

Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

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Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

Good news (1):

- Use of Free Source Software in public institutions around the world increases quickly
 - ministries
 - government agencies
 - city administrations
 - schools



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Good news (1):

- Use of Free Source Software in public institutions around the world increases quickly
- KDE: 10% of all European public institutions (and growing)
 - French parliament
 - Munich
 - German federal and country ministries
 - Many schools throughout Europe



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Good news (1):

- Use of Free Source Software in public institutions around the world increases quickly





Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

Good news (2):

- Awareness for people with disabilities increases steadily
 - blind students in school or university
 - citizens with disabilities in public libraries
 - government employees with disabilities



Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

Good news (2):

- Awareness for people with disabilities increases steadily
- More and more laws that force the state to only buy accessible computers
 - United States
 - European Union
 - European member states (e.g. Germany, Great Britain, Norway)



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Good news (2):

→ Awareness for people with disabilities
increases steadily

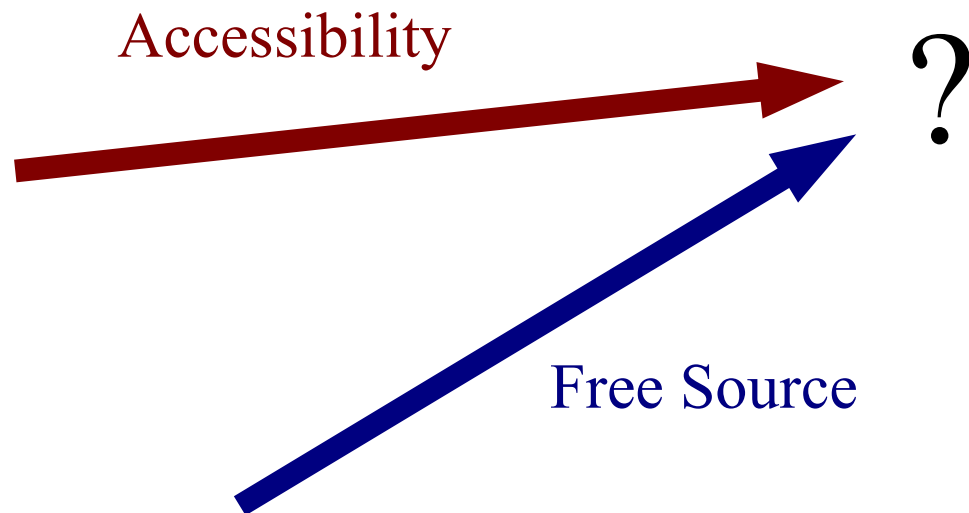
Accessibility





Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

2 x Good news = ?

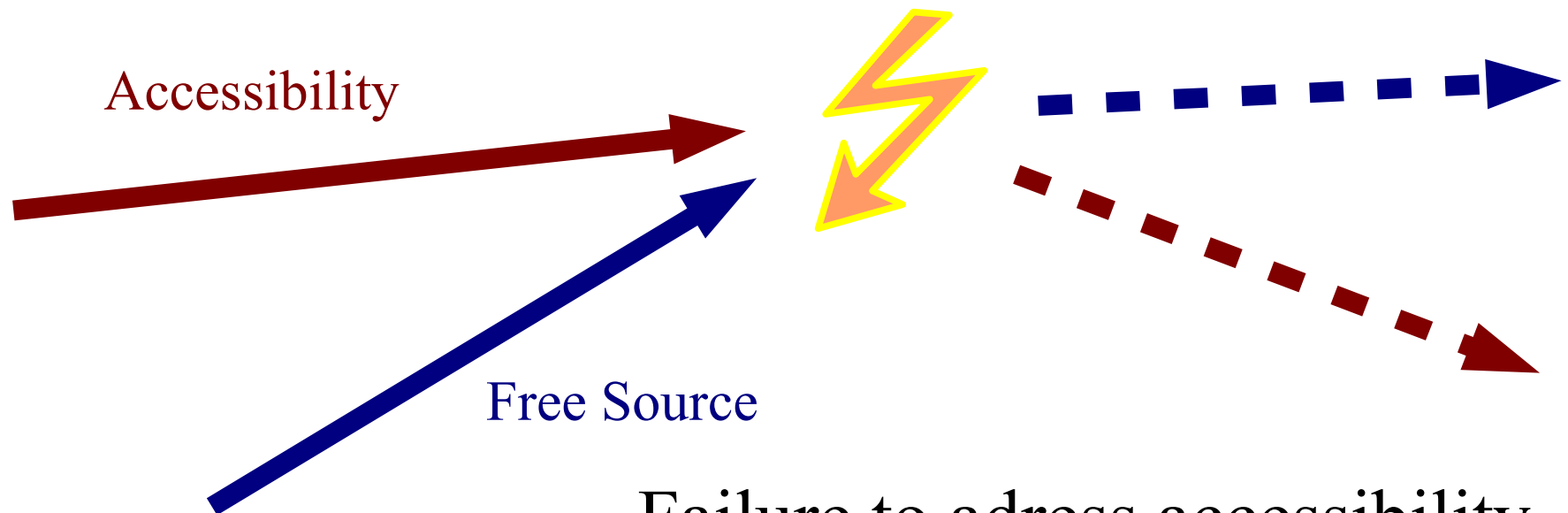




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2 x Good news = Bad news for both?

→ People with disabilities losing their jobs
(PR nightmare waiting to happen)



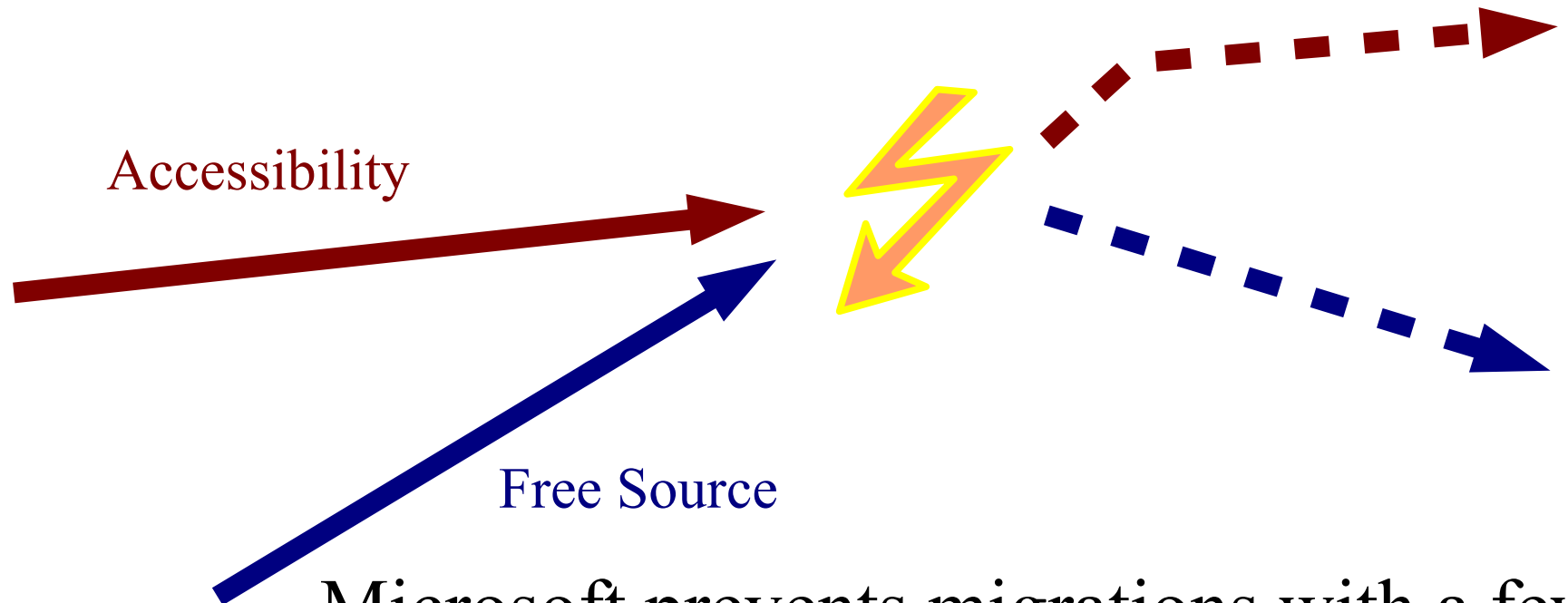
Failure to address accessibility
slows down KDE migrations



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2 x Good news = Good news for Microsoft?

→ Accessibility as defense for Microsoft



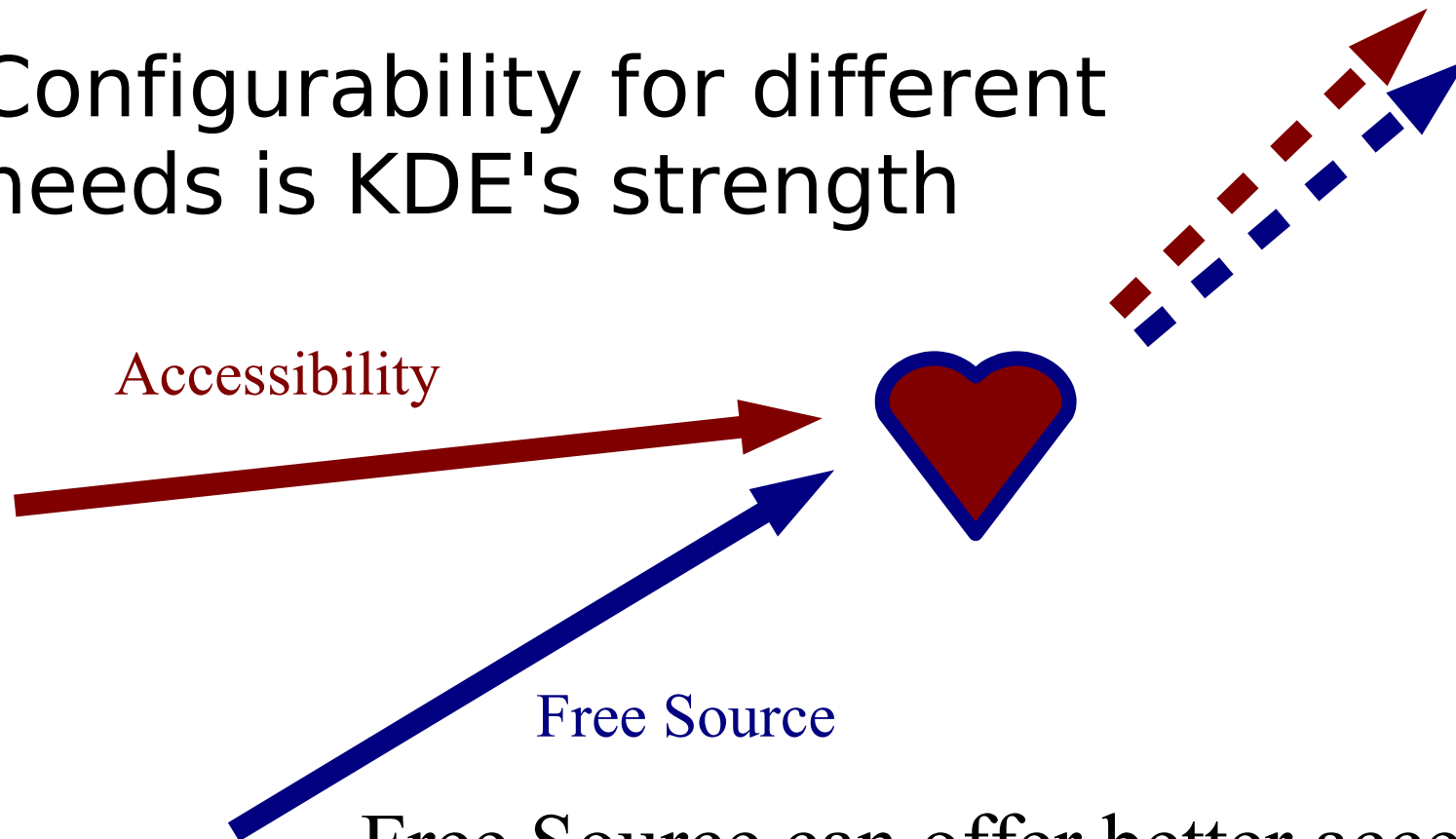
Microsoft prevents migrations with a few accessibility improvements and a lot of PR



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2 x Good news = Really good news?

→ Configurability for different needs is KDE's strength



Free Source can offer better accessibility
than closed systems (if done right)



Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

LinuxFoundation:

- Merger of OSDL and Free Standards Group (FSG)



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LinuxFoundation:

- Merger of OSDL and Free Standards Group (FSG)
- Linux Standards Base (LSB):
 - atk (Accessible ToolKit, used by gtk, OpenOffice.org, Firefox)
 - Qt Accessibility



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LinuxFoundation:

- Merger of OSDL and Free Standards Group (FSG)
- Linux Standards Base (LSB)
- OpenAccessibility workgroup
 - IBM, Red Hat, SUN/GNOME, KDE/Trolltech, some Windows accessibility companies



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Upcoming accessibility standards:

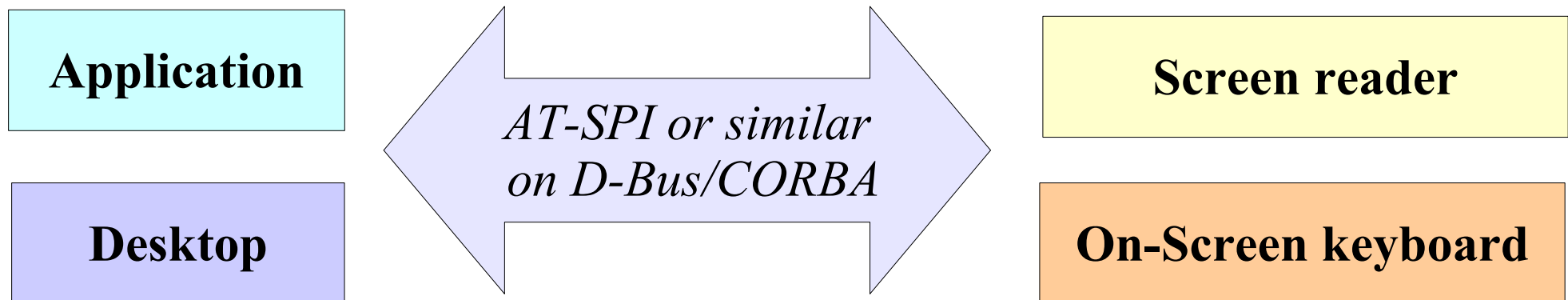
- Keyboard accessibility (already supported by KDE for a long time)



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Upcoming accessibility standards:

- Keyboard accessibility (already supported by KDE for a long time)
- Long-term: AT-SPI or similar





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Simple things to keep in mind

1. No fixed sizes

- Users with low vision need bigger sizes to see and read the content
- People have different screens



Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

Simple things to keep in mind

1. No fixed sizes
2. No fixed time-outs
 - Some people need more time to respond



Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

Simple things to keep in mind

1. No fixed sizes
2. No fixed time-outs
3. Easy keyboard navigation for everything
 - Some people cannot use mice
 - Power users are quicker with the keyboard
 - Some people need on-screen keyboards etc.



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Simple things to keep in mind

1. No fixed sizes
2. No fixed time-outs
3. Easy keyboard navigation for everything
4. No hard-coded colours
 - Colour scheme system improved in KDE 4.0
 - Further improvements planned for KDE 4.x



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KColorScheme

→ How to get a text color

– `KColorScheme::foreground (role)`
offers 8 colours

- `NormalText`
- `InactiveText`, `ActiveText`
- `LinkText`, `VisitedText`
- `NegativeText`, `NeutralText`, `PositiveText`



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KColorScheme

- How to get a text color
- How to get a background color
 - `KColorScheme::background (role)` or
`KColorUtils::tint (bgColor, textColor)`



Why accessibility bugs harm KDE and how to get rid of them

KColorScheme

- How to get a text color
- How to get a background color
- Background images
 - Only show the default background image if `KGlobalSettings::allowDefaultBackgroundImages()` returns true



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Questions?

