

# Integrating Condor into the Debian operating system

Michael Hanke

Debian Developer, Dartmouth College

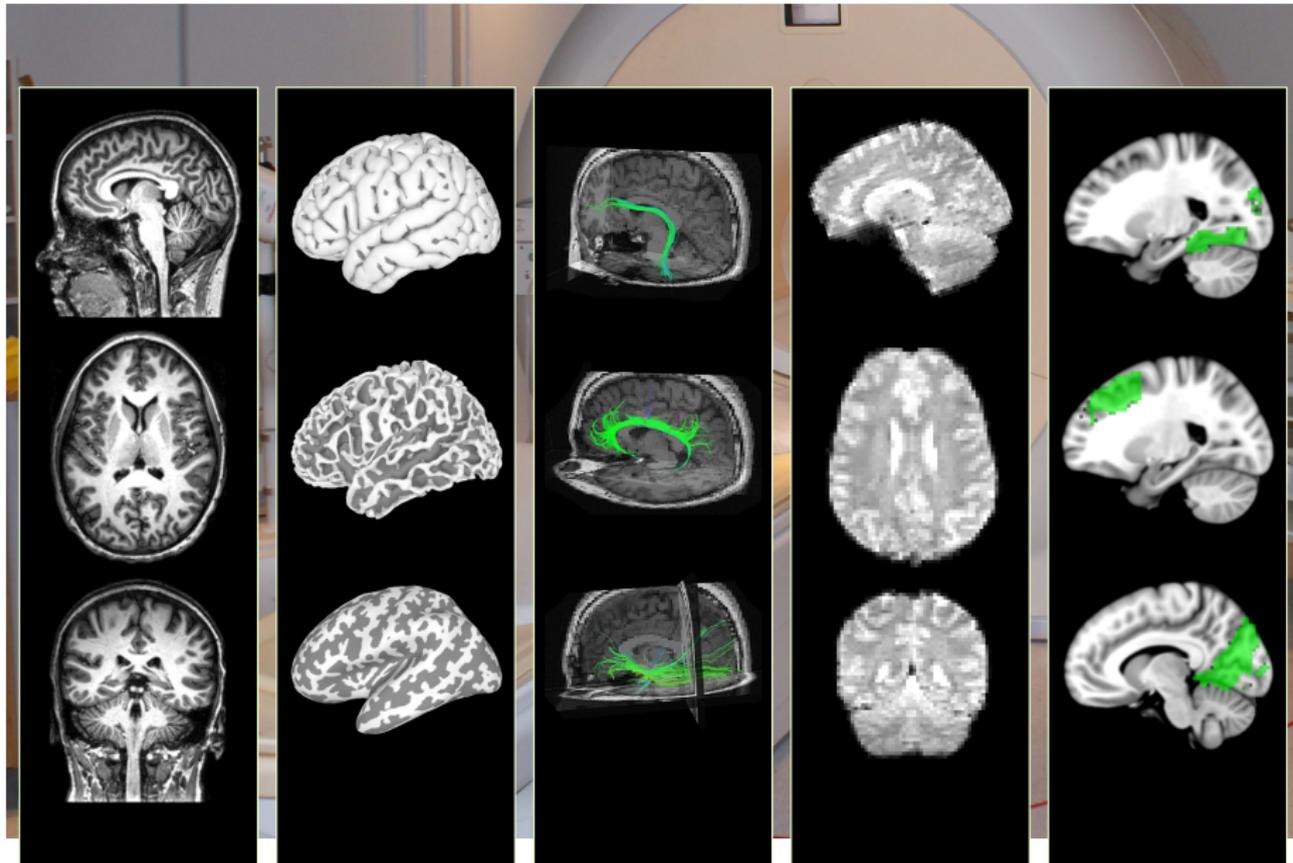
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# Background: Neuro-imaging



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# Research platform: Issues

## Problem

- Complex analysis software suites
- Complicated, non-standard, or non-existing installation and update procedures
- Limited, non-uniform set of “supported platforms”
- Typical users have little technical background

# Research platform: NeuroDebian

## Problem

- Complex analysis software suites
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- Typical users have little technical background

## Solution

- Integrate all relevant software in a common environment
  - Make manual maintenance tasks trivial, or superfluous
- Bring everything into Debian



<http://neuro.debian.net>

# Why **debian**?

- Vast archive of maintained software ( $\approx 30000$  binary packages)
- Origin of most active GNU/Linux distributions (63%; distrowatch.org)
- “Do-ocracy” instead of steering (commercial) entity – nevertheless 17-year release history
- No 2nd-class software
- Debian Science, Debian Med, ...



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<http://www.debian.org>

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## Release notes Debian 6.0 (squeeze)

Debian GNU/Linux 6.0 is the first GNU/Linux distribution release ever to offer comprehensive support for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) based neuroimaging research.



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- Evidence for prosperous future
  
- Ease of maintenance
- Support for whole DAG submissions
- Support for heterogeneous computing environments
  - “University-style” computing environments are a supported use case
  - Option for the cloud

# How can Condor benefit from Debian integration?

- Extended reach
  - one stable release, two rolling “release” flavors
  - $\approx$ 120 derivative distributions ([distrowatch.org](http://distrowatch.org))

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- Less maintenance work through modularity
  - 3rd-party software in dedicated packages maintained by someone else
- Continuous integration testing
  - 13 hardware architectures
  - Three kernels
  - Continuous automated testing for
    - Build success
    - Clean installation/de-installation, Availability of dependencies
    - Policy compliance
    - Package conflicts

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- Need to track Debian development

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*Release:* when ready  
*Updates:* every two months (only critical fixes)  
*Security support:* one year after next stable ( $\approx$  3 years)

# How much do you need to/should involve yourself?

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## Debian "unstable"

*Release:* never  
*Updates:* multiple times per day  
*Security support:* none (implicit)

10 days

## Debian "testing"

*Release:* never/continuously  
*Updates:* daily  
*Security support:* yes

release

## Debian "stable"

*Release:* when ready  
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e.g. Ubuntu

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## Debian "testing"

*Release:* never/continuously  
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e.g. Linux Mint

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## Debian "stable"

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e.g. MEPIS

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- Need upload privileges, but sponsor could be enough

→ Ideally: team maintenance with public VCS

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## Just ship source code or also binary packages?

- Why not? If necessary.
- But from a common source package!
- [backports.debian.org](http://backports.debian.org), [neuro.debian.net](http://neuro.debian.net)

# Integration roadmap

- 1 Have minimal set of dependencies into Debian [Done]
  - classad, globus, krb5, libvirt, ...

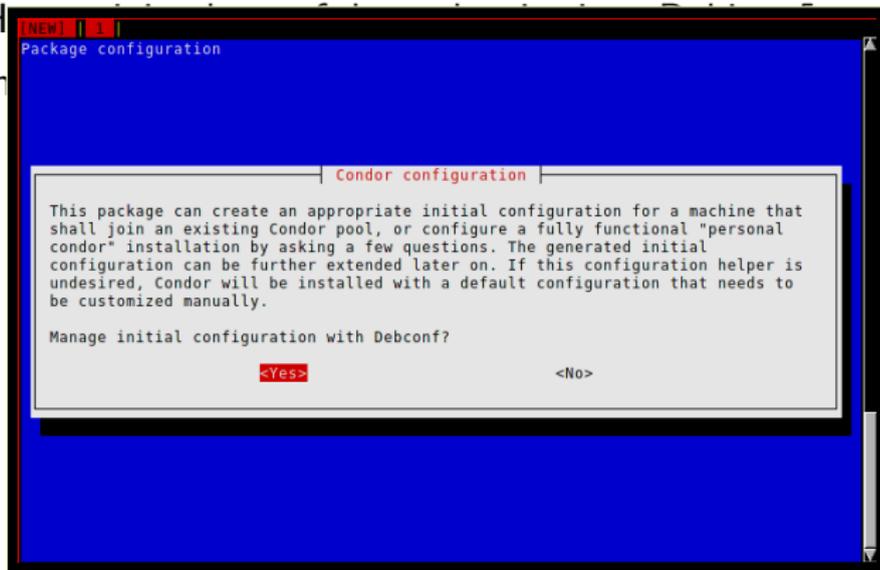
# Integration roadmap

- 1 Have minimal set of dependencies into Debian [Done]
- 2 Initial working Condor package draft [Done]
  - Condor 7.6.0 (clipped)
  - Based on previous packaging attempts
  - Debconf-based setup
  - `condor`, `condor-doc`, `condor-dbg` (, `condor-tests`)

# Integration roadmap

1 H

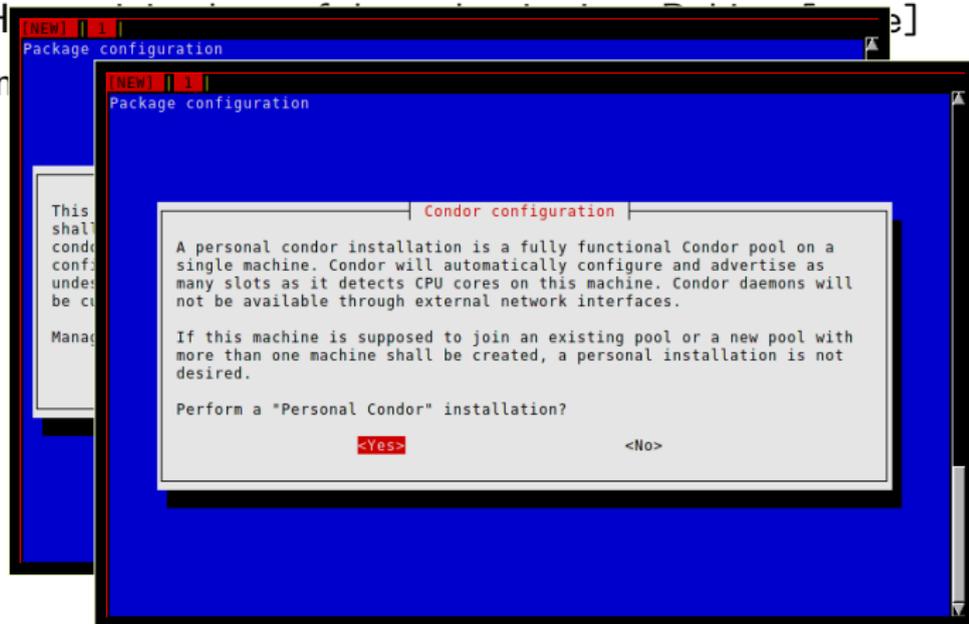
2 In



# Integration roadmap

1 [H...]

2 In





# Integration roadmap

- 1 Have minimal set of dependencies into Debian [Done]
- 2 Initial working Condor package draft [Done]
- 3 Test and upload to Debian [Pending]
  - Package in use since 4 months
  - Needs more testers

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- 5 Enrich Condor environment [WiP]
  - dmtcp [Accepted in Debian]
  - gsoap [Uploaded]
  - cctools [Upload pending]
  - nmi

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- 6 Improve “just works” experience [WiP]
  - Engine management for IPython
  - DAGMan support for NiPyPE
  - Makeflow support for FSL
  - VM universe with VirtualBox

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- 7 Make Condor's test suite run and pass [ToDo]
  - Ship in dedicated package

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- 7 Make Condor’s test suite run and pass [ToDo]
- 8 Offer “standard universe” in official Debian package [ToDo]
- 9 Enable every possible Condor feature in the Debian package [ToDo]
  - Java, VM, Grid, Cloud, Rocket science
  - Missing: up-to-date Hadoop

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- 7 Make Condor’s test suite run and pass [ToDo]
- 8 Offer “standard universe” in official Debian package [ToDo]
- 9 Enable every possible Condor feature in the Debian package [ToDo]
- 10 Use Condor to improve Debian [ToDo]
  - E.g. backfill jobs with package QA tests

# Acknowledgements

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Michael Hanke  
mih@debian.org  
<http://mih.voxindeserto.de>

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