

Ubuntu Tips and Tricks



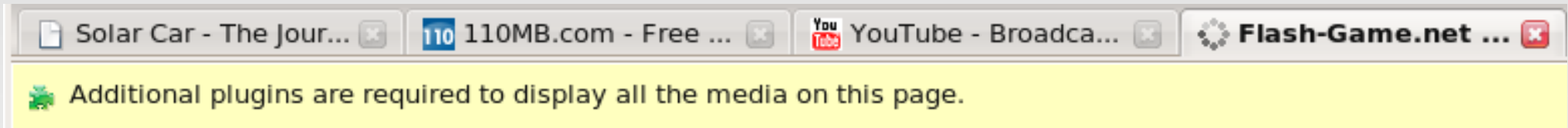
Daniel Axtens
PLUG Seminar, October 2007

This talk applies to Ubuntu 7.04 "Feisty Fawn",
except where otherwise noted.

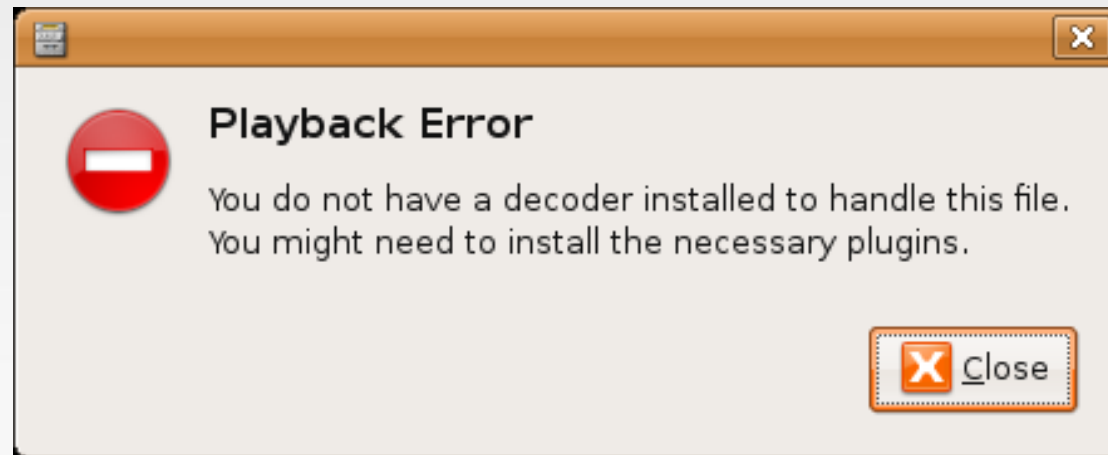
Introduction



Some things don't work 'out of the box':
Flash and Java:



MP3s:



The Solution

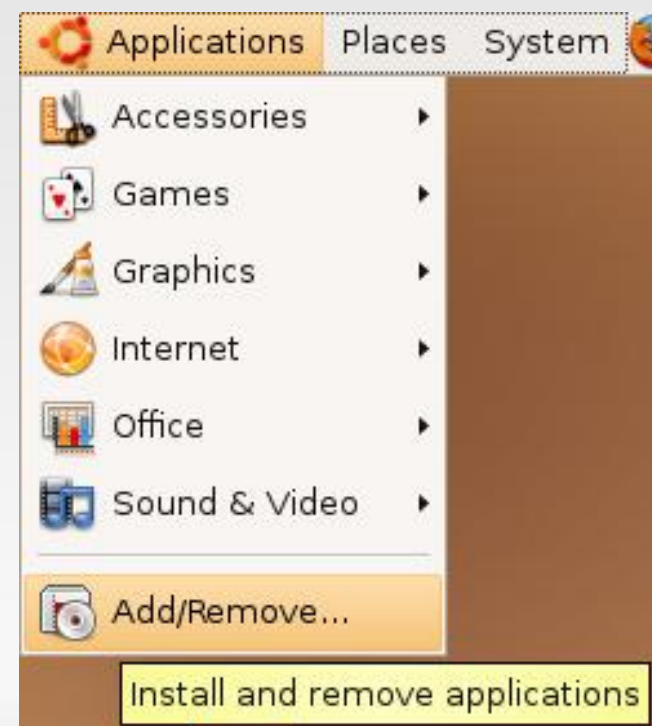


The Easy Way

This presentation will be available on <http://www.plugin.org.au/>, on the Seminar page, should you forget any steps!

If necessary, connect to the net.

Open "Applications:
Add/Remove..."

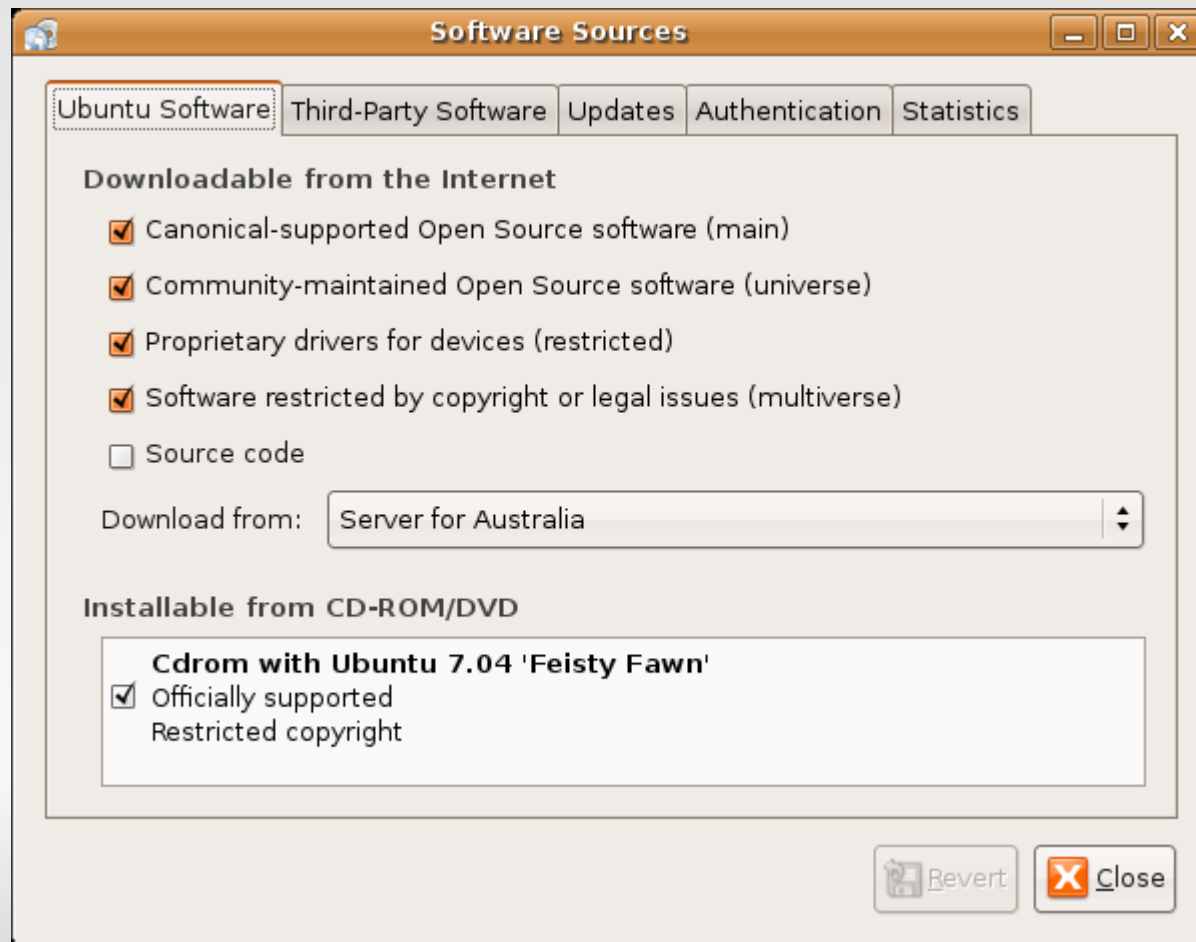


The Solution continued...



Click Preferences.

Select the top 4 repositories. (check-boxes)



The Solution continued...



It will then think for a while as it downloads a list of software 'packages' from the internet.

Then once that has finished, select "Other" and find and check-mark "Ubuntu Restricted Extras"



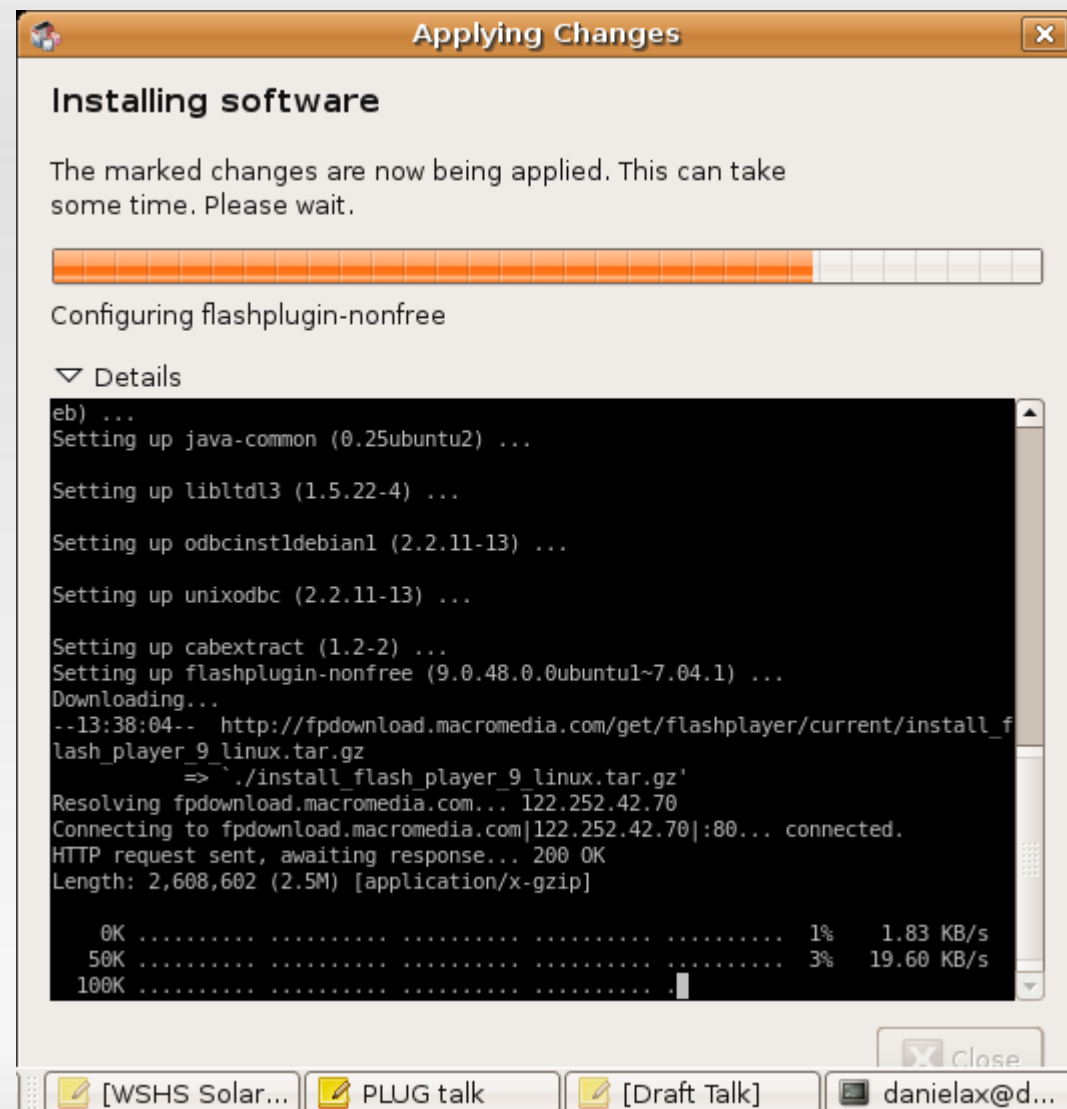
Click "Apply"

The Solution continued...



It will then download and install a bundle of software packages, totalling over 30MB.

Some downloads are also 'hidden':



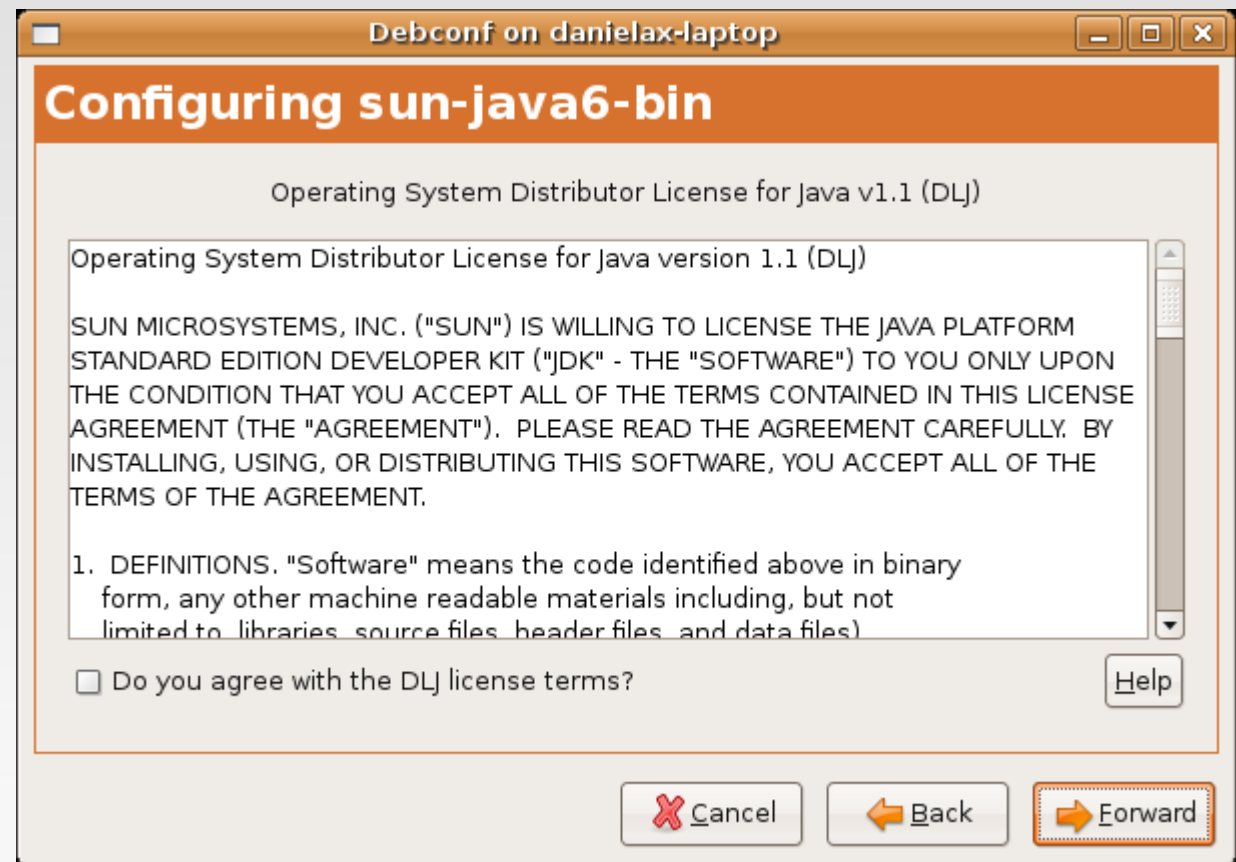
The Solution continued...



Be aware that there are some different licenses to agree to:

Java:

Flash, etc,
assume you
agree to the
licences
without asking



The Solution continued...



You're done!

Cut to a tech demo....



DVDs (probably) still don't work.

DVDs are protected by a Content Scrambling System (CSS). This can be bypassed through DeCSS (package libdecss2).

Probably the simplest way to install libdecss2 is to open a Terminal (Applications: Accessories: Terminal), and type:

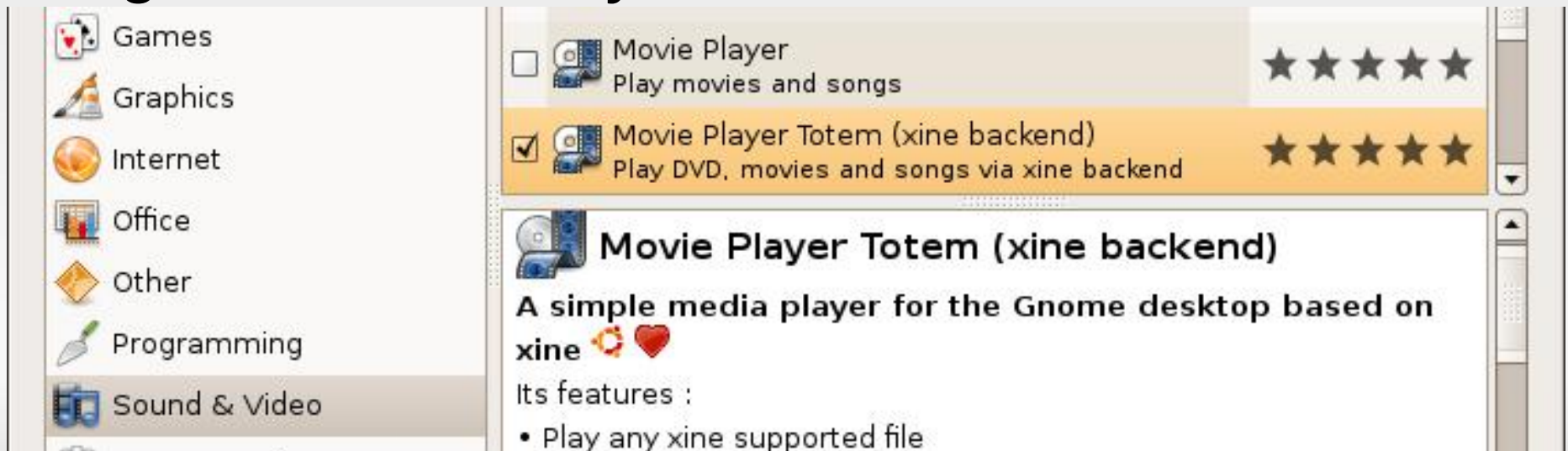
```
gksu /usr/share/doc/libdvdread3/install-css.sh
```

Don't worry – this will be on the website!

DVDs continued...



Oddly, changing from the GStreamer to Xine backends helps. Fortunately, changing it with "Add/Remove..." makes no obvious changes. (except that DVDs work!) It's in the Sound & Video section, and will force you to uninstall the original Movie Player.



DVDs continued...



It should now work!

Cut to tech demo...

Where to go for help



<https://help.ubuntu.com/community/RestrictedFormats>

Google

Include the word ubuntu

Be specific!

Good: How to play mp3s in ubuntu

Bad: Ubuntu music problem

#ubuntu, #ubuntu-au on irc.freenode.org

PLUG mailing list <http://plug.org.au/>

Potential Pitfalls



I haven't covered Windows Media, QuickTime, RealPlayer, etc. formats. Instructions for installing them are on the Ubuntu wiki:

<https://help.ubuntu.com/community/RestrictedFormats>

Other distros



For other distros:

Google is your friend.

Include the name of your distro, eg Fedora 7

Be specific: Fedora 7 is better than Fedora

Good: "How to play mp3s in Fedora 7"

Very Very Bad: "music won't play in linux"

Flash can be installed by going to a website that uses
Flash and installing it through Firefox.

Java can be installed through the Sun Java site.

MP3s/DVDs – consult documentation for your distro.

Questions



This presentation will be available online on the PLUG website, <http://www.plug.org.au/>.

Any corrections will be made to the online version.