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Development of a Reference Web page

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Foreword

This Technical Report (TR) has been produced by ETSI Technical Committee Speech and multimedia Transmission Quality (STQ).

Introduction

Web browsing is one of the most popular usages of the internet. Therefore, it is also an important target of QoS testing. While the basics of web browsing are simple (and assumed to be known for the purpose of the present document), proper performance testing of this service in mobile communications networks is not. There is a complex interplay between web content, web and fixed network infrastructure, air interface and end-user devices including actual web browser applications. If this interplay is not properly understood and taken care of, testing results may be meaningless at best and wrong at worst.

NOTE 1: In the following, the terms "http testing" and "web browsing" are used synonymously.

NOTE 2: For the purpose of the present document, we use the term "transport channel" to describe the entire path content has to pass from its origin (i.e. the http server) to its destination (the user's computer).

The goal of service testing is to get a quantitatively correct impression of the service usage experience from a typical user's point of view. For obvious reasons, neither third-party servers nor third-party web content should be used. Therefore, a specially assigned and well-controlled web server (reference server) will provide specially designed web content (reference web page) to facilitate the necessary control of environmental conditions and assurance of reproducibility.

It should be kept in mind that the scope of present work is usage of reference web pages in the context of QoS testing according to TS 102 250 [i.1]. Therefore, reference to QoS parameters implicitly refers to TS 102 250 [i.1].

The present document attempts to describe reference web page design in a generic way. In annexes A and B, examples are given. Annex A describes the workflow and parameters used to create the ETSI Copernicus. Annex B, likewise describes the background information used for creating Kepler.