# ProfileBook Capstone Project Report

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## **Abstract**

The ProfileBook project is a web-based application developed using ASP.NET Core for the backend and Angular for the frontend. The main objective of this system is to provide users with a secure platform to create, manage, and update their personal and professional profiles. It simplifies profile management by offering features such as user registration, authentication, rolebased access, and profile editing.

The backend is responsible for handling business logic, authentication, and database communication, while the frontend ensures a responsive and user-friendly interface. Data is stored securely using a structured database, and security is enhanced through proper validation and access control.

This project demonstrates the integration of modern web technologies to build a scalable and efficient system. It not only helps users maintain their personal details in a structured way but also showcases best practices in full-stack development, including component-based design, RESTful APIs, and database-driven applications.

#### **Introduction & Problem Statement**

ProfileBook is a web-based application built with **ASP.NET Core** and **Angular** to help users create, manage, and update their personal and professional profiles. Unlike static documents, it provides a secure, user-friendly, and responsive platform with features like authentication, role-based access, and structured data storage. The project demonstrates modern full-stack practices, including RESTful APIs, database design, and component-based development.

#### **Problem Statement**

Users often struggle to maintain and update profiles using static documents, which are difficult to manage, insecure, and not easily accessible. There is a need for a simple, secure, and scalable platform to store and update personal information anytime. ProfileBook addresses this by offering a **web-based solution** with authentication, structured data management, and an intuitive interface for seamless profile handling.

# **Objectives**

- **Develop a secure web application** using ASP.NET Core (backend) and Angular (frontend).
- Provide user authentication and role-based access control to ensure data privacy and security.
- **Design and implement a structured database** for storing and managing user profile information efficiently.
- Create a responsive and user-friendly interface that allows easy creation, editing, and viewing of profiles.
- **Integrate RESTful APIs** to enable smooth communication between the frontend and backend.
- Ensure scalability and maintainability by following best practices in full-stack development.

# **System Requirements & User Stories**

- User Registration & Login Users must be able to create an account and log in securely.
- Role-Based Access Control Admins can manage users; normal users can only manage their own profiles.
- **Profile Management** Users can create, edit, update, and view their personal/professional profiles.
- **Data Validation** Input fields should be validated (e.g., email format, required fields).
- **Secure Authentication** Passwords must be stored securely, and sessions should be protected.
- **Responsive UI** The application must work on desktops, tablets, and mobile devices.
- **Database Integration** All profile data must be stored in a relational database.
- **Search & View Profiles** (Optional) Users should be able to search or view profiles with permissions.

#### **User Stories**

- As a new user, I want to register an account so that I can access the application.
- As a registered user, I want to log in securely so that I can access my profile.
- **As a user,** I want to create and update my personal profile so that my information is always current.
- As a user, I want to view my profile details so that I can confirm my stored information.
- **As a user,** I want the system to validate my inputs (like email, phone) so that I don't make mistakes.
- **As an admin,** I want to manage users (create, update, delete, or assign roles) so that I can control access.
- **As a system,** I need to securely store passwords and personal data so that user privacy is maintained.
- **As a user,** I want to access the application on any device so that I can manage my profile anytime, anywhere.

# **System Architecture**

The **Profile Book** project uses a **three-tier architecture**:

- **Frontend** (**Angular**) Provides a responsive UI for registration, login, and profile management. It communicates with the backend through **REST APIs**.
- **Backend (ASP.NET Core Web API)** Handles business logic, authentication, role-based access, and CRUD operations. Uses **JWT authentication** for security.
- **Database** (**SQL Server / RDBMS**) Stores user details, roles, and profile data, managed through **Entity Framework Core**.

#### Flow:

- User interacts with Angular (browser).
- Angular sends API requests to ASP.NET Core backend.
- Backend processes requests and communicates with the database.
- Data is returned and displayed on the frontend.

[USER BROWSER]  $\rightarrow$  [ANGULAR FRONTEND]  $\rightarrow$  [ASP.NET CORE BACKEND]  $\rightarrow$  [DATABASE (SQL SERVER)]

# Frontend Design (Angular)

The Frontend of **Profile Book** is developed using **Angular** with a component-based structure and modular services. It ensures a responsive UI and smooth interaction with the backend via REST APIs.

#### **Admin Module**

- **Groups** Manage user groups and roles.
- **Post Approval** Admins can review and approve/reject posts.
- **Reports** View system reports and flagged content.
- Users Manage registered users (view, update, delete).

#### User Module

- Login / Register Secure authentication and new user registration.
- **Posts** Create, view, and update posts.
- **Profile** Manage personal information and settings.

#### Core Files

- **app.config.ts** Stores global configuration settings.
- **app.route.ts** Defines routing between components.
- **app.ts** Root application file.
- **app.html** Main template layout.
- **app.css** Stylesheet for UI design.

#### Services

- **API Service** Centralized service for backend communication.
- **Auth Service** Handles login, token storage, and role checks.
- **JWT Interceptor** Attaches JWT token to HTTP requests for secure API access.

# **Backend Design (ASP.NET Core)**

The Backend of **Profile Book** is built using **ASP.NET Core Web API**, following a layered architecture with **Controllers, Models, and DTOs**. It handles authentication, business logic, and database communication while exposing RESTful endpoints to the Angular frontend.

#### Controllers

- **AuthController** Provides **Register** and **Login** methods for secure user authentication and JWT token generation.
- **GroupController** Handles creation and management of user groups.
- **MessageController** Enables sending and retrieving messages.
- **PostsController** Manages post creation, approval, and updates.
- **ProfilesController** Handles profile creation, updates, and image uploads.
- ReportController Allows users to report suspicious or fake accounts, storing reports for admin review.
- **UsersController** Manages user details, roles, and updates.

#### Models

• Comment, Group, Post, Profile, Report, User – Represent database entities and define relationships.

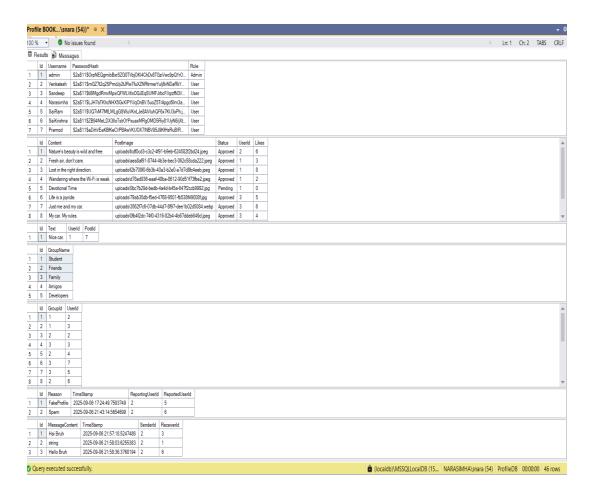
# DTOs (Data Transfer Objects)

- **CommentDto** Transfers comments associated with posts, including details such as comment text, user, and timestamp.
- **SendMessageDto** Defines the payload for sending messages between users.
- **PostCreateDto** Defines structure for creating posts.
- **ProfileImageUploadDto** Used for uploading profile images.
- **UpdateUserDto** Handles user update requests securely.

# **Database Design & ERD**

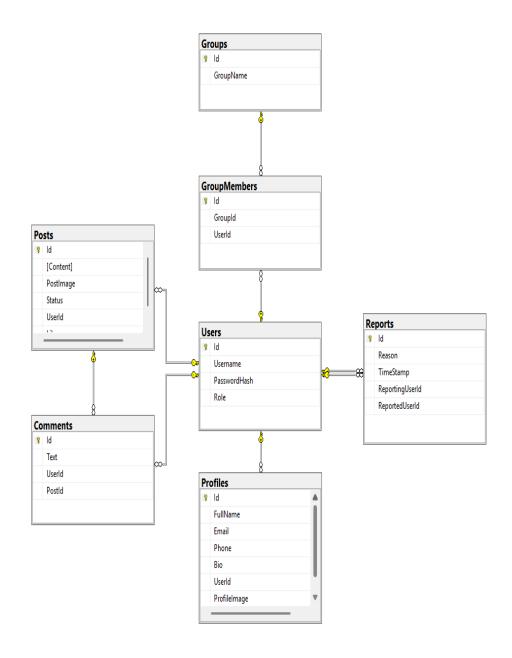
The database of **Profile Book** is designed using a **relational model** to ensure structured storage and easy retrieval of data. It maintains relationships between users, posts, comments, reports, and groups.

#### **Main Tables:**



# **ERD** (Entity Relationship Diagram):

- Boxes: Users, Profiles, Posts, Comments, Groups, Messages, Reports.
- Connectors: Show 1:1, 1:N, and M:N relationships.



#### **API ENDPOINTS:**

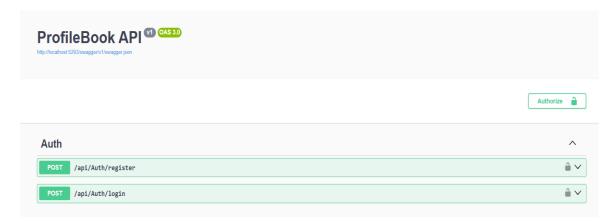
#### **AuthController:**

## • /api/auth/register (POST)

Registers a new user by taking username, email, and password. Returns success message if registration is successful or an error if the email already exists or validation fails.

## /api/auth/login (POST)

Authenticates a user with email and password. Returns a JWT token for authorized access to protected routes.



#### UsersController

#### /api/users (GET)

Retrieves a list of all registered users. Useful for admin or listing users in the app.

# • /api/users/{id} (GET)

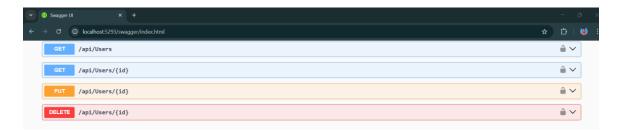
Retrieves details of a specific user by their ID.

#### /api/users/{id} (PUT)

Updates user information like username or email. Requires authentication.

# • /api/users/{id} (DELETE)

Deletes a user from the system. Usually restricted to admin users.



## MessagesController

#### • /api/Messages/{receiverId} (POST)

Sends a message to a specific user identified by receiverId. Accepts the message content in the request body.

# • /api/Messages/{otherUserId} (GET)

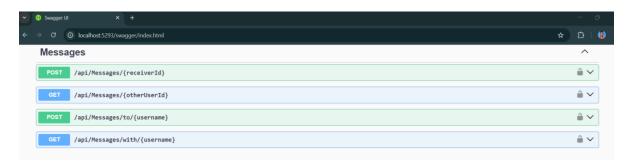
Fetches all messages between the current user and another user identified by otherUserId.

## • /api/Messages/to/{username} (POST)

Sends a message to a user identified by their username. Accepts message content in the request body.

## • /api/Messages/with/{username} (GET)

Fetches all messages exchanged with a specific user identified by username.



#### **PostsController**

## /api/Posts (POST)

Creates a new post. Accepts post data (title, content, etc.) in the request body.

#### • /api/Posts/all (GET)

Fetches all posts in the system, including both approved and pending posts.

## • /api/Posts/approved (GET)

Fetches only approved posts for public display.

#### • /api/Posts/approve/{id} (PUT)

Approves a post by its ID. Usually restricted to admin users.

## • /api/Posts/reject/{id} (PUT)

Rejects a post by its ID. Usually restricted to admin users.

#### • /api/Posts/{id}/like (POST)

Likes a specific post by its ID and updates the like count.

# /api/Posts/{id}/comment (POST)

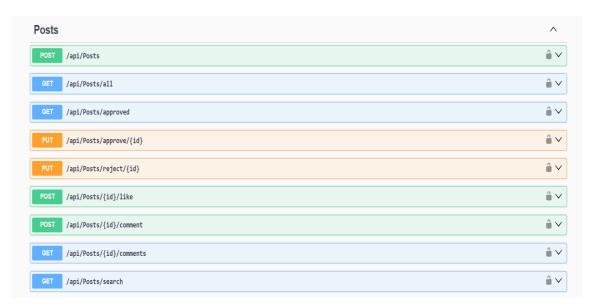
Adds a comment to a specific post. Accepts comment text in the request body.

# • /api/Posts/{id}/comments (GET)

Fetches all comments for a specific post.

# • /api/Posts/search (GET)

Searches posts by keyword. Accepts query parameters like ?q=keyword.



# GroupsController

# • /api/Groups (POST)

Creates a new group. Accepts group details (like name and description) in the request body.

## • /api/Groups (GET)

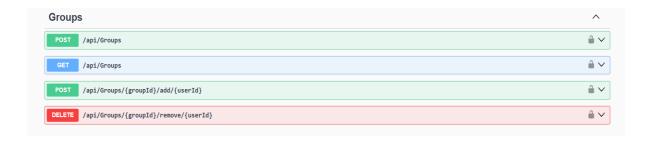
Fetches all groups in the system.

## • /api/Groups/{groupId}/add/{userId} (POST)

Adds a specific user to a group. groupId identifies the group, and userId identifies the user to add.

# • /api/Groups/{groupId}/remove/{userId} (DELETE)

Removes a specific user from a group. groupId identifies the group, and userId identifies the user to remove.



## ReportsController

/api/Reports/{reportedUserId} (POST)

Reports a specific user. Accepts the reason for reporting in the request body.

• /api/Reports (GET)

Fetches all reports. Usually restricted to admin users.



#### **ProfilesController**

• /api/Profiles (POST)

Creates a new profile. Accepts profile details (like bio, avatar, etc.) in the request body.

• /api/Profiles (GET)

Fetches all user profiles in the system.

• /api/Profiles/me (GET)

Fetches the profile of the currently logged-in user.

/api/Profiles/me (PUT)

Updates the current user's profile. Accepts updated profile details in the request body.

• /api/Profiles/me (DELETE)

Deletes the current user's profile.

• /api/Profiles/{id} (GET)

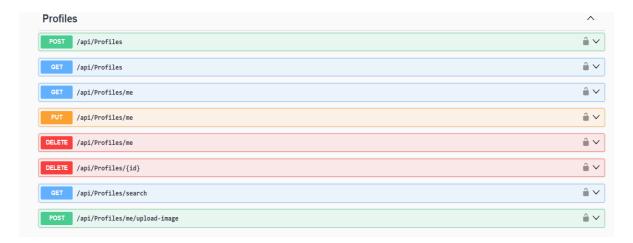
Fetches the profile of a specific user by their ID.

# • /api/Profiles/search (GET)

Searches profiles by keyword (like name or bio). Accepts query parameters.

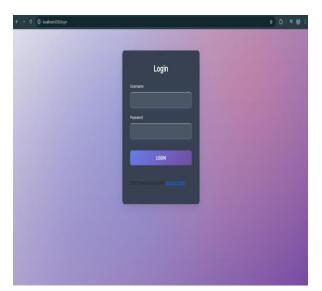
# • /api/Profiles/me/upload-image (POST)

Uploads or updates the profile image for the current user. Accepts an image file in the request body.

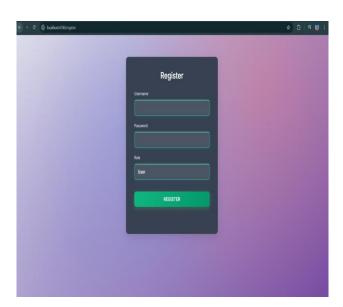


## **Demo Plan & Screenshots:**

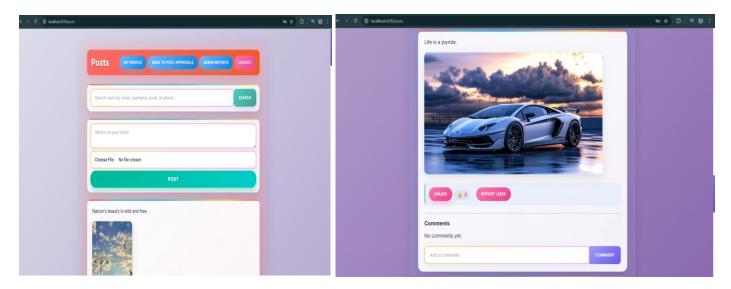
# Login:



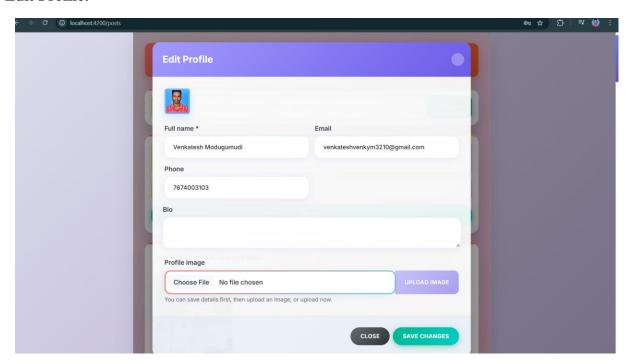
# **Register:**



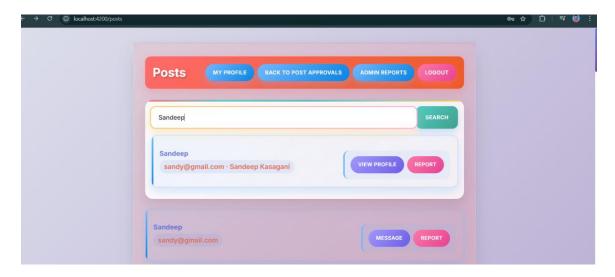
# **Posts:**



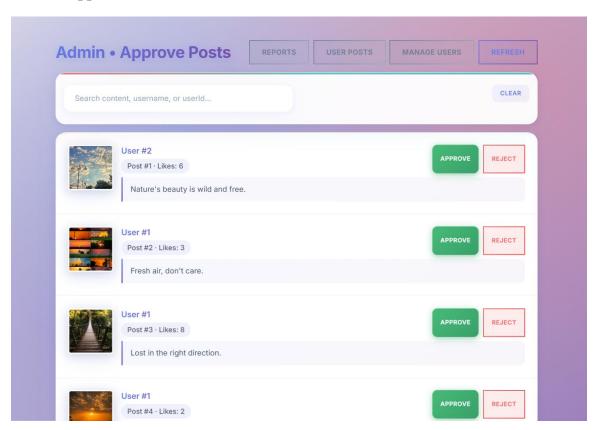
## **Edit Profile:**



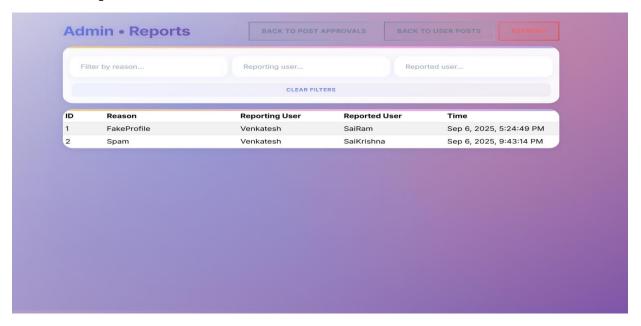
## **Search User:**



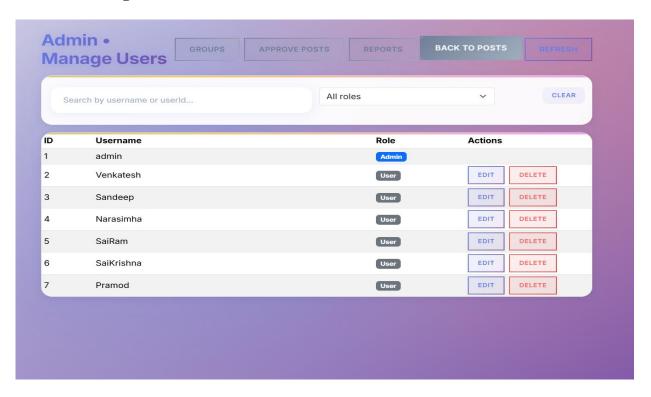
# **Admin Approve Posts:**



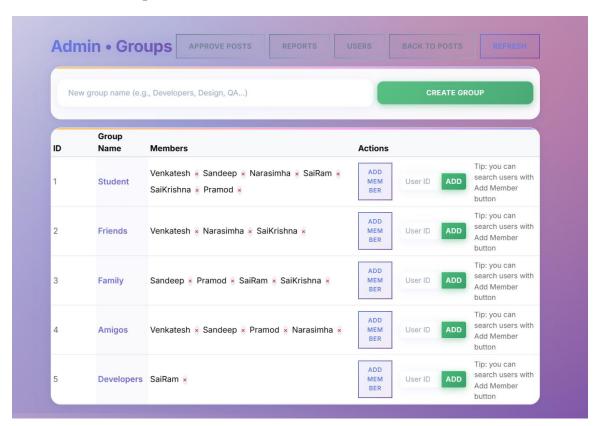
# **Admin Report:**



# **Admin Manage Users:**



## **Admin Make Groups For Users:**



## **Testing & Security**

## • Manual Testing

- Each API endpoint was tested using **Postman** or **Swagger UI** to ensure correct functionality.
- o Inputs such as valid/invalid data, missing fields, and edge cases were verified.
- Responses, status codes, and error messages were checked for accuracy.

# Unit Testing

- Key controller methods (e.g., Posts, Auth, Users) were covered with unit tests using frameworks like xUnit or NUnit.
- o Business logic and data access layers were tested separately to ensure correctness.

# • Integration Testing

- $\circ$  Tested end-to-end flows such as **user registration**  $\rightarrow$  **login**  $\rightarrow$  **create post**  $\rightarrow$  **comment** to ensure multiple endpoints work together.
- o Verified database updates reflect accurately after API calls.

#### **Security**

- **Authentication & Authorization:** Protected endpoints use **JWT tokens**; only authorized users can access restricted routes.
- Role-Based Access: Admins can manage posts, users, and reports; regular users have limited access.
- Input Validation: API requests are validated to prevent invalid or malicious data.
- **Data Protection:** Passwords are **hashed**, and sensitive data is never exposed.
- Common Attack Prevention: Measures against SQL Injection and XSS are implemented.

#### **Conclusion & Future Work**

#### Conclusion

The project successfully implements a **full-featured social interaction platform** with user authentication, posts, comments, groups, messaging, profiles, and reporting functionality. All API endpoints are functional and secured with **JWT authentication** and **role-based access control**. The system allows smooth interaction between users while ensuring data integrity and security.

#### **Future Work**

- Enhanced Security: Implement features like two-factor authentication and more robust input sanitization.
- **Real-Time Features:** Add **real-time messaging and notifications** using WebSockets or SignalR.
- Advanced Search & Filters: Improve search functionality with filters for posts, users, and groups.
- Admin Dashboard: Develop a comprehensive dashboard for monitoring reports, user activity, and content approval.
- **Mobile Support:** Build a **mobile-friendly version** or mobile app for better accessibility.