Zeitgeist

Zeitgeist Project

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Zeitgeist

GUADEC 2009

Zeitgeist Project

Preamble: Document-centric GNOME

GUADEC 2008

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Thursday*, 8:00 PM*

Honey (Federico), can you help me find my homework from **last Monday**?

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- Where did you put it?

- *No idea, I just saved it!*

- **What did you call it?**

- *I don't remember! It's an Essay on the History of Teaching*

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Previous non-solutions:

- *Look for the file by browsing through folders*

- *Putting everything in ~/Documents*

- *Using Recent Documents from the menu bar*

- *Using Recent Documents from the application*

Zeitgeist @ GCDS 2009

Vision

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Favorites Important Cool People W00t New tag

To tag a file, drag a tag and drop it on the file

Tags [x]

Tue 08	Wed 09	Thu 10	Fri 11
Conversation with Luciana	22 web sites	Introductory Pedagogy	Education.odt
	Letter to mom.odt	Education.odt	
		picture.jpg	
		Conversation with Luciana	

Journal [x]

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Journal

What did I do?

Computers have no sufficient concept of user activities

Doesn't your computer "participate" in your activities?

Metaphors

Extension of "recently used"

Journal or Diary

Remembering

Memory for facts

–"semantic memory"

Memory for your own activities

– "episodic memory"

Metadata / Context

- Semantic
  – Static information properties

- Grouping and linking
  – User indicates relationships

- Episodic
  – What happened?

User-Activity Perspective

● Information gains relevance by use
(= employing it in the user's activities)

– Recency

• Scoping via time

– Repetition, frequency

• Repeated use doesn't mean "doing the same thing twice"
– Within and across activities

– Intensity

• Most used

● Stuff you use together … belongs together?

Typical Activities

- Development

  - Plan

  - Update code base

  - Review changes

  - Communicate about changes

  - Coordinate tasks & activities

  - Edit code

  - Find and use related information

  - Test code

  - Report bug

  - Commit changes

  - Update documentation

  - Choose another task, bug

- Writing a Report

  - ....

Typical Development Activities

Plan	plan	
Code	update code base	review changes	edit code
Inform		
Coordinate	communicate about changes	coordinate tasks & activities
Publish		

Plan	choose another task, bug
Code	test code	commit changes
Inform	find and use related information
Coordinate	
Publish	report bug	update docu
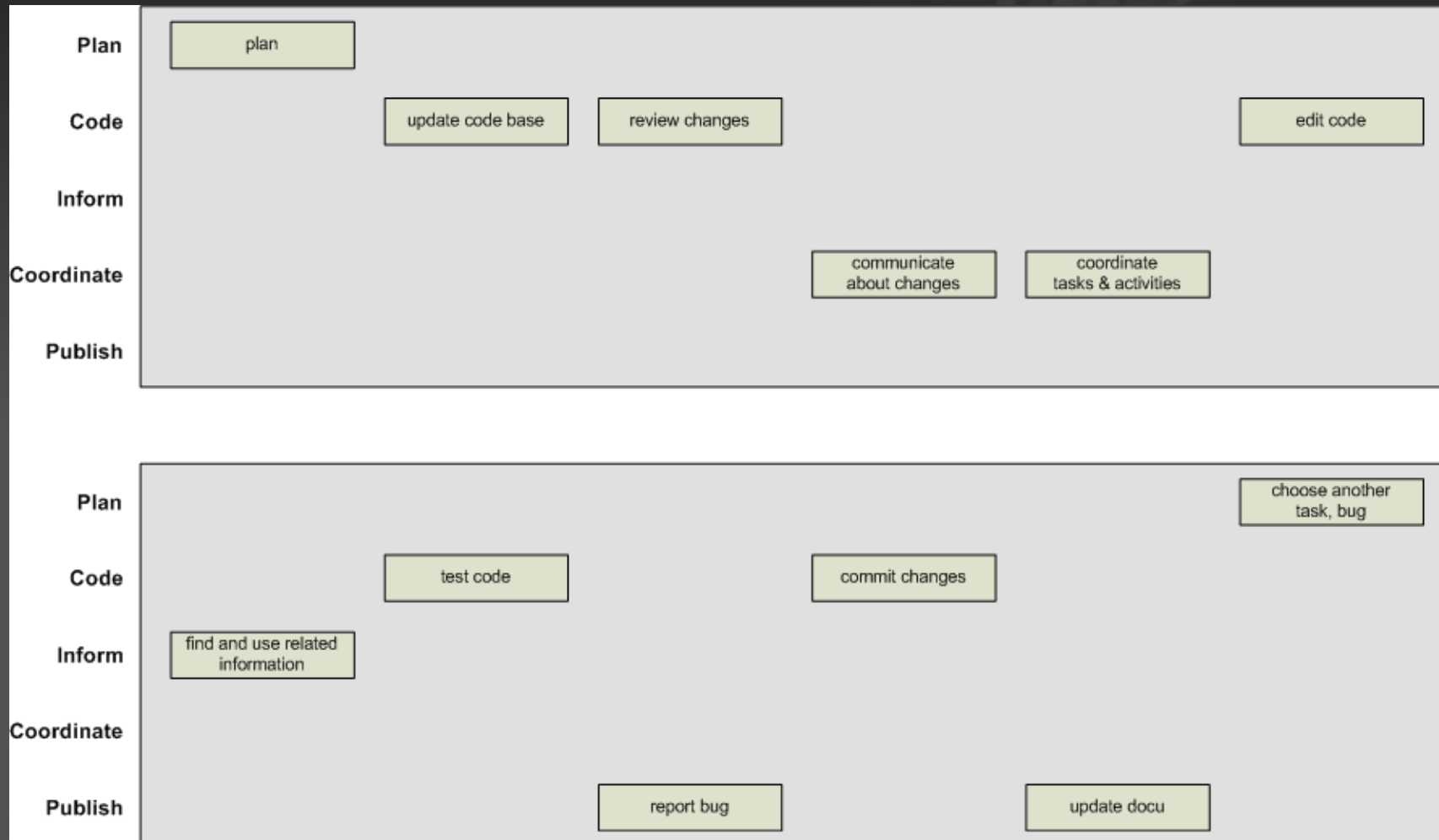
Issues

- Re-find an item
- Re-find collections of use

- Resuming work

Further Issues

- Anchoring to real-world events

- Reporting about a certain time period

- Reflaction and Planning

- Keeping track and control of

  – Information Development

  – Where it comes from & where it goes to (Diffusion)

Events

- The basic model

Zeitgeist:

- Tracker, Beagle and Nepomuk is all about **indexing** and **searching** for files and documents

-

  Zeitgeist is all about **logging** Events.

Events

- Two types of Events:

    - Activity: A user **does** something as in triggers and Event.

    - Notification: Something **happens** that does not originate from the user

Events

- Events are unique

- Events can not be replicated

- Events currently don't have a representation on the Desktop

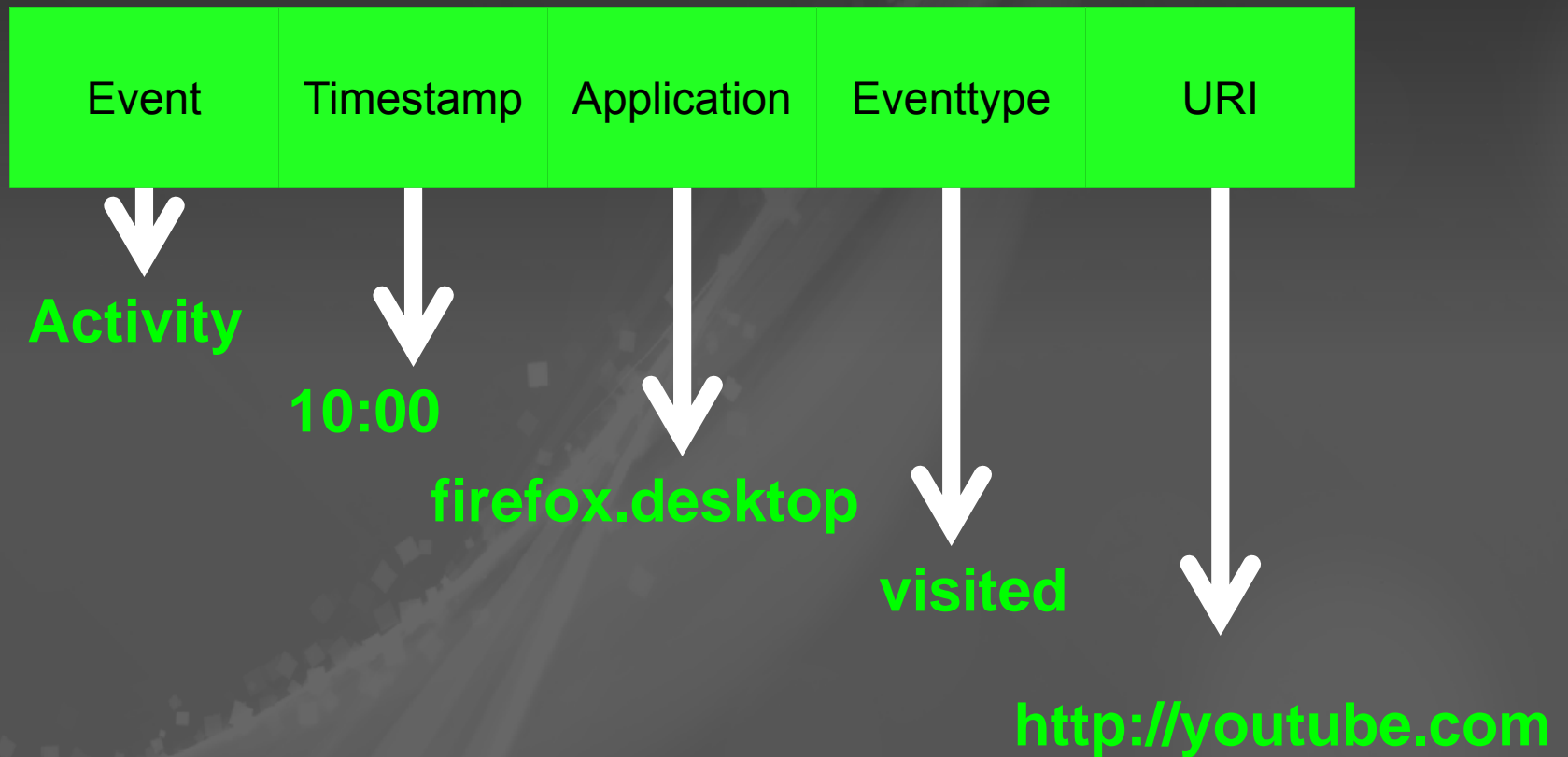- What would happen if we look at Events as entities of their own

Events:

- The source of events are Applications.

- With an Event an Application issues that it is „DOING"(Activity) someting or something just „HAPPENED"(Notification)

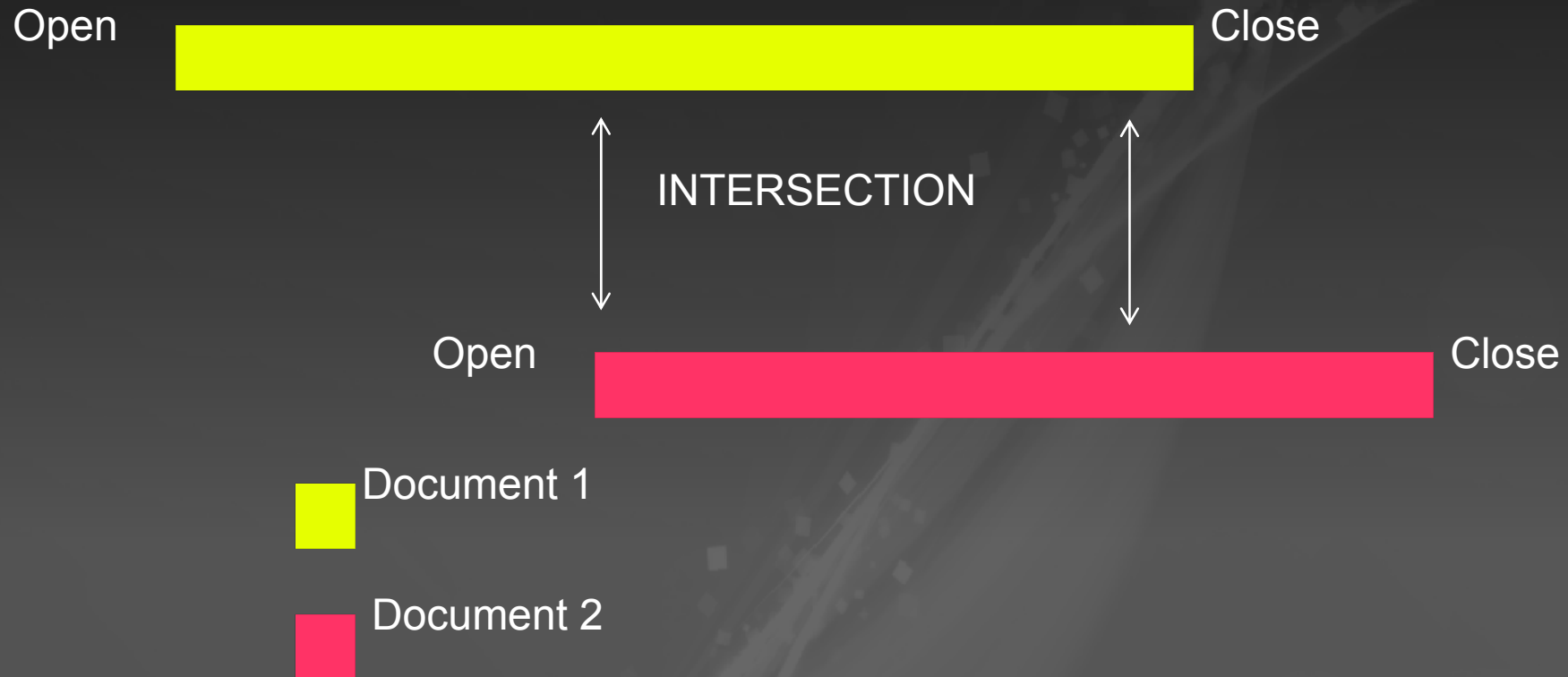- Usually (not always) an Event occurs there is a Document involved

Events

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| Event | Timestamp | Application | Eventtype | URI |

Activity

10:00

firefox.desktop

visited

http://youtube.com

Using Events:

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Open ▭ Close

INTERSECTION

Open ▭ Close

▭ Document 1

▭ Document 2

Metadata / Context

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  – What happened?