Achieving Better Buying Power for Mobile Open Architecture Software Systems Through Diverse Acquisition Scenarios

Walt Scacchi and Thomas Alspaugh

INSTITUTE *for* SOFTWARE RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY *of* CALIFORNIA · IRVINE

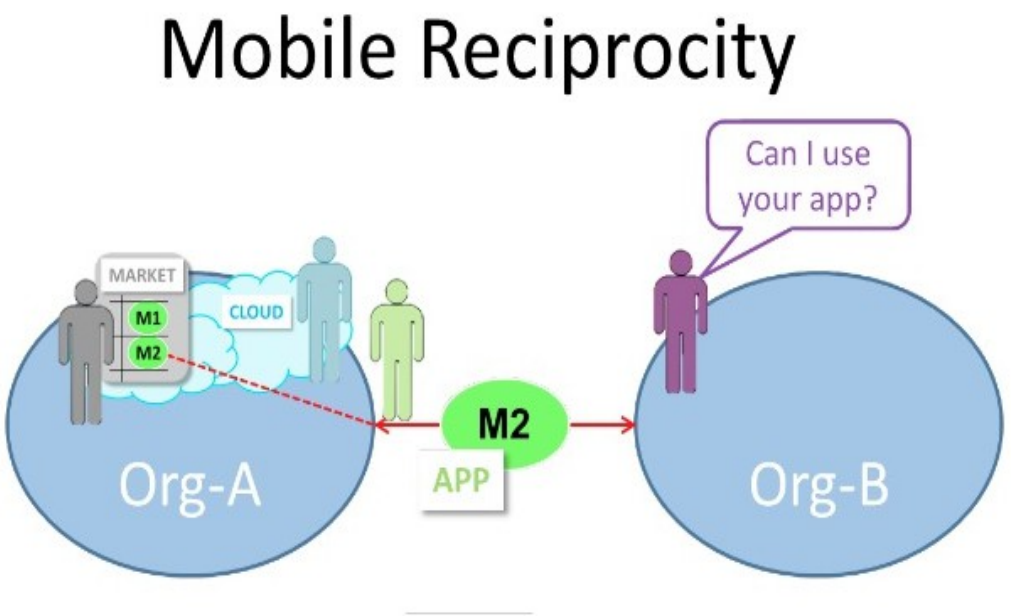
Overview

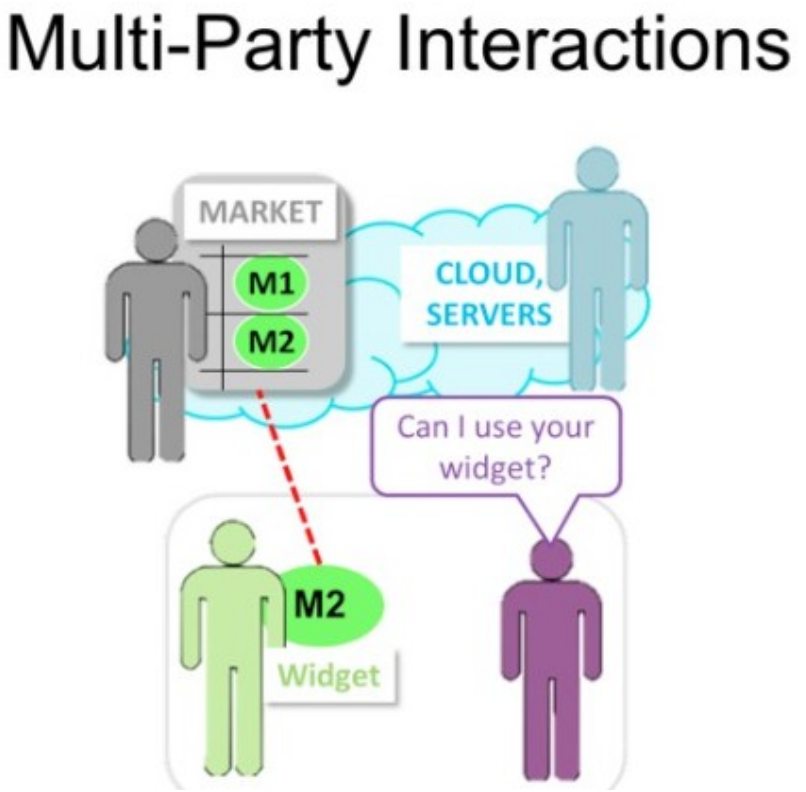
- Background
- *Case Study*: Multi-party acquisition of components for a secure Open Architecture C2 systems within an agile, adaptive software ecosystem
- Emerging R&D challenges in acquiring secure, component-based OA C2 systems
- Emerging challenges in achieving Better Buying Power via component-based OA systems
- Conclusions

Background

- New ways and means for acquisition, development, and deployment of C2/C3CB systems.
  - Development and deployment of *assembled capabilities* (AC) across the Defense open architecture (OA) software ecosystem
- Who is pursuing AC for C2/C3BC system capabilities?

Transforming to multi-party acquisition of software elements within OA ecosystems





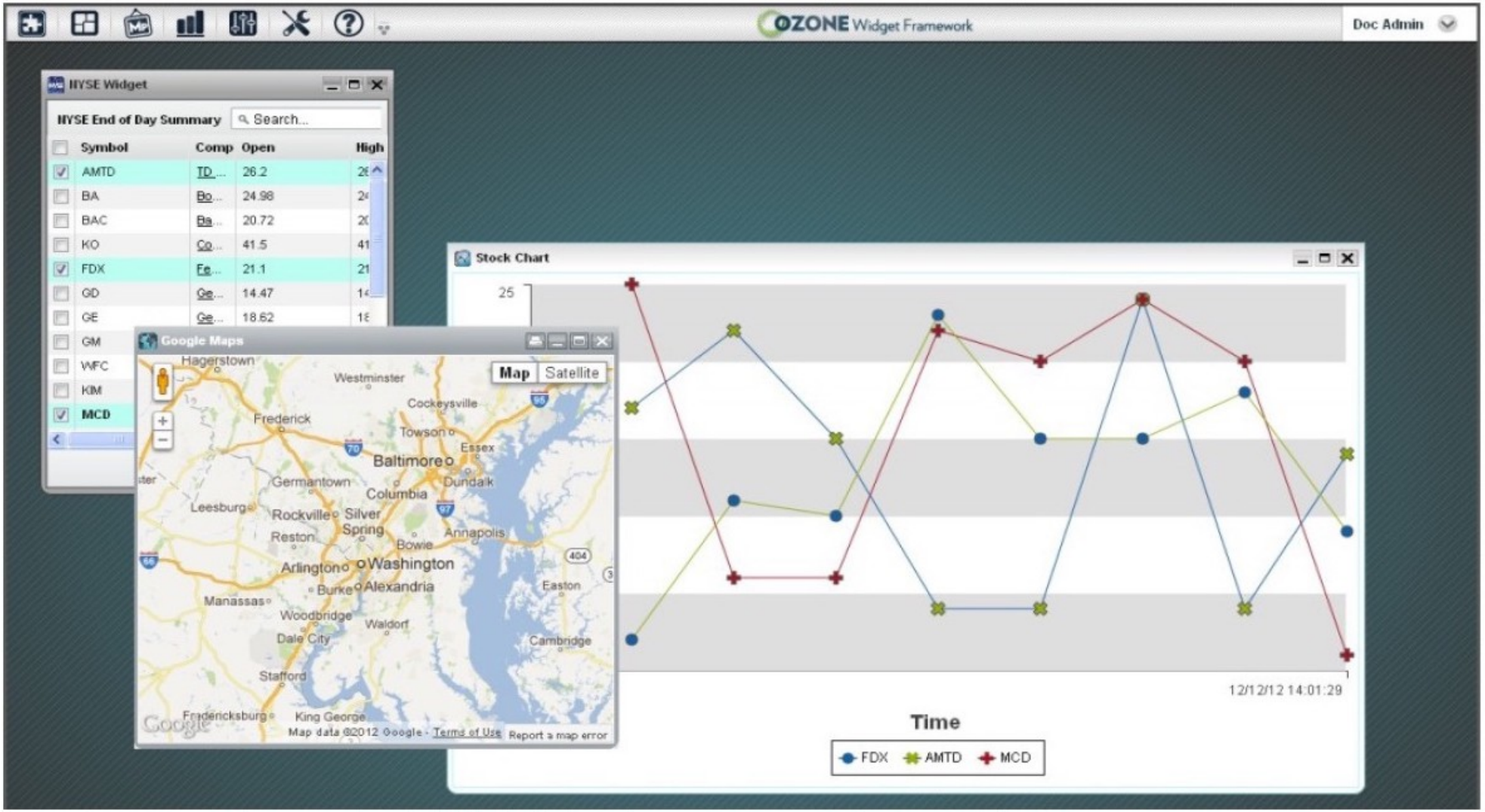
Customer/end-user organizations now looking for ways to reduce acquisition cost and effort through *shared development/use of common OA software system components* (apps, widgets).

C3CB Software Component Types

- *Mission Component*s enable C3CB processes and present common operating picture data to end-users.
  - Mission components realized as apps/widgets that may be deployed on mission-specific platforms including secured Web/mobile devices.
- *Common Development Technology Components* provide AC development tools and common run-time applications servers that support the mission components, where these servers are bundled with Shared Infrastructure.
- S*hared Infrastructure Components* combine local/remote application servers and data repositories with networking services and deployment platforms.

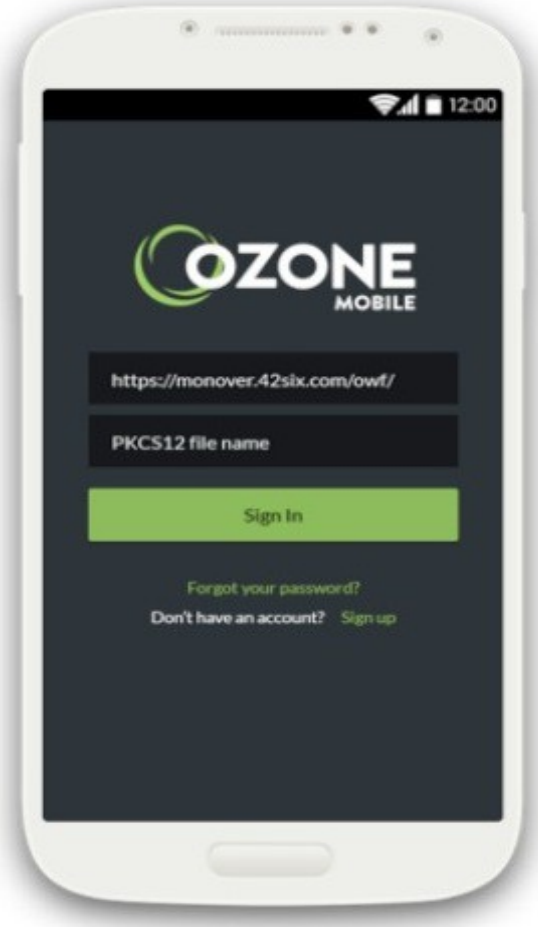
Sample of producers for mission components, common technologies, infrastructure components

New paths for software component acquisition and development using inter-communicating widgets/apps acquired from online App Stores



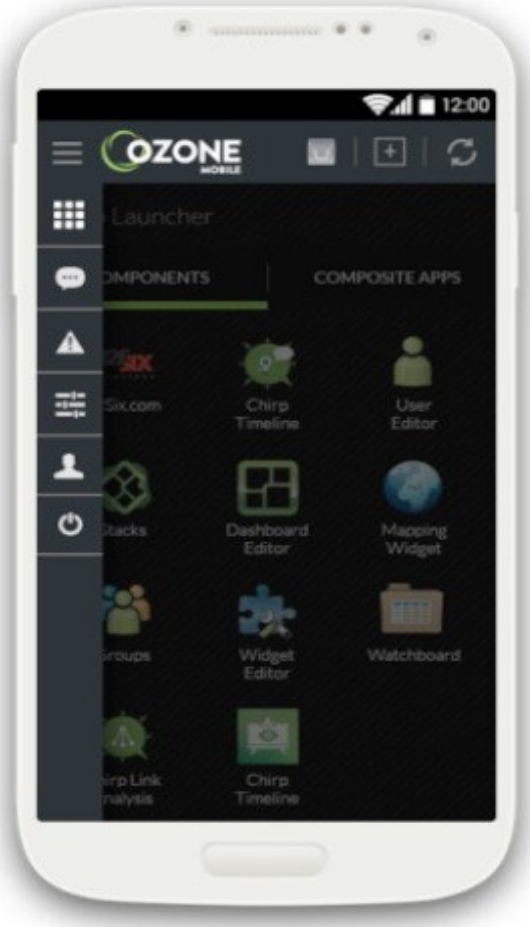
Shared development of Apps and Widgets as OA system components

CAS Sign In



App Launcher

Ozone Mobile Drawer Menu



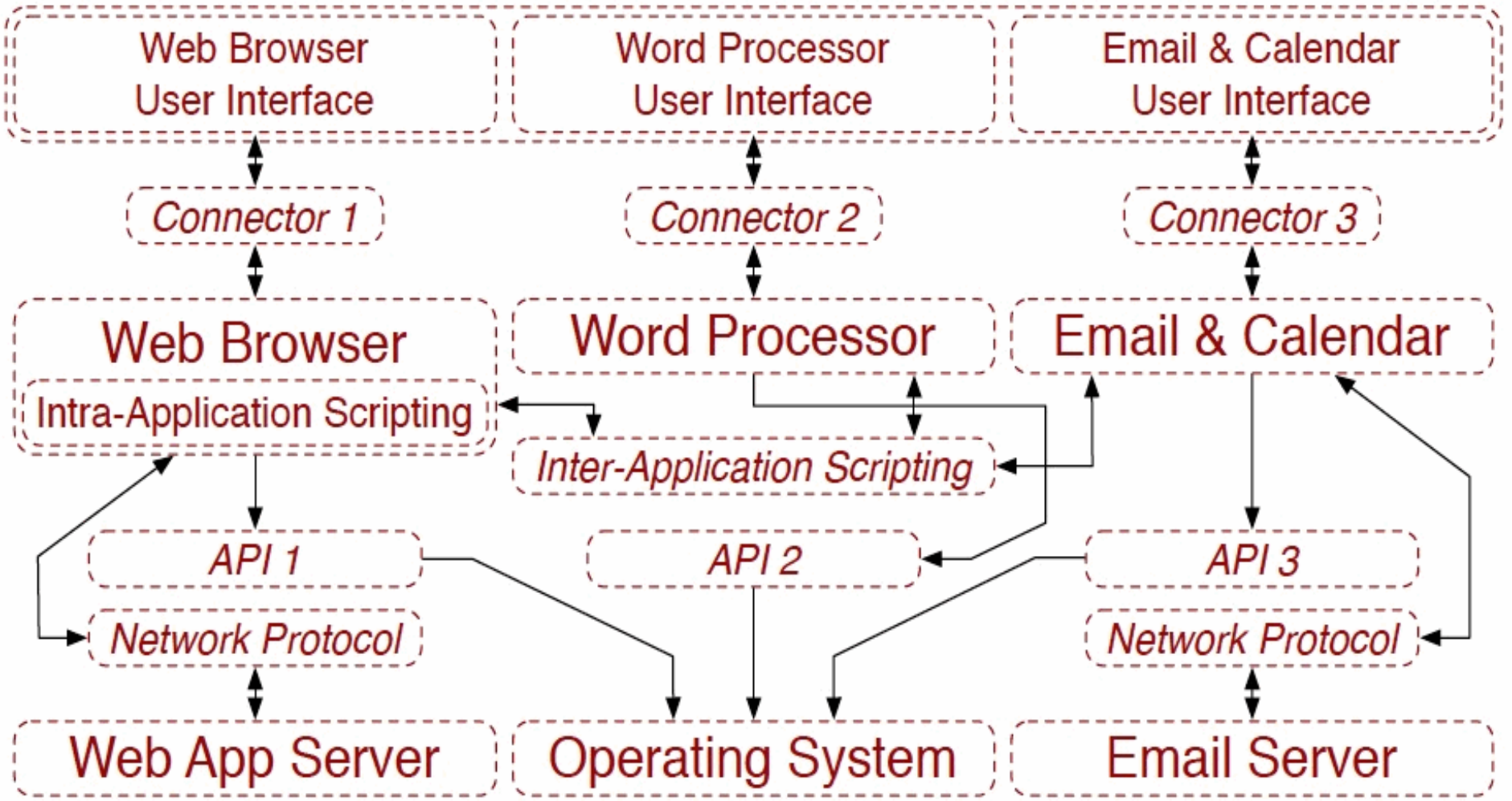
Ozone Platform for Mobile Devices

Who is pursuing AC for C2/C3BC systems?

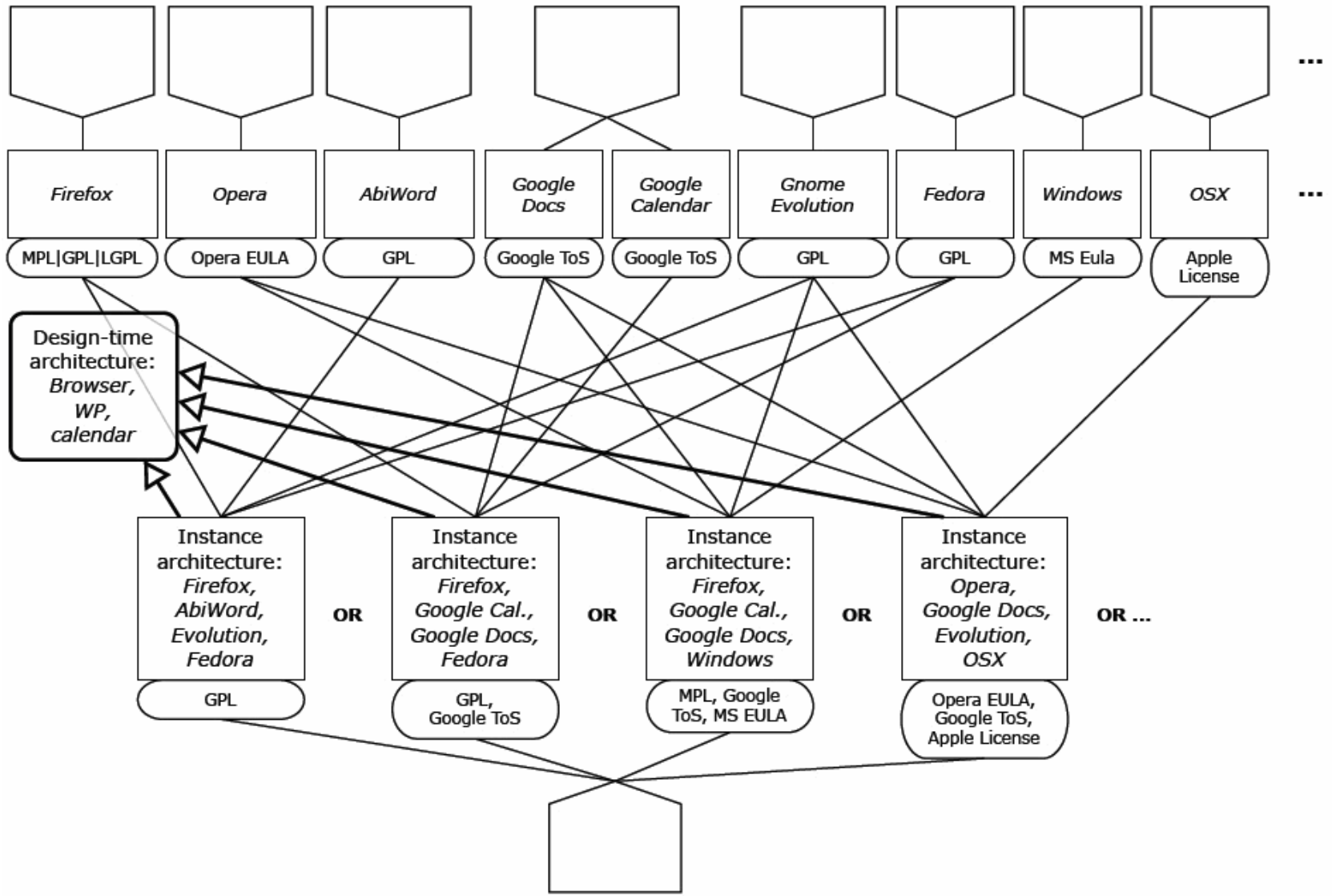
- OUSD (AT+L), DASD(A)-C3CB Working Group
- Air Force – TBMCS-FL (manages ATOs, manages Airspace)
- Air Force – AOC (Air Operations Center, using harvested components from TBMCS-FL, and CANES)
- Army – DCGS-A, DIB (DCGS Integration Backbone), and DMO (DIB Management Office)
- Navy – CANES and ACS (Afloat Core Services)
- Navy – PEO C4ISR Storefront and Tactical Cloud Marketplace
- DI2E

Case Study: OSS, open architectures, and software licenses for C2 or C3CB systems

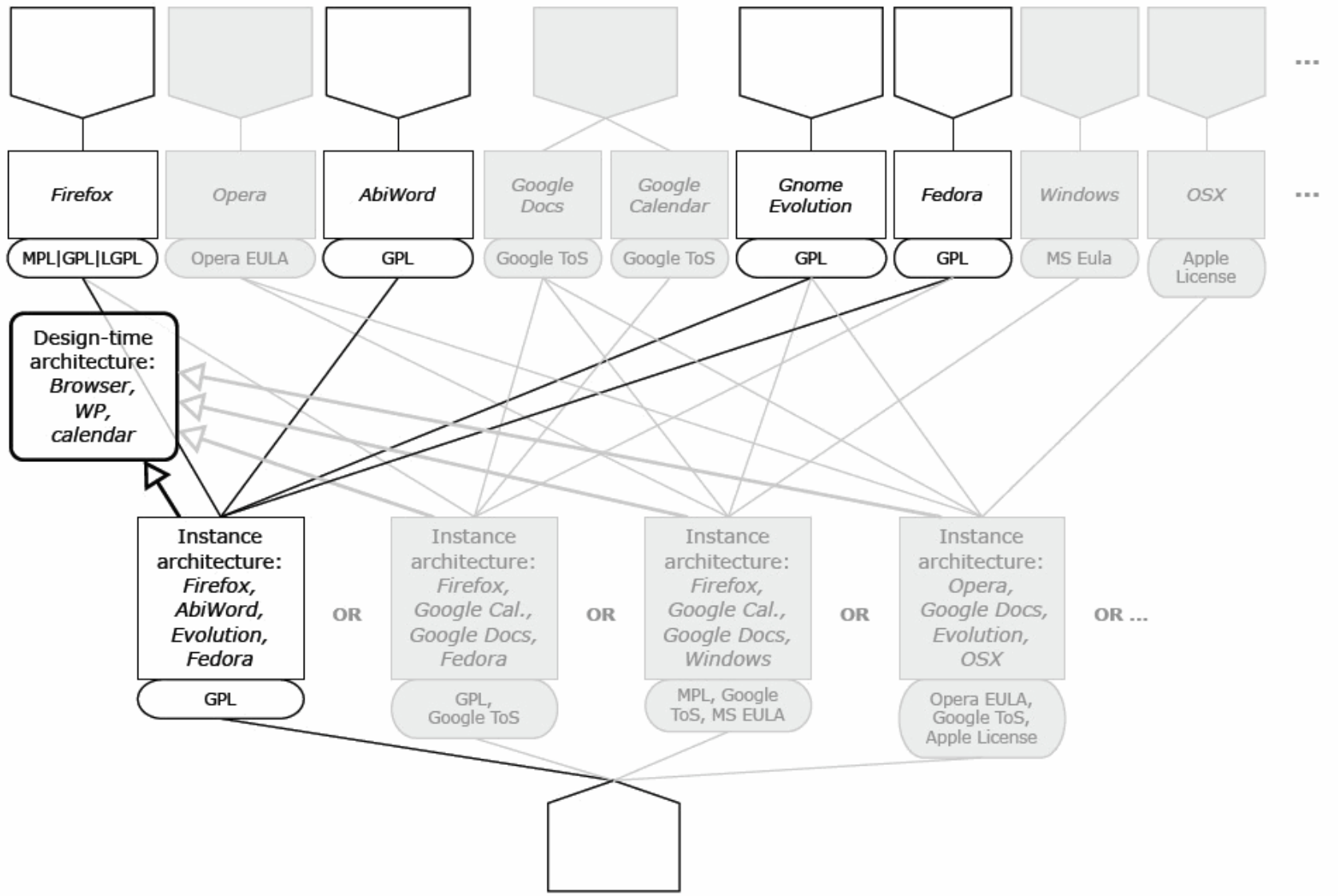
Design-time view of an OA system



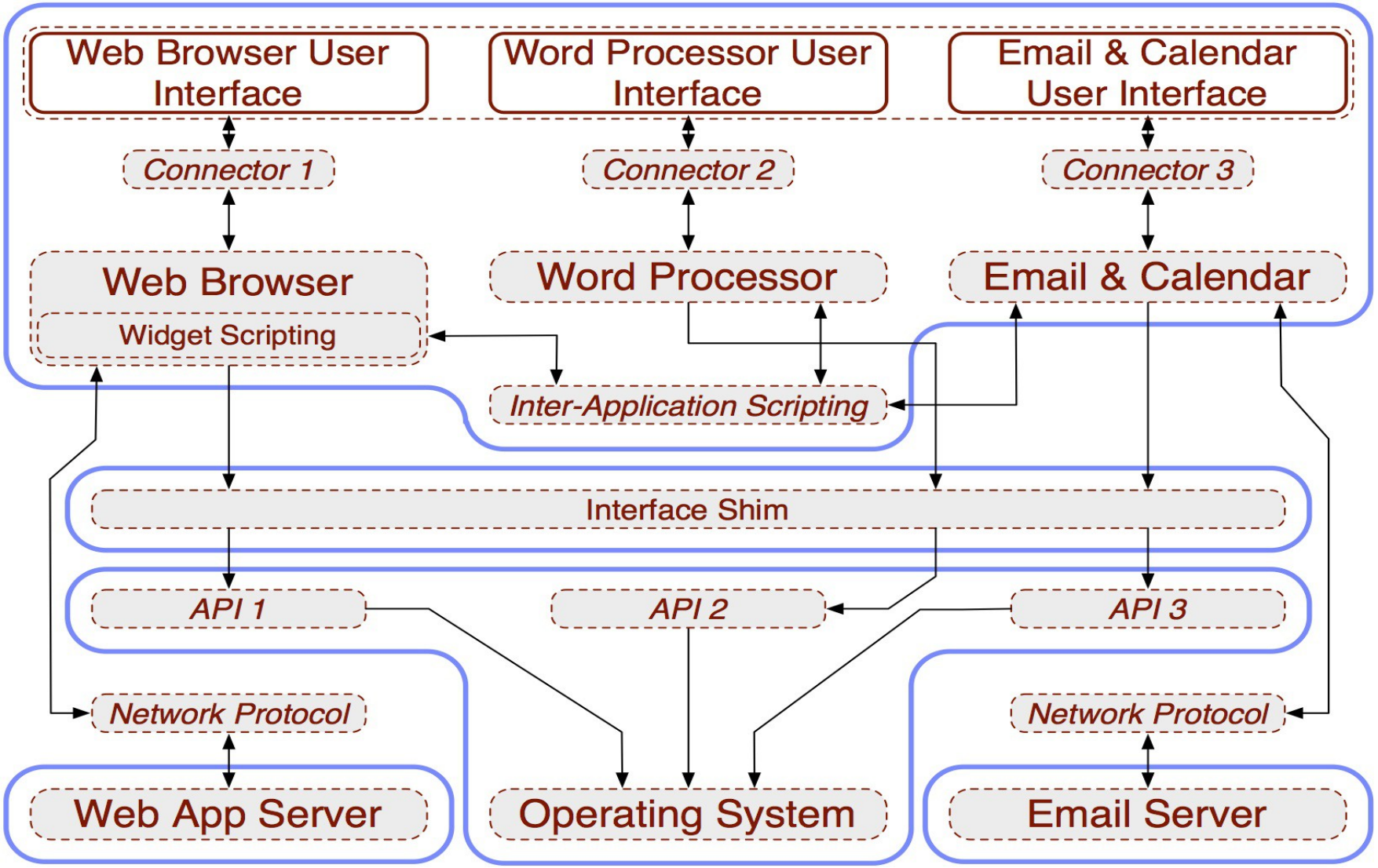
Software product line of *functionally similar* OA system alternatives



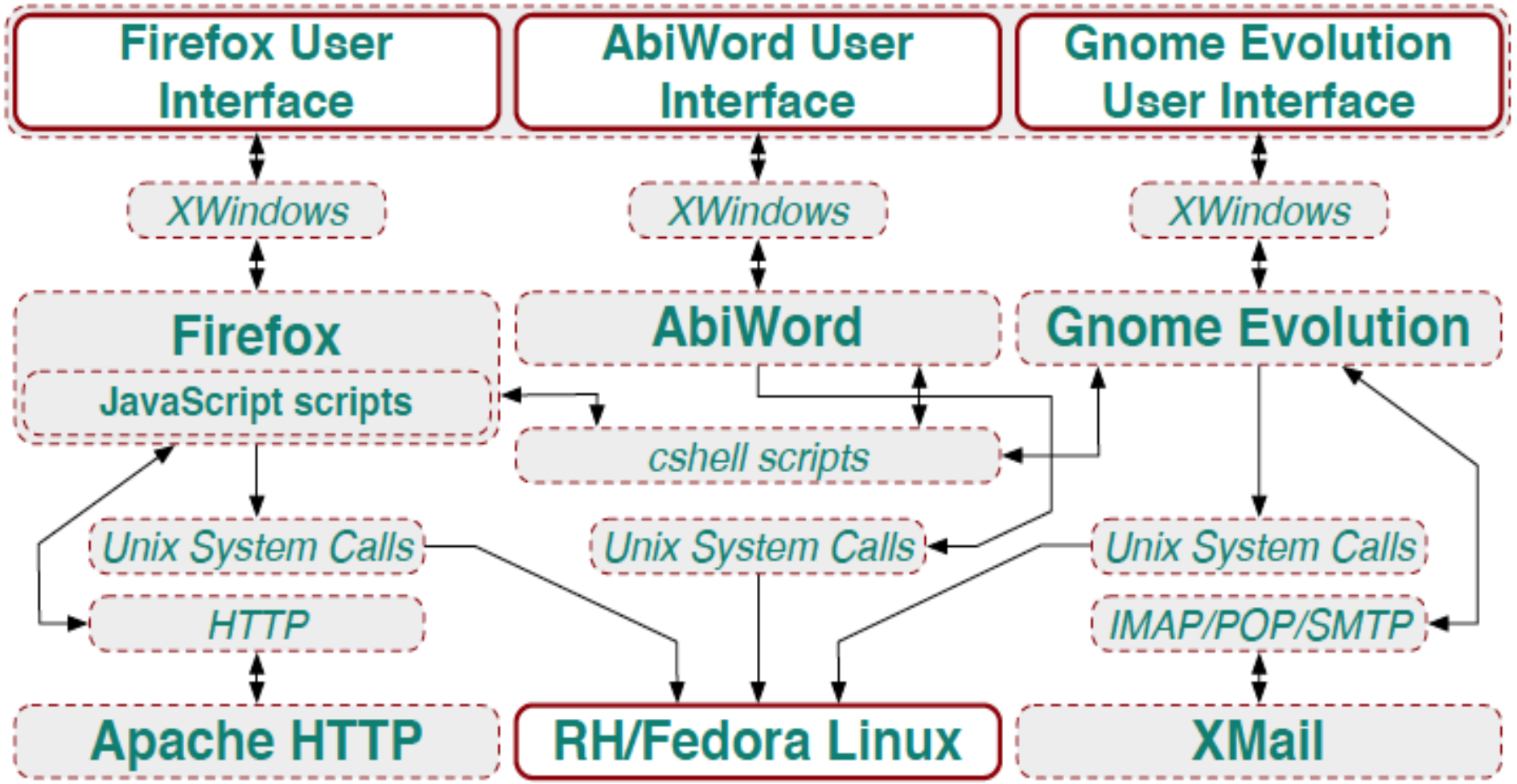
Product line selection of one alternative system configuration



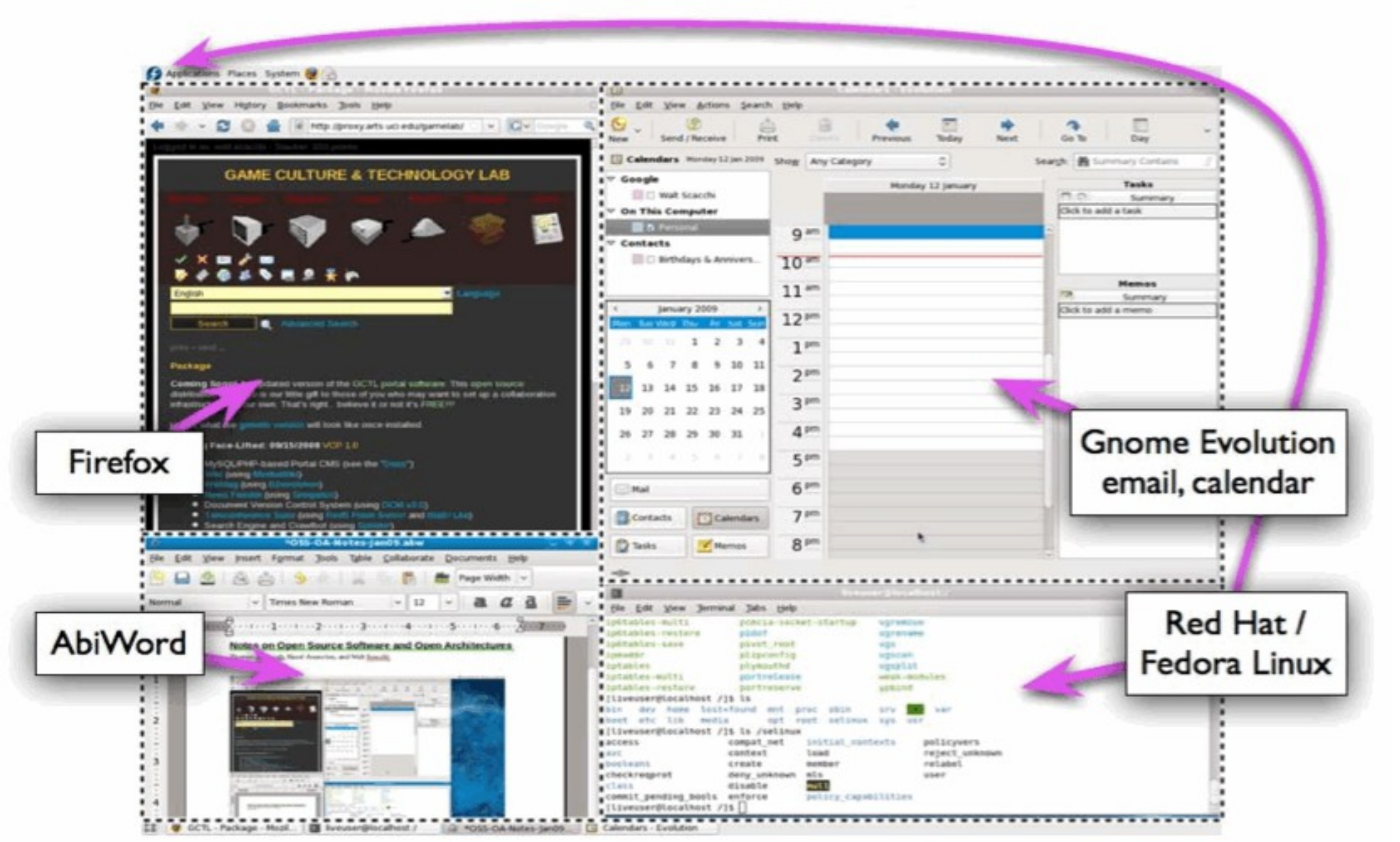
A security capability specification encapsulating the *design-time* configuration via multiple virtual machine containers



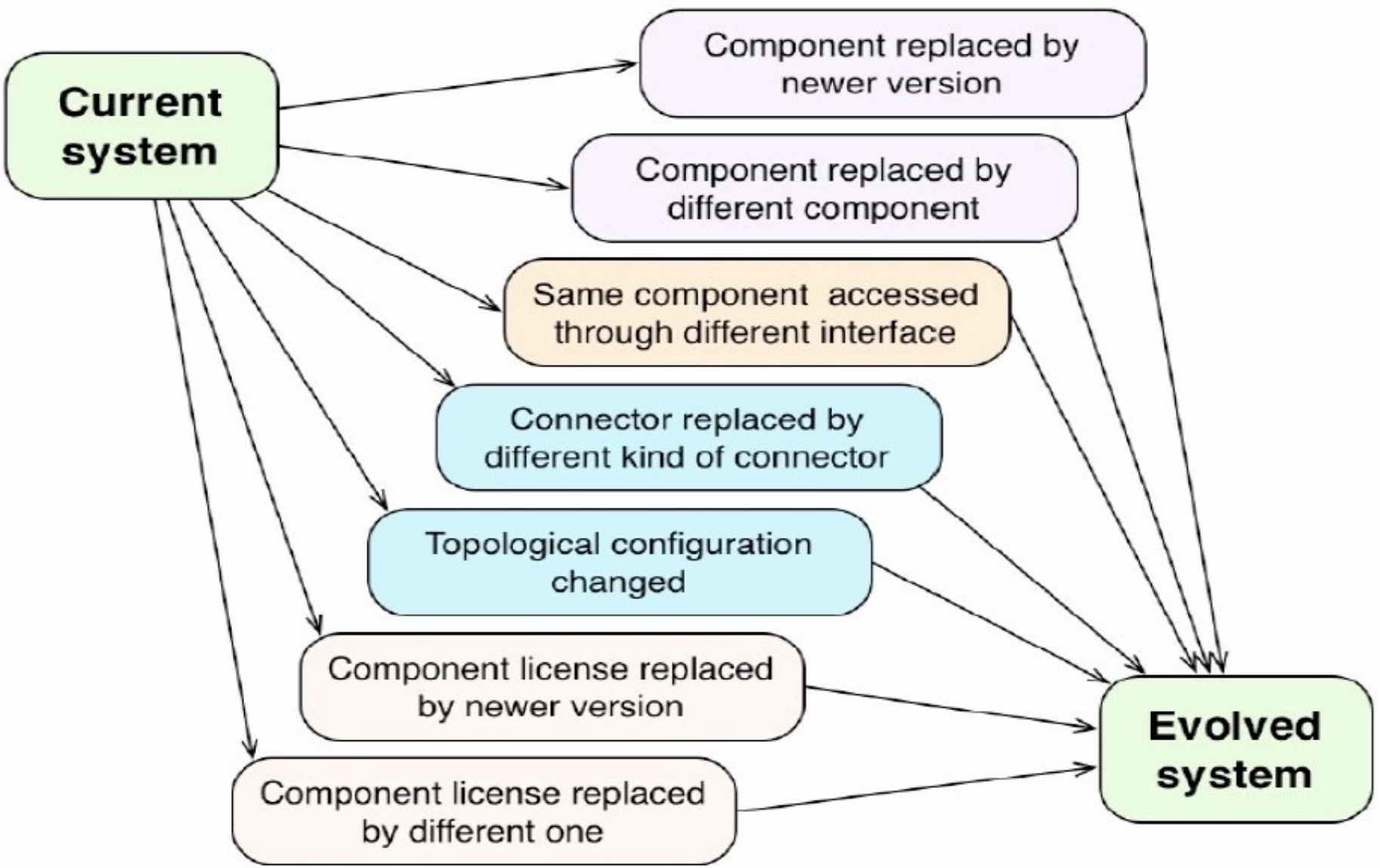
Build-time view of OA design selecting *OSS* product family alternatives



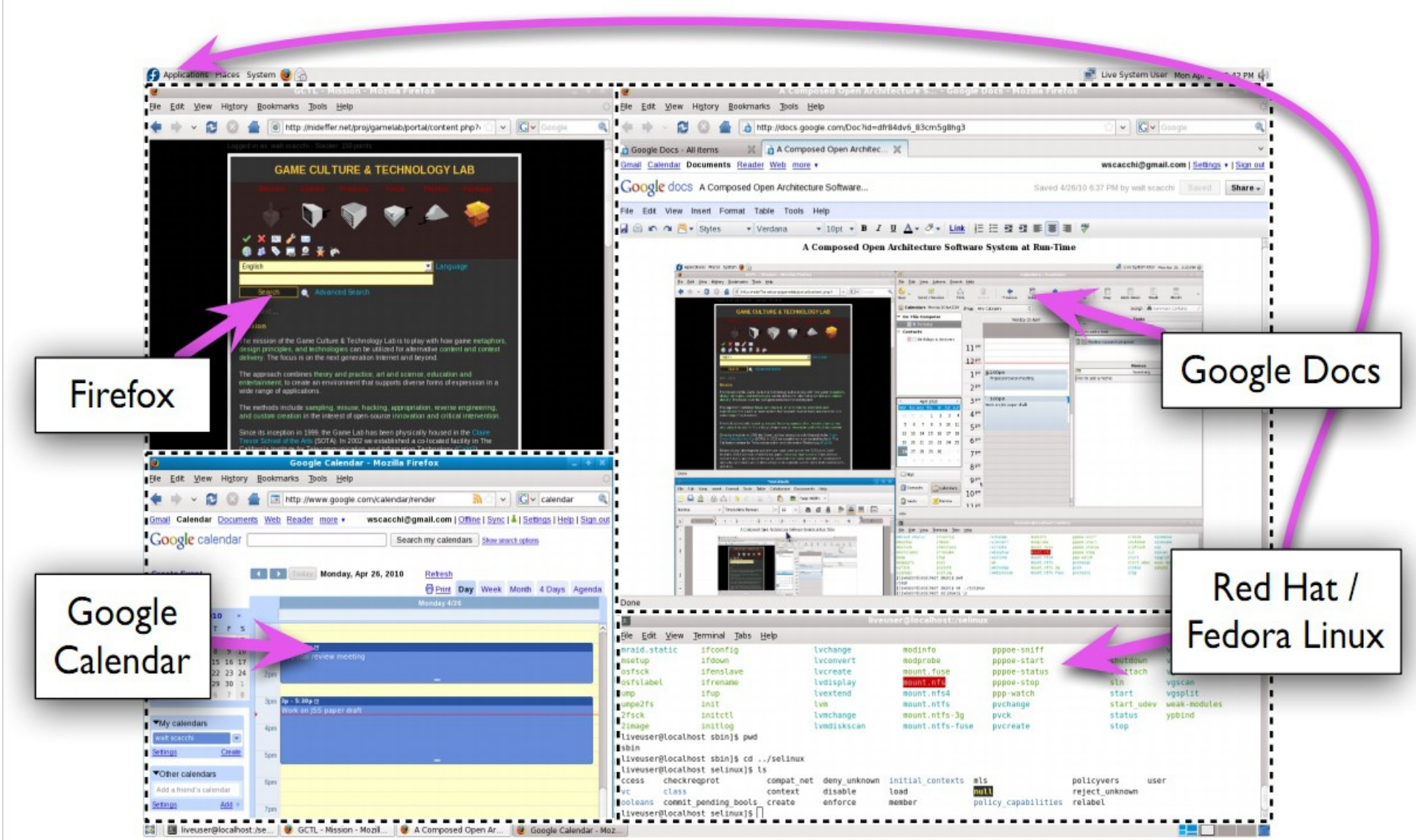
Run-time deployment view of OA system family member configuration



Evolution-time software changes



Evolved run-time deployment view of a *functionally similar* alternative OA system configuration



Challenges of securing open OA C2/C3CB systems

Current security approaches

- Mandatory access control lists, firewalls;
- Multi-level security;
- Authentication (including certificate authority and passwords);
- Cryptographic support (including public key certificates);
- Encapsulation (including virtualization), hardware confinement (memory, storage, and external device isolation), and type enforcement capabilities;
- Secure programming practices;
- Data content or control signal flow logging/auditing;
- Honey-pots, traps, sink-holes;
- Security technical information guides (STIGs) for configuring the security parameters for applications and operating systems;
- Functionally equivalent but diverse multi-variant software executables.
- Software component security assurance processes.

Current approaches to software cybersecurity do not address the challenges of continuously evolving OA C2 systems emerging within agile, adaptive software ecosystems!

New business/pricing models for OA software components

- Franchising
- Enterprise licensing
- Metered usage
- Advertising supported
- Subscription
- Free component, paid service fees
- Federated reciprocity for shared development
- Collaborative buying
- Donation
- Sponsorship
- (Government) open source software
- and others

Managing acquisition costs will be demanding. Acquisition workforce will need automated assistance*, else acquisition management costs will dominate development costs for OA software components!*

New practices to realize cost-effective acquisition of OA AC systems

- Need to R&D ***worked examples*** of reference OA system models, and component evolution alternatives.
- Need ***open source models of*** app/widget security assurance ***processes and*** reusable cybersecurity ***requirements.***
- Need precise ***domain-specific languages*** (DSLs) and ***automated analysis tools*** for continuously assessing and continuously improving cybersecurity and IP requirements for OA C2 systems composed from apps/widgets.

Emerging challenges in achieving *Better Buying Power* via OA software systems

- Program managers/staff *may not understand* how software IP licenses affect OA system design, and vice-versa.
- Software IP and cybersecurity obligations and rights propagate across system development, deployment, and evolution activities *in ways not well understood* by system developers, integrators, end-users, or acquisition managers.
- *Failure to understand* software IP and cybersecurity obligations and rights propagation can reduce DoD buying power, increase software life cycle costs, and reduce competition.
- DoD and other Government agencies *would financially and administratively benefit* from engaging the development and deployment of an (open source) automated software obligations and rights management system for the acquisition workforce.

Conclusions

- Our research identifies how new software component technologies, IP and security requirements, and new business models interact to drive-down or drive-up acquisition costs.
- New technical risks for component-based OA software systems can dilute the cost-effectiveness of BBP efforts.
- Need R&D leading to automated systems that can model and analyze OA system IP licenses and cybersecurity requirements
  - Empower OA C2 system development workforce
  - Identify and manage cost-effectiveness trade-offs

Acknowledgements

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Thank you!

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