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Liaison Report to JTC1 from OASIS

Interoperability is essential ... even for Standards Organizations

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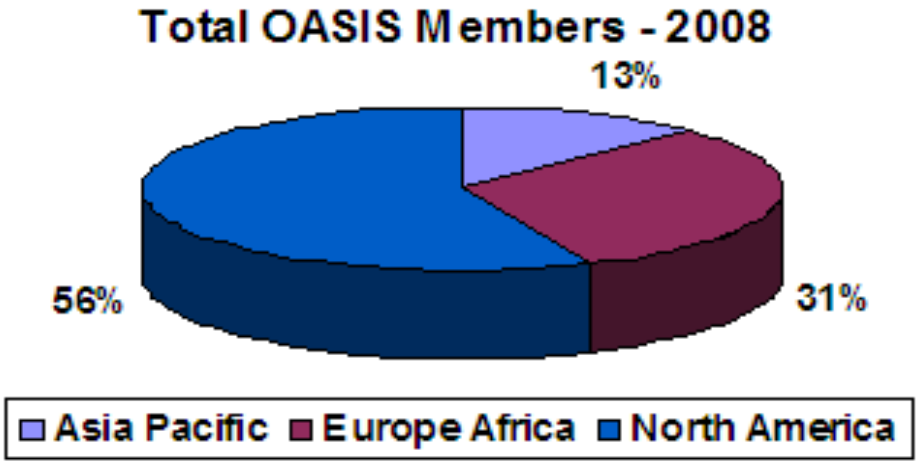
- OASIS is a member-led, international non-profit standards consortium concentrating on global e-business
- **More than 5000 participants, representing over 600 organizations and individuals in about 100 countries**

"The largest standards group for electronic commerce on the Web"

The New York Times ON THE WEB



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- OASIS includes about 75 upper tier sponsor members with significant institutional commitments, including foundational sponsors IBM, Microsoft, Oracle, Primeton & Sun
- **Rich diversity through academic and individual membership options**

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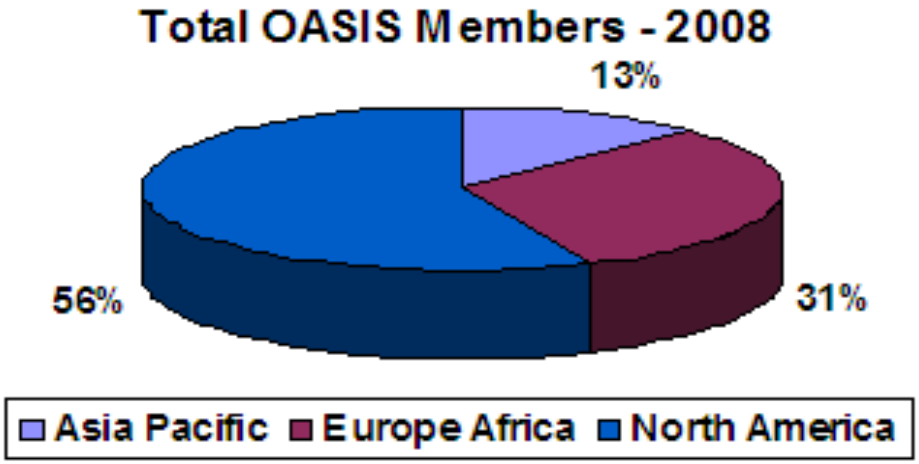

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- **Open, global, transparent and diverse**
- About 60 technical committees producing royalty-free and RAND standards

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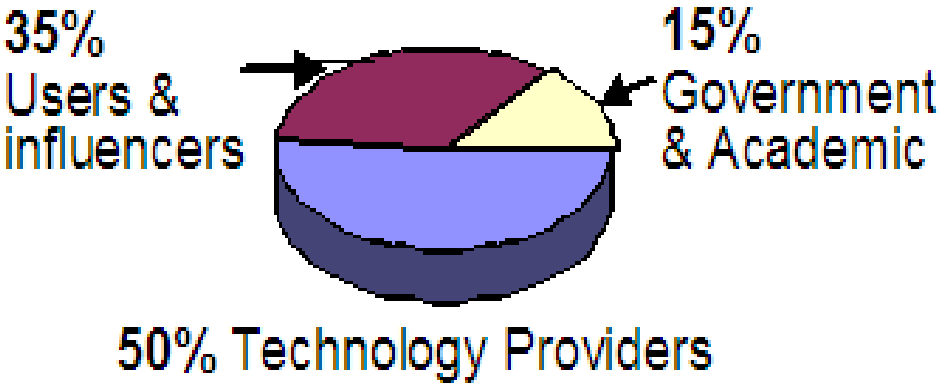

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Developing standards for XML and SOA

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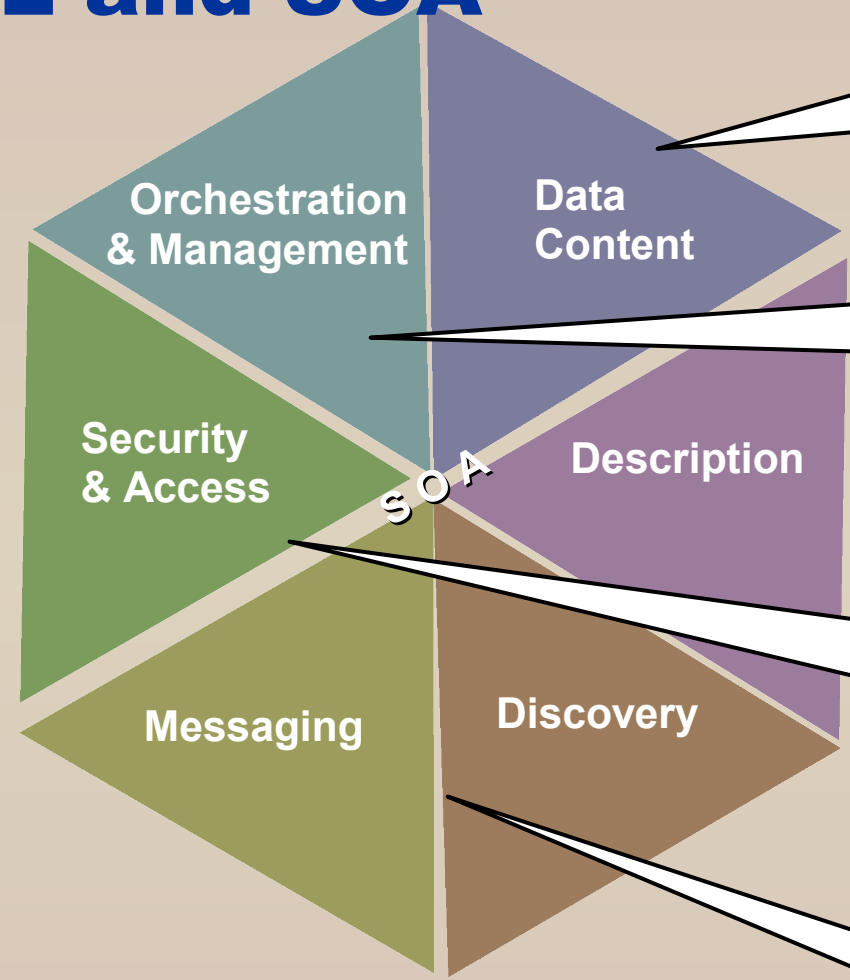

Business data formats

Common transactional methods

Compliance, security & risk management

Infrastructure & "plumbing"

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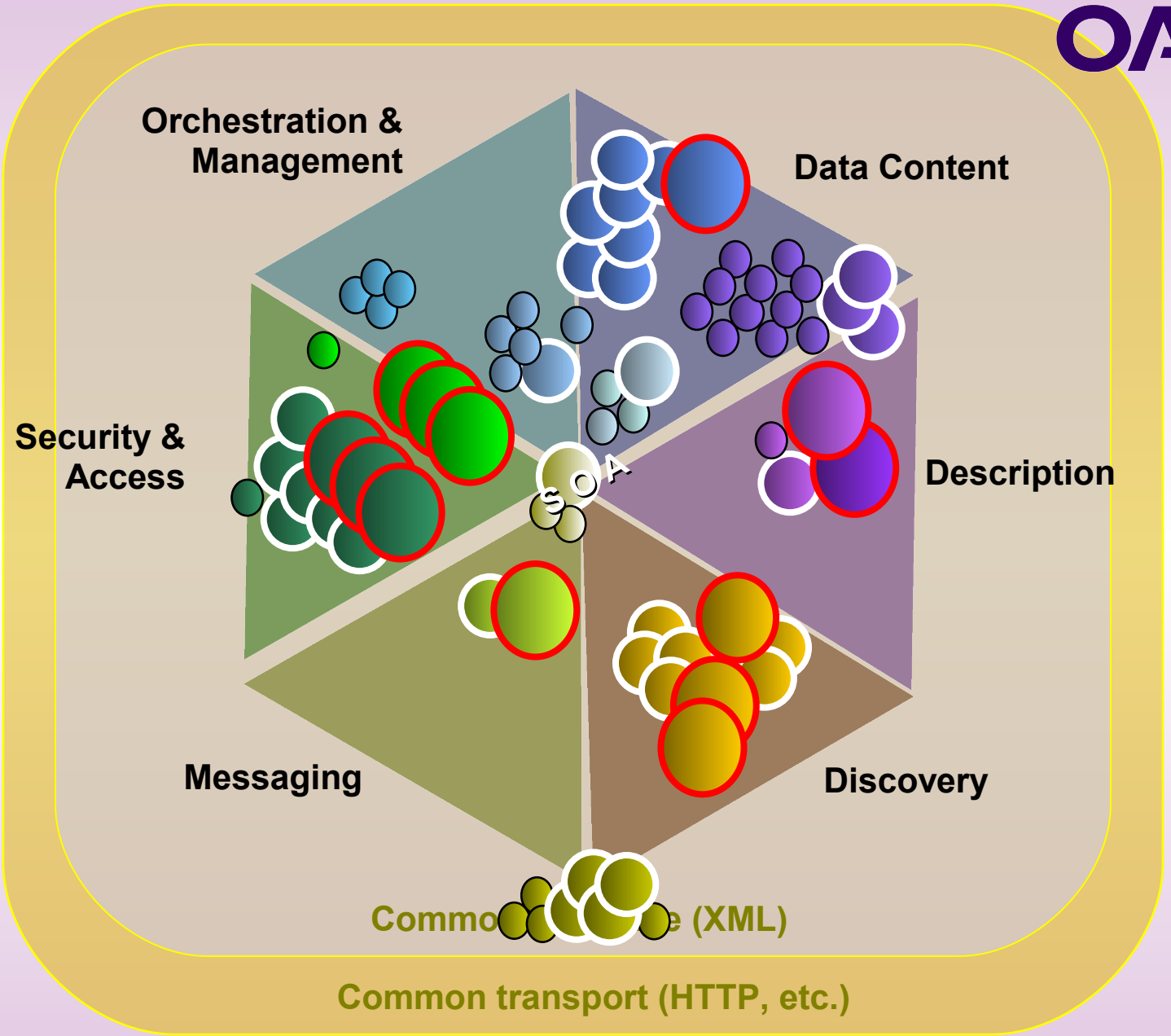

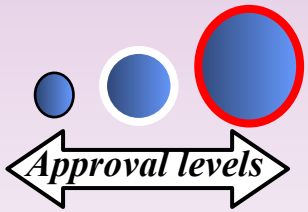

Each dot is a project or spec

2004

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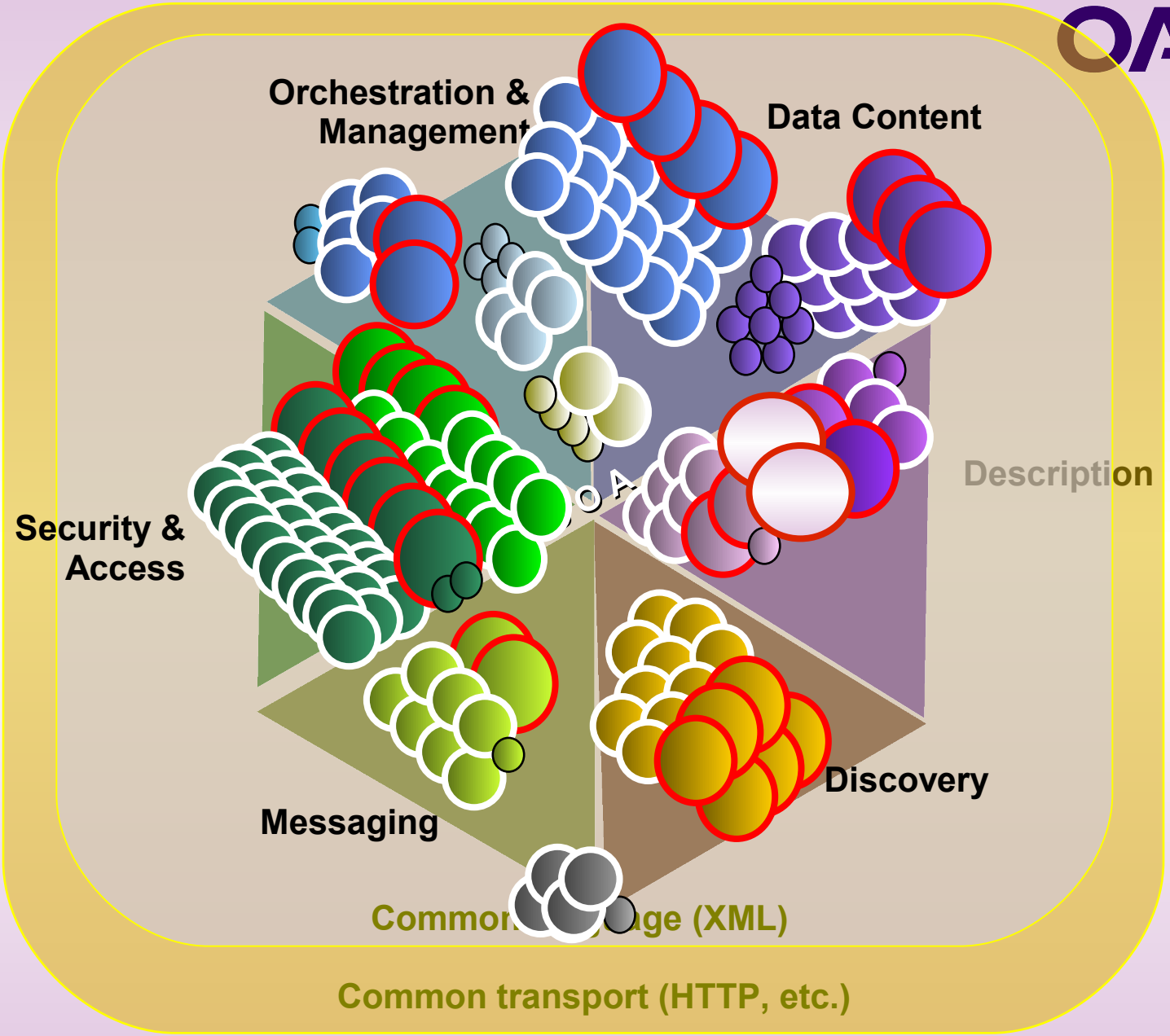

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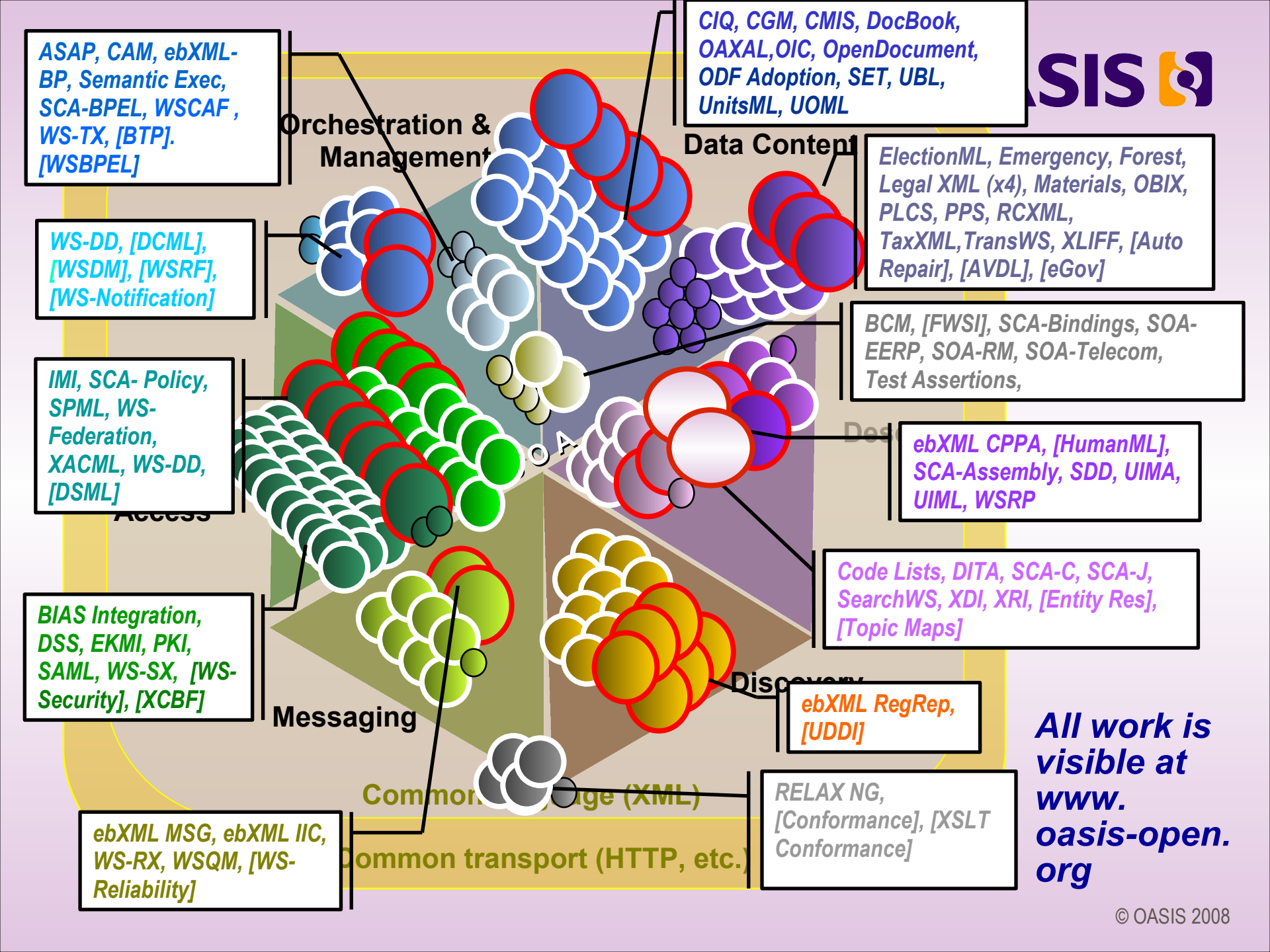

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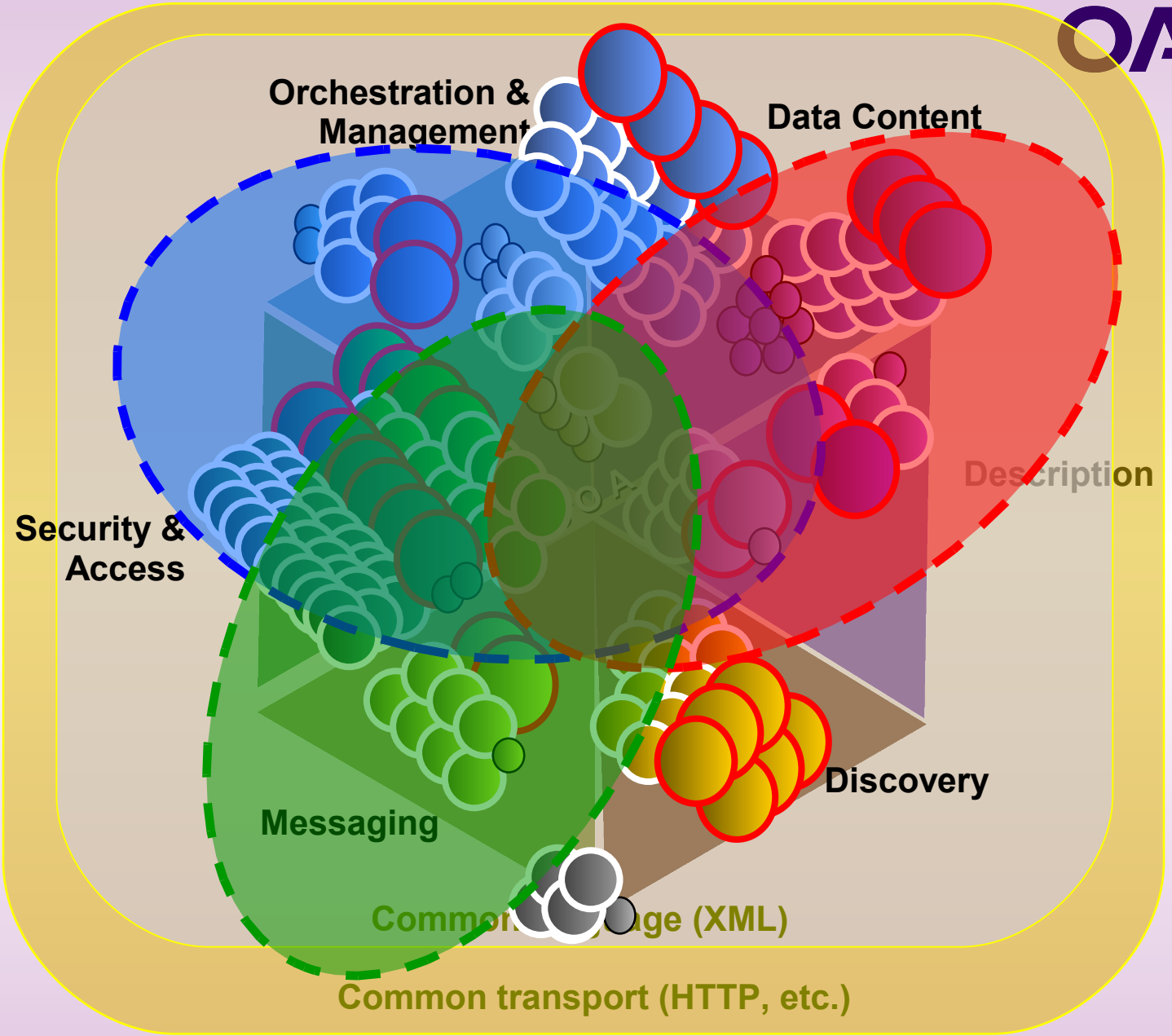

Member sections: functional & stakeholder groups

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OASIS interoperates with the world

- Generally, around 45% of our 5000-6000 *individual participants* ("users") are outside North America
- About 35% of our 300-400 *organizational* members are outside North America
- Approximately half of our technical committees are led by chairs and editors outside the U.S.
  - Without Germany, probably no BPEL
  - Without China, probably no UOML
  - Without Japan, probably no RELAX NG
  - No OpenDocument or UBL without diverse leadership
  - Without UK, probably no Election ML
  - Semantic SOA work centered in Austria & Turkey
  - Web Services QA work from Korea
  - Etc., etc., etc.

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How can standards organizations be globally accessible and interoperable?

- Careful choices, in face-to-face meetings and teleconference arrangements
- Sensitivity to broad stakeholders: defeat the small-club-of-editors mentality
- Technology for access to decisions: web based ballots, wikis, IRC, VoIP, etc.
- Speed, and rules, that genuinely permit all voices to speak, e.g. appropriate consensus, ballot and review periods (see WTO guidance)
- The style, diversity and neutrality of leadership also matter: setting a tone of inclusiveness & consultation

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OASIS interoperates with the world:

- Cooperation, liaison and harmonization with other standards organizations is a first-class OASIS priority
  - Working to reduce duplication, promote interoperability
  - Gaining sanction/authority & adoption for OASIS Standards
- Collaborative working relationships with:
  - ISO, IEC, ITU, UN-ECE MoU for E-Business
  - ISO/IEC JTC1 SC34, ISO TCs (Cat. A Liaison)
  - ITU-T A.4 and A.5 Recognition
  - IPTC, LISA, SWIFT, UPU, OECD, World Bank
  - ABA, ACORD, AIAG, ANSI-HITSP, CEN/ISSS, Changfeng, CESI, CNNIC, EA-ECA, EEMA, HL7, HR-XML, European ICTSB, INCITS, KIEC, LRC, MBAA, NASPO, PISCES
  - CommerceNet, IDEAlliance, OAGi, OMA, OMG, Open Geospatial, Open Group, RosettaNet/UCC, TMForum, W3C, WfMC, WSCC, WS-I

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OASIS interoperates with the world: sharing successes

- ebXML > ISO = ISO TS 15000
- OpenDocument > JTC1 = ISO/IEC IS 26300
- SAML > ITU-T = ITU Rec. X.1141
- XACML > ITU-T = ITU Rec. X.1142
- WebCGM > W3C = Final Recommendation
- UBL > UN/CEFACT = in process
- CAP > ITU-T = ITU Rec. X.1303
- More JTC1 submissions in process

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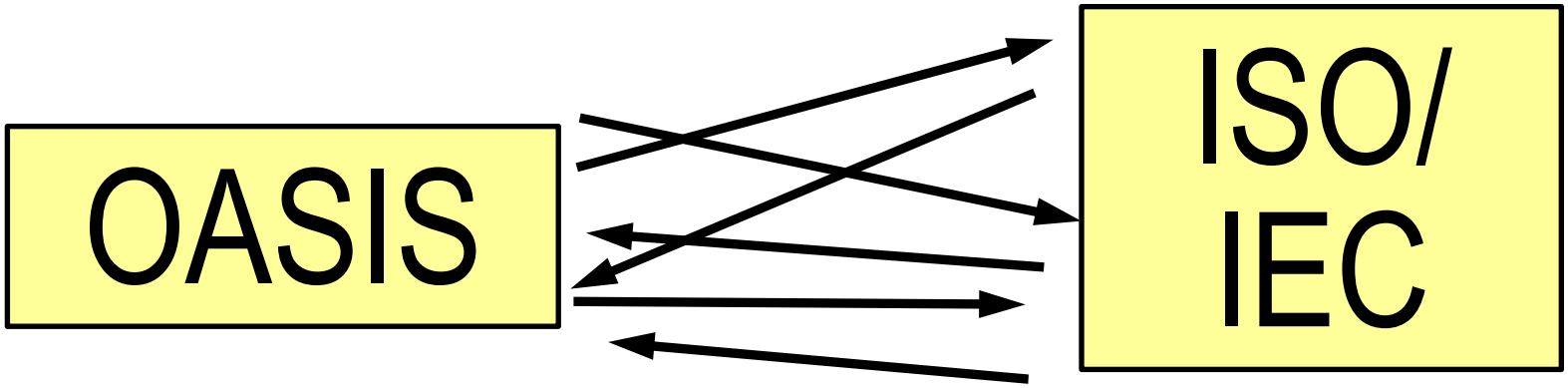
OASIS interoperates with the world: sharing successes

- OpenDocument > JTC1 = ISO/IEC IS 26300
- Unanimous JTC1 ballot yielded optional suggestions, so OASIS TC reworked the spec and submitted “version 1.0 2nd ed.”



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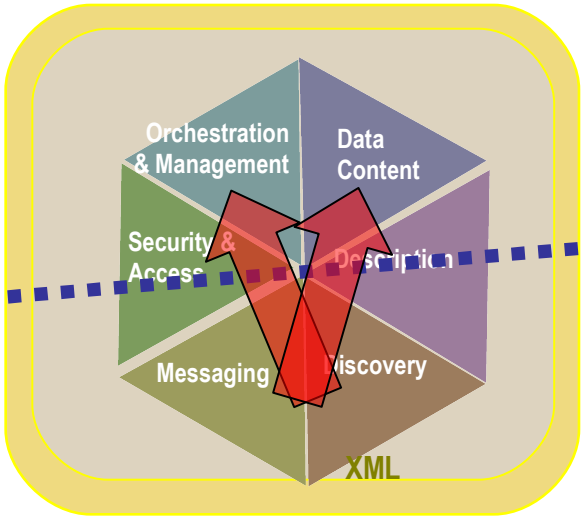
Technical trends in OASIS work

- Infrastructure work is maturing
- The action is moving up the "stack" to rules, content and semantics
- Stronger emphasis on service orientation: interoperability and modularity
- End users and verticals -- the use case owners -- are more powerful and more involved: conformance essential



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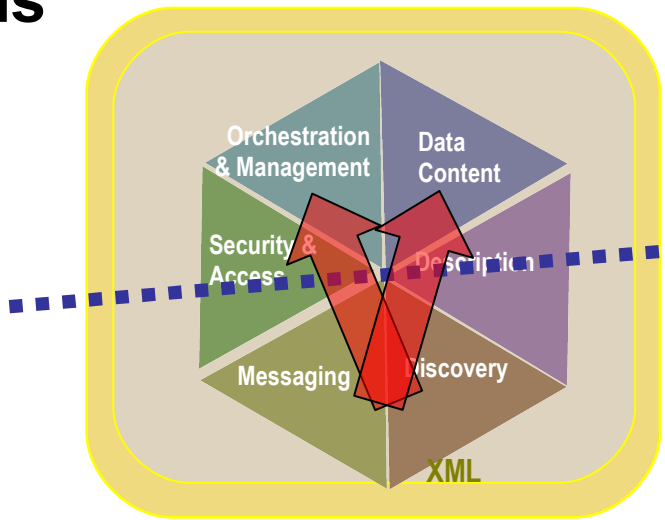
Technical trends in OASIS work

- Maturing standards require detailed maintenance methods
- OASIS "Approved Errata" rules define official updates with public review
- More cooperation requires more stakeholder feedback and collaboration
- OASIS leads in negotiating continuing bilateral collaboration with other SDOs



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Business trends in OASIS work

- More emphasis on the context of other specifications, other organizations: What does your standard work with? (Implementing in a mash-up world)
- More need for licensing clarity: Who must give me permission? What other standards are involved?
- More quality assurance: Test assertions, conformance clauses and explicit use cases

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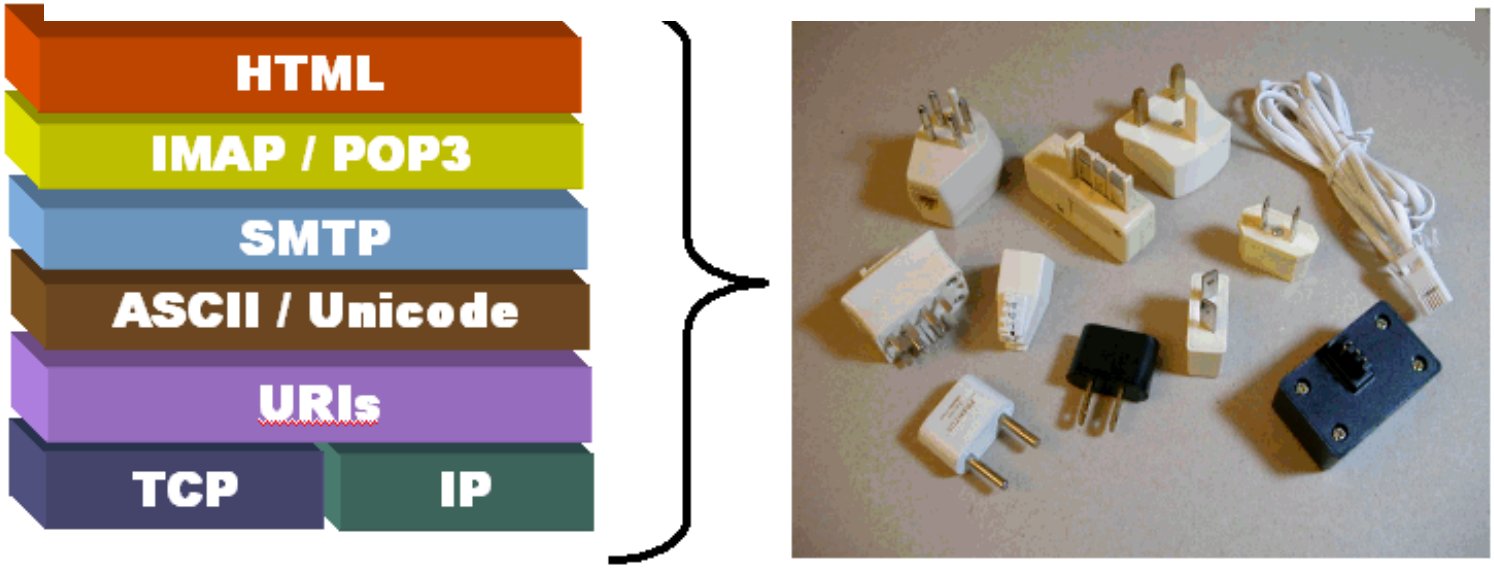
Interoperability requires flexibility



You are going to plug lots of pieces together. Modularity good. Conformance good. Alternatives good. Exclusive dependencies bad.

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