THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Micro-Module Courseware Development Grant

Scheme 2: Studies in Foundation Courses

Interim Report (2015-16)

Report due 30 June 2016.
Please return by email to mmcd@cuhk.edu.hk

PART I

Project title: HTML Slides

Principal supervisor: CHAN, Chung

Department / Unit: INC

Project duration: From January 2016 to December 2016

Date report submitted: June 15th, 2016

1. Project objectives

Is the project on track to meet its objectives?
Have the objectives been changed as a result of the experience of working on your MMCDG project?

The project is on track and the objectives remain unchanged: To create HTML slides with audio playback using reveal.js for each topic of ENGG1410 Linear Algebra and Vector Calculus for Engineers.

2. Progress on process, outcomes or deliverables

What have been accomplished so far?
Have any obstacles been encountered and what are the remaining tasks to be finished?
Is the project still on time for completion (which includes preparation of the final report) on or before the grant expiry date?
Provide a listing of project outputs to date.

Audio slides have been created for every lecture using slidespeech.com, which converts the speaker notes in the powerpoint slides to audio using text-to-speech synthesis. The audio slides were released to the students of my session ENGG1410A last semester, and forwarded to other instructors of ENGG1410.

In the next stage of the development, we will turn the audio slides to use reveal.js as planned, so the module will not rely on any third-party service such as slidespeech.com. We will also enhance reveal.js by allowing the audio to be downloaded automatically after synthesis, so they can be served repeatedly afterwards. Such development is important, as we recently found that the audio slides previously uploaded to slidespeech.com were no longer accessible for unknown reasons. Any new slides uploaded to slidespeech.com are also not displayed correctly due to unknown bugs. It is much better to use the open source reveal.js, which we have been able to fix certain bugs and improved some features. Currently, there are 8 student helpers working on the project, and the progress is quite good. We expect the project to be completed on time.

3. Evaluation Plan

Have you altered your evaluation plans?
Does your evaluation indicate that you have achieved your objectives?

The evaluation method will remain unchanged. Some students mention the audio slides are useful, as it can supplement the lecture. However, some student also report that they do not use the slides, as the lectures is similar to the presentation of the slides. In the future, when flipped classroom teaching can be adopted, the lecture will not repeat the audio slides, in which case the audio slides will be the essential materials to go over before class.

4. Dissemination Activities (reports, websites, video links, products, *etc.*)

Provide a listing of dissemination activities to date.

Video link:
https://youtu.be/DYKFQnr5D70
(~5min presentation of the interim report.)
Course website:
http://engimath.ie.cuhk.edu.hk/moodle/mod/page/view.php?id=184
(accessible only through campus network.)