Opening

For this project I wanted to originally add on to my last project by adding a music player to the Spotify API and library I already had made. However, I quickly realized I would not be able to integrate firebase into this. I then tried to make a music player from scratch and add the Spotify API later and that did not end up working out. After that fell through, I decided to take a completely different direction by making a chatting app that would be a WhatsApp clone of sorts. I wanted to make a chat bot that the user could interact with, instead I decided to have induvial users make friends. I think the firebase integration will be the hardest part of the application. The UI will be the easiest part to make.

Submission Reflection (git commits)

Commit 1: eee3b6b7dfc42053f7acf197f6b6d97bf009aa87

I have added the file structure I will be using during the project's development. I have also added images that will be used for the application. I will be adding the firebase configuration file next.

Commit 2: b2b4e9d607b49de5d410ff6dde86658a54dc256f

I added the firebase config file. After adding this config file, I need to add the firebase integration functions and this will be very challenging.

Commit 3: e6b2287eea82f8921d1a606997728fb5cbb3327c

I have added the firebase integration functions and can add and delete users from the database. This proved to be very challenging and took way too much time. Now that I have that functionality, I need to add the GUI for the sign in and signup pages.

Commit 4: 3b8c9fa120d51a4ce8eca576e96fdd2e92b37072

I have added the sign in and signup pages. Now that I have added that I need to redirect the user to the actual messages page after they login. However, for the time being after I click signup, the page freezes. I will troubleshoot that now.

Commit 5: e17608ad1da6fa3c5fe44ad34ac39079b6bebec2

I simply took a break from troubleshooting to instead add a animation for a spinning logo on the load up of the login page. Now that I have this animation, I cannot reach the login screen. I will continue to try and get the login screen to show up after the animation.

Commit 6: 998dcb1ce68fa05458d56e13b334ae30e8fb451b

I got the login screen to show up after the opening animation. I still cannot sign in without the app freezing. I suspect it is due to firebase integration being messed up for some reason.

Commit 7: 941aa56799c1c82d3a8f8fcf0fe3da3f44b31289

I finally got the app to move past the login screen. I figured out that I forgot to set my read and write values in firebase to true. After that everything started to work, and my app is complete.

Commit 8: a06c99bd7d3fa418830961ab4b4e5096e0f748e9

Cleaned up my code a little bit and added instructions on how to start in my readme.

Commit 9: 8fada03b58ece4a738cd108a6d49ee61cf58f226

I updated the firebase config file with a fresh database. After that I tested if everything still worked, and it did so now I am finally finished with this project.

Conclusion

I had a lot of trouble with this application. I didn't fully understand how to add and delete elements from firebase until very late in the project. This caused a lot of problems when trying to troubleshoot the app. I am proud of myself for completing this project even if it did take a great deal of effort to figure out. If I had the time or knowledge, I would turn this into a chat bot type of app. Right now, the app requires multiple accounts to be able to message each other so if I could have an AI to do the return messaging. This project was a little bit harder than the previous one due to the integration with firebase and needing to see changes in that database. I overall enjoyed the result of the last project more if I am being completely honest. I am more of a fan of my music app than my chat app. If there were more users on my app it would be a different story because as it is now I need to create all the accounts myself.