Luxoria - Technical Stacks Justification

Version 1.0

Last Updated: 01/02/2025

Summary

- <u>Luxoria Application (LDA)</u>
- LuxStudio

Comparison of WinUI 3 with .NET to Other UI Frameworks

1. Introduction

WinUI 3 with .NET 9.0 is a modern UI framework developed by Microsoft, designed for building high-performance, native Windows applications. It is the evolution of UWP and WPF, offering a more advanced and optimized approach to Windows app development. This document provides an extensive comparison of WinUI 3 with alternative solutions, including WPF, Electron.js, JavaFX, and Qt, focusing on their strengths, weaknesses, and best use cases.

WinUI 3 is also built with modularity in mind, allowing developers to create applications that are scalable, maintainable, and easy to integrate with other Windows and .NET components. The separation of UI and business logic is enhanced through MVVM (Model-View-ViewModel) support, ensuring better maintainability and testability.

2. Overview of WinUI 3 with .NET 9.0

WinUI 3 is designed to offer a seamless experience for Windows developers. It allows deep integration with Windows APIs, providing a native feel and optimized performance. Unlike WPF, which relies on older DirectX 9 technology, WinUI 3 is built on **DirectX 12**, enabling more efficient rendering, smoother animations, and better resource utilization.

Key Advantages

Modern Fluent Design System for sleek and responsive UI

- Hardware-accelerated graphics powered by DirectX 12
- Deep integration with Windows APIs, ensuring robust system interactions
- Full support for .NET 9.0, providing improved performance and maintainability
- Better modularity, allowing developers to structure applications more efficiently
- Lower memory consumption compared to web-based solutions like Electron.js
- Enhanced security model with built-in sandboxing capabilities
- Better debugging and profiling tools with integration into Visual Studio
- Support for WinRT and COM interop, making native Windows feature integration seamless

3. WinUI 3 vs. WPF

WinUI 3 Advantages

- Uses DirectX 12, offering faster, smoother graphics rendering
- Built-in support for modern Fluent UI, making applications visually appealing
- Better long-term support from Microsoft, as WPF is in maintenance mode
- More optimized memory usage, resulting in improved performance on low-resource systems
- Future-proof Windows development, ensuring compatibility with upcoming OS updates
- More modular architecture, making it easier to update and maintain applications
- Better integration with .NET ecosystem, enabling advanced functionality with C# and .NET APIs

WPF Advantages

- Works on Windows 7, 8, and 10, while WinUI 3 is Windows 10/11 only
- More established ecosystem with extensive documentation and community support
- Better suited for legacy applications that need to maintain compatibility with older systems
- Supports WinForms integration, making migration from older applications easier

4. WinUI 3 vs. Electron.js

WinUI 3 Advantages

 Uses native Windows APIs, ensuring superior performance compared to Electron's web-based rendering

- Lower memory footprint, as Electron runs a full Chromium instance for every app
- Better modularity, allowing developers to optimize individual components without overhead
- More seamless OS integration, allowing direct access to Windows features like system tray,
 notifications, and file management
- Better security, as Electron apps often struggle with vulnerabilities due to their web-based nature
- Improved CPU and GPU efficiency, leading to longer battery life on laptops and mobile devices
- Better multithreading support, as Electron is limited by JavaScript's single-threaded nature

Electron.js Advantages

- Cross-platform compatibility (Windows, macOS, Linux)
- Leverages web development skills, making it more accessible for developers coming from web backgrounds
- Large ecosystem of JavaScript libraries and frameworks
- Faster prototyping, as it allows rapid UI development with web tools

5. WinUI 3 vs. JavaFX / Swing

WinUI 3 Advantages

- Better performance, as JavaFX relies on OpenGL and Swing is outdated
- Easier access to Windows system APIs, allowing for deeper system integration
- More modern UI components, enhancing user experience
- More energy-efficient, reducing CPU usage compared to Java-based solutions
- Better integration with cloud services, leveraging .NET's strong cloud support

JavaFX / Swing Advantages

- Cross-platform support, running on Windows, macOS, and Linux
- Good choice for Java-based enterprise applications, particularly those that already leverage
 Java backend systems
- Strong JVM ecosystem, making it an attractive option for Java developers

6. WinUI 3 vs. Qt (C++/QML)

WinUI 3 Advantages

- Better Windows integration, ensuring native Windows UI and behavior
- More accessible to .NET developers, making it a better choice for those already using Microsoft technologies
- No licensing costs, making it a more affordable option for businesses and developers
 compared to Qt, which requires commercial licenses for enterprise use. Open-source adoption
 is encouraged, allowing for widespread use without financial constraints. Additionally, WinUI 3
 benefits from Microsoft's ecosystem, ensuring continuous updates and support.
- Scalability, making it suitable for both small-scale applications and enterprise-level solutions
 due to its modular architecture and easy integration with Azure cloud services.
- Extensive documentation and community support, with Microsoft providing official guides, forums, and tutorials, making it easier for developers to adopt and troubleshoot.
- Performance efficiency, leveraging hardware acceleration and DirectX 12 to ensure smooth UI
 rendering and responsiveness, outperforming frameworks like Electron in resource utilization.
 as Qt requires commercial licenses for enterprise applications
- Better default UI components, reducing the need for extensive UI customization
- Better .NET ecosystem compatibility, leveraging features like LINQ, async/await, and dependency injection

Qt Advantages

- Cross-platform compatibility (Windows, Linux, macOS, iOS, Android)
- Superior performance for CPU-intensive applications, as it is built in C++
- More established for industrial applications, particularly in fields like automotive and medical software

7. Conclusion

WinUI 3 with .NET 9.0 emerges as the best choice for building modern Windows applications. With its **high performance**, **deep Windows integration**, **modularity**, **and modern Fluent UI**, it provides a superior alternative to older frameworks like WPF and JavaFX.

While WPF remains relevant for legacy applications, its maintenance mode status makes it a less viable option for future-proof development. Electron.js is ideal for web developers looking to create cross-platform applications but suffers from high memory usage and security concerns. JavaFX and Swing are better suited for Java-based projects, though they lack modern UI capabilities. Qt remains a strong contender for cross-platform development, particularly in performance-intensive applications.

Final Recommendation

For Windows-first applications requiring a modern UI, modularity, and superior performance, WinUI 3 with .NET 9.0 is the best option. However, if cross-platform support is a strict requirement, Qt or Electron.js might be preferable, depending on the specific needs of the application.

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Technical Stack: Frontend & Security

1. Introduction

The choice of technologies for the frontend and security is based on several criteria: performance, maintainability, user experience, and ease of integration with the backend.

For this project, we opted for **Vue.js + TypeScript** with **DaisyUI and TailwindCSS** for styling. Additionally, **hCaptcha** was chosen for security, ensuring protection against automated threats while maintaining user privacy. This section outlines the reasons for these choices and compares them with other popular solutions.

2. Vue.js + TypeScript

Why Vue.js?

Vue.js is a progressive JavaScript framework that enables the creation of interactive user interfaces with a gentler learning curve compared to its competitors. It offers a modular and reactive approach, making modern frontend development easier.

Key Advantages

- **Simplicity and flexibility**: A clear and easy-to-learn syntax.
- **Reactivity**: The built-in reactivity system allows smooth state management.
- Rich ecosystem: Vue Router for navigation, Pinia/Vuex for state management.
- Performance: Better DOM optimization than React due to its lightweight Virtual DOM.
- **Easy integration**: Compatible with existing projects and can be gradually adopted.

Why TypeScript?

TypeScript adds static typing to JavaScript, improving code robustness and maintainability.

Key Advantages

- **Detects errors at compilation**, reducing bugs in production.
- Enhances auto-completion and developer experience.
- Better code documentation through explicit types.

3. DaisyUI + TailwindCSS

Why TailwindCSS?

TailwindCSS is a utility-first CSS framework that enables the creation of well-styled interfaces without excessive custom CSS.

Key Advantages

- Increased productivity: Styles applied directly in HTML, reducing the need for custom CSS.
- Optimized performance: Purgeable CSS, loading only what is used.
- Easy customization: Configurable via `tailwind.config.js`.

Why DaisyUI?

DaisyUI is an extension of TailwindCSS that provides pre-designed components following Material Design and Fluent Design principles.

Key Advantages

• Time-saving: Ready-to-use UI components.

- Predefined themes: Easily adaptable to project needs.
- **Seamless integration**: Works directly with TailwindCSS.

4. Security: hCaptcha

Why hCaptcha?

hCaptcha is a security tool designed to protect websites from bots, spam, and other automated threats while respecting user privacy. It offers an alternative to Google's reCAPTCHA, prioritizing decentralization and compliance with data privacy regulations.

Key Advantages

- Better privacy: Does not track users across websites, ensuring GDPR and CCPA compliance.
- **Higher accuracy**: Uses advanced machine learning to detect bots more efficiently.
- More control: Website owners can monetize CAPTCHA challenges while protecting their site.
- **Lightweight and efficient**: Provides security without significant performance overhead.

hCaptcha vs reCAPTCHA

| Criteria | hCaptcha | reCAPTCHA |
|--------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Privacy | GDPR-compliant, no tracking | Tracks users across websites |
| Accuracy | High accuracy with ML | Strong but Google-dependent |
| Monetization | Allows site owners to earn | No earning potential |
| Performance | Lightweight and fast | Can add extra load to pages |

5. Comparison with Other Solutions

Vue.js vs React

| Criteria | Vue.js | React |
|----------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Learning Curve | Easier and more intuitive | More complex, requires JSX |
| Performance | Optimized Virtual DOM | High-performance Virtual DOM |
| Ecosystem | Vue Router, Pinia, Vite | Next.js, Redux, Webpack |

| Criteria | Vue.js | React |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Model | Options API or Composition API | Hooks and functional components |
| Integration | Easy for existing projects | Best suited for complex SPAs |

Vue.js vs Angular

| Criteria | Vue.js | Angular |
|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Complexity | Lightweight and progressive | Full-fledged framework, heavier |
| Performance | Faster for small projects | Optimized for large applications |
| Architecture | Flexible, modular | Strict and structured |
| Learning Curve | Easy to grasp | Complex, requires TypeScript |
| Usage | Ideal for dynamic projects | Preferred for enterprise applications |

6. Conclusion

Choosing **Vue.js** with **TypeScript** provides an excellent balance between simplicity, performance, and maintainability. Combined with **TailwindCSS** and **DaisyUI**, it enables fast development with a modern and optimized UI.

For larger and more structured applications, Angular can be an option, while React is a good choice for applications requiring a mature ecosystem and strong community support. However, Vue.js remains more accessible and offers better productivity for this project.

For security, **hCaptcha** stands out as a privacy-friendly and efficient alternative to Google's reCAPTCHA, ensuring robust protection without compromising user data. It is particularly suitable for projects requiring GDPR compliance and enhanced privacy control.

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Technical Stack: Backend

1. Introduction

The backend is the backbone of any web application, responsible for handling **business logic**, **data management**, **security**, **and API integrations**. For this project, we chose **.NET WebAPI (NET 8)** as the core backend technology.

This section outlines the reasons behind this choice and compares it with other backend solutions like **Node.js**, **Django**, **and Spring Boot**.

2. .NET WebAPI (NET 8)

Why .NET WebAPI?

.NET WebAPI is a robust framework developed by **Microsoft** for building **RESTful web services**. It offers **excellent performance**, **scalability**, **and security**, making it an ideal choice for modern web applications.

Advantages of .NET WebAPI (NET 8)

- High performance: Optimized with Just-In-Time (JIT) and Ahead-Of-Time (AOT) compilation.
- Scalability: Supports microservices architecture and cloud-native applications.
- **Security**: Built-in authentication and authorization mechanisms with **ASP.NET Identity**.
- Strong typing: C# provides type safety, reducing runtime errors.
- Seamless database integration: Works well with Entity Framework (EF) Core and PostgreSQL.
- Cross-platform: Can run on Windows, Linux, and macOS.
- Integration with frontend frameworks: Easily integrates with Vue.js, React, and Angular.

Performance Benchmarks

According to **TechEmpower Benchmarks (Round 21)**, .NET ranks among the **fastest web frameworks**:

- .NET → 7.02M requests/sec
- Java Servlet → 2.20M requests/sec
- Node.js → 0.60M requests/sec

This highlights the **superior performance** of .NET WebAPI compared to popular alternatives. (Source: <u>TechEmpower Benchmarks - Round 21</u>)

Key Features of .NET 8

- Minimal APIs: Simplified route handling for lightweight applications.
- Improved performance: Faster execution with native AOT compilation.
- **Dependency Injection (DI)**: Built-in **DI system** for managing dependencies efficiently.
- gRPC Support: Enables high-performance communication between services.

3. Comparison with Other Backend Solutions

.NET WebAPI vs Node.js

| Criteria | .NET WebAPI | Node.js |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Performance | High, thanks to compiled C# | Good, but single-threaded |
| Scalability | Supports multi-threading | Uses event-driven model |
| Security | Strong built-in security | Requires additional packages |
| Database | Native support for SQL/NoSQL | Strong MongoDB ecosystem |
| Learning Curve | Steeper for beginners | Easier for JavaScript devs |

.NET WebAPI vs Django

| Criteria | .NET WebAPI | Django |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Performance | High due to compiled C# | Good, but Python overhead |
| Scalability | Microservices-ready | Better suited for monoliths |
| Security | Built-in authentication | Strong security features |
| Database | SQL & NoSQL | SQL-first (PostgreSQL, MySQL) |
| Learning Curve | Moderate | Easier for Python devs |

.NET WebAPI vs Spring Boot

| Criteria | .NET WebAPI | Spring Boot |
|-------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Performance | Faster due to JIT & AOT | Good, but Java is heavier |
| Scalability | Microservices-ready | Enterprise-grade scalability |

| Criteria | .NET WebAPI | Spring Boot |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Security | Built-in ASP.NET Identity | Strong security features |
| Dev Speed | Faster with C# and minimal APIs | Requires more boilerplate |

4. Conclusion

.NET WebAPI (NET 8) is an excellent choice for backend development due to its high performance, security, and scalability. It offers seamless integration with databases, frontend frameworks, and cloud services, making it an ideal solution for modern web applications.

While **Node.js** is a good option for **lightweight**, **event-driven applications**, and **Django** is preferred for **Python-based projects**, **.NET WebAPI** stands out in terms of **raw performance**, **security**, **and enterprise-grade features**.

For **large-scale applications**, **Spring Boot** remains a strong competitor, but **.NET WebAPI** provides a more modern and optimized development experience.

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Technical Stack: Storage

1. Introduction

Efficient data storage is a crucial component of any web application, ensuring **reliable and scalable data management**. For this project, we opted for **PostgreSQL** as the database and **Entity Framework (EF) Core** as the **Object-Relational Mapper (ORM)**.

This section explains the reasons for these choices and compares them with alternative database and ORM solutions.

2. PostgreSQL

Why PostgreSQL?

PostgreSQL is an advanced open-source relational database management system (RDBMS) known for its robustness, performance, and extensibility. It is widely used in enterprise applications and supports both SQL and NoSQL features.

Advantages of PostgreSQL

- ACID compliance: Ensures data integrity and reliability.
- **Scalability**: Efficient handling of large datasets and concurrent users.
- **Extensibility**: Supports custom functions, JSONB storage, and full-text search.
- Security: Strong authentication mechanisms, encryption, and role-based access control.
- Performance: Optimized query execution and indexing strategies.
- Cross-platform support: Runs on Windows, Linux, and macOS.

Performance Benchmarks

According to PostgreSQL benchmarks:

- **PostgreSQL 11 vs MongoDB 4.0**: PostgreSQL achieved **higher throughput**, ranging from several percentage points up to **one or two orders of magnitude** in certain tests (**source**).
- Performance evolution: Tests using `pgbench` from PostgreSQL 9.6 to 15 showed substantial
 transaction processing improvements (<u>source</u>).

3. Entity Framework (EF) Core

Why Entity Framework Core?

Entity Framework Core is a **lightweight**, **extensible**, **and high-performance ORM** for .NET applications. It simplifies database interactions by allowing developers to **work with data using C# objects** instead of raw SQL queries.

Advantages of EF Core

- **Productivity**: Reduces boilerplate code for database interactions.
- Cross-platform: Works on Windows, Linux, and macOS.
- Migration support: Handles schema evolution with automated database migrations.
- Performance optimizations: Includes lazy loading, query caching, and batching.

- Database-agnostic: Supports multiple databases, including PostgreSQL, MySQL, and SQL
 Server.
- LINQ support: Enables expressive and strongly-typed queries.

4. Comparison with Other Storage Solutions

PostgreSQL vs MySQL

| Criteria | PostgreSQL | MySQL |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Performance | High for complex queries | Faster for read-heavy workloads |
| Scalability | Excellent for large datasets | Good, but can be limited |
| ACID Compliance | Fully ACID-compliant | ACID-compliant, but with trade-offs |
| Extensibility | Supports JSONB, custom types | Limited customizability |
| Security | Advanced role-based access | Basic authentication |

EF Core vs Dapper

| Criteria | EF Core | Dapper |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Productivity | Higher due to automation | Requires more manual SQL |
| Performance | Good, but abstraction overhead | Faster for raw SQL queries |
| Query Flexibility | Uses LINQ, automated queries | Full control over SQL |
| Learning Curve | Easier for .NET developers | Requires SQL expertise |
| Use Case | Recommended for large projects | Ideal for micro-optimizations |

5. Conclusion

PostgreSQL is the ideal database for this project due to its **robustness**, **extensibility**, **and scalability**. It provides **excellent performance**, **strong security**, **and a wide range of advanced features**, making it a **preferred choice over MySQL** for complex applications.

Entity Framework Core is the best ORM for .NET applications, offering **productivity**, **maintainability**, **and database-agnostic flexibility**. While **Dapper** provides raw SQL performance,

EF Core strikes a balance between **efficiency and ease of use**, making it the preferred choice for most scenarios.

By combining **PostgreSQL** and **EF Core**, we ensure a **scalable**, **efficient**, **and maintainable** storage solution for our application.

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