

# E-commerce Backend Documentation

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# 1 Overview

The E-commerce Backend project consists of four independent services running on Docker containers, each assigned a specific port. These services communicate with a shared PostgreSQL database to provide functionalities such as customer management, inventory management, sales processing, and review handling. *Note: The GitHub Repository for this project is available at: <https://github.com/mohamadlakkis/Ecommerce-BackEnd>*

## 2 Services and APIs (This will cover points 1 to 6 + 10 from the requirements)

1. *Note: Here you can find general details on each API of each service, to see the examples and comments as requested in point 5, check the file "/api\_endpoints.md" which is available in each sub-directory of each service*
2. *Note: I chose to use as my database "PostgreSQL" as an image from docker hub which is running on a dedicated container port: 5432, and for each service I have created a separate table in the database. The details of the tables are also available in the following sections*
3. *Note: Each service is running on a different port, and all of the necessary details are available in the following sections, BUT if you want to see the composed and separate docker files, they are available in "Dockerfile" in each sub-directory for each service. As for the docker-compose.yml you can find it in the parent directory of the project's folder: "docker-compose.yml"*

### 2.1 Customers Service

#### 2.1.1 Description

Manages customer information, including registration, account updates, and wallet management.

#### 2.1.2 APIs

API	Method	Description
Register Customer	POST	Registers a new customer.
Delete Customer	DELETE	Deletes a customer by username.
Update Customer Info	PATCH	Updates customer information.
Get All Customers	GET	Retrieves all customer records.
Get Customer by Username	GET	Retrieves details of a specific customer.
Charge Wallet	PUT	Adds funds to the customer's wallet.
Deduct Wallet Funds	PUT	Deducts funds from the customer's wallet.

#### 2.1.3 Running Port

Port: 5001

## 2.1.4 Database Structure

Field	Type	Description
id	SERIAL (PK)	Unique identifier for the customer.
full_name	VARCHAR(100)	Full name of the customer.
username	VARCHAR(50)	Unique username.
password	VARCHAR(100)	Encrypted password.
age	INTEGER	Age of the customer.
address	VARCHAR(200)	Address of the customer.
gender	VARCHAR(10)	Gender of the customer.
marital_status	VARCHAR(20)	Marital status of the customer.
wallet_balance	NUMERIC	Available funds in the customer's wallet.
role	VARCHAR(20)	Role of the customer, e.g., <b>customer</b> or <b>emp</b> .

## 2.1.5 Postman Testing

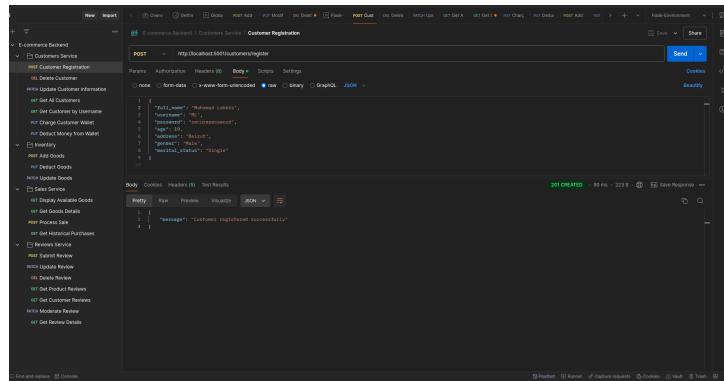


Figure 1: Customer registration

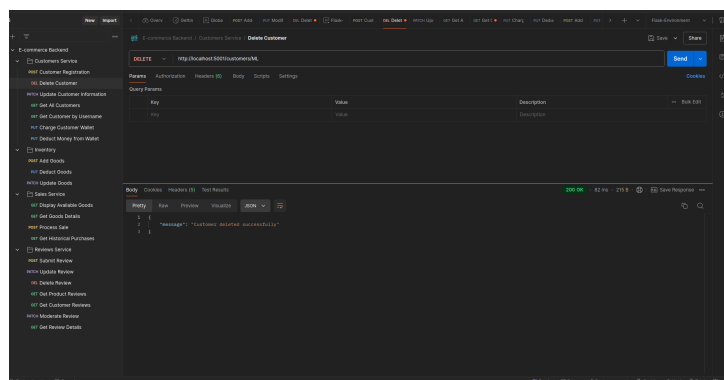
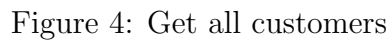
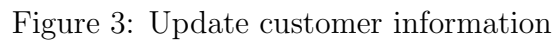


Figure 2: Delete customer



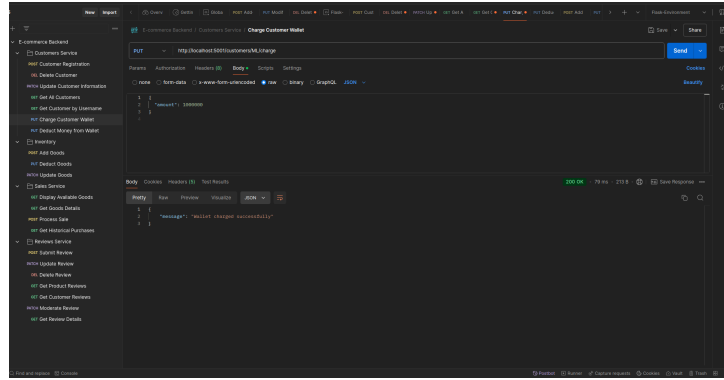


Figure 6: Charge customer wallet in dollars

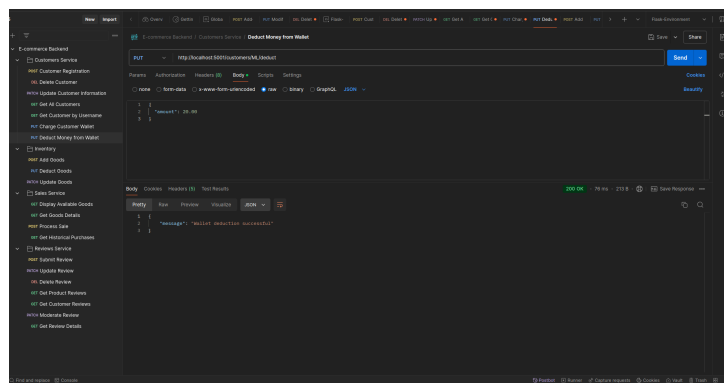


Figure 7: Deduct wallet funds

## 2.2 Inventory Service

### 2.2.1 Description

Handles inventory management, including adding, updating, and removing goods.

### 2.2.2 APIs

API	Method	Description
Add Goods	POST	Adds a new product to the inventory.
Deduct Goods	PUT	Removes items from stock.
Update Goods	PATCH	Updates product details.

### 2.2.3 Running Port

Port: 5002

### 2.2.4 Database Structure

Field	Type	Description
id	SERIAL (PK)	Unique identifier for the product.

name	VARCHAR(100)	Name of the product.
category	VARCHAR(50)	Category of the product (e.g., food).
price	NUMERIC	Price per item.
description	TEXT	Detailed description of the product.
count	INTEGER	Available stock count.

## 2.2.5 Postman Testing

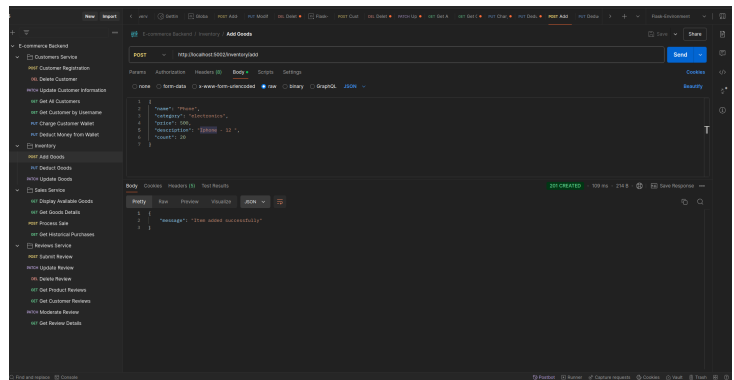


Figure 8: Add goods

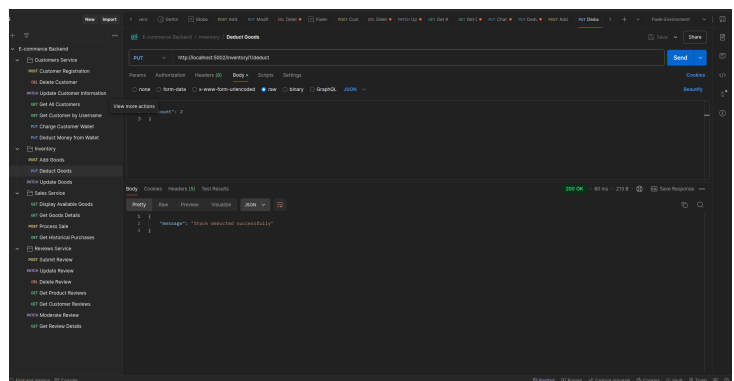


Figure 9: Deduct goods

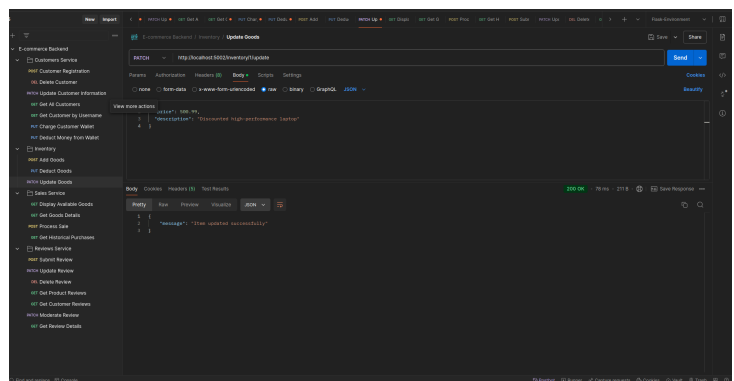


Figure 10: Update goods

## 2.3 Sales Service

### 2.3.1 Description

Manages the sale of goods, including processing purchases and tracking historical sales.

### 2.3.2 APIs

API	Method	Description
Display Goods	GET	Lists all available goods with prices.
Get Goods Details	GET	Retrieves detailed information about a product.
Process Sale	POST	Processes a sale by deducting stock and funds.
Get Purchase History	GET	Retrieves historical purchases for a customer.

### 2.3.3 Running Port

Port: 5003

### 2.3.4 Database Structure

Field	Type	Description
id	SERIAL (PK)	Unique identifier for the sale.
customer_id	INTEGER (FK)	References the customer making the purchase.
good_id	INTEGER (FK)	References the product being purchased.
quantity	INTEGER	Number of items purchased.
total_price	NUMERIC	Total price of the purchase.
sale_date	TIMESTAMP	Date and time of the purchase.

### 2.3.5 Postman Testing

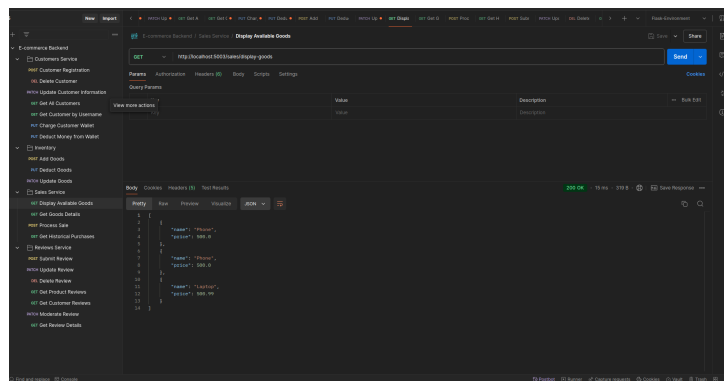


Figure 11: Display goods



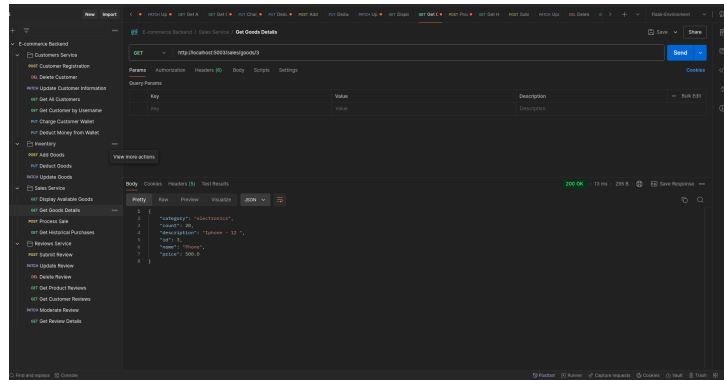


Figure 12: Get goods details

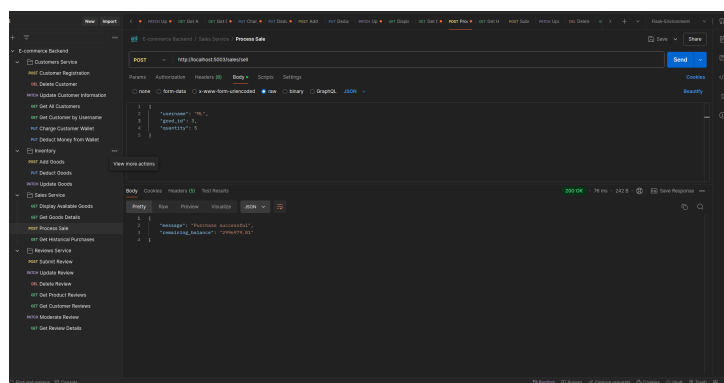


Figure 13: Process sale

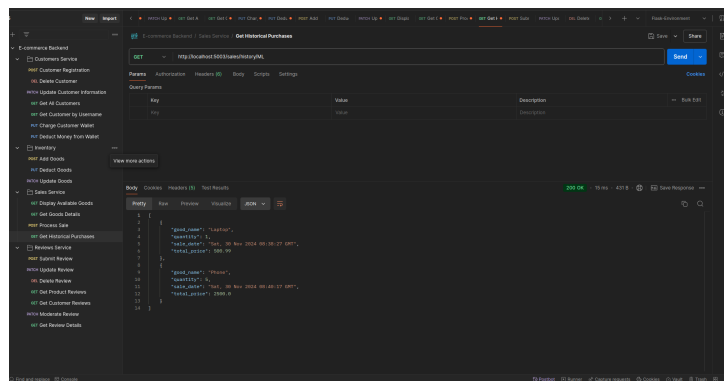


Figure 14: Get purchase history

## 2.4 Reviews Service

### 2.4.1 Description

Manages product reviews and ratings submitted by customers.

### 2.4.2 APIs

API	Method	Description
Submit Review	POST	Submits a review for a product.
Update Review	PATCH	Updates a specific review.
Delete Review	DELETE	Deletes a specific review.
Get Product Reviews	GET	Retrieves reviews for a specific product.
Get Customer Re-views	GET	Retrieves all reviews submitted by a customer.
Moderate Review	PATCH	Flags or approves a review.
Get Review Details	GET	Retrieves details of a specific review.

### 2.4.3 Running Port

Port: 5004

### 2.4.4 Database Structure

Field	Type	Description
id	SERIAL (PK)	Unique identifier for the review.
customer_id	INTEGER (FK)	References the customer submitting the review.
product_id	INTEGER (FK)	References the reviewed product.
rating	INTEGER	Rating given to the product (1-5).
comment	TEXT	Customer's feedback.
status	VARCHAR(20)	Status of the review (e.g., pending).
review_date	TIMESTAMP	Date and time the review was submitted.

### 2.4.5 Postman Testing

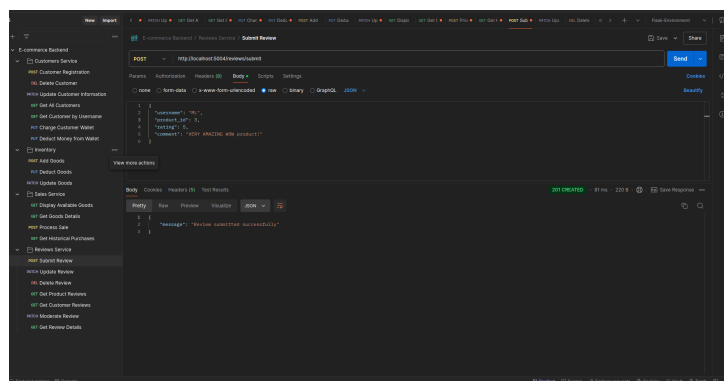


Figure 15: Submit review

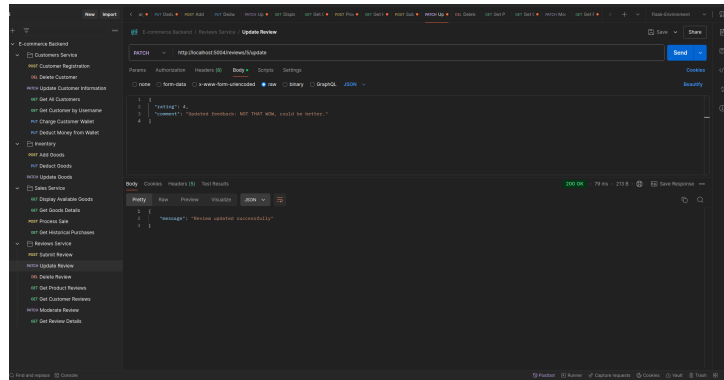


Figure 16: Update review

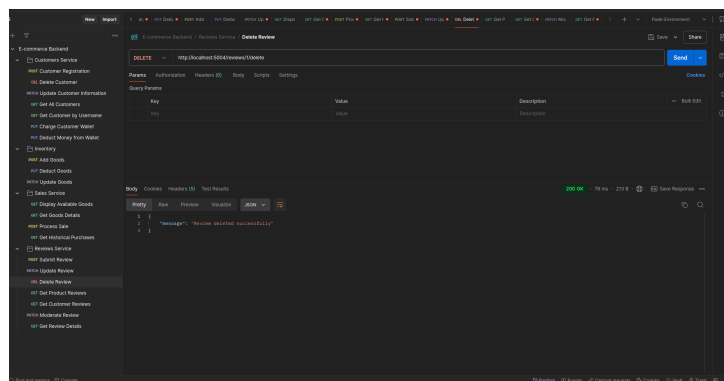


Figure 17: Delete review

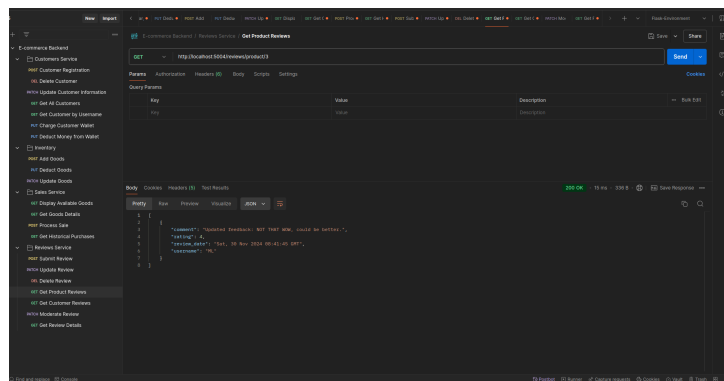


Figure 18: Get product reviews

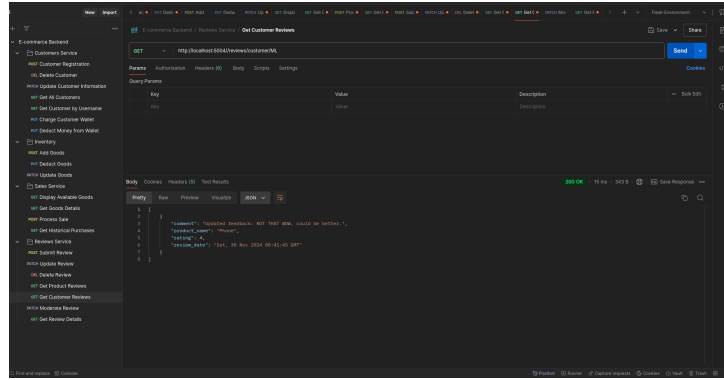


Figure 19: Get customer reviews

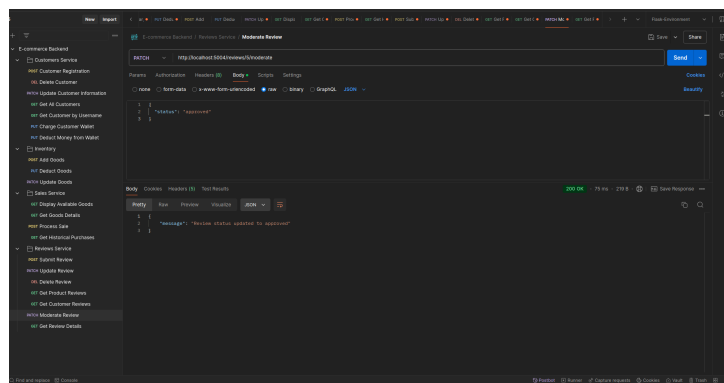


Figure 20: Moderate review

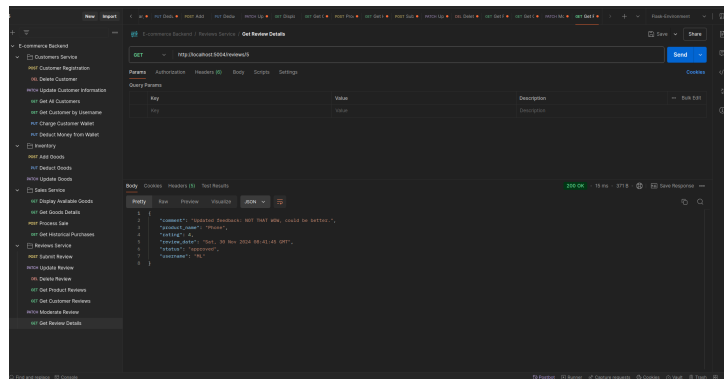


Figure 21: Get review details

## 3 Error Handling and Validation

### 3.1 Error Management

Errors in the system are managed to ensure smooth operations and meaningful responses to clients. The following strategies are implemented:

#### 1. HTTP Status Codes

- **2xx Success Codes:** Indicate successful operations (e.g., 200 OK, 201 Created).
- **4xx Client Errors:** Inform the client of issues with their request:
  - **400 Bad Request:** Returned for missing or invalid fields in the request payload.
  - **404 Not Found:** Returned when the requested resource does not exist.
- **5xx Server Errors:** Catch unexpected errors during processing (e.g., database connection issues).

## 2. Exception Handling

- **Database Exceptions:** Managed using `try-except` blocks to handle SQL errors and ensure proper rollbacks.
- **Flask-Specific Exceptions:** Use Flask's built-in error handling to provide user-friendly error messages.

3. **Fallback Mechanism:** Unexpected errors return a generic **500 Internal Server Error** during production, with debug information enabled during development.

## 3.2 Validation

The system includes comprehensive validation to ensure data integrity and appropriate operations. Below are the implemented validations:

### 1. Request Payload Validation:

- Each API validates incoming payloads to ensure required fields are present and properly formatted.
- Examples include:
  - **Customers Service:** Ensures username uniqueness and verifies mandatory fields like `username`, `password`, and `age`.
  - **Sales Service:** Validates wallet balance and product availability before processing a sale.
  - **Reviews Service:** Checks that the `rating` is between 1 and 5.

### 2. Database Constraints:

- Enforced at the schema level:
  - Primary Keys prevent duplicate entries.
  - Foreign Keys ensure relationships between tables are respected (e.g., `customer_id` in `sales_history` must exist in `customers` table).
  - Check Constraints validate numeric ranges (e.g., `rating` between 1 and 5).

### 3. Error Response for Missing Resources:

- APIs return **404 Not Found** when:
  - A customer, product, or review cannot be found.

#### 4. Status Validation in Reviews:

- Only allows valid statuses (approved, flagged) in the moderation process.

#### 5. Flask-Level Validation:

- Enforces clean input, such as ensuring numeric IDs (e.g., <int:review\_id>).

## 4 User Authentication and Hashing added to the passwords (Point 12)

1. Note: So what I did here is that first each customer will have to enter a password when registering, and this password will be hashed using the "bcrypt" library, and then stored in the database. This way the password is secure and not stored in plain text.

2. Note: I have also added a new field in the customers table called "role" which is defaulted to "user", and only the customers with the role "emp" can delete, submit and update reviews, as requested from POINT 12

### 4.1 Implementation Details

- **Input Validation:** The API verifies that all mandatory fields (e.g., full name, username, password, age, address, gender, and marital status) are provided. If any field is missing, an error response is returned to the user.
- **Password Hashing:** To ensure the security of user credentials, the password is hashed before being stored in the database. The `bcrypt` library is used to generate a secure hashed version of the password using the `gensalt()` method.
- **Database Interaction:** The API inserts the user's data into the `customers` table, including the hashed password and role (defaulted to 'user').
- **Error Handling:** The implementation handles database-specific errors such as duplicate usernames, ensuring appropriate responses are returned to the client.
- Now NOT any user can delete and submit and update reviews only the ones with the "role" = "emp", they need to provide the correct username and password to be able to do so.

### 4.2 Postman Testing

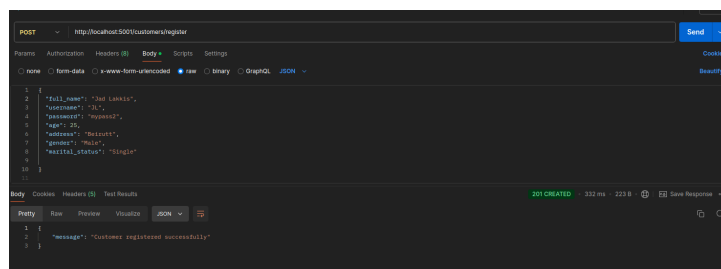


Figure 22: Registering a new customer role "user"

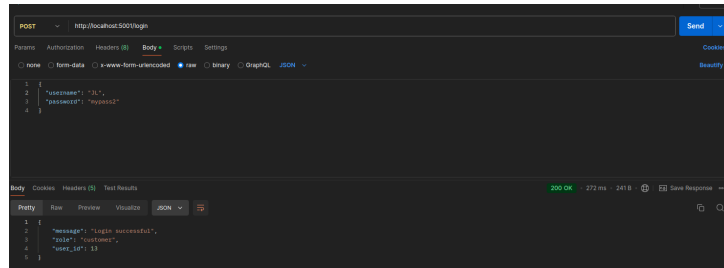


Figure 23: Login for a customer (this is useful if we had an interface for the customers to login, but for now it is not used)

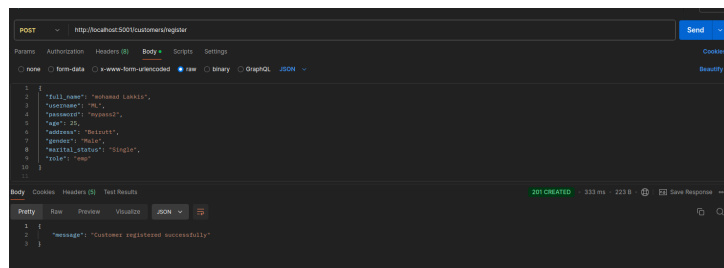


Figure 24: Registering a new employee

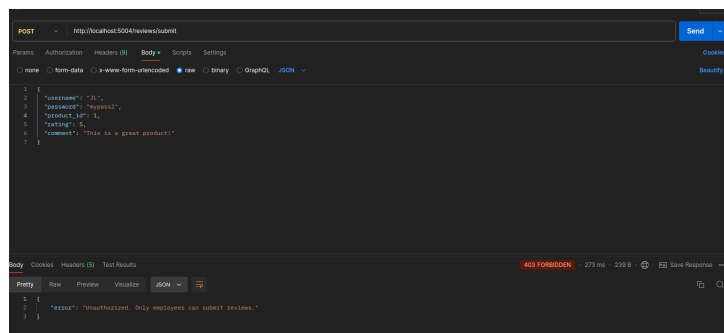


Figure 25: Attempting to submit a review without the correct role (remember jad is just a customer not an employee, and he won't be able to submit a review) **NOTE: THAT HERE I COULD HAVE CHANGED THE ROLE TO MAYBE PURCHASED OR SOMETHING TO ALLOW THE CUSTOMER TO SUBMIT A REVIEW, SINCE IT MAKES SENSE THAT A CUSTOMER CAN SUBMIT A REVIEW, BUT for now I am just following the requirements, and showing that it works, the same is applied if we wanted to do the latter**

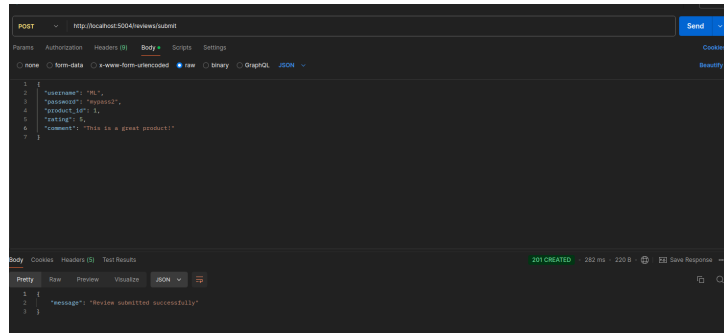


Figure 26: Submitting a review with the correct role(remember ML is employee and he can submit a review)

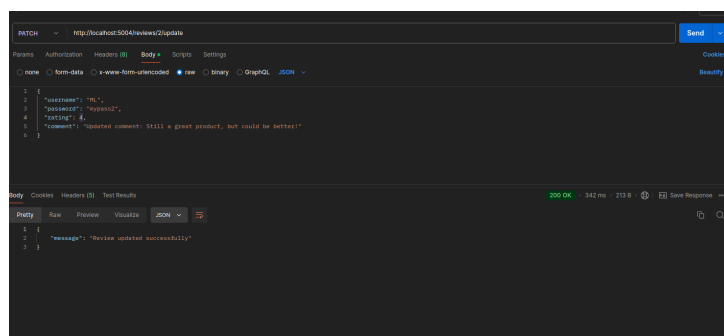


Figure 27: Updating a review with the correct role

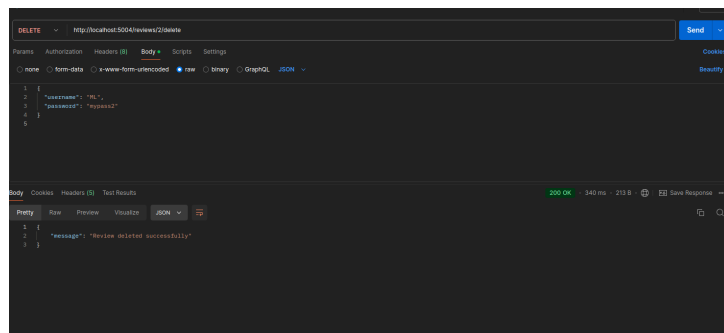


Figure 28: Deleting a review with the correct role

## 4.3 Hashing passwords

1. *Note: remember the passwords we have put for ML and JL, before, now we will take a look at the table to see how they are hashed!*

```
customers_db=# SELECT * FROM customers;
 id | full_name | username | password | age | address | gender | marital_status | wallet_balance | role
-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
 13 | Jael Lakki | JL       | S20512pa43myeSPwDZaItZomufu8z37Ue3M3xox0NF5pIzA/8EJdG | 25 | Beirut | Male | Single |             | customer
 14 | Mohamed Lakki | ML       | S20512zqgnv10sCvnhL-CHmK-0B0zvd0b04WtZ8m6dKtWd3pNv1gPK | 25 | Beirut | Male | Single |             | emp
(2 rows)
```

Figure 29: The passwords are hashed!



## 5 Validation and Sanitization (point 11)

1. Note: I am just showing one part of the code as a proof, in the whole code you can see how the inputs are checked inside the functions

```
1
2 # Mohamad Lakkis
3 def get_db_connection():
4     conn = psycopg2.connect(
5         host=os.getenv('DB_HOST', 'localhost'),
6         database=os.getenv('DB_NAME', 'customers_db'),
7         user=os.getenv('DB_USER', 'admin'),
8         password=os.getenv('DB_PASSWORD', 'adminpass')
9     )
10    return conn
11
12 def is_valid_username(username):
13     """Check if the username is alphanumeric and between 3-50 characters."""
14     return bool(re.match("^[a-zA-Z0-9_]{3,50}$", username))
15
16 def is_valid_password(password):
17     """Check if the password is at least 8 characters and contains letters and numbers."""
18     return bool(re.match("^(?=.*[A-Za-z])(?=.*\d)[A-Za-z\d]{8,}$", password))
19
20 def is_valid_age(age):
21     """Check if age is a positive integer between 1 and 120."""
22     return isinstance(age, int) and 1 <= age <= 120
23
24 def is_valid_role(role):
25     """Check if role is either 'customer' or 'emp'."""
26     return role in ['customer', 'emp']
```

Figure 30: Validation and Sanitization

```
1 conn = get_db_connection()
2 cur = conn.cursor()
3
4 try:
5     cur.execute(
6         sql.SQL("UPDATE customers SET ") +
7         sql.SQL(", ").join(updates) +
8         sql.SQL(" WHERE username = %s"),
9         values + [username]
10    )
11    if cur.rowcount == 0:
12        return jsonify({"error": "Customer not found"}), 404
13    conn.commit()
14 finally:
15     cur.close()
16     conn.close()
17
18 return jsonify({"message": "Customer information updated successfully"}), 200
```

Figure 31: Validation and Sanitization (another example) there is plenty more in the full codes

## 6 Moderating (point 13)

1. Note: I did similar to authenticator before submitting a review, the user needs to have the role "emp" to able to moderation

## 6.1 Implementation Details

```
1 @app.route('/reviews/<int:review_id>/moderate', methods=['PATCH'])
2 def moderate_review(review_id):
3     data = request.get_json()
4     username = data.get('username')
5     password = data.get('password')
6     status = data.get('status')
7     if not (username and password and status):
8         return jsonify({"error": "Username, password, and status are required"}), 400
9     if status not in ['approved', 'flagged']:
10         return jsonify({"error": "Invalid status. Allowed values are 'approved' or 'flagged'"}), 400
11
12     role = authenticate_user(username, password)
13     if not role:
14         return jsonify({"error": "Invalid username or password"}), 401
15     if role != 'emp':
16         return jsonify({"error": "Unauthorized. Only employees can moderate reviews."}), 403
17
18     conn = get_db_connection()
19     cur = conn.cursor()
20
21     try:
22         cur.execute(
23             "UPDATE reviews SET status = %s WHERE id = %s",
24             (status, review_id)
25         )
26         if cur.rowcount == 0:
27             return jsonify({"error": "Review not found"}), 404
28
29         conn.commit()
30         return jsonify({"message": f"Review status updated to '{status}'"}), 200
31     except Exception as e:
32         conn.rollback()
33         return jsonify({"error": f"Failed to moderate review: {str(e)}"}), 500
34     finally:
35         cur.close()
36         conn.close()
```

Figure 32: Moderating a review (the modified code)

## 6.2 Postman Testing

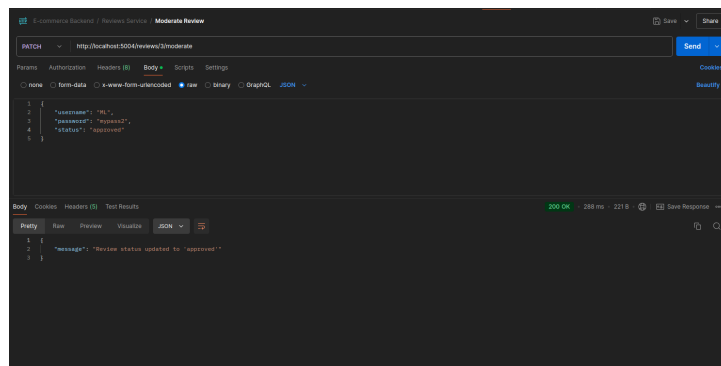


Figure 33: An example on Postman, using Moderating with a user that has the role "emp" (Remember ML is an employee)

## 7 Testing (This will cover point 7 from the requirements)

1. Note: all of the tests are available in the directory "test" in the submission

## 7.1 Customers API

```
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$ pytest test/customers
===== test session starts =====
platform linux -- Python 3.10.12, pytest-8.3.3, pluggy-1.5.0
rootdir: /home/mql/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce
collected 4 items

test/customers/test_get_customer.py ..... [ 25%]
test/customers/test_login.py ..... [ 50%]
test/customers/test_register.py ..... [ 75%]
test/customers/test_wallet.py ..... [100%]

===== 4 passed in 1.66s =====
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$
```

Figure 34: Testing the Customers API

## 7.2 Inentory API

```
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$ pytest -v test/inventory
===== test session starts =====
platform linux -- Python 3.10.12, pytest-8.3.3, pluggy-1.5.0 -- /usr/bin/python3
rootdir: /home/mql/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce
collected 18 items

test/inventory/test_add_goods.py::test_add_goods_success PASSED [ 5%]
test/inventory/test_add_goods.py::test_add_goods_missing_fields PASSED [11%]
test/inventory/test_deduct_goods.py::test_deduct_goods_success PASSED [17%]
test/inventory/test_deduct_goods.py::test_deduct_goods_insufficient_stock PASSED [22%]
test/inventory/test_deduct_goods.py::test_deduct_goods_invalid_count PASSED [28%]
test/inventory/test_deduct_goods.py::test_deduct_goods_item_not_found PASSED [33%]
test/inventory/test_update_goods.py::test_update_goods_single_field PASSED [39%]
test/inventory/test_update_goods.py::test_update_goods_multiple_fields PASSED [44%]
test/inventory/test_update_goods.py::test_update_goods_item_not_found PASSED [50%]
test/inventory/test_update_goods.py::test_update_goods_invalid_payload PASSED [56%]

===== 18 passed in 0.70s =====
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$
```

Figure 35: Testing the Inventory API

## 7.3 reviews API

```
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$ pytest test/reviews/test_submit_review.py
===== test session starts =====
platform linux -- Python 3.10.12, pytest-8.3.3, pluggy-1.5.0
rootdir: /home/mql/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce
collected 4 items

test/reviews/test_submit_review.py ..... [100%]

===== 4 passed in 2.38s =====
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$
```

Figure 36: Testing the Reviews API

## 7.4 Sales API

```
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$ pytest test/reviews/test_submit_review.py
===== test session starts =====
platform linux -- Python 3.10.12, pytest-8.3.3, pluggy-1.5.0
rootdir: /home/mql/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce
collected 4 items

test/reviews/test_submit_review.py ..... [100%]

===== 4 passed in 2.38s =====
mql@MQL-Laptop:~/Desktop/University/Fall 2024-2025/ECE4 435L /ecommerce_LabKis/Commerce-Backend/ecommerce$
```

Figure 37: Testing the Sales API

## 8 Performance, memory, and code coverage profiling

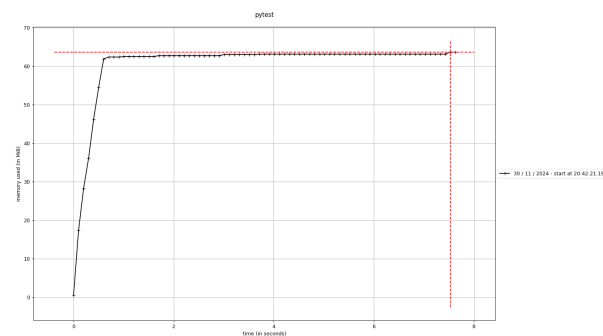


Figure 38: memory usage graphs

```

----- coverage: platform linux, python 3.10.12-final-0 -----
Name                               Stmts  Miss  Cover
-----
test/customers/app.py              176     52    70%
TOTAL                             176     52    70%
Coverage HTML written to dir htmlcov

```

Figure 39: code coverage

## 9 Documentation HTML

1. Note: Here I provided only a glimpse of the documentation for the full documentation go to "build/html/index.html" in the submission

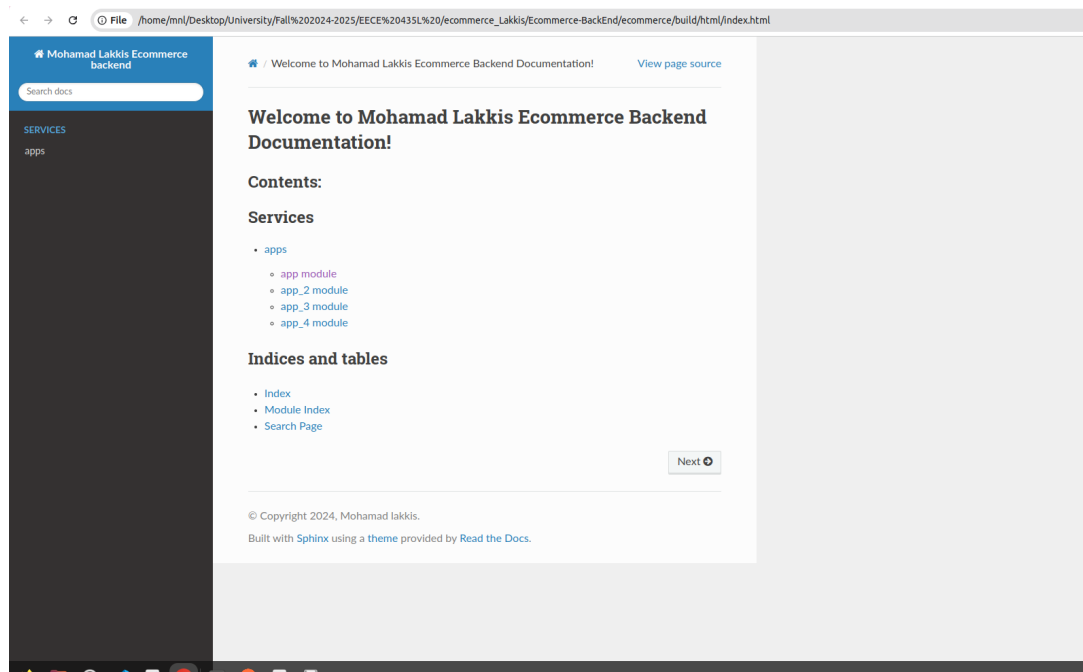


Figure 40: Documentation HTML (1)

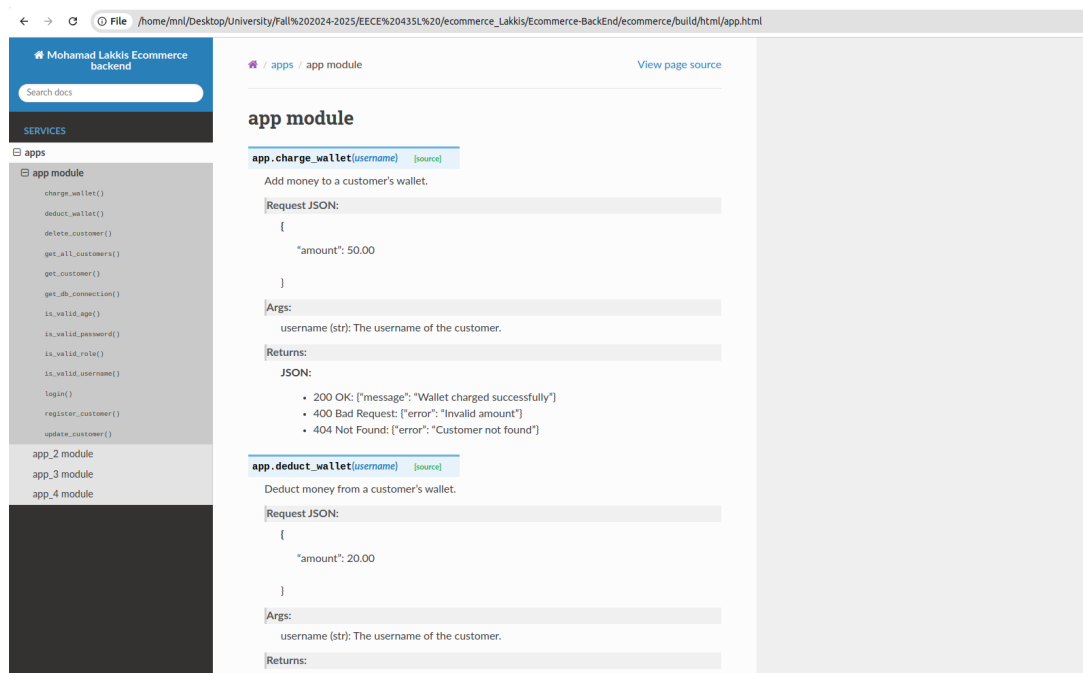


Figure 41: Documentation HTML (2)

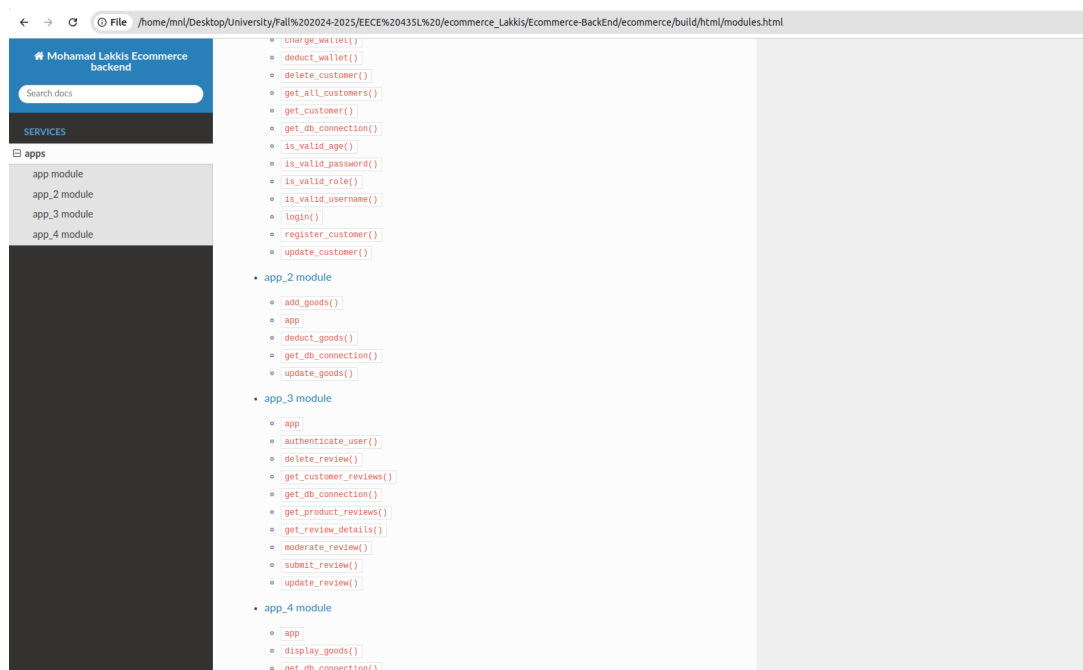


Figure 42: Documentation HTML (3)

## 10 Additional Features

### 10.1 Security Measures (point 11)

**Security Practices:** To enhance the robustness of the system, several measures have been implemented to prevent common vulnerabilities:

- **SQL Injection Prevention:**

- Prepared Statements and Parameterized Queries are used for all database interactions, ensuring user inputs are never directly concatenated into SQL queries, thereby preventing SQL injection attacks.
- Example:

```
query = "SELECT * FROM customers WHERE username = %s"
cursor.execute(query, (username,))
```

- **Input Validation and Sanitization:**

- All inputs are rigorously validated and sanitized at the API layer.
- For instance, username fields are restricted to alphanumeric characters, and passwords are checked for length and complexity.

- **Authentication and Authorization:**

- The `bcrypt` library is used to securely hash passwords. Only hashed passwords are stored in the database.
- Role-based access control (RBAC) is enforced. For example:
  - \* Only users with the role `emp` can moderate reviews.
  - \* Customers can only access and modify their own data.

- **Secure Communication:**

- The APIs are designed to run behind HTTPS. For local development, Flask's `ssl_context` is used to enable TLS.

- **Error Message Minimization:**

- Detailed error messages that could reveal internal logic or structure are avoided in production. Generic error messages are displayed to users, while detailed logs are stored for developers.

## 10.2 Advanced Development Practices(point 7)

**Custom Exception Handling:** A standardized framework for exception handling has been implemented to ensure clear and consistent error messaging across all services.

- **Centralized Error Handler:**

- Each service includes a centralized error handler that captures exceptions and returns structured JSON responses with appropriate HTTP status codes.
- Example:

```

@app.errorhandler(Exception)
def handle_exception(e):
    return {
        "error": str(e),
        "message": "An error occurred. Please try again later."
    }, 500

```

- **Service-Specific Exceptions:**

- Custom exceptions have been defined for scenarios like `UserNotFoundException` or `InsufficientFundsException`.
- These exceptions are caught at the application layer and return user-friendly error messages.

**Versioning APIs:** To maintain backward compatibility and support evolving requirements, API versioning has been implemented.

- **URI-Based Versioning:**

- Each service exposes APIs under versioned paths (e.g., `/v1/customers`, `/v1/inventory`).
- As APIs evolve, new versions (e.g., `/v2/customers`) can be introduced without breaking existing clients.

- **Implementation Details:**

- API routers are configured to direct requests to the appropriate version.
- Example:

```

from flask import Blueprint
v1 = Blueprint('v1', __name__, url_prefix='/v1')
v2 = Blueprint('v2', __name__, url_prefix='/v2')

# Register blueprints
app.register_blueprint(v1)
app.register_blueprint(v2)

```

## 11 Conclusion

for the rest please see the code :)

very nice journey and thank you for your effort and time, in correcting it and reading it, I hope you have a great day!