Mylar 1.0 Release Review

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Features

- Task List (..mylar.tasks.*)
    - Integrated tasks management for Eclipse (required)
    - Task management view, rich editing, offline support
- Task-Focused UI (..mylar.context.*)
    - Automated context management (optional)
- Bugzilla Connector (..mylar.bugzilla.*)
    - Integrates Task List with Bugzilla repository (optional)
- JIRA Connector (..mylar.jira.*)
    - Integrates Task List with JIRA repository (optional)
- Trac Connector (..mylar.trac.*)
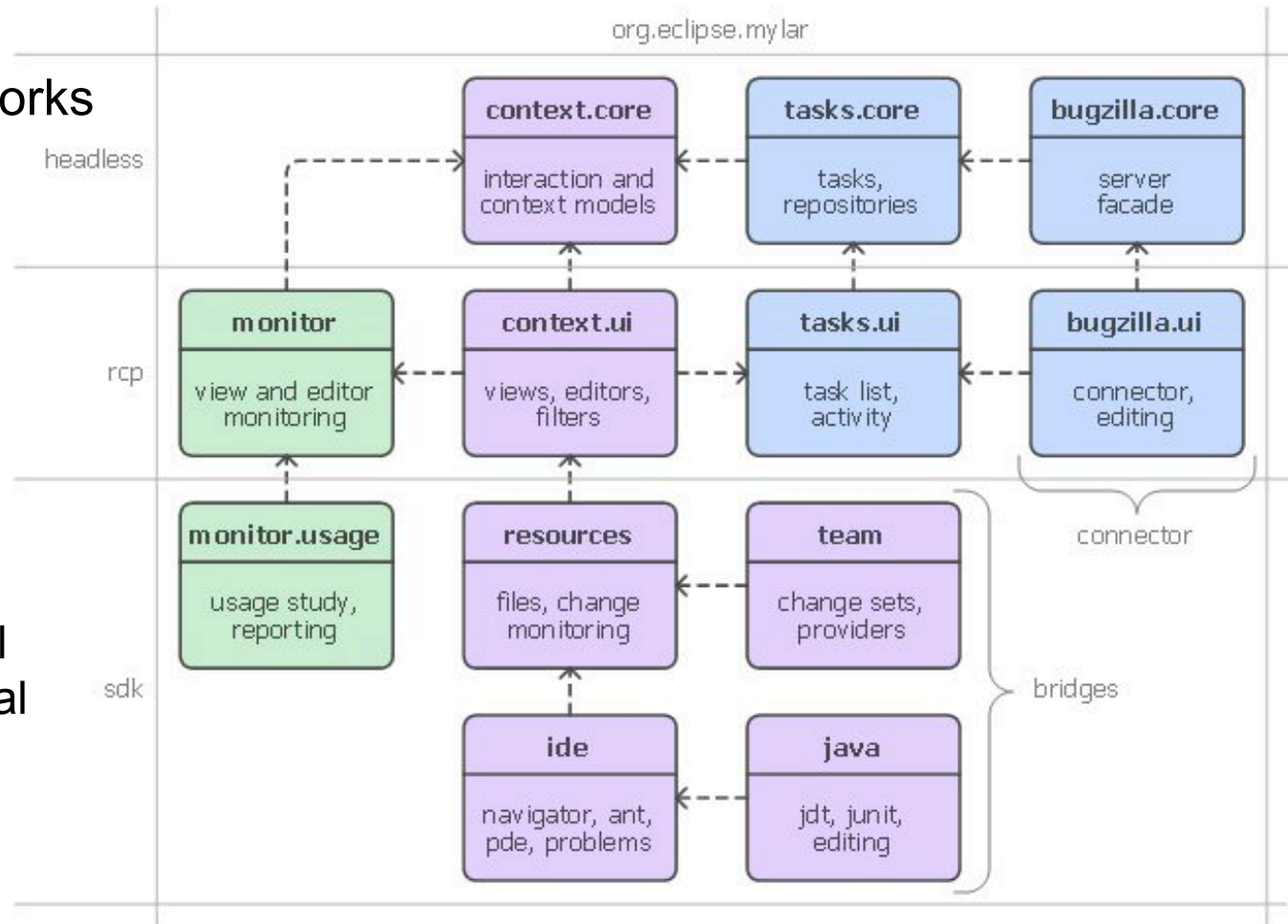   - Integrates Task List with Trac repository (optional)

Non-code aspects

- User documentation
  - Considerable body of user documentation
  - Wiki-based FAQ, User Guide, and Tips & Tricks
  - Web site: getting started, articles, flash videos, webinar
- Developer documentation
  - Wiki-based Contributors Guide
  - Wik-based Integrators Guide
- Localization/externalization
  - In spite of large adoption by non-English countries, still no requests or votes for alternate languages, so postponed to Europa release

APIs

- Three frameworks
  - Tasks
  - Context
  - Monitor
  - Each has multiple clients
  - Some provisional and internal

Tool Usability

- Maturity
  - Constant stream of stable releases
  - Started with weekly cycles, currently monthly releases and weekly developer builds
  - All committers work bootstrapped from HEAD
- Adoption
  - Used by thousands in a production environments
    - 2006 stats: 27,000 update manager installs, 6600 redistributable site downloads
  - User feedback says it best
    - "..arguably the most productivity-enhancing idea since background compilation and all of the things that enables (namely refactoring and syntax hilighting). I just don't know how I ever was able to read and understand the Eclipse sources (or the sources of other large projects I've worked on) before Mylar, it's just that good." (David Orme)
    - "I would like to commend you on this very good tool. It has increased my productivity by 3 folds - no kidding..." (Deepak Devje)
    - "The most addictive Eclipse plugin ever" (Eugene Kuleshov)
    - "Mylar is the next killer app for Eclipse" (Ed Burnette)

Architectural Issues

- Tasks framework
  - Currently supports several clients external clients and 3 internal ones
  - 1.0 is a point of stability but framework evolution will continue
  - Breaking changes will be done in the Mylar 2.0 stream
- Context framework
  - Supports one known external client and 4 internal clients
  - Same caveats as above
- Monitor framework
  - One internal client, several external clients (academic user study and observation tools)

End-of-Life

- n/a, this is a 1.0 release

Bugzilla

- Stats since Mylar 0.3
  - 2063 reports opened
  - 1579 resolved
  - Most open bugs are feature or integration enhancement requests
  - 4 blocker/critical bugs left, will be resolved by 1.0 release

Standards

- Mylar runs on J2SE 1.5

UI Usability

- Accessibility
  - No review for this release, but following accessibility guidelines
  - http://www.eclipse.org/articles/Article-Accessibility/index.html
- Follow the User Interface Guidelines
  - Focus on consistent visual design, UI elements, icons
  - http://wiki.eclipse.org/index.php/User_Interface_Guidelines
- Validated UI usability with field study
  - For details see:
    http://kerstens.org/mik/publications/2006-11-mylar-fse.pdf

Schedule

- Release scheduled for December 8th

Process

- Open, transparent, permeable, and inclusive
    - Evidenced by the very large number of community contributions
    - All discussions in Bugzilla, mailing list, newsgroup, and open developer conference calls

Communities

- Users
  - Lively community on newsgroup and bug reports
  - Articles and blogs by community members
- Developers
  - Contributor documentation on Eclipsepedia
  - Lively community on mylar-dev and bug reports
- Integrators
  - Integrator documentation on Eclipsepedia
  - Discussions on [connector] and [bridge] bug reports
  - Discussions on mylar-dev
  - In future might need an integrator-specific forum, but current forums fine for now

IP Issues

- IP process followed
  - Still awaiting approval of Http Client 3.0
- Up-to-date IP Log
  - http://www.eclipse.org/mylar/doc/mylar-iplog.csv
- Release under EPL

Project plan

- Project plan
  - Continue weekly developer releases for Eclipse 3.3 stream
  - Follow Europa release schedule + 1 for Eclipse 3.2 and 3.3
  - Eclipse 3.1 support is deprecated, but can do maintenance build if sufficient community interest

Release review version

- These slides are based on the following version of the Release review document
  - Version 032 – January 15, 2006