User Manual

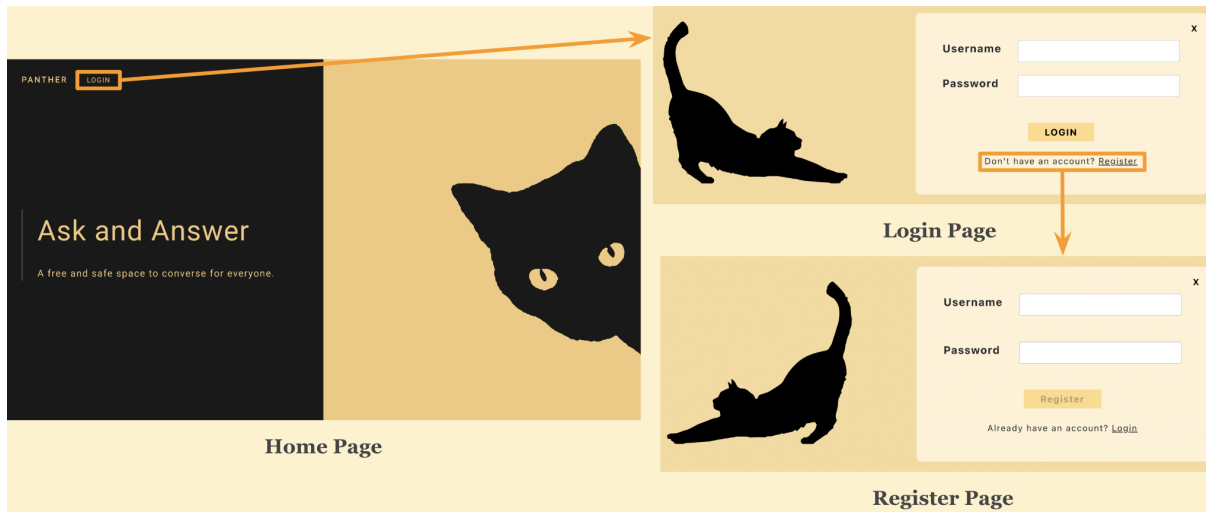## *Authentication – Login, Register, Logout*

Figure 1: Diagram showing how the Home, Login, and Register Pages are linked

- Users can click on the login button on the home page to access the login page.
- On the login page, users can log in by filling up the username and password fields.
- If the user does not have an existing account, they can click on the register button and be directed to the registration page, where they can enter their desired username and password for a new account.

Figure 2: Navigation Bar – Logout

- Once logged in, users can access the logout button any time on the fixed navigation bar on the top left of the screen to log out of their account.

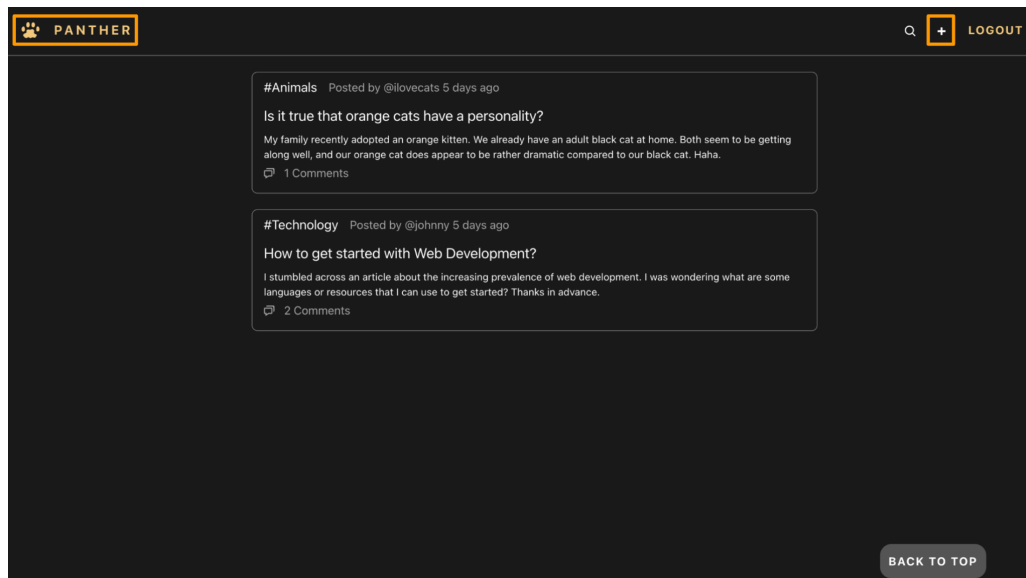## *Forum (Threads) – View, Create, Edit, Delete and Search threads*

Figure 3: Forum Page

- Users can view all threads on this page, starting with the most recent thread at the top.
- To access this page from other authenticated pages, users can click on the paw icon or panther logo on the top left-hand corner of the navigation bar.
- Users can create a thread by clicking on the '+' icon on the top right side of the navigation bar. This will lead to a popup where users can key in the details of their thread.
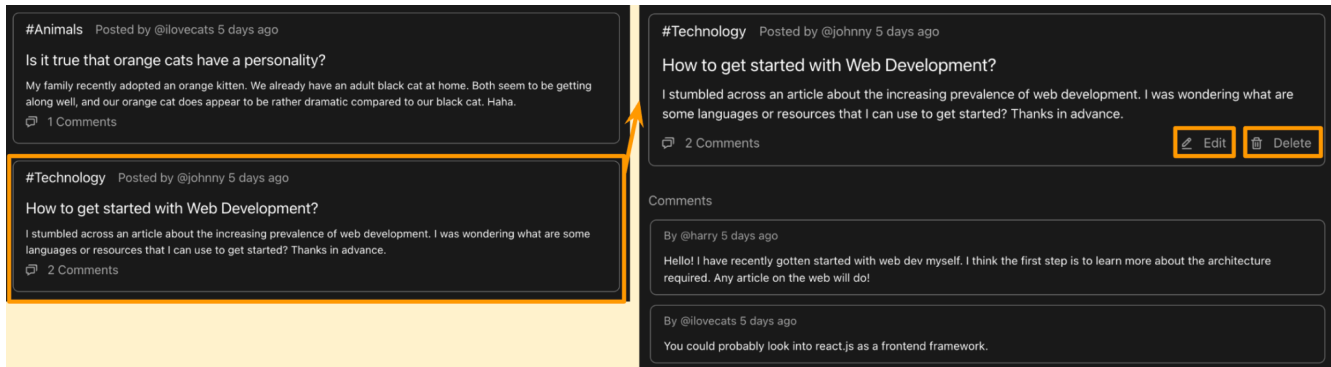

Figure 4: Individual Thread Page

- Users can access the individual thread page of a particular thread by clicking on it on the forum page as shown in the figure above.
- If the user was the original poster of this thread, the user has the option to edit and delete the thread.
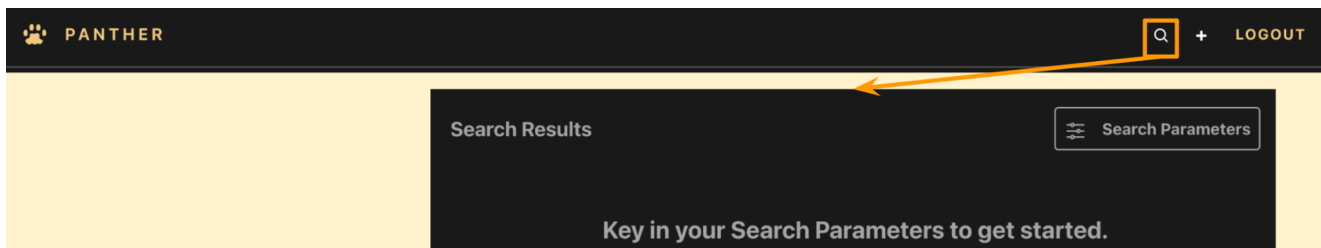

Figure 5: Search Page

- Users can access the search page by clicking on the search icon on the navigation bar.
- On the search page, users can key in search parameters to search threads based on keywords identified in the thread's title and content, filter for certain thread categories, or both!

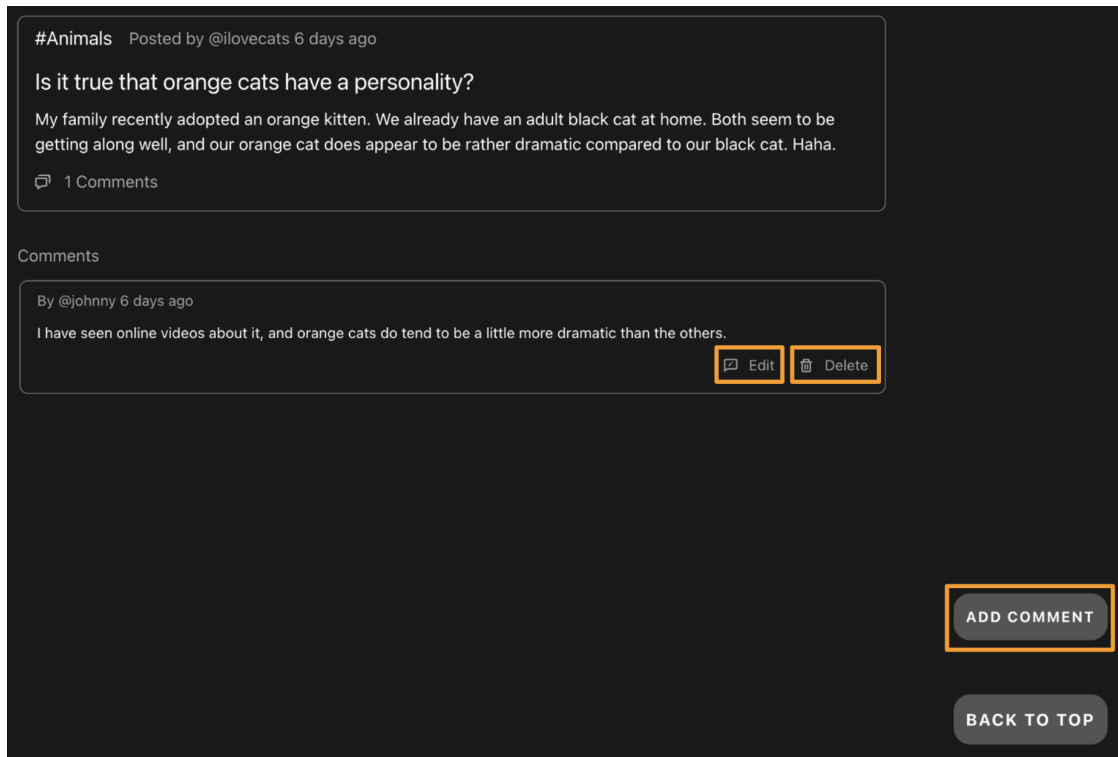***Forum (comments) – View, Create, Edit and Delete comments***

Figure 6: Individual Thread Page with modifiable comments

- Users can view comments on a thread by viewing the individual thread page.
- Users can add a comment on any individual thread by clicking on the add comment button. That will trigger a popup, where users can type their comments.
- Similar to editing and deleting threads, users can edit and delete their comments if they were the original poster of the comment.

Reflection

I felt proud having been able to complete this assignment from start to end independently. From learning and understanding the languages and architecture involved in web development to finally producing a functional web app, this has been a very enriching experience. As challenging as it was self-learning from online tutorials, researching resources like YouTube videos and finding ways to overcome bugs encountered, such as Cross-Origin Resource Sharing issues, all the hours poured into this project were what ultimately made this the fulfilling journey it was. This assignment has taught me how to become a more independent, effective and disciplined learner, and it was an experience like none other.