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TECHNOLOGY PROJECT NAME:IBM-FE-Protfolio website

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Phase 1 — Problem Understanding & Requirements

Problem Statement

The problem that this project aims to address is the absence of a unified and professional platform for individuals to present their skills, projects, and achievements. In today's digital-first environment, a portfolio website has become an essential tool for self-promotion, networking, and career development. Many students, freelancers, job seekers, and creative professionals rely solely on static resumes or scattered social media profiles, which often fail to highlight their unique strengths and accomplishments. A portfolio website bridges this gap by providing a central space to present one's profile in an attractive and easily accessible manner. It ensures visibility, credibility, and professionalism while enabling users to stand out in competitive academic and job markets. The core problem is not the lack of content but the lack of a structured, personalized, and dynamic medium to present that content effectively.

Users & Stakeholders

The key users and stakeholders of the portfolio website include students, freelancers, job seekers, recruiters, and industry professionals. For students, the website offers a platform to present academic projects, internships, and personal growth, which is especially valuable when applying for higher studies or entry-level positions. Freelancers, on the other hand, benefit from showcasing their previous work and client testimonials, enabling them to secure new contracts. Job seekers find value in having a centralized space to share their resumes, skills, and achievements, making the recruitment process smoother. Employers and recruiters benefit from accessing a comprehensive and organized profile of candidates without the limitations of traditional resumes. Designers, developers, and creative professionals use the platform to demonstrate their technical and artistic skills. Ultimately, the stakeholders also include mentors, peers, and potential collaborators who can explore the user's portfolio for networking and collaboration opportunities.

User Stories

The user stories for the portfolio website revolve around how different individuals will interact with the system to meet their goals. For instance, a student user story would be: “As a student, I want to display my academic projects in a clear and organized manner so that potential recruiters can assess my technical and problem-solving skills.” Similarly, freelancers would use the site to upload their creative projects, add descriptions of the process followed, and list feedback from clients. Job seekers may express the need to share their resumes, professional summaries, and work experiences in an interactive format. Recruiters may seek quick navigation and filters to identify specific skills or qualifications of candidates. Designers may want their work presented in a visually creative manner, ensuring that the website not only communicates their achievements but also reflects their artistic identity. Each user story captures a perspective of how the system serves its purpose in fulfilling the expectations of a diverse audience.

MVP Features

The Minimum Viable Product (MVP) features of the portfolio website focus on delivering the most essential functionalities that will allow users to immediately benefit from the system. The home page will serve as an introduction to the individual, presenting a professional summary and navigation to other sections. The About Me page will provide background information, skills, and career aspirations. The Projects or Portfolio section will showcase key works with detailed descriptions, images, and links to live demos or repositories. A dedicated Resume or CV section will allow users to upload their resumes and provide a downloadable option for recruiters. The Contact section will include a form for inquiries and integrate links to social media accounts. Finally, the design will be responsive to ensure accessibility across devices. These features represent the foundation of the website, ensuring that it is functional, practical, and ready for immediate use even at its first release stage.

Wireframes / API Endpoint List

The wireframes of the portfolio website are designed to present a clean and organized layout that balances aesthetics with usability. Each section of the site will follow a consistent design structure to ensure smooth navigation. The Home page will include a banner, a short introduction, and quick links to other sections. The About Me page will display skills in a visual manner, possibly with progress bars or tag-based categories. The Portfolio section will use a grid or card-based design to show projects with titles, descriptions, images, and links. The Resume page will provide a structured document-like layout and support a downloadable version. The Contact page will contain a form with input validation and integration to an email system. For backend functionality, the system may include APIs such as `/api/projects` to fetch portfolio data, `/api/resume` for resume management, `/api/contact` to handle inquiries, and `/api/skills` for dynamic skill representation. These endpoints will ensure that the site can be updated dynamically and serve as a scalable solution for future improvements.

Acceptance Criteria

The acceptance criteria for the portfolio website are crucial to ensure that the system meets user expectations and project goals. First and foremost, the site must be fully responsive, adjusting seamlessly to devices of different screen sizes such as desktops, tablets, and smartphones. Additionally, the performance benchmark requires the website to load within three seconds on a standard internet connection. Accessibility will also be a key factor, ensuring that users with disabilities can access the content according to WCAG 2.1 guidelines. The website should allow users to easily upload and update their portfolio items without technical complexity. The contact form must be functional, delivering inquiries to the owner's email successfully. The resume section must allow downloading in PDF format, ensuring recruiters can save offline copies. Moreover, the design should balance aesthetics and professionalism, leaving a lasting impression on visitors. By meeting these acceptance criteria, the portfolio website will deliver a reliable, professional, and user-centric experience that aligns with the initial objectives of the project.