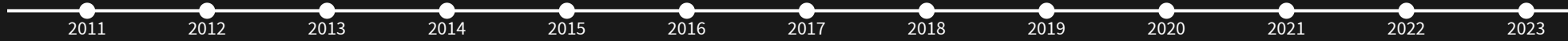


LLVM RELICENSING

NOVEMBER 2021 UPDATE

KRISTOF BEYLS, THE LLVM FOUNDATION

TIMELINE



TIMELINE

Need for license change emerges

2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

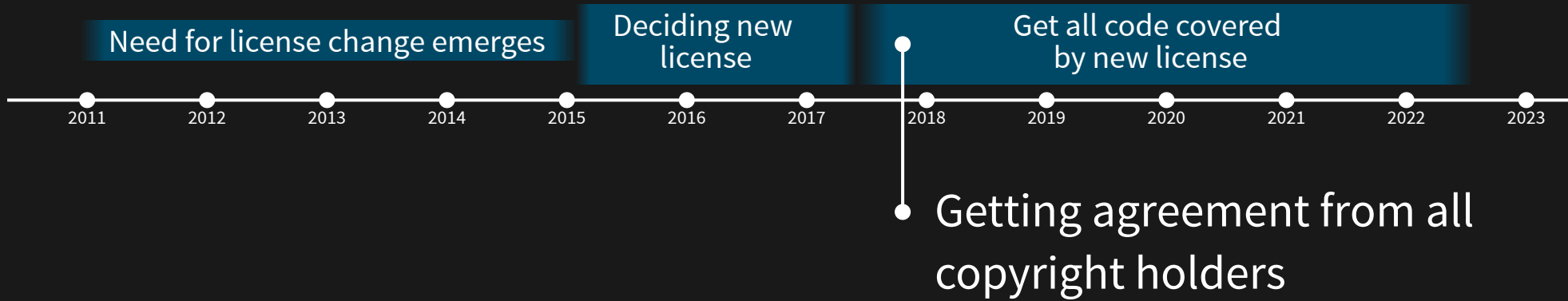
TIMELINE



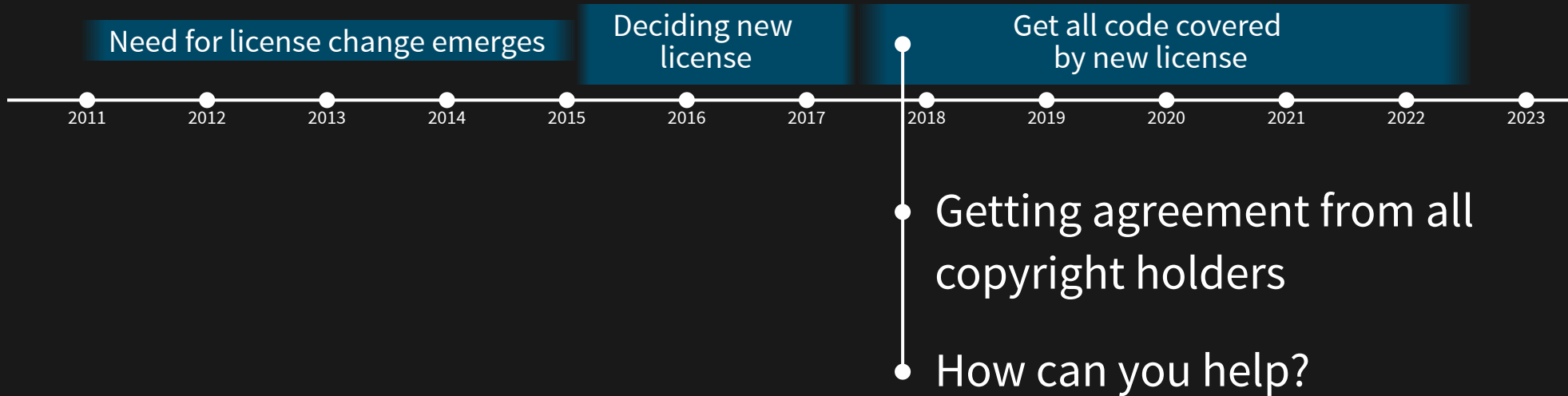
TIMELINE



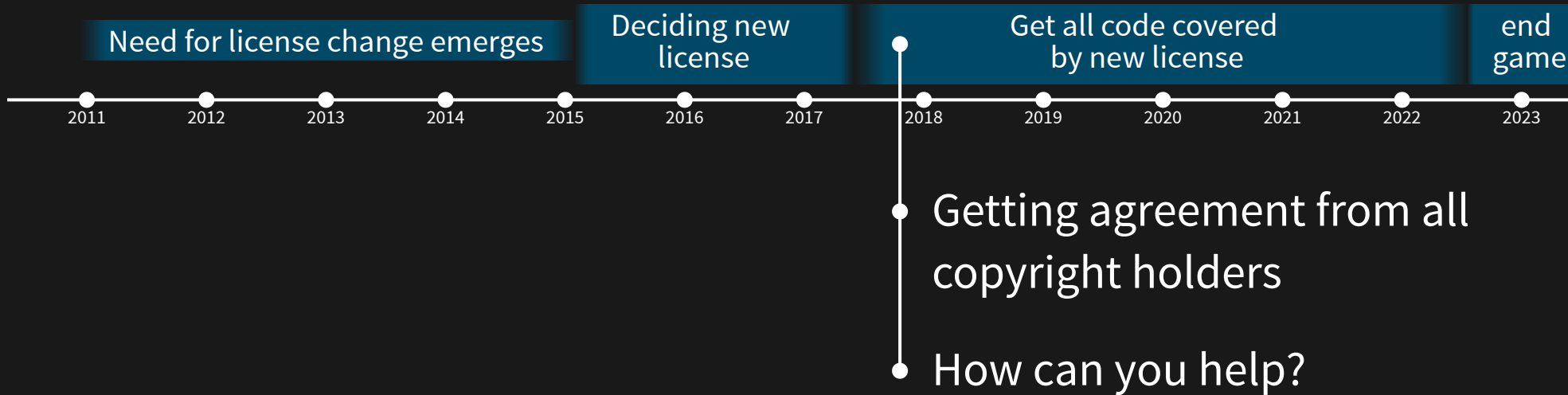
TIMELINE



TIMELINE



TIMELINE

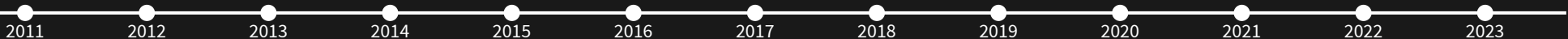


WHY A NEW LICENSE?

Main concerns with the old licenses
(UIUC+MIT+patents section in developer policy):

- ✗ Some are actively blocked from contributing.
- ✗ Cannot easily move code from LLVM to run-time libs.
- ✗ Patent coverage in Developer Policy may not provide intended protection.

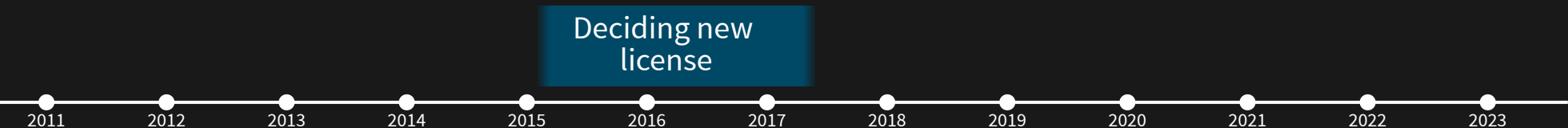
Need for license change emerges



NEW LICENSE: **APACHE-2.0 WITH LLVM EXCEPTION**

Addresses main concerns:

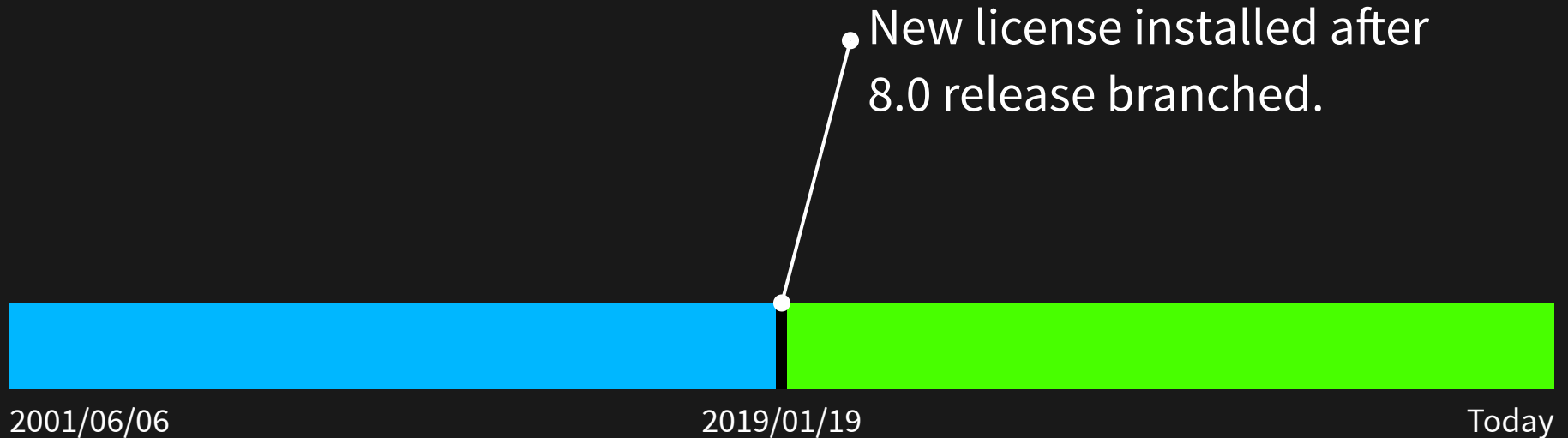
- ✓ Most no longer blocked from contributing.
- ✓ A single license: code can easily be moved.
- ✓ The patent coverage is well understood.



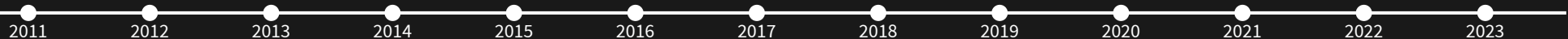
GET ALL CODE COVERED BY NEW LICENSE



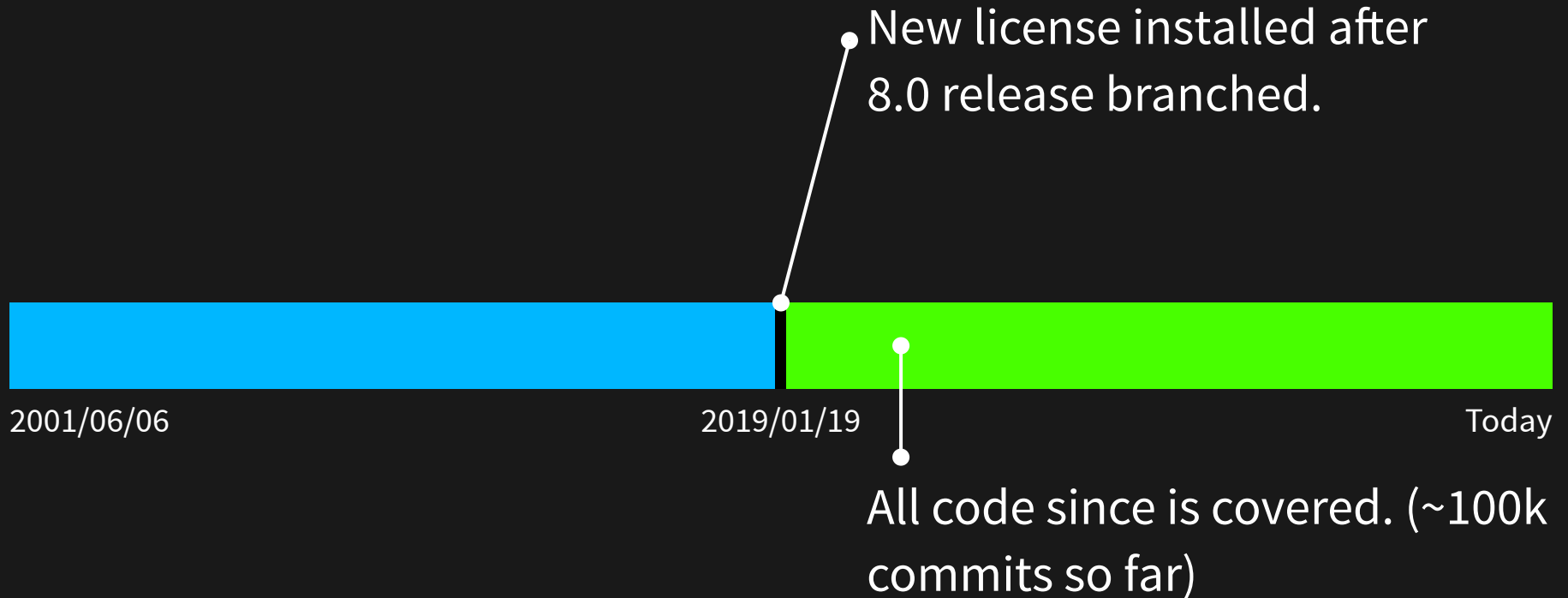
GET ALL CODE COVERED BY NEW LICENSE



Get all code covered
by new license



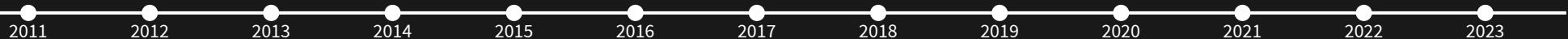
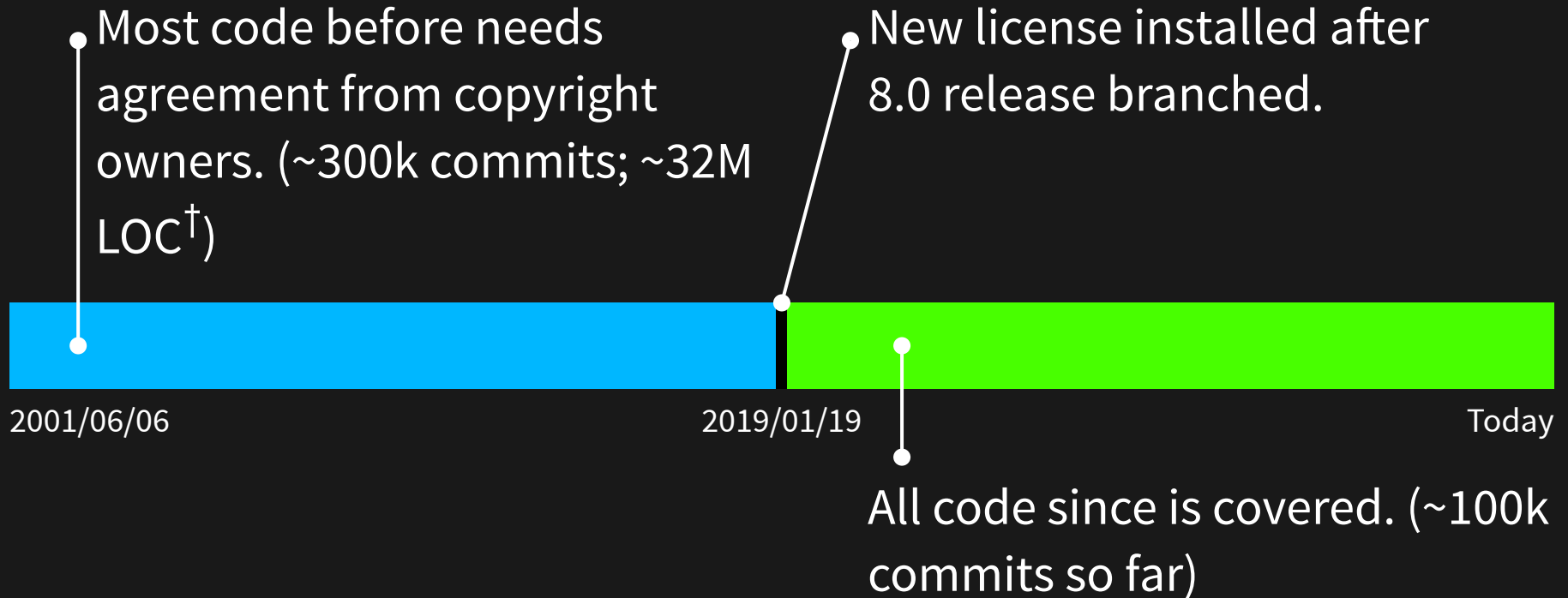
GET ALL CODE COVERED BY NEW LICENSE



Get all code covered
by new license

2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

GET ALL CODE COVERED BY NEW LICENSE



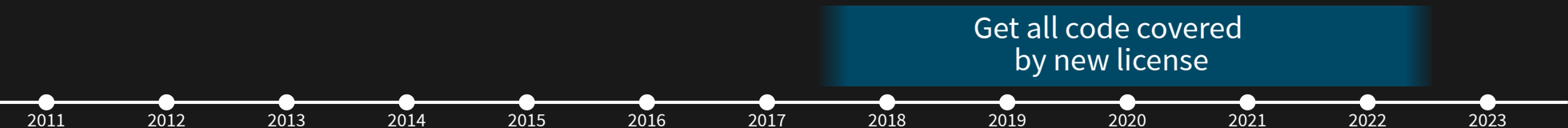
AGREEMENT FROM COPYRIGHT OWNERS

- Copyright is not transferred when patches are contributed.
- Only copyright owners can agree to offer past contributions under new license.
- Two main categories of copyright owners:
 - individuals
 - corporations



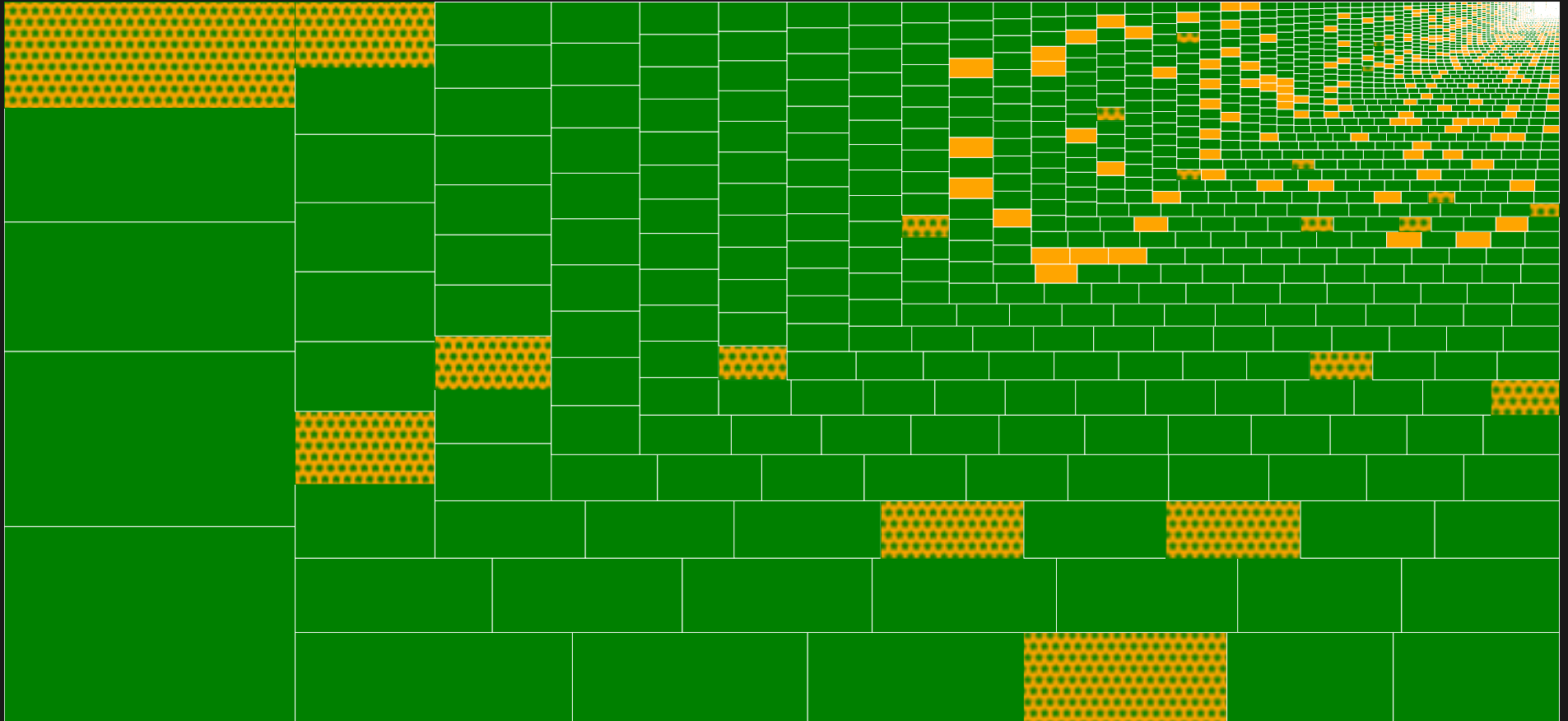
WE STARTED ASKING

- Find contributors from git + "patch by" commits:
~2800 unique emails
- Ask them:
 - (a) which corporations may own their commits
 - (b) if they agree with relicensing their commits
- Ask the ~220 corporations pointed to in (a):
 - if they agree with relicensing their commits

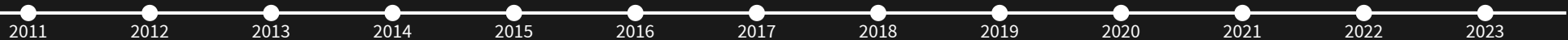


STATUS

94% of ~32MLOC already relicensed



Get all code covered
by new license



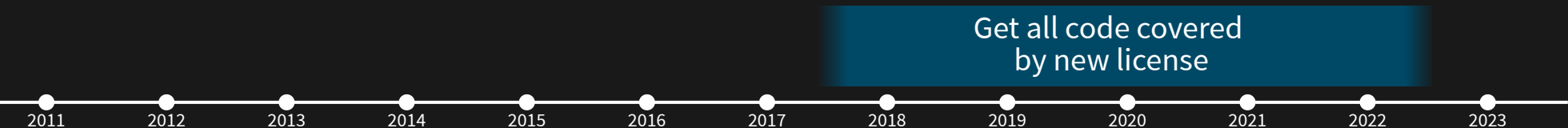
HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Contact individuals and companies you know well,
... that haven't reacted to our automated emails yet.

Please find an up-to-date list at

https://foundation.llvm.org/docs/relicensing_long_tail/

Any other useful information you could share, please
tell us at license-questions@llvm.org



RELICENSING END GAME

What do we do with contributions for which we cannot get an agreement to relicense? A few possibilities:

- Does copyright apply for that agreement?
- Is the code still in mainline?
- Remove contribution
 - Is the removed contribution still valuable enough to spend effort on reimplementing?



SUMMARY

- Described rationale for relicensing and timeline.
- Currently collecting agreements. 94% already done. Long tail remains.
 - PLEASE HELP reach out! See https://foundation.llvm.org/docs/relicensing_long_tail/
- Any other info or questions? Tell us at license-questions@llvm.org