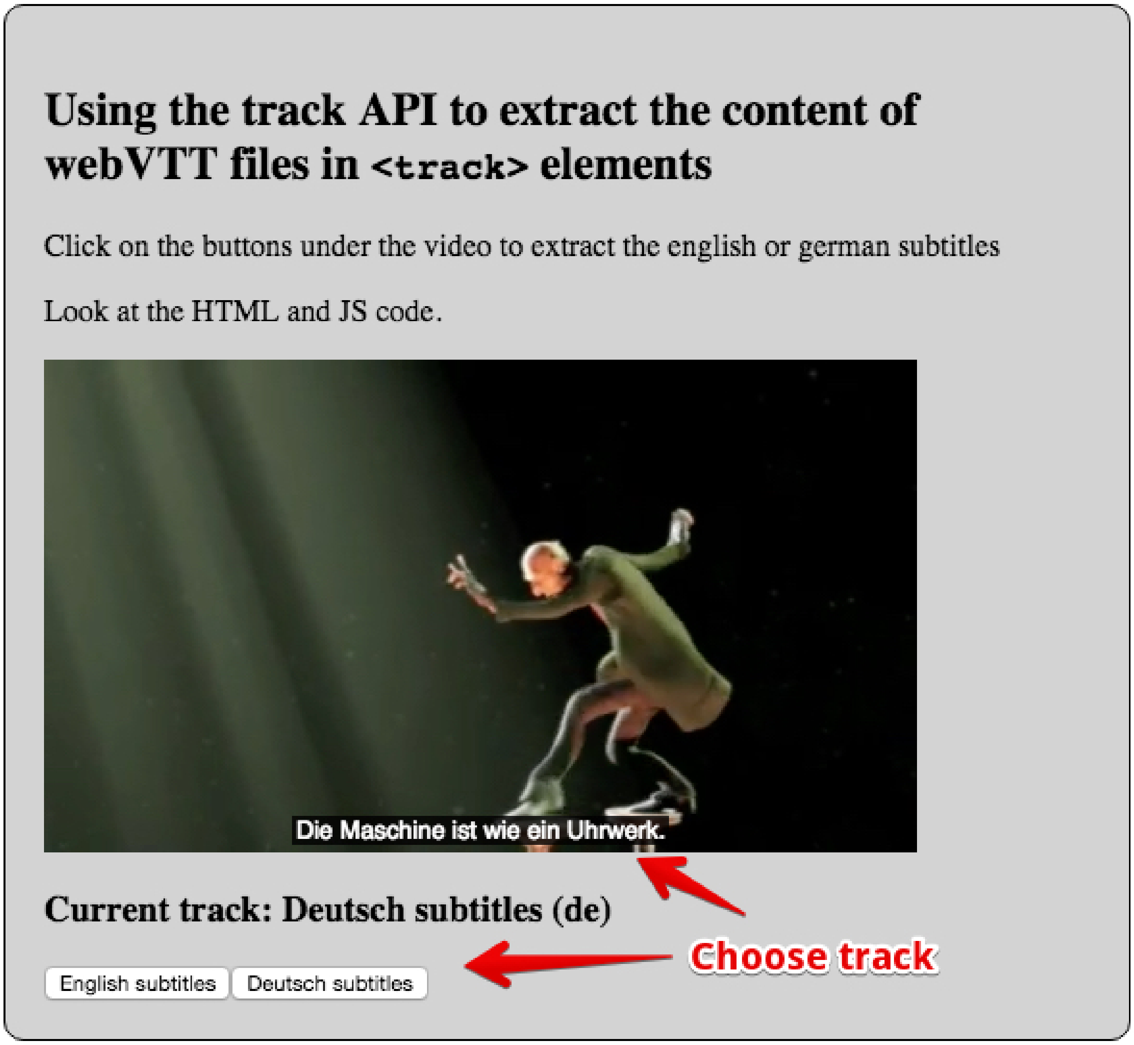
Example 3: adding buttons for choosing the subtitle/caption track

You may have noticed that with many browsers, the standard implementation of the video element does not let the user choose the subtitle language...

Read this article by Ian Devlin about the current status of multiple WebVTT track supports by the different browsers, as at April 2015. Note that currently (in October 2015), neither Chrome nor FireFox offers a menu to choose the track to display.

However, it's rather easy to implement this feature using the Track API.

Here is a simple example at JSBin: we added two buttons below the video that will enable/disable subtitles/captions and let you choose which track you like.



Using the track API to extract the content of webVTT files in `<track>` elements

Click on the buttons under the video to extract the english or german subtitles

Look at the HTML and JS code.

Die Maschine ist wie ein Uhrwerk.

Current track: Deutsch subtitles (de)

Choose track

HTML code:

```
...
<body onload="init()">
 ...
 <video id="myVideo" preload="metadata"controls crossOrigin="anonymous" >
     <source src="http://...../elephants-dream-medium.mp4"
             type="video/mp4">
     <source src="http://...../elephants-dream-medium.webm"
             type="video/webm">
     <track  label="English subtitles"
             kind="subtitles"
             srclang="en"
             src="http://...../elephants-dream-subtitles-en.vtt"
             default>
     <track  label="Deutsch subtitles"
             kind="subtitles"
             srclang="de"
             src="http://...../elephants-dream-subtitles-de.vtt">
     <track  label="English chapters"
             kind="chapters"
             srclang="en"
             src="http://...../elephants-dream-chapters-en.vtt">
 </video>
 <h3>Current track: <spanid="currentLang"></span></h3>
 <div id="langButtonDiv"></div>
 </section>
...
```

JavaScript code:

```
var langButtonDiv, currentLangSpan,video;

function init() {
   langButtonDiv =document.querySelector("#langButtonDiv");
   currentLangSpan =document.querySelector("#currentLang");
   video =document.querySelector("#myVideo");
   console.log("Number of tracks = "
               +video.textTracks.length);
   // Updates the display of the current track activated
   currentLangSpan.innerHTML =activeTrack();
   // Build the buttons for choosing a track
   buildButtons();
}

function activeTrack() {
   for (var i = 0; i <video.textTracks.length; i++) {
      if(video.textTracks[i].mode ==='showing') {
         return video.textTracks[i].label+ " ("
                +video.textTracks[i].language + ")";
      }
   }
   return "no subtitles/caption selected";
}

function buildButtons() {
   if (video.textTracks) { // if the video contains track elements
      // For each track, create a button
      for (var i = 0; i <video.textTracks.length; i++) {
         // We create buttons only for the caption and subtitle
tracks
         var track = video.textTracks[i];

 if((track.kind !== "subtitles")&& (track.kind !== "captions"))
            continue;
         // create a button for track number i
         createButton(video.textTracks[i]);
      }
   }
}

function createButton(track) {
   // Create a button
   var b =document.createElement("button");
   b.value=track.label;
   // use the lang attribute of the button to keep trace of the
   // associated track language. Will be useful in the click
listener
   b.setAttribute("lang",track.language);
   b.addEventListener('click',function(e) {
     // Check which track is the track with the language
we're looking for
     // Get the value of the lang attribute of the clicked button
     var lang =this.getAttribute('lang');

     for (var i = 0; i <video.textTracks.length; i++) {
       if (video.textTracks[i].language== lang) {
          video.textTracks[i].mode ='showing';
       } else {
          video.textTracks[i].mode ='hidden';
       }
     }
     // Updates the span so that it displays the new active track
    currentLangSpan.innerHTML =activeTrack();
  });
  // Creates a label inside the button
  b.appendChild(document.createTextNode(track.label));
  // Add the button to a div at the end of the HTML document
  langButtonDiv.appendChild(b);
}
```

External resource: There is an online tutorial at MDN that goes much further in terms of styling and integrating a "CC" button.If you are interested in building a complete custom video player, you might take a look.