Travelee

CS6313 ASSIGNMENT 1

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Abstract:

Nowadays, there are a vast number of places to go and activities to do. With such a wide array of potential activities and places to visit, it can be difficult for people to choose what to do and where to go. What's more, planning a full day of activities can be tricky, and some people may end up losing the opportunity to go somewhere in the span of one day. Our service will attempt to solve this difficulty involved in deciding how to spend your day by offering recommendations of locations based on the tastes and interests of our users. This recommendation will be made based on the user's preferences, so whether they're looking for a great restaurant, shops, or things to do, the service will return the best places for that user. Furthermore, the service will be able to generate roadmap itineraries with places to visit, restaurants and so more, in a specific time span, so that the user gets the opportunity to visit the best places in an organized and optimized way.

Service Purpose:

Travelee is a middleware service that will generate list of places based on some user's parameters, to create a traveling path to visit. Usually, when you want to go or travel somewhere, you use an application that gives you recommendations and suggestions based on what you like or what you may want to do. However, none of them will give you a path of multiple places to visit based on your recommendations and the time you may spend in each of them. Based on your location, your interests, the length of time and number of stops you may allow in your tour, an itinerary will be will be sent back to the user with inside a list of locations to visit. This service will be particularly useful for people who want to visit and get the most of their time in some place.

Existing Implementations:

Our main competitor would be the application Foursquare; this application shows to the user the best places to eat, shop, visit, drink, and more, anywhere in the world. Based on the user's settings and tastes, the application will then display places based on these parameters and their average ratings.

Another one called LiveTrekker, creates a digital journal of your travels so you can look back on your trips on an interactive map. The ability to look back on a map to places is very interesting however, it doesn't have the ability to recommend future places to visit.

Roadtrippers, an application built around road trips and places to visit in a specific timespan. It mainly focuses on the American market, and on long time span. We plan

to make our own service available everywhere around the world, and for a quick day planning, with the possibility to add user's parameters and interests.

Hype, a location of interest app based on suggestions and activities from local social media influencers. This aspect could be very interesting to implement on our own service, to increase the number of places to visit and enhance the quality of our results.

Goals of the service:

The whole service will be built around a REST API, so that it will be easier for our mobile application to interact with it and process data.

Requirements:

Functional:

- Recover list of places based on the user location.
- Browse through and order the results from their ratings and match with the user's interests.
- Retrieve more places, considering the time needed for each of them to get visited and their location from the previous added place, and add them to the roadmap.
- Once the roadmap is complete, with the user allowed visiting time completed, return the list to the calling application.

Non-functional:

- Return the data in less than 10 seconds, so that the user doesn't have to wait too long to get its results.
- The user data should be encrypted inside our service database.
- The service should be reliable.
- The service should be scalable.

My role in the team:

My part in the team will be to develop a first draft of the service API that will become the main entry-point for our mobile application Travelee. I will then work with my teammate on the service API and the application development.