

Bulletin 4a (revised)

THE LAB 2 BLOG

1 Aim and passwords

The Lab 2 blog is similar to Lab 1's. It uses WordPress (an open source blogging software) to store an active record of the Lab's internal communications (blog), useful information, and work-in-progress. Suggestions for improvement are welcome.

Only students and faculty of this Lab, and the site host (Yaniv Steiner), have passwords. The blog is private because it may discourage experimentation if everything posted is immediately available to the world. It is OK to show it to friends, but please keep passwords secret. We aim to launch a public website soon.

2 To browse the blog

- 1 Go to <http://www.interaction-ivrea.com/courses/06-07Lab2> Bookmark it in your browser as 'IXD Lab 2' or whatever you want
- 2 On first access, you will be asked your username (type: *me*) and password (type: *friend*). Check the Remember Me box, to remember this password, and click OK
- 3 This accesses the Lab 2 blog. Clicking one of the horizontal tabs shows:

NEW	All posts (all messages and work posted on the blog) in time order. Check this regularly for new stuff
BRIEF	The exam assignment
BULLETINS	Bulletins
RESOURCES	'Official' list of publications, links etc.
STUDENTS	Student mini-CVs, in alphabetical order
FACULTY	Teacher mini-CVs, in alphabetical order

Material in NEW can be posted by students and teachers; all other tabs are for more permanent 'official' information, so can be posted by only GCS or PT

- 4 Click one of the vertical categories, in the sidebar, to show all posts in only that category:

NEWS FLASH	Time-dependent announcements (breaking news, events soon etc.)
INTERESTING	Non-time-dependent stuff of general interest (some of this might later go into RESOURCES)
KNOWHOW	How to do things
PROJECTS	Past and current work on this Lab's project, posted under each team (these temporary IDs can soon be replaced by project names)
. Team AT	
. Team BP	
. Team DL	
. Team FN	
. Team GN	
. Team MM	
. Team MN	

3 To login to the blog (to make a post etc.)

We have given everyone a personal username (which can't be changed). It is also your first password, but you can change this later:

miguel_cabanzo	luca_de_rosso	giovanna_nicosia	marco_zamarato
davide_cocchi	alessandra_florian	nicola_plaisant	gillian_crampton
nunzia_coco	francesco_fraioli	tamara_romeo	philip_tabor
benito_condemi	pamela_moscarda	margherita_urbani	

- 1 Under Meta at the bottom of the sidebar, click Login
- 2 On first access, you will be asked your personal username and password. Type them, then check the Remember Me box to remember this password
- 3 Click Login. The WordPress page appears. Its tabs are:

Dashboard	WordPress advice on use and general information
Write	Write a post
Manage	Edit your posts and manage comments
Profile	Change your nickname; this appears as an option for your display name, by which your posts will be signed. Change your email address (the default is PT's) and password

3 **To make a post**

- 1 Login. Click Write
- 2 Write a brief title, then your post text (keep it short)
- 3 Check a category box in the sidebar (**important**: always check just 1 category. If you are posting your project work, check your team's project box, not the general Projects box.
- 4 Click Publish, then View Site to see how it looks (clicking Save will not change the blog)
- 5 To return, click Edit on your post's label, or Site Admin at bottom right.

4 **To include a file in your post**

Please keep all uploaded files small. The absolute maximum is 10MB.

- 1 Change the file's name to include only letters, numbers, full stops and underlines – no spaces or other punctuation and characters – and add a suffix like .pdf or .doc.
(Otherwise, you end up in someone else's blog)
- 2 Upload the file to the server: click Browse to find the file. Write a title and description (caption) for it. Click Upload
- 3 Link the uploaded file to your post:
 - a Images: click the file name. Click the menu items to toggle them: if the image is large, choose Using Thumbnail (this allows your reader to click it to get the image full-size) – if small, click Linked to Image
 - b Non-image files: click the file name. Click the menu items to toggle them: choose Linked to File and Using Title
(If you upload a pdf, when readers clicks on it, it loads directly into their Internet browser window. But if you upload a .doc file, for instance, it uploads to the user's upload folder and they must find it and open it from there)
- 4 Insert the cursor where in the post text you want the file to appear. Click Send to Editor.
The link will be automatically inserted in your post text
- 5 Click Publish, then View Site to see how it looks.

Find out more at:

http://codex.wordpress.org/Writing_Posts http://codex.wordpress.org/Using_Image_and_File_Attachments

To style your post, use the simple style buttons on the Write page (except in Mac Safari), or HTML tags – see: http://codex.wordpress.org/Write_Post_SubPanel

5 **To include Flash files** (thanks to Yaniv Steiner)

This section uses the great Kimili Flash Embed Plugin.

- 1 Create and test your Flash file locally. Note the movie height and width
- 2 Upload your .swf file (ensure you have a good preloader if the file is larger than 50k)
- 3 After the upload you will get the file link name: copy it
- 4 Place the cursor where in the post text you want the Flash file to appear
- 5 Write down this syntax:

```
<kml_flashembed movie="MYFLASHFILE.swf" height="250" width="400"></kml_flashembed>
```
- 6 Replace "MYFLASHFILE.swf" with the file link name you copied. Replace the height and width numbers with your movie size.

6 **To include QuickTime files** (thanks to Massimo Banzi and Yaniv Steiner)

- 1 Upload the file to the server
- 2 Click Browse. Select the .mov file. Click No Thanks to creating a thumbnail
- 3 Click Upload File and wait patiently (wait time is proportional to file size)
- 4 When the upload is complete, copy the URL returned at the end (e.g:
iuva/files/example.mov)
- 5 Place the cursor where in the post text you want the movie to appear. Paste there this fragment of HTML code:

```
<embed frc="movie.mov" width="320" height="240" autoplay="false">
```


(if you add loop="true" to the previous tag, the movie loops forever)
- 6 Replace movie.mov with the URL you got from the upload page, and the width and height values with the width and height of your movie
- 7 Save your page. Your movie should appear
- 8 To start playback, click on the movie.