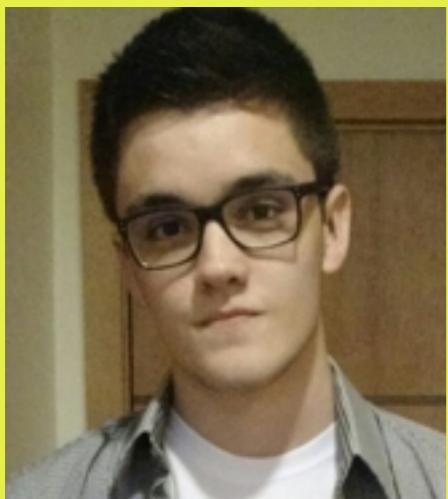


How Does the Shift to GitHub Impact Project Collaboration?



F. Fronchetti



I. Steinmacher



Gustavo Pinto



D. Alencar



M. Gerosa

[core]



Brett Cam

Moving from Google Code to Github



EXMARaLDA

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We have

10. August 2016



MariaDB Connectors moved to github



2015-02-03

Written by Georg Richter

[Leave a Comment](#)

Good bye bzr, welcome git!

After latest releases we moved development of MariaDB Connectors for C, ODBC and Java from launchpad to github.

The connector repositories can be found under <https://github.com/MariaDB>

Repository-Links:

- › [MariaDB Connector/C](#)
- › [MariaDB Connector/J](#)
- › [MariaDB Connector/ODBC](#)

Feel free to watch, fork and contribute!

11 commits.
external
of people
GitHub.

Moving over to GitHub - if you have local changes

You need to export your local changes from the Mercurial repository and import them into git.

TODO (discuss this on the vim-dev mailinglist)



Why?

[Questions](#) [Tags](#)

Why are many programmers moving their code to github?



For the past 6 months or more, I've been seeing many codes hosted at sourceforge.net as well as other hosting sites "Move to GitHub". A mere Google Search with the phrase "Moved to Github" returns several results containing the text moved to github. This is very confusing for me, and I'm wondering, why exactly are people moving? Does it mean that GitHub is better or is there some special advantage I'm not seeing?

99



[open-source](#) [development-process](#) [project-hosting](#)

31

[share](#) [improve this question](#)

<http://programmers.stackexchange.com/questions/164618>



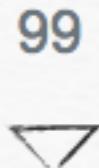
Why?

[Questions](#) [Tags](#)

Why are many programmers moving their code to github?



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[open-source](#) [development-process](#) [project-hosting](#)

31

[share](#) [improve this question](#)

<http://programmers.stackexchange.com/questions/164618>

Because Github:

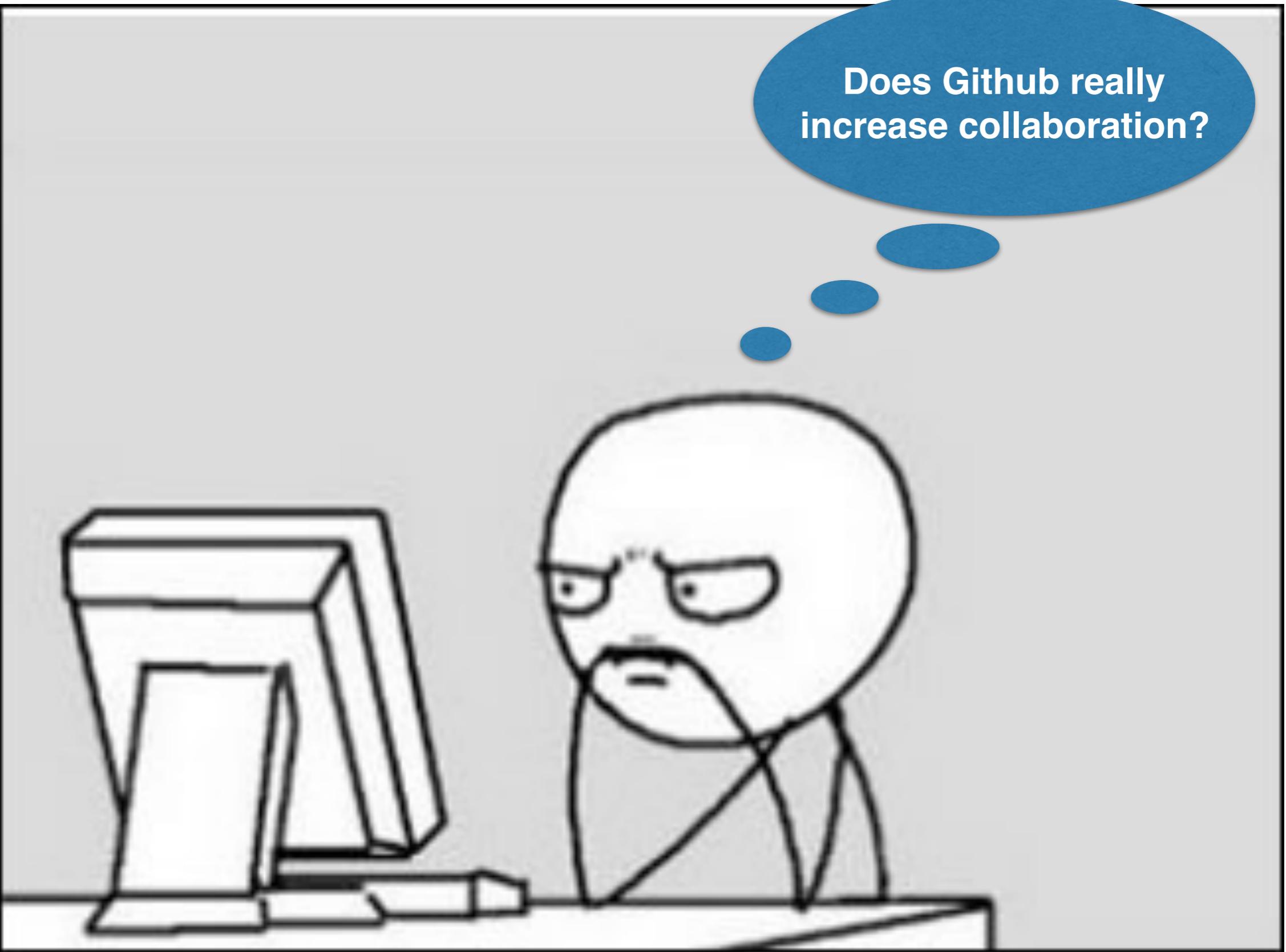
Is simple

Offers DVCS support

increases collaboration

Is easy to use

has the PR system



A black and white cartoon illustration of a man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie, sitting at a desk and looking thoughtful with his hand on his chin. A thought bubble above him contains the text "Does Github really increase collaboration?".

Does Github really
increase collaboration?

Projects Selection

Active: ≥ 1 commit in the last 12 months

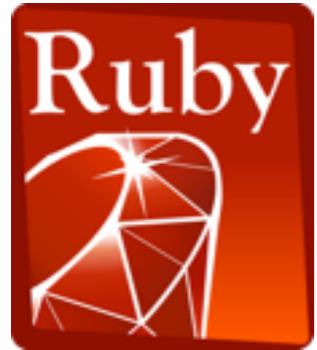
Popular: > 10.000 stars

Non-trivial: > 10.000 Loc

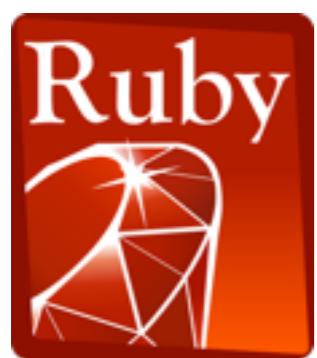
Obviously: Migrated to



Active, popular, non-trivial



Active, popular, non-trivial



mongoDB



Jenkins



Projects	Prog. Language	Moved to Github	LoC	Age
Ruby	C	02/2010	1,001K	18
mongodb	C++	01/2009	2,104K	9
Jenkins	Java	11/2010	191K	10
Rails	Ruby	04/2008	203K	12
Joomla!	PHP	09/2011	610K	11
jQuery	JavaScript	04/2009	41K	10

Method: Two Steps

1) Mining Software Repositories



Method: Two Steps

1) Mining Software Repositories



2) Survey with developers



Q1: What motivated the project to move to Github?

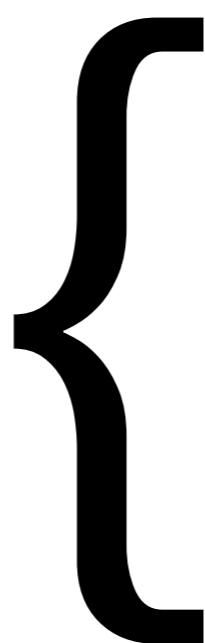
Q2. Do you have any internal policy to attract newcomers?

Q3: Does this snapshot make sense?

How Does the Shift to GitHub Impact Project Collaboration?

How Does the Shift to GitHub Impact Project Collaboration?

In terms of:

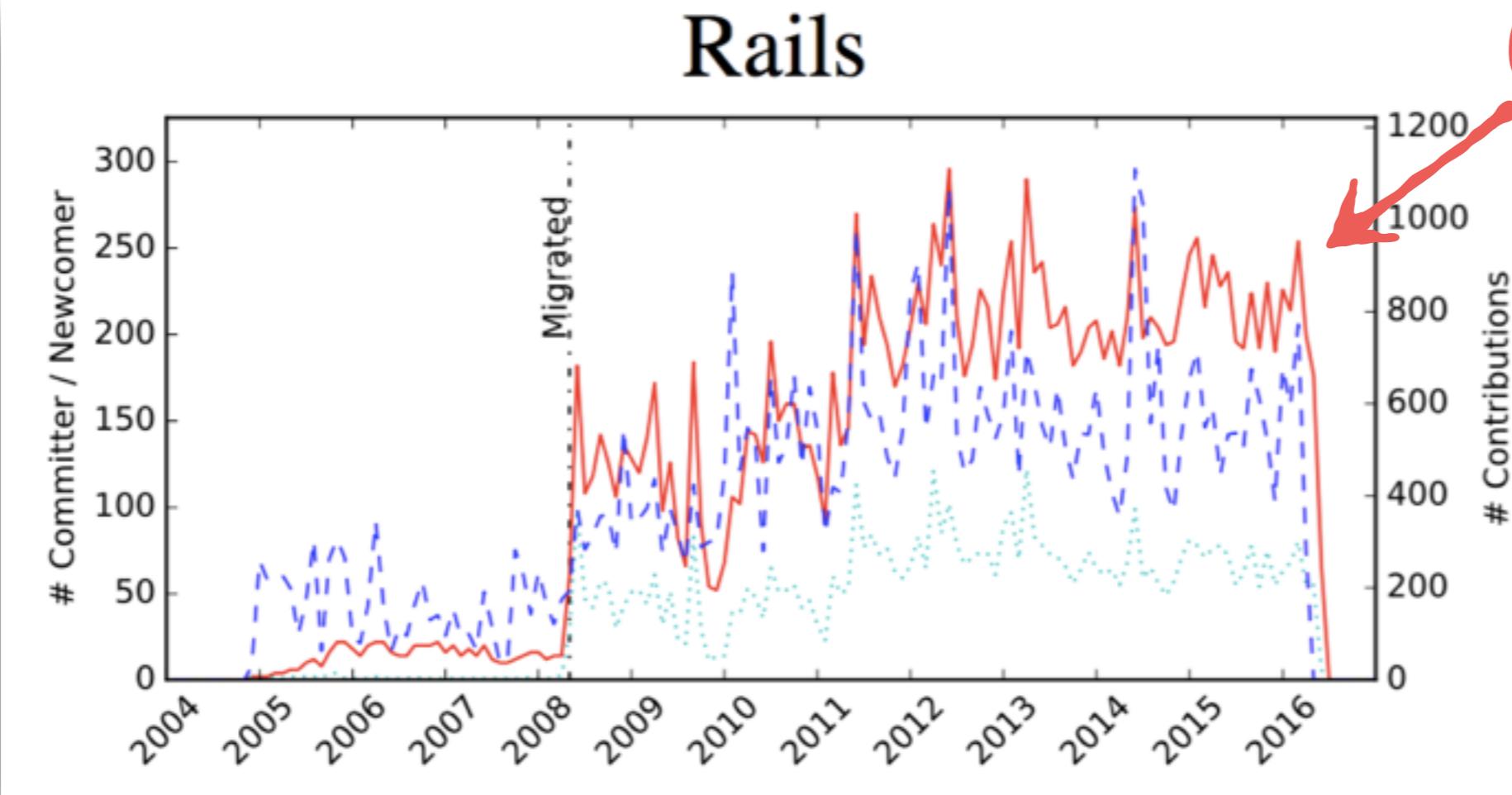


- number of newcomers, active committers, contributions
- number of pull-requests received
- number of issues created

**Newcomers, active
committers, contributions**

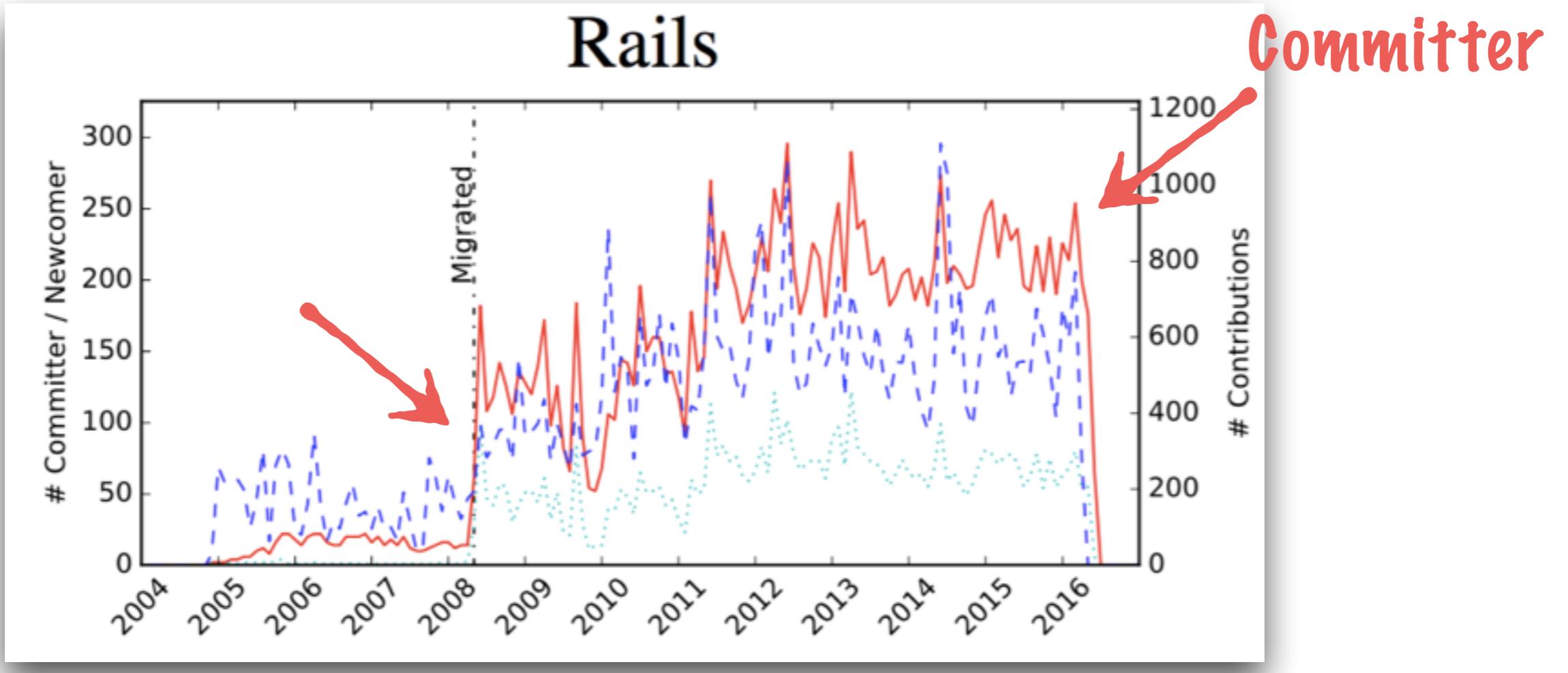
Rails

Committer



—	Contribution
—	Committer
...	Newcomer

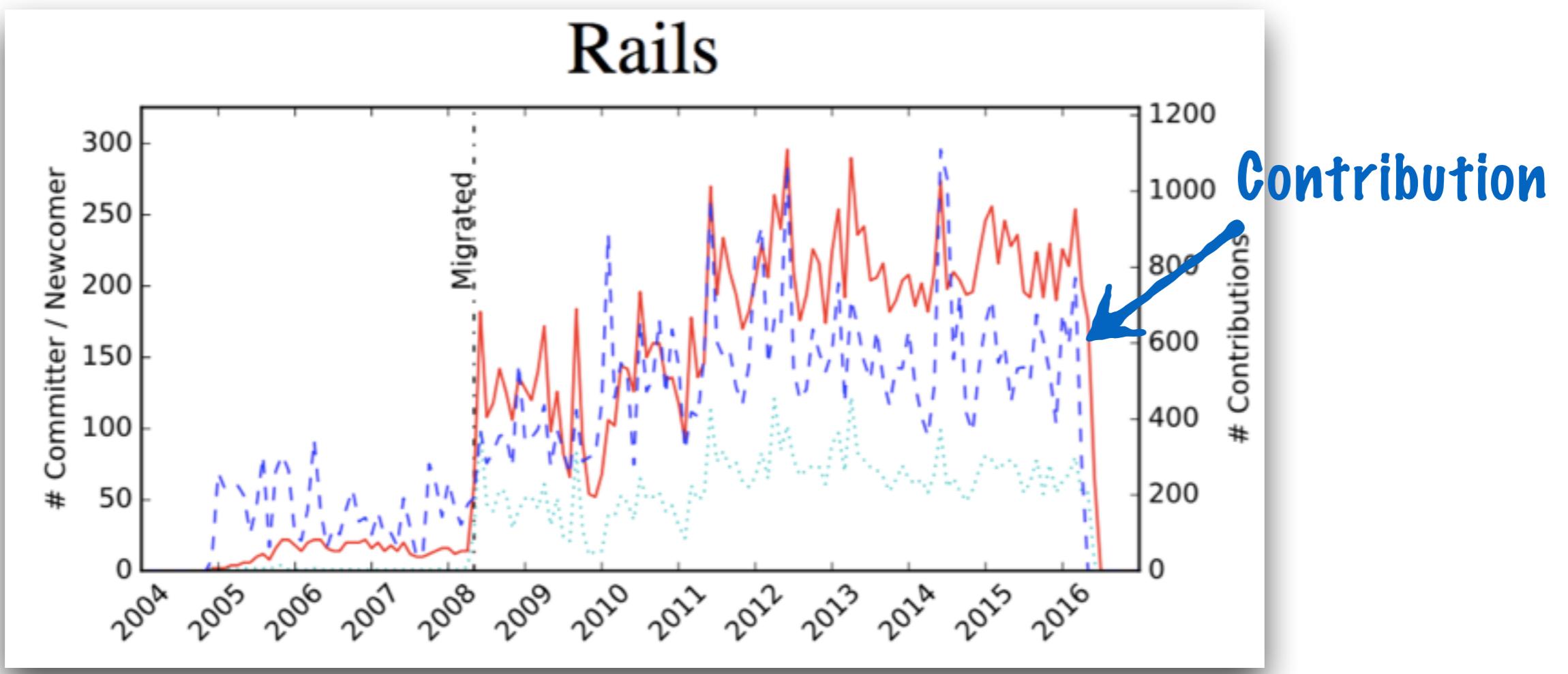
#	committers
p-value	0.001
effect size	0.633



The number of **committers** increased significantly
(effect size = 0.633)

—	Contribution
—	Committer
...	Newcomer

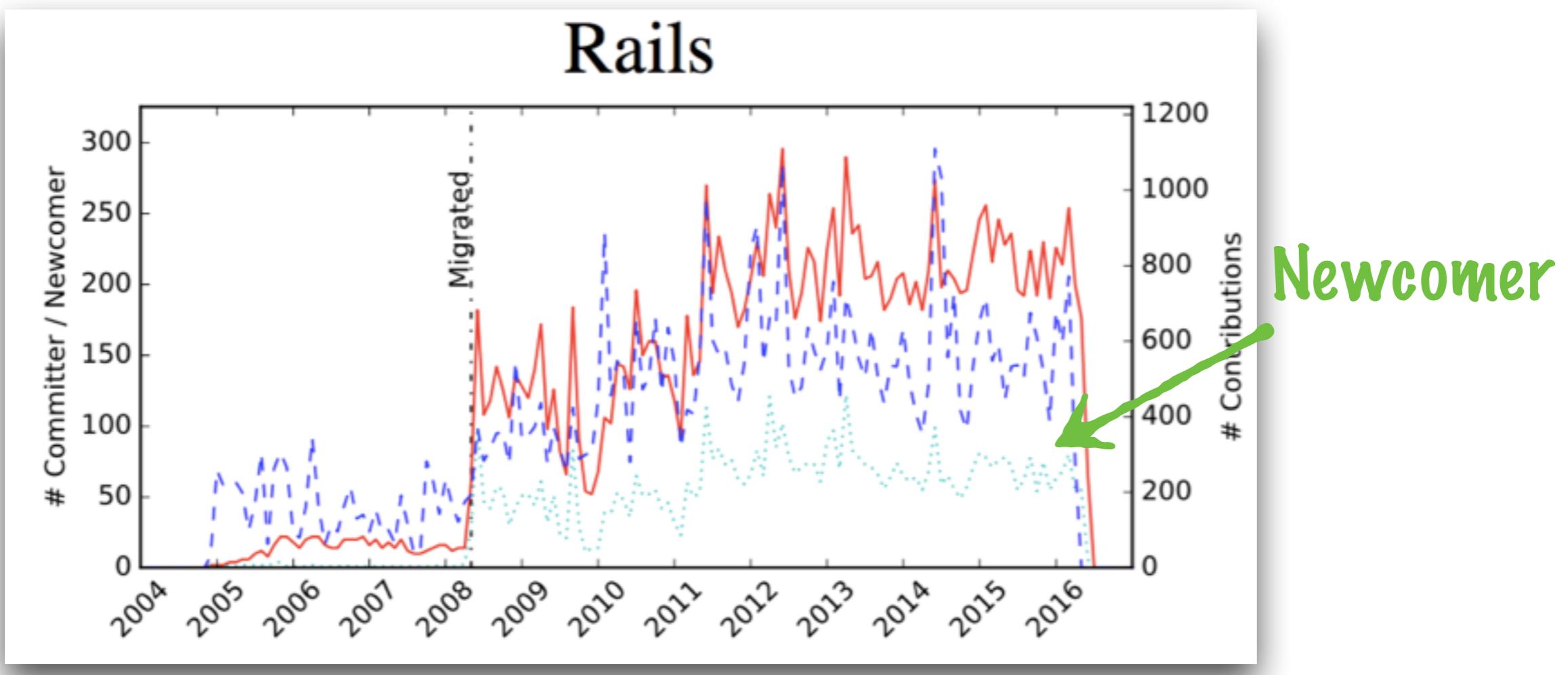
#	committers
p-value	0.001
effect size	0.633



The number of **contributions** increased significantly
(effect size = 0.635)

—	Contribution
—	Committer
...	Newcomer

#	committers	contributions
p-value	0.001	0.001
effect size	0.633	0.635

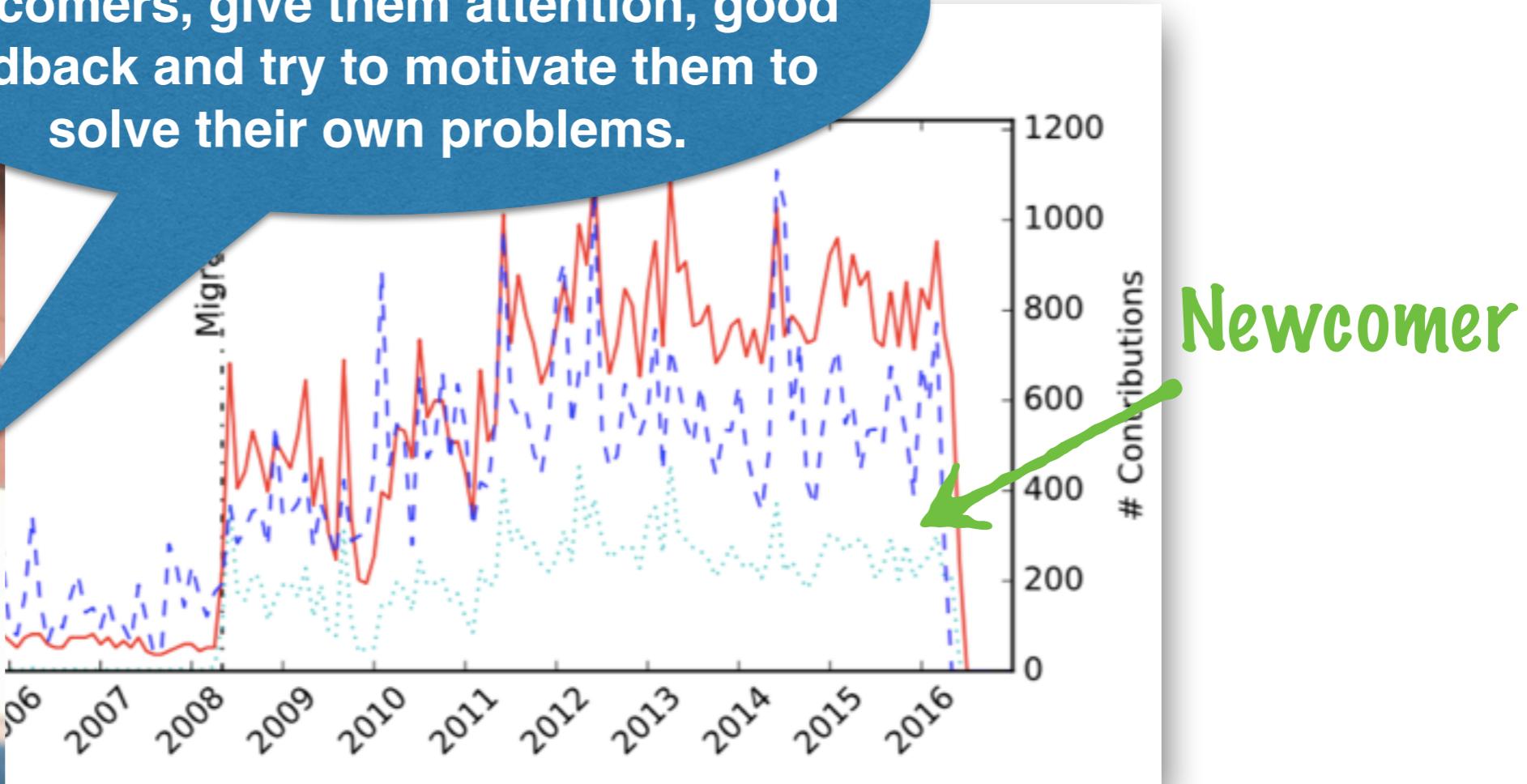
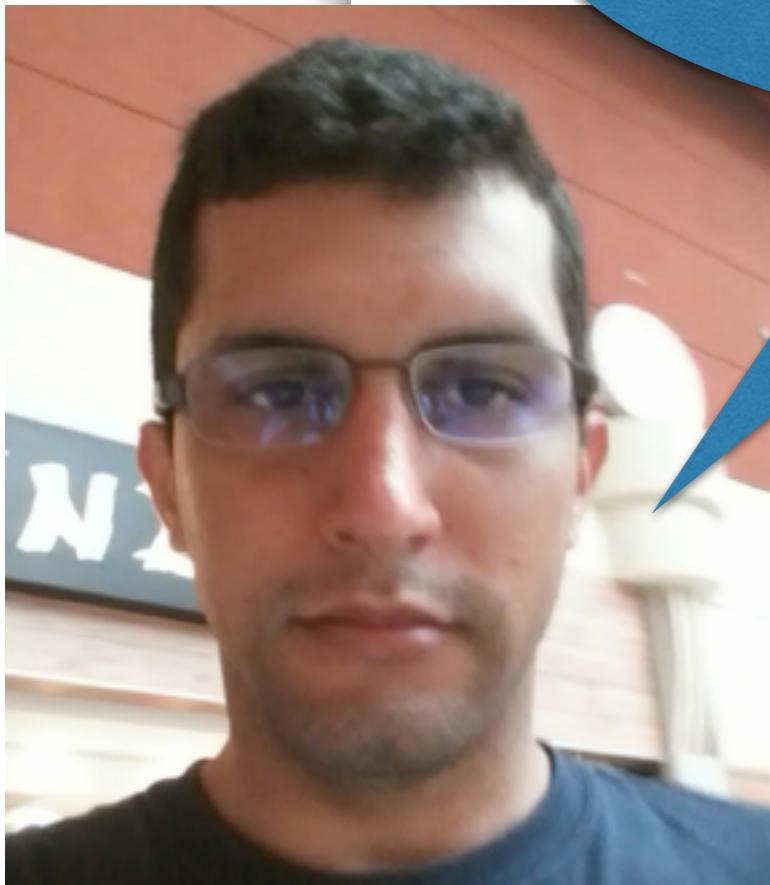


The number of **newcomers** increased significantly
(effect size = 0.460)

— -	Contribution
—	Committer
....	Newcomer

#	committers	contributions	newcomers
p-value	0.001	0.001	0.001
effect size	0.633	0.635	0.460

We don't have any strong policy other than: be nice with newcomers, give them attention, good feedback and try to motivate them to solve their own problems.



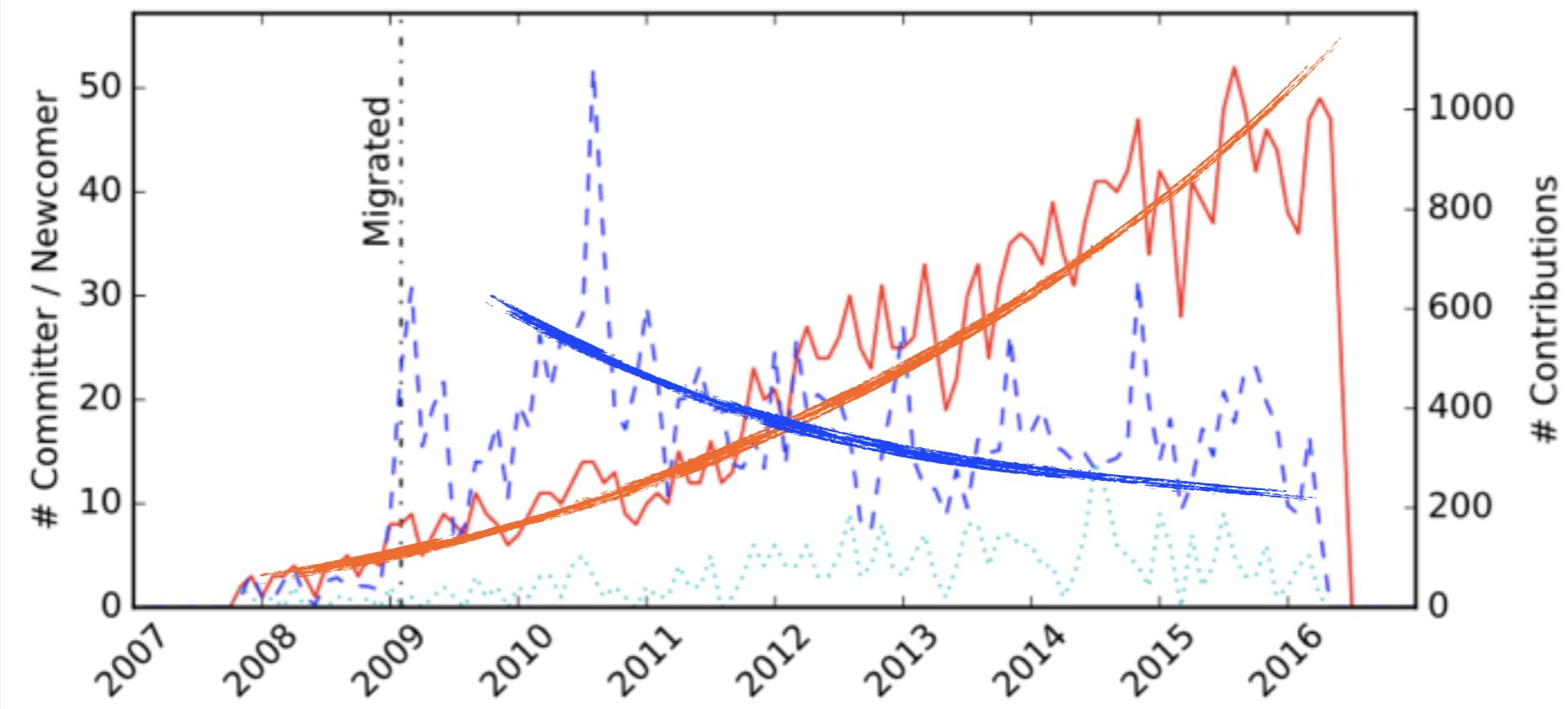
Rails core developer

The number of **newcomers** increased significantly
(effect size = 0.460)

	#	committers	contributions	newcomers
p-value		0.001	0.001	0.001
effect size		0.633	0.635	0.460

#	committers	contributions	newcomers
p-value	0.001	0.001	0.001
effect size	0.633	0.635	0.460

MongoDB

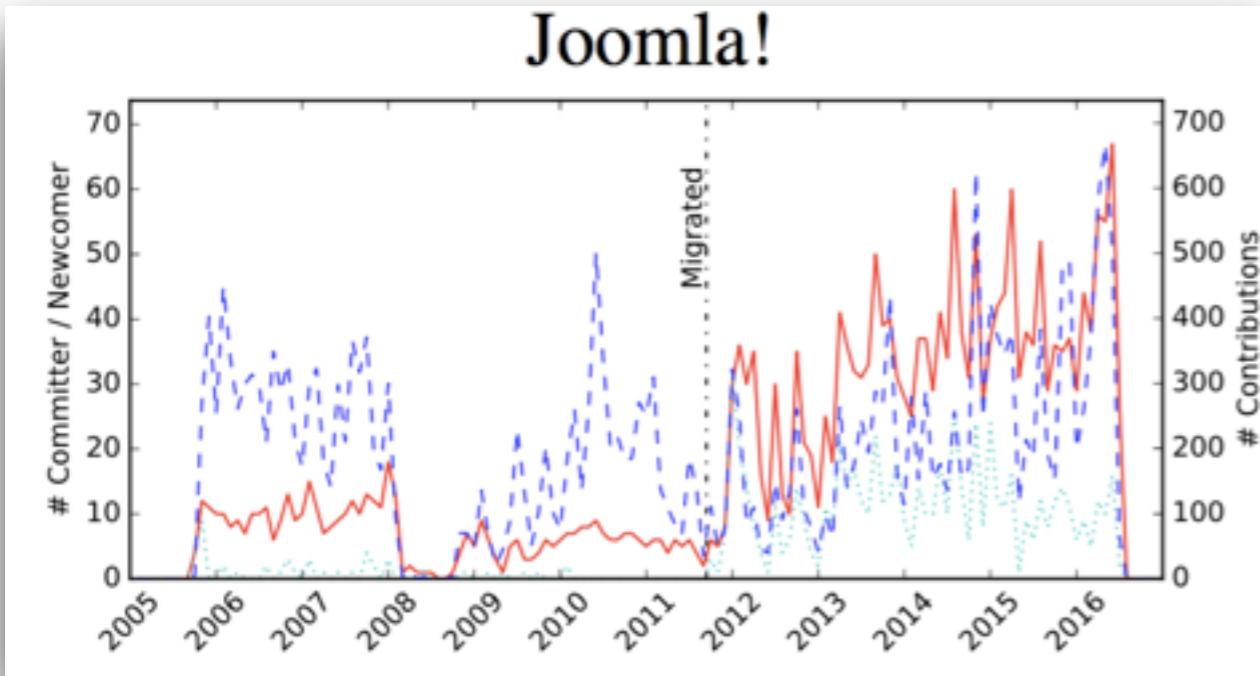


The rise of active committer does not imply in the rise of contributions

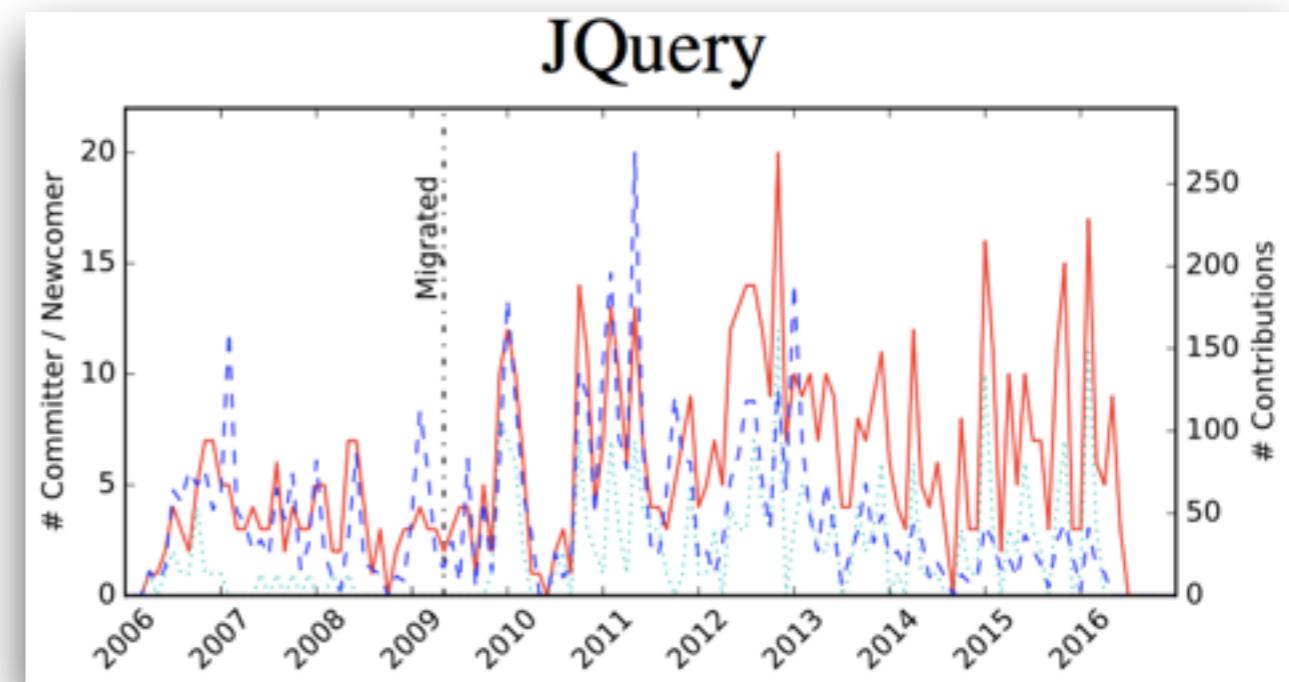
--	Contribution
—	Committer
....	Newcomer

#	committers	contributions	newcomers
p-value	0.001	0.001	0.006
effect size	0.299	0.018	0.206

effect size: 0.018



effect size: 0.114



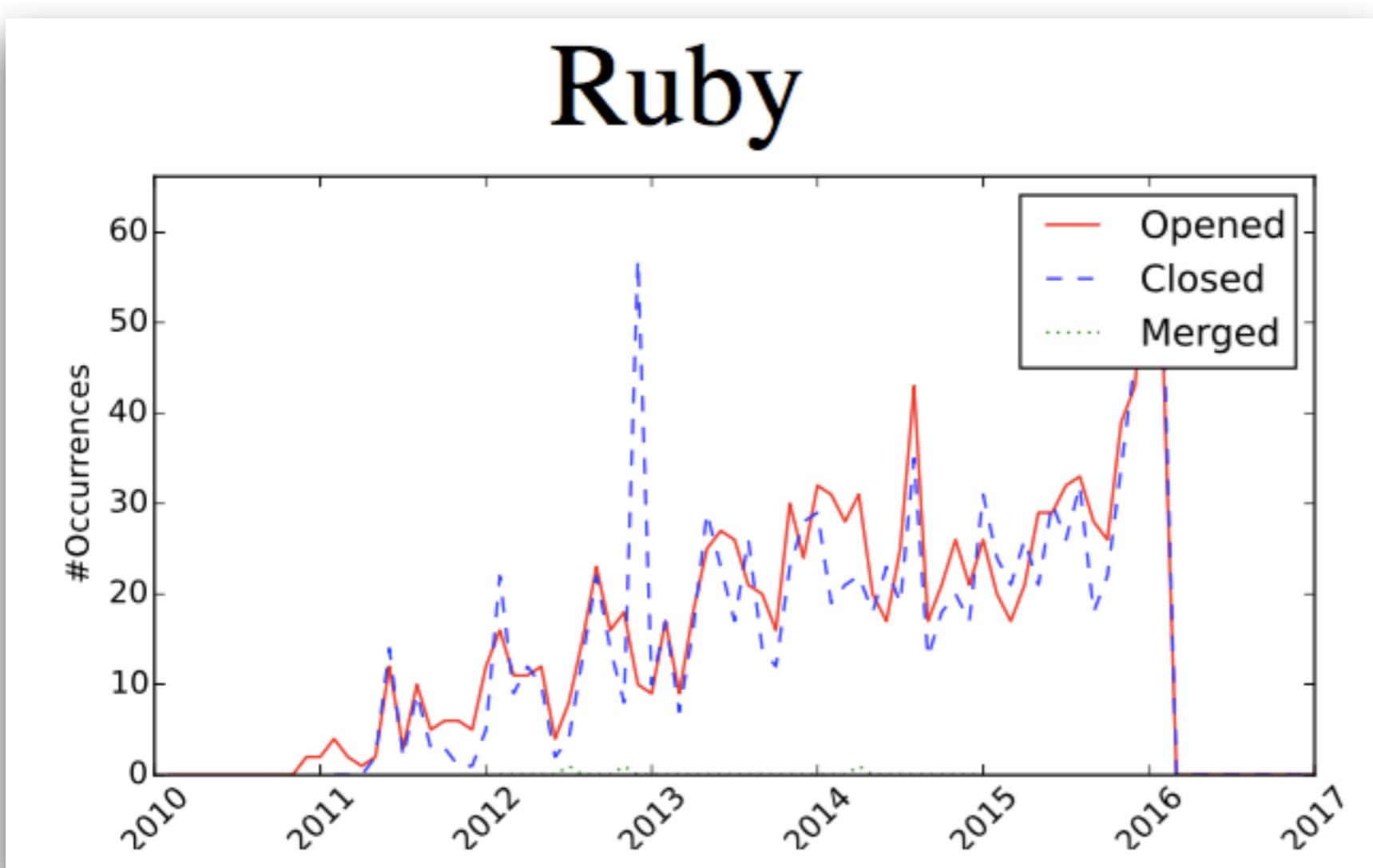
The migration to GitHub played a major role to the rise of contributions in **only 2 out of the 6** studied projects

- Contribution
- Committer
- Newcomer

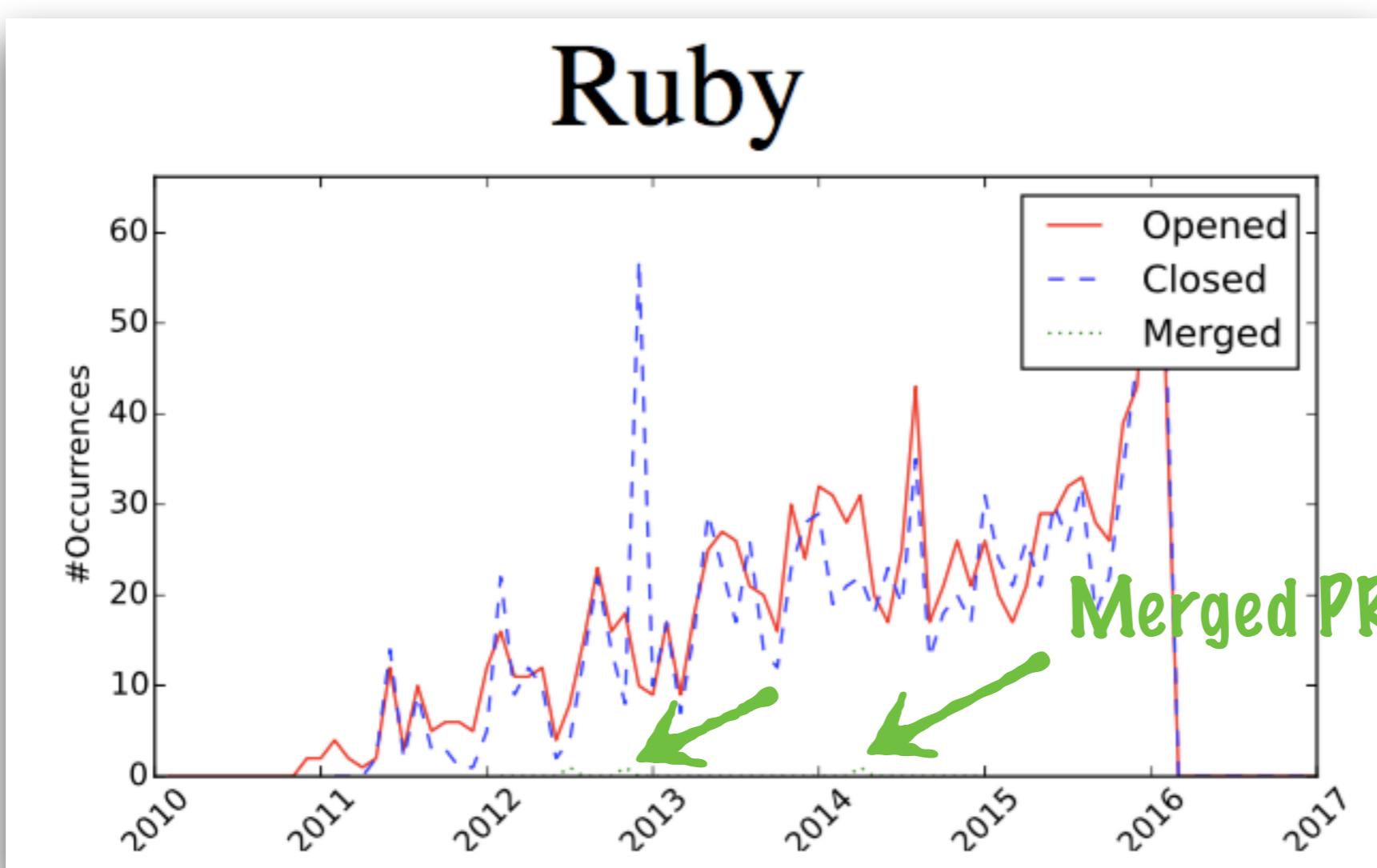
	#	committers	contributions	newcomers
Joomla!	p-value	0.001	0.001	0.006
	effect size	0.299	0.018	0.206
jQuery	p-value	0.035	0.001	0.060
	effect size	0.066	0.144	0.160

Pull-Requests

Pull Requests



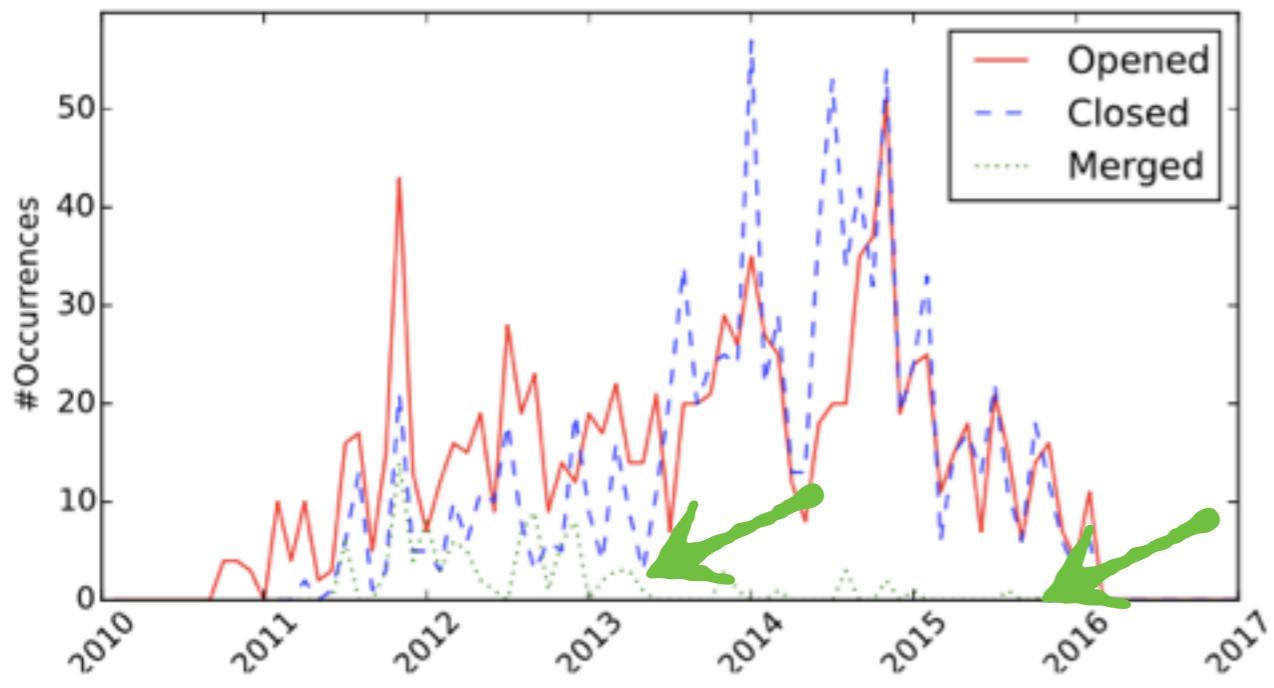
Pull Requests



Several PRs are submitted, few got merged
(3 out of the 1,223 Ruby PRs got merged)

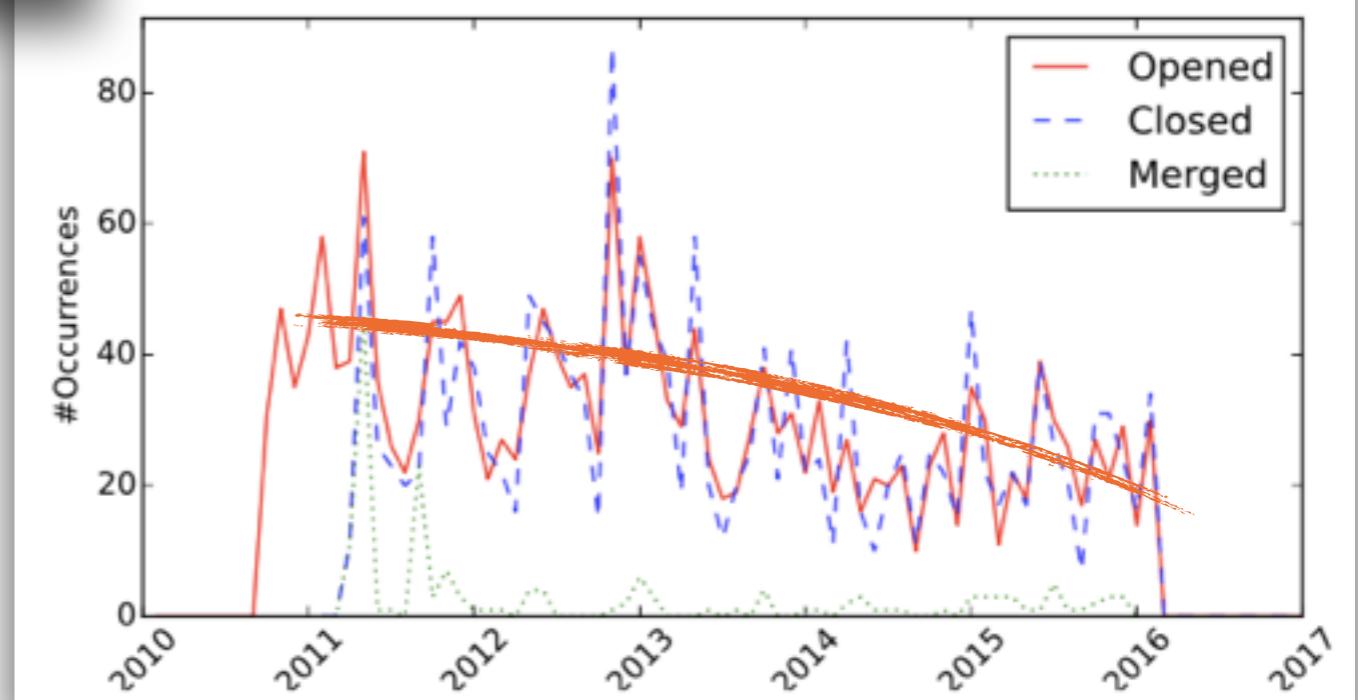
Pull Requests

Mongo



(again) Several PRs are submitted, few got merged

JQuery

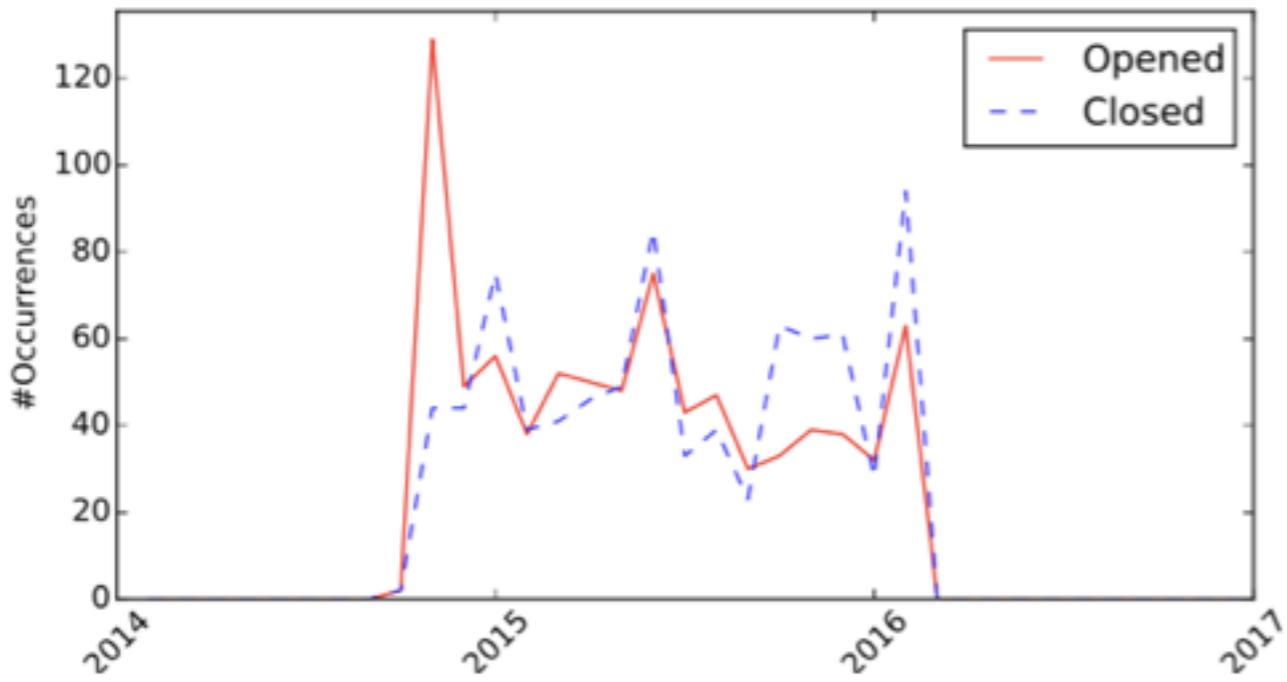


The number of PRs did not increase over time
(in 5/6 of the projects)

Issues

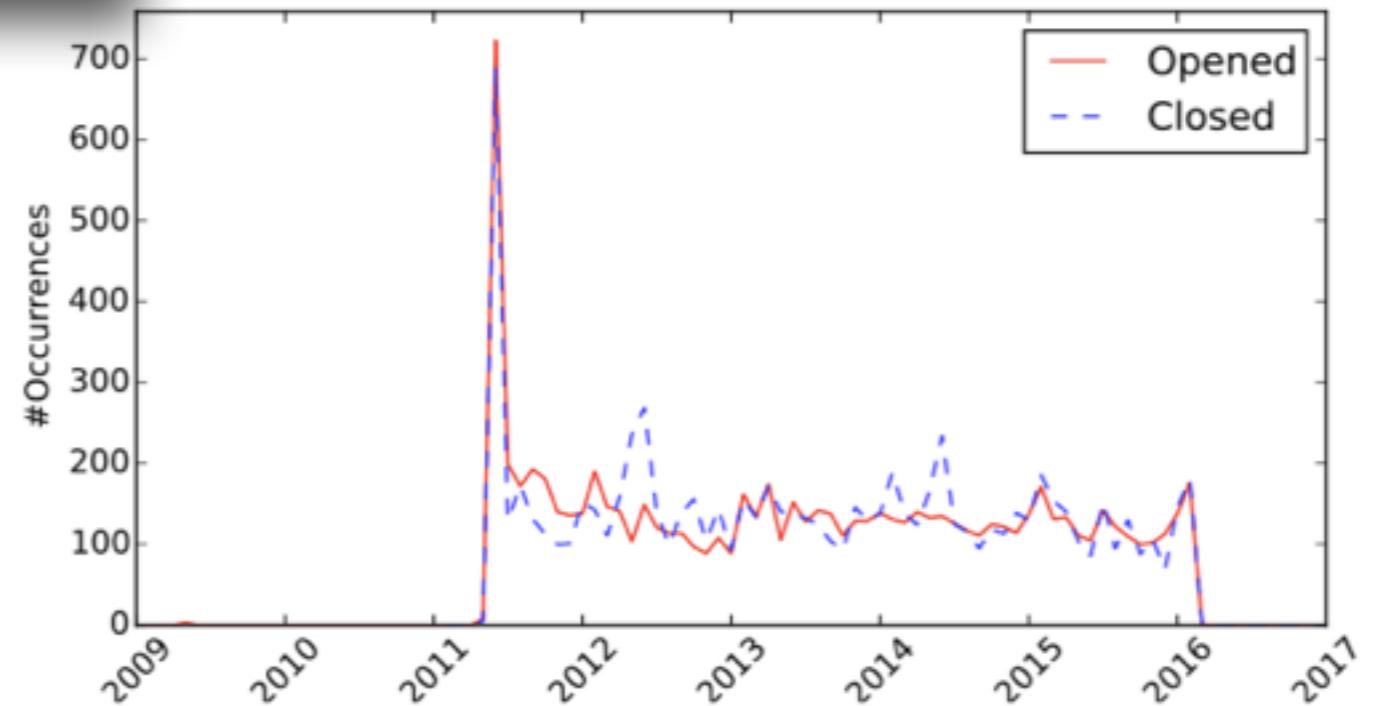
Issues

JQuery



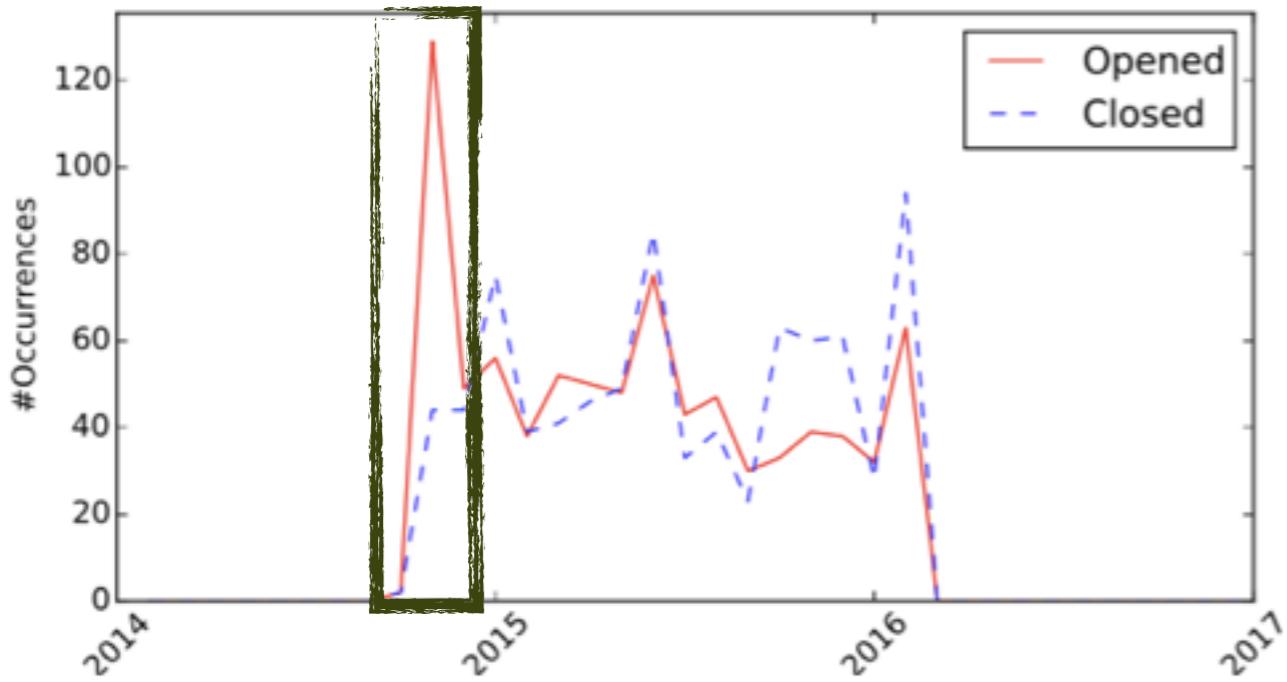
Not all projects are
using the issue
tracking system

Rails



Issues

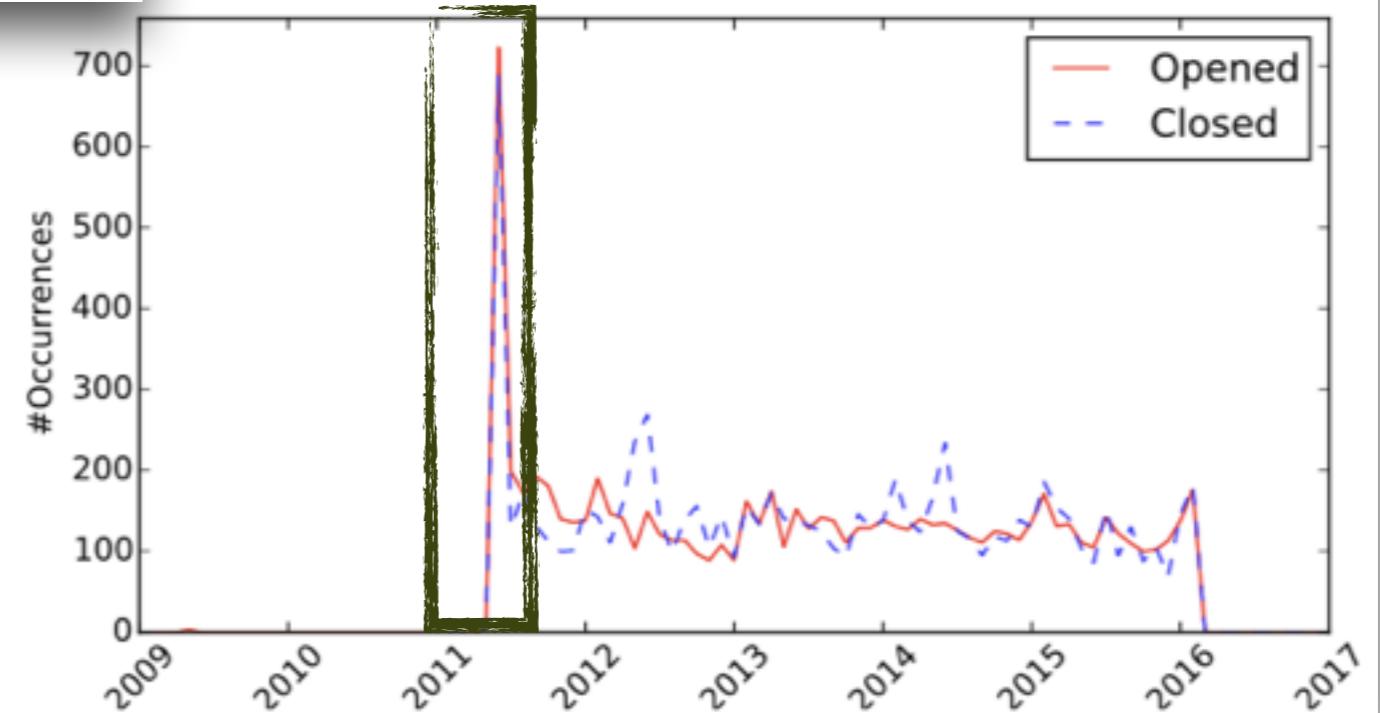
JQuery



Initial effort
required!

Not all projects are
using the issue
tracking system

Rails



In summary

The rise of contributions is not straightforward



**Little effort was placed on policies
for attracting or retaining
newcomers**



Some projects have a high rate of PRs closed and not merged.



Some projects have a high rate of PRs closed and not merged.



If the project is not intended to use PRs, state this upfront!

Project members might expect an overhead on managing the issue tracking system



The rise of contributions is not straightforward

Little effort was placed on policies for attracting or retaining newcomers

THANKS

Less

of

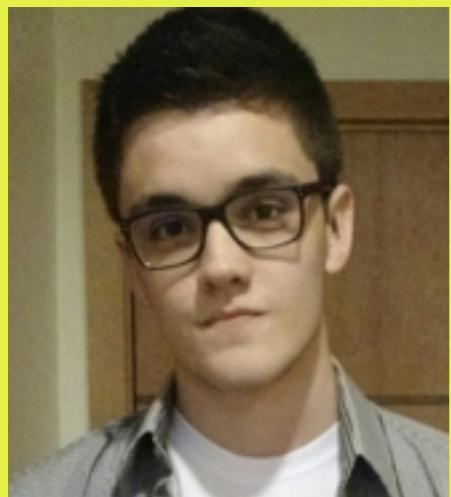
PRs closed and not merged.

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