VIDIVOX: USER MANUAL
VIDEO EDITOR

WELCOME TO VIDIVOX

VIDIVOX is a home video editor, created as an easy way to add audio files to videos, edit these video, and to create spoken commentaries to narrate them. You can use VIDIVOX and its numerous functionalities separately to create and view individual files, or together to create your own finished projects.

By entering text you can create audio files that contain this text spoken by the computer. These can be previewed and then saved, and these, along with any other mp3 audio files, can be added to your own videos.

Thank you for using VIDIVOX.

START VIDIVOX

Once you have saved the jar file VIDIVOXVideoCommentator.jar to an easy to find location in your directories, navigate to the folder using the terminal. To run the application enter the command:

```
java –jar VIDIVOXVideoCommentator.jar
```

This will start the application, and the initial screen (Figure 1) will appear. By running the application for the first time, the folder VIDIVOXmedia will also be created in your current working directory (this can be viewed by entering the command `pwd` into the terminal), and this is where you can find any files that you create (and save) using the application.

INITIAL FRAME

Figure 1 is the view on starting up the application.

Note that most of the components are greyed out as these cannot be used until a video is selected.

From this frame you can choose to either select a video to edit (1 – Go to *Choosing a File to Edit*) or create a new commentary audio file (2 – Go to *Create New Commentary*) that is not associated with a video file.
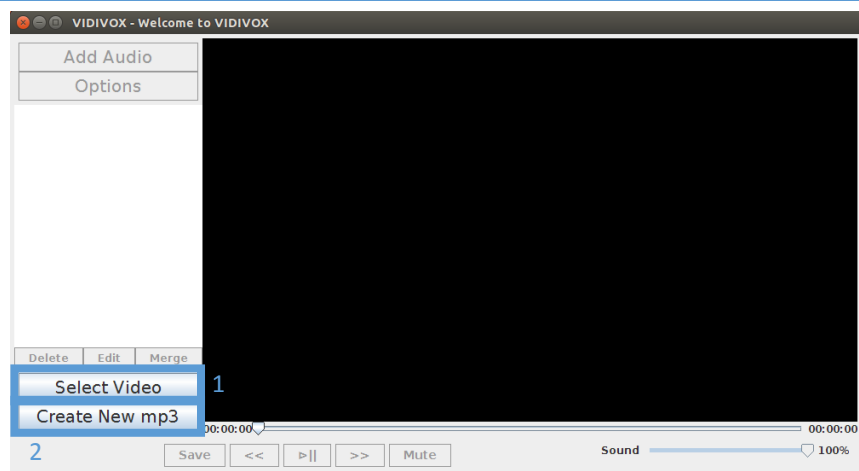

Figure 1: Initial Frame - appears on starting application

SELECTING A VIDEO TO EDIT
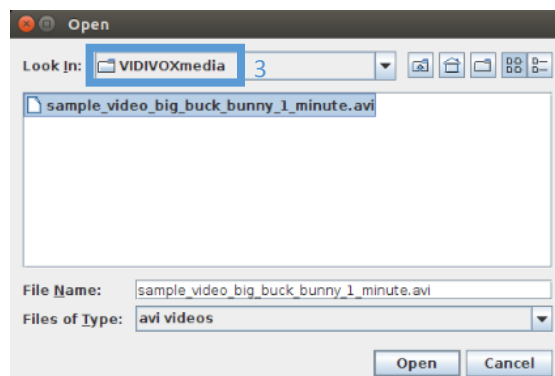
CHOOSING A VIDEO FILE TO EDIT

Figure 3: Default location of file chooser – selecting video

When you choose to select a new video, a frame (*Figure 2*) will appear that gives you a way to navigate to the avi file that you want to edit. The default location it will show you is a folder that the app creates when you start it up: *"VIDIVOXmedia"*. This folder is created in the same directory that the application was saved in. This is the same folder that any files created by the application are saved in (any edited videos, or commentary files).

Once you have selected a video to edit, you can choose to open it and once this happens you will see a screen like Figure 3.

VIDEO SELECTED

After opening the video you want to edit, the application will return to the initial frame, but now a lot of the components that were previously greyed out have been enabled (Figure 3).

Because the video that you selected is now playing, you can now control the video playback with the control buttons (5), volume slider (6) and video slider (7).
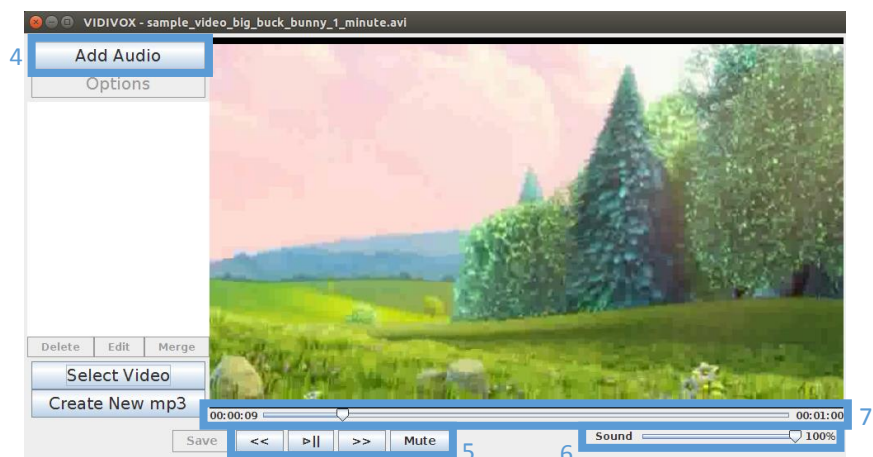

Figure 5: Video to edit has been selected and is playing

As a video has been selected to edit, you can now choose audio files to add to the video (4 – Go to *Adding audio files to a selected video*).
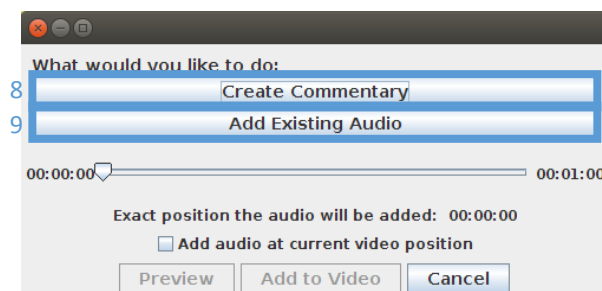
ADDING AUDIO FILES TO A SELECTED VIDEO

Figure 6: Choose an audio to add

If you choose to add an audio to the selected video, the frame in Figure 4 will appear. This frame asks you whether you want to create a new audio file (8 – Go to *Create a new commentary*) or add an already existing audio file (9 – Go to *Choose existing audio*).

CHOOSE EXISTING AUDIO

If you want to add an existing audio file, a file chooser will appear that allows you to navigate to your chosen audio. It defaults to the VIDIVOXmedia folder, as this is where all the audio files you create with VIDIVOX are stored.
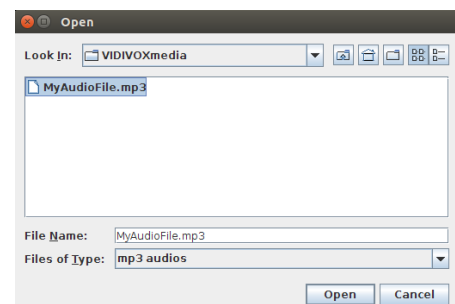
Figure 8: Select an existing audio to add
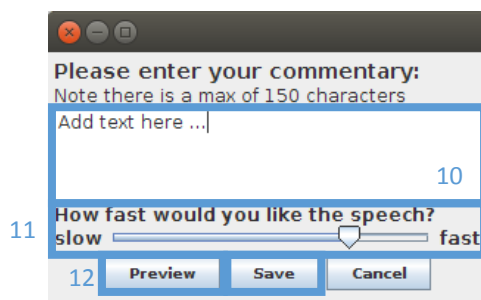
CREATE A NEW COMMENTARY FILE

Figure 10: Enter text to create a new audio file

If, on the other hand, you want to create a new audio file for this video, a frame will appear (Figure 6) that lets you add text (10) that you can then turn into a speech file. This speech can be played at different speeds depending on your needs. This speed is controlled by a slider (11).

Before saving this new speech as an mp3 file, you can preview the speech by itself by pressing the "preview" button (12), and once you are happy with it you can save it (13 – Go to *Save new audio*).

SAVE THE AUDIO FILE

If you choose to save the audio file that you have created, *Figure 7* will give you a choice to enter a name for your new file. This name cannot contain any punctuation, just alphabet character and numbers. Add the text for your filename and either use backspace to remove the pre-typed name *"MyAudioFile"* or highlight it and delete it, to add your own.

The file will be saved in VIDIVOXmedia, and if you were to choose *"MyAudioFile"* as your name, the final audio file would be named *"MyAudioFile.mp3"*. Once you confirm the name you have chosen your chosen audio will be saved (Figure 8), and then added to the frame that lets you add audio to the selected video (Figure 10).
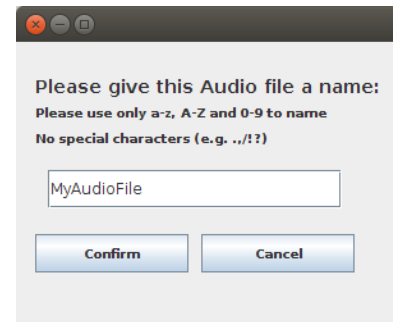

Figure 12: Choosing a name for new audio

FILENAME ALREADY EXISTS (AUDIO)

If the filename you choose for your new audio file already exists, you will be asked whether you want to overwrite the existing file, or rename your new file. Overwriting will delete the old file, and then save your new audio. Renaming will take you back the "Save Audio" frame (Figure 7) to pick a different name.
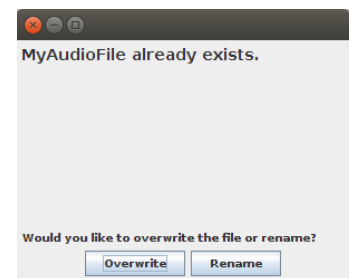

Figure 14: Audio already exists
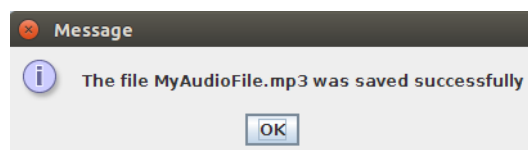
CONFIRMATION OF SAVE

Figure 16: New audio file was created successfully

If the new commentary has been successfully saved, a message will appear informing the user of this, and of the final name that was selected.
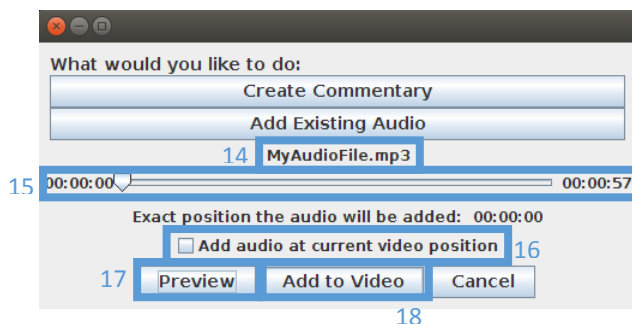
ADD CHOSEN AUDIO TO VIDEO
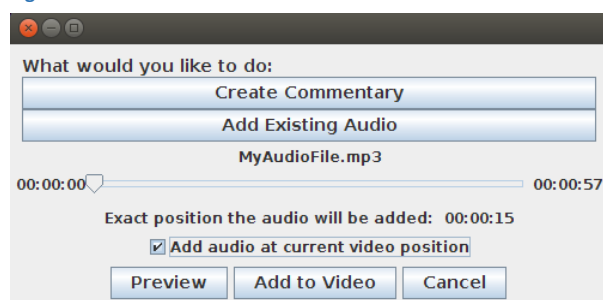

Figure 10: Audio has been selected

Figure 11: Checkbox – choose to add audio at video position

Once you have chosen an audio, the name of this audio is added to the frame (14).

Now the "Preview" button and "Add to Video" button have been enabled.

Based on the slider (15) you can choose the time you want the audio to be added to the video. Or if you had already chosen a time for the audio based on where you were in the video when you selected to add the audio, the checkbox (16) takes the video position as the time (Figure 11). This checkbox greys out the position slider (15).

Preview (17) plays the video from your chosen position, for the length of the audio file, playing the new video file just for enough time to see how your audio fits.

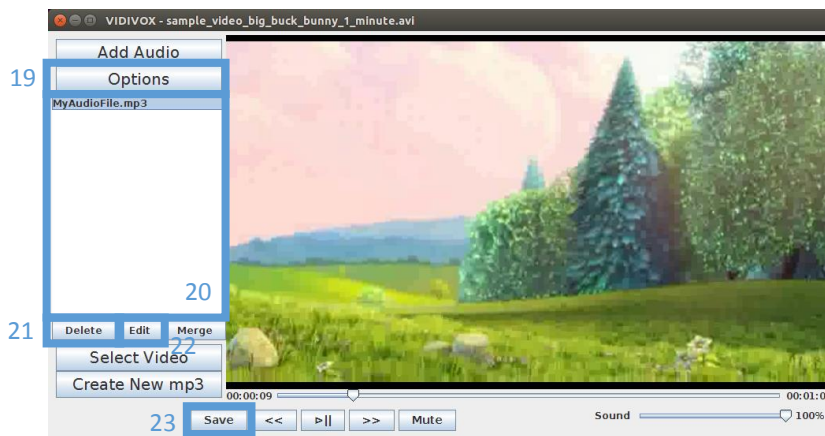Once you are happy with the positioning, Add to Video (18) adds the audio file to the video, and plays the edited file.

AUDIO ADDED TO VIDEO

Figure 12: Audio file has been added to the video (show in list)

Now that you have edited you video (added an audio file) you will see that more functionality has become available.

You can now save your edited video (23) which sends to you a frame that lets you save your video (Go to *Save your audio* – same flow but modified to save a video file. MyVideoFile goes to MyVideoFile.avi). This saved avi file will be store in the VIDIVOXmedia folder.

Note that the added audio is shown in the left middle panel (20) and can be selected and from there deleted (21) or its position in the video can be edited (22 – Go to *Edit already positioned audio*). Merge will apply these changes and play the new video from the start.

The options button (19) has also been enabled. The options pane (Go to *Volume options*) will let you change the volume of the original video's soundtrack, as well as any added audio files (seen in the list – 20).

EDIT ALREADY POSITIONED AUDIO

If you choose an audio file to edit, you see a frame like the one seen when you first chose the audio to add, but now the audio is already set, and all that you can edit is the positioning.
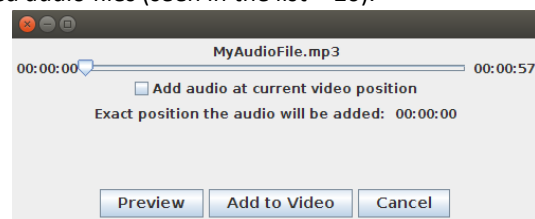

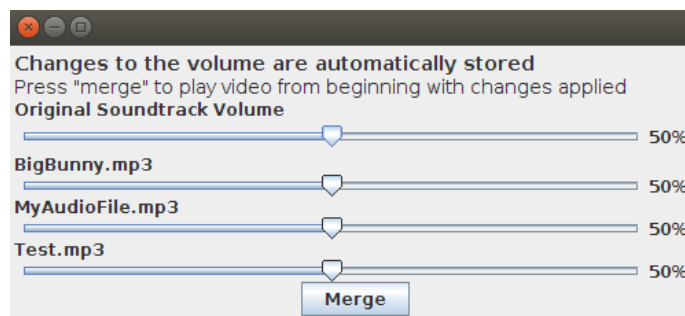**Figure 13: Edit audio's position in video**

VOLUME OPTIONS

Figure 14: Change the volume for each audio in the edited video

As different audio files can have different default volume levels, it is often necessary to be able to change these. Once you have added an audio file to the selected video, you will be able to edit the individual volumes of each of these files.

Changes are automatically made, but pressing merge will start the edited video from the beginning with changes in place.
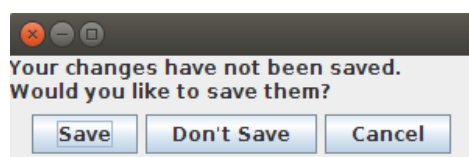
EXITING VIDIVOX

Figure 15: Unsaved changes when user tries to close

If you try to exit while you still have unsaved changes, a message will appear prompting you to save these changes. If you choose to save, you will be directed to a save video frame, and once you have saved the application will close. Choosing "Don't save" will close VIDIVOX and discard your changes. Cancel will close the warning frame but VIDIVOX will stay open.

ERROR MESSAGES

FAILURE TO PLAY MEDIA

If you remove an audio file that you have added to the video already, when you try to "merge" any changes you will see an error message (Figure 16) and the video will not play. To fix this simply delete the audio from the list in VIDIVOX and press merge again.
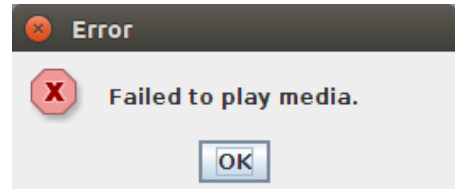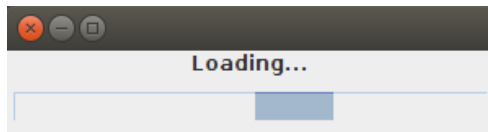

Figure 16: Failure message

LOADING FRAME

Figure 17: Loading frame

Whenever a file is being created by VIDIVOX or a video is loading, a frame will appear with a small animation to let you know that something is happening. You don't need to do anything with this screen, as it will close automatically as soon as the video is ready.