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Modergator: Automated Content Moderation for Hateful Memes, Speech and Text

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Photo by Björn Antonissen on Unsplash

17% of German youth aged 18-24 have been **personally affected** by hate speech online*

*YouGov/Institut für Demokratie und Zivilgesellschaft (2019)

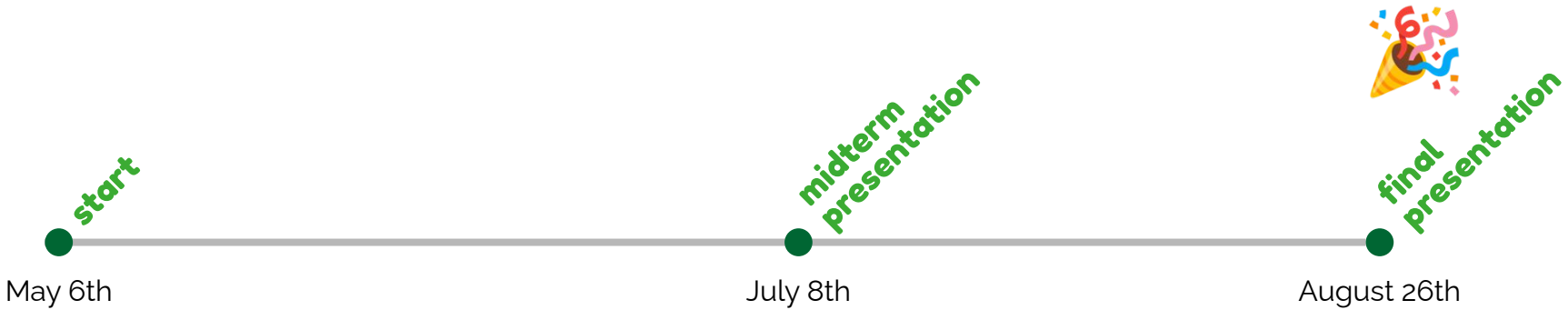
Photo by Andrew Guan on Unsplash

The Mission

Providing safer social spaces for everyone by making group moderation for hateful content easier and faster.

The Scope

- Master's project *Web Interfaces for Language Processing Systems*
- Team of 3(+) students
- duration of ~4 months



The Team

Korbinian

M.Sc. Intelligent Adaptive Systems

bot functionality &

voice processing

design

(and more)

Skadi

M.Sc. Informatics

meme model + api

interactivity and feedback

target group detection

(and more)

Katrin

M.Sc. Informatics

meme model + api

target group detection

meme detection api

(and more)

Modergator is ...

a collection of 6 APIs revolving around hate speech detection

curated components

and

a ready-to-use Telegram bot moderating hateful content in groups

modergator bot

useable product

The Components

modergator bot

python-telegram-bot

Contribution from Niklas

Meme Detection API

[0,1]

Contribution from Niklas

OCR API

Text Hatefulness API

[0,1]

Contribution from Fabian

Meme Hatefulness API

[0,1]

Automatic Speech Recognition API

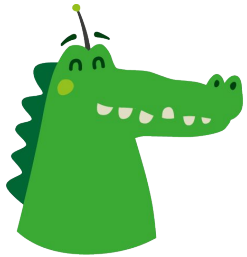
Target Group API

[Race, Sexuality, ...]

The Features

Automatic text classification: hateful, offensive or normal

Analyze voice messages



modergator bot

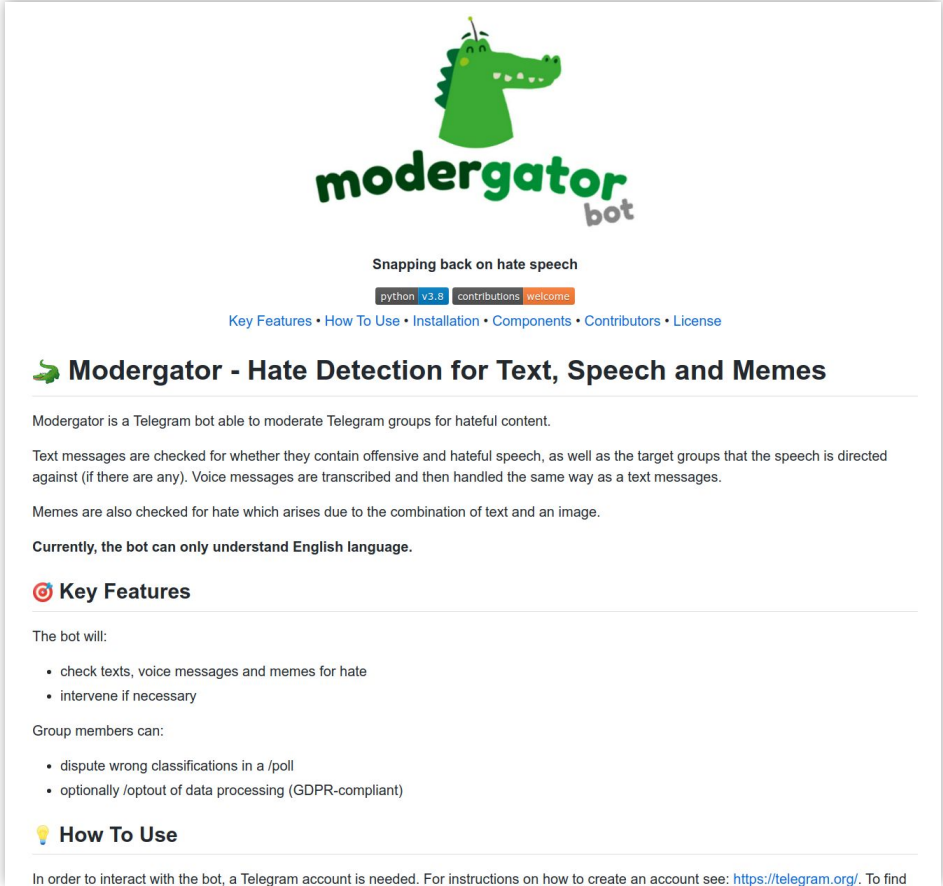
GDPR-friendly opt-out

Group members can discuss the classification(s)

Detect affected target group(s)

Analyze memes

Published Project



modergator bot

Snapping back on hate speech

python v3.8 contributions welcome

Key Features • How To Use • Installation • Components • Contributors • License

🐊 Modergator - Hate Detection for Text, Speech and Memes

Modergator is a Telegram bot able to moderate Telegram groups for hateful content.

Text messages are checked for whether they contain offensive and hateful speech, as well as the target groups that the speech is directed against (if there are any). Voice messages are transcribed and then handled the same way as a text messages.

Memes are also checked for hate which arises due to the combination of text and an image.

Currently, the bot can only understand English language.

🎯 Key Features

The bot will:

- check texts, voice messages and memes for hate
- intervene if necessary

Group members can:

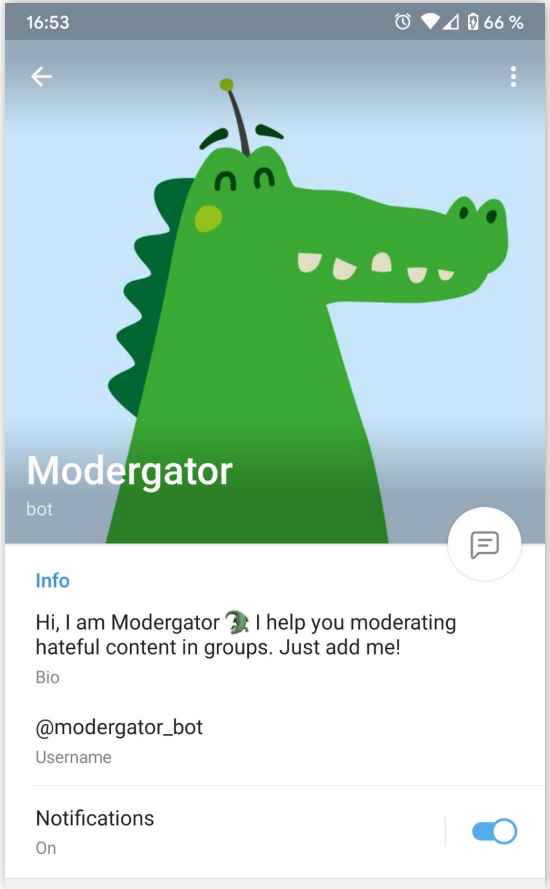
- dispute wrong classifications in a /poll
- optionally /optout of data processing (GDPR-compliant)

💡 How To Use

In order to interact with the bot, a Telegram account is needed. For instructions on how to create an account see: https://telegram.org/. To find

GitHub

Published Bot

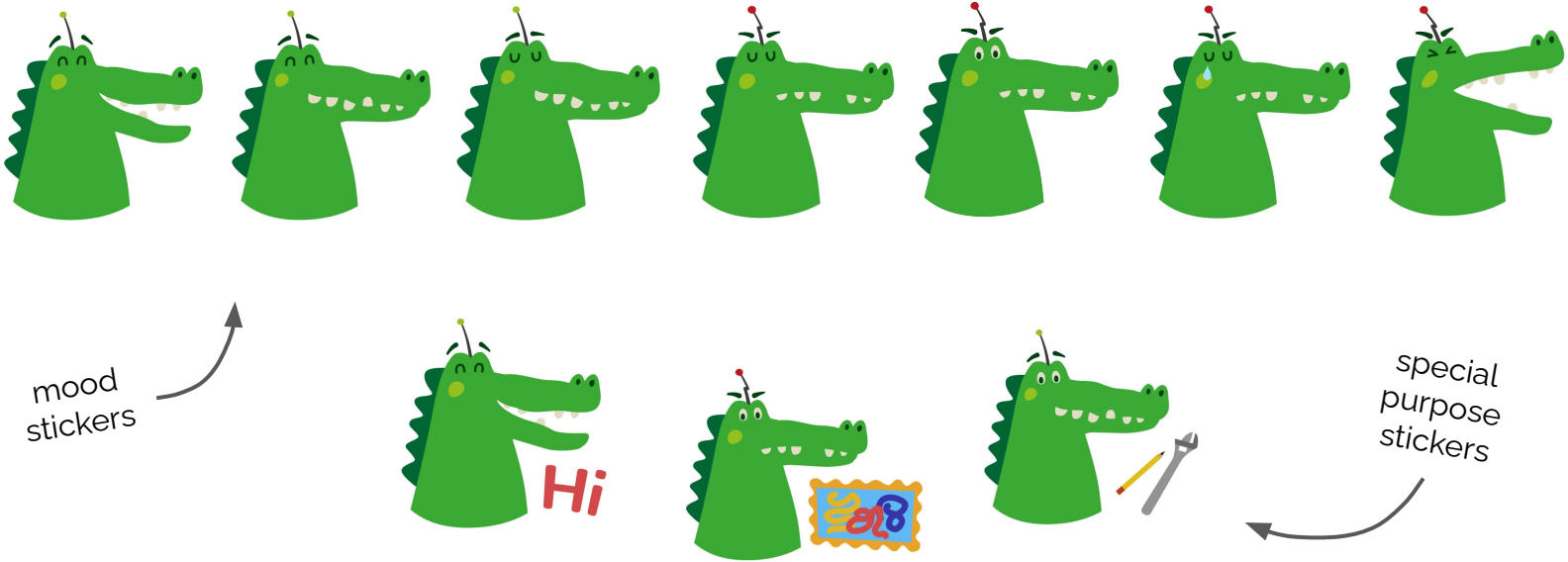


Design and UX: Name And Logo

modergator = portmanteau of moderator + alligator

Design and UX: Stickers

Custom Telegram Stickers to provide engaging user experience and create emotional connection



Technologies used

`python-telegram-bot`

Image sources: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pytorch_logo.png https://www.python.org/community/logos/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flask_(web_framework) https://www.startpage.com/av/proxy-image?piurl=https%3A%2F%2Fencrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com%2Fimages%3Fq%3Dtbn%3AANd9GcT_gVQL4e-dJj-rujJZk2ilAHhPfDZO-MUE4W7wo4IT14NMhlyo%26s&sp=1629920522T4bf13d0774a565978e0be1ffe5ab33a2f2b8a64a395e6c373a1d23a5e582cd0b https://swagger.io/ https://github.com/python-telegram-bot/python-telegram-bot https://github.com/ https://www.docker.com/company/newsroom/media-resources https://github.com/Muennighoff/vilio

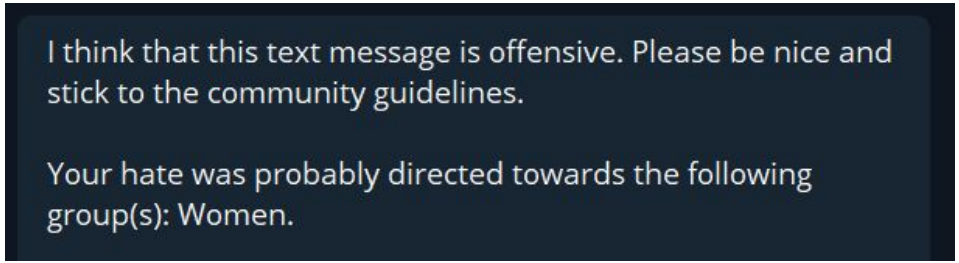
Telegram Bot

- programmed in Python
- defines all commands such as
  - /help
  - /optout
  - …
- and accesses the other APIs
- responsible for receiving and filtering messages
- as well as sending answers

```python
def main() -> None:
    """Start the bot."""
    # Create the Updater and pass it your bot's token.
    updater = Updater(TOKEN)

    # Get the dispatcher to register handlers
    dispatcher = updater.dispatcher

    # on different commands - answer in Telegram
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("start", start_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("about", about_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("help", help_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("optout", optout_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("joke", joke_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("howto", howto_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("poll", poll_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("optin", optin_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("debug", debug_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(CommandHandler("goodvibes", goodvibes_command))
    dispatcher.add_handler(PollAnswerHandler(receive_poll_answer))
    dispatcher.add_handler(MessageHandler(Filters.poll, receive_poll))
    dispatcher.add_handler(MessageHandler(Filters.status_update.new_chat_members, welcome_message))

    # on non command i.e message - echo the message on Telegram
    dispatcher.add_handler(MessageHandler(Filters.text & ~Filters.command, handle_text))
    dispatcher.add_handler(MessageHandler((Filters.photo | Filters.document.category('image')) & ~Filters.comman
    dispatcher.add_handler(MessageHandler(Filters.voice & ~Filters.command, handle_voice))
```

Target Detection

- Based on HateXplain data set (https://github.com/hate-alert/HateXplain)
- Built a model and training pipeline
- Classify input into one (or more) target groups out of 24
- Evaluation results:
  - F1: , 0.058, Precision: 0.3, Recall: 0.032
- Immense help from Fabian



Meme Detection

- Contribution from Niklas
- We built the meme-detection-api
- In the bot the input image is classified: is it a meme?
  - If False: do nothing with the image
  - If True: hand the image over to the ocr-api and meme-model-api to classify

```
398  def detect_meme(url):
399      print("Start Meme Detection")
400      params = {"url": url}
401      r = requests.get(url=f"http://127.0.0.1:{PORTDICT['meme-detection-api']}/classifier", params=params)
402      is_meme = r.json()["result"]
403      print("is_meme: ", is_meme)
404      return is_meme
```

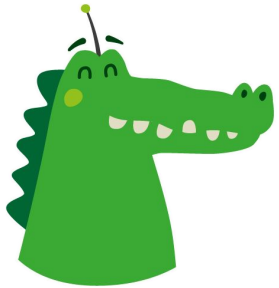
Documentation

- **Swagger**
  - Build with flask-apispec
  - Automatically builds Swagger documentation
  - Documentation can be used to test functionality
  - Later shown in demo

- **Readme**
  - Detailed instructions both for the end-user and anyone hosting an instance of the bot
  - Includes links to files that need to be downloaded

Demo

The End.



Thank you for your attention.