Join Log In **Back To Course Home** Grokking Modern System Design Interview for Engineers & Managers 0% completed **System Design Interviews** Introduction **Abstractions Non-functional System Characteristics Back-of-the-envelope Calculations Building Blocks Domain Name System Load Balancers Databases**

Key-value Store
Content Delivery Network (CDN)
Sequencer
Distributed Monitoring
Monitor Server-side Errors
Monitor Client-side Errors
Distributed Cache
Distributed Messaging Queue
Pub-sub
Rate Limiter
Blob Store
Distributed Search
Distributed Logging

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Sharded Counters

Concluding the Building Blocks Discussion

Design YouTube

Design Quora

Design Google Maps

Design a Proximity Service / Yelp

Design Uber

System Design: Uber

Requirements of Uber's Design

High-level Design of Uber

Detailed Design of Uber

Concluding Remarks

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High-level Design of Uber

Learn how to design an Uber system.

We'll cover the following

- Workflow of our application
- High-level design of Uber
- API design
 - Update driver location
 - Find nearby drivers
 - Request a ride
 - Show driver ETA
 - Confirm pickup
 - Show trip updates
 - End the trip

Workflow of our application#

Before diving deep into the design, let's understand how our application works. The following steps show the workflow of our application:

1. All the nearby drivers except those already serving rides can be seen when the rider starts our application.

- 2. The rider enters the drop-off location and requests a ride.
- 3. The application receives the request and finds a suitable driver.
- 4. Until a matching driver is found, the status will be "Waiting for the driver to respond."
- 5. The drivers report their location every four seconds. The application finds the trip information and returns it to the driver.
- 6. The driver accepts or rejects the request:
 - The driver accepts the request, and status information is modified on both the rider's and the driver's applications. The rider finds that they have successfully matched and obtains the driver's information.
 - The driver refuses the ride request. The rider restarts from step 2 and rematches to another driver.

The rider is yet to open the application. The driver constantly updates their location

1 of 7

High-level design of Uber#

At a high level, our system should be able to take requests for a ride from the rider and return the matched driver information and trip information to the rider. It also regularly takes the driver's location. Additionally, it returns the trip and rider information to the driver when the driver is matched to a rider.

High-level design

API design#

Let's discuss the design of APIs according to the functionalities we provide. We'll design APIs to translate our feature set into technical specifications.

We won't repeat the description of repeating parameters in the following APIs.

Update driver location#

updateDriverLocation(driverID, oldlat, oldlong, newlat, newlong)

Parameter	Description
driverID	The ID of the driver
oldlat	The previous latitude of the driver
oldlong	The previous longitude of the driver
newlat	The new latitude of the driver
newlong	The new longitude of the driver

The updateDriverLocation API is used to send the driver's coordinates to the driver location servers. This is where the location of the driver is updated and communicated to the riders.

Find nearby drivers#

findNearbyDrivers(riderID, lat, long)

Parameter	Description
riderID	The ID of the rider
lat	The latitude of the rider
long	The longitude of the rider

The findNearbyDrivers API is used to send the location of the rider for whom we want to find the nearby drivers.

Request a ride#

requestRide(riderID, lat, long, dropOfflat,dropOfflong, typeOfVehicle)

Parameter	Description
lat	The current latitude of the rider
long	The current longitude of the rider
dropOfflat	The latitude of the rider's drop-off location
drop0fflong□	The longitude of the rider's drop-off location
typeOfVehicle	The type of vehicle required by the rider—for example, business, econor so on.

The requestRide API is used to send the location of the rider and the type of vehicle the rider needs.

Show driver ETA#

showETA(driverID, eta)

Parameter	Description
eta	

The showEta API is used to show the estimated time of arrival to the rider.

Confirm pickup#

confirmPickup(driverID, riderID, timestamp)

Parameter	Description
timestamp	

The confirmPickup API is used to determine when the driver has picked up the rider.

Show trip updates#

showTripUpdates(tripID, riderID, driverID, driverlat, driverlong, time_ elapsed, time_remaining)

Parameter	Description
tripID	
driverlat	

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driverlong	The longitude of the driver
time_elapsed[[The total time of the trip
<pre>time_remaining</pre>	The time remaining (extract the current time from the ETA) to reach the destination

The **showTripUpdates** API is used to show the updates of the trip, including the position of the driver and the time remaining to reach the destination.

End the trip#

endTrip(tripID, riderID, driverID ,time_elapsed, lat, long)

The endTrip API is used to end the trip.

Back

Requirements of Uber's Design

Next

Detailed Design of Uber

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