



# Information and Communication Technologies in Tourism

- Dynamic Packaging in Tourism
- Basic Composition Mechanism
- A Dynamic Packaging Architecture
- Case study Flexpackage.com



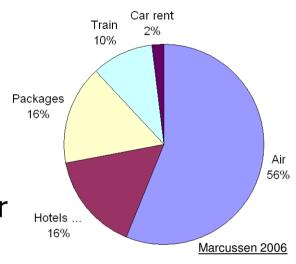
- Dynamic Packaging in Tourism
- Basic Composition Mechanism
- A Dynamic Packaging Architecture
- Case study Flexpackage.com

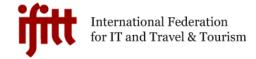


# **Dynamic Packaging in Tourism**

# Motivation of dynamic packaging

- Travel packages play an important role in tourism
- Consumers prefer to create their own packages rather than purchase pre-packaged tours
- No support for dynamically composing single products to travel packages
- Different types of tourism services are often only available on different online platforms

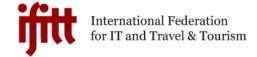




# **Dynamic Packaging in Tourism**

# Components of dynamic packaging

- Individual consumer search request
- Ability to combine multiple travel components (typically air, car and hotel) in real time
- Integration of services from different sources (dynamic sourcing)
- A single, dynamically priced package (hiding the pricing of individual components) (dynamic pricing)
- Booking of complete travel package in real time



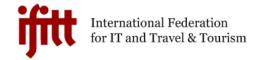
## **Dynamic Packaging Requirements**

## Customer requirements

- Adaptation and personalisation of bundeling process depending on customer profile
- Ensuring combinability of services
- Recommendation of optimal travel packages or additional services to existing travel itinerary

## Supplier requirements

- Yield & capacity management
- Consideration of business rules and constraints for building travel packages
- Comfortable, flexible definition process



# Flexibletrips.com

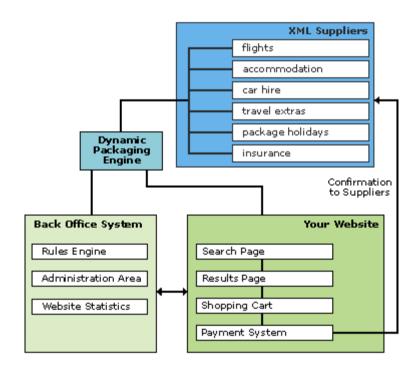


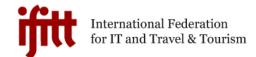
# Dynamicpackaging.net



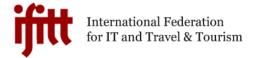
# Supplier of dynamic packaging functionality

- Dynamic packaging functionality can be integrated into customers website
- Dynamic packaging engine provides XML feeds from different suppliers



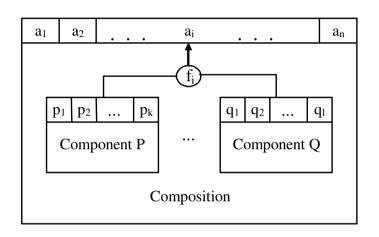


- Dynamic Packaging in Tourism
- Basic Composition Mechanism
- A Dynamic Packaging Architecture
- Case study Flexpackage.com



# **Basic Composition Mechanism**

## **Composition mechanism**



An attribute  $a_i$  of the composition is evaluated by:

$$a_i = f_i(p_1,...,p_k,...,q_1,...,q_l)$$
 with  $p_i$  attribute of component  $P$  and  $q_i$  attribute of component  $Q$ 

Höpken 2000

- Bundling of several tourism services, characterised by a set of attributes, to a composition service, again characterised by a set of attributes
- Attribute values of a composition service are evaluated from the attribute values of the components being part of the composition



# Structure of a Composition

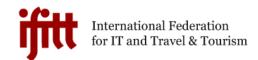
#### Degree of freedom of a composition

- Fix supplier-initiated composition
- supplier-init. composition with choices
- customer-initiated composition

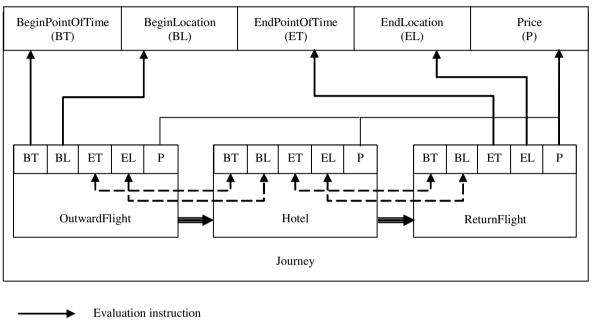
degree of freedom

#### Structure of a composition

- Components
  - A set of tourism services
  - A role within the composition, defined as it's relationships to other components
- Attributes evaluated by evaluation instructions
- Evaluation instructions enabling the dynamic calculation of attribute values out of the attributes of the contained components
- Constraints enabling to restrict the combination possibilities within a composition and refer to the attributes of the contained components



# **Basic Composition Mechanism**



Evaluation instruction

Constraint

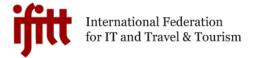
Successor relationship

Höpken 2000

- Basic interface provides all attributes, relevant for the composition of services, in a uniform way
  - Attributes describing the begin & end state concerning the dimension location and time

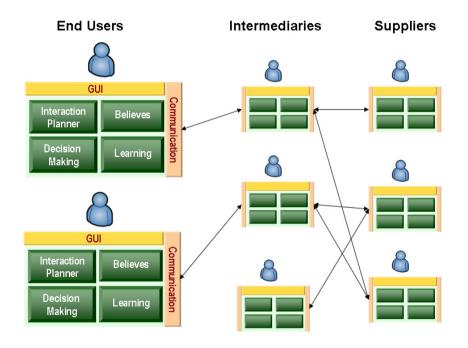


- Dynamic Packaging in Tourism
- Basic Composition Mechanism
- A Dynamic Packaging Architecture
- Case study Flexpackage.com



# **A Dynamic Packaging Architecture**

# Agent-based dynamic packaging network



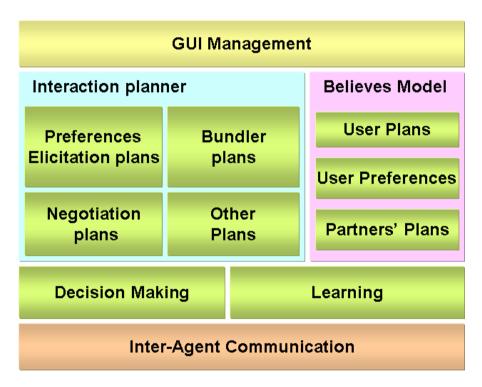
Ricci et al. 2003

- Users access a network of intermediaries/suppliers
- Intermediaries/suppliers offer services, evtl. by bundling services, and partially delegate requests to other intermediaries/suppliers



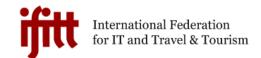
# **A Dynamic Packaging Architecture**

## **Agent Structure**



- Interaction planner: Executes conversation/interaction plans
- Believe model: Creates and manages hypothesis on the behavior and preferences of the user and of the other agents
- Decision making: Supports decision making in a multiagent network
- Learning: Learning of user models and negotiation strategies

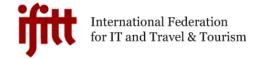
Ricci et al. 2003



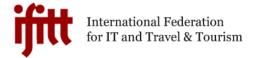
# **A Dynamic Packaging Architecture**

#### Multiple travel bundling strategies

- Single iterative product selection from catalogues
- Recommendation by proposal
  - tweaking by critiquing
- Selection of a complete package
  - fixed or simple customisable packages provided by suppliers
- Completion of a partial package
  - fulfilling open user goals or completing to a typical package
- Flexible customisation of a package
  - user navigation within a space of alternatives
- Completely dynamic bundling of a package starting from elementary products



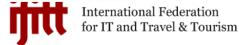
- Dynamic Packaging in Tourism
- Basic Composition Mechanism
- A Dynamic Packaging Architecture
- Case study Flexpackage.com



# Flexpackage.com

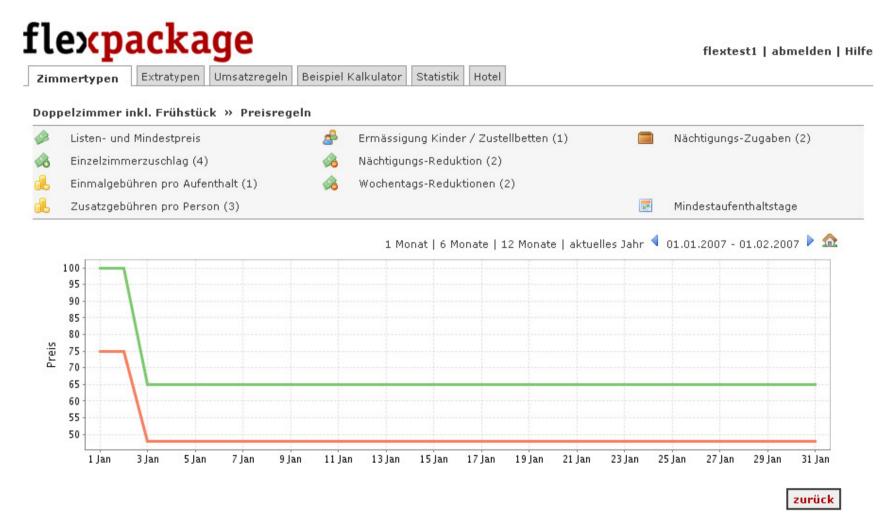


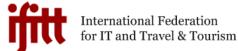




# Flexpackage.com







# Flexpackage.com



