

Real-time Re-Recommendation System for POI Visits Design Document

Team 22

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Executive Summary

Development Standards & Practices Used

Agile - Kanban

Summary of Requirements

- Map/Routing System
- POI listing and targeting system
- System prioritizer for user distribution
- Database interface

Applicable Courses from Iowa State University Curriculum

- Com S 309
- SE 319
- Com S 363
- Com S 327
- Com S 228
- Com S 227
- Com S 311
- SE 329
- SE 339

New Skills/Knowledge acquired that was not taught in courses
(TBD)

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1 Introduction

1-1 Acknowledgement

This project is sponsored by Iowa State University. Project client and faculty advisor is Goce Trajcevski. The final product will belong to and is owned by Iowa State University.

1-2 Problem and Project Statement

Product wanted

_____The product that is to be derived from this project is an application that can handle the routing calculations of multiple points from one to another with the constraints of time placed on each route individually and informing the end user of the plausibility of their routes. Along with feedback and routing of the imputed cases user routes will be automatically checked in a timely manner for changes in their route while en-route and notified of changes in routes or time delays along with possible alt routes and timing for them.

General problems

As an application that must accommodate multiple users at once, One of the costliest problems to solve is how to handle the volume of users in an efficient way, in how they all request information regularly. A second added feature of this product is the research needed to evaluate if perdition based machine learning to learn about it users and how and where to use that information to help create an informative user experience. The last struggle we face with this application is the predefined constraints we need to put on all of the system to not over tax or overextend our resources.

Proposed Solutions

_____We intend to set up a priority based queue sequencer on a server that will dictate which user requires what information first. For this to work properly all information that is wanted will have constraints put on them and/or weighted value of who requires less info goes first. We will develop these constraints based on informed meetings with our client and analyzing common data and other route generation applications. The machine learning research will have to have an overall meeting to discuss the current knowledge and skill of such systems and what it would cost to sufficiently improve them and time to implement such a system. The whole system is going to be divided into smaller systems that can be used separately from each other. This is in the hope that

an overall system can be made that is easy to implement new features if needed by the fact that whatever it is required to rely on is in small enough code bases for ease of quick learning.

1-3 Operational Environment

The end use of this application is expected to work on android devices and browsers. Internet access is required in order to fully use the functions of the application. GPS location detection is needed to take hold of any feature in the product that requires to know where you are.

1-4 Requirements

Functional Requirements

- Server Side routing side able to generate route with given information from user
- User side POI listing and timing tables inputting function
- Packaging system to connect user and server easily and send data
- Priority based queue system server side to efficiently process user requests
- Database interfaces to store information
- Notifications of updates to route

User Interface Requirements

- On click POI information
- Live mapping of location and route use
- POI listing menu and timing input
- Search destinations

1-5 Intended Users and Uses

Users of this application are to be expected to be anyone with mobile android devices or have access to a browser. The product should be scalable to any number of users at a fairly decent cost to person ratio. Users would be using this application to plan out full day worth of routes and determining the plausibility of certain time constraints and routes. They may also use this application simply to look for places to go under certain terms in a given area and have a route and time given to. These routes are expected to be live so that they may be changed at any time and give user back of the updated map. Finally all live maps that users are using are expected to be updated with changes when found and notify the user.

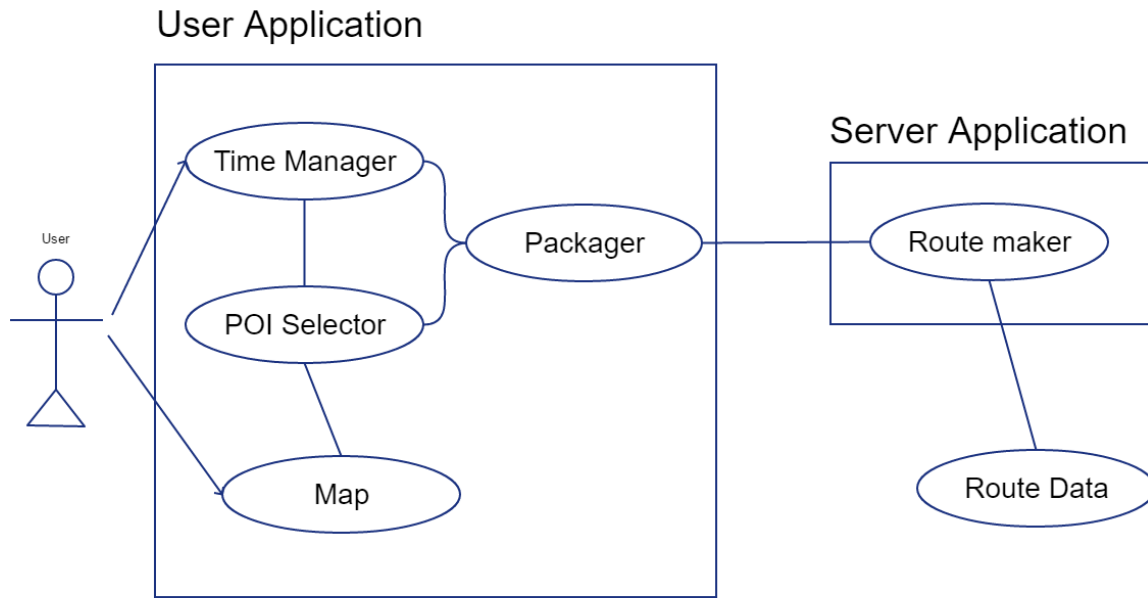
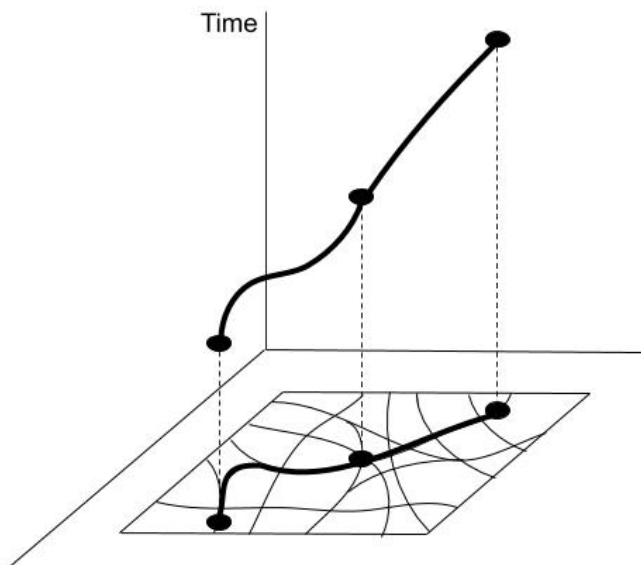


Figure 1.a: Use-Case Diagram for Scenario 1

Scenario 1 (single user full input use)



Scenario 1: No route recalculation

Figure 1.b: Visualization of scenario 1

1. Scope:
 - a. POI system
2. Primary actor:
 - a. Application end user
3. Use Interests/Intent:

- a. Input a series of points of interest(POIs) to get a route between each of them that is most efficient
 - b. All routes must fit to the user's input time constraints between POI's (eg Between POI A to B will be from 6:00pm to 7:00pm as a constraint)
 - c. User will be notified and updated in changes of route, timing, and/or POI changes while in route.
4. Preconditions:
 - a. The POI are given
 - b. The user has a connection to the server
 - c. User location is given.
 5. User wanted end goal
 - a. The user gets routes to the POI(s) in the desired time.
 - b. User gets new routes if user modifies POI(s) and time constraints change.
 6. Main Success scenario
 - a. Input the POI into the system
 - b. Input time constraints into the system & request route
 - c. POI and time constraints are packaged to be sent to the server
 - d. Server receives package and request all routes and times (that happen for that route in the time constraint given) from the API
 - e. Server packages routes and times and sends it to user
 - f. User gets the package and begins to calculate if the route and time fit within given time constraints.
 - g. User shows all routes between POI(s) and the time between them.
 7. Extensions (Alt Routes / fail routes)
 - a. User takes out the late POI from route
 - i. Update the user map without the route change
 - b. User takes out the POI in the middle/beginning of the route
 - i. Go back to step C in the main success scenario and calculate the route again with current position.
 - c. A route within the bounds of user time constraints is not possible
 - i. Send back info with time not viable
 - d. User spends more time at one of the POIs than expected
 - i. Update expected time to destination and check if time constraints still viable
 - e. Change in time constraints change
 - i. Reroute user from step C.
 - f. Poi does not exists
 - i. Send user notification of POI does not exist
 - g. Route between POIs do not exist

- i. Send user notification that route does not exist between the told POIs

Scenario 2 (change of route due to outside factors)

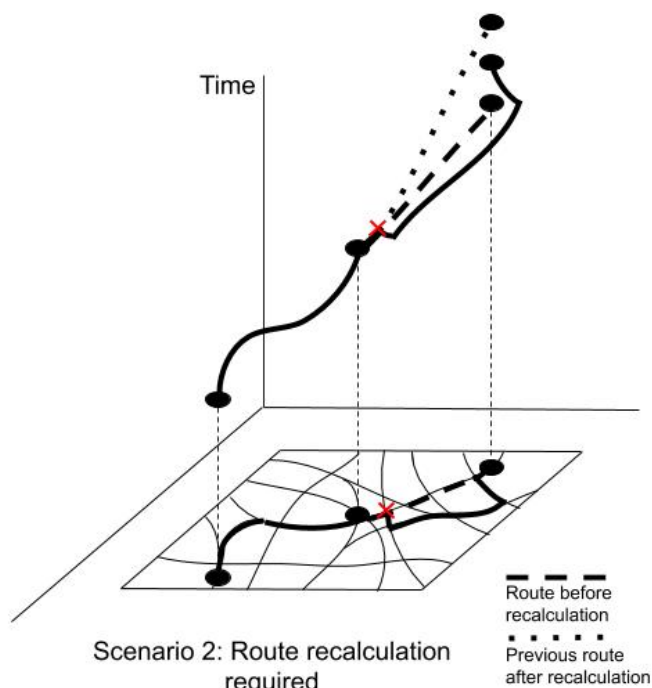


Figure 1.c: Visualization of Scenario 2

1. Scope
 - a. POI route system
 - b. Does not include user input
2. Primary actor
 - a. Application end-user
3. Use interests/intent
 - a. Real-time update of changes in the user route or time of routes due to outside factors (eg construction, car crashes, spikes in traffic, etc)
 - b. Updates are timely but not overbearing, no need for an update about something that will not affect the uses for several hours till now where it may be resolved. (or maybe the user will have preferences)
4. Preconditions
 - a. A successful scenario 1 has happened or a route and other information are there to be checked with new information.

5. User wanted end goal
 - a. To be notified of changes in route and/or time of routes.
6. Main success scenario
 - a. User system communicating with Server which is receiving data from the outside world
 - b. User system asks Server for an update on the current route
 - c. Server will check time distribution data against outside world current time distribution data
 - i. If no difference in time distribution then tell the user no change
 - d. Server will tell the user system that the route has changed and sends the new route data
7. Extension (Alt Routes/ fail points)
 - a. Server does not respond for a certain amount of time, the user gets notified of a connection failure
 - b. If user fails to meet the time constraint, the system updates the estimated times of arrival
 - c. If the user fails to take the directed route, the system recalculates the route and gives it to the user to decide.
 - d. If a road is no longer available and no other route exists, the user is notified of the failure

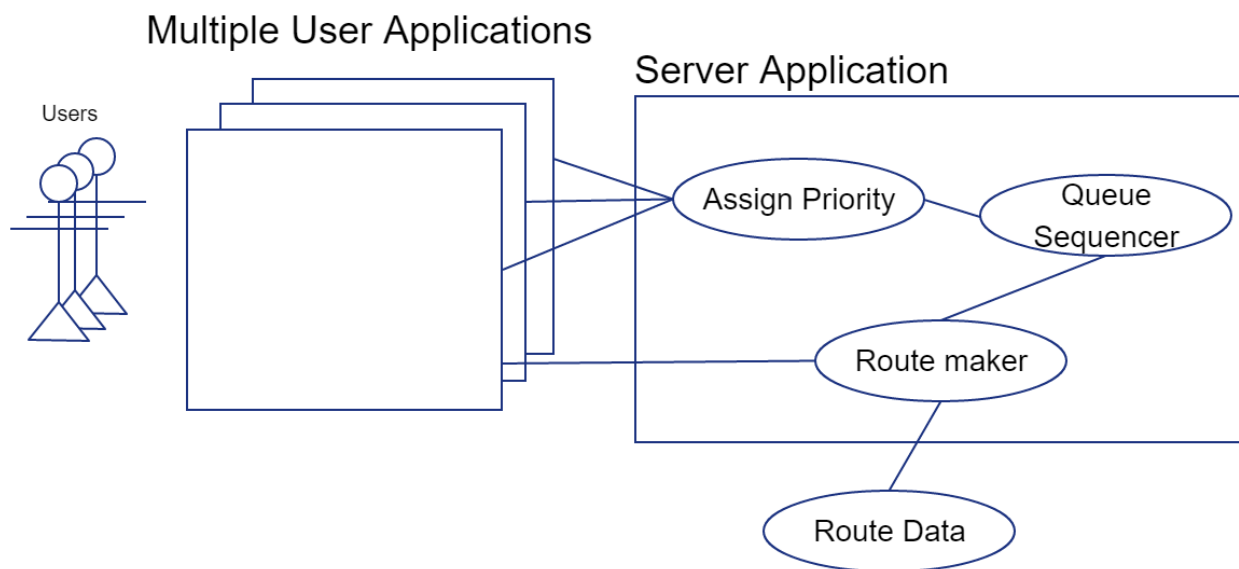


Figure 1.d: Use-Case for Scenario 3

Scenario 3 (multiple users info needed at once)

1. Scope
 - a. Server backside
2. Primary actor

- a. Server
- b. Multiple waiting Users
- 3. Use interest/intent
 - a. Multiple users request information from the main info server at once.
 - b. Determine who gets their information first if multiple users are in line to receive information from the server.
- 4. Precondition
 - a. This may be happening during any other scenario where information is gained from the main server.
- 5. User wanted end goal
 - a. Get the information they need in a timely manner
- 6. Main success scenario
 - a. Multiple user systems send requests to the server
 - b. Each request is time stamped on when they arrived.
 - c. Each request is put into a queue for process on the server
 - d. Based on the type of request their priority to be process will be different
 - e. Based on constraints (not yet defined) same type request will then be weighted
 - f. Time of arrival will outweigh all other priority after a set amount of wait time if a request hasn't been processed.
 - g. Top priority requested based on previous factors will be done first
 - h. After request is done queue and priority list will be updated accordingly.
- 7. Extensions
 - a. Failure scenarios.
 - i. If client can not be found to send the request info back to, info is dropped.
 - ii. If information can not be found for a request see scenario 1 & 2 for details (dependent on type) of what to send back.
 - b. Other paths.
 - i. If a user is seen to have more than one request in queue all other except the last request are dropped from the queue.
 - ii. If users have the same time stamp for priority pick at random the user to process first.
 - iii. If other constraints are the same to other request check the timestamp for who waited longest. They get processed first.
 - c. Constraints to note
 - i. Client should be limited in how often a request can be made for updates to current maps.
 - ii. The server should have an upper and lower bound in attempts to send info to a user before dropping it.

- iii. If server queue is full a message to those not able to get in will be told so and advised that request may take longer than expected.
- iv. Clients are only able to have x amount of POIs that can be routed at once unless they agree to understanding that more POIs will take longer to gather info on.

1-6 Assumptions and Limitations

The assumptions for this project are listed:

- The maximum number of simultaneous users is currently unknown but the project is scalable
- Having access to databases for routing and mapping purposes
- Having access to the server for user prioritization of information

The limitation of this project are listed:

- This app will be used within a limited area which means the user will only use this in USA
- The POI will be generated based on Google API and social communication tools

1-7 Expected End Product and Deliverables

This project has multiple end goals and deliverables. First of which is a context-sensitive suggestion system, this system will allow our users to ask it for optimal POI routes. The system will look at the user and data given from the outside world and generate an optimal route for the user. A second major key deliverable for this project is a mobile application that will enable our users to use the system described above. Currently our expected end product will be a Meta-Learning or Deep-Learning module, however, our group is lacking experience designing things of this nature. So if we are unable to progress with Deep\Meta learning we will look into making a reactive based system instead.

2 Specifications and Analysis

2-1 Proposed Design

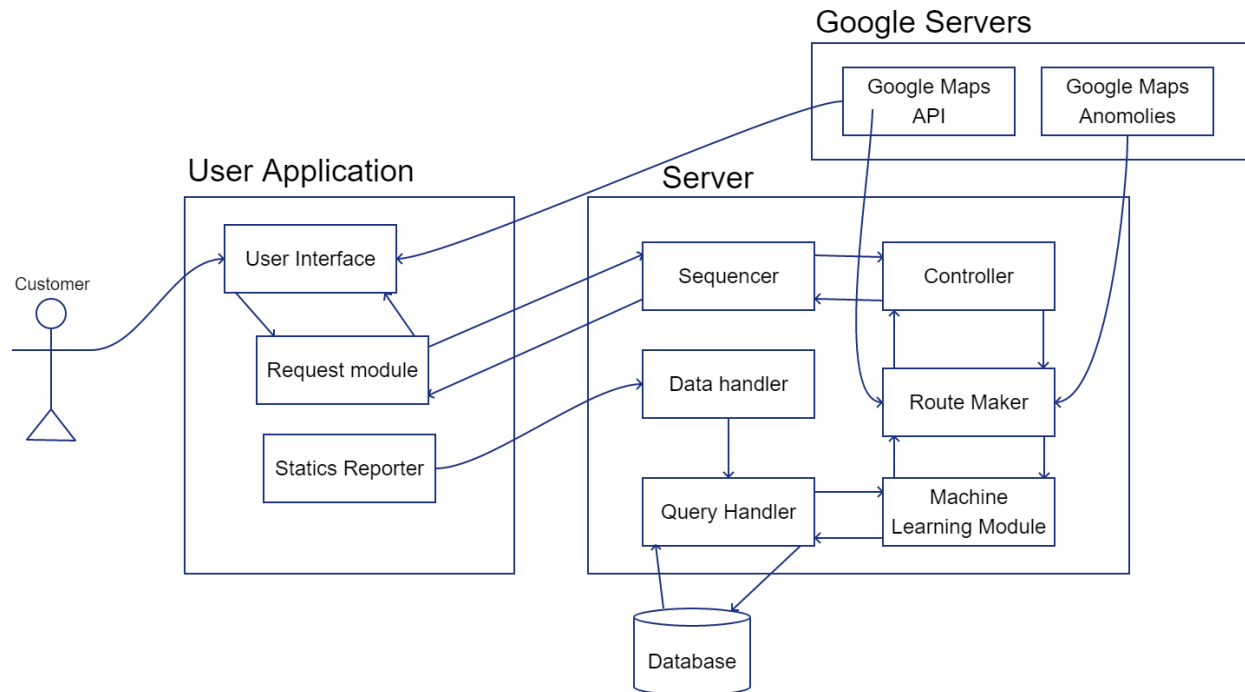


Figure 2: System Overview

The system will be comprised of two main sections the front-end portion and the back-end portion. Taking a look at Figure 2 above, our front-end will be comprised of the user application that the user would be interacting with. While our back-end will be encompassed by our server, the Google servers, and our database.

The User application will be made up of three parts, the user interface, the request module, and the statistics reporter. The user interface will display three main elements. The first user interface element will be the map display. The second element will be the search bar where the user will be able to enter their points of interest. The last element will be the list of current points of interest that the user has selected. In order to display the map the user interface will receive the map visuals from the Google Maps API. The request module will be the brains behind our application. It will be responsible for communicating with our server. It will send the POI's that the user selects to the server and will also receive the route calculated by the server and send it to the user interface to be displayed. The statistics reporter will be the module in our application that will send data (travel times, locations visited, ...) to the server.

Our server will communicate with Google's servers, specifically with their Maps API as well as their Google Maps Anomalies. Our server will take data from both these input sources.

The server will be comprised of 6 different parts: the sequencer, controller, route maker, machine learning module, data handler, and the query handler. The sequencer will be responsible for ordering the requests from the request module. These requests will be processed based on priority. The priority will be calculated based on the size of the request as well as the timestamp of the request. The controller will be responsible for converting the request messages from the sequencer to actual information that the route maker can use. The route maker will then take this information and create the optimal route from it using both the Google Maps API, the Google Maps Anomalies, as well as the machine learning module. The machine learning module will be our machine learning bot that will constantly be learning from data we give it. The data handler will take the information from the statistics reporter and organize it then send it to the query handler. The query handler will be responsible for turning the information sent to it from the data handler as well as the machine learning module into queries that can be executed on our database. It will also be responsible for retrieving information from the database that our machine learning module requests.

2-2 Design Analysis

We discussed the general overview of the project. Some things that we have decided on for the system architecture is that there will be a prioritization system, range and limitations of machine learning, and implementation and research(client-server application). Our design analysis so far has been working because our prototype system architecture comes together in an explainable fashion.

Continuing our design, we will start designing the system architecture in more detail(Exploring subsystems).

2-3 Development Process

The first semester will consist of designing the project. This development will be done using the waterfall model. The waterfall model is being used because the design of the project is a step by step process that does not have a large amount of time variability. The waterfall model also does not have the large overhead of meeting every morning, making it the optimal development model for the project design for the first semester.

The second semester will be done using an Agile method, specifically Kanban. Since we spent the first semester planning the project, planning and discussing the project the second semester

is not needed. The Kanban development process will be kept track of using a Trello board. Kanban specifically cuts down on the amount of times that the team needs to meet, so that the team can spend more time working than talking. To optimize the amount of work that gets done while also making sure the project stays on track, our team will be using the Agile development style of Kanban with a Trello board.

2-4 Design Plan

The plan for our design will be composed of several milestones, each one will consist of a process of quality checking at each completion point. As mentioned above our system will be composed of two main sections, and as such we have developed a series of steps to achieve our goals with each one.

Our first section that will receive the focus of development near the beginning is the backend system. This system is going to see most of our focus since we have determined it to be the backbone of our project. The first main milestone that we laid out for this section is the development of a clean and useful database. Once we have the agreed upon look of our data structures moving into producing a round trip in the system will be much smoother. Leading to the next milestone which will consist of seeing that our backend system is able to communicate with some mock frontend. This communication will be simply a one way from server to mock points. Once we have accomplished the task of sending data down, we will shift gears to focus on the process of sending data up. Making our next milestone the creation of a reverse round trip, meaning that we will develop a mock front end to demo out our functionality of data being sent to our server and reacting accordingly. Currently these are the primary milestones for this section, however, we anticipate that these will change much during our development and planning.

Our second main section as listed above is our Front-end map UI. This system will be dependent on the milestones listed above, and thus will be our secondary main focus and will receive less attention at early stages. We still have drawn up a few milestones for this section and expect that we will be adding many more in the coming months. Our first main milestone is the task of displaying data onto a map. This task will consist of using the data created in our backend and plotting it out for the user onto our map. Next, we will move into allowing user interaction with this data. This milestone is left intentionally vague as we aren't positive as to what kind of interaction we will expect to allow. Our final vague milestone for this section is to enable for conversations to be established between our front and backend. Again we are unsure how these conversations will play out or how we expect to display, however, we know that this will be an important step.

All of the milestones given above are a general idea of we expect to design our project. The milestones allow for more indication as to why we labeled our major sections as major sections, and give a more clear indication as to what our plan will look like during development.

3 Statement of Work

3-1 Previous Work and Literature

Similar Products

- Google Maps
- Bing Maps
- Waze
- Here WeGo
- MapQuest
- CityMapper

Our project differentiates from the existing products on the market through the use of machine learning. This will allow our system to find more efficient paths, better order events, etc. Other products use traffic data to guide users through the most efficient route, but cannot account for quick changes in traffic. Our product keeps track of traffic data and eventually learns traffic patterns and becomes predictive of the traffic flow, giving the user a better time estimate and travel route.

3-2 Technology Considerations

Tech usage advantages.

- Android UI api and google map api makes it easy to construct a useful GUI for us to use for both inputted information and output view for a VMC
- Java nodes will help with server creation with it able to hold and use a database for use in this project.

Drawbacks

- We have to learn how to properly use and understand the limitations of the APIs that we intend to use.
- We currently have no dedicated server to use in testing or practical use or how to obtain one for our current design.
- Without the knowledge of what quality of server we may have, the amount of users we can serve within our constraints is unknown.

Other considerations

- Currently directly having the user's phone request information from an API could work but testing is needed.
- Customization of the UI for the user currently looks limited but API testing is needed to see to what extent.

3-3 Task Decomposition

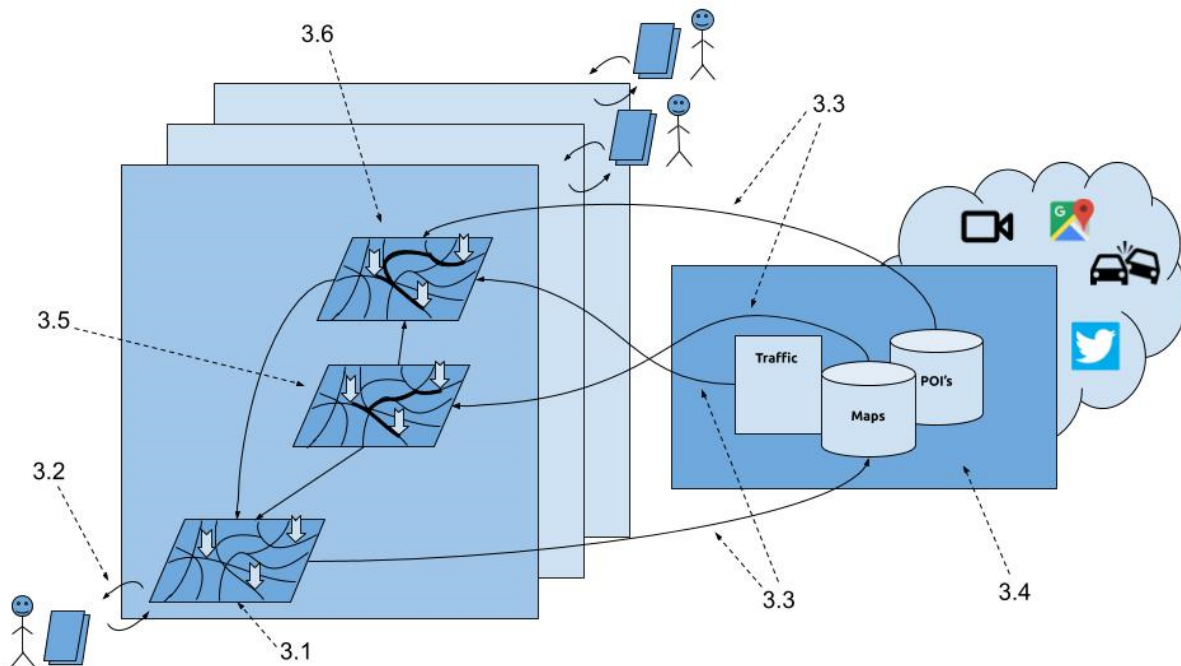


Figure 3: System Diagram

Current Individual Tasks found.

- John - Construct a GUI for the front end user to view the Map of their routes. (3.1 in diagram)
 - Input menu for POI
 - Individual POI route time start and end.
 - Add and remove POI and times.
 - Change for current POI and times.
 - Able to change POI start point or will continue form last POI or current position.
 - View of all routes between POIs and their time (3.5 in diagram).
 - Marking telling of anomalies that have changed the route and/or time of route (3.6 in diagram).
 - List all changes in a quick menu list and what is affected and how
- Andrew - Notification system based on constraints (3.3 in diagram)
 - Notifications from server to client of route update
 - Notifications from client to server of route change
- James - Update route system. (3.2 in diagram)
 - User end sends out an update request and waits for a reply
 - User end is able to compare current map and requested update map and updates the current map if needed
 - Notifies the notification system of action taken.

- Andrew - Queue system to manage the request from a user
 - Tell the time a user has waited in queue increasing their priority the longer they wait
 - Set priority of a user base on length of route and time waiting
- Dheepak - Package system
 - User end needs to package their current information and be able to send it the user either for a New route or an Update route.
 - Server end able to package and unpack information for transit to the user (3.3 in diagram)
 - User end can upack a request
- Luke - New route system
 - User sends out package of new route
 - Server uses API, Databases, and anomalies detection to construct the most efficient route (3.4 in diagram) and sends it back to user and displays package received
- Dheepak - Server setup and logic (Involves 3.4 in the diagram)
 - Server has to satisfy web page requests when HTTP and HTTPS requests are made
 - Server must handle the logic of the server
 - Server must be accessible to the clients and running at all times

3-4 Possible Risks and Risk Management

- Costs

Our project is mainly going to use Google Maps api to simulate the time plan for different routes because it is much more flexible than other companies. However, Google charges fees based on the number of requests. We may consume over budgets as we develop more and more functions to our application for using too much requests. In order to prevent our project from this risk, we need to communicate with our clients to update the cost estimation frequently and use the api requests in a wisely range.
- Knowledge of area

Most of us are going to use maps api at the first time. We need to take time to learn how to use it and combine that with our backend. Therefore, the implementation time of tasks may exceed the estimated time. In order to protect our project from this risk, we will use sprint to keep track of each teammate's status and update this with our adviser and client. So that we could change our milestones in time to help our project delivery successfully at last.
- Time latency

For the routes information, we need to choose the algorithm wisely to calculate time for different routes. Otherwise, there will be time latency in actual routes when customers use our application. Currently, we are going to use Dijkstra's algorithm to set up the route plan. However, this may not be the most optimal algorithm for our currently requirements. Therefore, in order to prevent our application from having time latency, we will set up unit and integration tests in time latency measurement. In this way, we could keep the time latency within the scope of clients' expectations.

3-5 Project Proposed Milestones and Evaluation Criteria

Project Milestones:

- Server setup
 - A server is setup such that it can receive and send replies to a basic client message.
- Web application
 - The server displays a webpage when connected to on port 80(http) or 443(https).
- Mobile application
 - A mobile application can connect and retrieve data from the server.
- Have a working framework
 - A working framework consists of a working mobile application, web application, and server that all connect and communicate with each other. This includes having a proper user interface with which the system can be accessed and used.
- Basic functionality map
 - The basic map will implement most of the features available in most map routing applications such as delivering a route to a POI to the user. At this point, a user can use the application to get from one point to another.
- Machine learning system
 - The application is predictive of traffic behaviors instead of reactive and makes decisions based on learning from the data given from past users.

Our team will be incorporating an Agile style of development with our client. Each time a milestone gets completed, the project is shown to the client. If the client accepts our design, then we move forward with the project. If the client rejects our design, we will redesign the issues with the product and show the client the new design. As for testing our project for design flaws and bugs, we will have a dedicated test engineer that tries to break the code that is built.

3-6 Project Tracking Procedures

Trello

A Trello board will be used to keep track of task statuses. The Trello board will also be used to discuss issues or details about certain tasks.

Weekly Meetings

Our team will have weekly meetings to discuss things that we have gotten done for that week. Face-to-Face communication is vital as it is more effective at getting ideas across and miscommunication is less common. Our weekly meeting will also allow us to understand overall project progress, whether someone is hitting a roadblock, vital tasks are needed to be done, project redesigns, etc.

GitHub

Our GitHub project will keep track of our code for the project and make it accessible for all team members. This will keep track of all changes made, allowing reverts and side projects.

3-7 Expected Results and Validation

Expected

1. User sends in POIs and time constraints and is able to view a route
2. Route made are the most efficient
3. User is notified in a timely manner or updates to the route and times.
4. Server is able to que and process user in an efficient manner
5. GUI is user friendly and easy to use

High Level Confirmation of work

1. Use of the made system can determine if the POI routing works
2. Comparison between our individual routes and other routing system can prove this
3. Use of the system by a control group of people will tell if updates are timely
4. System log manual and auto checking will help with telling if certain ordering that is desired is found
5. Control group using the system with feedback will tell if GUI is friendly or not.

4 Project Timeline, Estimated Resources, and Challenges

4-1 Project Timeline

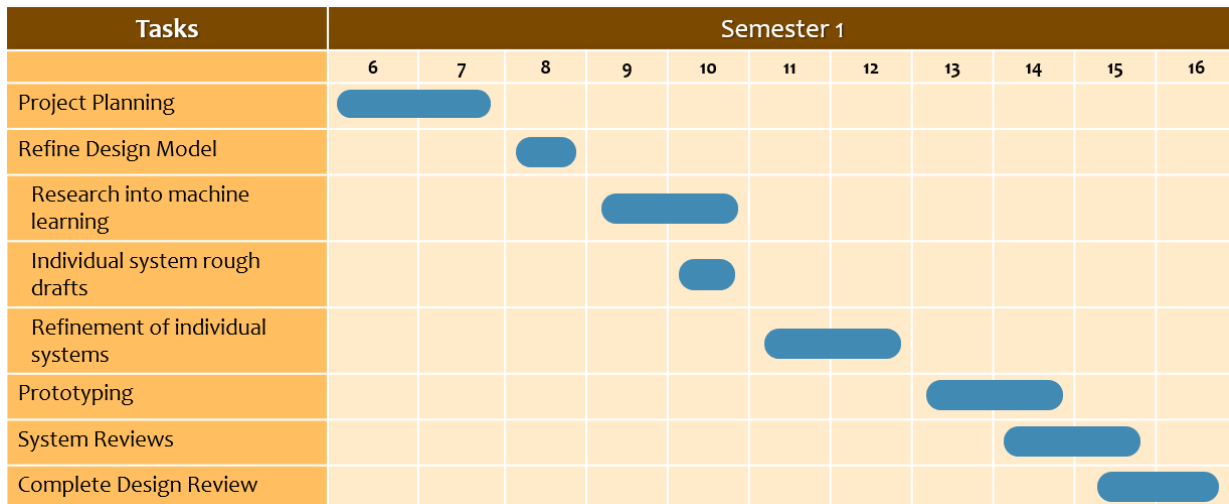


Figure 4.a: Gantt Chart for Semester 1

For the first semester, the team will be designing the project.

- Weeks 6-7 are project planning which planned the scope and purpose/goal of the project.
- Week 8 refines our design model such that consolidated guidelines are set for the project.
- Weeks 9-12 involve dedicated research and discussion on what software will be used for the project. This includes what languages and frameworks will be used in the project and the architecture that will allow for the machine learning to be incorporated into the project.
- Weeks 13-14 will be setting up the GitHub project with the desired framework and getting environments running. Quick tests will be done to test the environment and a prototype of our project will be made.
- Weeks 15-16 will be used consulting our client and getting approval. The two weeks will be used to refine any parts of our design that needs refining and completion of a design document.

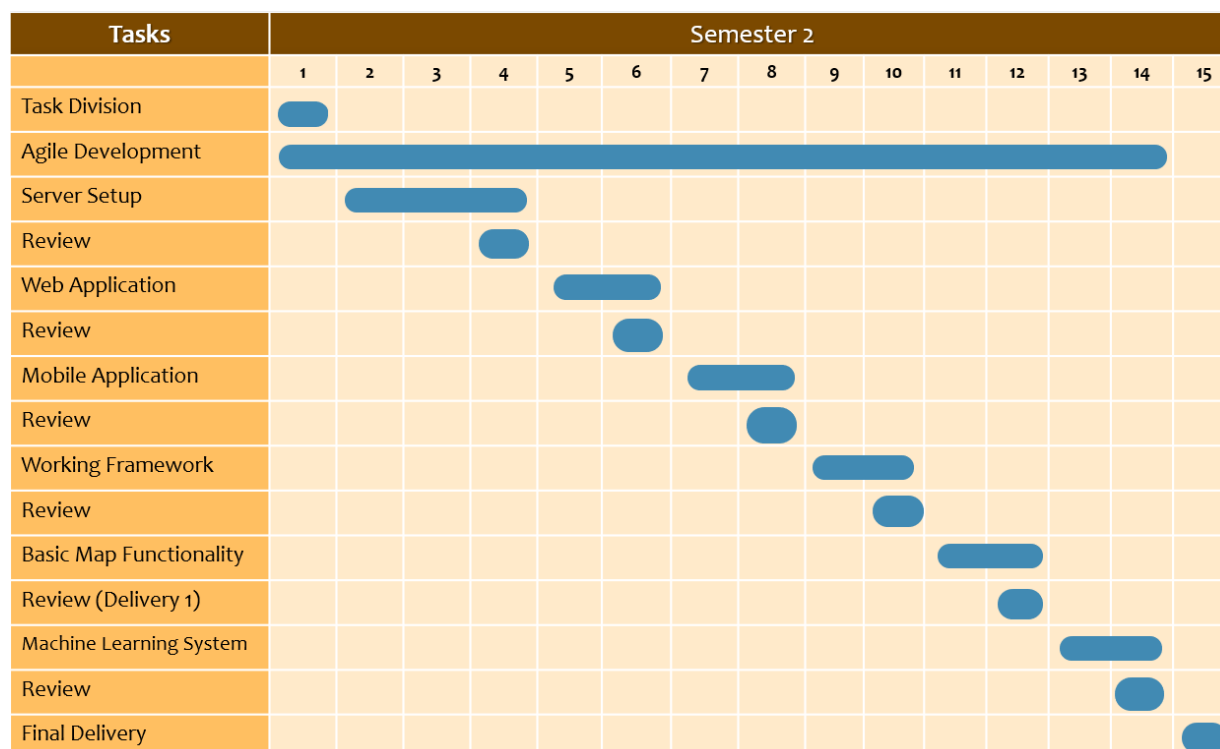


Figure 4.b: Gantt Chart for Semester 2

The second semester will consist of most of the projects development using the Agile process.

- The first week will be used to divide up tasks and get all members of the group familiar with the environment. Basic tasks will be given to each member as small warm-ups.
- Weeks 2-4 sprint will be used to set up the server. The beginning of the project will likely be linear in design. Most of the pending tasks that are to be done will depend on the server, so only 1-2 members will be able to work at a time, hence an extended cycle to ensure the server is able to get done.
- Weeks 5-6 sprint will be used to develop the web application. This won't be entirely strict as some members will also be working on the mobile application, but the main focus will be on the web application.
- Weeks 7-8 sprint will be used to develop the mobile application. Some of the web application's development may spill over into this sprint, but the focus will be on the mobile application.
- Weeks 9-10 sprint will begin implementing the functionality of our project, incorporating Google Maps, designing user interfaces, etc.
- Weeks 11-12 sprint will continue the work from the previous sprint and finish designing a basic version of our project. At the end of week 12, our team will be delivering our first version of the project.
- Weeks 13-14 sprint will be to create a machine learning system for our project.

- Week 15 will be the final week and will be used for acceptance testing in which our team will put the finishing touches on the project and deliver the final product to the client.

4-2 Feasibility Assessment

This project is an application that can take multiple points of interest on a contemporary map and take the best possible routes to get to each place in a timely manner. It needs a server, a user-friendly user interface, Android and web developing platform and google maps api to implement. Therefore the challenge of the project are as follows:

- Different platforms and apis:
Not all of us are experts in both web and android development and google maps api. It needs time for us to learn how to use android and web developing platforms and how to communicate them with google maps api. We may roadblock on some technical issues as we develop this project. Therefore, the platforms and google api will be a challenge for us.
- Cost estimation:
Currently, we estimate the costs based on what we searched online. The actual costs may vary as we develop the application. Therefore, how to negotiate with our clients to ask for budget will be a challenge for us.
- Machine learning:
Machine learning model decision is also a big challenge for us. As we feed in more data into the model, it will not predictable whether the model will act as the requirement of clients. In order to overcome this issue, we need to consult with our adviser constantly once we are in the procedure of developing machine learning system to get technical support in time.

4-3 Personnel Effort Requirements

The development of our project will be broken down into several different categories. Each one is listed below with a brief description and necessary work hours.

- Front End:
 - Mapping UI - the way that our user will be interacting with our mapping interface, we intend to have both a mobile and web interface for this ui.
 - POI Constraint System - the way that our users will constrain and set up their preferences
 - Total Man hours for UI: 100
- Backend:
 - Database - the system that will be used to store user information and all other information that we need to store
 - Endpoint creation - the api that our system will used to pass information around.

- Total man hours for UI: 150

4-4 Other Resource Requirements

Our major resource requirement is going to be the system that we choose to host our server on. We have deemed Amazon Web Services to be the most apt for accomplishing our goals. In addition we will need a testing system, this will come in either an emulated mobile system or a physical system. Both of these will be available to us and we intend to use both of them equally.

4-5 Financial Requirements

Our project is one that has relatively low financial constraints or requirements. The main things that will be required for us is to have a running server and database system, as well as the need for some sort of device to test and run our application off of.

Looking at our first requirement we have discussed several options for hosting platforms. We believe that using Amazon Web Services will most likely end up being the best option for hosting our server system. The platform offers a wide array of discounts to students and we see this as being the most efficient service for our needs.

For the second requirement we understand that the Android SDK comes with an emulation system and anticipate mainly using this. However if our client desires to see that application run off of a physical system we have the capability to upload the application to our own devices and test run it from there.

5 Testing and Implementation...(End of Design Document v2)

References

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