Developer Guide

Real Producers

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1. Software Stack Overview

Real Producers' production life-cycle manager is constructed using the MERN stack. MERN stands for Mongo, Express.js, React.js, and Node.js. All the layers were written in Javascript. The team is approaching this project using a server-client model -- half of the team members work on the frontend and the other half work on backend and servers.
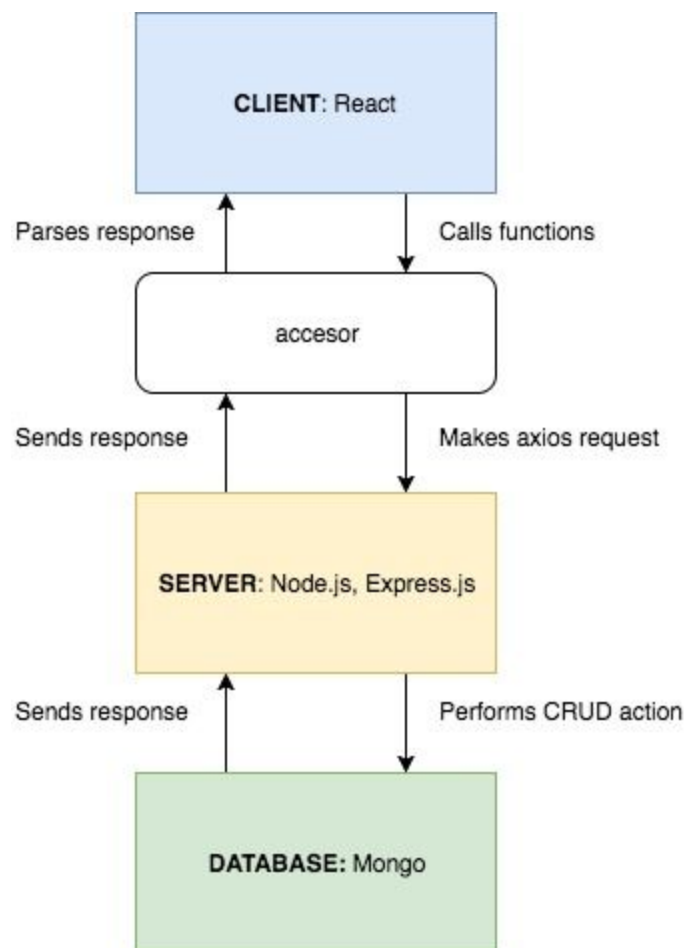

Figure 1. High level overview

2. High level Design

2.1 Client:

The client side of the application is written in React and Material UI Beta. It is divided into different components: admin, cart, dashboard, ingredients, inventory, login, main, orders, register, report, storage, and vendors. Each folder corresponds to new page as shown on the left navigation menu, with the exception for the main folder. The main folder contains the application bar and the navigation menu. The view for user and admin is controlled by using conditional rendering. Distinct components that encapsulate the behaviour of user and admin are created and rendered based on account that is logged in.

2.2 Accessor:

Since applications should be modular based, the client side of the application should only handle interactions with users and also displaying information. An accessor is a layer that contains actions and interfaces between front end and the back end. The client side interacts with the server actions through the interface layer. The interface layer then connects to the actions in the server side. This enforces abstraction, allowing the front end component to access only its specific interface layer connecting to the server actions.

2.3 Backend:

The backend is constructed with express.js, node.js, and MongoDB as the database. All the files related to the backend are contained under the "server" folder. It is mainly divided into three parts: models, controllers, and routes. Models contain the database schemas that define the properties of each collection needed in the program (Vendors, Users, etc). Controllers contains files that interacts with the database. Routes define the routes and the API endpoints for the frontend to make an API request and interact with the database.

Specifically, the controller section is consisted of four layers: action layer, modification layer, validation layer, and post process layer. When receiving a request, the modification layer runs first. To make the frontend developers' work easier, only columns (attributes) necessary for the frontend UI are sent back to the database when making CREATE or UPDATE requests. The modification layer then automatically adds all the missing attributes to meet the database schema's requirements (totalPrice for Orders). The validation layer checks if the requirements on the data are met (storage must be larger than current inventory quantity). If not, a customized error will be presented to frontend. The action layer does the real job - CRUD commands and manipulate the database. After the action is done, the post processor modifies other schemas if needed (increase or decrease inventory, etc.). After all the steps, a response is sent to the frontend and the UI will show error or alert if necessary.

2.4 Technologies Used:
- MERN Stack
- Material UI (Front end)
- AXIOS
- **-** Mongoose

3. Configuration
Software needed: Node.js, MongoDB, Git, and npm

Environment: Unix based system (Linux, Mac, etc)
After cloning/downloading the file from the Github repository, please follow the following steps.

- Change directory (cd) into the cloned/downloaded folder
- run "npm install"
- run "npm start" to run the front-end
- run "node server.js" to run the back-end. Note: Make sure Mongodb is running
- run "npm run start-dev" to run both ends at the same time. The front end will be listening on port 3000, and the back-end on port 1337

4. Database Schema

The schema for the tables in mongodb is given below.

1. Users {
        ObjectId _id
        String username
        String password
        String email
        Boolean isAdmin
        Boolean isManager
        Boolean fromDukeOAuth
        Boolean loggedIn
}

2. DukeUsers {
        ObjectId _id
        String username
        String email
        Boolean isAdmin
        Boolean isManager
        Boolean loggedIn
}

3. Vendor {
        ObjectId _id
        String name, //unique name
        String contact,
        String code, //unique case-insensitive alphanumeric freight carrier code
        String codeUnique
}

4. Ingredient {
        ObjectId _id
        String name, //unique
        Enum packageName, //sack, pail, drum, supersack, truckload, railcar
        Enum temperatureZone, //freezer, refrigerator, warehouse
        VendorPrice vendors {
                ObjectId _id   //id of this sub-document
                ObjectId vendorId
                String codeUnique
                String vendorName
                Number price
        }

        Removed:
        VendorPrice cheapestVendor {
                ObjectId _id   //id of this sub-document
                ObjectId vendorId
                String codeUnique
                String vendorName
                Number price
        }

        Number moneySpent,
        Number moneyProd,
        String nativeUnit,
        Number numUnitPerPackage,
        Number numUnit,
        Number space
}

5. Storage {
        ObjectId _id,
        Enum temperatureZone,
        Number capacity,
        Number currentEmptySpace,
        Number currentOccupiedSpace,
}

6. Order {
        ObjectId _id
        ObjectId userId
        ObjectId ingredientId
        String ingredientName

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        String vendorName (send)
        Number packageNum
        Number price (send)
        Number totalPrice
        Number space
        Number numUnit
}

7. Formula {
        ObjectId _id
        String name
        String description
        Number unitsProvided
        Number totalProvided // total units of stuff made
        Number totalCost // total cost of ingredients using this formula
        IngredientQuantity ingredients{
                ObjectId _id
                String ingredientName
                String nativeUnit
                Number quantity
        }
}

8. Log {
        ObjectId _id
        String username
        String action
        String item
        String itemId
        Date timestamp
}
```