# An Open Source Solution for Classroom Management EduXes

# V Master on Free Software Projects Development and Management 2011-2012

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## Description of the practicum

The main objective of this Master Thesis consist in the development of an mobile application to be used int highschools by teachers. It could allows teachers to carry on control students attendance, their behavior. Also it permits quick assessment by activity. Teachers would read students reports: weekly and daily assessment, by activity assessments and total marks.

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Working times (planned): 300 hours. From 6th August, to 30 September, on an eight hours day basis.

Technologies involved:

- Java <sup>TM</sup>language.
- Android <sup>TM</sup>. The operatig skeleton application.
- PhoneGap <sup>TM</sup> (alias Cordova ) framework to develop multi-platform applications.
- JQuery and JqueryMobile to development of mobile oriented applications.
- JavaScript with Web Databases.
- Git for version control system.
- LATEX for documentation.

Meetings:

- Technologies to be used were stated, work methodologies, first application windows (pages), Android version to be used (2.3.3) because is the most popular.
- Several emails and gtalk conversations about organization, general problems were written.

#### Teleworking is carried on

Materials and special equipment used:

- Hardware: Intel Quad, 6GiB RAM, 500GiB HD.
- Software: Debian GNU/Linux Wheezy (testing), Eclipse Juno, JQuery 1.8.1, jQueryMobile 1.1.1, and PhoneGap-Cordova 1.8.1, Android Virtual Manager 2.3.3, Git 1.7.10.4-1.
- Real testing: Sony-Ericsson Xperia V mobile phone, with USB cable and wifi.

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## Chapter 1

### Introduction

In a high school, there are classes which attendance, assessment and group dynamics is difficult to control. This is especially relevant for the technology workshop, this could be a noisy, annoying, even dangerous place, which requires teacher's standing monmitoring. This workshop needs a lightweight, reliable and also complete software tool. A simple web solution is not enough, because it could be too complicated and not fast enough; even use a tablet can be heavy. Therefore, this problem requires a new approach.

The development of a multiplatform tool, open source, for smartphones, including tablets, for attendance monitoring and evaluation of students is suggested. To achieve this goal a client-side application will be developed using a multiplataform framework: Phonegap (Cordova) [Pho12c]. Phonegap allows you to develop quickly, utilizing well-known languages as Javascript and HTML. It permit us to deploy an application for both Android, WebOS, iOS and others.

For data management, a built-in database, SQLite, will be employed which has all capabilities needed (autoincremental indexes, relation among tables and several built-in functions).

The tool that enables rapid development of the application and integration of performance tests is Eclipse. Also Eclipse is well integrated with Android SDK, and its Android virtual machine (AVM).

### Chapter 2

## Working plan

### 2.1 Description and objectives

An open source multi-platform management application for high school teachers is developed. It can be run on a smartphone or tablet. The actual objectives of the application are students management:

- Attendance and punctuality control.
- Misbehaviour control.
- Activities assessment. Each student will have an activity mark.

Application would also include these features:

- Data visualization. As table-like format. Attendance and misbehaviour
- Server synchronization with a custom application or Xade [dEXdG12].

The final goal is to develop an application to make teacher's work easier and comfortable. This application is focused on user (teacher) experience. Also an objective is to write extensible, easy to read code, which allows external developers to take part into application development.

Below, a list of tasks to be done to fullfil application development:

• Study state-of-art solutions:

Find out other solutions: PDAs and smart-phone or tablet related and webbased applications.

Download to study and reuse graphical user interfaces, code or/and database structure.

• Develop database structure: tables (field names and type of data), and relationships among tables.

#### • Preparation for development:

Build development and staging environment:

Install Eclipse [Fou01], Android Virtual Machine [Inc01], Aptana Plugin for Eclipse, JQuery, JQueryMobile [Mob12a] and Phonegap [Pho12c] from their respective websites [Pho12b].

Choose application name and folder's policy.

Make a simple application: only a blank page.

Configure a git repository and upload the application: [Aqu12].

#### Development will follow these stages:

- Populate database with sample data. Firstly, data will be hard-coded into source code to stagging. Several tables will be created: groups, students, sessions, teacher schedule, students attendance, activities, student activities, and activities per group. Secondly the appropriate windows to manage these tables will be built.
- Groups: Several groups (four) of students will be hard-coded into javascript source code, with three or four students each other.

Make list of groups window. This will list the four groups.

Groups management window. Another group could be added, or removed.

#### • Students information:

Make list of students window per group and complete list of students.

Students management window: to insert and update data students: name, surname, birthday, address, e-mail, tutor name, landline and cell phone numbers and nationality.

- Sessions. Each lecture has a description (as 'first hour', or 'recreation'), starting and ending time. These sessions will be hard-coded on first version.
- Teacher schedule. For the current teacher, it contains weekly and daily schedule: name of group, session and day of the week. This information will be also hard-coded.

- Main window (or *page* in PhoneGap notation) will be created. Teacher can set current data and go to *daily page*, manage activities, students and groups or manage reports: assessment and attendance. Next page will be *daily page*.
- Timetable for current date: daily schedule, list of groups for each day ordered by session.
- Attendance page will be next to be build. It contains a list of students by group. Teacher can assign an attendance code to each student (attendance, misbehaviour, unpunctuality or excused).
- Assessment page is next to previous one. It contains one upper list of activities and a list of students similar to *attendance page*. Teacher could set activity and assign adequate mark to each student.
- Activities. This page manage activities (add and disable activities <sup>1</sup>): name and description of assessable exercises.

Activities group will be set in activities page, and activities student will be related with assessment.

• Reports pages.

List activities.

List groups.

List students by group.

List students attendance by week. User can select previous or next week, or set another date.

List students marks and final mark.

- Error handling. While developing each SQL query, any error will be catched and an error window will appears.
- Eventually, test into real hardware: an Android 2.3.3 mobile phone, tablets, and so on.

Next steps will include:

- Load data from an external file. This is well-documented [Pho12d].
- Load images from disk (SD-Card).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>still not coded

- Save or download data from database to disk.
- Xade web interface.
  - a) Study Xade web interface.
  - b) Develop an ad-hoc application for retrieve Xade's data. With javascript or a native one.
    - 8. Develop an ad-hoc application for store data.
    - 9. Synchronization with a custom server or with Xade.
- Test units. To ensure previous step were implemented.
- User documentation. Manual with images.
- Developer's documentation.
- Find out a website to host a forum, a bug report system, documentation and application download.

Task above could be achieved in a 300 hour basis. In the following table a broad estimation of time spent in each task are shown.

| Task   | Time (hours) |
|--|--------------|
| State-of-art solutions                         | 10           |
| Develop database                               | 8            |
| Preparation for development                    | 40           |
| Development.                                   |              |
|  |              |
| Populate database with sample data.            | 20           |
| Groups. List and management                    | 50           |
| Students. List and management.                 | 30           |
| Timetable for current date.                    | 80           |
| Add attendance, behaviour.                     | 50           |
| Add error handling.                            | 2            |
| Retrieve and insert data from and to database. | 30           |
| List of attendance, misbehaviour incidents.    | 12           |
| Add activities grades for each student.        | 12           |
| List students marks and final mark.            | 14           |
| Activities management window.                  | 14           |
| Management of student notes.                   | 20           |
| List of student notes.                         | 2            |
| Test into real hardware                        | 20           |
| Total  | 384          |

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#### 2.2 Motivation

As a Technologies teacher, in my daily work I have to evaluate students work such as working with tools, cooperative work with other classmates etc., besides usual activities as written exercises. A long data sheet could used, or an awkward long spreadsheet, but a portable device with a custom application should be desirable.

This application tries to increase teacher's productivity because teacher only has to write attendance, or unpunctuality two times (on official report and on application's window), and classroom notes and activity grades on very easy way.

The most important feature is to be as easy, fast and intuitive as possible. It could be desirable to be platform independent (Android, iOS, Windows RT), but Android is preferred because it is open source and has a higher market share.

On the other hand, development of this application improves my computer science skills in mobile-phone applications development: JQuery, jQueryMobile, PhoneGap/Cordova, SQLite, Android, git repository management.

#### 2.3 Methodology

This work was carried on building small blocks, also called pages, and make it up into final application. A page is a visible window, only first page is visible, and other pages are called from this one.

Database structure was separated from interface, and interface was also separated into dynamic and static contents. Each new functionality was written, tested, and polished.

Foremost a new window/page is designed from previous HTML code or from sample code [Cas12] and written in **index.html**, id are set with ad-hoc names (e.g.  $id="edit\_student"$ ,  $id="in\_name\_student"$ ), these id's are used in javascript code.

```
Sample Page. index.html
  <div data-role="page" id="daily\_work">
      <div data-role="header" data-add-back-btn="true" data-theme="a">
                  <h1>Day</h1>
      </div>
      <div data-role="content" data-theme="a">
          <div class="ui-grid-b">
              <div class="ui-block-a">
                  <div data-role="fieldcontain">
                      <label for="date" >Date:</label>
                  </div>
              </div>
              (\ldots)
          </div>
      </div>
      <div data-role="navbar">
          <u1>
              <1i>>
                  <a href="#" onClick="onGeneralFile()"
                  data-role="button" data-icon="star"
                  data-theme="a" > File</a>
              <1i>>
              (\ldots)
              </div><!-- /navbar -->
      <div data-role="footer" class="footer-docs" data-theme="a">
               style="text-align:center;" id="teachers\_name">
      </div>
  </div>
```

Secondly **interface.js** code are written: show progress icon (a *PhoneGap* function), a customized function which loads data into new HTML code (e.g. *loadGroupAssessment*), and, finally a *PhoneGap* function to show new page/window.

```
Sample interface.js code

$.mobile.showPageLoadingMsg();
id_group=global_id_group;
loadGroupAssessment(global_db,id_group);
$.mobile.changePage("#list_students_assessment");
```

Thirdly **database.js** code are written: Declaration of previous function ??, which usually implements a SQL-query to SQLite database. These functions also fill html code, so HTML *id*'s names are so significant.

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```
🐔 Sample database.js code
  var list_asset=$('#list_assessment_select');
  sql="SELECT ";
  sql += " ACTIVITIES_GROUP.a_date (...) ";
  db.transaction(function(tx) {
      tx.executeSql(sql,[],
          dbSuccessFunc = function(tx, results) {
             var html ="";
             for (var i=0;i<results.rows.length;i++) {</pre>
                 a_id = results.rows.item(i).a_id;
                 a_name = results.rows.item(i).a_name;
                       (\ldots)
                html +=' <option value="'+a_id+'">'+a_name+'</option> '
             list_asset.empty().append(html);
             list_asset[0].selectedIndex = 0;
             if(results.rows.length>0) {
                $('#current_group_assessment').text(
                   results.rows.item(0).g_data);
             global_id_group = id_group;
             listStudentsByGroupAssessment( db, id_group,
              $('#students_assessment_ul'));
         },
         dbErrorFunc (...)
          );
  });
```

After successful tests using Android Emulator provided by Android SDK [Inc01], **TODO** file could be updated, and code will be upload to remote git [Aqu12] repository.

```
Git init shell

| $ git add -A * |
| $ git commit -m BRIEF_DESCRIPTION_OF_CHANGES |
| $ git push origin master
```

From time to time application is downloaded from git repository into real hardware and tested. It is usually faster on a mobile-phone than on emulator.

#### 2.4 Tools

Tools involved in EduXes development are :

- IDE. Eclipse [Fou01]. The most popular Integrated Development Environment for Java and other languages. It integrates browser, contextual help, even Android Virtual Machine is integrated.
- Aptana [App05]. Aptana Plugin is used HTML, CSS and JavaScript editing.
- Android Development Kit [Inc01]. Android SDK provides the API libraries and developer tools necessary to build, test, and debug apps for Android.
- Git. Also included as an Eclipse plugin.

To build this documentation several applications were used:

- Sqlfairy. Tranforms SQL language into a png image.
- Gimp 2.8.2 to get screen-shots.
- LibreOffice 3.5.4.2 to write previous document
- LateXila 2.7.0 pre to write this document.
- Other tools from GNU/Debian Wheezy October 2012

#### 2.5 Work plan

Following previous methodology 2.3, a detailed plan is shown below:

- HTML. User interface.
- interface.js. Functional code and database agnostic.
- database.js. Database related code.
- DATABASE.sql. Database declarations as a standalone file.

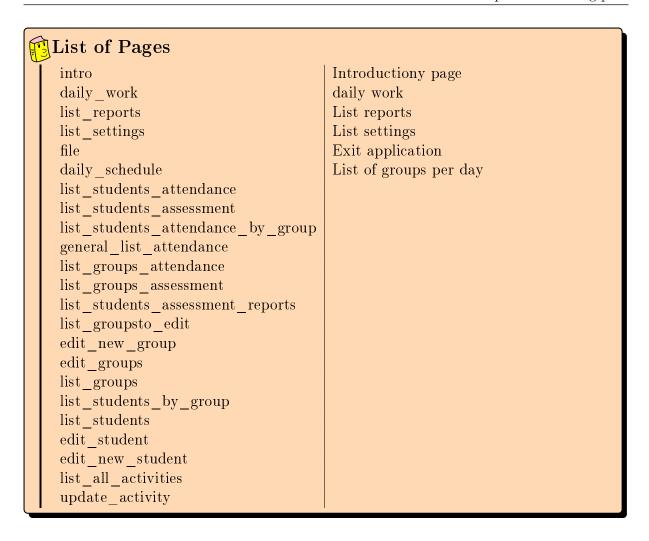
#### 2.5.1 HTML

There are only two html files: **index.html** and **remove.html**. The most important: **index.html** file is build by blocks called pages, gathered together [Mob12b]. Each page is its own **div** with custom properties (*propieraty* properties in Eclipse jargon ): **data-role="page"**. Below as show an example: list of several reports, user could choose one and a function (*onReportListAttendance(*) or *onReportListAssessment(*) ) is executed.

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Inside each page there are several identificatives id="name" which are used by application to fill with data (e.g. within  $daily\_schedule$  page  $current\_day$  id is used to set date to current date).

```
Reports Page
   <div data-role="page" id="list_reports" data-add-back-btn="false">
             <div data-role="header" data-back-btn-text="previous"</pre>
               data-add-back-btn="false" >
             <a href="#daily_work" data-icon="arrow-l" data-theme="a"</pre>
               data-role="button">Back</a>
                 <h1>Reports</h1>
             </div>
             <div data-role="content">
                 data-split-icon="gear" data-split-theme="a"
                   data-filter="false"
                   data-inset="true" data-theme="a" >
                 <a href="#" onClick="onReportListAttendance();"</a>
                  >Attendance</a>
                 <a href="#" onClick="onReportListAssessment();"</a>
                 >Assessment</a>
                 <a href="#" onClick="" >File</a>
                 </div>
             <div data-role="footer" class="footer-docs"</pre>
                 data-rel="back"
              data-theme="a">
              </div>
   </div>
```



#### 2.5.2 Interface code

There is only onle file which deals with interface interactions (events from **html** files): interface.js. If the function is called directly from html code, function name contains **on** prefix. There are several groups of functions:

- Students and Groups functions, which manage and list general students and groups information.
- Activities functions, which update, list and add new activities.
- Assessment functions, list and update students marks.
- Attendance functions, list when student attend classes and update their values.

Whether these functions need access to data (every function but  $onGeneral^*$ ) they call their counterpart function in **database.js** file.

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| List of Functions: interface.js                |                                  |                          |  |  |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| Name Task Group                                |                                  |                          |  |  |
| $\phantom{aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa$ | Firstly loaded, create and       | Initial                  |  |  |
|  | populate database,               |                          |  |  |
|  | load initial page                |                          |  |  |
| init()   | Initial                          |                          |  |  |
| $initialize\_\ data\ ()$                       | Load default date                | Initial                  |  |  |
| $open\_\ daily\_\ page()$                      | Daily work page:                 | Schedule                 |  |  |
|  | list of groups                   |                          |  |  |
| listStudentsAttendance()                       | Students Attendance page         |                          |  |  |
| requestNewGroup()                              | New Group                        | Groups                   |  |  |
| on Add New Group()                             | Edit Group                       | Groups                   |  |  |
| on Add New Group()                             | Update Group                     | Groups                   |  |  |
| onDeleteGroup()                                | Delete Group                     | Groups                   |  |  |
| onSaveNewGroup()                               | Save Group                       | Groups                   |  |  |
| onListAllGroups()                              | List All Groups                  | Groups                   |  |  |
| EditStudent()                                  | Edit Student                     | Students                 |  |  |
| onDeleteStudent()                              | Delete Student                   | Students                 |  |  |
| onAddNewStudent()                              | Add new Student                  | Students                 |  |  |
| onSaveStudent()                                | Save Student                     | Students                 |  |  |
| onSaveNewStudent()                             | Save New Student                 | Students                 |  |  |
| listStudents()                                 | Full list of students            | Students                 |  |  |
| listStudentsByGroup()                          | List Students by group           | Students                 |  |  |
| onListAllStudents()                            | Full list of students            | Students                 |  |  |
| onListAllActivities()                          | List All Activities              | Activities<br>Activities |  |  |
| $on Update Activity() \ on AddNew Activity()$  | Activity update Add new Activity | Activities               |  |  |
| onSaveNewActivity()                            | Save New Activity                | Activities               |  |  |
| onOpenStudentsAssessment()                     | Open Students Assessment         | Assessment               |  |  |
| onRefreshGroupAssessment()                     | Reload Group Assessment          | Assessment               |  |  |
| onOpenStudentsAttendance()                     | Open Student Attendance          | Attendance               |  |  |
| onReportListAttendance()                       | List Attendance                  | Attendance               |  |  |
| oniteportal isini vienaunice()                 | Dist Profitance                  | Reports                  |  |  |
| listStudentsByGroupAttendance()                | List Students by                 | Attendance               |  |  |
| weeks value noe by a roup invertigation ()     | Group Attendance                 | Reports                  |  |  |
| studentsAttendanceListPrevious()               | List Students by Group           | Attendance               |  |  |
| 000000000000000000000000000000000000000        | Previous week                    | Reports                  |  |  |
| studentsAttendanceListNext()                   | List Students by Group           | Attendance               |  |  |
|  | Next week                        | Reports                  |  |  |
| on Report List Assessment()                    | List Groups for Assessment       | Assessment               |  |  |
|  | 1                                | Reports                  |  |  |
| onListStudentsAssessment()                     | List Students for Assessment     | Assessment               |  |  |
| ()   |                                  | Reports                  |  |  |
| studentState()                                 | Student State                    | Student                  |  |  |
| Attendance()                                   | Student Attendance               | Student                  |  |  |
| V  |                                  | Attendance               |  |  |
| on General File()                              | Exit                             | Exit                     |  |  |
| $on General List \H{R} eports ()$              | List Reports                     | Reports                  |  |  |
| on General List Settings ()                    | List Settings                    | Settings                 |  |  |

#### 2.5.3 Database code

The file which contains functions which carry on querys and data manipulation (on data base (SQLite)) is: database.js

There are global variables on top of this file. These variables are used by functions because there are not obvious ways to pass values from **html** code through functions (e.g. as day week, database, current date, ...):

| Variable                        | Meaning                       |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| global_id                       | General and unique            |  |
|                                 | identification of any table   |  |
|                                 | as students                   |  |
|                                 | or groups $^a$                |  |
| table_global                    | students, groups table        |  |
| global_id_group                 | Identification of a group     |  |
| global_id_student               | Identification of a student   |  |
| global_id_activity              | Identification of an activity |  |
| global_max_activities           | Number of activities          |  |
| global_no_groups                | Number of groups              |  |
| global_week_day                 | Number of week day $(0-6)$    |  |
| global_db                       | Database pointer              |  |
| global_session                  | Selected session              |  |
| global_actual_date              | Current date                  |  |
| global_reports_date             | Date for reports              |  |
| global_is_new                   | Whether activity is new       |  |
| global_exist                    | if exist current record       |  |
| STATE_NONE                      | Default Student state         |  |
| STATE_ABSENCE                   | $\operatorname{Truancy}$      |  |
| STATE_UNPUNCTUAL                | ${ m Unpunctuality}$          |  |
| STATE_EXCUSED                   | Excused unattendance          |  |
| STATE_BEHAVIOR                  | Bad behaviour                 |  |
| <sup>a</sup> will be deprecated | _                             |  |

Several approaches have been considered, a lot of tiny, one function equals one simple task, but code were growing in complexity, became very difficult to read, maintain and pass variables to them. Other perspective was to write only several complete functions which carry all (or almost all) the work. From this point of view functions become longer, (up to a hundred of lines of code) but easier to test and follow.

Next tables list every function used in **database.js**, gathered together by task, or menu options.

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| List of Functions: database.js           |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Name                                     | Task   |  |  |  |
| errorCB()                                | Error handler  |  |  |  |
| successCB()                              | Success handler  |  |  |  |
| $\lceil loadSchedule() \rceil$           | Main Window $\rightarrow$ Load Daily Schedule                                |  |  |  |
| querySchedulePerDayDB()                  |  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ |  |  |  |  |
| $\lceil loadAllStudents() \rceil$        | Settings $\rightarrow$ List all students                                     |  |  |  |
| query All Students DB()                  |  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ |  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ | Settings $\rightarrow$ List all students $\rightarrow$<br>Fill Students page |  |  |  |
| queryStudentSuccess()                    | 1  |  |  |  |
| queryStudentDB()                         |  |  |  |  |
| $\lceil loadNewStudent() \rceil$         | Settings $\rightarrow$ List all students $\rightarrow$                       |  |  |  |
| · ·                                      | New Student  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ |  |  |  |  |
| $\lceil loadStudents() \rceil$           | Delete Student $\rightarrow$ List all students                               |  |  |  |
| queryStudentsDB()                        |  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ |  |  |  |  |
| loadStudentsByGroup()                    | Settings $\rightarrow$ Groups $\rightarrow$ List Students                    |  |  |  |
| $\lceil loadStudentAttendance() \rceil$  | Main Window $\rightarrow$ Load Daily Schedule                                |  |  |  |
|  | $\rightarrow$ Groups (Default: Attendance)                                   |  |  |  |
| queryStudentsAttendanceDB()              |  |  |  |  |
| queryStudentsAttendanceSuccess()         |  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ |  |  |  |  |
| $\lceil loadAllActivities() \rceil$      | $Settings \rightarrow Activities$  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ | A  |  |  |  |
| loadActivity()                           | Settings $\rightarrow$ Activities  |  |  |  |
|  | List $\rightarrow$ Load activity information                                 |  |  |  |
| updateActivity()                         | Settings → Activities  |  |  |  |
|  | List $\rightarrow$ Load activity $\rightarrow$ Update Activity.              |  |  |  |
| updateActivitiesGroup()                  | idem. for each group   |  |  |  |
| insertNewActivity()                      | Settings -> Activities -> New  |  |  |  |
| insertActivitiesGroup()                  | idem. for each group   |  |  |  |
| loadGroupsActivitiesEdit( )              | Settings $\rightarrow$ Activities $\rightarrow$ New (List groups)            |  |  |  |
|  | List Number of activities  |  |  |  |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $ |  |  |  |  |
| Peers ()                                 | Activities auxiliar object   |  |  |  |
| - 33.5 (/                                |  |  |  |  |

| Name   | Task  |
|--|---|
| insertNewGroup()   | $Settings \rightarrow Groups \rightarrow Insert Group$              |
| updateGroup()  | Settings $\rightarrow$ Groups $\rightarrow$ Update Group            |
| $deleteGroup(\H)$  | Settings $\rightarrow$ Groups $\rightarrow$ Delete Group            |
| loadGroup()  | Settings $\rightarrow$ Groups $\rightarrow$ Select                  |
| $\lceil loadAllGroups() \rceil$                              | Settings $\rightarrow$ Groups                                       |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $                     | -   |
| insertNewStudent()   | Settings $\rightarrow$ Insert new Student                           |
|  | Settings $\rightarrow$ Update Student                               |
| $_{\perp}$ $saveStudent()$                                   | <u> </u>  |
| deleteStudent()  | Settings $\rightarrow$ Delete Student                               |
| $insertStudentStateL(\ )$                                    | Settings $\rightarrow$ Insert New Student                           |
| $updateStudentStateL(\ )$                                    | Settings $\rightarrow$ Update Student                               |
| $\lceil loadGroupAssessment() \rceil$                        | Assessment $a \to \text{Group} \to \text{List options}$             |
| listStudentsByGroupAssessment()                              |   |
| refreshGroupAssessment()                                     |   |
| $\vdash fillSelectStudentAssessment()$                       |   |
| on Change Student Assessment()                               | Assessment $\rightarrow$ Change Student Mark                        |
| updateStudentAssessmentL()                                   | Id. Update Student Assessment                                       |
| $insertStudentAssessmentL(\r)$                               | Id. Insert Student Assessment                                       |
| loadGroupsAssessment()                                       | Report $\rightarrow$ Assessment $\rightarrow$ Group                 |
| loadStudentsAssessment()                                     | Report $\rightarrow$ Assessment $\rightarrow$ Students <sup>b</sup> |
| ${f ar{ar{ar{ar{ar{ar{ar{ar{ar{ar{$                          | Reports $\rightarrow$ Attendance $\rightarrow$ List groups          |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $                     |   |
| $	extstyle 	ag{reportAttendanceDB()}$                        | Reports $\rightarrow$ Attendance $\rightarrow$ Group                |
| queryReportAttendanceDB()                                    |   |
| $\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $                     |   |
| deleteRawRecord()  | Delete any row from any table                                       |
| stateCheck( )  | Check whether student state changes                                 |
| updateStudentState( )  | Update student state  |
| $a$ Main Window $\rightarrow$ Attendance $\rightarrow$ go to |   |

#### 2.5.4 Database

Database is the application most important data struct, it requires a special study. Actual database is inherit of Siestta application [Pố6]. This database was developed from groups table, to  $activities\_student$  following less related path ( $groups \rightarrow students \rightarrow session \rightarrow teacher\_schedule \rightarrow attendance...$ ).

2.5. WORK PLAN 17

```
Snippet database
  (...)
  -- Students Attendance
       DROP TABLE IF EXISTS ATTENDANCE;
       CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS ATTENDANCE (id integer primary key
        id_group integer, id_student integer, id_session integer,
         a_type integer, a_date text,
       FOREIGN KEY (id_student) REFERENCES STUDENTS (id),
       FOREIGN KEY (id_group) REFERENCES GROUPS(id),
       FOREIGN KEY (id_session) REFERENCES SESSIONS(id) );
     Activities
       DROP TABLE IF EXISTS ACTIVITIES ;
       CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS ACTIVITIES
                (id integer primary key, name text, date_init text,
               date_end text, weight integer, final integer );
       DROP TABLE IF EXISTS activities_student;
       (\ldots)
```

#### 2.5.5 Interface Diagram

This figure 2.1 ilustrates application workflow. Dotted lines are instructions and continuous lines data flow. Readings from database are not displayed.

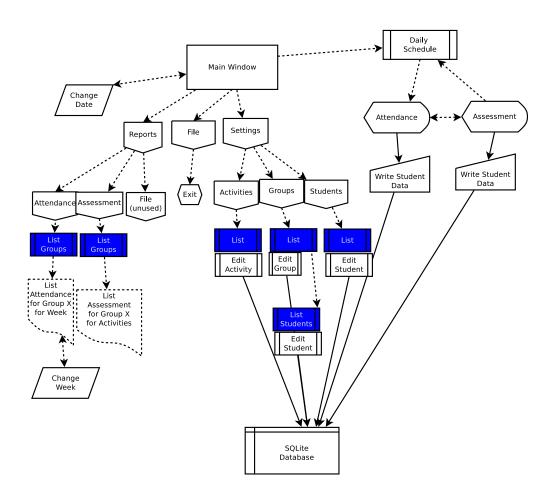


Figure 2.1: Diagram

## Chapter 3

### State-of-art solutions

Only one open source application was found suitable for study, Siestta, nevertheless there are a lot of educational software (Sixa [S.L09], Unisoft [Uni05]) but they are privative, Microsoft Windows freeware or both (SAS académico).

#### 3.1 Siestta

Technically Siestta[P06] is an GPL'ed 1990's style PHP-based web application with Ajax, an interactive editor, fckeditor and fpdf to generate reports 3.1.

From user point-of-view there are online documentation. This application includes management of students, attendance, marks, tasks, incidents, general queries, letters to parents, interviews with parents, messages, appointments, exams and more.

Several screen-shots were taken and its structure will be reused in current application 3.2:

This application are also available for PDAs, it could be a valid solution but it is server-side with outdated technologies. Data structure from Siestta is standard and fully functional, and it will be partially reused by EduXes.3.3.

Source code are also shown: calendario.php. It shows us a PHP application which uses sessions variables and is not Model-View-Controller oriented.

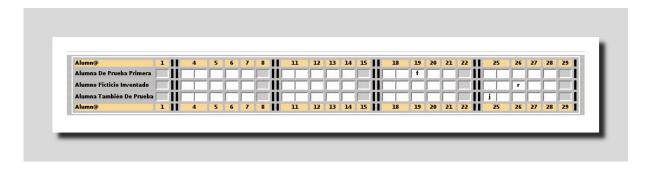


Figure 3.1: Siestta Attendance Page

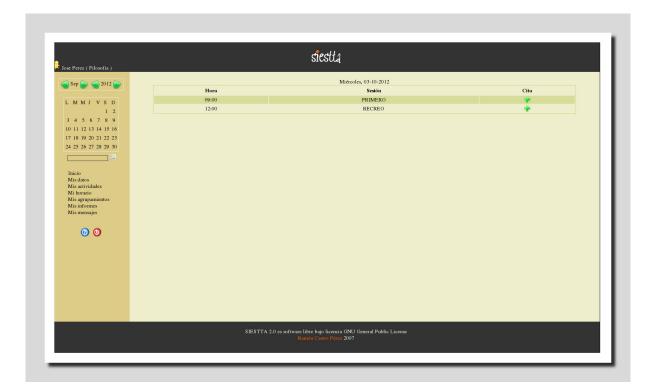


Figure 3.2: Siestta Main Page

```
Sample Siestta code: calendario.php
 <?php
 session_start();
 require('config.php');
 require('idioma/'.$idioma.'');
 include('funciones_calendario.php');
 $docente = $_SESSION['usuario_sesion'];
  //recogemos variables
 $mes_actual = $_POST['mes'];
 $anyo_actual = $_POST['anyo'];
  if($mes_actual || $anyo_actual) {
 include('funciones.php');
 conecta();
 //si es la primera vez que entramos, cargamos la fecha actual
 if(!isset($mes_actual)) $mes_actual = date('m');
 if(!isset($anyo_actual)) $anyo_actual = date('Y');
 //presentamos ahora el calendario del mes actual o cargado
 //tabla con nombre mes y año y las flechas para navegar
 echo '
  <br />
  <a href="#" onclick="navegaMes(\''.$mes_actual
  .'\',\''.\sanyo_actual.'\',\'menos\')" title="'.\sid_anterior
  .'"><img src="imgs/anterior_peq.png" class="alin_bajo" alt="'
  .$id_anterior.'" /></a>
```

3.1. SIESTTA 21

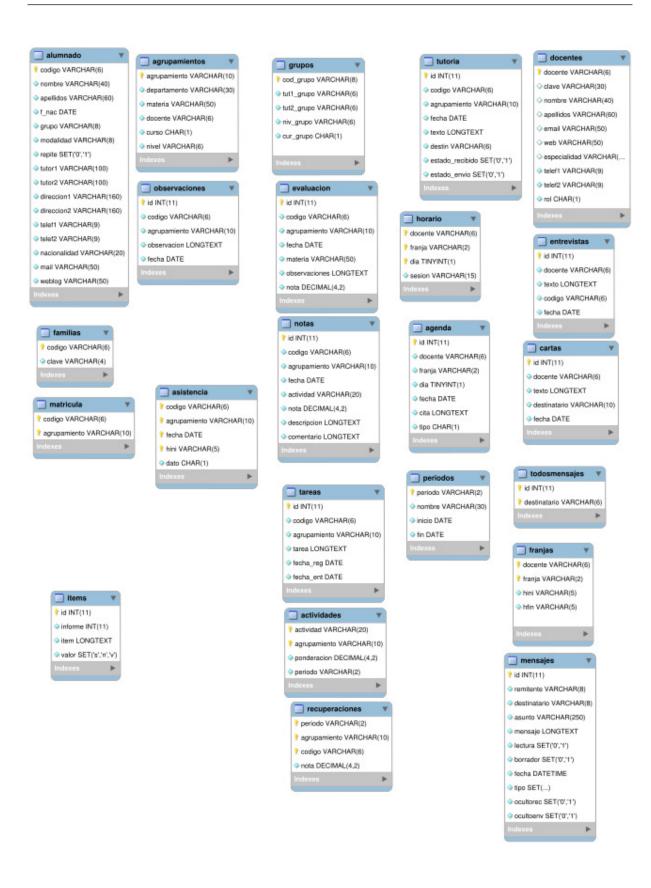


Figure 3.3: Siestta SQL



Figure 3.4: Sixa Main Page

#### 3.2 Sixa

Although not GPL'ed, and there are no source code available, several design ideas could be considered: for main page 3.4, schedule page 3.5 and reports page 3.6.

It has a PDA version (not shown), and it Xade data import capable. Also has a long list of features [S.L09].

#### 3.3 Android applications

Several Android applications are listed below, in a short list:

#### 3.3.1 Grade Book

• Name: Grade Book [Aca11]



Figure 3.5: Sixa Schedule Page

| SIXA - Aplicación do Profesorado   |  |   |  |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| EXPORTACIÓN DE<br>DATOS  | Listaxes do alumnado                   | Aplicación: <b>profesorado</b><br>Axuda |  |  |
| ALUMNADO   | Listaxes Caderno clase Sección conduta |   |  |  |
| HORARIOS   | Volver                                 |   |  |  |
| CALENDARIO   | O Listava par grupas                   |   |  |  |
| MENSAXES RECIBIDAS   | C Listake por grupos                   |   |  |  |
| PROGRAMACIÓNS  | C Listaxe por materia                  | <b>*</b>                                |  |  |
| PERSONALIZAR   | C Listaxe por pendentes                |   |  |  |
| SAÍR   | Versión: 3.22.3                        | Ver listaxe                             |  |  |
| © SIXA É UNHA PIATAFORMA DESENVOITA POR E∼XENIO<br>Deseño baseado nun modelo de Just Web Templates (http://www.justwebtemplates.com) |  |   |  |  |

Figure 3.6: Sixa Reports Page



Figure 3.7: Grade Book

• Description: Now teachers can manage their students grades directly on their Android device!

#### • Key Features:

No need to sync two separate grade books! Use one primary grade book on Google Spreadsheets

Email student grades with the click of a button

Pin-number to protect your grade books if your phone is lost

• Updated:July 7, 2011.

• Price :4 €

• Screenshot: 3.7

#### 3.3.2 Attendance

• Name: Attendance [fA10]

• Description: A great way to take attendance. Put your student list in a Google Spreadsheet, and this app takes care of the rest. There is no need to enter total

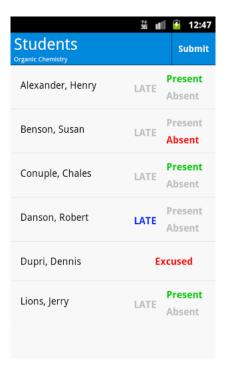


Figure 3.8: Attendance

absences into a spreadsheet at the end of the semester because all absences/tardies are calculated in your google spreadsheet each day you take attendance.

• Key Features: attendance.

• Updated:January 13, 2012.

• Price: Free

• Screenshot: ??

#### 3.3.3 Teacher Organizer

• Name: Teacher Organizer [Lle12]

- Description: Gradebook and attendance, notes, schedule a teacher (high school teacher).
- Key Features: Unified information resource teacher developed within diploma projects.
  - Functional log attendance and log evaluations point system of evaluation, while allowing classes to celebrate and stand missing the mark;

Compilation of the magazine is "on the fly", depending on the selected students;



Figure 3.9: Teacher Organizer

Selection of students by selecting a training group, not the individual student;

Log open it is possible to select more than one group of students;

- Entering information about your child and watching it like when viewing the log evaluations or visits, and without the need to open the log;
- Notebook;

Notebook allows you to store notes, view, and edit;

A system for cataloging notes for quick search;

The possibility of entering one note in more than one subject group;

Schedule a private teacher;

It is possible to view the schedule for the next semester as up to now, and after;

The system can generate the schedule for a few weeks in advance, if it is repeated;

Supports two-week schedule (odd and even weeks).

• Updated: December 26, 2012.

• Price: Free.

• Screenshot: 3.9

It has a drawback, its web page is in Russian, and do not translated. This application seems to be very professional. There is no code avaliable.

#### 3.3.4 Teacher Aide

- Name: Teacher Aide [iagdc12].
- Description: The app allows teachers to take attendance and record grades on their phone or tablet.
- Key Features:
  - default values set to Present for fast attendance
  - import student names via CSV file
  - export data via CSV generated file send via email or to Dropbox.
  - 1-click text to students/parents for tardy/absent students and missing assignments.
  - 1-click Random student generator (no more popsicle sticks)
  - Grading interface to allow recording of assignments using Yes/No/Missing,
     Points, Letter Grades, Percent.
  - Generate PDF file for attendance and grade reports.
  - Print reports directly to Google Cloud Printer from app.
  - Allows user to send bulk text message to parents and students
  - Call parents/student right from the App
  - Send bulk email to parents/students from app without having to confirm 1 at a time
  - Allows the user to save or load student/parent contacts from the device contact list.
- Updated: 26 December 2012.
- Price: Free (Limited number of students).
- Screenshot: 3.10

Excellent but not open source or even free.



Figure 3.10: Teacher Aide

## Chapter 4

## Description

Preparation of development: a) Build development environment: Java Development Kit (JDK) version 1.6 is downloaded from: http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/inc As root user that file is unpacked into /usr/lib/jvm and configured to be the Java default:

#### # update-java-alternatives -s JDK\_1.6\_NAME

Eclipse Juno (4.6) is downloaded from its web-page: http://www.eclipse.org Download->Linux 64 bits Android Development Toolkit (ADT) is downloaded following instructions on this page: http://developer.android.com/sdk/installing/installing-adt.html A new line is included into repository software (Help -> Install New Software -> Add): http://dl-ssl.google.com/android/eclipse/ Next step is to select all the related software listed. For Aptana Plugin line to add into Eclipse is: http://download.aptana.com/studio3/plugin/install Furthermore JQuery, JQueryMobile and Phonegap are needed, and were downloaded from their web sites: JQuery 1.8.1 (no newer versions): http://jquery.com/ JQuery will be copied into assets/www/js folder. JQueryMobile version 1.1.1 from http://jquerymobile.com/ JQueryMobile is a zip file which will be uncompressed and copied into assets/www/js folder. PhoneGap - Cordova 1.8.1 is downloaded from this URL: https://github.com/phonegap/phonega To create a PhoneGap application this very important instructions (Getting Started with Android) should be followed step by step: [Pho12a]

b) Choose application name and folder's policy: EduXes stands for "Educaciń" and "Xestión", is a educational management software. A folder is created (assets/www/js) which contains javascript (\*.js) files except JQuery and JqueryMobile which is included into another folder (assets/www/js/jquery), do not forget style sheet files (\*.css) c) Make a simple application: only a blank page. Getting started with Android is followed step by step. d) Upload simple application into a git repository. A Github account is created and a new application is initialized. This are the source code project page:[Aqu12] Source code are upload to GitHub:

# Git init shell | \$ git init | | \$ git add -A \* | | \$ git remote add EduXes git@github.com:joseantoniosa/EduXes.git | | \$ git push origin master

#### 4.1 Database structure

```
EduXes Database structure
  -- Groups
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS GROUPS (id integer primary key,
      data text , other_data text);
  --- Students
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS STUDENTS (
        id integer primary key, id_group integer not null,
        name text, surname text,
        repeated integer, n_date text , photo text,
        tutor TEXT, address TEXT, phone text, e_phone text,
        nation text,
        FOREIGN KEY(id_group) REFERENCES GROUPS(id));
  -- Sessions (franja horaria)
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS SESSIONS (id integer primary key,
          description text, h_start text, h_end text);
  -- Teacher's schedule
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS TEACHER_SCHEDULE (id integer primary key,
        id_session integer, day integer, id_group integer,
        FOREIGN KEY(id_group) REFERENCES GROUPS(id),
        FOREIGN KEY(id_session) REFERENCES SESSIONS(id));
  -- Students Attendance
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS ATTENDANCE (id integer primary key,
        id_group integer, id_student integer, id_session integer,
        a_type integer, a_date text,
        FOREIGN KEY (id_student) REFERENCES STUDENTS (id),
        FOREIGN KEY (id_group) REFERENCES GROUPS(id),
        FOREIGN KEY (id_session) REFERENCES SESSIONS(id) );
  -- Activities
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS ACTIVITIES
      (id integer primary key, name text, date_init text,
      date_end text, weight integer, final integer );
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS activities student
      (id integer primary key , id_student integer,
      id_activity integer,
      mark integer, a_date text, notes text,
      FOREIGN KEY (id_student) REFERENCES students (id),
      FOREIGN KEY (id_activity) REFERENCES activities(id) );
  CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS activities_group
      (id integer primary key , id_group integer,
       id_activity integer,
      enabled integer, a_date text, notes text,
      FOREIGN KEY (id_group) REFERENCES groups (id),
      FOREIGN KEY (id_activity) REFERENCES activities(id) );
```

| 4 3        | qué quieres resolver                 |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
|            | que quieres resorver                 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.4        | cómo lo vas a hacer                  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>4.5</b> | herramientas conceptuales necesarias |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4.6        | Tools                                |  |  |  |  |  |
| NOISE vvvv |                                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| ASD        |                                      |  |  |  |  |  |

## Chapter 5

## Results

Application is evolving from list, edit students and groups, to its final goals. These objectives were fulfilled:

## 5.1 Objectives completed

- Access to any workday, any group and student.
- Management of attendance and misbehaviour of each student. The students information is still hard-coded into source files.

•

#### 5.2 Technical details

Javascript-SQL conexion Asynchronous methods

### 5.3 Further objectives

- Links to student and group management. These pages were done but links are not missing into main application window.
- There are several objectives not fulfilled yet, but I am on the way to get those done, those are, in priority order:
- Data visualization. Student attendance and misbehaviour have to be shown in table-like window.
- Test into real hardware. EduXes.apk has to be copied into mobile phone.
- Activities evaluation per student. A window to display activities marks and final mark.

Chapter 5. Results



Figure 5.1: Siestta Main Page

- Timetable management. A window to manage groups timetable. When a group has class with this teacher.
- Server synchronization with a custom application or

These objectives were not fulfilled because time and skills lack.

En este apartado deberán quedar reflejados los experimentos realizados. Para ello se mostrarán: 5.1

5.4 Resultados en forma de tablas, gráficas e imágenes donde se describa cuantitativa y cualitativamente el funcionamiento de la aplicación

. . .

5.5 Análisis crítico de los resultados con el objetivo de decidir si el sistema implementado es válido

. . .

Several problems were faced: Eclipse environment: A stable, reliable and up-to-date IDE, with several plug-ins is needed. Download vanilla Eclipse Juno from its web-site is chosen because it is more stable, reliable, compatible with newer versions. Aptana Javascript plugin was chosen because Aptana allows source code auto-completion in JQuery. PhoneGap and Android incompatibilities. Android 2.3.3 requires JQuery-1.8.1 and does not work on higher versions. Error handlers. I have had several problems with tx.executeSql(...) function, it confused me with db.transaction(...): tx.executeSql(sql, [parameters], successHandler, errorHandler) and db.transaction(queryFunction, errorHandler, successHandler) have up to four and three parameters respectively, only first one is mandatory. I rather use success and error handlers for tx.executeSql function, atomic error control could be better choice. Passing variables to functions: Only if another solution is not known or feasible, global variables are used: named after global\_, and in block capitals. Deadline. Development was delayed because I have no enough spare time and above problems were time costly.

ohcount -i assets/www/js/database.js assets/www/js/interface.js \
assets/www/js/create\_populate\_db.js assets/www/index.html \
assets/www/remove.html

Examining 5 file(s)

Ohloh Line Count

| Language   | Code | Comment | Comment % | Blank | Total | File          |
|------------|------|---------|-----------|-------|-------|---------------|
| javascript | 1374 | 155     | 10.1%     | 210   | 1739  | database.js   |
| javascript | 393  | 91      | 18.8%     | 56    | 540   | interface.js  |
| javascript | 402  | 57      | 12.4%     | 46    | 505   | create_popula |
| html       | 546  | 99      | 15.3%     | 117   | 762   | index.html    |
| javascript | 1    | 0       | 0.0%      | 0     | 1     | index.html    |
| html       | 28   | 1       | 3.4%      | 8     | 37    | remove.html   |

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# Chapter 6

# Conclusiones y trabajos futuros (5%)

Resumen de los logros principales conseguidos, destacando:

## 6.1 Implementación

. . .

#### 6.2 Resultados

. . .

En futuros trabajos, a partir de una crítica constructiva del trabajo realizado, plantear mejoras y extensiones del mismo.

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