

Software Engineering Term Project

TravelBuddy



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In our research, we find several travel aiding apps/systems which are highly preferred, however, each of them have their own weaknesses and strengths.

TripAdvisor is one of the most popular site/app that aims to help travelers for having efficient and fun times during their trips. It offers information about almost 7.7 million places, such as restaurants and museums, with their photos [1]. TripAdvisor also helps users to reserve seats on a plane or to book a room in a hotel.

Moreover, TripAdvisor offers an option for users to make comments under photos, which helps other users for having an idea of whether they would like the place or not. (Almost 661 million comments have been made [1].)

TripAdvisor also allows users to search and find nearest places on the map but the results are based on highly known places. For example, if the user is in İstanbul, the system shows highly known restaurants or popular places regarding the user's selection. However, our system will also be able to show rarely known places such as natural beauties.

In our system, we will not be focusing on hotel or airplane procedures. However, if a user wants to share a comment or publish a photo of a hotel, that will also be allowed.

Our system's searching mechanism will be similar to the one in TripAdvisor but additionally, our system will contain tagged searching option. (Tags for each shared picture will be given by a tagger system.)



tripadvisor

The other application we have selected is Google Maps.

Google Maps is a web mapping service developed by Google. It offers satellite imagery, aerial photography, street maps, 360° panoramic views of streets (Street View), real-time traffic conditions (Google Traffic), and route planning for traveling by foot, car, bicycle and air (in beta), or public transportation [3]. Also, this application has almost covered the whole World exactly %99 and there are around 1 billion monthly users [4]. Additionally, you can use Google Map as a search



Google Maps

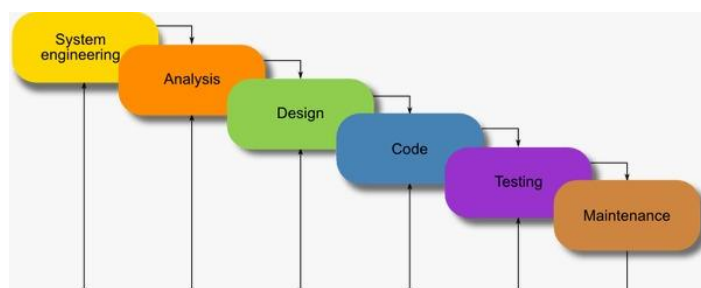
environment and you can add pictures for places and people can ask or comment on anything for these places. We are mostly thinking about the same implementation for our application but with some important differences.

Firstly, I want to talk about the similarities in our application. In Google Maps as I mentioned the previous paragraph. You can search for certain places, you can use the navigation to arrive one point and the most important part you can slide the World to discover. We will take these points as the basis for our application. In our application, we will start with cities then we will implement regions and finally we will arrive full implementation of Turkey. After this part, we will add search features that but there will be some differences from google maps so we will mention about these later. Also, you will find a chance to share pictures and comments for locations but all these operations will be done under a certain account.

Let's discuss the differences between TravelBuddy and Google Maps. When you are making search on Google Maps, it is looking for the all possible addresses or places so it takes a little bit more time and the result of the search is containing too many places because of the area and the similarities between names so, in our application, it will be like you can search with tag option and also with name and you will do this operation on a city so the search operation will be much easier and faster. Additionally, we will have fewer points on the map so this reason also make search operation faster. One of the important difference, you will join this application with an account so, when you share a picture or post comment, this operation going to be done under your name and with this account, you can text with someone else in a word you will find opportunity to talk about a place with other users. I think the biggest difference is going to be the places we will add. We will create TravelBuddy for unknown natural beauties of cities which means the location can not found easily and mostly can not reachable for the cars of Google Maps. The lastly, we want to show the user closest possible point that needs to be seen.

In advance, we know that we have lots of commons with these applications in the market. So it is going to be really hard to gain users and once a user understood the aim of this application, he or she can not easily give up these. Because none of the applications are based on nature. Also, we will do this difference with creating our databases and some new properties which these applications don't have.

Waterfall model is referred to as a linear-sequential life cycle model. In a waterfall model, each phase must be completed before the next phase begins. We think that the waterfall model will satisfy our project implementation plan because there will be no significant requirement changes during development.



References

- [1] Medya Merkezi. (n.d.). Retrieved March 07, 2019, from <https://tripadvisor.mediaroom.com/tr-about-us>
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- [3] Google Maps, Wikipedia
- [4] <https://cloud.google.com/maps-platform/>