



Categories of Web Applications and Characteristics: A Review

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Abstract:

Web applications are applications accessed over a network based on technologies and standards of the World Wide Web Consortium. These software systems are used through the Web browser as the user interface. Web Applications are usually broken into logical chunks called "tiers", where every tier is assigned a role. Traditional applications consist only of 1 tier, which resides on the client machine, but web applications lend themselves to an n-tiered approach by nature. Though many variations are possible, the most common structure is the three-tiered application. In its most common form, the three tiers are called presentation, application and storage, in this order. A web browser is the first tier, an engine using some dynamic Web content technology, CGI, JSP/Java, PHP, Perl or Spring) is the middle tier, and a database is the third tier. The web browser sends requests to the middle tier, which services them by making queries and updates against the database and generates a user interface.

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Introduction:

Web applications are software designed to execute on web with web specific resources. Web applications vary from small scale solution to large scale ERP. Web applications have evolved and turned to complex according to time. This complexity may be in terms of dynamic nature, use of multimedia, performance or in many other ways.

Traditional applications were simple, less complex, static content, limited use and level of security was minimal. There were no scope of timely update, had limited functionality and interactivity. Advanced web applications comes with dynamic contents, contain large information, easy to integrate, schedule and plan. Perform better with more security.

Characteristics of web applications:

1. Product related characteristics
2. Use related characteristics
3. Development related characteristics
4. Evolution related characteristics

1. Product related characteristics

It is the integral part of web application. It consists of: Present, Hypertext, and Content.

- **Present:** Presentation plays an important role in product marketing and survival. Looks and feel is the first impression for the success and failure of application in this competitive market. The application must be attractive, impressive and according to fashion trend going on in market.