



Versioning of GIS Database

Tamás Palya
Lechner Knowledge Center

EuroGeographics, QKEN plenary meeting, 1-3. October 2019, Bern Switzerland



Why are versions important?



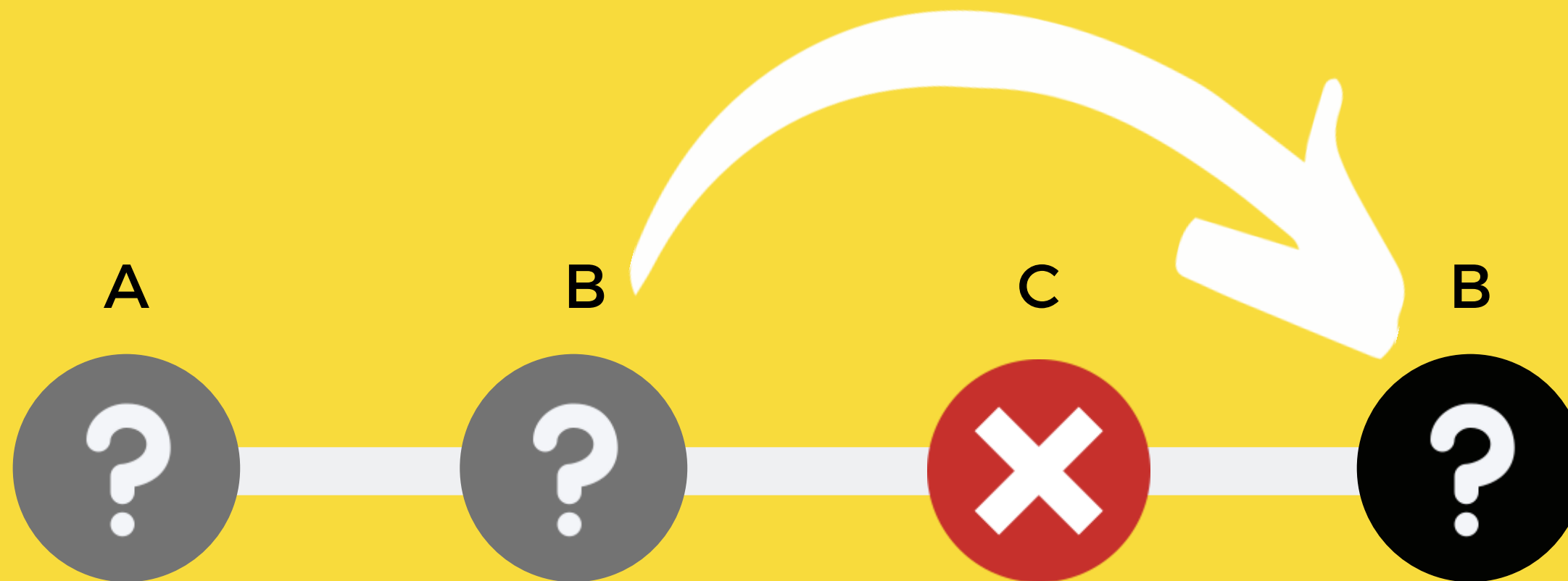
**Because we don't just want to know
what we have now.**



**We also want to see the history
at any time.**



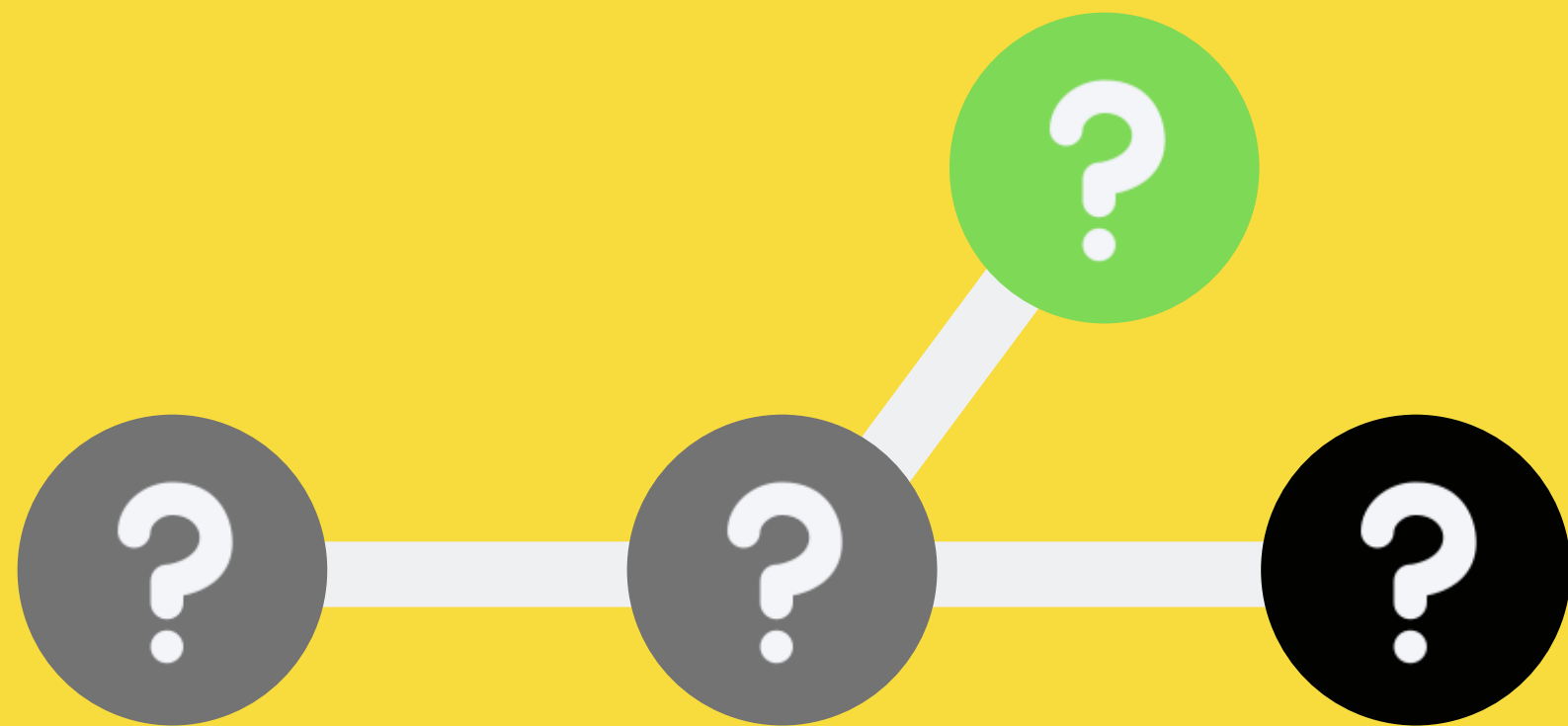
`git log`



We would like to revert any changes.



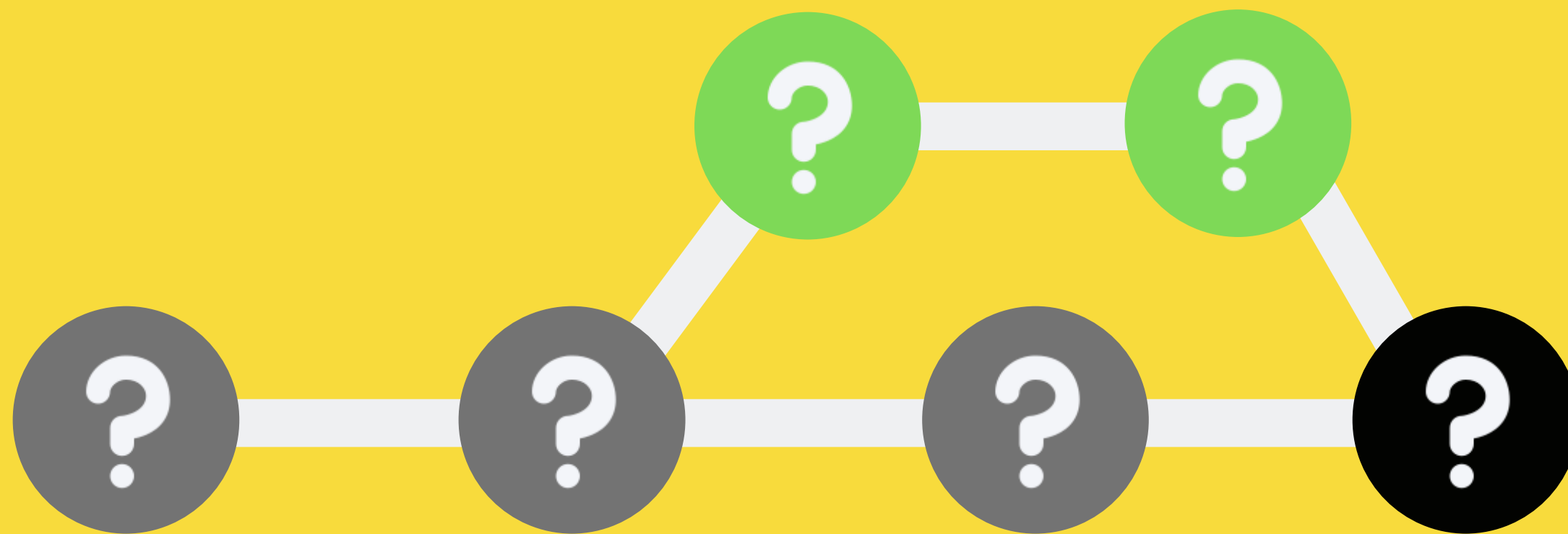
`git revert`



We would like to manage the
pending changes.



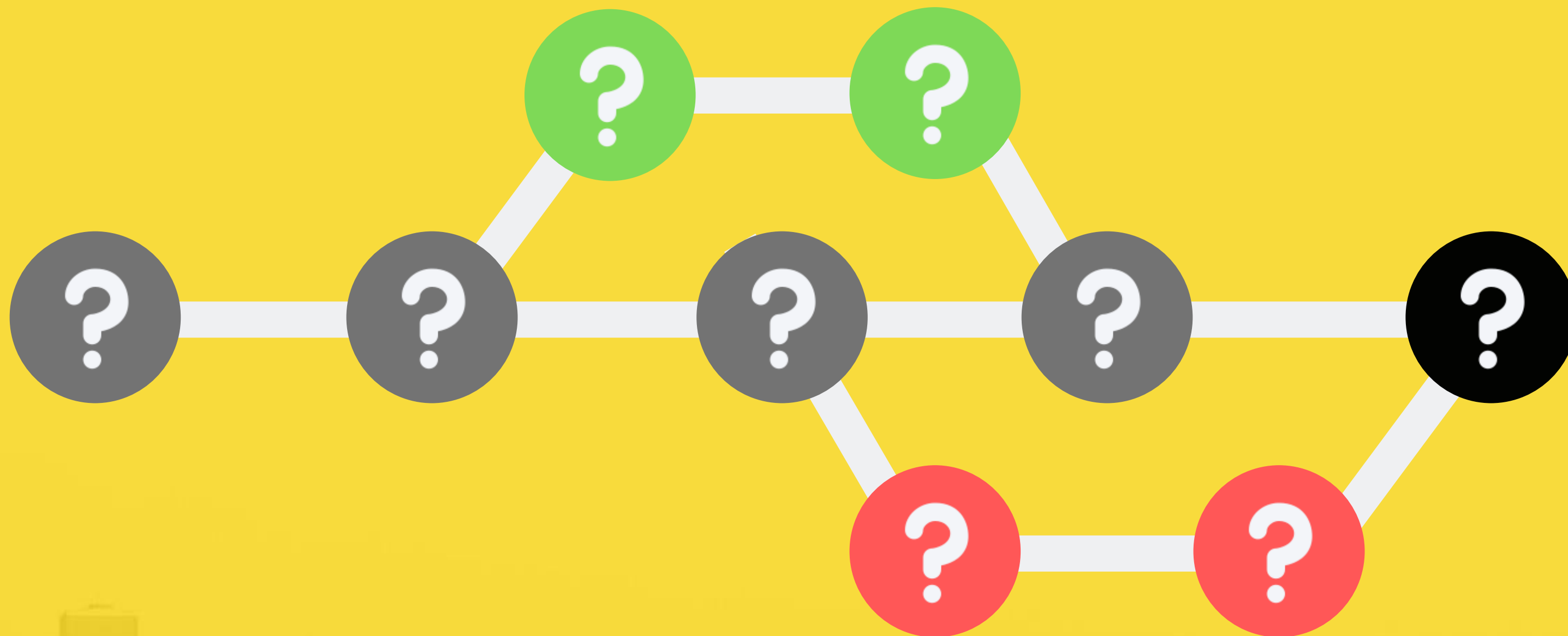
git branch



**Up to several changes based on
each other.**



git merge



**Multiple editors make changes
simultaneously.**



LECH
NER
TUDÁS
KÖZ-
PONT

How?



Solutions of our ancestors

Date of creation and last modification



Date of termination



Details of occurrence and termination in the associated table



Distinguish between pending and live states



What's the problem with the solutions previously?





Not authentic.

Any history can be
rewritten.



In order to invalidate the previous state, it must be **subsequently modified.**



In case of subsequent
modification
**history rewriting cannot be
excluded.**



Aggravating
circumstances



Direct SQL access



```
UPDATE tablename  
SET columnname='anything'
```





Unnecessarily many permissions with poor authentication

root



**What is the good
solution?**



**Store new versions
without modifying the
previous versions**



Certified signature and time stamping

Conflicts

**"It seems impossible
until it is realized."**

What is
the Git?



git



- **Distributed version-control system**
- **tracking changes in source code**
- **during software development**
- **It is designed for coordinating work among programmers**
- **Its goals include speed, data integrity, and support for distributed, non-linear workflows**
- **Originally Linux development**



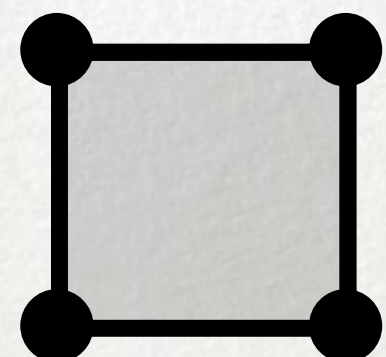
**What does this look like in a
GIS database?**



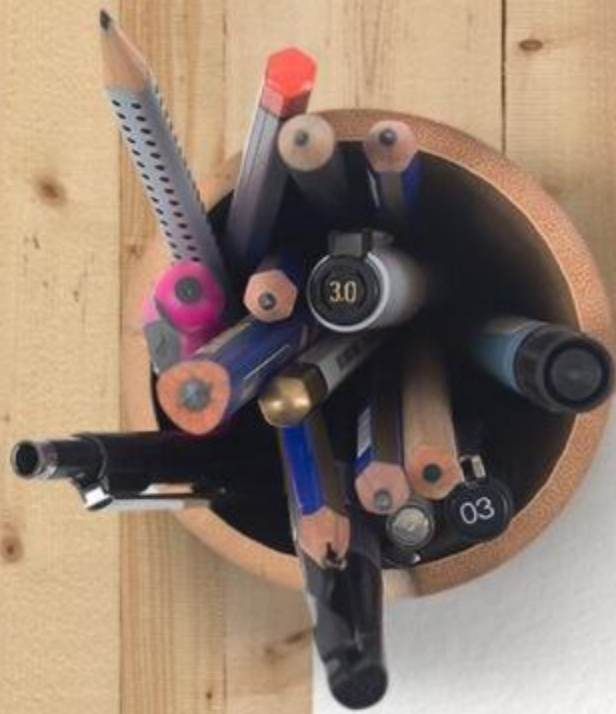
POINT



LINE



POLYGON

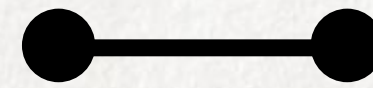


POINT

[654321 234567]

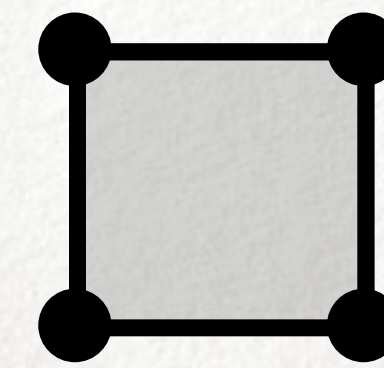
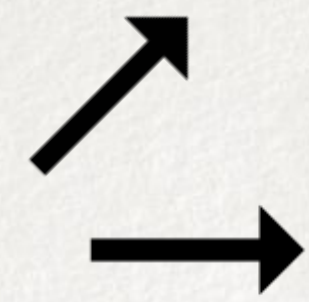


Stores coordinate
pairs in each object



LINE

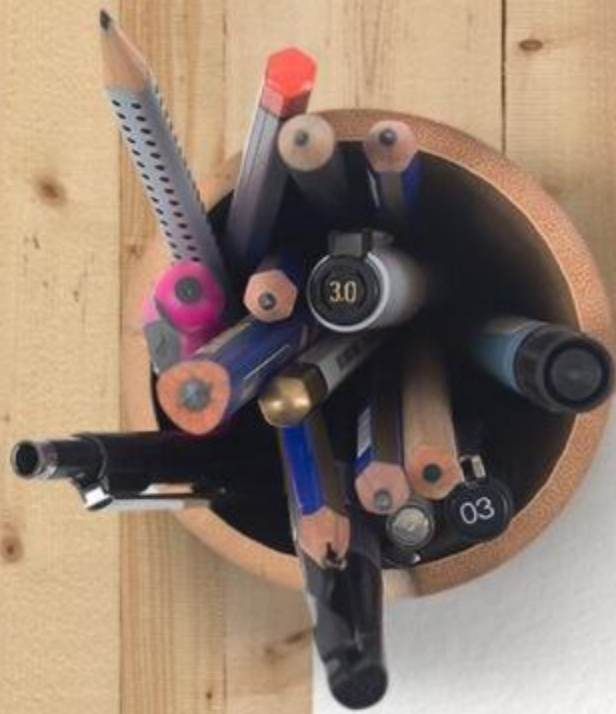
[
[654321 234567],
[654322 234567]
]



POLYGON

[
[
[654321 234567],
[654322 234567],
[654322 234568],
[654321 234568]
]
]

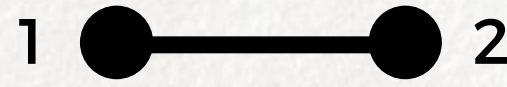
spaghetti
data storage



POINT

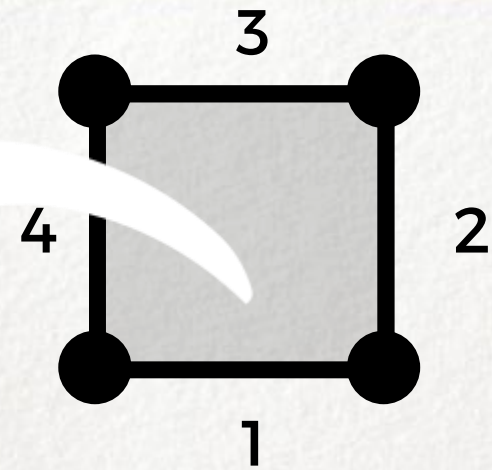
[654321 234567]

Only the
point stores
coordinates



LINE

[
1,
2
] Line stores
point IDs



POLIGON

[
[
1,
2, Polygon stores
3, line IDs
4
]
]

topological
data storage



Git

Version Manager

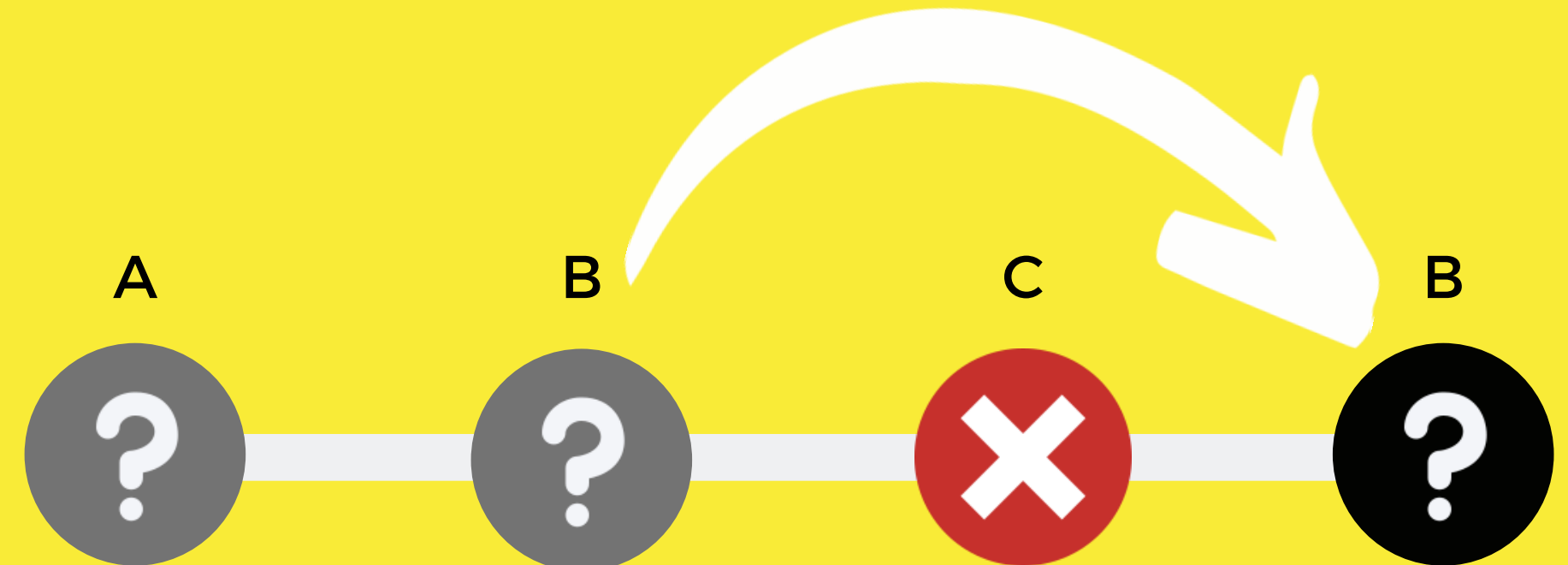
- de facto standard
- open source code
- free license
- free



log



revert



branch



merge





OpenStreetMap

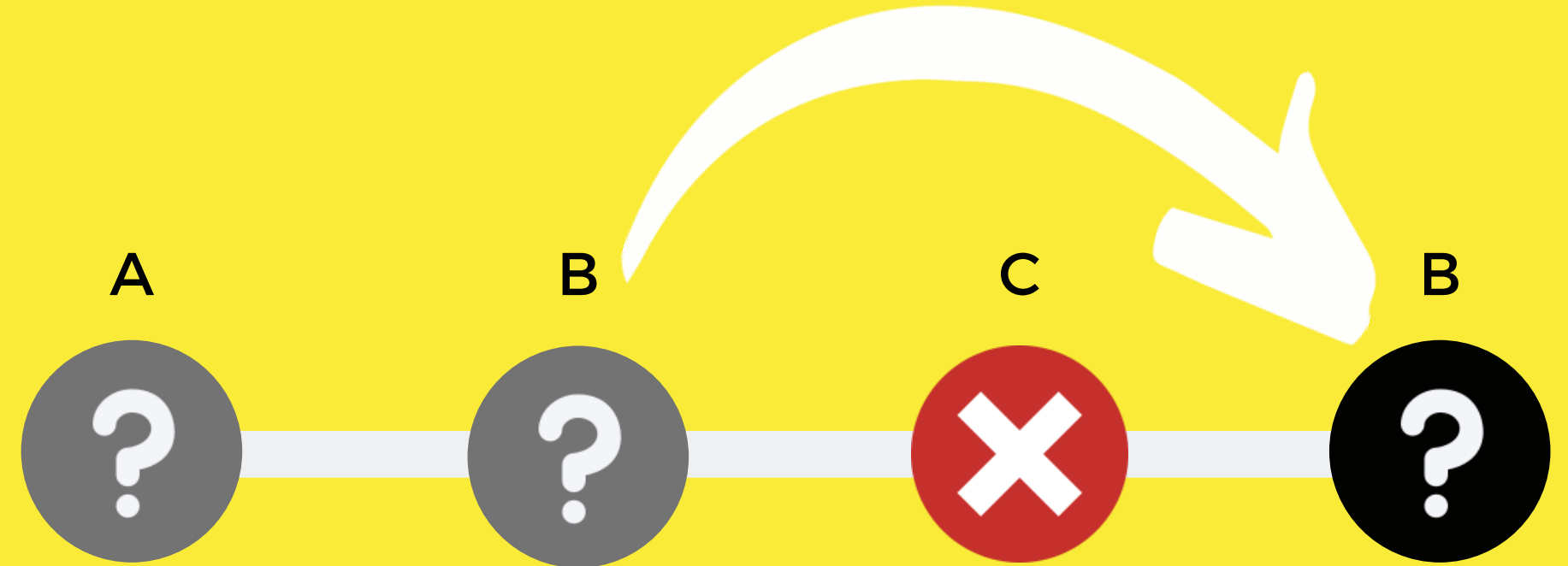
- de facto standard
- open source code
- free license
- free



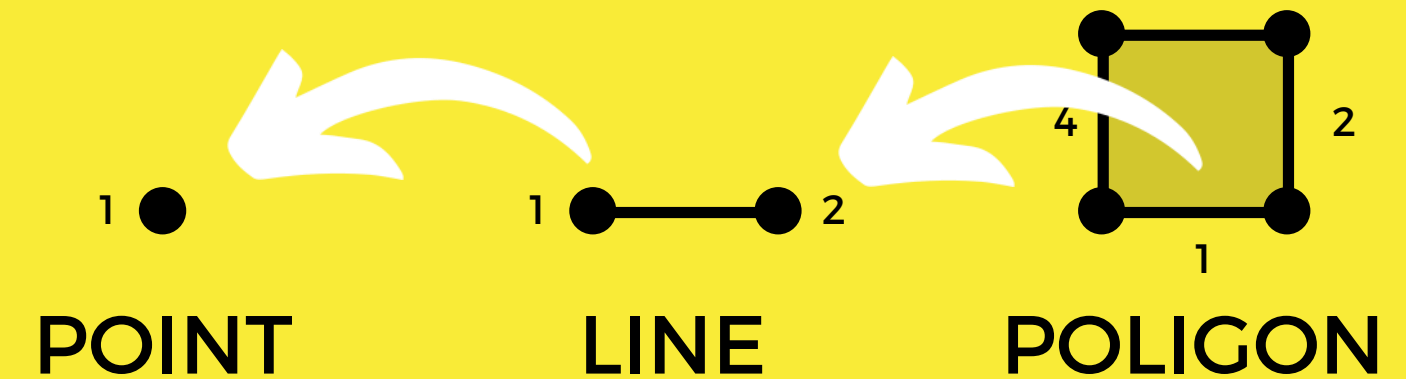
history



revert



topology



Summary

The availability and unchangeability of the previous versions depends only on careful **process planning**.

Good examples and free software implementations are available.



Special thanks

András Kolesár

Lechner Knowledge Center

andras.kolesar@lechnerkozpont.hu



Thank you for your attention!

Tamás Palya

Lechner Knowledge Center

tamas.palya@lechnerkozpont.hu