Codebook: Social Networking Over Code

Andrew Begel, Robert DeLine, Thomas Zimmermann   *{abegel;rdeline;tzimmer}@microsoft.com*

Microsoft® Research
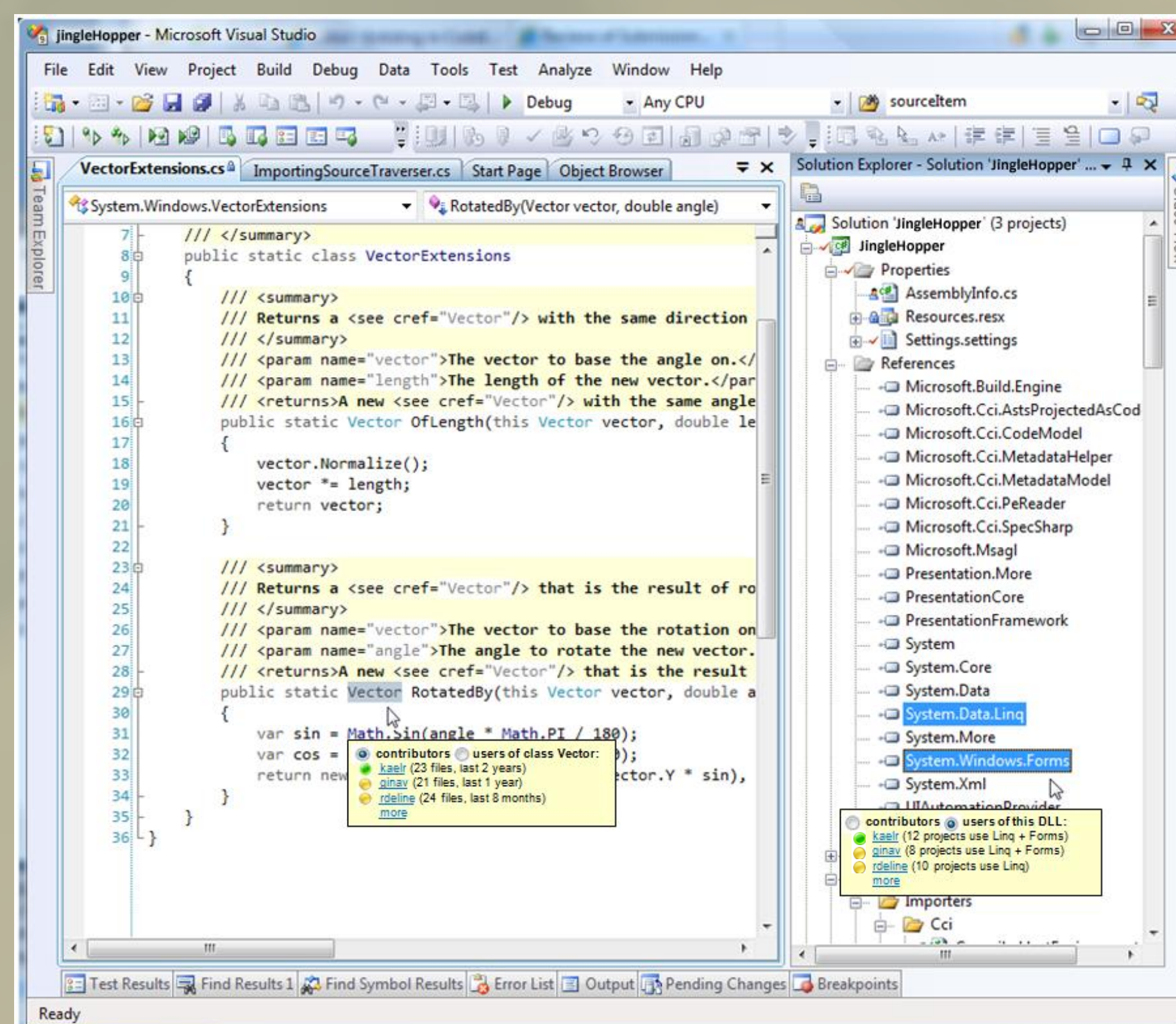
ICSE 2009

Enhance Coordination

Keep track of what happens on another team without waiting for them to send you status updates. Read their team home page to learn where their documentation lives and on what mailing lists they communicate.
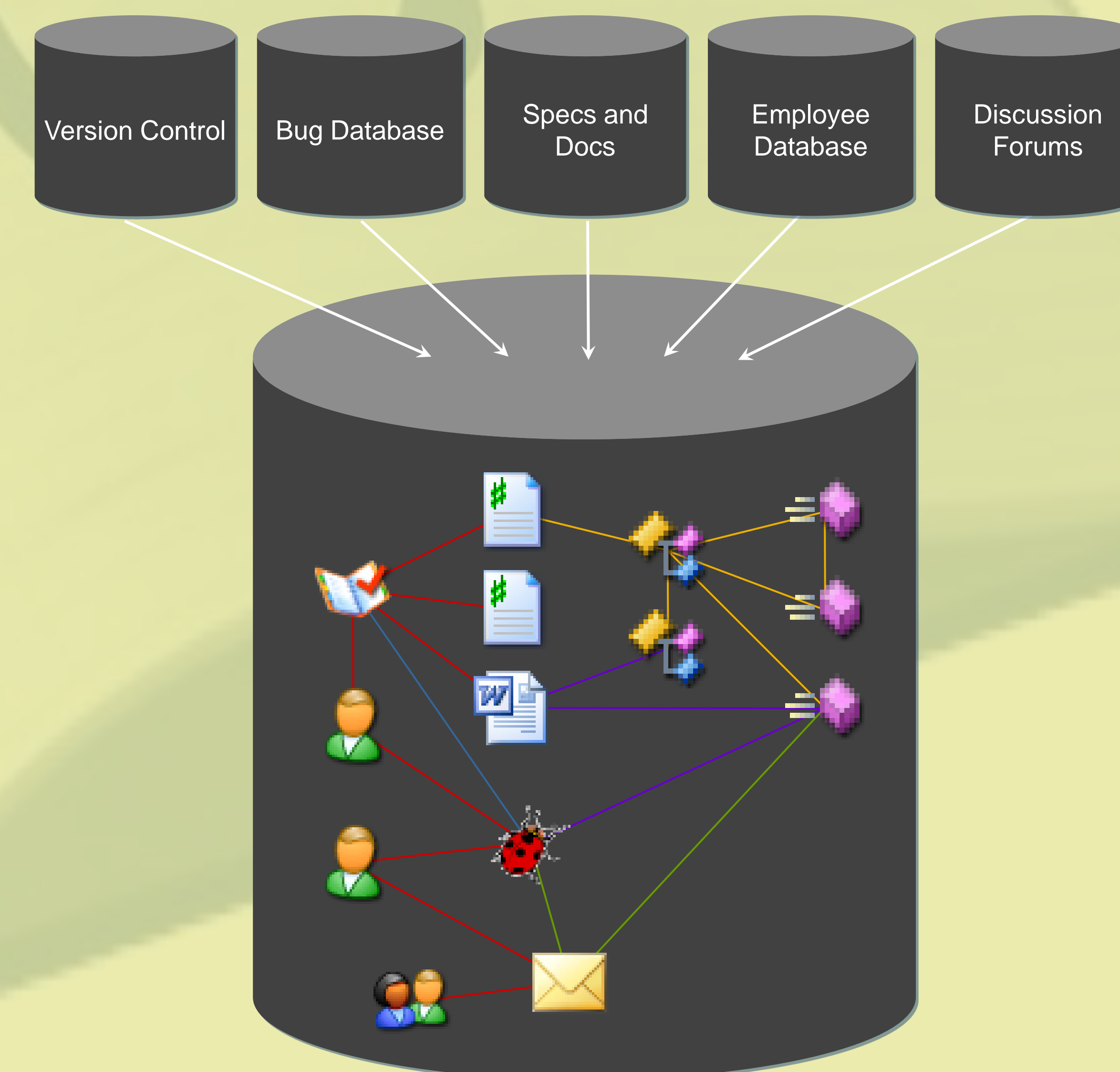
(not real data)

Find Expertise

Find out who wrote the code you do not understand, or discover which person in your social network has expertise using a library you would like to use.

Mine Repositories

Link related artifacts together in a typed graph. Typed paths through the graph reveal hidden relationships. For example,
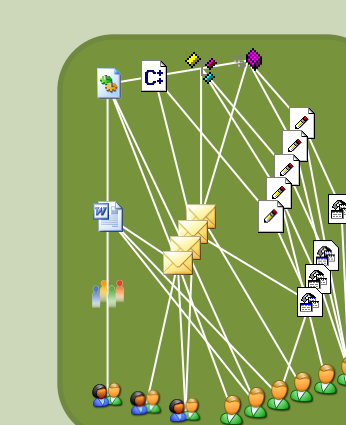
Bob *fixes* bug #487 by *committing* checkin #252, which *changes* the file `/foo/bar/moo.cs` and *modifies* the class `Vector` by *adding* the field `polarCoordinate`.

Version Control   Bug Database   Specs and Docs   Employee Database   Discussion Forums

More Scenarios…

- What work has been done to implement this work item?
- What people on other teams are working on similar features?
- Who must I notify if I make this change?
- Who are my dependents? What do they want from me?

Previous Work

Bridge (Venolia, MSR 2006)
Graph linking development-related artifacts together. Textual allusion can find unstructured links.

Deep Intellisense (Holmes, Begel, MSR 2008)
Visual Studio add-in for displaying development history and people related to selected code.