

developerAurel / Multiplayer_Quiz

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Challenge Task for Distributed Systems

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🔗 developerAurel updated read me 8f06fd7 · now 🕒		
📁 backend	new quiz and version updates	2 minutes ago
📁 docs	updated stability/UI/Gamehandler	last week
📁 frontend	reconnect to other gameserver seamless	10 hours ago
📁 loadtest	bigfix session	last week
📄 .env.example	frontend	2 months ago
📄 .gitignore	cors	3 weeks ago
📄 README.md	updated read me	now
📄 docker-compose.yml	new quiz and version updates	2 minutes ago
📄 start.sh	start skript	2 months ago

📖 README ✎

Multiplayer Quiz

Distributed real-time quiz game. OST FS26 Distributed Systems Challenge Task.

Architecture

```

graph LR
    Browser --> Traefik[Traefik :80]
    Traefik --> quiz-service-1
    Traefik --> quiz-service-2
    quiz-service-1 --> PostgreSQL
    quiz-service-2 --> PostgreSQL
    quiz-service-1 --> Redis
    quiz-service-2 --> Redis
    Frontend[frontend nginx, served through Traefik] --> Traefik
    
```

- **Frontend:** React 19 + Vite + Tailwind, served via nginx behind Traefik
- **Load balancer:** Traefik v3.3 — healthcheck-driven failover, sticky cookie for Socket.io
- **Backend:** 2 × Node 22 (Express 5 + Socket.io 4)
- **State:**
 - PostgreSQL 17 — users, refresh tokens, quizzes, results (durable)
 - Redis 7 — room state, distributed lock, scheduled-tick queue, Socket.io pub/sub
- **Auth:** 15-min JWT (HS256) + 7-d refresh token (rotated, httpOnly SameSite=Strict cookie, SHA-256 hashed in DB)

Detailed walk-through: [docs/ARCHITECTURE.md](#). File-by-file map: [docs/STRUCTURE.md](#).

Quick start

```
cp .env.example .env
# set JWT_SECRET to a 64-char hex value, e.g. `openssl rand -hex 32`
docker compose up --build
```



Open <http://localhost>. Register, host or join a room with the 6-char code, play.

The Postgres database is seeded automatically from `backend/src/db/init.sql` on first boot (4 quizzes, 26 questions — including a hard-mode blockchain quiz).

```
./start.sh # full reset: down -v && up --build
```



Failover demo

Two backend instances run in parallel. Traefik health-checks `/api/health` every 2 s and removes unhealthy servers. Game state lives in Redis (with a `phaseEndsAt` timestamp + 250 ms sweeper + per-room lock), so the surviving instance picks up where the dead one left off. The frontend re-joins the room on every `Socket.io connect` event — auto-reconnect is transparent to the player, no F5 needed.

```
bash loadtest/failover-demo.sh
# Drops quiz-service-2 mid-load-test; load test continues with 99.4 % success.
```



Manual demo: start a game with two browsers, then in a second terminal:

```
docker stop quiz-service-2 # game continues, surviving instance advances phases
docker start quiz-service-2 # back in the pool ~5 s later
```



Load test

```
docker compose up -d --build
bash loadtest/loadtest.sh # 4 scaling tests
bash loadtest/saturation-test.sh # concurrency ramp-up to find the breaking point
```



Results: see [loadtest/LOADTEST.md](#). Peak **3,640 req/s** at 200 concurrent connections on a JWT-protected endpoint, p99 < 500 ms, 100 % success. Bottleneck is the Postgres connection pool — CPU stays around 30 %.

Tests

Backend unit tests (validators, JWT middleware, env-var fail-fast, game state machine):

```
cd backend && npm install && npm test
```



38 tests cover password/email/username validation, room-code generation, the phase-ripeness check, points calculation, and the boot-time env validation.

End-to-end multiplayer smoke test (two headless Socket.io clients play a full round):

```
docker run --rm --network project_quiz-net \
-v "$(pwd -W)/loadtest:/app" -w /app node:22-alpine \
sh -c 'npm install --no-save socket.io-client@4 --silent && node multiplayer-smoke.js'
```



Asserts: room creation, second player join, all 7 questions emitted to both clients, points awarded, `game-over` fires with both scores. Completes in ~26 s.

Security notes

OWASP ASVS Level 1 mapping in [docs/OWASP_CHECKLIST.md](#). Highlights:

- Passwords bcrypt-hashed at cost 12; policy ≥ 8 chars + upper / lower / digit
- IP rate limit (10 / 15 min) on `/api/auth/login` and `/api/auth/register`
- Per-account lockout: 5 failed attempts $\rightarrow$ 15 min lock
- Constant-time bcrypt compare against a dummy hash for unknown users (anti-enumeration)
- Refresh-token rotation: old token deleted on use (`DELETE ... RETURNING + new INSERT`); token-reuse detection without extra tracking
- JWT enforced on the Socket.io handshake
- `helmet` on the API, CSP + X-Frame-Options + Permissions-Policy etc. on the nginx layer
- `JWT_SECRET` must be ≥ 32 chars and not the example value — boot fails otherwise
- Graceful shutdown on `SIGTERM` so Traefik gets a clean drain signal

Documentation

File	Purpose
docs/ARCHITECTURE.md	High-level architecture, data flows, design decisions
docs/STRUCTURE.md	File-by-file map of the repository
docs/REQUIREMENTS_AUDIT.md	Mapping of all 8 challenge-task requirements with file:line citations
docs/OWASP_CHECKLIST.md	OWASP ASVS Level 1 compliance mapping
docs/VERIFICATION.md	5-minute smoke-test runbook
docs/PRESENTATION.md	Slide outline for the 5+5+5-min presentation
docs/COMMANDS.md	All commands grouped by use case (boot, fresh-clone, failover, loadtest, ...)
docs/MERMAID_DIAGRAMS.md	Five Mermaid diagrams (topology, auth flow, game state machine, failover sequence, tech stack)
docs/mermaid/	Standalone <code>.mmd</code> files paste-ready for mermaid.live
docs/notebooklm/	Six German explainer scripts for NotebookLM audio generation
loadtest/LOADTEST.md	Measured throughput numbers and bottleneck analysis

Project structure

backend/
src/
server.js # express app + helmet + pino + graceful shutdown
config.js # env validation + service-wide constants
logger.js # pino instance
validators.js # username/email/password validators (unit-tested)
routes/auth.js # register, login (with lockout), refresh, logout
routes/quizzes.js # JWT-protected list, history, detail
middleware/auth.js # JWT verify
socket/index.js # Socket.io with Redis adapter + JWT handshake
socket/gameManager.js # game flow, Redis state, claim lock, rejoin-room
socket/sweeper.js # 250-ms tick that advances overdue rooms
socket/gameLogic.js # pure helpers (room code, points, phase check)
db/index.js # pg Pool
db/init.sql # schema + seed (4 quizzes, 26 questions)
test/ # vitest unit tests

frontend/
src/
App.jsx
context/AuthContext.jsx # access token + auto-refresh + concurrent-refresh guard
context/SocketContext.jsx # Socket.io client + connection status + reconnect
components/ConnectionStatus.jsx
pages/
docker-compose.yml # Login, Register, Lobby, Game, Results
docs/ # traefik + postgres + redis + 2x backend + frontend
loadtest/ # ARCHITECTURE, STRUCTURE, OWASP, REQUIREMENTS_AUDIT, ...
loadtest.sh # hey-driven scaling tests
failover-demo.sh # kill an instance mid-test
saturation-test.sh # concurrency ramp-up to the breaking point
multiplayer-smoke.js # end-to-end 2-player headless round
LOADTEST.md # measured numbers + bottleneck analysis

Releases

No releases published
[Create a new release](#)

Packages

No packages published
[Publish your first package](#)

Contributors

devel

Language

JavaScript

Suggested workflows

Based on your tech stack



Publish Node.js Package
Publishes a Node.js package to npm.

Configure



SLSA Generic generator
Generate SLSA3 provenance for your existing release workflows

Configure



Webpack
Build a NodeJS project with npm and webpack.

Configure

[More workflows](#)

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