

# Welcome to the Fediverse!

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# Traditional Social Networks

- Facebook, Twitter/X, Instagram, TikTok, etc.
- Collects and sells your personal information
- Feeds controlled by proprietary algorithms
  - Controls what you see, and *what you don't*
  - Creates **Echo Chambers** and **Filter Bubbles**
  - “Engage and enrage”
- It's all about selling you for their profit

# Federated Social Networks

- Works similar to email or texting providers
- “Federated”
  - Networked together via a common protocol
- “Decentralized”
  - Doesn’t force everyone to join the same provider
  - Each instance runs and operates independently

# Fediverse

- Most are [Free and Open Source Software](#)
- Networked via [ActivityPub](#)
- Consists of federated instances
  - Anyone can start an instance of their own



# Examples

- Facebook → Mastodon, diaspora\*, Friendica
- Twitter/X → BlueSky\*, Mastodon, Pleroma
- YouTube → PeerTube
- Reddit → Lemmy
- Discord/Telegram/Slack → Matrix\*
- Instagram → PixelFed
- Substack → WriteFreely, Hubzilla

# Who Pays for All This?

- Much lower expenses with no profit motive
- Time and resources given from institutions, groups, and individual volunteers
- Donations and crowdfunding

# How Do I Get Started?

- Visit:
  - <https://fediverse.info>
  - <https://fediverse.party>
  - <https://joinmastodon.org> (apps)
  - <https://bsky.social> (iOS) (Android)
- Pick a topic of interest
  - Pics, video, music/audio, news/events, books, blogging
- Pick a instance (site) with that topic and go!

# Drawbacks

- Need to think different with “federated” services
  - Need to pick not only topic, but instance
- Not as many users as traditional social media
  - BlueSky and Mastodon are getting up there though
- An instance can may close to new logins
  - Just find another instance!



Demo