Turtles all the way down – what about APMs?

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LPC, 18.09.2024

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Hello, my name is Josef.

I am a recovering embedded developer.

Some technical details

Street credibility

Yocto Project Community Manager & Ambassador

OpenEmbedded Social Media Manager

Kernel contributor (yup, really!)

Fame

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Warning! Attention!

This is a super sad topic. It is a problem, its growing, and there is no solution in sight!

Why?

Everybody of them is the most special butterfly, "doing it right, finally".

They make life easier for app developers.

—

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They make our (distribution builders) lives miserable.

- Downloading arbitrary things at compile time
  - Time or configuration dependent, even!
- Hidden dependencies
  - Even duplicates
  - Even multiple version
  - With conflicting licenses
  - With various levels of vulnerability patches

Some approaches

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- **IGNORANCE IS BLISS**
  - Build externally and wrap up
  - Possible legal implications, but hey!
- Chopping things up one by one
  - python3-xyz packages in Debian, Yocto, ...
- INVOLVING $DEITIES
  - Beating the APM process into the build, and hoping for it to not break during maintenance period

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Others?

Conclusion: we're doomed...

Thanks for listening.

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Q & A

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