shnip.it

Who? F. Hu J. Kay F. Johnson R. Saunders
J. Warburton

When? 2014-04-10

Project Infrastructure

Planning

Redmine

- Well-known, established Free project-management software
- Very customizable
- VCS integration
- . . . but kind of a pain to set up!

Backlogs

- Scrum support for Redmine
- Group tasks into sprints
- Nice burndown charts
- Only thing we found that works with our Redmine version ☺

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Collaboration

git

- Lets us work without stepping on each others' toes
- Keeps track of work put into the project via the commit log
- Write-up using TEX; can be put in git too!
- Mature, stable infrastructure. . .

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- Service for maintaining a 'canonical' centralized repository
- Also provides communication services like an issue tracker or code comments (but we didn't use these)

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Concept

Domain

- **Snippets** are pieces of code in a particular language that somebody might want to insert into their program.
- **Boards** are organizational objects used to group snippets into semantically related sets, and apply permissions (to allow the system to be used with sensitive codebases).

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Requirements

Market Research

Features

- Code-oriented features like syntax highlighting and line numbering
- Ease of sharing
- Plausibility of editor integration

Competitors

- **GitHub Gists**, as well as pastebin sites like **pastebin.com**, are code-oriented and can be shared, but provide no API for editor integration.
- **Google Docs** can be shared, but is not designed for code, and has no friendly API for integration.
- **yasnippet** and similar snippet tools are integrated with the editor (often only one editor, and can't be reused between editors), but provide no means of sharing.

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Functional Requirements

Research

To get an idea of what users would want from such a system, if at all, we produced a **questionnaire**.

Formulation

Since we used Scrum, we found it easiest to specify our functional requirements directly as **user stories**. This also helped us verify our functional tests.

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- The possibility that we might store sensitive data

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Implementation

Front-End

- We decided to create a Web-based user interface using **HTML5/CSS3/JavaScript** for ease of deployment
- **jQuery** was used for some special effects
- **Backbone.js** for communicating with the server when loading or storing data dynamically

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Back-End

- **Python** since it is already familiar to everyone in our group and has some good tools for rapid Web development
- **Django**, a well-respected MVC Web framework, provided an assortment of useful development tools
- **Django REST Framework**, for exporting a RESTful API from an application
- **PostgreSQL** is the most standards-compliant Free database we found
- But we also used **SQLite** for distributed development — Django makes the choice of SQL server mostly transparent

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Development Model

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Scrum

- Divide project up into flexibly-scheduled sprints — suits university schedule (exams &c.)!
- Respond rapidly to changing requirements as we discovered them

TDD

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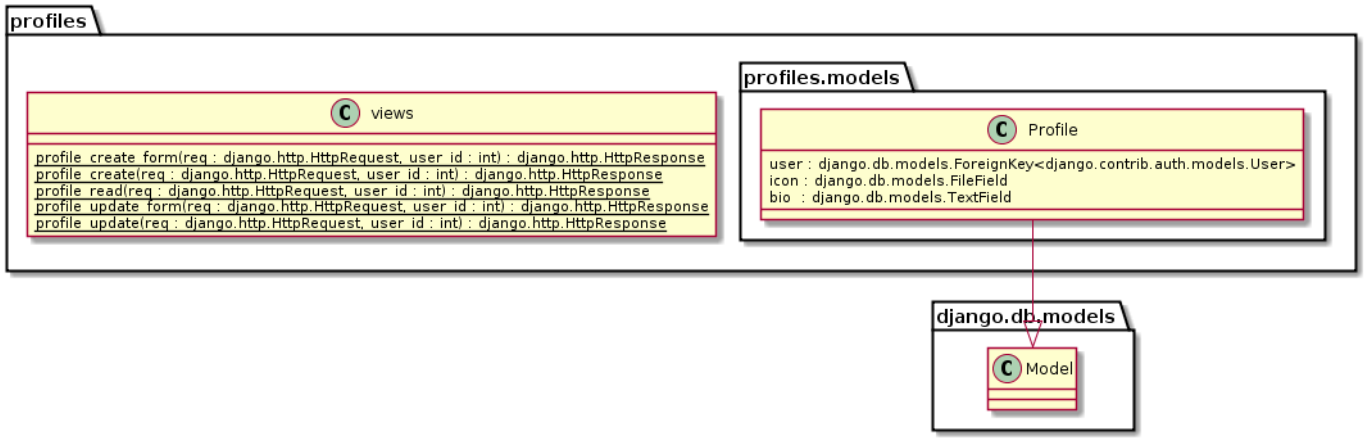
Design

Class Diagrams



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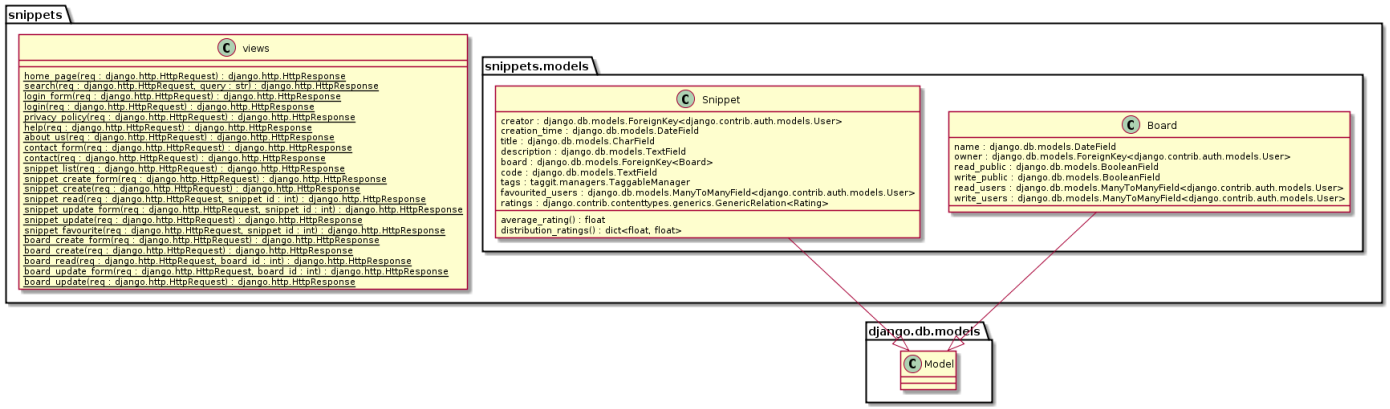

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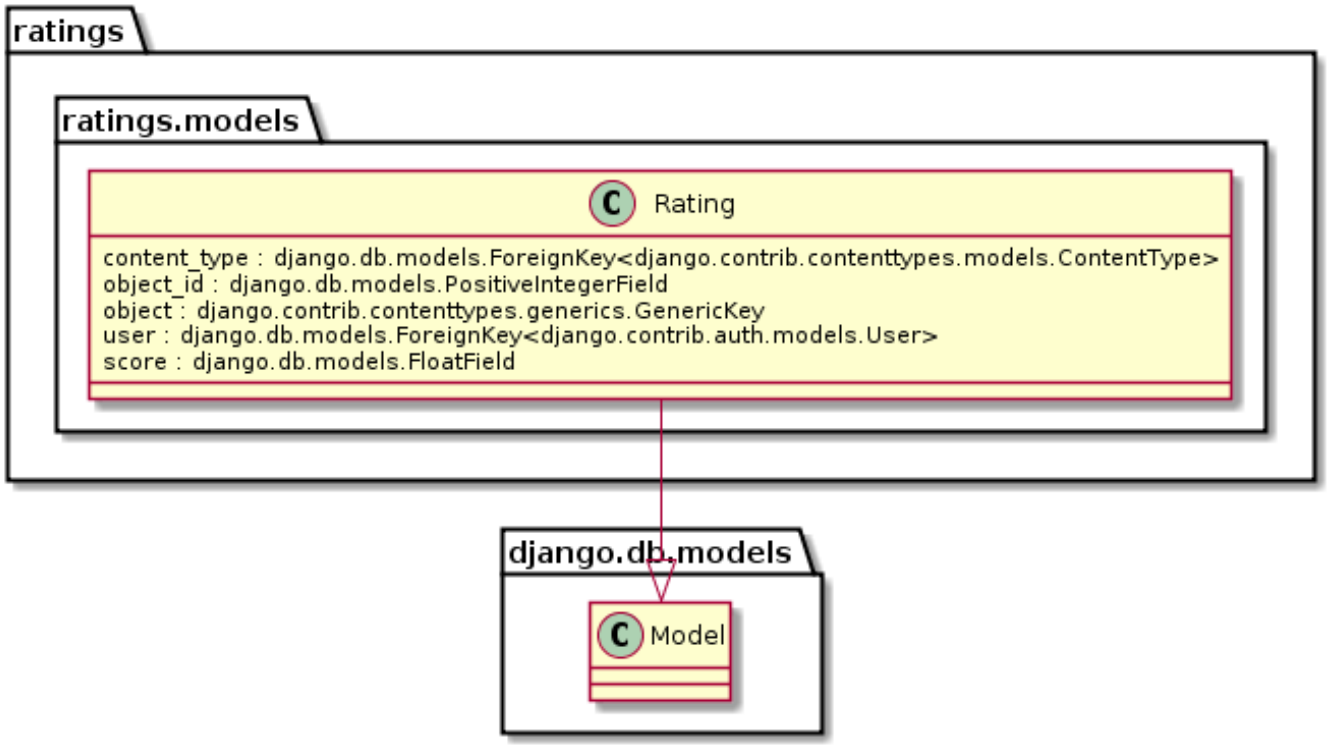

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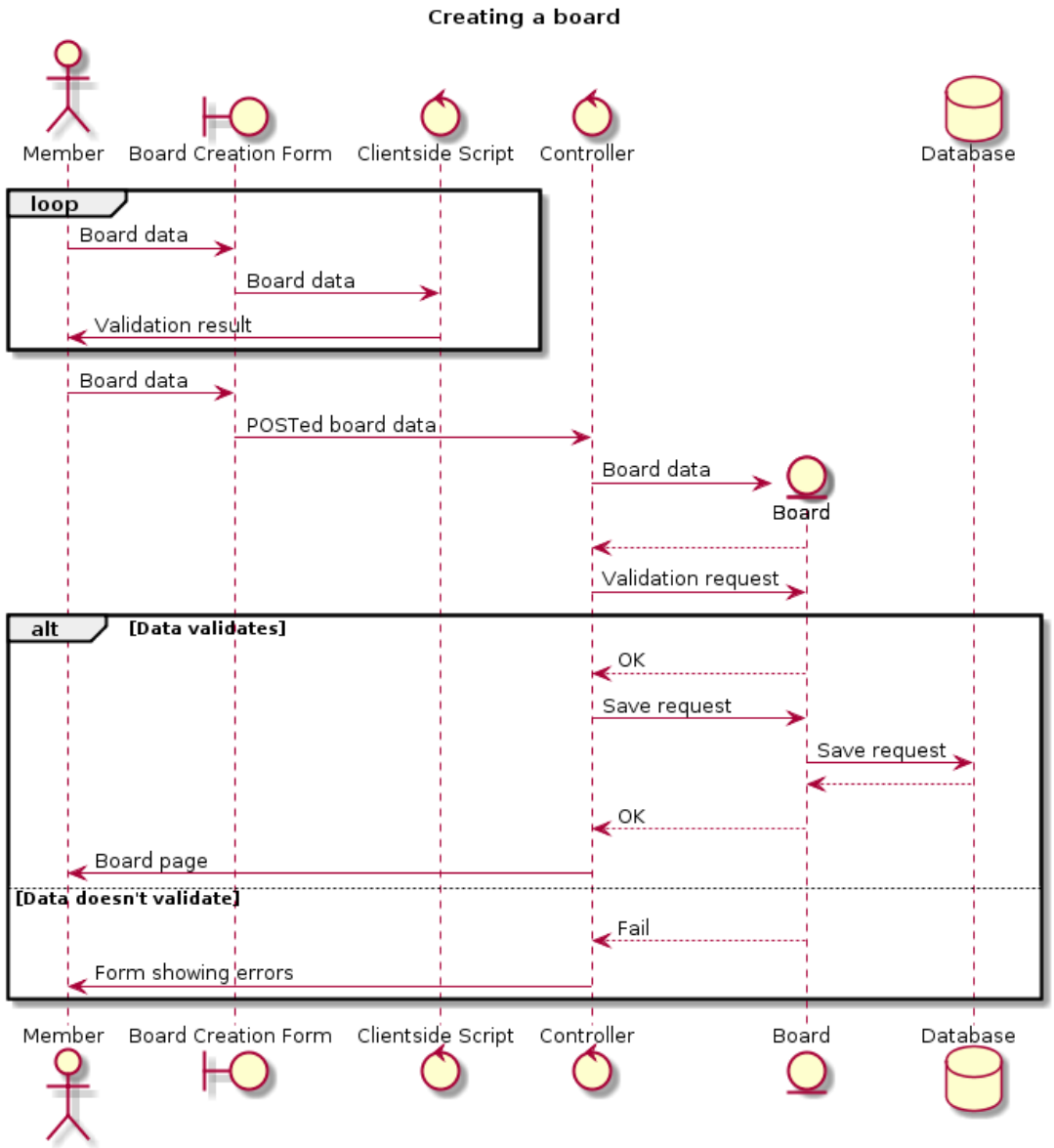

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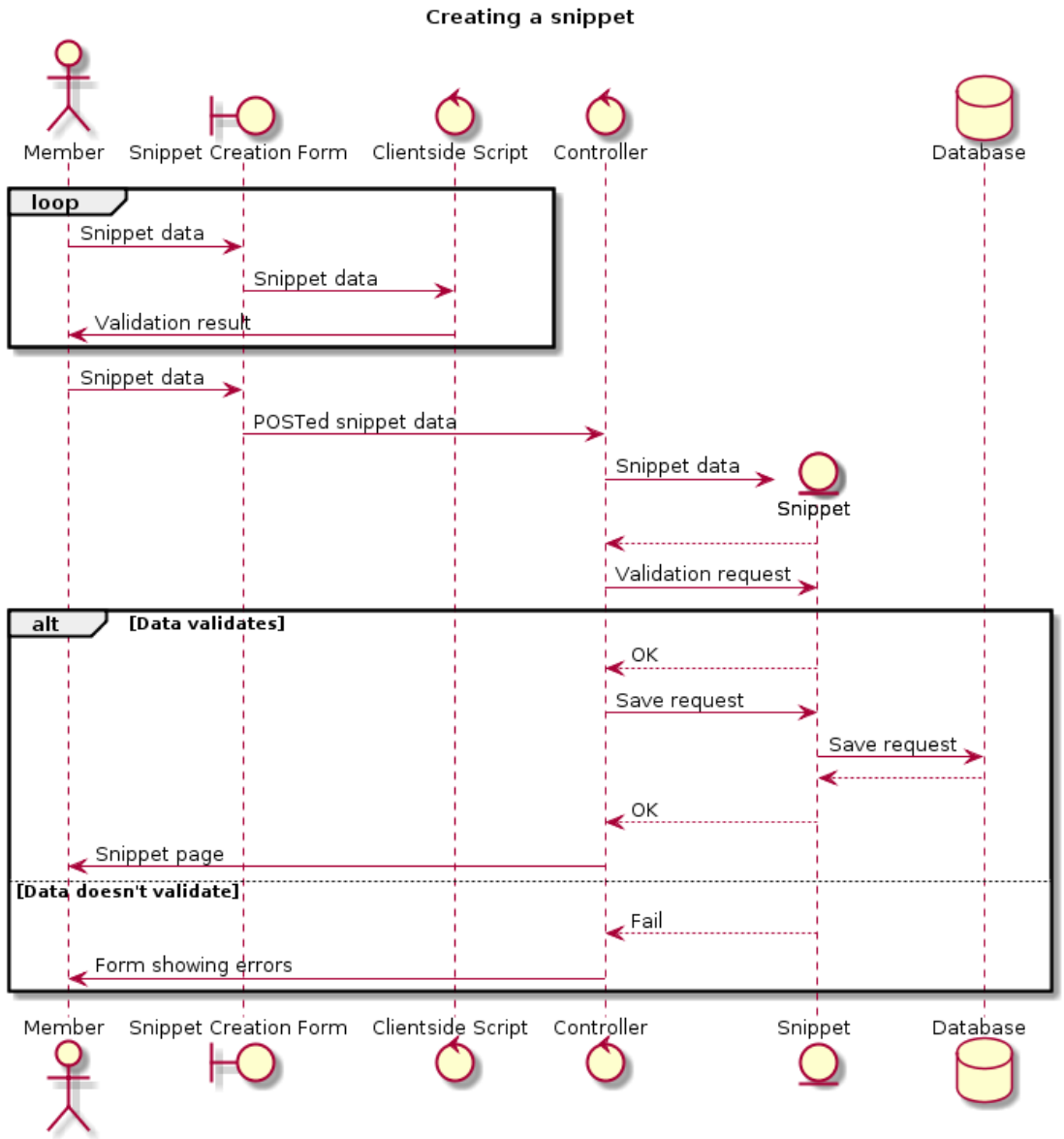

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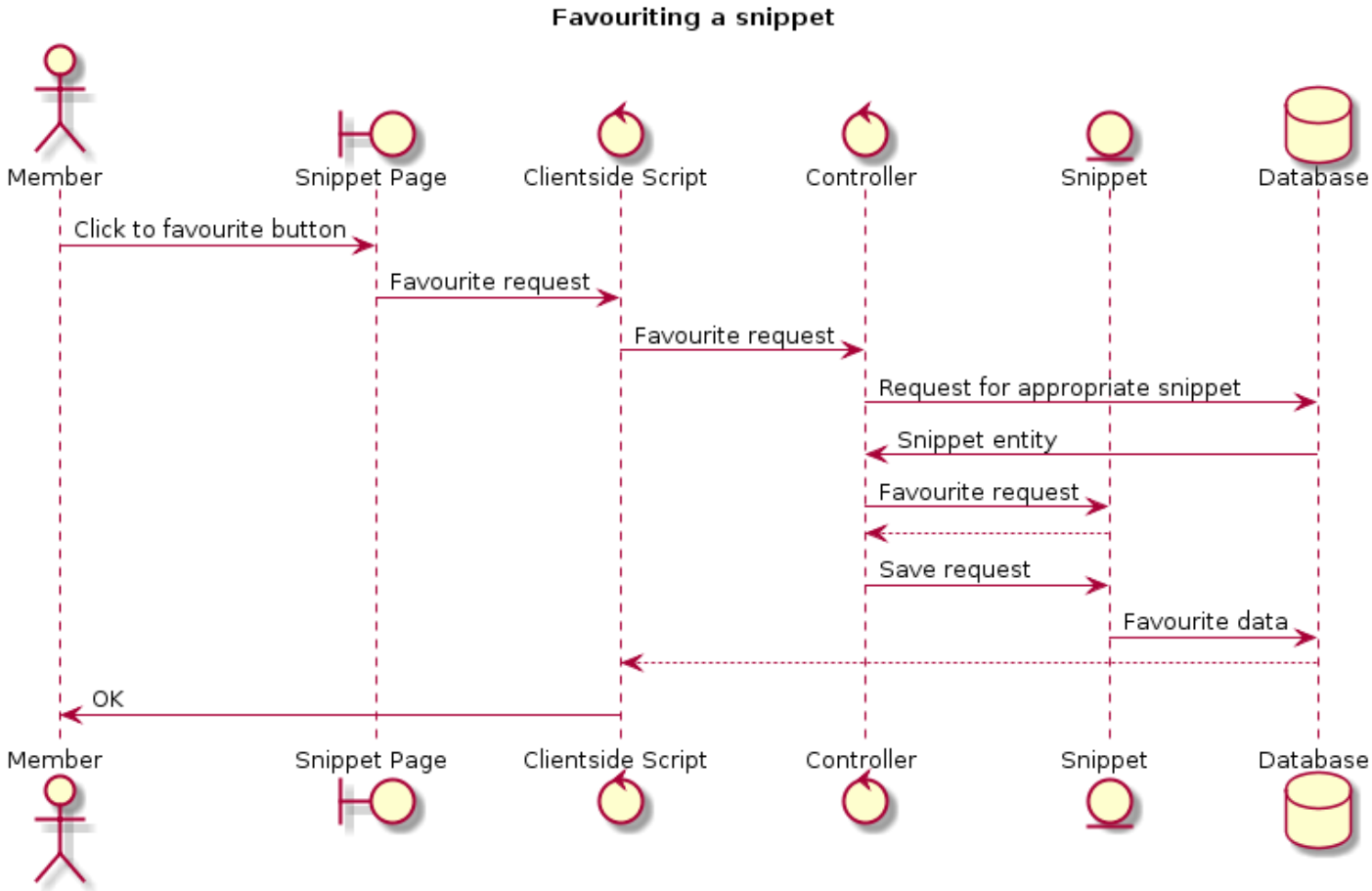

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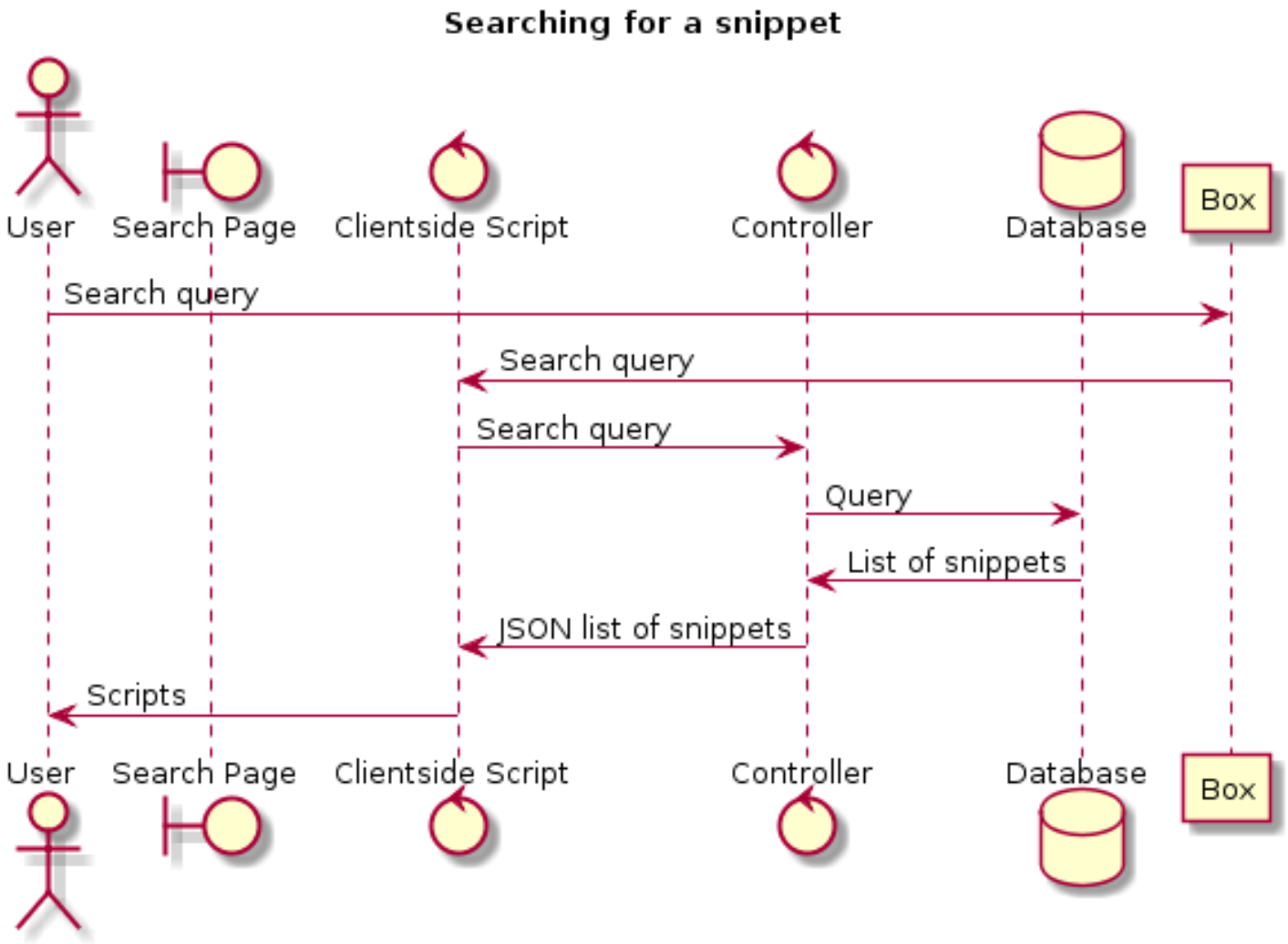

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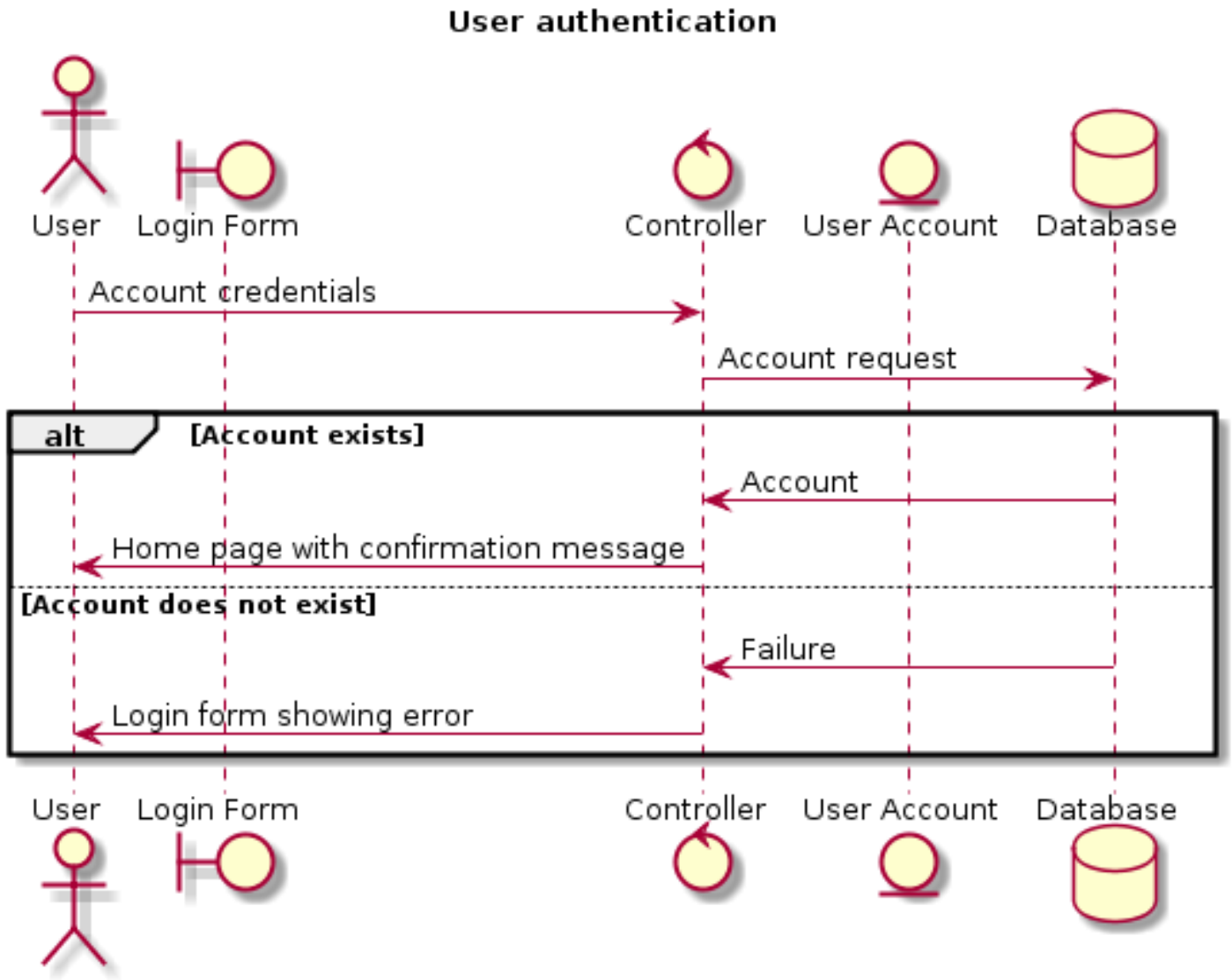

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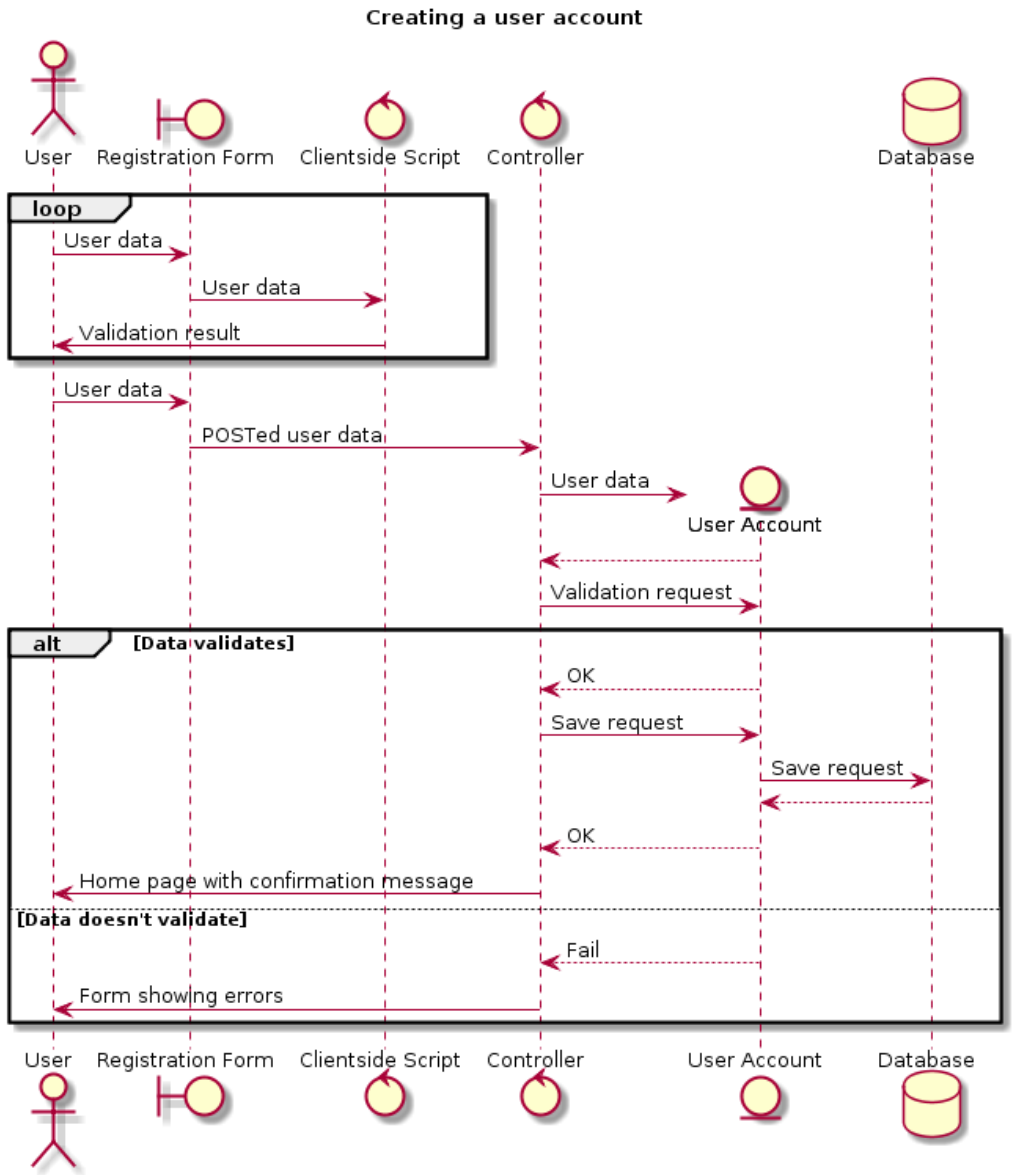
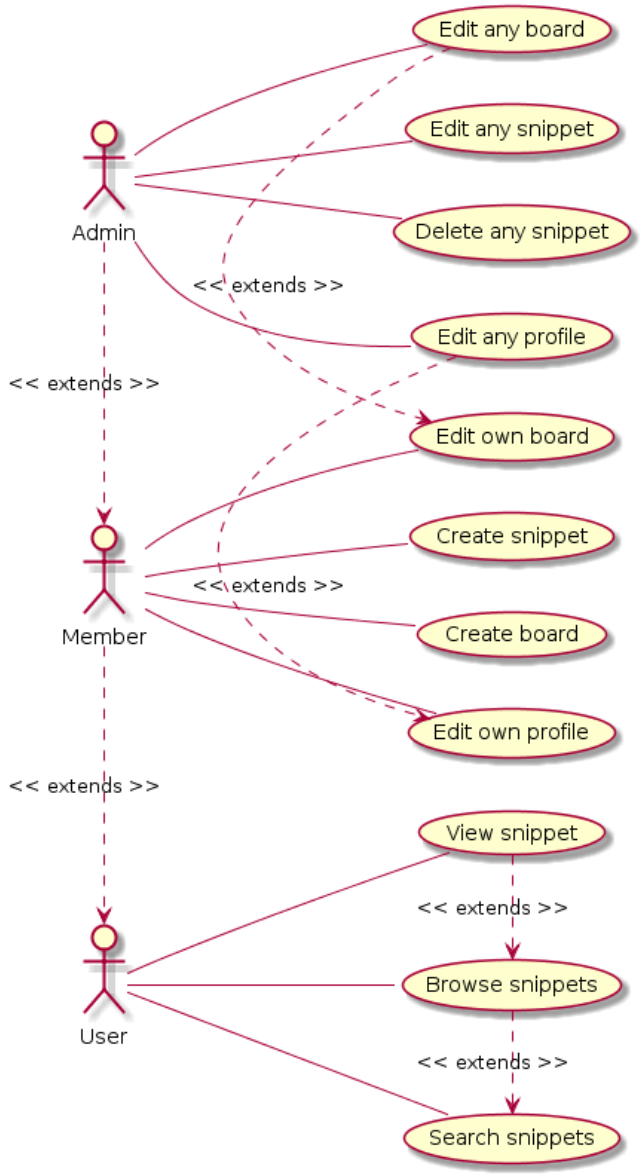
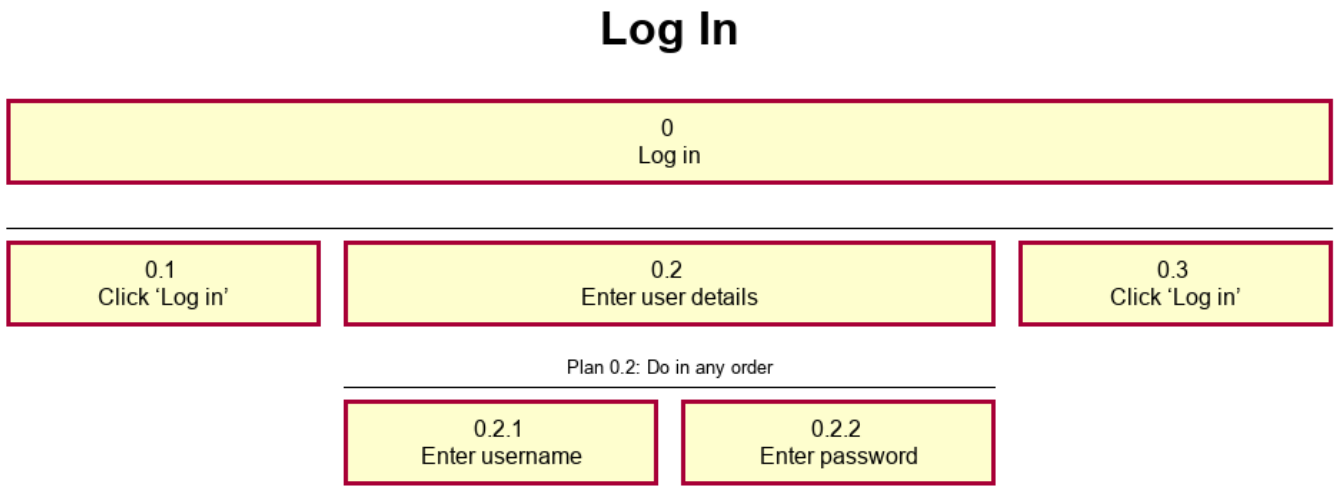


Use-Case Diagram



Hierarchical Task Analyses



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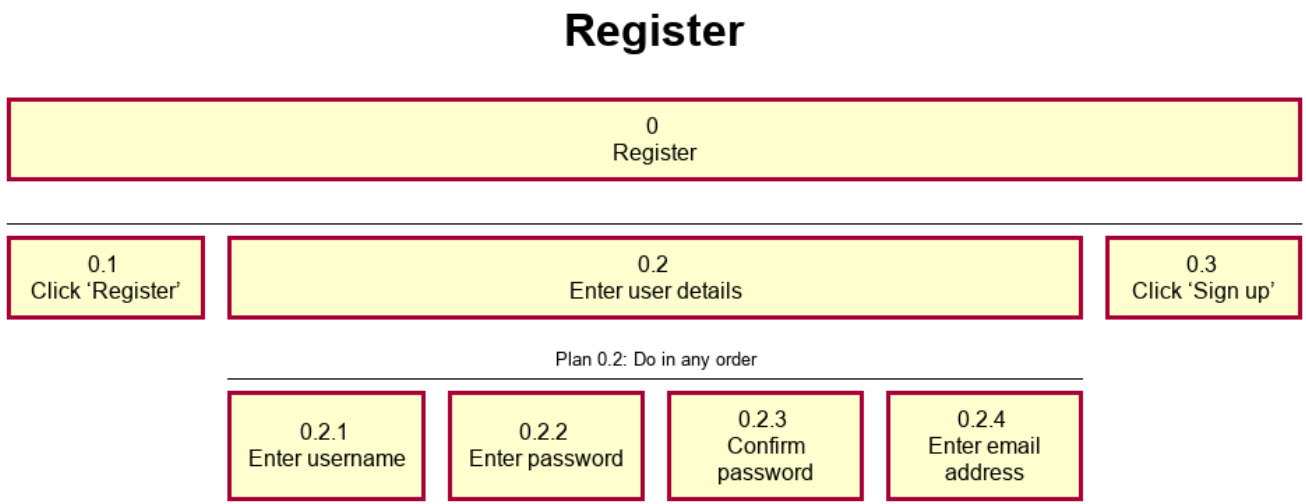

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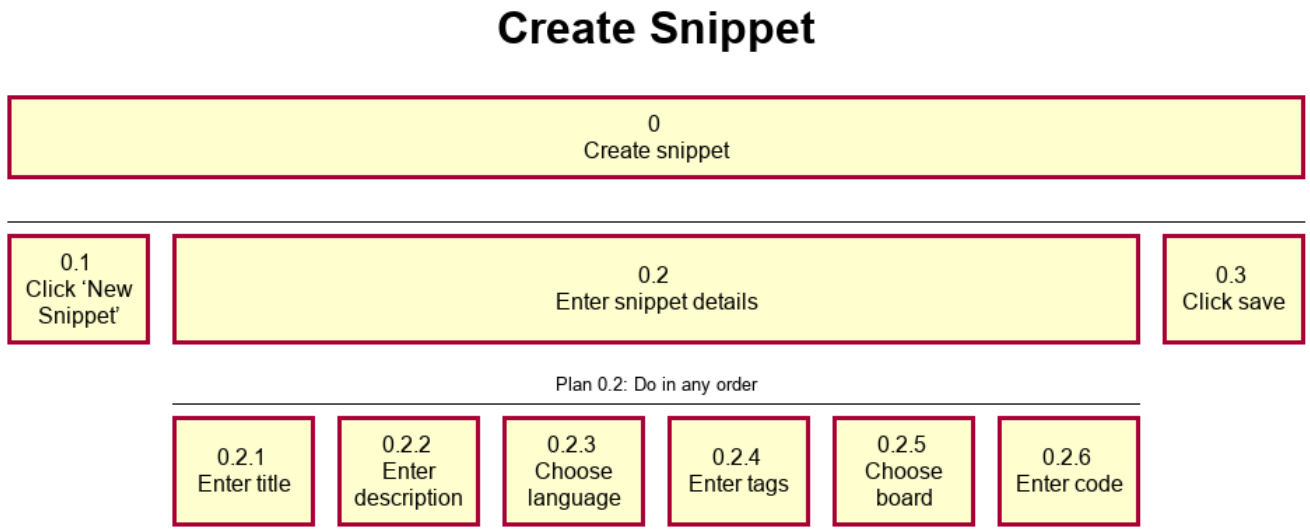

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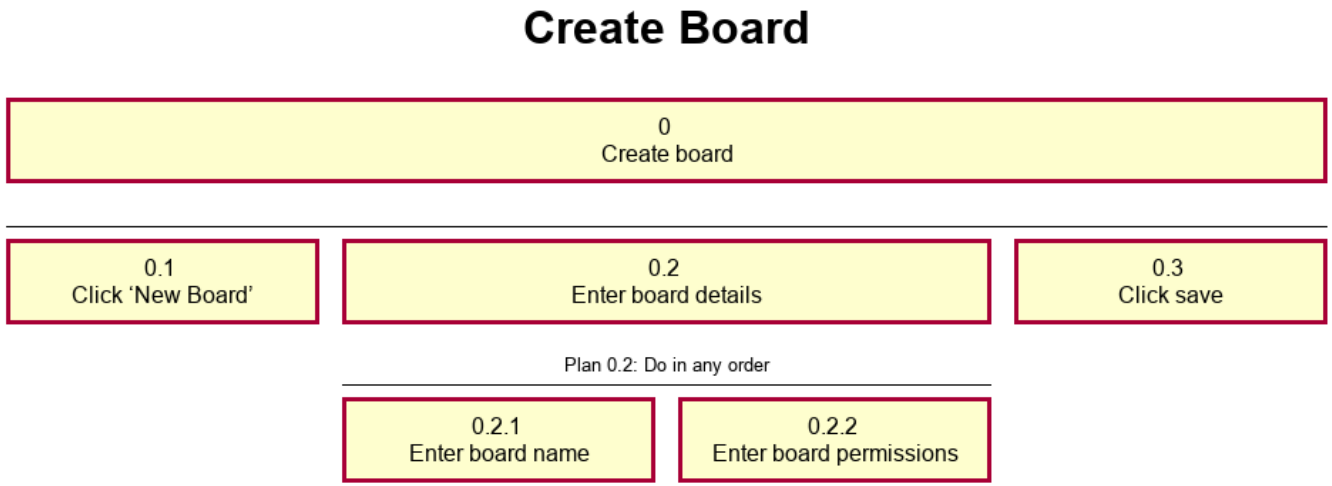

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- Colour scheme
- Navigation
- Recognition over recall
- Expectation

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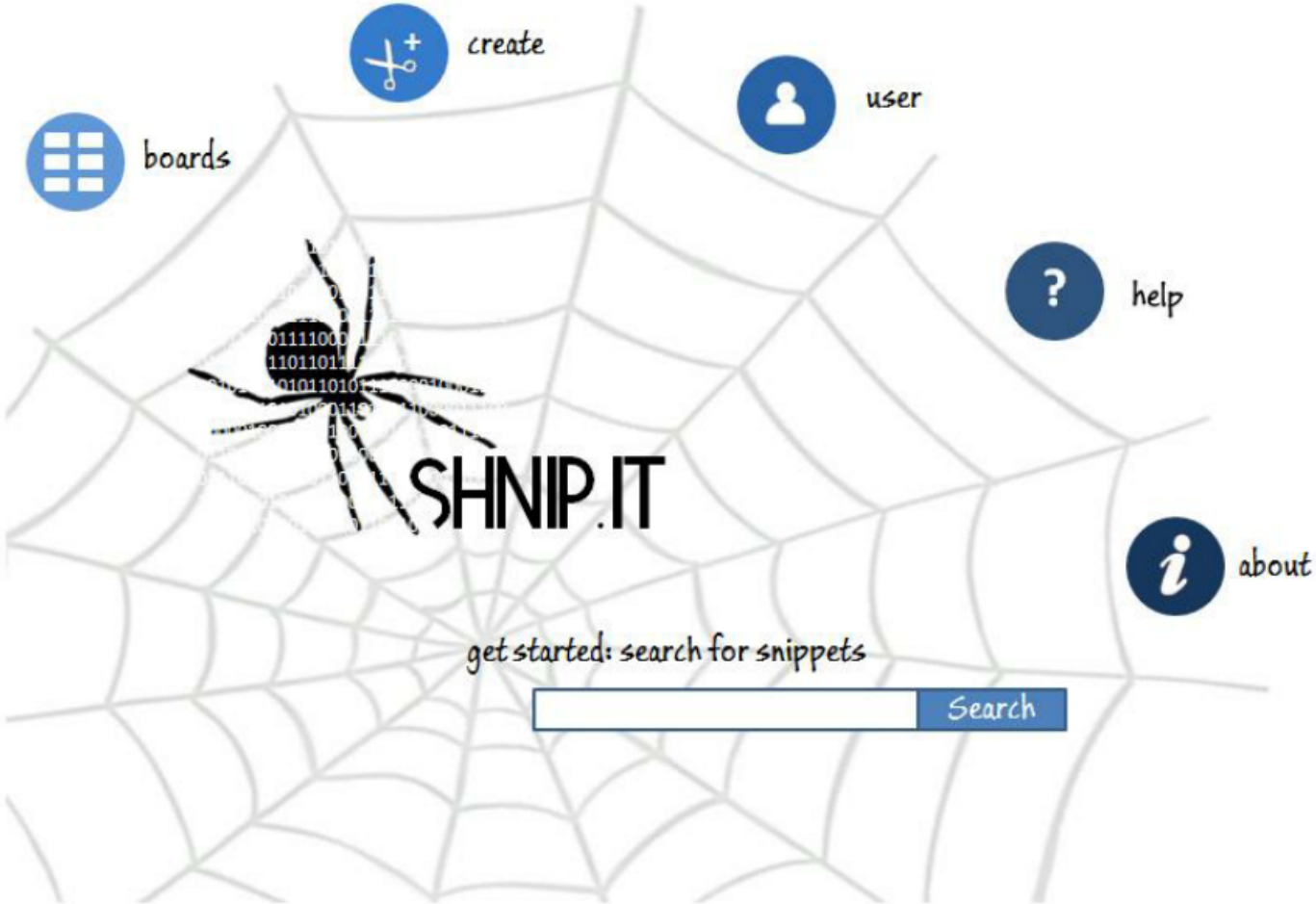

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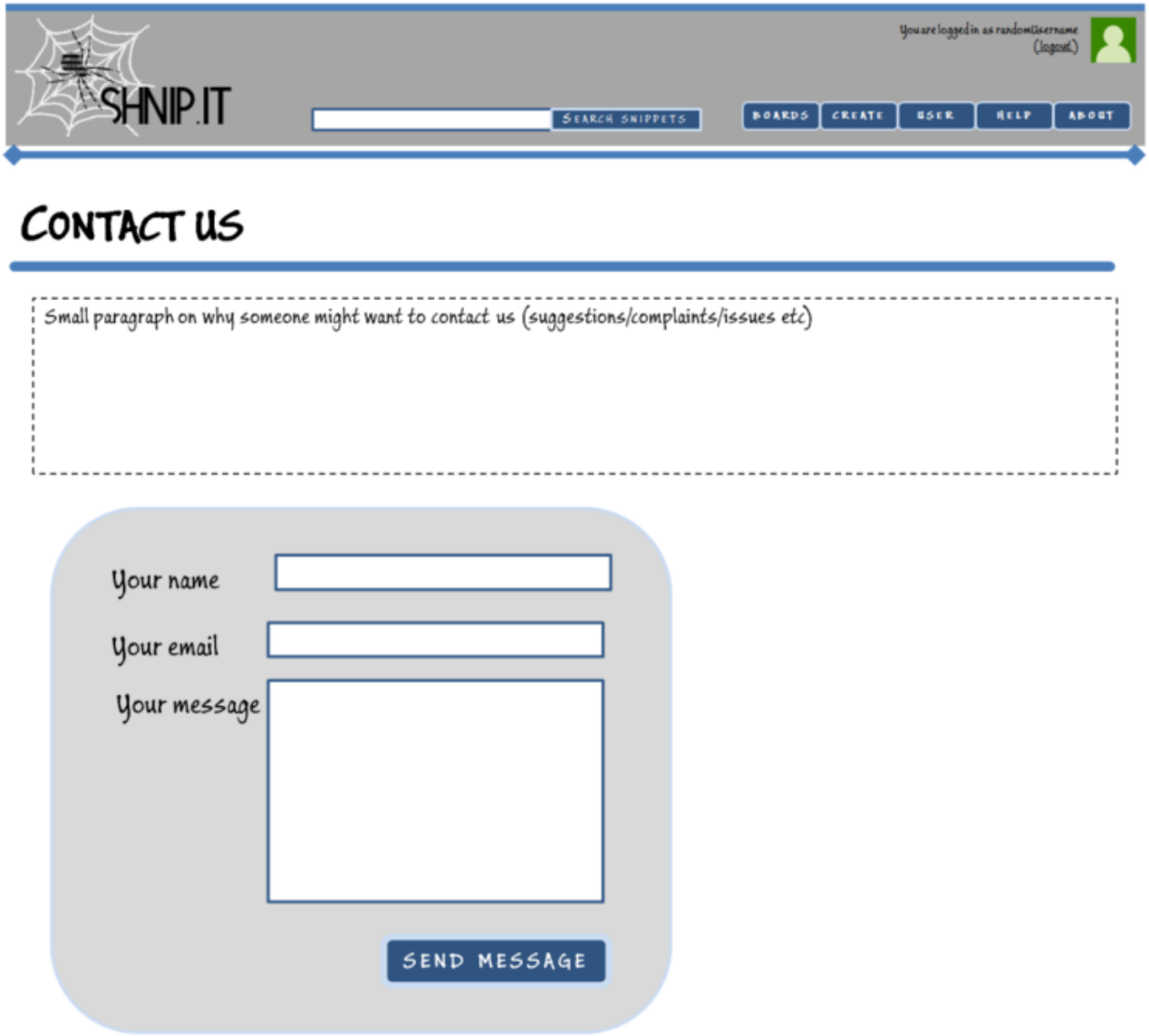

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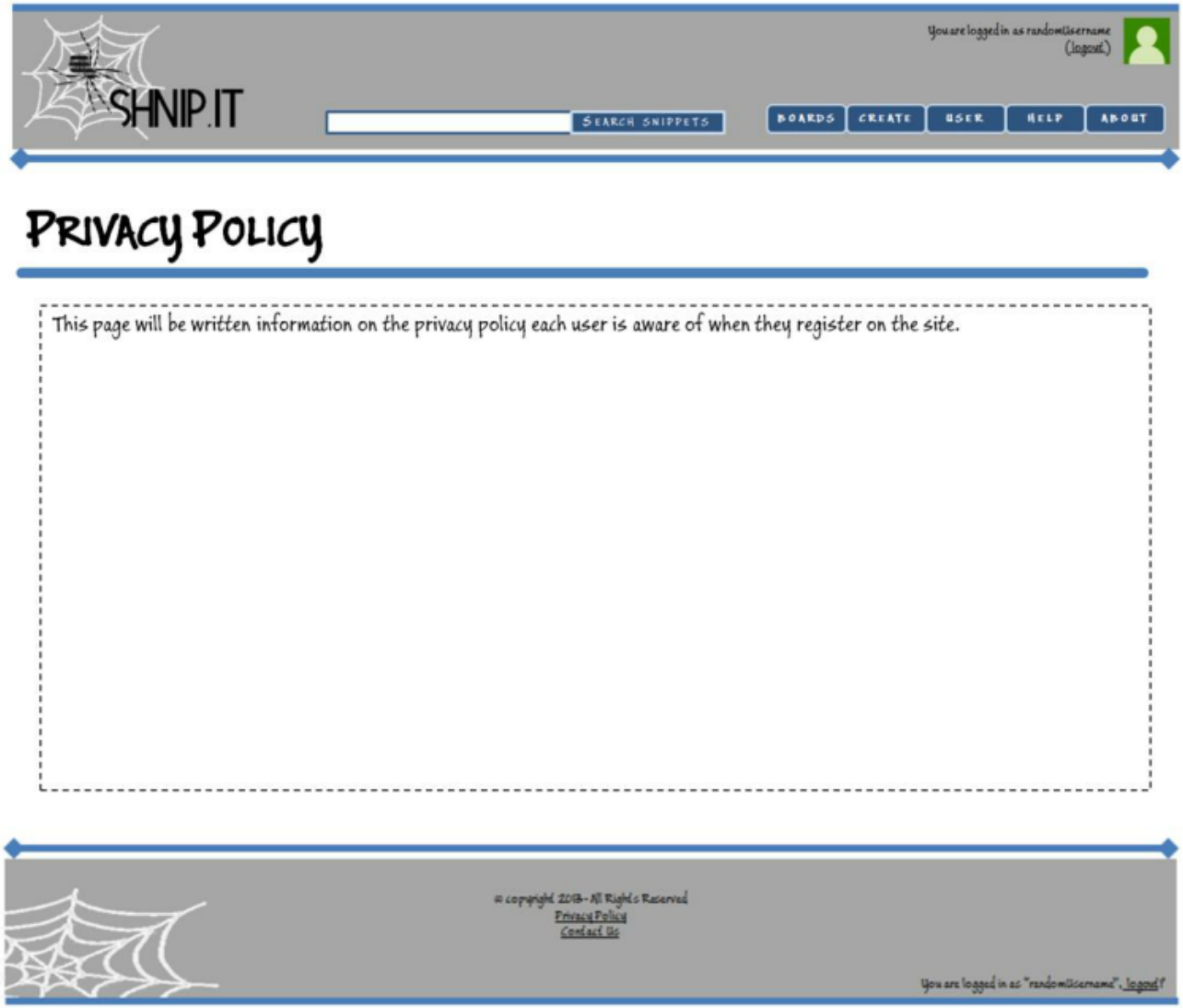

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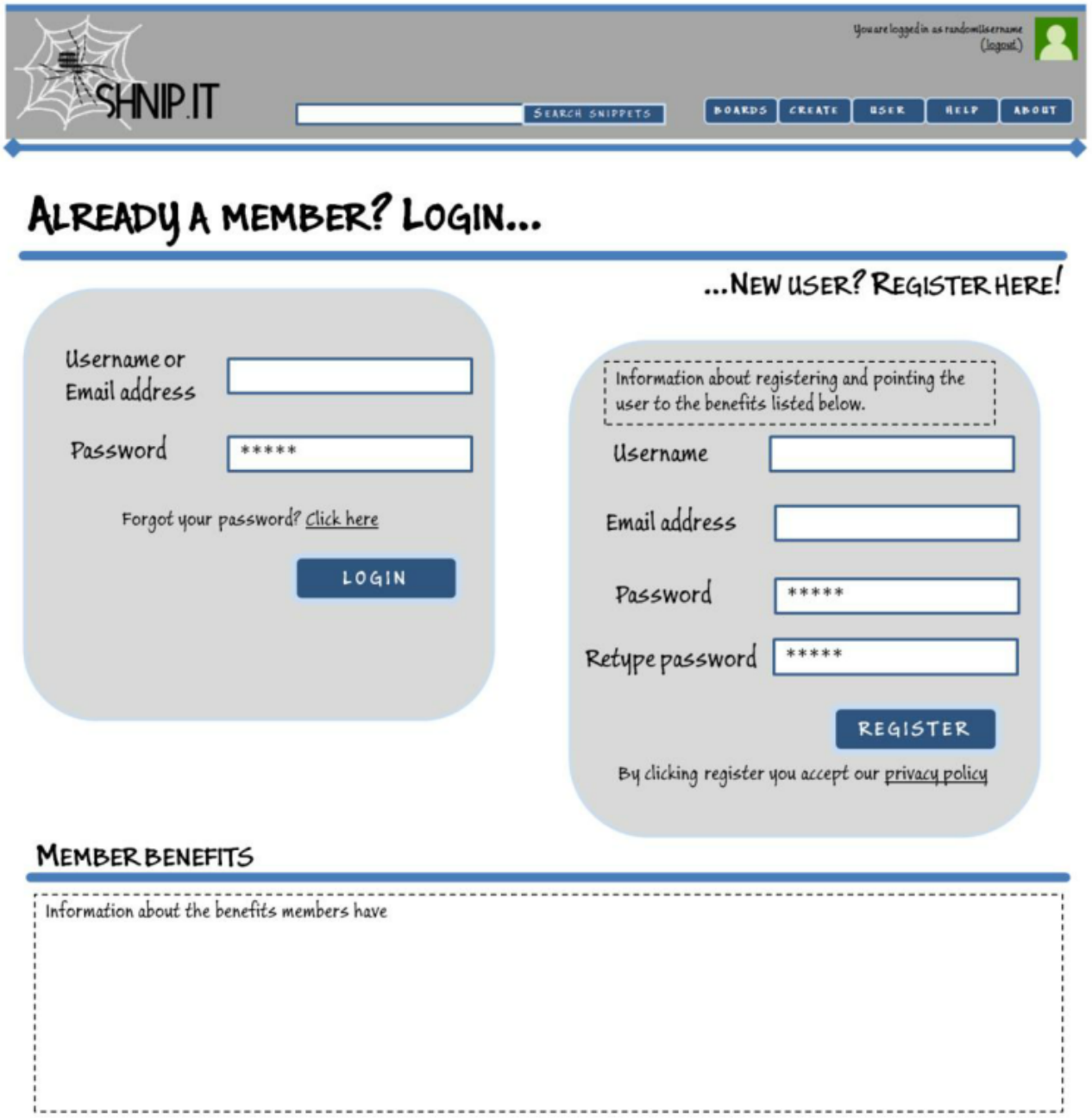

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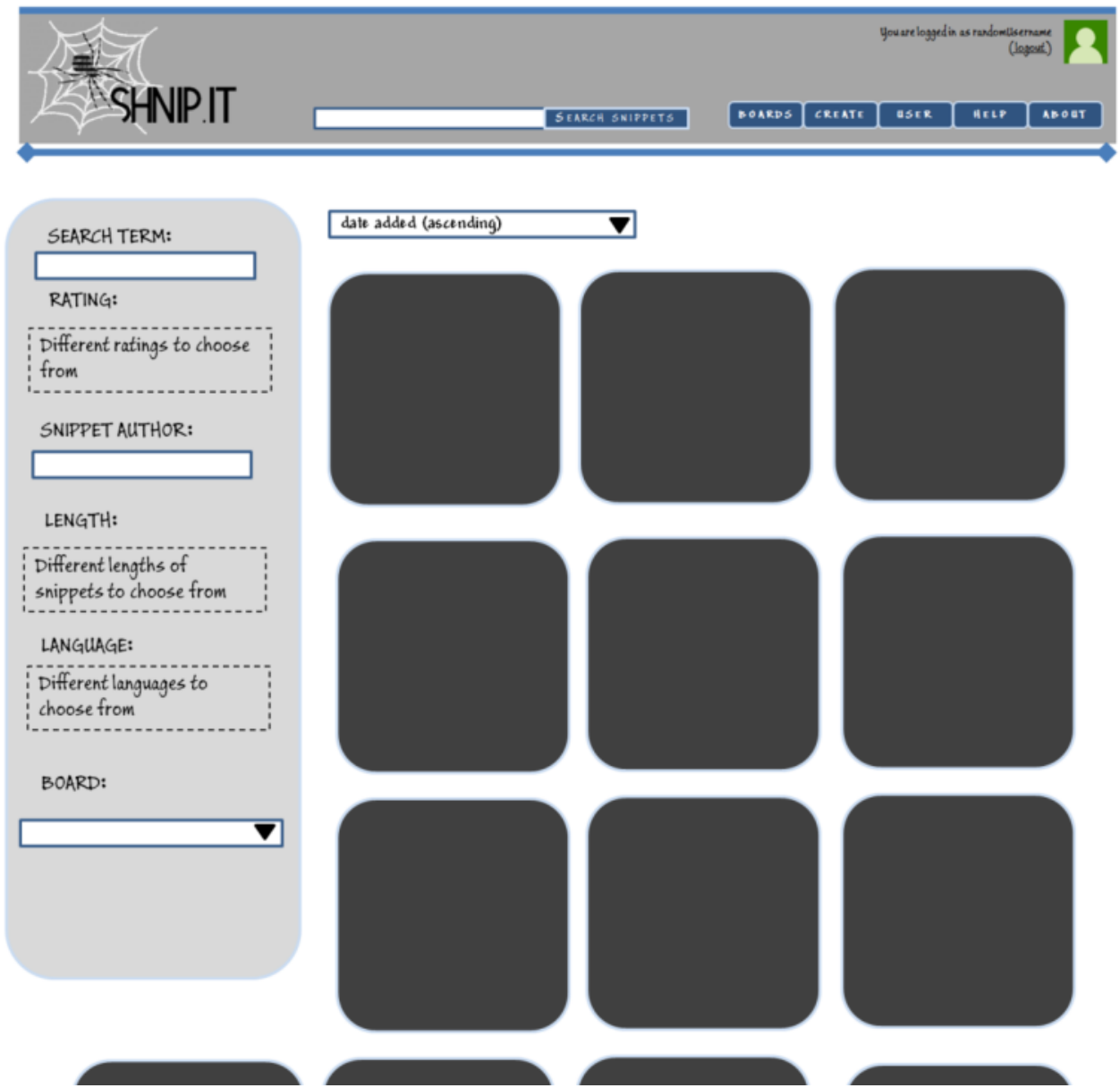

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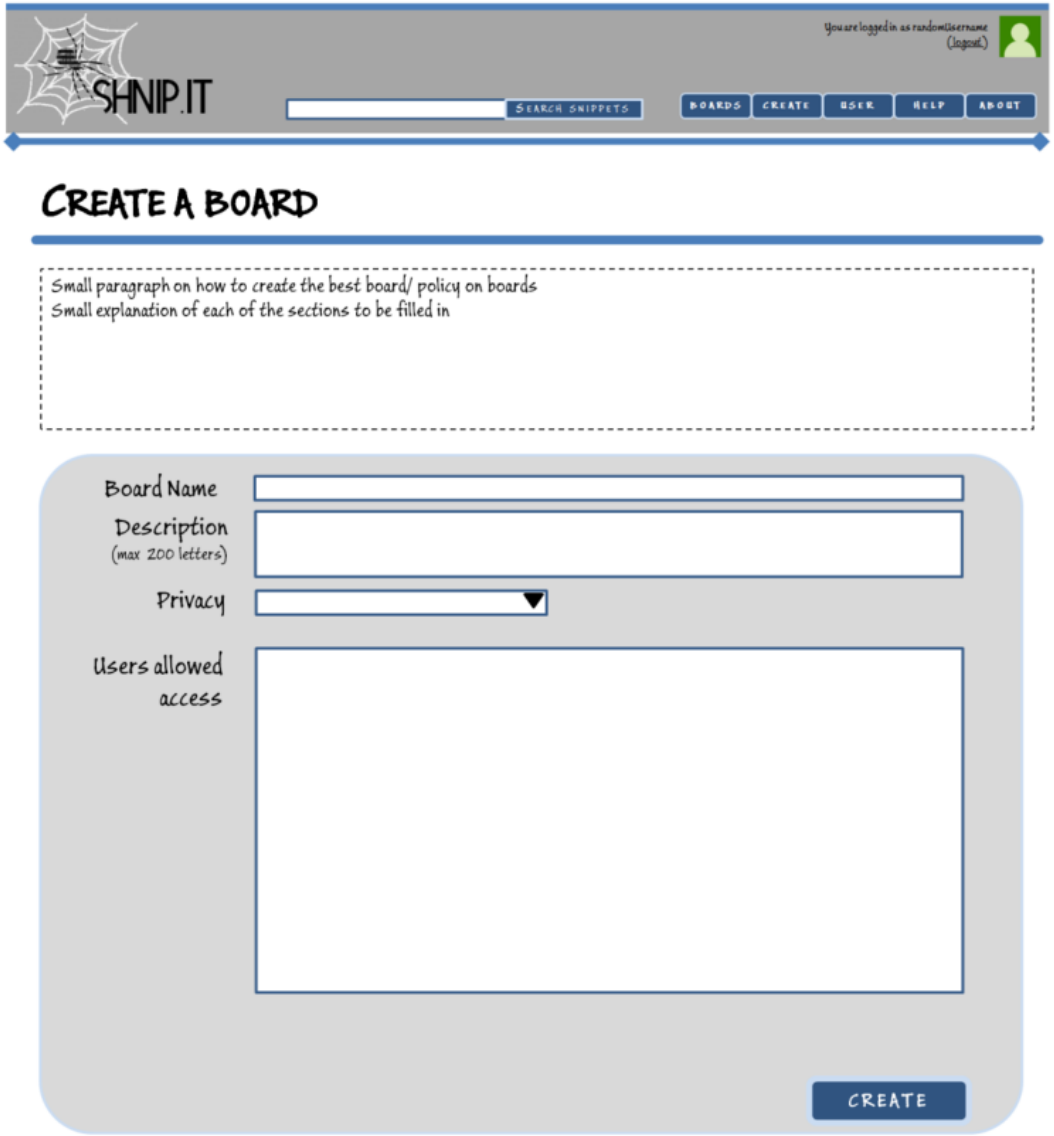

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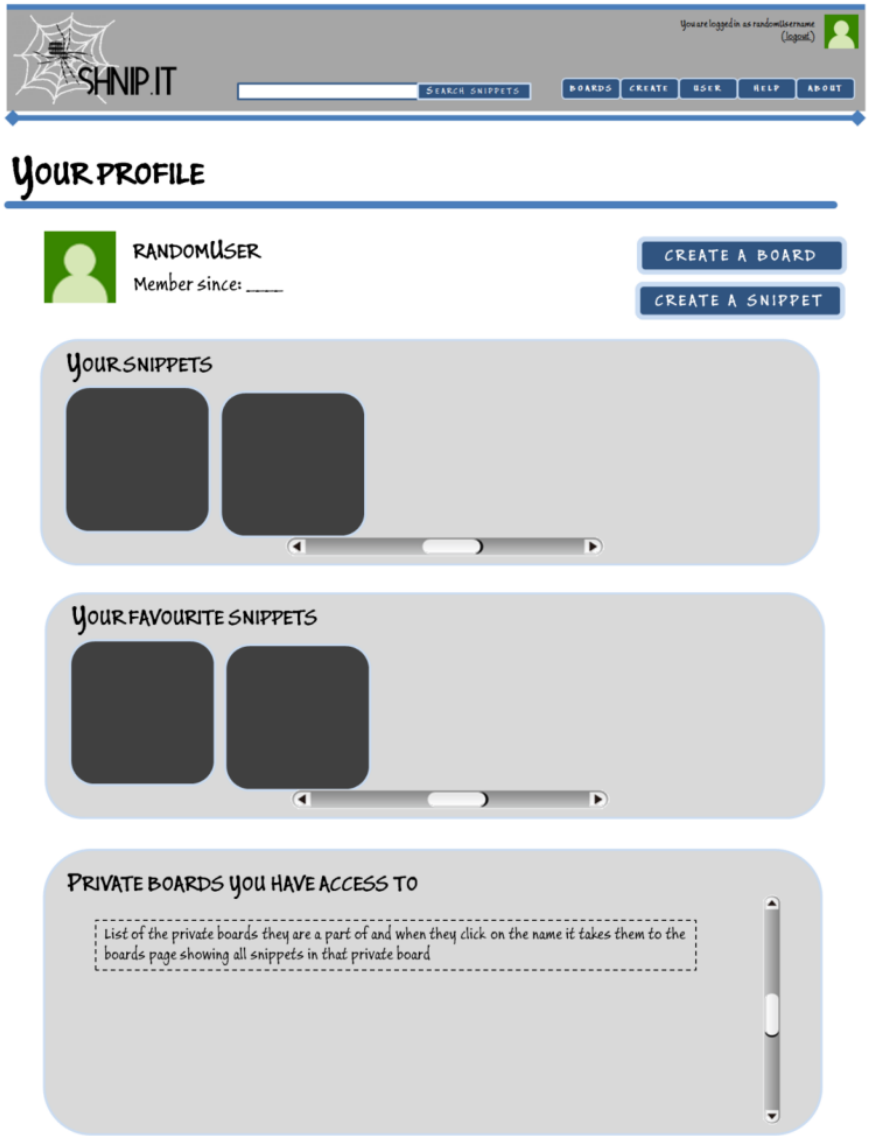

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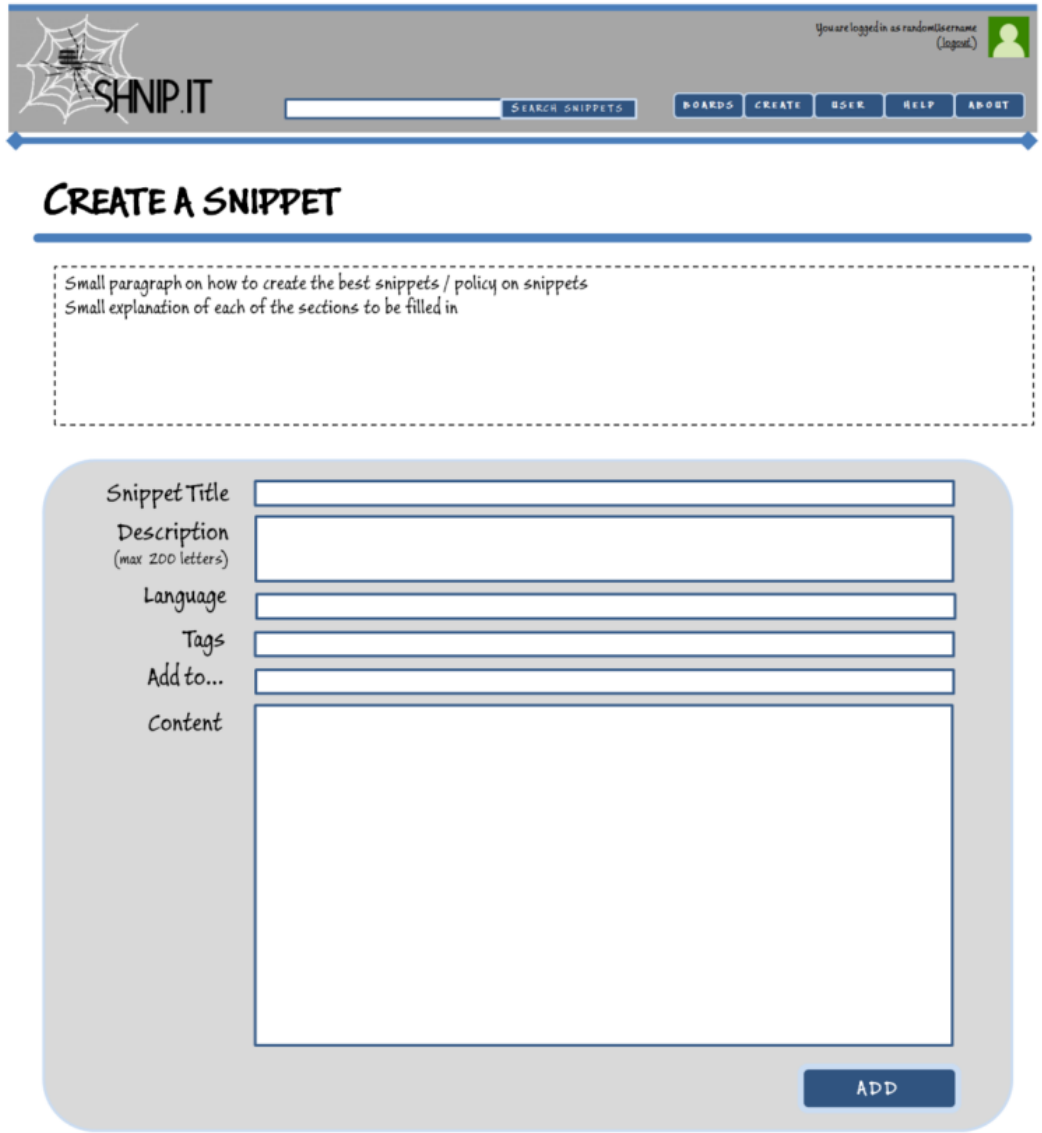

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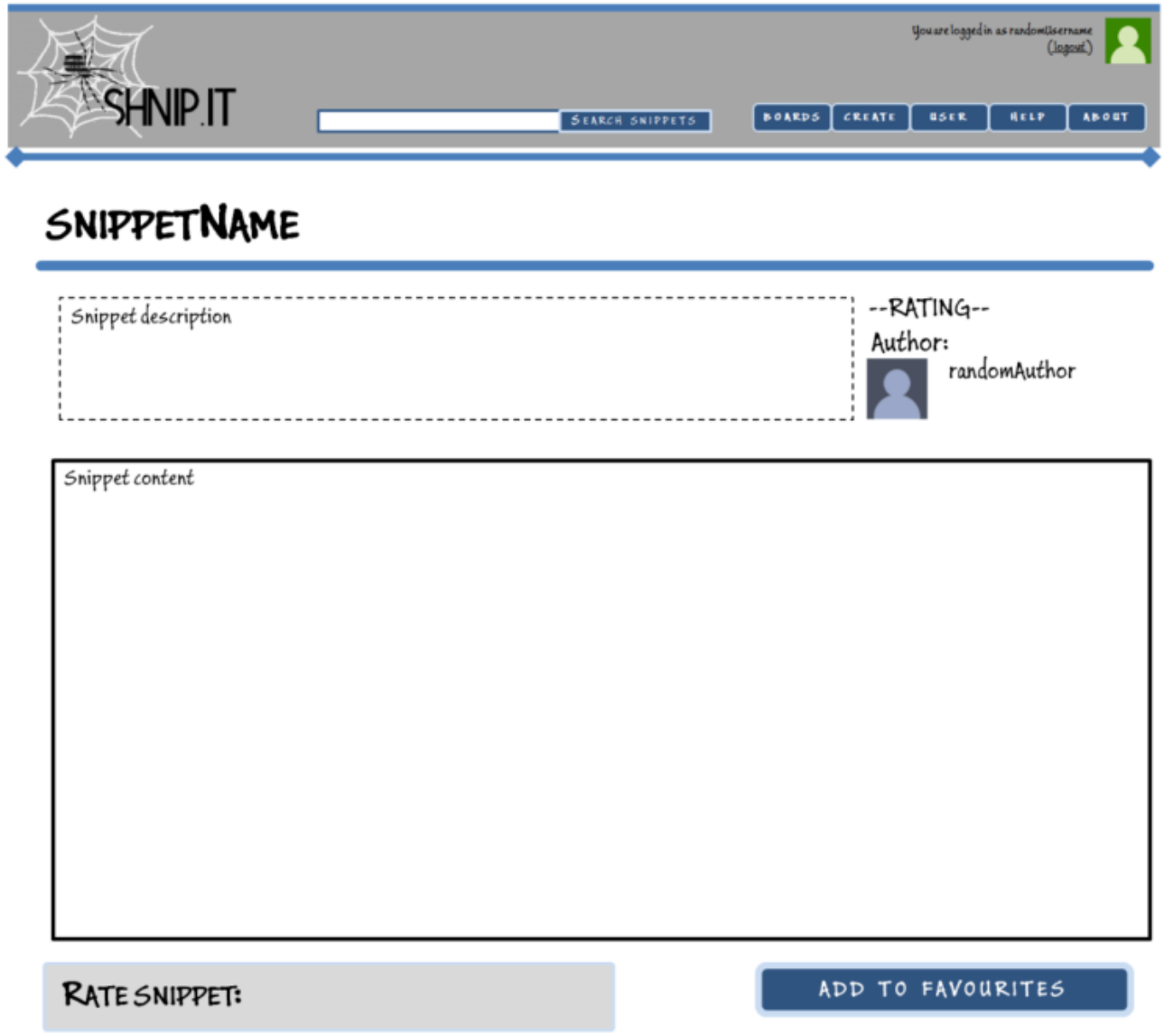

Video

Testing

Functional Testing

Formulation

- Derived directly from functional requirements
- Powerful means of validation!

Implementation

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Unit Testing

- **Python** provides a unit testing framework.
- **Django**'s MVC architecture reduces coupling and makes it possible to test individual components separately from the rest of the system.

Evaluation

Empirical Study

Experiment

- Timed task execution
- Think-aloud elements

Tasks

- Create account
- Search for snippet
- Create snippet
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Conclusion

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Questions?