Open-Source LDAP Training Material

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Existing, Tested Material

- LDAP/X.500 training since mid-1990s
    - LDAP Basics (half day)
    - LDAP for Linux authz/authc (half day)
    - OpenLDAP admin (3-days)
    - 389 admin basics (3 half-days)
    - IBM Directory Integrator (3 days)
- Printed course books
- Can be taught remotely

Practical Exercises

- Linux virtual machines

  – Originally on VMware, now AWS

  – Most based on OpenLDAP

- Detailed exercise instructions

- Some open-ended exercises

A Course Kit

- Slides and notes (.ods → .pdf)

- Exercise Guide (.odt → .pdf)

- Cover artwork for booklet (.sla → .pdf)

- Exercise files (.tgz)

- Machine image

How to Publish?

- The old way: tar file on an FTP server
  - Handles every format
  - Little chance of useful collaboration
- The new way: Public code repository
  - Good for feedback and teamwork
 - Variable support for non-text sources

GitHub vs LibreOffice

- Office software writes binary files :-(

- Git can store binary but no diff/merge

- But .odt is a Zip file really…

  – content.xml and lots of other stuff

  – Very large XML overhead

  – Small text change causes large file change

- Flat ODT (.fodt)?

  – Worse if anything, just bigger XML

Use LibreOffice 'track changes'?

- Presents diffs in the GUI

- Can even merge several versions at once, *but:*

  - Can only merge into an unchanged original document

  - All incoming changes must be on the same original and must all be merged in one operation

  - Does not work for slides

Must have the original file

This works

This doesn't
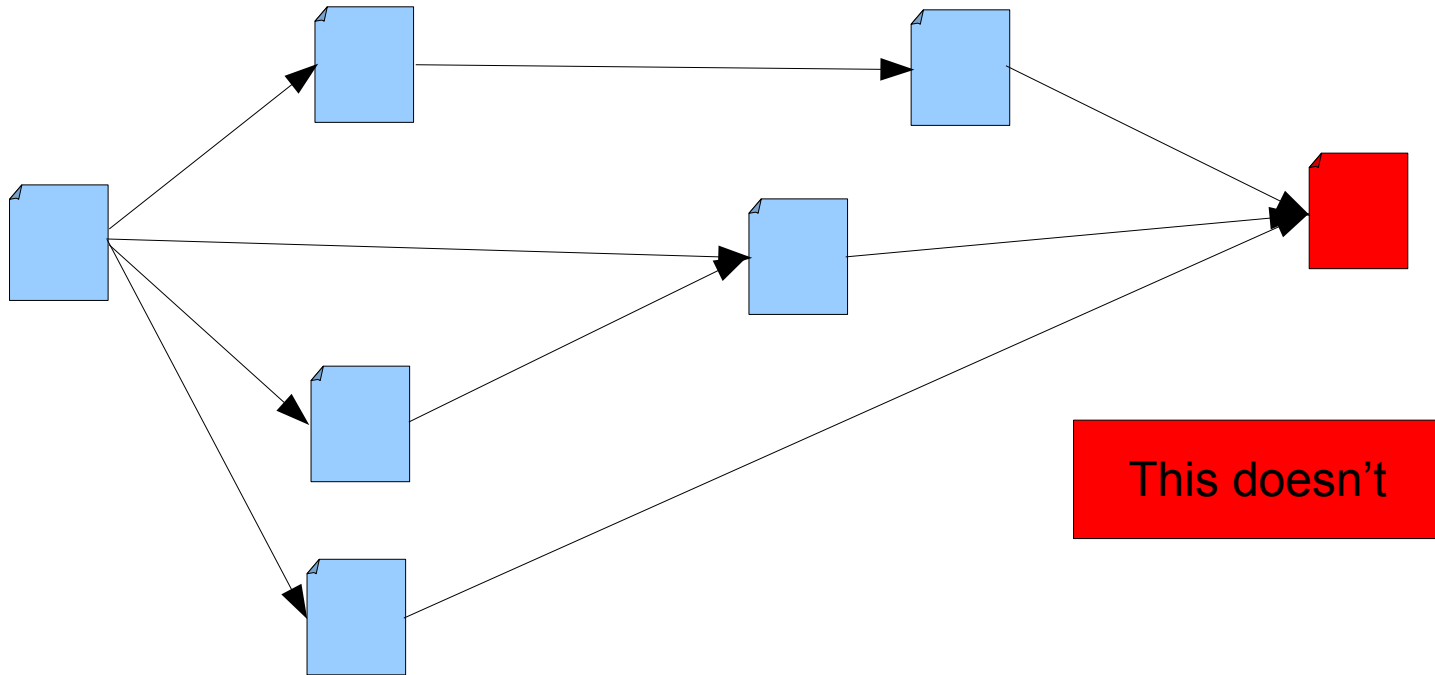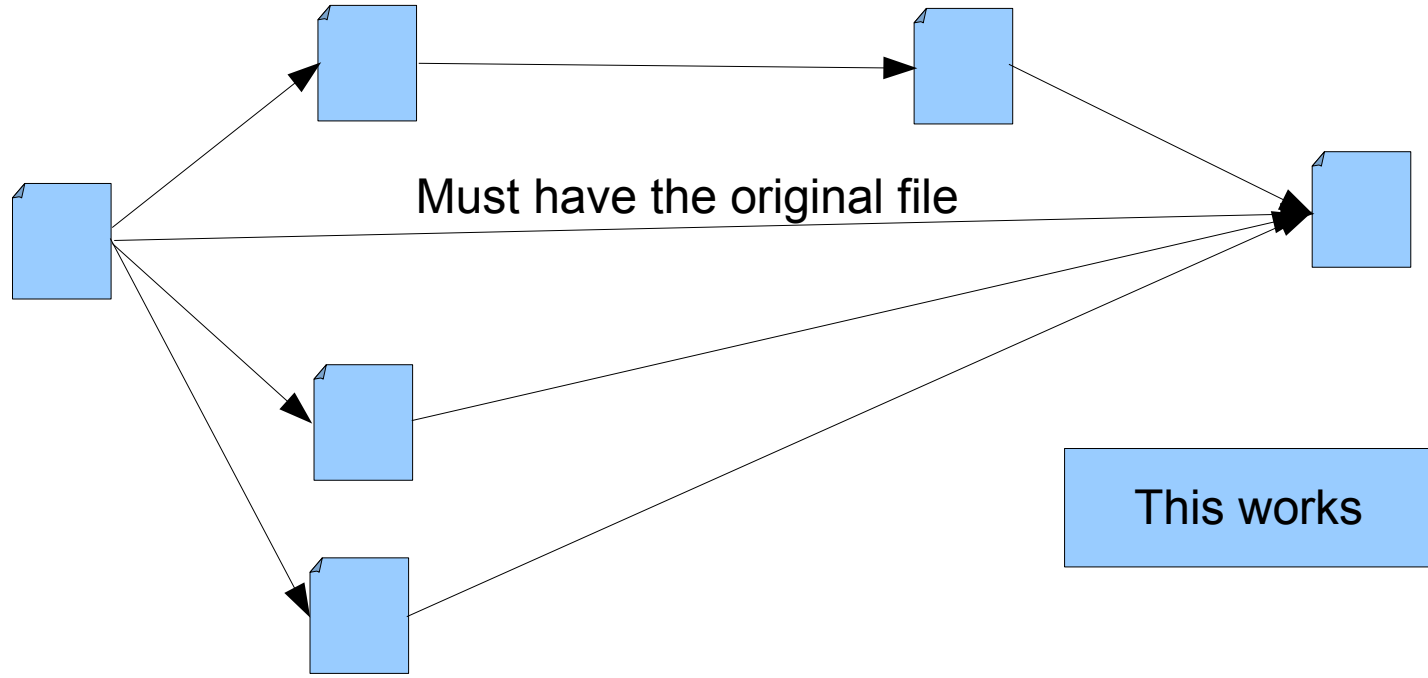
Convert to Markdown for diff

- Clean text-based format

- Pandoc converter:

  - Text, Headings, Lists all OK

  - Some inline formatting OK

  - Misses fixed-width style (code!)

  - Cross-reference tags fail

  - Cannot handle slides at all

Convert to LaTeX for diff

- Richer than Markdown

- Less readable

- Pandoc converter:
    - Preserves more info than with Markdown
    - Still misses code styles
    - Still cannot handle slides

Change tools?

- Traditional Unix tools: LaTex, troff…
- Markdown tools (Atom etc)
- Hacker-slides
- Landslide
- reveal.js – slides as code!

No changes for initial release...

Virtual machines

- Based on CentOS or SLES

- Setup could be packaged in an RPM

- I need to unwind the history and work out what to include…

- Had planned to just publish my images
  - AWS won't let me as I started with a Marketplace CentOS image

Current State

- On GitHub: afindlay/open-training

- Only the LDAP Basics class so far

- More to follow when time allows

    - I need to change the branding and copyright statements

    - And sort out the machine images

    - And tidy up the presenter notes

- www.skills-1st.co.uk

Exercise 1

- Download a course

- Work through it yourself

- Adapt it

- Teach it

- Tell me about it!

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