IST 516: Planning-Report

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Contents

Section 1-1: Motivation

Section 1-2: Primary Focus of the Web App

Section 1-3: Major Components of the Web App

Section 1-4: Design Rationale

Section 1-5: Alternative Design Approaches Considered

Section 1-6: High Level Summary of Design/Build Approach

Section 1-7: Project Outline

Section 1-8: Team Web Page

Link: www.personal.psu.edu/kum225/

References

Appendix

Overview of team members responsibilities

Section 1-1: Motivation

The team members met at the beginning of the project to consider and select a topic. During the discussion, we reached a consensus on a high-level overview based on specifics outlined in the project rubric. The key driving factors included development time in addition to group members' skill sets for generating a list of XML/Web technologies that we would look to leverage.

Many people use an online calendar, such as Google Calendar, to create personal and/or work appointments; however, it is easy to forget to check the weather forecast since it typically involves opening up another application or visiting another website. We thought this would be a good opportunity for demonstrating the standards and techniques covered in IST 516.

Our project is focused on developing an AJAX-based web application titled *CalendarWx*. Our project website is located at http://www.personal.psu.edu/kum225.

Section 1-2: Primary Focus of the Web App

CalendarWx will be an AJAX-based web app that combines data from a calendar service with data from a weather provider. The web app will provide the user an idea of what weather conditions will be during an appointment time on their calendar.

Section 1-3: Major Components of the Web App

The CalendarWx will be an AJAX-based web app leveraging Google Web Tools (GWT). In discussions thus far, we envision the web app will grab forecast data from the National Weather Service (NWS). The NWS leverages XML, ATOM, and /or WSDLs. Various platforms can be used to connect the calendar to the ATOM/RSS feed, but after preliminary discussions we are looking to start with the Google Calendar API.

Section 1-4: Design Rationale

The user experience we envision for the Web App will require users to login to access their Google calendars. Overall, a web application solution was selected as it provides more flexibility. It also better aligned with specifics outlined in the rubric.

Section 1-5: Alternative Design Approaches Considered

Alternative approaches discussed included attempting to develop an Android-based or iOS-based app with the same functionality as the CalendarWx web app mentioned above. We decided that this would not be the best approach based on the project's tasks. Additionally, the group's skill set is not completely familiar with these mobile device APIs; most importantly, such development time looked to be in the four- to six-month range. This development time was a deal breaker, as our time frame is around two months.

Another primary deal breaker identified was that developing on the Android or iOS platform would make our project submission platform-specific. Each phone OS would require a different set of APIs, and there is no code sharing across the many phone platforms, which would create even more development time. Despite this, we think that a web application is the best route anyway since end users will be able to access it from any location, regardless of OS or platform.

Section 1-6: High Level Summary of Design/Build Approach

Preliminary Requirements were defined as:

1. Users will log into CalendarWx with individual user accounts.
2. Users will Create, Delete, Edit and View calendar entries.
3. Calendars will display with weather information displayed for each day as provided by NWS RSS feed.

As discussed previously, CalendarWx Web App will be developed leveraging Google Calendar API and RSS from this course. With the requirement of user accounts, a database will be needed for management. This service will be provided with the web host using MySQL or by Google. This is dependent on where the application is hosted and our groups comfort level with these tools.

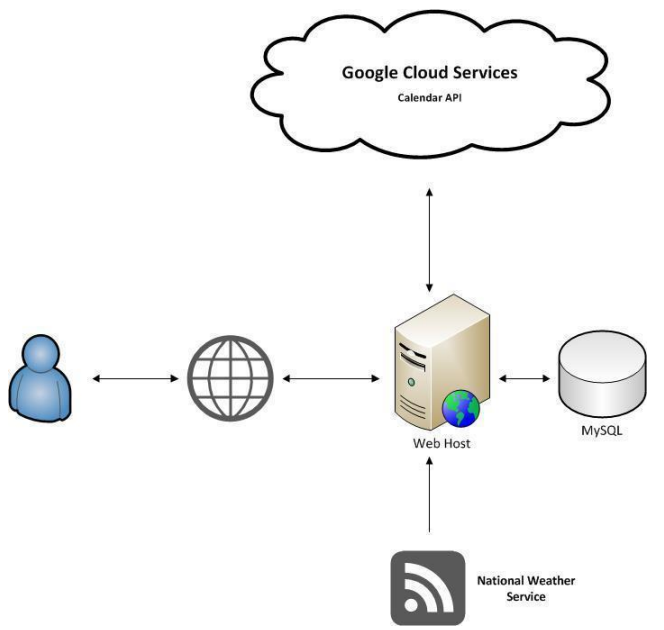

Figure 1: With Web Host DB Solution

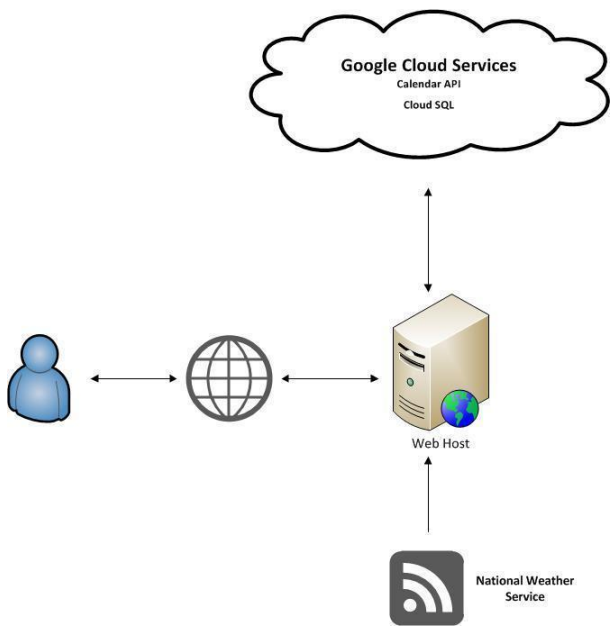

Figure 2: With Google Cloud SQL

Section 1-7: Project Outline

Please refer to Appendix Overview of team member's responsibilities for a detailed outline and timeline.

Section 1-8: Team Web Page

Our team web space will include all documentation in addition to an area to demo the CalendarWx web app once development is complete. The team web space is located at the following link:

Link: www.personal.psu.edu/kum225/

Appendix

Overview of team members responsibilities

Task1	Planning Report	Author(s)	Time Line	Current Status
Part:1 (1-1)	Motivation	All team members contributed	Week of 10/14-10/20	Status: Completed
Part:1 (1-2)	Primary focus of the Web App?	All team members contributed	Week of 10/14-10/20	Status: Completed
Part:1 (1-3)	Major components of the Web App	All team members contributed	Week of 10/14-10/20	Status: Completed
Part:1 (1-4)	How did we arrive at the current design choice?	All team members contributed	Week of 10/14-10/20	SStatus: Completed
Part:1 (1-5)	What were some alternative design approaches that we considered, but did not use and why?	All team members contributed	Week of 10/14-10/20	Status: Completed
Part:1 (1-6)	High level summary of design/build approach	All team members contributed	Week of 10/14-10/20	Status: Completed
Part:1 (1-7)	Project Outline	All team members contributed	Week of 10/14-10/20	Status: Completed

Part:1 (1-8)	Team Web Page Link: www.personal.psu.edu/kum225/	Kirk	Week of 10/7-10/13	Status: Completed
Task2	**Midterm Report**	All team members		
Part:2 (2-1)	Detailed design of the project idea			
Part:2 (2-2)	Overall architecture diagram			
Part:2 (2-3)	List of XML/Web technologies demonstrated			
Part:2 (2-4)	Features of the app.			
Part:2 (2-6)	Evaluation			
Part:2 (2-5)	Updated changes from plan report if any.			

Part:2 (2-7)	Task 2 Meeting log notes			
Task3	**Final Report**	All team members		
Part:3 (3-1)	Final design details How did we arrive at this final design choice?			
Part:3 (3-2)	XML/Web Technologies used			
Part:3 (3-3)	Explanation of "how" each Technology is used/integrated			
Part:3 (3-4)	Implementation details			
Part:3 (3-5)	Testing methodology, analysis, and results			
Part:3 (3-6)	Demo information. Walk through a scenario of how your Web app functions using screenshots or diagrams, or some other appropriate method.			
Part:3 (3-7)	Lessons Learned and Future Developments			

Part:3 (3-8)	Task 3 Meeting log notes			
Task4	**Presentation Video**	All team members		
PowerPoint	Power Point creation/editing			
Video	Video Presentation creation/editing Max 20mins			
Appendix	Table of each individual team member's major and minor responsibilities.	All team members		
References	At least five books and/or refereed articles	All team members		
Editing		All team members		