Machine

DHB

Very few of my work apps are OS-dependent. Atom, Zettlr, pandoc-latex, Obsidian, Firefox, and Bitwarden are all plain text or available on different platforms. So the issue becomes do I want to avoid the Apple markup and hardware costs or stay within the eco-system taking advantage of the silicon revolution? Linux is solid and workable (even a bit faster) while Apple is shiny and "just works."

There is a third choice: use MacOS on old Apple hardware. Have generally rejected it on the grounds that eventually Apple will move things to silicon and the 2012 Pro will need replacement eventually (already the battery is incapable of sessions longer than an hour and a half).

As an aside, it is interesting the way that a fourth option – purchasing used Intel PC is not minimally attractive. At least with the inexpensive ones. As much as I have railed against thinness from Apple, I nonetheless seem to want to avoid chunky models and with present-day Lenovo, Dell, and AMD models the prices are so similar to the Mac, I may as well use a Mac.

Karen's use of the iMac has meant that my machine will be in all likelihood a laptop, supplemented by an external drive. iPad-iPhone will be primarily the consumption machines. I could get a mac mini (M1) and use iPad as the mobile machine. That would open the way for mechanical keyboard use and keep me in the ecosystem. But that option would entail synchronization and **one advantage of a laptop is that it allows me to take my work anywhere without synchronization but with backup.**

So until June, the question is whether Linux will suffice. If yes (and as of 2021-03-20, the answer is a tentative "yes"), the test becomes whether the 13" is usable. Key will be how well the battery lasts (the 15" works poorly with Linux) and how the screen looks at that size. If Linux doable (and the real question is whether I accept I am not at the cutting edge and do quite little, all things considered, on the Mac. Finding out means doing actually work besides surfing the web, watching tech review videos.)

If Linux will not work, the question is whether the 13" or a silicon laptop will be the machine of choice. If I opt for Apple silicon, then sale or donation of old laptops.

Links: [[Workflow/Machine]]; [[Workflow/Distro]]; [[Workflow/TextEditor]] or [[Distro]]; [[TextEditor]]