

duti

A Short Introduction to a Simple Utility That Will
Change Your Life™

Well, what is it?

Well, what is it?

- A simple utility that will change your life!

Really?

Really?

- No, not really.

Really?

- No, not really.
- `duti` is a command-line tool for setting default applications for document types and URL schemes on Mac OS X.

Really?

- No, not really.
- `duti` is a command-line tool for setting default applications for document types and URL schemes on Mac OS X.
- (Common side-effects include speaking in tongues.)

duti: default for UTI

- UTI – Uniform Type Identifier
- A unique string identifying a particular document type
- duti can tell the system what application owns a given document type by manipulating the LaunchServices database.

duti's shadowy history

duti's shadowy history

- GoLive CS claimed ownership of Real Media files in my lab deployments.

duti's shadowy history

- GoLive CS claimed ownership of Real Media files in my lab deployments.
- When med students clicked on a link to listen to view a lecture, GoLive would launch.

duti's shadowy history

- GoLive CS claimed ownership of Real Media files in my lab deployments.
- When med students clicked on a link to listen to view a lecture, GoLive would launch.
- Complaints from the medical school tend to attract attention, so...

- ... I wrote a small utility called dh, short for “default handler”.
- Very limited.
- Hard-coded to set RealPlayer as the default handler for .ra, .rm and .ram files.

Inertia

Inertia

- Problem solved, but...

Inertia

- Problem solved, but...
- I couldn't overcome my distaste for hard-coding.

Inertia

- Problem solved, but...
- I couldn't overcome my distaste for hard-coding.
- Rewrote to accept input, added plist support, different handler roles....

Inertia

- Problem solved, but...
- I couldn't overcome my distaste for hard-coding.
- Rewrote to accept input, added plist support, different handler roles....
- Released to public as “duti”.

- Public response was tremendous!

- Public response was tremendous!
- (crickets)

How do I use it?

How do I use it?

- Set application as handler for a UTI
 - One-shot execution
 - .duti file
 - plists
 - Line-by-line

How do I use it?

- Set application as handler for a UTI
 - One-shot execution
 - .duti file
 - plists
 - Line-by-line
- Get handler for a given file extension

One-shot

```
duti -s org.mozilla.Firefox public.html all
```

One-shot

```
duti -s org.mozilla.Firefox public.html all
```

- Simplest use

One-shot

```
duti -s org.mozilla.Firefox public.html all
```

- Simplest use
- Two or three arguments
 - Application bundle identifier
 - UTI or URL scheme
 - Application role as handler for UTI
 - editor, viewer, shell, all, none

One-shot

```
duti -s org.mozilla.Firefox public.html all
```

- “Make the application with the bundle identifier org.mozilla.Firefox the default handler in all roles for HTML files.”
- Double-clicking an HTML file in the Finder will now open Firefox.

.duti files

- Same format as arguments given to `duti -s`

# bundle ID	UTI or URL scheme	role
<code>org.mozilla.Firefox</code>	<code>public.html</code>	<code>all</code>
<code>edu.umich.iHook</code>	<code>public.shell-script</code>	<code>shell</code>
<code>com.panic.Transmit</code>	<code>ftp</code>	
<code>com.apple.Keynote</code>	<code>com.microsoft.powerpoint.ppt</code>	<code>editor</code>
<code>com.apple.TextEdit</code>	<code>com.microsoft.word.docx</code>	<code>viewer</code>

- `duti` applies all settings from a `.duti` file
- Add `-v` flag for verbose output

```
bash-root# duti -v /Library/Settings/duti/defaults.duti  
setting org.mozilla.Firefox as handler for public.html  
setting edu.umich.iHook as handler for public.shell-script  
setting com.panic.Transmit as handler for ftp:// URLs  
...
```

plists

plist

- Surprisingly common request

plists

- Surprisingly common request
- Bulkier than .duti format, but more readable

plists

- Surprisingly common request
- Bulkier than .duti format, but more readable
- Fairly easy to create in PlistEditor

plists

- Surprisingly common request
- Bulkier than .duti format, but more readable
- Fairly easy to create in PlistEditor
- Can mix and match duti .plist files with .duti files when applying settings from a directory

plists

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple Computer//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://
www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
  <plist version="1.0">
    <dict>
      <key>DUTISettings</key>
      <array>
        <dict>
          <key>DUTIBundleIdentifier</key>
          <string>com.apple.Safari</string>
          <key>DUTIUniformTypeIdentifier</key>
          <string>public.html</string>
          <key>DUTIRole</key>
          <string>all</string>
        </dict>
        <dict>
          <key>DUTIBundleIdentifier</key>
          <string>org.mozilla.Firefox</string>
          <key>DUTIURLScheme</key>
          <string>ftp</string>
        </dict>
      </array>
    </dict>
  </plist>
</dict>
```

Wait

- Applying settings from a directory?

```
bash-root# ls /Library/Settings/duti
defaults.duti Video.plist Image.duti
bash-root# duti -v /Library/Settings/duti
Applying settings from /Library/Settings/duti/defaults.duti
setting org.mozilla.Firefox as handler for public.html
...
Applying settings from /Library/Settings/duti/Video.plist
...
Applying settings from /Library/Settings/duti/Image.duti
...
```

- Applying settings from a directory of settings files is much more management-friendly
- Especially for Radmind users!

Get handler

- `duti -x <file extension>`

```
bash$ duti -x html
OmniWeb
/Applications/OmniWeb.app
com.omnigroup.OmniWeb5
```

Infinity and beyond

- Get handler based on UTI
 - Obvi.
- Suggestions?
- Code released in public domain. Please take it and make it better.

Q & A

Links

- <http://duti.sourceforge.net/>
 - Documentation, download links, etc.
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uniform_Type_Identifier
- <http://developer.apple.com/macosx/uniformtypeidentifiers.html>