



# How to hack core

...without using a foot gun.

# Who I am

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# What led me to this

- People frequently asking about improving Drupal performance by modifying the database.
- I had to hack core for a client.

# Review – why not to hack core.

- You cannot automatically install the latest version of Drupal from drupal.org.
- Security updates are work.
- Site handoffs require more documentation.
- You have to add the caveat that you are not really running drupal.

# Why do people want to hack core?

- Performance
- Bug fixes that have not yet made it into a released version of drupal
- Adding new feature.

# Performance

- There are two forks of Drupal that already have a community around them.
  - Pressflow by 4 Kitchens
  - Drops-7 by Pantheon Systems (which is a fork of Pressflow)

# Bugs in core

- Securepages module requires patching core.

## D7 status

The 7.x-dev release should be working for most uses. There are a few core bugs that are holding up a full release:

### Steps to install Secure Pages 7.x-dev

- Set `$conf['https'] = TRUE;` in settings.php.
- Apply these two patches:
  - [#961508-21: Dual http/https session cookies interfere with drupal\\_valid\\_token\(\)](#)
  - [#471970-13: DrupalWebTestCase->getAbsoluteUrl should use internal browser's base URL](#)

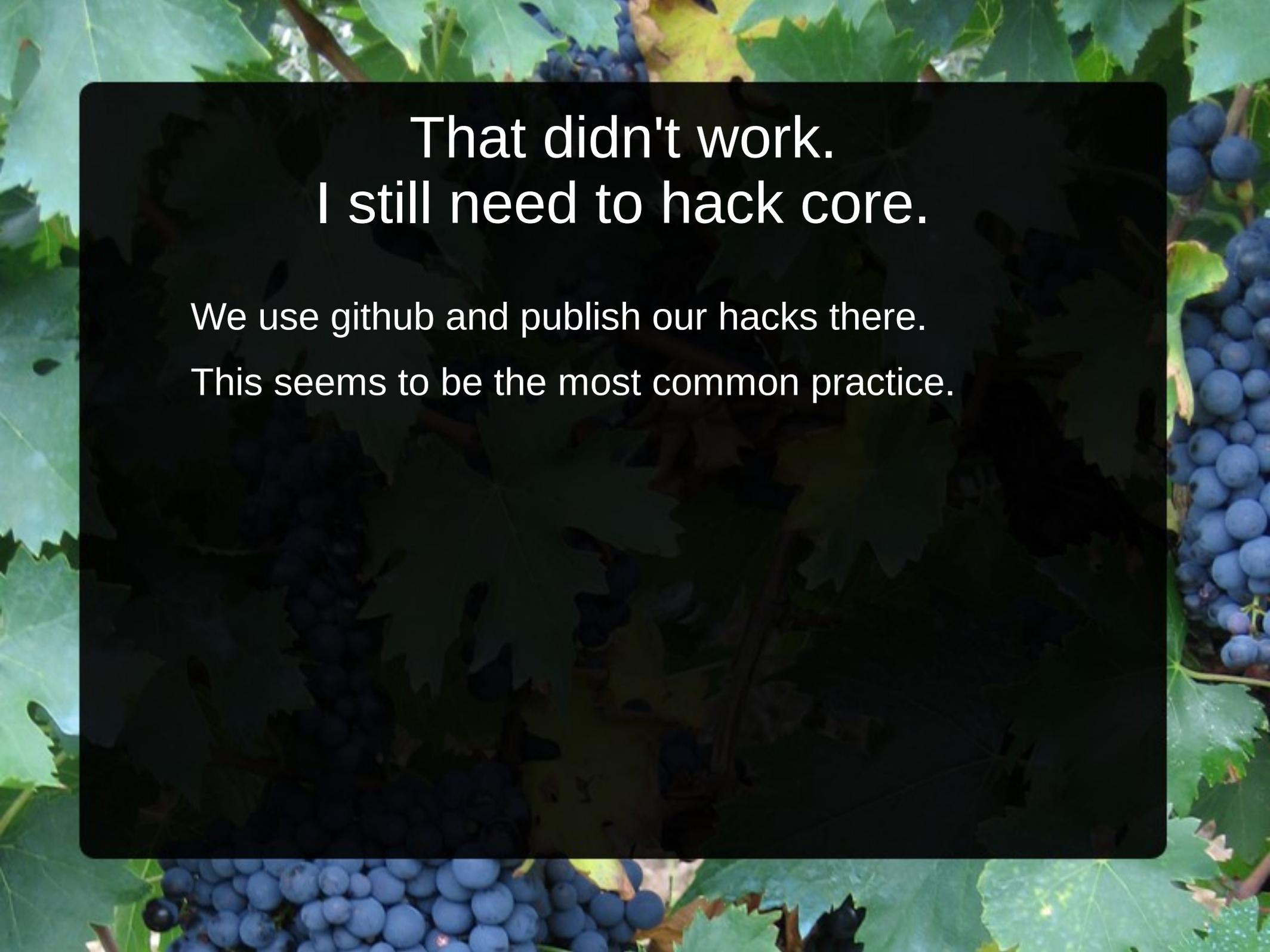
When these core issues are resolved, 7.x-1.0 will be released.

# Features not in core

- Twig
  - While the D7 twig has large differences from D8 you still get a lot of the security and ease of markup advantages of twig.

# How to hack core.

- Don't.
  - Use Pressflow or drops-7 instead.



That didn't work.  
I still need to hack core.

We use github and publish our hacks there.

This seems to be the most common practice.

# Our process.

- Clone drops-7 (we are happy pantheon customers.)
- Hack core
- Create a repository on github
- Push the changes to github
- Merge security patches with git -Xtheirs.

# Clone drops-7

- `git clone git://github.com/pantheon-systems/drops-7.git`  
`drupal-twig.`

# Create repository on github

- If you are using drupal.org as your base create a new repository.
- If you are using drops-7 or Pressflow use the clone project page on github.

# Hack Core

- Create directory themes/engines/twig
- Place twig.engine in the directory

# Push changes to github

- Git add themes/engines
- Git commit themes
- Git remote add github git@github.com:micheas/d7-twig
- Git push github master

# Merge security updates

- `git pull -Xtheirs git://github.com/pantheon-systems/drops-7.git master`
- `git mergetool` if needed.
- `git push`