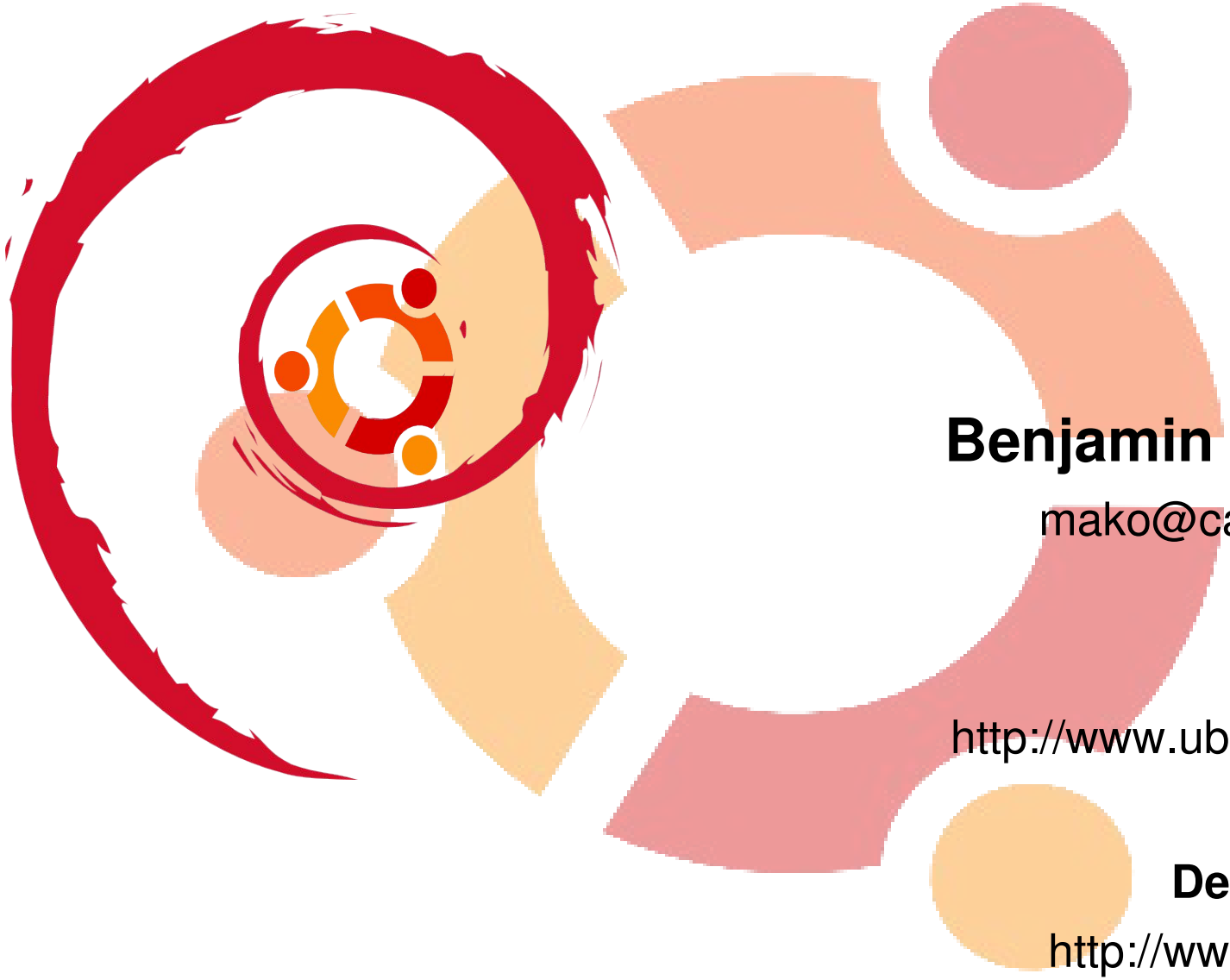
Ubuntu and Debian

Balancing Forking and Collaboration



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Ubuntu

http://www.ubuntulinux.org

Debian Project

http://www.debian.org

General Overview of Debian

- Debian contains what is approaching **15,000** packages (and growing by 5 each day)
- Debian involves the work of **1,000** official developers and *many* others
- Debian includes the work of many companies and organizations
- Debian is **100% free software**

Things Debian Does Well

There are some things Debian does very well:

- Supporting **many** packages
- Involving a **huge** volunteer base
- Strong commitment to Free Software philosophy

- Excellent package management tools: apt-get, synaptic, etc.
- Consistent and enforced policy

Things Debian Hasn't Done Quite As Well

- Releasing
- Being easy to use (especially the installer)
- Consistent desktop installer
- Responsibility (in the corporate or institutional sense)

One Size Does *Not* Fit All

The World of Debian Customizers

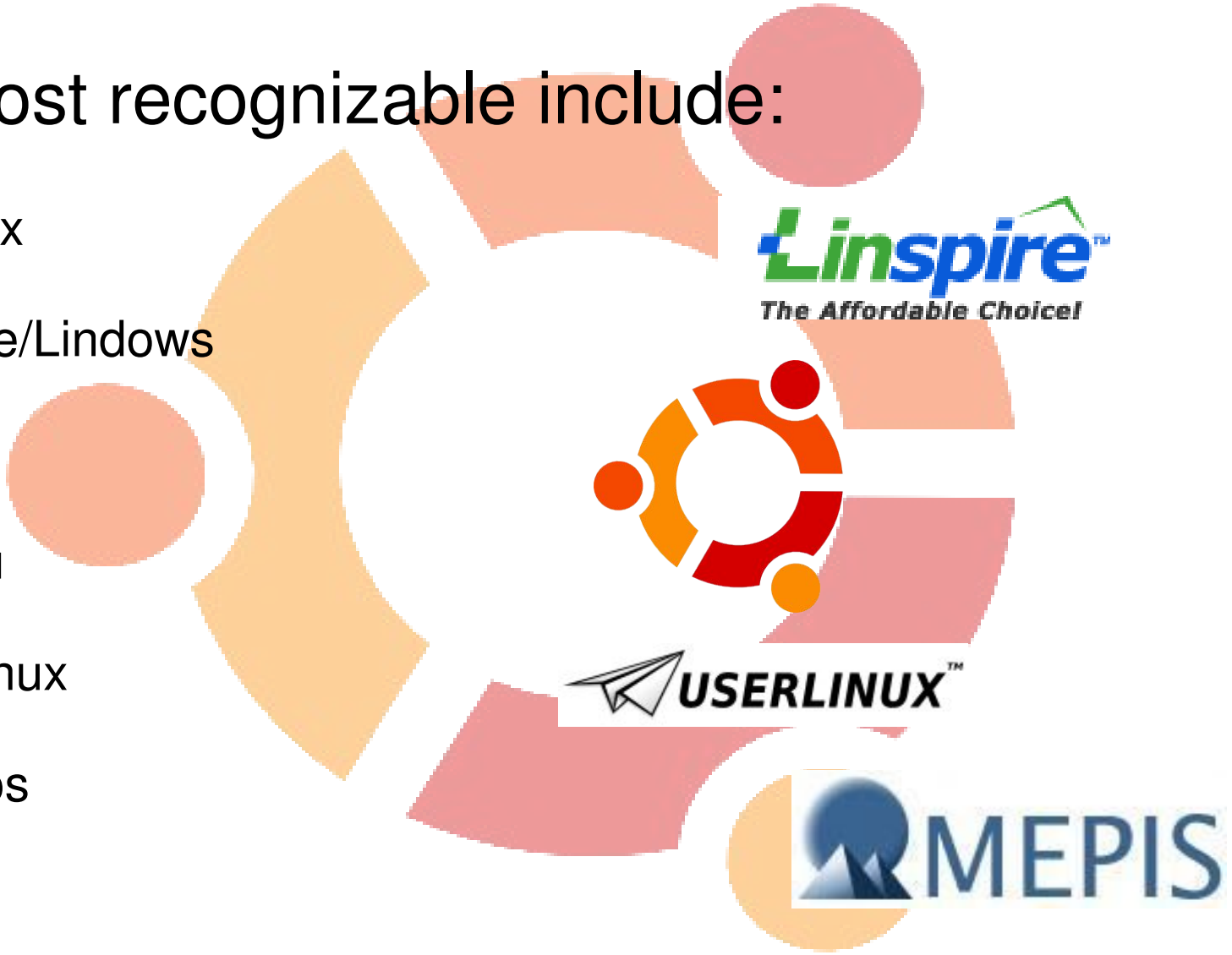
There are **115** distributions derived from Debian.

AbulÉdu • Adamantix • AGNULA GNU/Linux Audio Distribution • ANTEMIUM Linux • Arabbix • ARMA aka Omoikane GNU/Linux • ASLinux • Auditor Security Linux • Augustux • B2D Linux • BEERnix • Biadix • BIG LINUX • Bioknoppix • BlackRhino • Bluewall GNU/Linux • Bonzai Linux • BrlSpeak • Càtix • CensorNet • Clusterix • ClusterKNOPPIX • Condorux • Damn Small Linux • Danix • DebXPde • eduKnoppix • ERPOSS • ESware • Euronode • FAMELIX • Feather Linux • Flonix • Vital Data Forensic or Rescue Kit (FoRK) • Freeduc-cd • GEOLivre Linux • Gibraltar Firewall • GNIX-Vivo • Gnoppix Linux • gnuLinEx • GNU/Linux Kinneret • GNUstep Live CD • grml • Guadalinex • Helix • Hiweed Linux • Impi Linux • Julex • K-DEMar • Kaella • Knoppix Linux Azur • Kalango Linux • KANOTIX • KlusTriX • knopILS • Knoppel • Knoppix • Knoppix 64 • Knoppix STD • KnoppiXMAME • KnoppMyth • Kurumin Linux • LAMPPIX • Libranet GNU/Linux • LIIS Linux • LinEspa • Linspire • Linux Live Game Project • Linux Loco • LinuxDefender Live! CD • Linuxin • LiVux • Local Area Security Linux (L.A.S.) • Luinux • Luit Linux • MAX: Madrid_Linux • Mediainlinux • MEPIS Linux • Metadistro-Pequelin • MIKO GNYO/Linux • Morphix • Munjoy Linux • Nature's Linux • NordisKnoppix • OGo Knoppix • Oralux • Overclockix • Quantian • Penguin Sleuth • PHLAK • PilotLinux • Progeny Debian • Rays Linux • ROSLIMS Live CD • Salvare • Santa Fe Linux • Shabdix GNU/Linux • Skolelinux • Slavix • Slix • Slo-Tech Linux • Soyombo Mongolian Linux • SULIX • Tablix on Morphix • Tilix Linux • TupiServer Linux • Ubuntu Linux • UserLinux • WHoppiX • X-evian • Xfld • Xandros Desktop OS • Xarnoppix • ZoneCD • Zopix

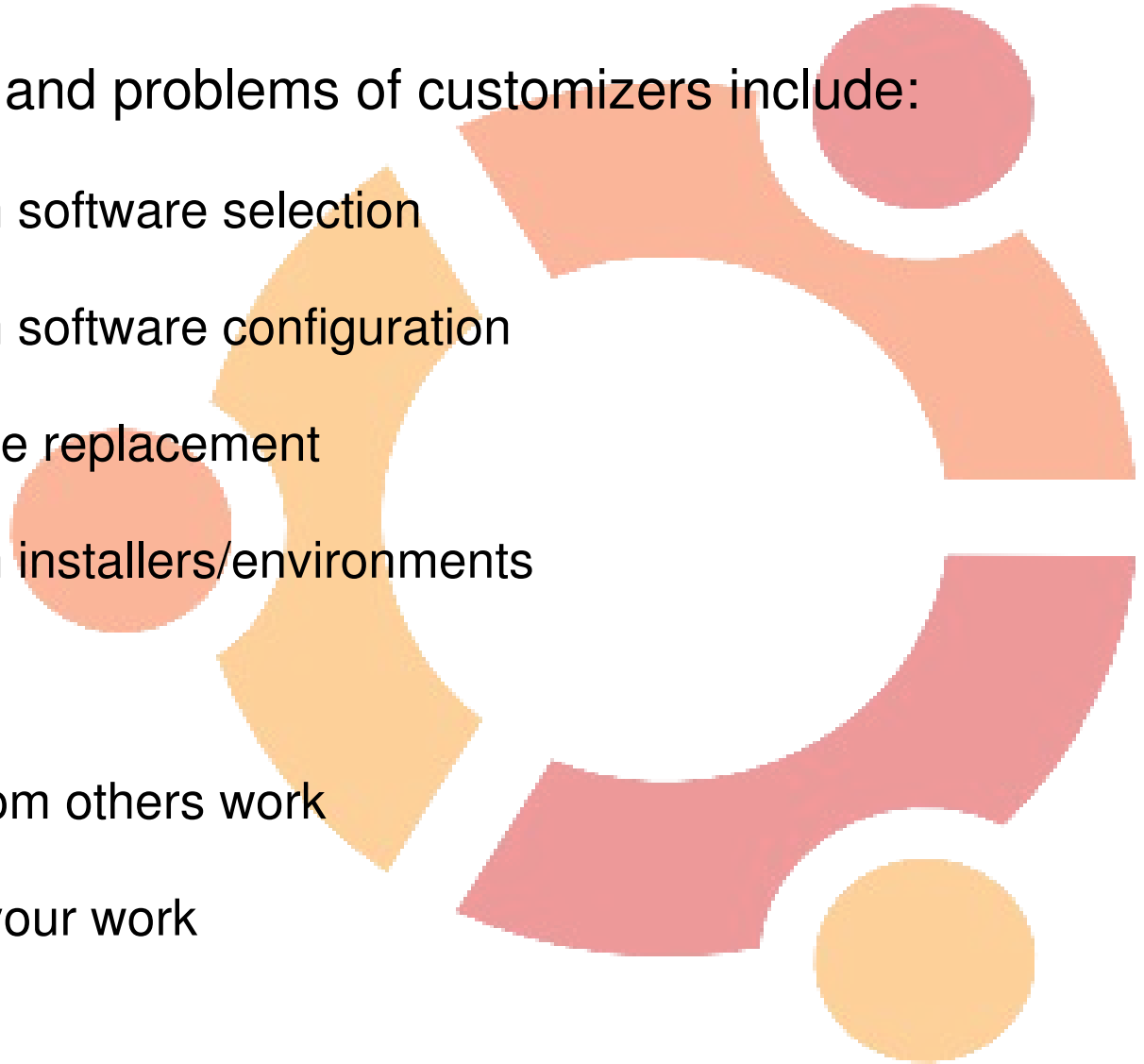
The World of Debian Customizers

The most recognizable include:

- Knoppix
- Linspire/Lindows
- MEPIS
- Ubuntu
- UserLinux
- Xandros



Goals of Customizers Overview



The goals and problems of customizers include:

- Custom software selection
- Custom software configuration
- Software replacement
- Custom installers/environments

Plus:

- Gain from others work
- Share your work

To Fork or Not To Fork

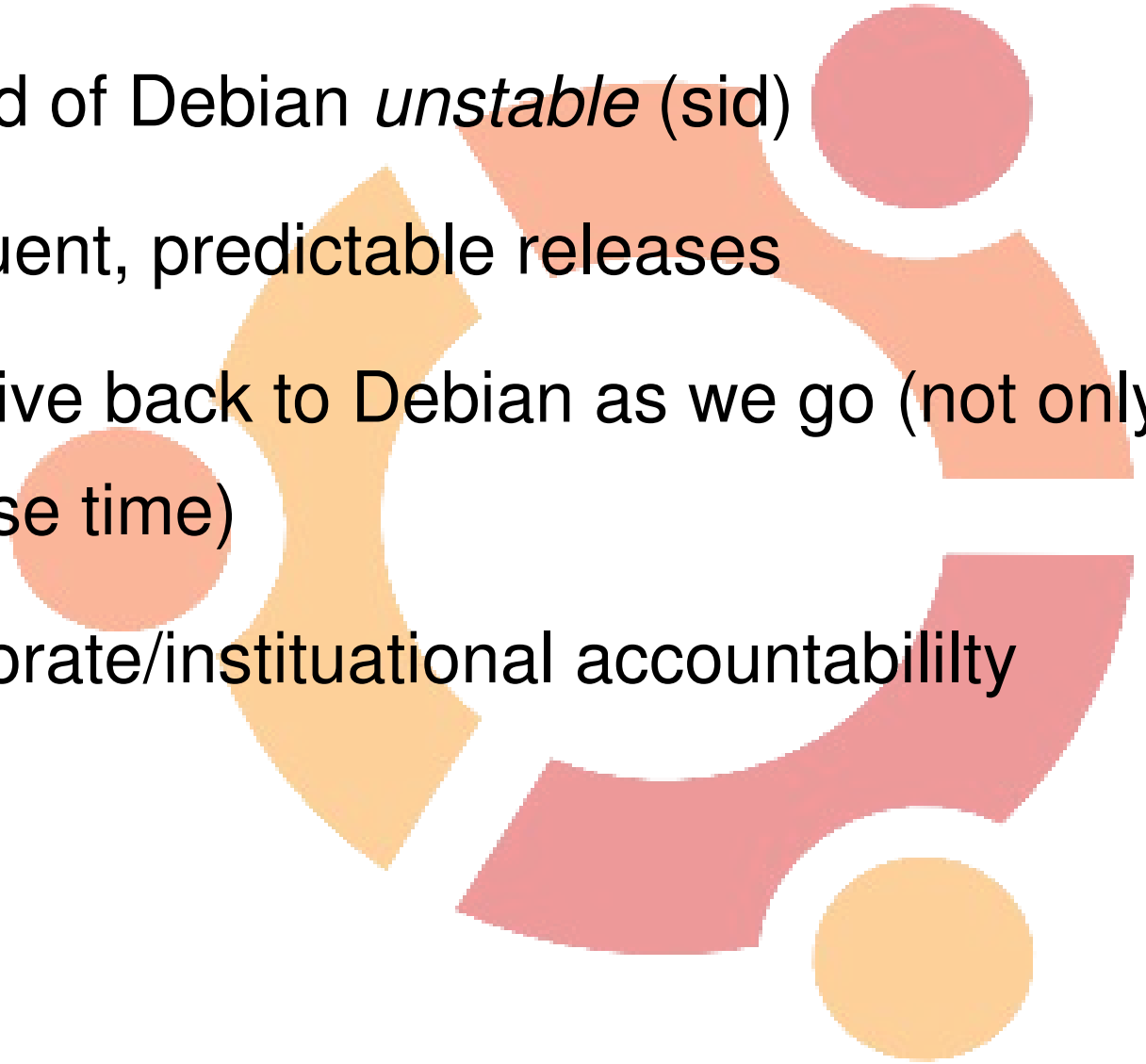
Case Study: Ubuntu

Meanwhile...

(My Boss is a Cosmonaut)

Ubuntu is born...

Ubuntu In a Nutshell I



- Based of Debian *unstable* (sid)
- Frequent, predictable releases
- We give back to Debian as we go (not only at release time)
- Corporate/instituational accountabililty

Ubuntu in a Nutshell II

- GNOME Desktop
- Consistency + Simplicity + Usability
- Strong commitment to Free Software philosophy, localization, and accessibility

Working With Debian: Size

"If you can't beat them, join them!"

You *can't* be bigger than Debian.

- 2,000 Supported Packages
- Everything else in Debian in *universe*
- Working on a *multiverse* for a few packages that aren't even in Debian!

Working with Debian: Philosophy

Ubuntu participates in the Debian Community and borrows the Community Model. We believe that:

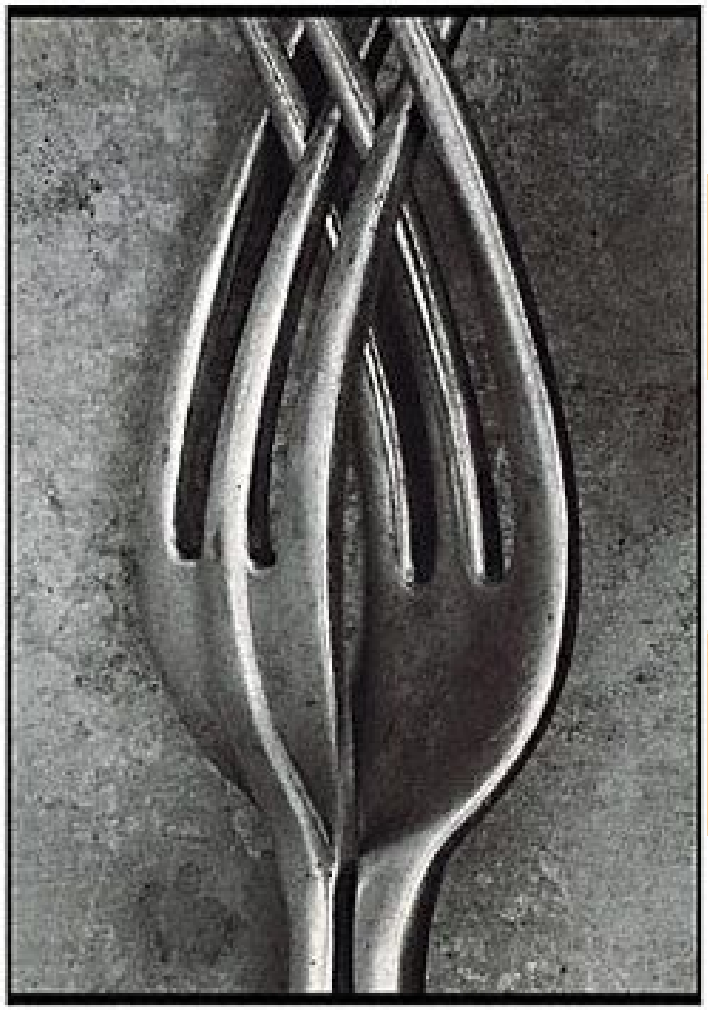
- Every computer user should have the freedom to run, copy, distribute, study, share, change and improve their software for any purpose, without paying licensing fees.
- Every computer user should be able to use their software in the language of their choice.
- Every computer user should be given every opportunity to use software, even if they work under a disability.

More About Debian and Ubuntu

There are other aspects of Debian we like to keep (and help Debian improve):

- Policy
- Package management tools
- More!

A Fork?



Not your average fork:

- Many patches back to Debian
- Canonical hires many Debian Developers
- We realize we depend on Debian

Summary

- **Problem**: Debian is great -- But can't be everything everyone wants it to be at once.
- **Answer**: Balance the global and local in creating infrastructure to select, configure and replace software.
- **Ubuntu**:
  - Diverging and building on Debian
  - Working to collaborate where possible
  - A single united goal of inter-project and inter-distribution collaboration and ***Total World Domination***.

Getting Debian and Ubuntu

Get Debian:

http://www.debian.org

Download Ubuntu:

http://www.ubuntulinux.org/download

Order gratis pressed CDs shipped to you:

http://shipit.ubuntulinux.org