

# Haiku: Bet a beta?

*What took you so long?*

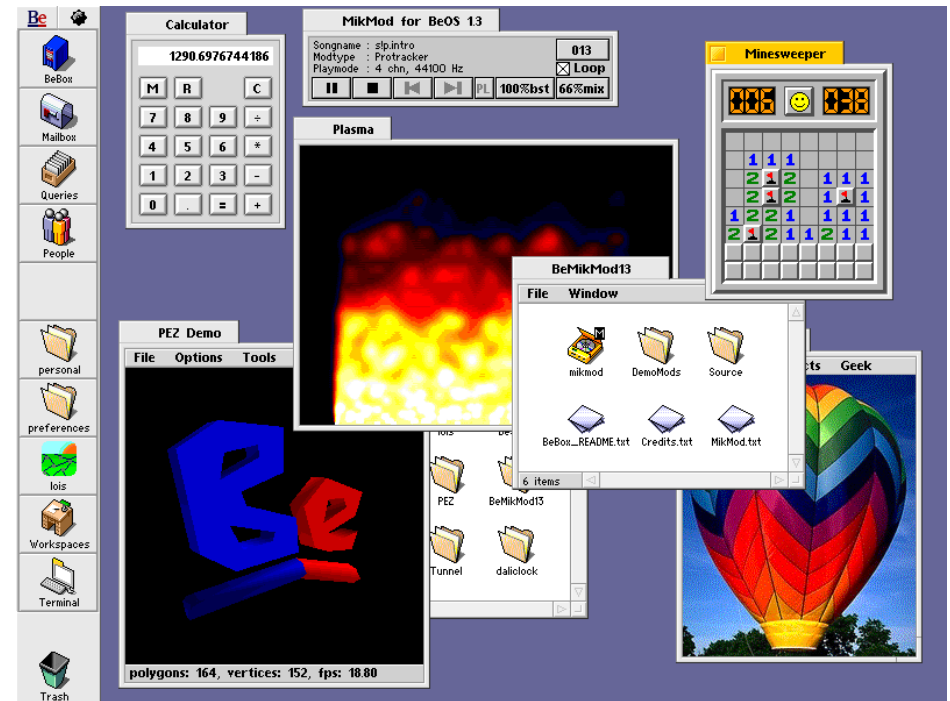
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# Haiku?

- Free Software Operating System
- Inspired by BeOS
- We use our own kernel & graphics server
  - Pros: We control the whole stack
  - Cons: Much harder porting GNU/Linux & X11 stuff
- C++ API

# The Haiku desktop inspiration

- Inherited from BeOS
- Goes waaay back!
- Oh look! A Dock!
  - Later changed to DeskBar



# “That’s so 1998!”

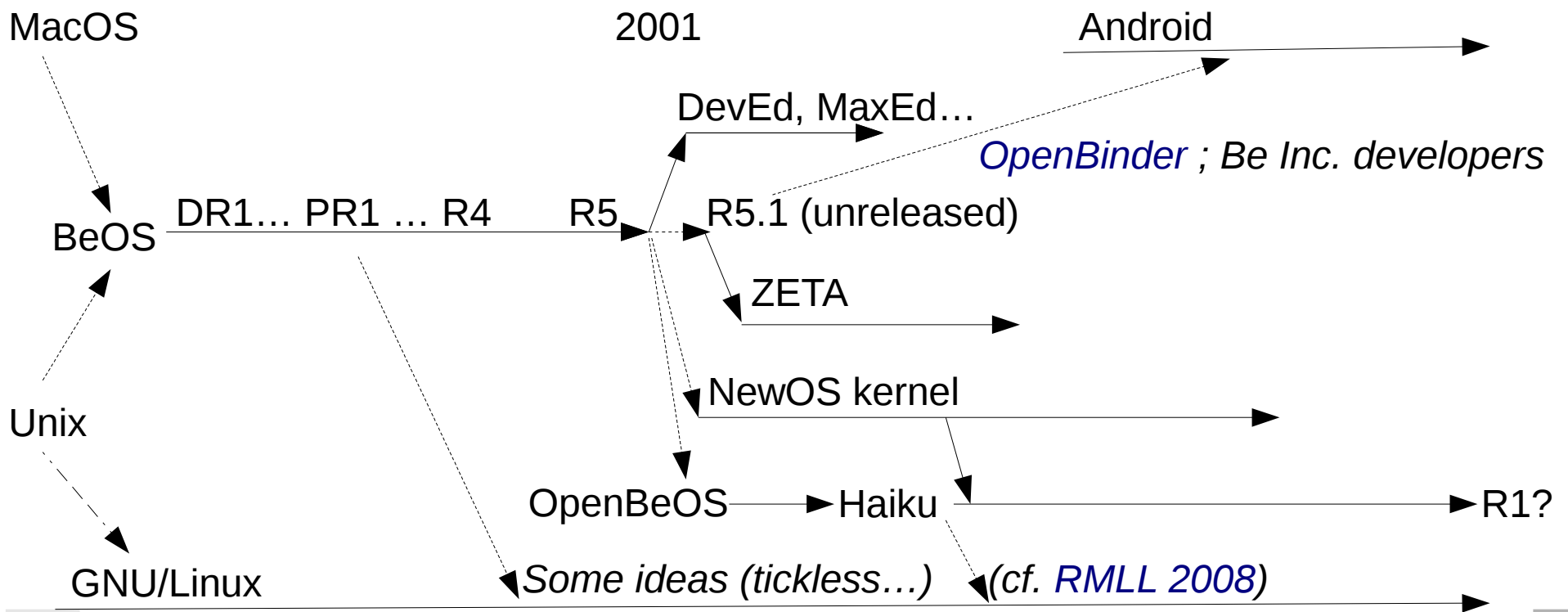
- If you say so
- 3D effects waste time...
- Old machines don’t have latest 3D card
- Yet theming is possible to some extent.

# Haiku specifics

- Extensive use of xattrs
  - Typed & indexable
  - Other OSes have xattrs
    - But nobody agree on those ☹️
- Live Queries
  - Served right from BFS

# Haiku genealogy

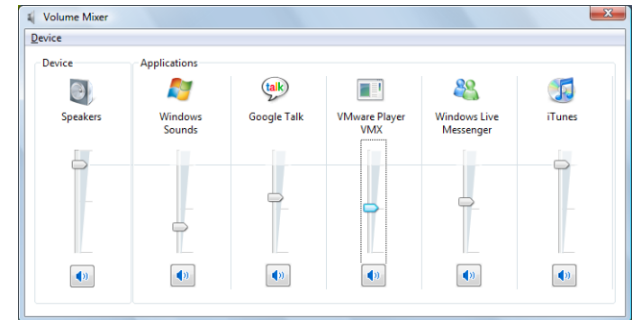
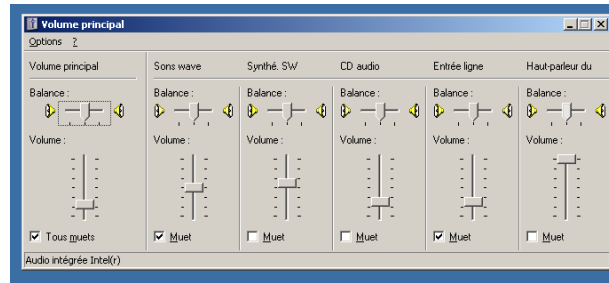
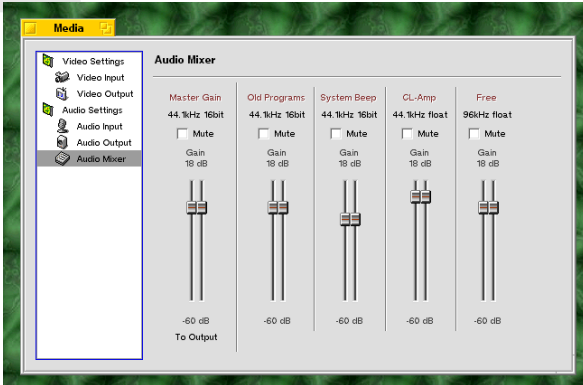
- Poke [levene.com](http://levene.com) ☺



# Be Inc. engineers legacy

- **Dominic Giampaolo** wrote BFS
  - Worked at SGI
  - Then went to Apple
    - Added journaling to HFS+
    - Spotlight (hint: formulas vs Query formulas)
    - TimeMachine / TimeCapsule...
    - **APFS**
- Others went to Google to work on Android

# Just put it in the mixer!

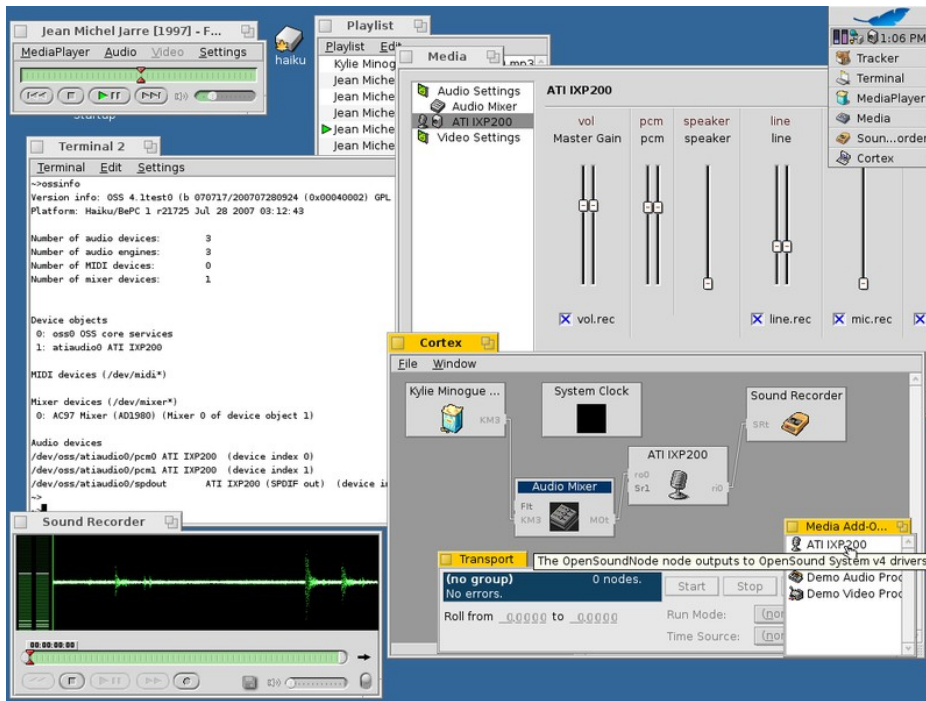


- 1 ch. / stream
- BeOS R4.5 (1998)
- Single PCM channel ctrl
- Win XP
- Win8
- 1 / app, yay!



# DirectShow? Gstreamer?

- The **MediaKit**
  - API Circa 1998
  - Rewritten in Haiku
- With an OSS4 sink



# Copying is not theft

- We always reinvent the wheel
- We always think we're the first
- But still, a **paper** on semantic desktop & xattr without a mention of BeOS is *rude*.
- “*Good artists copy; Great artists steal*”
- And... we still have a lot to be stolen 😊
  - cf. **FOSDEM 2017** talk

# Technodiversity

- (Microsoft) Monoculture is killing the biiits
- Just like in Nature we need diversity
- “So, the Linux folks told you there was Linux beside Windows & MacOS... but there’s more.”
  - Can’t you just tell them right firsthand? 🙄
- “Oh no we don’t want to bother supporting <name your OS>, it’s not POSIX”
  - Says he who uses Linux syscalls without AC\_CHECK()

# BeOS Community woes

- November 15<sup>th</sup> 2001 : Be Inc. dissolution
- Many went to the Mac ☹️
- Others to Windows 😱
- 🖐️ went to GNU/Linux
- A few decided ...

# [openbeos] Ok, let's start

- ... to rewrite it... as Free Software
  - Some had commercial projects
    - And feared the “viral” GPL...
- **First mailing list post** (August 18<sup>th</sup> 2001)

# Ups and downs

HaikuPorts ([GitHub](#))

Pre-PM recipes

Post-PM recipes

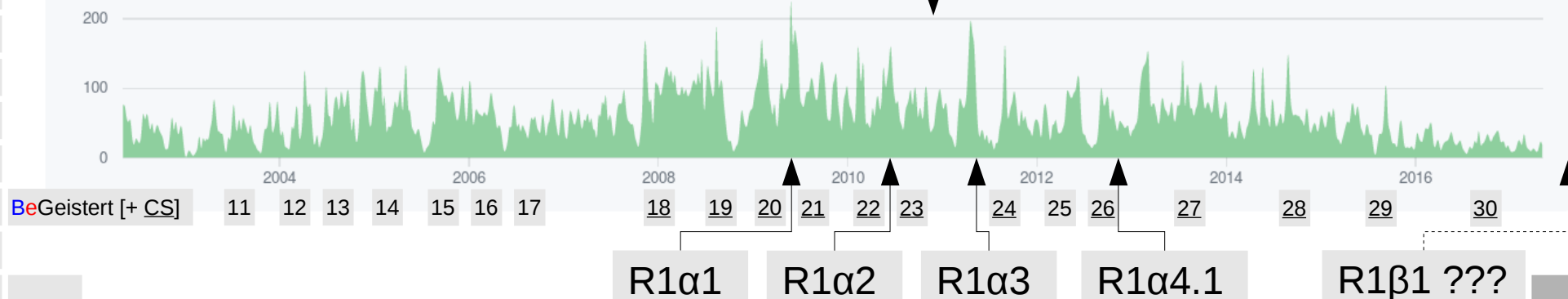


Jul 7, 2002 – Jul 4, 2017

Contributions to master, excluding merge commits

Haiku ([GitHub](#))

Pkg Mgmt 1<sup>st</sup> draft



# Social

- IRC on Freenode
- Mailing lists
- Devs' blogs
- Forums

# Social (IRL)

- BeGeistert
  - 1 week-end for BeOS & Haiku users & devs
  - Düsseldorf, ~ 1.5 per year
  - Last edition (October 2016) was probably the last.
- 1 week Coding Sprint for devs
- FOSDEM, RMLL, CapitoleDuLibre...



# The “C” word

- We overused the word “Community”
  - So we stopped using the word for a while.
- Is there really a single unified Community?
  - Or just a bunch of people with  $\neq$  desires & wishes?

# World Domination Plan

- ☒ Reimplement BeOS
- ☐ Keep the technological advance
- ☐ Show how better it is
- ☐ Supplant Microsoft & Apple
- ☐ Profit!

# “The Queer Factor”

- cf. “Haiku has No Future” talk at FOSDEM 2010
  - “(like most other small OSS Operating Systems)”
- Being “different” = not being “mainstream”
- You have to accept this.
- But it’s ok.
  - Have fun!
  - Love being copied, means you were right 😊

# Distributions

- Haiku is a Haiku **distribution**
- We actually have (had) other Haiku distros
  - **Pingwinek** (2004-2007)
  - **Discover HAIKU** (from TuneTracker Systems)
- But we're so small already, so why fork?

# Package Management

- R1/alpha4.1 was  $\approx$  BeOS R5 already
- But we got used to proper PM on other OSes
- Made sense in 2010
- We wanted it “The BeOS Way”™
- But some disagreed and forked
  - Not for long though
- cf. [FOSDEM 2016 talk](#)

# Sources of Fresh Blood

- Google Summer of Code (GSoC)
  - Some students stay and continue to contribute
  - We're in again this year!
- Google Code-In (GCI)
- Talks at {FOSDEM,RMLL,CdL...}
- When upstreaming ports go right

# Contribution levels

- Core devs (~30) (push on main haiku git)
- Patches from others
  - `git shortlog -s -n | wc -l` → 258 authors
- Haikuports accepts pull-requests
  - `git shortlog -s -n | wc -l` → 170 authors
- Bug reports

# Drivers?

- No drivers = no user = no apps = no drivers...
  - No specs (hw's **user manual**) = no drivers | RE ☹️
    - Hw vendors complicit to the M\$ monopoly
- Bundled sale... (Microsoft monopoly)
  - “He who controls the bootloader” (2001)
  - UEFI + Secure Boot now... ☹️
- GNU/Linux has some *binary* drivers at least
- FreeBSD emulation for Network drivers 😊



# Ok so what now?

- Still missing some build bots for release packages (underway)
- R1β1 should be out Real Soon Now™
- Forward Looking Statements 😊
  - This presentation contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements.

*A few bugs are left,  
With your help before this fall,  
Beta Real Soon Now.*