

Serverless Instant Messaging

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Where we were

XMPP (Jabber)

- Extensible, open standard

So what's wrong with it?

- Requires a server
- No network to the server \Rightarrow no IM
- Even if the user is sitting next to you

Enter Multicast DNS

- Serverless DNS
- All clients join a multicast group
- Domain name resolution (.local)
- Service discovery
- Implemented by Avahi and Apple Bonjour

The result

- Pidgin calls the protocol *Bonjour*
- mDNS to publish presence and details
- XMPP for actual communication
- Works only for people in the same network

Bonus

- VPN counts as “the same network”