PDF Reader/Viewer V2.5 for iOS

GitHub: https://github.com/vfr/Reader

Website: http://www.vfr.org/

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Introduction

I've written this basic PDF reader/viewer app for fellow iOS developers struggling with wrangling PDF files onto iOS device screens. Version 2.x is a complete rethink and rewrite of the original 1.x code. Please do contact me if you find any bugs or have questions about the code: joklamcak@gmail.com.

The code is universal and does not require any XIBs (as all UI elements are code generated, allowing for greatest flexibility). It runs on iPad, iPhone and iPod touch with iOS 4.0 and up. Also supported are the Retina displays on iPhone 4 and iPod touch 4th generation and is ready to be fully internationalized. The idea was to provide a complete project template that you could start building from, or, just pull the required files into an existing project to enable PDF reading/viewing in your app(s).

After launching the sample app, tap on the left hand side of the screen to go back a page. Tap on the right hand side to go to the next page. You can also swipe left and right to change pages. Tap on the screen to fade in the toolbar and page slider. Double-tap with one finger (or pinch out) to zoom in. Double tap with two fingers (or pinch in) to zoom out.

This implementation has been tested with large PDF files (over 250MB in size and over 2800 pages in length) and with PDF files of all flavors (from text only documents to graphics heavy magazines). It also works rather well on older devices (such as the iPod touch 2nd generation and iPhone 3G) and takes advantage of the dual-core processor (via CATiledLayer and multi-threading) in the iPad 2.

Features

Multithreaded: The UI is always quite smooth and responsive.

Supports:

- iBooks like document navigation.
- Device rotation and all orientations.1
- Encrypted (password protected) PDFs.
- PDF links (URI and go to page).
- PDFs with rotated pages.

Notes

Version 2.x of the PDF reader/viewer code was developed and tested under Xcode 3.2.6, LLVM 1.7, iOS 4.3.5, iOS 4.2.1 and tested under Xcode 4.2, LLVM 3.0, iOS 5. The code uses manual memory management and will continue to do so in the near future.

The overall PDF reader/viewer functionality is encapsulated in the ReaderViewController class. To present a document with this class, you first need to initialize a ReaderDocument object with the file path to the PDF document - or unarchive an existing ReaderDocument property list - and then initialize a new ReaderViewController with this ReaderDocument object. The ReaderViewController class uses the ReaderDocument class to store information about the document and to keep track of document properties (bookmarks and the current page number for example).

An initialized ReaderViewController can then be presented modally, pushed onto a UINavigationController stack, placed in a UITabBarController tab, or be used as a root view controller. Please note that since ReaderViewController implements its own toolbar, you need to hide the UINavigationController navigation bar before pushing it and then show the navigation bar after popping it. The ReaderDemoController class shows how this is done with a bundled PDF file.

Required Files

Reader-Thumbs.png

The following files are required to incorporate the PDF reader/viewer into one of your projects:

Reader-Thumbs@2x.png

CGPDFDocument.h CGPDFDocument.m ReaderDocument.h ReaderDocument.m ReaderConstants.h ReaderConstants.m ReaderViewController.h ReaderViewController.m ReaderMainToolbar.h ReaderMainToolbar.m ReaderMainPagebar.h ReaderMainPagebar.m ReaderContentView.h ReaderContentView.m ReaderContentPage.h ReaderContentPage.m ReaderContentTile.h ReaderContentTile.m ReaderThumbCache.h ReaderThumbCache.m ReaderThumbRequest.h ReaderThumbRequest.m ReaderThumbQueue.h ReaderThumbOueue.m ReaderThumbFetch.h ReaderThumbFetch.m ReaderThumbRender.h ReaderThumbRender.m ReaderThumbView.h ReaderThumbView.m ReaderThumbsView.h ReaderThumbsView.m ThumbsViewController.h ThumbsViewController.m ThumbsMainToolbar.h ThumbsMainToolbar.m Reader-Email.png Reader-Email@2x.png Reader-Mark-N.png Reader-Mark-N@2x.png Reader-Mark-Y.png Reader-Mark-Y@2x.png Reader-Print.png Reader-Print@2x.png

Required iOS Frameworks

To incorporate the PDF reader/viewer into one of your projects, all of the following iOS frameworks are required by the code:

UIKit Foundation CoreGraphics QuartzCore ImageIO MessageUI

Compile Time Options

In ReaderConstants.h the following #define options are available:

READER BOOKMARKS - If TRUE, enables page bookmark support.

READER_ENABLE_MAIL - If TRUE, an email button is added to the toolbar (if the device is properly configured for email support).

READER_ENABLE_PRINT - If TRUE, a print button is added to the toolbar (if printing is supported and available on the device).

READER_ENABLE_THUMBS - If TRUE, a thumbs button is added to the toolbar (enabling page thumbnail document navigation).

READER_DISABLE_IDLE - If TRUE, the iOS idle timer is disabled while viewing a document (beware of battery drain).

READER_SHOW_SHADOWS - If TRUE, a shadow is shown around each page and the page content is inset by a couple of extra points.

READER_STANDALONE - If FALSE, a "Done" button is added to the toolbar and the -dismissReaderViewController: delegate method is messaged when it is tapped.

ReaderDocument Archiving

To change where the property list for ReaderDocument objects is stored (~/Library/Application Support/ by default), see the +archiveFilePath: method in the ReaderDocument.m source file. Archiving and unarchiving of the ReaderDocument object for a document is mandatory since this is where the current page number, bookmarks and directory of the document page thumb cache is kept.

Caveats

¹ There appears to be a bug in iOS 4 with its view controller rotation handling when a modal view controller is presented in landscape from a modal view controller when the status bar is visible on iPhone and iPod touch. The good news is that iOS 5 appears to have this bug fixed.

History

2011-07-29: Version 2.0.0

- Released v2.0 into the wild for general use.

2011-08-25: Version 2.1.0

- Added PDF link (URI and document page) support.

- Assorted code cleanup, optimizations and bug fixes.

2011-08-27: Version 2.1.1

- Fixed rotation handling when in a UITabBarController.

2011-09-09: Version 2.2.0

- A medium resolution page preview image is now shown first.

- The page bar now uses small page thumbs instead of a slider.

2011-09-10: Version 2.2.1

- Added password handling to ReaderDocument plist unarchive.

2011-09-14: Version 2.3.0

- Added page thumbnail document navigation.

- Added support for page bookmarks.

2011-09-20: Version 2.4.0

- Replaced UIToolbars with custom toolbars.

2011-10-05: Version 2.5.0

- Critical bug fixes and various assorted tweaks.

2011-10-06: Version 2.5.1

- Fixed content view centering under iOS 5.

2011-10-15: Version 2.5.2

- One (crashing) bug fix and one minor UI tweak.

2011-11-08: Version 2.5.3

- Various refinements and minor bug fixes.

Acknowledgements

The PDF link support code in the ReaderContentPage class is based on the links navigation code by Sorin Nistor from http://ipdfdev.com/.