Drupal AI | AI Search & RAG

Overview

In this session, we'll explore how Drupal's search experience can evolve from traditional keyword-based search to modern AI-powered semantic search. We will set up and compare two approaches: standard keyword search and a semantic search system using the **AI Search** module paired with **Milvus** vector database.

This is a hands-on session featuring live demos, configuration walkthroughs, and observability insights. By the end, you'll understand how semantic search returns more meaningful results and how to enable conversational discovery through a chatbot built on site content.

What You'll Learn

Understanding Search Models

- How traditional keyword-based search works in Drupal and where it falls short.
- How semantic search differs and how embeddings capture meaning and context.

Setting Up AI Search with Milvus

- Installing and configuring Milvus locally.
- Connecting Drupal AI Search to the vector database.
- Indexing content into vector embeddings.

Optimizing Semantic Retrieval

- Chunking strategies and why chunk size matters.
- Understanding and tuning RAG Retrieval Thresholds.
- Differentiating main content vs. contextual content during indexing.

Enhancing User Interaction

- Improving UI with the AI Search Block module & Search API Views.
- Introducing chatbot-based conversational search for follow-up questions and deeper exploration.

Who Should Attend

- Drupal Developers and Site Builders exploring AI-enhanced search.
- Architects evaluating RAG and vector search patterns in enterprise platforms.
- Teams modernizing content discovery and knowledge retrieval experiences.

Key Takeaways

By the end of the session, you will:

- Understand how semantic search differs from keyword search.
- Have a working setup of AI Search with Milvus on Drupal.
- Know how to tune chunking and RAG thresholds for better retrieval.
- Be able to extend the experience with conversational chatbot interfaces.

Format

- Type: Live Interactive Session
- Duration: ~60 minutes
- Includes: Demos, configuration walkthroughs, and Q&A