

Distributed Learning Environment Using XML Templates

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"I hear ... I forget;
I see ... I remember;
I do ... I understand."
```

Confucius, about 500 B.C.



Program

- 1 Challenges and Requirements
- 2 Existing Solutions
- 3 The Approach of the "Velo" Project
- 4 Other Distributed eLearning Projects using the "Velo" Concept
- **5 Summary and Future Work**



Challenges

Solutions for eLearning environments already exist

Structuring eLearning content is still a challenge:

- media and location independent storage
- easy translation and update even of graphical or animated content
- individual / personal (automatic) content composition for audiences with different knowledge backgrounds
- transform content for output on different media (web/mobile/audio)

Problem: How can this be achieved with the aid of new technologies



Requirements

Learner should be able to determine his standard of knowledge

=> Automated checking of learning success
Possible solution: integration of multiple choice questions with hints
and individual feedback on answers, avoidance of "lost-in-cyberspace"

Learning is best supported by establishing connections with already familiar contexts

=> eLearning content structuring requires sophisticated navigation in content (not only linear)
Possible solution: cross referencing, indexing, linking with external content

"A picture tells more than thousand words"

=> Integration of graphics, visualizations and animations should be supported





Existing Solutions

DocBook

enables XML based media independent content creation, specialized for documentation and guidebooks

Drawbacks: very complex, determined content structure, few support for graphic content or special eLearning requirements

SCORM

The Shareable Content Object Reference Model defines a Web-based learning "Content Aggregation Model" and "Run-Time Environment" for learning objects. *Drawbacks:* focuses on technical aspects, requires programming knowledge (java)

IMS Content Packaging

provides functionality to describe and package learning materials, into interoperable, distributable packages, addresses description, structure, and location of learning materials and the definition of some particular content types.

Drawbacks: focuses on meta information about eLearning content

University of Leipzig



Project VELO

<u>Virtual Electronic LabOratory</u>

Aims:

- virtual lab exercises in the field of electronics
- tool for entry and/or leaving evaluation
- simulation tools: e.g. ORCAD, MATLAB
- on the client side only a web browser necessary!

Partners:

- Carinthia Tech Institute
- Vienna University of Technology
- University of Klagenfurt

- UAS Vienna
- UAS Hagenberg

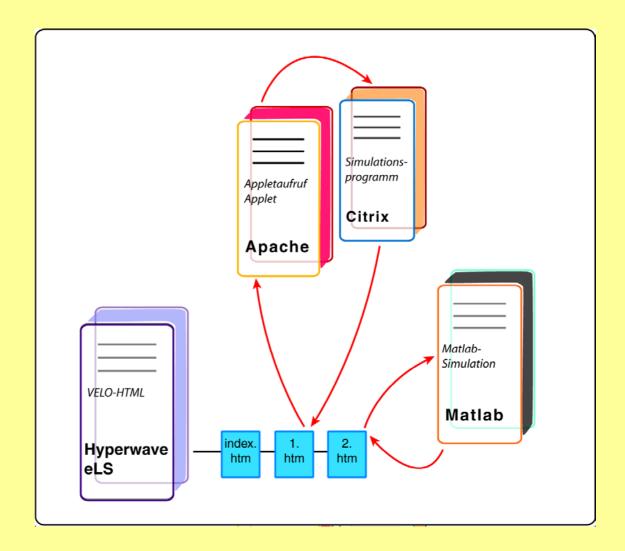


Basic Requirements

- An integration in the existing telelearning system should be possible.
- A common Internet browser should be the only necessary application for the remote user.
- The administrative needs should be minimal for the clientside as well as the server.
- In order to reach high flexibility the actual experiment and the necessary environment (hard- and software) should be strictly separated.



VELO Structure





VELO entry page



VELO welcome

What is VELO?

You can find out more about this project when you open the VELO - project pages.

Lab exercises



<u>Digital circuitry I</u> <u>Analogue circuitry I</u>



Circuits with non-linear resistances
A.C. behavior of linear devices
Resonance and frequency response
Switching
Differential amplifier
Comparator
Counter

Electromechanical converter



Content Structuring for Distributed Learning

va

3.2 Static input current as a function of the supply voltage

experiment: CMOS-Inverter

VELO
Lab
exercise



task:

Simulate the distribution of the current I_{CC} of the CMOS-circuit HEF4069. Use the following image to build the circuit whereas all 6 NOT-gates should switch concurrently and their outputs should load with 1 nF capacitors. Power supply: 5V

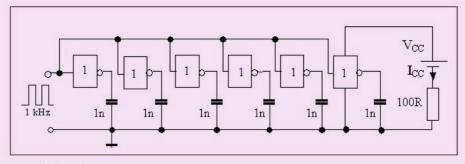


figure 3.2 : circuit to use



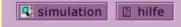
task:

Simulate the current peak that appears when the voltage switches over. Display the result graphically.



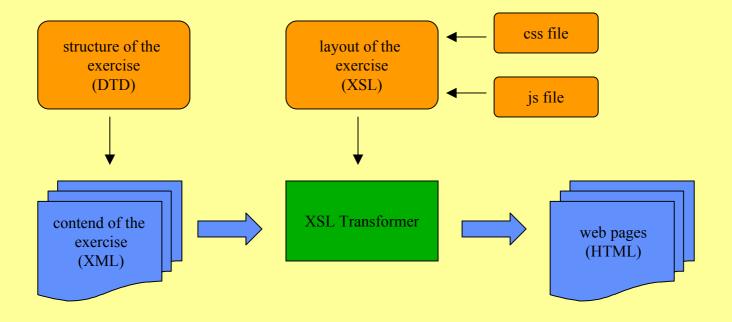
task:

Reduce the appearing current peaks by connecting a so called "Support capacitor" parallel to the supply voltage. Explain this reduction.





XML (1)



XML Extensible markup language

DTD Document type definition

XSL Extended style sheet language



XML (2)

velo.dtd

velo.xml

velo.xs1

velo.css

velo.js

document type definition

structure of the document, possible tags

xml template

unformatted, text file structured with tags

xslt style sheet

at present converting instructions; for html planned: pdf, wml, speech

cascading style sheet

instructions for particular elements (font, color, ...)

JavaScript functions

start of simulations, open and close windows, ...

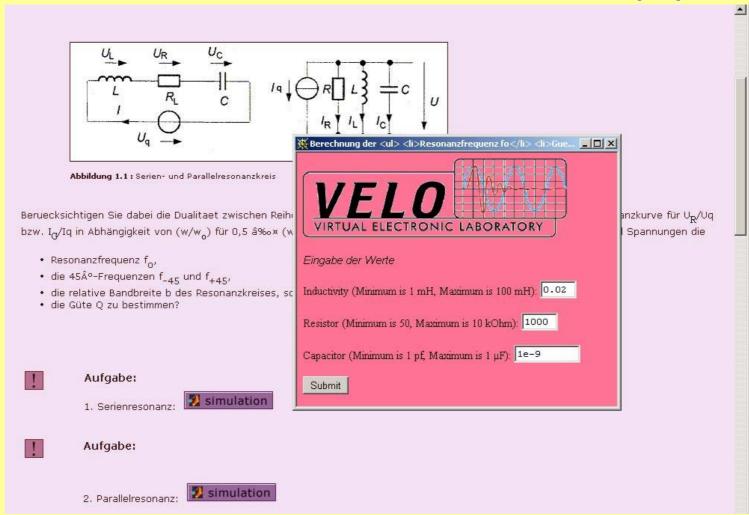


XML document

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="windows-1252"?>
<!DOCTYPE velofolder SYSTEM "velo.dtd">
<velofolder>
<title>Fundamentals of Electronic Engineering - Lab exercises</title>
<subtitle>GET-13 Nonlineare resistive circuits/subtitle>
<abbr>NRS</abbr>
<author>
  <name>Michael E. Auer
   <institute>Carinthia Tech Institute, Villach/Austria</institute>
   <mail>M.Auer@IEEE.org</mail>
</author>
<motivation>
  <111>
   i>introduction to nonlinear devices and their I-V-Characteristics
   >aquisition of skills in relation to I-V-Characteristics
   qraphical analysis of nonlinear circuits
   I-V-Characteristics with Oscilloskope; temperature compensation
 </motivation>
<exercise>
  . . .
```

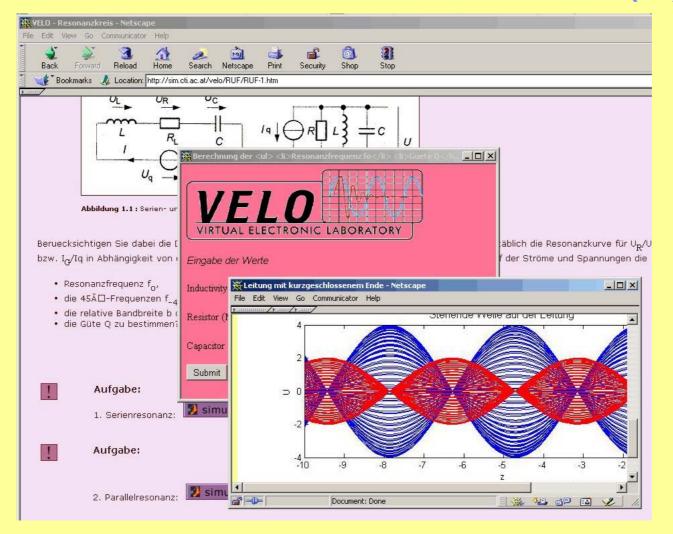


MATLAB simulation (1)





MATLAB simulation (2)





Examples

simulator with web interface

MATLAB

<simulation type="matlab" server="193.171.119.152:5050" name=,,webpeaks"/>

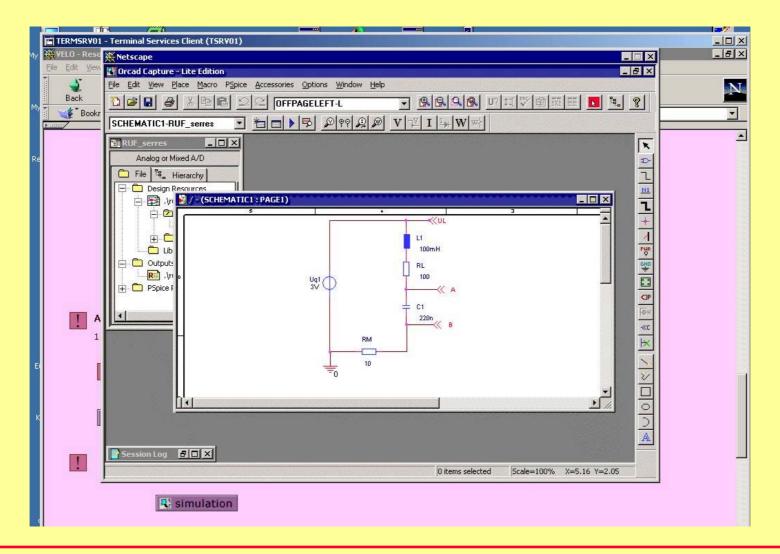
simulator witout web interface

ORCAD

<simulation type="orcad" server="193.171.119.148" name="bipol"/>



ORCAD simulation





html

Content Structuring for Distributed Learning



1. Versuch: Resonanzkreis

va

1.1

Versuch: Resonanzkreis



Aufgabe:

Leiten Sie die Beziehungen für den Verlauf der Ströme und Spannungen in Resonanzkreisen in Abhängigkeit von der Kreisfrequenz w

- · mit den Bauelementewerten R, L und C,
- · mit den Kenngrössen Resonanzfrequenz fo und Güte Q

ab.

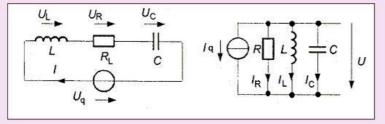


Abbildung 1.1: Serien- und Parallelresonanzkreis

Beruecksichtigen Sie dabei die Dualitaet zwischen Reihen- und Parallelresonanzkreis. Zeichnen Sie maßstäblich die Resonanzkurve für $U_{\mathbb{R}}/Uq$ bzw. $I_{\mathbb{C}}/Iq$ in Abhängigkeit von (w/w_n) für 0,5 â‰× (w/w_n) â‰× 1,5. Wie sind aus dem Frequenzverlauf der Ströme und Spannungen die

- Resonanzfrequenz fo,
- die 45°-Frequenzen f_45 und f+45,
- · die relative Bandbreite b des Resonanzkreises, sowie
- · die Güte Q zu bestimmen?



Content Structuring for Distributed Learning

1. Versuch: Resonanzkreis



1.1







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- mit den Kenngroessen Resonanzfrequenz fo und Guete Q

ab.

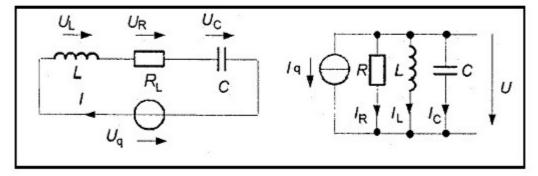


Abbildung 1.1: Serien- und Parallelresonanzkreis

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- · Resonanzfrequenz fo,
- die 45°-Frequenzen f-45 und f+45,







mp3



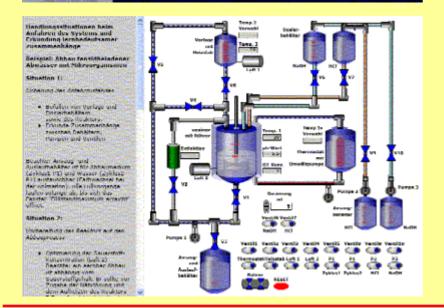
http://www.auer.cx/wap/velo





Similar Projects

VENUS tutorial – interactiv tutorial explaning the VENUS product for managing heterogenous computer cluster of Science+Computing AG



Simulation "Degradation of tenside contaminated wastewater with micro organisms" for Dresden University of Technology



Summary

- efficient design of courses with integrated online lab
- fast feedback on the success of learning
- more intensive work of the students
- considerable decrease in administrative efforts
- different output media possible
- relatively inexpensive
- application is possible in a wide range of subjects!



Future Work

Create a well documented out-of-the-box package for application of the velo infrastructure in similar projects.

Integration of the technical infratructure in other products as e.g. SCORM, IMS, CONTX.

Supply an easy editing solution for the XML content – the inline editing CMS CONTX maybe a possible candidate.



Thank you ...

... for your attention!

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