Adaptive Themes

Transition from a D8 to a D9 site.

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1. Introduction

Suppose you have a nice Drupal 8 site. You've put a lot of work into it to create a nice layout. For this you used the very extensive and very handy Adaptive Theme (https://www.drupal.org/project/adaptivetheme). The theme already existed before Drupal 7 and was put together in a fantastic way by Mr. Jeff Burns. Due to the success in D7 a Drupal 8 version was also provided. Here you also needed the AT-tools (https://www.drupal.org/project/at_tools)module.

And suddenly it seems as if Mr. Jeff Burns has disappeared from the face of the earth (https://www.drupal.org/project/adaptivetheme/issues/3011629). Since the spring of 2018, no sign of life has been given and nothing has been changed. There you are with your beautiful theme. Drupal 8 will be EOL in November 2021 and this theme will no longer be updated to Drupal 9.

On the 'Issues' page there were a lot of questions to make this theme compatible with Drupal 9 anyway. All questions that remained unanswered.

And then suddenly came the idea of Mr. Matt Bloomfield to take the code in hand and make it Drupal 9 Compatible. He couldn’t get in touch with Jeff either. He had proposed to become co-manager but unfortunately without success.

Because the theme is so great he took it under his own wings and adapted the codes so that the theme was not threatened with extinction.

Because working with a .zip file didn't seem very convenient and more and more use should be made of Composer, Matt started two new projects (note the subtle differences in the names):

AT_Theme: https://www.drupal.org/project/at_theme

AT_tool: https://www.drupal.org/project/at_tool

2. Warning

In principle, nothing should go wrong if you follow the actions set out below. Nonetheless, I recommend that everyone take the following steps:

- Download a full copy of your original website and, if you have the possibility, install it in a subsite for testing.

- Use a new database in which you place a backup of the original site. DON'T FORGET TO MODIFY THE SETTINGS.PHP FILE WITH THE DATA OF THE CORRECT DATABASE.

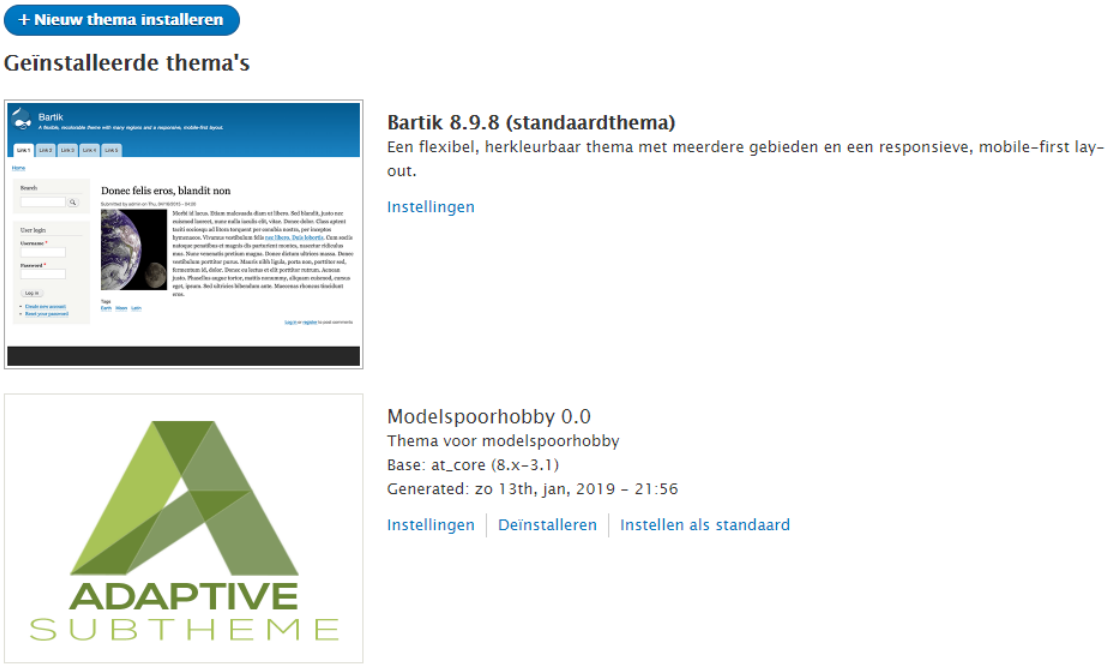
3. Working method

Before installing the module AT_theme and AT_tool a number of preparations have to be made. If you install these modules first, conflicts will arise with the old modules of Adaptive Theme .

3.1 Adaptive themes

Suppose you have built a nice Drupal 8 website on the Adaptive_Theme by Jeff Burns and you want to prepare your website for Drupal 9. With the next steps you should be able to do that.

1. The theme you created with the AT_theme_generator should NOT be deleted, because then all your settings will be lost. For the sake of clarity, I use the name of my website here (modelspoorhobby). Do not set your own theme as the default theme, but use Bartik as the default theme. Your page 'appearance' should look like this:

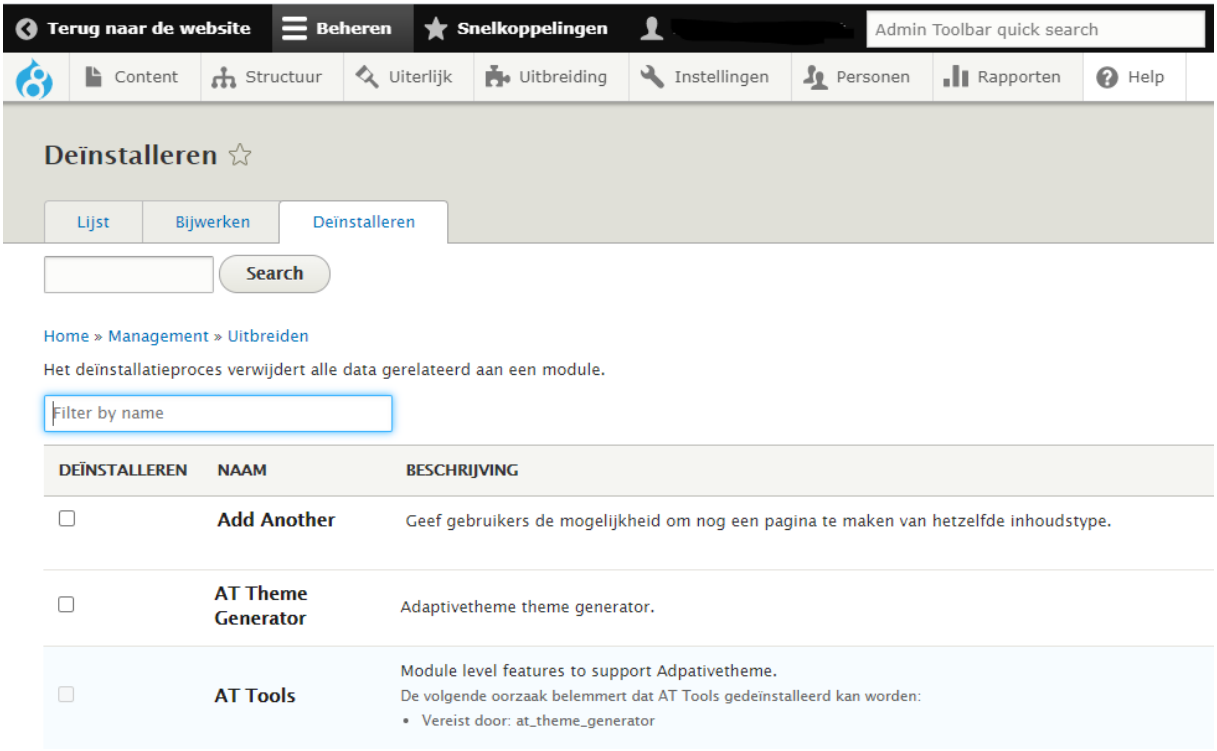


2. Go to the "extension" page and uninstall the following modules:

- AT_Theme_Generator

- AT_tools;

First you need to uninstall the AT_theme_generator module before you can uninstall the AT_Tools module.



Before you go any further, it is best to clear the Caches.

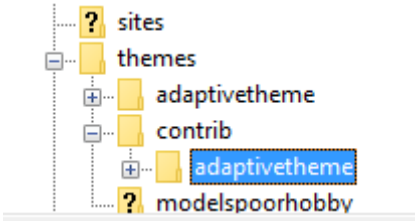
3. Open your SSH access with Putty, go to the directory where your site is located and execute the following instructions:

- composer remove drupal/adaptivetheme;

- composer remove drupal/at_tools;

with these instructions remove the old modules of Adaptivetheme and AT_tools from your composer.json file and from your folder modules/contrib and themes/contrib.

To make sure that everything is gone, it is best to have a look with an ftp program such as filezilla (in my case not everything had been removed and I had to delete the theme manually again:



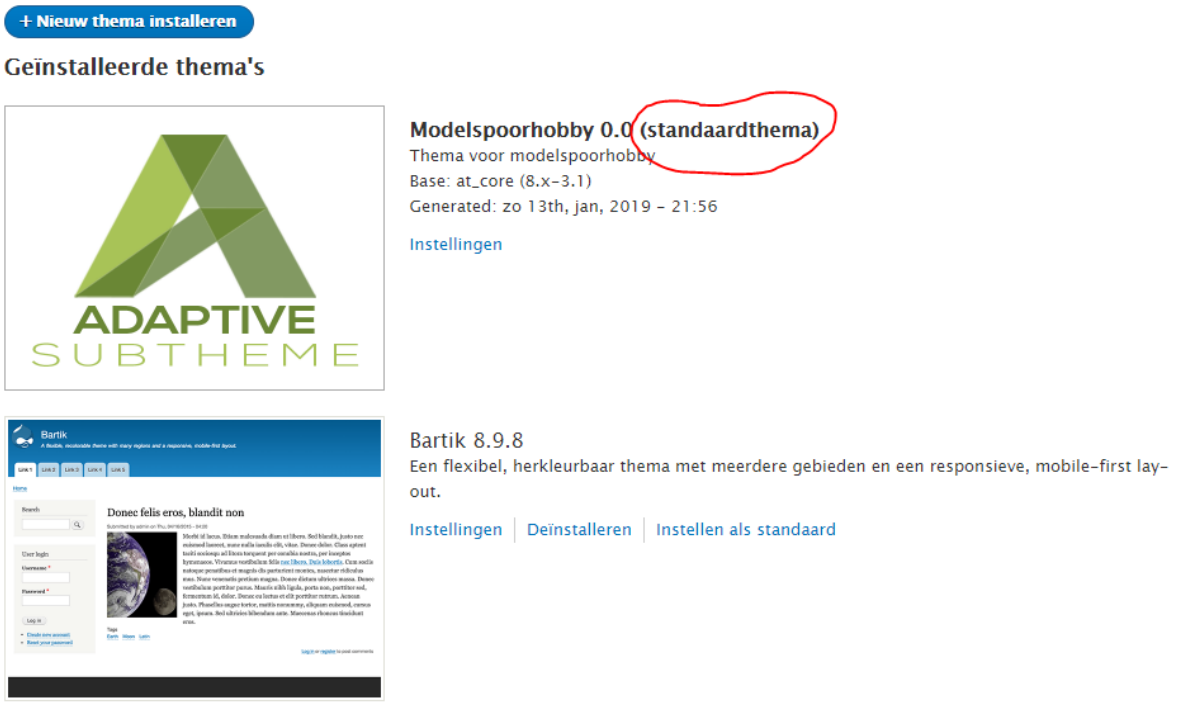
4. The next step is to install the Drupal 9 version of the AT modules (note the subtle naming):

- composer require 'drupal/at_theme:^1.4
- composer require 'drupal/at_tool:^1.4

Go to https://www.drupal.org/project/at_theme and https://www.drupal.org/project/at_tool for the latest version !

5. Now go back to your website and enable the modules AT_tool and AT_theme_generator again. Here too you can 'clear' the cache afterwards.

6. Now go back to your Appearance and set your AT_theme to new as the default theme:



Your theme should now work as it was before.

If you now look at your data from the Model Track Hobby 0.0 theme you will see that everything there is still unchanged. This is because the modelspoorhobby.info.yml file still needs to be modified.

The top part of the file takes care of the info and we are going to modify it (edit from Filezilla with Brackets and upload it back to the server with Filezilla):

- This is what the file looked like originally:

```
name: modelspoorhobby
version: '0.0
type: theme
base theme: at_core
base theme original: 8.x-3.1
subtheme type: adaptive_subtheme
layout: page layout
description: 'Theme for model railway hobby <br>Base: at_core (8.x-3.1) <br>Generated: zo 13th, jan, 2019 - 21:56'.
Regions:
```

We will replace the above with the following information (the red text is the adaptation):

```
name: Model railway hobby
version: '1.0
type: theme
base theme: at_core
base theme original: 1.4.6
subtheme type: adaptive_subtheme
layout: page layout
description: 'Theme for model railway hobby <br>Base: at_core (1.4.6) <br>Generated: zo 13th, jan, 2019 - 21:56'.
core_version_requirement: ^8 || ^9
regions:
```

If you now look at the appearance, you can see that the data of the sub-theme is appropriate:

Modelspoorhobby 1.0 (standaardthema)
Thema voor modelspoorhobby
Base: at_core (1.4.6)
Generated: zo 13th, jan, 2019 - 21:56

Instellingen

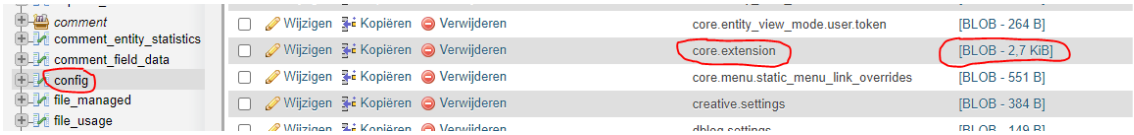
These adaptations are not necessary, but it will now clearly let you know that you are working on the new theme. Now you can clear the cache again and run an update.php. If all went well you should not receive any error messages.

4. My problems and further solutions

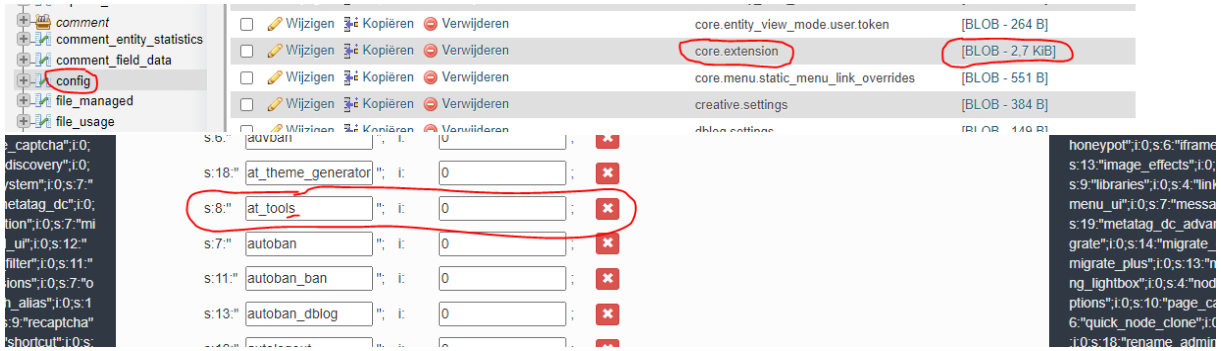
Running my update.php caused the error message that the module AT_tools should have been installed but it was 'missing'. This was due to the fact that the entry in the core.extension table in the database was not deleted during installation. As a result, the update.php was aborted, which was not a good sign. However, if you use 'drush updatedb' via SSH you will also receive this message but you can still perform the update.
But I am allergic to such warnings so it had to disappear anyway. I found the solutions on drupal.org in the following 'issue': https://www.drupal.org/project/adaptivetheme/issues/3151481.

I quote the passage that brought me the solution:

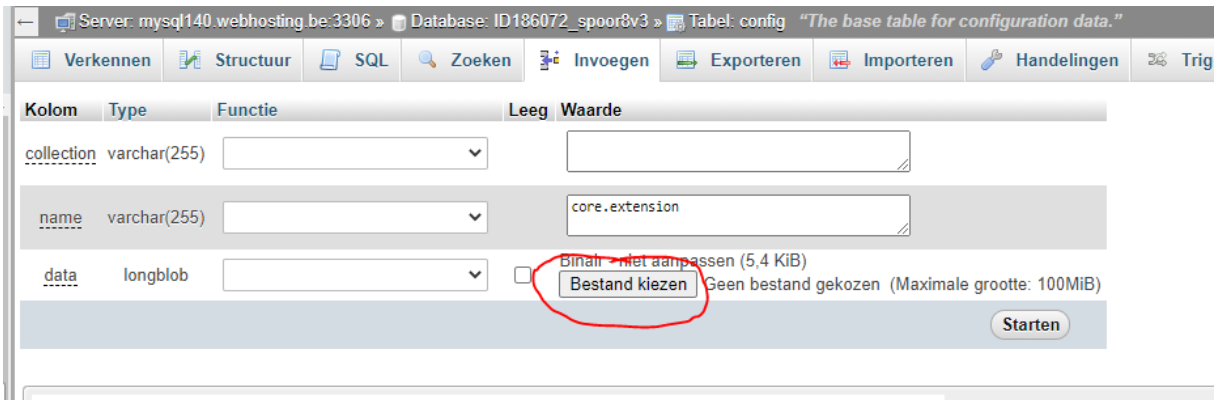
4. You've got to use now PhpMyadmin. In the database of your site (not the "information_scheme), go to the config table.
5. The important row is one called "core.extension". Here lies the rub. Go to "edit". Click over the "Data" row and you'll download its content to your machine (it'll be something like "config-data.bin"). The trouble is that those data are "serialized". That means that you cannot alter them directly.



6. No problem. Open the file with a text editor and copy it. Go to https://serializededitor.com/ and paste the content of the data in the left. In the centre you'll see the unserialised meaning of the data and in the right you'll see the result of your changes re-serialised.

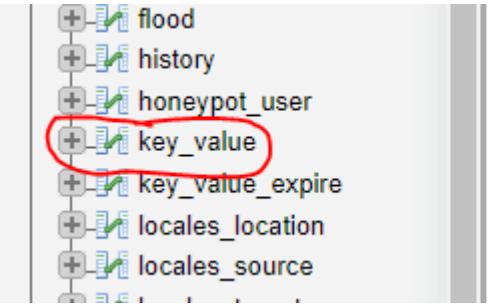


7. Delete any reference to the troublesome theme.
8. Copy the right-side serialised data.
9. Paste them in the config-data.bin, replacing the original content.
10. With PhpMyadmin, upload that file to replace the data in the row called "core.extension". Now, you'll have deleted any reference to Adaptive themes.



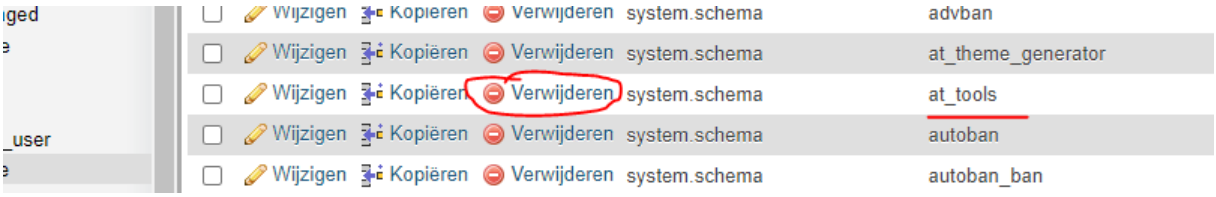
Choose your saved 'config-data.bin' file and click start.

If you run update.php on your website now, the error message will be gone. However, after the update you will now receive a warning regarding AT_tools. To get rid of this warning go back to your database and look for the table Key-value:



Open this table and look for the next entry:

system.schema at_tools and click on delete.



With this last instruction all errors were gone and I had a good working Drupal 9 Adaptive Theme, thanks to Matt Bloomfield.

5. My Site crashed and there is nothing I can do about it! What to do now?

If you used a backup or are testing on a testsite, then you are already out of the woods. Your backup is your savior!

If not, Don't panic yet! With the next steps you will get your site back:

Via SSH, remove the modules AT_theme and AT_tool and reinstall the modules Adaptivetheme and AT_tools:

- Composer remove drupal/at_theme
- Composer remove drupal/at_tool

Check your module/contrib if everything from AT_theme has been removed. If not remove manually.

- Composer require drupal/adaptivetheme
- Composer require drupal/at_tools

Restore the backup of the database you made before you started the change and your site should be restored.

Sources: https://drupal.org

WARNING: This method worked perfectly for me. In case you try this out and it fails, I can not be held responsible for this failure.