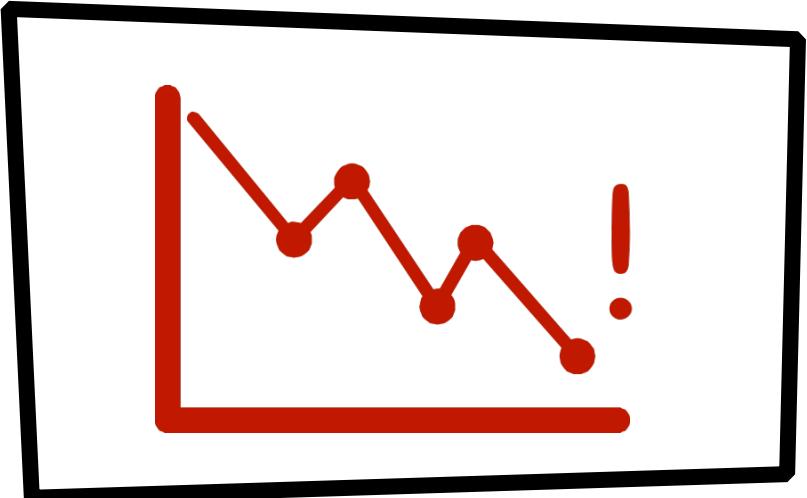


Shifting QA Left

Code Analysis at Google and Facebook

Stephen Magill
CEO, Muse Dev

Slide on why code security and quality are important

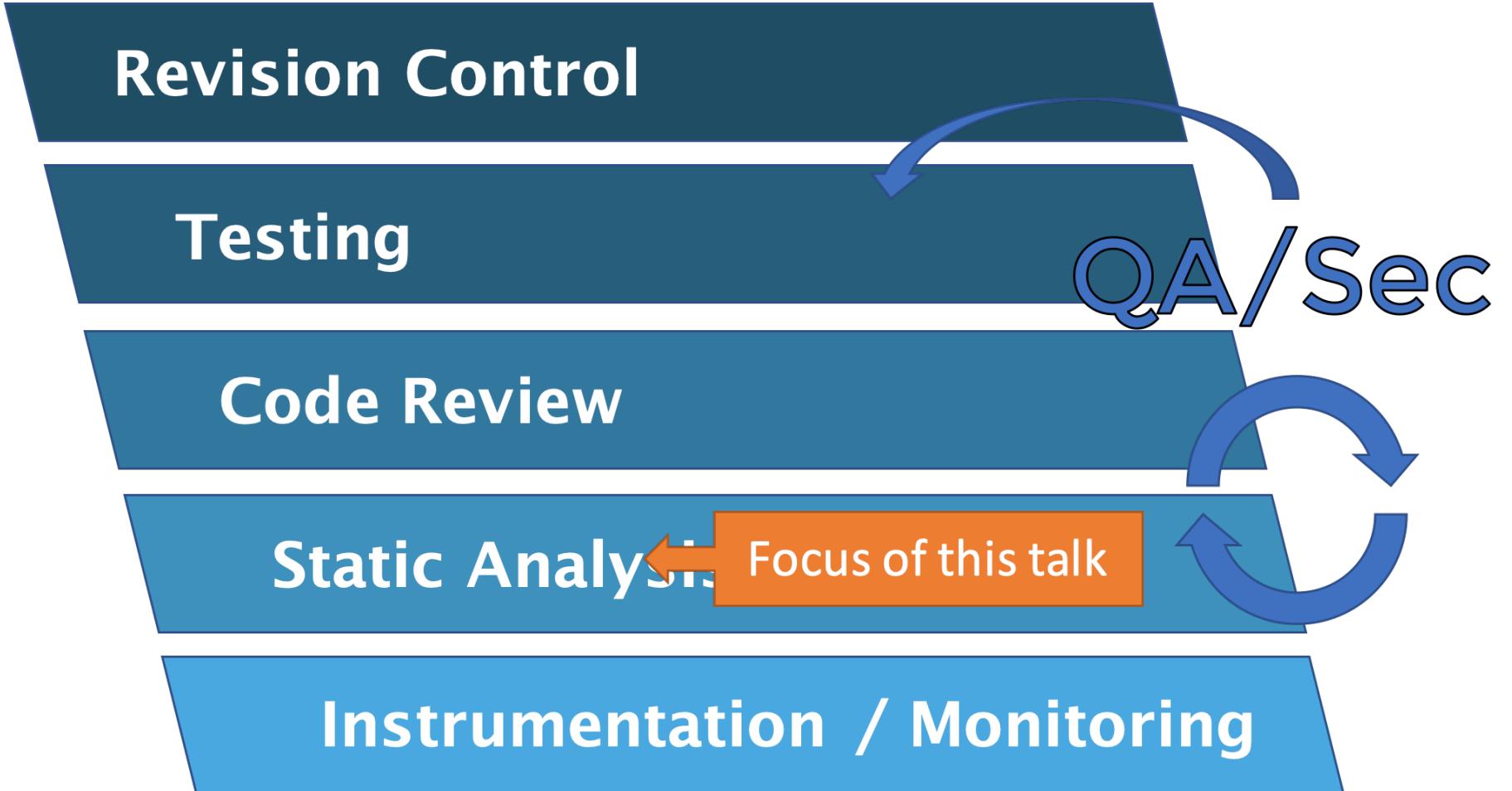


Scary Graph



Scary Story

Code Quality Best Practices



MANY CHOICES

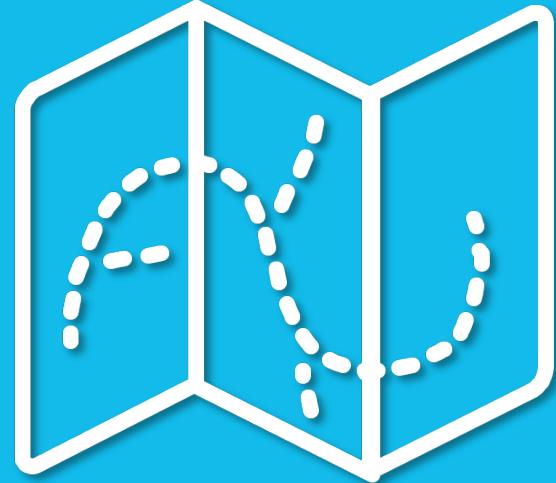
Some more effective than others

TODAY'S TALK

How to **maximize** outcomes
while **minimizing** process.

PRIMARY FOCUS

Orchestrating analysis
(vs. analysis itself)



WHAT ARE THE BIG TECH COMPANIES DOING

facebook



Google

KEY PRINCIPLES

- Principle 1: Use Multiple Tools
- Principle 2: Integration Matters
- Principle 3: Cherish Developer Trust
- Principle 4: Tools Can Support Productivity

STATIC ANALYSIS

Say something about the behavior of the program
without running the program.



This piece of data is
not properly encrypted.



Data is properly
encrypted everywhere

STATIC ANALYSIS

Say something about the behavior of the program
without running the program.

Security

Readability

Reliability

Performance

Maintainability

Correctness

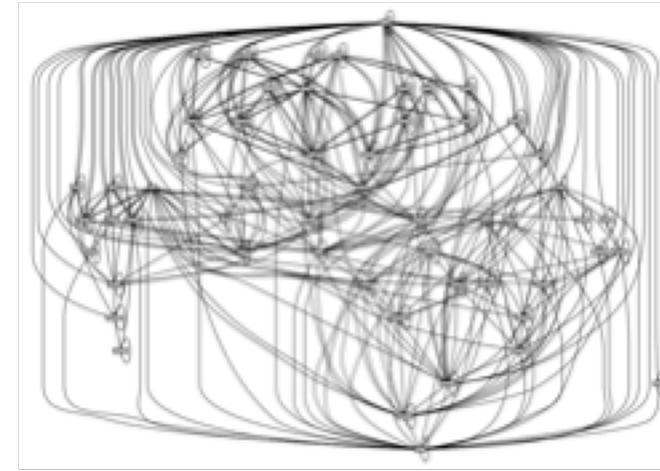
STATIC ANALYSIS

Simplest Example: Grep

```
init_connection(3DES, ...)
```

Code does not contain
“`init_connection(3DES”`
(maybe some allowance for white space)

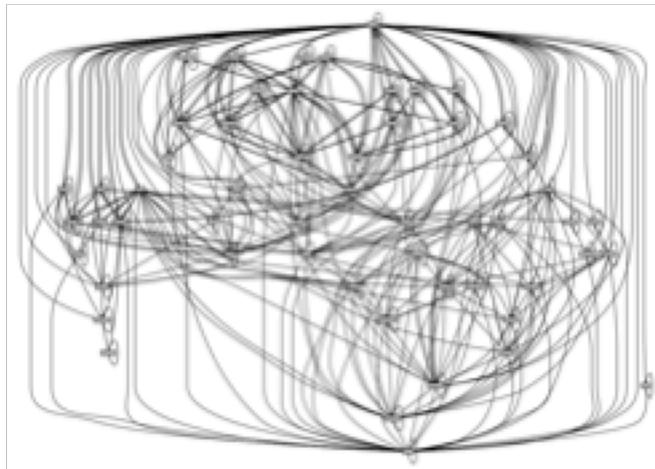
More Advanced: Graph Analysis



The value `3DES` does not flow to
the `init_connection` method.

STATIC ANALYSIS

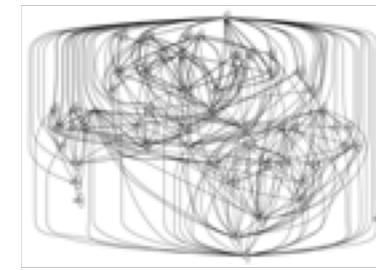
More Advanced: Graph Analysis



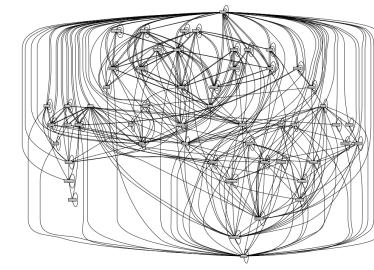
The value `3DES` does not flow to the `init_connection` method.

More Advanced Still: Compositional Program Analysis

UI Thread



Network Thread



The `UI thread` and `Network thread` are not properly synchronized.

STATIC ANALYSIS

Simple “Shallow” Analyses

Simple API misuse

Deprecated APIs

Leaked Authentication Tokens

More Advanced “Deep” Analyses

Memory Errors

Thread Safety Problems

Performance Issues

KEY PRINCIPLES

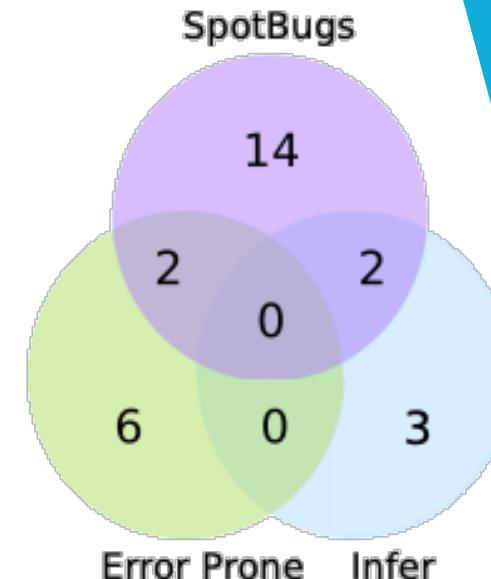
- Principle 1: Use Multiple Tools
- Principle 2: Integration Matters
- Principle 3: Cherish Developer Trust
- Principle 4: Tools Can Support Productivity

PRINCIPLE 1: USE MULTIPLE TOOLS

“

Results also showed limited overlap between tool reports. The use of multiple tools can increase overall recall and boost confidence in overlapping results.

Delaitre, Aurelien M., et al. *SATE V Report: Ten Years of Static Analysis Tool Expositions*. No. Special Publication (NIST SP)-500-326. 2018.



Habib, Andrew, and
Pradel, Michael.
"How many of all
bugs do we find?
a study of static
Bug detectors."
ASE. 2018.

PRINCIPLE 1: USE MULTIPLE TOOLS

“

As of January 2018, Tricorder included 146 analyzers, with 125 contributed from outside the Tricorder team...

Sadowski, Caitlin, Edward Aftandilian, Alex Eagle, Liam Miller-Cushon, and Ciera Jaspan. "Lessons from building static analysis tools at Google." (2018).

PRINCIPLE 1: USE MULTIPLE TOOLS

FROM GOOGLE

ErrorProne, ClangTidy

FROM FACEBOOK

Infer

FROM OSS COMMUNITY

PMD, SpotBugs, FindSecBugs,
Clang Static Analyzer

KEY PRINCIPLES

- Principle 1: Use Multiple Tools
- Principle 2: Integration Matters
- Principle 3: Cherish Developer Trust
- Principle 4: Tools Can Support Productivity

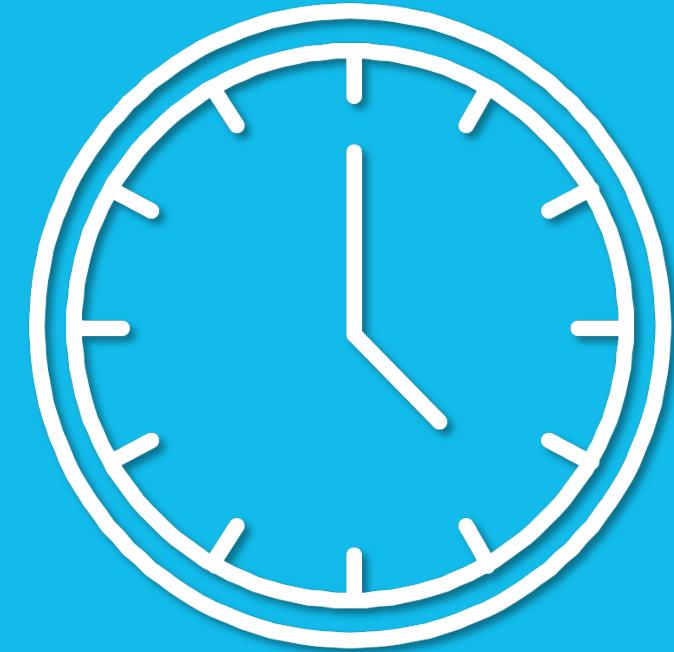
HOW TO DO STATIC ANALYSIS

1. Run static analysis tools and never look at the results.
2. Run static analysis tools and file bug reports that get ignored.
3. Evaluate QA on bugs fixed and developers on features shipped, setting up an epic ongoing battle.
4. Present results to developers **when they want to see them.**

TIMING MATTERS

Best times to display results:

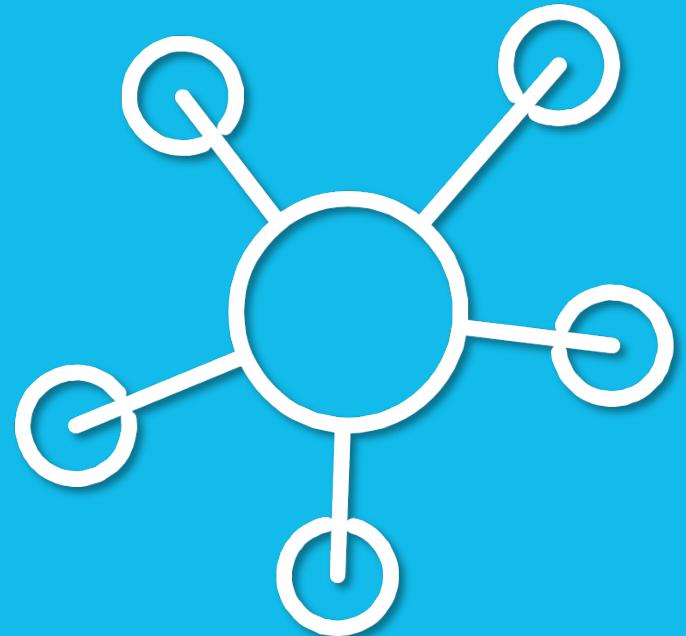
- ▶ Right after you wrote the code
- ▶ Right after you modified the code
- ▶ When you have the code “paged in”



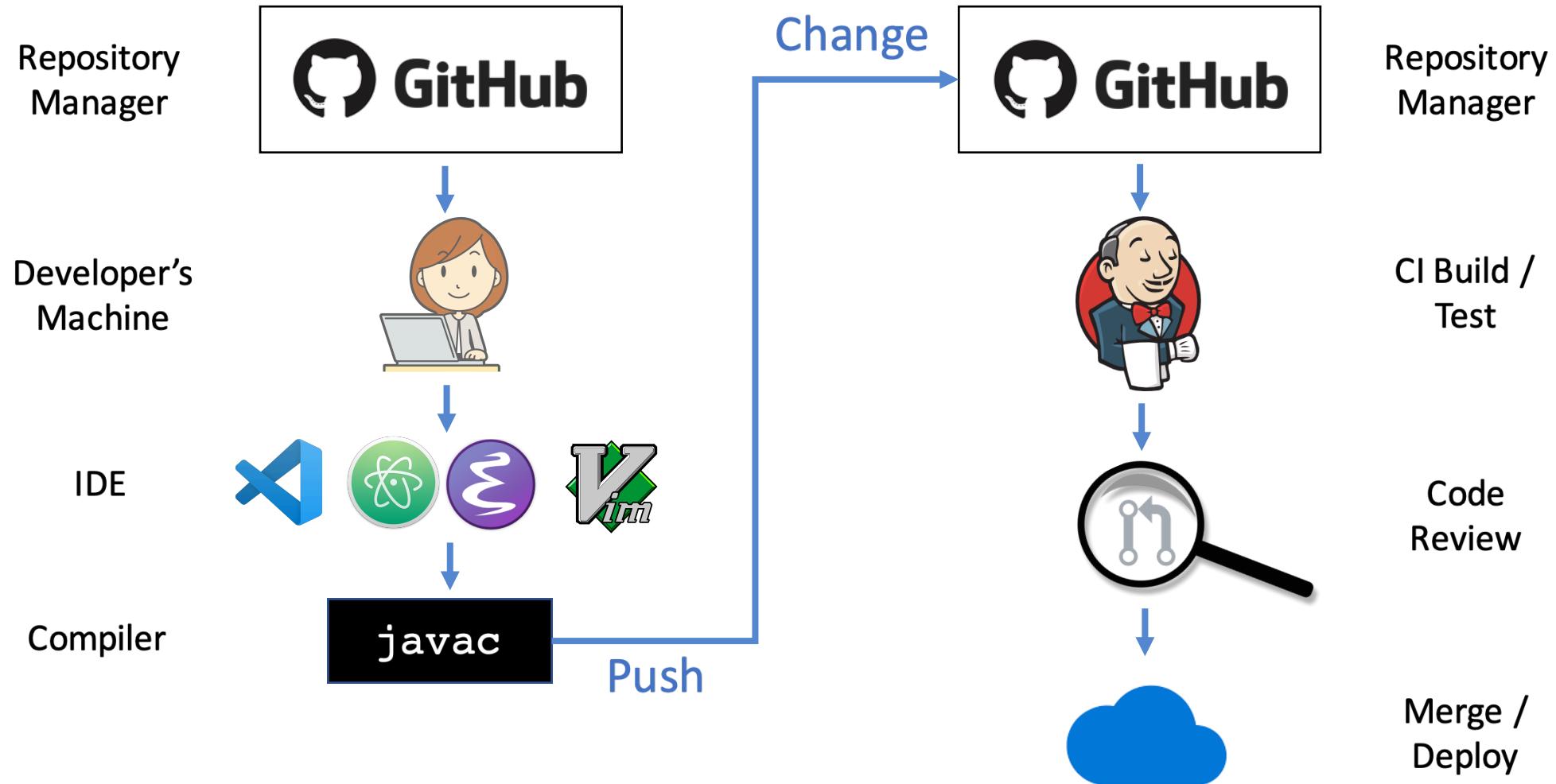
GOOD INTEGRATION

- ▶ Timely
- ▶ Part of an existing **developer** workflow
- ▶ Using existing **developer** tools

Developers are the ones who fix the bugs!



Use Existing Developer Workflow / Tools





**FOLLOW ME, TO A
PLACE OUTSIDE
YOUR WORKFLOW...**

MY AWESOME BUG DASHBOARD

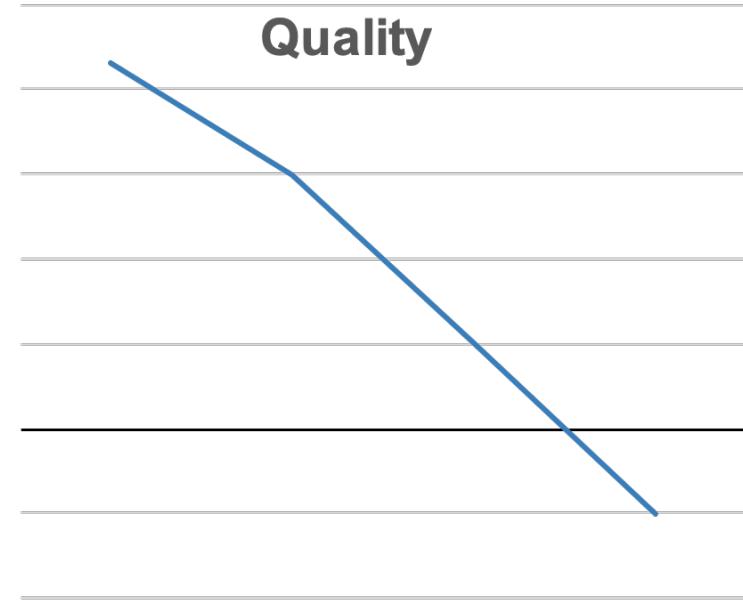
Error in [src/villians/thanos.c](#), line 182

Didn't use `Ops::balance` correctly,
click [here](#) for more info.

Error in [src/utopias/brazil.c](#), line 8287

`CentralServices::repair`
always results in an exception.

mediocre
terrible
worse
I don't even



AND IT'S ALL JOE'S FAULT!

[Code](#)[Issues 726](#)[Pull requests 191](#)[Projects 0](#)[Wiki](#)[Insights](#)

Performance improvement in RequestMappingInfo #22598

[Open](#)aftersss wants to merge 3 commits into [spring-projects:master](#) from [aftersss:master](#)[Conversation 6](#)[Commits 3](#)[Checks 0](#)[Files changed 3](#)[+45 -12](#)

aftersss commented 7 days ago • edited

Contributor



...

Reviewers

No reviews

Assignees



Labels

in: web

type: enhancement

We are using `spring-cloud-gateway` integrated with `spring-boot-starter-actuator`, we run a load test on it(using jmeter, and my gateway program runs on a linux server with 4 cores/2GB) and found that `RequestMappingInfo` have some performance problem.

Scene 1: We added a `Http Header Manager` into `jmeter` with the header

```
Accept:text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q=0.8,(default value of chrome)
```

then I run jmeter and let my gateway program run to 2000 qps

procs	-----	memory	-----	swap	-----	io	-----									
r	b	swpd	free	buff	cache	si	so	bi	bo	in	cs	us	sy	id	wa	st
9	0	0	88152	0	737520	0	0	0	0	13309	12464	58	6	36	0	0
5	0	0	88216	0	737360	0	0	0	0	12554	10777	53	5	43	0	0
5	0	0	87228	0	737296	0	0	0	0	11844	10975	46	4	50	0	0
7	0	0	87840	0	737360	0	0	0	0	11759	10714	51	5	45	0	0

cpu usage is about 60%

Projects

None yet

0	0	0	88278	0	737204	0	0	0	0	11550	10725	34	0	41	0	0
10	0	0	87592	0	737296	0	0	0	20	13214	11110	54	5	41	0	0
5	0	0	87468	0	737396	0	0	0	0	13202	9999	62	6	32	0	0

Scene 2: We added a `Http Header Manager` into the request, then I run jmeter and let my gateway program run to 2000 qps, the `cpu usage is about 35%`

procs	-----	memory	-----	swap	-----	u-----										
r	b	swpd	free	buff	cache	si	so	bi	bo	in	cs	us	sy	id	wa	st
4	0	0	139732	0	796180	0	0	0	4	10783	16462	23	4	72	0	0
0	0	0	139512	0	796180	0	0	0	12	13785	19343	28	6	66	0	0
0	0	0	139732	0	796180	0	0	0	25	10906	15841	22	4	75	0	0
3	0	0	139356	0	796212	0	0	0	0	10927	15714	22	4	73	0	0
5	0	0	139704	0	796216	0	0	0	0	12365	16278	32	5	62	0	0
5	0	0	139668	0	796216	0	0	0	0	11963	16818	28	5	67	0	0
0	0	0	139736	0	796184	0	0	0	0	12657	16375	30	5	64	0	0
1	0	0	139640	0	796184	0	0	0	0	11530	15459	28	5	68	0	0
6	0	0	139424	0	796188	0	0	0	0	13327	18703	29	4	67	0	0
6	0	0	139452	0	796188	0	0	0	0	12045	16617	26	6	68	0	0
1	0	0	139512	0	796220	0	0	0	4	12067	16385	27	5	69	0	0
1	0	0	139484	0	796188	0	0	0	40	12101	17225	24	4	71	0	0
0	0	0	139420	0	796188	0	0	0	0	12447	16834	27	6	67	0	0
1	0	0	139140	0	796220	0	0	0	0	10916	15704	23	4	73	0	0

As you can see, the performance is affected by the length of `Accept` header, maybe hackers can use this performance problem to make ddos attack easier.

I use `async-profiler` (<https://github.com/jvm-profiling-tools/async-profiler>) to profile my program, and this is the result:

[aaa.txt](#)

there are many stacktraces like the following costs too much cpu:

Total: 2777057399 (3.74%) samples: 2766

Notifications

 [Subscribe](#)

You're not receiving notifications from this thread.

6 participants



Human Side of Code Review



jhoeller commented 7 days ago

Contributor + 😊 ...

Would it make sense to immediately return `null` after each individual condition check even?



2



Immediately return `null` after each individual condition check

✓ c7564f7



aftersss commented 7 days ago

Author Contributor + 😊 ...

Would it make sense to immediately return `null` after each individual condition check even?

I think it make sense, and the modification is committed.



jhoeller merged commit `29f382b` into `spring-projects:master` 8 days ago

[View details](#)

1 check passed

muse



muse-dev bot reviewed on Jan 30

[View changes](#)

src/acvp.c

```
4219 +     cap_entry->cap_type = ACVP_ECDSA_SIGVER_TYPE;  
4220 +     break;  
4221 +     default:  
4222 +         return ACVP_INVALID_ARG;
```

muse

muse-dev bot on Jan 30

MEMORY_LEAK: memory dynamically allocated to `return` by call to `calloc()` at line 4197, column 17 is not reachable after line 4222, column 9.



1



Reply...

[Resolve conversation](#)

PRINCIPLE 2: INTEGRATION MATTERS



A screenshot of a static code analysis tool interface. The code being analyzed is:

```
package com.google.devtools.staticanalysis;

public class Test {
    ▾ Lint      Missing a Javadoc comment.
        1:02 AM, Aug 21
        Please fix
        Not useful
    public Boolean foo() {
        return getString() == "foo".toString();
    }
    ▾ ErrorProne  String comparison using reference equality instead of value equality
        (see http://code.google.com/p/error-prone/wiki/StringEquality)
        1:03 AM, Aug 21
        Please fix
        Suggested fix attached: show
        Not useful
    }

    public String getString() {
        return new String("foo");
    }
}
```

Two specific issues are highlighted with orange circles:

- The first Lint error: "Missing a Javadoc comment." with timestamp "1:02 AM, Aug 21". It has a "Please fix" link and a "Not useful" link.
- The second ErrorProne error: "String comparison using reference equality instead of value equality (see <http://code.google.com/p/error-prone/wiki/StringEquality>)" with timestamp "1:03 AM, Aug 21". It has a "Please fix" link, a "Suggested fix attached: [show](#)" link, and a "Not useful" link.

Sadowski, Caitlin, et al. "Tricorder: Building a program analysis ecosystem." *Proceedings of the 37th International Conference on Software Engineering-Volume 1*. IEEE Press, 2015.

PRINCIPLE 2: INTEGRATION MATTERS



“

...a striking situation where the diff time deployment saw a 70% fix rate, where a more traditional "offline" or "batch" deployment (where bug lists are presented to engineers, outside their workflow) saw a 0% fix rate.

Distefano, Dino, et al. "Scaling static analyses at Facebook." *Communications of the ACM* 62.8 (2019): 62-70.

KEY PRINCIPLES

- Principle 1: Use Multiple Tools
- Principle 2: Integration Matters
- Principle 3: Cherish Developer Trust
- Principle 4: Tools Can Support Productivity

THINGS THAT CAN GO WRONG

- There are more automated results than developer comments
- Most tool results are useless status updates or style suggestions
- The results that report errors were false positives
- I start looking for browser extensions to filter out tool results.

DANGER OF LOW SIGNAL TO NOISE

- As more analyzers are added, the risk of “tool fatigue” increases.
- Makes it even more important to maintain a high standard of quality for error reports.
- Once lost, developer trust is never regained and effectiveness plummets.

PRINCIPLE 3: CHERISH DEVELOPER TRUST



Tricorder

The screenshot shows a Java code editor with static analysis results. The code is:

```
package com.google.devtools.staticanalysis;

public class Test {
    public boolean foo() {
        return getString() == "foo".toString();
    }

    public String getString() {
        return new String("foo");
    }
}
```

Two inspection results are shown:

- Lint**: Missing a Javadoc comment. (Java, 1:02 AM, Aug 21)
Please fix
Not useful
- ErrorProne**: String comparison using reference equality instead of value equality (see <http://code.google.com/p/error-prone/wiki/StringEquality>)
1:03 AM, Aug 21
Please fix
Suggested fix attached: [show](#)
Not useful

Data-driven continual assessment of value.



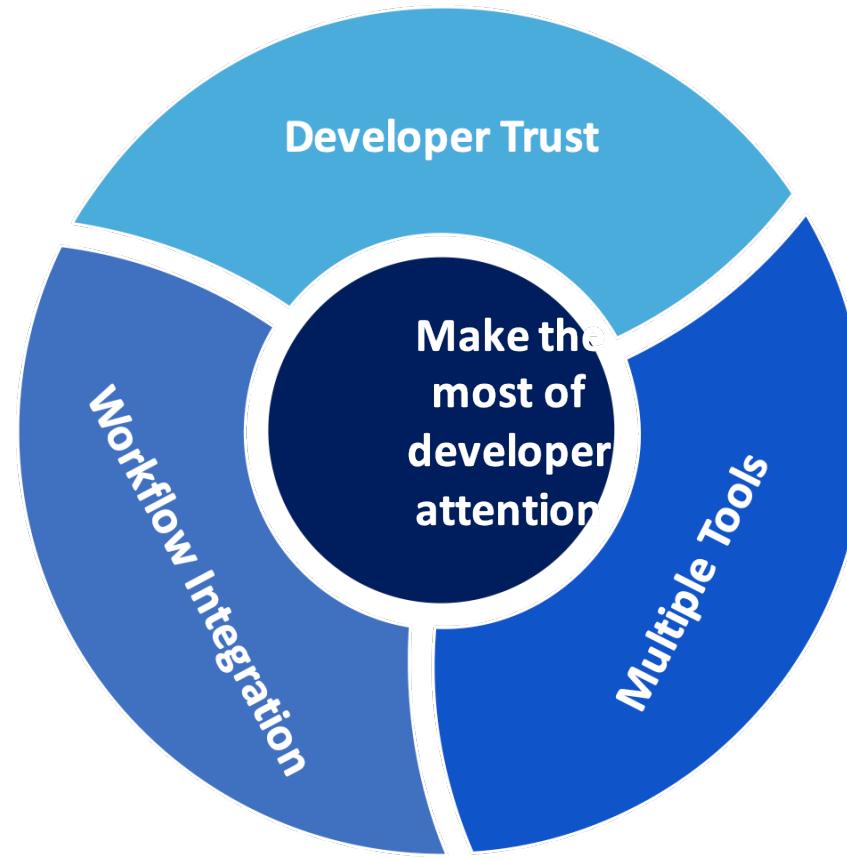
Analyses with >10% effective false positive rate are pulled.

Sadowski, Caitlin, et al. "Tricorder: Building a program analysis ecosystem." *Proceedings of the 37th International Conference on Software Engineering-Volume 1*. IEEE Press, 2015.

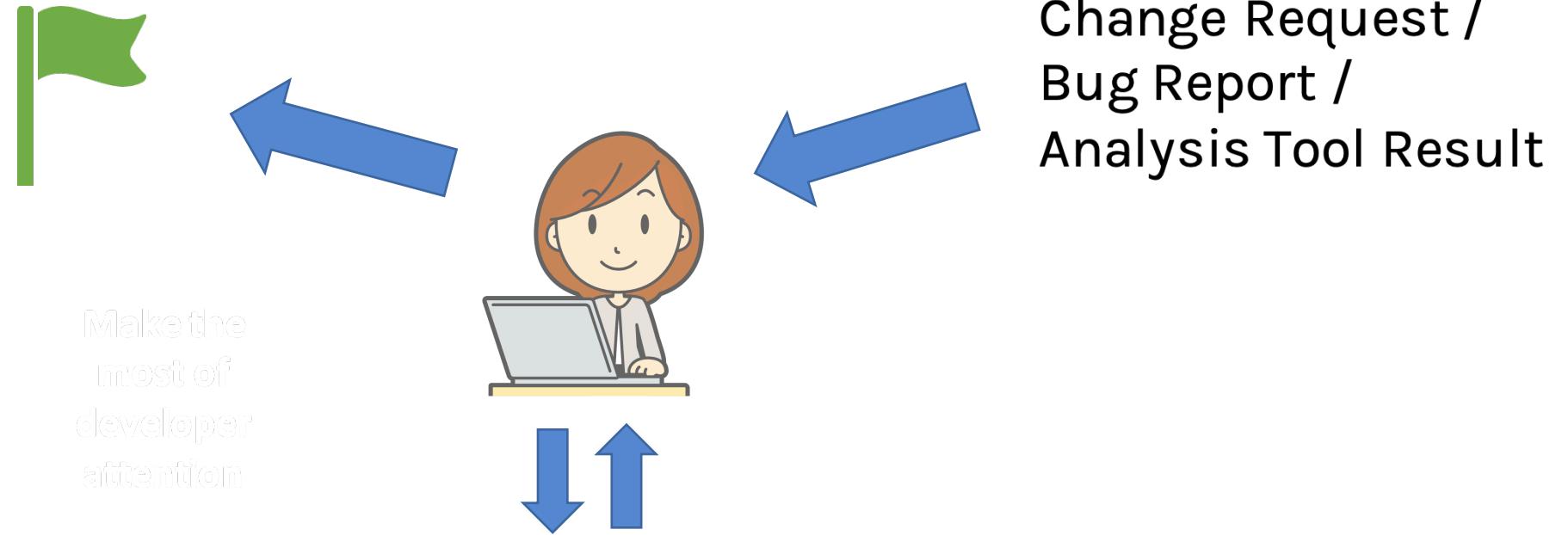
KEY PRINCIPLES

- Principle 1: Use Multiple Tools
- Principle 2: Integration Matters
- Principle 3: Cherish Developer Trust
- Principle 4: Tools Can Support Productivity

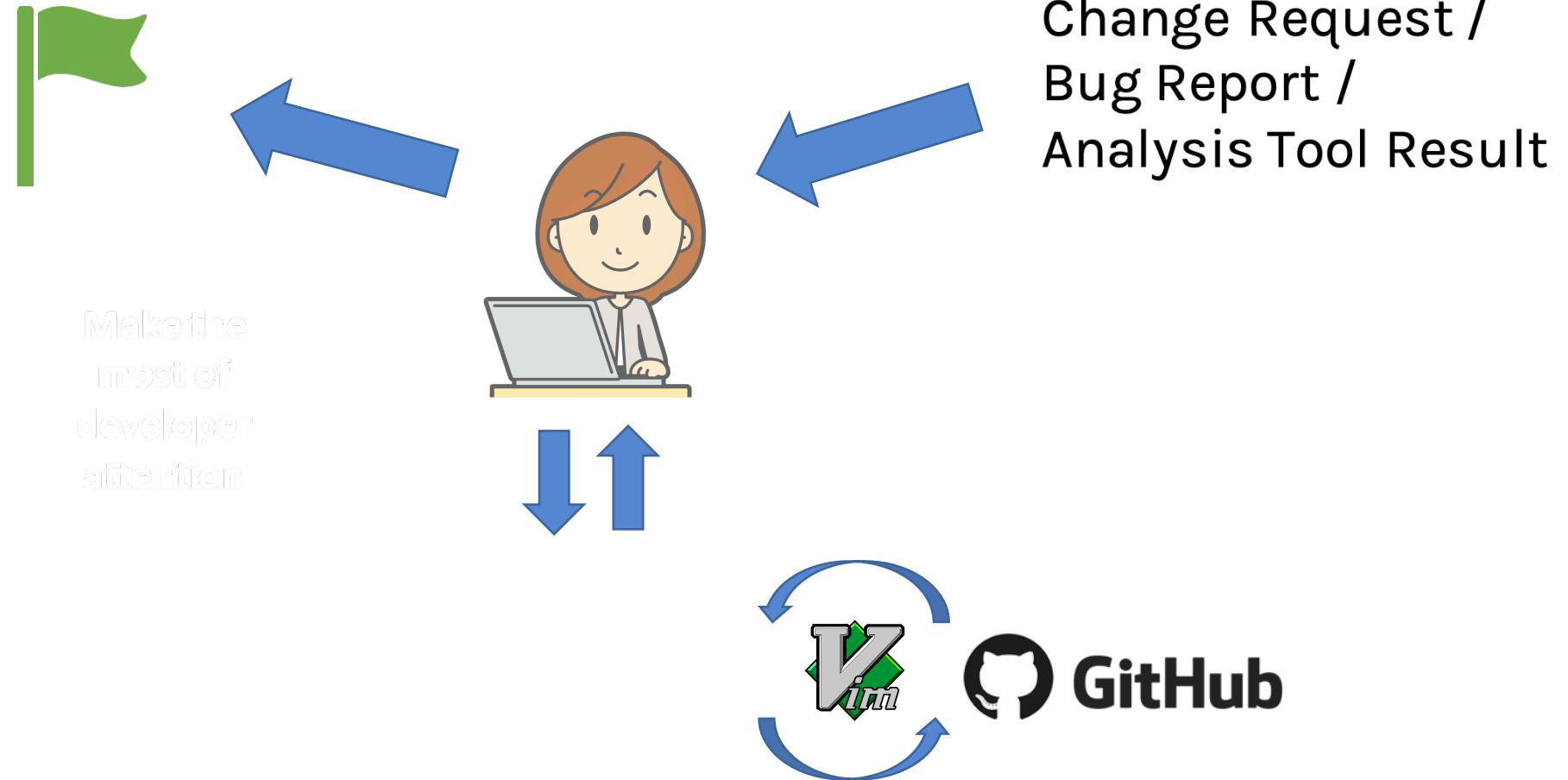
PRINCIPLE SYNERGIES



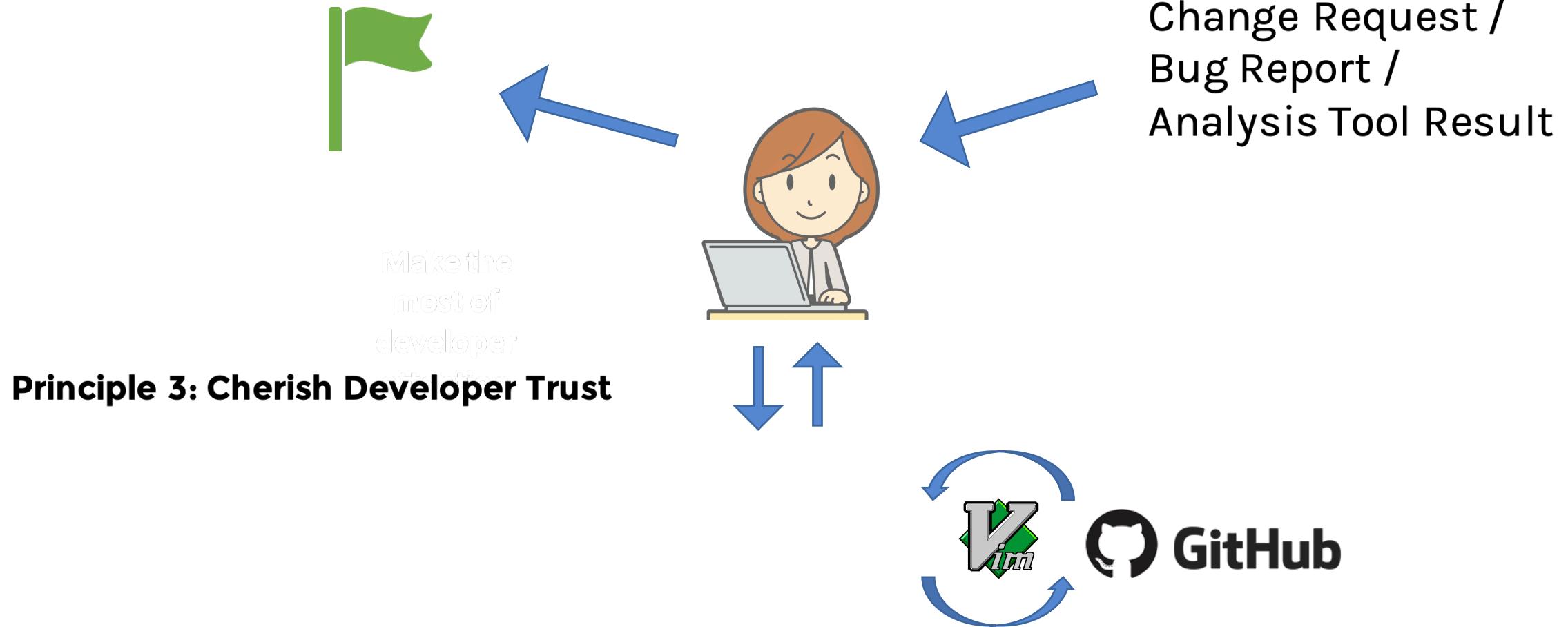
DEVELOPER ATTENTION



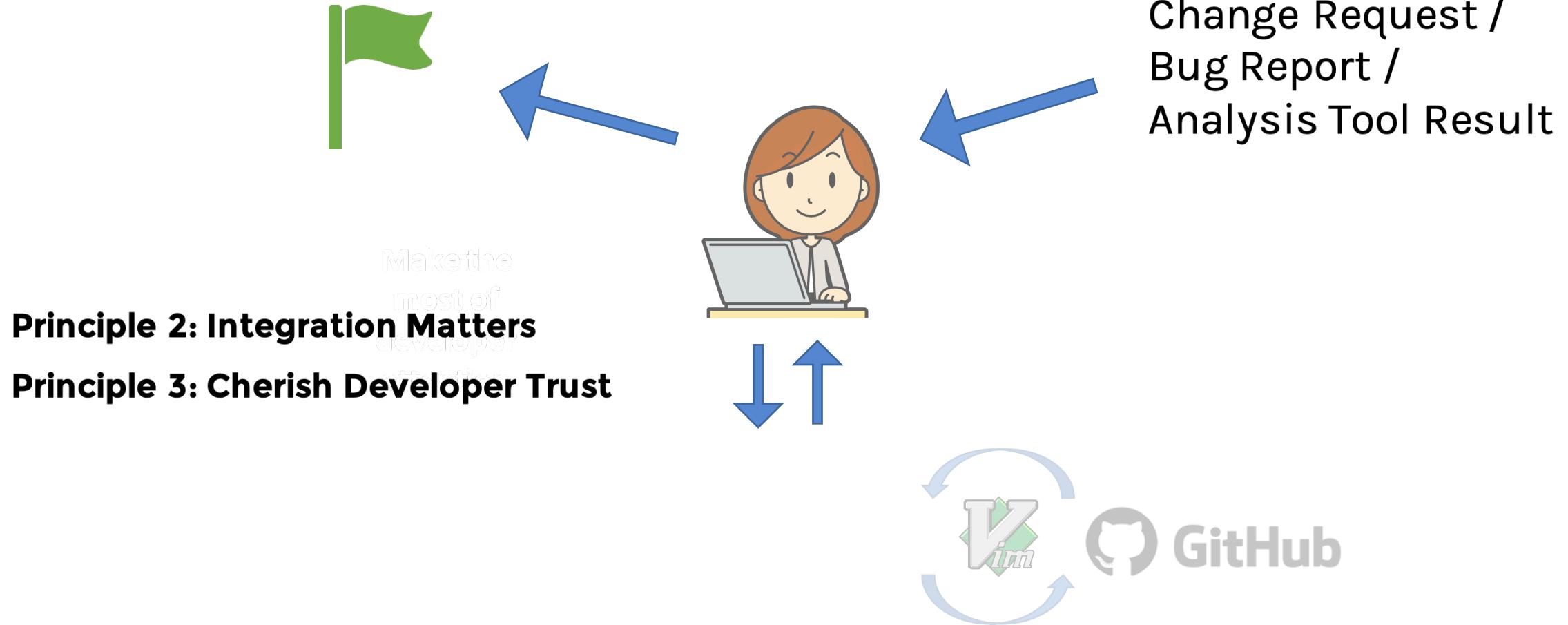
DEVELOPER ATTENTION



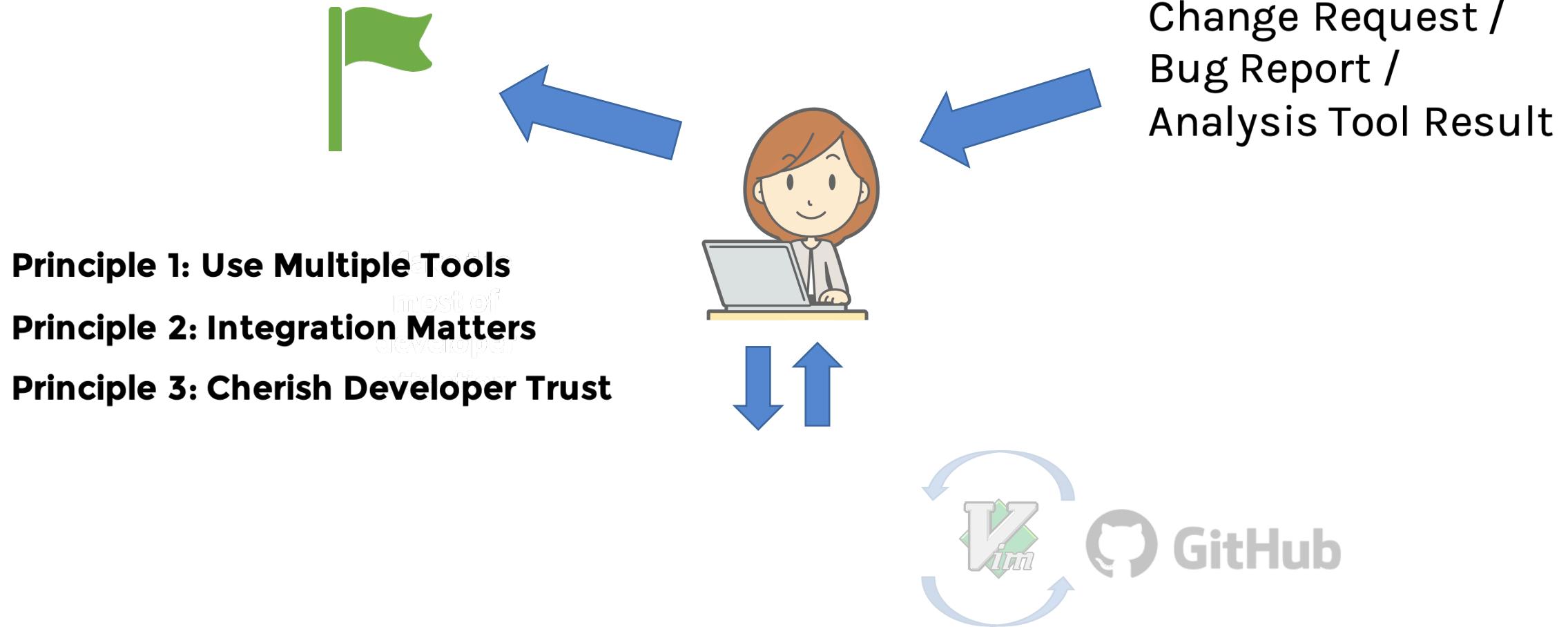
DEVELOPER ATTENTION



DEVELOPER ATTENTION



DEVELOPER ATTENTION



SYNERGY OF PRINCIPLES 1-3



- ▶ Approximately 50,000 code review changes analyzed per day
- ▶ “Please Fix” clicked more than 5,000 times per day
- ▶ “prevents hundreds of bugs per day from entering the Google codebase”

Sadowski, Caitlin, Edward Aftandilian, Alex Eagle, Liam Miller-Cushon, and Ciera Jaspan.
"Lessons from building static analysis tools at Google." (2018).

SYNERGY OF PRINCIPLES 1-3



- ▶ Static analysis prevented thousands of vulnerabilities from being introduced over the last two years.
- ▶ Catches more severe security bugs than either manual security reviews or bug bounty reports.

Distefano, Dino, Manuel Fähndrich, Francesco Logozzo, and Peter W. O'Hearn. "Scaling static analyses at Facebook." Communications of the ACM 62, no. 8 (2019).

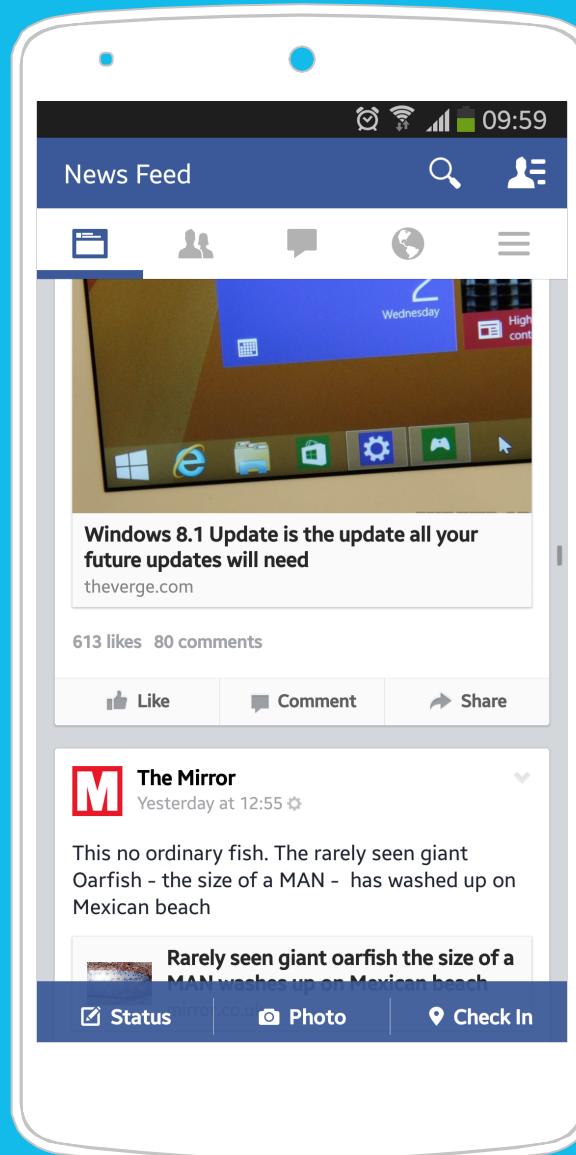
KEY PRINCIPLES

- Principle 1: Use Multiple Tools
- Principle 2: Integration Matters
- Principle 3: Cherish Developer Trust
- Principle 4: Tools Can Support Productivity

FACEBOOK NEWS FEED

- ▶ 2016: “News Feed” team wants to add multi-threading.
- ▶ Hundreds of classes impacted.
- ▶ Collaborates with program analysis team to help analysis support the dev effort.

Distefano, Dino, et al. "Scaling static analyses at Facebook." Communications of the ACM 62.8 (2019): 62-70.



PRINCIPLE 4: Tools Can Support Productivity

“

**Without Infer, multithreading in
News Feed would not have been
tenable.**

-Android Engineer at Facebook

Distefano, Dino, Manuel Fähndrich, Francesco Logozzo, and Peter W. O'Hearn.
"Scaling static analyses at Facebook." Communications of the ACM 62, no. 8 (2019).

SHIFTING QA LEFT

- Static analysis has always been a way to automate QA
- As analysis efficiency improves, these automated tools can be brought left.
- Doing this in the right way can simultaneously improve code quality and developer productivity

THE HELP I'M LOOKING FOR

Tell me all the reasons this wouldn't work in your environment.