





Bringing the Notebookbar to Online

By Szymon Kłos Software Engineer at Collabora Productivity



OPENSUSE-LIBREOFFICE CONF'20









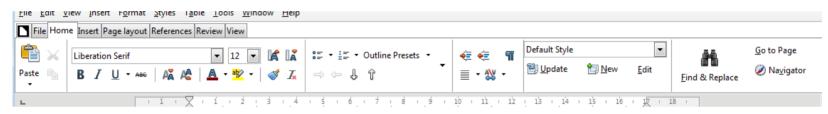






Notebookbar on the desktop

• Introduced as an experimental feature (GSoC project) in 2016



- Polished in next editions by Kshitij Pathania (2018) and Sumit Chauhan (2019)
- Most of the conceptual work, design and tweaking the look by Andreas Kainz
- Released in LibreOffice 6.2 in few variants

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Bringing the Notebookbar to Online

Feature frequently requested by Collabora Office customers.

Collabora Productivity

Notebookbar in CODE 6.4 (Collabora Online Development Edition)



Re-using UI bits from desktop so far

We already had dialogs and the sidebar in Online.

Pixel-based canvas transferred from the server.

We send mouse events and receive updates.

We can't do the same, Notebookbar on desktop has many things we don't need in Online.

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Native controls – sidebar on mobile phones

Chart Type

Column

3D Look

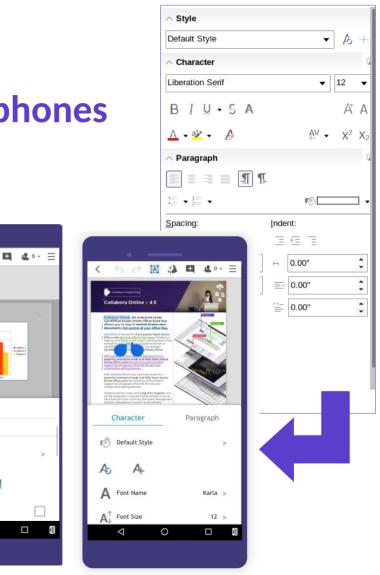
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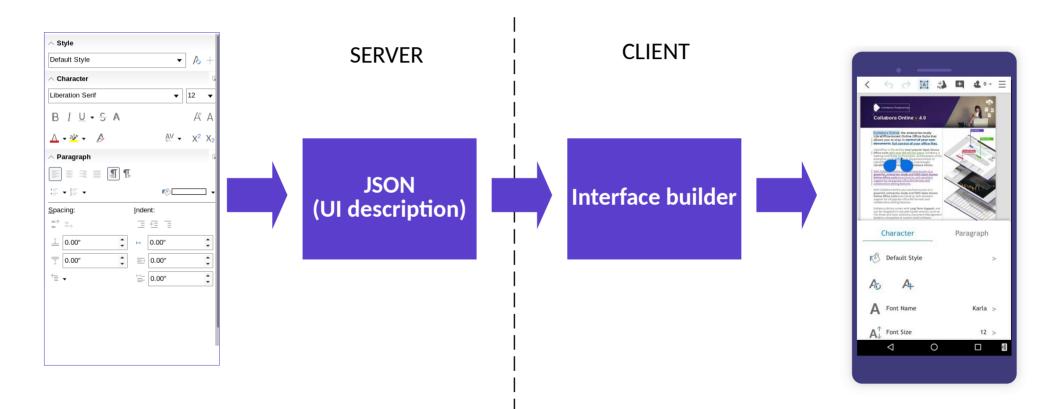
HTML based, better integrated with the rest of UI.

Re-layouted for better user experience.

My next talk with technical details about re-using sidebar on mobile phones will take place on **17 October**.



How native controls are built

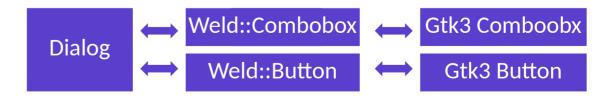


Reaction on user input

- When user performs any action send control type and event data eg. **selected position 3** in the **listbox** with id '**X**'
- Sever does the same change and renders the new JSON which is sent back to the client

Welding in vcl

- Way to use native controls on desktop, implemented by Caolán McNamara
- Currently gtk3 only implementation
- Adds an abstraction level which is a bridge between native UI and LibreOffice dialogs code

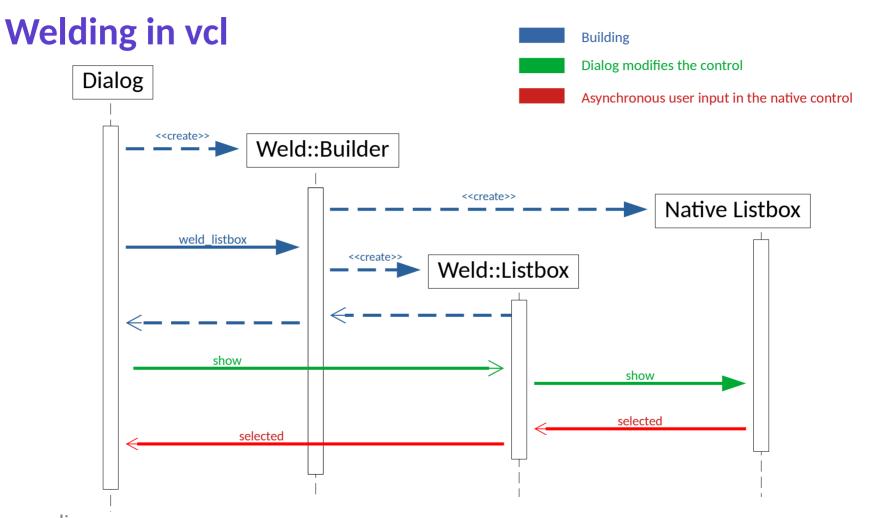


Welding in vcl

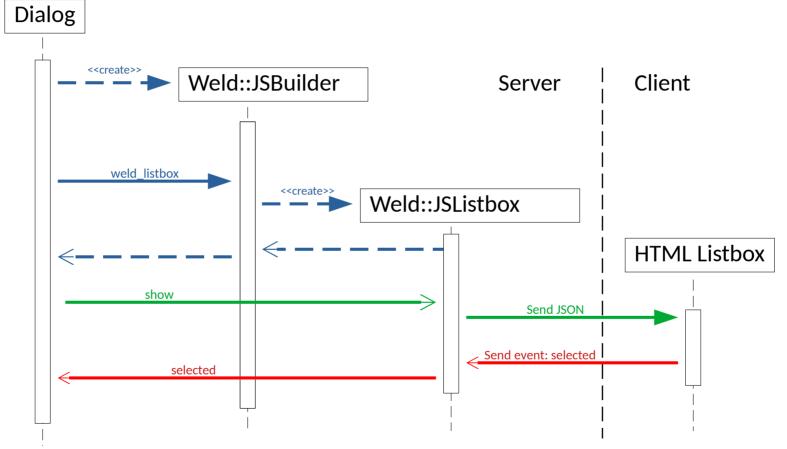
Advantages of using welded wrappers

- We receive information about every modification of a control
- We can inform parent dialog about input performed by user eg. mouse press

```
namespace weld
class VCL_DLLPUBLIC Widget
protected:
  Link<const MouseEvent&, bool> m_aMousePressHdl;
  ...
public:
  virtual void set_sensitive(bool sensitive) = 0;
  virtual bool get_sensitive() const = 0;
  virtual void show() = 0;
  virtual void hide() = 0;
  virtual void connect_mouse_press(...)
```



Using welding in online



Dialogs on mobile using welded widgets

- Code in vcl/jsdialog
- Implemented weld::Builder and control wrappers
- JSInstanceBuilder is injected only for few dialogs we want in online, only on mobile devices.
- Wrappers send JSON on control change
- vcl/jsdialog/executor.cxx code executes commands received from a client eg. when something is selected in a listbox

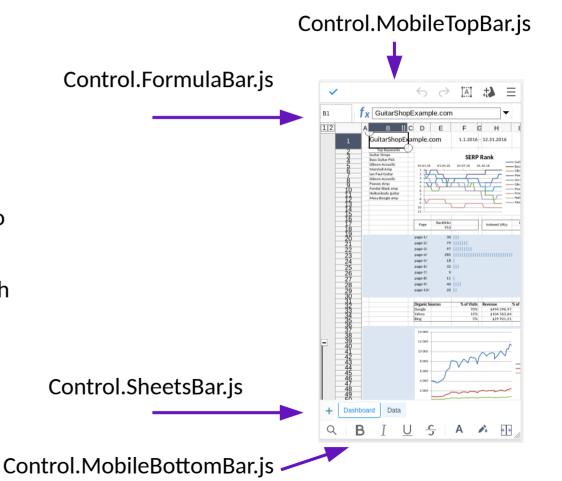
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Core part:

- **NotebookBar** control only creates container (vcl/control/notebookbar.cxx)
- Sfx2 part creates WeldedTabbedNotebookbar in the container
- WeldedTabbedNotebookbar creates JSInstanceBuilder and welds the TabControl
- Notebookbar is not fully welded but it is enough to switch tabs
- Code moved to sfx2 where we have more information about current view so we can manage notebookbar creation per view

Online part:

- First problem: we need only part of the classic UI
- Big rework of UI initialization
- Split **Control.Toolbar.js** monster into smaller pieces
- Created **Control.UIManager.js** which builds the UI depending on device and file type



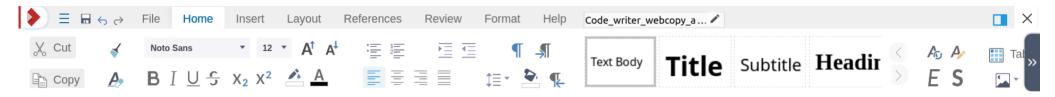
Online - new files:

- **Control.Notebookbar.js** contains common container code like: resize handling, tabs insertion into menubar
- Control.NotebookbarWriter.js, Control.NotebookbarCalc.js
 and Control.NotebookbarImpress.js inherits from Control.Notebookbar.js,
 contain list of available tabs, custom tabs definitions
- Control.UIManager.js initializes correct container depending on file opened
- Added switch in the loolwsd.xml config to select classic or notebookbar mode <user_interface><mode> notebookbar </mode></user_interface>

Online part:

- Based on Control.JSDialogBuilder.js created Control.NotebookbarBuilder.js
- NotebookbarBuilder has redesigned build function which builds the UI horizontally, also using div elements instead of tables
- Ported few custom widgets already present in the toolbars like: style/font selector, insert table popup, conditional formatting popup

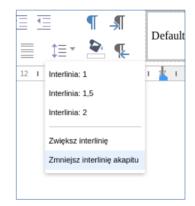
Custom widgets and popups in Notebookbar



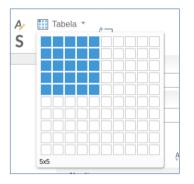
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Hamburger menu





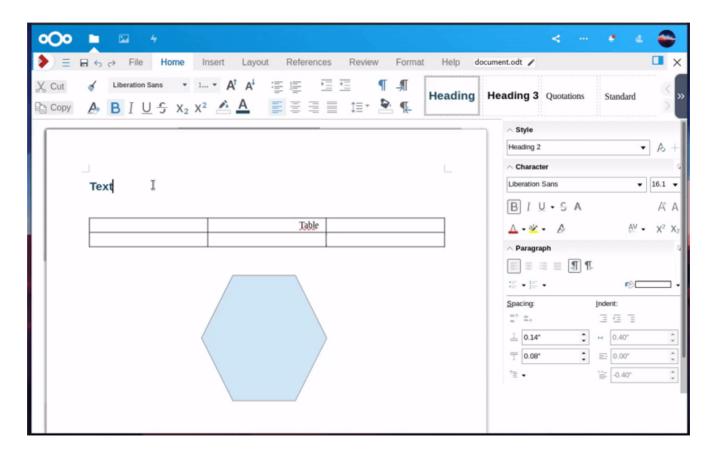
Line spacing dropdown



Insert table dropdown

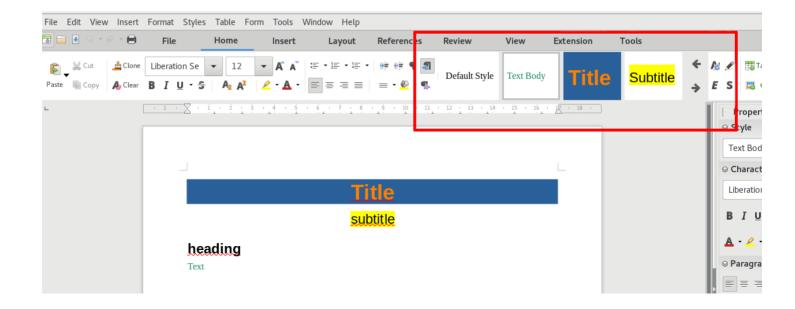
Color pickers

Context handling



Styles preview







Thank you!

Checkout the CODE 6.4 with notebookbar!

By Szymon Kłos

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