

The Edukalibre Project

Producing educational Resources in the “Libre Way”

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Basics of Libre Software developing models

- ◆ Libre: free, open source
- ◆ Collaboration by groups of people
- ◆ Sporadic contributions by anybody
- ◆ Heavily dependent on software (CVS, SourceForge, mailing lists, ...)
- ◆ Asynchronous, geographically distributed
- ◆ Frequent releases

Differences when translating to education

- ◆ Materials are usually the product of few authors working together
- ◆ Not many contributions from people other than authors
- ◆ Basic software usage
- ◆ Infrequent releases

The Edukalibre idea

Can the libre development model be applied to the construction of open educational resources and what tools are needed to support users?

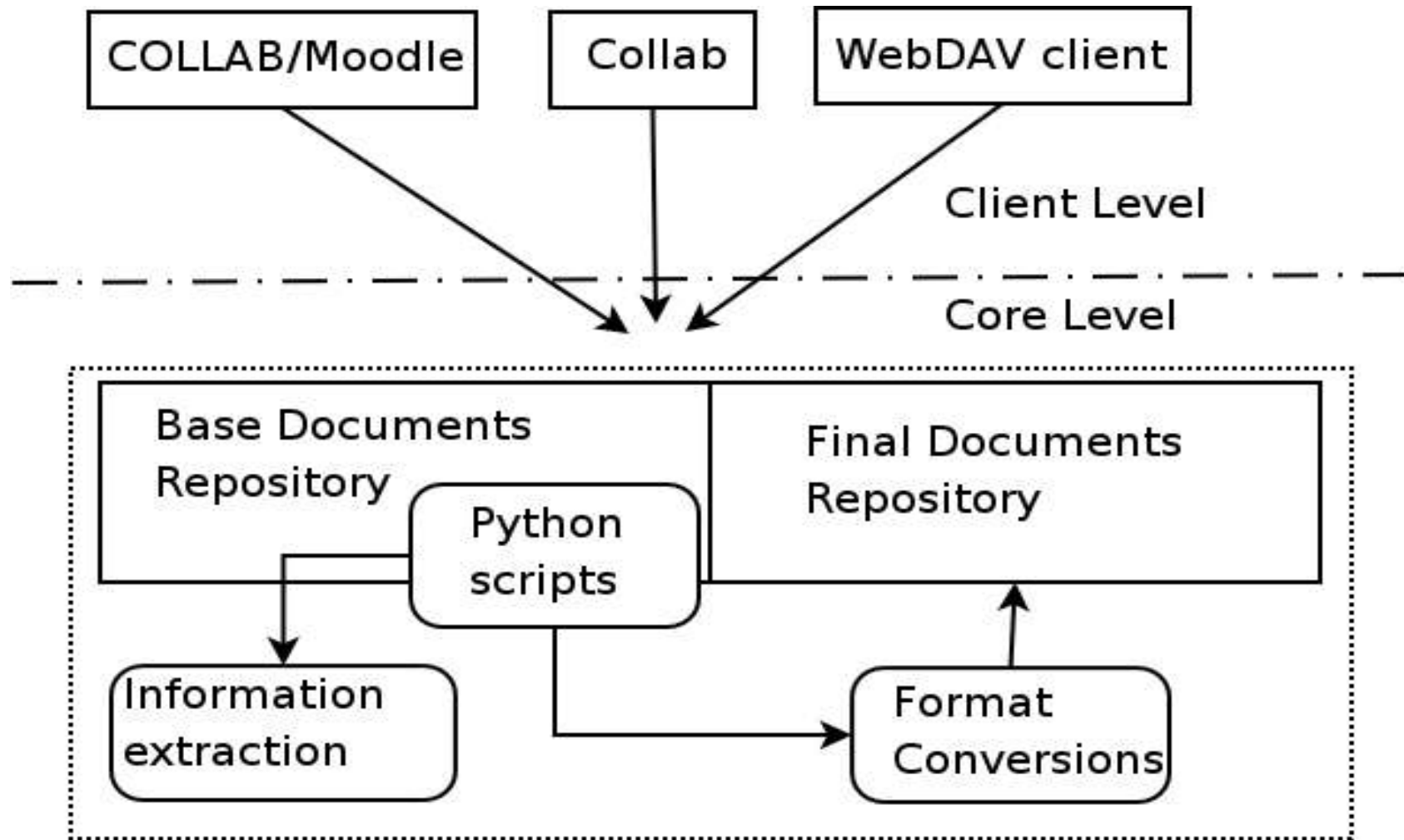
The Edukalibre idea

- ◆ Building and testing a software system for collaborative production of educational materials
- ◆ Simple to use environments, common to educators
- ◆ Built by free software
- ◆ In one sentence: “combine the good of wiki, cvs and structured markup with common word processors and groupware tools”

Edukalibre System Features

- ◆ Repository based on Subversion
- ◆ Access:
 - ◆ Direct, via WebDAV
 - ◆ Web based (PHP application)
 - ◆ Moodle based
- ◆ Automatic format conversion
- ◆ Supported formats: DocBook/XML, LaTeX and OpenOffice

Edukalibre System Architecture



Interfaces: COLLAB, COLLAB/Moodle

- ◆ Several views for documents (in different formats)
- ◆ Access to all versions of the documents
- ◆ Easy way of doing common actions:
 - ◆ Create new documents
 - ◆ Update documents
 - ◆ Edit and modify documents

Repository Manager

- ◆ Based on Subversion
- ◆ Provides control version
- ◆ Provides concurrency control
- ◆ Provides basic authentication

Publishing Repository

- ◆ Integrates the automatic format conversions
- ◆ Where the converted documents are stored
- ◆ The conversions are based on various free applications
- ◆ Formats:
 - ◆ Sources: Openoffice.org, DocBook and Latex
 - ◆ Converted: PDF, Postscript, HTML (single and multiple pages), text, ...

Usual way of working

- ◆ Create a document (or select and existing one) in a repository
- ◆ Access it through one or several interfaces (Moodle, Collab, ...)
- ◆ Upload new versions, all conversions are generated
- ◆ Access the history of releases
- ◆ Casual readers can also send modifications to the authors
- ◆ Anyone can install a new repository
- ◆ Interfaces can access documents in any repository

References

- ◆ Main site

<http://www.edukalibre.org>

- ◆ Development mailing list:

edukalibre-dev@edukalibre.org

- ◆ Software:

<http://www.edukalibre.org/software>

- ◆ Demo:

<http://testing.edukalibre.org>