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A Schema for Logging the LDAP Protocol
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Abstract

In order to facilitate remote administration and auditing of LDAP server operation, it is desirable to provide the server's operational logs themselves as a searchable LDAP directory. These logs may also be used as a persistent change log to support various replication mechanisms. This document defines a schema that may be used to represent all of the requests that have been processed by an LDAP server. It may be used by various applications for auditing, flight recorder, replication, and other purposes.

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LDAP Log Schema

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1. Introduction

In a widely distributed network with multiple LDAP servers, it is desirable to be able to audit and monitor the operation of each server remotely, using the same tools that are normally used to interact with the LDAP servers. Using a standardized logging format in LDAP allows LDAP queries to be used to generate server usage statistics with little effort. This document describes a set of object classes that can be used to represent any LDAP operation. The object classes are intended to represent a complete record of all of the parameters of an operation. The log not only allows clients to see what operations were executed on a given server, but also to easily regenerate and re-issue a sequence of operations to aid in testing situations. The sequence of write operations recorded in the log can also be used by various replication mechanisms.

2. Conventions

Imperative keywords defined in [[RFC2119](#)] are used in this document, and carry the meanings described there.

[3.](#) Syntaxes

[3.1.](#) Control Syntax

A value of the Control syntax represents an LDAP Control as used by a client or server. It consists of the numeric OID of the Control, the Boolean criticality flag, and an optional OctetString containing the Control value. The definition given here merely repeats the definition of Controls in [\[RFC2251\]](#).

The Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1 [\[X680\]](#)) definition of this syntax is as follows:

```
Control ::= SEQUENCE {  
    controlType LDAPOID,  
    criticality BOOLEAN DEFAULT FALSE,  
    controlValue OCTET STRING OPTIONAL }
```

The following is an LDAP syntax description [\[RFC2252\]](#) suitable for publication in the subschema.

(LOG_SCHEMA_SYN.1 DESC 'Control')

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[4.](#) Attribute Types

[4.1.](#) General Attribute Types

These attributes are common to all of the LDAP request records.

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT.1 NAME 'reqDN'  
DESC 'Target DN of request'  
EQUALITY distinguishedNameMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.12  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .2 NAME 'reqStart'  
DESC 'Start time of request'  
EQUALITY generalizedTimeMatch
```

ORDERING generalizedTimeOrderingMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.24
SINGLE-VALUE)

(LOG_SCHEMA_AT .3 NAME 'reqEnd'
DESC 'End time of request'
EQUALITY generalizedTimeMatch
ORDERING generalizedTimeOrderingMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.24
SINGLE-VALUE)

(LOG_SCHEMA_AT .4 NAME 'reqType'
DESC 'Type of request'
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15
SINGLE-VALUE)

(LOG_SCHEMA_AT .5 NAME 'reqSession'
DESC 'Session ID of request'
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15
SINGLE-VALUE)

(LOG_SCHEMA_AT .6 NAME 'reqAuthzID'
DESC 'Authorization ID of requestor'
EQUALITY distinguishedNameMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.12
SINGLE-VALUE)

(LOG_SCHEMA_AT .7 NAME 'reqResult'
DESC 'Result code of request'
EQUALITY integerMatch
ORDERING integerOrderingMatch

SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27
SINGLE-VALUE)

(LOG_SCHEMA_AT .8 NAME 'reqMessage'
DESC 'Error text of request'
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch
SUBSTR caseIgnoreSubstringsMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15

SINGLE-VALUE)

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .9 NAME 'reqReferral'  
DESC 'Referrals returned for request'  
SUP labeledURI )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .10 NAME 'reqControls'  
DESC 'Request controls'  
EQUALITY objectIdentifierFirstComponentMatch  
SYNTAX LOG_SCHEMA_SYN.1 X-ORDERED 'VALUES' )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .11 NAME 'reqRespControls'  
DESC 'Response controls of request'  
EQUALITY objectIdentifierFirstComponentMatch  
SYNTAX LOG_SCHEMA_SYN.1 X-ORDERED 'VALUES' )
```

[4.2.](#) Request-specific Attribute Types

These attributes are specific to a single type of LDAP request.

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .12 NAME 'reqId'  
DESC 'ID of Request to Abandon'  
EQUALITY integerMatch  
ORDERING integerOrderingMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .13 NAME 'reqVersion'  
DESC 'Protocol version of Bind request'  
EQUALITY integerMatch  
ORDERING integerOrderingMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .14 NAME 'reqMethod'  
DESC 'Bind method of request'  
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .15 NAME 'reqAssertion'
```



```

DESC 'Compare Assertion of request'
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15
SINGLE-VALUE )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .16 NAME 'reqMod'
DESC 'Modifications of request'
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15
EQUALITY octetStringMatch
SUBSTR octetStringSubstringsMatch )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .17 NAME 'reqOld'
DESC 'Old values of entry before request completed'
EQUALITY octetStringMatch
SUBSTR octetStringSubstringsMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15 )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .18 NAME 'reqNewRDN'
DESC 'New RDN of request'
EQUALITY distinguishedNameMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.12
SINGLE-VALUE )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .19 NAME 'reqDeleteOldRDN'
DESC 'Delete old RDN'
EQUALITY booleanMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7
SINGLE-VALUE )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .20 NAME 'reqNewSuperior'
DESC 'New superior DN of request'
EQUALITY distinguishedNameMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.12
SINGLE-VALUE )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .21 NAME 'reqScope'
DESC 'Scope of request'
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15
SINGLE-VALUE )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .22 NAME 'reqDerefAliases'
DESC 'Disposition of Aliases in request'
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15
SINGLE-VALUE )

( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .23 NAME 'reqAttrsOnly'

```

```
DESC 'Attributes and values of request'  
EQUALITY booleanMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.7  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .24 NAME 'reqFilter'  
DESC 'Filter of request'  
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch  
SUBSTR caseIgnoreSubstringsMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .25 NAME 'reqAttr'  
DESC 'Attributes of request'  
EQUALITY caseIgnoreMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.15 )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .26 NAME 'reqSizeLimit'  
DESC 'Size limit of request'  
EQUALITY integerMatch  
ORDERING integerOrderingMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .27 NAME 'reqTimeLimit'  
DESC 'Time limit of request'  
EQUALITY integerMatch  
ORDERING integerOrderingMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .28 NAME 'reqEntries'  
DESC 'Number of entries returned'  
EQUALITY integerMatch  
ORDERING integerOrderingMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.27  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_AT .29 NAME 'reqData'  
DESC 'Data of extended request'  
EQUALITY octetStringMatch  
SUBSTR octetStringSubstringsMatch  
SYNTAX 1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.40  
SINGLE-VALUE )
```

[5.](#) Object Classes

[5.1.](#) Basic Audit Object Classes

This is the basic class containing attributes common to all of the LDAP requests. The following object classes all inherit from this class.

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .1 NAME 'auditObject' DESC 'OpenLDAP request auditing' SUP top STRUCTURAL MUST ( reqStart $ reqType $ reqSession ) MAY ( reqDN $ reqAuthzID $ reqControls $ reqRespControls $ reqEnd $ reqResult $ reqMessage $ reqReferral ) )
```

These object classes are used to aggregate read operations and write operations under common parent classes.

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .2 NAME 'auditReadObject' DESC 'OpenLDAP read request record' SUP auditObject STRUCTURAL MUST reqDN )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .3 NAME 'auditWriteObject' DESC 'OpenLDAP write request record' SUP auditObject STRUCTURAL MUST reqDN )
```

[5.2.](#) Request-Specific Object Classes

Each LDAP Request has its own object class containing all of the attributes needed to represent an instance of the request.

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .4 NAME 'auditAbandon' DESC 'Abandon operation' SUP auditObject STRUCTURAL MUST reqId )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .5 NAME 'auditAdd' DESC 'Add operation' SUP auditWriteObject STRUCTURAL MUST reqMod )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .6 NAME 'auditBind' DESC 'Bind operation' SUP auditObject STRUCTURAL MUST ( reqDN $ reqMethod $ reqVersion ) )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .7 NAME 'auditCompare' DESC 'Compare operation' SUP auditReadObject STRUCTURAL MUST reqAssertion )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .8 NAME 'auditDelete' DESC 'Delete operation' SUP
auditWriteObject STRUCTURAL MAY reqOld )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .9 NAME 'auditModify' DESC 'Modify operation' SUP
auditWriteObject STRUCTURAL MUST reqMod MAY reqOld )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .10 NAME 'auditModRDN' DESC 'ModRDN operation' SUP
auditWriteObject STRUCTURAL MUST ( reqNewRDN $ reqDeleteOldRDN ) MAY
( reqNewSuperior $ reqOld ) )
```

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```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .11 NAME 'auditSearch' DESC 'Search operation' SUP
auditReadObject STRUCTURAL MUST ( reqScope $ reqDerefAliases $
reqAttrsonly ) MAY ( reqFilter $ reqAttr $ reqEntries $ reqSizeLimit
$ reqTimeLimit ) )
```

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .12 NAME 'auditExtended' DESC 'Extended operation'
SUP auditObject STRUCTURAL MAY reqData )
```

[5.3.](#) Generic Container Class

This object class may be used for the parent entry of the log records.

```
( LOG_SCHEMA_OC .0 NAME 'auditContainer' DESC 'AuditLog container'
SUP top STRUCTURAL MAY ( cn $ reqStart $ reqEnd ) )
```

[6.](#) Discussion of Schema

[6.1.](#) AuditObject

1. reqDN: the distinguished name of the entry the request applies to. In the case of a ModRDN request, the reqDN gives the DN of the entry before it was modified. In the case of a Search request, the reqDN is the base DN of the search.
Syntax: DN
2. reqStart: the time the request began on the server.
reqEnd: the time the request completed on the server. The timestamps MUST have high enough resolution to ensure that the reqStart values are unique. The values for reqEnd MUST also be unique, although overlap of reqStart and reqEnd values is allowed. Servers SHOULD use one of reqStart or reqEnd as the log records' RDN. Either choice will allow records to be read in ascending order, although the two alternatives may produce different orders. In cases where the server clocks do not provide sufficient resolution, a simple counter may be used in the fractional seconds part to distinguish multiple events occurring within the same second.
Syntax: GeneralizedTime
3. reqType: the type of request. One of: "abandon", "add", "bind",

"compare", "delete", "modify", "modrdn", "search", or "extended{OID}". For Extended requests, the numeric objectIdentifier of the request is included in the string.
Syntax: DirectoryString

4. reqSession: an implementation-defined value that is constant for all operations occurring within a Bind/Unbind sequence.
Syntax: DirectoryString
5. reqAuthzID: the Authorization Identity used to perform the request. This will usually be the same as the reqDN of the Bind request with matching reqSession, but may be altered by various Controls and other processing.
Syntax: DN
6. reqResult: the LDAP result code for a completed Request. This value is omitted for Requests which have no defined result (e.g. Abandon and Unbind) and also for Requests which were Abandoned or otherwise did not run to completion.
Syntax: Integer
7. reqMessage: the textual error message accompanying the result, if any.

Syntax: DirectoryString

8. reqReferral: any referrals that accompanied the result. They are in the standard LDAP URI format [[RFC2255](#)].
Syntax: DirectoryString
9. reqControls: the set of Request Controls accompanying a request. reqRespControls: the set of Response Controls accompanying a request result. Each value represents a single Control. Note that since Controls are transmitted as an ordered Sequence, the X-ORDERED 'VALUES' [[XORDERED](#)] schema extension is used here to preserve their ordering.
Syntax: Control

[6.2](#). AuditContainer

reqStart: the timestamp of the first (oldest) record in the log.

reqEnd: the timestamp of the last (newest) record in the log.

Syntax: GeneralizedTime

[6.3.](#) Request-Specific Discussion

[6.3.1.](#) Abandon

reqId: the ID of a request to Abandon.

Syntax: Integer

[6.3.2.](#) Bind

reqVersion: the protocol version of the request.

Syntax: Integer

reqMethod: the Bind method. Either "Simple" or "SASL/<mechanism>" where "<mechanism>" is the specific SASL [[RFC2222](#)] mechanism requested.

Syntax: DirectoryString

[6.3.3.](#) Compare

reqAssertion: the Attribute Value Assertion (AVA) of the request.

The AVA is encoded according to the rules in [[RFC2254](#)].

Syntax: DirectoryString

[6.3.4.](#) Rename

reqNewRDN: the new RDN of the request.

Syntax: DN

reqDeletedOldRDN: the deleteOldRDN value of the request.

Syntax: Boolean

reqNewSuperior: the new Superior DN of the request.

Syntax: DN

[6.3.5.](#) Add and Modify

reqMod: The modifications of the request. The encoding is defined by the following grammar, using the ABNF notation defined in [[RFC0822](#)].

mod = attr ":" modop
attr = AttributeDescription from [[RFC2251](#)]
modop = add / delete / replace / increment
add = "+" sp value
delete = "-" [sp value]
replace = "=" [sp value]
increment = "#" sp value
sp = " "
value = AttributeValue from [[RFC2251](#)]

Note that Add requests will only use the add modop format.
Syntax: OctetString

reqOld: the previous values of a modified attribute. The encoding is of the form attr ":" sp value, using the same definitions as for reqMod above.
Syntax: OctetString

[6.3.6.](#) Delete

reqOld: the previous values of a deleted entry. The encoding is as given above.
Syntax: OctetString

[6.3.7.](#) Search

reqScope: the scope of the Search request. The possible values are as specified for the scope parameter in the LDAP URL format [[RFC2255](#)] and [[SUBORD](#)]. Currently one of "base", "one", "sub", or "subord".

Syntax: DirectoryString

reqDerefAliases: the derefAliases parameter of the Search request. One of "never", "searching", "finding", or "always".

Syntax: DirectoryString

reqAttrsOnly: the typesOnly parameter of the request.

Syntax: Boolean

reqFilter: the Search filter, encoded according to [[RFC2254](#)].

Syntax: DirectoryString

reqSizeLimit: the size limit of the request.

reqTimeLimit: the time limit of the request.

Syntax: Integer

reqAttr: the specific attributes requested, if any.

Syntax: DirectoryString

reqEntries: the total number of entries returned for this request.

Syntax: Integer

[6.3.8](#). Extended

reqData: the data accompanying the request, if any.

Syntax: OctetString

[7.](#) Examples

In the following examples the log records reside under the "cn=log" entry and are named by their "reqStart" attribute.

[7.1.](#) Audit Trail

This is the set of log records produced for a session comprising a Simple Bind request, a Search request, and an Unbind:

```
dn: reqStart=20051017081049.000000Z,cn=log
objectClass: auditBind
reqStart: 20051017081049.000000Z
reqEnd: 20051017081049.000001Z
reqType: bind
reqSession: 0
reqAuthzID:
reqDN: cn=manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqResult: 0
reqVersion: 3
reqMethod: SIMPLE
```

```
dn: reqStart=20051017081049.000002Z,cn=log
objectClass: auditSearch
reqStart: 20051017081049.000002Z
reqEnd: 20051017081049.000003Z
reqType: search
reqSession: 0
reqAuthzID: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqDN: dc=example,dc=com
reqResult: 0
reqScope: one
reqDerefAliases: never
reqAttrsOnly: FALSE
reqFilter: (objectClass=*)
reqSizeLimit: -1
reqTimeLimit: -1
reqEntries: 3
```

```
dn: reqStart=20051017081049.000004Z,cn=log
objectClass: auditObject
reqStart: 20051017081049.000004Z
reqEnd: 20051017081049.000005Z
reqType: unbind
reqSession: 0
reqAuthzID: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
```

[7.2.](#) Add request

This is a log record from adding an entry to the directory:

```
dn: reqStart=20051017083706.000001Z,cn=log
objectClass: auditAdd
structuralObjectClass: auditAdd
reqStart: 20051017083706.000001Z
reqEnd: 20051017083706.000002Z
reqType: add
reqSession: 4
reqAuthzID: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqDN: ou=People,dc=example,dc=com
reqResult: 0
reqMod: objectClass:+ organizationalUnit
reqMod: ou:+ People
reqMod: description:+ A bunch of people will be here
reqMod: structuralObjectClass:+ organizationalUnit
reqMod: entryUUID:+ f16734aa-d334-1029-9290-cd8deceec6b0
reqMod: creatorsName:+ cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqMod: createTimeStamp:+ 20051017083706Z
reqMod: entryCSN:+ 20051017083706Z#000000#00#000000
reqMod: modifiersName:+ cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqMod: modifyTimeStamp:+ 20051017083706Z
```

Note that operational attributes written with the request are included in the log record. All of the static data associated with an entry will be exposed, allowing a replication client to get a full copy of the entry.

[7.3.](#) Modify request

This is a log record from modifying an entry in the directory:

```
dn: reqStart=20051017083734.000010Z,cn=log
objectClass: auditModify
reqStart: 20051017083734.000010Z
reqEnd: 20051017083734.000011Z
reqType: modify
reqSession: 1
reqAuthzID: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqDN: ou=People,dc=example,dc=com
reqResult: 0
reqMod: description:-
reqMod: entryCSN:= 20051017083734Z#000003#00#000000
reqMod: modifiersName:= cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqMod: modifyTimestamp:= 20051017083734Z
reqOld: description: A bunch of people will be here
```

In this example the entire "description" attribute is deleted from the entry. Its original value is recorded in the "reqOld" attribute. Preserving the data allows the logs to be replayed both forwards and backwards. A client can run the log forward to bring a replica up to date, or run it backwards to undo a series of unintended operations.

[7.4.](#) Rename request

This is a log record from renaming an entry in the directory:

```
dn: reqStart=20051017083734.000018Z,cn=log
objectClass: auditModRDN
reqStart: 20051017083734.000018Z
reqEnd: 20051017083734.000019Z
reqType: modrdn
reqSession: 1
```

reqAuthzID: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqDN: ou=People,dc=example,dc=com
reqResult: 0
reqNewRDN: ou=Populi
reqDeleteOldRDN: TRUE

[7.5.](#) Delete request

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This is a log record from deleting an entry in the directory:

dn: reqStart=20051017083734.000020Z,cn=log
objectClass: auditDelete
reqStart: 20051017083734.000020Z
reqEnd: 20051017083734.000021Z
reqType: delete
reqSession: 1
reqAuthzID: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqDN: ou=Populi,dc=example,dc=com
reqResult: 0
reqOld: ou: Populi
reqOld: objectClass: organizationalUnit
reqOld: structuralObjectClass: organizationalUnit
reqOld: entryUUID: f16734aa-d334-1029-9290-cd8deceec6b0
reqOld: creatorsName: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqOld: createTimeStamp: 20051017083706Z
reqOld: entryCSN: 20051017083734Z#000007#00#000000
reqOld: modifiersName: cn=Manager,dc=example,dc=com
reqOld: modifyTimeStamp: 20051017083734Z

[7.6.](#) Usage Notes

More information is accomodated in this specification than may be needed in typical use. Servers MAY implement only subsets of the attributes, or provide configuration mechanisms to reduce the range

of operations covered in the log. Replication clients working from a full log can use a search filter with the terms "`(&(objectClass=AuditWriteObject)(reqResult=0))`" to filter out irrelevant records. The "reqOld" attribute will often contain redundant information; having an option to omit it from the logs may also be more suitable for some sites.

[8.](#) Security Considerations

Servers implementing this scheme SHOULD NOT allow the logs to be generally readable. Extensive information about the existence and content of data, as well as the usage patterns associated with the data, will be present in the log and should only be made available to trusted users.

The structure of the log does not prevent fine-grained access controls from being used, although the rules will be necessarily longer than they would be in the primary database. E.g., while a single rule to deny access to the userPassword attribute would suffice in the primary database, two rules would be needed in the log - one to deny access to the reqOld attribute with values `userPassword:*`, and one to deny access to the reqMod attribute with values `userPassword:*`.

Servers implementing this scheme should not permit users to write directly to the log container object or any entries contained within.

9. Normative References

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[Appendix A](#). IANA Considerations

In accordance with [\[RFC3383\]](#) (what needs to be done here?) .
Currently we are using
OpenLDAP_Experimental = 1.3.6.1.4.1.4203.666

LOG_SCHEMA = OpenLDAP_Experimental.11.5
LOG_SCHEMA_AT = LOG_SCHEMA.1
LOG_SCHEMA_OC = LOG_SCHEMA.2
LOG_SCHEMA_SYN = LOG_SCHEMA.3

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LDAP Log Schema

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