
Accessible tables using ‘Tagged PDF’

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Abstract

Some basic requirements for Accessibility of tabular material are:

- each cell, whether header or content, must have an attribute providing a unique ID for that cell;
- each data cell must specify the corresponding row and column headers that most directly provide the meaning of the information contained within the cell. This is done via a **Headers** attribute using the unique IDs for the header cells.

Header cells themselves may have other row or column headers; e.g., as a common header for a block of rows or columns.

Tagged PDF has the tagging and mechanisms to provide such attributes. When the PDF is translated into HTML (using the **ngPDF** online converter, say) this information is recorded in the web-pages, to be available to Assistive Technologies. In this talk we show several examples of tables specified using various packages, as in the **L^AT_EX Companion**, both in PDF and HTML web pages. A novel coding idea that allows this to be achieved will be presented.

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