Introducing Impressive

Martin J. Fiedler

version 0.11.0

http://impressive.sourceforge.net/

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What is Impressive?
Software Requirements
Hardware Requirements
How does it work?

What is Impressive?

Impressive is a PDF and image viewer optimized for presentations

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

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Software Requirements

Impressive requires a few libraries and helper applications:

- Python 2.5 to 2.7
- PyGame (SDL bindings for Python)
- Python Imaging Library (PIL)
- MuPDF or Poppler-utils
- pdftk

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

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

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Hardware Requirements

- hardware accelerated OpenGL 2.0 or OpenGL ES 2.0
    - any GPU from 2005 or later should do
    - integrated graphics or mobile GPUs are fine
    - on fast CPUs, even a JIT-accelerated software renderer (e.g. Gallium LLVMpipe) is sufficient
- CPU performance generally not very important
    - runs OK on Raspberry Pi

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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, mouse wheel down,
     Page ↓ or Space :
        next slide
   - right mouse button, mouse wheel up,
     Page ↑ or Backspace :
        previous slide
   - Q or Esc : quit

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Emphasis

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

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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

- $\boxed{Z}$ key toggles 2x zoom
- visible part can be moved around by dragging with the right mouse button

Overview Page

- 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

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Customization

- 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
        - ...

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Info Script Example

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

DocumentTitle = "Example Presentation"

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

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Other Features

- clickable PDF hyperlinks inside the document
- page cache in RAM or on disk, temporary (default) or persistent
- background rendering
- time display and measurement
- automatic, timed presentations
- automatic reloading of the input file(s) on change
- playing sounds or videos or executing arbitrary Python code when entering a page
- fully customizable keyboard and mouse controls

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Rarely Used Features

- fade to black or white
- rotation in 90-degree steps
- page bookmarks (keyboard shortcuts)
- only show a subset of the presentation
- hide specific pages from the overview page
- customization of almost every timing or OSD parameter
- permanent storage of the highlight boxes
- "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
- "Presenter Screen" with notes etc.
- support for embedded videos
- integration into (or cooperation with) latex-beamer and OpenOffice.org Impress
- *your feature here*

Get in touch

Questions, Suggestions, Comments?
just write to
martin.fiedler@gmx.net

Try Impressive!
downloads are available at
http://impressive.sourceforge.net/
and packages in most Linux distributions