DOSP Project 4 Part 2: Twitter Clone and WebSocket Interface

TEAM:

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In part 1, we implemented a twitter client and simulator to create users and simulate the functionalities of twitter. In this project, we extent the client and create a Websocket interface. We have implemented a User Interface which allows users to do the following functionalities:

- → Register/Create their profile
- **→** Tweet
- → Subscribe to other users by their username
- → Search tweets by Hashtags
- → Search tweets by Mention
- → Search tweets of a subscriber/user

STEPS TO EXECUTE:

- → Download the zip file
- → Run the command: make run
- → Open the link: localhost:8080/registerpage.html

PROGRAM FLOW:

Open url -> localhost:8080/registerpage.html Enter Details and click on register

- << Program redirects to next page>>
- << HTTP request sent to create websocket connection>>
- << Server responds and websocket connection established>>

User can now subscribe, tweet, retweet, search etc...

- << User 1 subscribes to user 2>>
- << User 2 tweets "First tweet">>

User1's feed is automatically updated with its subscripted user's tweets

IMPLEMENTATION:

Below are different technologies and the description of modules and functions that we have implemented in the project

Technologies and concepts:

Websocket -

Websocket connection allows the server to send messages to the client irrespective of client sending a request. HTTP on the other hand only works with request response pairs. The server cannot send any messages to the client without a request.

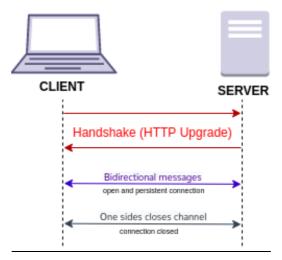


Figure 1: Websocket connection

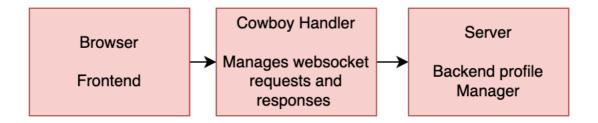
Cowboy <u>—</u>

Cowboy is server used for Erlang. It allows to create a whole web application using Erlang. **Build Application using cowboy:**

- → Download erlang.mk wget https://erlang.mk/erlang.mk
- **→** Run:

make -f erlang.mk bootstrap bootstrap-rel make run

Different modules of the project:



Mapping of frontend HTML pages and handler

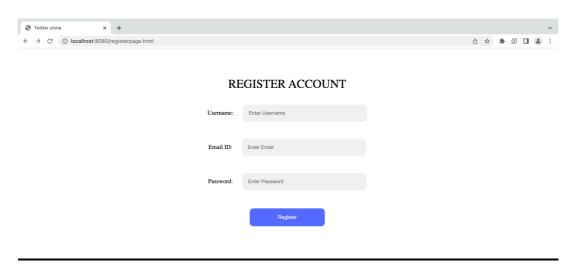
```
start(_Type, _Args) ->
    ServerPID = twitterserver:start_server(),
    Dispatch = cowboy_router:compile([
       %% {HostMatch, list({PathMatch, Handler module name (erl), InitialState})}
       {'_', [
           {"/[...]", cowboy_static, {priv_dir, twitter, "assets"}}]} % html pages path
   1),
    DispatchWs = cowboy_router:compile([
            {"/homepage.html", feed_handler, [{serverPID,ServerPID}]}
       1}
     1),
    {ok, _} = cowboy:start_clear(
       my_http_listener,
       [{port, 8080}],
                                                         Setting port and
       #{env => #{dispatch => Dispatch}}
                                                         mapping routes
                                                          and handler to
    {ok, _} = cowboy:start_clear(
                                                         the cowboy
                                                         server
       [{port, 8889}],
       #{env => #{dispatch => DispatchWs}}
    twitter_sup:start_link().
stop(_State) ->
    ok.
```

Handler file

```
-module(feed_handler).
      -behavior(cowboy_websocket).
     -export([init/2]).
     -export([websocket_init/1]).
     -export([websocket_handle/2]).
     -export([websocket_info/2]).
12 > init(Req, State) -> --
27 > websocket_init(State) -> --
                                                                               Main
35 > websocket_handle({text, Data}, State) -> --
                                                                               handler
108 > websocket_info({updateFeed,Data}, State) -> ...
118 > websocket_info({searchBegin,{Query,Keyword}}, State) -> ...
                                                                               functions
124 > websocket_info({searchEnd,_Data}, State) -> --
127 > websocket_info({searchResult,{_Type,_Keyword,Tweets}}, State) -> ...
137 > websocket_info({allTweets,{UsernameSearch,Tweets}}, State) -> ...
```

SCREENSHOTS:

Opening Page:



Entering data:

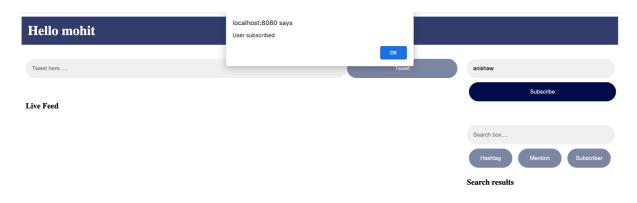
REGISTER ACCOUNT



Homepage:



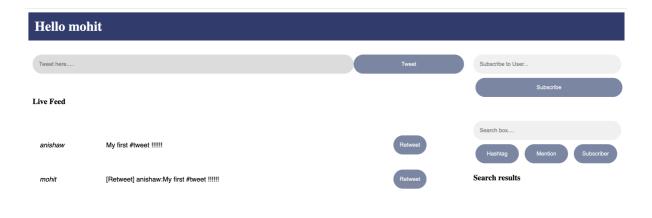
Subscribe to user:



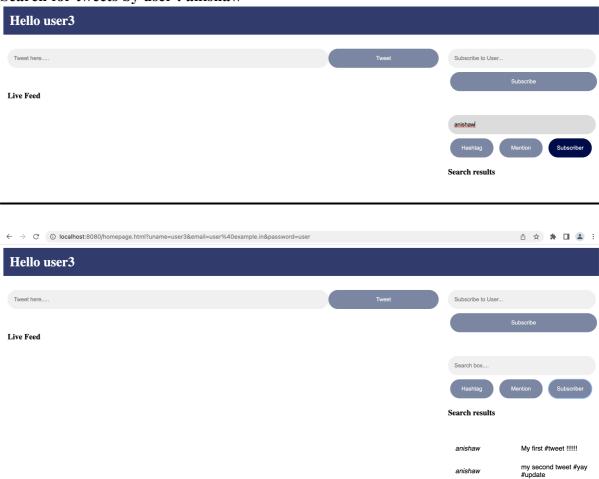
Tweet:



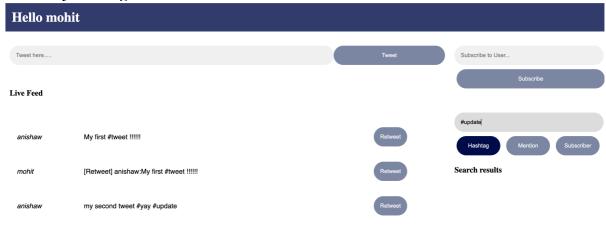
Live feed and Retweet

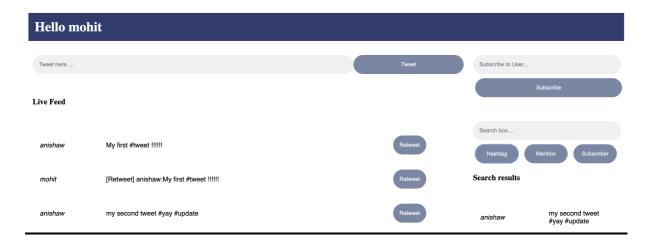


Search for tweets by user: anishaw



Search by hashtag





Search by Mention

