

# The State of Icedove DebConf15 - Heidelberg

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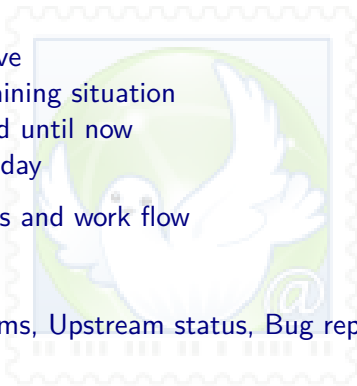
Various platforms, Upstream status, Bug reports

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## About me

- Carsten Schoenert
- born in 1971
- live and work in Bonn (Germany)
- active on Debian since 2011(?), before a simple User
- started on icedove-l10n, growing over to Icedove and more





## Who is doing that all?

- Icedove has mostly 2 maintainer, Christoph Goehre and myself (*sometimes Guido Guenther*)
- all uploads done normally by Christoph
- there some more packages: localization files for Icedove and Iceowl-Extension
- preparation for experimental and sid mostly done by me, also package provisions for \*-l10n (via own GitHub repositories)
- Christoph is doing security packaging work for Jessie and Wheezy
- Guido is helping if some debugging via GDB is needed
- also contributing persons like Mike Hommey, dkg, Philipp Kewish (Mozilla), ...

## Some numbers ...

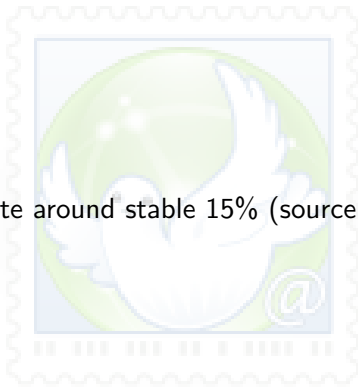
- source tarball \*.tar.bz2 around 195MB
- extracted source contains about 129.000 files and 800MB of space
- build time about 30min to 45min, depends on CPU power
- upstream release every 6 weeks
- since version 10 every 7th release is a ESR release (10, 17, 24, 38, (44,) ...)
- at least one overlapping old ESR release (38.0 and 31.7.0, 38.1.0 and 31.8.0), sometimes two overlapping versions

## Where Icedove is come from?

- 09/2003 - started as 'mozilla-thunderbird' by Alexander Sack (v0.2)
- 03/2006 - renamed to 'thunderbird' (v1.5)
- 10/2006 - renamed again to 'icedove' due trademark issues (v1.5.0.3)
- 2006..2009 lot of Debian specific enhancement done by Alexander (v2.0.22)
- 2009 takeover by Christoph and Guido as Alexander didn't maintain very actively after v2.x, switch to git-buildpackage for package maintenance
- 2009..2015 many! improvements by the new maintainers
  - for example: .desktop file, localizations, man page, branding icons for Debian, dozens of patches for various platforms mostly from Mike Hommey, Big Thanks!

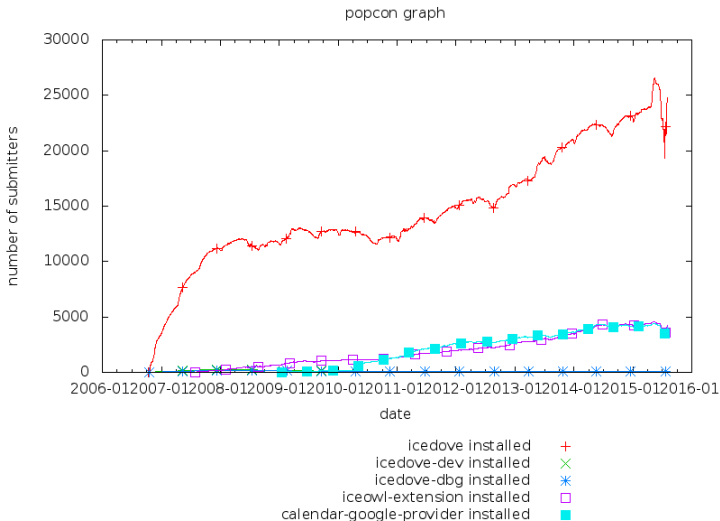
## Icedove today

- installation rate around stable 15% (source popcon)





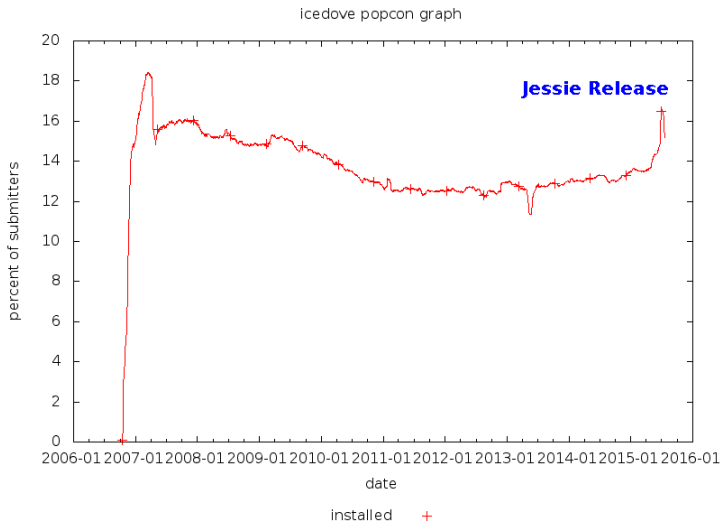
# Popcorn Icedove absolut







# Popcorn Icedove porcentual



## Icedove today

- we build `iceowl-extension` (aka Lightning) and `calendar-google-provider` as well from the source
- only few backport files, most parts are security related
- Mozilla prepares 58 locales for Icedove, shipped as additional packages `icedove-l10n-[xx]`
- since 38.0.1 there 58 locales too for Iceowl-extension (Lightning), shipped as additional packages `iceowl-l10n-[xx]`
- some important and useful additional packages around: `enigmail`, `xul-ext-adblock-plus`, `xul-ext-compactheader`, `calendar-exchange-provider`
- unfortunately Sunbird (aka Iceowl) is given up by Mozilla since 2013

## Known issues/advantages

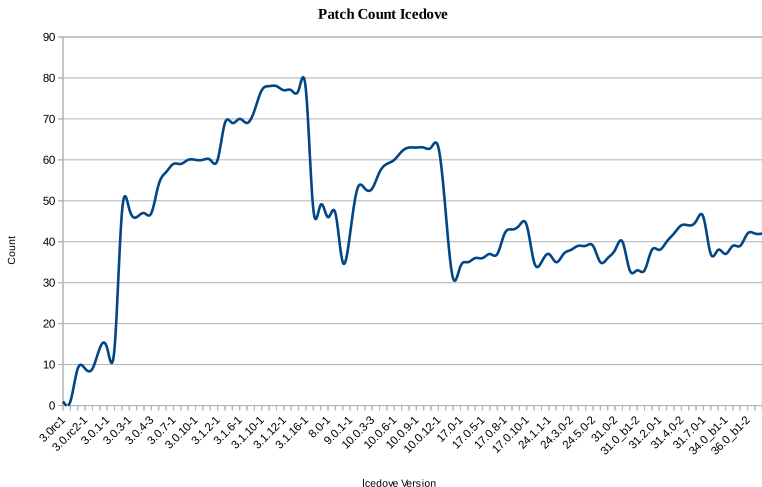
- lot of time is needed for platform related fixes and testing
- too few time for bug squashing and improvements
- communication to Mozilla is difficult, but it's going slightly better now (restricted access to security things for example)
- we have to filter out some upstream files (non free graphics, minified JS, M\$ related files)
- Icedove is already crashing sometimes (rare cases)

## Known issues/advantages

- there are now two security versions to handle (Wheezy and Jessie), hopefully we can provide ESR versions 38.x for Wheezy
- icedove-dev/iceweasel-dev sharing a lot of files
- bug count constantly on higher level, lot of them should be reported upstream
- patch queue at stable count for quite some time/versions (see following graphic)

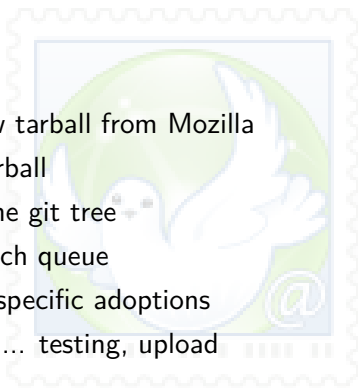


# Debian Patch Count historical

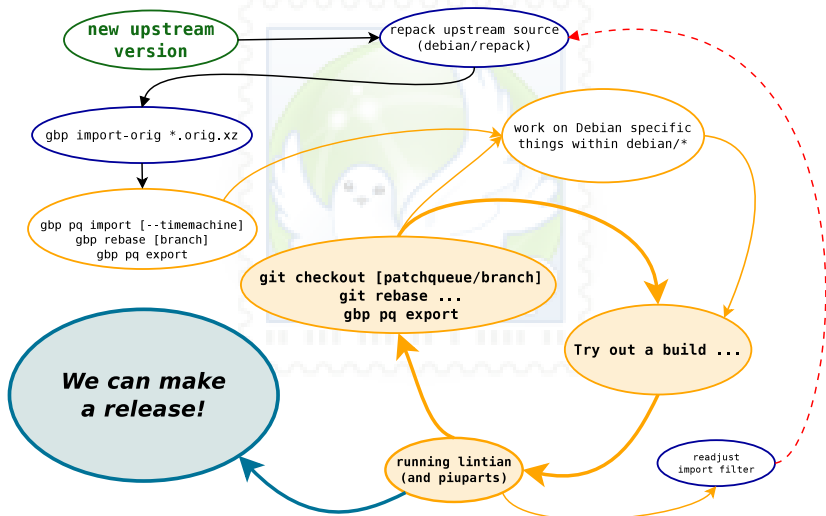


## Getting a new version to run

- download new tarball from Mozilla
- repack the tarball
- import into the git tree
- adopt the patch queue
- make debian specific adoptions
- build, testing ... testing, upload



## Typical workflow new Icedove release



## In detail, platform support

- main platforms are working mostly, they are better and better supported by upstream
- the main devel time **is** needed for supporting kFreeBSD\* and Hurd, now lower priority, but there is also mips\* with funny errors
- arm[hf|64] is mostly working by upstream as Android running on it
- if possible we use preworked (patches) done by Mike
- for alpha, hppa, sh4 etc. we appreciate any help!
- x32 needs deeper changes in upstream source

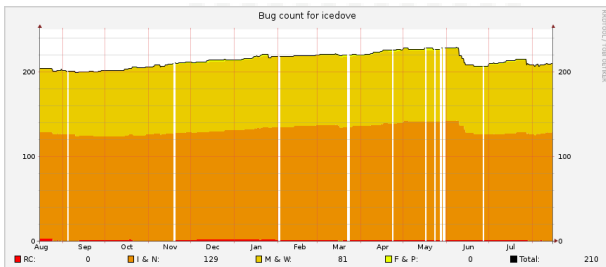


## In detail, upstream support

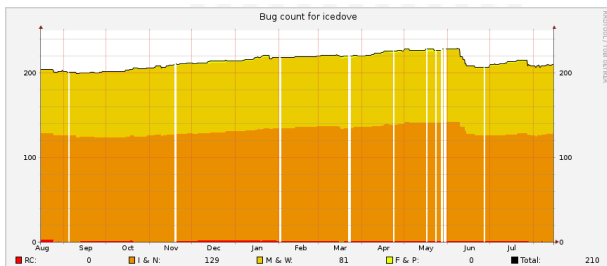
- important [announcement](#) from 8th July 2012 from Mozilla about upcoming management
- 2014 James Kent organized [Toronto Thunderbird Summit](#) to improve further work
- markable improvements visible now
- we can contact James Kent and QA Team directly, much better communication now
- visible work on old standing bugs (Maildir storage format), improved organization inside the Thunderbird team
- some old issues left like better LDAP support for address books and the CalDAV support



## In detail, Bug reports



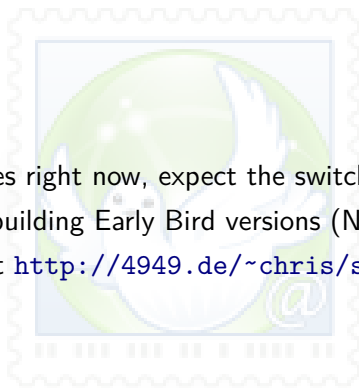
## In detail, Bug reports



- lot of bugs were bit rotting until 2012
- most of them could be closed, but have to be reviewed
- right now the oldest bug is from March 2006 [#357625](#) reported against version v1.5
- ... LDAP integration, Desktop notification, ...

## What's comming?

- no big changes right now, expect the switch GTK3
- Christoph is building Early Bird versions (Nightly Build)
- take a look at <http://4949.de/~chris/shredder/>



## Help

- Icedove is build reproducible since 38.1.0-1 ☺
- more time is now needed for security support (not only packages source:icedove)
- no fixed release date, it's around every six weeks
- many bugs need some loving (→ deeper review and testing → report issues upstream)
- update/rework the [wiki page](#)
- some platform related patches should go upstream
- digging out the rare crashes of Icedove (dkg already reported some information)
- integrate some autopkg tests for testing core functionality

## Useful Links

- (old) PTS  
<https://packages.qa.debian.org/i/icedove.html>
- (new) Tracker  
<https://tracker.debian.org/pkg/icedove>
- Icedove Wiki page <https://wiki.debian.org/Icedove>
- Icedove Wiki page (development related)  
<https://wiki.debian.org/Icedove/Devel>
- My GitHub site <https://github.com/tijuca>
- Mail Archive TB Planning  
<http://mail.mozilla.org/pipermail/tb-planning/>
- Mozilla Wiki Thunderbird  
<https://wiki.mozilla.org/Thunderbird>
- FTP Archive of Thunderbird Releases <http://ftp.mozilla.org/pub/mozilla.org/thunderbird/releases/>

# Thanks for attention!

## Questions?

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