

SpeakBuddy: Language Learning Application

Mariam Betin¹

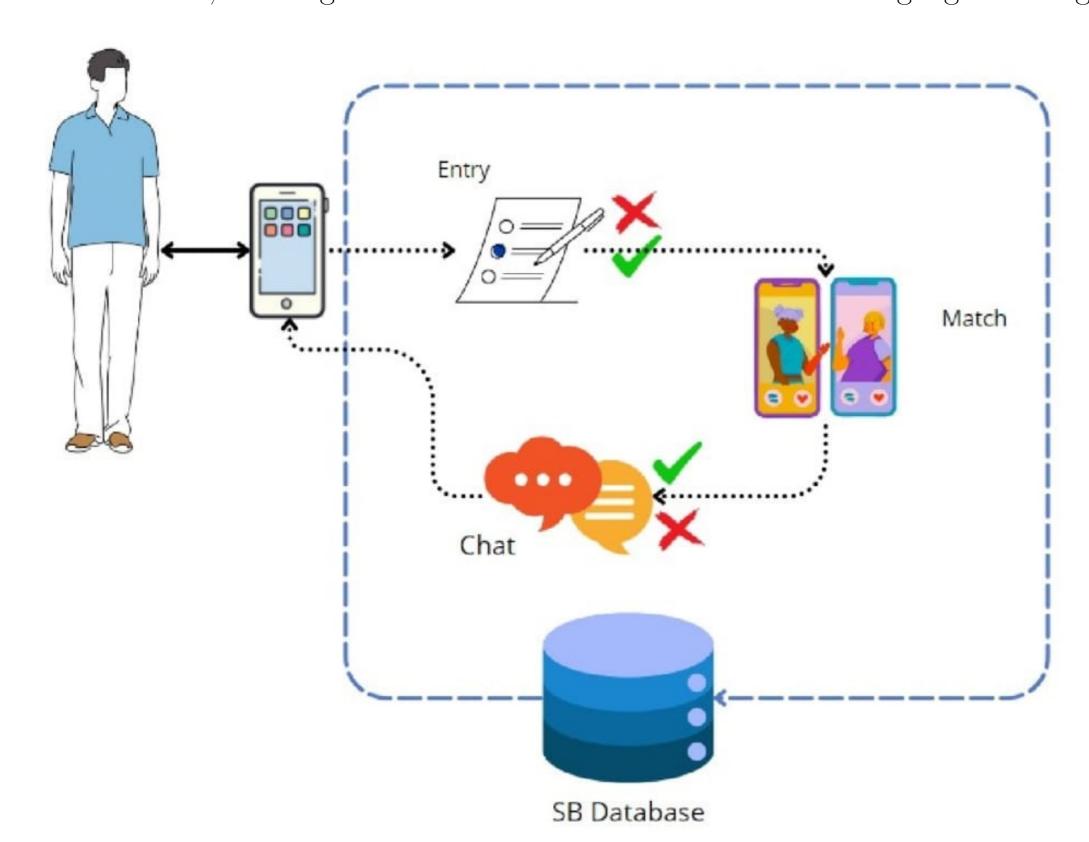
Universidad Distrital Francisco Jose de Caldas mbetine@udistrital.edu.co¹

Introduction

Language learning is essential in today's globalized world. However, many people find it difficult to maintain interest and find opportunities to practice. The **SpeakBuddy** app, inspired by Tinder's interaction format, facilitates language learning by creating social connections based on common interests and learning goals. This allows users to learn in a more dynamic and entertaining way.

Goal and Proposed solution

The goal of SpeakBuddy is to offer a language learning experience through a social platform, where users can interact with other learners, facilitating learning through real practice. The app combines learning and socialization through a matching system that connects users from different languages. It allows users to select their native language, the language they wish to learn, and their personal interests, creating an environment conducive to natural language learning and practice.

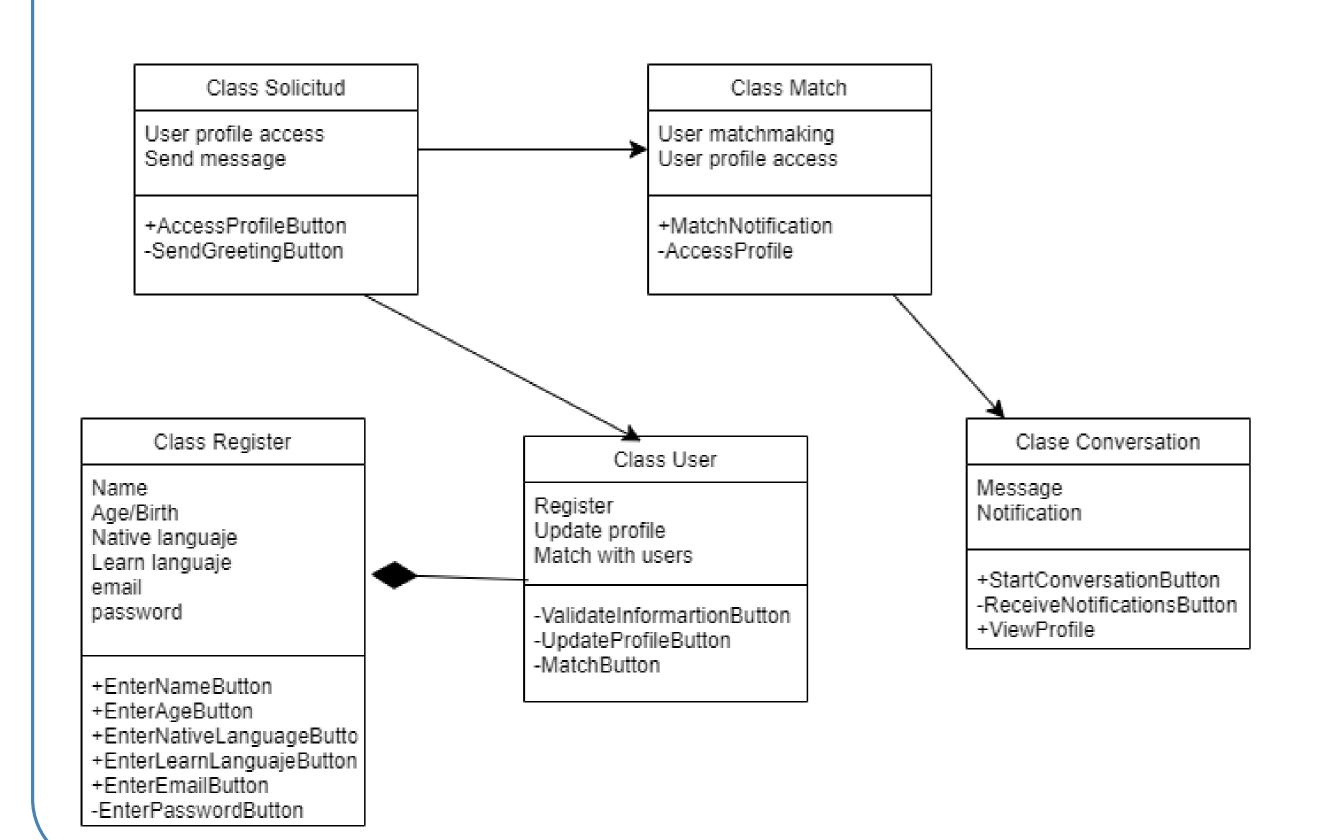


This model allows SpeakBuddy to operate sustainably by offering affordable learning options and additional features for those seeking an enriched experience.

"As a Spanish-speaking user, I want to learn English by connecting with native speakers who have similar interests to me, to improve my fluency through natural conversations." This story represents the main goal of the app, where users can improve their proficiency in a new language through a realistic and social practice environment. The application is built with a modular structure that

includes key classes such as User, Profile, and Match. This architecture allows the application to be scalable and easily adaptable to the addition of new functionalities. Each user has a profile that includes their native language, the language they wish to learn, and their interests, stored in the Profile class. Key features include:

- Intelligent Matching: The app connects users based on interests and language learning goals. If a user wants to learn English, the app matches them with a user who is proficient in English and wants to learn the other user's language.
- Personalized Profiles: Each profile allows the user to showcase their language proficiency and interests to find meaningful and natural matches.
- Adaptive Learning Experience: SpeakBuddy adapts to each user's proficiency level, offering personalized recommendations based on progress and interactions. This ensures that learners engage in meaningful exchanges suited to their skill level, enhancing their confidence and fluency.



Result

The expected results of SpeakBuddy focus on improving language learning through social interaction. The following benefits are anticipated based on the platform's design and proposal:

- Improved Fluency: Users who practice with native speakers show significant improvement in their fluency and confidence when speaking a new language.
- Social Interaction: The combination of common interests and learning goals fosters natural and enriching conversations, increasing user motivation.
- **User Retention**: The platform promotes constant interaction, resulting in higher user retention compared to traditional language learning apps.
- Global Community: SpeakBuddy facilitates the creation of a global community of language learners, connecting people from different cultures and promoting cultural exchange.

Additionally, the platform is expected to have a positive impact on the following aspects:

- Accessibility: SpeakBuddy is free and easy to use, making it accessible to a wide audience.
- User Satisfaction: The combination of intelligent matching and personalized profiles ensures that users find meaningful matches, increasing their satisfaction.
- Cultural Exchange: Interaction between users from different countries promotes enriching cultural exchange, broadening participants' perspectives.

TABLE I USERS' OPINION OF THE EXPERIENCE

Aspect	Satisfaction (Score)
Ease of use	4.0
Quality of conversations	4.2
Learning effectiveness	3.8

These results are based on the premise that constant practice and social interaction are key to effective language learning. SpeakBuddy not only aims to improve users' language skills but also to create meaningful and lasting connections between people from different parts of the world. Through intelligent pairings and personalized user experiences, SpeakBuddy fosters a structured

yet flexible learning environment. By focusing on shared interests and skill-based recommendations, the platform ensures that users remain engaged and motivated throughout their language-learning journey.

Conclusion

SpeakBuddy offers an innovative solution for language learning, combining strategic pairings with a safe and entertaining user experience. The combination of complementary languages and shared interests has proven to be key to improving fluency and user motivation. The platform not only facilitates learning but also creates meaningful connections between people from different cultures, promoting an enriching and lasting exchange.

Bibliography

References

- [1] Duolingo press room. https://press.duolingo.com/about
- [2] Tinder https://www.help.tinder.com/hc/en-us
- [3] Matching Algorithms in Dating Apps. https://arxiv.org/pdf/2006.06899
- [4] eLearning Industry. https://elearningindustry.com/how-gamification-is-transforming-language-learning