# tjTalk School Question Forum Filip Sufitchi

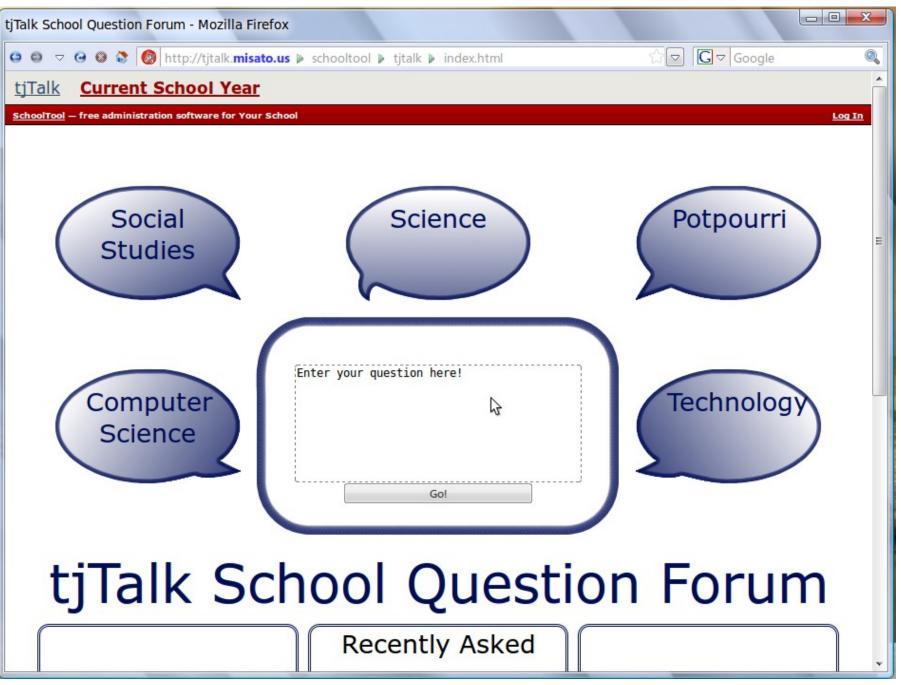
TJHSST Computer Systems Research Lab, 2008-09

### School Question Forum... what?

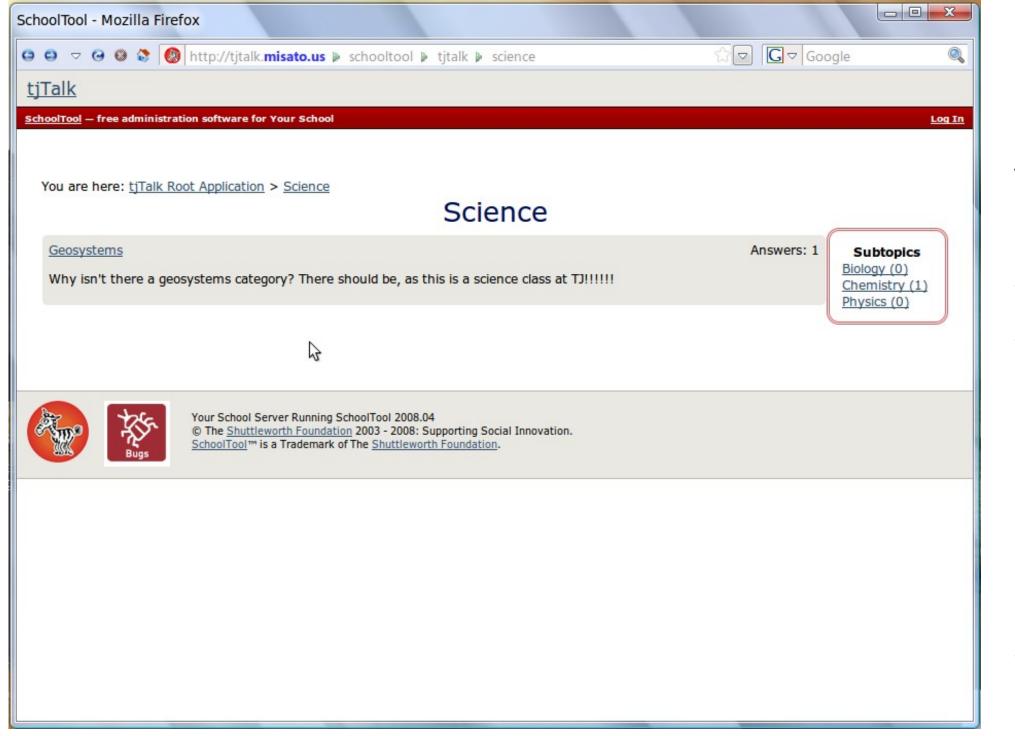
All students have had that evening when they don't understand how a carbon lattice works, or they need a succinct efficient explanation of Riemann sums. What is worse, is the class's chemistry or calculus whiz may not be available to call upon at that moment. This results in long nights spent trying to ask friends, parents, and whoever else to try to get some satisfactory response... which is sadly sometimes unsuccessful. tjTalk aims to connect the questioners and the whizzes.

Using a tree-based structure to focus on specific subject matters, it provides a way for students to ask questions and get quick answers from other students or teachers. The project creates an information sharing community that will encourage collaboration and peer education forward. For efficiency and ease of use, tjTalk also bypasses the troubled students have to go through to put their question in the right place, and for the knowledgeable students to look for the question. The questions asked are automatically filed in the system by AI-generated keywords, and are assigned quickly to a person who has a particularly high score in that part of the forum.

tjTalk is built on the SchoolTool school administration system, and will also provide teachers with information about the students' level of knowledge in their classes, based on peer ratings of answers to questions.







Tree-based forum structure

•Streamlined, styled interface for all pages

•Questions and answers

•Votes and voting security (no double votes, voting

for your own answers, etc)

•Question bookmarking

User scores

•Tracking of updates on what was most recently asked and answered

•Secure and private: questions and answers are anonymous to those not qualified

· Eliminates favoritist voting

•Full compatibility with SchoolTool 1.0

 Unit tested, functionality tested, and documented

### Intelligent, Fast Search

•Word counts traverse the tree from leaves to root •Crawled when questions and answers are written •Results in direct traversal to wanted information on a search

## Coming Up!

•Code review by the main SchoolTool developer team, and inclusion into next SchoolTool release. Integration with SchoolTool External Activities in order to turn peer scores into grades or competencies.

Want to check it out? tjTalk is open source! Check out the Bazaar branch at https://code.launchpad.net/tjtalk. Track my project at http://www.launchpad.net/tjtalk. Propose new features at http://blueprints.launchpad.net/tjtalk. Report bugs at: http://bugs.launchpad.net/tjtalk.



