



INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED COMPUTING AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT, AKURDI, PUNE

Personal Finance Tracker

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Submitted By:

Group - 19

Roll No. Student Name

252129 Aniruddha Bywar

252020 Atul Singh

Mrs. Monika Sindhikar Mr. Prashant Deshpande

Project Coordinator Centre Coordinator

Abstract

The Personal Finance Tracker is a comprehensive web-based application designed to help individuals manage their financial activities efficiently and intuitively. It provides a centralized platform for tracking income, expenses, budgets, and transactions while offering clear insights into spending patterns and savings goals. Built with a modern technology stack comprising a React-based frontend and a Spring Boot backend, the system ensures seamless user experience with real-time interaction and secure data handling.

Key features include account creation and management, categorization of transactions, budget planning, and detailed summaries for financial analysis. The application is designed with modular architecture, separating concerns into distinct components for accounts, budgets, transactions, and user authentication, ensuring maintainability and scalability for future enhancements.

From a user perspective, the platform emphasizes simplicity without compromising functionality—offering responsive forms, dynamic data tables, and visual summaries to make financial decision-making more informed. From a technical perspective, the project demonstrates integration of RESTful APIs, robust backend validation, secure data storage, and clear separation between client and server layers.

The Personal Finance Tracker aims not only to digitize personal finance management but also to empower users to take control of their financial well-being through an accessible, interactive, and reliable application. It stands as a practical example of applying full-stack development principles to solve real-world problems with efficiency, usability, and scalability in mind.

Acknowledgement

We bow with utmost reverence to **Goddess Saraswati**, the divine embodiment of wisdom, knowledge, and learning, whose blessings have guided us with clarity of thought, perseverance, and inspiration throughout the course of this project. Without Her grace, the successful completion of this work would not have been possible.

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Atul Singh (250241220040)

Aniruddha Bywar(250241220029)

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Introduction

In the contemporary digital era, where data and automation permeate every aspect of daily life, personal financial management has undergone a profound transformation. The traditional modes of tracking income, expenses, and savings—once managed through manual logs and spreadsheets—are now inadequate to address the complexities of modern financial behavior. Individuals grapple with multifaceted challenges: managing recurring transactions, forecasting budgets, classifying expenditures, and making informed decisions about investment and debt reduction. Simultaneously, financial literacy remains an area where accessibility and personalization are paramount, especially as younger demographics and tech-savvy professionals seek intuitive tools tailored to their lifestyle and habits.

The proliferation of mobile applications and web platforms has catalyzed a shift toward self-service financial management. Yet, many of these solutions suffer from fragmented interfaces, limited feature sets, or opacity in their data handling mechanisms. This underscores the necessity for systems that offer not only functional utility but also architectural robustness, transparency, and adaptability. Bridging this gap calls for an application that harmonizes backend intelligence with frontend usability, grounded in sound software engineering principles and responsive design philosophies.

The *Personal Finance Manager* system arises as a direct response to these imperatives. It is conceived as a comprehensive solution that enables users to record, organize, and interpret their financial transactions with ease and precision. The system architecture is defined by a layered, modular approach, where maintainability, testability, and scalability are primary design goals. Through its components, the application supports granular data control and real-time insights, fostering greater financial awareness and autonomy.

The *Personal Finance Manager* system is developed with a clear purpose: to empower individuals with a personalized and structured tool for managing their financial activities. Its primary objective is to bridge the gap between financial data and actionable decision-making, presenting users with a platform that is not only intuitive to navigate but also academically and technically robust in its design.

The system enables granular tracking of income and expenses, classification of transactions, visualization of monthly spending patterns, and projection of budget forecasts. These features are built to ensure that users can not only record their financial

behavior but also extract meaningful insights over time. The goal is to foster financial literacy, encourage informed choices, and help users set tangible financial goals that reflect their lifestyle and constraints.

From a technical standpoint, the application is architected using a layered, full-stack paradigm. The backend leverages **Spring Boot** for its robustness in enterprise-grade application development, RESTful communication, and modular service handling. **MySQL** serves as the data store, chosen for its relational consistency and query optimization across transactional data. **React** powers the frontend interface, designed with component modularity and responsive layouts to ensure cross-device accessibility.

The rationale behind this technology stack is grounded in several principles:

- **Scalability:** Ensuring the system can support increased user load and future feature expansion.
- **Maintainability:** Facilitating clean separation of concerns through domain-driven design and structured component hierarchy.
- Security: Implementing JWT-based authentication, encryption of sensitive data, and role-based access control to safeguard user information.
- Adaptability: Offering flexibility for integration with external financial APIs, mobile responsiveness, and potential data analytics enhancements.

To reinforce system transparency and defensibility, the documentation includes a formally structured **Software Requirements Specification (SRS)**, complete **Entity Relationship Diagrams (ERD)** to model relational integrity, and **Class Diagrams** for object-oriented design clarity. These artifacts provide a holistic view of system behavior, supporting both academic validation and practical deployment.

The development of the *Personal Finance Manager* is guided by a methodological framework that combines **structured software engineering processes** with academic documentation principles. The design lifecycle adheres to established standards—starting from requirement analysis, progressing through architectural modeling, and culminating in implementation and validation. Each step is supported by formal artifacts: a Software Requirements Specification (SRS) that lays out functional and non-functional requirements; Unified Modeling Language (UML) diagrams such as use case, class, and sequence diagrams that illustrate system behavior and interaction; and database modeling tools to ensure relational coherence.

To enhance academic rigor, the project emphasizes traceability, modularity, and defensibility of design choices. For instance, data access layers are abstracted for testability

and clean separation of concerns; domain models are defined with validation constraints to safeguard integrity; and controller-service-repository interactions are documented with clear behavioral mapping. These practices not only improve real-world applicability but also anticipate scrutiny from reviewers evaluating system cohesion and maintainability.

Moreover, this system serves as an example for the intersection of theory and practice in the domain of personal finance technology. By grounding its development in architectural principles like RESTful service design, relational database normalization, and component-based UI composition, the application demonstrates how **academic constructions can yield practical solutions**. It becomes not just a software tool, but a pedagogical case study in modern full-stack design.

Beyond the scope of individual usage, the broader impact of the *Personal Finance Manager* lies in its potential scalability and adaptability to other financial domains—such as small business bookkeeping, expense forecasting, or integration with digital wallets. With future enhancements, such as machine learning-driven analytics, multilingual support, or open banking API integration, the system could evolve into a comprehensive financial hub.

In summary, the *Personal Finance Manager* project is a synthesis of structured software engineering, user-centric design, and academic integrity. It reflects a conscientious effort to build not just a functional application, but a robust, scalable, and defensible system that embodies both technical sophistication and scholarly excellence.

Software Requirements Specification (SRS)

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define the Software Requirements Specification (SRS) for the *Personal Finance Tracker* application. This system aims to provide users with a simple yet effective web-based platform to manage their financial activities, including accounts, budgets, categories, and transactions. The document outlines functional and non-functional requirements, system constraints, and hardware/software specifications to guide the development and deployment process.

Scope

The **Personal Finance Tracker** is a full-stack web application developed with a **React.js** frontend and a **Spring Boot** backend, integrated with a **MySQL** relational database.

The system is designed to help users manage their personal finances efficiently, providing an intuitive interface for:

- Account Management: Create, update, and delete multiple user accounts.
- **Budget Management:** Add, modify, and remove budgets for specific time periods.
- Expense & Income Tracking: Record and categorize transactions for better financial insight.
- **Transaction Monitoring:** View detailed transaction logs and summaries for better decision-making.

The target audience includes individual users seeking a personal financial management solution that operates entirely locally without relying on third-party banking APIs or authentication services.

By offering complete local control over financial data, the Personal Finance Tracker ensures privacy, flexibility, and reliability for personal use.

Functional Requirements

User Authentication

- **FR-1:** Users shall be able to sign up with an email and password.
- FR-2: Users shall be able to log in with valid credentials.
- FR-3: Users shall be able to log out of the system.

Account Management

- **FR-4:** Users shall be able to create new accounts.
- FR-5: Users shall be able to update account details.
- **FR-6:** Users shall be able to delete accounts.
- FR-7: Users shall be able to view all their accounts.

Budget Management

- FR-8: Users shall be able to create new budgets.
- FR-9: Users shall be able to edit existing budgets.
- **FR-10:** Users shall be able to delete budgets.
- FR-11: Users shall be able to view budgets and their remaining allocations.

Transaction Management

- FR-12: Users shall be able to record income transactions.
- FR-13: Users shall be able to record expense transactions.
- **FR-14:** Users shall be able to edit transactions.

- **FR-15:** Users shall be able to delete transactions.
- **FR-16:** Users shall be able to filter transactions by account, date range, or category.

Category Management

- FR-17: Users shall be able to select categories when adding transactions.
- FR-18: Users shall be able to view all available categories.

Non-Functional Requirements

Performance Requirements

- The system should respond to user actions within **2 seconds** under normal load.
- The database should handle up to **10,000 transactions per user** without noticeable slowdown.

Security Requirements

- Passwords shall be stored in **hashed format** using industry-standard hashing algorithms.
- The application shall enforce basic input validation to prevent SQL injection and XSS attacks.

Usability Requirements

- The interface shall be intuitive and consistent across all pages.
- The application should be mobile-friendly and responsive.

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Reliability and Availability

- The system should have at least 99% uptime in production environments.
- The system should allow for data backup and restore operations.

Hardware and Software Requirements

Hardware Requirements (Minimum)

• Client Machine:

- Processor: Dual-core 2.0 GHz or higher
- o RAM: 4 GB
- O Storage: 2 GB free space
- Display: 1366×768 resolution or higher

• Server Machine:

- o Processor: Quad-core 2.5 GHz or higher
- O RAM: 8 GB
- Storage: 10 GB free space
- Network: Stable internet connection for deployment

Software Requirements

• Frontend: React.js

• **Backend:** Java 17+, Spring Boot 3+

• **Database:** MySQL 8+

• Tools: Maven, npm, Postman, Spring Tool Suite 4, Visual Studio Code

• **Browser:** Chrome, Firefox, or Edge (latest versions)

Constraints

• The system does not integrate with external bank APIs.

• The system assumes a single-user mode without multi-tenancy in the current version.

• Internet connection required for deployment on remote servers.

Assumptions and Dependencies

- Users have basic knowledge of using a web browser.
- A functioning MySQL database is available before the backend server starts.
- The system depends on modern web technologies (React, Spring Boot, MySQL).

Diagrams

Entity-Relationship Diagram:

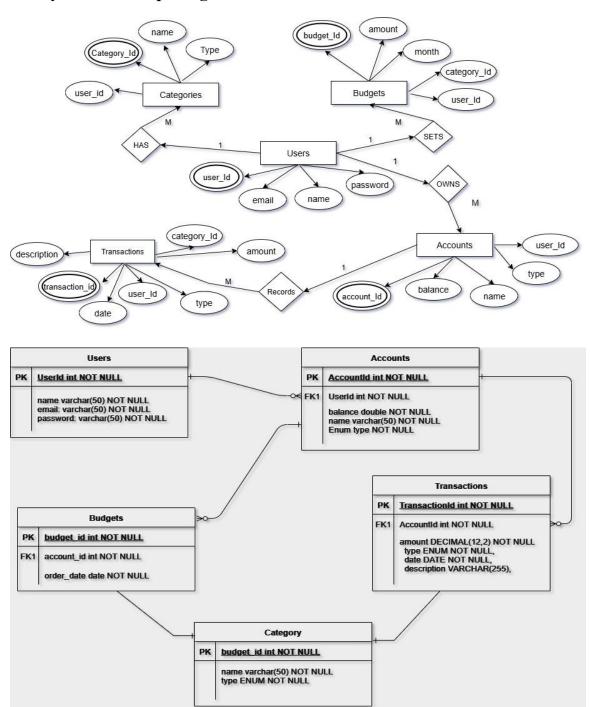


Fig.1 ER Diagram

Use Case Diagram:

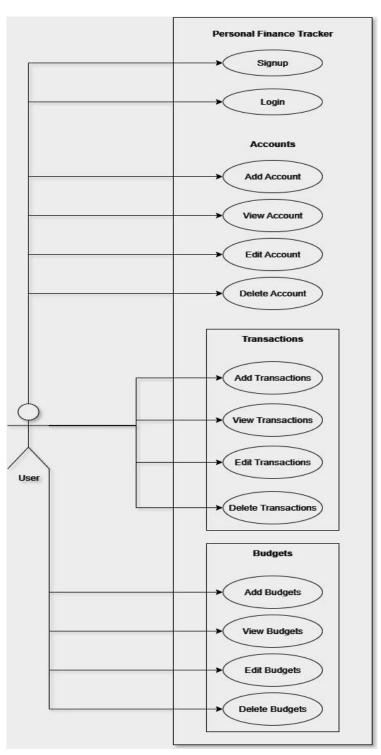


Fig.2 Use Case Diagram

Data Flow Diagram:

DFD - Level 0

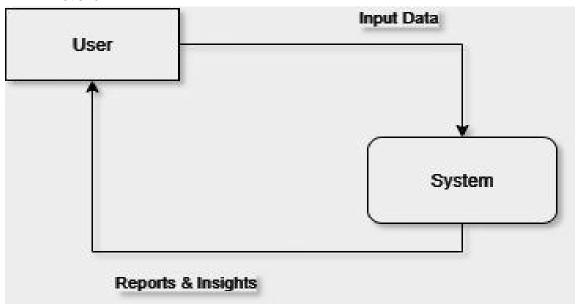
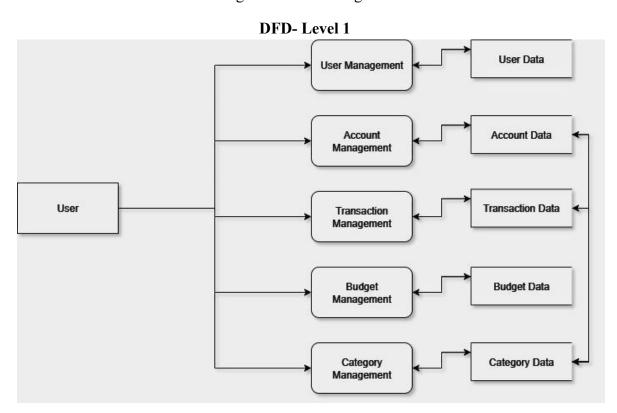


Fig.3 Data Flow Diagram



Activity Diagrams

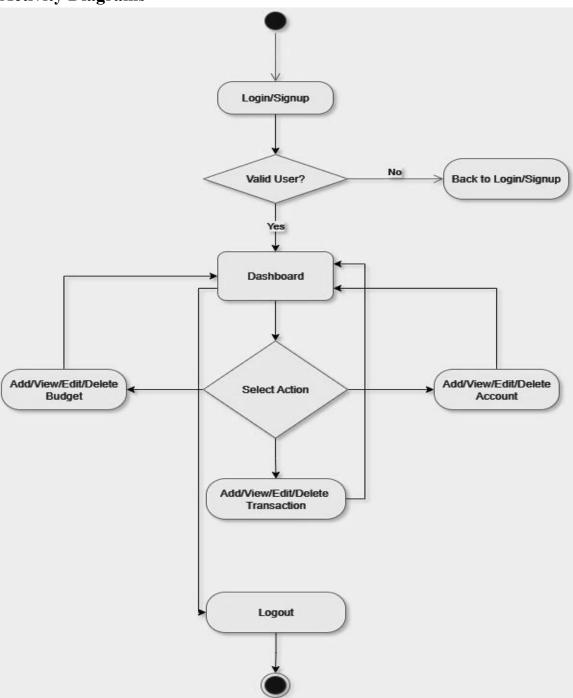


Fig. 4 Activity Diagram

Class Diagram:

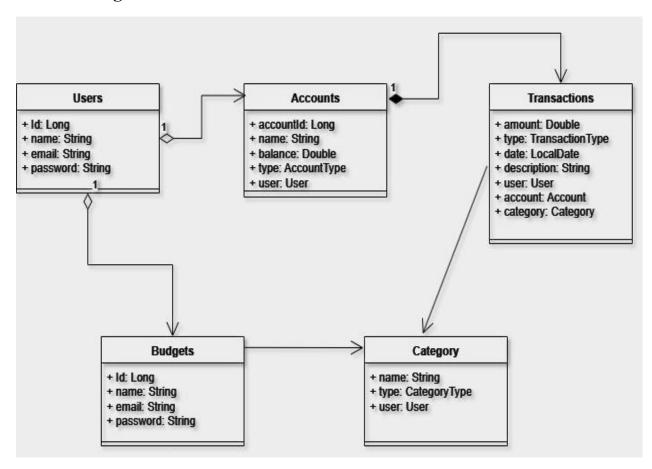


Fig.5 Class Diagram

Sequence Diagram:

Personal Finance Tracker

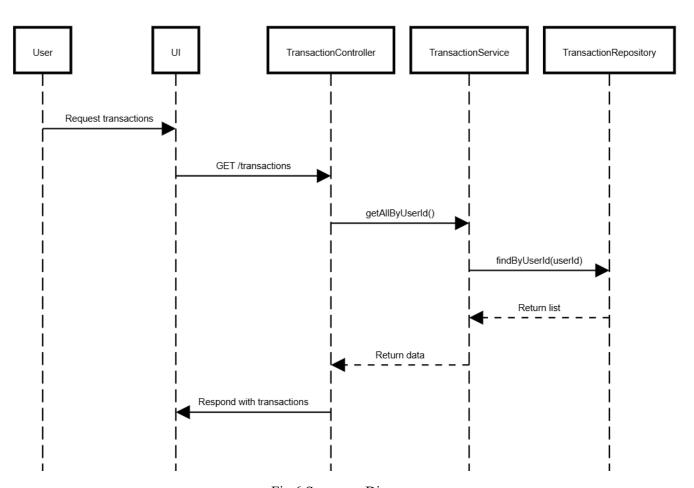


Fig.6 Sequence Diagram

Database Design:

4.1 Design:

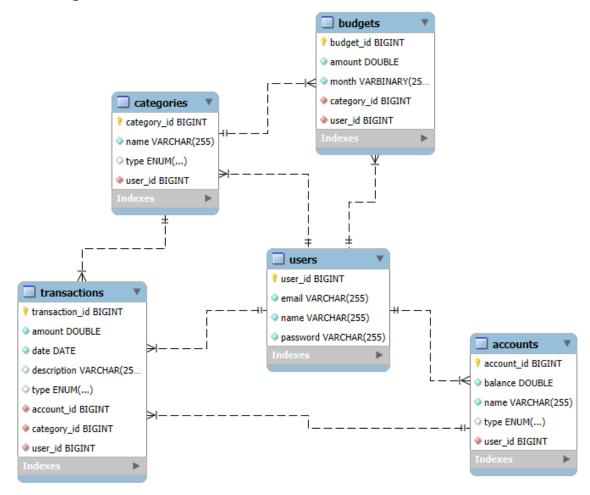


Fig.6 Database Design

4.2 Tables:

The following table structures depict the database design.

```
mysql> show tables;
+-----+
| Tables_in_finacncedb |
+------+
| accounts |
| budgets |
| categories |
| transactions |
| users |
+------+
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

```
mysql> desc users;
 Field
                                          Default
             Type
                            Null
                                    Key
                                                    Extra
  user_id
             bigint
                            NO
                                    PRI
                                          NULL
                                                    auto_increment
  email
             varchar(255)
                                    UNI
                                          NULL
                            NO
             varchar(255)
  name
                            NO
                                          NULL
  password
             varchar(255)
                            NO
                                          NULL
4 rows in set (0.02 sec)
```

Table 1: users

Field	Туре	Null	Key	Default	Extra
account_id	bigint	NO	PRI	NULL	 auto_increment
balance_	double	NO	į i	NULL	i -
name	varchar(255)	NO		NULL	
type	enum('CREDIT','CURRENT','INVESTMENT','SAVINGS','WALLET')	YES		NULL	
user_id	bigint	NO	MUL	NULL	

Table 2: accounts

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mysql> desc cat	tegories; 	.	.	·	·
Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
category_id name type user_id	bigint varchar(255) enum('EXPENSE','INCOME') bigint	NO NO YES NO	:	NULL NULL NULL NULL	auto_increment
4 rows in set	(0.00 sec)				,

Table 3: categories

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
transaction_id	 bigint	NO	PRI	NULL	auto_increment
amount	double	NO		NULL	
date	date	NO		NULL	
description	varchar(255)	YES		NULL	
type	enum('EXPENSE','INCOME')	YES		NULL	
account_id	bigint	NO	MUL	NULL	
category_id	bigint	NO	MUL	NULL	
user_id	bigint	NO	MUL	NULL	

Table 4: transactions

ysql> desc bud	lgets; 	+	·	.	·
Field	Туре	Null	Key	Default	Extra
budget_id amount month category_id user_id	bigint double varbinary(255) bigint bigint	NO NO NO NO NO	PRI MUL MUL	NULL NULL NULL NULL NULL	auto_increment
5 rows in set ((0.00 sec)				

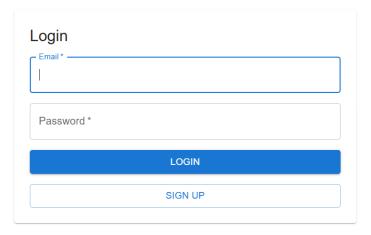
Table 5: budgets

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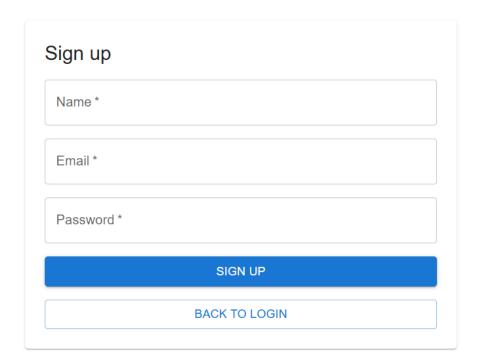
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Snapshots:

Login Page:



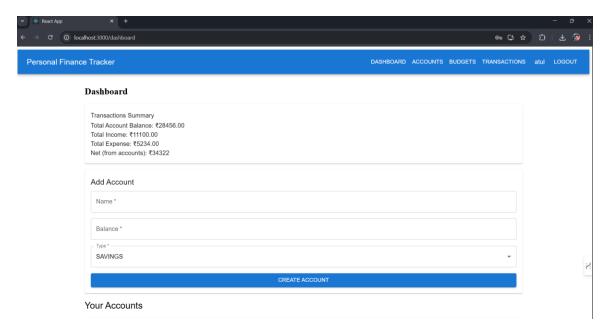
Sign up Page:



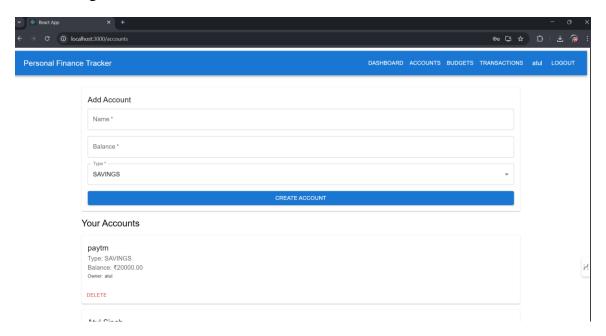
Dashboard Page:

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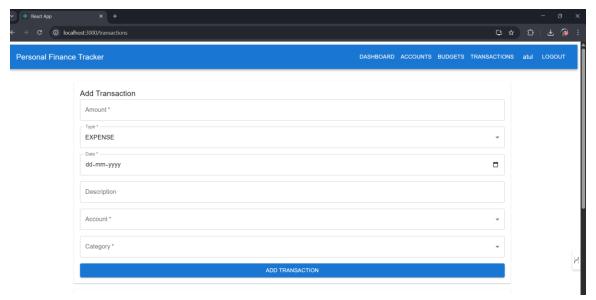
Account Page:



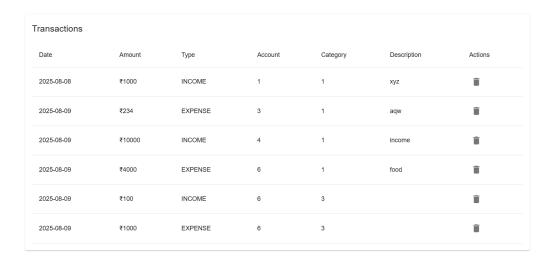
Transaction Page:

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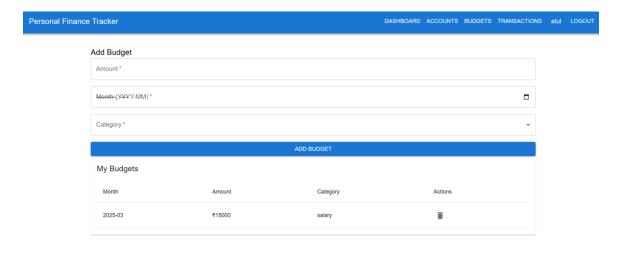
Transaction History:



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Budget Page:



Conclusion

The **Personal Finance Tracker** successfully provides a simple yet powerful platform for managing personal finances effectively. By combining a **Spring Boot backend** with a **React.js frontend**, the application delivers a smooth user experience while maintaining secure and efficient data handling

Users can easily track income and expenses, set budgets, categorize transactions, and monitor account balances in real-time. The system's modular architecture and clean UI make it adaptable for future enhancements, such as integrating bank APIs, adding data visualization charts, or implementing AI-powered financial recommendations.

Overall, this project not only meets its primary goal of simplifying financial management but also demonstrates the practical integration of **full-stack development**, database management, and responsive UI design — making it both a useful tool and a strong example of modern software engineering.

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