Kubuntu, XRandR and TV-OUT

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Abstract

One of the things I had not fully figured out up to today, was how to configure my Kubuntu system to easily view DVDs on our TV, using my NVIDIA's TV-OUT. I've seen xorg.conf files that define a X11 server for the monitor and a second for the TV, and files that use TwinView. Now, I did not really like the way first option worked, so tried the second.

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One of the things I had not fully figured out up to today, was how to configure my Kubuntu system to easily view DVDs on our TV, using my NVIDIA's TV-OUT. I've seen xorg.conf files that define a X11 server for the monitor and a second for the TV, and files that use TwinView. Now, I did not really like the way first option worked, so tried the second.

Unfortunately, I had to reconfigure and restart my X11 each time my kids wanted to see Bob the Builder . I already knew about XRandR, and today finally had a look at it again, and got it to work without much trouble this time. (Lesson: if something does not work, let it rest and try again half a year later.)

For the googlers, this is what my xorg.conf `Screen` section now looks like:

```
Section "Screen"
 Identifier "Default Screen"
 Device  "NVIDIA Corporation NV18 [GeForce4 MX 4000 AGP 8x]"
 Monitor  "Hansol H711"
 DefaultDepth 24
 Option "TwinView" "on"
 Option "TwinViewOrientation" "clone"
 Option "SecondMonitorHorizSync"    "30-50"
 Option "SecondMonitorVertRefresh"   "60"
 Option  "MetaModes" "1280x1024,1280x1024;1024x768,1024x768"
 Option "TVStandard" "PAL-B"
 Option "TVOutFormat" "SVIDEO"
 Option "ConnectedMonitor" "crt, tv"
 SubSection "Display"
  Depth  24
  Modes  "1280x1024" "1024x768" "832x624" "800x600" "720x400" "640x480"
 EndSubSection
EndSection
```

And now, to switch resolution, I can just do:

```
sudo xrandr -s 1
# watch DVD
sudo xrandr -s 0
```

PS. Happy new year!