

Bilkent University

Department of Computer Engineering

Senior Design Project

Project short-name: rendt

Low-Level Design Report

Project Group Members:	
21600937	
21503572	
21603109	
21603176	
21503756	

Supervisor: İbrahim Körpeoğlu Jury Members: Hamdi Dibeklioğlu and Özcan Öztürk

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1 Introduction

With the ever-growing advancements in computer algorithms, machine learning tools, and with the availability and accessibility of such tools, distributed computing and cloud computing systems have become extremely widespread, to the point of almost being a necessity.^{[1][2]}

The biggest players in these fields are currently Amazon (AWS), Microsoft (Azure) and Google (Google Cloud). What's common among these providers is that they all have large centralized networks of nodes somewhere in a server farm (or several farms), and they provide users with computing power and other services such as storage using parts of that network.

The fact that all the nodes belong to one party and are hosted in one or a few dedicated locations gives them great reliability and ability to offer good pricing. However, since there are few providers and millions of users, only the few big players make revenue. Also, the amount of computing power that is available is dictated by the sole provider.

With Rendt we propose an alternative solution to this vast need of distributed and cloud computing power, where multiple parties can offer their machines and get paid in return, while users will still have access to the computing power that they need for their projects and experiments. Similar solutions have been used in the academic community to solve problems like the decomposition of natural numbers as a sum of three cubes,^[3] but they are voluntary in nature and have no commercial use.^[4]

1.1 Object design trade-offs

1.1.1 Usability vs. Functionality

Rendt aims to appeal to people from every background, for the leasing part at least. To avoid any dependence on technical background, we aim to design our user interface adequately straightforward for ease of use and minimal user interaction for the leasers. For the renters however, technical background is an important factor. Nevertheless, UI will be easy to use for both types of users. By this choice, we may trade advanced functionalities of the system for ease of use and larger user base.

1.1.2 Native vs. Virtual

To provide the necessary security, we are aiming for a virtual environment instead of native execution. However, latest developments in CPU technology now let users utilize Hyper-V or similar technologies to offer native-like performance on virtual environments. Our aim is to minimize hardware damage and application misuse by providing a Docker container for the executions. By using containers, we will also be able to follow the same execution style for every user and computer.

1.1.3 Portability vs. Security

Rendt requires Docker installation for leasing. Docker installation may increase the size of the application, but with Docker installation we are aiming to provide a fully secure execution environment. Any type of misuse or hardware damage will not be reflected on the real hardware or OS components of the system, instead on the containers and related parts.

1.2 Interface documentation guidelines

Class	ClassName
Class description	
Attributes	
attribute	attribute description
Methods	
method	method description

1.3 Engineering standards (e.g., UML and IEEE)

In this report, for our models such as class, package, object etc. diagrams we followed UML guidelines. Since in our classes and almost all diagrams we used UML guidelines we considered this would be more appropriate. We followed the IEEE citation style for our references because this citation method is common among engineers.

1.4 Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations

RENDT:	Remote Execution and Distribution of Tasks
Renter:	User looking for a leased computer to be rented
Leaser:	User leasing his/her computer for rental
Listing:	Collection of data concerning a leaser's leasing terms and conditions (performance, availability etc.)
Remote:	Distant as in computer(s) not nearby
Execution:	Compiling and running a task to get a result
Distribution:	Running different tasks of the program on multiple leased computers for performance
Task:	Unit(s) of program to be run and executed

Virtualization:	A virtual environment for tasks to be executed safely
VM:	Virtual Machine (or Environment)
OS:	Operating System
Cross-platform:	Compatible with multiple platforms and devices
UML:	Unified Modeling Language
IEEE:	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

2 Packages



2.1 Server

Server is the component in rendt's architecture that is responsible for overseeing job allocation and delivery of results, as well as payment. It is organized into a Logic Tier and Data Tier.

2.1.1 Logic Tier

The logic tier incorporates all the vital responsibilities of the server. It authenticates users, handles requests that come to the server and oversees task execution and results delivery between renter and leaser nodes. It also provides payment services.

AuthenticationManager: is responsible for authentication of users: creating accounts and accessing existing ones. When a client logs in to their account, they are issued an AuthToken that the client then uses in all their requests to the server.

ServerEventHandler: is the main processing object in the server. All the communication between client and server (including login and signup) passes through this point. A renter will communicate with this object before sending a task, and ask for permission. ServerEventHandler object will issue permission and will allocate (using FileDatabaseManager object, see below) space on the File Database for the files to be uploaded to, and will share a token that will allow this upload with the client. Also, after a leaser has executed a task, it will again ask for permission to upload results, and this object will issue permission and database token for uploading of results. Other than that, event handler object will receive data queries from the client (available listings, profile info), query it from Server Database and serve that information to the Client.

FileDatabaseManager: is responsible for overseeing the data transfer between renters and leasers through the separate database component. It will allocate space as needed, and issue tokens for secure access to this space.

DatabaseToken: a token object that will contain address information and secure key to access (upload to/download from) File Database.

AuthToken: a token object issued to a user when logging in which will authorize all server requests.

LeaserPayInfo: This class represents a leaser payment info. Its objects hold respective leaser's card details such as the owner's name, card number, expiration date and so on.

RenterPayInfo: This class represents a renter payment info. Its objects hold respective account details that belong to the respective user.

Payment: This class represents a payment object. It will handle the money transactions, basically the payments at the end of the sessions.

2.1.2 Data Tier

This layer is responsible for storing data about the user profiles, active listings and also past actions that have taken place on the server. It also contains private login information.

Server Database: is an object for accessing the database internal to the server, which is used to store

- login data
- user profile data
- current and past listings
- past transactions between users and some relevant information about them, like duration, cost, outcome, reliability etc.

2.2 Client

Client subsystem consists of presentation (view) and controller. These are respectively the GUI and functionality managers of client side subsystem.

In controler part there are a bunch of classes that maintain the local side of the application by identifying different types of users(leaser and renter), introducing connection managers for server and database, creating tasks and defining ultimate manager for the whole session of the application. Most parts of the client controller, especially task execution in leaser object, is executed in a virtual environment. In fact, the virtual environment is responsible for running jobs on leaser clients that are sent by senders. We will use Docker containers to run/execute the files that are sent by the renters to create virtual environment for the file and to prevent leasers to access those files.

2.2.1 Controller

This controller package is for the main functionalities of the application.

ServerConnectionManager: This class will manage connection between the server and the clients. Mainly it will ask for connection permission with the server so that the files of renter could be uploaded to the database. Database token will be needed for getting permission from the server

DatabaseConnectionManager: This class will manage connection with the database that will be used during sending and receiving of execution files. After server connection manager receives permission and token database connection manager uploads or downloads files from the database depending on the operation

SessionManager: This class is the main one in the whole system. First it logs in the user and obtains authentication token and establishes the connection with the server. Then depending on users demand and authentication token it log in either leaser or renter account.

Renter: This class represents a renter object. It establishes the connection with the server, creates tasks from provided files and their

locations and calls SeverConncetionManager and

DatabaseConnectionManager in specified order for the further flow of the sending process. After the task is executed the same procedure should be in order to download executed files and the payment system should be called at the very end.

Leaser: This class represents a leaser object. Technically it is very similar to Renter. This object communicates with the server, downloads files for a specific task, executes them and uploads back the results.

Task: This class represents a task object. By using user id and file locations in the local system it creates an object of the task and assigns it a unique task id the is going to be referred to throw out all transaction.

2.2.2 Presentation

This presentation package is for the user interface of the application.

LoginView: This view is for logging into the system. By using username/email and password, users will be able to sign in and use the application as a renter or leaser.

ForgotPasswordView: This view is for requesting a password reset in case of forgetting the password. Users need to enter the email address of the account to send a password reset request. A custom ID, valid for an hour, will be generated and sent to the user for the request to be finished and resetting the password.

ResetPasswordView: This view will follow the ForgotPasswordView screen and with custom ID and new password entered, users will be able to reset their password and sign into the system.

RegistrationView: This view is for the users to create an account and start to use the application. With the entered credentials a new account will be created for the user with a uniquely generated ID.

ProfileView: This view will display the profile information of a user. If shown profile is the users' own, they will be able to edit their information and credentials on the same screen. Important profile credentials such as email address will be accessible only by the profile owners.

FirstTimeInteractionView: This view will follow logging into the system and will show quick tips and instructions for using the application once the application is started for the first time. In the latter executions, this view will not be shown.

UsageTypeView: This view will be presented to the user for selection of usage types, namely, renter and leaser. Once the user selects renter or leaser type, he/she will be directed to the following view.

ListingsView: This view will be shown to the renters and will list the current leasers and available leased computers. Adequate information with

important specifications of the system will be shown to the user for selection of the system/computer.

SpecificationsView: This view will be shown to the leasers and will allow them to specify the hardware configuration and availability of their system for leasing. Leasers will also select the availability duration for their computers and price for the leasing.

FileUploadView: This view will be shown to the renters who have successfully rented a leased computer to upload their files to be executed. After selecting the files to be executed, files will be uploaded to the leased computer and upload progress will be shown to the renters.

ProgressView: This view will display the status and progress of the executions to the renter with session's elapsed time. Ideally, outputs from the files will be shown directly to the renters. Renters will be able to download the resulting files from the leased computer.

PaymentView: This view will be shown to the renter after the session ends. With the selected payment method, renters will pay for the execution duration and end the rental session.

3 Class Interfaces

3.1 Server

3.1.1 Logic Tier

Class	ServerEventHandler
Object that handles server events	
Attributes	
FileDatabase fileDB	instance of File database object
ServerDatabase serverDB	instance of Server database object
AuthenticationManager authManager	instance of AuthenticationManager object
Methods	
ServerEventHandler()	class constructor
DatabaseToken getPermission(AuthToken authToken, metadata)	asks for permission to upload files to the File database
AuthToken authenticateUser(string login, string password)	communicates with authentication manager and returns an authentication token to user

int registerUser(string email, string password)	communicates with authentication manager and creates a new user account, returns user ID
void addListing(AuthToken token, void* listingData)	adds a listing (sent from a leaser) to the database of listings
void* getUserInfo(int userId, AuthToken token)	queries user information from Server Database and returns (to the client)
void* getAvailableListings(AuthToken token)	queries available listings from Server Database and returns (to the client)
void* getUserHistory(int userId)	queries the Server database for past transactions of a user and returns (to the client)

Class	AuthenticationManager
Provides authentication for users.	
Attributes	
ServerDatabase db	instance of server database
void* credentials	credentials for accessing the server database
Methods	
authToken authenticate(string login, string password)	authenticates user and returns token for communication with the server and database
int registerUser(string email, string password)	creates a new user account, returns user ID
bool verifyToken(AuthToken token)	checks if a given token is valid

Class

FileDatabase

Object that handles temporary transfer of data between users

Attributes	
void* credentials	credentials for accessing the file database
Methods	
FileDatabase()	class constructor
DatabaseToken allocateSpace()	allocates space for files to be uploaded and returns token to allow upload/download

Class	AuthToken
Token file that gives access to database upload/download actions.	
Attributes	
string tokenId	token ID
Methods	
AuthToken()	class constructor. generates token

Class	LeaserPayInfo
Object that holds leaser's payment information/card details	
Attributes	
long taskId	ID of the task
string fullName	name of the card owner
string cardNumber	card number
int expMonth	expiration month
int expYear	expiration year
int CVVData	card CVV data
Methods	
getCardDetails()	returns a list of card details

setLeaserPayInfoDetails(...)

sets leaser's card details, such as name, card number, expiration month/year

Class	RenterPayInfo
Object that holds renter's payment information/account details	
Attributes	
long taskId	ID of the task
string fullName	name of the account owner
string stripeAccountId	ID of the stripe account of the renter
string stripeAccountPassword	password of the stripe account
Methods	
getAccountDetails()	returns a list of account details
setAccountDetails()	sets renter's account details such as name, stripe account ID/password with the given arguments

Class	Payment
Object that deals with the transactions	
Attributes	
LeaserPayInfo leaserPay	LeaserPayInfo object
RenterPayInfo renterPay	RenterPayInfo object
int paymentStatus	status of payment
Methods	
int process(long taskId, int leaserId)	finishes the transaction by getting transaction and account details of the partakers and returns payment status

3.1.2 Data Tier

Class	ServerDatabase
Object that manages data about listings, users and history	
Attributes	
Methods	
ServerDatabase()	class constructor
<pre>void* queryUserInfo(int userId)</pre>	queries the SQL database for info of the specified user
void* queryAvailableListings()	queries the SQL database for all active listings
void* queryUserHistory(int userId)	queries the SQL database for past transactions of a user

3.2 Client

3.2.1 Controller

Class	SessionManager
Central object on the Client side that	t is run when initiating the program
Attributes	
ServerEventHandler server	event handler instance of the server. logs in the user and obtains token
Renter renter	renter object corresponding to this client machine
Leaser leaser	leaser object corresponding to this client machine
Methods	
SessionManager()	creates (gets) the Server Event Handler object from the server. initializes the client program

Class	Renter
Object of renter client	
Attributes	
int userId	id of the user
AuthToken authToken	authentication token of user
ServerConnectionManager serverManager	server connection manager object
DatabaseConnectionManager databaseManager	database connection manager object
RenterPayInfo renterPay	object to provide renter's bank account details for transactions
Methods	
Renter(AuthToken authToken)	class constructor. creates Renter object and establishes connection with the server and database.
Task createTask(string path)	creates a task object
long submitTask(string path, int userId, int nodes=1)	creates and submits created task to the server. returns taskId.
void getResults(long taskId)	download the results of an executed task

Class	Leaser
Object of leaser client	
Attributes	
int userId	id of the user
string defaultDownloadPath	location on client's machine where to download task files
AuthToken authToken	authentication token of user
ServerConnectionManager serverManager	server connection manager object

DatabaseConnectionManager databaseManager	database connection manager object
LeaserPayInfo leaserPay	user's payment details for transactions and payments
Methods	
Leaser(AuthToken authToken)	class constructor. creates Renter object and establishes connection with the server and database.
void addListing(void* listingData)	submits a listing to the Server
void respondTaskRequest(long taskId, bool accept, string path)	accept/reject task execution request
void executeTask(string path)	executes downloaded task
void writeOutputToFile(string outFilePath)	writes the output of execution to a file located at outFilePath
void submitResults(string resultsPath, long taskId)	uploads results of the executed task to the server

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Class	Task
Wrapper class for tasks.	
Attributes	
long taskId	global id of the task assigned by the server
int userId	id of the user that created task
string path	local path to the files of Task
Methods	
Task(int userId, string path)	class constructor

Class	ServerConnectionManager
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Object that provides communication between the server and client	
Attributes	
ServerEventHandler server	event handler instance of the server
Methods	
ServerConnectionManager()	establishes connection with server
DatabaseToken getPermission(metadata)	asks for permission to submit task

Class	DatabaseConnectionManager
Object that provides communication with the database.	
Attributes	
FileDatabase database	event handler instance of the server
Methods	
DatabaseConnectionManager()	class constructor
int uploadFiles(string path, DatabaseToken token)	uploads files related to task to the database. returns the location of the uploaded file in DB.
void downloadFiles(string path, DatabaseToken token)	downloads the files on the file database (specified by the token) to the (local) path

Class	DatabaseToken
Token file that gives access to database upload/download actions.	
Attributes	
string address	address in the database where one should up/download
string password	corresponding password

Methods

DatabaseToken(string address, class constructor string password)

3.2.2 Presentation

Class	LoginView
View for logging into the system.	
Attributes	
QLineEdit ^[5] emailOrUsername	email address or username of the user
QLineEdit password	password of the user
Methods	
LoginView()	class constructor

Class	ForgotPasswordView
View for requesting password reset in case of forgotten password.	
Attributes	
QLineEdit email	email address of the user
Methods	
ForgotPasswordView()	class constructor. Sends request for a password reset.

Class	ResetPasswordView	
View for resetting the password if it is forgotten.		
Attributes		
QLineEdit newPassword	new password of the user	
QLineEdit resetPasswordId	uniquely generated password reset ID for authentication	
Methods		

ResetPasswordView()

class constructor. Resets the password.

Class	RegistrationView	
View for registration of a new account.		
Attributes		
QLineEdit email	email address of the user	
QLineEdit name	first name of the user	
QLineEdit surname	surname of the user	
QLineEdit username	username of the user	
QLineEdit password	password of the user	
Methods		
RegistrationView()	class constructor.	

Class	ProfileView	
View for displaying profile information of a user.		
Attributes		
QLabel ^[6] username	username of the user	
QLabel name	first name of the user	
QLabel surname	surname of the user	
int userId	ID of the user	
Methods		
ProfileView(int userId)	class constructor. Displays the profile of the user with the given userId.	

Class

FirstTimeInteractionView

View for instructions and quick tips for using the application in first launch.

Attributes

Methods

FirstTimeInteractionView()

class constructor

Class	UsageTypeView
View for the selection of usage type; renter or leaser.	
Attributes	
Methods	
UsageTypeView()	class constructor

Class	ListingsView	
View for listing the available computers to be leased.		
Attributes		
Leaser leasers[]	list of the available leased computers	
Methods		
ListingsView()	class constructor	

Class	SpecificationsView	
View for the specification and configuration of the leased computer hardware.		
Attributes		
Methods		
SpecificationsView()	class constructor	

Class	FileUploadView	
View for uploading files to be executed on the leased computer.		
Attributes		
File files[]	list of files to be executed	
QLineEdit args	arguments for custom execution and details	
long taskId	ID of the current task assigned by the server	
Methods		
FileUploadView(long taskId)	class constructor	

Class	ProgressView
View for the displaying the elapsed time for the rental process and status of the execution.	
Attributes	
long taskId	ID of the current task
Time elapsedTime	variable holding the elapsed time duration for the process
QLabel status	status of the execution
Methods	
ProgressView(long taskId)	class constructor

Class	PaymentView
View for finishing the session and payment.	
Attributes	
long taskId	ID of the current task
int renterId	user ID of the renter
int leaserId	user ID of the leaser

double price	price to be paid for the session
Payment payment	payment object for finishing the session and handling transaction
Methods	
PaymentView(long taskId, int leaserId)	class constructor

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