



Did you know?

# KDE development

how it was done in the last century

02-sep-2016 | Berlin | Akademy

Be Free. KDE



About me

# David Faure, KDE dinosaur

I used to look like this...



And "KDE 1" looked like this....



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# Did you know? The K.

- "Kool Desktop Environment" (Matthias Ettrich)
- K Desktop Environment
- Kalle Dalheimer Environment
  
- What about the Q in Qt?





# Did you know? Qt

- Qt just for some GUI bits
- Temporary decision, we can always switch

...







# The first apps

- A window manager, kwm
- A panel, kpanel
- The first library classes
  - KConfig
  - KApplication, to instantiate KConfig



# The first library classes

- KConfig
- KApplication, to instantiate KConfig
- Later on: KIconLoader

## KIconLoader Class Reference

[\[kdecore Index\]](#) [\[kdecore Hierarchy\]](#) [\[Headers\]](#)

KIconLoader is a derived class from [QObject](#) [More...](#)

```
#include <kiconloader.h>
```

Inherits: [QObject](#) (qt)

### Public Members

- [KIconLoader](#) ( KConfig \*conf, const QString &app\_name, const QString &var\_name )
- [KIconLoader](#) ()
- [~KIconLoader](#) ()
- QPixmap [loadIcon](#) ( const QString &name, int w = 0, int h = 0 )
- QPixmap [loadMinIcon](#) ( const QString &name , int w = 0, int h = 0 )
- QPixmap [loadApplicationIcon](#) ( const QString &name, int w = 0, int h = 0 )
- QPixmap [loadApplicationMinIcon](#) ( const QString &name, int w = 0, int h = 0 )
- bool [insertDirectory](#) ( int index, const QString &dir\_name )
- QStringList\* [getDirList](#) ()



# API docs

API docs from May 1998, still online!

<http://document.ihg.uni-duisburg.de/Documentation/KDE/srcdoc>

- Later replaced with [developer.kde.org](http://developer.kde.org), hosted by Richard Moore's university.

Richard Moore's Homepage

This is the homepage of Richard Moore. I am a software developer living in Manchester in the UK. I am currently employed by Macromedia. If you want to learn more about me, or about projects I'm involved in then select one of the links on the left.

Richard Moore

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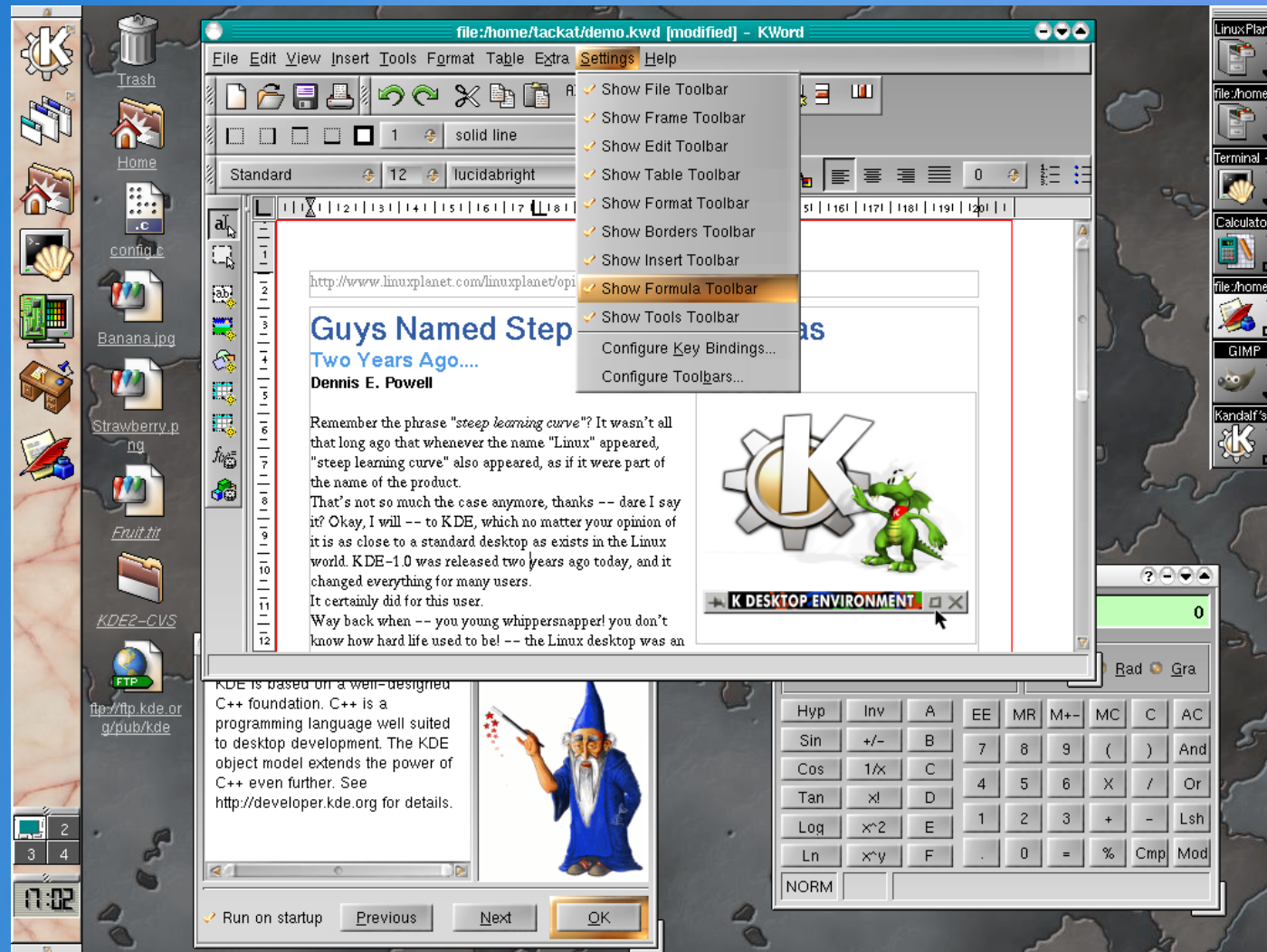
# My hero, Torben Weis

- File manager (kfm) → konqueror, kio, desktop icons
- Office suite (KOffice)
- Excellent architect
- Very fast coder, surely he had clones
- “Torben broke the cloning machine”
- `kioclient5`





# Colorful



And yet people said we copied from Windows...

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# Before git

- What did we use before git?

Subversion (SVN)

- And before that?

CVS

- And before that... just an FTP server where people would upload their sources!



# CVS

- ``cvs diff file.cpp`` requires being connected!
- Want to rename a file? Ask coolo! (or me)
- You can check out each file from a different branch
  - because... you can
- Typical branch name for redesigning something:  
    `make_it_cool` (cool, again?)
- `cvs.kde.org` moves to SourceForge in 2000



# CORBA

- Which version of the KDE desktop used CORBA?
- Codename Krash
- Out-of-process component embedding
- Duplicating all of the menu/toolbar API
- Origin of the service-type Trader



# DCOP

- “DCOP was invented at Akademy” – not exactly
- Before Akademy we had “developer meetings”
- Matthias Ettrich and Preston Brown:
  - “We can write a CORBA replacement in one night”
  - DCOP
- Second version, years later: D-Bus







# Canossa

- In January 1077 the Holy Roman emperor Henry IV did penance at the castle in Canossa to obtain a pardon from his excommunication by Pope Gregory VII.
- Torben called his new in-process component embedding technology Canossa
  - KParts



# Trysil

- Ski station in Norway
- Two KDE developer meetings
- First one just after CORBA → DCOP
- noon – 4am
- Mosquitos!



# Trysil 2

(2006, before KDE 4.0)



Coolo went a bit crazy with the Euro football championship  
I didn't run fast enough





# Trysil 2

(2006, before KDE 4.0)



George Staikos, sleeping during compilation



# Trysil 2

(2006, before KDE 4.0)



Aaron Seigo, sleeping in interesting ways



# Trysil 2

(2006, before KDE 4.0)



Celeste, sleeping  
Others, having fun





# Conclusion

History and culture of our community

Creativity and enthusiasm of early contributors still  
an inspiration today

