



# Gathering plugin usage statistics from publicly available Moodle instances

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# Motivation

- *We are using these plugins* lists  
are outdated at the time of publication

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- *We are using these plugins* lists are outdated at the time of publication
- Only global plugin statistics available, no breakdown into world regions

# Publicly available information?

- List of D-A-CH HiEd Moodle instances
- Moodle instances are reachable
- List of plugins published on moodle.org

# The trick

- Every plugin *must* have a version.php
- Iterate over all given Moodle instances
- Request each known plugin's version.php

# The trick

- HTTP 200: The plugin is installed!
- HTTP > 200: The plugin is most probably not installed or technically obfuscated

# The data basis

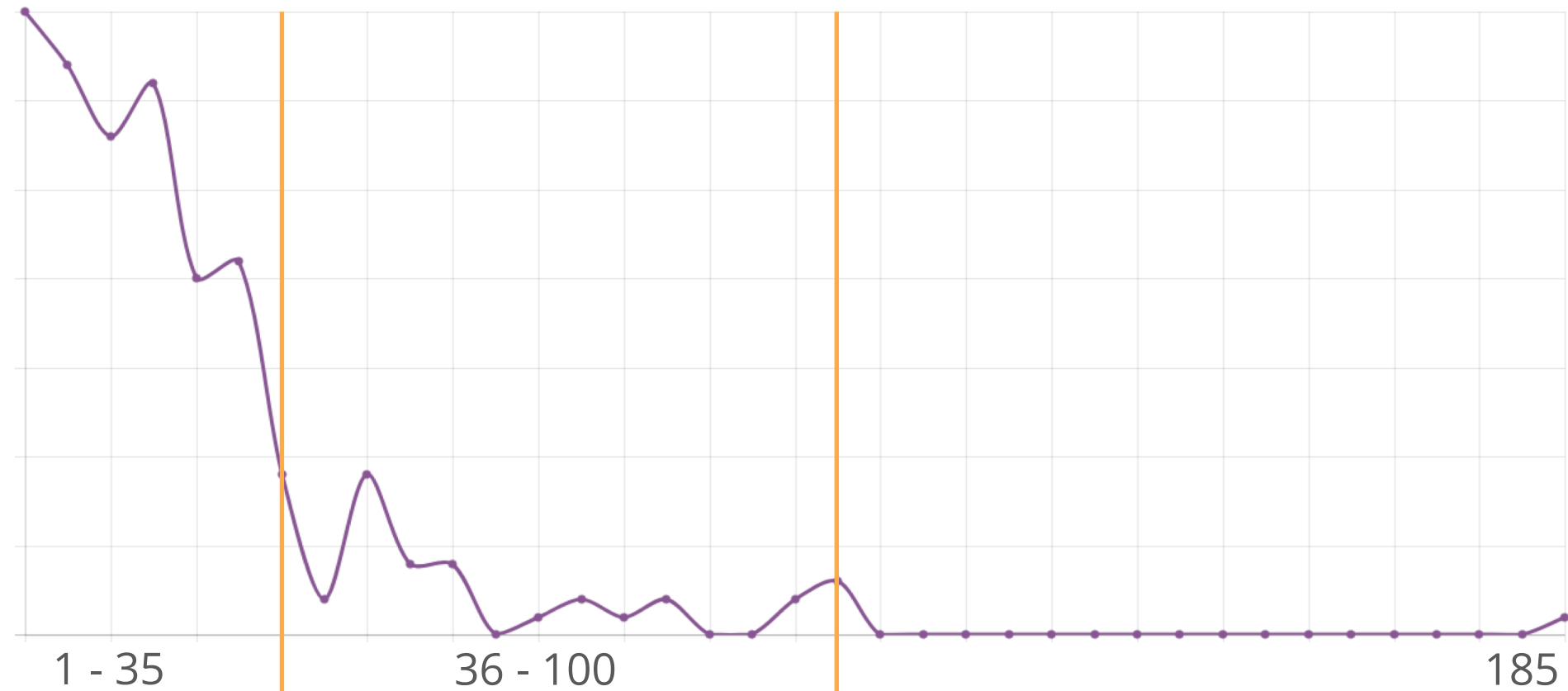
- 230 Moodle instances in D-A-CH HiEd
- > 1600 published plugins on moodle.org

## The results: Base metrics

Moodle sites crawled	230
Moodle sites without any plugin	22
Moodle sites with at least one plugin	208
Mean plugins per site	22
Median plugins per site	18



# The results: Plugins per site

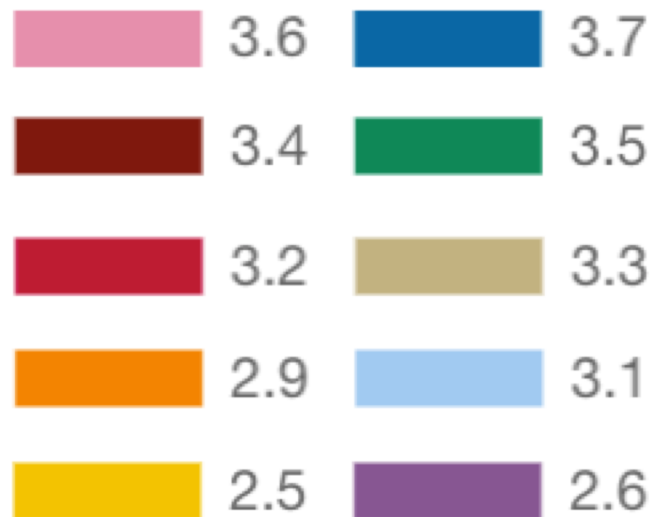
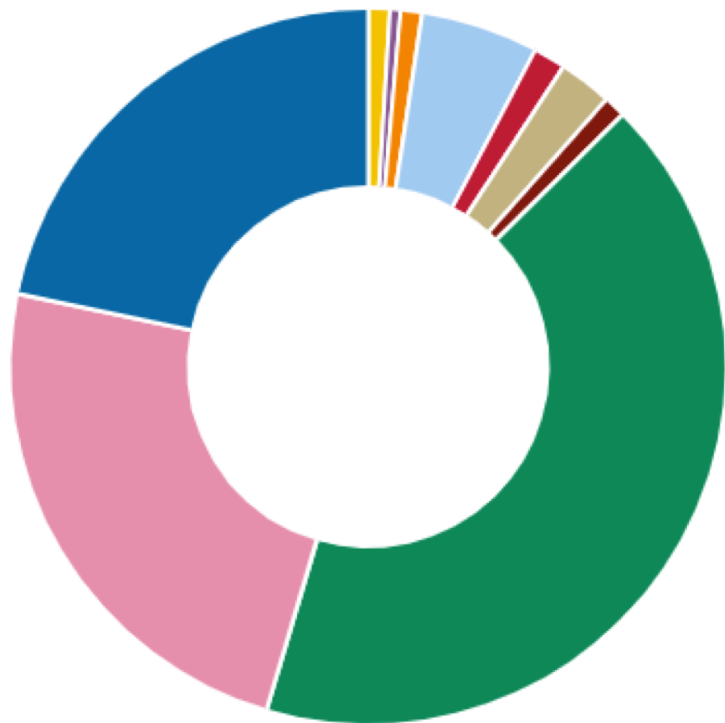


# The results: 20 Most used plugins

mod_hvp	118
mod_choicegroup	103
mod_hotpot	101
mod_scheduler	87
mod_questionnaire	64
mod_adobeconnect	58
format_grid	54
mod_journal	54
block_course_overview_campus	53
mod_lightboxgallery	51

mod_publication	49
format_topcoll	47
qbehaviour_adaptivemultipart	47
block_quickmail	46
atto_fullscreen	44
qbehaviour_dfcbmexplicitvaildate	44
qbehaviour_dfexplicitvaildate	44
qtype_stack	43
mod_attendance	42
block_xp	41

## One more thing



## What about security?

Exposing the highlighted information to unauthenticated crawlers isn't necessarily a security threat.

Unless you are running unsupported code.

## Try it yourself

The crawler plugin is available on  
[github.com/moodleuulm/moodle-local\\_sitestats](https://github.com/moodleuulm/moodle-local_sitestats).

**Please, use it responsibly and at own risk.**

