

Quicklisp

Technically and Socially

ECLM 2011

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Or, Solving CL's Library Problem

There Are No Libraries

Oops, not that one

Libraries are too hard
to install

clbuild, asdf-install,
or bust

Building a nest
from scratch

Nesting with asdf-install

“I hated ASDDF”

Incoherence

Unavailable

“Clikinet expired
again?”

I could go on and on
about asdf-install

But I won't

Now to pick on clbuild!

“Any OS you like,
as long as it’s Unix.”

asdf-install and clbuild
as inspiration

- *Easy to install*
- *Always available*
- *Work everywhere*
- *Keep things coherent*

Easy to install:
a little boring

Work everywhere

Always available:
also slightly boring

Keeping things
coherent

Build the world
and take notes

Check out *all* the things
(or update them)

Take snapshots

Build each system,
from alexandria to zs3

Trace dependencies,
carefully

Learning from build
failure

Publish success as a dist

Personal scalability

Things to do

- Improve, share the dist-making project
- Gather, build, and publish documentation
- Test build on many implementations
- Hackability
- ...and much, much more

Quicklisp socially

For users, everything is
easier

“I started/resumed
using CL because of
Quicklisp.”

For authors, too

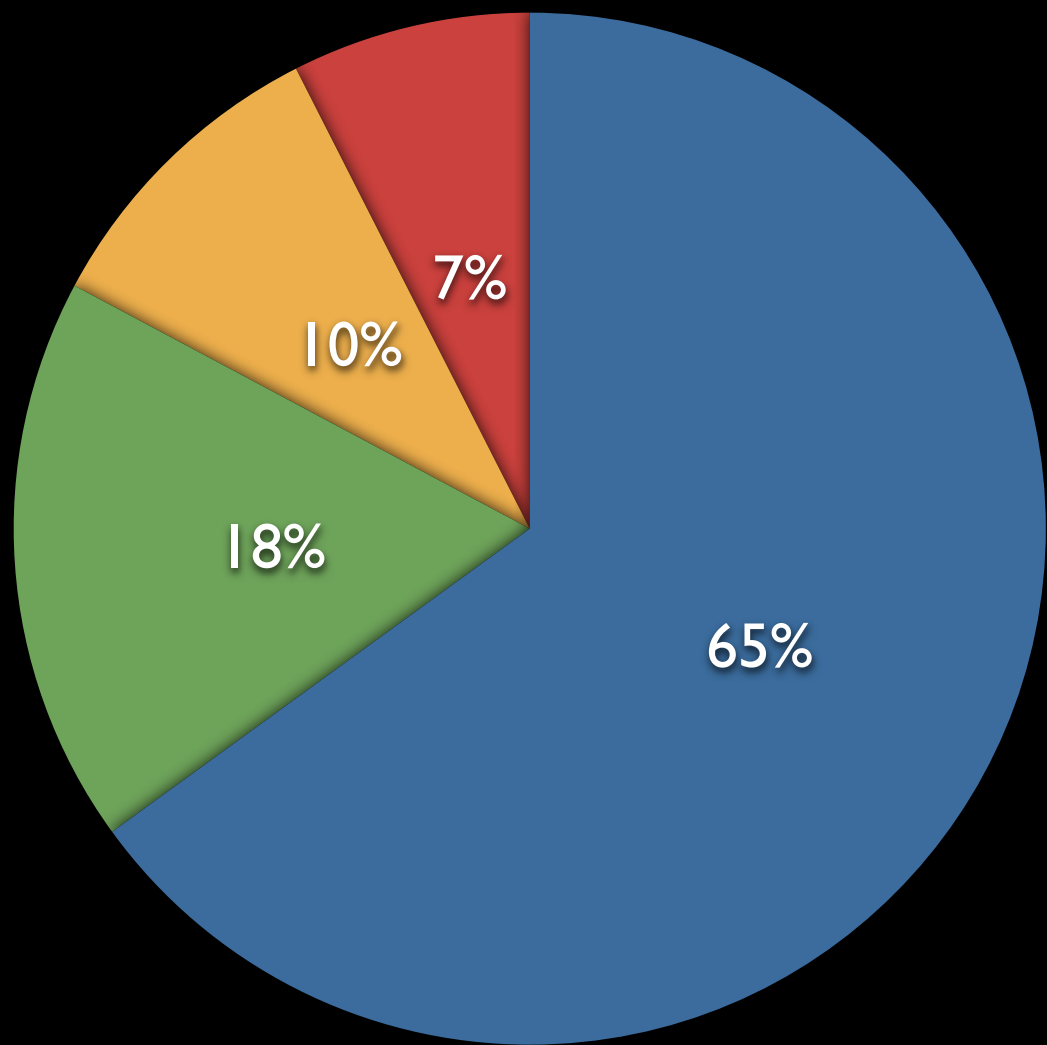
“I’m publishing my
libraries because of
Quicklisp.”

“I’m submitting patches
because of Quicklisp.”

Dependency heaven?

Things to do

- Shared evaluation of projects: ratings, recommendations
- More metadata: how to discuss projects, how to report a bug
- Documentation of Quicklisp itself
- Much, much more



- SBCL
- CLISP
- Clozure CL
- Other

Want to make CL
nicer to use?
JFDI (Just Do It)

Thanks to library
authors

Thanks to users

Thanks to Edi Weitz,
Arthur Lemmens,
et al

www.quicklisp.org