

The State of Zope

Past - Present - Future

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Speaker

- Zope core developer since 2001
- Doing the Zope 2 releases
- Contributor to Zope & Plone
- Co-Funder and 2nd chairman of German Zope User Group (DZUG e.V.)
- Author of various Zope and Plone products

Disclaimer

This is not a technical talk

Agenda

- **Past**
 - Things we have achieved with ZoPe
- **Present**
 - Where are we standing now
- **Future**
 - Our goals for the future

The Past - History of Zope

- Bobo, Principia
- Zope 2 released in 1999 as open-source by Zope Corporation (formerly Digital Creations)
- For a long-time **the** solution for building web-apps on top of Python
- Playing in the champions league for a long time competing with J2EE, Coldfusion etc.



Why Zope was/is sexy!

- Python
- Zope is about **object-publishing**
- integrated fine-grained security model
- build-in and pluggable user management
- i18n
- Unicode-aware
- Template languages (ZPT/DTML)
- pluggable - reusable
- integrated search engine
- **ZODB**
- much more.....

Other Python frameworks

...are catching up feature-wise

Mistakes made in the past

- lots of implicit magic
- monolithic in some way
- mostly focused on developers
- Poor documentation story
- zope.org...let's skip this topic
- steep learning curve

Zope 3

- started in 2001 with the goals:
 - breaking the Zope core into little pieces (components)
 - using interfaces and adapters for extending functionality
 - glueing components together through configuration (ZCML)
- **ZOPE COMPONENT ARCHITECTURE**

Zope 3 (CA)

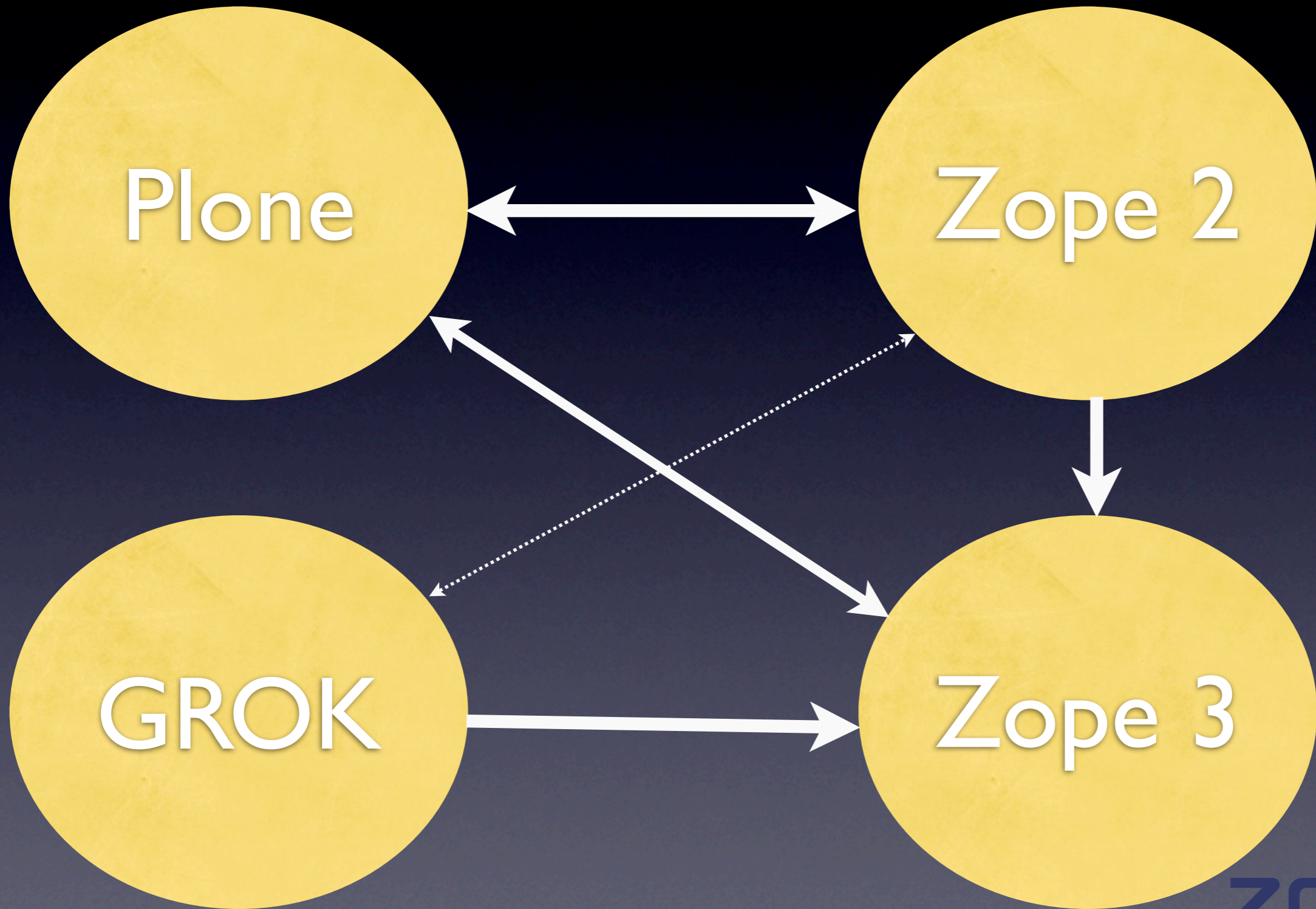
- No more dead-ends
- No more magic
- Much better documentation
- Pluggable architecture
- „Explicit is better than implicit“ (GvR)

Zope 3 - the solution?

DEATH BY ABSTRACTION

(Lennart Regrebo)

The Zope community split-up



2004

Ruby on Rails
surfaced

RoR changed a lot

- 2004: first release of Ruby on Rails
 - RoR patterns were adopted by the Python world
 - „More Python web frameworks than Python keywords“ (Django, Turbogears, Pylons, ...)
- Implications for „the old bull“ Zope:
 - competing with other Python web frameworks
 - Ouuch.....

The Zope identity crisis

- Is Zope 3 the successor of Zope 2?
- Will Zope 2 die?
- Where are we going?
- What is our story for newbies?
- How to position ourselves among the other Python web frameworks?

The Zope identity crisis

- Jim Fulton: „Two visions“
- Tres Seaver's „Whats behind door #3“ talk (2007)

Our vision for the future

- We will talk only of the **Zope** platform
- Phase out the term **Zope 3** (use **Zope Components**)
- Zope 2 will be the **Zope application server**
- Support Zope 2 for the time being
- Zope low-barrier entry point: **GROK**
- Zope components are great

Great stuff for the future

- Eggification of Zope
- Repeatable buildouts using **zc.buildout**
- Repoze (WSGI integration)
- Deliverance
- **GROK**
- www.zope.org to be relaunched

GROK



- The low-barrier entry point to Zope 3
- Automatic configuration through conventions
- Allows you to focus on your app, not on the framework
- flat learning curve

Resources

- **„Two vision“** - Jim Fulton:
 - <http://tinyurl.com/2ehatn>
- **„Behind door #3: Zope futures“** - Tres Seaver
 - <http://tinyurl.com/2egfid>
- **„What Zope did wrong and ...“** - Lennard Regrebro
 - <http://tinyurl.com/2awm58>
- www.repoze.org
- grok.zope.org

Questions?

