Lab 3 – Navigation bar and left menu

Aim

The aim of this lab is to learn how to make a framework with navigation bar and left menu. We will use the code from last lab and today's code will be used in future labs.
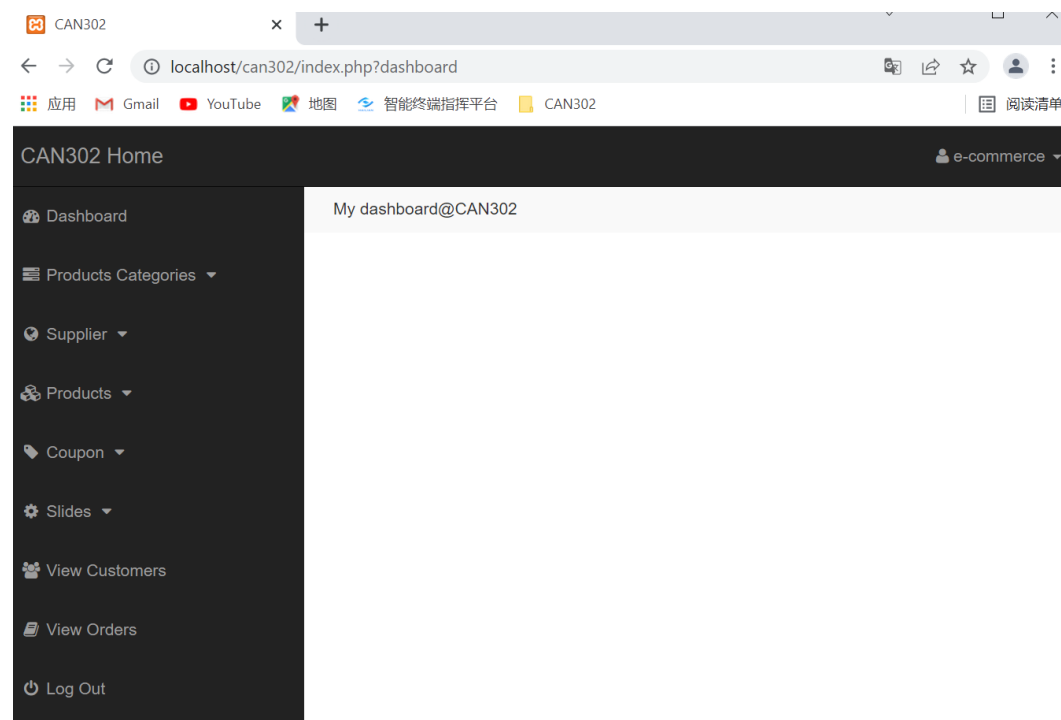
Resources

1.   You should continuously use the all settings of last lab.
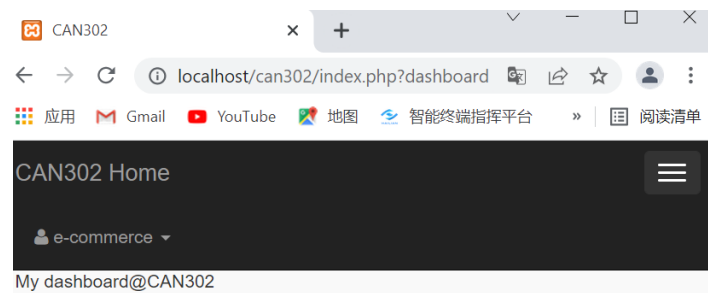
Tips:

1. If you are not sure why you are doing something, ask a TA. This is what they are here for.

2. Our labs have different focus than the M-Dev-Store online videos. While if you want to be an expert, you are recommended take both labs and on-line videos.

3. The forums are available for questions and discussions.

4. These labs are expected take more than the 2 allocated hours. You should complete them in your own time before the next lab. Practice makes perfect!

The final effect of this lab:

It is a common design with a top navigation bar and left menu in admin type application. After this lab, you may have an index page like this:

And it can auto response to different devices. On mobile, it will look like:

We need to improve "index.php" from last lab and create two new files named "frame.php" and "dashboard.php" under folder includes.

"dashboard.php":

1. In this lab, it just holds a position, simply as:

```php
1  <?php
2
3      echo "My dashboard@CAN302";
4
5  ?>
```

"frame.php":

2. As its name, this page is used to hold the main code of navigation menu and left menu. Toggle navigation is an important component. With it, we can create a menu bar quick and easy. Some key code as:

```html
<nav class="navbar navbar-inverse navbar-fixed-top">  <!-- navbar navbar-inverse navbar-fixed-top
begin -->
    <div class="navbar-header">    <!-- navbar-header begin -->
        <button type="button" class="navbar-toggle" data-toggle="collapse" data-target=".navbar-ex1-
        collapse">
        <!-- navbar-toggle begin, fixed code with using class name '.navbar-ex1-collapse' -->
            <span class="sr-only">Toggle Navigation</span>
            <span class="icon-bar"></span>
            <span class="icon-bar"></span>
            <span class="icon-bar"></span>
        </button><!-- navbar-toggle finish -->
        <a href="index.php?dashboard" class="navbar-brand">CAN302 Home</a>
    </div><!-- navbar-header finish -->
```

The <nav> tag defines everything in the navigation. The <button> will show when collapse (reduce the screen width). The data-target define the data source. Several <span> tags are fixed codes for this function. We can set an link for "home" with <a> tag.

Then we set a dropdown menu at the top-right of the webpage. The key code is as:

```html
<ul class="nav navbar-right top-nav">    <!-- nav navbar-right top-nav begin -->
    <li class="dropdown"> <!-- dropdown begin -->
        <a href="#" class="dropdown-toggle" data-toggle="dropdown"> <!-- dropdown-toggle begin -->
            <i class="fa fa-user"></i> <?php echo $nickname; ?> <b class="caret"></b>
        </a><!-- dropdown-toggle finish -->

        <ul class="dropdown-menu">   <!-- dropdown-menu begin -->
            <li> <!-- li begin -->
                <a href="#"> <!-- a href begin -->
                    <i class="fa fa-fw fa-user"></i> Profile
                </a>
            </li><!-- li finish -->

            <li class="divider"></li>

            <li>                      <!-- li begin -->
                <a href="logout.php">
                    <i class="fa fa-fw fa-power-off"></i> Log Out
                </a>
            </li><!-- li finish -->
        </ul><!-- dropdown-menu finish -->
    </li><!-- dropdown finish -->
    <!-- more drop down menu can be added here-->
</ul><!-- nav navbar-right top-nav finish -->
```

We use a <ul> tag with the class "top-right" to set its position. It contains more than one drop down menu.

We use a <li> tag with class "dropdown" to code the menu: a <a> tag with class "dropdown-toggle" define this hyperlink is to open/close this menu. A <ul> tag with class "dropdown-menu" defined the list once triggered by the above <a> tag.

For the left-menu, the key code is as:

```html
<div class="collapse navbar-collapse navbar-ex1-collapse">   <!-- navbar-ex1-collapse begin -->
    <ul class="nav navbar-nav side-nav"><!-- nav navbar-nav side-nav begin -->

        <li> <!-- li begin -->
            <a href="index.php?dashboard">                 <!-- a href begin -->
                <i class="fa fa-fw fa-dashboard"></i> Dashboard
            </a><!-- a href finish -->
        </li><!-- li finish -->

        <li>                      <!-- li begin -->
            <a href="#" data-toggle="collapse" data-target="#p_cat">    <!-- a href begin -->
                <i class="fa fa-fw fa-tasks"></i> Products Categories
                <i class="fa fa-fw fa-caret-down"></i>
            </a><!-- a href finish -->
            <ul id="p_cat" class="collapse">                 <!-- collapse begin -->
                <li>                      <!-- li begin -->
                    <a href="#"> Add Product Category </a>
                </li><!-- li finish -->
                <li>                      <!-- li begin -->
                    <a href="#"> View Products Categories </a>
                </li><!-- li finish -->
            </ul><!-- collapse finish -->
        </li><!-- li finish -->
```

Please notice <div> with the class "navbar-ex1-collapse", which is corresponding to the one in the toggle button.
Within the left menu, a <ul> tag is used to have the list.
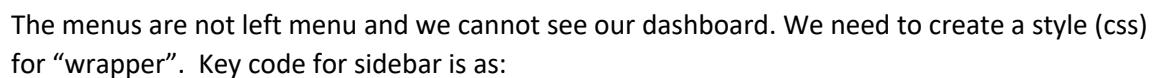For each item of the menu, it is in a <li> tag.
Some menu may be open to have the 2nd level. Then another "collapse" need to be used for that.

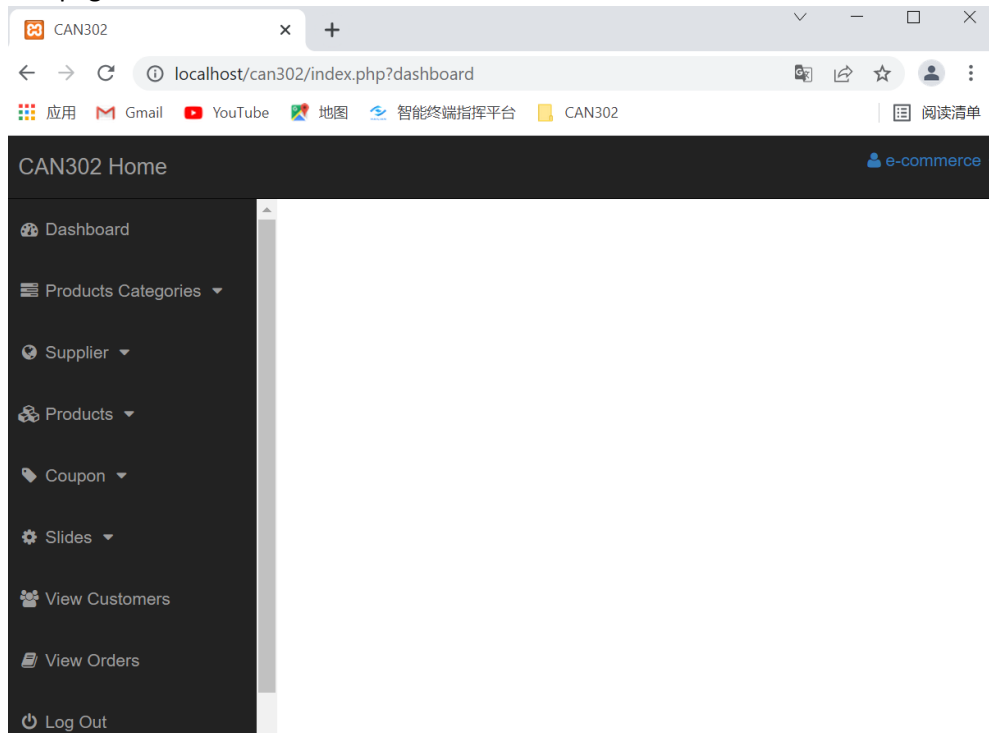Please try to complete the rest menu by yourself.

Modify "index.php":

3. It is time to assemble the above code in "index.php". The key code is as:

```php
<body>

    <div id="wrapper"><!-- #wrapper begin -->

    <?php include("includes/frame.php"); ?> <!-- include the nav part in frame.php -->

        <div id="page-wrapper"><!-- #page-wrapper begin, the funciton area is here -->
            <div class="container-fluid"><!-- using container-fluid to gain the max width. include the
            function part file -->
                |
                <?php
                if (isset($_GET['dashboard'])) {
                    include("includes/dashboard.php");
                }

                ?>

            </div><!-- container-fluid finish -->
        </div><!-- #page-wrapper finish -->
    </div><!-- wrapper finish -->
</body>
```

You may see it simply wrap frame and dashboard together. *Please notice the get parameter dashboard.* If all by default, the webpage looks like:

The menus are not left menu and we cannot see our dashboard. We need to create a style (css) for "wrapper". Key code for sidebar is as:

```css
/* Sidebar Styles */
@media (min-width: 768px){
    .side-nav{
        position: fixed;
        top: 51px;
        bottom: 0;
        width: 225px;
        overflow-y: auto;
        overflow-x: hidden;
        background-color: #222222;
        padding-bottom: 40px;
        border-radius: 0;
    }
    .side-nav>li>a{
        width: 255px;
    }
    .side-nav>li>a:hover, .side-nav>li>a:focus{
        outline: none;
        background-color: #c22323;
    }
}
.side-nav>li>ul{
    padding: 0;
}
.side-nav>li>ul>li>a{
    padding: 10px 15px 10px 38px;
    text-decoration: none;
    color: #999999;
    display: block;
}
.side-nav>li>ul>li>a:hover{
    color: #ffffff;
}
```
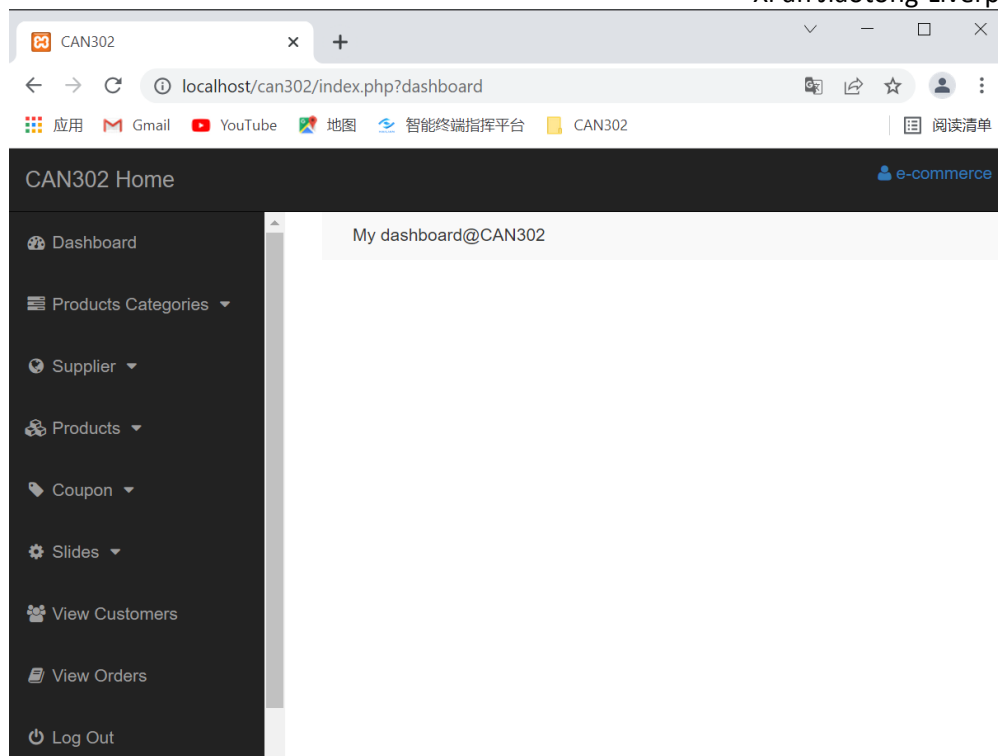
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@media is a magic word to check the width of current browser. If condition matched, it will work. ".xxx" is a format to define the style for a class named xxx, it starts with a ".". Now our webpage looks nice as:

However, the dashboard was not shown. We need some more style as:

```css
/* General Styles */

body{
    margin-top: 100px;
}

#wrapper{
    padding-left: 0px;
}

#page-wrapper{
    width: 100%;
    padding: 0;
    background-color: #f9f9f9;
}

@media (min-width: 768px){
    body{
        margin-top: 50px;
    }

    #wrapper{
        padding-left: 255px;
    }

    #page-wrapper{
        padding: 10px;
    }
}
```
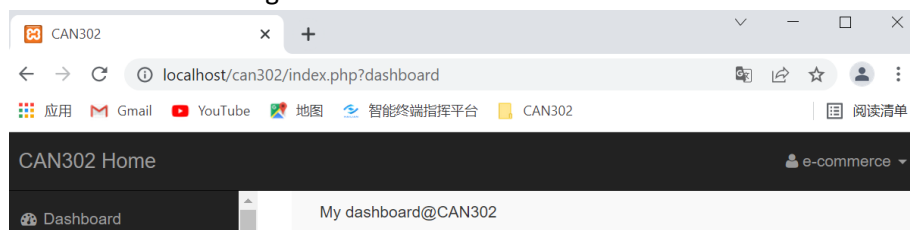
#xxx is the format to define style for an element id = xxx. Now webpage looks like:

The framework works now. The top right button looks a little bit different. We can define the style for it as:

```
/*  Top Navigation Styles  */
.top-nav{
    padding: 0 15px;
}
.top-nav>li{
    float: left;
    display: inline-block;
}
.top-nav>li>a{
    color: #999999;
    line-height: 20px;
    padding-top: 15px;
    padding-bottom: 15px;
}
.top-nav>li>a:hover, .top-nav>li>a:focus{
    color: #000000;
}
```

Let's check our web again:

It seems everything is nice!

Extend questions:

1. Try to figure out the function of the get-parameter "dashboard".
2. Try to create several more php pages and think about how to use the left menu integrate them.