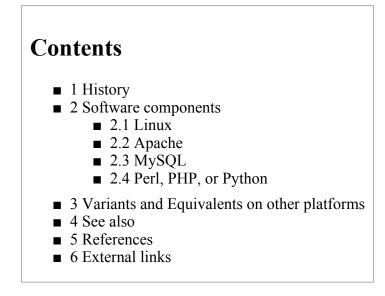# LAMP (software bundle)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

LAMP is an acronym for a solution stack of free, open source software, originally coined from the first letters of Linux (operating system), Apache HTTP Server, MySQL (database software), and PHP, principal components to build a viable general purpose web server[1].

The precise combination of software included in a LAMP package may vary, especially with respect to the web scripting software, as PHP may be replaced by Perl or Python.[2] Similar terms exist for essentially the same software suite (*AMP*) running on other operating systems, such as MS Windows (WAMP), Mac OS (MAMP), Solaris (SAMP), or OpenBSD (OpAMP).

Though the original authors of these programs did not design them all to work specifically with each other, the development philosophy and tool sets are shared and were developed in close conjunction. The software combination has become popular because it is free of cost, open-source, and therefore easily adaptable, and because of the ubiquity of its components which are bundled with most current Linux distributions.

When used in combination they represent a solution stack of technologies that support application servers.

Contents

History

Michael Kunze coined the acronym *LAMP* in an article for the German computing magazine *c't* in April 1998.[3] The article aimed to show that a bundle of free software could provide a viable alternative to commercial packages. Knowing the IT-world's love of acronyms, Kunze came up with *LAMP* as a marketing-like term to increase the popularity of free software.[4] O'Reilly and MySQL AB have made the term popular among English-speakers.[5] Indeed, MySQL AB has since based some of its marketing efforts on the popularity of the LAMP stack.[6]

The scripting component of the LAMP stack has its origins in the Common Gateway Interface protocol that became popular in web servers in the early 1990s. This technology allows the user of a web browser to execute a program on the web server, and thereby receive dynamic as well as static content. Often programmers would use scripting languages such as Perl for these programs because of their ability to manipulate text streams from multiple sources easily and efficiently.

Software components

The LAMP stack is widely used because it offers a great number of advantages for developers:

- **Easy to code:** Novices can build something and get it up and running very quickly with PHP and MySQL.
- **Easy to deploy:** Since PHP is a standard Apache module, it's easy to deploy a PHP app. Once you've got MySQL running, simply upload your .php files.
- **Develop locally:** It's easy to set up LAMP on your laptop, build your app locally, then deploy on the Web.
- **Cheap and ubiquitous hosting:** Even the cheapest Web hosts options allow you to run PHP and MySQL.

Linux

Main article: Linux

Linux is a Unix-like computer operating system kernel. A major emphasis of Linux development is security[*citation needed*], which makes it an appealing choice for a web-server application. Like the other LAMP components, Linux is free open-source software which means the source code is provided with operating system, which can be edited according to specific needs. Also, because Linux-based operating systems are Unix-like, a Linux server is more natively-compatible with other server-oriented platforms, such as Solaris and BSD, than non-Unix-like systems like Microsoft Windows.

Apache

Main article: Apache HTTP Server

Apache is a free software/open source web server, the most popular in use.[7]

MySQL

Main article: MySQL

MySQL is a multithreaded, multi-user, SQL database management system (DBMS) now owned by Oracle Corporation with more than eleven million installations[8].

MySQL has been owned by Oracle Corporation since April 20th 2009 through the purchase of Sun Microsystems [9][10]. Sun had acquired mySQL originally on January 16 2008

Perl, PHP, or Python

Main articles: Perl, PHP, and Python (programming language)

PHP is a reflective programming language originally designed for producing dynamic web pages. PHP is used mainly in server-side application software. Perl and Python can be used similarly.

Variants and Equivalents on other platforms

Main article: List of AMP packages

See also: List of web application frameworks

With the growing use of LAMP, variations and retronyms appeared for other combinations of operating system, web server, database, and software language.

The equivalent installation on a Microsoft Windows operating system is known as WAMP with an alternative called WIMP.

The equivalent installation on a Macintosh operating system is known as MAMP.

The equivalent installation on a Solaris operating system is known as SAMP.

The equivalent installation on a FreeBSD operating system is known as FAMP.

See also

- List of AMP packages
- XAMPP

References

1. ^ Lee, James; Brent Ware (December 2002). *Open Source Web Development with LAMP: Using Linux, Apache, MySQL, Perl, and PHP*. Addison Wesley. ISBN 0-201-77061-X.
2. ^ Dale Dougherty (January 26, 2001). "LAMP: The Open Source Web Platform" (http://www.onlamp.com/pub/a/onlamp/2001/01/25/lamp.html) . *ONLamp*. http://www.onlamp.com/pub/a/onlamp/2001/01/25/lamp.html.
3. ^ http://web.archive.org/web/20071212203835/http://www.heise.de/ct/english/98/12/230/ c't 12/98, page 230 - Freeware Web Publishing System
4. ^ The bird of the open source enterprise stack (http://lwn.net/Articles/189186/)
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6. ^ MySQL and "LAMP" save istockphoto.com $900K (http://www.mysql.com/news-and-events/generate-article.php?type=ss&id=istockphoto.com)
7. ^ "Market Shares for Top Servers Across All Domains August 1995 - April 2007" (http://news.netcraft.com/archives/web_server_survey.html) . News.netcraft.com. http://news.netcraft.com/archives/web_server_survey.html. Retrieved 2009-09-15.
8. ^ Top Reasons for Product Managers to Embed MySQL (http://www.mysql.com/why-mysql/topreasons_pm.html) on [mySQL.com]
9. ^ Robin Schumacher & Arjen Lentz Dispelling the Myths (http://dev.mysql.com/tech-resources/articles/dispelling-the-myths.html)
10. ^ Charles Babcock, InformationWeek Sun Locks Up MySQL, Looks To Future Web Development (http://www.informationweek.com/news/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=206900327)

External links

- Pre-integrated LAMP server based on Ubuntu (http://www.turnkeylinux.org/lamp)

- Install a LAMP server on Ubuntu Linux (https://help.ubuntu.com/community/ApacheMySQLPHP)
- Install a LAMP server on Debian GNU/Linux (http://wiki.debian.org/LaMp)
- Install a LAMP server on SUSE Linux (http://en.opensuse.org/Linux_Apache_MySQL_PHP_Server_(lamp))
- Install a LAMP server on CentOS 5 Linux (http://geekzine.org/2008/10/28/install-centos-52-as-a-server-lampbindntp/)

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