

# Strategy and Automation for Ensuring High Code Quality



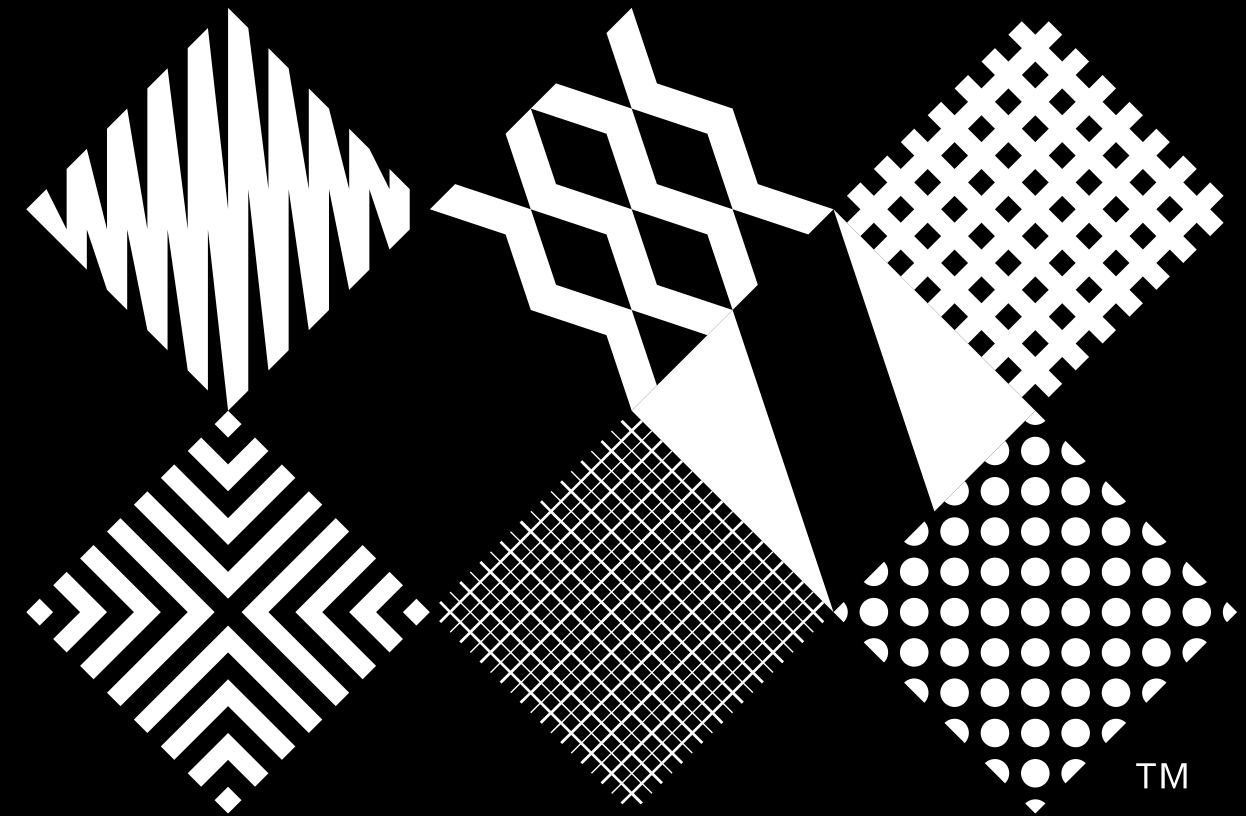
—  
JavaCRO 2022, Autumn  
10.10.2022

# Your presenter



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Director Digital Platforms –  
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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/strmecki/>

Personality: stubborn, ambitious, perfectionist  
Appreciates: trust, transparency, integrity, quality  
Loves: well-defined processes, clear documentation  
Interests: sports, cool tech



# Did you know...

... that IBM iX is one of the world's largest digital agencies –

... and is considered the global leader in customer experience?

Figure 1: Magic Quadrant for CRM and Customer Experience Implementation Services



# IBM iX global:

57 studios,  
17.000 people

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## MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

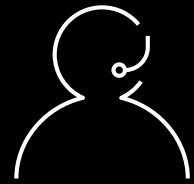
- SOUTH AFRICA**  
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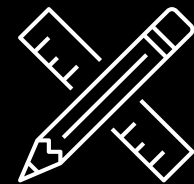
# What we do?

Reinventing business, improving experience, inspiring people.



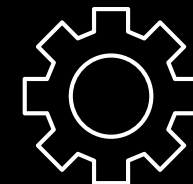
## We advise

Strategic consulting with in-depth technology and industry expertise



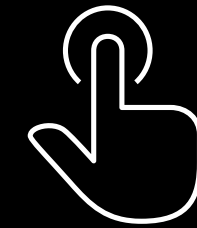
## We create

Experience design and communication with an impact



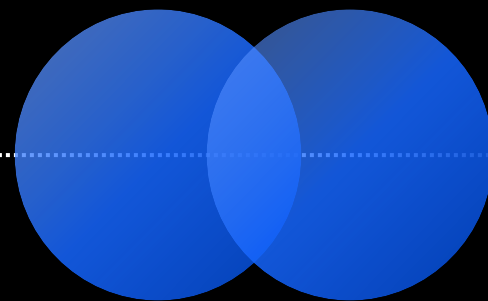
## We build

Engineering & development of platforms, services & products



## We operate

Agile management, workflows and implementation





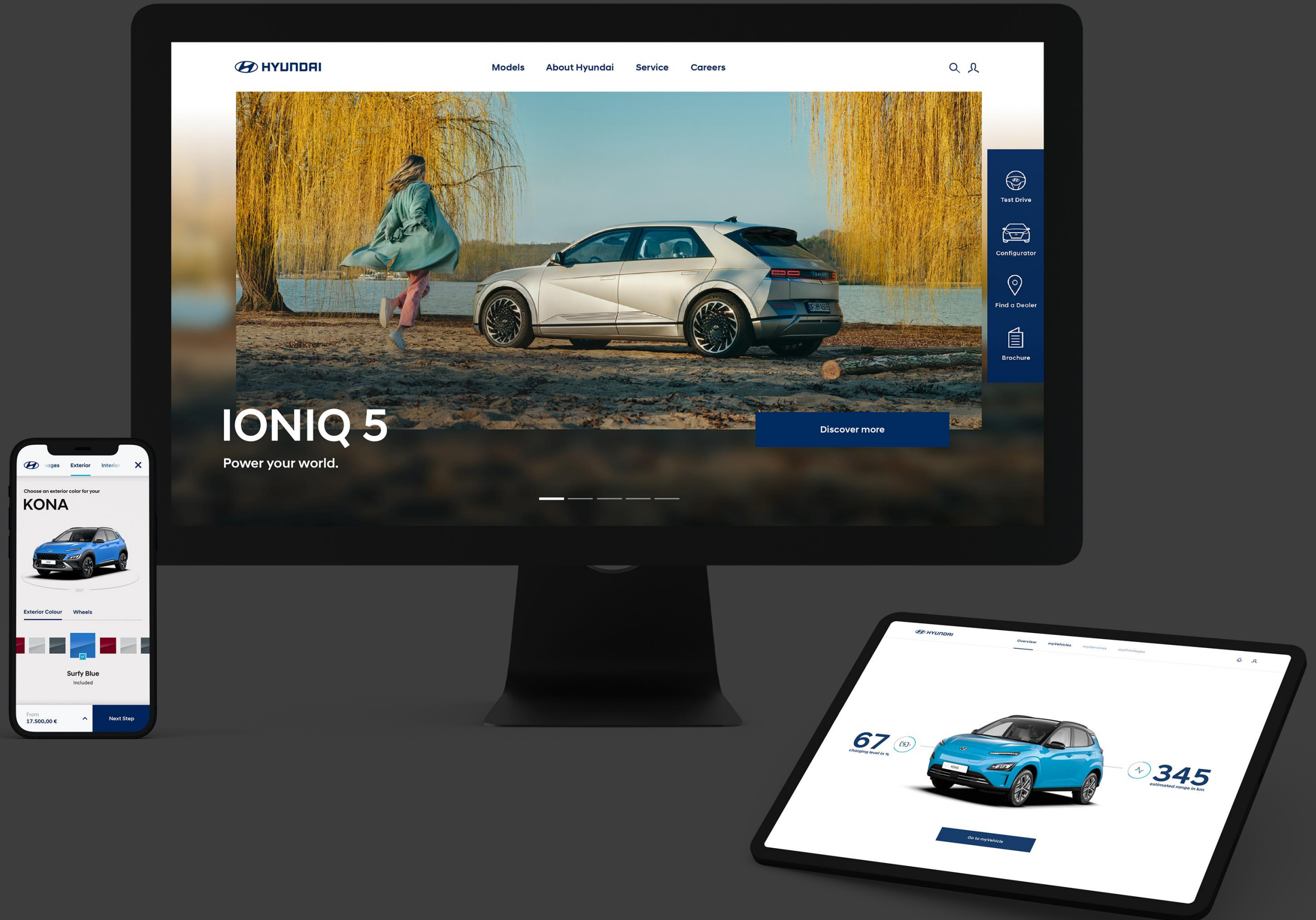


# Transformation of the entire digital customer lifecycle

IBM iX developed a new digital ecosystem for the European market based on Adobe that spans the complete customer journey – including a website for marketing and sales, a mobile-optimised Car Configurator and a new myHyundai customer portal.

→ [www.hyundai.com/eu](http://www.hyundai.com/eu)

→ [www.hyundai.com/it](http://www.hyundai.com/it)





# Our agenda

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Quality approach
- 3) Coding guidelines
- 4) Onboarding experience
- 5) Ensuring code quality
  - Static code analysis
  - Clean architecture
  - Custom Sonar rules
- 6) Q&A



# Introduction

Why do we need standardization  
and code quality checks?



# What did we want to achieve?

- 1) Ensure high perceived quality for our customers
- 2) Ensure high code quality for our developers
- 3) Stop repeating the same mistakes on multiple projects
- 4) Align on best practices across projects and teams
- 5) New-joiner should learn from our previous experience





Any fool can write code that a  
computer can understand.  
Good programmers write code  
that humans can understand

by Martin Fowler

Quality approach  
How to establish a  
company-wide quality  
assurance approach?



# Quality approach

A companywide quality assurance approach is established within IBM iX to ensure high levels of quality.

In short, this approach provides guidelines, processes and best practices for our projects which guides the whole project team on how to achieve high quality.

## Holistic team approach

Entire scrum team is responsible for Quality

Team contains members with testing and test automation experience

Tester contributes throughout the whole user story lifecycle

## Testing is part of development

Testing is not a phase in agile projects

Development = test & code

Team plans test activities

Test (automation) strategy is created by the team

## High level of automation

Integration of CI-Tools, such as Jenkins

Quick (daily) feedback and fast execution of checks. Minimize manual “checking” efforts

High level of automation allows exploratory testing

# Test automation strategy

Following tests are to be integrated into the Continuous Integration and when to run

01

## Static Code

On every pull-request

02

## Unit Test

During build time

03

## Integration Test

Nightly

04

## Automated Regression Tests (E2E, UI)

Nightly

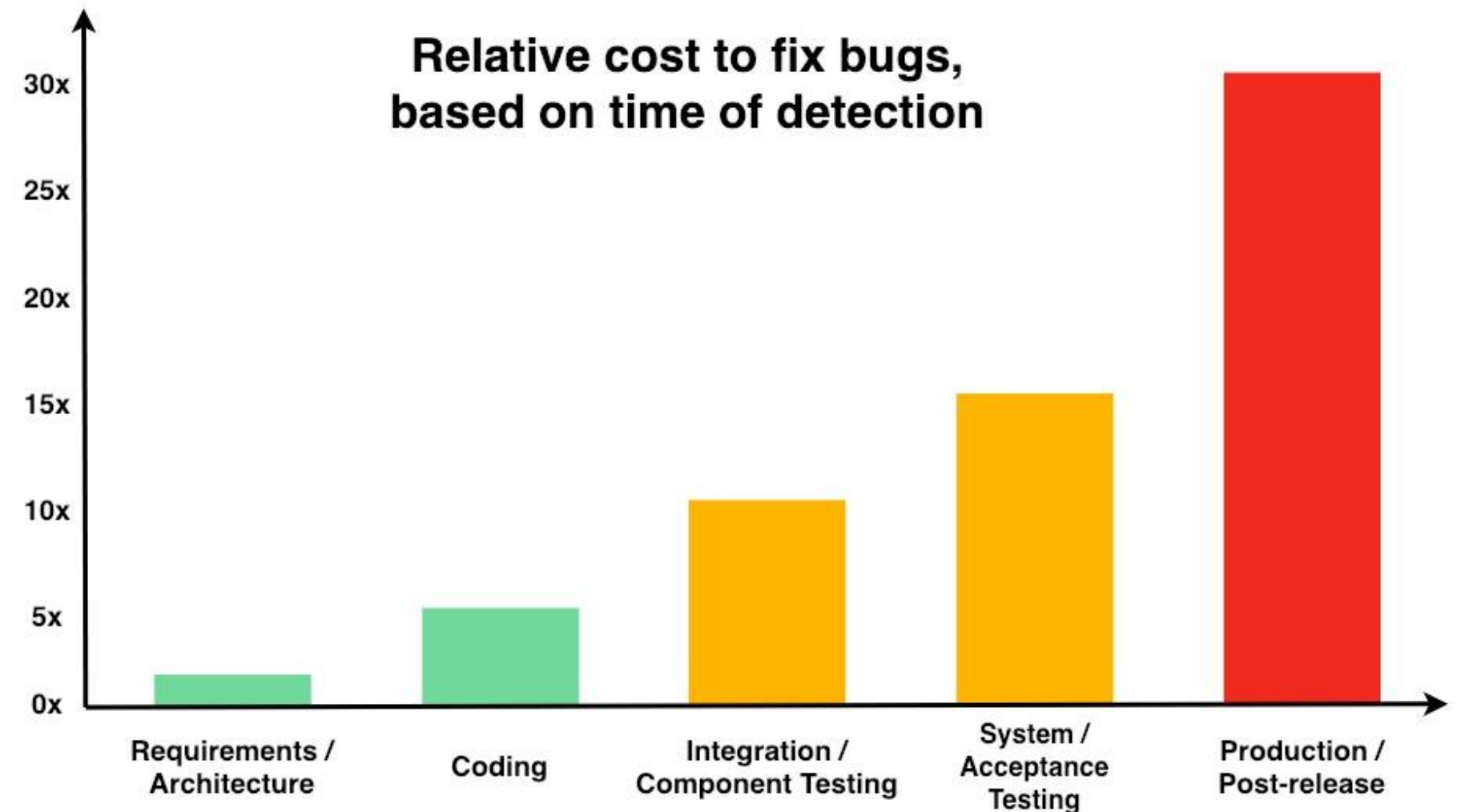
05

## Performance & Security Tests

Nightly/Weekly

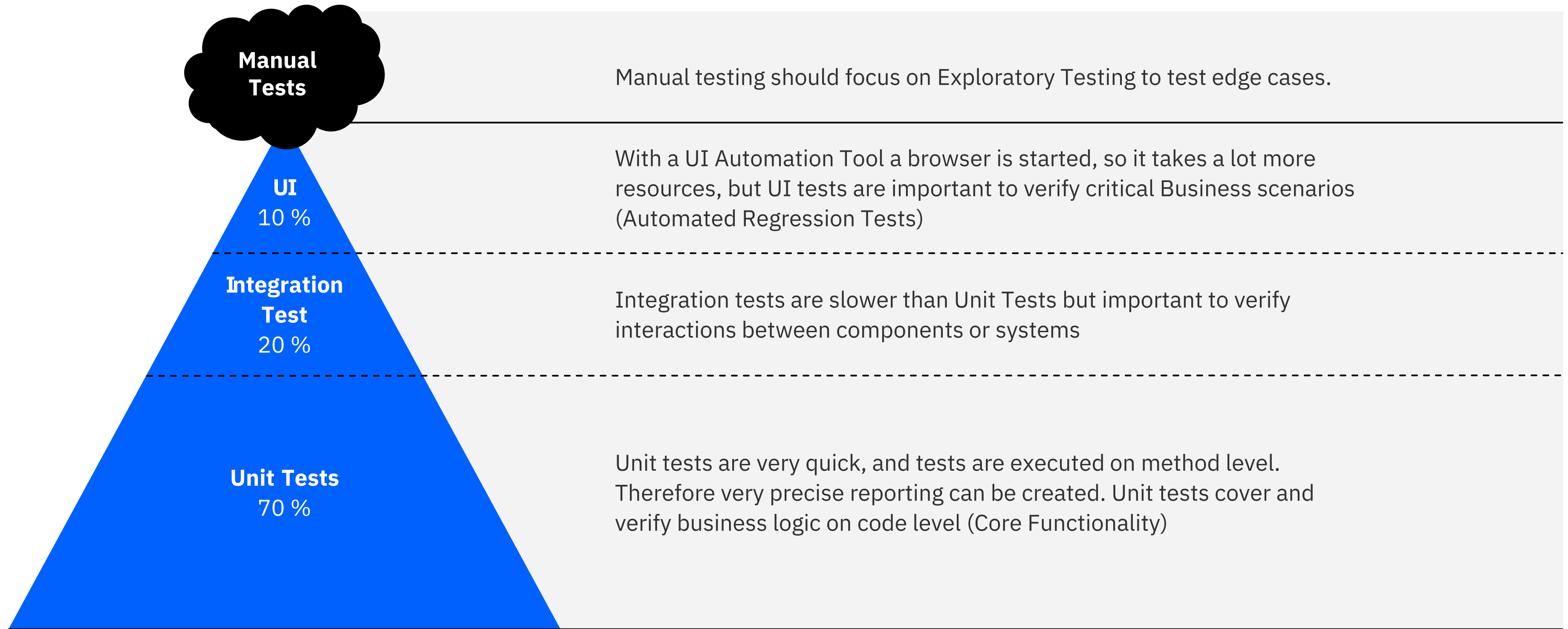
# Benefits of automation

- Releasing quicker due to faster feedback
- Saving money due to automating repetitive testing
- Reducing project costs by automating manual work
- Avoiding cost of bugs



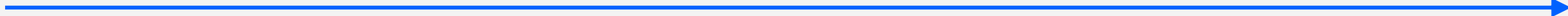


# Test distribution



# Quality gates

With the two dimensions of quality gates we use a simple approach to ensure a continuously increasing quality for our projects. One deals with source code quality and the other is more focussing on the bugs created by the customer.



Both quality gates need to pass

Code quality is important for overall software quality. And quality impacts how safe, secure, and reliable the codebase is.

We have defined Minimum Quality Gates which should be followed by each of our projects. SonarQube is being used for Source Code Analysis. Aim is to have a clear code in order to reduce technical debt.

We want to delivery a bug free solution. Critical verified bugs created by the customer is a sign of weak quality.

Customer satisfaction is defined by how many bugs are found by the customer. Normally, this needs to be defined with the customer. Objective of these KPIs are to reduce critical bugs found by customers.

# Zero bug policy

The zero bug policy enables the project team to have 0 bugs in the backlog at a certain point in time. As soon as a bug is being discovered, it is immediately fixed by the team and covered with automated tests, so the same bug can never appear again. Bugs are not tolerated.

The idea behind this policy is, that you do not have a backlog of open bugs at all, following the ideal to have as little technical debt as possible. This means that when a bug is raised, we either commit to fixing it right away or decide together to close it as a “Won’t Fix”. By doing this, we bring down technical debt to a minimum and consequently maximize efficiency and adaptability.

All bugs take priority over all new feature development or improvements. Either the issue is a bug and therefore takes priority, or, as is more often the case, the issue can be reclassified as an improvement or even a new feature and can be prioritized in the backlog for future iterations. By doing this, no new functionality can be hidden in bugs, diluting Velocity and Iteration Planning outcomes





# Coding guidelines

How can we ensure that our code looks like it was written by IBM iX (on all projects)?

# Value of documentation

## Agile value [misconception](#)

- Working software over comprehensive documentation

## Documenting best practices

- Make notes on the [good practices](#) that you see on different projects
- We always refer to previous projects and [lessons learned](#)

```
try (ResourceResolver resourceResolver = getServiceResourceResolver()) {  
    // Use resource resolver here  
} catch (RuntimeException e) {  
    log.error("Error creating base names", ex);  
}
```

```
@PostConstruct  
public void init() {  
    try {  
        this.homePage = Optional.ofNullable(getAbsolutePath())  
            .orElse(this.currentPage);  
    } catch (final RuntimeException e) {  
        log.error("Exception in post construct", e);  
    }  
}
```

# Coding guidelines

Notes can become coding guidelines:

- Anyone can and should [contribute](#)
- Use them to [align](#) with all developers
- Use them to [coach](#) junior developers

Some benefits:

- [Align](#) codebases across projects
- [Learn](#) on mistakes others made
- [Competitive advantage](#) through quality KPIs

## Sling Models vs *WCMUsePojo* (Sonar rule: [ibmix-aem:AvoidWcmUsePojoClass](#))

Many Sling projects want to be able to create model objects - POJOs which are automatically mapped from Sling objects, typically resources, but also request objects. Often these POJOs also use OSGi services and other common AEM objects, that can then be easily injected in Sling Models.

Although Java Use Provider (*WCMUsePojo* classes) provided through bundles are faster to initialize and execute than Sling Models for similar code, the Sling Models Use Provider provides the following advantages:

- Entirely annotation driven - "pure" POJOs
- Easy to extend from other Sling Models
- Code is reusable
- Simple setup for unit testing

Thus, Sling Models should always be preferred over *WCMUsePojo* classes.

## Use Interfaces for component models

All sling models which are used in AEM components should implement an interface which defines all the getter methods for the model.

This is best practice provided by Adobe and implemented in the [AEM Core Components](#). In the model itself the resourcetype of the component has to be set in the Model annotation.

For example, if a component which contains two textfields (text1 and text2) should be implemented. Then the interface might look like this:

### MyComponent.java

```
import org.osgi.annotation.versioning.ConsumerType;

@ConsumerType
public interface MyComponent {

    String getText1();

    String getText2();

}
```



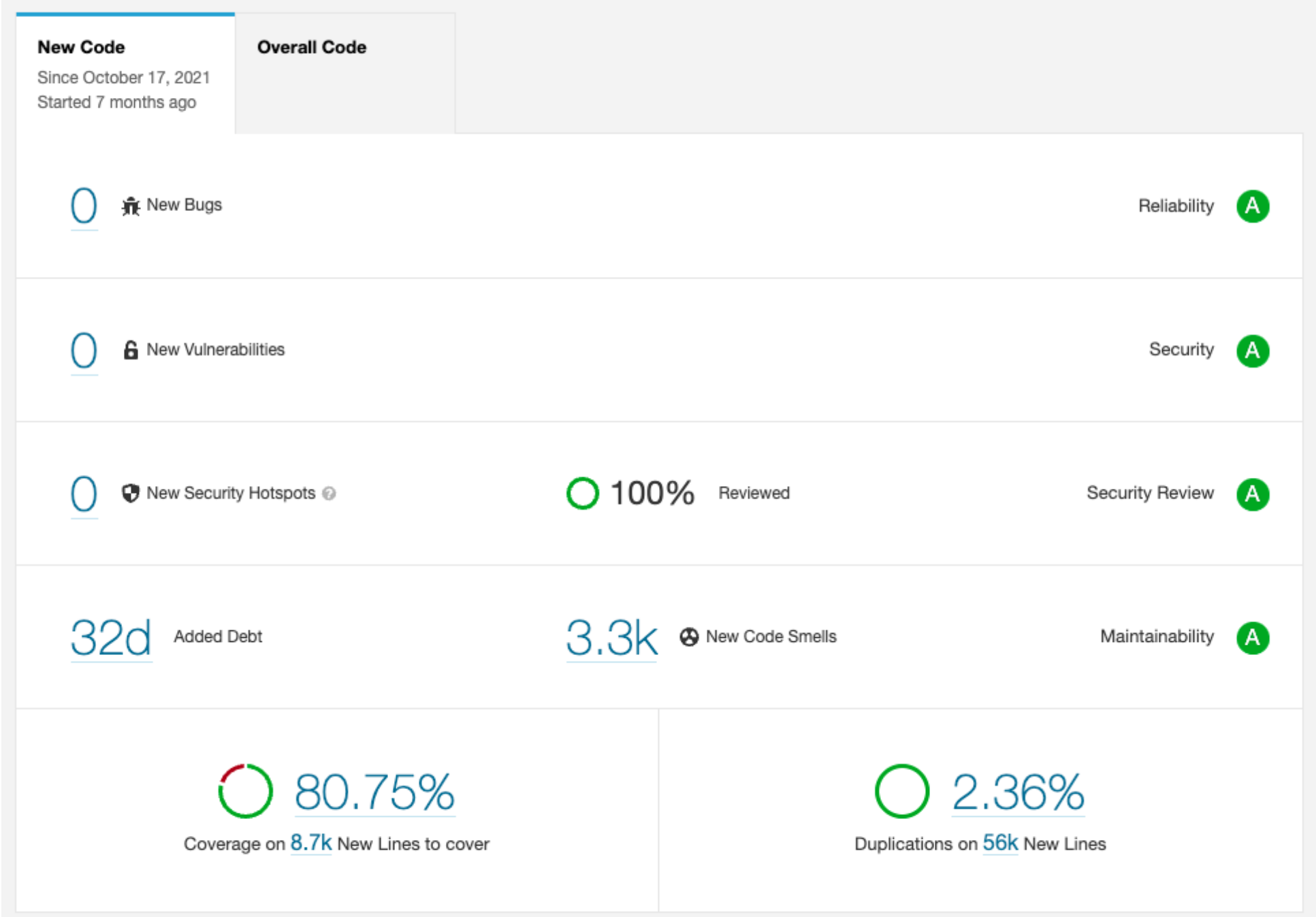
# Static code analysis

SonarQube free version helped us with:

- Reporting code coverage
- Informing about clean coding practices
- Detecting Java-specific issues

But it didn't solve:

- Ensuring **high coverage** & zero bugs policy
- Enforcing **clean architecture**
- Detecting **framework-specific** issues



Onboarding experience  
How can we ensure that we  
pass our experience to new  
talents joining the company?

# Simulation Project

## Based on a real project

- Using latest Java version
- Using latest framework version

## Examples for developing

- Custom components
- OSGi services
- Sling servlets
- Integration tests

## Surfing

Here you can find a list of the latest articles in this category.



### Surfing History

Surfing's roots lie in premodern Hawaii and Polynesia, where the sport was practiced by both men and women from all social strata from royalty to commoners. Early European explorers and travelers praised the skills of Hawaiian surfers, but 19th-century missionaries assigned to the islands disapproved of the "constant intermingling, without any restraint, of persons of both sexes" and banned the pastime. Surfing was practiced only sporadically in Hawaii by the end of the 19th century. In the e...

Read more



### Professional Surfing

Organized competitions helped to counter this negative image and to win surfing some social respectability. In 1953 the Waikiki Surf Club hosted the first international surfing championships for men and women at Makaha, Hawaii. This competition ma...



### Recent Trends

Women competing in professional surfing is a relatively new phenomenon. There were originally so few women surfers that often they would compete in men's events, and this continued well into the 1970s. A women's professional circuit began in 1977,...

## About

Surfing is a surface water sport in which the wave rider, referred to as a surfer, rides on the forward or deep face of a moving wave, which usually carries the surfer towards the shore. Waves suitable for surfing are primarily found in the ocean, but can also be found in lakes or rivers in the form of a standing wave or tidal bore. However, surfers can also utilize artificial waves such as those from boat wakes and the waves created in artificial wave pools.

Synchronized surfing, Manly Beach, New South Wales, Australia, 1938–46

The term surfing refers to the act of riding a wave, regardless of whether the wave is ridden with a board or without a board, and regardless of the stance used. The native peoples of the Pacific, for instance, surfed waves on alaia, paipo, and other such craft, and did so on their belly and knees. The modern-day definition of surfing, however, most often refers to a surfer riding a wave standing up on a surfboard; this is also referred to as stand-up surfing.

## Unsere Medien

site 1.net	site 6	site Austria	site 13	site 15
site 2.com	site 7	Working in progress	SITE 14	site 16
site 3	site 8	newspapers	Site orange	site 17
site 4	site 9	site 11	The wines	Key Account
site 5	site 10	site 12	Genius Mind	site 18

## Service

Terms & Service	Contact
ePapers (Apple)	ABC
ePapers (Android)	Impressum
Medium	Dates
Team	Contact



Starter 2.0

1. Getting started

2. Project introduction

3. Development environment

4. Project backlog

AEMSP-001: Article text

AEMSP-002: Article headlines

**AEMSP-003: Share module**

AEMSP-004: Image text component

AEMSP-005: Article language switch

AEMSP-006: Article event download

AEMSP-010: Breadcrumbs

AEMSP-011: Editable footer

AEMSP-012: Contact form

AEMSP-020: Date picker

AEMSP-030: Image slider

AEMSP-031: Featured article

AEMSP-032: Video module

AEMSP-033: News feed

AEMSP-034: Upcoming events

AEMSP-035: Quote component

AEMSP-036: Workflows

5. Development tips

6. Internal development

Project Backlog - FE

Planning

Topic owners

# Acceptance criteria

Share module component contains

- **Go back** button
- **Print** and **Send via email** buttons
- **Share buttons** for **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **LinkedIn**

Functionality

- Component is added on an Article page by default (when a new article page is created)
  - Component can only be added to the main content area, not in the sidebar
- Clicking on Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn buttons opens their standard share dialog provided by the API of the social media site
  - When clicked, always share the published URL of the article (even on author instance)
- Send via email opens your default mail client with subject set to title of the article page
- Go back returns to the previous page using browser history
- Print button opens the default print dialog box, which lets the user select native printing options

Self-explanatory tickets / requirements

# Constraints

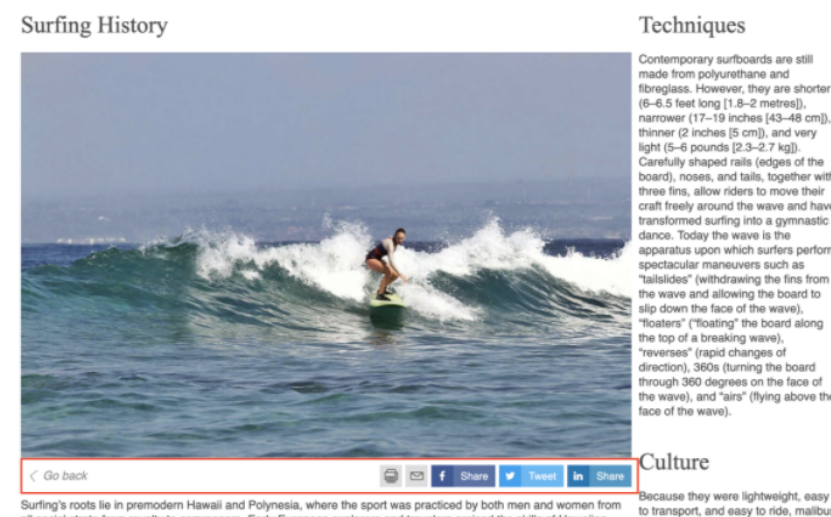
- Preview of Facebook share dialog is not available when you are trying to share your article link. It is usual behavior since your site is not publicly available, it is served on your local machine.
- Although some constraint exists, your solution should contain a real link to your article. When testing don't forget to remove the "editor.html" part of your URL.

# Hints

- Create a **Sling Model** for your new component
  - Reuse the existing *LinkService* to generate the article external link
  - Follow **guidelines and best practices** for working with Sling Models
- Write a Unit/Integration test for the backend code using **AEM Mocks**
  - Refer to **existing tests** as examples
  - Follow **guidelines and best practices** for backend testing in AEM
- Use **i18 translator** for translating hardcoded labels from English to German

Hints pointing to guidelines and best practices

# Design and layout



Provided design and front-end code

# References for mentors

Diff Commits

Find text in diff and context lines

«

core / src / main / java / io / ecx / aem / aemsp / core / models / event / dates / EventDatesExporterModel.java **ADDED**

Blame

📄

⋮

- core/src
  - main/java/io/ecx/aem/aemsp/core
    - models
      - event/dates
        - EventDatesExporterModel.java
        - EventDetailsModel.java
        - ArticlesListModel.java
      - records
        - ArticleItem.java
      - utils
        - Constants.java
    - test/java/io/ecx/aem/aemsp
      - context/services
        - ServicesImpl.java
        - ServicesMock.java
      - core
        - models
          - ArticlesListModelTest.java
          - LanguagesModelTest.java
          - NavigationModelTest.java
          - SearchResultsModelTest.java
        - services/impl
          - ImageFinderServiceImplTest.java
    - ui.apps/src/main/content/jcr\_root/apps/aemsp
      - components
        - content

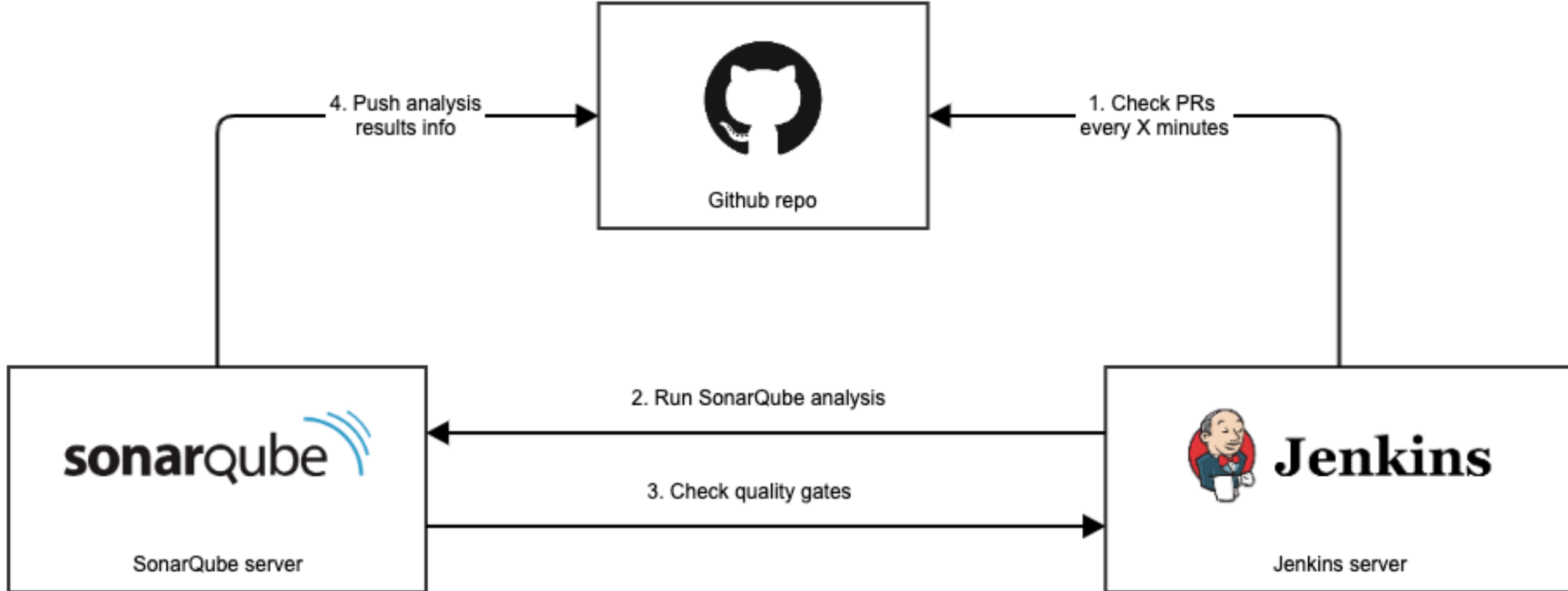
```
1 + package io.ecx.aem.aemsp.core.models.event.dates;
2 +
3 + import java.util.List;
4 + import java.util.Objects;
5 + import java.util.stream.Collectors;
6 +
7 + import javax.annotation.PostConstruct;
8 +
9 + import org.apache.commons.collections4.IteratorUtils;
10 + import org.apache.commons.lang3.StringUtils;
11 + import org.apache.sling.api.SlingHttpServletRequest;
12 + import org.apache.sling.models.annotations.DefaultInjectionStrategy;
13 + import org.apache.sling.models.annotations.Exporter;
14 + import org.apache.sling.models.annotations.Model;
15 +
16 + import com.adobe.acs.commons.models.injectors.annotation.AemObject;
17 + import com.day.cq.wcm.api.Page;
18 + import com.fasterxml.jackson.annotation.JsonProperty;
19 +
20 + import io.ecx.aem.aemsp.core.utils.Constants;
21 + import lombok.extern.slf4j.Slf4j;
22 +
23 + @Slf4j
24 + @Model(adaptables = SlingHttpServletRequest.class, defaultInjectionStrategy = DefaultInjectionStrategy.OPTIONAL, resourceType = "aemsp/components/
25 + @Exporter(name = "jackson", selector = "eventdates", extensions = "json")
26 + public class EventDatesExporterModel {
27 +
28 +     @AemObject
29 +     private Page currentPage;
30 +
31 +     private List<EventDetailsModel> eventDates;
32 +
33 +     @PostConstruct
34 +     public void init() {
35 +         try {
36 +             final List<Page> childPages = IteratorUtils.toList(this.currentPage.listChildren());
37 +             this.eventDates = childPages
38 +                 .stream()
39 +                 .map(Page::getContentResource)
40 +                 .map(resource -> resource.getChild(Constants.NN_EVENT_DETAILS))
```

# Ensuring code quality

How can we ensure that developers actually do fix Sonar issues and do apply coding guidelines?

# Pull request decoration

- The SonarQube PR decoration can be **integrated** directly into mostly any CI/CD workflow
- Every time a new Pull Request is opened, the analysis can be **executed automatically**
- No merging allowed until the analysis is **completed** and quality gates **passed**





# Ensuring high coverage & zero bugs policy

## Pull-request decoration:

- Performing [code analysis](#) on the changes introduced
- [Reporting results](#) on you code collaboration tool
- [Disabling merge](#) in gate fail

## With [SonarQube Developer](#) plan:

- Branch analysis + CI job
- Not free, paid licence



sonarqube-pr-decoration-on-prem bot commented 8 days ago



### SonarQube Quality Gate

Passed

**A** 0 Bugs  
 **A** 0 Vulnerabilities  
 **A** 0 Security Hotspots  
 **A** 0 Code Smells

0.0% Coverage

0.0% Duplication



sonarqube-pr-decoration-on-prem bot commented on 20 Apr



### SonarQube Quality Gate

Failed

37.5% Coverage on New Code (is less than 80%)

[See analysis details on SonarQube](#)

# Enforcing clean architecture

ArchUnit testing library:

- Checking the **architecture** of your Java code using standard Junit tests and reflection
  - <https://www.archunit.org/>

It can check and enforce:

- **Naming** conventions
- **Types and annotations** used in packages
- **Dependencies** between packages, classes, layers and slices,
- **Cyclic dependencies**

```
classes()
    .that().resideInAPackage(SERVICES_PACKAGE)
    .should().beInterfaces();
```

```
classes()
    .that().resideInAPackage(SERVICES_PACKAGE)
    .should().haveSimpleNameEndingWith(s: "Service");
```

```
classes()
    .that().resideInAPackage(SERVICES_IMPL_PACKAGE)
    .should().beAnnotatedWith(Component.class);
```

```
noClasses()
    .that()
    .resideInAnyPackage(COMPONENTS_PACKAGE, MODELS_PACKAGE)
    .should()
    .dependOnClassesThat()
    .resideInAPackage(SERVLETS_PACKAGE);
```

# Detecting framework-specific issues

## Framework-specifics:

- We use enterprise Java frameworks like Adobe Experience Manager and SAP CX that are not supported OOTB by Sonar rules
- Therefore, we had to [write our own rules](#)
  - <https://github.com/IBM/ibm-ix-aem-sonarqube-plugin>

## Custom SonarQube rules:

- Coding guidelines can be [automated](#) using a set of custom SonarQube rules
- If it is not automated, it probably won't be [used](#) by developers

### Log exceptions in @PostConstruct

ibmix-aem:PostConstructException  

 Code Smell  Minor  aem, bad-practice Available Since Jan 14, 2022 IBM iX AEM rules (Java)

Constant/issue: 5min

It is recommended to wrap all the code in the @PostConstruct method via try-catch in order to catch any runtime exceptions that could occur while adapting the resource/request.

We do this to properly log any runtime exception that might occur in a component, for example a null-pointer exception. Also, using this strategy we avoid showing unfriendly exceptions and their stacktraces to our end users.

Creating your own exception classes is still the best practice in the business layer (OSGi services). However, in the presentation layer, it is enough to catch and log any runtime and non-generic checked exceptions.

```
@PostConstruct
public void init() {
    final Page page =
        this.homePage
}
```

SonarLint: Wrap all the code in a try-catch clause

SonarLint: Show rule description 'ecxio-aem:PostConstructException'

Automated checks, together with pull-request decoration feature, helps us ensure that guidelines and best practices really do get applied by developers across projects.

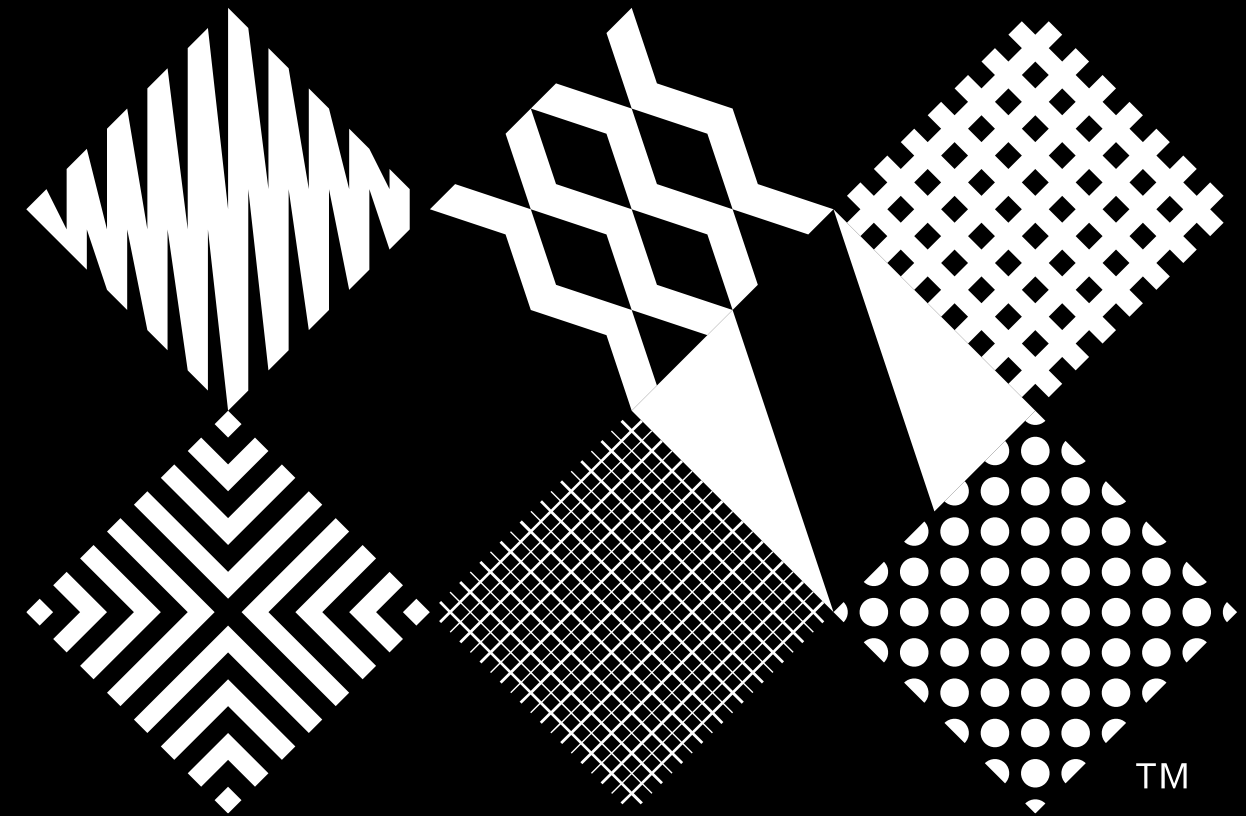


# Next up Developing Custom SonarQube Rules for Java

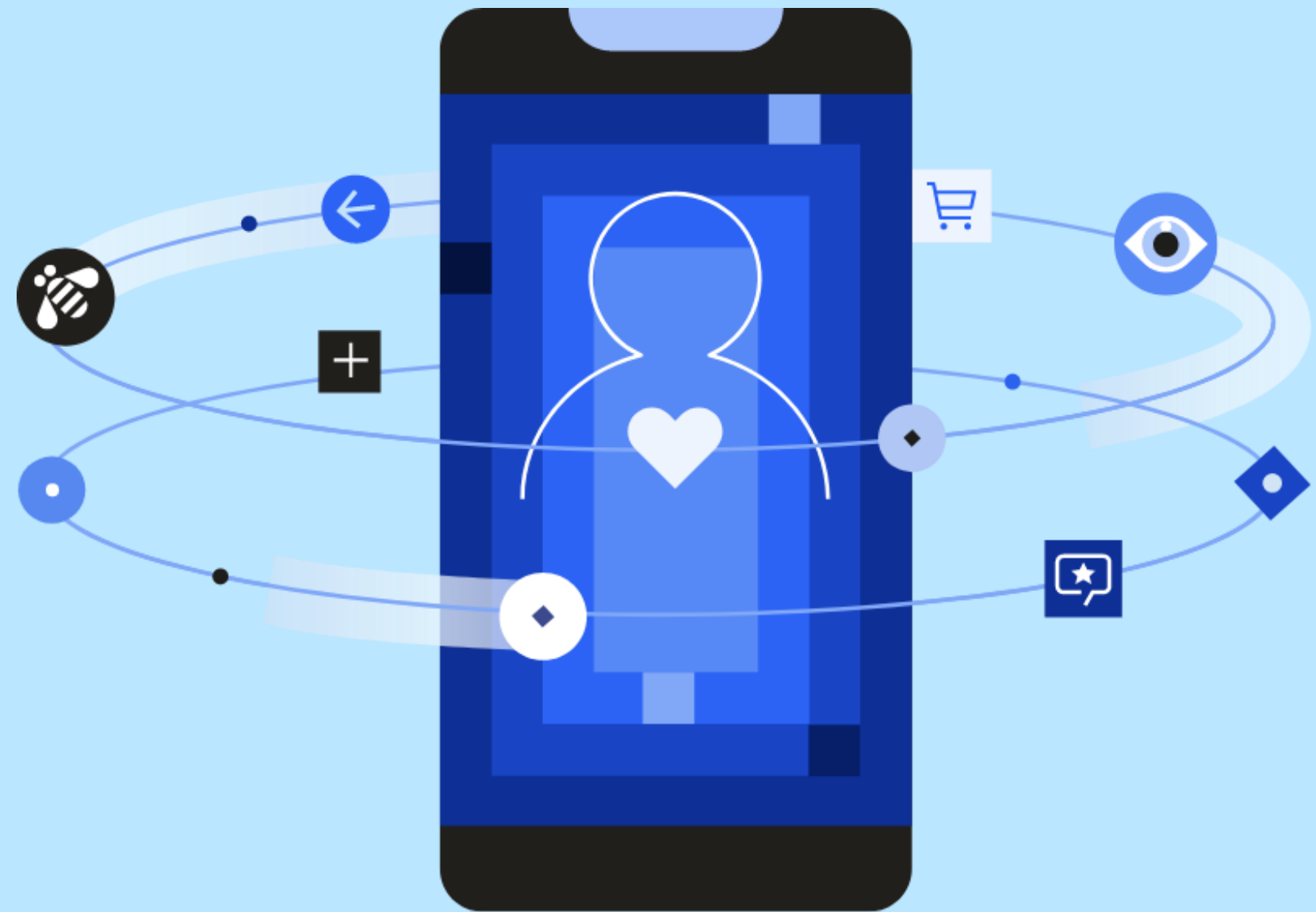
At 14:30 in Hall B



Martin Gluhak  
Java/AEM Developer  
[martin.gluhak@ibmix.hr](mailto:martin.gluhak@ibmix.hr)



Visit us @ our booth &  
get a chance to win a  
ticket for the JavaCro  
conference 2023!



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