

.title

Why a new version again

.synonym

.description

Gives the reasons why we restructured Hyperties and changed the data structure.

.contents

Hyperties has been in use for some time as a pure hypertext system running under MS-DOS. The original Hyperties is highly specialized to this environment and to a particular set of capabilities and interface features. As a result, the system architecture is "closed" and difficult to extend. There have been ongoing efforts to explore a variety of extended capabilities: large, bitmapped displays and multiple windows (on the SUN workstation); alternate input devices (touchscreen); graphics and other media; global textual search; and numerous possible interface variations. From these efforts have sprung a number of divergent Hyperties systems, each customized for a particular investigative task, but based on the original Hyperties architecture. A more modular and extensible Hyperties architecture is proposed which, it is hoped, will facilitate future research by providing an open framework for experimentation and revision, will provide for maximal reuse of software, and will ultimately allow current work to be integrated into one system.