

Living federation

Federation for liberation

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LP 2022

Outline

Introduction

Social networking

Others

Conclusion

Email analogy.

Introduction

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Social networking

Others

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Disclaimer

- From perspective of a user
- Not technical

What if..

- Service that you use daily
- Weird change in usage policy
- What would you do?

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- What would you do?
 - Put up with it



What if..

- Service that you use daily
- Weird change in usage policy
- What would you do?
 - Put up with it
 - Stop using it

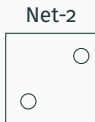
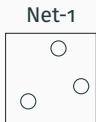


Lesson of Freenode

- IRC still cool, despite its age
- But centralized
- Confined to one server
- Freenode changed rules, exodus followed

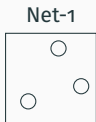
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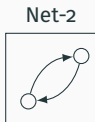
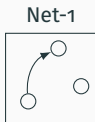
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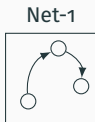
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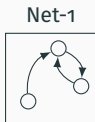
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Net-1



Net-2



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Federation

- Distributed. No central power.
- No one server gets absolute control
- Small self-organizing servers
- Users of any instance can communicate with others
- Many client software

How federation?

- activitypub
- matrix
- ostatus
- diaspora
- xmpp

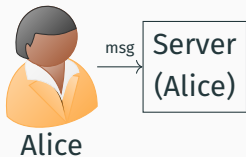
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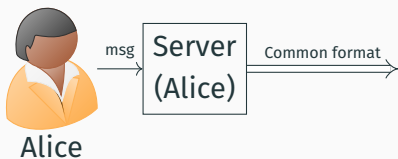
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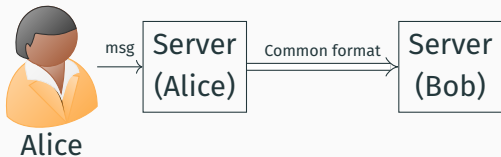
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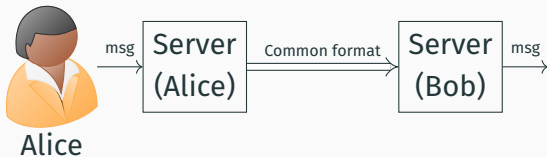
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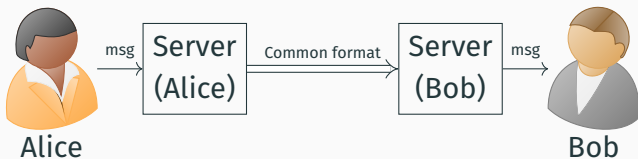
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Social networking

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Mastodon/Pleroma

- Sort of like twitter
- Many clients: web/phone/terminal
- Many forms: glitch-soc, hometown

Mastodon: Timeline

The screenshot displays the Mastodon mobile application interface. On the left is a dark sidebar with a search bar at the top, a profile card for '@Gargron', a text input field with the placeholder 'What's on your mind?' and a character count of 500, and a blue 'TOOT!' button. The main content area is titled 'Home' and shows a vertical list of posts. Each post includes a profile picture, the user's name and handle, the text of the post, and interaction icons (reply, retweet, favorite, etc.). The posts include a greeting from Satoshi Kojima, a morning review from IvaFakeName, a meat safety tip from Bucky the Sheep, and a post in Japanese from zunda. At the bottom of the main area, a post from josef is partially visible. On the right is a dark navigation menu with icons and labels for Home, Notifications, Local, Federated, Direct messages, Favourites, Bookmarks, Lists, Profile directory, Art, and Economia. Below these are sections for 'TRENDING NOW' with two hashtag entries: #PuebloProtegidoYRe... (256) and #husky (16). At the bottom left of the app, there is a footer with links for 'Invite people', 'Hotkeys', 'Account settings', 'About this server', 'Mobile apps', 'Terms of service', 'Developers', 'Documentation', and 'Logout'.

- Similar to a federated instagram

Pixelfed: Timeline



edythe97



edythe97 Consequatur quo eum ut quo quia labore molestiae ipsum. Consequatur est id corrupti suscipit quo sequi. Quia dicta expedita qui molestiae aperiam. Placeat

[Read more ...](#)

21 MINUTES AGO



edythe97



dansup

dansup



ALERTS



qturcotte liked your [post](#). 20m



westjuanita liked your [post](#). 20m



revaanderson liked your [post](#). 20m



revaanderson liked your [post](#). 20m



SUGGESTIONS



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Recommended for You



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POWERED BY PIXELFED

Pixelfed: Discover



Search



For You

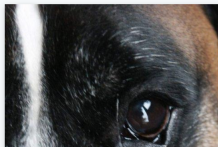
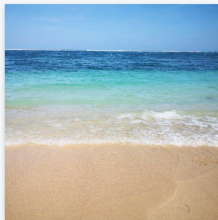


Photography



Art

Nature



Pixelfed: Compose

The screenshot displays the Pixelfed Compose interface. At the top left, the Pixelfed logo and the user's profile picture and name 'dansup' are visible. A blue bar with a white plus sign and the text '+ Add Photo' is positioned above the main image area. The main image shows a person in a blue swimsuit standing in shallow water, holding a small blue object. Below the image is a horizontal strip of five filter thumbnails: 'No Filter', '1977', 'Aden', 'Amaro', and 'Ashb'. Below the filters is a text input field with the placeholder text 'Add an optional caption'. At the bottom, there is a row of controls: a toggle switch for 'NSFW', a dropdown menu set to 'Public', a character count '0 / 600', and a blue 'Publish' button with a dropdown arrow. At the very bottom, a footer message reads: 'Having issues? You can also use the [Classic Compose UI](#).'

More

- Diaspora
- Friendica
- GNU Social

GNU Social: Interface

The screenshot displays the GNU Social web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the GNU Social logo, a search bar, and links for "New UHCK social", "FAQ", "Inställningar", "Administratör", and "Logga ut". Below the navigation bar, a status message reads "MAKITA IS DOGE MASTER AND MASTER OF ALL HOOMANS TOO!!!".

The main content area is divided into three sections:

- Post Creation:** A form with a "Share your:" dropdown menu (options: Status, Bookmark, Event, Poll, Question) and a text input field "Share your status...". Below the input field is a "Till:" dropdown menu (set to "Alla") and a "Privat?" checkbox. A red "SKICKA" button is positioned to the right of the input field.
- Hemtidslinje (Timeline):** A list of posts. The first post is by "Znara" with a profile picture of a woman, containing the text "The human body at its most amazing..." and a link to a balletoman.com page. The second post is by "Erkan Yilmaz" with a profile picture of a person, containing the text "identlud repeated this." and a link to a gnu.io page.
- Right Sidebar:** A profile card for "Mikael 'MMN-o' Nordfeldth" with a profile picture and buttons for "Redigera" and "Message". Below the profile card is a red "SKICKA INBJUDNING" button. Underneath is a "TRENDER" section displaying a list of trending tags: "coffee", "fediverse", "github", "gitorious", "gnusocial", "gs", "gstranslate", "openid", "qwitter", and "t7ag".

The left sidebar contains navigation options: "HEM", "HEM" (selected), "PROFIL", "SVAR", "FAVORITES", "BOOKMARKS", "MESSAGES", "PUBLIKT", "PUBLIKT", "GRUPPER", "SENASTE TAGGAR", "POPULAR", "KATALOG", "GRUPPER", "TIME ZONE", "APPROPRIATE", and "GREETINGS".

Even more

- Writefreely
- Wordpress activitypub plugin
- Mumble

- Live streams
- No need of ads!
- Federation: Shared video catalogue
- Peer-to-peer streaming



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- *Sepia* search engine



- Live streams
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- Federation: Shared video catalogue
- Peer-to-peer streaming
- *Sepia* search engine
- 'Import' videos from YT



Can't let go of 'unfederation'?

- Could use cross-posters
- Listen to reactions on fediverse as well!

- Instead of fb events, meetup
- Similar: gettogether (no ActivityPub)

- Bridges to gitter, XMPP, IRC
- Used at FOSDEM and SeaGL
- Similar: Gitter

Others

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Code forges

- No! to walled gardens
- git meant to be decentralized
- sourcehut comes close
- Federated forges are getting ready

Code forges

- No! to walled gardens
- git meant to be decentralized
- sourcehut comes close
- Federated forges are getting ready
- No tracking
- Or better yet, no javascript
 - Like sourcehut

Conclusion

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Old still gold

- RSS/Atom feeds
 - jsonfeed, tw.txt
- Plain text email
 - Mailing lists

Caution

- There are all sorts of servers out there
- Choose one aligned with your interests
- Servers have rules

Benefits

- Not happy with server? Hop into another!
- Export and import your data
- Everyone needn't be on same server
- No single point of failure. Robust
- Server load distributed
- Self-host if you like!
- Free software

Censorship

- Less chances of censorship
- Unmoderated servers: Needn't federate

- Option to choose server
- No need of creepy ads
- Community oriented
- You needn't be product
- Delete old posts

Caveats

- As good as server admin

Thanks!

Thanks!

Questions?

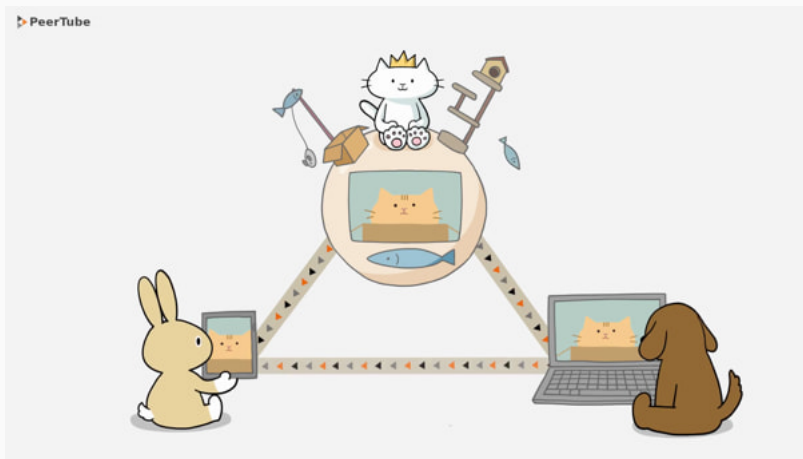
Mastodon: Some terms

Unfedi	Mastodon
tweet	toot
retweet	boost/reblog
like	favorite

ActivityPub support

Name	Mastodon
Mastodon	✓
Pleroma	✓
PixelFed	✓
Peertube	✓
Mobilizon	✓
BookWorm	✓
MediaGoblin	✗
Diaspora	✗
gettogether	✗

Peertube p2p



Federated networks lingo

Term	Description
Fediverse	ActivityPub + OStatus