Team meeT

Documentation

Brief

Team meeT is an MS Teams clone web application. Users can sign up using email and password or Google account. Upon signing in, groups can be made with other members of the website. Groups allow users to have conversations before and during video call meetings.

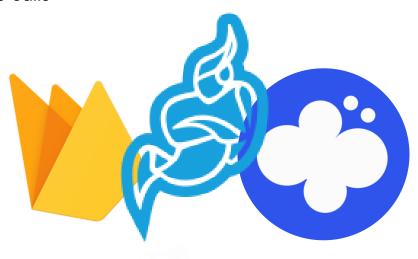
Tech-stack

Frontend:

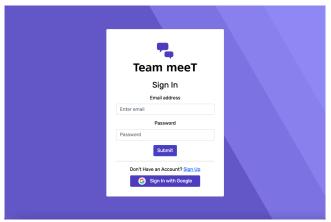
- 1. ReactJS
- 2. Bootstrap
- 3. Material UI (Icons)

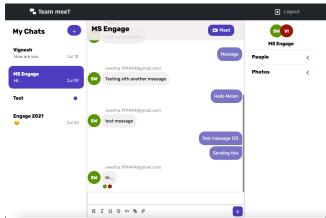
Backend:

- 1. Jitsi Meet Jitsi External API for video calling
- 2. Firebase User Authentication & Firestore database
- ChatEngine Enable chat conversations before and during video calls



Features





Email/Google Authentication

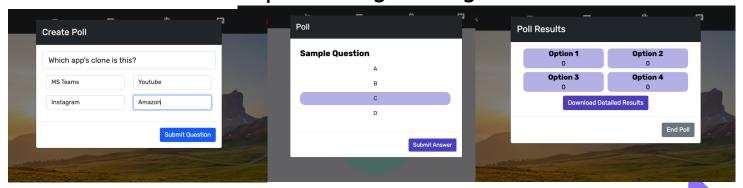
Group Chat



Video Calling with-

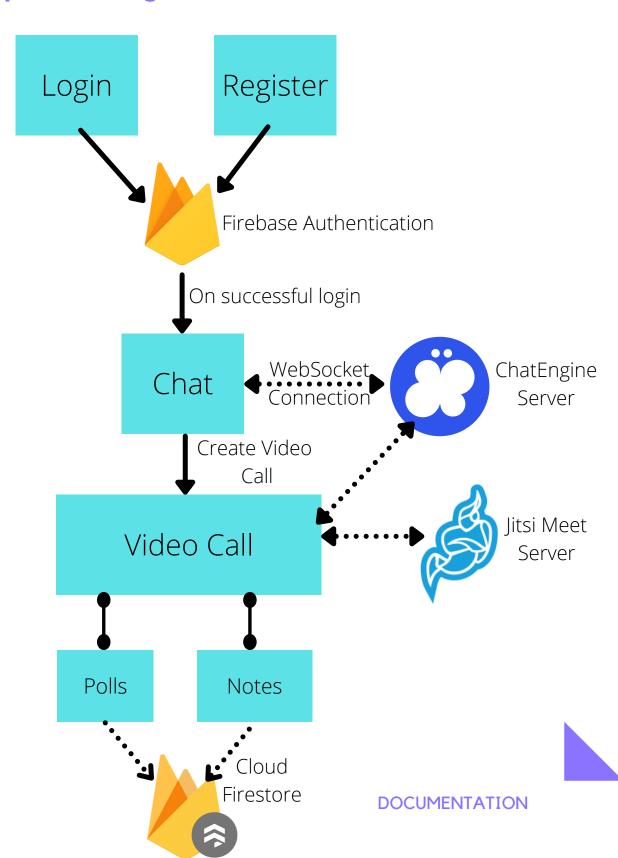
Group chat
Screenshare
Raisehand
Pin/Kick Participants
Download Attendance
Meeting Notes

Polls - Admins create polls during meeting and download results



Implementation Details

Component Diagram

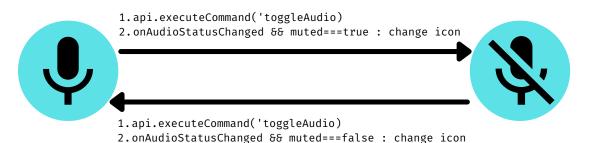


Firebase Integration

- A project was created for the app on Firebase console and linked using API Keys.
- An AuthContext component at the root of the React component tree passes the authenticated user's details to all components in the subtree.
- Firestore database was used to fetch and store poll question details - questions and answers.

Jitsi Integration

- An IFrame provided by Jitsi Meet was embedded into the Video call screen.
- The video call screen was customized by overwriting the config and inferface options
- Event listeners were hooked onto the Jitsi meeting to account for changes in participant list, video/audio toggles etc.
- The custom toolbar buttons use two states to display the current video, audio, raisehand and screenshare status.
- The toolbar button icons change state when triggered by Jitsi rather than onClick to synchronise changes in the custom toolbar with the IFrame.



ChatEngine Integration

- A project was created on ChatEngine.io and was linked to the frontend application using a Project_ID and Project_Secret.
- When a Firebase authenticated user logs in, a GET Request
 is sent to /users/me endpoint to check if the user exists on
 ChatEngine server. In case the user doesn't exist, a POST
 Request is sent to the /users endpoint to create a new
 user.
- These secret keys were stored as environment variables in the deployment server to avoid public access to chats.
- To allow users to continue their group chat during a video call, the VideoCallChat.js component was connected to the ChatEngine server using a web socket that broadcasts updates specific to the current group chat (specified by a unique chat_id).
- Since the default Chat Headers do not come with any buttons, a custom ChatHeader component was created to allow users to create. VideoCall and transfer control to the VideoCall component.

Notes during Video Call

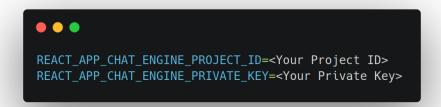
- Notes were stored in Cloud Firestore database with the following paths:
 - o <ChatID>/Notes/<UID>
- UID refers to the unique identification string provided by Firebase for each user

Polls during Video Call

- Polls were stored in Cloud Firestore database with the following paths:
 - Questions: <ChatID>/Poll/Questions/details
 - Answers: <ChatID>/Poll/Answers
- The details document contains the following fields:
 - Question, Option1, Option2, Option3,
 Option4, Valid
 - Valid is a boolean field such that Valid == true
 implies that the poll is currently ongoing
- In the Answers subcollection, documents were created with participant email as document ID and the following fields:
 - ∘ option, question
- For non-admins: The VideoCall component listens for changes to the question details document. Whenever the Valid field turns true, a Modal pops ups with the question and options. When the user submits, a document is created in the Answers subcollection.
- For admins: Whenever a new poll is the details document is updated with Valid = true. Then, the Answers subcollection is listened to for updates about participant answers. Lastly, the question field in the participants' document is compared to ensure only answers to the current question are considered.

Steps to run locally

- 1. Run the following commands
 - \$ git clone https://github.com/vrrao01/team_meet.git
 - \$ cd team_meet
- 2. Create a project on ChatEngine.io *
 - a. Click on Sign Up and create an account
 - b. After you have been signed in, click on "New Project"
 - c. Make note of your ProjectID and PrivateKey
- 3. In the team_meet folder, create file named ".env" and save the credentials created in step 2c as follows:



- 4. Now, run the command:
 - ∘ npm start

Agile Workflow

Sprints



Week 1: Research on available tools that can be used to build the app. Create a design of the components and features to add in the app.

Week 2: Build small prototypes using WebRTC, Open Vidu and Jitsi External API that meet the minimum criteria. Then, decided to go ahead with Jitsi due to its ease of use and ability to handle multiparty conferences without load on browser.





Week 3: Extend the prototype to include the other features planned. GitHub was used to keep track of progress and help with the agile workflow. (discussed below).

The features were added in the following order: Firebase authentication, Chat Engine group chat, Jitsi custom toolbar, Google Authentication, Polls

Week 4: Work on integrating **Adopt** feature. Since, Chat Engine was already used for group chats, major work involved allowing users to access existing group chat during video call rather than use the chat option provided by Jitsi. Also work on documentation.

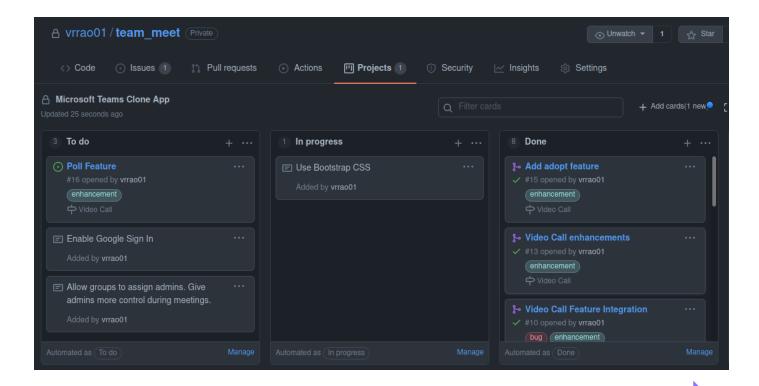


Agile Workflow GitHub Project Board

A GitHub project was created for the repository to keep track of features to be implemented and prioritise tasks. A **Kanban style project board** was setup with columns for **Todo, In Progress and Done.**

Cards were automatically added into the appropriate columns as follows:

- New Issues are automatically added into the Todo Column
- 2. **Merged pull requests** from the development branch are added into the Done column.

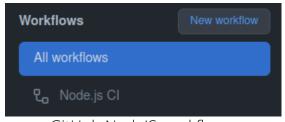




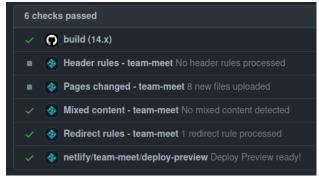
CI/CD GitHub Actions

A **NodeJS CI workflow** was added on GitHub actions for the project repository. This ensured that new changes that were pushed **do not break the build step** required for deployment.

By connecting the repository with Netlify, a series of additional checks were done fore each pull request to ensure



GitHub Node|S workflow



Checks done before merging pull request



Continuous Deployment was done by adding the repository's main branch as the production branch on Netlify. All new changes were first pushed to the development branch and merged into the main branch via a pull request if all the build and deployment checks by GitHub and Netlify were successful