computer science



GeometryEditor: An Open Web-based Dynamic Geometry System

Terminology

Virtual Manipulative: an interactive, computer-based, visual representation of a dynamic object that presents opportunities for constructing mathematical knowledge.

Dynamic Geometry System (DGS): software for authoring geometry manipulatives. It simulates ruler and compass constructions and allows users' interactive dragging without changing the underlying geometric relationships.

Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG): a language for describing twodimensional graphics in XML. It's a W3C standard.

GeometryEditor: a Web-based DGS that utilizes the Web to a great extent

GeoSite: a Web application built upon and demonstrating the GeometryEditor system

GeoSite Architecture



Design and Implementation of GeometryEditor

- ➤ Geometry Engine implemented in SVG for geometric objects rendering and animation
- ➢ GeometryEditor.js: a layer between the Geometry Engine and a client Web application
- > Around 30 types of dialogs and their related Javascript files
- Math formulae rendered in MathML (Mathematical Markup Language)



Features of GeometryEditor and GeoSite

- No software installation on client machines
- ➤ Working on Firefox, Opera, and Windows IE with ASV
- > Easy integration of GeometryEditor into a Web application
- ➤ Fully customizable GUIs of an GeometryEditor instance

> Dynamic calculator to create sophisticated mathematical formulas

- Immediate and automatic manipulative publishing
- Easy manipulative sharing

Standard input/output interfaces (APIs) of manipulatives for interaction with the enclosing page

- Special Web page composer for defining interaction between manipulatives and enclosing pages
- > Atomic (Java applet, SVG, or Flash based) or composite (with HTML involved) manipulatives
- > Standard manipulative serialization APIs and submittable manipulative
- Keywords and search over GeoSite(s)
- > Web services for retrieving manipulatives or part of a page
- > Transparent cooperation with Computer Algebra System
- Possibility to migrate to mobile devices

Distributed System formed by multiple client Web applications

Contribution by Everyone

With manipulative interfaces standardized, everyone can contribute to the GeoSite:

Programmers can contribute authoring software like the GeometryEditor or ad-hoc programmed manipulatives

 \succ Educators can contribute software-generated manipulatives or education pages