GVoz

Record Voice and Times for Presentations

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`https://gvoz.presvoz.tk`

1 *What is* GVoz?

GVoz is a very basic *Python* script that records sound and transition times, while it displays the pages from a given PDF document.

The main use case is obtaining the required files for *PresVoz*, to generate presentations with embedded voice.

Just in case you might wonder, the *GVoz* name comes from the Spanish *graba voz*—"record voice".

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2 *Requirements*

GVoz is written in *Python*, using *Poppler* and *GStreamer*—through GTK+3 GObject Introspection. This is why you get so much with only 200 lines of code.

On *Linux*, you can install them through the package manager from your distribution. Since package names differ on them, you have to investigate what to install.

On *Windows*, you can install them using the MINGW64 environment from the MSYS2 project—`https://www.msys2.org/`.

On *macOS*, *Homebrew* seems to have all installation requirements—`https://brew.sh/`.

3 Windows *Installation*

You need a whole environment to run *GVoz*. Installing MSYS2 isn't so difficult at it might seem first.

1. Download the installer from `https://www.msys2.org/#installation`.

2. Unpack in the provided directory. The suggested `c:\msys64\` is fine.[1]

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[1] All references bellow use this path. If you happen to use another path, please adapt commands accordingly.

3. Once finished, update the MSYS2 installation typing `pacman -Syu` in the main MSYS2 terminal.

   In some cases, the installer may update the base packages and quit. In that case, you would have to update again typing `pacman -Su`.

4. Install all packages required by *GVoz* with the following command in the MINGW64 terminal.

```
pacman -S --needed pactoys git && pacboy -S --needed
poppler:x python-cairo:x gobject-introspection:x
python-gobject:x gtk3:x gst-python:x
gst-plugins-good:x gst-plugins-bad:x
gst-plugins-ugly:x
```

Installing *GVoz* can be done with a single command in *Windows* command prompt:

```
start "" "C:\msys64\mingw64.exe" /usr/bin/bash -lc git
clone https://gitlab.com/ousia/gvoz.git
```

Just in case it wouldn't be clear, the previous command starts the MINGW64 environment to run `git`, which clones the *GVoz* repository. This would be the same as running `git clone https://gitlab.com/ousia/gvoz.git` in the MINGW64 terminal.

A Drag–and–Drop

To enable drag–and–drop in *Windows*, you have to copy the following command to `gvoz.bat`:

```
start "" "C:\msys64\mingw64.exe" /usr/bin/bash -lc python
~/gvoz/gvoz.py "%~1"
```

After that, you may drag and drop any PDF document on `gvoz.bat` and *GVoz* will start automatically.

I'm afraid that file names cannot have other characters than the ones from the ASCII charset. The command prompt in *Windows* cannot deal with UTF–8 internally.

4 Linux *Installation*

The best way to install in *Linux* may be cloning the repository—once you satisfied the dependencies:[2]

```
git clone https://gitlab.com/ousia/gvoz.git
```

Making a symlink for *GVoz* would be easy. If you cloned the repository in `$HOME`, just make a symbolic link: `ln -s ~/gvoz/gvoz.py ~/bin/gvoz`.

GVoz can be invoked:

```
gvoz document.pdf
```

5 *Usage*

Given that the path is know to your operative system, you can type:

```
gvoz document.pdf
```

If you want to enable mouse clicks to start recording and advance slides, there is the option `-m` or `--mouse`.

The following keys are the way to use *GVoz*:

`space bar` starts sounds and times recording. Once recording has been activated, pressing the space bar advances slides and records transition times.

`p` pauses and unpauses recording.

`m` enables mouse. When active, it works the same as the space bar.

`q` quits *GVoz* inmediatly. Use at your own risk.

From slides in PDF document named `document.pdf`, *GVoz* will record voice in `document-audio.wav` and times in `document-times.txt`.

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2 As explained in *2. Requirements*. *Fedora* requires: `dnf install git`.

When started, *GVoz* checks whether there is a previous voice recording or timeline from the same slides. If found, it prompts the user whether to proceed or quit. If the user starts recording, the MP3 audio file from the slides will be erased too—along with the previous voice recording and timeline.[3]

6 Issues

If you experience an issue with *GVoz*, please report it at `https://gitlab.com/ousia/gvoz/-/issues/new`.

Since I cannot code properly, *GVoz* has some deprecation warnings. I'm afraid I cannot fix them myself.

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3 Since *PresVoz* chooses MP3 over WAV file, this avoids embedding a wrong older recording in the final presentation.