Malayalam L10N

Activities – Status – Issues - Solutions

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L10N Projects

Debian- Debconf, Debian Installer

Fedora- Anaconda
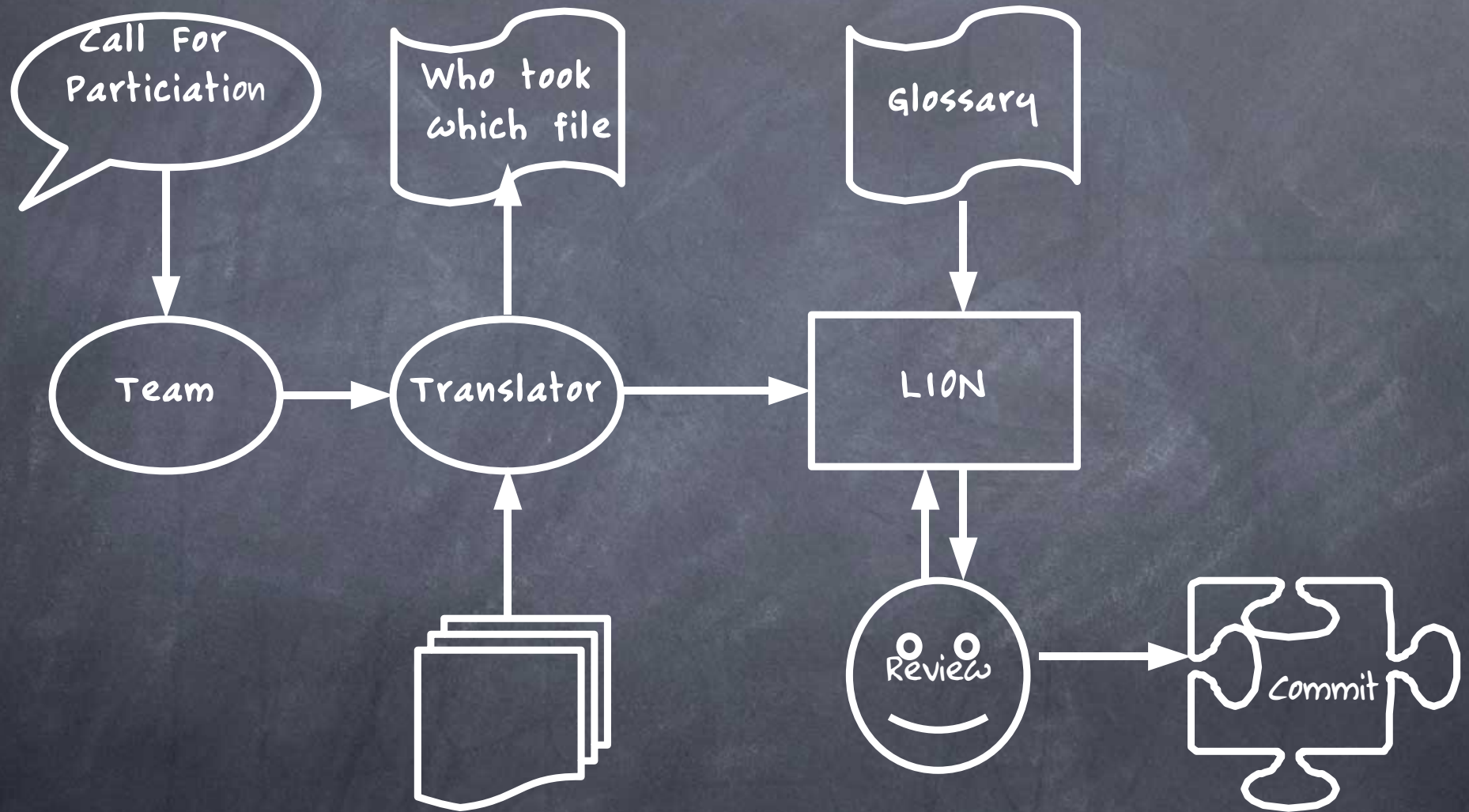
Gnome

KDE

Firefox

Status

- Debian Installer - 100%

- Fedora Installer(Anaconda) - ~100%

- Gnome- 90%

- KDE — 20%

- Firefox - ~90%

Team

- Members – 25-30 Active members

- Commit access: Gnome - 3 , Kde – 2

Process

Problems

x Testing is not there in process. Just compiling with msgfmt is not enough.

x Some translators are translating application that (s)he never used or seen.

x Translators take random po file in each version.

x Translation starts when gnome/kde string freeze is approaching. Less time for review

x No users/No user feedback!!!

Problems

✗ Old translations had many inconsistancies, wrong spelling etc.
Since translation tools mark it as translated, translators miss
it while doing translation for 'Percentage of Completion'

✗ Wrong usage of Navigation keys, place holders

✗ Ubuntu Rosetta issues

We are not satisfied with the quality and usability of the localized desktop!
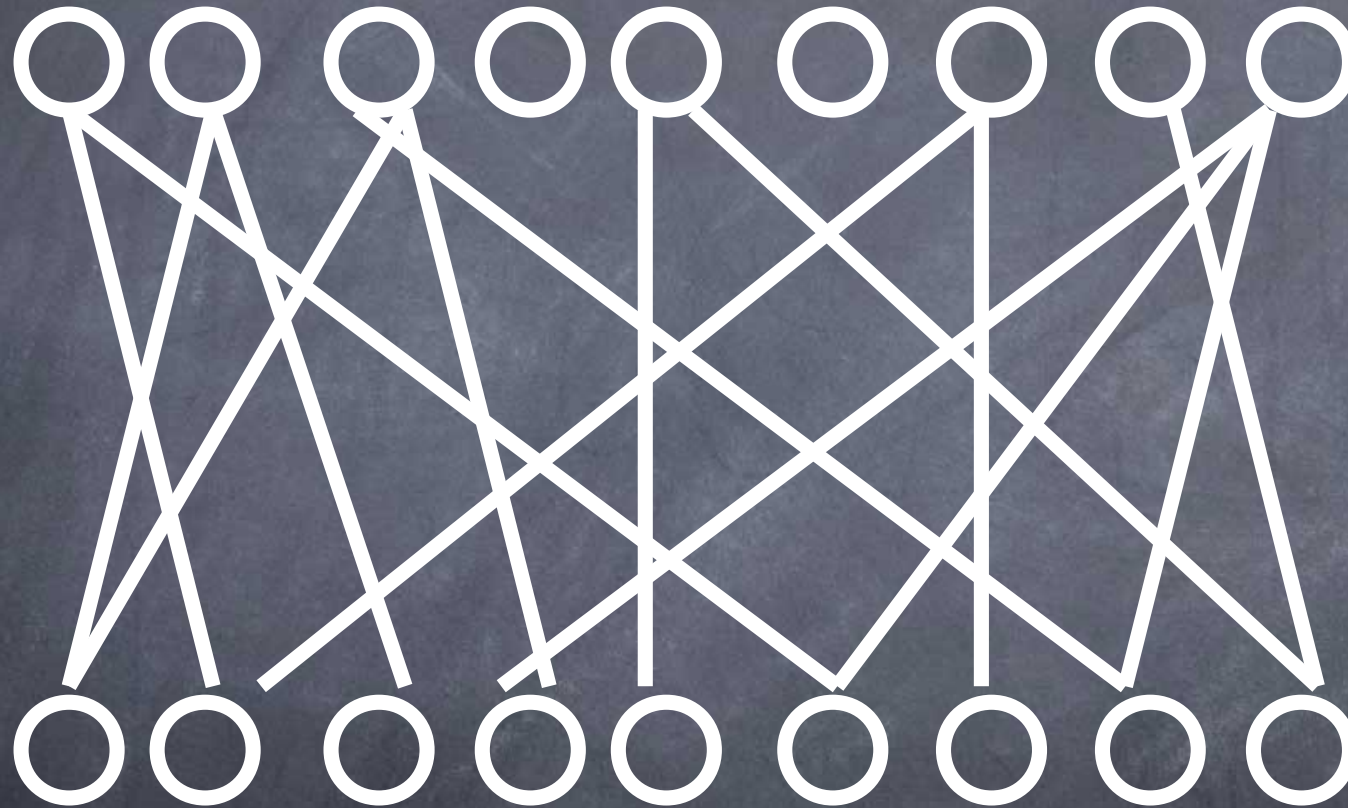
Why no users?

English Literacy

Requierement

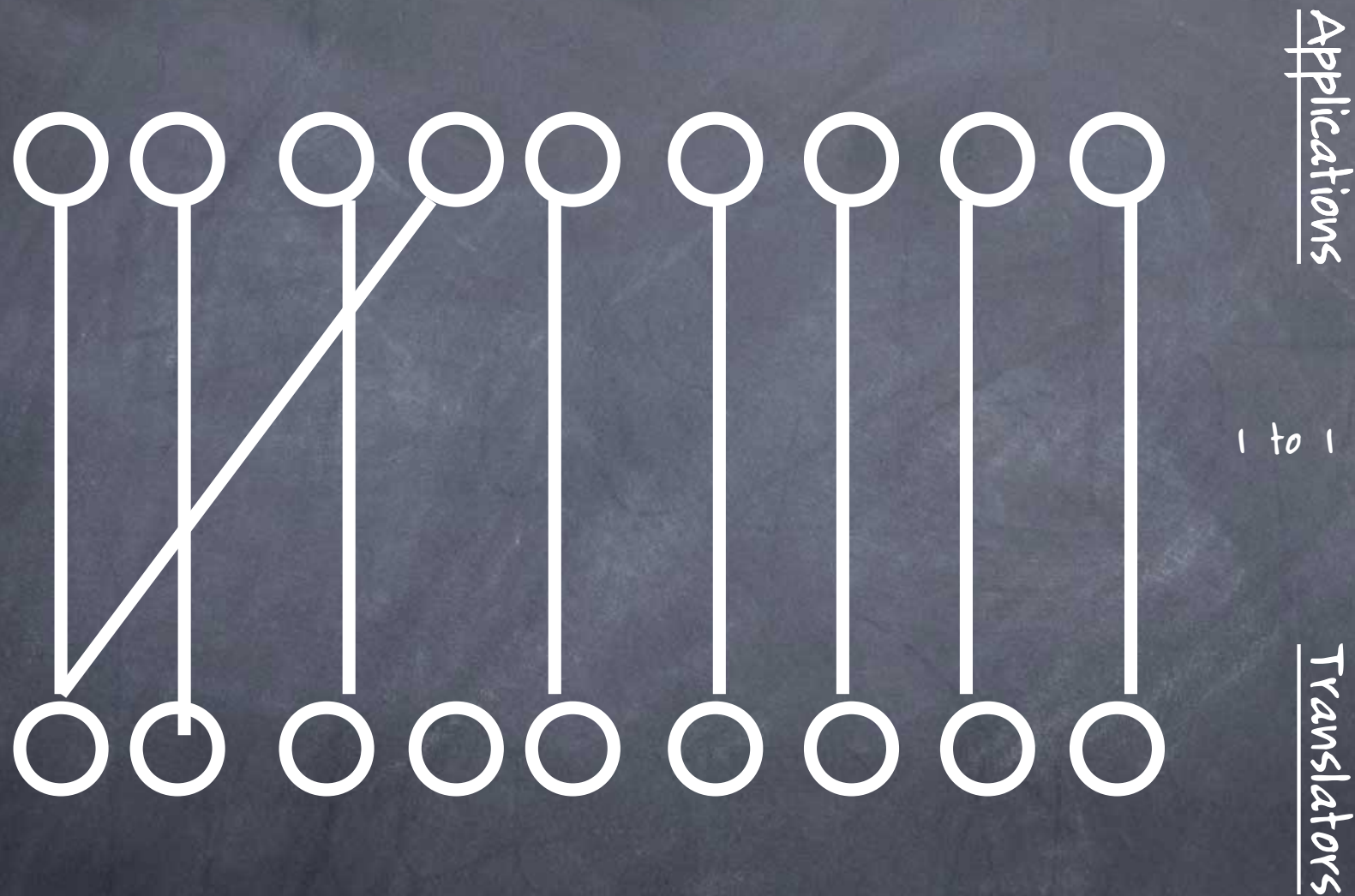Cost

The above things always conflict.

Current Process

Applications

N to N

Translators

Lines rearrange in each versions of Applications.
Translaters get replaced by new translators

Another view-App Owner Concept

Applications

1 to 1

Translators

Lines are permanent in each version.
Translators are permanent or have backups
Some applications wont be translated if nobody interested-Requirement Driven

Application owners

✔ A volunteer who take care of l10n of an application for all versions

✔ He is responsible for quality translations and should get the help of team to get the translation reviewed, tested, committed

✔ He is answerable for any wrong translations, bugs

✔ Users get his contact details from Help-About-Translators windows. Not a list of translators they come and go in versions

✔ Answers, tracks the non-l10n related problems too.

Advantages

✔ Consistent translations for all versions.

✔ Requirement driven. App owner is typically a fan of that application. Commitment.

✔ Translation get enough time for review, testing

✔ Potential contributor for the application later

✔ Answers, tracks the non-l10n related problems too. Can act as bridge between users from a region to upstream developers

✔ Can promote internal completancy among app owners in team

SMC is considering stopping KDE-Malayalam, Gnome-Malayalam projects to distribute the applications of them among volunteers. Discussions going on.

Q&A