Making web pages and applications accessible automatically using browser extensions and apps

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Abstract. Web accessibility depends on three factors: the semantics of the web contents, the assistive technologies (ATs) and the capabilities of the web browsers (Fernandes, Lopes, & Carriço, 2011). Moreover, the widespread implementation of Rich Internet Applications (RIAs) poses new challenges for ensuring the equality of access to dynamic web content. This paper presents the development of a solution that will automatically activate the accessibility features and the available ATs in two web browsers that take more than 50% of web browsers market share, and depending on the expressed needs and preferences of the user. The two extensions presented will take advantage of the infrastructures developed in CLOUD4all and APSIS4all in order to inject CSS and JavaScript in any web pages, as well as activating non-out-of-the-box ATs, and hence guaranteeing access to both static HTML pages and Rich Internet Applications.

Keywords: e-Accessibility, Web accessibility, ATs, adaptation of accessibility features, CLOUD4all, APSIS4all