



VLC Qt Interface Redesign

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Synopsis

The VLC media player is a popular open-source media player that supports a wide range of video and audio formats. While the player has evolved over the years, the Qt interface has not been updated for some time and is in need of a redesign. This project aims to redesign the Qt interface of VLC to provide a more modern and user-friendly experience. The proposed redesign will focus on improving the usability, accessibility, and visual appeal of the interface. The project will involve integrating new features, enhancing existing features, and optimizing the interface for performance and usability.

I propose to update VLC Media Player by leveraging Qt to design a more modern and elegant interface which would result in a heightened user experience and greater adoption over time. Specifically, I plan to implement multiple features into VLC Media Player which have been requested by the VLC community.

This project will benefit VLC users by providing a more intuitive and engaging user experience, making it easier to navigate and access the player's features. It will also benefit the VLC community by attracting new users and contributors, and by providing a foundation for future interface improvements.

About Me

Hi there! My name is Mohit Marathe. I'm currently a sophomore studying at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi.

In my freshman year, I discovered my love for coding and began with my first programming language, C++. Since then, I've delved into a plethora of

domains including competitive programming, machine learning, and computer vision. I've also been an active member of the Robotics Club at IIT(BHU) and have contributed extensively to its projects.

I realized early on that my passion for coding goes beyond just writing code - I wanted to actively collaborate and learn from others while adding value to the community. That's when I began contributing to open-source projects. It's been just 4 months since I started, but I've already learned so much by working with some fantastic open-source communities like KDE, Layer5, and Cilium.

Most of my contributions have been centered around documentation and UI. The experience has taught me invaluable skills such as navigating large codebases, collaborating with other developers, and the confidence to learn and adapt on the go.

Being part of an open-source community has given me a sense of purpose and fulfillment like nothing else. It's an incredible feeling to work on something that has the potential to impact people all around the world. And it's not just about the end result - it's about the journey of learning, collaborating, and growing as a developer.

My Open-Source Contributions

● To VLC

Issues Reported:

https://code.videolan.org/videolan/vlc/-/issues/?sort=created_date&state=opened&author_username=mohit-marathe&first_page_size=20

Merge Requests:

https://code.videolan.org/videolan/vlc/-/merge_requests?scope=all&state=opened&author_username=mohit-marathe

- **To KDE**

Kalendar

https://invent.kde.org/pim/kalendar/-/merge_requests?scope=all&state=all&author_username=mohit-marathe

Tokodon

https://invent.kde.org/network/tokodon/-/merge_requests?scope=all&state=all&author_username=mohit-marathe

- **To Layer5**

<https://github.com/meshery/meshery/pulls?q=+author%3Amohit-marathe+>

- **To Cilium**

<https://github.com/cilium/cilium/issues?q=author%3Amohit-marathe+>

Why VLC?

I'm particularly drawn to VLC for several reasons. Firstly, VLC is a project with a long-standing history of providing high-quality, cross-platform media playback. As an avid media consumer, I know how frustrating it can be to struggle with incompatible media formats or buggy media players. VLC solves these problems and has become the go-to media player for many people, including myself.

Secondly, VLC is a project that is constantly evolving and improving. There are always new features being added, and bugs being fixed. This means that there is always something new to learn and contribute to. As a student,

I'm looking for an opportunity to work on a project that will challenge me and help me develop my skills further. VLC provides just that.

Finally, VLC has a large and active community of developers and users. Being part of such a community would be a valuable experience in itself. It would provide me with opportunities to learn from other developers, collaborate on exciting new features, and get feedback on my contributions.

Overall, I believe that VLC is a project that aligns with my interests and skills. I'm excited about the possibility of contributing to a project that has such a broad impact and is used by so many people. I look forward to the opportunity to work with the VLC community and contribute to the development of this fantastic media player.

Deliverables

Considering the prioritization of distinct features for VLC 4.0 and the expert guidance from my prospective mentor, Pierre, regarding the projected timelines for each feature, I am willing to undertake different issues available in the GitLab issue tracker.

1. Updated VLC interface: The primary deliverable of this project will be an updated VLC interface that is simpler, more user-friendly, and has a better "media center" feel. This new interface will be developed using Qml and will integrate with the media library and the current interface.
2. Implementation of new designs
3. Integration with media library: To ensure that the new interface properly integrates with the media library.
4. Testing and bug fixing: Thoroughly testing the new interface and fixing any bugs or issues that arise during testing.
5. Final report: Submit a final report summarizing their work, including any challenges faced and solutions implemented.

This will include (but not limited to) resolving the following issues:

- [Allow clicking on artist in albums and information panels](#)
- [Allow continue playback for audio as well](#)
- [Qt Interface: Top tabbar design and usability issues](#)
- [Can no longer restart media using play button](#)
- [Qt: Time format on seek bar sometimes in ms](#)
- [VLC 4: acrylic background randomly flickers on windows 11 when resizing window](#)

Draft Timeline

Up to May 4:

- Continue understanding the codebase
- Try to solve some easy issues (like <https://code.videolan.org/videolan/vlc/-/issues/27032>)
- Complete some of my open MRs

Note: I have my End-Semester exams from April 24 to May 2

Community Bonding period(May 4 to 28)

- Learn more about Qt5 and QML
- Study and understand the work of the previous mentees of this project to gain a deeper understanding of how things are implemented
- Frequently interact with my proposed mentor- Pierre Lamot, and discuss about the project goals and deadlines
- Communicate with my mentor about integrating any changes to the deliverables

First Phase (from May 29)

- Continue to communicate with my mentor to discuss any new ideas and features

- Collaborate with my mentor to help me get started on the my first deliverable after setting priorities of tasks to be done
- Begin exploring initial approach for [VLC 4: acrylic background randomly flickers on windows 11 when resizing window](#) and discuss other options with my mentor
- Meanwhile resolve some small bugs
- Start working on [Qt Interface: Top tabbar design and usability issues](#)
- Communicate with my mentor and discuss possible solutions for [Can no longer restart media using play button](#)
- Continue working on the deliverables being flexible with the change in goals (if any) as suggested by my mentor
- Alongside to keep working on my GSoC report as I progress while completing goals

Second Phase

- Continue to provide updates to my mentor with consistent communication
- Thorough testing of the new interface to find any bugs
- Resolve any remaining issues and to continue working on adding features
- Complete my GSoC report of all the work I will do

Post GSoC

- If somehow the planned features couldn't be implemented during the period, then continue working on them
- To increase the scope of my contributions; apart from interface I also want to learn and contribute to CI, Decoders and Plugins
- I also wish to contribute to VLC Android as I use it a lot!

What are my other commitments?

My university end semester exams are scheduled from 24th April 2023 to 1st May 2023. **So I have no other commitments from May 2 to July 15 due to my summer holidays.** After my holidays, I will still be able to manage 30 hours per week as I usually have on average 4 hours of college per day from Monday to Friday.