

EPUB: Pushing the Limits (workshop)

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Introduction

- [Scott Prentice, President of Leximation, Inc.
- [Specializing in FrameMaker plugin development as well as structured FrameMaker conversions, consulting, and development. FrameMaker user/developer since 1991.
- [Developed DITA-FMx, a FrameMaker plugin for efficient DITA authoring and publishing.
- [Consulting for custom Help systems, creative/functional web applications, and EPUB solutions.

Workshop tools

- [oXygen XML Editor - installer and trial license is provided
- [AZARDI ebook reader - Windows beta is provided
- [Chrome+Readium plugin - not provided
- [Sample EPUBs - provided

What is EPUB?

- [EPUB is an ebook file format that can be read on almost every device and platform
- [Requires a “reader” application or dedicated reader device
- [A collection of XHTML, XML, CSS, and media files wrapped up in a “zip” archive
- [Defines the content, navigation, and formatting of the ebook

EPUB 2 or EPUB 3?

- [EPUB 3 is current spec, but full support still weak
- [EPUB 3 adds interactivity, multimedia, more (via HTML 5)
- [To take full advantage of EPUB 3 you'll have to hand code, no tools provide interactive features (yet)
- [If you do include EPUB 3 features, it will limit the readers
- [This workshop focuses mostly on EPUB 3 features

EPUB 3 makes it possible!

- [EPUB 3 specification provides for a self-contained website
- [HTML 5, CSS 3, SVG, MathML .. everything you need
- [Provide scripting and interactivity
- [Responsive layout via media queries
- [Include videos and audio
- [Leverage 3rd party JS libraries

Working with oXygen

- [Other tools can be used, I prefer oXygen
- [Open EPUB to view/edit content
- [Changes are saved back to EPUB
- [Validation errors are easy to locate and fix
- [Easy to add/edit/delete files

Review contents of EPUB

- [“ZIP” package
- [META-INF/container.xml points to OPF file
- [OPF file contains metadata and manifest of all files
- [Navigation files (EPUB 3: XHTML; EPUB 2: NCX)
- [XHTML content files
- [Additional media, styling, scripting files

Basic editing

- [Review basic EPUB features
- [Show results of edits in different readers
- [Discuss different ways to handle common problems
 - Tables
 - Images
 - Pagination issues

Add interactivity to EPUB

- [Add jQuery library to package
- [Update content with JS coding
- [Review effect in readers
- [Check for validation errors

Review fixed layout EPUB

- [Review in readers (portrait vs. landscape)
- [Open in oXygen
- [Metadata requirements
- [CSS for precise page layout

Review "EPUB Help"

— [Review in readers (note vertical scrolling)

— [Open in oXygen

— [Review JS and CSS use

— [Edit and validate

— [AZARDI context sensitivity command line

`"C:\path\to\azardi.exe" "C:\path\to\epub.epub#topicid"`

Resources

[EPUB 3.0.1 specification - idpf.org/epub/301

[CSS 3 Module Info - www.css3.info/modules

[BISG, Field Guide to Fixed Layout for E-Books – <https://www.bisg.org/publications/field-guide-fixed-layout-e-books>

[IGP, ePub3 Fixed Layout Packaging – <http://apex.infogridpacific.com/df/epub3packaging-flo.html>

[EPUB Resources – www.epubtest.com/resources.php

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Feedback



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Please tell us what you thought of the lecture. We look forward to your feedback via smartphone or tablet.

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<http://UA17.honestly.de>