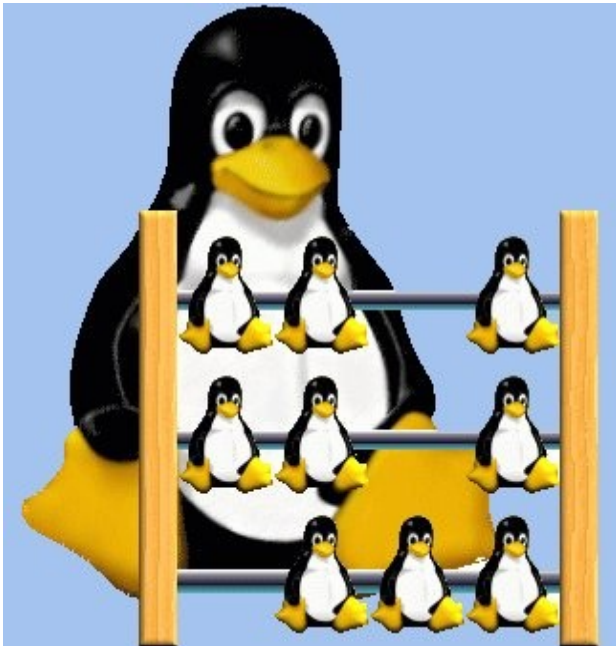




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# Linux and other open desktop alternatives

*Sept 2003*

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# Agenda

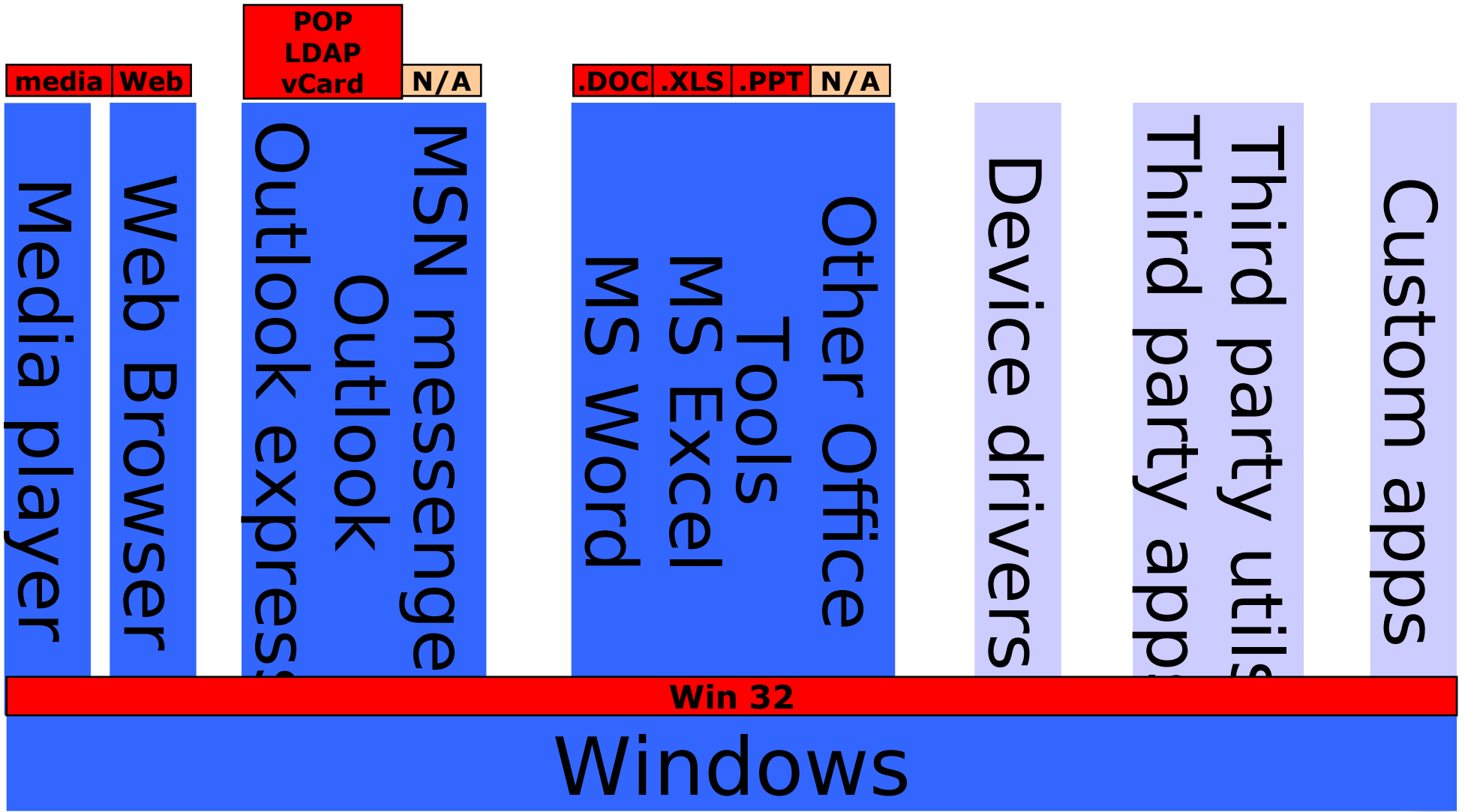
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- **What is the Linux-based open desktop software stack?**
- **Is it credible?**
- **Demo of a working Linux desktop stack for IBM**
- **Some other alternatives to think about**

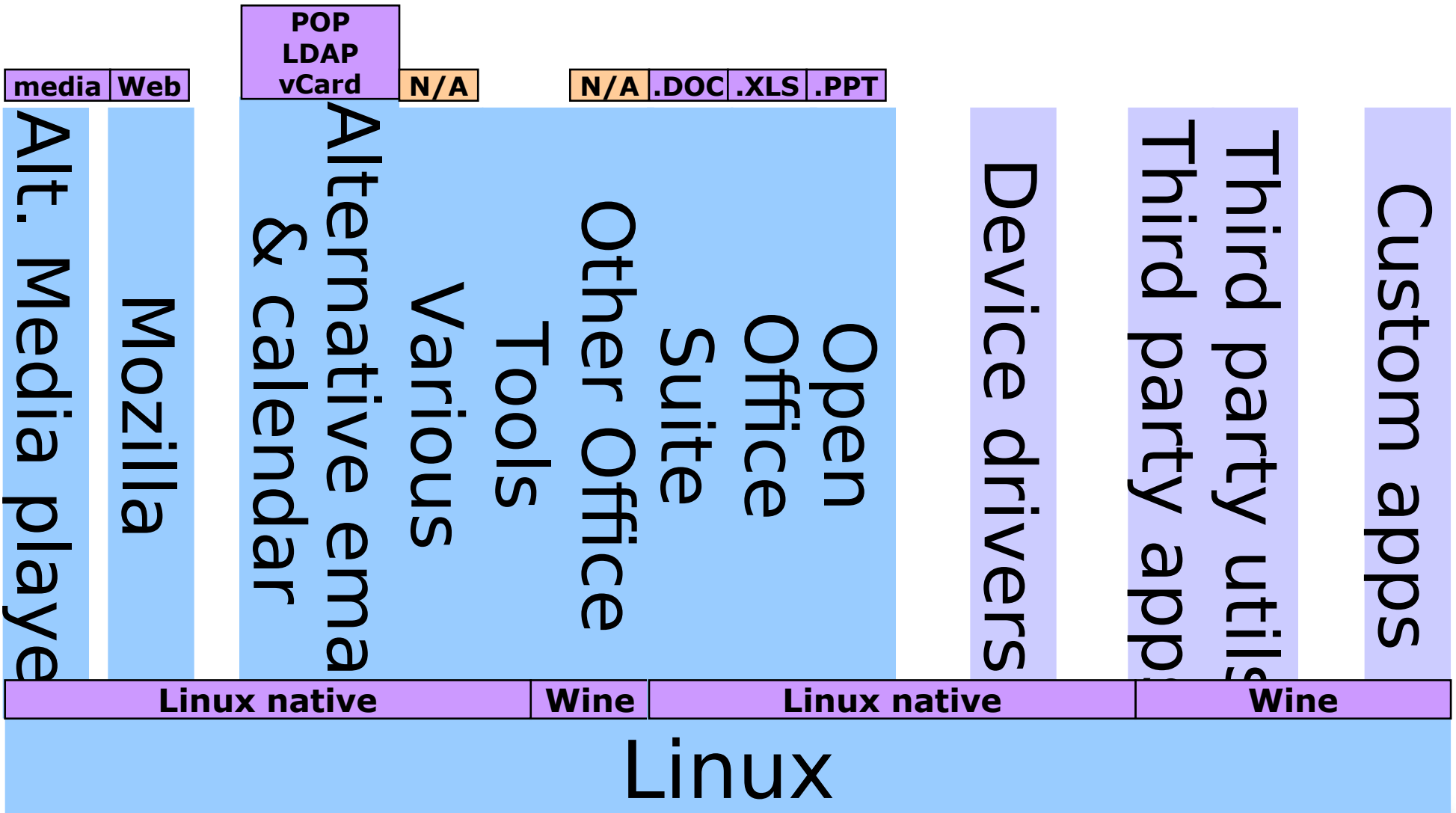
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What is it?

# MS desktop software stack



# Equivalent Linux desktop software stack



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Is it credible?

# Open Desktop Status and Roadmap

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- **Current status (by major component)**
  - f OS status: stable & secure
  - f Desktop managers: mature enough for general use
  - f **Basic system admin: still too complicated**
  - f **Device support is not perfect but improving**
  - f WINE: supports several Win32 applications
  - f Browser: supports vast majority of web pages
  - f Email: works well
  - f **OpenOffice: credible alternative for basic office use (> 9M Downloads)**
  - f Other applications are being ported to Linux
- **Each component has some problems ...**
  - f ... community is working to fix these problems
- **IBM's Linux Client for e-business (Linux C4eb)**
  - f Currently targeted at technical community, 14,000+ downloads
  - f Notes 5, MS Office, SameTime, Mozilla, MTS, Acrobat, Cisco wireless, SmartSuite Viewers, Java, PSM (for printing), AFS, TSM (backup)

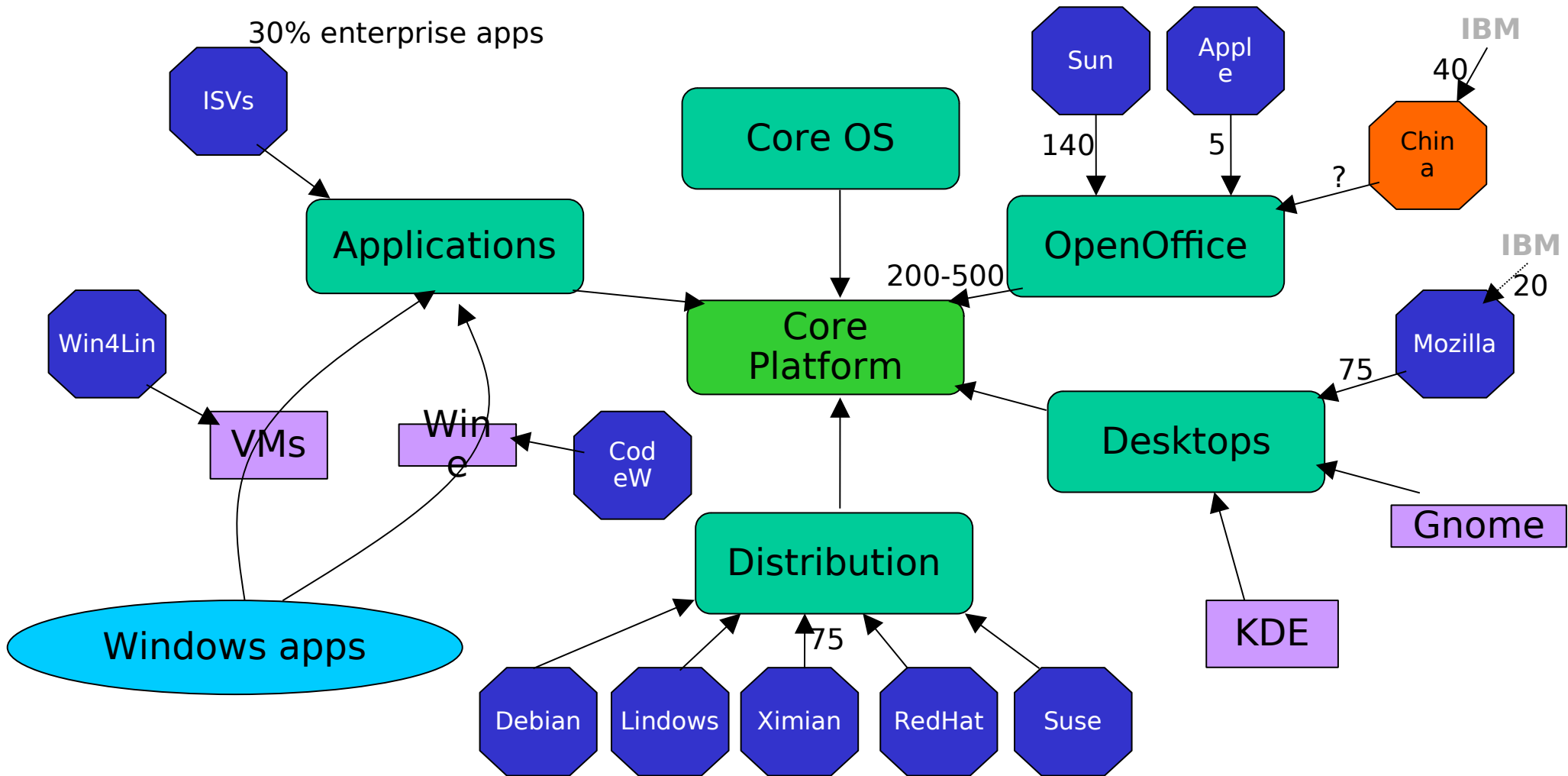
# Rate of evolution

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- **Gnome: 2.0 (June 2002), 2.2 (Feb 2003), 2.4 (Sept 2003)**
- **OpenOffice: 1.0 (May 2002), 1.0.1 (July 2002), 1.0.2 (Jan 2003), 1.0.3 (Apr 2003), 1.1 beta 2 (May 2003), 1.1 (Sept 2003)**
- **Mozilla: 1.3 (Jan 2003), 1.4 (May 2003), 1.5 (Sept 2003)**



# Some parts of the Linux Desktop Ecology



Identified 350 (Full Time PY) developers across 3 projects (very conservative)

Add 180 developers from Qihang-1

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Demo

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## Other alternatives to consider

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- **Windows + OpenOffice.org**

- f Value: avoids MS Office licence

- **Move applications to browser-based model**

- f Value: Manageability, increased platform independence, lower TCO

- f Reduces reliance on Win32 APIs