

Teams, newcomers and numbers

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Debian

Kochi, 10. September 2023

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- At DebConf3 Teams were suggested, since DebConf5 Uploaders
- Both quickly adopted in Debian Med and other Blends
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- Solved for DebConf11 with GSoC Teammetrics

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Types of teams

- Content driven teams - frequently Blends
- Infrastructure teams (installer, dpkg, apt)
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Composition of teams

- Well staffed, more than one member can handle issues
- Multiple members but reaching limits
- Growing teams
- Shrinking teams
- (Basically) one member team
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Culture in teams

- Every member can and should upload every team package
- Few members care for everything, others only for specific packages
- Uploader cares for specific packages, others will contribute randomly
- Team wide automatic packaging upgrades in Git (Janitor)

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Debian Med has attracted one developer per year

According to a survey in Wiki

- Debian Med has 45 DDs+DMs (not all active any more)
- 23 DDs *because* Debian Med exists
- 18 out of the 23 above extended their activity to other fields in Debian
- 13 out of the 23 above are currently active in Debian Med
- 3 DDs and 1 DM are new after the April-Hackathon

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Actively inviting and teaching

- **Mentoring of the Month (teaching upstream and users)**
- Sprints in common with upstream and users
- Participating in GSoC + Outreachy
- Sponsoring of Blends

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Mentoring of the Month

- **MoM is *work***
- hopefully it shows that this work is also *fun*
- mentor trades his spare time for the work of the student
- attempt to train "silent observers on the list"
- focus not only on technical details but also on learning to know relevant communication channels

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MoM Conclusions

- Time spent into mentoring is worth the effort
- No student for each month so the workload is bearable
- Students have just read recent documents which I did ten years ago → I can learn new stuff from them
- Major advantage: training upstream to pool their knowledge about the code with ours about packaging is **very efficient** for the hard packages

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GSoC + Outreachy

- Provide task for every GSoC + Outreachy project Debian participates
- Really good experiences with Outreachy students
- Very good fitting task: Write autopkgtests
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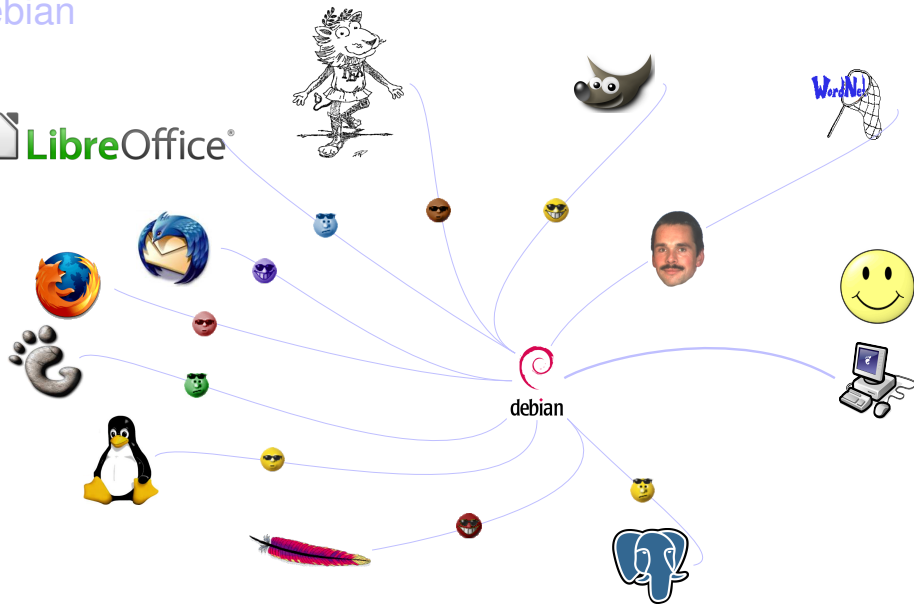
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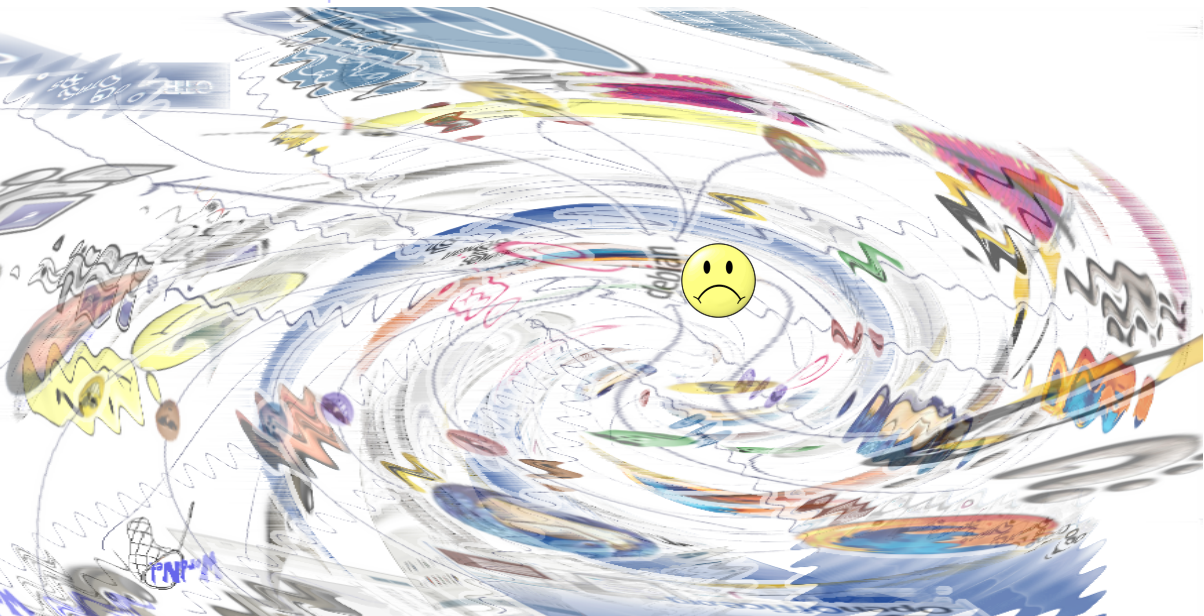
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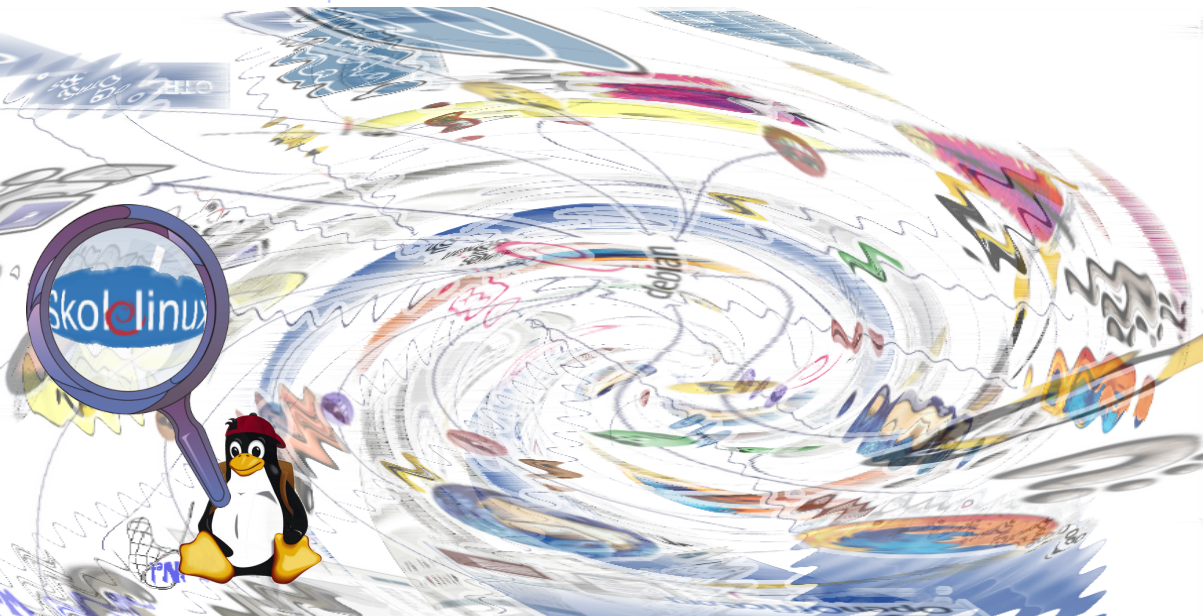
Debian



Role of Blends to attract specific users



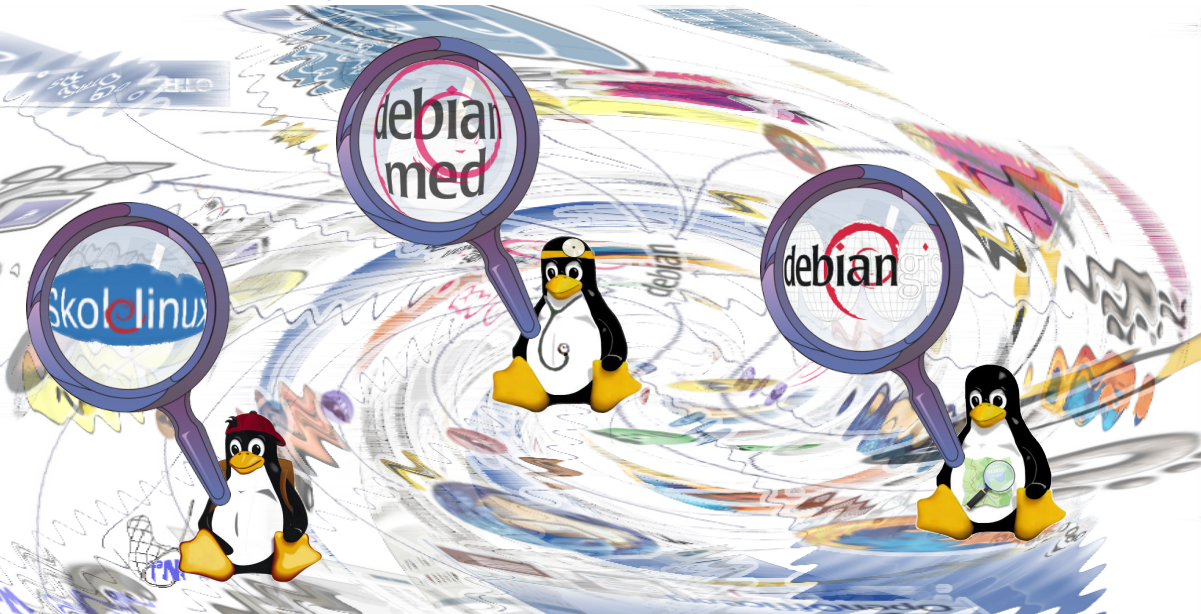
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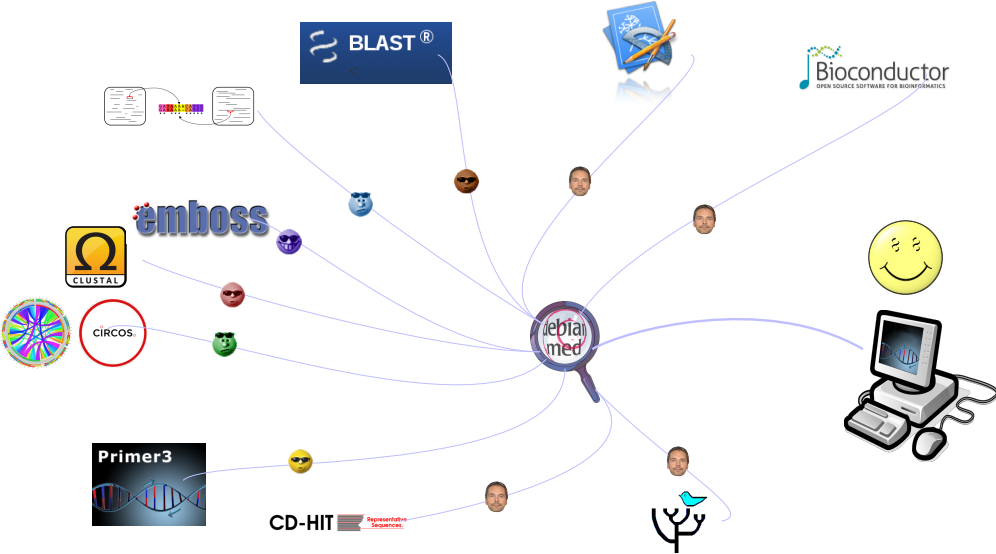
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Med-bio task of Debian Med



Sponsoring of Blends (SoB)

- Blends concept remains widely unknown amongst newcomers
- Newcomers might desperately seek for sponsors and simply do not know how to find one
- Kill two birds with one stone: Get the package sponsored after proving that you understood the Blends techniques

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SoB rules

- 1 You confirm to have understood the Blends principle (have read the Blends documentation, are member of some team on alioth, reading the relevant mailing list)
- 2 Your package is maintained in Salsa in the according Blends team space
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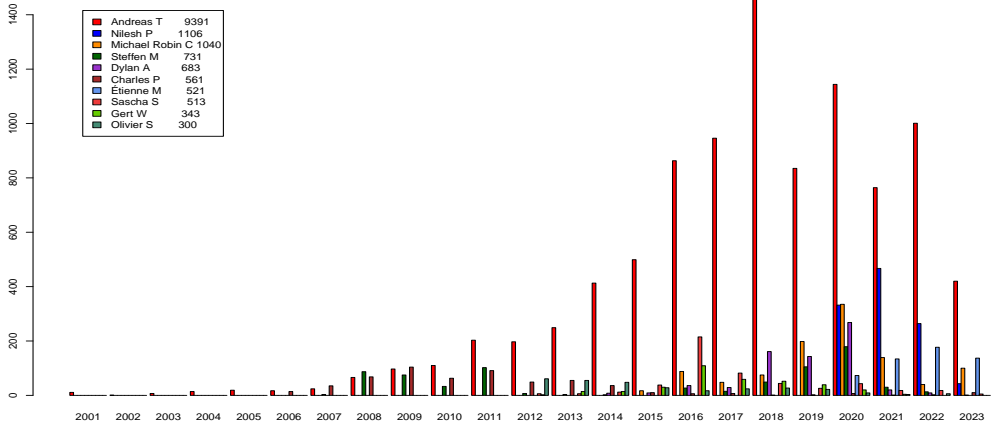
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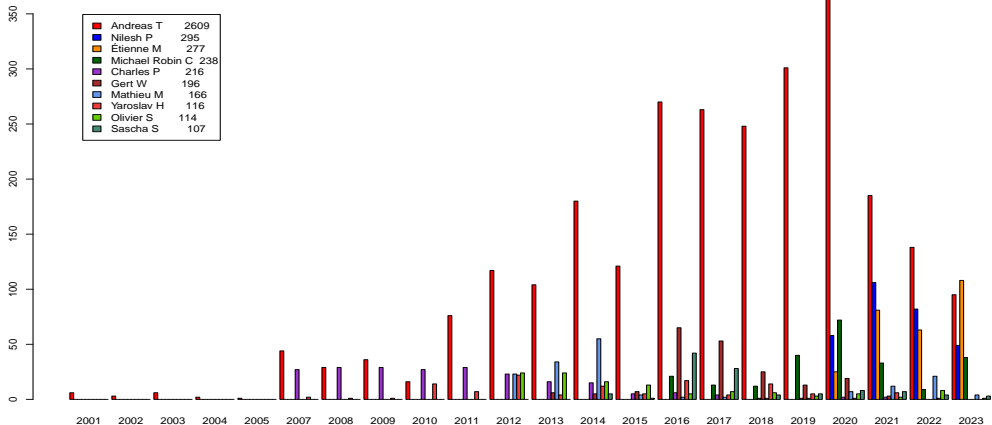
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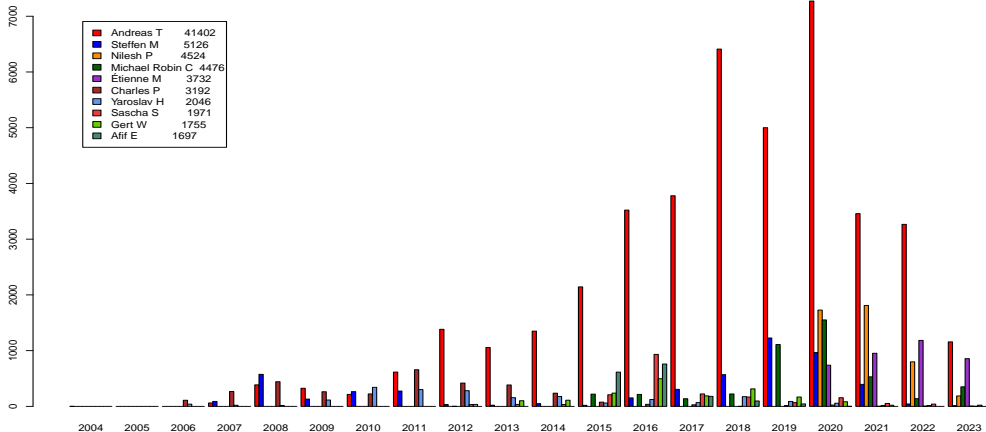
Top 10 Uploaders of Debian Med team



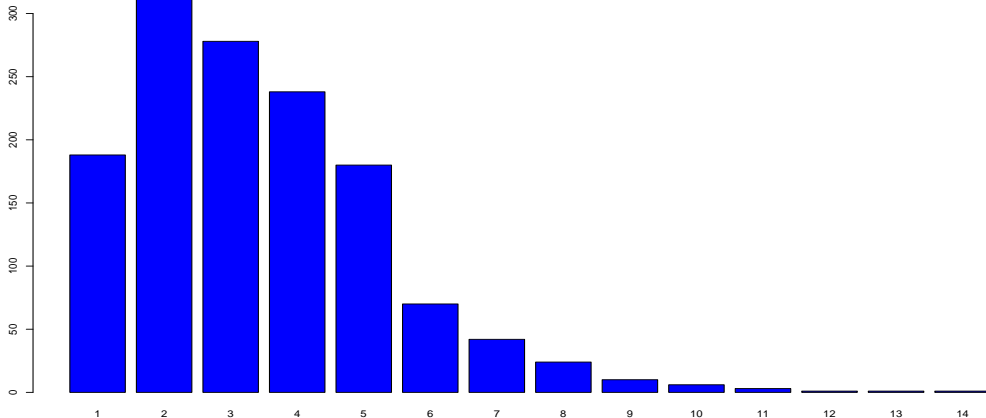
Top 10 bug hunters of Debian Med packages



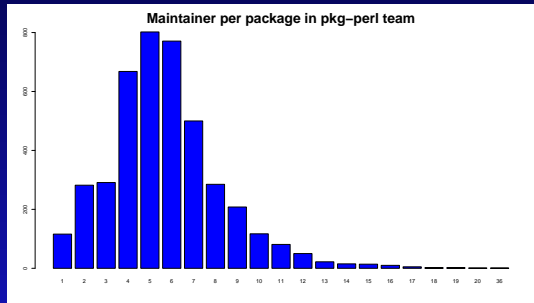
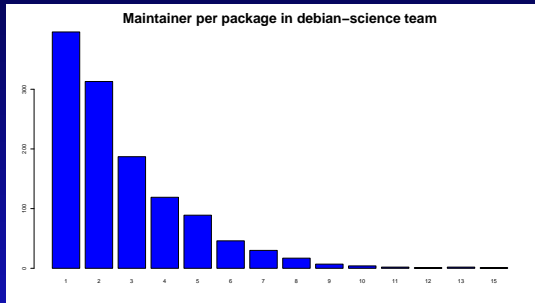
Top 10 committers to Debian Med VCS



Maintainer per package relation in Debian Med



Comparing team coverage of their packages



Inviting environment

In several talks at DebConf and in discussions before I have heard the argument that it is hard to find friends. But it is not. The answer is to create inviting teams.

*Waking up in the morning and realising
that somebody else has solved your
problem from yesterday*

In case you want to run your own team stats

There is a download script

master ▾

teammetrics / admin / download_database.sh

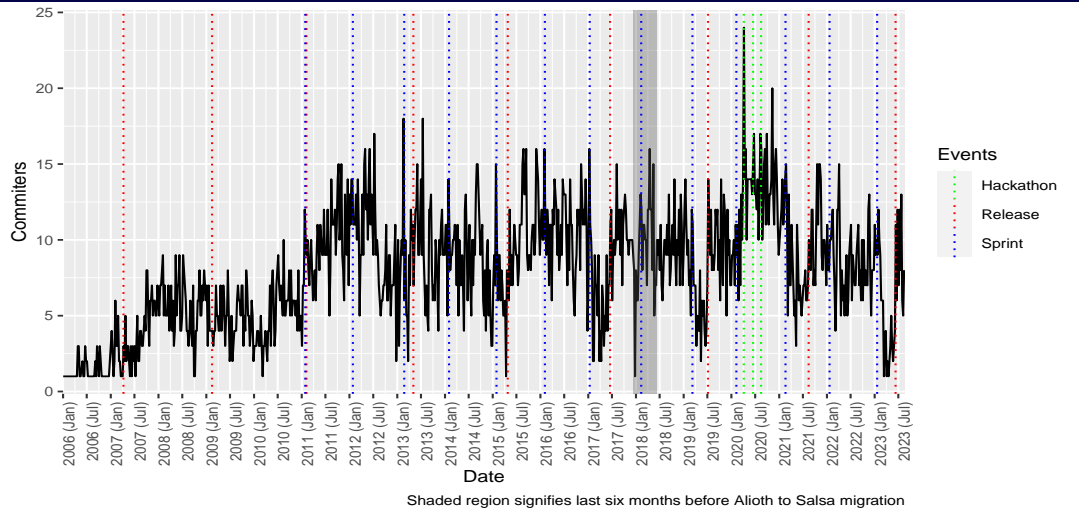


download_database.sh 182 bytes

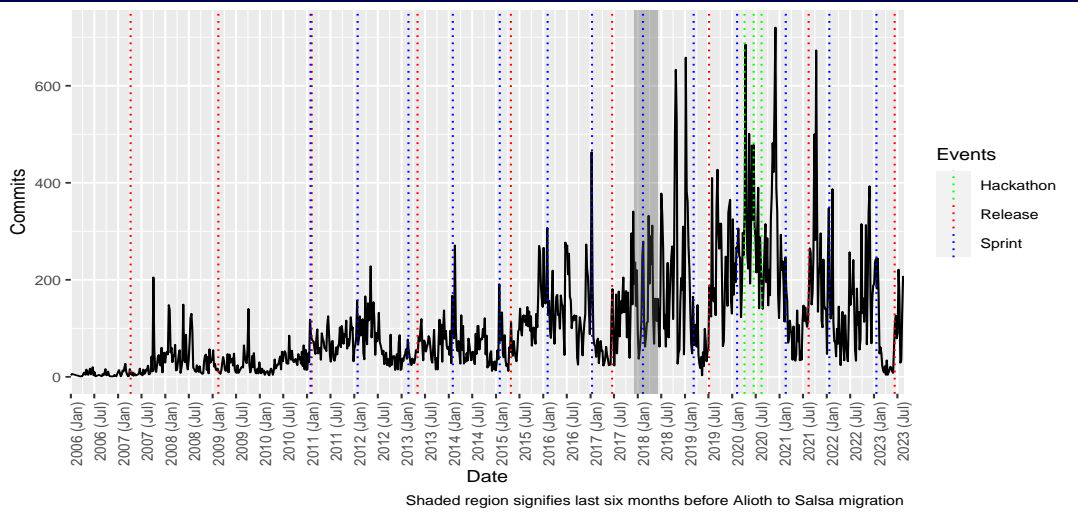
```
1  #!/bin/sh -e
2
3  rsync -a -P \
4    blends.debian.net:/var/backups/teammetrics/teammetrics.0.xz .
5  dropdb teammetrics || true
6  createdb teammetrics
7  xzcat teammetrics.0.xz | psql teammetrics
```

The database enables you to do more fine grained investigation of your team

Persons committing to Debian Med packages per week



Commits to Debian Med packages per week



Checking the theory of general "freeze depression"

- Graph over all teams in team metrics
- Start of freeze is marked by transition freeze (if exists)
- Some kind of artificial peaks (for instance in week 2021-04-12 with 3592 commits by pkg-js team)
- There are other peak examples outside freeze (for instance in week 2020-02-17 with 7315 commits by pkg-perl team)

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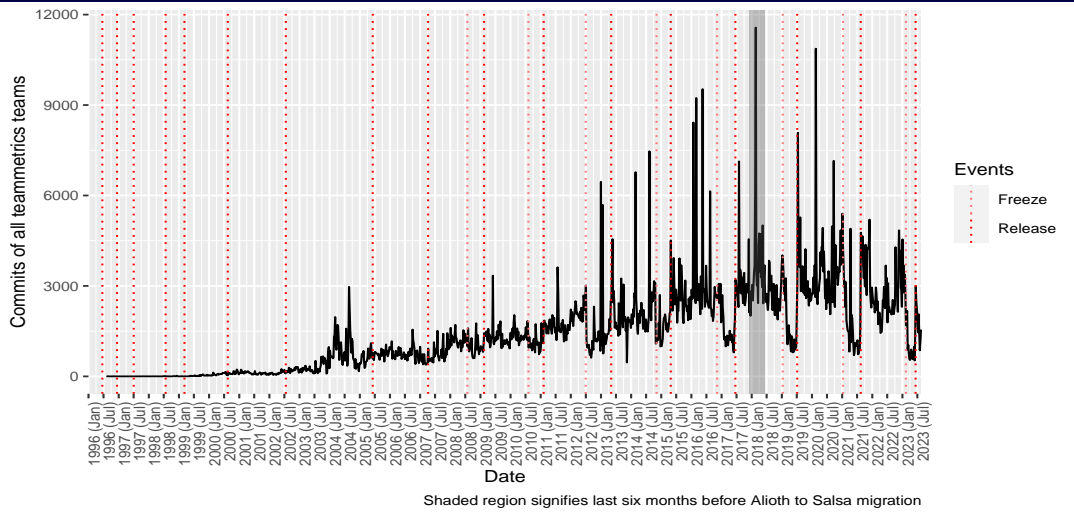
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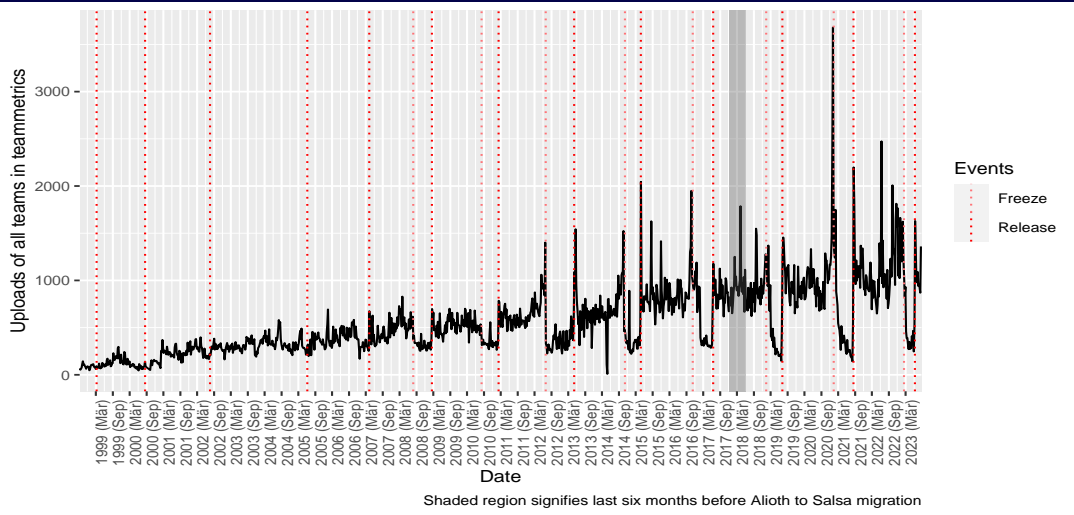
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Commits of all teams verifying "freeze depression"



Uploads of all teams in teammetrics packages per week



Pre-freeze activity

- Right before the freeze in January 2021 three teams did a lot of uploads right before the freeze (pkg-perl 916, ruby-extras 240, pkg-go 210)
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Slides will be on my talks page later



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