

Flow player user guide

MPlayer module

Media Resources (?)

Media definition files

Maximum size for new files: 500MB, maximum attachments: 60

The screenshot shows the 'Media Resources' page in Moodle. On the left, there's a sidebar with a 'Media definition files' section. The main area has a title 'Maximum size for new files: 500MB, maximum attachments: 60'. Below this is a file browser window titled 'Files'. Inside the browser, there are seven categories: 'captions', 'cues', 'medias', 'playlist', 'posters', 'thumbs', and 'tracks', each represented by a folder icon. At the bottom of the browser window, there are three dropdown menus: 'Type' set to 'Internal video(s)', 'External Url' (empty), and 'Streamer*' set to 'none'.

Media Definitions Files

As flow player may assemble a large set of resource of distinct nature to feed the player, and for ease of maintainability of the plugin, we chose to use one unique moodle file area to store an organized set of assets. When creating a new instance, the media resources filearea is automatically pre-structured with relevant directories where to put things.

You may NOT change the top structure of this directory. Where indicated, you may manage numbered instances of subdirectories, f.e. for adding clips or associated indexed resources.

There are several ways to use the directory structure, depending you need a simple quick setup or a more complex playlist construction. This will be detailed in the following documentation. In the simplest way, you will just add indexed named files in a single directory. To achieve finer constructs, you will create indexed numeric directories to assemble resources that match a single “clip”.

What follows describes the directory expected assets nature:

- **The “Captions” folder:** This folder will contain a single text file giving the clip captions (one per line) of the current playlist. This is used when the playlist is “implicit”, resulting of loading several video files in the *medias* folder.
- **The “Cues” folder:** Cues let you trigger some events when the video is playing. This may be used to stop the video and f.e. propose a quiz. This folder contains one file per clip, giving the descriptors of the cues for this clip. (See Cues file format).
- **The “Medias” folder:** this folder is the key folder where the medias or proxies are stored. the folder can implicitly describe a playlist. Those media are used only depending of some values of the media type option (standard case: “internal video”). An implicit play list is obtained by creating numeric indexed folders with one video file in each.
- **The “Playlist” folder:** This folder accepts a single file (XML format) giving all details for the playlist. See further documentation for the XML format. A playlist single file is useful for automated edition construction from a media database. It is easier to generate and maintain programatically.
- **The “Posters” folder:** Posters are still images ou want to display in the video graphic area when the video is not yet loaded or is stopped. (*)
- **The “Thumbs” folder:** When using the “thumbs” version of the playlist menu, you will need to provide an indexed set of thumbnail images. As for medias, you will create numberered subdirectories (one per clip) and put a single image in it.
- **The “Tracks” folder:** Tracks contain textual files that gives the video subtitles for each clip and language. See further chapter about handling track files.

Media type

The media type strongly impacts where assets are found, and which are really used in the player:

- **Internal videos:** video media files are assumed being stored directly in the moodle filesystem. Files stored into the “media” folder of the mplayer file area will be used for playing. Note that this option is the simpler to use, but has strong performance limitations.
- **External videos (via URLs):** The playlist use the next parameter value (External URLs) as a list of external media urls to play. Internally stored files will NOT be considered.
- **XML Playlist:** The player will base on a single XML file stored into the “Playlist” folder of the mplayer filearea. This file will provide for each clip several information such as an url for the thumb, the url of the media file itself, and a caption.
- **XML External playlist:** Same method as previous case, but the XML playlist has NOT to be store locally. It may be remotely accessed from an url given by the “External Url” setting. The XML format is identical to an internal playlist file.
- **Local XML RTMP playlist:** Same as for local playlist, but the video media given URL are considered as RTMP media stream addresses and the relevant protocols are initiated in the player, in place of a simple HTTP connection.
- **External XML RTMP playlist:** Same as external XML playlist, combining RTMP protocol activation.
- **RTMP Streaming:** This mode activates the service transfer to an alternate streaming server, moving video files on the additional server and using manifests to manage the playlist reference. This option needs special setup and environment configuration to work. At the moment it is still experimental.

External URLs

Depending if the media type is local or remote, you will use this text area to provide all remote urls required by a remote setup.

Playlist (?)

Local path url template `http://dev.moodle31.fr/pluginfile.php/261/mod_mplayer/mplayerfile/0/<filename>`

Layout	<input type="button" value="None"/> <input type="button" value=""/>
Size (pixels)*	<input type="text" value="180"/>
Start Item*	<input type="text"/>
Repeat*	<input type="button" value="none"/> <input type="button" value=""/>
Shuffle*	<input type="button" value="false"/> <input type="button" value=""/>

Media resource path template

If you want to setup an explicit playlist using XML format, you need to know how videos are known by the player embedded in Moodle. This static field provides you with the suitable url base depending on the mplayer instance.

Layout

Flowplayer technology offers two main layouts for displaying the playlist :

- Dots : Chapters are accessible through clickable dots on the video graphic area.
- Thumbs : A thumb list is displayed under the video graphic area, and “Thumbs” assets are used as graphic representation of the chapter.

Size

Adjusts the size of the thumbs in thethumb style playlist.

Starting item

Points the clip to be started first. (@todo complete documentation)

Repeat

Tells what the playlist do when a clip is ended:

- *none*: No repeat. the clip stops.
- *list*: The following clips are automatically played until the end of the list.
- *always*: the list is played forth again and again.
- *single*: the starting clip (ori current if changed) is looping.

Shuffle

Enables or disables a random choice of the clips when playing the playlist.

Subtitles options

Subtitle language Course language ▾

Force language English (en) ▾

- La langue peut être définie en fonction de la langue du cours, du profil de l'utilisateur, de l'enseignant.
- La langue peut être définie par défaut au niveau du site. Par exemple, sur la copie d'écran, il s'agit de l'anglais.

Appearance ⓘ

Notes

Width* 100%

Height* 570

- Les notes sont affichées en dessous du player.
- Il s'agit de définir la largeur du média player. Autrement dit la taille que celui-ci occupera sur la page. Cette taille se définit en pourcentage.

- La hauteur du média player est 570 par défaut.

Comportement

- “Exécution automatique” est un paramètre qui déclenche la vidéo automatiquement.
- Il s'agit de définir l'affichage ou non en plein écran du media player.
- Activer le mode splash (flowplayer)
- Cette option permet de paramétriser le volume par défaut. Lorsque l'apprenant visionnera la vidéo, le volume du son sera réglé en fonction du pourcentage que vous sélectionnez dans cette option.
- La vidéo peut également être en mode “silence”, dans ce cas sélectionner “true”.

IMAGE

Réglages courants

- Cette option vous permet d'afficher ou cacher l'activité, autrement dit la rendre visible ou cachée des apprenants.
- C'est l'identifiant de l'activité.

Restreindre la disponibilité

- L'activité peut être accessible en fonction d'une date précise, d'une note obtenue (à une autre activité, par exemple), d'un profil d'utilisateur, d'un groupe d'un groupement ou d'un jeu de restriction imbriquées.

Achèvement d'activité

- L'achèvement d'activité peut être inactif. Dans ce cas, sélectionner “ne pas afficher l'état d'achèvement”. Sinon, l'activité peut être considérée comme achevée si elle est marquée manuellement cette activité comme terminée”, “marquer cette activité comme terminée dès que les conditions sont remplies”
- Cette option “Afficher l'activité pour la terminer” signifie que l'activité est considérée comme achevée à partir du moment où l'apprenant ouvre la ressource.
- Ce paramètre permet d'afficher le statut “complet” lorsque l'apprenant a visionné le média.
- L'achèvement peut être conditionné, tout simplement, par une date à laquelle les étudiants doivent finir le travail.

Cues

A cue list is a set of event descriptors that point a moment in the video media where an event can be triggered. The general format for a cue file is:

```
video|timestamp1?url|timestamp2;
```

- **video** : index of the clip in the cue list
- **timestamp1** : trigger time (secs.dec)
- **url** : URL to launch
- **timestamp2** : optional:
 - 0 : clip resumes from start when the event popup is closed
 - timestamp : event popup is closed and video resumes after the given delay
 - (vide) : no action

Format des fichiers de description (playlist, cues, sous-titres)

- Format du fichier de playlist XML
- Format du fichier de "Cues"
- Format du fichier de sous-titres

[Revenir à l'index du guide d'utilisation](#)

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Last update: 2024/04/04 15:50