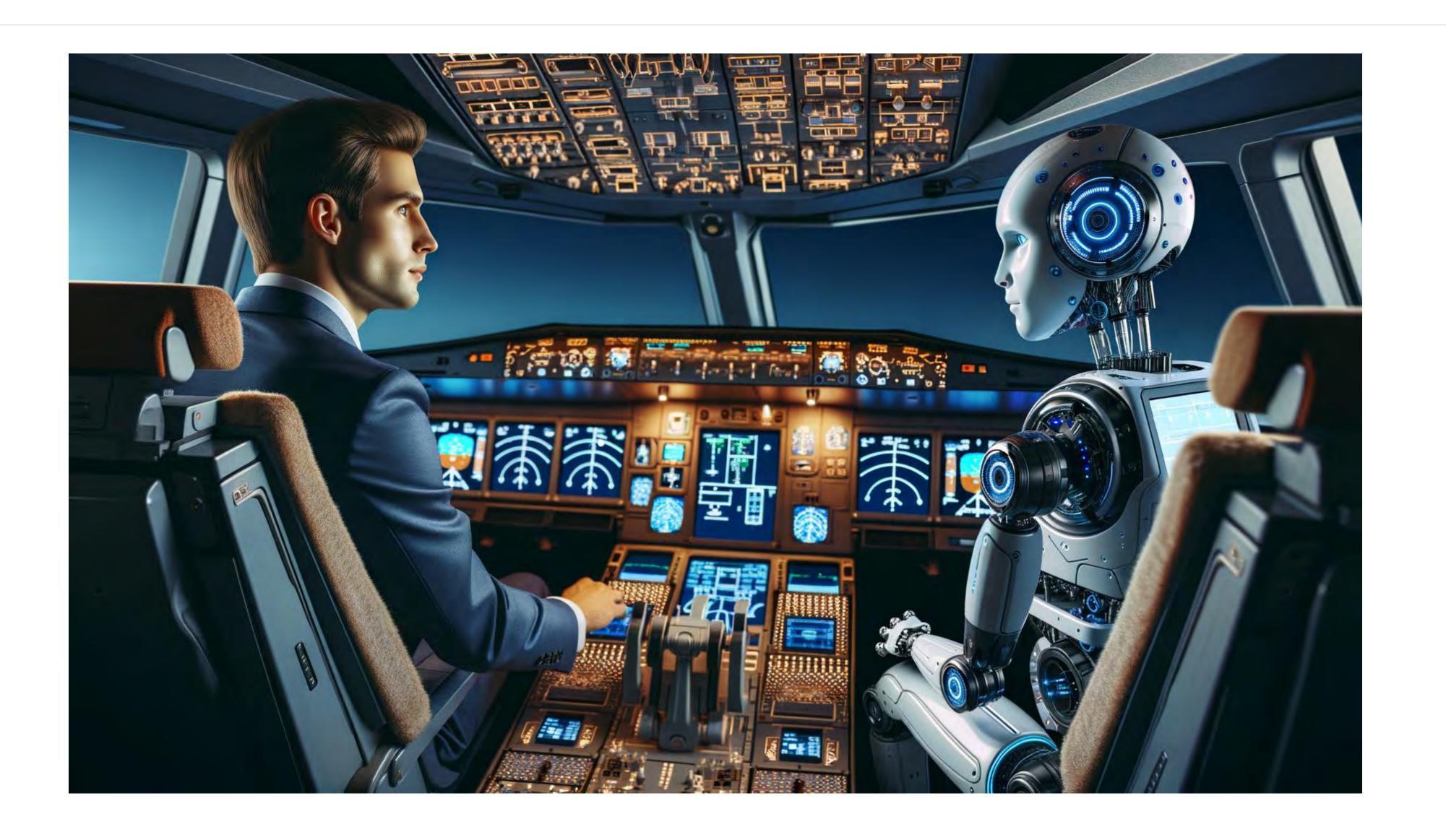




From Copilot to Autopilot











One of the most tedious (but critical tasks) for software development teams is updating foundational software. It's not new feature work, and it doesn't feel like you're moving the experience forward. As a result, this work is either dreaded or put off for more exciting work—or both.

Amazon Q, our GenAl assistant for software development, is trying to bring some light to this heaviness. We have a new code transformation capability, and here's what we found when we integrated it into our internal systems and applied it to our needed Java upgrades:

- The average time to upgrade an application to Java 17 plummeted from what's typically 50 developer-days to just a few hours. We estimate this has saved us the equivalent of 4,500 developer-years of work (yes, that number is crazy but, real).
- In under six months, we've been able to upgrade more than 50% of our production Java systems to modernized Java versions at a fraction of the usual time and effort. And, our developers shipped 79% of the auto-generated code reviews without any additional changes.
- The benefits go beyond how much effort we've saved developers. The upgrades have enhanced security and reduced infrastructure costs, providing an estimated \$260M in annualized efficiency gains.

This is a great example of how large-scale enterprises can gain significant efficiencies in foundational software hygiene work by leveraging Amazon Q. It's been a game changer for us, and not only do our Amazon teams plan to use this transformation capability more, but our Q team plans to add more transformations for developers to leverage.





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Different Approaches

Direct use of LLMs e.g. TAIA

Use of standardtooling with LLMs

Developing specific migration tools

Complexity

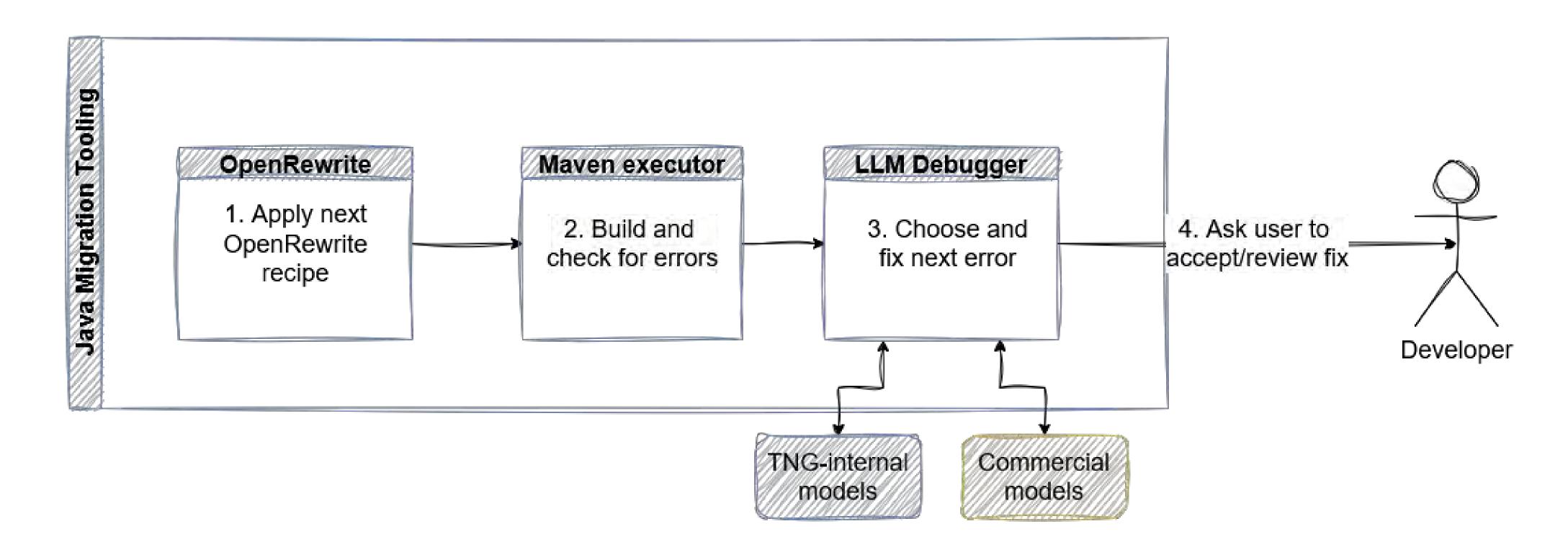
- Migrating sub-projects
- Evaluating LLM migration

- Upgrading language/framework versions
- Migrating mid-size to large projects
- Migrating modern programming languages, e.g. Java $8 \rightarrow$ Java 17

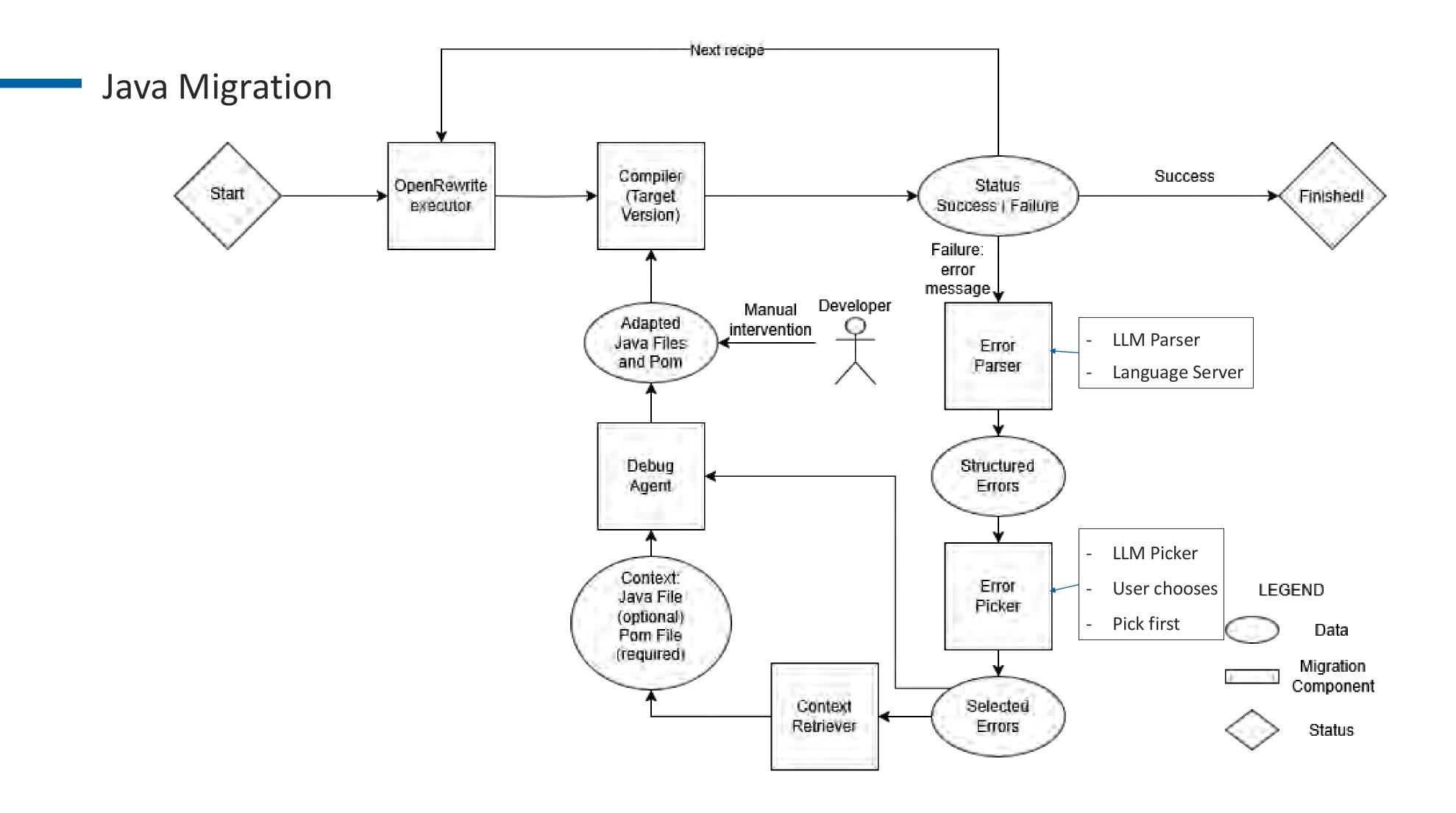
- Migrating between different languages
- Migrating of legacy languages,
 e.g. Natural → Python
- Specific target architectures



Java Migration







Java Migration



```
@Override
  public String getAsString(FacesContext facesContext, UIComponent
component, Object object) {
    if (object == null) {
      return null;
    if (object instanceof Customer) {
      Customer o = (Customer) object;
      return getStringKey(o.getCustomerId());
    } else {
      return null;
```



```
@Override
public String getAsString(FacesContext facesContext, UIComponent
component, Object object) {
   if (object == null) {
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   }
   if (object instanceof Customer o) {
      return getStringKey(o.getCustomerId());
   } else {
      return null;
   }
}
```

Why OpenRewrite + Al?



```
public String base64decode(String text) {
    try {
      return new String(dec.decodeBuffer(text), DEFAULT_ENCODING);
    } catch (IOException e) {
      return null;
    }
}
```



```
public String base64decode(String text) {
    return new String(dec.decode(text), DEFAULT_ENCODING);
}
```

LLM Fix

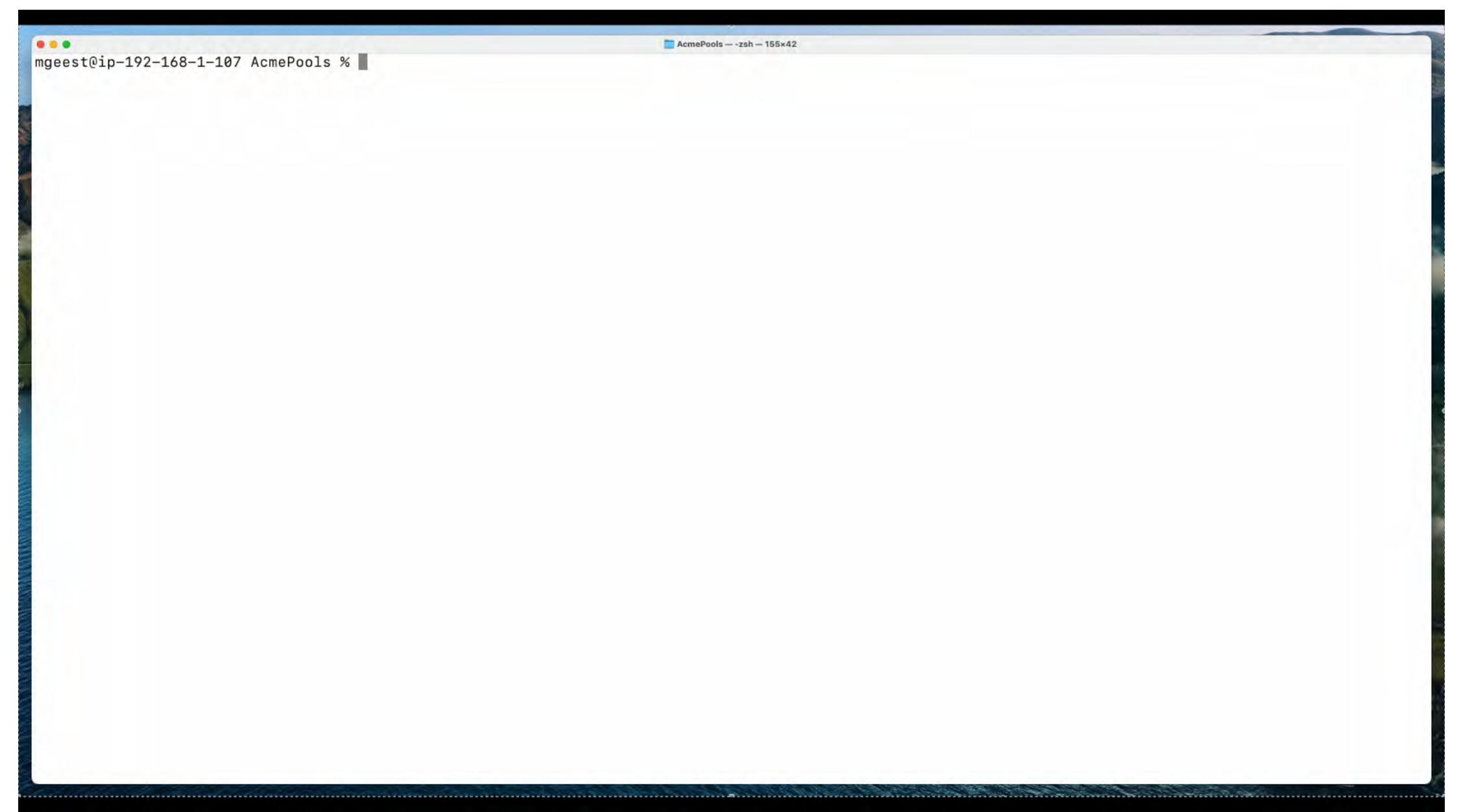
Why OpenRewrite + AI?



```
Command: debug
Found 2 error(s) that the AI believes to be independent
Looking at selected error 1 / 2 in '/C:/Users/micha/Documents/Projects/AICM/AcmePools/src/main/java/com/acme/acmepools/
utility/CreditLimitEncryptor.java' with message 'unreported exception java.io.UnsupportedEncodingException; must be cau
ght or declared to be thrown
Failed to execute goal org.apache.maven.plugins:maven-compiler-plugin:3.6.2:compile (default-compile) on project AcmePo
ols: Compilation failure
In file src/main/java/com/acme/acmepools/utility/CreditLimitEncryptor.java:
@33
 return new String(dec.decode(text), DEFAULT_ENCODING);
+ try {
      return new String(dec.decode(text), DEFAULT_ENCODING);
    catch (UnsupportedEncodingException e) {
      return null;
Should the suggested patches from above be accepted into the files?
(y)es / (m)odify / (s)kip
Response: y
```

Demo





Improving Debug Context



Context Retrieval is further Expanded

- User-Al interaction allows context-aware chatting about an error
 - User can guide the AI into the right direction
 - The AI can explain in more detail what is wrong
- RAG based retrieval of known issues and how to solve them

- And more ideas...
 - Let the LLM decide what it wants to know
 - Dynamically search the internet for solutions

Al Rule Application



Define Custome Migration Rules

• Feature to complement the rule-based approach with custom aibased rules

```
"id": 0,
"detect": "\\bprint"
"instruction": "Use logging instead of printing everywhere"
```

- Al uses language server to iteratively build its own context
- Rules will be applied concurrently

Al Rule Application



```
import javax.validation.constraints.Min;
                                                                                                         import java.util.List;
import javax.annotation.PostConstruct;
                                                                                          10
import javax.validation.constraints.Max;
                                                                                                   14
                                                                                          11
import javax.validation.constraints.Min;
                                                                                                   15 import org.slf4j.Logger;
                                                                                          12
import java.util.List;
                                                                                                         import org.slf4j.LoggerFactory;
                                                                                          13
                                                                                                         @RestController("/foos")
@RestController("/foos")
                                                                                       >> 15
                                                                                                   19 Q public class FooController {
public class FooController {
                                                                                       Q 16
                                                                                                   20
                                                                                                   21
                                                                                                             private static final Logger logger = LoggerFactory.getLogger(FooController.class);
                                                                                        >> 18
    @PostConstruct
    public void init(){
                                                                                         19
        System.out.println("test");
                                                                                        >> 28
                                                                                                             @PostConstruct
                                                                                                   23
                                                                                                             public void init(){
                                                                                          21
                                                                                                   25
                                                                                                                 logger.info("test");
                                                                                          22
    @Autowired
                                                                                          23
                                                                                                   26
                                                                                       Q 24
    private FooRepository repo;
                                                                                                   27
                                                                                                             @Autowired
                                                                                                   28
    // API - read
                                                                                                   29 🕒
                                                                                                             private FooRepository repo;
                                                                                                   30
    @GetMapping("/foos/{id}")
                                                                                                             // API - read
                                                                                                   31
    @ResponseBody
                                                                                                             @GetMapping("/foos/{id}")
    @Validated
    public Foo findById(@PathVariable @Min(0) final long id) {
                                                                                        6 31
                                                                                                             @ResponseBody
        return repo.findById(id)
                                                                                                             @Validated
                                                                                          32
                                                                                                   35
            .orElse(null);
                                                                                                   36 6
                                                                                                             public Foo findById(@PathVariable @Min(0) final long id) {
                                                                                          33
```

Migration Planning

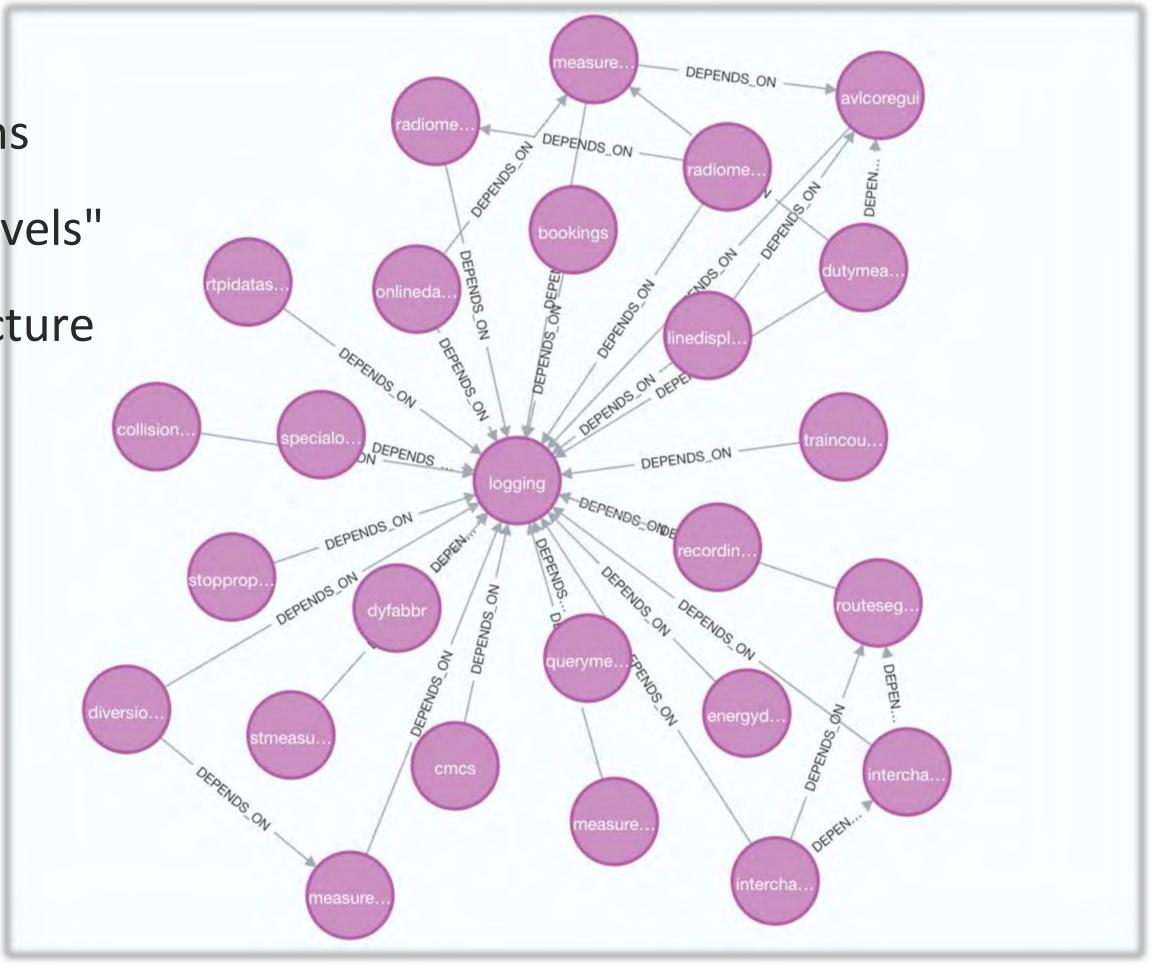


In Multi-Module Projects

Feature to plan correct sequence of module migrations

Automatically sorts modules together in migration "levels"

Based on graphical representation of the project structure



Migration Results



Migration Project

- 600 Modules
- Estimated manual migration 2 years
- Two months, 1 developer
- Average migration: 30 minutes per module



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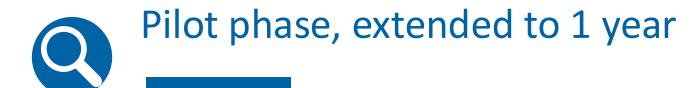
Complex Migrations



Migration PL/I → Java

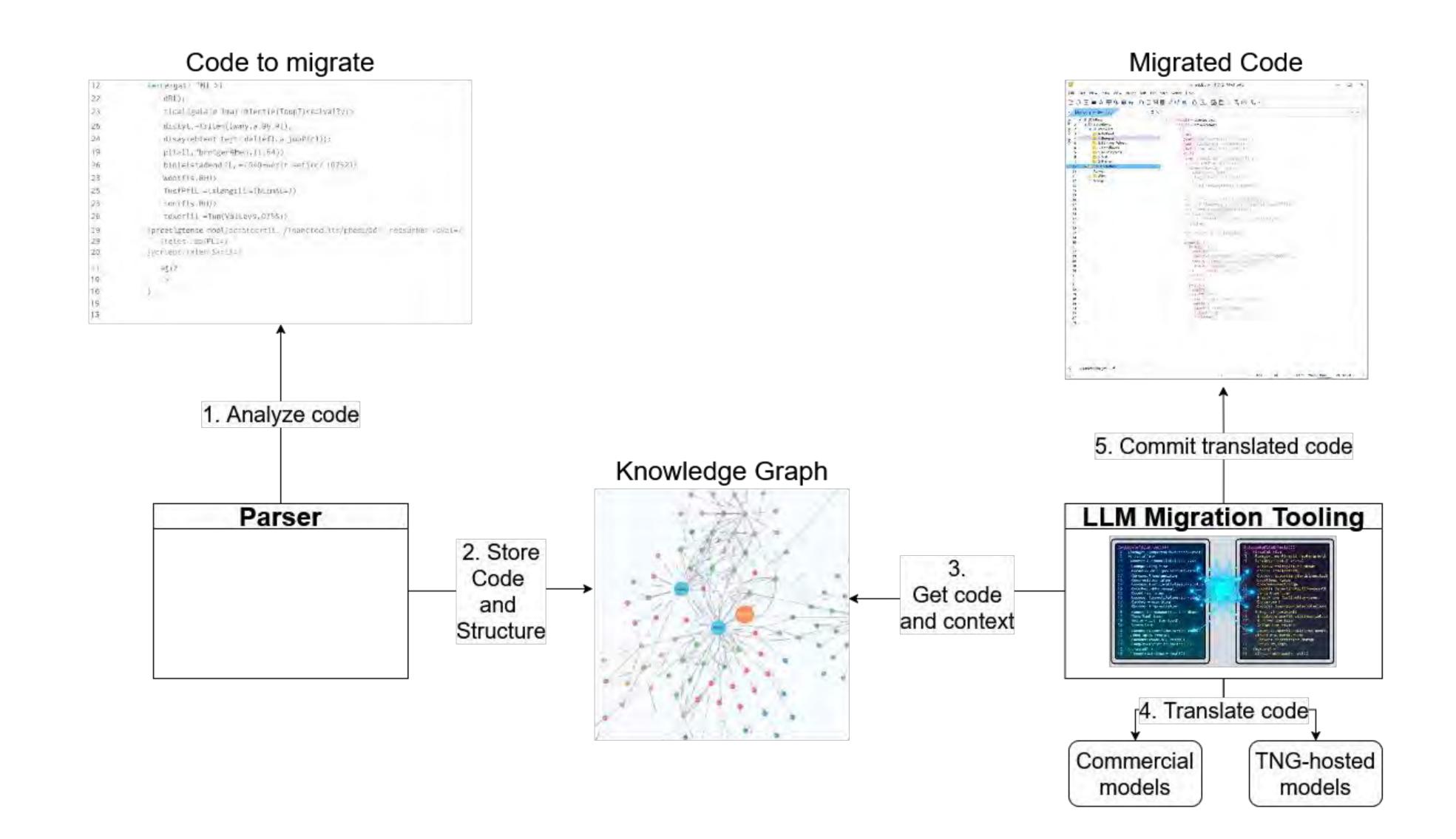
- Create tooling to assist developers migrating PL/1 into specific target Java framework
- Custom PL/I parser to extract system information
- Support for client developers via IntelliJ plugin
- Quotes of client developers:
 - "Very nice code"
 - "Looks like code which I would commit"
 - "When can we have it?"





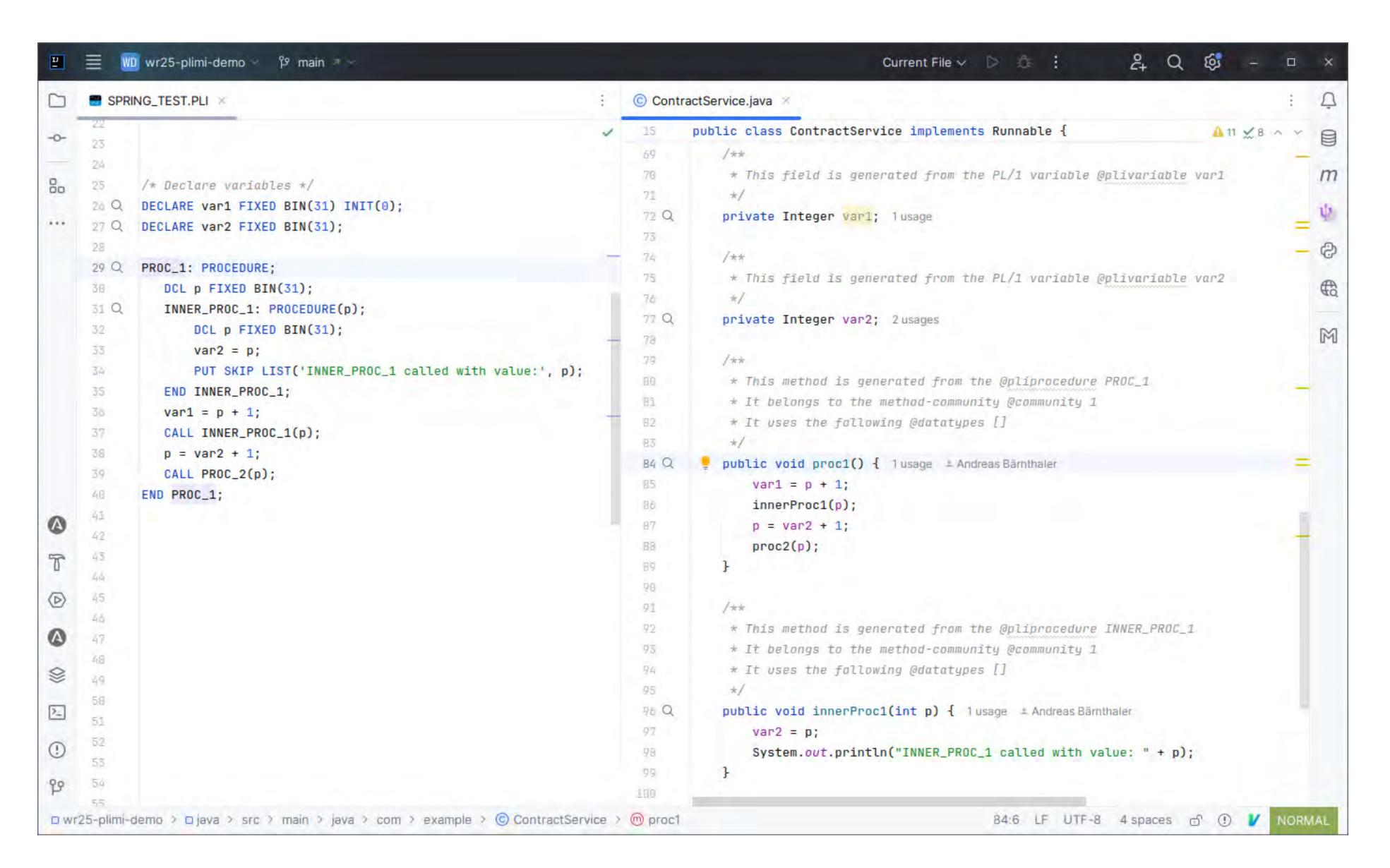






PL/I → Java Migration

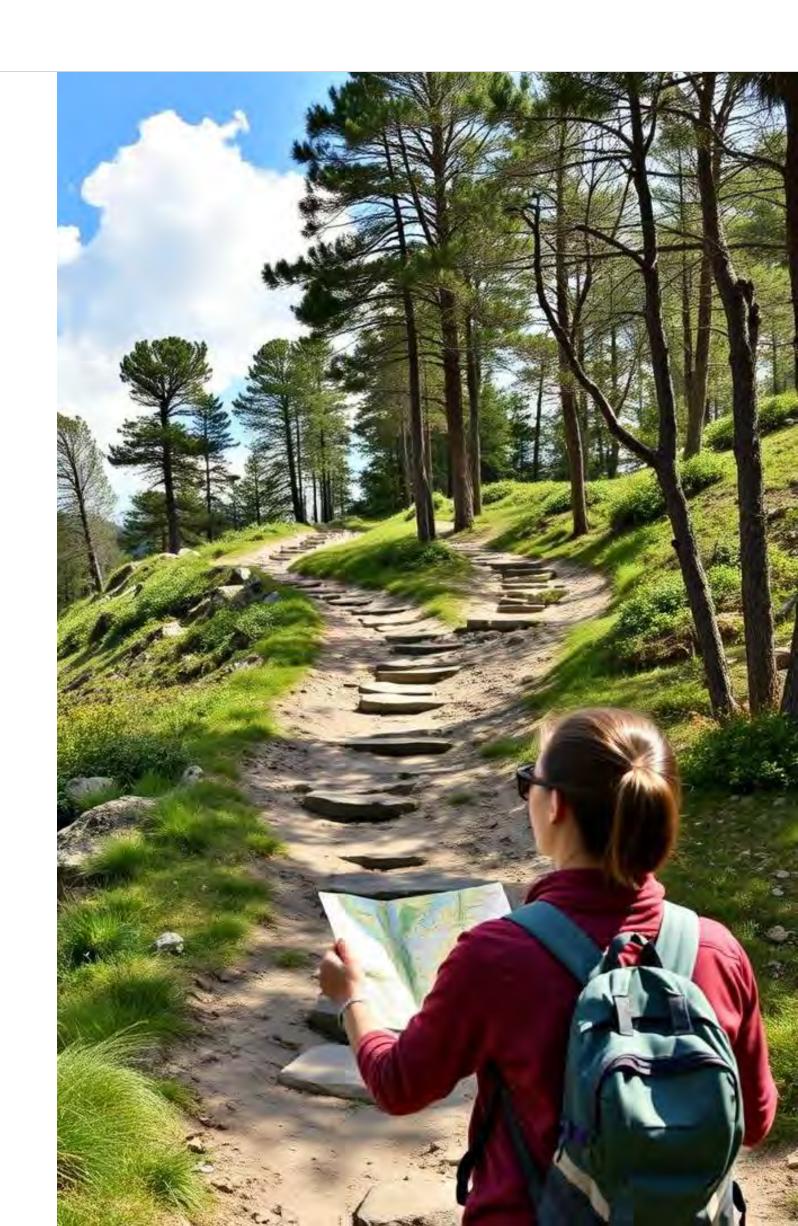




Frontend migration



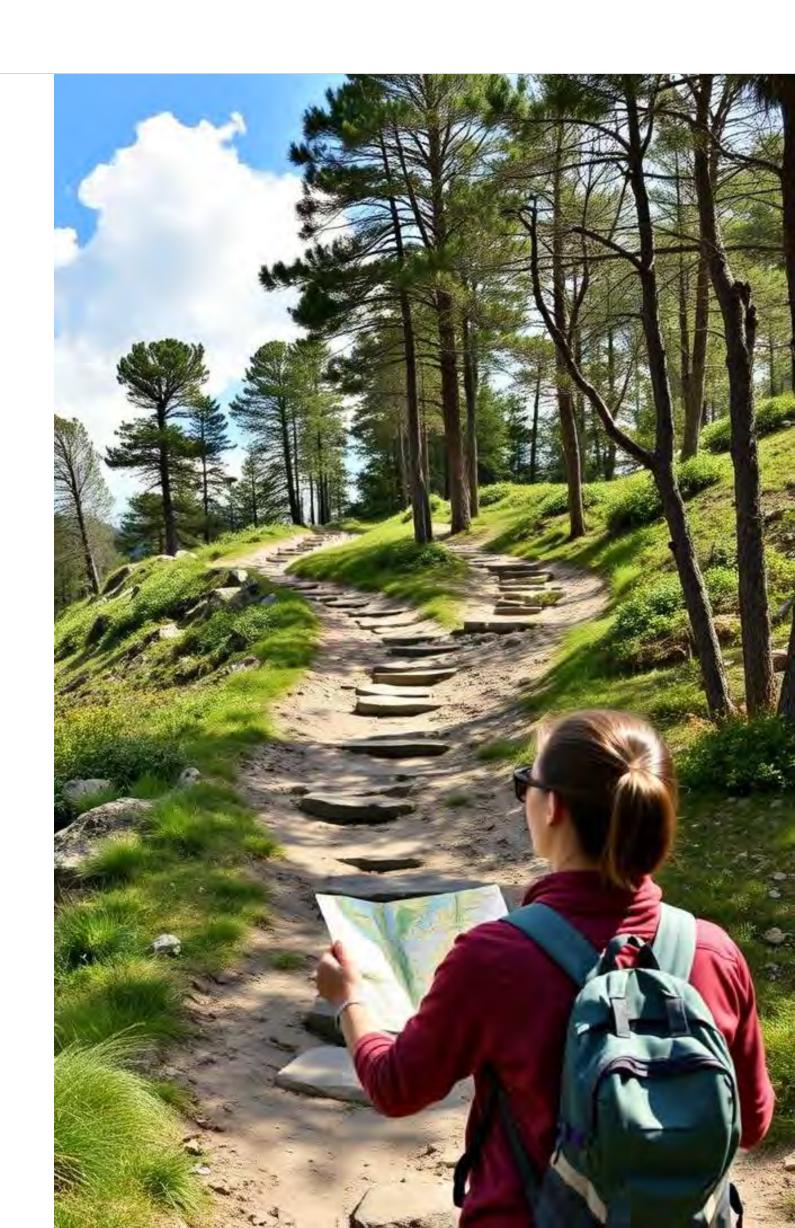
- Migrating code between frontend frameworks is complex
- The architecture changes between the old and new code





Insights

- Human expertise is key for pre-analysis and review
- Migrating smaller pieces of code leads to better results
- Splitting the migration into separate steps improves the result
- Right models for right tasks
- A separate post-processing step can leverage UI to further increase code quality
- Tests are important
- Generating unit tests is a good complementary step



Thank you for your attention!





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