Development on an Academic Timeline

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Challenges

- Different people have different levels of:
  - Programming skill
  - Access to resources
  - Familiarity with version control
- Academic timelines are controlled by artificial factors:
  - Undergraduate projects
  - Masters and PhD theses
  - Project funding
  - Changing institutions or leaving academia
- The loss of expertise inherent to the Academy results in:
  - Abandoned code
  - Mystery code

Solutions

- Form collaborations
  - Include people with different expertise
  - Include people at different career stages
  - Pass control of projects on instead of abandoning them
- Follow best-practices for community projects
  - Include comments
  - Use descriptive variables
  - Use version control
  - Keep abreast of new developments
- Make projects open source and use permissive licenses