A distributed, open source, social network

NLLGG – Utrecht – 16/5/2015

diaspora*

Introduction

- *Who am I: meneer@
- *pod.readme.is
- *joindiaspora.org
- *pod.orkz.net



Agenda

- *Concepts
- *Start
- *Security
- *Open Source
- *Joining



Concepts



The decentralised concept

- *The internet according to Tim berners-Lee
 - * No hierarchy
- *Eblen Moglen
 - * Prof @ Columbia Law School
 - * FSF



Eblen Moglen

*Freedom versus the Cloud

* "In the Web the social harm done by the client-server model arises from the fact that logs of Web servers become the trails left by all of the activities of human beings, and the logs can be centralised in servers under hierarchical control."



* "The services are centralised for commercial purposes."



Freedom

- *Vision
 - * Privacy
 - * Decentralisation
- *Non commercial
- *Freedom = No censorship
- *Not one owner

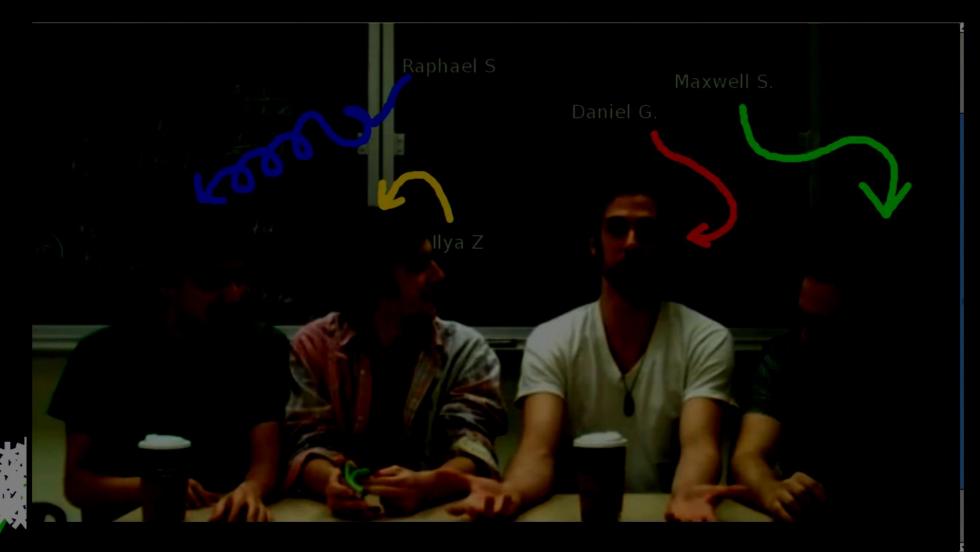


Start

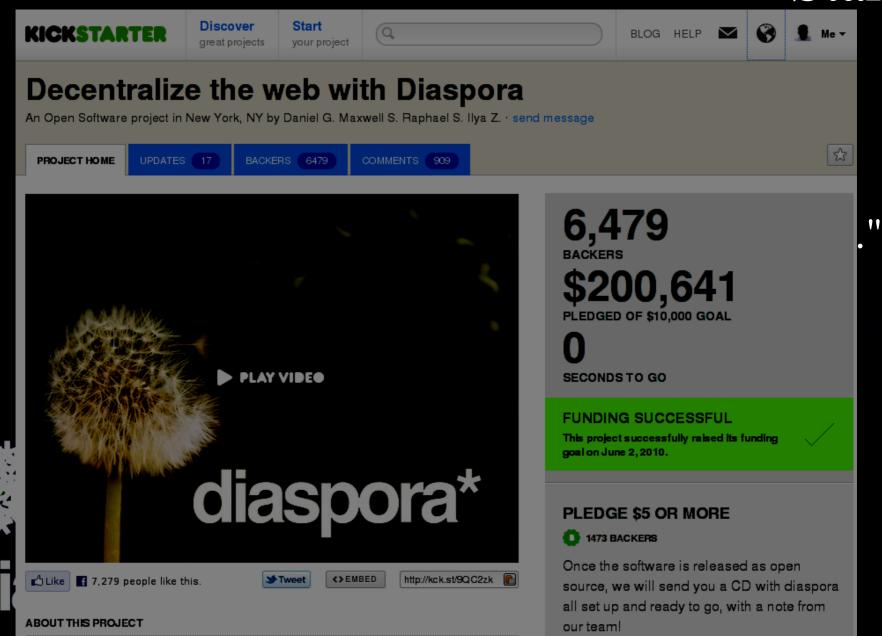
- * 4 students from New York University's Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences
 - * Ilya Zhitomirskiy, Dan Grippi, Max Salzberg, and Raphael Sofaer
- *The word diaspora is Greek in origin and refers to a scattered or dispersed population. (src: en.wikipedia.org)



Start



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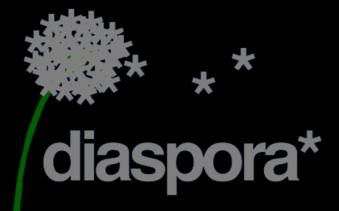
Growing pains

"The interactions on other networks are built around the assumption that you are addressing people you actually know — your 'friends', or people who are interested in everything you say — your 'audience'. Something entirely different is happening on Diaspora*, and that's why the metaphors from those networks don't fit."



Growing pains

- *Suicide Ilya
- *Transferred to community
- **★**The network is not yet stable
 - * pods come and go as they please



d* Concept implementation

- *Stream
 - * What you like, or could like
- *Aspects
 - * The people
- *Hashtags
 - * The things



d* Concept implementation

- *Ownership
 - * You own your data
- *No censorship beyond rules #nsfw
- *Podmins
- *Sharing is not Following



Sharing

- *Symmetric
 - *One only sees posts if both sides share
- *Asymmetric
 - * You send to the other person
 - * You can only see the other person's post if the other person shares with you
- You can always see public posts
 - * if you know how to find them (> #hashtags)

Facebook, G+

- *Derived from diaspora* aspects
 - ★ G+ Circles
 - * Facebook Groups

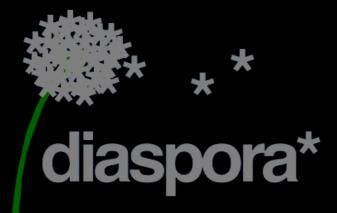


Snowden

- *Prism
 - * NSA-infected corporations
- **★**(Mass) Surveillance
- *Decentralisation is the answer
 - * Noone can control the network
 - **★** Governments think centrally



Security



D* Security

- *Federation
- *Cross-pod traffic SSL encrypted
- *PGP keypair
 - * When a user is created on the pod, the pod MUST generate a pgp keypair for them. This key is used for signing messages.
- Distributed databases not yet encrypted
 - * Private messaging



D* federation architecture

- *Distributed concept
- *No central server
- *Discovery











Open source



Software based on Ruby on rails

*Free Software – Affero GPL

*http://github.com/diaspora

This program is free software: you can redistribute it and/or modify it under the terms of the GNU Affero General Public License as published by the Free Software Foundation, either version 3 of the License, or (at your option) any later version.



Installation

- *Manual
- *Bitnami
- **★**Next: apt-get install...

*Update manually...

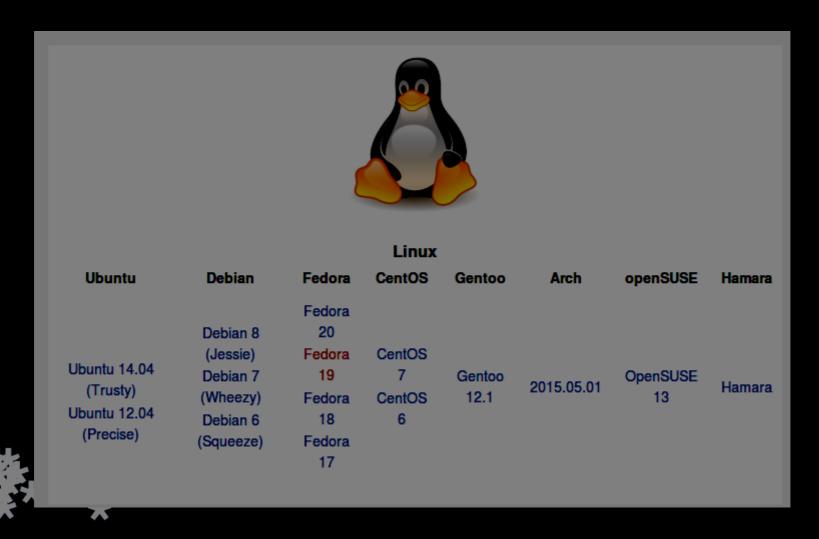


D* github stats

- * Globally ranked in Github 107th most starred project
 - * 15914 commits
 - * 36 releases
 - * 311 contributors
 - * 352 open issues
 - *3331 closed



Manual Installation



diaspora*

Mac OS

Mac OS X 10.9 (Mavericks)
Mac OS X 10.8 (Mountain Lion)
Mac OS X 10.7 (Lion)
Mac OS X 10.6 (Snow Leopard)

Manual Installation

BSD

BSD

FreeBSD OpenBSD NetBSD





Packaged Installation



Platform as a service

Heroku

OpenShift

Ninefold

EngineYard BitNami



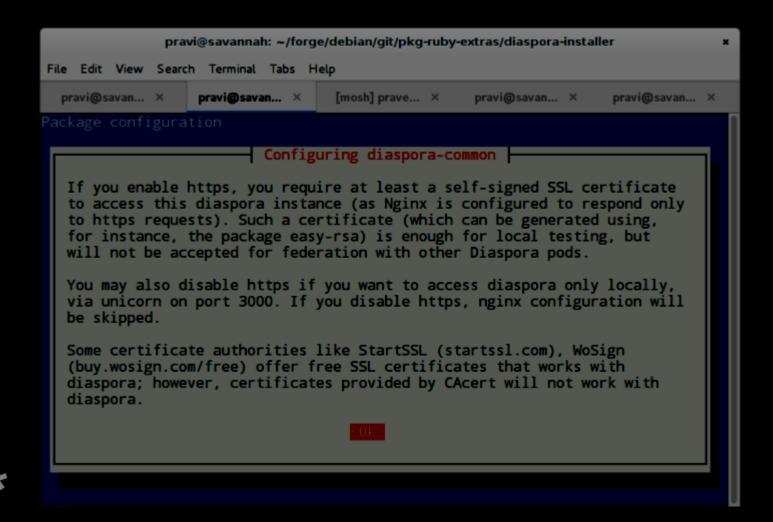
Automation

Automate deployment of diaspora* onto your own servers.

Vagrant, Puppet and Capistrano
Ansible



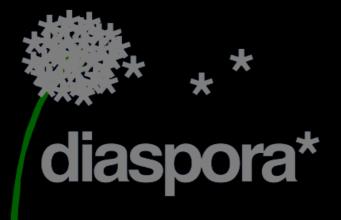
apt-get Installation





Installer .deb

*https://wiki.debian.org/Diaspora#Jessie



App?

- **★**Web client
- *Pusteblume (android)

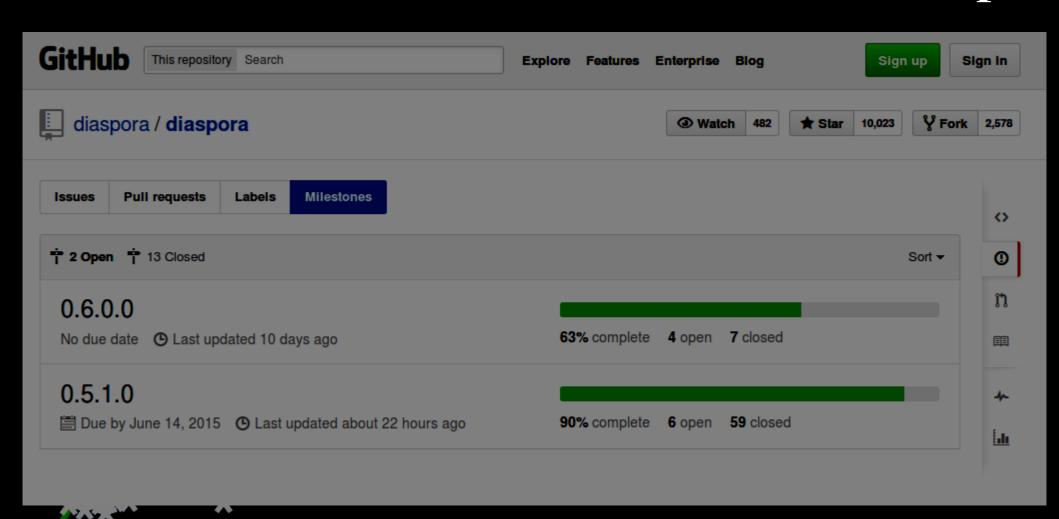


Hosting your own pod?

- *Our experience: 700 member pod
 - * 4 core cpu min
 - * 2 GB min
 - * Storage and neworking not a big issue, even if your users post a lot of images



Roadmap



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Alternatives

*RedMatrix

*Friendica



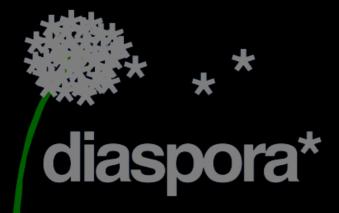
Getting on board



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Account

- *Seed on a pod
- *Server based
- ∗No migration yet
 - * Export



Login

- *Present yourself
 - * Create a public message
 - ★ Say #newhere
- *Search and follow #hashtags
- *Find and connect to other diasporians



Posting messages

- *Markdown
- *Add media
 - * Images
 - * Videos (Youtube)
 - * Tweets
 - * ... etc



Interact

- *React and interact
- *Personal messaging
- *Secure chat, photo gallery soon
- *Notifications
- **★**Cross-posting to
 - * Facebook, twitter, tumblr, wordpress



Pod.readme.is

- *3 Dutch infosec & privacy expert (one ethical hacker)
- *Mission, Vision, Strategy
- *Offer extra privacy to seduce security tweeps
 - * VPS in Iceland
 - * Hidden service on tor:
 - *i2f4wczq2mzghxll.onion
- diaspatas L-labs testresult

Links

- *https://diasporafoundation.org/
- *https://github.com/diaspora/diaspora
- *https://www.loomio.org/g/EseV9p4X/diasporacommunity





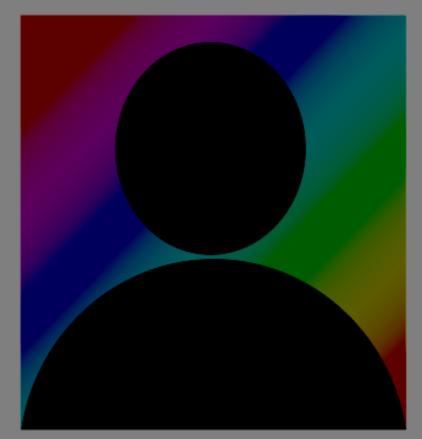
Resources

*Links

- * Presentation by Eben Moglen
 - * https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOEMv0S8 AcA
- * Interview with Moglen
 - * http://www.honline.com/open/features/Interview-Eben-
 - Moglen-Freedom-vs-the-Cloud-Log-955421.html



WANTED



We need y*u!

Diaspora* is a decentralized network driven by the community. Are you a Ruby on Rails/HTML/CSS/JS developer? Contact us at github.com/diaspora and join us.



Attribution

- *We want you: Dennis (theradialactive@pod.geraspora.de)
- **★**The Diaspora Story A presentation by Praveen
- ★d* Arch: Antoine Duparay Gaetan Boismal Stéphane Roicomte (CC-BY)
- ★Background by @Bartimeo (Creative Commons)



