

Mastodon and the Fediverse



An introduction to Mastodon and the Fediverse.

Introduction:

- Bob Murphy
- System administrator in New Jersey
- Long-time Linux user, long time Fediverse denizen.
- @murph@hackers.town
- @murph@gardenstate.social
- <https://identi.ca/murph>
- Email: murph@weirdness.com
- Slides available at murphnj.neocities.org

Overview

- The fediverse (a portmanteau of "federated" and "universe") is a collection of protocols, servers, and users.
- Together they form communities that can communicate together.
- Users can exchange short messages, blog-style posts, music, and videos between services.

Some history

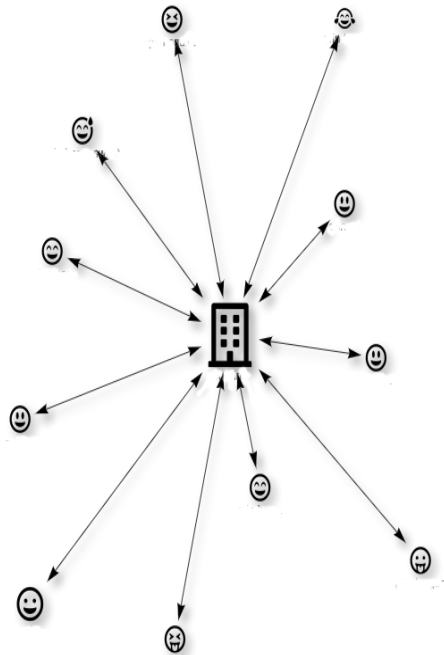
- In 2008, Evan Prodromou created a microblogging service called identi.ca using the Ostatus protocol and status.net server software.
- In about 2012, he changed his service to use a new protocol, pump.io. He released the Ostatus protocol to the Free Software Foundation, where it got incorporated into 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.
- In 2018, a new protocol called ActivityPub was accepted as a standardized protocol by the W3C. Most Fediverse platforms have adopted it. It was authored by Evan Prodromou, Christine Lemmer-Weber, and others, and it expanded upon the previous services to provide a better and more flexible protocol.

Federation

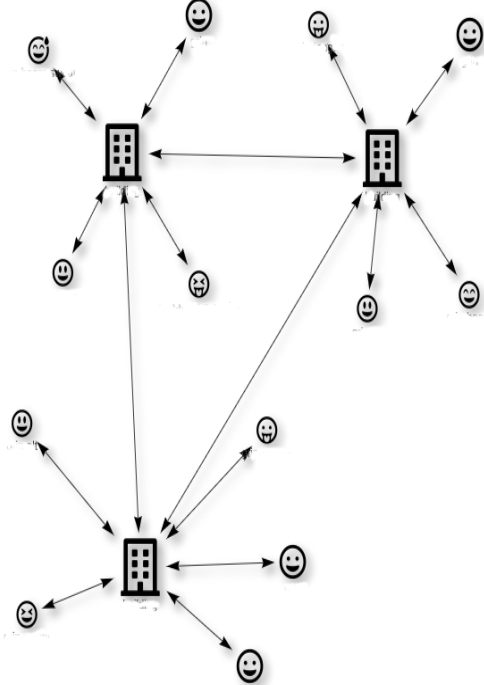
- Most services are run by a single company or organization. A single silo that your data is trapped in, the only way to share with others is to have them join that service.
- Federation allows users of different services to inter-operate with one another, without creating an account for each shared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

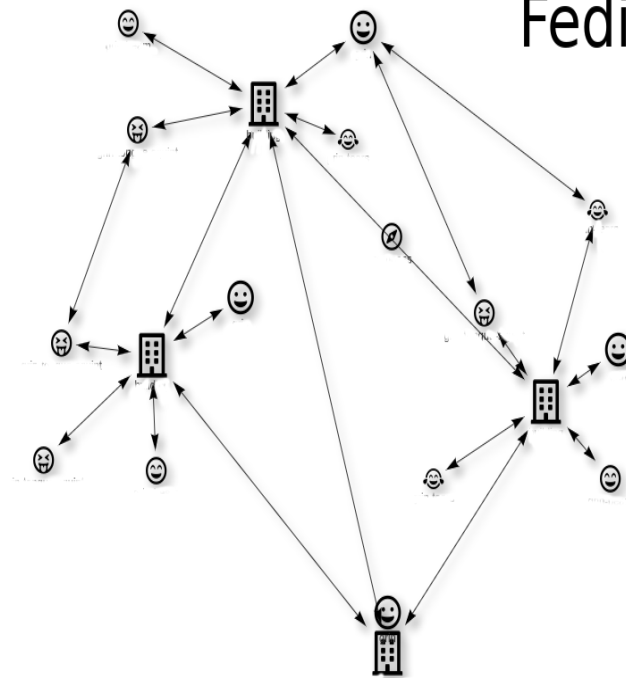
Centralized



Federated



Fediverse



Services available (partial)

- Mastodon, pleroma, misskey
- Pixelfed
- Lemmy
- Writefreely.org, Wordpress(plugin)
- 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
- More are being created every day, development is rapid.

What some call "Fediverse"...



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

Example: Mastodon (default)

Search or paste URL

@murph
Edit profile

What's on your mind?

Publish

Home

CK's Technology News
@CKsTechNews@cktn.todon.de 37m

#Linux Kernel 5.15.95 is out

cdn.kernel.org/pub/linux/kerne...

```
signed-off  
commit 3f94c70333f61a932e8b7bfa2953fe1e0844eb  
Author: Arnd  
Date: Fri Jan 27 10:39:44 2023 +0100  
  
platform/x86/amd: pnc: add CONFIG_SERIO dependency  
commit abc209d18fd26e865b2406cc68819289db973f9 upstream.  
  
Using the serio subsystem now requires the code to be reachable:  
x86_64-linux-ld: drivers/platform/x86/amd/pnc.o: in function 'amd_pnc_suspend_handler':  
pnc.c:(.text+0x86c): undefined reference to 'serio_bus'  
  
Add the usual dependency: as other users of serio use 'select'  
rather than 'depends on', use the same here.  
  
Fixes: 8e68615e8932 ('platform/x86/amd: pnc: Disable IRQ1 wakeup for RW/C2W')  
Signed-off-by: Arnd  
Link: https://lore.kernel.org/r/20230127093950.2368575-1-arnd@kernel.org  
Reviewed-by: Hans de  
Signed-off-by: Hans de
```

TILvids
@tilvids@mstdn.social 53m

#LINUX vs #WINDOWS - Complete performance test!

(video courtesy of @thelinuxEXP)

tilvids.com/w/rfeQ9mZcKKA6s9q9...

gardenstate.social: About · Profiles directory · Privacy policy

Mastodon: About · Get the app · Keyboard shortcuts · View source code · v4.1.0

mastodon

Home

Notifications

Explore

Local

Federated

Direct messages

Favourites

Bookmarks

Lists

Journalists

Projects

Preferences

TRENDING NOW

#whiskerswednesday
7 people in the past 2 days

#waterfallwednesday
8 people in the past 2 days

#wednesday
7 people in the past 2 days

Profile example



Edit profile



murph 🚲

@murph@gardenstate.social

Just an ordinary desktop Linux user. New Jersey resident, and proud of it!

This account's home timeline may be displayed publicly at a conference, so only follow if you're OK with that. If you have an issue with me following you, just let me know, and I'll remove it from this account.

JOINED
Feb 10, 2023

WEAK SAUCE VERIFICATION
✓ murphnj.neocities.org/

210 Posts 475 Following 75 Followers

Posts

Posts and replies

Media

📌 Pinned post



murph 🚲
@murph

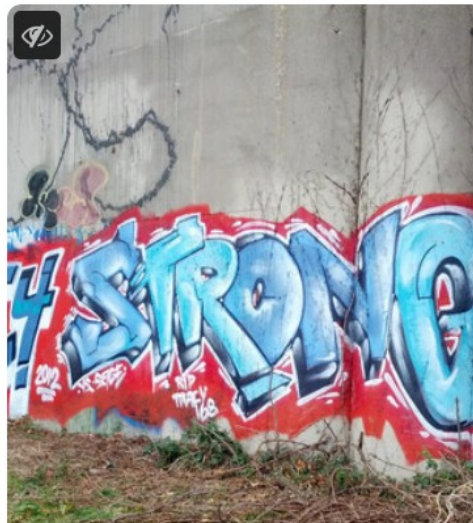
🌐 Feb 14, 2023

[#introduction](#)

I'm a long-time fediverse denizen, [#Linux](#) user, and [#NJ](#) resident and [#bike](#) rider. Just as a little background, I'm doing a talk at [#SCaLE20x](#) this March, and for that purpose, I'm setting up an account with a timeline that I can display publicly without worries of exposing anyone's follower-only messages by accident on my main account.


So, if you don't mind a little extra exposure, feel free to follow, I'll probably follow back.

If you want to follow me, but not here, at @murph@hackers.town



Local feed and direct messages

Search or paste URL 🔍


 **@murph**
Edit profile

What's on your mind? 😊

📎 ☰ CW EN 500

- Public**
Visible for all
- Unlisted**
Visible for all, but opted-out of discovery features
- Followers only**
Visible for followers only
- Mentioned people only**
Visible for mentioned users only


🔔 Live feeds

 **NWS Mount Holly (bot)**
@NWS_MountHolly_bot 1d

d Night
Lows Thursday night into Friday Morning
Weather Forecast Office Mount Holly
Issued Mar 14, 2024 7:09 PM EDT

#NJwx #NYwx #NWSMountHolly ...and 2 more


🔄 0 📧 ⭐ 📌 ...

 **Jason Didner**
@jasondidner 1d

Bruce Springsteen- Dancing in the Bark 🎸

#k9ASongOrPoem
#HashtagGames


🔄 0 📧 ⭐ 📌 ...

 **BlowUpRadio.com**
@BlowUpRadio 1d*

🎵 every generation Got its own disease And I've got mine 🎵

#SongCurrentlyStuckInMyHead
#Music

🔄 0 📧 ⭐ 📌 ...

 **mastodon**

Posts, accounts, and other specific pages are opened by default in the classic web interface. [Open in advanced web interface](#)

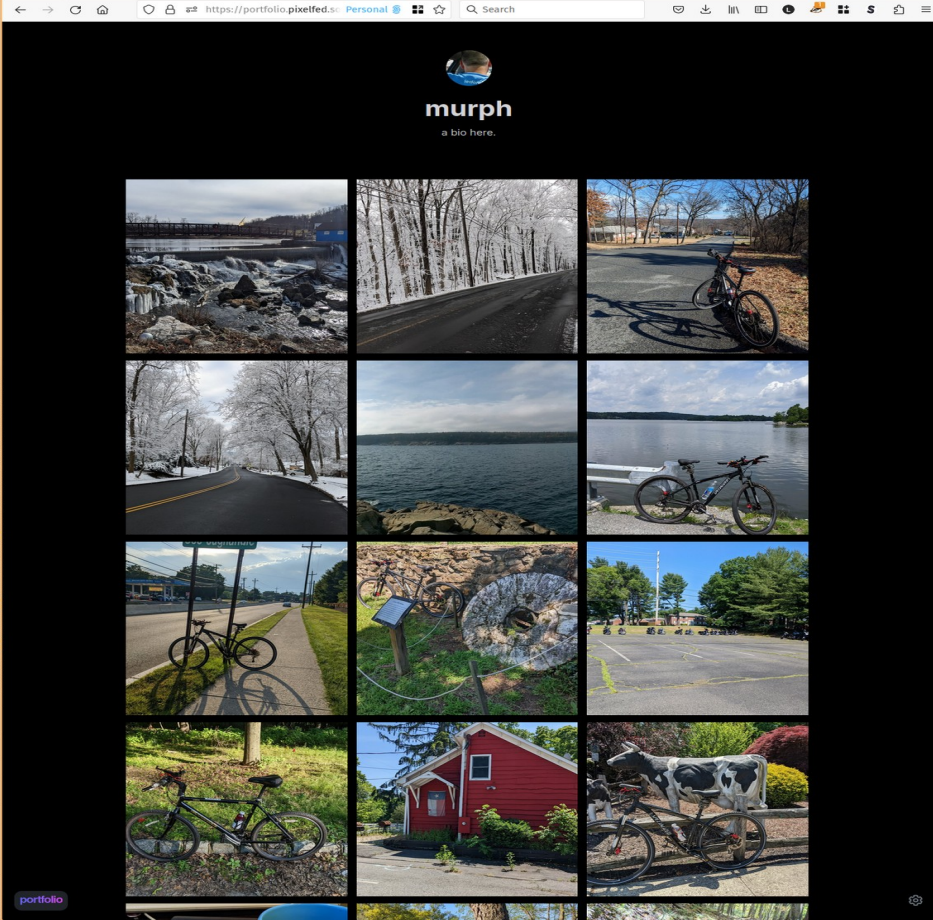
- 🏠 Home
- 🔔 Notifications
- 🔍 Explore
- 📺 Live feeds
- 👤 Private mentions
- 🔖 Bookmarks
- ⭐ Favorites
- ☰ Lists
- ☰ Journalists
- ☰ Projects
- ⚙️ Preferences

Example: Mastodon (advanced)

The screenshot displays the Mastodon web interface with several panels:

- Left Panel:** Navigation icons (hamburger menu, notifications, settings, share), a search bar, a profile card for @murph, a text input field "What's on your mind?", and a blue "TOOT!" button.
- Home Timeline:** A list of posts from users like Drew DeVault and The Privacy Foundation. A cartoon elephant holding a paper airplane is visible in the bottom left corner.
- Local timeline:** Posts from users like Nathan DeGruchy and Igor Jagec.
- Federated timeline:** Posts from various servers, including a BBC Chinese post and a post from they misuser.
- Right Panel:** A profile card for SDF.ORG with an "Unfollow" button, a "NOTE" section with a "Click to add note" link, and a list of recent toots and replies.

Example: Pixelfed



pixelfed

Search

 **murph**
@murph
67 Following 75 Followers

Create New Post

- Home Feed
- Local Feed
- Global Feed
- Discover
- Direct Messages
- Notifications
- Profile
- Go back to previous design

Help Privacy Terms Powered by Pixelfed

 **Ahuka**
Feb 19, 2024, 8:27 AM · Grand Canyon, USA



Photo by @Ahuka licensed under Public Domain (CC0)

Another look as the Sun goes down. September 10, 2017

Liked by Kerobian and 4 others

5 Likes Comment

 **murph**
Feb 18, 2024, 6:07 PM



- Notifications
- @davidwilkins liked your post. 2w
 - @Dylan liked your post. 3w
 - @idlestate shared your post. 3w
 - @idlestate liked your post. 3w
 - @murph shared your post. 3w
 - @chris liked your post. 3w
 - Nicke liked your post. 3w
 - Lautaro followed you. 3w

Example: Peertube

LinuxRocks PeerTube <https://tinkerbetter.tube/c/veronicaexplains/> Publish

murph @murph

- My account
- My library

IN MY LIBRARY

- Channels
- Videos
- Playlists
- Subscriptions
- History
- V4V
- Chatrooms

ON LINUXROCKS PEERTUBE


- Home
- Discover
- Trending
- Recently added
- Local videos

About


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Keyboard shortcuts

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This month




Linux on a Chromebook, my favorite way
1 week ago • 562 views
veronicaexplains@tinkerbetter.tube




When you get a shout out from @Fedivideo everything is nice.
1 week ago • 18 views
mrfunkedude_1f@diode.zone


Last month




Crypto Barons :: Episode 64 :: dVPN (Decentralized VPN)
2 weeks ago • 1 view
defcon201@diode.zone



Open Source Cartridge Reader: ROMs and saves from real...
3 weeks ago • 312 views
veronicaexplains@tinkerbetter.tube




The Hastening 501E03 - Part 6 - The Consequences of the Games We Play
1 month ago • 11 views
newelijaytv@vod.newelijay.tv




Obscure Appalachia - Bigfoot of Appalachia Part I
1 month ago • 2 views
newelijaytv@vod.newelijay.tv


Older




No one heard my name. //EXPLICIT LANGUAGE//
1 month ago • 15 views
mrfunkedude_1f@diode.zone




Crypto Barons :: Episode 63 :: Olympix Smart Contract Security...
1 month ago • 1 view
defcon201@diode.zone



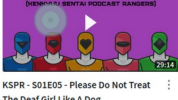
Expedition Sasquatch (podcast edition) - 502E06 - #18 - Discovery...
1 month ago • 1 view
newelijaytv@vod.newelijay.tv




Crypto Barons :: Episode 62 :: Aleo - Programming A Lions Share Of...
1 month ago • 0 views
defcon201@diode.zone




NEW ELLIJAY WEATHER JANUARY 2024 - FEBRUARY 2024
01-26-2024 - New Ellijay News
1 week ago • 6 views



KSPR - 501E05 - Please Do Not Treat The Dead Girl Like A Dog.
1 month ago • 2 views



The Master Mystery - 501E05
1 month ago • 2 views



The Hastening - 501E03 - Catastrophe - Part 5: The Big...
1 month ago • 2 views

murph @murph

- My account
- My library

IN MY LIBRARY

- Channels
- Videos
- Playlists
- Subscriptions
- History
- V4V
- Chatrooms

ON LINUXROCKS PEERTUBE

- Home
- Discover
- Trending
- Recently added
- Local videos

About

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Keyboard shortcuts

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My videos 10

My imports Ownership changes

Filter...

Last published first



shortridge2
6 months ago • 5 views
presentation_videos
Public - Published

Update ...



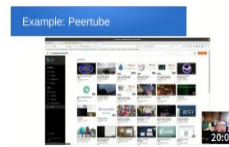
2020_0904_173218_024
6 months ago • 15 views
presentation_videos
Public - Published

Update ...



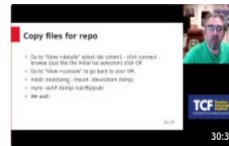
acadia
1 year ago • 5 views
presentation_videos
Private

Update ...



Intothefediverse-SeaGL
1 year ago • 24 views
presentation_videos
Unlisted - Published

Update ...



TCF-hourlab
2 years ago • 7 views
presentation_videos
Unlisted - Published
TCF Bob Murphy Videos


Update ...


Lemmy



Support for this instance is greatly appreciated at <https://sdf.org/support>



Posts Comments **Subscribed** Local All New


- ↑ 2 ↓



Wine error when running Magellan VantagePoint 
@potentiallynotfelix@iusearchlinux.fyi to Linux@lemmy.ml English • 44 minutes ago
0 0 0 0 0
- ↑ -5 ↓

If we were to ban cars, what would happen to emergency services? 
@SpiceDealer@lemmy.world to Fuck Cars@lemmy.world English • 2 hours ago
0 1 (New) 0 0 0
- ↑ 63 ↓



 This is your last chance, after this there is not turning back... 
media.kbin.social
Facnl to linuxmemes@lemmy.world • 3 hours ago
0 3 0 0 0
- ↑ 39 ↓



 COSMIC Store Prototype 
lemmy.world
Michael Murphy (S76) to Linux@lemmy.ml English • 3 hours ago
0 9 0 0 0
- ↑ 3 ↓



Newsletter: eSIM Adapter (and Google Play Fun) 
blog.jmp.chat
@singpolyma@lemmy.ml (M) to Sopranica@lemmy.ml English • 5 hours ago
0 1 0 0 0
- ↑ 32 ↓



 Macintosh Classic gets quadrupled memory with 4MB of onboard RAM — no daughterboard required 
www.tomshardware.com
@misk@sopuli.xyz to retrocomputing • 6 hours ago
0 4 0 0 0



Comments
- ↑ 18 ↓

 FISA Reauthorization: "US Lawmaker Cited NYC Protests in a Defense of Warrantless Spying" 
www.wired.com
The Nexus of Privacy (M) to KOSA and other Bad Internet Bills (US-specific for now) English • 6 hours ago
0 1 0 0 0
- ↑ 98 ↓







 KDE Plasma 6.0.2 
kde.org
@JRepin@lemmy.ml to Linux@lemmy.ml English • 7 hours ago
0 6 0 0 0
- ↑ 6 ↓

 Kubota Diesel-Powered Honda Insight With a Supercharger Averages 73 MPG 
www.thedrive.com
Mike D. to Cars - For Car Enthusiasts@lemmy.world • 7 hours ago
0 1 0 0 0
- ↑ 32 ↓

 City trail = parking lot snow overflow 
lemmy.world
@UnPassive@lemmy.world to Fuck Cars@lemmy.world English • 8 hours ago
0 12 0 0 0
- ↑ 36 ↓

 Steam Deck Beta Client Update Fixes Screenshots and GameCube Controllers 
steamdeckhq.com
Fubarberry (M) to Steam Deck@sopuli.xyz English • 9 hours ago
0 9 0 0 0

Trending communities

-  swampies  Wood Chatter
-  NeXTSTEP/OpenStep  Banana Pi
-  The Z32 Community  Might and Magic

Create a Community

Explore Communities

SDF Chatter


























A Lemmy instance hosted by the SDF.ORG

237 users / day	394 users / week	
563 users / month	1.27K users / 6 months	
4.14K users	205 Communities	7.04K Posts
63K Comments	Modlog	

admins: @SDF

Subscribed to communities

-  2600: Hacker Quarterly@lemmy.world
-  All Things "Weird AI"
-  Yankovic@lemmy.world
-  Amiga@sopuli.xyz
-  Bicycles@lemmy.ca
-  Cars - For Car Enthusiasts@lemmy.world
-  CD Collectors  F-Droid@lemmy.ml
-  Formula 1@lemmy.ml
-  Formula 1@lemmy.world
-  Fuck Cars@lemmy.world
-  Functional 3D Printing@kbin.social
-  High Quality GIFS
-  IdiotInCars@lemmy.world
-  KOSA and other Bad Internet Bills (US-specific for now)
-  Linux@lemmy.ml
-  linuxmemes@lemmy.world
-  Mastodon@lemmy.ml
-  Mildly Infuriating@lemmy.world
-  New Jersey@lemmy.world
-  Not Just Bikes@feddit.nl
-  PortableApps.com  retrocomputing

How to find people to follow

- Look in your local timeline.
- Find interesting people, and follow them.
- See what they post and boost, and look at the people that follow them.
- Search for hashtags that interest you.
- You can follow hashtags in your Home timeline.
- From there, find the people posting about what interests you.

Will the Fediverse stick around?

- Some people reported that since many of the Twitter users that tried Mastodon moved back, that Mastodon is doomed to fail.
- Since the fediverse is not tied to a company that has to provide immediate

profits, slow growth is OK, it allows communities to work to accept new people

graph from the-federation.info



New services that federate?

- **Bluesky**
 - Controlled by a small number of people.
 - Not yet federated with anyone.
 - Moderation seems iffy
- **Threads**
 - Controlled by one rich dude (Sound familiar?)
 - Seems to have died down after a big initial splash
 - Also does not federate with anyone yet. (They have been experimenting though)

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 unpleasanties that plague some other social networks.
- When you join the fediverse, you are joining a community of the instance that you choose, you are not a way for a company to figure out how to make profit from your communication.

Where to learn more:

A few links to find more about the Fediverse:

- General info:
 - fediverse.info -- Nice video explanation, also, subject-based way to find (self-selected) users.
 - fedi.tips -- Comprehensive guide for users.
- Where to start
 - joinmastodon.org -- largest list of Mastodon servers
 - joinfediverse.wiki-- Great information on different fediverse services and instances
 - Fedi.garden – well-curated list of instances
- Which instance to join (assuming you don't want to spin up your own just yet):
 - fediverse.party/en/portal/servers
- Biased recommendation for this audience
 - gardenstate.social
- Stats, monitoring service, and list of the known Fediverse:
 - the-federation.info - charts and graphs of fediverse use.

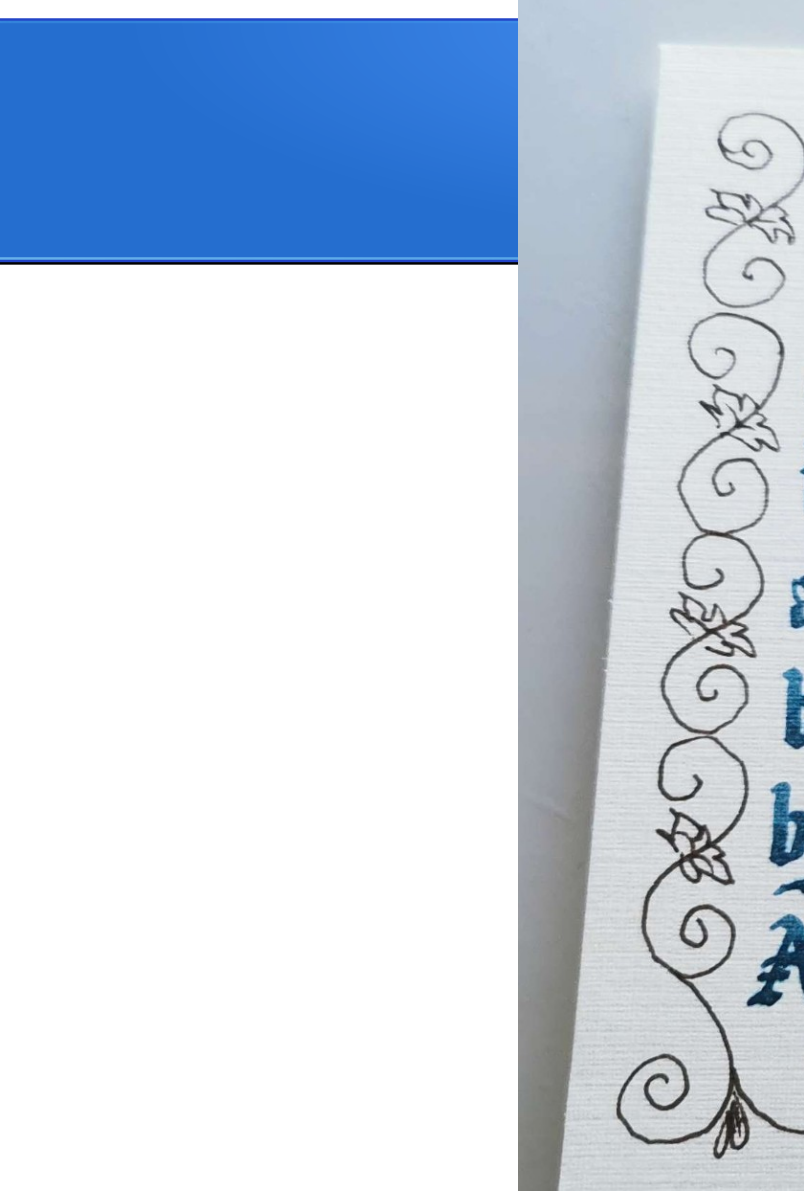
this slide shamelessly stolen from [Mauricio Uribe](#) (with permission) and subsequently vandalized beyond recognition.

Thank you.

- I'll be happy to entertain any questions, or further demonstrate what I can on the fediverse.
- Contact information:
 - @murph@hackers.town <https://hackers.town/@murph>
 - @murph@gardenstate.social <https://gardenstate.social/@murph>
 - murph@weirdness.com (email)

"La grande vague" by David Revoy, framasoft.org – CC-BY 4.0





And lo! The spirit of the fedivise
spake to thee, and said, Thee will
curate feeds of int'rest and maketh
the timeline gloried for all thy kin
and thy val'rous deeds shall seeth thee
blessed with wholesome vibes bestowed
by the fedimins.

As twast writ, so shal't beest.



How the timelines work:

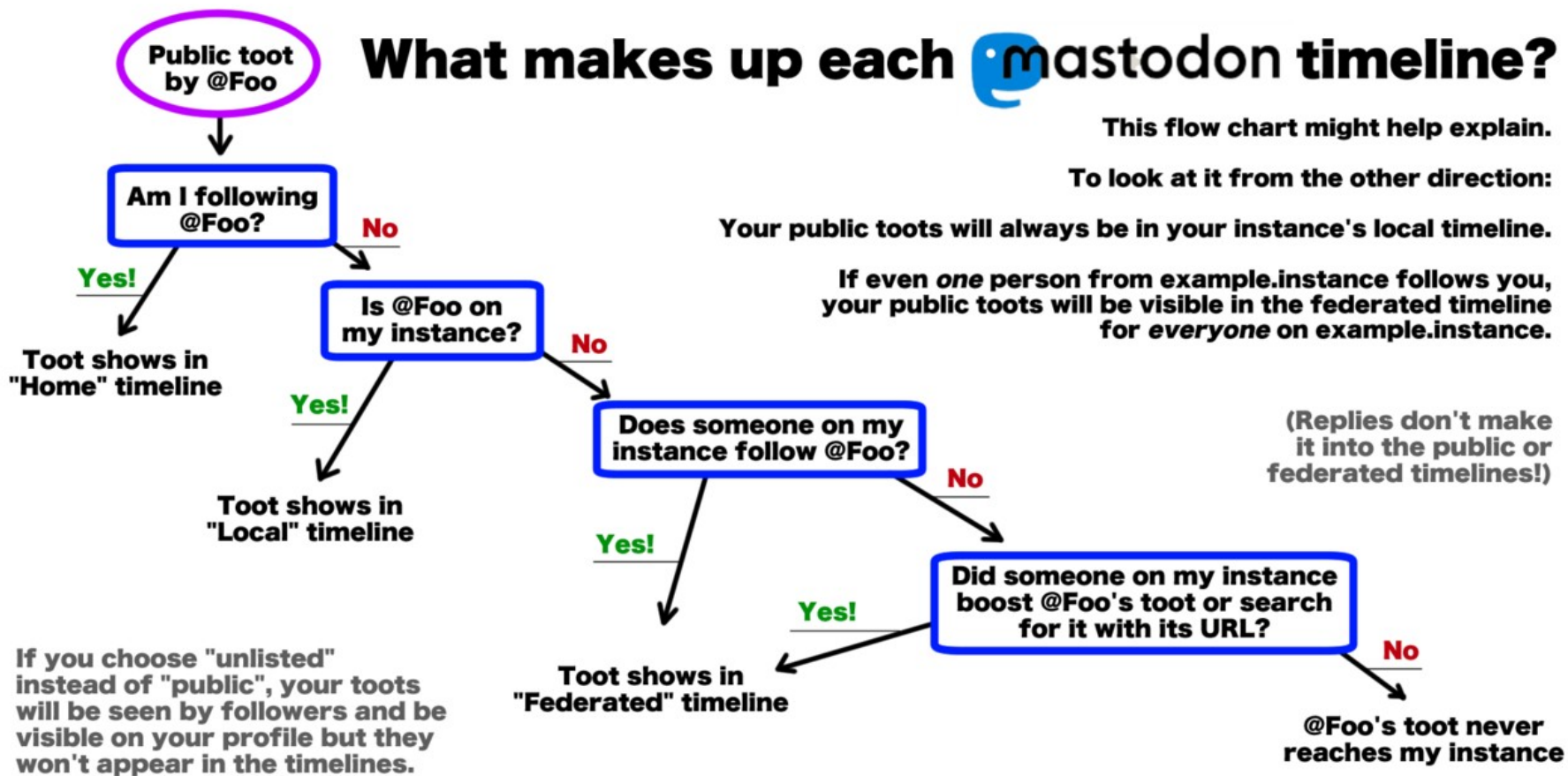


Chart by:
@cassolotl
@dev.glitch
.social/