

## Decibel Hackathon Minutes

Date:  
17./18. of March 2007

Participants:

Dominik Haumann  
Volker Krause  
Will Stephenson

Tobias Hunger  
Friedrich Kossebau  
Geert Vlastuin

Stanislav Karchebny  
Duncan Mac-Vicar

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## Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> of March 2007

### Welcome

Welcome participants.

### Introductions

**Dominik Haumann:** Kate Developer living in Darmstadt

**Will Stephenson:** Kopete developer, working for Novell, advance Kopete/Telepathy/Decibel integration.

**Friedrich Kossebau:** KDE developer, working on a better addressbook (== Khalkhi framework)

**Duncan Mac-Vicar:** Kopete developer, now inactive. Wants to learn about „the new stuff“.

**Volker Krause:** Akonadi developer, wants to learn what Decibel and Kopete need from Akonadi

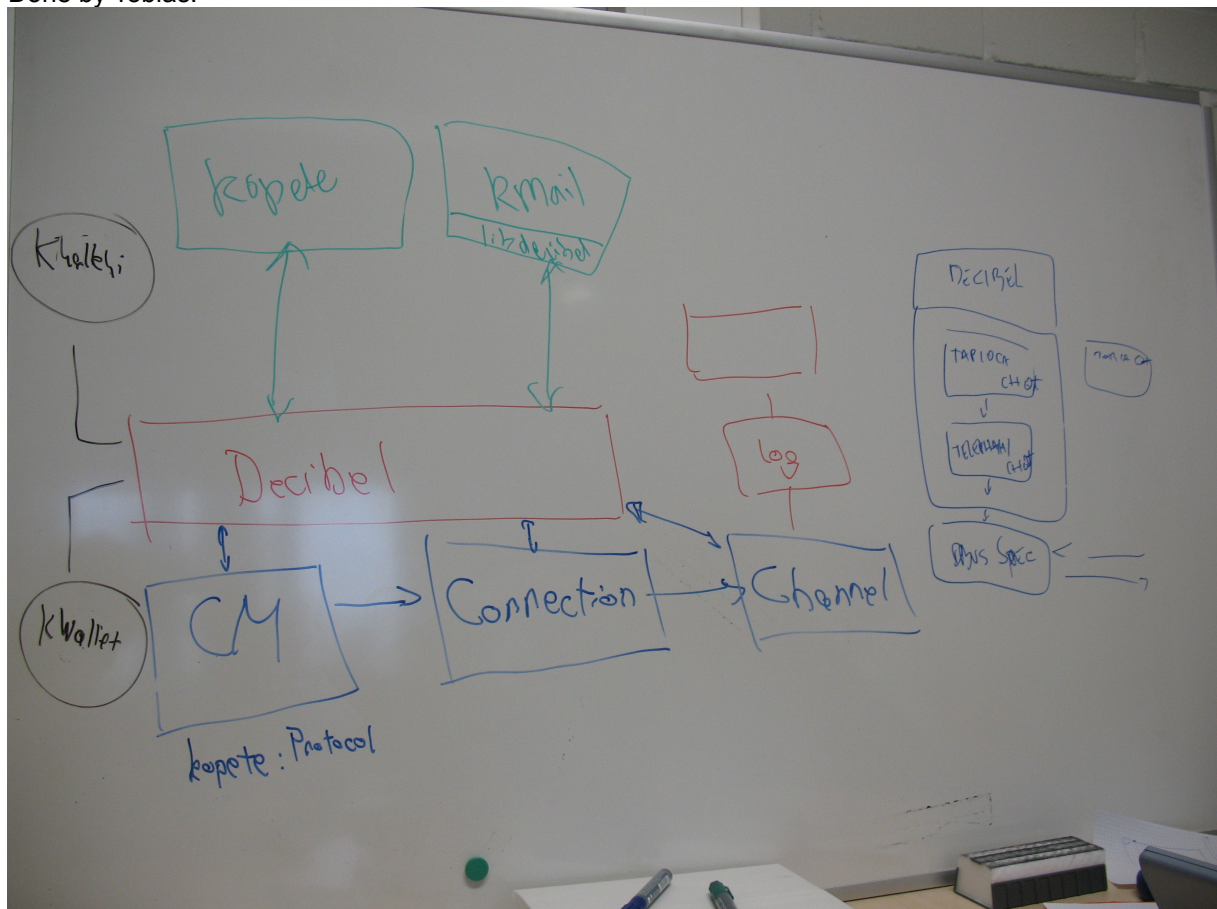
**Geert Vlastuin:** Not involved with KDE yet, former engineer in the telecommunication sector, wants to learn and get involved with development

**Tobias Hunger:** Decibel developer, wants to discuss integration of Decibel with contact data frameworks.

**Stanislav Karchebny:** Works for Skype. Find out how to integrate next version of Skype into KDE (planned for Summer 2007).

### Decibel Introduction

Done by Tobias:



Introduction of architecture, explaining differences between Telepathy, Tapioca and Decibel. Areas of integration:

- Account Data (Kwallet)
- Decibel requires more information about CM to make informed decisions

- Open question: Where to store data like?

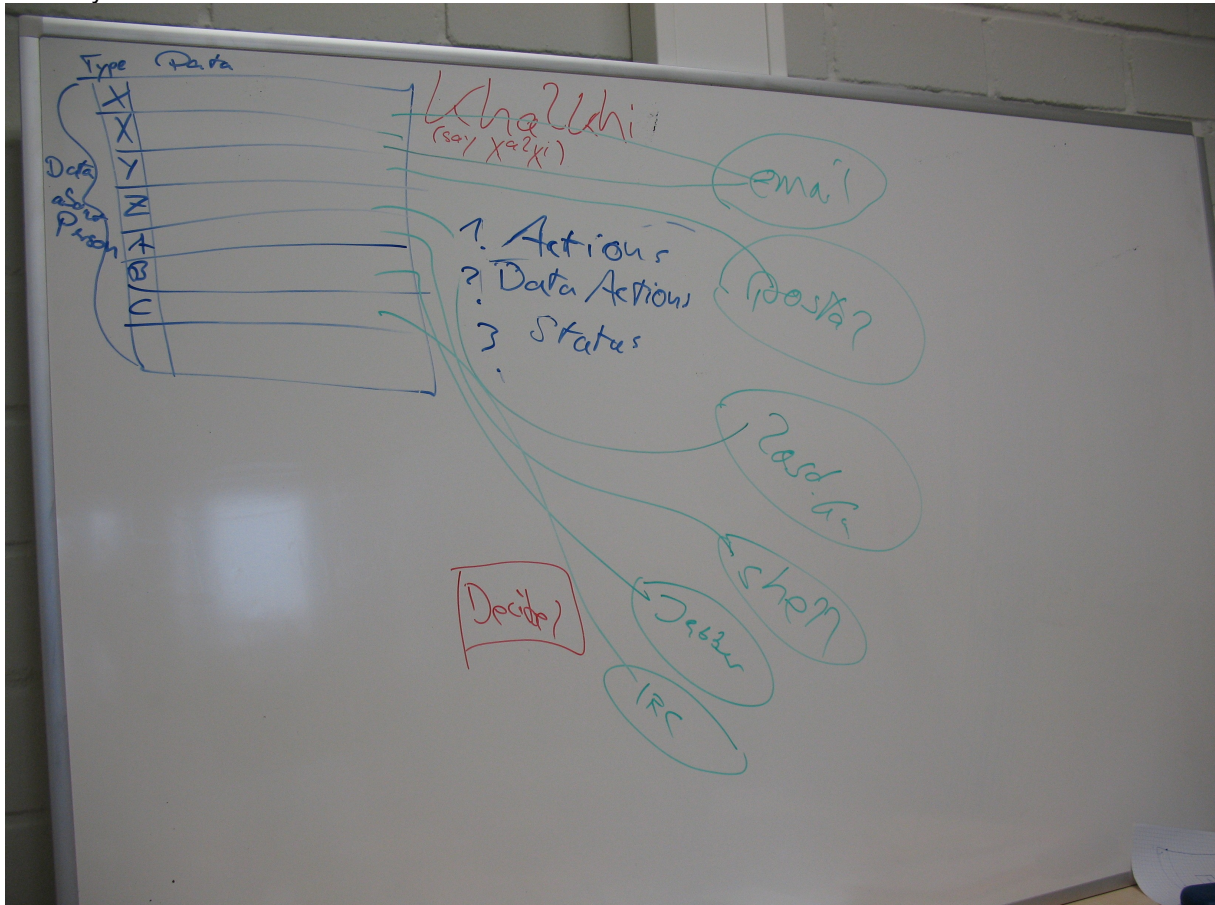
## Akonadi Introduction

Done by Volker:

<http://pim.kde.org/akonadi/slides/akonadi-20070317.pdf>

## Khalkhi Introduction

Done by Friedrich:



Pronunciation: Chalchi (georgian word for „People“, word has arabic roots)

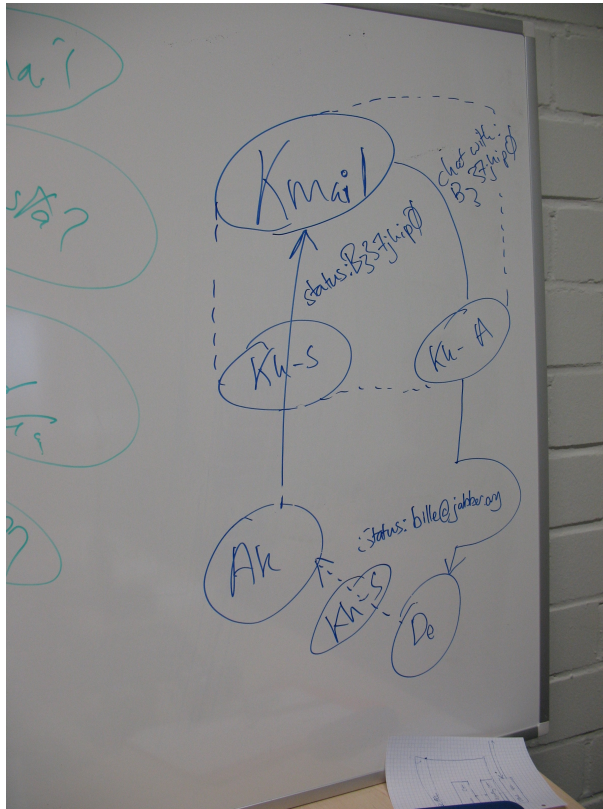
Current addressbook format based on vCard: Limited number of entries (e.g. one Homepage per Contact), extensions are possible but must use simple types.

Khalkhi: Person is defined by a list of data. Data has a type and the actual data fields.

Khalkhi supports

- Actions: Operate on types (e.g. „write a mail to“ for type email-address)
- Data Actions: Action that receives data. Defined by type and mime-type of data.
- Status: Enter status information (Will considers status to be different from the others, suggests separating it).

Discuss how Decibel fits in with Khalki/Akonadi

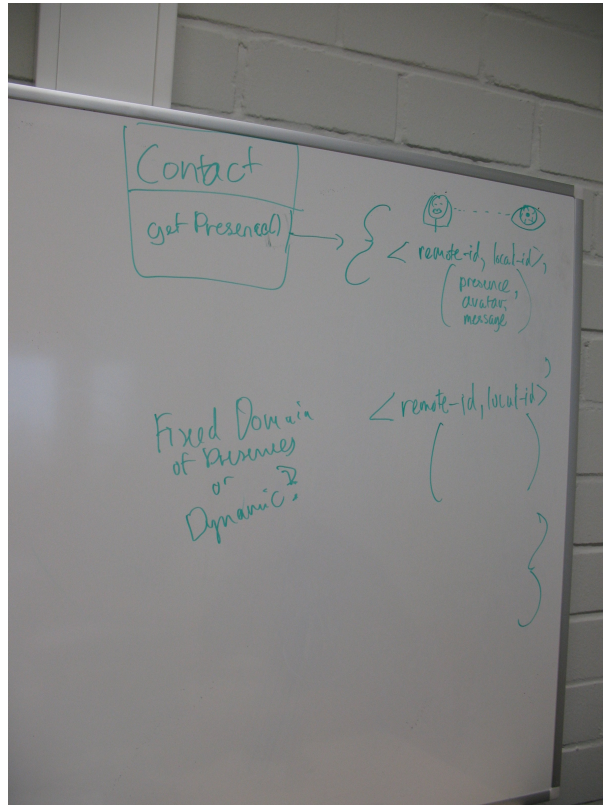


### Dinner

Show Darmstadt while walking to a restaurant and have some dinner.

## Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2007

### Data Storage



Result: We must store a tuples of  $\langle \text{local id}, \text{remote id}, \text{presence}, \text{presence message} \rangle$  and  $\langle \text{local id}, \text{remote id}, \text{avatar picture} \rangle$ . Both depend on subject and observer (e.g. A user may hide from one account but not from another)

Actual avatar data might be stored in a different BLOB and referenced in the tuple by its Akonadi ID.

### Discuss Decibel/Khalkhi interface

Friedrich and Tobias discuss the current contactconnector interface and how to improve it.

### Telepathy Requirements

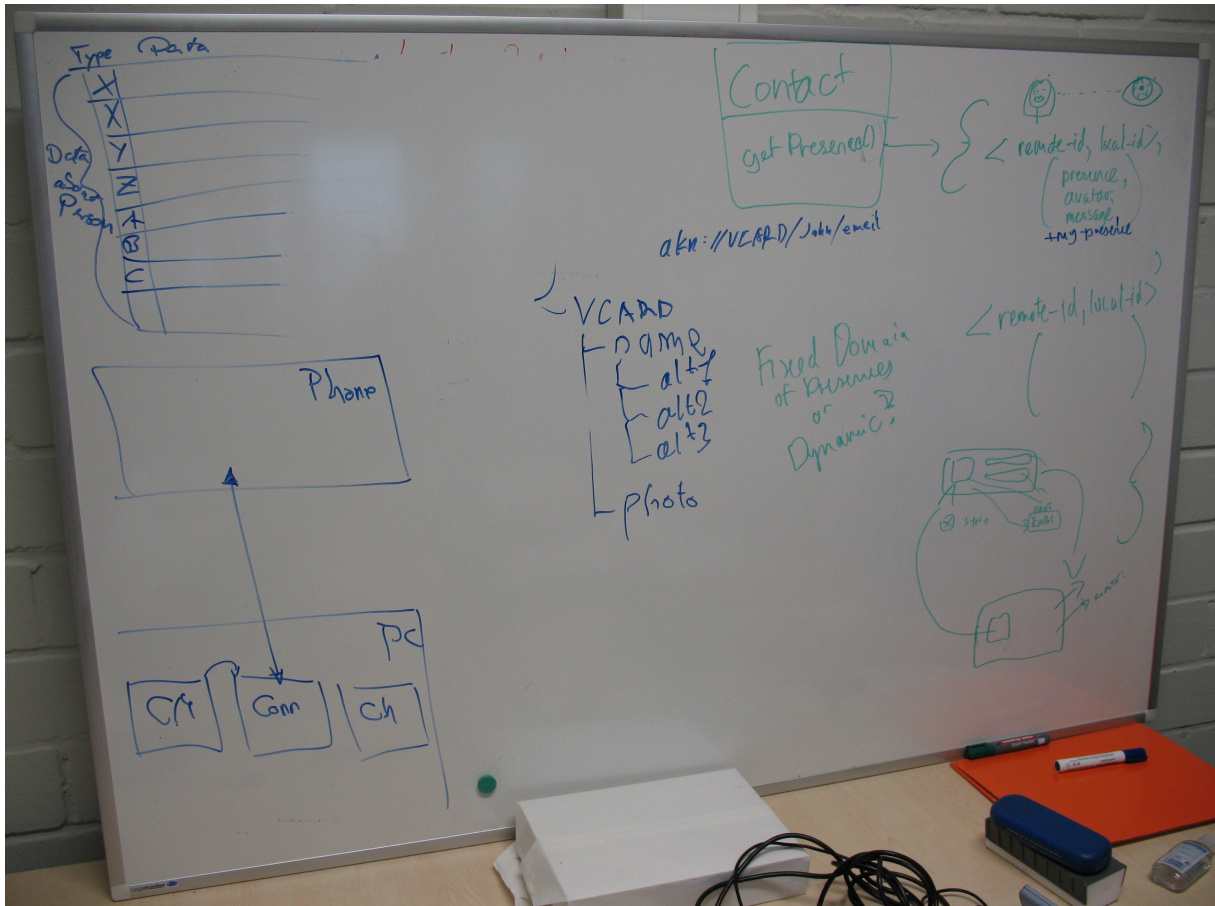
Discuss lists of improvements to request from Telepathy at FOSTEL. Go over Decibel list (mostly CTI related). Will said he will bring his list to FOSTEL. We want to coordinate before that event.

### Usecases

- Make sure Decibel does not do anything (requested in a reaction to dot.KDE article on Decibel): Do not make accounts known to it.
- Incoming connection: Describe how Decibel starts channelhandlers
- Outgoing connection: Requesting application can handle channel itself or ask Decibel to start a channelhandler just as it would do for an incoming connection.
- Write contactlist application: Akonadi View (presence Info), Khalkhi actions (start chat) No IM logic required at all.
- Subscribing/unsubscribing to contacts: Need to store  $\langle \text{local-id}, \text{remote-id} \rangle$  tuples with local id being the preferred account used to contact a remote ID. local id of 0 signifies unsubscribed status.
- Ban and Invisibility lists: Add own presence as visible to a contact to its presence tuple. Ban is a special state of own visibility.

Possible improvement: Hand channel back to Decibel to find other handler (needed e.g. for Khalkhi applet popups: „Incoming chat request from contact X, accept it or ignore it?“).

### Store Contact data in Akonadi



Must have Akonadi ID for all contacts, but may not want all contact data in addressbook. Possible options:

- Store everything in addressbook anyway. Will annoy users.
- add all contacts into akonadi but store them in application specific places and not the adresbook. Several places to look up contact data in, defeats purpose of central storage.
- Store everything in addressbook, unify entries into one. Use application specific namespaces.(prefixes) for all entries.
- multiple (vCard-) entries per person (==Akonadi ID).

Last option seems preferable. Akonadi already supports multiple entries per ID for mail attachments. Volker will discuss this with PIM developers on their next meeting.

Problem: Merging information on several vCards. Volker says merging must be done in Akonadi anyway, so this might be the way to go.

Volker will bring this topic up at the next PIM Meeting.

## Groupphoto



left to right: Duncan Mac-Vicar (Kopete), Friedrich Kossebau (Khalkhi), Will Stephenson (Kopete), Tobial Hunger (Decibel), Konqi (chairperson), Volker Krause (Akonadi), Stanislav Karchebny (Skype), Dominik Haumann (Kate). Geert Vlastuin is taking the picture.

## Close Meeting

## Results

- Update Decibel buildsystem to respect `-fvisibility=hidden` builds. This will ease porting Decibel to other operating system environments as well as integration into KDE4. Small fixes were developed and applied.
- QtTapioca was updated to respect `-fvisibility=hidden`.
- Discussion of how to generate client bindings was held in the `kde4-devel`
- All participants got a good understanding about what the other teams are heading for and what the different projects require from the other teams. Having all projects handling project data at the meeting was a real help for future cooperation
- Stanislav from Skype wants to commit to Decibel and Telepathy. See <http://nodalpoint.madfire.net/articles/2007/03/19/sounds-of-the-shuttle>