a gentle intro to functional package management

with GNU Guix

Package managers are really useful.

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But they can be so frustrating!

Version conflicts Old software Suspenseful upgrades The only way is forward **Changes affect all users** Trust?

No package management

You are on your own.

External repos

EPEL, PPAs, AUR... more conflicts, more to trust

Application-specific packaging

gem, cabal, pip, cpan, npm:
more packages, less management

Build your own system package

Relocatable rpm, deb, PKGBUILD, ...

Meta package managers

Generate system packages with e.g. fpm

Giving up

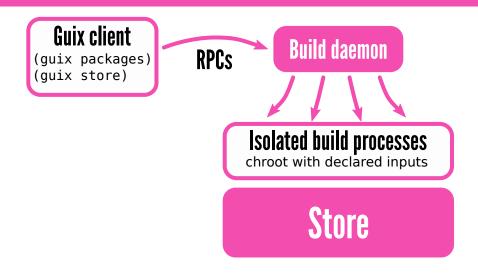
Packaging is hard, let's take **snapshots**.

Functional packaging

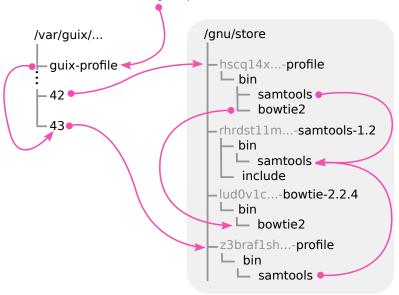
headers sources build tools libraries cabba9e-**emacs**-24.5/ . . . -bin ∟emacs

```
(define glpk
  (package
     (name "glpk")
     (version "<mark>4,57</mark>")
    (source
     (origin
       (method url-fetch)
       (uri (string-append "mirror://gnu/glpk/glpk-"
                             version ".tar.gz"))
       (sha256 (base32 "Op17jjlixd2..."))))
     (build-system gnu-build-system)
    (inputs
      <u>`(("g</u>mp" ,gmp)))
    (arguments
      (#:configure-flags '("--with-gmp")))
     home-page "http://www.gnu.org/software/glpk/")
     synopsis "GNU Linear Programming Kit")
     description
     "GLPK is a C library for solving large-scale linear
programming (LP), mixed integer programming (MIP), and
other related problems ...")
    (license gpl3+)))
```

GNU Guix



/home/rekado/.guix-profile



Learn more!

#guix on irc.freenode.net http://gnu.org/s/guix

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