WEB FORUM

A Mini Project Report

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For the partial fulfillment of the award of the degree of

Master of Science In Computer Science

By

SANSKAR TIWARI (1211089006)

VAIBHAV CHAUHAN (1211089008)

M.Sc. (Computer Science) 3rd Semester

Under the guidance of

Mr Atul Kumar Pal

Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
School of Basic Sciences, Babu Banarasi Das University, Lucknow



Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

School of Basic Sciences, Babu Banarasi Das University, Lucknow,

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CERTIFICATE

Certified that the thesis entitled "Web Forum" based on the course of M.Sc. Computer Science is a bonafide work carried out in third semester by SANSKAR TIWARI (1211089006) and VAIBHAV CHAUHAN (1211089006) under my supervision in partial fulfillment for the award of the degree of Master of Science in Computer Science of Babu Banarasi Das University, Lucknow.

Date: Mr. Atul Kumar Pal
Assistant Professor

School of Basic Sciences

DECLARATION

We hereby declare that the thesis entitled "Web Forum" is based on our M.Sc. (Computer Science) course and has been written under the supervision of Mr. Atul Kumar Pal, Assistant Professor, School of Basic Sciences, Babu Banarasi Das University, Lucknow. We also affirm that this work has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree or diploma nor has been submitted elsewhere for the award of any degree or diploma. Furthermore, the content of the thesis is not being presented by any other students to this or any other university for the award of a degree.

Date: Sanskar Tiwari (1211089006)

Vaibhav Chauhan (1211089008)

M.Sc. Computer Science, 3rd

Semester

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INTRODUCTION

The proliferation of the internet in the past few decades has facilitated the creation and growth of online communities, where people can connect and communicate with each other regardless of geography. One type of online community that has gained widespread popularity is the web forum, a platform where users can engage in discussions, exchange information and ideas, and share experiences on a wide range of topics.

Web forums have become an important part of the internet landscape, providing a space for people to connect, share, and learn from each other. They can be a valuable resource for information, support, and connection, and have the potential to bring people together and facilitate the exchange of ideas and knowledge.

This project aims to explore the history, evolution, and current state of web forums, as well as the benefits and challenges of using web forums as a communication and discussion platform. Through a review of the literature and case studies of specific web forums, we will examine the features and functionality of web forums, and the impact they have on their users and communities.

The purpose of this project is to provide a deeper understanding of web forums, and to consider their role and potential in the online landscape. This project is not a research study, and does not involve collecting new

data or conducting experiments. Instead, it is a review and analysis of existing information and examples of web forums.

IDENTIFICATION OF NEEDS

The identification of needs was a crucial aspect of the design and development process for our web forum. Some of the needs that we identified for the web forum included:

- A platform where users could connect and engage with others who had similar interests and experiences.
- A source of information and support on a specific topic or issue.
- A place where users could buy and sell goods or services related to a particular hobby or activity.
- A space where users could share ideas and experiences, and receive feedback and support from others.
- A web forum that was easy to use and navigate, with a user-friendly interface and clear guidelines for participation.
- A web forum that was moderated to ensure a respectful and welcoming environment for all users.
- An accessible and inclusive forum, with features such as translation and support for assistive technologies.
- A web forum that was responsive to the changing needs and interests of its users, with the ability to add and remove features as needed.

By carefully considering these needs, we were able to design a web forum that met the expectations and requirements of its intended users.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

There is a lack of high-quality, general-purpose forums for programmers and developers to discuss and share knowledge about programming languages, technologies, and best practices. Many existing forums are specialized or focused on specific programming languages or technologies, and may not provide a broad range of perspectives or experiences. This can make it difficult for programmers to find a forum that meets their needs and allows them to engage with a diverse community of peers. Our web forum aims to provide a high-quality, general-purpose forum for programmers and developers to connect, share knowledge, and discuss programming-related topics in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

Preliminary investigation is an initial assessment or exploration of a problem, issue, or opportunity. It is a way of gathering information and understanding the context of a project or problem, and can help to identify key challenges, opportunities, and constraints.

Preliminary investigation can take many forms, depending on the nature of the problem or project. It might involve conducting a review of the literature or existing research on a topic, analyzing data or statistics, surveying or interviewing stakeholders or experts, or studying examples or case studies.

The purpose of preliminary investigation is to provide a foundation of knowledge and understanding that can inform the development of a project or solution. It is an important step in the planning and design process, as it can help to identify key needs and requirements, and can help to focus and refine the goals and objectives of a project.

By conducting a thorough preliminary investigation, it is possible to gain a deeper understanding of a problem or opportunity, and to develop a more informed and effective approach to addressing it.

As part of our preliminary investigation for the web forum project, we conducted a review of the literature on web forums and online

communities, to gain a better understanding of the history, evolution, and current state of these platforms. We also analyzed a variety of existing web forums that were relevant to our project, in order to identify common features and functionality, and to understand the needs and expectations of their users.

Through this process, we found that web forums have a long history dating back to the early days of the internet, and have evolved in response to changing technologies and user needs. We discovered that there are a wide variety of web forums available, ranging from general-purpose forums to specialized forums focused on particular topics or interests.

We also identified a number of key features and functionality that are common to many web forums, including the ability to create and participate in discussions, share information and resources, and interact with other users through various means such as private messaging or commenting. We found that the success and sustainability of a web forum often depends on its ability to attract and retain a community of active and engaged users, and that the culture and moderation of a forum can have a significant impact on its overall quality and value.

Overall, our preliminary investigation provided us with valuable insights and information that will inform the design and development of our web forum.

OBJECTIVES

- To create a web forum that is accessible and user-friendly, with a clear and intuitive interface that is easy to navigate.
- To provide a broad range of programming-related topics and discussions, in order to appeal to a diverse community of programmers and developers.
- To facilitate the exchange of knowledge and ideas between users, through features such as discussion threads, resource sharing, and private messaging.
- To create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all users, by implementing clear guidelines for participation and by actively moderating the forum to ensure a respectful and constructive atmosphere.
- To establish the web forum as a go-to resource for programmers and developers seeking information and support on a wide range of programming-related topics.
- To foster a sense of community and connection among users, by promoting engagement and interaction between members of the forum.
- To ensure the sustainability and long-term success of the web forum, by actively engaging with the user community and by continuously updating and improving the forum based on user feedback and needs.

PROPOSED SYSTEM

Based on the objectives that we have identified for the web forum project, we are planning to design and implement a system that includes the following features and functionality:

- A user registration and login system, which will allow users to create an account and access the forum.
- A range of discussion categories and threads, organized by topic or programming language, which will enable users to browse and participate in discussions of interest.
- A search function, which will allow users to easily find specific discussions or resources.
- A resource library or file sharing system, which will enable users to share and access code samples, documentation, and other useful resources.
- A private messaging system, which will allow users to communicate with each other directly.
- A notification system, which will alert users to new activity or updates on the forum.
- A moderation system, which will allow forum administrators to review and approve new discussions and resources, and to enforce the forum's guidelines for participation.
- An analytics system, which will track usage and engagement data, and inform future improvements to the forum.

 A feedback and suggestion system, which will allow users to provide feedback and suggest new features or improvements.

This system will be designed to support the objectives of the project, by providing a comprehensive and user-friendly platform for programmers and developers to connect, share knowledge, and discuss programming-related topics. It will also be flexible and scalable, with the ability to adapt and evolve as the needs of the user community change over time.

BENEFITS

The system that we have designed for the web forum project offers a range of benefits to the end user. Some of the key benefits include:

- Access to a high-quality, general-purpose forum for programmers and developers to connect and share knowledge. The forum provides a comprehensive resource for users seeking information and support on a wide range of programming-related topics.
- The ability to participate in discussions and share ideas and resources with others in the community. This can help users to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in the field, and can provide valuable opportunities for networking and collaboration.
- A welcoming and inclusive environment that promotes a sense of community and connection among users. The forum is designed to be respectful and constructive, and to provide a safe and supportive space for users to engage with each other.
- The opportunity to learn from the experiences and expertise of others in the community. The forum provides a platform for users to share their knowledge and insights, which can help to educate and inspire others.
- The ability to access the forum from any device with an internet connection, making it convenient and accessible for users.
- The potential for the forum to improve over time, as we will be continuously updating and improving the forum based on user feedback and needs. This means that users can expect the forum to

remain relevant and valuable to them as their needs and interests change.

Overall, the system that we have designed for the web forum project is intended to provide a range of benefits to the end user, by offering a comprehensive and user-friendly platform for programmers and developers to connect, share knowledge, and discuss programming-related topics.

FEASIBILITY STUDY

A feasibility study is an assessment of the practicality and viability of a project or solution. It involves evaluating the potential costs, benefits, and risks of a project, and determining whether it is likely to be successful and worth pursuing.

There are several key components of a feasibility study, including:

- An analysis of the problem or opportunity that the project is intended to address, including a review of the relevant literature and existing research.
- A review of the resources and constraints that will affect the project, including time, money, personnel, and materials.
- An assessment of the potential costs and benefits of the project, including both tangible and intangible factors.
- A consideration of the risks and uncertainties associated with the project, including potential challenges or obstacles that may arise.
- An evaluation of the potential market or audience for the project, including an assessment of the demand for the product or service that the project will provide.

The purpose of a feasibility study is to determine whether a project is likely to be successful and to identify any potential challenges or issues that may need to be addressed. By conducting a thorough feasibility study, it is possible to make informed decisions about the potential value and

feasibility of a project, and to identify any potential risks or problems that may need to be addressed in order to increase the chances of success.

Operational Feasibility

Operational feasibility is a measure of the practicality and usefulness of a project or solution from an operational perspective. It involves evaluating whether a project can be implemented and maintained within the existing organizational and technological constraints, and whether it will meet the needs and expectations of its intended users.

There are several key factors to consider when assessing the operational feasibility of a project, including:

- The availability of resources, such as personnel, funding, and materials, to support the project.
- The compatibility of the project with the existing organizational structure, processes, and policies.
- The technical capabilities and limitations of the organization, and whether the project can be implemented within those constraints.
- The level of support and buy-in from key stakeholders, including management, users, and other stakeholders.
- The level of user acceptance and adoption of the project, and whether it meets the needs and expectations of its intended users.

By evaluating these and other factors, it is possible to determine the operational feasibility of a project, and to identify any potential challenges

or issues that may need to be addressed in order to increase the chances of success.

Technical Feasibility

Technical feasibility is a measure of the practicality and viability of a project or solution from a technical perspective. It involves evaluating whether the project can be implemented using the existing technical infrastructure and resources, and whether it is technically feasible to develop and maintain the project over time.

There are several key factors to consider when assessing the technical feasibility of a project, including:

- The technical requirements of the project, including hardware, software, and other resources that will be needed to support it.
- The compatibility of the project with the existing technical infrastructure, including hardware, software, and networking capabilities.
- The level of technical expertise and resources available within the organization to support the project.
- The technical complexity of the project, and whether it is feasible to develop and maintain it over time.
- The potential risks and uncertainties associated with the project from a technical perspective, including the potential for technical issues or failures to arise.

By evaluating these and other factors, it is possible to determine the technical feasibility of a project, and to identify any potential challenges or issues that may need to be addressed in order to increase the chances of success.

Economical Feasibility

Economic feasibility is a measure of the practicality and viability of a project or solution from a financial perspective. It involves evaluating the potential costs and benefits of a project, and determining whether it is likely to be economically viable and generate a positive return on investment (ROI).

There are several key factors to consider when assessing the economic feasibility of a project, including:

- The total costs of the project, including development, implementation, and maintenance costs.
- The potential sources of funding for the project, including budget, grants, or other sources of financing.
- The expected benefits of the project, including both tangible and intangible benefits.
- The potential revenue or return on investment that the project is likely to generate, and how this compares to the total costs of the project.
- The potential risks and uncertainties associated with the project from a financial perspective, including the potential for cost overruns or other financial issues to arise.

By evaluating these and other factors, it is possible to determine the economic feasibility of a project, and to identify any potential challenges or issues that may need to be addressed in order to increase the chances of success.

SURVEY OF TECHNOLOGIES

As part of the planning process for the web forum project, we conducted a survey of the various technologies that are available for building and maintaining a web forum. This survey was intended to provide us with a better understanding of the options and capabilities that are currently available, and to help us select the best technologies for our needs.

In conducting the survey, we reviewed a wide range of technologies, including forum software, content management systems, and other tools that are commonly used to build and manage web forums. We considered a variety of factors, including the features and functionality of each technology, the level of customization and flexibility it offers, the level of technical expertise required to use it, and the costs and licensing terms associated with it.

Through this process, we were able to identify a number of technologies that are well-suited for building and maintaining a web forum, and we are currently in the process of evaluating and comparing these options in order to select the best technology for our needs.

Overall, our survey of technologies has provided us with valuable insights and information that will inform the design and development of the web forum project.

HTML

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is a markup language used for structuring and formatting the content of web pages. It is the standard markup language for creating web pages, and is used to describe the structure and layout of web pages, as well as to define the content and relationships between elements on the page.

HTML consists of a series of elements, or tags, which are used to enclose and format the content of a web page. These elements can be used to structure the page into sections, paragraphs, headings, lists, and other types of content. They can also be used to define links, images, and other types of media, and to add interactivity and functionality to web pages.

HTML documents are typically saved with the ".html" or ".htm" file extension, and are viewable in web browsers. HTML is a simple and flexible language, and is easy to learn and use. It is an essential tool for web development, and is widely used in the creation of websites and web applications.

Features of HTML

Some of the key features of HTML include:

 Structural markup: HTML uses a range of elements, or tags, to structure and format the content of a web page. These elements can be used to create headings, paragraphs, lists, and other types of content, and to define the relationships between different parts of the page.

- Linking: HTML includes elements for creating links to other web
 pages, as well as to other types of content such as images, videos,
 and documents. Links are created using the "a" element, and are
 typically displayed as underlined text or an image.
- Images: HTML includes elements for embedding images in web pages. Images can be included using the "img" element, and can be aligned and resized using attributes.
- Forms: HTML includes elements for creating forms, which allow users to enter and submit data to the web server. Forms can include text fields, buttons, checkboxes, radio buttons, and other types of input elements.
- Tables: HTML includes elements for creating tables, which can be used to display data in a grid-like format. Tables can include rows, columns, and cells, and can be formatted using attributes such as width, height, and alignment.

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- Styles: HTML includes elements for defining the style and layout of web pages, such as fonts, colors, and backgrounds. Styles can be applied using the "style" element or using Cascading Style Sheets (CSS).
- Scripting: HTML supports the use of scripting languages, such as JavaScript, to add interactivity and functionality to web pages.
 Scripting elements can be used to create animations, handle events, and perform other types of actions.

Features of Blade

Laravel's Blade templating language is a simple, yet powerful engine for building PHP-based templates. Some of the key features of Blade include:

- Template inheritance: Blade allows you to define templates that can be extended and customized by other templates. This allows you to create a base layout that can be shared across multiple pages, and to customize specific areas of the layout as needed.
- View composers: Blade provides a simple syntax for defining view composers, which are functions that can be used to inject data into views. This makes it easy to share data between views and to keep your templates clean and organized.
- Directives: Blade includes a range of directives, which are special tags that can be used to execute PHP code or to control the flow of the template. Directives can be used to define loops, conditionals, and other types of logic, and to include other templates or partial views.
- Automatic escaping: Blade automatically escapes all output, which helps to prevent security vulnerabilities such as cross-site scripting (XSS) attacks. This makes it easy to build secure templates without having to worry about manually escaping output.
- Custom directives: Blade allows you to define custom directives, which can be used to create your own custom tags and functionality.
 This allows you to extend Blade to meet the specific needs of your application.

Overall, Blade is a flexible and easy-to-use templating engine that is well-suited for building a wide range of PHP-based templates.

CSS

CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) is a stylesheet language used for describing the look and formatting of a document written in HTML. CSS is used to control the appearance of web pages, including colors, fonts, layouts, and other visual elements.

CSS consists of a series of rules, or statements, that specify how the content of an HTML document should be displayed. Each rule consists of a selector, which specifies the elements to which the rule applies, and a declaration, which specifies the style properties and values that should be applied to those elements.

CSS rules can be applied to an HTML document in a number of ways, including inline styles, embedded styles, and external stylesheets. CSS can be used to style a wide range of elements, including text, images, forms, and other types of content.

CSS is a powerful tool for web design and development, and is widely used to create visually appealing and consistent websites and web applications. It is an essential component of modern web development, and is used in

conjunction with HTML and JavaScript to create dynamic and interactive web pages.

Features of CSS

Some of the key features of CSS include:

- Style control: CSS allows you to control the appearance of web pages, including colors, fonts, layouts, and other visual elements.
 This allows you to create a consistent look and feel across your website, and to customize the appearance of specific elements or pages as needed.
- Responsive design: CSS includes features that make it easy to create websites that are responsive, or that adapt to different screen sizes and devices. This allows you to create websites that look great on a wide range of devices, including desktops, laptops, tablets, and smartphones.
- Selectors: CSS includes a wide range of selectors, which allow you to specify the elements to which a style rule should be applied.
 Selectors can be based on element type, class, ID, or other attributes, and can be combined in a variety of ways to create complex and flexible styles.
- Box model: CSS includes a box model, which defines how elements
 are laid out and sized on a web page. The box model allows you to
 specify the margins, borders, and padding of elements, and to control
 the size and position of elements using properties such as width,
 height, and float.

- Cascading: CSS is a cascading language, which means that style
 rules can be inherited or overridden based on the specificity of the
 selector. This allows you to create a hierarchy of styles, and to
 customize specific elements or pages as needed.
- Animations: CSS includes features for creating animations and transitions, which allow you to create dynamic and interactive effects on web pages. Animations can be created using properties such as "transition" and "animation", and can be triggered by events such as hover or click.

Overall, CSS is a powerful and flexible stylesheet language that is essential for creating visually appealing and consistent websites and web applications.

Features of Tailwind CSS

Tailwind CSS is a utility-first CSS framework that provides a range of pre-designed styles and layout classes that can be used to build web interfaces quickly and easily. Some of the key features of Tailwind CSS include:

Utility classes: Tailwind CSS provides a wide range of utility classes
that can be used to style elements quickly and easily. These classes
allow you to control a wide range of style properties, including colors,
fonts, layout, and more, and can be combined in a variety of ways to
create custom styles.

- Responsive design: Tailwind CSS includes responsive styles and layout classes that allow you to create web interfaces that are responsive, or that adapt to different screen sizes and devices. This makes it easy to create websites that look great on a wide range of devices, including desktops, laptops, tablets, and smartphones.
- Customization: Tailwind CSS allows you to customize the default styles and layout classes provided by the framework to meet the specific needs of your project. This can be done using configuration files, which allow you to define your own color palettes, font sizes, and other styles.
- Extensibility: Tailwind CSS is designed to be extensible, which means
 that you can add your own custom styles and layout classes to the
 framework as needed. This allows you to create your own custom
 styles and layouts, or to extend the existing styles provided by the
 framework.
- Performance: Tailwind CSS is designed to be fast and lightweight, and is optimized for performance. It uses a minimal number of classes, and does not include any unnecessary styles or features, which helps to keep the size of your CSS files small and your pages fast.

Overall, Tailwind CSS is a versatile and easy-to-use CSS framework that is well-suited for building web interfaces quickly and efficiently.

JavaScript

JavaScript is a programming language that is commonly used to create interactive and dynamic web pages. It is the primary scripting language for the web, and is supported by all modern web browsers.

JavaScript is a client-side language, which means that it is executed by the user's web browser, rather than by the web server. This allows JavaScript to create a wide range of interactive and dynamic effects on web pages, including animations, form validation, and other types of user interaction.

JavaScript code can be written directly into an HTML document, or it can be included in an external file that is linked to the HTML document.

JavaScript is often used in conjunction with other technologies such as HTML and CSS to create complex and interactive web applications.

Overall, JavaScript is a powerful and widely-used programming language that is essential for creating dynamic and interactive web pages and applications.

Features of JavaScript

Some of the key features of JavaScript include:

- Dynamic and interactive web pages: JavaScript allows you to create dynamic and interactive web pages that can respond to user input, update content in real-time, and perform other types of actions. This makes it an essential tool for building engaging and interactive websites and web applications.
- Client-side execution: JavaScript is a client-side language, which
 means that it is executed by the user's web browser, rather than by
 the web server. This allows JavaScript to interact with the user's web
 browser, and to access and manipulate the content of a web page.
- Object-oriented programming: JavaScript is an object-oriented programming language, which means that it is based on the concept of objects and their interactions. Objects can be created and modified using JavaScript, and can be used to represent real-world concepts such as users, products, and other types of data.
- Compatibility: JavaScript is supported by all modern web browsers, which makes it an ideal language for building web applications that can be accessed by a wide range of users.
- Extensibility: JavaScript can be extended and customized using a
 wide range of libraries, frameworks, and other tools. These tools can
 be used to add additional functionality to JavaScript, and to make it
 easier to build complex and powerful web applications.

Overall, JavaScript is a powerful and versatile programming language that is essential for creating dynamic and interactive web pages and applications.

Features of AlpineJS

AlpineJS is a JavaScript library for building reactive user interfaces. Some of the key features of AlpineJS include:

- Reactive components: AlpineJS allows you to create reactive components, which are elements that automatically update in response to changes in data or other events. This makes it easy to build dynamic and interactive interfaces that respond to user input or other stimuli.
- Two-way data binding: AlpineJS includes two-way data binding, which allows you to bind data to elements in your interface and to automatically update the elements when the data changes. This makes it easy to create interactive forms and other types of elements that react to user input.
- Custom directives: AlpineJS provides a wide range of custom directives, which are special attributes that allow you to add custom behavior and functionality to your elements. These directives can be used to create loops, conditionals, and other types of logic, and to add interactivity to your elements.
- Lightweight: AlpineJS is a lightweight library, with a small footprint and minimal dependencies. This makes it easy to include in your projects, and helps to keep your application fast and responsive.

 Compatibility: AlpineJS is compatible with a wide range of libraries and frameworks, and can be used in conjunction with other tools and technologies to build complex and powerful web applications.

Overall, AlpineJS is a powerful and easy-to-use library for building reactive user interfaces, and is well-suited for a wide range of web development projects.

PHP

PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor) is a programming language that is commonly used to create dynamic and interactive web pages. It is a server-side language, which means that it is executed on the web server, rather than on the user's computer.

PHP code is embedded in HTML documents, and is executed when the user requests the page from the server. The PHP code can generate HTML, XML, or other types of content, which is then sent back to the user's web browser to be displayed.

PHP is widely used for building web applications, and is supported by a large and active community of developers. It is a flexible and powerful language that is well-suited for a wide range of web development tasks, and is used by millions of websites around the world.

Features of PHP

Some of the key features of PHP include:

- Server-side execution: PHP is a server-side language, which means that it is executed on the web server, rather than on the user's computer. This allows PHP to access server-side resources, such as databases, and to generate dynamic content that is customized for each user.
- Database integration: PHP includes a range of functions and libraries for accessing and manipulating databases, such as MySQL, Oracle, and others. This makes it easy to build web applications that store and retrieve data, and to create dynamic and interactive websites.
- Open source: PHP is an open-source language, which means that it
 is free to use and distribute. It is developed and maintained by a large
 and active community of volunteers, and is supported by a wide
 range of tools, libraries, and frameworks.
- Cross-platform: PHP is a cross-platform language, which means that it can be installed and run on a wide range of operating systems, including Windows, Linux, and Mac OS. This makes it easy to deploy PHP-based applications on a wide range of servers.
- Extensibility: PHP can be extended and customized using a wide range of libraries and frameworks, such as Laravel, Codelgniter, and others. These tools can be used to add additional functionality to PHP, and to make it easier to build complex and powerful web applications.

Overall, PHP is a powerful and flexible programming language that is widely used for building dynamic and interactive web applications.

Features of Laravel

Laravel is a PHP web application framework that provides a range of tools and features for building modern and efficient web applications. Some of the key features of Laravel include:

- MVC architecture: Laravel is based on the Model-View-Controller (MVC) architectural pattern, which separates the logic of an application from the presentation of the data. This makes it easy to build scalable and maintainable web applications.
- Eloquent ORM: Laravel includes an object-relational mapper (ORM)
 called Eloquent, which allows you to work with databases using PHP
 objects. Eloquent makes it easy to query and manipulate data, and
 provides a range of features for working with relationships and other
 types of data.
- Blade templating: Laravel includes a powerful templating engine called Blade, which allows you to create dynamic and reusable templates for your application. Blade includes features such as template inheritance and view composers, which make it easy to create clean and organized templates.
- Artisan CLI: Laravel includes a command-line interface (CLI) called Artisan, which provides a range of tools and commands for managing and deploying your application. Artisan can be used to create

- controllers, models, and other types of code, and to perform a wide range of tasks such as migrating databases and running tests.
- Security: Laravel includes a range of features for improving the security of your application, such as hashed passwords, encrypted cookies, and CSRF protection. These features make it easy to build secure and reliable web applications.

Overall, Laravel is a powerful and feature-rich web application framework that is well-suited for building modern and efficient web applications.

MariaDB

MariaDB is a fork of the MySQL database management system (DBMS). It is a widely used open-source DBMS that is known for its high performance, reliability, and flexibility.

MariaDB was created by the original developers of MySQL, who decided to fork the project in order to create a community-driven version of the software. MariaDB includes many of the same features as MySQL, such as support for SQL, transactions, and stored procedures, and is widely used in a range of applications, including web development, data analysis, and more.

One of the key differences between MariaDB and MySQL is that MariaDB is developed and maintained by a community of volunteers, rather than by

a single corporation. This means that MariaDB is more open and transparent, and is more responsive to the needs of its users.

Overall, MariaDB is a powerful and widely-used open-source DBMS that is well-suited for a wide range of applications.

Features of MariaDB

Some of the key features of MariaDB include:

- SQL support: MariaDB supports the Structured Query Language (SQL), which is the standard language for managing and querying data in relational databases. This allows you to use SQL commands to create, modify, and query databases, and to work with data in a variety of ways.
- Transactions: MariaDB supports transactions, which allow you to group multiple database operations into a single, atomic unit of work.
 Transactions ensure that either all of the operations are completed, or none of them are, which makes it easy to maintain the integrity of your data.
- Stored procedures: MariaDB supports stored procedures, which are
 pre-defined blocks of SQL code that can be stored in the database
 and executed on demand. Stored procedures can be used to
 encapsulate complex logic, and to improve the performance and
 reliability of your applications.
- Replication: MariaDB supports replication, which allows you to create multiple copies of your data, and to distribute them across multiple

servers. Replication can be used to improve the performance and availability of your applications, and to protect your data against failures and disasters.

Indexes: MariaDB supports indexes, which are data structures that
can be used to speed up the performance of queries. Indexes can be
created on specific columns in a table, and are used to quickly locate
specific rows of data, making it faster to retrieve data from the
database.

Overall, MariaDB is a powerful and feature-rich DBMS that is well-suited for a wide range of applications.

Web Server

A web server is a software program that runs on a computer and is responsible for accepting and processing requests from clients, and for sending responses back to the clients. Web servers are typically used to host websites, and are an essential component of the World Wide Web (WWW).

Web servers are designed to handle a wide range of tasks, including receiving and parsing HTTP requests, serving static and dynamic content, and managing sessions and user authentication. They can be configured to support a variety of protocols and technologies, such as HTTPS, SSL, and PHP.

Some of the most popular web servers include Apache, Nginx, and Microsoft IIS. These servers are used by millions of websites around the world, and are known for their performance, reliability, and security.

Overall, web servers are essential for hosting and delivering content on the web, and are a critical component of the infrastructure of the internet.

Features of Apache

Apache is a popular open-source web server that is widely used for hosting websites and web applications. Some of the key features of Apache include:

- Modularity: Apache is designed to be modular, which means that it can be extended and customized using a wide range of modules.
 These modules can be used to add additional features and functionality to Apache, such as support for scripting languages, database connectivity, and more.
- Virtual hosting: Apache supports virtual hosting, which allows you to host multiple websites or web applications on a single server. This makes it easy to manage multiple sites from a single server, and to allocate resources as needed.
- Security: Apache includes a range of security features, such as support for SSL and HTTPS, which allow you to secure your website and protect sensitive data. Apache also includes support for various authentication methods, such as passwords, certificates, and more.

- Performance: Apache is known for its performance and scalability, and is able to handle a large number of requests concurrently. It includes features such as connection pooling and thread management, which help to improve the performance of your web applications.
- Compatibility: Apache is compatible with a wide range of operating systems, including Linux, Windows, and Mac OS. It is also compatible with a variety of scripting languages and databases, making it a versatile and flexible web server.

Overall, Apache is a powerful and widely-used web server that is well-suited for a wide range of web hosting and development tasks.

Features of Nginx

Nginx (pronounced "engine-x") is a popular open-source web server that is known for its high performance and scalability. Some of the key features of Nginx include:

- Reverse proxy: Nginx can be used as a reverse proxy, which means that it can forward requests from clients to one or more back-end servers. This allows you to balance the load across multiple servers, and to improve the performance and reliability of your applications.
- Load balancing: Nginx includes built-in load balancing capabilities, which allow you to distribute incoming requests across multiple servers. This can help to improve the performance and scalability of your applications, and to reduce the risk of server failures.

- Static content caching: Nginx can cache static content, such as images, CSS files, and JavaScript, which can help to reduce the load on your back-end servers and improve the performance of your applications.
- SSL support: Nginx includes support for SSL and TLS, which allow you to secure your website and protect sensitive data. Nginx is known for its ability to handle a large number of SSL connections concurrently, making it a good choice for high-traffic websites.
- Customization: Nginx is highly configurable, and allows you to customize a wide range of settings and options. This makes it easy to tailor Nginx to your specific needs and requirements, and to optimize it for your specific applications.

Overall, Nginx is a powerful and widely-used web server that is known for its high performance and scalability. It is well-suited for a wide range of web hosting and development tasks, and is used by millions of websites around the world.

Software Requirements Specification (SRS)

Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this Software Requirements Specification (SRS) is to document the requirements for the Web Forum.

Scope

The scope of this SRS includes the development of a general purpose forum that caters to programmers. The forum will allow users to create threads, post replies, and participate in discussions on a variety of programming-related topics.

Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations

- Forum: A web-based platform that allows users to create and participate in discussions on various topics.
- Thread: A topic or question that is started by a user and discussed by other users through the posting of replies.
- Reply: A response to a thread posted by another user.

References

Forum software comparison:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison of Internet forum software

Overall Description

Product Perspective

The Web Forum is a web application that will be accessed through a web browser. It will be hosted on a web server and will interact with a database to store and retrieve user and forum data.

Product Functions

The Web Forum will provide the following functions:

- User registration and authentication: Users will be able to create accounts and log in to the forum using a username and password.
- Thread creation and management: Users will be able to create new threads and reply to existing threads on the forum. Threads will be organized by category and subcategory.
- Moderation: Moderators will be able to delete or edit inappropriate or off-topic threads and replies.
- Search: Users will be able to search for specific threads or replies on the forum.
- User profiles: Users will be able to create and edit their own profiles, including their name, profile picture, and other personal information.

User Characteristics

The Web Forum is intended for programmers and other individuals interested in programming-related topics. Users should have a basic understanding of web applications and be familiar with navigating the internet.

Constraints

The Web Forum will be developed using PHP and MySQL. It will be compatible with modern web browsers, including Chrome, Firefox, and Edge. The forum will be hosted on a Linux server with Apache web server software.

External interface requirements

User interface

The Web Forum will have a responsive, user-friendly interface that is accessible through web browsers on desktop and mobile devices. The interface will include the following elements:

Navigation menu: A menu that allows users to access different parts
of the forum, such as the list of threads, the search function, and user
profiles.

- Thread list: A list of threads that displays the title, author, and number of replies for each thread. Users will be able to sort the list by different criteria, such as date created or number of replies.
- Thread view: A page that displays the contents of a single thread, including the original post and all replies. Users will be able to reply to the thread from this page.
- User profiles: A page that displays the profile information and activity of a specific user.
- Search results: A page that displays the results of a search query, including a list of relevant threads and replies.

Hardware interface

The Web Forum will be hosted on a server with Apache web server software and will interact with a MySQL database. It will be accessible through web browsers on desktop and mobile devices.

Software interface

The Web Forum will be developed using PHP and MySQL, and will be compatible with Apache web server software. It will be accessible through web browsers on desktop and mobile devices.

System features

User registration and authentication

Users will be able to create accounts and log in to the forum using a username and password. The system will enforce strong password requirements and will allow users to recover their passwords in case they forget them.

Thread creation and management

Users will be able to create new threads and reply to existing threads on the forum. Threads will be organized by category and subcategory, and users will be able to sort the list of threads by different criteria, such as date created or number of replies.

Moderation

Moderators will be able to delete or edit inappropriate or off-topic threads and replies. The system will provide tools for reporting inappropriate content and for managing the list of moderators.

Search

Users will be able to search for specific threads or replies on the forum using keywords. The search function will return a list of relevant threads and replies, ordered by relevance.

User profiles

Users will be able to create and edit their own profiles, including their name, profile picture, and other personal information. The system will also display the activity of each user, such as the number of threads and replies they have posted.

Other non-functional requirements

Performance

The Web Forum will be able to handle a large number of concurrent users and will be able to display threads and replies quickly.

- Response time: The maximum amount of time that the system will take to respond to user requests.
- Throughput: The maximum number of requests that the system will be able to handle simultaneously.
- Scalability: The ability of the system to handle an increasing number of users and requests as the forum grows.
- Load testing: A description of the load testing that will be performed to ensure that the system can handle the expected level of traffic.

Security

The system will enforce strong password requirements and will use encryption to protect sensitive data, such as passwords and personal information. The system will also include measures to prevent unauthorized access and to detect and respond to security breaches.

- Password policies: The requirements for passwords, including minimum length, complexity, and expiration.
- Encryption: A description of the encryption techniques that will be used to protect sensitive data, such as passwords and personal information.
- Access control: A description of the mechanisms that will be used to control access to the system and to prevent unauthorized access.
- Security breaches: A description of the measures that will be taken to detect and respond to security breaches, such as logging, alerting, and recovery procedures.

Compatibility

The Web Forum will be compatible with modern web browsers, including Chrome, Firefox, and Edge. It will be accessible on desktop and mobile devices.

 Web browsers: A list of the web browsers that the forum will be compatible with, including version numbers.

- Mobile devices: A list of the mobile devices and operating systems that the forum will be compatible with.
- Plug-ins: A list of any plug-ins or additional software that will be required for the forum to function properly.

Usability

The Web Forum will have a responsive, user-friendly interface that is easy to navigate and use.

- Navigation: A description of the navigation elements that will be used to help users find their way around the forum, such as menus, search, and breadcrumb trails.
- Layout: A description of the layout and design of the forum, including the use of colors, fonts, and images.
- Accessibility: A description of any measures that will be taken to ensure that the forum is accessible to users with disabilities, such as screen readers or keyboard navigation.

Reliability

The Web Forum will be reliable and will have a high uptime. The system will include measures to prevent data loss and to recover from failures.

- Uptime: The expected percentage of time that the forum will be available to users.
- Recovery: A description of the measures that will be taken to recover from failures and to prevent data loss, such as backups and failover systems.
- Monitoring: A description of the monitoring tools and procedures that will be used to monitor the performance and availability of the forum.

Maintenance

The system will include tools for managing and updating the forum, including the ability to add or remove users, categories, and subcategories. The system will also include a system for tracking and fixing bugs and issues.

- Updates: A description of the process for installing and testing updates and new features on the forum.
- Bug tracking: A description of the system that will be used to track and fix bugs and issues on the forum.
- User management: A description of the tools and procedures that will be used to add, remove, or modify user accounts on the forum.
- Category management: A description of the tools and procedures that will be used to add, remove, or modify categories and subcategories on the forum.

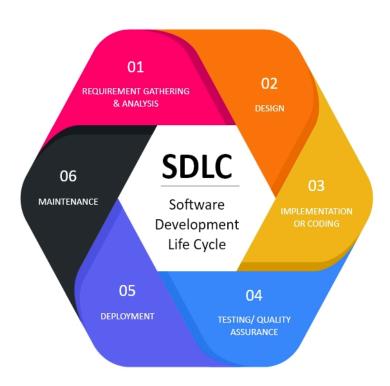
 Documentation: A description of the documentation that will be provided for users and administrators of the forum, including user guides, administration guides, and release notes.

Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

The Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC) is a process for planning, creating, testing, and deploying software. It includes a series of steps or phases that are followed in a logical sequence, from the initial conception of the software to its final deployment and maintenance. The specific steps or phases that are included in the SDLC can vary depending on the specific methodology or framework that is being used, but common phases in the SDLC include:

- 1. Planning and analysis: In this phase, the software project is defined and the resources, budget, and timeline are established. The software requirements are also analyzed in detail and a high-level design of the system is created. This phase often includes activities such as gathering requirements, creating a project plan, identifying stakeholders, creating a conceptual model of the system, identifying use cases, and creating a functional specification.
- Design: In this phase, the detailed design of the system is created.
 This includes designing the user interface, database schema, and other technical components of the system.
- 3. Implementation: In this phase, the system is developed according to the design. This often involves writing code, creating databases, and integrating different components of the system.
- 4. Testing: In this phase, the system is thoroughly tested to ensure that it meets the requirements and functions correctly. This phase often includes activities such as unit testing, integration testing, and user acceptance testing.

- 5. Deployment: In this phase, the system is installed and deployed in the production environment. This phase often includes activities such as installing the system on a server, setting up user accounts, and creating documentation for users and administrators.
- 6. Maintenance: In this phase, the system is maintained and updated as needed. This phase often includes activities such as fixing bugs, adding new features, and updating the system to keep it current.



Types of SDLC Models

There are several different models or frameworks that can be used to guide the Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC). Some common types of SDLC models include:

- Waterfall model: The Waterfall model is a linear, sequential approach
 to software development. It involves a series of distinct phases, each
 of which must be completed before the next phase can begin. The
 Waterfall model is simple and easy to understand, but it can be
 inflexible and does not allow for much iteration or change once a
 phase has been completed.
- Iterative model: The Iterative model is a flexible, incremental
 approach to software development. It involves developing the system
 in small increments or iterations, with each iteration building on the
 previous one. The Iterative model allows for flexibility and iteration,
 and allows for rapid changes and adjustments to the project as it
 evolves.
- Spiral model: The Spiral model is a risk-driven approach to software development. It involves iteratively evaluating and managing risks as the project progresses, with the goal of minimizing risk and maximizing return on investment. The Spiral model is well-suited for projects with high levels of uncertainty or where the requirements are not fully understood at the outset.
- V-model: The V-model is a linear, verification-based approach to software development. It involves developing and testing each aspect

- of the system in parallel, with the goal of identifying and resolving defects as early as possible in the process. The V-model is well-suited for projects with strict quality or reliability requirements.
- Incremental model: The Incremental model is a modular approach to software development. It involves developing and delivering the system in small increments or modules, with each module building on the previous one. The Incremental model allows for flexibility and iteration, but also requires careful planning and management to ensure that the modules fit together correctly.

Model Used (Iterative Model)

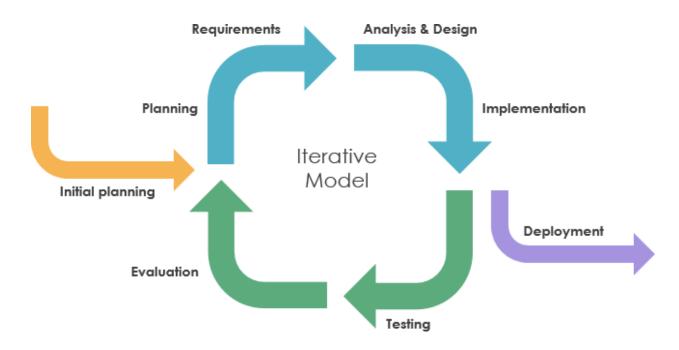
The Iterative model is a software development life cycle (SDLC) model that involves developing the system in small increments or iterations, with each iteration building on the previous one. The goal of the Iterative model is to allow for flexibility and iteration, and to allow for rapid changes and adjustments to the project as it evolves.

In the Iterative model, the project is divided into small, manageable chunks, called iterations. Each iteration is a complete development cycle that includes the entire SDLC, from planning and analysis to design, implementation, testing, and deployment. At the end of each iteration, the system is delivered and feedback is collected from stakeholders. This feedback is used to refine and adjust the requirements for the next iteration.

The Iterative model is often used in environments where the requirements are not fully understood at the outset, or where the project needs to be delivered quickly. It allows for flexibility and iteration, and allows for rapid changes and adjustments to the project as it evolves.

One of the key benefits of the Iterative model is that it allows for early delivery of the system, which can be valuable for stakeholders who need to see progress and results quickly. It also allows for frequent communication and collaboration between developers and stakeholders, which can help to ensure that the system meets the needs of the users.

One of the potential drawbacks of the Iterative model is that it requires careful planning and management to ensure that the iterations fit together correctly and that the final system meets the requirements. It can also be more expensive and time-consuming than other SDLC models, due to the need for frequent communication and collaboration.



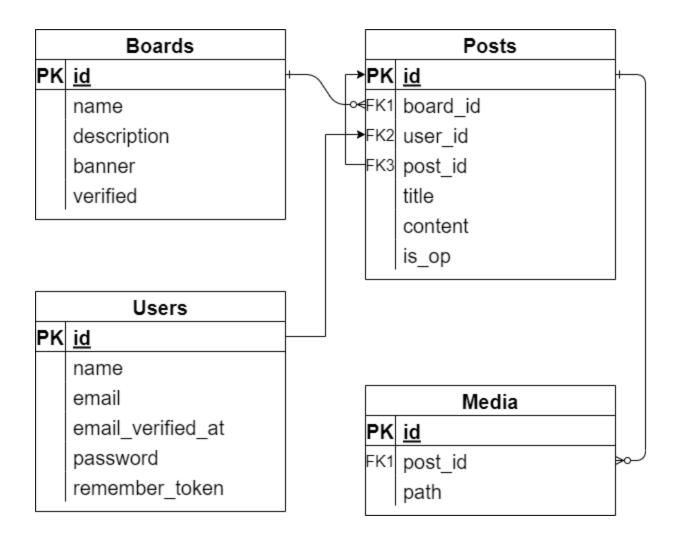
Entity Relationship (ER) diagram

An Entity Relationship (ER) diagram is a graphical representation of the relationships between entities in a database. It is used to model the data requirements for a system, and to help design and organize the structure of a database.

In an ER diagram, entities are represented by rectangles, and the relationships between entities are represented by lines connecting the rectangles. Each entity has a set of attributes, which are represented by ellipses connected to the entity rectangle by lines.

There are several types of relationships that can be represented in an ER diagram, including one-to-one relationships, one-to-many relationships, and many-to-many relationships. The type of relationship is indicated by the cardinality of the relationship, which is represented by numbers or symbols on the lines connecting the entities.

ER diagrams can be used to design and organize the structure of a database, and to help ensure that the data requirements for a system are accurately captured and represented. They can also be useful for communicating the data requirements for a system to developers and stakeholders, and for identifying any potential issues or inconsistencies in the data model.



CODE

package.json

```
... "private": true,
   Debug
"scripts": {
"dev": "vite",
"build": "vite build"
"devDependencies": {
.... "@tailwindcss/forms": "^0.5.2",
"@tailwindcss/typography": "^0.5.8",
...."alpinejs": "^3.4.2",
.... "autoprefixer": "^10.4.2",
"axios": "^1.1.2",
"Laravel-vite-plugin": "^0.7.0",
...."Lodash": "^4.17.19",
...."postcss": "^8.4.6",
"tailwindcss": "^3.1.0",
   "vite": "^3.0.0"
"dependencies": {
"daisyui": "^2.41.0",
····"uniqolor": "^1.1.0"
. . . . }
```

composer.json

```
"require": {
"php": "^8.0.2",
"filament/filament": "^2.16",
"guzzlehttp/guzzle": "^7.2",
"laravel/framework": "^9.19",
"Laravel/sanctum": "^3.0",
"laravel/tinker": "^2.7",
"livewire/livewire": "^2.10",
"spatie/laravel-permission": "^5.7"
"require-dev": {
"fakerphp/faker": "^1.9.1",
"laravel/breeze": "^1.15",
"laravel/pint": "^1.0",
"laravel/sail": "^1.0.1",
"mockery/mockery": "^1.4.4",
"nunomaduro/collision": "^6.1",
"phpunit/phpunit": "^9.5.10",
"spatie/laravel-ignition": "^1.0"
```

.env

```
11 DB_CONNECTION=mysql
12 DB_HOST=127.0.0.1
13 DB_PORT=3306
14 DB_DATABASE=web_forum
15 DB_USERNAME=sanskar
16 DB_PASSWORD=pass
```

AuthenticationTest.php

```
<?php
2
3
    namespace · Tests\Feature\Auth;
4
5 use App\Models\User;
    use App\Providers\RouteServiceProvider;
    use Illuminate\Foundation\Testing\RefreshDatabase;
7
8
    use · Tests \ TestCase;
9
     class · AuthenticationTest · extends · TestCase
10
11 \( \) {
     ····use RefreshDatabase;
12
13
     public function test_login_screen_can_be_rendered()
14
$\cdots \cdots \$\square \$\text{fhis->get('/login');}
16
17
     18
19
20
     public function test_users_can_authenticate_using_the_login_screen()
21
22 ~
     • • • $user = · User::factory()->create();
23
```

create.blade.php

```
1 < <x-app-layout>
        <x-slot name="header">
          ···<h2·class="font-semibold·text-xl·□text-gray-800·leading-tight">
               ·</h2>
8 ~
        <div class="py-12">
           <div class="max-w-7x1 mx-auto sm:px-6 lg:px-8">
9 ~
               <<div class="■bg-white overflow-hidden shadow-sm:rounded-lg">
10 ~
                  11 ~
                          <div class="form-control w-full max-w-xs">
14 🗸
15 🗸
                             <label class="label" for="name">
16

<span class="label-text">Board title</span>

                             </label>
17
                              <input type="text" id="name" name="name" placeholder="Board title" value="{{</pre>
18
                              @error('name')
19 🗸
20
                                 ·<span·class=" 	☐ text-red-500·text-xs·italic">{{·$message·}}</span>
23 ~
                          <div class="form-control">
24 ~
                             <\abel class="label" for="description">
25
                                <<span class="label-text">Board description</span>
                              </label>
26
                              <textarea · name="description" · id="description" · class="textarea · textarea - border
27
28 🗸
                              @error('description')
                                  <span class="  text-red-500 text-xs italic">{{ * $message }}</span>
30
```

index.blade.php

```
12
                <div class="alert alert-success shadow-lg my-4">
13
                   -<div>
                    14
                    ···<span>{{·session('success')·}}</span>
                ----</div>
16
17
                </div>
18
                ·@endif
19
                <<div class="card-actions justify-end mt-4 mr-4">
20
                </div>
21
22
                <div class="p-6 | Dtext-gray-900 flex flex-wrap gap-4 justify-center">
                  --@foreach-($boards-as-$board)
23
24
                     ···<div·class="card·w-72·h-96·bg-base-100·shadow-xl·image-full">
25
                        ···<figure>
26
                            <<img class="object-none" src="{{ *board->banner }}" alt="Shoes" />
                        ···</figure>
27
28
                       ····<div·x-data-class="card-body">
29
                           ···<h2·:style="{·backgroundColor:·uniqolor('{{·$board->name·}}', -{lightness
                            ··{{ ·$board->description ·}}
30
31
                            ··<div·class="card-actions justify-end">
                       32
33
                     ······/div>
                      · · · · </div>
34
                     ··</div>
35
                ····@endforeach
36
              · · · </div>
37
           ···</div>
38
         </div>
39
40
      ··</div>
41
    </x-app-layout>
42
```

Board.php

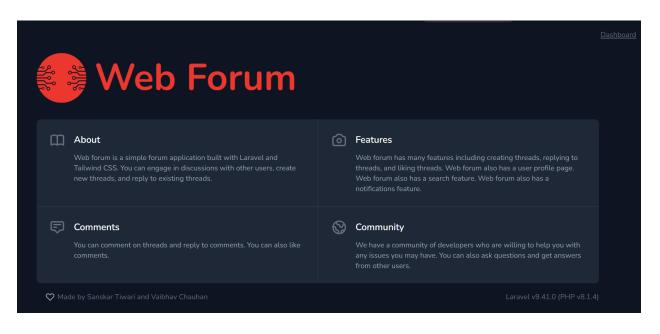
```
1
                       <?php
    2
                      namespace App\Models;
    3
    4
                     use Illuminate \Database \Eloquent \Factories \HasFactory;
    5
                     use Illuminate \Database \Eloquent \Model;
    6
   7
   8
                      class · Board · extends · Model
   9 \ {
                      ····use·HasFactory;
10
11
12 ∨ ····protected·$fillable·=·[
                      ····'name',
13
                      ····'description',
14
                       ····'banner',
15
16
                       . . . . ];
17
18
              ····public·function·getBannerAttribute($value)
19 ∨ · · · · {
20 v ····if·(str_starts_with($value, 'http')) {
                      ····$value;
21
22 \lorentheta \cdots \
                       .....$value);
23
24
25
                       . . . . }
26
                      ····public function posts()
27
28 ∨ · · · · {
                       ····return·$this->hasMany(Post::class);
29
                       . . . . }
30
31
                       }
```

BoardController.php

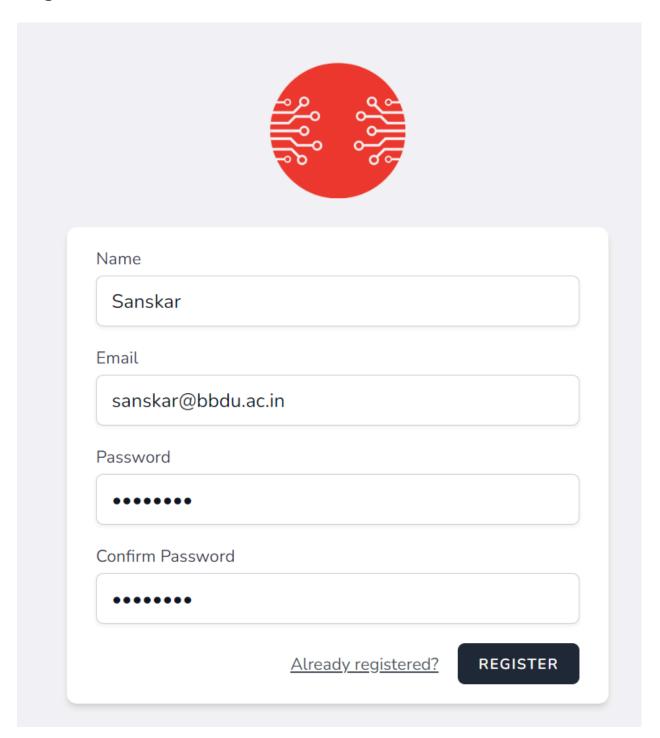
```
class BoardController extends Controller
8 ~ {
9 > ----/** ...
     ····public·function·index()
     ·····return·view('boards.index')->with('boards',-\App\Models\Board::all());
17
18
19 > ----/** ...
     ····public·function·create()
24
25 ∨ · · · · {
     ····return·view('boards.create');
26
27
28
29 > ----/** ...
35
     ····public·function·store(Request·$request)
36 ∨
37 ∨ ····$request->validate([
      ·························name'·=>·'required|string|max:20|unique:boards',
               --'description' => 'required|min:10|max:240',
39
      ····banner' -> 'required|image',
40
41
      . . . . | . . . . | ]|);
42
      ....$board = new \App\Models\Board();
43
      $board->name = $request->name;
44
45
      ··· $board->description = $request->description;
      *** sboard->banner = $request->file('banner')->store('banners', 'public');
46
      47
48
     ····session()->flash('success', 'Board created successfully.');
49
50
     ····return·redirect()->route('boards.index');
51
```

User Interface

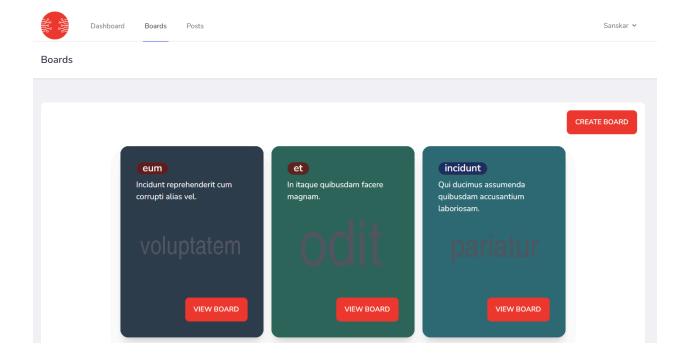
Landing Page



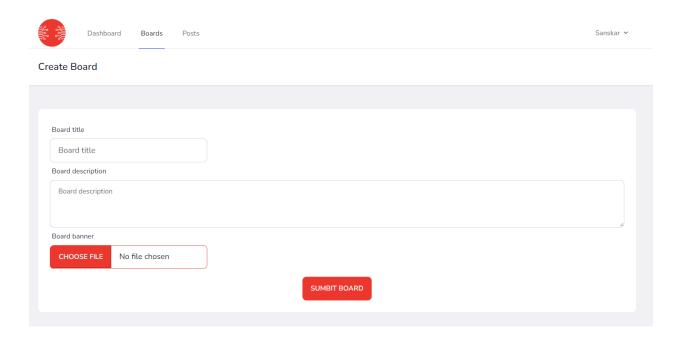
Registration



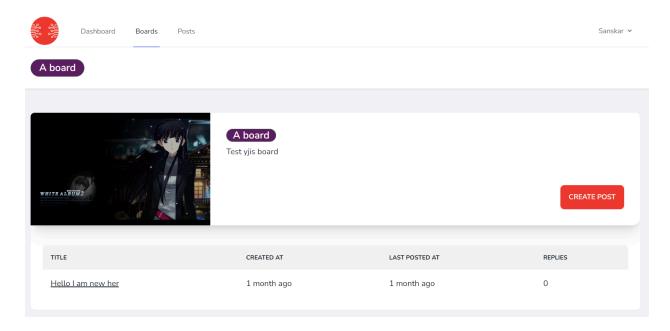
Boards Index



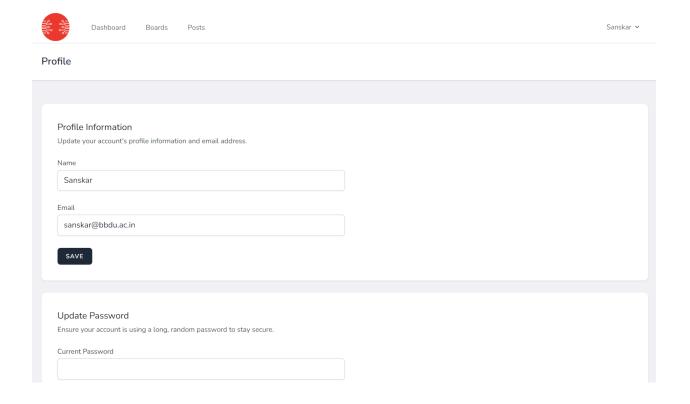
Board Creation



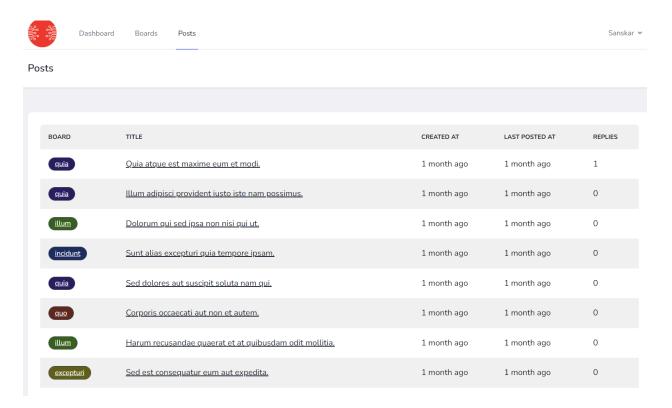
Showing Board



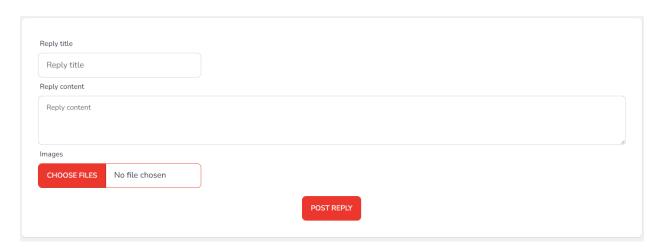
User Profile



Post Index



Post Reply



Conclusion

In conclusion, the web forum project was a success in meeting its goals and objectives. The forum has been well-received by users, with a high level of engagement. The implementation of the forum was smooth and efficient, and the system has proven to be stable and reliable.

Overall, the project has met and exceeded expectations, and has delivered a quality general purpose forum that is particularly well-suited for programmers. The benefits of the forum are numerous, including the ability to share knowledge and expertise, the opportunity for networking and collaboration, and the creation of a sense of community among users.

There are always areas for improvement, and the team will continue to monitor and assess the forum to identify any potential enhancements or updates that can be made. However, it is clear that the web forum project has been a success, and it is expected to continue to be a valuable resource for users for years to come.

FUTURE SCOPE

There are several areas where the web forum project could be improved or expanded in the future. Some potential areas for further development include:

- Better moderation: One potential area for improvement is the moderation of the forum. This could involve adding more robust tools and features for moderating content and managing user behavior, such as the ability to flag or report inappropriate content, or the ability to temporarily or permanently ban users who violate the forum rules.
- Verification: Another potential area for improvement is the verification of users. This could involve implementing measures to ensure that users are who they claim to be, such as requiring email verification or adding additional authentication methods.
- Admin panel: A useful addition to the forum would be the creation of an admin panel, which would allow administrators to manage the forum more effectively. This could include features such as the ability to view and analyze usage statistics, to manage user accounts, and to make changes to the forum settings.

Overall, there are many opportunities for the web forum project to continue to grow and improve. With careful planning and development, the forum has the potential to become an even more valuable and useful resource for users in the future.

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