Guile in 2012

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0.1 Greetings!

Andy Wingo
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Guile @ Igalia

0.2 Guile

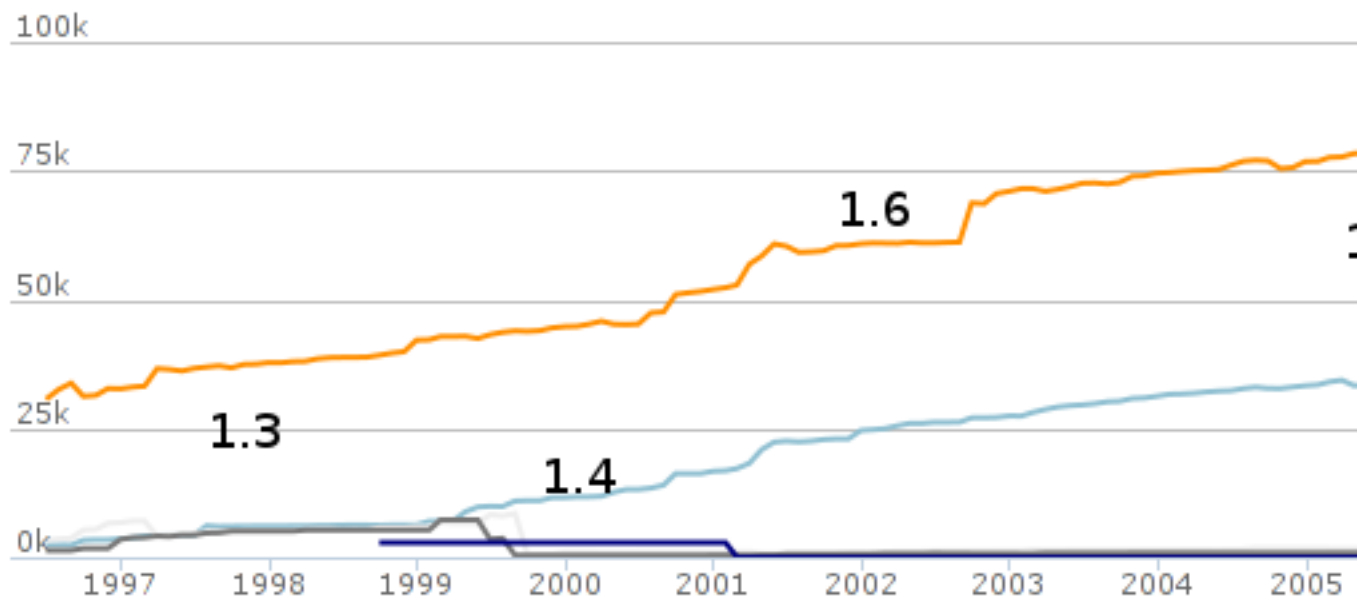A Scheme implementation
GNU
Mostly written in Scheme (*)
Bytecode interpreter
Complete

0.3 Development history

LOC by Language

Zoom 1yr 3yr 5yr 10yr All

100k

75k

1.6

50k

25k

1.3

1.4

0k

1997   1998   1999   2000   2001   2002   2003   2004   2005

0.4 Guile 2.0

2.0.0 released February 2011
2.0.6 a couple months ago
Working on 2.2
Ripe time for navel-gazing

0.5 What I love

repl
optargs
pattern matchers
optimizers, speed
multiple values
bytevectors
web, xml modules

0.6 What I hate

interpreted backtraces
the evaluator
bootstrap time
docstrings in c
backwards scheme community

0.7 What I can't imagine living without

unicode strings and i/o
"hygiene"
compile-time warnings
paredit

0.8 What I fear

long-term psyntax viability
typed languages
static mindset of optimizers
threads
bincompat + macros
ffi interfaces

0.9 What I am excited about

ethreads
register vm
native code generation
emacs

0.10 What I'm indifferent to

r6rs
r7rs
r5rs

0.11 What causes most pain to users

separate compilation and evaluation

install

embedded objects in macro output

values needed at expansion time

eval-when

paths at runtime vs compile-time

read extensions

0.12 What I am cautiously optimistic about

threads (in 2.2)

multilang

0.13 What I want you to do

Overthrow the tyranny of expediency: start all your new projects in your favorite language!

0.14 Questions!

- Guile: http://gnu.org/s/guile/, #guile on freenode
- Words: http://wingolog.org/
- Slides: http://wingolog.org/pub/qc-2012-guile-slides.pdf
- Notes: http://wingolog.org/pub/qc-2012-guile-notes.pdf