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May 25, 2018

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Recommended Citation

Brawer, Sascha, "Using variable font width to adjust flow of text within text boxes", Technical Disclosure Commons, (May 25, 2018)
https://www.tdcommons.org/dpubs_series/1206



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Using variable font width to adjust flow of text within text boxes

ABSTRACT

In many applications, such as presentations, graphics design, etc., text content is placed and manipulated within container elements, such as text boxes. In many instances, resizing an element that contains text content leads to situations in which the size of text font is too large for the text content to fit completely within the resized container. In such cases, the text content flows outside the container boundaries. The techniques of this disclosure use variable font technology to adjust font width corresponding to adjustments to the size of a text container.

KEYWORDS

- Font width
- Text box
- Resizing
- Variable width font
- Text flow

BACKGROUND

In many applications, such as presentations, graphics design, etc., text content is placed and manipulated within container elements, such as text boxes. In many instances, the size of the font of the text content and the dimensions of the container may be adjusted separately and independently of each other. As a result, resizing the container of the text often leads to situations in which the size of the font of the text is too large for the text content to fit completely within the container. In such cases, displaying the text content is achieved by allowing the text content to flow outside the container boundaries, thus creating a potentially confusing and suboptimal user experience for text manipulation and placement within the application.

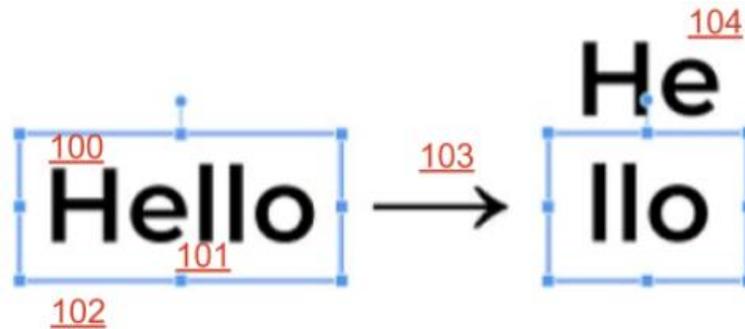


Fig. 1. Text reflows outside a text box when the text box is resized

Fig. 1 shows example text content (100) (“Hello”) placed within an external container text box (102). The text content is rendered in a specific standard font (101) that can be selected by the application or the user. The dimensions of the text box and the size of the font can be adjusted separately and independently.

Resizing the text box (103) leads to making the text box smaller than the size required to render the text content within it. In such cases, the flow of the text content within the text box needs to be adjusted such that the adjusted flow (104) results in some of the text content falling outside the boundaries of the text box.

DESCRIPTION

The techniques of this disclosure provide an improved user experience when dealing with text content placed within containers, such as text boxes, by using variable font technology to adjust the width of the font of text content within a container.

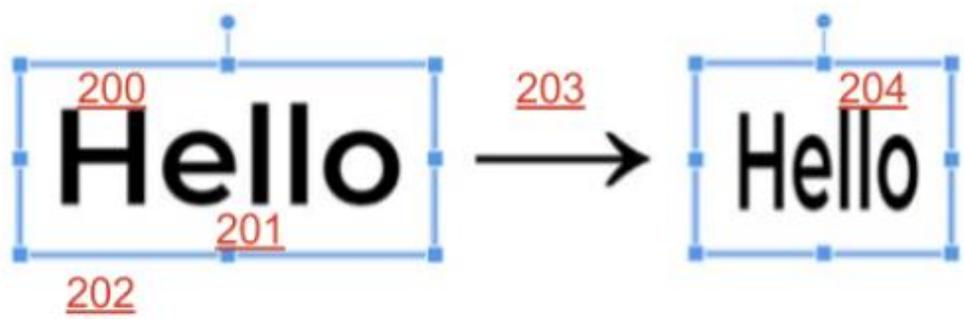


Fig. 2: Text width adjusting dynamically with resizing of the text box

Fig. 2 illustrates text width adjustment using the techniques of this disclosure. The figure shows example text content (200) that is placed within an external container text box (202). Unlike the situation in Fig. 1, the text content is rendered in a font using variable font technology. When the text box is resized (203) such that the width of the box is smaller than the width of the text content, the width property of the variable font (201) of the text content is correspondingly adjusted dynamically such that the text content is narrowed to stay within the bounds of the text box (204).

Further to the description above, simultaneous adjustment of the width of the variable font of the text content and the text box can also be applied when increasing the size of the text box. In such instances, the text content within a text box will widen to maintain its relative sizing proportion in relation to the text box.

The techniques of this disclosure ensure that text content is dynamically sized to stay within the bounds of its container at all times, and provide an improved user experience for manipulating and placing text containers in applications. The techniques can be implemented in any application such as word processors, spreadsheets, presentation software, other productivity software, etc.

CONCLUSION

In many applications, resizing an element that contains text content leads to situations in which the size of text font is too large for the text content to fit completely within the resized container. In such cases, the text content flows outside the boundaries of the container. The techniques of this disclosure use Variable Font technology to adjust font width corresponding to adjustments to the size of the text container.