

Welcome

A Basic Tutorial Introduction to Using

Something Impressive

A Slide Show Tool

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First

Slide show – a presentation or display of images, graphics, photos or text of information.

Who

- Anybody here using “impressive”?
- We could use at meetings and events
- Others may have similar use

What I Wanted

- Slide show for orphan PDFs
 - Orphan PDFs – source NOT available
- Slide show - display presentation slides
 - OpenOffice.org Presenter feature
 - Only works with presentation source
 - Does NOT work with orphan PDFs
 - As far as I know NOT in ps/pdf viewers
 - Tried Adobe Reader, evince, xpdf
 - And many others: xzgv, Gwenview, etc.
- FOSS and CLI scriptable

Where I Looked

- Currently loaded viewer applications
- Google search
- Synaptic and Yumex
- Asked on SLUUG DISCUSS list

When to Use

- At our FOSS and Linux events
- At HZWLUG beginner meetings
- At SLUUG General meetings
 - During break
 - On spare machine

Why

- Wanted unattended slide show
 - OOo Impress file works
 - Does NOT work on orphan PDFs

How

- Found it while looking for kernel sources in Ubuntu repositories
- Saw description for “keyjnote”
 - A project transition package
 - The keyjnote project was renamed as “impressive”

Description

- PDF presentation tool with eye candies
- Impressive is a program that displays presentation slides using OpenGL. Smooth alpha-blended slide transitions are provided for the sake of eye candy, but in addition to this, Impressive offers some unique tools that are really useful for presentations. Some of them are:
 - Overview screen
 - Highlight boxes
 - Spotlight effect
 - Presentation scripting and customization

Feature

- Accidental discovery
- Middle mouse button
 - View all slides
 - Thumbnail select
- Read the man pages

Man page

NAME

Impressive - presentation tool with eye candy

SYNOPSIS

impressive [OPTIONS...] FILES...

DESCRIPTION

Impressive is a simple presentation program that displays slideshows of image files (JPEG, PNG, TIFF and BMP) or PDF documents.

Rendering is done via OpenGL, which allows for some "eye candy" effects

Internet References

- Home page
 - <http://impressive.sourceforge.net/>
- Manual
 - <http://impressive.sourceforge.net/manual.php>

References On Your System

- Read documentation on your system

File: `/usr/share/doc/impressive/demo.pdf`

File: `/usr/share/doc/impressive/impressive.html`

- Configuration files
 - None that I could find

Examples

- CLI use - Don't have to be superuser
 - \$ impressive -wa 10 some.pdf
 - Or
 - \$ impressive -wa 5 first.pdf next.pdf
 - Or
 - \$ impressive -wa 10 directory
 - PDFs don't display from a directory
- Demo of two PDFs (mine & author's)
 - \$ impressive impressive.pdf demo.pdf

Questions?

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Introducing Impressive

Martin J. Fiedler

version 0.10.2

<http://impressive.sourceforge.net/>

What is Impressive?

Impressive is a PDF and image viewer optimized for presentations

- ... with some eye candy ;)
- uses OpenGL for display
- uses Xpdf or GhostScript to render PDF files
- written in Python
- available for Unix-like and Windows operating systems
- Open Source (GPLv2)

Software Requirements

Impressive requires a few libraries and helper applications:

- Python 2.3 or newer
- PyGame (SDL port for Python)
- PyOpenGL
- Python Imaging Library (PIL)
- Xpdf or GhostScript
- pdftk (*optional, but recommended*)

Packages for these dependencies should be available for almost every operating system.

For Windows, there's a convenient self-contained archive with everything needed.

Hardware Requirements

- hardware accelerated OpenGL
 - every post-2000 graphics chip should do
 - Linux/BSD users need a driver that actually implements hardware acceleration!
- a fast CPU
 - some transitions are quite CPU-intensive
 - rule of thumb: the faster the better!
 - absolute minimum is at about 700 MHz

How does it work?

- 1 create slides with the presentation software of your choice
- 2 export them to a PDF file
- 3 impressive MySlides.pdf
 - left mouse button, [PageDown] or [Space]: next slide
 - right mouse button, [PageUp] or [Backspace]: previous slide
 - [Q] or [Esc]: quit

Impressive offers multiple ways of emphasizing parts of a page.

Option 1: „Spotlight“

- toggle with [Enter]
- a bright circular spot follows the mouse cursor
- everything else gets dark and blurry
- spot size adjustable with [+]/[-] or the mouse wheel

Highlight Boxes and Zoom

Option 2: Highlight Boxes

- drag a box with the left mouse button
- any number of boxes per page
- delete a box by clicking it with the right mouse button
- boxes stay even after leaving and re-entering the page

Option 3: Zoom

- [Z] key toggles 2x zoom
- visible image can be moved around with the right mouse button

- press the [Tab] key
- Impressive zooms back to an overview screen showing all pages of the presentation
- new page can be selected with mouse or keyboard
- left mouse button or [Enter] zooms into selected page
- right mouse button or [Tab] cancels and returns to the previously shown page

- command line parameters (lots of them!)
- „Info Scripts“
 - same name as the input file, but suffix `.info`, e.g. `slides.pdf` → `slides.pdf.info`
 - real Python scripts, executed before the presentation starts
 - can be used to set the document title or other settings
 - can be used to set up per-page settings: „Page Properties“
 - title
 - transition effect
 - ...

Info Script Example

```
# -*- coding: iso8859-1 -*-

DocumentTitle = "Example Presentation"

PageProps = {
    1: { 'title': 'Title Page',
         'transition': PagePeel },
    2: { 'title': 'Introduction' },
    5: { 'timeout': 3500 },
    8: { 'overview': False }
}
```

Other Features

- support for PDF hyperlinks inside the document
- page cache in RAM or on disk, temporary (default) or persistent
- background rendering
- fade to black or white
- hide specific pages from the overview page
- page bookmarks (keyboard shortcuts)
- only show a subset of the presentation
- rotation in 90-degree steps
- time display and measurement

Rarely Used Features

- automatic, timed presentations
- customization of almost every timing or OSD parameter
- automatic reloading of the input file(s) on change
- permanent storage of the highlight boxes
- playing sounds or videos or executing arbitrary Python code when entering a page
- „Render Mode“: doesn't show the presentation, but renders the input PDF file into a directory with one PNG file per page

Missing Features

- painting and annotations
- multi-monitor support
- support for embedded videos
- integration into (or cooperation with) latex-beamer and OpenOffice.org Impress
- *your feature here*

Questions, Suggestions, Comments?

just write to

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Try Impressive!

packages are available at

<http://impressive.sourceforge.net/>