

Kludging The editor with The compiler

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Emacs Lisp (Elisp) is the Lisp dialect used by the Emacs text editor family. GNU Emacs can currently execute Elisp code either interpreted or byte-interpreted after it has been compiled to byte-code. In this presentation I'll discuss the libgccjit based Elisp compiler implementation being integrated in Emacs. Though still a work in progress, this implementation is able to bootstrap a functional Emacs and compile all Emacs Elisp files, including the whole GNU Emacs Lisp Package Archive (ELPA). Native compiled Elisp shows an increase of performance ranging from ~2x up to ~40x with respect to the equivalent byte-code, measured over a set of small benchmarks.

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