

# Plasma Active & Contour

A new activity based mobile user interface with Plasma and Nepomuk

Talk by Marco Martin & Fania Jöck

Sponsored by:



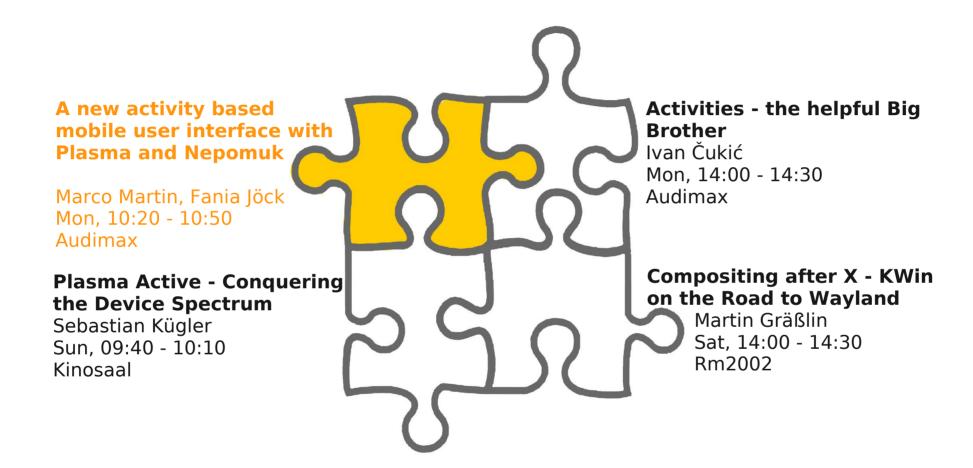




# Big picture

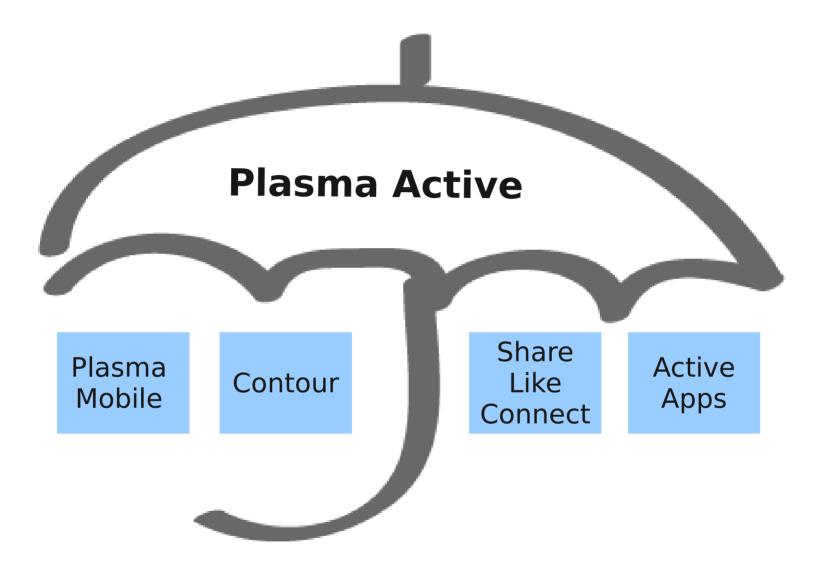


# Project Plasma Active





#### Who are we?





#### What is this all about?



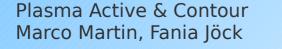


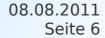
# Why should we need that?





The system adapts to the user







#### What is new in Contour?

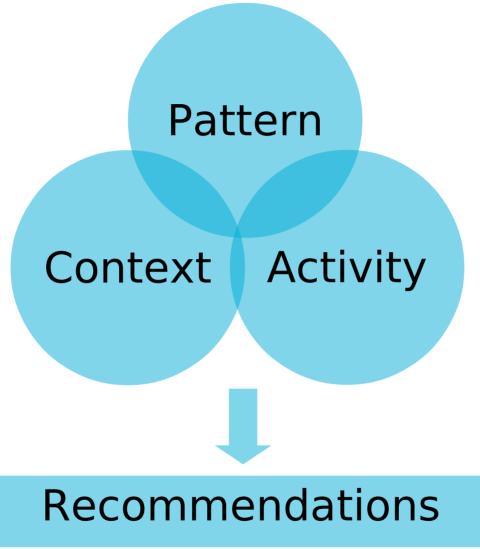
- Informations + Actions = Activity
  - information on the system linked with actions
  - user chooses those activities instead of applications
  - system learns and analyses usage patterns (actions and events)
- Smart recommendations
  - system provides dynamic data based on patterns and on context
  - analysis of timeline (past, present and future)
  - priorization, big change in user behavior







Concept of Contour





Context
= geo location,
time, active files
and applications,
current activity,
recent action
history





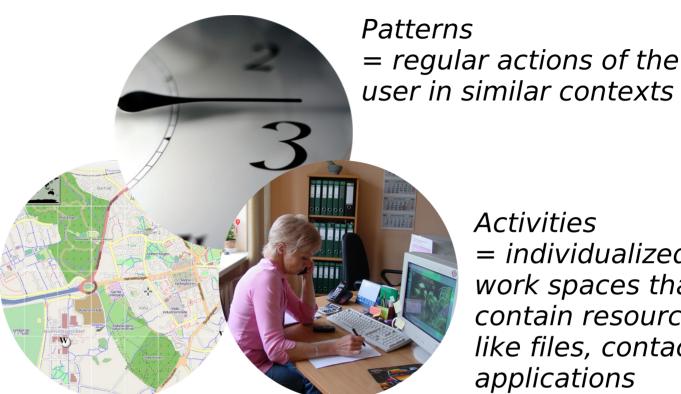
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Patterns = regular actions of the user in similar contexts



Context = geo location, time, active files and applications, current activity, recent action history



**Activities** = individualized work spaces that contain resources like files, contacts, applications

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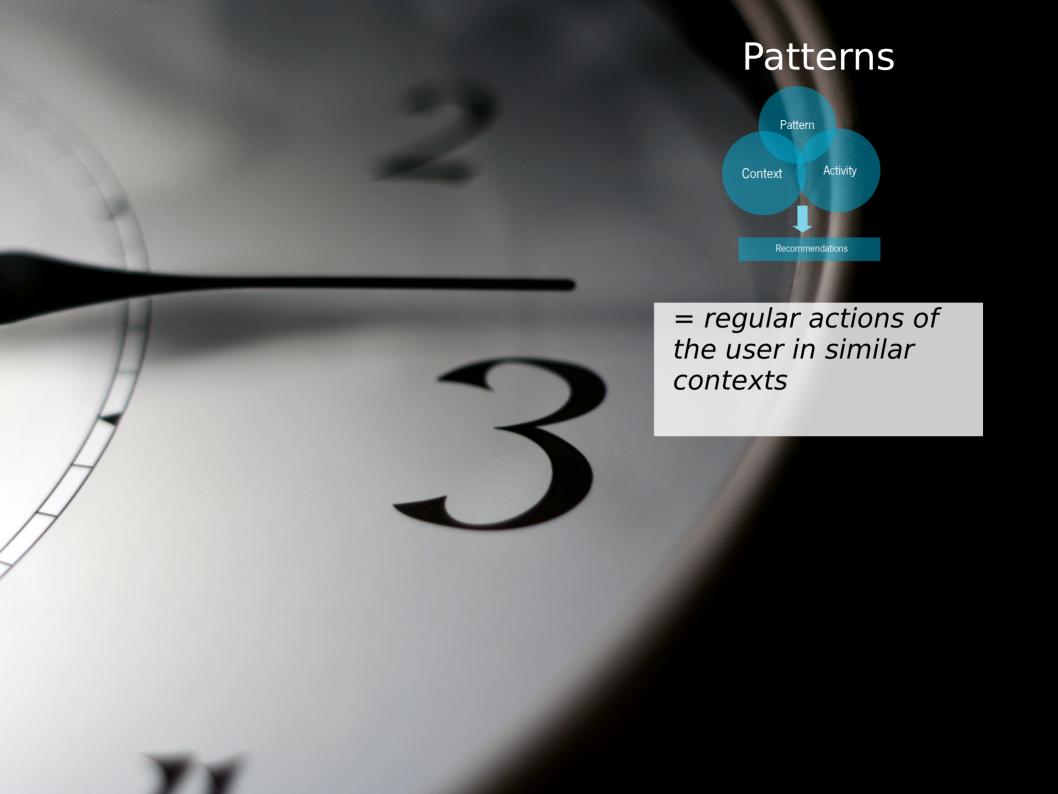
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Recommendations

propositions for actions that are dynamicly changing to context, based on the detected patterns







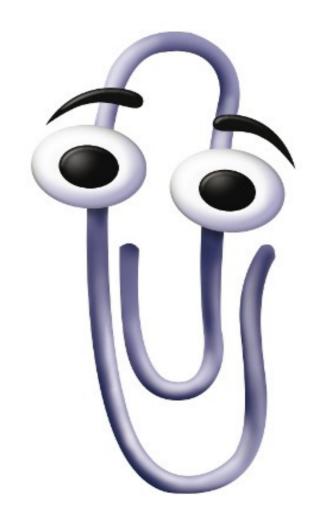




# Recommendations



# Somebody already had that idea...





### Smart adaptions - Activity Switcher

...adapts to current context



At university



### Smart adaptions - Context Menu

...adapts to object type and last events



For documents

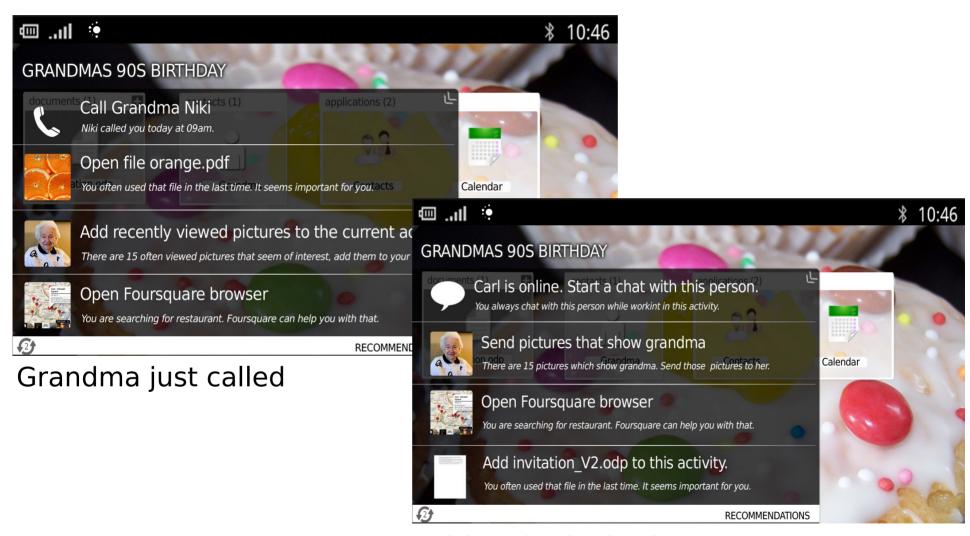


For contacts



# Smart adaptions - recommendation overlay

... adapts to current activity and recent action history



Writing the invitation



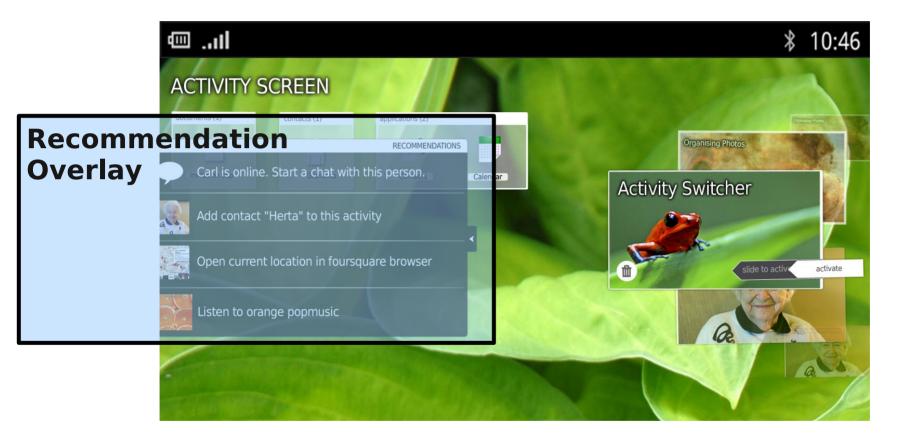


# Interface Design

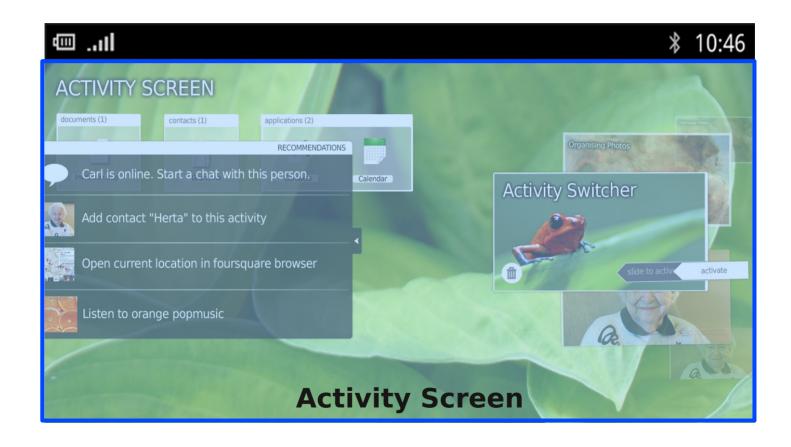




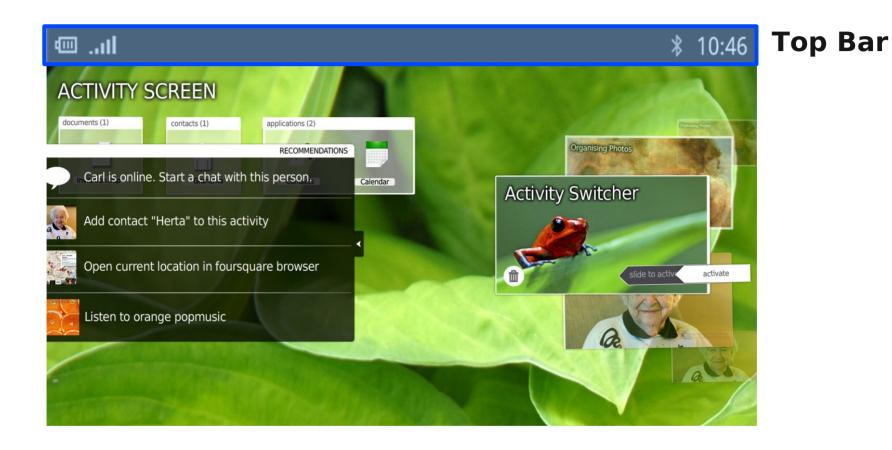




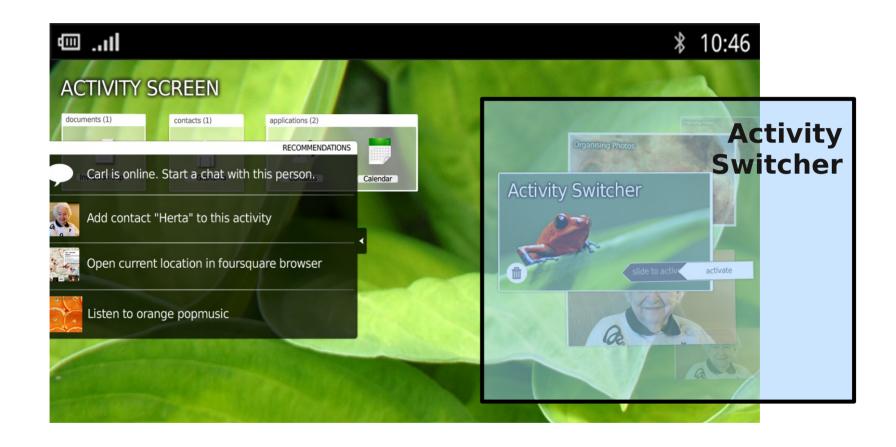










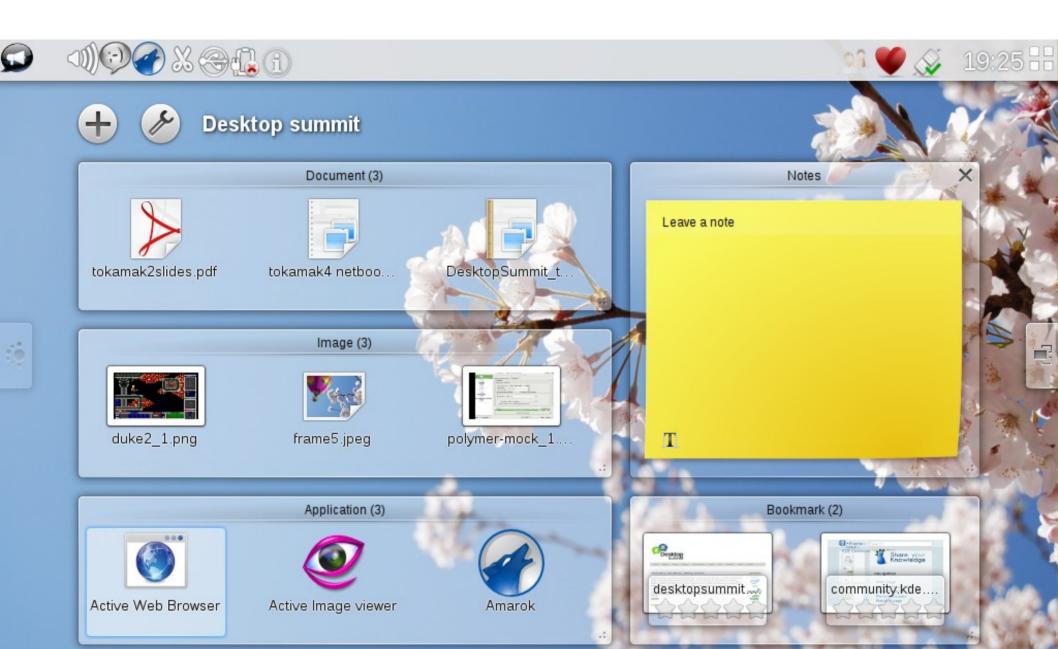


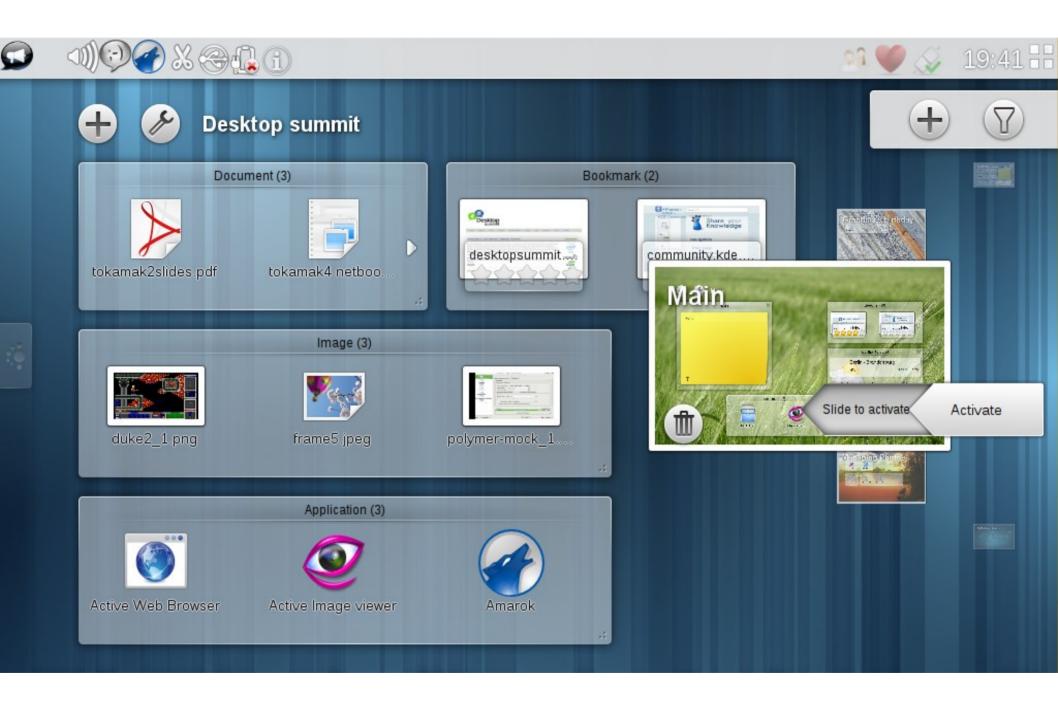




# Live Demo

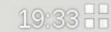
















#### Main

#### Recommendations



Main



semanticdistance.txt



Reference.php



ReferenceActionDispatcher.php



documentconverter.cpp



nepomuk:/res/5dae0027-3d03-4aab-98c3-a364b9545f7f http://community.kde.org/Plasma



Managing Photos



nepomuk:/res/c91d7a5f-6b7d-4e58-8367-9cd825ab8d2d





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# Technical background



# Plasma perspective: data

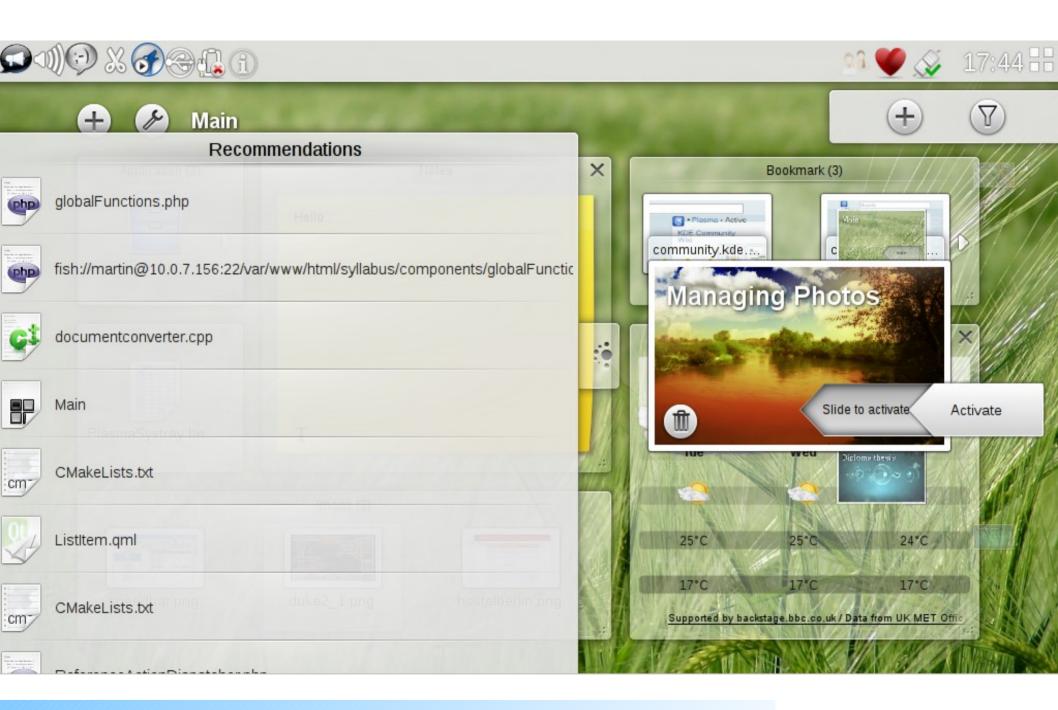
- Metadata dataengine
- Activity manager daemon and the recommendations dataengine
- Those are sources for:
  - Nepomuk resources connected to the current activity
  - Recommendations (resources with high scoring/actions associated to them)



#### Visualization

- PlasmaMobile shell
- I QML packages used for independent, big components (almost blackbox, opposed to imports)
  - Homescreen: first thing loaded from the shell
  - Activity switcher
  - Recommendations overlay
- | Containments
  - Activity screen
  - Panel
  - Window switcher
  - Launcher



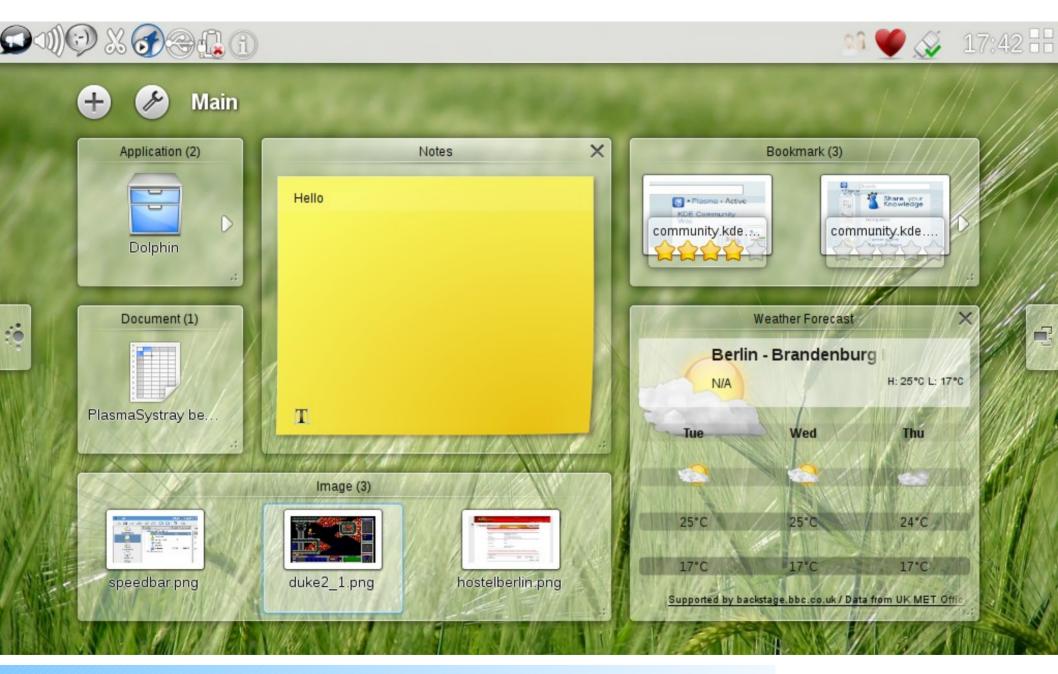




# Plasma mobile booting

- QML homescreen loaded
- The appletsrc config file gets loaded
- All containment restored:
- Systray, window switcher and launcher containments go in a partially offscreen panel
- I The main screen "Planar" containment gets restored
  - In the case of Contour they are instances of the Current activity screen
  - Transition between activity containments will be managed by a QML animation







# Activity screen Containment

- QML-only Applet/Containment
- Uses the metadata dataengine

```
PlasmaCore.DataSource 
    id: metadataSource
    engine: "org.kde.active.metadata"
    interval: 0
    connectedSources:
["CurrentActivityResources:"+plasmoid.activityId]
}
```



### **Activity Resources**

The source "CurrentActivityResources: activity id" executes:

I The property isRelated gets assigned by the user with a search screen implemented in the containment itself or with the SLC mechanism



# Containment layout

- Resources splitted by category: proxy model
- I Space divided in cells, internal data structure to keep track of busy/taken ones
- User moves/resizes a box: JS function invoked that performs a simple lookup of the nearest free cell (back and forward)
- I The box gets aligned to the nearest free space to the dropped position, resized if necessary
- A Behavior on geometry properties ensures it happens with a smooth animation
- I Plasmoids are positioned in the same way



#### Connection: SLC

- I Each resource icon has a context menu: same entries as the top panel icons
- Active applications will publish with a simple api what is the current open "thing"
  - File path
  - Nepomuk URI
  - Web URL
  - Geo location
- I Plugins will provide actions for those urls
  - "Share": upload on flickr...
  - "Like": rate, like on facebook...
  - "Connect": connect to the current activity, with another resource...



#### Recommendations

- The activity manager is used to keep track of what gets opened and modified...
- Base for the Contour Recommendations system
- I All resources scored and "most likely" actions assigned to them
- The Contour daemon publishes them on DBUS
- The Recommendations UI (another generic package loaded from the home screen QML) displays them as a list in a panel on top of the rest



# **Participate**

Website: http://community.kde.org/Plasma/Active/Contour

Mailinglist: active@kde.org

IRC: #active

Marcos Blog: www.notmart.org/index.php/BlaBla

Fanias Blog: http://contourproject.wordpress.com

The Contour project is contributed by basyskom GmbH and released in KDE as open source. We want to share our ideas and development with the community to contribute it to the public. Read more at http://contour.basyskom.com or go to our website at www.basyskom.com

