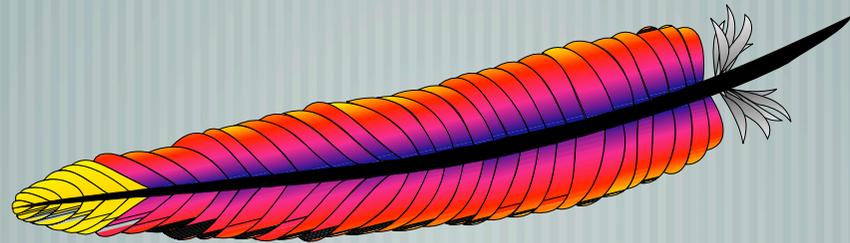


Apache Software Foundation

past and future

Dirk-Willem van Gulik / dirkx@apache.org



overview

— [History

— [The Trick

— [Situation Today

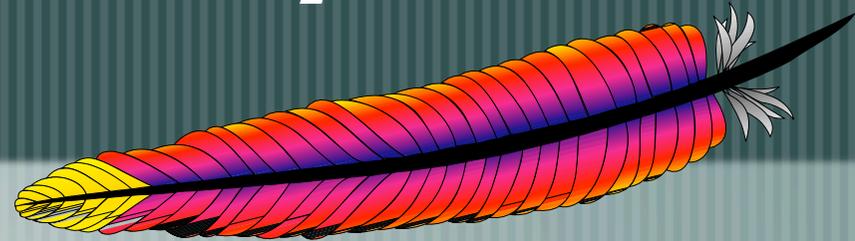
— [Where we are going tomorrow

— [Summary

— [Questions and Answers.



Apache History



Apache - History

— [Group of “Competing” webmasters

— [Using the NCSA server heavily

— [Rob McCool et.al. left NCSA for Netscape

— [Panic - Left out in the cold (that downside of open source)

— Scratched their own Itch



Joining the fray

— [Internet boom - people where making money with web servers



trust and network effect

— [Internet boom - people where making money with web services

— [interoperability key

— but how can you stand out with a different product if you need to be as interoperable as possible ?

— [no-agenda effect - Apache neutral implementor of IETF standards

— [network effect taking hold - Apache de-facto standard



Destiny control

— [Layer after layer of 'patches' applied to the NCSA code

— [Not sustainable if apache is not your core job

— [Complete Rewrite (Robert Tau - one guy!)

— [Apache as we know it today - Apache 1.3.x

— [Apache 2.0 was a parallel effort - away from operations pressure



Joining the Fray

- [IBM was first, others followed

- [The rebels became a 'Foundation'

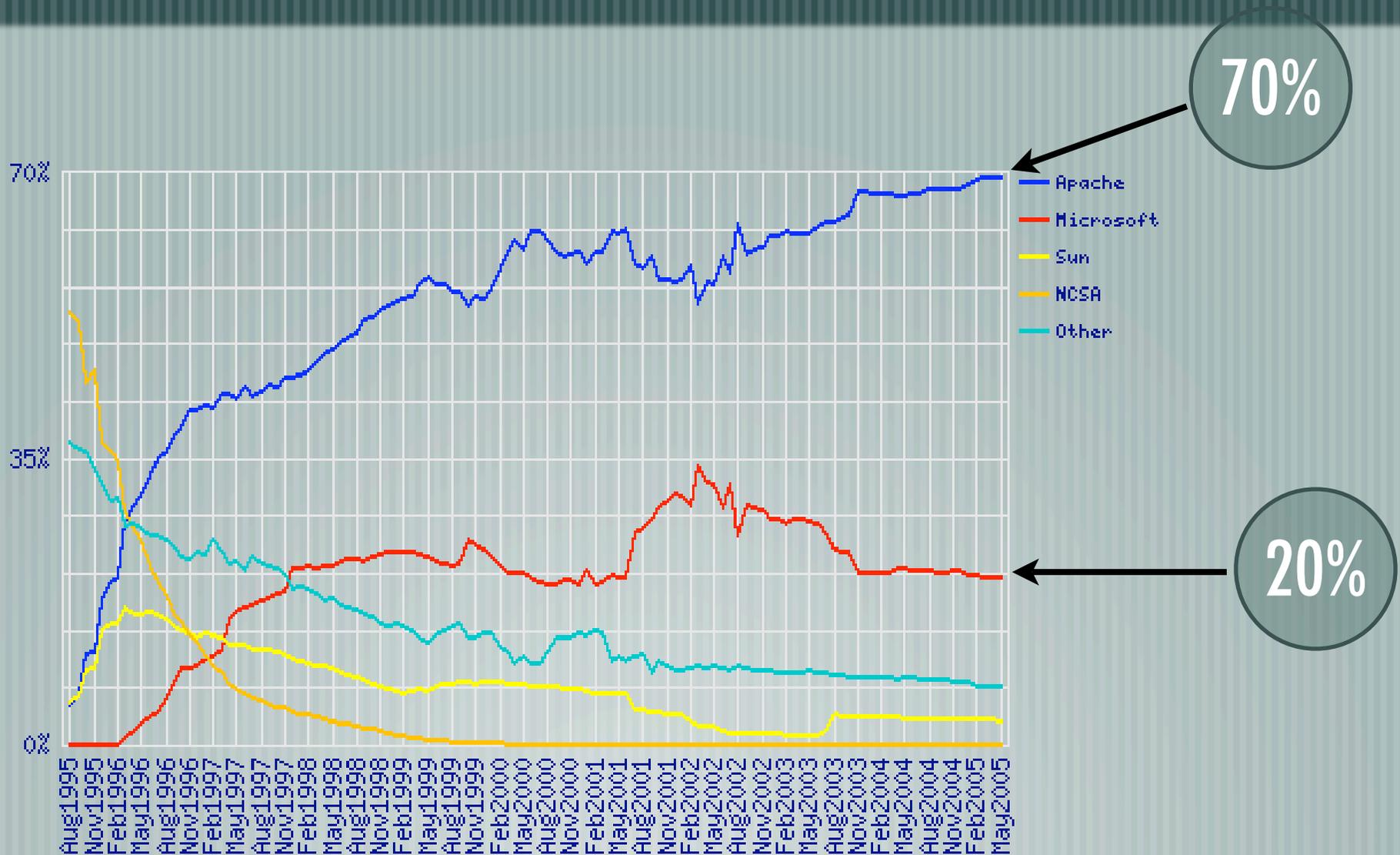
- US incorporated (delaware),

- 9 board members - annual members meeting

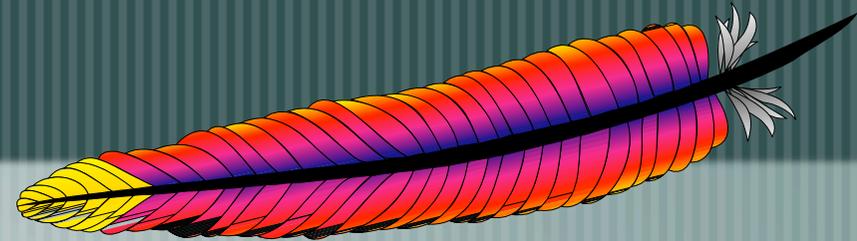
- [added XML, added Java, added SOAP, Spam Assassin & 100 others



the result



Apache - the Trick



Hindsight is so easy !

Community!

- [Community and Social processes first

- “voting” method

- neutral requirements

- [The most liberal license possible

- [Squeaky clean legal situation

- protect users -and- developers



Resolving Conflicts

- [Resolving differences of opinion

- while not stifling creativity for tomorrows users.

- while not breaking operations for the todays users

- [Some sort of "Voting" emerged:

- +1: in favour -and- commit myself to get it to work.

- -1: veto -and- commit myself to work on it.



Avoiding Conflicts

- [Apache Software Foundation is the distributor

- no release goes out without proper oversight and procedure.

- [License - BSD style

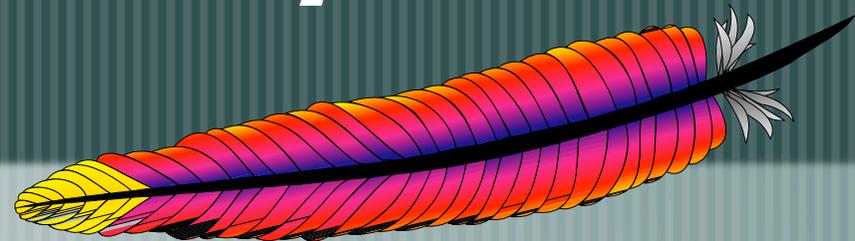
- [All what goes out comes from SVN/ CVS and can only enter with:

- Committer/Corporate license agreement

- Bulk Software grant



Apache - Today



Apache in numbers

— [50.000 contributing users

— [1025 Committers

— [135 Members

— [100+ developer groups projects

— [30 Officers, 9 Directors

— [4 million/day, 10k emails, over 1000's of lines/day.

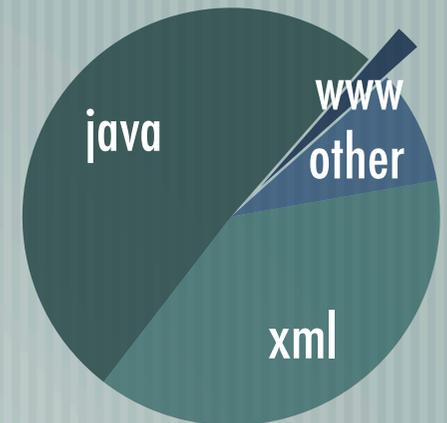


situation today

— [Webservice relegated to a quiet corner (few % of the activity)

— [Java and XML is where it all Happens

— [Some cool exceptions (eg. Spam Assassin)



— [Increase of 'neutral ground' development:

— Harmony (J2SE), Geronimo (J2EE)



people

— [Attracts and cultivates a wide mix of people, yet shared culture

— [Most people are professionals

— [Most spend significant (in)directly paid time

— [True 'hobbyist' are very hard to find.

— [Operations/front line people over represented

— [No large company dominates (8-12%; 30% combined)



what works

— [Open Standards based

— [Clear guideline, standard (or TCK), neutral goal

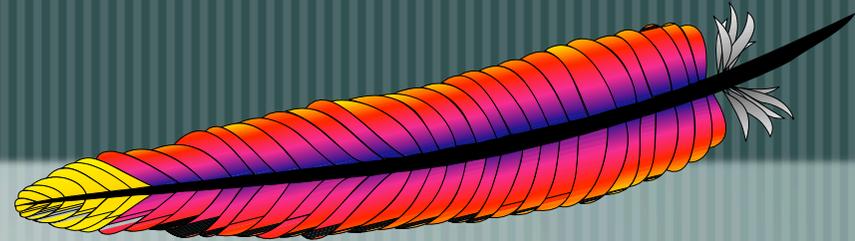
— [Innovation not at the expense of the commons

— [Code for operators (clear requirements: stable, secure, robust)

— [Large enough community which has 'real life' itches.



Apache - Tomorrow



the future

— [Steady growth (linear, not exponential)

— [Steady legal and organisational refinements

— [Even more Java

— [Some **Loud** Failures !

— [Increasingly platform neutral (Engine and IDE)



old trends continued

- [industry consolidation - stack is no battle ground

- [(once) more 'neutral' ground to develop

- j2se, j2ee and lots of other standards

- feedback into JCP and other standards processes

- ['big' companies - relative footprint reduced



new trends

— [vendor collaboration (and not studiously ignoring each other)

— [large enough to harbour competition

— [consortia of small and medium sized companies

— spatially distributed collaborators become the 'norm'

— the right person for the right job <<merit>>.

— [A true Eco System (with a fair chunk of Darwinism).



new trends

- [Horizontal innovation

- [Overcome the 'big company do not innovate' hurdle

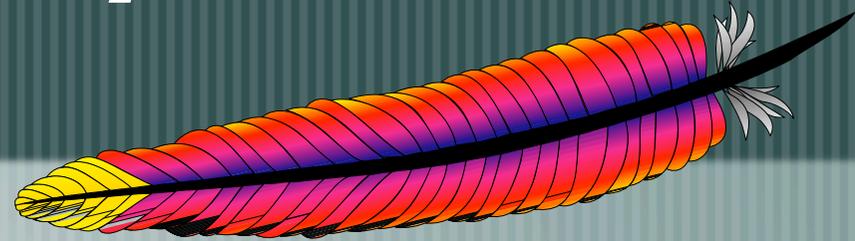
- no acquisitions needed

- [platforms are opening up again

- both Engines and IDE's.



summary



Apache

- [Put Community first - always

- [Have sound procedures, don't skimp on the legal stuff

- [Scratch your **own** itch

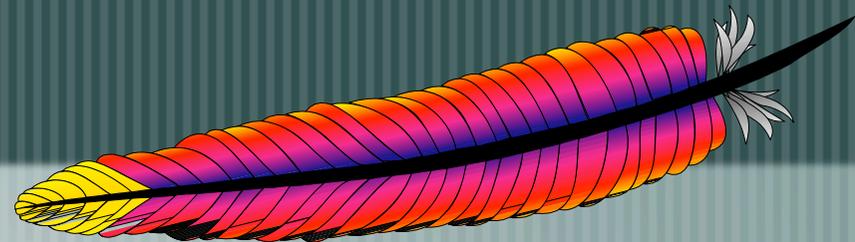
- not the one your neighbour may be thought to have

- [Build a viable Ecosystem

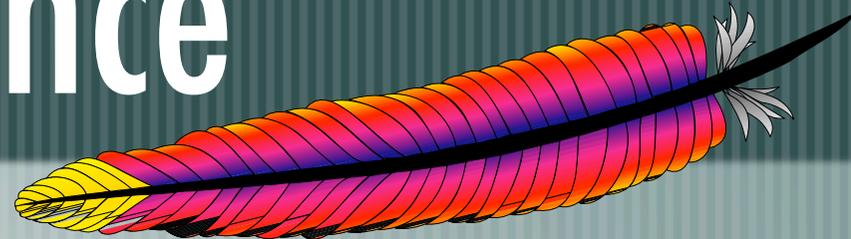
- Several € 1.000.000.000,= and counting..



thanks



Apache Conference



18-22 July 2005 - Stuttgart, Germany
end of the year - US West coast