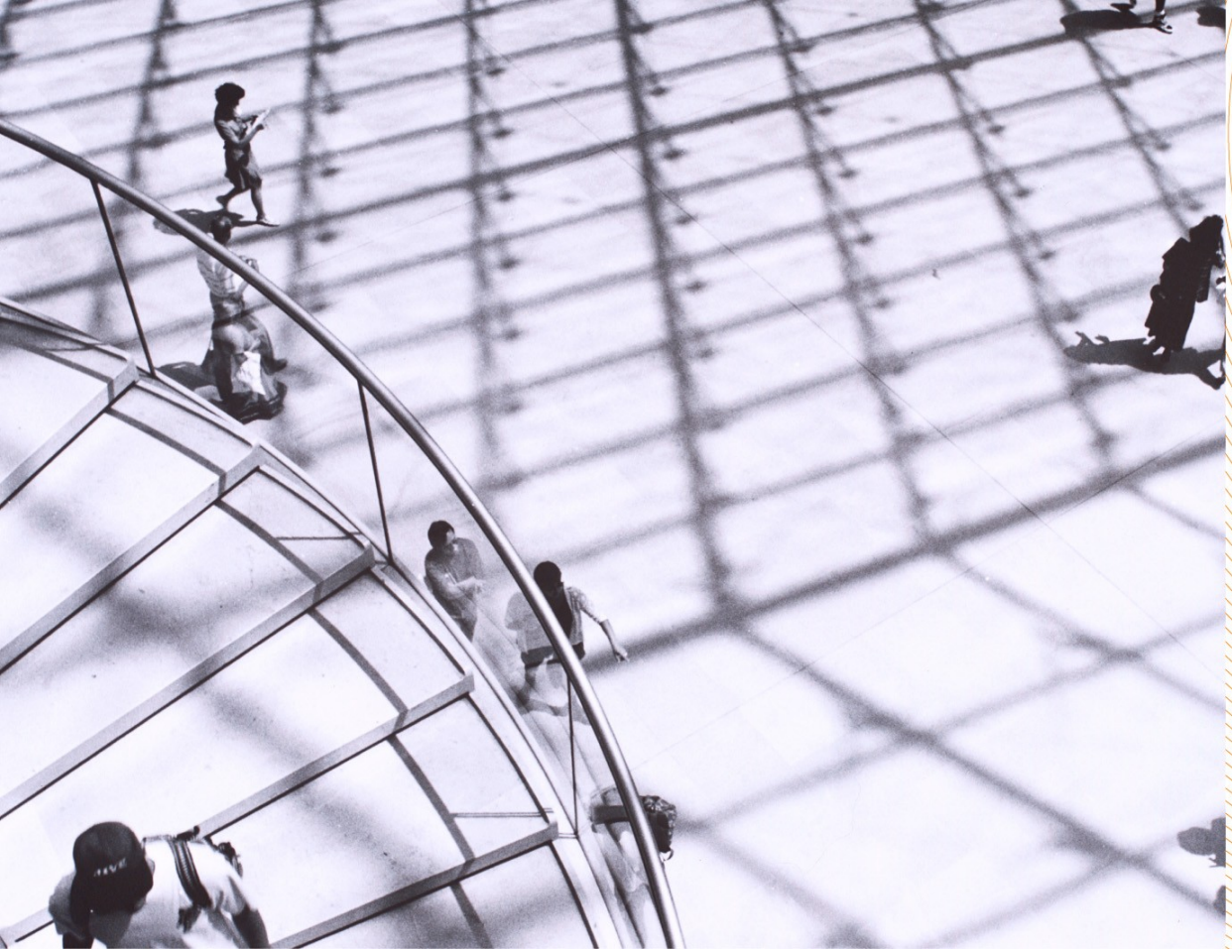


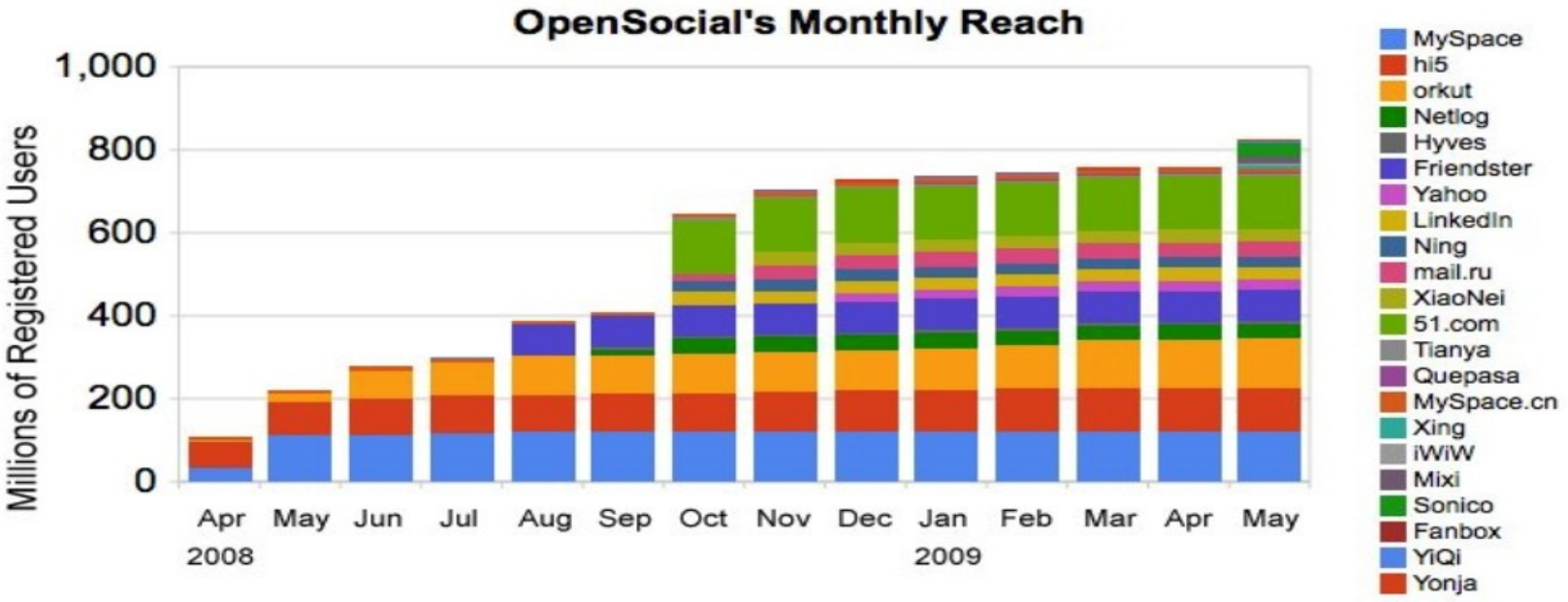
eduSocial

Federation Style 'Social Networking'

Niels van Dijk, SURFnet, I2 Spring Meeting 2010

16 april 2010

It's big...


OpenSocial's Monthly Reach
Millions of Registered Users
1,000
800
600
400
200
0
Apr
2008
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec
Jan
2009
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
MySpace
hi5
orkut
Netlog
Hyves
Friendster
Yahoo
LinkedIn
Ning
mail.ru
XiaoNei
51.com
Tianya
Quepasa
MySpace.cn
Xing
iWiW
Mixi
Sonico
Fanbox
YiQi
Yonja

Topics

- Characteristics
- @EDU
- Internals
- Federations
- Collaboration
- Virtual Organizations
- Demo

OpenSocial Characteristics

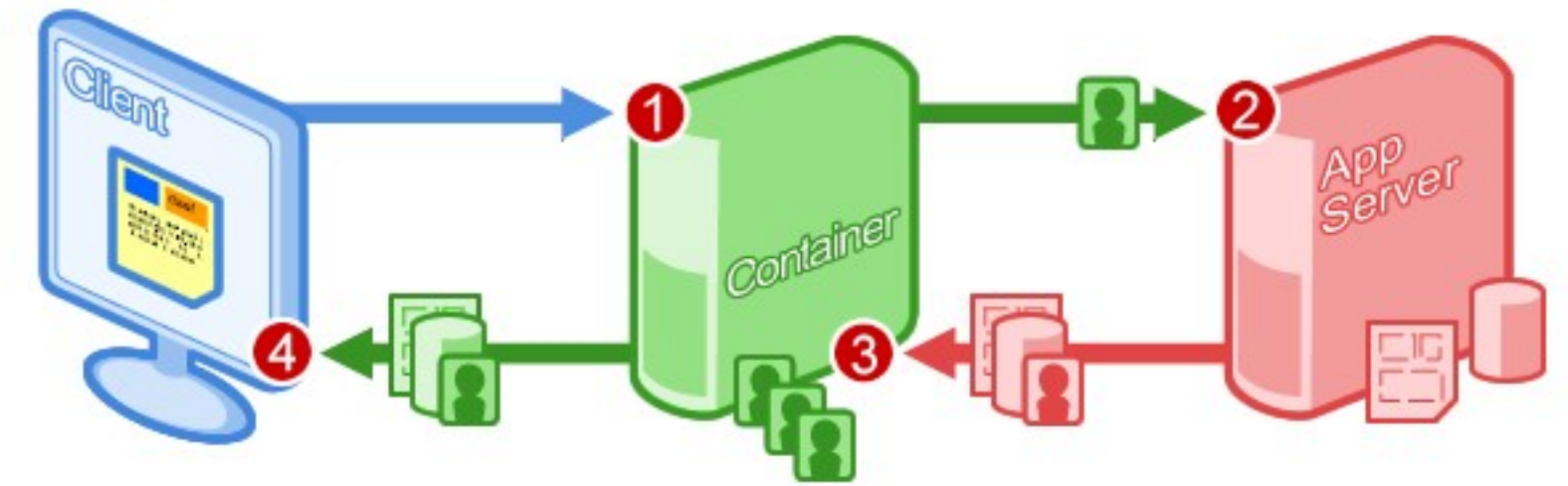
- Open Standard API providing Javascript & REST API for exchanging info on:
  - Gui elements (Gadgets),
  - People,
  - Groups,
  - Activities
- Service Oriented
- Governance: OpenSocial foundation
- Apache Shindig is ref. implementation (Java & PHP)
- Proven technology, scales at internet level

OpenSocial @EDU

- **Products**
  - Sakai 3.0
  - Confluence 3.2
  - IBM, SAP, Alfresco
  - Liferay, eXo Portal
  - iGoogle & other Social Networking

- **Usecase: Portals & Collaboration**
  - Portals (Utwente)
  - Open Grid Community
  - *Virtual Organizations*

OpenSocial Internals -1



OpenSocial has clients, containers and apps

OpenSocial Internals -2

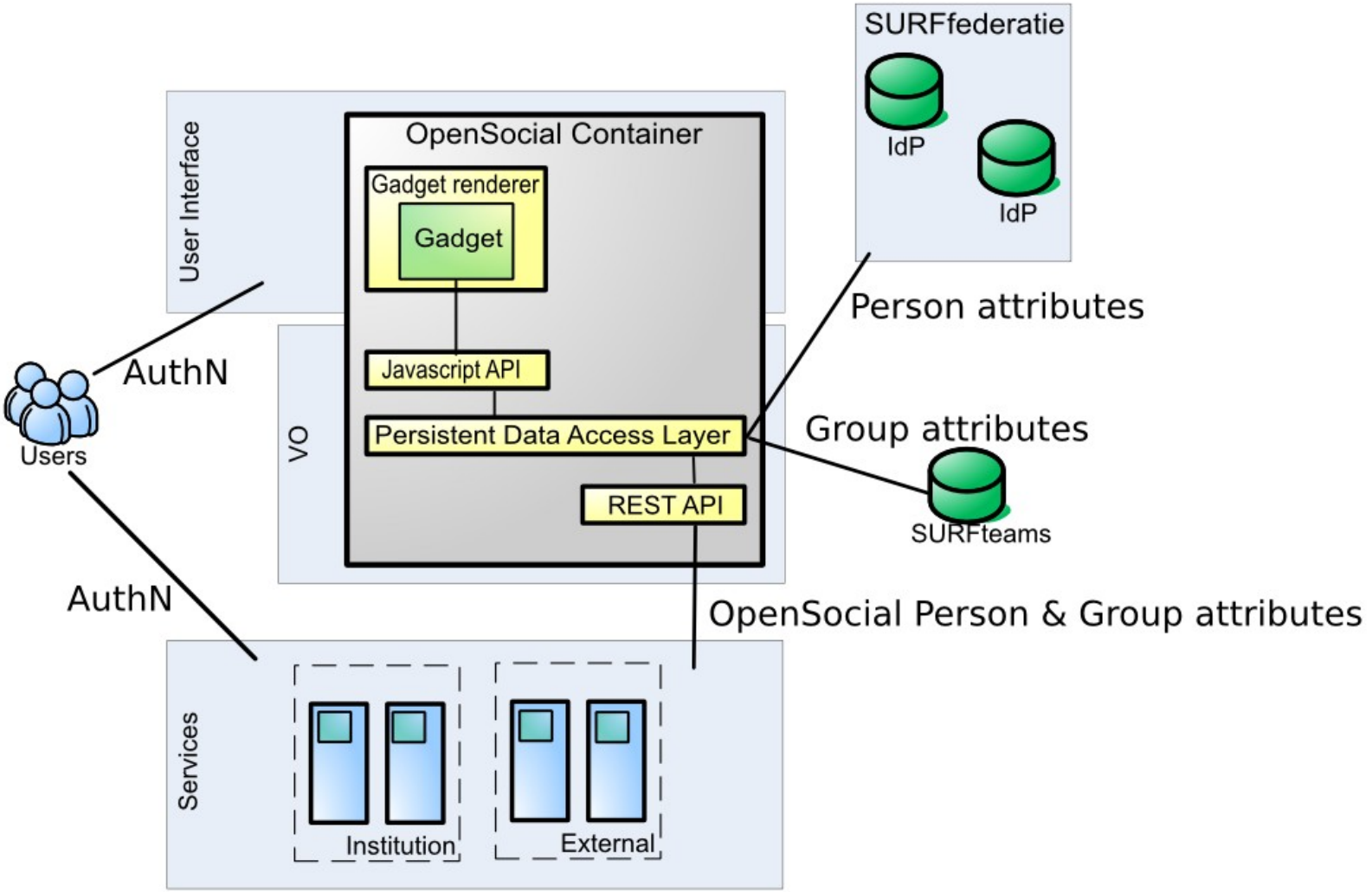
- **Gadgets API**
  - Interchangeable 'mini-applications'
  - HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
  - Much like Java Portlets, but client side
  - Multi platform, inc. Browser, Desktop & Mobile devices (Android, Iphone)

- **Social Data API**
  - *Person*, *Group*, *Activity* attributes and methods
  - Javascript & REST API

OpenSocial & Federations

- **OpenSocial Container as a SP**
  - Provision Persistent Data Layer
  - Map federation attributes to OpenSocial attributes
  - eduPerson, Schac fit rather well
  - OpenSocial has a lot more attributes, but....
- **eduSocial API extension**
  - Some edu attributes missing
  - Extending OpenSocial is already part of the spec :)

OpenSocial & Collaboration



VO scenario's – 1

- **Why a federated OpenSocial GUI?**
  - VO admin interfaces
  - Apps will be distributed
  - Non technical Collabmins
  - Drop, Drag and *Share* apps
  - SSO between federated GUI and services
  - Create a VO 'workspace'

- **Privacy & User consent**
  - Restrict gadget attribute consumption
  - White/black-list Gadgets in Container
  - Sandbox Gadgets (CAJA)
  - 3-legged oAuth

VO scenario's – 2

Domestication & Provisioning

- No domestication for Gadgets required
- Lightweight REST API for Person and Group data
- Multiple Client libraries available (PHP, Java, .Net, Ruby, Phyton, Objective-C, Actionscript)
- Signed Requests (oAuth)
- 2-legged oAuth for trusted parties

Conclusions

OpenSocial

- is very usefull for collab, also in edu context
- uptake in edu is growing
- aligns well with current efforts in federation & collab space
- may provide a standardized domestication framework for SP centric attribute exchange

References

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http://www.opensocial.org

OpenSocial Enterprise Whitepaper
http://www.opensocial.org/page/enterprise-opensoci

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