

Bridging the Gap

Understanding
file format of
multimedia
content

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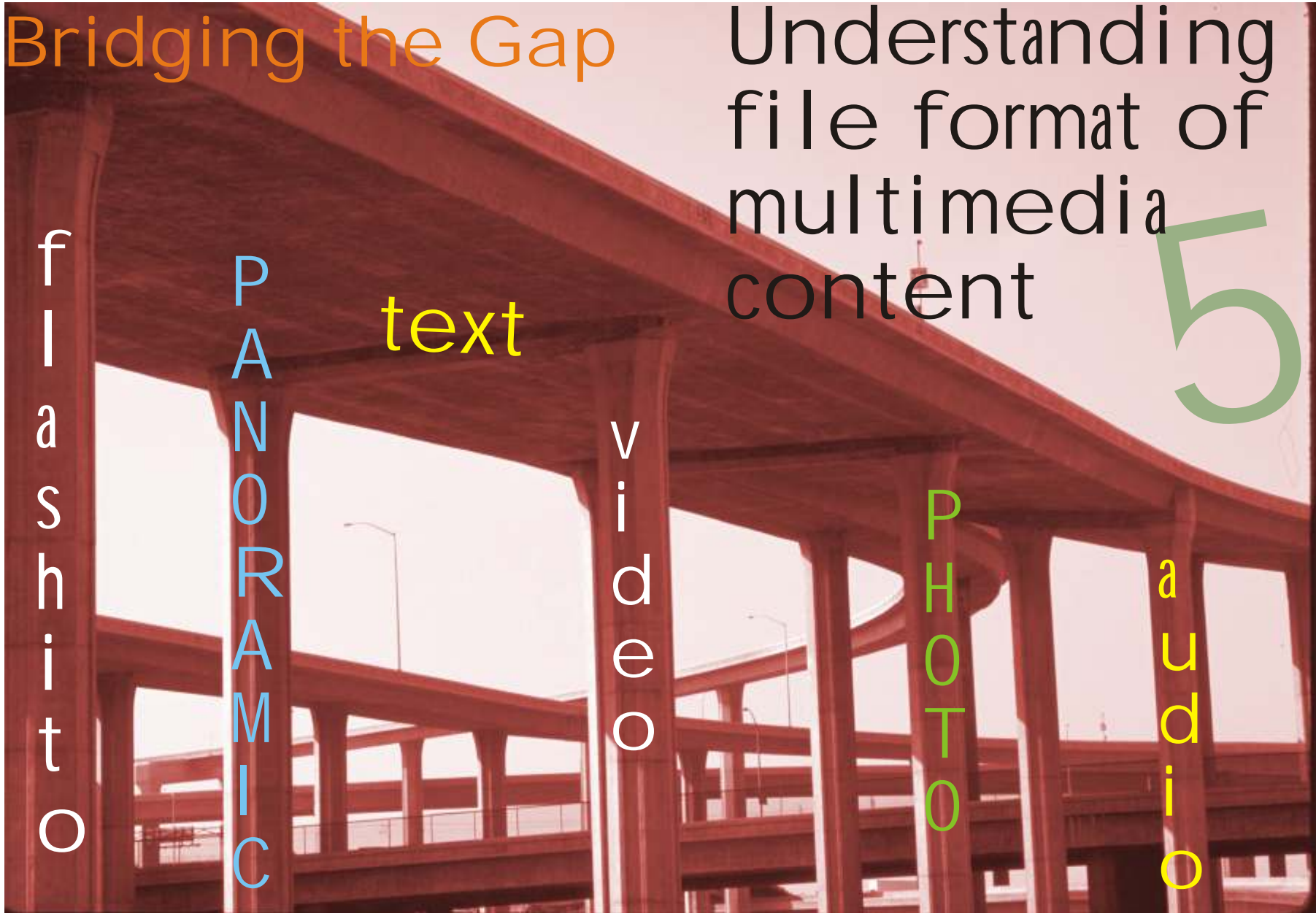
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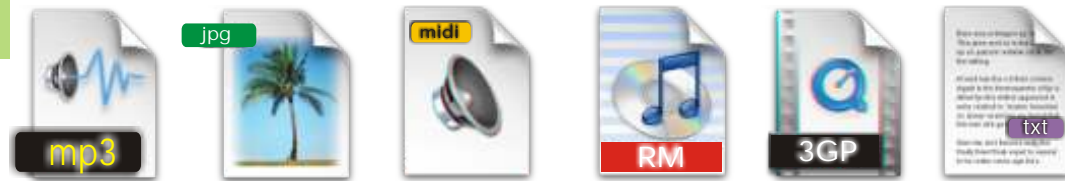
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→ You will produce different multimedia content. Each media has its own format sometimes this format is compatible with all digital devices and sometimes it requires you to transform the format into one that suit best the device you are trying to play the file back on.

Understanding file format of multimedia content



1. Your digital photo camera produces jpg files with different mega pixels depending on the quality of the camera you are using, above 2 mega pixels is good enough for CHIMER platform. Your photo camera shoots videos with an average time of 15 seconds and a file format in quick time. You cannot do much with this time and you have to transform quick time files into real media or 3gp files because phones do not play quick time files. Your photo camera takes panoramic pictures but probably at the end of the day you have to compose the images, jpg is the format for panoramic images.

Your phone can make panoramic images as well if you implement a third part API.

2. You can record sound with different software and you get an AIF file for the web. This file needs to be transformed into mp3 and for your phone into amr otherwise they may not play back properly. Your phone can record directly in amr format or mpeg4. All phones play back amr files but not all of them play back mpeg4, be aware of this if you are using a P900 phone

3. Text files can be read on all phones and the format is txt, by implementing some third applications such as redigo you can read almost any file on your phone. In CHIMER platform we use the note pad for txt files.

4. Midi files are created with music software programs, pianito enables you to create ring tones for polyphonic phones.

jpg
amr
3gp
txt
midi
mp3
rm



You can use
flashito
instead of using
video files.

The flashito application does not require you to know anything about flash programming, there are three easy steps to follow you use jpg for the photos, mp3 for the audio and sound files and txt for the title of the heritage.

FLASHITO

The flashito is associated with the vector map, the panoramic images have a link to flashito.



1. Create a folder with the name of the flashito for example the name of the CHURCH, the name given to the folder will not appear. Put the photos, text and audio files in this folder.
2. Select 6 photos (320x240) pixels saved at 60% for the web using Photoshop.
3. Record an audio file in any language at 44khz and mono saved as mp3.
4. Write a text of 3 lines in txt format using the note pad saved as UTF-8.
5. Children face a jpg file 100x150 pixels.
6. The eGuide platform mounts the flash object.



PANORAMIC IMAGES

→ The panoramic images are associated with the PIN object shown in the vector map. When you click on the PIN you retrieve the panoramic image. The panoramic images have single or multiple links to multimedia files. The child face is the linking area.



507936*4788370

→ UTM coordinates of the repository

812*200

→ panoramic size

276*37*366*110

→ x/y, xy face pixel dimensions

void

→ void means no link to flashito if you have flashito then write its name there

On the way to visit the San Tirso church you can enjoy the wonderful scenery of the Monte Blanco and the estuary of the Anllons River. Monte Blanco is waypoint 6 a repository on this route more, information can be seen under CLIOs. The next way-point 3 is located 687 meters ahead.

Roll over text up to 500 characters written in the note pad and saved as UTF-8

← texto.txt

Save the panoramic image as jpg at 60% for the web using Photoshop. Merge the children's faces with the image using Photoshop

foto.jpg



5. Bridging the gap

You make a video with your photo camera, the result is a quick time file 20 or 30" around 9 Megs. You need to re convert that file into real media and 3GP, post production can be done with Studio 8 and conversion with Helix Mobile producer or with Nokia multimedia converter for 3gp. 350 kb for, 20 seconds is alright for GPRS networks.



You make a video with your phone, you get a 3gp file or a mpg4 video. All phones play 3gp but not all play mpg4. Some phones have only 10 seconds recording time, you need to expand this capability by using a third part software.

VIDEO

You make a video with your digital video camera in DV format then you have to capture the video on your PC/Mac and convert the file in real media and 3GP. Other formats are possible but the best quality today is real media.

→ If we bear in mind that people do not deal with the interface they deal with the information that is behind the interface it became clear that we should improve this equation: **analogue children-digital device-analogue repository**.

Some conclusions in advance based on the summer school experiences, if the children do in front of the camera what teachers tell them to do the result is not fresh is rigid and limited. If the children learn a text and repeat it in front of the camera like a parrot, we have a human avatar. If the children learn quality information about the repository, understand how the media works, create their own children's team assigning different roles, then the result is fresh and natural. If the gap is to understand how the media works, then CHIMER did implement a Workshop run by experts in the field, see Chimer Goes Mobile in www.chimer.org

→ A standard video digital camera comes with many possibilities in terms of authorising tools, but video cameras on phones do not. Most of the times you have to put a third part application on your phone to make the phone more versatile. A clear example of this is VideoStudio M-Style that enables you to extend the recording time on Nokia phones normally fixed between 10 and 15 seconds on most of phones. With a VGA 3.5mm lens 1:2.8 camera less than 1 Mega pixel on the Nokia 6600 you can do some things but not everything that you can do with a standard digital camera. It is true that is changing very fast but today in this converging media world where you have photo cameras that tape videos, video cameras that take photos and phones that do both, more than ever we need to understand two basic things firstly the output format of the files and their compatibility with the web and secondly the quality of the result you intend to achieve, that is a very important concept for documenting the heritage.

→ If you know the limitations and how to interact with the multiple devices then you just have to wait for what is around the next corner, better quality in the cameras and broadband for networking the information.

→ One minute video show, is clear evidence of the children's talent organising the whole production, the takes, assigning themselves roles and writing the scripts, the language barriers and the nature of human being were seamlessly integrated, the result was 4 video clips included in the website www.chimer.org



Music Player: Mp3, wav, AU, AMR and G-MIDI level 1 with 24 voices polyphony, RMF and i Melody.



→ On the P900, when you use the sound recorder (and you have to if you want to record a sound) the sound is saved inside a program and can not be found

→ in the audio folder. But when you browse with the mobile application it can be found in the soundrecorder folder, when uploading.

→ Each sound is identified by the date and time it was recorded at and by its position in the list of sound recording.

→ A Clue; everytime you have to create a new sound file click the button New otherwise you record your new sound as an extension of the previous one, this is a typical mistake with the P 900.

Conclusion: not all phones save and work in the same way even if they have the same Symbian operating system.

AUDIO

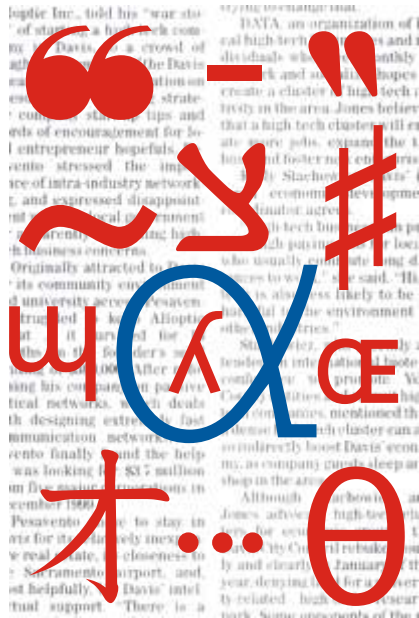


Real One Player: amr, mp4, ram, ra, and rv. Sound Forge, Sound Edit, iTunes.



All text files for eGuide platform need to be written with the Note pad and saved as UTF-8. Do not use Word.

TEXT



- 1 Type all the texts into the Notepad because this is what we need.
- 2 If you have the texts in Word, copy and paste them into Notepad and check them carefully. Some of the codes in Word do not work in Notepad.
- 3 After copying them in the Notepad be sure the spaces, all possessive signs and symbols like, " ", ..., -, ;, : _", -, _ are typed with the right keys. If not Flash will not recognise the characters. Some of these characters may look alright in Word but not in the Notepad.
- 4 Copying and pasting documents from Pdf files need to be double checked especially spaces.
- 5 Do not use symbols like /, &, \, in the file name.
- 6 An easy way to know if your texts are ok in terms of spaces, is to resize the window by pulling, then the texts must run along the lines. If they do not run, and there is always a word that never changes the lines means you have an enter space because the sentence or a word has been split.



→ When you take a photo with your phone 640x480 pixels and it is uploaded to the eGuide it is automatically reconverted into the right size, (400x300) for the photo gallery or (316x252) for the video gallery, icons are also automatically created.

PHOTOS

The CHIMER eGuide and the Mobile web browser platform read jpg files.



your phone does this



Picture size 640x480 pixels, 320x240, 160x120, 176x144, colour depth 24 bits. Bmp, GIF, PNG, WBMP. standard or Night mode 160x112 pixels, portrait mode 80x96 in the viewfinder mode, when saved in 640x480, display mode 176x208. These are some of the file formats.

your digital photo camera does this



There are several models of digital cameras, any camera above 2 mega pixels of resolution works fine for the eGuide. Some cameras work with compact flash cards and others with memory stick or something similar. The resolution you get depends on how you configure your camera and the mega pixel but as standard you get this from a 3 mega pixels camera

- L 2048x1536 pixels
- M 1024x768 pixels
- S 640x480 pixels

