

Goals of Version 0.5

The success criteria for version 0.5 that was outlined in the original version planning document was considerably more vague than that of the other versions. This does not make for very structured development, so, in this document, I shall be defining some concrete goals for this version of the application. I have three main focuses in mind for these goals: Consistency, accessibility, and usability.

Consistency

- Ensure that the application has a consistent style between browsers. (E.g. Uses one specific font instead of the browser default.)
- Make better use of the space provided by expanding and repositioning elements so that there is less unused whitespace on certain pages. (E.g. Make buttons larger.)
- Allow the UI to adjust itself so that it fits properly onto the window, regardless of the dimensions of the window. (E.g. Fix the issue with elements overlapping and disappearing off of the screen when the browser window is shrunk.)

Accessibility

- Users can choose between a range of colour-schemes.
 - Specific colour-schemes to accommodate for dyslexic and colourblind users.
- Users can alter the size of text on the page to accommodate for users with varying levels of hyperopia.
- Store users' chosen accessibility settings within the browser, so that they do not have to be re-selected each time.

Usability

- Add keyboard shortcuts for retrieving and storing map data. (E.g. CTRL+S on map.html for storing data, ENTER on get_data.html for retrieving data.)

- Replace some button-text with symbols. (E.g. convert the text in the map-panning buttons with arrows.) Include alt-text for these buttons, just in case.
- Include symbols alongside the text for some buttons to not only make it more obvious to users that they are buttons that can be clicked, but what their function is too. (E.g. Put a “house” symbol on the “Home” button.)

Alongside these goals, I also aim to research and learn about other website accessibility best practices so that I may accommodate as many users as possible. After this version has been completed, the application will be in a state that I would consider acceptable to be submitted, so I will turn my attention to my final report to ensure that it reaches the same state before the 23rd of March.