Learning Dyalog APL:

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Opinion piece

20+ years Linux nerd

Autodidactism

Functionista...

Kinda.

Eye on sysops, SRE, infrastructure,
Putting out fires, etc.

Goal

Share personal experience

More apl!

Good

Free download

help.dyalog.com

APL Orchard

24/7 AskAdám

support@dyalog.com

apl.news

Top funnel

Bad

Documentation walled garden

Precise primitive semantics

Source-code first workflow

Finding the Iverson promise

- ▶ Economy of expression
- ▶ Suggestivity
- ▶ Subordination of detail
- ▶ Formal proofs

Intermediate-level resources

1. Noodle

2. Programming challenges

3. ???

4. PROFIT

Apprenticeship model

Apprentice → Journeyman → Master

Apprentice →   ???   → Master

My journey

Scholes and Hsu

Learn primitives

Furrow brow at 􏿽

Bother Adám infinite times

APL Quest

Et cetera

WALL

Just squiggly C#??

Pounce on the Hsu

Non-toy problem

Disconnect between code and holistics

Array munging

vs.

Array semantics

So how?

Incremental introduction

Emphasis on conceptual

Hand-holding

Apprenticeship model again

Return to autodidactism

Can we bridge the intermediate gap?

- ▶ Flesh out YAML parser

- ▶ Mansour-esque dev blogs

- ▶ Coreutils in APL?

- ▶ ...

Speak to autodidacts
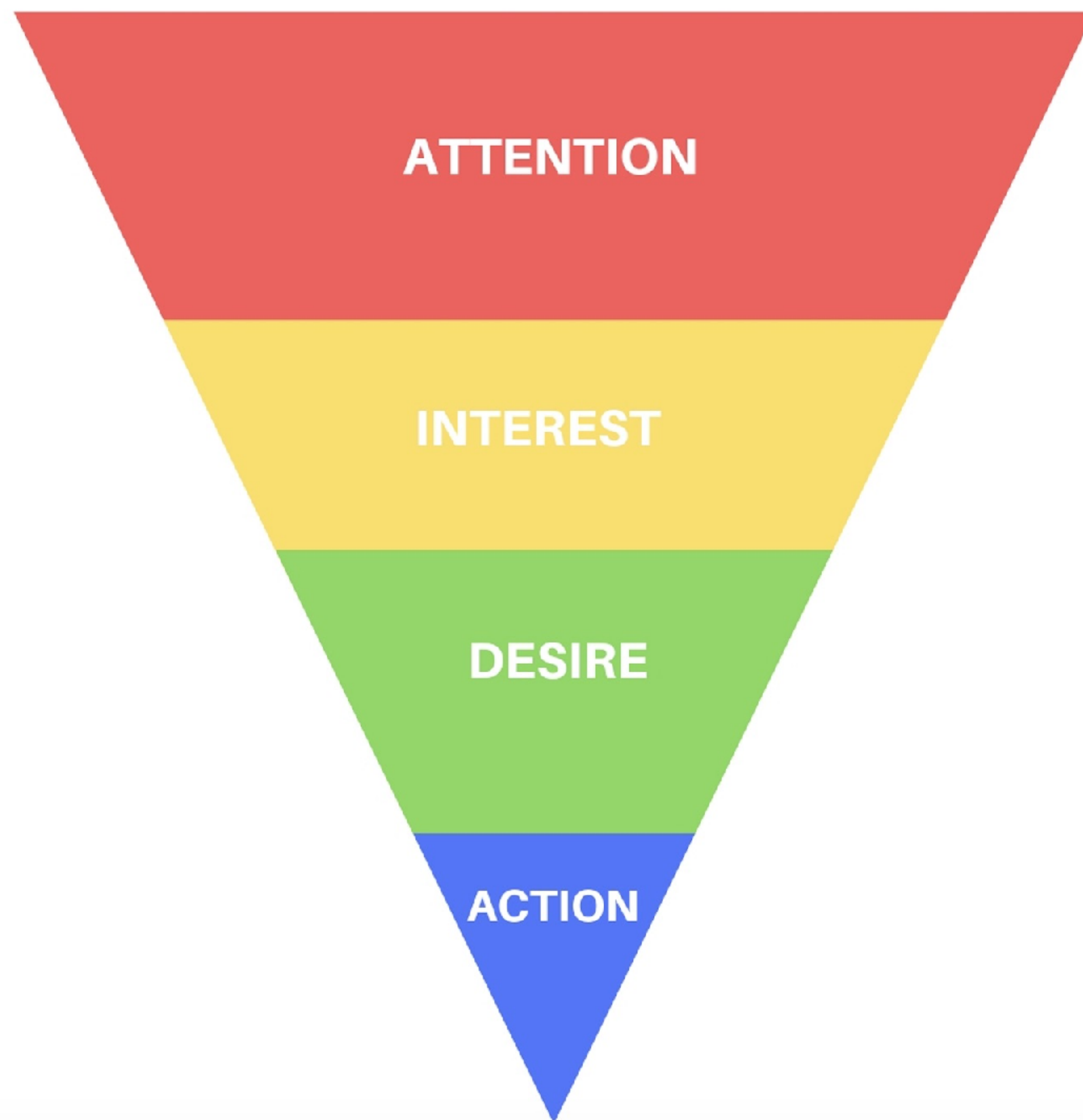
Nucleus of dev trends

Ugly

Linux packaging woes

Docker bugs

TTY quirks

SysOps Engineer tools

Libre and gratis competition

In Conclusion

Funnel entrance and exit is strong

Mid-funnel is leaky?

Tusind tak

Molte Grazie

Danke schön

Muchisimas Gracias

ありがとうございました