Seminar demonstration files

Movies, annotations, miscellaneous

Denis Girou

June 2002

Intro. Miscella. External. Annota. Sounds Movies

1 – Introduction

- Several other things can be done, with or without too much efforts, and of various interests (most of them have an effect only with Acroread as PDF files viewver)
- Around the PDF format[a], several things have been developed by the Adobe company. Refer to the Adobe's Acrobat *Software Development Kits* (SDKs)[b] for more information, and specially to the *Forms Data Format* (FDF) toolkit[c] and to the *Acrobat JavaScript Object Specification*[d]
- With LaTeX, some works have been done[e]
- One of the most interesting (and simple to use!) features for scientific and technical presentations is the possibility to show some external **movies**[f], which is for instance specially useful to show the result of numerical simulations

[a] See `http://partners.adobe.com/asn/developer/acrosdk/docs/filefmtspecs/PDFReference.pdf`
[b] See `http://partners.adobe.com/asn/developer/acrosdk/docs.html`
[c] See `http://partners.adobe.com/asn/developer/acrosdk/forms.html`
[d] See `http://partners.adobe.com/asn/developer/pdfs/tn/5186AcroJS.pdf`
[e] For instance, look at the work done by Don P. Story and to the informations collected in his site AcroTeX `http://www.math.uakron.edu/~dpstory/acrotex.html` and at what is possible (but proprietary) on forms with VTeX (see the file `forms.pdf` in CTAN:systems/vtex/common/vtex-doc.zip)
[f] I am personally not convainced of the real interest of most of the others, which only mimic in a limited way what is available with Web applications...

Intro. Miscella. External. Annota. Sounds Movies

2 – Miscellaneous

- We first present how to build very simple **interactive questionnaires** (as quizzes), in an implementation which not use the Acrobat Forms, but only the capacities of the Seminar overlays and of the hyperlinks of the 'hyperref' package
- The macro can obviously been improved (to allow more possible answers shown on several lines, etc.), but in any case this technique is limited to one question only by slide
- And, as the users can access to all the possible answers, this is only convenient when people is interesting to test their knowledges and not only to found the correct answers!

Christophe Colomb in America?

1492 1494 1498 1508 1528

First man on the moon?

July 1967 July 1969 August 1969 November 1969

Author of *Britannicus*?

CORNEILLE MOLIÈRE RACINE SHAKESPEARE

Actress of *Shangaï Express*?
(Joseph VON STERNBERG – 1932)

Louise BROOKS Jane CRAWFORD Marlene DIETRICH Giene TIERNEY

3 – External commands launching

- We can launch external applications just by specifying a command name
- (Unix systems only[a]) What time is it?

[a] This example is for Unix systems only. Take also care that under Unix the current version of Acroread (5.05 –nor the old 4.05 one) does not handle the parameter of the command, allowed for other systems, so we must use scripts to deal with commands which require arguments. And, obviously, change the name of the command in this example for Macintosh and Windows systems.

4 – Annotations

- With the ‘hyperref’ package, this is easy to add external annotations in the file, making them opened when the page is shown or to be opened by the users
- Here is an annotation to open, with a short comment inside
- And here another one, then still another one

5 – Sounds

- There are several ways to have sounds. The easiest one for Macintosh and Windows systems is to manage them as a command, and for Unix systems to define the command to use in the relevant entry of the `mailcap` definitions (for instance `audio/*; /usr/bin/play %s`)

6 – Movies

- This is easy to show external movies inside a presentation
- Nevertheless, take care that the behavior of Acroread is different according to the system used: on Macintosh and Windows systems, you can embed a movie (at least for the current formats) inside a page, but on Unix systems, they must be launched by an external command given in the entry for videos in the `mailcap` definitions (for instance `video/*; xanim %s`) or as external scripts calling a movie player
- Tired by Seminar? Tired by (LA)TEX? Tired by computers? I can give you the **definitive solution** to all your computing problems[a]...:
  - (Macintosh and Windows systems) Do you want to know the secret?
  - (Unix systems[b]) Do you want to know the secret?

[a] Thanks to Pierre-François LAVALLÉE who let me discover this pleasant movie.
[b] You will probably need to change first, in the script `solution.sh`, the call to the software available on your platform to see movie files in the AVI format.