

Sixth Dutch National Symposium on Software Engineering

Signals in Social Coding Environments: What Do They Mean and How Much Can You Trust Them?

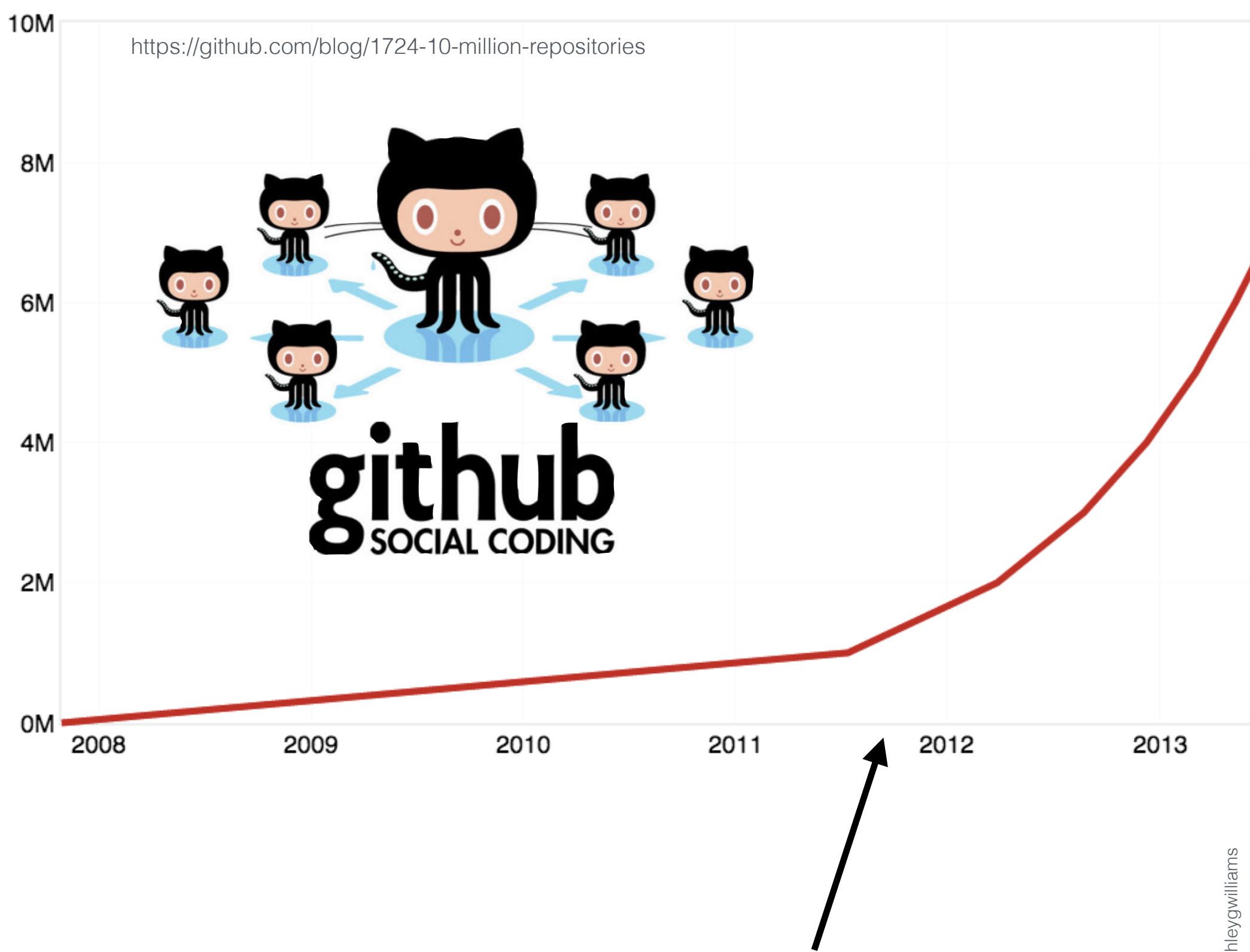
Bogdan Vasilescu
@b_vasilescu

w/ Asher Trockman, Shurui Zhou, Christian Kästner

First: Some bad news



Social Coding: Code is meant to be shared



I started my PhD

ashley williams
ashleygwilliams

npm, inc
 ridgewood, queens, NYC

<http://ashleygwilliams.github.io/>
 Joined on Oct 31, 2011

776 Followers **38** Starred **15** Following

Organizations

Contributions Repositories Public activity Follow

Popular repositories

breakfast-repo	a collection of videos, recordings, and podcast...	208 ★
x86-kernel	a simple x86 kernel, extended with Rust	48 ★
ashleygwilliams.github.io	hi, i'm ashley. nice to meet you.	37 ★
jsconf-2015-deck	deck for jsconf2015 talk, "if you wish to learn e...	32 ★
ratpack	sinatra boilerplate using activerecord, sqlite, a...	32 ★

Repositories contributed to

npm/docs	The place where all the npm docs live.	44 ★
mozilla/publish.webmaker.org	The teach.org publishing service for goggles a...	2 ★
npm/marky-markdown	npm's markdown parser	104 ★
artisan-tattoo/assistant-frontend	ember client for assistant-API	5 ★
npm/npm-camp	a community conference for all things npm	1 ★

Public contributions

Summary of pull requests, issues opened, and commits. [Learn how we count contributions.](#) Less More

Contributions in the last year 1,886 total Jan 24, 2015 – Jan 24, 2016	Longest streak 37 days October 7 – November 12	Current streak 7 days January 18 – January 24
---	---	--

Knowledge
about

Social Coding: Code is meant to be shared



784,785 REPUTATION

360

5367

6604

Jon Skeet

top 0.01% overall

Author of [C# in Depth](#).
Currently a software engineer at Google, London.
Usually a Microsoft MVP (C#, 2003-2010, 2011-)

Sites:

- [C# in Depth](#)
- [Coding blog](#)
- [C# articles](#)
- [Twitter updates \(@jonskeet\)](#)
- [Google+ profile](#)

Email: skeet@pobox.com (but please read [my blog post on Stack Overflow-related emails](#) first)

31,797 answers

34 questions

~118.2m people reached

Reading, United Kingdom

[jonskeet](#)

[jskeet](#)

[csharpindepth.com](#)

Member for 6 years, 8 months

978,919 profile views

Last seen 7 mins ago

Communities (15)

Stack Overflow784.8k

Meta Stack Exchange70.5k

Super User4.1k

Programmers3k

Server Fault2.8k

[View network profile →](#)

Top Meta Posts

320 [Stack Overflow question checklist](#)

Top Tags (4,445)

c#

SCORE 145,166

POSTS 17,262

POSTS % 54

java

SCORE 85,729

POSTS 9,627

.net

SCORE 50,165

POSTS 5,145

linq

SCORE 20,239

POSTS 2,717

string

SCORE 11,990

POSTS 916

generics

SCORE 11,511

POSTS 1,161

[View all tags](#)

Top Posts (31,831)

AllQuestionsAnswersVotesNewest

6272 [Why is subtracting these two times \(in 1927\) giving a strange result?](#)

Jul 27 '12

Stack Overflow

Q&A for professional and enthusiast programmers

(4,368,896 total users)

All Time

Type to find users:

Jon Skeet

360

5367

6604

member for: 6 years, 8 months

#1

784,585

all time rank

all time reputation

Darin Dimitrov

98

2027

2062

member for: 6 years, 8 months

#2

595,006

all time rank

all time reputation

BalusC

142

1872

2174

member for: 5 years, 10 months

#3

573,150

all time rank

all time reputation

Hans Passant

61

656

1236

member for: 6 years, 9 months

#4

553,678

all time rank

all time reputation

Knowledge about Social Coding: Code is meant to be shared



784,785 REPUTATION

360 5367 6604

Jon Skeet

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- [Meta Stack Exchange](#) 70.5k
- [Super User](#) 4.1k
- [Programmers](#) 3k
- [Server Fault](#) 2.8k

[View network profile →](#)

Top Tags (4,445)

c#	SCORE 145,166	POSTS 17,262	POSTS % 54
java	SCORE 85,729	POSTS 9,627	.net SCORE 50,165 POSTS 5,145
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		generics	SCORE 11,511 POSTS 1,161

[View all tags →](#)

Top Meta Posts

320 [Stack Overflow question checklist](#)

Top Posts (31,831)

All Questions Answers | Votes Newest

[6272](#) Why is subtracting these two times (in 1927) giving a strange result? jul 27 '11

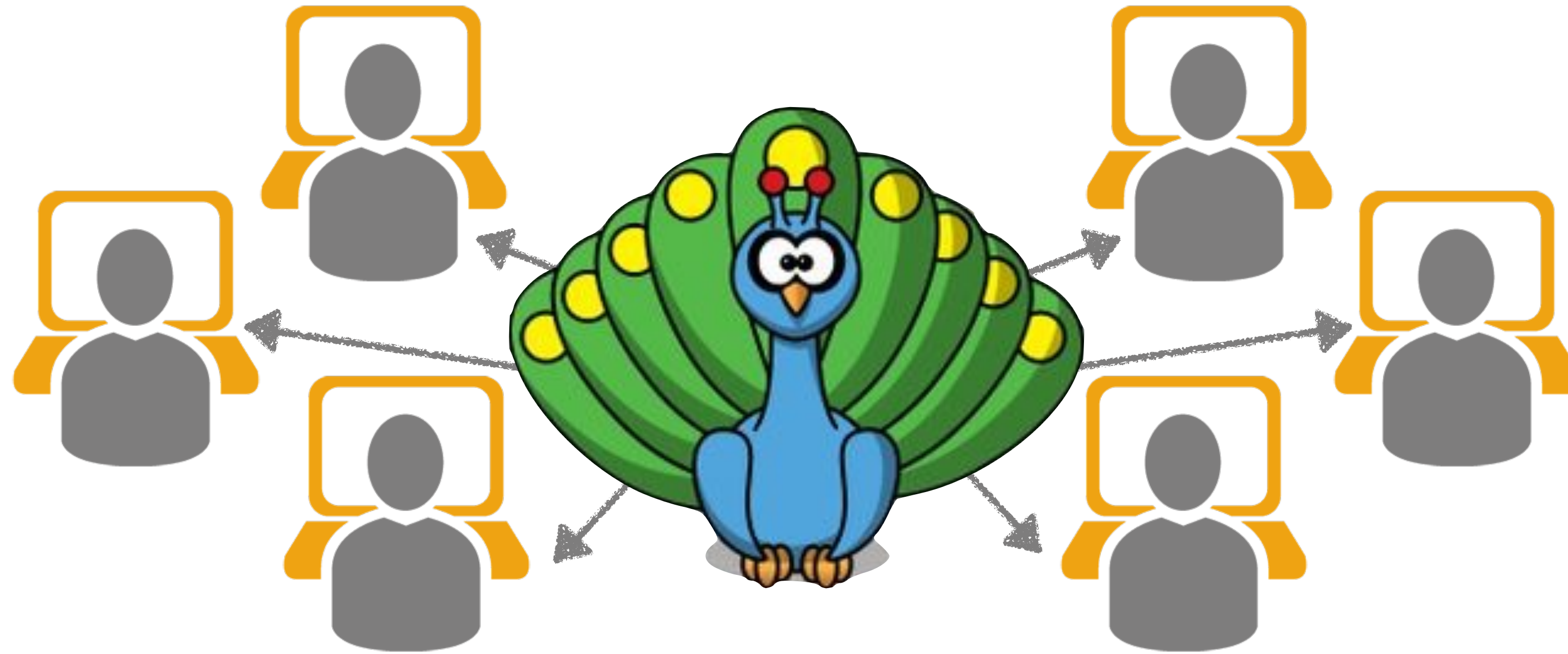
- “Jon Skeet can divide by zero.”

- “When Jon Skeet's code fails to compile the compiler apologises.”

- “Jon Skeet does not use revision control software. None of his code has ever needed revision.”

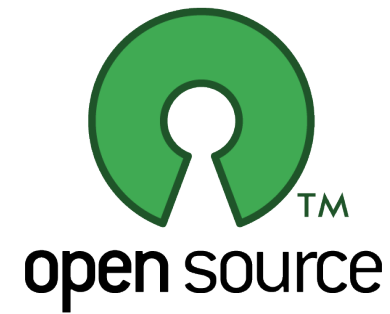
<http://meta.stackexchange.com/questions/9134/jon-skeet-facts>

The “social programmer” ... signals



- Assessing technical candidates on the social web
A Capiluppi, A Serebrenik, L Singer. *IEEE Software* 2013
- Mutual assessment in the social programmer ecosystem: an empirical investigation of developer profile aggregators
L Singer, F Figueira Filho, B Cleary, C Treude, MA Storey, K Schneider. *CSCW* 2013
- Impression formation in online peer production: activity traces and personal profiles in GitHub
J Marlow, L Dabbish, J Herbsleb. *CSCW* 2013
- Activity traces and signals in software developer recruitment and hiring
J Marlow, L Dabbish. *CSCW* 2013

OPEN-SOURCE IS GROWING



Companies:

- 78% run OSS
- 66% build on OSS

“Digital dark matter”

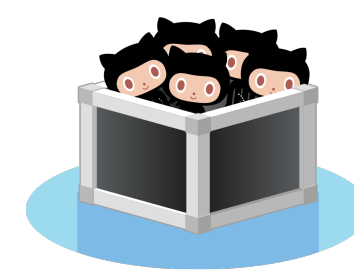
Apache httpd server: \$7-10b

BlackDuck 2015 survey
<https://goo.gl/Ltaqqs>

SOCIAL CODING IS GROWING



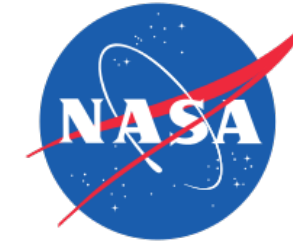
27 million
people



76 million
repositories



22 million
software dev's
(2017)



15,000+
people

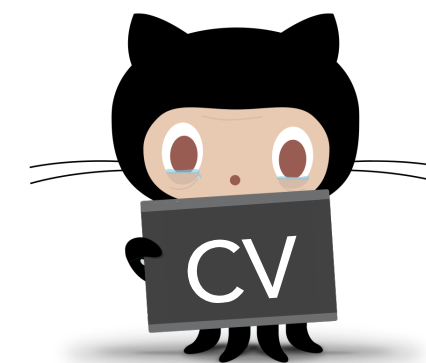
CULTURE CHANGE



*“it’s just so
uncool not
sharing the code
in the age of
social coding”*

<https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=2982987>

HIRING



- **\$100+** /hour:
 - owns popular OSS products;
 - **stackoverflow** score > 20K; ...
- **\$50+** /hour:
 - active OSS contributor;
 - **stackoverflow** score > 5K; ...

INDUSTRIAL INVOLVEMENT & ADOPTION



Microsoft

Open source, from Microsoft with love

Redmond, WA <http://www.microsoft.com...>



Google

<https://developers.google.com/>



Facebook

We work hard to contribute our work back to the web, mobile, big data, & infrastructure communities.

Menlo Park, California <https://code.facebook.com/projects/>

Transparency

Projects

request / request

Watch

417

Star

18,384

Fork

2,196

Code

Issues578

Pull requests52

Projects0

Wiki

Insights

Simplified HTTP request client.

2,199 commits

17 branches

134 releases

270 contributors

Apache-2.0

Branch: master

New pull request

Create new file

Upload files

Find file

Clone or download

mikeal

committed on Sep 27, 2017 2.83.1

Latest commit 253c5e5 on Sep 27, 2017

.github	small change to template wording	a year ago
examples	Adds example for Tor proxy	2 years ago
lib	refactor(lint): replace eslint with standard (#2579)	11 months ago
tests	lint fix, PR from pre-standard was merged with passing tests	10 months ago
.gitignore	Updating deps.	5 months ago
.travis.yml	Add Node.js v8 to Travis CI	7 months ago
CHANGELOG.md	Update changelog	11 months ago
CONTRIBUTING.md	Update contributing guidelines	2 years ago
LICENSE	Adding license information.	7 years ago
README.md	Fixed some text in README.md (#2658)	7 months ago
codecov.yml	Add codecov.yml and disable PR comments	2 years ago

People

Contributions

Repositories

Public activity

Follow

Popular repositories

breakfast-repo

a collection of videos, recordings, and podcast...

208

★

x86-kernel

a simple x86 kernel, extended with Rust

48

★

ashleygwilliams.github.io

hi, i'm ashley. nice to meet you.

37

★

jsconf-2015-deck

deck for jsconf2015 talk, "if you wish to learn e...

32

★

ratpack

sinatra boilerplate using activerecord, sqlite, a...

32

★

Repositories contributed to

npm/docs

The place where all the npm docs live.

44

★

mozilla/publish.webmaker.org

The teach.org publishing service for goggles a...

2

★

npm/marky-markdown

npm's markdown parser

104

★

artisan-tattoo/assistant-frontend

ember client for assistant-API

5

★

npm/npm-camp

a community conference for all things npm

1

★

Public contributions

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Jan

M

W

F

Summary of pull requests, issues opened, and commits. [Learn how we count contributions.](#)

LessMore

Contributions in the last year

1,886 total

Jan 24, 2015 – Jan 24, 2016

Longest streak

37 days

October 7 – November 12

Current streak

7 days

January 18 – January 24

STRIDEL
Carnegie Mellon University

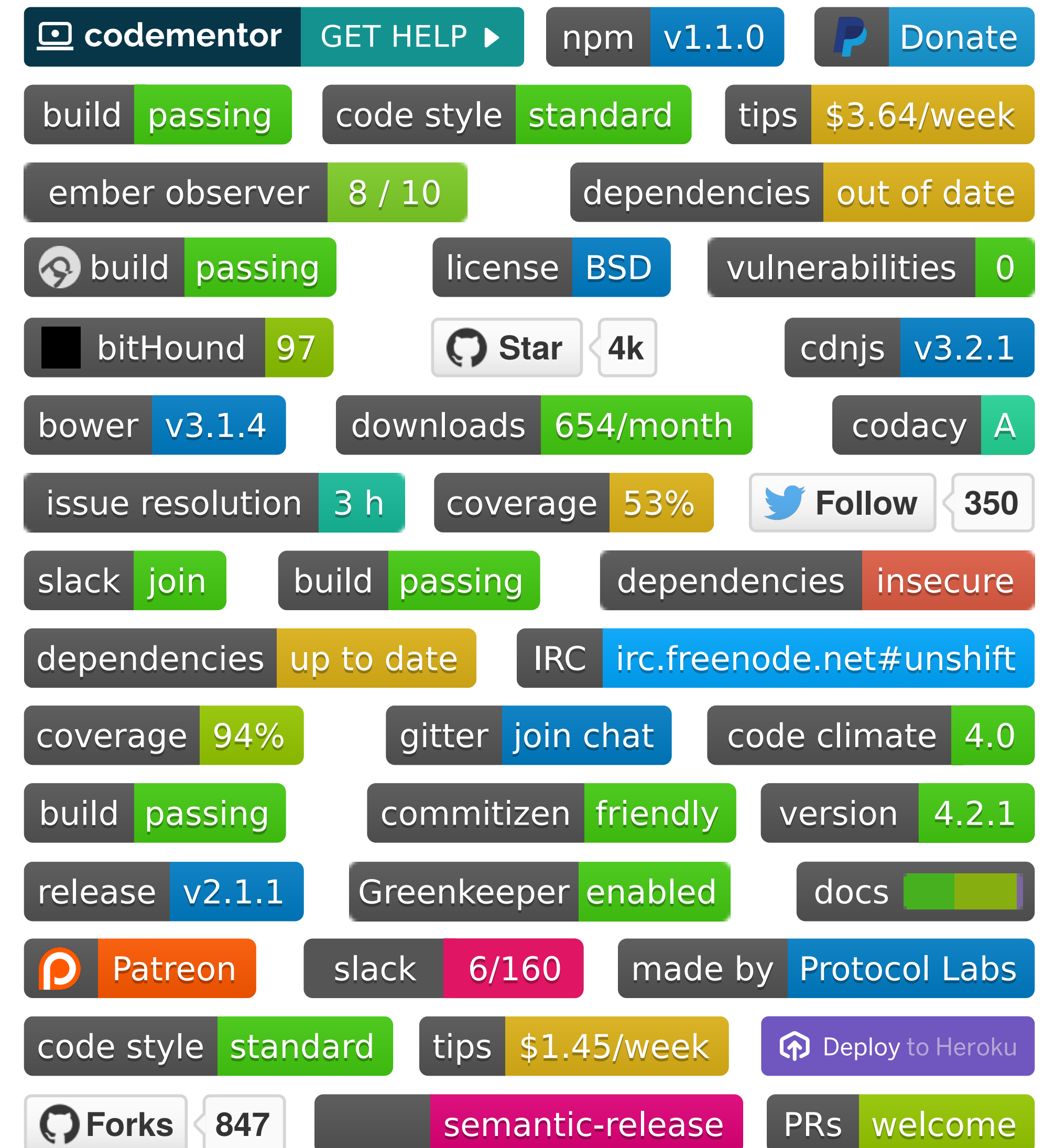
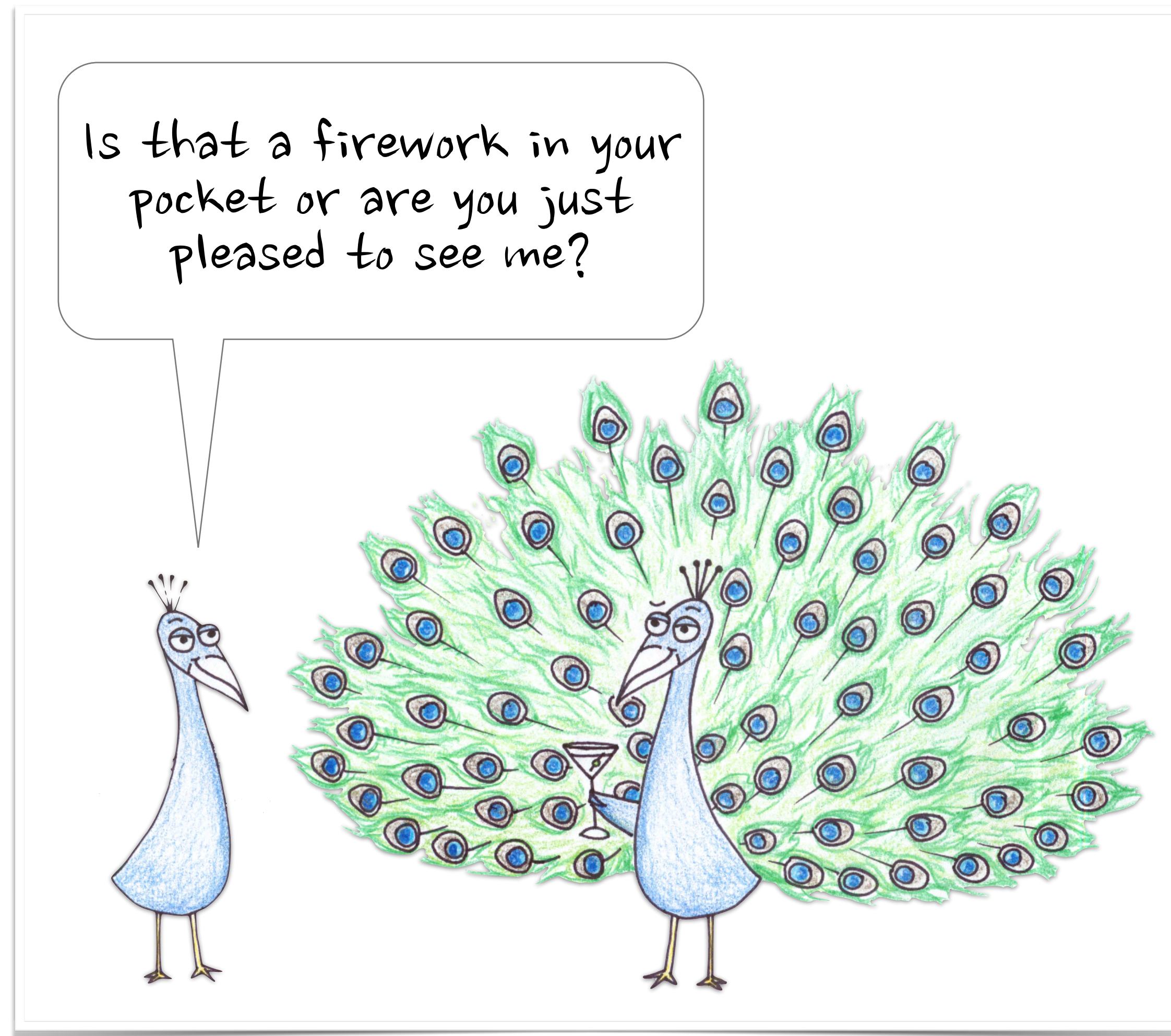
Yet ... despite transparency

- Neglected infrastructure
 - “heartbleed” security bug in OpenSSL
 - leftpad incident
- In open source ecosystems, no signal (yet) to help **balance supply and demand** for labor
 - Similar to price in market-based production
 - Could **badges** help?

Roads and Bridges: The Unseen Labor Behind Our Digital Infrastructure

WRITTEN BY
Nadia Eghbal

Today: Signaling with badges



README.md

Request - Simplified HTTP client



npm install request

22 dependencies version 2.81.0
22,431 dependents updated 6 months ago

1,275 ★

build

passing

coverage

92%

coverage

93%

dependencies

up to date

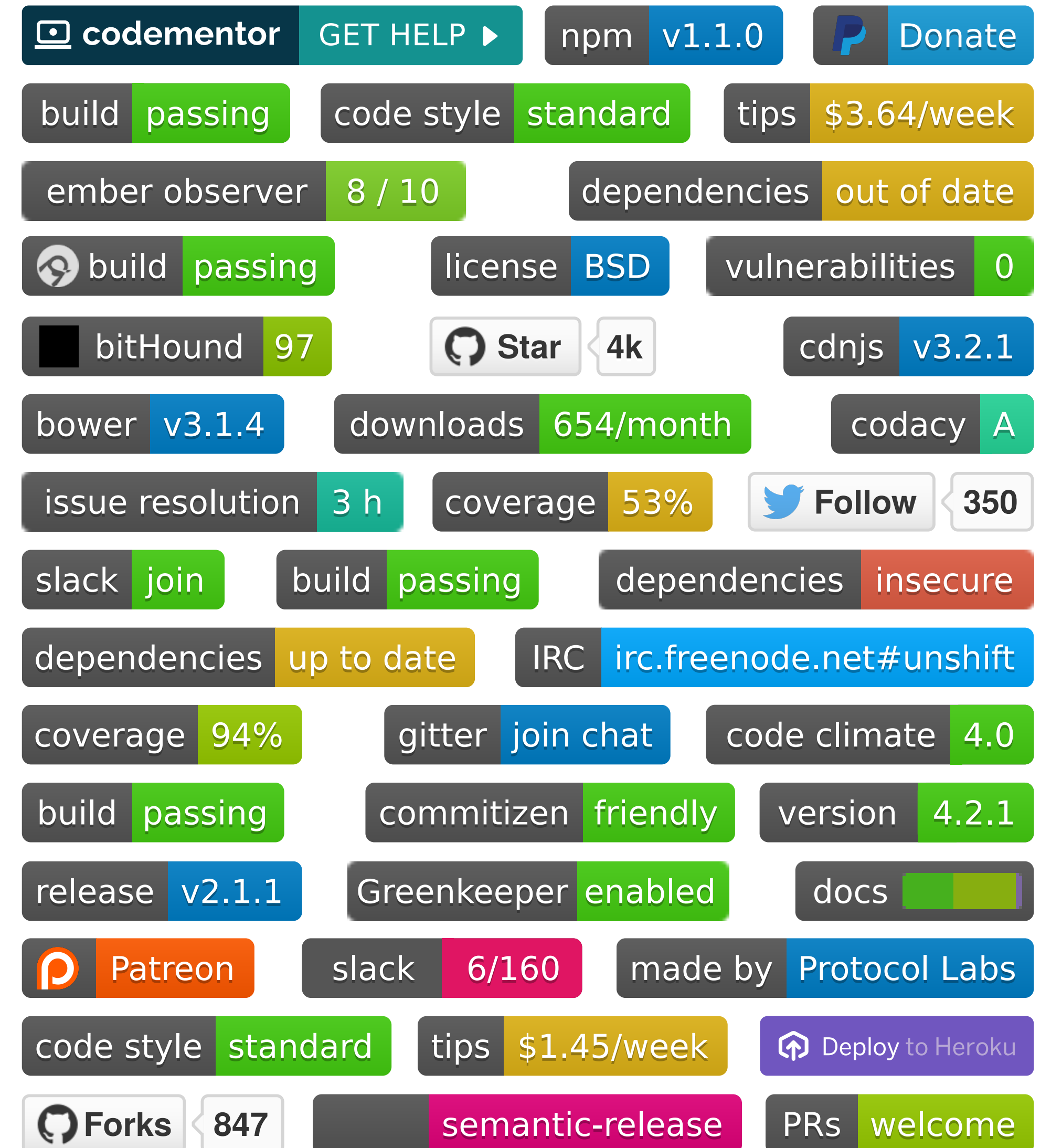
vulnerabilities

0

gitter

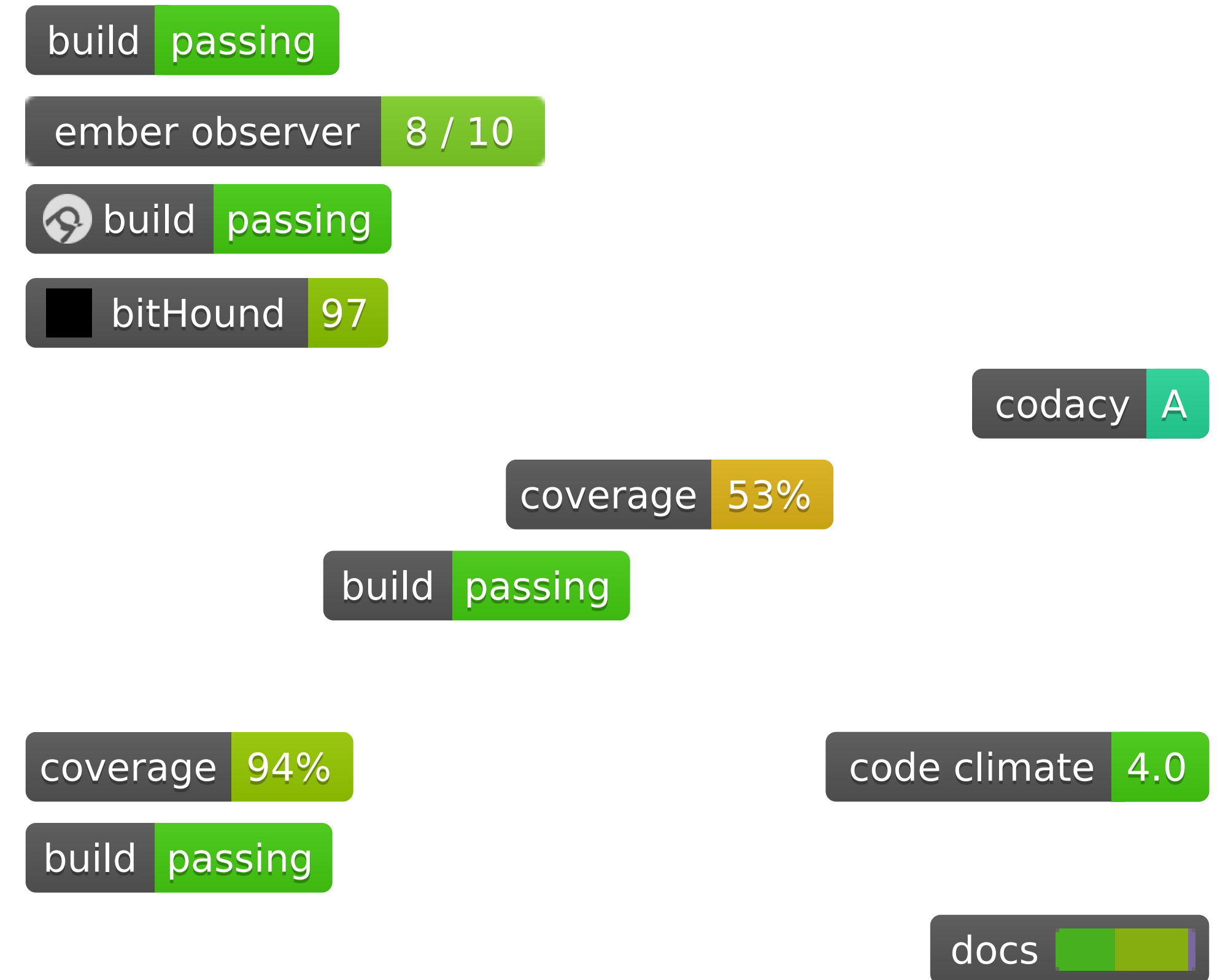
join chat

Types of badges



Types of badges

- Quality assurance
 - Build status, test coverage, static analysis, ...



Types of badges

- Quality assurance
 - Build status, test coverage, static analysis, ...
- Dependency management
 - Version tracking, vulnerability tracking, ...

dependencies out of date

vulnerabilities 0

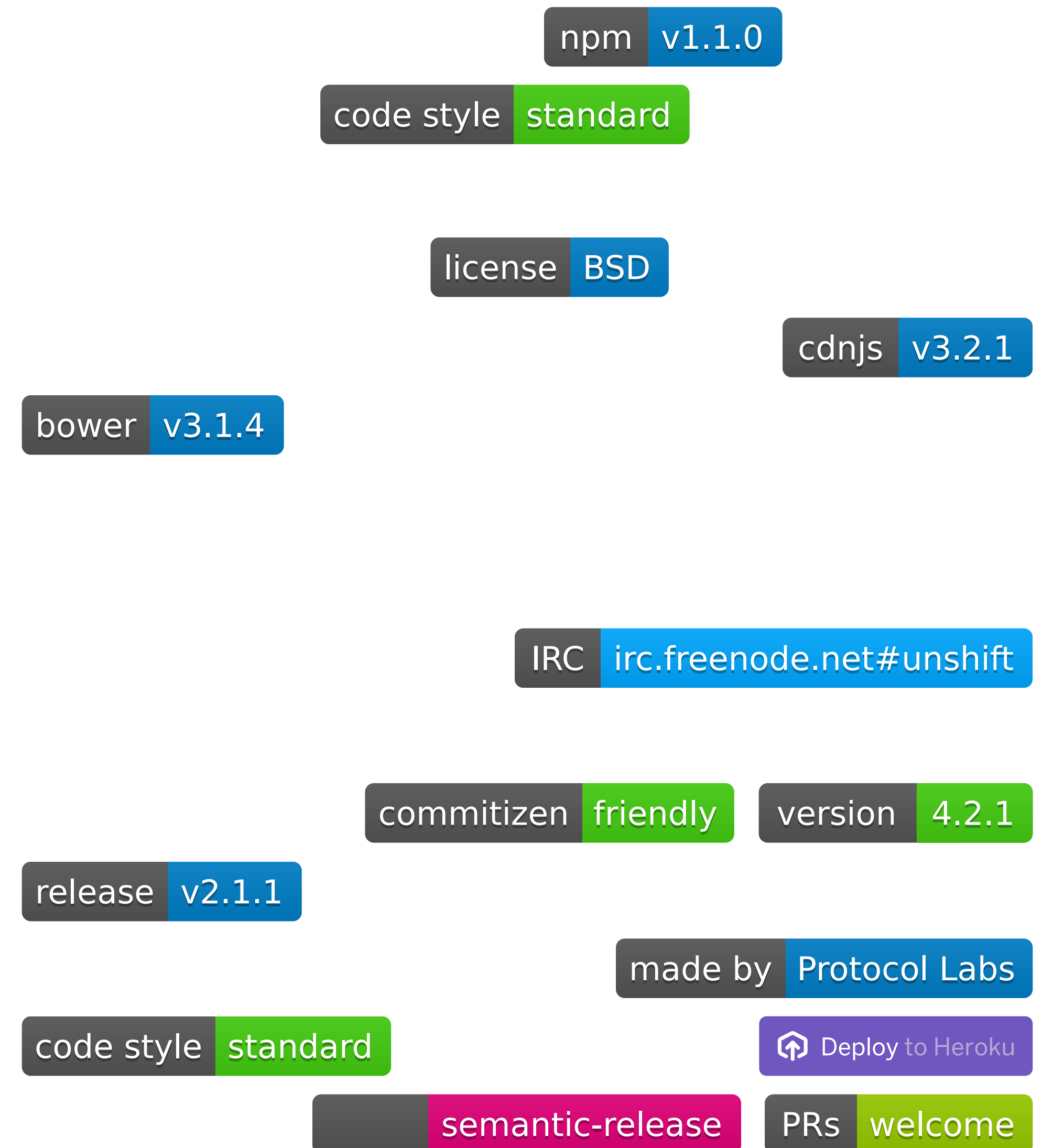
dependencies insecure

dependencies up to date

Greenkeeper enabled

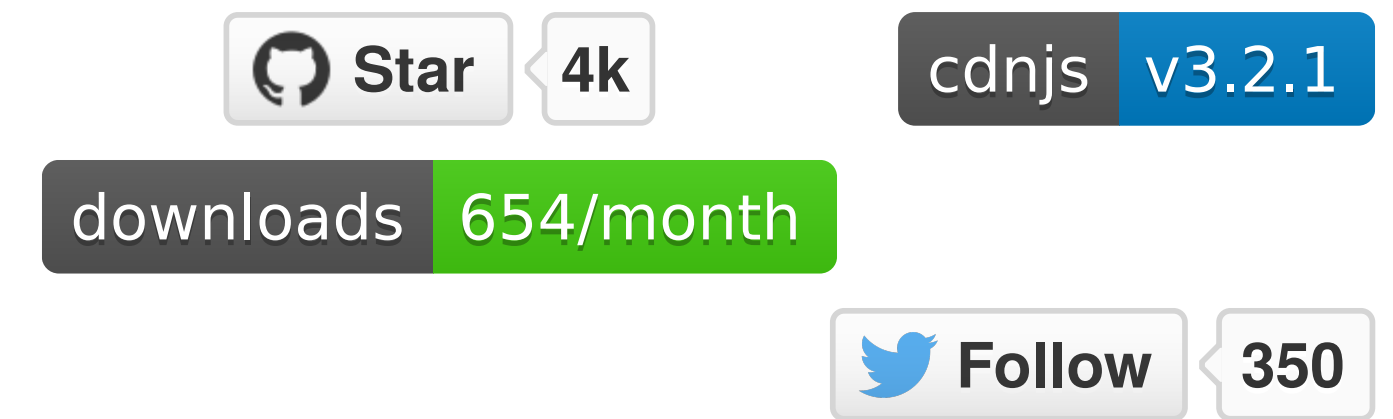
Types of badges

- Quality assurance
 - Build status, test coverage, static analysis, ...
- Dependency management
 - Version tracking, vulnerability tracking, ...
- Information
 - *npm* version, license, coding style, release strategy, commit message conventions, ...



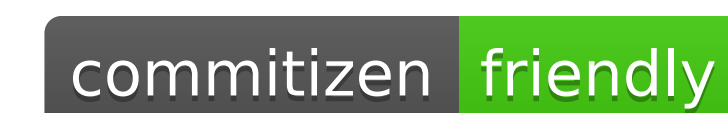
Types of badges

- Quality assurance
 - Build status, test coverage, static analysis, ...
- Dependency management
 - Version tracking, vulnerability tracking, ...
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 - *npm* version, license, coding style, release strategy, commit message conventions, ...
- Popularity
 - *npm* downloads, GitHub stats, Twitter, ...



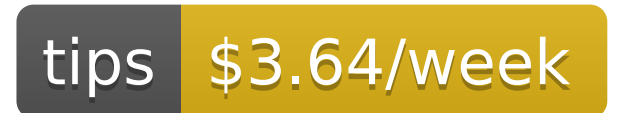
Types of badges

- Quality assurance
 - Build status, test coverage, static analysis, ...
- Dependency management
 - Version tracking, vulnerability tracking, ...
- Information
 - *npm* version, license, coding style, release strategy, commit message conventions, ...
- Popularity
 - *npm* downloads, GitHub stats, Twitter, ...
- Support
 - chat & collaboration, issue stats, ...

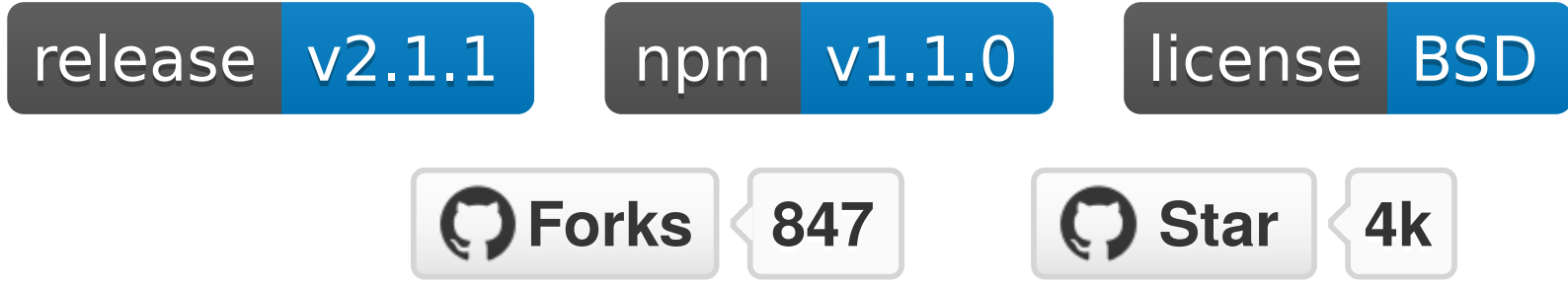
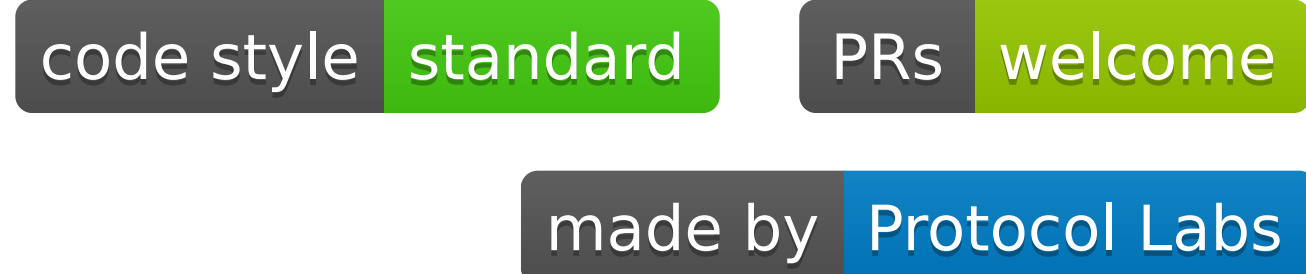


Types of badges

- Quality assurance
 - Build status, test coverage, static analysis, ...
- Dependency management
 - Version tracking, vulnerability tracking, ...
- Information
 - *npm* version, license, coding style, release strategy, commit message conventions, ...
- Popularity
 - *npm* downloads, GitHub stats, Twitter, ...
- Support
 - chat & collaboration, issue stats, ...
- Misc:
 - Paypal, donations, Gittip, ...



Signaling theory (Spence, 1973)

- Badges are signals:
 - reduce information asymmetry
- Conventional signals vs assessment signals
 - **assessment signals**: more costly to produce —> more reliable
- Badges vary widely in production cost
 - Expensive: coverage 94% vulnerabilities 0 dependencies up to date build passing
 - Cheap: release v2.1.1 npm v1.1.0 license BSD Forks 847 Star 4k
 - No cost: code style standard PRs welcome made by Protocol Labs

Can you trust them?

seanmonstar / intel

Watch

10

Star

191

Fork

29

Code

Issues 11

Pull requests 0

Projects 0

Wiki

Insights

I need more intel! <http://seanmonstar.github.io/intel/>

224 commits

3 branches

Branch: master

New pull request

README.md

intel

build passing

coverage 100%

npm package 1.2.0

COVERALLS

Repo on GitHub



SEANMONSTAR / INTEL

85%

DEFAULT BRANCH: MASTER

REPO ADDED
25 SEP 2013
04:18AM UTC

TOTAL FILES
18

BUILDS
110

BADGE
coverage 72%

An abbreviation of intelligence. In this case, the acquirement of information.

Research questions

- How are badges used?
- What do they tell about a project?
- How much can you trust them?

Adding Sparkle to Social Coding: An Empirical Study of Repository Badges in the *npm* Ecosystem

Asher Trockman,^{†‡} Shurui Zhou,[‡] Christian Kästner,[‡] Bogdan Vasilescu[‡]

[†]University of Evansville, USA [‡]Carnegie Mellon University, USA

atrockma@andrew.cmu.edu, shuruiz@cs.cmu.edu, {kaestner, vasilescu}@cmu.edu

ABSTRACT

In fast-paced, reuse-heavy software development, the transparency provided by social coding platforms like GrrHub is essential to decision making. Developers infer the quality of projects using visible cues, known as signals, collected from personal profile and repository pages. We report on a large-scale, mixed-methods empirical study of *npm* packages that explores the emerging phenomenon of repository badges, with which maintainers signal underlying qualities about the project to contributors and users. We investigate which qualities maintainers intend to signal and how well badges correlate with those qualities. After surveying developers, mining 294,941 repositories, and applying statistical modeling and time series analysis techniques, we find that non-trivial badges, which display the build status, test coverage, and up-to-dateness of dependencies, are mostly reliable signals, correlating with more tests, better pull requests, and fresher dependencies. Displaying such badges correlates with best practices, but the effects do not always persist. In short, `signals` `mostly reliable`.

1 INTRODUCTION

Contemporary software development is characterized by increased reuse and speed. Open-source software forges like GrrHub host millions of repositories of libraries and tools, which developers reuse liberally [25], creating complex, often fragile networks of interdependencies [11]. This has earned GrrHub a reputation as a one-stop shop for software development [38], an influencer of practices in both open-source and industry [32]. Furthermore, the widely-adopted DevOps culture [30, 45] also contributes to this acceleration, with its emphasis on automation and rapid deployment. As a result, developers are expected to make more decisions at higher speed, finding which libraries to depend and which projects to contribute to.

A key enabler of this decision making process is the *transparency* provided by social coding platforms like GrrHub [20, 21]. The development history of open-source GrrHub projects is archived and publicly accessible in a standardized format; and GrrHub user profile pages display aggregate information about one’s contributions and social standing in the community (e.g., through repository *stars* and *watchers*). This unprecedented level of transparency in social coding can enhance collaboration and coordination [21]. Using visible cues—known in the literature as *signals*—collected from personal profile and repository pages, developers can better manage their projects and their dependencies, communicate more efficiently, become informed about action items requiring their attention, learn,

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2017. ACM ISBN 978-x-xxxx-xxxx-x/YY/MM...\$15.00
<https://doi.org/10.1145/nnnnnnn.nnnnnnn>

socialize, and form impressions about each other’s coding ability, personal characteristics, and interpersonal skills [21, 37, 39, 56].

However, open-source ecosystems are also competitive. In order to survive and thrive, projects must successfully attract and retain contributors, and fend off competitors [16, 35, 40, 44]. In a social coding environment, the visible signals enabled by transparency can, therefore, be seen as a survival mechanism, with high profile signalers benefiting the most. For example, more popular and famous projects attract more contributors [61], coding “rock stars” collect thousands of followers [20], and visible traces of developer actions and interactions are used in recruitment and hiring [13, 36].

Here we focus on *repository badges*, images such as `build passing` embedded into a project’s README, often generated on-demand, reflecting the current status of online services the project is using, e.g., continuous integration and dependency management. From a *signaling theory* [51] perspective (Section 2), badges can be seen as easily observable signals used by maintainers to convey underlying qualities of their projects to users and contributors, e.g., code quality, adherence to best practices; this increases transparency (hard to observe qualities become salient), hence may impact users’ and contributors’ decision making process and the project’s chances of survival. Badges can also be seen as a *gamification mechanism* [23], i.e., a game-like incentive designed to engage participants (Section 2); e.g., a badge with real-time code coverage information may act as an incentive for contributors to improve the quality of the project’s test suite. In summary, badges are a potentially impactful feature in transparent, social coding environments. However, the value and effects of badges are not well understood.

In this paper, we explore two main research questions regarding badges. First, we explore the phenomenon of badges quantitatively and qualitatively, and ask *What are the most common badges and what does displaying them intend to signal?* (**RQ₁**). Second, we analyze whether badges indeed signal what developers expect, and ask *To what degree do badges correlate with qualities that developers expect?* (**RQ₂**). To answer these questions, we perform a large-scale mixed-methods empirical study of the badges in the *npm* ecosystem, a large and vibrant open-source ecosystem for JavaScript with documented interdependency-related coordination challenges [11], wherein many badges originated. We observe the frequency and historical adoption of badges in practice among 294,941 *npm* packages, we survey maintainers and contributors about their intentions and perceptions, and we build regression models to check hypotheses regarding developer perceptions (collected when exploring **RQ₁**), such as, “coverage badges signal the importance of tests and therefore attract more pull requests with tests.”

Our investigation reveals that badges are popular in *npm*, adopted in 46 % of all packages. The most frequent show the build status or version of the latest release, but dependency managers, code

Mixed methods study



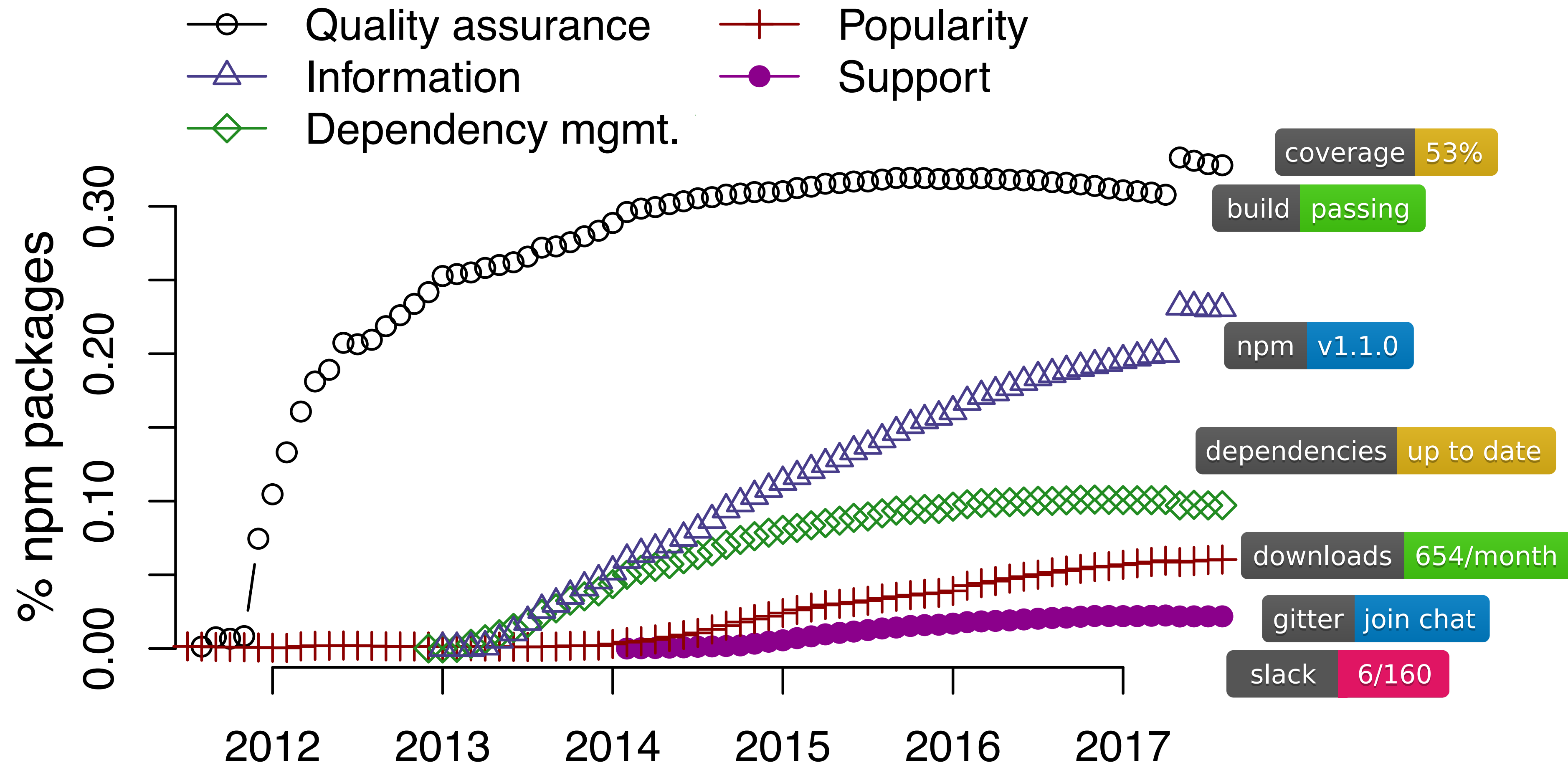
+



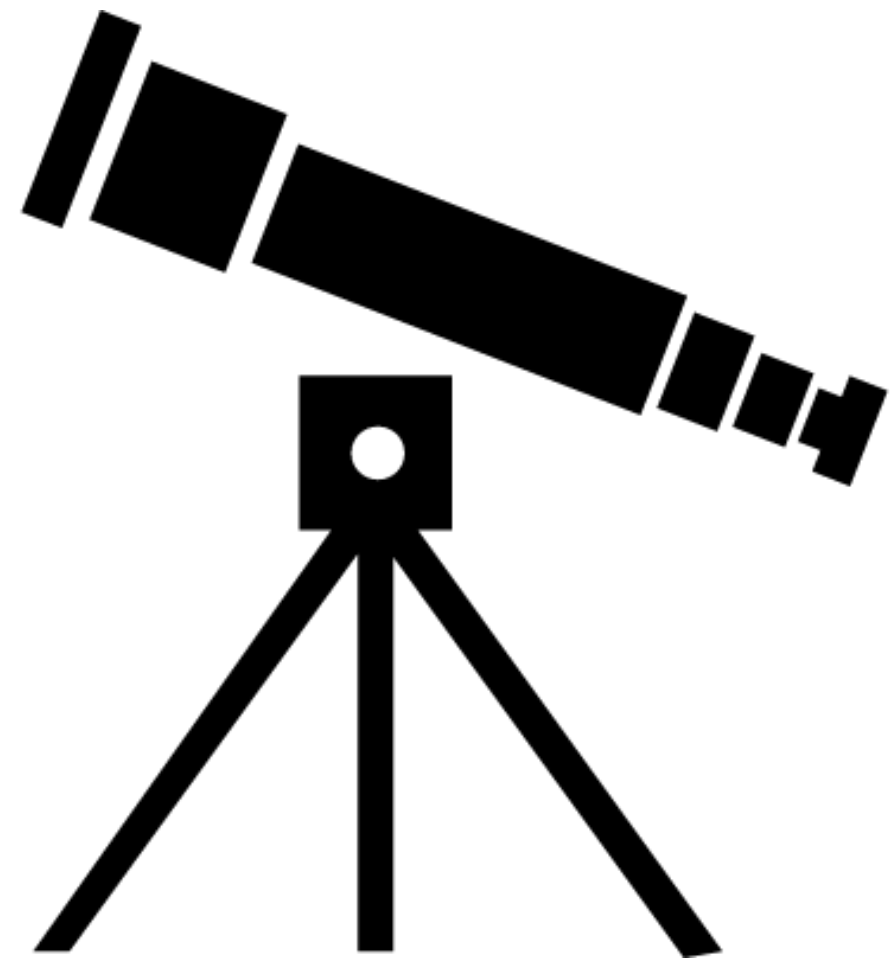
- 32 maintainers, 57 contributors (15% resp. rate)
- Maintainers:
 - What do you intend to signal?
 - What effects do you expect?
- Contributors:
 - What do badges tell you?
- 294,941 *npm* packages
- Mined badge adoptions/removals from README files
- Measured proxies for code quality, test suite quality, popularity, dependency freshness, ...

Popular badges

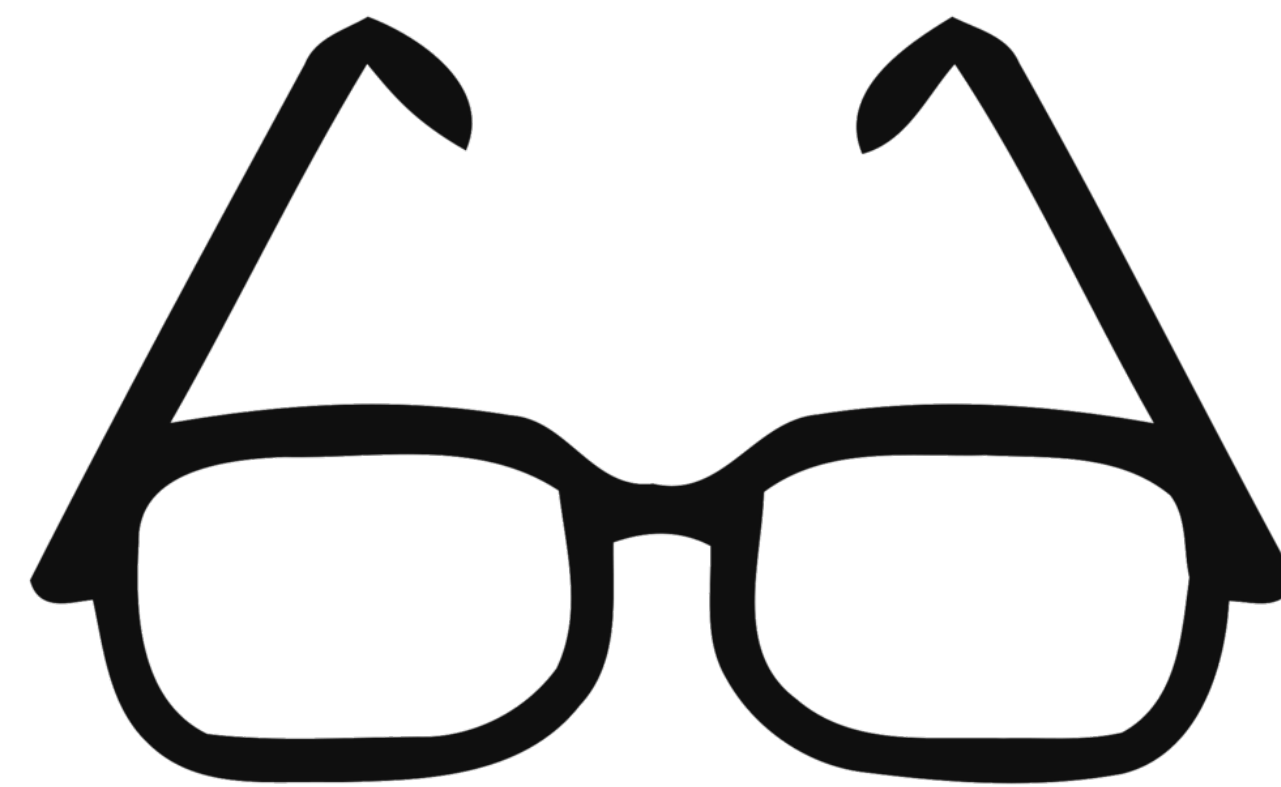
- Only few badges are broadly adopted
- Badges tend to be adopted in groups and hardly ever change



Analysis



If all you saw was the badge, how much would that tell you?

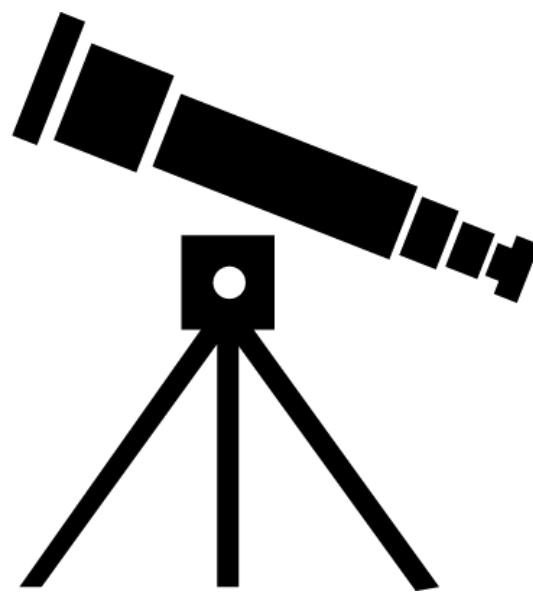


How much more does the badge tell you, relative to existing signals?

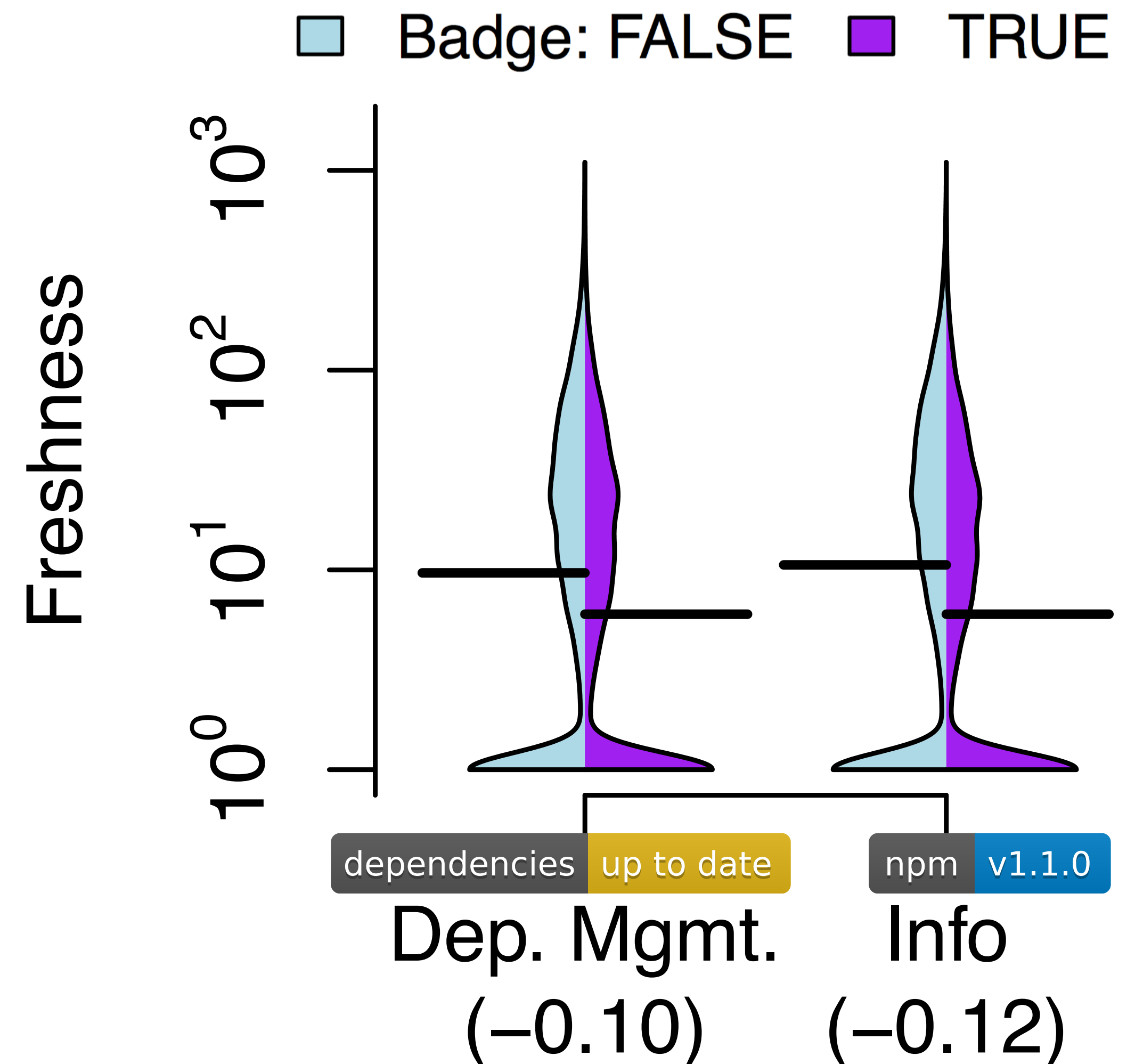


How do things change after adding the badge?

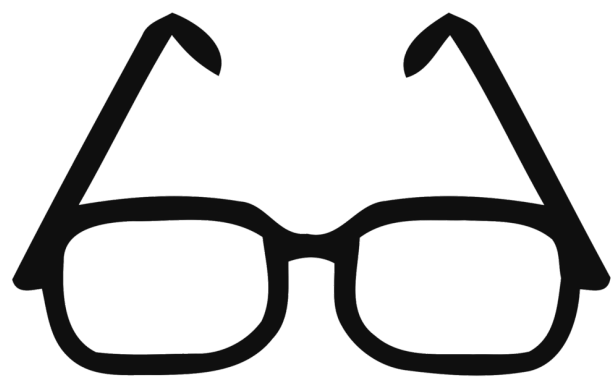
Signals of fresh dependencies



- Hyp: The adoption of dependency-management badges correlates with fresher dependencies
- Hyp: Information badges have no effect
- In aggregate: both badges correlate with having the quality



Signals of fresh dependencies



- Hyp: The adoption of dependency-management badges correlates with fresher dependencies
- Hyp: Information badges have no effect
- Both badges add information beyond other readily observable signals

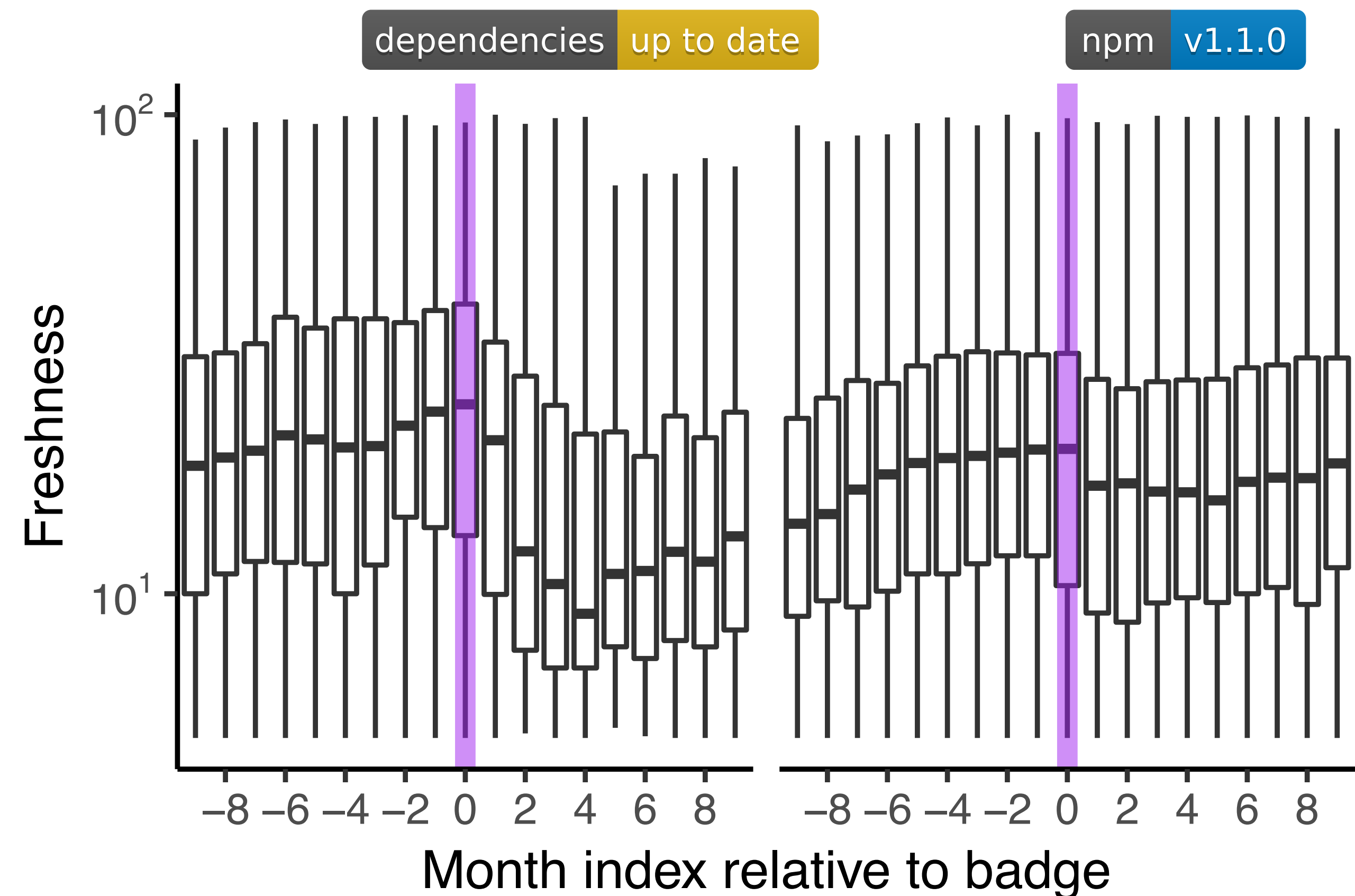
Basic Model			Full Model		
response: <i>freshness</i> = 0			response: <i>freshness</i> = 0		
17.3% deviance explained			17.4% deviance explained		
	Coeffs (Err.)	LR Chisq		Coeffs (Err.)	LR Chisq
(Interc.)	3.54 (0.03)***			3.50 (0.03)***	
Dep.	−1.78 (0.01)***	32077.8***		−1.79 (0.01)***	32292.8***
RDep.	0.22 (0.01)***	610.3***		0.21 (0.01)***	560.6***
Stars	−0.08 (0.00)***	301.4***		−0.09 (0.00)***	311.2***
Contr.	−0.24 (0.01)***	500.5***		−0.25 (0.01)***	548.7***
lastU	−0.65 (0.01)***	12080.9***		−0.64 (0.01)***	11537.9***
dependencies	up to date			0.24 (0.03)***	116.1***
npm	v1.1.0			0.11 (0.02)***	48.3***
dependencies	up to date	: npm		−0.05 (0.04)	1.9
hasOther				0.01 (0.01)	

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$

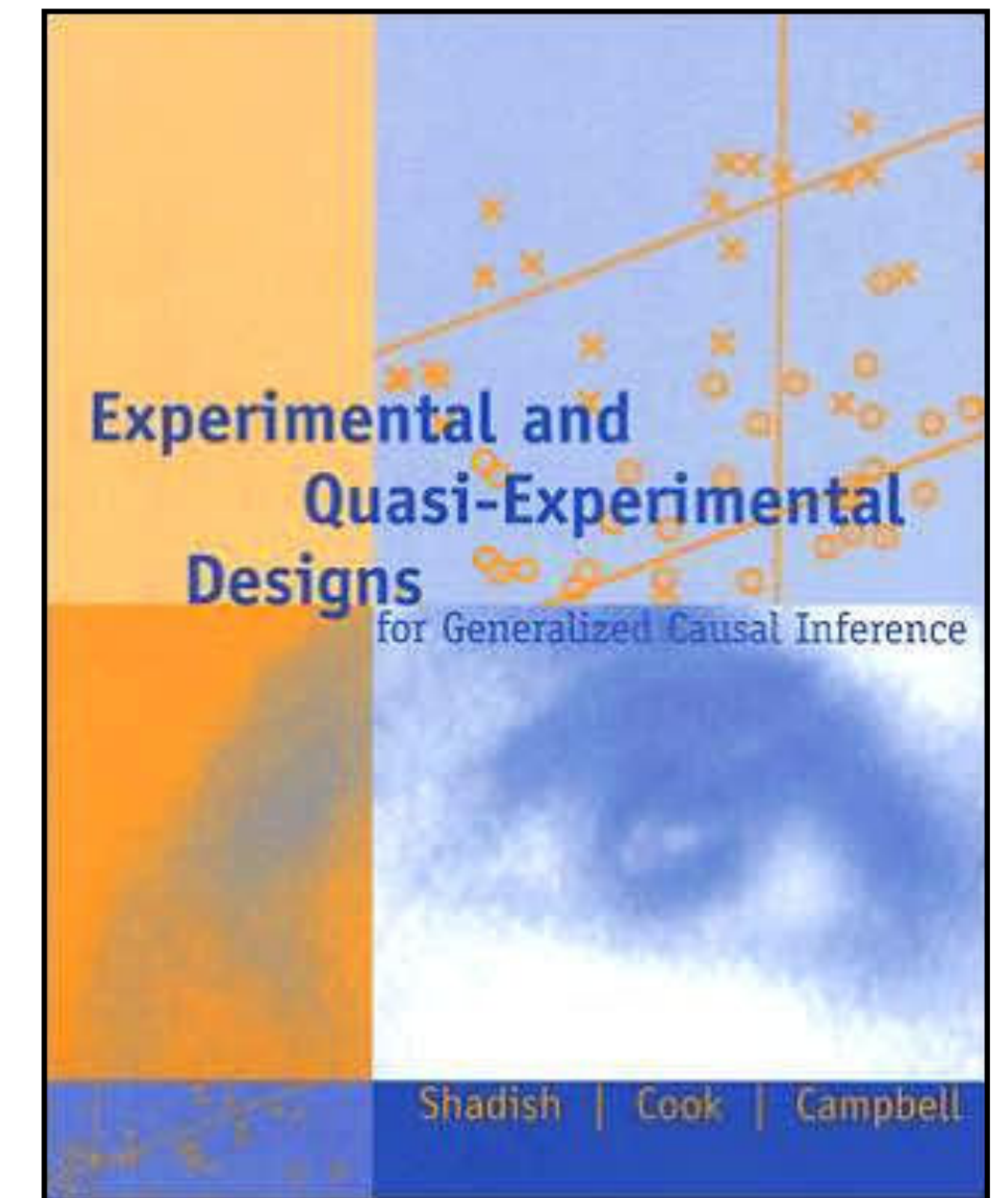
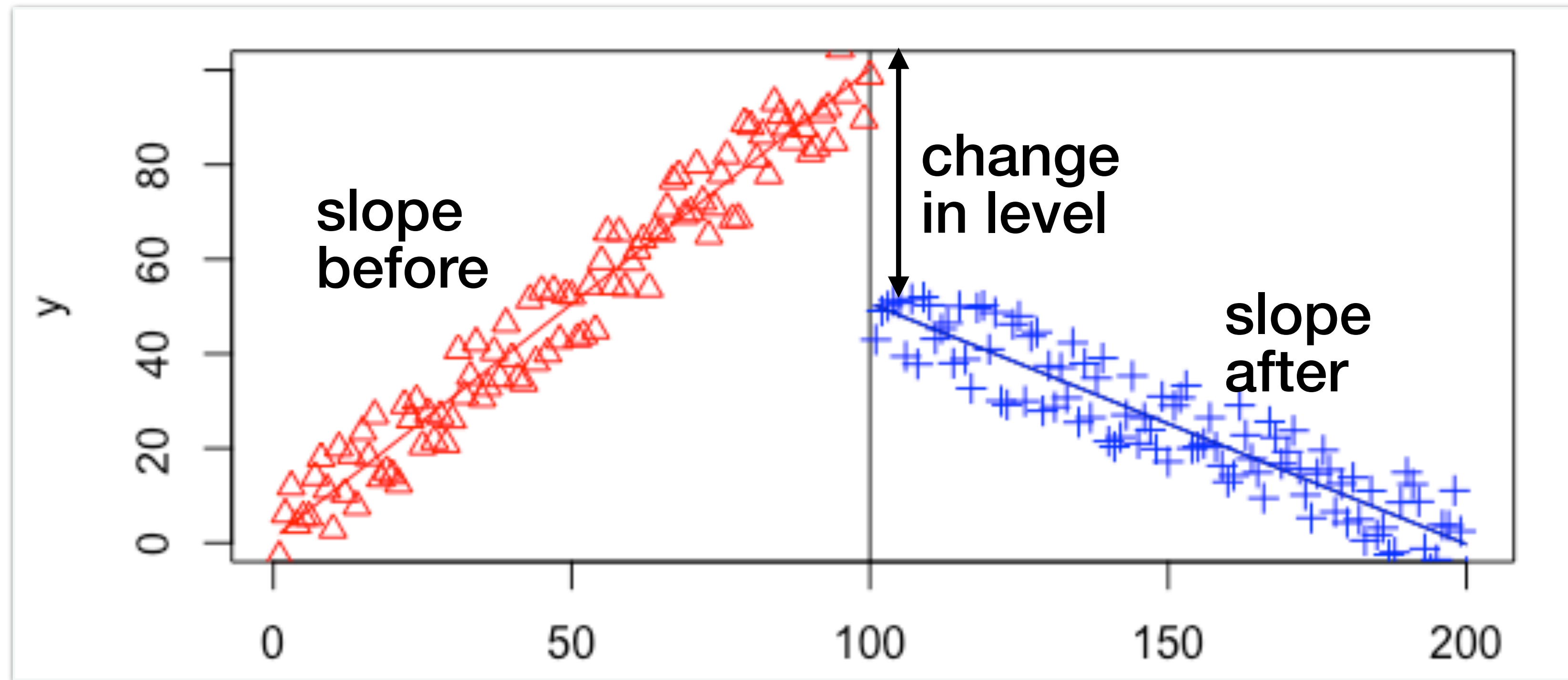
Signals of fresh dependencies



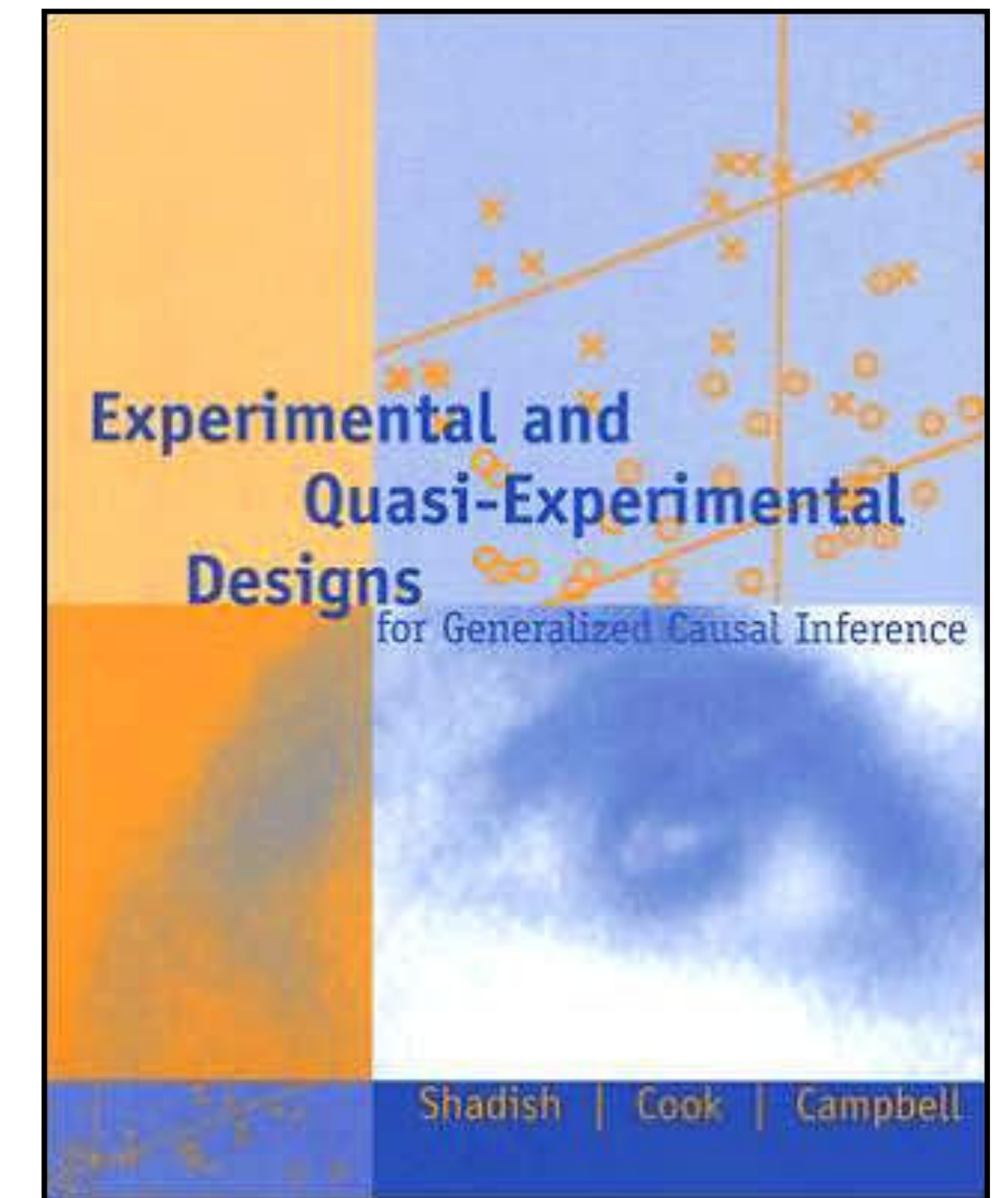
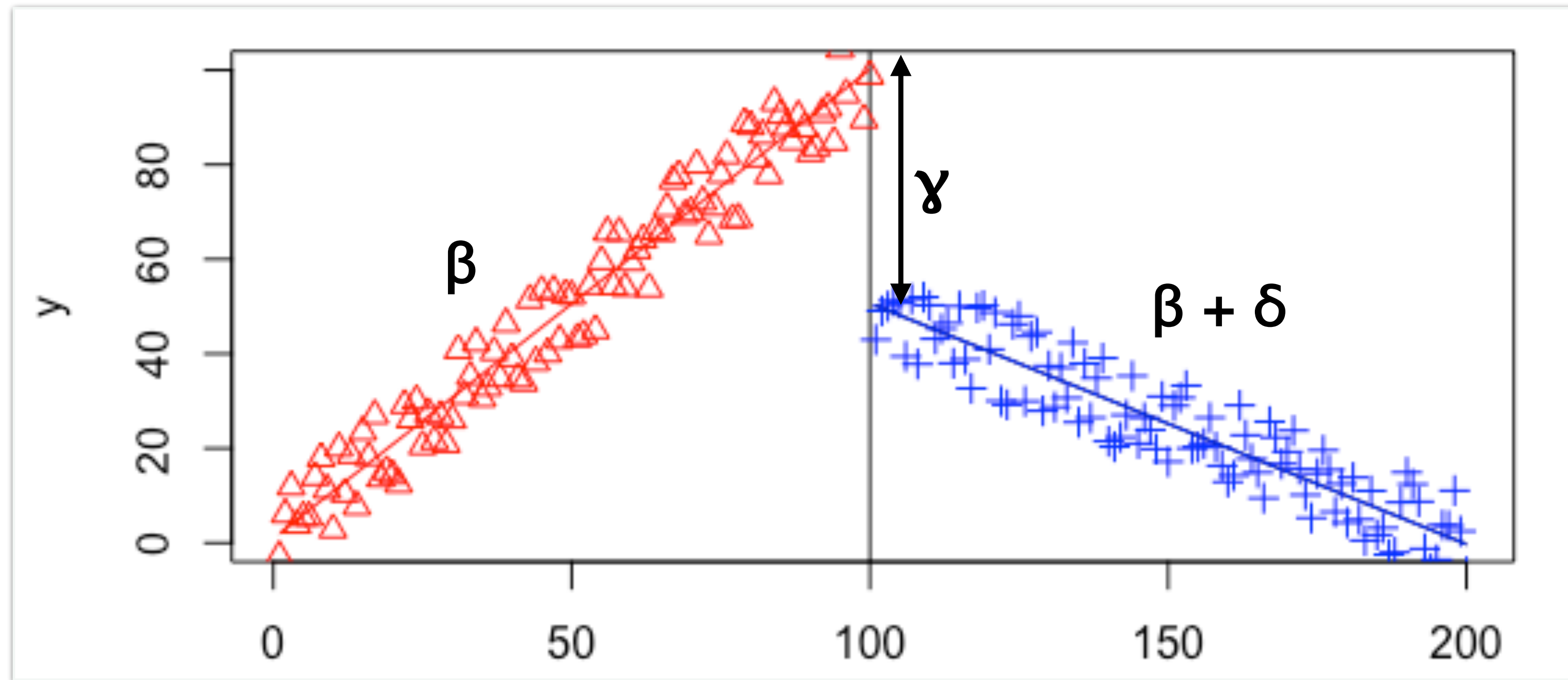
- Hyp: The adoption of dependency-management badges correlates with fresher dependencies
- Hyp: Information badges have no effect
- The adoption of DM badges is associated with a longer lasting effect



Interrupted time series



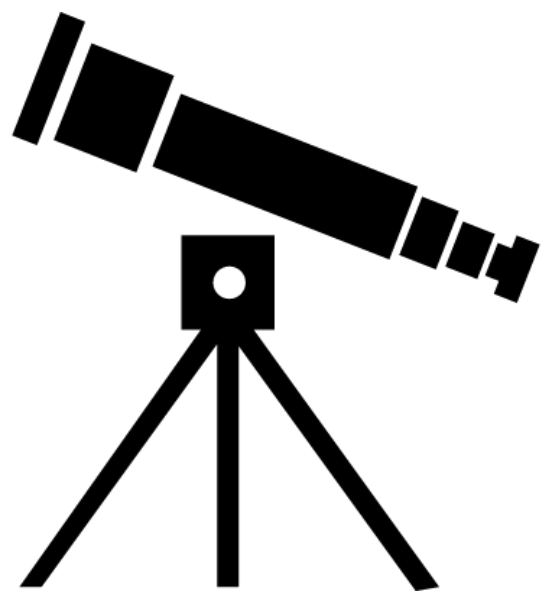
Interrupted time series



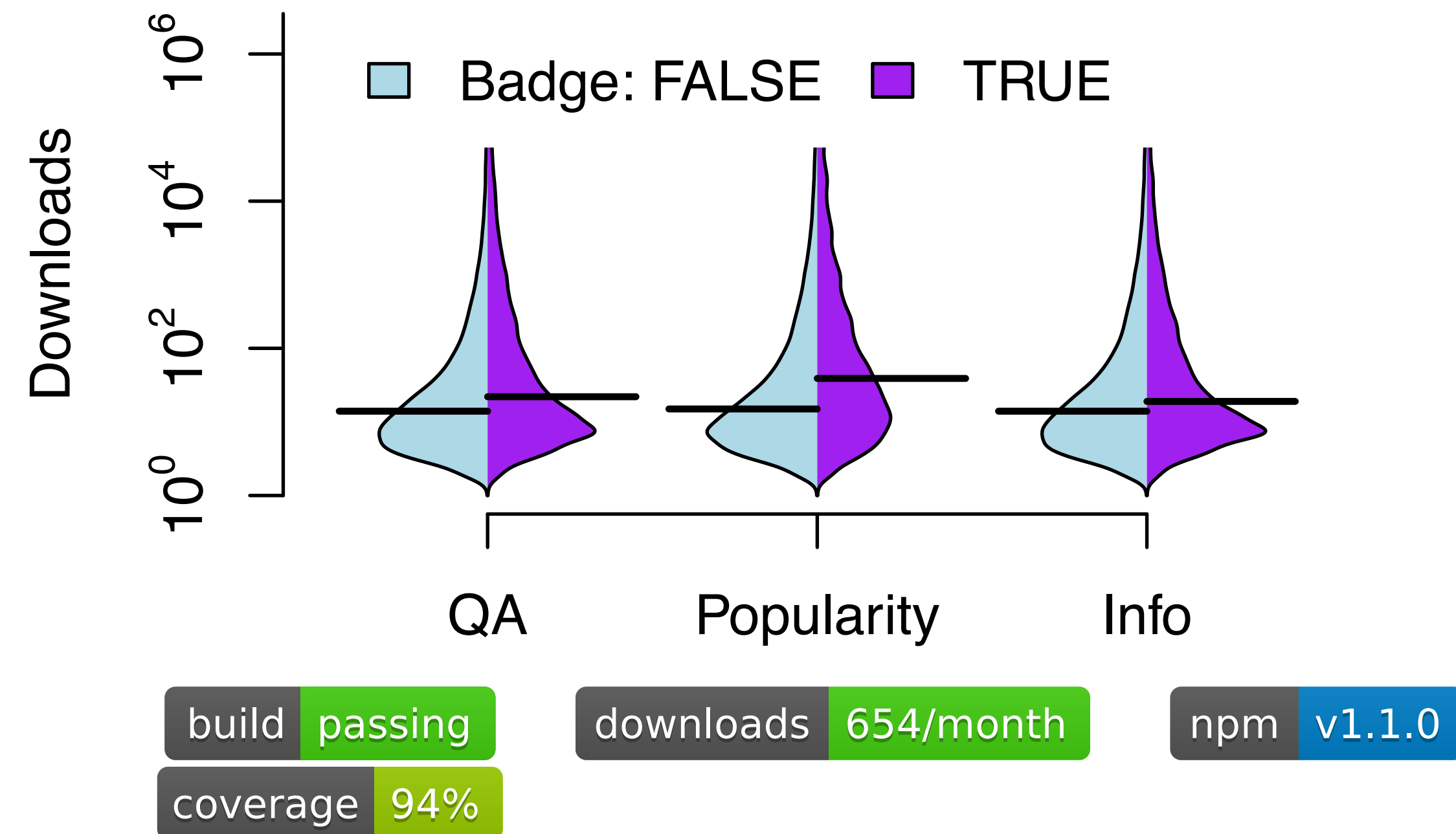
$$y_i = \alpha + \beta \cdot \text{time}_i + \gamma \cdot \text{intervention}_i + \delta \cdot \text{time_after_intervention}_i + \varepsilon_i$$

time:	1	2	3	...	...	...	100	101	102	...	...	...	200
time after intervention:	0	0	0	...	...	...	0	1	2	...	...	...	100
intervention:	F	F	F	...	...	...	T	T	T	...	...	...	T

Signals of popularity

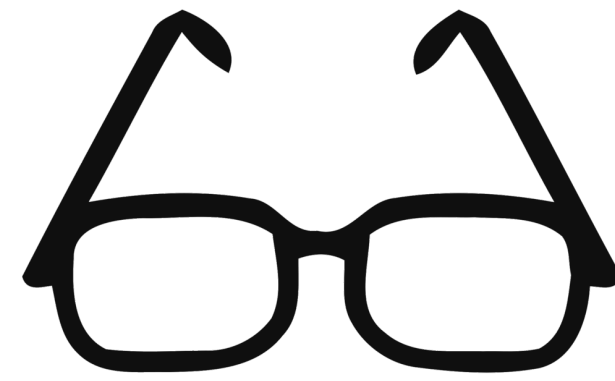


- Hyp: The adoption of quality-assurance badges makes users more confident in a package and attracts more users
- Hyp: The adoption of popularity-related badges in popular packages correlates with more future downloads
- Packages with a badge tend to skew toward more downloads than packages without.

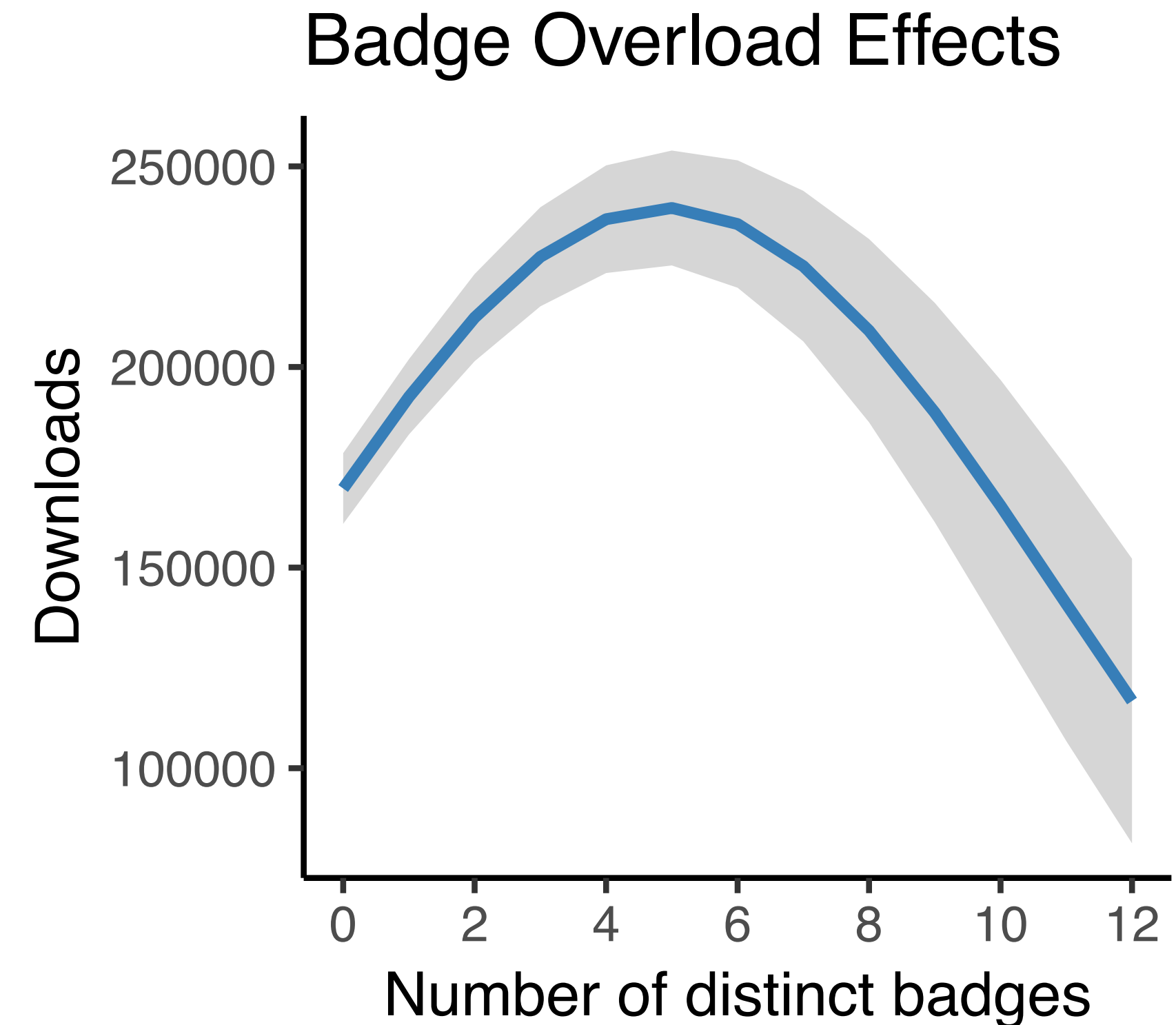


Code was “built with love” or “well written” by an “experienced developer” who pays “attention to quality”

Signals of popularity



- Hyp: The adoption of quality-assurance badges makes users more confident in a package and attracts more users
- Hyp: The adoption of popularity-related badges in popular packages correlates with more future downloads
- **Attractiveness wears off beyond five badges**

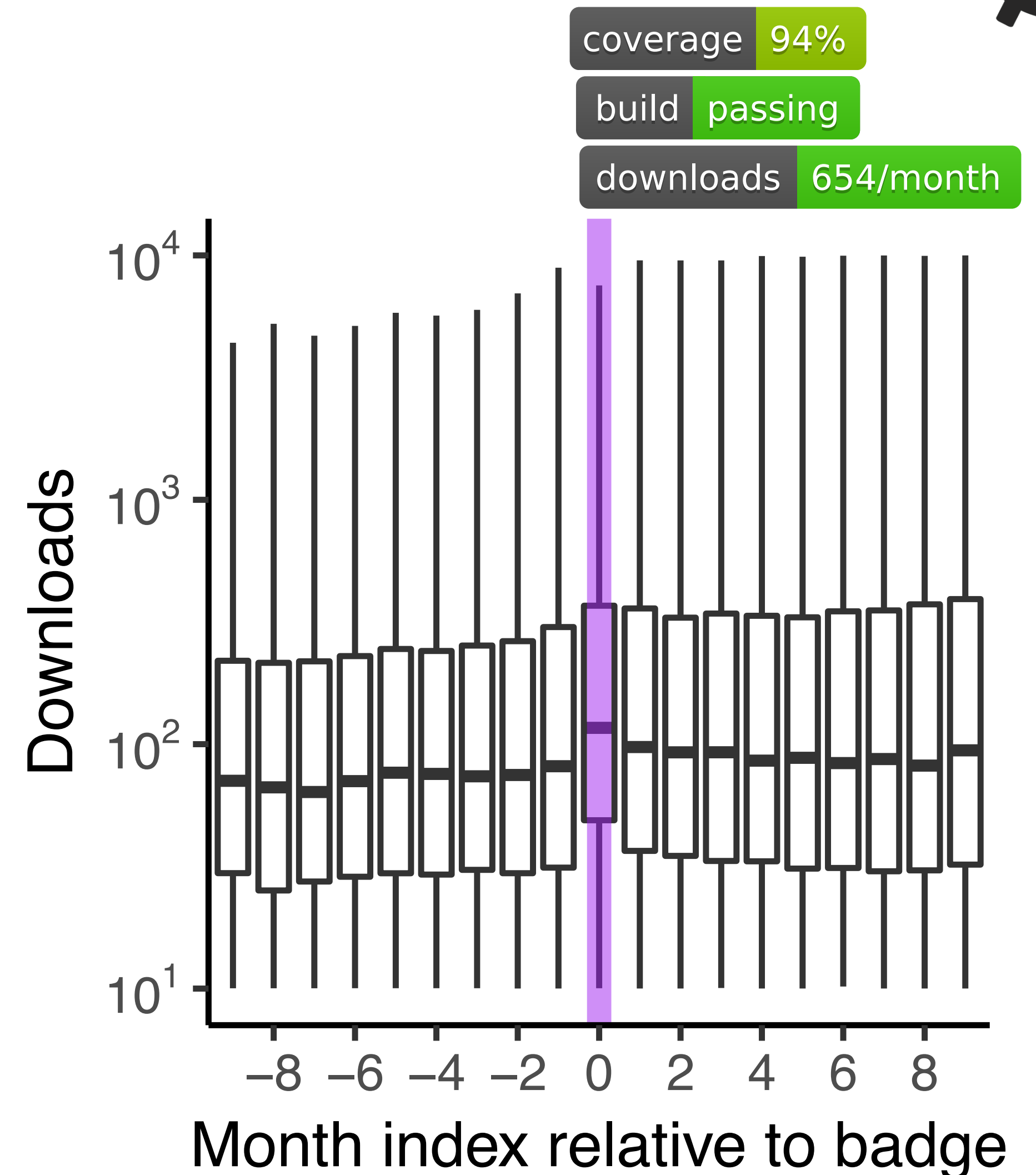


“People tend to overwhelm visitors with too many (useless) badges, thus creating a contra effect and losing the initial purpose of having useful information.”

Signals of popularity



- Hyp: The adoption of quality-assurance badges makes users more confident in a package and attracts more users
- Hyp: The adoption of popularity-related badges in popular packages correlates with more future downloads
- Badge adoption correlates with a sudden popularity boost, but the acceleration is not sustained over time.



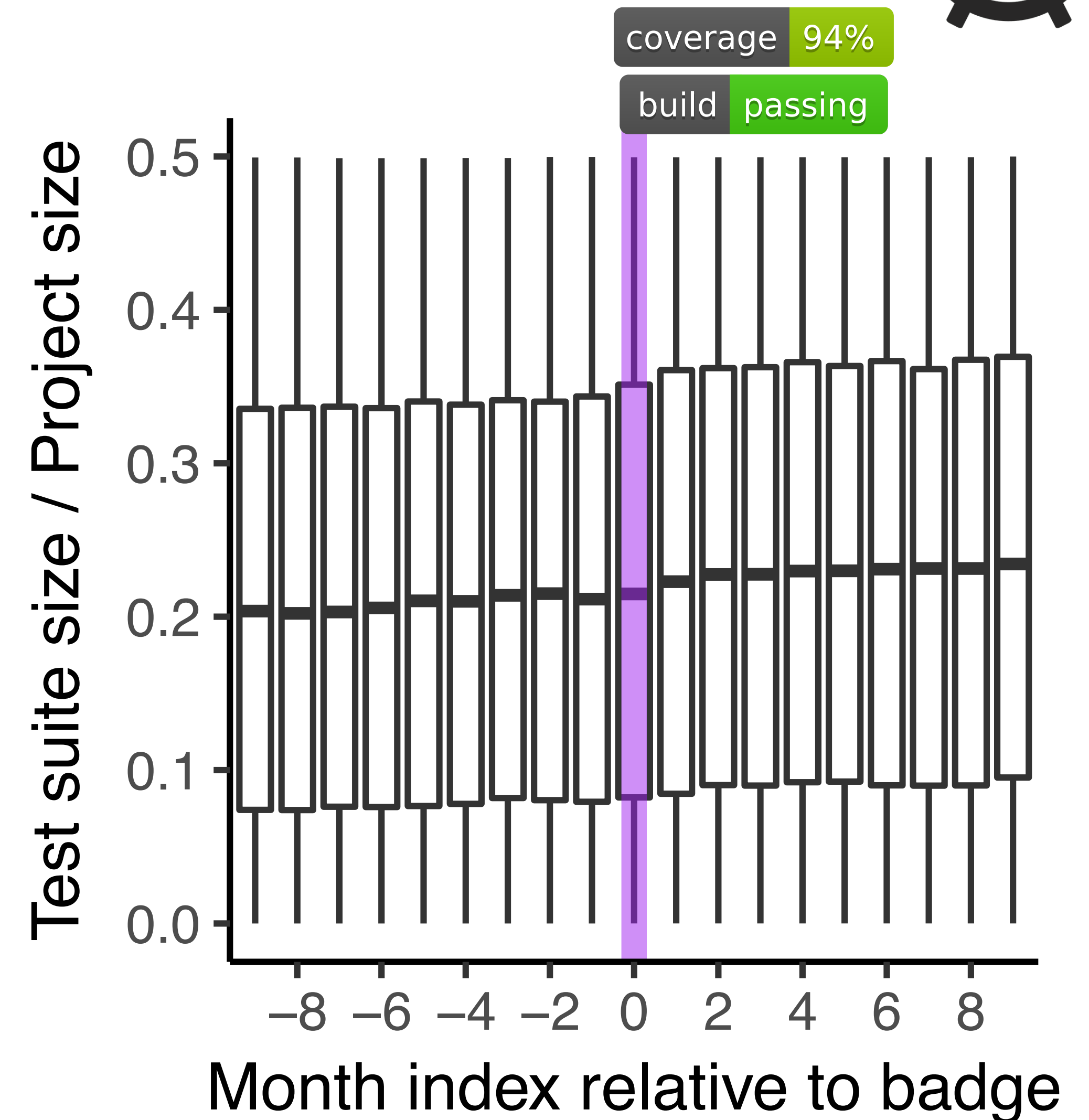
Signals of test suite quality



- Hyp: The adoption of quality-assurance badges correlates with other indicators of code quality (metric: test suite size).

Code was “built with love” or “well written” by an “experienced developer” who pays “attention to quality”

- 18x higher odds of having any tests with QA badge; among those with tests, 18.3% larger test suite with QA badge.
- But, no change in trend



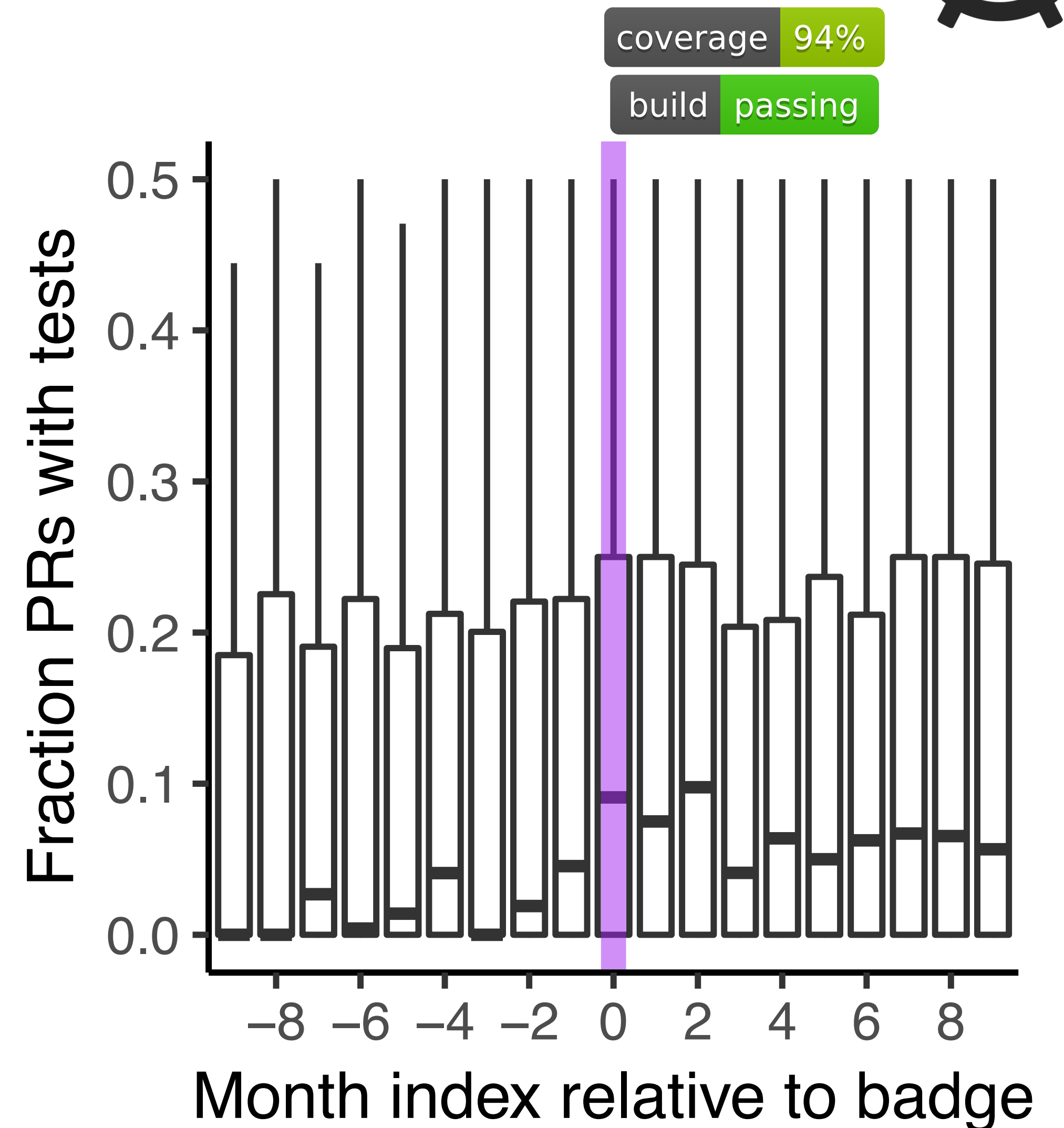
Signals of PR quality



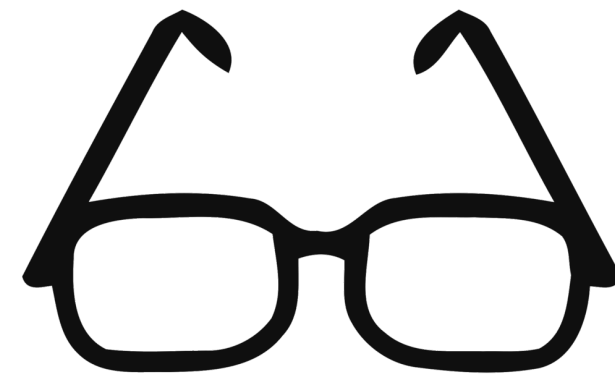
- Hyp: The adoption of a quality-assurance badge, and even more so of a coverage badge, encourages more external contributors to include tests.

“PRs with new functionality tend to include new tests, as not to decrease coverage.”

- Increase in the monthly fraction of PRs containing tests after adopting QA badge



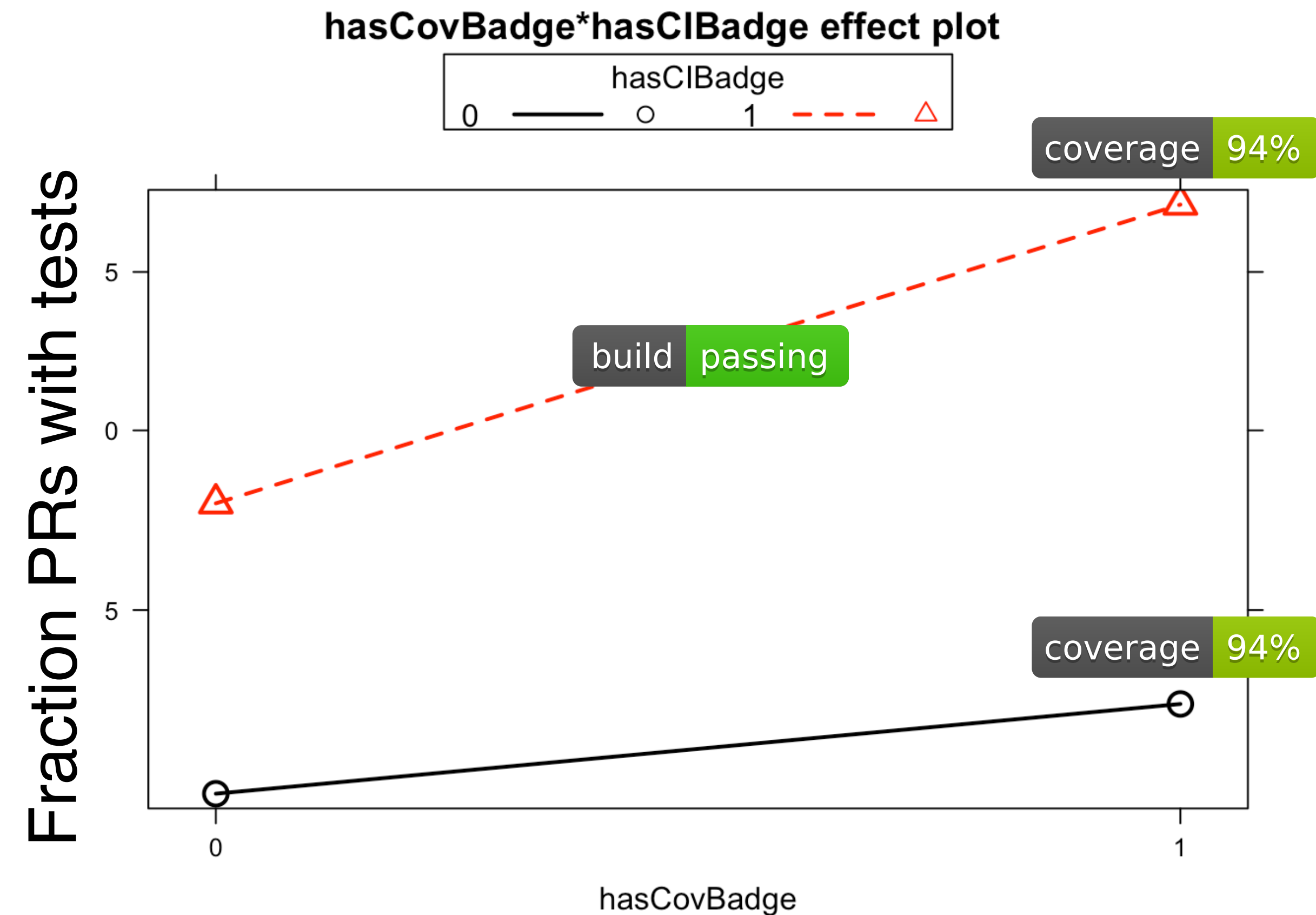
Signals of PR quality



- Hyp: The adoption of a quality-assurance badge, and even more so of a coverage badge, encourages more external contributors to include tests.

“PRs with new functionality tend to include new tests, as not to decrease coverage.”

- Coverage and CI badges interact, amplifying each other's effects.





This repository

Search

Pull requests

Issues

Marketplace

Explore



seanmonstar / intel

Watch

10

Star

191

Fork

29

Code

Issues 11

Pull requests 0

Projects 0

Wiki

Insights

I need more intel! <http://seanmonstar.github.io/intel/>

224 commits

3 branches

Branch: master

New pull request

README.md

intel

build passing

coverage 100%

npm package 1.2.0

COVERALLS

Repo on GitHub



SEANMONSTAR / INTEL

85%

DEFAULT BRANCH: MASTER

REPO ADDED
25 SEP 2013
04:18AM UTC

TOTAL FILES
18

BUILDS
110

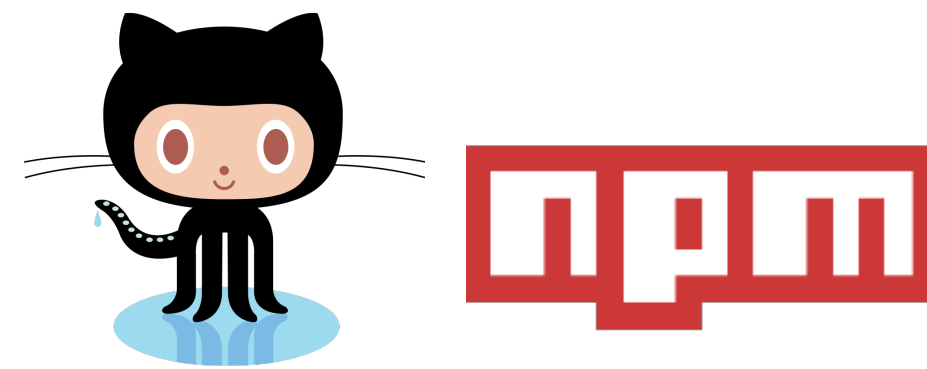
BADGE
coverage 72%

An abbreviation of intelligence. In this case, the acquirement of information.

Mixed methods study



+

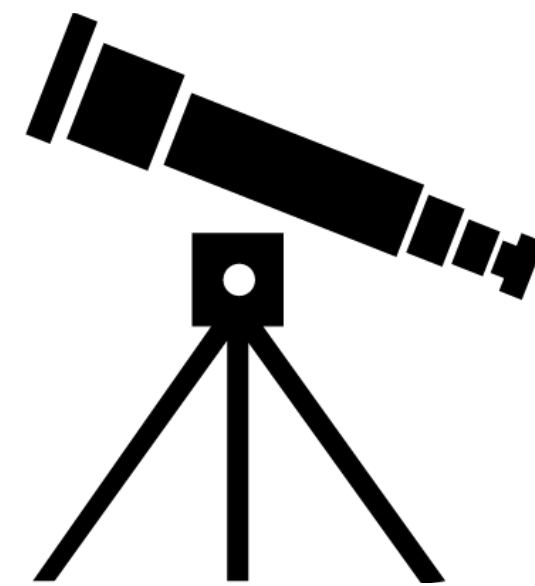


- 32 maintainers, 57 contributors (15% resp. rate)
- Maintainers:
 - What do you intend to signal?
 - What effects do you expect?
- Contributors:
 - What do badges tell you?

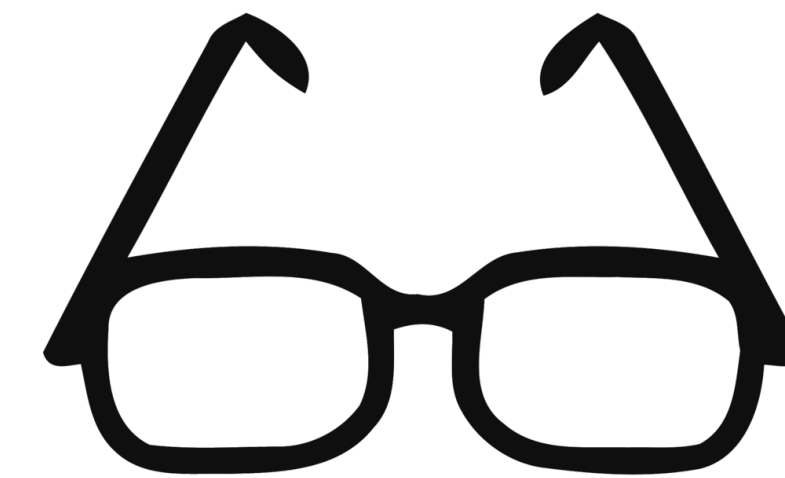
- 294,941 *npm* packages
- Mined badges from READMEs
- Measured test suite dependencies

Recap

Analysis



If all you saw was the badge, how much would that tell you?



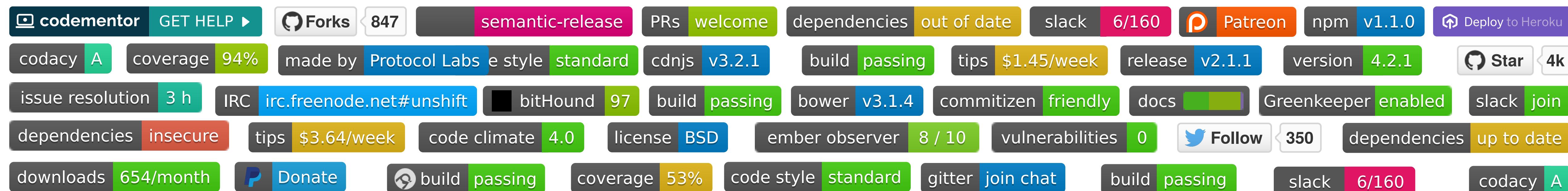
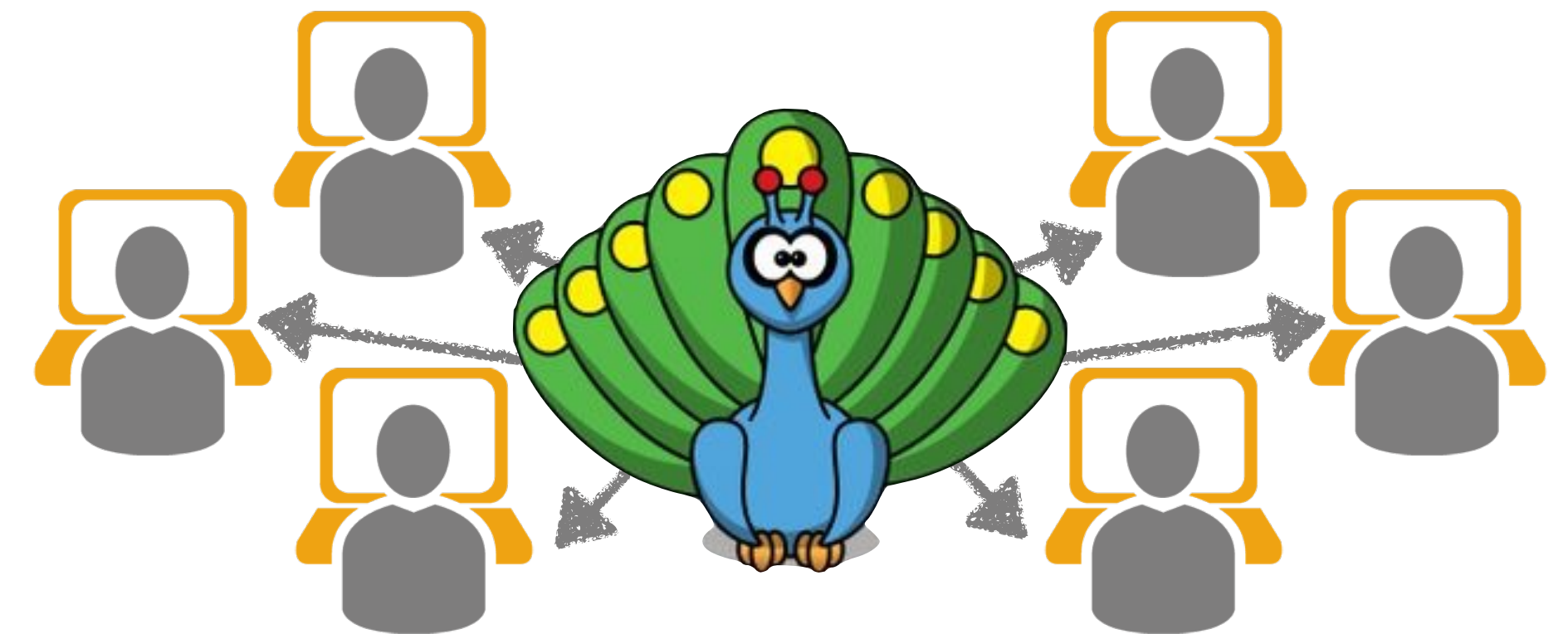
How much more does the badge tell you, relative to existing signals?



How do things change after adding the badge?

Take-aways (1)

- Open source developers rely on, and respond to, signals
- We add both qualitative and quantitative evidence for badges



Take-aways (2)

- Harder to fake badges provide more reliable signals
 - As signaling theory predicts

build passing

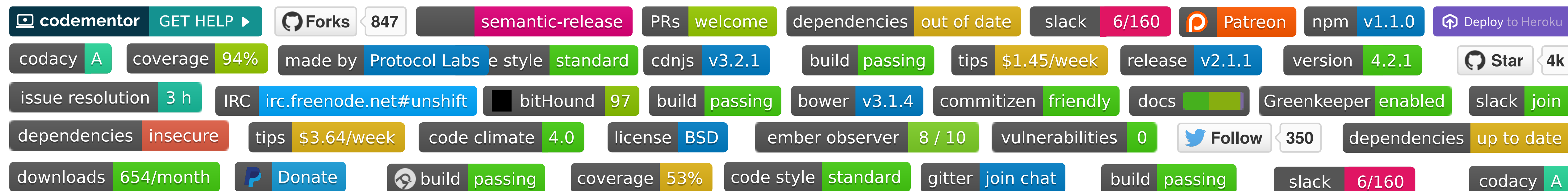
downloads 654/month

dependencies up to date

VS

npm v1.1.0

slack join



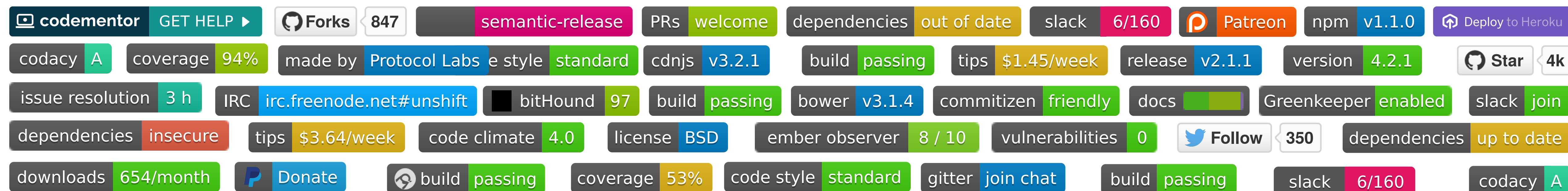
Take-aways (2)

- Harder to fake badges provide more reliable signals
 - As signaling theory predicts
- Redesign badges as assessment signals

code style standard

gitter join chat

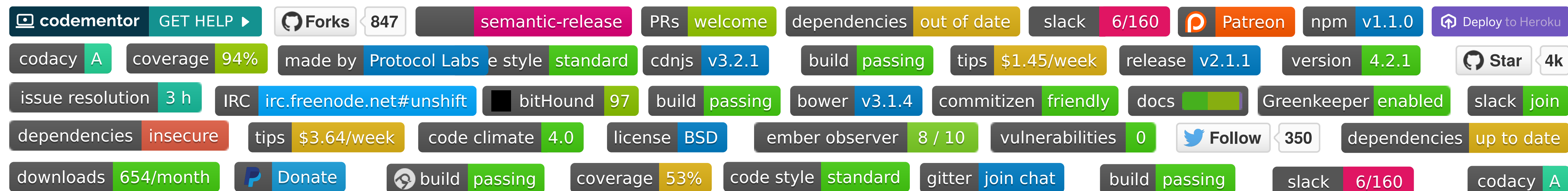
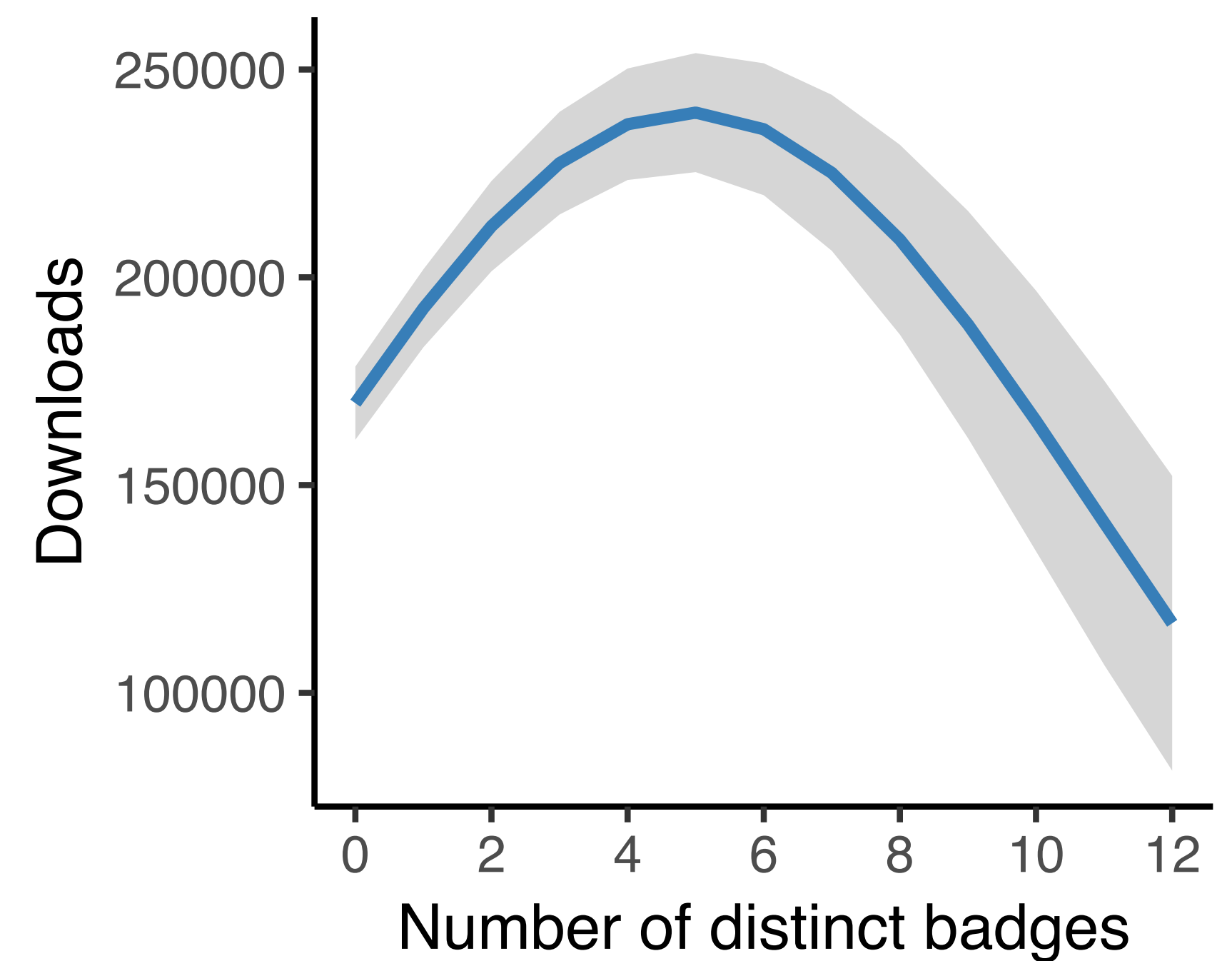
slack join → slack 6/160



Take-aways (3)

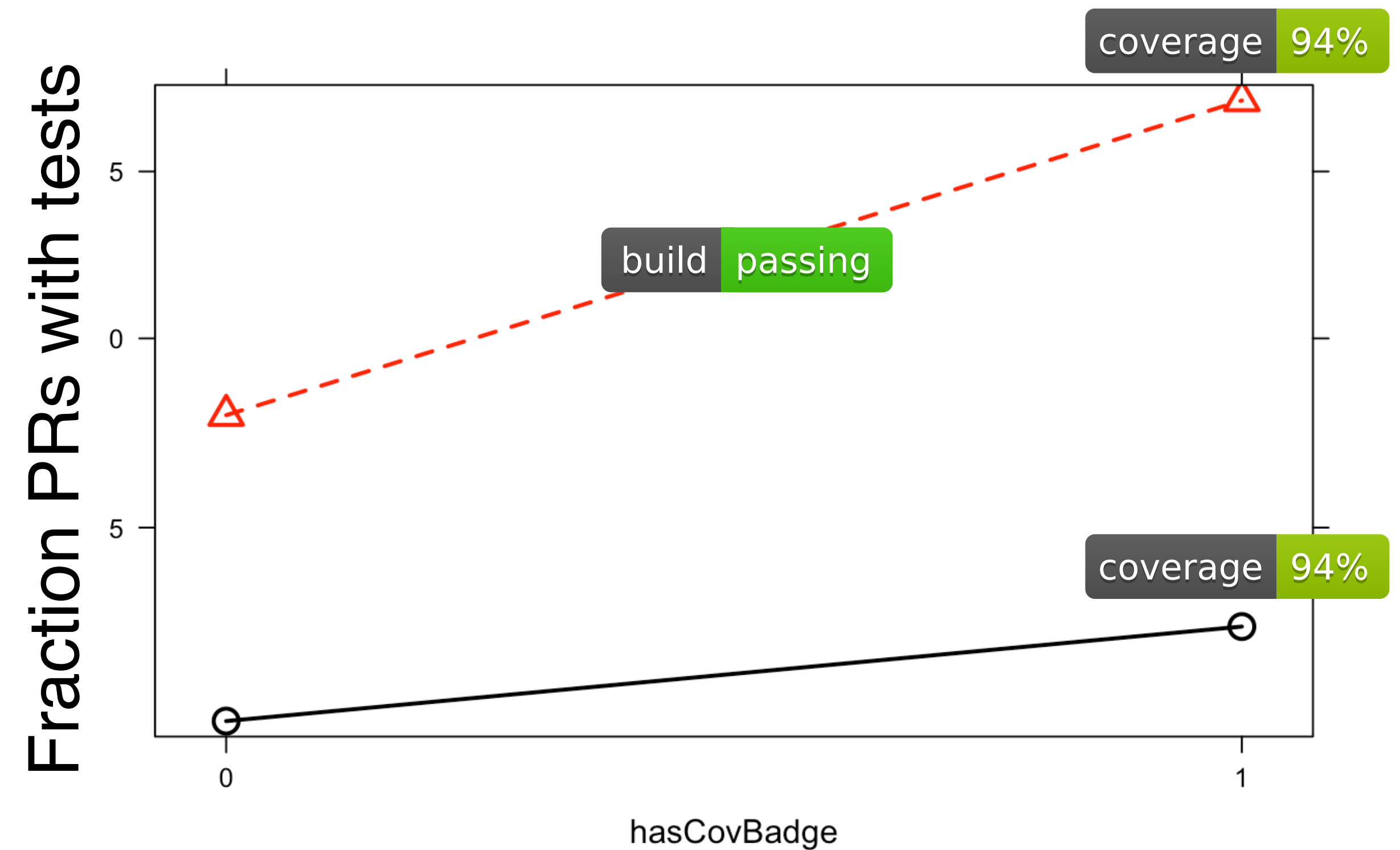
- Too much of a good thing

Badge Overload Effects



Take-aways (4)

- Gamification effects



GET HELP ▶

Forks 847

semantic-release

PRs

dependencies

slack

Patreon

npm

A

coverage

made by Protocol Labs

e style

cdnjs

build

tips

release

version

Star 4k

issue resolution

IRC

bitHound 97

build

bower

commitizen

docs

Greenkeeper

slack

dependencies

tips

code climate

license

ember observer

vulnerabilities

Follow 350

dependencies

downloads

build

coverage

code style

gitter

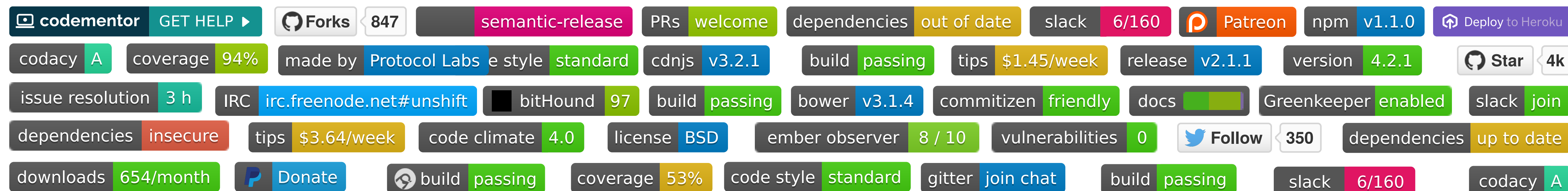
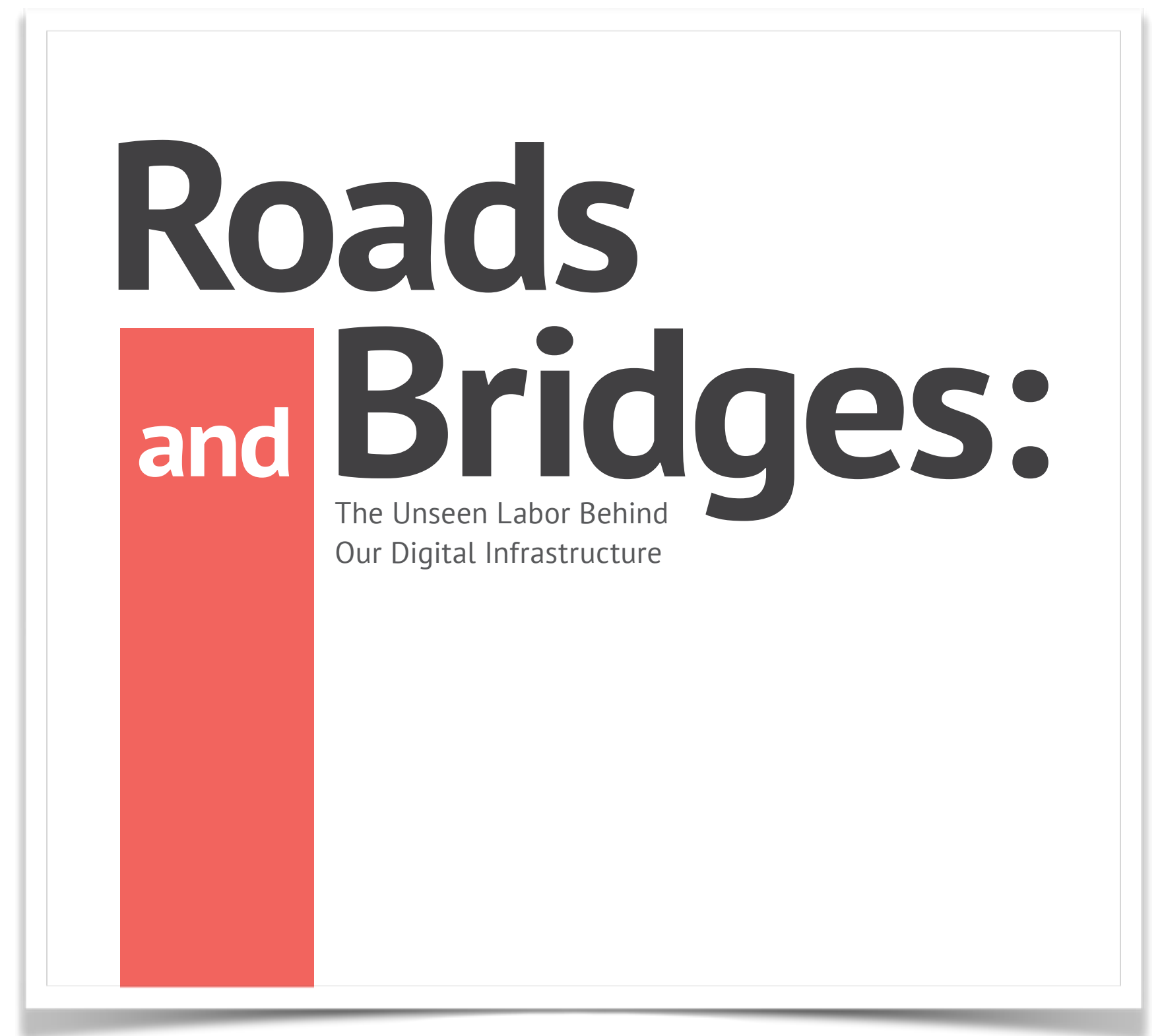
build

slack

A

Take-aways (5)

- Could we design signals (badges?) to help **balance supply and demand** for labor in open source ecosystems?
 - Maybe



Adding Sparkle to Social Coding

codementor [GET HELP](#) ▶

npm v1.1.0

Donate

build passing

code style standard

tips \$3.64/week

ember observer 8 / 10

dependencies out of date

build passing

license BSD

vulnerabilities 0

bitHound 97

Star 4k

cdnjs v3.2.1

bower v3.1.4

downloads 654/month

codacy A

issue resolution 3 h

coverage 53%

Follow 350

slack join

build passing

dependencies insecure

dependencies up to date

IRC irc.freenode.net#unshift

coverage 94%

gitter join chat

code climate 4.0

build passing

commitizen friendly

version 4.2.1

release v2.1.1

Greenkeeper enabled

docs

Patreon

slack 6/160

made by Protocol Labs

code style standard

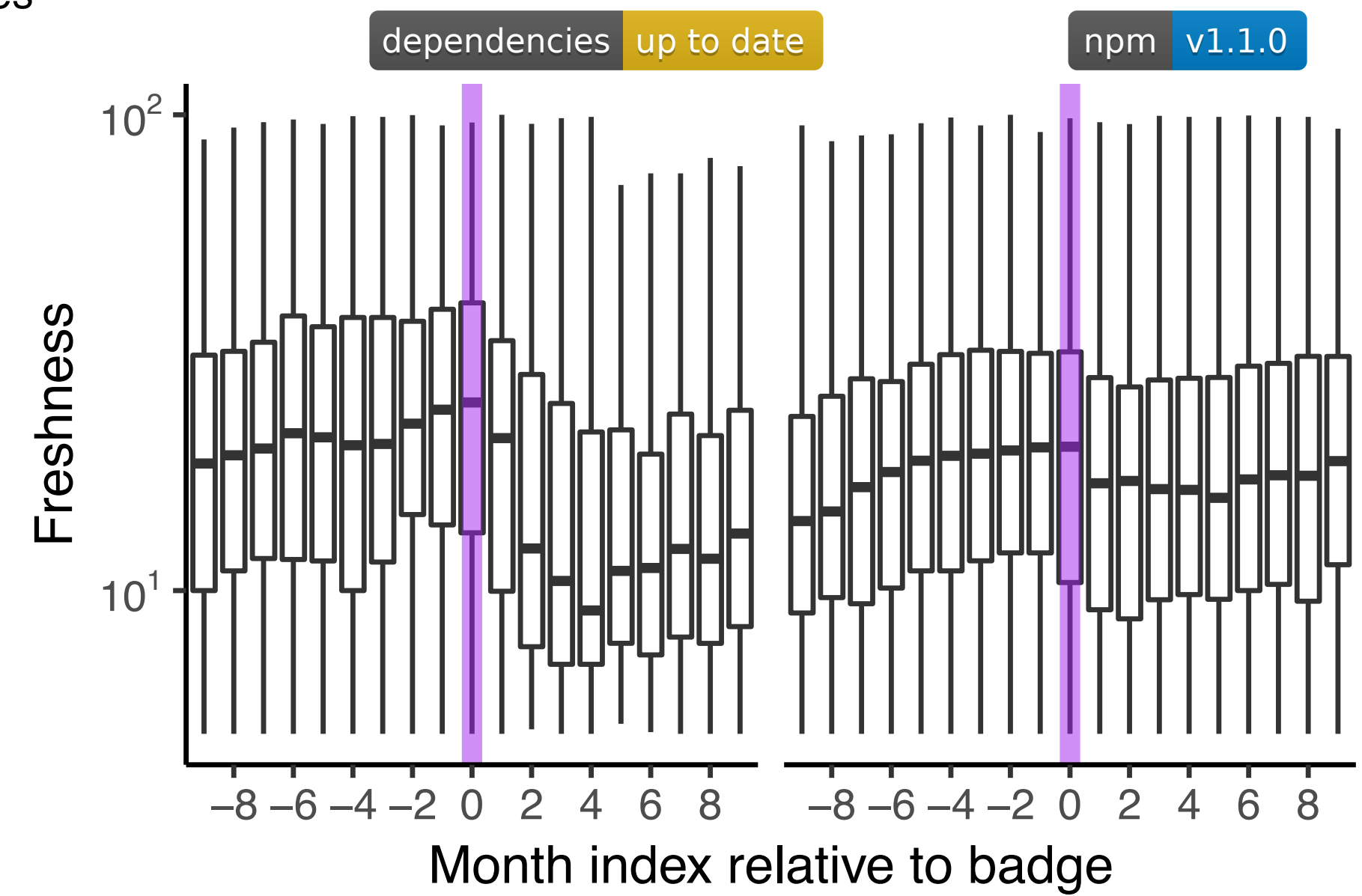
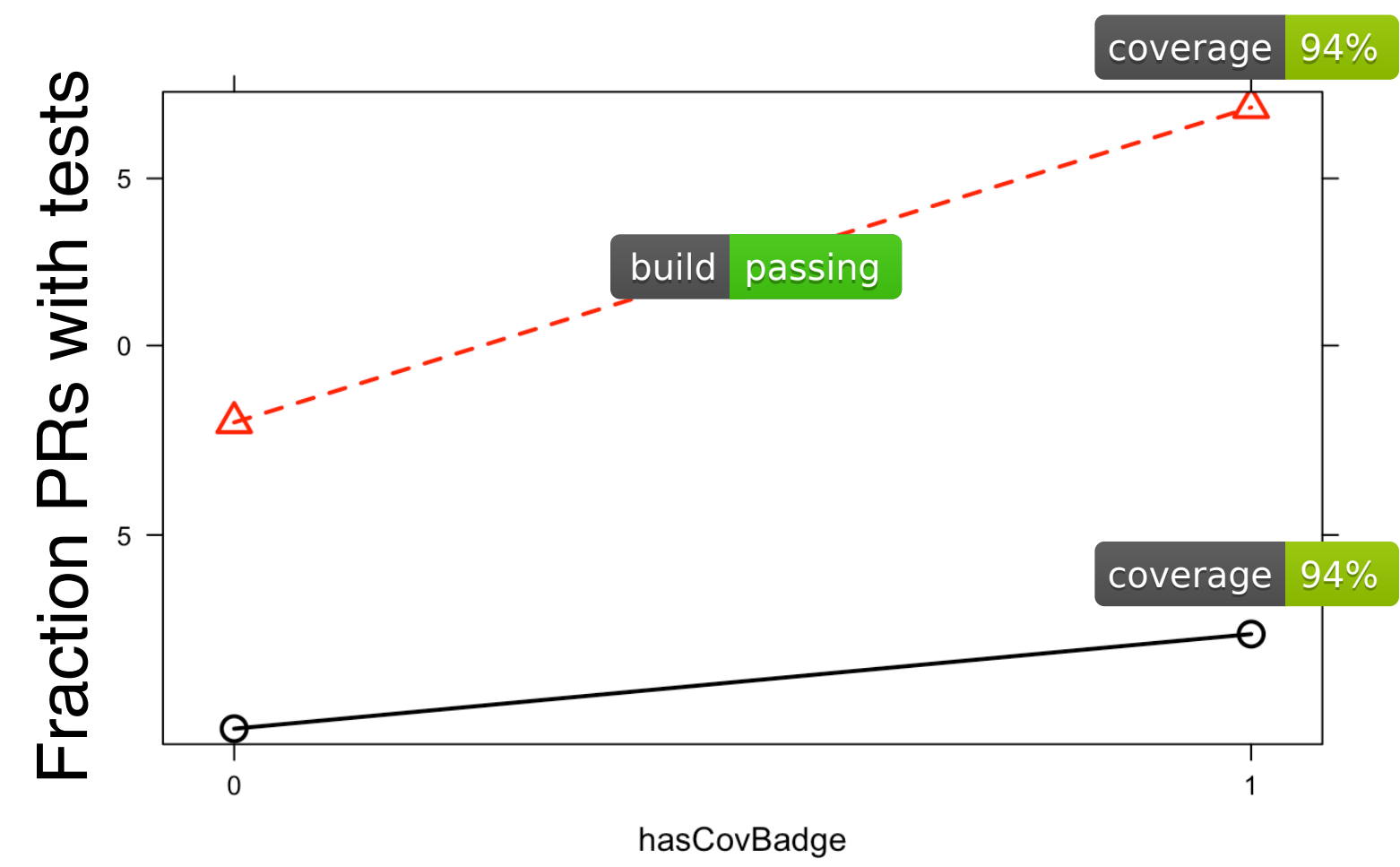
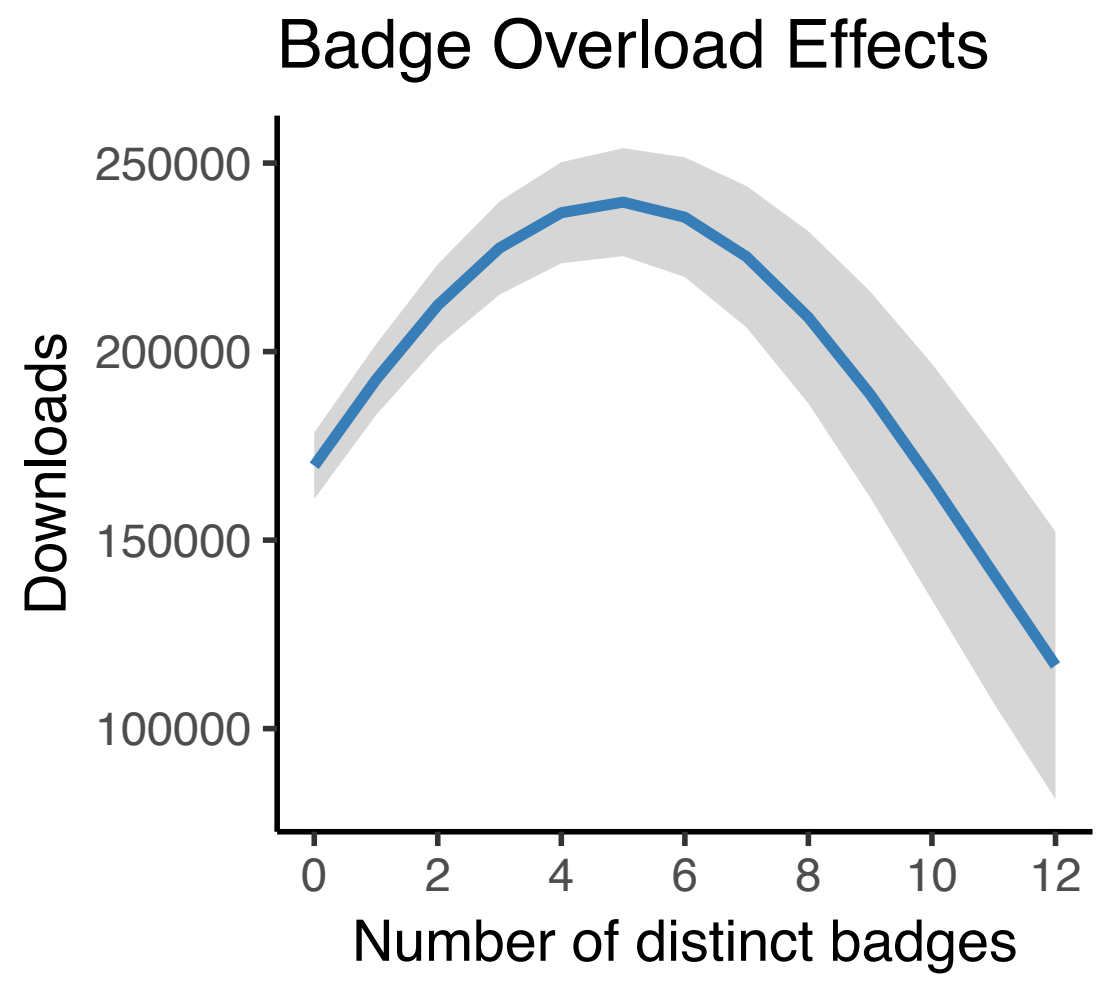
tips \$1.45/week

Deploy to Heroku

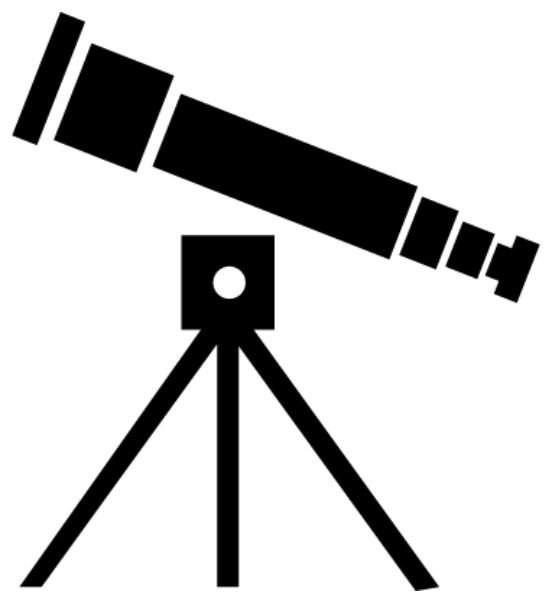
Forks 847

semantic-release

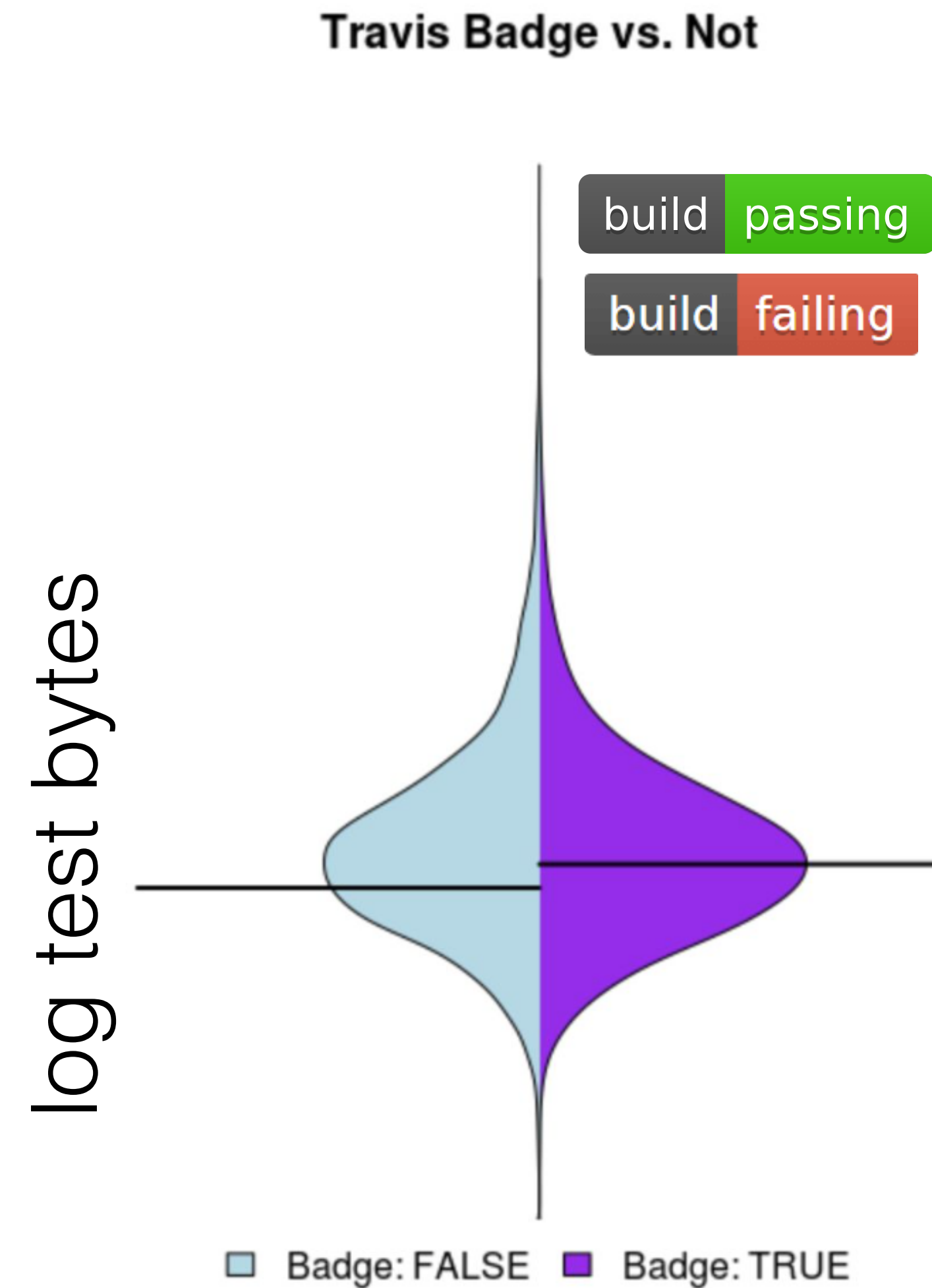
PRs welcome



Badge vs. tool (1)



- 83.6% of projects using Travis also use the badge
- Projects with the badge tend to have more tests vs. those with just Travis



Badge vs. tool (2)

- 83.6% of projects using Travis also use the badge
- Logistic regression to predict current build status (pass/fail):

If you show the badge,
it's more likely 
than 

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z)	
(Intercept)	-0.52484	0.03236	-16.219	< 2e-16	***
scale(log(downloads + 1))	-0.05058	0.01288	-3.927	8.61e-05	***
scale(log(active_age + 1))	0.06748	0.01307	5.165	2.41e-07	***
scale(log(commits + 1))	0.27668	0.01633	16.941	< 2e-16	***
scale(log(dependencies + 1))	0.14626	0.01052	13.909	< 2e-16	***
factor(has_tests)1	-0.30313	0.03295	-9.199	< 2e-16	***
scale(log(build_num + 1))	-0.03652	0.01607	-2.273	0.023	*
has_badge	-1.12270	0.02432	-46.156	< 2e-16	***

Has_badge implies
0.3 multiplicative diff
in odds of failing

