

# Slop Mop

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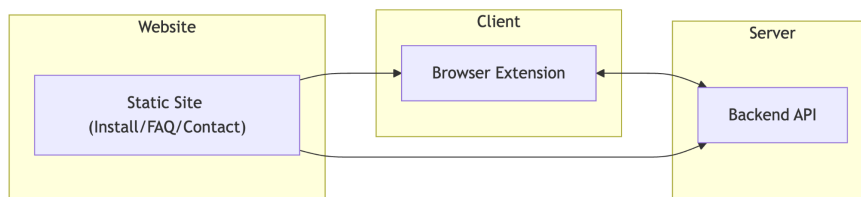
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## Purpose (0.5 points)

The system being designed is a browser extension-based AI Content detector that analyzes content, specifically on social media/news sites, and indicates whether that content was likely generated by AI or human-made. Unlike current tools, which require users to copy/paste text or upload images to external sites, this extension performs that analysis directly within the users' feed or timeline. The extension would ingest all content that is visible and route it through an AI detection model in the backend (a Transformer-based model for text and a CNN/vision transformer model for images). This should all be done in a way to not affect the overall user experience (ex. not routing users to alternate webpages, affecting the functionality of the current site, etc). This project addresses a growing issue, which is users online being misled by AI-generated content. By giving a way for real-time, accurate detection, the aim is to reduce the exposure to misinformation and also create a clean and seamless user experience.

# Design Outline (3.0 points)

- A. Outline your design decisions (for example, client-server model), identify the components of your system, and describe the purpose of each component



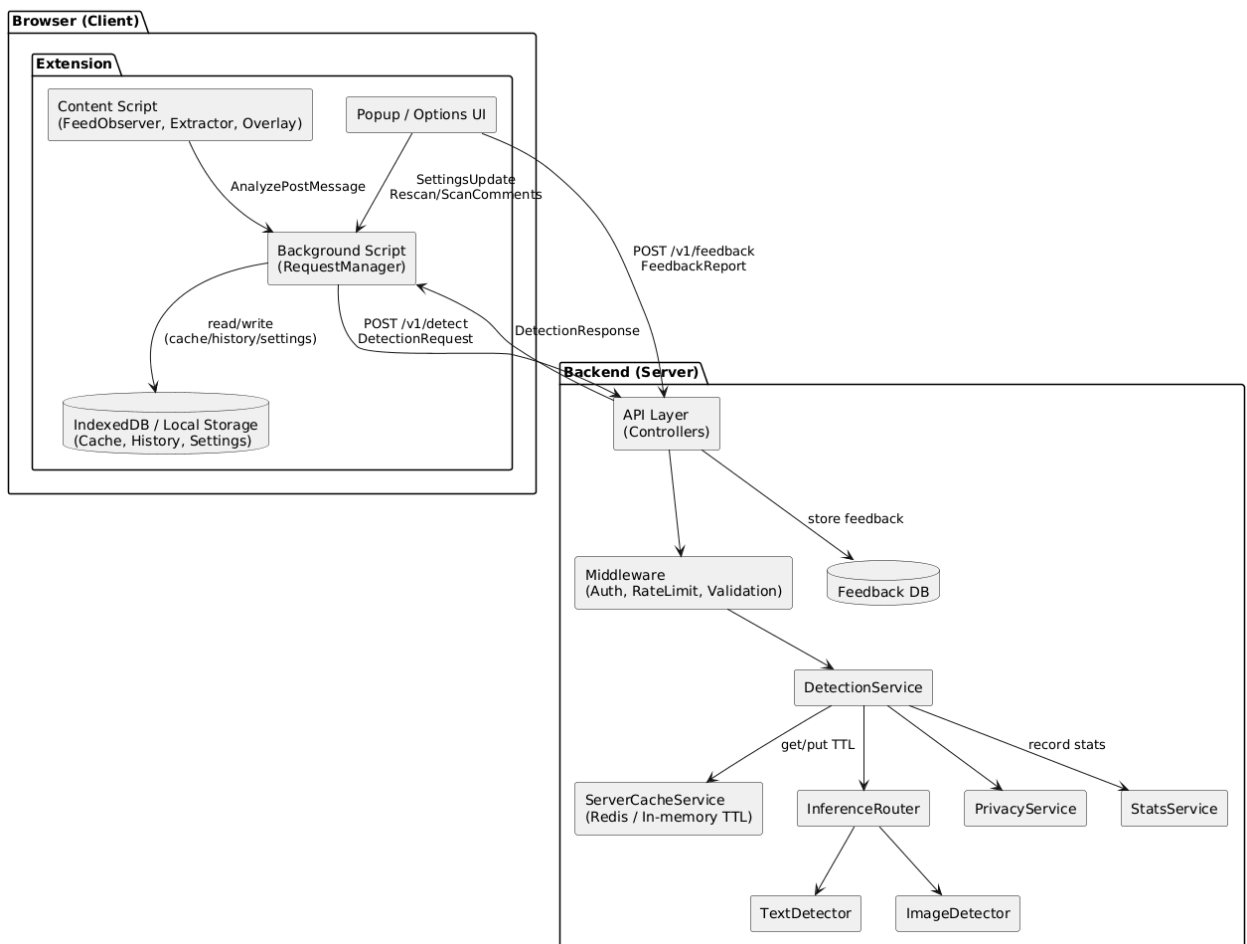
## Key Design Decisions

1. Client-Server - heavy inference off of the device and making sure models are consistent
  2. Asynchronous detection + UI Overlay - User scrolling should not affecting, show loading sign
  3. Two-layer caching: client cache for speed and server cache for popular posts
  4. Privacy Policy enforcement: TTL deletion and anonymized metadata; local history only
- a. Client-server model
- i. Client:
    1. Content Script
      - a. Scrapes media feed, extracting posts.
      - b. Overlays the classification and confidence percentage to the user in their social media feed.
      - c. Popup menu
        - i. Shows user options and customization controls
          1. site whitelist, privacy settings, accessibility settings
        - ii. Toggles extension on and off
    2. Background Script:
      - a. Sends media to the server to be classified
        - i. includes auth logic, retry logic, rate limiting
      - b. Caches past media and classification for 24 hours
      - c. Stores detection history in the local database

- i. Displays user statistics, detection history/cache
    - 3. Local Storage
      - a. stores detection history/cache and user settings
    - 4. Client follows privacy policy:
      - a. Store past detections for 24hrs. Longer periods can be chosen by the user.
      - b. Metadata sent to the server is anonymized. Images are beyond scope of anonymization.
  - ii. Server:
    - 1. API Layer
      - a. Accept requests with media from clients (instances of the extension)
        - i. Checks for authentication (implemented as API keys per install), check cache, send to Detection Module
        - ii. Returns the result of the classification to the browser extension client
    - 2. Detection Module
      - a. Receives media from the extension server. Routes to the proper classification system for each image.
      - b. Classification model returns a classification with confidence percentage to the API layer
    - 3. Database
      - a. Cache
        - i. Server cache stores only with TTL, does not store user identity
        - ii. User detection history is stored locally by default and then expires based on settings (ex. 24 hours)
      - b. User feedback
        - i. Stores user feedback and user statistics
    - 4. Server follows privacy policy:
      - a. Delete media within 24hrs
      - b. Delete cache within 24hrs
  - iii. Website:
    - 1. HTML server
      - a. Serves a webpage containing
        - i. Information about our extension
        - ii. Installation instructions
        - iii. Download link
        - iv. FAQ
        - v. Contact / submit bugs
        - vi. Submit review/comments
        - vii. Privacy Policy
- B. Describe the interactions between individual system components.

- a. User scrolls through social media feed
- b. Extension detects new posts
- c. Extension extracts content and sends a request to the backend
- d. Backend authenticates the request and checks the cache
- e. If cached results exist, return immediately
- f. Otherwise, if not cached, send content to the AI detection module.
- g. AI module analyzes content and returns the confidence score
- h. Backend returns the result to extension
- i. Extension overlays confidence score and the explanation onto the social media feed
- j. Timeout/network error
- k. Unsupported content type or disabled site -> skips detection

Slop Mop - High-Level Component Diagram



C.

# Design Issues (2.0 points)

## Functional Issues

1. Scope of Detection : Which content should we consider for AI detection?
  - a. Potential solutions
    - i. We will start with text detection, then move to image detection. If time permits, we will attempt video detection.
    - ii. Displaying clear notices of what our model is detecting on so the user does not assume everything is being checked for AI.
  - b. Justification
    - i. Text gives the best speed/accuracy tradeoff early and is easier to extract from websites. This reduces risk and helps us ship an MVP that is stable. Clear UI labeling prevents users from assuming that everything is being scanned
2. Presentation of Detection : How do we represent results in the UI?
  - a. Potential Solutions
    - i. To ensure there is not a large pop-up on the screen when the model signals detection, we can have an alert icon appear so the user can take note of it, but also still see what exact content is being flagged. For example, a small badge with a hover description.
    - ii. Inline badge, expandable panel with details, no popups
  - b. Justification: Inline badges are non-intrusive and work well while scrolling, and still allow deeper details when the user wants them
3. Detection History and Caching : How do we approach caching?
  - a. Potential Solutions
    - i. When faced with whether/how to store past detections, we can explore the options of storing the history locally, on a server, or not at all.
    - ii. Another potential storage option to consider is local browser storage, but with a time limit.
    - iii. Store user history locally only and then keep server cache only for TTL
  - b. Justification
    - i. Local history gives lots of user value without collecting personal browsing data. The server caching also reduces compute for reposted content while still limiting privacy risk
4. Content type detection : How do we detect a post's media type?
  - a. Potential Solutions
    - i. Not only to prevent potential hard crash, but also to make sure that the detection results are accurate (if text > image model or image/video > text model, there's a high change for 0% ai detection), the model will check the HTML tags for <img>, <video>, <p> or <span> tags to identify which model (image or text) it will use/send to.
    - ii. Site-specific adapters (RedditAdapter, TwitterAdapter, etc.)

- iii. Mix of both DOM parsing and adapters
- b. Justification
  - i. Using a hybrid of generic DOM heuristics and site specific adapters. Adapters can improve accuracy without hardcoding and heuristics work almost everywhere

## Non-Functional Issues

1. Lengthy detection times : How do we balance and communicate latency to the user?
  - a. Potential Solution
    - i. Display “loading” symbols and properly update when the user returns to the specific post
  - b. Justification
    - i. This solution keeps the user informed while maintaining high accuracy.
2. Consistently inaccurate detections : How do we balance between accuracy and performance?
  - a. Potential Solutions
    - i. Prioritize accuracy over speed, use a more heavy-duty detection system
    - ii. Specialize the system to raise the average\* accuracy. For example, have the text-detection system be specialized at detecting text from popular models like GPT-5 or Gemini as opposed to generally detecting text from any LLM
  - b. Justification
    - i. Most text will be generated by the most popular models. We will never classify 100% of AI-generated text.
3. User social media data is being tracked due to caching detections : How do we balance caching performance vs user privacy?
  - a. Potential Solutions
    - i. Delete all cached detections after a short window (2 - 24 hours)
    - ii. Delete all cached detections upon inactivity being detected
    - iii. Delete all cached detections upon exiting the tab
    - iv. Allow users to delete info as desired
  - b. Justification
    - i. We choose to delete all cached detections after 24hours. This allows a balance between user privacy and performance.
4. Scalability : How do we design our server for massive amounts of user requests?
  - a. Potential Solutions
    - i. Since our model will handle up to 1000 simultaneous detection requests, we can try the solution of having a single backend server.
    - ii. Another solution is to have a serverless architecture or a horizontally scalable architecture.
  - b. Justification

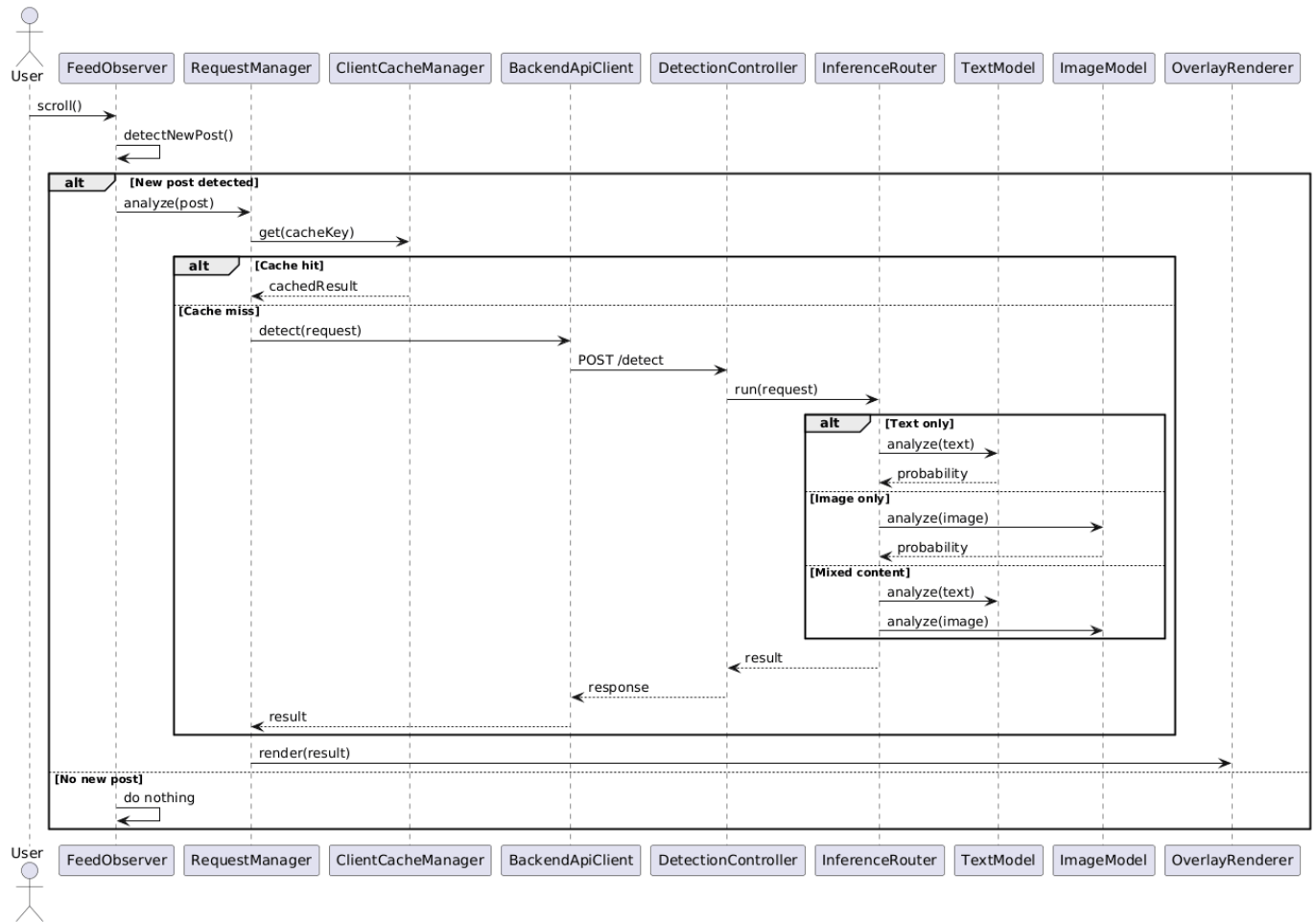


- i. For simplicity, we choose a single backend server. If latency becomes a problem, we will try hosting multiple servers with mutexes on the database. If that doesn't work, we can reevaluate and generate a new strategy.
- 5. Accessibility and Usability : How do we design UX for a diverse audience?
  - a. Potential Solutions
    - i. Ensuring we have a standard UI that is easy to navigate.
    - ii. Having high contrast and large text modes.
    - iii. Having a "simple" mode with less complexity.
  - b. Justification
    - i. Expect that an older audience will require larger text size, simpler menus. Little to no downside to implementing this with an option to enable.

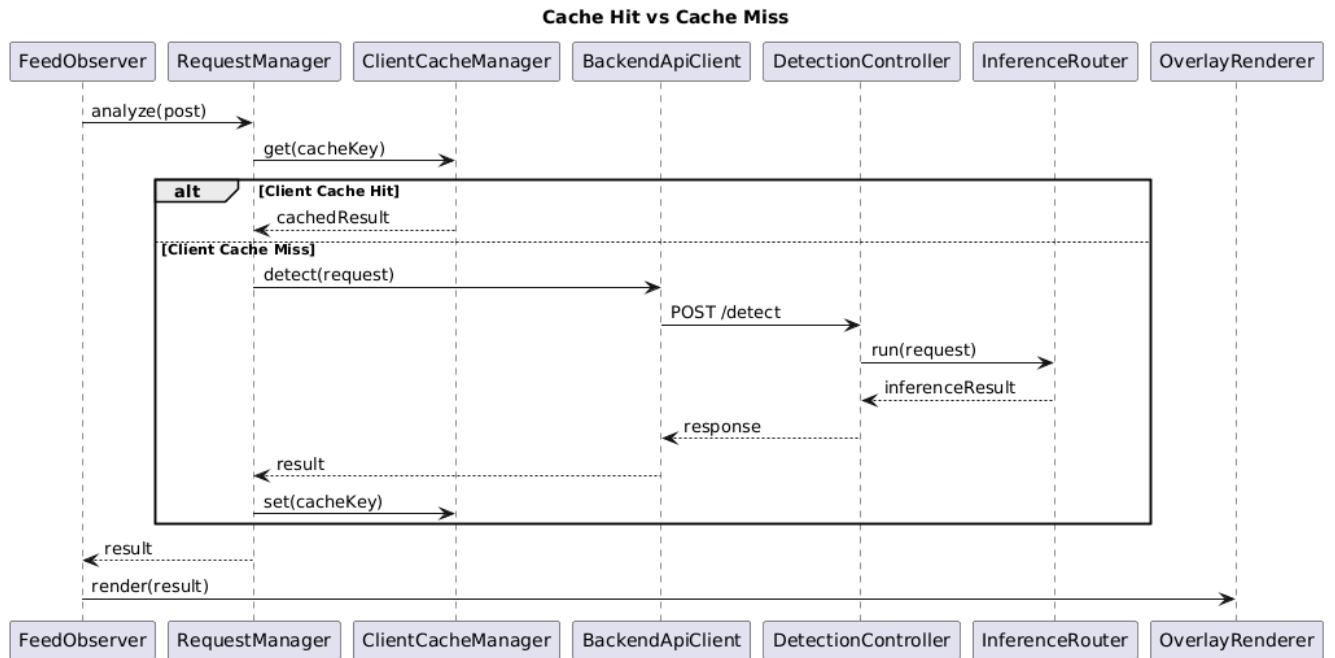
## Design Details (7.5 points)

1. User scrolls through their feed
2. FeedObserver/ScrollDetector detects new post
3. FeedObserver/ScrollDetector sends the post to RequestManager
4. RequestManager sends the list of posts (data) to AnalysisHandler
5. AnalysisHandler sends the post to appropriate subclass of DetectorModel (TextModel or ImageModel)
6. DetectorModel (TextModel or ImageModel) returns probability to RequestManager
7. RequestManager sends the result to FeedObserver/ScrollDetector
8. FeedObserver/ScrollDetector updates the CSS to display result to the user

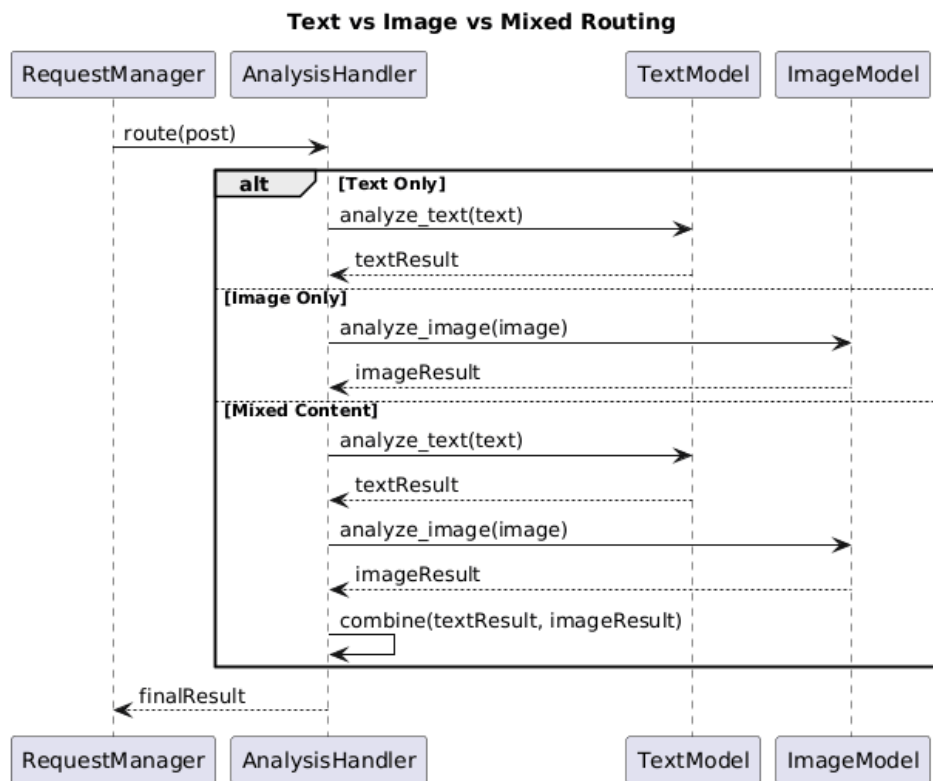
Scroll detection:



Cache hit vs. Cache miss:

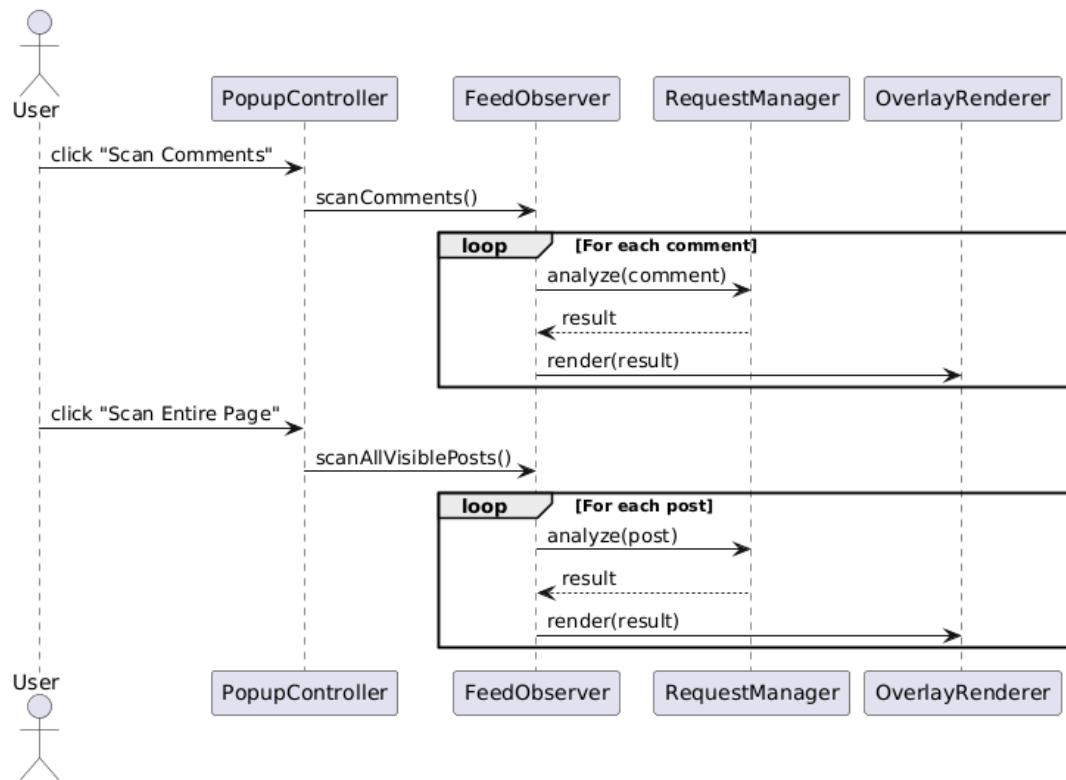


Text vs Image vs Mixed content:



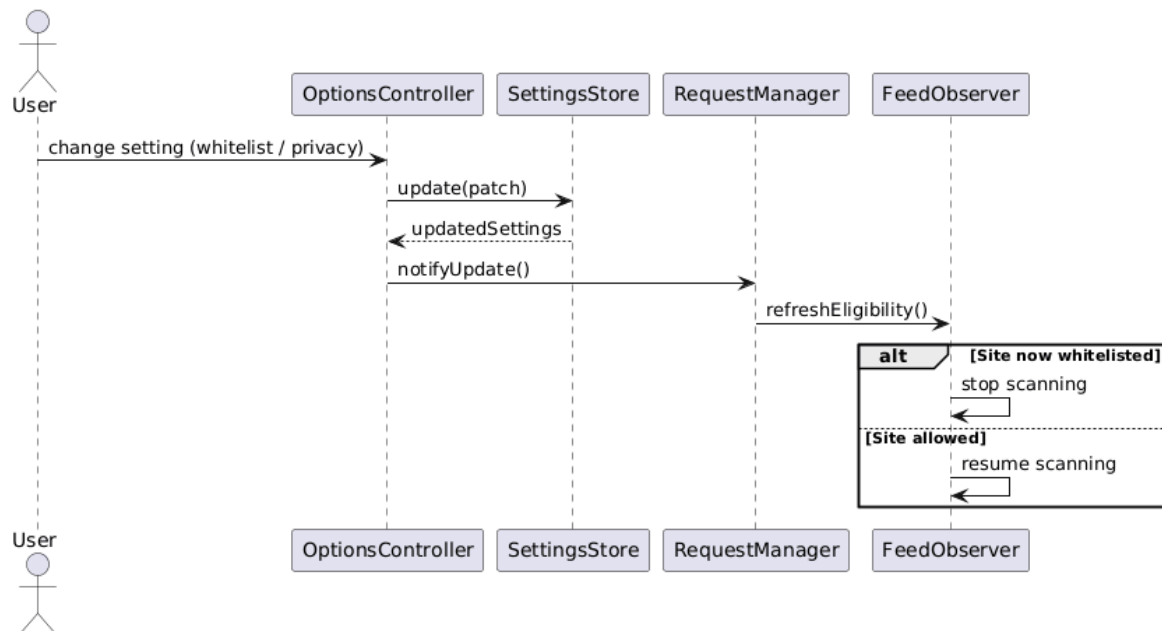
Manual scan for comments and rescanning:

### Manual Scan (Comments / Page)

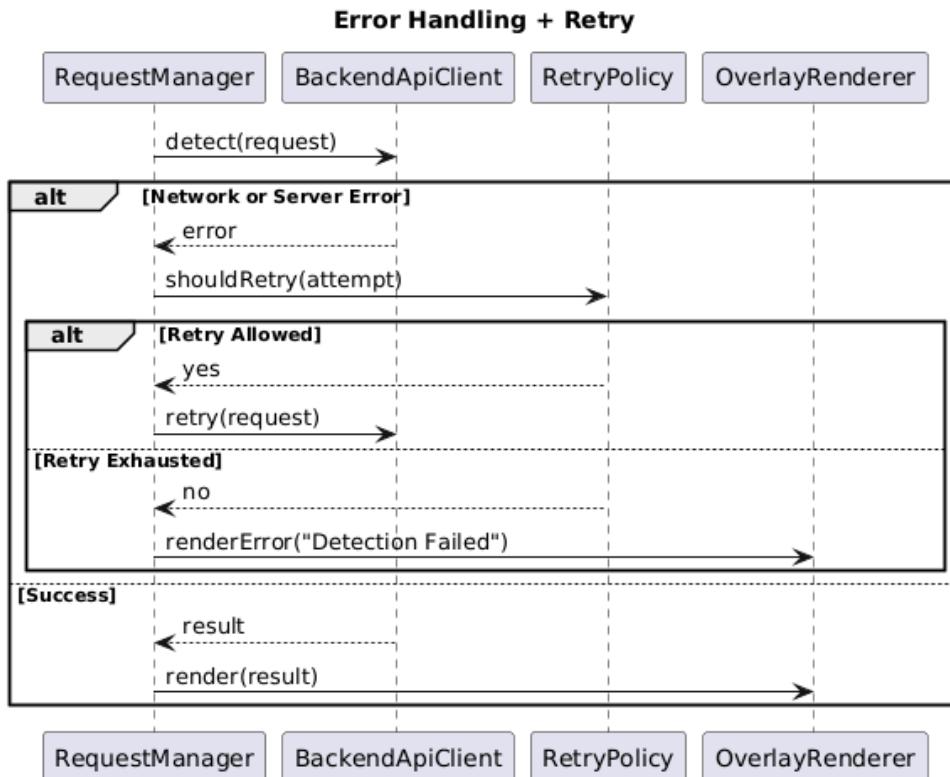


Settings change flow:

### Settings Update



Error handling and retry:



#### A. Data Types

- **ContentType** (enum)
  - TEXT
  - IMAGE
  - MIXED
  - UNSUPPORTED
- **Siteld**: string (e.g., "reddit.com")
- **PostId**: string
- **DetectionMode** (enum)
  - FAST
  - ACCURATE
- **UserSettings**
  - enabled: boolean
  - whitelist: Siteld[]
  - retainHistoryHours: number (default 24)
  - cacheTtlHours: number (default 24)
  - scanText: boolean (default true)
  - scanImages: boolean (default false initially)
  - scanComments: "off" | "user\_triggered" | "auto\_top\_n"
  - uiMode: "simple" | "detailed"
  - accessibility:
    - highContrast: boolean;

- largeText: boolean
- privacy:
  - sendRawText: boolean;
  - sendImages: boolean;
  - allowTelemetry: boolean
- rateLimit:
  - {maxRequestsPerMinute: number }
- **NormalizedPostContent**
  - site: SiteId
  - postId: PostId
  - url: string
  - capturedAtMs: number
  - contentType: ContentType
  - text:
    - plain: string;
    - languageHint: string
  - images[]:
    - imageId: string;
    - bytesBase64: string;
    - srcUrl: string;
    - mimeType: string
  - domContext:
    - authorHandle: string;
    - timestampText: string
- **DetectionRequest**
  - installId: string (UUID per install)
  - requestId: string (UUID per request)
  - site: SiteId
  - postId: PostId
  - contentType: ContentType
  - mode: DetectionMode
  - text:
    - plain: string
  - images[]:
    - imageId: string;
    - bytesBase64: string;
    - mimeType: string
  - clientHints:
    - extensionVersion: string;
    - platform: string
- **DetectionResponse**
  - requestId: string
  - postId: PostId
  - verdict: "likely\_ai" | "likely\_human" | "unknown"

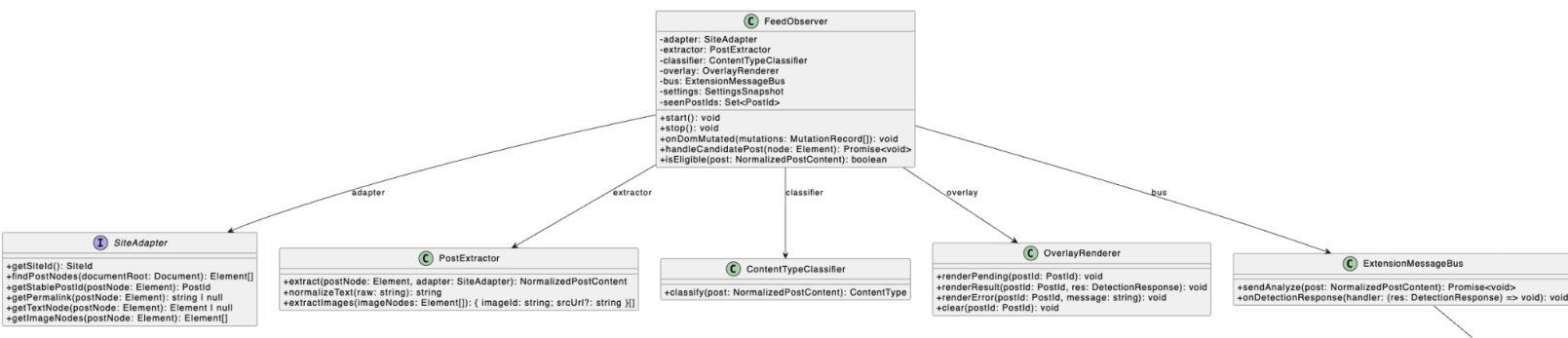
- confidence: float (0.0–1.0)
- explanation:
  - summary: string;
  - highlights[] (optional):
    - start: number;
    - end: number;
    - reason: string
- model:
  - name: string;
  - version: string
- cache:
  - hit: boolean;
  - ttlRemainingMs: number
- timing:
  - totalMs: number;
  - inferenceMs: number
- **FeedbackReport**
  - installId: string
  - reportId: string
  - postId: PostId
  - site: SiteId
  - shownVerdict: "likely\_ai" | "likely\_human" | "unknown"
  - userLabel: "ai" | "human" | "not\_sure"
  - notes: string
  - submittedAtMs: number
  - consent:
    - allowStoreContentSnippet: boolean
  - contentSnippet: string

## B. Extension / Client

### B1. Content Script

- **FeedObserver**
  - **Fields**
    - adapter: SiteAdapter
    - extractor: PostExtractor
    - classifier: ContentTypeClassifier
    - overlay: OverlayRenderer
    - bus: ExtensionMessageBus
    - settings: SettingsSnapshot
    - seenPostIds: Set<PostId>
  - **Methods**

- start(): void
- stop(): void
- onDomMutated(mutations: MutationRecord[]): void
- handleCandidatePost(node: Element): Promise<void>
- isEligible(post: NormalizedPostContent): boolean
- **SiteAdapter** (interface)
  - **Methods**
    - getSitelId(): SiteId
    - findPostNodes(documentRoot: Document): Element[]
    - getStablePostId(postNode: Element): PostId
    - getPermalink(postNode: Element): string | null
    - getTextNode(postNode: Element): Element | null
    - getImageNodes(postNode: Element): Element[]
- **PostExtractor**
  - **Methods**
    - extract(postNode: Element, adapter: SiteAdapter): NormalizedPostContent
    - normalizeText(raw: string): string
    - extractImages(imageNodes: Element[]): -> { imageId: string; srcUrl?: string }[]
- **ContentTypeClassifier**
  - **Methods**
    - classify(post: NormalizedPostContent): ContentType
- **OverlayRenderer**
  - **Methods**
    - renderPending(postId: PostId): void
    - renderResult(postId: PostId, res: DetectionResponse): void
    - renderError(postId: PostId, message: string): void
    - clear(postId: PostId): void
- **ExtensionMessageBus** (content-script side)
  - **Methods**
    - sendAnalyze(post: NormalizedPostContent): Promise<void>
    - onDetectionResponse(handler: (res: DetectionResponse) => void): void

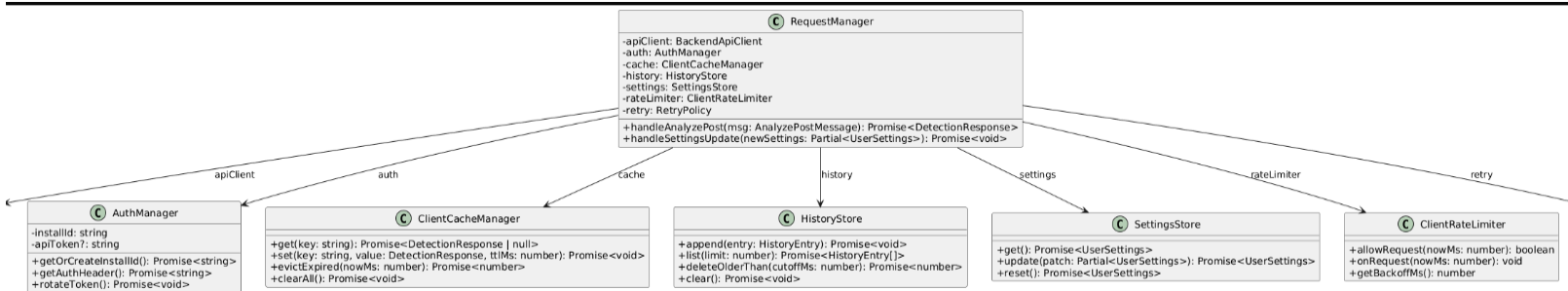




## B2. Background Script (service worker)

- **RequestManager**
  - **Fields**
    - apiClient: BackendApiClient
    - auth: AuthManager
    - cache: ClientCacheManager
    - history: HistoryStore
    - settings: SettingsStore
    - rateLimiter: ClientRateLimiter
    - retry: RetryPolicy
  - **Methods**
    - handleAnalyzePost(msg: AnalyzePostMessage): Promise<DetectionResponse>
    - handleSettingsUpdate(newSettings: Partial<UserSettings>): Promise<void>
- **BackendApiClient**
  - **Fields**
    - baseUrl: string
    - timeoutMs: number
  - **Methods**
    - detect(req: DetectionRequest, authHeader: string): Promise<DetectionResponse>
    - submitFeedback(report: FeedbackReport, authHeader: string): Promise<{ ok: boolean }>
    - health(): Promise<{ ok: boolean; version: string }> (optional)
- **AuthManager**
  - **Fields**
    - installId: string
    - apiToken?: string
  - **Methods**
    - getOrCreateInstallId(): Promise<string>
    - getAuthHeader(): Promise<string>
    - rotateToken(): Promise<void> (optional)
- **ClientCacheManager** (IndexedDB)
  - **Methods**
    - get(key: string): Promise<DetectionResponse | null>
    - set(key: string, value: DetectionResponse, ttlMs: number): Promise<void>
    - evictExpired(nowMs: number): Promise<number>
    - clearAll(): Promise<void>
  - **Key derivation**
    - key = hash(site + postId + contentFingerprint + mode + modelPolicyVersion)
    - contentFingerprint = hash(normalize(text)) for text; for images may start with hash(srcUrl) and later use hash(bytes)

- **HistoryStore** (IndexedDB)
  - **Types**
    - HistoryEntry: { site: SiteId; postId: PostId; timestampMs: number; verdict: string; confidence: number; mode: DetectionMode }
  - **Methods**
    - append(entry: HistoryEntry): Promise<void>
    - list(limit: number): Promise<HistoryEntry[]>
    - deleteOlderThan(cutoffMs: number): Promise<number>
    - clear(): Promise<void>
- **SettingsStore**
  - **Methods**
    - get(): Promise<UserSettings>
    - update(patch: Partial<UserSettings>): Promise<UserSettings>
    - reset(): Promise<UserSettings>
- **ClientRateLimiter**
  - **Methods**
    - allowRequest(nowMs: number): boolean
    - onRequest(nowMs: number): void
    - getBackoffMs(): number
- **RetryPolicy**
  - **Methods**
    - shouldRetry(err: unknown, attempt: number): boolean
    - nextDelayMs(attempt: number): number



### B3. Popup UI + Options UI

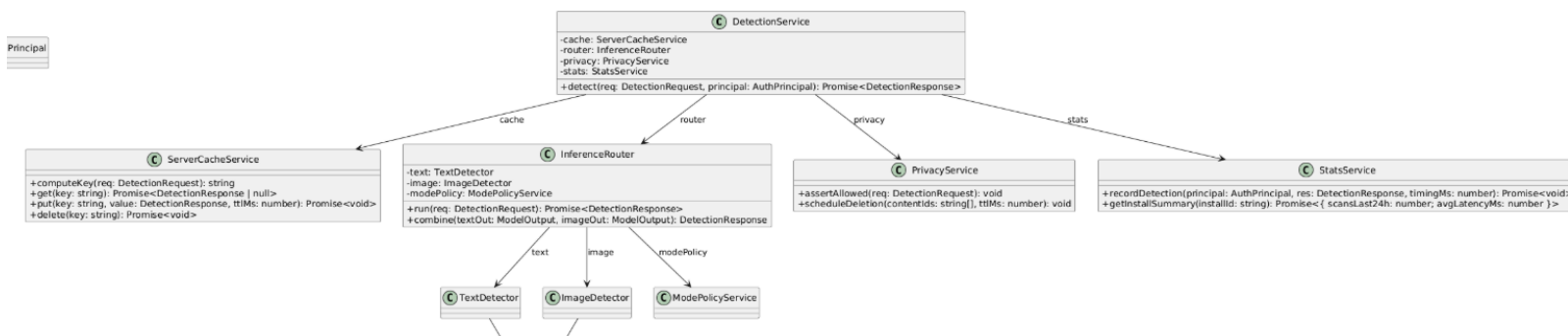
- **PopupController**
  - **Methods**
    - init(): Promise<void>
    - toggleEnabled(enabled: boolean): Promise<void>
    - renderRecentHistory(): Promise<void>
    - rescanCurrentPage(): Promise<void>
- **OptionsController**
  - **Methods**

- `init(): Promise<void>`
- `updateWhitelist(sites: SiteId[]): Promise<void>`
- `updatePrivacySettings(patch: UserSettings["privacy"]): Promise<void>`
- `updateAccessibility(patch: UserSettings["accessibility"]): Promise<void>`
- `clearHistory(): Promise<void>`

## C. Backend / Server

### C1. API layer (HTTP)

- **DetectionController**
  - **Endpoint**
    - `POST /v1/detect → DetectionResponse`
  - **Method**
    - `detect(req: DetectionRequest, ctx: RequestContext): Promise<DetectionResponse>`
- **FeedbackController**
  - **Endpoint**
    - `POST /v1/feedback → { ok: boolean }`
  - **Method**
    - `submit(report: FeedbackReport, ctx: RequestContext): Promise<{ ok: boolean }>`
- **AuthMiddleware**
  - `authenticate(headers: Record<string,string>): Promise<AuthPrincipal>`
- **RateLimitMiddleware**
  - `check(principal: AuthPrincipal, nowMs: number): Promise<void>`
- **ValidationMiddleware**
  - `validateDetectRequest(req: DetectionRequest): void`



### C2. Detection + cache

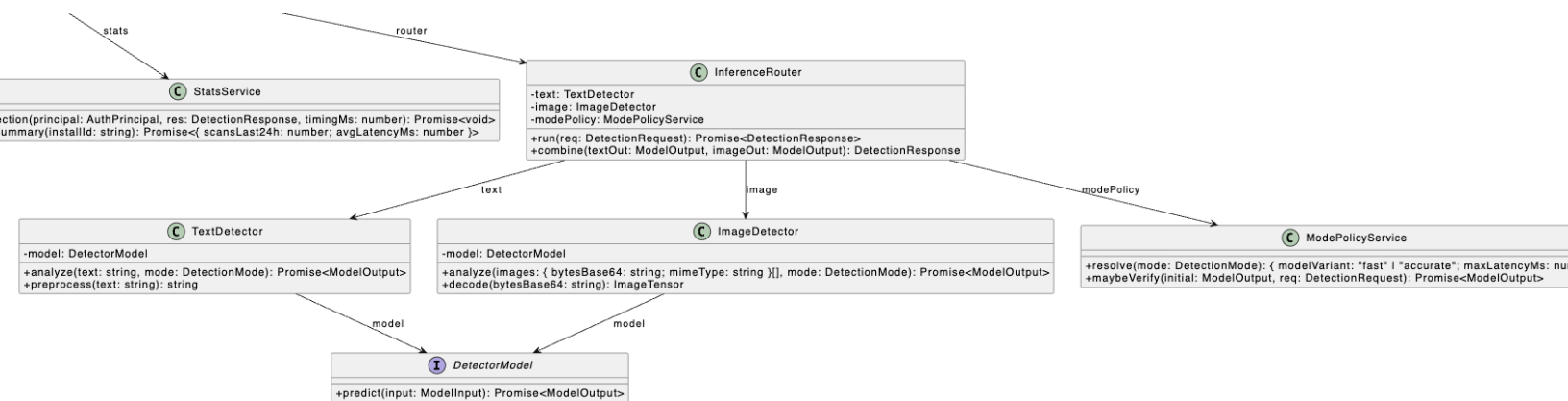
- **DetectionService**

- **Fields**
  - cache: ServerCacheService
  - router: InferenceRouter
  - privacy: PrivacyService
  - stats: StatsService
- **Methods**
  - detect(req: DetectionRequest, principal: AuthPrincipal): Promise<DetectionResponse>
- **ServerCacheService** (Redis or in-memory + TTL)
  - **Methods**
    - computeKey(req: DetectionRequest): string
      - key = HMAC\_SHA256(serverSecret, normalizedContent + mode + modelVersion)
    - get(key: string): Promise<DetectionResponse | null>
    - put(key: string, value: DetectionResponse, ttlMs: number): Promise<void>
    - delete(key: string): Promise<void>
- **PrivacyService**
  - **Methods**
    - assertAllowed(req: DetectionRequest): void
    - scheduleDeletion(contentIds: string[], ttlMs: number): void

### C3. Detection module (routing + models)

- **InferenceRouter**
  - **Fields**
    - text: TextDetector
    - image: ImageDetector
    - modePolicy: ModePolicyService
  - **Methods**
    - run(req: DetectionRequest): Promise<DetectionResponse>
    - combine(textOut: ModelOutput, imageOut: ModelOutput): DetectionResponse
- **DetectorModel** (interface)
  - predict(input: ModelInput): Promise<ModelOutput>
- **TextDetector**
  - **Fields**
    - model: DetectorModel
      - Note: preliminary plan is to use desklib/ai-text-detector-v1.01 on HuggingFace
  - **Methods**
    - analyze(text: string, mode: DetectionMode): Promise<ModelOutput>

- preprocess(text: string): string
- **ImageDetector**
  - **Fields**
    - model: DetectorModel
      - Note: preliminary plan is to use capcheck/ai-image-detection model on HuggingFace
  - **Methods**
    - analyze(images: { bytesBase64: string; mimeType: string }[], mode: DetectionMode): Promise<ModelOutput>
    - decode(bytesBase64: string): ImageTensor
- **ModePolicyService**
  - **Methods**
    - resolve(mode: DetectionMode): { modelVariant: "fast" | "accurate"; maxLatencyMs: number }
    - maybeVerify(initial: ModelOutput, req: DetectionRequest): Promise<ModelOutput>
- **Model I/O**
  - ModelInput (union)
    - { kind: "text"; text: string }
    - { kind: "image"; tensor: ImageTensor }
  - ModelOutput
    - { verdict: "likely\_ai" | "likely\_human" | "unknown"; confidence: number; explanation (optional): { summary: string; highlights?: ... } }



#### C4. Persistence (feedback + aggregate stats)

- **FeedbackRepository**

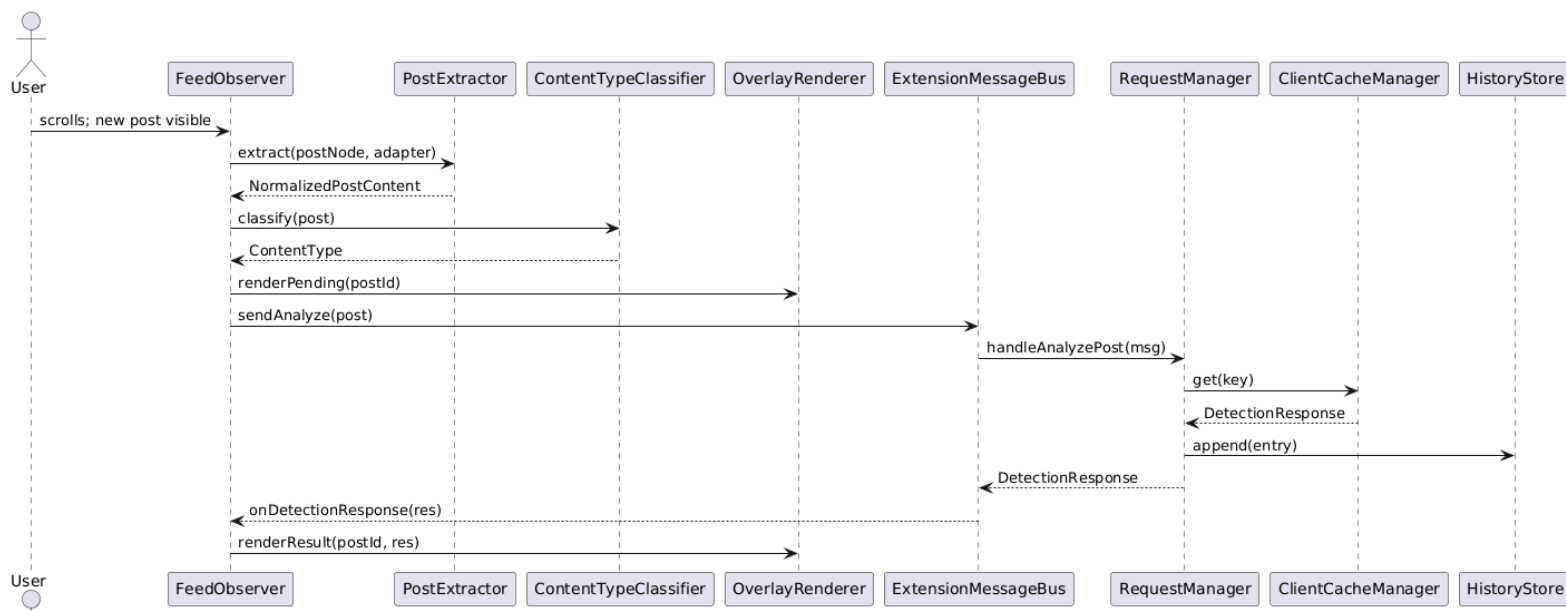
- **Methods**
  - insert(report: FeedbackReport): Promise<void>
  - listRecent(limit: number): Promise<FeedbackReport[]>
- **StatsService**
  - **Methods**
    - recordDetection(principal: AuthPrincipal, res: DetectionResponse, timingMs: number): Promise<void>
    - getInstallSummary(installId: string): Promise<{ scansLast24h: number; avgLatencyMs: number }> (optional)

## D. Website

- **StaticSiteServer**
  - **Routes**
    - GET /
    - GET /install
    - GET /faq
    - GET /privacy
    - GET /download
    - POST /contact (optional)
  - **Methods**
    - serveStatic(path: string): HttpResponse
    - submitContact(form: ContactForm): Promise<{ ok: boolean }> (optional)

## E. Runtime Interaction Walkthrough

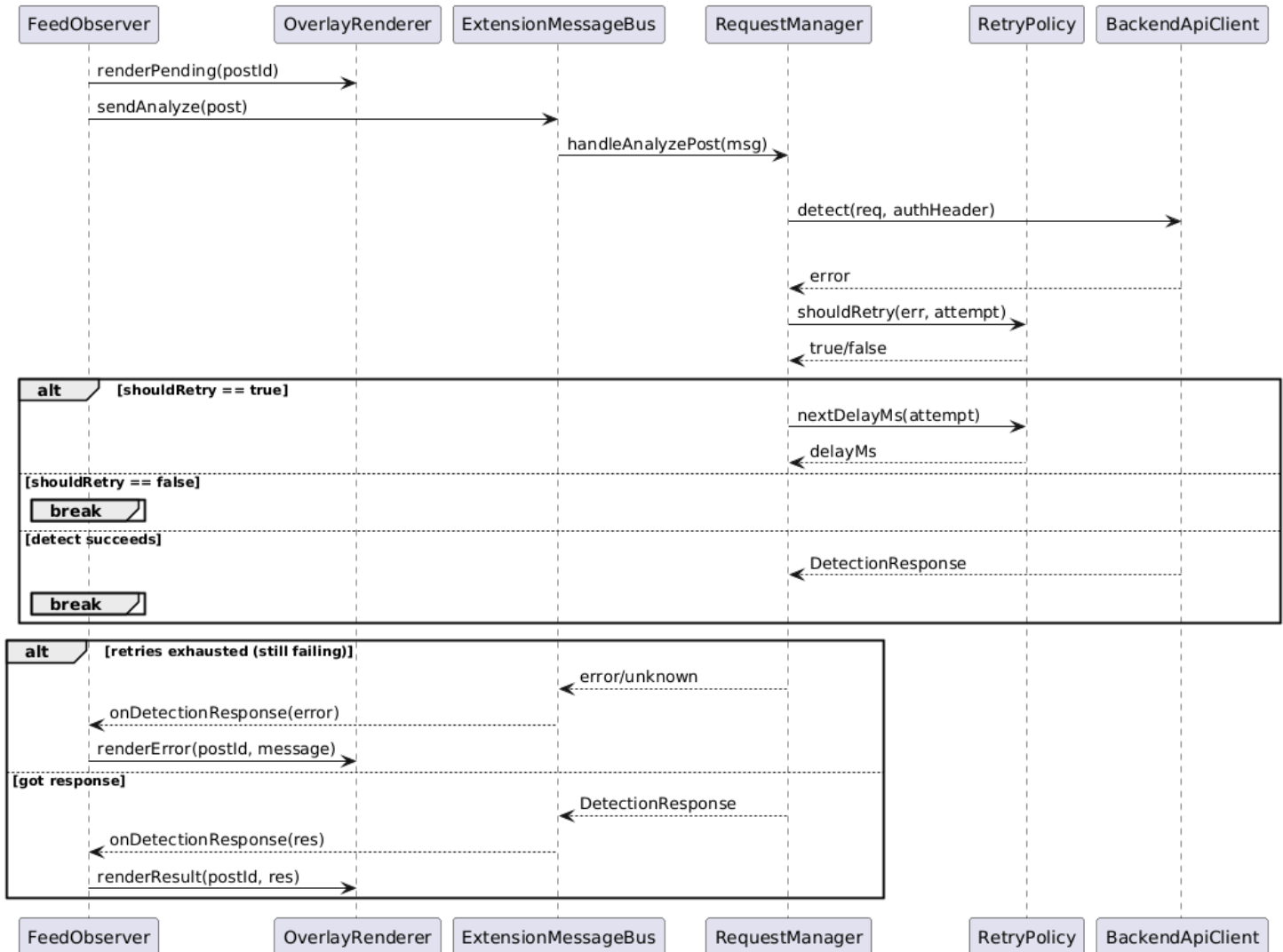
- **E1. User scrolls, detects new post, extension loads cached result**
  - Content script: FeedObserver → PostExtractor → OverlayRenderer.renderPending → ExtensionMessageBus.sendAnalyze
  - Background: RequestManager.handleAnalyzePost → ClientCacheManager.get → HistoryStore.append → response
  - Content script: OverlayRenderer.renderResult





#### - E4. Error occurs

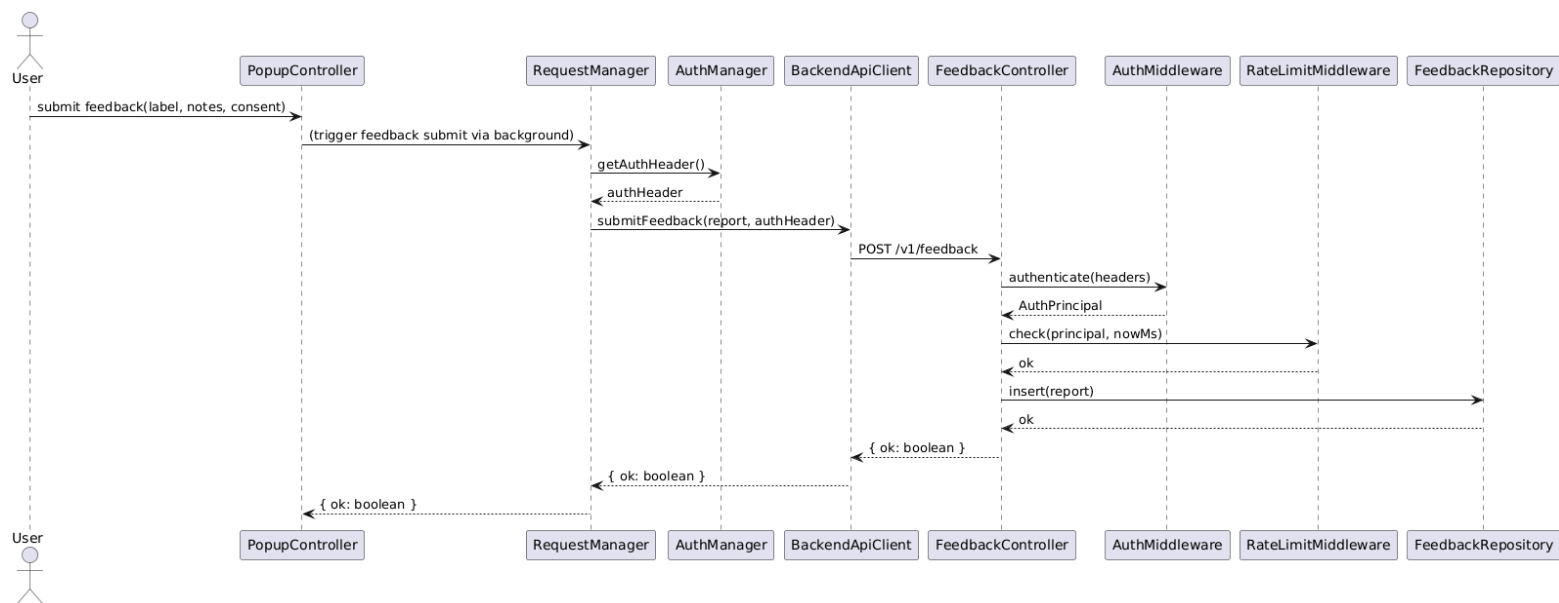
- Background: BackendApiClient.detect throws error → RetryPolicy backoff → if still failing return error/unknown
- Content script: OverlayRenderer.renderError



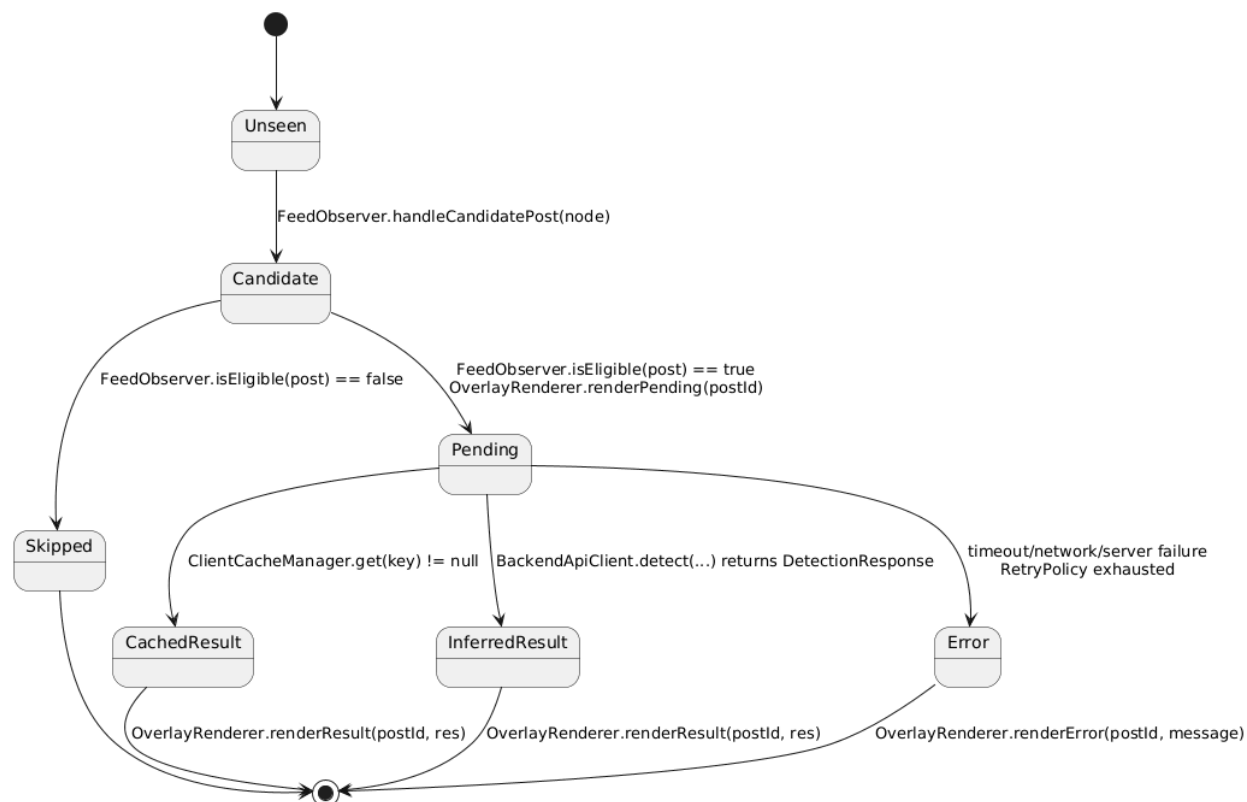
#### - E5. User submits feedback

- UI: collect label/notes/consent → background BackendApiClient.submitFeedback
- Server: FeedbackController.submit → FeedbackRepository.insert



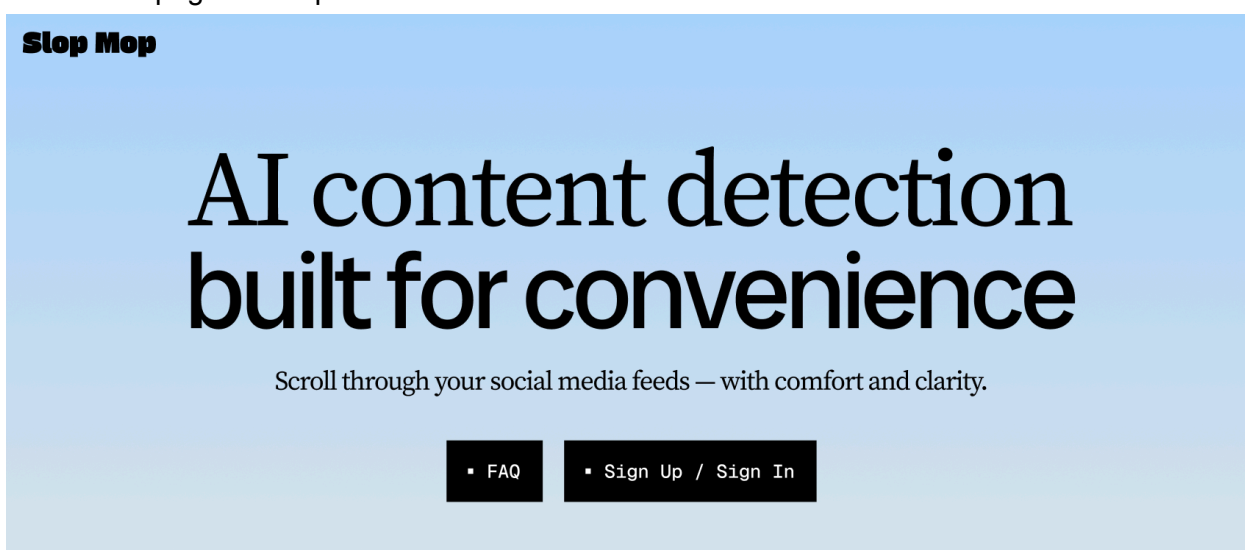


## F. State Diagram



## G. UI Mockups

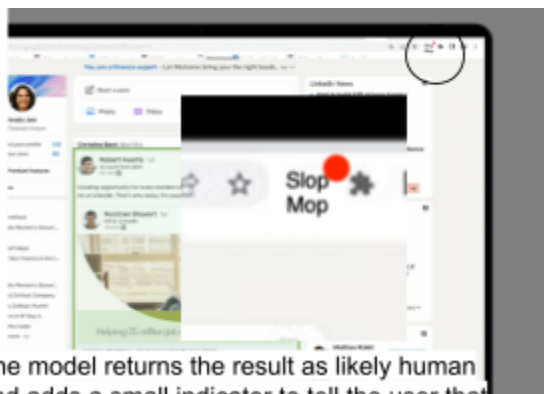
Basic homepage mockup:



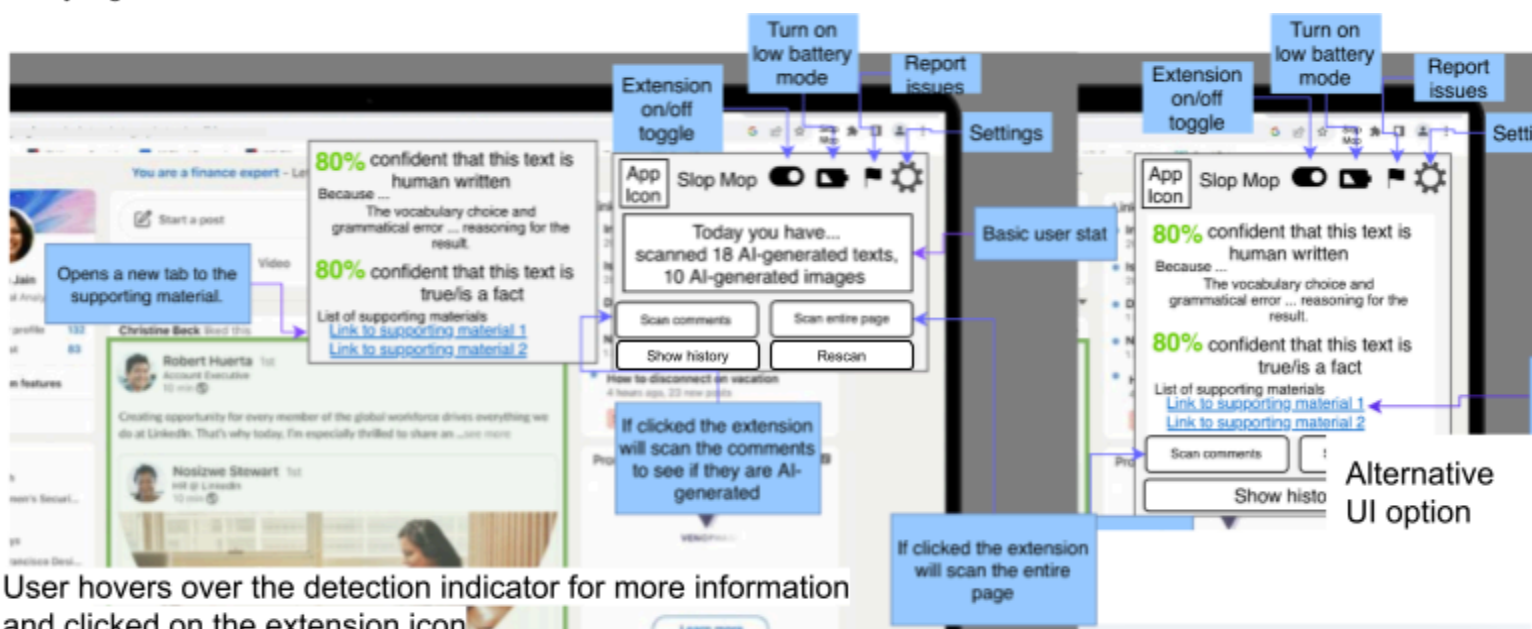
This is the homepage that users will see when first navigating to the website. Skeptical users can then navigate to the FAQs page and others can sign up to use the extension



User is scrolling through their feed.  
The model detects new post and is analysing it.



The model returns the result as likely human and adds a small indicator to tell the user that the analysis has been done.

Alternative  
UI option

User hovers over the detection indicator for more information and clicked on the extension icon

Example results



Example results with simple display turned on

