

Cikada 0.5 Manual



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Introduction

Cikada is a presentation tool for PDF documents based on clutter and poppler-glib. This means Cikada is developed mainly for those linux desktop users who have hardware 3D acceleration.

The name of “Cikada” comes from an english word “Cicada”. In order to be convenient for web searching, I changed the second character ‘c’ to ‘k’. The reason of using “Cikada” is that it can represent this project is created in an afternoon in hottie summer. Furthermore Cikada can warn us don’t make noise like a cicade in the progress of presentation.

Cikada version 0.5 is rewritten totally. Its main features:

- Supporting hard disk cache. With this mode Cikada can convert all PDF pages to images and put them in /tmp/cikada/(MD5 code).
- Supporting the regular animation effects, such as move, scale, fade-in/out, curl etc.
- Providing progress bar. It can trace the progress of presentation and can be used to go to some slide quickly.
- Supporting ConT_EXt-like format configuration file. In configuration we can set the animation effect of slides and the color of progress bar. Furthermore we can combine some sequences of slides with “Continuation”. Each sequence is amount to one slide.

Installation

At present we need get the source code of Cikada from github and compile it for installation.

```
$ git clone git://github.com/liyanrui/cikada.git
$ cd cikada
$ autoreconf -i
$ ./configure && make
$ sudo make install
```

Running Cikada

Cikada is a command line program. Its command format is:

```
$ cikada [Options] filename.pdf
```

Options:

-f, --fullscreen	Set fullscreen mode
-s, --scale=NUMBER	Scales slides with the given factors
-c, --cache=STRING	Set slides cache mode (turning on defaultly)

For example, if we want to close hard disk cache, set image scale 1.5 and enter full screen directly when playing foo.pdf:

```
$ cikada -c off -s 1.5 -f foo.pdf
```

The default value of image scale is 1.0 if you don't set the image scale.

If you don't use -f when running Cikada, you can use "F11" key to switch to full screen.

Switching slides

You can switch slides with the left or right button of mouse. The left button can switch from the current slide to the next slide. The right button can switch from the current to the previous slide.

You can also use ← (or ↑) and → (or ↓) keys to switch slides.

Progress Bar

Cikada has provided progress bar since 0.5 version. The progress bar is situated under the slide, see Figure 1.

The progress of presentation is divided into each slide, so all the progress values of each slide are equal. However if there is a sequence slides which represent steps and amount to one slide, we can set them as “continuation” to reduce their progress values. Please see “**Configuration File**”.



Figure 1 Cikada's Progress Bar

The progress bar can also be applied to switch to some slide with a single clicking on mouse button in the area of progress bar.

Configuration File

Cikada has supported configuration file since 0.5 version. Configuration file need lies in the same directory and owns the same name with the presentation document. The extension name of configuration file is “.ckd”.

For example, the configuration file of `~/Documents/foo.pdf` should be `~/Documents/foo.ckd`. When Cikada plays `foo.pdf`, it can load `foo.ckd` automatically.

The syntax of configuration looks like ConT_EXt. This is an example:

```
\setupreport[style=fade,
               progress-bar-vsize=16,
               progress-bar-color={51, 51, 51, 255},
               nonius-color={151, 0, 0, 255}]

\slide[1][enlargement]
\slide[2][shrink]
\slide[3][enlargement]

\continuation[4-6]

\slide[7][left]
\slide[9][top]
```

There are three commands totally in configuration file.

- `\setupreport` set the slides default animation effect (style) progress bar vertical size (progress-bar-vsize), progress bar color (progress-bar-color) and nonius color (nonius-color); the color format is {red, green, blue, alpha}
- `\slide` according slide number (begin from 1) set specified slide default animation effect; At present there are these animation effects:
 - `curl` curl-in/out
 - `fade` fade-in/out
 - `shrink` zoom-in/out
 - `enlargement` the other zoom-in/out
 - `left` entering or exit from left
 - `right` entering or exit from right
 - `top` entering or exit from top
 - `bottom` entering or exit from bottom
- `\continuation` define continuation according slide numbers. For example `4-6` represents the fourth, the fifth and the sixth slides combine one continuation and their animation effect are merely fade-in/out.