Towards peer-to-peer alternatives for code collaboration

acloudhead

Monadic

Let's talk git.

The common ground for code collaboration.

What's missing?

Discovery

Where to find changesets pertaining to a project?

Where to find peers replicating a repository?

Canonicity

Where should I pull from? Who has the latest copy? Where is it hosted?

Social artefacts

Issue tracking and code review aren't provided by git.

Mailing lists

solution #1

Where to see all patches?

Where to pull from?

How to discuss changes?

Mailing list.

Linus.

Mailing list!

What about user experience?



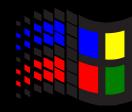
Hosted platforms

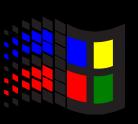
solution #2

Where to see all patches?

Where to pull from?

How to discuss changes?







Does peer-to-peer h	nave an answer to	o code collaborat	ion?

sans intermediaries

Why peer-to-peer?

Economic resilience

Peer-to-peer systems don't need to "make a profit" to subside. The burden is distributed evenly.

Political resilience

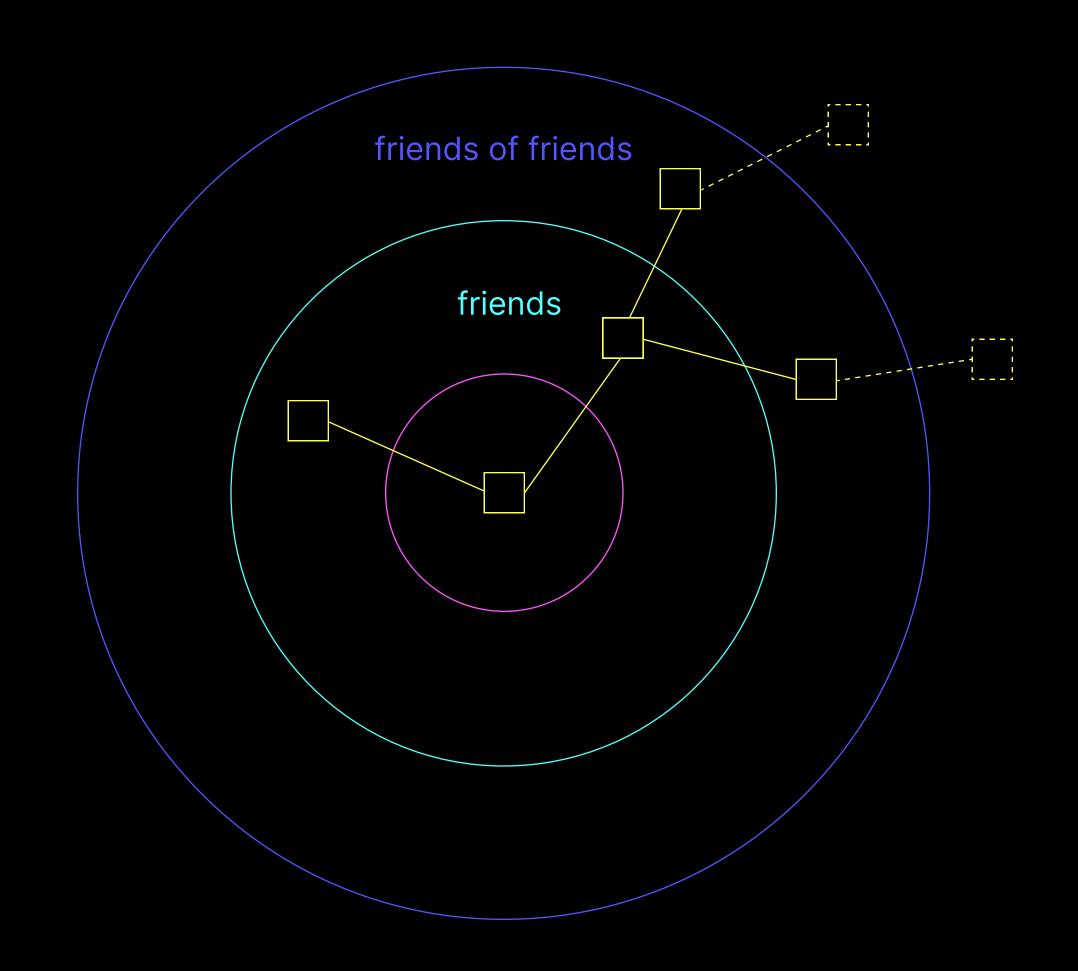
Peer-to-peer systems aren't subject to the will of authorities. They cannot be captured.

Technical resilience

Peer-to-peer systems are harder to attack. There is no single point of failure.

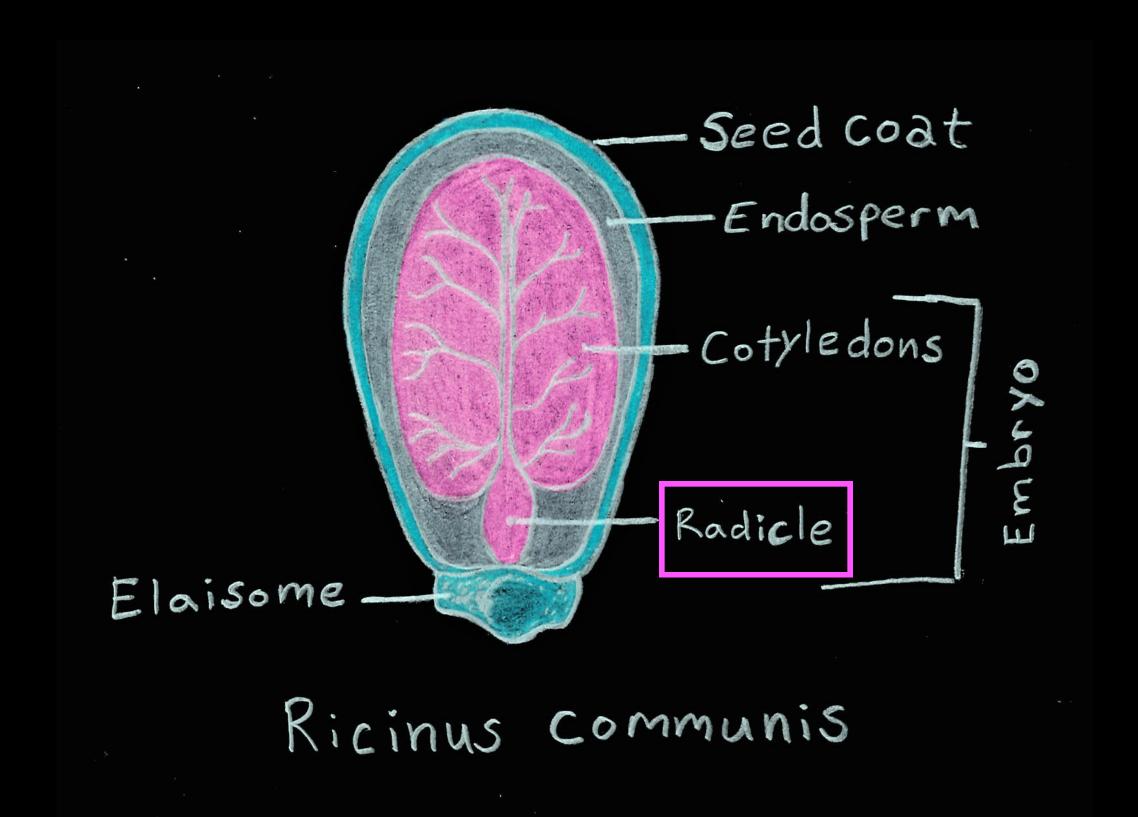
Let's look at Secure Scuttlebut

a resilient, peer-to-peer social network



What about code collaboration?

git + peer-to-peer replication and discovery



'tis the root

SHA-1 is broken

Offline-first

Your issues, comments and reviews live on your machine.

Everything is always available, even offline.

Secure

Secure peer identities (EdDSA). All artefacts are crypographically signed, including code review.

Peer-to-peer

No hassle setting up your own hosting, and no trusted third-parties.

foundations & inspiration

SSB

Secure Scuttlebut's "social overlay" protocol. Replication is based on a *follow graph*.

TUF

The Update Framework.
Secure software updates
even when keys are
compromised by an attacker.

Git

The foundation upon which Radicle is currently built.

Git as a foundation for peer-to-peer

git gossips well

Offline-first

Optimized for *full* replication.
Git doesn't assume an always online server.

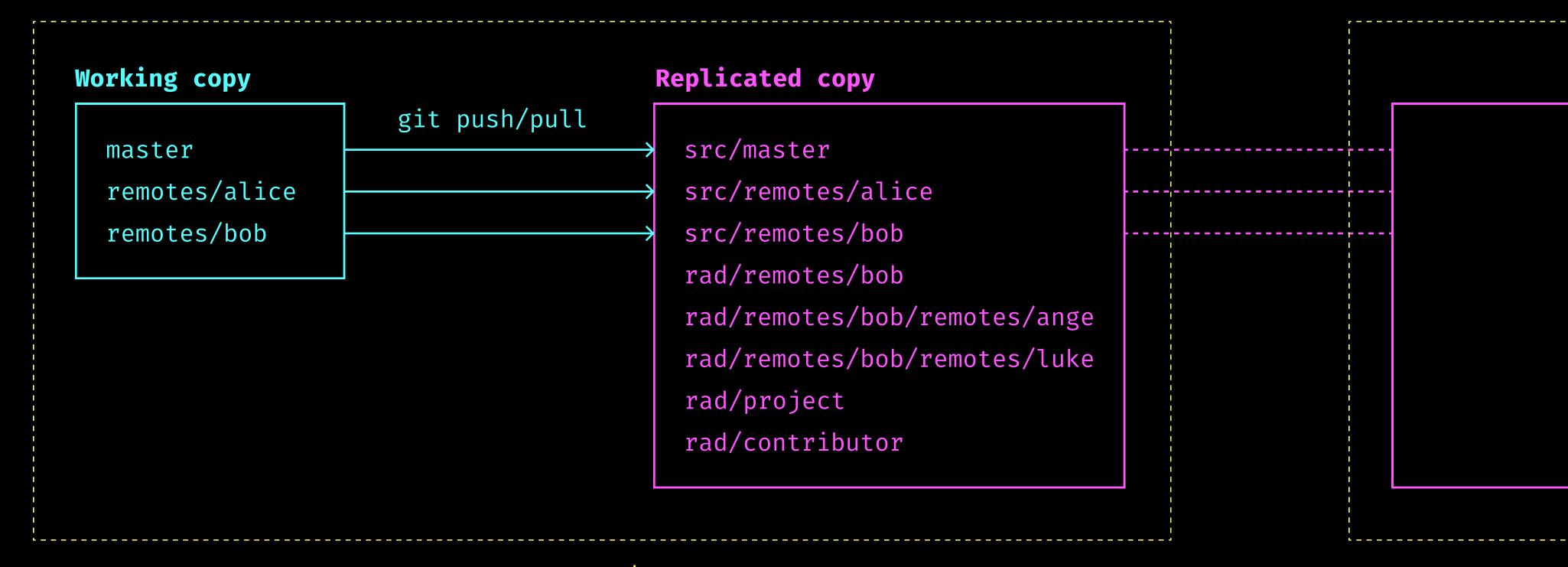
Designed for the *bazaar* model

Which is awfully similar to how peer-to-peer networks are structured.

Packfiles

An interactive protocol that makes synchronization *fast*.

architecture (briefly)



user node

rad://bf0c3d41b54fb7b98aada9ee1df5fa6bb6adc08c

refs/rad/project

```
[project]
name = radicle
maintainers = [...]
rel = [...]
```

commit bf0c3d41b54fb7b98aada9ee1df5fa6bb6adc08c (rad/project)

Author: Alexis Sellier <alexis@monadic.xyz>

Date: Tue Nov 26 11:16:24 2019 +0100

Initialize project

refs/rad/contributor

```
[contributor]
profile = did:..
signing_key = ...
refs = ["fa7381.."]
```

replication

```
alice

announce (<project-id>, <ref>, <hash>)

git fetch rad://<project-id>/<ref>
```

https://radicle.xyz

acloudhead

https://cloudhead.io