

Re: Why I should use FBSD 4.9/10 and not 5.2.1?

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Kris Kennaway <kkenn@xor.obsecurity.org> wrote:

>

> *In other words, the instability was caused by a buggy BIOS on his SMP
> hardware that just happened to be tickled by the newer version of
> FreeBSD.*

This sentence exactly means that recent FreeBSD-4 versions are buggy for all practical purposes. Ask someone who has one hundred or one thousand servers to upgrade the BIOS of all machines, with the risks that represents:

–that the upgrade doesn't succeed and the machine is rendered unbootable

–that the upgrade succeeds but doesn't solve the problem

not to mention that you need DOS partitions or DOS floppies and in this case floppy drives, etc. My experience on my laptop is indeed that

FreeBSD-4 was much better around 4.5 than it is now. And i will not

upgrade BIOS at any price. I still prefer running FreeBSD-4.9 as is.

As for FreeBSD-5.2 it runs perfectly fine for me on my desktop, but

obviously this depends on the hardware, etc. Clearly it is slower than

it used to be under FreeBSD-4, notably in the network stack, but

nothing dramatic, and i can live with that. It has been perfectly

stable for me, not a single hang since i installed 5.2. I cannot say

the same thing for my other desktop which runs Debian Linux with a 2.4 kernel.

>

> *Kris*

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Michel TALON