Insert and Playback of Online Media

LibreOffice is able to embed local images and videos into documents, but doesn't have any easy means of doing this with online media or playback of the online media.

Note: You are more than welcome to leave comments in the document, but if you do so, please login to google drive/docs, so that your comment will appear as written by you and not 'Anonymous'. Or alternatively, leave your name in the comments you write. :D

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Microsoft 2013

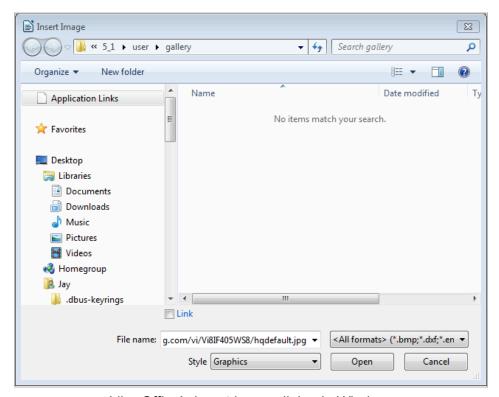
Bug Reports

- tdf#90126 Add an online image to a document
- tdf#42246 Cannot Embed Videos from Popular Video Websites
- tdf#87718 DOCX Detection of embedded videos links

Current Status

Online Image

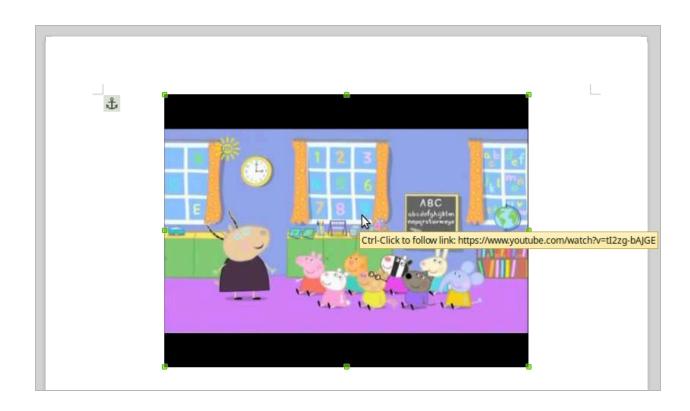
It is possible to insert an online image into LibreOffice by copying and pasting its URL into LibreOffice's insert image dialog, but unfortunately there isn't any indication in the dialog that this is possible and is reliant on a user to guess that it's possible.



LibreOffice's insert image dialog in Windows

Online Video

It is possible to add an online video into LibreOffice by inserting the thumbnail image of the video into the document and then adding a hyperlink to the image with the url of the video (here's an example). Though this is possible to do for people who know how to do it, it still isn't a simple process, and it is out of the reach of people who don't know how to do it.

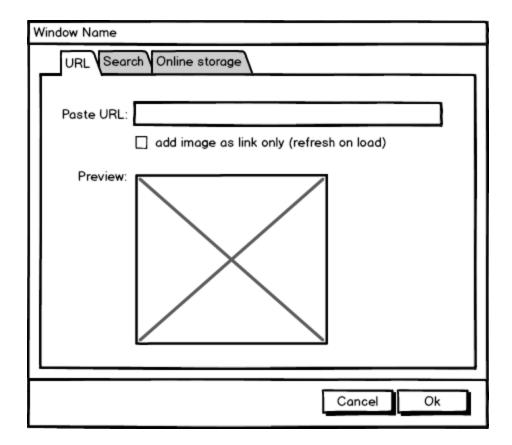


Proposed Solution

Solution 1: Basic (URL Paste)

Simple dialog that contains one textbox for a user to paste the image or video url, a 'Link' checkbox, for whether the online image should be embedded (save within the file) or referenced (linked to from its online source), and a preview area to display the image or video preview image as a means of confirming that the pasted url is correct and accessible. If text is highlighted before opening the dialog which is a valid url, it will automatically be pasted into the the URL field.

Note: It would be an added advantage to be able to play the video in the preview area.



Solution 2: Simple (URL Paste + Search)

Expanding on solution 1, the dialog would have the ability to search through image and video resources like

- Images Google Images, OpenClipart.org (API, Tweet), Flickr (API, Commons)
- Videos Youtube (API), Vimeo

These resources should be programmed in a modular way, so that it is easy to add new resources into the dialog. It would be useful to allow users to extend the resource list by having a framework that worked with a search query url which return xml or json results that would have the necessary fields that populate the results area (openclipart.org's json API is an example of this).

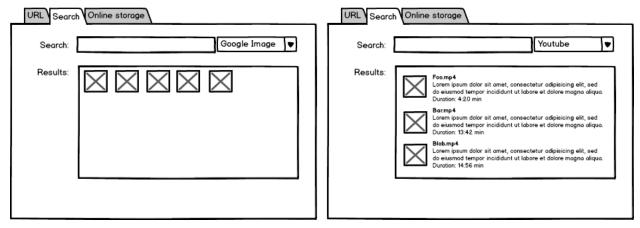
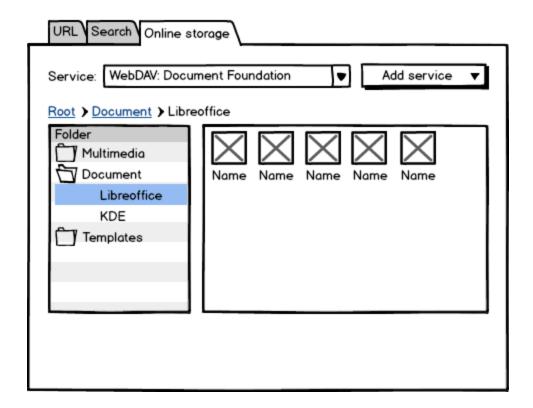


Image search on the left with icon grid view and video search on right with detail grid view

Solution 3: Advanced (URL Paste + Search + Online Storage)

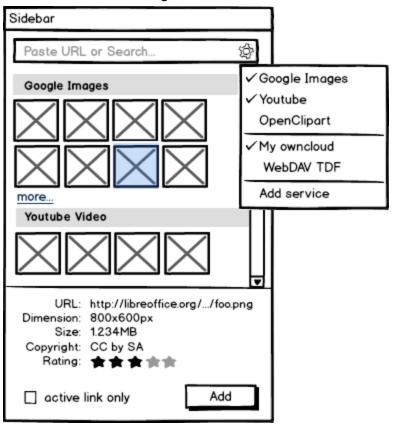
Expanding on solution 2, the dialog would allow a user to access media from online storage locations like Google Drive, OneDrive, Dropbox, iCloud, Facebook, Flickr, etc. which would be already plugged into LibreOffice CMIS interface.

Note: As LO doesn't have capabilities of processing video itself, this enhancement would only be targetting images, as a preview would ideally needed to be displayed.



Solution 4: Provide all features in the sidebar

- Inspired by Google Search
- Services uses the CMIS dialog
- Pictures and videos at once or this dialog is opened parametrized
- UI designed simple enough to be part of the sidebar; but workflow rather complies with a stand-alone dialog



Processing Text Links

In order to assist users who have already pasted online media text links into their documents and would like to convert them into an embedded media, an entry can be added to the hyperlink context menu to provide this easy conversion. Similarly, it should also be possible to convert an embedded online media preview image back into text link form by adding an entry in the image context menu.

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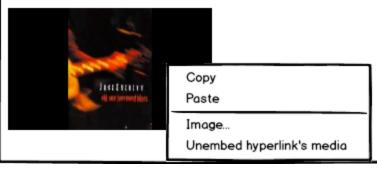
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdzBIU84z_M

Copy
Paste
Open hyperlink
Edit hyperlink

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Remove hyperlink

Embed hyperlink's media



Online Media Playback

Presently LibreOffice is only able to open online media links by having the user's operating system open the link in a browser. LibreOffice would be able to play the linked online media internally if it is able to have a dialog with an webview control (e.g. WebKitGtk+, MozView) in it that could render html. In order to achieve this capabilities with the webview control

- Either the html embed code needs to be inserted in a document (this happens in docx) during the inserting process, which may also require ODF to be extended to support
- Or during the loading of a document or access a link in a document, the link url needs to be parsed and identified whether it should be internally playable, and the necessary html embed code needs to be generated.

Online Video URL Recognition/Parsing

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ro5Kuxqmls4
- https://youtu.be/Ro5Kuxqmls4 (short url)
- http://bit.ly/1MKGGk5 (http 301 redirect to a youtube video)
- <iframe width="560" height="315" src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/Ro5Kuxqmls4" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe> (embedded code)

Comments (Heiko):

- Is an online image still remote after loading or should it cached locally?
- Is there any functionality beyond loading the image (except the additional feature of adding a hyperlink)? For instance,
 - o read/change the origin,
 - o upload a changed version,
 - o refresh the local cache
- I guess most complains are about a simple/working integration of playback; right now click opens the video in a browser?
- Current LO dialog is a UX crime

Competition

Google Docs

Google Docs provides the ability to insert an online image or video in three different manners

- 1. Pasting the URL
- 2. Adding it from an online service (Google Drive, Google+ Albums)
- 3. Searching through online resources (Google Images, Youtube)

Image URL (after pasting URL, a preview appears)

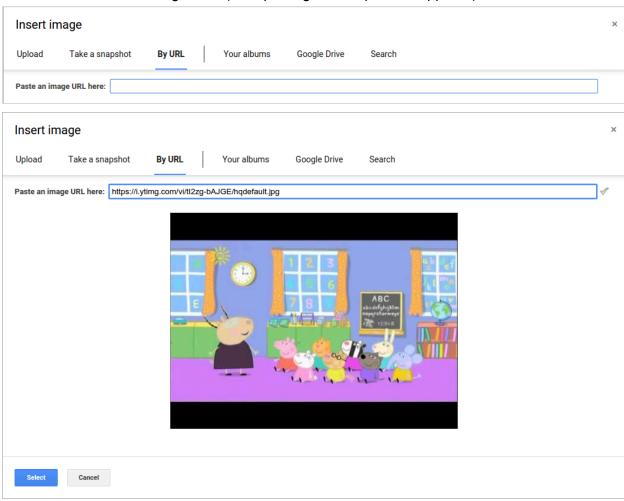


Image from Online Service (Google Drive)

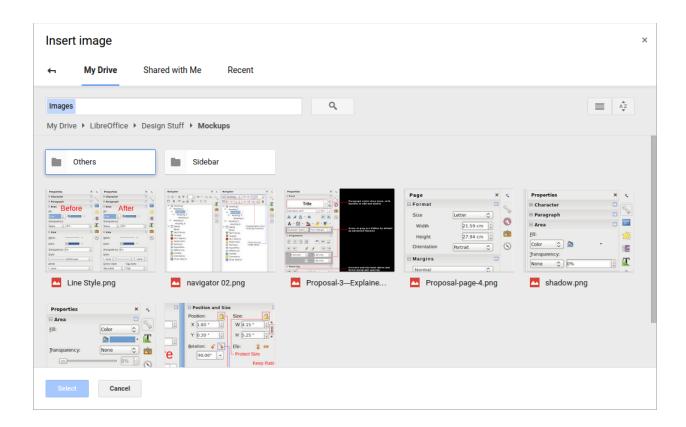
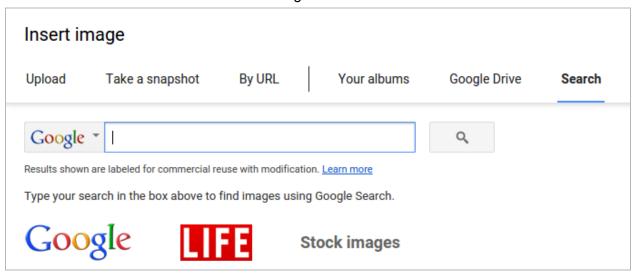
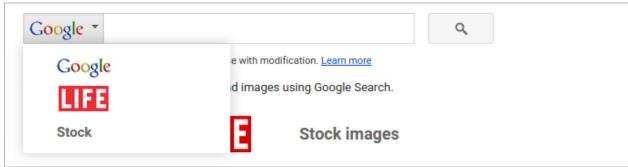
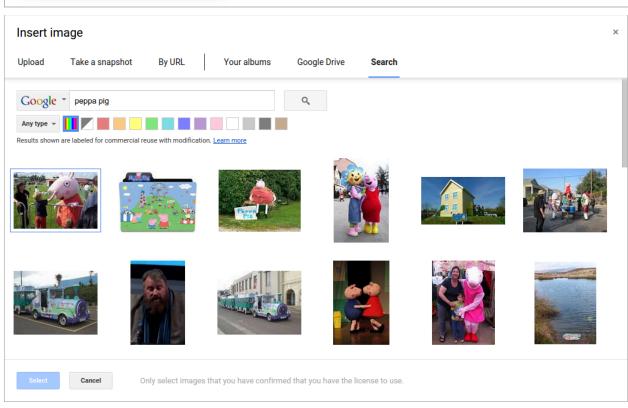


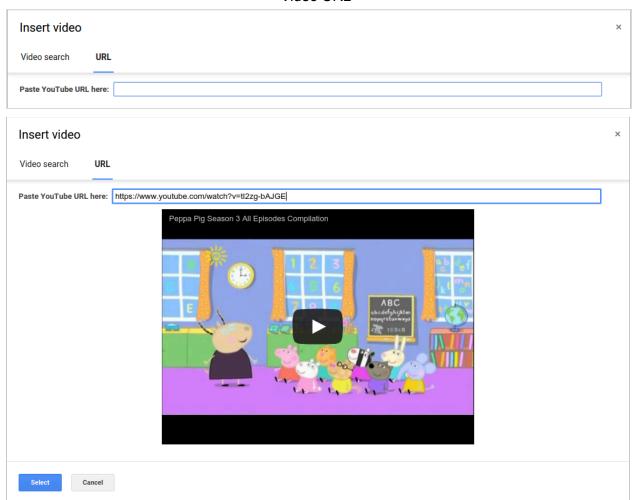
Image Search



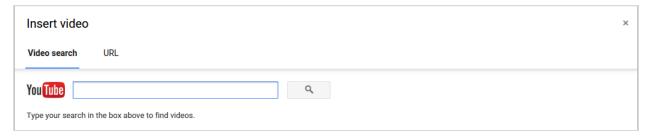


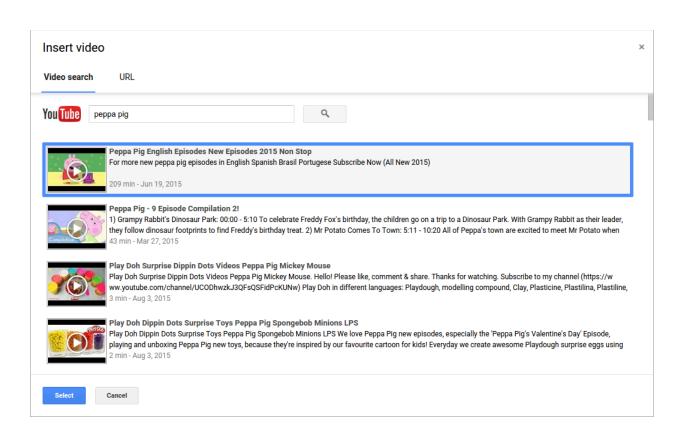


Video URL

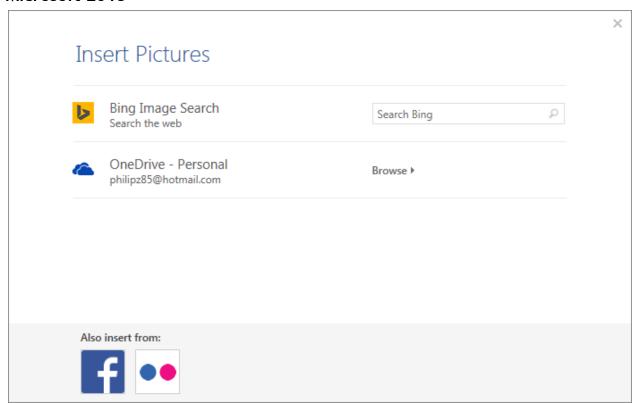


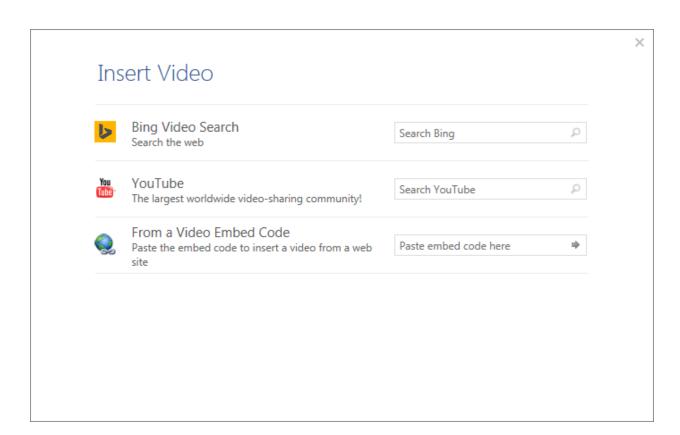
Video Search

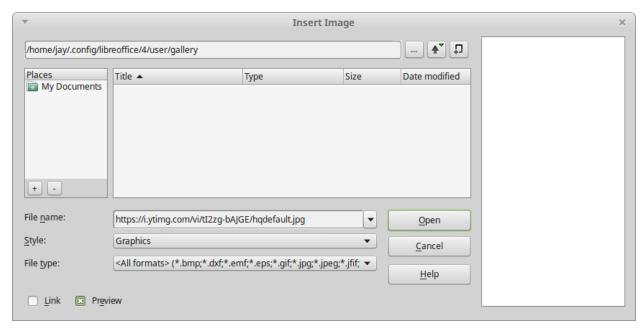




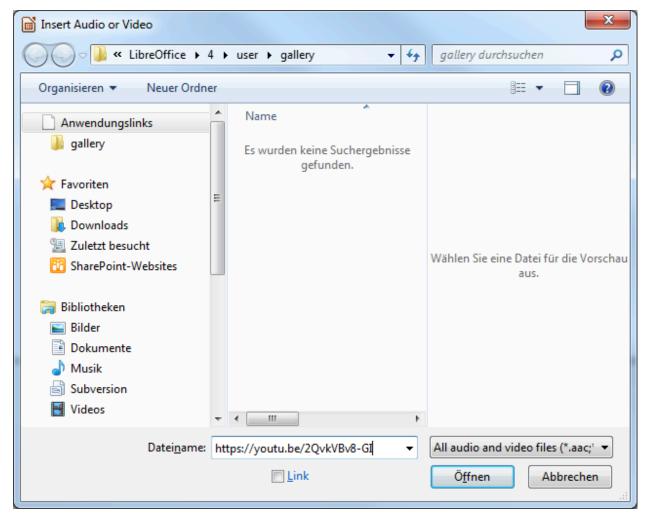
Microsoft 2013







LibreOffice's custom insert image dialog



Libreoffice Impress: Insert > Media > Audio or Video

Short URL - http://bit.ly/1WsV57W