





## User Experience Roadmap

Available now

Available
this summer

Coming up



Extensions Manager 4 Upgrader 1.0

System Management



Desktop Management



AIAT SDK

Information Access



**Customization** 



Apple Guide

Assistance and Help

## User Experience Roadmap

Available now

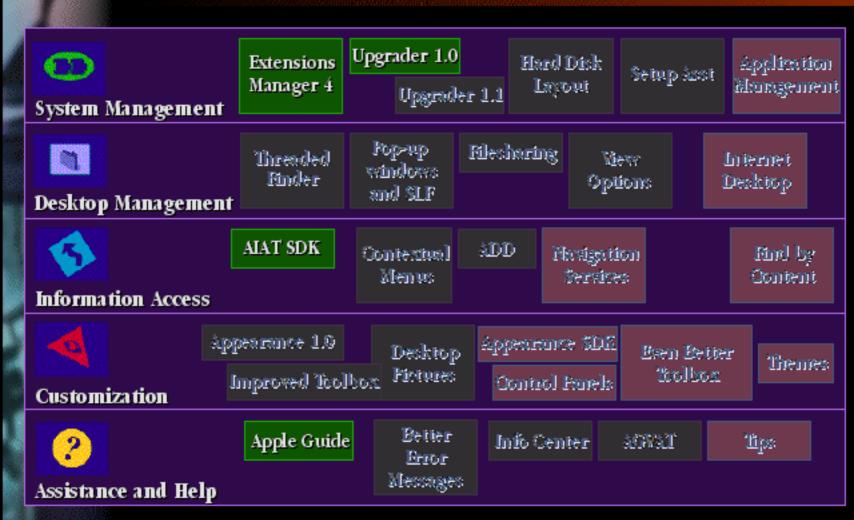
Available
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## User Experience Roadmap

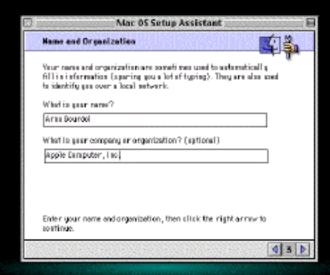
Available now
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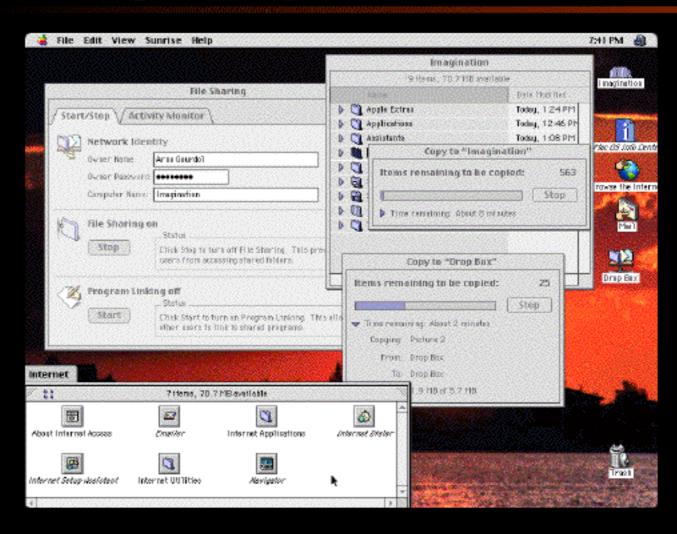


#### System Management

- Extensions Manager
  - 'CCI™' and 'hfdr'—5696 resources
  - See TN 1091
- Hard Disk Layout
  - New FindFolder selectors
- Assistants
  - See article in develop 27



## Desktop Management





#### **Information Access**

- Apple Information Access Toolkit
  - A.k.a V-Twin
  - Session 104
- Contextual menus
  - Use in your applications
  - Plug-ins
- Apple Data Detectors





#### Customization

- •Appearance 1.0
  - **—** Session 102

	Appearance	
Calor Calor Options	Accent Color:    French Blue   French Blue	Gold P

#### Assistance

- Apple Guide Visual Authoring Tool
  - Compatible with existing Guide source files
  - Improved compiler speed
  - Improved Localization support
  - Seed in June 1997

#### Before AGVAT

<define nav button set> "GoBack Only", "GoStart"
<default nav button set> "GoBack Only"

<define event> "GoBack", 's\*\*\*', 'help', 'gobk'
<define event> "GoStart", 's\*\*\*', 'help', 'stac'

# Access window

<define sequence> "Shortcuts Access: Macintosh |

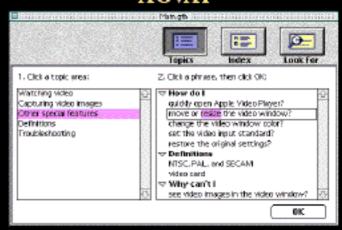
<seq nav button set> NONE

<sequence prompt set> NONE

<panel> "Shortcuts Access"

<end sequence>

#### AGVAT









### Contextual Menu Plug-in:

- Standalone code module
- Augments any application's Contextual Menu content
- SOM based
  - C++, Direct to SOM
  - IDL Compiler
- PowerPC only

Help Commands	Help
Application Commands	Cut Copy Paste
Plug-in Commands	Check Spelling Define Speak It!





#### Inheritance

Your plug-in must be a subclass of the AbstractCMPlug-in SOM Class:



MyPlug-in

**Initialize** 

**ExamineContext** 

**HandleSelection** 

PostMenuCleanup



## MyPlug-in::Initialize()

- First method called after an instance of your plug-in is created
- Returning an error means your plug-in will not be used
- Keep a small footprint!
  - Avoid allocating large persistent buffers here

OSStatus Initialize(FSSpec\* inFileSpec);



## MyPlug-in::ExamineContext()

- Called before the Contextual Menu Manager displays a menu
- Gives Plug-ins the opportunity to enhance the menu content

```
OSStatus ExamineContext(AEDesc* selectionDesc,
SInt32 timeOutInTicks,
AEDescList* commands,
Boolean* needMoreTime);
```



## MyPlug-in::ExamineContext()

- Plug-ins don't modify the menu directly
- Report back commands via an AEDescList of AppleEvent Records

#### AEDescList of Plug-in commands

Command AERecord:

keyAEName: "Check Spelling..." keyContextualMenuCommandID: 1

Command AERecord:

keyAEName: "Define..."

keyContextualMenuCommandID: 2

Etc...



#### **Want Submenus?**

• Just add keyContextualMenuSubmenu to the supercommand's AERecord:

#### AEDescList of Plug-in commands Command AFRecord: keyAEName: "Text Commands" keyContextualMenuSubmenu: AEDescList of subcommands Command AFRecord: keyAEName: "Check Spelling..." keyContextualMenuCommandID: 1 Command AERecord: keyAEName: "Define ..." keyContextualMenuCommandID: 2 Etc...



#### Respect the Time Limit!

- Number of ticks available for your Plug-in to do its processing
- Report back via the outNeedMoreTime parameter when you need to

```
OSStatus MyPlug-in::ExamineContext(...)
{
    while (true) {
        if (myTimeUsed >= timeOutInTicks) {
          *needMoreTime = true;
          break;
    }
}
```



## MyPlug-in::HandleSelection()

- Called when one of your Plug-in commands is selected
- Given the same selection descriptor as in ExamineContext()
- Carry out your command on the descriptor data



## MyPlug-in::PostMenuCleanup()

- Called after each Contextual Menu has been torn down
- Always called for every plug-in
  - Dispose of any buffers you allocated in ExamineContext()

OSStatus PostMenuCleanup(void);



## **SOM Bug Workaround**

- Create an instance of your SOM class in your initialization routine
  - Otherwise CMM won't be able to instantiate it by name

```
OSErr MyCFragInitRoutine(
    CFragInitBlockRec* block)
{
    MyPlug-in* Plug-in = new MyPlug-in;
    delete Plug-in;
    return noErr;
}
```



### Make your Plug-in Available

- File type 'cmpi'
- Must live in the "Contextual Menu Items" subfolder of the System Folder
- Need an Extended 'cfrg' resource



## **Cool Opportunities**

#### Across all applications

- Finder Enhancement
- File Compression
- Encryption/Encoding
- Spelling Checker
- Text Matching
- Optical Character Recognition





# Apple Data Detectors: Intelligent Integration

Dave Wright

Technical Lead, User Experience Team and Apple Technology Group



## **Apple Data Detectors**

#### Agenda

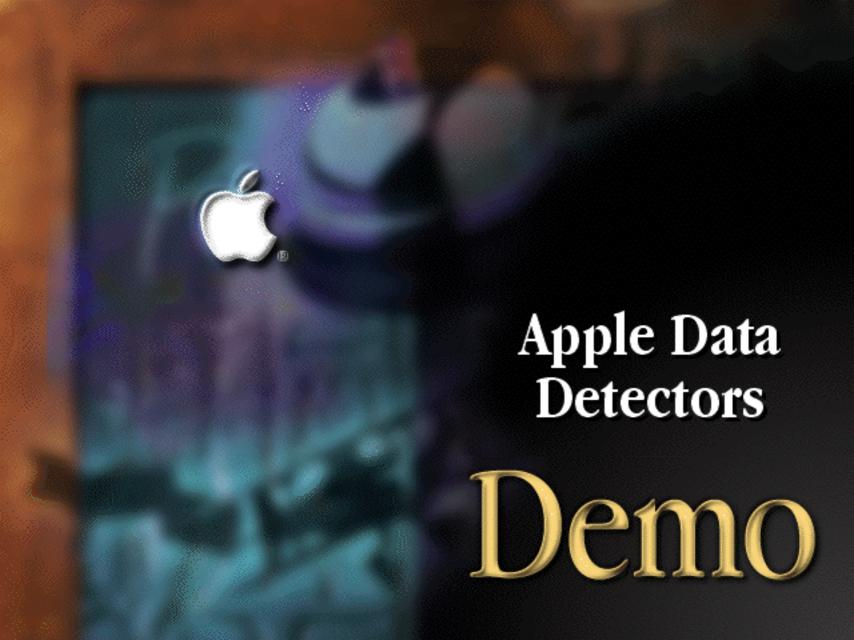
- Benefits
- Overview
- Extend what Apple Data Detectors finds!
- Extend what Apple Data Detectors does!



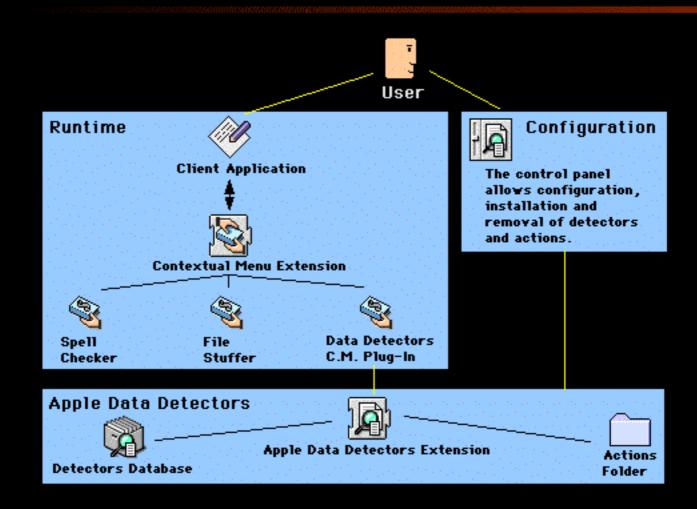
#### **Benefits**

#### How it started!

- User study from Apple Technology Group
  - Study focused on information access
  - No problem with finding and filing data
  - Problem with handling data
  - Too many steps. Computer should know what I do to this data
- Productization in OS Technology Group
  - Cooperative effort between research and product division



#### Overview







#### Remember compilers class?

- Regular expressions
- Lots of other fun stuff
  - Parsers
  - Parse Trees
  - Ambiguity



#### Beefed up regular expression language

- Syntax
  - DetectorName = <Description>, Expression
- Example
  - My Holiday = <This detector finds my favorite holiday.>, "July 4"



#### Expressions

- Atomic Expressions
  - Character Set, example: [a-zA-Z]
  - Character Sequence, example: "abc"



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  - Character Set, example: [a-zA-Z]
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  - Expression Set, example: { [a-z], "abc" }
  - Expression Sequence, example: ([a-z], "abc")



#### Expressions

- Atomic Expressions
  - Character Set, example: [a-zA-Z]
  - Character Sequence, example: "abc"
- Compound Expressions:
  - Expression Set, example: { [a-z], "abc" }
  - Expression Sequence, example: ([a-z], "abc")
- Detector References:
  - Reference to other detectors, example date(DayOfWeek, Month ...)



### Expression modifiers

- \* 0 or more, Example: [A-Z]\*
- + 1 or more, Example: {"abc", "def"}+
- •? 0 or 1, (DayOfWeek?, Month, ...)



### Examples

- Date = "April 5, 1997"
- Date = ({"January", "February"},
   "5, 1997")
- Date = ({"January", "February"}, [0-3]?, [0-9], "1997")
- Date = (Month, [0-3]?, [0-9], "199", [0-9])
- Date = (Month, Day, Year?)



#### Interaction with actions

- Export Symbols:
  - Syntax:
    - Label:Expression
- Example:
  - EMailAddress =
     ( theUser:User "@" theHost:Host )



#### Don't clobber each other.

- Name spaces:
  - Detector file name spaces
  - Global name space
    - ^ Export to global name space
  - Example:
    - •Date ^ = ( DayOfWeek, Month ^ )



### User Interface Control

- Visibility in Control Panel
  - !—Explicitly visible in control panel
  - Example:
    - Date ! $^{-}$  = (...)



User specific data

• Customizable Detectors



#### Context sensitive data

- Customizable Detectors
- #—Customizable Detectors =
  { "string1", "string2", ... }
- Example:
  - Host Domain# =  $\{$  ".com", ".net"  $\}$



#### Guidelines

- Performance
  - Avoid ambiguity!!!!!!!!!
    - Don't do this: ([A-D]\*, [.A-Z]\*)
    - Do this instead: ([A-D]\*, ("." [A-Z]\*)\*)
  - Detectors can be too complex
    - Regular Expression Engine vs. Chart Parser





- One of these in the Actions folder in the Apple Data Detectors Folder:
  - AppleScript script
  - AppleScript applet
  - AppleEvent aware application
- With both of these:
  - Required resource
  - Required Apple Event Handler



- Required resource—'TEXT', 1128
- Format:
  - Supported Detector
     Contextual Menu String
     Description for control panel
- Example:
  - Apple::Email Address
     Send e-mail with Claris Emailer
     This action will start a new message to the detected address in Claris Emailer



- Same 'TEXT' resource as descriptions of AppleScript scripts
- Why?
  - Discoverability
  - One tool for authoring actions



- Required Apple Event Handler
  - Handle detected data
- Example:

```
on handle detected data inData
set myText to detcted text of inData
tell application "Claris Emailer"
set reciplist to {{name_old:"",
    address_old:myText, type_old:0}}
create mail subject "" body ""
    recipients reciplist
    end tell
end handle detected data
```



Apple Data Detectors does more than recognize! It's a parser too!

• Example:

on handle detected data inData
set myParseTree to parse tree of inData
set myStartDate to
findNamedRecord("StartDate",
myParseTree)
end handle detected data



### A Tool! Really!!



- Detector Editor
  - Provides syntax checking
  - Provides results useful for testing
  - Provides easy view of detector hierarchy



### **Apple Data Detectors**

#### How to start!

- Application Developers
  - Adopt Contextual Menu
  - Make your application scriptable
- ADD Plug-In Developers
  - Write detectors for new types of data
    - Our wish list: phone numbers, chemical symbols, dates, times, meetings, mailing addresses, ...
  - Write actions that operate on the detected data



### **Apple Data Detectors**

#### The innovation continues!

- Task centered activity
- Intelligent integration
- How to stay in touch
  - http://www.research.apple.com/research /tech/AppleDataDetectors
  - Gordon Garb, ggarb@apple.com
- Feedback welcome!



