

Michael White's Planned Software Products

Michael White

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1 Introduction

While the software economy has reached a relatively advanced state of development, there remain opportunities to profit from well-executed new software developments in the areas of web frameworks, document editors, and operating systems.

While the frontend functional-reactive view library React¹ has largely dominated web development since about 2015, there is no high-level batteries-included framework for it, and seamless full stack frameworks that use it do not exist. The ecosystem currently promotes ultimately unnecessary patterns such as declarative definition of data requirements without a frontend model library and global state management. Traditional backend frameworks have shown only a moderate amount of innovation. I have described a potential framework that seamlessly combines React and the SQLAlchemy² industrial-strength Python³ object-relational mapper in a JavaScript-only by default framework, reducing the development of interactive full-stack web applications to its true essential minimum through a number of "magic" features, including eliminating database migrations at deployment without losing SQL or ACID or requiring a proprietary database. The framework can be sold per developer or per line of code plus per request. It could be incorporated into a self-hosting point-and-click editor that is made available as a web service, but there may be difficulties due to cannibalization from any conceivable component registry monetization scheme. The framework can also be used for desktop and mobile applications that use a database.

In document editing, many now prefer Pandoc⁴ Markdown with embedded LaTeX⁵ for academic document preparation. I have previously done most of the work to show that a WYSIWYG editor for Pandoc Markdown with embedded LaTeX is possible by converting to ODT and extending the LibreOffice document editor.

There is substantial opportunity for a cohesive operating system based on open source software with a full suite of default GTK applications and half a dozen or more carefully chosen value adds, such as an included Wikipedia⁶ and Wiktionary⁷ Dict server, which the original founding of Wikipedia in 1996 assigned the exclusive right to sell to me or a company run by me, to offer a high-end competitor to current operating systems. I also

¹<http://reactjs.org>

²<http://sqlalchemy.org>

³<http://python.org>

⁴<http://pandoc.org>

⁵<https://www.latex-project.org/>

⁶<http://wikipedia.org>

⁷<http://en.wiktionary.org>

propose a tiling window manager⁸ that automatically manages windows by default based on processes' open files, history of switches between windows, and web page text.

2 Planned Products

2.1 Web Framework

- A high-level full-stack JavaScript web framework⁹ with a hidden Python backend and optional inclusion of Python code that reduces interactive web application development to its essential complexity

Estimated price: some combination of about \$10,000/year per developer and \$.01 - \$.03 per request

Estimated buyers: about 3% of developers of web applications

2.2 Office Extensions

- A LibreOffice extension for WYSIWYG editing of Pandoc Markdown with embedded LaTeX with an intelligent piecemeal LaTeX renderer and Track Changes as CriticMarkup¹⁰ automatically populated from a branching version control repository with a GUI merge tool

Estimated price: about \$1,200

Estimated buyers: about 50,000

2.3 Operating System

- GhostBSD¹¹ or Ubuntu MATE¹² derivative
- A full suite of GTK default applications and some terminal applications
- A novel configuration library for XMonad that manages desktops and splits automatically by default
 - Five layouts - all floating, one window full screen, two windows side by side, one window on the left and one stack of unlimited number of windows on the right (width of split adjustable, same for both split layouts), two stacks
 - * A shortcut to switch between vertical and horizontal splits
 - Automatic management of workspaces based on based on prior frequency of switches between windows, directories and contents of files opened by each process, web page and document text, and history of copy-pastes

⁸http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiling_window_manager

⁹<https://www.overleaf.com/read/ymsbmtwnydf#efbba5>

¹⁰<https://fletcher.github.io/MultiMarkdown-6/syntax/critic.html>

¹¹<http://ghostbsd.org>

¹²<http://ubuntu-mate.org>

- A keyboard shortcut to switch between graphical and terminal versions of the current application and maintain the same open file, view, and position, for the current application or all applications in the current workspace
- Choose one or more good GTK and icon themes and disallow adding others
- A full suite of GTK default applications
 - File Browser (Caja)
 - * Value add: Integrated one-click deployment of web applications to a Dokku¹³ server (including setting up the server) or a PaaS
 - * Optional encrypted home directory with easy setup
 - * Develop a plugin for opening an archive as a folder without extracting
 - * rar and 7zip support included by default
 - Text Editor (Pluma)
 - Terminal (MATE Terminal)
 - * Fancy prompt by default
 - Web Browser (Firefox)
 - * Tor and Ublock Origin installed by default
 - * Value/revenue add: Addition of our affiliate codes for common sites in web browsers with 10% to charity
 - Document Viewer (Atril)
 - * Try to get a signature implementation
 - Email (Thunderbird)
 - Instant Messenger (Pidgin or whatever is current with libpurple)
 - * Value add: Text messaging support through a Google Voice¹⁴ libpurple implementation
 - * Ideally, a GTK-based application that supports audio and video chat and the latest video chat services would be found or developed
 - Calendar (GNOME Calendar)
 - Image Viewer
 - Music (Music Player Daemon, Ario¹⁵)
 - * Mopidy¹⁶ - An MPD server with support for YouTube¹⁷ and Spotify¹⁸ that lets you create a library of remembered songs with the option to download them.

¹³<http://dokku.com>

¹⁴<http://voice.google.com>

¹⁵<https://sourceforge.net/projects/ario-player/>

¹⁶<https://mopidy.com>

¹⁷<http://youtube.com>

¹⁸<http://spotify.com>

- Modify Ario to add a save to library function for YouTube and Spotify songs
- * Amazon MP3 Downloader
- Video Player
 - * include all VLC codecs
- Office Suite (LibreOffice)
- Photo Organizer (Shotwell)
- Image Editor (GIMP)
 - * ideally find a one-window version of GIMP
- Video Editor (PiTiVi?)
- Audio Editor (Audacity)
- Code Editor (GVim)
 - * Minor value add: An opinionated Vim configuration that provides a minimalist IDE with only high quality plugins that you really need with well-chosen keyboard shortcuts
- Unified keyboard shortcut documentation including plugins for first-time users that is not the default documentation
- Calculator (Qalculate)
- Desktop Wiki (Zim)
- Audio Recorder
- Webcam (Cheese)
- Archive Manager
- GDebi Package Installer
- Dictionary
 - * Value add: An integrated Wikipedia and Wiktionary Dict server
- Launcher (Kupfer)
- Search
 - * Value add: OS-level search with local, Google, Amazon, Wikipedia, and remote Google Drive, Dropbox, and IMAP results and affiliate links to Amazon
 - * Optional desktop indexing
- Simple Scan
- Torrents (Transmission)
- Dropbox
- Wine
- Samba
- GUIs or file manager integration with scripting for ImageMagick convert, pdftk cat and split, pandoc, ffmpeg

- Xonsh¹⁹ shell (Python-integrated shell)
- Some Terminal applications
 - terminal web browsers: lynx, browsh²⁰, and carbonyl²¹
 - Practical Music Search
 - Whatever the best terminal IMAP email client is
 - text-based PDF viewer with automatic OCR of image PDFs and external image viewing of regular images
 - Terminal Pidgin
 - file manager - ranger
 - Vimperator (Firefox keyboard navigation plugin)

Estimated price: \$200 or free with affiliate code replacement

Estimated buyers: up to 1 million

¹⁹<https://xon.sh/>

²⁰<https://www.brow.sh/>

²¹<https://github.com/fathyb/carbonyl>