

2015

VIDIVOX User Manual

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1/1/2015

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INTRODUCING VIDIVOX

The Vidivox Project is an "easy to use" Video Commentator that you can use to merge videos with existing mp3s or synthesised speech. It is suitable for non-technical users such as amateur video makers.

System Requirements

Aspect	Requirement
Operating System	Linux
Text to speech Synthesizer	Festival
Playback and Manipulation Video/audio	VLC Java library (vlcj)
Audio Merging	FFMPEG

Frequent uses

- Video playback
- MP3 playback
- Text to Speech Synthesizing
- Text to MP3 creation
- Text and Video merging
- MP3 and Video merging

Player areas and buttons

Vidivox can be broken down into several areas. This includes:

1. The Menu
2. Video Tab
3. Speech Tab
4. MP3 Tools Panel
5. Speech Tools Panel

Shortcut Keys

F1 – Toggles 'Speak/Cancel' (Speech Tools Tab) and 'Pause/Play' concurrently (Video Tab)

F2 – Toggles 'Play MP3/Cancel' (MP3 Tools Tab) and 'Pause/Play' concurrently (Video Tab)

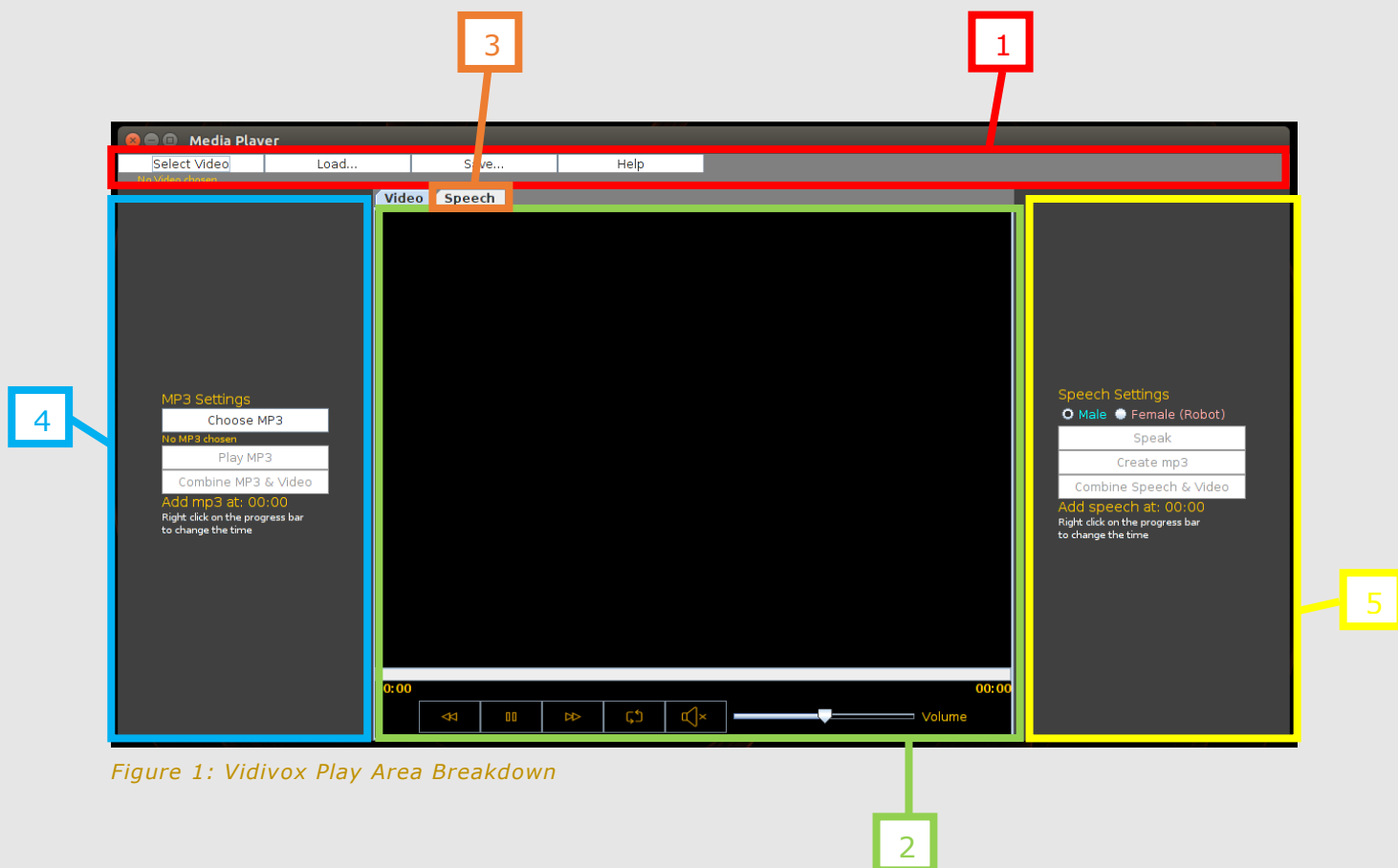






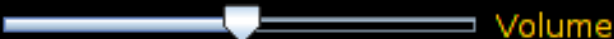
Figure 1: Vidivox Play Area Breakdown

MENU

Click	To
Select Video	Select the video you would like to work on
Load...	Load the previously saved workspace
Save...	Save the current workspace
Help	Find this manual

VIDEO TAB

Click	To
⏮	Rewind
⏸	Pause
⏭	Play

	Fast Forward
	Replay
	Mute
	Unmute
 Volume	Adjust the volume

MP3 TOOLS PANEL

Click	To
Choose MP3	Select the mp3 you would like to work on
Play MP3 (Cancel)	Preview the chosen mp3 and cancel playback
Combine MP3 & Video	Merge the video and mp3 at chosen time and save the new video

SPEECH TOOLS PANEL

Click	To
Male/Female (Robot)	Choose between a male and female (robot) voice
Speak	Preview the synthesised speech
Create MP3	Save the synthesised speech as a mp3
Combine Speech & Video	Merge the video and speech at chosen time and save the new video

USING VIDIVOX

Playing a Video

Click the 'Select Video' button from the Menu ribbon and a Choose Video popup should open. It will take you to the 'PWNewFiles' default directory, but you can navigate your computer to select the video you want to play (See Figure 2). Note: You can only play .avi and .mp3 files. Once selected, click 'Choose Video' and your video should automatically start playing. The name of the file chosen should appear under the 'Select Video button'. You can now use the button panel in the video tab to control playback of the video. See Play Areas and Buttons for more information on the button panel. You may also left-click on the video progress bar to go to any time in the video.

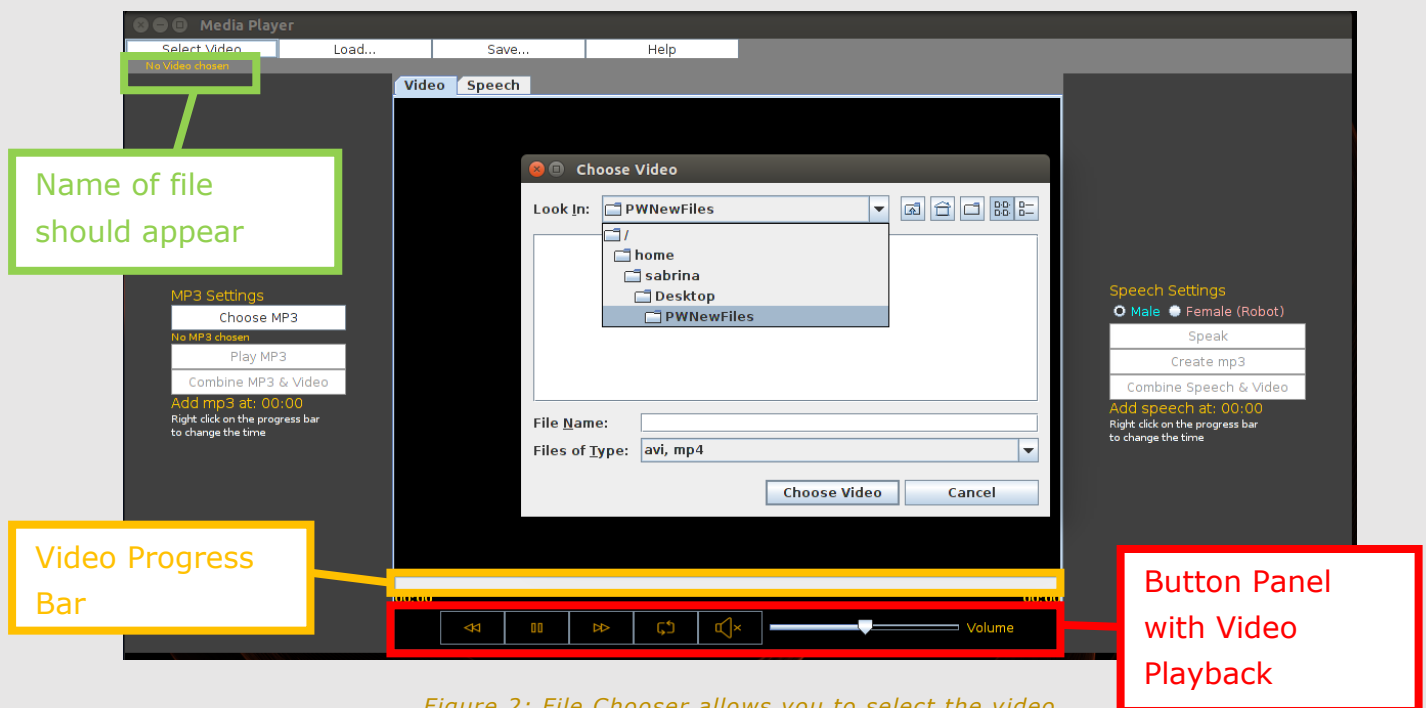


Figure 2: File Chooser allows you to select the video

Playing an MP3

In order to play an mp3, you need to click 'Choose MP3' from the MP3 Tools Panel, which will open up a file chooser as it did with for the video. Once selected, the 'Play MP3' button should enable and the label under 'Choose MP3' should display the name of the mp3 chosen. While the mp3 is playing, you may click on it again to cancel the playback.

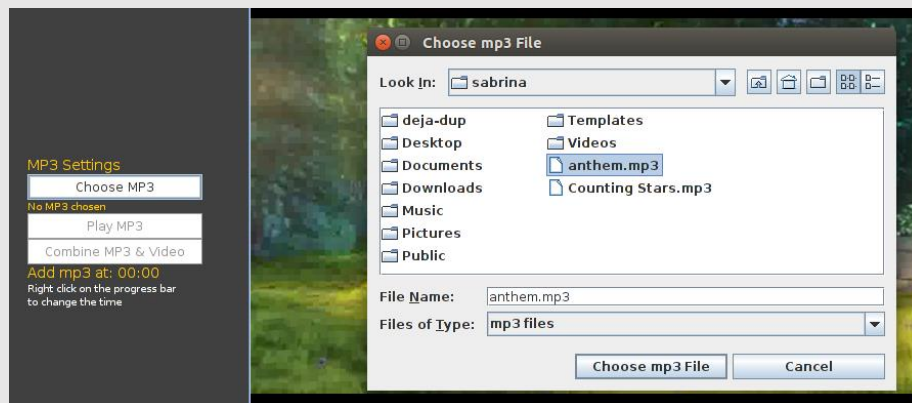


Figure 3: File Chooser for MP3

Text to Speech Synthesis

In order to synthesise speech, you first need to navigate to the Speech Tab. Once there, you can type the desired text into the grey text area (as seen in Figure 4). Note: You are only allowed a maximum of 200 characters. Once entered you may notice buttons on the Speech Tool Tab being enabled. The default voice is male, but you may choose the Female (Robot) voice if you wish. Then click on 'Speak' to hear the synthesised speech. You may click this button again to cancel the speaking mid-way.

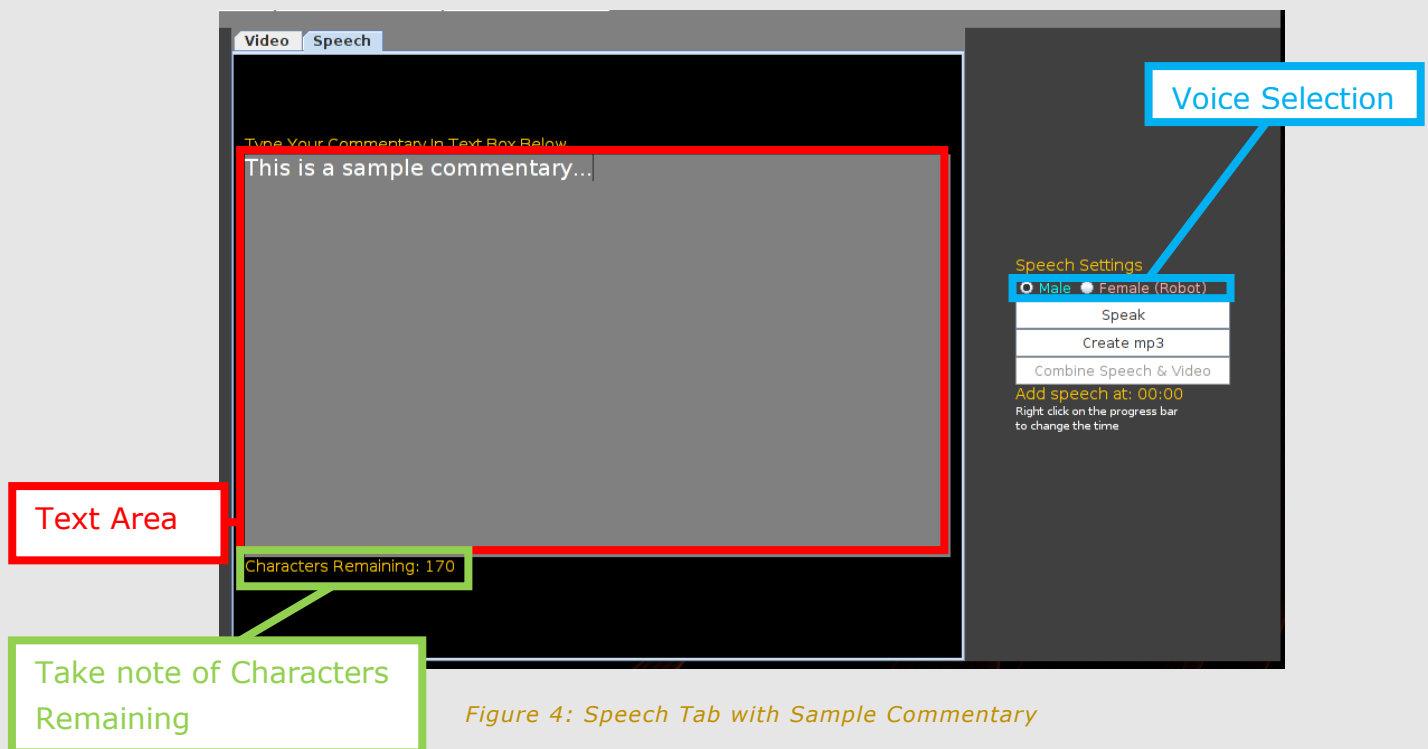


Figure 4: Speech Tab with Sample Commentary

Text to MP3 Creation

After typing text into the text area, you may click on the 'Create mp3' button from the Speech Tools Panel to save it as an mp3. A save dialog will appear and you can once again navigate your computer using the file chooser, name the file and click 'Save'. Appropriate extensions will be added automatically to all files created. Once saved, a message will popup confirming the save and asking whether you'd like to choose it as your mp3.



Figure 5: Popups during Creation

Merging

In order to merge, you first need to select a video. Then you have a choice of either merging text (synthesised speech) or an existing mp3 with the video. If you want to merge speech, ensure you have something typed in the text area and if you want to merger mp3, make sure you select on first. Right click on the progress bar where you want the speech/mp3 to start. By default, this would be at the beginning. Once you click 'Add speech here' or 'Add mp3 here' (see figure 6), the timing on their respective Tools Panels would update (see figures 7 and 8). Then click on the 'Combine MP3 & Video' or 'Combine Speech & Video' to merge. File saving will have the dame process as Text to MP3 Creation.

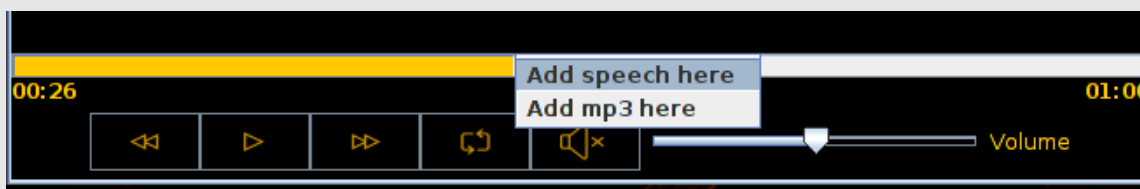


Figure 6: Select Timing by Right-Clicking Progress Bar

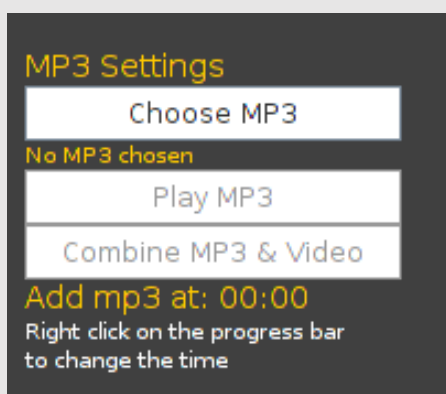


Figure 7: MP3 Settings in MP3 Tools Panel

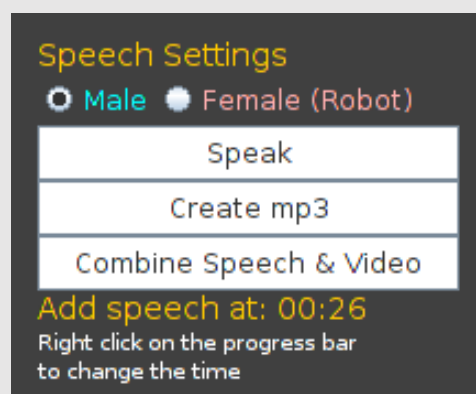


Figure 8: Speech Settings in Speech Tools Panel

TROUBLESHOOTING

Merged File is Not Being Created

Your file (audio or video) might be too large and FFMPEG is unable to merge your file. Please also make sure that you have selected files with the right extension (correct type).

File or Directory Not Found

You may have accidentally or intentionally deleted one of the '.PetulantWaffle' or 'PWNewFiles' folders while the program is still running. Please close the program and re-start it if this happens.

Help Button Not Working

This User Manual file is not in the correct directory (same directory as PWNewFiles) or the name of the manual was changed.

File Name Entered for saving is Invalid

Ensure that your filename doesn't contain any of the following characters:

\, , , ? , % , * , | , " , < , >