

# What Free Software Means to GLEON

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GLEON 8

# Ambitious Plan

- “A global network of automated lake observatories, each collecting and transferring data in near real time, is within our grasp in the next decade”
- How can we best accomplish this?

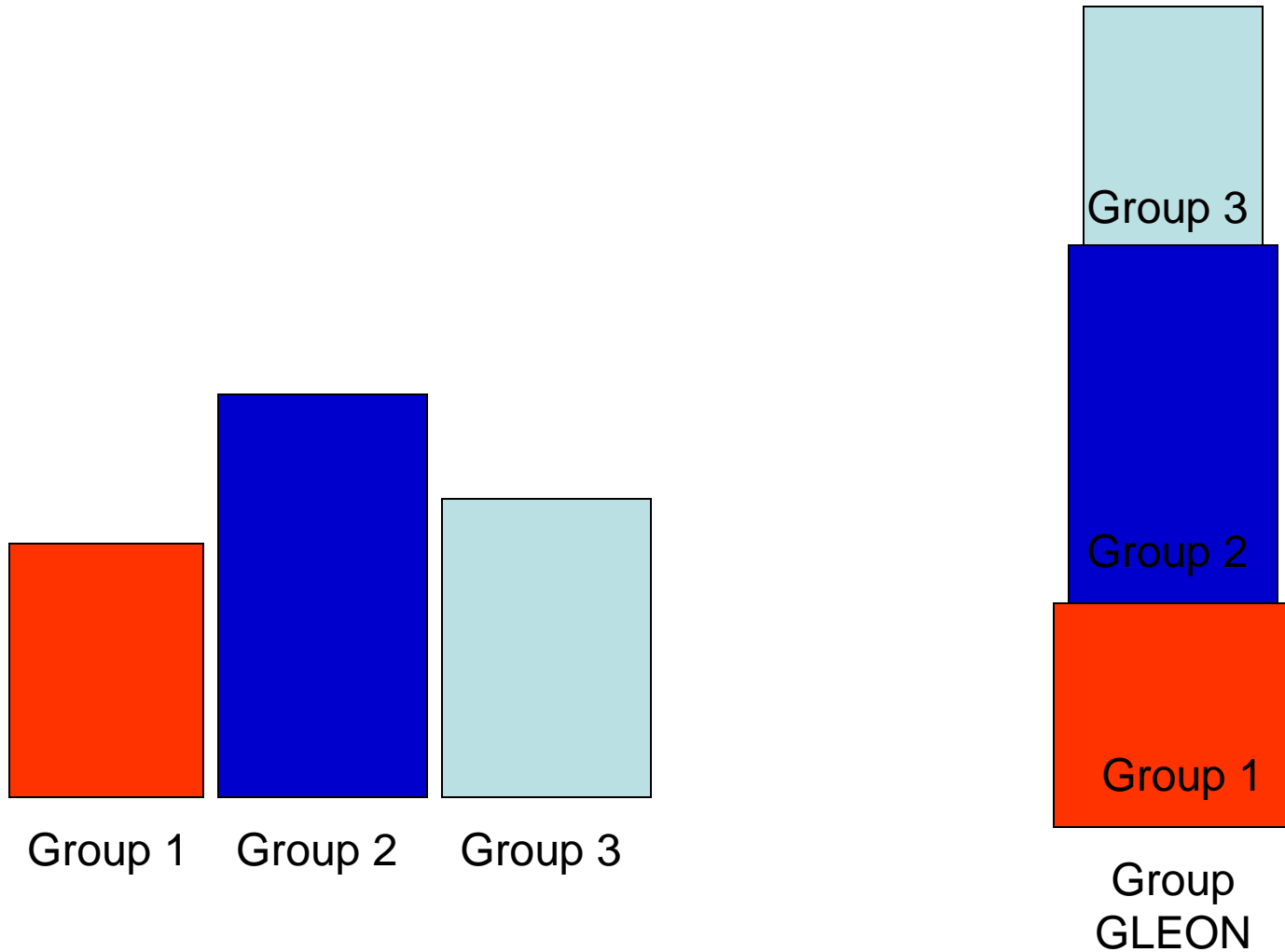
# Funding

- One group - unlikely get enough funding to accomplish all goals
- GLEON as group – harness all potential developers and testers
  - Increase developer collaboration and cyberinfrastructure sharing

# Adopt Free Software Model

- Free Software Model (Free as in Freedom)
  - Adopts scientific community approach to software development
    - Code (ideas) freely available and reusable
    - Encourages building and improving on the software (ideas) of others
  - Like sharing methods, lab, and staff
    - At no cost!

# Standing on the shoulders of giants



# Open Source/Free Software

- Open Source <> Free Software
- Free Software (Free as in Freedom)
  - Anyone can take, distribute, alter
  - Copyleft
- Open Source
  - Source code available
  - No further rights necessarily given

# Countless Examples

- R
- Firefox
- Thunderbird
  
- LakeAnalyzer was first success
  - Received feedback on schmidt stability calculation

# Half Baked Idea #2

- Parallels in GLEON
  - Grassroots organization
  - Grassroots data collection
  - Grassroots science
  - Grassroots QA/QC?



# Grassroots QA/QC

- Create a mechanism for all to contribute
  - Any potential issues marked
  - Those responsible for specific dataset notified
- Example
  - Chris finds and marks problem
  - Luke is notified
  - Examines data, confirms problem, adds additional description
  - Result: Better vetted data

# Next Steps

- Release as free all GLEON software
  - Very easy to do. Google code
- Encourage collaboration and sharing whenever possible
- Work on GLEON QA/QC system