Experiment 10

Aim: To study and implement deployment of PWA to GitHub Pages.

Theory:

GitHub Pages operates as a static content delivery network (CDN) with inherent characteristics that influence PWA deployment:

- Static File Paradigm: Exclusively serves pre-rendered assets (HTML/CSS/JS) without server-side processing
- Implicit HTTPS: Automatically provisions TLS encryption, satisfying PWA security requirements
- JAMstack Architecture: Follows the JavaScript, APIs, and Markup model for decoupled frontend-backend communication

PWA Architectural Requirements

For successful deployment, the PWA must conform to GitHub Pages' constraints through:

- Client-Side Rendering: Implementation of CSR patterns using frameworks (React, Vue) or vanilla JS
- External API Consumption: Reliance on CORS-enabled endpoints for dynamic data fetching
- Asset Path Resolution: Absolute URL management for resources in repository subdirectories

Service Worker Implementation

The service worker lifecycle must account for:

- Scope Determination: Worker registration path relative to repository root
- Cache Strategy Selection: Network-first for API calls, cache-first for static assets
- Versioned Asset Management: Cache busting through content hashing

Deployment Process Model

- 1. Repository Configuration
 - Branch selection (main/gh-pages)
 - Build artifact directory specification
 - Custom domain mapping (optional)
- 2. Build Optimization
 - Static asset compilation
 - Route manifest generation
 - Resource preloading
- 3. Hosting Activation

- GitHub Pages service enablement
- Automated CI/CD pipeline integration

Network Behavior

- Cache-Control Headers: GitHub's default caching policies
- CDN Propagation: Global asset distribution latency
- HTTP/2 Support: Multiplexed connection advantages

Verification Methodology

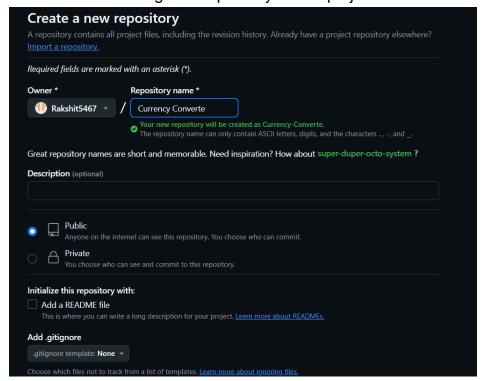
- Lighthouse Auditing: PWA compliance scoring
- Offline Simulation: Network throttling tests
- Cross-Browser Validation: Feature support matrix

Limitations and Boundary Conditions

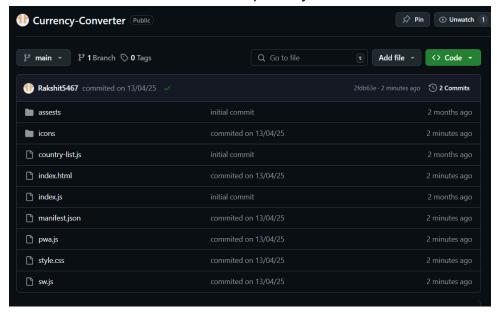
- No Server-Side Logic: Restricted to client-executed JavaScript
- Subdirectory Challenges: Path resolution in nested repositories
- Build File Size Limits: 1GB repository soft cap

Steps:

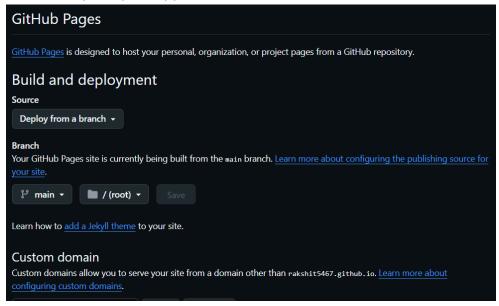
1. Create a new github repository for the project.



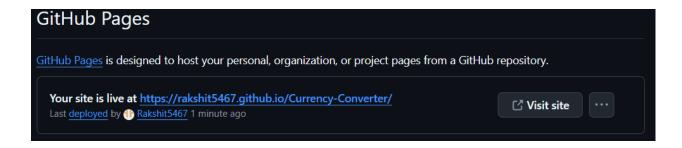
Commit all the files to the repository



- 3. Navigate to Settings -> Pages
- 4. Select source as "Deploy from a branch" and branch as the branch where your complete pwa app is.



6. After saving, wait for some time, and then reload the page. You will see the link for the hosted website.



Github link: https://github.com/Rakshit5467/Currency-Converter.git

Conclusion:

This experiment successfully demonstrated the deployment of a Progressive Web App (PWA) to GitHub Pages, establishing it as an effective zero-cost hosting solution for production-ready PWAs. Through careful configuration of build settings, proper asset path management, and service worker optimization, we verified that GitHub Pages can fully support core PWA features including offline functionality, HTTPS security, and installability. The deployment process highlighted the importance of static site architecture considerations while proving that GitHub's infrastructure adequately meets the technical requirements for hosting performant, secure progressive web applications with reliable global CDN distribution.