

## **Week 9 Notes**

### The Desktop - Common Applications

This week you will find out about the most commonly used Desktop applications in the UNIX-like environment.

Web browsing:

#### **Firefox**

- fast, reliable, more features, tabbing, tons of plugins, works on all OSes
- plugins for mplayer, acrobat, realplayer, etc
- very customizable

#### **Konquer**

- comes with KDE

#### **Mozilla**

- from same foundation that brought you Firefox
- slightly outdated version of Firefox

Office Tools:

#### **OpenOffice**

- Complete and better alternative to Microsoft Office
- FREE, unlike Office which costs over 200
- OO Writer is like Word
- OO Math is allows you to nicely type up your math homework
- OO Base is like Access
- OO Calc is like Excel
- OO Impress is like Power Point
- OO Draw is like Paint

#### **Emacs**

- Only if you are hardcore to type up papers

#### **vim, pico, nano**

- Only if you are **REALLY** hardcore to type up papers

#### **Emacs**

#### **GNUPlot**

- Charting and Plotting tool.

#### **Acrobat**

- has a version for UNIX

Programming Tools:

**gcc, cc, etc**

- Compilers that come with the system

**Emacs**

- has tons of useful features for programming
- taught to be used in lower-div cs courses here

Image Tools:

**GIMP**

- originally written here at Berkeley by XCF
- image editing software
- like Photoshop

Instant Messaging:

**Gaim**

- One fits all
- Can use for Yahoo, AOL, etc
- Ad-free
- Also has a version for Windows among other platforms

**IRC Clients**

- **bitchx**
  - command line only
  - but fast
- **Xchat**
  - includes a GUI

Mail:

**Thunderbird**

- Like Outlook

**mutt**

- Supports color, command prompt

**pine**

- like mutt, but no color and less features

**Evolution**

- Like Thunderbird and Outlook

Audio:  
**XMMS**

- Similar to Winamp

Video:  
**Mplayer**

- Plays anything and everything (with the right codecs of course)

**VLC**

- Like MPlayer but nicer interface in my opinion

Windows Manager:  
**GNOME and KDE**

- The two equally popular desktop environments.
- You are using GNOME
- The most complex environments out there

**Blackbox, Fluxbox**

- Two simple elegant fast environments
- You get almost barebones and no easy way to define shortcuts

Other Usefull Utils:  
**Wine**

- Wine Is Not an Emulator
- Used to run Windows application under Linux
- After a long time still in beta development...

**Xen**

- Virtually partition your server into many parts
- Used to give you root

**Samba**

- Implementation of Windows Networking services and protocols
- Allows to create directories on a UNIX system that Windows thinks are its own
- Used at OCF to connect Windows computers to Solaris boxes

These notes are based on the original notes written by Devin Jones on this topic.