

Guestmeal.me: eBay for Guest Meals

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Abstract

As a freshmen in college, many students are strapped for cash and many struggle to make friends at first. At most colleges, including Boston University, students living in dormitories are required to obtain a dining plan which, among many benefits, provides ten guest meals per semester. These are not transferable from one semester to another and will go to waste if unused. Our goal is build an application that will allow students to optimally utilize their extra meals or find low cost meals on campus that will leave them satisfied. To extend it even further, our future goal is to match students such that they can share this meal together and possibly make a new friend.

Market Analysis

- lots of successful peer-to-peer food service companies:



- over 150 people signed a petition to convert guest meals to convenience points

Use Cases

Dash & Dine

Guest meal providers post guest meal for sale and students can bid on it. Once a bid is placed, the guest meal is won. The winner will email the provider to set up a time to meet up to be swiped into the dining hall.



Personality Matching

Providers and consumers will arrange a time to eat together. This adds more value to the meal, in the form of friendship and comradery.

Auctioning Methods



Our application utilizes a Dutch(descending price) auction to sell guest meals. The price of a meal starts at \$10 and decreases over the course of a day. Bidders can buy in at anytime and win the auction at the price shown



First Prototype

Guestmeal.me navigation: Buy, Sell, Dashboard, Log out

Sell a Guestmeal:

How Selling Works:

Every Guestmeal:

- is available on auction for 24 hours
- begins at \$10 and slowly decreases over the course of the 24 hours
- will be sold to the first buyer who wants it

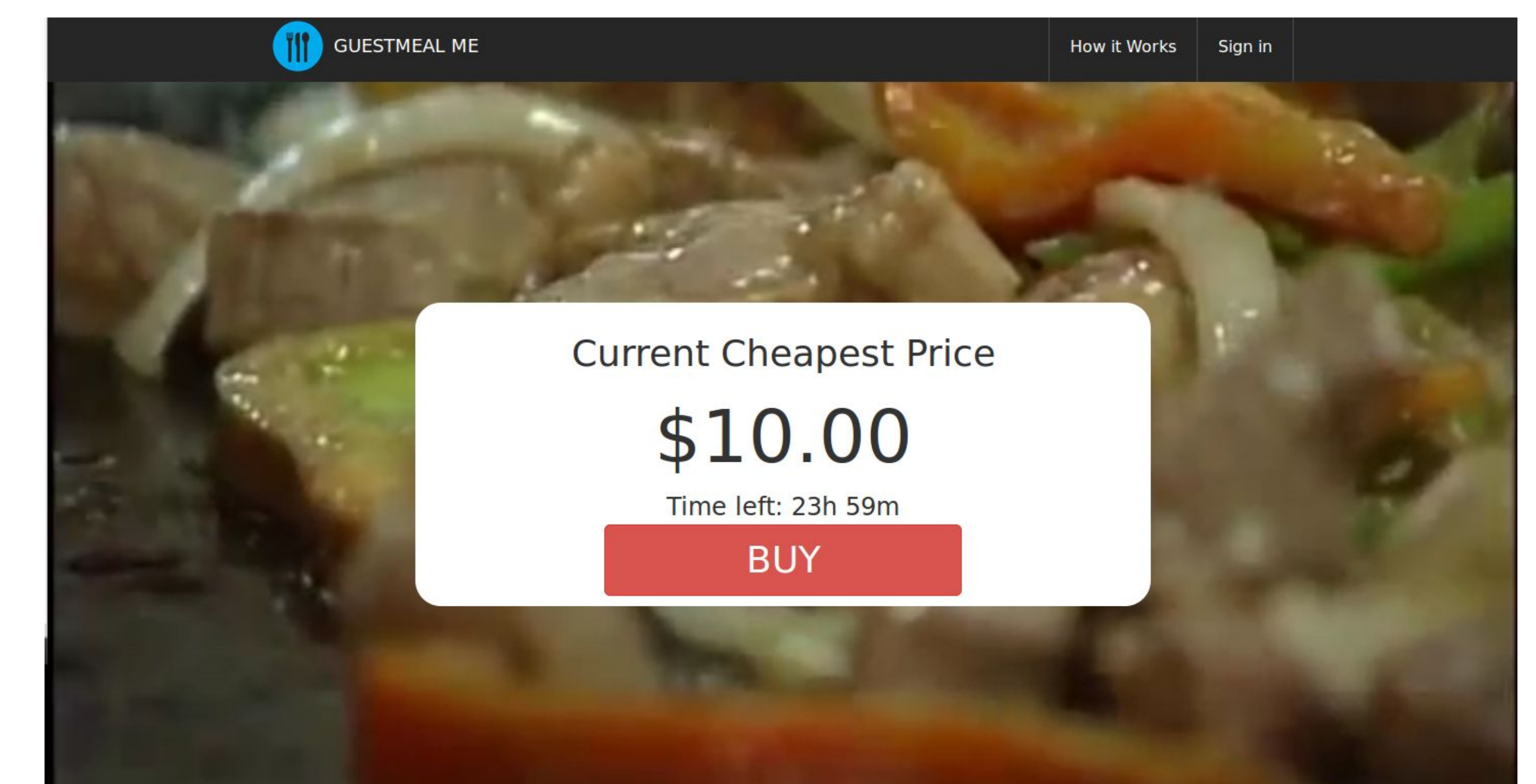
Once a buyer purchases your meal, you will receive their contact information as well as a hold on the payment. Once the transaction is complete, you will receive your payment (-minus our 2% fee not applied during beta testing!). Lets get started!

What is the minimum price you'd accept for your Guestmeal? (Must be between \$0 and \$10)

\$

Start the Auction!

Selling a meal. This is the interface that allows you to sell and meal, simply by entering the minimum price you are willing to sell the guest meal for



Buying a meal. The price is always decreasing, but once you press buy you can lock in the price and make it yours.

Survey Results

- 80% of respondents would be interested in selling guest meals and 90% of respondents would be interested in registering for guestmeal.me
- Of students uninterested, a majority were those that had none to few meals left.
- Students valued a meal at \$7.80 on average with much of the variance falling within the \$4-10 range

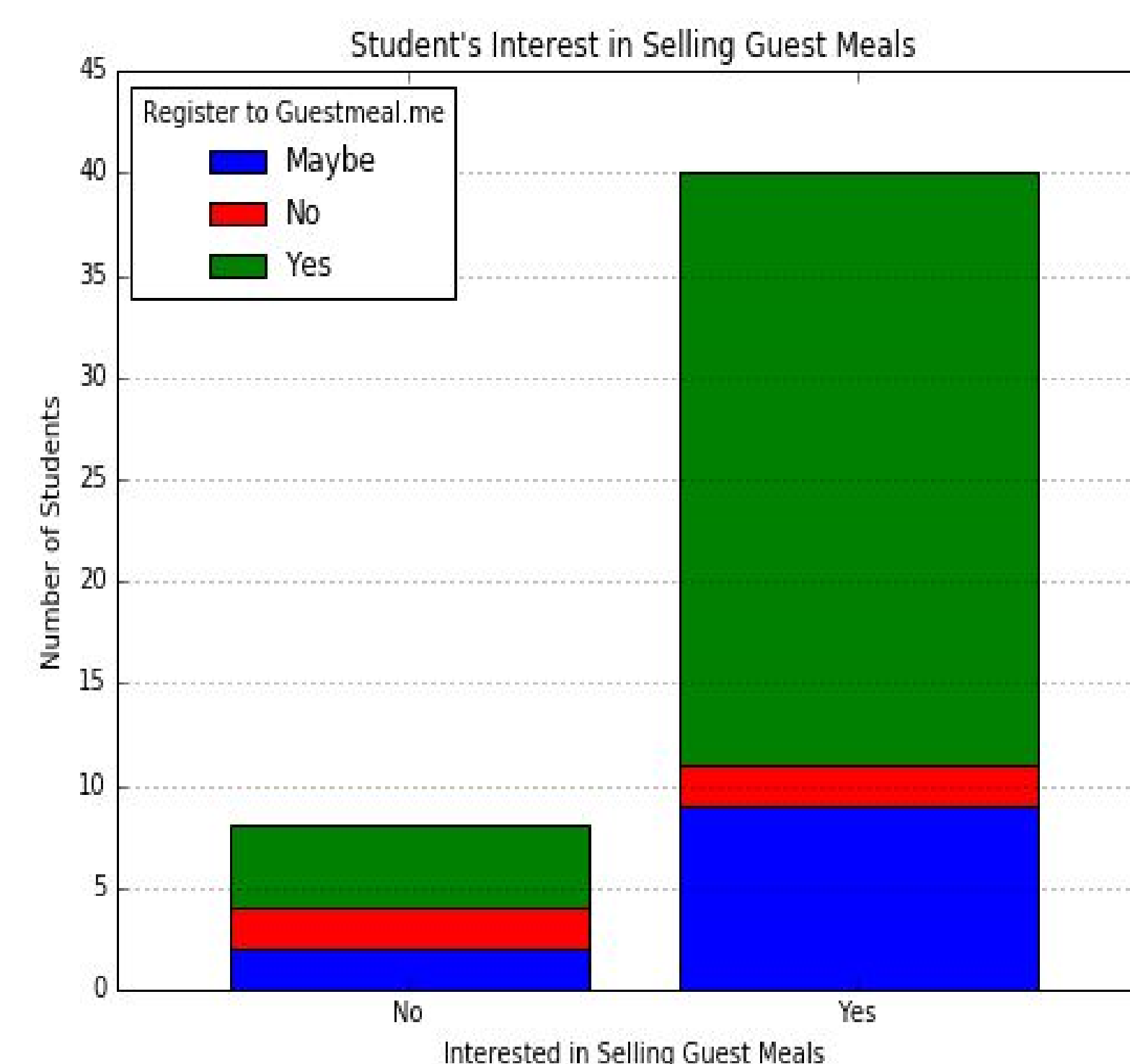


Figure 1. Interest in selling

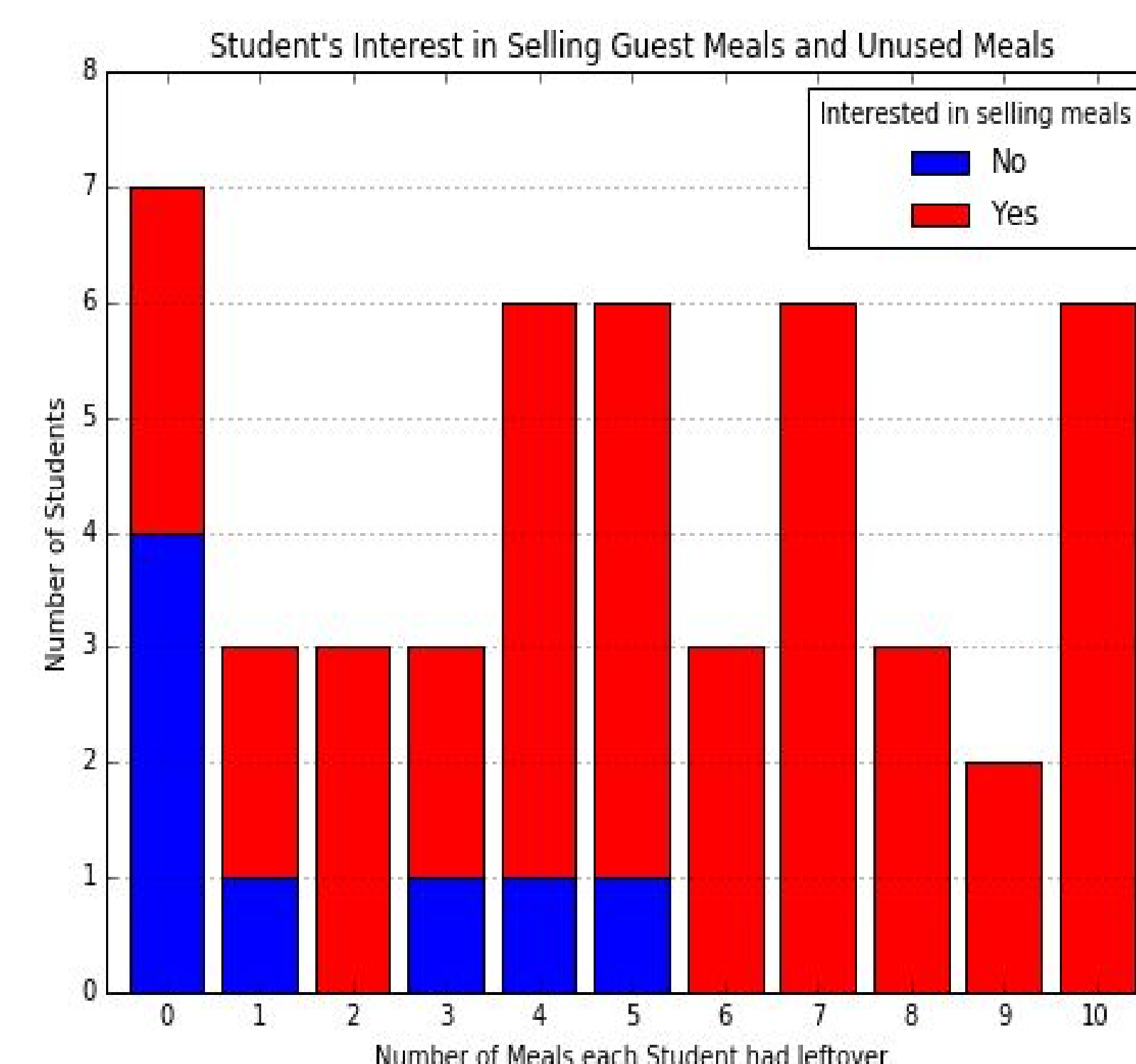


Figure 2. Meals potentially available

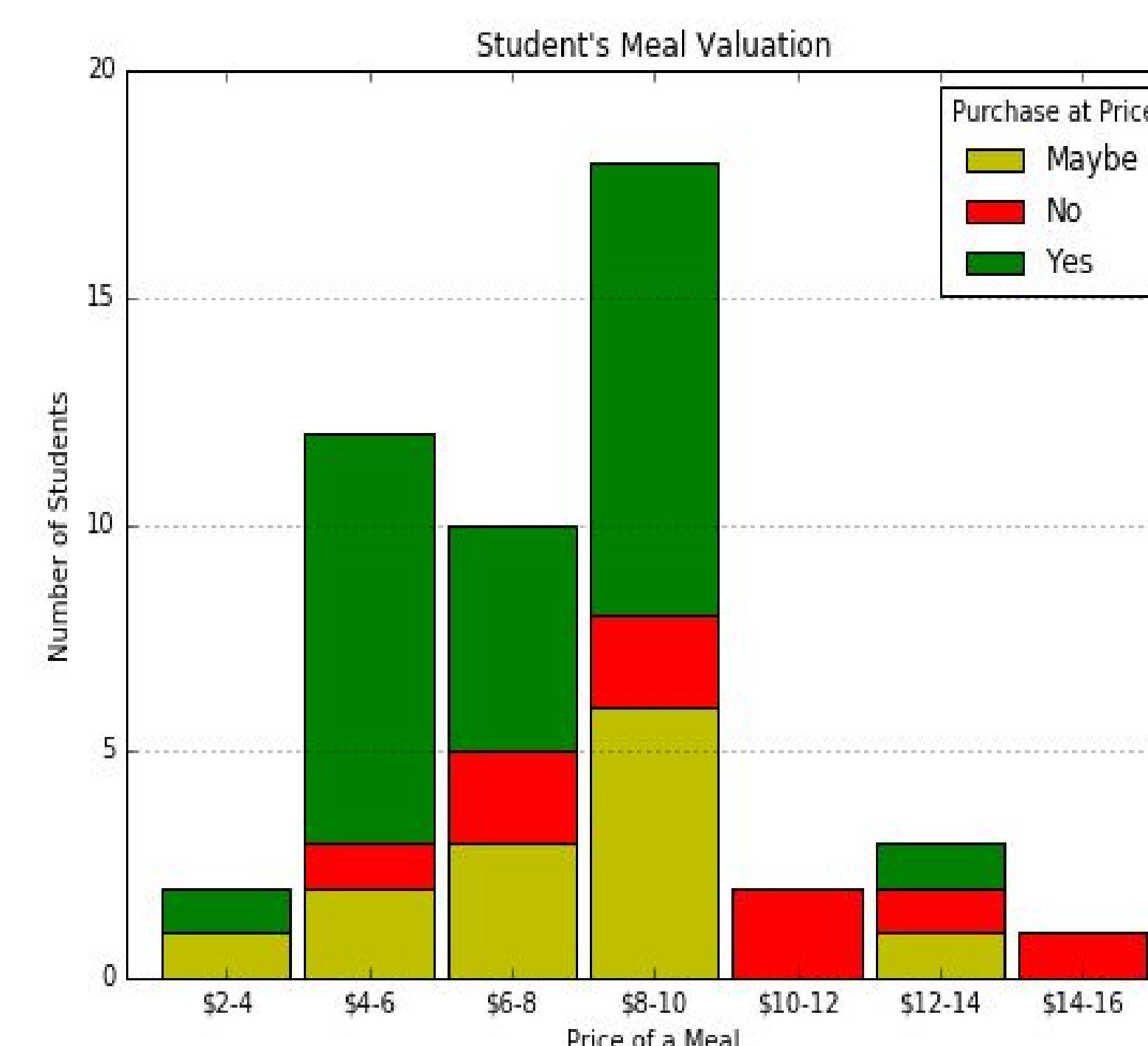
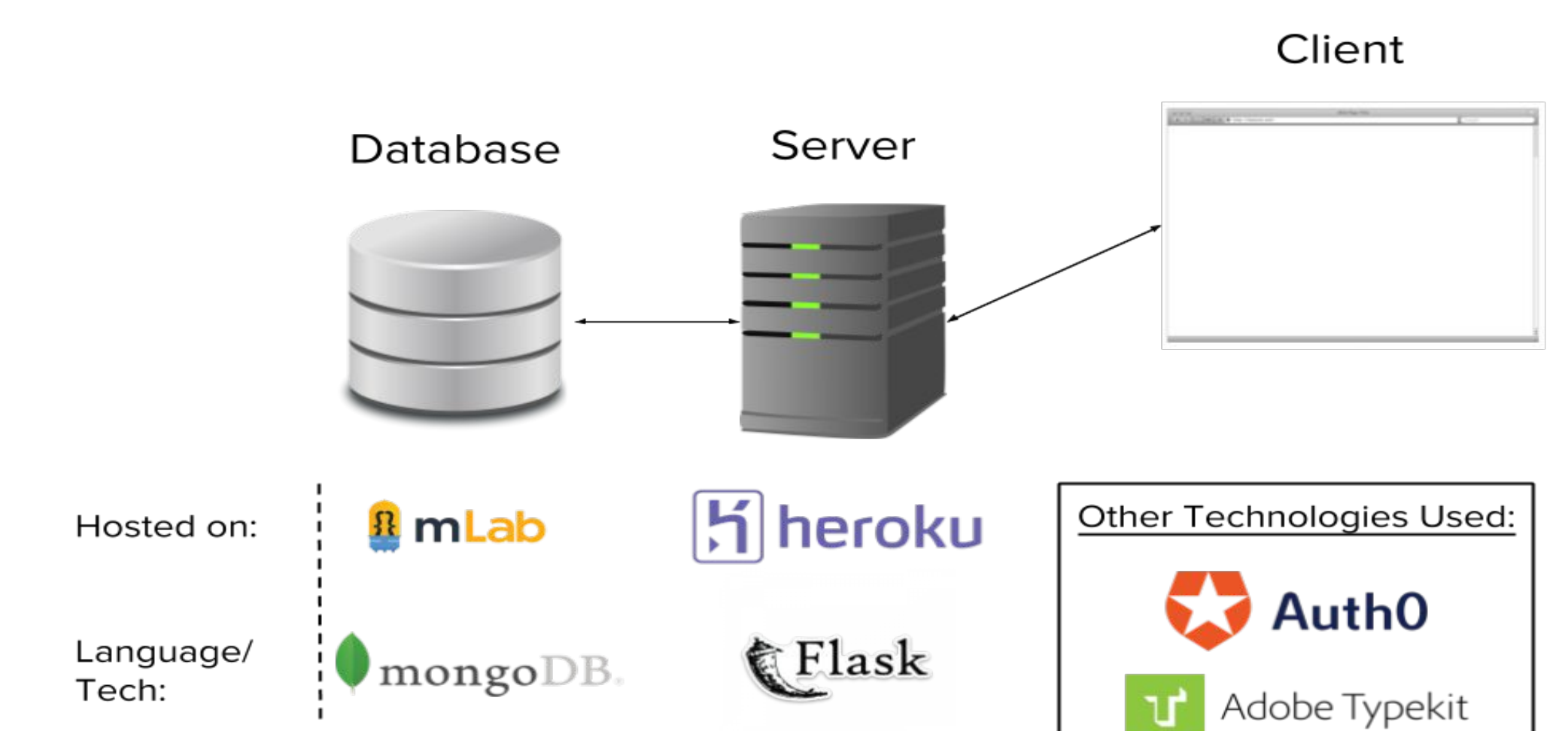


Figure 3. Expected pricing

Software Architecture



Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Professor Byers for his guidance and the struggling college students for inspiration