

Is It Full?

Community-Based University Space Monitoring System

Dmytro Tupkalenko (89252101)

University of Primorska, FAMNIT
Data Engineering and Distributed Systems

January 2025

The Problem

Is the library full right now?

The Unnecessary Journey

- ▶ **Walk across university** to study area
- ▶ **Discover** it's completely full
- ▶ **Repeat** process elsewhere
- ▶ **Waste** time on a daily basis

Impact on Students

Lost study time \implies **Missed deadlines** \implies **Increased stress**

Existing Solutions

Sensor-Based (OpenRoom, Waitz)

Advantages:

- + Precise data

Disadvantages:

- Requires hardware installation
- Needs university approval
- Limited to equipped spaces
- Usage fees + hardware costs

Reservation-Based (MIDAS, Whatspot)

Advantage: Advance planning

Disadvantage: Only reservable spaces, not for open areas

Our Solution

Balanced Crowd-Sourced Approach

User-Generated Spaces

Spaces are controlled by community

Crowd-Sourced Updates

Users report status

Features

- **Traffic Light System:**
Free / Busy / Full
- **Update Recency Timestamps**
- **Report System**
- **Verified Members Only**

Reputation System

Community incentives ensure accuracy

Closed Subcommunities

The spaces of concrete university can be accessed by students only

System Requirements Overview

Functional Requirements

- University Management
- Space CRUD Operations
- User Authentication
- Email + Domain Verification
- Occupancy Reporting

Technical Requirements

- Relational Database
- Data Integrity Constraints
- Space: Composite Design Pattern
- Password Hashing
- Query-based Occupancy

Technology Stack

Django Framework

Why Django?

- Rapid development
- Built-in security (CSRF, XSS, SQL injection)
- Powerful ORM
- "Simple" future migration to more complex architecture if needed

PostgreSQL Database

- **Recursive CTEs:** Native support for hierarchical data queries
- **MVCC:** High concurrency with minimal locking
- **Django Integration:** Native Django ORM support

Architecture: MVT Pattern

Model-View-Template (Django's MVC variant)

Model Layer

Data structure & business logic (University, Space, User)

Composite pattern for hierarchical spaces

View Layer

Request handling & authorization

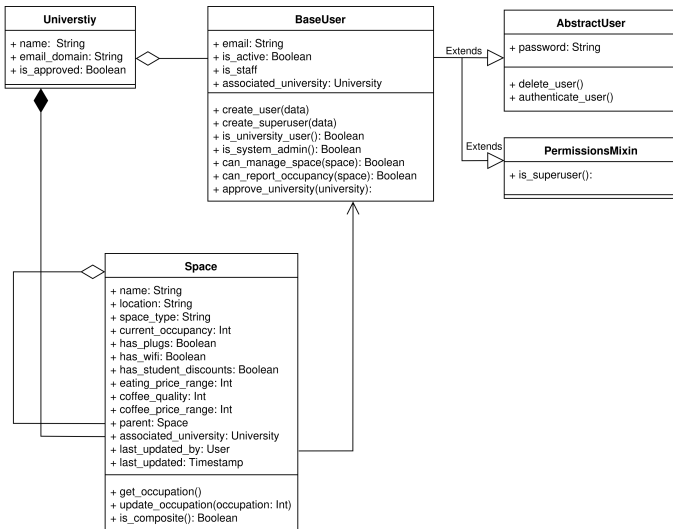
CRUD operations, form validation, access control

Template Layer

Server-side rendered HTML presentation

Responsive UI, conditional rendering, reusable components

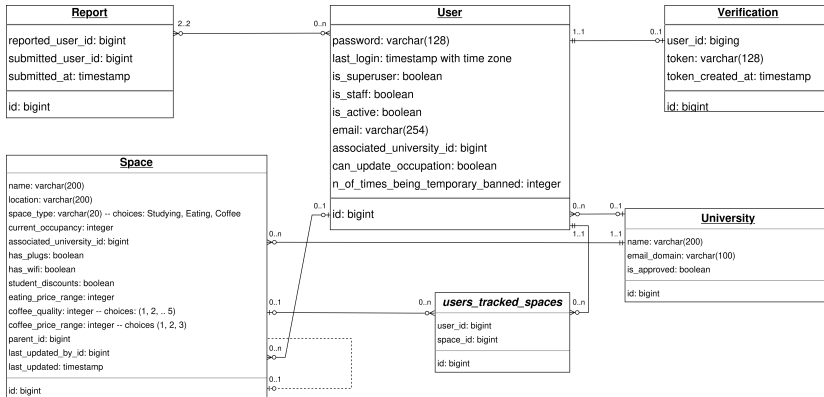
Class Diagram



Class Associations

- **BaseUser**
 - *Inheritance*: Django Auth functionality.
 - **Aggregation**: With University.
- **Space**
 - **Composition**: With University.
 - **Self-Aggregation**: Via parent.
 - **Association**: With BaseUser.
- **University**
 - Registered institutions.

Database Schema



Key Relationships

Uni ↔ User (1:m)

Uni ↔ Space (1:m)

User ↔ Space (m:m)

User ↔ Report (m:2)

User ↔ Verify (1:1)

Space ↔ User (updated by, m:1)

Composite Design Pattern

Hierarchical Space Structure

Self-referential foreign key in Space enables parent-child relationships

Example Hierarchy

- **Main Library** (parent)
 - ◇ Reading Room - Floor 1 (child)
 - ◇ Reading Room - Floor 2 (child)
 - ◇ Study Area - Basement (child)

Common Interface

- `get_occupancy()` - Recursively calculates from children
- `get_all_descendants()` - Traverses tree structure

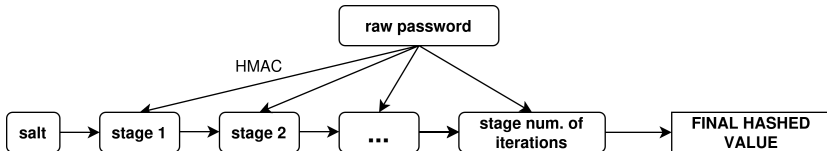
Authentication: Django Password Management

PBKDF2-HMAC-SHA256

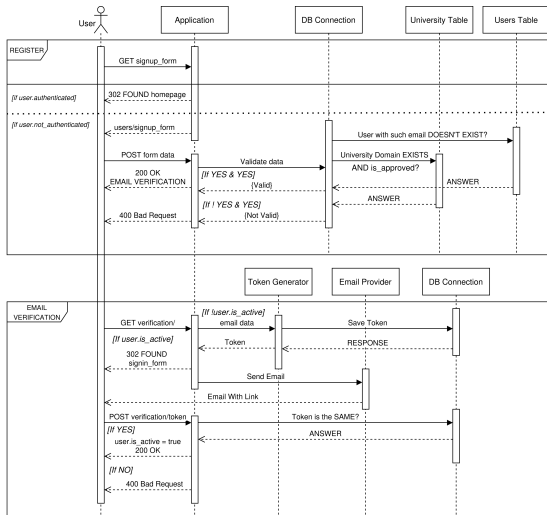
Django's built-in password hashing

Storage Format

`pbkdf2_hmac_sha256$720000$random_salt$hash_output`



Authentication Flow



Phase 1: User Registration

- 1 User accesses signup form
- 2 Submits email + password
- 3 Server validates: Email uniqueness, University domain exists & is approved (database query)
- 4 Outcomes: If valid → Email verification phase, If invalid → 400 Bad Request

Phase 2: Email Verification

- 1 System generates unique verification token
- 2 Token stored in database (linked to user)
- 3 Verification email sent with token link
- 4 User clicks link → submits token
- 5 System validates token against database
- 6 **If valid → Account activated**

Dashboard Interface

Public Dashboard

Displays all active spaces within the university
Community-wide overview of available spaces

Private Dashboard

Shows only user's tracked spaces
Personalized view via junction table (users_tracked_spaces)

Display Features

- ● Free ● Busy ● Full
- Last update timestamp
- Space details

Preventing Misuse

DDoS-Style Attacks

Problem: Repeated university or spaces submission requests

- Limit pending universities (Redis cache layer)
- Limit spaces per university (~ 20 , form validation - the aggregated count of the tracked spaces)

Misreporting

- **Metadata edits:** Community approval (10% of trackers)
- **Occupancy misreports:** Community reporting within 5 min window after submission of update
- **Consequences:** 3 verified reports \rightarrow temporary ban;
3 temp bans \rightarrow permanent ban from submitting updates

Thank You!

Questions?

Dmytro Tupkalenko
University of Primorska, FAMNIT
GitHub: github.com/tupkalenkodi/is_it_full