



Maintaining Traceability Links with Cha-Q's MaTraca

Presenters: Angela Lozano, Tars Joris

Maintaining Traceability Links with Cha-Q's MaTraca



Angela Lozano

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Dependencies across technologies

Business logic

C#, Java, VB, PHP, Perl, Python,
Beans, Servlets, CGI, ASP.NET

Storage

SQL, NoSQL, Files

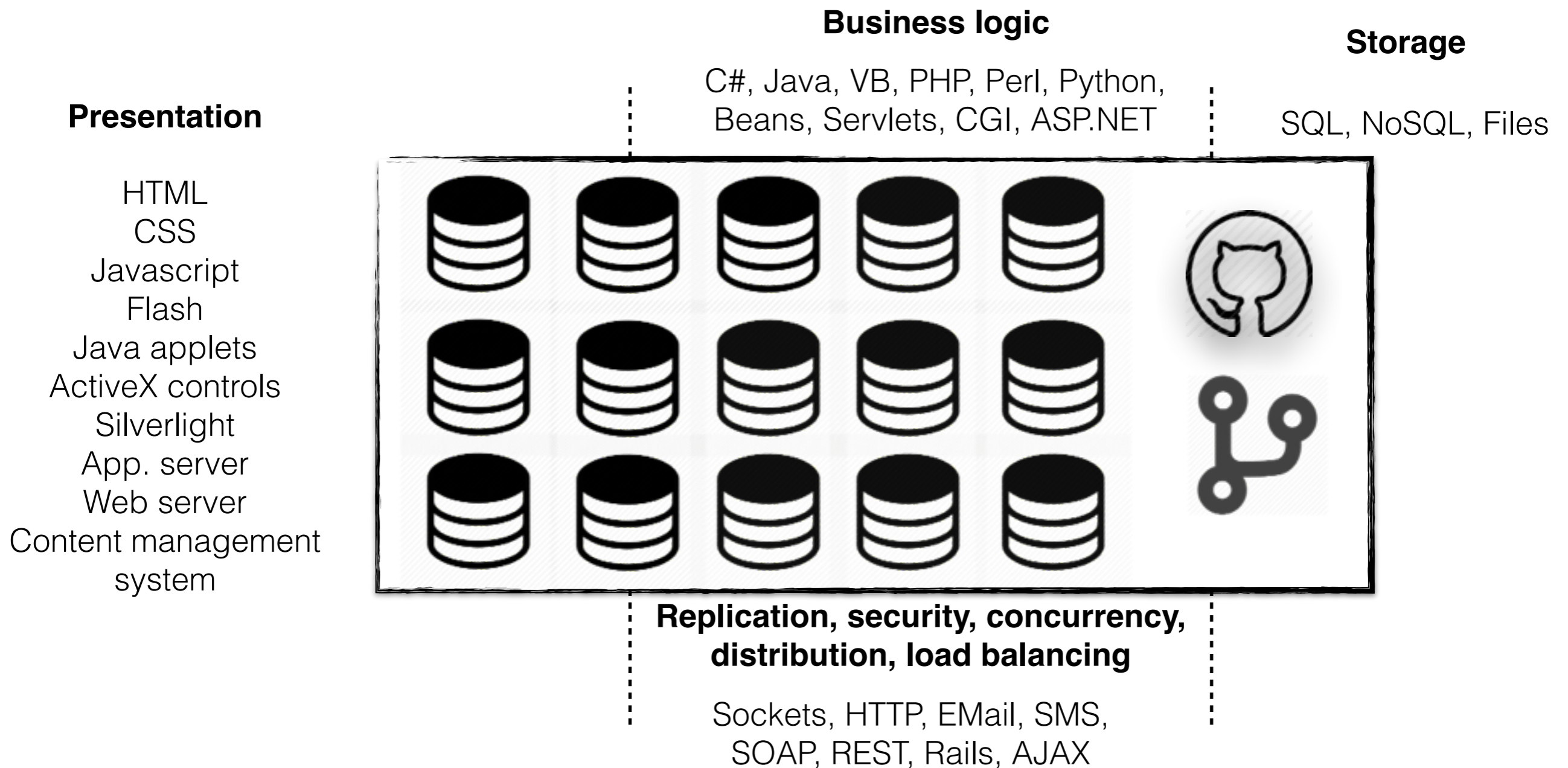
Presentation

HTML
CSS
Javascript
Flash
Java applets
ActiveX controls
Silverlight
App. server
Web server
Content management
system

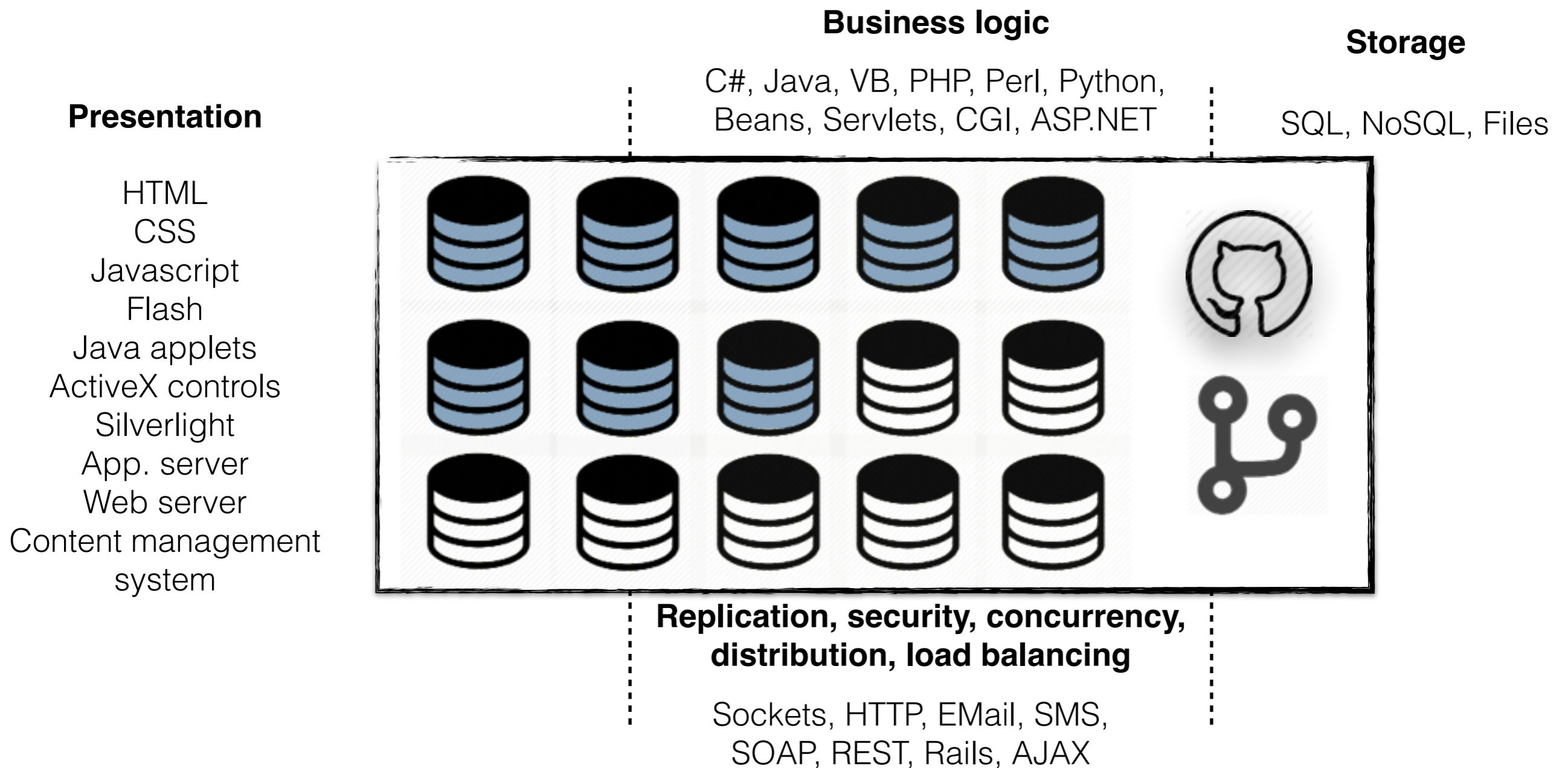
Replication, security, concurrency, distribution, load balancing

Sockets, HTTP, EMail, SMS,
SOAP, REST, Rails, AJAX

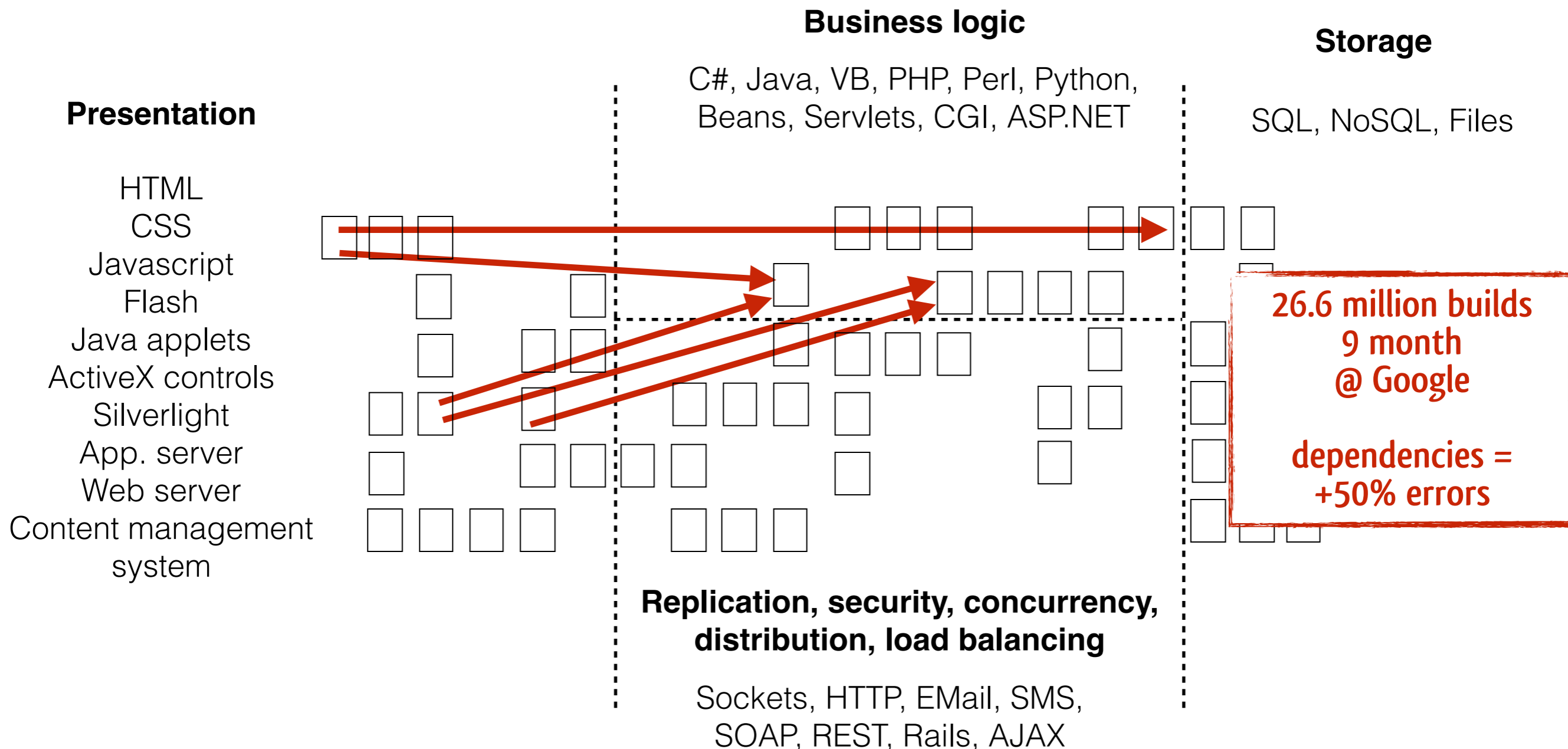
Dependencies across technologies



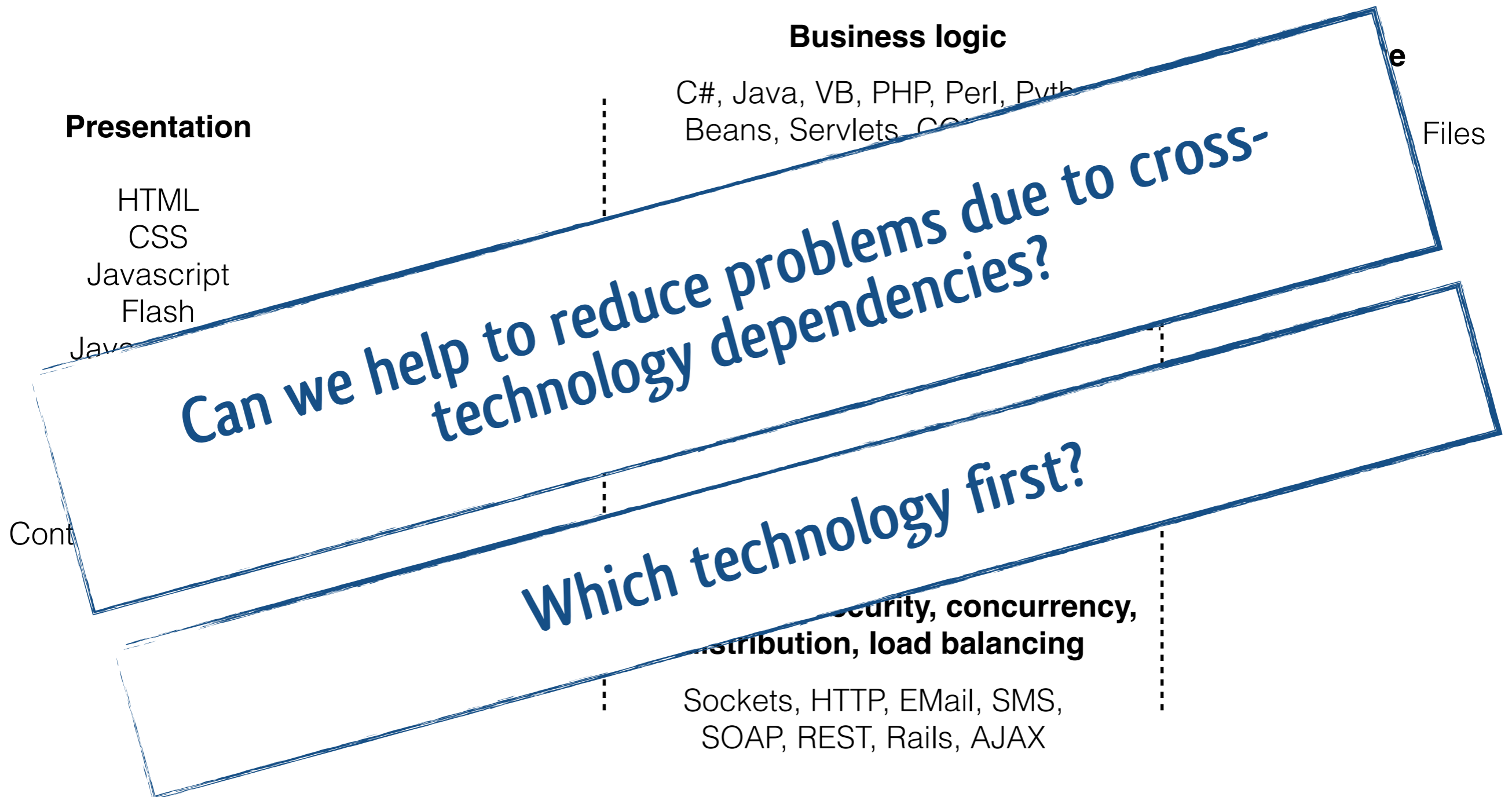
Dependencies across technologies



Dependencies across technologies



Dependencies across technologies



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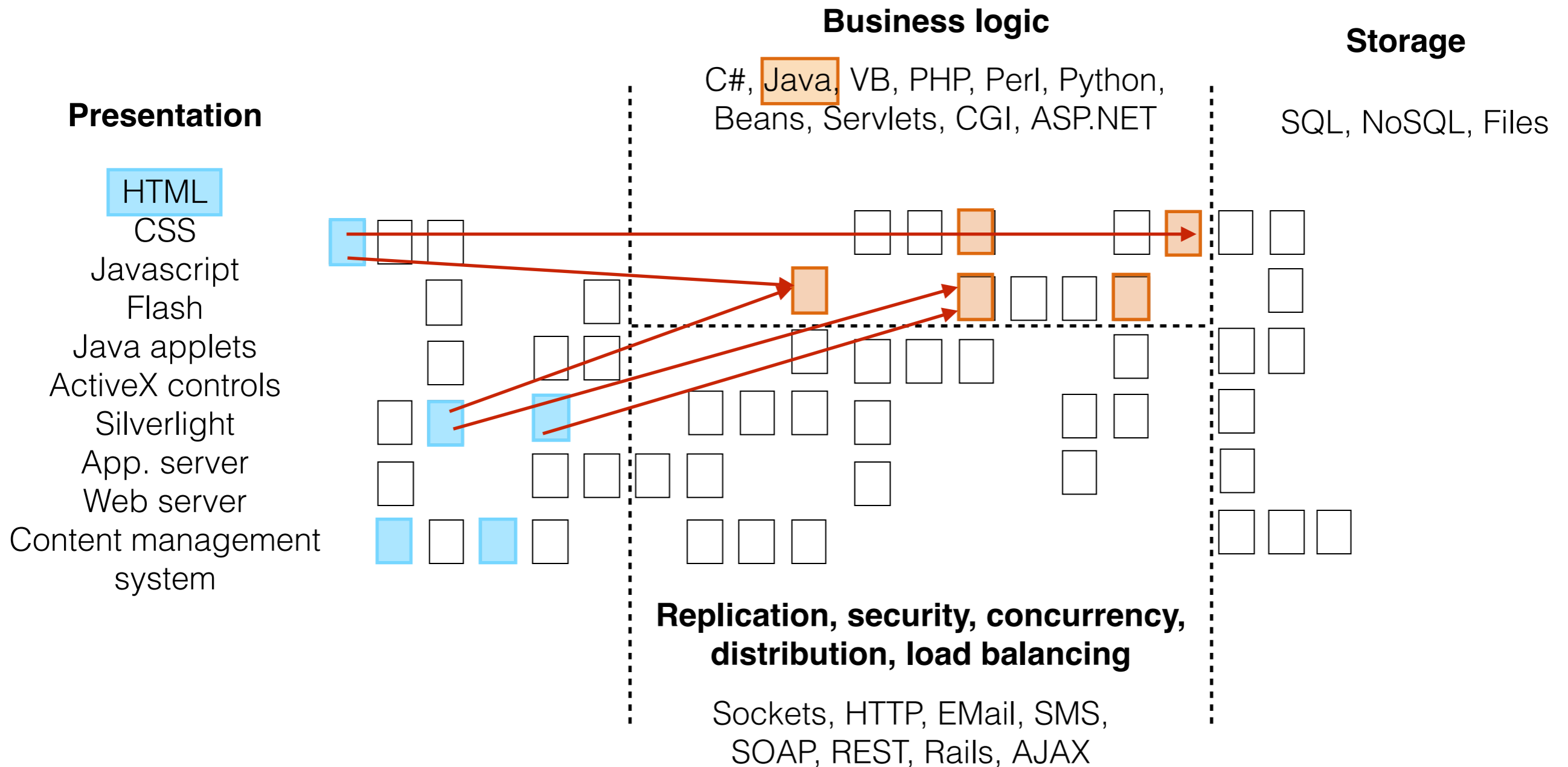


Tars Joris

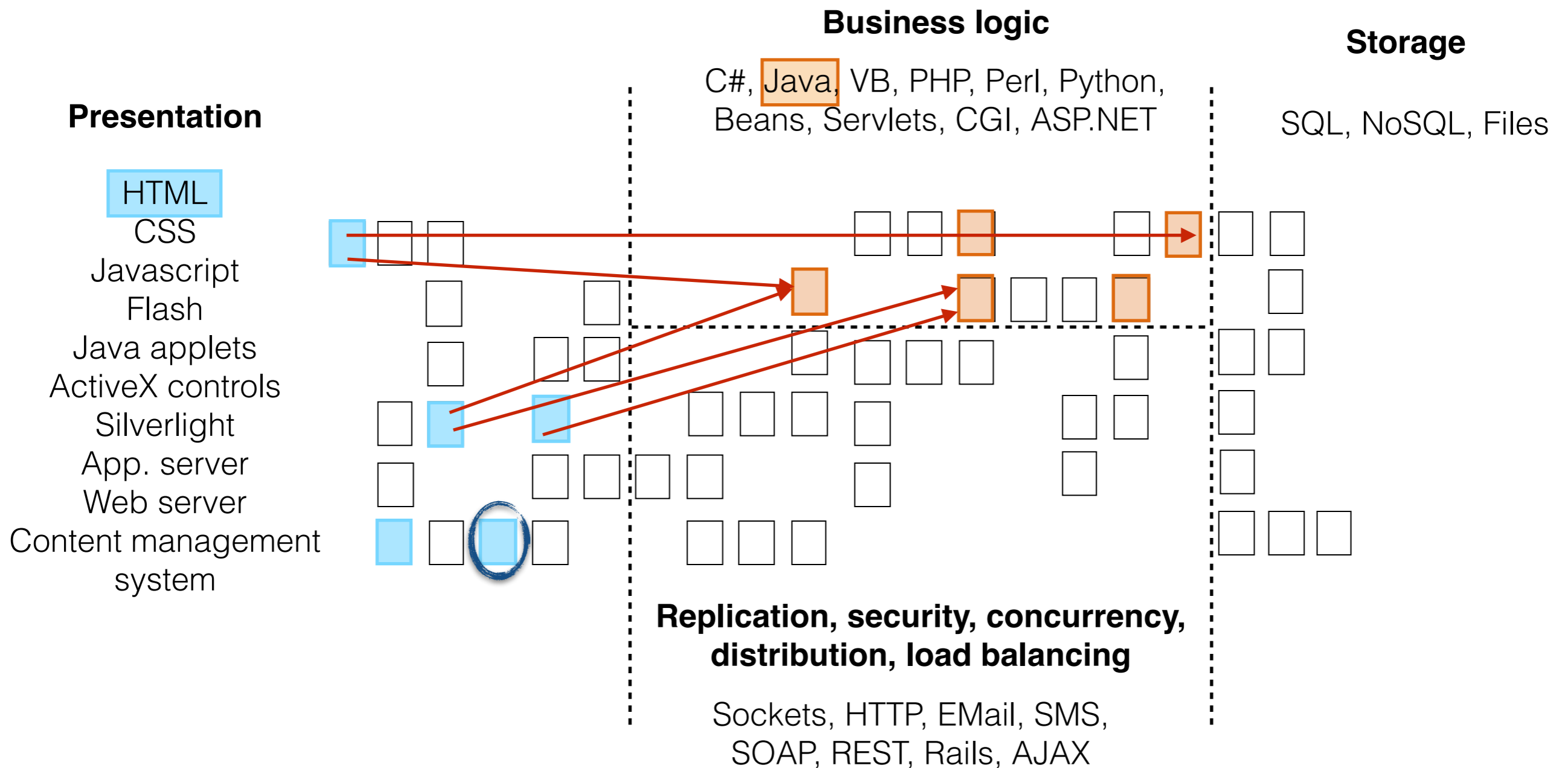
Scrum Master & Development Team Manager



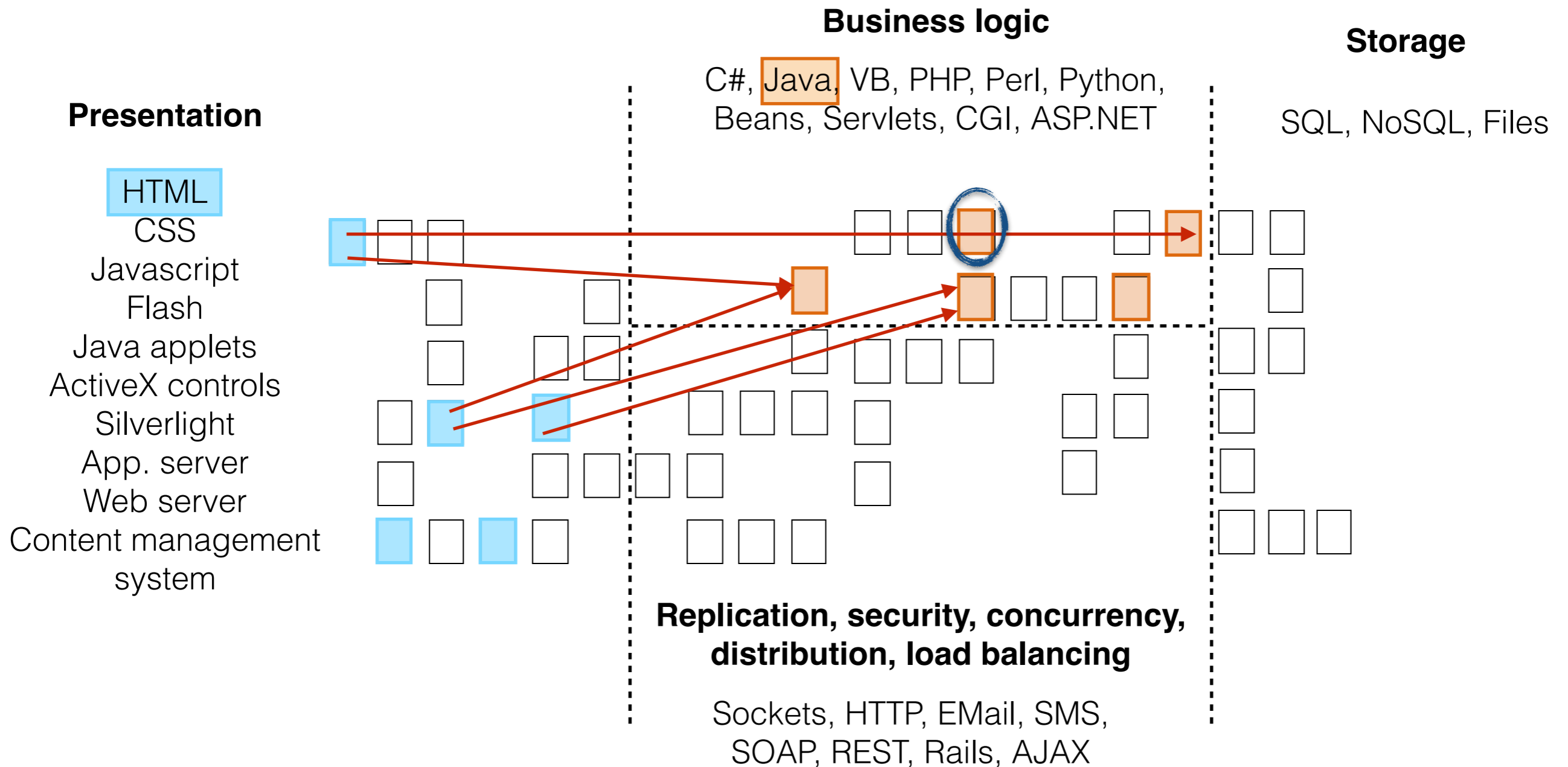
Dependencies across technologies



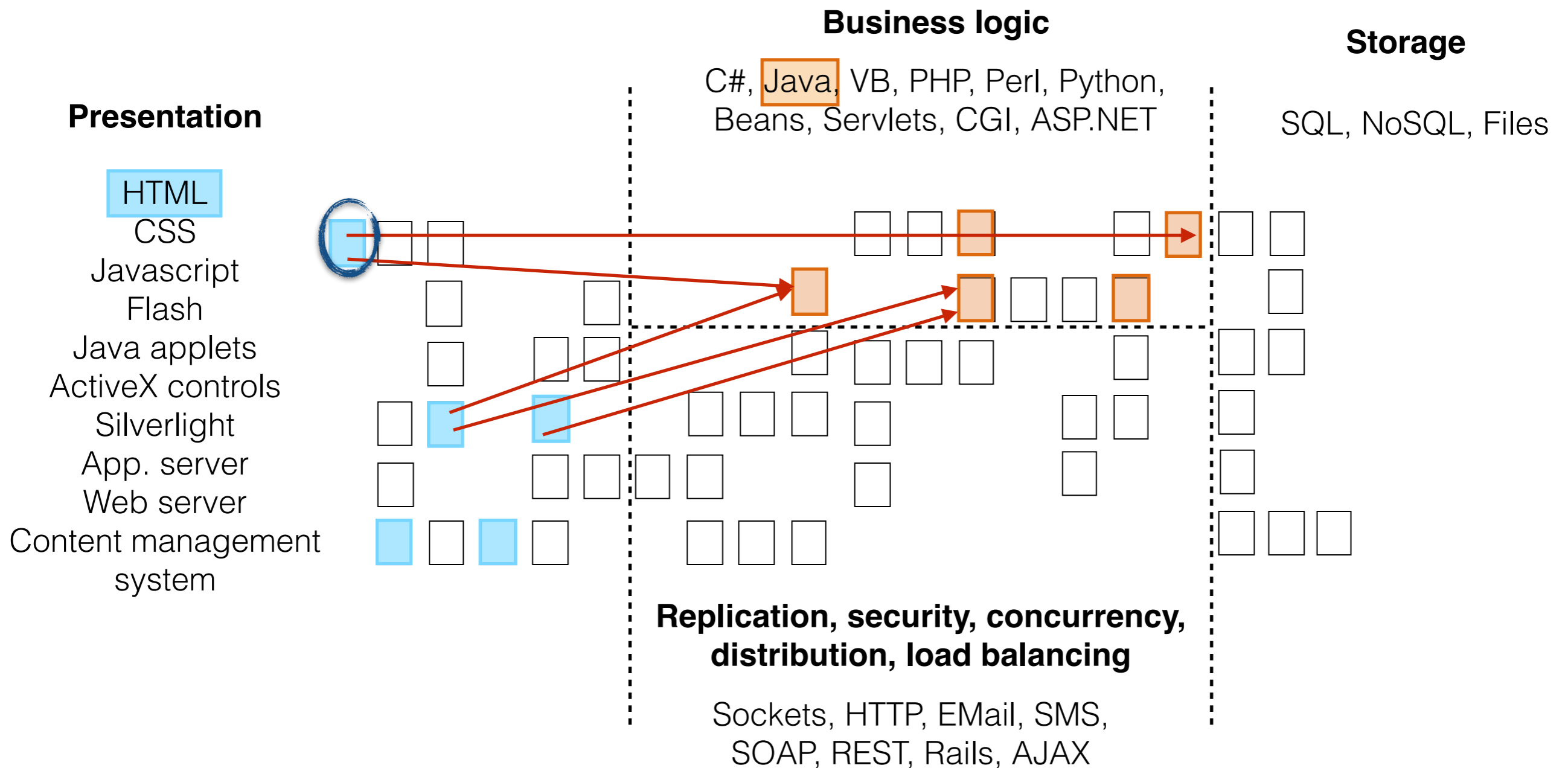
Dependencies across technologies



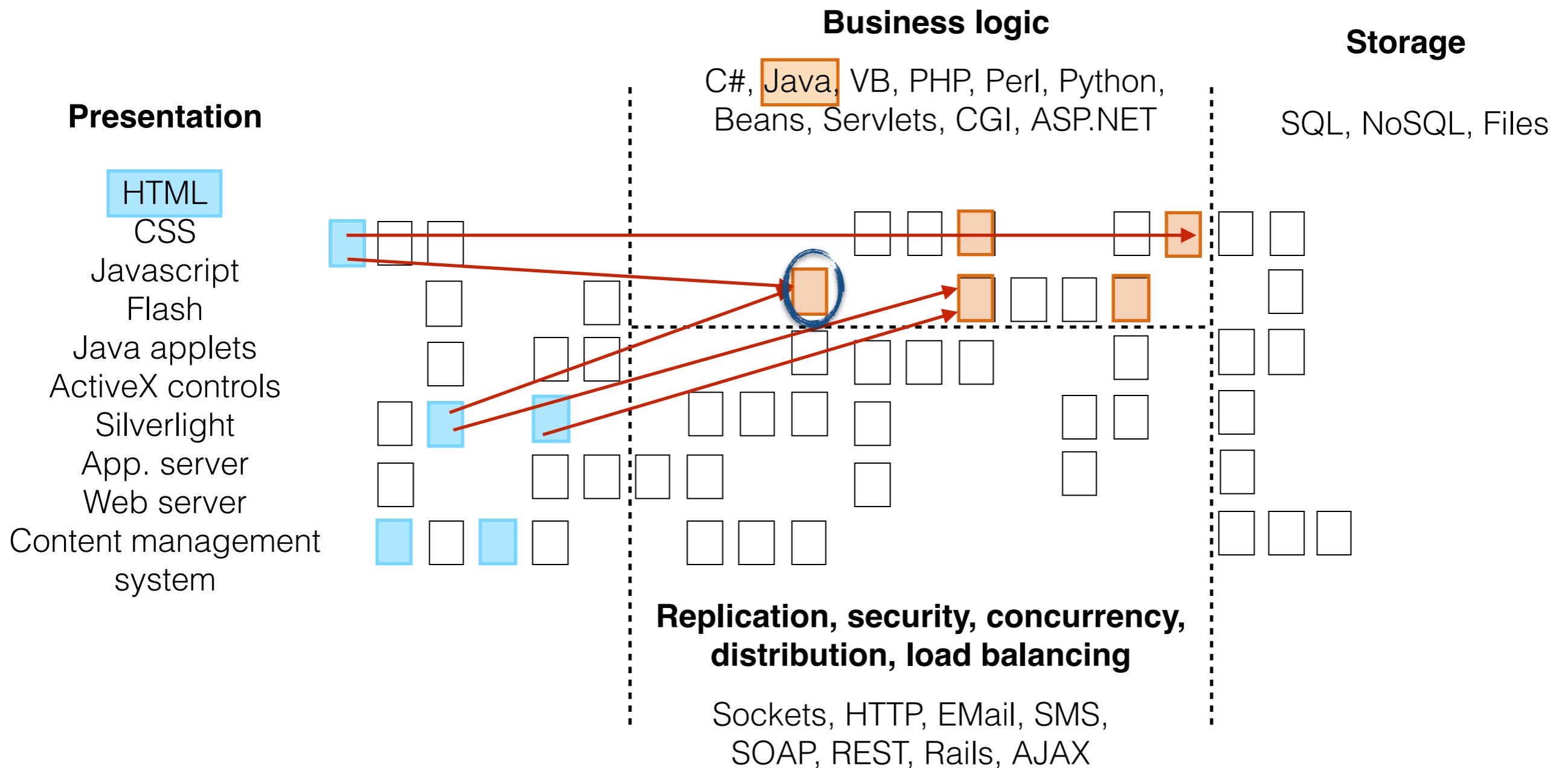
Dependencies across technologies



Dependencies across technologies



Dependencies across technologies



How it works?

java

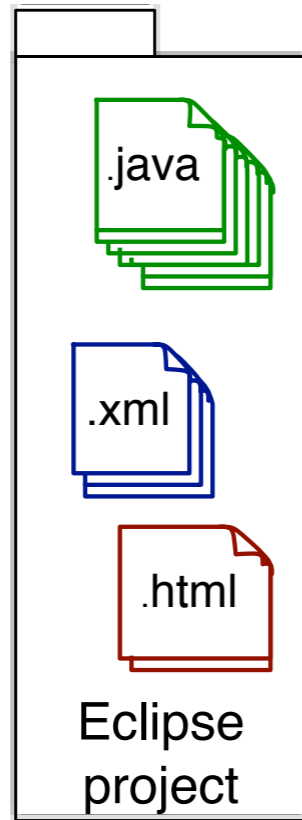
xml



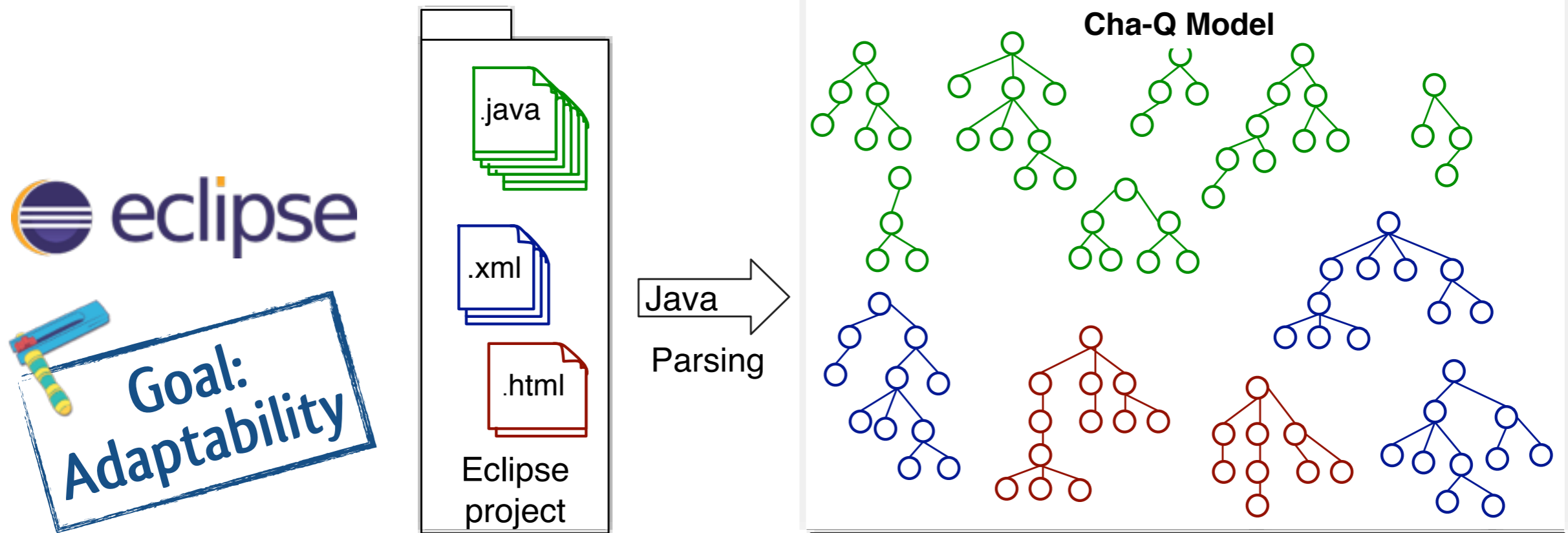
How it works?



**Goal:
Adaptability**



How it works?



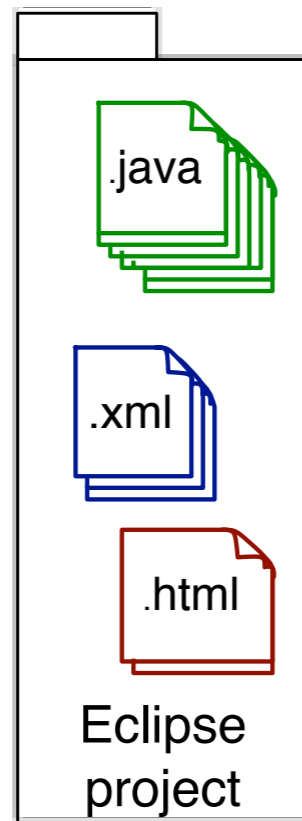
Cha-Q Model?:

Graph meta-model = querying of all source code entities.

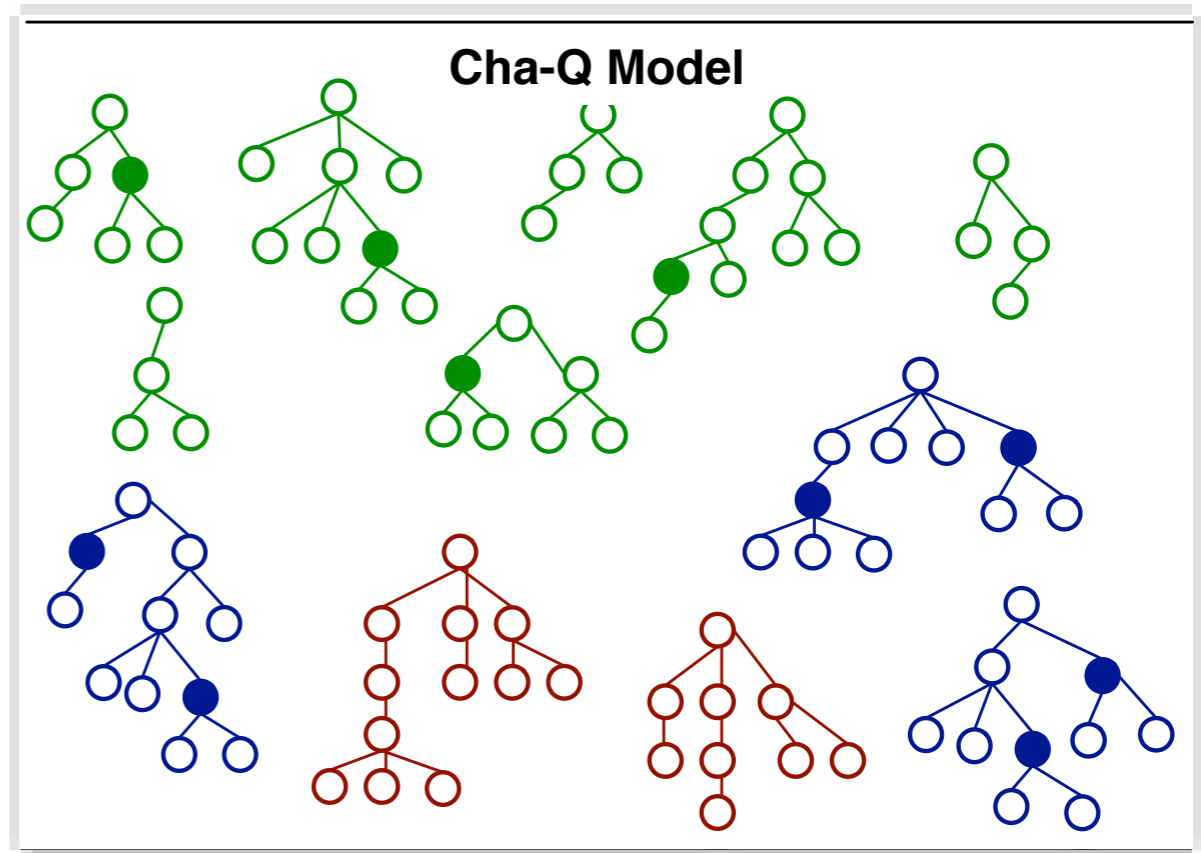
How it works?



Goal:
Adaptability



Clojure
Querying



Source implementation concerns & Target implementation concerns

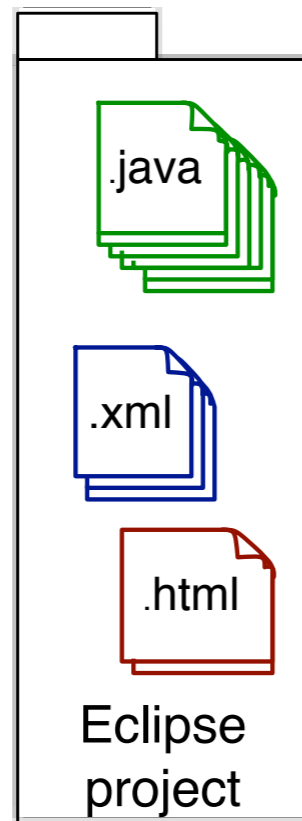
Cha-Q Model?:

Graph meta-model = querying of all source code entities.

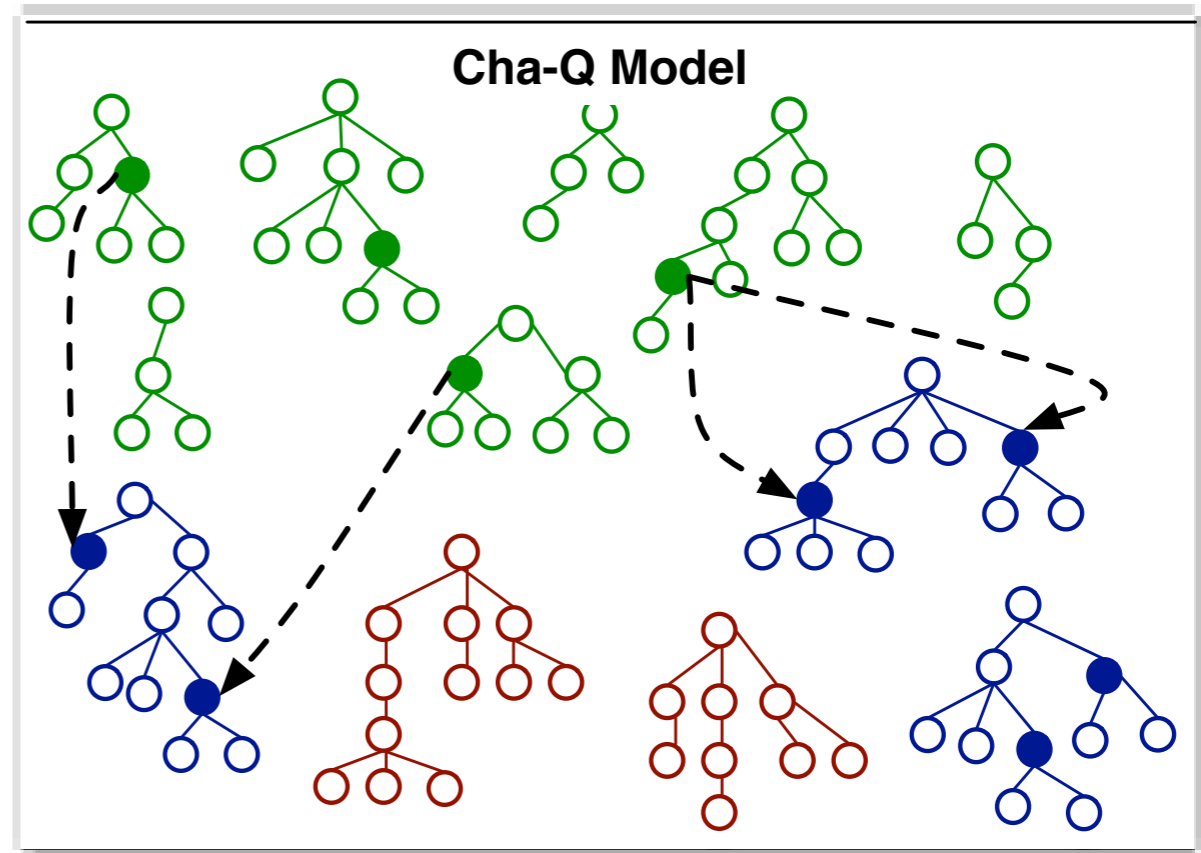
How it works?



Goal:
Adaptability



Java
Matching



Matching principle

Cha-Q Model?:

Graph meta-model = querying of all source code entities.

How it works?

java



Why is it cool?

- Because it is adaptable^{***}!
 - E.g., Inventive Designers' XML-Java error messages:
 - source of the traceability link (43 LOC in Clojure)
 - target of the traceability link (19 LOC in Clojure)
 - matching of source and target (7 LOC in Java)

^{***} once the entities to represent the other technology are part of the model



MaTraca's Features

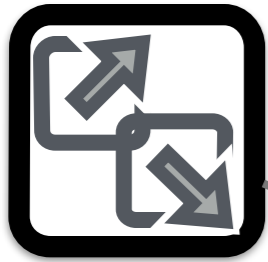
Problems @ Javadoc Declaration Search Console Link View

Search: \-res

!	Source	Link status	Target
↕	s-create-folder	-X->	
↕	s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
↕		-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
↕	s-delete-resource	-X->	
↕	s-delete-resource	-X->	
↕	s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag



MaTraca's Features



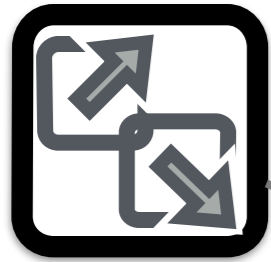
find all the entities on the source or target concerns

The screenshot shows the MaTraca Link View interface. At the top, there are tabs for Problems, Javadoc, Declaration, Search, Console, and Link View. Below the tabs is a search bar containing the text '\-res'. The main area displays a table with three columns: Source, Link status, and Target. The table contains several rows of data, with some rows highlighted in yellow. The 'Link status' column shows various symbols like '-X->' and '--->'. The 'Target' column shows the package name 'com.id.webapp.resource.storag'.

Source	Link status	Target
s-create-folder	-X->	
s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
s-delete-resource	-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
s-delete-resource	-X->	
s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag

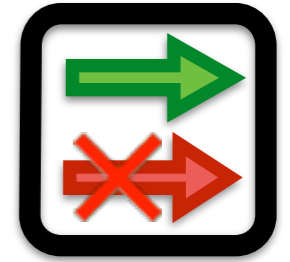


MaTraca's Features



find all the entities on the source or target concerns

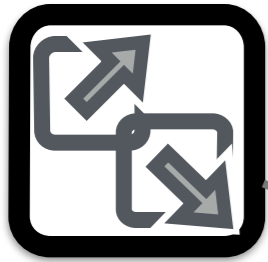
Source	Link status	Target
s-create-folder	-X->	
s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
s-delete-resource	-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
s-delete-resource	-X->	
s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag



evaluate compliance in marked links / entities

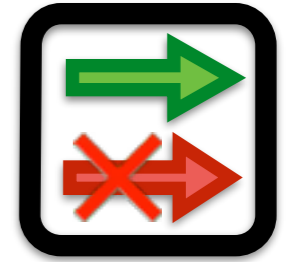


MaTraca's Features



find all the entities on the source or target concerns

Source	Link status	Target
s-create-folder	-X->	
s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
s-delete-resource	-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
s-delete-resource	-X->	
s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag



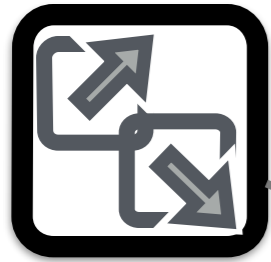
evaluate compliance in marked links / entities



filter results



MaTraca's Features

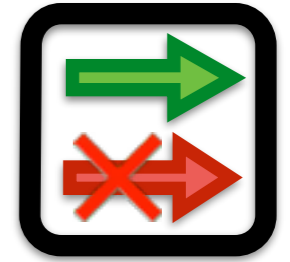


find all the entities on the source or target concerns



mark links / entities of interest

Source	Link status	Target
s-create-folder	-X->	
s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
s-delete-resource	-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
s-delete-resource	-X->	
s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag



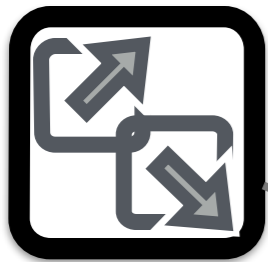
evaluate compliance in marked links / entities



filter results



MaTraca's Features

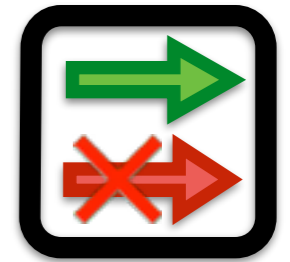


find all the entities on the source or target concerns



mark links / entities of interest

Source	Link status	Target
s-create-folder	-X->	
s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
s-delete-resource	-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
s-delete-resource	-X->	
s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag



evaluate compliance in marked links / entities



filter results

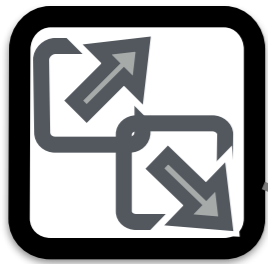
```
ResourceWebService.java workspace.xhtml  
  
<xf:var name="license-variants" select=  
<!-- Submissions -->  
  
<xf:submission id="s-get-resources" res  
<xf:action ev:event="xf:submit-d  
<xf:var name="current-resource"
```



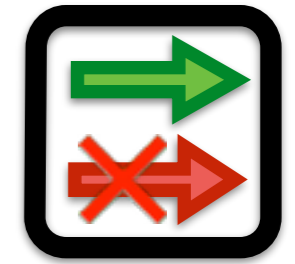
jump to entities of interest



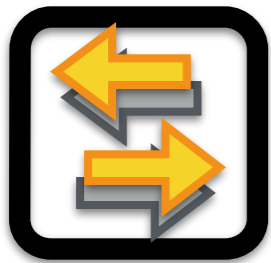
MaTraca's Features



find all the entities on the source or target concerns



evaluate compliance in marked links / entities



mark links / entities of interest

Search: \-res

Source	Link status	Target
s-create-folder	-X->	
s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
s-delete-resource	-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
s-delete-resource	-X->	
s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag



filter results

Source	Link status	Target
lang.String@void @ 18	---	MSC000001 @ /chq/test/enc/messages/plugin/messages.x
lang.String@void @ 16	---	MSC000001 @ /chq/test/enc/messages/plugin/messages.x
lang.String@void @ 17	---	MSC000001 @ /chq/test/enc/messages/plugin/messages.x
	-X->	MSC000001 @ /chq/test/enc/messages/plugin/messages.x

Source	Link status	Target
String	---	String
String	---	String
Integer	-X->	Long
	-X->	Long

```
ResourceWebService.java workspace.xhtml
<xf:var name="license-variants" select=
<!-- Submissions -->
<xf:submission id="s-get-resources" res
<xf:action ev:event="xf:submit-d
<xf:var name="current-resource"
```



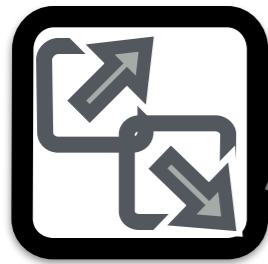
jump to entities of interest



check matching of parameters

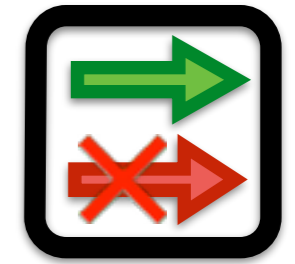


MaTraca's Features

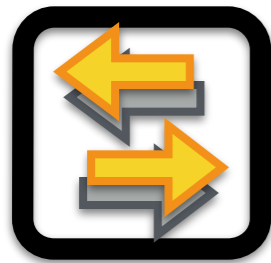


find all the entities on the source or target concerns

Source	Link status	Target
s-create-folder	-X->	
s-disconnect-repo	-X->	
s-delete-resource	-X->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag
s-delete-resource	-X->	
s-get-resources	--->	com.id.webapp.resource.storag



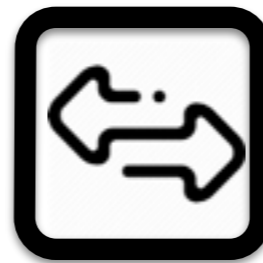
evaluate compliance in marked links / entities



mark links / entities of interest



filter results



identify changes

Source	Link status	Target
test.TesetErrorMessage	---	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe
test.TesetErrorMessage	---	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe
test.TesetErrorMessage	---	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe
test.TesetErrorMessage	-X->	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe

Source	Link status	Target
String	---	String
String	---	String
Integer	-X->	Long
	-X->	Long



check matching of parameters

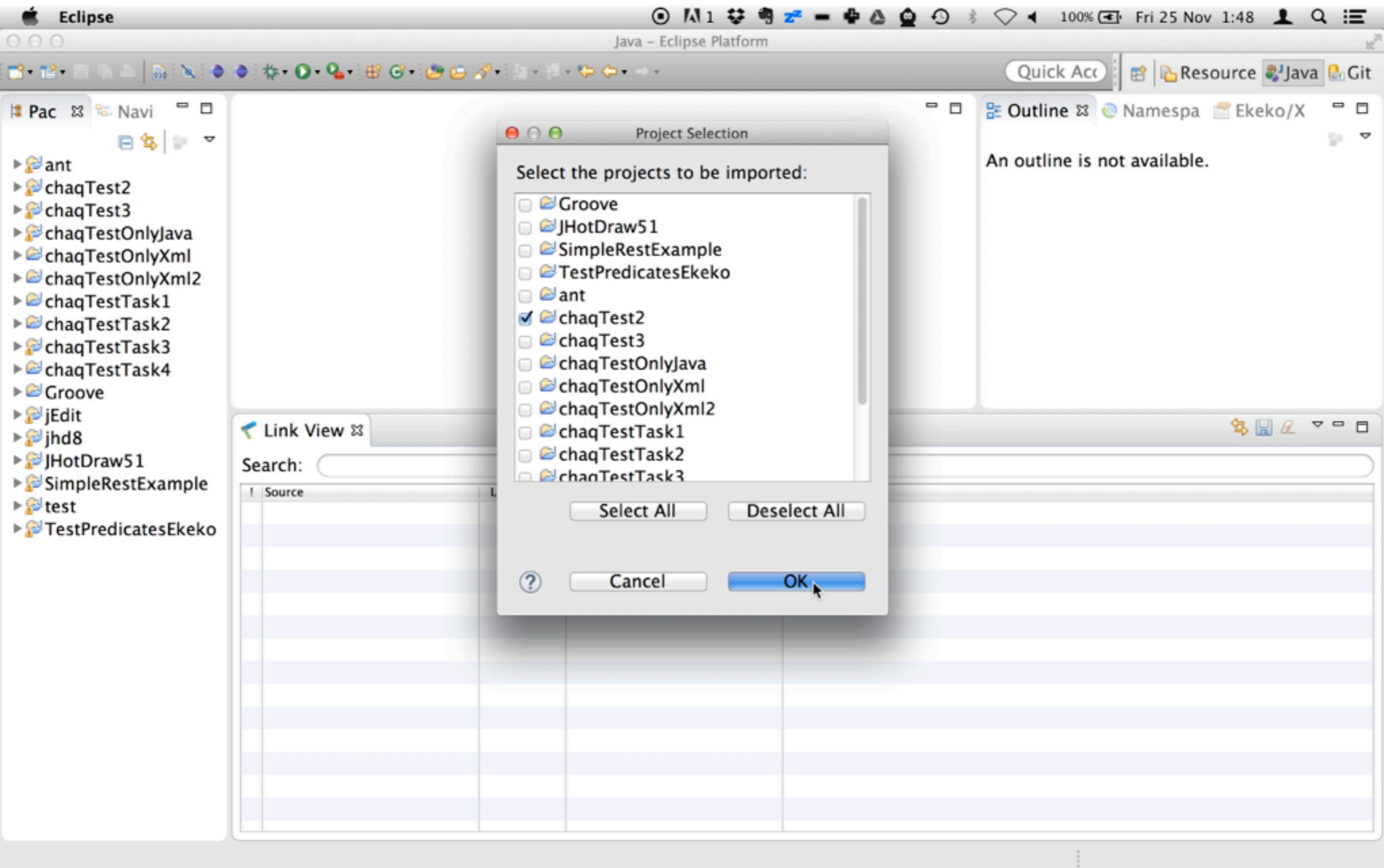
```
ResourceWebService.java workspace.xhtml
<xf:var name="license-variants" select=
<!-- Submissions -->
<xf:submission id="s-get-resources" res
<xf:action ev:event="xf:submit-d
<xf:var name="current-resource"
```



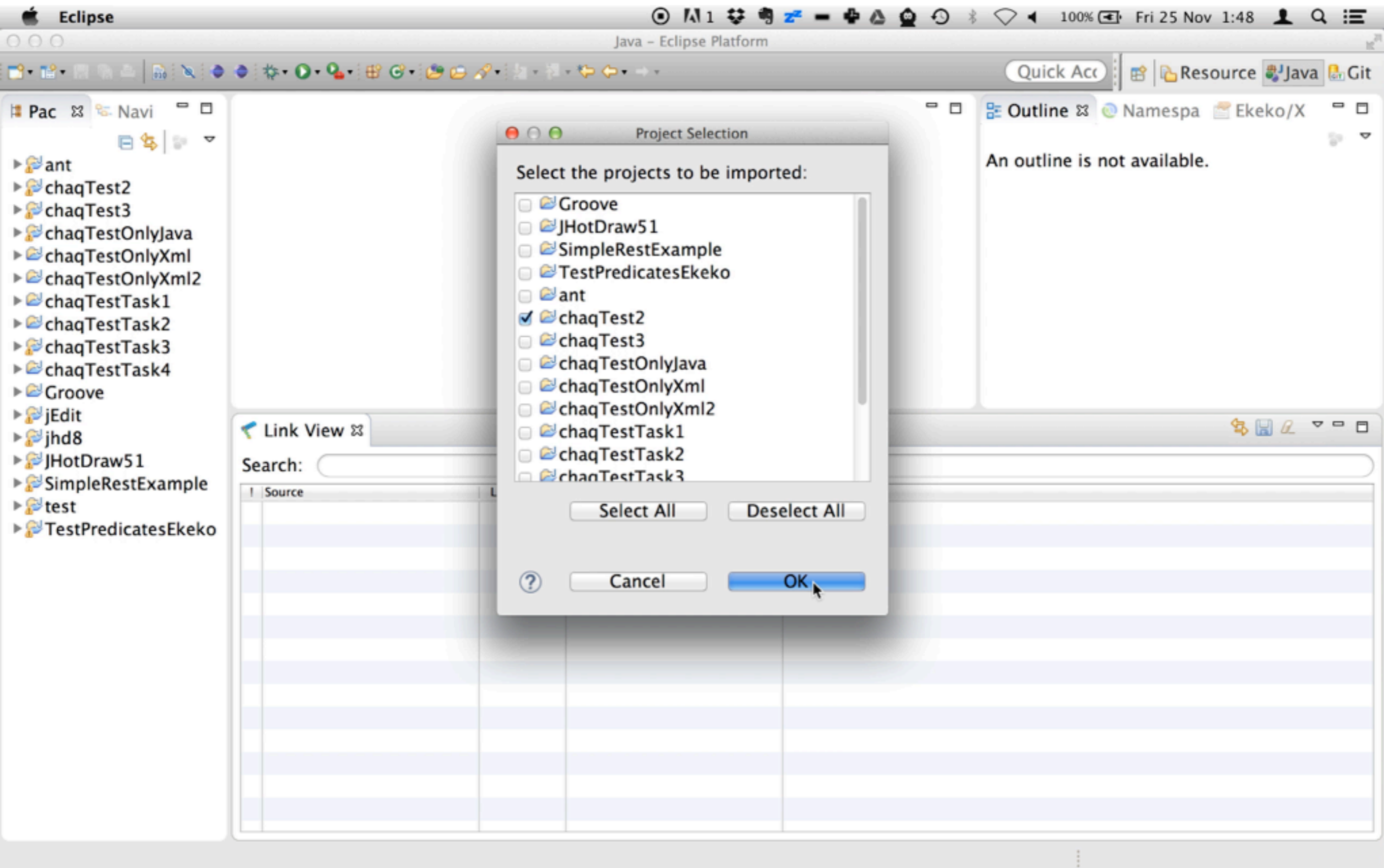
jump to entities of interest

Source	Link status	Target
test.TesetErrorMessage	---	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe
test.TesetErrorMessage	---	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe
test.TesetErrorMessage	---	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe
test.TesetErrorMessage	-X->	MSG000001 @ /chaqTe

See satisfied and broken links



See satisfied and broken links



See effect of editions on a link

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface. The main editor displays the source code of `changes.xhtml`. A specific `<xf:submission id="s-do-merge4" resource="{ $resource-service }/get-merge4" ...` element is highlighted. The `Link View` window at the bottom shows a table of links defined in the document.

Source	Link status	Target
s-upload @ workspace.xhtml	====>	uploadResource(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.util.Set<java.lang.String>)
s-revert @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-use-theirs @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-use-ours @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUseOursVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-update @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUpdateWorkspace(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-commit-push @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitCommitPush(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-get-workspace-name @ changes.xhtml	====>	getActiveWorkspaceSafe(java.util.Set<java.lang.String>,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-get-resources @ workspace.xhtml	====>	getWorkspaceResources(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-get-repos @ changes.xhtml	====>	getRepositoriesOverview(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-do-merge3 @ changes.xhtml	====>	getMergeURI(java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-do-merge2 @ changes.xhtml	====>	getMergeURI(java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-do-merge @ changes.xhtml	====>	getMergeURI(java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-do-compare @ changes.xhtml	====>	getCompareURI(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-backup @ changes.xhtml	====>	backup(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService

See effect of editions on a link

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface. The main editor displays XForms XML code for `changes.xhtml`. A specific `<xf:submission id="s-do-merge4" resource="{ $resource-service }/get-merge4" />` element is highlighted. The `Link View` window below shows a table of links with their source, status, and target.

Source	Link status	Target
s-upload @ workspace.xhtml	====>	uploadResource(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.util.Set<java.lang.String>)
s-revert @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-use-theirs @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-use-ours @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUseOursVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-update @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitUpdateWorkspace(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-git-commit-push @ changes.xhtml	====>	gitCommitPush(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-get-workspace-name @ changes.xhtml	====>	getWorkspaceName(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-get-resources @ workspace.xhtml	====>	getResources(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-get-repos @ changes.xhtml	====>	getRepos(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Response)
s-do-merge3 @ changes.xhtml	====>	getMergeURI(java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-do-merge2 @ changes.xhtml	====>	getMergeURI(java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-do-merge @ changes.xhtml	====>	getMergeURI(java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-do-compare @ changes.xhtml	====>	getCompareURI(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService
s-backup @ changes.xhtml	====>	backup(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext,java.io.InputStream):javax.ws.rs.core.Response @ ResourceWebService

See effect of editions on a link

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface. The main editor displays the XML code for 'changes.xhtml'. A link is defined as follows:

```
<link href="{instance('i-merge-uri')/uri}" type="text/html" rel="self" />
```

The Link View at the bottom shows a table of links and their targets:

Source	Link status	Target
s-do-merge4 @ changes.xhtml	-/->	
s-do-merge3 @ changes.xhtml	-?->	
s-do-merge2 @ changes.xhtml	-?->	
s-do-merge @ changes.xhtml	-?->	
	-/->	getMergeURI(java.lang.String, javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext...
s-upload @ workspace.xhtml	===>	uploadResource(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java.util.Set<java.lang.Strin...
s-revert @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java.lang.String, javax.w...
s-git-use-theirs @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java.lang.String, javax.w...
s-git-use-ours @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUseOursVersion(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java.lang.String, javax.w...
s-git-update @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUpdateWorkspace(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, javax.ws.rs.core.Reques...
s-git-commit-push @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitCommitPush(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java.lang.String, javax.ws.rs.c...
s-get-workspace-name @ changes....	===>	getActiveWorkspaceSafe(java.util.Set<java.lang.String>, java.lang.String, javax...
s-get-resources @ workspace.xhtml	===>	getWorkspaceResources(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java...
s-get-repos @ changes.xhtml	===>	getRepositoriesOverview(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, java.lang.String, jav...
s-do-compare @ changes.xhtml	===>	getCompareURL(java.lang.String, java.lang.String, javax.ws.rs.container.Contai...

See effect of editions on a link

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE interface. The main editor displays an XML file named `changes.xhtml`. A link is highlighted in blue, but it is broken. The link text is: `merge-uriOO?workspace={instance('i-housekeeping')/worksp...`. Below the editor, the `Link View` panel is open, showing a table of links and their status.

Source	Link status	Target
s-do-merge4 @ changes.xhtml	-/->	
s-do-merge3 @ changes.xhtml	-?->	
s-do-merge2 @ changes.xhtml	-?->	
s-do-merge @ changes.xhtml	-?->	
	-/->	getMergeURI(java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.container.ContainerRequestContext...
s-upload @ workspace.xhtml	===>	uploadResource(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.util.Set<java.lang.Strin...
s-revert @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.w...
s-git-use-theirs @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUseTheirsVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.w...
s-git-use-ours @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUseOursVersion(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws....
s-git-update @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitUpdateWorkspace(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.core.Reques...
s-git-commit-push @ changes.xhtml	===>	gitCommitPush(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,javax.ws.rs.c...
s-get-workspace-name @ changes....	===>	getActiveWorkspaceSafe(java.util.Set<java.lang.String>,java.lang.String,javax...
s-get-resources @ workspace.xhtml	===>	getWorkspaceResources(java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java.lang.String,java...
s-get-repos @ changes.x...	===>	
s-do-compare @ change...	===>	

A text box at the bottom right of the image contains the text: "Check updates to parameters".

MaTraca to test

- 4 tasks: from the issue repository (total 4 hours)
- 4 developers: (equivalent expertise: d1-d2 & d3-d4)

	t1	t2	t3	t4
Baseline	dbd	dbd	dbd	dbd
without Matraca	d2+d4	d2+d4	d1+d3	d1+d3
with Matraca	d1+d3	d1+d3	d2+d4	d2+d4

Tasks

	Time recorded	Commits	LOCs simplif.	Files simplif.
T1: Added the path of the class to the url of the submissions	1 h 30 m	3	24	13
T2: Get resource type from resource server.	8 h	8	69	10
T3: Warn user when overwriting files during upload in workspace browser.	7 h	6	20	2
T4: Refactored method so that it retrieves workspace URI from current configuration.	30 m	7	4	5

Questions: Features used






	<i>Never</i>	<i>Once</i>	<i>Twice</i>	<i>Several</i>	<i>Most of the time</i>
	0	1	2	+	*
Calculate the links from scratch:					
Remember the projects that were previously chosen for a workspace:					
Search:					
Ignore irrelevant links:					
Calculate the links with respect to a baseline:					
See parameters of a link:					
Jump to the program element:					

Results: Features used

Calculate links from scratch	Twice - Several
Remember projects chosen	Once
Search	Twice - Several
Ignore relevant links	Twice - Several
Calculate links w.r.t. baseline	Several
See parameters	Twice - Several
Jump to program element	Several

Questions: Matraca vs. Tasks

Strongly disagree
Somewhat disagree
Neutral
Somewhat agree
Strongly agree

					
MaTraCa was useful for the given tasks					
MaTraCa found information that I would not have found <i>as quickly</i> without it.					
MaTraCa found information that I would not have found <i>at all</i> without it.					
Without MaTraCa, it was difficult to perform the tasks.					
I would <i>not</i> use MaTraCa even if it were available.					
I felt more confident about the effect of my changes when using MaTraCa					
MaTraCa helped me to make informed judgments					

Questions: Matraca vs. Tasks

Did you experience resistance to use MaTraCa and mostly kept using Eclipse alone?
If so, how would you explain it?:

- a. Time pressure
- b. I am skilled with Eclipse and prefer to use it when I can
- c. Eclipse alone was enough to perform the tasks
- d. MaTraCa's tutorial was too short
- e. I am not convinced of MaTraCa's benefits
- f. Other:

Results: Matraca vs. Tasks

Useful	Somewhat agree - Strongly agree
Saved time	Somewhat agree - Strongly agree
Increases confidence	Neutral - Somewhat agree
Gives hints for informed decisions	Neutral - Somewhat agree
I am willing to use it	Somewhat disagree - Neutral??
It facilitated the tasks	Strongly disagree - Somewhat disagree
Helped me to find insights	Strongly disagree - Somewhat disagree

Results: Matraca vs. Tasks

Useful

Saved time

Increases confidence

Gives hints for informed decisions

I am willing to use it

It facilitated the tasks

Helped me to find insights

- Time pressure: 2 / 4
- I prefer Eclipse: 2 / 4
- Eclipse was enough: 1 / 4

- "Time is short to find out how to use it best"
- "A tool needs to grow on the user. The benefits will become clear if you use it more."

Results: Matraca vs. Tasks

Useful

Saved time

Increases confidence

Gives hints for informed decisions

I am willing to use it

It facilitated the tasks

Helped me to find insights

- "Tasks were not fully matched with the intended use-cases for Matraca"

Results: Matraca vs. Tasks

Useful

Saved time

Increases confidence

Gives hints for informed decisions

I am willing to use it

It facilitated the tasks

Helped me to find insights

- “Nice-to-have feature but too limited domain to really save time”
- “It was handy once you knew which web-services you are interested in. You do however first have to look for it in the code.”

Overall impression

- **“It certainly helped me to find mistakes or omissions earlier”**
- **“I think matraca could be a very useful tool, it just needs more polishing”**
- **“Speed and responsiveness is OK”**

Take Away Message

- MaTraca:
 - is an Eclipse plugin
 - helps developers keeping dependencies across technologies in sync
 - better than grep -> no false positives
 - better than tests -> the cause instead of the symptoms of the problem
- Currently covers XML and Java but it is extensible to:
 - other technologies
 - or even to your domain-specific / project-specific dependencies !

Thanks to
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