

2013 Android Railway Ticketing with GPS as Ticket Checker

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Abstract--- *One of the biggest challenges in the current ticketing facility is "QUEUE" in buying our suburban railway tickets. Our AR ticket can be bought with just a smart phone application, where you can carry your suburban railway tickets in your smart phone as a QR (Quick Response) code. It uses the smart phones "GPS" facility to validate and delete your ticket automatically after a specific interval of time once the user reaches the destination. User's ticket information is stored in a CLOUD database for security purpose which is missing in the present suburban system. Also the ticket checker is provided with a checker application to search for the user's ticket with the ticket number in the cloud database for checking purposes.*

Keywords--- *Android, SQLite*

I. INTRODUCTION

IN the past few years there were more advancement in the field of technology. Considering railway department, e-ticket facility was introduced where users browse through a governmental website and book their long journey railway tickets which can be printed out after confirmation to show it to the checker when needed. After which months before a new technology called M-ticketing (Mobile Ticketing) was introduced where customers messaged to the web portal through mobile phones after which a complete web page download to the mobile phone where users can do the same booking process as it as in the e-ticketing facility. Also in foreign countries the use of Oyster cards & Octopus card has become mandatory during travel. But we suffer if we forget our travel cards and we stand in the Queue for our local tickets, which is a place where e-ticketing; m-ticketing was unable lay their foot prints. Android Railway (AR) ticketing is mainly to buy the tickets which are the most challenging. Our AR ticket can be bought with just a smart phone application, here you can carry your railway tickets in your smart phone as a QR (Quick Response) code. It uses the smart phones "GPS" facility to validate and delete your ticket automatically after a specific interval of

time once the user reaches the destination. User's ticket information is stored in a cloud database for security purpose which is missing in the present system. Also the ticket checker is provided with a checker application to search for the user's ticket with the ticket number in the cloud database for checking purposes.

II. THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF ANDROID MOBILE

Android is a software stack for mobile devices that includes an operating system, middleware and key applications. The Android SDK provides the tools and APIs necessary to begin developing applications on the Android platform using the Java programming language. It is developed by the Open Handset Alliance led by Android has a large community of developers writing applications ("applications") that extend the functionality of the devices. Developers write primarily in a customized version of Java. applications can be downloaded from third-party sites or through online stores such as Android Market, the app store run by Google. As of October 2011 there were more than 400,000 applications available for Android, and the estimated number of applications downloaded from the Android Market as of December 2011 exceeded 10 billion.

2.1 Features

- *Application framework* enabling reuse and replacement of components.
- *Integrated browser* based on the open source Web Kit engine.
- *Optimized graphics* powered by a custom 2D graphics library; 3D graphics based on the OpenGL ES 1.0 specification (hardware acceleration optional).
- *SQLite* for structured data storage
- *Media support* for common audio, video, and still image formats (MPEG 4, H.264, MP3, AAC, AMR, JPG, PNG, GIF)
- *GSM Telephony (hardware dependent)*
- *Bluetooth, EDGE, 3G, and Wi-Fi (hardware dependent)*
- Camera, GPS, compass, and accelerometer (hardware dependent)
- *Rich development environment* including a device emulator, tools for debugging, memory and performance profiling, and a plug-in for the Eclipse IDE units (in parentheses). An exception would be the use of English units as identifiers in trade, such as "3.5-inch disk drive".

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A. *SQLITE*

SQLite is an CID-compliant embedded Relational Database Management contained in a small C programming library.

SQLite implements most of the SQL standard, using a dynamically and weakly typed SQL syntax that does not guarantee the domain integrity. In contrast to other database management systems, SQLite is not a separate process that is accessed from the client application, but an integral part of it. SQLite read operations can be multitasked, though writes can only be performed sequentially.

The source code for SQLite is in the public domain. SQLite is a popular choice for local/client storage on web browsers. It has many bindings to programming languages. It is arguably the most widely deployed database engine, as it is used today by several widespread browsers, operating systems, and embedded systems, among others.

B. *QR Code*

A QR code (abbreviated from Quick Response code) is a type of matrix-barcode (or two-dimensional code) first designed for the automotive industry. More recently, the system has become popular outside of the industry due to its fast readability and comparatively large storage capacity. The code consists of black modules arranged in a square pattern on white background.

III. SYSTEM DESIGN

1.) **Personal Information Gathering:** The work here starts during the first time installation of our application. It gathers the basic customer information like first name, last name, date of birth, city, state etc., and it will be stored into user mobile's, SQLite database. So every time when the user buys the ticket this customer information is also sent to the database for security purpose and used also in the QR.

2.) **TICKET BUYING:** The user selects source, destination, class, no. of Adult and child tickets, ticket type like return or single etc. then the user browse through the menu option to choose either credit buy option or token buy which simplifies the buy process by remembering the credit card details. Once the user chooses any of these options the application moves on to the pin code validation module.

3.) **PIN CODE VALIDATION:** Once the customer hits the buy button a PHP code in the railway server validates the pin number and passwords, if it is successful it saves both the journey details and customer info in the server's MySQL database. After which ticket number and time of buying is generated by the PHP code and the balance credit value is displayed.

4.) **GENERATING QR CODE:** Once the php code generates the ticket number and time of buy the details saved in the MySQL database are sent to Google Chart API engine in order to generate the QR code. here all the personal and ticket information are converted into QR codes and sent back to the user mobile as HTTP response and saved in the application

5.) **GPS TICKET VALIDATION:** In this module (fig 1.0) the GPS plays the role of the checker, where when the user buys the ticket, the source geopoints, destination geopoints, ticket type, expiry time & date are stored in a mobile SQLite database. This service checks the user's current location in accordance with the destination geopoints, after which the ticket type is checked and accordingly the ticket is deleted if two is single or updated if type is return.

6.) **CHECKING QR CODE WITH QR READER:** In this module the checker will have QR Code reader and scan the QR code with the application in order to validate QR code and verify the journey details, especially the time and date of the ticket.

7.) **CHECKING WITH DATABASE:** If suppose the user's display is being damaged and not able to scan the QR code due to other reasons like battery failure, we have Another failsafe option to check the ticket by searching the ticket database with the user's ticket number for validation purposes.

2.2 *Architecture Description*

The structure of system divided into two components (fig. 1.1):

- The customer application which resides personal information gathering, buying ticket, pin code validation, generating QR code, GPS ticket validation and stored into cloud database.
- The checker application is to validate the ticket by entering the ticket number of the user and searching in the cloud database to check whether the user has bought the ticket.

3 CONCLUSION

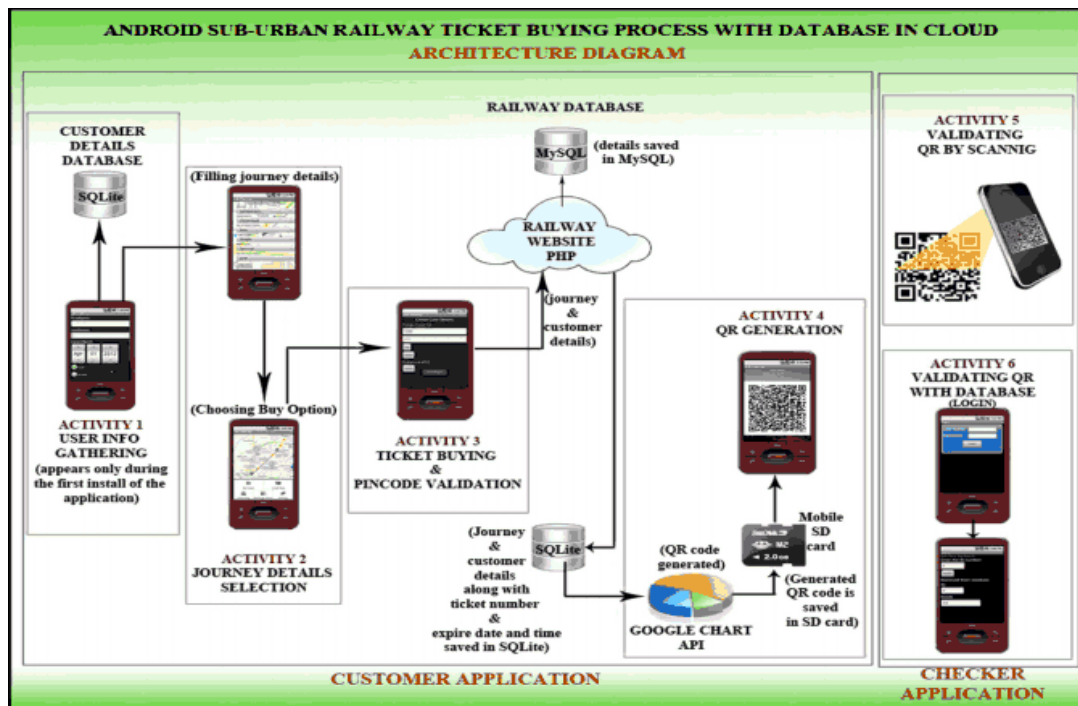
In this paper we have presented a mobile ticket application developed for Android 1.5 using Java, SQLite, MySQL, and PHP on the server side which can change the way people buy their tickets in future. This kind of ticketing application can be applied to any kind of transport system. Our android application is one of its kinds and finds huge application to buy sub-urban railway tickets through android mobile. Also our application saves a huge work for our ticket checkers by GPS validation of tickets and also moving from manual ticket checking process to digital ticket checking process by just scanning with his own android mobile to validate the ticket. station level security we can have Hardware devices to validate the QR codes before the user enters or leaves the station, where the user can have access towards platform after being validated by the hardware device. time trains will be available will also ease the user to allot his time accordingly to reach the station, so in our project we will be using GPS here to find the location of the user and nearby train station to display the train Hence a huge problem of issuing local train tickets has been solved with our new application. Knowing at what arrival timings. Still more advance modification can be a

Dynamic display of Train locations by fitting GPS devices in trains to show its location in the Google map display which is available in our application.

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