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# Siberian Trucking System

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Software Architecture Description

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# Version history

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1	2012-08-17	KMH	Initial template based on (?)
3	2012-09-17	SHB and JTM	added chapter 3
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## Chapter 1

# Introduction

Text typeset like this in an instruction on how to use the template. They should (of course) be removed in an architectural description. In the LaTeX file for the template, this can be done by renewing the `\instructions` command to output the empty string.

### 1.1 Purpose and scope

Russia, as the worlds largest country by land area, has an extensive raw materials industry. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, the Russian trucking industry has undergone a dramatic growth, and government initiatives aim to maintain this growth into the future. Since many of the industrial installations are located in remote areas, logistics companies face great difficulties in managing their truck fleets, particularly as transportation times are often unpredictable due to weather, accidents and the generally poor condition of the Russian road network. As an additional complication, the distant locations and low population densities prevents the use of many common communication technologies (eg. no cell phone network).

We propose the creation of a system, the Siberian Tracking System (STS), for tracking a large fleet of trucks operating in far-flung regions of Russia, owned by the (fictive) Siberian Trucking Company (STC). A central server installation will be informed of the location and state of every truck in the fleet, permitting decision making systems to have complete knowledge of the state of the company assets. Each truck is responsible for tracking its own progress, then periodically relaying it back to the main servers. The project does not involve creation of any new ground stations; trucks will use standard wireless communication methods whenever in range of appropriate networks. The transmitters on the trucks will only use one way communication to the server, with data of the trucks current position and the speed of the truck. The transmitters are supposed to be low-cost hardware,

so communication from the server to the trucks and additional measuring equipment, for instance of oil and gasoline levels have been deselected.

The STS is solely concerned with the state of the trucking fleet, and does not do freight tracking or make any kind of business logic decisions on its own. While it provides information allowing such decisions to be made, it is purely a data collection and dissemination infrastructure. In particular, it is a one-way communication system. Other means must be employed to contact the trucks on the road. Also, STS is by itself not concerned with doing data mining or presenting a sophisticated user interface to its data. Instead, a data interchange mechanism will be defined that allows other systems to receive information from STS.

### 1.2 Audience

The intended audience of this document, and the reason for their inclusion, are as follows.

- Business logic decision makers of STC, who must determine whether the information provided by STS is sufficient.
- Truck maintenance department representatives, to determine whether the additional equipment needed on trucks is realistic.
- The developers who have to implement the suggested architecture and design.
- Finally, whoever approves the financing of the project.

### 1.3 Status

The basic requirements and design of STS has been determined, but the actual implementation has not yet begun.

### 1.4 Architectural design approach

Explain the overall architectural approach used to describe and develop the content of the document (e.g. explain viewpoints, views and perspectives). If necessary explain the architectural views that you're using and why each is used.

## Chapter 2

# Glossary

Term	Definition
Canonical truck position	An externally registered position of a specific truck at a specific time. Used to check consistency with measured positions.
Mesh network	An ad-hoc (usually short-range) network formed by autonomous units within range of each other
STS	Siberian Tracking System. Refers both to the project as a whole, and to the software running on stationary servers (ie. excluding the software on truck transmitters).
STC	Siberian Tracking Company
Truck transmitter	The hardware unit on a truck. Consists of a GPS receiver and an antenna for communications.
AWS	Amazon Web Services - the cloud computing platform chosen for the STS.

## Chapter 3

# System stakeholders and requirements

### 3.1 Stakeholders

- **Acquirers:** the Siberian Trucking Company (STC) will be paying for the development of the system to aid in business logic. The users of the system will be members of the STC's business administration.
- **Communicators:** the technical writers who will create documentation regarding the operation of the system, while the business administration of the STC will be responsible for the training of the end users of the system.
- **Developers:** the STC has contracted a group from the University of Copenhagen to develop the system.
- **Maintainers:** the STC has a team of developers responsible for maintaining and evolving the STS system after it is completed.
- **Production Engineers:** the STS system will be deployed onto the Amazon EC2 platform, outsourcing the deployment environment to Amazon's engineering staff.
- **Suppliers:** servers will be provided by Amazon's EC2 platform, while the GPS units are assumed to already be installed on the STC's trucks.
- **Support Staff:** it is assumed that the STC has the appropriate IT staff for helping the end users of the STS in accomplishing their appropriate business administration tasks.
- **System Administrators:** Amazon provides the appropriate hardware administration while the STC has a team of developers responsible



for updating and maintaining the software environment of the EC2 instances.

- Testers: The STC has a team of developers responsible for testing and ensuring the STS works effectively.
- Users: members of the STC's business administration team who will use and analyze data provided by the STS to make informed business decisions.

### 3.2 Overview of requirements

Reference	Requirement description
R1	The system must provide business administrators with a detailed history of the location of every truck in the STC fleet.
R2	The system must be able to receive and store 1,000 GPS datapoints per second.
R3	The server interface for storing the trucks' location data must have an availability of at least 99 percent uptime.
R4	The tracking units present on each of the trucks must have a fallback when data cannot be sent in real-time due to bad network coverage.
R5	The server interface must be capable of receiving an individual data point (the truck's location) or a series of data points (the truck's location history over a period of time).

### 3.3 System scenarios

#### 3.3.1 Functional scenarios

Scenario reference	FS1.
Overview	How truck information is sent to the server
System state	The truck is fitted with a truck transmitter and is currently driving
System environment	The system is operating normally
External stimulus	The truck transmitter has a position that should be sent to the server
Required system response	If the truck is in range of a network, the position is sent to the server and a confirmation is received. If the truck is out of range, the position is stored in the truck transmitter and will be sent when the truck is in range of a network again

Scenario reference	FS2.
Overview	How truck positions are queried by a user
System state	Positions from many different trucks have been sent to the server with timestamps
System environment	The system is operating normally
External stimulus	The user queries a specific truck, trucks within an area, and trucks that have not yet reached their designated targets on time
Required system response	The system shows the requested data as a list in the users GUI

Scenario reference	FS3.
Overview	New trucks are imported to the system
System state	New trucks are listed in the truck registry and a transmitter have been fitted into the new truck
System environment	STS, the truck transmitter and the truck registry is operating normally
External stimulus	An employee from the support staff have registered the truckID with the trucks transmitterID
Required system response	STS can now be queried for the new trucks ID

Scenario reference	FS4.
Overview	How transmission network are chosen
System state	The truck is fitted with a truck transmitter and is currently driving
System environment	The truck transmitter and the truck registry is operating normally, the truck is driving in an area without any connection
External stimulus	The truck transmitter has a new position that should be sent to the server
Required system response	The truck transmitter first tries to send via GSM mobile network, after this the long range mesh-network is tried. If neither of these worked, the position is stored to be sent at a later point.

### 3.3.2 System quality scenarios

Scenario reference	QS1.
Overview	If the number of trucks in the fleet increases, or if the business administrators need to collect data at a greater interval, the capabilities of the system ought to be appropriately scalable.
System environment	This process will be handled by Amazon's Elastic Load Balancing service in conjunction with Amazon EC2.
Environment changes	For example, if 10 small EC2 instances can receive and process 1,000 data points per second, the system will allocate the equivalent of 50 small EC2 instances to process an increased workload of 5,000 data points per second.
Required system behavior	When a tracking device in a truck sends data to the STS server, the data will be placed in a queue. Based on the size of the queue, an appropriate number of EC2 instances will be started or shut down to process the queue.

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Scenario reference	QS2.
Overview	If the cellular network is not available, the transmitter on the truck will fall back to using a long-distance mesh network established between the trucks.
System environment	This process will be handled by the transmitters that are installed on every truck in the STC fleet.
Environment changes	For example, if a truck leaves cell network range, it will attempt to connect to a nearby truck, which will also be connected to other trucks. As long as a single truck in the mesh has cell coverage, all of the trucks will be able to transmit their data.
Required system behavior	The trucks' transmitters will have a queue for sending data to the STS server, and will process this queue using the fastest available connection.

Scenario reference	QS3.
Overview	If part of the Amazon EC2 cluster fails, the error must not propagate to the entire system.
System environment	This robustness must be built into the software running on the EC2 cluster. Additionally, the truck transmitters must still be able to transmit data.
Environment changes	If a node in the cluster loses contact with another node, it must ensure that the overall system still has redundant data, such that further node failures can be handled. The trucks must be able to connect to another node if the usual recipient for their data fails to respond. If the system is sufficiently heavily damaged that data integrity is lost, it must still be possible for trucks to transmit data, but any queries in the data should have their result marked as incomplete.
Required system behavior	Heavy data redundancy must be built into the system. Whenever a truck reports back, it may also receive an updated list of communication endpoints.

Scenario reference	QS4.
Overview	If the transmitter on a truck fails, this failure must be noticed and rectified.
System environment	The system must have logic to detect when a truck “should” have transmitted information, but has not. We assume that the fabrication and installation of new transmitters is done externally of our system.
Environment changes	If a truck fails to report back, the maintenance department must be notified that a truck has a faulty transmitter, and that it must be replaced.
Required system behavior	We receive information from the truck register whenever the truck reaches some central locations (the <i>canonical truck position</i> ). If the truck itself does not send the same information, its transmitter will be assumed defective, and called in for repair. As long as every truck is guaranteed to eventually stop at such a destination, any failure will eventually be discovered.

## Chapter 4

# Architectural forces

### 4.1 Goals

**Business driver:** Trucking in Russia is mostly done using old and inefficient trucks with bad road conditions. It is not feasible to replace the vehicles or the road system, so in order to remain competitive, the STC must optimise its logistics instead.

**Project goal:** The STC wishes to optimise its logistics by keeping a detailed log of truck movement. By analysing the information the log, more efficient transportation routes may be designed.

**Project goal:** In order to minimise truck idle time, the STC desires real-time information on truck locations, such that availability for further use can be easily predicted.

### 4.2 Constraints

- The company has very little in-house IT capacity, and does not wish to expand it much. In particular, it does not want to maintain its own servers.
- Since the servers must consequently be outsourced, the STS has to run in a generic, non-customised environment (such as a standard Linux server).
- The truck transmitters are very restricted, embedded hardware, that cannot run large and complicated software.
- Trucking in Russia is at an unusually high risk of hijacking. In order to not leak information about the locations of trucks, all communications has to be protected from eavesdropping, and all queries in the database must be authorised.

- As another safety-related concern, it must not be possible for a third party to falsify truck information.

### 4.3 Architectural principles

Principle reference	P1.
Principle statement	Redundancy of components
Rationale	The STS will be of critical importance in making real-time business decisions, so it is important that it is always available.
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• System distributed across multiple nodes (for example, using multiple different Amazon EC2 instances across multiple availability zones).</li> <li>• Comprehensive error handling in all levels of the system.</li> <li>• Load balancing to handle node failures.</li> <li>• Redundancy at the data level, for example through replication.</li> </ul>

Principle reference	P2.
Principle statement	Use of open source components
Rationale	Open source components will be used where available, in order to reduce development effort and cost.
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to modify external components, if necessary.</li> </ul>

Principle reference	P3.
Principle statement	Encryption of communications
Rationale	To prevent outsiders from gaining knowledge about truck locations, all communications across external networks must be encrypted
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An encryption scheme must be decided upon.</li> <li>• We don't have to worry about security of the link layers.</li> </ul>

Principle reference	P4.
Principle statement	Cryptographic signing of truck communications
Rationale	To prevent third parties from impersonating truck transmitters, all communications from trucks must be signed using assymmetric cryptography.
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cryptographic keys must be managed.</li> <li>• If a key is leaked, there must be a procedure for changing them.</li> </ul>

Principle reference	P5.
Principle statement	The information retrieval API is REST-oriented
Rationale	REST APIs are easy to interface with existing HTTP protocol stacks.
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We need visible HTTP servers.</li> <li>• A protocol for how to represent the data in textual form must be decided.</li> </ul>



Principle reference	P6.
Principle statement	Mesh networking by trucks
Rationale	In order to extend range beyond cell phone networks, short-range mesh networks between truck transmitters is used to indirectly transmit to STS.
Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A truck can relay information about any number of other trucks.</li><li>• Every piece of truck communication must be identified by the original sender, not the truck that managed to contact the STS.</li></ul>

## Chapter 5

# Architectural views

### 5.1 Context view



Figure 1. Context diagram of the Siberian Transport System (STS)

### 5.1.1 Context diagram



Figure 2. Context diagram with information of external and internal parts

- The truck transmitters consist of a GPS unit, that gathers the trucks coordinates, and a sender unit, which will send the coordinates to our servers through a mesh-network. The hardware is a commodity-bought external system, but the software on the sender unit is internal.
- The truck register is a system in which the Siberian trucking company's trucks are registered. All the trucks will already be registered in this system, so data is imported from here to STS. In the scope of our project, the truck register is an external system. The trucks register sends a message to STS whenever a truck is added to the fleet, removed from the fleet, or reaches one of STC's central depots.

### 5.1.2 Interaction scenarios

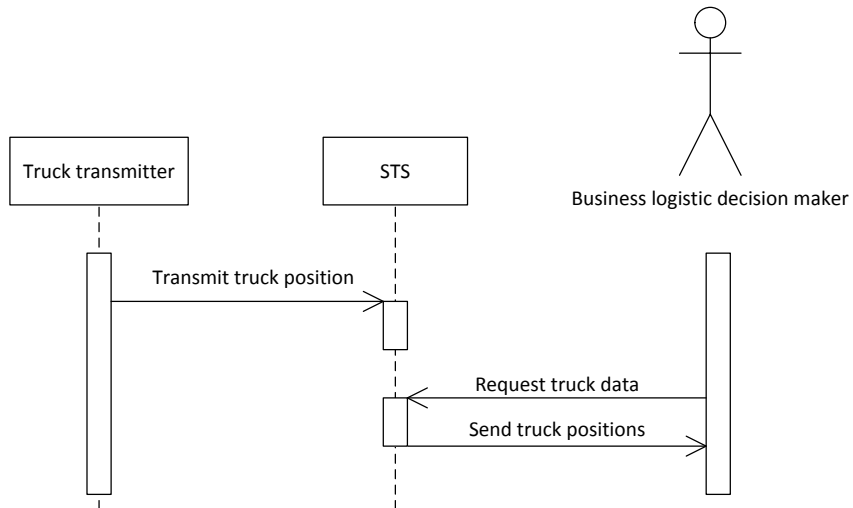


Figure 3. Truck transmitters send positions to the server. Later on, a user can make a query to see specific trucks or to see all trucks that fall behind schedule

## 5.2 Functional view



Figure 4. The figure shows the functional view for the truck transmitter and the Siberian Trucking System (STS)

### 5.2.1 Functional elements

Element name	GPS receiver
Responsibilities	acquire the current position of the truck
Interfaces – inbound	none
Interfaces – out-bound	Data collector

Element name	Data collector
Responsibilities	Gather those positions that should be sent to the server
Interfaces – inbound	GPS receiver
Interfaces – out-bound	Data sender

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Element name	Data sender
Responsibilities	send truck positions encrypted via SMS to the server and get confirmation from the data receiver
Interfaces – inbound	Data collector, Data receiver
Interfaces – out-bound	Data receiver

Element name	Data receiver
Responsibilities	Gather the positions from all the trucks, decrypt the messages and send confirmations to the trucks, when the data is received
Interfaces – inbound	Data sender
Interfaces – out-bound	Data sender and Data processing instance

Element name	Data processing instance
Responsibilities	Send data to the datastore
Interfaces – inbound	Data receiver
Interfaces – out-bound	Datastore and Truck store

Element name	Datastore
Responsibilities	Store all relevant data from the trucks
Interfaces – inbound	Data processing interface, Truck register
Interfaces – out-bound	API instance

Element name	API instance
Responsibilities	Make data accessible for other external applications
Interfaces – inbound	Datastore
Interfaces – out-bound	External client

## 5.2.2 Functional scenarios

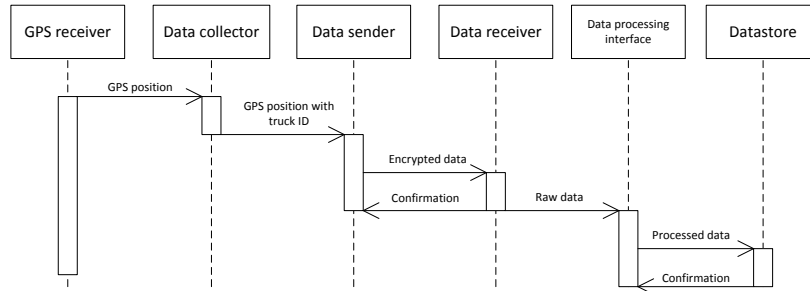


Figure 5. Truck transmitters send positions to the server end gets a confirmation when the data is received

## 5.2.3 System-wide processing

The transmitters will often be out of reach for some network, therefore it is essential to be able to store and send the gathered data at a later point, when the truck again is within range of a network. When the transmitter sends data, it awaits a confirmation from the server before the data is registered as sent in the truck transmitter. If a transmitter hasn't sent a position in a considerable amount of time, when the truck is expected to be at a depot within transmission range, then a notification is raised in the system, to make a technician aware of a possible problem with the trucks transmitter.

## 5.3 Information view

The Information view of the system defines the structure of the systems stored and transient information (e.g. databases and message schemas) and how related aspects such as information ownership, flow, currency, latency and retention will be addressed.

The GPS receiver transmits GPS coordinates along with a timestamp. This information is transmitted to the data collector, which filters and aggregates the information, as well as tagging it with a truck ID. These aggregations are sent to other truck transmitters in range, or to the STS via the data sender if possible. When the data has been successfully transmitted to the STS, it is deleted from the truck transmitter.

When truck position data is received by the STS, it becomes the property of the system. If it is to be saved (that is, if cryptographic checks affirm

its validity and the truck ID is of a known truck), it will be stored in the data store component. Data is never deleted once stored.

When a truck is added or removed via the truck register, the truck ID is stored or deleted from the truck store. This data is always accessible to the data processor and must be up to date. Data never flows from the data processor to the truck store.

The user-facing API uses data from the data store and provides an aggregated view to its callers. That is, data flows from the data store to the API, never the other way. Hence, the API does not allow modification of data, it is read-only.

The data store is an unstructured NoSQL database (SimpleDB) provided by the Amazon S3 platform. The truck store is a relational database using Amazon RDS.

Every HTTP request to the API is logged by the API provider. Every component failure is logged by the redundancy infrastructure mechanism.

### 5.3.1 Data structure

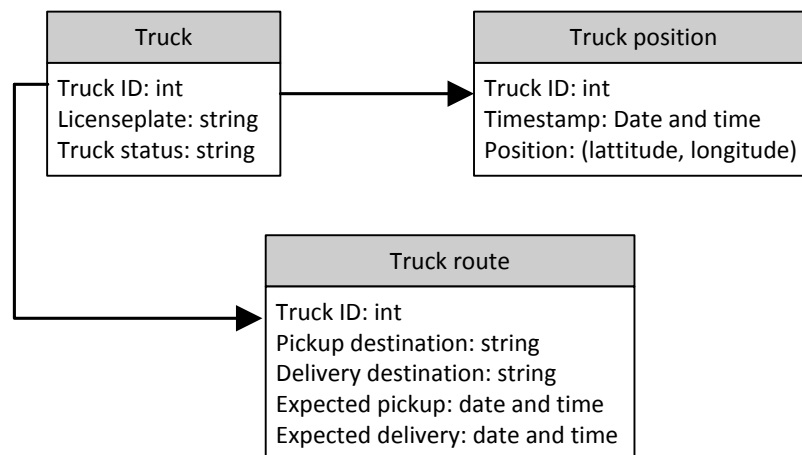


Figure 6. System data structure

The data store contains an unorganised set of tuples. Each tuple consists of a truck ID along with a timestamp and the trucks location at that time. The truck store contains the truck data the system uses, which is gathered from the truck registry



5.3.2 Data flow

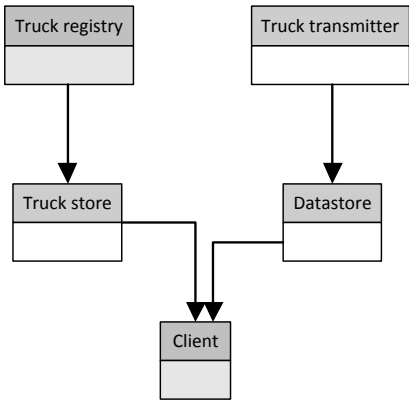


Figure 7. System data flow

Whenever a truck notification event is received from the truck register (for example, that a truck ID is added or removed), the truck store is updated accordingly. Transmitted positions are kept in the datastore, and a client can access both via the API.

5.3.3 Data ownership

System	Truck transmitter	Data processor	API	Truck register	Data store	Truck store
Raw truck data	writer	updater	reader	none	master	none
Truck location	none	creator	reader	none	master	none
Currently known trucks	none	reader	none	writer	none	master

### 5.3.4 Information lifecycles

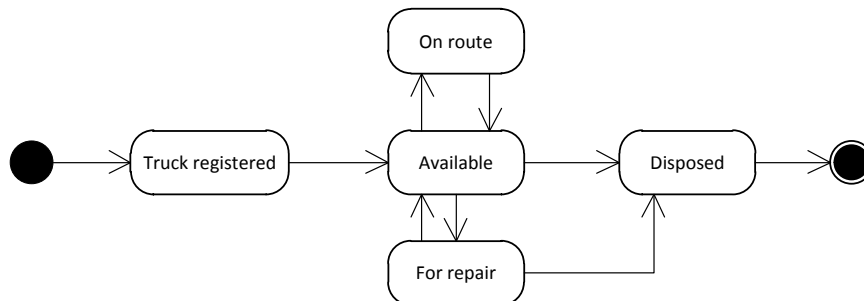


Figure 8. State diagram for a truck in the system

Truck information is gathered from the truck registry, which means that this diagram isn't directly a part of our system, but a part of the external "truck registry". These state transitions will however impact on our system too, as changes to the truck in the truck registry will propagate to the "truck store"

### 5.3.5 Timeliness and latency

There are few explicit timeliness or latency requirements. The unavoidable latency involved in communicating from trucks to the STS will dominate any other delays.

The only exception is the case where a new truck is added to the truck register. In that case, the knowledge that a truck has been added must be propagated before that truck starts sending location information, or it will be discarded. This should not require any particular engineering effort in the system: the users can add the truck ID via the truck register several days before the truck is actually put into service.

### 5.3.6 Archive and retention

Records are never removed from the data store. No explicit archiving is necessary or performed, beyond that which is done automatically by the database provider (Amazon SimpleDB).

## 5.4 Concurrency view

Each physical truck runs a single truck transmitter instance, which contains three tasks: GPS reader, data collector and data sender.

The data and truck stores is distributed across several different processes in order to provide redundancy and scalability.

There is a 1:1 relationship between trucks and data processor tasks. Each data processor is responsible for processing data from a single truck.

The data receiver consists of a small (fixed) number of processes that merely route truck data to the proper data processors.

Each API request results in a logical task responsible for carrying out the request.

### 5.4.1 Concurrency model

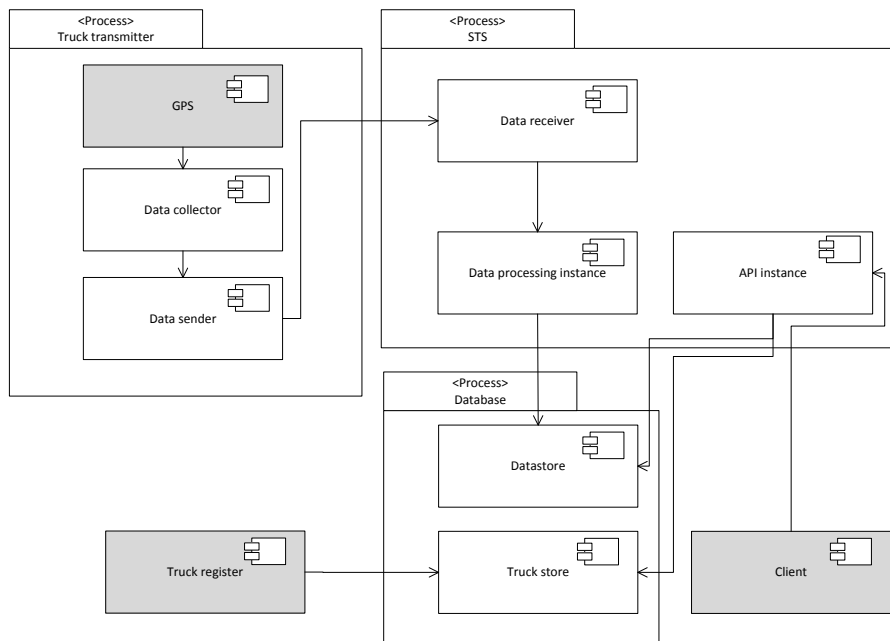


Figure 9. Concurrency model

The truck transmitter is one process, that consists of the Data collector and Data sender, which is placed on a physical device in the truck. Data is sent from the Data sender to the Data receiver. The Data receiver, Data processing instance and API instance all run on the server as individual processes. The Datastore and Truck store exists in a database process.

## 5.4.2 State model

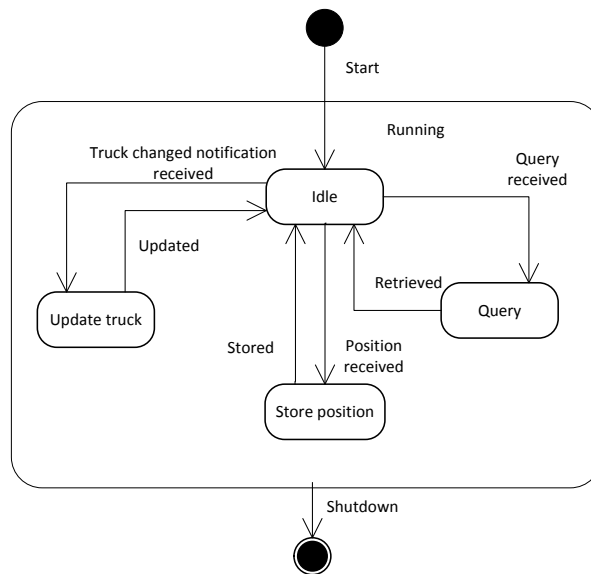


Figure 10. State model

When the system is running, positions can be written to the database and queries can be processed.

## 5.5 Deployment view

The STS will utilize Amazon EC2 for its data aggregation and processing, and the datastore will be implemented using Amazon's SimpleDB nonrelational database technology. The truck register in the system will utilize the Amazon RDS service to access its database. To simplify deployment, the STS will leverage the Amazon Elastic Beanstalk, an automated deployment utility that leverages Amazon's AWS services to provide an automatically load-balanced and scalable platform for development. The deployment will occur using a centralized Git repository hosted by Amazon, and new versions of the software will be automatically deployed when changes are pushed to this repository. Amazon's software and hardware infrastructure will ensure the correct deployment and scalability of the STS, as long as the code does not contain critical errors or bugs.

The STS will use Ubuntu Server 12.04 images on Amazon EC2, and all server-side code will be written in Python. The standard CPython Python interpreter will be used to run the STS, and all HTTP-based communications will be handled using the Apache webserver. Since the STS will leverage

Amazon's SimpleDB and RDS database platforms, no additional database software will be required on the EC2 instances.

### 5.5.1 Runtime platform model

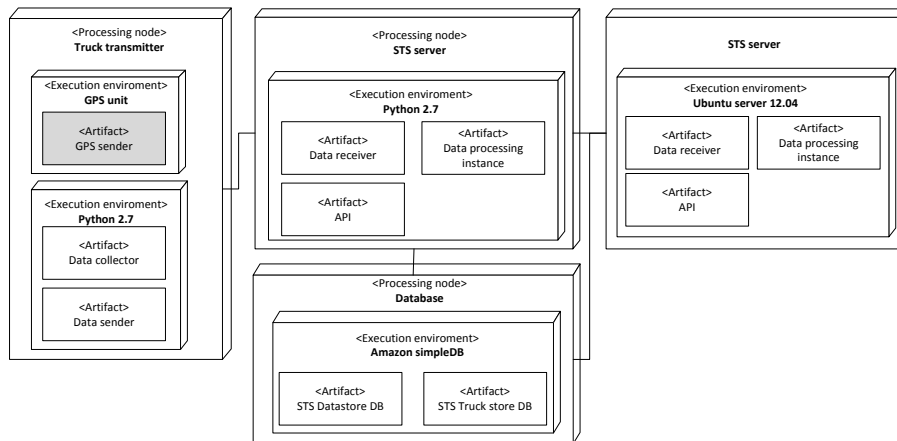


Figure 11. Deployment model

The truck transmitter gets data from an external GPS unit, and sends data to the server via SMS or MESH network. The server consists of an Amazon EC2 server running Ubuntu 12.04 and a Amazon simpleDB for data storage.

### 5.5.2 Software dependencies

Dependency	Version	Depends on
Ubuntu	12.04	
Python	2.7	
Boto (interface to AWS)	2.6.0	Python 2.6 or 2.7
PyCrypto	2.6	Python 2.x or 3.x

Additionally, various non-runtime systems will be needed for deployment and development, such as Git and Pip. The specifics of these are left at the discretion of the developers.

### 5.5.3 Network model

The physical network model is automatically managed by the Amazon S3 platform. This implies that we cannot provide any guarantees beyond the service level agreement, and further robustness must be implemented at the software level.

Communication between trucks and the STS server is done through the mobile telephone network by sending SMS messages.

Communication between trucks is done through a short-range radio transmitter, forming a mesh network.

## 5.6 Development view

### 5.6.1 Module structure

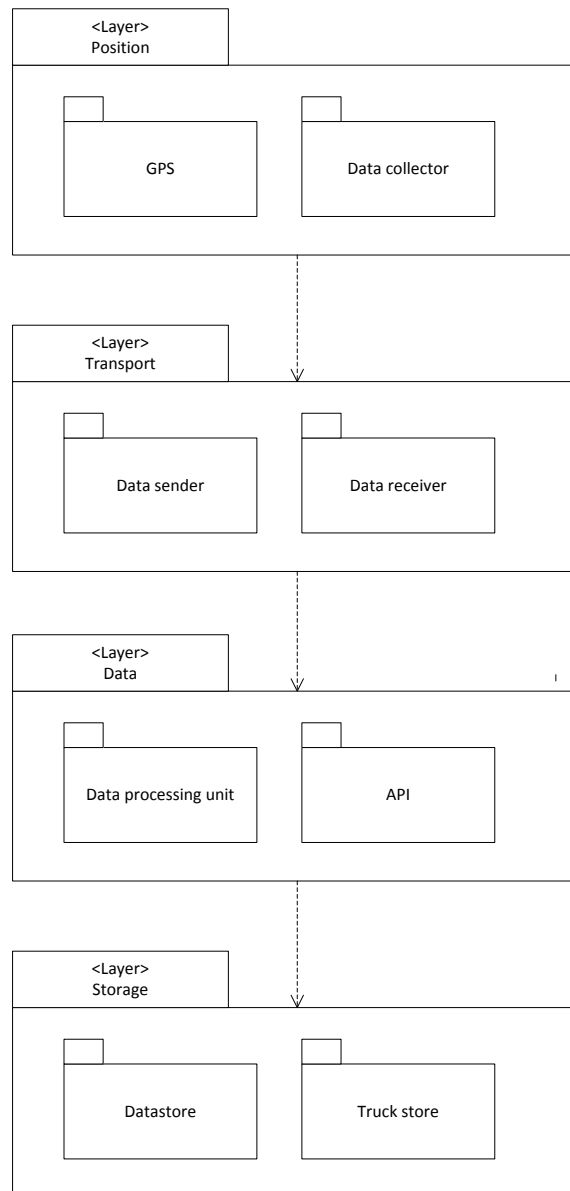


Figure 12. Module structure diagram

### **5.6.2 Common design**

Logging and error-handling will be tracked using the standard Python logging module. The logging module on EC2 will be configured such that error logs from the STS will be saved to the Amazon SimpleDB service for review. Similarly, traces in the event of an exception will also be logged to SimpleDB. All data encryption within the STS will be handled through the PyCrypto library.

### **5.6.3 Standards for design, code, and test**

The STS will be developed using the Python programming language, and each of the functionalities contained within the system will be separated into separate Python modules. The code will follow the guidelines set in PEP-8, the coding style recommended by the Python developer community. Every public API contained within a module of the STS must contain an appropriate unit test either embedded within its documentation using the doctest framework, or in a separate Python file using the unittest module provided with the Python programming language.

### **5.6.4 Codeline organization**

Dependencies on third-party modules and libraries will be monitored using PIP, the Python package manager, and each discrete module in the STS must have a file named "requirements.txt" with an appropriately formatted list of modules and the minimum version number required for the proper functioning of the STS software. Deployment and version control will be managed through Git, and the deployment to Amazon EC2 will be handled through a centralized Git repository managed using Amazon Elastic Beanstalk. The STS modules will be separated into three directories: "static," "src," "docs," and "libs." The "static" directory will contain any static files related to the STS system, the "src" directory will hold the Python modules of the STS (each module will be contained within its own subdirectory with an initialization file), the "docs" directory will contain all documentation associated with the STS, and the "libs" directory will contain all of the third-party Python modules necessary to run the STS.

## **5.7 Operational view**

### **5.7.1 Installation and migration**

The installation of the STS will be handled through the Amazon Elastic Beanstalk platform. To install the STS, a new project must be created using



the AWS control panel. Once Amazon creates a central Git repository for the project, the STS code will need to be configured with the appropriate authentication details for the AWS account being used, including the SimpleDB and RDS databases being used. After the STS code is configured, it can be installed by pushing to the master branch of the Elastic Beanstalk Git repository. All further deployments of the STS may be handled through Git.

To separate the ongoing version control of the STS with its deployment, the STS development team will be required to push changes to two separate Git repositories. The first repository, hosted externally on Github will contain potentially-unstable development code. Once the code in this repository matures and is thoroughly tested, the changes can be easily pushed to the second repository hosted by Amazon. Due to the simplified branching and merging available within Git, bug fixes can be quickly and efficiently deployed to EC2, while larger changes that require more testing can be re-integrated later.

### **5.7.2 Operational configuration management**

The configuration for the STS will be related to the implementation of AWS API's used by the system, including RDS, SimpleDB, EC2, and Elastic Beanstalk. The Python library Boto provides a simple interface for interacting with and configuring the AWS API's, so the configuration for the STS will be housed in a Python module named "configuration." This module should contain the relevant AWS API access keys and connection details for the SimpleDB and RDS database systems.

### **5.7.3 System administration**

Amazon will provide all hardware-related systems administration, and EC2 provides a 99.95 percent uptime guarantee. Although hardware failure alone is unlikely, programmatic errors are possible, so systems administrators must maintain at minimum a daily backup of the STS data in the event of accidental data deletion or corruption. To ensure the optimal functioning of the STS, systems administrators must also regularly monitor the health of the system by using automated monitoring tools, such as New Relic.

### **5.7.4 Provision of support**

The STC will have a team of IT professionals responsible for providing basic support for the STS. Any problems related to the general use of the system will be handled by this IT department. If the problem is found to be an issue with the STS itself, the issue will be escalated to the in-house development

team of the STC, which is in charge of maintaining and administering the STS system. If the problem is then found to be related to the infrastructure of the system, the development team will contact Amazon AWS support staff.

## Chapter 6

# System qualities

This section explains how the architecture presented meets its each of its required system quality properties.

While much of this information will be intrinsic to the views documented in the previous chapter, it is often useful to bring out some of it separately. In particular, if a quality property such as security or performance depends on features documented in several different views, then you should explain this here. For example, scalability may depend on optimisations in the data model (documented in the Information View) along with load balancing components (documented in the Deployment View).



## 6.1 Performance and scalability

For each of the main performance and scalability requirements, explain how the system will meet the requirement. Refer to practical testing and performance modelling work that has been performed as part of applying this perspective.

Requirement	How met
1. average response time for the STS API should be less than 100ms under a load of up to 20 requests per second	Amazon Elastic Beanstalk will automatically start and stop additional EC2 instances according to the level of load experienced by the STS. The configuration of Elastic Beanstalk will ensure that the response time remains low.
2. average response time for the data aggregator should be less than 50ms under a load of up to 200 requests per second	the implementation of Amazon Elastic Beanstalk will mimic the implementation of the API, but Elastic Beanstalk will be configured to suit the data aggregator and produce a sub-50ms response time.
3. the datastore should respond to queries for up to 10,000 separate data points in under 1,000ms, regardless of the total size of the database	the datastore will be implemented on top of SimpleDB, which has predictable performance characteristics that do not change based on the total amount of data in the database.
4. verifying the existence of a truck in the truck store should require less than 15ms of time	the truck register will act as a cache for the truck store, and the truck register will be implemented on top of the Amazon RDS platform with aggressive and distributed in-memory caching.
5. network latency between the datastore, truck register, data aggregator, and API endpoints must be less than 5ms	AWS has latencies of approximately 1ms between different availability zones and less than 1ms when communicating within an individual availability zone.
6. although the STS will be ready to handle delayed SMS delivery, SMS messages from the trucks should ideally arrive within 5 seconds of being sent	the mobile operator or virtual network provider must guarantee a low latency for SMS messages. It is assumed that the STC can negotiate an appropriate contract.
7. although the STS can appropriately handle the event in which an SMS is not delivered from a truck, SMS messages should have a minimum of a 99 percent delivery rate	it is assumed that the STC can negotiate an appropriate contract with a network provider.

## 6.2 Security

For each of the main, security requirements, explain how the system will meet the requirement. Define (or reference) the threat model, security policy and security design that have been used as part of applying this perspective.

Much of the internal security of the STS server is delegated to our deployment infrastructure (Amazon S3). This section is mostly concerned with issues arising from the parts of STS using unsecured networks or interacting with the external world. The following table summarises our security requirements, we provide motivation for our requirements in subsections 6.2.1 and 6.2.2.

Requirement	How met
Truck position information must be kept confidential.	Position information must be encrypted whenever transmitted across unsafe networks (wireless meshes or the SMS network).
Truck communication must not be forgeable.	Truck positions generated by a truck must be signed with a private key known only to the truck.
Only authorised users may obtain truck information via the API.	An API key must be used to authenticate any requests.
Canonical truck position information must not be forgeable.	The truck register must prove its validity with a cryptographic signature.

### 6.2.1 Access control policy

Much of the system is automated, or only accessed by other systems, so the principals are generally not persons. Since we store very few kinds of data, and have only one user class, our access control policy is particularly simple.

Principal	Truck positions	Truck existence	Canonical truck location
API user	Read-only operations	None	None
Truck register	None	Write-only operations	Write-only operations
Truck	Write-only operations	None	None

### 6.2.2 Threat identification

**Goal:** Determine the location of a truck.

1. Extract information from the STS server itself.
  - 1.1. Access the data store directly.
    - 1.1.1. Guess database password.
    - 1.1.2. Exploit software vulnerability.
  - 1.2. Access data through API via obtained API key.
    - 1.2.1. Crack API key.
    - 1.2.2. Obtain API key from valid user.
  - 1.3. Use social engineering to coerce a valid user to provide the information.
2. Intercept truck communication containing the position of another truck.
3. If you know the position history truck  $T_1$ , and communications from truck  $T_1$  contains truck positions from truck  $T_2$ , the attacker can deduce that they must have met recently.

**Goal:** Forge location of a truck.

1. Obtain the private key of the truck and use it to send properly signed truck positions.
  - 1.1. Gain physical access to the truck transmitter itself.
2. Access the data store directly.

## 6.3 Availability and resilience

Explain the A&R requirements.

Define the availability schedule(s) for the system.

Explain how the system will meet the requirements, referring to practical testing, modelling and design work that has been performed as part of applying this perspective.

Requirement	How met
1. There should be no single point of failure	all deployment nodes are clustered or load-balanced; where nodes are clustered, component failure is detected automatically and the passive node is brought up automatically

## 6.4 Evolution

Explain the evolution requirements.

Define the evolutionary dimensions that are relevant to the system.

Explain how the system will meet the requirements, taking into account the likelihood of each type of evolution occurring (explaining how the probabilities were arrived at) and referring to the design work performed as part of applying his perspective.

Requirement	How met
1. it must be possible to add extra input channels without having to redesign the core system	input channel components are loosely coupled to central processing modules via standardises abstract interfacey

## 6.5 Other qualities

### 6.5.1 Accessibility

Explain how the system meets any accessibility requirements (if any).



### **6.5.2 Internationalisation**

Explain how the system meets any internationalisation (or localisation) requirements (if any).

### **6.5.3 Location**

Explain how the system meets any requirements for the geographical location(s) it is to be installed in (if any).

### **6.5.4 Regulation**

Explain how the system meets any regulatory requirements (if any).

### **6.5.5 Usability**

Explain how the system meets any usability requirements (if any).

## Appendix A

# Architecture backlog

Maintain a *backlog* listing needs you have, issues and problems you have to solve, ideas for future design decisions etc. Note actions that you need to take and update the backlog as actions are completed:

### Actions

- Decide on which Android version to target
- ...

### Done

- Create an architectural prototype using java.nio for increased scalability

## Appendix B

# Architecture evaluation

Describe the architectural evaluation that you performed, cf. Chapter 14 of ? including what you learned about your architecture design.

## Appendix C

# Architecture skeleton

Describe the architecture skeleton that you developed including how to download and run it.