

# How To Maintain Million Lines Of Open Source Code And Remain Sane\*

The Story of MidPoint

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# Radovan Semančík

Software Architect at Evolveum

Architect of midPoint

**Apache Foundation Committer** 

Contributor to several open source projects

Still (more or less) sane







# WARNING

HIC SUNT LEONES

Controversial statements ahead!

Political correctness (very) limited.

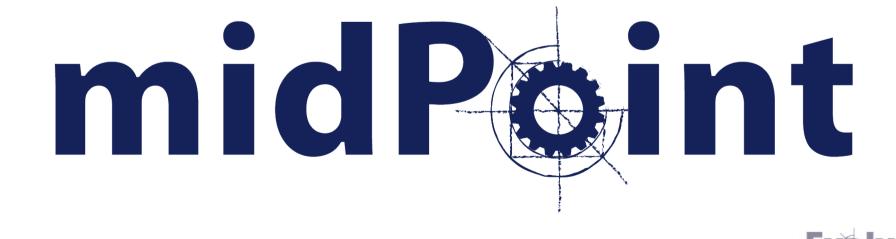
Mental health hazards.

Dogmatic buzzword followers should leave now.

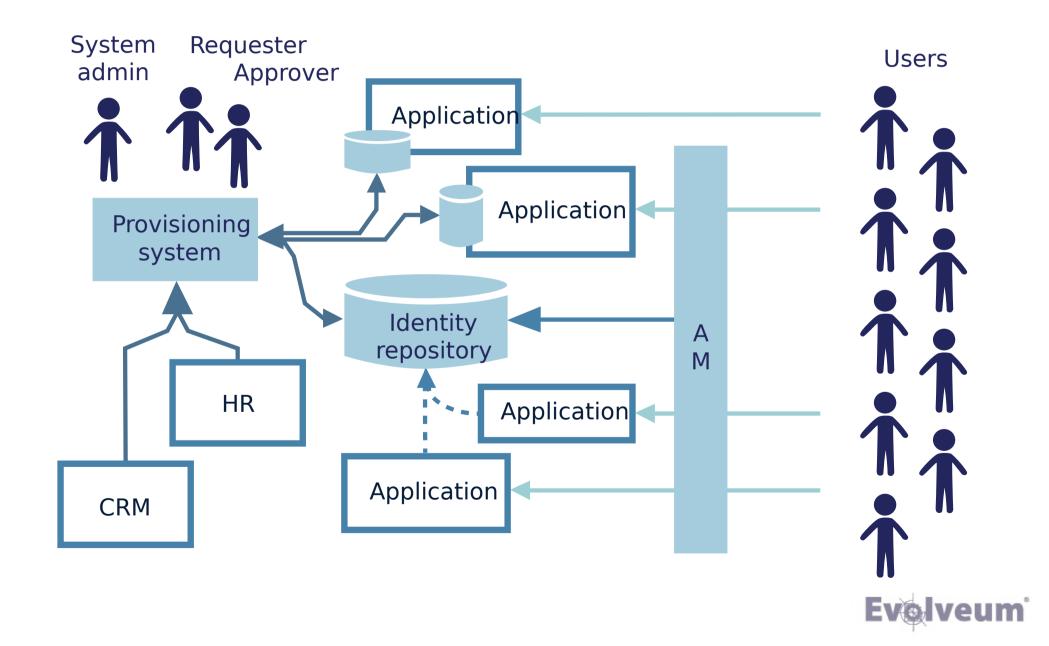


# Project midPoint

- Identity management and governance
- Open source (Apache License)
- Started in 2011 by Evolveum (self-funded)
- Approx. 1 million lines of code
- Mostly written in Java



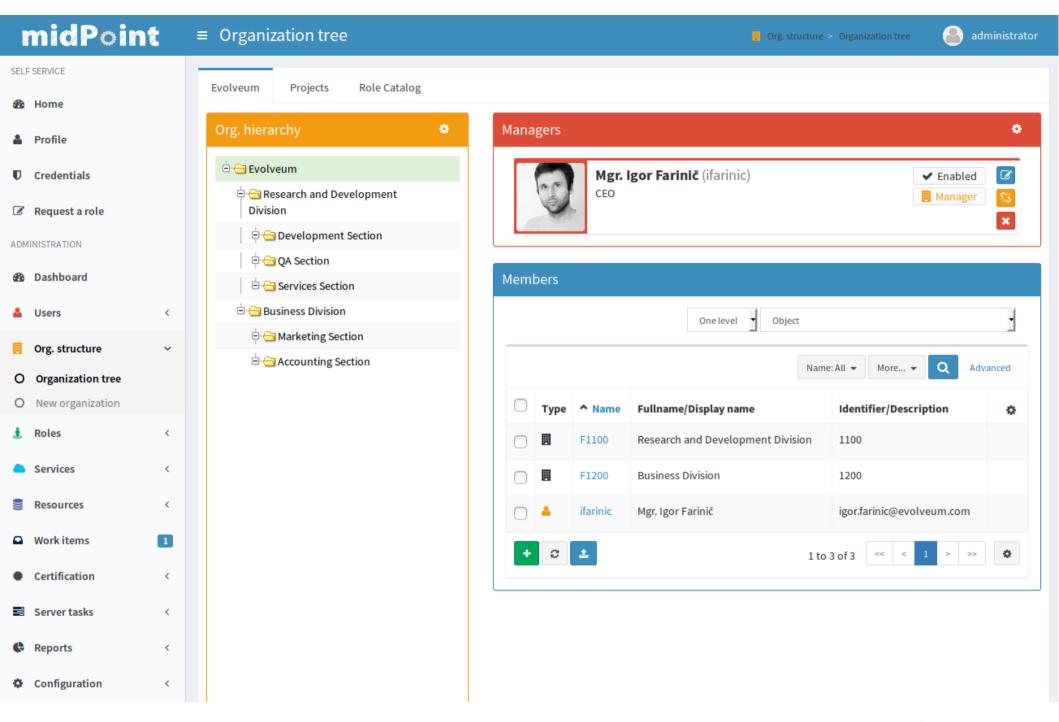
# What is Identity Management?



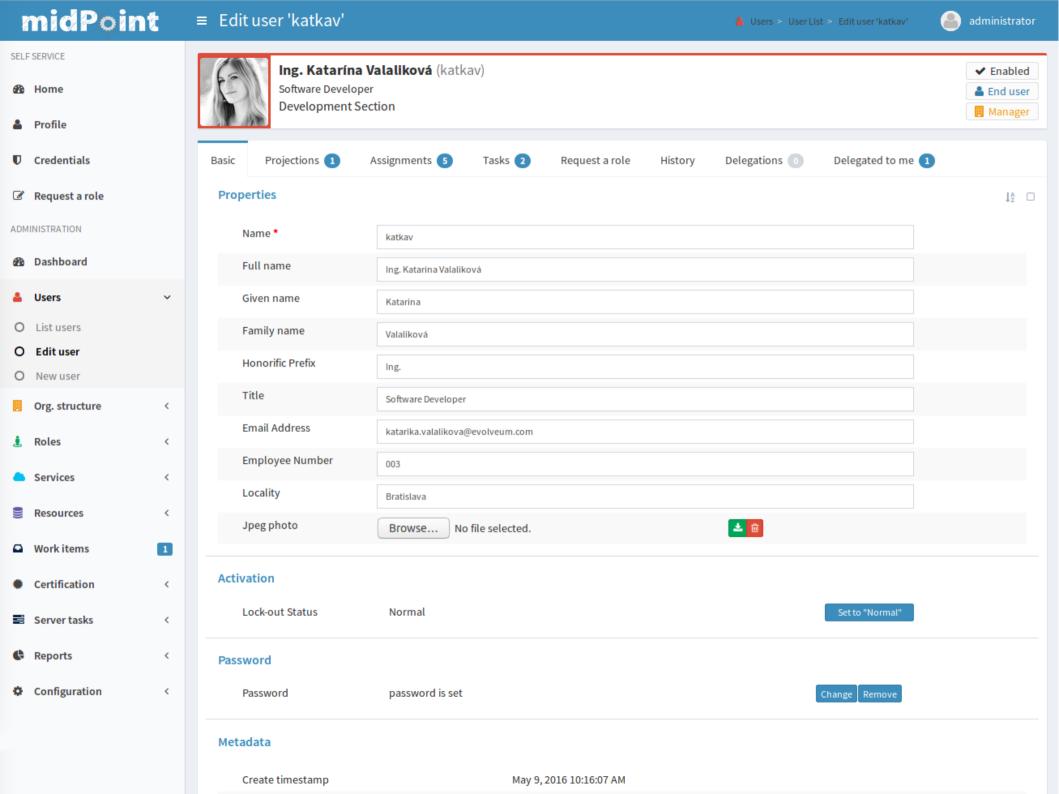
## ... and Identity Governance?

- Beyond Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)
- Organizational structure
- Delegation, Audit, etc.
- Role assignment and re-certification
- Policies (e.g. SoD)
- Maintenance of role model (role lifecycle)
- Risk assessment
- Compliance

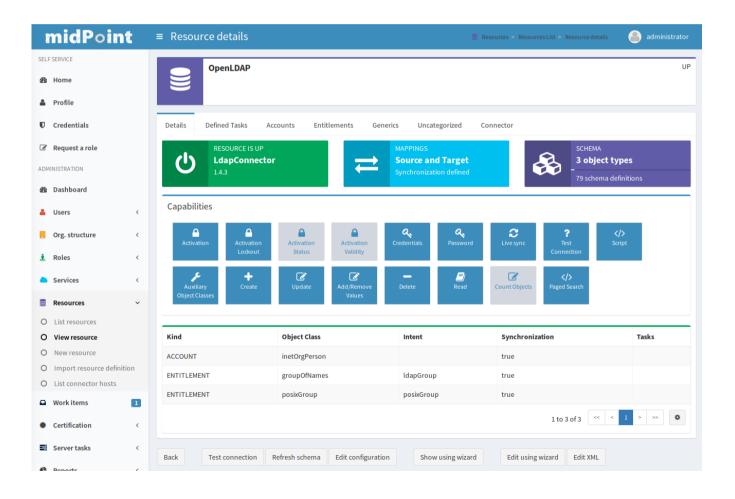


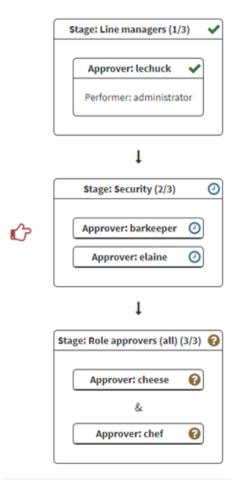




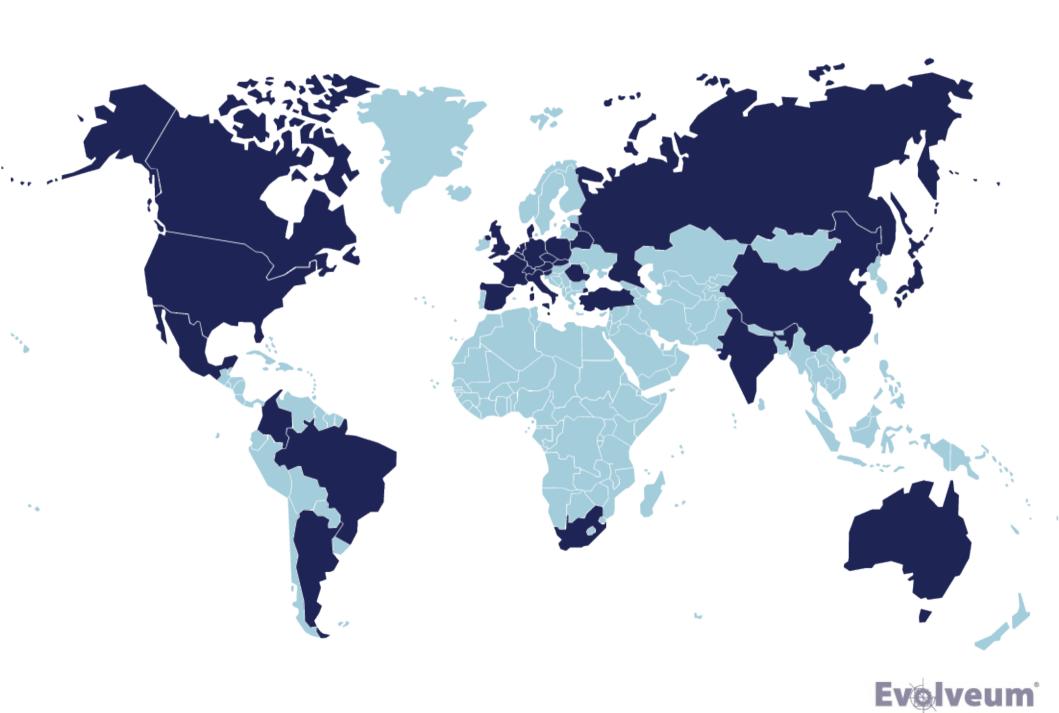






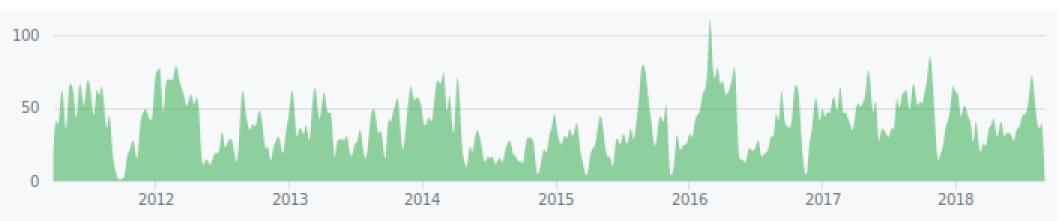




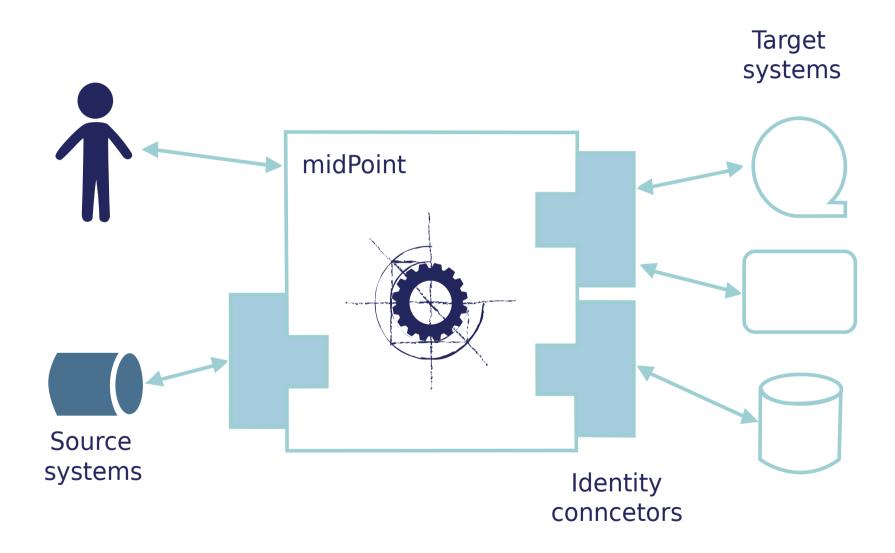


# MidPoint Development

- Everything is open source (see github)
- Evolutionary approach (iterative+incremental)
- At least 2 releases per year (26 releases)
- Team of 5 full-time developers (+contributors)
- High development activity (100-200 commits/month)

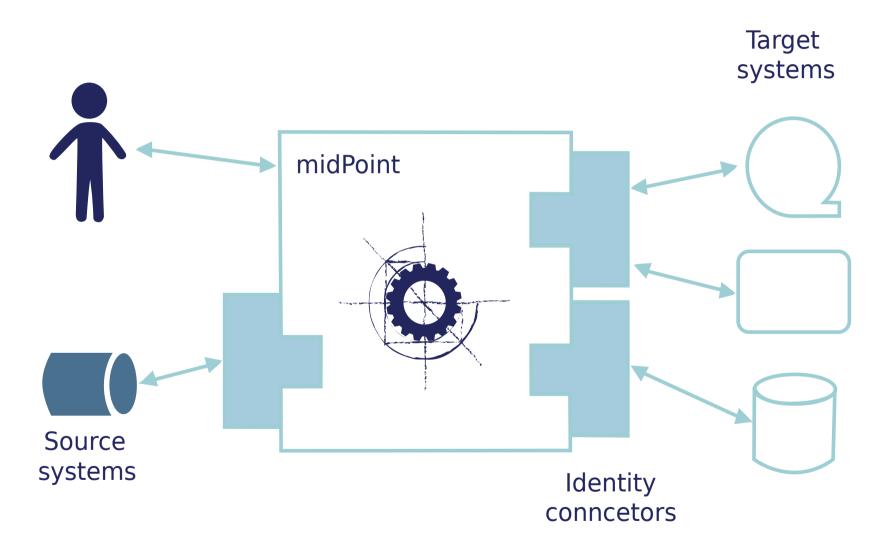


# MidPoint Big Picture



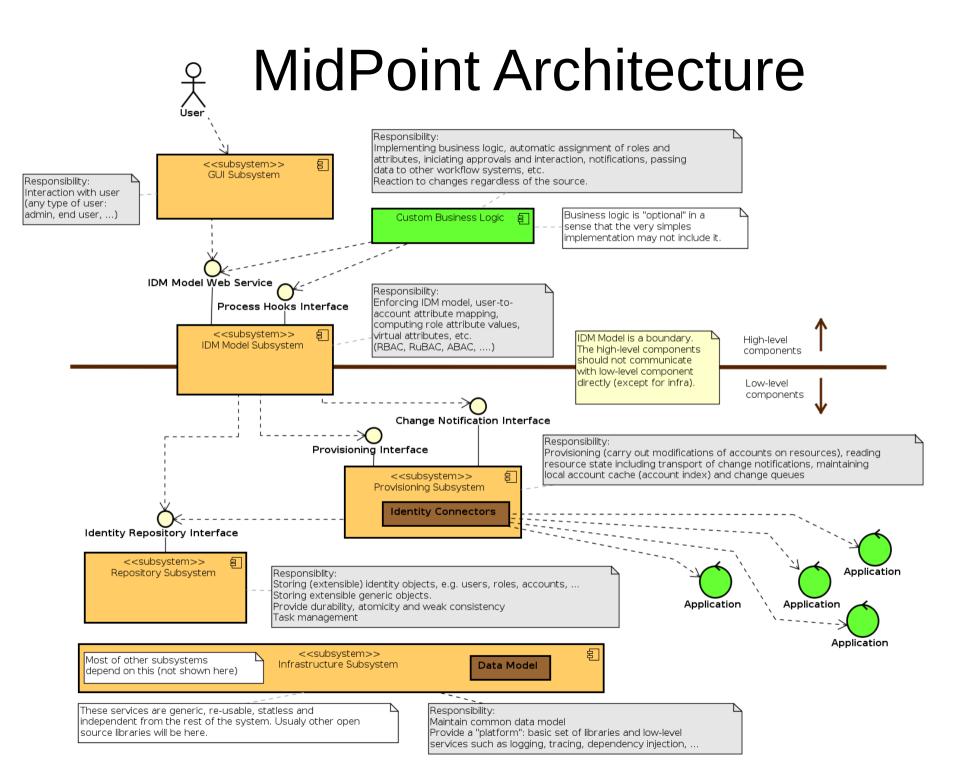


# MidPoint Big Picture

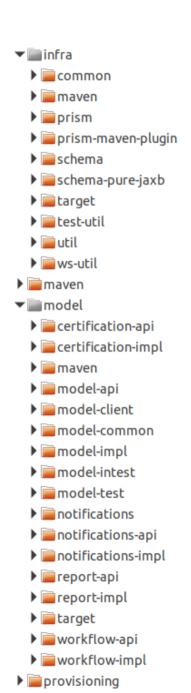


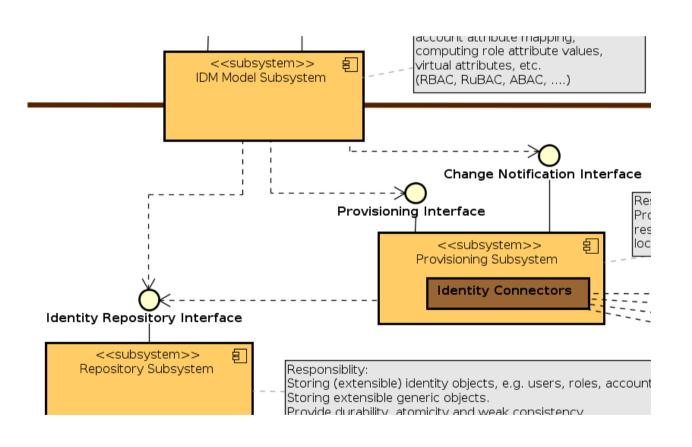
# **Monolith?** Not really!





## Components, Source Code Structure







# Dependencies (2010-2012)

- Spring
- Java Server Faces
- XML (DOM)
- JAX-B
- JAX-WS
- ESB (BPEL)
- Activiti BPM (BPMN.2)
- Jasper Reports
- Hibernate



# Dependencies (2018)

- Spring + Spring Boot
- Java Server Faces Apache Wicket
- XML (DOM) + JSON + YAML
- JAX-B : (almost) replaced
- JAX-WS: not used much any more
- ESB (BPEL): replaced before midPoint started
- Activiti BPM (BPMN.2): going to be replaced
- Jasper Reports: not very useful, will it survive?
- Hibernate: may be replaced later on



## Dependencies: Lessons Learned

- Faster start of the project
- Do not reinvent the wheel
  - ... unless the wheel is in fact a square
- Do not depend on dependencies too much
- Understand how they work and why they fail
- Have a "Plan B" to replace them later on



#### Architecture?

"REST", Microservices, Web frameworks, ...

#### That's not architecture!



#### Architecture!

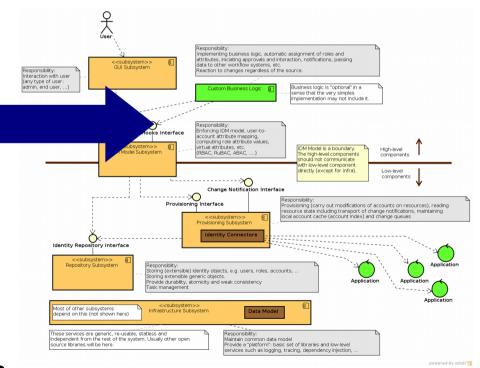
"REST", Microservices, Web frameworks, ...

#### That's not architecture!

#### This is architecture

Components, subsystems, interfaces, modules, separation of concerns

You really should pay attention in software engineering classes.



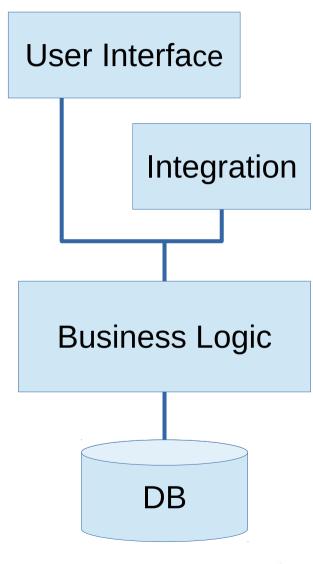


#### **Data Model**

- Extremely important
- As important as architecture
- Cross-cutting concern
- Performance, scalability, evolvability, ...
- Changes often especially at the beginning
- Evolution compatibility
- Experimental features

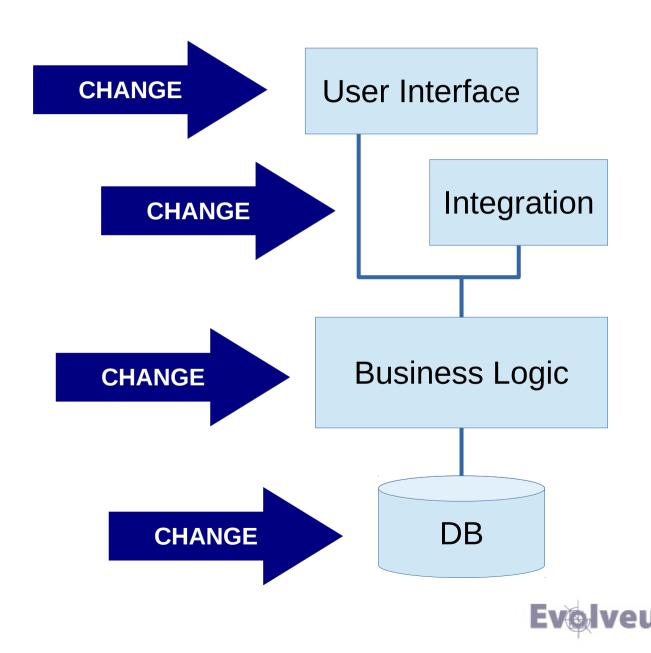


### Data Model

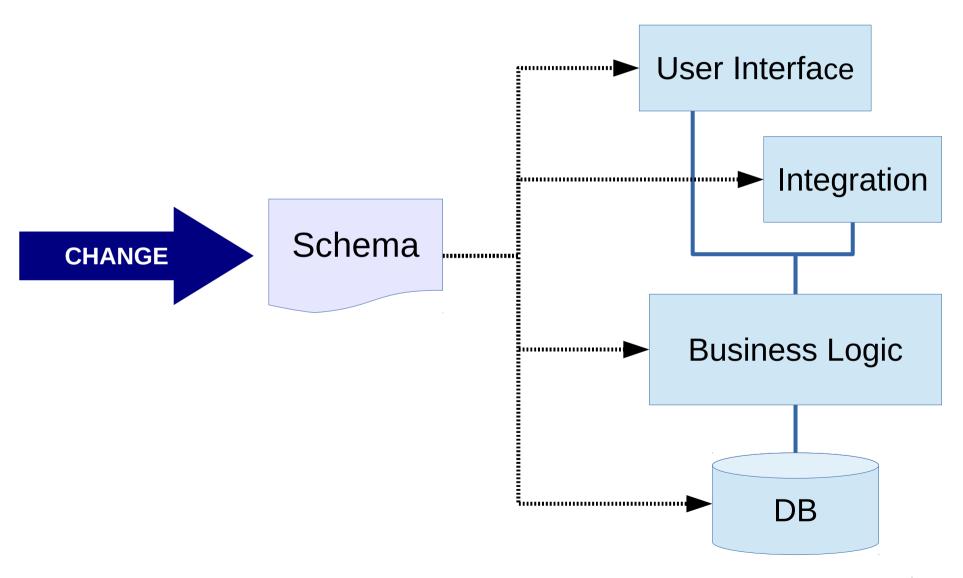




# Data Model Change

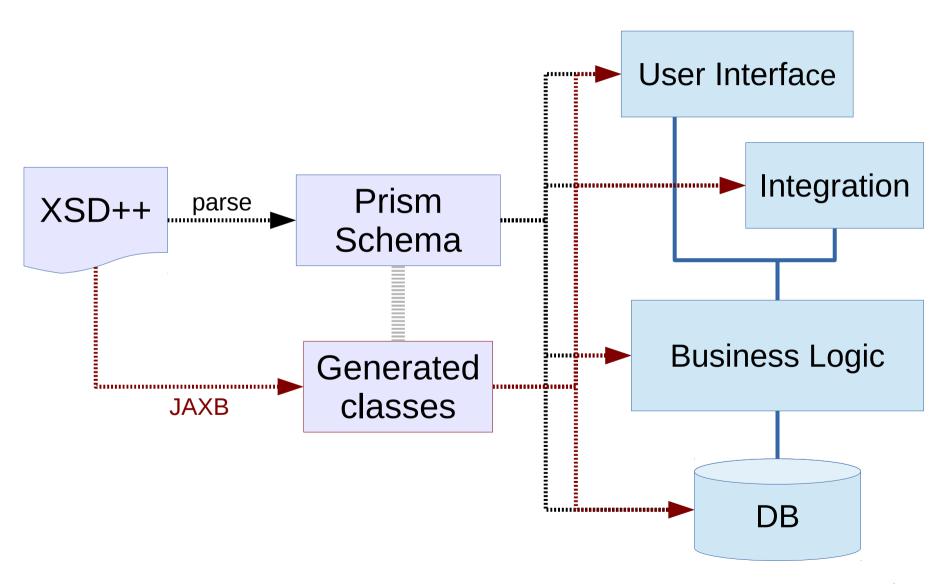


#### Data Model: Schema



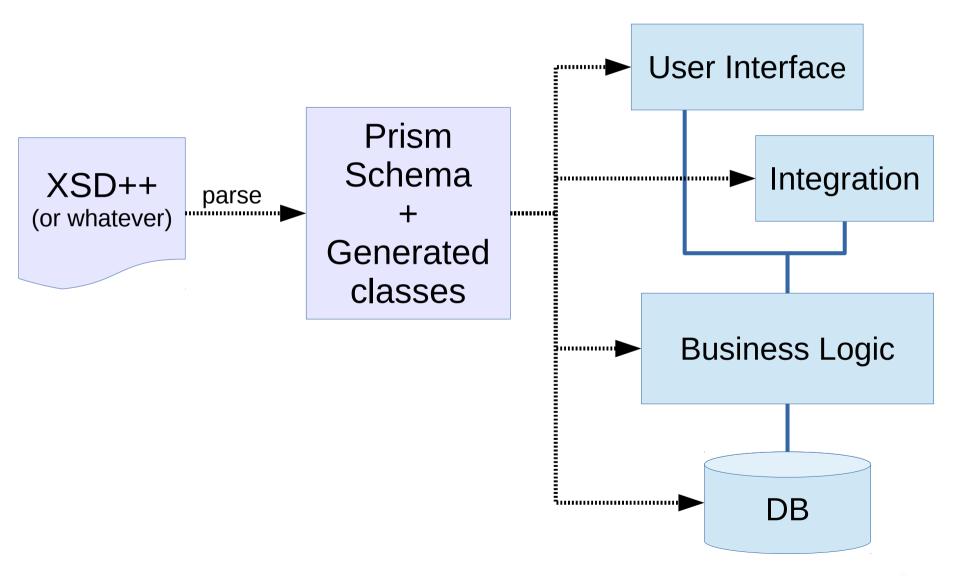


# MidPoint: Prism Schema (now)



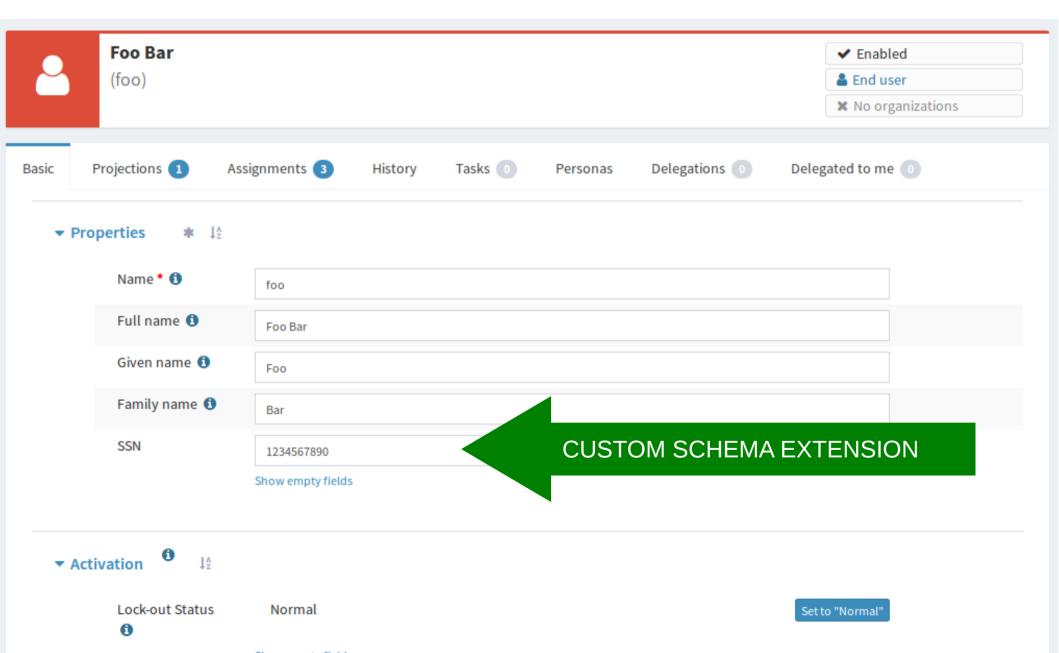


# MidPoint: Prism Schema (future)





### MidPoint: Prism Schema in Ul

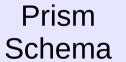


## XML, JSON, YAML and Friends

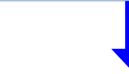
#### Prism Object : UserType

name: foo

givenName: Foo familyName: Bar fullName: FooBar



Parser / Serializer





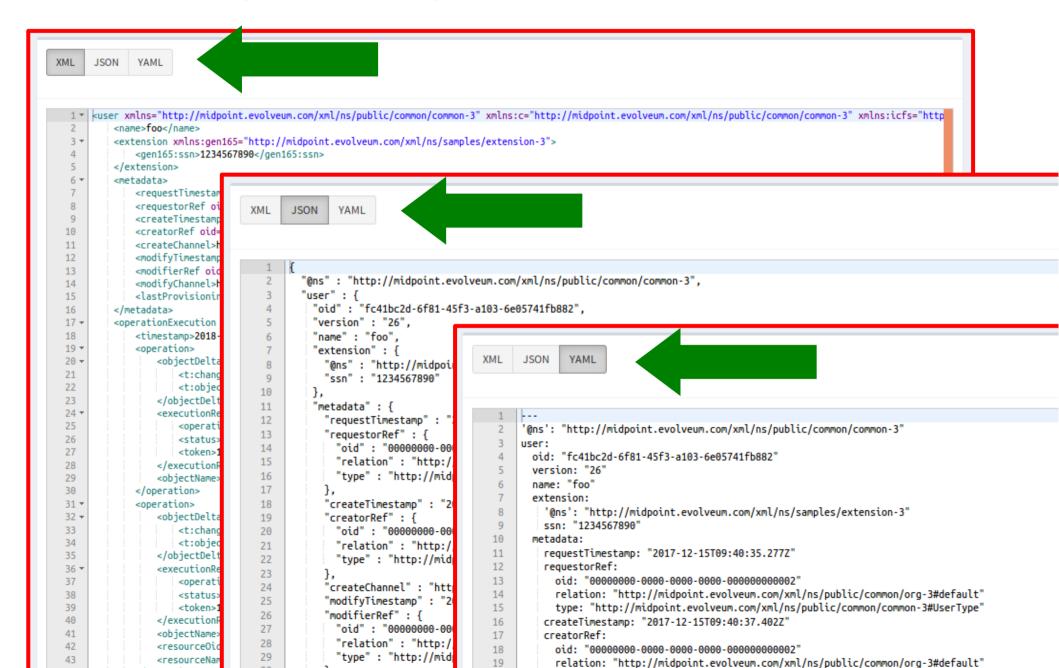
```
<user>
    <name>foo</name>
    <givenName>Foo</gi
    <familyName>Bar</fa
    <fullName>Foo Bar</
</user>
```

```
{
    "name" : "foo",
    "givenName" : "Foo",
    "familyName" : "Bar",
    "fullName" : "Foo Bar"
}
```

Whatever data format will become fashionable next year



## XML, JSON, YAML and Friends



#### Prism Deltas

#### User

oid = 8c048b2e-...
name = "jack"
fullName = "Jack Sparrow"
givenName = "Jack"
familyName = "Sparrow"
honorificPrefix = "Cpt."
employeeType = "intern"
locality = "Tortuga"



#### Object Delta

oid = 8c048b2e-...
change type = MODIFY
object type = User
modifications:

#### Property Delta

path = employeeType
modification type = add
value = "pirate"



oid = 8c048b2e-...
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#### Object Delta

oid = 8c048b2e-...
change type = MODIFY
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#### Property Delta

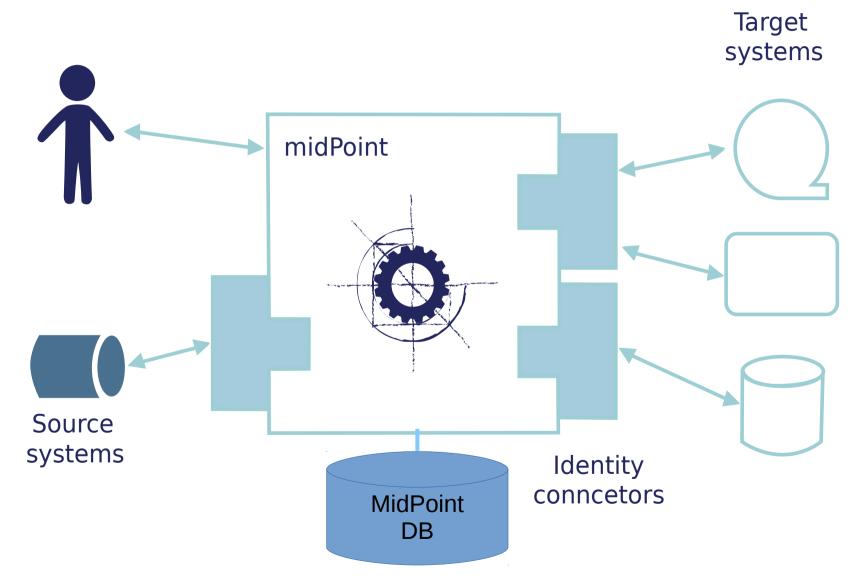
path = employeeType
modification type = delete
value = "pirate"

#### User

oid = 8c048b2e-...
name = "jack"
fullName = "Jack Sparrow"
givenName = "Jack"
familyName = "Sparrow"
honorificPrefix = "Cpt."
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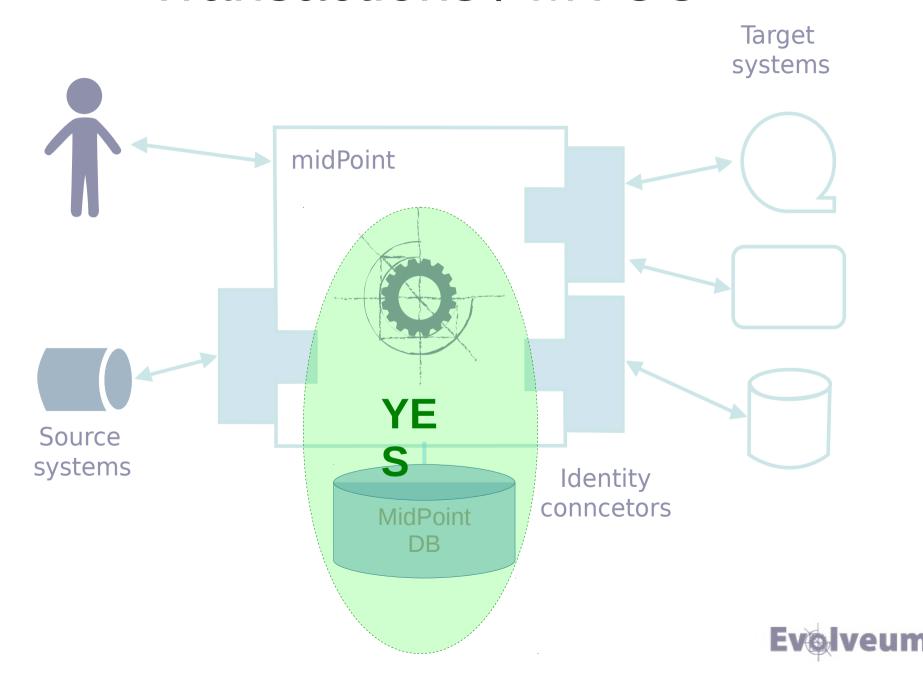


# Big Problem of Consistency

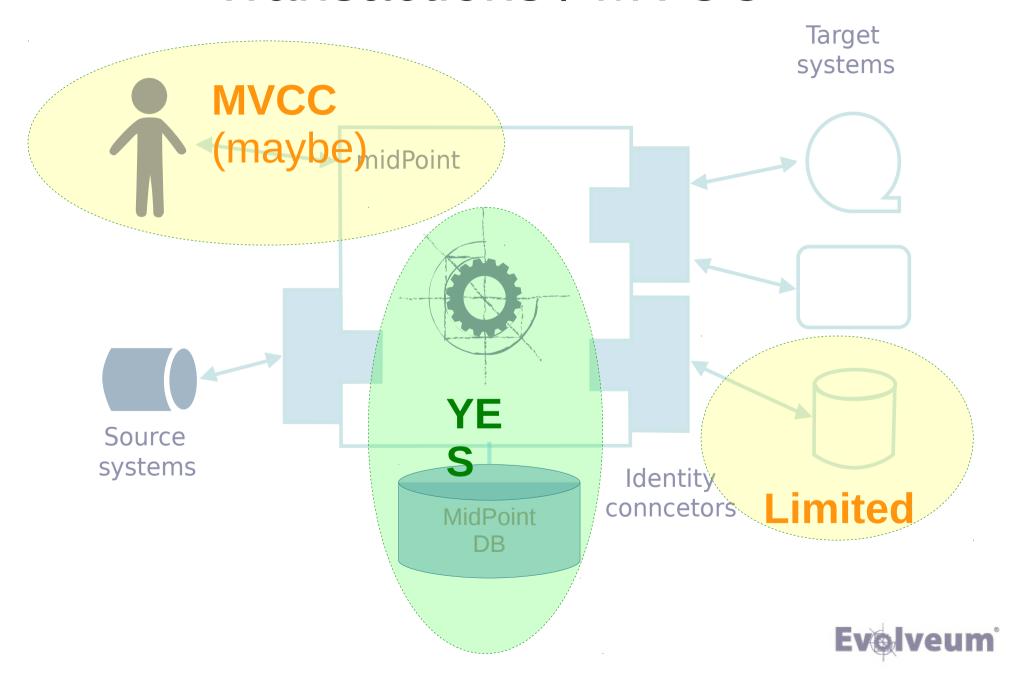




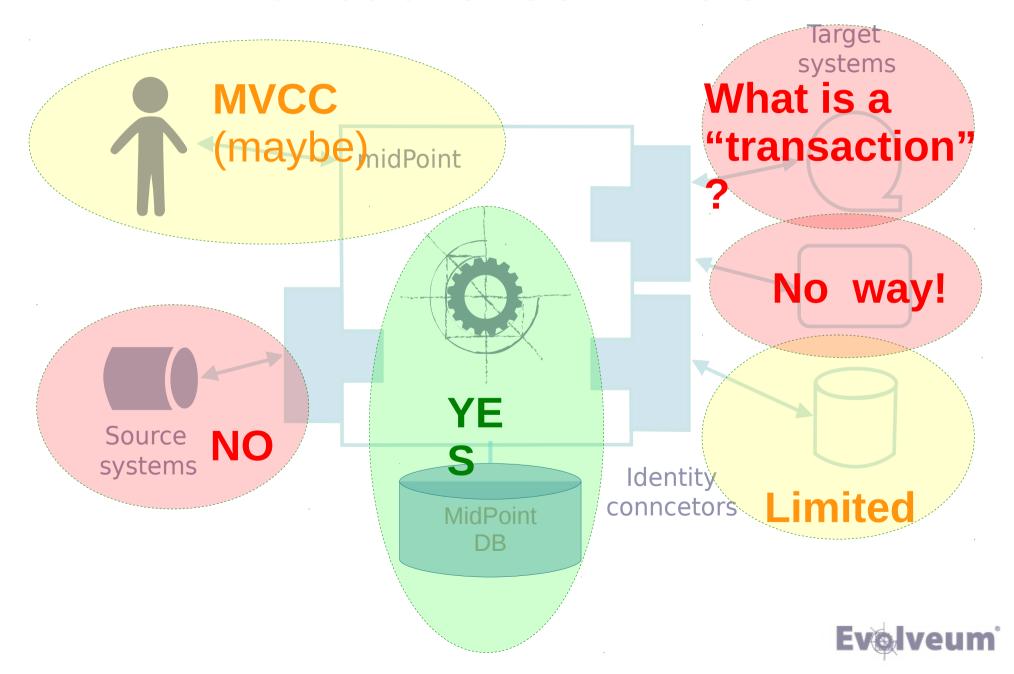
## Transactions / MVCC



## Transactions / MVCC



#### Transactions / MVCC



# "Relativistic" Consistency

- Deltas are usually relative (add, delete)
- Apply delta in any order => equivalent value
- We need unordered multi-values for that
  - ... but ordering is seldom needed
- There are still some weak spots (e.g. *replace*)
- But conflicts are quite unlikely
- "Reconciliation" as safety net

#### **Heureka! It works!**



#### Prism: Much More

- Static schema (compile-time)
- Dynamic schema (run-time)
- "Superdynamic" schema
- Raw data
  - We do not have complete schema at parse-time
- Deltas (schema-aware)
- Search filters (schema-aware, of course)
- Lifecycle (versioning, deprecated, experimental)



#### Questions You Surely Want To Ask

- Why XSD?
  - Because midPoint started in 2011
  - Because JSON Schema and others are equally bad
- Namespaces? QNames?
  - Yes, we use them (even in JSON and YAML)
  - No, we are not crazy (yet)
  - End user (usually) does not need to deal with them
  - QName == URI
  - Benefits: extensibility, versioning



#### RESTful API

```
http://.../rest/users

http://.../rest/users/02c15378-c48b-11e7-b010-1ff8606bae23

http://.../rest/tasks/c68d7770-...-9bec1fc3b57c/suspend

http://.../rest/notifyChange
```

- "REST" part and RPC part (and some overlap)
- Full schema support: XML, JSON, YAML
- Big problem of REST: modifications
  - ... but we do not worry, we have deltas
- SOAP to REST in five easy steps

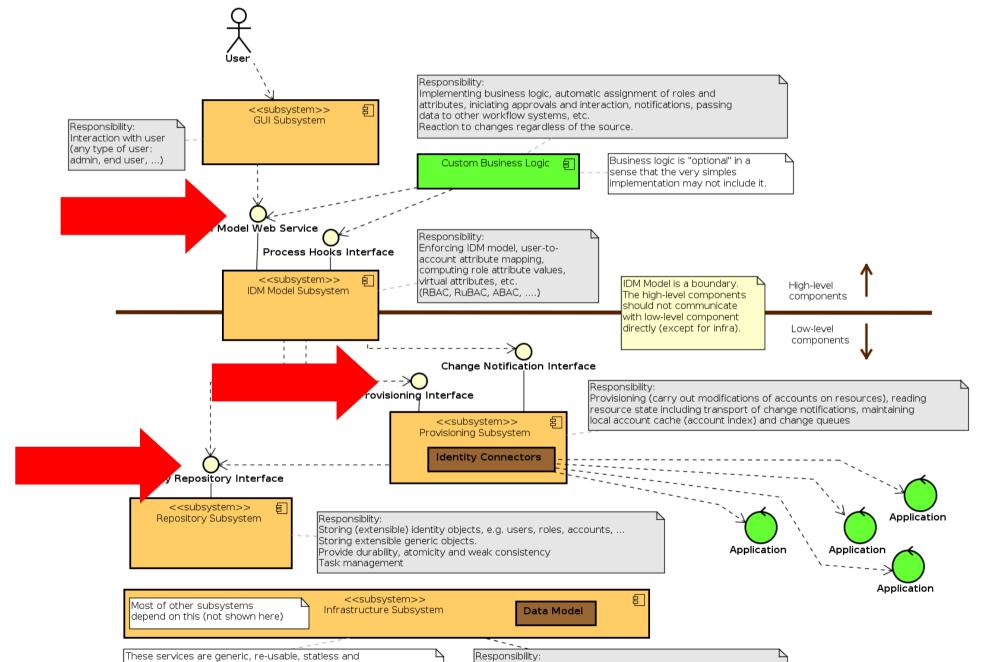


### **Testing**

- Automated integration testing
  - Thousands of test cases
  - Still based on unit test framework (TestNG)
  - Embed what you can (DB, LDAP server, ...)
- Not that much unit tests
  - Are you crazy? Yes ... I mean: No!
  - Remember: code generated from schema + compiler
  - Unit test maintenance is very expensive
- End-to-end tests in progress
- Test-Driven Bugfixing (TDB)



### Designed For (Integration) Testability



### Rolling-Wave Approach

2018	2019	2020	2021	
v3.9 exact plan	v4.0 v4.1 rough some plan plan	v4.2 v4.3 maybe probably	??? v5.0 here or maybe not	

2018	2019	2020	2021	
v3.9 done	v4.0 v4.1 exact rough plan plan	v4.2 v4.3 some most plan likely	v5.0 here maybe	

2018	2019		2020		2021	
v3.9 done	v4.0 done	v4.1 exact plan	v4.2 rough plan	v4.3 some plan	v4.4 maybe	v5.0 probably



### Rolling-Wave Approach

- Rolling-wave planning: obvious and intuitive
- Rolling-wave approach applied to everything:
  - architecture, schema, features, release scope
- Create architecture that can survive decades
  - But do NOT implement everything
  - Implement only what you need now
- Design 1-3 years ahead
  - But do NOT implement what you don't need now
  - Data model (schema), DB model, interfaces
- Implement only what you need



# Questions you wanted to ask at the beginning

- Java? Really?
  - Really. And we use checked exceptions!
  - But no Java EE. We are not that crazy.
  - Compiler saves huge amount of time (remember: code generated from data model)
  - Old language +1: libraries for everything
  - Old language -1: you need to avoid landmines
  - OpenJDK
  - Hindsight: Java is lesser evil



### Questions you wanted to ask at the beginning

- Self-funded? And still alive?
  - Alive and well. -
  - Bootstrapped (FFF). No venture capital.
  - Beginnings were hard. Very hard.
  - Persistence pays off.
- Business model?
  - Subscription: support + new feature development
  - Trainings, PoCs, Architecture reviews
  - Professional services, projects (minimal) → partners



### Summary

# midPoint

- Million lines of Java code, 7 years, small team
   ... and still going fast and strong.
- Open source, self-funded ... and survived!
- Good architecture, rolling-wave design
- Schema-aware from bottom to top
- Not entirely normal project



#### Join the Team

Java developers, IDM engineers, ... marketing

- Bratislava, Košice
  - ... or anywhere (remote work)

- Join the team
  - ... if you are up to the challenge





Connectors Matching rules Caching Parametric roles Policy rules Role catalog Identity Management Schema Expressions Correlation Synchronization Organizational Structure Validity Scripting Self-service Governance RBAC LDAP Consistency Sequences Approval Import SoD Data Protection LiveSync Reporting Notifications Constants Recertification Function libraries Personas ITSM integration Authorization Meta-data Password management Bulk actions Dependencies Administration Web UI

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