

DESIGN DOCUMENT

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1 Conceptual & Logical Design

1.1 Functional Requirements

- User registration and login functionality with JWT-based authentication
- Secure password handling via hashing algorithms
- CRUD operations for user-generated posts and comments
- Like and dislike features for posts
- Follow/unfollow functionality between users
- Media/file upload support (e.g., images in posts or profiles)
- Profile management and editable user information
- RESTful API to handle all frontend-backend communication

1.2 Non-functional Requirements

- Responsive and intuitive user interface across devices
- Modular and maintainable codebase with clear separation of concerns
- Scalability of backend components for increasing data volume
- Use of secure authentication practices and HTTPS-ready communication
- Efficient querying and indexing of relational data in MySQL
- Comprehensive error handling and input validation mechanisms

1.3 Entity–Relationship Diagram

Since the figure is too complex, here is a simpler view:

1.4 Normalization proof

- 1NF: All attributes are atomic, with with no repeating groups.
- 2NF: For tables with candidate keys, non-key attributes fully depend on the entire key.
- 3NF: No transitive dependencies exist; all non-key attributes depend directly on the primary or candidate keys.

2 Physical Schema Definition

2.1 Data Definition Language script

```
CREATE TABLE 'User' (  
  id VARCHAR(191) PRIMARY KEY,  
  email VARCHAR(191) UNIQUE NOT NULL,  
  password VARCHAR(255) NOT NULL,  
  username VARCHAR(191) UNIQUE NOT NULL,  
  avatar VARCHAR(191),  
  cover VARCHAR(191),
```

```

    name VARCHAR(191),
    surname VARCHAR(191),
    description VARCHAR(191),
    city VARCHAR(191),
    school VARCHAR(191),
    work VARCHAR(191),
    website VARCHAR(191),
    createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP
);

CREATE TABLE Post (
    id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    'desc' TEXT NOT NULL,
    img VARCHAR(191),
    createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    updatedAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP ON UPDATE CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    userId VARCHAR(191),
    FOREIGN KEY (userId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE
);

CREATE TABLE Comment (
    id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    'desc' TEXT NOT NULL,
    createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    updatedAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP ON UPDATE CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    userId VARCHAR(191),
    postId INT,
    FOREIGN KEY (userId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
    FOREIGN KEY (postId) REFERENCES Post(id) ON DELETE CASCADE
);

CREATE TABLE 'Like' (
    id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    userId VARCHAR(191),
    postId INT,
    commentId INT,
    FOREIGN KEY (userId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
    FOREIGN KEY (postId) REFERENCES Post(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
    FOREIGN KEY (commentId) REFERENCES Comment(id) ON DELETE CASCADE
);

CREATE TABLE Follower (
    id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    followerId VARCHAR(191),
    followingId VARCHAR(191),
    FOREIGN KEY (followerId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
    FOREIGN KEY (followingId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE
);

CREATE TABLE FollowRequest (
    id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
    createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
    senderId VARCHAR(191),
    receiverId VARCHAR(191),
    FOREIGN KEY (senderId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
    FOREIGN KEY (receiverId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
    UNIQUE (senderId, receiverId)
);

```

```

CREATE TABLE Block (
  id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
  createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
  blockerId VARCHAR(191),
  blockedId VARCHAR(191),
  FOREIGN KEY (blockerId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
  FOREIGN KEY (blockedId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE,
  UNIQUE (blockerId, blockedId)
);

CREATE TABLE Story (
  id INT AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,
  createdAt DATETIME DEFAULT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP,
  expiresAt DATETIME NOT NULL,
  img VARCHAR(191) NOT NULL,
  userId VARCHAR(191) UNIQUE,
  FOREIGN KEY (userId) REFERENCES 'User'(id) ON DELETE CASCADE

-- UserProfileView
CREATE VIEW UserProfileView AS
SELECT id, username, name, surname, avatar, description, city, createdAt
FROM User;

-- PostWithUserView
CREATE VIEW PostWithUserView AS
SELECT p.id, p.desc, p.img, p.createdAt, p.updatedAt, u.username, u.avatar
FROM Post p
JOIN User u ON p.userId = u.id;

-- UserActivityView
CREATE VIEW UserActivityView AS
SELECT u.id, u.username,
       p.id AS postId, p.desc AS postDesc, p.createdAt AS postCreatedAt,
       c.id AS commentId, c.desc AS commentDesc, c.createdAt AS
         commentCreatedAt,
       l.postId AS likedPostId, l.createdAt AS likeCreatedAt
FROM User u
LEFT JOIN Post p ON u.id = p.userId
LEFT JOIN Comment c ON u.id = c.userId
LEFT JOIN 'Like' l ON u.id = l.userId;

-- FollowerCountView
CREATE VIEW FollowerCountView AS
SELECT u.id, u.username,
       (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Follower f WHERE f.followingId = u.id) AS
         followerCount,
       (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Follower f WHERE f.followerId = u.id) AS
         followingCount
FROM User u;

-- Indexing
CREATE INDEX idx_post_userId ON Post(userId);
CREATE INDEX idx_post_createdAt ON Post(createdAt);
CREATE INDEX idx_comment_userId ON Comment(userId);
CREATE INDEX idx_comment_postId ON Comment(postId);
CREATE INDEX idx_comment_createdAt ON Comment(createdAt);
CREATE INDEX idx_like_userId_postId ON 'Like'(userId, postId);
CREATE INDEX idx_like_userId_commentId ON 'Like'(userId, commentId);
);

```

2.2 Database Optimization Strategies

2.2.1 Views

- **UserProfileView**: Displays user profile data, excluding sensitive fields like password.
- **PostWithUserView**: Joins posts with user details for feed displays.
- **UserActivityView**: Aggregates a user's posts, comments, and likes for activity feeds.
- **FollowerCountView**: Summarizes follower and following counts per user.

2.2.2 Indexes

- **Post**: Indexes on `userId` and `createdAt` for user posts and timelines.
- **Comment**: Indexes on `userId`, `postId`, and `createdAt` for comment retrieval.
- **Like**: Composite indexes on (`userId`, `postId`) and (`userId`, `commentId`) for like checks.
- **Story**: Index on `expiresAt` for active story queries.

3 Task Division & Project Plan

Note: You can access our Github via [this Link](#).

3.1 Tasks Distribution

Name	Role	Responsibilities
Nguyen Tung Lam	Frontend Developer & Project Manager	Responsible for UI/UX development, React components, and client-side state management.
Vu Binh Minh	Backend Developer	Implements Express.js API routes, middleware, and integrates security and RESTful practices.
Bui Huy Linh Phuc	Database & Authentication Engineer	Designs and manages the MySQL schema, handles data relationships, and implements secure authentication mechanisms.

Table 1: Tasks Distribution

3.2 Project Plan

Milestone	Timeframe	Description
Requirements Analysis & Planning	May 1–2	Define system scope, entity models, and tech stack
Database Schema & Setup	May 3–5	Design MySQL tables, relationships, and indexes
Backend API Development	May 6–10	Develop Express.js endpoints for users, posts, auth
Frontend UI Implementation	May 11–15	Build React components and page layouts
Authentication & File Upload	May 16–18	JWT integration, cookie auth, media handling
Feature Integration & Testing	May 19–25	Connect frontend to backend, test core features
Final Testing & Bug Fixing	May 26–28	Final QA, performance tuning, and fixes
Documentation & Submission	May 29–30	Complete README, code comments, and handover

Table 2: Project Milestones and Timeline

4 Supporting Documentation

4.1 Rationale for design decisions

4.1.1 Database Design

The core design goals of this database is to support a full-featured social media platform; ensure data normalization, scalability, and referential integrity; enable key features: user management, posting, interactions (likes/comments), social graphs (follows/blocks), and stories.

4.1.2 Database Optimization Strategies

The selected views and indexes optimize query performance, simplify application logic, and ensure scalability, aligning with functional and non-functional requirements.

- **Views:**
 - **UserProfileView:** Chosen to simplify profile queries and exclude sensitive data (e.g., password), enhancing security and usability.
 - **PostWithUserView:** Joins **Post** and **User** for feed displays, reducing query complexity for frequent operations.
 - **UserActivityView:** Aggregates user interactions (posts, comments, likes) for activity feeds, minimizing complex joins in the application.
 - **FollowerCountView:** Precomputes follower/following counts, improving performance for profile displays.
- **Indexes:**
 - **Post:** Indexes on **userId** and **createdAt** support fast retrieval of user-specific posts and timeline sorting, critical for feeds.
 - **Comment:** Indexes on **userId**, **postId**, and **createdAt** optimize comment retrieval by user or post and date-based sorting.
 - **Like:** Composite indexes on (**userId**, **postId**) and (**userId**, **commentId**) speed up like checks, essential for real-time interactions.
 - **Story:** Index on **expiresAt** accelerates queries for active stories, supporting ephemeral content delivery.
- **Key Choices:** Indexes target non-key columns used in **WHERE**, **JOIN**, or **ORDER BY** clauses, complementing primary and foreign key indexes.

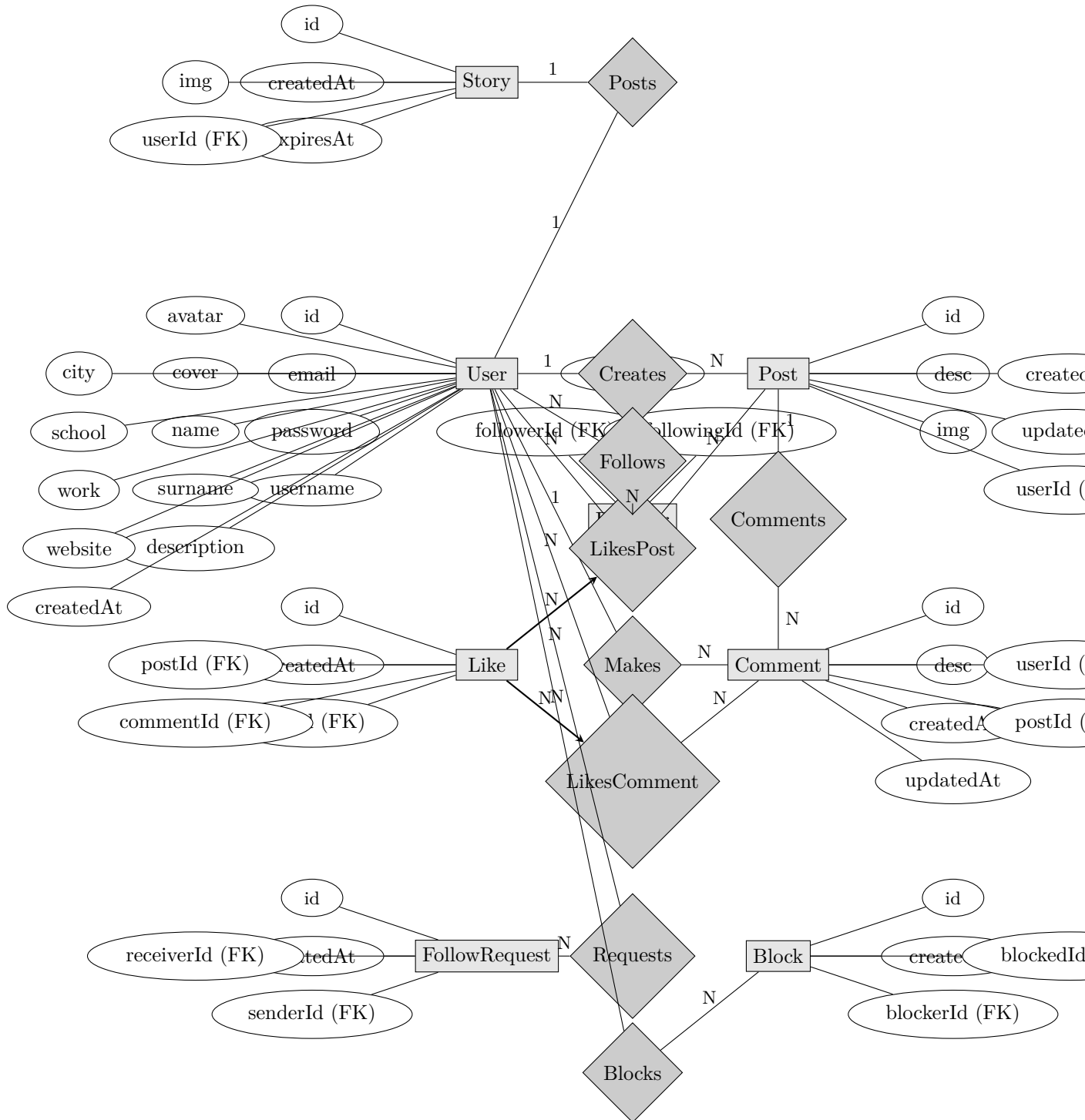


Figure 1: ERD in Chen Notation for Social Media Database

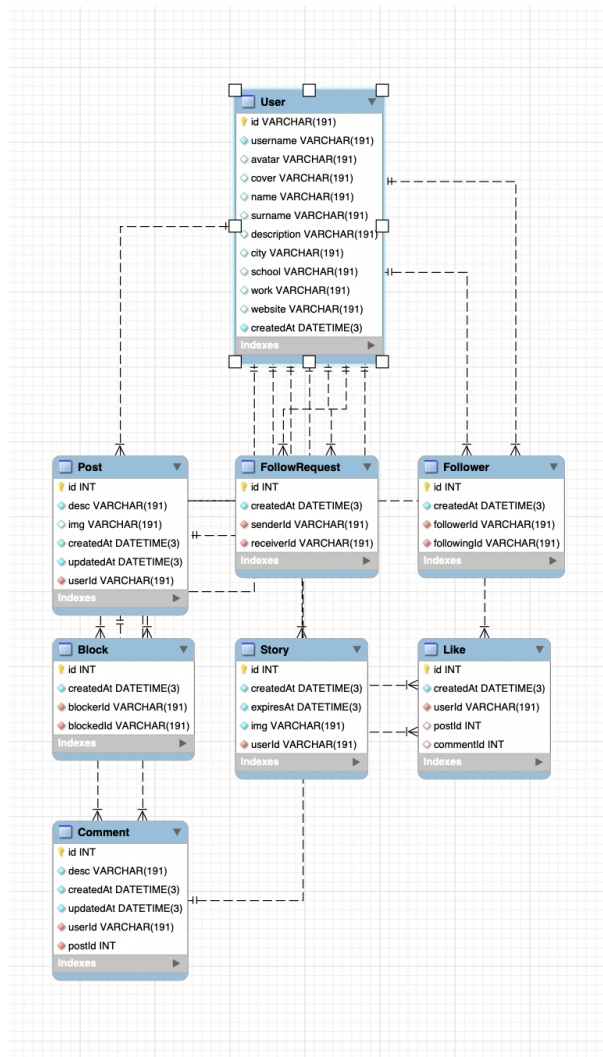


Figure 2: ERD