Is LDAP Dead?

LDAPCon 2011 - Heidelberg
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About me

- Ludovic Poitou
- ForgeRock: Director ForgeRock France, Product Manager
- 1995-2010: Sun Microsystems
  - Architect, Community Manager
  - Directory Services team
LDAP

- 1995: RFC 1777 - LDAPv2
- 1997: RFC 2251 - LDAPv3
- 2006: RFC 4510 - LDAPv3 revision
An Ecosystem

- Many Servers vendors:
  - Apple, CA, IBM, Isode, Microsoft, Novell, Oracle, Red Hat, UnboundID, eB2Bcom ...
  - Optimal IdM, Quest (Symlabs), Radiant Logic
An Ecosystem

- 5 active open source LDAP server projects
  - Apache Directory Server
  - LDAP.js
  - OpenDJ
  - OpenLDAP
  - Port 389 (Red Hat directory server)
An Ecosystem

- An lots of active open source projects:
  - Apache Directory Studio
  - LSC-Project
  - LDAP-ToolBox
Mature and Declining
But why DEAD?
Developer’s dilemma

- Too many technologies
- Selection happens
- Is LDAP relevant?
HTTP, Rest, JSON

- It’s the new API
  - Google, Facebook, Twitter, FourSquare...
- Web Services
- Cloud
- No SQL databases
- Service Oriented Architecture
The new API

- JSON2LDAP
  - [http://nimbusds.com](http://nimbusds.com)

- SCIM: Simple Cloud Identity Management (aka Cloud Directory)
  - [https://sites.google.com/site/clouddir/home](https://sites.google.com/site/clouddir/home)

- Virtual directory servers also have rest web service access
Remember X.500?

- What happens with HTTP/JSON?
Is LDAP Dead?

- Not yet.
- But how long before it is?
- Is there anything we can do?
create or die!