

Linux Changelogs - Comparing package activity across Linux Distributions

- **Speaker:** Ben Koenig
- **Room:** HC 204
- **Time:** Sat 4:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- **Format:** Lecture (30 Min + Q&A)
- **Difficulty:** Introductory
- **Track:** Security / Privacy
- **Additional Tags:** OSS Distributions, Sustainability & Funding, Education
- **Presenter Location:** In-person
- **Experience:** first time speaking
- **At:** at lfnw

Description:

The **Linux Changelog Project** is an effort to present clear, comparable statistics about the development and maintenance activity of Linux distributions using publicly available changelog data. By creating a distro-agnostic view of updates for a given project, the initiative reveals how the size, pace, and maintenance patterns of different distributions stack up against one another.

What began as a hobby coding project focused on Slackware has grown to include multiple distributions. This talk shares insights from that evolution and highlights the often-unseen work that goes into keeping our favorite software projects alive and healthy.

Attendees will gain a deeper appreciation for the maintainers behind the scenes and learn how changelog analysis can illuminate the state of the Linux ecosystem.

Target Audience:

- Package maintainers
- General Linux users
- Cybersecurity professionals

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