



# Emacsy

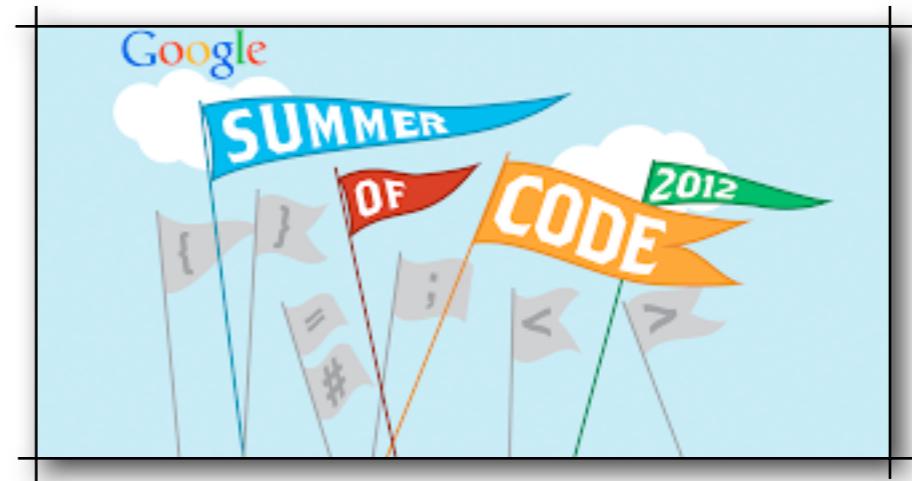
Shane Celis

GNU Hackers Meeting

Paris, France

August 24th, 2013

(guile)



# Agenda

- Intended Audience
- What is Emacsy?
- What is Emacs?
- Demos
- What's next?
- Where to get it

# Audience

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- Interactive application developers

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- Interactive application developers
- Emacs users

# Audience

- Interactive application developers
- Emacs users
  - Why base it off Emacs?

# Emacsy: Google Summer of Code

- Officially started this Summer
- Working with Ludovic Courtès from GNU Project
- Received lots of help from #guile on freenode.net
- Special thanks to Andy Wingo and Mark Weaver

# What is Emacsy?

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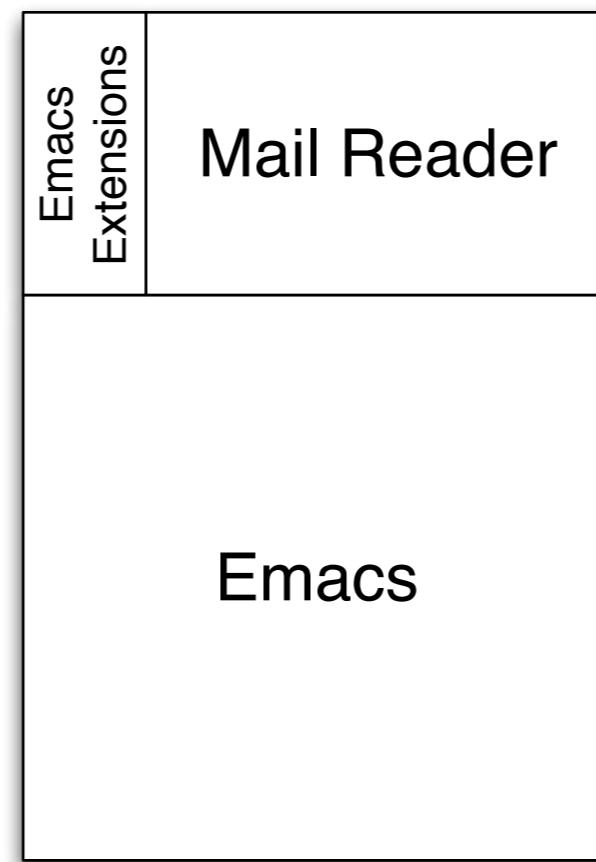
- It's an embeddable Emacs-like library.

# What is Emacsy?

- It's an embeddable Emacs-like library.
- How Emacs-like exactly?

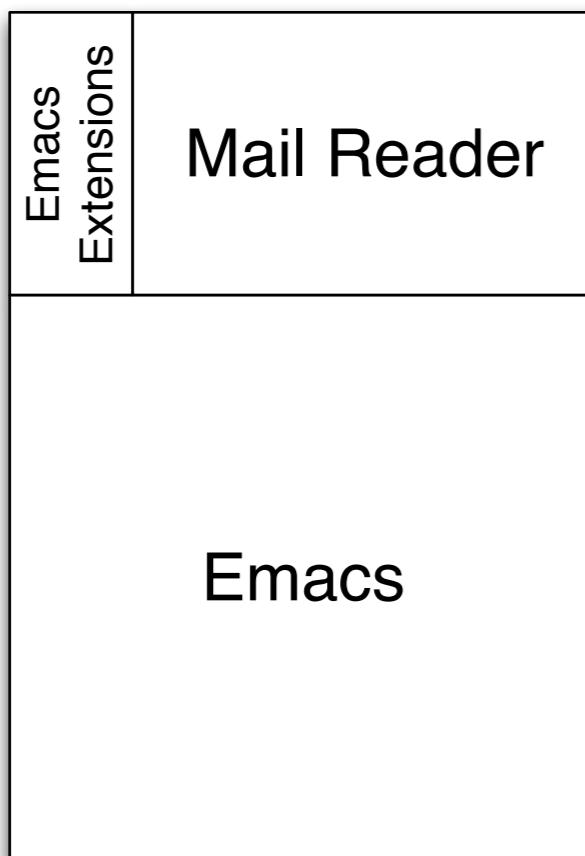
# A Joke That Explains

Emacs is a great operating system—lacking only a decent editor.



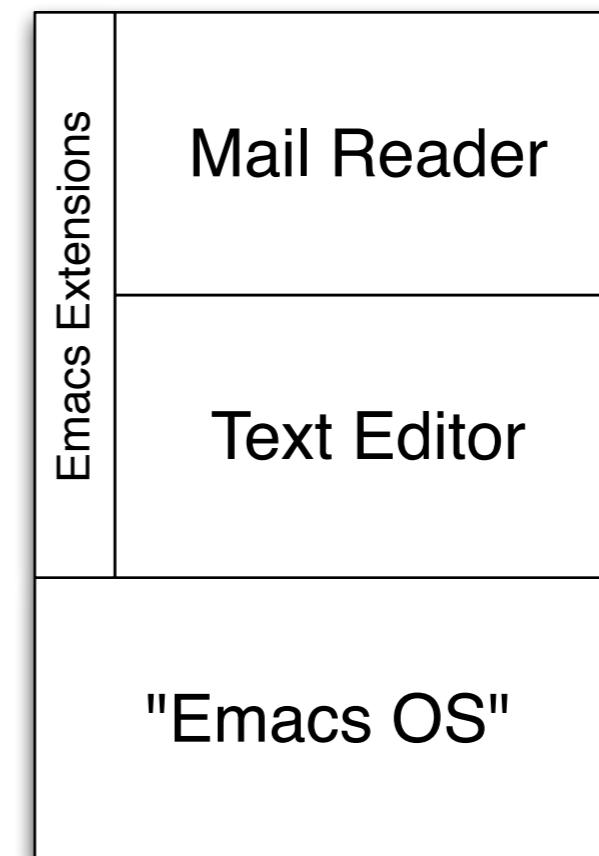
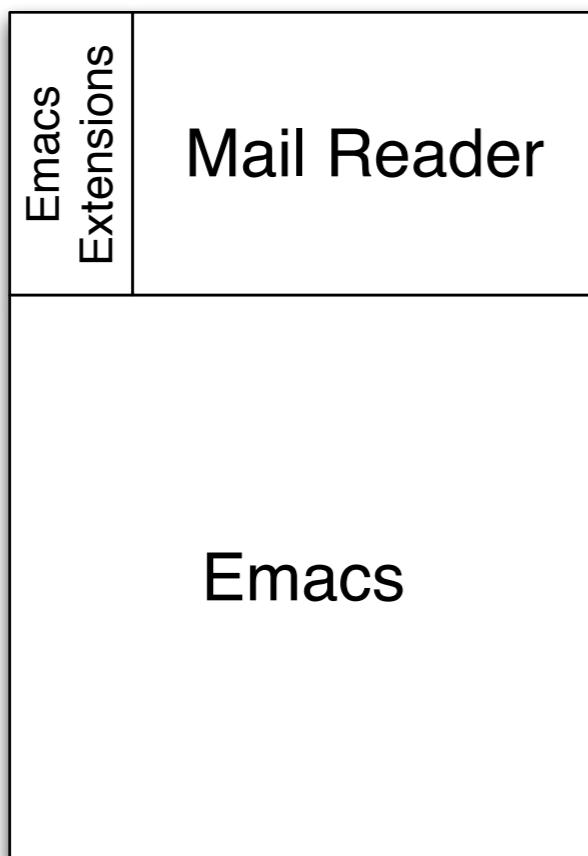
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# Emacsy Features

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- lisp interpreter

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- lisp interpreter
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- comprehensive online help
- major and minor modes

# Emacsy Anti-goals

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- Emacsy is not an Emacs replacement

# Emacsy Anti-goals

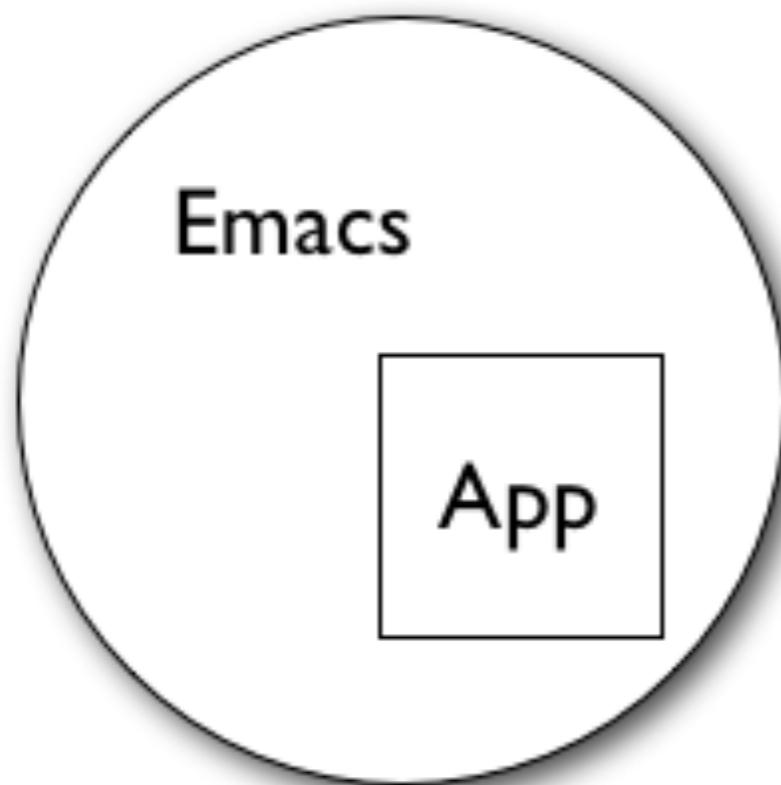
- Emacsy is not an Emacs replacement
  - not a text editor

# Emacsy Anti-goals

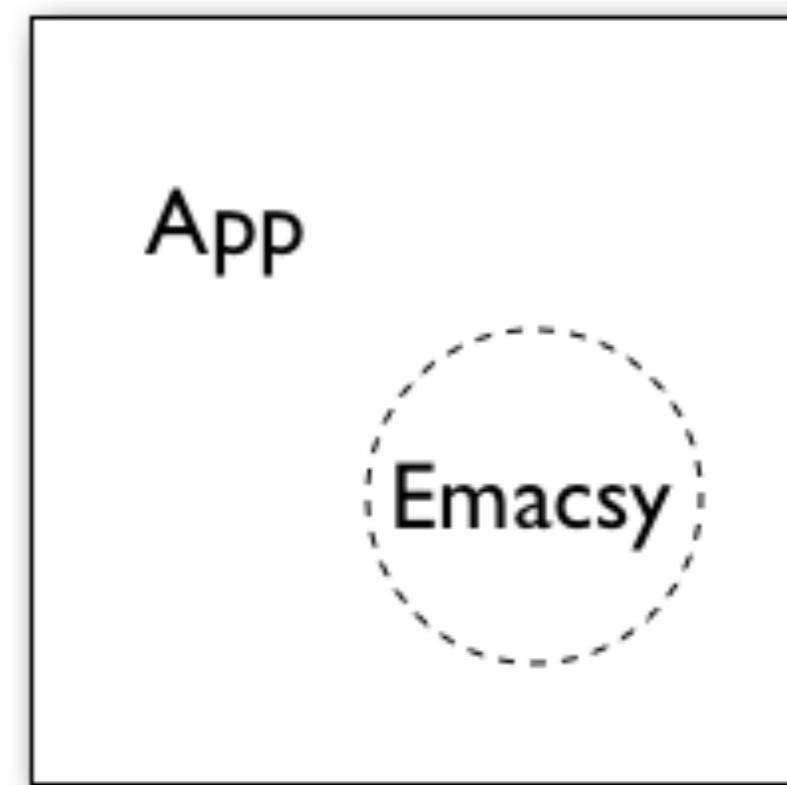
- Emacsy is not an Emacs replacement
  - not a text editor
  - not elisp compatible

# Different Integration Strategy

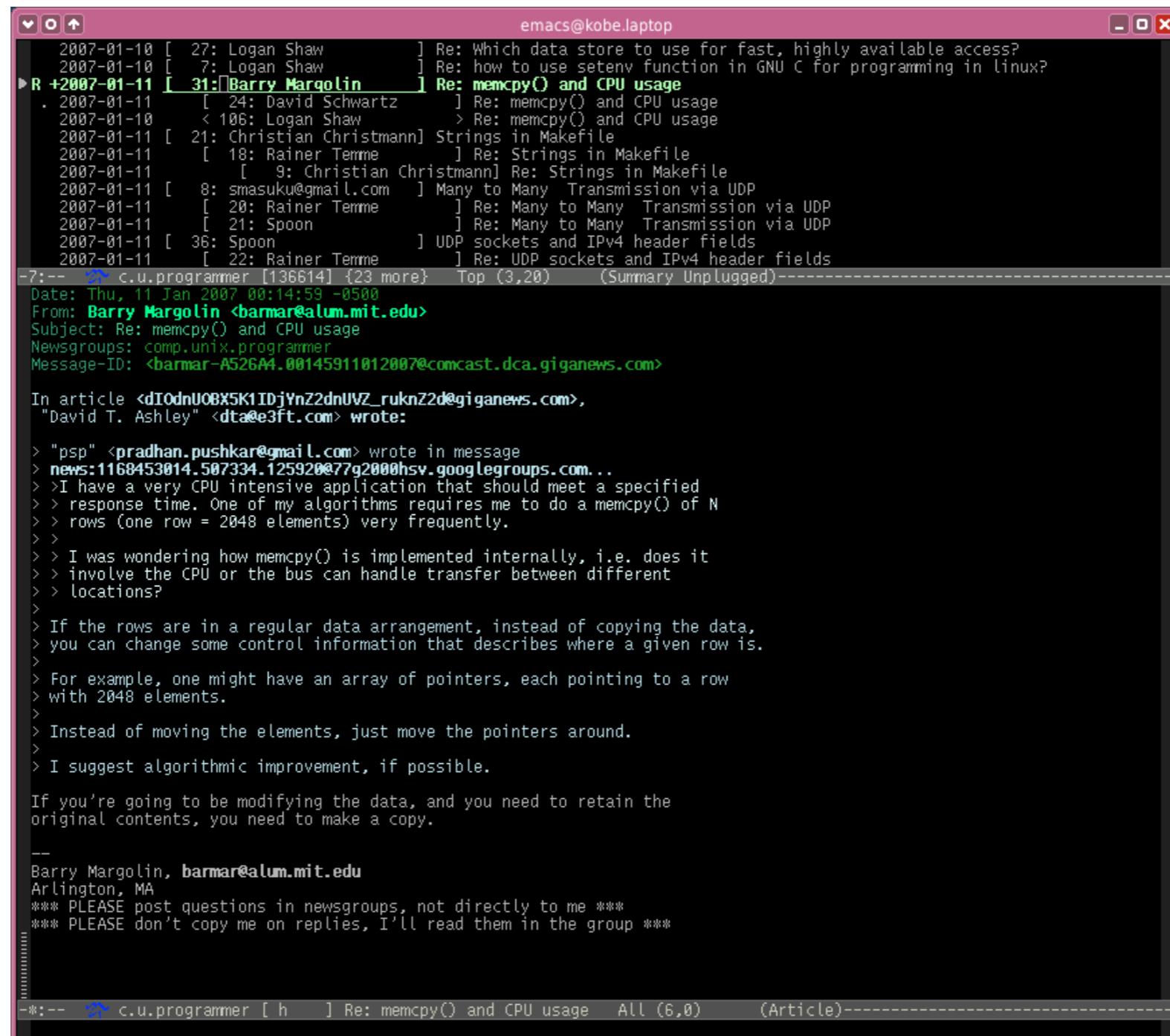
a) Emacs consumes



b) Emacsy combines



# What is Emacs?



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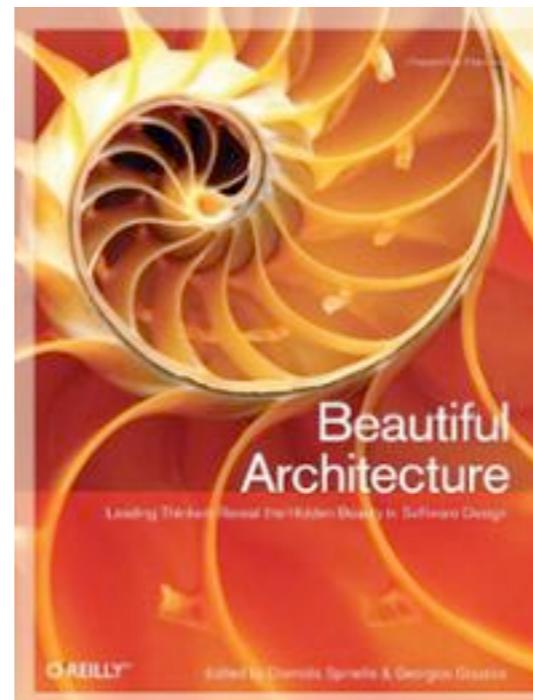
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# What is Emacs?

- It's a text editor,
- a mail reader,
- a shell,
- a lisp interpreter,
- a web browser.

# What is Emacs?



[Beautiful Architecture](#). Ch. I I. “GNU Emacs: Creeping Featurism is a Strength” by Jim Blandy

# Model View Controller

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- The buffer is a model.

# Model View Controller

- The buffer is a model.
- The window is a view.

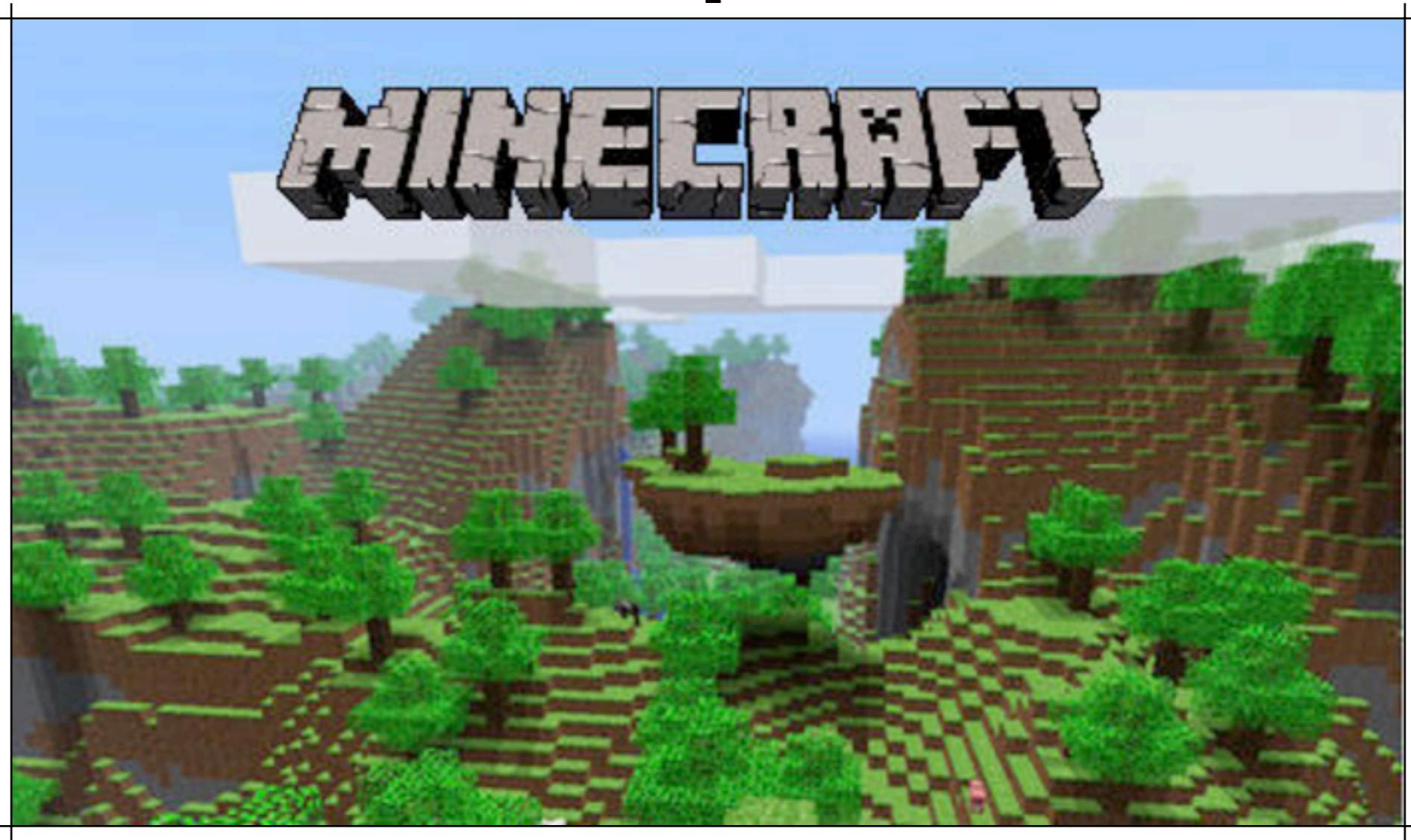
# Model View Controller

- The buffer is a model.
- The window is a view.
- The controller is all the elisp code.

# Praising the Model

- A buffer is plaintext.
- Emacs is not a word processor; no bold, italics, nor attributes are embedded into the model.
- It's simple.
- It's all just text.

# Other Simple Models



- It's all just blocks.

# Simple Model



- Users can make very complicated things out of simple building blocks.

# Emacs is Extensible

- It's a text editor,
- a mail reader,
- a shell,
- a lisp interpreter,
- a web browser.

# The Fix is In

- The view is fixed.
- The model is fixed.
- Only the controller is extensible with elisp.

# Emacsy

# Emacsy

- The view is not fixed.

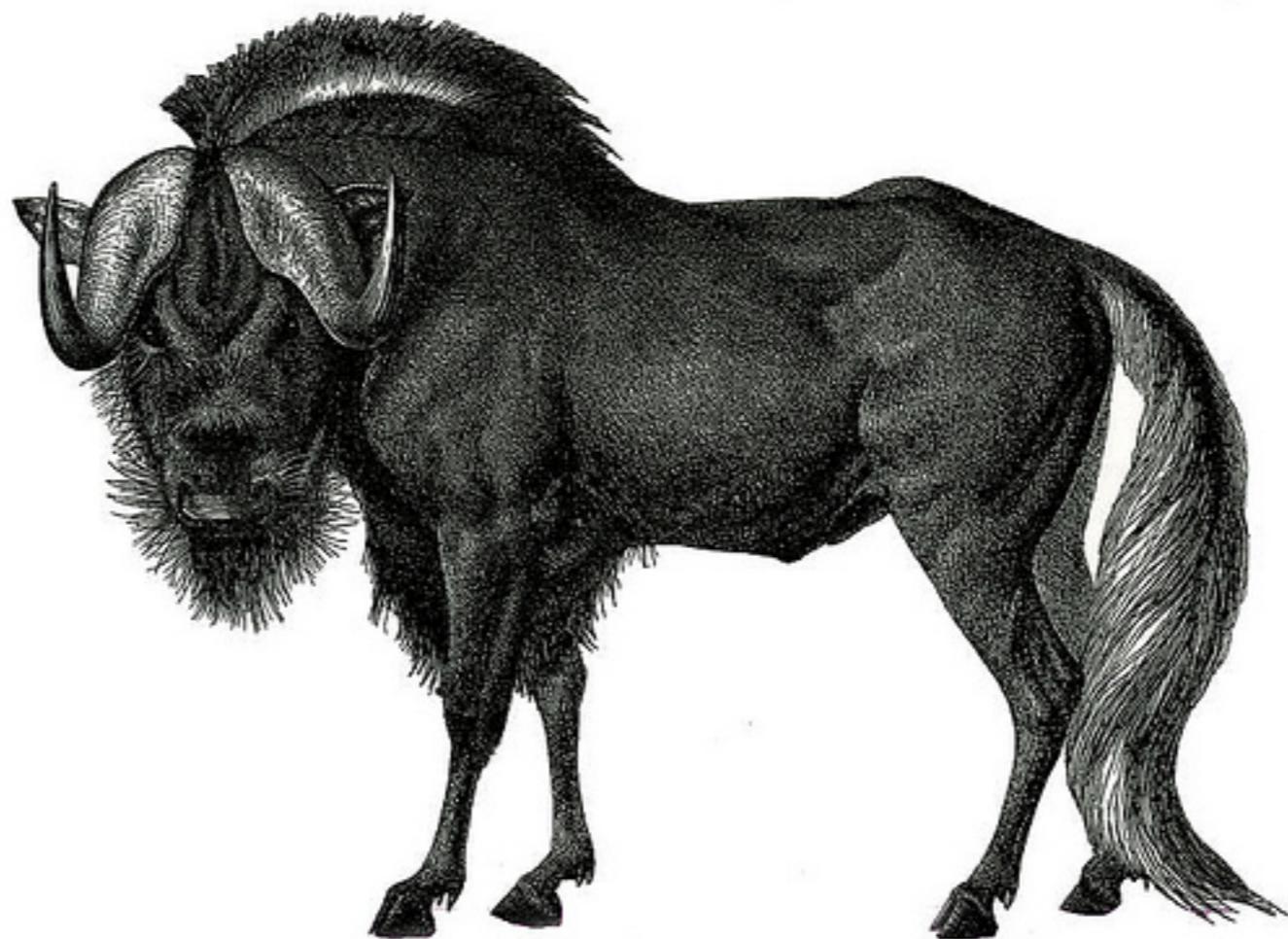
# Emacsy

- The view is not fixed.
- The model is not fixed.

# Emacsy

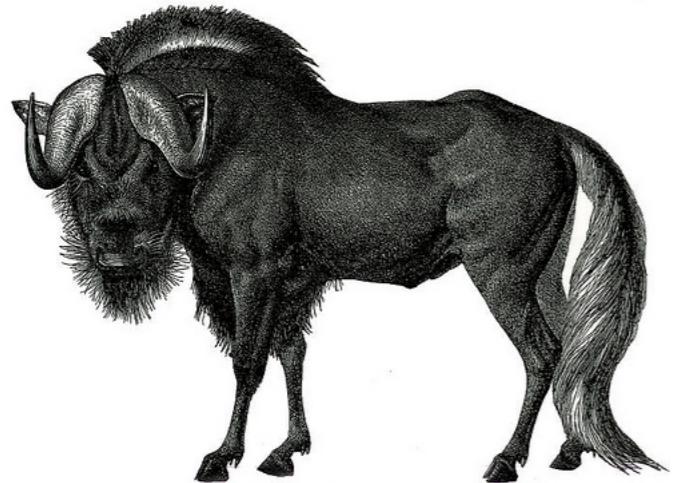
- The view is not fixed.
- The model is not fixed.
- The controller is extensible with GNU Guile Scheme.

# Vision



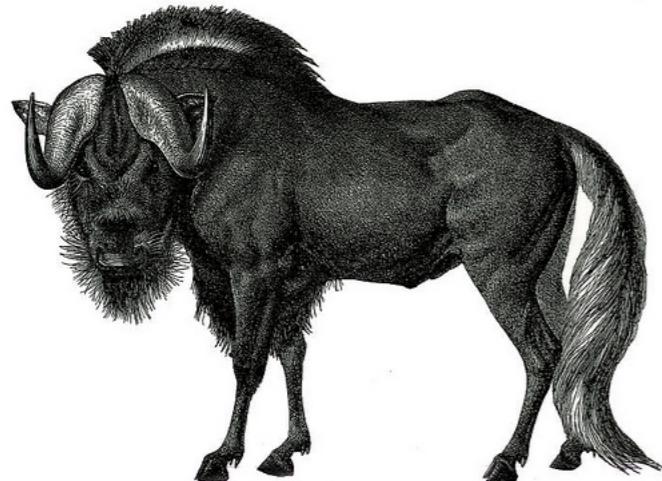
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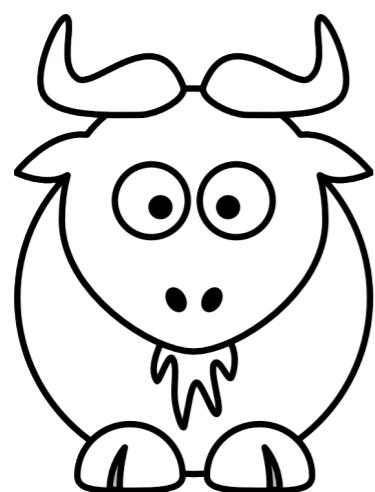


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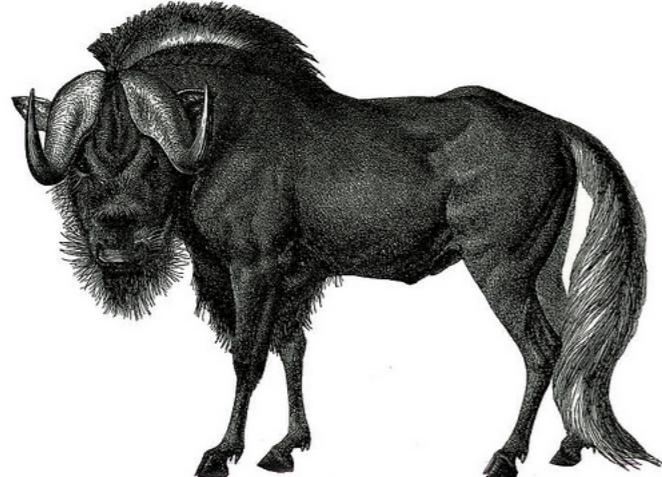


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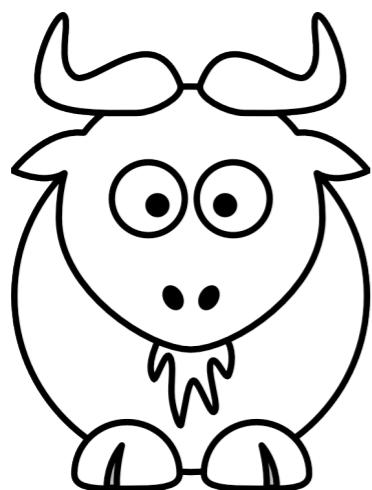


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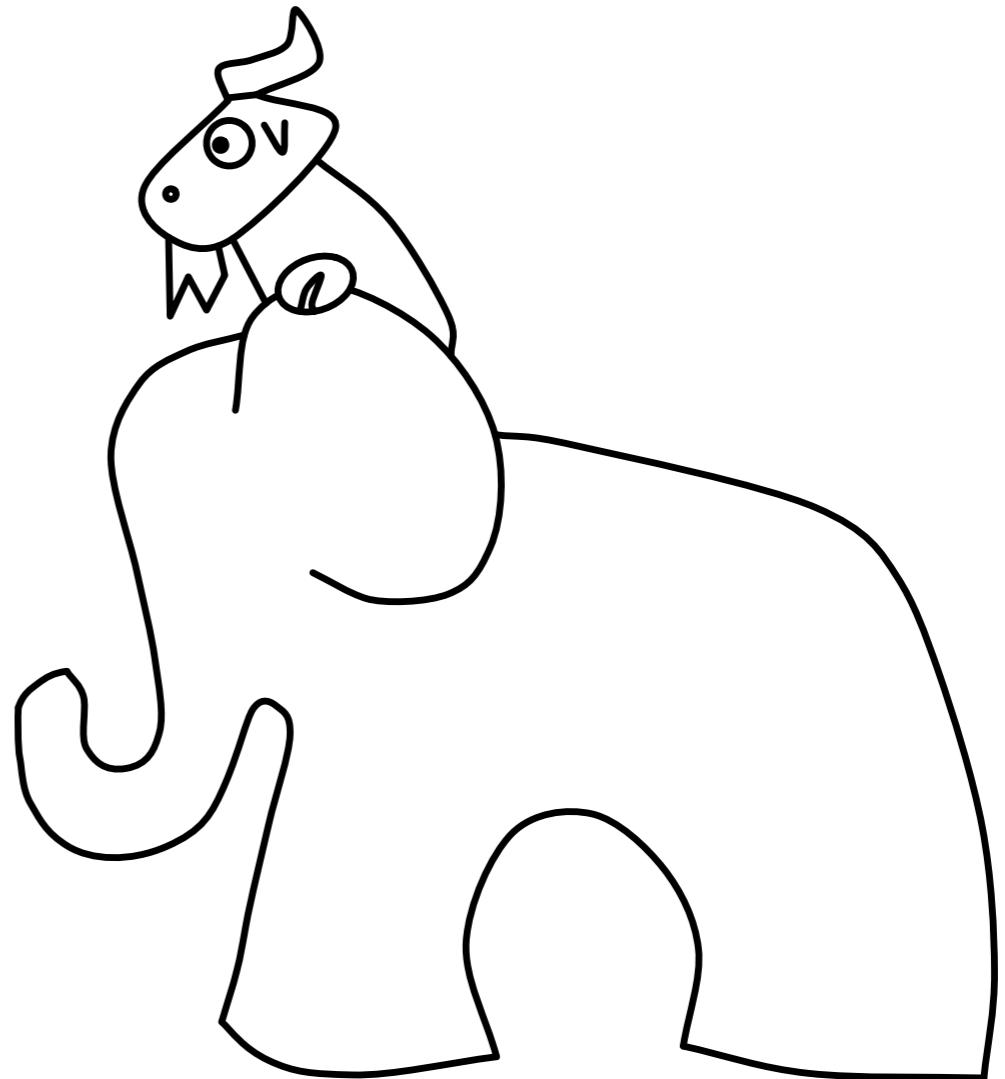
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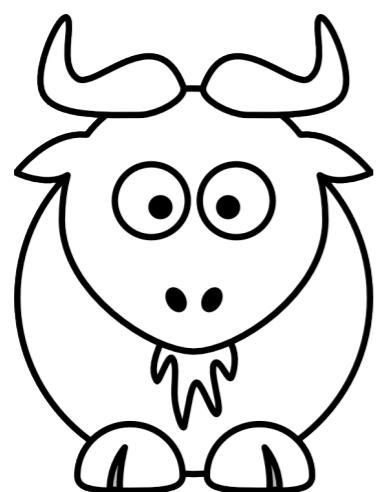
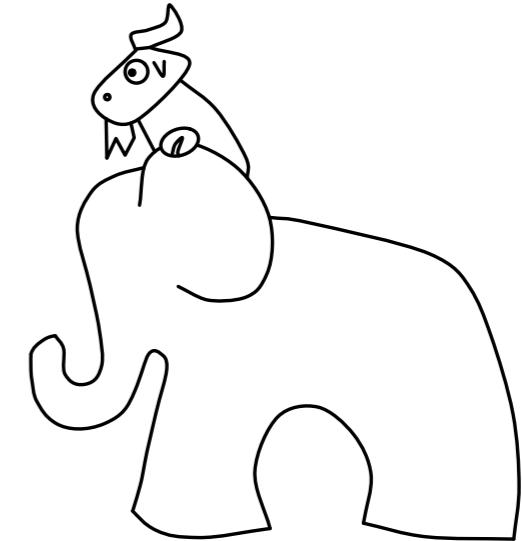
Emacsy



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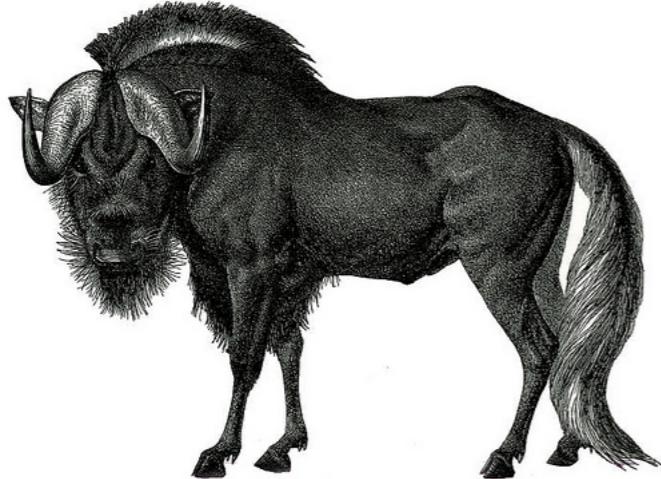


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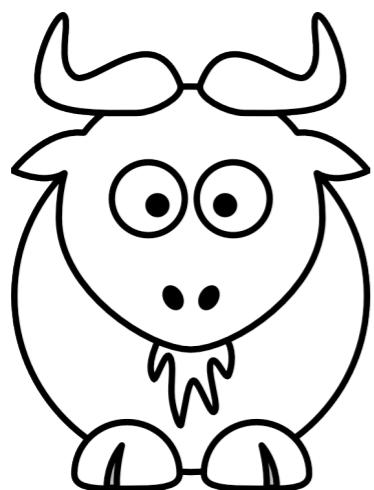


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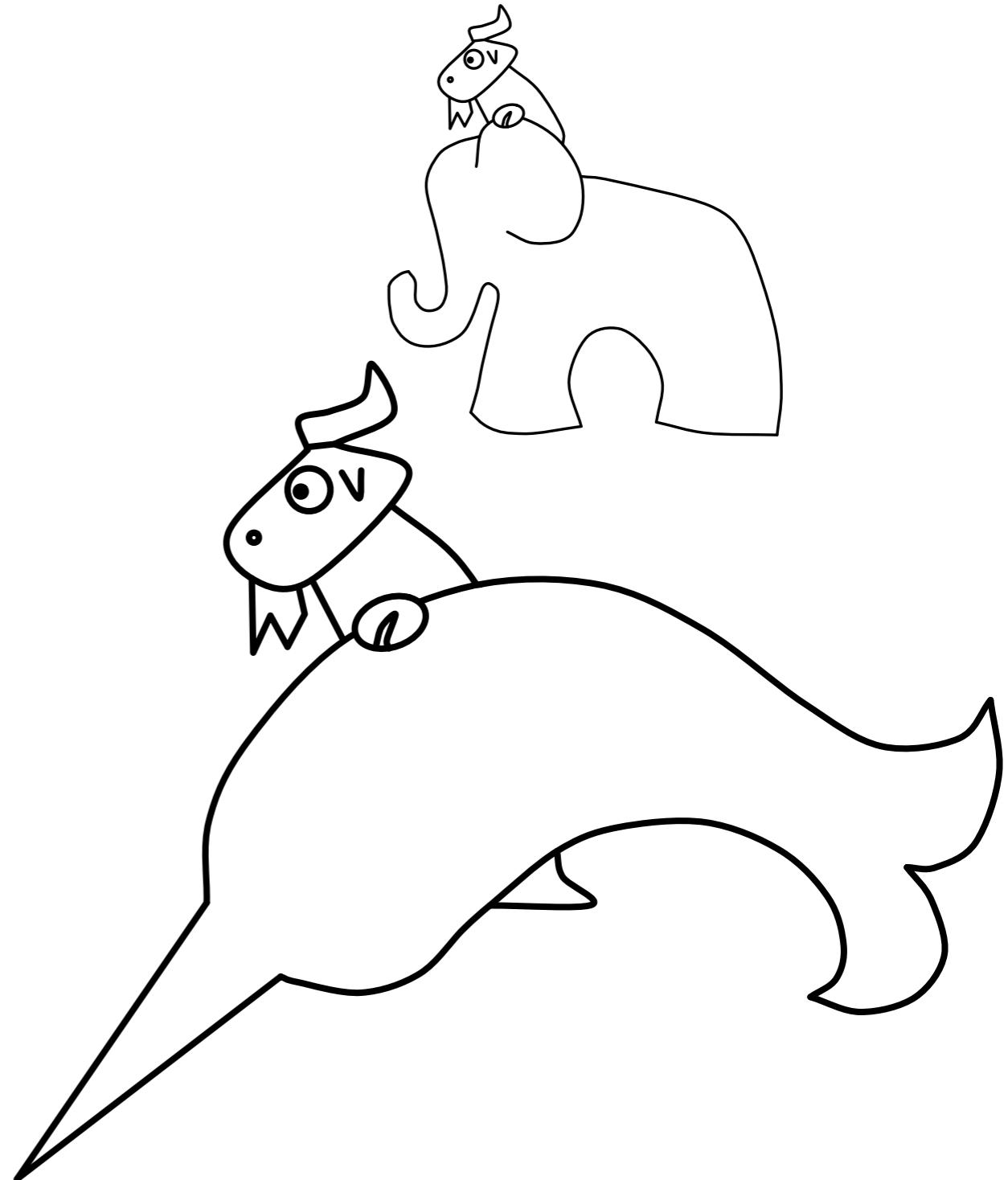
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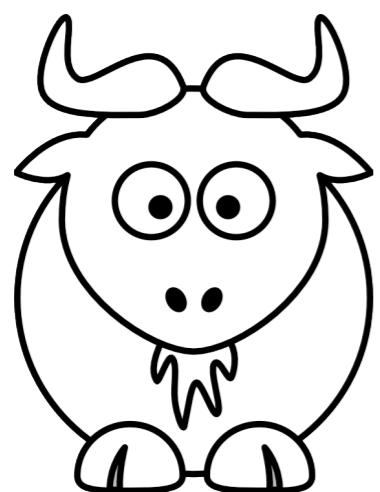
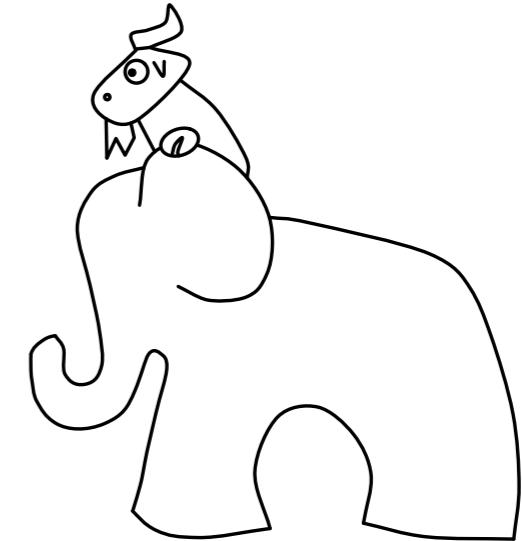
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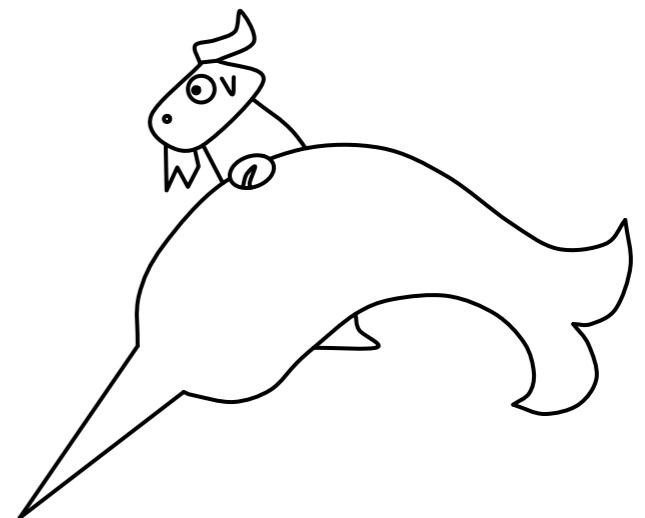
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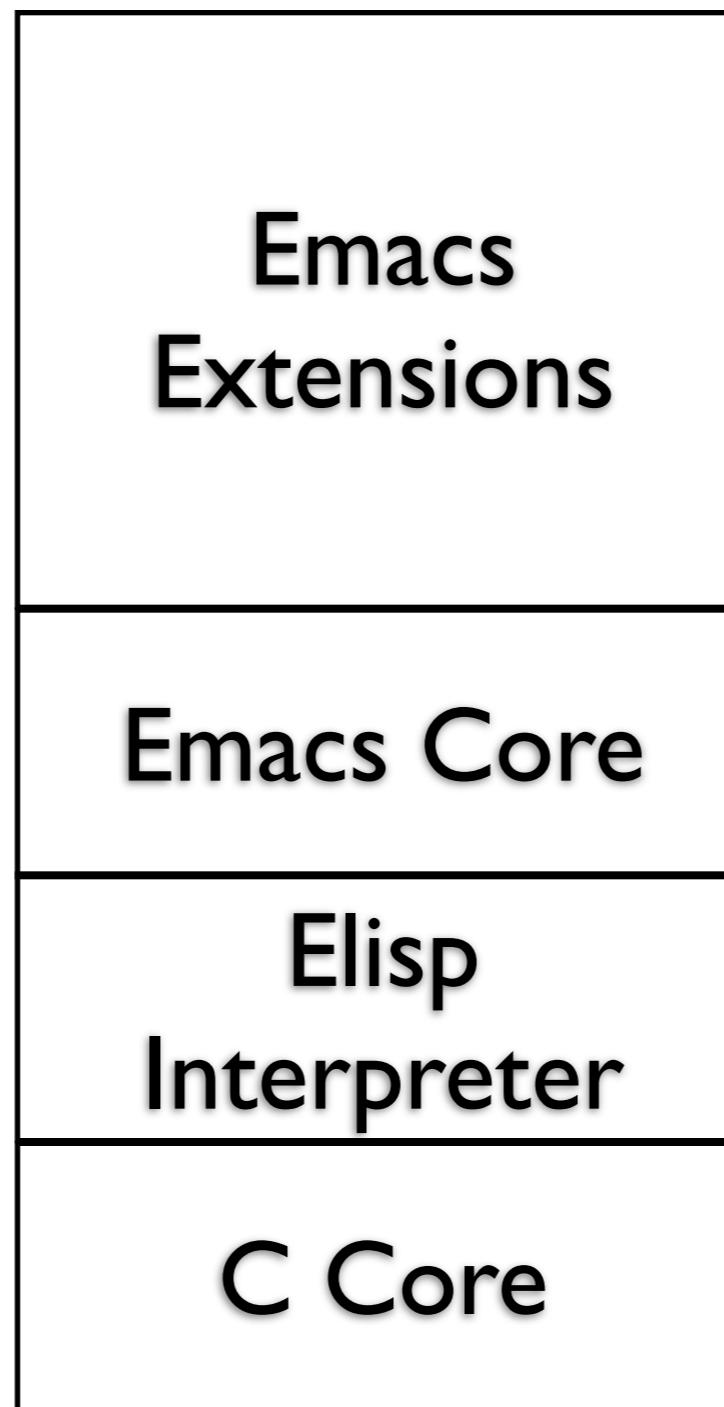
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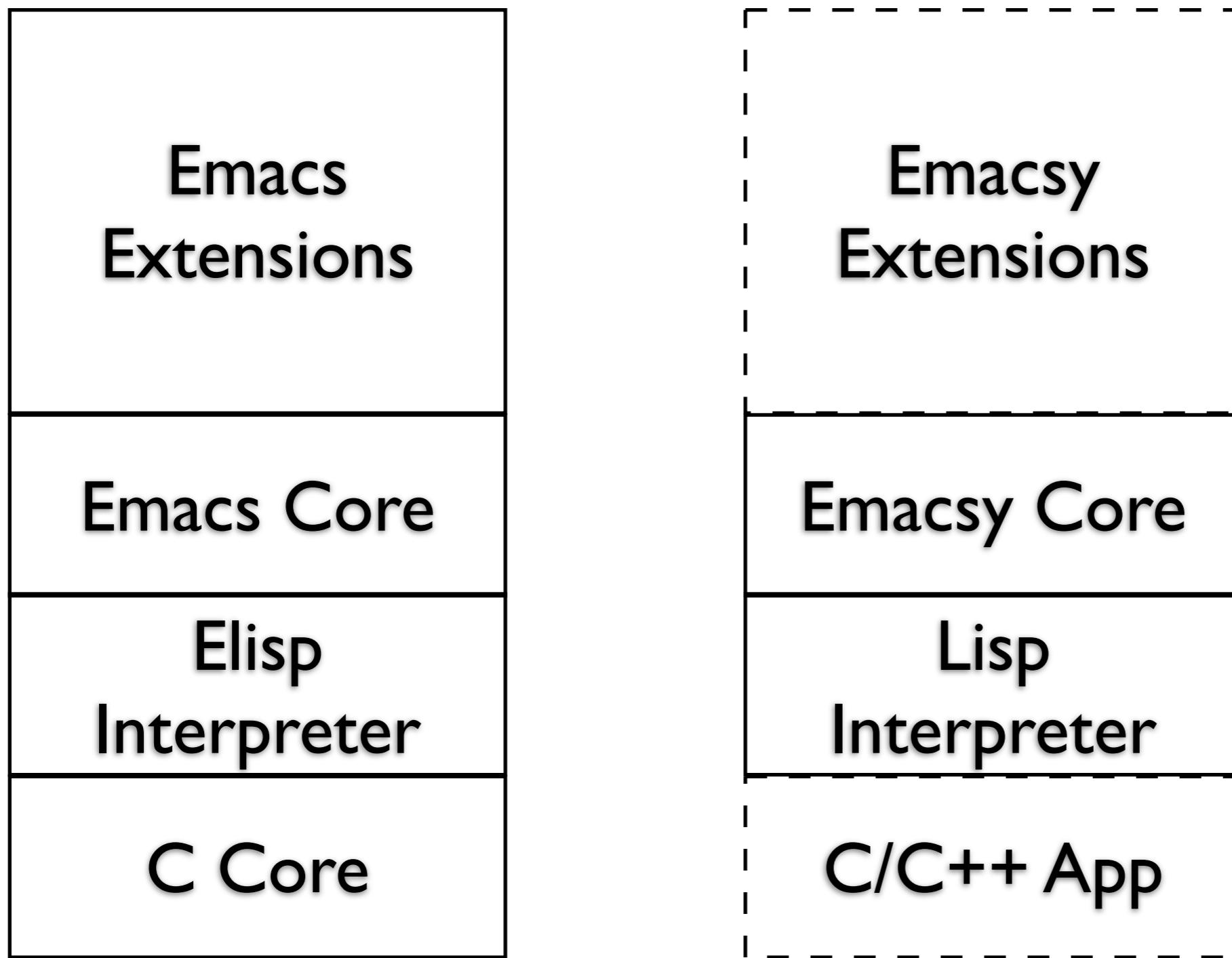
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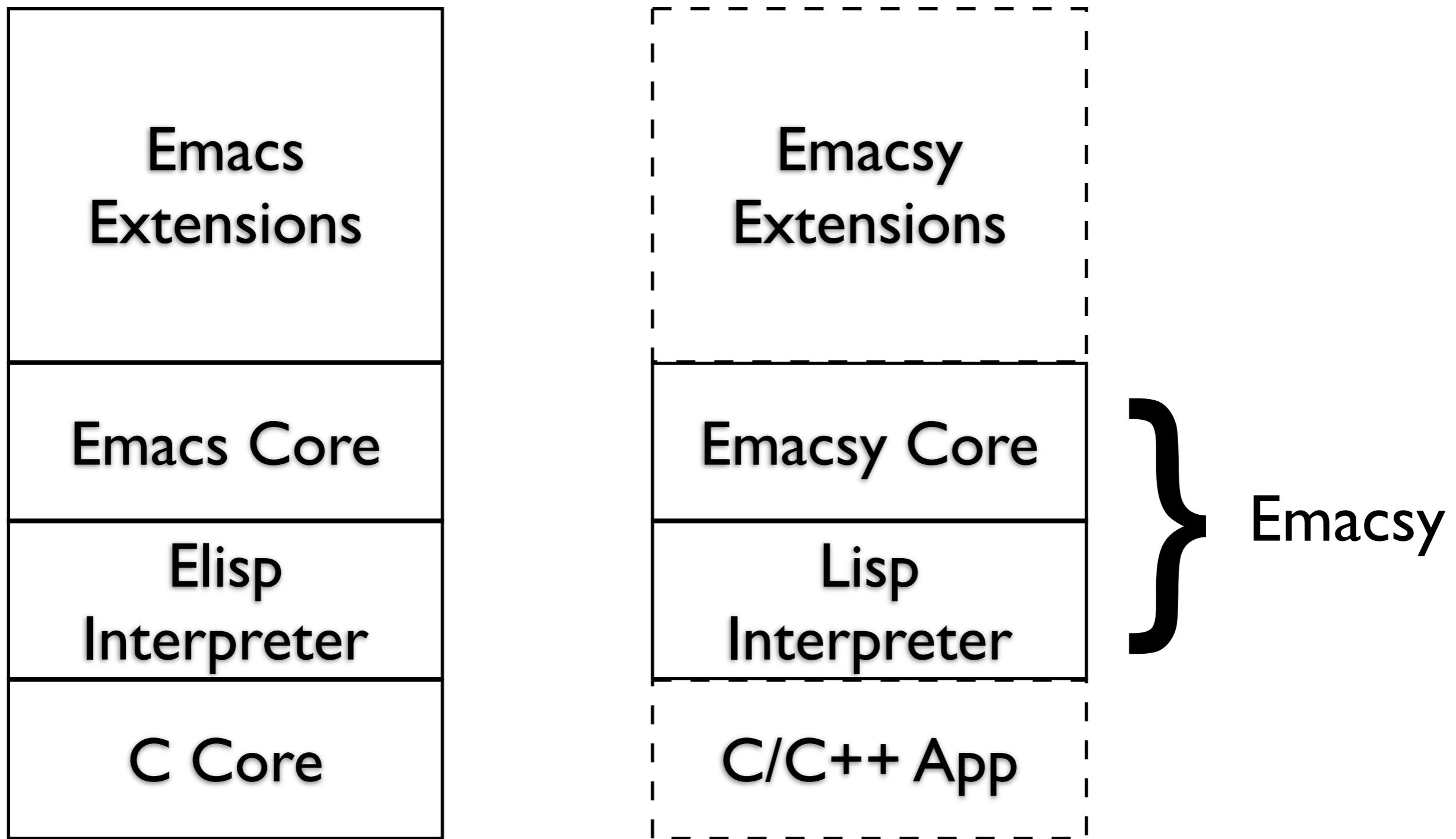
# Emacs(y) Architecture



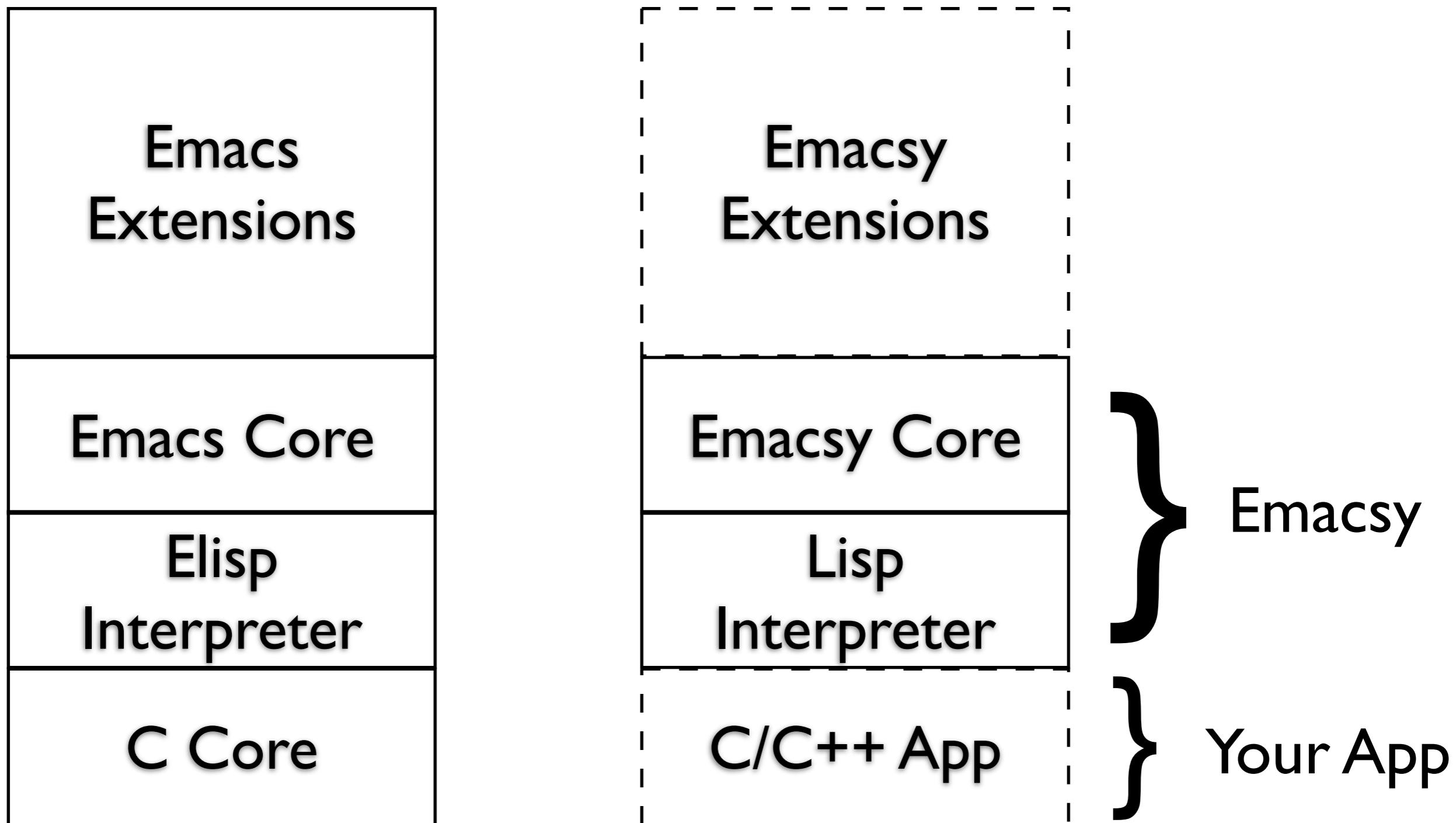
# Emacs(y) Architecture



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# Emacs(y) Architecture



# Demo!

# Levels of Integration

1. No buffer support
2. Multiple buffers
3. Multiple windows

# What Guile Provides that Elisp Doesn't

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- Continuations

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- Modules

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- Continuations
- Modules
- Foreign Function Interface (FFI)
- Threads

# Taking Advantage of Guile

- Continuations can be used to build “system-calls” but in userland
  - Blocking in Scheme without blocking in C
  - Non-blocking events

# Modules

A screenshot of an Emacs window showing a completion list. The list includes entries such as 'yow', 'zone', 'zrgrep[]', 'zap-to-char', and 'zone-mode'. The title bar of the window reads '- :%-% \*Completions\* Bot L3015 (Completion List -2- yas) [#gu]'. A key binding 'M-x' is visible at the bottom left.

- In my Emacs environment, I have 6,029 commands available at all times.
- Many aren't useful in my current context.
- Can we be more careful in what commands we expose?

# Context Sensitive Commands

- Idea: Export commands to a module
- Each buffer could have a “`MODULE_PATH`” that works like `PATH` in bash
- `M-x` only looks up commands in the `MODULE_PATH`
- `C-u M-x` looks up all commands

# Comprehensive Help

- Emacs has a great help system!
- What will Emacsy do?
- Options:
  1. Do it all in minibuffer.
  2. Use a text buffer like Emacs.
  3. Use a local web server.

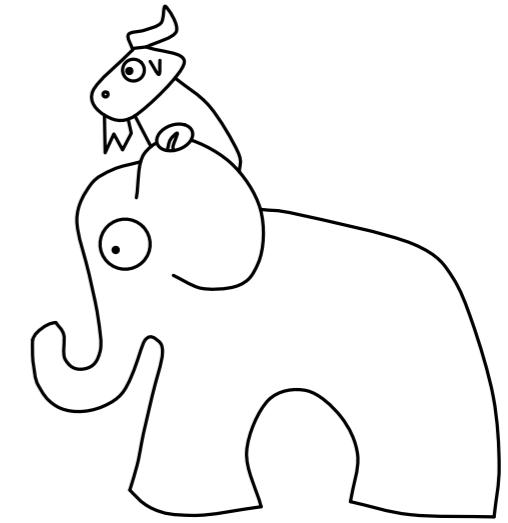
# Beyond Emacs

- Job control
  - Continuations → Coroutines → Cooperative Multitasking
- Major modes
  - Are major modes worth it?

# Available Now

- Alpha quality
- Recommend release v 0.1.1
- Available under the GNU GPLv3

<https://github.com/shanecelis/emacsy>



# Thanks for watching!

contact: [shane.celis@gmail.com](mailto:shane.celis@gmail.com)

twitter: @shanecelis

repo: <https://github.com/shanecelis/emacsy>

# Acknowledgments

- GNU Emacs project (Thank you, RMS!)
- GNU Guile project
- The guys at #guile@irc.freenode.net
- Nykia Hunter for the elephant and narwhal graphics

# Questions?