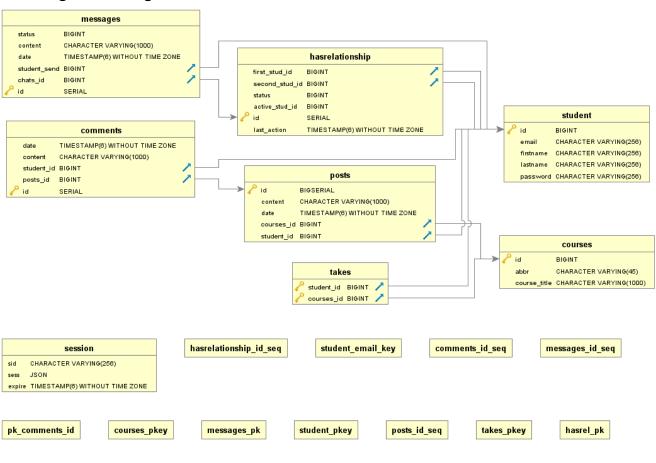
Report

"FriendZone" web application

Introduction

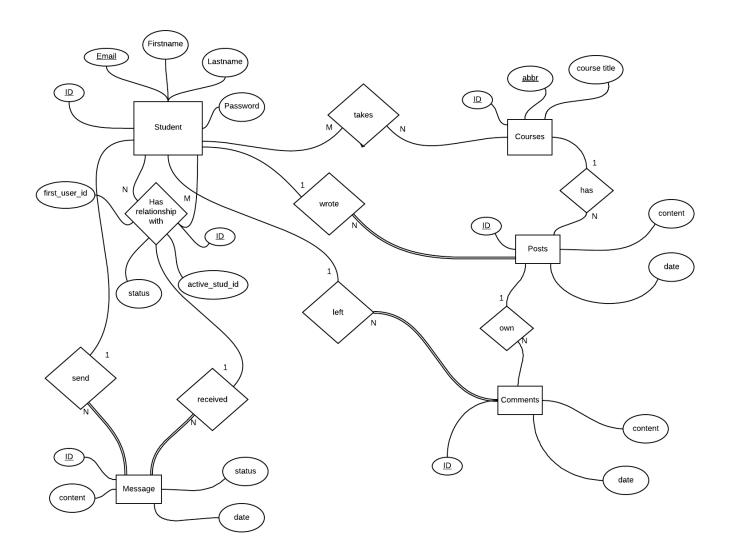
The project is called "FriendZone" (web application) and designed for students of Nazarbayev University. The main goal of the project was to create social network, where students may discuss course related things. There are separate group for each course, so that a student may join several groups and make discussion with other students who also take these courses. Also, there is a one-to-one chat where two students can converse.

High-level design



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Database design



Methodology

The whole project was based on Nodejs. Also, many other frameworks for Nodejs were used during the development of front-end (client side) and back-end (server side):

- Express framework for creating routes, APIs;
- Passport framework for authentication services;
- Connect-pg-simple framework for making connection with PostgreSQL database;
- Bcrypt framework for encrypting passwords of users;
- Socket.io framework for making socket connection between front-end and back-end;
- Angular 4 framework for designing client side;
- Prime-ng framework for Angular 4 to manage a data;

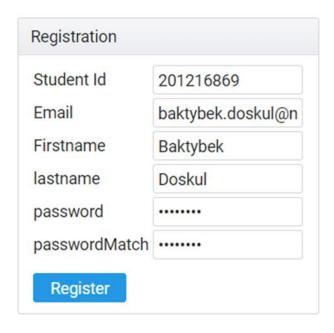
The server side was based on Expressjs, while the client side was based on Angular 4. PostgreSQL was chosen as DBMS.

GUI

Authorization	
Login	baktybek.doskul@nu.edu
Password	
Signin	Register

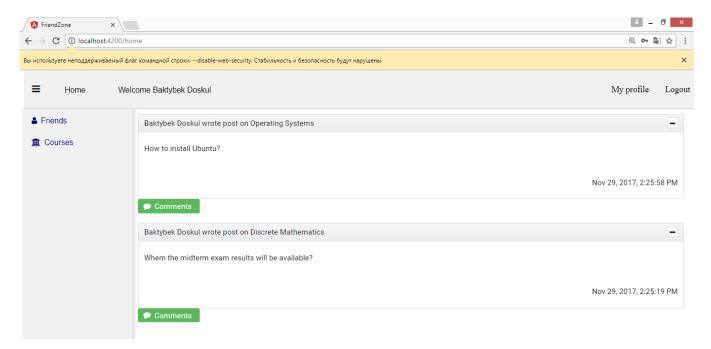
'SELECT * FROM student WHERE email=\$1', [username]

To authenticate a user, we find users with the given username and compare passwords.



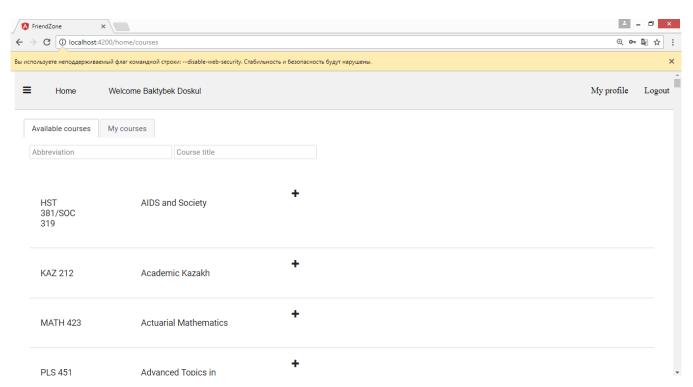
'INSERT INTO student (id, email, firstname, lastname, password) VALUES (\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5)', [student.id, student.email, student.firstname, student.lastname, hash]

To register a new user, we insert the information of user into student table.



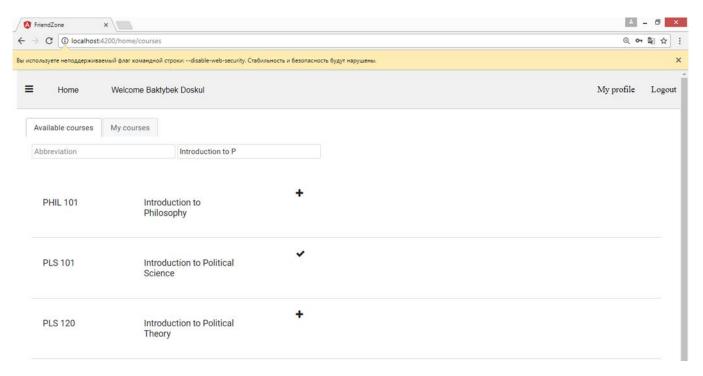
'SELECT c.id as course_id, c.abbr, c.course_title, p.id, p.student_id, p.date, p.content, s.firstname, s.lastname, s.email FROM courses c, posts p, takes t, student s WHERE p.student_id=s.id AND c.id=p.courses_id AND t.courses_id=c.id AND t.student_id=\$1 ORDER BY p.date DESC', [req.user.id]

In home page, the newest posts are shown. All posts from all courses, that user joined, are selected and ordered by date.



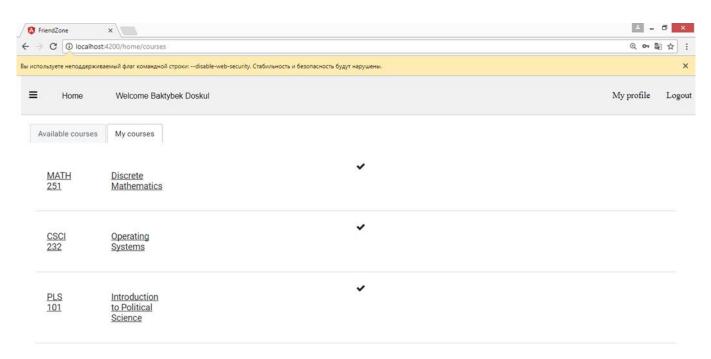
'SELECT c.id, c.abbr, c.course_title, t.student_id FROM courses c left outer join takes t on (c.id=t.courses_id AND t.student_id=\$1)', [req.user.id]

In 'courses' page, list of al courses are shown. There is button to 'select' or 'unselect' after each course. We select all courses from courses table and do left outer join with takes table in order to define, can user select this course or did user already select this course.



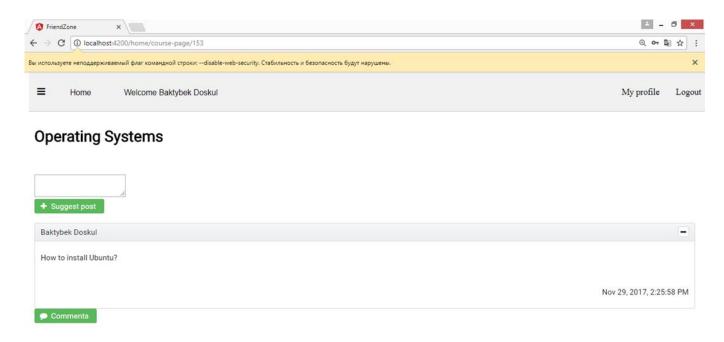
'INSERT INTO takes (student_id, courses_id) VALUES (\$1, \$2)', [req.user.id, req.body.courses_id]

When user clicks plus button, he/she selects the course. The query with appropriate parameters to insert new data into the takes table is send.



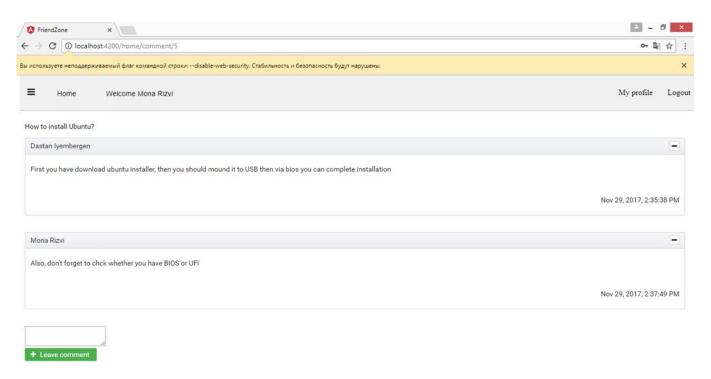
'SELECT c.id, c.abbr, c.course_title FROM takes t, courses c WHERE t.student_id=\$1 AND t.courses_id=c.id', [req.user.id]

In my courses page, the list of courses, that the user selected, are shown. To get this data from the database, we make inner join of tables takes and courses.



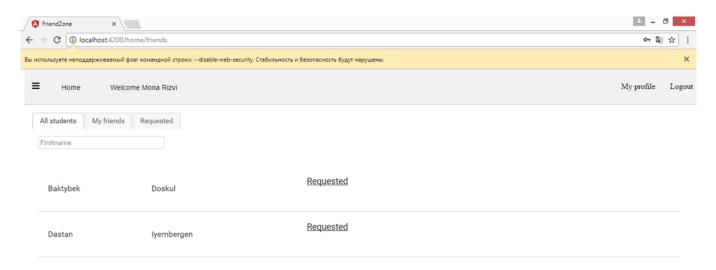
'SELECT p.id, p.content, p.date, p.student_id, s.firstname, s.lastname, s.email FROM posts p, student s WHERE p.student_id=s.id AND courses_id=\$1 ORDER BY date', [req.params.id]

In course page of one course, all posts of this course ordered by date are shown. We take all posts from posts table that have the same posts_id and make inner join to define the authors's name.



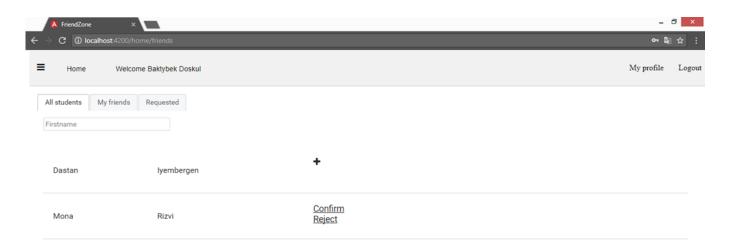
'SELECT c.id, c.content, c.date, c.student_id, s.firstname, s.lastname, s.email FROM comments c, student s WHERE c.student_id=s.id AND c.posts_id=\$1 ORDER BY date', [req.params.id]

When the user goes to comments of one post, all comments related to these post are shown. We get all comments from comments table with the same posts_id and make inner join with student table to define the author's name.



'SELECT s.id, s.firstname, s.lastname, s.email, h.status, h.active_stud_id FROM student s left outer join hasrelationship h on ((h.first_stud_id=\$1 AND h.second_stud_id=s.id) OR (h.first_stud_id=s.id AND h.second_stud_id=\$1)) WHERE s.id<>\$1 ORDER BY s.firstname, s.lastname', [req.user.id]

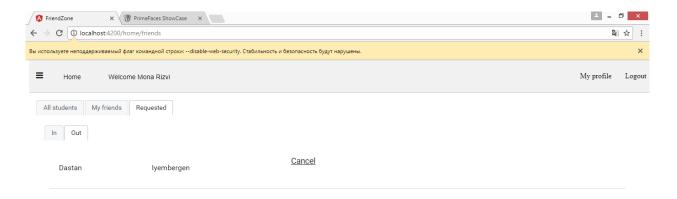
In all students page the list of all students are shown. We select all students from student table and make outer join with hasrelationship to define relationship with the user.



'INSERT INTO hasrelationship (first_stud_id, second_stud_id, status, active_stud_id) VALUES (\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4)', [firstId, secondId, 0, req.user.id]

'UPDATE hasrelationship SET status=0, active_stud_id=\$3 WHERE first_stud_id=\$1 AND second_stud_id=\$2', [firstId, secondId, req.user.id]

When the user sends request (to be friend) to another user, we insert new record into hasrelationship table, or update existing data if they had relationship before.



'SELECT s.id, s.email, s.firstname, s.lastname, s.id FROM hasrelationship h, student s WHERE (h.first_stud_id=\$1 OR h.second_stud_id=\$1) AND (h.first_stud_id=s.id OR h.second_stud_id=s.id) AND s.id<>\$1 AND h.status=0 AND h.active_stud_id<>\$1 ORDER BY h.last_action desc', [req.user.id]

'SELECT s.id, s.email, s.firstname, s.lastname, s.id FROM hasrelationship h, student s WHERE (h.first_stud_id=\$1 OR h.second_stud_id=\$1) AND (h.first_stud_id=s.id OR h.second_stud_id=s.id) AND s.id<>\$1 AND h.status=0 AND h.active_stud_id=\$1 ORDER BY h.last_action desc', [req.user.id]

'UPDATE hasrelationship SET status=1, last_action=now() WHERE first_stud_id=\$1 AND second_stud_id=\$2', [firstId, secondId]

'UPDATE hasrelationship SET status=null, active_stud_id=null WHERE first_stud_id=\$1 AND second_stud_id=\$2', [firstId, secondId]

In requested page, the user can see the list of requests in and requests out. All these information we get from hasrelationship table and separate request ins from request outs by active_user_id.

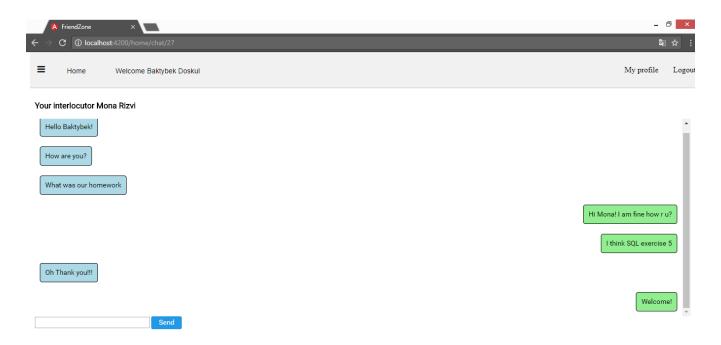
Also, the user can confirm request ins. We update the appropriate hasrelationship record by setting status to 1.

The user also may delete friends or cancel requests. We update the hasrelationship record by setting status to null.



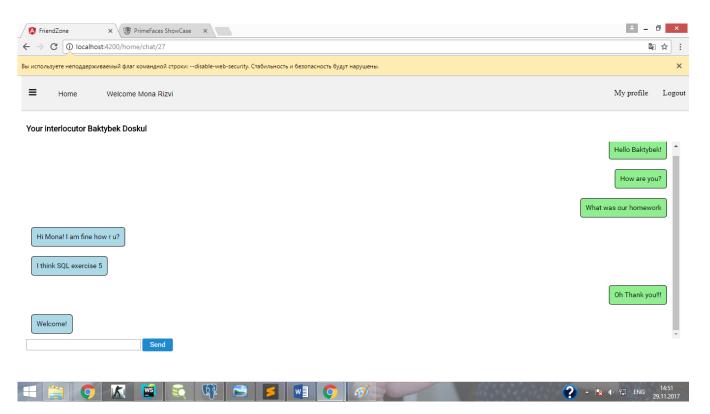
'SELECT h.id as chats_id, s.email, s.firstname, s.lastname, s.id FROM hasrelationship h, student s WHERE (h.first_stud_id=\$1 OR h.second_stud_id=\$1) AND (h.first_stud_id=s.id OR h.second_stud_id=s.id) AND s.id<>\$1 AND h.status=1 ORDER BY h.last_action desc', [req.user.id]

In my friends page, user can see the list of friends. We get this list from hasrelationship table joined with students table.



'SELECT student_send, chats_id, content FROM messages WHERE chats_id=\$1 ORDER BY id', [chats_id]

When user goes to chat, the history of all messages between users is loaded. We get this history from messages table by defining the chat's id.



'INSERT INTO messages (content, student_send, chats_id) VALUES (\$1, \$2, \$3)', [data.content, parseInt(socket.request.user.id), data.chats id]

When the user sends a message, the message immediately shown on the screen of the other user. Also, the message is saved in the database.

Development

The database design was discussed and created together. The back-end was mainly developed by Dastan, while the front-end was mainly developed by Baktybek. However, many aspects of both front and back-end were discussed and designed together.

The main difficulty with development was sockets. We could not develop chat features with only http requests, because chat should refresh every time when a message comes. So, we had to use socket.io. There were some issues with integrating soket.io with express and passport. In addition, we had not experience in using socket.io. However, we finally overcame these issues with additional frameworks.

The main issue in developing front-end was blocking unauthorized user (synchronizing sessions in client and server sides). This problem also was solved.

Generally, we had experience in web development before this project. However, many things were new for us. We have learned to use our knowledge, that we have gained in Database systems course, in practice. So, "FriendZone" was a great experience for us.