

Web applications and the Desktop

An open source perspective

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Background

- Open source desktop
 - Linux, *BSD, Solaris
 - GNOME, KDE, ...
- Very diverse environment
 - Multiple toolkits: GTK+, Qt, Java, XUL, OpenOffice, ...
 - Multiple looks

Webapps and the Desktop

- Developer convergence
 - Common technologies
 - Is the “desktop app” dead?
- User convergence
 - Seamless integration
 - Match look + feel

Thin standardization

- Standardize infrastructure, not entire toolkits
- Goal: download application + toolkit from web
- Toolkit development should be freewheeling
 - **Open source**
 - Commercial
- Don't pull in huge stack of standards
 - Implementation barrier
 - Confusing for developers

Different models

Application

Toolkit

Conventional

Content

UI

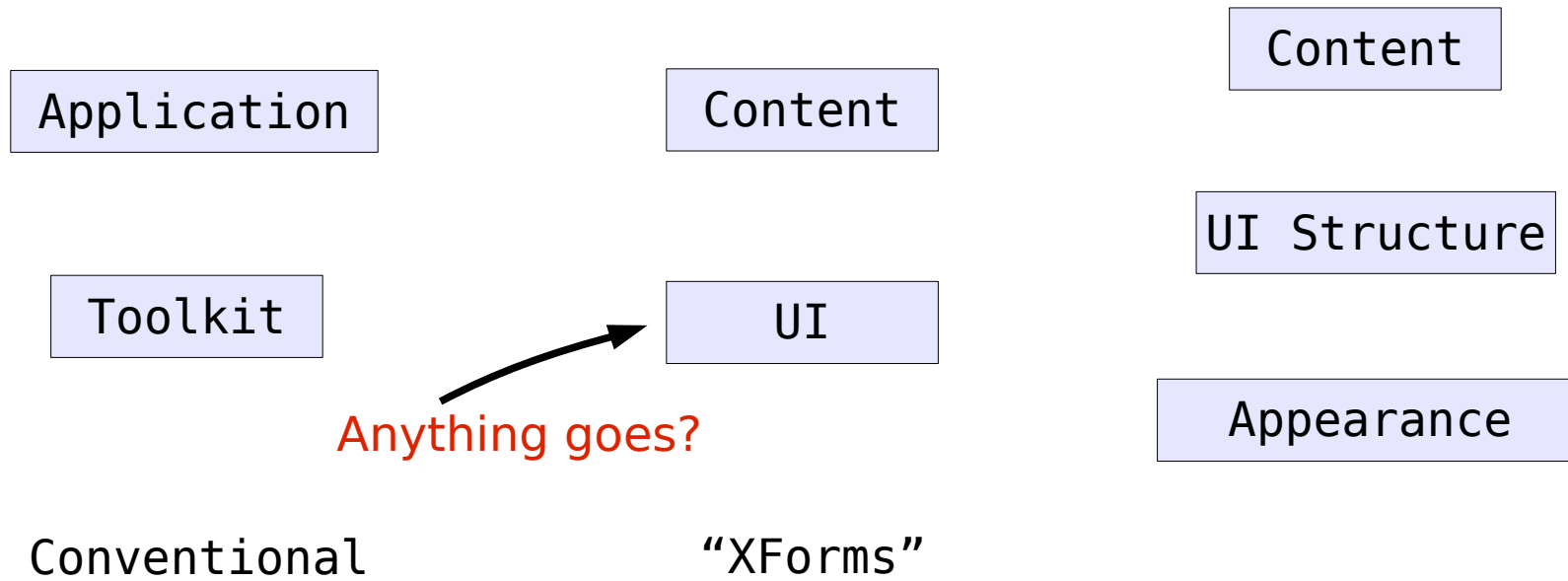
“XForms”

Content

UI Structure

Appearance

Different models



Different models

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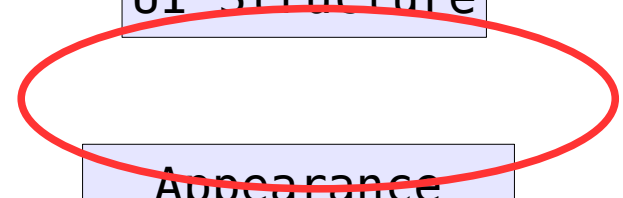
UI

“XForms”

Content

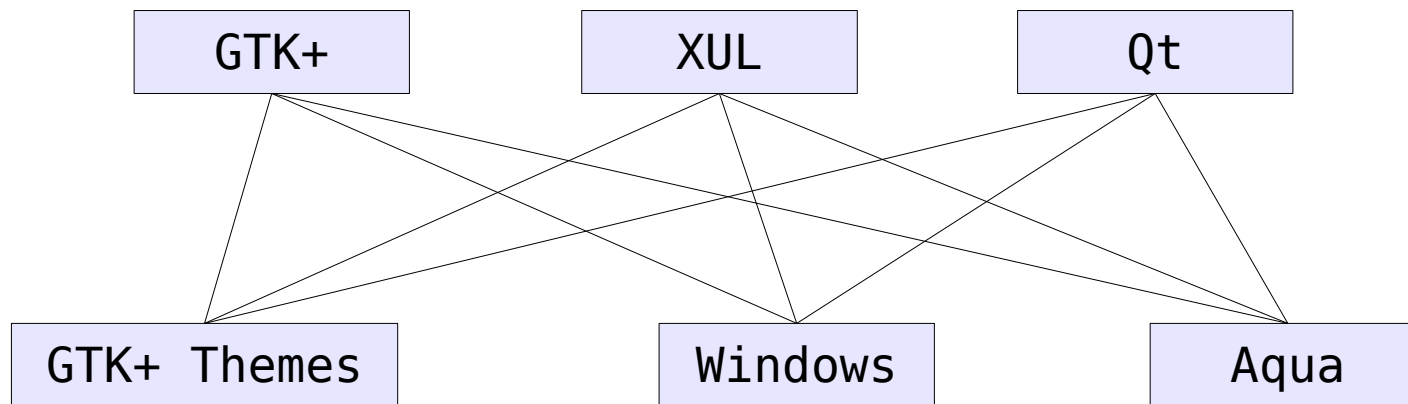
UI Structure

Appearance



Theming

- Not Content/UI separation but Structure/Look separation
- Point of interaction between desktop toolkit + webapps?



Theming (2)

- Can we standardize what a theme looks like?

