

CLup - Customer Line-up

DD Design Document

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to give a more detailed view of the *Customers Line-up* system presented in the RASD, explaining architecture, components, processes and algorithms that will satisfy the RASD requirements.

Because of its technical nature, it's aimed towards the software development team. It also includes instructions regarding the implementation, integration and testing plan.

1.2 Scope

Customers Line-Up (CLup) is a system that allows supermarket managers to regulate the influx of people inside physical stores and reduce the time spent in queue by customers.

The idea of CLup is being more akin to an open-source framework that can be adopted and improved modularly, rather than it being a closed-source product.

In particular, CLup allows customers to search and then reserve a visit to a store, either at a specific time or as soon as possible, and get notified, if possible, when it's their turn or if there's been a delay in the schedule.

Additionally, CLup aims to provide:

- access to the service via mobile app or website
- physical alternatives for people that do not have Internet access
- book a visit, notifying customers of any change in the schedule
- restrict the store selection by using filters
- suggest alternative stores and/or time frames
- monitor and dynamically restrict the amount of people allowed in a store
- track the time spent in the store by customers to provide better estimate of waiting times

1.3 Definitions, Acronyms, Abbreviations

1.3.1 Definitions

- *User* (also *Customer* or *Visitor*): A person that uses the system to shop at a store.
- *Registered User*: A User that has registered an Account within the System.
- *System Manager*: A stakeholder (owner, employee, manager etc.) of the Store chain that can tweak the parameters of the System and access informations and statistics.
- *Account*: A reference to a specific User in the System, that allows to track the User across multiple visits.
- *Reservation* (or *Booking*): Arrangement made between a User and the System in which the System shall grant the User access to Store at the arranged time.
- *Visit*: The time frame in which the User enters the store, shops and exits.
- *Time slot*: The time at which a Customer with a Reservation is expected arrive at the store.
- *Store*: Any physical location (e.g.: building) where it is possible to utilize the System.
- *Totem*: A physical device with a touchscreen display and an attached printer that allows Customers to join the Virtual Queue.
- *Virtual Queue*: the virtual equivalent of a physical queue in front of the store, regulating the access of people by ordering them.
- *Web App*: A web application, consisting of a back-end and a front-end accessible from a web browser.
- *Line*: Synonym for *queue*.

1.3.2 Acronyms

- CLup: Customer Line-up
- RASD: Requirement Analysis and Specification Document
- API: Application Programming Interface
- REST: REpresentational State Transfers
- DB: Database
- DBMS: Database Management System
- GPS: Global Positioning System
- MVC: Model-View-Controller (a design pattern)
- CDN: Content Delivery Network

1.3.3 Abbreviations

- [Rn]: n-functional requirement.

1.4 Revision History

1.5 Reference Documents

- Problem Specification Document: "Assignment AY 2020-21.pdf"
- Requirement Analysis and Specification Document "CLup - Customer Line-up"

1.6 Document Structure

The first chapter gives an introduction of the design document and presents to the reader explanations for most of the acronyms and technical language that they'll encounter later in the document.

The second chapter is about the architecture of the system, explaining the most important components, interfaces, patterns as well as deployment and runtime aspects of the system.

The third chapter explains the connection between the UI presented in the RASD and the components presented in this document.

The fourth chapter maps the requirements that have been defined in the RASD to the design elements defined in this document.

The fifth chapter shows the order in which the subcomponents of the system will be implemented as well as the order in which subcomponents will be integrated and how to test the integration.

2 Architectural Design

2.1 Overview

To ensure high maintainability, scalability and security, the service is structured according to the well-established three-tier architecture. Figure 1 shows how the tiers are divided, and what are the relations between key components of the system.

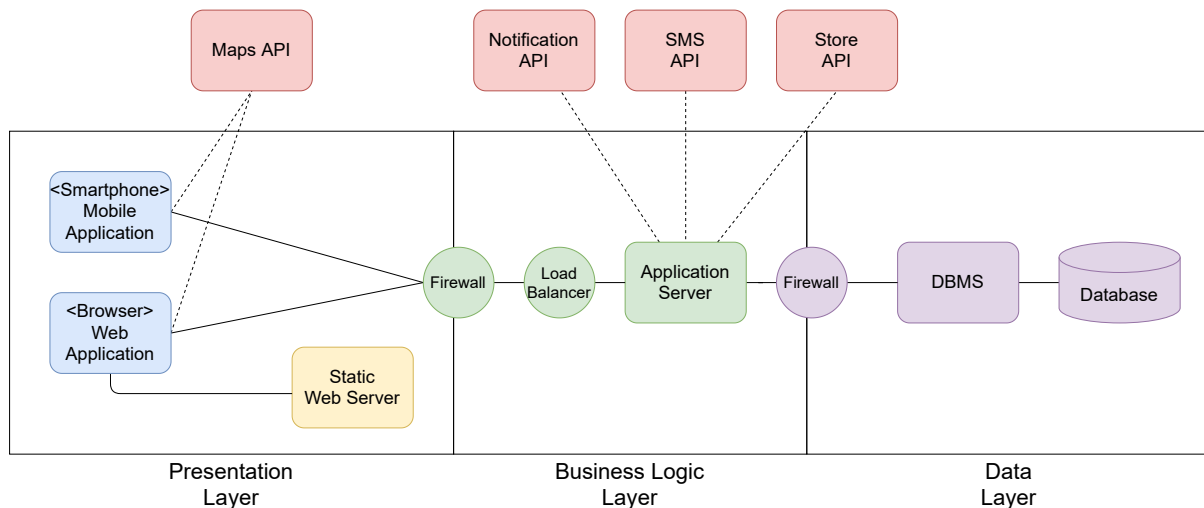


Figure 1: Overall architecture of the System

The main components are the following:

- **Mobile Application** The application is installed on the user's device through its store platform service. The application allows the user to interact with the service and receive notifications from the server.
- **Web Application** The web application allows users to access the same services available on the mobile app through any device, but it's not guaranteed that it can receive notifications. In addition to that, store managers may access a dedicated panel to configure additional parameters.
- **Static Web Server** It serves the client's browser a bundle that contains the web application code (compressed HTML and JavaScript). It has no ties with the application server.
- **Application Server** It's the main backend component of the service, and contains the logic to process requests made against its API from the clients.
- **Database** It's the component that manages the connection to the database.
- **External Services** These services provides functionalities that the service can't provide by itself without additional infrastructure. They include a *SMS Service* to send messages to users, a *Maps API* to visualize the location of the store on the user's device, and a *Notification API* to send push notifications to users.

2.2 Component View

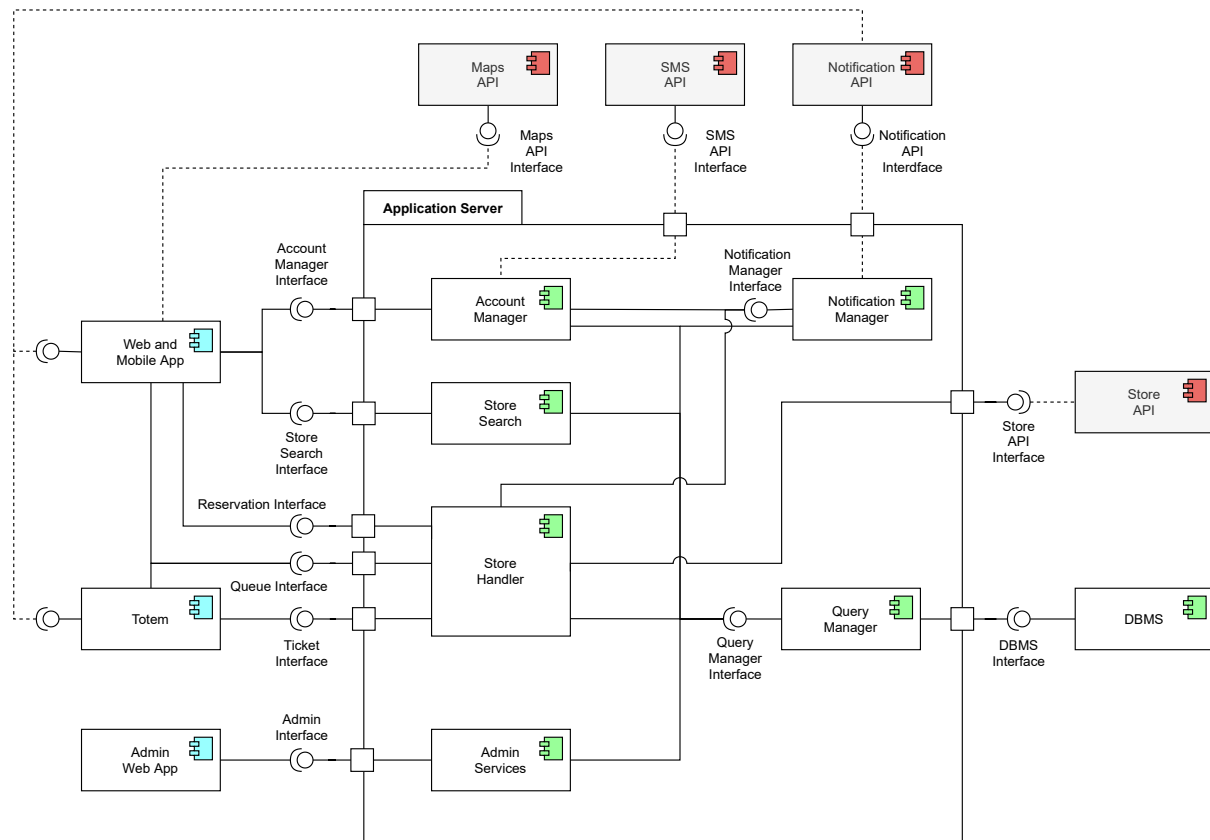


Figure 2: Global Component Diagram of the System

2.2.1 Client Components

The client components make up the entire frontend logic of the system. The role of the client components is to interface the user with the application server API, rendering interfaces and requesting data upon requests. As the entire UI is encoded in the client components, only a minimum amount of data will be passed between frontend and backend, reducing useless and repetitive traffic. The client components are divided in three main subcomponents, each targeted at a different type of user:

- **Web and Mobile App** are targeted at the user. They contain all the logic required to request and display information about stores, reservation, and queues. They are united in a single component as they will share most of the code and will use the same API.
- **Totem** will be deployed in the totems inside the store. They require a more limited set of functionalities compared to the user components (namely, the possibility of joining the queue). Additionally, it will send request to the Application Server in order to validate tickets, and provides hardware interfaces in order to interact with physical devices like doors or turnstiles. On the UX side, it will contain the functionality needed to print tickets and to display the current status of the queue.
- **Admin Web App** is intended for internal use only. It is the platform through which the store managers will add, remove and manage the stores. It will connect to a different API in order to separate the functionalities and the responsibilities as much as possible.

2.2.2 Application Server Components

The Application Server Components contain all the business logic needed to provide the functionalities of the application, communicating with the DBMS when needed and responding to queries sent by the Client Components. The Application Server Components are:

Query Manager is a component that handles the interactions with the DBMS, acting as a mediator between the business and data layer. It sends to and retrieves data from the database exposing a limited and higher level set of functionalities compared to a database query language.

Account Manager handles everything related to user accounts. In particular it will offer functionalities related to creating new accounts, logging in, and setting preferences and notifications. When creating an account it will communicate with an external **SMS API** in order to send confirmation codes.

Store Search allows users to search stores at specific locations and with the aid of filters. It doesn't require an external API.

Store Handler is a top-level component that includes four sub-component to better modularize the functionalities it provides. Its purpose is to manage the interactions between customers and the stores, by handling queues and reservations, verify customers' tickets before granting them access and interfacing with existing store devices (such as doors/turnstiles. . .).

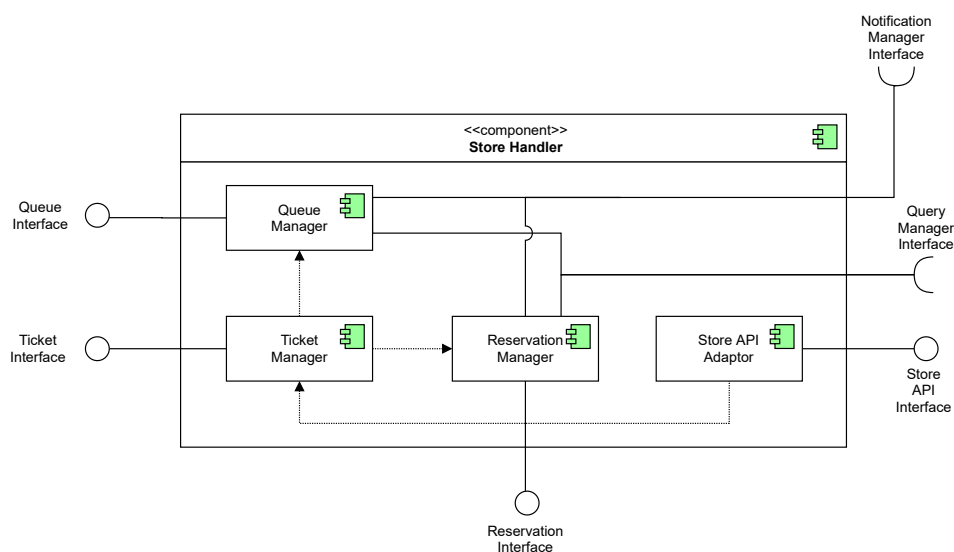


Figure 3: Store Handler Internal View.
The arrow represent a "x uses y" relationship

Reservation Manager is a sub-component of Store Handler that, for each store, allows customers to make or cancel a reservation for a certain timeslot, provides a list of available timeslot and their expected crowdness factor.

Queue Manager is a sub-component of Store Handler that, for each store, allows customers to enter or leave the virtual queue of the selected store, and provides an estimate of the waiting time.

Ticket Manager is a sub-component of Store Handler that, for each store, can receive the identifier (*id*) of a queue/reservation receipt, and verifies its validity by contacting the database through *Query Manager*.

Store API Adaptor is a sub-component of Store Handler that allows the system to interface with the existing infrastructure of a store, such as doors, turnstiles or cash registers, for example. It's main purpose it's to enable the system to keep track of how many customers are allowed into a store and how many exit it.

Notification Manager is responsible for contacting an external notification API in order to send push notifications to client devices. It also receives User notification preference updates from the **Account Manager**. It receives state update from the **Store Handler** and dispatches notifications only to affected users.

Account Admin Services is a collection (Fig. 4) of lower-level modules forming the features offered in the admin panel. It provides a statistical section, and a store control section, where store managers can add, edit and remove stores, their timeslots, enable or disable features such as the priority queue, or change the number of allowed customers into the store.

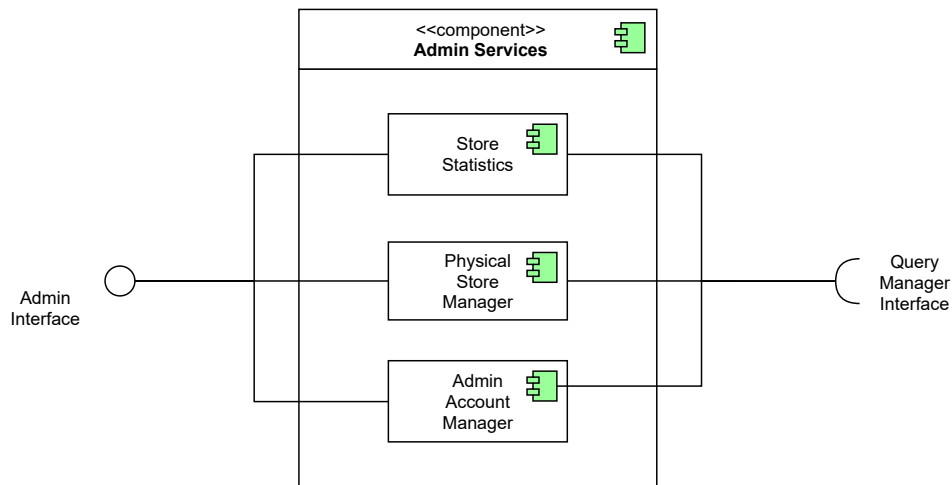


Figure 4: Admin Services internal view

Store Statistics exposes a set of functionalities targeted at extracting meaningful data from the DBMS in order to get insight on the utilization of the store and of the functionalities offered by the system, like knowing the number of people in the store at a given time or the utilization statistics of a timeslot.

Physical Store Manager is responsible for adding and removing stores. It also handles modification to store parameters such as the maximum number of people allowed, the size and the time of the timeslots, and the size of the priority queue.

Admin Account Manager is used by admins to log in to the system, and to assign managers to different stores.

2.2.3 Data Components

The Data layer is composed of a relational database, and its associated DBMS will have the duty of processing and executing parallel requests.

Users and Admins will be stored in different tables. Users can set up Free Timeslots Notifications, in order to be notified when a Timeslot at a specific day in a specific time range is made available for one of the favorite stores. Users have an association with their Tickets, which include both Queue Tickets and Reservation Tickets. In order to preserve the history of Users and for making data analytics possible, Tickets are never deleted, but instead are associated with a status indicating if they are currently active or already used. Each Admin manages a number of Stores, having the power of changing their capacity or all details about their associated Timeslots. Timeslots refer to a specific weekday and have an associated time. In order to keep consistency with Reservation Tickets, Timeslots are immutable and never modified. Their status is instead set to inactive, and another Timeslot is created whenever a change has to be made.

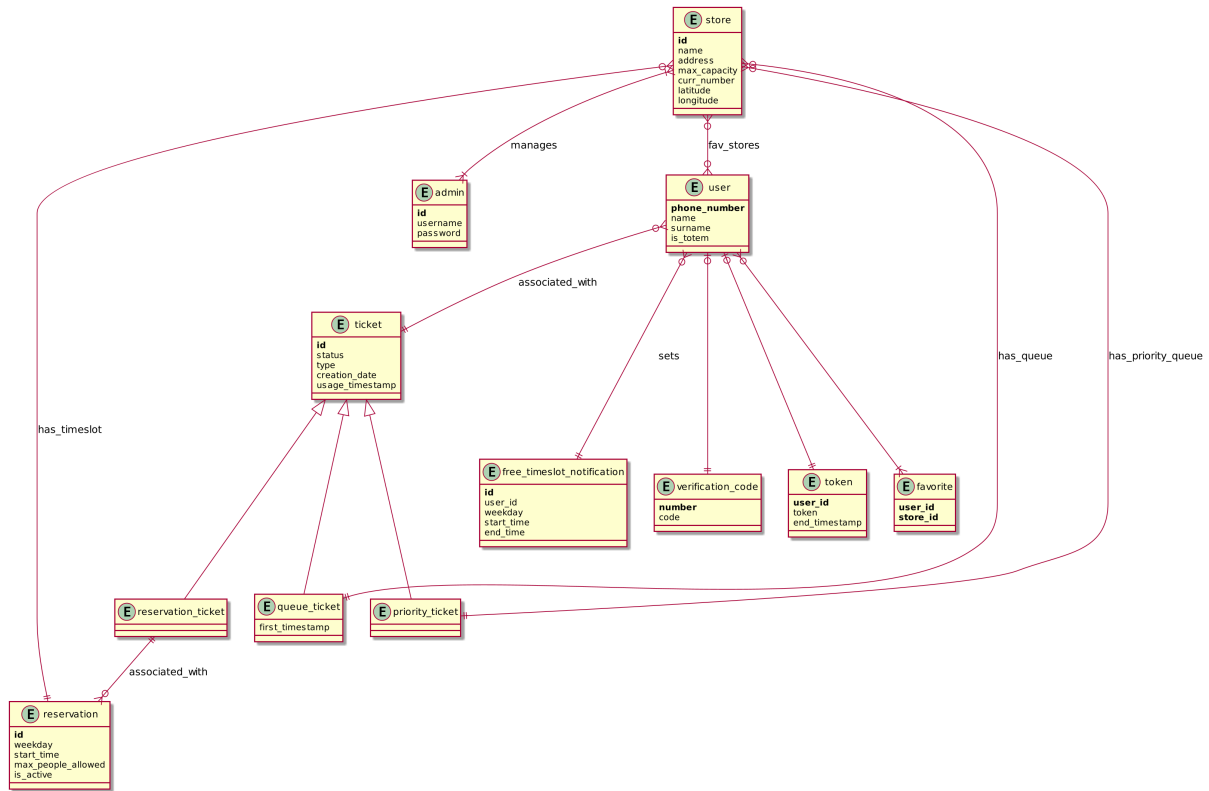


Figure 5: Data Base main structure

2.3 Deployment View

Our system is composed of two independent components: a completely static webserver will be the access point where the client devices will fetch the one-page application, while the application server will offer the APIs to make it work. For this reason we decided to use two different solutions.

The static webserver will make use of Cloudflare's CDN, in order to guarantee immediate response thanks to its edge location caches and reverse proxies. Cloudflare is the obvious choice as they are the major CDN providers in the world

The application server, composed of a business logic and a data tier, will be hosted on a cloud provider, offering many advantages compared to traditional in-house hosting, including:

- **Scalability** thanks to the possibility of allocating new virtual machines, greater performance cores, or more memory when needed, and to the load balancing services
- **Security** thanks to services like live monitoring and firewalls
- **Cost-Efficiency** as the great flexibility offered by the service allows for paying only the resources that are really needed.

This makes it the ideal service for hosting big and high traffic applications. The chosen cloud provider will have to offer all of the above features.

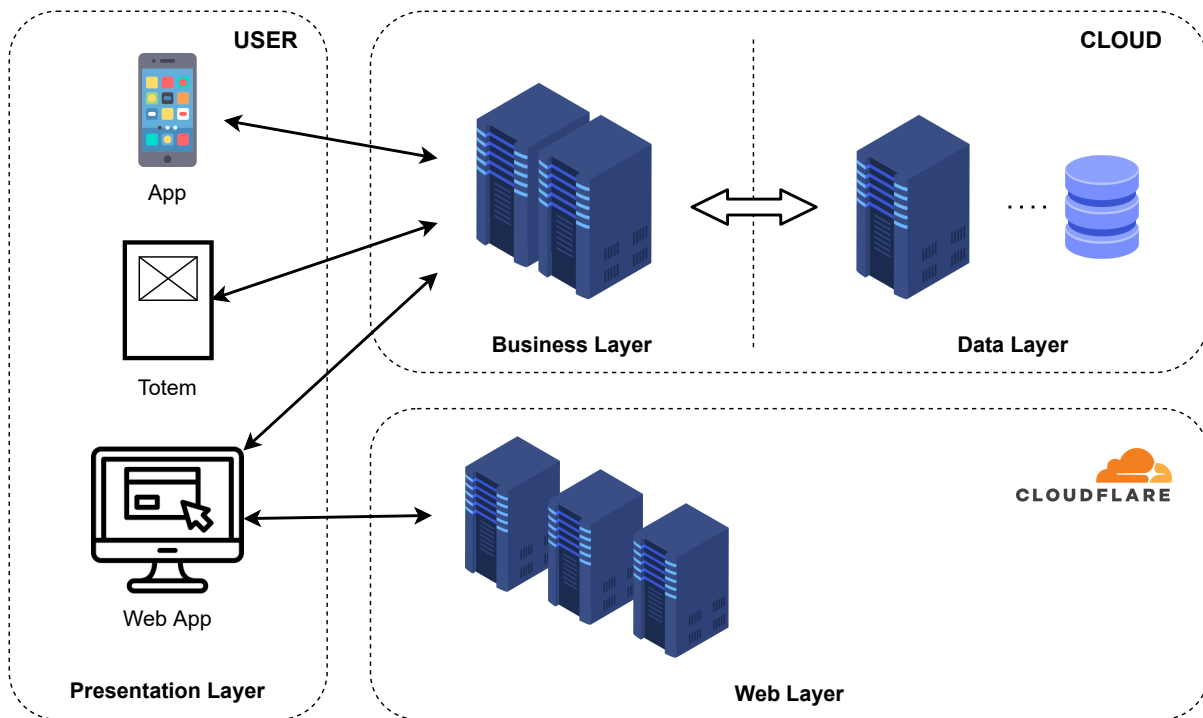


Figure 6: Deployment View

The deployment diagram offers a more detailed view over the hardware and software resources of the application:

- **Mobile Device** is any device capable of hosting the mobile application, which has been previously downloaded from an official application store.
- **PC** is any device having a modern browser capable of running the javascript based web app.
- **Cloudflare CDN** will transparently host the one page application, making it available for download without impacting the performance of the main application server. No logic is implemented on this side as the application is completely static, and executes its code on the client machine.
- **Cloud Services** will host the entire business and data logic of the system. It contains:
 - **Firewall** services for filtering incoming connections to the business and data layers
 - **Load Balancer** service for redirecting incoming traffic to the least busy application instance
 - **Application Instances** which will run the business logic in parallel and autonomously, and can be instantiated or deleted when needed
 - **Data Instance** which is a data optimized virtual machine containing the DBMS and the database

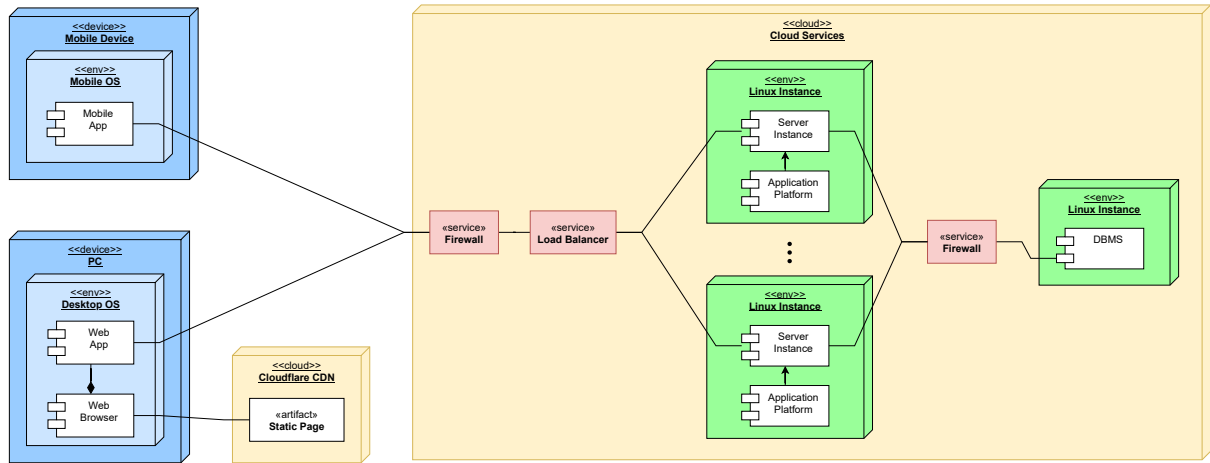


Figure 7: Deployment Diagram

2.4 Runtime View

This section describes in detail the most important runtime views of the system. Runtime views show the interaction between users and application components, showing in particular the actors involved and the specific methods called.

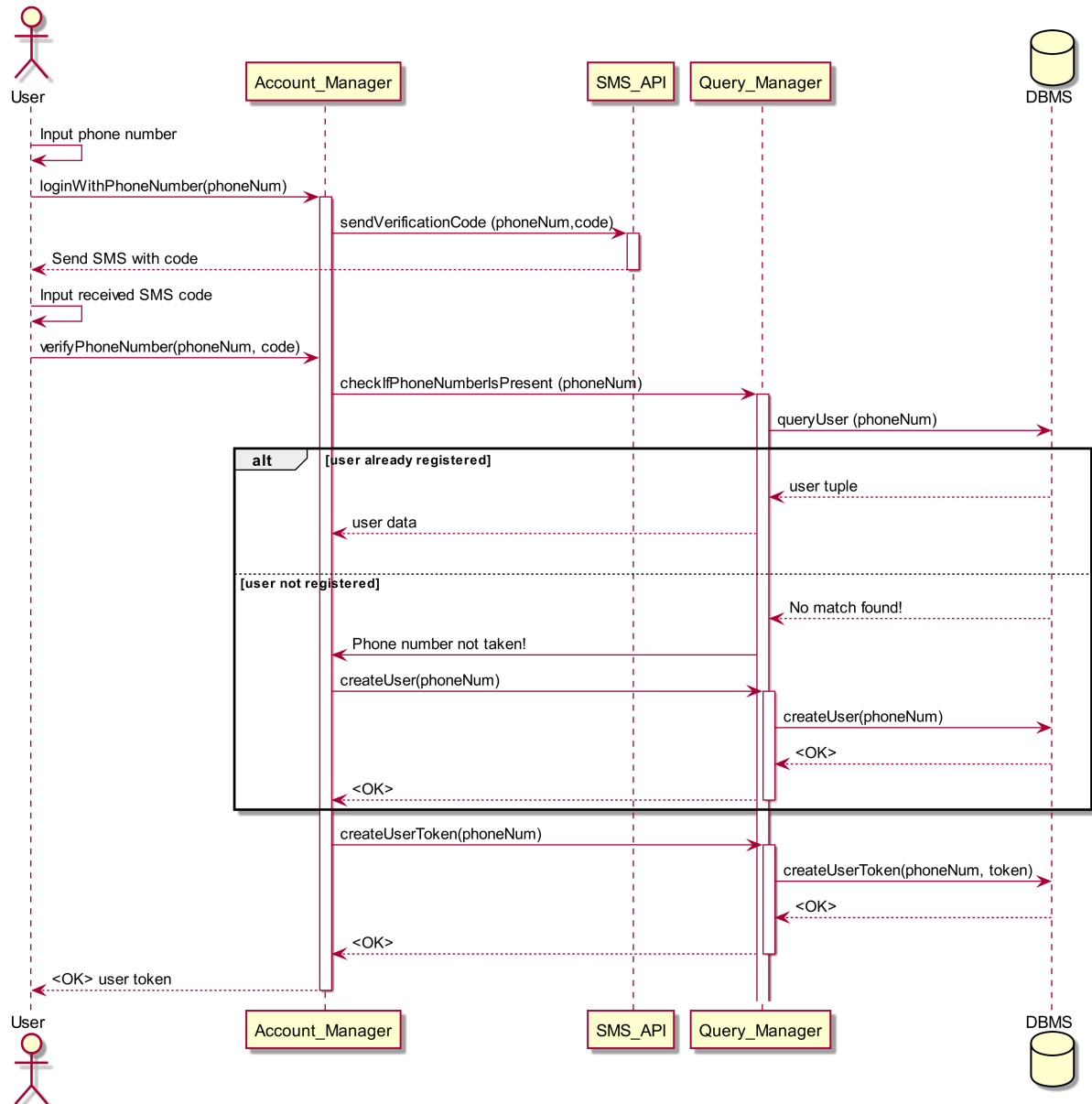


Figure 8: User Login

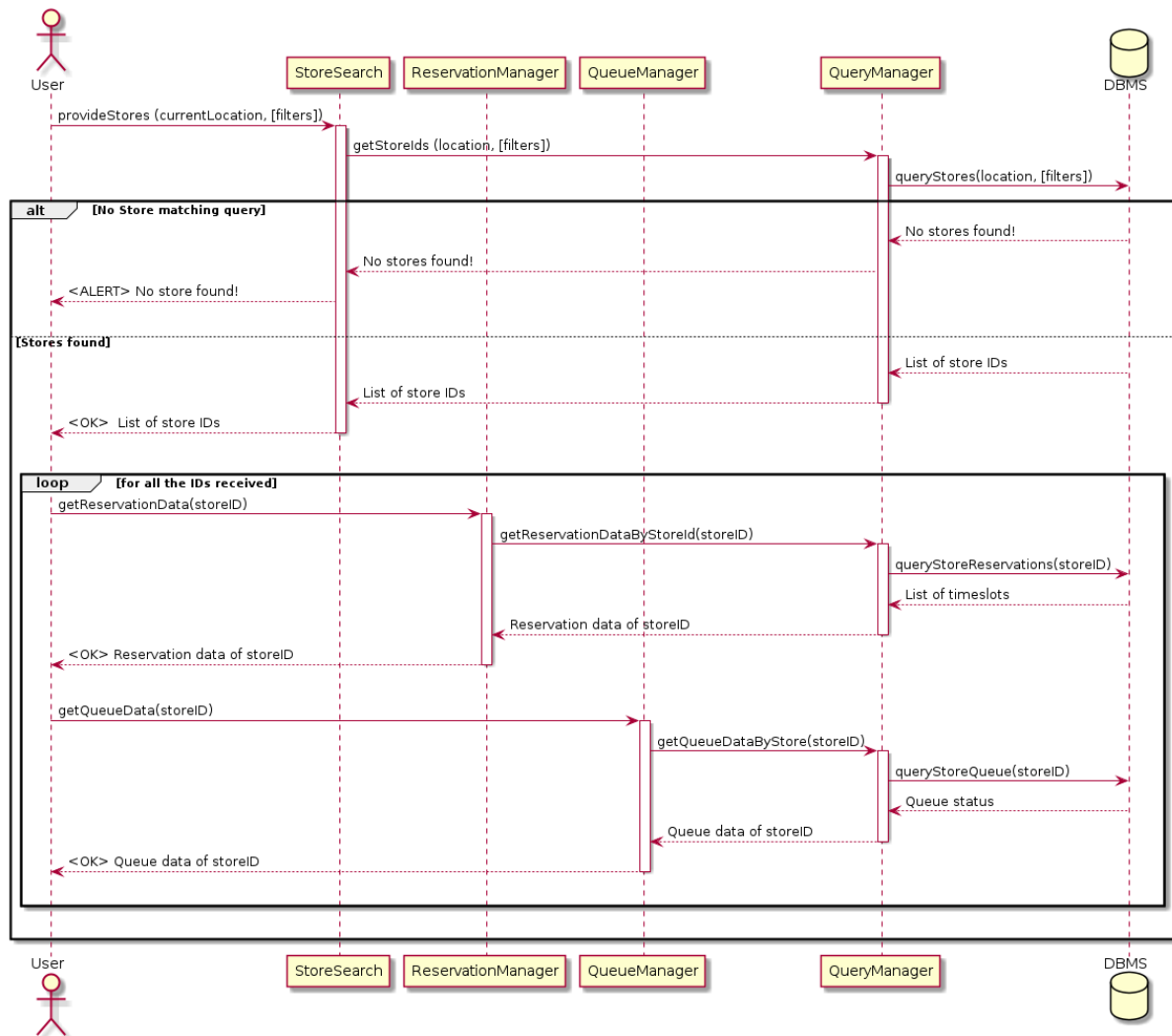


Figure 9: Store search

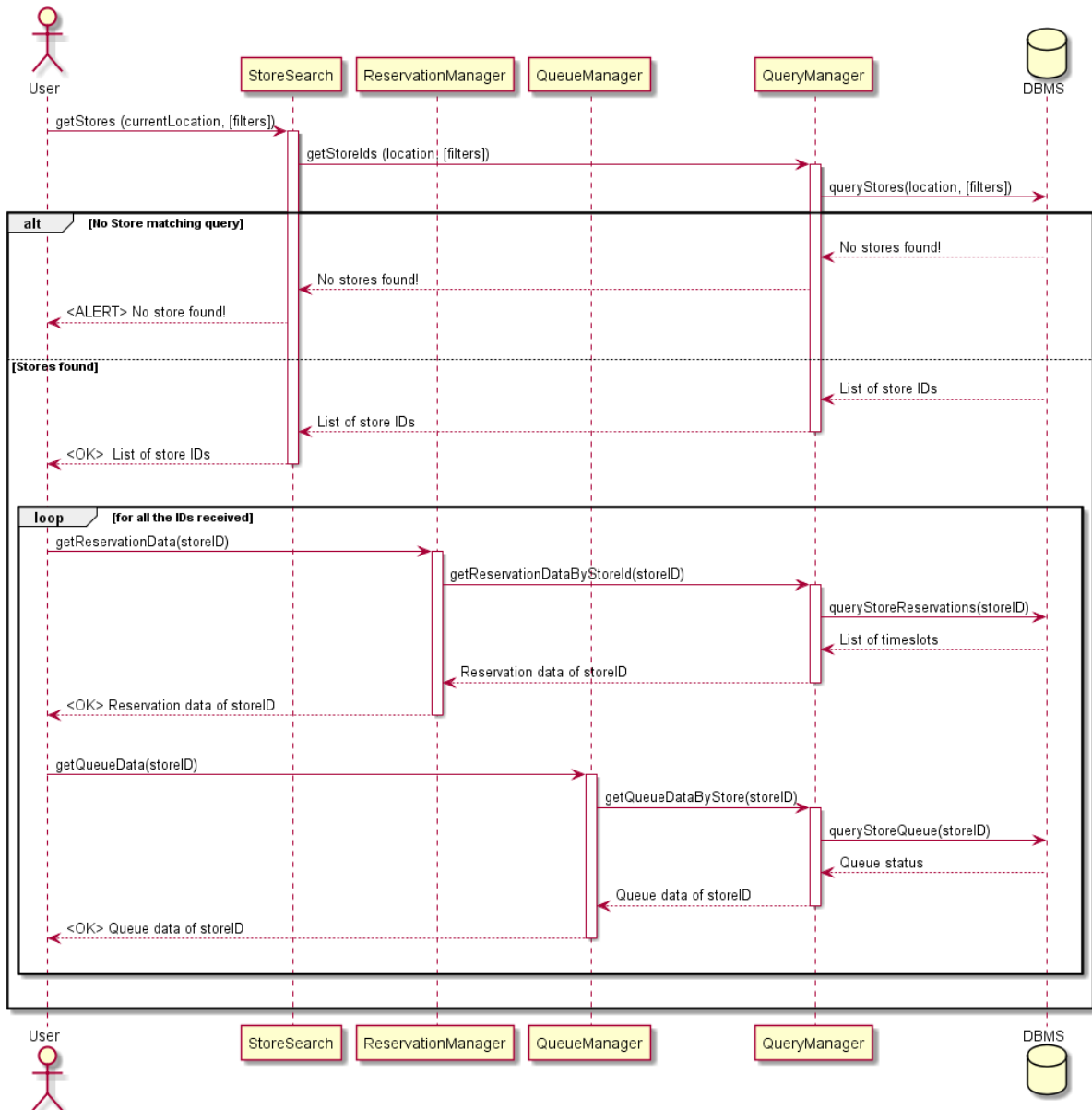


Figure 10: User joins queue

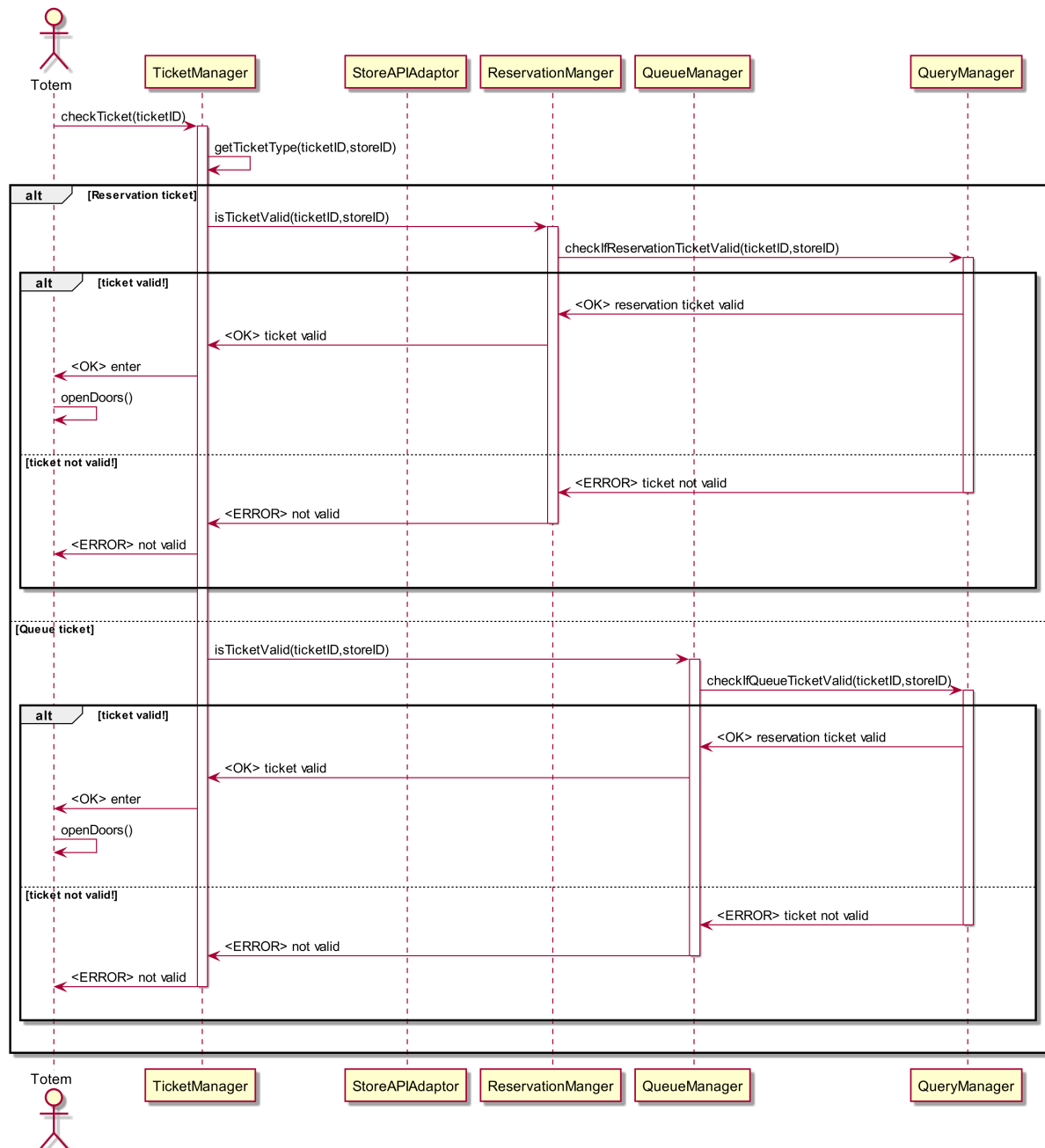


Figure 11: User access the store - Data Base is omitted for clarity

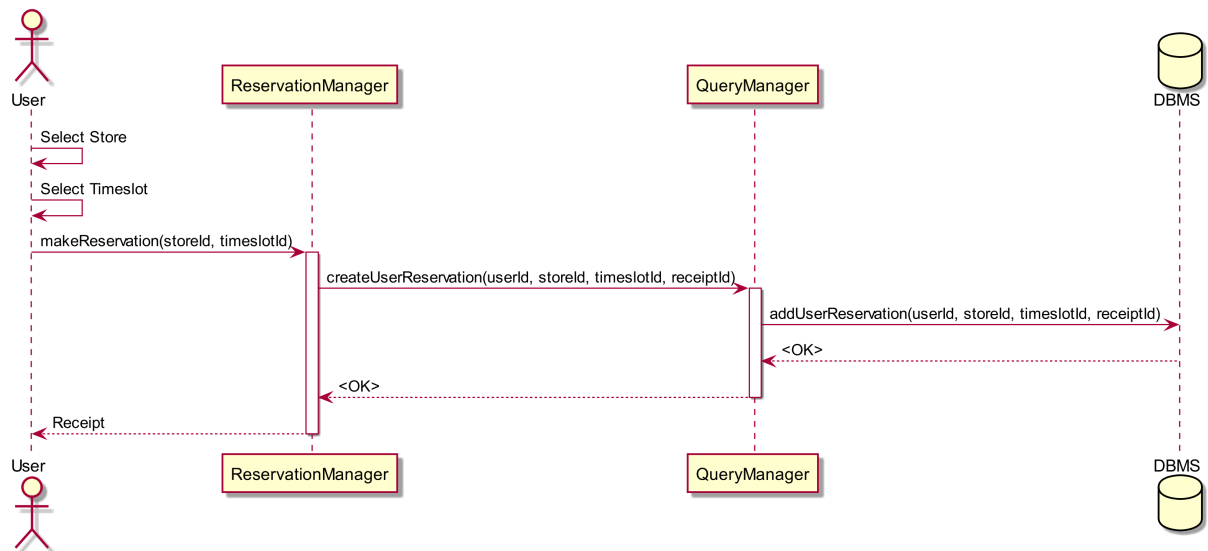


Figure 12: User makes a reservation

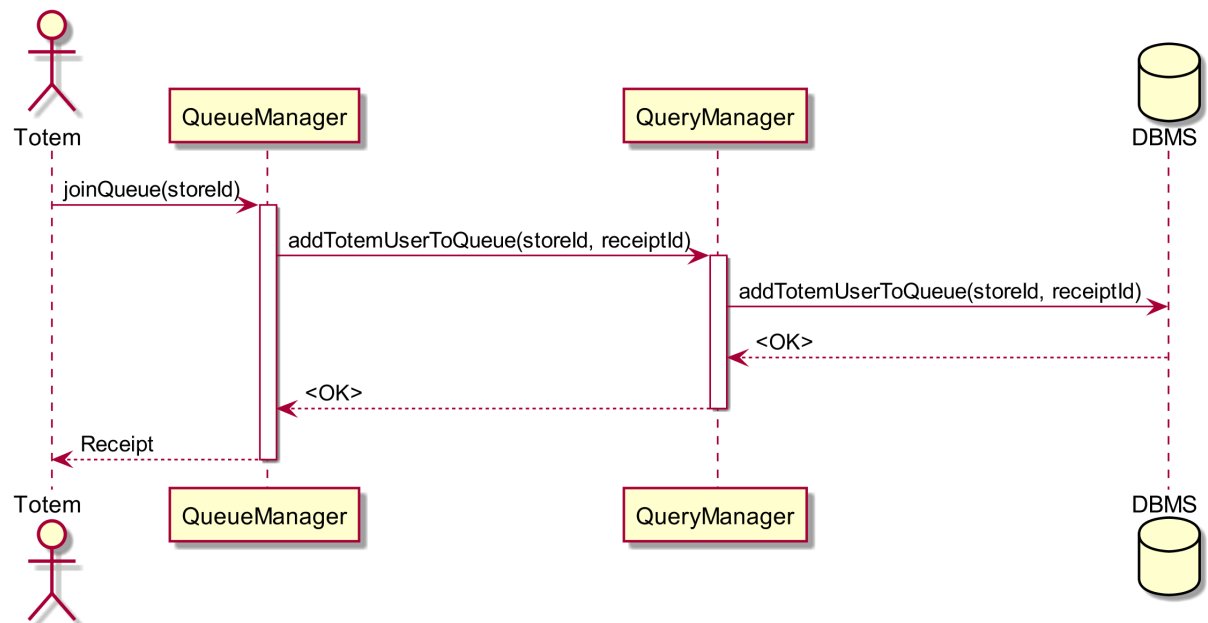


Figure 13: User joins the queue from the totem

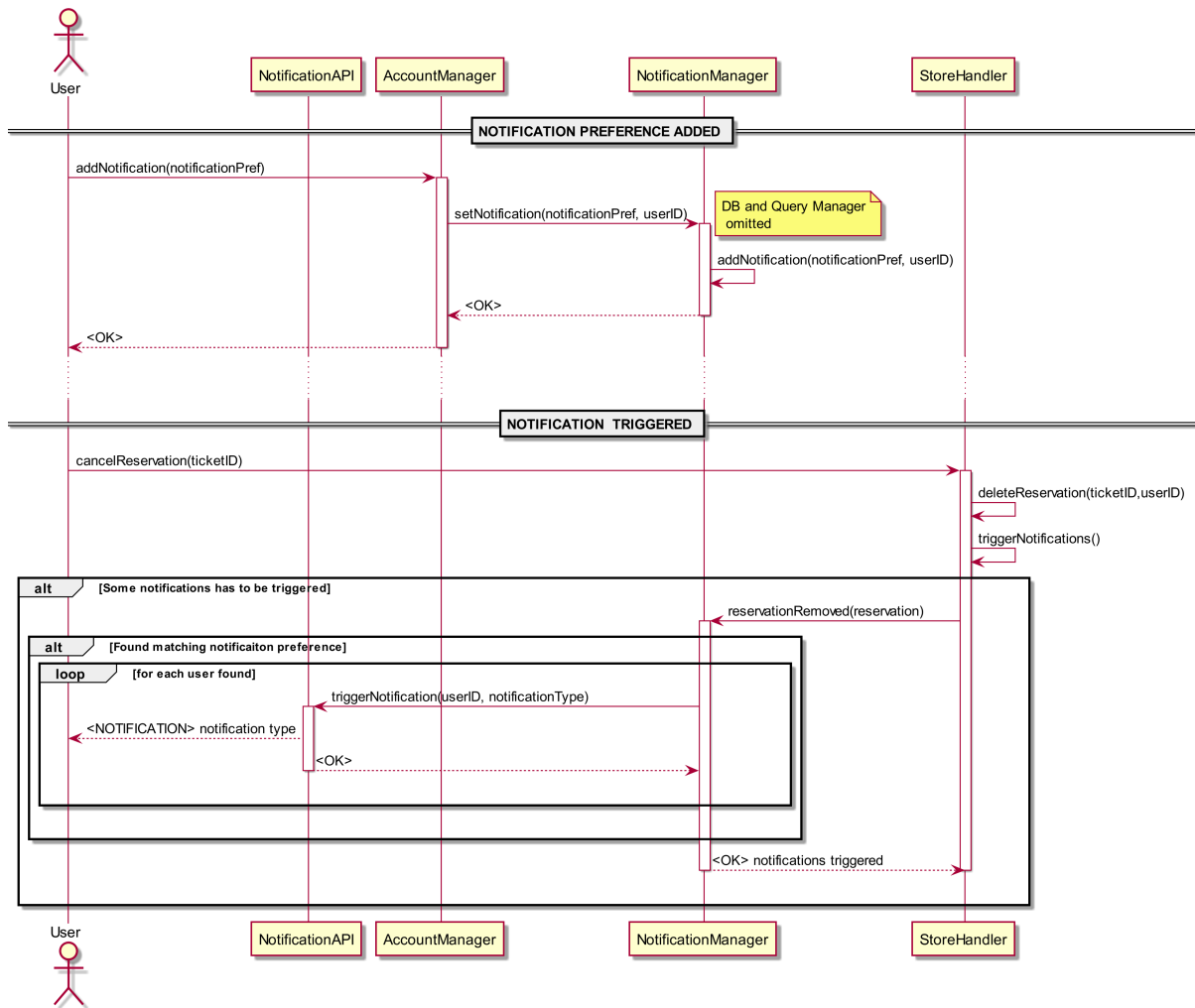


Figure 14: User sets a notification - User is notified

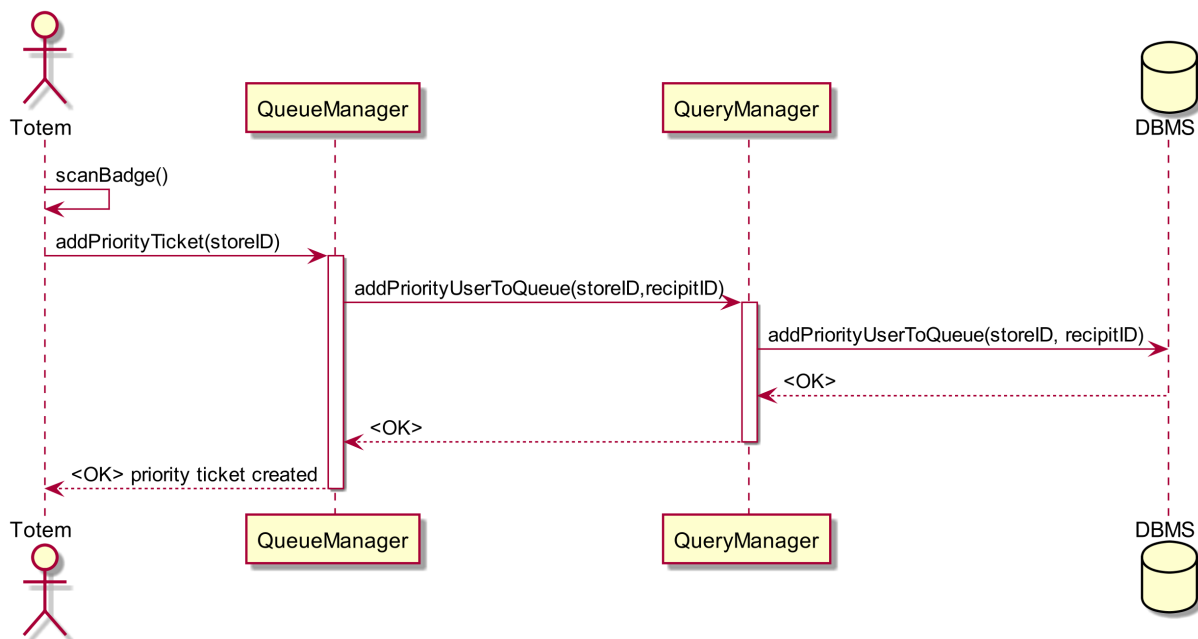


Figure 15: Employee creates priority ticket

2.5 Component Interfaces

In this section we will describe the most relevant interfaces exposed by the components, including all the ones seen in Fig. 2. Only the most relevant method parameters are shown.

• QueryManager

- **checkIfPhoneNumberIsPresent(phoneNum)** This method takes as an input the phone number of the user (phoneNum) and contacts the DBMS to check if the phone number is already present in the system. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **createUser(phoneNum)** This method takes as an input the phone number (phoneNum) of the user to be created and adds it to the DBMS. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **createUserToken(phoneNum)** This method takes as an input the phone number (phoneNum) of the user that is trying to login into the system and it generates the token associated with its session. Saving those information in the DBMS. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **validateToken(token)** This method takes as an input the token passed by the user in every request and checks if it is valid and corresponds to an active session. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **getStoreIds(location, [filters])** This method takes as input the location provided by the User and an optional list of filters. The QueryManager will retrieve the stores respecting those constraints by the means of the DBMS. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **getReservationDataByStoreID(storeID)** This method takes as input the store identification number. The QueryManager will acquire from the DBMS the informations regarding the reservation overall status of the given storeID. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **getQueueDataByStore(storeID)** This method takes as input the store identification number. The QueryManager will acquire from the DBMS the informations regarding the queue overall status of the given storeID. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **addUserToQueue(userID, storeID, receiptID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the user, the store, and the receipt. It adds those values to the dedicated table in the DBMS. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **addTotemUserToQueue(storeID, receiptID)** This method takes as input the receipt identification number of the ticket generated by the QueueManager and the unique store id number of the store where the ticket is generated. It adds those values to the dedicated table in the DBMS. The user identification number is not present as a parameter, since no registration is required to join the queue from a totem. An anonymous entry will be added to the DBMS table. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **createUserReservation(userID, storeID, timeslotID, receiptID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the user, the store, the selected timeslot and the receipt. It adds those values to the dedicated table in the DBMS. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **checkIfReservationTicketValid(ticketID, storeID)** This method takes as an input the identification number of the provided ticket and the store. It checks if those values are present in the Reservation table by the means of the DBMS. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **checkIfQueueTicketValid(ticketID, storeID)** This method takes as an input the identification number of the provided ticket and the store. It checks if those values are present in the Queue table by the means of the DBMS. A reply is then sent to the caller.

• ReservationManager

- **getReservationData(storeID)** This method takes as an input the store identification number and contacts the QueryManager to get the reservation data on the specified store id. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **isTicketValid(ticketID, storeID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the ticket and the store. It checks by contacting the QueryManager if the provided ticket is currently valid for the selected store. A reply is then sent to the caller.

- **makeReservation(storeID,timeslotID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the store and of the timeslot. The ReservationManager will then contact the QueryManager to insert the reservation into the system. The user identification number is provided within the session of the current user. A reply is then sent to the caller.
 - **cancelReservation(ticketID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the ticket. It removes the associated reservation. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **QueueManager**
 - **getQueueData(storeID)** This method takes as an input the store identification number and contacts the QueryManager to get the queue data on the specified store id. A reply is then sent to the caller.
 - **isTicketValid(ticketID,storeID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the ticket and the store. It checks by contacting the QueryManager if the provided ticket is currently valid for the selected store. A reply is then sent to the caller.
 - **joinQueue(storeID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the store. The QueueManager will then contact the QueryManager to insert the user into the correct queue. The user identification number is provided within the context of the current session. A reply is then sent to the caller.
 - **cancelQueueTicket(ticketID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the ticket. It removes the associated reservation. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **StoreSearch**
 - **getStores(currentLocation, [filters])** This method takes as input the current location of the user and a list of optional filters. By contacting the QueryManager it retrieves the list of the store respecting the provided filters or a default maximum distance from the user location. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **AccountManager**
 - **loginWithPhoneNumber(phoneNum)** This method takes as input the phone number provided by the user. It contacts the SMS APIs to send a verification code to the user using SMS.
 - **verifyPhoneNumber(phoneNum, code)** This method takes as input the phone number provided by the user and the verification code sent to the user by the SMS APIs. If the phoneNum was not registered it adds that number to the system by contacting the QueryManager. A token is then generated to validate the session of the current user. A reply is then sent to the caller.
 - **addNotification(notificationPref)** This method takes as input the new notification preference of the user. The AccountManager then adds this new preference to the system by contacting the NotificationManager. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **StoreStatistics**
 - **getStatisticsByStoreID(storeID)** This method takes as input identifier of the store and returns the available statistics to be shown to the admin.
 - **getOverallStatistics()** This method generates an overall view on all the stores in the chain. Useful for managerial decisions.
- **PhysicalStoreManager**
 - **setMaxPeopleInQueue(storeID, maxPeople)** This method takes as input the store identification number and the maximum number of people allowed to be in the queue at any time. It contacts the QueueManager and sets those values accordingly. A reply is then sent to the caller.
 - **setMaxPeopleInAReservationSlot(storeID, maxPeople)** This method takes as input the store identification number and the maximum number of people allowed to be in a reservation slot at any time. It contacts the QueryManager and sets those values accordingly. A reply is then sent to the caller.

- **addNewTimeslot(storeID, weekDay, startTime)** This method takes as input the store identification number, the day of the week and the starting time of the timeslot to be created. It verifies that no colliding timeslots exist in the specified store and then it contacts the QueryManager and sets those values accordingly. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **setTimeslotsDuration(storeID, timeslotsDuration)** This method takes as input the store identification number and the duration of the timeslots in that specific store. It verifies that no colliding timeslots will be created by modifying the timeslots duration. It contacts the QueryManager and sets those values accordingly. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **enablePriorityQueue(storeID, maxPeople)** This method takes as input the store identification number and the maximum number of people inside of the priorityQueue. Once called it enables the functionality of the priority queue in the specified store. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **addStore(location, adminID)** This method takes as input the location of the new store and the admin identification number. The specified admin will be responsible of handling the settings for the new store. A reply is then sent to the caller.

- **AdminAccountManager**

- **assignAdminToStore(adminID, storeID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the admin and of the store. It contacts the QueryManger to assign the specified admin to the selected store. A reply is then sent to the caller.

- **TicketManager**

- **checkTicket(ticketID)** This method takes as input the identification number of the ticket. It contacts the corresponding component (ReservationManager or QueueManager) to get the information regarding the validity of the presented ticket. A reply is then sent to the caller.

- **NotificationManager**

- – **setNotification(notificationPref, userID)** This method takes as input the notification preference to be set and the user identification number. It sets the specified preference (for example, notify the user when a store has a free space monday at 10 a.m.) to the given user. It contact the QueryManager to store those information. A reply is then sent to the caller.
- **reservationRemoved(reservation)** This method takes as input the reservation object. It checks internally if some notification preferences has been added by some user that matches the day and the hour of the reservation. If some are found a notification is triggered and the user is notified. A reply is then sent to the caller.

2.5.1 REST Endpoints

In this section we describe the REST endpoints for user functionalities, specifying the URLs and the associated parameters to be called, and how these are mapped to the interfaces described in the previous section.

The client needs to obtain an `authToken` that should be passed in the request header in order to be able to authenticate with the server, and is needed to verify the client authenticity. Totems are assigned a token at deploy time, while customers need to login with their phone number.

The `authToken` should be cached both in the web and mobile application and passed in each request to the server in the HTTP header.

- `/api/auth/login`

Maps: `loginWithPhoneNumber`

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

Parameters:

- `phoneNumber [text]` - The user's phone number

Success:

- 200 - OK

Errors:

- 400 - Format is invalid

• /api/auth/code

Maps: verifyPhoneNumber

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

Parameters:

- phoneNumber [text] - The user's phone number
- SMSCode [text] - The code the user received via SMS

Success:

- 200 - OK + Token

```
{
  "authToken": "<token>"
}
```

Errors:

- 400 - Bad code

• /api/search/<latitude|longitude>

Maps: getStores

Type: GET

URL Parameters:

- <latitude|longitude> - GPS Location, needed to find stores nearby a certain location.

Parameters:

- authToken
- city [string] - Filter stores by city
- open [boolean] - Filter stores that are currently open
- range [number] - Filter stores that are in a certain range
- freeTimeslots [number] - Filter stores that have a certain number of free timeslots

Success:

- 200 - OK + List of stores

```
{
  "stores": [
    {
      "id": "<store id>",
      "name": "<store name>",
      "address": "<address>",
      "open": <boolean>,
      "distance": <number>,
      "freeTimeslots": <number>,
      "queueLength": <number>,
      "queueWaitTime": <number>
    }
  ]
}
```

Errors:

- 400 - Bad request
- 404 - No store found

• /api/store/<storeId>/queue/join

Maps: joinQueue

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the selected store

Parameters:

- authToken

Success:

- 200 OK + Receipt

```
{
  "receiptId": "<receipt id>",
}
```

Errors:

- 404 - No store found
- 503 - Not possible to join the queue

• /api/store/<storeId>/queue/leave

Maps: cancelQueueTicket

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the selected store

Parameters:

- authToken
- queueReceiptId

Success:

- 200 - OK

Errors:

- 404 - No store/receipt found

• /api/store/<storeId>/reservation/timeslots

Maps: getReservationData

Type: GET

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the selected store

Parameters:

- authToken

Success:

- 200 - OK + List of timeslots

```
{
  timeslots: [
    {
      id: "<id>"
      weekday: "<day from 1 to 7>",
      start_time: "<hh-mm>",
      crowdness: <number>
    }
  ]
}
```

Errors:

- 404 - No store found

• /api/store/<storeId>/reservation/book/<timeslotId>

Maps: makeReservation

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the selected store
- <timeslotId> - The Id of the selected timeslot

Parameters:

- authToken

Success:

- 200 - OK + Reservation Receipt

```
{  
  "receiptId": "<receipt id>",  
}
```

Errors:

- 404 - No store found

- /api/store/<storeId>/reservation/cancel

Maps: cancelReservation

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the selected store

Parameters:

- authToken
- reservationReceiptId

Success:

- 200 - OK

Errors:

- 404 - No store/receipt found

- /api/store/<storeId>/ticket/verify

Maps: checkTicket

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the store at which the ticket is verified

Parameters:

- authToken
- receiptId - receipt Id to be verified

Success:

- 200 - OK +

```
{  
  "isTicketValid": <boolean>,  
}
```

Errors:

- 404 - No store/ticket found

- /api/store/:storeId/checkout

Maps: checkTicket

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the store at which a user checks out

Parameters:

Success:

- 200 - OK

Errors:

- 404 - No store found

- /api/user/ticket

Maps: checkTicket

Type: GET

URL Parameters:

Parameters:

- authToken

Success:

- 200 - OK +

```
{
  "id": "<ticket id>",
  "store_id": "<store id>",
  "type": "<Queue|Reservation>",
  "first_timestamp": "<timestamp>",
  "creation_date": "<timestamp>"
}
```

Errors:

- 404 - No ticket found

- /api/notification/store/<storeId>/day/<dayId>/timeslot/<timeslotId>

Maps: addThisNotification

Type: POST

URL Parameters:

- <storeId> - The Id of the store of interest
- dayId [number] - Day of interest
- timeslotId [boolean] - Timeslot of interest
- range [number] - Filter stores that are in a certain range
- freeTimeslots [number] - Filter stores that have a certain number of free timeslots

Parameters:

- authToken

Success:

- 200 - OK

Errors:

- 404 - No store+day+timeslot combination found

2.6 Selected Architectural Styles and Patterns

2.6.1 Architectural Styles

Thick Client The main characteristic of thick clients is offering a wide variety of functionalities independent from the central server. The main advantages it offers are greater decoupling of frontend and backend and a reduced computational effort on the application server. Recent years have seen a rise in the adoption of single-page applications, with the advent of cross-platform frameworks which allow to write code that can be run both in an app and in a browser. This allows developers to reuse significant portions of the codebase across a large number of target platforms, reducing the effort of keeping updated different versions of the same product. The single-page web application will be served by a dedicated static webserver, which is isolated from the rest of the system.

REST API REST is an architectural style centered around the definition of a uniform and predefined set of stateless operations defined on top of the HTTP protocol. Its main advantages are simplicity, scalability and modifiability. It allows to have a single endpoint against which both the mobile application and the web application can make requests, therefore eliminating the need of having multiple interfaces, while making it easier to maintain.

Three layer architecture Separating presentation, business, and data layers offers great flexibility, maintainability and scalability. This combined with a thick client means that the only communication between the client and the server goes through a predefined API, without having to worry about each other's internal representation.

Stateless components Stateless components do not have memory of previous interactions with the user, and rely completely on the DBMS in order to save and retrieve data. This allows to decouple successive calls to the applications server, and facilitates the horizontal scaling of the system by alleviating interdependence of functionalities.

2.6.2 Patterns

MVC The software will be based on the *Model-View-Controller architecture*, where the model resides on the server, and the view on the client. A portion of logic is handled by the client to alleviate load on the server, for example filtering map results on the basis of available slots and queue length. The business logic is managed by the server.

Adapter The Query Manager component implements the Adapter pattern, as it mediates between the business logic and the DBMS services, exposing only a restricted and higher level set of functionalities.

2.7 Other Design Decisions

Maps The store search screen in the client applications will show the stores on a map for easier navigation and to show a clear view of all possibilities to the user. The maps will be offered by an external service capable of recognizing the addresses of the stores.

SMS During the creation of an account the user will be asked to insert their mobile phone number into the system. Then, the user will receive a confirmation code through an SMS sent via an external service, in order to certify their identity. This step is needed in order to mitigate the problem of the creation of fake accounts and fake reservations, which could be used by hacker in order to clog up the system and damage both stores and users.

Relational Database Relational Databases are the go to choice for most systems thanks to their long track record and reliability. ACID properties enforce consistencies in the data, and a fixed schema helps in the modeling phase. Finally, the system lends itself well to the relational structure, with well defined entities and relationships between them that map well into tables.

3 User Interface Design

3.1 Web and Mobile application

The *RASD* contains already several mockups of the mobile applications. In Fig. 16 we provide the flow diagrams describing the user experience of the client applications, which will be implemented by both the Mobile App and the Web App.

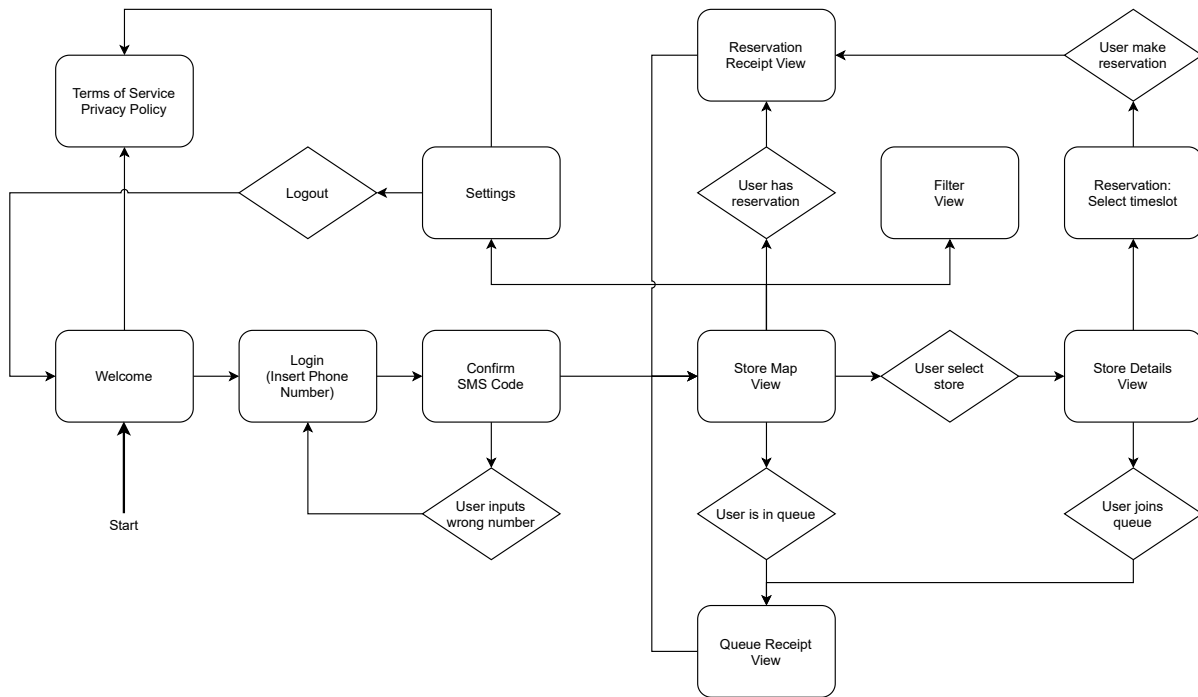


Figure 16: UX flowchart of the web and mobile application

Additional details can be found in *Section 3.1.1* of the *RASD*. In the flowchart there are additional views such as a setting page or a viewer for the *Terms of Service* document that don't really need a mockup.

Users need to login in order to use the application, and they can logout through the settings page.

The web application interface will be mostly identical to the mobile application one, in order to provide a coherent experience.

3.2 Totem application

The totem interface allows two functionalities: customers can create a ticket for the standard queue, and store employees can authenticate to create a priority queue ticket for a customer. After selecting one of the options (and authenticating, if needed) in Figure 18, the totem will print a ticket.

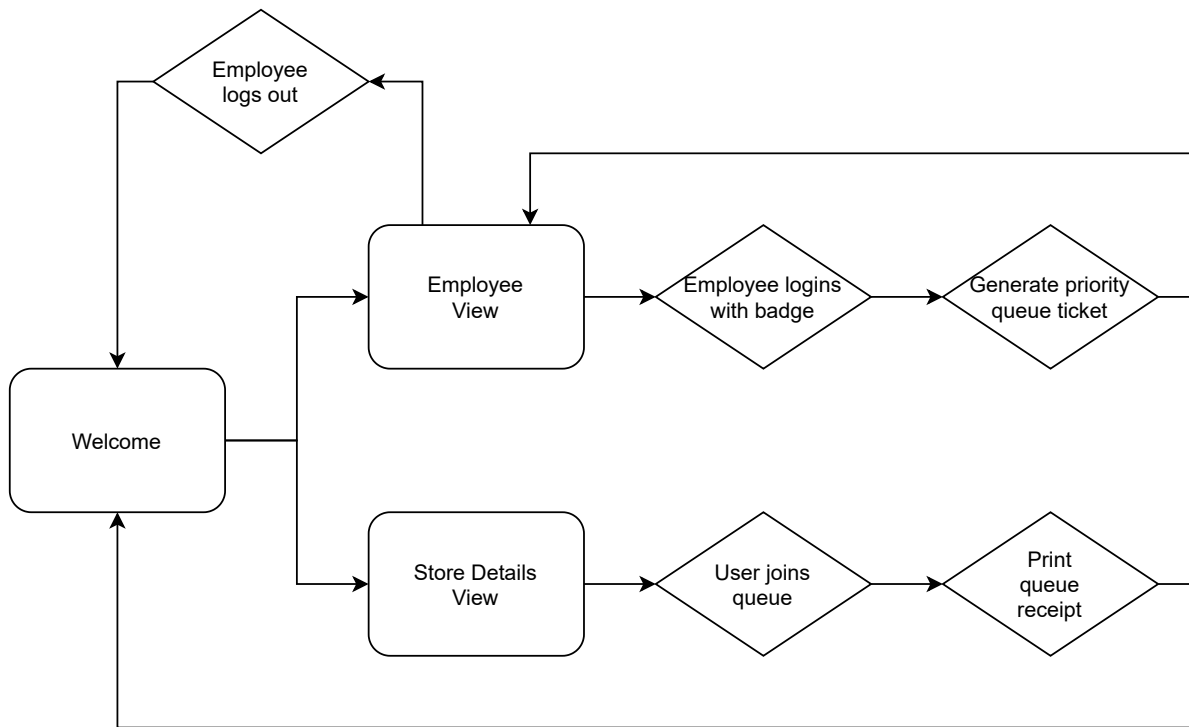


Figure 17: UX flowchart of the totem interface

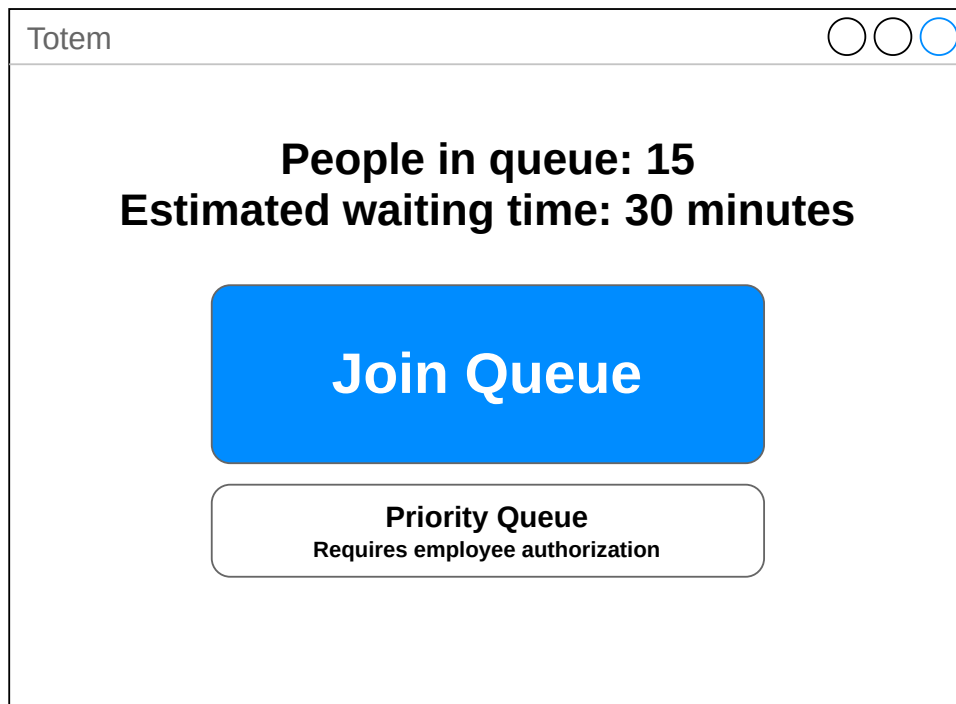


Figure 18: Mockup of the totem interface

3.3 Manager control panel

The admin web panel allows store managers to add, edit and remove stores. They need to login beforehand with credentials generated at deployment time. Managers can edit store details, timeslots, number of allowed customers, and view statistics about stores and users. The hierarchy of the views is illustrated in Fig. 19, while the flow and main features of the application is explained in Fig. 20.

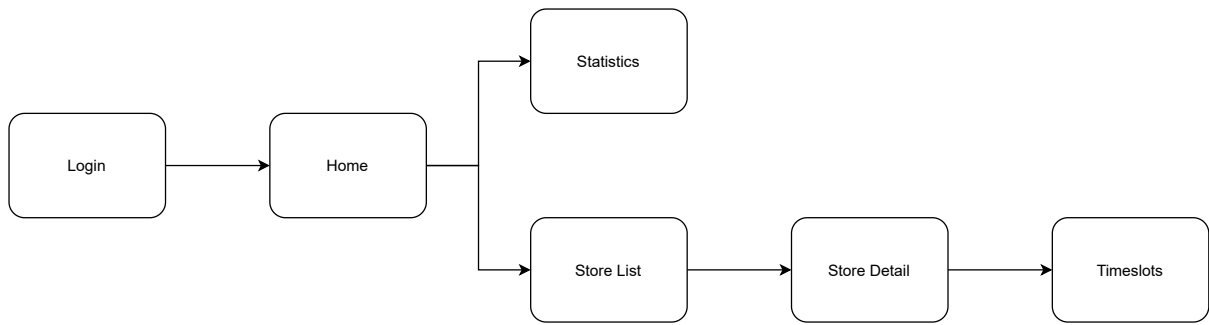


Figure 19: UX hierarchy of manager web panel

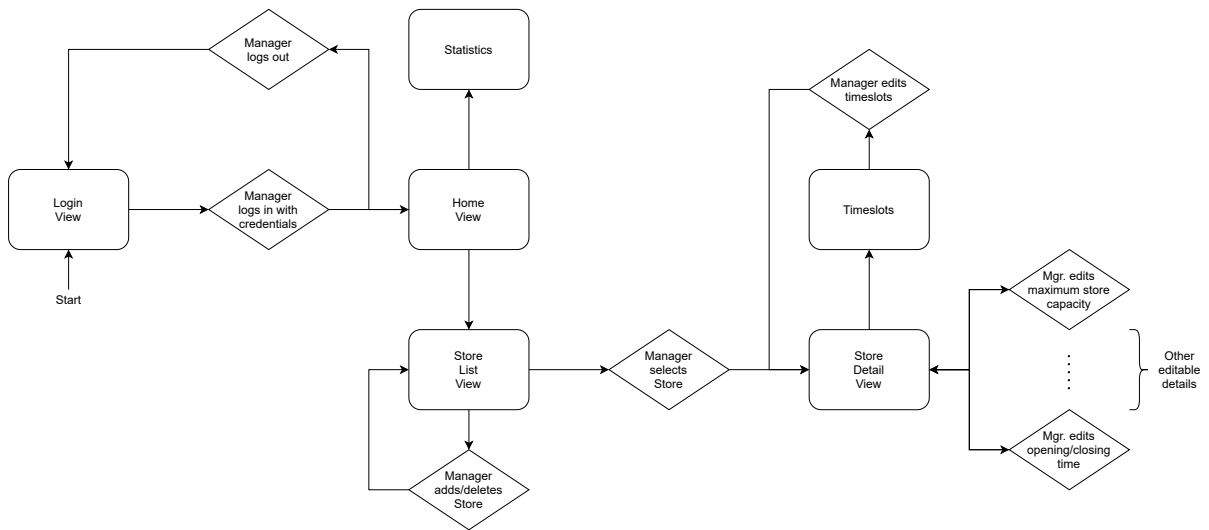


Figure 20: UX flowchart of manager web panel

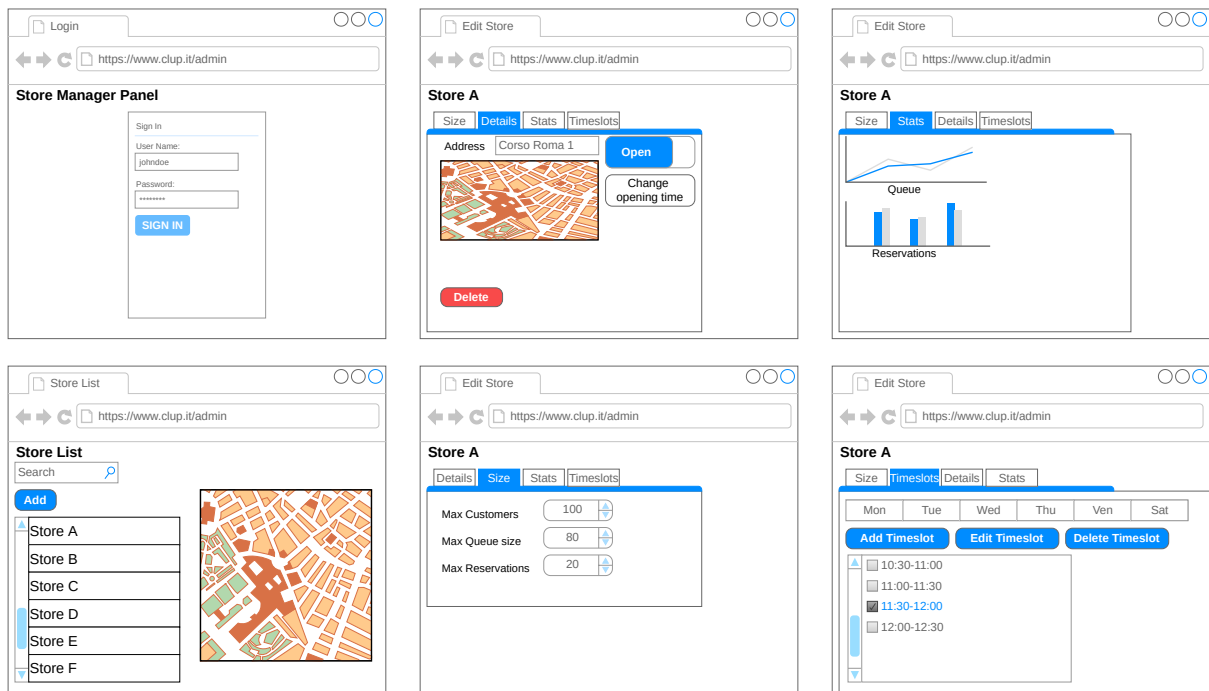


Figure 21: Mockup of manager web panel

4 Requirements Traceability

In this section the requirements specified in the RASD are mapped to the components defined in this document. We'll only consider top-level components since they've already been explained. Frontend components are omitted for clarity.

Req.	Description	Components
R1	Allow a User to sign up for an Account after providing a mobile phone number.	Account Manager
R2	Allow a Registered User to find Stores nearby a specified location.	Store Search, Maps API
R3	Allow a Registered User to filter out stores based on available timeframes, days and distance.	Store Search
R4	Allow a Registered User to get in the virtual line at a specified store.	Queue Manager
R5	Allow a Totem User to get in the virtual line of the store where the totem is installed.	Queue Manager
R6	Allow a Registered User to preview an estimate of the queue time.	Queue Manager
R7	Allow a Registered User to book one visit to a specific store.	Reservation Manager
R8	Allow a Registered User to cancel their reservation.	Reservation Manager
R9	Allow a Registered User to leave the virtual queue.	Queue Manager
R10	Allow a Registered User and a Totem User to retrieve a scannable QR Code/Barcode that they must present in order to be granted access to a store.	Queue Manager, Reservation Manager
R11	The System notifies the Users affected by delay.	Queue Manager, Reservation Manager, Notification API
R12	The System cancels User reservations in case of a major delay.	Queue Manager, Reservation Manager, Notification API
R13	The System enforces the limits on the allowed number of concurrent Customers inside a store by restricting the access at the entry points (for example, automatic doors or turnstile).	Ticket Manager
R14	The System grants a User with a reservation access only within a short time (set by the manager) after the User's time of reservation.	Ticket Manager
R15	Allow System Managers to set the division of the maximum number of people allowed between the normal queue, the priority queue for people with special needs and the book a visit slot capacity.	Admin Services, Reservation Manager, Queue Manager
R16	The System calculates the average shopping time by recording every time a user enters and exits the store.	Store API Adaptor, Ticket Manager
R17	Allow System Managers to set a limit to the people allowed into the store at a time.	Admin Services
R18	Allow System Managers to choose the frequency and size of the time slots.	Admin Services, Reservation Manager
R19	Allow System Managers to know the average time spent in the store.	Admin Services
R20	Allow System Managers to know the current and past number of people in the store.	Admin Services

R21	Allow System Managers to check the current status of the queue and of the time slots.	Admin Services, Reservation Manager, Queue Manager
-----	---	---

Table 1: Mapping of requirements to components of the system

5 Implementation, Integration and Test Plan

5.1 Overview

The application is composed of three decoupled layers (*client*, *business*, and *data*) which can be developed and unit tested independently, and integration tested at the end.

Front-end components They consist of the mobile and web application, that have been presented in Chapter 2. They consist mostly of presentational components that belong to the client layer. Since both applications rely on a REST API, and should likely reuse portions of the codebase, they can be easily unit tested by mocking of the REST API.

Back-end components They are components that resides in the server, from both the business and the data layer.

External components They consist of the *Maps API*, the *SMS API*, and the *Notification API*. Since they're provided by third parties, they're supposed to be reliable and conform to their specifications.

5.2 Feature identification

To better plan the testing each component will require, it's useful to visualize them in a table (Table 2) where each components is associated with its difficulty of implementation and its importance for the system.

Feature	Importance	Difficulty
User login	High	Medium
Join queue	High	Medium
Reserve timeslot	High	High
Search store	Medium	Medium
View store details	Medium	Low
Notify customers	High	Medium
Adjust store parameters (managers)	High	Medium
Add/Remove/Edit stores (managers)	Medium	Low
View statistics (managers)	Low	Low

Table 2: Importance and difficulty of required features

5.3 Approach

All components will be implemented and tested with a *bottom-up* approach, in order to reduce the overhead that would have derived from a *top-down* one.

Components from the same subsystem (for example, the backend) can be implemented, unit-tested and integration-tested without a real need of components from another subsystem. This allows developers to develop in parallel the client and the backend, thus speeding up the development process.

Finally, after the final integration testing is complete, it's important to verify the adherence to the specified requirements.

In particular, the web and mobile application can be developed without need for a server, as the REST API can be easily mocked in tests.

5.4 Components integration

Here components and subsystems are illustrated via graphs where the arrow $x \rightarrow y$ means “ x depends on y ”. Subsystems are a group of components meant to be integration tested together after unit testing.

The first components to be tested together are the *Query Manager* and the *DBMS*, because it serves as the foundation upon all the other components rely when handling data.

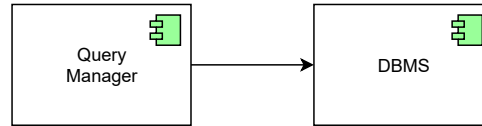


Figure 22: Data subsystem

Then Notification Manager can be implemented, but it may be stubbed (with an exception to the *bottom-up* approach) if other core features have priority.

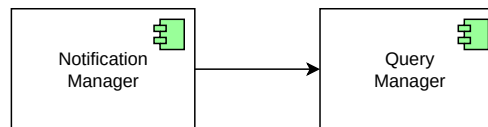


Figure 23: Notification subsystem

The following three subsystems might be developed in any order, or simultaneously, as they do not depend on each other.

It is recommended to develop the *Store Handler Subsystem* first, as it represent the core functionality of the product. This is the item that should be the most carefully tested. It also requires the *Notification Manager* component to be implemented during integration testing.

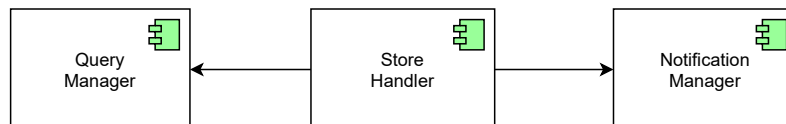


Figure 24: Store handler subsystem

The *Account Subsystem* is critical because it's needed to regulate the use of the product through the creation of the account. It should be tested with particular attention to user's input, handling invalid data correctly.

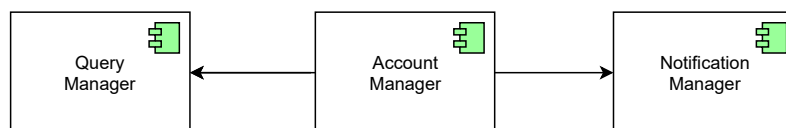


Figure 25: Account subsystem

The *Store Search Subsystem* is the least critical subsystem to be implemented, and it doesn't rely on any other component beside the *Query Manager*.

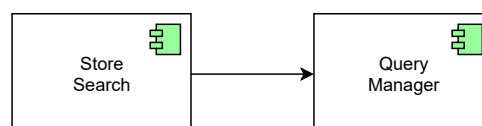


Figure 26: Store search subsystem

Once the critical subsystems have been implemented, it's the right time to implement and test the *Admin Services Subsystem*, which is the backend for all operations performable by store managers. It's important to test that all formal requirements are satisfied and cannot be violated by the user.

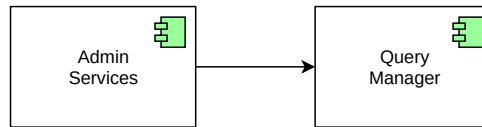


Figure 27: Admin services subsystem

At this point all subsystems have been implemented and tested, so the next step is performing integration tests between the client (front-end) and the server (back-end).

The client web and mobile app needs to interface with both the *Store Handler Subsystem* and the *Store Search Subsystem*.

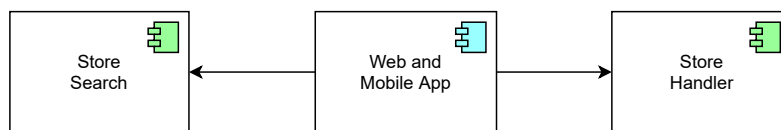


Figure 28: Client application integration

The totem needs to interface only with the *Store Handler Subsystem*, since the store it's predetermined at deployment.

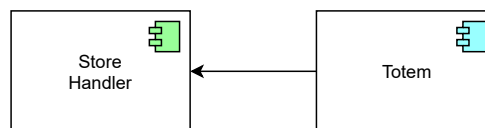


Figure 29: Totem integration

The *Admin Control Panel* has its own interface that should be tested.

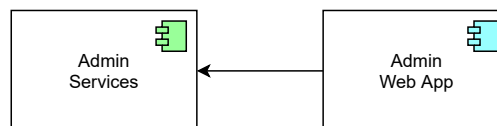


Figure 30: Admin panel integration

The final result of integration of front-end, back-end and external components is the following:

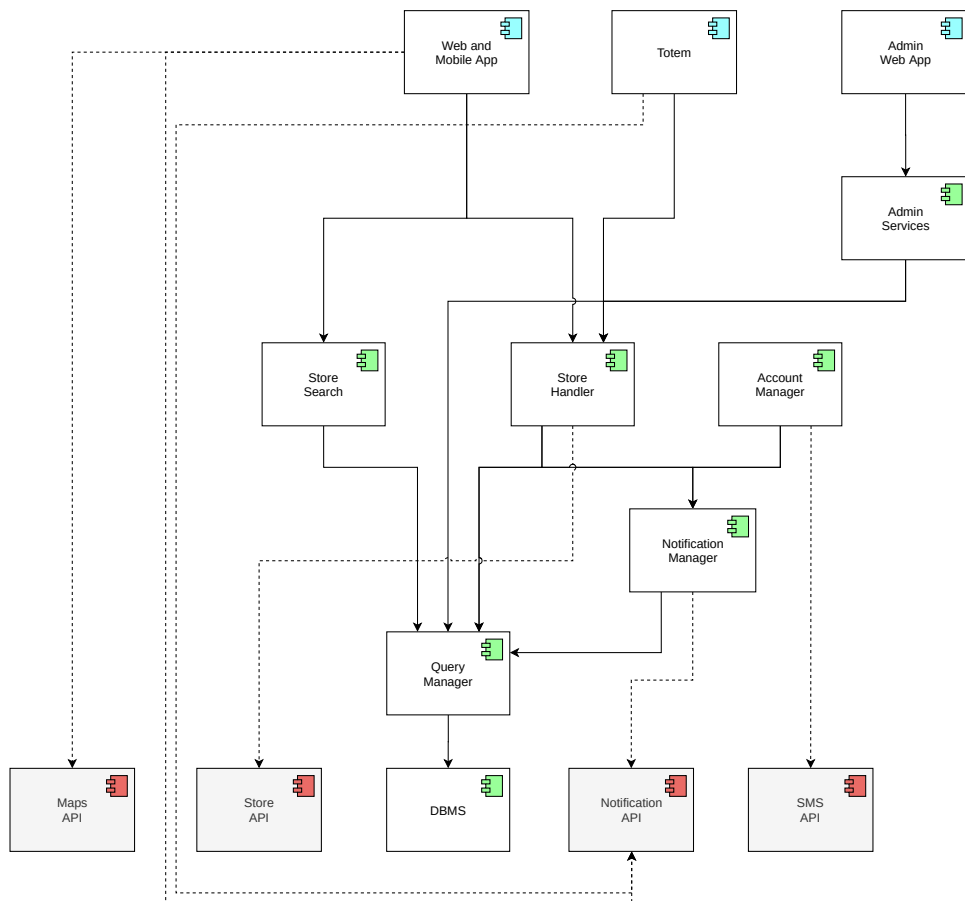


Figure 31: Full component and subsystems integration.
A dashed line means integration testing with external components/APIs.

6 Effort Spent

	Ian	16	Luigi	15.5	Andrea	18
Date	time	category	time	category	time	category
19/12/2020	3	meeting	3	meeting	3	meeting
20/12/2020					1.5	Setup layout + overview
21/12/2020			1	component diag		
22/12/2020	1.5	DB schema				
25/12/2020			0.5	database		
26/12/2020			1	deployment		
28/12/2020	1.5	meeting	2.5	component, deployment, meeting	1.5	meeting
30/12/2020	1.5	sequence diagrams				
31/12/2020			0.5	component view description	1	diagrams + fixes
2/1/2021			1	deployment diagram + patterns		
3/1/2021	1	sequence diagrams			1	Req. Mapping
4/1/2021	1.5	sequence diagrams	1.5	component view	3	Testing
5/1/2021	0.5	sequence diagrams				
6/1/2021	1.5	interfaces description	0.5	revision	1	UX
7/1/2021					1.5	REST API
8/1/2021					0.5	Manager DD
9/1/2021	3	review	3	review	3	review
10/1/2021	1	sequence diagrams	1	components and deployment	1	Testing

7 References

- ER and Runtime View Diagrams were made using plantUML
<https://plantuml.com/>
- All other diagrams were made using draw.io
<https://draw.io/>
- Cloudflare CDN service
<https://www.cloudflare.com/cdn>
- REST API
<https://www.redhat.com/en/topics/api/what-is-a-rest-api>
- Google Push Notification API
<https://developers.google.com/web/ilt/pwa/introduction-to-push-notifications>
- HTTPS protocol
<https://developers.google.com/search/docs/advanced/security/https>
- Single Page Application
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single-page_application