Rewriting the timeline
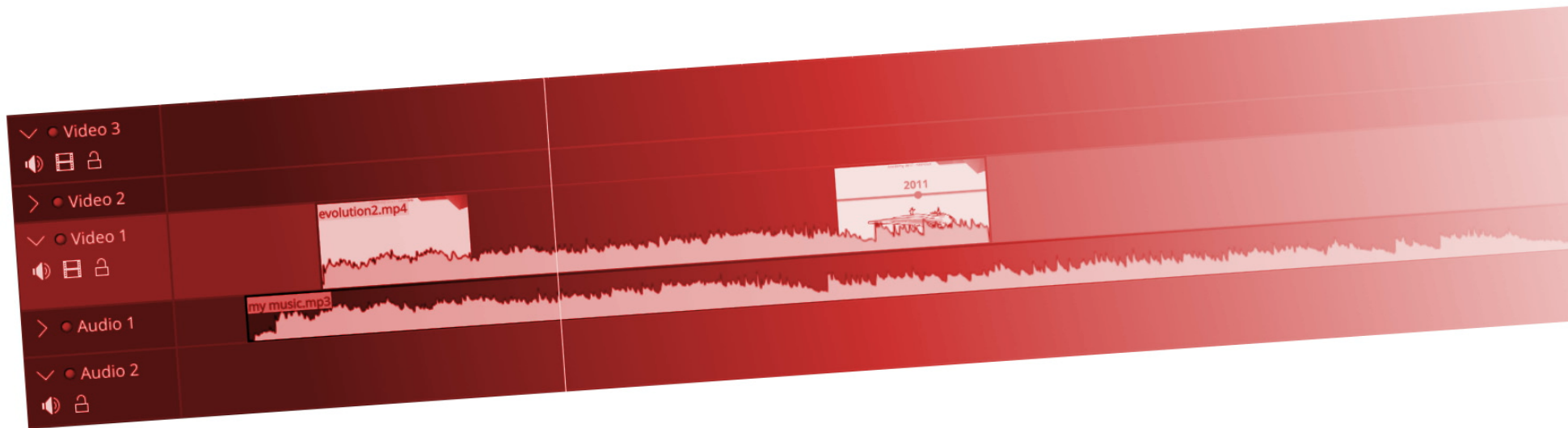
Kdenlive talk – Almeria 2017

Jean-Baptiste Mardelle

In this presentation, I will give some details on what lead us to rewrite large parts of Kdenlive's code this year, the current status and planned features
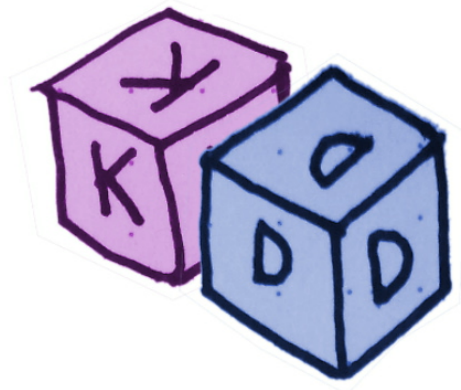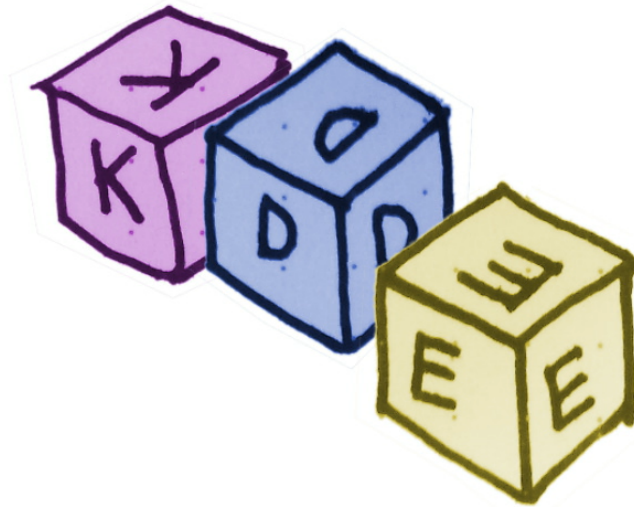
2005
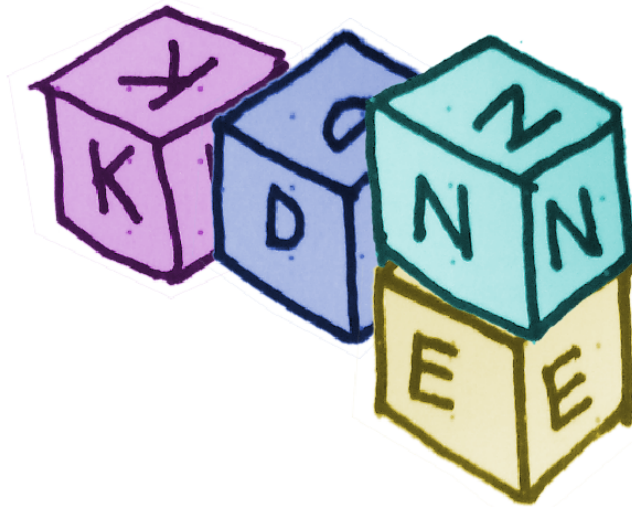
Kdenlive's KDE3 version released

2008

KDE4 port

2010

New contributors and features :
audio and video scopes, stopmotion

2011

First presence of Kdenlive in Randa meeting, moving code to the KDE servers

2012

First refactoring attempt and fundraising

2013

Growing a lot, gaining many users,
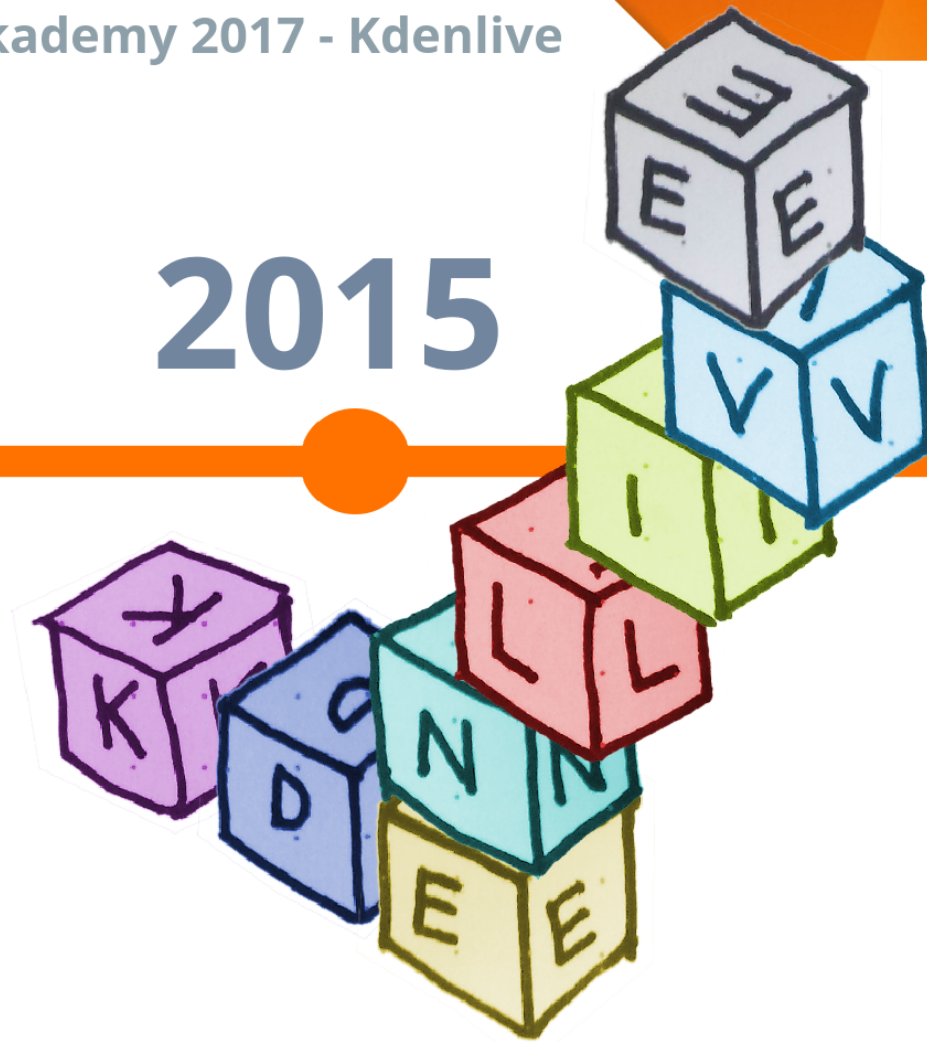gets hard to follow

2014

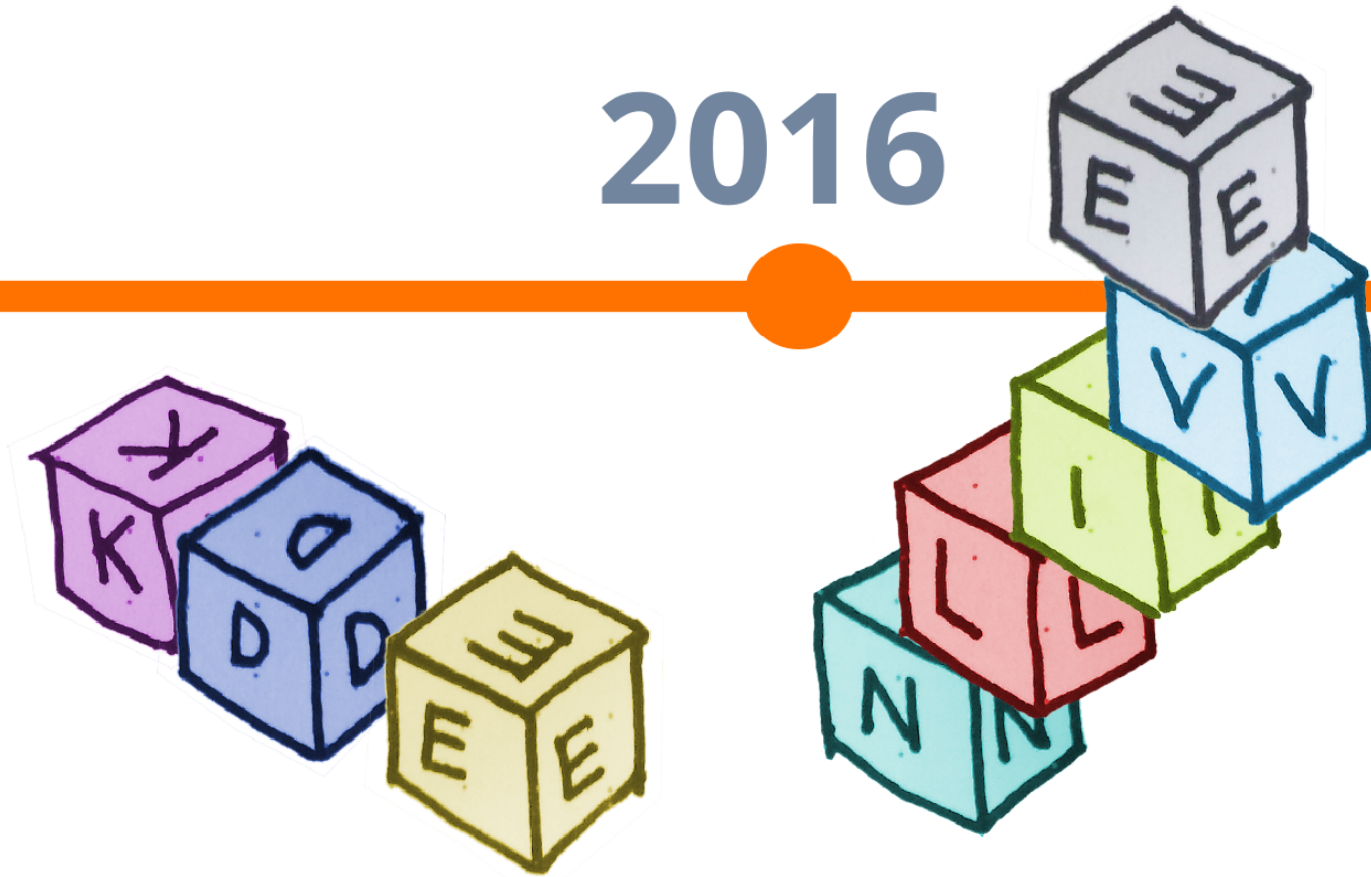Back to Randa meeting, further thoughts about a refactoring, starting KF5 port

2015

Joining KDE Applications, first version to run on KF5, UI review and start of Kdenlive's cafés

2016

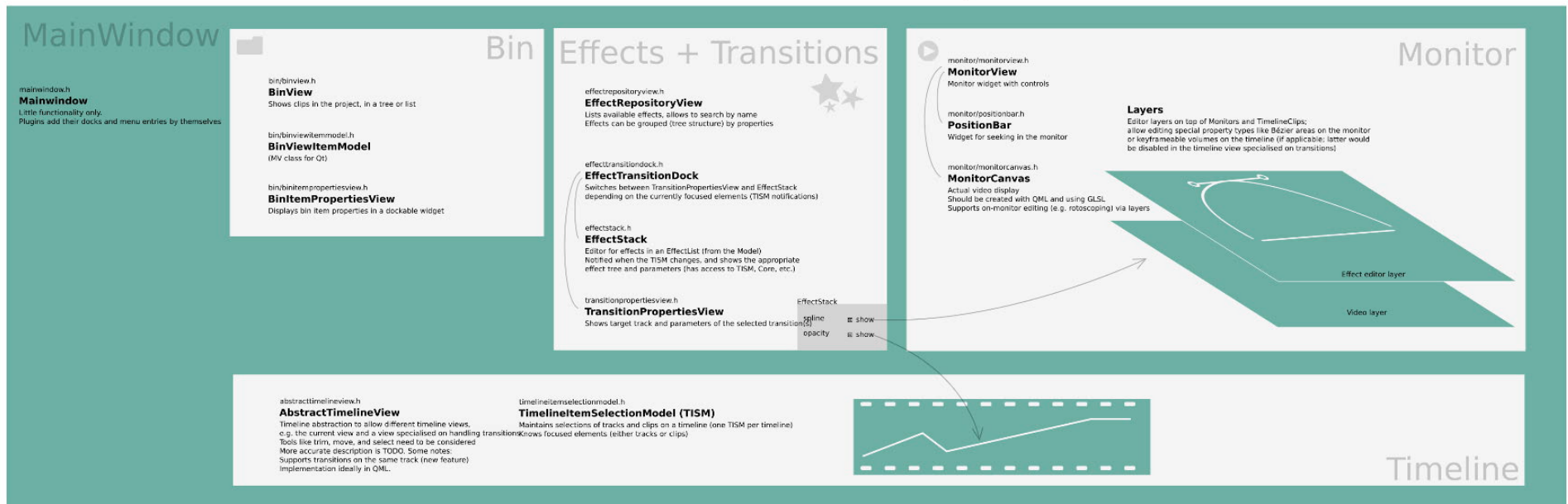Coding sprint in Lausanne, introducing PPAs, Windows port, strengthening our community

Refactoring and Qml port of timeline

In all those years, code was added without a lot of attention for architecture and it became impossible to add advanced features without breaking everything.

Several discussions and ideas were proposed during the last years, but it's only in 2017 that we really started to change the core timeline architecture.
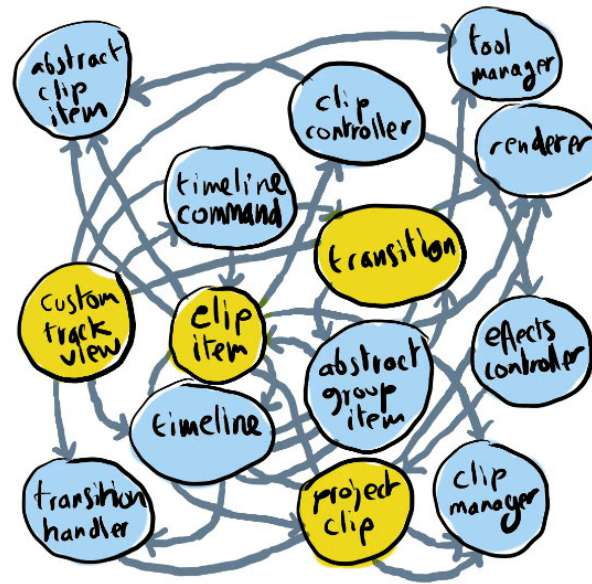
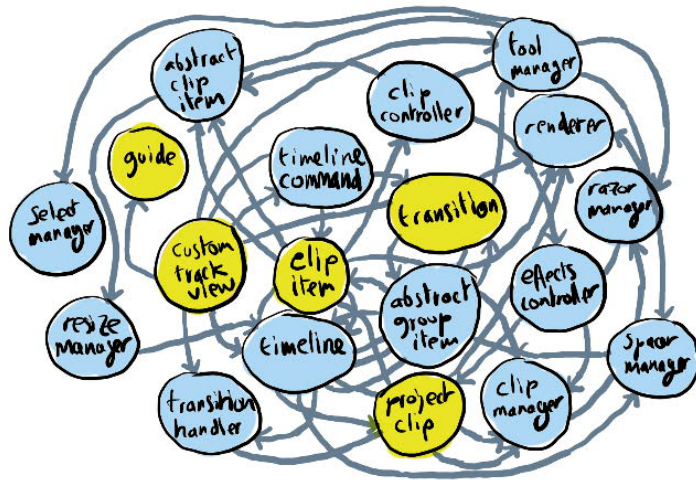Refactoring the code

Proposals elaborated during a Randa meeting

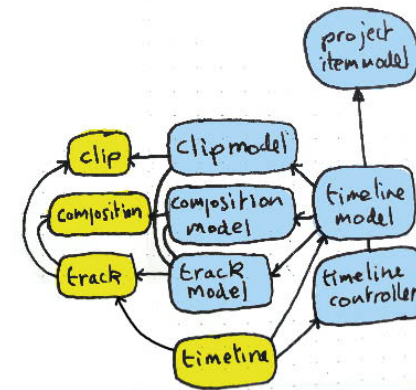# The refactoring
2017 : second attempt

The problem: bad design,
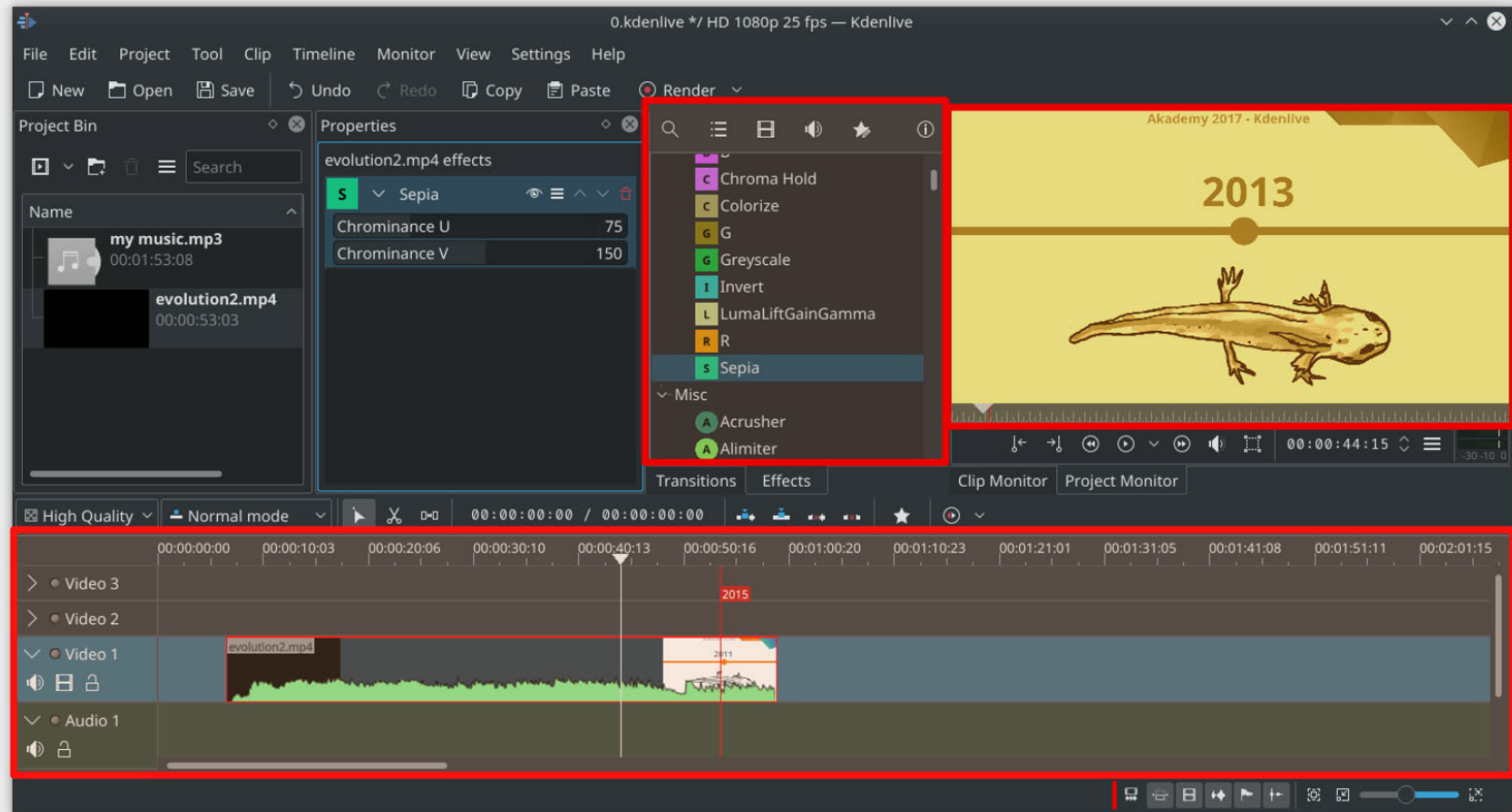no separation between UI and functions

January 2017

July 2017

timeline

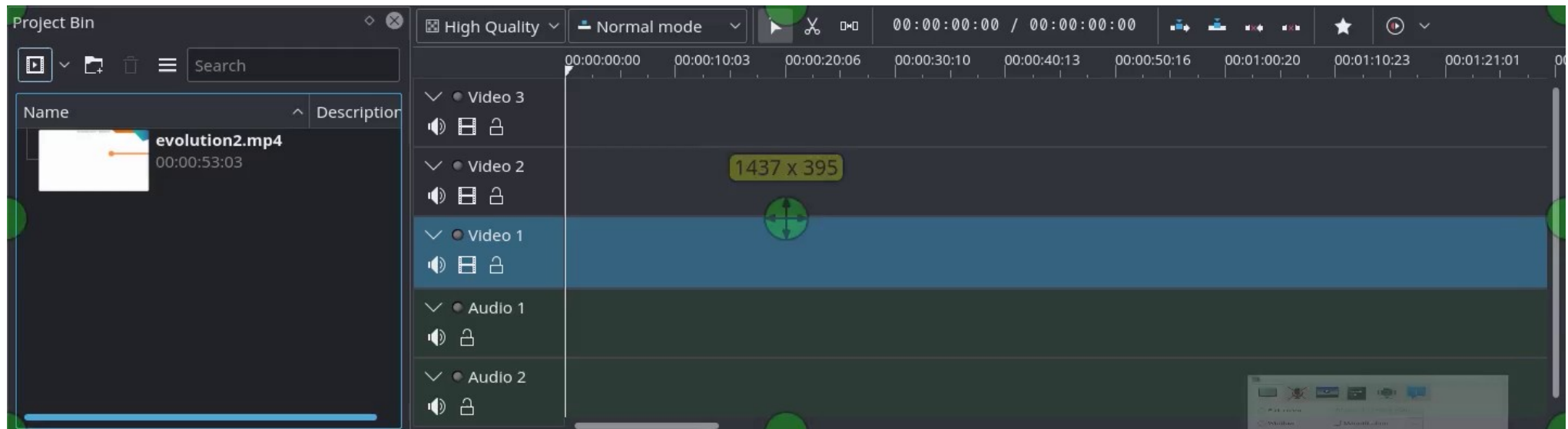Simplified view of what we did,
using a model/view approach

Mixed application, using QWidgets and Qml.
Qml parts are highlighted in red

With Qml, editing a few lines changes the layout without having to recompile

Demo of the new timeline in action

Cool but can we use it before 2020 ?

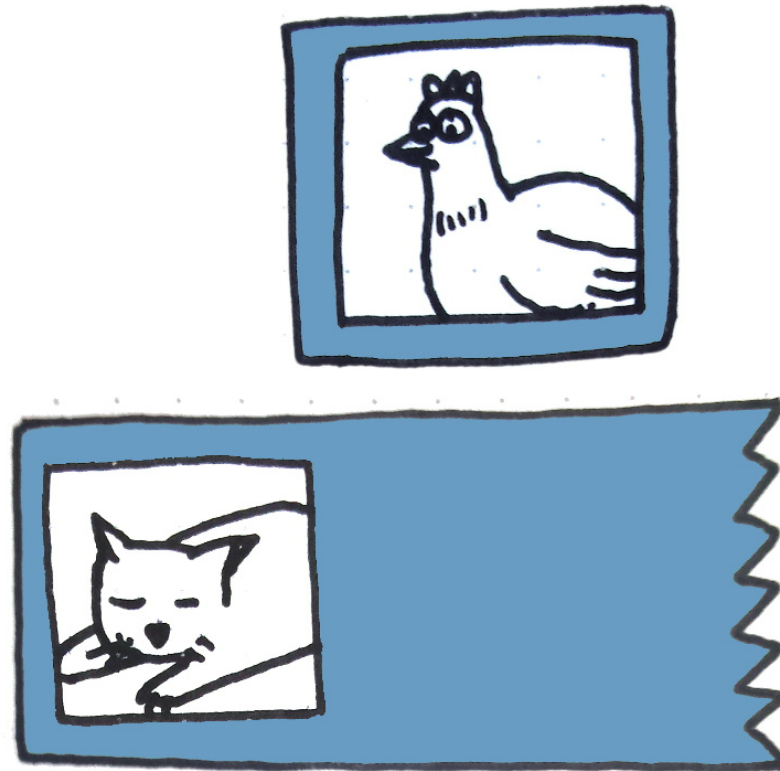A nightly build AppImage CI should be ready by september, offical release planned in december

What's next ?
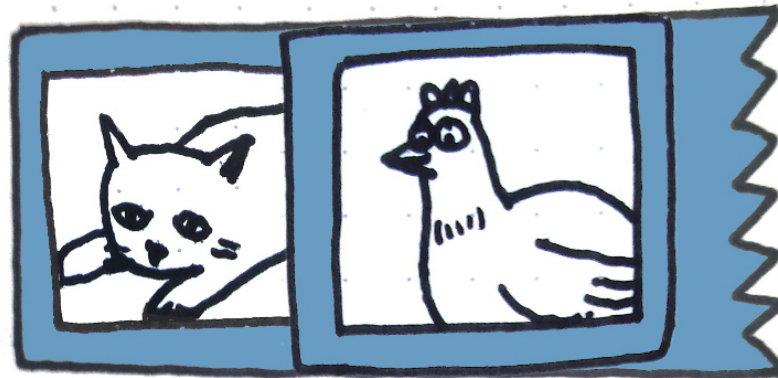
What changes for the user in the next months

Stability
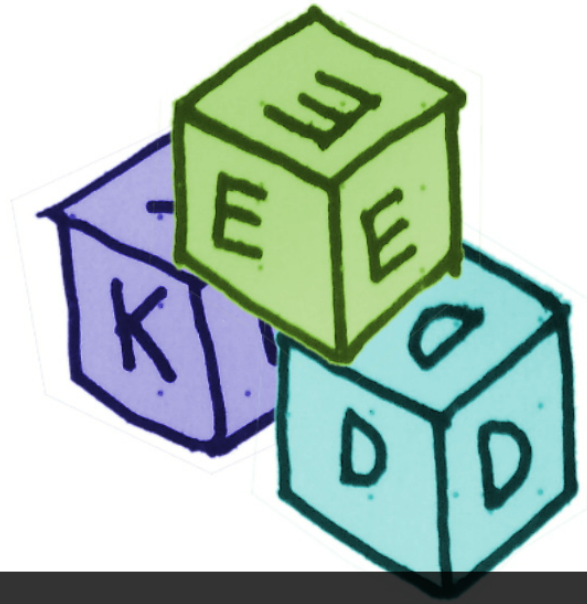
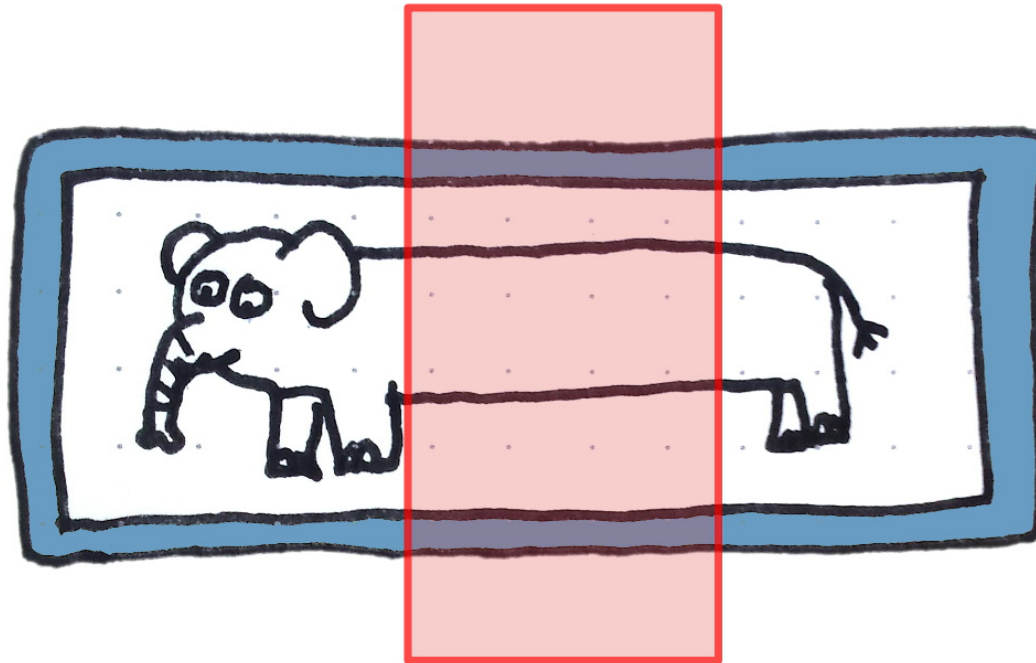Stability is what users want. The changes allowed us to add testing to the code

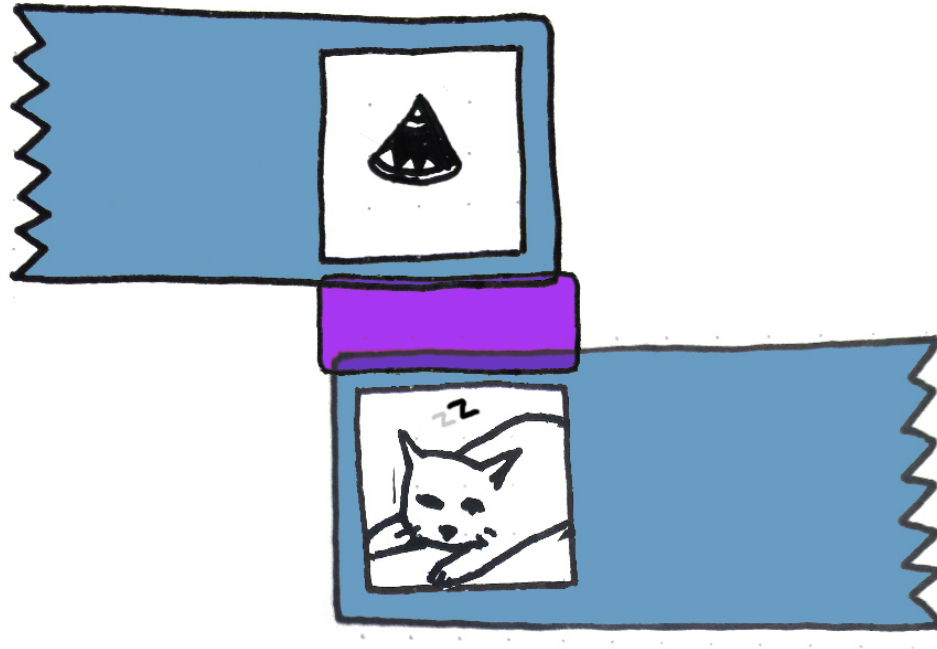Advanced editing

Features we will work on:

Advanced editing

Advanced trimming options, like
lift, insert, overwrite
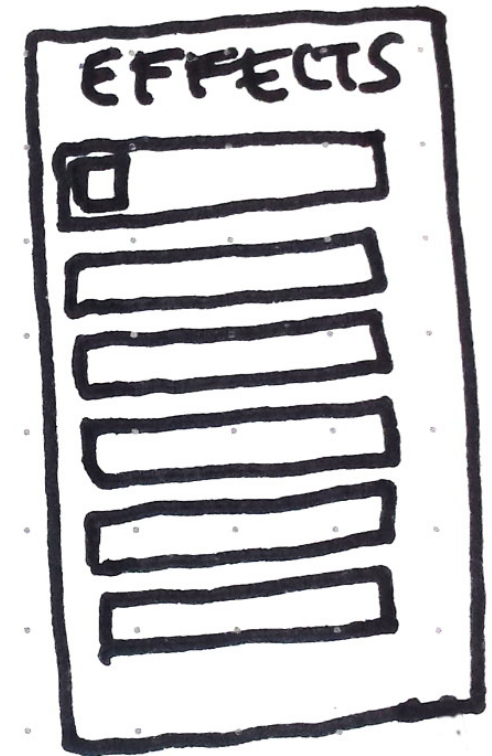
Advanced editing

Will make you work faster

Transitions worflow

Simplified transitions worflow

Transitions workflow

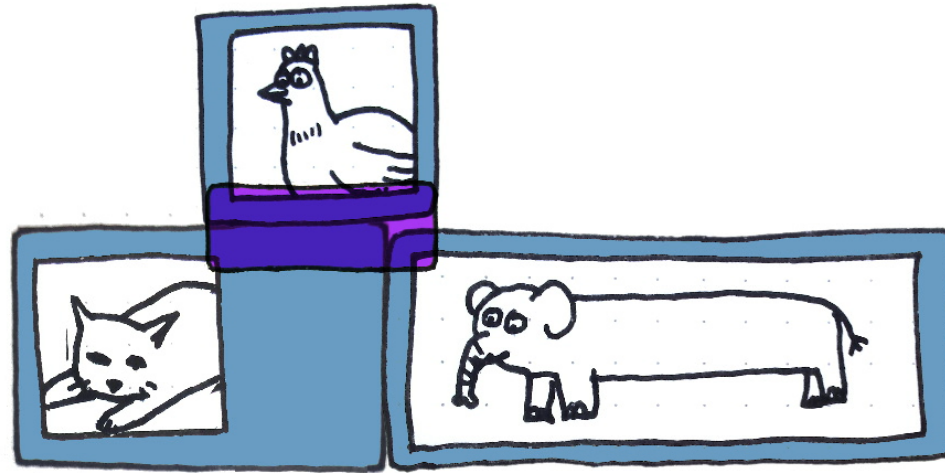Overlapping clips will automatically
make a transition of the overlap length

Effect workflow

Effects workflow: instead of having to parse a long list of effect to adjust a clip

Effect workflow

We will have a built in dialog for every clip that directly allows to adjust most common options

Sequence nesting

Sequence nesting will allow you to compact a sequence of clips

Sequence nesting
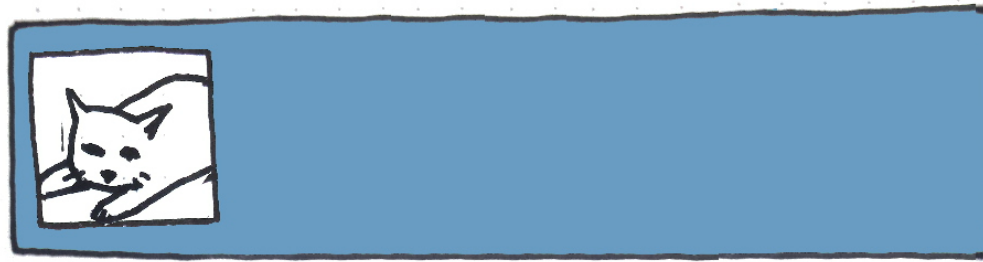
In one item that you can move, add effects. And you keep the option to edit the original sequence

Community & Communication

Community is a core part of Kdenlive

Community & Communication

We have monthly IRC cafés announced on our website
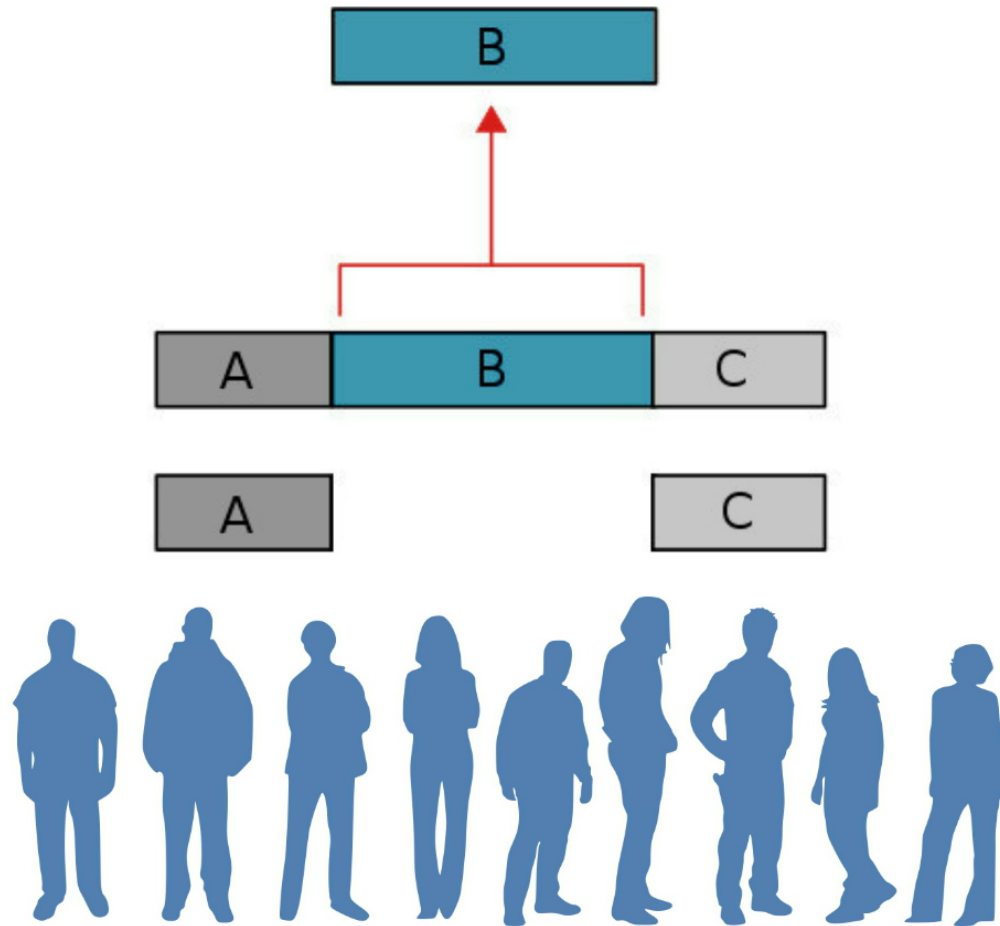
Kdenlive is made by people:
coders, professional video editors

Designers

Documentation writers

Kdenlive is a community and you can be part of it. Don't hesitate to join us in a café to make a first contact.

Thanks!

Join us!