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**Completed the Phase-03** 

PROJECT NAME: IBM-FE-CHAT APPLICATION UI

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### **MVP IMPLEMENTATION**

## **Project Setup**

This phase began with the initial setup of the project repository and development environment, aligning with the tech stack defined in Phase 2.

### **Repository Initialization:**

A new GitHub repository (ibm-fe-chat-app) was created and initialized with a README.md file detailing the project, tech stack, and setup instructions.

## **Development Environment:**

- Node.js & npm: Ensured the correct LTS version of Node.js was installed.
- Vite Project Scaffolding: Executed npm create vite@latest . -- --template react to initialize a new React project with Vite for its fast development server and optimized build tooling.
- Dependency Installation:

Installed the core libraries defined in the architecture:

- ♦ socket.io-client for real-time communication
- → msw (Mock Service Worker) for mocking backend APIs

#### **Project Structure:**

Implemented the planned atomic folder structure within the src directory, creating folders for components/atoms, components/molecules, components/organisms, contexts, hooks, pages, and services.

# **Core Features Implementation**

The implementation focused on delivering the MVP features as per the user stories and acceptance criteria.

#### User Authentication UI (US-01):

- ❖ Built LoginPage and RegistrationPage components with form validation.
- ❖ Implemented AuthContext to globally manage the user's authentication state (token, user data).
- ❖ Used MSW to mock successful and failed responses from the /auth/login endpoint (AC1, AC3).
- ❖ Upon successful mock login, the user is redirected to the ChatPage (AC2).

#### > Conversations List View (US-01, US-07):

- ❖ Developed the ConversationList organism and ConversationListItem molecule.
- ❖ Fetched mock conversation data from the mocked /conversations endpoint using axios inside a useEffect hook (AC4).
- ❖ Each list item successfully displays the conversation name, last message preview, timestamp, and an unread count badge (AC5).
- Styled the list to highlight conversations with unread messages.

#### > 1-on-1 & Group Chat Interface (US-03, US-04, US-05):

- ❖ Built the MessageList organism and MessageBubble molecule. Sent and received messages have distinct visual styling (aligned right/left, different background colors) (AC7).
- ❖ Implemented the MessageInput component with a form handler.
- ❖ Optimistic Updates: Implemented logic where a sent message is immediately added to the local UI state with a status: 'sending' before the API/Socket call is made (AC8). The status updates to 'sent' upon a successful mock response.
- ♦ Mocked the API endpoint POST /conversations/:id/messages with MSW.

### > Group Chat Creation (US-05, US-06):

- Created a modal component for group creation.
- The modal includes a form with a group name field and a searchable list of users (fetched from the mocked GET /users endpoint) (AC9).
- ❖ Upon form submission, a POST request is sent to the mocked /conversations/group endpoint (AC10).

#### Responsive Design (US-08):

- ❖ Utilized Tailwind CSS's responsive utility classes (e.g., flex, flex-col, md:flex-row).
- ❖ Achieved a side-by-side two-panel layout on desktop viewports (> 1024px) (AC11).
- ❖ Implemented a conditional rendering logic where on mobile viewports (< 768px), the conversation list and chat view are displayed as separate full-screen pages, toggled based on the selected conversation state (AC12).

## **Data Storage (Local State / Database)**

As this is the UI phase, data persistence is simulated. The architecture for handling data flow was implemented as designed.

#### **UI State:**

- Managed using React's useState and useReducer hooks.
- ❖ Input field values, modal open/close states, and loading indicators are local component state.
- ❖ The currently selected conversation ID is stored in the ConversationsContext.

#### Server State (Mocked):

- ❖ Global State: The AuthContext stores the authenticated user's token and profile. The ConversationsContext stores the array of conversation objects.
- ❖ Local Component State: Messages for the currently selected conversation are fetched and stored in the ChatPage component's state using useState to avoid global bloat.
- ❖ Mocking: MSW intercepts all API calls defined in the Phase 1 document (/auth/login, /conversations, /messages, etc.) and returns static, hard-coded JSON data matching the API schema from Phase 2. This allows for full frontend functionality without a backend.

# **Testing Core Features**

A testing strategy was employed to ensure feature reliability.

Manual Testing: Each user story and acceptance criterion was manually tested:

- ✓ Successful and failed login attempts.
- ✓ Display and update of the conversation list.
- ✓ Selecting conversations and loading respective messages.
- ✓ Sending messages and seeing optimistic updates.
- ✓ Creating a new group chat.
- ✓ Verifying responsive design on various screen sizes.

**Tooling Setup:** Installed and configured jest and @testing-library/react for component testing. Wrote initial unit tests for key utility functions and basic rendering tests for core components like the MessageBubble and ConversationListItem.

# **Version Control (GitHub)**

Git and GitHub were used extensively for version control and collaboration throughout this phase.

**Branching Strategy:** Utilized feature-based branching. main branch always holds the production-ready, stable code. New features were developed in isolated branches (e.g., feature/auth-login, feature/chatinterface). Commit Hygiene: Followed conventional commit messages (e.g., feat: add login page component, fix: resolve responsive issue on mobile). Commits were small and atomic, focusing on a single change. Pull Requests (PRs): Each feature branch was merged into main via a Pull Request. PR descriptions included summaries of changes, screenshots of the new UI, and a checklist of completed acceptance criteria, facilitating code review. **Repository Link:** The complete source code for this phase has been pushed to the GitHub repository