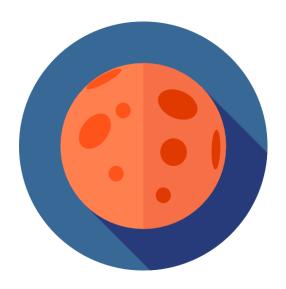




# MARS MOBILE APP





JANUARY 9, 2021
AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY – FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

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# FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

CSE430: Advanced Mobile Computing



# **Mars Mobile App**

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A REPORT FOR ADVANCED MOBILE COMPUTING COURSE CODDED CSE430 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In the recent decades, there has been a persistent increase in the number of researches, projects and smart thoughts about the planet Mars. All these amazing information "data" are unfortunately located in different places, and hence requires a lot of time to search for and find.

This had driven me to implement this app (Mars) which is a platform that provides researchers, techies, and enthusiastic people a simple, cost efficient and reliable way to communicate and share their thoughts about space exploration and Mars.

And for this matter the app features and architecture, technologies used, and app design will be discussed in this report.

#### 2.0 APP FEATURES

- 1. Social login using users' Google and Facebook accounts.
- 2. The app maintains the user session, and hence keeps the user logged in every time he opens the app.
- 3. Fetch and display all posts in a chronological order based on the post creation date.
- 4. The ability to refresh the feeds and get the latest updates.
- 5. The ability to add post by either typing its title and description or through using the Speech-To-Text feature.
- 6. The ability to listen to the feed posts through the Text-To-Speech feature.
- 7. Push and in-app notifications driven by the admin through the firebase console for important announcements.
- 8. Store all app data as users and posts in Firebase Cloud Firestore database.
- 9. The app is structured using MVVM architecture.
- 10. Responsive design that fits on any android screen size.

# 3.0 TECHNOLOGIES USED

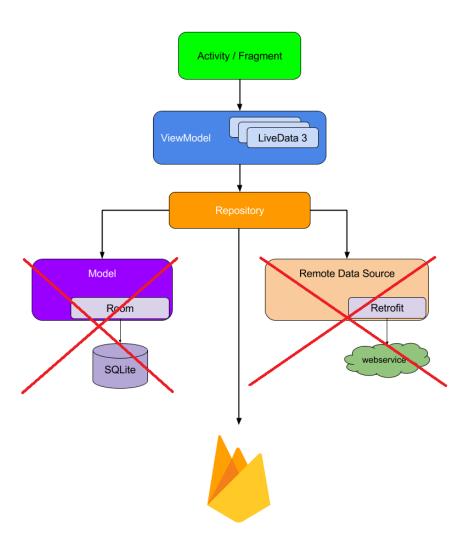
- 1. Android using Java.
- 2. Firebase cloud firestore.
- 3. Firebase authentication service.
- 4. Firebase push notifications service.
- 5. Facebook console for developers.

#### 4.0 APPROACH

# 4.1 System Architecture

The app depends on the MVVM architecture pattern which gives provides a simple way to separate the business logic of your app from the GUI.

Also, the app uses Firebase Authentication Services (Google and Facebook) for user authentication and Firebase Cloud Firestore as a remote database.



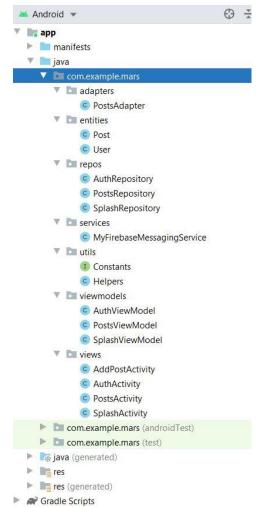
This diagram comes straight out from the Android Architecture Components, except the fact that we'll not be using Room for local persistence, since Firestore already has its own caching mechanism, nor or a web service as a remote data source, we'll be simply using Firebase.

As you can see, we have ViewModels and a LiveData and we need to make them work together using the Repository. This solution is very efficient, and it's actually recommended by the Android team.

### 4.2 Code Organization

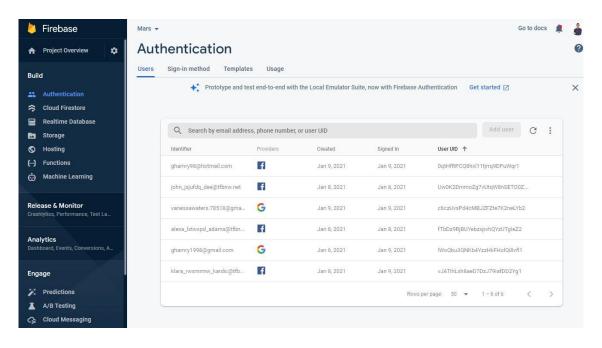
The code is divided into seven main parts:

- 1. **Adapters:** responsible for binding the LiveData to the recycler view items.
- 2. **Entities:** defines the structure of the objects used within the system.
- 3. **Repositories:** holds the LiveData and responsible for the connection with the cloud firestore.
- 4. **Services:** represents the services used inside the system as the push notifications service.
- 5. **Utils:** contains all the utilities needed by the app, such as all the constant values and all the helper functions used in the app.
- 6. **ViewModels:** exposes the data to the Views and maintain some state for the View.
- 7. Views: the attached part with the XML files, which is aware of the activity lifecycle and takes actions based on it. It also communicates with and triggers the ViewModels in order to get the needed data.

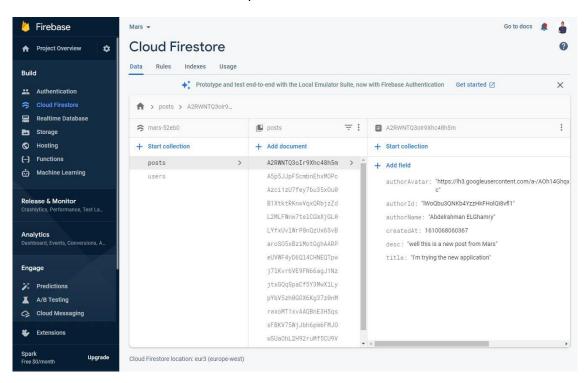


#### 4.3 Third Parties

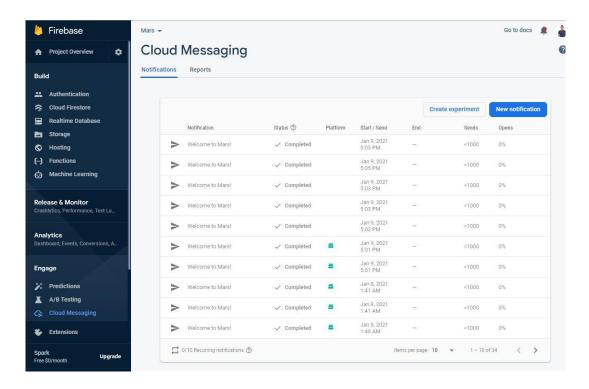
- 1. Firebase Authentication Service
  - Google Login.
  - Facebook Login.



- 2. Firebase Cloud Firestore (Database)
  - Table for users.
  - Table for posts.



- 3. Firebase Cloud Messaging (FCM)
  - Send to all users (Broadcast).
  - Send on a certain topic (Initially all users are subscribed to "posts" topic).



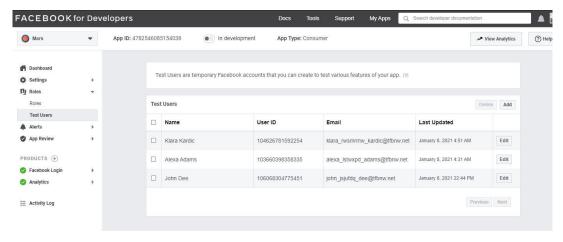
4. Facebook Developers Console

We've got 3 test users:

- mars\_hxbmpvv\_user@tfbnw.net
- alexa\_lstwxpd\_adams@tfbnw.net
- klara\_rwsmrmw\_kardic@tfbnw.net

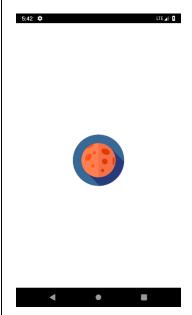
All have the same password which is "Vorx!123".

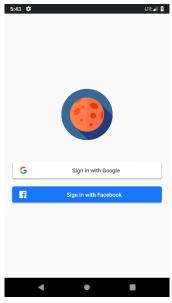
(Kindly be noted that the app is in-development mode, so we can only use Facebook authentication through the registered devices on console).

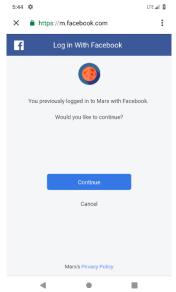


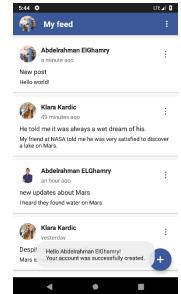
#### 5.0 APP DESIGN

# 5.1 Portrait

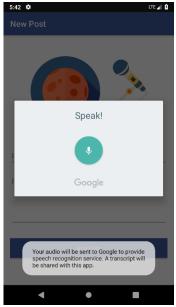




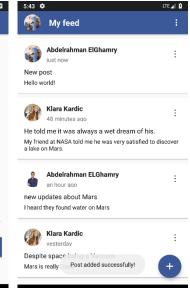




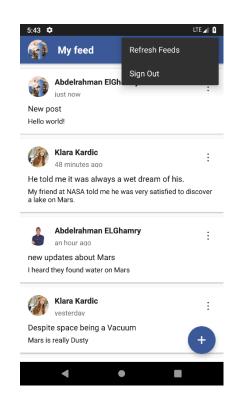


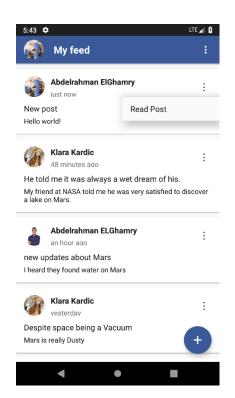


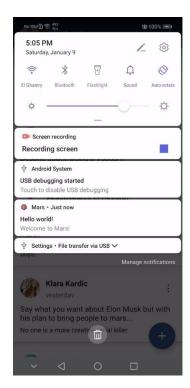




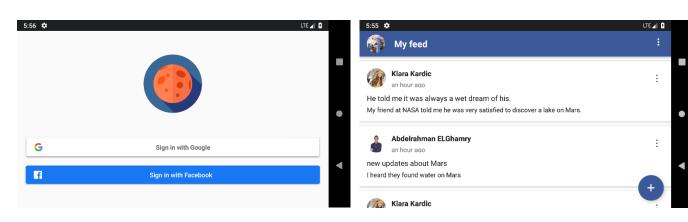
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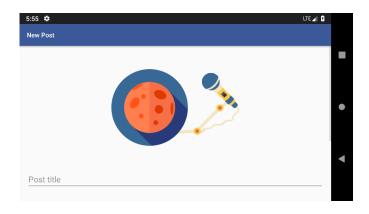






# 5.2 Landscape





#### 6.0 APP FLOW AND CORNER CASES

#### 6.1 Authentication Scenario

- The app starts by checking if this user is authenticated or not.
- If the user is authenticated, the app automatically navigates to the Posts Activity, otherwise, the app navigates to the Authentication Activity, and then user authenticates using any of the available authentication options.

#### 6.2 View Feeds Scenario

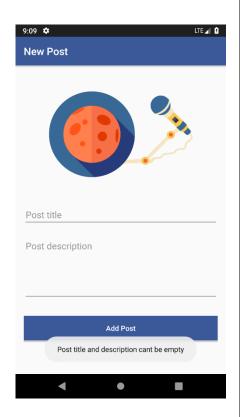
- The app requests all the existing feeds from the cloud firestore.
- If there's available data, the Posts Activity will show cards containing the posts, otherwise, it will display empty feed.

#### 6.3 Corner Cases

The user navigates to the Add Post Activity and tries to add:

- An empty post.
- Post with no title.
- Post with no description.
- Post with either the title or description is whitespaces.

The app doesn't add the post and displays a toast message to the user that clarifies the problem.



#### 7.0 IMPORTANT LINKS

# 7.1 Application (APK)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/10J8FxLYamsLE7NGybfx--n7cS57CZ3US/view?usp=sharing

# 7.2 Demo Video (MP4)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E7sKpc2sgPFysSbdE3pLJRoO4thzkyv2/view?usp=sharing

# 7.3 Source Control (GIT)

https://github.com/Ghamry98/Mars-social-app-mvvm

#### 8.0 CODE SNIPPETS

#### 8.1 Views and XML

```
PostsActivity.java
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_posts);
    initViewModels();
    getUserFromIntent();
    initAppBar();
    initFab();
    initRecyclerView();
    loadPosts();
    configureFCM();
}
private void configureFCM() {
    FirebaseMessaging.getInstance().subscribeToTopic("posts");
private void initRecyclerView() {
    recyclerView = findViewById(R.id.postsList);
    LinearLayoutManager linearLayoutManager = new LinearLayoutManager(this);
    recyclerView.setLayoutManager(new LinearLayoutManager(this));
}
private void loadPosts() {
    postsViewModel.getAllPosts();
    postsViewModel.postsLiveData.observe(this, data -> {
        postsAdapter = new PostsAdapter(this, data);
        recyclerView.setAdapter(postsAdapter);
    });
}
private void getUserFromIntent() {
    user = (User) getIntent().getSerializableExtra(USER);
}
@Override
public void onActivityResult(int requestCode, int resultCode, Intent data) {
    super.onActivityResult(requestCode, resultCode, data);
    if (requestCode == RC_ADD_POST && data != null) {
        Post post = (Post) data.getSerializableExtra(POST);
        post.setAuthor(user);
        postsViewModel.createPost(post);
        Toast.makeText(PostsActivity.this, R.string.add_post_success,
Toast.LENGTH SHORT).show();
    }
```

# 8.2 Adapters

```
PostsAdapter.java
public class PostsAdapter extends RecyclerView.Adapter<PostsAdapter.ViewHolder>
    private List<Post> posts;
    private LayoutInflater mInflater;
    private Context context;
    TextToSpeech tts;
    final int VOICE RECOGNITION = 3;
    String mostRecentUtteranceID;
    int count = 0;
    public PostsAdapter(Context context, List<Post> data) {
        this.mInflater = LayoutInflater.from(context);
        this.posts = data;
        this.context = context;
        initTTS();
    }
    // inflates the row layout from xml when needed
    @Override
    public ViewHolder onCreateViewHolder(ViewGroup parent, int viewType) {
        View view = mInflater.inflate(R.layout.item_post, parent, false);
        return new ViewHolder(view);
    // total number of rows
    @Override
    public int getItemCount() {
        return posts.size();
    // stores and recycles views as they are scrolled off screen
    public class ViewHolder extends RecyclerView.ViewHolder {
        TextView authorName;
        ImageView authorAvatar;
        TextView title;
        TextView desc;
        TextView createdAt;
        TextView menuBtn;
        ViewHolder(View itemView) {
            super(itemView);
            authorName = itemView.findViewById(R.id.authorName);
            authorAvatar = itemView.findViewById(R.id.authorAvatar);
            title = itemView.findViewById(R.id.title);
            desc = itemView.findViewById(R.id.desc);
            createdAt = itemView.findViewById(R.id.createdAt);
            menuBtn = itemView.findViewById(R.id.menuBtn);
        }
    }
    // binds the data to the TextView in each row
    @Override
```

```
public void onBindViewHolder(ViewHolder holder, int position) {
        Post post = posts.get(position);
        holder.authorName.setText(post.authorName);
        holder.title.setText(post.title);
        holder.desc.setText(post.desc);
        holder.createdAt.setText(post.formattedCreationDate());
        Glide.with(context)
                .load(post.authorAvatar)
                .centerCrop()
                .circleCrop()
                .into(holder.authorAvatar);
        holder.menuBtn.setOnClickListener(new View.OnClickListener() {
            @Override
            public void onClick(View view) {
                Log.d("MarsTag", "onClick: ");
                PopupMenu popupMenu = new PopupMenu(context, holder.menuBtn);
                popupMenu.inflate(R.menu.post_options_menu);
                popupMenu.setOnMenuItemClickListener(new
PopupMenu.OnMenuItemClickListener() {
                    @RequiresApi(api = Build.VERSION_CODES.LOLLIPOP)
                    @Override
                    public boolean onMenuItemClick(MenuItem menuItem) {
                        switch (menuItem.getItemId()) {
                            case R.id.menu_item_read:
                                speakText(post);
                                break;
                        }
                        return false;
                });
                popupMenu.show();
            }
        });
    }
    @RequiresApi(api = Build.VERSION CODES.LOLLIPOP)
    public void speakText(Post post) {
        try {
            String TTS = post.formattedTTS();
            count++;
            mostRecentUtteranceID = Integer.toString(count) + " ID";
            tts.speak(TTS, TextToSpeech.QUEUE_ADD, null, mostRecentUtteranceID);
        } catch(Exception e) {
        }
    }
    private void initTTS() {
        tts = new TextToSpeech(context, new TextToSpeech.OnInitListener() {
            @RequiresApi(api = Build.VERSION_CODES.LOLLIPOP)
            @Override
            public void onInit(int status) {
                if (status == TextToSpeech.SUCCESS) {
```

```
tts.setLanguage(Locale.ENGLISH);
    tts.setPitch((float) 1);
    tts.setSpeechRate((float) 1);
}
}
}
}
```

#### 8.3 View Models

```
Custom_menu.xml

public class PostsViewModel extends AndroidViewModel {
    private PostsRepository postsRepository;
    public LiveData<List<Post>> postsLiveData;

    public PostsViewModel(Application application) {
        super(application);
        postsRepository = new PostsRepository();
    }

    public void getAllPosts() {
        postsLiveData = postsRepository.getAllPosts();
    }

    public void createPost(Post post) {
        postsRepository.addPost(post);
    }
}
```

# 8.4 Repositories

```
PostsRepository.java
public class PostsRepository {
    private FirebaseFirestore rootRef = FirebaseFirestore.getInstance();
    private CollectionReference postsRef = rootRef.collection(POSTS);
   MutableLiveData<List<Post>> posts = new MutableLiveData<>();
    public MutableLiveData<List<Post>> getAllPosts() {
        postsRef.get().addOnCompleteListener(new
OnCompleteListener<QuerySnapshot>() {
            @Override
            public void onComplete(@NonNull Task<QuerySnapshot> task) {
                if (task.isSuccessful()) {
                    List<Post> list = new ArrayList<>();
                    for (QueryDocumentSnapshot document : task.getResult()) {
                        list.add(document.toObject(Post.class));
                    Collections.sort(list, new Comparator<Post>() {
                        @Override
                        public int compare(Post p1, Post p2) {
                            return new
Long(p2.createdAt).compareTo(p1.createdAt);
```

```
});

posts.setValue(list);
} else {
        LogErrorMessage(task.getException().getMessage());
}

});
return posts;
}

public void addPost(Post post) {
        DocumentReference docRef = postsRef.document();
        docRef.set(post);
        List<Post> ps = posts.getValue();
        ps.add(0, post);
        posts.setValue(ps);
}
```

#### 8.5 Services

```
MyFirebaseMessagingService.java
public class MyFirebaseMessagingService extends FirebaseMessagingService {
    @Override
    public void onMessageReceived(RemoteMessage remoteMessage) {
        Log.d(TAG, "From: " + remoteMessage.getFrom());
        if (remoteMessage.getData().size() > 0) {
            Log.d(TAG, "Message data payload: " + remoteMessage.getData());
            /* Check if data needs to be processed by long running job */
            if (true) {
                // For long-running tasks (10 seconds or more) use WorkManager.
                scheduleJob();
                // Handle message within 10 seconds
                handleNow();
            }
        }
        // Check if message contains a notification payload.
        if (remoteMessage.getNotification() != null) {
            Log.d(TAG, "Message Notification Body: " +
remoteMessage.getNotification().getBody());
        sendNotification(remoteMessage.getNotification().getTitle(),
remoteMessage.getNotification().getBody());
    }
    @Override
    public void onNewToken(String token) {
        Log.d(TAG, "Refreshed token: " + token);
        sendRegistrationToServer(token);
```

```
}
    private void sendRegistrationToServer(String token) {
        // Implement this method to send token to your app server.
    private void scheduleJob() {
          OneTimeWorkRequest work = new
//
OneTimeWorkRequest.Builder(MyWorker.class)
                  .build();
//
          WorkManager.getInstance().beginWith(work).engueue();
    private void handleNow() {
          Log.d(TAG, "Short lived task is done.");
//
    private void sendNotification(String messageTitle, String messageBody) {
        Intent intent = new Intent(this, SplashActivity.class);
        intent.addFlags(Intent.FLAG_ACTIVITY_CLEAR_TOP);
        PendingIntent pendingIntent = PendingIntent.getActivity(this, 0 ,
intent,
                PendingIntent.FLAG ONE SHOT);
        String channelId = getString(R.string.default_notification_channel_id);
        Uri defaultSoundUri =
RingtoneManager.getDefaultUri(RingtoneManager.TYPE_NOTIFICATION);
        NotificationCompat.Builder notificationBuilder =
                new NotificationCompat.Builder(this, channelId)
                        .setSmallIcon(R.mipmap.ic launcher foreground)
                        .setContentTitle(messageTitle != null &&
messageTitle.length() > 0 ? messageTitle : getString(R.string.app_name))
                        .setContentText(messageBody)
                        .setAutoCancel(true)
                        .setSound(defaultSoundUri)
                        .setContentIntent(pendingIntent);
        NotificationManager notificationManager =
                (NotificationManager)
getSystemService(Context.NOTIFICATION SERVICE);
        // Since android Oreo notification channel is needed.
        if (Build.VERSION.SDK INT >= Build.VERSION CODES.0) {
            NotificationChannel channel = new NotificationChannel(channelId,
                    "Channel human readable title",
                    NotificationManager.IMPORTANCE_DEFAULT);
            notificationManager.createNotificationChannel(channel);
        }
        notificationManager.notify(∅ /* ID of notification */,
notificationBuilder.build());
    }
}
```

#### 8.6 Entities

```
User.java
public class User implements Serializable {
    public String uid;
    public String name;
    @SuppressWarnings("WeakerAccess")
    public String email;
    public String avatar;
    @Exclude
    public boolean isAuthenticated;
    @Exclude
    public boolean isNew, isCreated;
    public User() {}
    public User(String uid, String name, String email, String avatar) {
        this.uid = uid;
        this.name = name;
        this.email = email;
        this.avatar = avatar;
    }
    public String toString() {
        return "id: " + uid
            + " name: " + name
            + " email: " + email
            + " avatar: " + avatar
            + " isAuthenticated: " + isAuthenticated
            + " isNew: " + isNew
            + " isCreated: " + isCreated;
    }
```

#### 8.7 Utils

```
Helpers.java
public class Helpers {
    private static int SECOND_MILLIS = 1000;
    private static int MINUTE_MILLIS = 60 * SECOND_MILLIS;
    private static int HOUR MILLIS = 60 * MINUTE MILLIS;
    private static int DAY_MILLIS = 24 * HOUR_MILLIS;
    public static String getTimeAgo(Long time) {
        Long now = System.currentTimeMillis();
        if (time > now || time <= 0) {
            return "";
        }
        Long diff = now - time;
        if (diff < MINUTE_MILLIS) {</pre>
            return "just now";
        } else if (diff < 2 * MINUTE_MILLIS) {</pre>
            return "a minute ago";
        } else if (diff < 50 * MINUTE_MILLIS) {</pre>
            return (diff / MINUTE_MILLIS) + " minutes ago";
        } else if (diff < 90 * MINUTE MILLIS) {</pre>
```

```
return "an hour ago";
} else if (diff < 24 * HOUR_MILLIS) {
    return (diff / HOUR_MILLIS) + " hours ago";
} else if (diff < 48 * HOUR_MILLIS) {
    return "yesterday";
} else {
    return (diff / DAY_MILLIS) + " days ago";
}

public static void logErrorMessage(String errorMessage) {
    Log.d(TAG, errorMessage);
}
</pre>
```