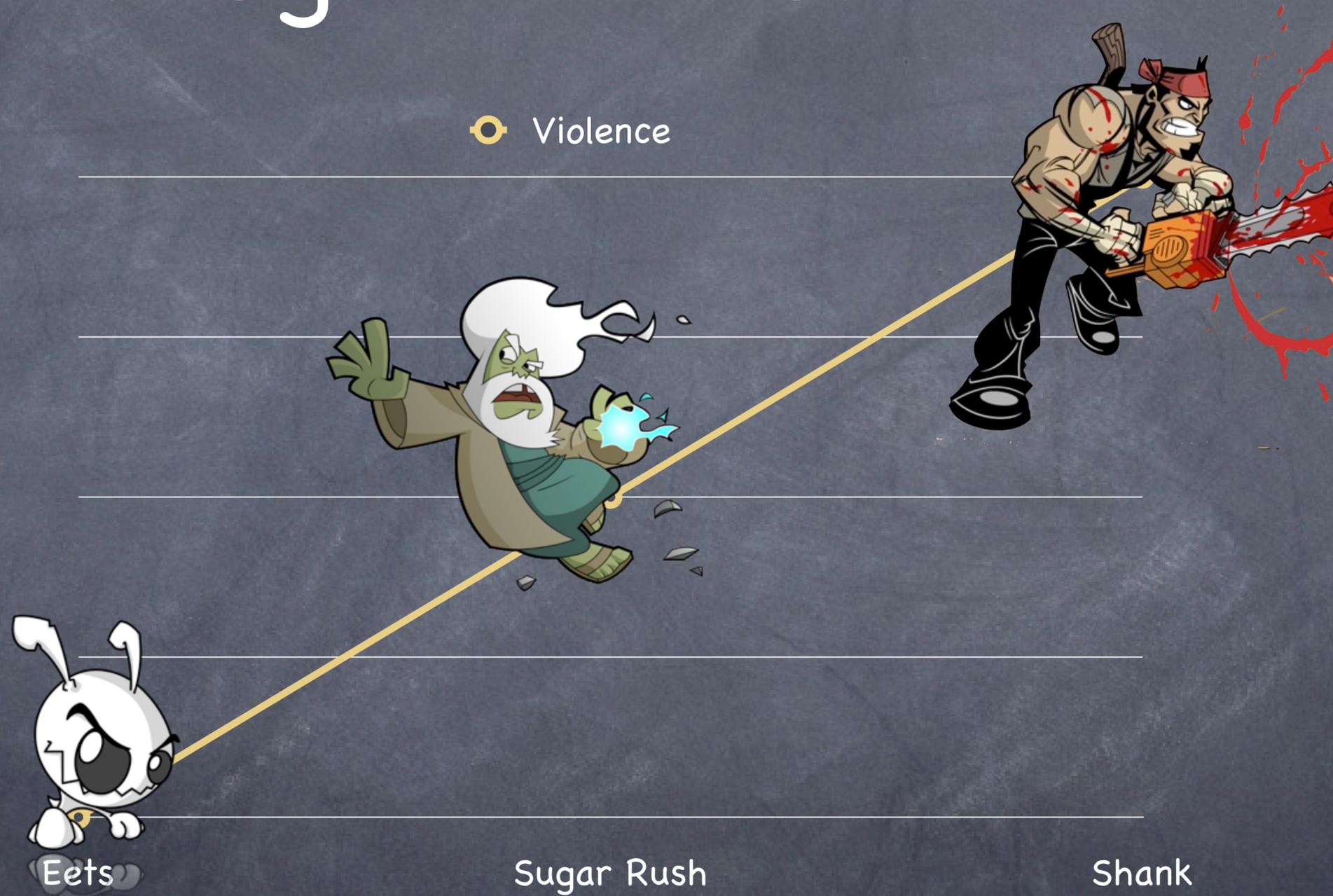


The Journey to Creating Shank

Progressive violence

⦿ Violence



Eets

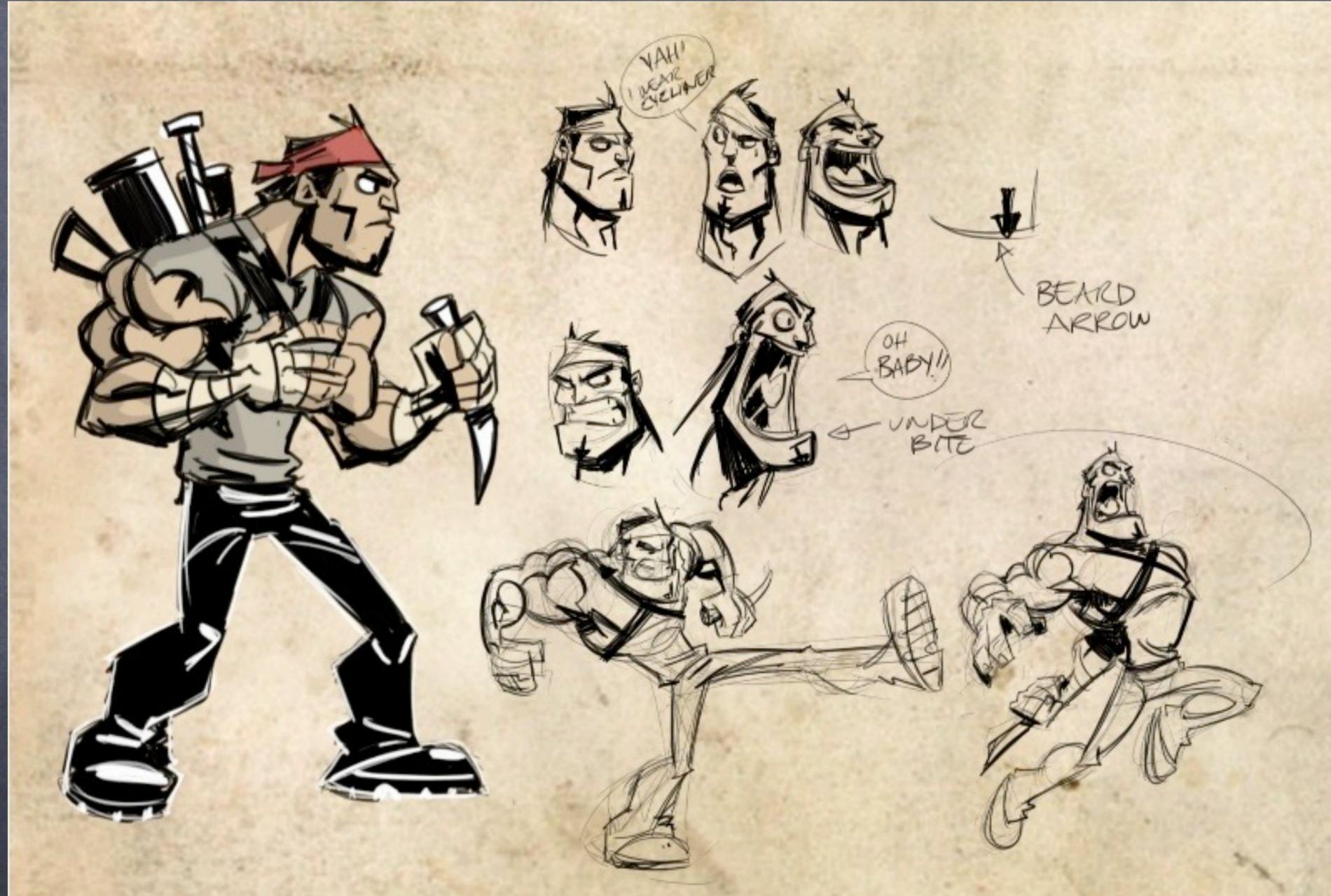
Sugar Rush

Shank

[object StateAttack]



Character Design





PAX 2009

PAX 2009



Technically hard things

- PLAYSTATION 3 port --
nothing to ship in 4 months
- 2GB download
- Fragmentation on X360 --
lots of small files





Going for Broke!



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- Temporary, optional, employee wage reductions (with interest)



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- Shareholder loan
- Bank loan against assets



Going for Broke!

- Temporary, optional, employee wage reductions (with interest)
- Shareholder loan
- Bank loan against assets
- Responsibility both to staff and to the industry!

Other random fun things

Other random fun things

- 13 levels in 3 months
- Dishwashers...



Saturday, March 5, 2011

Cinematics

Cesar Mouth Charts



Notice how the storyboards end up just being scribbles as we run out of time...

SCENE **466**

BG



SCENE

BG



SCENE **468**

BG



SCENE **472**

BG



SCENE **473**

BG



474



Post-launch data



Completed Normal Mode -- 30.03%
Completed Co-op Mode -- 15.68%
Completed Hard Mode -- 1.69%

Average Session Duration -- 56 minutes

Conversion rate on XBLA -- 26.00%

Game Download Size -- 2GB

Aggressive Vs. Defensive players

Publisher Relations

Less Good

Good

Publisher Relations

Less Good

Good

- Arbitrary Deadline
- "Olde style" PR
- Consumer expectations
- Possibly reduced upside

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Less Good

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- Consumer expectations
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Good

- Creative Freedom
- "True" support
- Multiplatform
- Marketing
- Reduced Risk
- Less platform requirements

How'd we do?



How'd we do?

- Sold more in the first 24 hours than Eets:
Chowdown did lifetime



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How'd we do?

- Sold more in the first 24 hours than Eets: Chowdown did lifetime
- XBLA reported 41,000 units in the first week
- Respectable and profitable for everyone
- Multiplatform release was key for profitability



Overview of Shank



- Prototyping (3 months)
- Tools (9 months)
- . . . (6 months)
- Ship it!

Thoughts on the future...

- The best breakout hits in the console downloadable space are making < \$10m in profit, and there are comparably low number of games.
- The platforms really need to push the numbers upward and keep adding great features if they want this space supported and working in the long run.
- King Making is a double-edged sword... what's needed is a way to create real hits without King Making -- virtually all the top games have been either supported by IP or the platform.
- We need more ways to promote games organically.
Recommendations, gifting, most played last week, more games on one page, etc.

Abundance Mentality

Saturday, March 5, 2011

It's not just indies

Steam and iOS don't care about exclusivity -- they know they're going to make more money if it's on more systems, not less!

Steam doesn't care about giving out free codes