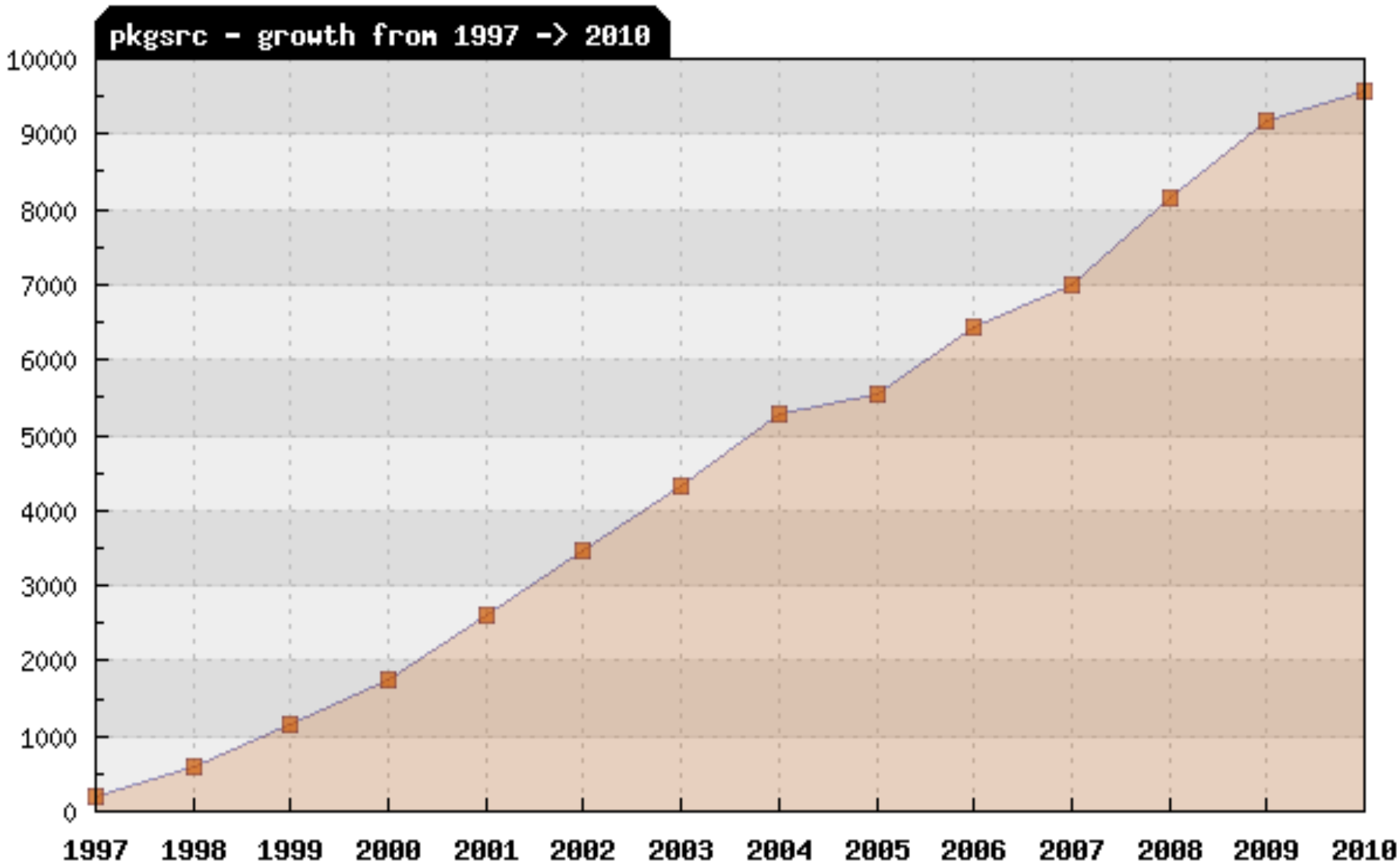
Keith Bostic
Mar 21 1992
comp.unix.bsd

Audience?



BSDTalk Feedburner Statistics

Packages?



http://pkgsrc.se/statistics.php

Sourceforge Projects?

GPL(105,841)
LGPL(18,058)
BSD License(12,254)
Public Domain(6,330)
Apache License V2.0(5,651)
GPLv3(5,139)
MIT License(4,856)
AFL(3,117)
Other License(2,495)
Artistic License(2,014)

Sourceforge Statistics, April 2010

Impact?

The single Greatest Piece of Software Ever, with the broadest impact on the world, was BSD 4.3.

InformationWeek
What's The Greatest Software Ever Written?
Aug. 14, 2006

9. FOCUS

Demonstrated ability to listen

Demonstrated ability to listen

What did I actually hear?

Great Stories

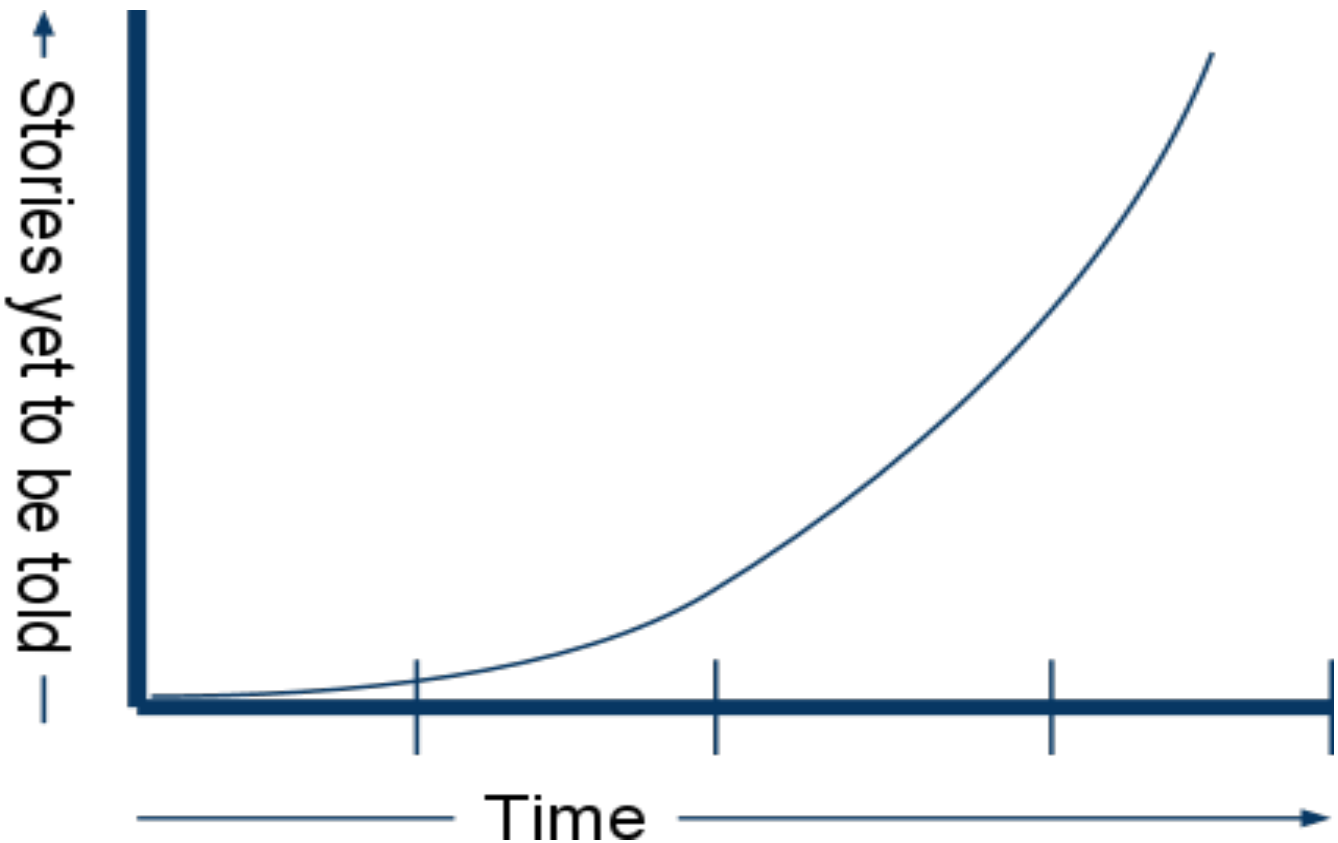
10. INSIGHT

BSD is dead when there are no new stories to tell

Maybe I should just graph the length of the "stories yet to be told" queue

11. CONCLUSION

Community Status Report



I think I found my graph

12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Developers - Authors - Publishers - Users - Advocates - Hosting Providers - System Administrators - Conference Organizers - Consultants - Researchers - Manufacturers - Bloggers - Other podcasters - Companies that write proprietary software for the BSDs - RMS

Conferences Like This

Thank you for telling me your stories

Thank you for telling me your stories

And for listening to mine