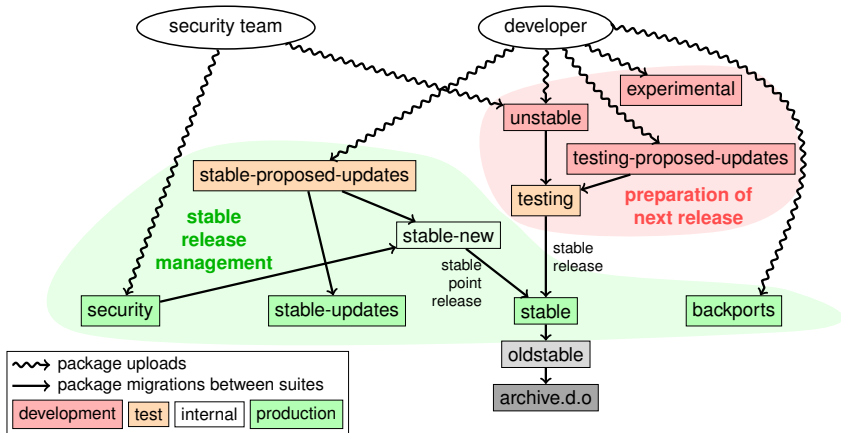


Debian archive and suites



Based on graph by Antoine Beaupré. <https://salsa.debian.org/debian/package-cycle>



Suites for development

- ▶ New versions of packages are uploaded to **unstable** (**sid**)
- ▶ Packages migrate from **unstable** to **testing** based on several criterias (e.g. has been in unstable for 10 days, and no regressions)
- ▶ New packages can also be uploaded to:
 - ▶ **experimental** (for more *experimental* packages, such as when the new version is not ready to replace the one currently in unstable)
 - ▶ **testing-proposed-updates**, to update the version in **testing** without going through **unstable** (this is rarely used)



Freezing and releasing

- ▶ At some point during the release cycle, the release team decides to *freeze* testing: automatic migrations from **unstable** to **testing** are stopped, and replaced by manual review
- ▶ When the release team considers **testing** to be ready for release:
 - ▶ The **testing** suite becomes the new **stable** suite
 - ▶ Similarly, the old **stable** becomes **oldstable**
 - ▶ Unsupported releases are moved to `archive.debian.org`
- ▶ See `https://release.debian.org/`



Stable release management

- ▶ Several suites are used to provide stable release packages:
 - ▶ **stable**: the main suite
 - ▶ **security** updates suite provided on `security.debian.org`, used by the security team. Updates are announced on the `debian-security-announce` mailing list
 - ▶ **stable-updates**: updates that are not security related, but that should urgently be installed (without waiting for the next point release): antivirus databases, timezone-related packages, etc. Announced on the `debian-stable-announce` mailing list
 - ▶ **backports**: new upstream versions, based on the version in **testing**
- ▶ The **stable** suite is updated every few months by *stable point releases* (that include only bug fixes)
 - ▶ Packages targetting the next stable point release are uploaded to **stable-proposed-updates** and reviewed by the release team
- ▶ The **oldstable** release has the same set of suites

