

Web Programming – Milestone 4

InterConn – Mahesh, Maheedhar, Rohila (Group 2)

Features Implemented:

1. Users can now post any type of file onto the message area of a channel, also preview is shown if the file being uploaded is of type image.
2. The feature direct messages between the users is implemented.
3. Now the website is provided with the capability of interacting with Gravatar API which is intended to preserve the identity across the website.
4. Also users can choose between the websites local custom image, default Gravatar image or to a Gravatar image associated with the user email.
5. Google's ReCAPTCHA API is integrated as to filter out the bot attempts to use the website. Also the website is taken care of being valid against the W3C's HTML validator by following the standards.
6. Our website now is integrated with GitHub API, So any GitHub user can now login to the site with their valid GitHub credentials and can use the InterConn's features effectively. Also the website is provided with the feature of reflecting back the GitHub accounts avatar as the InterConn's avatar for the user logged in through GitHub.

Tasks which took more attention:

- **GitHub Authentication Integration:** We had to modify the existing user table by adding a new column to identify github users and store their profile details. So, we had to change few existing queries. In addition, understanding how github oauth works and which api's need to be called took some time.
- **Direct Messages:** We had to add lot of conditions on the front end to distinguish between channels and direct messages. But didn't have many changes on the back end side due to a good database design and services structure.

Things to know for the user to effectively use the site against these set of new features:

- If user selects Gravatar image as the image to be displayed for all the messages and there doesn't exist a Gravatar image for their email, we display the default image sent by Gravatar API.
- Local picture in profile picture preference means the image uploaded by user is displayed and by default if no image is uploaded, a default local image is displayed.
- Default picture in profile picture preference means the image generated dynamically by initials of user full name is displayed.



Fig1. Default Picture



Fig2. Default Gravatar Picture



Fig3. Default local Picture

- Though the picture on the UI changes on making a choice on user profile picture preference, this choice isn't saved until user clicks save changes button.
- Administrator of the website cannot remove users from general and random channel as they are default channels to a user in our site. Administrator can remove any user from all other public or private channels.

References

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