

Contributing to the Common Lisp ecosystem

Daniel "jackdaniel" Kochmański

May 4, 2016

Write the
software

Improve the
existing software

Teach Common
Lisp

Get involved with
the existing
implementations

Improve
implementations
compatibility

Priorities (highly
opinionated)

Still don't know
how to
contribute?



Outline

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TurtleWare

Write the software

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Pros

- ▶ eternal fame
- ▶ growing ecosystem
- ▶ freedom of choice

Cons

- ▶ yaXI - yet another X library
- ▶ NIH syndrome
- ▶ Reinventing the wheel

Duties

- ▶ State of the art
- ▶ Write portable code and tests
- ▶ Use portability layers if needed
- ▶ Write documentation

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Improve the existing software

- ▶ Provide the bug fixes
- ▶ Implement new features
- ▶ Maintain abandoned packages
- ▶ Write documentation
- ▶ Create tutorials
- ▶ Improve portability
- ▶ Perform ci-test-grid tests on your platform/implementation

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TeachCommon Lisp

- ▶ Write a tutorial, a blog post or an essay
- ▶ Improve existing resources (cliki, llthw, ...)
- ▶ Help new CL programmers (#clnoobs, #lisp, stackoverflow, ...)
- ▶ Participate in ECL Quarterly (shameless plug goes here)
- ▶ Create local Common Lisp group
- ▶ Promote CL in your work environment

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Get involved with the existing implementations

- ▶ Report bugs
- ▶ Write tests
- ▶ Improve documentation
- ▶ Fix bugs, improve code and implement features
- ▶ Build and run tests on your platform

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Improve implementations compatibility

- ▶ Contribute to the portability layers
- ▶ Before implementing the new exciting feature write a specification and the test suite for it
- ▶ Contribute to ansi-test, cl-test-grid, portability layers, ...

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Priorities (highly opinionated)

- ▶ Documenting and writing the specification for ASDF and UIOP
- ▶ Finding the CLISP maintainer
- ▶ Refactoring the libraries to use the portability layers instead of maintaining their own hand-written implementations
- ▶ Providing a good learn resources for the beginners
Learn Lisp the Hard Way
- ▶ Creating a non-Emacs IDE for Common Lisp

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Still don't know how to contribute?

- ▶ If you have an extra money pass it to the Common Lisp Foundation
- ▶ If you are a musician write a song about lisp
- ▶ If you have a project to outsource hire the Common Lisp hackers
- ▶ If you don't know Common Lisp yet go and learn some!

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Questions?

This presentation is available at

www.turtleware.eu/static/talks/els-2016-lt.pdf

www.turtleware.eu/static/talks/els-2016-lt.org

Contact

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