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DEVELOPMENT OF AN EFFICIENT PUBLIC TRANSPORT SEARCH PORTAL FOR GHANA

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OVERVIEW

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PROBLEM DEFINITION

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- Road transport is the major means of transportation in Ghana (Aidoo et al., 2013)
- Over 95% of all passenger and freight traffic and about 97% of all passenger miles in Ghana is by road (UNESCO, 2010)
- Privately owned or corporate taxis, *tro tros* (shared minivans), buses commuting between major cities (Abane, 2011)
- Difficulty in finding terminals specific location and detailed information
- Fares and stations keep changing



PROBLEM DEFINITION (CONT'D)

Figure 1: Kaneshie Transport Terminal





STATE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN GHANA - PROBLEM DEFINITION (CONT'D)

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- ★ The transport industry is currently dominated by the informal sector which provides about 90% of transport services but their services are unreliable and uncomfortable Bonaventura (2015)
- ★ Individually or privately operated transport services are members of unions or associations. These unions and associations serve as regulatory and mouth-piece to each of their members (Fouracre et al., 1994)



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

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- ★ To develop a web application that provides detailed information about public transport routes in Ghana



TOOLS USED

- ★ Python
- ★ Django
- ★ Material Kit
- ★ PostgreSQL
- ★ QGIS
- ★ Leaflet and OpenStreetMap
- ★ GPS receiver and Smartphone

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METHODOLOGY

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- * Review of related literature
- * Conducting feasibility studies
- * Requirements gathering and Analysis
- * Functional and non-functional requirements
- * Data Collection



REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

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- Neumann et al. (2015) have developed the first minibus supply model based on demand and street network only in South Africa; leading to Taximap: a public transport search web portal



CONDUCTING FEASIBILITY STUDIES

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Areas Considered:

- Technical feasibility.
- Resource feasibility.
- Operational feasibility.
- Schedule feasibility.



REQUIREMENTS GATHERING AND ANALYSIS

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Answers to these questions must be provided to ensure that the system can thrive:

- ★ Where is the system going to be used?
- ★ Who is going to use the system?
- ★ What data should be input into the system?
- ★ What Software Development Life Cycle(SDLC) model to be used?
- ★ What type of output information will the system give?



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DATA COLLECTION

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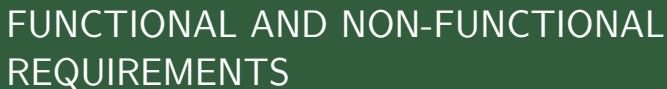
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- * Field survey
- * OpenStreetMap
- * Crowd sourcing



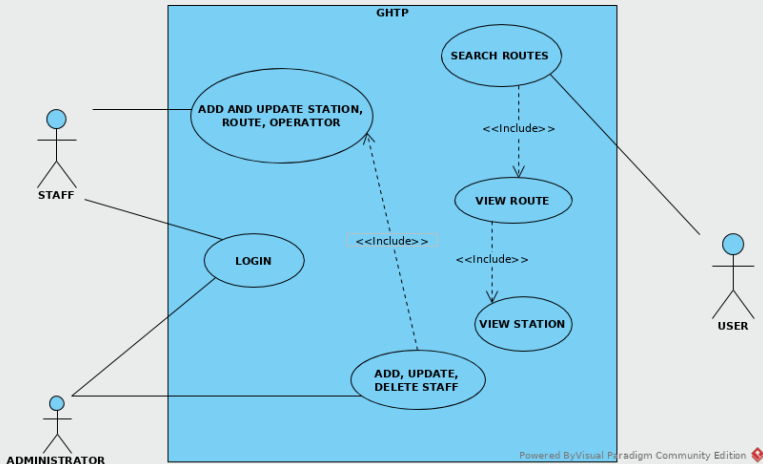
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FUNCTIONAL AND NON-FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

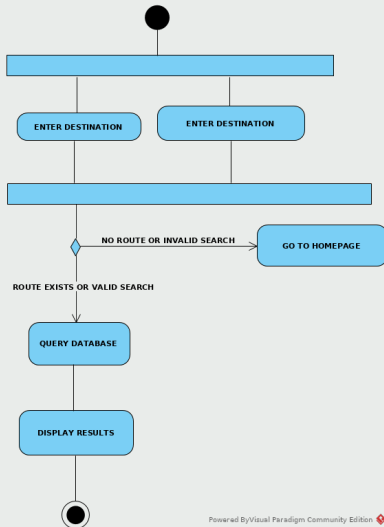
Figure 3: Use Case Diagram





FUNCTIONAL AND NON-FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Figure 4: Activity Diagram



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RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

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The results and discussions:

- ★ User gets routes based on destination and departure searched
- ★ A user can access all available operators and view detailed information on each station
- ★ User can compare fares visually
- ★ A user is able to access station location in external platform
- ★ Groups for managing staff privileges
- ★ Detailed history of changes available in administration dashboard



DEMONSTRATION

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GHTP



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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It can be concluded that this system:

- ★ Will improve trip planning and easy access to information only available within terminals to traveler hence saving time
- ★ Should be adopted by Ghana Tourism Authority to help tourists find their way around Ghana transport network

I would recommend that:

- ★ Users should be able to book seats from the platform and also support voice input for the visually impaired
- ★ The system could get users current location and find nearest possible departure stations for their routes



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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THANK YOU