



Eclipse Accessibility Tools Framework (ACTF) Status Update (June 26th, 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 Check and Visualization Tools

Accessibility API Probe Tools

Alternative Interface Runtimes

Accessibility Plugins for Tools on Eclipse

Other Tools, Runtimes, Plugins

....

Accessibility Tools Framework (ACTF)

Validation



Validation Manager



Validation Engine



Validation Rules

Presentation



Visualization Engine



Report Generator



View (UI)

Alternative Interface



Alternative UI Transformer



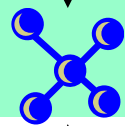
Audio Description & Caption Service



Multimedia Controller



TTS Service



Model Service

Mediator



Repository Service



Infrastructure

Eclipse Platform



Web Content



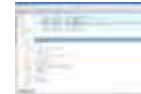
Office Document



Multimedia Content

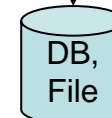


Java UIs



Other Applications

....



DB, File



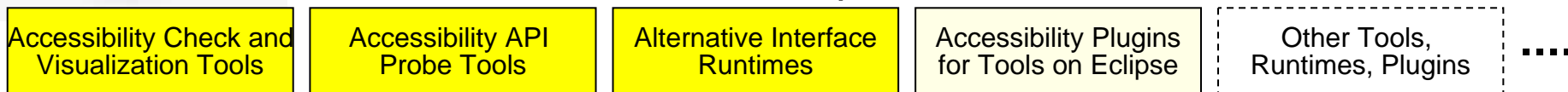
Existing TTS Engines

Existing Applications and Content

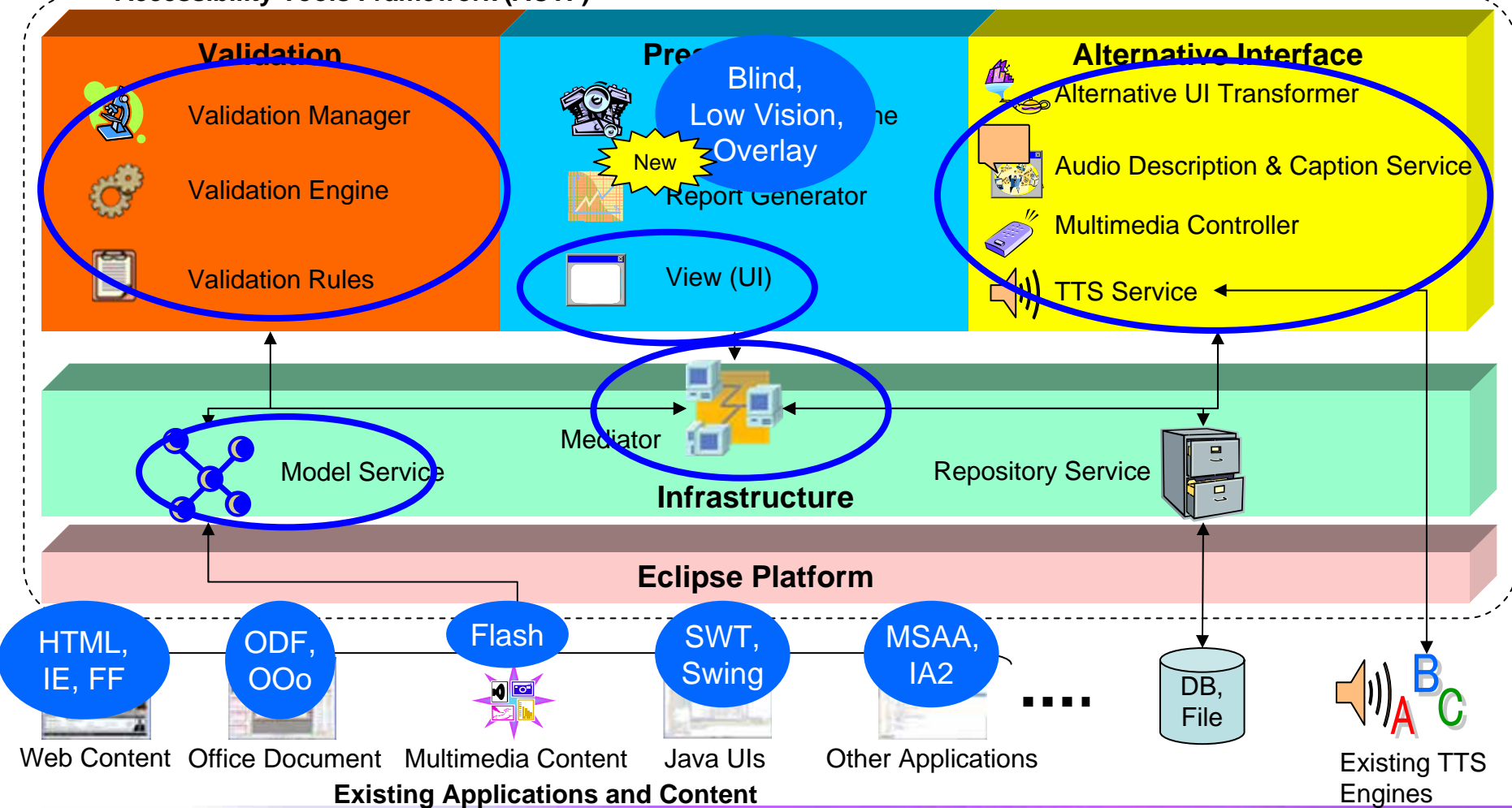


Architecture (current status)

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)



- **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





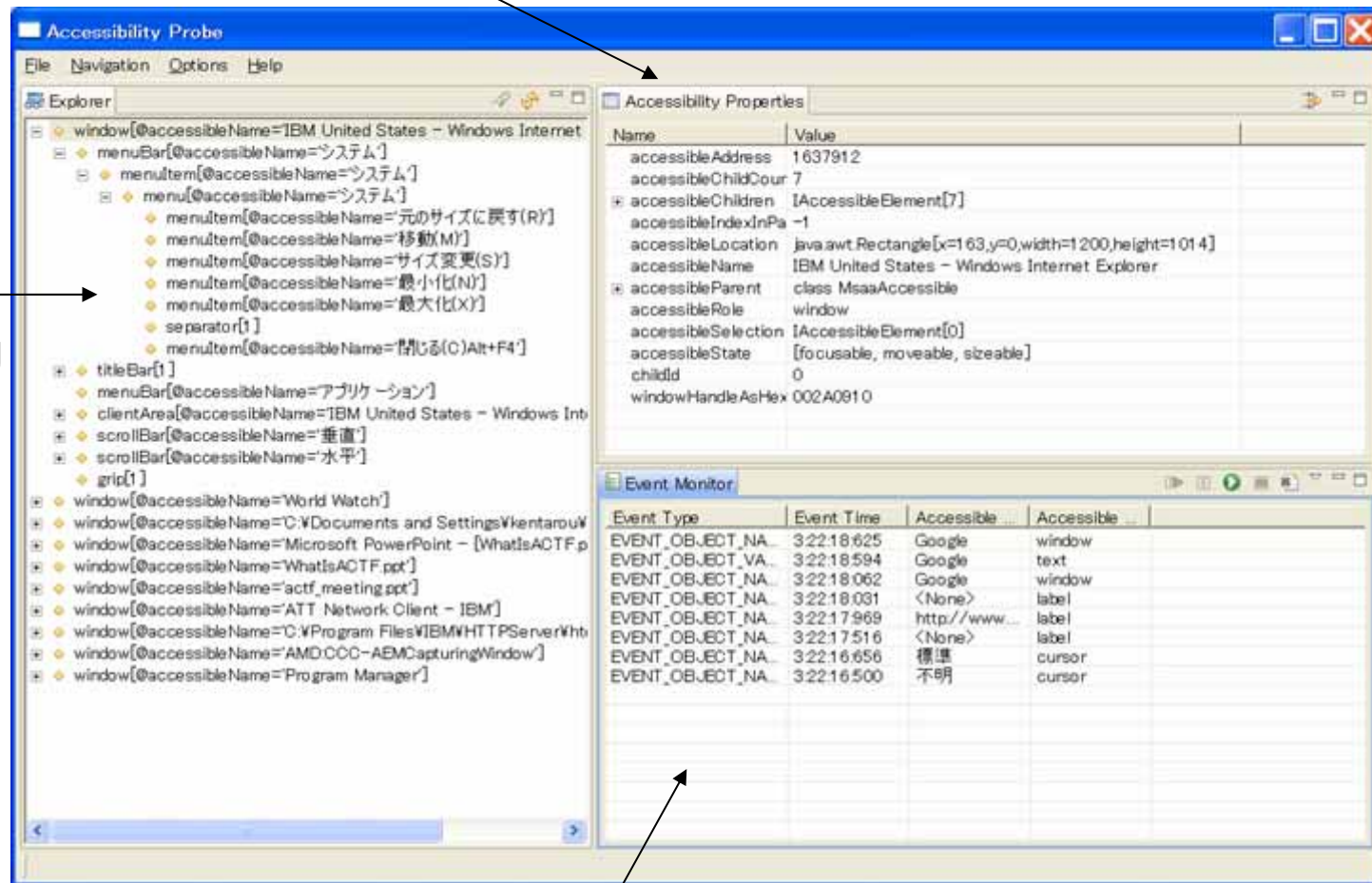
AccProbe Overview

- 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



Eye-movement-based exploration
with visual cues

Blind

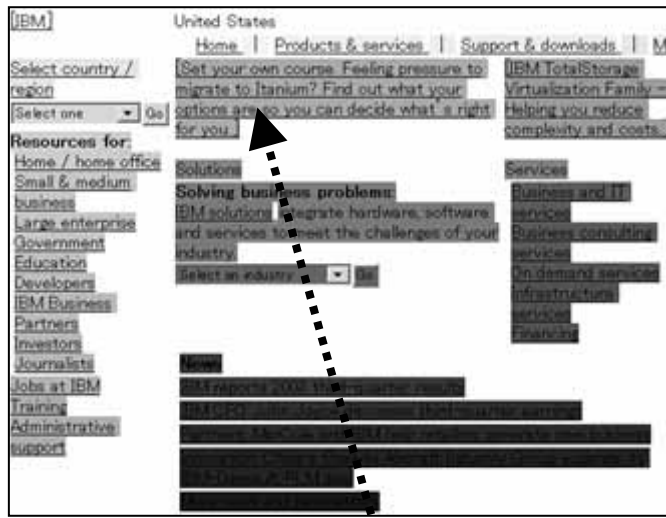
[IBM.]
[Skip to main content.]United States
(Start of form 1.)
[Text.]
[Search: Image Button.]
(End of form 1.)
Home | Products & services | Support & downloads | My account
Select country / region
(Start of form 2.)
(Start of select menu with 10 items.)
Select one[Selected.]
Canada[Off.]
China[Off.]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

Keyboard-based exploration
without visual cues

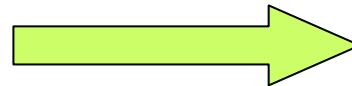


Blind Usability Visualization

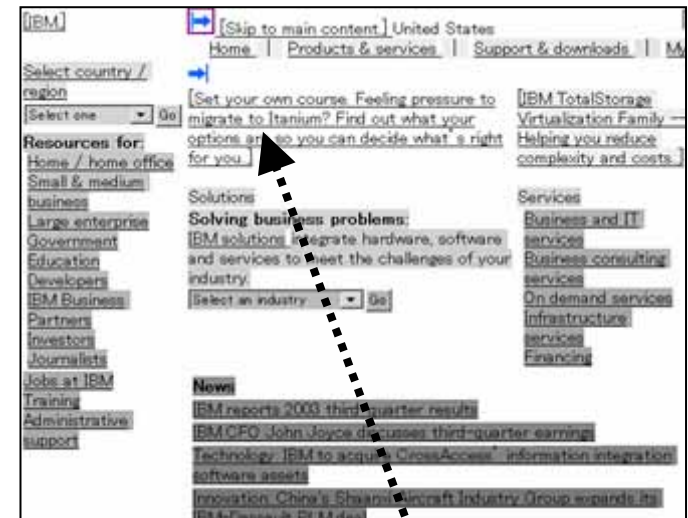
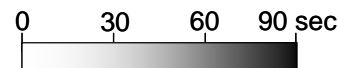
- Objective: “Visualize the non-visible blind usability”
- Approach
 - ♦ Reaching time visualization
 - Simulate voice browser and users’ behavior to calculate reaching time to each element in a page
 - Present the reaching times to each part of a page by using background colors.
 - ♦ Reading text presentation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



Insert “Skip-to-main” link



Reaching time color:



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

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

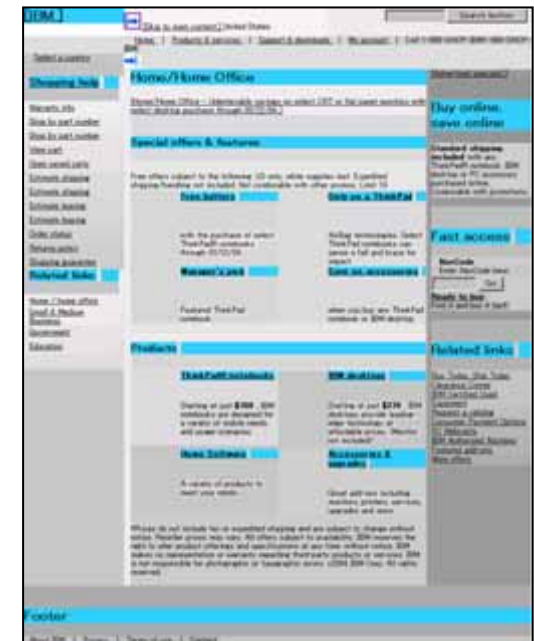


Blind Usability Visualization Example

Original



With heading Tags



Inaccessible



With skip-link



Easy to find main contents

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



Blind Visualization

Visualize the experience of blind users

The screenshot shows the IBM United States website in a web browser. The left pane displays the original website, and the right pane shows the 'Blind' visualization. The 'Blind' pane highlights elements that will be read out by a voice browser. A yellow speech bubble points to the main content area, stating: 'Text content that will be read out by a voice browser is visualized in this area.' Another yellow speech bubble points to the lighter background color of the main content area, stating: 'Lighter background color indicates that it takes less time to reach there by using voice browsers.' A third yellow speech bubble points to the darker background color of the navigation bar, stating: 'Darker background color indicates that it takes more time to reach there by using voice browsers.' A fourth yellow speech bubble points to a balloon message showing '3 seconds from top', stating: 'The balloon message shows the exact time to reach the element on which the mouse cursor is placed.' A fifth yellow speech bubble points to the overall page rating, stating: '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)'. A sixth yellow speech bubble points to the 'Summary Report' section, stating: 'Summary Report'. A seventh yellow speech bubble points to the 'Detailed Report' section, stating: 'Detailed Report'. A eighth yellow speech bubble points to the 'Problems of the selected category are listed' section, stating: 'The problems of the selected category are listed.'

HTML - aDesigner

File Display(V) Tool Favorites Window Help

IBM United States

Address: http://www.ibm.com/us/

IBM

Home Products Services & industry solutions Support & d

this could get messy

for new battles, alliances and intrigues

media creators, distributors and consumers

out the fight on media's mean streets

Innovation goes primetime

The coming media divide heats up

Learn about Shop for Get support

Business consulting Downloads and drivers

Collaborative for industry IT services

Summary report Detailed report

Excellent!

This page is well structured and might be easy for blind users to navigate.

Congratulations! This page is completely compliant with guidelines.

Good

Compliance

Listenability Navigability

Summary report Detailed report

All Errors (184)

Error (1)

User Check (89)

Information (94)

	H	C	U	N	WCAG	Secl	JIS	Line	Problem Description
☆				N	-10	P3: 13.6	52(a)	337	Consider providing more intra-page links or
☆				N	-2	P3: 10.5	53(g)	226	Include non-link, printable characters betwe
☆				N	-2	P3: 10.5	53(g)	285	Include non-link, printable characters betwe
☆				N	-2	P3: 10.5	53(g)	297	Include non-link, printable characters betwe
☆				N	-2	P2: 33	52(b)	66	Use style sheets to control layout and pres
☆				N	-2	P2: 33	52(b)	70	Use style sheets to control layout and pres



Low Vision Simulation

Simulating the experience of users who have low vision

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

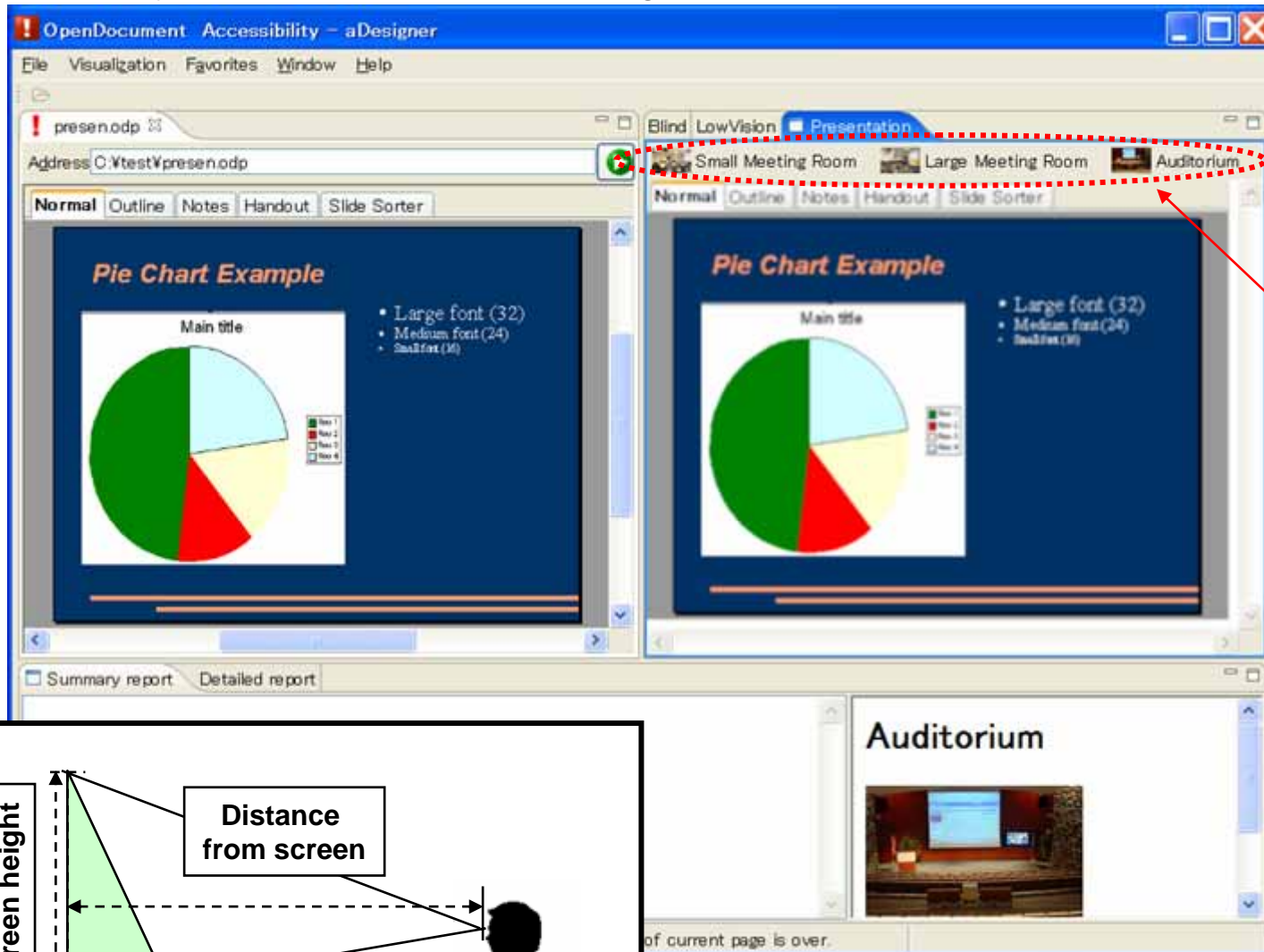
Problem map that
indicates the positions
of problems.

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



Presentation Simulation

Check visibility of presentation slides in large conference rooms



Small Meeting Room



Large Meeting Room



Auditorium





Visual Synchronization

When a user selects an error in the problem list, the corresponding error position is highlighted.

Visualize Settings Save ID/CSS

Blind LowVision

23 seconds from top

No alternative text for an image button.

By business need

By top Business Partner

C...	LI...	N...	WCAG	Secti...	JIS	IBM...	Line	Problem Description
			P1: 6.3	I	5.4(e)	6		This page has more than ten links wh
			P1: 1.1	a, n	5.4(a), ...	7	107	No alternative text for an image butt
			P1: 1.1	a, n	5.4(a), ...	7	135	No alternative text for an image butt
			P1: 1.1	a, n	5.4(a), ...	7	154	No alternative text for an image butt
			P2: 12.3		5.3(b)	7	85	Consider grouping long lists of select
			P2: 12.3		5.3(b)	7	116	Consider grouping long lists of select





Synchronization with Guideline/Technique pages

The screenshot shows the Eclipse IDE with the Accessibility - aDesigner window. The browser window displays the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0. A context menu is open over a table row, with 'View Guideline' selected. An arrow points from the menu to the corresponding guideline text in the browser window.

Table Data:

H	C	O	L	N	WCAG	Sect.	IS	IBM	Line	Problem Description
					P3: 4.3		5.9(a)		3	Identify the language of the text (
							5.9(a)			Identify the default character of the
					P1: 1.1	a	5.4(a)	1		Identify the default character of the
					P2: 3.5		5.2(a)			Identify the default character of the
					P3: 10.5		5.3(g)			Identify the default character of the
					P3: 6.3		5.3(a)			Identify the default character of the

Context Menu:

- Clear Selection
- View Guideline
- View Problem Description
- View Source HTML

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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



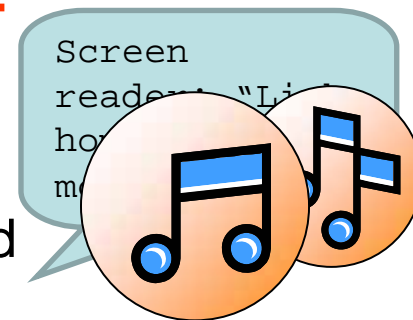


Accessibility Issues of Multimedia Content

- 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”





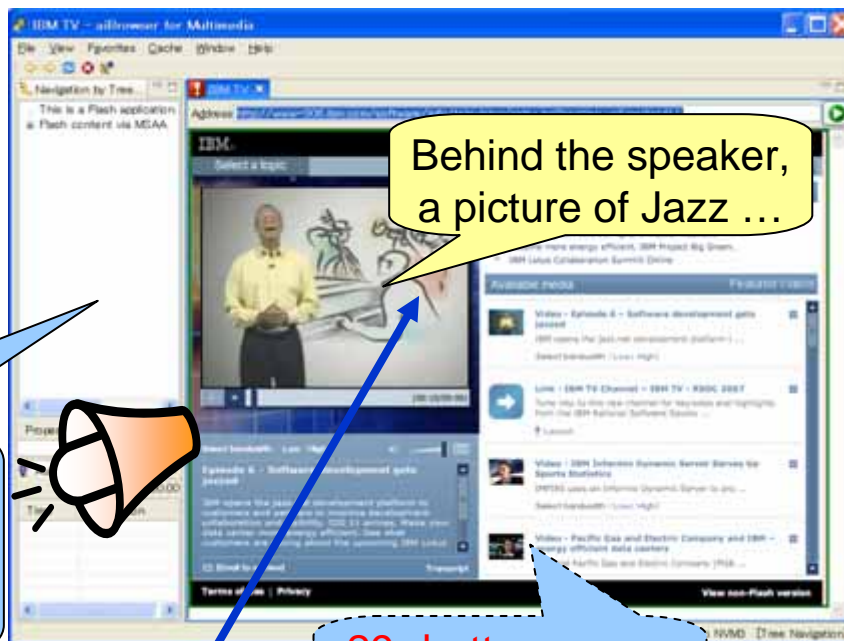
aiBrowser

- 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



Behind the speaker,
a picture



ACTF Simple Visualizer





ACTF Simple Visualizer

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

The screenshot shows the ACTF Simple Visualizer application window. The main view displays a web page titled "ACTF Project Home" with a sidebar and main content area. The page is overlaid with a semi-transparent visualization. Annotations include:

- Visualize actions**: Points to a button in the top right corner of the application window.
- alpha value of overlay**: Points to a slider control in the top right corner of the application window.
- Overlay visualization sample**: Points to the semi-transparent overlay on the web page.
- StyleInfo obtained from Live DOM**: Points to the "Summary report" section at the bottom left, which displays CSS style information for various elements.
- HTML DOM (Live/Source)**: Points to the "Detailed report" section at the bottom right, which displays the raw HTML source code of the page.

Visual information from the "Summary report" section:

```
Web page size: [View: (470, 352) Whole: (738, 1429)]  
/HTML/BODY/DIV[2] : (Rectangle [0, 70, 738, 76])  
display: block; backgroundColor: #ffffff  
/HTML/BODY/DIV[4]/DIV[2]/DIV[UL/LI[2]] : (Rectangle [486, 258, 61, 55])  
display: block; backgroundColor: transparent  
/HTML/BODY/DIV[2]/DIV[UL/LI[3]/A : (Rectangle [656, 95, 82, 16])  
display: inline; backgroundColor: transparent  
/HTML/BODY/DIV[4]/DIV[2]/DIV[UL/LI[3]/A : (Rectangle [461, 345, 88, 25])
```

Visual information from the "Detailed report" section:

```
---Live DOM---  
<!--CTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C/  
<HTML xmlns="http://www.w3.org  
<HEAD>  
<TITLE>ACTF Project Home</TI
```




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”

