

Coucou - curated communication tool

HTW Berlin, Fachbereich 4, Informatik in Kultur und Gesundheit, Emerging Technologies
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Idea

Problem: Connecting with someone who has dementia can be challenging

Idea: Web-application for relatives and friends of dementia patients who cannot be there

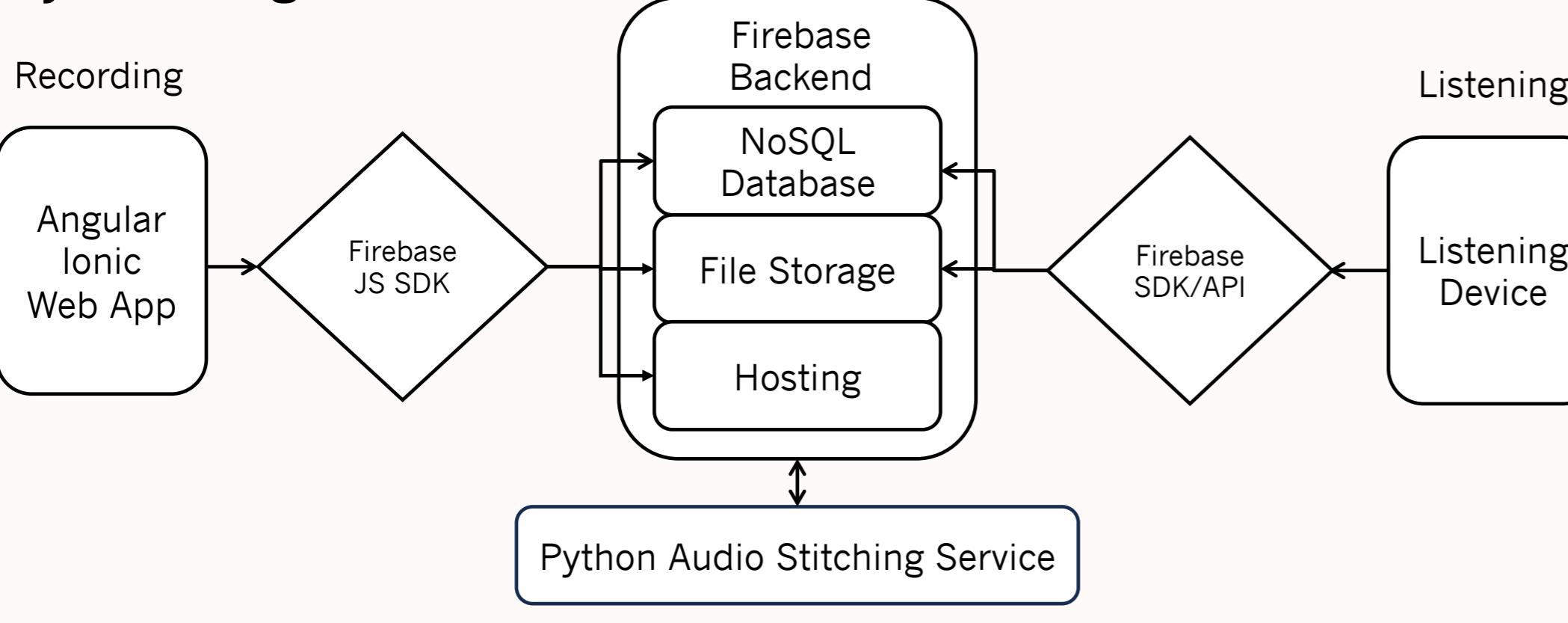
- Friends or relatives answer prompts on a specific topic → audio message is created from answers, narrated and embellished by hand-picked sounds for each topic

Aim: Revive shared memories and strengthen the bond between relatives and patients



System structure

System Diagram:



Components of audio message:

If the user skips any of the 3 voice messages, the including text and interlude are left out as well. The song at the end is optional.

[Intro]: "Hello, you have received a new voice message from..."

[Interlude], Text, Voice message

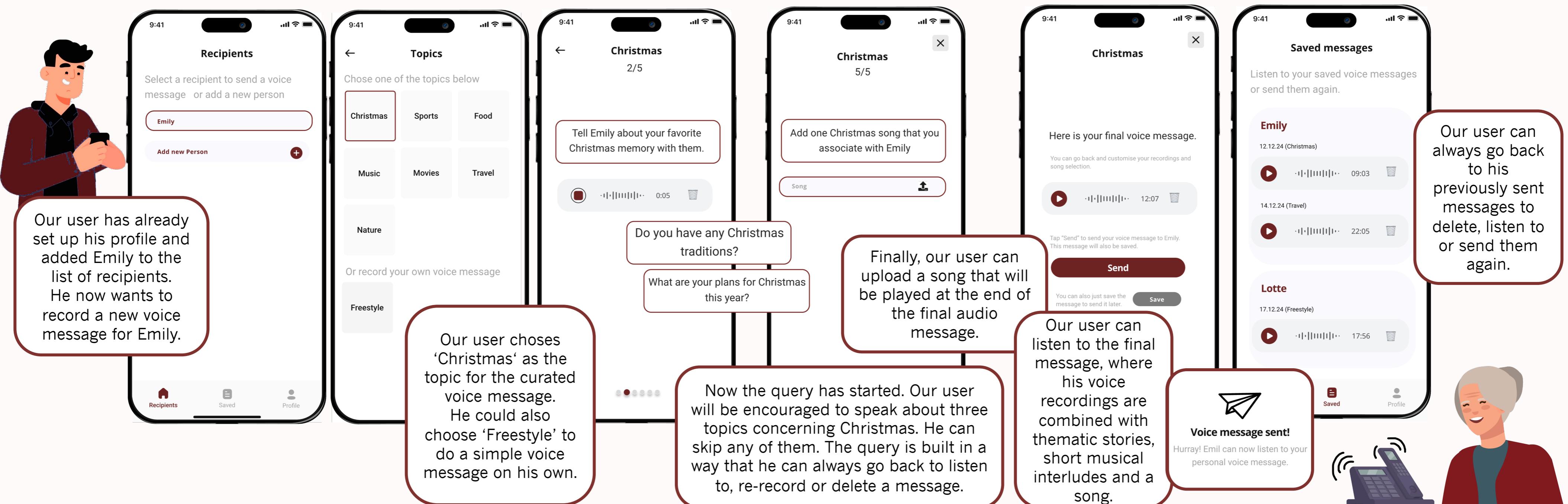
[Interlude], text, voice message

[Interlude], text, voice message

[Interlude], Outro: "This was a curated audio message by..."

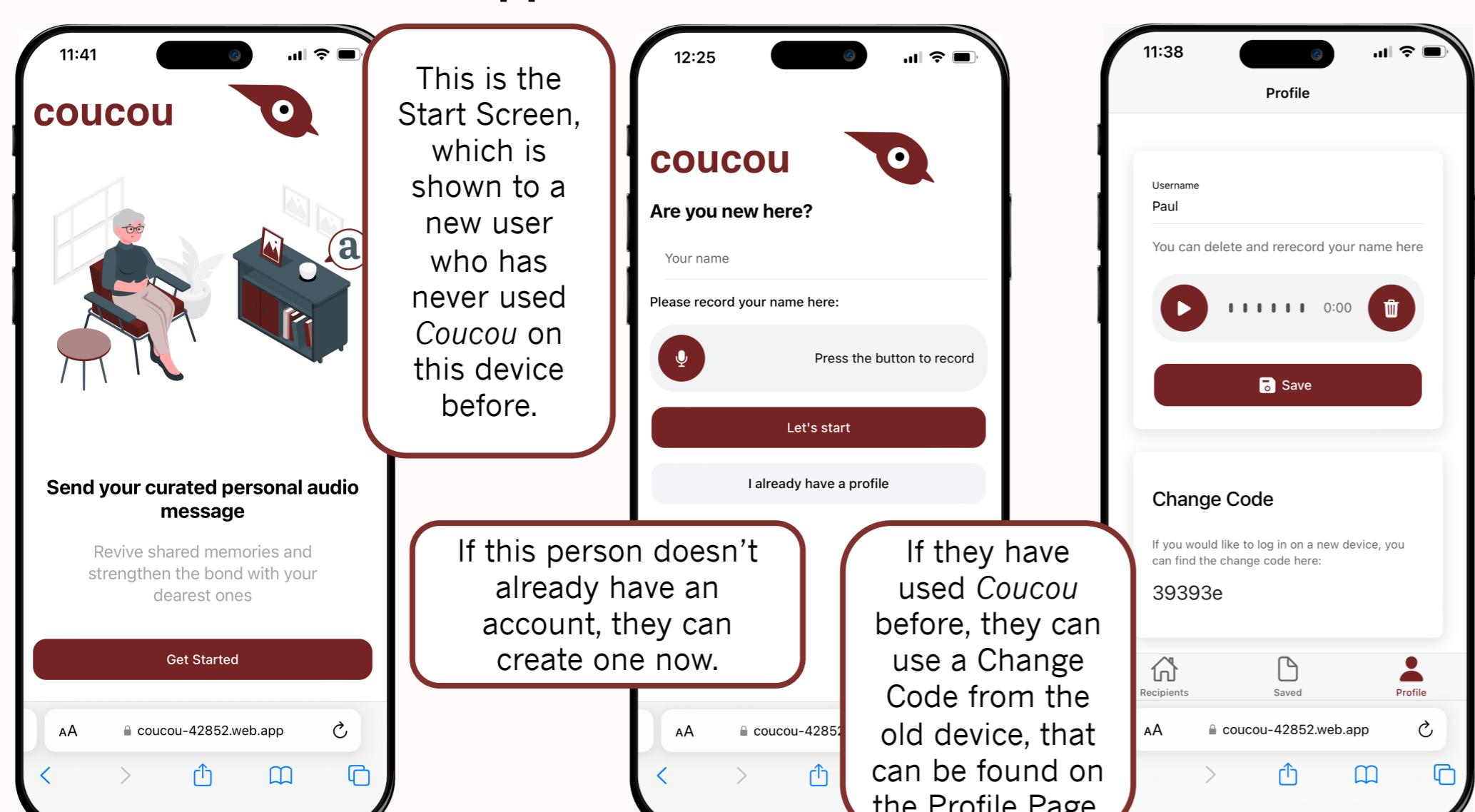
[Song]

Interaction Design



Final App

Screens of the actual application:



Conclusion

- Implementation of the recipient side not yet realized as intended
 - Ideally the message would be played directly to the answering machine of the person with dementia → they can continue to use a familiar object and listen to the message at any time
- Coucou meets zeitgeist, where more and more social contact is outsourced to media alternatives
 - At the same time, Coucou sets itself apart from this
 - by intending to be a supplement to real social contact
 - by encouraging a simpler way of maintaining contact

References

- Von Stösser, G. (2012). Entlastung für die Seele. BAGSO.
Wright, S. D., Pratt, C. C., & Schmall, V. L. (1985). Spiritual Support for Caregivers of Dementia Patients. *Journal of Religion and Health*, 24(1), 31–38.