AppleScript's Mouse Movement Capabilities

1/8/2024

<u>User</u>:

Can AppleScript move mouse?

Assistant:

Yes, AppleScript can move the mouse cursor using the cliclick command. cliclick is a tiny shell tool for macOS that emulates mouse clicks and movements. However, it's not installed by default and you need to install it manually.

Here is an example of how to use it in AppleScript:

```
-- START GENAI@CHATGPT4
do shell script "/usr/local/bin/cliclick m:100,100"
-- END GENAI@CHATGPT4
```

This script will move the mouse cursor to the coordinates (100, 100). Please replace /usr/local/bin/cliclick with the actual path of cliclick on your system.

Please note that AppleScript itself does not have built-in commands to control the mouse. Using cliclick or similar tools is a workaround.

User:

how does one install click click?

Assistant:

cliclick can be installed using Homebrew, a package manager for macOS. Here are the steps:

- 1. First, open Terminal.
- 2. If you don't have Homebrew installed, you can install it by running the following command:

```
/bin/bash -c "$(curl -fsSL
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Homebrew/install/HEAD/install.sh)"
```

3. Once Homebrew is installed, you can install cliclick by running:

brew install cliclick

After the installation is complete, you can use cliclick in your AppleScripts, shell scripts, or directly in the Terminal.

User:

what else can cliclick do? Can it press and drag mouse?

Assistant:

Yes, cliclick is quite versatile. In addition to moving the mouse cursor, it can also perform clicks, double-clicks, right-clicks, and even drag and drop operations. Here are some examples:

1. **Clicking**: The c: command followed by coordinates will click at that location. For example:

cliclick c:100,100

2. **Double Clicking**: The d: command followed by coordinates will double-click at that location. For example:

cliclick d:100,100

3. **Right Clicking**: The kd:ctrl c: command followed by coordinates will right-click at that location. For example:

cliclick kd:ctrl c:100,100 ku:ctrl

4. **Drag and Drop**: The dd: command followed by coordinates will press and hold the left mouse button (i.e., start dragging), and the du: command will release it (i.e., drop). For example:

cliclick m:100,100 dd:. m:200,200 du:.

This will move the mouse to (100,100), start dragging, move to (200,200), and then drop.

Remember to replace the coordinates with the ones you actually want to use.

User:

can it print the position of mouse pointer on the screen?

Assistant:

Yes, cliclick can print the current position of the mouse pointer. You can use the **p**: command for this. Here is how you do it:

-- START GENAI@CHATGPT4
cliclick p:.
-- END GENAI@CHATGPT4

This command will return the current mouse coordinates in the format x, y. For example, it might return 100, 100 if the mouse is at the coordinates (100,100).

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