

red.es

# Two proposals on attribute coordination and federated data access



Red IRIS



- One of the objectives of the group
  - And widely recognized as a real need
    - AAls, collaboration, Bologna,...
- Only one successful attempt so far
  - And outside Europe: eduPerson
- Several attempts not progressing
  - DEEP, the intl-schema group, the schema registry
  - Different reasons behind this
    - Common excess of complexity?
- Two success examples in the once cursed PKI area
  - TACAR and SCS
  - Simplicity
  - Clear application niches

- Evolution guided by actual application requirements from our constituency
  - Personal identifiers
  - Rights and entitlements
  - Privacy requirements
  - *Loose internet identity* (domains, IP address, DN components)
  - Dublin Core mapping
  - PKI objects management
- A reduced group working in the consolidation of use and harmonization
  - The IRIS-schema Committee
  - Providing support to the rest of the community

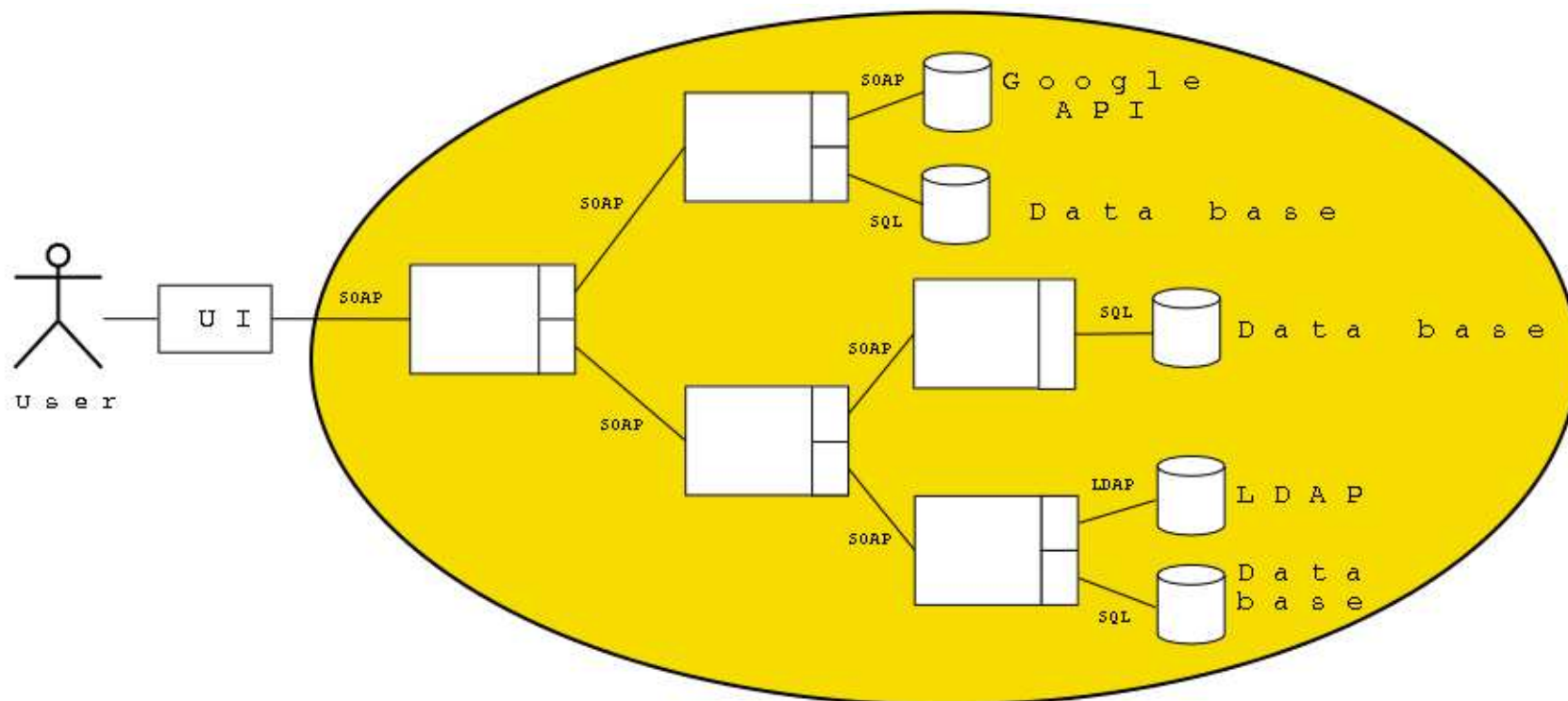
- **A Committee inside TF-EMC2 to define and promote a common schema**
  - Contributing attributes and expertise
  - Avoid reventing the wheel in several shapes
- **Build an initial kernel from already existing local attributes**
  - Agreement on syntax and semantics
  - Allocation to object classes
- **Make the kernel evolve via a collaborative approach**
  - Propose a new attribute/class
  - Period of comments by the rest of the group
  - Different voting rules for
    - Classes
    - Attributes
    - MAY or MUST definitions

- Establish a site for the common schema
  - Locating it at the TERENA site to start
- Promote the schema within our constituencies
  - Making it part of the local schemas
- Promote the schema in other international projects
  - GN2
  - Grids
  - Digital libraries
- Seek for the collaboration of EUNIS, I2, Canarie, Australia,...
  - Don't forget idiosyncrasy differences
- Look for cute
  - Schema name and prefix
  - Logo
  - Web site

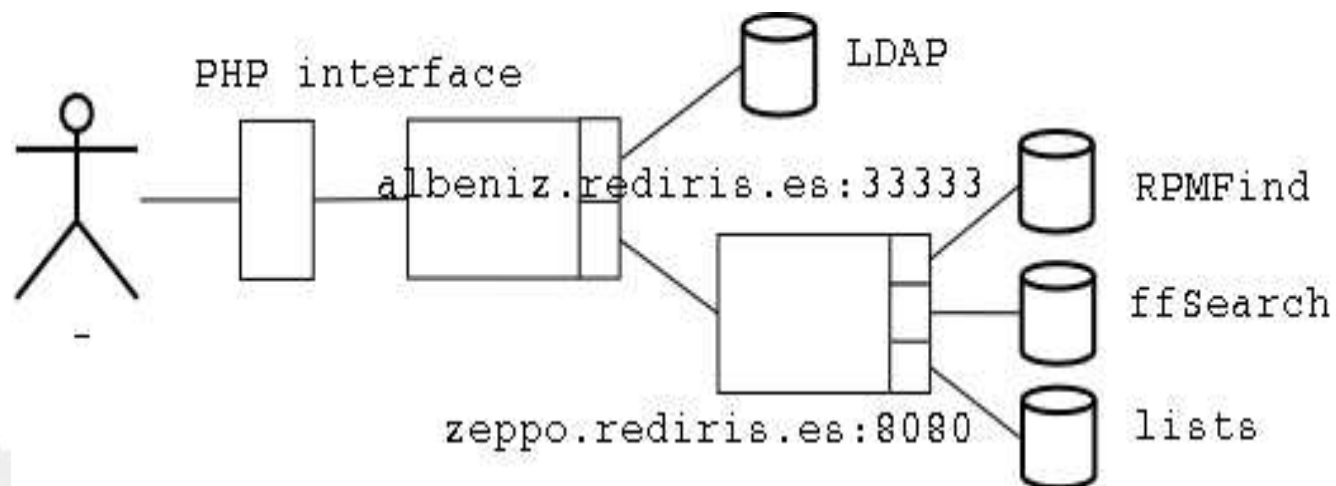
- Offer the classes/attributes in our schemas we think can be applicable
  - In principle, no limitations about their application areas
  - We need an initial critical mass
- Produce and agree a policy document
  - Based on the experience of the initial discussions about the integration of the initial class/attribute proposals
- Identify the initial potential areas of application
  - The EUNIS initiatives
  - GN2
- Look ASAP for the cute bells and whistles
  - No kidding!

- **Common directories are a usual request of application areas**
  - A few examples: TF-VVC, several GN2 JRAs and SAs, Grids
- **But they face data partition**
  - Formats and protocols
  - Attribute syntax and semantics
    - See above!
  - Security and privacy considerations
- **The result is the continuous re-building of central repositories of data**
  - Almost automatically outdated with respect to their once local sources

- The federated model comes into play once again
- A common repository of data integrating other repositories
  - Accessing or collecting data from them using a trusted link
  - Maintaining total autonomy for the federated repository
    - Policies
    - Methods
    - Interfaces
  - Offering a common (possibly particular) view of information
  - Push or pull models can be applied
- And we have tools already in place to start with



- Each source incorporates an agent, available through a SOAP interface
- Uses RDF as internal representation
- Agents for LDAP, SQL, the Google API, and Searchy itself



<http://www.rediris.es/search/searchy>

red.es

- To evaluate federated data access using Searchy
- Build a directory of middleware resources
  - Using each organization's data sources
  - Installing a Searchy agent in your systems
  - Initially, RedIRIS could run the main search interface
    - Although we were happy to install it at TERENA
- Extend the offer to other Task Forces
  - For this and other (more complex) goals
- Prepare a report with your feedback as a deliverable

- **Both of them**
  - Are directed to a general objective of integrating data sources
  - Use RDF as internal representation
  - Are currently complementary
  - And have plans to evolve in the direction of the other
- **UDS**
  - Currently more oriented to data gathering and dissemination (metadirectory)
- **Searchy**
  - Currently more oriented to search interface integration (metasearcher)
- **Not reinventing again several shapes for the wheel?**
  - Join them in a publish/subscribe system
  - A project proposal