Chess Heroes

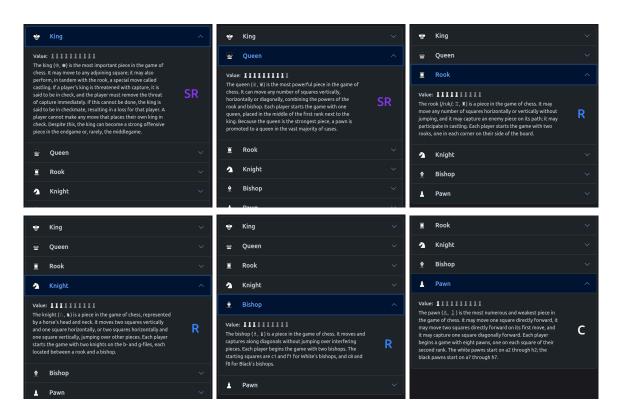
Advanced software engineering course. ICT Solutions Architect Master's Degree

This microservice project implements functionalities to enable users to buy gachas, in this case chess pieces. Users can buy single pieces via auctions or pulling from banners. Auctions are time limited and can be created by users.

Group components:

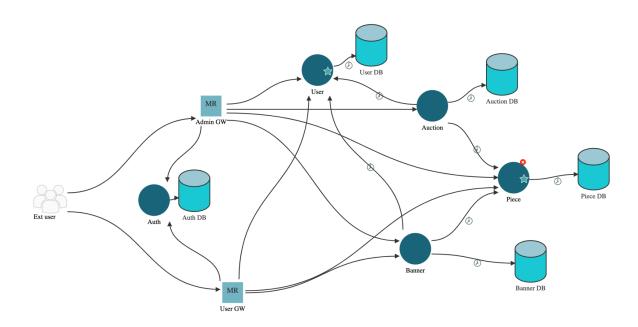
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Gacha Overview



Architecture

All of our microservices use Python as a development language and SQLite3 as a persistent database. Below is reported a scheme of our architecture.



Gateways:

- Admin

 This gateway is used to receive requests for admin actions. Before rerouting the request to the appropriate service, the requestor is validated with the auth service.

- User

 This gateway is used to receive requests for user actions. Before rerouting the request to the appropriate service, the requestor is validated with the auth service.

Gateways are the entry point to our application as microservices are not exposed to external connections to prevent unauthorized access.

Microservices:

- Auction

 This service is responsible for the creation, modification, and bidding on a specific auction

- Connections:

- User: To update the collection of a user, check if a user has a piece before creating an auction and check if the user has enough tokens to bid on an auction
- Auth: To validate if the user who wants to create a new auction is effectively the one in the presented JWT

- Auth

 This service is responsible for the authentication and authorization of existing and new users on our platform Chess Heroes

- Connections:

- **User:** To add the new user in the user DB after successful user creation and to delete a user account when requested

- Banner

- This service is responsible for retrieving info, creating, updating, deleting, and performing actions of/on the banners

- Connections:

- Piece: To retrieve the info about the pieces
- Auth: To validate if the user who wants to pull from a banner is effectively the one in the presented JWT
- **User:** To update the collection of the user

- Piece

- This service is responsible for retrieving info, creating, updating, and deleting pieces

- User

- This service is responsible for the management of user profile, user collection, and token balance management

- Connections:

- Auth: To
 - Update a username when a user modifies it and maintain data consistency between services.
 - Check if the provided user id is the same as the one in the JWT before updating a user collection
 - Modify a user when an admin requires it. This to maintain data consistency

User Stories

Player user stories:

- Create my game account/profile SO THAT I can participate in the game
 - /create_user (user-user DB / auth-auth DB, gateways)
- Delete my game account/profile SO THAT I can stop participating to the game
 - /player/<int:player_id> (user-user DB / auth-auth DB, gateways)
- Modify my account/profile SO THAT I can personalize my account/profile
 - /player/<int:player_id> (user-user DB, gateways) calls auth for consistency
 - user/modify/<int:player_id> (auth-auth DB, gateways)
- Login and logout from the system SO THAT can access and leave the game
 - logout/<int:player_id> (auth-auth DB, gateways)
- Be safe about my account/profile data SO THAT nobody can enter in my account and steal/modify my info
 - /authorize /introspect (auth-auth DB, gateways)
- See my gacha collection SO THAT i know how many gacha i need to complete the collection
 - /player/collection/<int:player_id> (user-user DB, gateways)
- Buy in-game currency SO THAT I can have more chances to win auctions
 - /player/gold/<int:player_id> (user-user DB, gateways)
- Be safe about the in-game currency transactions SO THAT my in-game currency is not wasted or stolen
 - /player/gold/<int:player_id> /authorize (user-user DB, gateways, auth-auth DB)
- See the auction market SO THAT I can evaluate if buy/sell a gacha
 - /running/all (auction-auction DB, gateways)
- Set an auction for one of my gacha SO THAT I can increase in-game currency
 - /create auction (auction-auction DB)
 - /introspect (auth-auth DB)
 - /user/has_piece (user-user DB)

- Bid for a gacha from the market SO THAT I can increase my collection
 - /bid/<int:auction_id> (auction-auction DB / auth-auth DB)
 - /user/balance (user-user DB)
- View my transaction history SO THAT I can track my market movement
 - /admin/player/transaction/history/<int:player_id> (user-user DB)
- Receive a gacha when I win an auction SO THAT only I have the gacha I bid for
 - /update_collection (user-user DB)
- Receive in-game currency when someone wins my auction SO THAT the gacha sell works as I expected
 - /update_collection (user-user DB)
- Receive my in-game currency back when I lose an auction SO THAT my in-game currency is decreased only when I buy something
 - /update_collection (user-user DB)
- That the auctions cannot be tampered with SO THAT my in-game currency and collection are safe
 - /bid/<int:auction_id> (auction-auction DB / auth-auth DB)
- AS A player I WANT TO get info about a banner SO THAT i can choose in which pull
 - GET:/banner/banner/<banner_id> (banner)
- AS A player I WANT TO use in-game currency to roll a gacha SO THAT i can increase my collection:
 - GET:/banner/banner/pull/<banner_id> (piece, user, auth)
- AS A player I WANT TO see the info of a gacha of my collection SO THAT i can see all info of one of my gacha
 - GET:/piece/piece?id=<piece_id> (piece)
- AS A player I WANT TO see the system gacha collection SO THAT i know what i miss of my collection
 - GET:/piece/piece/all (piece)
- AS A player I WANT TO see the info of a system gacha SO THAT i can see the info of a gacha i miss
 - GET:/piece/piece?id=<piece_id> (piece)

- AS A player I WANT TO have a beautiful graphic user interface SO THAT i fell motivated to play everyday

Admin user stories:

- AS AN administrator I WANT TO check all the gacha collection SO THAT i can check all the collection
 - GET:/piece/piece/all (piece)
- AS AN administration I WANT TO modify the gacha collection SO THAT i can add/remove gachas
- AS AN administrator I WANT TO modify a specific gacha information SO THAT i can modify the status of a gacha
 - POST/piece/piece (piece)
 - PUT/piece/piece/<piece_id> (piece)
 - DELETE/piece/piece/<piece_id> (piece)
- AS AN administrator I WANT TO check a specific gacha SO THAT i can check the status of a gacha
 - GET:/piece/piece?id=<piece_id> (piece)
- AS AN administrator I WANT TO add, update, delete a banner SO THAT i can modify the system banners
 - POST:/banner/banner (banner)
 - PUT:/banner/banner/<banner_id> (banner)
 - DELETE:/banner/banner/
- banner_id> (banner)

Market Rules

To bid on an auction use the bid endpoint in the auction module. Users can bid if:

- Time of received request is lower than the auction end timestamp
- Bidder is different from the auction creator
- Bidder can only place one bid, two consecutive bids are not permitted
- Bidder can only bid if he has available balance in the account.
- Balance is deducted at auction end only to the winner. This is consistent and safe as the maximum refillable balance is set low to 50 token per refill

Testing

Integration Testing

For integration testing, as written in the get started in the README, it is necessary to have a clean environment / DB. This is because tests use the same user info when creating a new

user, positive tests would return an error given that the username and user info are persisted between different runs. So make sure to clean the DBs as written in the README.

Unit Testing

- Auth, User, Auction

- The following services were copied and calls to external services were mocked. We simply inserted a flag variable **TESTING = True.** We put all the tests in the tests/ folder of each microservice. Used databases are different from the production ones. This is that tests insert data that is not relevant to the real users but it is finalized to testing.
- To mock external services calls we put some values of the received parameters in the request body/URL that simulate an error, and others that return a positive value. This was done to simulate success and error messages.

- Banner

- The response values of external services are mocked by a function that returns a valid response for every request made.

- Piece

- This service doesn't call any external service.

Performance Testing:

The performance tests are made calling the endpoints that don't introduce errors after several calls (e.g. delete requests aren't made due to the impossibility of some requests to restore the initial state of the system). The instructions for those tests are reported in the "docs" folder, along with the information about the distribution test (in the client site are shown the rates for every banner in a clear way).

Data Security

In the authentication service, using UserRegistrationForm we sanitized username, email and password. Using regex we sanitized username content to prevent SQL injection when inserting data in the database. These values are stored in the authentication service. Username and user id are also sent and persisted in the user database to perform checks, for example when modifying an username, and are kept synchronized between authentication and user to have a consistent state between services.

For data at rest we hashed the user password using a salt. When authenticating an user, this hash is matched with the calculated hash of the received plaintext password.

Authentication Authorization

For authentication and authorization we used a centralized service: auth. Requests reach teh gateway, the gateway checks if the route to which it should redirect the request requires

authentication, if it does and the user provides a bearer token in the header, the request is forwarded, else the gateway raises an error telling the requester that login is required. All routes are protected by authentication.

Additionally, in the auth service, a dictionary is kept to store **route:permissions**. Permissions is an array of int, containing 0,1. These values represent which kind of user is enabled to get rerouted to the appropriate endpoint based on their permissions. This check is performed when the /authorize endpoint is called to check if the requester is enabled to call the requested endpoint.

For the sake of this project, keys are stored in a json configuration file. This is not how keys would be stored in a production environment.

FLOW

- User creates an account, username, email, password are stored in the DB
- User logins, sends credentials, credentials are validated. If valid a JWT is generated and signed using the secret key of the auth service. In the JWT we store data to identify a user. The response contains the token, refresh token, user id and user info
- 3. The token is used to validate each request, before creating the rerouting path.

We also implement the **/introspect** endpoint to validate the requesting user to see if the user_id is the same as the one in the JWT to prevent users tampering with other users' accounts without having the correct JWT.

Additionally, the **/authorize** endpoint, instead checks for user authorization using the **route:permissions** mapping to authorize a user before redirecting to the correct service. Below we report the payload of the JWT:

```
def generate_access_token(user_data):
    now = datetime.datetime.now(datetime.UTC)

payload = {
    "iss": app.config['ISSUER'],
    "sub": str(user_data['user_id']),
    "aud": app.config['AUDIENCE'],
    "exp": now + datetime.timedelta(minutes=app.config['ACCESS_TOKEN_EXPIRE_MINUTES']),
    "iat": now,
    "jti": str(uuid.uuid4()),
    "user_type": int(user_data['user_type']),
    "role": VALID_USER_TYPES[int(user_data['user_type'])],
    "scope": None
    }
    return jwt.encode(payload, app.config['JWT_SECRET_KEY'], algorithm=app.config['ALGORITHM'])
```

Finally we have the **/userinfo** endpoint which enables users (or admins) to get information about their account. All these endpoints enable us to respect the security specs requested in the implementation security requirements.

Security analysis

Bandit did not report errors when building with docker compose up. We registered some security errors when using requests with https and verify set to False. This is needed because we are using self signed certificates. To fix this we simply put **# nosec** as comment on the line of the request, so that bandit does not raise an error and the build correctly functions. There are other lines marked as **# nosec** where bandit found vulnerabilities about SQL Injection, but in those cases SQL Injection is not possible (if u see the code it's clear why).

```
987 951 [user 6/8] RNN bandit -r .
988 951 ...
989 951 ...
989 951 ...
991 952 [banner 14/14] SNN bandit -r .
971 952 6 477 [asio] 100 profile include sests: None
973 952 967 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
973 952 9677 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
974 952 9677 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
975 952 9677 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
976 952 9677 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
977 952 9677 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
978 952 9678 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
978 952 9678 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
979 952 9678 [asio] 100 profile exclude sests: None
970 952 9611 No issues identified.
990 952 9611 No issues identified.
990 952 9611 Total lines of code: 352
983 952 9611 Total lines stipped (mosec): 9
984 952 9611 Total lines stipped (mosec): 9
985 952 9611 Total issues (by severity):
987 952 9611 Total issues (by severity):
988 952 9611 None from the fined: 9
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```

Pip-audit analysis:

```
948
949 #46 [banner 13/14] RUN pip-audit --fix
950 #46 2.802 No known vulnerabilities found
951 #46 DONE 2.95
952
953 #47 [auth 5/8] RUN pip-audit --fix
954 #47 ...
955
956 #48 [piece 13/14] RUN pip-audit --fix
957 #48 2.943 No known vulnerabilities found
958 #48 DONE 3.1s
959
960 #49 [piece 14/14] RUN bandit -r .
961
962 963 #50 [user 5/8] RUN pip-audit --fix
964 #50 2.427 No known vulnerabilities found
965 #50 DONE 2.5s
```

1160 #59 [auction 5/8] RUN pip-audit --fix 1161 #59 2.745 No known vulnerabilities found 1162 #59 DONE 2.8s

```
1075

1076 #47 [auth 5/8] RUN pip-audit --fix

1077 #47 6.005 Name Version ID Fix Versions Applied Fix

1078 #47 6.005 Name Version ID Fix Versions Applied Fix

1079 #47 6.005 requests 2.31.0 GHSA-9wx4-h78v-vm56 2.32.0 Successfully upgraded requests (2.31.0 => 2.32.0)

1080 #47 6.005 werkzeug 3.0.1 GHSA-2g68-c3qc-8985 3.0.3 Successfully upgraded werkzeug (3.0.1 => 3.0.6)

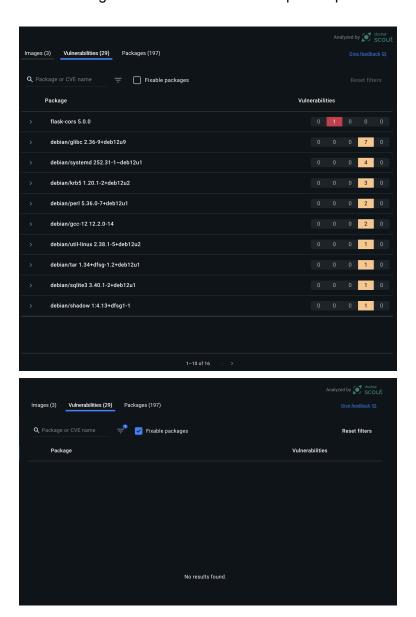
1081 #47 6.005 werkzeug 3.0.1 GHSA-f9vj-2wh5-fj8j 3.0.6 Successfully upgraded werkzeug (3.0.1 => 3.0.6)

1082 #47 6.005 werkzeug 3.0.1 GHSA-q34m-jh98-gwm2 3.0.6 Successfully upgraded werkzeug (3.0.1 => 3.0.6)

1083 #47 6.039 Found 4 known vulnerabilities in 2 packages and fixed 4 vulnerabilities in 2 packages

1084 #47 DONE 6.2S
```

Regarding **docker scout**, the only vulnerability, which is not yet fixable regards flask cors. We need this module to make the frontend interact with the backend. The other services do not have vulnerabilities critical or higher so we did not include repeated pictures.



Additional Features

- Logs: user actions are logged to the users DB and the admin can query logs with:
 /admin/logs
 - This feature is useful to see what users are doing, to log errors and success events. It is implemented by keeping a table "logs" in the users database. Each time an endpoint is queried a log is inserted with the result of the intermediate steps. This was useful during debugging and development.
- Client: the application provides an intuitive GUI to interact with the system and perform a part of the total possible requests to the backend (not all the user stories are implemented on the client side, only the most effective)
 - The navigation in the client side application doesn't follow a precise flow of action. The only thing needed is to login first (by the credential already filled in the login form) or by other credentials used for the registration of another player. The client side provides only an interface for the players (no logs section for the admin).

If in the process of login the client shows an alert like 'axios error network', you must tell the browser to not apply specific verification to the page caused by the HTTPS requests made. For this the solution is to contact the backend directly

(https://localhost:3000/auth/login), then click on any part of the screen and type "thisisinsecure". Go back to the original page and everything should work.

Reference (secondo comment):

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/55381447/getting-err-cert-authority-invalid-with-axios