

10 years darktable

..and counting?

johannes hanika, tobias ellinghaus

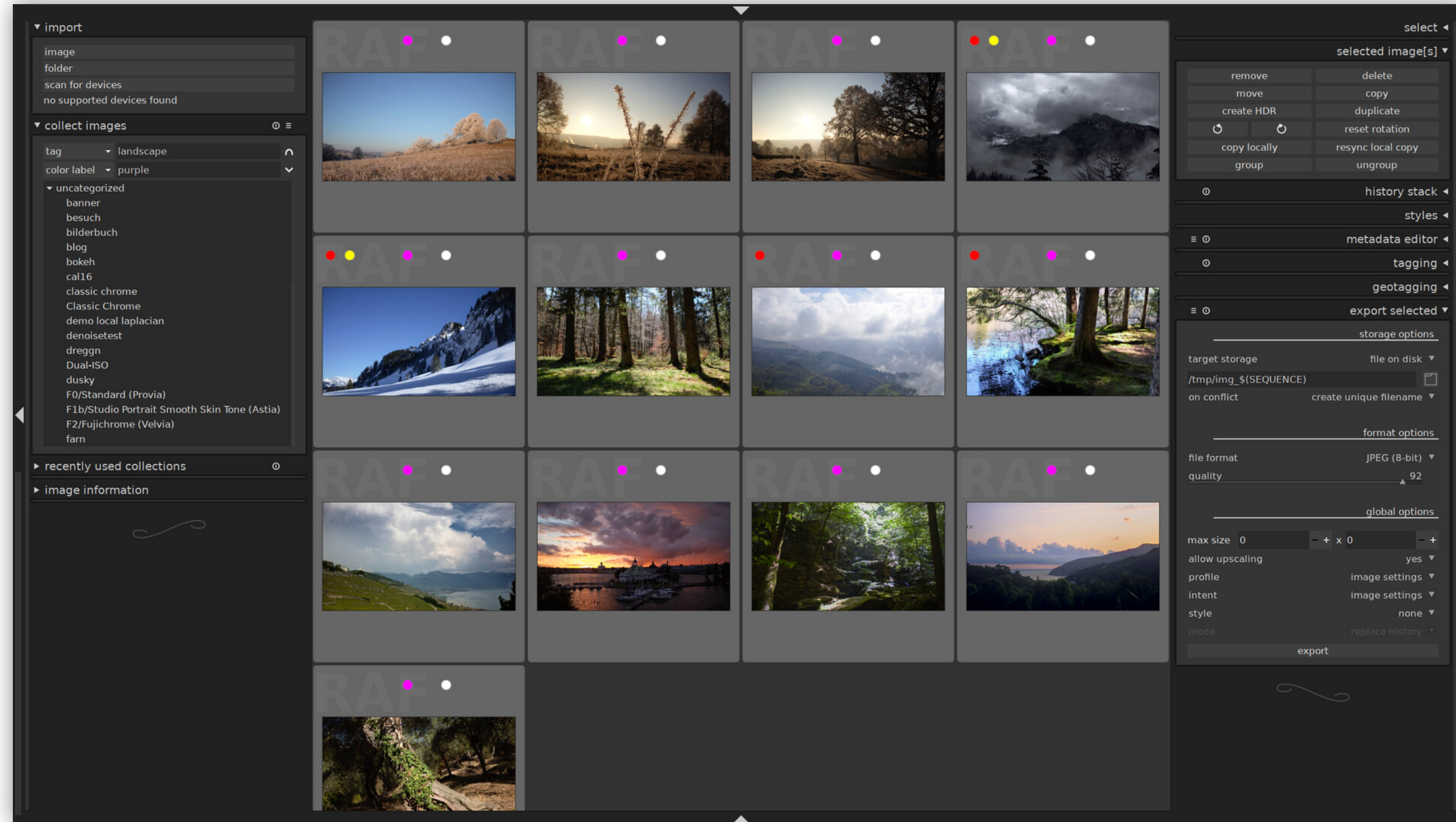
for the dt team, LGM 2019

contents of this talk

- introduction what is dt
- historic overview
- organisational aspects:
 - how did we (or not) manage dt as a project
 - how did that go for us the last 10 years?

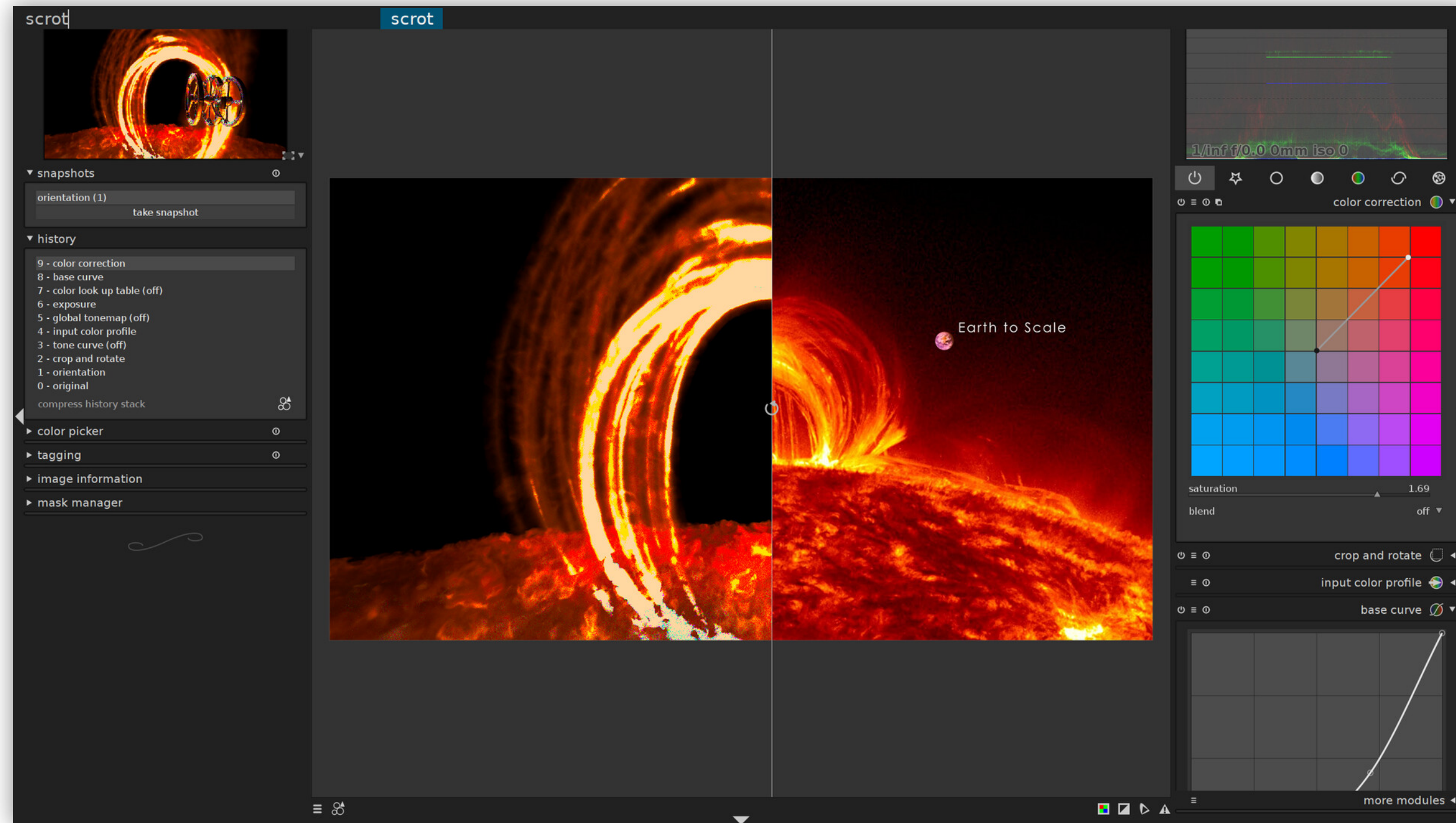
what is darktable?

🌿 digital darkroom and lighttable



what is darktable?

- digital darkroom and lighttable



what is darktable?

key features:

- non-destructive photography workflow
 - long list of image operation modules for raw edits
 - local edits via parametric and drawn masks
 - GPU accelerated via opencl
- manage medium size collections of images (10s of 1000s)
- printing mode
- lua scripting
- extensible modular architecture: many plugins for this and that
- ..

what is darktable?

community!



historic overview

🌱 first commit

```
commit f52987d28426f6da69907bdd190d2c379ce9077d
Author: jhanika <jhanika@2165daf7-ed08-4abd-b3da-b2de91a31a1b>
Tue Apr 7 07:13:23 2009 +0000
```

🌱 almost exactly 10 years ago!

historic overview:

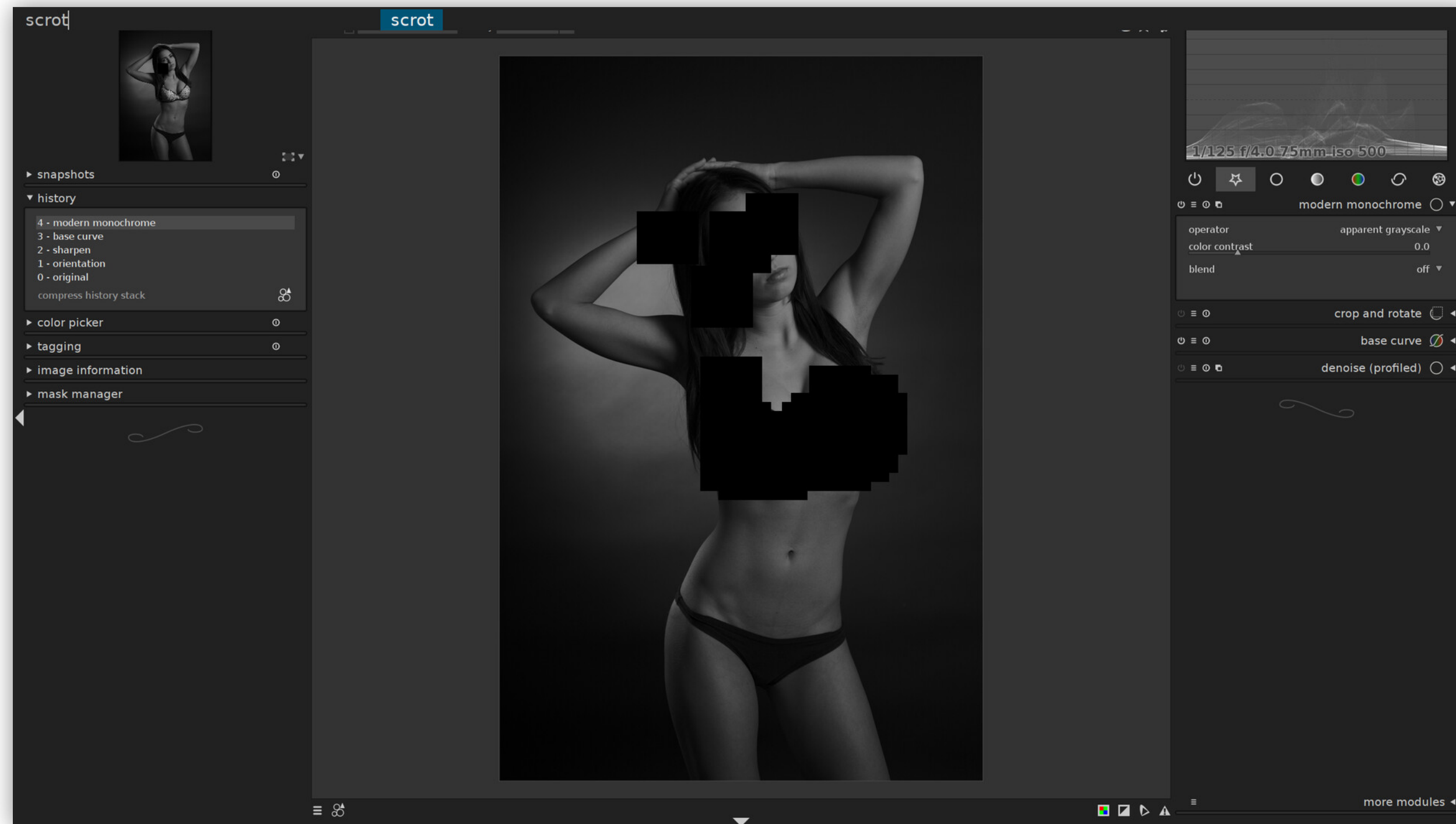
- lots of debugging of broken images



- (broken addressing scheme in laplace pyramids)

historic overview:

- lots of debugging of broken images



- builtin AI based censorship (NaN propagate..)

historic overview:

- large, ever changing group of active contributors
- some datamining:
- **who commits code?**
 - many people with direct commit rights (24)
 - we run an *author credits* script before every release

historic overview:

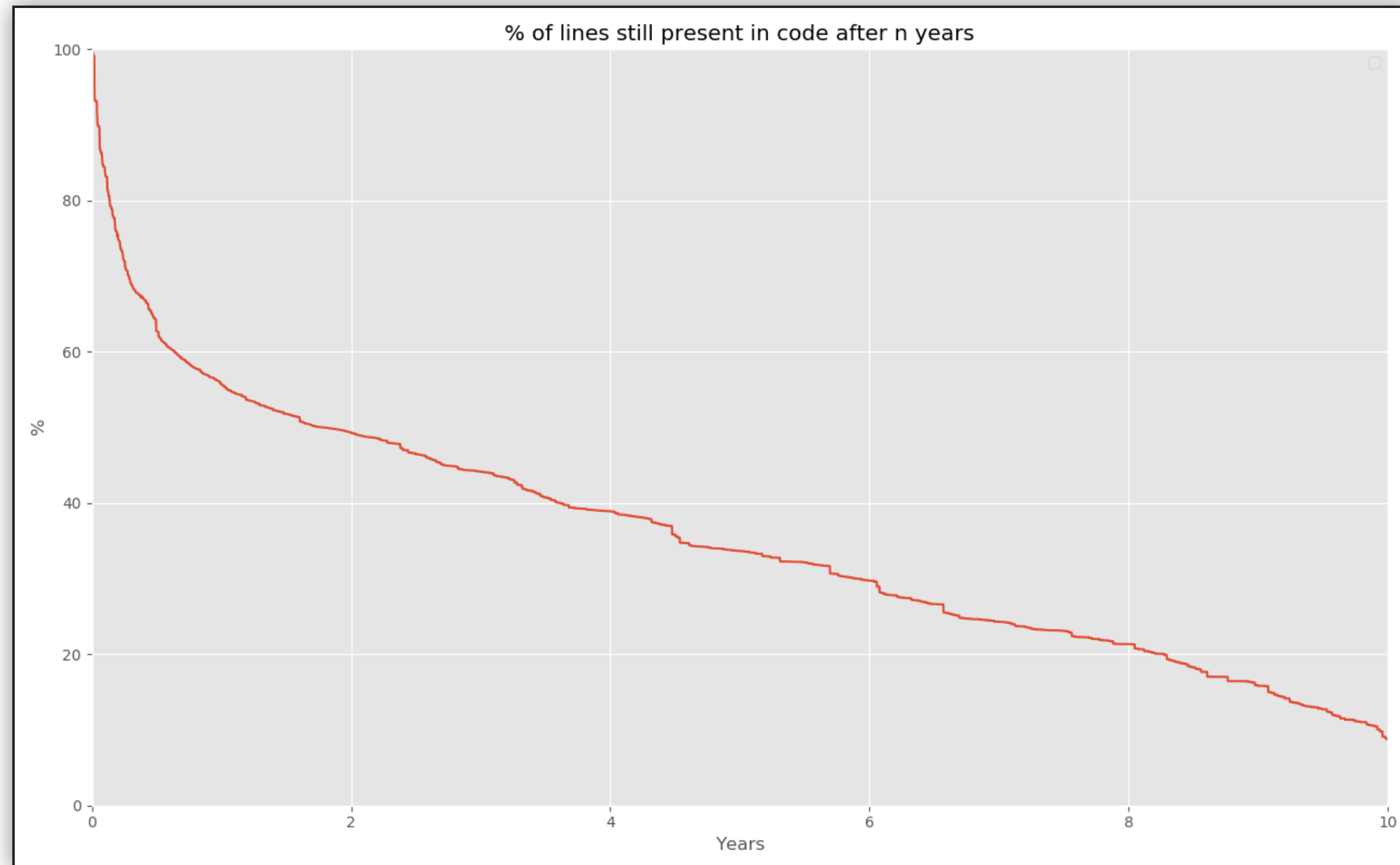
commits are nice, but.

- who actually owns the lines of code? do they remain? are they replaced?
- git blame!

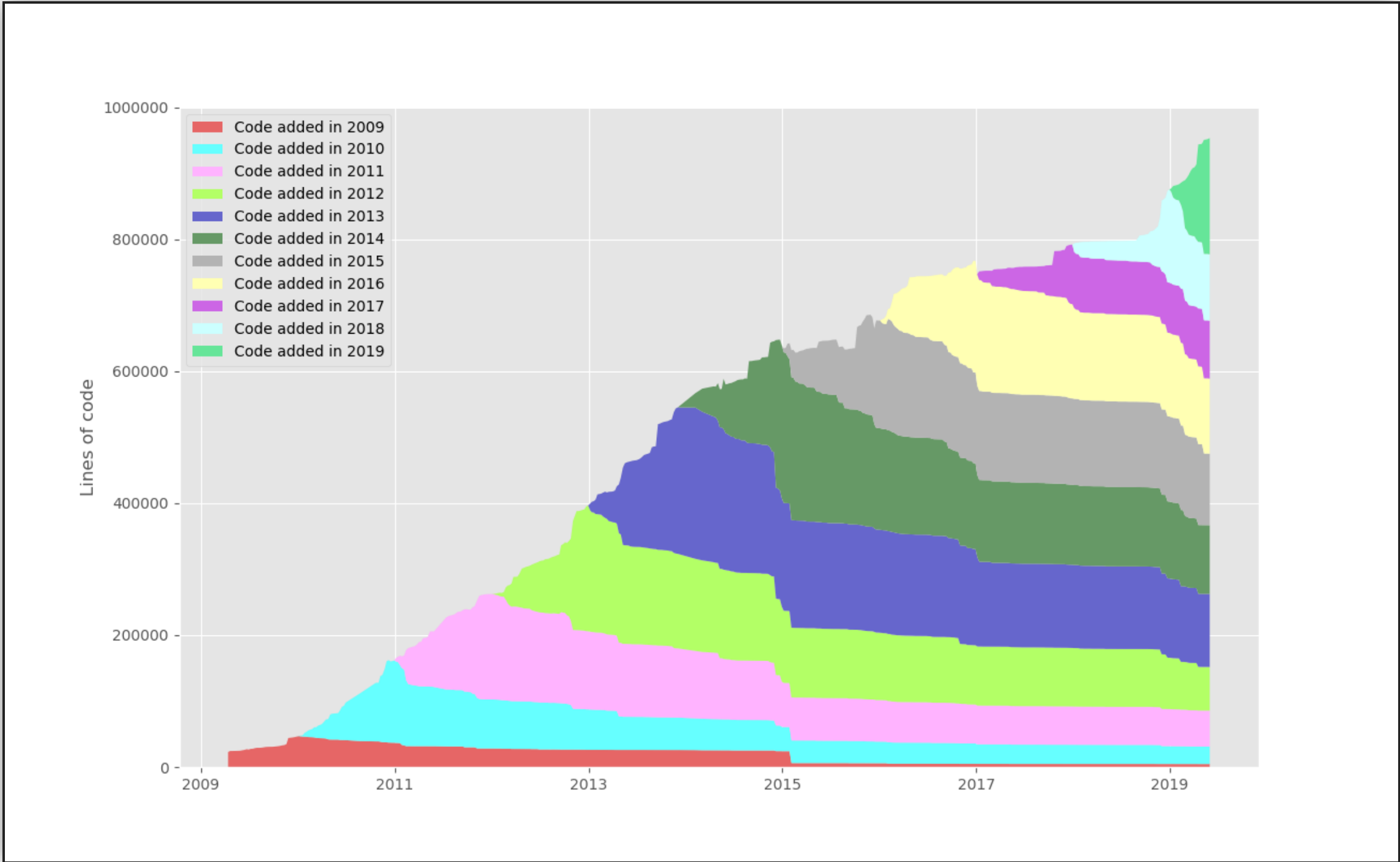
```
#!/bin/bash
for year in $(seq 2009 1 2019)
do
for month in 03 06 09 12
do
    qrev=$(git rev-list -n 1 --first-parent --before="$year-$month-01 13:37" master)
    git ls-tree -r -z --name-only $qrev -- src/*/*.{h,c} data/kernels/*.cl | xargs -0 -n1 git blame --lin
done
done
```

- .. actually pippin pointed out a nicer way:

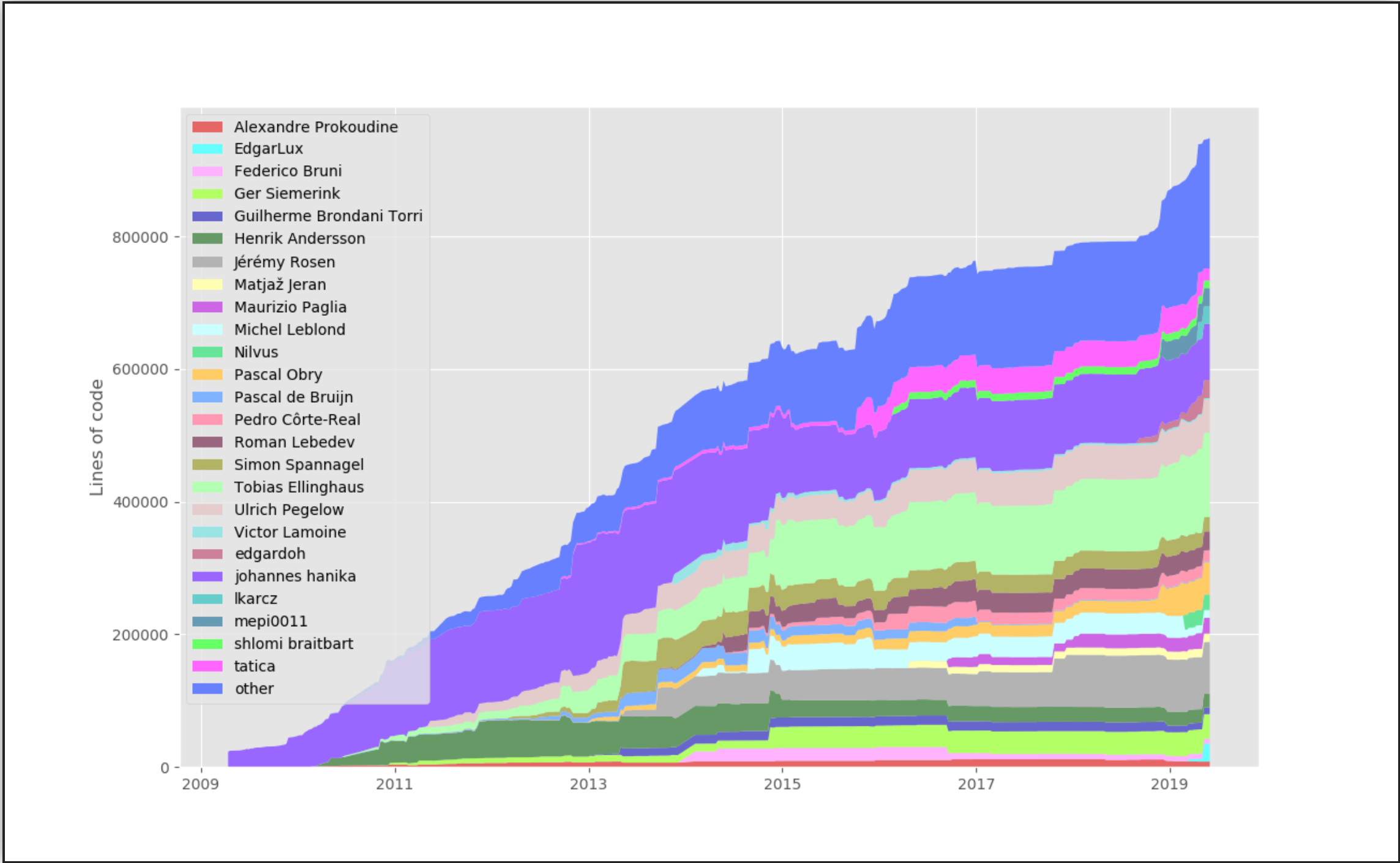
git mining: survival plot



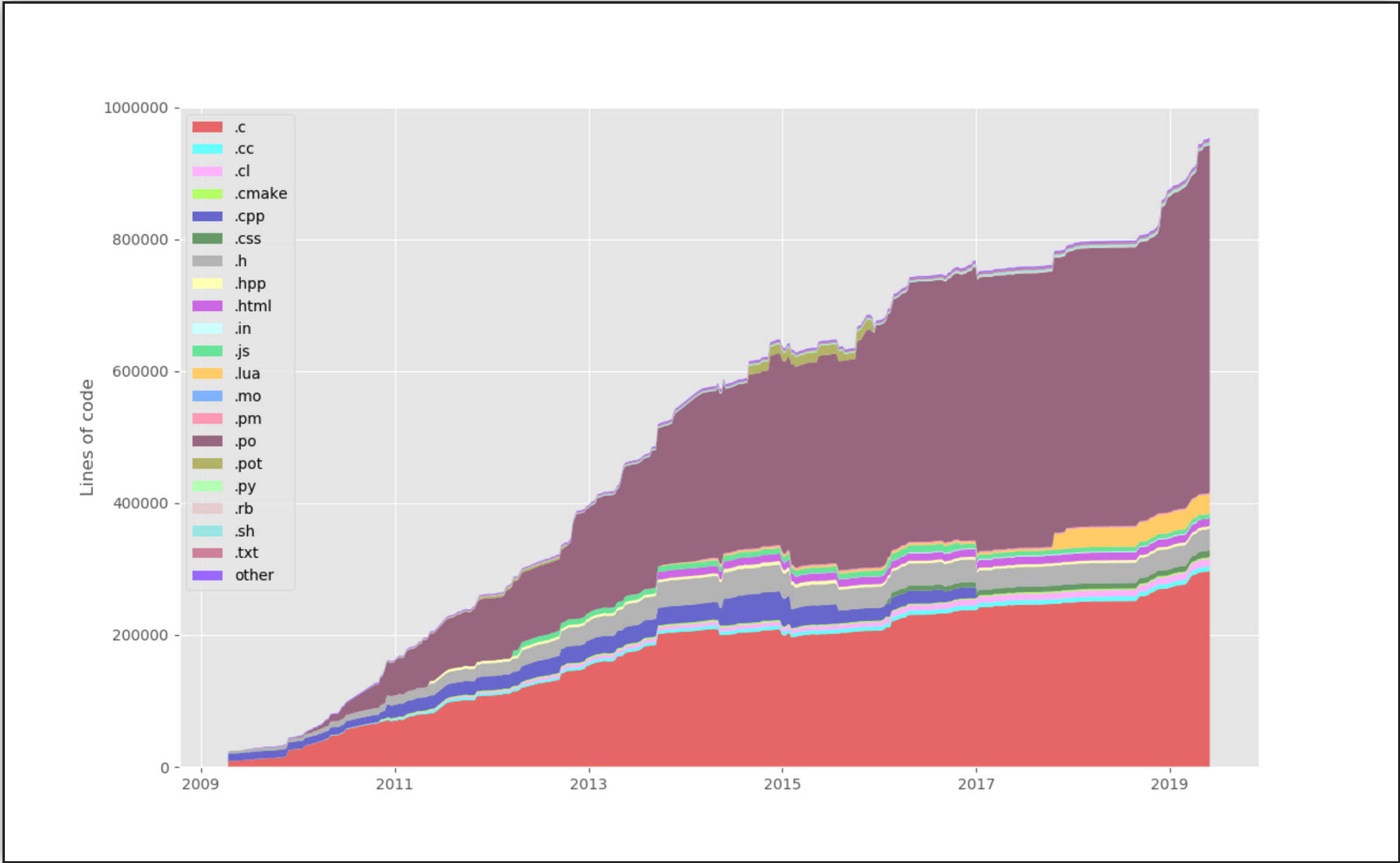
git mining: cohorts



git mining: authors



git mining: file types



git mining: loc ownership

conclusion

- code lasts surprisingly long!
 - even considering that houz ran clang-format..
 - henrik's code after years of inactivity (last: jan 2016) only down to 50%
- means we usually only fix and maintain? or:
 - a) everybody only writes perfect code
 - b) we pile up technical debt without reconsideration

community and organisation

- large number of contributors (just shy of 200)
- different time zones/nationalities/technical background/mindset
 - testers
 - suggesters
 - translators
 - techies
 - colour folks
 - .. sometimes photographers ;)

community and organisation

do-ocracy

- 🌱 this is a spare time project, we want this to be fun!
- 🌱 if there's a rule, it's

don't stop anyone from coding when they're having fun

community and organisation

responsibility

- whether we like it or not: people depend on our software to get their work done
- the non-destructive workflow promise:
we will support your old edits indefinitely

lessons learned

gained what from laissez-faire?

- 🌱 quick development from ground up
- 🌱 **features** i never thought of
- 🌱 translations to **languages** i didn't know existed
- 🌱 technical debt :/

lessons learned

non-destructive: cannot deprecate things?

- 10 years of udraw style pipeline
- whole other talk about piling up a stack of technical debts



lessons learned

why are we doing this? fun!

- compatible people
- personalities you need:
 - to advance code (antisocial rockstars)
 - to maintain it after those^ disappeared: with a sense for social responsibility



- communication channels?

outlook/conclusions

hmm, anyone?

🌱 let's discuss here at LGM

thanks!

anyways a huge thanks to all our supporters!

- 🌱 this has been fun
- 🌱 let's go for the next 10 years :)

