Tech Snacks: Using New Yuja Panorama Tools

In recent months we have focused on accessibility as we draw closer to the April 24, 2026, DOJ deadline for web content compliance with WCAG 2.1 Level AA standards. To help support faculty in their course building, MSU-Northern now has access to several tools from Yuja Panorama, our LMS accessibility platform. These include AutoPilot and Structural Remediation. In addition to sharing some general strategies for making course content accessible, we will demonstrate what AutoPilot and Structural Remediation can and cannot do and how to use them most effectively.

General Strategies for Making Content Accessible

The Digital Accessibility team at the University of Michigan has a very helpful framework for approaching how to make course content accessible.

Create It

Given that compliance with accessibility standards is the norm moving forward, it is best to create accessible content from the start. Make content as accessible as possible in the program in which it was created (e.g., make a Word document accessible before converting it to a PDF, or use an application that auto-captions lecture videos). This is also where you can make use of the built-in accessibility checkers available in many common applications (e.g., Microsoft Office and Google Workspace). Save the original source files of your course content so you can edit them in their original format.

Fix It

If digital course content does not meet accessibility standards, then try to fix it. Accessibility checkers like those available in common applications can find items to fix, but many faculty will likely rely on Yuja Panorama to scan course content and highlight accessibility issues. Use the AutoPilot and Structural Remediation tools available in Canvas to correct accessibility issues and for help understanding how course content is inaccessible for those using alternate formats or assistive technology.

Remove It

Remove content that you do not need to share, especially older content that is no longer in use and could have potential accessibility barriers.

Yuja Panorama

Yuja Panorama is an accessibility platform integrated into MSU-Northern's Canvas instance. It both checks all course content for accessibility issues and provides various tools to remedy accessibility issues. These tools include auto-generated accessible alternative formats available for every student and the AutoPilot and Structural Remediation tools for faculty discussed below. Each piece of course content (files, pages, etc.) is assigned a color-coded accessibility score, and every Canvas course is processed for an overall accessibility score. When editing a Canvas page, Panorama provides guidance on the content's accessibility, and the HTML Accessibility Report beneath the rich content editor helps identify problems on a page and suggest solutions. While Yuja's accessibility scoring is not exactly the same thing as WCAG 2.1 Level AA compliance (i.e., a 100% Yuja Panorama score does not necessarily mean 100% compliance with WCAG 2.1 Level AA standards), it is currently the industry-leading indicator for accessibility compliance in Canvas.

AutoPilot Remediation

The Yuja AutoPilot Remediation Module is a tool recently added to MSU-Northern's Canvas instance. "Instead of fixing accessibility issues on a case-by-case basis, YuJa AutoPilot Remediation gives instructors the option to hand over the steering wheel by clicking 'AutoPilot,' which will automatically propose accessibility fixes in line" and remediate the document. This can fix things like font size, color contrast, alt text, PDF tagging, missing titles and heading structures, hyperlink issues, scanned document issues, and more.

Structural Remediation

The Yuja Structural Remediation Module is another tool recently added to MSU-Northern's Canvas instance specifically to support the remediation of PDF files. While this tool can also help with common accessibility issues like color contrast, font size, alt text, and missing titles, a primary aim of this tool is to make PDF files accessible and useful for assistive technologies like screen readers. This includes adding proper structural tags to PDFs, turning scanned documents into accessible PDFs through Optical Character Recognition (OCR), correcting reading order issues, and fixing heading and table structure issues.

OTLE Support for Yuja Remediation Tools

OTLE demonstrated how to use these tools live. If you were unable to attend and/or would like OTLE's help with how to use these tools, please reach out for a demo.