



EAST WEST UNIVERSITY

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Report on project:

Advising Portal

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Introduction:

The project report addresses online advising - an important issue that is often not given enough attention by students and instructors alike. An online advising system is presented that can be utilized by students, advisors and course details. Students are given informative advice on which courses to register for the next semester and are informed of their remaining graduation requirements like, advisors, courses and sections information for the coming semester. Also students can know their personal information like cgpa, completed courses. Student advising is one of the important challenges facing academics, but direct consultation between advisor and students is another problem. Many students do not take the time and effort to see their advisors to plan their timetable and occurs long queues for advising. In this report we present a system that accesses students transcript records and generates a report for each student indicating the courses in which he must register in the upcoming semester based on rules explained later in the report. This will be enabled by admin to decide the courses and sections to be offered and prepare the timetable, allocate building and rooms for the students through the online advising portal software. The admin will also calculate and fix the fees for each type of courses and total fees for payment. The proposed system helps students in advising at home. The students' advising and graduation support system is explained bellow step by step.

Requirements:

Functional Requirements:

1. User will have to login through their ID and Password.
2. After login, students will be able to see their CGPA, Term GPA of all completed semester, completed courses and grades of those courses.
3. Students will not be able to add or drop any course after the advising period.
4. The system must allow the admin panel to do all the administrative work.

Non-Functional Requirements:

1. System should not collapse during the advising.
2. Data must not be leaked.
3. The system must be able to protect all the information.
4. The system will be capable of improvement continuously in order to maintain system.
5. Advising schedule will be set by the admin.

Implementations and Issues:

Required tools:

PHP – As a main programming language.

MySQL – Database management system.

Bootstrap – Front-end framework.

CSS (html) - Markup language for web page design.

Apache – As web server.

XAMPP – As a cross platform

Implementations:

Login and Registration is directly connected with database. User Registration is controlled by admin first (localhost/Advising Portal/admin/register.php) and admin can complete the registration by following some procedure. When user admin registration form, admin must fill up some requirements, which are - Username, Email, Password and Confirm password. If any of these are not filled up; it will show the message. As example if user name is not filled up, interface will show that “The Username field is required”. If there is already a “username” exists in database, it will ask to change the username as it is a primary property. The admin can fill up requirement and complete registration and all the data will be stored in the database. If the user is already a registered user, he/she can click on the Login and it will redirect to either Student or Admin Login Form based on the account info entered. There are two types of users - 1.Student and 2.Admin. After registration is done or login successfully it will redirect to the page of Student/Admin Login Form (localhost/Advising Portal/admin/login.php). Then student/admin have to fill up two requirements which have been implemented and they are Username and Password for the admin or students to login. When Password is wrong or incorrect it gives a message that “The password is wrong”. If any name is entered which has not been registered, it will show a message “Username is not found”. Login will work successfully only when correct username and password are given. From student login form, the students can enter the page of student home page after a successful login. All the functions of student portal are implemented into student_reg.php. Student portal includes Homepage (Profile), Class Schedule (Faculty & courses table), Advising (ADD/DROP). User can click on any option and go to that particular page. All the pages are done dynamically. As example, if user clicks on advising option it redirects to advising page which is implemented as add_drop.php page. User also can check their profile which is basically the homepage for the students, implemented as student_info.php. When user is from administrative panel, he/ she must login as Admin. After login Dashboard page will be shown which is implemented as index.php. This page includes six options which are Dashboard, Admin profile, Faculty and Course profile, Student profile and a Logout. If user click in Dashboard option then admin will see the current

total number of registered admin, students and faculties. By clicking in Admin profile a page will be shown which is implemented by register.php. Here, we can add a new admin details to database which are Username, Email and Password. Then from the Faculty and Course profile option, admin can add course details to database. The Student profile page can be used to register students. Pages which are not created with php will show a message “Not Found. The requested URL was not found on this server.”

Lacking:

Admin panel is the only one that can ‘register’ all the users. It means, the new students and faculty members cannot register by themselves rather the admin has to register each new user. Because of some technical issues and shortage of time and knowledge, we failed to find a suitable way in which the students and the instructors could register themselves without the use of admin’s help.

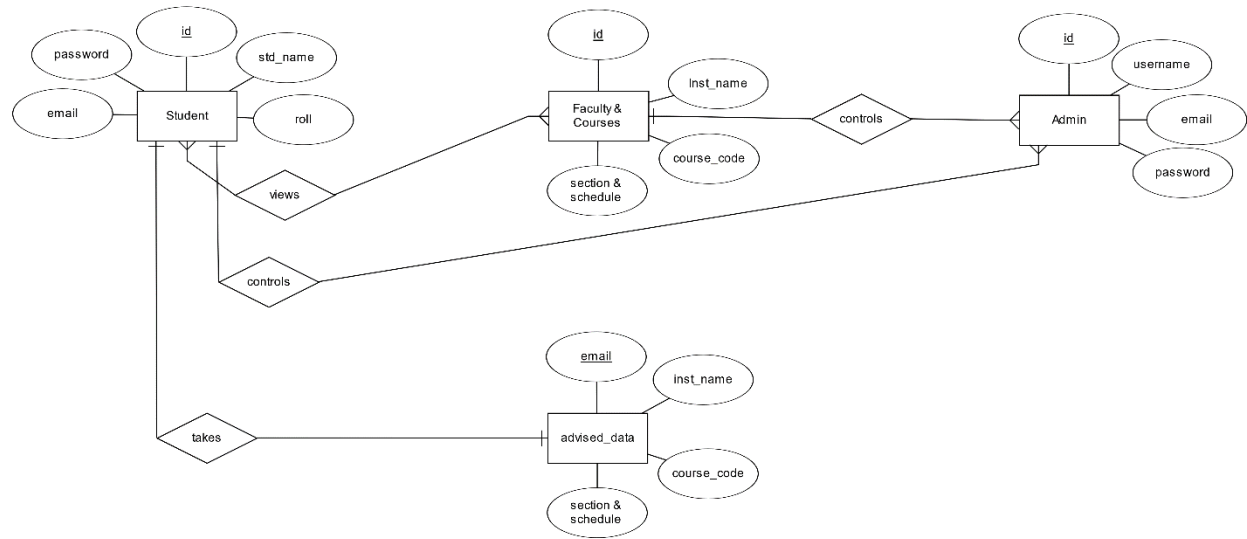
The admin cannot start the advising period, so the website for online advising has to be made open manually for the advising time periods.

The page in which students can know their grades and completed credits and printing of the final slip is also missing from our latest implementation.

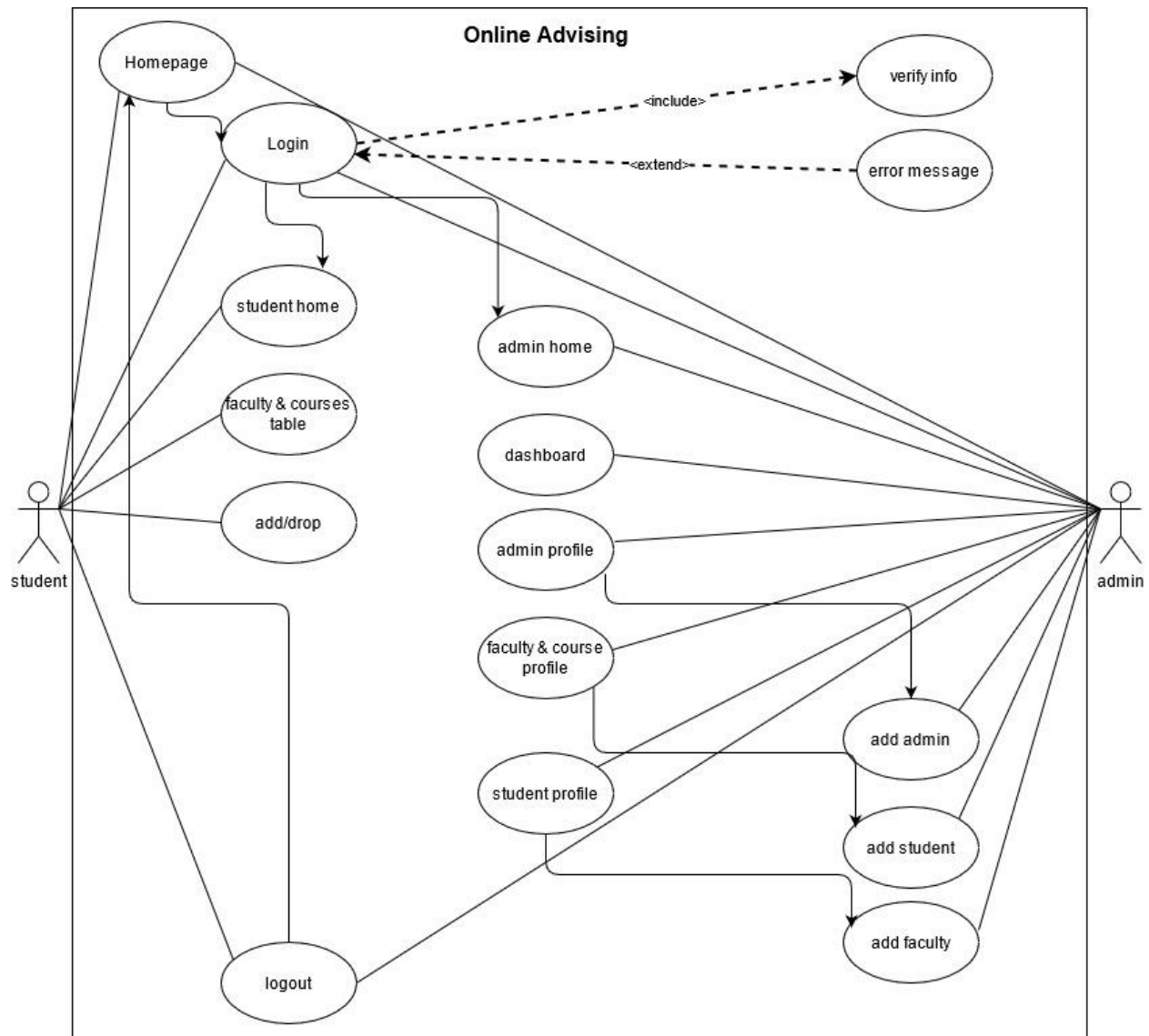
Instructors cannot add/drop courses for the students. This convenient feature is also missing from our implementation.

Diagrams:

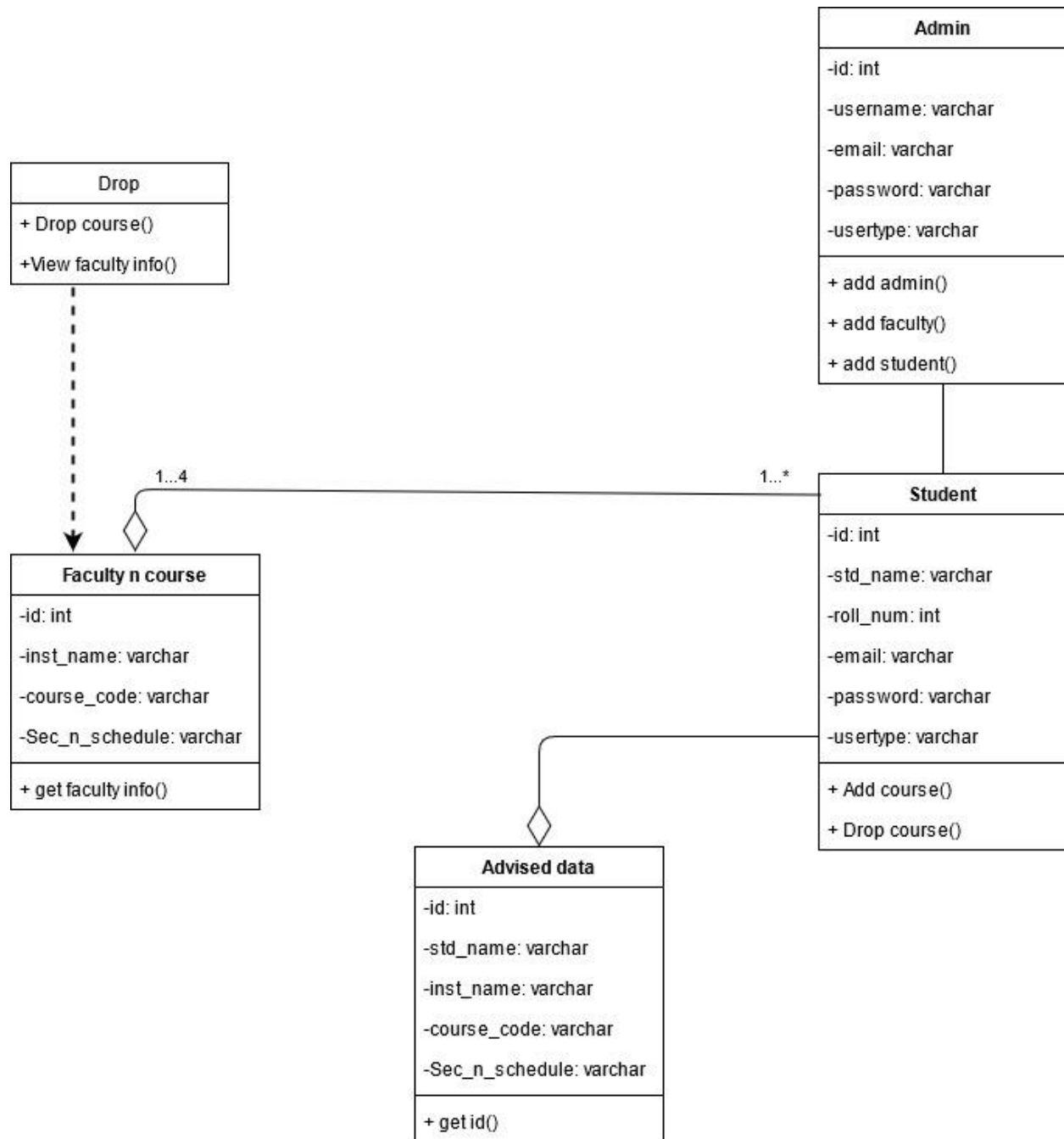
ER Diagram



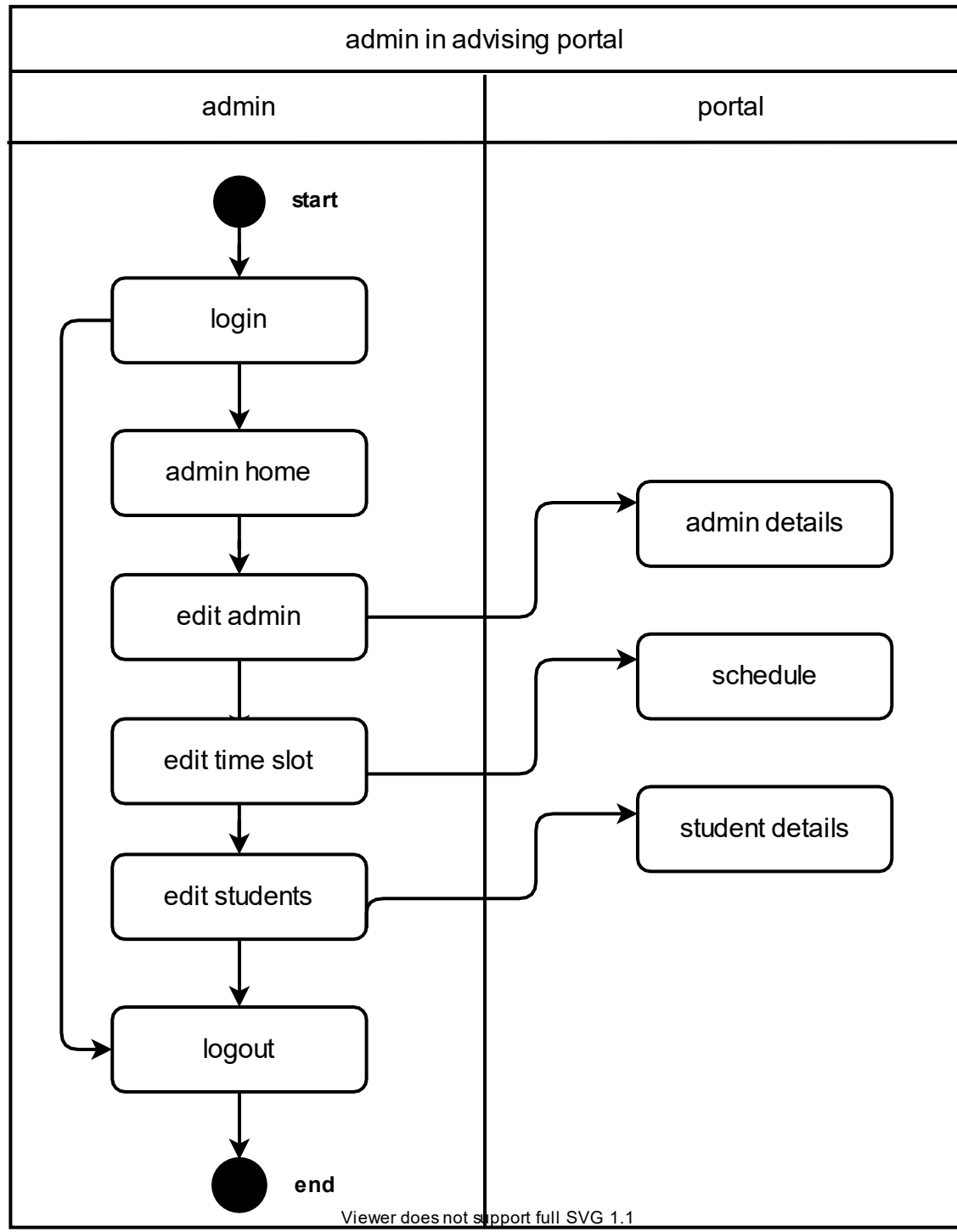
Use case Diagram



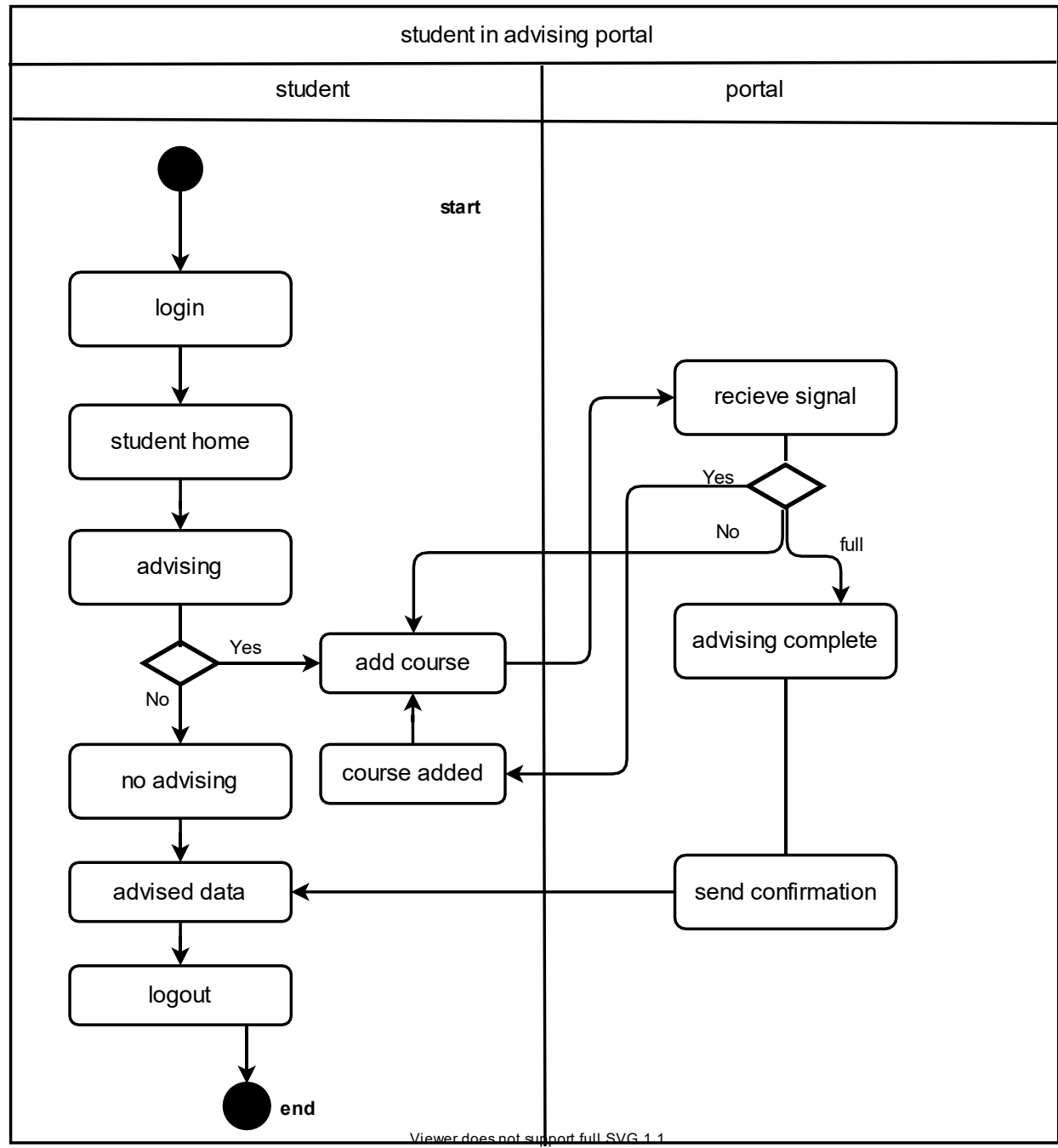
Class Diagram



Activity Diagram for admin



Activity Diagram for student



Conclusion:

We have designed and developed a Web-based academic advising system to supplement the conventional advising process. Student advising is an important and time-consuming effort in academic life.

Academic advising has been implemented in order to fill the gap between student and the academic routine, by moving advising system from the traditional ways to an automated way through letting the student use his personal computer or any other device (a Smartphone or Tablet for example) to make the processes as fast and easy as possible. The advising process is long-term and iterative due to the continuous change of the environment it operates within. Such changes include the addition and removal of courses from programs.

A prototype of the proposed system has already been established. We will continue working on the improvement of the system to make it an integral part of our academic environment for the benefits of our students, the faculty and admin as well.