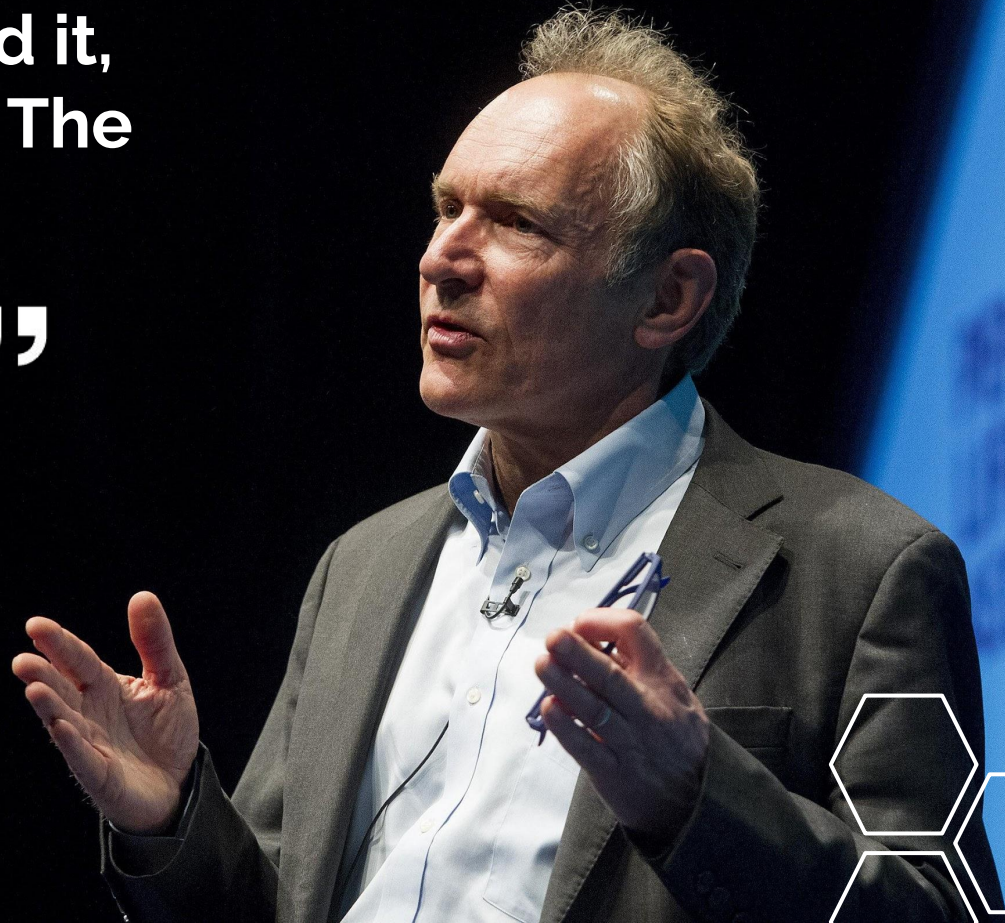# Solid

Your Data, Your Choice

July 2024

inrupt

> "The web as I envisaged it, we haven't seen it yet. The future is still so much bigger than the past"

Sir Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the web and Inrupt co-founder

The Web Today

Fragmented digital beings

Individual's data is scattered all over the web, hard to find and harder to control.

The web is stagnating

As a result, the pace of innovation has been reduced drastically.
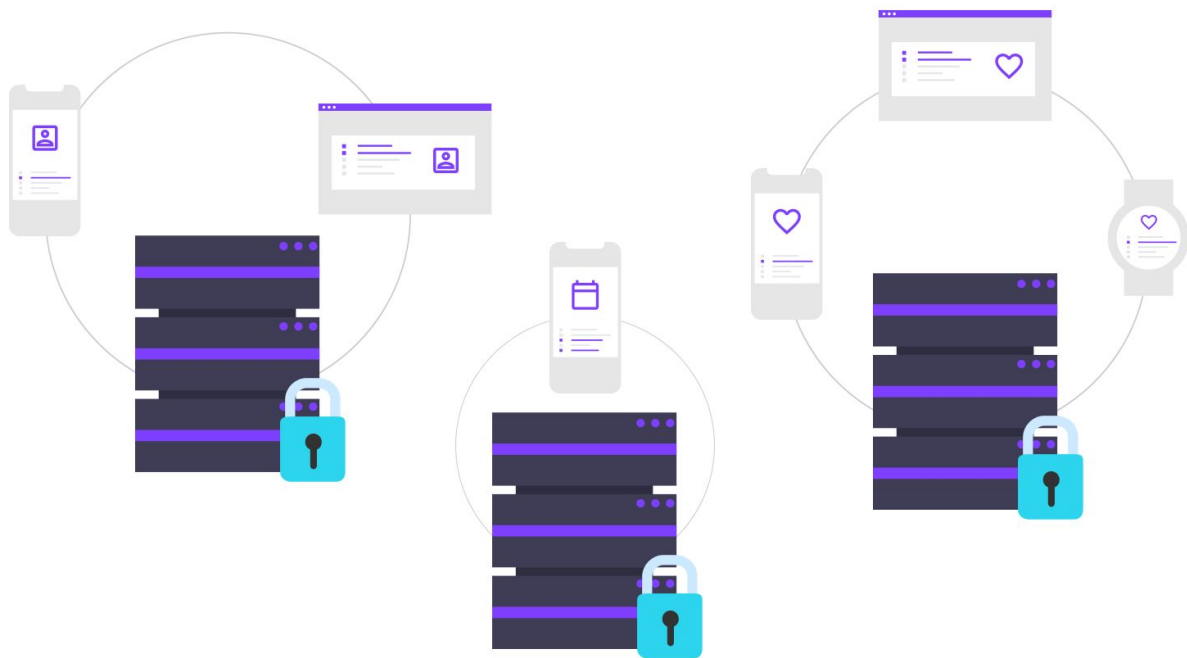
Data silos controlled by a few platforms

Limited access to data restraints innovation.

If data belongs to individuals, why is it so hard for them to use it to their own benefit?

Challenge: Centralised Applications

Service + Data Store = Silos

Solid Protocol

"...a set of specifications that, together, provide applications with secure and permissioned access to externally stored data in an interoperable way."

https://solidproject.org/TR/protocol (12 May 2024)

Solid is a User-Centric Data Platform
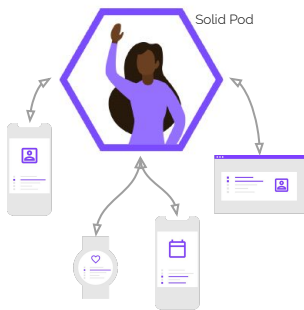*Organize data around the user with native consent and access controls*

Today

Data is controlled by application owners. The user has no connection to the data.

Solid Approach

Solid Pod

Solid Pod organizes data around the user, with native consent and access controls.

Solid

Solid technology is based on open web standards for structuring data, applications, and identities on the web with Solid Pods (personal online datastores).

Pods create a complete, valid, and consistent view of a user, with native user consent and access controls.
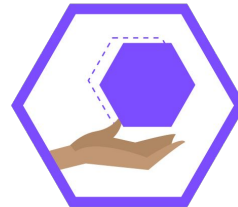
What is Solid?

Solid is a technology based on web standards for structuring identities, applications, and data on the web.
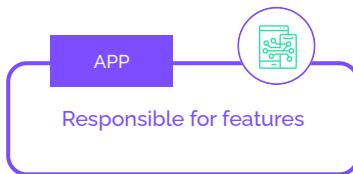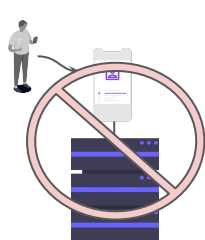
Identities

IDENTITY

Responsible for authentication

Applications

APP

Responsible for features

Data (Pods)
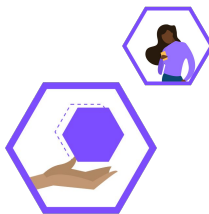
DATA

Responsible for storage

Pods: More than a database

Pods decouple applications and data

With a Pod, users can be involved in granting access to data. Access today is controlled by the organization that writes the app and configures the database.


User-centric data storage, of all data, for a single user

A Pod presents a unified, user-centric view of a single user to applications. A database today stores many users' data that applications access.
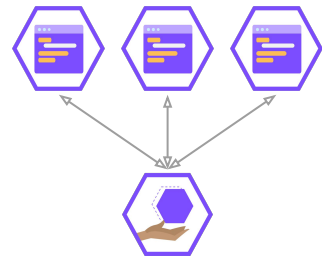

Pods are extensible, growing as user data evolves

Thanks to a linked data format, Pods store data the way it is used. Today rigid data silos serve only a few applications that dictate the format of data, presenting challenges with evolving data.
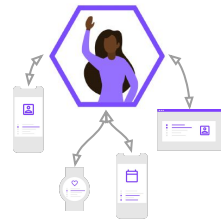
Users can be active participants in data sharing decisions

Sharing and access control are built-in at the resource level rather than added on later.

Open data economies

Tier 1

Banking Pod   Entertainment Pod   Government Pod
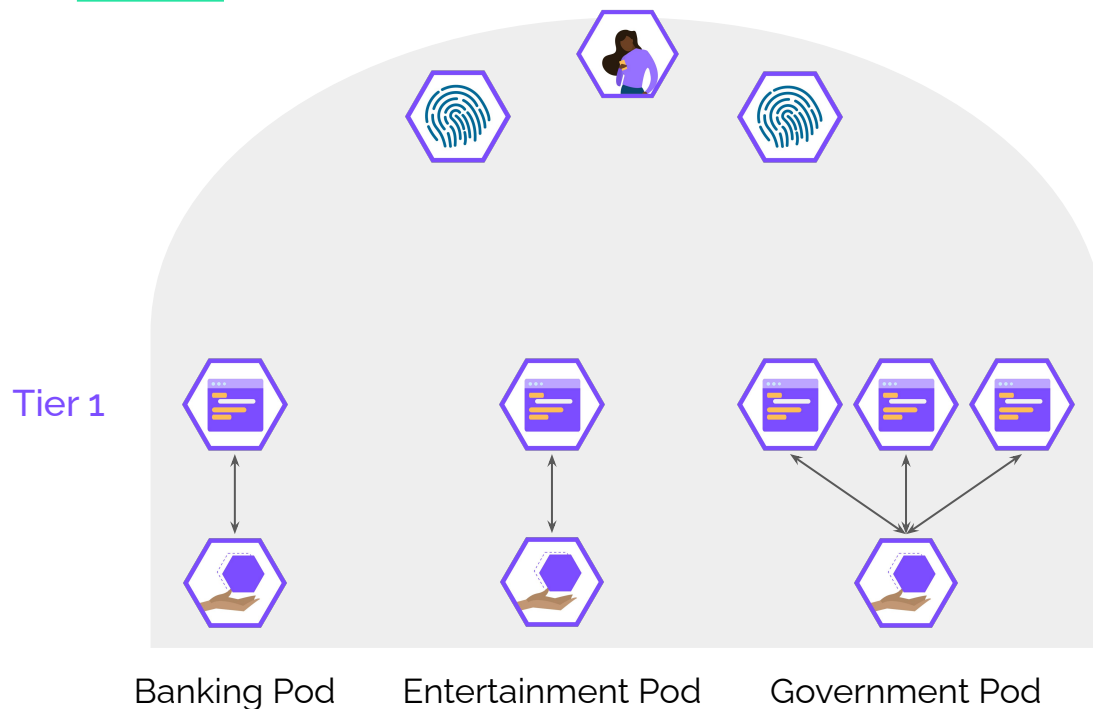
Pod Providers

- Industry sectors operate Pods with differing levels of regulation and compliance

- Open standards and trusted relationships facilitate data sharing while retaining transparency and control

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A foundation for innovation

Tier 2

Tier 1

Banking Pod   Entertainment Pod   Government Pod
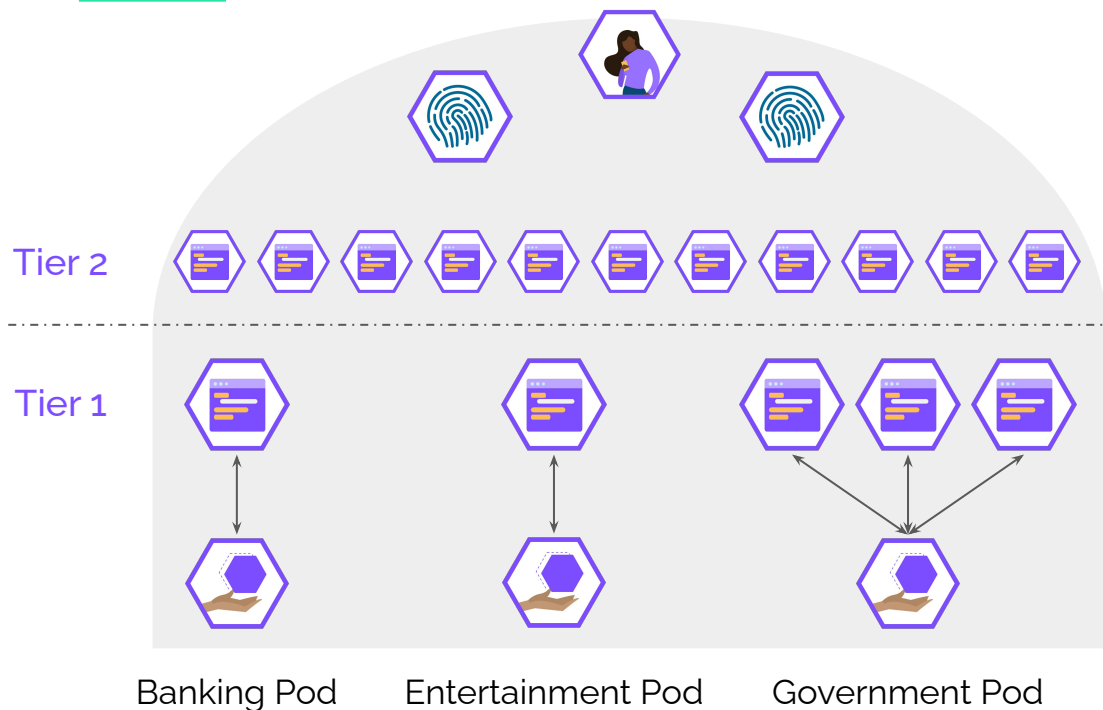
User-centric innovation

- Open standards and trusted relationships facilitate data sharing while retaining transparency and control

- Users provide their consent for data sharing

- The separation of applications and data puts the focus on user experience instead of silo-building

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