Universidad de Oviedo

School of Computer Science

GestUsers: User Management System

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Software Architecture for GestUsers.
Description of the practice work (2017)

Description of the first practice work to be made by the work teams of the course "Software Architecture" during the academic year 2015-16.

School of Computer Science Engineering

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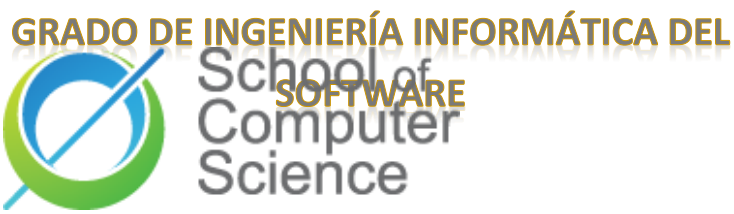

GestUsers: User Management System

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1 Introduction and Goals

The goal of this document is to describe the structure of an architecture of User Management that will be reused. Although the system that we describe has its own functionality, the main goal is that it will be part of a general system of citizen participation.

This document describes the first deliverable of the laboratory assignment of the course "*Software Architecture*" which is taught by the authors. The course is part of the Degree in Software Engineering, School of Computer Science Engineering, University of Oviedo.

The system is divided in two parts: CitizensLoader, to load data about citizens and Participants, to check if a user can participate. The students have to implement the software described in this document in two teams of 3 or 4 students during 3 weeks. One team will implement the CitizensLoader module sub-system and the other team will implement the Participants module.

In the next deliverables, the students will create the architecture and implement a prototype of the rest of the Participation System of which the current system will be part of.

2 Requirements

User Management will be divided in two parts:

- CitizenLoader loads the list of users from the Council, for example the municipal census
- Participants: checks if a citizen can participate

2.1 CitizensLoader

The System administrator must be able to introduce data from the citizens list. That data can be obtained from different sources like the municipal census, lists of immigrants without official residence, bystanders, etc. Those lists will be delivered by some institution to the Council.

The introduction of data will be made from Excel files that contain a list of rows with the following information:

- First name
- Last name
- Email
- Date of birth
- Address
- Nationality
- ID (National ID, the residence card ID, etc.)

When importing the citizens data, the system will create a user (whose login name will be the email) and a random password which will enable the user to enter the system to check if the data is correct as well as to later participate in the system. The system will generate personal letters that will be sent to each user by email. This task will be done by the Council and is not part of this system.

If a user appears in two different lists, this event will be recorded and informed in a log file. A user can only be created once. If the data is different from the current data available in the system, the current data will not be modified and an error will be recorded in the log.

[**Optional**] The system could be extended to emit the letters using other formats like Microsoft Word or PDF.

[**Optional**] If the input file contains errors, the system must detect them and report the errors found.

[**Optional**] The input data parser can be configured to accept data in different formats. Although it is mandatory to import data in Excel format, the system should be ready to be extended in the future to accept other formats easily.

(**Optional**) The service can be extended to handle security aspects

2.2 Participants

Citizens should be able to login into the system to check that they can participate once the notification letter has been received. In order to implement that feature, a simple web service will be created that has two parameters passed as a POST message: login name and password and returns the data available about the citizen if the information is correct or reports an error if it isn't. Both the call parameters and the return information will employ JSON format.

(**Optional**) The web service can be extended to offer a simple HTML interface where a user can login and see his information in a human-friendly way.

(**Optional**) Using HTTP content negotiation, the system could handle other formats as XML.

(**Optional**) The service can be extended to enable the user to change his password.

(**Optional**) The service can be extended to handle security aspects

3 Methodology

This document employs the ADD (Atribute-Driven Design) methodology (Bass, Clements, & Kazman, 2003) and the SEI norm (ANSI/IEEE 1471, 2000).

The templates have also been inspired by the Arc42 templates (http://arc42.org/) where documentation architecture templates are defined in English, German and Spanish.

Another project that follows those templates for a biking domain is available at:

http://biking.michael-simons.eu/docs/index.html

4 Stakeholders

The stakeholders identified are:

1. Students that develop the assignment
2. System Administrator
3. Citizens
4. People responsible of the participation system
5. Course Teachers

Code	Stakeholder	Interests (Modules)
ST-01	Students	Both
ST-02	System administrator	Load files
ST-03	Citizens	Check data
ST-04	Developers of Participation System	Check data
ST-05	Course Teachers	Both

Table 1. List of stakeholders/interests

4.1 Students that develop the assignment

This group is formed by the team that will develop the system. Some of their goals are:

- Use of known technologies and methodologies minimizing the risks to learn new ones.
- Learn how to develop software collaboratively and in a professional way
- Use similar technologies to the group with whom they will work later to minimize incompatibilities.

4.2 System administrator

This is the person who is in charge of loading the citizens list.

Some of the goals are:

- Use of simple and well-known technologies for input files
- Files that can be read by humans.
- Be able to automate the loading process.
- Be able to debug the loading process in case of failures

4.3 Citizens

These are the final users of the system. Some of their goals are:

- Get access to the system in a simple way
- Being able to get participate from their homes in a safe way.
- Being able to query their status in the system
- Being able to update or change their information in the system, for example, their password (**Optional**)

4.4 Developers of the Participation System

This is the team that will implement the participation system. Some of their goals are:

- Have a simple way to detect if a citizen can participate in the system as soon as possible
- Use of simple technologies that can interoperate with other systems

4.5 Course teachers

They are responsible for the results of this assignment. Some of their goals are:

- Use technologies that help students acquire skills related with Software Architecture by developing a practical assignment.
- Introduce the students in collaborative and professional software development through TDD (Test driven development) techniques.
- Show the students an example documentation of a software architecture

5 Quality Attributes

We have identified the following quality attributes:

- **Availability**
  - The system must be able to process data 24x7.
- **Modifiability**
  - Easily change some parts of the application: Change the parser of input data
  - Easily change some parts of the application: Add an error reporting feature
  - Easily modify some parts of the application: Add other output files to generate the letters
  - Easily modify some parts of the application: Enable password change by users
  - Easily modify some parts of the application: Enable different formats to be used by the web service
- **Performance**
  - The performance of the data loading system is reasonable
  - Querying information about a user through the web service should be fast
- **Security**
  - The system should warrant the confidentiality of the citizens data
- **Testability**
  - It must be testable that the citizens data loading process is correct
  - It must be testable that the web service behaves as expected
- **Usability**
  - The data loading system must be easy to use by System administrator users which are familiar with Unix-like tools.
- **Interoperability**
  - This system will be used by the Participation System which will leverage on it for user management. The Participants web service must be used by an automated process that can query the status of a user.
- **Simplicity**
  - The two modules should be simple and easy to develop
- **Deployability**
  - The system should be easily deployable, especially in a cloud based server

5.1 List of Quality Attributes

The list of quality attribute is the following:

Code	Description		Type of Attribute	Module
AT001	The system must be able to process data 24x7	Availability	Participants	
AT002	Easily modify some parts of the application: Change the parser of input data	Modifiability	CitizensLoader	
AT003	Easily modify some parts of the application: Add an error reporting feature	Modifiability	CitizensLoader	
AT004	Easily modify some parts of the application: Add other output files to generate the letters	Modifiability	CitizensLoader	
AT005	Easily modify some parts of the application: Enable password change by users	Modifiability	Participants	

Code	Description		Type of Attribute	Module
AT006	Easily modify some parts of the application: Enable different formats to be used by the web service	Modifiability	Participants	
AT007	The performance of the data loading system is reasonable (not too slow, but not critical)	Performance	CitizensLoader	
AT008	The system should warrant the confidentiality of the citizens data	Security	CitizensLoader and Participants	
AT009	It must be testable that the web service behaves as expected	Testability	Participants	
AT010	It must be testable that the user loading process is correct	Testability	CitizensLoader	
AT011	The data loading system must be easy to use by system administrator users which are familiar with Unix-like tools.	Usability	CitizensLoader	
AT012	The querying web service must be used by automated processes that can query the status of the system.	Interoperability	Participants	
AT013	The system must be simple and easy to develop	Simplicity	CitizenLoader and Participants CitizensLoader and Participants	
AT014	The system should be easily deployable	Deployability	Participants	

Table 2. List of quality attributes and their types

5.2 Quality Attributes and stakeholders

The following table shows which attribute qualities are interesting for which stakeholder:

Attributes vs Stakeholders	ST-01	ST-02	ST-03	ST-04	ST-05
AT001	X		X	X	X
AT002	X	X			X
AT003	X	X			X
AT004	X	X			X
AT005	X		X		X
AT006	X		X	X	X
AT007	X	X			X
AT008	X	X			X
AT009	X	X			X
AT010	X		X	X	X
AT011	X	X			X
AT012	X			X	X
AT013	X			X	X
AT014	X	X			X

Table 3. List of stakeholders: interests vs quality attributes

6 Architecture Constraints

6.1 Technical constraints

We have detected the following set of technical constraints in the project:

Code	Constraint	Background/Motivation
TC001	Both systems will be implemented in Java	The developer team (ST001) has knowledge of Java
TC002	The data will be stored in a relational database.	The developer team (ST001) has knowledge of relational databases and there are a lot of libraries to work with relational databases from Java
TC003	The web service will be based on REST using JSON format	The REST style of web services using JSON is very popular and easy to implement nowadays.
TC004	The input data format to load data is Excel	Excel is a popular format for data exchange and there are several libraries to process Excel files
TC005	The output data of the citizens loader module will be a set of text files	In order to facilitate the implementation, text files are the easier format to generate. However, the developer team can optionally implement other generators.
TC007	Automated testing	The tests should be run automatically and a continuous integration system must be used
TC008	The web service will be implemented using the Spring Boot web framework	Spring Boot web framework leverages on Spring, which is a well-known framework very popular in Industry. It contains lots of examples and help info that can help students to learn to use it.

Table 4. Technical constraints

6.2 Organizational Constraints

Code	Constraint	Background/Motivation
OC001	Each system will be implemented by a small team of student developers.	The size of the teams will be between 3 or 4 students. The goal is that students learn to work collaboratively by developing a simple project
OC002	The structure of the database will be shared by both teams.	Although the projects are designed to enable independent development by each team. The database acts as a glue between both systems so its structure must be shared by both teams
OC003	The source code will be available as a github repository	Github offers a very powerful project management tool for this kind of projects.

Table 5. Organizational constraints

7 System scope and context

The system is decomposed in two modules:

- CitizensLoader: This module will be responsible to convert data from Excel files and load it into the database. The system will be invoked by a system administrator.
- Participants: This module will check if users can participate obtaining information from the database.

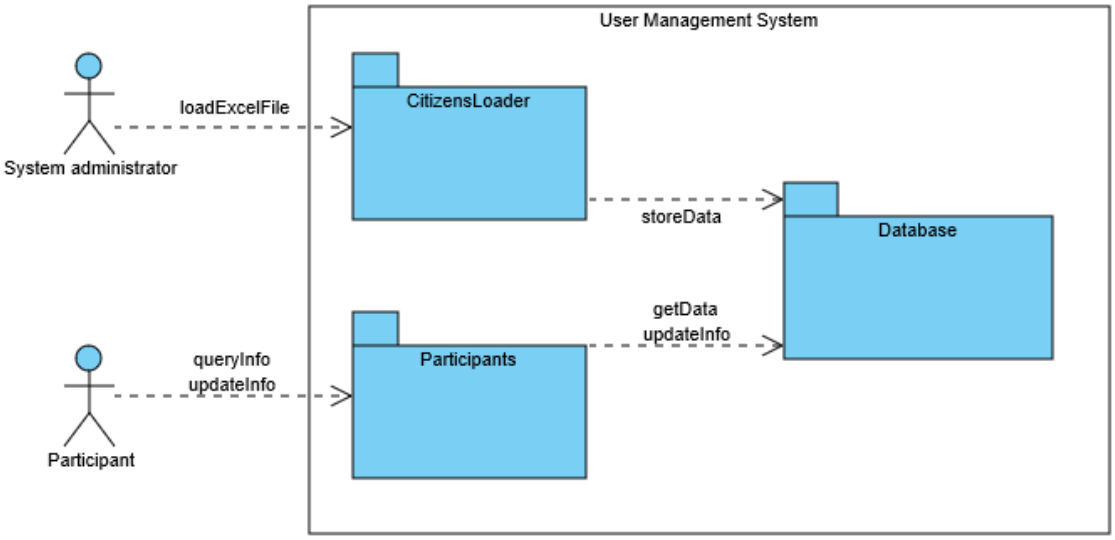

Figure 1. Business Context

The following figure contains a BPMN diagram showing the whole process of both sub-systems.

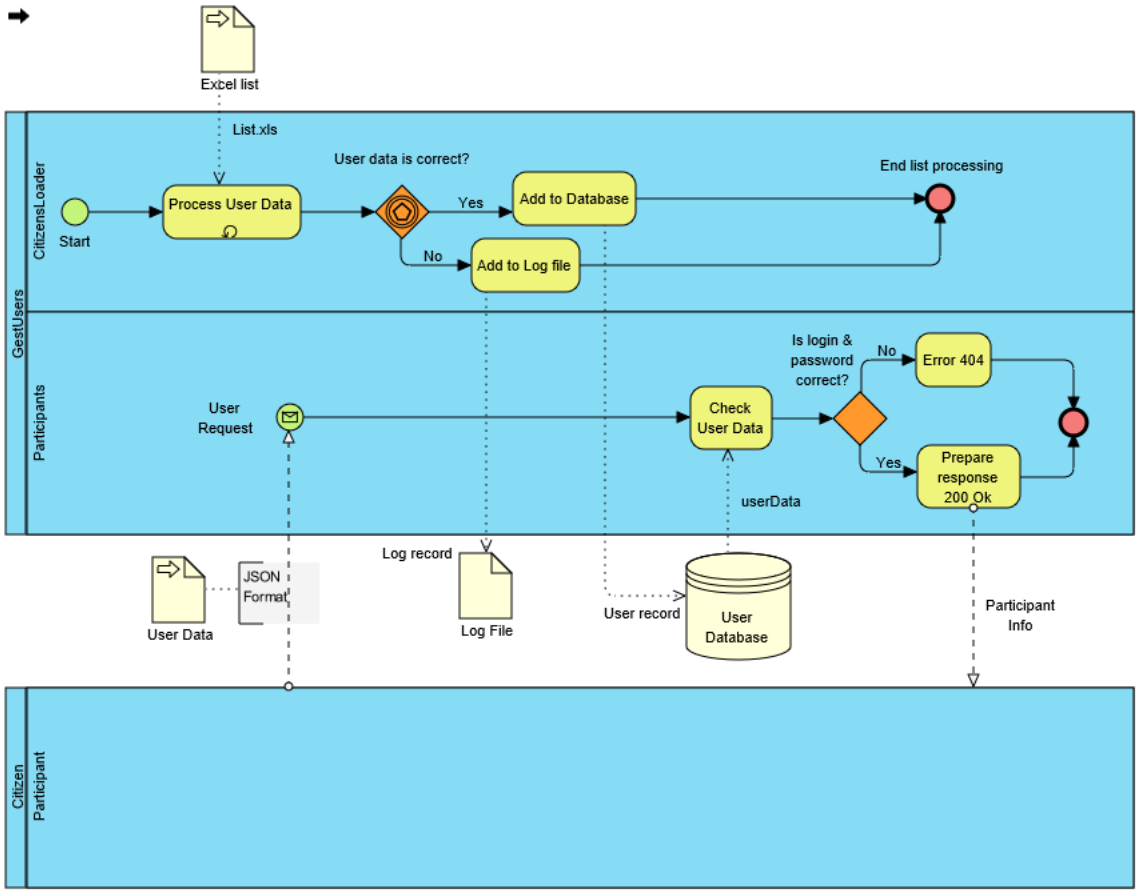

Figure 2. BPMN Diagram

8 Quality Scenarios

The table below contains the quality scenarios that have been identified:

Scenario	Source Stimulus	Stimulus	Environment	Artifact	Response	Measure	Affected Attribute Quality
1	Participation System	Ask information about a user	Runtime	Participants	Participation System obtains the required information in less than 15seg at any time in the day	The required information is obtained	**AT001**
2	Student developer	A new parser is introduced	Development	Parser	Change is successfully introduced	The system is compiled and passes all the tests without errors	**AT002**
3	Student developer	A new option is implemented for the report file	Development	ReportWriter, DBUpdate and Parser	The option is implemented with minimal changes that affect only the report writer module	Less than one day of work	**AT003**
4	Student developer	A new output format is added	Development	Participants and DBManagement	The new output format is included with minimal changes to existing code.	Less than one day of work	**AT004**
5	Student developer	The option to change user's password is introduced	Development	Participants and DBManagement	The password of a user is successfully changes	Less than one day of work	**AT005**
6	Student developer	A new format is added to the web service	Development	Participants	The new format is implemented	Less than 2 days of work	**AT006**

Scenario	Source Stimulus	Stimulus	Environment	Artifact	Response	Measure	Affected Attribute Quality
7	System administrator	Load an Excel file into the System (DB)	Runtime	Parser, DBUpdate and ReportWriter	Loading an excel file without errors is done in a reasonable time.	< 1 second for each 10 Participantspartici pant	**AT007**
8	Student developer	Load an Excel file into the system (DB)	Development/ Runtime	Parser, DBUpdate and ReportWriter (Optional)	Loading data should be done in a safe way	It is not possible to get access to the users' personal data except by the system administrator who cannot get access to the password.	**AT008**
9	Participants	Get access to the application	Runtime	Participants	A user can get access to his data but not to other user's data	Access to data is enabled only if the pair user name/password is correct	**AT009**
10	System administrator	Loads an excel file into the DB	Runtime	Parser, DBUpdate and ReportWriter	The loading process is made in a reliable way and it is possible to check that the data has been loaded	There are no errors in the database, no repeated record, and no citizen has less information than expected	**AT010**
11	System administrator	Loads an excel file into the DB	Runtime	Parser, DBUpdate and ReportWriter	The loading process behaves in a usual way and the options available to run the system are easy to understand	The system shows help options if the user asks for them. The error messages and other information can be understood by technical people	**AT011**

Scenario	Source Stimulus	Stimulus	Environment	Artifact	Response	Measure	Affected Attribute Quality
12	Citizen Participation System	Access to the web service	Runtime	Participants	The participation System requests information about a user by passing a combination of user name and password	A 200 OK response is sent with the correct format if the combination is OK or a failure information is returned	**AT012**
13	Student developer	Develops the system	Development	Participants CitizensLoader	The student developers can implement the system	The system can be implemented and testes in 2/3 weeks by third year undergraduate students.	**AT013**
14	System administrator	Deploys the system	Deployment	CitizensLoader, Participants	The system is deployed in a production environment	The system can be deployed by a system administrator in less than an hour.	**AT014**

Table 6. List of quality scenarios

9 Views

In the following paragraphs the identified the views that will be documented following the learning guide instructions.

View	Stakeholders	Quality Attributes	Scenarios
Context	ST-01, ST-02, ST-03, ST-04, ST-05	AT011, AT013, AT14	11, 13, 14
CitizensLoader	ST-01, ST-02, ST-04, ST-05	AT002, AT003, AT004, AT007, AT008 y AT010, AT011, AT013, AT014	2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14
Participants	ST-01, ST-03, ST-04, ST-05	AT001, AT005, AT006, AT008, AT009, AT012, AT013, AT014	1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14

In the catalogues and views we have described both the mandatory and some optional elements. The students can ignore those optional elements that they are not going to implement.

9.1 Context

The System view is divided in two main sub-systems.

9.1.1 Main overview

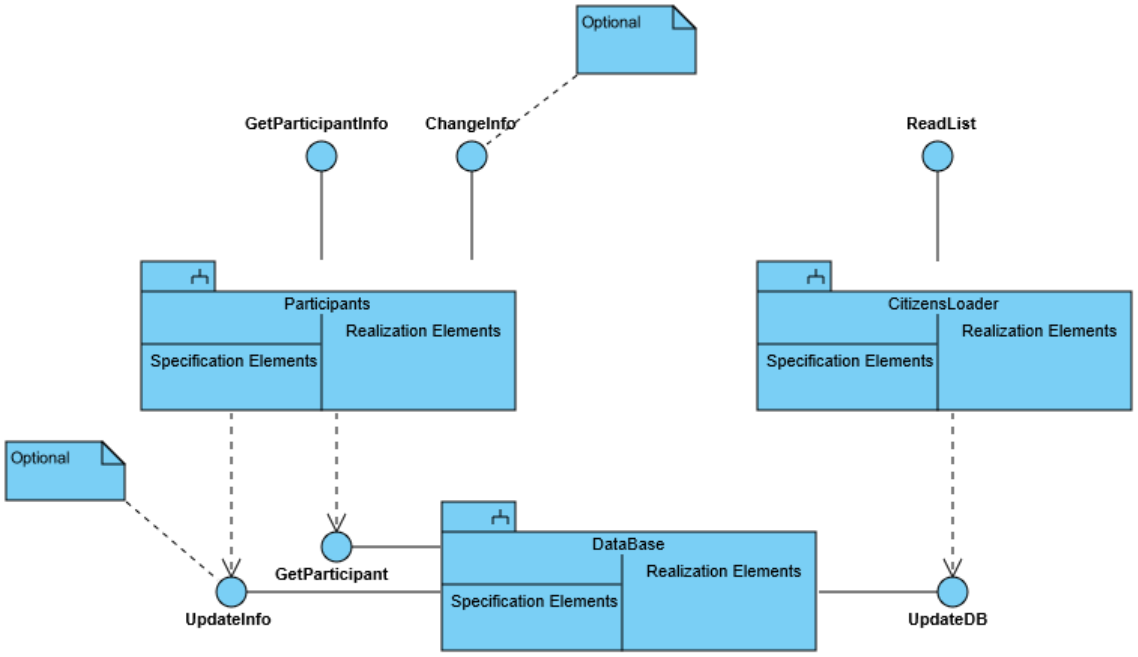

Figura 3. Context view

9.1.2 Elements Catalogue

9.1.2.1 Elements

Element	Properties
CitizensLoader	It introduces citizens data in the system. It reads an Excel file with data, generates passwords, personal letters and reports any errors.
Participants	This is the module used by citizens to check that their information is available in the system. They can optionally change some of their personal information and their password.

DataBase	This module encapsulates database access.

9.1.2.2 Relationships

Citizens data are introduced in the system through the interface *ReadList* from module *CitizensLoader*. For each user, a password is generated as well as a personalized letter with information about the user.

That interface sends the data to the database through the interface *UpdateDB* from the DataBase module.

The *Participants* module allows an external system to check the information about a user through the web service *GetParticipantInfo*. In order to check the information, *Participants* asks data to the *DataBase* module through the *GetParticipant* interface.

Optionally, it is possible to implement the interface *ChangePassword* that will allow a user to change her password. In order to do that, the *Participants* module requests the *DataBase* to change the password through the *UpdatePasswd* interface.

9.1.2.3 Interfaces /Ports

9.1.2.3.1 CitizensLoader

Interface	Type	Technology	Properties
ReadList	Interface	Command line invocation	This interface will be invoked from the main application as a console program

9.1.2.3.2 Participants

Interface	Tipo	Tecnología	Propiedades
GetParticipantInfo	Interface	Web Service	This interface will be invoked through an HTTP request

9.1.2.3.3 DataBase

Interface	Tipo	Tecnología	Propiedades
GetParticipant	Interface	Method invocation	Returns data from citizens
UpdateDB	Interface	Method invocation	Inserts into the database data about a citizen included its password
UpdatePasswd	Interface	Method invocation	Updates the password of a user in the database

9.1.2.4 Behaviour

9.1.2.4.1 CitizenLoader

9.1.2.4.2 CitizensLoader

See 9.2.2.3.4.

It can also do the following options:

- (**Optional**) the subsystem that generates the letters could implement the Adapter pattern which would enable to generate the letters in different formants in the future (Word, ODT, PDF, RTF, etc.).
- (**Optional**) If the file contains errors, those errors should be detected and a report should be generated for its later treatment

- (**Optional**) The parser of input data should be configurable using an adapter pattern to allow input data in different formats (Excel, TXT, etc.).

9.1.2.4.3 Participants

9.1.2.4.4 Participants

It allows users to get access into the system to check if they can participate, using the information that they received in the letter. The users may not get access directly by a web browser, but through an external paticipation system that invokes the Participants module as a web service.

9.1.2.4.5 DataBase

All the operations done in this module will be integrated in a *Facade pattern* which will contain the operations that offer access to the database. It encapsulates all the operations that affect the database.

9.2 Citizens List

9.2.1 Main overview

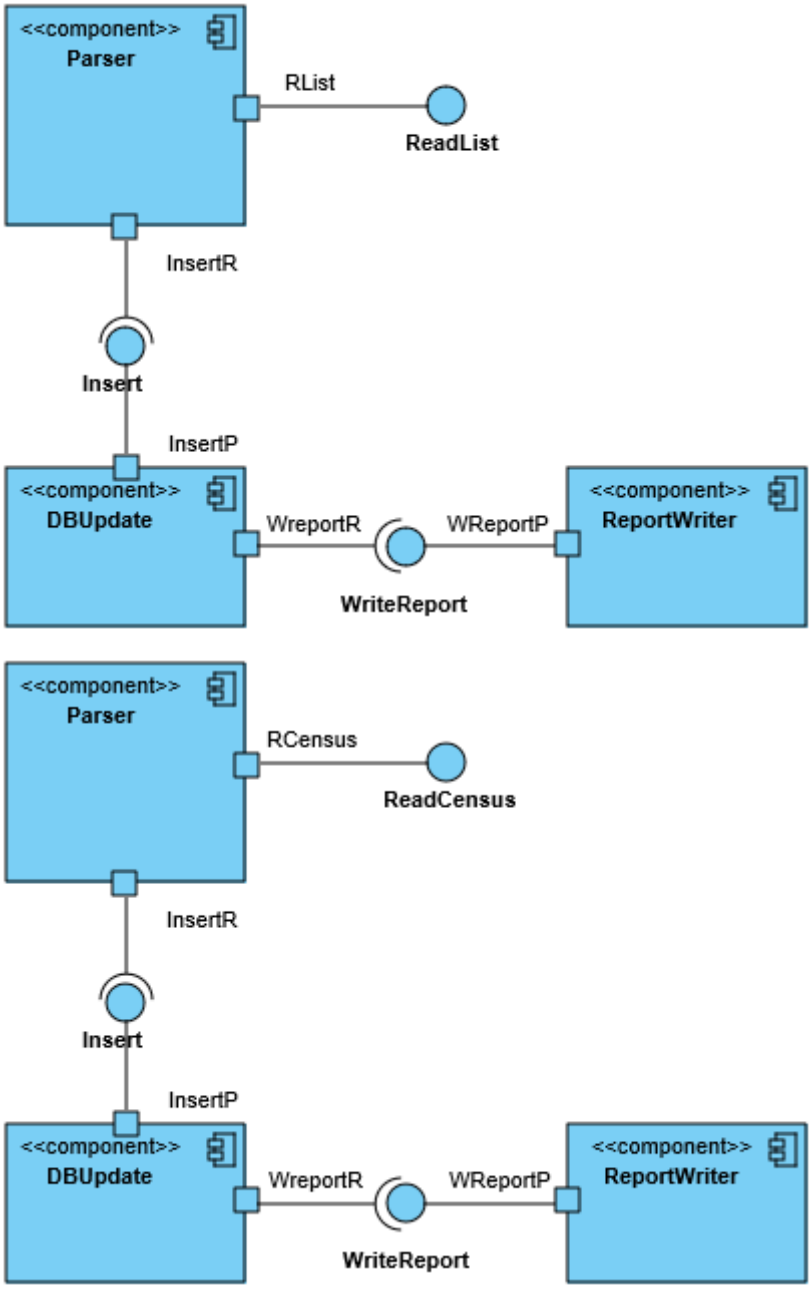

Figura 4. Citizens list view

9.2.2 Catalogue of Elements

9.2.2.1 Elements

Element	Properties
Parser	Reads data from the Excel file and transforms them into an in-memory object container that can be later iterated to insert the data in the database. It will also generate the *password* of the citizen as well as the personal letter.

	During the design and implementation this component can be divided into the sub-components needed to separate these services following the quality attributes AT002, AT003, AT004 and AT007.
DBUpdate	Encapsulates all the database operations using interfaces to allow the database access to be separated from some specific database implementations.
ReportWriter	It receives the pieces of data that were not possible to insert into the database as well as the reasons and writes a report containing all that information in a human-readable way

9.2.2.2 Relationships

The *Parser* component receives the input file in Excel format and reads and converts the information about the different users. It generates a new password for each user and adds the information to the database using the *DBUpdate* component.

(**Optional**) If there are any errors during the loading phase (duplicated DNIs, empty DNI fields, etc.) or if the database component returns an error, this information will be notified to the Reportwriter component through the *WriteReport* interface.

9.2.2.3 Interfaces/ Ports

9.2.2.3.1 Parser

Interface	Type	Technology	Properties
ReadList	Interface	Method invocation	Read the Excel file with the citizens data.
Rlist	Port		Creates the needed subcomponents of the parser to process the input file.
Insert	Interface (Required)	Method invocation	It calls a method in the *DBUpdate* component to insert the information in the database.
InserR	Port		Verifies the data and creates the object to send to the *DBUpdate* component.

9.2.2.3.2 DBUpdate

Interface	Type	Technology	Properties
Insert	Interface	Method invocation	Receives and object with the information to insert in the database.
InsertP	Port		Verifies input data and generates and error if there is a lack of some mandatory attribute.
WriteReport	Interface (Required)	Method invocation	Calls a method from the *ReportWriter* component to write a new item in the report file.
WreportR	Port		Verifies the data to write

9.2.2.3.3 ReportWriter

Interface	Type	Technology	Properties
WriteReport	Interface	Method Invocation	Receives the data to write in the report file.
WreportP	Port		Adds data at the corresponding date and time.

9.2.2.3.4 Parser

Introduces the citizencitizens data in the system obtained from Excel files that contain a row for each citizen. Each row (except the first one that contains the headings) contains the following columns:

- First nameName (string)

- Last name (string)
- Birth date
- Email (string that follows the email format conventions)
- ID
- Address
- Nationality
- NIF (string that follows the NIF format with digits followed by a verification letter)
- Polling station code (an integer)

Invocation will be done through a batch program executed in the command line by the system administrator. During the import process a password will be generated so the combination of email/password enable a user to enter the system and participate in the systemreceive information about the polling station code where the user can participate.

This component will also generate personal emailsletters communicating the user that he has been added to the system with a user name (his email) and a password.

9.2.2.3.5 DBUpdate

It updates the database. See 9.1.2.4.5.

9.2.2.3.6 ReportWriter

(**Optional**) It stores in a text file information about the errors that were produced by the conversion process. The basic information to store is:

- Date
- Time
- Original Excel file
- Error information (with all the needed information)

9.2.3 Context Diagram

See 9.1.

9.2.4 Rationale

The main design decisions of this sub-system are:

Scenario	Quality attributes	Justification
2	AT002	Access to the parser using an Adapter pattern facilitates to change the implementation without affecting other parts of the application.
3	AT003	Defining an interface and an object for error reporting allows to add this functionality later.
5	AT005	Using a relational database will improve the performance of accessing information about users.
6	AT006	Using a relational database that offer security aspects can improve the security of the system. Sending the login name and password by regular mail avoids that the information can be accessed electronically.
8	AT008	Using a standard database which can be queried using SQL can allow the students to verify that the data has been correctly loaded.
10	AT010	The use of a batch application that can be executed manually or configured for its automatic execution is a common practice for system administrators.
14	AT014	A batch application can be directly executed without any special needs for deployment

9.3 Participants

9.3.1 Main overview

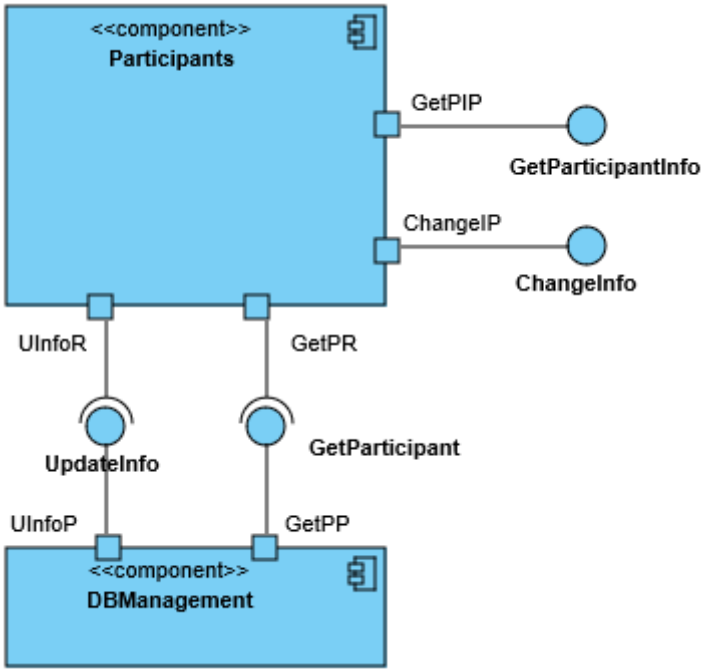

Figure 5. Participants View

9.3.2 Catalogue of elements

9.3.2.1 Elements

Element	Properties
Participants	It offers two web services: *GetParticipantInfo*, which allows to obtain information about a user and (Optional) *ChangePassword* that allows to change the password of a user.
DBManagement	It offers two interfaces: GetParticipant, that returns the data of a participant from the database and (Optional) *UndateInfo*, to update a password change in the database.

9.3.2.2 Relationships

The ParticipantParticipation System invokes *Participants* using a web service call which is processed by *GetParticipantInfo* (sending *email/password*) and it gets access to the DBManagement system using the interface *GetParticipant*. If the email/password are correct the data is returned as a JSON response.

(**Optional**) The user can invoke *Participants* through a web browser to change his password invoking *ChangePassword* and sending the parameters *email/password/newPasswod*. It will invoke the interface *UndateInfo* to modify the password using the *DBManagement* component.

9.3.2.3 Interfaces / Ports

9.3.2.3.1 Participants

Interface	Type	Technology	Properties
GetParticipantInfo	Interface	Web service	Allows to get access to a citizen data through the email/password combination

GetPIP	Port		Validates a user before asking the data.
ChangePassword	Interface	Web service	Allows to change a password using the combination: *email/password/newPasswod*.
ChangeInfo	Port		Validates a user before asking to change his password.
ChangeIP	Port		Validates a user before asking to change the password
UndateInfo	Interface (Required)	Method invocation	Asks a password change for a user.
UInfoR	Port		
GetParticipant	Interface (Requerida)	Method invocation	Asks information for the user
GetPR	Port		

9.3.2.3.2 DBManagement

Interface	Tipo	Tecnología	Propiedades
UndateInfo	Interface	Method invocation	Handles the password change of a user.
UInfoP	Port		
GetParticipant	Interface	Method invocation	Handles the information request for the user.
GetPP	Port		

9.3.2.4 Behaviour

9.3.2.4.1 Participants

It implements a REST web service to handle requests of information about users. The POST HTTP request will be done to the following address:

`<WebServiceURI>/user`

where `<WebServiceURI>` represents the URI where the web service has been deployed. The POST request contains JSON data with the following structure:

```
{"login": email, "password": password}
```

In case that the (email, password) combination are available in the database the response will be 200 OK with the a JSON body of the form:

```
{ "firstName": Nombre,
  "lastName": Apellidos,
  "age": Age (will be obtained from user's birth date and current time)
  "ID": User ID,
  "email": email
}
```

In case that the (email, password) is incorrect, the response will be `404 Not found`.

(**Optional**) It is possible to implement some HTML interface so the web service can be used by humans through a web browser.

(**Optional**) The web service can be extended to allow users to change their password.

9.3.2.4.2 DBManagement

This component encapsulates all the database access so it can be easy to change the underlying database system.

9.3.3 Context Diagram

See 9.1.

9.3.4 Rationale

The main design decisions have been:

Scenario	Quality Attributes	Justification
1	AT001	Using a REST Web Service leverages on HTTP technology and makes it easier to deploy the system in some infrastructure with high availability.
4	AT005	The encapsulation of model features that affect the database during development and the use of a MVC framework will facilitate the addition of functionalities like password change.
6	AT006	Using a Web framework like Spring Boot will facilitate the development of common web features like content negotiation
8	AT008	Accessing by *email/password* is considered secure enough for this process. Passwords should be stored encrypted.
9	AT009	The development of a REST web service based on JSON formats will facilitate the development of tests. The Spring Boot framework contains several tools for unit and integration testing of web applications that can be used.
12	AT012	The use of a REST web service enables the automatic access to the system through a software client
13	AT013	The web service API defined is simple and contains the minimal functionality. Leveraging on Spring Boot web framework will facilitate the development by the students given that the framework has solutions for all the required functionality
14	AT014	The use of Spring Boot framework facilitates deployment. There are several examples that show how to deploy Spring Boot based applications to production servers

10 References

ANSI/IEEE 1471. (2000). *Recommended Practice for Architectural Description of Software-Intensive Systems.* ANSI/IEEE.

Bass, L., Clements, P., & Kazman, R. (2003). *Software Architecture in Practice, Second Edition.* Boston: Addison Wesley.