



Introducing the Wasteland

Not really a Dplug tutorial this time.



Meeting
May 28th 2022

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- Lots of such frameworks kept private in the industry =
Slate / Arturia / u-he / Voxengo / Melda / Blue Cat Audio
Soundtoys / Pulsar Audio all have one...
> probably dozens more exist. Only a few are open-source.

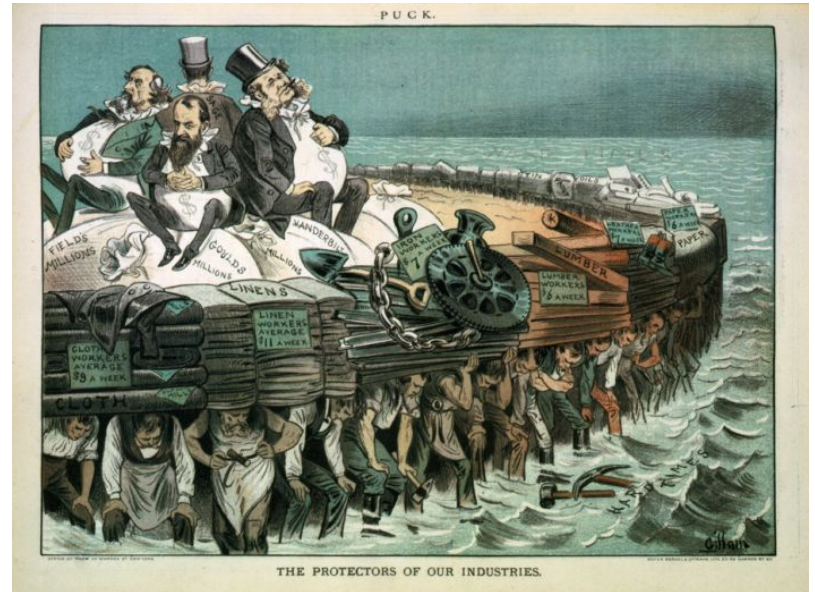
Motivations for creating Dplug specifically

- Software companies seem to mechanically lead to burn-out.

Reasons:

- top-down product design
- added value captured by top
- work organization straight from factory work

“Suffering is the commodity that you provide.” - some blog



What if you exit the software industry and make your own software company?

- top-down product design
 - => choose the product you make
- added value captured by top
 - Remove hierarchy (one-man companies are common)
 - => producer get every cent of added value
 - => Reminder: in audio books, Audible keeps 87%
 - or mutualize the profits!
- work organization straight from factory workers
 - => self-employed
 - “On est jamais mieux servi que par soi-même.”*

Dplug revolves around being low-stress

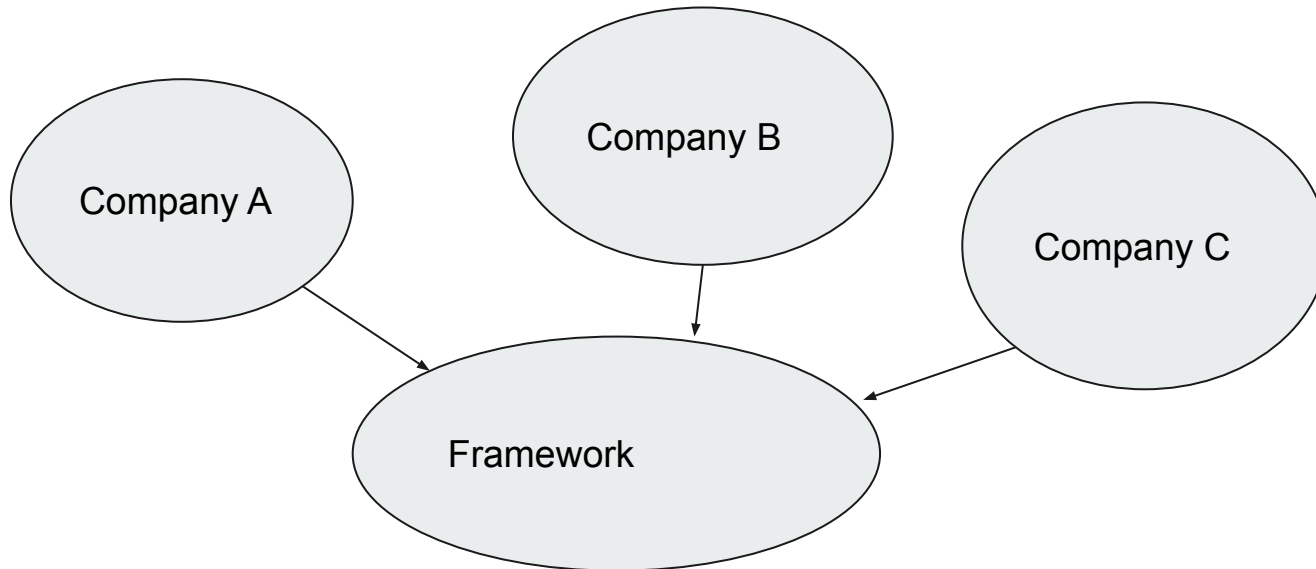


- **low-touch** => *shouldn't need to communicate too often.*
- **stable** => *keep maintenance low, to let product live a long time with minimal work.*
- **forkable** => some popular frameworks are products and not forkable
- **not rent-seeking** => it is not a product, and you are not a client.

(Obviously, could change if forked.)

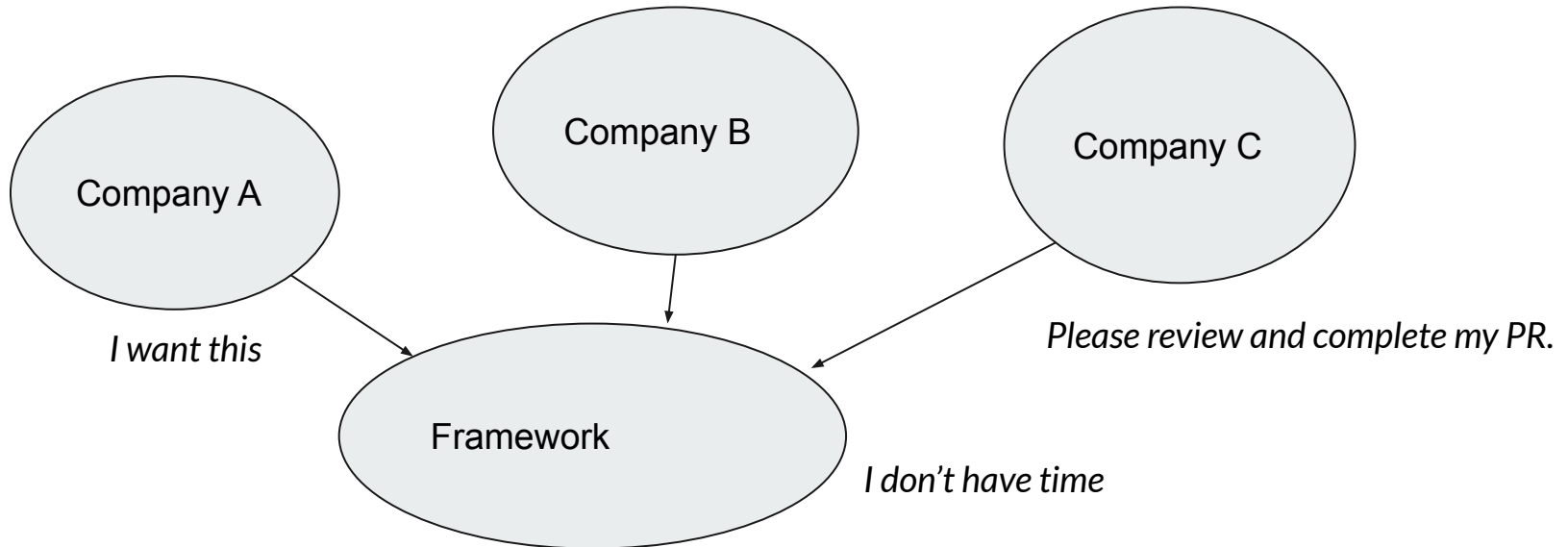
The implicit Dplug ideal

- Software companies that grow horizontally around a shared core, instead of vertically at the expense of human capital. => less oppression

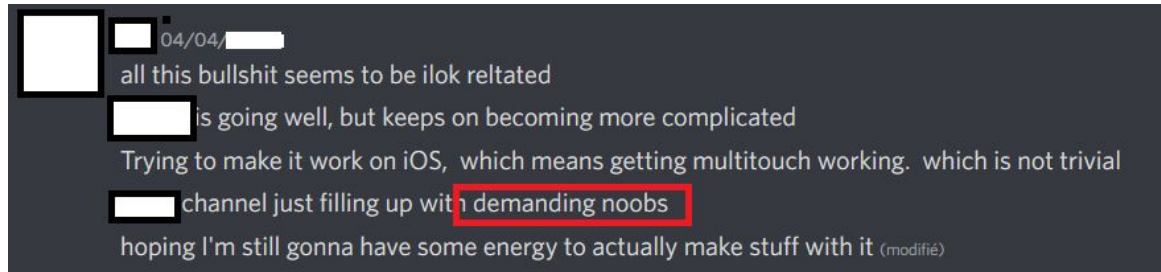


Newfound efficiency and challenges

- Stability is good, and forced (because open-source)
- Open-source typical problems are all here.
- Lots of work/conflicting constraints over core.
- Contributions = more work in practice.



It's the same for other plugin frameworks



Another
framework
open-source
developer

=> Open-source is typically draining

=> Death by maintainer overwork is the **surest way** to kill Dplug (at least this fork)

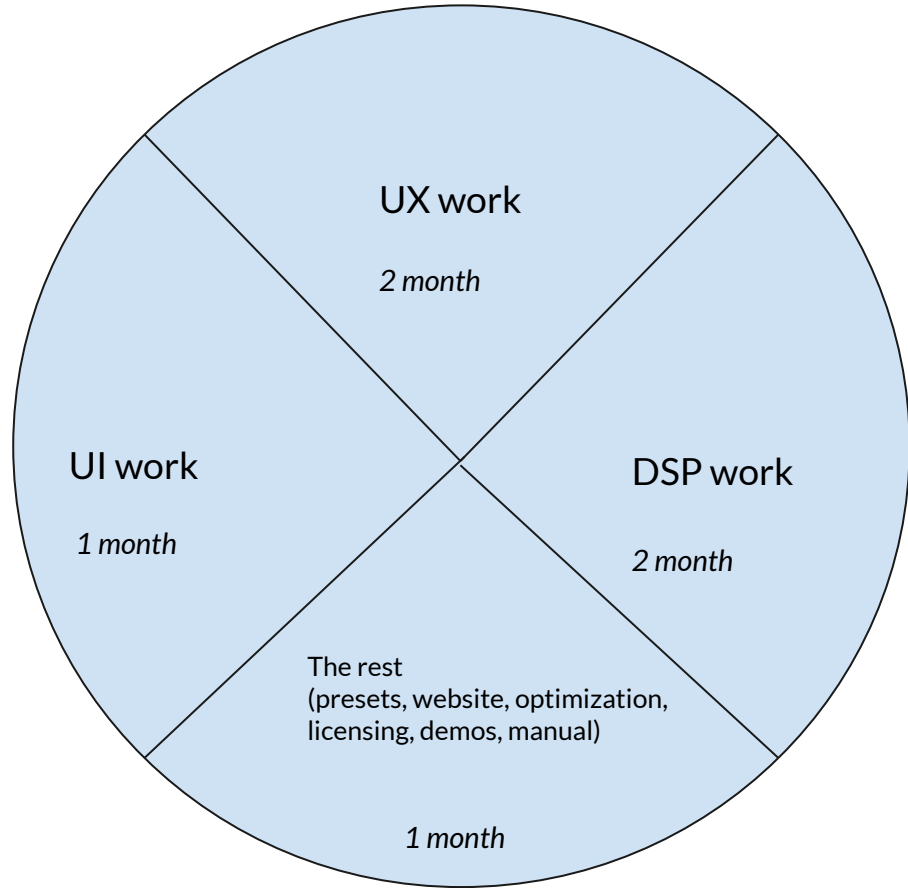
Solutions

- Be a net-positive contributor = do not take energy from maintainer.
- Dplug must avoid popular “success”, which would mean *death* because it's free of charge. At one point it's easier to remove from the internet than do support.
- Filter out people that won't stick around?
- Reward “net-positive” contributors. **With what?**

What's in a plugin?



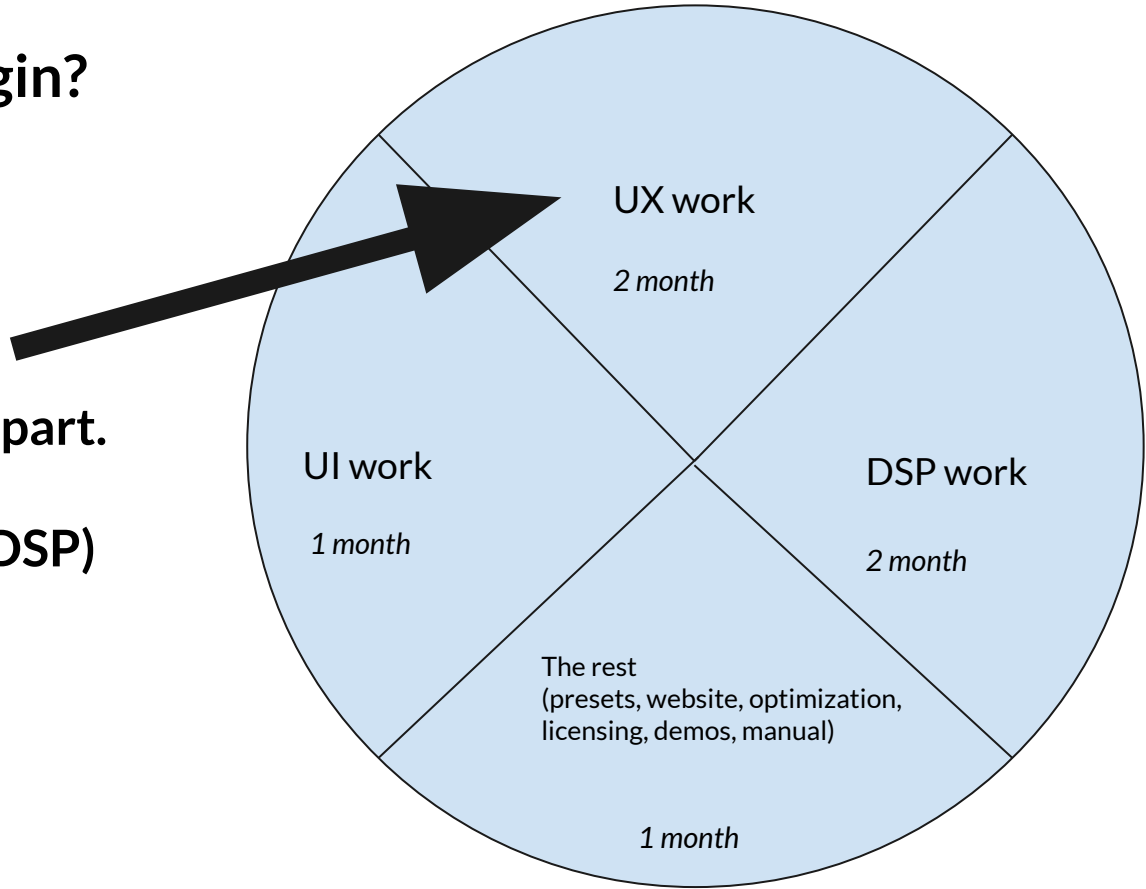
in mythical man-months.



What's in a plugin?



**UX typically
the most valuable part.
(it's almost never DSP)**



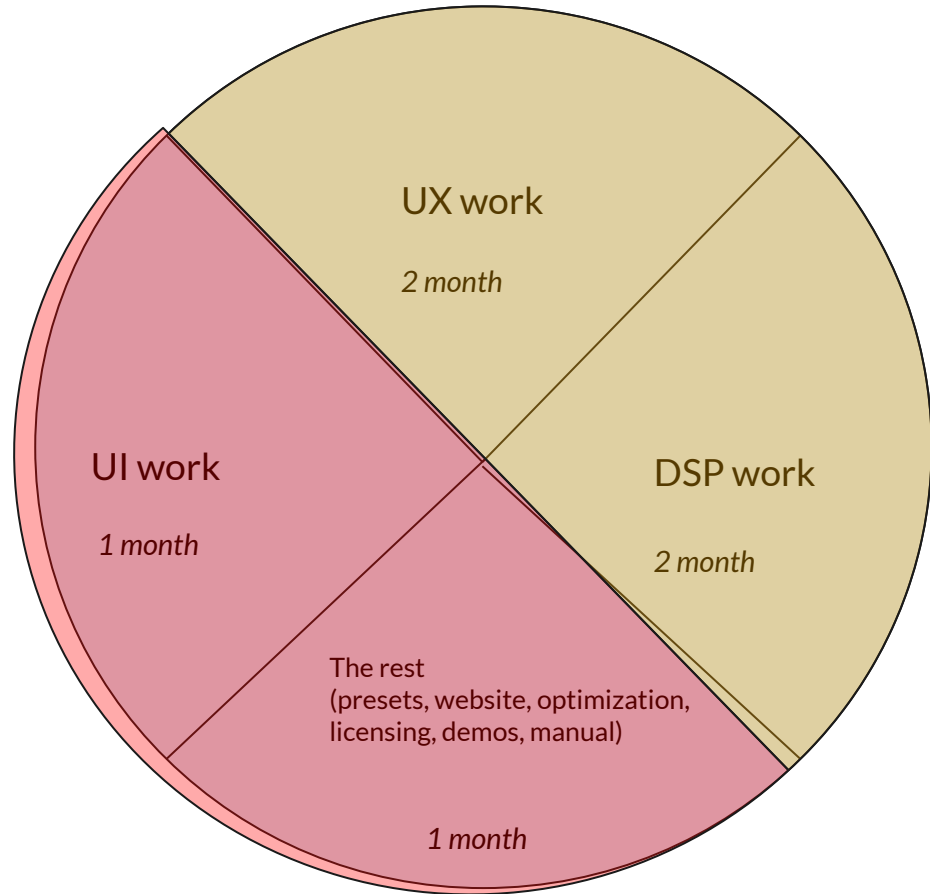
What's in a plugin?



Kinda reusable but often very specific

Very specific and **not** reusable.

=> the very reusable parts are in the framework in the first place.



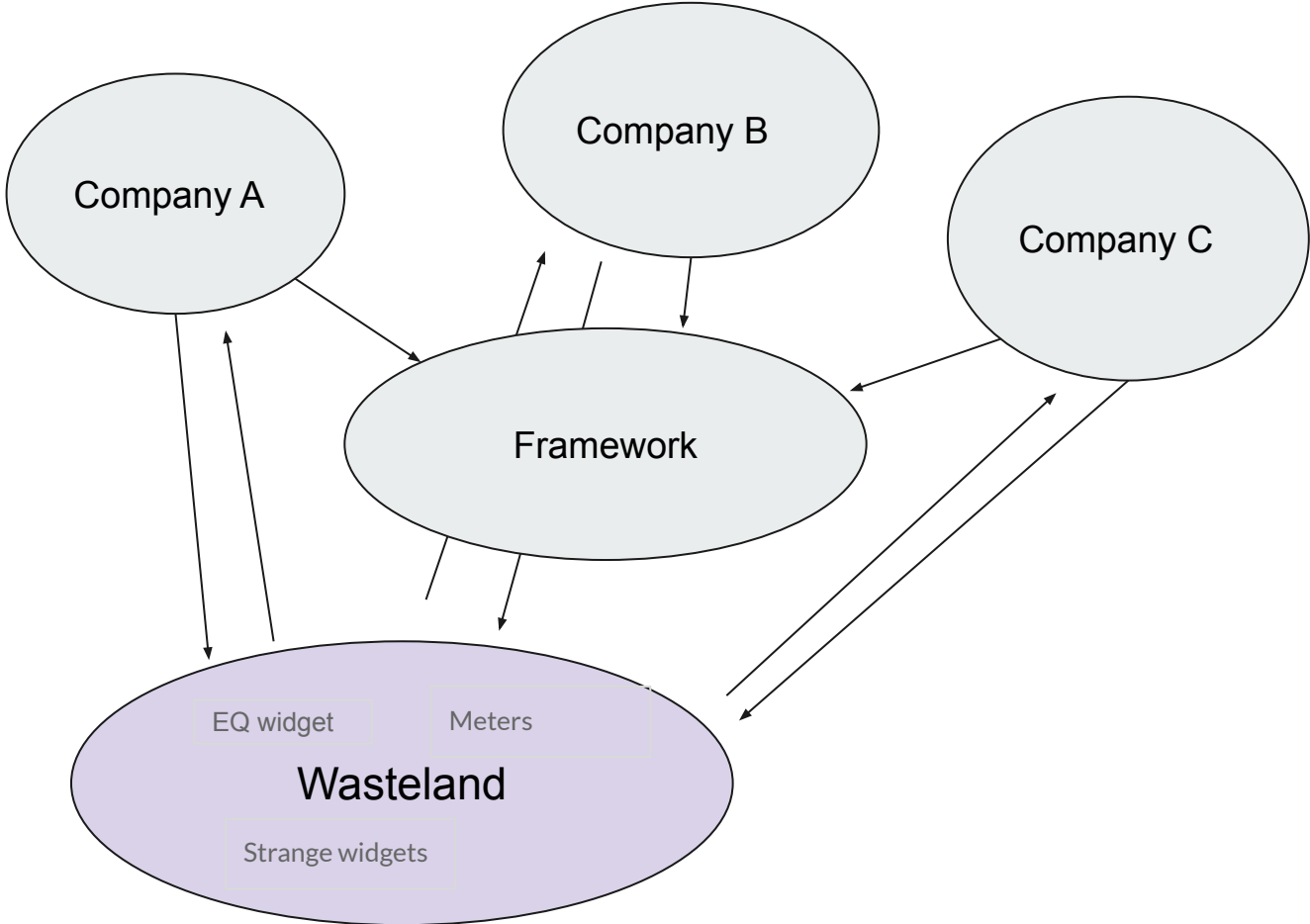
An idea: the Wasteland

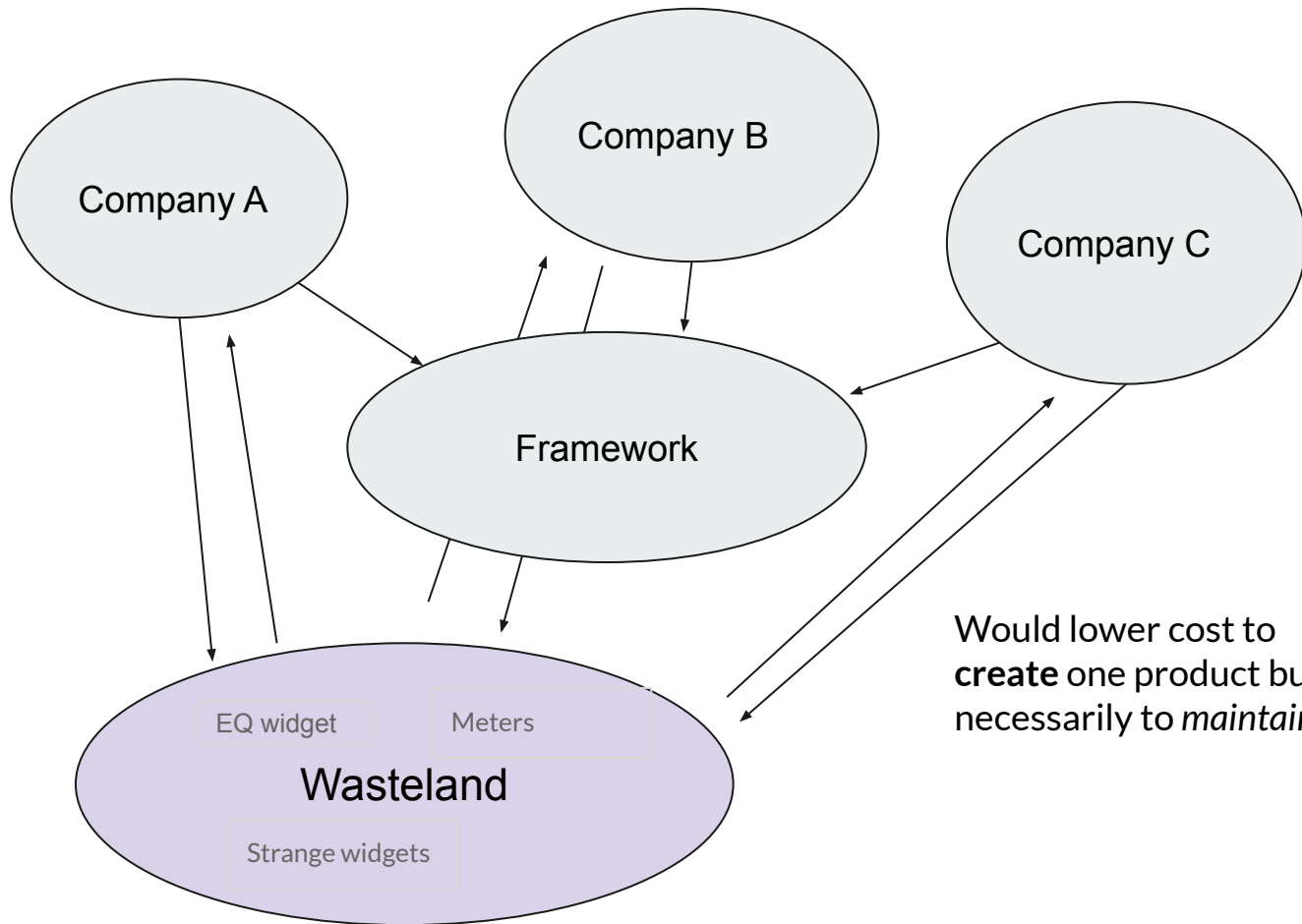


- A collection of widgets / UIElement (UX)
 - No context
 - **No questions asked**
 - **No maintenance** from anyone.
 - It doesn't even compile.
 - Just a drop of a file from private projects with a licence header.
- Opened to anyone that stuck around for a while with net positive contributions. Free of charge but very closed.
- (Licensing up to copyright holder.)
- Not sure for DSP, since everyone like to do its own.
The world doesn't really benefit from stock standard DSP.

Goals:


- time to market
- share know-how
- reward sticking around
- act as missing tutorials
- **contributions that don't take maintenance effort!**





Would lower cost to **create** one product but not necessarily to *maintain* one.

Conditions for Wasteland access

- 
- **1. Commitment** = have a commercial product based upon Dplug on the market, since **one year**.
 - **2. Net-positive** contributions. **No support questions** except legal. It is just disallowed.
 - **3. No known sweatshops**. Access revoked at first sign of worker mistreatment.

In short:

Have both the “Dplug User” and “Plugin Vendor” badge on Discord.
Special Discord channel = #wasteland
Access granted to wasteland repository.
Same for dplug-aax.
Incentivize giving back **how?**



What do you think?