

Innovation in Storage Products, Services, and Solutions



June 13-15, 2016 |

Marriott San Mateo

San Mateo, CA

The Tip of the Iceberg: The Coming Era of Open Source Enterprise Storage

Michael Dexter iXsystems, Inc.

Free Software Foundation Four Freedoms

- The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose
- The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish
- □ The freedom to **redistribute** copies
- The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others

See also: The OSI Open Source Definition



Two Leading Schools of Thought

- Permissive Licensing: You may keep your changes to my code if you preserve my copyright notice
- Copyleft Licensing: You must provide your changes to my code to your users

With or without patent protections/indemnification

Why would you do that?

Joy's Law

"No matter who you are, most of the smartest people work for someone else."

Bill Joy, Sun Microsystems

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"A patent is not a business model."

Technologies alone do not find customers, support them, build a brand, source vendors, manage HR...

Don't be afraid of sharing or collaborating

timkastelle.org/blog/2010/03/a-patent-is-not-a-business-model

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Dexter's Law

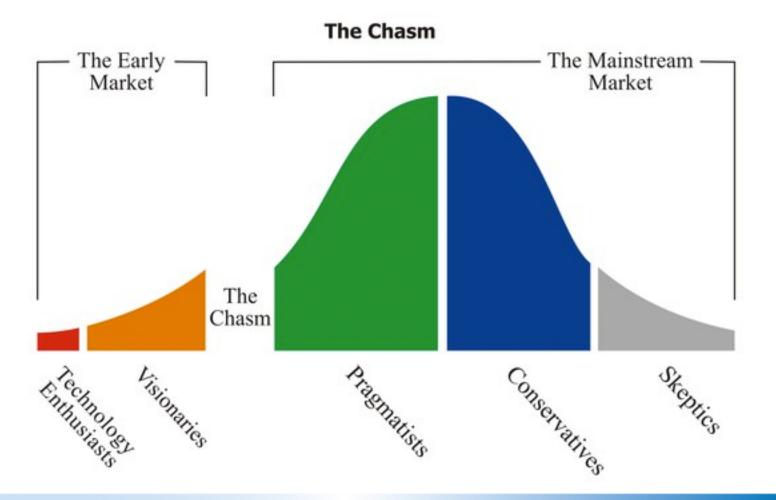
"Only proprietary software vendors want proprietary software. Everyone else will choose software freedom when given the choice."

Michael Dexter



Open Source In Practice

"Crossing the Chasm" © Geoffrey A. Moore





Open Source In Practice

We've Crossed the Chasm

Top 500 Supercomputers

November 2015

494 or 98.8% run GNU/Linux One runs Windows

November 1998: One ran GNU/Linux

http://www.top500.org/statistics/details/osfam/1



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Open Source In Practice

We've Crossed the Chasm

Most Smart Phones Most Network Infrastructure Netflix, Yahoo!, Google, Amazon and Facebook Servers Most Internet of Things

Many Storage Vendors

http://www.idc.com/prodserv/smartphone-os-market-share.jsp

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A Brief History of Open Source Storage

- 1983 CSRG: Dr. Kirk McKusick and Bill Joy Fast File System, TCP/IP, chroot(2)
- 1988 CSRG: First BSD License
- □ 2005 Sun: ZFS File System Scale Up
- □ 2010 Onward: Ceph, Swift, Gluster... Scale Out

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

www.informationweek.com/d/d-id/1046033



Defining "Enterprise" Open Source

Price? Performance? Certification? Support?

Defining "Enterprise" Open Source

Data Integrity

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Open Source Storage Generation Gaps

□ Fast File System, Fast! Given the constraints...

ZFS File System, Checksumming and Validating

Ceph, Swift, Gluster... Catching up

The Fast File System derivatives that dominate Open Source and proprietary computing do not perform any data integrity validations to mitigate bit rot

DSI-DATA STORAGE INNOVATION CONFERENCE



Ceph, Swift and Gluster vs. ZFS

You don't bolt-on data integrity Back them with ZFS

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ZFS Alternatives?

GNU/Linux Btrfs

- Incomplete volume manager added to a file system
- Many legacy conventions such as fstab and fsck
- Strong license obligations
- Not cross-platform

WAFL and ReFS cannot be licensed for modification bcachefs is an alpha-status Btrfs alternative

We are out of choices

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Always-consistent on-disk state Continuous data integrity validation Unlimited snapshotting, cloning & rollback Integrated RAID volume manager **Snapshot-based** replication Hybrid SSD/HDD tiering Cross-platform, strong community



ZFS Platforms

□ OpenSolaris → Illumos reference architecture

Intel, Sparc

OmniOS, SmartOS, OpenIndiana... Illumos derivatives

Intel, Sparc?

FreeBSD

Intel, ARM/ARM64, Power, MIPS

OS X

GNU/Linux

Intel, ARM/ARM64, Power

Legal Questions



Chain of Data Integrity vs. Chain of Freedom

"It is not enough to require that the combined program be free software somehow. It must be released, as a whole, under the original copyleft license..."

https://www.fsf.org/licensing/zfs-and-linux



Our Logical Conclusions

Make ZFS Available

- FreeNAS has been downloaded nearly 9 million times
- World's Number One Software-Defined Storage OS
- All Software Requires Hardware
 - FreeNAS Mini/Mini XL, FreeNAS Certified Line
- SDS Separation is the enemy of Hardware Integration
 - Integrated Hardware Platform
 - High Availability Option
 - Vendor Certification
 - Deployment and Maintenance Support



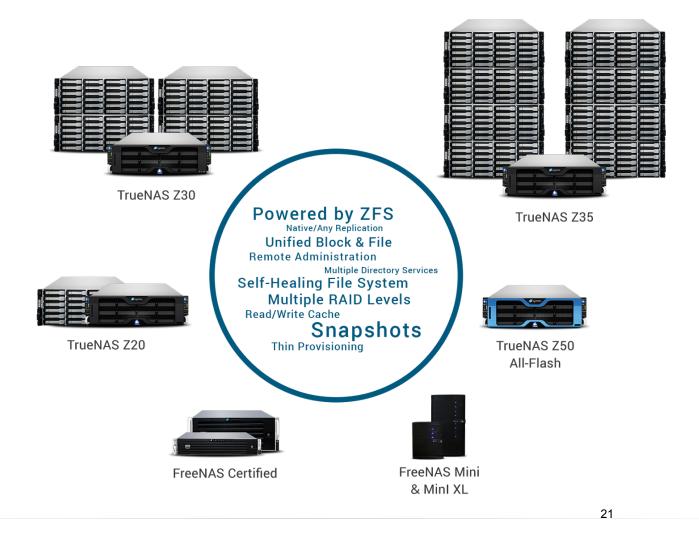
Our Logical Conclusions

TrueNAS Enterprise Storage





Our Logical Conclusions





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Thank You!

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