TALLINNA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

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Music discovery and sharing platform

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1 Project description

This web application aims to create a music discovery platform for independent musicians to gather listeners and feedback on their music.

A big problem today is that it is difficult for new musicians and producers to gain popularity. This is mainly because there are so many already popular creators out there and the competition is very big. The main ways of releasing music today are mainly mainstream platforms such as YouTube, Spotify and SoundCloud, which rely on algorithms that favour already popular artists. This means that there are many artists, who stay unrecognized and are overshadowed by big names and as a result fail to grow an audience.

This project aims to create a similar music platform, that instead focuses on less known artists and producers, where popularity doesn't matter. This gives every artist a fair chance to be heard. Artists can create their profile, upload their music by their musician's name and provide links to redirect traffic to their own platforms.

The second problem that the author has faced many times is finding new songs and music to enjoy, that depends on his mood. He finds it difficult and tedious to find new songs and music to his liking, because mainstream platforms promote popular music, which is not what he is usually looking for.

This project would aim to solve two different problems with one solution: it would help new artists grow by helping their songs reach new audiences and on the other hand it would help people discover new genres and types of music that they are looking for.

The motivation for this project comes from the authors own experience with producing music. The author plays the guitar and produces music in Fl Studio (music producing DAW). Although the author does this just as a hobby, not to gain recognition, he has noticed these problems with the music industry and prefers smaller communities to share their creations.

2 Project features

The web app features a home page and a discovery page. The front page would include a monthly featured artist, who has received the most ratings, comments, saves and voted by the community. This feature isn't to promote bigger artists, but rather to help artists every month to gather even more of an audience and inspire people to also try and get featured (everybody has a fair chance). The front page would only show a few featured artists (most likely only one), to make users prioritize the discovery page, instead of looking through popular tracks, which would defeat the whole purpose of this web app.

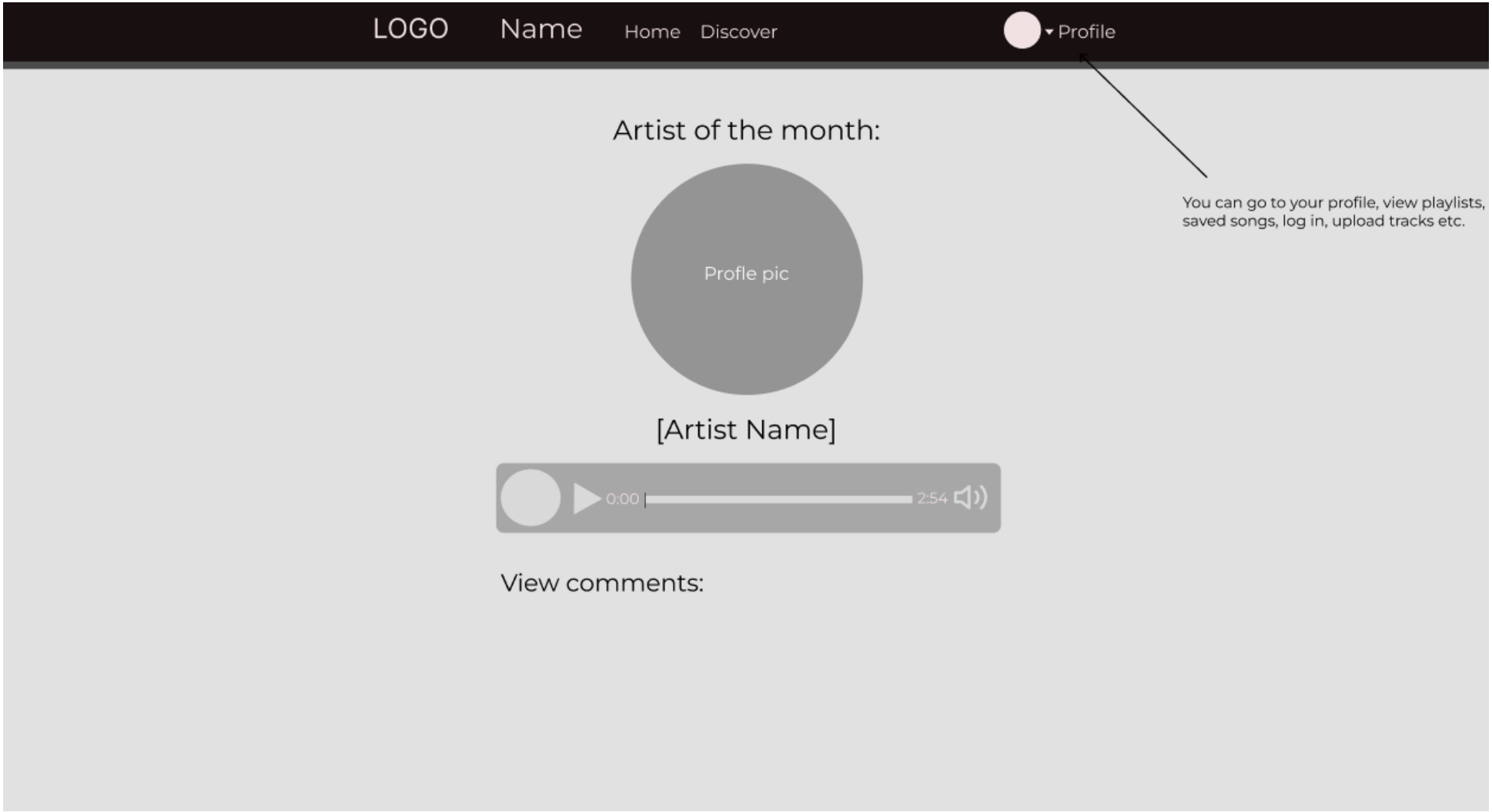
The discovery page is where you can discover new songs and music. You will be able to set your preferred tags and mood. Then based on your preferences you can play/scroll through random uploaded tracks, and you can rate them, leave feedback, save them and skip them. The "likes" on a track should only be visible to the artist himself, to avoid popularity bias.

In your profile view you can see and edit your profile, view saved/liked songs, create playlists, upload tracks and log into the website.

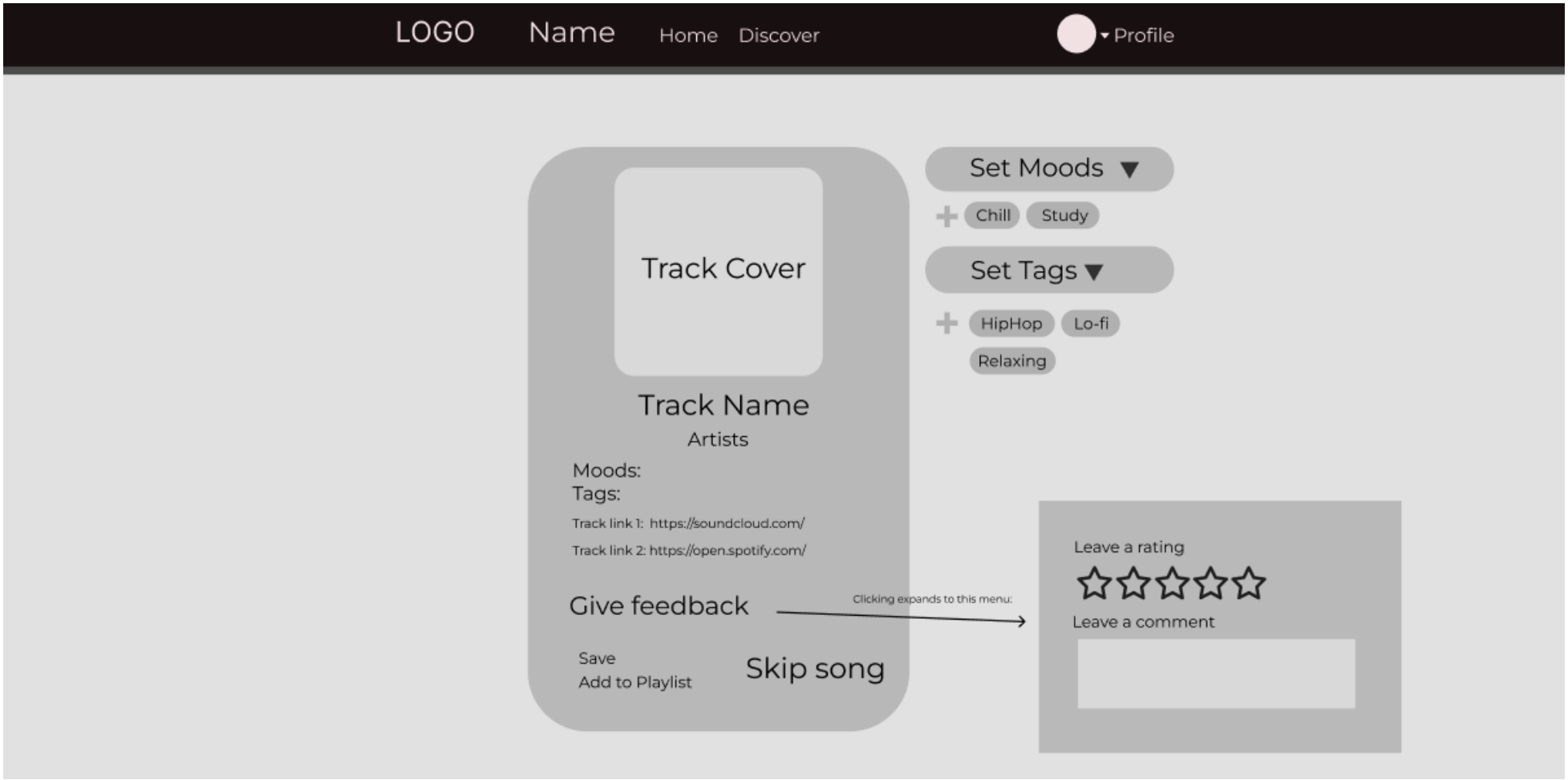
The web app will have a very simplistic, yet functional UI. The style will be modern and appealing, to not confuse the users. The UI sketches are likely to change during the development.

The UI sketches are done in Figma.com due to the author having previous experience with it. The ERD is made with Vertabelo.com for the same reason.

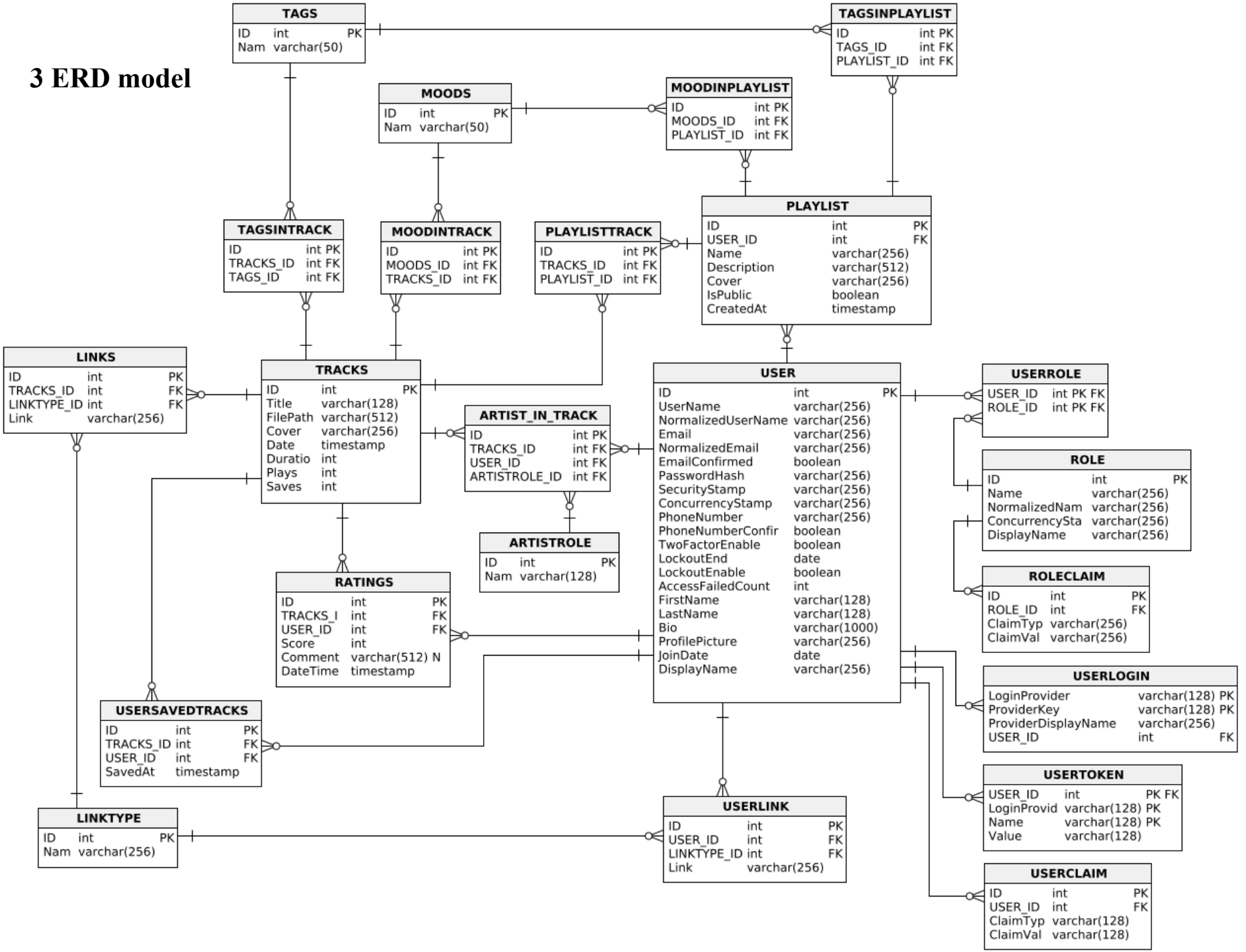
2.1 Home page


LOGO
Name
Home
Discover
Profile
You can go to your profile, view playlists, saved songs, log in, upload tracks etc.
Artist of the month:
Profle pic
[Artist Name]
0:00
2:54
View comments:

2.2 Discovery page



3 ERD model



Vertabelo

Summary

It is very hard for new producers and musicians to get recognition and listeners due to mainstream platforms promoting popular creators. This project aims to create a music sharing platform, where artists can upload their music and have a fair chance to be heard. The web page will let people discover new songs by their preferred tags and mood, without popularity bias, as all songs played to them will be random. This is a great way of gaining feedback also.

The project is in its early stages of development, and everything is subject to change. This document will be updated accordingly.

Sources

https://courses.taltech.akaver.com/web-applications-with-csharp/assignments/home-assignments/project-proposal

https://my.vertabelo.com/

https://www.figma.com/