Building on an unsound foundation:
How release pipelines can impact our predictive models

Bram Adams

POLYTECHNIQUE MONTRÉAL

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I’ve worn a lot of hats in the past

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Researcher

McGill

Asst. Professor:
2015-Present

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Practitioner

EMC² where information lives®

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SW Eng:
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Rockstar

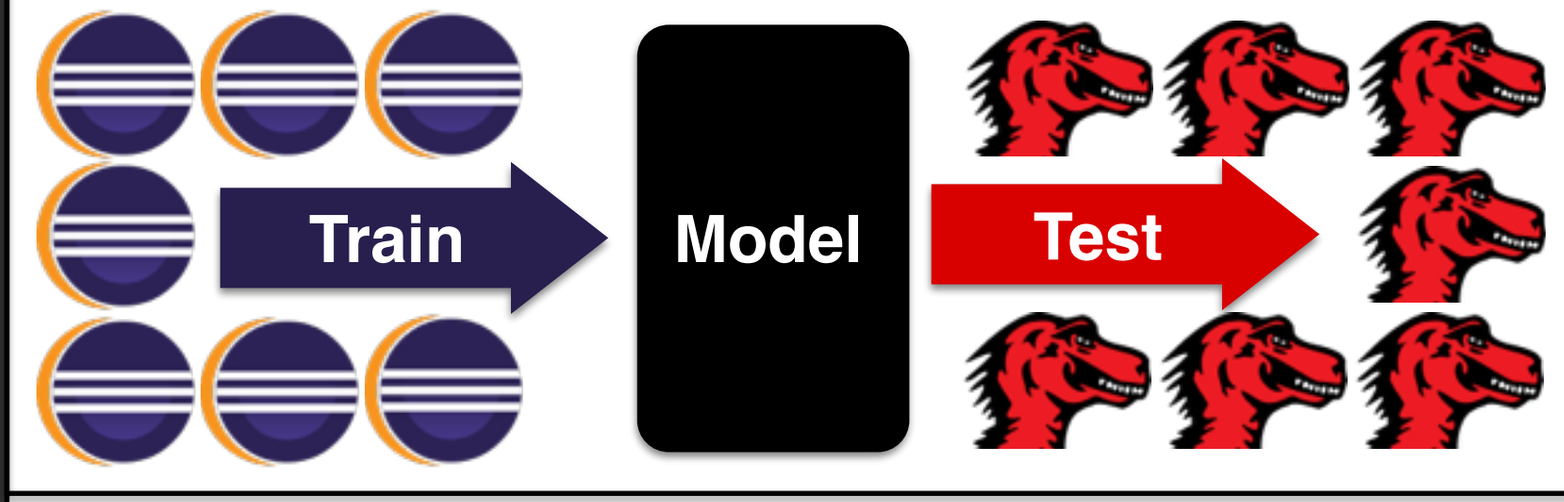
ROSES DEAD R.I.P.

Drummer:
2003-2008

Our past work on predictive modelling

Our past work on predictive modelling

Cross-project modelling



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Bug-introducing changes

[MSR 2014] [EMSE 2015]

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Build system co-changes

[SANER 2015]

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[SANER 2015]

Impact of modern code review

```
asset_builder.input = MODELS
asset_builder.output = ${QMAKE_FILE_BASE}.qrb
asset_builder.CONFIG += no_link target_predeps
asset_builder.depends = $$QGLTF_DIR/${QMAKE_FILE_BASE}.gltf
QMAKE_EXTRA_COMPILERS += asset_builder

for (model, MODELS) {
    base_model = $$basename(model)
    qrb_model = $$replace(base_model, (.+)\\..+$, \\1.qrb)
```

Oswald Buddenhagen Oct 14 12:21 PM

that's a rather inefficient and hard to understand regex. use [^\\.] instead of the last dot. alternatively, you could rewrite it as just chopping off the extension, and add the .qrb outside the $$replace() call.

Reply ... Reply 'Done'

```
    asset_install.files += $$absolute_path($$qrb_model, $$OUT_PWD)
```

Oswald Buddenhagen Oct 14 12:21 PM

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Software release quality

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Software release quality

[MSR 2014, 2015] [EMSE 2015]

Software design quality

[SANER 2015]

Our models may be trained on unsound data

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Classification technique

[ICSE 2015]

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Classification technique

[ICSE 2015]

Classification technique parameters

[201?]

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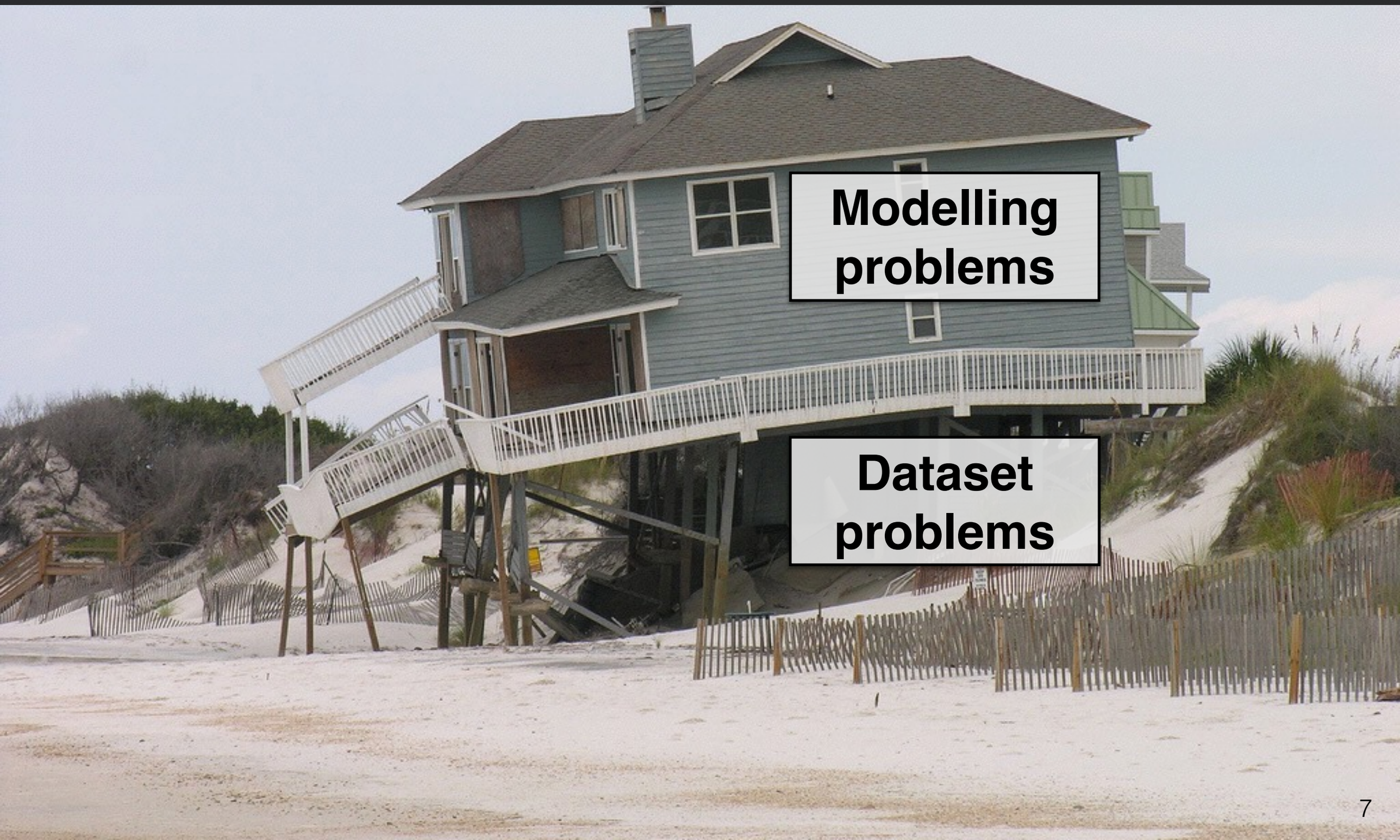


There are bugs that are relatively harmless

Non-Essential Changes in Version Histories
D. Kawrykow and M. P. Robillard
[ICSE 2011]

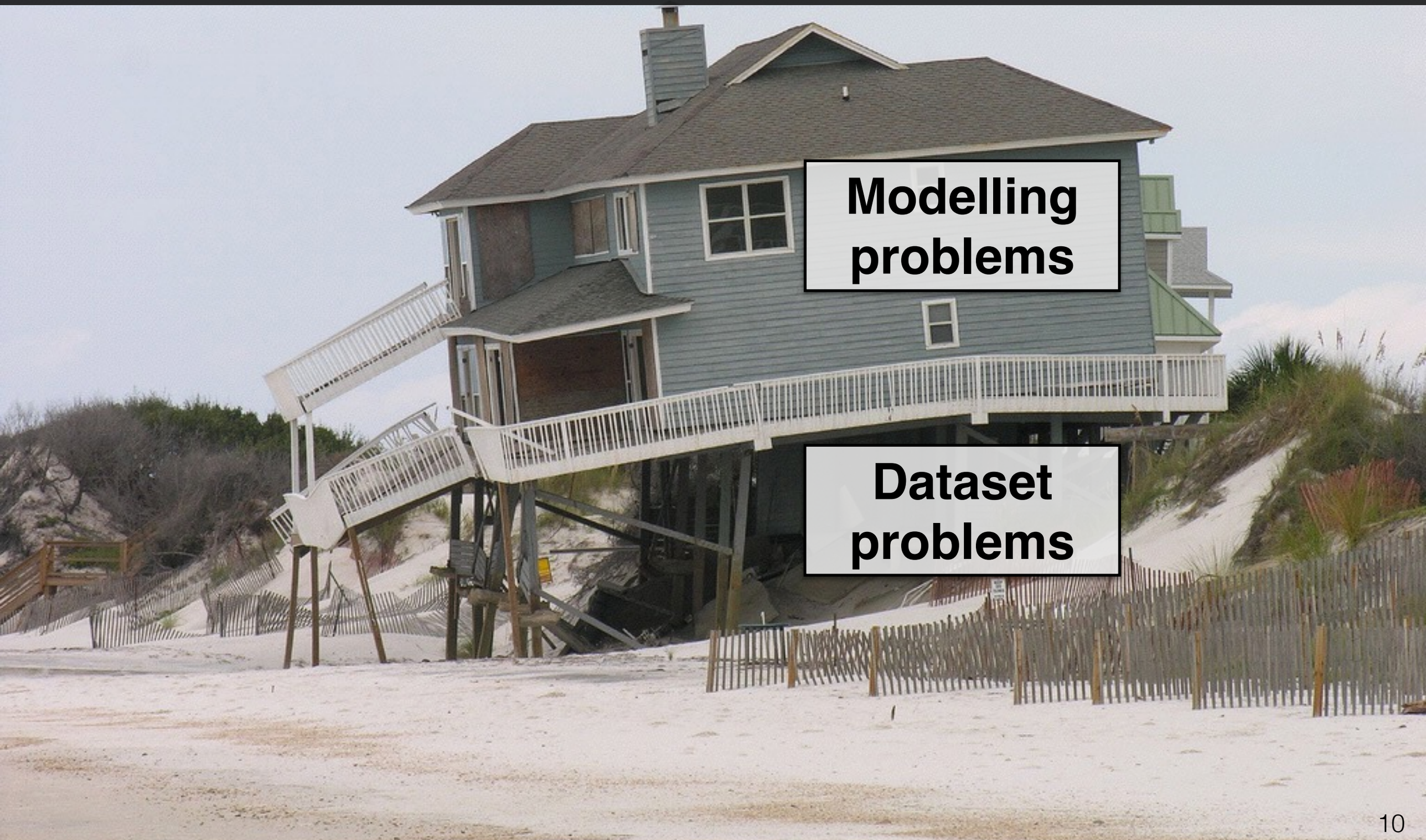
It's Not a Bug, It's a Feature: How Misclassification Impacts Bug Prediction
K. Herzig *et al.*
[ICSE 2013]

The Impact of Mislabelling on the Performance and Interpretation of Defect Prediction Models
C. Tantithamthavorn
[ICSE 2015]

There are bugs that threaten the core business of software organizations

High-Impact Defects: A Study of Breakage and Surprise Defects
E. Shihab *et al.*
[ESEC/FSE 2011]

Our models may be trained on unsound data



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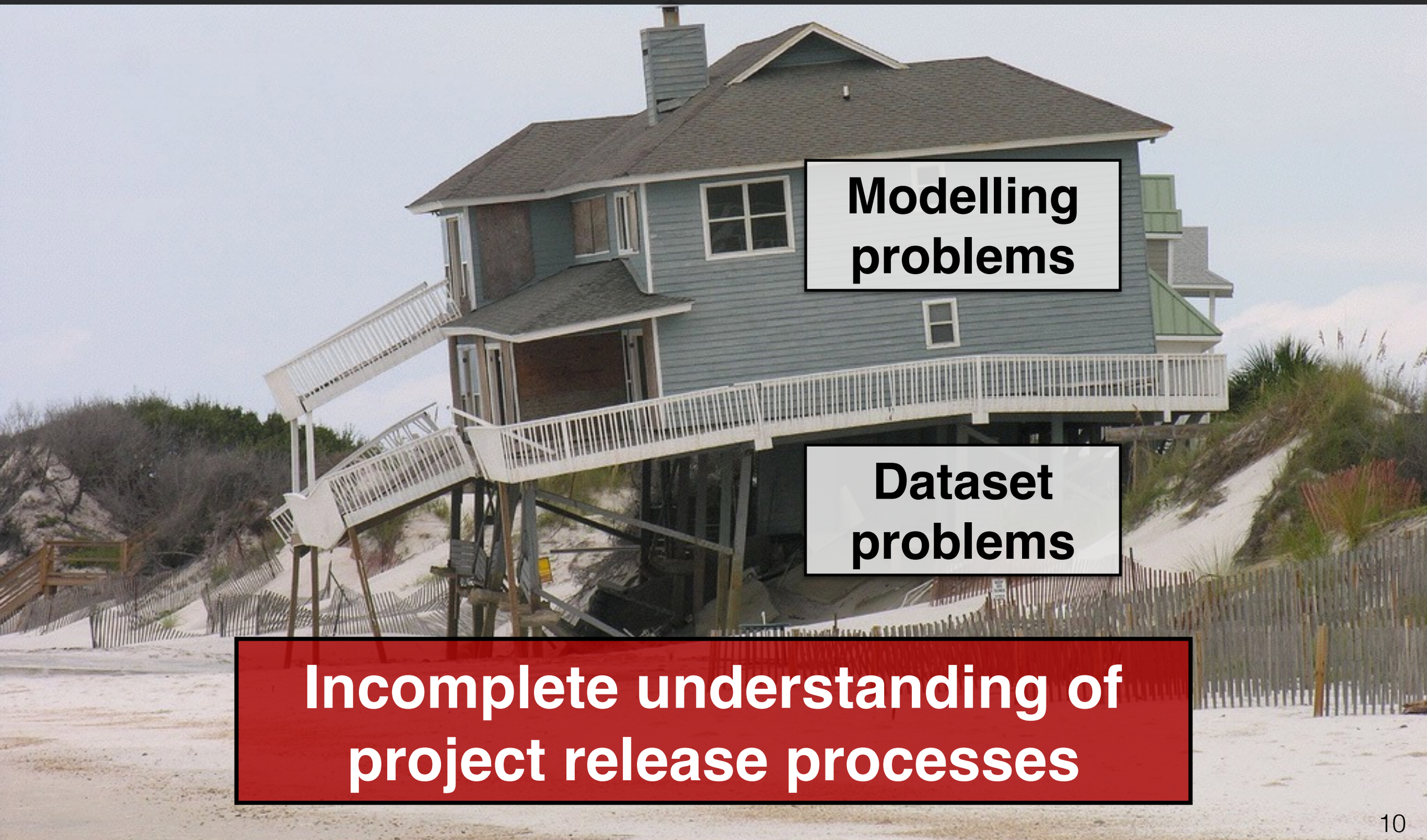

Release pipelines:
How organizations deliver new content

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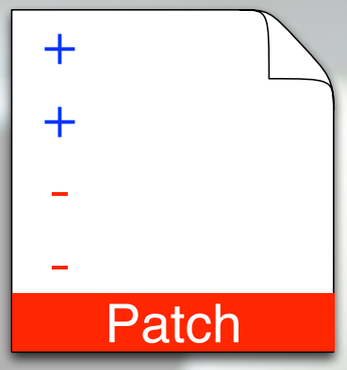

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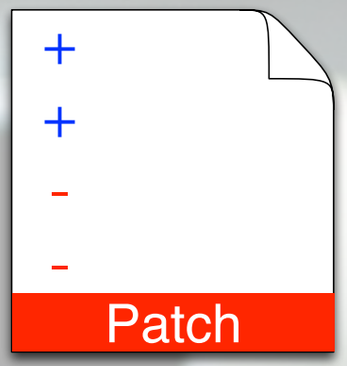
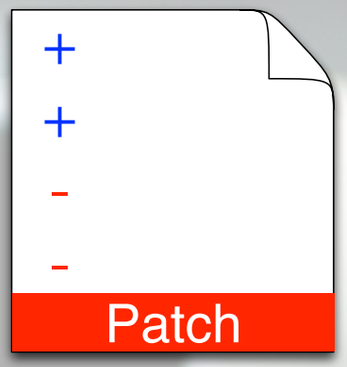


1. Integration

Release pipelines:
How organizations deliver new content



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2. Build

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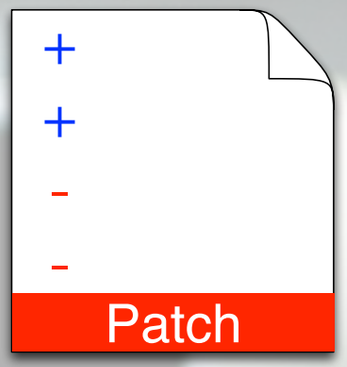
How organizations deliver new content



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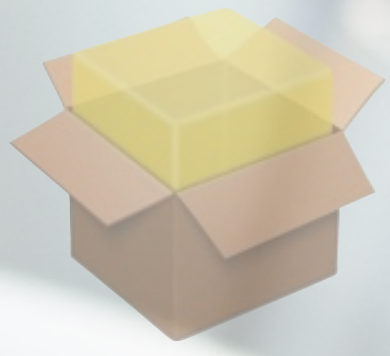


3. Deployment

Release pipelines:
How organizations deliver new content

1. Integration

2. Build

3. Deployment

New!

Release pipelines impact defect prediction datasets!

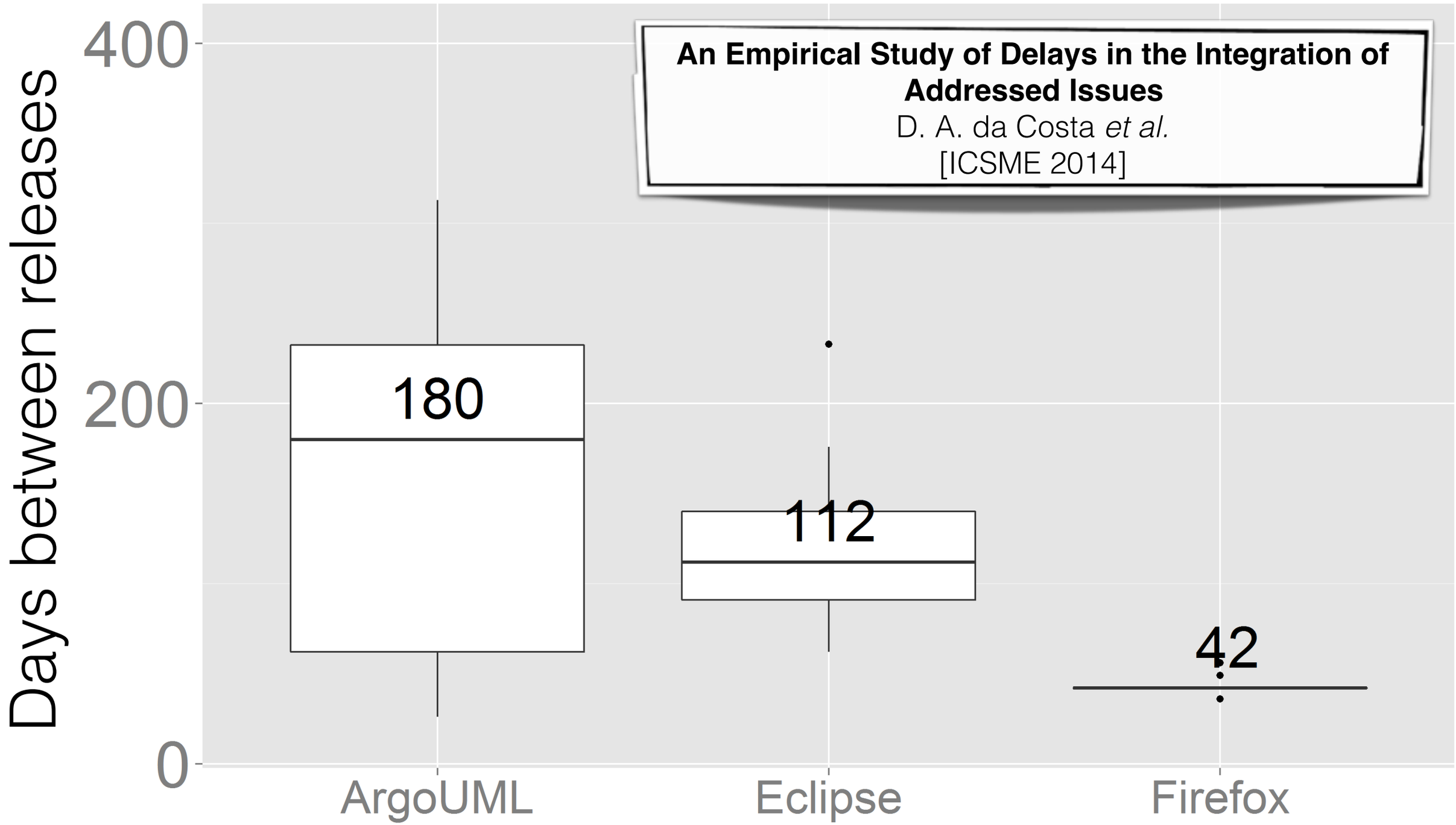
Harmful assumptions about release pipelines that can impact predictive modelling

Harmful assumptions about release pipelines that can impact predictive modelling

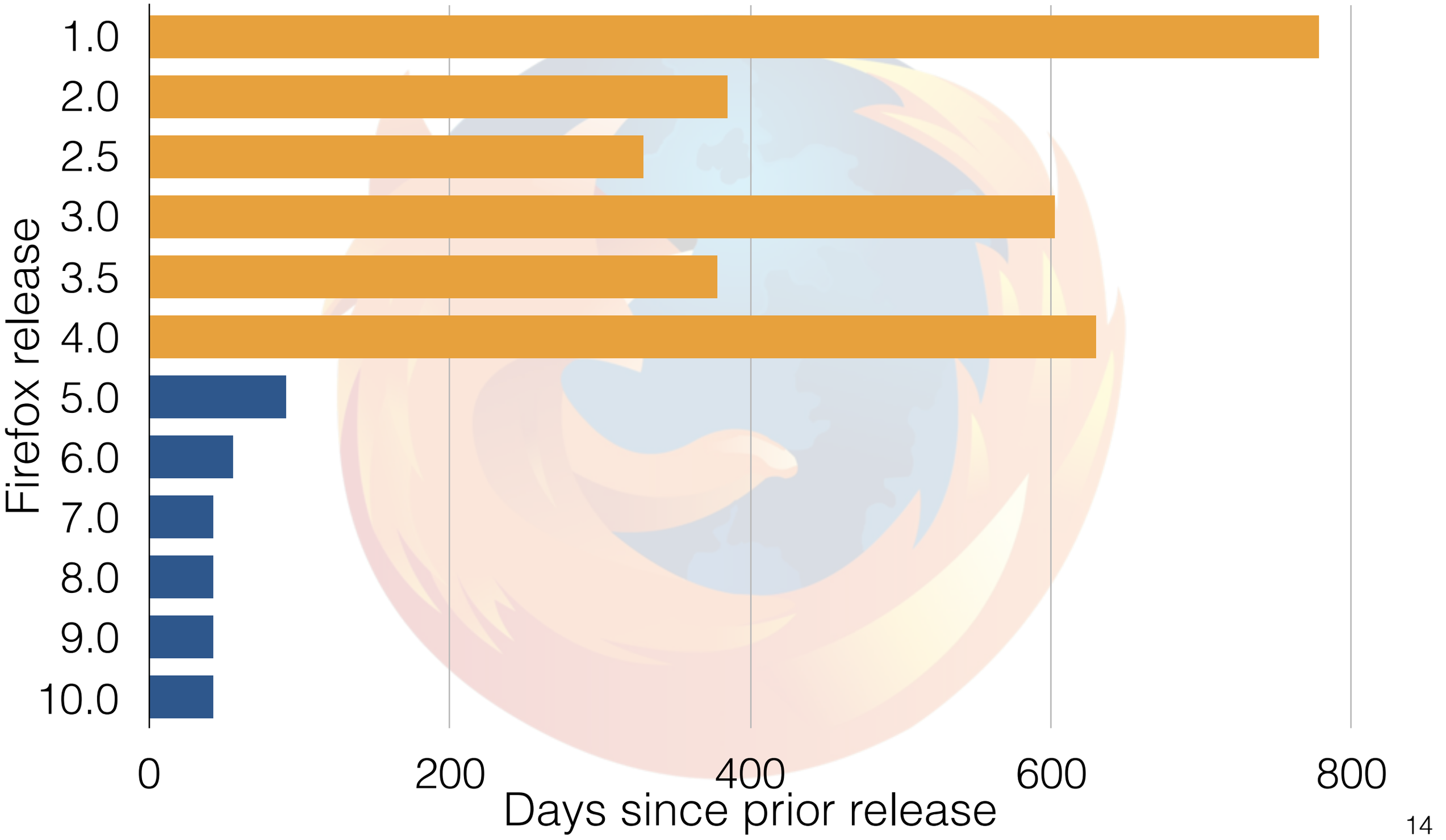
1. All releases are equal

Release cycles vary among popular studied systems

An Empirical Study of Delays in the Integration of Addressed Issues
D. A. da Costa *et al.*
[ICSME 2014]



Release cycles can even vary within systems!



The rapid release cycle of modern software systems

The rapid release cycle of modern software systems

Google

facebook

NETFLIX

salesforce

LinkedIn

Often release several times in one day!

Harmful assumptions about release pipelines that can impact predictive modelling

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Harmful assumptions about release pipelines that can impact predictive modelling

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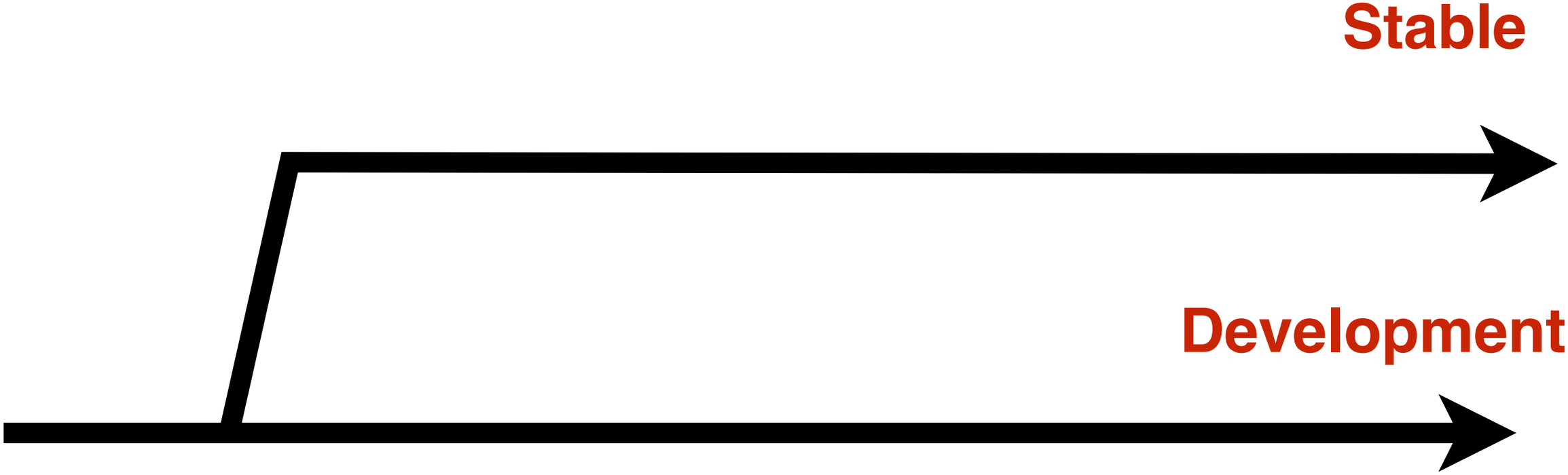
Handling the intricacies of a multi-branch release pipeline

Commit types

- Feature development
- Defect repairing
- Merge



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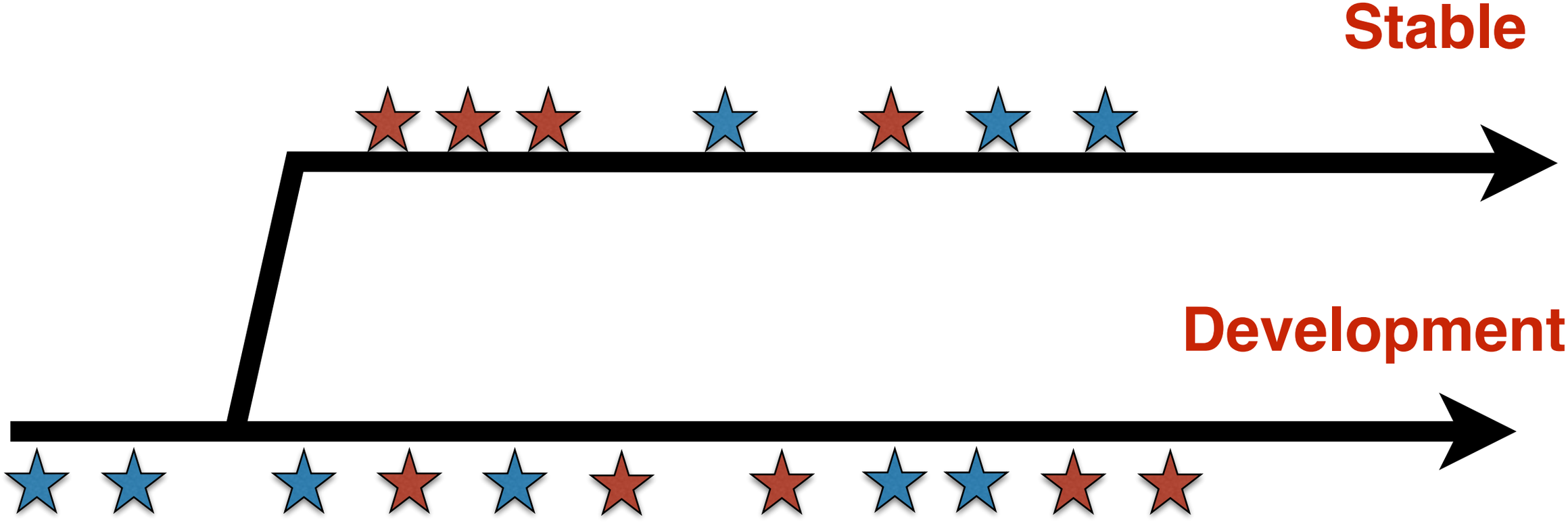

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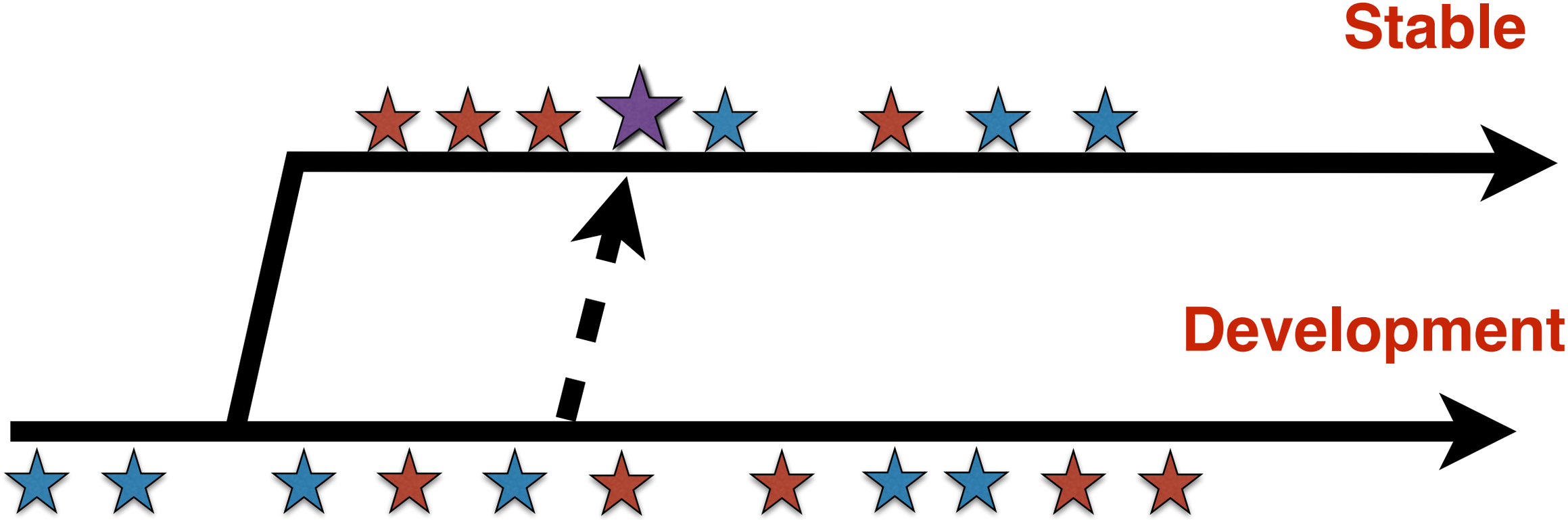

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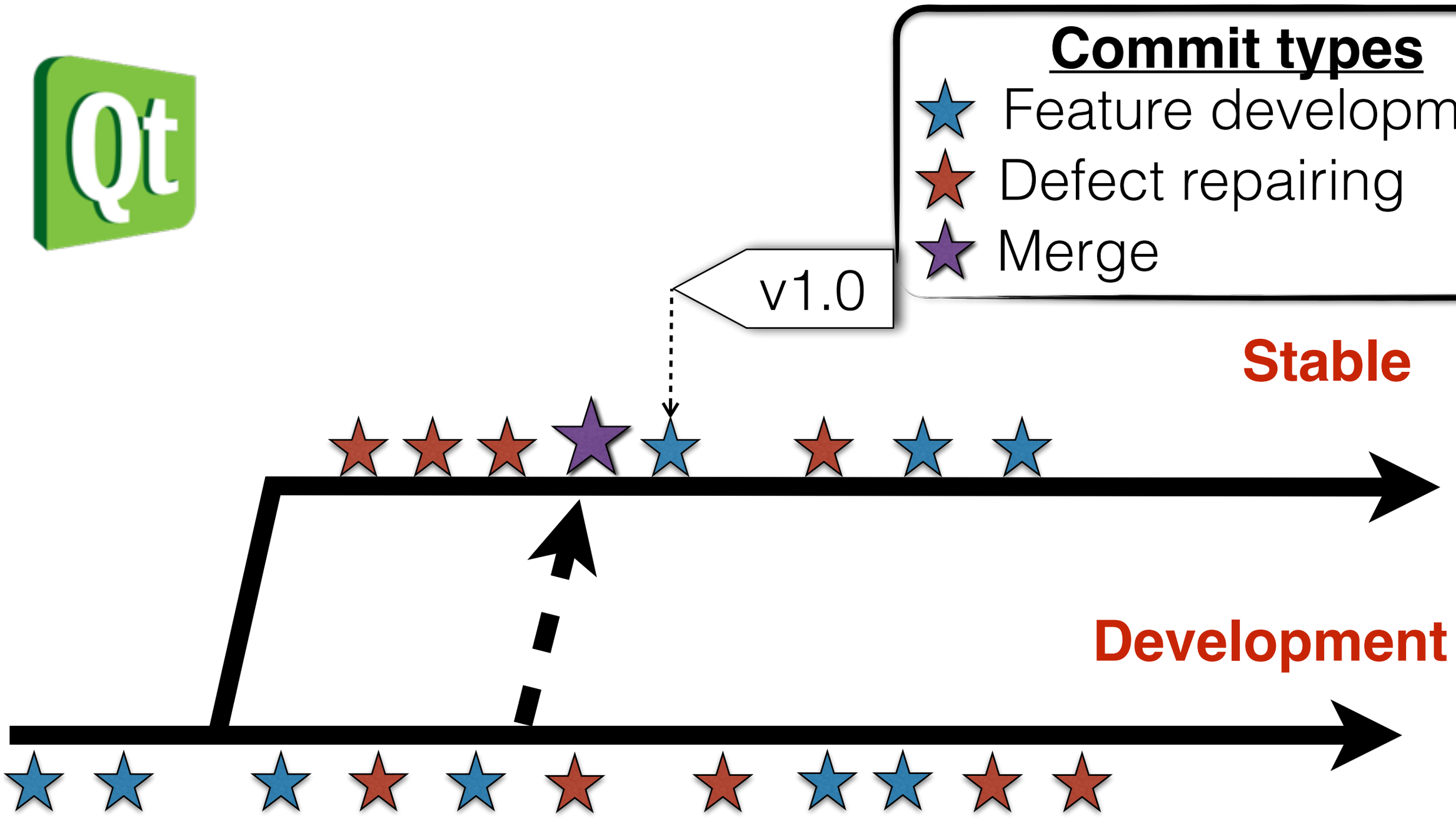

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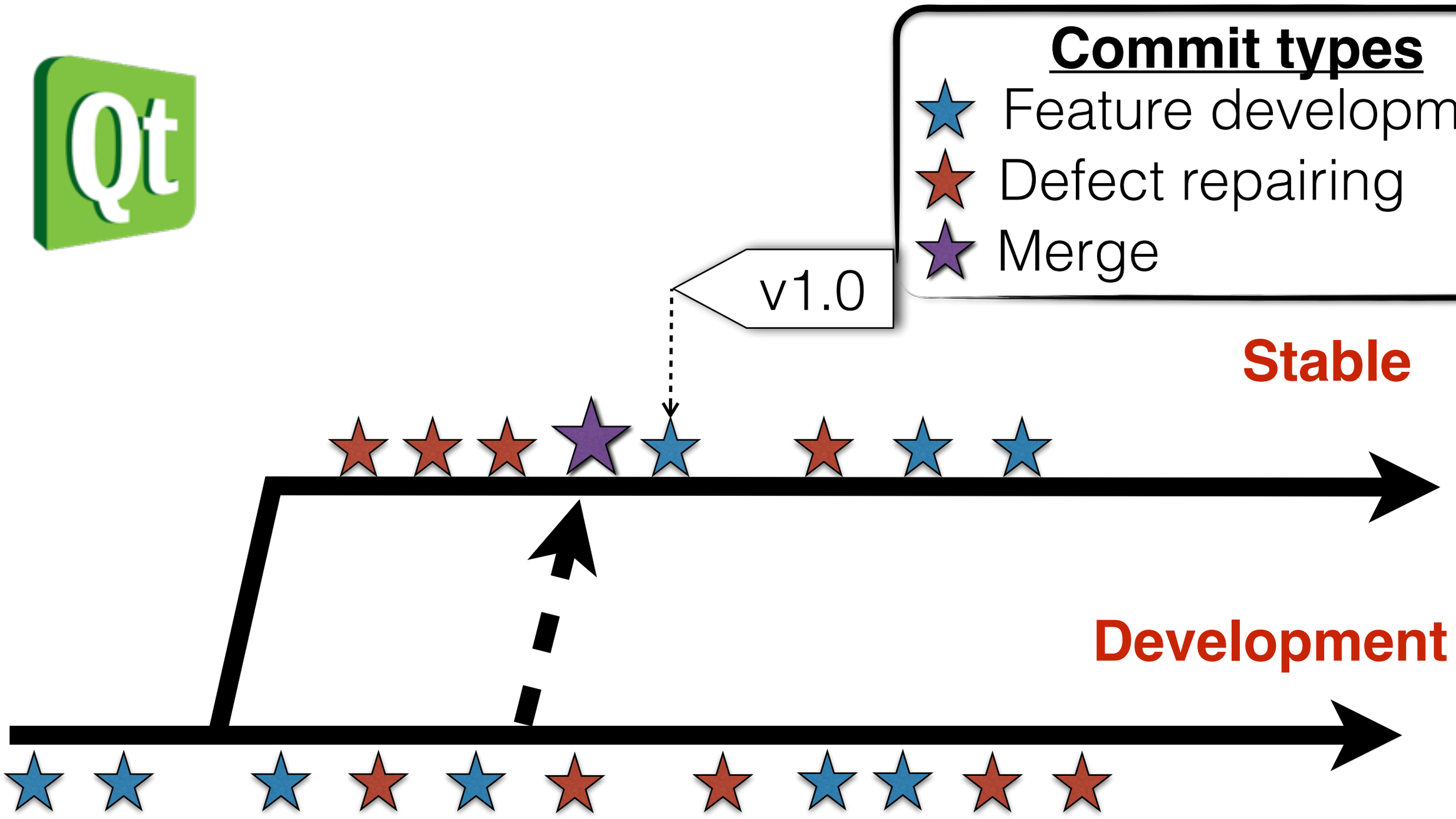

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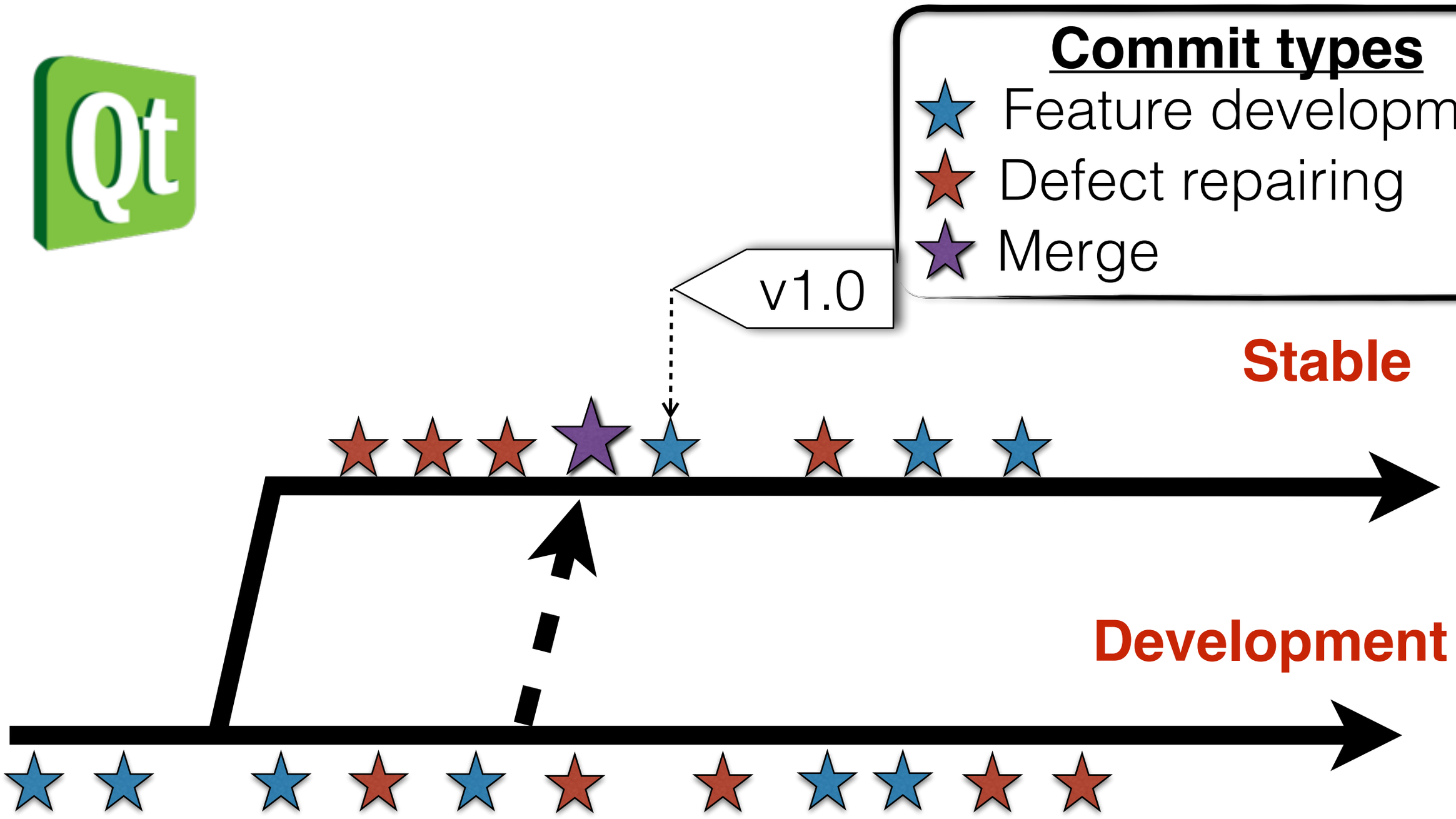

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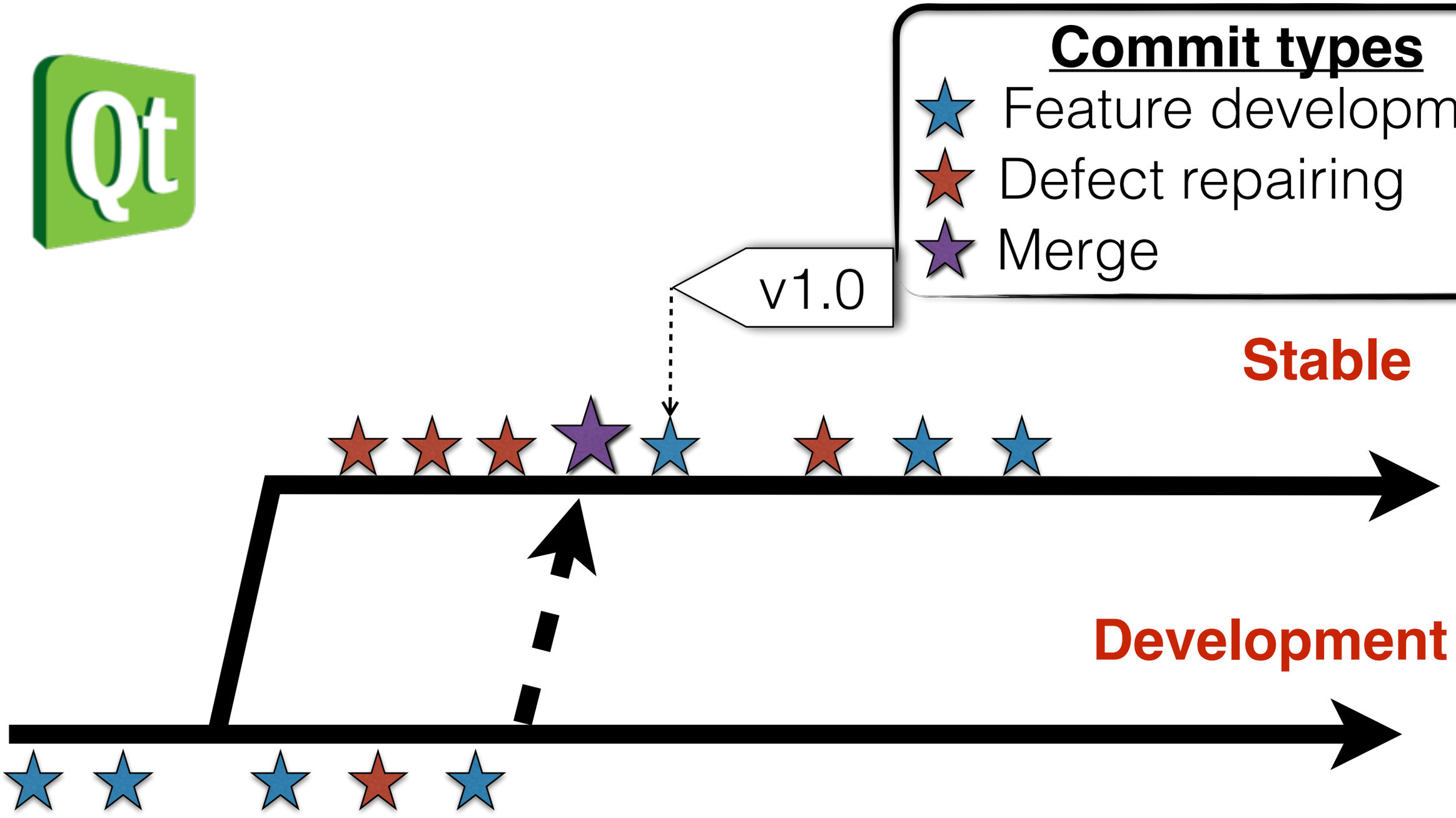

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Harmful assumptions about release pipelines that can impact predictive modelling

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Many files are conditionally included in deliverables

Package	Linux x64
	% Included
Aterm	49%
Opkg	92%
Bash	26%
CUPS	80%
Xalan	72%
OpenSSL	42%
FFmpeg	56%

Tracing Software Build Processes to Uncover License Compliance Inconsistencies
S. van der Berg *et al.*
[ASE 2014]

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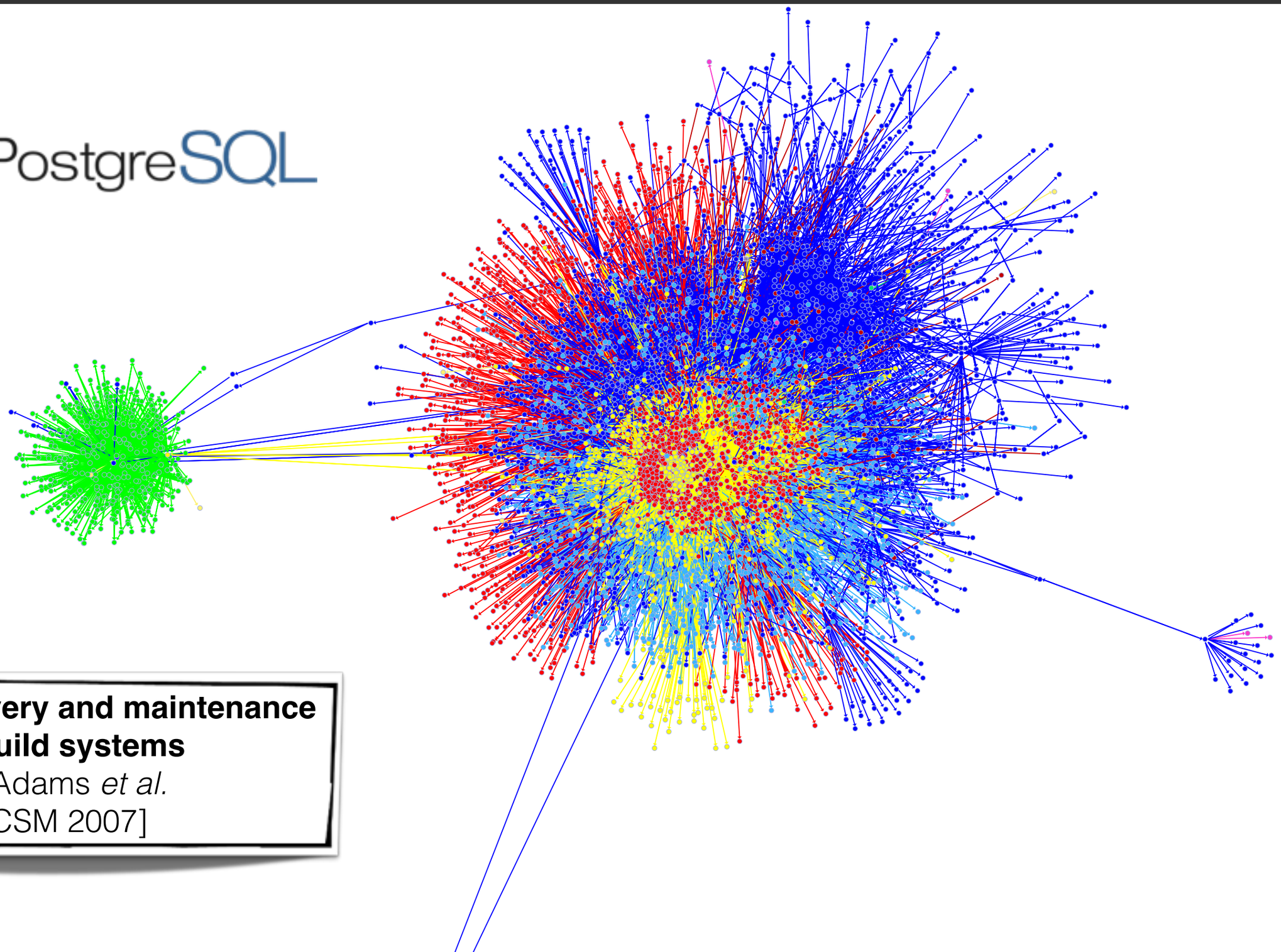
Fixes in these files may have a smaller impact (if any) on customers

Understanding conditionally included files using the build system



Design recovery and maintenance of build systems
B. Adams *et al.*
[ICSM 2007]

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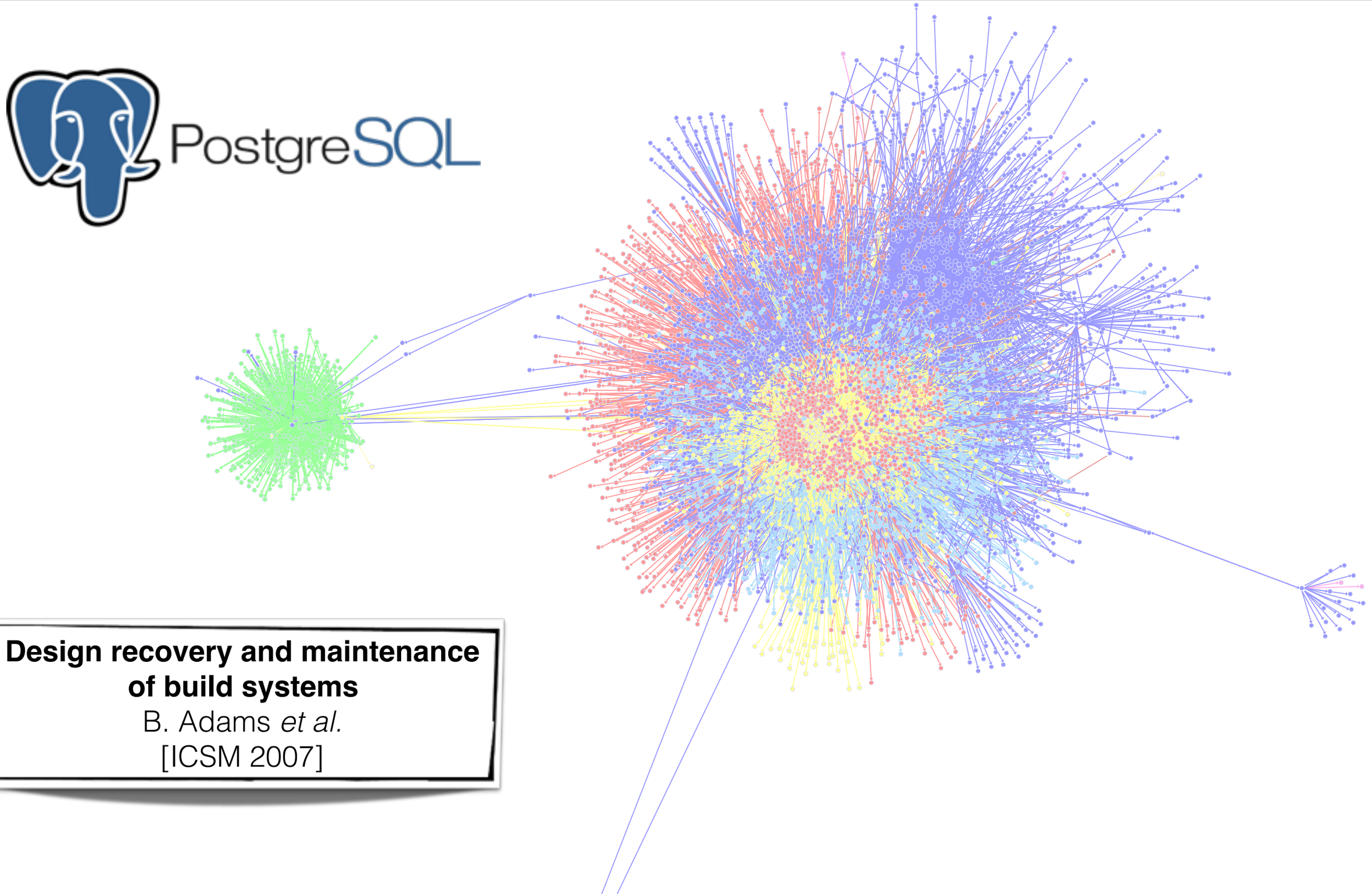

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but some are more equal than others

My nightmare

Amassing and indexing a large sample of version control systems
Audris Mockus
[MSR 2009]

The GHTorent Dataset and Tool Suite
G. Gousios
[MSR 2013]

Boa: a language and infrastructure for analyzing ultra-large-scale software repositories
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We collect all of the data in the world, but it's meaningless without context!

Integration

Risk assessment

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Build

Build optimization

Integration

Risk assessment

Build

Build optimization

Deployment

Smarter deployment tooling

Integration

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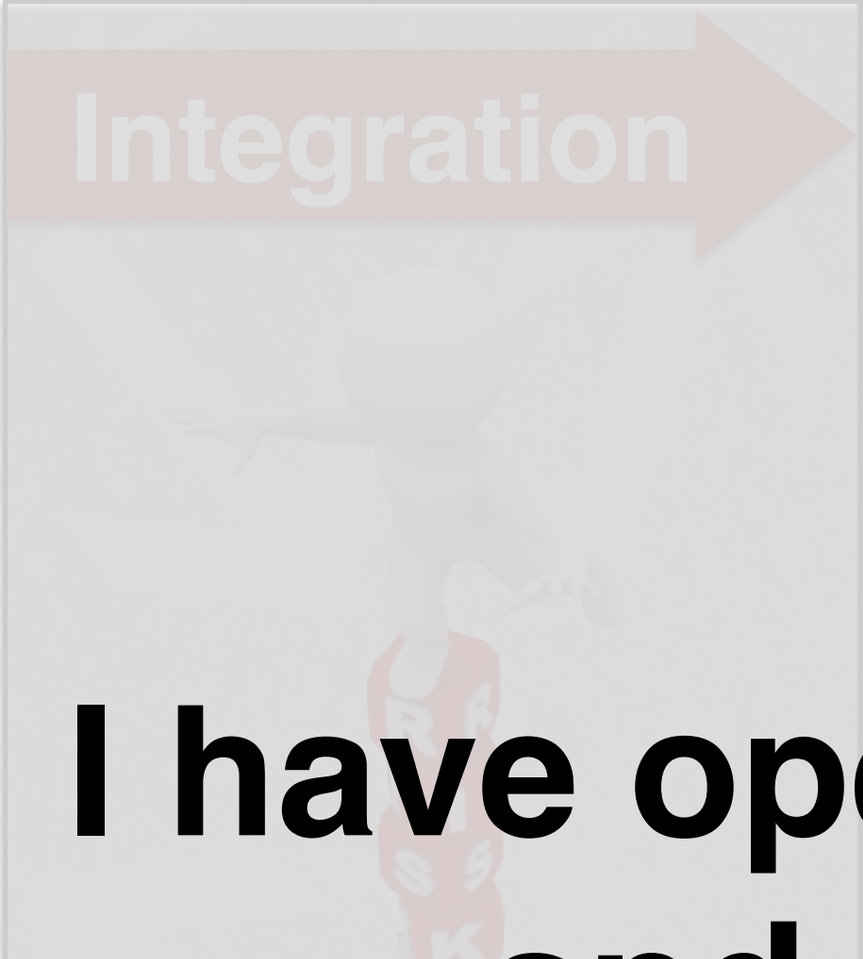
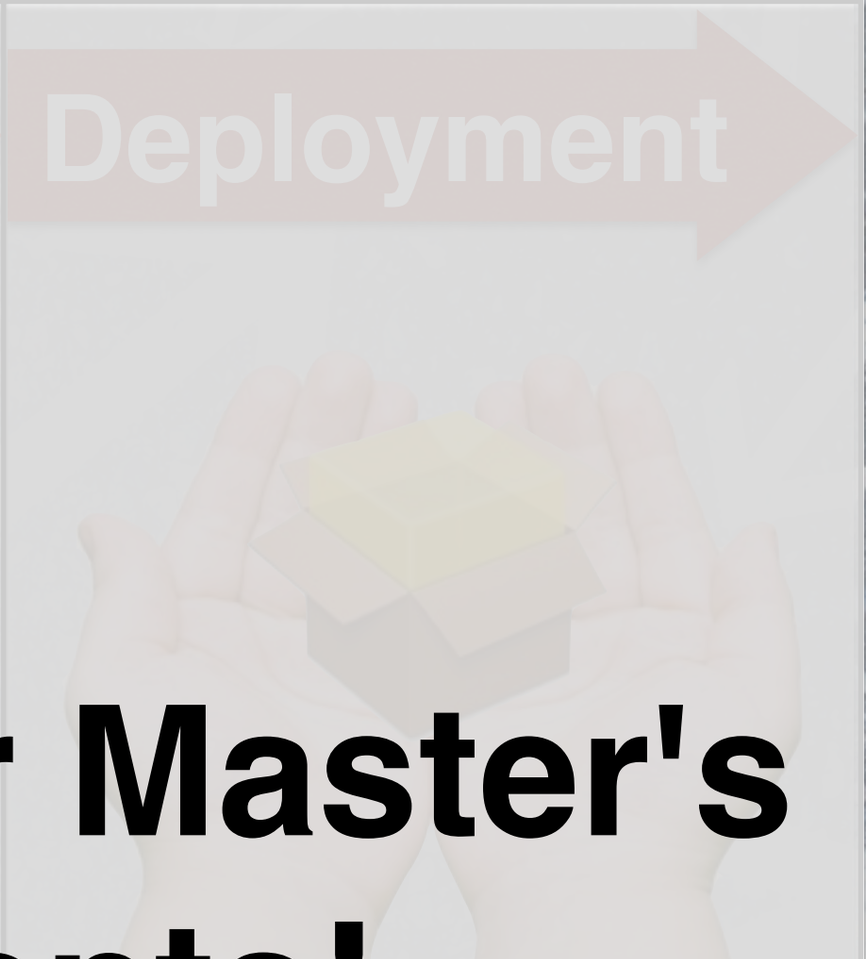
Deployment





I have openings for Master's and PhD students!

Risk assessment

Build optimization

Smarter deployment tooling

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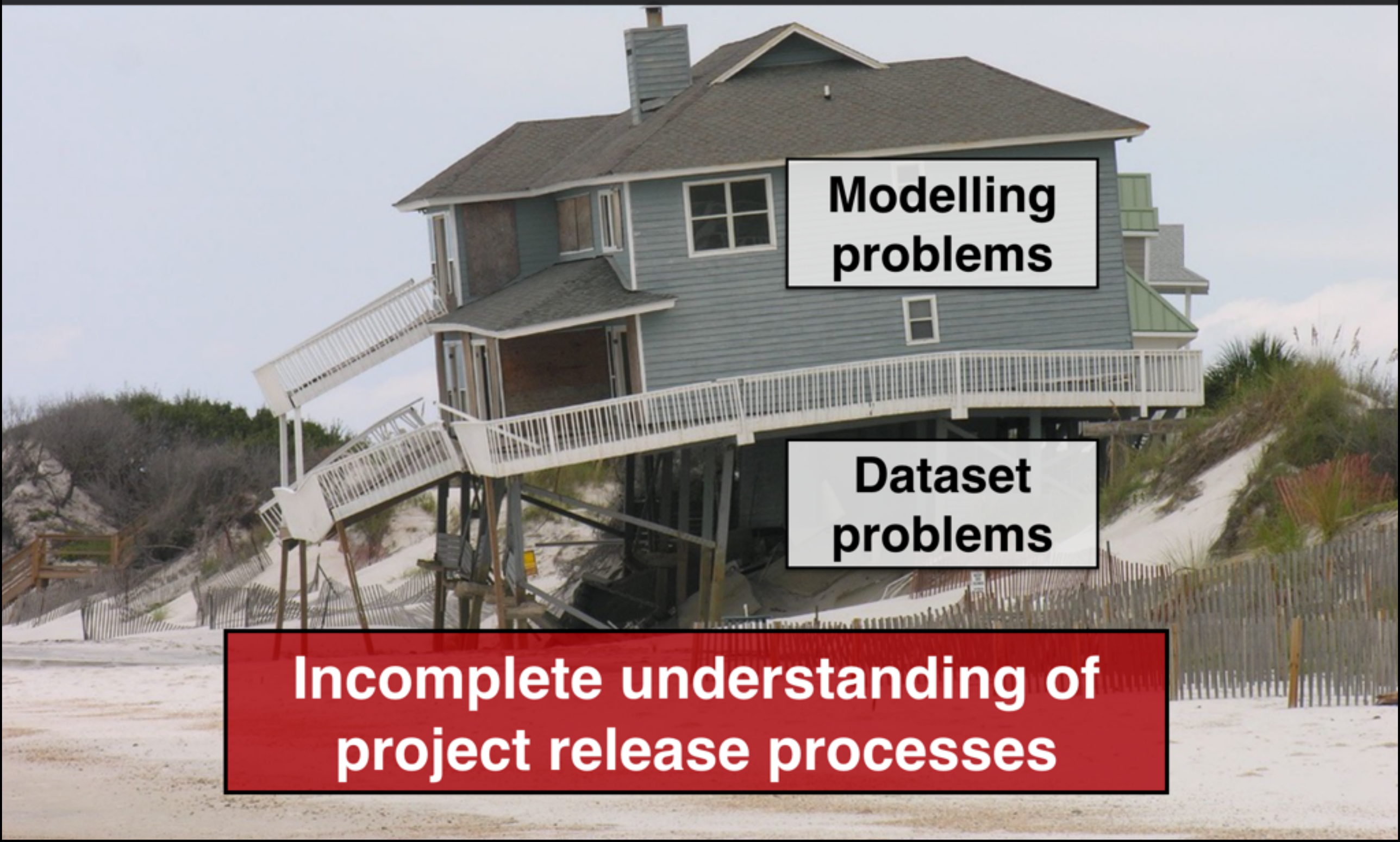

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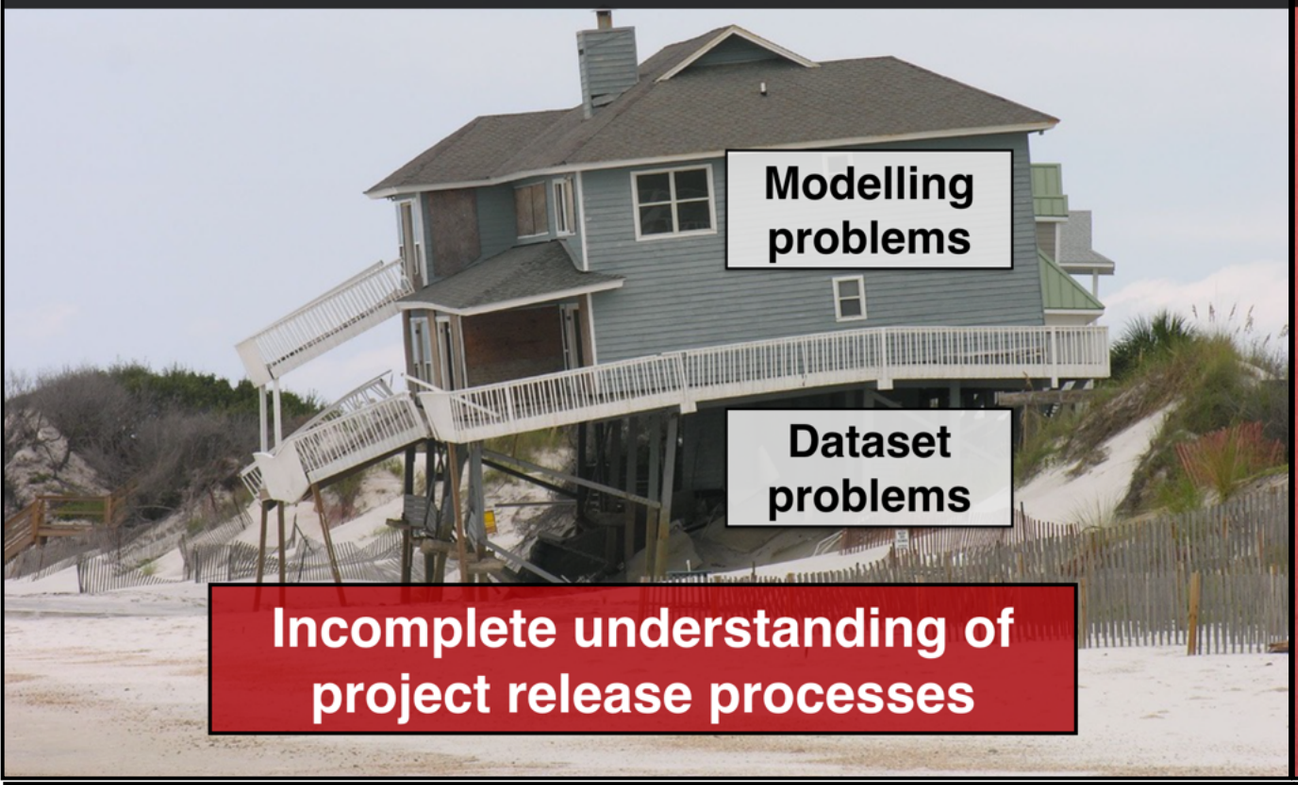

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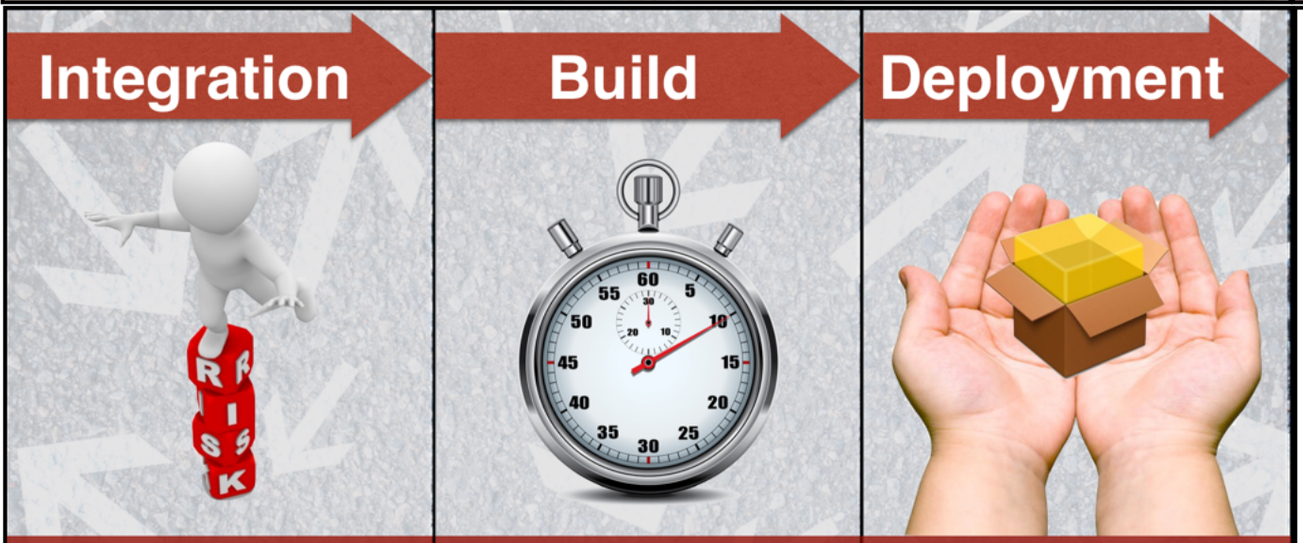

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