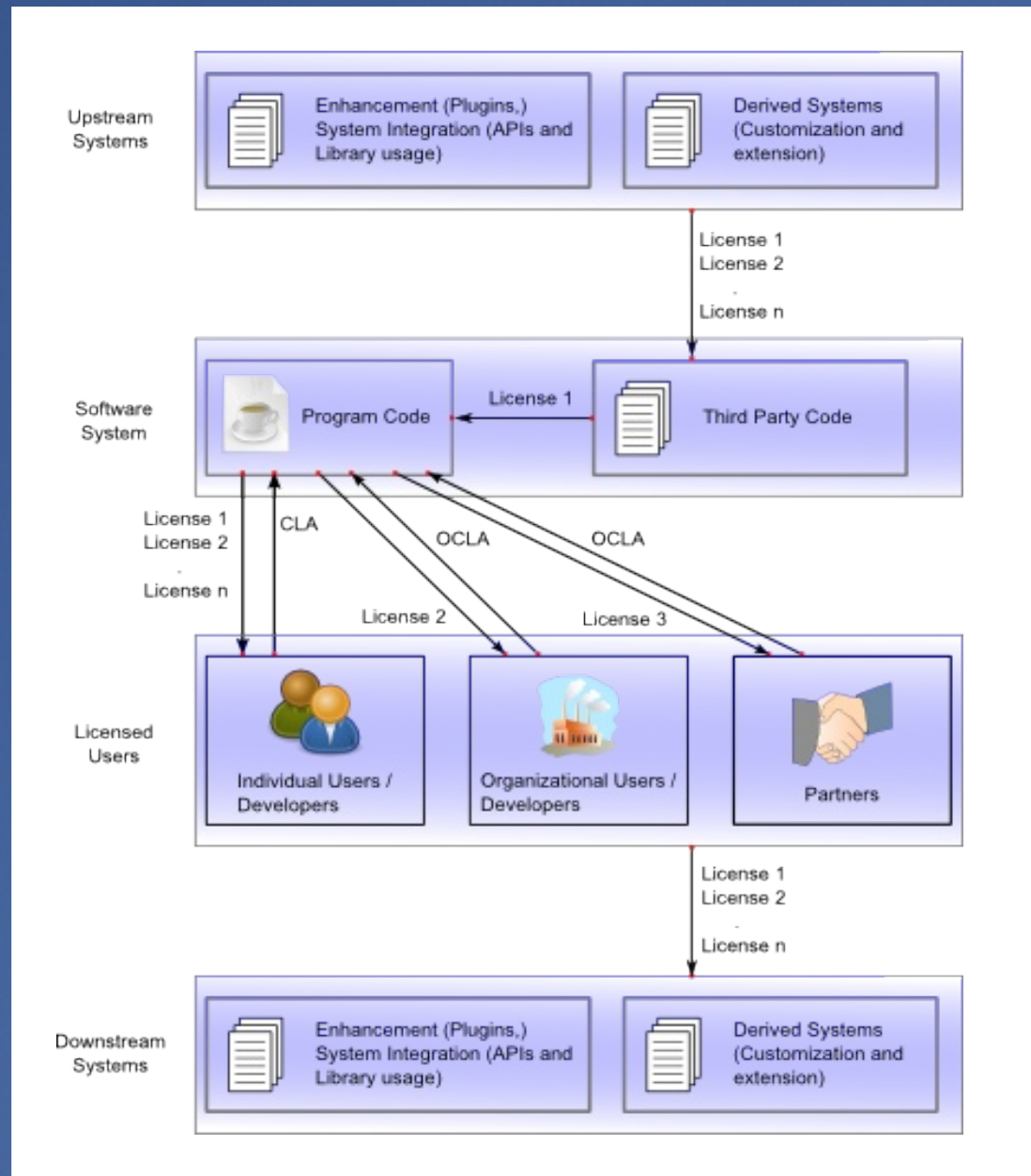


License Update and Migration Processes in Open Source Software Projects

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University of California, Irvine
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Problem and Methods

- Problem: Understand processes and practices that shape developer license agreements
- Methods:
 - Comparative case studies
 - Ethnographically informed
 - Grounded-theory development methods
 - Purpose-built data search and coding tools
 - Focusing on extended message discussions and endings: conflicts, loss of interest, agreements.



OSS production and consumption license relationships

Contributor License Agreements

- Individual (CLA)
 - Govern the rights and responsibilities between a software project and an independent individual regarding contributions (code and otherwise) to the software project
- Organizational (OCLA)
 - Govern the rights and responsibilities between a software project and individuals acting on behalf of an organization regarding contributions (code and otherwise) to the software project

Case Studies

- Apache: Introduction of the Apache License 2.0
 - End-user license agreement
 - 350+ email messages
 - November 2003 – March 2004
- NetBeans: Introduction of the Joint Copyright Agreement
 - Contributor license agreement
 - 300+ email messages
 - April – July 2003

File Edit View History Bookmarks ScrapBook Tools Help

http://www.netbeans.org/servlets/ReadMsg?list=nbdev&msgNo=41771

nbdev@netbeans.org

- Previous message: [nbdev] How do I get the completion list with the new API? (Vita Stejskal)
- Next message: question (Oscar Carrillo)
- [Browse this thread](#)

Subject NetBeans Governance Board Elections - Voting Begins

Standard display Raw display

Date: Thu, 29 May 2008 12:36:48 +0200
 From: Robert Demmer <Robert.Demmer@Sun.COM>
 Content-type: multipart/alternative;
 boundary="Boundary_(ID_eIAhu+Nn5SsbRFglz/n0cA)"
 Subject: [NetBeans Governance Board Elections - Voting Begins](#)

The NetBeans Governance Board nomination period has ended and this is the final list of people who were nominated:

- * Aristides Villarreal
- * Emilian Bold (declined nomination)
- * Fabrizio Giudici (declined nomination)
- * Glenn Holmer
- * Lim Chool Hoe
- * Masoud Kalali
- * Paul Clevett
- * Tom Wheeler
- * Wade Chandler

In order to vote you must first login to your account on NetBeans.org and then continue to the board elections page:
 * <http://www.netbeans.org/community/articles/nbelections.html>

Candidates; profiles will be available later this week at:
 * http://www.netbeans.org/community/articles/election_profiles.html

Ontology

Tools

Classes

Name

- Process_Meta_Model_Entity
 - Action
 - Accounting_and_Budgeting
 - Allocation/Person-Task_Matching
 - Human_Resources
 - License_Management
 - Marketing
 - Project_Governance
 - Governance_Election
 - Scheduling_and_Community_Planning
 - Software_Development
 - Systems/Community/Project_Infrastruc...
 - Tracking
 - Agent
 - Resource
 - Tool
- http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#Thing

Individuals

Name

- Nominate_Candidate
- Post_Nominations
- Voting_Begins
- candidate
- nomination_period
- results

Collections

- My Library
- NetBeans
- Publications

Title	Creator	+	+	+
j.1365-2575.2002.00110.pdf				
Mail reader		2		
Teams		2		
Mail reader		2		
NetBeans Governance ...				
Mail reader				
Mail reader		2		
NetBeans Governance ...				
Mail reader				

Mail reader

NetBeans Governance Board Elections - Voting Begins

Related: [click here]

Tags: candidate, nomination_period, Voting_Be...

Edit in a separate window

Done

zotero

Data discovery, classification and coding environment

7 October 2011

Apache License Migration

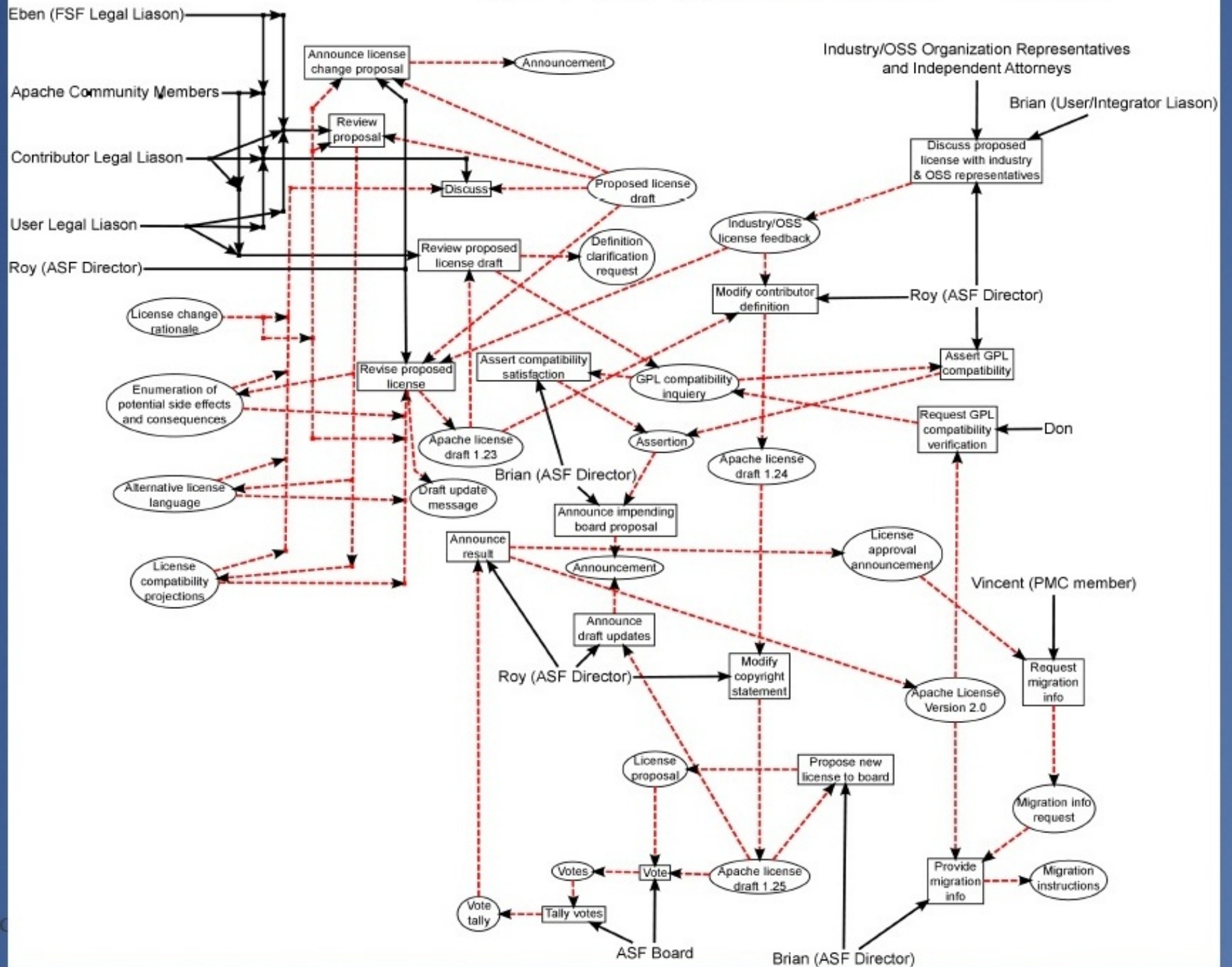
- Update proposed on 8th November 2003 and approved 21st January 2004
- Motivation
 - Reducing the number of frequently asked questions
 - Allowing the license to be usable to any (including non-Apache) projects
 - Requiring a patent license on contributions that necessarily infringe the contributor's own patents

Apache License Migration

- License update was introduced by Roy Fielding along with a proposed license draft for review
- Community members were invited to comment
- Feedback both from the community and offline (e.g., legal) sources drove several rounds of drafts
- The final draft was submitted to the ASF Board and was approved by vote

Creation of and Migration to the Apache License, Version 2.0

Legend: activity resource --> flow direction • connector point

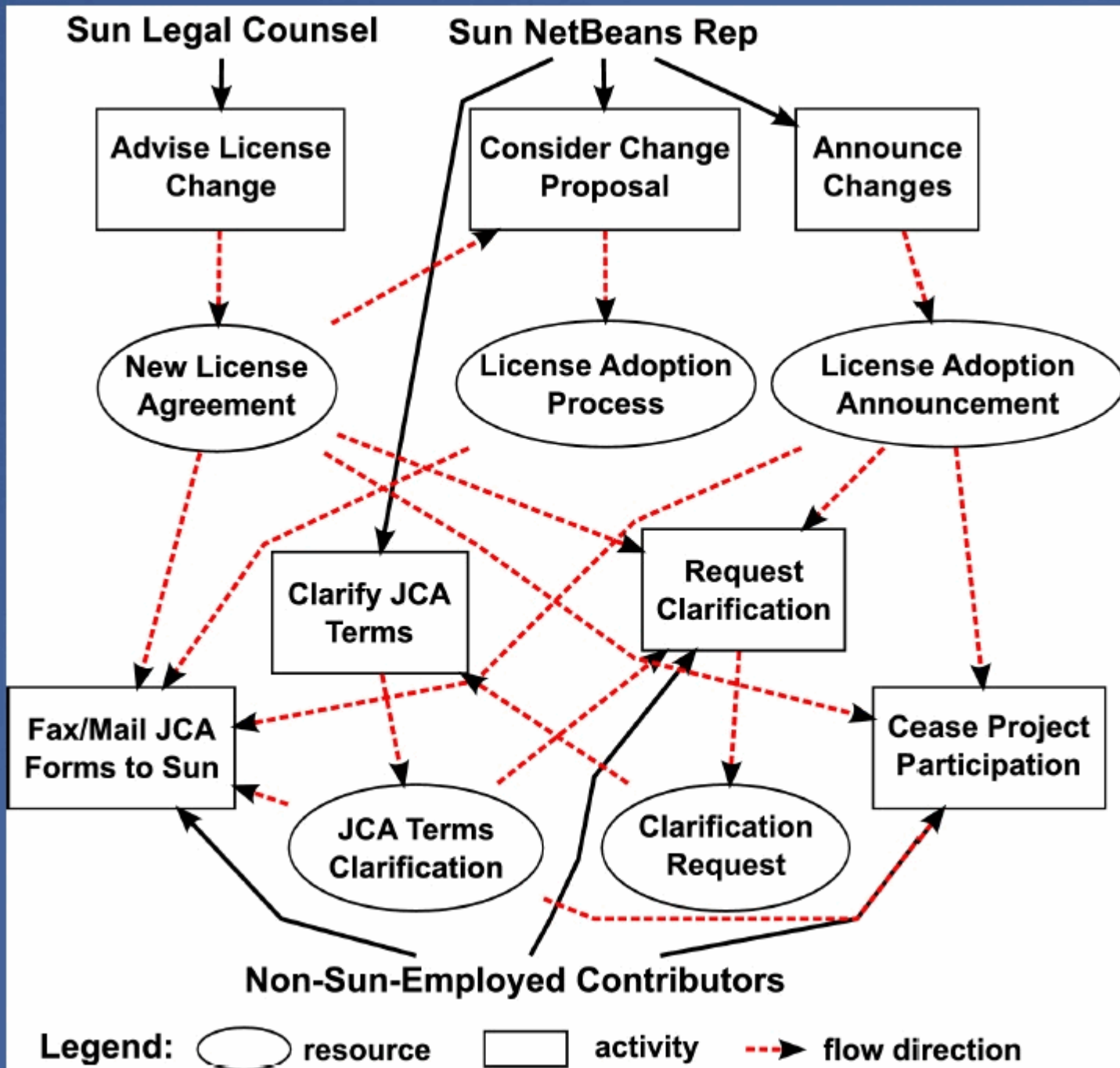


NetBeans JCA Introduction

- Introduced on 28th April 2003 by Evan Adams, a prominent Sun-employed community member
- Motivation
 - Legal observations that Sun needed full copyright authority to defend the project from legal threats
 - Provide Sun the flexibility to change the license over time

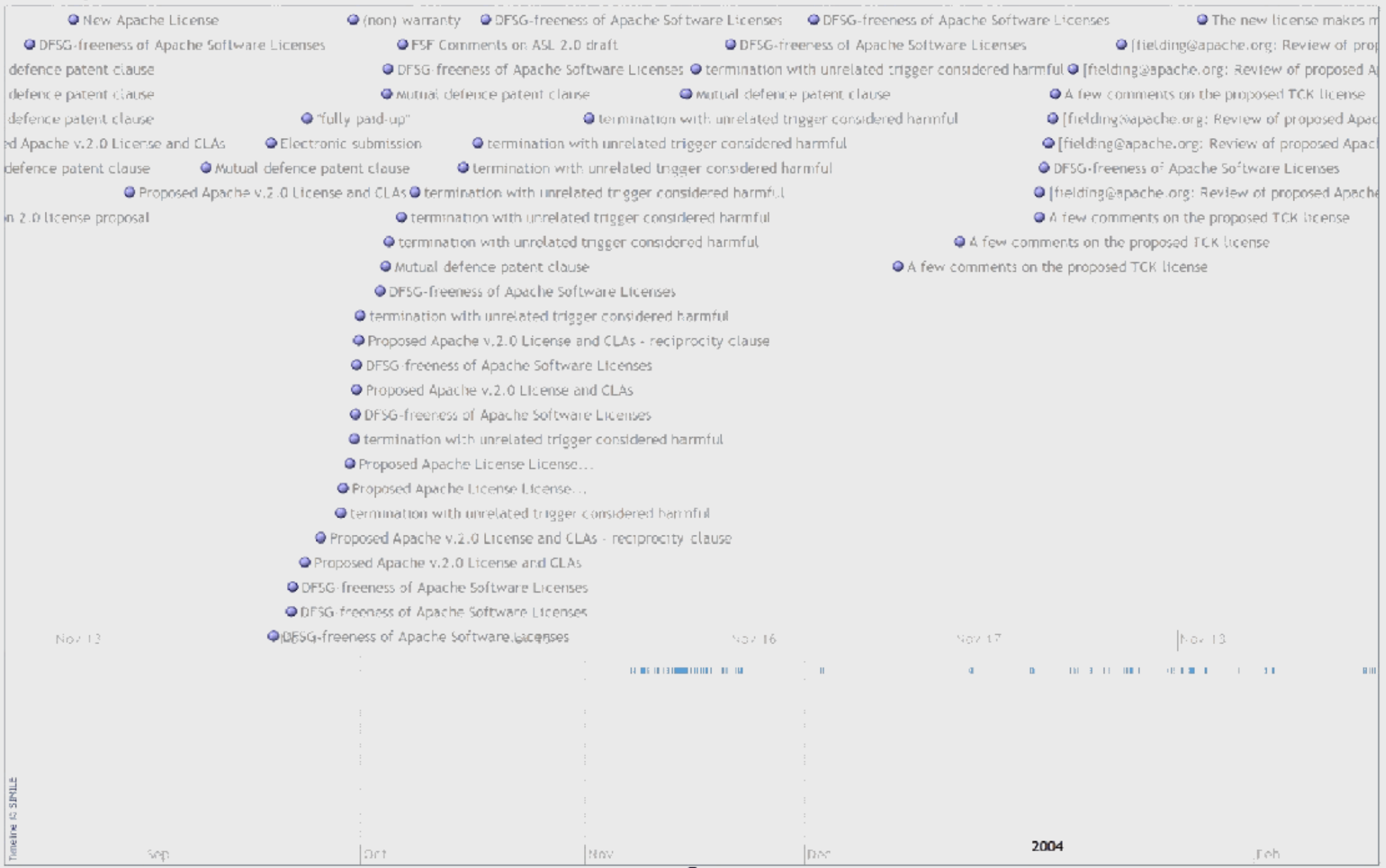
NetBeans JCA Introduction

- Sun Legal Counsel proposed new license agreement
- Sun NetBeans representatives approved the change internally
- Updated license agreement announced to the community
- Resentment and push-back from the non-Sun developer community!



Observations

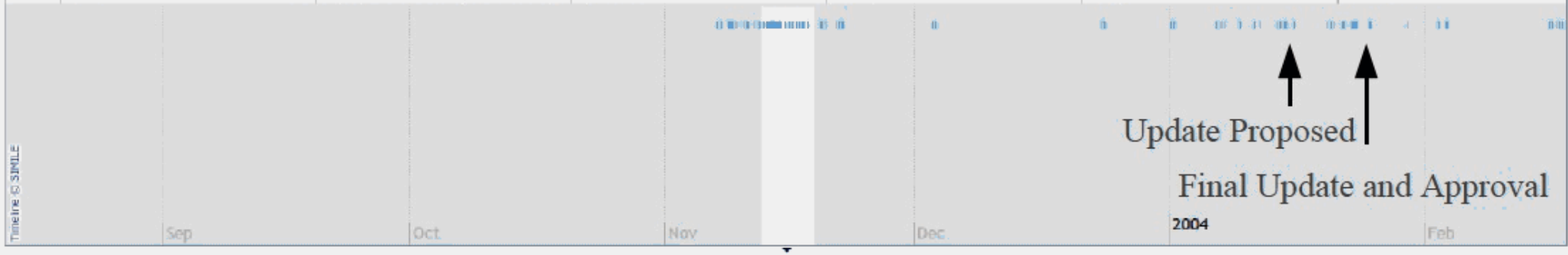
- Similar motivations and goals for license change
- Why the different reception in NetBeans?
 - Transparency+consideration in the decision-making process
 - Democracy vs. autocracy
 - Input into to the resulting license agreement
 - Reclassification of volunteer-contributed code
 - Impact on projects built on top of the NetBeans codebase



Apache 2.0 license debate timeline

ApacheCon

Timeline is SIMPLE



Update Proposed

Final Update and Approval

2004

Threats to validity

- Caution in comparison
 - Different types of licenses
 - Different community structure and governance
- More data points are needed

Conclusions

- Examined little understood problem in OSS projects that must manage IP contributions from diverse sources
- Demonstrated how to collect and codify the emergence of OSS contributor licenses
 - Developed purpose-built tools to support grounded theory analysis
- Revealed variations across two comparative cases
- Developed first models of contributor license agreement practices

Questions?