Snowly

Prototype deviations from original design

Screen navigation

The user was originally supposed to slide through the different snow types (Powder, Hard Packed, etc.) with a swiping motion. However a seamless transition between the screens proved difficult using JavaFX, so was substituted with fading.

Listing Nearby Resorts

(1) A commercial API was available, however we were not able to get access to it due to licensing issues. The application only needed the name and location of ski resorts, so a web crawler was developed to gather the data and insert it into a local SQLite database. With space and performance limitations we currently host just over 400 ski resorts around the world. This could however been increased if we migrated from a local to a remote database and finished crawling.

(2) The application is hard coded with GPS coordinates of the ITL on Queen Mary campus due to lack of GPS hardware. Currently sorting resorts by distance in ascending order.

(3) We were unsuccessful at finding an accurate programmatic way of gathering representative photos of each resort. Substituted with a selection of four pre-selected photos.

Identifying Snow Type

Assumed to be more available than it was. Further development on the data miner would have solved this to the extent of having the "usual" snow type. However due to time limitations the "Snow Type" of each resort was substituted with a random number.

Hourly view

Was not available in the Yahoo Weather API.