

Laboratory work 6

What I did:

Part 1: Open source text/document editors

Started off with Google Docs – easy access since I use chrome so it immediately known who is trying to access what; things save directly to Google Drive, but I abandoned it because for some reason somehow Russian text input got enabled and didn't immediately find how to disable that. Other than that it is a fine editor for basic document creation.

When went on to Word Online. Plenty of nonsense to go through to get to the editor since I don't particularly use Microsoft account so a bunch of password remembrance, authentication issues and all that nonsense, but in the end, I does give the somewhat familiar editing interface and it is the editor I plan on doing this report with. I usually use MS Office 2010 with a customized ribbon so this editor showing newest interface and even having Lithuanian interface does cause problems diminishing speed of editing. Also, being an online editor, it has issues with adding images to the file, so there will be links to images at best in this report. After a while noticed that the grammar checker I quite nice – better than the one in MS Word 2010.

Other online options are: ZOHO – requires registration (so nope); Thinkfree – list stated it is online, but all I see is a 60-day trial version download of go buy it; Etherpad – 1 free hour online demo, then need to sign up, otherwise download 40MB program (though from the demo it seems almost at the level of Notepad++).

For downloadable alternatives there's some obscure software and I figure the most popular one of them is OpenOffice – the thing that comes with many Linux distributions, GPL licensed free document editor that I haven't really tried much after seeing that it saves to its own file format that is not easily interchangeable with doc files. And as for other soft I won't be installing them since Quartus fucked up my laptop and I don't want some random piece of useless soft to fuck up my gaming PC too.

For text editors I prefer and use Notepad++ – recognizes most basic text file types adding useful highlighting, and has a ton of plugins for whatever is needed. Personally, I use it for basic txt, xml, c, bat or extension-less file edits and its lightweight nature and shell integration is very useful. Lately started noticing Atom MIT licensed editor, especially among web front-end developers. Personally, I use also MIT licensed Visual Studio Code for front end-development. Both of these can be classed as text editors since no one prevents you from using them to edit txt files, but they are more for, as mentioned, front-end development as they have good autocompletion and plenty of plugins for front-end programming.

Part 2: Spreadsheet editors

Honestly I would rephrase what is written in Scoro webpage (<https://www.scoro.com/blog/11-user-friendly-excel-alternatives/>), but I think there is no point and can read it up out there. I use MS Office Excel 2010 when needed I see no need for an alternative till some serious anti-piracy laws hit. Though if I had to choose I'd go with an online version again I think; Excel Online or Google Docs Spreadsheet.

Part 3: Presentation software

Similar situation to part 2 – I'd just pull all the info from "visme" webpage (<http://blog.visme.co/powerpoint-alternatives/>). I use PowerPoint obviously, like once or twice a year while I'm studying and if forced I would check out visme or something.

Part 4: Image editors

For EDITING images best is Adobe Photoshop. Paid and expensive program or free as used by most casual Lithuanians. Every windows user has access to MS Paint and that is enough for many applications. The free alternative improving upon MS Paint is Paint.NET - more features than basic MS Paint, but still staying lightweight. As far as its license goes it seems to have some custom license where it doesn't care where and how you use the program as long as you don't mess with its source code. As fast image editing in Linux I hear Gimp is decent – free GNU GPL licensed program having decent base set of options and a plethora of plugins. Though when it comes to drawing, the best one is considered PaintTool SAI, though now I guess they went commercial or something because I can't find a normal download link or licensing information, but it used to be free software.

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