

(6)Conflicts Between EPICs

Conflict 1: Feature-Based Search vs Natural Language Processing

EPICs Involved: EPIC 3 (Feature-Based Search), EPIC 6 (Natural Language Processing)

Conflict: Feature-based search depends on structured inputs (like sliders or drop-downs), while NLP introduces free-form queries that are interpreted by the system. These two systems may interpret user intent differently.

Potential Issue: Search results could become inconsistent or confusing if NLP parsing overrides user-selected structured filters.

Resolution: Use NLP to pre-fill structured filters, allowing users to manually adjust them afterward. This ensures consistency while enhancing usability.

Conflict 2: Matching & Communication vs Admin Management

EPICs Involved: EPIC 4 (Matching & Communication), EPIC 7 (Admin Management)

Conflict: In-app chat promotes private communication, while admin management requires oversight for abuse prevention.

Potential Issue: Maintaining user privacy while still enabling moderation becomes challenging, especially for flagged or reported conversations.

Resolution: Allow admin access only after a report is filed. Until then, all conversations remain encrypted and inaccessible to admins.

Conflict 3: Authentication & User Management vs Matching & Communication

EPICs Involved: EPIC 1 (Authentication & User Management), EPIC 4 (Matching & Communication)

Conflict: Strict privacy controls in profile management can clash with the matching engine, which needs some visibility into user data to calculate compatibility.

Potential Issue: The matching algorithm may not function effectively if access to required fields is restricted due to user privacy settings.

Resolution: Implement role-based or permission-based visibility. Share only minimal necessary data (e.g., preferences, first name) until mutual interest is established.

Conflict 4: Notification System vs Admin Management

EPICs Involved: EPIC 5 (Notification System), EPIC 7 (Admin Management)

Conflict: Notifications must be sent in real time, but if a user is banned or blocked, outgoing or incoming notifications may still be triggered.

Potential Issue: This could lead to confusion or continued engagement from/to malicious users.

Resolution: Introduce a validation check before each notification is sent. If a user is blocked or banned, suppress the notification and log the event.