Initially tried to build a front end using an example with Amplify. Following a simple example where I was to upload a html document to display the text “Hello World” to make sure things were running properly. I followed the tutorial and the app compiled successfully but I received an “Access Denied” error message when deploying the app. I spent a lot of time troubleshooting with advice around the internet. I assumed such a simple task would likely have logical issue. To my surprise, all troubleshooting did not rectify the issue or just wasn’t related to this issue.

I then decided to move on from Amplify for the time being as if I couldn’t get the simplistic example to run adding complexities would likely make it more difficult to troubleshoot in the end. I found another tutorial explaining how to use Visual Studio Code with JS to deploy a React interface for upload of documents. I followed the tutorial closely and wrote the application. I had a few bugs when I first went to deploy and after installing a JS Debugger was able to resolve these issues. The application would compile correctly and launch to port 3000, however the page was blank. When I tried the launcher on a blank app via npm start it would load the title screen and seemed successful. Therefore, I assumed it had to be my code, the problem was although I had carefully followed the tutorial looked up terms and even did my best to follow the logic of the code my unfamiliarity with JS as a language would prevent me from finding the cause that my code was failing.

I was hesitant to move back to Amplify after the latest setback, but after a lot of research I could not find an appealing lower-code way that Amplify wouldn’t simplify if I could get it running. I assumed that there must be a problem with how I set up my Amazon account. I did see that there was a notification in my dashboard stating that new Amazon accounts were experiencing an issue and I might be affected, and it would be resolved soon. Additionally, I could not access my cost management dashboard. It stated that “because this was my first time here, they are still getting things set up and to come back in 24hrs”. However, this was not my first time to this page I have attempted to visit the page on multiple occasions over the past couple weeks all with the same message. This was not a great experience for my first AWS application. I have built other applications and was surprised to see how much difficulty I was having in getting started.

Over and over the troubleshooting said to make sure the index.html is the top level of the zip. It happened to be the only file in the zip and there were no containing folders so I couldn’t see how this was happening.

I then decided to take a different approach aiming at using the AWS and Amplify system as much as possible. Using the new Figma and Amplify console I was able to build a data model that was coupled with the design from figma for a web application. However when driving a CLI to Amplify I was again met with issues. Although everything looked fine on the command line via “AWS Configure” the instance could not connect, a browser window would pop up and tell me to enter the connection info manually however this would cause my terminal to crash.

We are now looking into ways to rely only on Python instead of JSON or JS and hope to have more understanding of the code as we substantiate a product.