Analysis of a deficient interface:

"Casa del Libro" webpage search engine

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Sergi Albiach, Stéphane Díaz-Alejo, Pablo Moreira, María I. Romero

Which is its purpose?

 Gives customers the ability to search for books available in the shop using the title, author or key words.



How does it work?

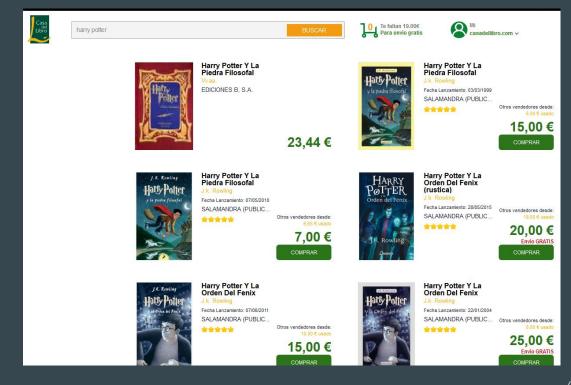
On the top we have the search tab in order to look for all related object to the one typed. On the left we have different options to organize the information retrieved. Finally, on the top-right we have a drop-down bar that allows us to select the way of sorting the information.



What should be improved?

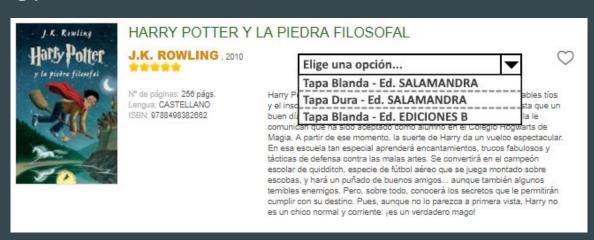
When searching, we obtain ALL the editions and formats of every object matching the key word, making it difficult for the user to find what he or she is looking for. Besides, showing all the editions makes some categories to have more books than they actually have, for example an author may have 5 books but the web will say he has 20.

Moreover, the user must click on the books and load a new page, to know the difference between two books.



How can we improve it?

One possible solution is to group all the editions and formats in just one book title. For example, instead of having three different editions (or more) for the book "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone", there could be only one book for the title, then, when you click on it, you are redirected to the book's page where there is a drop-down menu that shows all the editions, allowing you to choose one of them.



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