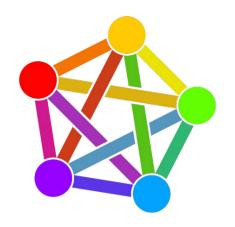
The Fediverse



An introduction to the Fediverse.

Logo By Eukombos [CC0], from Wikimedia Commons

Introduction:

- murph
- System administrator in New Jersey
- Long-time Linux user, long time Fediverse denizen.
- @murph@fosstodon.org
- https://identi.ca/murph

Overview

- The fediverse is a collection of protocols, servers, and users.
- Together they form networks that can communicate together.
- Users can exchange short messages, blog-style posts, music, and videos throughout.

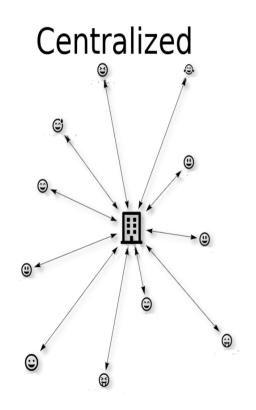
Some history

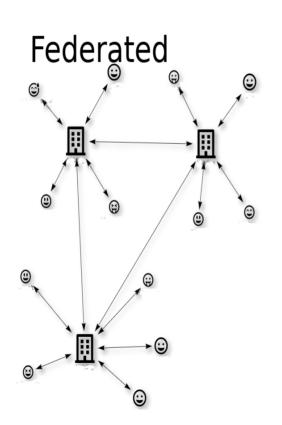
- In 2008, Evan Prodromou created a twitter-like service called identi.ca. It used the Ostatus protocol.
- In about 2012, he changed his service to use a new protocol, pump.io. He released the status.net protocol to the FSF, renamed as GNU/social. The fediverse continued along for several years.
- March 2016, Eugen Rochco (Gargron) created Mastodon, which used GNU/social with a tweetdeck-like interface. This gained some popularity.
- 2018, ActivityPub, a new protocol was accepted as a standardized protocol. Most fediverse platforms have adopted it. Authored by Evan P., Chris Lemmer-Weber and others, it expanded upon the previous into a better protocol.

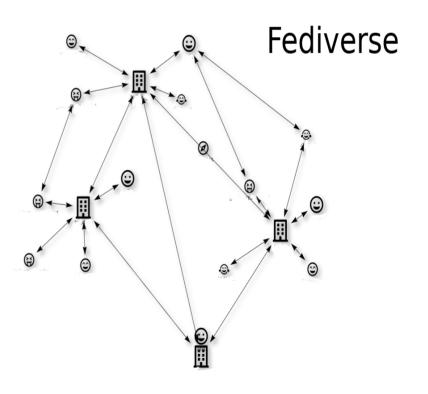
Federation

- Most services are run by a single company or organization A single silo that your data is trapped in, the only way to share with others is to have them join that service.
- Federation allows users of different services to inter-operate with one another, without creating an account for each shared resource. (Largely)
- System operators can block other instances in case of egregious issues, and users can likewise block users or instances to improve their experience.

Illustration of federation







Differences in failures:

- .club domain was taken out due to DNS issues
 - Some fediverse instances were unavailable
 - Most other instances were still running
- Facebook had BGP issues.
 - All Facebook services offline
 - Hard to resolve due to dependencies on name resolution
 - Media and many others lost minds (Fediverse laughs)

Services available (partial)

- Mastodon, pleroma, misskey
- Pixelfed
- Lemmy
- Write.as, read.as
- Peertube
- Funkwhale
- Mobilizon, gettogether.community

Microblogging

Image hosting

Link aggregator

Blogging

Video Hosting

Audio Hosting

Event planning

More services

 There are many new services that all use the ActivityPub protocol to work together

What some call "Fediverse"...



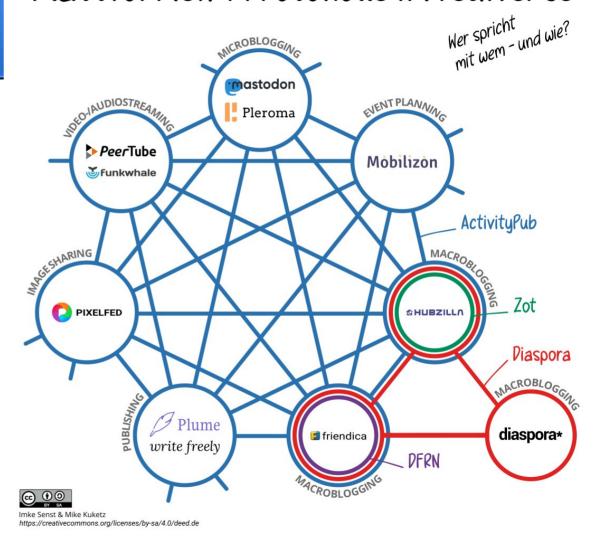
... is just different social networks speaking ActivityPub to each other.



Interoperation

 How some of the services can talk to one another

Plattformen & Protokolle im Fediverse



Hosting

- Join an instance
 - https://joinmastodon.org/
 - https://Fediverse.party/
- Create your own instance
 - Bare metal
 - VPS
 - Container

- Hosted Mastodon
 - https://masto.host/
 - Various levels
 - Starting at 6euro
 - They maintain it

How the timelines work:

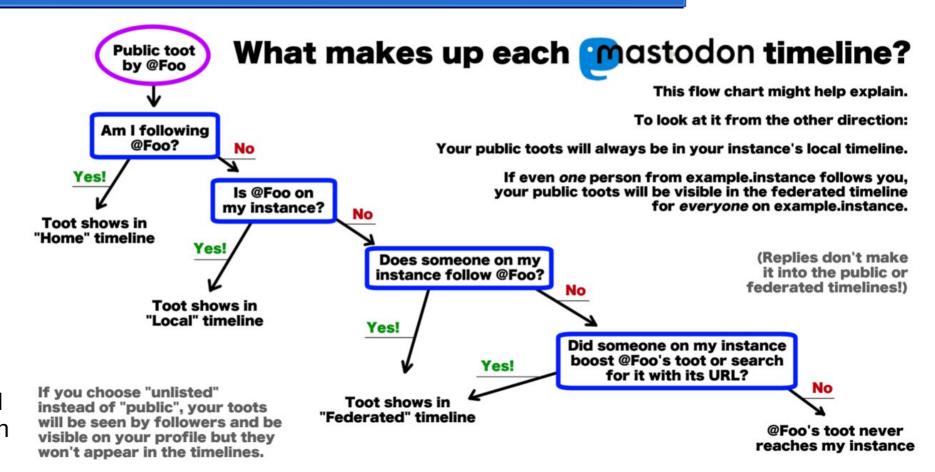
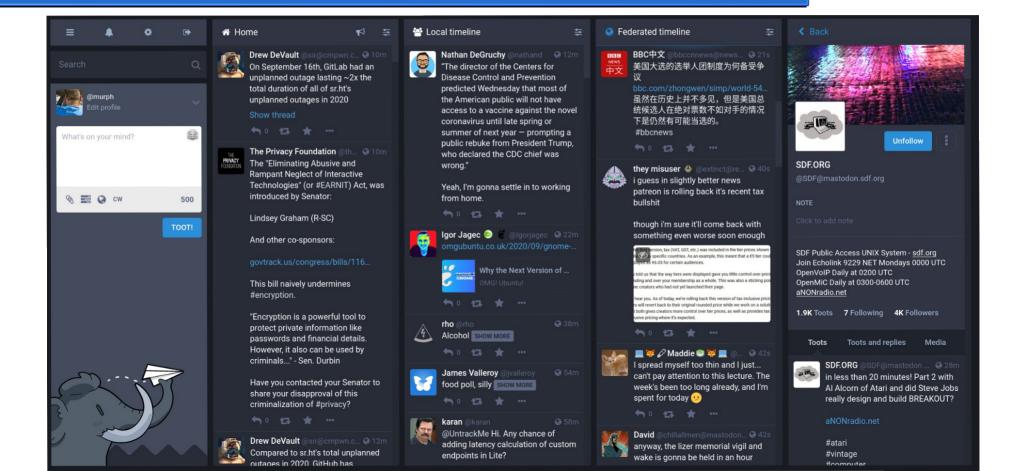
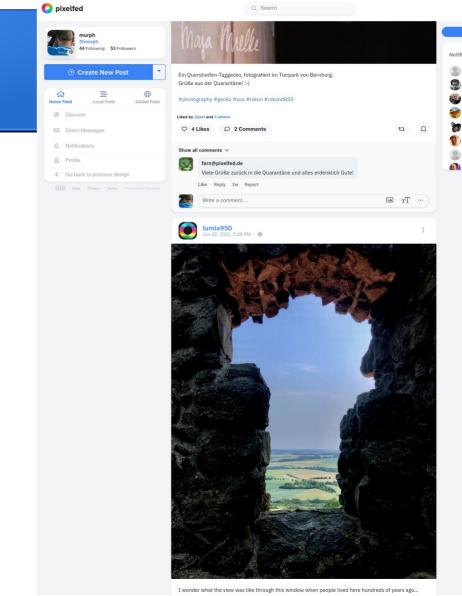


Chart by:
@cassolotl
@dev.glitch
.social/

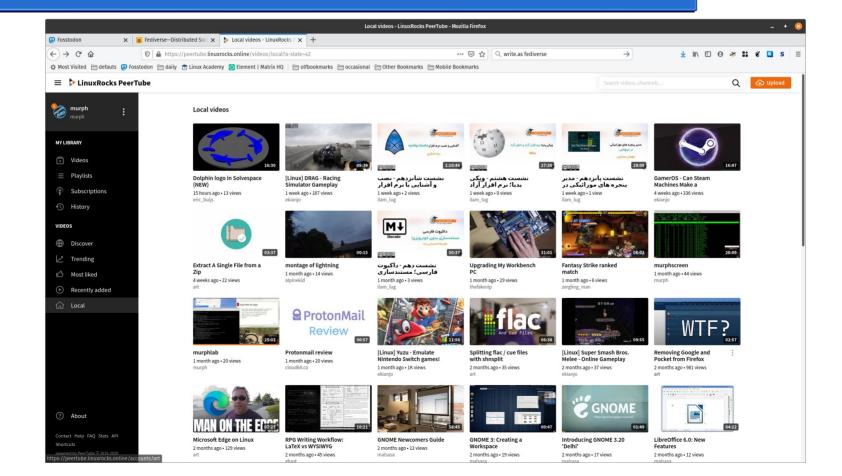
Example: Mastodon



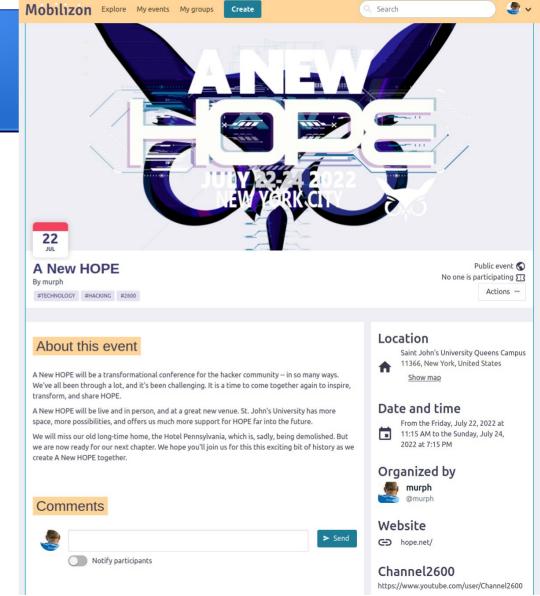
Example: Pixelfed



Example: Peertube



Example: Mobilizon



Where to start

• joinmastodon.org

https://fediverse.party/en/portal/servers

fediverse.info

joinfediverse.wiki

Conclusion:

- The Fediverse is a way to use the web in a more individual way, either by choosing an instance with a community that suits your needs, or running your own server, and making it exactly the way you want.
- It avoids the advertising, algorithms, and other unpleasantries that plague some other social networks.

Where to learn more:

A few links to find more about the Fediverse:

- General info:
 - https://fediverse.party
 - https://feneas.org
- News about the Fediverse: (appears to be down)
 - https://wedistribute.org
- Which instance to join (assuming you don't want to spin up your own just yet):
 - https://fediverse.party/en/portal/servers
- Tool to visualize networks, communities on the Fediverse:
 - https://www.fediverse.space
 - https://kumu.io/wakest/fediverse
- Stats, monitoring service, and list/map of the known Fediverse:
 - https://the-federation.info

this slide shamelessly stolen from Mauricio Uribe (with permission) https://mxuribe.com

Thank you.

 I'll be happy to entertain any questions, or further demonstrate what I can on the fediverse.

- Contact information:
 - https://identi.ca/murph
 - @murph@fosstodon.org https://fosstodon.org/@murph
 - murph@weirdness.com