

The Fediverse



An introduction to the Fediverse.

Logo By Eukombos [CC0], from Wikimedia Commons

Introduction:

- Bob Murphy
- 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

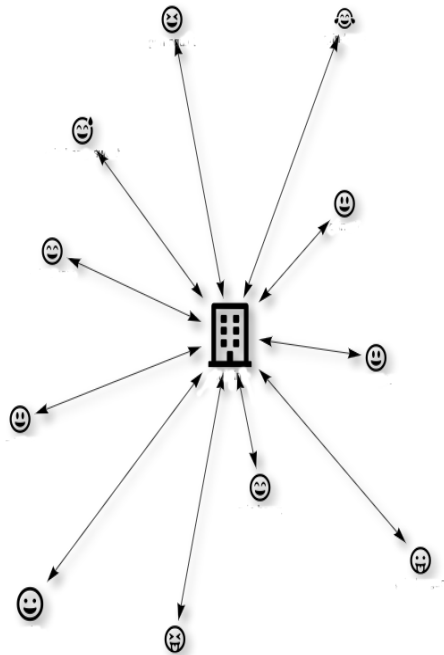
- In 2008, Evan Prodromou created a twitter-like service called identi.ca. It used the Ostatus protocol.
- In about 2012, he changed his service to use a new protocol, pump.io. He released the status.net protocol to the FSF, renamed as GNU/social. The fediverse continued along for several years.
- March 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., Christopher Lemmer-Weber and others, it expanded upon the previous into a better protocol.

Federation

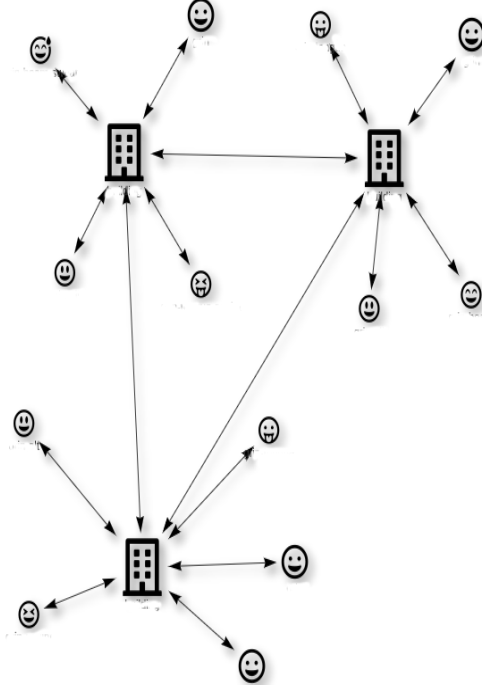
- Most services are run by a single company or organization. A single silo that your data is trapped in, the only way to share with others is to have them join that service.
- Federation allows users of different services to inter-operate with one another, without creating an account for each shared 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

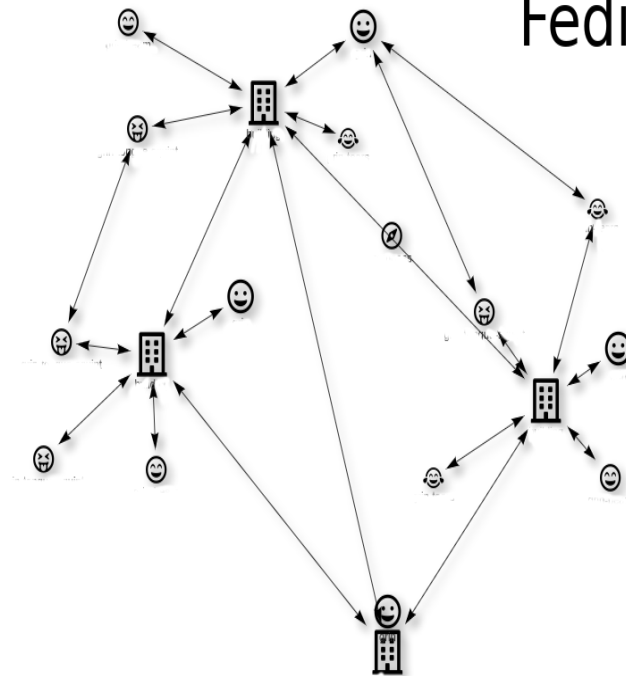
Centralized



Federated



Fediverse

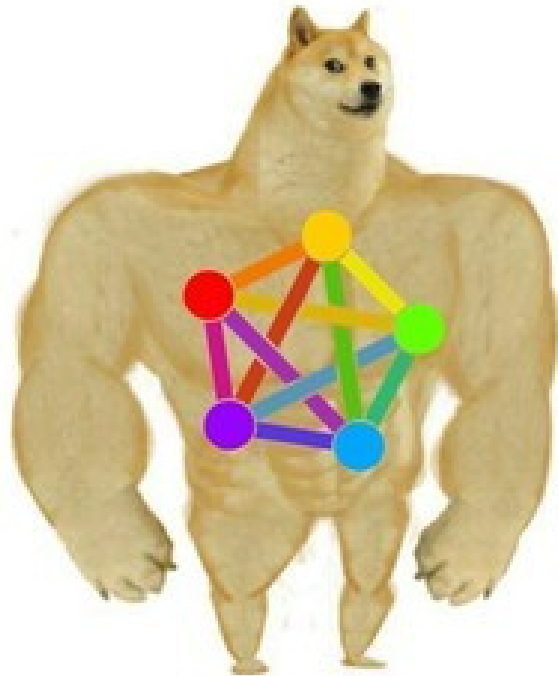


Differences in failures:

- .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)

Decentralization > Centralization

Server down? You can use another one.



Server down? Sorry we need...
m.. 5 hours to fix it.



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

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

Requirements

- CPU
 - With docker: 2x1.8GHz
 - 2900 users
 - Without: 4x3.4GHz
 - 1800 users
- Your mileage may vary
 - \$5-20 /month ?

It depends!

How the timelines work:

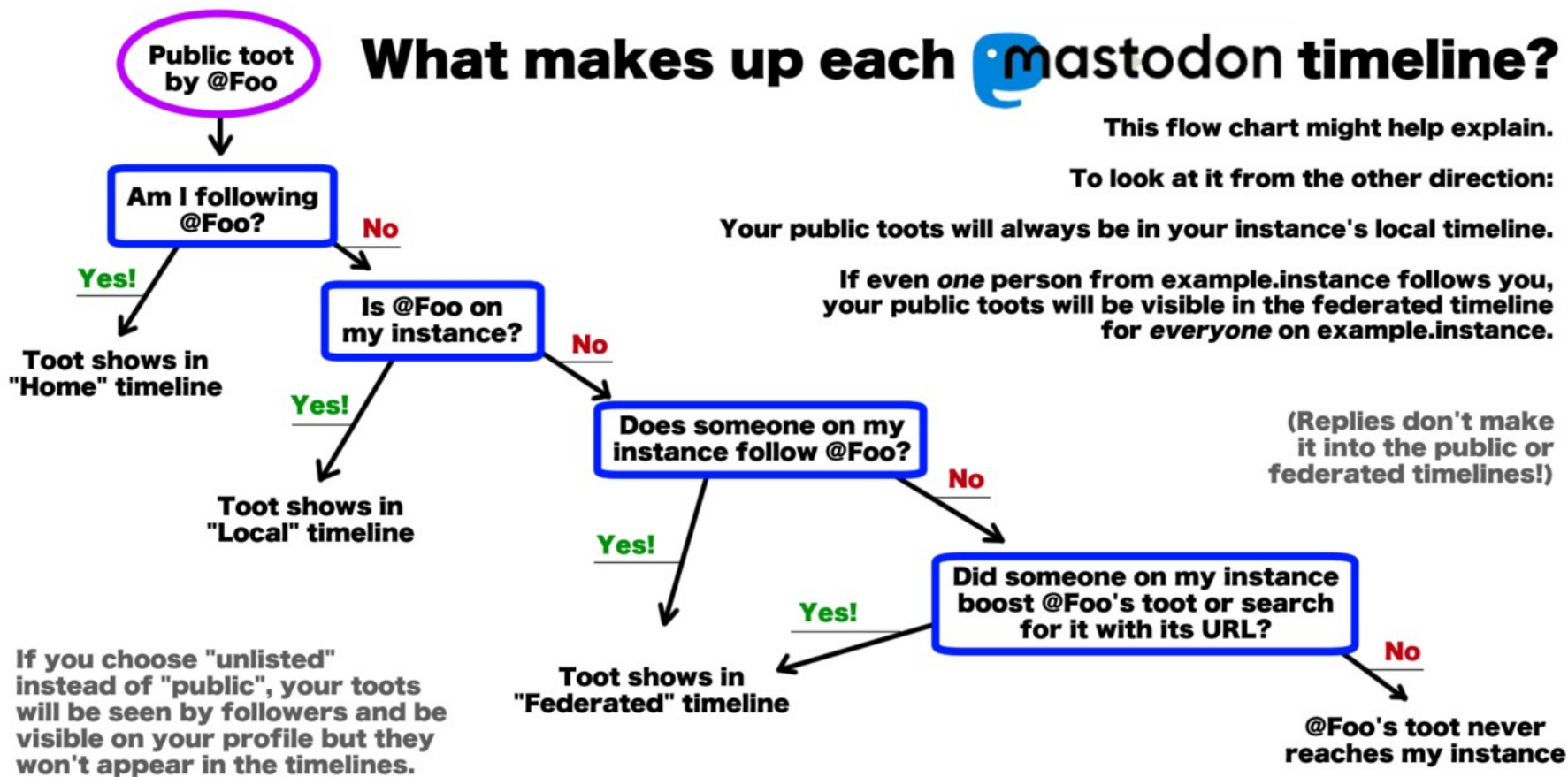


Chart by:
@cassolotl
@dev.glitch
.social/

Example: Mastodon


☰

🔔

⚙️

➡️

Search 🔍



@murph
Edit profile

What's on your mind? 🗨️

🔗

📄


🌐

CW

500

TOOT!

Home




Drew DeVault @sir@cmpwn.c... 10m

On September 16th, GitLab had an unplanned outage lasting ~2x the total duration of all of sr.ht's unplanned outages in 2020

Show thread

🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...



The Privacy Foundation @th... 10m

The "Eliminating Abusive and Rampant Neglect of Interactive Technologies" (or #EARNIT) Act, was introduced by Senator:

Lindsey Graham (R-SC)

And other co-sponsors:


govtrack.us/congress/bills/116...

This bill naively undermines #encryption.

"Encryption is a powerful tool to protect private information like passwords and financial details. However, it also can be used by criminals..." - Sen. Durbin

Have you contacted your Senator to share your disapproval of this criminalization of #privacy?


🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...



Drew DeVault @sir@cmpwn.c... 12m

Compared to sr.ht's total unplanned outages in 2020, GitHub has

Local timeline




Nathan DeGruchy @nathand 12m

"The director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predicted Wednesday that most of the American public will not have access to a vaccine against the novel coronavirus until late spring or summer of next year — prompting a public rebuke from President Trump, who declared the CDC chief was wrong."

Yeah, I'm gonna settle in to working from home.

🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...




Igor Jagec @igorjagec 22m

omgubuntu.co.uk/2020/09/gnome-...

Why the Next Version of ...
OMG! Ubuntu!


🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...



rho @rho 38m

Alcohol SHOW MORE


🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...



James Valleroy @jvalleroy 54m

food poll, silly SHOW MORE


🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...



karan @karan 58m

@UntrackMe Hi. Any chance of adding latency calculation of custom endpoints in Lite?


Federated timeline



BBC中文 @bbcnews@news... 21s

美国大选的选举人团制度为何备受争议
bbc.com/zhongwen/simp/world-54...
虽然在历史上并不多见，但是美国总统候选人在绝对票数不如对手的情况下是仍然有可能当选的。
#bbcnews

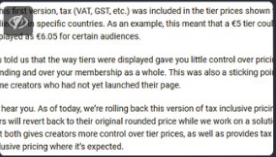
🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...




they misuser @extinct@re... 40s

i guess in slightly better news
patreon is rolling back it's recent tax bullshit

though i'm sure it'll come back with something even worse soon enough




🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...



Maddy @... 42s

I spread myself too thin and I just... can't pay attention to this lecture. The week's been too long already, and I'm spent for today 😊


🔄 0 🗨️ ⭐ ...



David @chillalimen@mastodon... 42s

anyway, the lizer memorial vigil and wake is gonna be held in an hour

Back



SDF.ORG @SDF@mastodon.sdf.org


NOTE

Click to add note

SDF Public Access UNIX System - sdf.org
Join Echolink 9229 NET Mondays 0000 UTC
OpenVoIP Daily at 0200 UTC
OpenMiC Daily at 0300-0600 UTC
aNONradio.net

1.9K Toots 7 Following 4K Followers

Toots Toots and replies Media



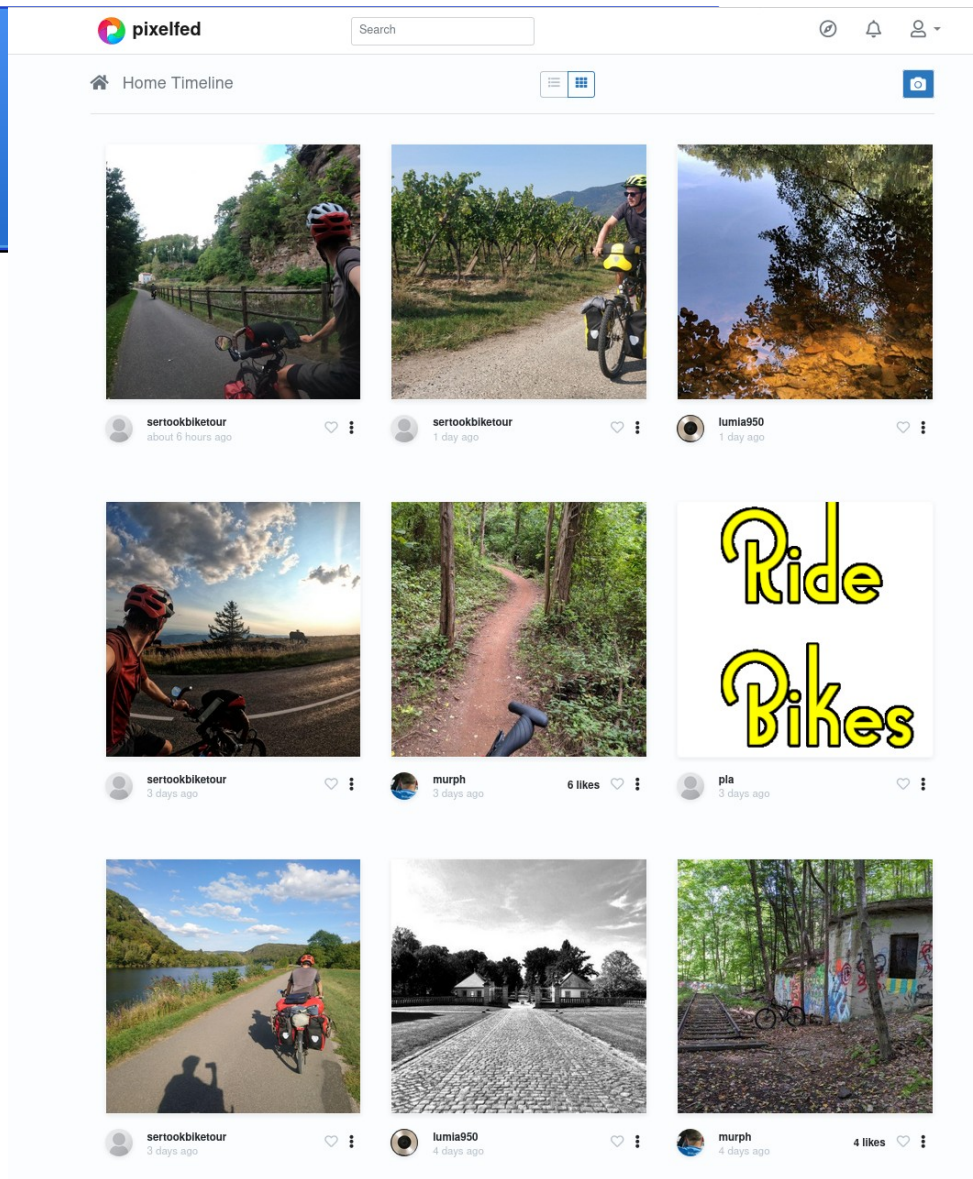
SDF.ORG @SDF@mastodon... 28m

in less than 20 minutes! Part 2 with Al Alcorn of Atari and did Steve Jobs really design and build BREAKOUT?

aNONradio.net

#atari
#vintage
#computer

Example: Pixelfed



Example: Peertube

Local videos - LinuxRocks PeerTube - Mozilla Firefox

Fosstodon x Fediverse—Distributed Soc x Local videos - LinuxRocks x +

https://peertube.linuxrocks.online/videos/local?a-state=42

write.as fediverse

Most Visited defaults Fosstodon daily Linux Academy Element | Matrix HQ otfbookmarks occasional Other Bookmarks Mobile Bookmarks

LinuxRocks PeerTube

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murph
murph

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https://peertube.linuxrocks.online/accounts/art

Local videos

Dolphin logo in Solvespace (NEW)
15 hours ago • 13 views
eric_buijs

[Linux] DRAG - Racing Simulator Gameplay
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ekianjo

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ilam_lug

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ilam_lug

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Fantasy Strike ranked match
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Example: Mobilizon

Mobilizon Explore My events My groups Create



JUN 10

An Introduction to the fediverse
By @murph

Public event
No one is going to this event
Actions ...

About this event

This is PLUG's general meeting. This meeting usually takes the form of 1 or usually more presentations. We try to keep a good balance of novice and advanced subjects so that nobody will be overwhelmed or bored. Just show up, and we hope you learn something.

I've listed the time as EDT, the event is in Phoenix, so their time is 7-9, but since it's virtual, the time is....confusing. Please follow the link and compute your local time as needed.

Comments



Post a comment

No comments yet

Location

 No address defined

Date and time

 On Thursday, June 10, 2021 from 10:00 PM to 11:59 PM

Organized by

 murph
@murph

Website

 [gettogether.community](#)

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 unpleasantities 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:
 - <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://fediverse.network>
 - <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>