

Long-term release support

Leanne Guy, DMLT F2F Meeting

Supporting DESC and the wider scientific community

The logo for the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST). The letters 'LSST' are rendered in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter 'S' is filled with a blue-to-white gradient, representing a galaxy or nebula. The letters 'L' and 'T' are solid black with a white outline.

Large Synoptic Survey Telescope

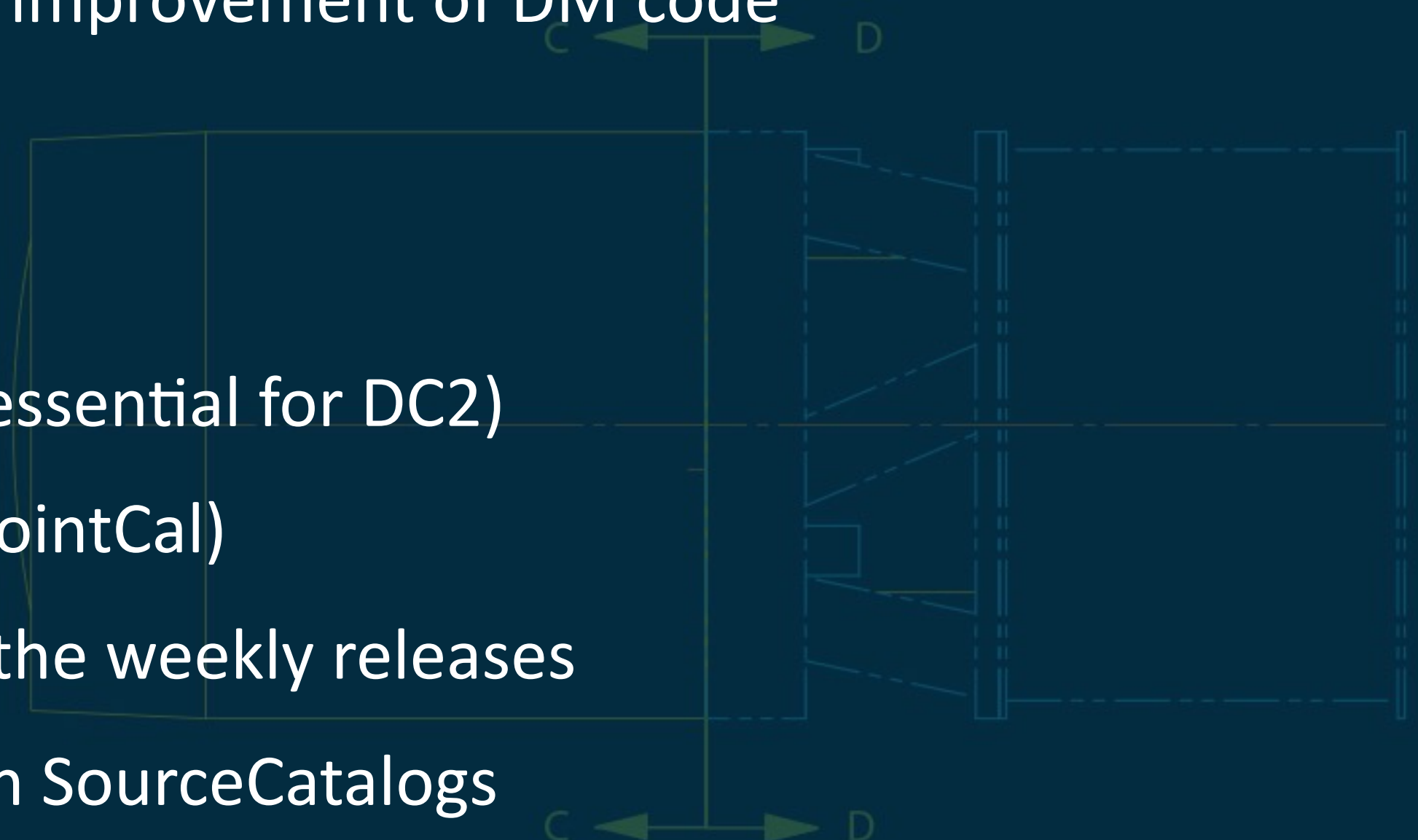
DESC use of DM releases

DESC processing and data challenges:

- DESC Run 1.2x reprocessing
- DESC DC2 in 2019 and beyond
- Writing code that builds on the DM code base (and will eventually be contributed)
 - E.g a new task that will check the astrometry after running SingleFrameDriver.
- Expertise and effort in DESC contributes to debugging and improvement of DM code

Currently using DM weekly releases.

- Need to keep up with latest changes in obs_lsst package (essential for DC2)
- Get recent essential bug fixes and new functionality (e.g JointCal)
- but they are also exposed to breaking API changes in the weekly releases
 - E.g DM-10302 - Rename "*_flux" fields to "*_instFlux" in SourceCatalogs

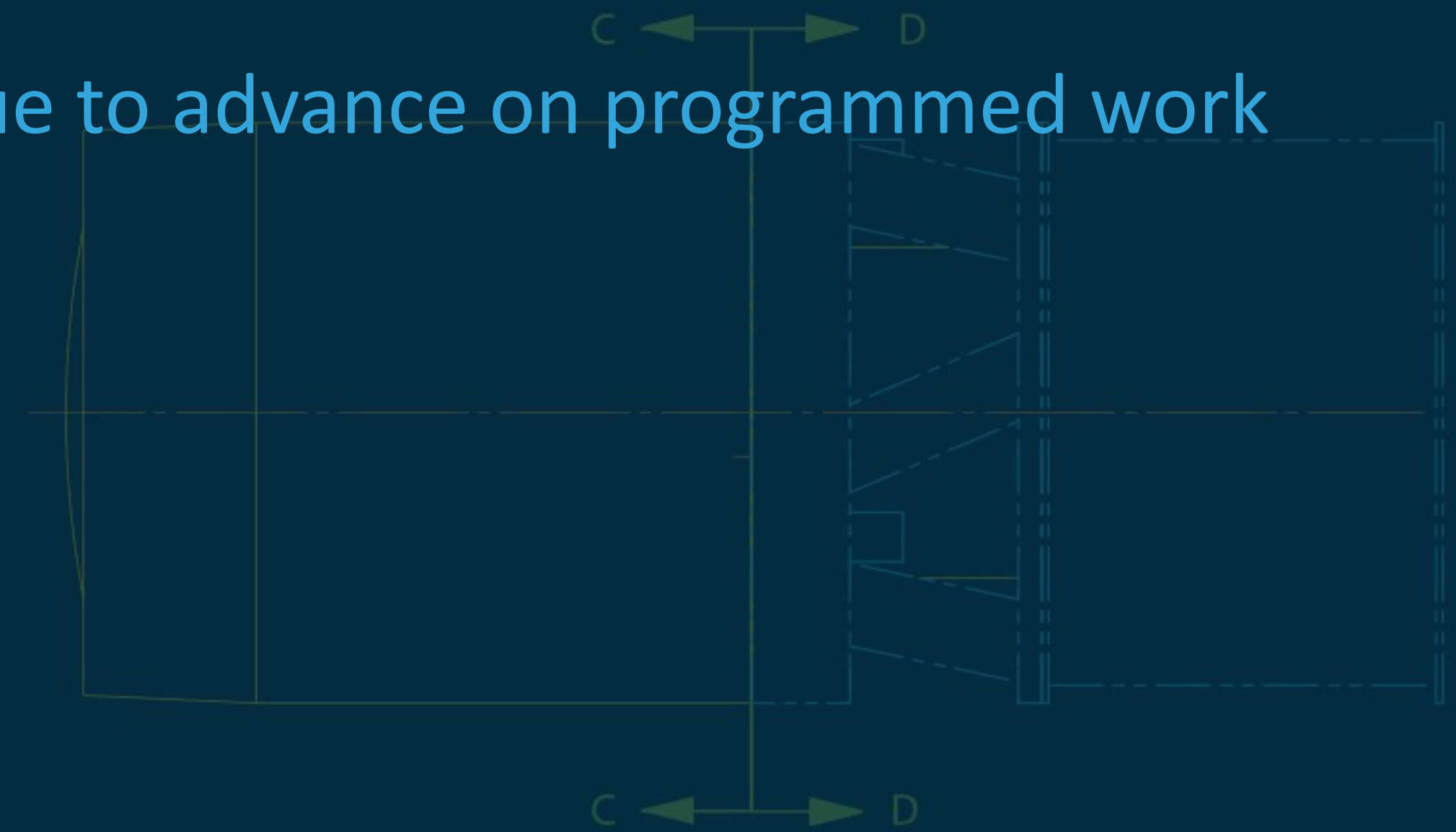


Issues

How do we:

- Provide stable releases (APIs) that our collaborators can work with and build upon?
- Make bug fixes available on these stable release branches?
- Deliver new functionality as it becomes available?

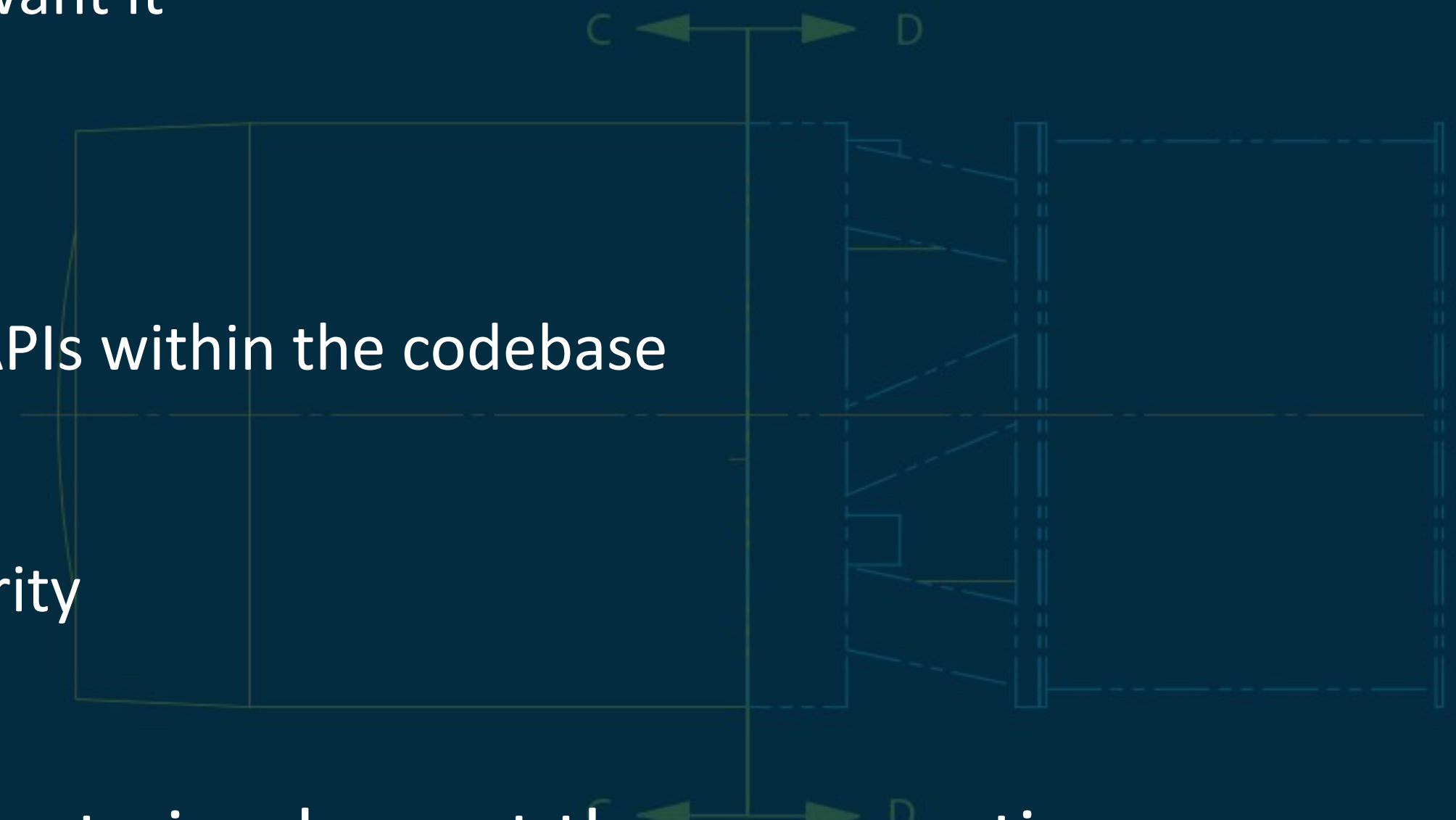
... whilst ensuring that DM developers can continue to advance on programmed work



Proposal

Proposal on long-term release support in preparation

- Create intermediate 'minor' releases in which new functionality is added in a backwards-compatible manner
 - Possibly in consultation with community to confirm they want it
- Back porting of bug fixes to the most recent major/minor release
 - Possibly in consultation with community to confirm they want it
- Use deprecation to with all API changes
 - Previously discussed a formal procedure for deprecating APIs within the codebase
 - RFC-213 - Deprecation procedure (ADOPTED)
 - But it seems it has not been adopted and is now a priority



See Gabriele's talk for a more detailed proposal on how to implement these suggestions