Software Engineering 2: myTaxiService

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Context

- Aim: build a taxi management system for a medium-large city
- The city area is divided in taxi zones, there must be a taxi queue for each zone
- Taxis are matched with requests depending on the zone they come from
- Interaction with the system happens through smartphones, tablets and web browser
- Support both immediate requests and reservations (for registered users only)
- The existing taxi management service of the city is fully migrated and decommissioned
- 24/7 service (ideally)

Domain Assumptions (I)

- Taxis are uniquely associated to drivers and viceversa
- Passengers don't need to choose a particular taxi driver among those available for their ride
- Taxi drivers are provided with a mobile phone with an active data plan by the city council
- Passengers are not allowed to place reservations more than 15 days in advance or cancel reservations after a taxi has already been scheduled for them
- Rides can be requested by all passengers, while reservations can only be placed by registered passengers
- The only taxis eligible for fulfilling a reservation are the ones present in the queue of the zone associated with the reservation source address 10 minutes before the scheduled meeting time

Domain Assumptions (II)

- In order to receive ride requests, a taxi driver must explicitly mark himself as available
- A taxi driver will not be able to receive ride requests while he's unavailable
- Taxis that are considered to be out-of-city will not be able to receive calls
- A taxi driver who is currently on a ride will not be able to receive calls
- A taxi driver must always notify the system when he terminates a ride
- After a taxi driver has been associated to a call, he must confirm or refuse the request within two minutes. After that period of time, the call is considered refused
- If no taxis are available to fulfill a reservation 10 minutes before the scheduled meeting time, attempts of rescheduling are to be made at intervals of 2 minutes for at most 20 times

Functional Requirements

- The city administration must have the possibility to enter and update taxi driver data and the taxi zone division
- Taxi drivers must be able to
 - communicate their availability status
 - receive, accept, refuse and drop ride requests
 - communicate they have terminated a ride
- Passengers must be able to request rides and, if logged in, also place and manage their reservations
- The system must support third party expansion through plugins and remote services
- It must be possible to verify the identity of a passenger before taking him onboard

Stakeholders and actors

STAKEHOLDERS

- Passengers
- Taxi drivers
- City council
- Taxi drivers' union
- Mobile phone producers
- Wireless carriers
- Third party developers

ACTORS

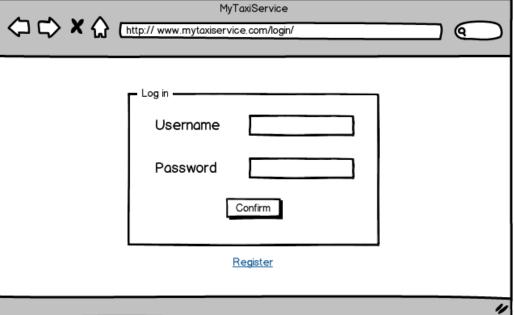
- Guest passenger
- Guest taxi driver
- Logged in passenger
- Logged in taxi driver
- Administrative personnel
- Mapping service
- Remote services

UI Mockup (I)

HOMEPAGE

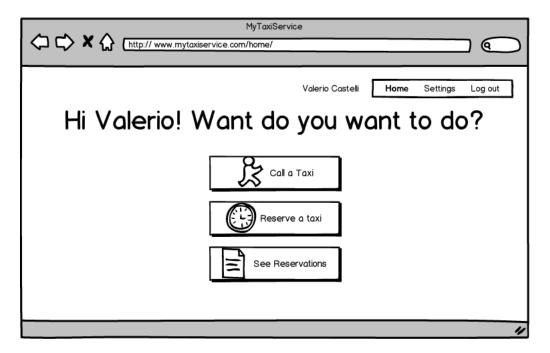


USER LOGIN

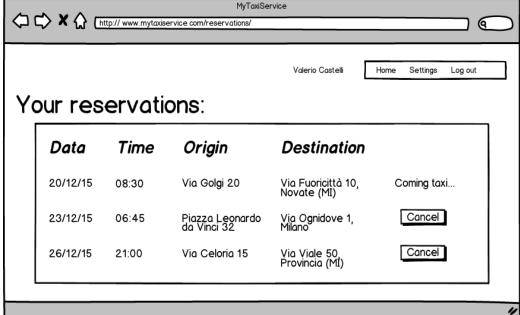


UI Mockup (II)

PASSENGER HOMEPAGE

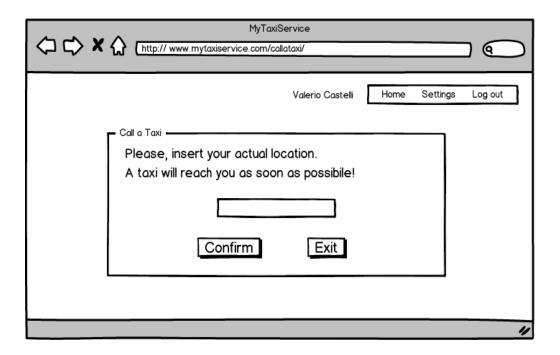


PASSENGER RESERVATIONS



UI Mockup (III)

PASSENGER REQUEST



REQUEST CONFIRMATION



UI Mockup (IV)

MOBILE LOGIN



TAXI AVAILABLE



TAXI UNAVAILABLE



UI Mockup (V)

RIDE REQUEST



ACCEPTED RIDE

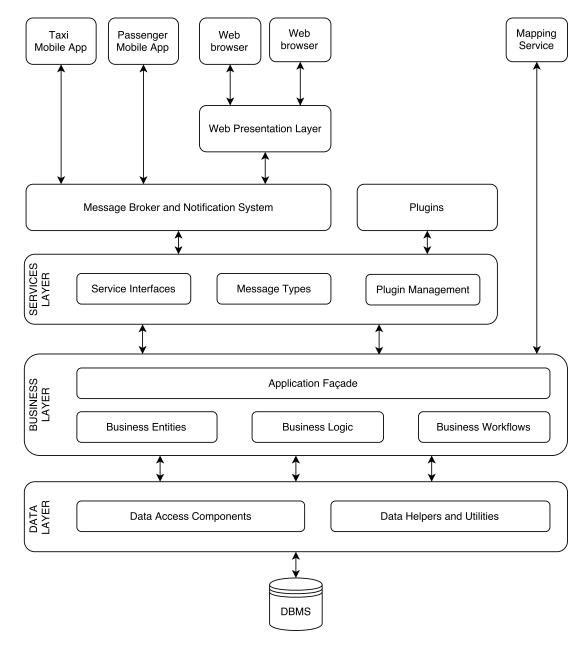


CURRENTLY RIDING



Architectural Design

- Multi-layer and multi-tier architecture
- Access to DBMS is mediated by an intermediate abstraction (Data Layer) for flexibility
- Business Layer implements core functionalities, exposed through an Application Façade
- A subset of functionalities is made available for remote calls via a Service Layer (SOAP and JAX-WS)
- Communication between remote clients and central system happens through a message broker and notification system
- Implementation based on Java EE



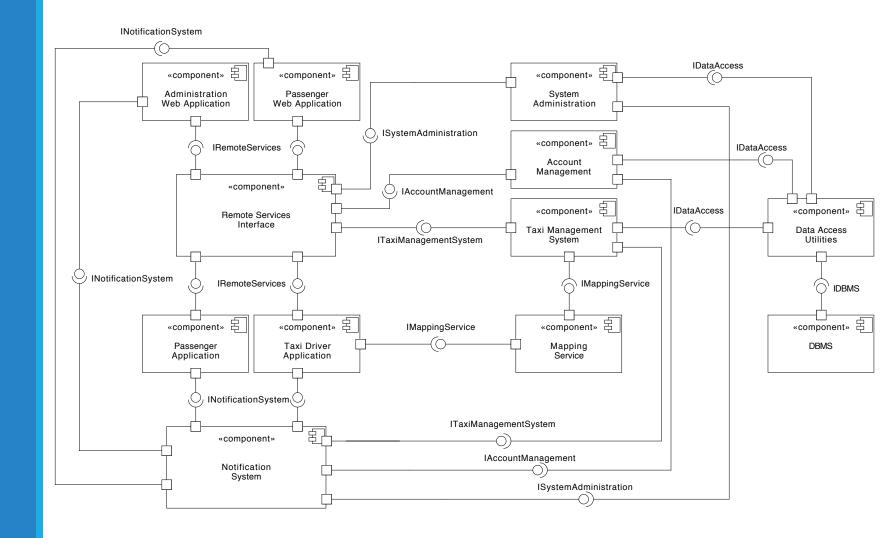
Architecture: high level components

- Account Management
 - Passenger registration and login procedure
 - Settings management and password retrieval
- Taxi Management System
 - Maintains the availability status of each taxi updated
 - Manages the taxi queue associated with each zone in the city
 - Accepts and handles taxi reservations
 - Fulfills taxi requests by selecting the first available taxi in the corresponding taxi zone
- Mapping Service
 - Reverse geocoding, maps and ETA

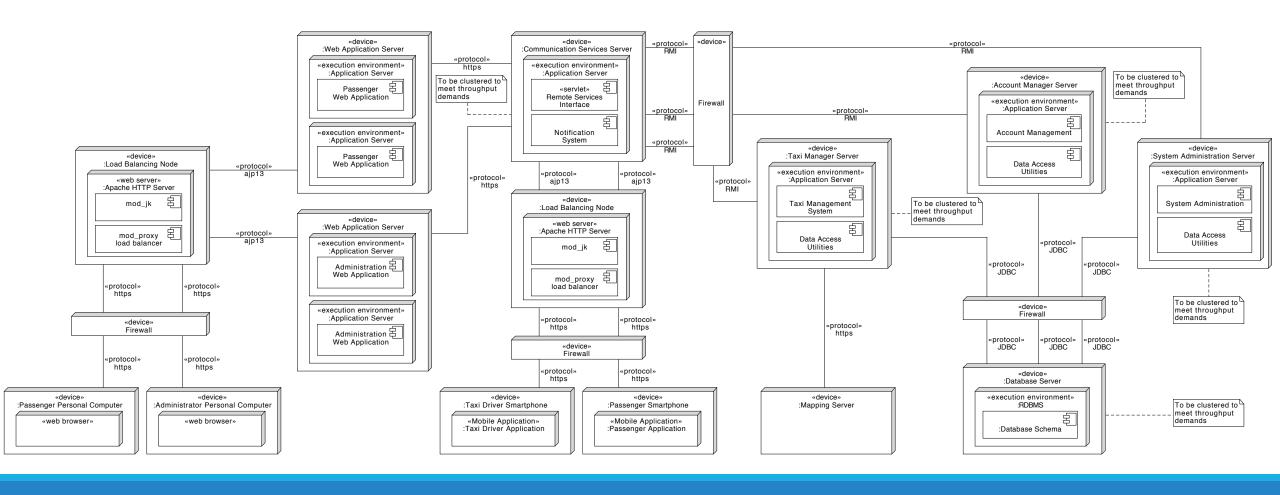
- System Administration
 - Insert, update, delete taxis and zones
 - API permission management
 - Statistical queries and service monitoring
- Remote Services Interface
 - Exposes APIs to third party services
- Notification System
 - Sends notification to users
- Data Access Utilities
 - Mediates access to DBMS
- Database Management System (DBMS)

High level components

- Taxi Management System:
 - Reservation Management
 - Request Management
 - Location Management
 - Taxi Management
- Account Management:
 - Passenger Registration
 - Login
 - Password Retrieval
 - Settings Management
- System Administration:
 - API Permission Management
 - Zone Division Management
 - Taxi Driver Management
 - Service Statistics
 - Plugin Management



Deployment view



Remote API

- Methods exposed by the core system via a web service interface
- Service Oriented Architecture (SOA)
- XML-based requests (SOAP)
- Managed by the JAX-WS API of Java EE
- Each session bean exposes a subset of the available methods
- Plugins are allowed to extend the offered API
- Remote third party services can invoke the exposed methods
- Different levels of privileges are supported
- Details discussed in the DD (Component Interfaces section)