

## Open Infrastructure - Task #7876

### UI/UX improvement suggestions for matrix

03/23/2020 03:35 PM - Redmine Admin

<b>Status:</b>	Rejected	<b>Start date:</b>	03/23/2020
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	Nico Schottelius	<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>		<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>			
<b>PM Check date:</b>			
<b>Description</b>			
<b>Riot web / general</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• remove the separation tab of Direct Messages and Rooms -&gt; this damages readability<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ An option to disable all categories might do this</li><li>◦ Adding to this: scrolling inside the groups can be very painful and fields are often too small</li></ul></li><li>• disable color differentiation for each user name: make them all same, muted color.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Afaics this refers to the avatar - maybe an option to disable avatars all together</li></ul></li><li>• Numbers of unread messages on channels are not helpful<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Proposed solution: Indicate unread by bold only, remove the number count</li></ul></li><li>• When creating a new public room the "room alias" field is empty and needs to be filled in manually<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ This should be automatically derived from the name as a suggestion</li></ul></li><li>• When inviting people to a room, local people (@xx:ungleich.ch) show up for a second and then vanish until I type the full name<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ i.e. typing @xx - shows the name, I want to select it, it vanishes</li><li>◦ other people from other matrix servers are shown as suggested</li><li>◦ then finishing @xx:ungleich.ch shows it again</li><li>◦ Solution: don't make it show and vanish, but keep it</li></ul></li><li>• Too much margin between text groups damage readability<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ While chatting, the vertical spaces between texts are too high and waste space.</li><li>◦ The horizontal space between profile picture and the name is too wide, makes it harder for eyes to coherently follow who wrote what.</li><li>◦ Time of writing is not shown by default and only reveals on mouseover, requires extra movement for catching information.</li><li>◦ Having to jump big spaces between different information (who wrote it what, when) makes it hard for the eyes to focus.</li></ul></li><li>• It is "impossible" to delete a room<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ There is no delete button</li><li>◦ There seems to be a workaround to kick all users, make it non joinable (how?) and leave it<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ untested</li></ul></li><li>◦ Very basic functionality seems to be missing</li></ul></li><li>• When creating a new room and inviting users, nick autocompletion when writing a message does not work<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ This only works when invited users joined</li><li>◦ This is very limiting/confusing, as one might want to write already messages for the people who join eventually</li><li>◦ Even if they don't join, the autocomplete should be able to reference people who are invited</li></ul></li><li>• When writing in "direct chat", nick auto completion of OTHER users I write to does not work<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Use case: "Did you talk to @s..." -- does not autocomplete</li><li>◦ Suggestion: have a general auto completion, independent of the room I am writing in</li></ul></li><li>• Selecting auto completion of users is easier in mattermost:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ mattermost shows a list and allows to finish by &lt;tab&gt; or &lt;enter&gt;</li><li>◦ matrix requires arrow up or clicking</li></ul></li><li>• There is not emoticon selection list for regular messages<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ However there is one for reactions</li><li>◦ This is a bit inconsistent and confuses -&gt; should be consistently available</li></ul></li><li>• Room classifications (low, favorite, etc.) seem to be CLIENT specific<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Opening the browser on a different computer gives an old/different room view</li><li>◦ Causes a lot of extra work for organising, i.e. x times for x devices</li></ul></li><li>• Sometimes the members are shown instead of the room title in the room list (???)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ See attachment to this ticket</li></ul></li><li>• Mattermost has a "thread view" where one can show all messages in a thread<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ it only appears if you click on the reply button next to one of the messages in the thread</li><li>◦ it is quite convenient to show old threads</li></ul></li><li>• Inconsistent scroll bar behaviour<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ left/right are different</li></ul></li></ul>			

- <https://github.com/vector-im/riot-web/issues/12328>
  - <https://github.com/vector-im/riot-web/issues/983>

- When being in an empty room (i.e. for sharing messages with yourself) a warning repeats
  - "There's no one else here! Would you like to invite others or stop warning about the empty room?"
  - Even clicking "stop warning" the messages comes back (different device, different browser)
    - Where are those settings saved?
- Cannot search for parts of an URL
  - Specifically "https://support.ungleich.ch/Ticket/Display.html?id=X", searching for X returns results in mattermost, but not matrix
  - Where is search located at in matrix? Server? Client?
- When editing a multi line message, cursor up at some point goes into editing the PREVIOUS message
  - When not having text to be sent inside the text field for sending messages, this behaviour makes sense
  - However as soon as there is text in the text bar, it should not move up to previous messages anymore
- Shields are inconsistent (riot-web 1.6.0)
  - In 1:1 rooms the shields (black/green) appear, even if room is not encrypted
  - In n people rooms shields are not displayed next to the participants

## RiotX

- Notifications are by default for EVERY message
  - <https://github.com/vector-im/riotX-android/issues/1105>

## History

### #1 - 03/23/2020 03:37 PM - Redmine Admin

- Description updated

### #2 - 03/23/2020 06:15 PM - Nico Schottelius

- Status changed from New to In Progress

Adding Timothee as a watcher -- these are bugs/problems we discover over the time using matrix and might either want to fix or submit upstream or both.

### #3 - 03/23/2020 06:17 PM - Nico Schottelius

- Project changed from 16 to Open Infrastructure

- Description updated

### #4 - 03/25/2020 10:36 AM - Nico Schottelius

- Description updated

### #5 - 03/25/2020 10:38 AM - Nico Schottelius

- Description updated

### #6 - 03/25/2020 09:45 PM - Sanghee Kim

- Description updated

### #7 - 04/01/2020 09:33 AM - Timothée Floure

Going over mentionned issues to give more context / initial leads on how to fix them. We're speaking of riot-web here.

Redmine Admin wrote:

- remove the separation tab of Direct Messages and Rooms -> this damages readability
  - An option to disable all categories might do this
  - Adding to this: scrolling inside the groups can be very painful and fields are often too small

Related code: <https://github.com/matrix-org/matrix-react-sdk/blob/develop/src/components/views/rooms/RoomList.js#L754>

Disabling sublists looks doable at first glance, and should not be too hard to implement.

- disable color differentiation for each user name: make them all same, muted color.

- Related code: <https://github.com/matrix-org/matrix-react-sdk/blob/develop/src/components/views/messages/SenderProfile.js#L97>

- Disabling it is trivial. I don't have a strong opinion on this => I think a configuration checkbox would be best.
- Afaics this refers to the avatar - maybe an option to disable avatars all together

There is a compact mode under "General > Theme", which is more compact but kind of weird since it does not disable avatars. I think it could be improved (should not be hard from the code I read).

- Numbers of unread messages on channels are not helpful
  - Proposed solution: Indicate unread by bold only, remove the number count

That's already the case when you select "Mentions only" notifications for a room. See <https://paste.gnugen.ch/raw/oh70>

- When creating a new public room the "room alias" field is empty and needs to be filled in manually
  - This should be automatically derived from the name as a suggestion

Somewhere is this file: <https://github.com/matrix-org/matrix-react-sdk/blob/develop/src/components/views/dialogs/CreateRoomDialog.js>

Should not be hard.

- When inviting people to a room, local people (@xx:ungleich.ch) show up for a second and then vanish until I type the full name
  - i.e. typing @xx - shows the name, I want to select it, it vanishes
  - other people from other matrix servers are shown as suggested
  - then finishing @xx:ungleich.ch shows it again
  - Solution: don't make it show and vanish, but keep it

Looks like a bug, which sounds familiar (I likely encountered it a few times).

- Too much margin between text groups damage readability
  - While chatting, the vertical spaces between texts are too high and waste space.
  - The horizontal space between profile picture and the name is too wide, makes it harder for eyes to coherently follow who wrote what.
  - Time of writing is not shown by default and only reveals on mouseover, requires extra movement for catching information.
  - Having to jump big spaces between different information (who wrote it what, when) makes it hard for the eyes to focus.

See compact timeline layout mention above.

=> Most of the suggestions require fine-tuning and no big changes. The riot-web / matrix-react-sdk code is easy to navigate.

PS: Matrix contributor hat for this, not ctt'd.

**#8 - 04/01/2020 07:58 PM - Nico Schottelius**

- Description updated

**#9 - 04/02/2020 08:49 AM - Timothée Floure**

Redmine Admin wrote:

- It is "impossible" to delete a room
  - There is no delete button
  - There seems to be a workaround to kick all users, make it non joinable (how?) and leave it
    - untested
  - Very basic functionality seems to be missing

Being discussed on <https://github.com/vector-im/riot-web/issues/6978>

**#10 - 04/02/2020 09:38 AM - Timothée Floure**

Currently looking at the compact timeline mode (will likely remove avatars): if [@Sanghee Kim](#) is willing to make me a mockup, I can implement it.

**#11 - 04/02/2020 06:47 PM - Nico Schottelius**

- Description updated

**#12 - 04/03/2020 02:41 PM - Nico Schottelius**

- Description updated

**#13 - 04/04/2020 04:15 PM - Nico Schottelius**

- Description updated
- #14 - 04/07/2020 07:59 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #15 - 04/07/2020 08:09 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - File 2020-04-07-200853\_658x87\_scrot.png added
  - Description updated
- #16 - 04/10/2020 09:48 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #17 - 04/10/2020 10:02 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #18 - 04/21/2020 05:41 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Subject changed from U/UXI improvement points for matrix to UI/UX improvement suggestions for matrix
- #19 - 04/22/2020 10:34 AM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #20 - 04/22/2020 01:15 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #21 - 04/22/2020 01:15 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #22 - 04/22/2020 06:48 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #23 - 04/25/2020 01:53 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #24 - 04/30/2020 11:50 AM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #25 - 05/09/2020 06:32 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Description updated
- #26 - 01/02/2024 01:54 PM - Nico Schottelius
  - Status changed from In Progress to Rejected

Files			
2020-04-07-200853_658x87_scrot.png	11.1 KB	04/07/2020	Nico Schottelius