

Project Report: Hospital Management System

Author:

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- **About Me:** I am a student learning Data Science from IIT Madras online BS degree programme. This project was a great way for me to practice building a complete web application using Python and Flask.

AI/LLM Usage:

I used Google's Gemini (an AI/LLM) as a helper tool while working on this project.

My use of the AI was for tasks like:

- Helping to understand the project requirements and plan the structure.
- Answering my questions about technologies like Flask, Flask-WTF, and SQLite.
- Assisting with debugging code when I got stuck (for example, helping me solve a `CSRF token error`).
- Helping me organize my thoughts and write this project report.

The AI acted as a teaching assistant, but I wrote, tested, and finalized all the code for the project myself.

Description:

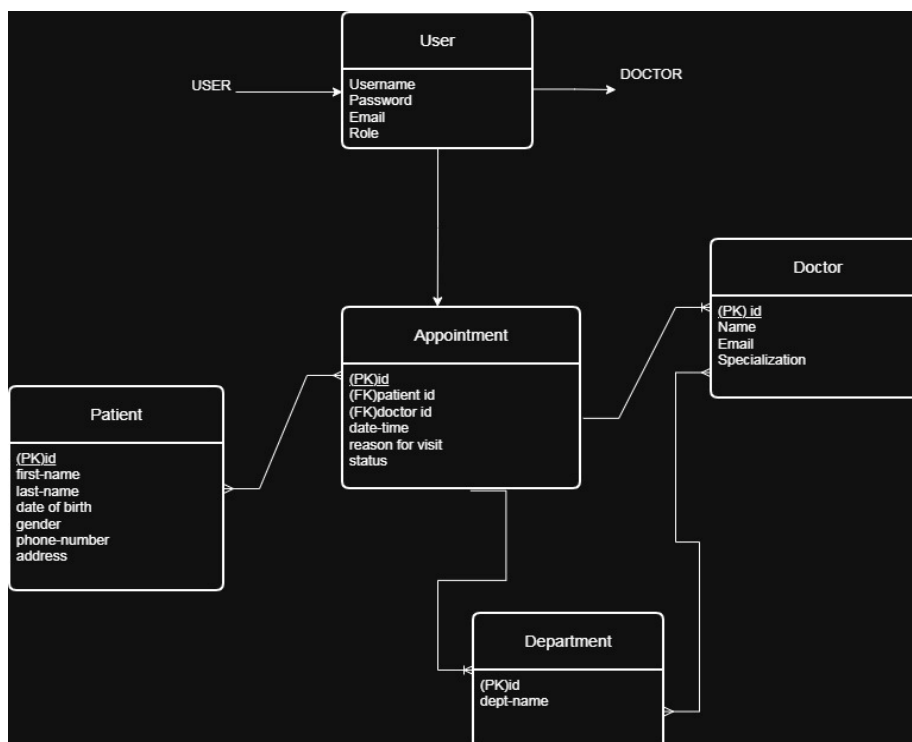
This project is a web application to help manage a hospital. It's designed for a user, like a receptionist, to easily handle information. The system allows the user to add, view, and manage details for doctors, patients, and their appointments.

- **AI/LLM Used:** I estimate I used the AI for about 15-20% of the support tasks.
- This help was mainly for getting ideas, solving problems, and documentation, not for writing the actual application code.

Technologies Used:

- **Python:** The main programming language used to build the application's logic.
- **Flask:** A simple and flexible Python framework used to build the web server and handle web pages.
- **Jinja2:** A "templating engine" that works with Flask. It let me create HTML templates and easily insert Python data into them.
- **SQLite:** A lightweight, file-based database used to store all the project's data (like patient lists, doctor info, etc.).
- **Flask-SQLAlchemy:** A Flask extension that made it much easier to connect Flask to the SQLite database. It helped me create the database tables using Python code.
- **Flask-WTF:** A Flask extension used to create and protect web forms. This was important for security, like preventing CSRF attacks on my login and data entry forms.
- **HTML/CSS:** Used to structure and style the web pages to make them look good and easy to use.

DB Schema Design:



Reasons behind this design: I designed it this way to be efficient and reduce repeated data. For example, a **Doctor now belongs to a Department**. Instead of typing the department name for every doctor, I just link them using the `department_id`. This is much cleaner.

Similarly, in the `Appointment` table, I only store the *IDs* of the patient and doctor. This "links" the tables together, saves space, and makes it easy to update a patient's or doctor's name in just one place.

API Design:

In this project, the "APIs" are the routes that Flask uses to run the website. My Python code defines these routes, which handle requests from the user's browser.

- `/login` (GET and POST): Shows the login page (GET) and handles the form submission to check the username and password (POST).
- `/logout` (GET): Logs the user out.
- `/dashboard` (GET): The main page after login, which might show a summary of patients and appointments.
- `/patients` (GET): Shows a list of all patients.
- `/patient/add` (GET and POST): Shows the form to add a new patient (GET) and saves the new patient to the database (POST).
- `/doctors` (GET): Shows a list of all doctors.
- `/appointment/add` (GET and POST): Shows the form to book an appointment (GET) and saves the new appointment (POST).

These routes are the backbone of the application, connecting the HTML templates to the database logic.

Architecture and Features:

Architecture: The project is organized in a way that is standard for Flask applications:

- `app.py`: This is the main file. It contains all the Flask routes (the "controllers"), sets up the database, and runs the application.
- `models.py`: (Or this code might be in `app.py`) This file defines the database tables (the "schema" like `User`, `Patient`, `Doctor`, `Department`, etc.) using Flask-SQLAlchemy.
- `forms.py`: This file defines all the web forms used to add or edit data, using Flask-WTF.
- `templates/` (Folder): This folder contains all the HTML files (the "views"). Jinja2 uses these files to build the pages the user sees.
- `static/` (Folder): This folder holds any static files, such as CSS files for styling.

Features Implemented:

- **Secure User Login:** (Based on the `User` table) A staff member must log in to use the system. Passwords are hashed for security.
- **Department Management:** (Based on the `Department` table) The user can add new hospital departments (like "Cardiology", "Orthopedics") and view a list of all existing departments.
- **Doctor Management:** (Based on the `Doctor` and `Department` tables) The user can add new doctors, edit their details, and **assign them to a specific department**.

- **Patient Management:** (Based on the `Patient` table) The user can add new patients, view a complete list of all patients.
- **Appointment Booking:** (Based on the `Appointment` table) The user can book a new appointment by **linking a Patient with a Doctor** and selecting a date and time.
- **Dashboard:** A central home page that shows key information at a glance.