SUMO Workshop
2/3: Publicity, Marketing, Documentation, and Licensing

Publicity

SUMO is open source

➤ Though: not yet decided whether we develop it for us – as a tool to use in our projects – or for the world; work would change

Feedback from the community is pretty low

➤ Need about 15minutes for gathering 100+ publications which report on using SUMO…

➤ … but got a handful of mails about publishing a paper via the mailing list (maybe ten) in the last 10 years

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Publicity
Channels

Currently used publicity tools

- Mailing Lists
- A blog
- Publications, of course
- Seminars/Lectures at the HU Berlin and TH Wildau

… will be discussed one-by-one in the following

Some planned/aimed methods

- A flyer
- More seminars/lectures
- Cooperations with universities
- A conference!

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Publicity
The Blog

- Available at: http://sourceforge.net/apps/wordpress/sumo/
- Currently: maybe one post per month, mostly on V2X technology
- Aimed: Calls for Papers, Reports

Questions

- Interesting or rather annoying?
- Open to others? How enforce its usage?
- Any experiences / hints on using it better?

Publicity
Mailing Lists

- Four mailing lists exist
    - sumo-user
      Topics: questions on usage
      142+58 digested subscribers; approx. 50mails/month
    - sumo-announce
      Topics: information on releases
      38+3 digested subscribers; approx. 1mail/month
    - sumo-devel
      Topics: discussion on extensions / ongoing work
      42+9 digested subscribers; approx. 20mails/month
    - sumo-cvs
      Topics: log of SVN-commits (for hardcore SUMOers only ☺)
      9+2 digested subscribers; approx. 200mails/month

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Publicity
Mailing Lists

Questions

➤ Is the answering time short enough? Too short?

➤ Are the answers helping the people?

Aimed Change

➤ Before answering, new people will be asked about their name, organisation, project type, and project duration

  ➤ Sure, for knowing what they do

  ➤ But also: for a better support ☺

Documentation
History

Initial attempt: using docbook
➤ Was pretty nice, could be well transformed into HTML, but the information of the pages was always outdatet

Now: using the wiki, marking changes via comments
➤ Works quite ok, information is normally up-to-date, but transposing it into a "document" does not work well

Questions
➤ Is the documentation ok so far? What is missing? What is used (pdf documents, wiki, how?)
➤ How could a developer documentation look like? Which tools are to use (using UMLet currently)
➤ Has the wiki structure to be improved? Is it too verbose?

Documentation
Publications

We do have a publications list…
…but it's pretty ugly

Questions
- How could the publications list be improved?
- How can it be made more attractive for others to add their work into?
- Are tools for both storing (managing) and presentation known? (zotero, endnote)

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Publicity

Questions Summary:

➤ How can we gain more information about other people's work?
  ➤ Again: registration? Registration for getting answers?
➤ How can we gain more generic feedback on our software?
  ➤ Poll tools? How should they look like, when should be people pointed to them?
➤ How can we increase the cooperation from the community?
➤ Would any other tools/channels (like a facebook-page) help?

Licensing

SUMO is an established tool at the Institute of Transportation Systems / DLR

↗ The institute's leaders see the benefit of having an own traffic simulation

↗ The DLR is encouraging open source software development

But:

↗ Our leaders want also to know how we can make money with SUMO (being cited would probably even help, in fact)

Question:

↗ Would a different license force new cooperations? Which one?

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Licensing

Non-free extensions (ideas by now)

- Inter-modal routing
- Inter-modality visualisation
- Sub-microscopic models (including dynamics and cognition)
- 3D-visualisation
- SimWorld-extension „height"
- SimWorld-extension „continuous lane-change"
- Network editor
- Further documentation