DoubtSmash

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December 19, 2019

1 Introduction

DoubtSmash is a web platform that aims to improve and encourage student-professor interaction, especially in big classrooms where everyone does not get to meet professors in person. The unique feature we wish to implement is to provide one-to-one (private) conversation threads with the professor, which can be made public by the professor if it is useful and a corresponding blog for each classroom where all the useful threads posted are shown.

2 Functionalities

- Conversation threads with professor for asking doubts

- Blog with all the threads made public by professor

- Interaction in threads posted in the blog

- Student discussion page to start a thread by students

- Brownie points for class participation

3 Design

There are two types of user roles, <u>student</u> and <u>professor</u>. Each user has login-page. Students have list of courses in home page and button for private message box with professors.In private message box you have list of recently messaged professors and search box having auto fill to search by professor name , course code and course name.

In home page, on selecting a course from list of courses there will be three buttons professor private thread interface, professor blog and students blog.In the private thread interface students can create new threads and ask questions(doubts). On selecting one thread it will be displayed right side.All the questions and replies will be displayed one below the other. At the bottom of the thread there will be form for user to continue thread. Similar interface for students blog these threads will be displayed to everyone except professor. In professor blog, there will be all the threads posted by the professor and students can join the threads.

For professor the interface will be same like student. After going to any private thread there will be option to post the thread in professor blog. There is no need for professor to add students to course one by one. We have assumed it's already filled by backend administrators. In each thread there will be option to give points to student if needed just to encourage students to ask more doubts, which would be visible to students in their accounts.

4 Entity Relationship Diagram and Schema Diagram

The weak entities are represented in color. The discriminators in weak entities are underlined. Similarly, primary keys in strong entities are underlined.
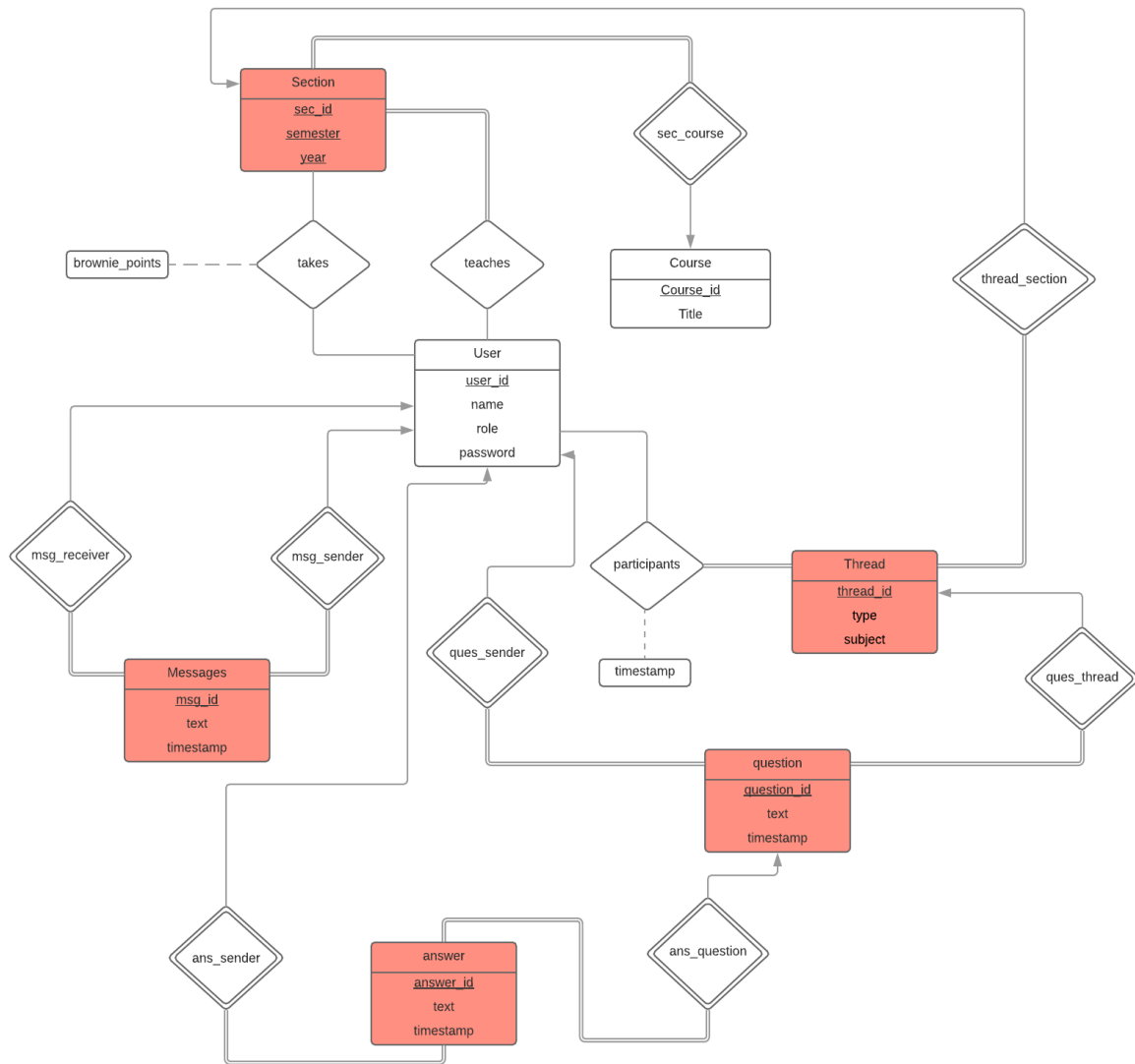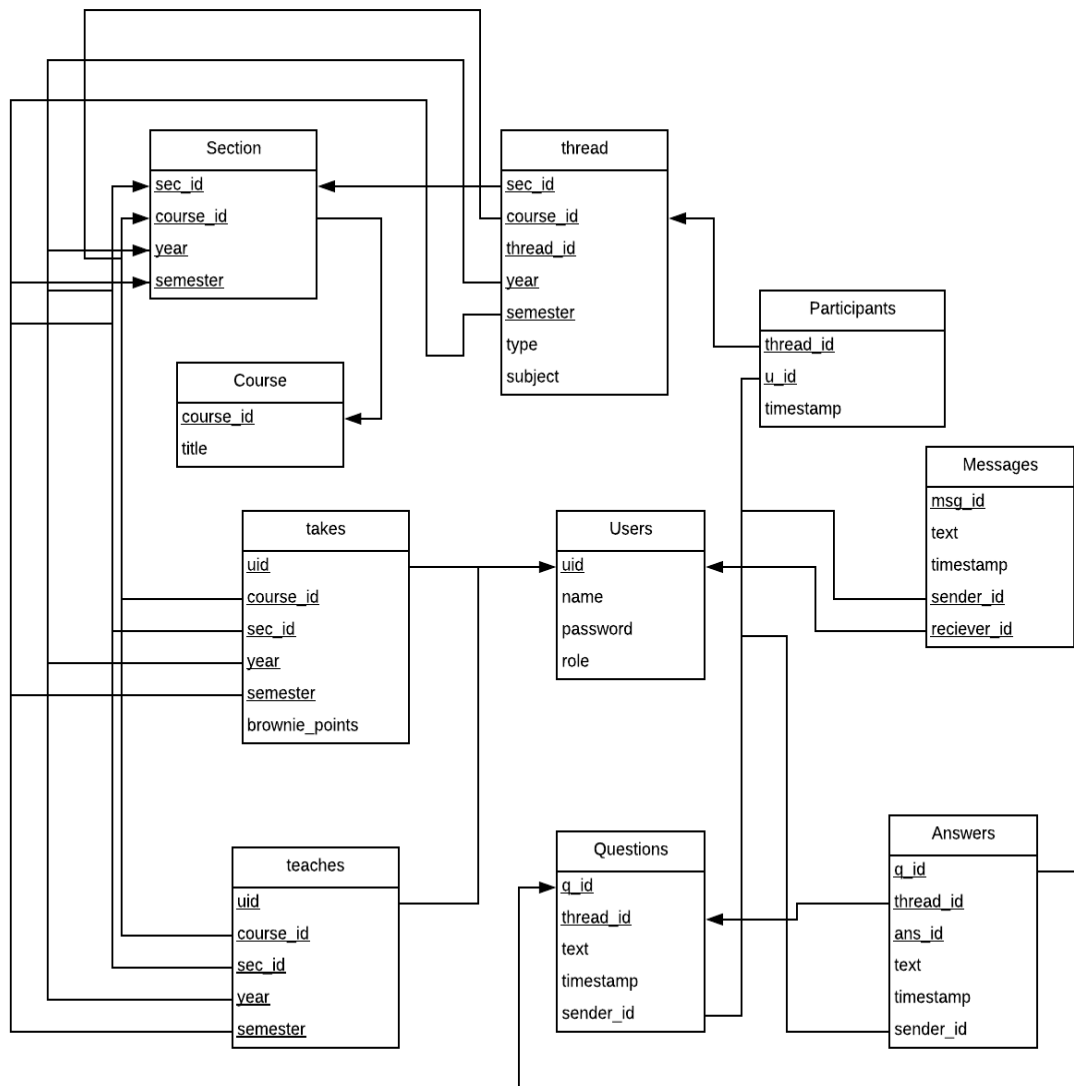

Figure 1: ER Diagram

Figure 2: Schema

5 Testing

We will create sample accounts as students and instructors to test the functionalities and manually fill some relations (like takes, course, section, teaches) based on the users created.