What's new in GStreamer

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Quick intro

who am I ? what is GStreamer ? 0.10, 0.11, 1.0 and all that

What is GStreamer ?

- set of libraries
- pipeline-based: elements, components, pads, data flow
- plugins, abstract API
- often wrap other libraries (decoders, encoders, filters, etc.)

What is GStreamer ? (cont'd)

- low-level API and high-level API
 - playbin, decodebin, encodebin, gst-editing-services, gst-rtsp-server, gst-streaming-server
 - (and farstream, telepathy etc.)
- integration with other frameworks and projects
 - e.g. webkit, clutter, Windows/OSX/Android/iOS
 - goal is to adapt to platform/framework (inputs, outputs, decoders, DSPs/GPUs etc.)

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 - released in September 2012
 - followed by 1.0.x bug-fix releases

Versions and all that

- stable API/ABI, backwards compatibility
- old stable API: 0.10.x
- old unstable/development API: 0.11.x
- new stable API series: 1.x.y = 1.0

Versions and all that (cont'd)

- new stable 1.0 API series:
 - New Versioning Scheme
 - 1.0.0, 1.0.1, 1.0.2, 1.0.3... bug fix point releases
 - 1.1.0, 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3... pre-releases
 - 1.2.0, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3... bug fix point releases
 - More frequent bug-fix releases:
 - Cherry-pick fixes into a stable branch

But before we continue, a public service announcement

We need to talk about 0.10

0.10 is dead

(sorry)

0.10 is dead end-of-life

Aaargh!

You should move to the new version.

Understanding the 0.10 \rightarrow 1.0 transition

- most things are still the same
- evolution, not revolution (no CADT)
- application interfaces mostly the same
- make things more generic (caps, pad functions), i.e. just reshuffling some bits
- split ops that are not related, e.g. buffer alloc + negotiation
- overall complexity has not hugely increased
 - threading model is the same and well-understood
 - scheduling remains the same
 - most complex elements (e.g. demuxers) were barely changed

Major changes

- reworked memory allocation / handling
- simplified and more flexible audio/video API
- renegotiation support for all pipeline configurations [theoretically]
- dynamic pipelines should be much easier [citation needed]
- watch GStreamer Conference 2012 video by Wim Taymans at http://gstconf.ubicast.tv

That sounds great, but does it work ?

much better than expected

Ongoing and Future Work

- new openmax wrapper: gst-omx
- raspberry-pi support (via gst-omx)
- VDPAU/VA-API hardware-accelerated video decoding (this time for real)
- MFC video4linux codec API (Samsung Exynos + some Freescale IMX)
- better, more natural OpenGL integration (generically, but also e.g. eglglessink)
- generic context sharing / distribution

Ongoing and Future Work (cont'd)

- multiview (3D) video
- advanced subtitle features
- DASH (client and server)

• optimisations: use all the nifty new features we've added to GStreamer in 1.0

Ongoing and Future Work (cont'd)

- better device discovery and probing (GstPropertyProbe replacement)
- smooth as butter stream switching, and stream activation/deactivation
- playlist support
- gst-plugins-bad module split ? Add gst-plugins-staging ?
- bluetooth plugins move to GStreamer

Ongoing and Future Work (cont'd)

- development tools / debugging
 - better error reporting
 - tools collection
 - ideas floating about about something like "dot file" dumps, but more interactive

GStreamer Conference

ca. 21-22 October 2013

Edinburgh, Scotland

co-hosted with LinuxCon and the Embedded Linux Conference Europe (ELCE)

See you there hopefully !



Thank You!