

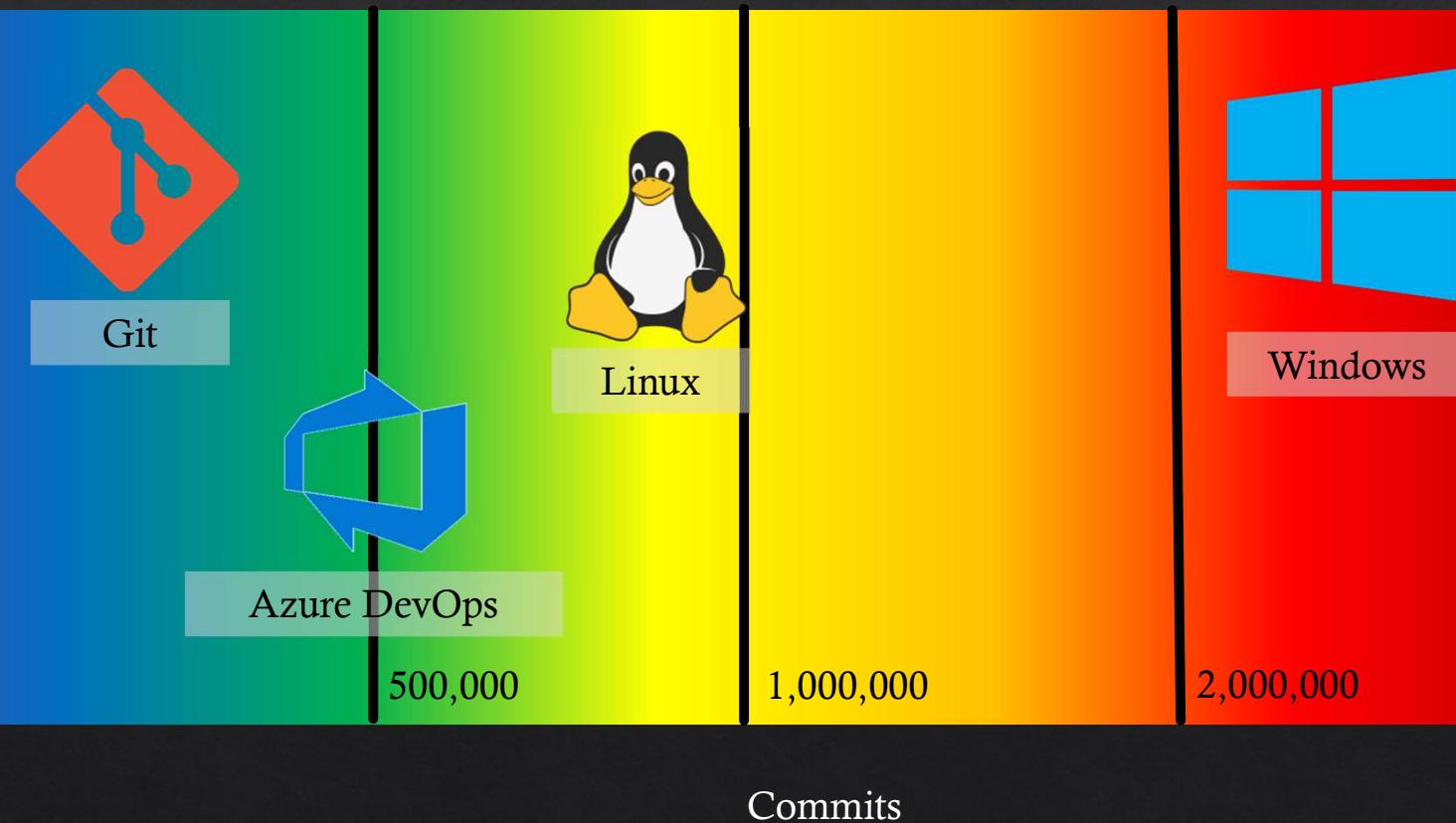
Git at Scale for Everyone

D. Stolee, Git Client Team, Microsoft

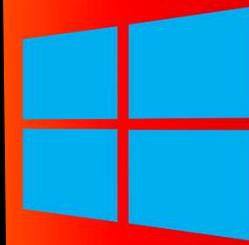
Twitter: [@stolee](https://twitter.com/stolee) GitHub: [@derrickstolee](https://github.com/derrickstolee)

<https://stolee.dev/docs/voss-2020.pdf>

Spectrum of Scale



Spectrum of Scale



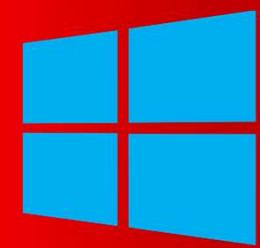
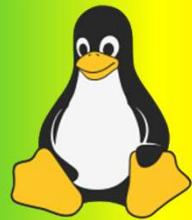
1,000,000

10,000,000

100,000,000

Total Object Count

Spectrum of Scale



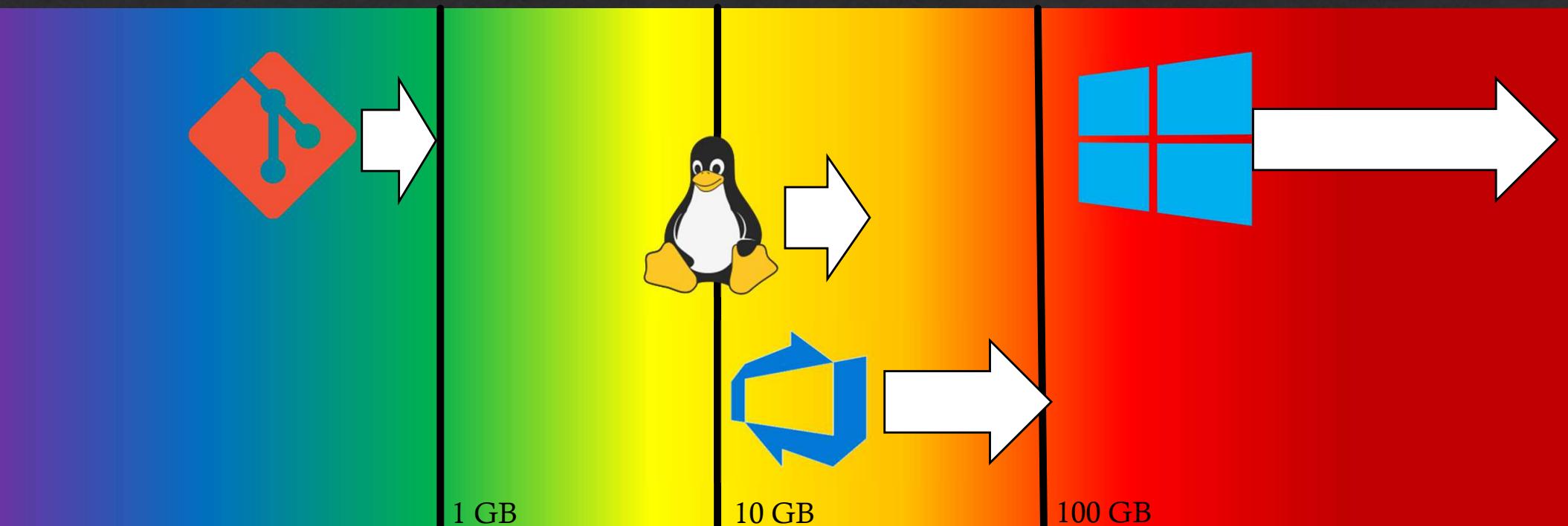
10,000

100,000

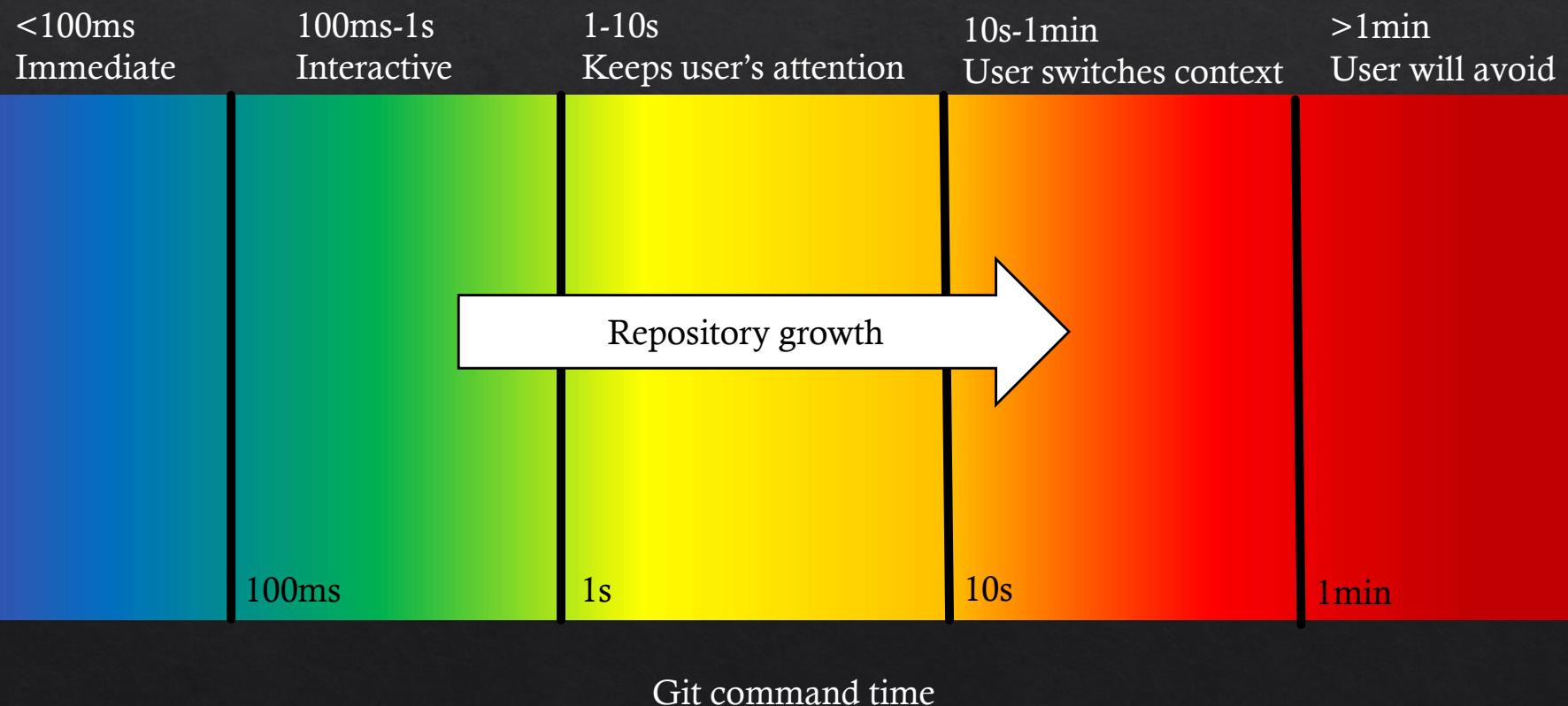
1,000,000

Files in Working Directory

Spectrum of Scale



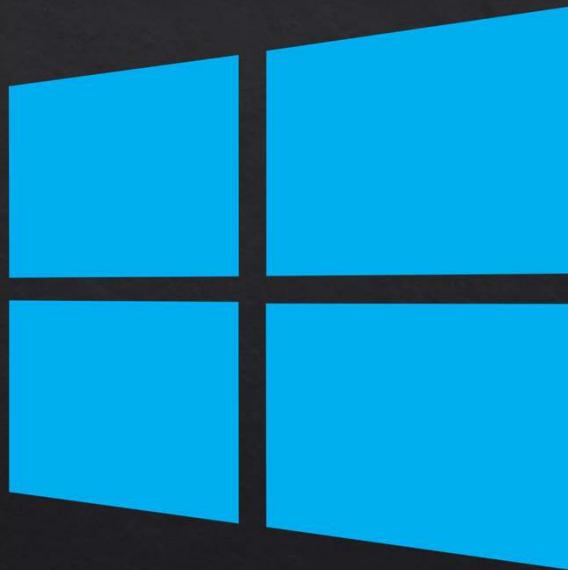
Spectrum of Perceived Performance



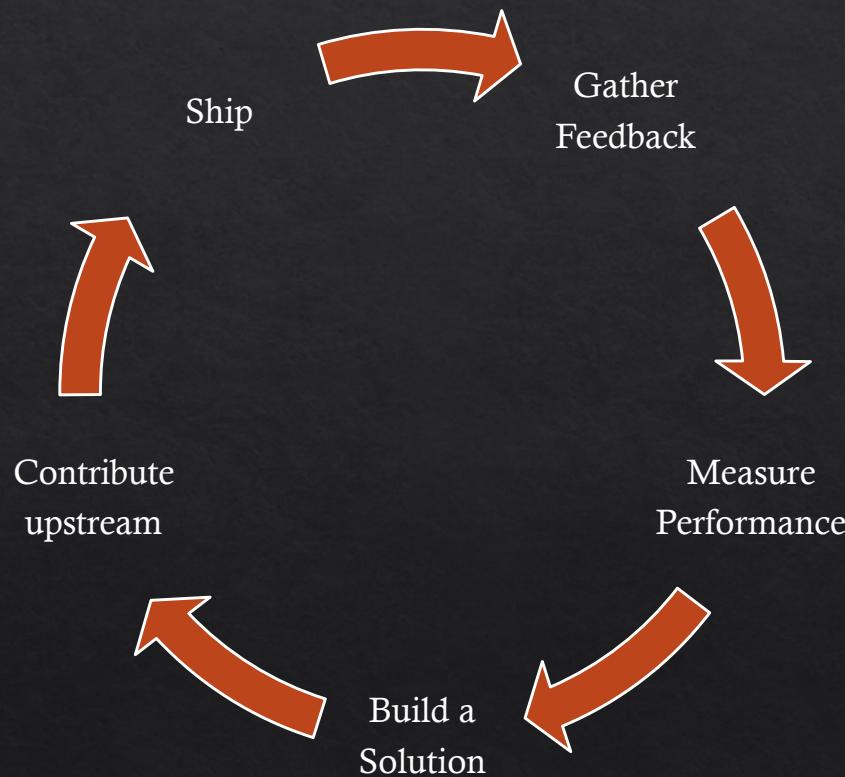


<http://gunshowcomic.com/648>

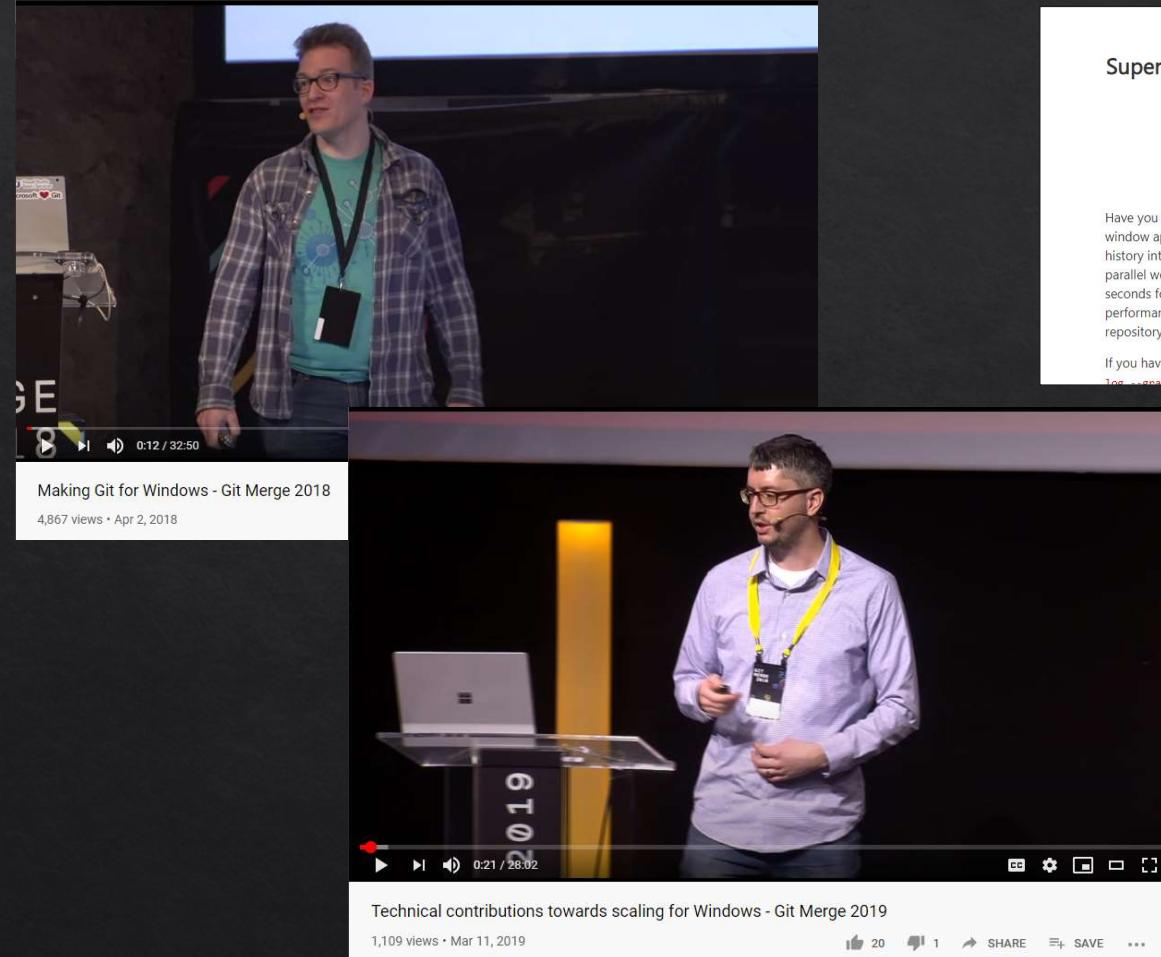
Success Story: Microsoft Windows



Improving Git Performance (Iteratively)



We make Git better *for everyone*



Next Milestone: Microsoft Office

- ❖ Similar size and shape to Windows OS repo
- ❖ Hosted on Azure Repos
- ❖ Client **must** work on Windows & macOS

The screenshot shows a section of the Apple Developer website under the 'Support' menu. The title is 'Deprecated Kernel Extensions and System Extension Alternatives'. The text explains that system extensions on macOS Catalina (10.15) allow software like network extensions and endpoint security solutions to extend the functionality of macOS without requiring kernel-level access. It mentions the depreciation of kernel extensions as part of an ongoing effort to modernize the platform, improve security and reliability, and enable more user-friendly distribution methods. Kernel programming interfaces (KPIs) will be deprecated as alternatives become available, and future OS releases will no longer load kernel extensions that use deprecated KPIs by default.

Deprecated Kernel Extensions and System Extension Alternatives

System extensions on macOS Catalina (10.15) allow software like network extensions and endpoint security solutions to extend the functionality of macOS without requiring kernel-level access. At WWDC19, we announced the depreciation of kernel extensions as part of our ongoing effort to modernize the platform, improve security and reliability, and enable more user-friendly distribution methods. Kernel programming interfaces (KPIs) will be deprecated as alternatives become available, and future OS releases will no longer load kernel extensions that use deprecated KPIs by default.

Transitioning Your Kernel Extensions

If your software uses deprecated and supported KPIs, you'll need to factor out deprecated components into a stand-alone system extension. If your software uses new system extensions and legacy kernel





Scalar

<https://github.com/microsoft/scalar>

MIT License

Built in the open. Contributions welcome!

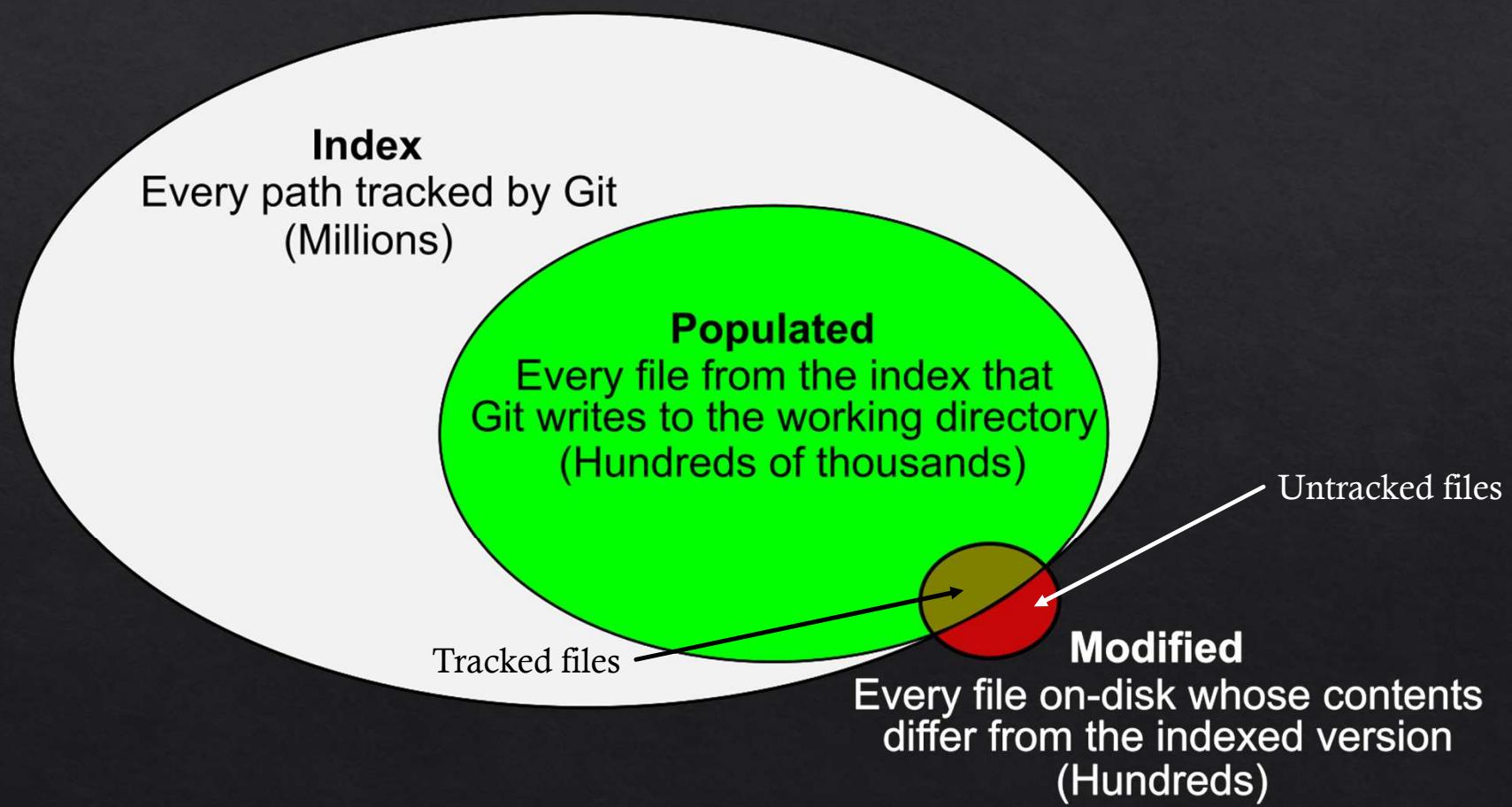
Lessons for Git at Scale

Lesson 1: Focus on the files that matter

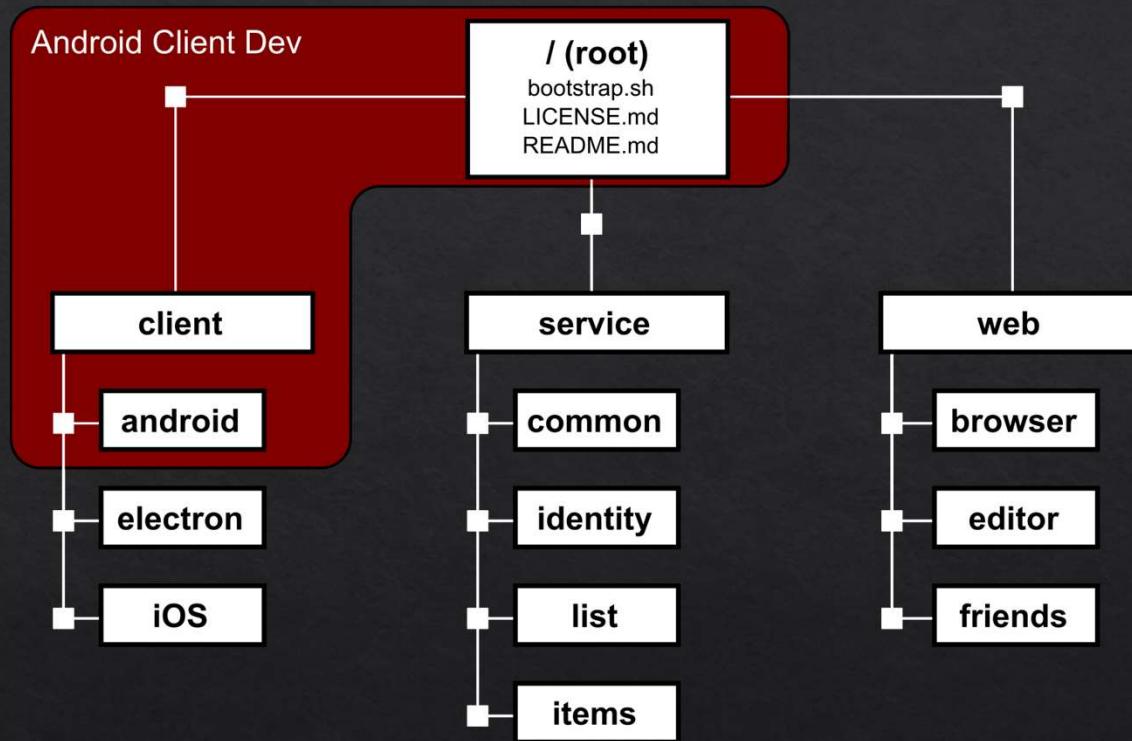
Lesson 2: Reduce object transfer

Lesson 3: Don't wait for expensive operations

Lesson 1: Focus on the files that matter



Reduce Populated Size: Sparse-checkout



Demo: git sparse-checkout

<https://github.blog/2020-01-17-bring-your-monorepo-down-to-size-with-sparse-checkout/>

Sparse-checkout (default mode)

Patterns are verified in order against every path in the index.

Positive patterns *include* files

Negative patterns *exclude* files

On a typical sparse-checkout pattern for the **Microsoft Office** repo, this calculation takes

40 minutes

Index Entries (N)	Sparse-checkout Patterns (M)				
	/*	!/*/	/client/	!/client/*/	/client/android/
bootstrap.sh	I	N	N	N	N
client/	I	E	I	N	N
client/android/	I	E	I	E	I
client/electron/	I	E	I	E	N
client/iOS/	I	E	I	E	N
client/README	I	E	I	N	N
LICENSE.md	I	N	N	N	N
README.md	I	N	N	N	N
service/	I	E	N	N	N
service/common/	I	E	N	N	N
service/identity/	I	E	N	N	N
service/list/	I	E	N	N	N
service/items/	I	E	N	N	N
service/README	I	E	N	N	N
web/	I	E	N	N	N
web/browser/	I	E	N	N	N
web/editor/	I	E	N	N	N
web/friends/	I	E	N	N	N
web/README	I	E	N	N	N

Sparse-checkout (cone mode)

Create two hashsets:

Parent patterns

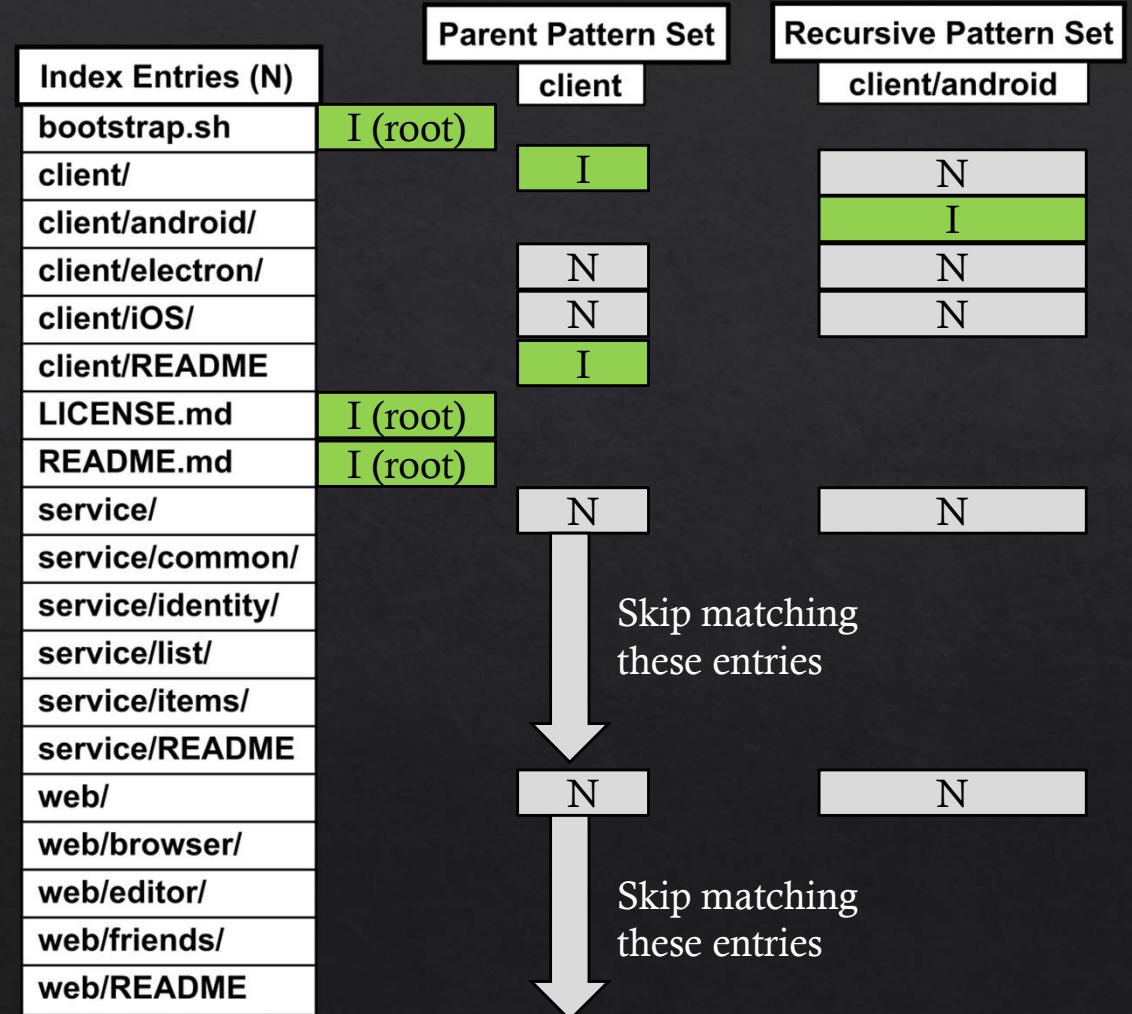
Recursive patterns

Match based on exact strings

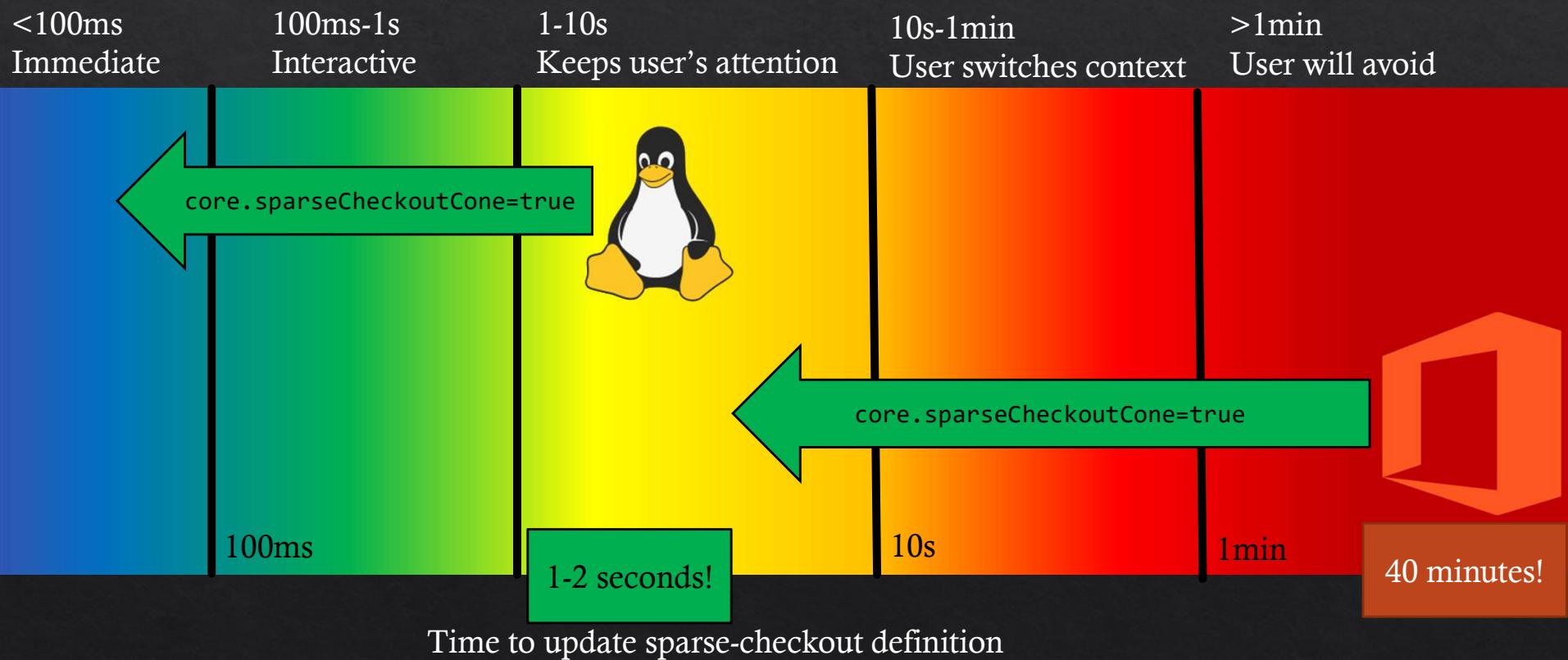
(remove filename if not directory)

On all known sparse-checkout
patterns for the **Microsoft Office**
repo, this calculation takes

1-2 seconds



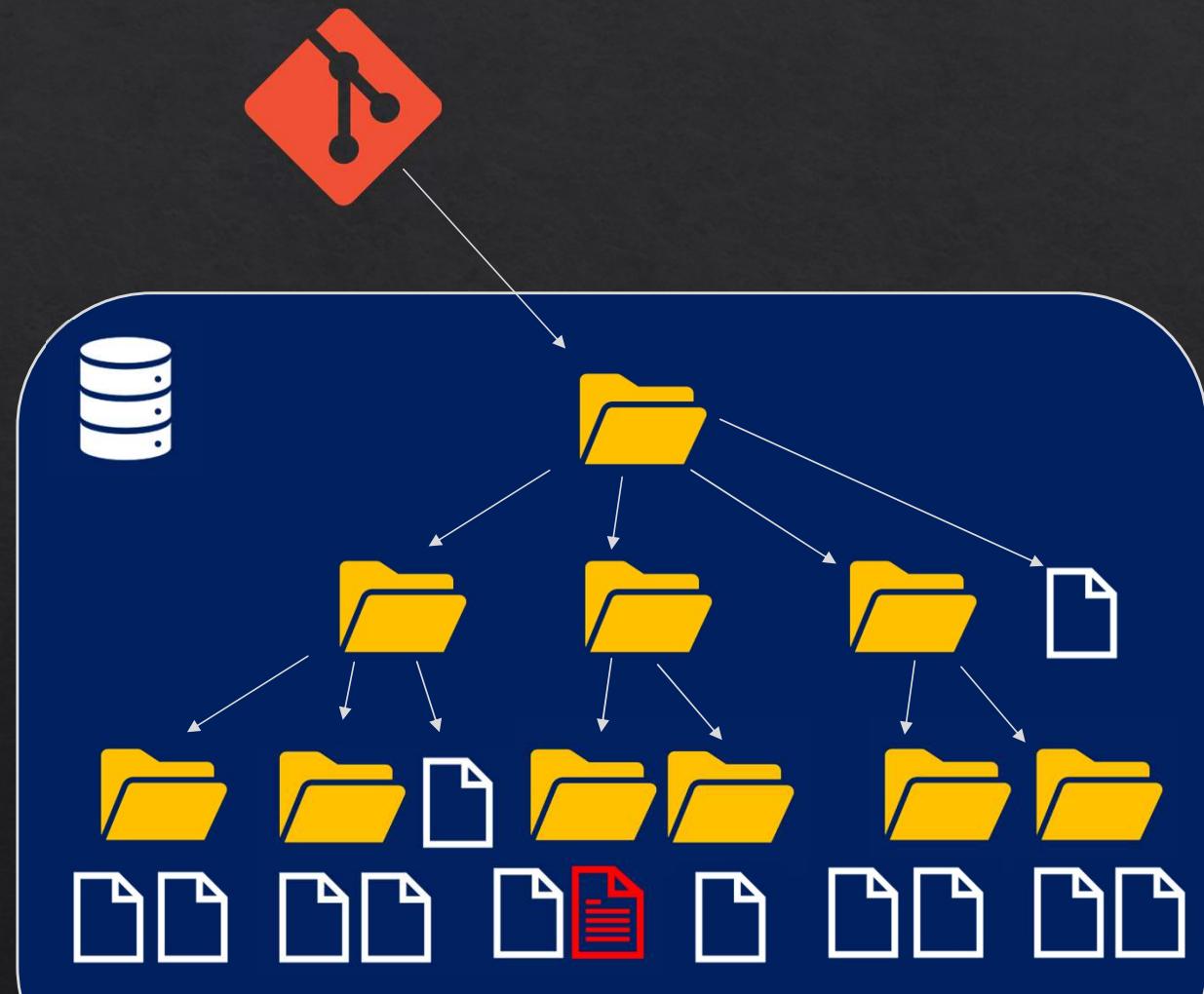
Spectrum of Perceived Performance



Finding Modified Files with Filesystem Monitor

Commands like `git status` or `git add` need to know which files were modified since the last checkout.

This usually results in scanning directories.



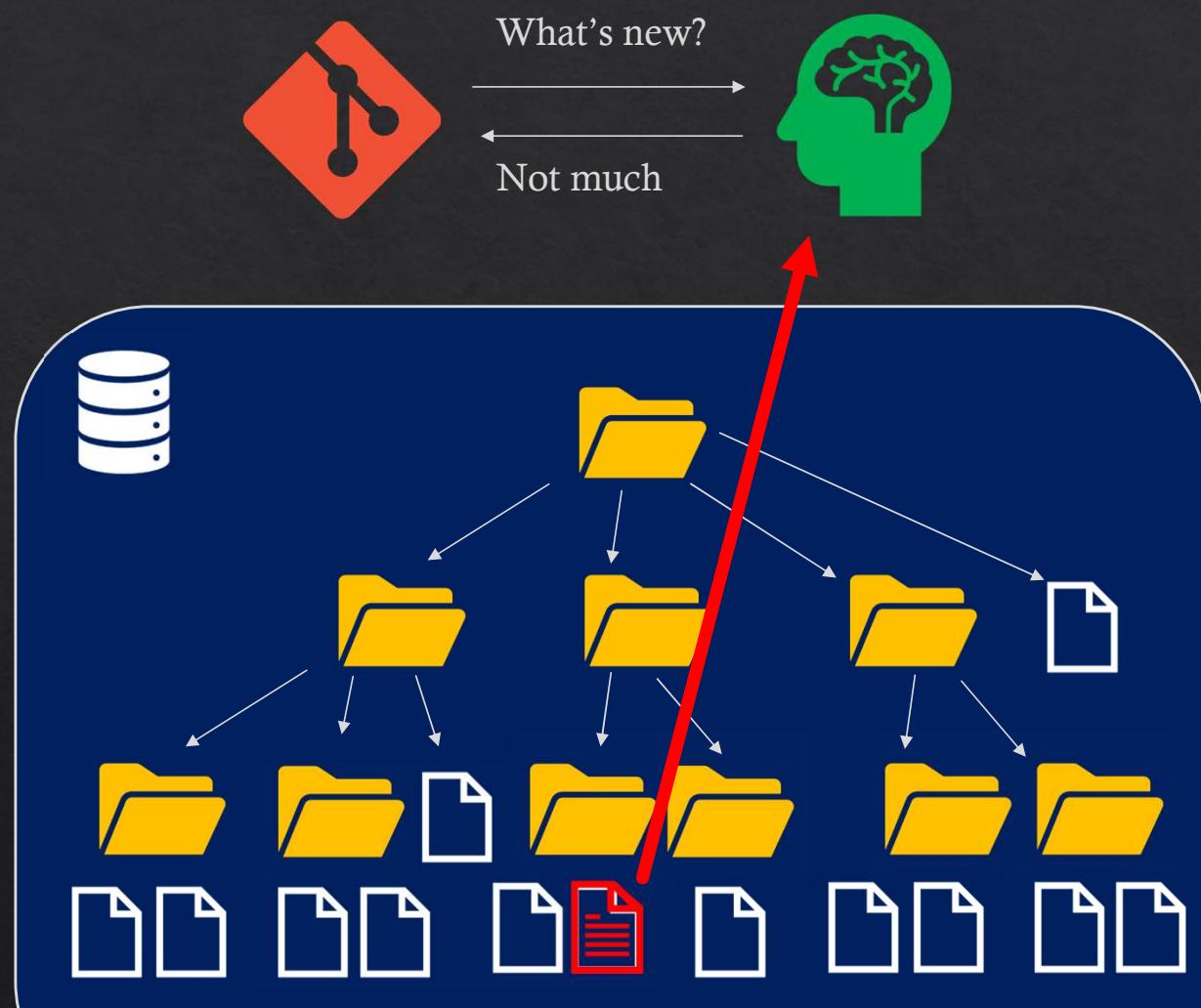
Finding Modified Files with Filesystem Monitor

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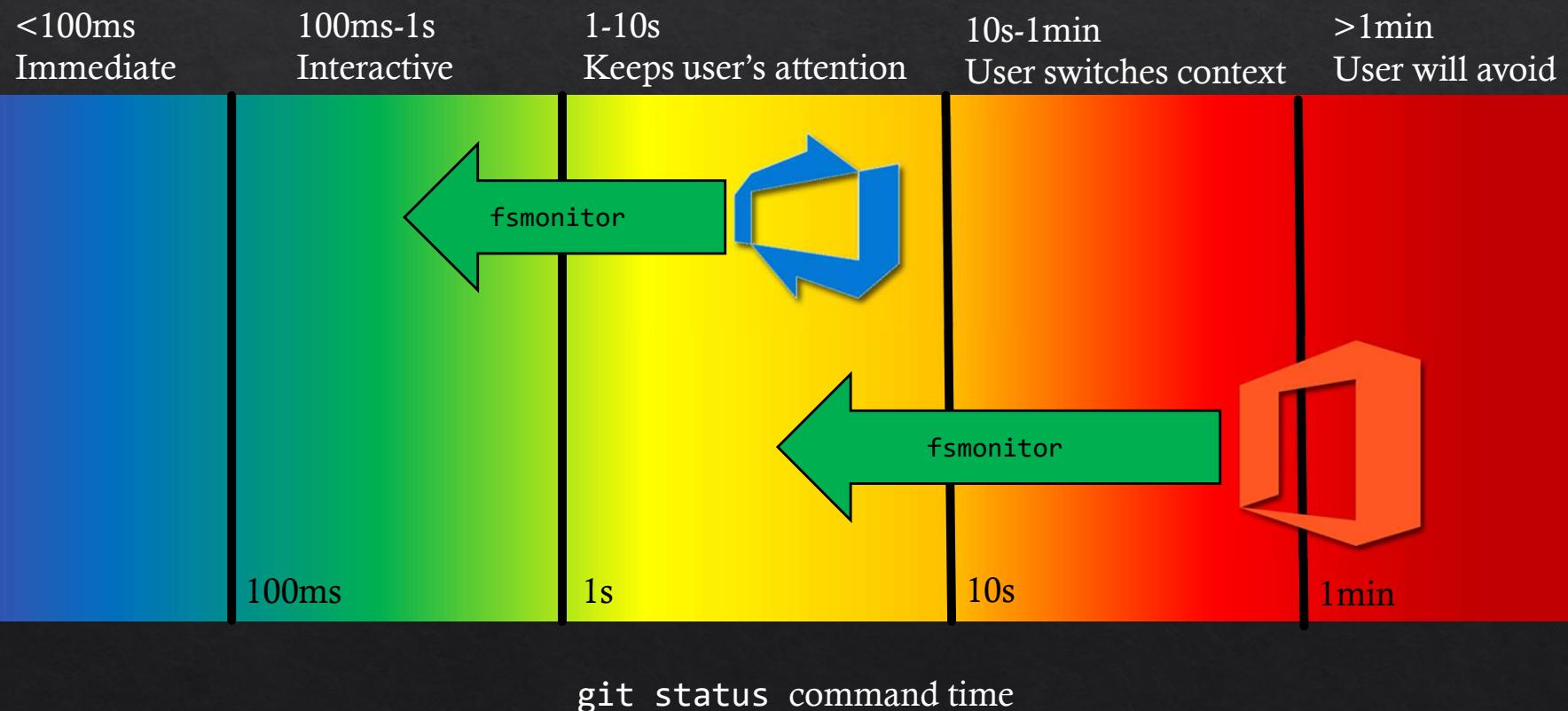
This usually results in scanning directories.

With the `fsmonitor` hook, Git can get a list from a specialized filesystem watcher, such as

<https://github.com/facebook/watchman>



Spectrum of Perceived Performance



How can Git better focus on files that matter?

Sparse-Checkout

- Continued UX improvements
 - `git sparse-checkout add <dir>`
 - `git sparse-checkout remove <dir>`
 - `git sparse-checkout stats`
 - Update with non-empty `git status`

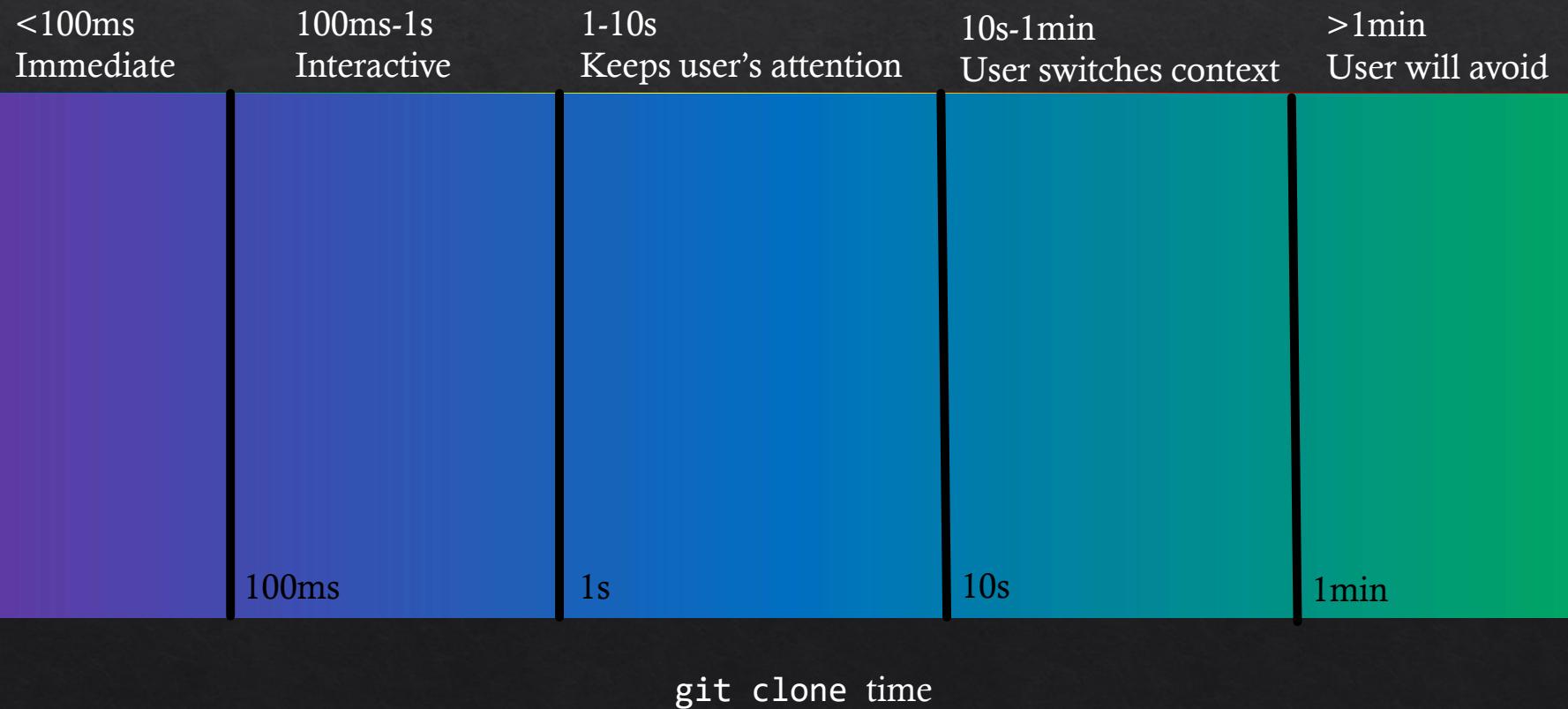
Filesystem Monitor

- Make the hook more robust, faster
- We are preparing a **Git-aware** filesystem monitor.

Lesson 2: Reduce Object Transfer

```
dstolee@dstolee-book MINGW64 /c/_git/t
$ git clone --single-branch https://dev.azure.com/mseng/_git/AzureDevOps
Cloning into 'AzureDevOps'...
remote: Azure Repos
remote: Found 6938156 objects to send. (1090 ms)
Receiving objects:  0% (18433/6938156), 3.13 MiB | 1.17 MiB/s
```

Spectrum of Perceived Performance



Spectrum of Perceived Performance

<1m
Feels fast

1m-10m
Feels slow

10m-1h
Over lunch break

1h-10h
Overnight

>10h
User will avoid

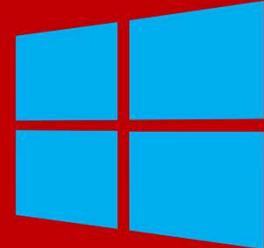
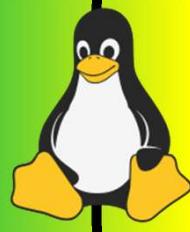
1m

10m

1h

10h

git clone time



GVFS Protocol → Partial Clone

GVFS protocol (Created 2015-16)

- ❖ Uses these REST API endpoints:
 - ❖ GET <url>/gvfs/config
 - ❖ GET <url>/gvfs/objects/{objectid}
 - ❖ POST <url>/gvfs/objects
 - ❖ GET <url>/gvfs/prefetch
 - ❖ POST <url>/gvfs/sizes

Git Partial Clone (Created 2018)

- ❖ `git clone --filter=blob:none <url>`
- ❖ Fetches only commits and trees
- ❖ Blobs are fetched in a batch request during `git checkout` and similar requests

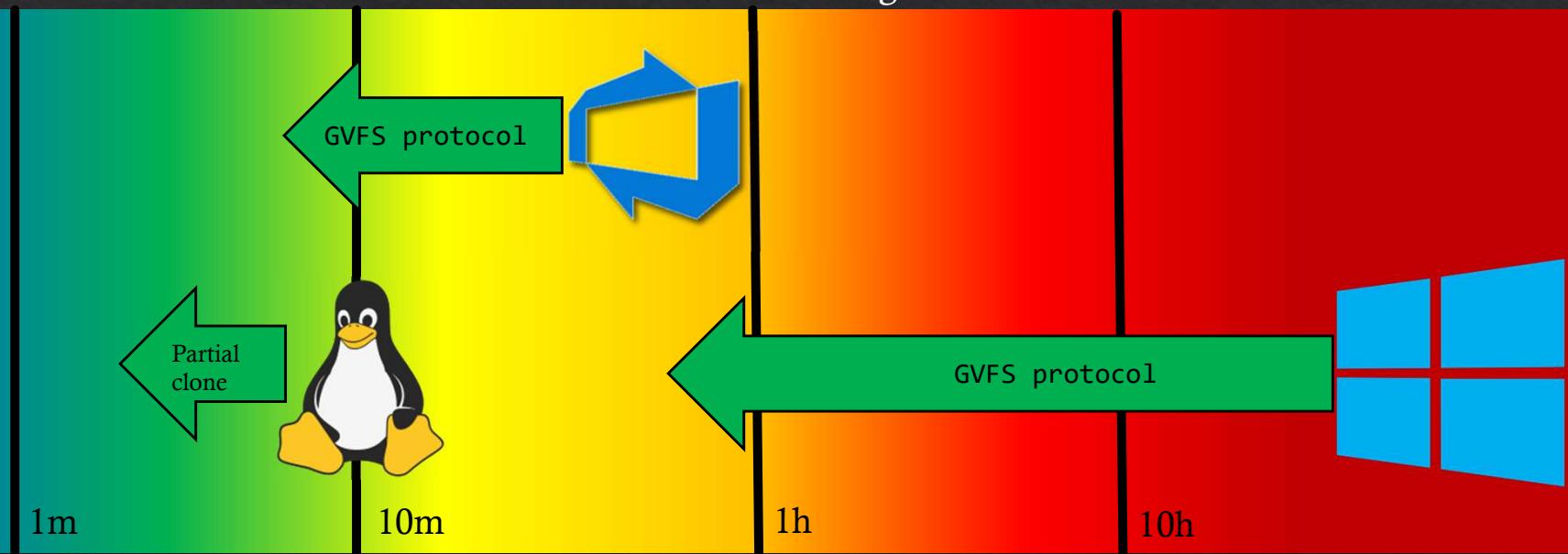
Now available on all GitHub.com repositories!

Reduced Object Transfer + Sparse-Checkout = Success!

<https://git-scm.com/docs/partial-clone>

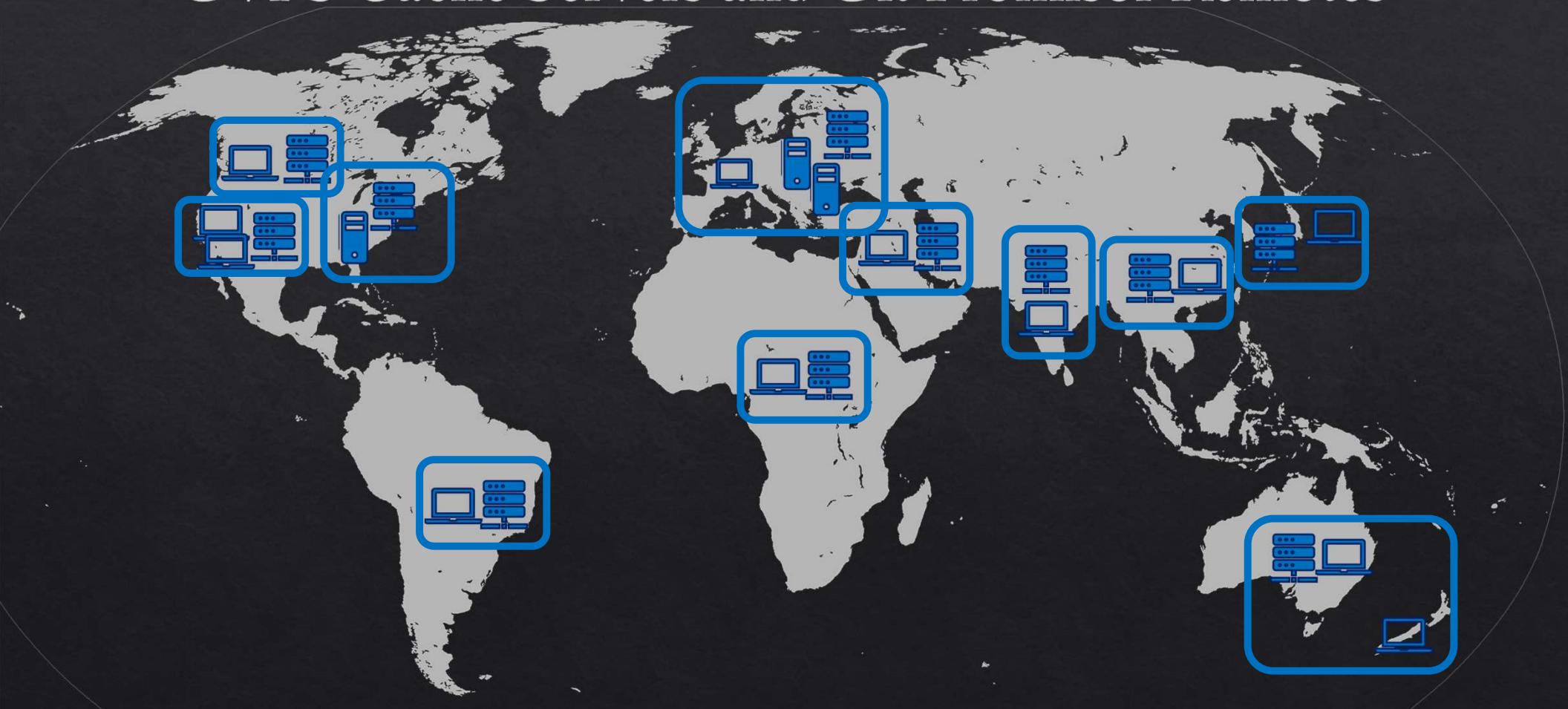
Spectrum of Perceived Performance

<1m Feels fast 1m-10m Feels slow 10m-1h Over lunch break 1h-10h Overnight >10h User will avoid



Time for git clone vs partial clone or GVFS protocol

GVFS Cache Servers and Git Promisor Remotes



Lesson 3: Don't wait for expensive operations



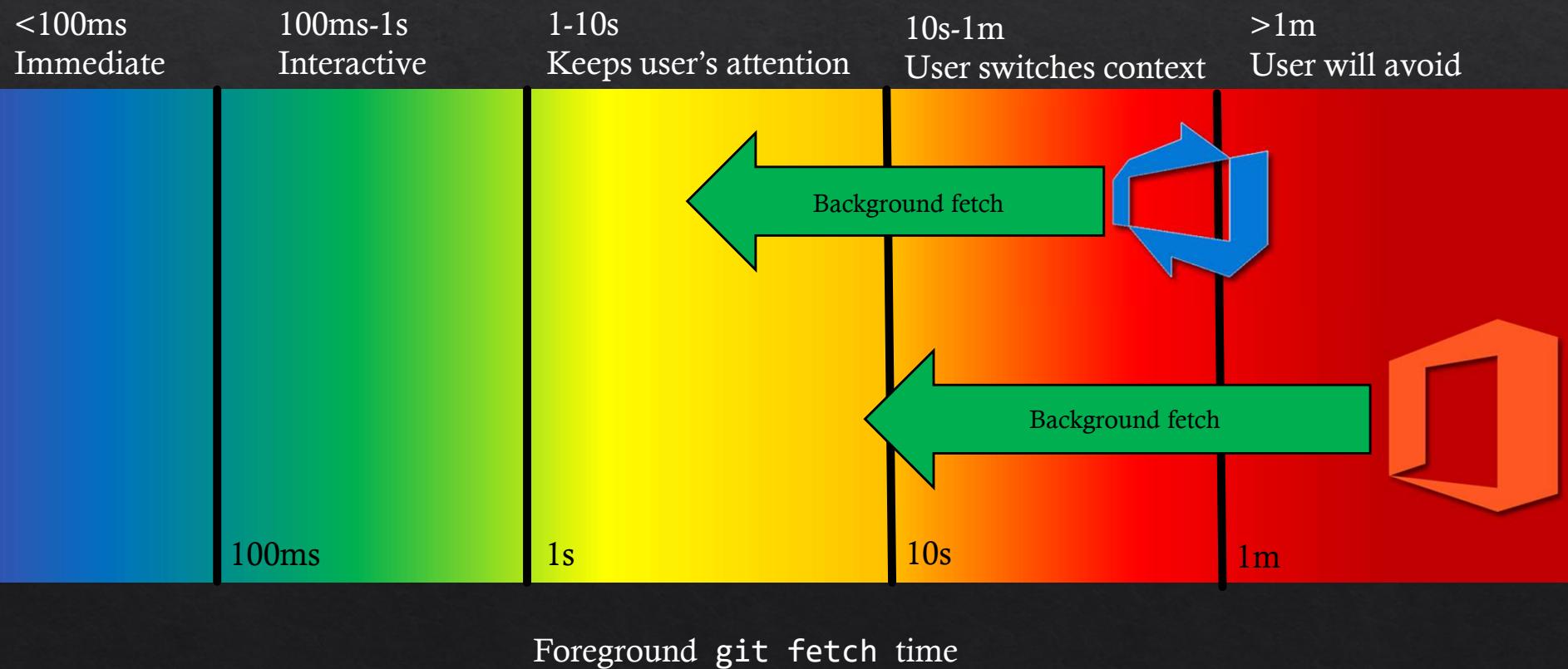
<https://xkcd.com/303/>

Background Maintenance

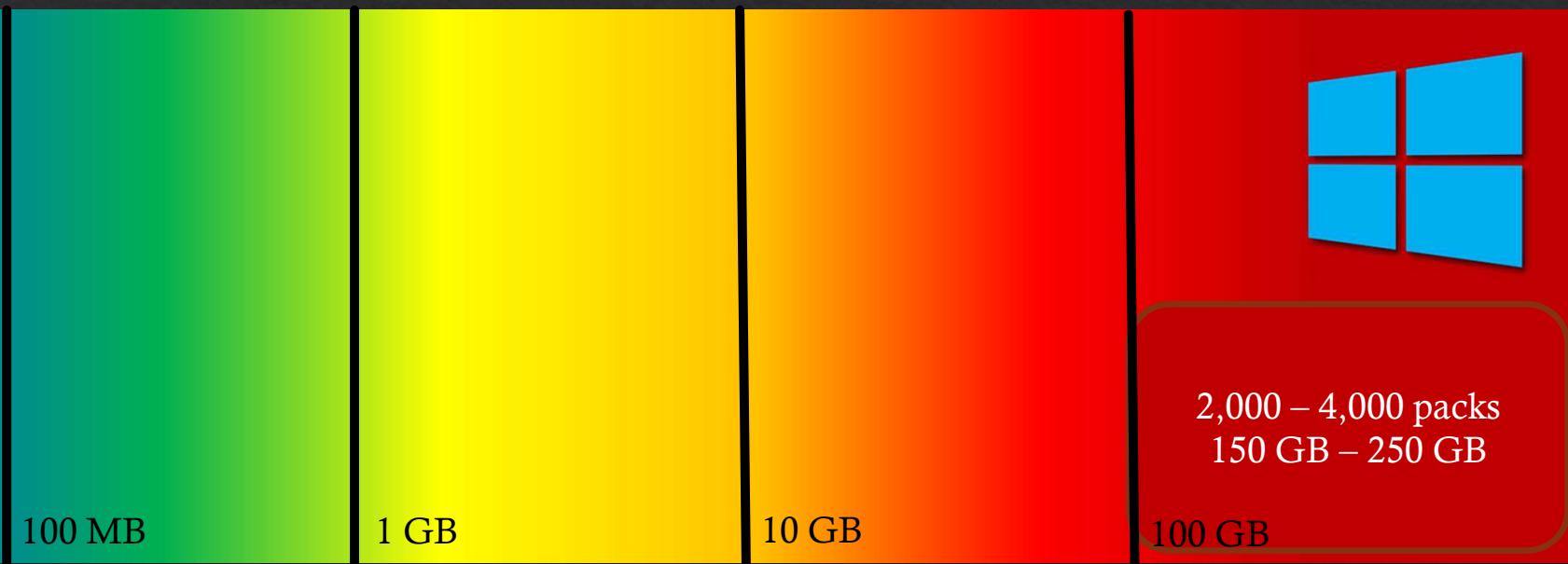
The following can be done in the background, reducing user-blocking time:

- **Background fetch:** get latest objects from remotes
- **Loose Objects:** Clean up loose objects safely
- **Pack-files:** Index and repack pack-files incrementally

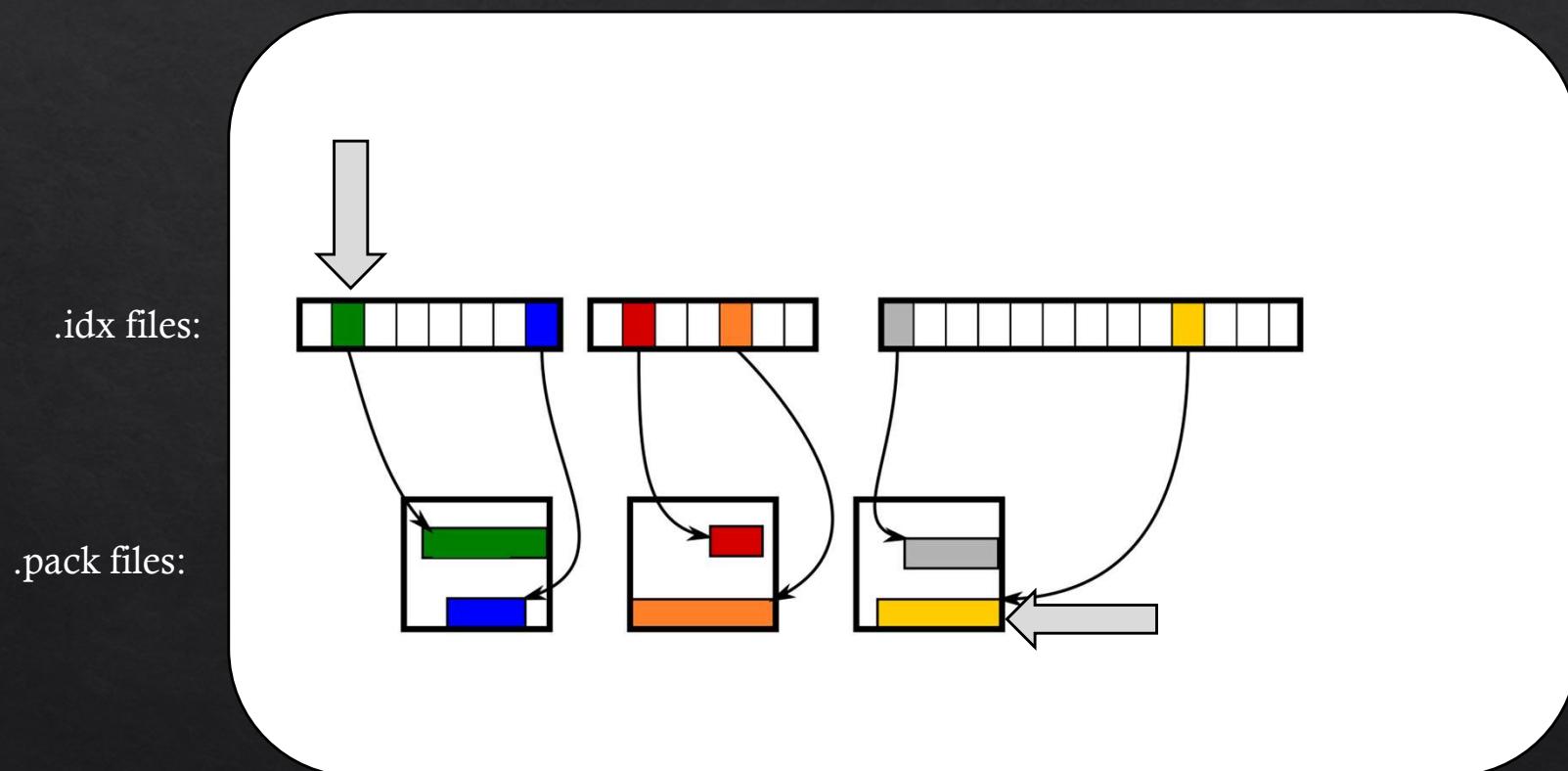
Spectrum of Perceived Performance



Too Many Packs?



Too Many Packs?



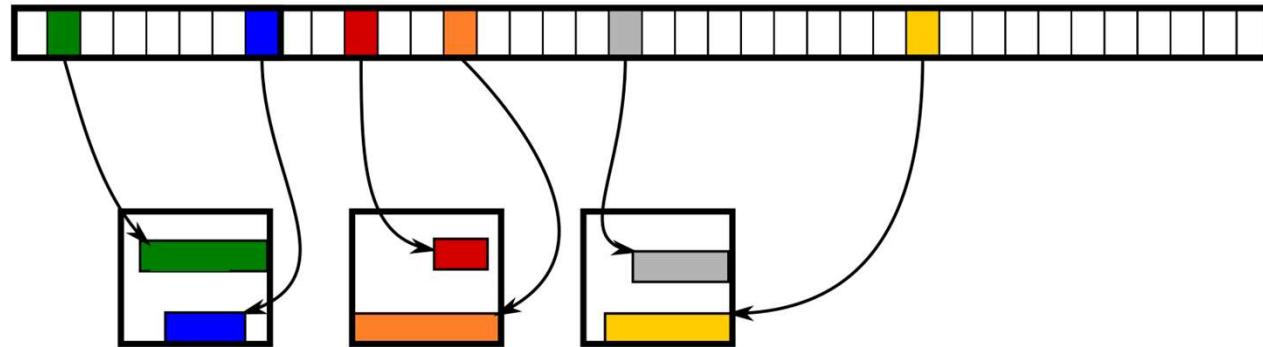
Too Many Packs?

`git multi-pack-index write`

multi-pack-index:



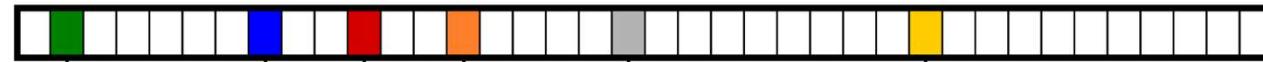
.pack files:



Incremental Repack

`git multi-pack-index repack`

multi-pack-index:



.pack files:



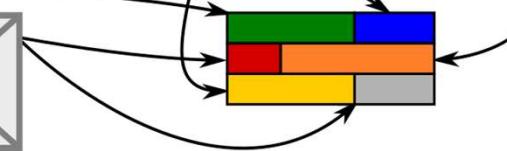
Incremental Repack

```
git multi-pack-index expire
```

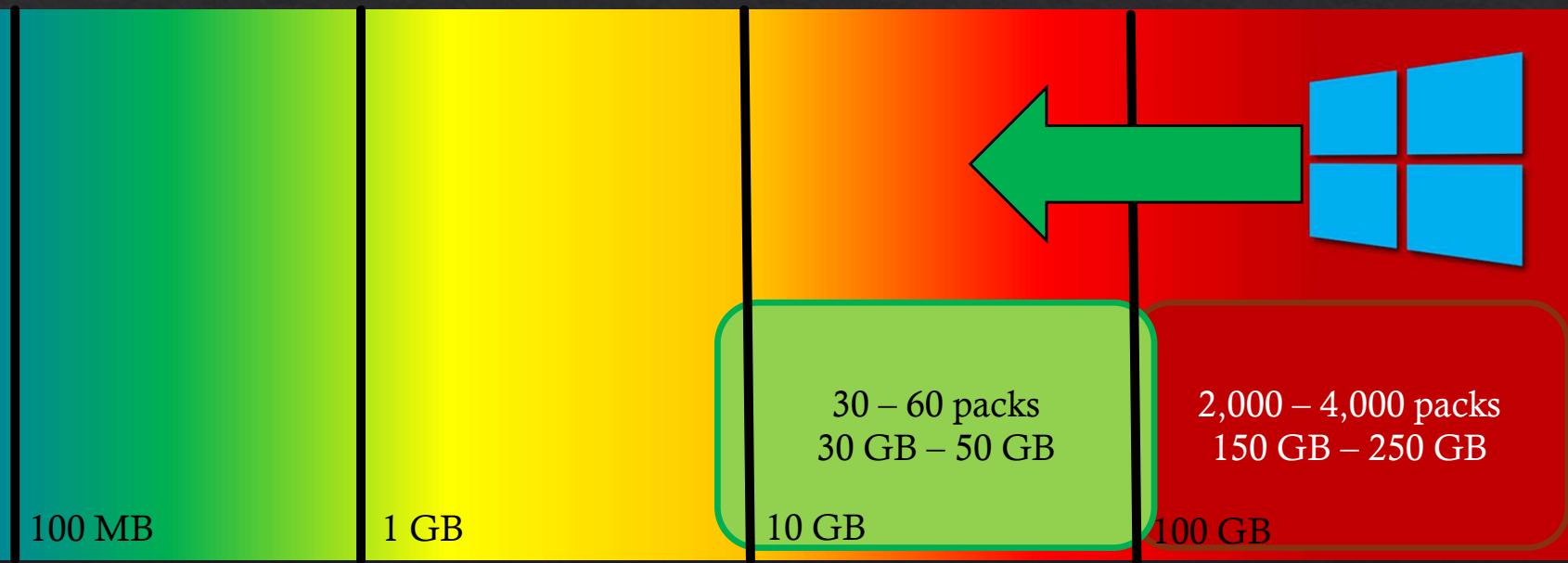
multi-pack-index:



.pack files:



Spectrum of Scale



Effect of background `git multi-pack-index repack`

Background Maintenance in Git?

- ❖ *Should* Git do background maintenance?
- ❖ What of these background jobs make sense for most users?
- ❖ How might expert users want to customize these jobs? (Frequency, batch sizes, etc.)



Scalar

<https://github.com/microsoft/scalar>

Installers available for Windows and macOS

Scalar Quick Start

```
$ git version
```

```
git version 2.25.0.vfs.1.3
```

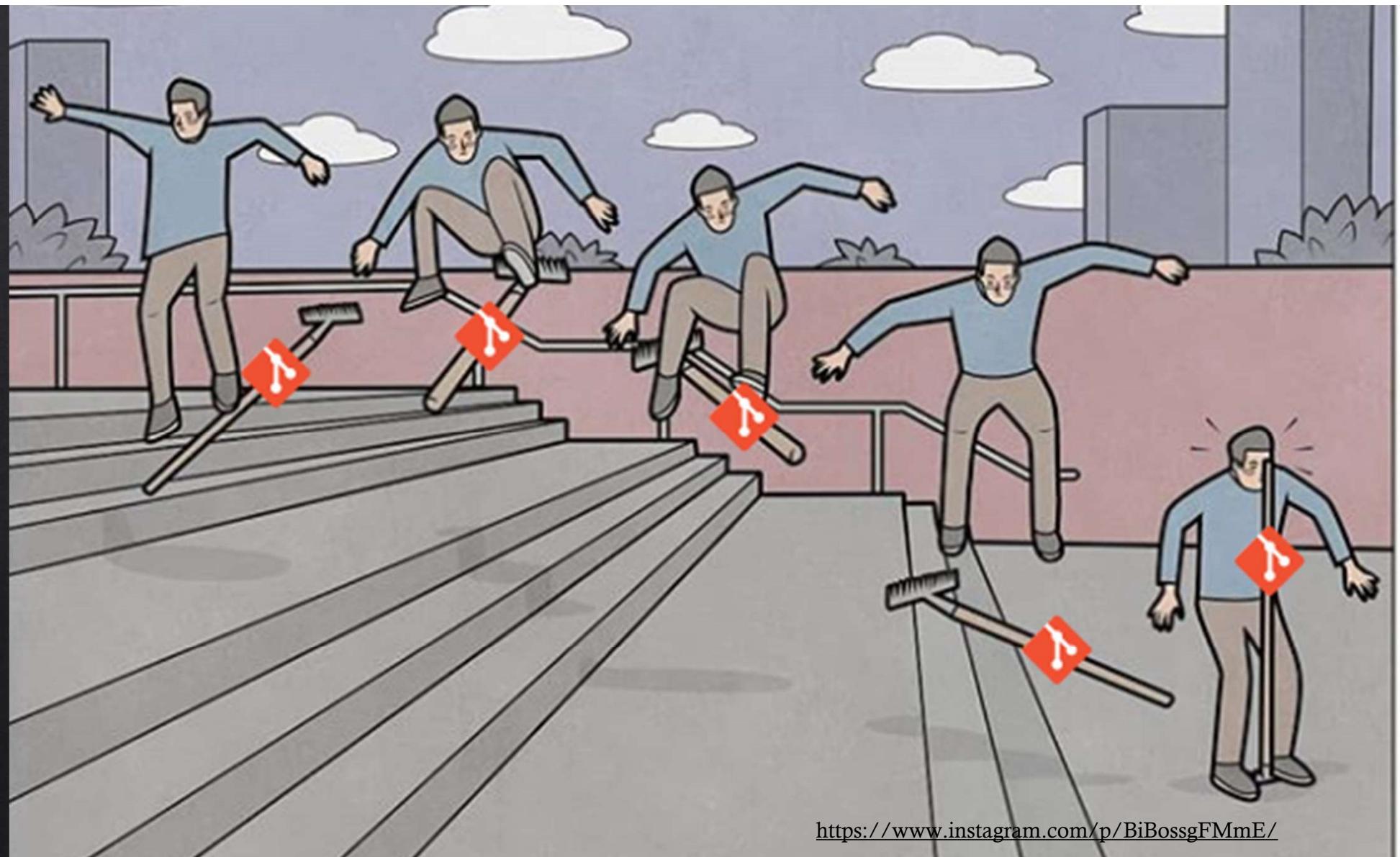
```
$ scalar version
```

```
scalar 20.01.165.4
```

```
$ scalar register
```

```
Successfully registered repo at '/Users/stolee/_git/vscode'
```

Demo: scalar register



<https://www.instagram.com/p/BiBossgFMmE/>

Demo: scalar clone

Scalar bridges
the gap *for now*

Features coming to Git:

- Git-native filesystem monitor
- Git-native cache servers
- Background maintenance



Scalar

<https://github.com/microsoft/scalar>

Installers available for Windows and macOS