

Udiddit, a social news aggregator

Introduction

Udiddit, a social news aggregation, web content rating, and discussion website, is currently using a risky and unreliable Postgres database schema to store the forum posts, discussions, and votes made by their users about different topics.

The schema allows posts to be created by registered users on certain topics, and can include a URL or a text content. It also allows registered users to cast an upvote (like) or downvote (dislike) for any forum post that has been created. In addition to this, the schema also allows registered users to add comments on posts.

Here is the DDL used to create the schema:

```
CREATE TABLE bad_posts (  
    id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
    topic VARCHAR(50),  
    username VARCHAR(50),  
    title VARCHAR(150),  
    url VARCHAR(4000) DEFAULT NULL,  
    text_content TEXT DEFAULT NULL,  
    upvotes TEXT,  
    downvotes TEXT  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE bad_comments (  
    id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
    username VARCHAR(50),  
    post_id BIGINT,  
    text_content TEXT  
);
```

Part I: Investigate the existing schema

As a first step, investigate this schema and some of the sample data in the project's SQL workspace. Then, in your own words, outline three (3) specific things that could be improved about this schema. Don't hesitate to outline more if you want to stand out!

- 1) For ease of administration and scalability, user information should be in its own table.
- 2) Registered users should not be able to create comments on non-existent posts.
- 3) The upvotes and downvotes would be better represented as numeric values.
- 4) The text_content on both of the bad_posts and bad_comments tables could be improved by adding a size limitation for the column. This would reduce the ability for someone to abuse the table by inserting extremely large volumes of content, with the intent of simply consuming excessive disk space.
- 5) The use of indexes, beyond just primary keys, will benefit queries based on commonly used fields, such as post name and usernames.

Part II: Create the DDL for your new schema

Having done this initial investigation and assessment, your next goal is to dive deep into the heart of the problem and create a new schema for Udiddit. Your new schema should at least reflect fixes to the shortcomings you pointed to in the previous exercise. To help you create the new schema, a few guidelines are provided to you:

1. Guideline #1: here is a list of features and specifications that Udiddit needs in order to support its website and administrative interface:
 - a. Allow new users to register:
 - i. Each username has to be unique
 - ii. Usernames can be composed of at most 25 characters
 - iii. Usernames can't be empty
 - iv. We won't worry about user passwords for this project
 - b. Allow registered users to create new topics:
 - i. Topic names have to be unique.
 - ii. The topic's name is at most 30 characters
 - iii. The topic's name can't be empty
 - iv. Topics can have an optional description of at most 500 characters.
 - c. Allow registered users to create new posts on existing topics:
 - i. Posts have a required title of at most 100 characters
 - ii. The title of a post can't be empty.
 - iii. Posts should contain either a URL or a text content, **but not both**.
 - iv. If a topic gets deleted, all the posts associated with it should be automatically deleted too.
 - v. If the user who created the post gets deleted, then the post will remain, but it will become dissociated from that user.
 - d. Allow registered users to comment on existing posts:
 - i. A comment's text content can't be empty.
 - ii. Contrary to the current linear comments, the new structure should allow comment threads at arbitrary levels.
 - iii. If a post gets deleted, all comments associated with it should be automatically deleted too.
 - iv. If the user who created the comment gets deleted, then the comment will remain, but it will become dissociated from that user.
 - v. If a comment gets deleted, then all its descendants in the thread structure should be automatically deleted too.
 - e. Make sure that a given user can only vote once on a given post:
 - i. Hint: you can store the (up/down) value of the vote as the values 1 and -1 respectively.
 - ii. If the user who cast a vote gets deleted, then all their votes will remain, but will become dissociated from the user.

- iii. If a post gets deleted, then all the votes for that post should be automatically deleted too.
2. Guideline #2: here is a list of queries that Udiddit needs in order to support its website and administrative interface. Note that you don't need to produce the DQL for those queries: they are only provided to guide the design of your new database schema.
 - a. List all users who haven't logged in in the last year.
 - b. List all users who haven't created any post.
 - c. Find a user by their username.
 - d. List all topics that don't have any posts.
 - e. Find a topic by its name.
 - f. List the latest 20 posts for a given topic.
 - g. List the latest 20 posts made by a given user.
 - h. Find all posts that link to a specific URL, for moderation purposes.
 - i. List all the top-level comments (those that don't have a parent comment) for a given post.
 - j. List all the direct children of a parent comment.
 - k. List the latest 20 comments made by a given user.
 - l. Compute the score of a post, defined as the difference between the number of upvotes and the number of downvotes
3. Guideline #3: you'll need to use normalization, various constraints, as well as indexes in your new database schema. You should use named constraints and indexes to make your schema cleaner.
4. Guideline #4: your new database schema will be composed of five (5) tables that should have an auto-incrementing id as their primary key.

Once you've taken the time to think about your new schema, write the DDL for it in the space provided here:

```
-- GitHub:
https://github.com/brian-sigurdson/udacity-courses/tree/main/nano_sql/1_mgmt_r
dbms_nosql/project
-- file: udiddit_ddl.sql

-- GUIDELINE #4
-- Your new database schema will be composed of five (5) tables that should
have an auto-incrementing id as their primary key.

-----
-----
-- drop the tables, if exist
DROP TABLE IF EXISTS udiddit_votes CASCADE;
```

```

DROP TABLE IF EXISTS uiddit_comments CASCADE;
DROP TABLE IF EXISTS uiddit_posts CASCADE;
DROP TABLE IF EXISTS uiddit_topics CASCADE;
DROP TABLE IF EXISTS uiddit_users CASCADE;

```

```

-----
-- users
CREATE TABLE uiddit_users (
    user_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
    user_name VARCHAR(25) UNIQUE CHECK ( LENGTH("user_name") > 0 ),
    user_last_login DATE DEFAULT NULL,
    user_created_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT NOW()
);

```

```

CREATE INDEX users_last_login_date_idx ON uiddit_users (user_last_login);
CREATE INDEX users_username_idx ON uiddit_users (user_name);

```

```

-----
-- topics
CREATE TABLE uiddit_topics (
    topic_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
    topic_name VARCHAR(30) UNIQUE CHECK ( LENGTH("topic_name") > 0 ),
    topic_description VARCHAR(500) DEFAULT NULL,
    -- According to this comment https://knowledge.udacity.com/questions/340724
    -- a user_id is not required.
    topic_created_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT NOW()
);

```

```

CREATE INDEX topics_topic_name_idx ON uiddit_topics (topic_name);

```

```

-----
-- posts
CREATE TABLE uiddit_posts (
    post_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
    post_title VARCHAR(100) CHECK ( LENGTH("post_title") > 0 ),
    post_url VARCHAR(4000) DEFAULT NULL,
    post_content TEXT DEFAULT NULL,
    post_topic_id INTEGER REFERENCES uiddit_topics (topic_id) ON DELETE
CASCADE,
    post_user_id INTEGER REFERENCES uiddit_users (user_id) ON DELETE SET NULL,
    post_created_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT NOW(),
    -- "Posts should contain either a URL or a text post_content, but not
    both."
    CONSTRAINT posts_url_post_content_check CHECK (
        -- url and post_content cannot both be null
        NOT ( post_url IS NULL AND post_content IS NULL) AND
        -- url and post_content cannot both be non-null
        NOT ( LENGTH("post_url") > 0 AND LENGTH("post_content") > 0)
    )
);

```

```

CREATE INDEX posts_title_idx ON uiddit_posts (post_title);
CREATE INDEX posts_user_id_idx ON uiddit_posts (post_id);
CREATE INDEX posts_topic_id_idx ON uiddit_posts (post_topic_id);
CREATE INDEX posts_url_idx ON uiddit_posts (post_url);
CREATE INDEX posts_post_id_created_at_idx ON uiddit_posts (post_id,
post_created_at);
CREATE INDEX posts_user_id_created_at_idx ON uiddit_posts (post_user_id,
post_created_at);

```

```

-----
-- comments
CREATE TABLE uiddit_comments (
    comment_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
    comment_text VARCHAR(100) CHECK ( LENGTH("comment_text") > 0 ),
    comment_post_id INTEGER REFERENCES uiddit_posts (post_id) ON DELETE
CASCADE,
    comment_user_id INTEGER REFERENCES uiddit_users (user_id) ON DELETE SET
NULL,
    parent_comment_id INTEGER REFERENCES uiddit_comments (comment_id) ON
DELETE CASCADE DEFAULT NULL,
    comment_created_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT NOW()
);

```

```

CREATE INDEX comments_comment_text_idx ON uiddit_comments (comment_text);
CREATE INDEX comments_parent_comment_id_idx ON uiddit_comments
(parent_comment_id);
CREATE INDEX comments_user_id_created_at_idx ON uiddit_comments
(comment_user_id, comment_created_at);

```

```

-----
-- votes
CREATE TABLE uiddit_votes (
    votes_id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
    -- only -1 and 1 are acceptable values
    votes_vote SMALLINT CHECK ( votes_vote IN (-1, 1) ),
    votes_post_id INTEGER REFERENCES uiddit_posts (post_id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
    votes_user_id INTEGER REFERENCES uiddit_users (user_id) ON DELETE SET
NULL,
    CONSTRAINT votes_post_id_user_id_key UNIQUE (votes_post_id, votes_user_id),
    votes_created_at TIMESTAMP DEFAULT NOW()
);

```

Part III: Migrate the provided data

Now that your new schema is created, it's time to migrate the data from the provided schema in the project's SQL Workspace to your own schema. This will allow you to review some DML and DQL concepts, as you'll be using INSERT...SELECT queries to do so. Here are a few guidelines to help you in this process:

1. Topic descriptions can all be empty
2. Since the bad_comments table doesn't have the threading feature, you can migrate all comments as top-level comments, i.e. without a parent
3. You can use the Postgres string function **regexp_split_to_table** to unwind the comma-separated votes values into separate rows
4. Don't forget that some users only vote or comment, and haven't created any posts. You'll have to create those users too.
5. The order of your migrations matter! For example, since posts depend on users and topics, you'll have to migrate the latter first.
6. Tip: You can start by running only SELECTs to fine-tune your queries, and use a LIMIT to avoid large data sets. Once you know you have the correct query, you can then run your full INSERT...SELECT query.
7. **NOTE:** The data in your SQL Workspace contains thousands of posts and comments. The DML queries may take at least 10-15 seconds to run.

Write the DML to migrate the current data in bad_posts and bad_comments to your new database schema:

```
-- GitHub:
https://github.com/brian-sigurdson/udacity-courses/tree/main/nano_sql/1_mgmt_r
dbms_nosql/project
-- file: udidit_migration.sql

-- the following code will migrate the data from the old tables into the new
tables

-----
-----
-- populate udidit_users table
-- get usernames from bad_comments.username
INSERT INTO udidit_users (user_name)
SELECT DISTINCT left(trim(bc.username),25)
FROM bad_comments bc
LEFT OUTER JOIN udidit_users u ON left(trim(bc.username),25) = u.user_name
WHERE trim(u.user_name) IS NULL;

-- get usernames from bad_posts.username
```

```

INSERT INTO uiddit_users (user_name)
SELECT DISTINCT left(trim(bp.username),25)
FROM bad_posts bp
LEFT OUTER JOIN uiddit_users u ON left(trim(bp.username),25) = u.user_name
WHERE trim(u.user_name) IS NULL;

```

```

-- get usernames from bad_posts.upvotes
INSERT INTO uiddit_users (user_name)
WITH split_table AS (
    SELECT DISTINCT left(trim(regexp_split_to_table(bp.upvotes , ',')),25)
    user_name
    FROM bad_posts bp
)
SELECT st.user_name
FROM split_table st
LEFT OUTER JOIN uiddit_users u ON st.user_name = u.user_name
WHERE trim(u.user_name) IS NULL;

```

```

-- get usernames from bad_posts.downvotes
INSERT INTO uiddit_users (user_name)
WITH split_table AS (
    SELECT DISTINCT left(trim(regexp_split_to_table(bp.downvotes , ',')),25)
    user_name
    FROM bad_posts bp
)
SELECT st.user_name
FROM split_table st
LEFT OUTER JOIN uiddit_users u ON st.user_name = u.user_name
WHERE trim(u.user_name) IS NULL;

```

```

-----
-- populate topics table
INSERT INTO uiddit_topics (topic_name)
SELECT DISTINCT left(trim(bp.topic),30)
FROM bad_posts bp
JOIN uiddit_users u ON left(trim(bp.username),25) = u.user_name;

```

```

-----
-- populate posts table
INSERT INTO uiddit_posts (post_id, post_title, post_url, post_content,
post_topic_id, post_user_id)
SELECT bp.id post_id, left(trim(bp.title), 100) post_title, trim(bp.url)
post_url, trim(bp.text_content) post_content,
t.topic_id post_topic_id, u.user_id post_user_id
FROM bad_posts bp
JOIN uiddit_users u on left(trim(bp.username),25) = u.user_name
JOIN uiddit_topics t on t.topic_name = left(trim(bp.topic),30);

```

```

-----
-- populate comments table

```



```

INSERT INTO udiddit_comments (comment_text, comment_post_id, comment_user_id)
SELECT left(trim(bc.text_content), 100) comment_text, bc.post_id
comment_post_id, u.user_id comment_user_id
FROM bad_comments bc
JOIN udiddit_users u on left(trim(bc.username),25) = u.user_name;

```

```

-----
-- populate votes table
-- upvotes
INSERT INTO udiddit_votes (votes_vote, votes_post_id, votes_user_id)
WITH upvoter_names AS
(
    SELECT bp1.id AS post_id,
left(trim(regexp_split_to_table(bp1.upvotes, ','), 25) AS username
    FROM bad_posts bp1
)
SELECT 1 AS vote, uvn.post_id AS post_id, u.user_id AS user_id
FROM udiddit_users u
JOIN upvoter_names uvn ON uvn.username = u.user_name;

-- downvotes
INSERT INTO udiddit_votes (votes_vote, votes_post_id, votes_user_id)
WITH downvoter_names AS
(
    SELECT bp1.id AS post_id,
left(trim(regexp_split_to_table(bp1.downvotes, ','), 25) AS username
    FROM bad_posts bp1
)
SELECT -1 AS vote, dvn.post_id AS post_id, u.user_id AS user_id
FROM udiddit_users u
JOIN downvoter_names dvn ON dvn.username = u.user_name;

```