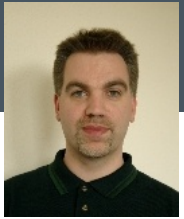


The State of Apache Sling

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adaptTo() 2012 – Berlin



- Member of the ASF
 - Current PMC Chair of Apache Sling
 - Apache Sling, Felix, Portals, Incubator
- RnD Team at Adobe Research Switzerland
- Article/Book Author, Conference Speaker
- Technical Reviewer
- JSR 286 Spec Group (Portlet API 2.0)



**Once Upon
A Time...**

Once Upon a Time in Switzerland...around 2006

- The vision for Day's Communique 5
- New delivery framework
- Following REST
- Based on JCR
- Scriptable
- Highly customizable
- Modular, pluggable

- The framework was offered to the Apache Software Foundation
- And entered the incubator as **Apache Sling**
- Other parts were contributed to Apache Felix
 - Configuration Admin
 - Declarative Services
 - Metatype
 - SCR Maven Plugin
 - Web Console

Major Goals

- Publish huge amount of information
 - Different types and output formats
 - Highly dynamic
- Web 2.0++ ready
 - Collaboration and integration
 - Use the hierarchical web space
- Fast changing requirements
 - Rapid prototyping and development
 - Dynamic, extensible but maintainable

Major Goals

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JCR



REST /
ROA



Scripting



OSGi

Apache Sling – The Fun Is Back

- Web Framework
- Leveraging JCR
- ROA / REST
- Scripting Inside
- OSGi
- Graduated as a top level project on 2009-06-17

Marketing

JAX Innovation Award 2008



- Apache Sling is used by several companies and projects
- 19 committers
- Active community
- Very slowly growing
- Highly modular
- Frequent module releases

Apache Sling vs Apache Jackrabbit

- Apache Sling provides resource oriented architecture
 - Tree based on resources
 - Provider connect to data storages
- Apache Jackrabbit implements the JCR spec
 - JCR Provider for Sling
- One can be used without the other
- But it's a natural fit!
 - Using them together provides lots of benefits!

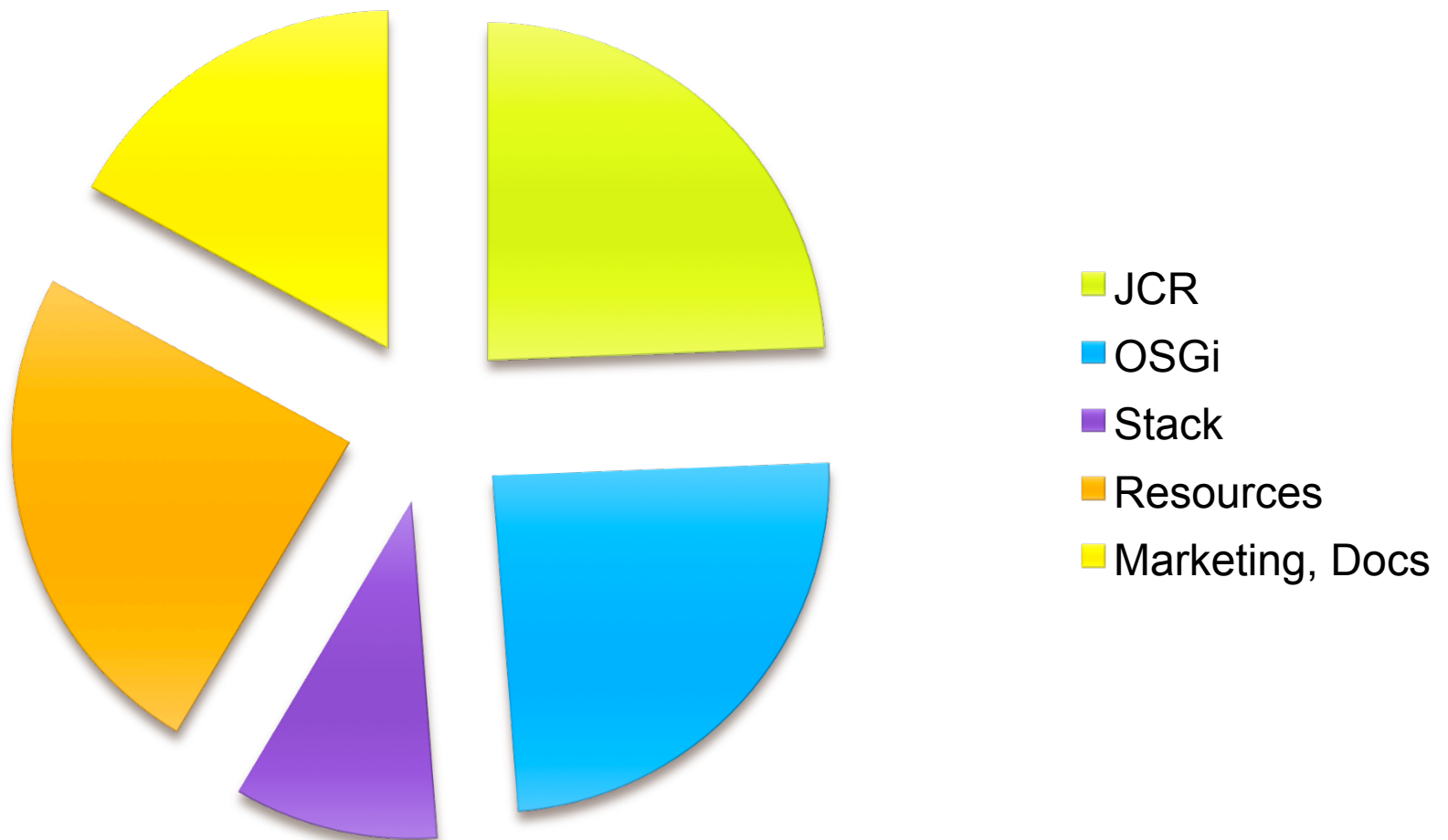
- Completely different framework approach
 - REST or resource first
 - No UI framework or widgets etc.
- No real innovation since 2007/2008
- Success of Apache Sling depends mainly on adoption of JCR and Apache Jackrabbit

On the Positive Side

- Strong supporters and users behind Apache Sling
 - Not all are visible...
- Continued support and development
- The core is pretty (and) stable

Future?

Building Blocks



- Driver for OSGi technology
 - Include recent Apache Felix Framework
 - Update specs/modules like DS, Config Admin, Event Admin, Metatype, Web Console
 - Drive / Implement / Use new specs
 - Sling Commons
 - Tooling

- Currently Apache Jackrabbit
- Waiting for Apache Jackrabbit Oak 😊
 - Increase usage of JCR
 - Drive need for Sling

- Apache Sling Launchpad
- Apache Sling OSGi Installer & Friends
- Deployment packages
- Integration with Apache ACE?
- Tooling

Building Block - Resources

- Just support for reading in Sling's Resource API
- **NEW** CRUD support
- Full functional resource providers
 - MongoDB, Cassandra, CouchDB, Neo4j...?
- Provide new possibilities
- But mainly: Attract new developers

Building Block - Resources

- Just read support in Sling's Resource API
- **NEW** CRUD support
- Full functional resource providers
 - MongoDB, Cassandra, CouchDB, Neo4j...?
- Provide new possibilities
- But mainly: **Attract new developers**
- It's not a campaign against JCR!
 - Sling will always include JCR!

- Apache Sling = Bringing back the fun in web development!
 - Apache Sling is unique
- Improve marketing
- Promote existing solutions
 - Sling Commons, OSGi Installer...
- Improve documentation

Wish List I

- Tooling, tooling, tooling
 - Improve resource explorer
 - Improve Maven tooling
 - Develop in your favorite IDE without round trips
- Focus on developer experience
- Packaging
- Integration with Apache ACE

Wish List II

- Improve create/update
 - Validation
- Support for other NoSQL solutions
- UI?

But...

- Apache Sling is unique
 - Spread the word
 - Grow the community
 - Implement the missing features, tools etc.
 - Attract new developers

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 - Spread the word
 - Attract new developers
 - Grow the community
 - Implement the missing features, tools etc.
 - Focus on developer experience

It depends on the community
It depends on YOU

The End...