

# Web Accessibility on Spanish Universities

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#### Introduction

- Data Set Study
- Description of the Test
- Process of Analysis
- Conclusions





## Introduction

#### Spanish law mandatory:

- Enact on 2002, 11th July and modified on 2007, 28th December
- Web sites of Spanish public institutions must be accessible.
- Companies that offer services on Spain with important economic and social impact must offer an accessible Web site.
- The law indicates the standard to follow:
  - □ UNE 139803, which is based on WCAG 1.0.
  - □ It is necessary to obtain an AA level to fulfill the law.

Are the Spanish universities respecting the laws?





## Data Set Study:

# Universities

#### Spain has 77 universities:

- Taking into account public and private institutions.
- The final scope of the current project is to analyze the complete set.
  - This study only covers the subset awarded with the "Campus of International Excellence".
  - This subset represents the 25.97% of the universities.
- "Campus of International Excellence"
  - Program of the Spanish Minister of Science and Education.
  - Awarded the best campus projects to increase the level of:
    - Research.
    - Studies.
  - Only 20 universities were finalist.





# Data Set Study: Web Pages Selected

- 6 sections selected from each main Web Site.
  - Home.
  - News Page.
  - Staff Section.
  - Directory.
  - List of Studies.
  - Study detail.
  - Total of 111 Web Pages:
  - All provided by different Content Manager Systems.
  - Different languages used.
    - HTML, XHTML, etc.





As a first step of the project we analyzed the dataset in an automatic way.

Verifying the UNE 139803:

de Barcelona

- Very similar to WCAG 1.0.
- TAW software made by the CTIC Foundation (W3C Spain Office is a part of this foundation).
- To obtain an AA level with the WCAG 1.0 we have to respect the standard of (X)HTML and CSS.
  - To test (X)HTML we used the W3C Online Validator.
  - The CSS was made with the W3C Online Validator.



# Process of Analyze: (X)HTML Grammar

- First point checked.
  - If a Web page does not respect the grammar it cannot be valid.
  - It is very difficult to respect the accessibility normative if we do not write correct code.
- This point has two main actors:
  - **Developers** of the code for the visualization with CMS.
    - Re-use of the code: repetition of errors in different pages.
  - **The Editor** who introduces the content of the site.
    - They use the code made by the developers: propagate the errors.
    - They do not need to know HTML: can be used without knowing the impact on the correctness of the Web Site.





# Process of Analyze: (X)HTML Grammar

88.49% of the Web pages of the Universities have grammar errors.
 Only 13.51% are accessible!



- High number of errors by page:
  - 34.37 errors in average.
  - Up to 70.37 if we only take into account pages with errors.



## Process of Analyze: CSS Grammar

- It is also compulsory to obtain the accessibility AA Level.
- This point only involves developers who write the CSS styles.
  - Difficulties to obtain the same visualization with all the browsers:
    - Hacks.
  - Complex layout due to a visual design made without taking into account accessibility issues.





# Process of Analyze: CSS Grammar

33.33% of the pages have a standard CSS.
Better situation than the HTML test.
It excludes the 2/3 parts of the total set.





# Process of Analyze: Accessibility Test

- We test the complete normative:
  - Test for all levels: A, AA and AAA.
  - We do not test the accessibility of the layout or the content.
    - This will be the next step.
- This point only involves all the staff related to the Web Site.
  - From directives to the editors, they have to think in accessibility.
    - Accessibility policy and formation plan.





## Process of Analyze: Accessibility Test

- 4.50% of Web pages are accessible!
  It means they obtain the A and AA levels.
  5.49% pass the AA level.
  - 1.51% pass the AA level but not the A level.





Process of Analyze: Complete Validation

# HTML test + CSS test: Only the 13.51% of Web pages pass the test.

# HTML test + CSS test + Accessibility test:

## Only the 0.9% is accessible!





In this process, we have tested the accomplishment of the Spanish Laws testing:

- HTML grammar.
- CSS grammar.
- WACG 1.0, base of the Spanish normative UNE 139803.
- The result shows a very poor level of compliance:
  - Only the 4.50% of the Web Sites can be called accessible.
    - Only if we take into account accessible parameters.

### Only 0.9% of Web pages of the Spanish Universities fulfill the law!



Conclusions



# Thank you for your attention.

#### Juan Manuel Fernández Ramírez





# Smart-phones and Tables Apps New Ways to Browse Web

#### Panel Session: Internet of Tomorrow: Is it for Everybody?

Juan Manuel Fernández Ramírez







# Use of Smartphones

The use of the classic Web is growing up slowly:

- The use mobile app to access to the information on the Web is growing exponentially.
  - A mobile app is not a Web browser.

(Cisco estimates based on CAIDA publications, 2010)

- The situation on USA at the first three months of the year:
  - 34% of the mobile handsets sold in the first three months of 2010 were Smart-phones.
  - 40% of American adults users the cell phones to surf the Web, e-mail, etc.

(Pew Research Center, 2010)



## **Opportunities of Smartphones**

The use of an smart-phone has some good points to explode:

- It is a personal device that can be adapted to our necessities.
- Always with us:
  - We can use it, with our modifications, in any place.
- But...
  - Does the app developer know the accessibility needs? And the need for a non Web app?
  - Web Accessibility has improved thanks to SEO techniques
    - If this techniques are not important for the mobile app, will the developers apply them on a new app?





# Law and Accessibility

Web accessibility is "well known" by the developers due to the different laws.

- Section 508 (USA), European laws based on WCAG (Spain UNE 139803, etc.).
- Software Accessibility rules are different and laws are not "well known".
  - Section 508, UNE 139802, etc.
  - Laws talk about "general" software but, the mobile apps have different requirements.





## Open questions

- The use of smartphones to browse the Web is a reality nowadays.
- These app open a great number of opportunities to obtain the e-integration of all people.
  - Can we explode these opportunities?
  - Do enterprises and developers want to explode them?
- Will the laws will cover the special needs of these apps?
  - They need to evolve fast to obtain good results.



# Thank you for your attention.

#### Juan Manuel Fernández Ramírez





# Wrocław University of Technology

# Internet of Tomorrow -Potential Bottlenecks

Krzysztof Walkowiak



## There is no free lunch ...



**INTERNET'10** 



# **Technological Bottlenecks**



INTERNET'10

Krzysztof Walkowiak



# **Other Potential Bottlenecks**

- Law regulations
- Business constraints
- Globalization
- User demands
- Digital divide
- Generation gap

