

<http://fluidproject.org/index.php/demos>

<http://wiki.fluidproject.org>

The Fluid Project

An Open Source Community for Inclusive Design

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The
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Foundation


Fluid

What, Where, and Who is Fluid?

What is it? What does it do?

Where is it? How do I find Fluid? (more than urls)

Who is it? Who is working on Fluid?

Why should I care?

What is Fluid?

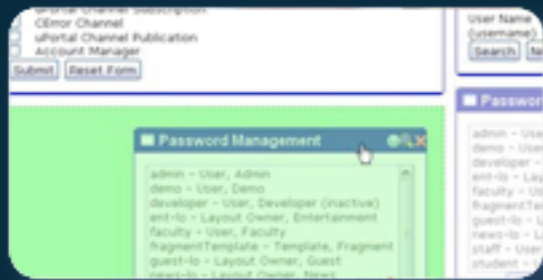
A community source project that creates user experience tools and software capable of addressing the needs of diverse users.

- Rich, flexible, reusable user interface components
- Lightweight JavaScript development tools
- User Experience Toolkit
- Accessible Interaction Designs
- Design Pattern Community

What is a **Fluid** Component?

- Components are recurring interactions
- Encompass familiar activities on the Web:
 - Working with files, uploading, finding stuff
 - Navigating through content and tools
 - Rich interactions: drag and drop, etc.
- Activities and contexts, not just controls and widgets...

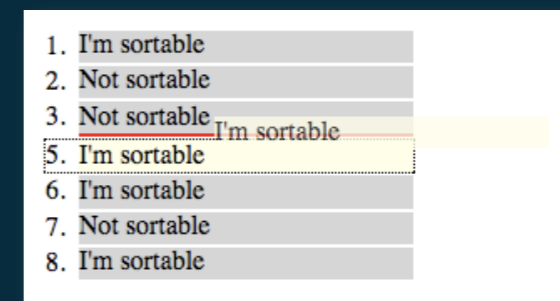
The Reorderer Family



layouts

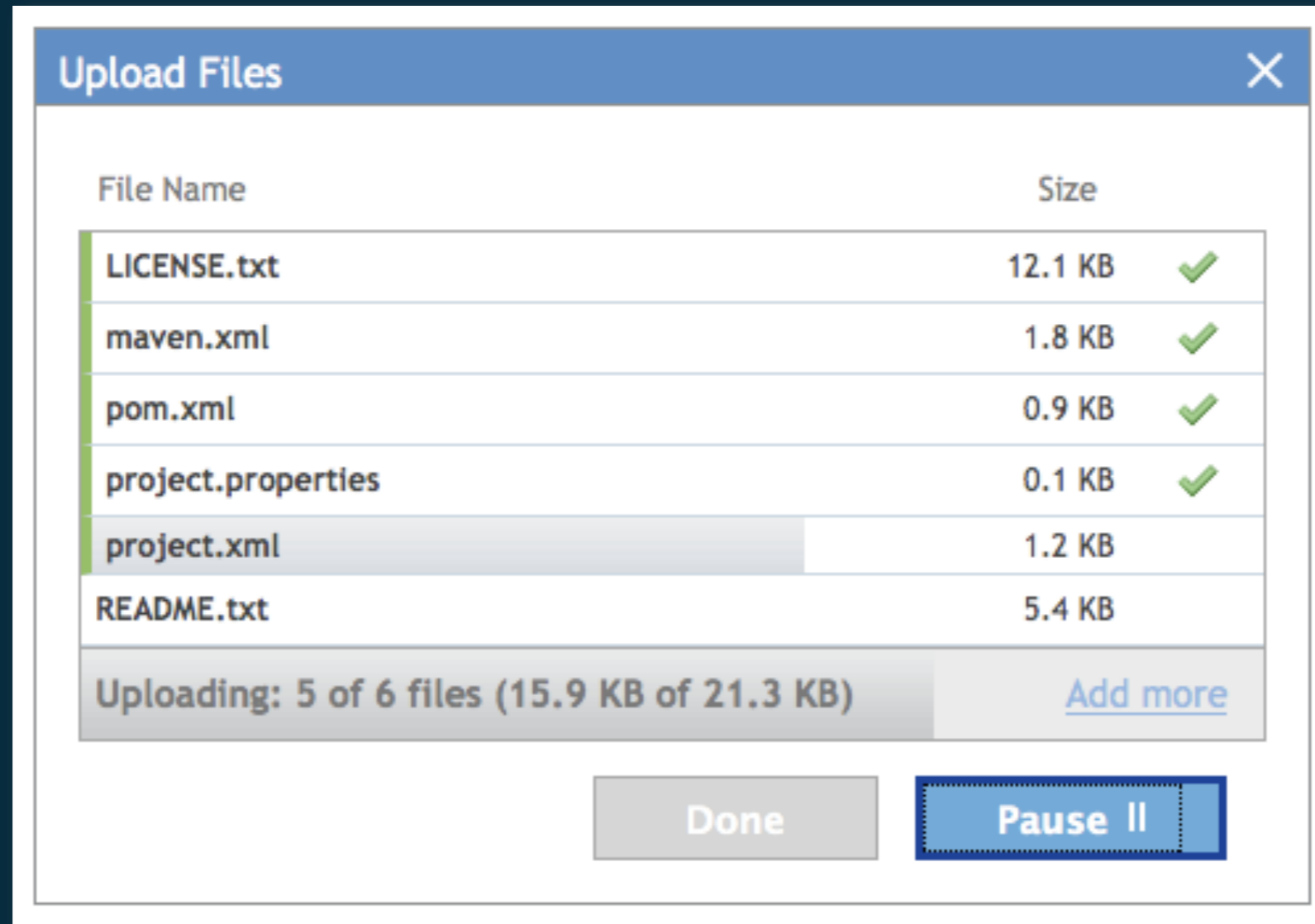


grids



lists

Uploader



Date Picker

February 21, 2008

Open on: AM

February

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27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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February 22, 2008

Due on: PM

Click

February 21, 2008

Open on: AM


February 22, 2008

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February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Inline Edit


<u>Name</u> 	<u>Graduate Student Instructor (GSIs)</u>
Sections	
Astronomy 7A P 001 LEC Assign GSIs Assign Students	Melissa Basman Julie Chambers
<input type="text" value="Astronomy 7A S 102 LEC"/> Assign GSIs Assign Students	Rachel Hollowgrass
Astronomy 7A S 103 LEC Assign GSIs Assign Students	Judy Stern
Astronomy 7A S 104 LEC Assign GSIs Assign Students	DAVIS, Ray
Astronomy 7A S 105 LEC Assign GSIs Assign Students	Ray Davis

Click to edit section name

Pager

Start typing a name...

< ≤ Page of 19 ≥ > Show ▼ per page

<u>Name</u> 	<u>User ID</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Role</u>
Campeau, Patrick	15234314	pcampe@berkeley.edu	Student
Capovilla, Megan	19269508	megan@berkeley.edu	Student
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Technology

- Fluid components are:
 - Accessible and customizable
 - Compatible with lots of technologies
 - Easy to write and adapt

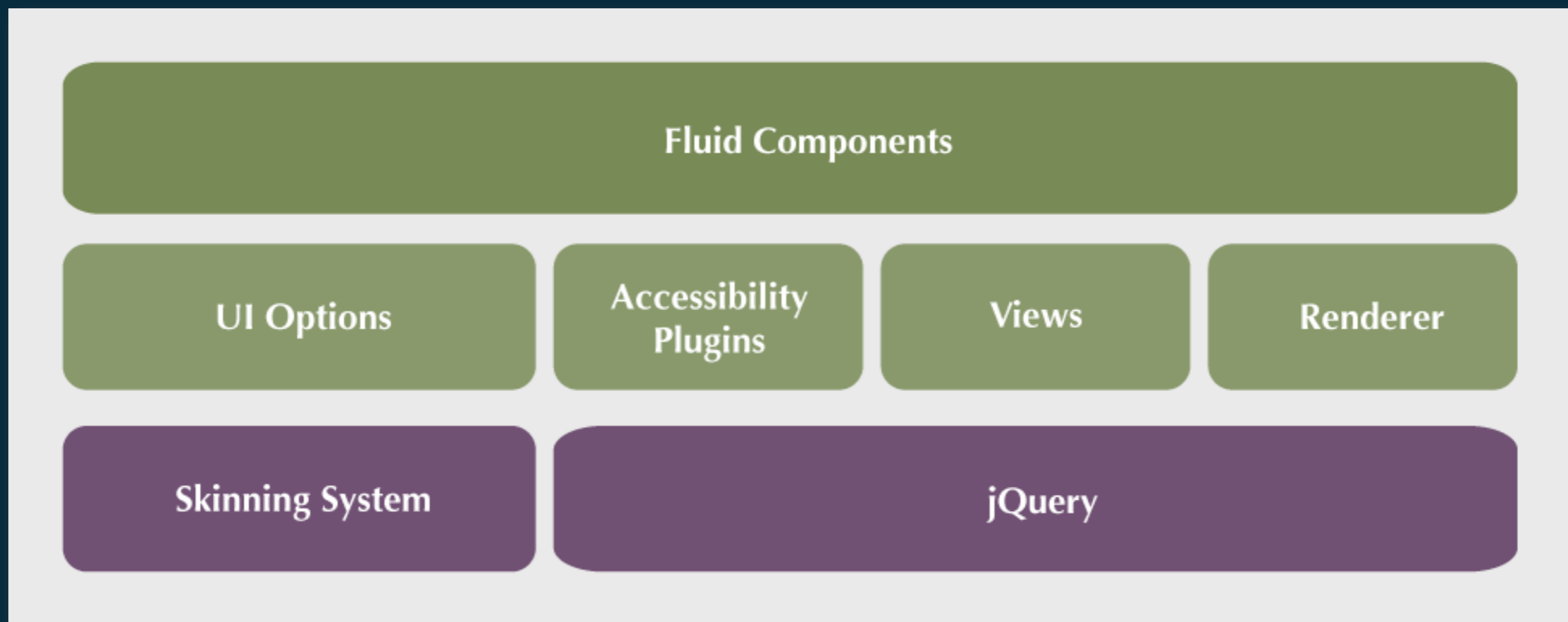
Fluid Framework

- Built with jQuery
- Lightweight MVC
- Client-side template rendering
- Plugins to make accessibility easier
- Highly declarative: reconfigure, rewire, extend

Accessible

- Flexible layouts and skins
- Inject navigational enhancements
- Customizable keyboard support
- UI Options: user preferences
- jQuery UI a11y effort

Fluid Framework



UX Toolkit

The Fluid User Experience Toolkit provides resources, tools, and documentation to help make user interface design and implementation easier. The toolkit includes personas and scenarios for common use cases within higher education, user interface design patterns, testing protocols, and accessibility guidelines intended to simplify the design process.

User Research

Contextual Inquiry
Personas

Accessibility

Accessibility Resources

Evaluation and Assessment

UX Walkthroughs
User Testing

Visual Design

Fluid Brand

Interaction Design

Design Patterns
Components
Comparative & Competitive
Analysis

Design Process & Management

Agile Planning - Goals, benefits and
details
UX Resources

UX Toolkit

- UI Design Patterns
- UX Walkthroughs
- Testing techniques
- User profiles
- All the stuff you need to design great interfaces!

Design Pattern Library

The screenshot shows the Fluid Open Source Design Pattern Library website. At the top left is the Fluid logo, a stylized asterisk, followed by the text "Fluid Open Source Design Pattern Library". In the top right corner, there is a search bar with a "Search" button. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains navigation links: "User login" with a sub-link "Login/Register", "Patterns" with sub-links "Browse Patterns" and "Contributor's Guide", and "The OSDPL" with sub-links "About Us", "Contact OSDPL", "Copyright Policy", and "License". The middle column features a large heading "Welcome to the Open Source Design Pattern Library!" followed by a paragraph: "The Library is a place for communities to create, collaborate on, and share their open source user interface design patterns. This project is currently under development and constantly changing." Below this is a section titled "What is a design pattern?" with a definition: "A design pattern is described as a 'proven solution to a common problem in a specified context.'" This is followed by a paragraph: "Application designers and developers can use user interface design patterns (solution to a problem) to create usable, high-quality user interfaces that are most helpful and appropriate in a particular situation (context)." A section titled "What you can do here" contains two bullet points: "Browse current design patterns using the left-hand navigation" and "Create, comment, and rank patterns (requires a user account)". At the bottom of the middle column is a "Register" section: "If you are not already a member, please register so you can begin creating your own design pattern! You also need an account to comment and rank design patterns." The right column has a section "Find patterns by tag" with a list of tags: "drag and drop", "file upload", "Flash forms", "labels", "layout list", "progress reorder text", "uportal", and "validation". Below the tags is a "more tags" link. Underneath is a "Top Rated Patterns" section listing several patterns with their star ratings: "Drag and Drop - List Ordering" (5 stars), "Comprehensive File Upload" (5 stars), "Drag and Drop - Layout Preview" (4 stars), "Right-Left alignment" (5 stars), and "Drag and Drop" (5 stars). At the bottom of the right column is a "Who's online" section.

Design Pattern Library

- a collection of user experience designs -- a collection of reusable design knowledge put together by people who have thought about a particular interaction in depth.
- Open Source Design Patterns Library:
 - The first truly open, collaborative pattern repository

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- ~~Accessible Interaction Designs~~
- ~~Design Pattern Community~~

what problem are we solving?

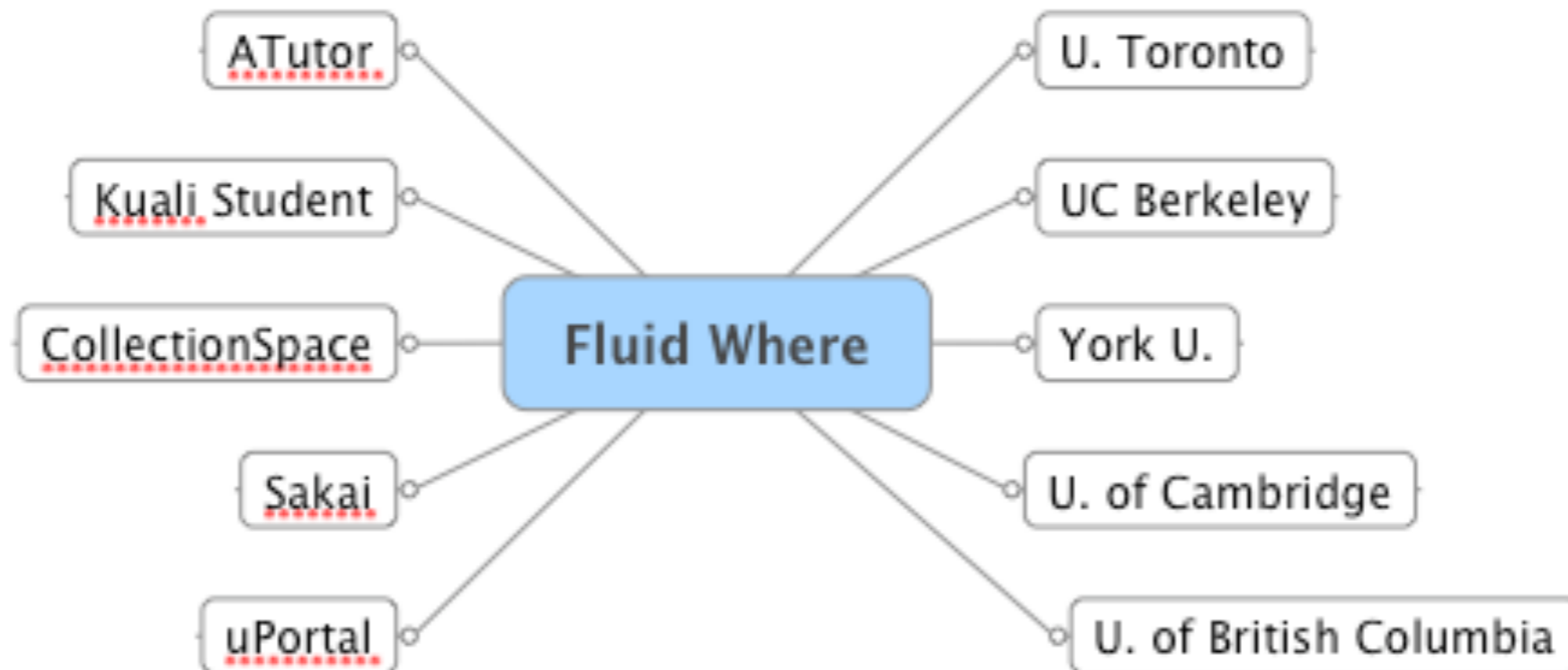
- Systemic problem of poor and inconsistent user interface
 - Often left to programmers
 - Tackled at the end
 - Redundantly developed
 - Inadequately tested and refined
- UX designers not well integrated into development culture
- Poor UX an impediment to adoption
- Academic communities are very diverse
- Differ greatly in our preferences, needs, habits, concepts, comforts, convictions....

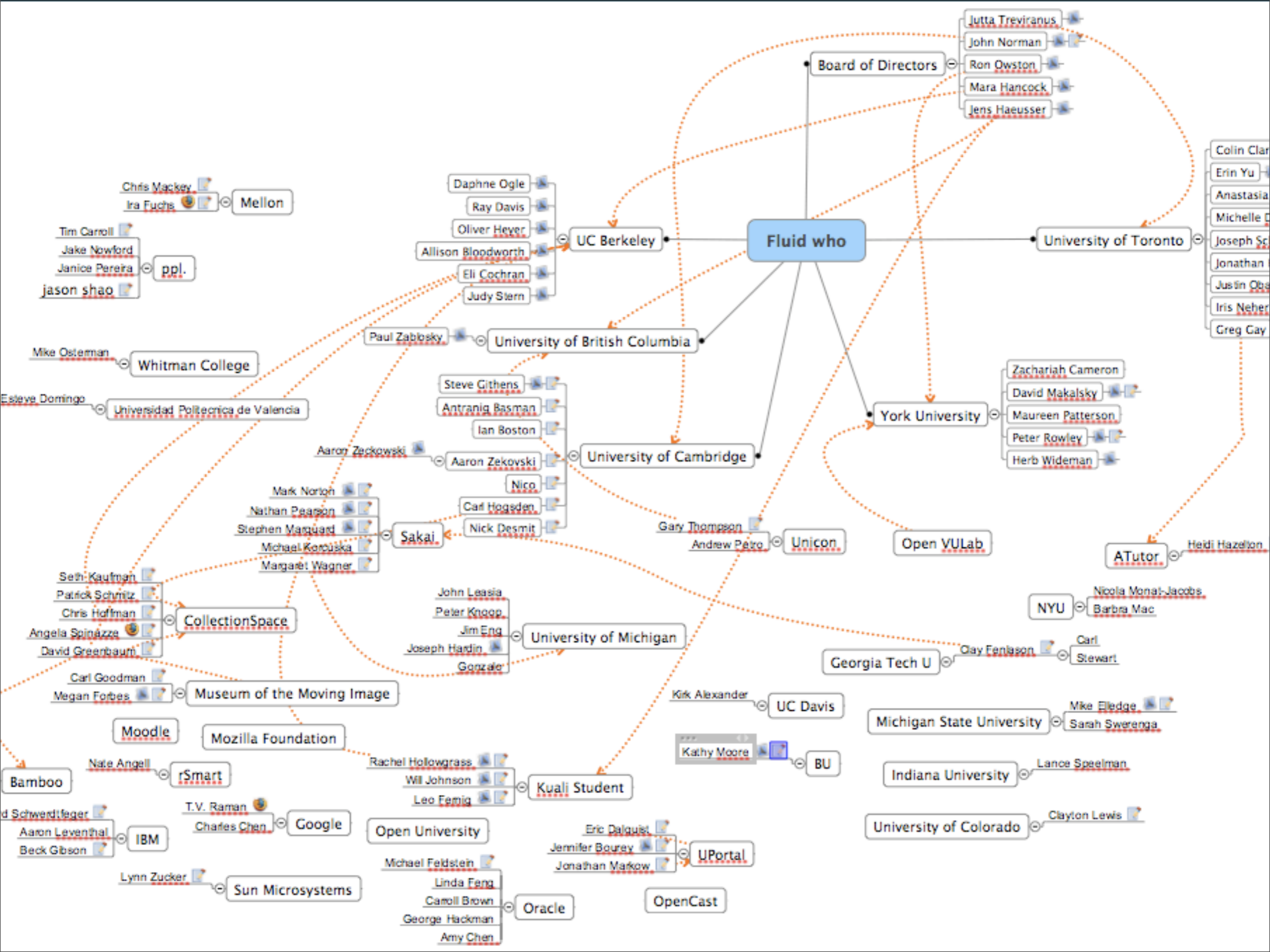
what problem are we solving?

- UX is a challenge for all open source projects and all institutions
- Cross-project collaboration:
 - Share scarce UX resources across projects
 - Solve common challenges
 - Recognize recurring user interface idioms and needs
- Fluid is looking at common problems:
 - How do non-technical people get involved in OSS?
 - How can we help designers and developers speak the same language?
 - How do you do user testing in a distributed environment?

Where is Fluid?

- **Core Institutions:** University of Toronto | UC Berkeley | York University | University of British Columbia | University of Cambridge
- **Other Participating Institutions:** Michigan State | University of Colorado | University of Michigan | Georgia Tech | UK Open University | Your University Here
- **Participating Projects:** uPortal | Sakai | CollectionSpace | Quali Student | Moodle | ATutor
- **Corporate Partners:** Mozilla Foundation | Sun Microsystems | IBM | Unicon





how do we do this?

hint: be flexible

- tools
- teamwork
- leadership

tools

teamwork

leadership



how are we organized?

- Tools
 - IRC
 - Skype
 - wiki
 - blog
 - website
 - mailing lists
 - daily stand-up video meetings

how are we organized?

- transparent
- thorough
- self-motivated
- common vision

how are we organized?

- Team-building
 - communicative
 - open
 - mentor
 - patient
 - visionary

Community Culture

- How do we...
 - make decisions?
 - grant commit access?
 - ensure code quality?
 - cut releases?
 - handle licensing and contributions?

Learn from the best: Apache, Mozilla, etc.

Do the stuff that gets done last, first

- Establish a rhythm for your releases
- Test early
- Get it in front of users
- Use QA as a hub for communication
- It's okay to get it wrong the first time

who leads?

leadership, not ownership

tools

teamwork

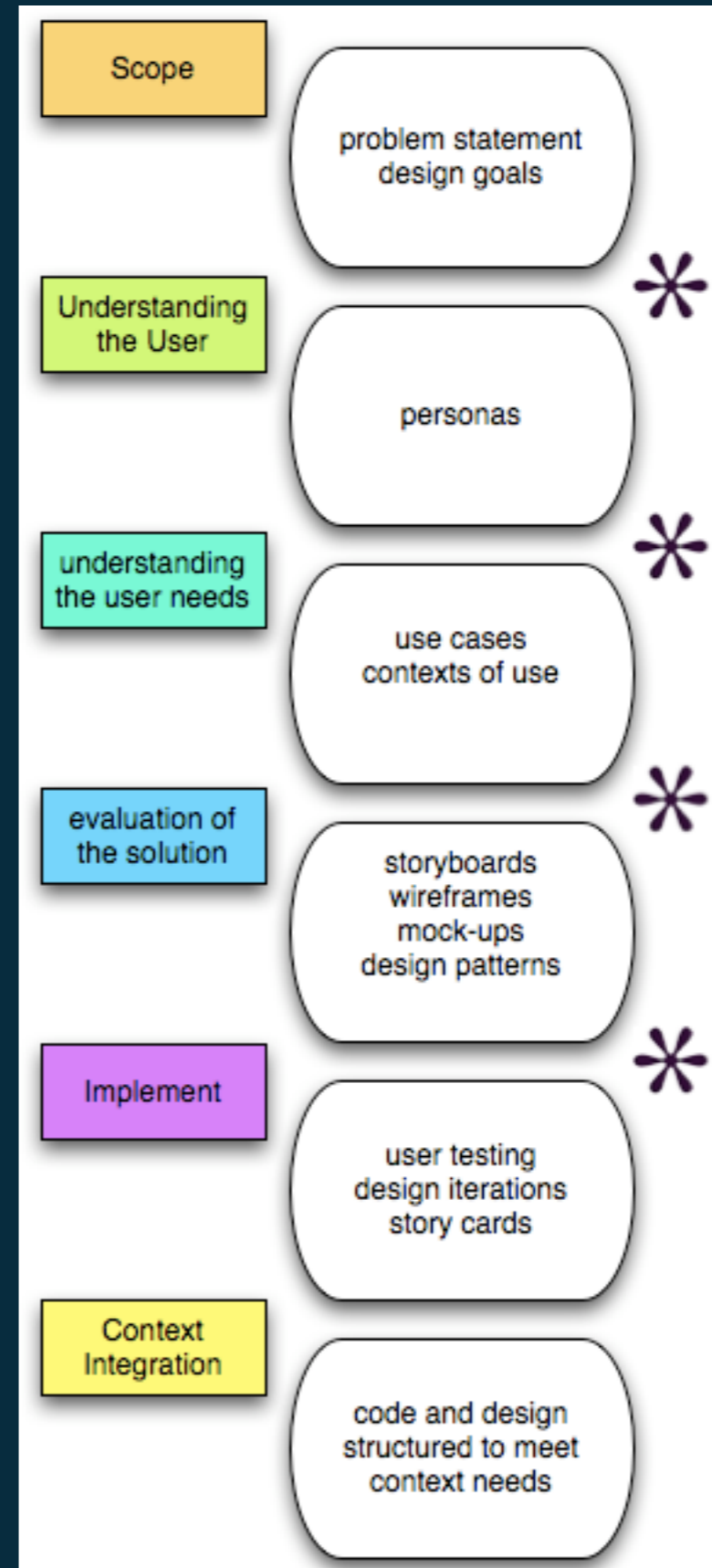
leadership



Design workflow (iterate!)

- scope
- understanding the user
- understanding user needs
- how we meet the needs (designs)
- evaluation of the solution (testing)
- implementation
- + context integration

Design outputs



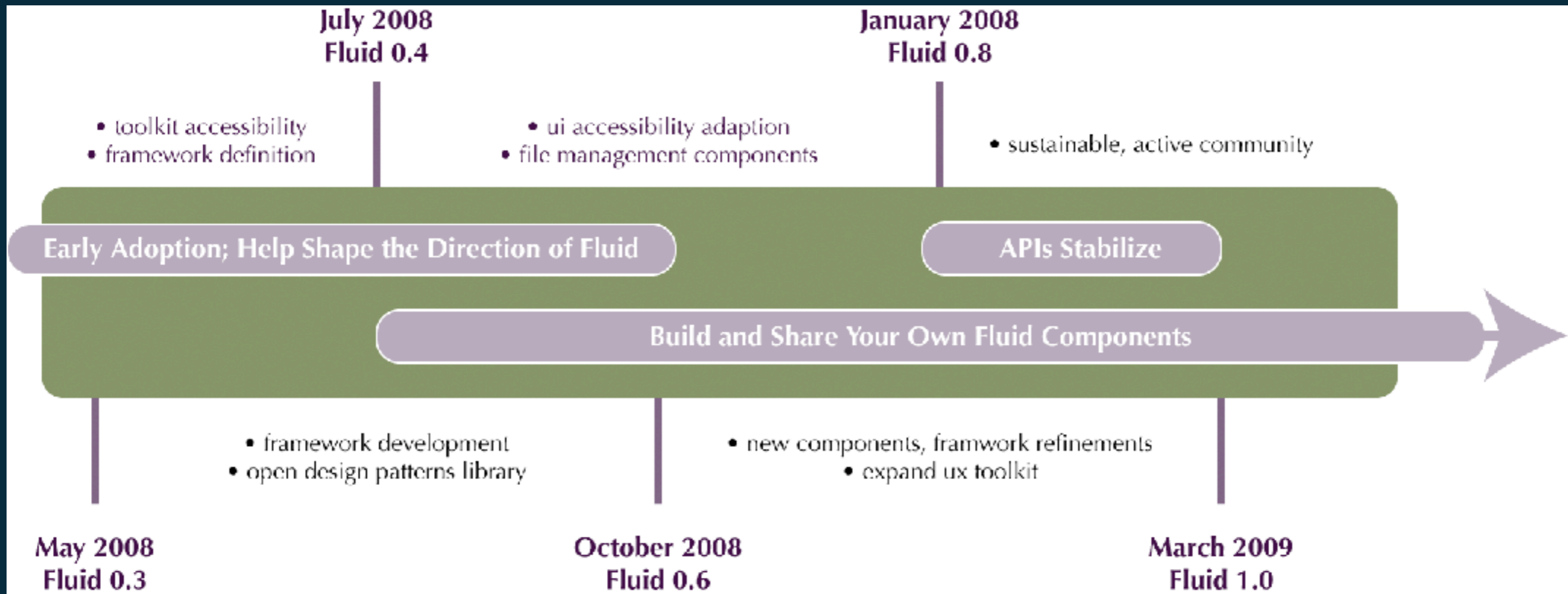
Development workflow (iterate!)

- can we even do this if we can barely even think about this?
- how many ways can we approach this?
- who is going to corral us?
- chunk-it-out
- plug-n-chug
- get it wrong
- repeat

Release Plan

- monthly releases (iterate!)

Release Plan



making sausage

- 40K what will we do in 2 yr. proj
 - start with a project vision
- 20K what will we do quarterly
 - project goals
- 10K what will we do by release 0.5
 - roadmap
- 5K what month will we release 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7
 - timeline
- 1K what tasks will be in our iteration plans to accomplish our monthly releases
 - JIRA

processes & coming together

- changing processes so they work for us
 - process for its own sake isn't very useful
 - design/developer reviews
 - retrospectives

what about your roadmap?

- how do we decide which components to work on next?
- who sets our priorities?

Infusion: a complete package

- Components for managing your files and more
- Framework: everyone can build components
- UI design patterns
- User research you can use
- Documentation and lots of sample code

How Fluid Can Help You

- Use Fluid components in your applications
 - Accessibility & great design for free
- Build new UIs using Fluid's techniques and plugins
 - Robust strategies for UI development
- UX Walkthroughs
 - Assess and improve your user experience
- Open Source Design Patterns
 - Advice on common UI design considerations
- Higher Education User Profiles
 - Understand your audience

How You Can Help

- Join our mailing lists
- Share code
- Help with design effort
 - UX Walkthroughs are fun and easy
 - Contextual inquiry
 - Component design teams
- Use and extend Fluid components in your tools
- Write your own Fluid components
- User testing
- Share design patterns

Links

- <http://fluidproject.org/>
- <http://wiki.fluidproject.org>
- <http://build.fluidproject.org>
- <http://uidesignpatterns.org/>

contact us!

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