Let me ask a question. Let say you want to buy a product. How do you decide where to buy from?

You either go to stores or go online to search on multiple websites right?

What if you already know where you get the best price from?

That’s where this idea comes in action.

ShopHopper is a web based agent for comparing prices of products across several stores.

Here, a user can search for any product and the system will display search results from multiple stores together at the same place so that user can compare prices. User can also sort the result by prices to know which store is providing the product at the least price. And by clicking on a product tile, user can be navigated to the product page of respective retailer website, where user can add the product to cart and complete the purchase.

This idea brings a lot of value to users, such as user saves enormous amount of time for searching the same products on multiple websites or stores to compare prices. This easiest way of shopping also encourages people to shop online and prevents them to go to store, which saves gas helping environment.

The system provides the real time prices, which is very very useful in shopping seasons such as Thanks Giving, Black Friday or Christmas.

The way system works is, when the user search for the product, the server will search for that product on multiple websites. (Currently I have implemented parsers for Walmart, BestBuy and Target) And consolidate results from all and display them in a list, which user can sort to see who is providing the least price. The server will preserve the search result in the database for 1 hour, so that if any other user searches for the same, the server will save time parsing websites again and will simply return the result from database of last search. After 1 hour the database will delete the result and then the server will have to parse the websites again to get up to date prices. During Black Friday, we can reduce the result expiration period to 10 minutes.

Current System is implemented using ASP.NET and C#. For Database the system uses Entity Framework and MySQL, and HTMLAgility Pack with C# to parse retailers’ websites.

**-Future Roadmap:**

1. We can implement Robots like Google, which can continuously search for products on various sites and keeps updating prices for popular products, without waiting for the search query from user. So the website response can be made faster directly from the database.

2. Intelligent filters, such as filter by brand, type, features or price range as you might have seen on eBay.

3. We can provide Sponsored search results, by partnering with some retailers, when we start thinking about generating money.

4. Mobile app.

5. Sort by most relevant and search by stores selected.

**Question:**

**1.Google Shopping also does that.**

Ans: Google Shopping search results does not display products from various stores. It just says available at 10+ stores. And it is also not so user friendly and simple.