# Overview

The goal of this project is to create a Reddit clone using microservices. The REST (REpresentational State Transfer) architectural design for web APIs is used to make requests to the database in the form of a JSON blob. These web services are created using Python and Flask.

# Teams

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
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# Production Stack

This project is written in Python 3 and the deployment environment is in Tuffix (Xubuntu). You can check the version of Python by running the command python3 --version If Python 3 is not installed you can get it using the command sudo apt-get install python3 Once you have installed Python check the version of Pip you have by running the command pip3 --version Python includes Pip upon installation but if Pip cannot be found you can install it using the sudo apt-get install pip3 command. The database is handled by the microservices using SQLite3 and is viewed using API requests, DB Browser for SQLite, or any database viewer of your choice. For this project we are using DB Browser for SQLite. CURL (Client URL Request Library) requests are created using Postman. Requests update/retrieve information to/from the database. The retrieved information is outputted in JSON format.

These are the libraries/dependencies that are required for the project to run and test it. A shell script is provided at the end of the SETUP section to easily install all of them.

* Flask
* Gunicorn 3
* Caddy
* Foreman

# **Architecture**

A close up of a map

Description automatically generated

### Hosts

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Environment** | **Microservice** | **Hostname** |
| Test | Post | http://127.0.0.1:5000 |
| Test | User | http://127.0.0.1:5000 |
|  |  |  |
| Prod | Post | http://localhost:2015/posts |
| Prod | User | http://localhost:2015/users |

### Caddy configuration

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Post Microservice Proxy (Production) | User Microservice Proxy (Production) |
| 127.0.0.1:5000  127.0.0.1:5001  127.0.0.1:5002 | 127.0.0.1:5100  127.0.0.1:5101  127.0.0.1:5102 |

# Setup

These instructions will only work for Linux based distributions, specifically Tuffix. These steps will help create a working environment while installing all libraries and dependences.

Open a terminal and create a directory:

$ mkdir reddit\_clone

Change the current directory:

$ cd reddit\_clone/

Clone repository:

$ git clone https://github.com/antonio-lopez/cspc-449-project-1.git

Change the current directory:

$ cd cspc-449-project-1/

Create a virtual environment:

$ python3 -m venv ENV

Activate the virtual environment:

$ source ENV/bin/activate

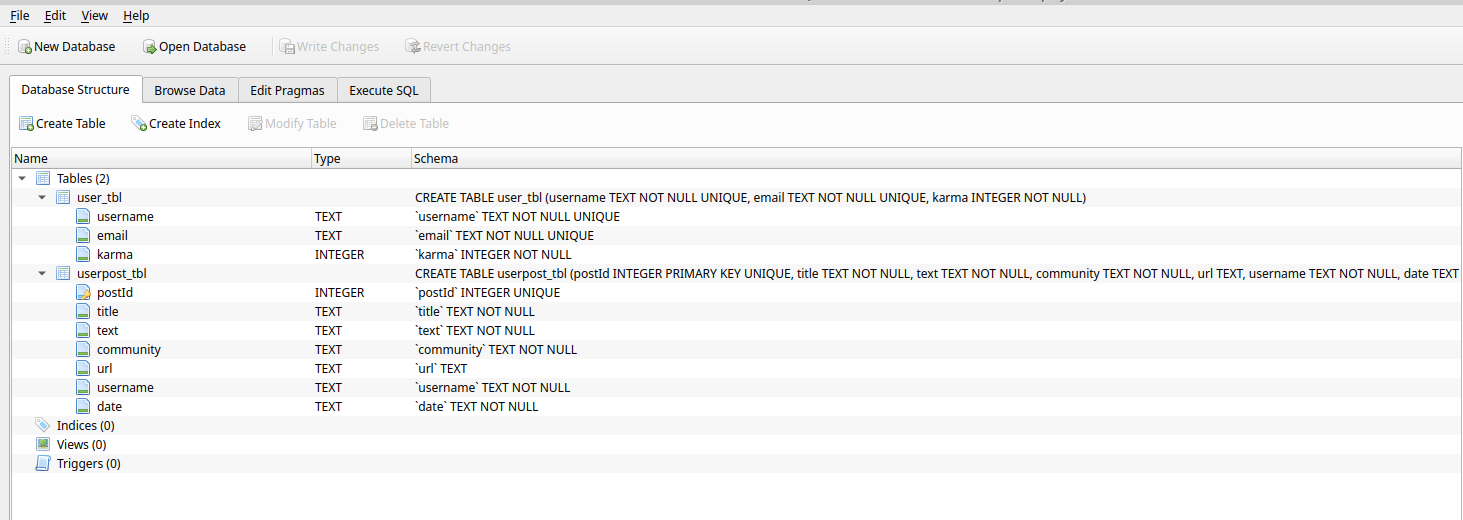
Create the database by running the python file:

$ python3 create\_db.py

Run shell script to download and install requirements:

$ bash requirements.sh

Open DB Browser to verify the Database has been created:



# Run

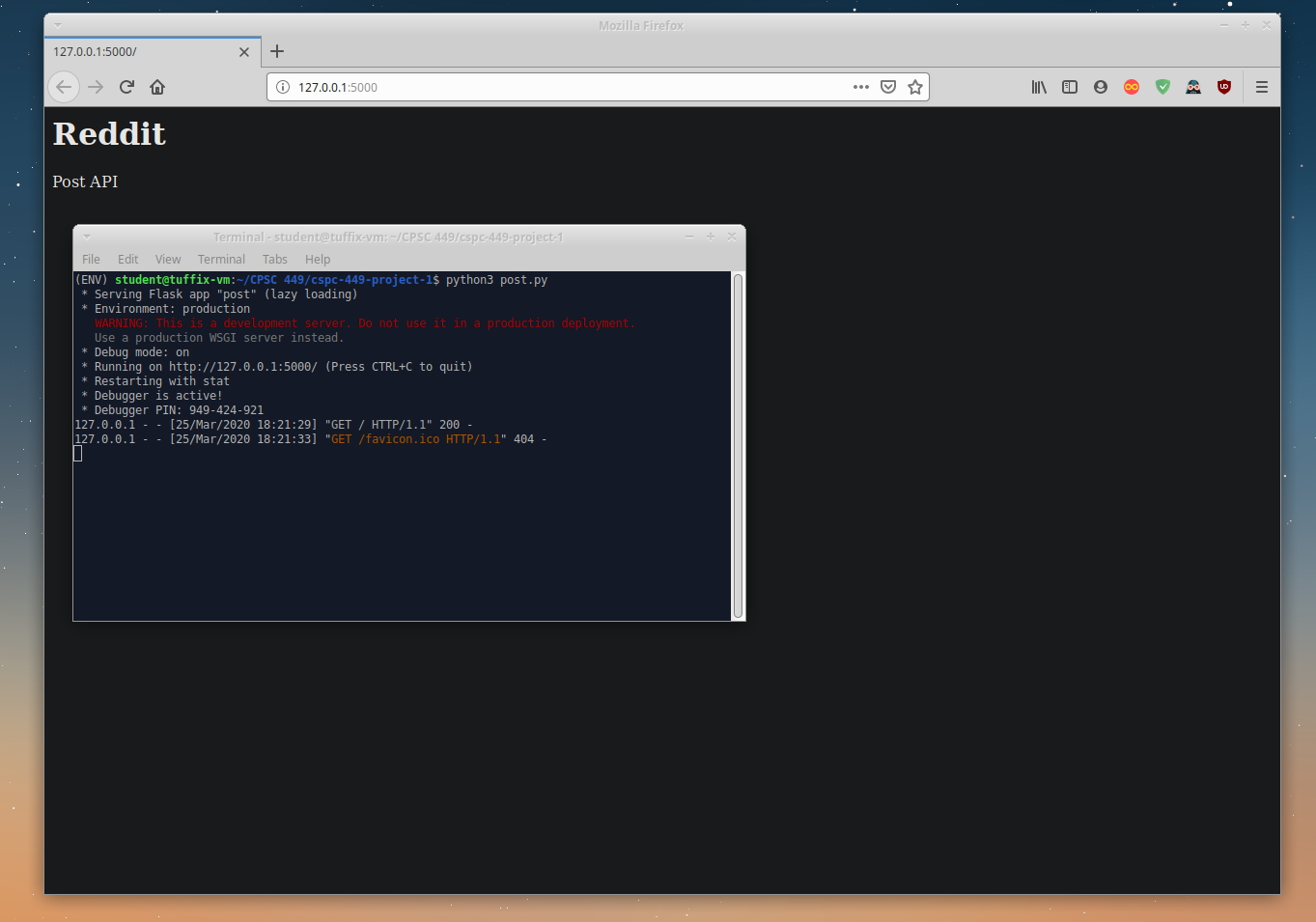
To verify the setup is complete run either the Post (post.py) or User (user.py) microservice.

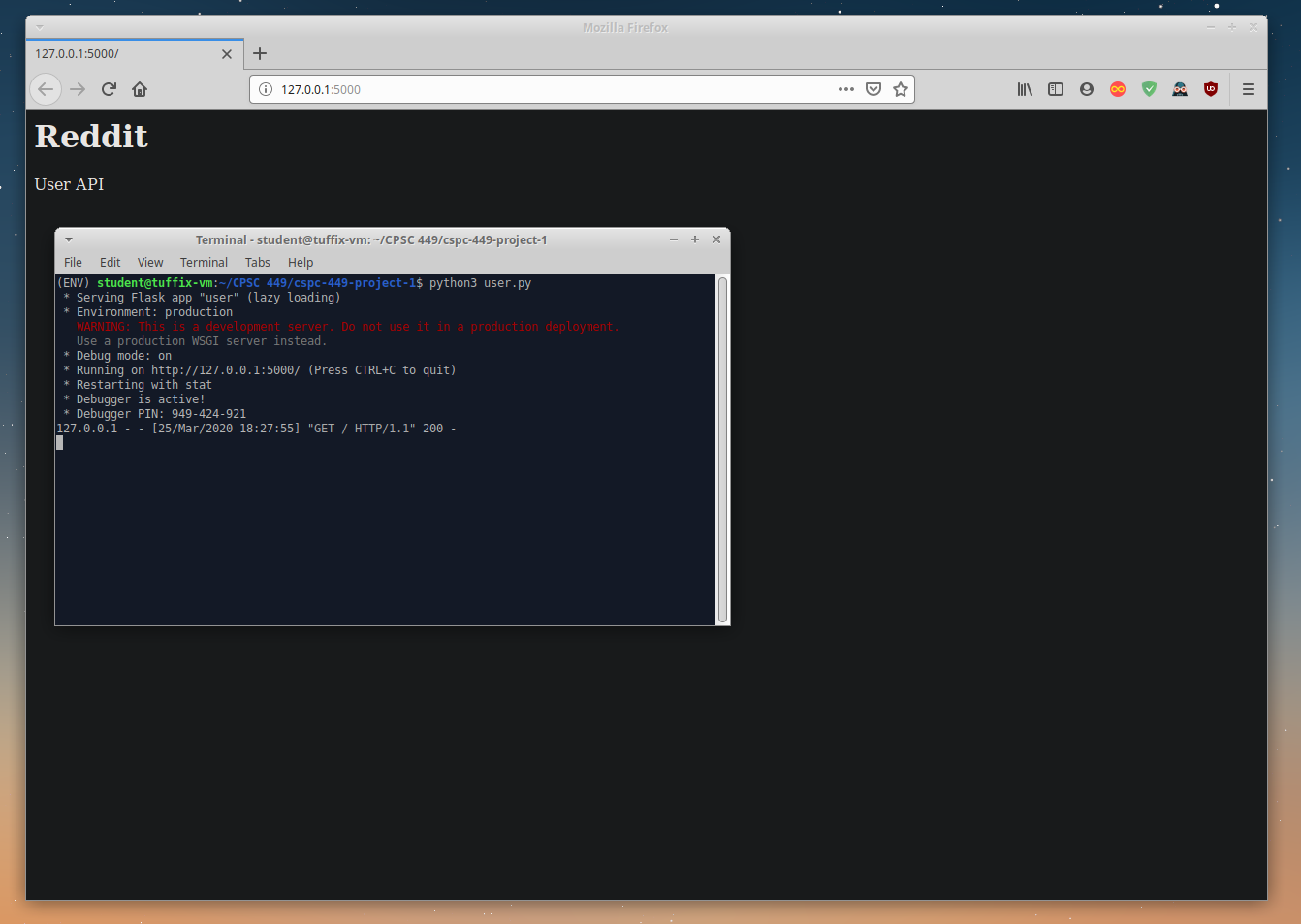
$ python3 post.py

Or

$ python3 user.py

Follow the link provided (ctrl + left click). Your browser will open with the main page greeting for the chosen microservice.





# Testing

Testing can be done in either non-production or production. In the initial testing for either, make sure you are using a newly created database. The testing scripts create new users and posts. If you are following the instructions and have completed the SETUP and RUN sections continue with testing. If the database is populated, delete it and create a new one using the $ python3 create\_db.py command.

### Testing (Non-production):

Non-production testing is done using the Flask Development Server.

Post Microservice Testing:

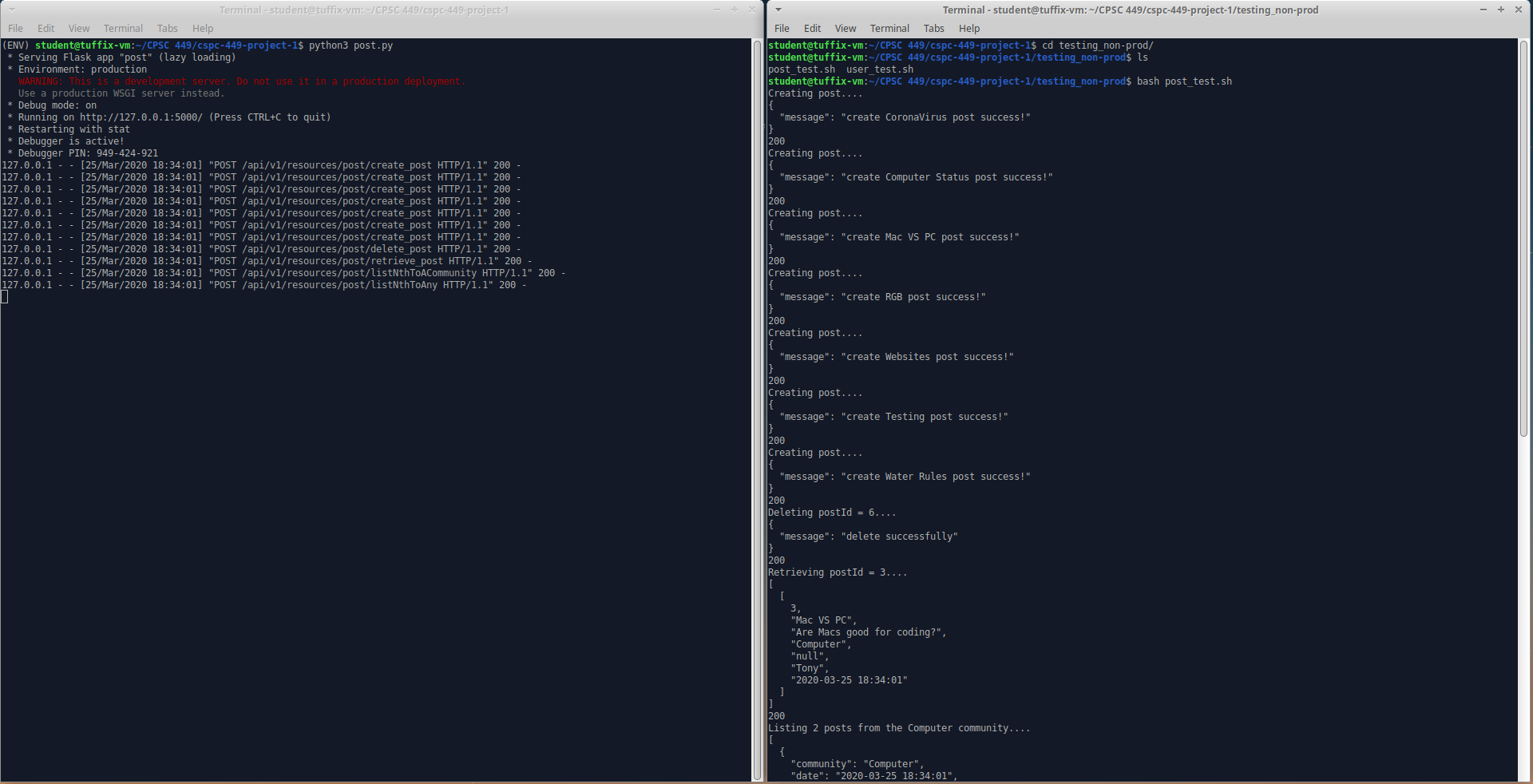
Run the Post microservice on a terminal:

$ python3 post.py

Open a new terminal, change to the testing directory, and run the Post testing shell script:

$ cd testing\_non-prod/

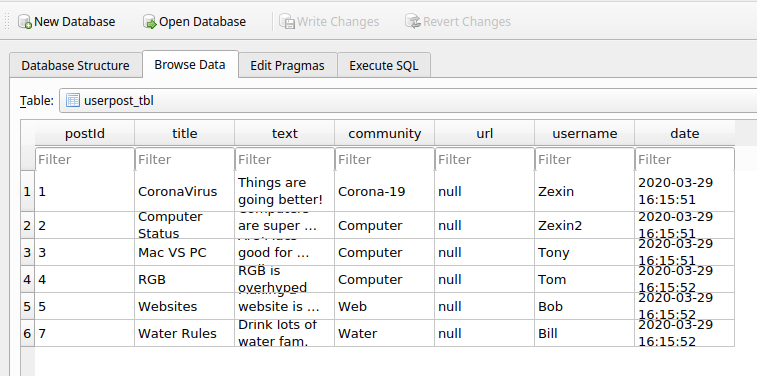
$ bash post\_test.sh



Running the script tests the following API requests:

* Create a new post
* Delete an existing post given a postId
* Retrieve an existing post given a postId
* List the n most recent posts to a particular community
* List the n most recent posts to any community

To verify if the posts were added to your database, open DB Browser and select the “Browse Data” tab and select the “userpost\_tbl” table.



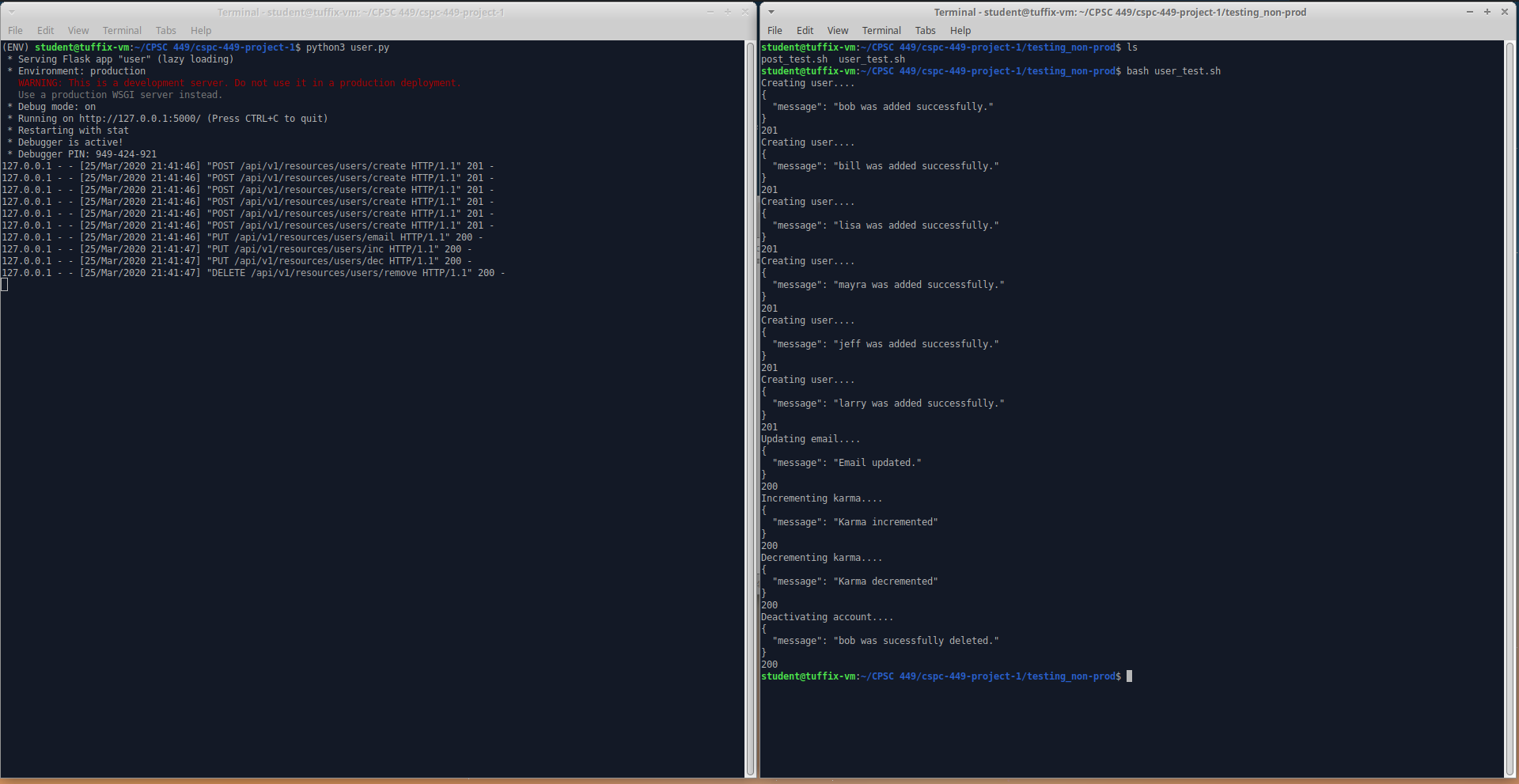
User Microservice Testing:

Cancel the Post microservice and run the User microservice:

$ python3 user.py

On the other terminal run the User testing shell script:

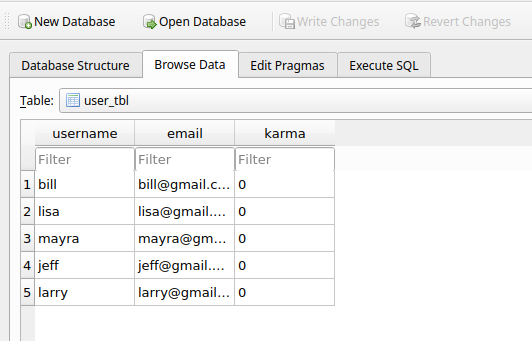
$ bash user\_test.sh



Running the script tests the following API requests:

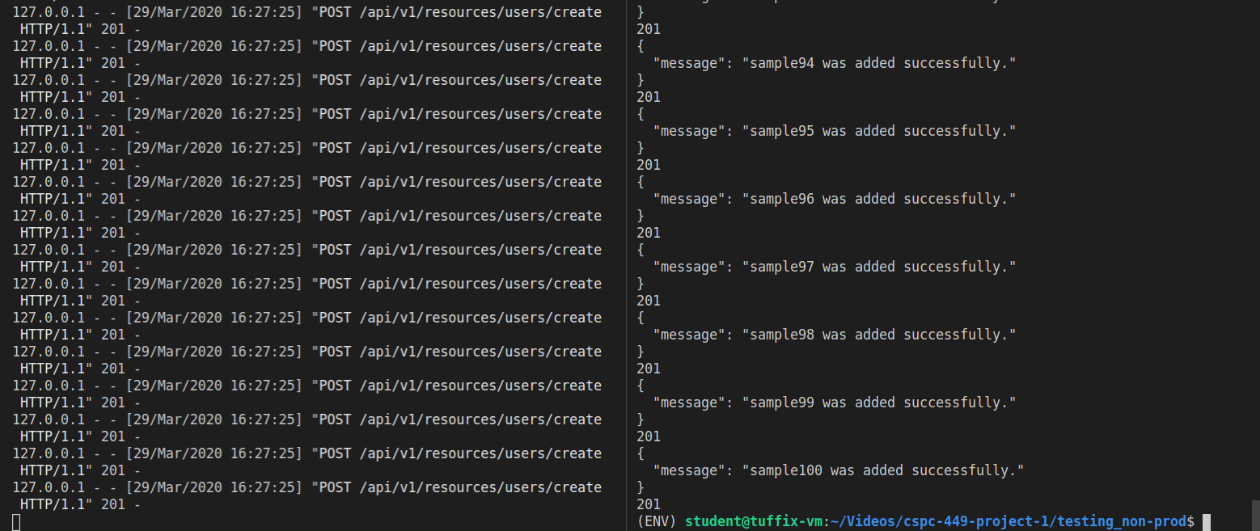
* Create user
* Update email
* Increment Karma
* Decrement Karma
* Deactivate account

Check DB Browser to verify if the data was inserted into the database by selecting the “user\_tbl” table.

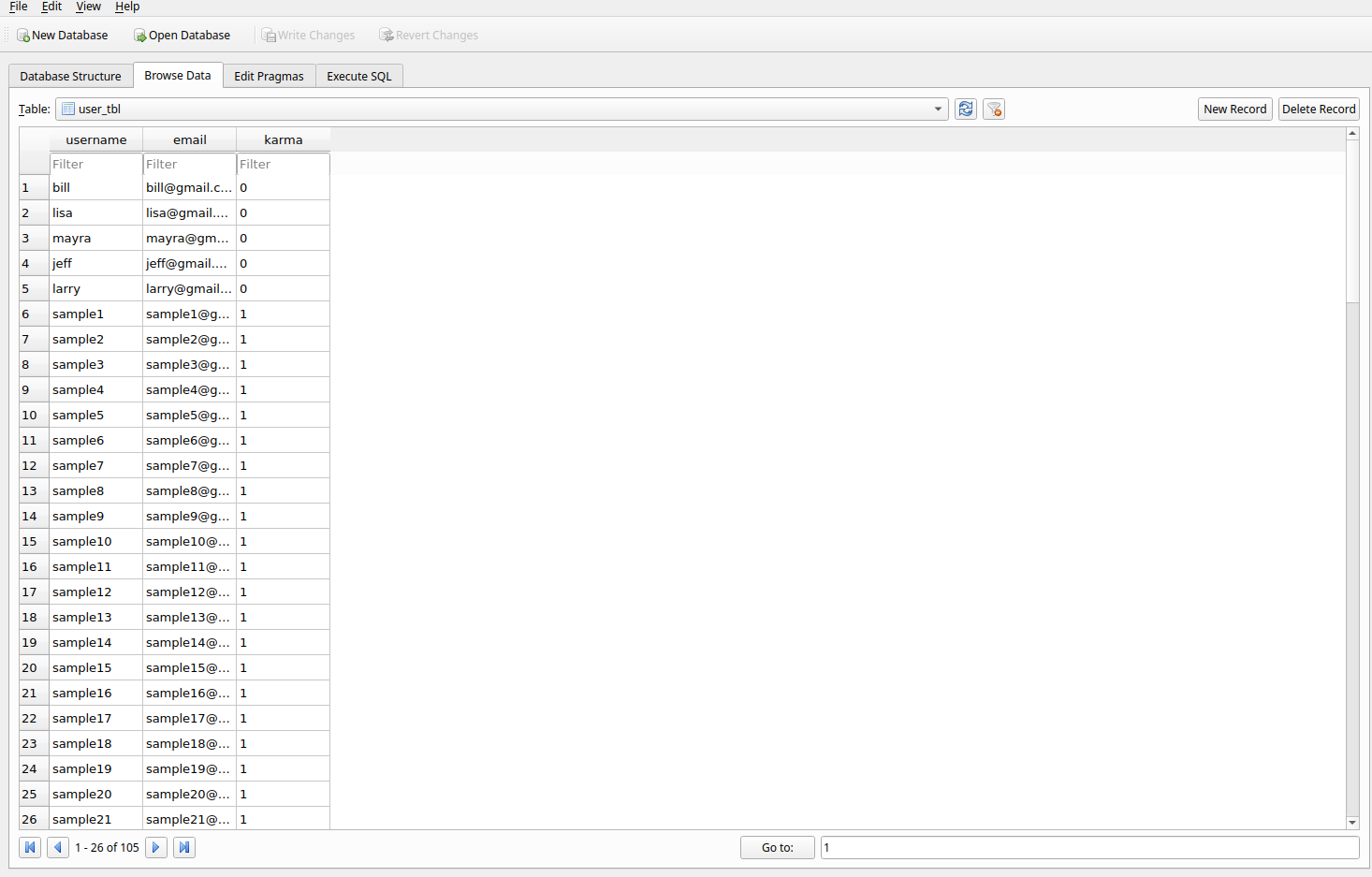


On the same terminal where you ran the User testing shell script, run the 100 Users Test shell script:

$ bash 100\_users\_test.sh



Refresh DB Browser and verify the 100 users were added to the database:



### Testing (Production)

Production testing is done using a WSGI server called Gunicorn. Foreman is used to run a Procfile that manages the Gunicorn and Caddy processes for each microservice. 3 instances are created for each microservice. The Caddyfile proxies’ direct requests for “http://localhost:2015/posts” to the Posts microservice and requests for “http://localhost:2015/users” to the Users microservice. It also handles the load balancing method which in this case is round robin.

Post Microservice Testing:

Open 4 terminals, be sure to activate the virtual environment for each terminal using the $ source ENV/bin/activate command.

On one terminal run Foreman for the Post microservice:

$ foreman start -m posts=3

On the second terminal run Foreman for the User microservice:

$ foreman start -m users=3

On the third terminal run the Caddyfile:

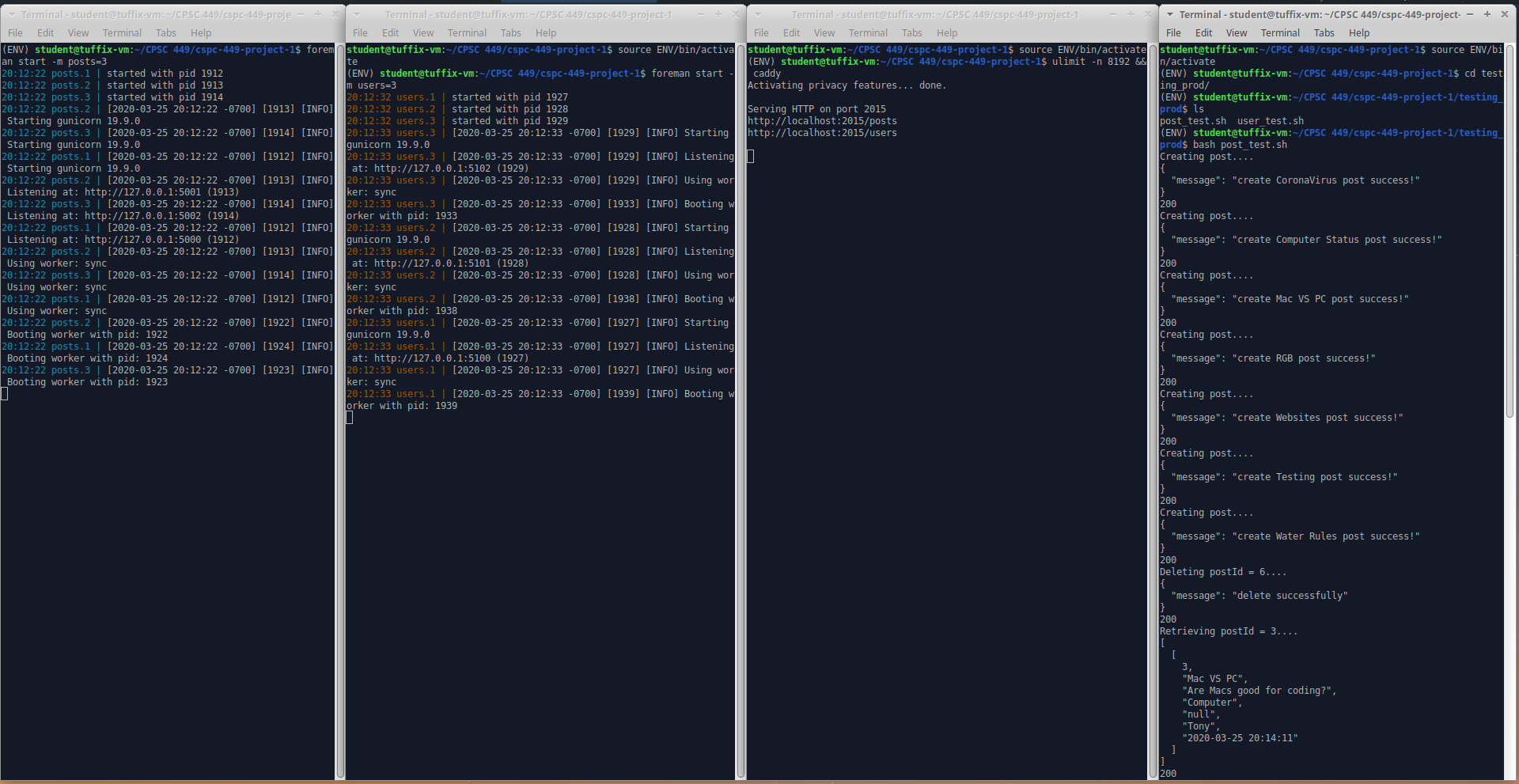
$ ulimit -n 8192 && caddy

On the fourth terminal change to the testing\_prod directory

and run the Post testing shell script:

$ cd testing\_prod/

$ bash post\_test.sh

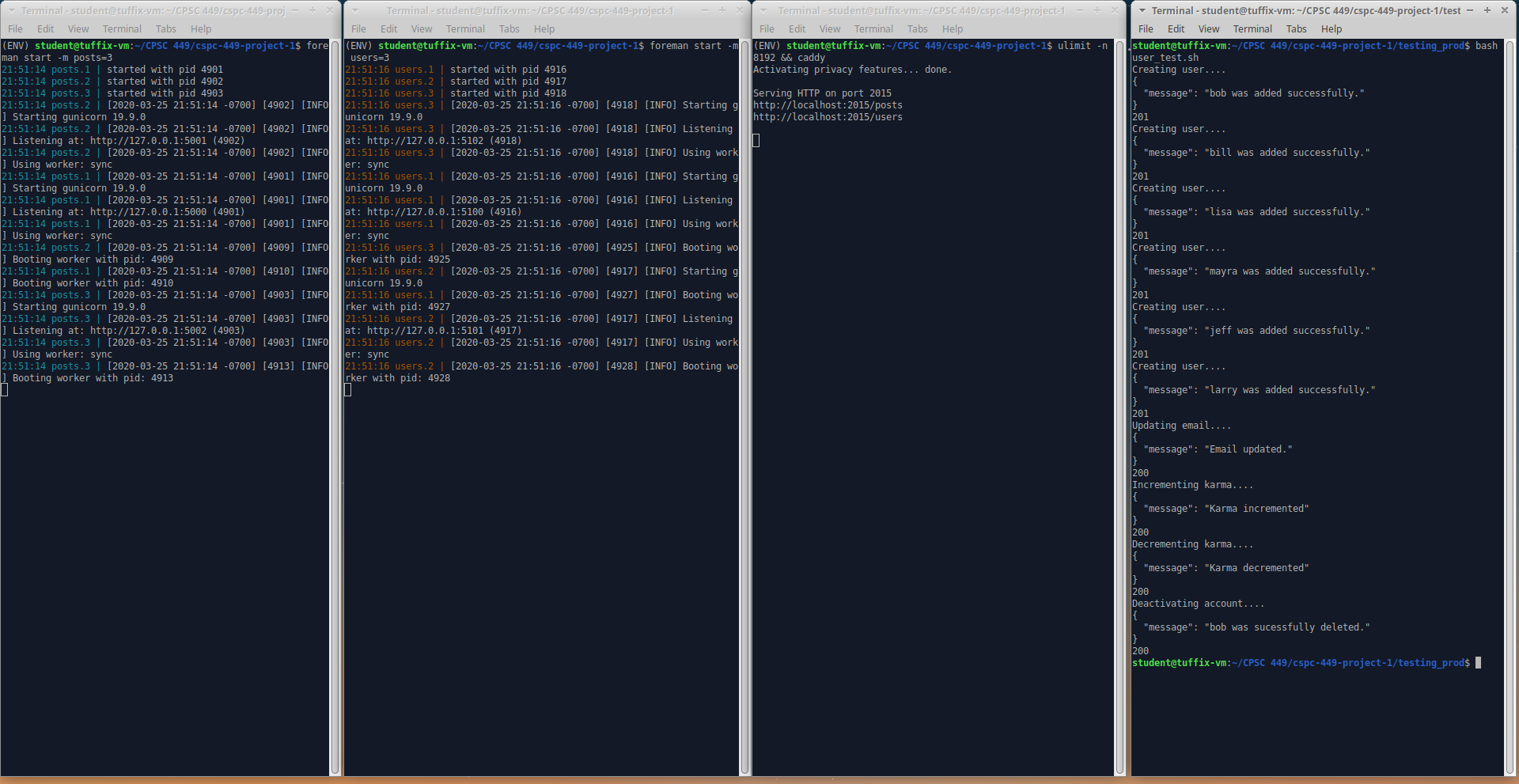


Check DB Browser to verify if the data was inserted into the database.

User Microservice Testing:

Cancel the Post testing shell script and run the User testing shell script:

$ bash user\_test.sh



Check DB Browser to verify if the data was inserted into the database.

# API Requests

CURL commands for User microservice (non-production)

* For production commands, change http://127.0.0.1:5000 🡪 http://localhost:2015/users
* Ex: http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/users/create 🡪 http://localhost:2015/users/api/v1/resources/users/create

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HTTP Method | CURL Command Example |
| POST | #Create user  curl --location --request POST 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/users/create' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"email":"bob@gmail.com","username":"bob","karma":"0"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| PUT | #Update email  curl --location --request PUT 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/users/email' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"username":"bob","email":"b@gmail.com"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| PUT | #Increment Karma  curl --location --request PUT 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/users/inc' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"username":"bob"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| PUT | #Decrement Karma  curl --location --request PUT 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/users/dec' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"username":"bob"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| DELETE | #Deactivate account  curl --location --request DELETE 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/users/remove' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"username":"bob"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |

CURL commands for Post microservice (non-production)

* For production commands, change http://127.0.0.1:5000 🡪 http://localhost:2015/posts
* Ex: http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/post/create\_post 🡪 http://localhost:2015/posts/api/v1/resources/post/create\_post

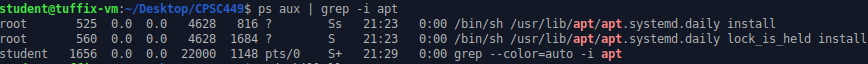
|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HTTP Method | CURL Commands Example |
| POST | #Create a new post  curl --location --request POST 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/post/create\_post' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"community": "Corona-19", "text": "Things are going better!", "title": "CoronaVirus", "url": "null", "username": "Zexin"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| DELETE | #Delete an existing post  curl --location --request DELETE 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/post/delete\_post' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"postId": "6"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| GET | # Retrieves a post based on the id of a post  curl --location --request GET 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/post/retrieve\_post' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"postId": "3"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| GET | #List the n most recent posts to a particular community  curl --location --request GET 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/post/listNthToACommunity' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"nth": 2,"community": "Computer"}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |
| GET | #List the n most recent posts to any community  curl --location --request GET 'http://127.0.0.1:5000/api/v1/resources/post/listNthToAny' \  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \  --data-raw '{"nth": 5}' \  --write-out '%{http\_code}\n' |

# Supplemental Issues

### Virtual Machine Issues in Setup

Tuffix is known to have some errors when trying to download, update, or install many packages at a given time. If you are having locking issues when trying to install packages/dependences in the virtual environment, follow the instructions below.

See which processes are running:

$ ps aux | grep -I apt

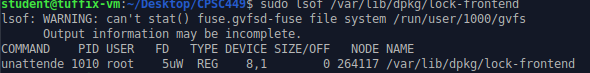
Kill all root processes:

$ sudo kill <PID>



To kill the remaining process, we must identify the real PID of the process in the lock-frontend folder

$ sudo lsof /var/lib/dpkg/lock-frontend



Kill all the remaining process with PID you discovered from the previous command

$ sudo kill <PID>

Everything should be good to go. Install virtual environment with this command

$ sudo apt-get install python3-venv