

Distro : **Debian**  
Wikipedia : <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Debian>  
Website : <https://www.debian.org/>  
Twitter : [@debian](#)  
Status : May 2021  
Author : [summertime tech](#)  
CPU : Tested on x86 – 64bits architecture

Offline installable complete .iso:

- Debian has many variants – this report desktop .iso sources:  
<https://cdimage.debian.org/debian-cd/current-live/amd64/iso-hybrid/>
- Used Graphical Debian Installer & Network Mirror Incl. Updates
- Report about: see Annex Telemetry Checklist

Conclusion:

- Distro has several Cat.0 desktops and can be used in DTAP because of no built-in(\*) telemetry; accept Cat.3 GNOME- & KDE desktops: only useable in DEV- & TEST environment.
- (\*) user block Repo App “popularity-contest”: how to <[read article](#)>
- General distros Overview & Suggestions: <[read here](#)>

Cat.0 Telemetry

- Cinnamon
  - Use in DEV-, TEST-, ACC- & PROD environments
  - (\*) see Cat.2
- GNOME
  - Use in DEV-, TEST-environments
  - See Cat.2 & 3
- KDE
  - Use in DEV-, TEST-environments
  - See Cat.2 & 3
- LXDE
  - Use in DEV-, TEST-, ACC- & PROD environments
  - (\*) see Cat.2
- LXQt
  - Use in DEV-, TEST-, ACC- & PROD environments
  - (\*) see Cat.2
- MATE
  - Use in DEV-, TEST-, ACC- & PROD environments
  - (\*) see Cat.2
- Xfce
  - Use in DEV-, TEST-, ACC- & PROD environments
  - (\*) see Cat.2

**Cat.1 Telemetry**

- N/A

**Cat.2 Telemetry**

- Cinnamon
  - App "popularity-contest" in Repo; not installed; see Annex-1 Img3
- GNOME
  - App "popularity-contest" in Repo; not installed; see Annex-2 Img3
- KDE
  - App "popularity-contest" in Repo; not installed; see Annex-3 Img3
  - Via Settings; Software Centre; Settings; Software Sources; Statistics: Configure "popularity-contest"; default is <off>; see Annex-3 Img12
  - Settings; BrowserID default <on> ; see Annex-3 Img8
  - Settings; Cookies default <yes> ; see Annex-3 Img9
- LXDE
  - App "popularity-contest" in Repo; not installed; see Annex-4 Img3
- LXQt
  - App "popularity-contest" in Repo; not installed; see Annex-5 Img3
- MATE
  - App "popularity-contest" in Repo; not installed; see Annex-6 Img3
- Xfce
  - App "popularity-contest" in Repo; not installed; see Annex-7 Img3

**Cat.3 Telemetry**

- GNOME
  - Extra Repository for downloading, Testing Apps with feedback to developers; Quality Improvement (QI) via collect & analyze user data; Via Applications; Software&Updates; Developer Options; Default status:<off> ; see Annex-2 Img8
- KDE
  - KDE Bug Report Telemetry Installed; See Annex-3 Img11 – To block telemetry via /etc/hosts insert: 127.0.0.1 <https://bugs.kde.org>

**Cat.4 Telemetry**

- N/A

**Remarks:**

- netinstal .iso differs! various distros have additional parameter:
- During Installation: Question: User Location sent to distro" Cat.1 telemetry Default status:<no>
- Instructed by KDE.org all distros desktops have to create forced dependencies with cat.4 KUserFeedback telemetry if user is to install KDE software like Kate, Dolphin or Discover Software Centre. And Debian did not comply and made no forced dependency.

## Annex Telemetry Checklist

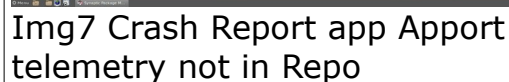
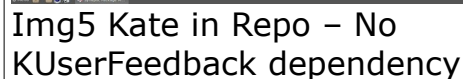
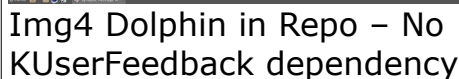
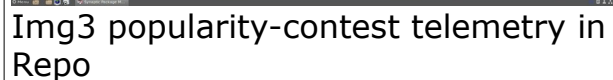
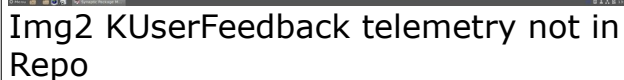
Implementation of Telemetry and "Spying on User"-software within Linux desktop domain is expanding and as such a moving target. Therefore investigation results can vary. Occurrence of known software situation as listed below are checked at date: see "Status" in header this document.

- KUserFeedback Telemetry package (KUFB)
- Dolphin: target KUFB track& trace
- Kate: target KUFB track&trace
- Discover Software Store KDE Plasma: target KUFB track&trace
- popularity-contest: reporting to Distro HQ
- Crash Report App Apport: reporting to Distro HQ
- Bug Report: reporting to Distro HQ
- Connectivity Checking: regular reporting to Distro HQ
- Info Update: reporting to Distro HQ
- User Location: reporting to Distro HQ
- OS Settings: Cookies & browserID reporting to Browser HQ

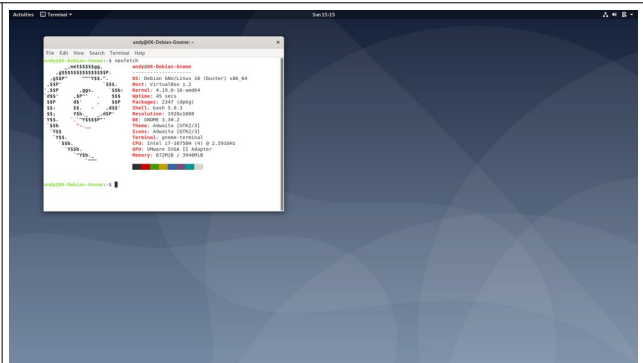
### About:

- Origin & instruction to distro of KUFB & App targetting  
→ KDE.org
- Implementation & control of KUFB & App targetting  
→ Distro.org
- Survey package "popularity-contest": <https://popcon.debian.org>
- Crash Report: <https://launchpad.net/ubuntu/+source/apport>

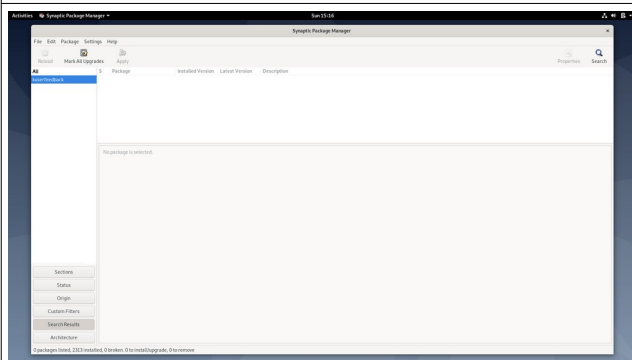
# Debian Desktop Cinnamon 2105



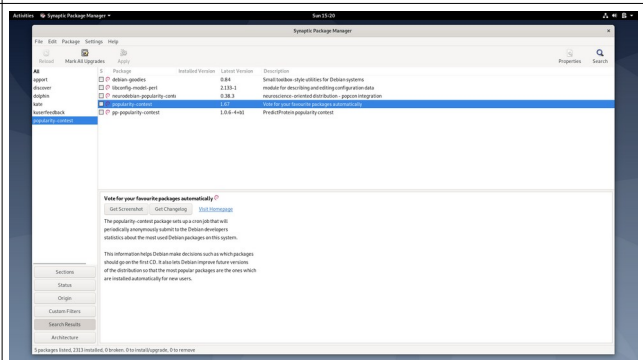
## Annex-2

Debian  
Desktop GNOME  
2105

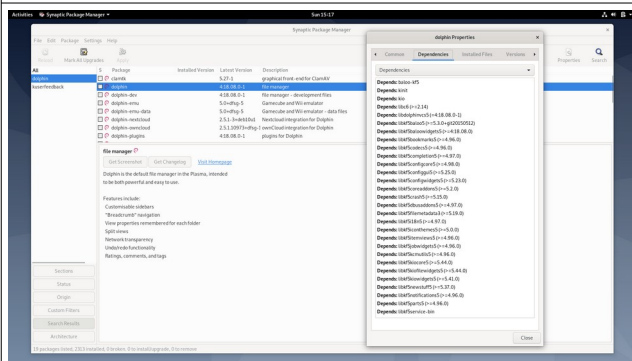
Img1 neofetch



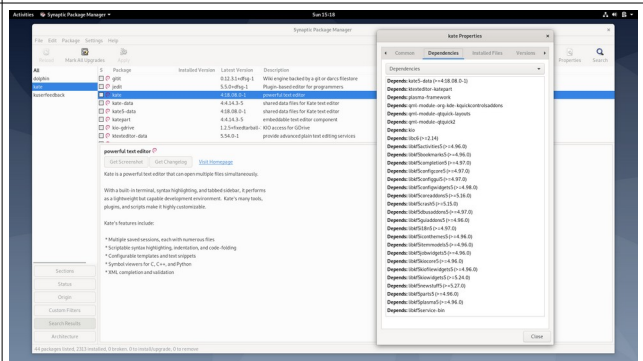
Img2 KUserFeedback telemetry not in Repo



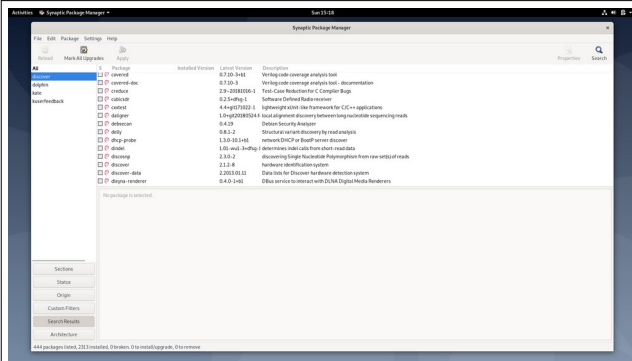
Img3 popularity-contest telemetry in Repo



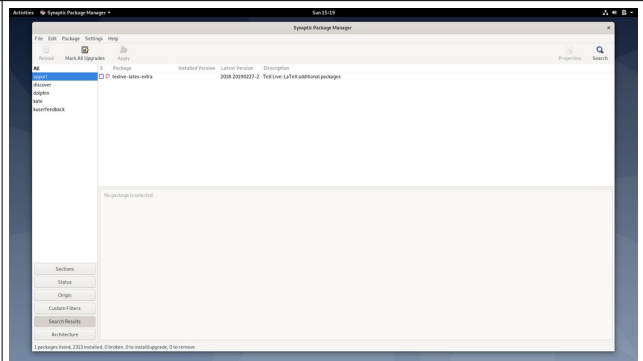
Img4 Dolphin in Repo – No KUserFeedback dependency



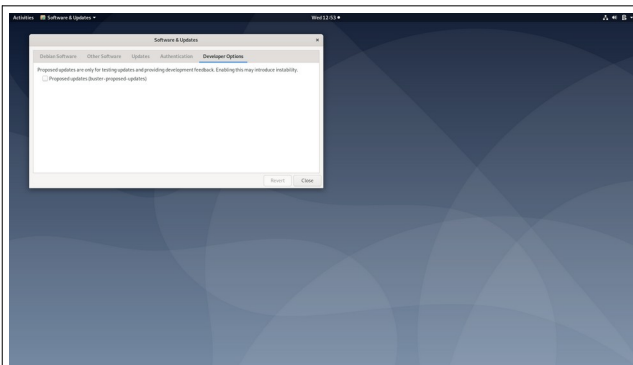
Img5 Kate in Repo – No KUserFeedback dependency



Img6 Discover App Store not in Repo



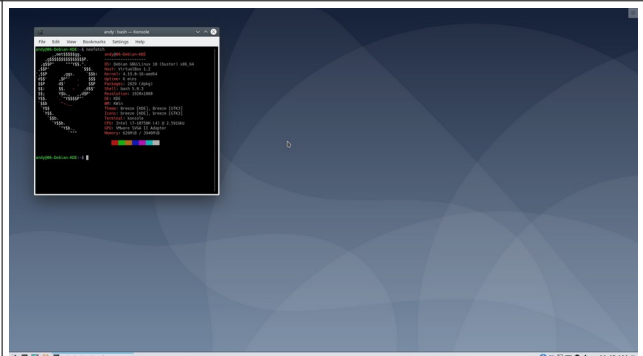
Img7 Crash Report app Appport not in Repo



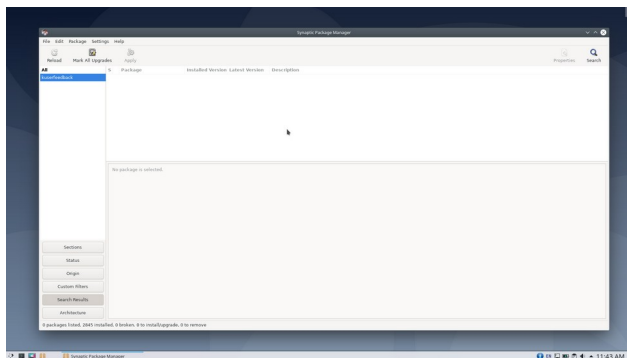
Img8 Extra Repo for QA & feedback to  
devs – default of <off>

## Annex-3

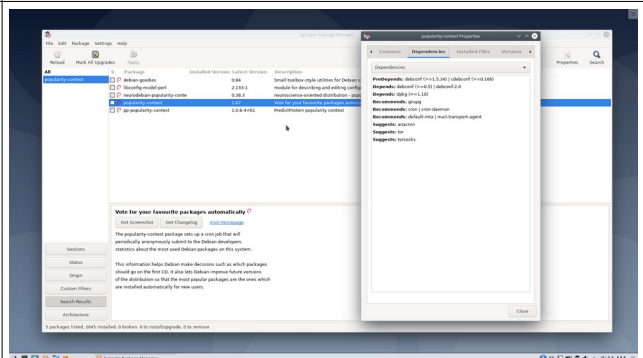
Debian  
KDE desktop  
2021-05



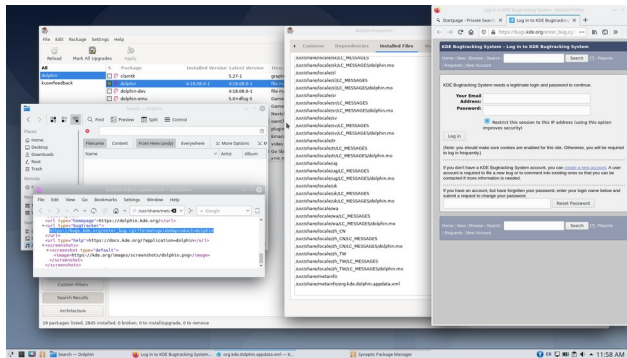
Img1 neofetch



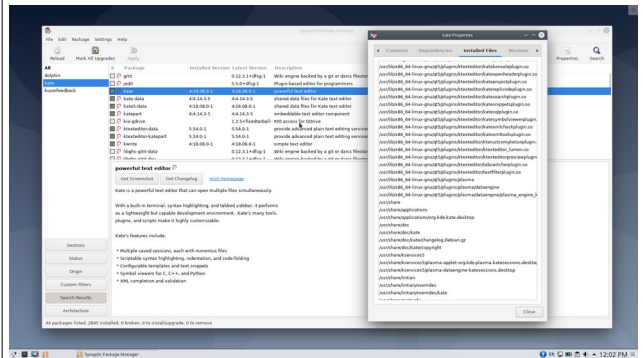
Img2 KUserFeedback telemetry package not in Repo or installed



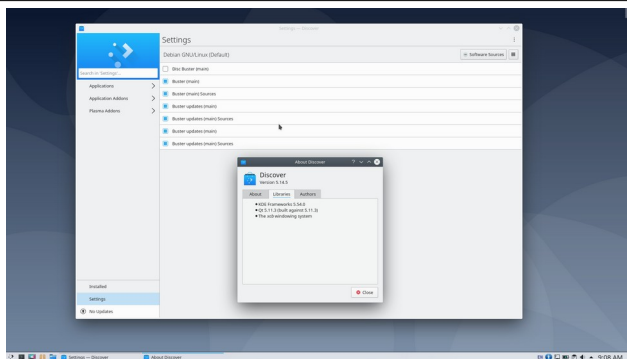
Img3 popularity-contest telemetry in Repo



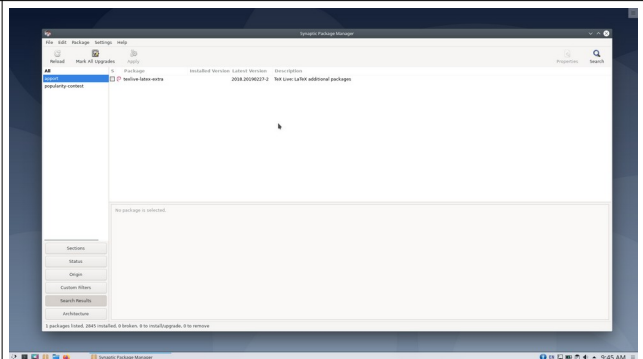
Img4 Dolphin installed – no KUserFeedback dependency



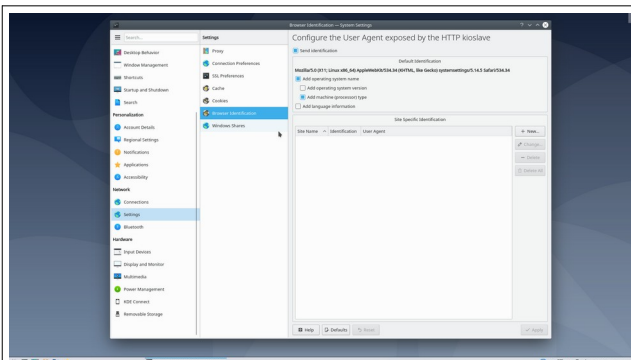
Img5 Kate installed – no KUserFeedback dependency



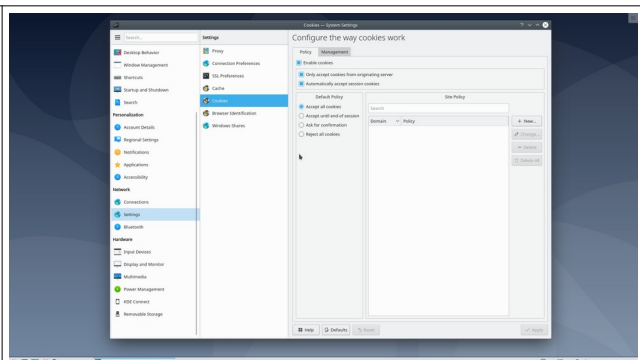
Img6 Discover App Store part of built no seperate package – no KUserFeedback dependency



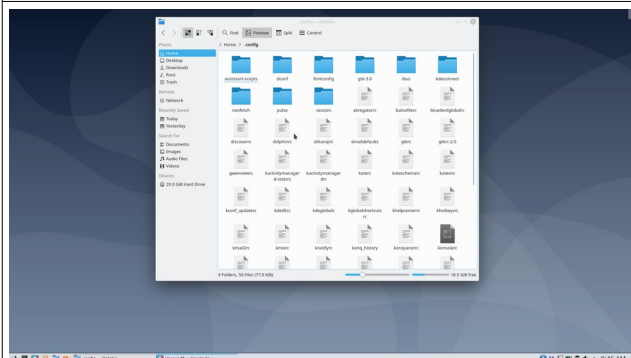
Img7 Crash Report app Apport not in Repo



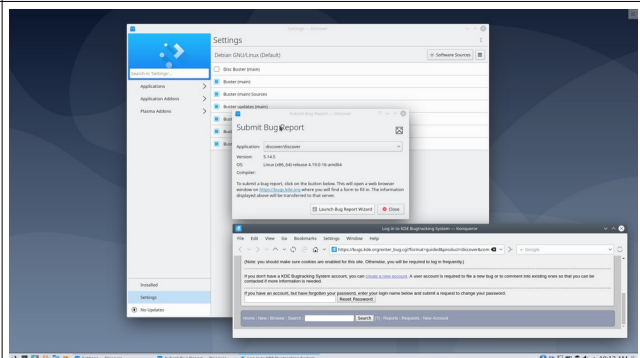
Img8 Settings Browser ID – default &lt;on&gt;



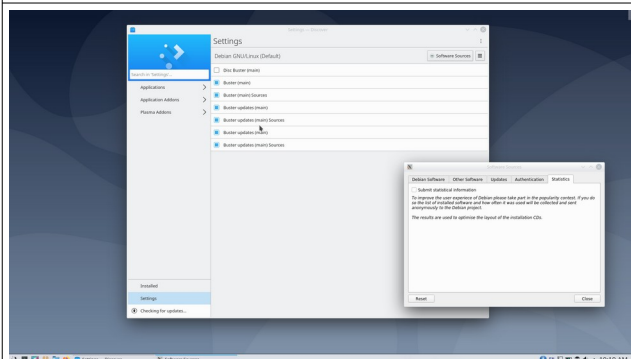
Img9 Settings Cookies – default &lt;on&gt;



Img10 KUserFeedback not active – no related folder in .config



Img11 KDE Bug Report telemetry

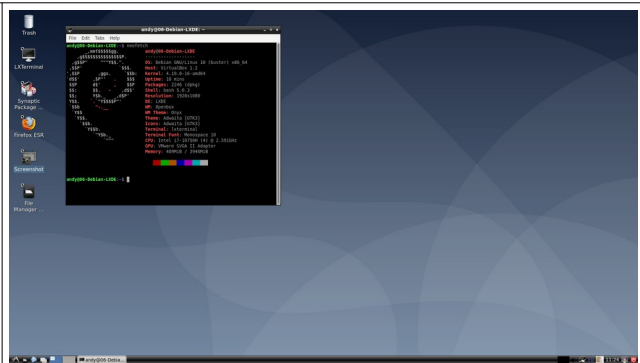


Img12 Popularity Contest Configure to be send to Debian

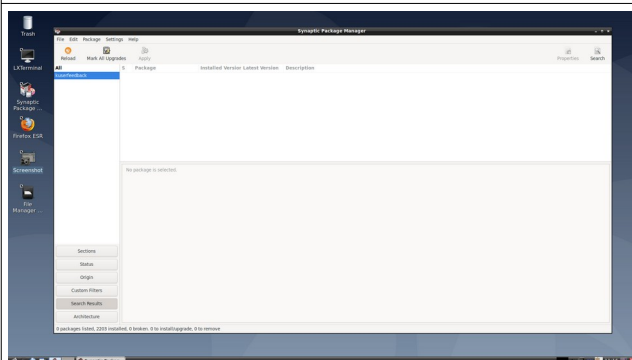


## Annex-4

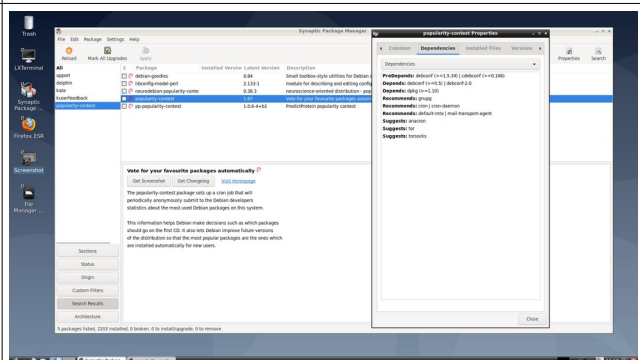
### Debian Desktop LXDE 2021-05



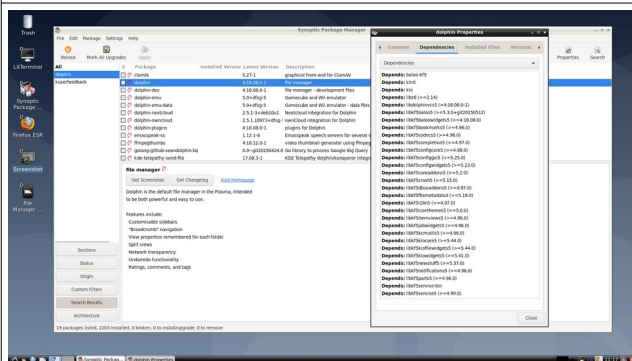
Img1 neofetch



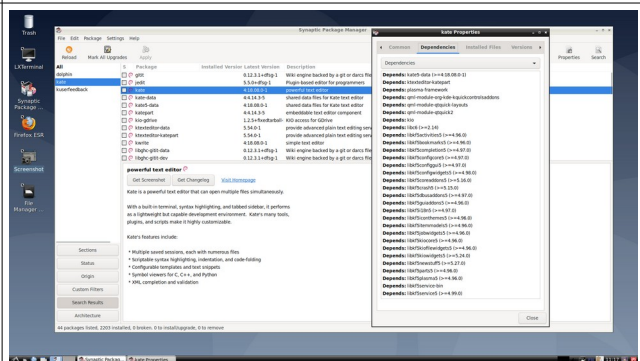
Img2 KUserFeedback telemetry package not in Repo



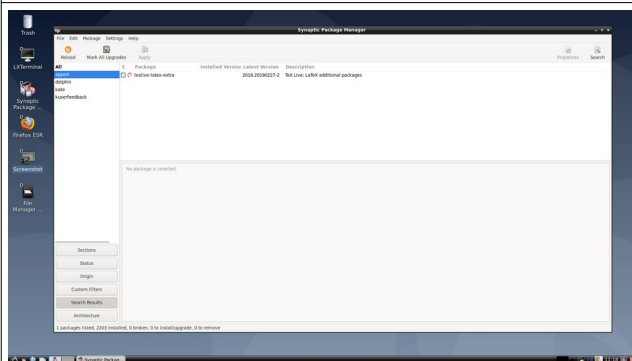
Img3 popularity-contest in Repo



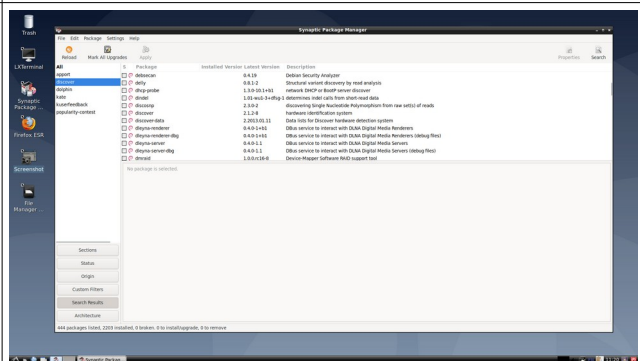
Img4 Dolphin in Repo – no KUserFeedback dependency



Img5 Kate in Repo – no KUserFeedback dependency

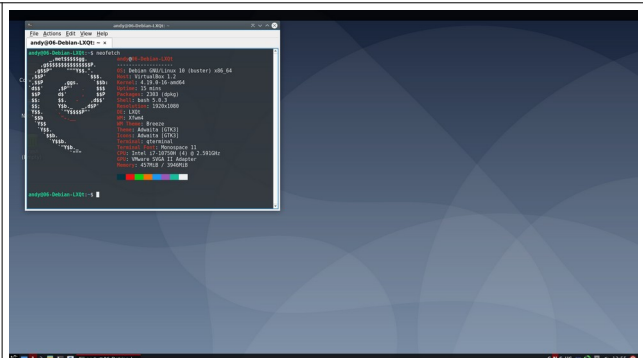


Img6 Crash Report "apport" not in Repo

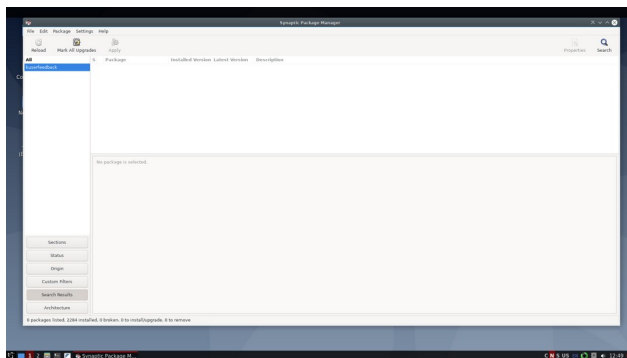
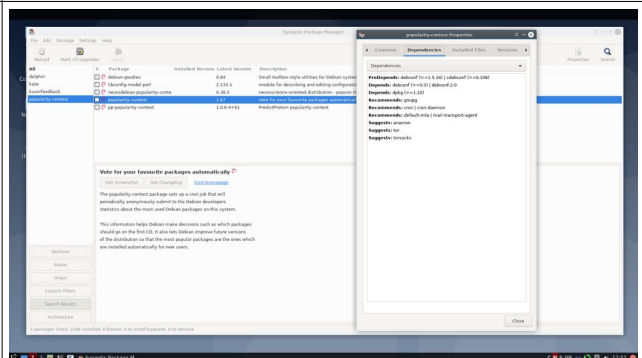
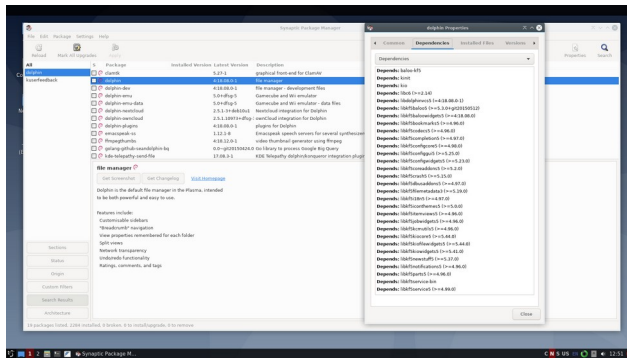
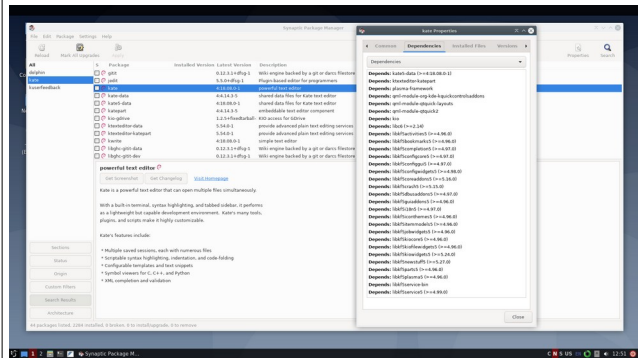
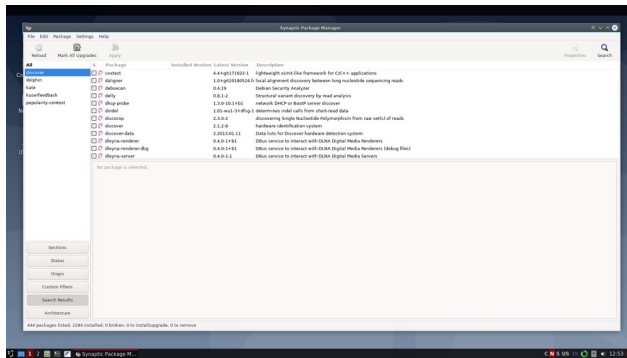
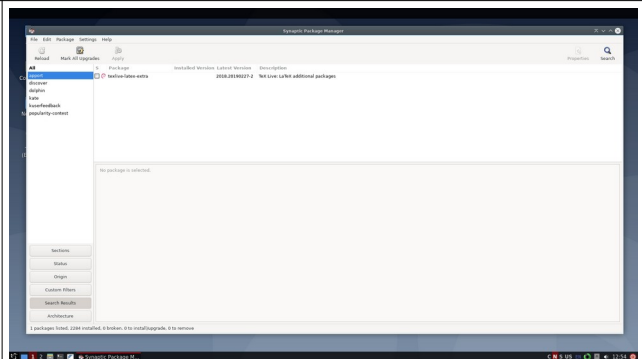


Img7 Discover Software Centre – KDE App Store not in Repo

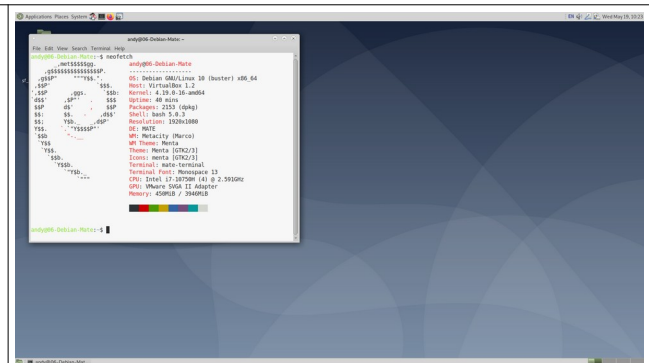
## Annex-5

Debian  
Desktop LXQt  
2021-05

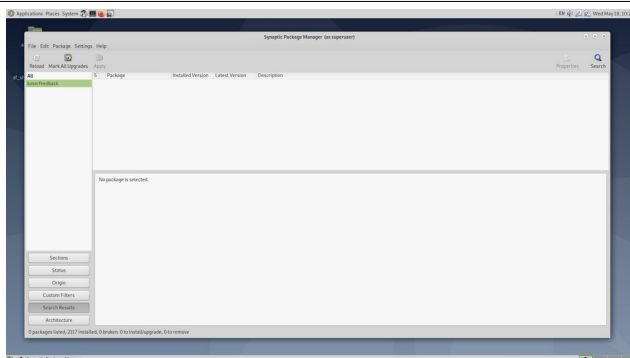
Img1 neofetch

Img2 KUserFeedback telemetry  
package not in RepoImg3 popularity-contest telemetry in  
RepoImg4 Dolphin in Repo – no  
KUserFeedback dependencyImg5 Kate in Repo – no  
KUserFeedback dependencyImg6 Discover Software Centre - KDE  
App Store not in RepoImg7 Crash Report app “apport” not in  
Repo

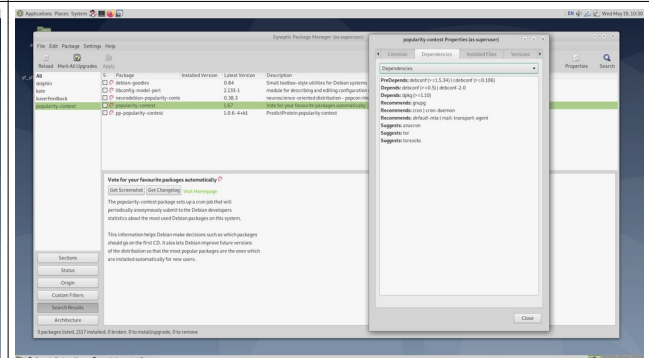
## Annex-6

Debian  
Desktop MATE  
2021-05

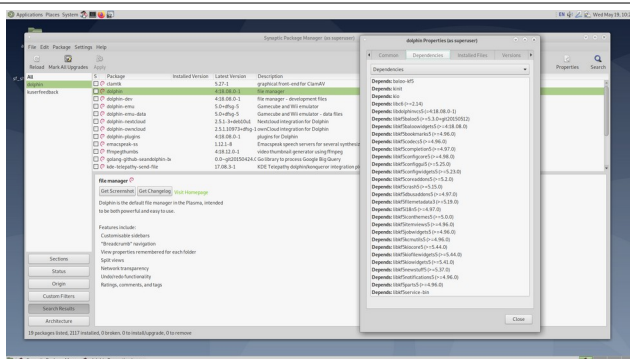
Img1 neofetch



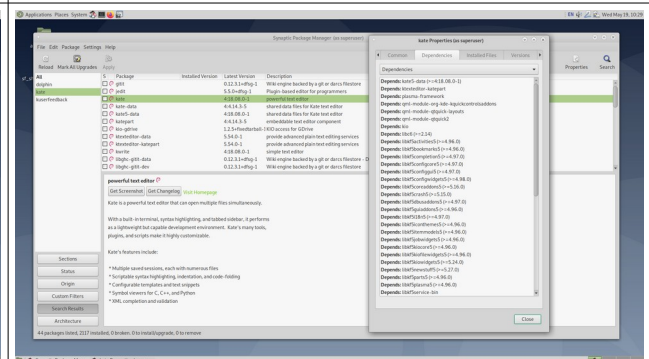
Img2 KUserFeedback telemetry not in Repo



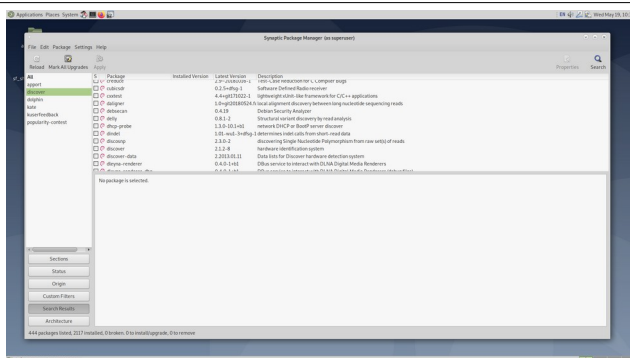
Img3 popularity-contest telemetry in Repo



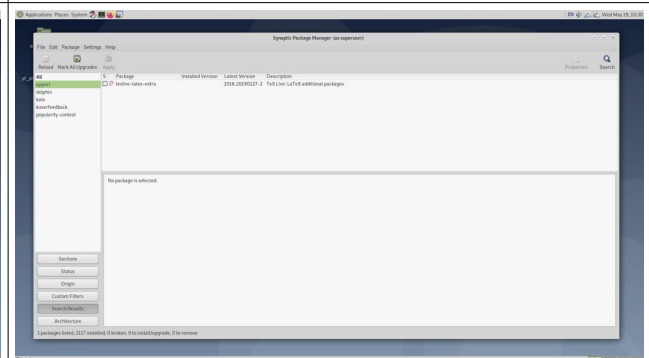
Img4 Dolphin in Repo – no KUserFeedback dependency



Img5 Kate in Repo – no KuserFeedback dependency

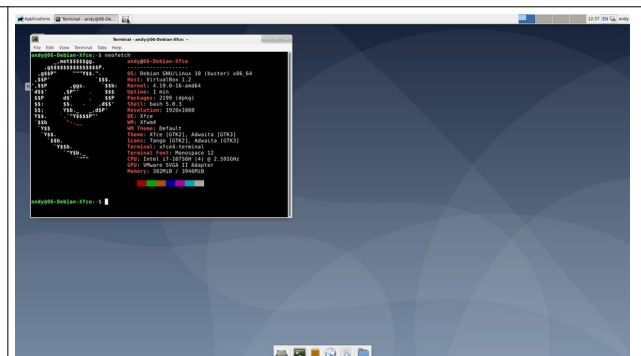


Img6 Discover App Store not in Repo

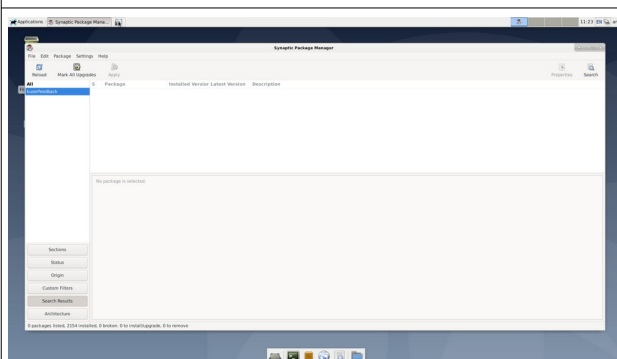


Img7 Crash Report "Apport" not in Repo

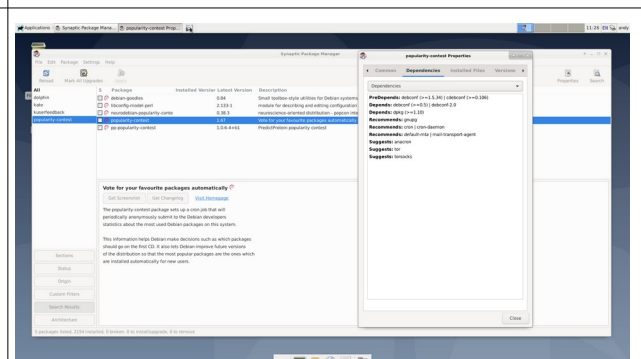
## Annex-7

Debian  
Desktop Xfce  
2021-05

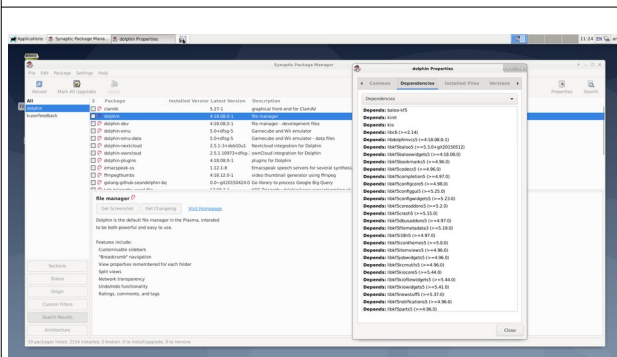
## Img1 neofetch



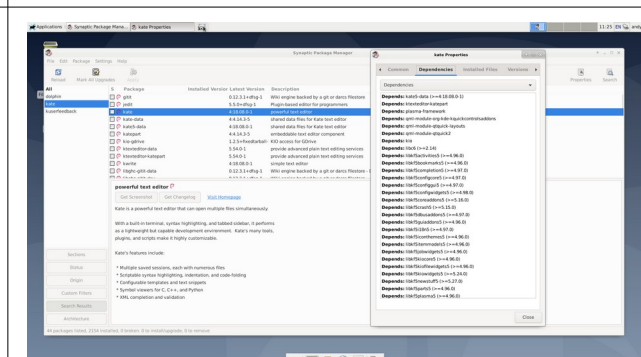
## Img2 KUserFeedback telemetry package not in Repo



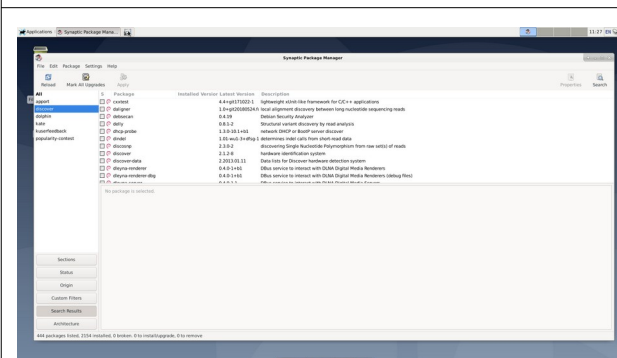
## Img3 popularity-contest telemetry not in Repo



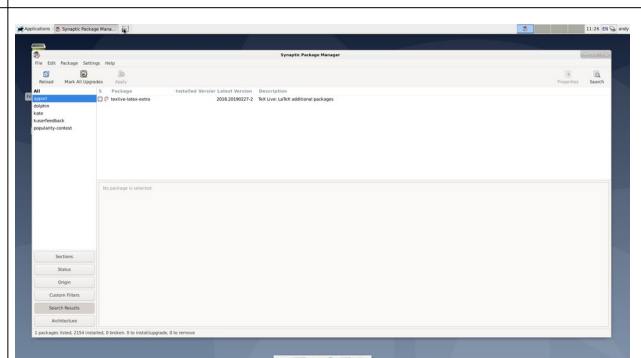
## Img4 Dolphin in Repo – no KUserFeedback dependency



## Img5 Kate in Repo – no KUserFeedback dependency



Img6 Discover App Store not in Repo



## Img7 Crash Report "Apport" not in Repo

## Linux distros categorized:

- [Cat.0 is having no telemetry](#)



Zero telemetry is the reason for companies, governments, organisations and users all over the world to adopt & migrate to "Privacy by Design" Linux.

- [Cat.1 software for location telemetry built-in](#)



As is downloadable .iso has Usage statistics telemetry and is not suitable for Production Environments & Personal use. Installation need change of settings or Command Line Interface CLI & privacy health check after Updates.

- [Cat.2 is Cat.1 & user survey telemetry built-in](#)



As is downloadable .iso has Survey telemetry and is not suitable for Production Environments & Personal use. Installation need change of settings or Command Line Interface CLI & privacy health check after Updates.

- [Cat.3 is Cat.2 & QI collect & analyze user data telemetry built-in](#)



Quality Improvement (QI) via collect & analyze user data built-in downloadable .iso is not suitable for Production environment & Personal use. Installation need change of settings or Command Line Interface CLI & privacy health check after Updates.

- [Cat.4 above & track/trace user activity & content telemetry built-in](#)



Distro downloadable .iso not suitable for Production Environments & Personal use. Installation has sophisticated non deleteable non stoppable "spy on user" engine. Either built-in (KDE) or in repo's.