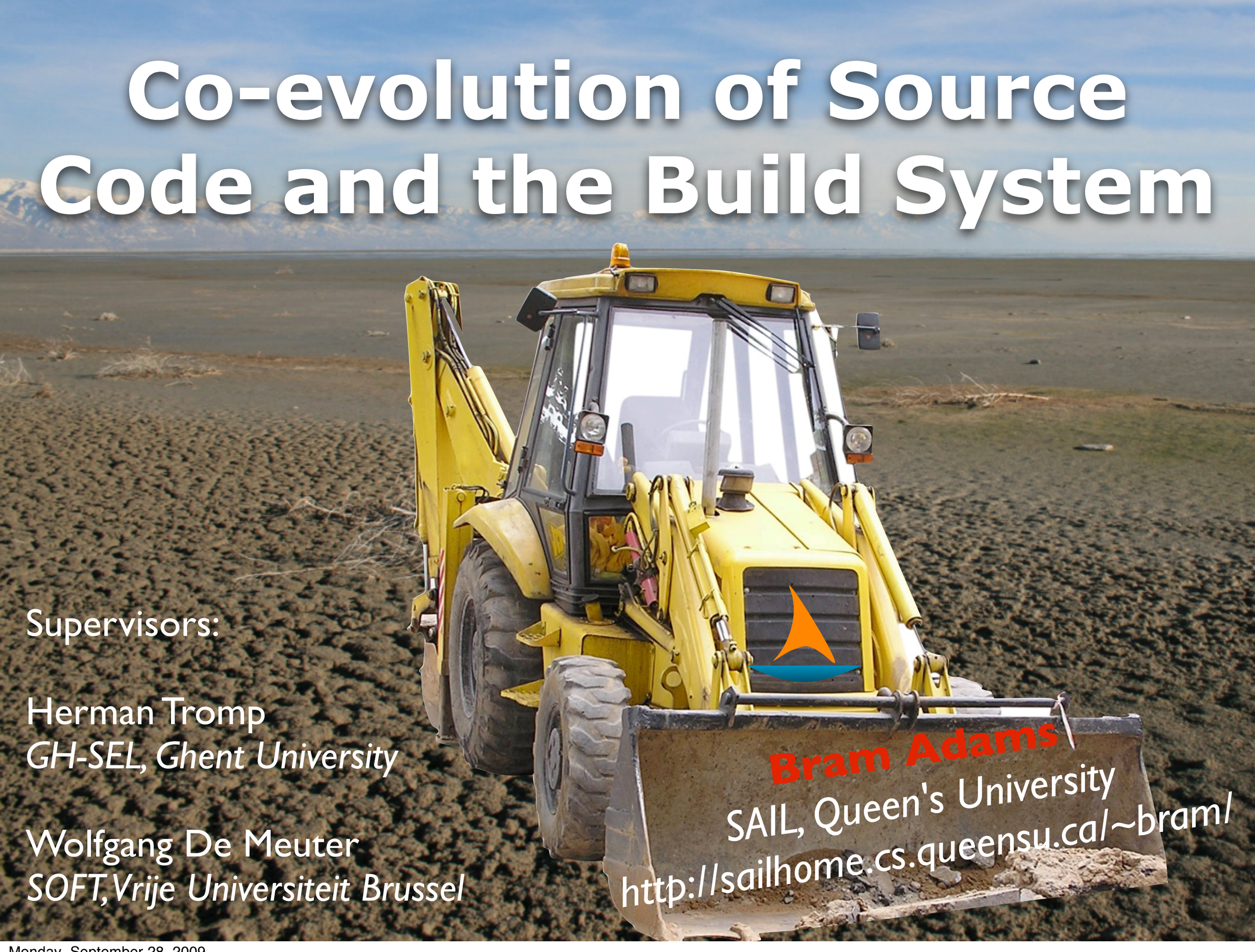
# Co-evolution of Source Code and the Build System




Supervisors:

Herman Tromp
*GH-SEL, Ghent University*

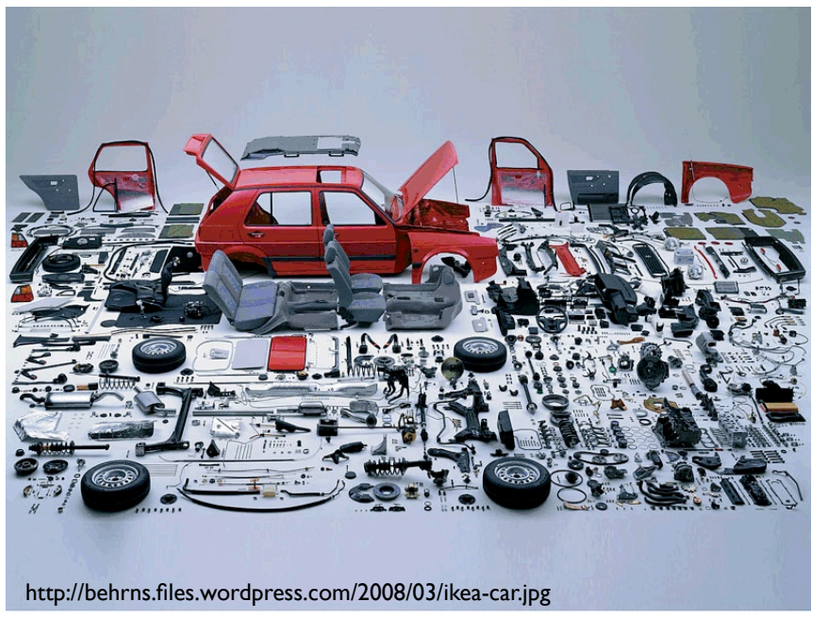
Wolfgang De Meuter
*SOFT, Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

**Bram Adams**
SAIL, Queen's University
http://sailhome.cs.queensu.ca/~bram/

Source code and build system
**co-evolve**.

We need tools and techniques to
**understand**
this co-evolution.

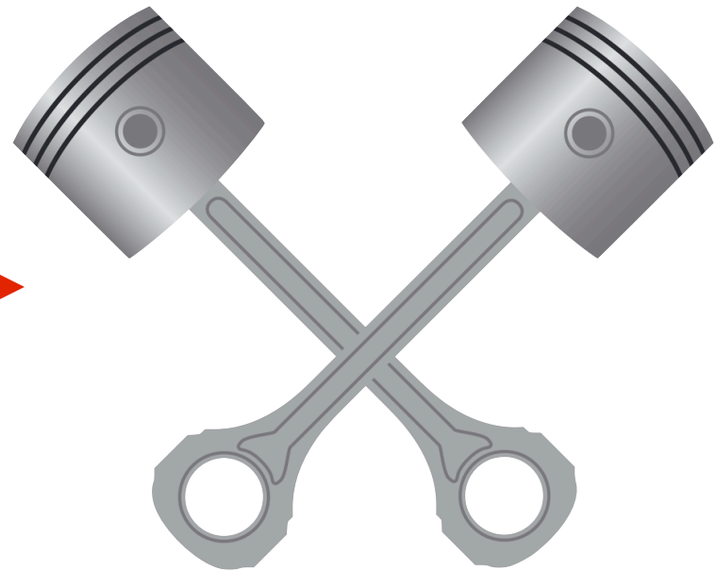
# Building a Car


http://behrns.files.wordpress.com/2008/03/ikea-car.jpg

?

# Building a Car: Configuration

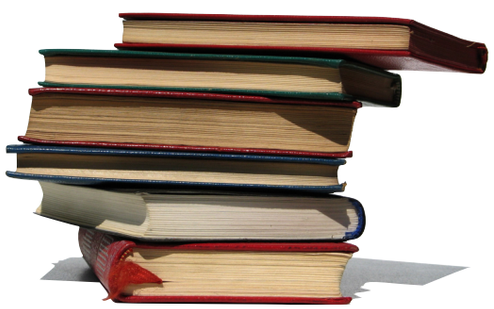
1. features



2. tools

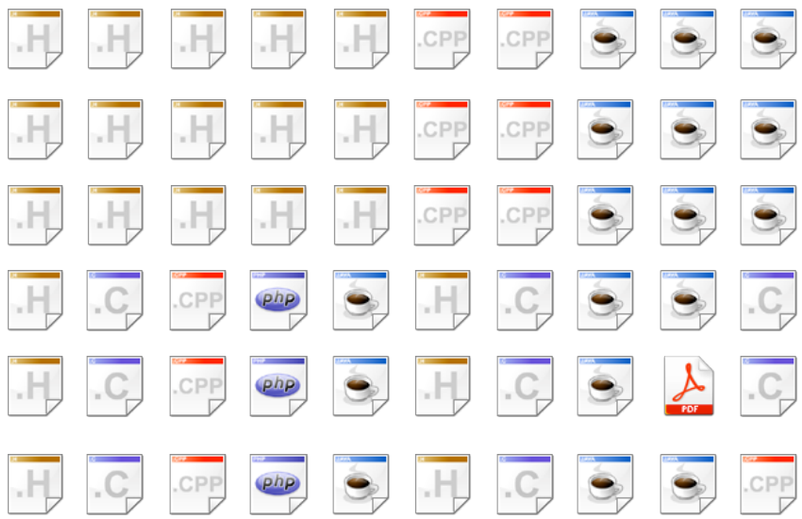

# Building a Car: Actual Building

1. prescriptions

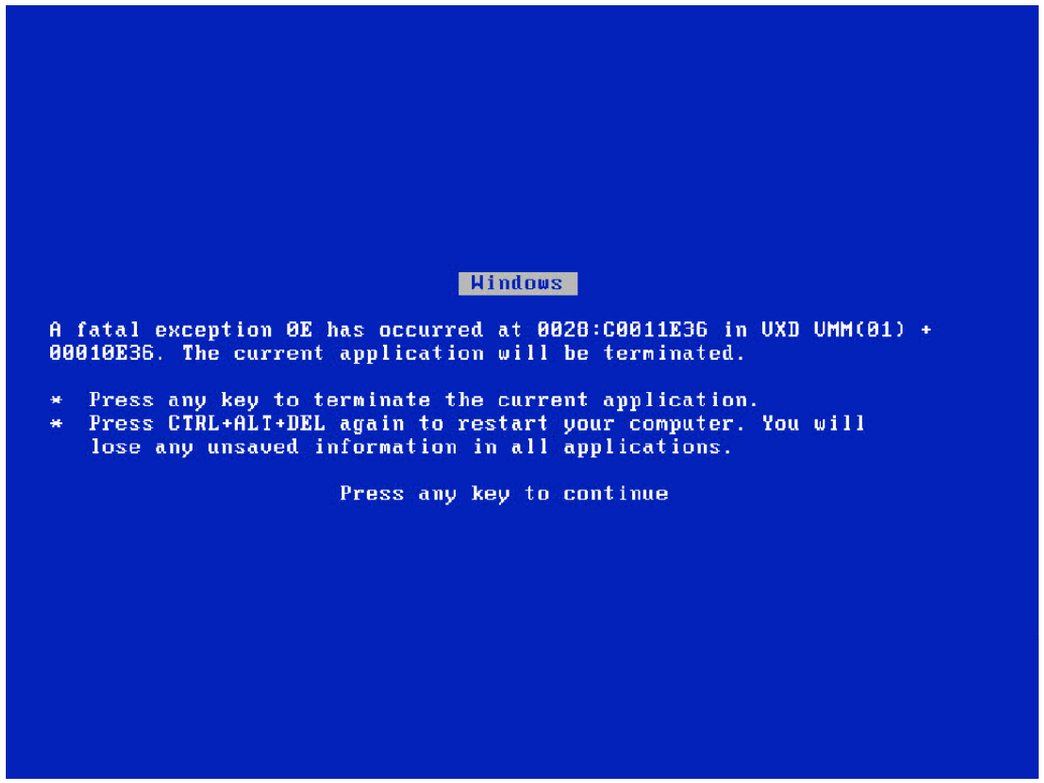


2. dependencies

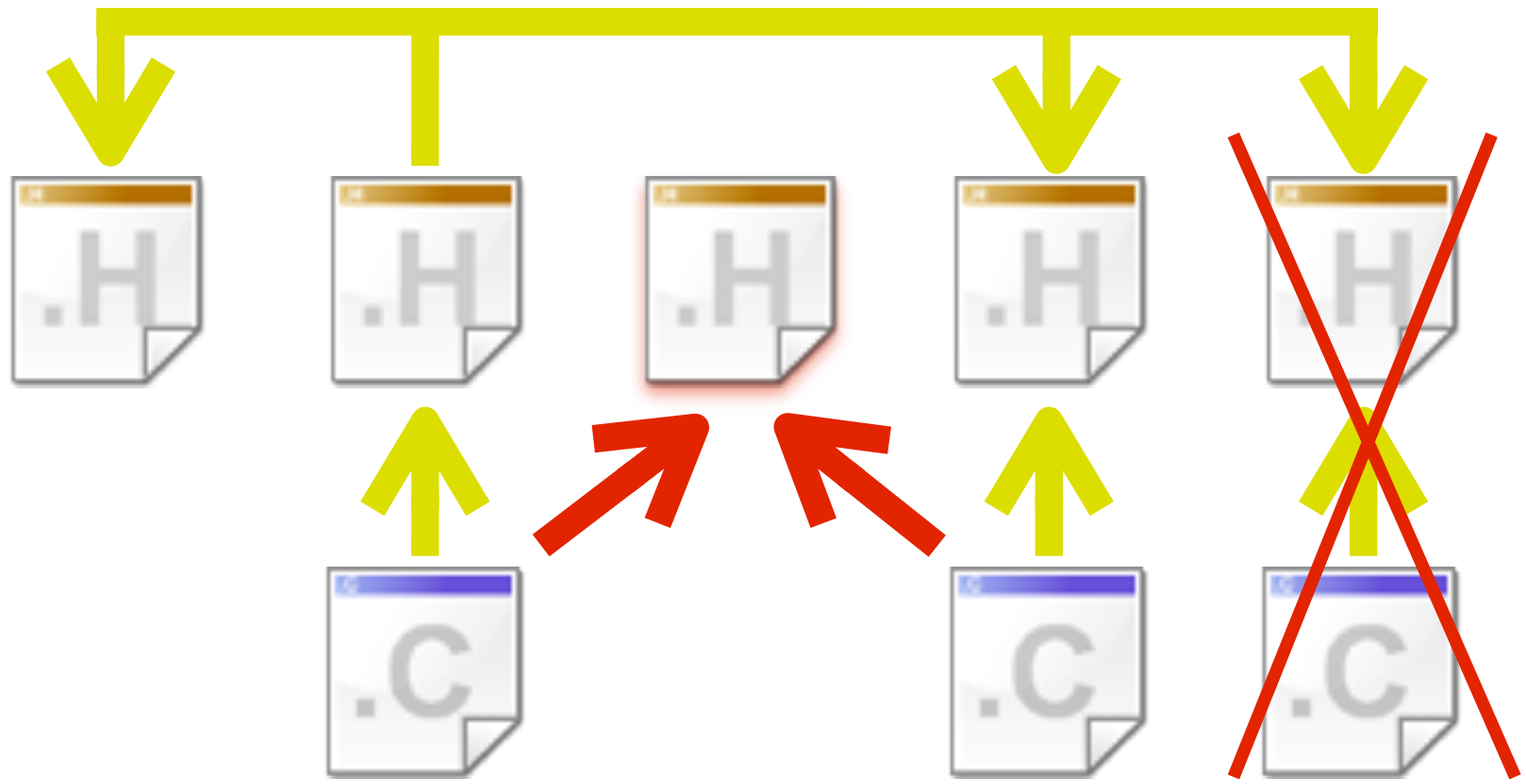
# Building Software



?

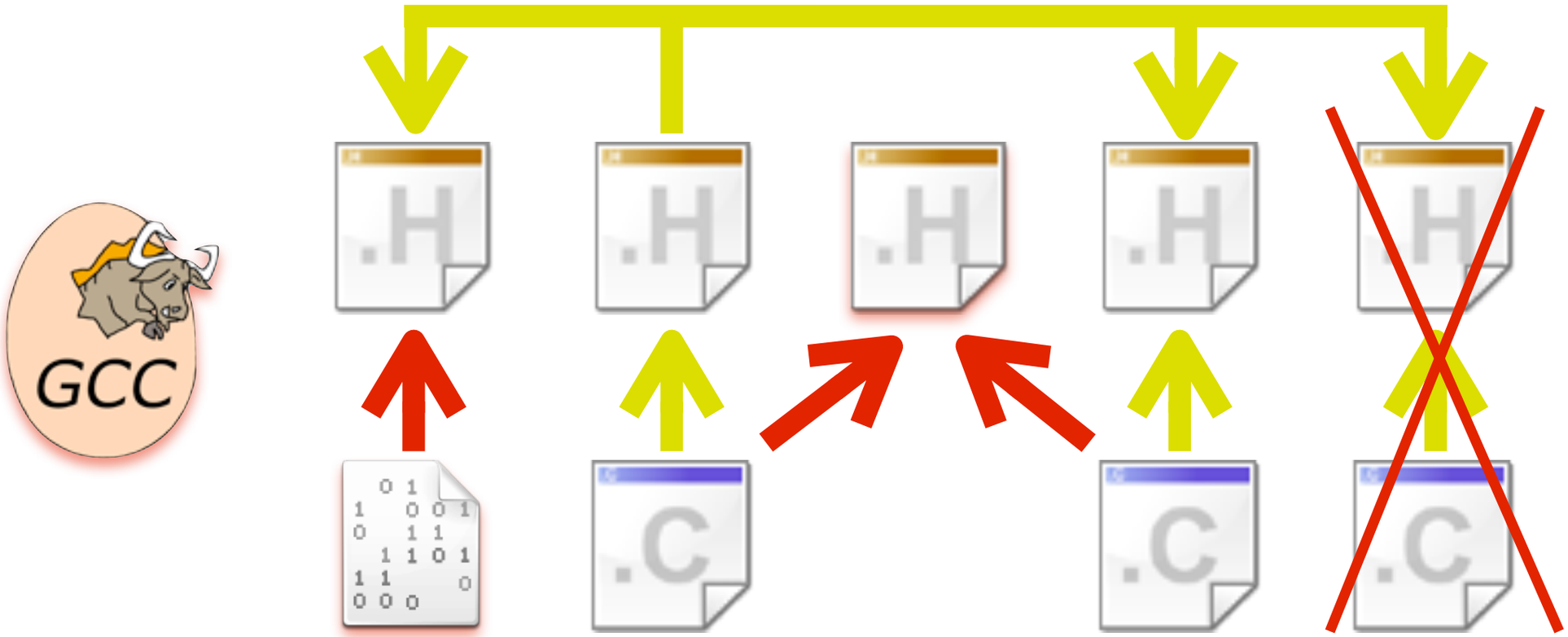


# Configuration Layer




1. features

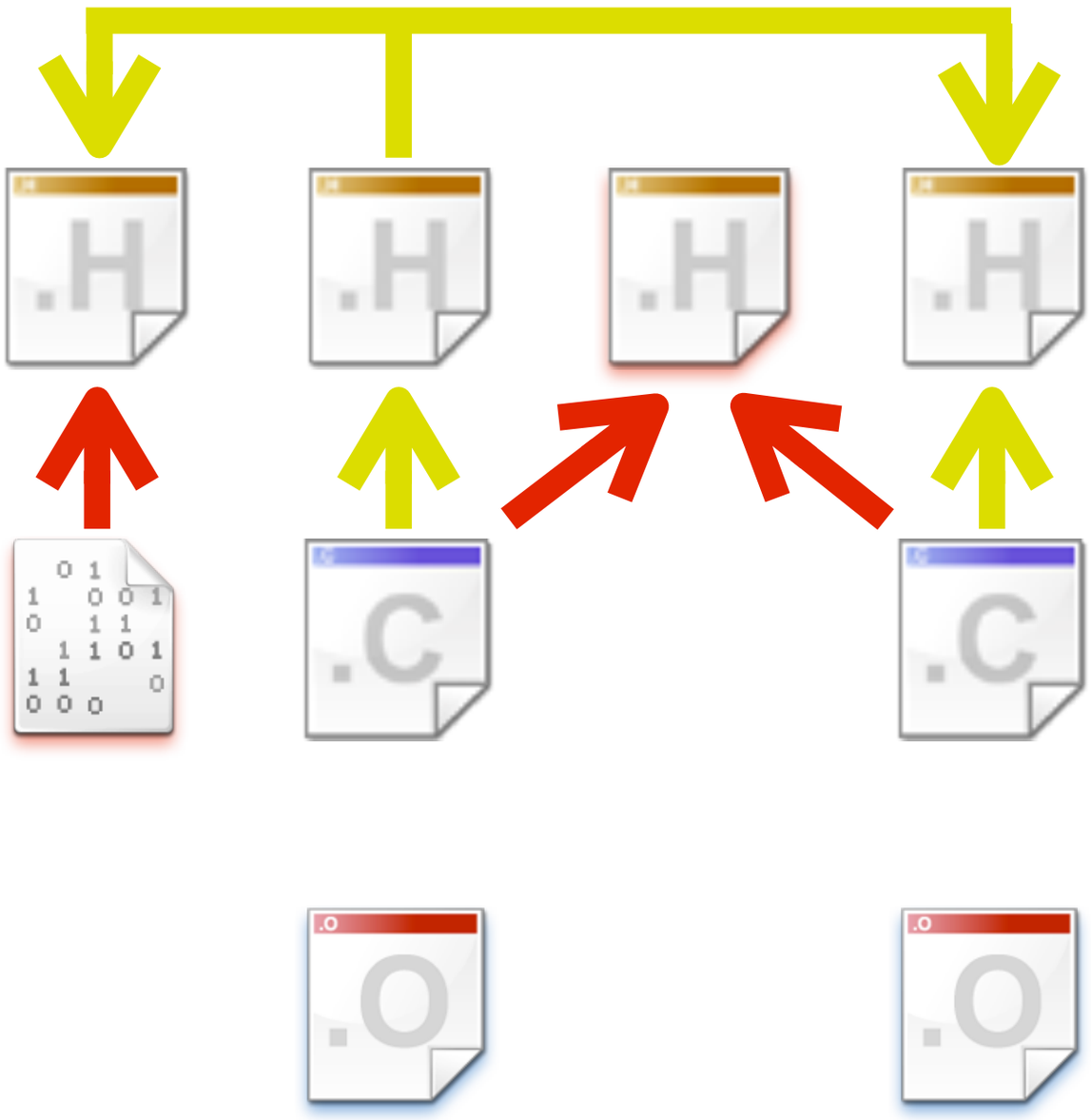
# Configuration Layer




1. features

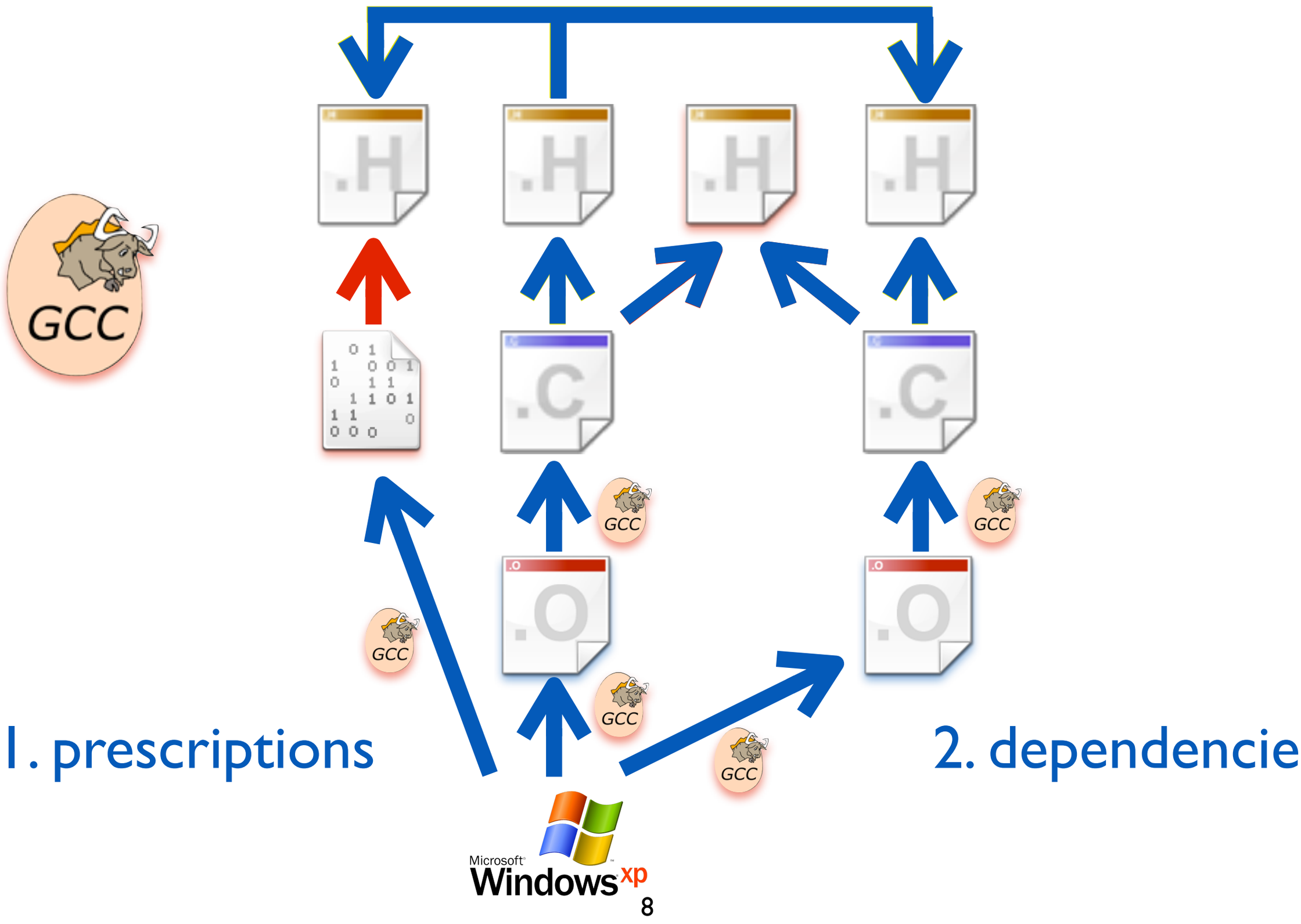
2. tools

# Build Layer

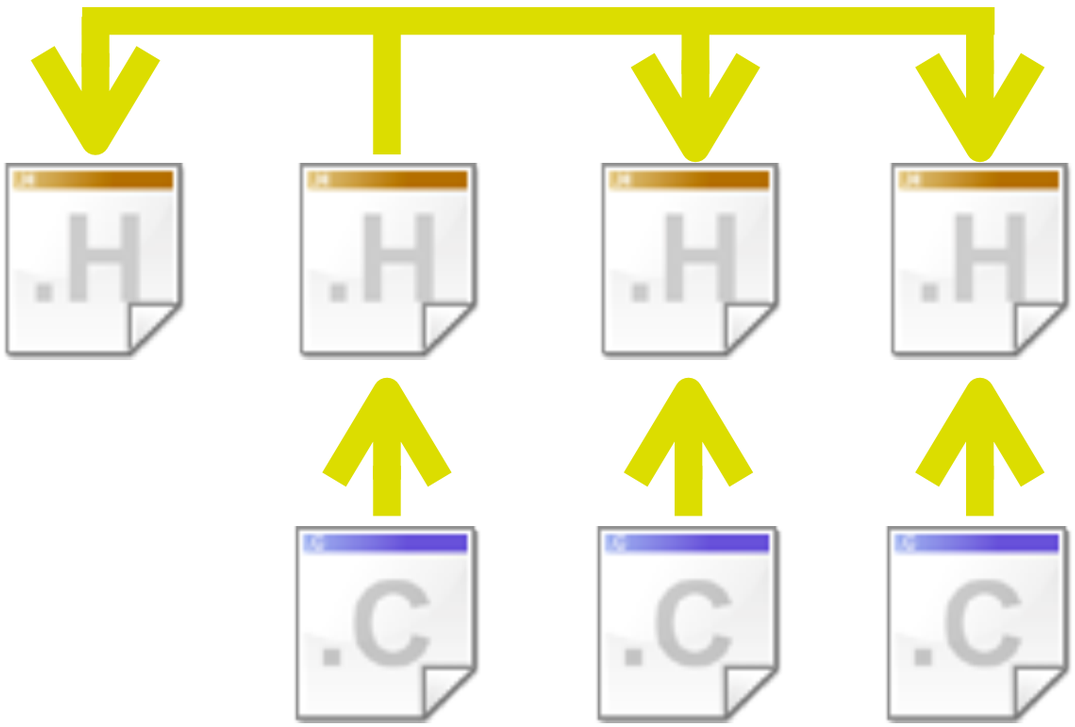

1. prescriptions

# Build Layer




1. prescriptions

2. dependencies

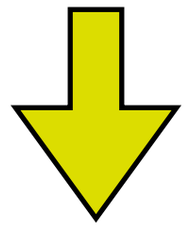


# Source Code

# Build System

# Component Reuse

Mozilla Suite



source code **reuse**

Thunderbird

Gecko

Camino

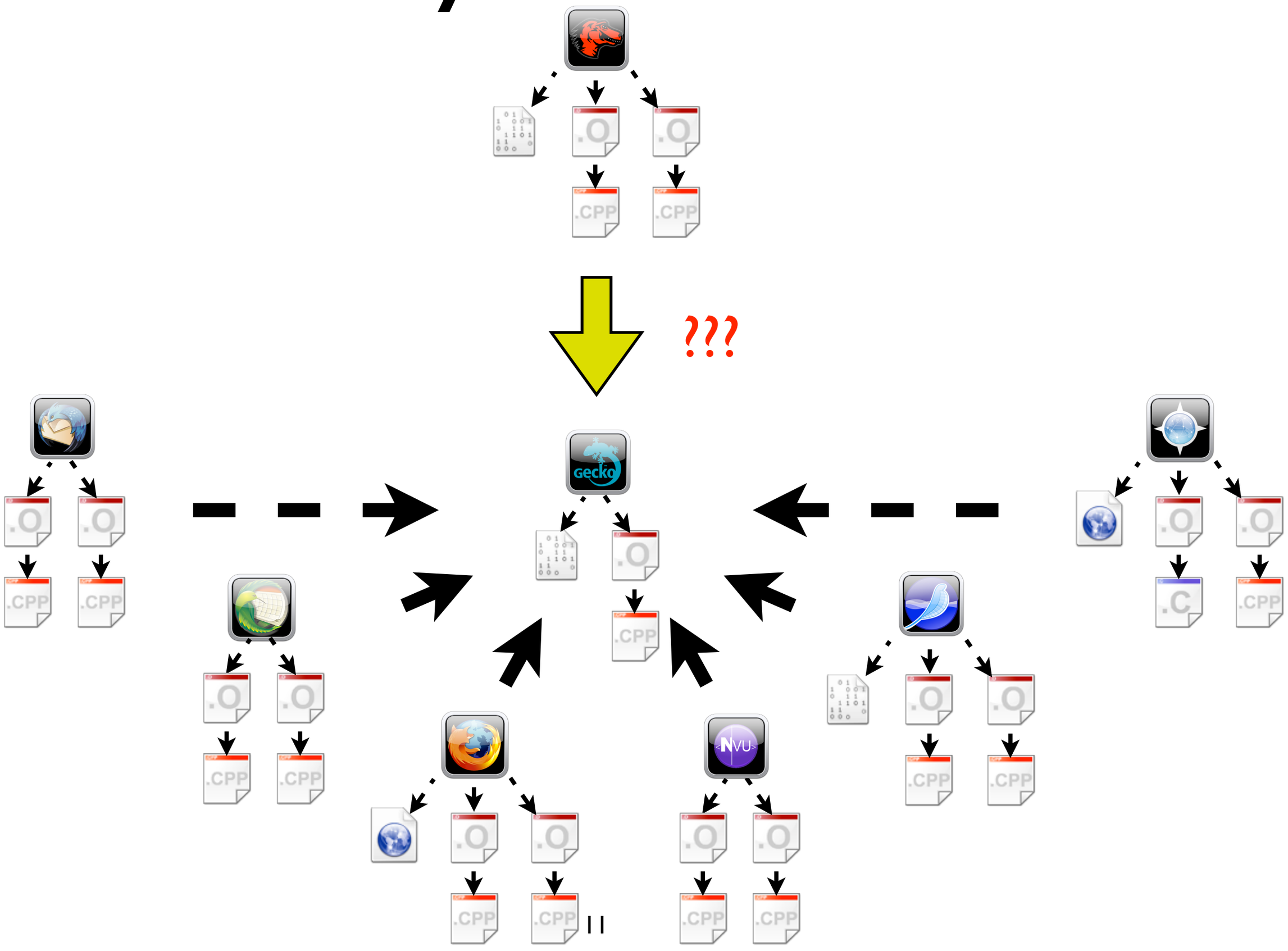
Sunbird

Firefox

SeaMonkey

NVU

# Build System Reuse?

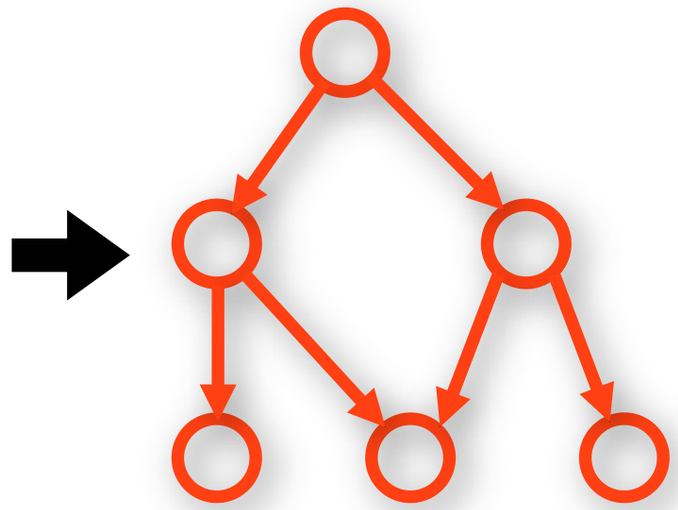


Source code and build system
**co-evolve**.

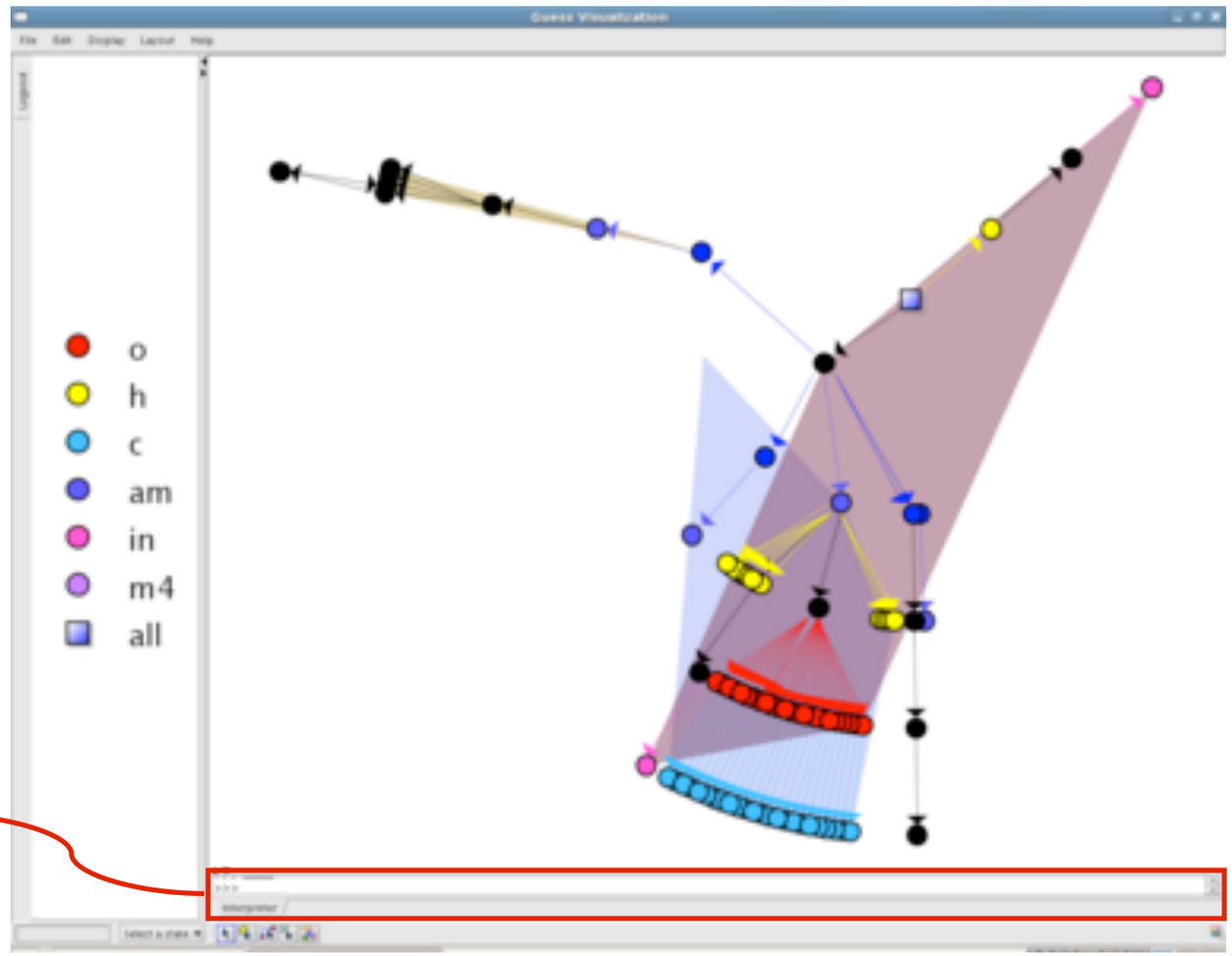
We need tools and techniques to
**understand**
this co-evolution.

1. Research Hypothesis
2. Tool Support to Understand Build Systems
3. Evolution of Linux Kernel Build System
4. Conceptual Reasons of Co-evolution
5. The Pitfalls of PhD Research
6. Conclusion

# Understanding the Build System



MAKAO




**embedded Gython**


[ICSM '07]

Guess Visualization

File Edit Display Layout Help

o
a
h
c
dylib

# Quake 3

server

game logic

client UI

client renderer

quake3.exe

network

d(a)emon

>>>
>>>

Guess Visualization

File Edit Display Layout Help

# Quake 3

conditional compilation

original game

expansion pack

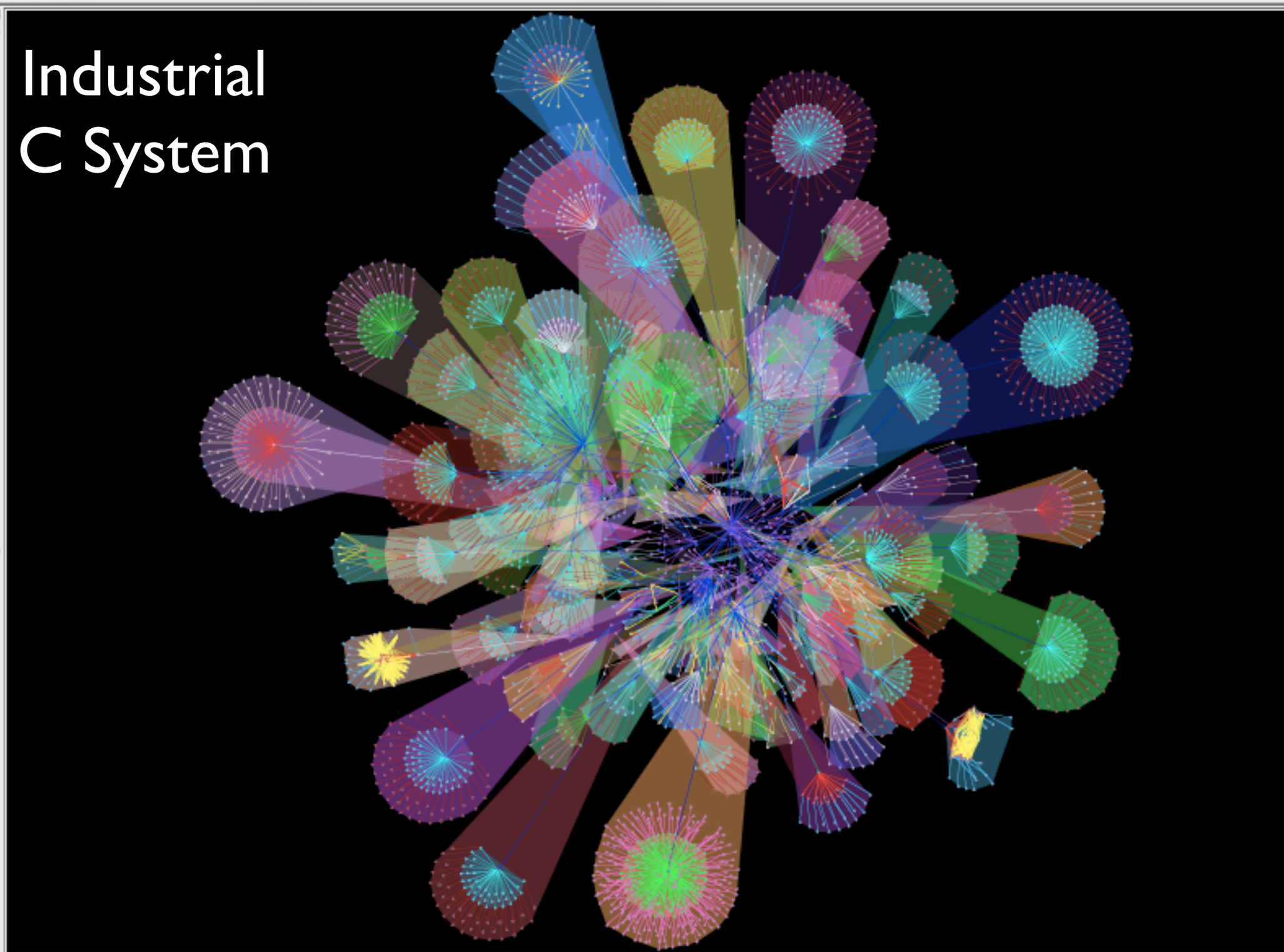
o
a
h
c
dylib

>>>
>>>

Guess Visualization

File Edit Display Layout Help

o
a
h
c
ace
frm
arc
per
ec
all
install




```
>>> center
>>>
```

Interpreter | Concern Sieve

Select a state

Guess Visualization

File Edit Display Layout Help

(error==0).visible=0

- o
- a
- h
- c
- ace
- frm
- arc
- per
- ec
- all
- install

dead code

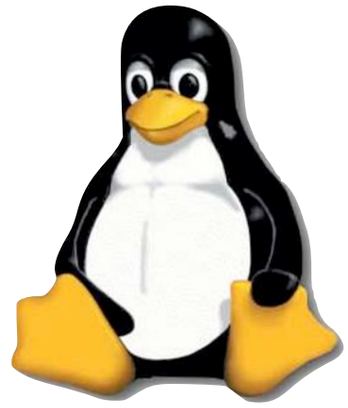
```
>>> (error==0).visible=0
>>>
```

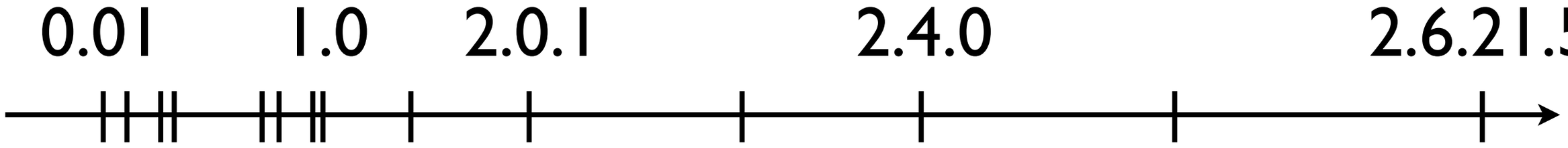
Interpreter | Concern Sieve

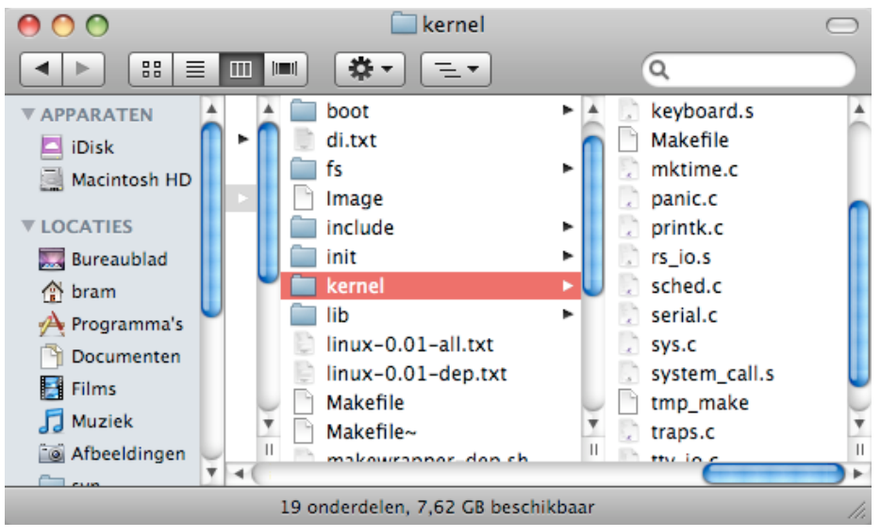
Select a state

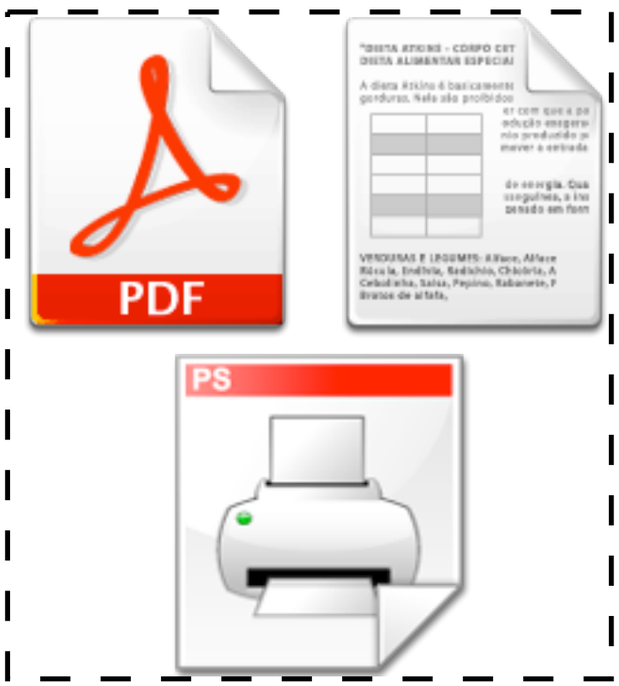
1. Research Hypothesis
2. Tool Support to Understand Build Systems
3. Evolution of Linux Kernel Build System
4. Conceptual Reasons of Co-evolution
5. The Pitfalls of PhD Research
6. Conclusion

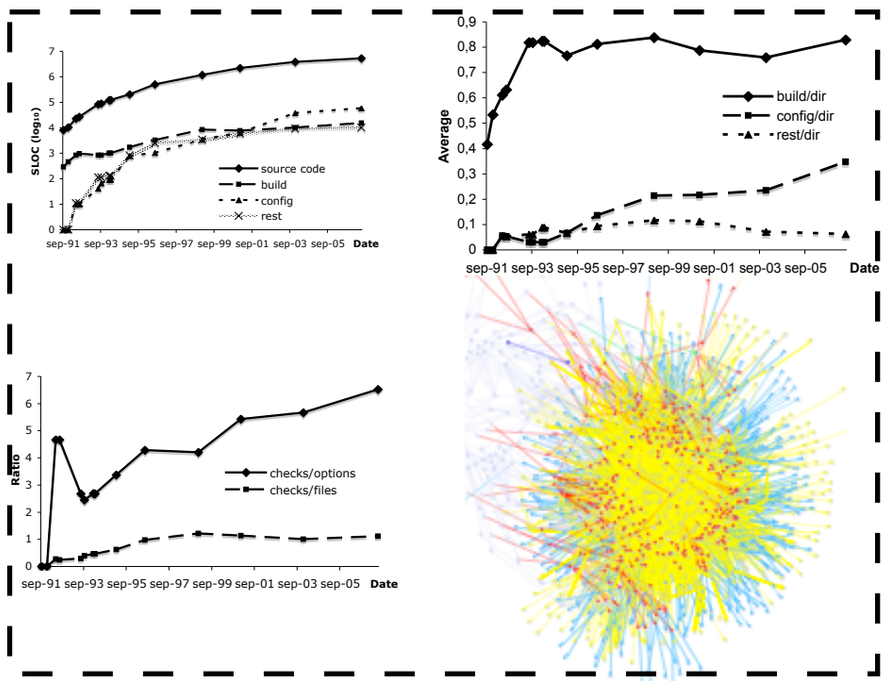
# Linux Case Study



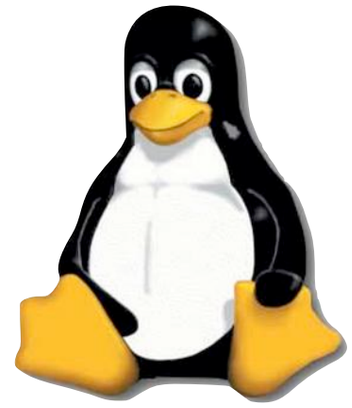


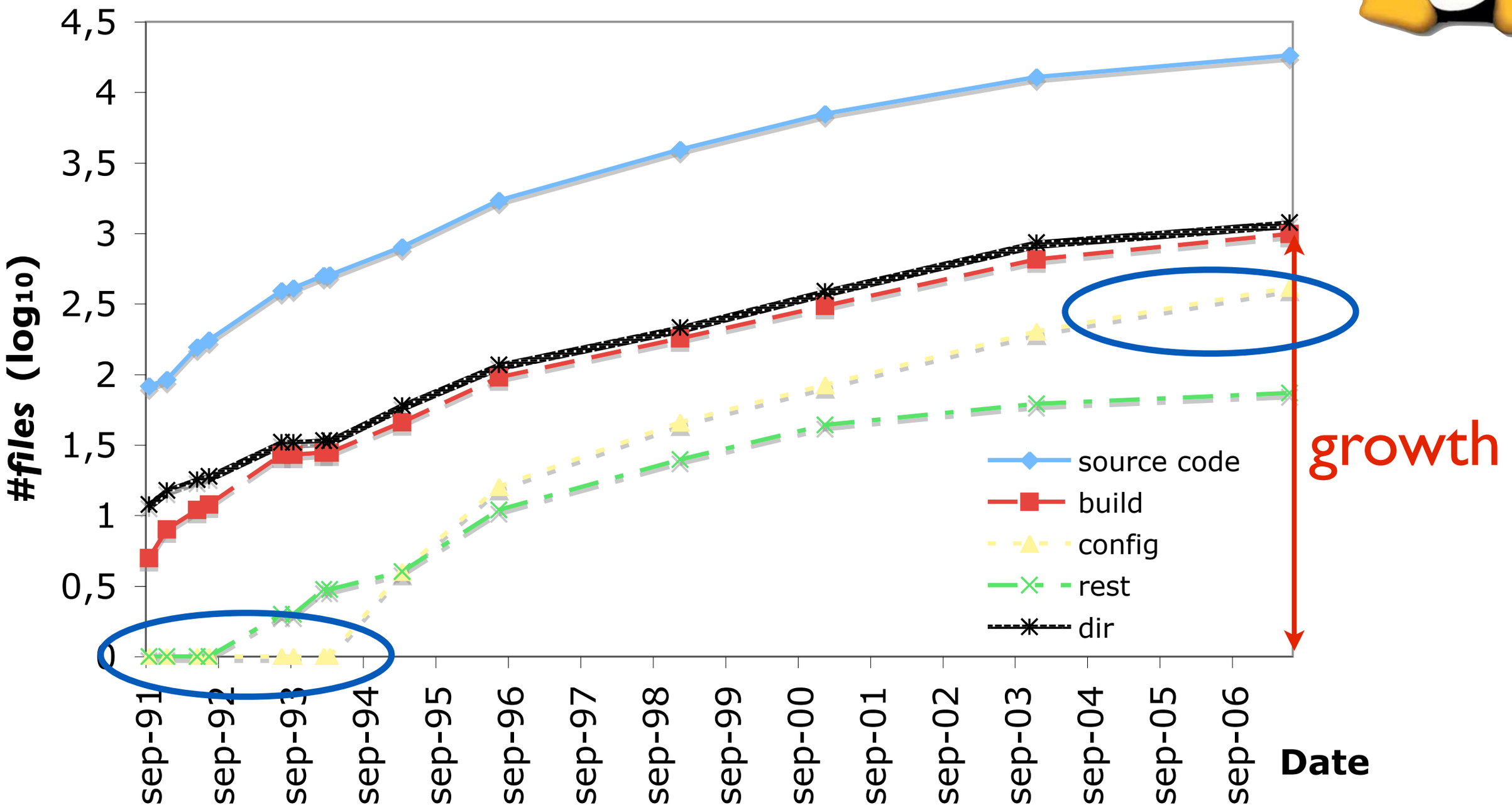



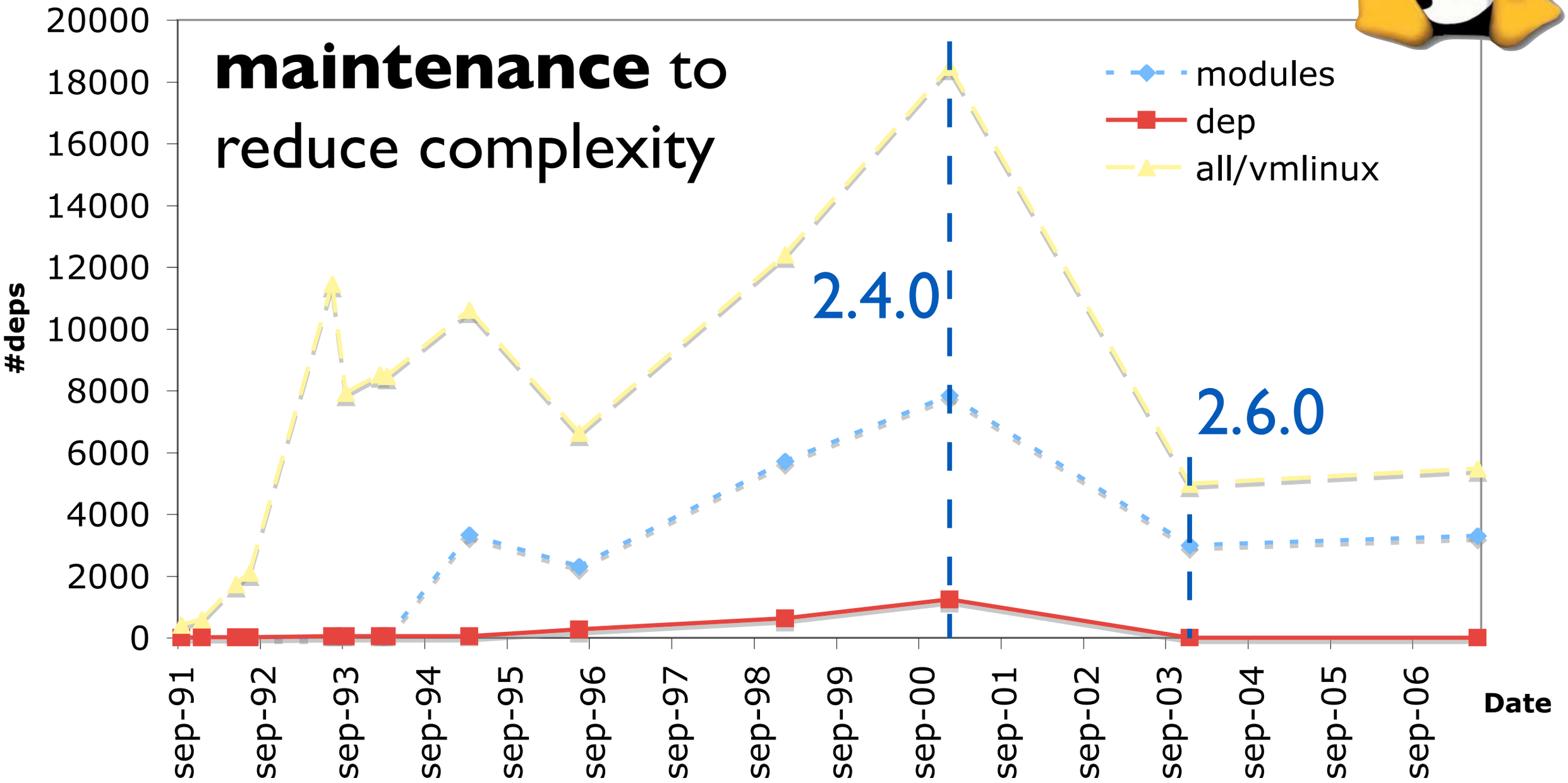



# Evolution of SLOC





# Evolution of #dependencies



Guess Visualization

File Edit Display Layout Help

o

a

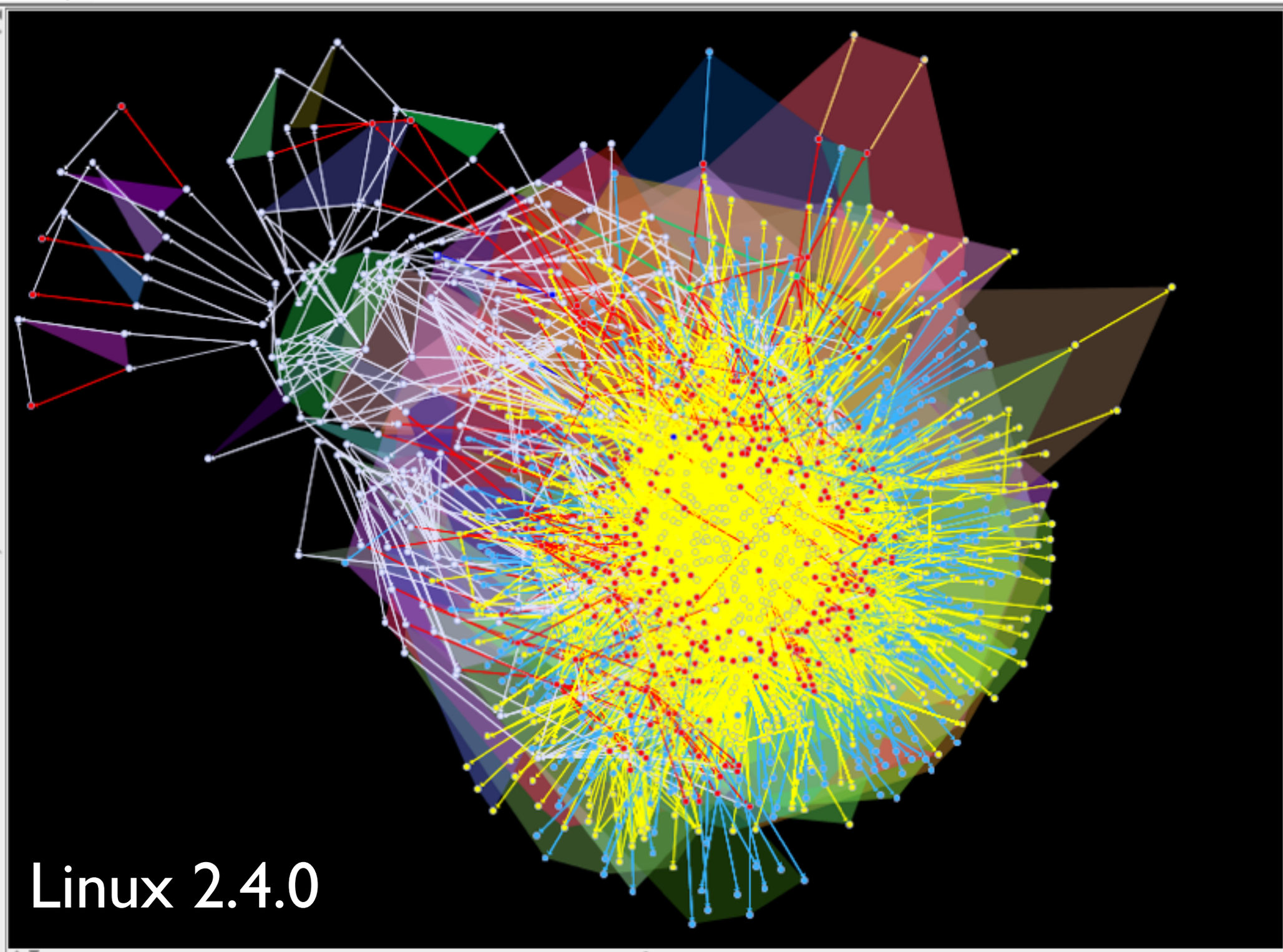
h

c

all

s

23




>>>

>>>

Interpreter Concern Sieve

Select a state

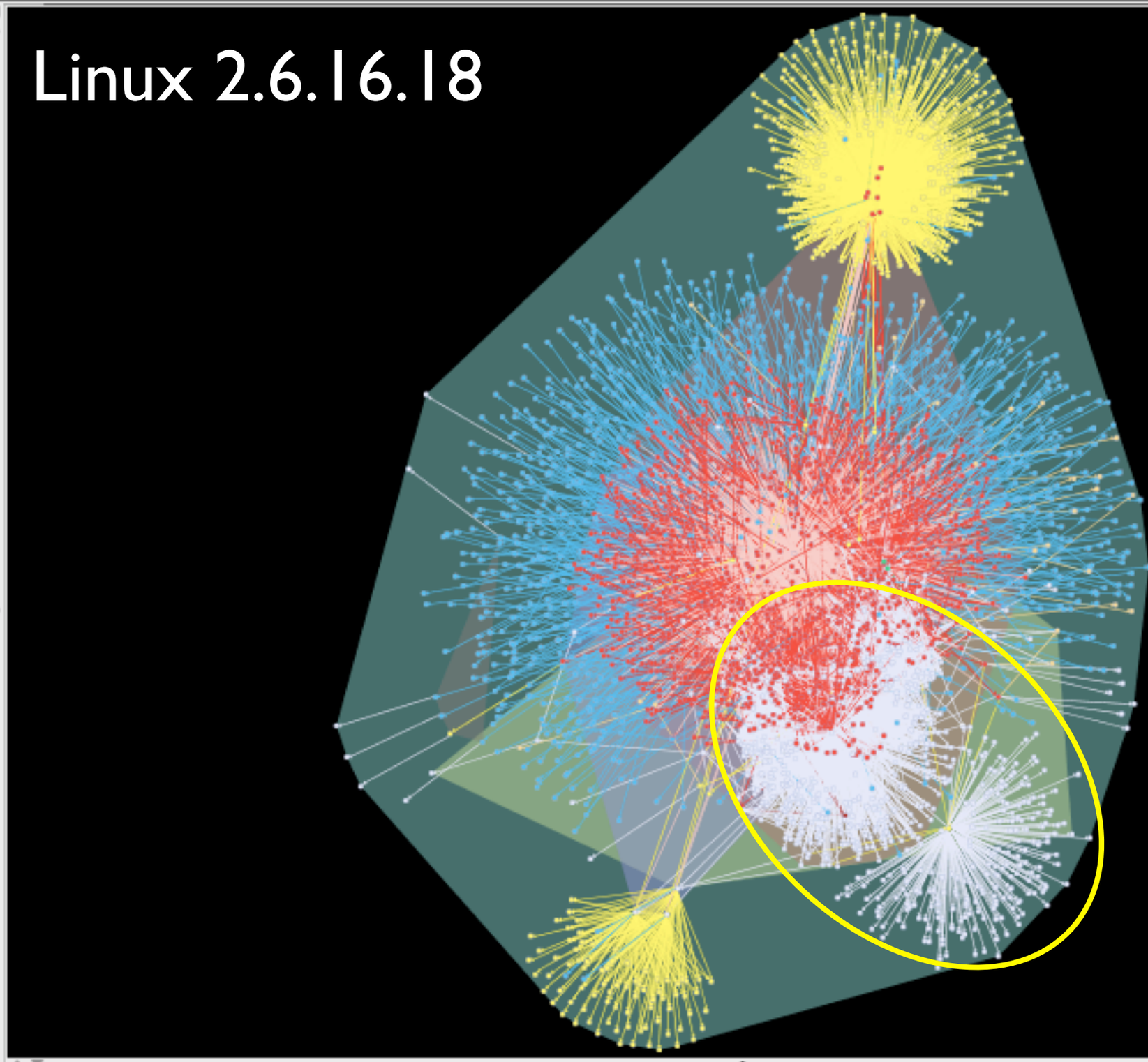
Guess Visualization

File Edit Display Layout Help

class
o
a
h
c
FORCE
so
S
s

24

Linux 2.6.16.18



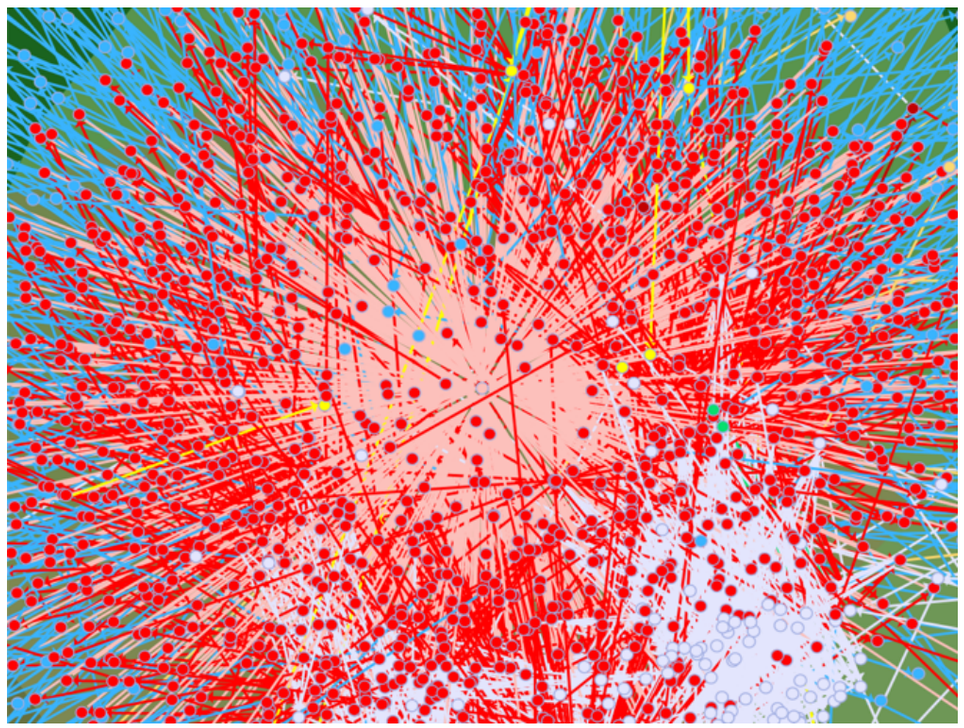
>>> center
>>>

Interpreter | Concern Sieve

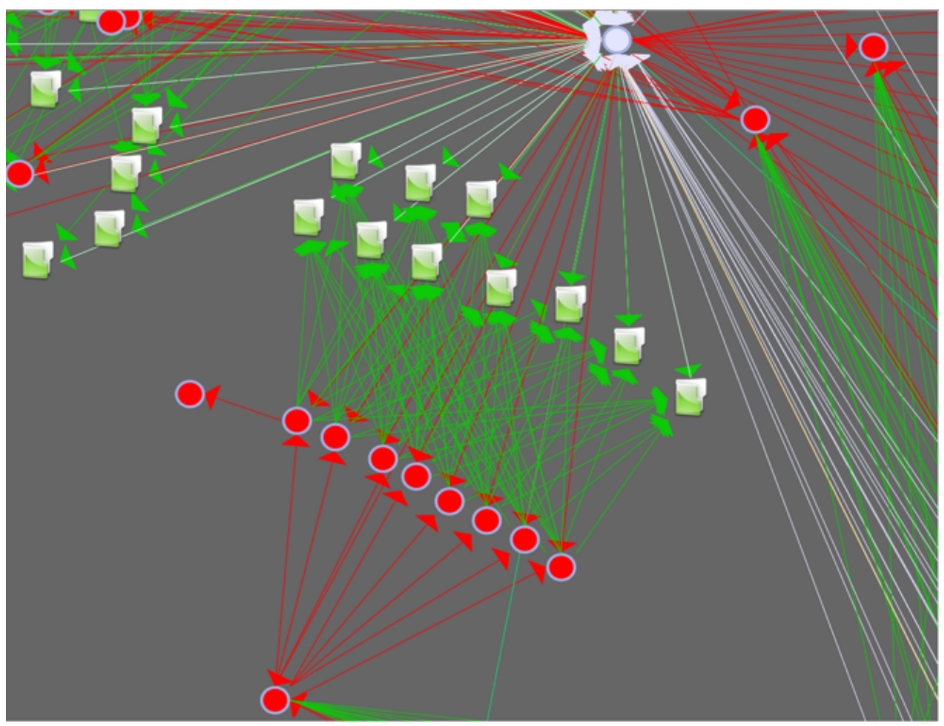
Select a state

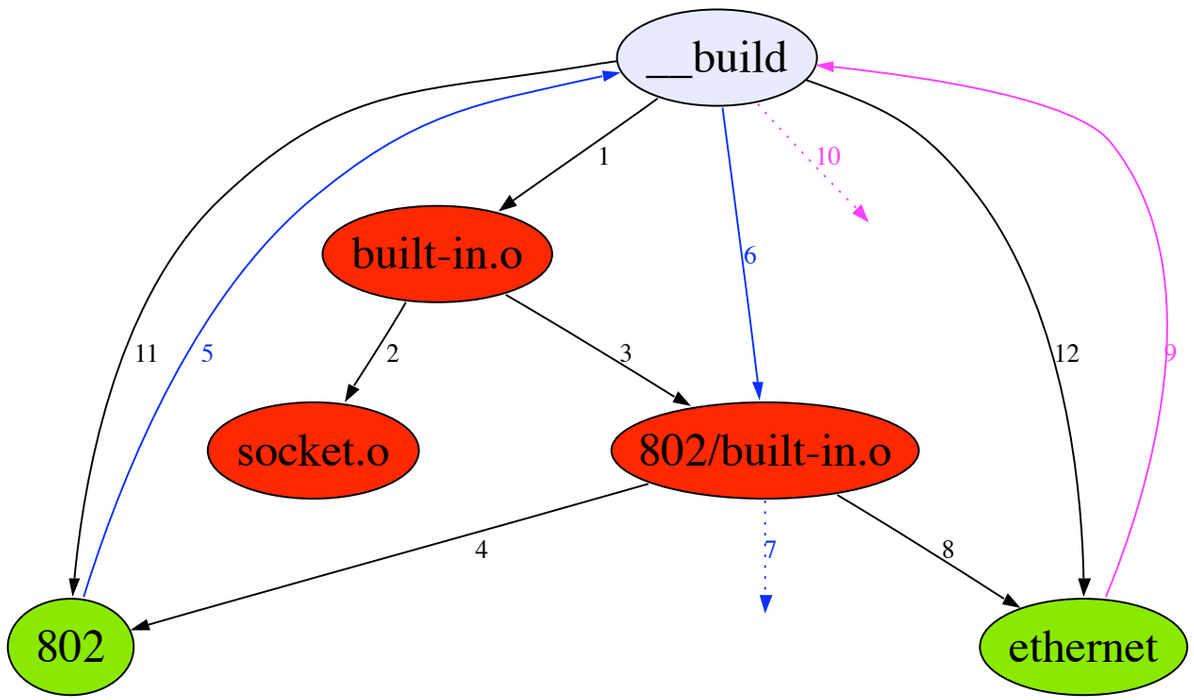
# Build Idioms

FORCE



composite object






circular dependency chain

1. Research Hypothesis
2. Tool Support to Understand Build Systems
3. Evolution of Linux Kernel Build System
4. Conceptual Reasons of Co-evolution
5. The Pitfalls of PhD Research
6. Conclusion

# 1. **Modular** source code needs a **modular** build system

pure recursive make

8 years

list-style recursive make

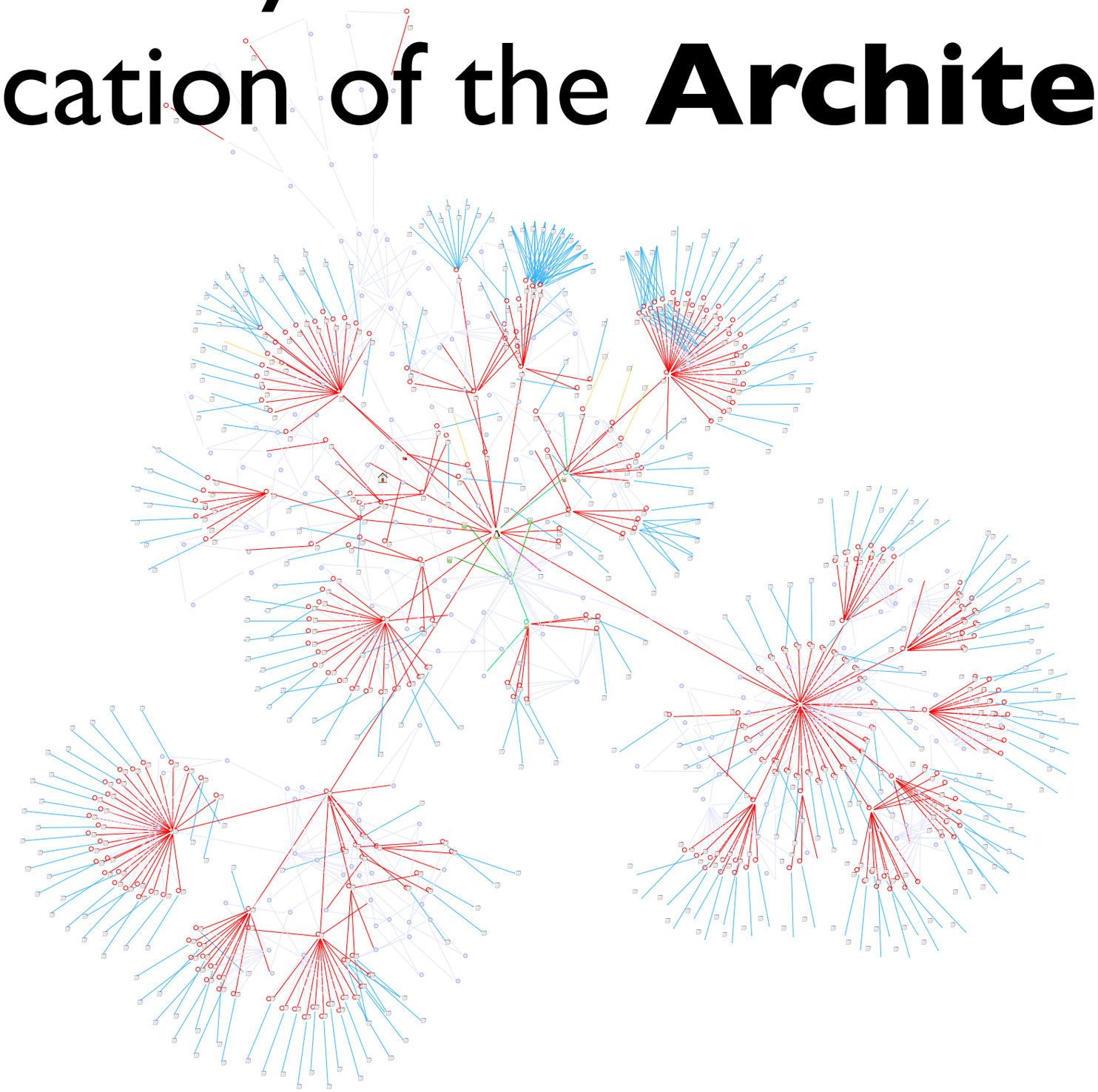
2 years

~~non-recursive make~~

3 years

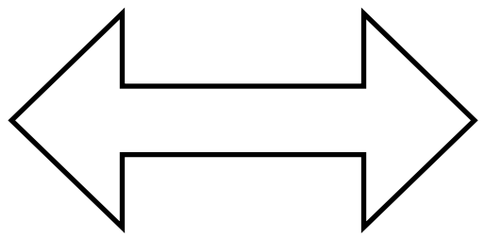
recursive make with external build directory

# 2. The Build System is an **Executable** Specification of the **Architecture**



# 3. **Correctness** Trumps **Efficiency**

speculatively removing source code dependencies to **speed up** the build



**inconsistent** build products

# 4. Configuration Layer **Controls** the Static **Variability** of Source Code

File Option Help

| Option | N | M | Y | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| X86 | | | Y | Y |
| MMU | | | Y | Y |
| SBUS | N | | | N |
| UID16 | | | Y | Y |
| GENERIC_ISA_DMA | | | Y | Y |
| Code maturity level options | | | | |
| General setup | | | | |
| Remove kernel features (for embedded systems) (NEW) | N | | _ | N |
| Loadable module support | | | | |
| Processor type and features | | | | |
| Power management options (ACPI, APM) | | | | |
| ACPI (Advanced Configuration and Power Interface) Support | | | | |
| APM (Advanced Power Management) BIOS Support | | | | |
| CPU Frequency scaling | | | | |
| Bus options (PCI, PCMCIA, EISA, MCA, ISA) | | | | |
| Executable file formats | | | | |
| Device Drivers | | | | |
| Generic Driver Options | | | | |
| Memory Technology Devices (MTD) | | | | |
| RAM/ROM/Flash chip drivers | | | | |
| Mapping drivers for chip access | | | | |
| Self-contained MTD device drivers | | | | |
| NAND Flash Device Drivers | | | | |
| Parallel port support | | | | |
| Plug and Play support | | | | |
| Block devices | | | | |
| ATA/ATAPI/MFM/RLL support | | | | |
| SCSI device support | | | | |
| Old CD-ROM drivers (not SCSI, not IDE) | | | | |
| Multi-device support (RAID and LVM) | | | | |
| Fusion MPT device support | | | | |
| IEEE 1394 (FireWire) support (EXPERIMENTAL) | | | | |
| I2O device support | | | | |
| Networking support | | | | |

| Option | N | M | Y | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Direct | N | | _ | N |
| Any | | | Y | Y |
| PCI_BIOS | | | Y | Y |
| PCI_DIRECT | | | Y | Y |
| Vector-based interrupt indexing | N | | | N |
| Legacy /proc/pci interface (NEW) | N | | _ | N |
| PCI device name database | _ | | Y | Y |
| ISA support | _ | | Y | Y |
| EISA support | _ | | Y | Y |
| Vesa Local Bus priming (NEW) | N | | _ | N |
| Generic PCI/EISA bridge (NEW) | _ | | Y | Y |
| EISA virtual root device (NEW) | _ | | Y | Y |
| EISA device name database (NEW) | _ | | Y | Y |
| MCA support | N | | _ | N |
| MCA | N | | _ | N |
| Legacy MCA API Support | N | | | N |
| Support for the mca entry in /proc | N | | | N |
| NatSemi SCx200 support | N | _ | _ | N |
| Support for hot-pluggable devices | _ | | Y | Y |
| PCMCIA/CardBus support | | | | |

**Legacy /proc/pci interface** (PCI_LEGACY_PROC)

type: boolean
prompt: Legacy /proc/pci interface
dep: PCI

defined at drivers/pci/Kconfig:4

This feature enables a procfs file -- /proc/pci -- that provides a summary of PCI devices in the system.

This feature has been deprecated as of v2.5.53, in favor of using the tool lspci(8). This feature may be removed at a future date.

lspci can provide the same data, as well as much more. lspci is a part of

1. Research Hypothesis
2. Tool Support to Understand Build Systems
3. Evolution of Linux Kernel Build System
4. Conceptual Reasons of Co-evolution
5. The Pitfalls of PhD Research
6. Conclusion

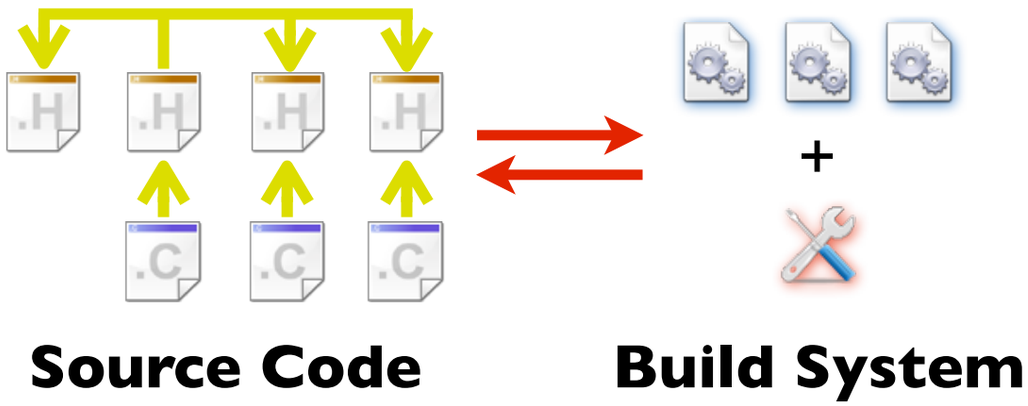
# I'm Grateful my Supervisors ...

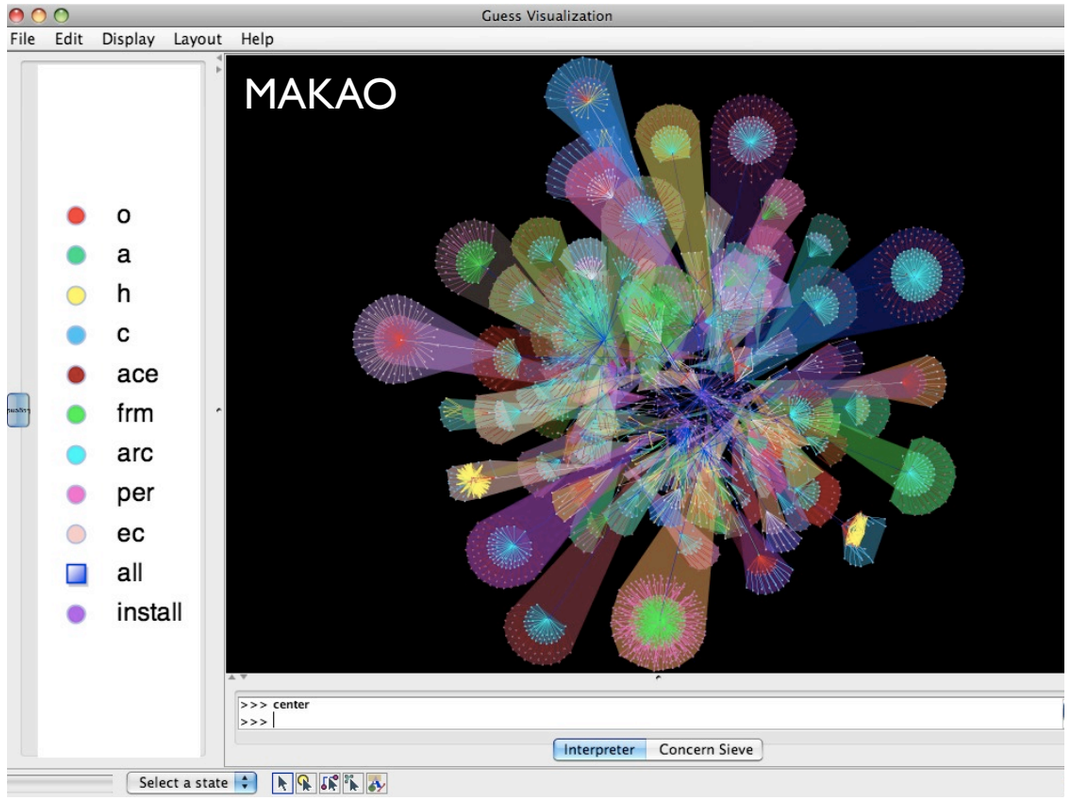
- gave me the freedom to develop my "hobby project" into a PhD dissertation
- stimulated me to attend conferences and workshops
- taught me to learn from rejected papers

# I Should Have Known that ...

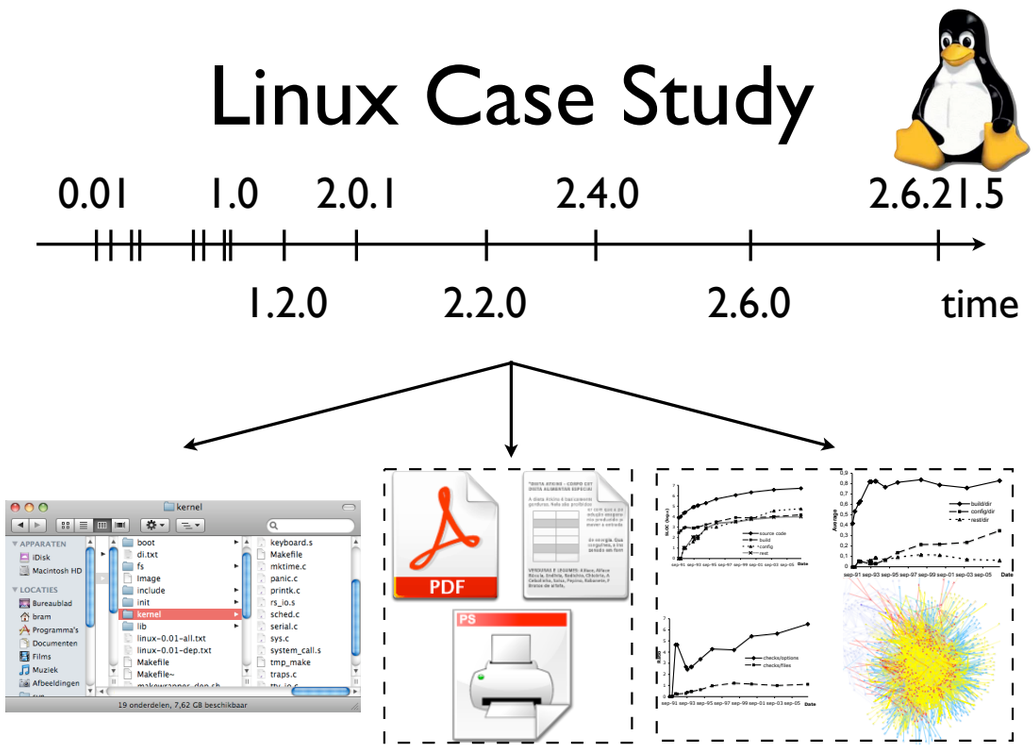
- a concise dissertation is more impressive than a wordy one ;-)
- even vegetarians like salami slicing
- statistics is your friend

1. Research Hypothesis
2. Tool Support to Understand Build Systems
3. Evolution of Linux Kernel Build System
4. Conceptual Reasons of Co-evolution
5. The Pitfalls of PhD Research
6. Conclusion




# Questions?




## Conceptual Reasons of Co-evolution

1. **Modular** source code needs a **modular** build system
2. The Build System is an **Executable** Specification of the **Architecture**
3. **Correctness** Trumps **Efficiency**
4. Configuration Layer **Controls** the Static **Variability** of Source Code