User Manual

1. Installation:
   1. Go to src/config, copy config.example.php and rename the new file as config.php
   2. Change the config.php inside config file to your own setting
   3. Import SCHEMA.sql into your database
2. Features
   1. Register/Login/Logout:
      1. Open index.php to login or register a new account
      2. Logout button is displayed on the right of navigation bar after login
   2. Post
      1. You can write a new post by clicking “New Post” button on the navigation bar
      2. You can edit or delete your post on the single post page
      3. User can view all his posts by clicking “All Posts” on the navigation bar, if the user has not logged in, all the posts in the database will be displayed
      4. You can search for relevant posts on the navigation bar
   3. Comment
      1. You can scroll down to the bottom of single post page to comment
      2. You can delete your own comment
   4. Edit Account Setting
      1. Click “Security Setting” under “Account Setting” in the navigation bar to change your password
      2. Click “Preference Setting” under “Account Setting” in the navigation bar to add more personal information: address, self-introduction, age etc.
      3. Click “Profile” under “Account Setting” in the navigation bar to upload an image as your avatar
3. Pages
   1. Index.php
      1. You can always go back to this home page by clicking “MilkyBlog” on the left side of navigation bar
      2. Three posts from random users will be displayed in the panels on the page
   2. All\_posts.php
      1. The profile picture, user’s preferred name and his/hers self-introduction will be displayed when visiting a user’s all\_post page
      2. More personal information of the current user will be displayed on the first left panel
      3. All the posts of current user will be displayed on the second left panel (Archive)
      4. If no user is specified, all the posts in the database will be displayed
   3. Single\_post.php
      1. The profile picture and other user information will be displayed the same as in all\_posts page
      2. Current post will be highlighted on the ‘Archive’ panel
      3. The author of current post can edit the post
   4. Search\_result.php
      1. Posts with relevant information in title, abstract or content will be displayed on the page
4. Directory

src/

| index.php

| README.md

|SCHEMA.sql

+ config

| config.php // configuration file

| global.php // global variables

+ model

| users.php // user related functions

| posts.php // post related functions

| db.php // interactions with the database

+ view

|about.php

|all\_posts.php

|new\_post.php

…

+ common

| page-header.php // display the profile, name and introduction of the author

| left-panel.php // display the archive and other user info of the author

…

+ manage\_input

|manage\_comment.php //comment-related form submission will be sent to this file

|manage\_post.php

|create\_user.php // Information in registration form will be sent to this file

…

+ static

+ img // images

+ css // css files

+ js // javaScript files

| helper.js // helper functions (Form validation in javascript

+ uploads // images uploaded by users as their profile picture

Reflection

For this assignment we are to create a simple blog with the basic functionality of ‘CRUD’. I treat this as a good opportunity to learn web development, including how to do web design, how data are rendered through the web

and how they are viewed by users. This is the first time I plunge into web development, and it is deeper than I imagined. I start learning php, html and css right after the assignment was launched. Codecademy is a good website for beginners, but it is too little for this assignment. Most of the time, I have to google about how to implement my ideas, read up the solutions provided on stackoverflow, w3school etc and test their correctness on my won. As a result, my structure was very messy, and I have to spend a lot of time to re-organize my files. The moral of this is that I should plan before I start. Another thing that needs rework is my web page design. After looking at a few bloggers, I realized that I should keep my pages as clear as possible and stripe off those fancy designs. All in all, I would conclude this assignment as a bittersweet learning process. I’ve learned more than just web development through this assignment. It’s the ability to learn a new thing from scratch that matters.