

Team 3 - Works on my Machine

Project Proposal

The Problem

The Fediverse is “difficult to get into and hard to navigate.”

After trying out the Fediverse ourselves and asking friends to try it out, this was the most prominent problem.

There is no “central hub” for the Fediverse, finding users and communities to interact with is difficult.

The Idea

A Personalizable, Realtime, Multi-Instance Discovery Homepage

The page would be a sort of user-friendly, easy-to-use launchpad for discovering new users and communities.

Users can use keywords to personalize the homepage to suit their needs.

The page would aggregate things from across the Fediverse.

Desktop + mobile site

Features

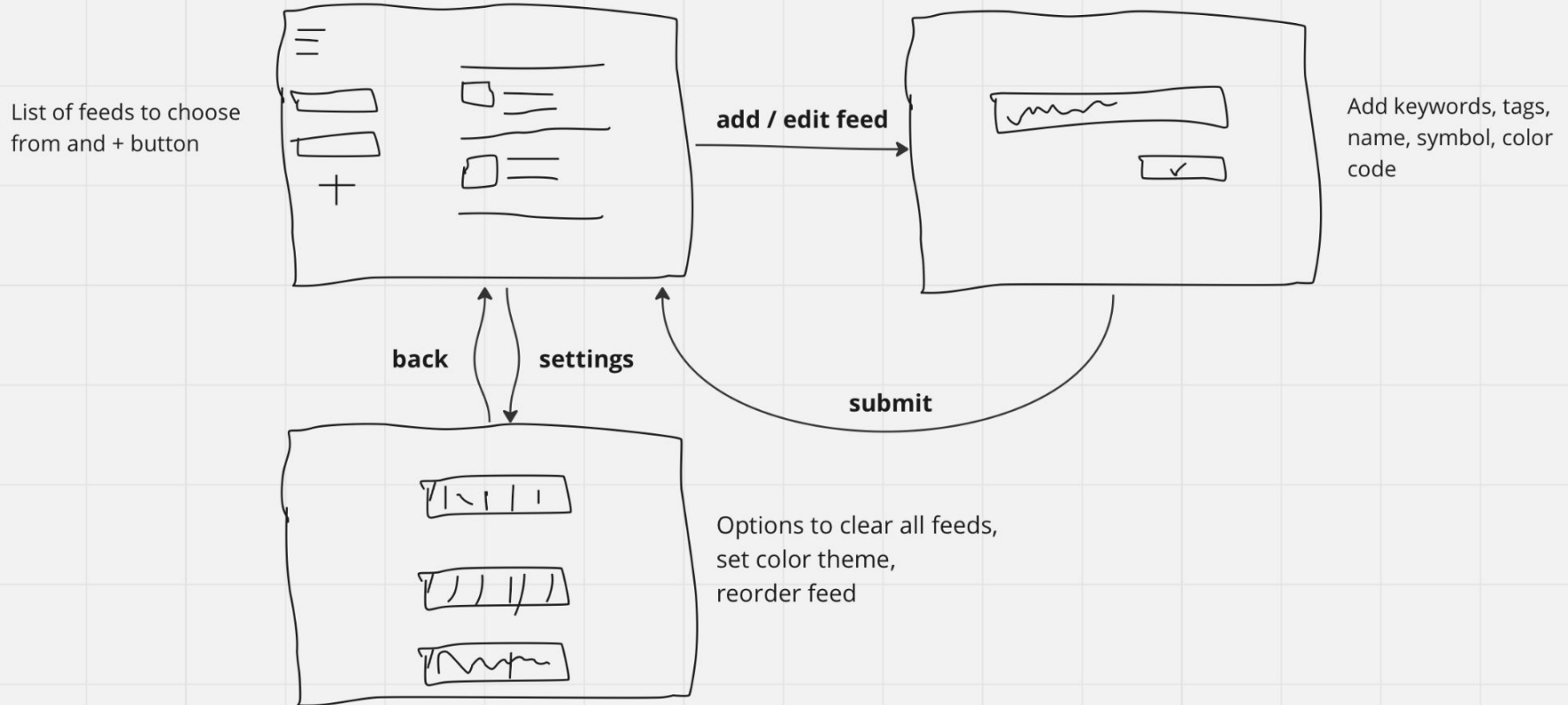
MVP

- Feeds for each interest/keyword
- Basic recommendation algorithm
- Personalizable by keywords, color schemes (settings page)
- Caching for local-first design
- Desktop + mobile site

Stretch goals

- Multiple instances of a platform (multiple Mastodon instances)
- Advanced recommendation algorithm
- Multiple platforms (PeerTube, Mastodon, etc.) aggregated by keyword

Fat marker diagrams/sketches



User Personas

Jack - “How do I get started? ”

- Jack is a digital marketer who is active on various social media platforms.
- Frustrations
 - Get tired of staying active on all the mainstream social media platforms and want to try something new.
 - Heard about Fediverse before, but lack of knowledge about it and find it overwhelming and confusing.
- Needs
 - a user-friendly platform that explains the concept of the Fediverse and helps him to find relevant communities.

Aaron - “Where can I find something new?”

- Aaron is a tech-savvy and a Masters student major in CS who constantly using Mastodon.
- Frustrations
 - Wants to find new people to follow, and wants to get into using different platforms
 - Wants to find posts and people related to a new niche he's interested in
- Needs
 - A way to find content related to his interests, beyond his current connections

Risks

- CSS is our kryptonite
- Project scope could get out of control if we don't limit our features initially

Rabbit Holes

- Recommendation/Discovery Algorithm Complexity
- UI design choices (circles or tabs?)
- ActivityPub and Mastodon's trending posts
- Which client to fork off of, if any
- Integrating multiple Fediverse platforms

Thank you!