



National Technical University of Athens

School of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Software Engineering Project Proposal

Project Title: Spyglass

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1 Overview

In place of the default Software Engineering Course project we present this project proposal. The proposed project is a meta-search engine used to monitor websites according to its users requests and notify them appropriately.

2 High-Level Description

None yet. Feel free to add some.

3 Components

The project consists of the following three main components.

- A web application framework providing the interface and the connection?? to the database.
- A distributed data collection system (crawler network).
- A notification system.

3.1 Framework

The framework allows the developer to produce a configuration of the web application in order to provide an interface to the end user, declare the desired sites to be monitored and define the methods of the searching process.

3.2 Data Collection System

The data collection system is a distributed network of crawlers which poll the server on predefined intervals in order to receive a workload. They then proceed to process the workload by searching on the sites for the required data and send the results back to the server.

3.3 Notification System

The notification system provides email services. When a notification is triggered, the notification system is to send an email to the end user with the information he requested.

4 Interactions

4.1 Generic Use Cases

4.1.1 Developer Case

The developer configures the framework to provide a front-end to the end user and a collection of websites which will be crawled for the requested data. For each website, he will need to provide the corresponding instructions so the crawlers will be able to locate the data of interest. Additionally, He has full control over which subsets of the website collection will be available to the end user.

4.1.2 End User Case

The end user interacts with the web application and the notification system. He specifies the search terms on the web user interface and selects the sites to be monitored, as configured appropriately by the developer. The framework then handles the user request and forwards the necessary information to the crawler network. When an appropriate result is found, the user is notified by the notification system.

4.2 End User Scenarios

None yet. Feel free to add some.

5 Specifications

None yet. Feel free to add some.