Xion — A Clean And Simple Beamer Theme

Anatoly Arlashin

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Outline

Why create my own theme?

First, that's the best way to learn Beamer inner mechanics. Almost all Beamer tutorials that can be found online deal with changing some of the elements of existing themes inside the slides, as opposed to in a theme file. Q&As on StackExchange help a little more, but good answers for in-depth questions are still hard to find.

Second, all Beamer themes that I've seen were somehow flawed (to my liking) — too bright, too dark, too fancy, too many pictures, weird colors, asymetric geometry etc.

When I found Zurich theme, it seemed almost perfect, just a few tweaks here and there. Or so it seemed at first . . .

Defined colors

The theme defines the following colors (and then actually uses only a few):

lightscarlet	lightskyblue	lightaluminium
mediumscarlet	mediumskyblue	mediumaluminium
darkscarlet	darkskyblue	darkaluminium
crimson	jeans	lightgray
lightchameleon	lightplum	ash
mediumchameleon	mediumplum	charcoal
darkchameleon	darkplum	darkcharcoal
turtlegreen	regal	

Block Party

Block
Normal block. Colorless, neutral.

Example Block
Example block. (Potential uses: list of pros, relaxing facts)

Alert Block
Alert block. (Potential uses: list of cons, impending doom)

Numbered and itemized lists

1. Numbered lists are themed up to three levels

2. The first level has numbers in squares
   1. **2.1** The second level has
   2. **2.2** two numbers in bold
      1. 2.2.1 Levels below third are not themed
      2. 2.2.2 and will be rendered using default template.

- Itemized lists are themed up to three levels
- The first level has solid squares
  - The second level has solid triangles
  - The third level has empty circles
    - Levels below third are not themed
    - and will be rendered using default template.

References

- Theme/color combinations for built-in Beamer themes: one and two
- A list of custom Beamer themes: one and two
- Beamer manual: CTAN and WikiBooks
- Cheat-sheet on Beamer commands and options
- A nice example of how to create a custom Beamer theme from scratch
- Zurich theme, which I modified to create this one
- Flip thime, which is what Zurich theme was based upon