

## Re: CMU CL or SBCL on (FreeBSD/)AMD64 any time soon?

*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Lisp/comp.lang.lisp/2004-10/1825.html>

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Gareth McCaughan wrote:

> *Daniel Barlow* <[dan@telent.net](mailto:dan@telent.net)> writes:

>

> *[I'd asked:]*

>

>>>*But I don't want to find myself without a decent zippy*

>>>*Lisp implementation. Several different people seem to have*

>>>*done work on making SBCL run on AMD64 in the last N months*

>>>*(generally for Linux rather than FreeBSD); what's the*

>>>*current state of the world?*

>

> ...

>

>>*You asked about "current state" rather than "progress", which I like,*

>

>

> *Glad to be of service :-).*

>

> *[SNIP: lots and lots of interesting and helpful information]*

>

> *Thanks! Sounds pretty impressive. And it sounds like*

> *SBCL and CMU CL will work OK using the ia32 emulation layer,*

> *so I wouldn't be fast-Lisp-less until the 64-bit version*

> *is done. Cool.*

>

I bought an AMD64 machine a couple months ago to support work on the Bard VM. I have been using CMUCL (in 32-bit mode) and Allegro (in native 64-bit mode) to do the work.

One consideration about use of Linux on AMD64 is that the maturity of the 'multilib' implementations varies from one distro to another. I've been generally happy with Fedora Core 2; Suse 9.1 seems a little more mature, but feels subjectively slower on the same box.

Another consideration is video friver support; you may want to look into

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driver support for video cards before buying your machine. For example, ATI does not yet provide 64-bit drivers for its video cards on Linux.