ETU student profile system Phase – 2

Public URL of the system: http://18.142.231.1/

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Introduction

ETUX Technical University (ETU) is a newly established university with many degree programs to follow. The university now wants to introduce a system to showcase every final year students' profile regardless of the degree program they're following. The main purpose of this system is that these profiles can be viewed by industry people, and they can hire students if the profile matches their requirements.

About the system

The system typically contains following functionalities:

- 1) Student signup.
- 2) Student login.
- 3) Student profile view/edit.
- 4) Public student profile view.

Technologies used to develop the system:

Front end

- 1) HTML
- 2) CSS
- 3) JavaScript

Backend

- 1) Python
- 2) Flask (python)

Databases

- 1) Amazon DynamoDB (for storing user details)
- 2) Amazon S3 bucket (for storing user images)

Hosted in

1) AWS EC2 instance

AWS cloud9 is used as IDE for developing the system. fetch API is also used to communicate between the frontend and the server.

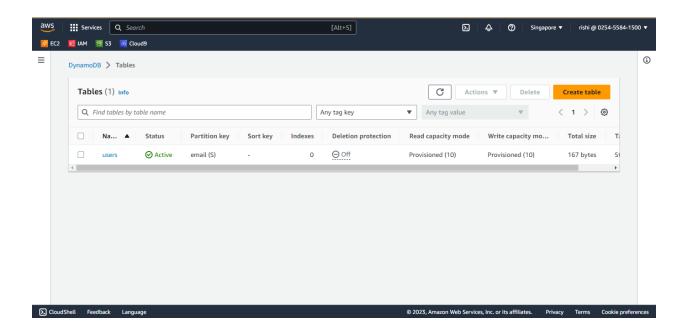
Implementation of the system

1) Setting up the environment

- Before starting to develop the system, first created a cloud9 environment and created a
 folder called "ETU-student-profile-app" inside this cloud9 environment. All the files
 related to the app will be in this folder.
- Downloaded the required resources such as boto3 and flask framework in the terminal.
- Created a templates folder to save all the html files here.
- A file named "key_config.py" is created and the account ID and region name is specified here.
- File named "dynamodb handler.py" for handling database operations.
- File named "app.py" for main server functionalities.
- File named "style.css" inside a folder called "static" for styling purposes.

2) Creating table in database

- A table called "users" was created with email being the partition key.
- To create it the function called "create_user_table" was created in the dynamodb_handler file and called it in the index route.
- Soon after creating the table this code was commented to make sure whenever index route is loaded it doesn't create new tables anymore.



3) Student signup

Every student must sign up before proceeding further. The system collects following information from every student:

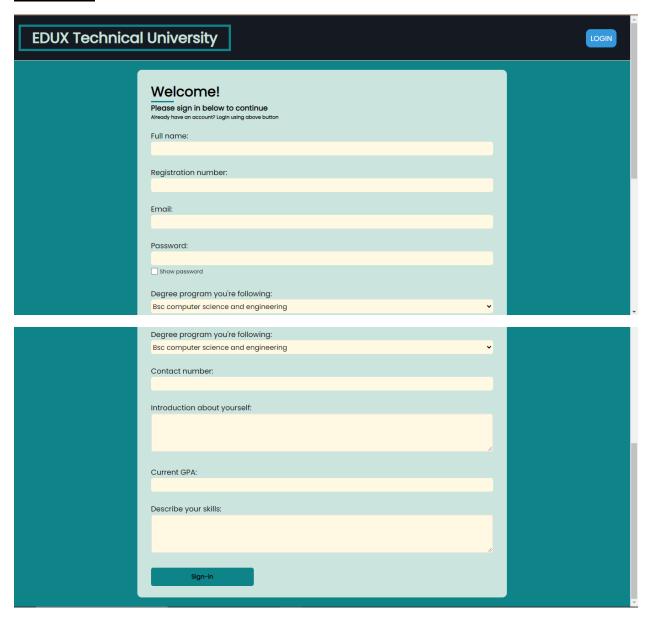
- Full name: The full name of the student
- **Registration number:** This is given by the ETU for every student when they register for the degree program. This number must be a 4-digit value. The input field is validated so the user can only enter values ranging from 1000 9999.
- Email: Email of the user.
- **Password:** The password for the account. The user can check and confirm the password before submitting by **clicking the show password checkbox**.
- Degree Program: This is a dropdown menu which has 4 options available to select. (BSc computer science and engineering, BSc mechanical engineering, BSc civil engineering, BSc electrical engineering). The computer science option will be selected as default, but the user can change according to the program they follow.
- Contact: The telephone number of the student. Assuming this is a mobile No the
 input field is validated such the number must start with 07 and have 10 digits in
 total. Ex: 0719876542
- **Introduction:** The students can give a brief about themselves to the hiring people using this field.
- Current GPA: The GPA of the student.
- **Skills:** The students can list their skills to show their proficient areas.

All the fields must be filled out compulsorily and the user can click the signup to register.

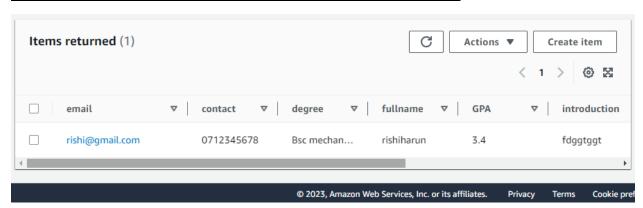
Implementation

- Firstly, created a form to enter and register students, named that file as 'sign-in.html' and saved it in the templates folder. Relevant stylings were also done.
- A function to add items to the user tables was created with user parameters and named that function as "add_items_to_user_table".
- Rendered this file in the index route.
- When the user enters the details and clicks sign-in button it'll route to "/signup" and function to add items is called here to save relevant details to the table. This entire process is done using the POST method.
- Then this function will render the login page at the end.

Sign-in page



After submitting the form, the data will be added to the users table.



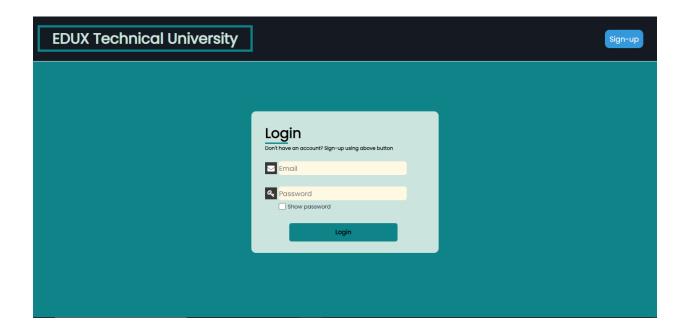
4) Student login

User will land on this page after signing in or when clicking already have account link. In the login page the user will have to enter the email address and password which they provided when signing in. If the credentials are correct, they will be allowed to view/edit their profile.

Implementation

- The login page was created by using HTML and CSS. The page was named "login.html".
- In the backend when the user enters the credentials and click login button it'll be routed to "/check".
- There the credentials will be validated. If the credentials are correct all the user details are loaded and returned along with the profile edit page.

Login page



5) a) User profile view/edit

• If the login is successful, the user will be directed to this page where they can view their details and if they wish to change anything it can be done here. Users can edit anything but not the email address.

Implementation

- Created a HTML file called "update.html" and added necessary style to it.
- The user details returned by the "/check" route was used to display relevant details in the "update.html".
- If the user wants to edit the profile, after entering relevant changes and clicking update button it'll be routed to "/update" to perform necessary action.
- At the front end the java script code will prevent the default submission and control the actions of the form.
- The user details' values will be stored in variables and all of them will be stored in a variable called "formdata" as objects.
- Then the "formdata" will be sent to "/update" route using the fetch API as PUT request.
- In the dynamodb_handler file a function to update table item was written and named as "update_user_profile."
- In the app.py this function is used to update user details which were received from fetch API and send it to the database using PUT method.
- The user will get an alert saying updated successfully after request is sent.

5) b) Profile picture upload

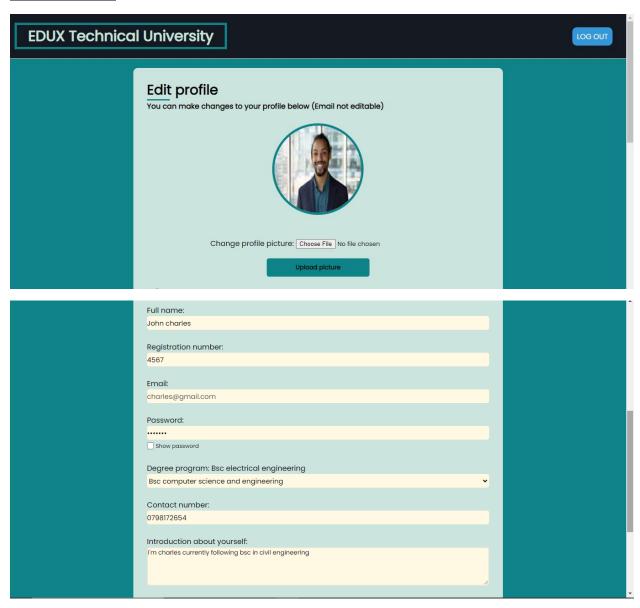
• This is the main feature of phase 2. Previously in the edit profile the users could only edit their details. But now they can upload a picture of themselves.

<u>Implementation</u>

- Created a bucket called profile-image-upload.
- When the user registers, they will be assigned a default picture which they won't notice.
 This is because when they login rather the image being empty the default picture will be loaded. So, this default picture was uploaded in the bucket after creating it.

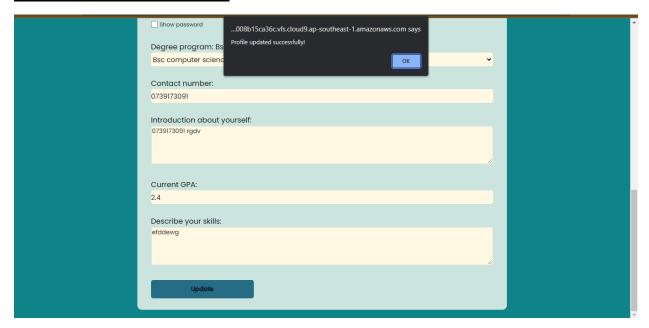
- Adding necessary code to display the picture and allowing the user to change it in the "update.html."
- When the user chooses the picture and click "Upload picture" it'll route to "/upload".
- There the picture is uploaded to the bucket and the object URL is created and stored in the table.
- Then the page will return the new profile picture.

View/edit page.

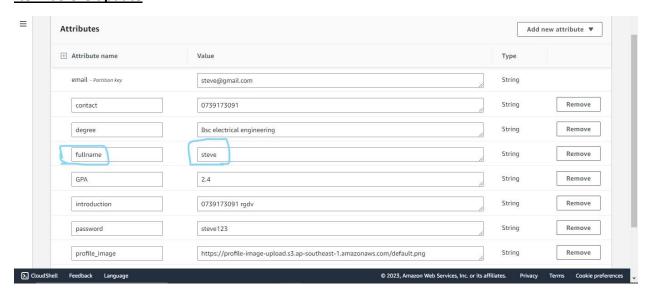




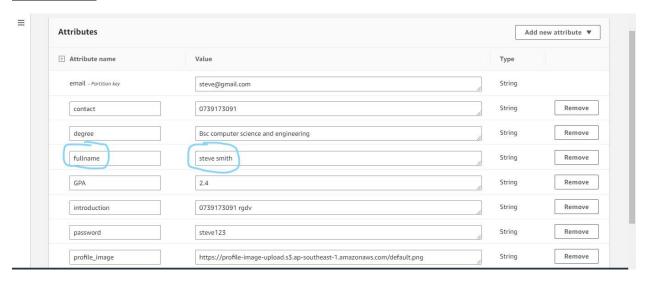
After clicking the update button.



Item before update



After update



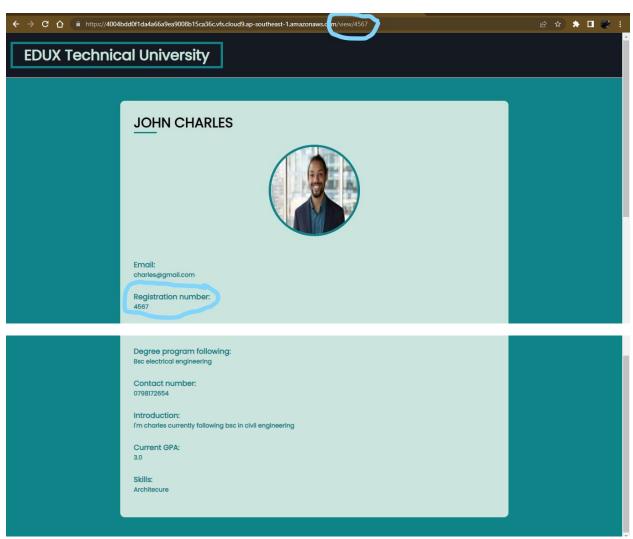
6) Profile public view

The profile of the student can be viewed by using the registration number when requested in the URL. When "/view/ (registration number)" is typed in URL a view of the profile is returned if a profile exists in requested registration number.

Implementation

- Created an HTML file for the public view and added relevant styles to it.
- Created a function called get_user_profile in the dynamodb_handler file.
- In the app.py it'll call the above function and get user information using the GET method and returning the view.html file along with the user details.

Public view page



7) Deployment of the app

- Created an EC2 instance called flask-server with Ubuntu server.
- Connected that instance and downloaded necessary resources. (Python, flask, boto3, Apache)
- Created a directory to import the source code and linked that directory to "/var/www/html".
- Imported the source code from GitHub using the git clone method.
- Created the flaskapp.wsgi file added relevant implementation to it.
- Added a few code lines to Apache configuration file.
- Finally restarted the server.

Updates on phase 2 than previous phase

- User image upload
- Change in the user interface. (Header, change in interface colors.)
- Notification messages on login page. (When registration is complete a success message will be displayed, also if username or password is incorrect it will also be notified to the user using jinja templates.)