



TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DRESDEN

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# **TUD-Chat – a moderated chat add-on for Plone**

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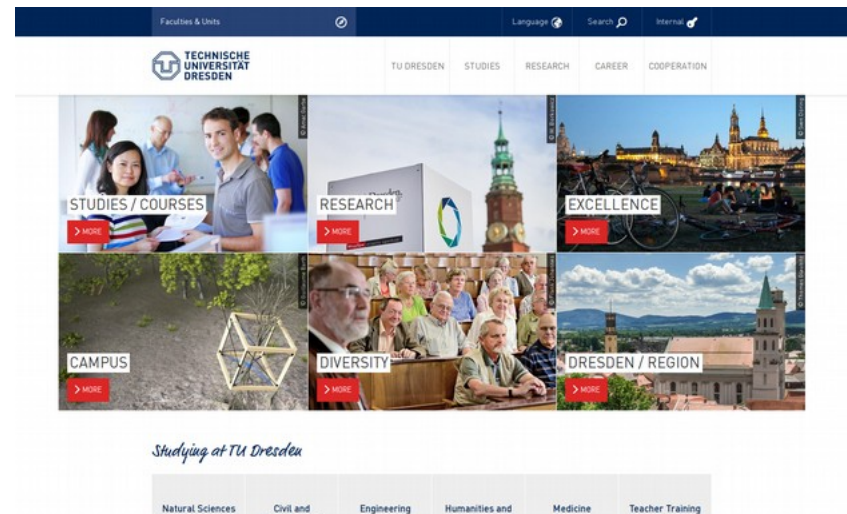


DRESDEN  
concept  
Exzellenz aus  
Wissenschaft  
und Kultur

# 1 TU Dresden

The Plone website (<https://tu-dresden.de>)

- 2.5 million page views / month
- 630000 content objects
- 2500 active editors



## – Advertisement –

### More about the TU Dresden Plone installation:



#### Sebastian Gottfried

**Length:** Long Talk

**Target Level:** Expert

**Target Audience:** Integrator, Developer

In 2013 the Technical University of Dresden set out to relaunch their website. The plan was to replace the Plone2-based CMS with a modern Plone4 setup. Four years later, the process is now completed. In this talk I will present some of the challenges we met in the project and show how we did overcome them with Plone technologies.

**When:** From 10/20/17 10:00 AM to 10/20/17 10:45 AM

**Location:** Sala d'actes

# 1 TU Dresden

- 35.000 students
  - 13.6% from abroad
  - ~ 8000 first-year students
- 18 Faculties



## 2 Why do we need a chat?

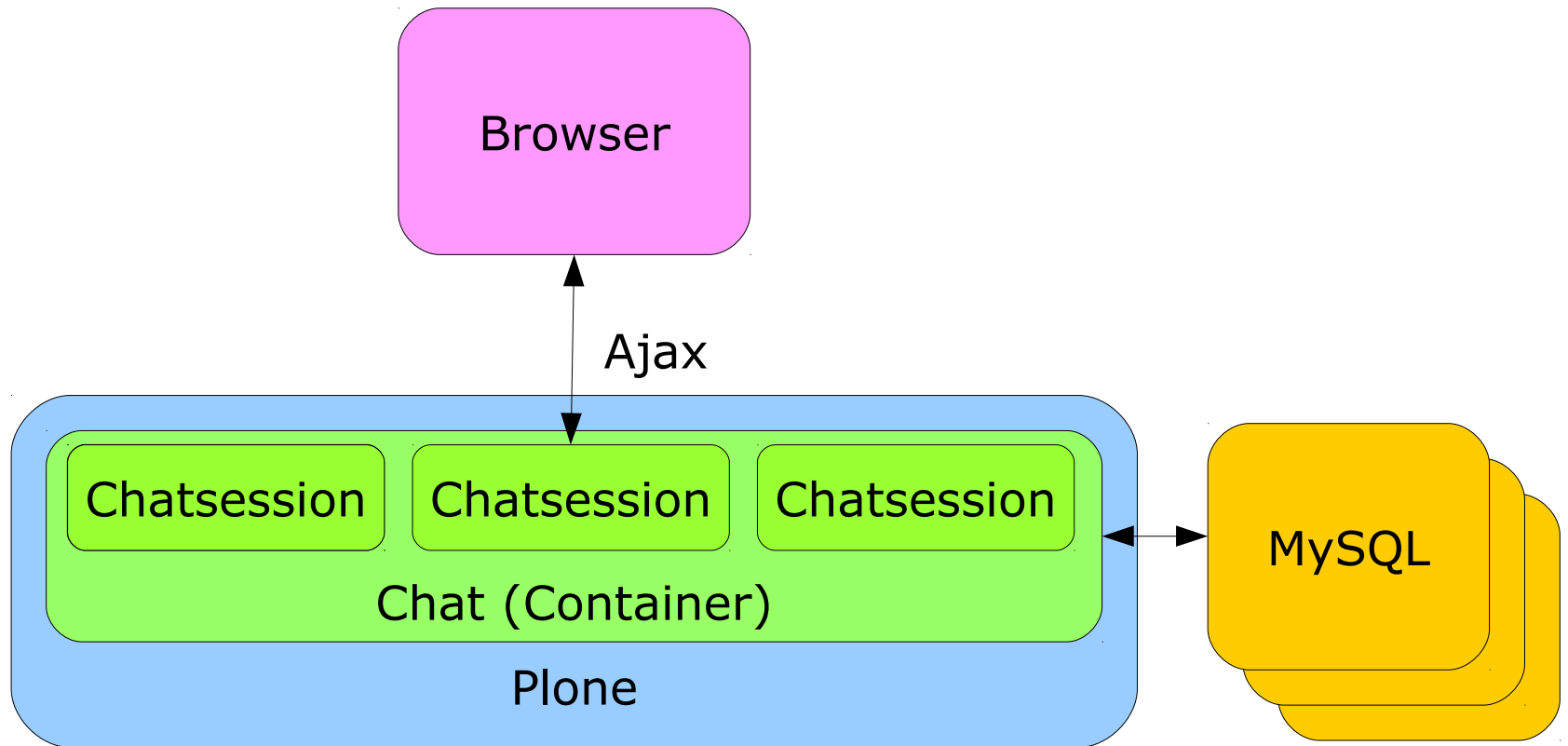
- Students / applicants sometimes need help or information
- Remember: 8000 first-year students
- Shy students
- Anonymous contact possibility
- Location-independent communication
- Exchange between students



## 2 What do we need in detail?

- Service-oriented
  - temporal chat rooms
- Chats are public
  - better moderate them
- Ease of use for editors
  - tightly couple it with Plone
- German / european data privacy laws
  - inhouse hosting, post-anonymization / -deletion
- 5 – 60 chat participants

### 3 TUDChat – technically



## 3 TUDChat – technically

- No fancy stuff (especially no Websockets)  
→ configurable Ajax polling
- Simple JSON responses
- collective.beaker for cache and session management





## 3 TUDChat – technically

- MySQL for storage of chat messages
  - Replacable via adapters
- History-post-processing via cronjob (archiving, deleting)
- Different workflow, controlled by time
- Responsive Design
- Ready for Plone 4 and Plone 5
- Dexterity or Archetypes (via Profile)

## 4 TUDChat – features

- Moderators – must be Plone users
  - Warn, kick and ban users (with message)
  - Edit or delete others messages
- Temporary chats (start and end time)
- Archiving of closed sessions
- Deletion of old sessions (after 3 Month)
- Password protection
- Limited chats (max. users)
- Loading of chat history when entering a session
- Max. message length

# 5 TUDChat – demo

## 6 TUDChat – how to install

- Install MySQL / MariaDB
- Add `tud.addons.chat` to buildout
  - For Plone 4: `tud.addons.chat [plone4]`
- Configure `collective.beaker`  
(<http://beaker.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>)
- Add a cronjob that runs the `cron.py`
  - Once per day or more often is advised
- Add a ZMySQL object
- Add a chat and start chatting!



## 8 TUDChat – contribute

- Soon on Github:

<https://github.com/tud-mit-plone>

**Thanks!**