

URL as Identity

Experiments in Data Portability

Aaron Klemm
<http://aaron.binprop.org>

We connect to services, not data.

- Where am I online? Google, Facebook, LinkedIn
- Where are you online?
- If I know, it still isn't easy.

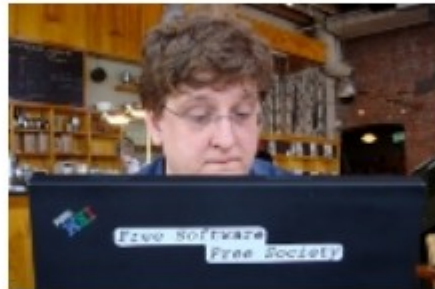
Result == Fractured Identity

facebook

Friends

Resumé

Linked in®



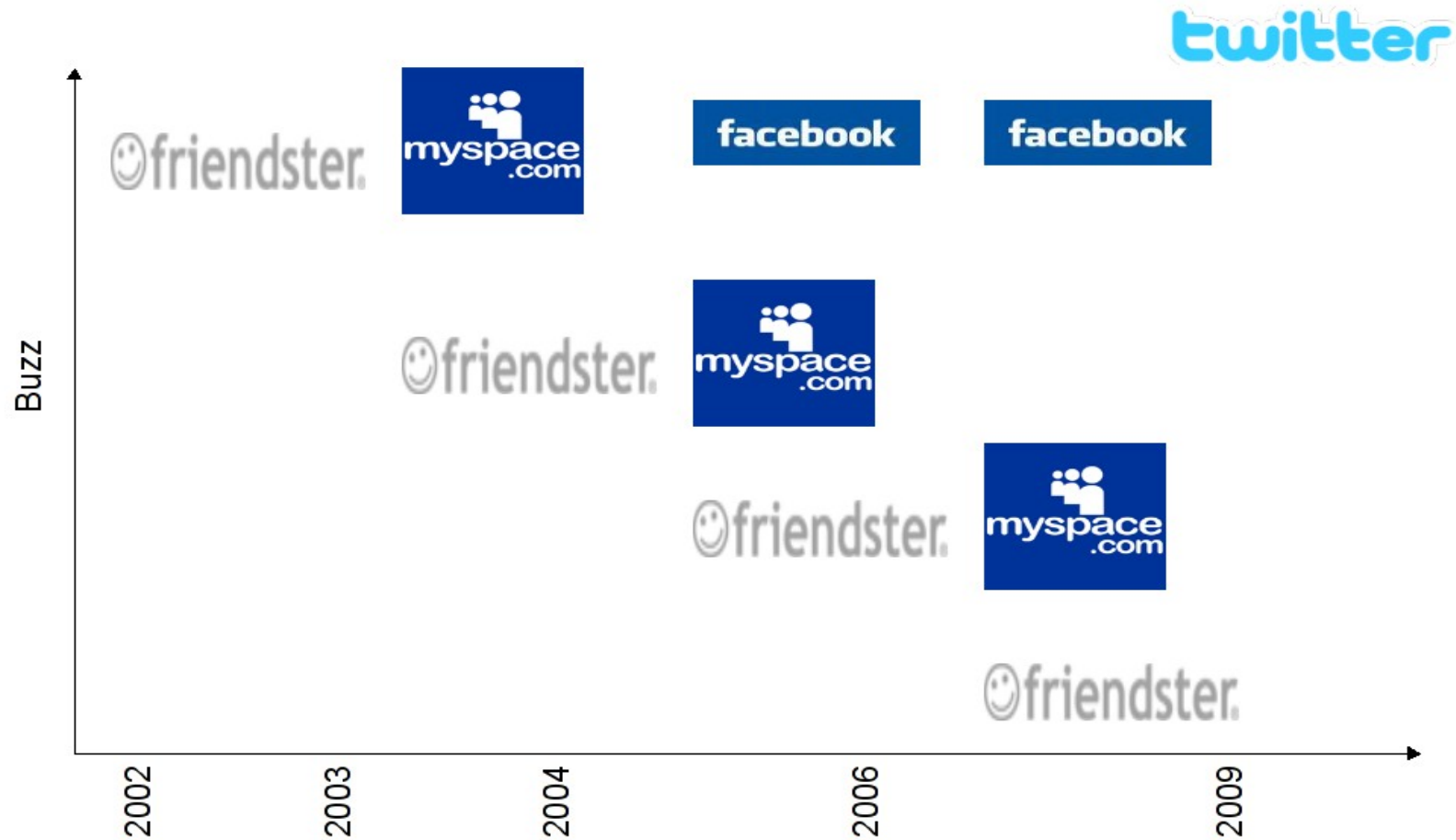
flickr™

Photos

Thoughts

twitter

Services come and go.



In Search of a Name

Distributed Social Networking

Portable Social Networking

Open Stack

Web of Data

Linked Data

and others



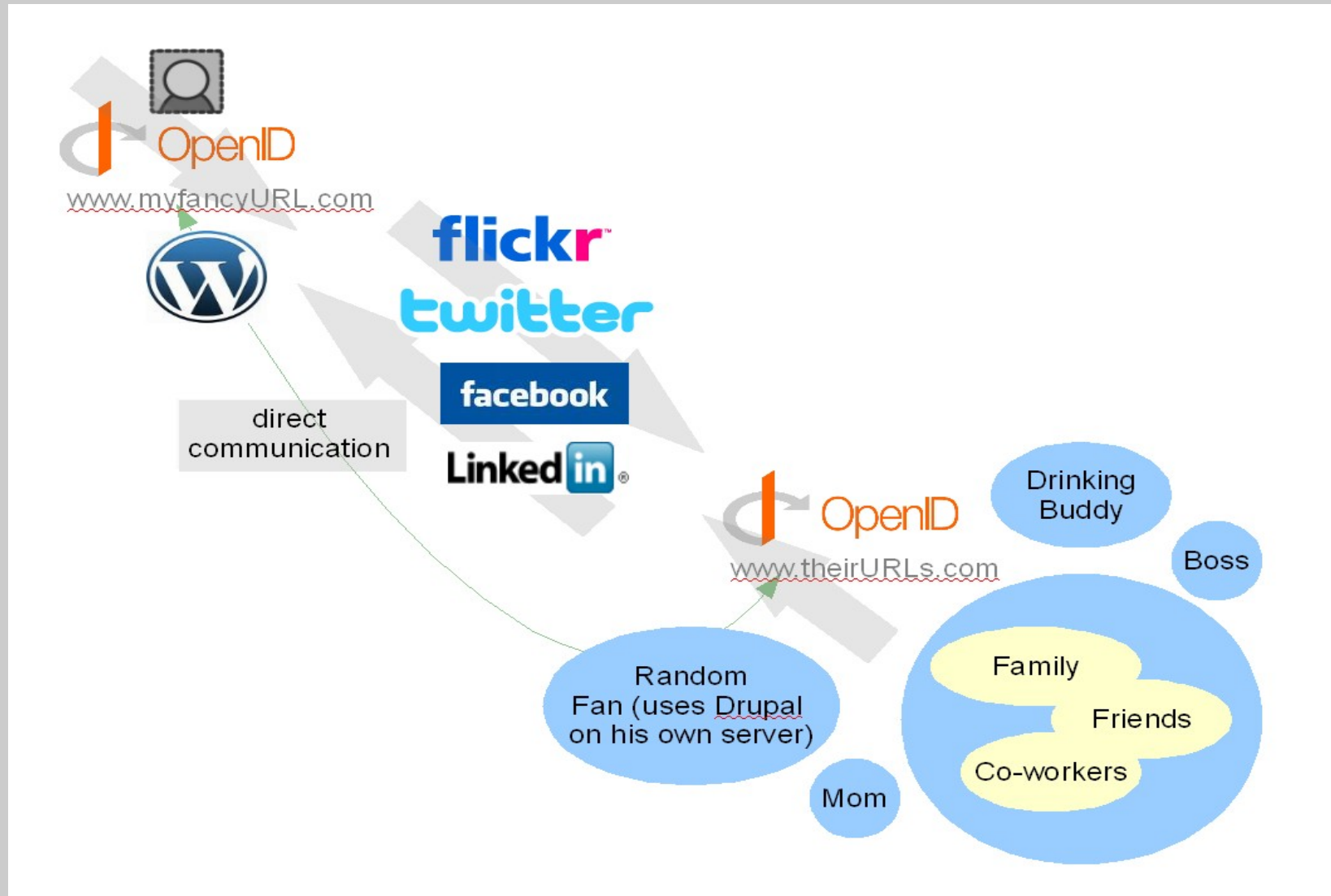
XDI.org



DataPortability



The Vision



Permanence

- Ownership
- Decouple data from services

Enough said?

- Terms of Service, privacy
- Catastrophy: ma.gnolia.com
- Creative Destruction

The Technologies

OpenID

<identity

FOAF/Microformats

<markup

PoCo

<contacts

OAuth

<authorization

HTTP/XMPP

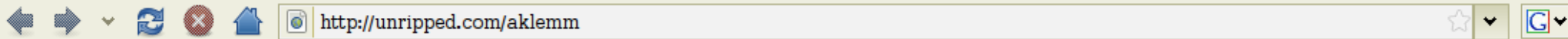
<data transport

OpenSocial/FOSS

<social features



OpenID



It's a URL: aaron.binprop.org

- Conveys place and ownership
- Can be changed through delegation

It's decentralized

Authentication isn't specified - secure

Scenarios

- OpenID SSO
- Sign up for a new service; the profile and friend network complete automatically.

Scenarios

- Swap business cards
- Share personal/professional information
- Professional and personal on the same site

A new simpler business card.



Complications

- What if I leave Facebook but I've syndicated everything everywhere?
- Control fatigue?
- Does anyone care?
- Upgrades, Uptime
- Decentralised vs. Trusted Providers
- Web-only, use Microsoft's Infocard

Build Some Stuff

- Get an OpenID (That you can edit!)
- Delegate
- FOAF
- Microformats
- On your servers; WordPress, Drupal etc.

The Future

Today, services have URLs with people.

Tomorrow, people should have URLs with services.

Which bits do you want?

Feature requests and
pain points.

Resources

<http://aaron.binprop.org/>
(of course ;)