

**MyTaxi**

**Design Document**

Authors:

Bucci Giovanni

De Togni Riccardo

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1. **Introduction**
   1. **Purpose**

This document describes the specific architecture and design of “MyTaxi” project.

The focus will be on structural and design styles choices, expanding the thread already analysed in RASD document.

The design document in effect, starting from the requirements given in the RASD build a feasible architecture for the application.

* 1. **Scope**

The document will present different level views in order to describe clearly the architecture of the application. In particular will be presented the component view, both high and low level, the deployment view, the runtime view and a further description of user interface, analysed in its runtime flow.

* 1. **Glossary**

Below is reported the glossary already inserted in RASD:

* + - CUSTOMER: a generic person that use any part of the system service, it could be either a user or a guest.
    - DBMS: Database Management System, the set of machines and specific operation that allow the right Database working.
    - ADMIN/ADMINISTRATOR: it is a particular type of user that has administrative functions.
    - GUEST: a person who has not signed up yet. Guests have no power until they sign up with one exception. If a Guest just want to call a taxi, it could simply insert its identification data.
    - USER: a person that has already signed up as a customer. It could call a taxi, as guest does, but it also could reserve it in advance, compiling a specific form.
    - TAXI DRIVER: a person who has signed up as a taxi driver. In order to complete its registration it has to provide its identification data and its driving license too.
    - SYSTEM: the environment formed by the application itself and its features.
    - CITY ZONE: each city is divided in zones. Every zone has approximatively the same territorial extension, so a city zone is one of the portions of the metropolitan area.
    - QUEUE: an ordered list of taxi drivers that have previously provided their availability.
    - CALL A TAXI: the action which can be performed both by guests and user, that consists in asking for a single taxi ride without any advance.
    - RESERVE A TAXI: the action that could be performed only by Users. A user can forward the request for a taxi from a specified place to another in advance.
    - SERVICE: the service that is provided by the application.
    - DENY/DENIAL: when a request is not satisfied. It produce the shifting of the considered taxi driver to the bottom of the queue.
    - ACCEPT: when a request, both coming from a reservation or a taxi call, is taken by a taxi driver who assumes the charge to bring passengers to the destination.
    - UI: the user interface i.e. the set of web pages that constitute the meeting point for users and system.
  1. **References**
     + Requirements and Specification Document, RASD
     + IEEE Standards for Information Technology Systems, Design Document
  2. **Document Structure**

The Design Analysis is based on a Top-Down approach, therefore the Document structure will follow the same path. It will start from the high-level architecture, presenting the main components with their operations and mutual relations (2.2). Then it slides down to a lower level in which the high-level components are decomposed and analysed in detail (2.3).

After that in 2.4 paragraph will be presented the Deployment view of the system that show the execution architecture of the system representing the deployed software and hardware artifacts.

Runtime view presented in 2.5 paragraph will show the behaviour of the system during some typical situation. That will permit to understand in an easier way how the execution flow works.

The lowest level of analysis is reached in paragraphs 2.6 and 2.7 where are described the inner composition of the Interfaces and the Architectural choices which have been made to design the system.

Lastly, will be presented some of the main algorithms that are the fulcrum of the entire system. They will be analysed with UML Sequence Diagrams.

Chapter 4 will take the User Interface already presented in RASD and give further information about the design choices. It will also describe some UI flows clearing up the navigation through different web pages or mobile screens. The paragraph about User Experience will get over the mere “Look Requirements” presented in RASD and it will deeply analyse the structure of the Web Application.

1. **Architectural Design**
   1. **Overview**

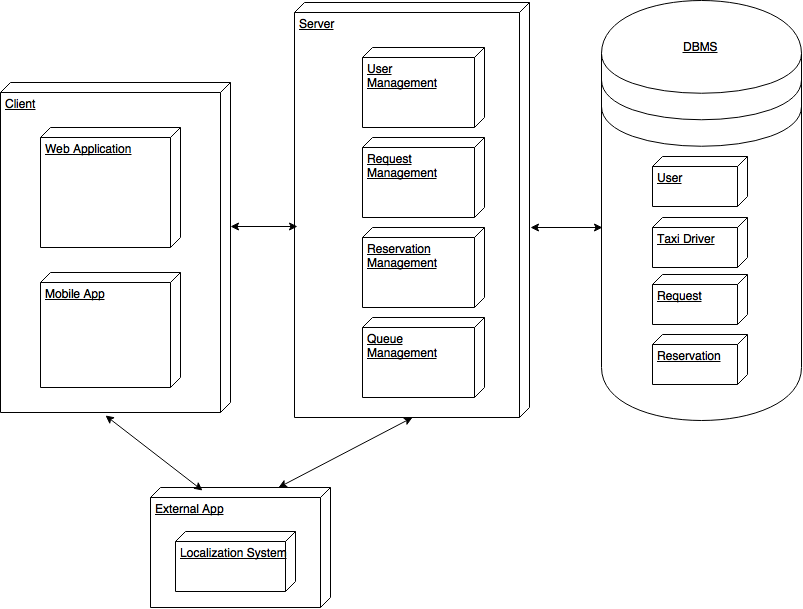
The design of the application is based on a 3-tier distributed system, where the three parts are Client-tier, Business Logic-tier and Entity-tier:

* + - CLIENT-tier: The different type of client application such as Web Application Client (Browser) or mobile app client composes client-tier. It collects the Users’ data and it is responsible of the delivery to the proper control unit that is part of the Business Logic. On the other hand, it is responsible for data receiving that consists in the safe delivery to the client, without loss or steal of data.
    - BUSINESS LOGIC-tier: as mentioned above Business Logic is the core of the application, it provides the information about how the system objects are related and how they interact, it shape the message format and it also coordinate the intercommunication between clients and entities.
    - ENTITY-tier: the entity tier contain the information about the system data model. It is responsible of database modification such as the insertion or the retrieving of any kind of data.

Given that architecture, it is possible to think that the Business Logics are represented by some Web Servers each one with a specific task. Entity-tier is represented by DBMS.

The situation described above is explained in the following diagram that provide a high-level view of the system structure:

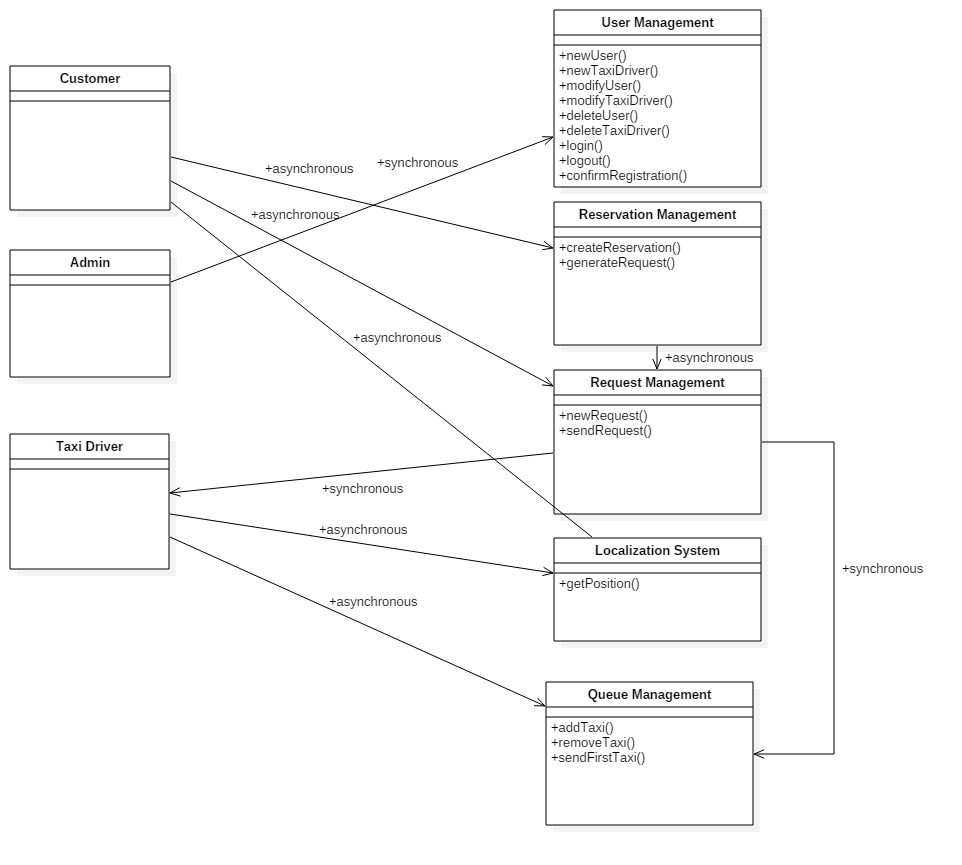
*System Overview: 3-tier architecture*



* 1. **High level components and their interaction**

In this paragraph the raw architecture presented above will be decomposed and analysed, focusing on which parts are related and which kind of communication is. The main components will be also provided with the operations that each one can perform.

*High-Level Component view*



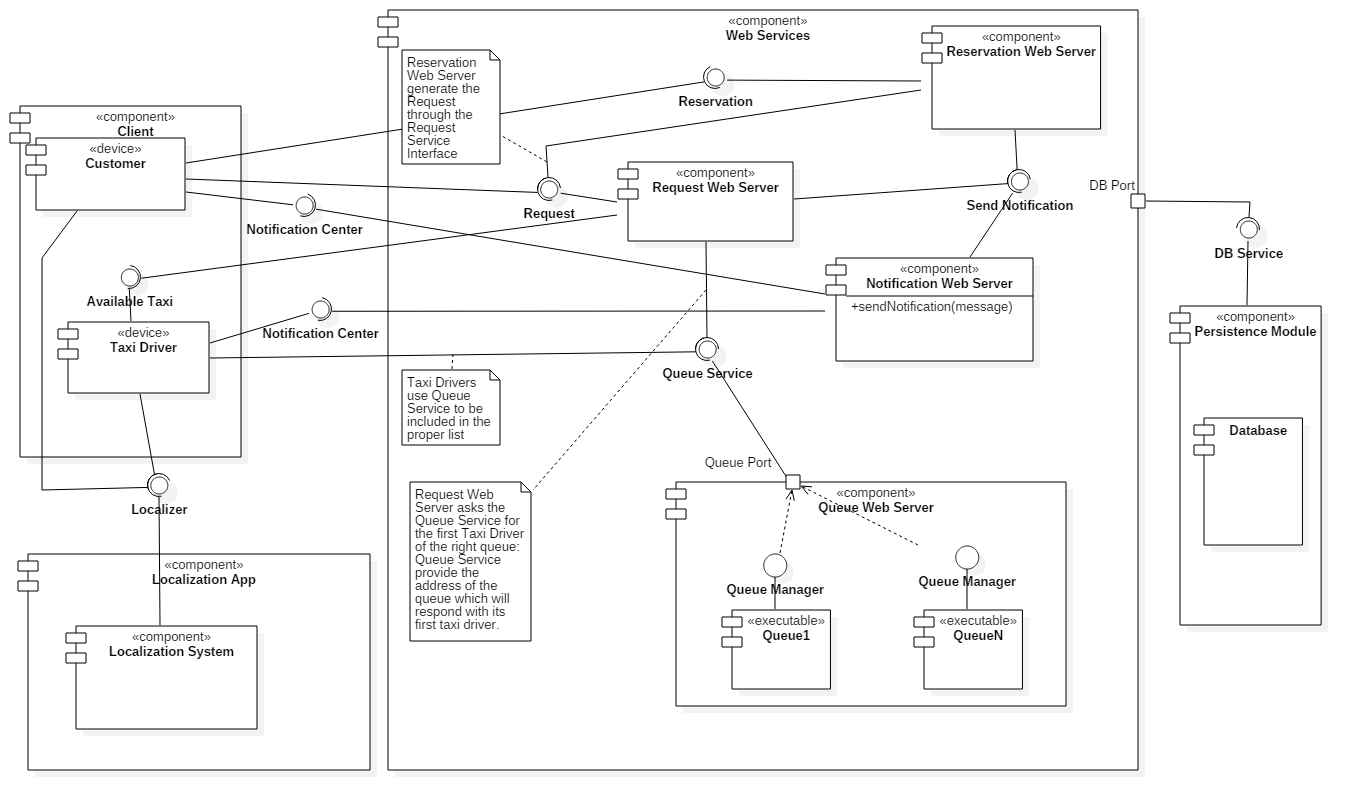
Now every relation will be described in detail:

* + - CUSTOMER – REQUEST MANAGEMENT: a generic costumer may start at any time a communication with the Request Management component, through the provided interface (That part will be described in the next paragraph). The communication is asynchronous since the Request Manager is always listening for new requests and it can handle more than one communication at a time.
    - CUSTOMER – LOCALIZATION SYSTEM: a customer start an asynchronous communication with the Localization System when it accesses the application.
    - CUSTOMER – RESERVATION MANAGEMENT: the reservation management system is always ready to accept a new reservation from any customer. To allow that the communication is asynchronous.
    - ADMIN – USER MANAGEMENT: an administrator can communicate with the User Management Component in order to view, modify or delete any registered user. Since the system permits multiple administrator the communication must be synchronous to grant concurrency.
    - TAXI DRIVER – LOCALIZATION SYSTEM: Taxi driver implicitly start a communication with Localization System when it provide its Availability. Since the Localization System has to handle multiple communications the message exchange is asynchronous.
    - TAXI DRIVER – QUEUE MANAGEMENT: As the communication with Localization System this relation starts when the taxi driver provide its availability. Queue Management handles all the taxi drivers so it can accept many request at the same time: the communication is asynchronous.
    - REQUEST MANAGEMENT – QUEUE MANAGEMENT – TAXI DRIVER: this relation is ternary because it represent a whole communication cycle. The request management has to associate its pending request with a taxi driver who will bring passengers to the destination. In order to find a feasible taxi driver the request management “ask” the queue management who is the first taxi driver in the specific queue, identified by the start address of the request. Once the request management receives the taxi driver information, it directly start a communication with Taxi Driver to send it the request. This loops until a taxi driver accepts the request. The communication between Request management and Queue management is synchronous in order to avoid simultaneous requests (Queue management respond a request with the same taxi driver). For similar reasons also the communication between Taxi Driver and Request Management is synchronous. In fact, it will be granted that the request management do not ask for another taxi driver until the former has denied the request.
  1. **Component View**

Now the High-Level Components view presented above will be decomposed and analysed in detail. In particular will be highlighted the subcomponents and how they behave. A component behaviour is described by provided and required interface, and its relation with other components.

* 1. **Component Diagram: Web Service**

*Component Diagram: Web Services*



The Component Diagram is divided in four macro components:

* + - Web Services
    - Client
    - Localization App
    - Persistence Module

Web Services represent the main component. It contains many sub-components, one for each service that the system can provide. Even if it has been used the term “Server”, the sub-components are not independent hardware entities. They are just executable pieces of software contained in the same environment.

* + - The Request Web Server handle the Request Management already described in the High Level Component View (2.2). It provide a Request Interface available for Clients and for an inner component, the Reservation Web Server, which will be presented soon. It has to be able to communicate with the Queue Manager, from that comes its required interface Queue Service. The use of this interface is explained in a note inside the diagram and it will be deeply analysed in the next paragraph. Further when a request it is accepted by a taxi driver the Request Web Server has to send a notification to the User and to the taxi driver itself. That explain the second required interface: Send Notification.
    - The Reservation Web Server handle the Reservation Management, it interact with the Client component through its provided interface, Reservation, and with the Notification Web Server through the required interface Send Notification. It also communicate with the Request Web Server via Request interface, since the Reservation Web Server has to generate a request ten minutes before the related reservation time.
    - Queue Web Service hides its inner composition to the rest of the Web Servers since the only way to communicate is to use its provided interface Queue Service. It contains one software component for each queue, so for each city zone (see Glossary). When the Request Web Server ask for the first taxi driver of a particular queue the Queue Web Server transparently redirect the request to the right Queue. Each Queue provide a Queue Manager Interface that can respond the Request Web Server with the required data just sending it to the Queue Service interface through the Queue Web Sever gateway.
    - Notification Web Server handles all the notification functionality. It provide a Send Notification interface through which the other components may communicate their intention to send a notification. Both Request and Reservation Web Servers use this interface. To forward the notification to the clients the Notification Web Server uses the Notification Center interface provided by both customers and Taxi Drivers.

The second Macro Component represent all the kind of client that can access the service, so it integrate Customer component and Taxi Driver component.

* + - Customer symbolize a generic utilizer, which may be both a Guest and a User. It requires two different interfaces: one to make a request (Request Interface) and the other one to make a reservation (Reservation Interface).

When it make a Request or a Reservation using the mobile app its position is automatically calculated by a Localization System, asked by the customer through its Interface.

* + - Taxi Driver component embodies the client-side service provider. The Request Web Server can communicate with it through the Available Taxi Interface. A taxi driver can give its availability to the Queue Web Server through its Queue Service Interface. In order to permit the Queue Web Server to redirect the Taxi Driver to the right queue, jointly with its availability, it has to provide its position too. For this reason, it transparently (without any alert) connects with a Localization System through the specific interface, which will provide the position.

The third macro component is external to the application since it represent a Localization App. Its internal composition is briefly schematized here in order to explain how it is related to the other system components.

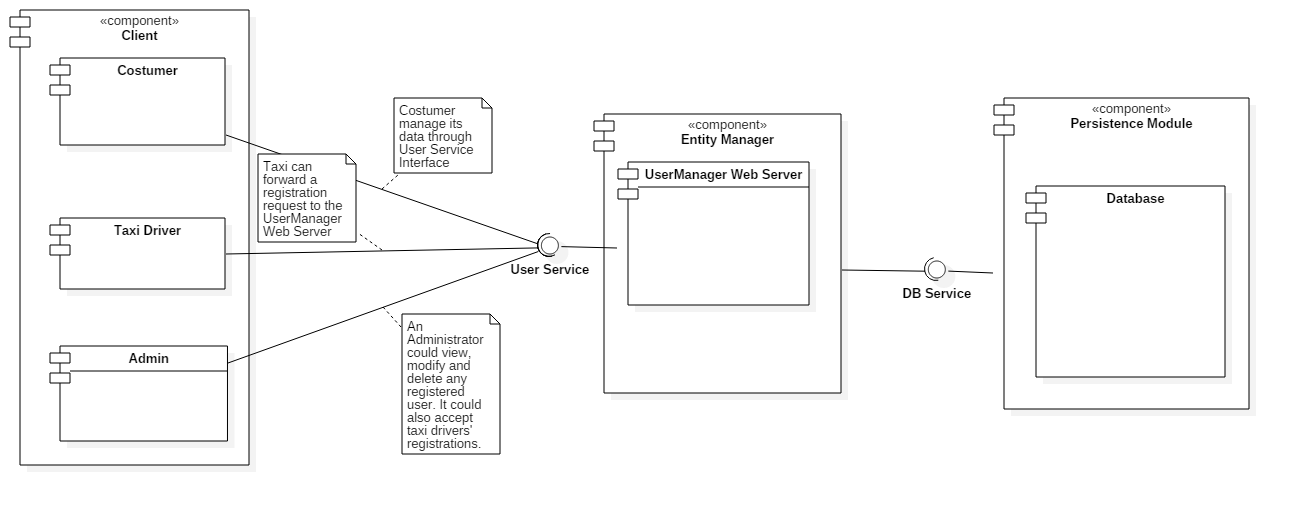
* + - Localization System is the only subcomponent. It contain all the functionality to calculate the position of a device given its GPS data. This component communicate through a provided interface Localizer.

The fourth component is the responsible for the data storage. All the Web Services are linked to it through its interface DB Service. This interface provides methods that allow to operate over the database. Persistence module and its subcomponent Database form the Database Management System (DBMS) presented in the Overview (2.1).

* 1. **Component Diagram: User Management**

Another important view concerns what it has already been called “User Management” in the High-Level view. The Client-side components are the same presented above with the addition of Admin, the administrator. Server Side there is only a component: Entity Manager. Here there a graphical view:

*Component Diagram: User Management*



The Entity Manager contains a sub-component, User Manager Web Server, which performs the functions of the User Management component. It provides User Service Interface through which all the clients can communicate. The component in the middle receives the requests from the clients and forward them to the Database through the DB Service. The specific use is partially described in the diagrams notes but it will also be analysed in the next paragraph.

* 1. **Component Interfaces**

Every component needs to interact with other elements of the system. The communication between components is managed using interfaces. Every interface takes a fixed number of arguments, and returning the desired result, so that components can avoid knowing how every operation is implemented, and so reducing coupling.

Here is presented a brief description of every interface presented in the component view, in order to perfectly explain the interaction between components.

* **Localizer API**
* +getPosition (Bin signal : String coordinates)

It is the interface used to calculate the client position using an external GPS service. It receives the signal and provides the coordinates for the client.

* **Request**
* +createRequest (String name, String surname, String email, String phone\_number, String position, String address, Int passengers : Int taxi\_code, Time expected\_time)

A user to ask for a taxi ride uses it. It takes essential data as an input, and after all the procedure to find the taxi, returns the assigned taxi code and an estimated waiting time.

* +viewRequest()
* **Reservation**
* +createReservation (String username, String start\_point, String end\_point, Int passengers, Date reservation\_date, Time reservation\_time : Bool confirmation)

This interface allows the user to book a taxi ride in advance; in order to do so the interface only needs the client username (to retrieve user details) and ride details such as start and end addresses, number of passengers and date and time of the ride. The request will be created a couple of minutes before the indicated time, so the only thing returned to the user is the outcome (positive or negative) of the reservation.

* **Available Taxi**
* +Accept (String request\_ID, String taxi\_code : Bool response)

This interface represent the attempt to assign a taxi to a specific request: it takes the request id to identify univocally the request, and sends the request to the taxi; it then sends back to the system the taxi driver answer.

* **Queue Service**
* +insertTaxi (String taxi\_code, String position : String zone)

The target of this method is to insert an available taxi in a queue, so it receives the taxi code and its position, sending back the name of the zone in which the taxi is positioned.

* +getTaxi(String request\_start\_address : String taxi\_code)

The request server ask the queue server a possible taxi to forward a specific request, sending the start address indicated in the request. The queue server detects the associated zone queue and query the queue manager for a taxi; as soon as it receives the response, it forwards the taxi code to the request server

* **Queue Manager**
* +getTaxiFromQueue(int queue\_index : String taxi\_code)

The queue manager receives the queue index and so requires the first taxi in the indicated queue. When the taxi is found, its code is sent to the queue manager, ready to be sent to the waiting request

* **Send Notification**
* +sendEmail(String email, String event\_type, String event\_id : void)
* +sendSMS(String phone\_number, String event\_type, String event\_id : void)
* +sendNotification(String username, String event\_type, String event\_id : void)

This set of methods is created in order to delegate notifications at the specific component. The system sends the data related to the event that has to be notified, and the target media for the notification (email, mobile phone or mobile application). The notification server then provides to send the proper notification to the user.

* **DB Service**
* +insertRequest(Request req : void)
* +insertUser(User usr : void)
* +insertTaxi(Taxi taxi\_driver, Date Timestamp : void)
* +insertReservation(Reservation reserv : void)
* +insertAdmin(Admin admin : void)
* +modifyUser(User newusr : void)
* +modifyTaxi(Taxi newtaxi : void)

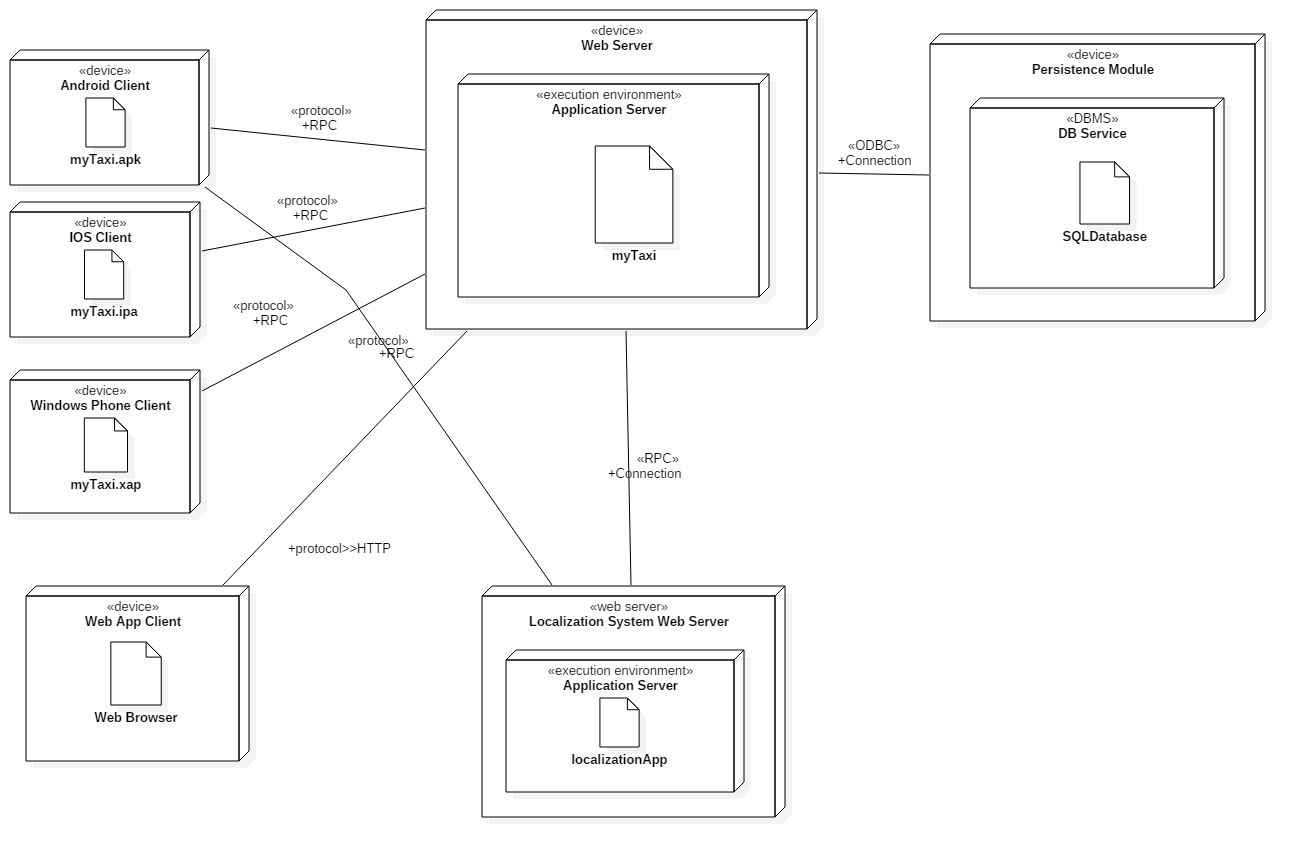
The set of methods defined by this interface is meant to define how entities are inserted or modified in the databases. They take the entities classes, with every detail related, that will be decomposed in basic type pieces of information and inserted in the database.

* 1. **Deployment View**

This section highlights the real deployment of the different components deepening the presentation already made in the previous paragraph. The focus will be on the type of communication, in terms of real connection and not of logical connection as it was in the case of high-level components. The interfaces that link the various component are omitted to clarify the presentation, since they were already described above Each group of components is thought as a device, in this way the different types of client embodies a device and also the different services contained in the Web Server. For the first time since the discussion appears the database, here analysed from the point of view of the deployment.

Here the graphical representation:

*Deployment Diagram*

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Since this diagram deepens the analysis of the components, the client side of the deployment diagram presents the differentiation between the mobile or web based device. The three different mobile devices communicate with the Web Server through Remote Procedure Call (RPC in the picture). This kind of communication allow running the desired procedures into the server whenever a client need a service to be performed. Localization system uses the same connection with both Clients and the Web Server. The Web App Client communicate according to the web standards, via HTTP. On the Server side we have a device called Web Server, which contains many services, runnable softwares that share the same processing machine but independent in terms of execution. The execution environment though is shared. It contains the executable application which is reported here without any extension in order to let freedom of implementation.

The device Persistence Module is the responsible for all the operation about stored data. It contains a single subcomponent responsible for DBMS: DBService. This component has to be protected against unauthorized accesses and unintended operations. For this reason is not directly connected with the Web Server but it has a particular interface defined by a “façade” pattern, deeply described in the paragraph 2.9. The connection is based on ODBC, Open Database Connectivity, the driver for the communication with the database.

* 1. **Runtime View**
  2. **Selected architectural styles and patterns**

1. **Algorithm Design**

* Expected Time
* Expected fare

1. **User Interface**
   1. **Design Overview**

The idea, always present within the project, is to create a tool that is easy and immediate for the user, and the user interface is designed to meet these requirements.

From the mock-ups already presented in the RASD, it is in fact clear that the aim is to present the users a neat and minimal interface, in order to make the procedures intuitive and as quick as possible.

* 1. **User Interface and navigation flow**

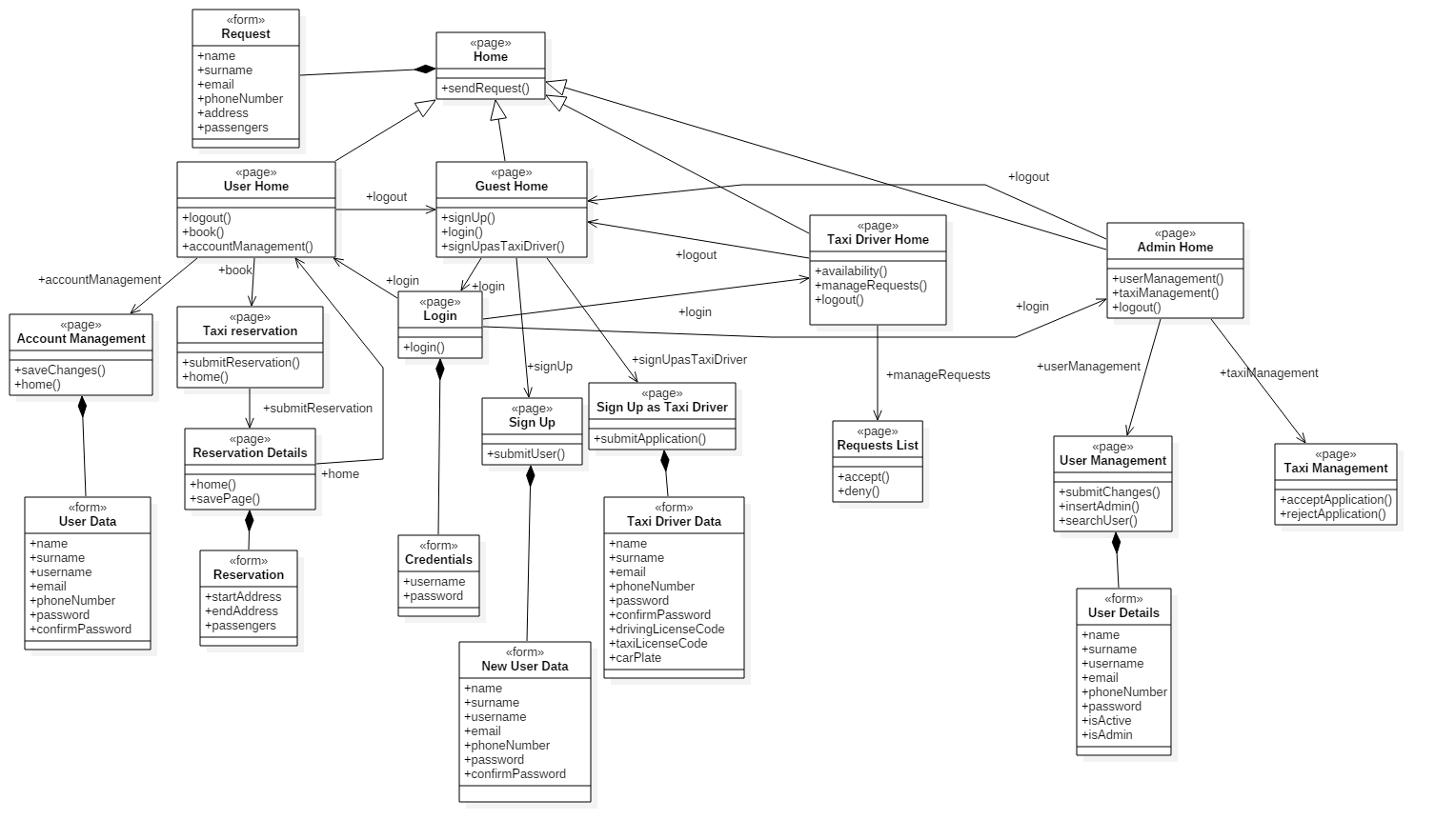
Here it is presented a diagram that, with the proper stereotypes ("page" and "form"), shows how pages are related, which important components are present, every input form, and how the navigation through the website is structured.

The graph is presented as a class diagram, and the symbols have the same meaning as if they were used in that kind of diagrams; it is important to notice that <<page>> means that the class represents a web page, and <<form>> identifies an input form contained in a specific page.

The home page structure is the same for all the users, focused on the fast request for a taxi; every user home page is then developed from this point, adding links and features associated to the relative user.

Following these links, every customer can navigate through the pages, but only through those for which he has permission.

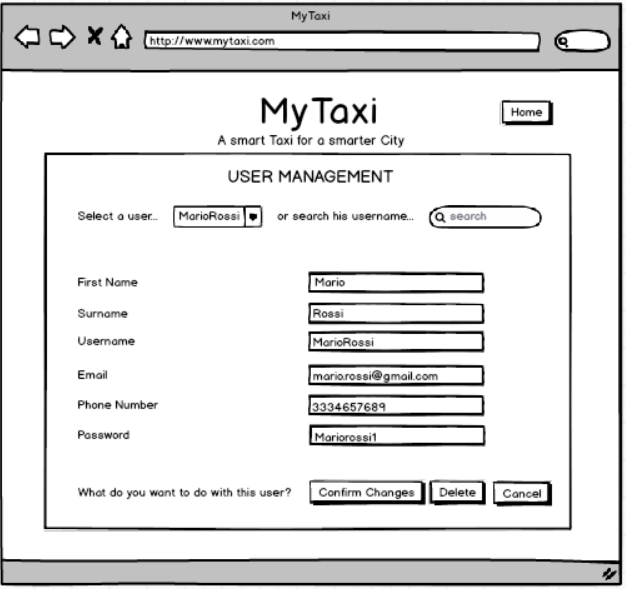
Here are presented only direct flows, associations representing cancellations or links to previous or home pages are omitted in order to simplify the reading of the graph.



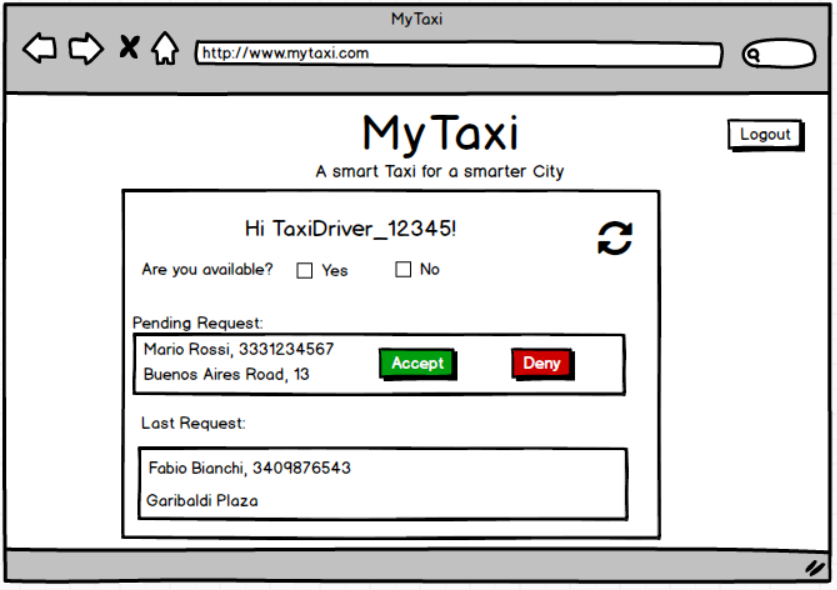
* 1. **Further preview of the UI**

In order to clarify the style of the application, here are presented some of the pages not already contained in the RASD, such as the taxi driver's home page, and the pages used by the administrator to manage users and taxi applications.

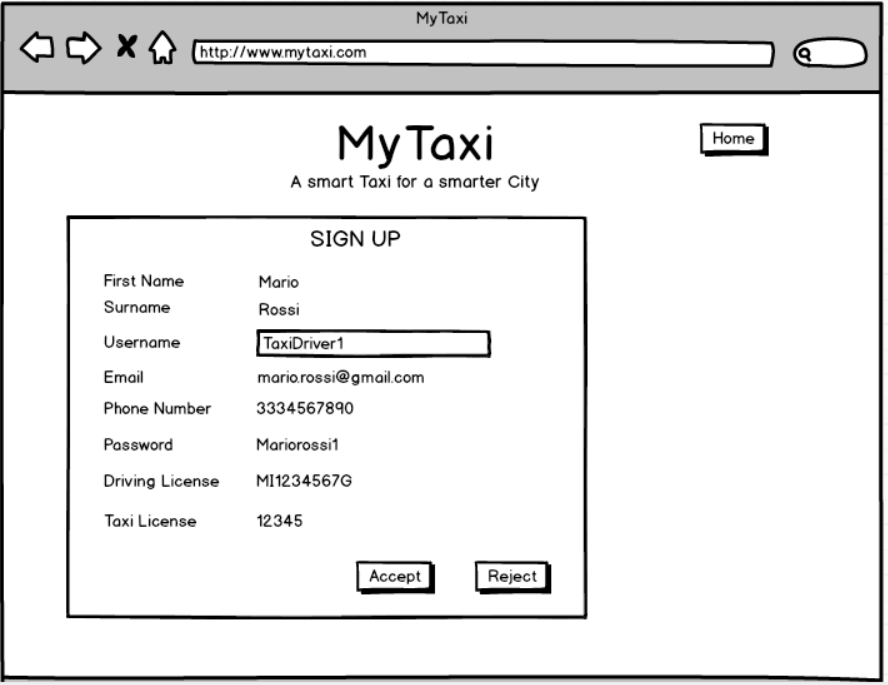
*User Management*



*Taxi Home Page*

**

*Taxi Management*

**

* 1. **User Experience**

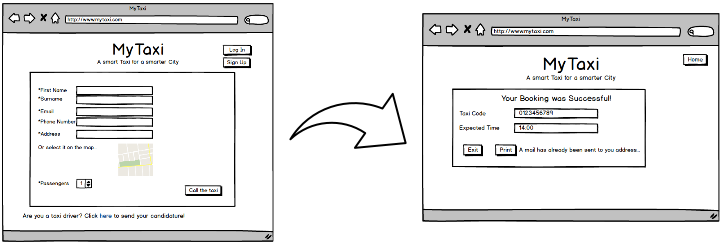
In order to make the service as immediate as possible, the home page of the application is composed of the module to send a rapid request or a taxi, inserting the indispensable data like name and phone number. On the side there are buttons to sign up and login. After the login every kind of user has a personal home page: the registered user has the options to book a taxi in advance and modify his data; taxi drivers can give/remove availability and accept requests; administrators have access to users data and to taxi driver applications.

Every option is fully described in the RASD section related to Use Cases, and the navigation uses only buttons to navigate through the pages, and forms to insert data: in this way the user can understand how to use the application at the first use.

Here are shown some page flows based on the mockups already presented, in order to fully describe how pages are related, and in which way the navigation is structured

* + 1. **Taxi Call**

A guest already finds on the home page the form to call a taxi, when he has filled in the fields, he waits for the taxi, and when the call is accepted, the guest is brought on the confirmation page, with the call details.



* + 1. **Sign Up and Reserve a Taxi**

If a guest needs to make a reservation, from the home page he has to click on the Sign In button: in the following page he will find the registration form; once he submit the data, he will be redirected on the home page, but this time as a user, and thus allowed to make a reservation. He finds a form very similar to the simple call one, that allows him to book a taxi. After the process a confirmation page will be shown, where the user can read a resume and save the page, or go back to the home page.



* 1. **Taxi Driver Login and Request Notification**

A taxi driver is ready to work, so on the home page he clicks on the Login button. In the following page he inserts his username and password, and he will be redirected to the home page dedicated to taxi. This page is comprehensive of everything he needs: in fact here he can see his state and his rides. In a dedicated box he will find new requests, ready to be accepted or rejected just by clicking on the specific button.

