

Welcome and Introduction

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Community Percona



The Story of Valkey

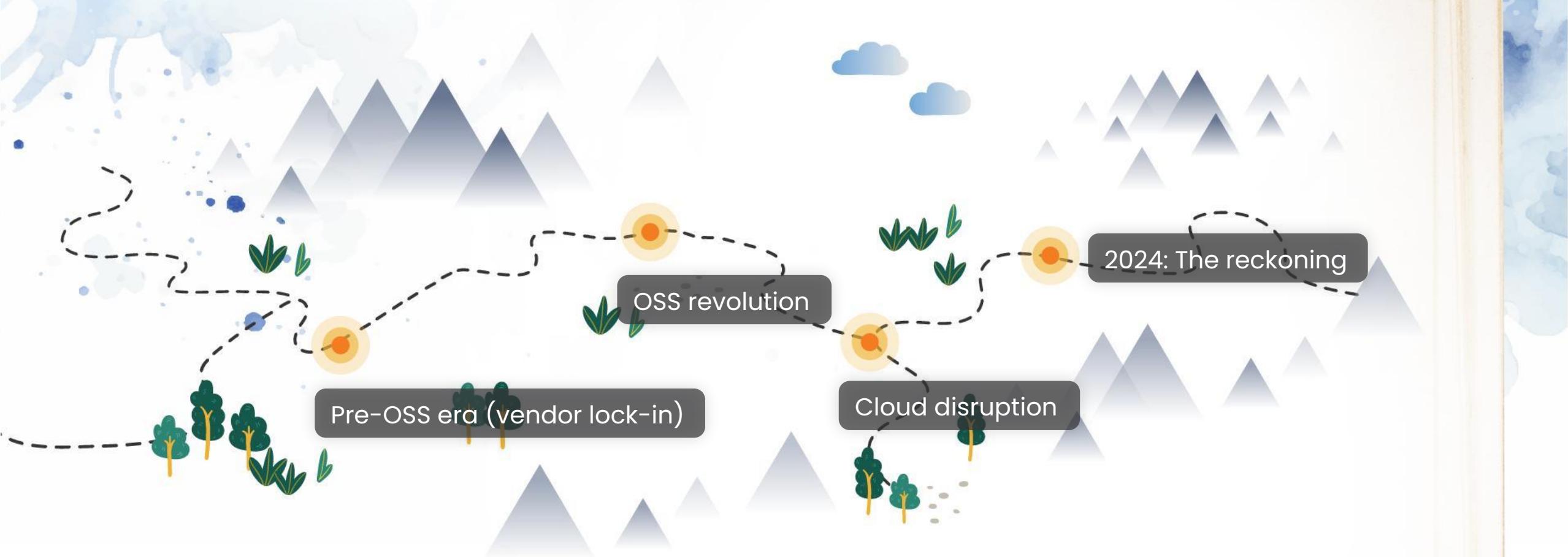
When Open Source Communities Take a Stand

How Redis's License Change
Sparked a Movement and What
It Means for the Future of OSS
Databases



Chapter 1

A Quick Rewind – Where We've Been



Chapter 2

Redis – The Beloved Database



Used by millions of
developers



Powers critical
infrastructure worldwide



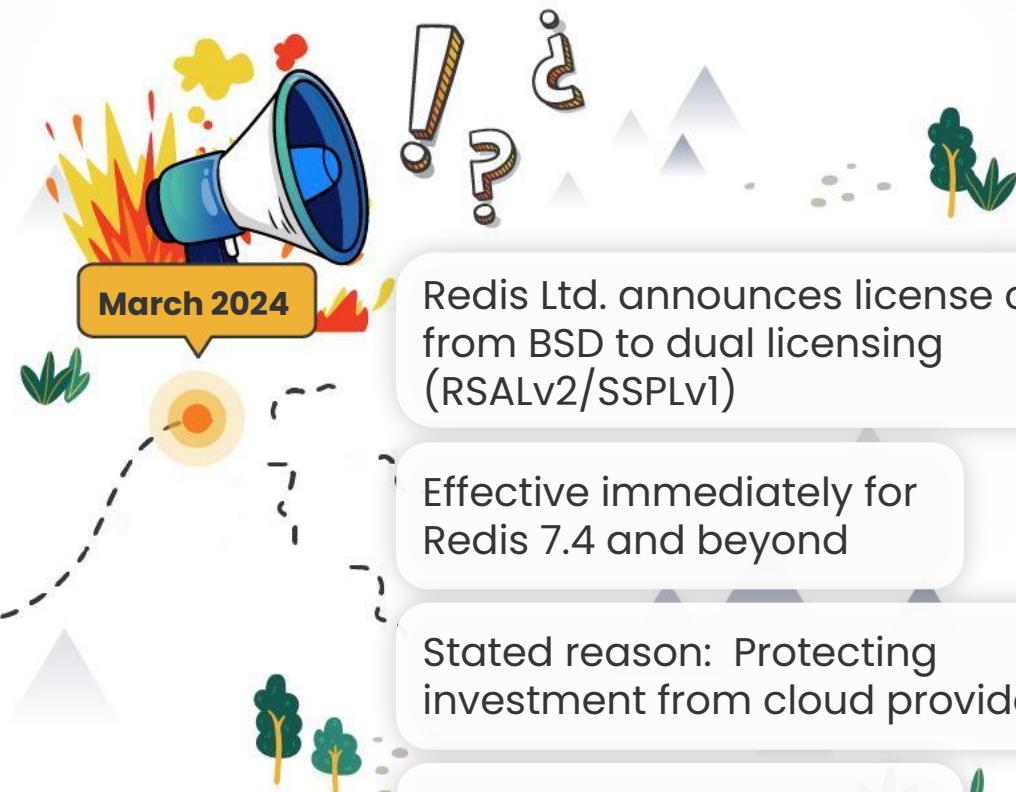
Known for speed and
simplicity



Community-driven
innovation for 15 years

Chapter 3

March 2024 – The Turning Point



Redis Ltd. announces license change
from BSD to dual licensing
(RSALv2/SSPLv1)

Effective immediately for
Redis 7.4 and beyond

Stated reason: Protecting
investment from cloud providers

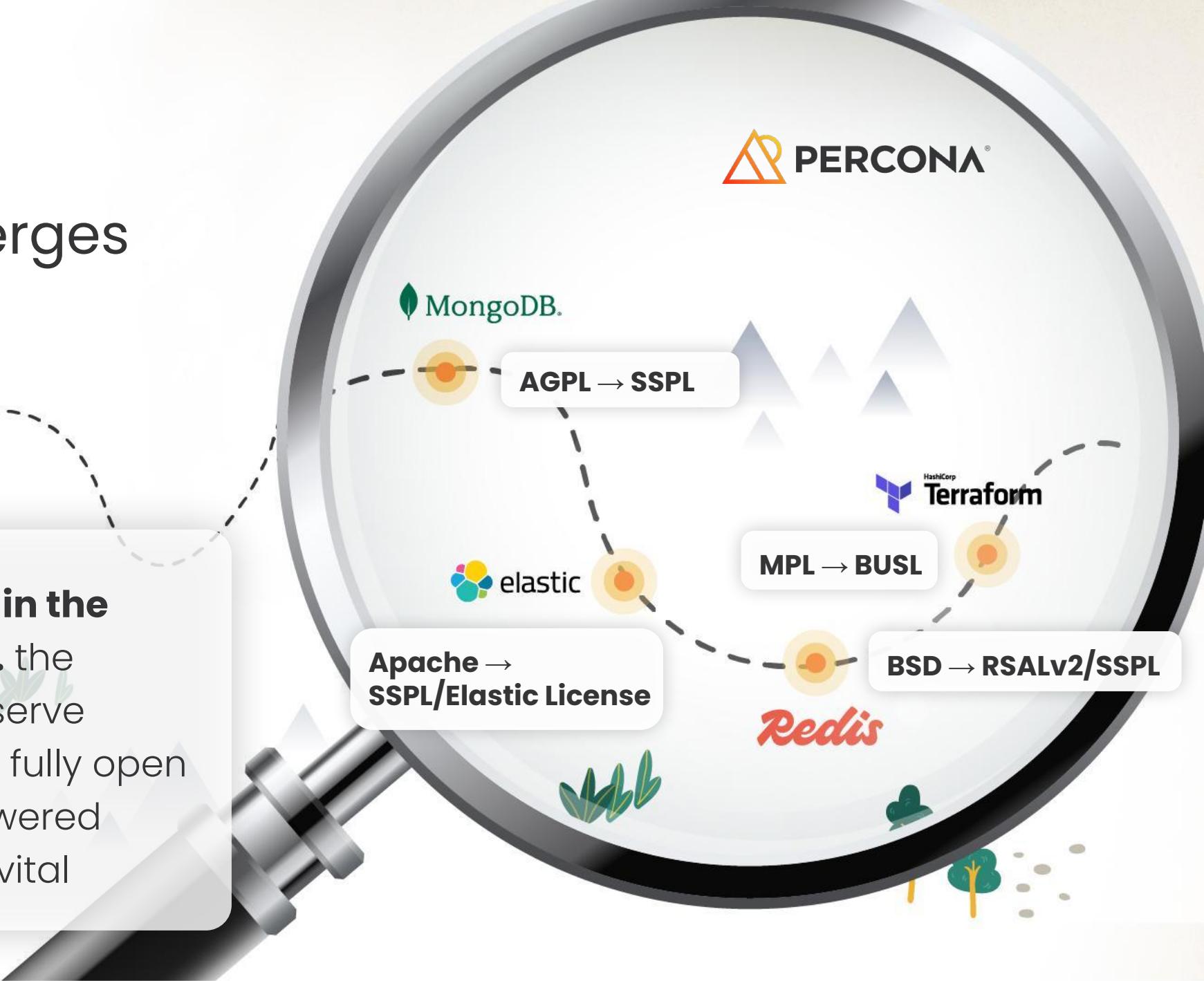
Community response:
Shock and concern

Chapter 4

The Pattern Emerges



At Percona, we believe in the power of open source... the launch of Valkey to preserve unfettered access via a fully open source, community-powered project is a logical and vital outcome



Chapter 5

The Community Responds – Enter Valkey



April 2024

Week 4: Valkey project announced

March 2024

Week 1: Redis announcement

Week 2: Community discussions intensify

Week 3: Linux Foundation involvement



Chapter 6

Why Valkey?



Valkey



Represents Value and Key
(core Redis concept)



Fresh identity, not
derivative



Linux Foundation as
neutral steward



BSD-3-Clause license
(truly open source)

Chapter 7

What Makes Valkey Different?



Aspect	Redis (post-change)	Valkey
License	RSALv2/SSP	BSD-3-Clause
Governance	Redis Ltd.	Linux Foundation
Cloud provider friendly	Restricted	Open
Community control	Limited	Full
Fork from	N/A	Redis 7.2.4

Chapter 8

What Makes Valkey Different?



AWS

We're committed to supporting Valkey as part of our open source database offerings



Ann Schlemmer

The launch of Valkey to preserve unfettered access via a fully open source, community-powered project is a logical and vital outcome



Jim Wright | Chief Architect in Open Source Policy, Strategy, Compliance, and Alliances

Oracle is excited to see a community of long-standing Redis contributors come together to ensure a future for the project in open source with the development of Valkey. We look forward to collaborating and seeing innovation continue to flourish in the new home for this important technology



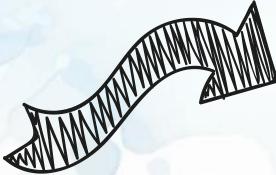
Rob Engel (Vice President of Software Engineering at Major League Baseball)

We are excited about the general availability of Memorystore for Valkey, a truly open-source alternative. We believe its inherent flexibility and the power of community-driven development will further enhance our speed, scalability, and real-time data processing capabilities...

Chapter 9

The Technical Transition

Redis



Valkey



API compatibility
maintained



Drop-in replacement
for Redis 7.2



Independent development
path forward

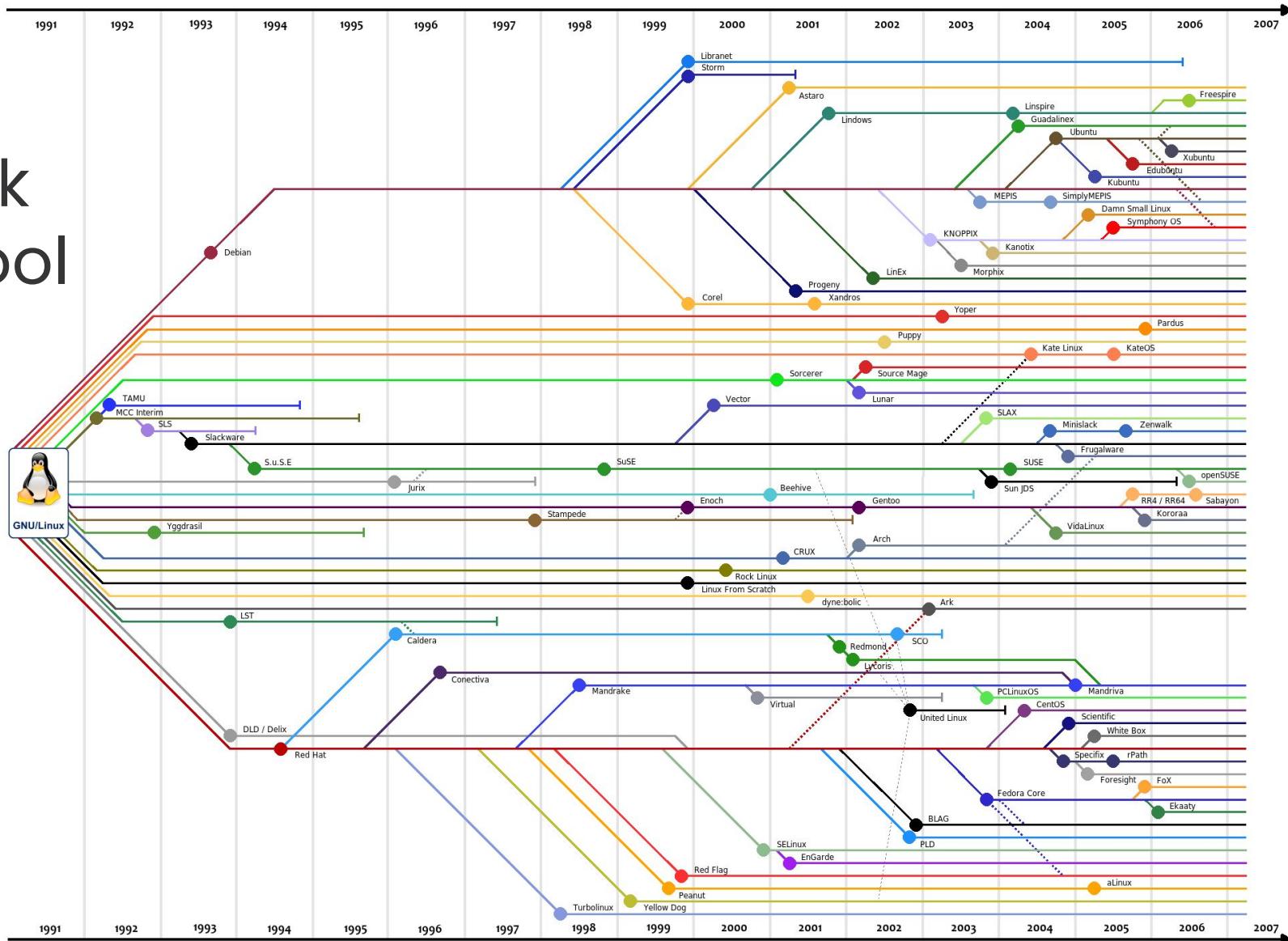


Community-driven
roadmap

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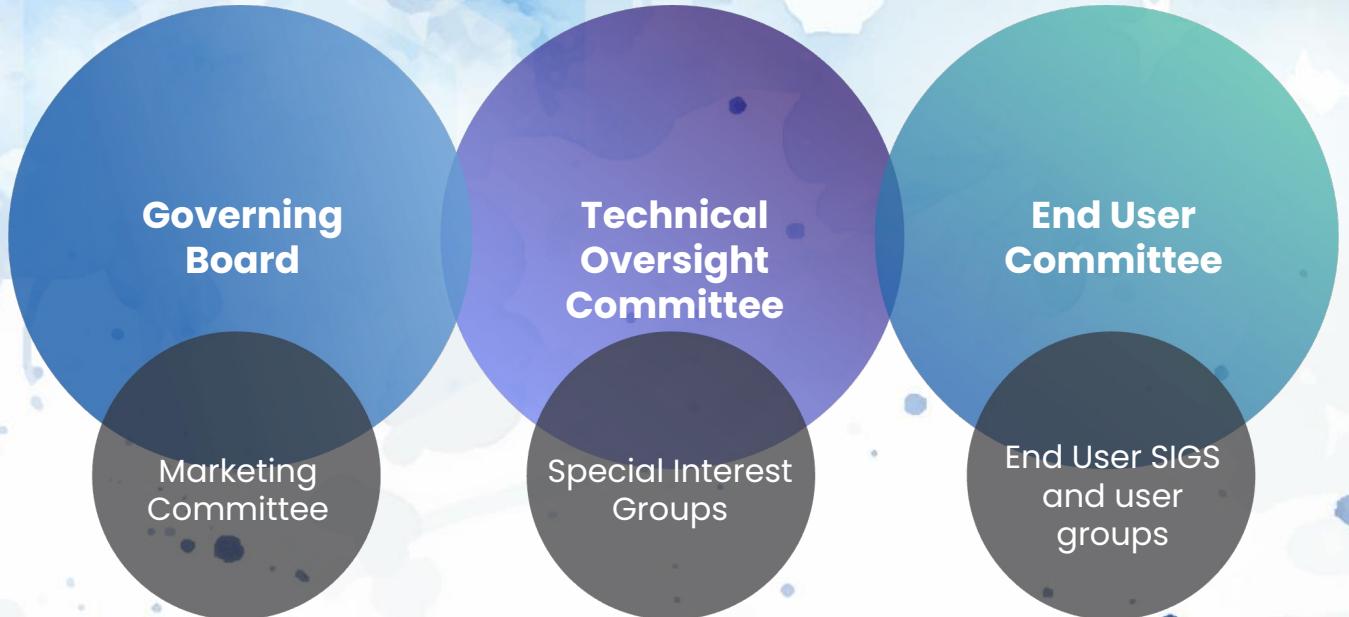
Trend #1: The Fork as Democratic Tool

Linux distro timeline



Chapter 11

Trend #2: Foundation Governance Matters



- Mainly vendors
- Fund the organization
- Marketing and strategic direction

- 11 top technical architects
- Admit new projects
- Acts as a resource to projects

- Real end users of these technologies
- Communicate back requirements
- And good and bad experiences

Chapter 12

Trend #3: Cloud Providers as OSS Champions?



Cloud providers profiting from OSS sparked license changes

Yet they're also defending truly open source



Economic incentives aligned with openness

Investment in community sustainability

Chapter 13

The Business Model Question



Restrictive licenses → Force cloud providers to license

Open core → Premium features behind paywall

Control → Predictable revenue



True openness → Broader adoption

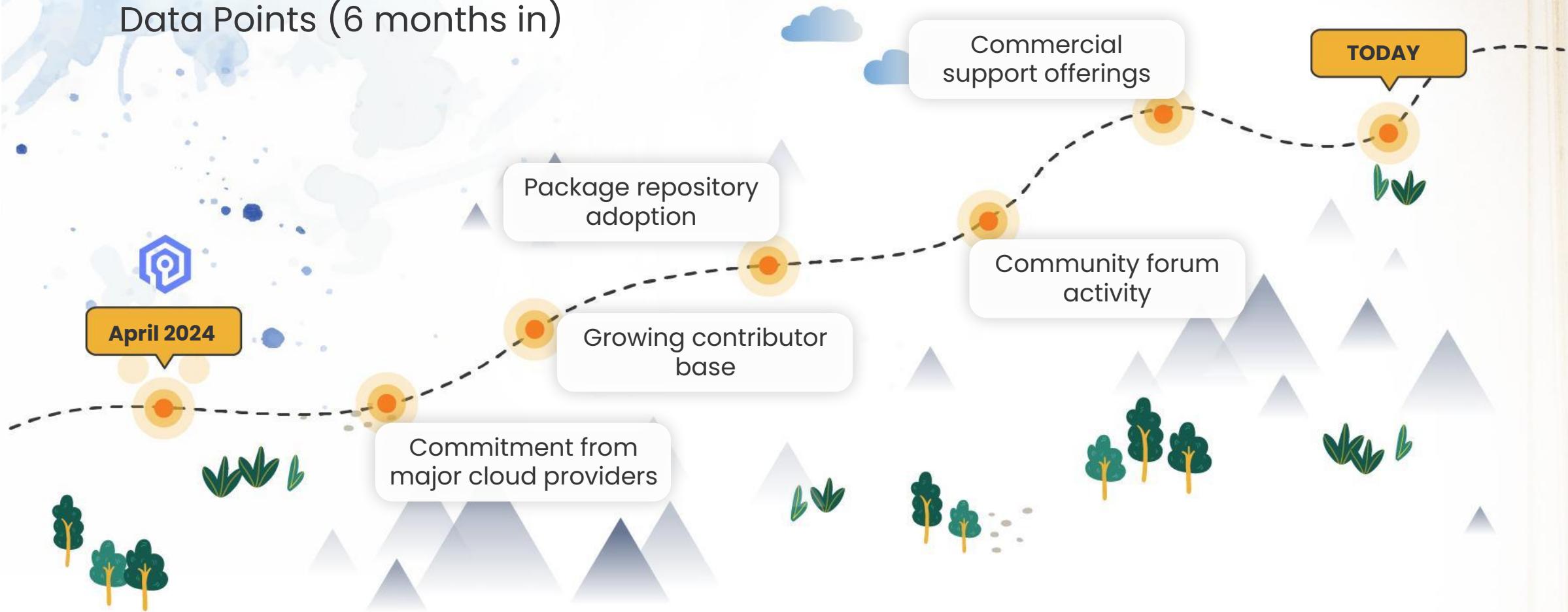
Services & support → Revenue from value-add

Community → Sustainable innovation

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Early Adoption Signals

Data Points (6 months in)



Chapter 15

The Challenges Ahead

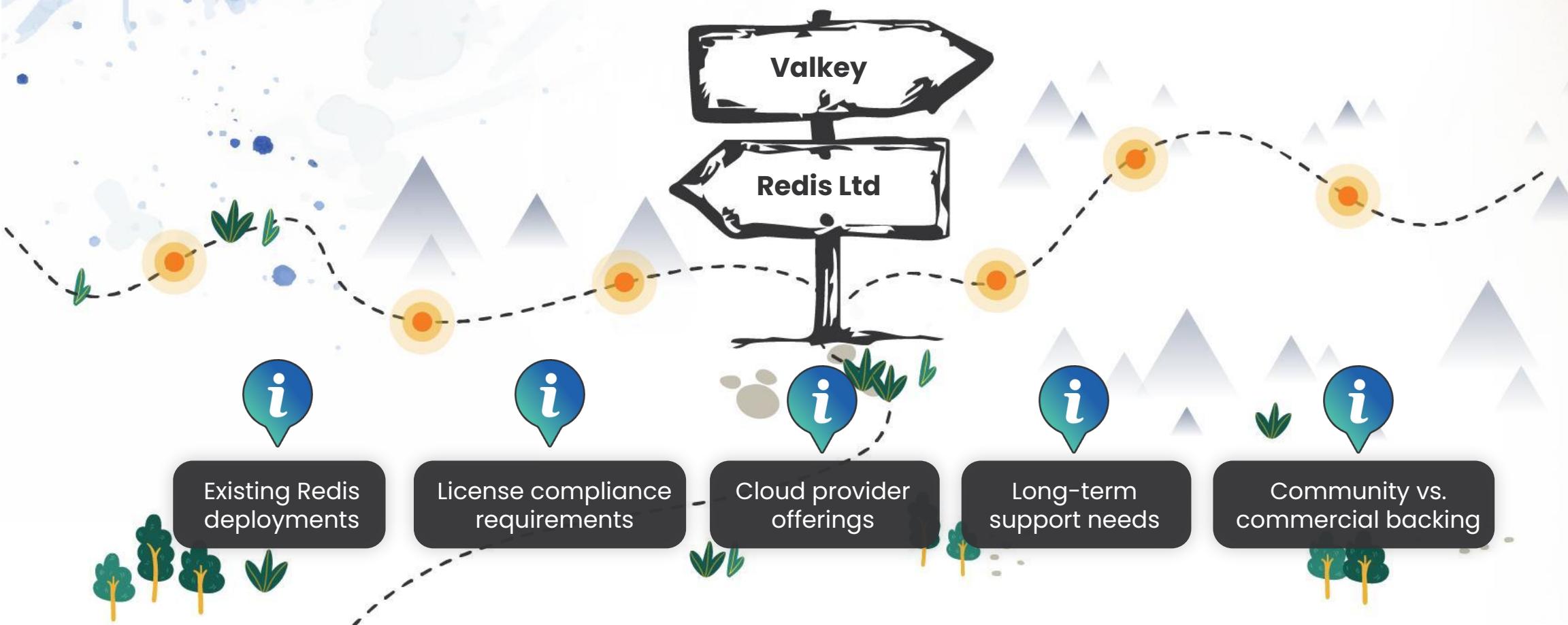


- Feature parity as Redis develops independently
- Maintaining contributor momentum
- Avoiding fragmentation
- Building sustainable funding
- Marketing and awareness



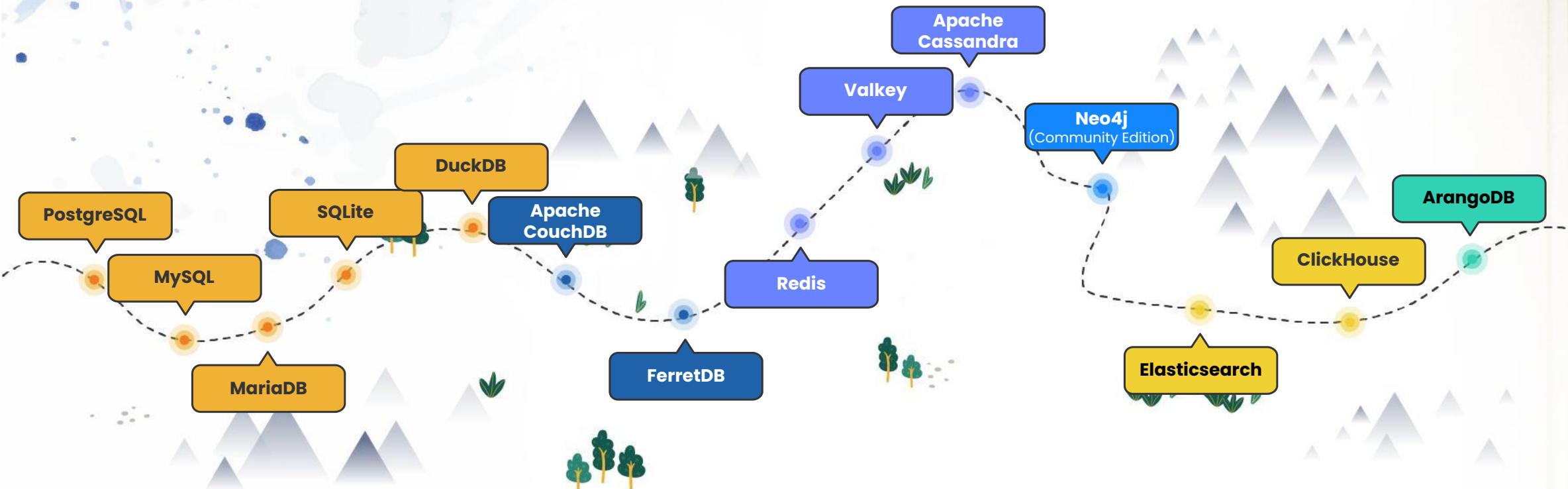
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What This Means for Users



Chapter 17

Broader Implications for OSS Databases



Chapter 18

The Security Dimension



Chapter 19

The Compliance Angle

Commercial Applications

(possibly include
Open Source code)

Proprietary Applications

(possibly include
Open Source code)

Open Source Applications

Middleware

(Open Source, Proprietary, 3rd part or a mix)

Linux OS

Open Source Drivers

Open Source Driver

Chip

Open Source Driver

Chip

- Open Source licenses are not negotiable
- 1000's of contributors – 100's of licenses
- Unpredictable environment
- Components are tightly integrated,
blurring lines between them
- Mitigated risks through compliance,
engineering practices and design

Chapter 20

The AI Era Context



Chapter 21

Percona's Perspective



Over the past 17 years we have been working in this model, proving its viability without bait-and-switch licensing changes

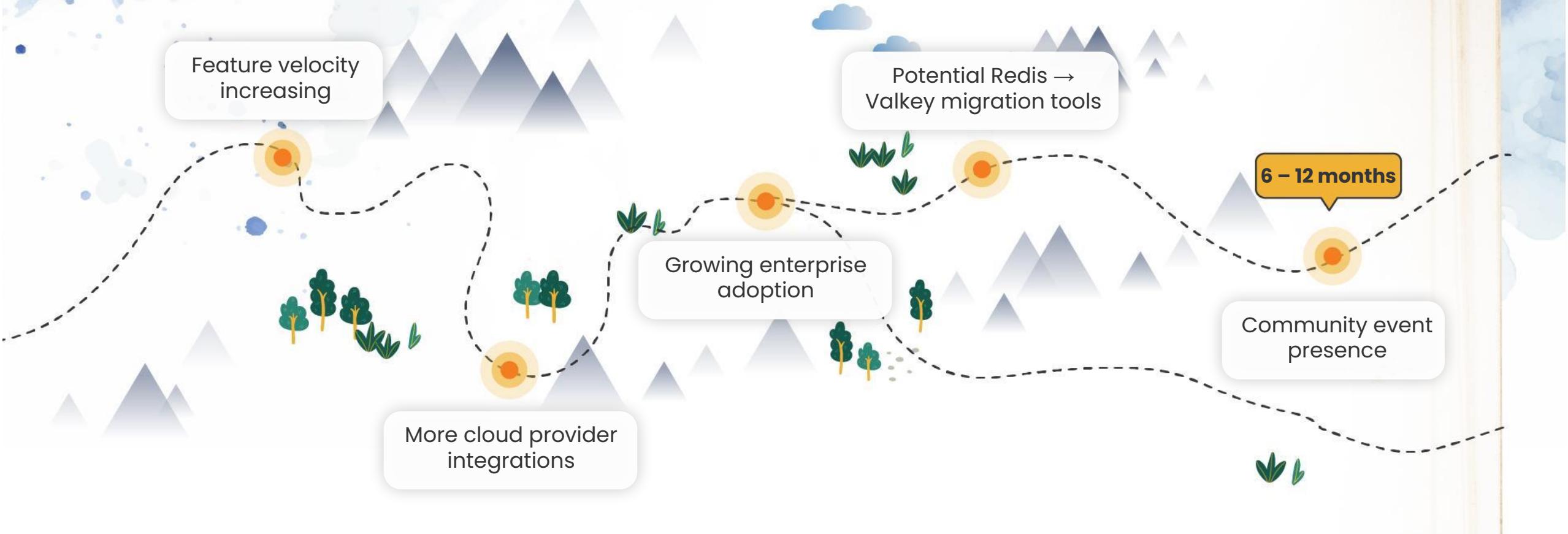
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Lessons for the Community

- Move fast when principles are at stake
- Neutral governance is non-negotiable
- Build coalitions across stakeholder types
- Technical excellence + community = resilience
- Communication matters as much as code

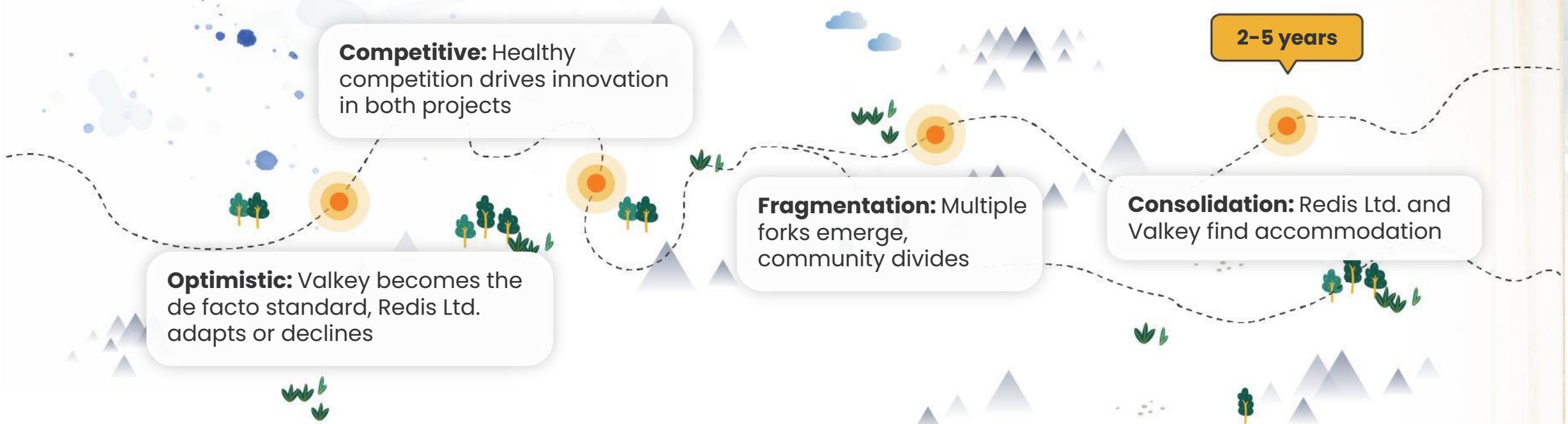
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Looking Ahead – 6-12 Months



Chapter 24

The Long View – 2–5 Years



Chapter 25

Implications for Other Projects

Infrastructure tools

Other databases with license tensions

Developer productivity tools

Projects considering license changes

Projects considering foundation governance changes



Chapter 26

The Developer Experience Lens

- Contribution process
- Documentation quality
- Community support
- Learning resources
- Career implications

Chapter 27

The Investment Perspective

Investment Implications:

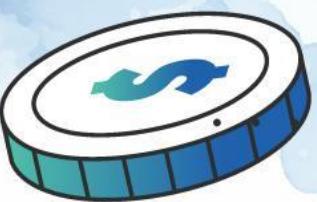
Risks of licensing strategies

Value of community moats

Foundation-backed projects

Open source sustainability models

M&A considerations



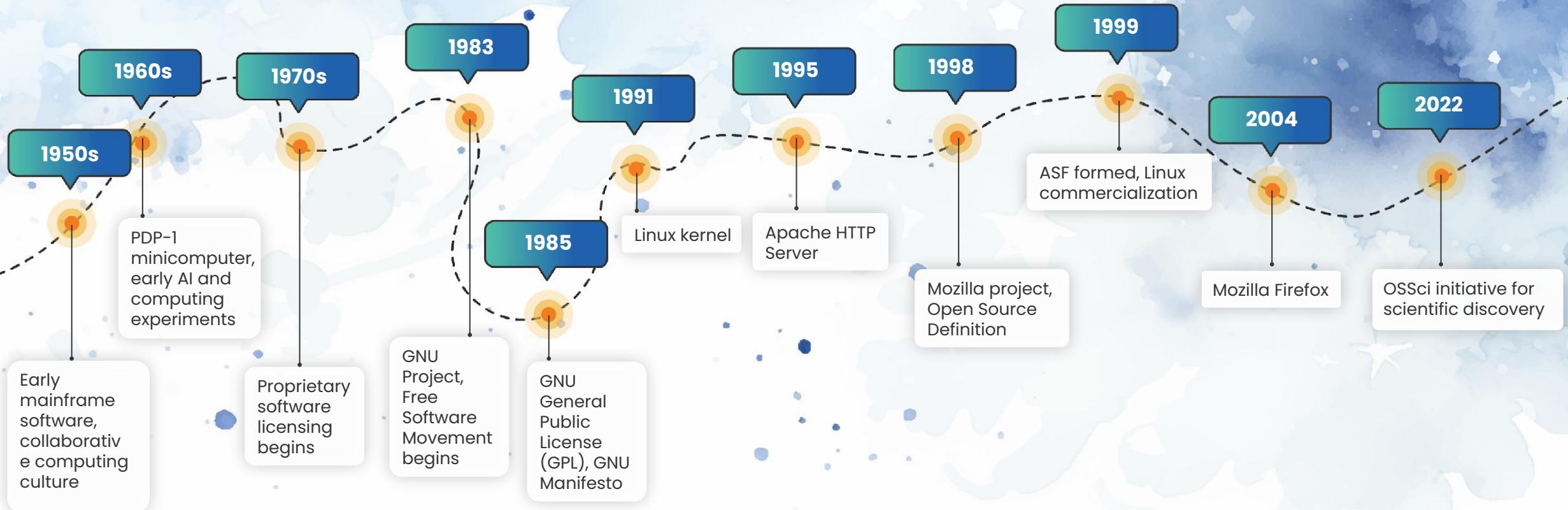
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Your Role in This Story



Chapter 29

The Bigger Picture – Open Source Resilience



Chapter 30

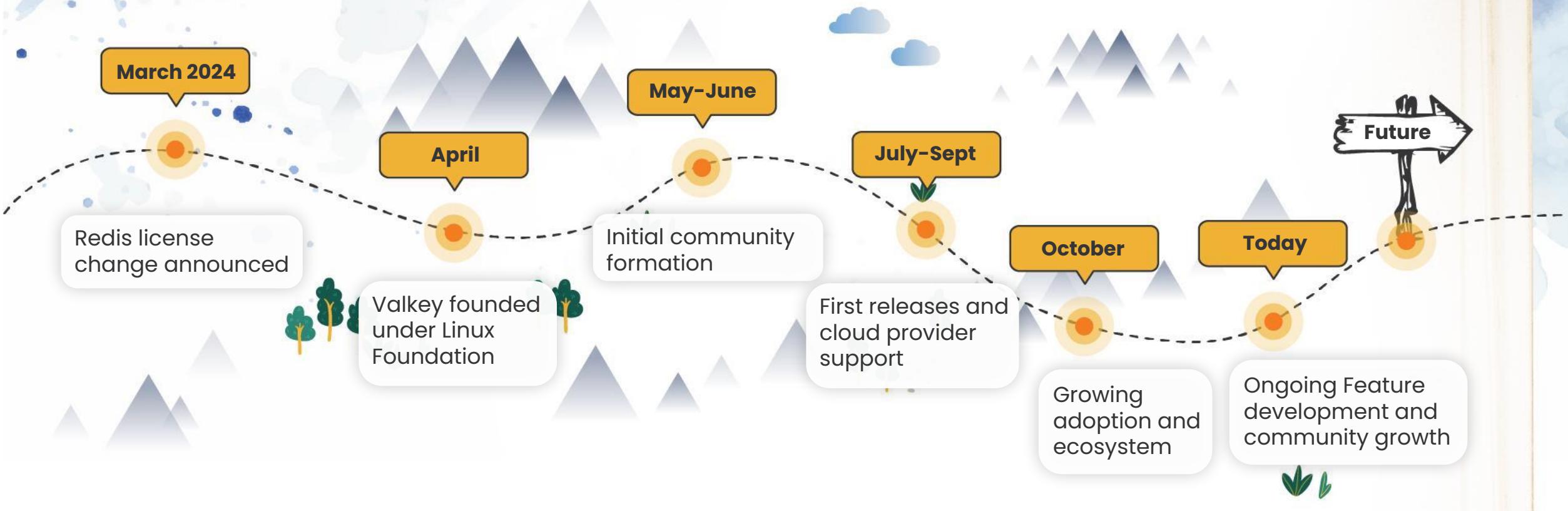
Challenges = Opportunities (Revisited)

Challenge	Opportunity
Cloud disruption	Catalyzes better governance models
Cost pressures	Drives efficiency and innovation
Competition	Improves quality across ecosystem
Compliance demands	Creates better software practices
Funding challenges	Inspires creative sustainability

Valkey as example	
License change challenge	Opportunity for community empowerment
Governance concerns	Opportunity for foundation model
Business model question	Opportunity for proving alternatives

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Summary – The Valkey Story So Far



Chapter 32

Key Takeaways

Community Power Is Real

When organized, communities can preserve open source principles

Speed and coordination matter

Diverse stakeholders = stronger coalitions

Governance Structure Matters

Neutral foundations provide legitimacy

Transparent processes build trust

No single company control = long-term viability

Business Models Are Evolving

Truly open + great services = viable model

Short-term restrictions ≠ long-term success

Innovation happens at the edges

Chapter 33

The Call to Action



For Developers

Evaluate Valkey for your use cases

Contribute to truly open projects

Advocate for open source principles

For Organizations

Scrutinize licenses in your stack

Support vendors committed to openness

Participate in foundation governance

For the Ecosystem

Learn from the Valkey experience

Invest in sustainable models

Champion transparent governance

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Resources & Getting Involved



Valkey Resources

- valkey.io - Official site
- github.com/valkey-io - Code repositories
- Linux Foundation Valkey page
- Community forums and Slack



Percona Resources

- percona.com - Our take on Valkey
- Community forums
- Technical blog posts
- Upcoming Valkey support



General OSS Database Resources

- Linux Foundation projects
- CNCF database landscape
- OpenSSF for security

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Resources & Getting Involved

What's your experience
with Redis?

What governance
models have you
seen work well?

How do you
evaluate open
source projects?



Thank you



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