

# Chat history deletion

## Problem

Currently chat history is preserved indefinitely and can only be cleared manually, either individual messages or per chat. This leads to privacy concerns as well as growing memory consumption.

## Solution

An option to turn on scheduled deletion of chat history (chat items and files). Initially only as a global setting but we can also consider setting per conversation.

## Implementation plan

Scheduled deletion implementation plan:

- Enum ChatItemTTL - None, Day, Week, Month, etc.
- Functions to convert ChatItemTTL to number of seconds for chatItemTTL and expireChatItemsInterval
- Interval can be:
  - TTL / 2
  - depend on TTL (e.g. 1 day for a 1 week TTL) (reuse ExpirationConfig and have fixed configs?)
  - fixed - 30 min?
- iOS is not a long running process so we have to check after start
- To prevent NSE from running this process parameterize startChat to allow starting without scheduled deletion even if it is configured
- Don't update chats and previews?

## Chat global expiration

Api:

- API Command - SetChatItemTTL ChatItemTTL, response is CRCmdOk
- API Command - GetChatItemTTL, response is CRChatItemTTL

UI:

- New view in settings, on start GetChatItemTTL to load into model
- When changed in UI - SetChatItemTTL, update in model
- UI options match ChatItemTTL

Core:

- Add `expireChatItems` to `ChatController`: `TVar` (Maybe (`Async ()`)) similar to `agentAsync`?
- Thread is created/stopped in runtime because interval has to be figured out dynamically when TTL is changed (e.g. if it was changed from 1 week to 30 mins and interval for 1 week is 1 day, we shouldn't wait 1 day before reading new interval)
- Add table settings, field `chatitemttl`
- On chat start - read settings, convert `chatitemttl` into `chatItemTTL` and `expireChatItemsInterval` (may be `Nothing`); if not `Nothing` - run `expireMessages` thread and put into controller
- On `SetChatItemTTL` - update settings
  - If `Nothing` - cancel `expireMessages`, remove from controller, update setting in store
  - If `Just` - start `expireMessages`, put into controller, update setting in store
- `expireMessages` thread: `forever $ do threadDelay interval expiration logic`
- Expiration logic:
  - Select all (chat ref, chat item id) older than (current time - TTL), comparing with `updatedat` (`createdat`?)
  - Reuse logic from `APIDeleteChatItem` to delete each item (should messages be deleted or updated to `XMsgDeleted`?)

## Questions

- single thread (don't re-create on change), read flag on each cycle and on each chat item
- if ttl changed from none to some value - first run sync, no delay between chat items on first run
- seconds instead of enum in api / backend
- part of `APISetChatSettings` api? - unclear can block for long on first deletion
- fixed interval
- if ttl became smaller, set flag to false, then one sync cycle

## Per chat expiration

API:

- API Command - `SetChatCITTL ChatRef ChatItemTTL`, response is `CRCmdOk`
- API Command - `GetChatCITTL ChatRef`, response is `CRChatItemTTL`
- If we do both global and contact API can be `SetChatItemTTL` (Maybe `ChatRef`) `ChatItemTTL` or `SetChatItemTTL GlobalOrChatRef ChatItemTTL`, same for `Get`

UI:

- In UI - in `ChatInfo` views, loaded on opening

## Core:

- Add `expireChatCIs` in `ChatController`: `map [ChatRef, Async ()]`
- Added and started/cancelled by `chatRef`
- Saved in `contacts/groups` tables
- On chat start - read from `contacts/groups`
- Expiration logic: select per chat