

# Fediscovery

Improving Search and Discovery on the Fediverse

February 2025, FOSDEM

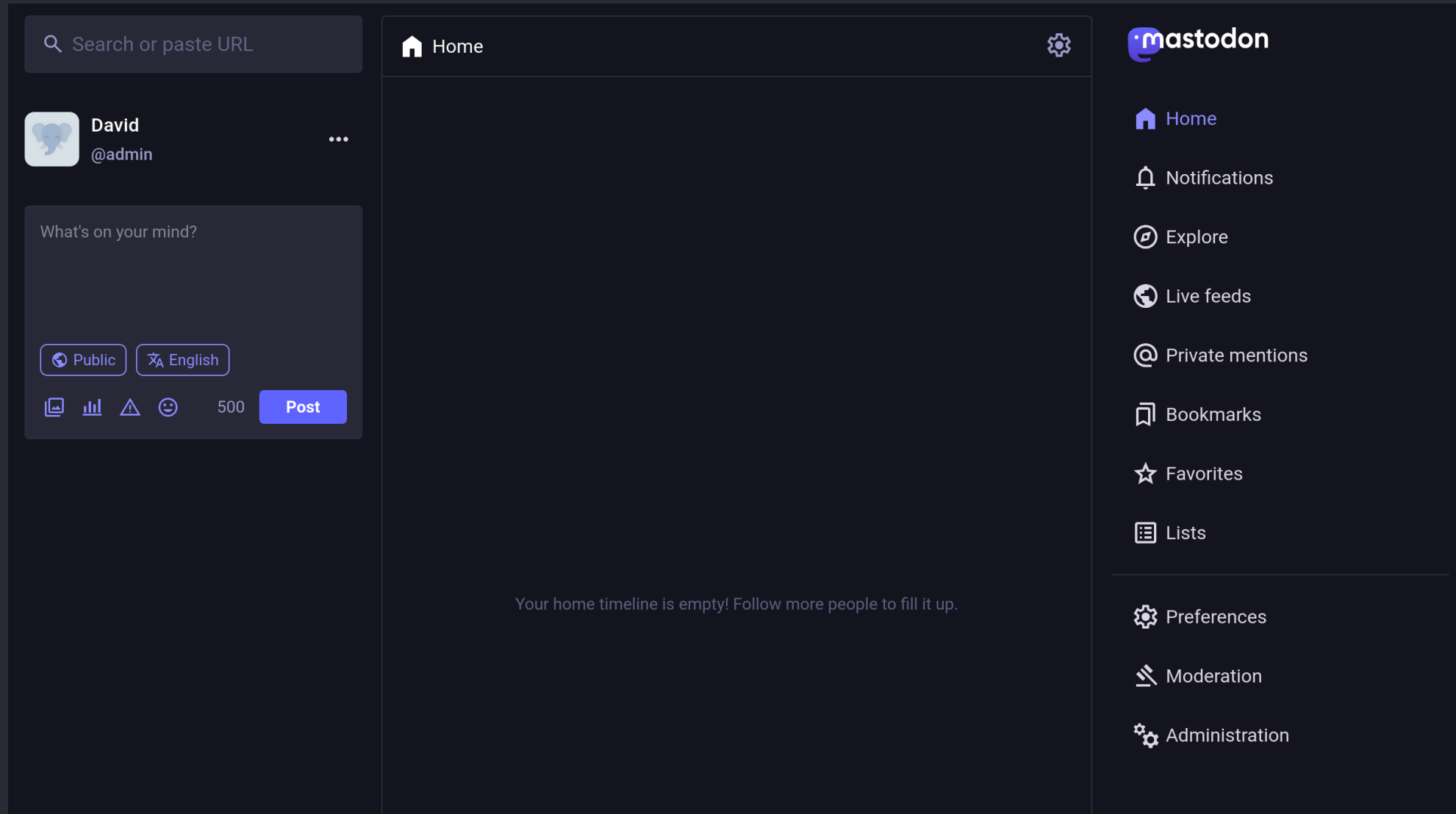


# About Me

- Long-time web developer
- Employee at Mastodon gGmbH
- FOSDEM fan

# Search and Discovery on the Fediverse

# Starting out




Find someone to follow

# Find someone to follow

The image is a screenshot of the Mastodon web interface. On the left, there's a user profile for 'David' (@admin) with a blue elephant avatar. Below the profile is a text input field with the placeholder 'What's on your mind?'. Underneath the input are two buttons: 'Public' and 'English'. At the bottom of the input area are icons for media, a bar chart, a warning triangle, a smiley face, and a character count '500'. A blue 'Post' button is on the right. The main content area is a search results page for 'gargron'. It has a search bar at the top with the text 'Search for "gargron"'. Below the search bar are four tabs: 'All', 'Profiles', 'Hashtags', and 'Posts'. The 'All' tab is selected. The search results area is empty, displaying 'No results.' at the bottom. On the right side, there's a Mastodon logo and a navigation menu with links: Home, Notifications, Explore, Live feeds, Private mentions, Bookmarks, Favorites, Lists, Preferences, Moderation, and Administration.

# Find someone to follow

✕ gargron



David



@admin

...

What's on your mind?

Public

English



500

Post


Search for "gargron"

All

Profiles

Hashtags

Posts



mastodon

Home

Notifications

Explore

Live feeds

Private mentions

Bookmarks

Favorites

Lists

Preferences

Moderation


Administration

Find interesting content



# Find interesting content

✕ cat photos







**David**  
@admin

...

What's on your mind?

Public

English




500

Post

Search for "cat photos"

AllProfilesHashtagsPosts

No results.



Home

Notifications

Explore

Live feeds

Private mentions

Bookmarks

Favorites

Lists


Preferences

Moderation

Administration

# Find interesting content

✕ cat photos







**David**  
@admin

...

What's on your mind?

Public

English



500

Post


Search for "cat photos"

All


Profiles

Hashtags

Posts



No

mastodon

Home

Notifications

Explore

Live feeds

Private mentions

Bookmarks

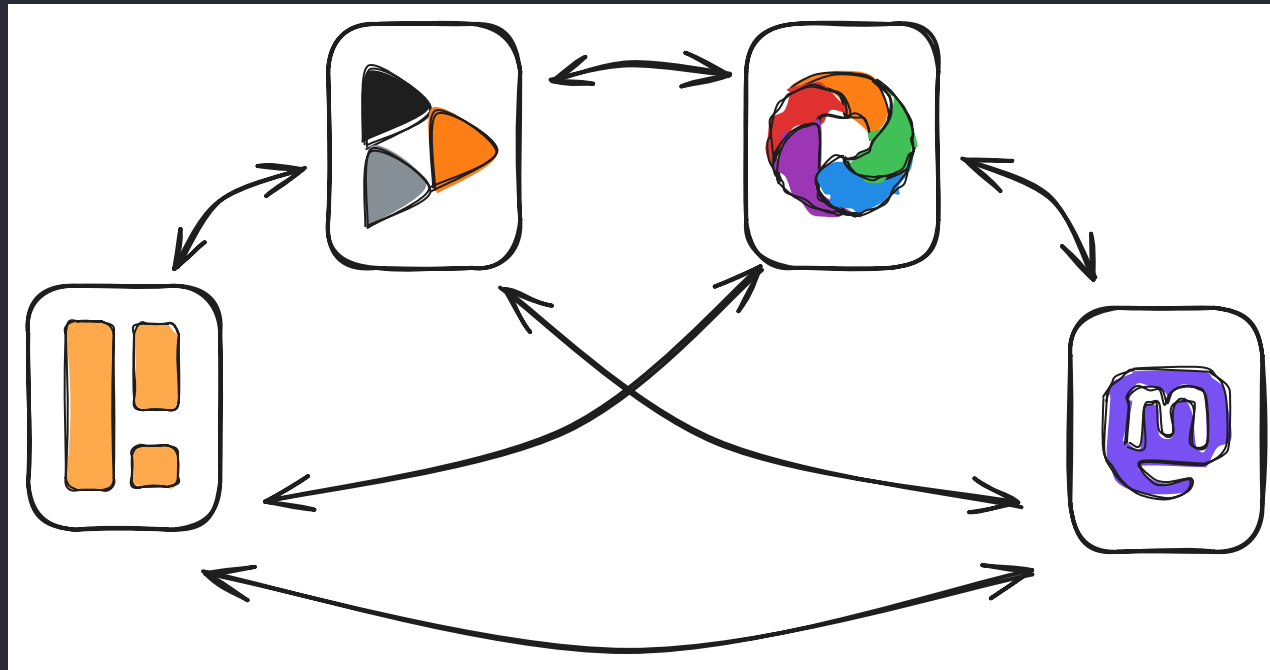
Favorites

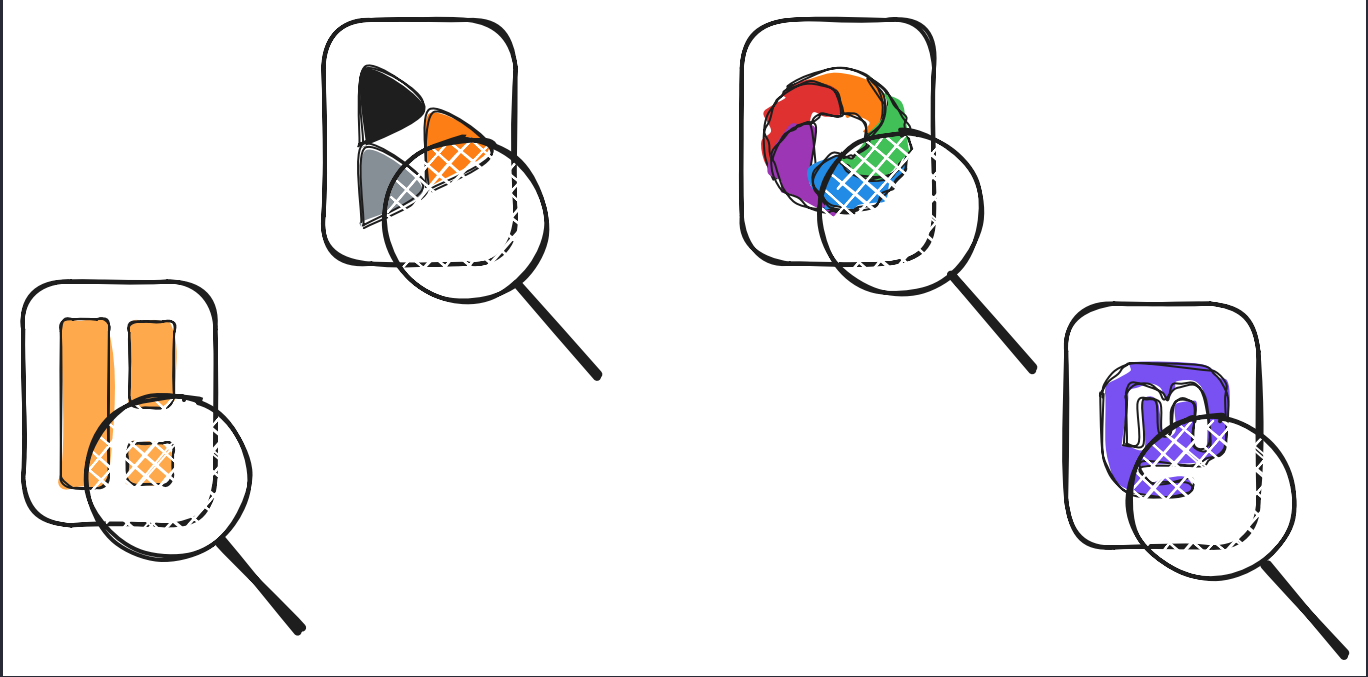
Lists

Preferences

Moderation

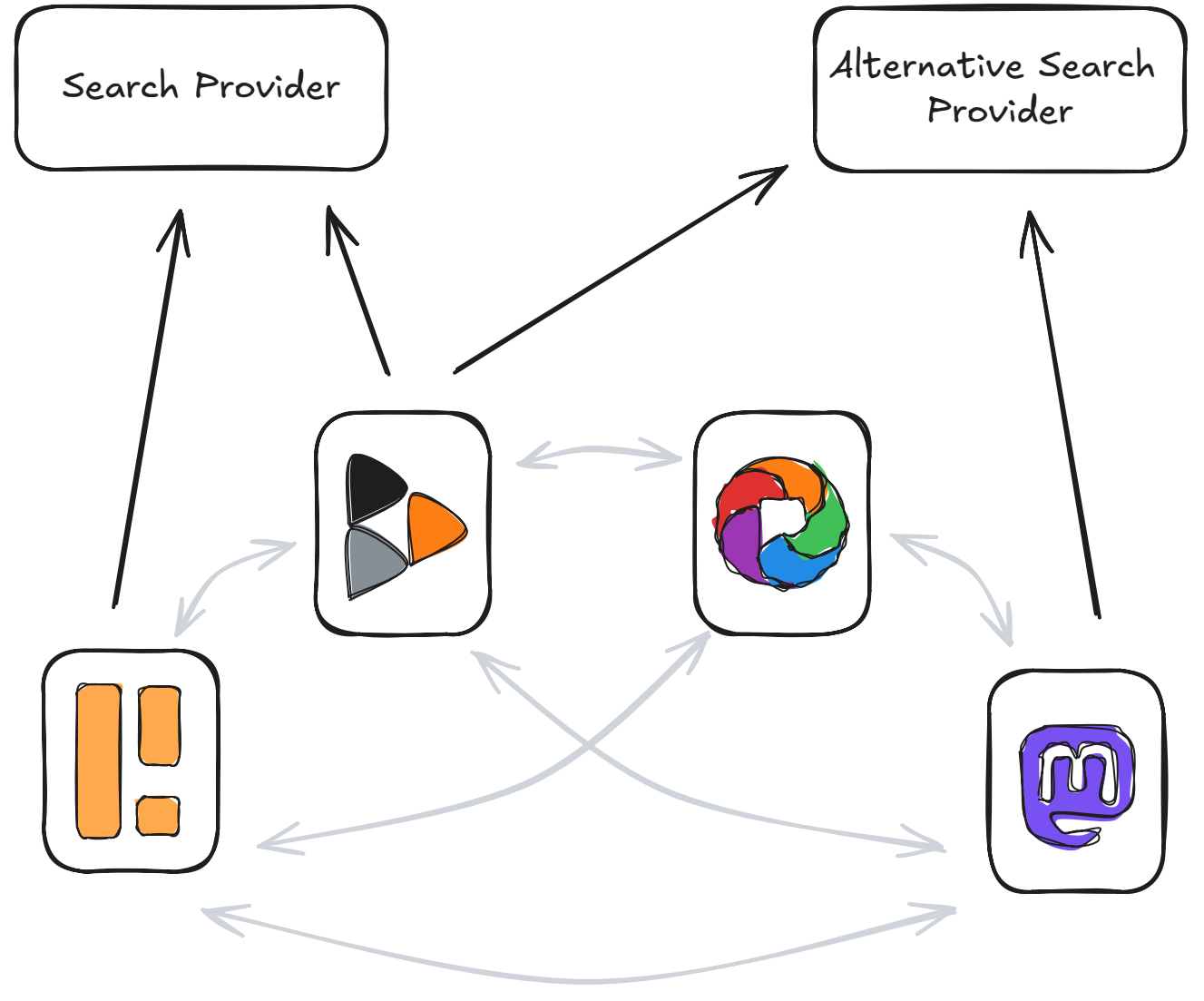
Administration





# Detour: Service Providers

# Fediverse Auxiliary Service Providers



# Fediscovery: Goals



# Fediscovery: Goals

- FASP proof-of-concept

# Fediscovery: Goals

- FASP proof-of-concept
- Useful for the Fediverse as a whole

# Fediscovery: Goals

- FASP proof-of-concept
- Useful for the Fediverse as a whole
- Open Specification

# Fediscovery: Goals

- FASP proof-of-concept
- Useful for the Fediverse as a whole
- Open Specification
- Collaboration

# Fediscovery: Goals

- FASP proof-of-concept
- Useful for the Fediverse as a whole
- Open Specification
- Collaboration
- Reference Implementation

# NGI Search Timeline

1. Sep '24:  
Website, FASP specification ✓
2. Feb '25:  
Data Sharing, Trends + Account Search specs,  
reference implementation
3. Jun '25:  
Account Recommendation spec and impl.,  
security audit, deployment on Mastodon servers

# Specifications (Drafts)

On Github:

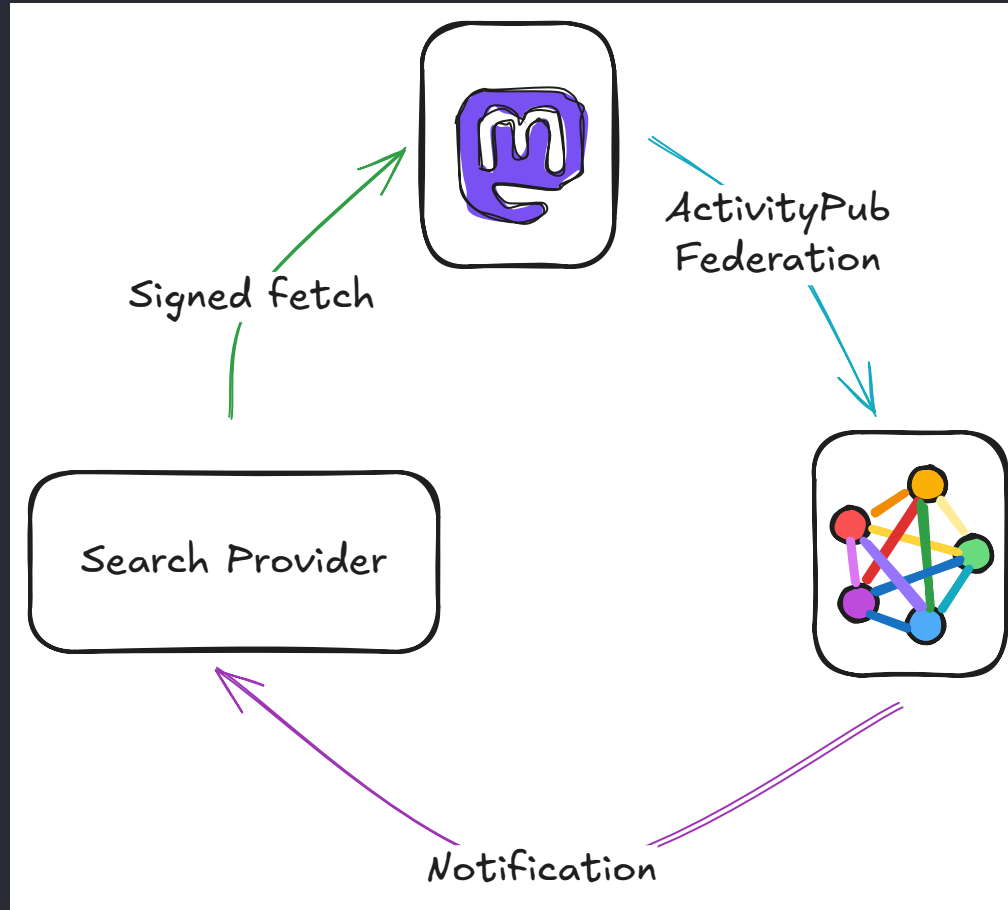
[mastodon/fediverse\\_auxiliary\\_service\\_provider\\_specifications](#)

# List of Specifications

- FASP<->Fediverse server basic interaction
- Data Sharing
- Trends (open PR)
- Account search (coming very soon)
- Account recommendation (before june)
- Post search (tentatively planned)



# Data Sharing



# Privacy & Consent

- Public content only
- `discoverable` flag
- `indexable` flag
- Server-level block
- User-level block

# Trends

- Posts, Hashtags and Links
- Past x hours, y days, week?
- Still an early draft...
- ... which we will need to implement

# Account Search

- Full-text search for name, description, hashtags
- First draft coming real soon™
- Feedback welcome

# SDK

On Github: [mastodon/fasp\\_ruby](https://github.com/mastodon/fasp_ruby)

# Reference Implementation

On Github: [mastodon/fediscoverer](https://github.com/mastodon/fediscoverer)

F.A.Q.



Is this only for Mastodon?

Is this only for Mastodon?

**No**

# Centralization

# Centralization

Yes, but...

Privacy

# Privacy

- Public content only!
- Consent
- Blockable

# Bespoke APIs

# Bespoke APIs

Yes!



# How to contribute?

- Specification GH repo
- Approach us directly
- Mastodon stand in the H Building

# Thank you!

