🍎 apples & oranges 🍊

{ a team j^4*e venture }

reduce food waste and save money by keeping better track of food in your home

IBM Intern Hackathon 2020 | **Topic:** Climate Change

Members: Justin Chen, Julia Guo, Jian Huang, Jessica Zheng, Emily Zhuang

---

THE BIGGER PICTURE

"About **11%** of all the greenhouse gas emissions that come from the food system could be reduced if we stop wasting food. In the US alone, the production of lost or wasted food generates the equivalent of

37 MILLION CARS' WORTH OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS."

(source - WWF)

"In the United States, food waste is estimated at between

30–40 PERCENT OF THE FOOD SUPPLY."

(source - FDA)

ON THE INDIVIDUAL SCALE

Household food waste is difficult to tabulate or control, since people lead busy lives and refrigerators are inherently **cluttered and disorganized**. People often buy fresh produce thinking they will cook it eventually; they get **caught up with work** and end up ordering takeout; they for-get about their fresh produce sitting in the back of the fridge; and soon enough, the **produce spoils and goes to waste**. Our team realized that this problem, inherently one of **lack of time and organization**, was perfect to be tackled using computational methods.

OUR SOLUTION

Overview

apples & oranges aims to solve the larger issue of climate change by providing the tools for users to reduce individual waste. Not only is it geared to climate-enthusiasts who want to minimize their waste, but also everyday consumers that wish to save money. **a&o** appeals to a wide user base, thereby reducing more food waste regardless of the user's interest in reducing climate change.
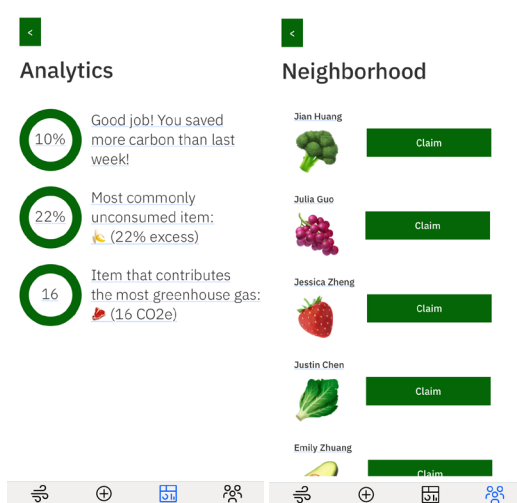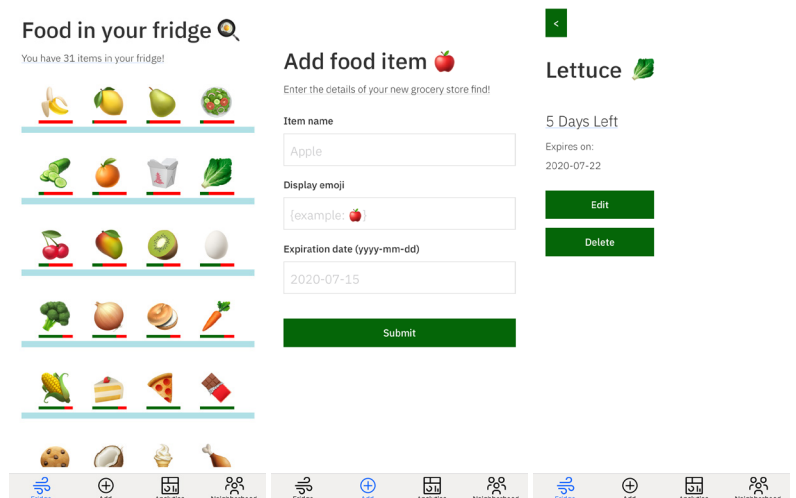
Fridge/Pantry

The interface allows users to conveniently keep track of all of their food. The Fridge sorts food items so that the user can quickly see the **"high-priority" items** that will need to be consumed soon. Adding, viewing, editing, and deleting food items is **simple to use** and requires minimal effort.

Analytics

The Analytics page gives users insight on their waste and impact on the climate. Users are able to see **commonly wasted foods** and **high-impact foods** purchased.

Community Initiative

The Community page enables users to **quickly offer items to neighbors and friends**. Not only does this minimize the user's food waste, but also inspire a **collective call for change** in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Why our product technology is better:
- **Clean, modern UI** built with React Native
- Ease of use (very minimal effort to input and delete items)
- Store food data on **IBM Cloud**
- Provides other incentives besides saving the planet like **saving time and money**

Next steps:
- Login / accounts / better data storage
- Easier input of expiration date & product info: computer vision (dry goods) + calendar select (produce) + barcode
- View carbon footprints of foods (costly API)
- Implement search & alternative sorting options