

InnTell: Effective Hotel Management using Prospective Customer Insights

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Motivation and Objective

- Influx of tourists to Singapore is increasing @7% every year
- Accommodation makes up 22.5% of tourism receipts
- Average occupancy rate at hotels is increasing @1.7% every year
- In spite of this, the revenue of hotels is decreasing @0.9% every year
- Lack of strategic pricing – lack of information about potential customers
- Lack of user specific customization
- Cannot employ extensive in-house analytics – IT costs
- Consultants like Deloitte's GX – expensive, small players cannot compete

Approach

InnTell

- Cloud-based software solution
- Helps hotels identify trends and patterns in customers
- Helps hotels plan logistics to suit the needs of customers
- Suggests dynamic pricing
- Enhances hotel customers' experience

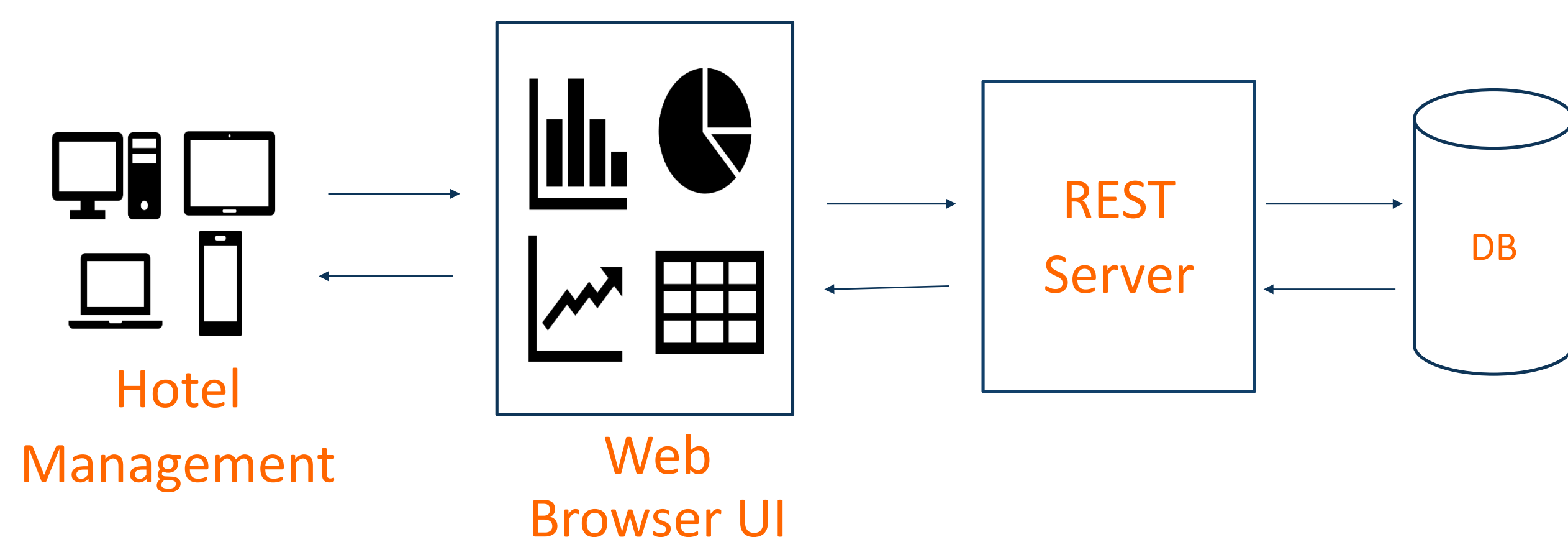
Technological Approach

- Cloud - ↓ Cost, ↑ Elasticity, ↑ Resiliency, Multi-tenancy
- Machine Learning - to derive insights from yesteryear data
(*Data source:* data.gov.sg)

- Recommends dynamic pricing based on predicted market trend and supply-demand gap – Avg. Occupancy Rate, Avg. Room Rate, Revenue per Available Room
- Helps hotels plan logistics better – Visualization of fine grained tourist data that includes age group, nationality, purpose and frequency of visit
- Enhances hotel customers' experience – Provides food recommendations, suggests selective customer targeting

Implementation

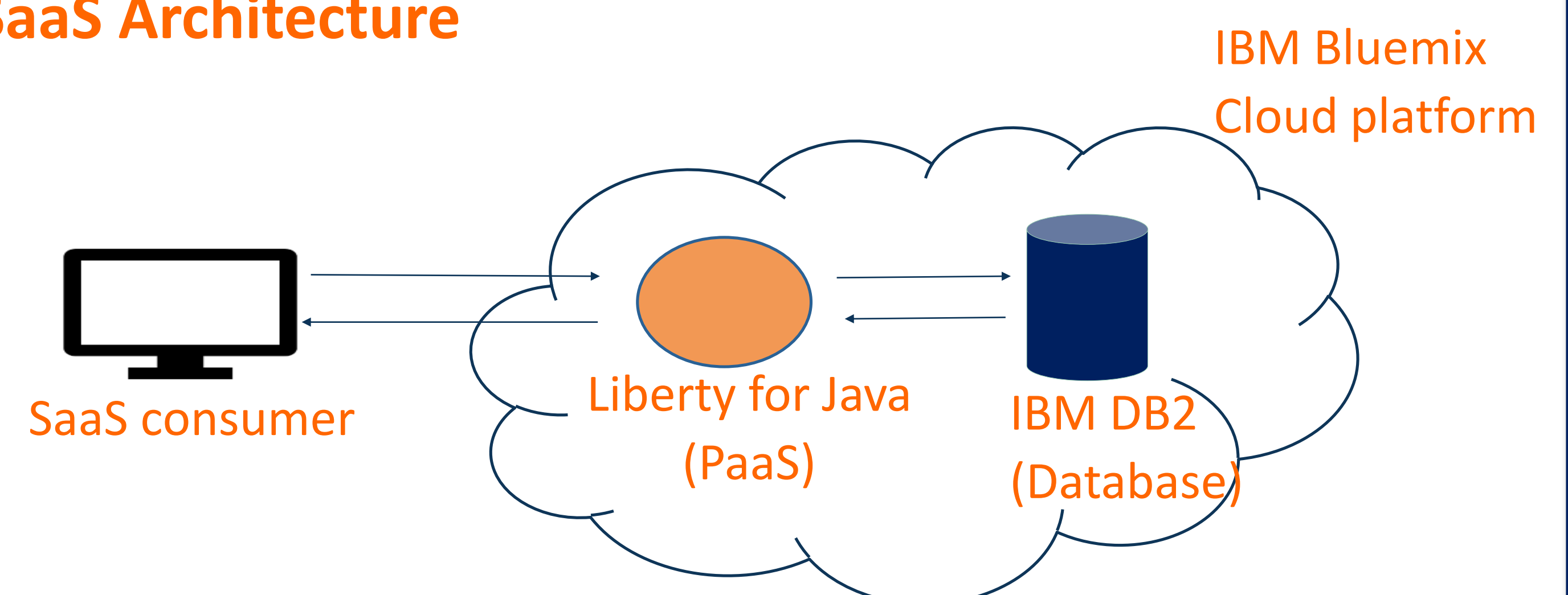
High Level System Design



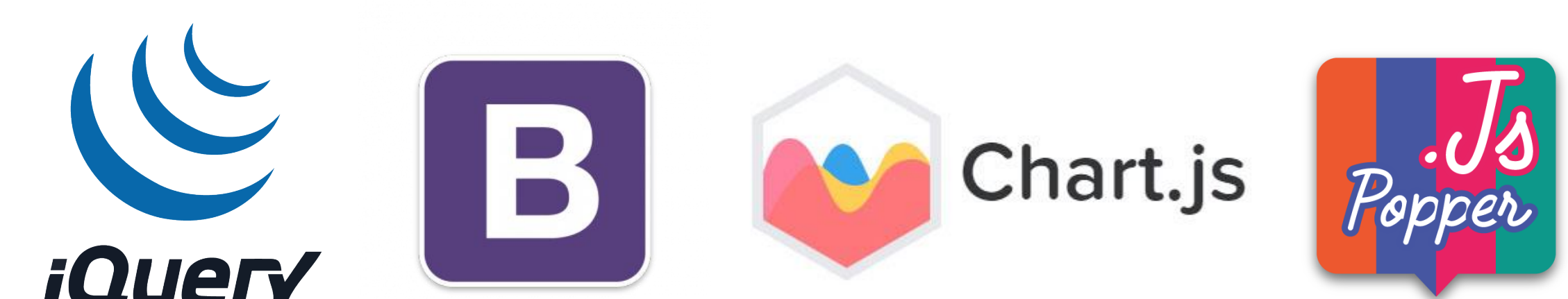
Development

- Cloud Platform – IBM Bluemix
- Built as a SaaS application
- Laid on top of PaaS
 - Liberty for Java
 - IBM DB2
- Languages Used
 - Backend – JAVA Spring MVC
 - Frontend – HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, jQuery
- Datasets Used
 - Economy Category – Visitors, Hotels
 - Environment Category - Climate

SaaS Architecture



External Libraries



Implementation Details

- Regression on existing data to predict metrics for selected month and tier
- Dynamic pricing based on price elasticity, estimated demand and focused customer insights to suggest change in given price

Revenue Model

Revenue Model

- Subscription model - recurring revenue
- Information good – unit demand, frequent updates
- Interesting insights will be made available for free, luring users to sign up for a paid version with data analytics
- Lock in strategies – discounts, promotions
- Customization for specific customers will also be incorporated in the paid version
- Updates – more datasets, deeper insights based on customer feedback