



# Eclipse Accessibility Tools Framework (ACTF) Status Update (June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008)

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# ACTF Timeline

May, 2007	•ACTF project was proposed to Eclipse.org
Jul, 2007	•ACTF project proposal page was published for community review
Sep, 2007	•ACTF project proposal was accepted
Oct, 2007	•ACTF project was launched •Initial contribution was started
Feb, 2008	•Most of initial contribution was completed
Mar, 2008	•Presentations and first F2F meeting at CSUN •Presentations at EclipseCon 2008
2Q, 2008	•Preparation for 0.1 release
3Q, 2008	•Build 0.1 release (planned)
4Q, 2008	•Build 0.2 release (planned)
1H, 2009	•Projected first release





# ACTF Release Plan

- Release plan

- ◆ 3Q, 2008: Build 0.1 release
  - Validation SDK
  - Visualization SDK
  - Alternative Interface SDK
- ◆ 4Q, 2008: Build 0.2 release
  - ODF Model Component (waiting for IP review)
  - Refinement of APIs
  - Complete Documentation
- ◆ 1H, 2009: Projected first release

- Enhancements currently under consideration include:

- ◆ Support additional applications and contents, e.g., Firefox, etc.
- ◆ Support new accessibility guidelines (e.g., WCAG 2.0, WAI-ARIA, etc.)



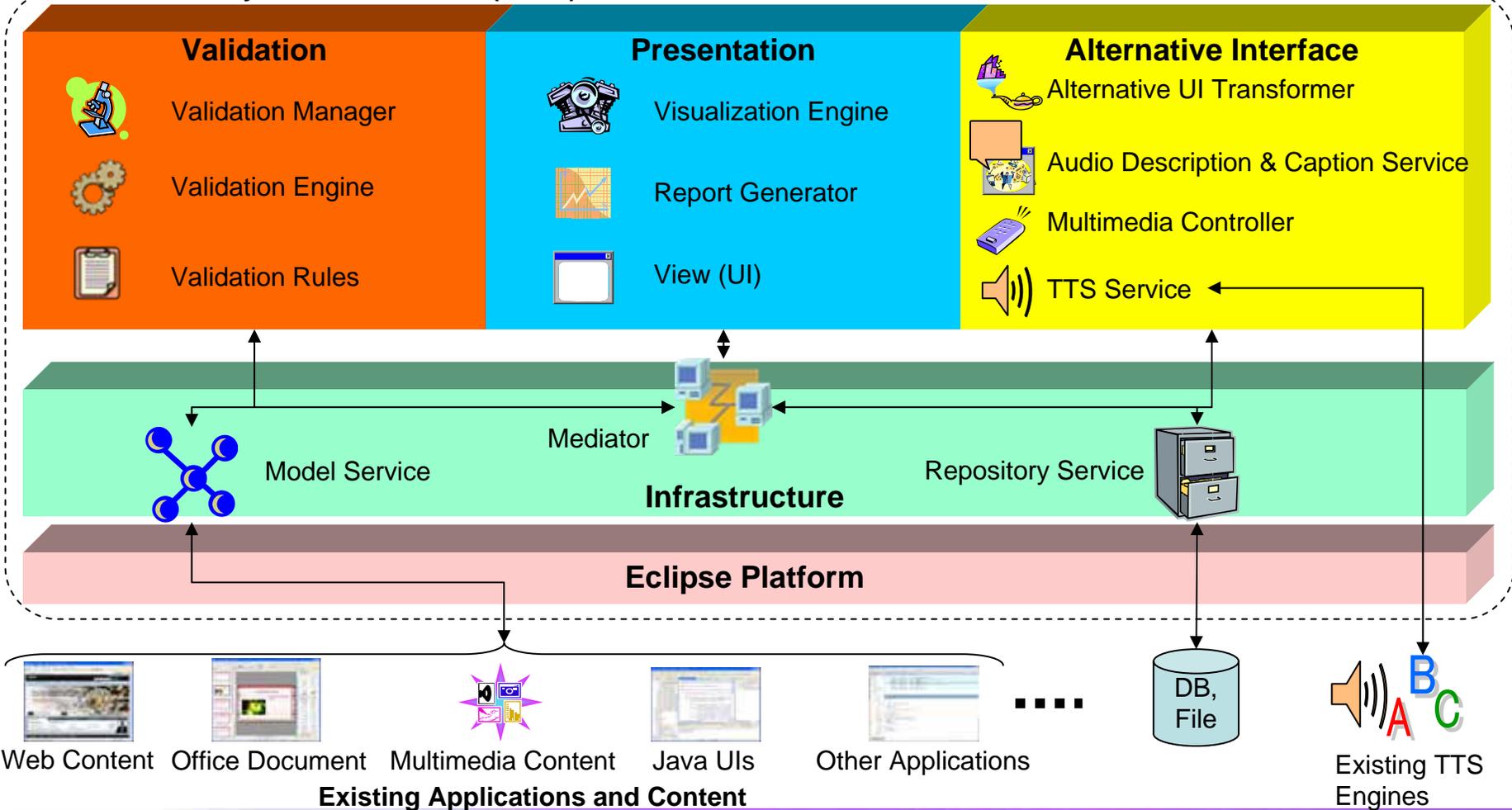


# Architecture

## Tools and Runtimes on top of ACTF



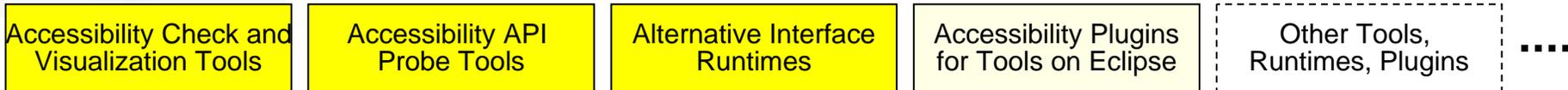
### Accessibility Tools Framework (ACTF)



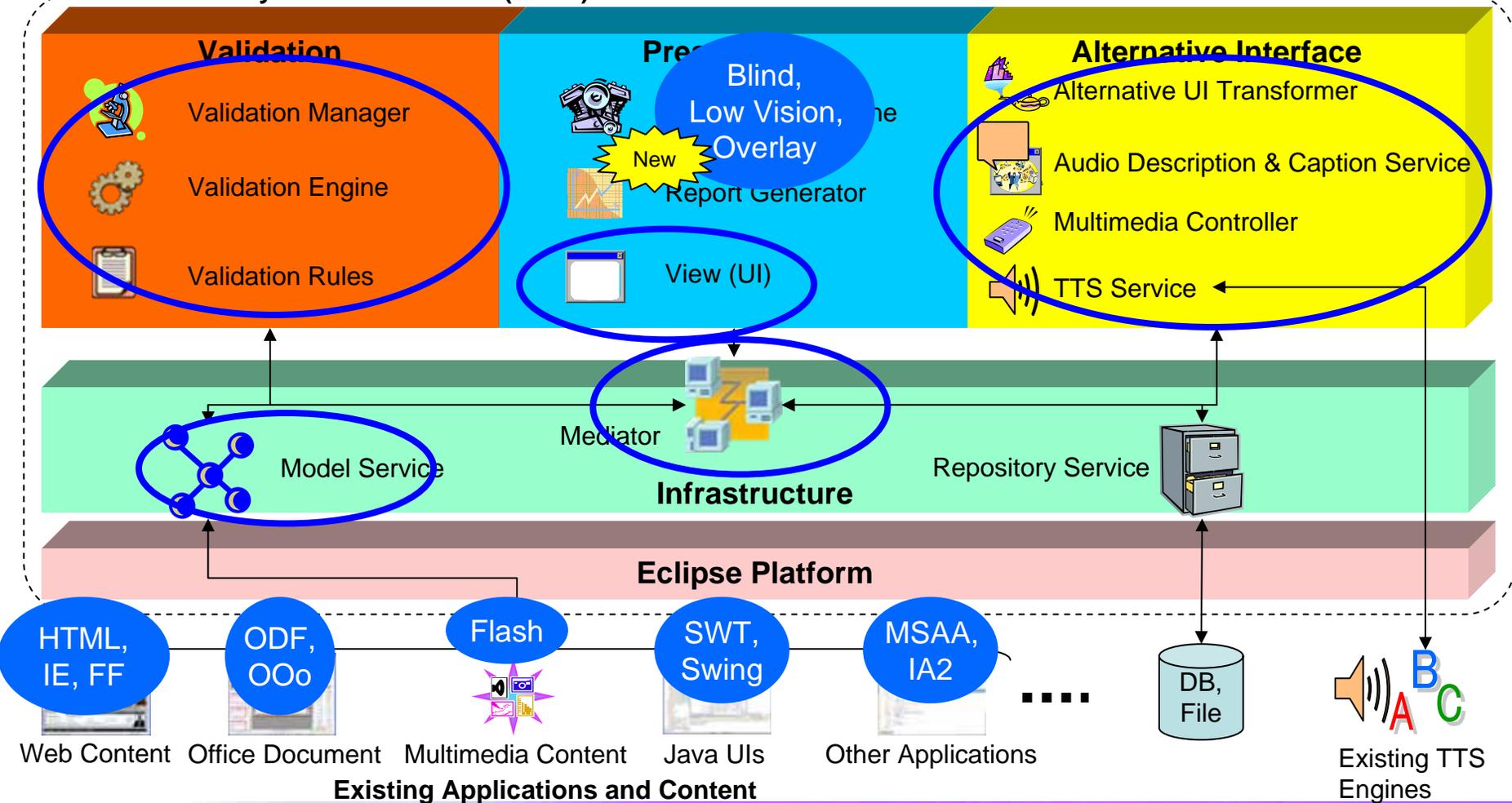


# Architecture (current status)

## Tools and Runtimes on top of ACTF



## Accessibility Tools Framework (ACTF)





# ACTF Exemplary Applications

- **AccProbe**

- ◆ Accessibility testing and debugging tool for applications. (pp.13-16)

- **aDesigner**

- ◆ Accessibility check and usability visualization tool. (pp.17-26)

- **aiBrowser**

- ◆ Alternative accessible interface for multimedia browsing. (pp.27-30)



New

- **Simple Visualizer**

- ◆ Example RCP application that includes DOM (Live/Source) access, Screenshot capture, Overlay visualization, etc. (pp.31-33)

<http://www.eclipse.org/actf/downloads/>



Q/A





# Backup





# Summary of major components



# ACTF Validation Engine

- Provide extensible accessibility validation features with initial support for:
  - ◆ Accessibility APIs such as Microsoft Active Accessibility (MSAA) and IAccessible2.
  - ◆ Eclipse SWT
  - ◆ Flash
  - ◆ HTML
  - ◆ Java Swing
  - ◆ OpenDocument Format (ODF)
- Developers can customize validation rules by using XML configuration files or through Java APIs.



# ACTF Visualization Engines

- Provide a visual representation of the PwD users' usability of content or applications.
  - ◆ Blind usability visualization engine
  - ◆ Image simulation engine
    - Low vision simulation
    - Presentation simulation
- Objective
  - ◆ Provide a tool to **learn** about real accessibility issues
    - Encourage authors/designers to check accessibility whenever they are authoring content.
  - ◆ Provide a tool to effectively **demonstrate** accessibility issues
    - Encourage website owners to renovate their pages to be accessible.



# ACTF Alternative Interface Part

- Provide middleware components for developing accessible alternative user interfaces.
  - ◆ **Multimedia controller**
    - Make multimedia content controllable with unified shortcut keys even if the content does not support keyboard operations.
    - Allow independent adjustment of each sound source.
  - ◆ **Audio description & caption service**
    - Provide audio descriptions and captions to multimedia content by using text metadata.
  - ◆ **Text-to-Speech service**
    - Provide interface to use TTS from the framework. (Currently, we support SAPI.)
  - ◆ **Alternative UI transformer**
    - Support improving the navigating and operating environments by using external metadata without changing the existing applications or content.



# ACTF AccProbe





# Accessibility Probe (AccProbe)

- Eclipse Rich-Client Product (RCP) application
  - ◆ Requires only a Java Runtime Environment (JRE) (5.0 or later)
  - ◆ Combines inspection, exploration, and event-monitoring functionality
  - ◆ Is fully accessible:
    - passes IBM's own internal guidelines for accessible products and services
    - Designed and used by a totally blind developer
- Built upon components of the ACTF as the result of a requirement for testing by IBM's own Software Group
  - ◆ Supports evaluation of both MSAA- and IAccessible2-enabled applications
  - ◆ Plan to support evaluation of Java Accessibility API and AT-SPI on Linux





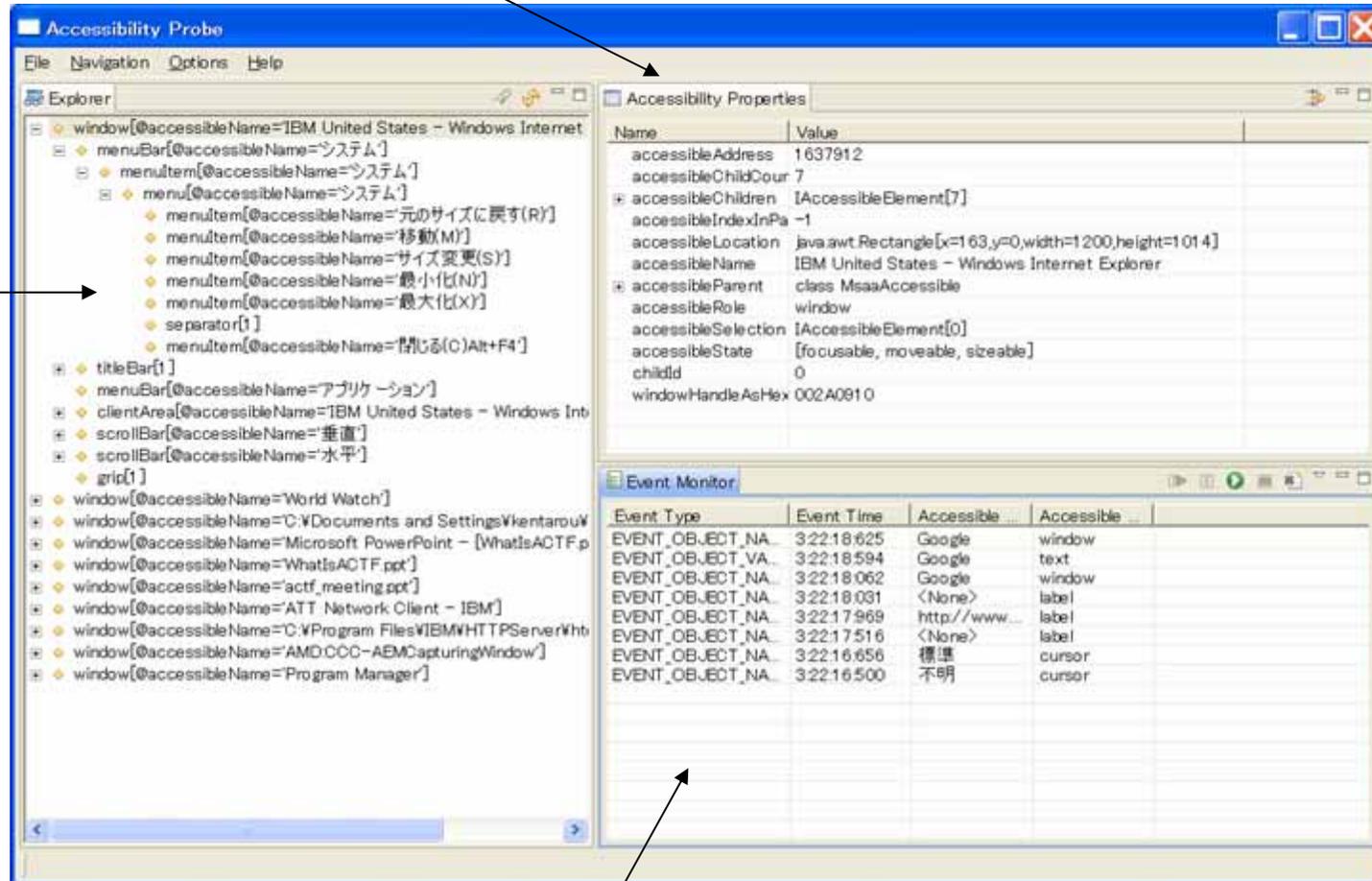
# AccProbe Overview

- Three views
  - ◆ Explorer View – for navigating among the hierarchy of accessible objects
  - ◆ Properties View - for viewing properties (both simple and nested) of accessible objects and invoking methods on these objects
  - ◆ Event Monitor - for monitoring the events fired by accessible objects
- Inspecting/monitoring an application
  - ◆ On startup, Explorer View is populated with all top-level windows (except AccProbe)
  - ◆ Navigate through objects by using the view as a standard tree or via tracking
  - ◆ Properties View is automatically updated
  - ◆ Window being monitored is the top-level window that is “selected” in Explorer
  - ◆ Properties and events displayed depend upon accessibility architecture of underlying accessible object



# AccProbe

**Properties View** - for viewing properties (both simple and nested) of accessible objects and invoking methods on these objects



**Explorer View** - for navigating among the hierarchy of accessible objects

**Event Monitor** - for monitoring the events fired by accessible objects





# ACTF aDesigner



# ACTF aDesigner (Accessibility Designer)

- Exemplary Tool on top of ACTF Visualization component
- Functions
  - ◆ **Visualization of blind usability**
    - Reaching time and reading text visualization
    - Integration with a voice browser engine
  - ◆ **Simulation of low vision**
    - Weak eyesight, color vision deficiencies, cataracts.
    - Detect color combination problems.
  - ◆ **Presentation simulation**
    - Check visibility of presentation slides in large conference rooms.
  - ◆ **Checking compliance items from the usability point of view**
    - Appropriateness of ALT texts and skip-navigation links, etc.
    - WCAG, Section 508, IBM CI162, JIS, etc.





# Large Difference between Sighted and the Blind

Sighted

Blind



[IBM.]  
[Skip to main content.]United States  
(Start of form 1.)  
[Text.]  
[Search: Image Button.]  
(End of form 1.)  
Home | Products & services | Support & downloads | My account  
Select country / region  
(Start of form 2.)  
(Start of select menu with 10 items.)  
Select one[Selected.]  
Canada[Off.]  
China[Off.]  
France[Off.]  
Germany[Off.]  
Italy[Off.]  
Japan[Off.]  
United Kingdom[Off.]  
United States[Off.]  
Full country list[Off.]

Eye-movement-based exploration with visual cues

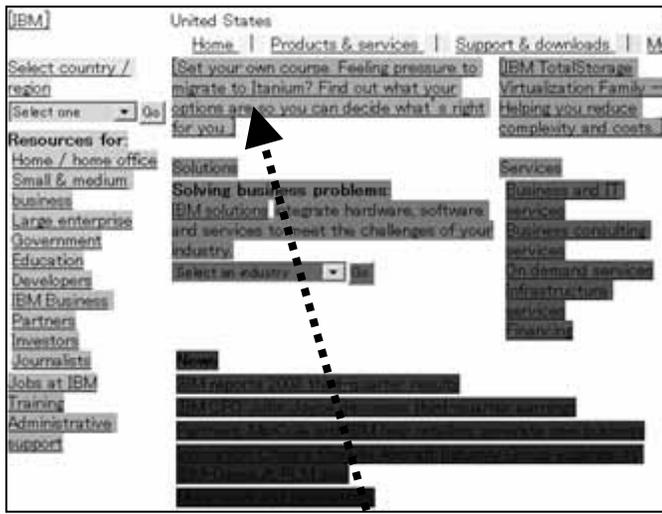
Keyboard-based exploration without visual cues



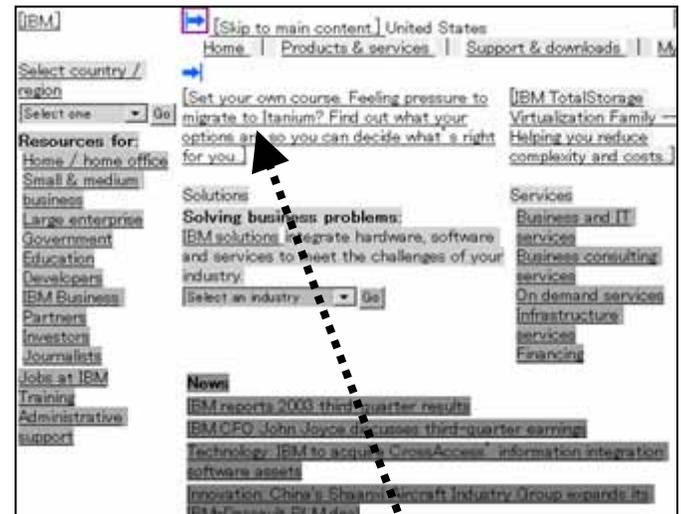


# Blind Usability Visualization

- Objective: “Visualize the non-visible blind usability”
- Approach
  - ◆ Reaching time visualization
    - Simulate voice browser and users’ behavior to calculate reaching time to each element in a page
    - Present the reaching times to each part of a page by using background colors.
  - ◆ Reading text presentation
    - Presenting the text information extracted or generated by standard voice browsers, while retaining the fundamental visual layouts.



Insert “Skip-to-main” link



More than **45 seconds** to get to the main content.

Only **3 seconds** to get to the main content.



# Blind Usability Visualization Example

Original



Inaccessible



With skip-link



Easy to find main contents

With heading Tags



- Headers can use as TOC
- Easy to navigate through the page





# Blind Visualization

Visualize the experience of blind users

The screenshot shows the IBM website with a 'Blind' visualization overlay. The overlay highlights elements with different background colors and includes a '3 seconds from top' indicator. Below the website is a 'Summary report' window showing an 'Excellent!' rating and a 'Detailed report' window listing accessibility issues.

All Errors (184)	H	C	LI	N	WCAG	Sect.	JS	Line	Problem Description
Error (1)					P3: 13.6		5.2(a)	337	Consider providing more intra-page links or
User Check (89)					P3: 10.5		5.3(g)	226	Include non-link, printable characters betwe
Information (94)					P3: 10.5		5.3(g)	285	Include non-link, printable characters betwe
					P3: 10.5		5.3(g)	297	Include non-link, printable characters betwe
					P2: 33		5.2(b)	66	Use style sheets to control layout and pres
					P2: 33		5.2(a)	70	Use style sheets to control layout and pres

Text content that will be read out by a voice browser is visualized in this area.

Lighter background color indicates that it takes less time to reach there by using voice browsers.

The balloon message shows the exact time to reach the element on which the mouse cursor is placed.

Darker background color indicates that it takes more time to reach there by using voice browsers.

The overall page rating is calculated from:

- 1: Compliance to accessibility guidelines
- 2: Navigability (ease of navigation within the page)
- 3: Listenability (ease of listening)

The original Web page which sighted people view.

Summary Report

Detailed Report

The problems of the selected category are listed.





# Low Vision Simulation

Simulating the experience of users who have low vision

The original Web page which people without low vision view.

Summary Report

Some parts of this page use color combinations that might be difficult to distinguish from each other.

Summary Report

Too small and fixed size font: 2

Overall rating ★★★★★

Problem Map

Low vision simulation. In this example, Color Vision Deficiency (Deutan) and cataract are simulated.

Problem map that indicates the positions of problems.

Setting panel (Eyesight, color vision deficiencies, crystalline lens transparency)

Low Vision

Eyesight: 20/200, 20/40, 20/20

Color Vision Deficiency: Protan, Deutan, Tritan

After simulation: [Color calibration charts]



Check visibility of presentation slides in large conference rooms

The screenshot shows the 'OpenDocument Accessibility - aDesigner' application. The main window displays a presentation slide titled 'Pie Chart Example' with a pie chart and a list of font sizes: 'Large font (32)', 'Medium font (24)', and 'Small font (16)'. The application has three tabs: 'Blind', 'LowVision', and 'Presentation'. The 'Presentation' tab is active and shows three sub-views: 'Small Meeting Room', 'Large Meeting Room', and 'Auditorium'. A red dashed oval highlights the 'Auditorium' tab, with a red arrow pointing to a smaller, less legible version of the slide shown in the 'Auditorium' view. Below the main window, there is a diagram illustrating the geometry of the simulation. It shows a person's silhouette on the right, looking at a screen on the left. The screen height is labeled 'Screen height' and the distance from the person to the screen is labeled 'Distance from screen'. A green shaded area represents the field of view from the person's perspective.

## Small Meeting Room



## Large Meeting Room



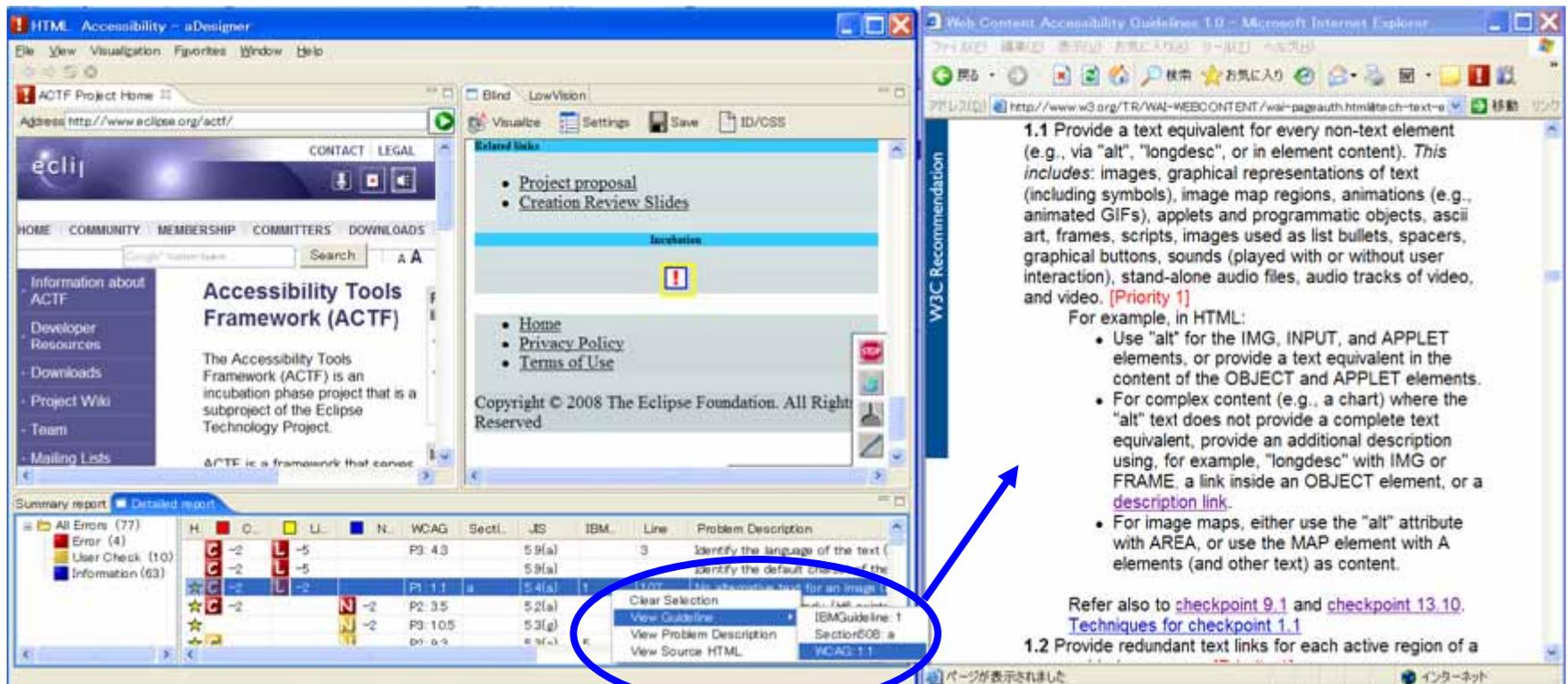
## Auditorium



The screenshot shows the IBM Business services website with an accessibility error list at the bottom. A yellow callout box points to the error list, stating: "When a user selects an error in the problem list, the corresponding error position is highlighted." The error list contains the following data:

Summary	C...	L...	N...	WCAG	Secti...	.JS	IBM...	Line	Problem Description
All Errors (208)									
Error (4)									
User Check (142)									
Information (62)									
	C	L	N	P1: 6.3	I	5.4(e)	6		This page has more than ten links wh
	C	L		P1: 1.1	a, n	5.4(a), ...	7	107	No alternative text for an image butt
	C	L		P1: 1.1	a, n	5.4(a), ...	7	135	No alternative text for an image butt
	C	L		P1: 1.1	a, n	5.4(a), ...	7	154	No alternative text for an image butt
	C		N	P2: 12.3		5.3(b)	7	85	Consider grouping long lists of select
	C		N	P2: 12.3		5.3(b)	7	116	Consider grouping long lists of select

The visual synchronization tool on the right shows the corresponding error positions on the website. A red box highlights the error position for the error at line 107, which is the first instance of "No alternative text for an image button." The error list also shows other instances of this error at lines 135 and 154.



The screenshot shows the 'HTML Accessibility - aDesigner' application. The main window displays the Eclipse website with a 'Related links' section. A context menu is open over a highlighted error in the 'Related links' section. The menu options are: 'Clear Selection', 'View Guideline', 'View Problem Description', and 'View Source HTML'. A blue arrow points from the 'View Guideline' option to a separate browser window titled 'Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0'. The browser window displays the '1.1 Provide a text equivalent for every non-text element' guideline, which includes a list of examples and a 'Refer also to' section.

**1.1 Provide a text equivalent for every non-text element**  
 (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content). *This includes:* images, graphical representations of text (including symbols), image map regions, animations (e.g., animated GIFs), applets and programmatic objects, ascii art, frames, scripts, images used as list bullets, spacers, graphical buttons, sounds (played with or without user interaction), stand-alone audio files, audio tracks of video, and video. **[Priority 1]**

For example, in HTML:

- Use "alt" for the IMG, INPUT, and APPLET elements, or provide a text equivalent in the content of the OBJECT and APPLET elements.
- For complex content (e.g., a chart) where the "alt" text does not provide a complete text equivalent, provide an additional description using, for example, "longdesc" with IMG or FRAME, a link inside an OBJECT element, or a [description link](#).
- For image maps, either use the "alt" attribute with AREA, or use the MAP element with A elements (and other text) as content.

Refer also to [checkpoint 9.1](#) and [checkpoint 13.10, Techniques for checkpoint 1.1](#)

**1.2 Provide redundant text links for each active region of a**

Users can visit corresponding Guideline/Technique pages by using context menu



# ACTF aiBrowser



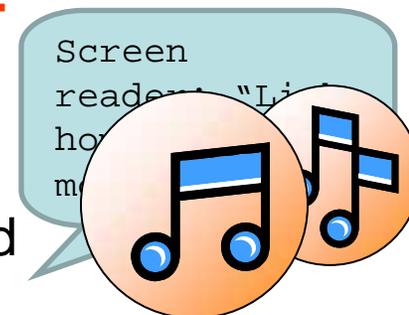


# Accessibility Issues of Multimedia Content

- The emergence of multimedia content
  - ◆ Entertainment, News, Education, E-government, ...
  - ◆ **Most of these content are inaccessible for the blind...**

- Major issues

1. Audio of a streaming video **interferes** with a synthesized assistive voice.
2. Streaming videos do not provide **audio descriptions** for non-visual users.
3. **Dynamically changing visual interfaces** can't be perceived non-visually. (E.g. mouse only operation)
4. The **work** to make multimedia content accessible for screen readers is too expensive.





# ACTF aiBrowser

## Exemplary tool on top of ACTF AI Component

### 1. Direct audio control

- ◆ Allow users to increase or lower the volume, stop or play, and control audio speed by using simple keyboard commands.

### 2. User interface simplification

- ◆ Structurally simplify interfaces by converting dynamic visual interfaces into static text-based interfaces

### 3. Video descriptions with text

- ◆ Infrastructure to provide video descriptions at low cost

### 4. Workload reduction

- ◆ Drastically reduce costs to make existing Flash and AJAX content accessible based on new metadata mechanisms.

“The first multimedia browser for the blind”



- A tool that enables multimedia content to be enjoyed by people with visual impairments -

1. Enable users to adjust volume of an individual source  
-to identify assistive voice  
-to listen to different sound sources

IBM TV  
IT Solutions



Synthesized assistive voice of screen reader



Behind the speaker, a picture of Jazz ...

29 button  
31 button

Meta data

Go to next chapter  
Play previous movie

3. Enables users to control multimedia by using pre-defined shortcut keys.

Play:	Ctrl+P
Stop:	Ctrl+S
Volume up:	Ctrl+J
Volume down:	Ctrl+K
...	

2. Provide audio caption by using text metadata & TTS

4. Provide alternative text information by using external metadata.



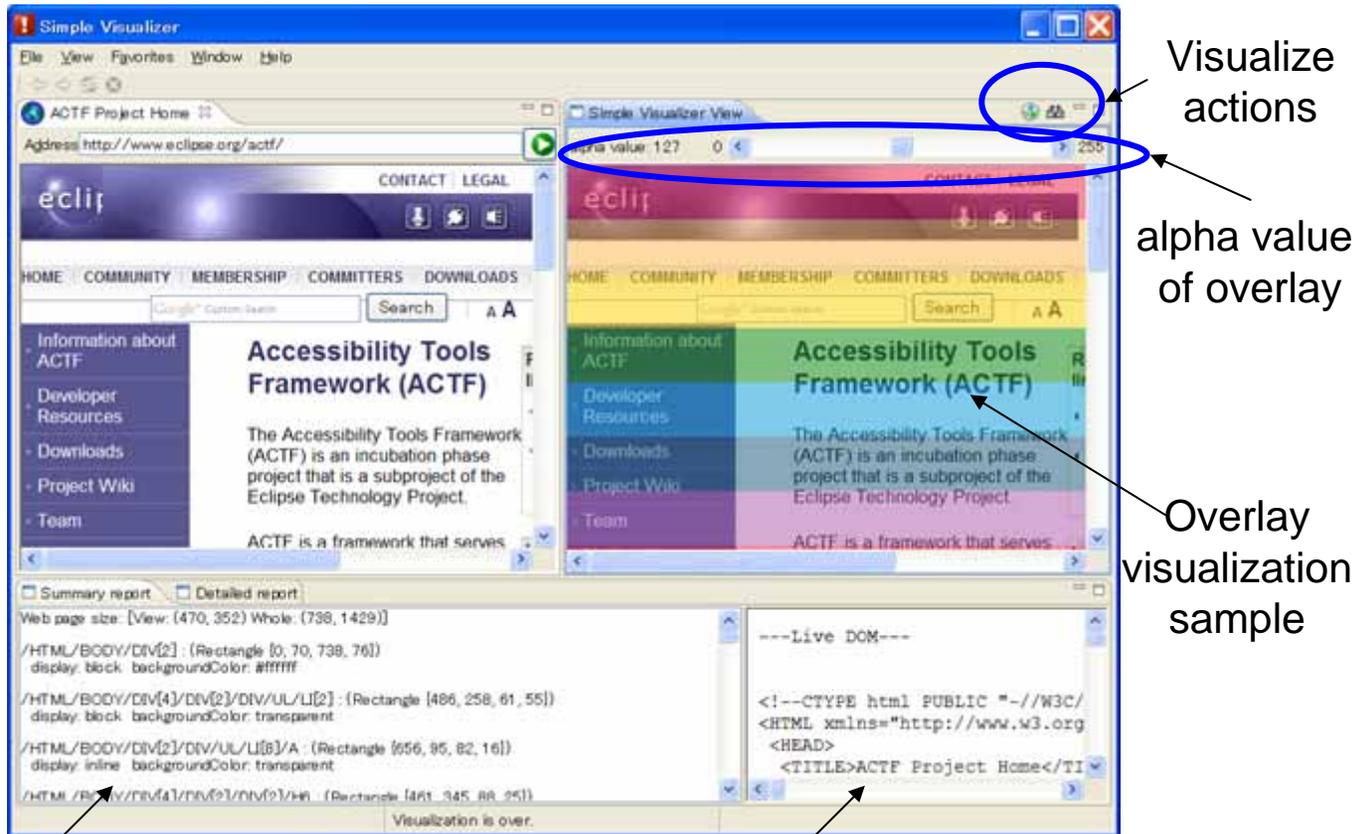
# ACTF Simple Visualizer





# ACTF Simple Visualizer

- Example RCP application that includes DOM (Live/Source) access, Screenshot capture, Overlay visualization, etc.



StyleInfo obtained from Live DOM

HTML DOM (Live/Source)





# How to Try “Simple Visualizer”

## 1. Create workspace based on aDesigner build instruction

- ◆ <http://www.eclipse.org/actf/downloads/tools/aDesigner/build.php>

## 2. Check out 2 plugins from Eclipse CVS

- ◆ Repository path: /cvsroot/technology
- ◆ path of plugins
  - `org.eclipse.actf/org.eclipse.actf.examples/features/org.eclipse.actf.examples.simplevisualizer-feature`
  - `org.eclipse.actf/org.eclipse.actf.examples/plugins/org.eclipse.actf.examples.simplevisualizer`
- ◆ (see <http://www.eclipse.org/actf/contributors.php> for more details)

## 3. Launch Simple Visualizer

- ◆ Visit `org.eclipse.actf.examples.simplevisualizer`
- ◆ Open `simplevisualizer.product`
- ◆ Select “Launch an Eclipse application”

