Drupal 7, Drupal 8, and Beyond

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Web developer and technical lead @ Advomatic

To make sure we're all on the same page…

Drupal 5 (January 2007 – January 2011)

5.0 → 5.1 → 5.2 … (bug fixes)

Drupal 6 (February 2008 -)

6.0 → 6.1 → 6.2 … (bug fixes)

Drupal 7 (January 2011 -)

7.0 → 7.1 → 7.2 … (bug fixes + small features)

Drupal 8 …. anything goes!

When will Drupal 8 be born?

Drupal Eight!

August 2013?

Weight: 85 MB

Proud parents: The Drupal community

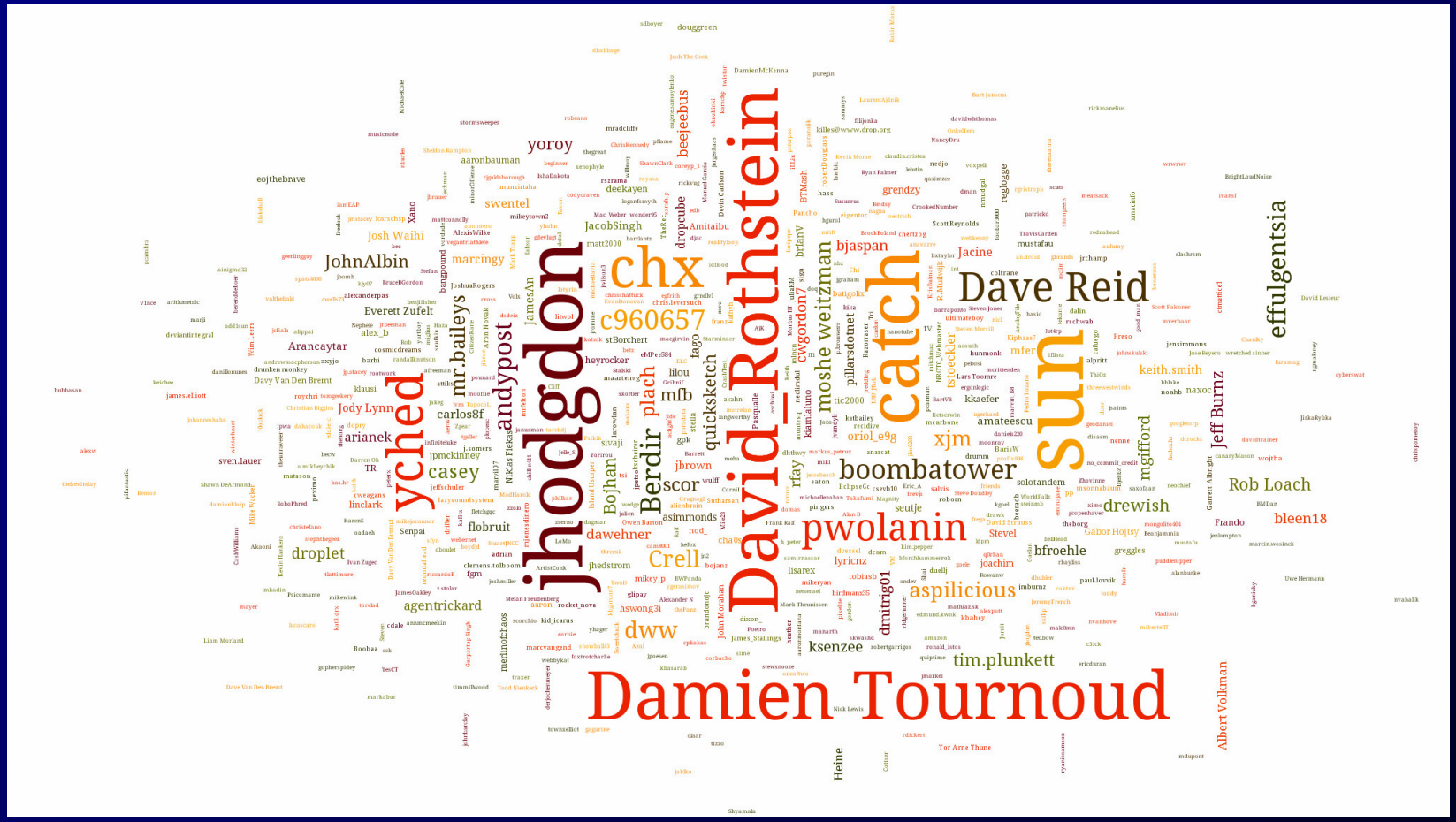
Image by Erik Hersman

Whenever it's ready

Random image that appears in every Drupal talk ever given (origin unknown)

My perspective

Drupal 7 contributions

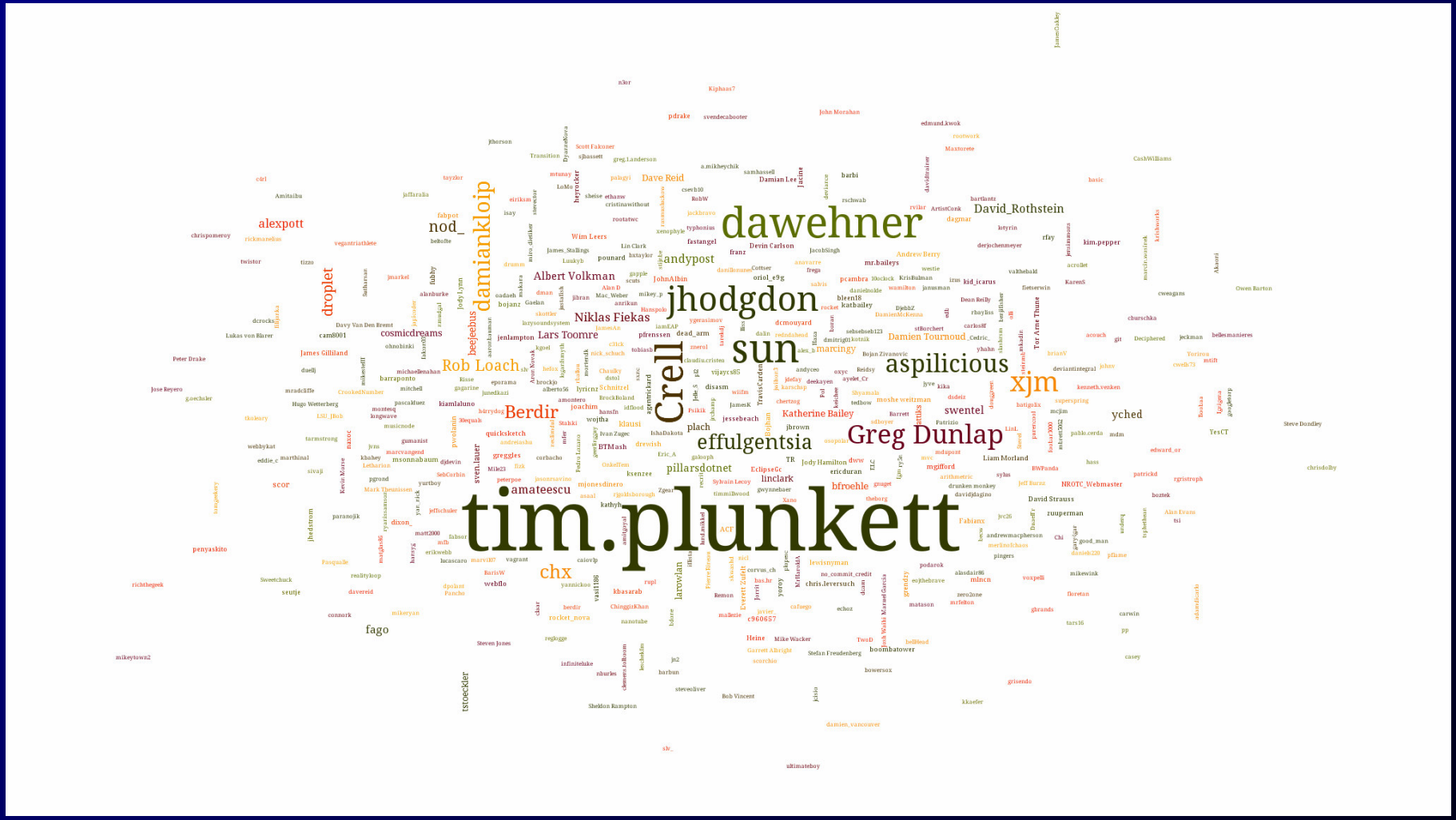


Hint: Fix a lot of typos in the code…

Graphic by Marco Villegas

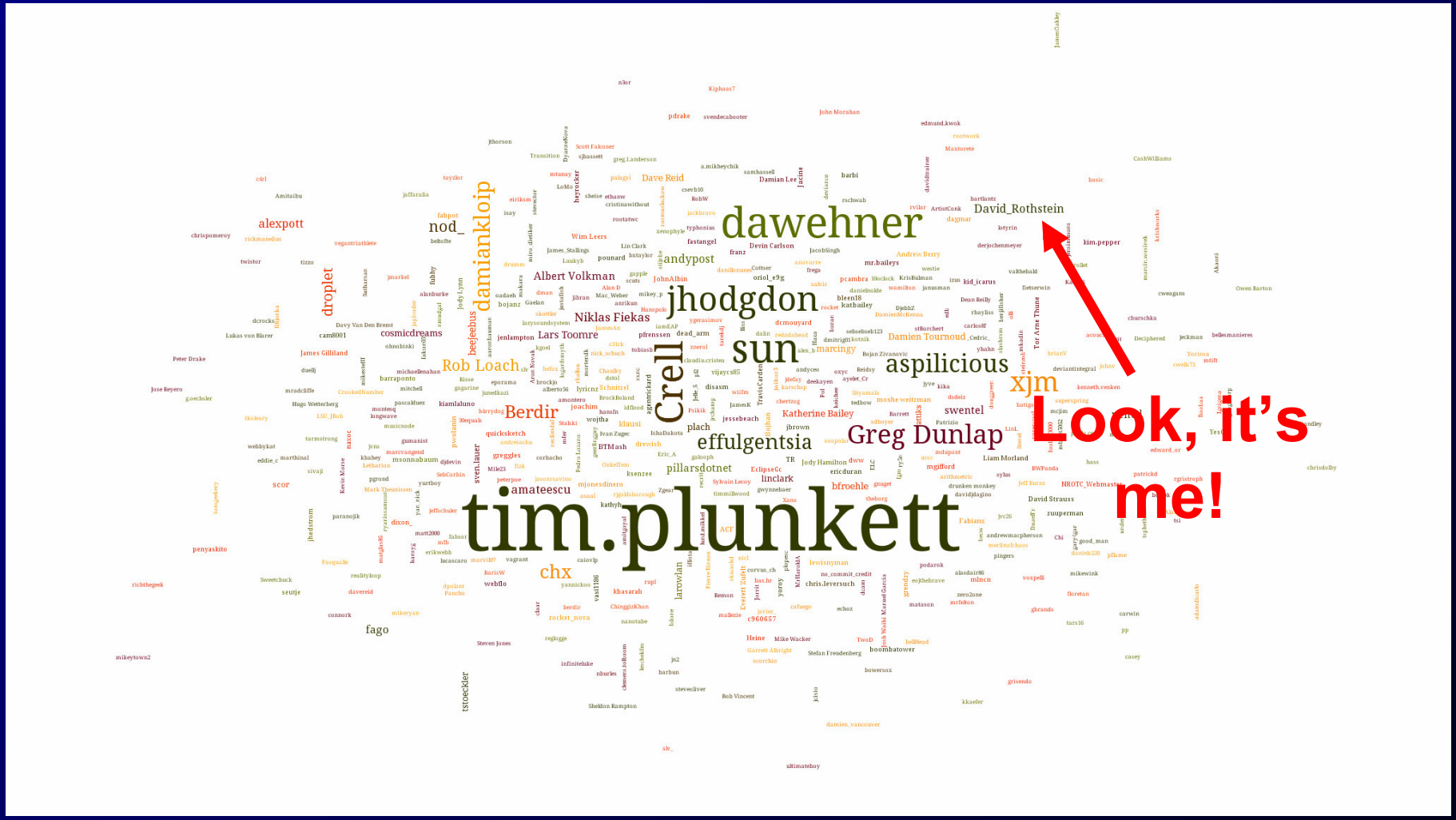
effulgentsia
Loach
bleen18

Drupal 8?



Graphic by Marco Villegas

Drupal 8?


Look, it's me!
tim.plunkett
dawehner
jhodgdon
sun
Crell
effulgentsia
Greg Dunlap
aspilicious
David_Rothstein
andypost
Albert Volkman
Niklas Fiekas
Lars Toomre
Rob Loach
Berdir
damianklojp
droplet
alexpott
nod_
fago
chx
amateescu
pillarsdotnet
xjm
swentel
Katherine Bailey
Damien Tournoud
Dave Reid
Devin Carlson
Andrew Berry
kid_icarus
marcingy
cosmicdreams
Peter Drake
James Gilliland
Jose Reyero
Hugo Wetterberg
Liam Morland
Jody Hamilton
Fabianx
Steven Jones
Sheldon Rampton
Bob Vincent
Garrett Albright
Stefan Freudenberg
Mike Wacker
boombatower
damien_vancouver
ultimateboy
tsoeckler
mikeytown2
penyaskito
richthegeek
connork
Graphic by Marco Villegas

I hope that means I have an interesting perspective on Drupal 8 (somewhere between an “insider” and “outsider”)

The Plan

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- Go through some new Drupal 8 features

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- Say what looks good about them

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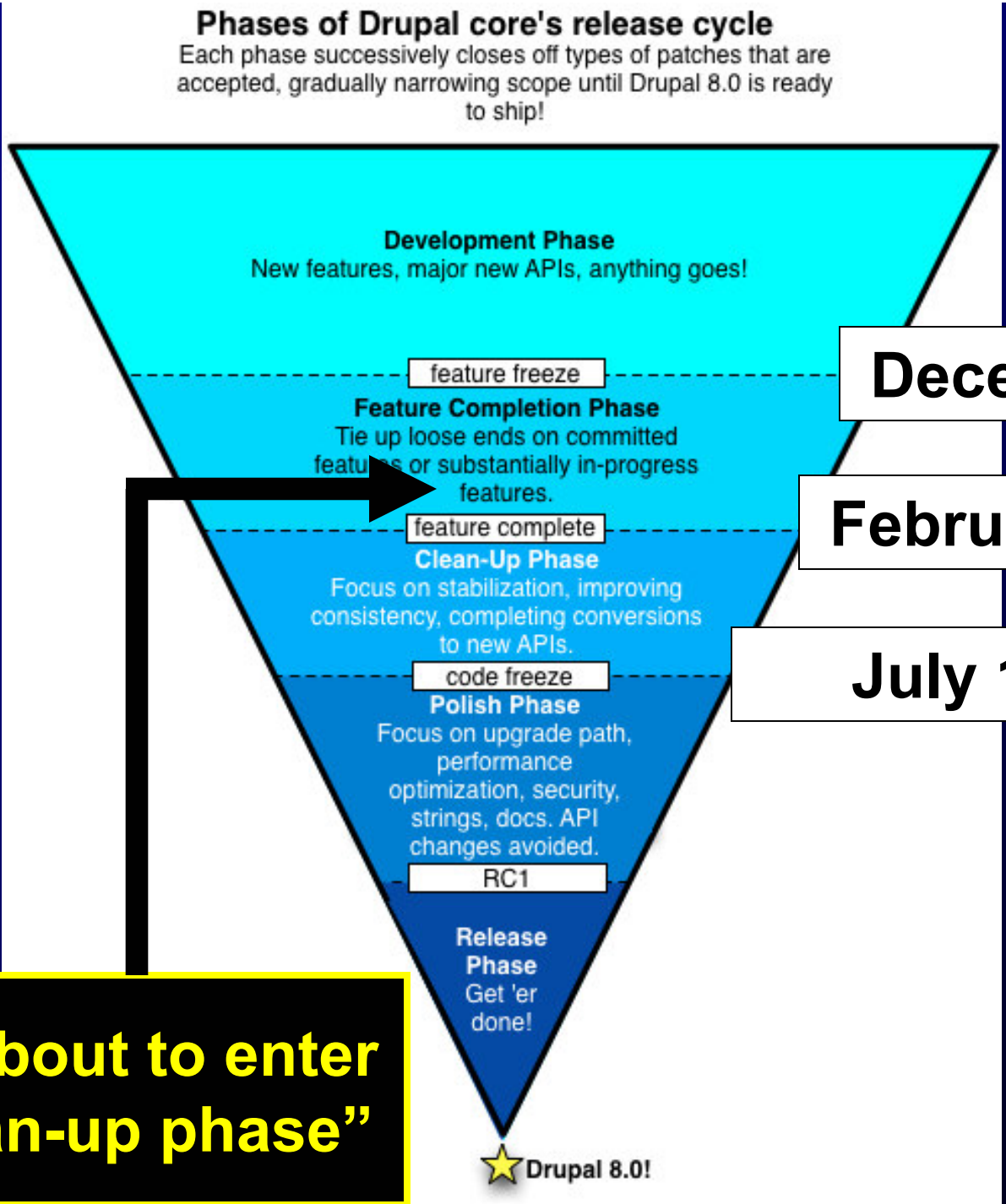
- Go through some new Drupal 8 features
- Say what looks good about them
- Say what looks risky about them
- Talk about what they need right now

Now is the best time to be critical about Drupal 8

After it is released is too late.



December 1

February 18

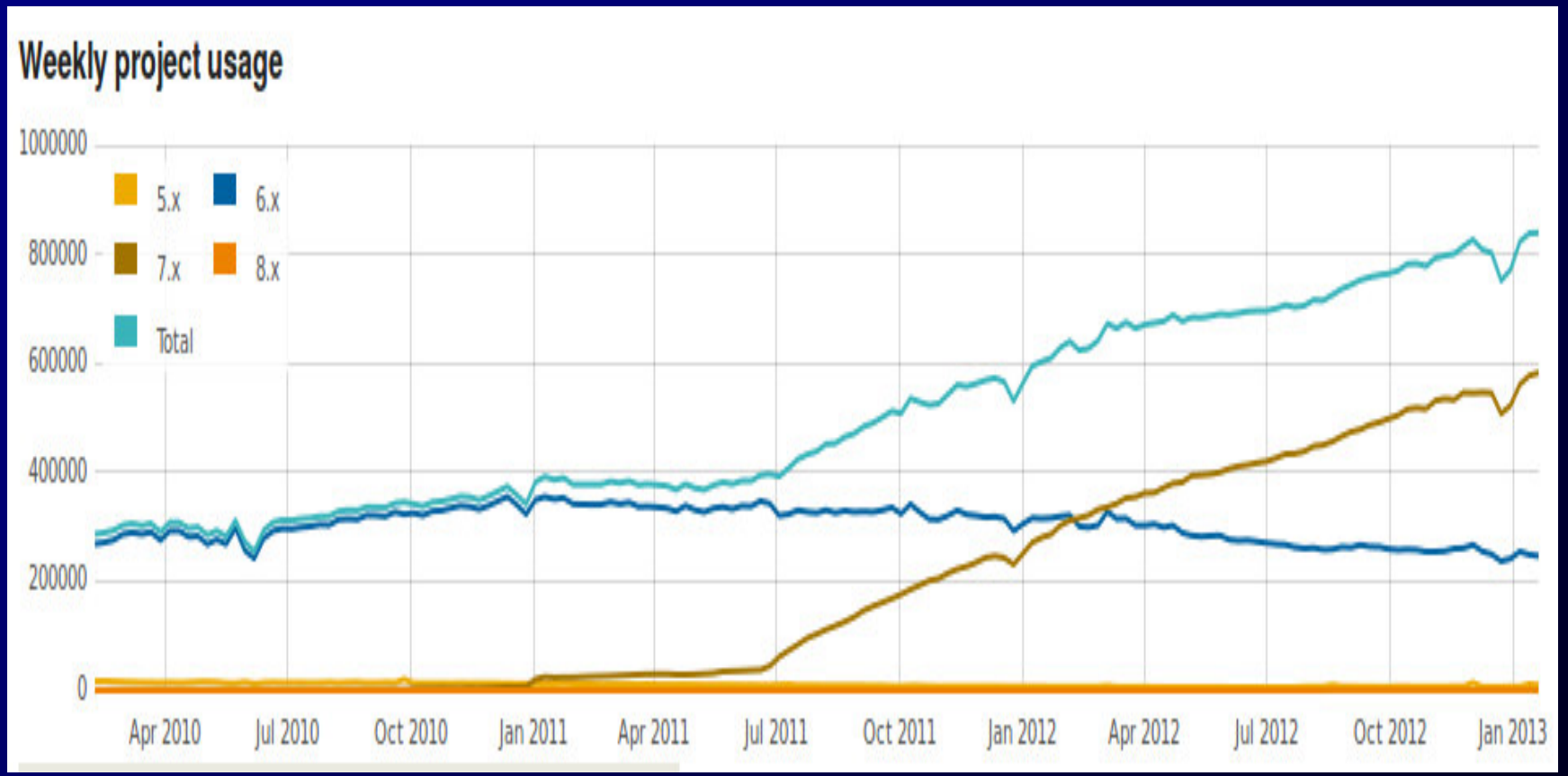
July 1

We are about to enter the "clean-up phase"

buytaert.net

What's the overall risk?

Drupal has a dirty secret:
No one upgrades their sites

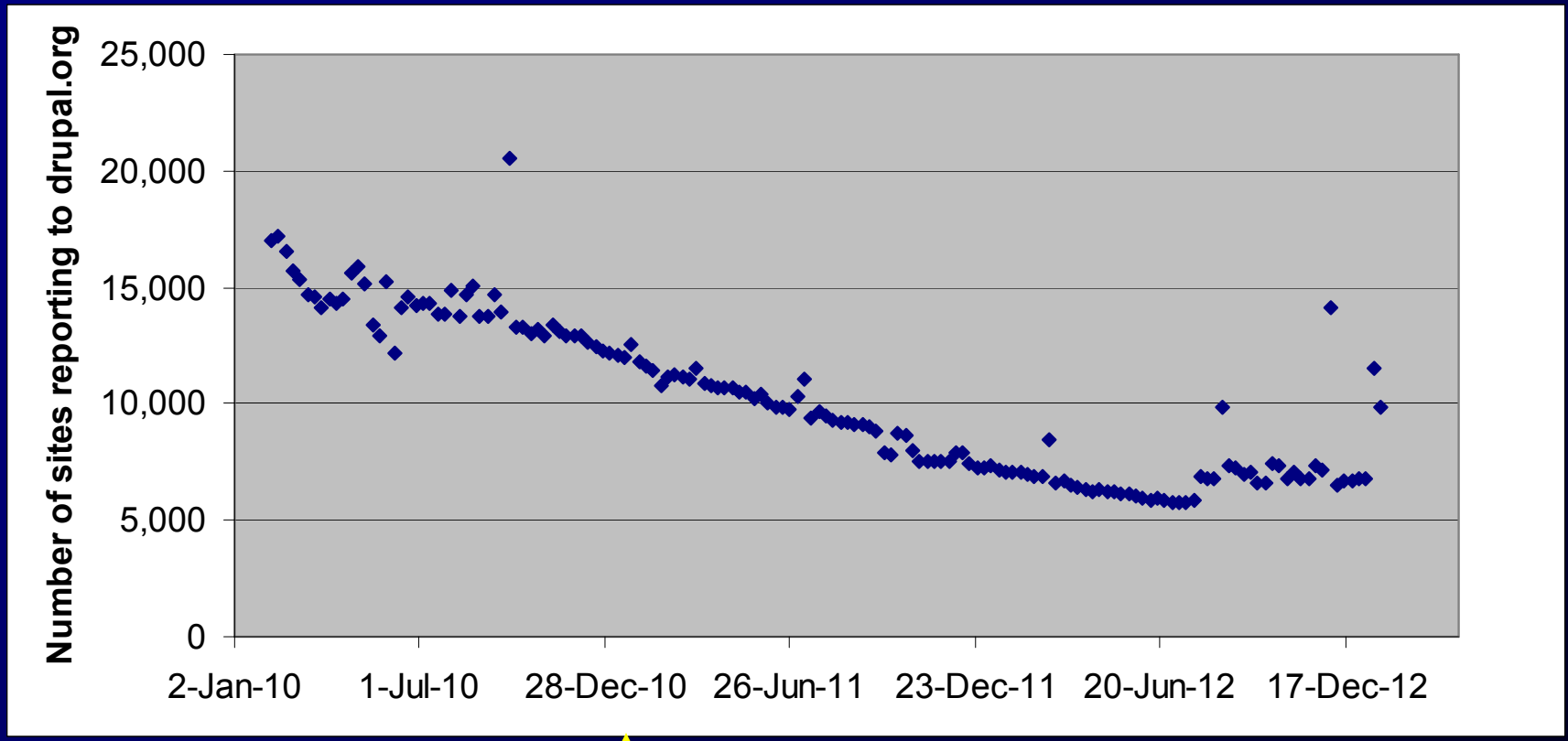


D7

D6

Drupal 7 release date

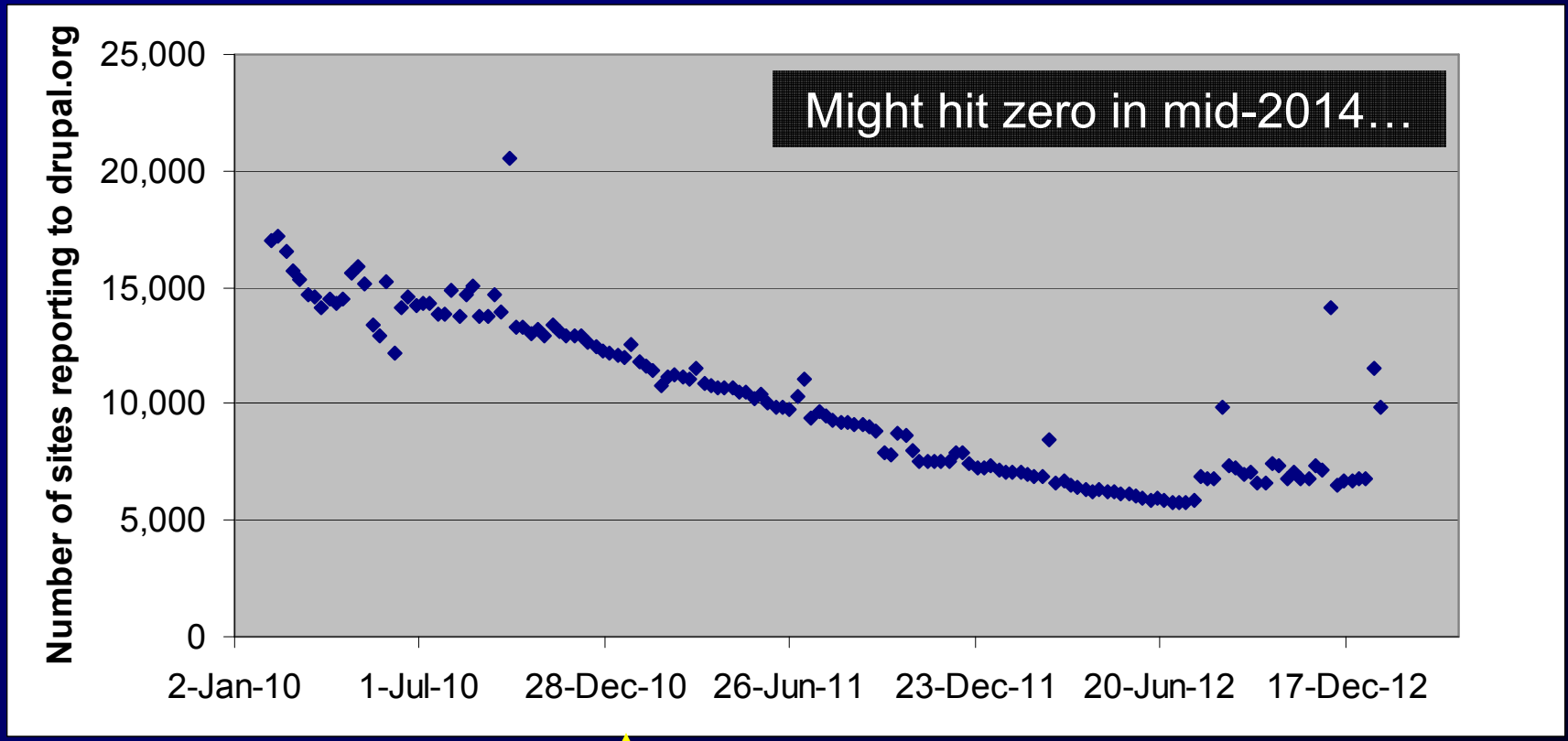
Even after the site's code is no longer supported (Drupal 5)



Drupal 7 released – Drupal 5 unsupported

Caveat: Heavily undercounted, but biased towards upgrade-conscious sites

Even after the site's code is no longer supported (Drupal 5)



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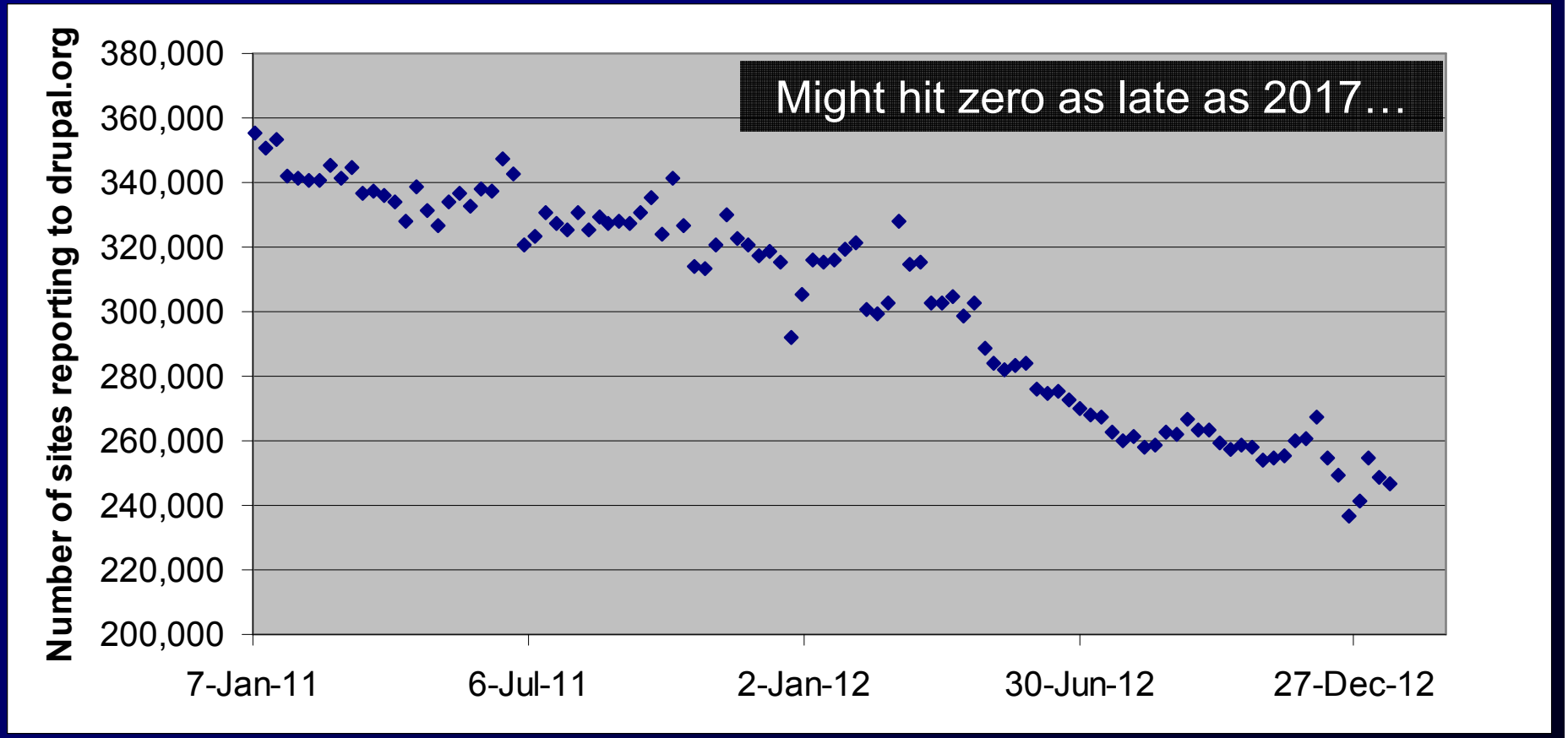
Will Drupal 6 be different?



(Will Drupal 7?)

What's the overall risk?

1. De facto forking of the project

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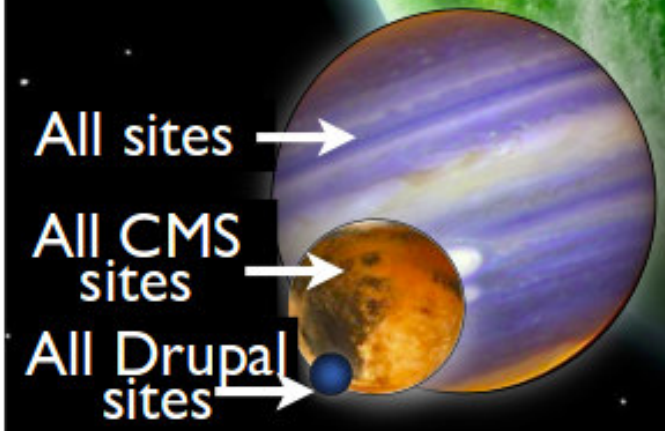
   - Easier to just backport things (security patches for D6 after D8 release?)

Mobile

25X growth
over next 5 years!



This is what Drupal relies on to grow

What's the overall risk?

1. De facto forking of the project
   - Drupal reinvents itself every few years
   - Upgrading is difficult and not done right away
   - Easier to just backport things (security patches for D6 after D8 release?)
2. Drupal 8 has no built-in audience. It must sell itself, so it better be good.

Some Drupal 8 features (in alphabetical order)

- For more details:

  “Raising the Bar for Drupal: WSCCI, Scotch & Vodka (and Rum!)”
  Forest Mars (1:30 pm in Friend 004)

- Thanks especially to:

  Angie Byron (webchick)’s hook_future_alter() slides
  http://webchick.net/drupal-8-slides

1. Borrowing code from other projects

- Symfony (PHP framework)
- Guzzle (HTTP client)
- Twig (templating engine)
- Doctrine (code annotation parsing)
- EasyRdf (RDF processing and testing)
- CreateJS (JavaScript library for rich interactions)
- etc.

Why it's good

Drupal's code for determining a visitor's IP address

```
function ip_address() {
  $ip_address = &drupal_static(__FUNCTION__);

  if (!isset($ip_address)) {
    $ip_address = $_SERVER['REMOTE_ADDR'];

    if (variable_get('reverse_proxy', 0)) {
      $reverse_proxy_header = variable_get('reverse_proxy_header',
'HTTP_X_FORWARDED_FOR');
      if (!empty($_SERVER[$reverse_proxy_header])) {
        // If an array of known reverse proxy IPs is provided, then trust
        // the XFF header if request really comes from one of them.
        $reverse_proxy_addresses = variable_get('reverse_proxy_addresses', array());

        // Turn XFF header into an a
        $forwarded = explode(',', $_

        // Trim the forwarded IPs; t
        $forwarded = array_map('trim

        // Tack direct client IP ont
        $forwarded[] = $ip_address;

        // Eliminate all trusted IPs
        $untrusted = array_diff($for

        // The right-most IP is the most specific we can trust.
        $ip_address = array_pop($untrusted);
```

Lots of complex low-level server-specific code that has nothing to do with Drupal

Why it's good

Drupal's code for determining a visitor's IP address

Why it's risky:
These are smaller, newer projects compared to Drupal

- Wordpress: 8,402,283 websites
- Drupal: 554,495 websites
- Symfony: 464 websites

(OK, the actual numbers are probably very very wrong…)

(from BuiltWith Trends: trends.builtwith.com)

Better measure: Conference attendance?

- Symfony Live
  - September 2012 @ San Francisco
  - November 2012 @ Berlin
  - ~ 200-300 attendees each
- DrupalCon
  - March 2012 @ Denver … ~3,100 attendees
  - August 2012 @ Munich … ~1,800 attendees

Newer, less mature projects will have bugs that Drupal already fixed

This is not a criticism. It's a software development fact.

Remember those IP addresses?

Blog

twitter RSS posts RSS comments

RELEASES SECURITY ADVISORIES

Security release: Symfony 2.0.19 and 2.1.4

by Fabien Potencier November 29, 2012 – comments

I've just released Symfony 2.0.19 and 2.1.4. *Both releases contain a security fix.*

Damien Tournoud, from the Drupal security team, contacted us two days ago about a security issue in the `Request::getClientIp()` method when the trust proxy mode is enabled (`Request::trustProxyData()`).

That worked well, but what will happen after Drupal 8.0?

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Concern within the Drupal security team about coordinating with all these other projects

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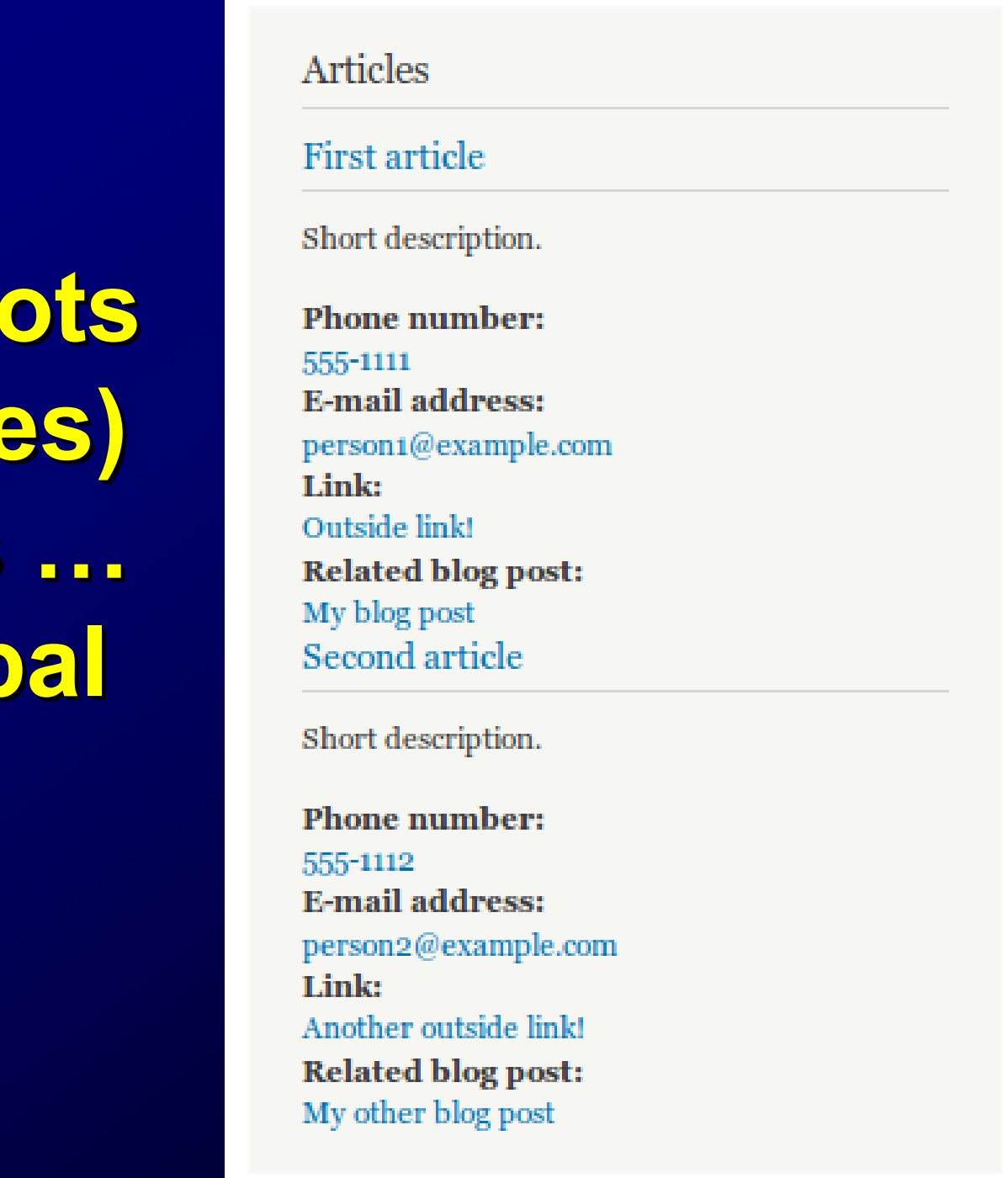
Concern within the Drupal security team about coordinating with all these other projects

Discussion:
groups.drupal.org/node/250578
drupal.org/node/1451056

2. Fields (lots of new ones) and Views … all in Drupal core!

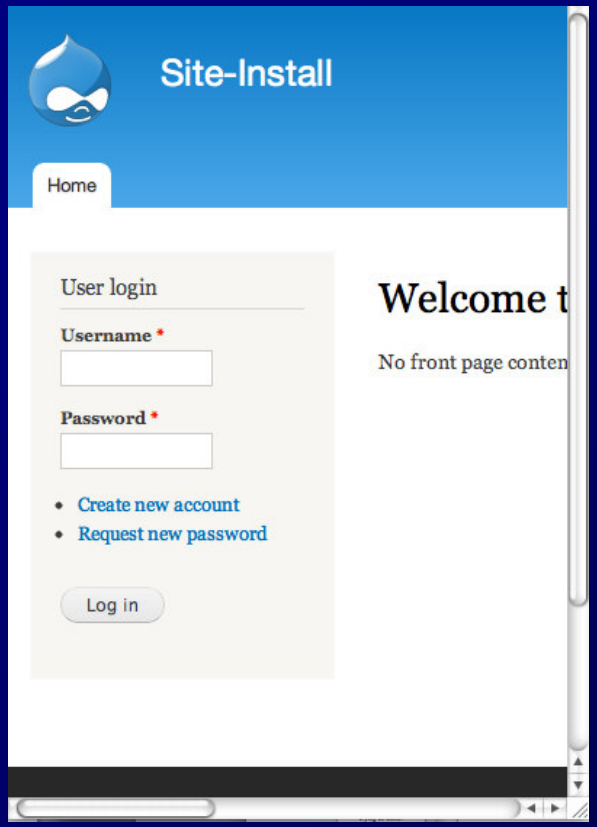


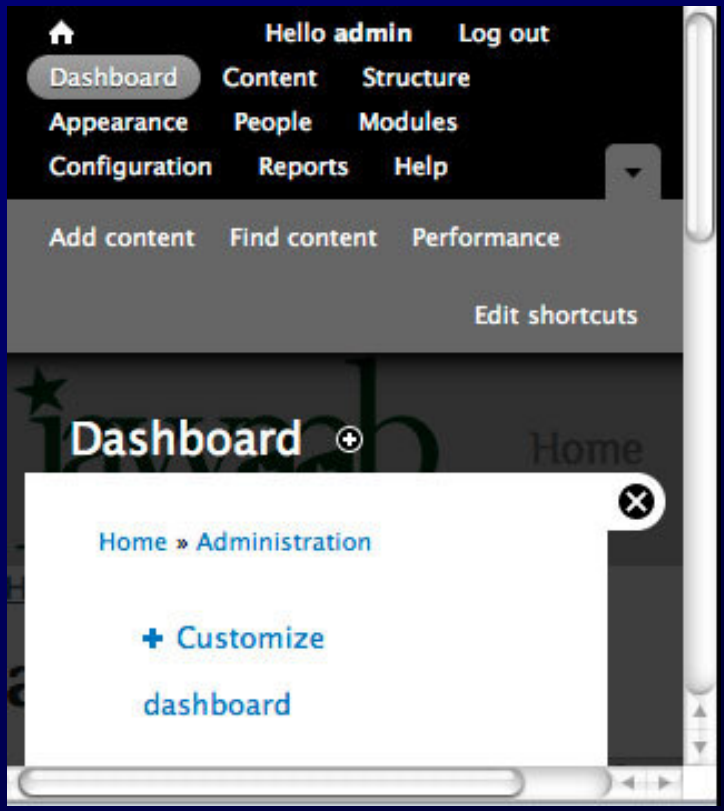
Overall this is pretty good

- But Drupal core is getting big… very big (both good and risky)
- Will features get locked in and not be developed further?

Help Views be great before Drupal 8 is released:
drupal.org/community-initiatives/drupal-core/vdc-roadmap

3. HTML5 and Mobile



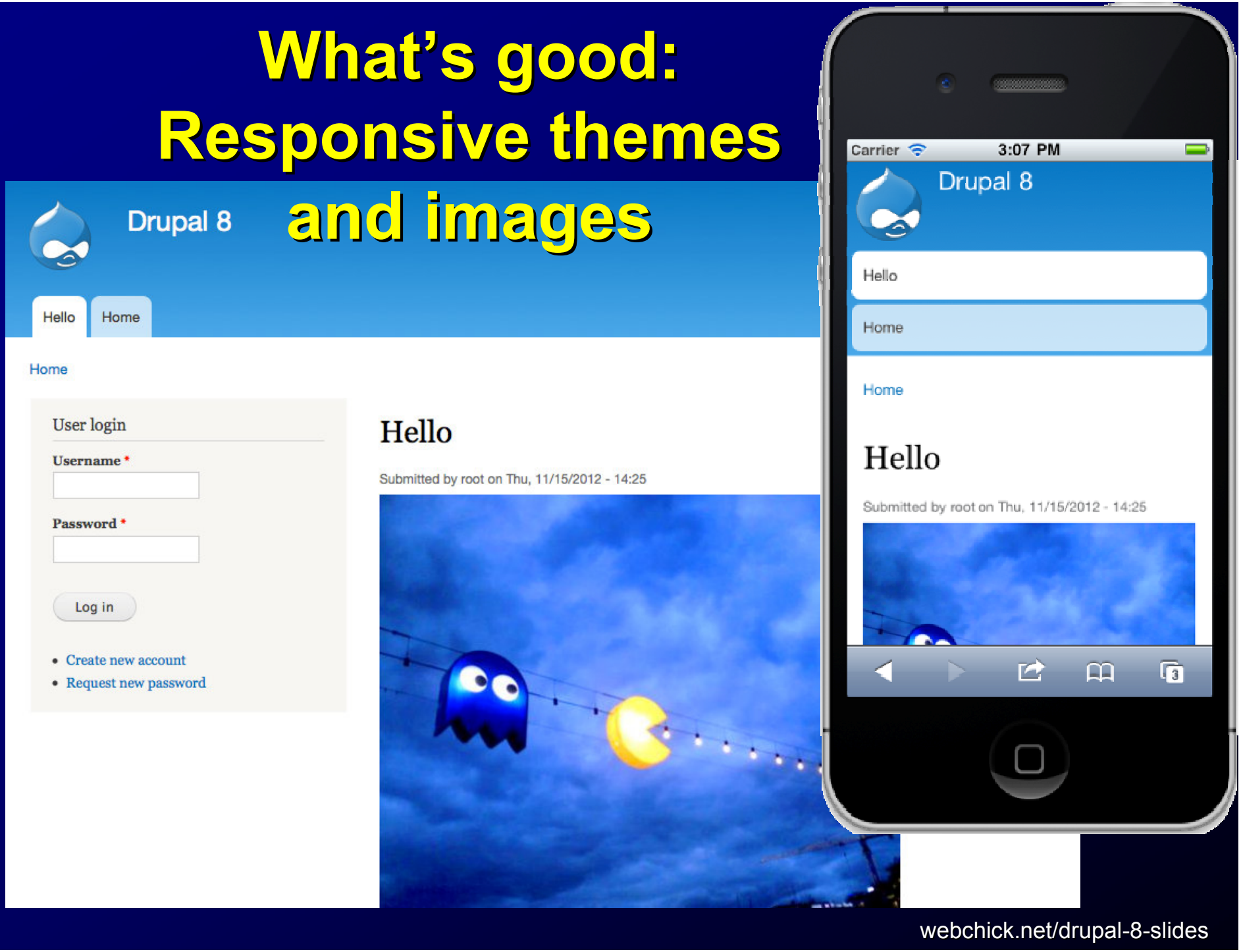


On a narrow screen, Drupal 7 is not so good out of the box… Drupal 8 tries to fix that.

What's good: Mobile administration

webchick.net/drupal-8-slides

What's good: Responsive themes and images



What's risky

Making desktop worse to make mobile better?

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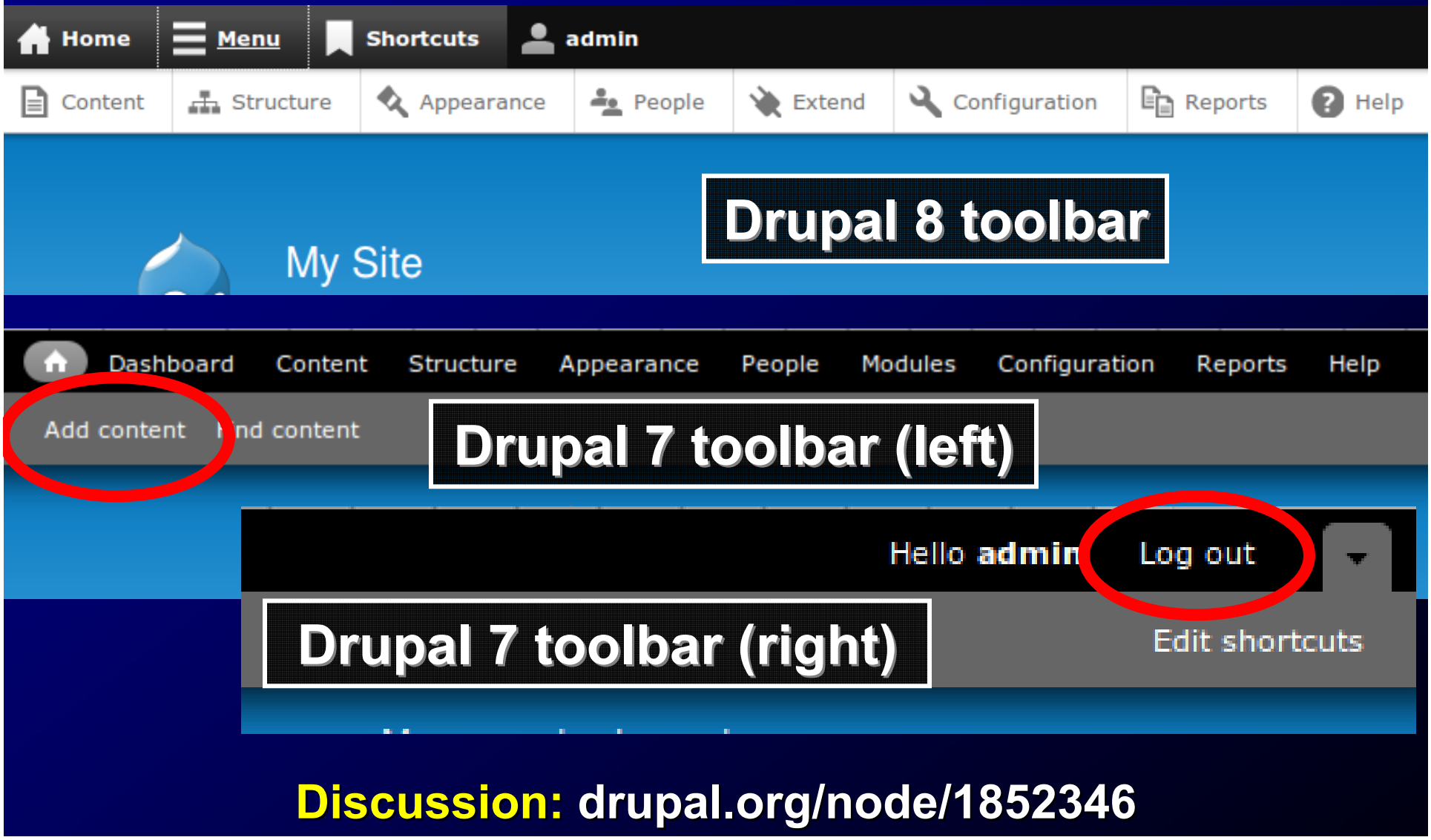
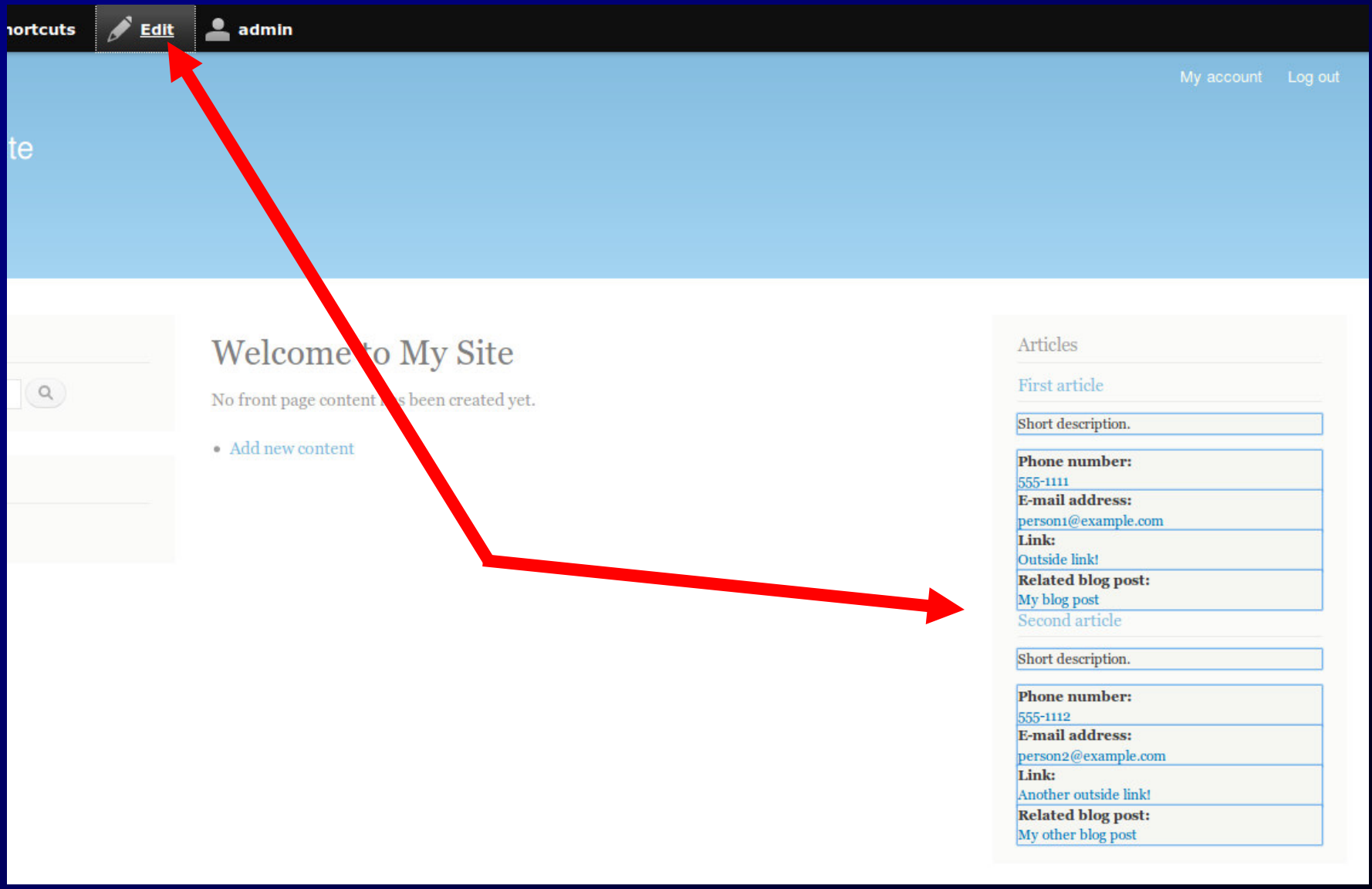
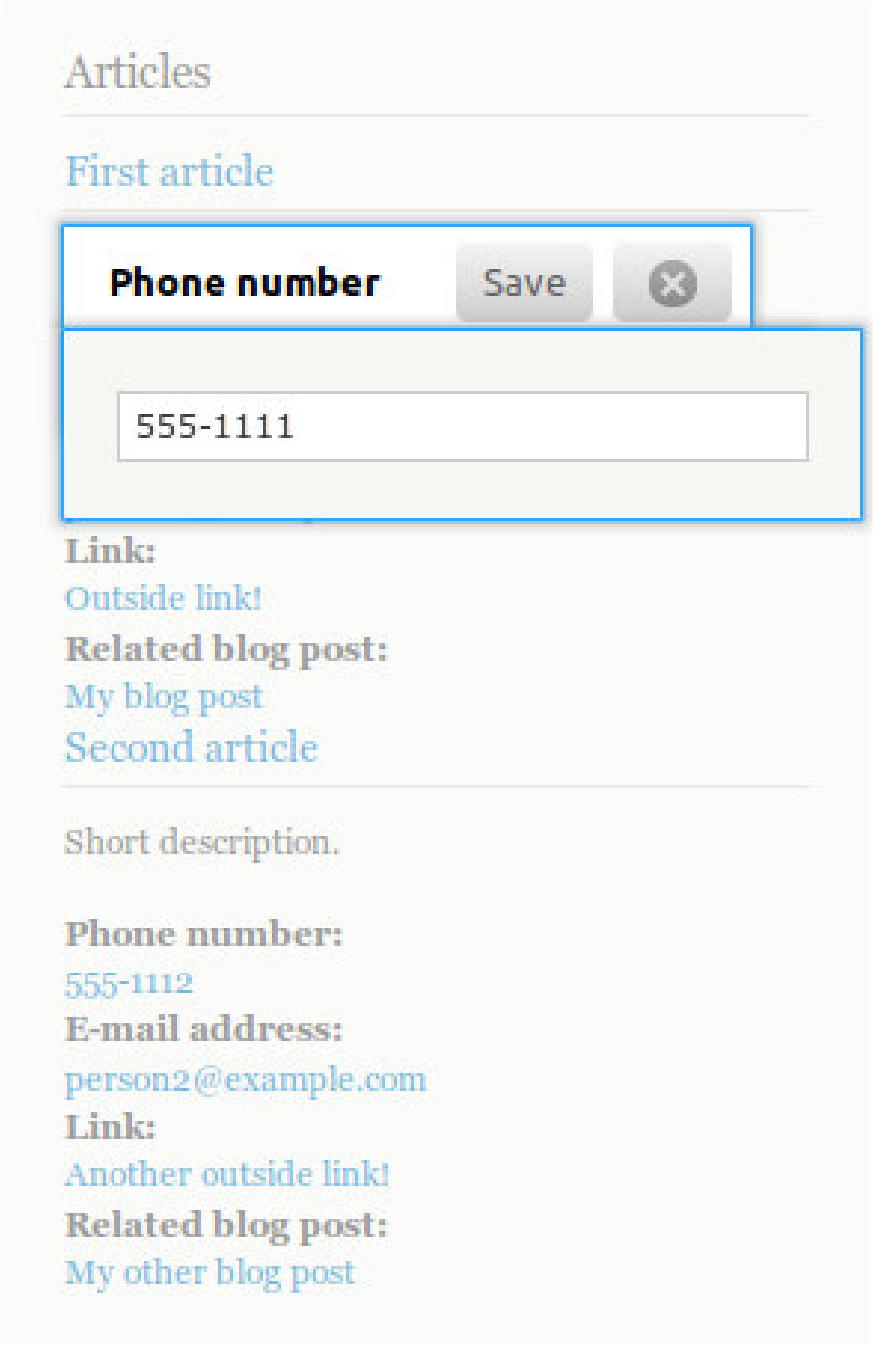


Discussion: drupal.org/node/1852346

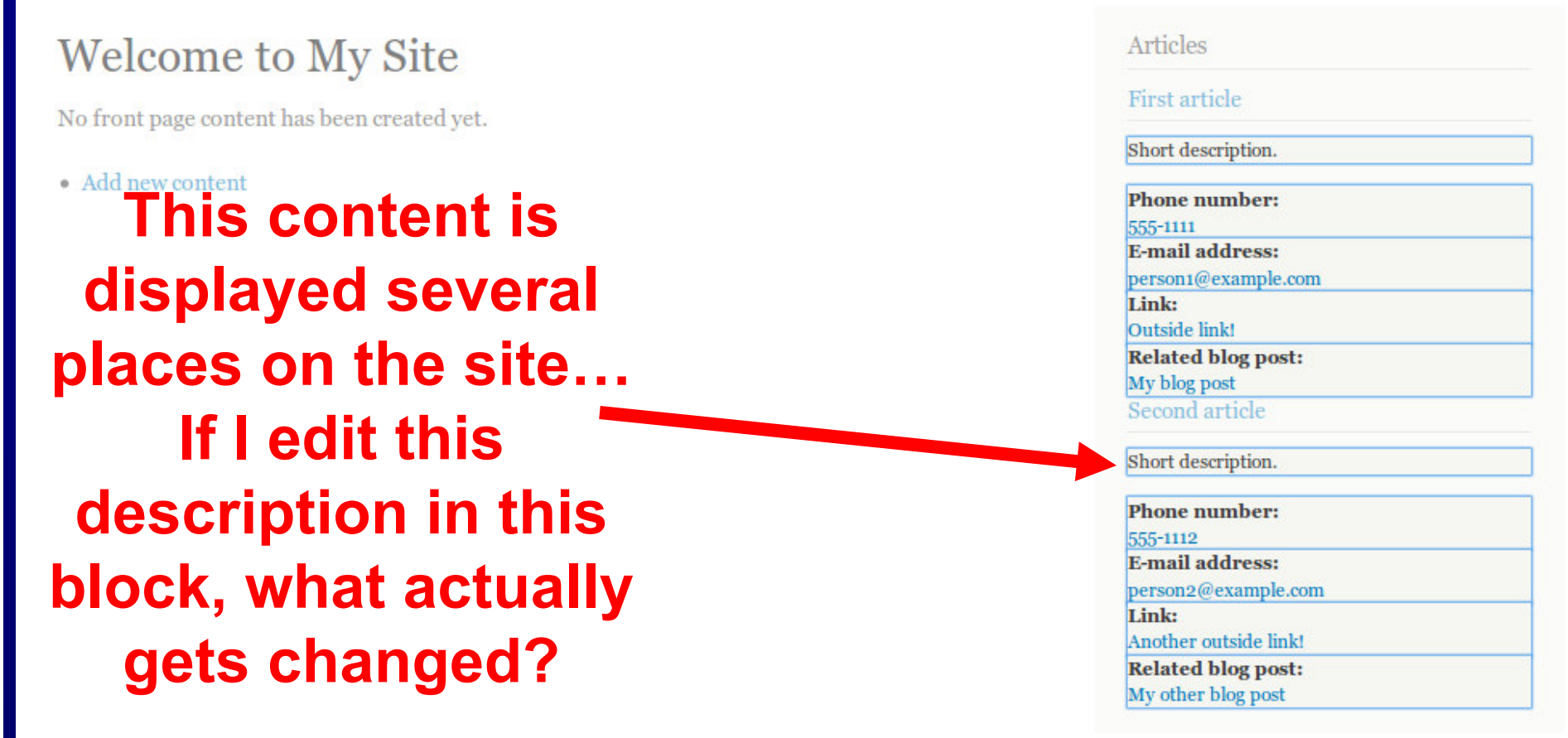
4. Inline editing



What's good: This is pretty neat stuff (both technically and for end users)



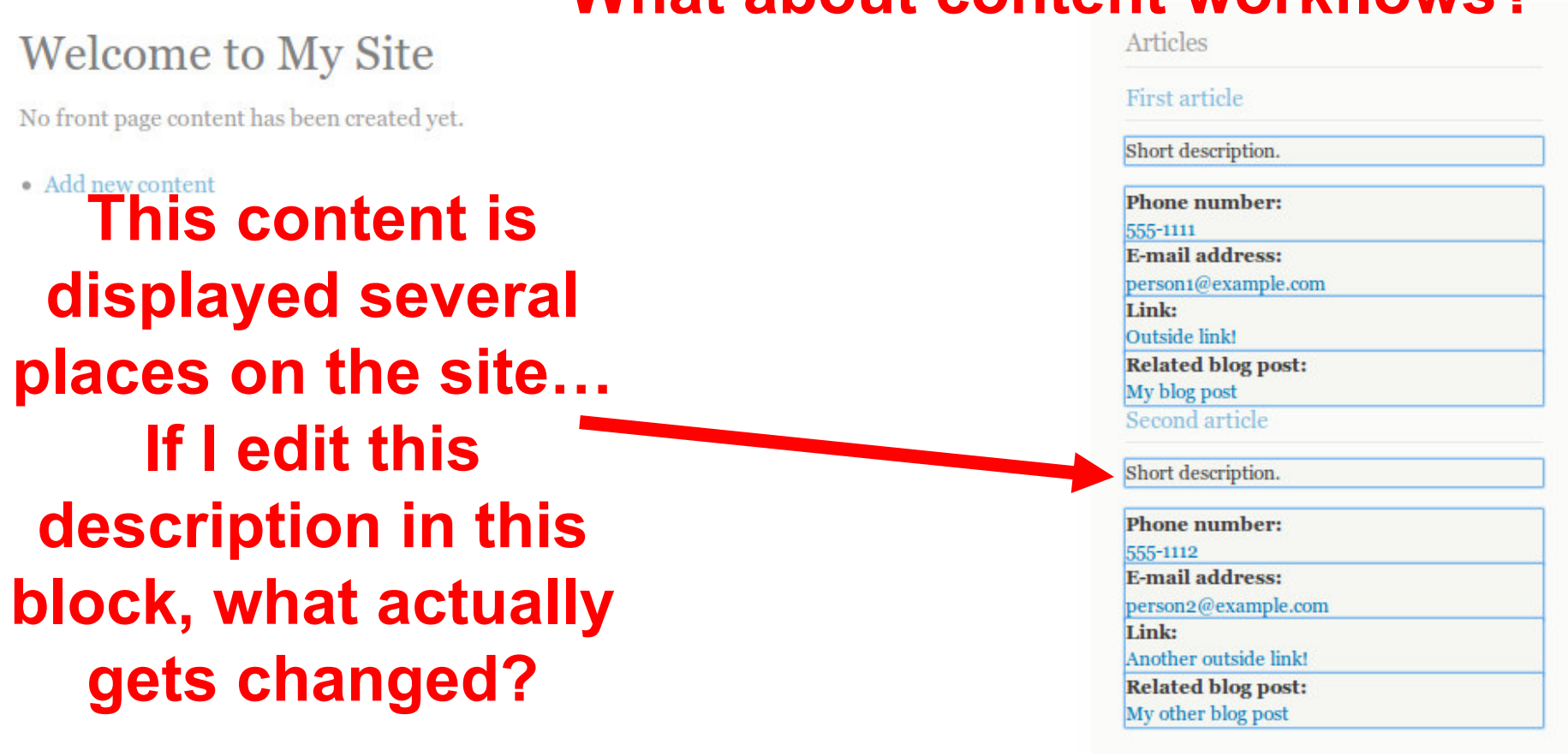
What's risky: Mildly complex sites?



This content is displayed several places on the site… If I edit this description in this block, what actually gets changed?

What's risky: Mildly complex sites?

What about content workflows?



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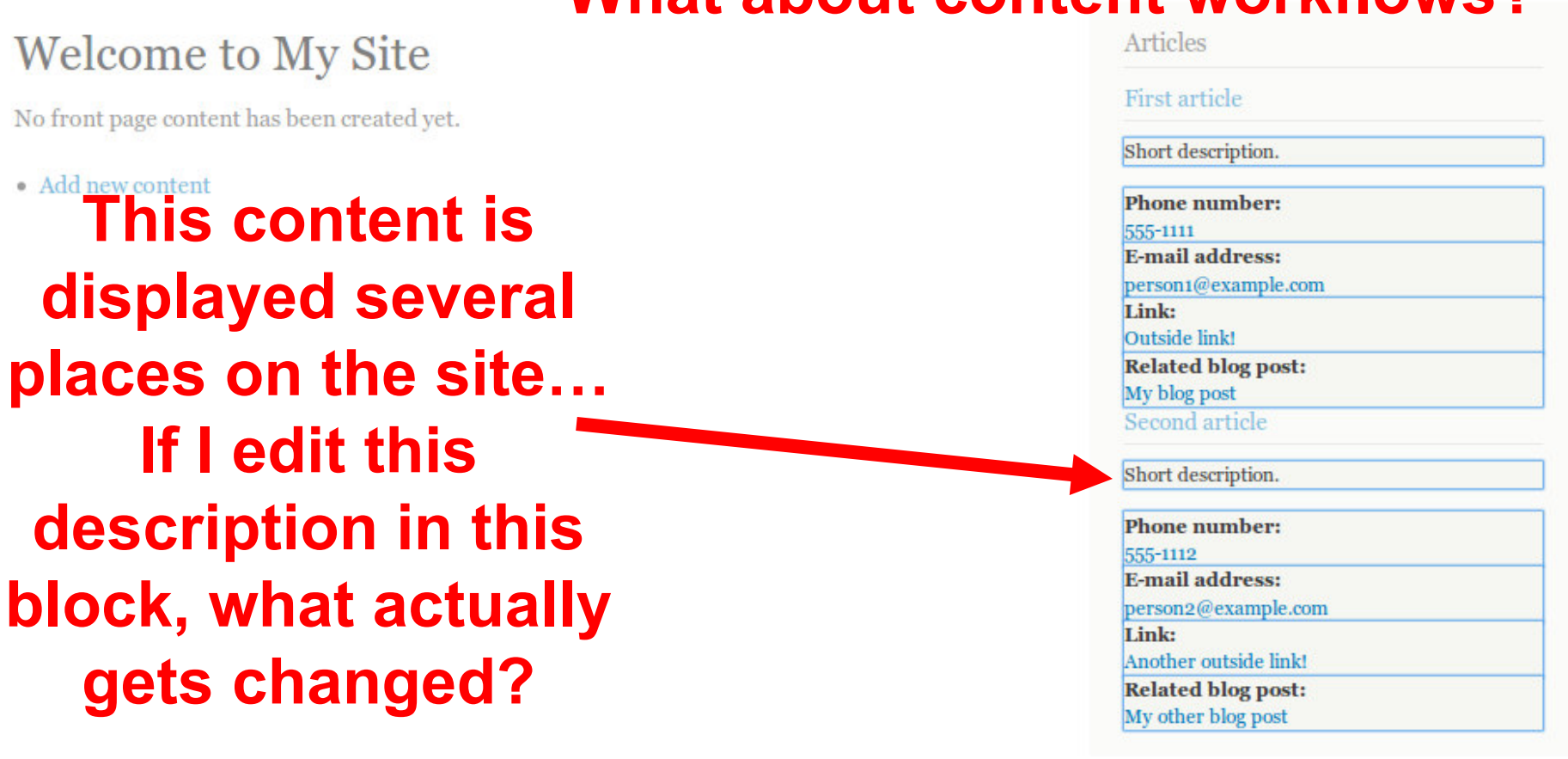


This content is displayed several places on the site… If I edit this description in this block, what actually gets changed?

Discussion: drupal.org/node/1862784

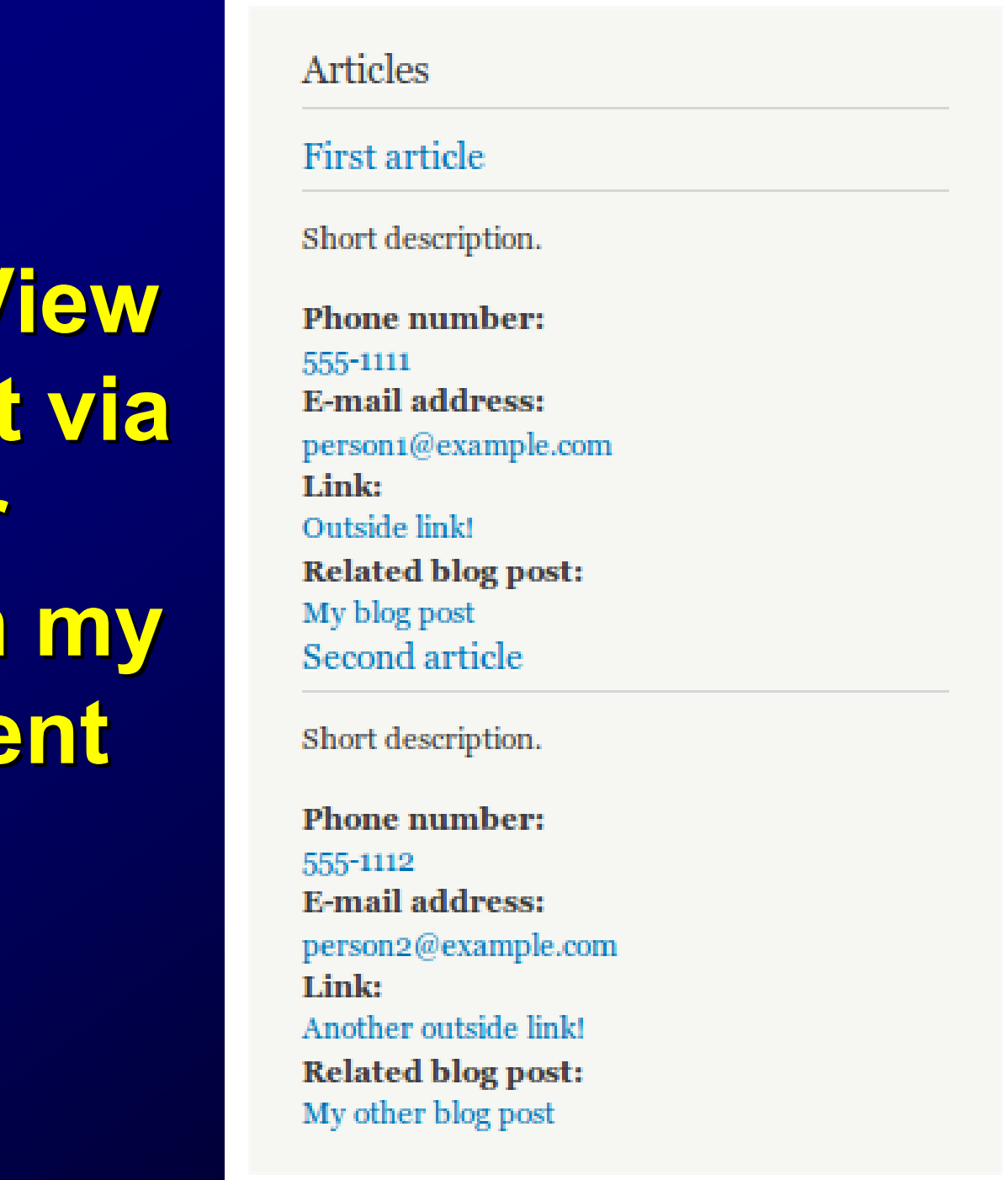
drupal.org/node/1678002

5. Managing configuration

Changing functionality on your production website without having to click lots of buttons on your production website…

(a.k.a. Features module in D6/D7)

I took this View and edited it via the user interface on my development site

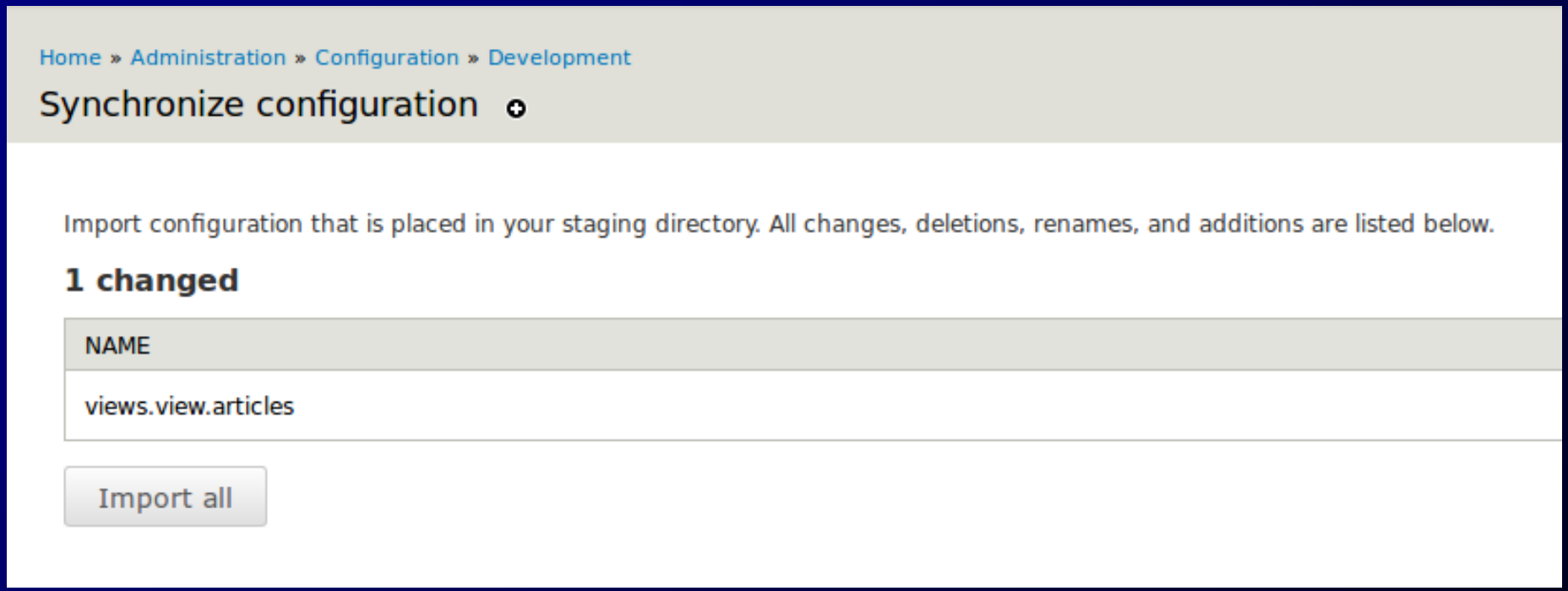


It creates a file which I can move to my production site

```
'sites/default/files/config_-GEdUBbxE4jJ2Nj6WjVf-nocxTQmZMoza2RI3H1Ct9A/staging$ ls -l

-data  262 Feb  1 17:25 README.txt
-data 1697 Feb  1 20:53 views.view.articles.yml
```

On my production site I press a single button



Changes go live!

Articles

Second article

Short description.

Phone number:
555-1112
E-mail address:
person2@example.com
Link:
Another outside link!
Related blog post:
My other blog post

First article

Short description.

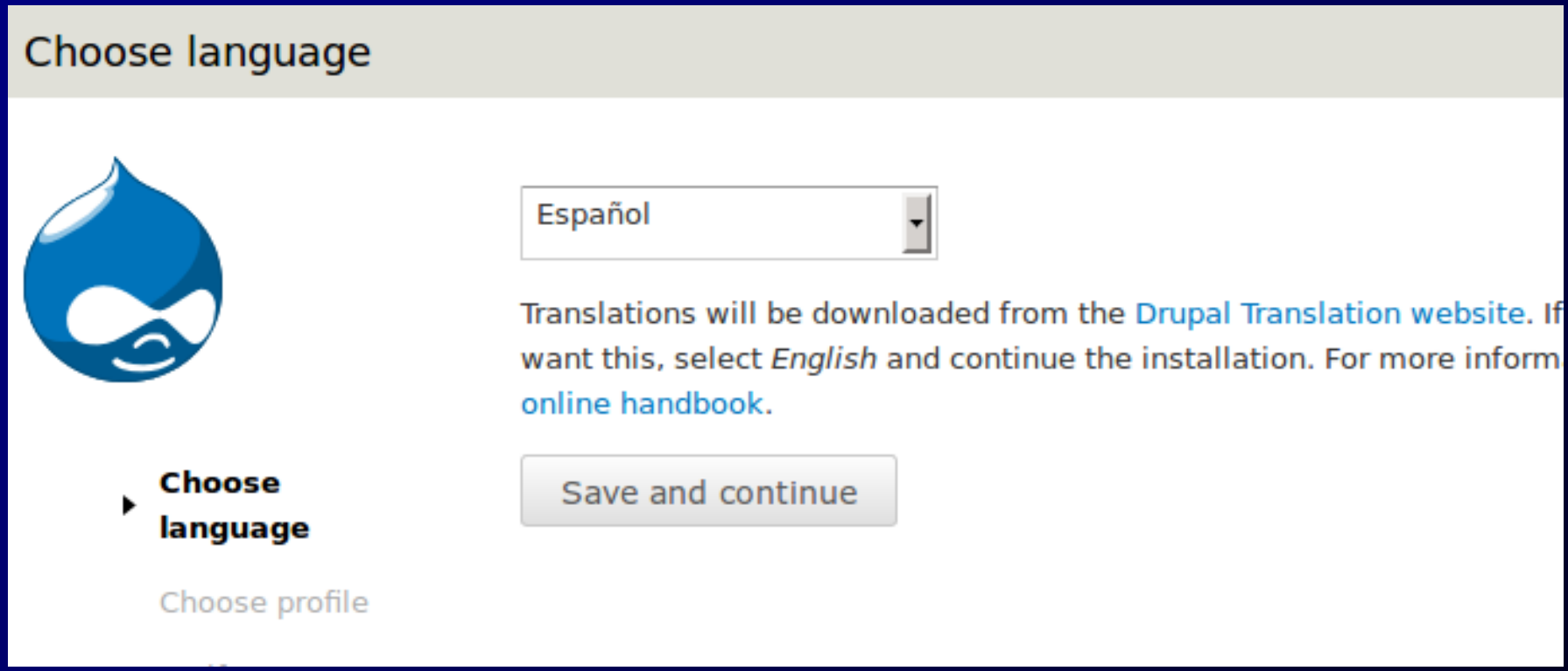
Phone number:
555-1111
E-mail address:
person1@example.com
Link:
Outside link!
Related blog post:
My blog post

Managing configuration

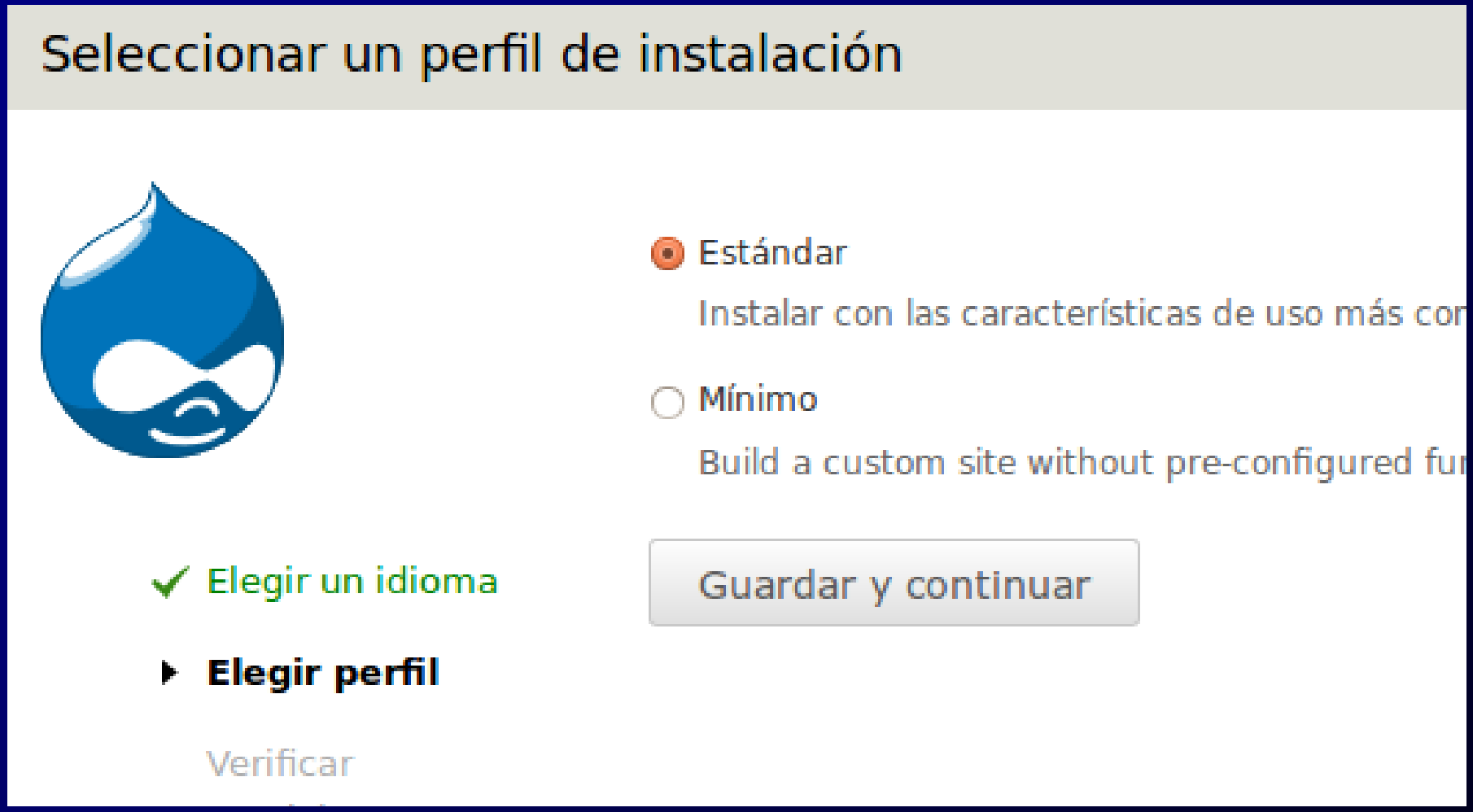
- What's good: Having this in core will be an amazing tool for developers
- What's risky: This is a completely new implementation (not based on the Features module)
- What it needs: Testing and review

drupal.org/community-initiatives/drupal-core#cmi

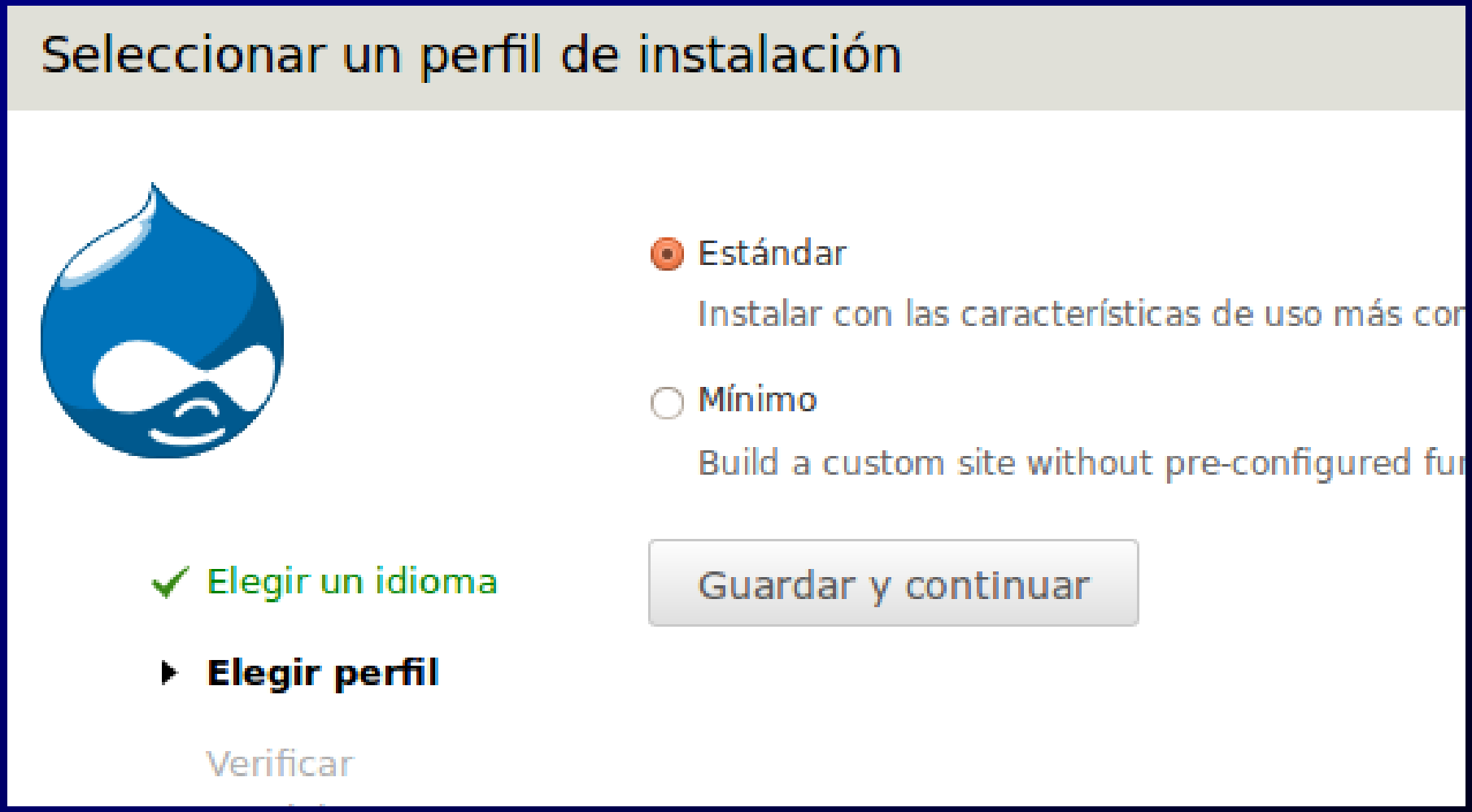
6. Multilingual improvements



Presto!


Seleccionar un perfil de instalación
Estándar
Instalar con las características de uso más cor
Mínimo
Build a custom site without pre-configured fu
Elegir un idioma
Guardar y continuar
Elegir perfil
Verificar

Presto!



(Oh, and once your site is running – lots and lots of improvements to entity and field translations)

What's risky?

What's risky?

- Nothing, really…

What's risky?

- Nothing, really…
- Except if it doesn't get finished…

What's risky?

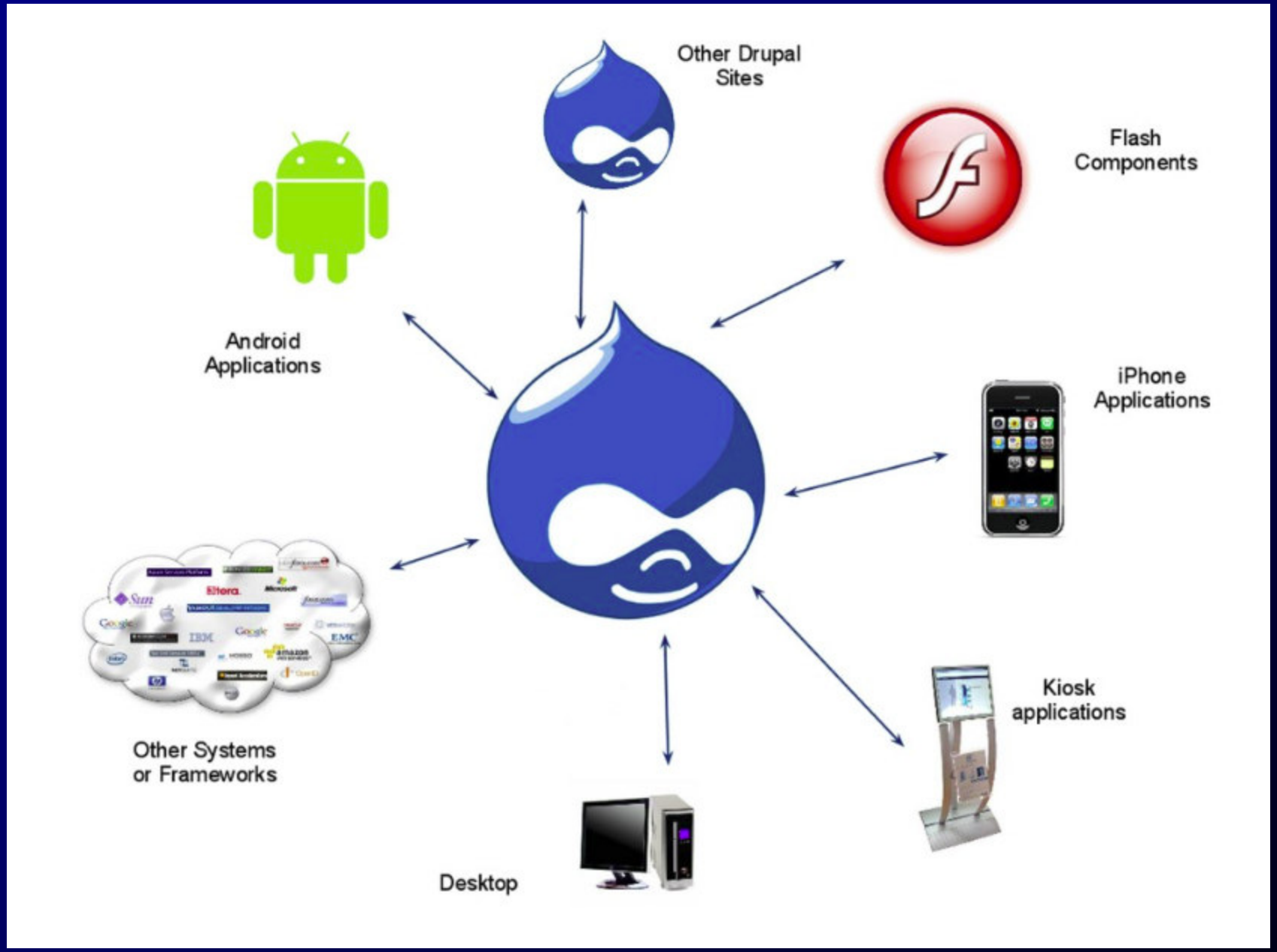
- Nothing, really…
- Except if it doesn't get finished…

drupal.org/community-initiatives/drupal-core#d8mi

7. Web services

(This is why Symfony was added.)

drupal.org/community-initiatives/drupal-core#wscci


Other Drupal Sites
Flash Components
Android Applications
iPhone Applications
Other Systems or Frameworks
Kiosk applications
Desktop

Still to come or in progress…

- Content previews?
- WYSIWYG in core?
- Project browser?
- Blocks and layouts?
- Other modules (like Date fields or Pathauto) in core?
- Cleaner and easier to find modules page
- Under-the-hood changes for themers (Twig) and developers (Entity API improvements)
- And lots more…

What's risky: Does Drupal provide everything for everyone?

What's risky: Does Drupal provide everything for everyone?

Decisions not Options

As developers we sometimes feel that providing options for everything is a good thing, you can never have too many choices, right? Ultimately these choices end up being technical ones, choices that the average end user has no interest in. It's our duty as developers to make smart design decisions and avoid putting the weight of technical choices on our end users.

Conclusion

- Drupal reinvents itself every few years.
- That's worked in the past.
- Each time, the reinvention gets more ambitious.
- Drupal 8 might be the biggest change yet.
- There are risks, but it's an exciting time to be doing Drupal!

- Get involved: Contribution sprint tomorrow
- In general: drupal.org/contribute