Car Dealership Review Platform

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01 + Overview



Overview



Objective

The project aims to build and develop a cloud-native web application for users to review car dealerships.

Frontend: HTML, CSS, React.js • 1

Backend: Python, Node.js, Express.js, Django

Database:
MongoDB

Microservices: RESTful APIs

Cloud Deployment:
IBM Code Engine,
Kubernetes

02 +Introduction+



Introduction

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- This project is part of the Coursera-guided "Full Stack Application
 Development Capstone Project," which provides step-by-step instructions,
 code snippets, and hints.
- The course focuses on building a comprehensive full-stack web application using Django, React, Express, and MongoDB.
- The Car Dealership Review Application allows users to view and submit reviews, helping dealerships understand customer feedback and improve their services.

03 ♦ Course Summary ♦



Course Summary

- This project is based on the Coursera-guided "Full Stack Application Development Capstone Project," which provides step-by-step instructions, code snippets, and hints.
- This course helped me:
 - Learn to build comprehensive full-stack web applications using Django, React, Express, and MongoDB.
 - Develop skills in creating dynamic front-end pages, managing users, and implementing API endpoints.
 - Gain experience in deploying applications using Docker, Kubernetes, and IBM Cloud.
 - Implement CI/CD pipelines to automate testing, linting, and deployment processes.

04 + Project Summary



Project Summary

Objective:

Develop a cloud-native, full-stack application that allows users to review and rate car dealerships. The app integrates multiple technologies and frameworks to provide a seamless user experience.

Managed user odu authentication with React and Django, resolving browser compatibility issues. Added dynamic front-end pages with React, integrating them with backend services. Nupov.

Updated static web pages with Django and Bootstrap

Created API endpoints with Express and MongoDB, and deployed a sentiment analysis service on IBM Cloud.

Implemented CI/CD with GitHub Actions, containerized the application with Docker, and deployed it using Kubernetes

05 → Problem Statement →



Problem statement

Challenge: Develop a fullstack web application that enables customers to:

- View Dealership Information:
 - Access a list of dealerships.
 - Filter by state.
 - View detailed reviews.
- Submit Reviews:
 - Create accounts.
 - Submit reviews with detailed attributes.
 - View submitted reviews.
- Manage Dealership Data:
 - Administrators manage dealership attributes.
 - Include car makes and models.

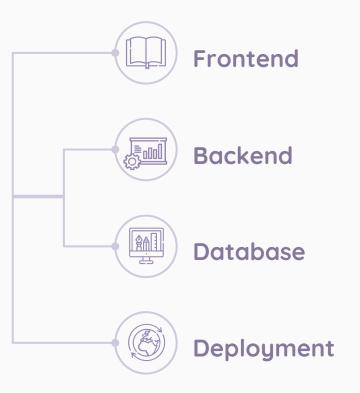
Key Steps:

- Create and style static web pages using Bootstrap.
- Implement user management with Django's authentication and a React front-end.
- Develop backend services with Node.js and Express to manage dealer and review data.
- Containerize services using Docker.
- Deploy a sentiment analysis service on IBM Cloud Code Engine.
- Set up CI/CD pipelines with GitHub Actions.
- Deploy the application using Kubernetes.
- Thoroughly test each component to ensure functionality and reliability.

06 + Design



Design Architecture



- React.js for building dynamic user interfaces.
 - Django for handling user management and static content.
 - Express.js and Node.js for developing RESTful API services.
- MongoDB for storing dealership and review data.
 - Docker for containerization.
- Kubernetes for orchestration.IBM Cloud for hosting and scaling services.





Microservices

Approach:

Static Pages: Created with Django, styled using Bootstrap.

User Management: Handled by Django, interfaced with React frontend.

API Services: Developed with Express, integrated with MongoDB.

Sentiment Analysis: Deployed on IBM Cloud Code Engine for analyzing review

Independent components for API, user management, and sentiment analysis. Each service is containerized and deployed independently, allowing scalability and maintainability.

sentiments.

07 + Implementation +

With tools used



Module 1: Static Pages

To handle user management, car models, and routes MongoDB services for dealership and customer reviews.

Tasks:

- Fork and clone the project repository from GitHub.
- Run the Django app on the development server.
- Add Bootstrap navigation to the website.
- Create "About Us" and "Contact Us" static pages.



Module 1: Static Pages

To handle user management, car models, and routes MongoDB services for dealership and customer reviews.

python3 manage.py makemigrations

python3 manage.py migrate

python3 manage.py runserver

Steps:

- Fork & Clone: Create a personal copy and clone it locally.
- Run Django App: Set up and start the development server.
- Bootstrap Navigation: Integrate and update templates with navigation.
- **Static Pages:** Develop HTML templates for "About Us" and "Contact Us" pages and route on urls.py



Module 2: User Management

Implement user roles by adding authentication and authorization features to manage access

Tasks:

- Create a superuser for your app.
- Build the client side and configure it.
- Check the client configuration.
- Add a login view to handle login requests.
- Add a logout view to handle logout requests.
- Add a registration view to handle sign-up requests.



Module 2: User Management

Steps

- Use python manage.py createsuperuser to establish admin access.
- Set up the frontend (e.g., React) and ensure API communication with Django.
- Test the frontend and ensure seamless interaction with the backend.
- Implement login functionality using Django's authentication.
- Handle logout requests and redirect users to the login page.
- Create a sign-up form and handle new user registrations.



Module 2: User Management

Steps

Logout functionality code snippet

```
let logout url = window.location.origin+"/djangoapp/logout";
const res = await fetch(logout_url, {
 method: "GET",
});
const json = await res.json();
if (json) {
  let username = sessionStorage.getItem('username');
 sessionStorage.removeItem('username');
 window.location.href = window.location.origin;
 window.location.reload();
 alert("Logging out "+username+"...")
else {
 alert("The user could not be logged out.")
```



Module 3: Backend Services

Implement user roles by adding authentication and authorization features to manage access

Tasks:

- Develop backend services for your Django application using JavaScript.
- Set-up a new Express MongoDB server in a Docker container.
- Deploy sentiment analyzer on IBM Code Engine.
- Create data models in your Django application.
- Create proxy services to call cloud functions in Django.
- Create CarModel and CarMake Django models
- Register CarModel and CarMake models with the admin site
- Create new car models objects with associated car makes and dealerships



Module 3: Backend Services

Steps

- Develop Backend Services: Implement API endpoints in Express with MongoDB using Mongoose (app.js).
- Containerize and Deploy: Build and run Docker containers for MongoDB and Express (dockercompose up), and deploy the sentiment analyzer on IBM Code Engine.
- Create Django Models: Define and register CarMake and CarModel in Django, and populate the database with car data.
- Create Proxy Services: Develop Django proxy services (restapis.py), and update views (views.py) and URLs (urls.py) for dealership and review data.

```
class CarMake(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=100)
    description = models.TextField()
    # Other fields as needed

def __str__(self):
    return self.name # Return the name as the string representation
```

```
class CarModel(models.Model):
    car_make = models.ForeignKey(CarMake, on_delete=models.CASCADE) # Many-to-One relationship
    name = models.CharField(max_length=180)

CAR_TYPES = [
          ('SEDAN', 'Sedan'),
          ('SUV', 'SUV'),
          ('MAGON', 'Wagon'),
          # Add more choices as required
    ]
    type = models.CharField(max_length=10, choices=CAR_TYPES, default='SUV')
    year = models.IntegerField(default=2023,
          validators=[
                MaxValueValidator(2023),
                MinValueValidator(2015)
          ])
    # Other fields as needed

def _str_(self):
    return self.name # Return the name as the string representation
```



Module 3: Backend Services

```
#Update the `get dealerships` render list of dealerships all by de
def get_dealerships(request, state="All"):
                                                             def get dealer details(request, dealer id):
    if(state == "All"):
                                                                 if(dealer_id):
        endpoint = "/fetchDealers"
                                                                     endpoint = "/fetchDealer/"+str(dealer_id)
                                                                     dealership = get request(endpoint)
        endpoint = "/fetchDealers/"+state
                                                                     return JsonResponse({"status":200,"dealer":dealership})
    dealerships = get request(endpoint)
    return JsonResponse({"status":200,"dealers":dealerships})
                                                                     return JsonResponse({"status":400, "message": "Bad Request"})
path(route='get dealers', view=views.get_dealerships, name='get_dealers'),
    path(route='get dealers/<str:state>', view=views.get dealerships, name='get dealers by state'),
path(route='dealer/<int:dealer id>', view=views.get dealer details, name='dealer details'),
path(route='reviews/dealer/<int:dealer_id>', view=views.get_dealer_reviews, name='dealer_details'),
```



Module 4: Dynamic pages

Functionality to manage car dealerships is added including creating, updating, and deleting dealerships, as well as listing them for users to view.

Tasks:

- Build frontend pages to present backend services to end users.
- Create a component to list the dealerships.
- Develop a dealer details and reviews component.
- Create a review submission page.



Module 4: Dynamic pages

Steps

- Set Up React Components: Imported and added Dealers and Dealer components in App.js.
- Configured routes in urls.py for dealers/ and dealer/:id.
- Create Dealer Reviews Page: Added
 PostReview component and configured the route in App.js and urls.py.
- Built the front end and ensured proper routing for review submissions.
- Test Functionality: Tested the application by logging in, submitting a review, and capturing a screenshot of the submission for verification₂₆

```
path('dealers/', TemplateView.as_view(template_name="index.html")),
```

<Route path="/dealers" element={<Dealers/>} />

```
path(route='get_dealers/', view=views.get_dealerships, name='get_dealers'),
```



Module 5: CI/CD, Containerize & Deploy to Kubernetes

Continuous Integration (CI) and Continuous Delivery (CD) are set up for the source code. Additionally, the application is containerized and deployed to Kubernetes for better scalability and management

Tasks:

- Enable GitHub Actions and run the Linting workflow
- Add the ability to your application to run in a container
- Add deployment artifacts for your application so it can be managed by Kubernetes



Module 5: CI/CD, Containerize & Deploy to Kubernetes

Steps

- **Dockerfile**: Created Dockerfile to define the image and an entrypoint.sh script to manage database migrations and static files.
- Image Build & Push: Built the Docker image and pushed it to IBM Cloud Image Registry (ICR).
- **Kubernetes Deployment:** Deployed using deployment.yaml and accessed via port-forwarding.
- **Verification**: Tested the deployed app, captured screenshots for submission.



Module 5: CI/CD, Containerize & Deploy to Kubernetes

Dockerfile

```
FROM python:3.12.0-slim-bookworm
ENV PYTHONBUFFERED 1
ENV PYTHONWRITEBYTECODE 1
ENV APP=/app
# Change the workdir.
WORKDIR $APP
COPY requirements.txt $APP
RUN pip3 install -r requirements.txt
COPY . $APP
EXPOSE 8000
RUN chmod +x /app/entrypoint.sh
ENTRYPOINT ["/bin/bash","/app/entrypoint.sh"]
CMD ["gunicorn", "--bind", ":8000", "--workers", "3", "djangoproj.wsgi"]
```

Entrypoint.sh

```
#!/bin/sh

# Make migrations and migrate the database.
echo "Making migrations and migrating the database. "
python manage.py makemigrations --noinput
python manage.py migrate --noinput
python manage.py collectstatic --noinput
exec "$@"
```

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08 + Results



Module 1: Django server

Start the Django server with **python manage.py runserver**.

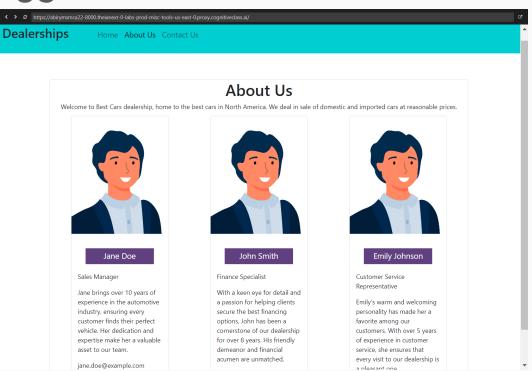
Verify that the app is running and accessible.

```
Applying auth.0009_alter_user_last_name_max_length... OK
Applying auth.0010_alter_group_name_max_length... OK
Applying auth.0011_update_proxy_permissions... OK
Applying auth.0012_alter_user_first_name_max_length... OK
Applying sessions.0001_initial... OK
(djangoenv) theia@theia-abirymsmca22:/home/project/xrwvm-fullstack_developer_c
apstone/server$ python3 manage.py runserver
Watching for file changes with StatReloader
Performing system checks...
System check identified no issues (0 silenced).
July 25, 2024 - 07:03:36
Django version 5.0.7, using settings 'djangoproj.settings'
Starting development server at http://127.0.0.1:8000/
Quit the server with CONTROL-C.
```



Module 1: About us

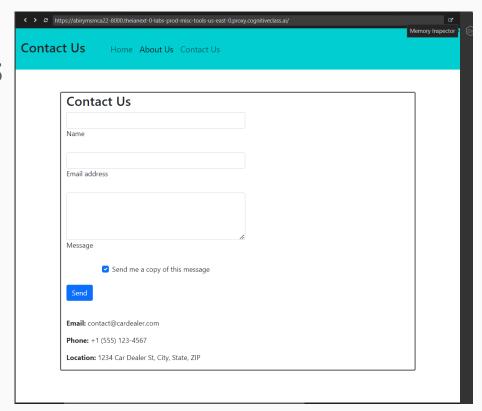
The "About Us" page showcases the company's mission, values, and team information. This static component of the Django application is styled using Bootstrap, ensuring a consistent and professional appearance.





Module 1: Contact us

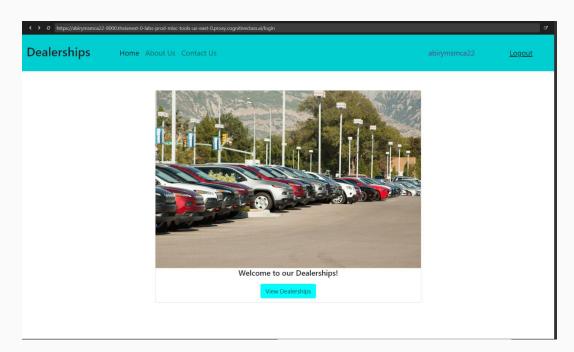
The "Contact Us" page provides users with a form to reach out to the company. This feature is crucial for customer support and engagement, allowing users to submit inquiries directly through the application.





Module 2: Login

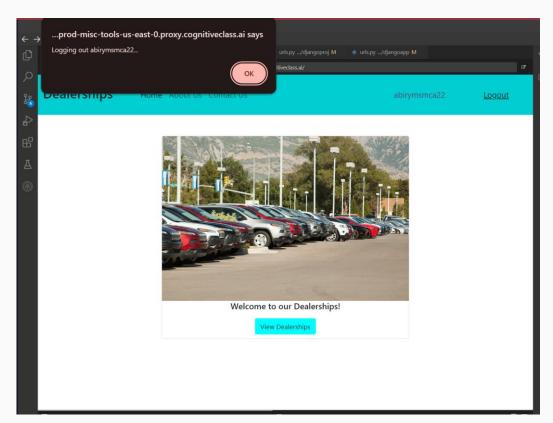
The login page allows users to authenticate themselves before accessing restricted features of the application. This task verifies the implementation of the user authentication mechanism, ensuring secure access to user-specific functionalities.





Module 2: Logout

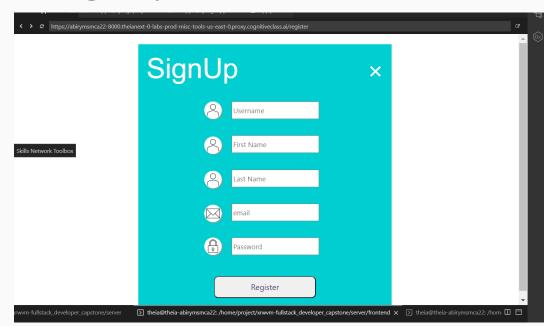
The logout alert confirms that the user has successfully logged out of the application, ensuring proper session management and security.





Module 2: Register/signup

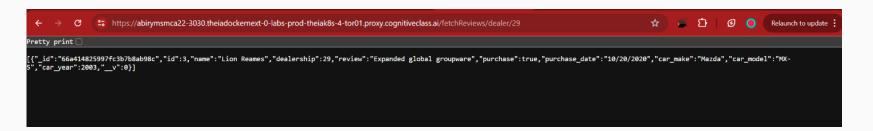
The sign-up page enables new users to create accounts. This task ensures that the user registration process is working as intended, allowing the application to expand its user base.





Module 3: Dealer review

This screenshot displays the dealer reviews fetched through the Express-Mongo backend. It confirms the successful integration of the backend service with the front-end React application, demonstrating the application's capability to handle and display user-generated content.





Module 3: Dealer review

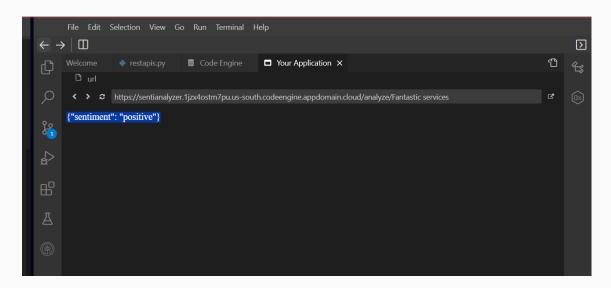
This screenshot displays the dealer reviews fetched through the Express-Mongo backend. ItThis screenshot shows a list of all dealers retrieved from the MongoDB database via the Express application. It demonstrates the correct data retrieval and display functionality, ensuring users can view comprehensive dealership information confirms the successful integration of the backend service with the front-end React application, demonstrating the application's capability to handle and display user-generated content.





Module 3: Deploy sentiment analysis

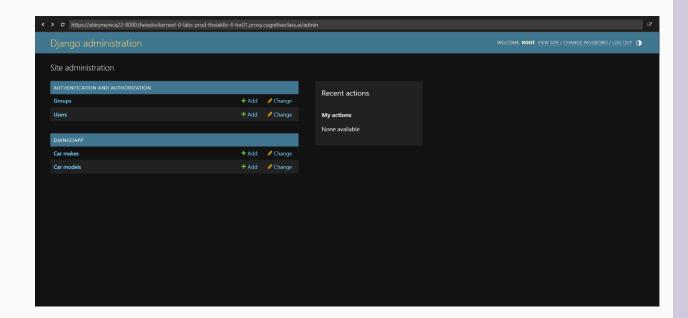
application deployment verification was successful





Module 3: admin login

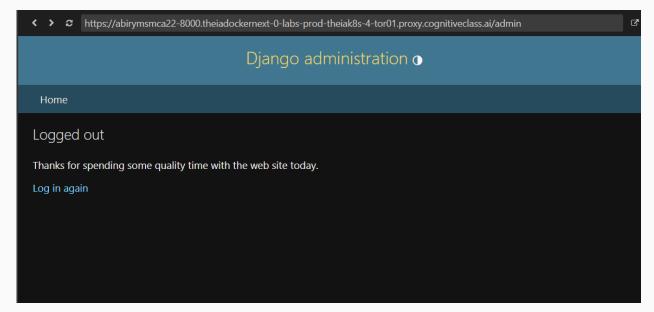
This task verifies the administrator's ability to log in to the Django admin interface. The admin interface is crucial for managing application data, including user accounts and dealership information.





Module 3: admin logout

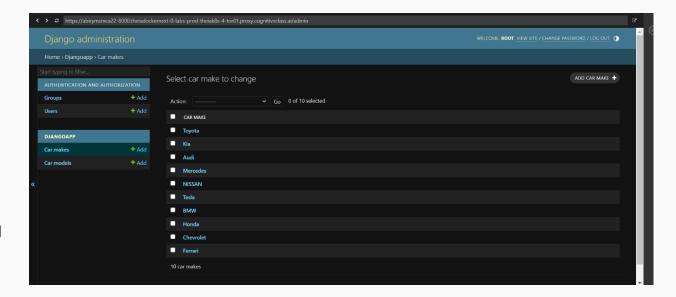
This screenshot demonstrates the successful logout process from the Django admin interface, ensuring secure session management for administrators.





Module 3: carmake

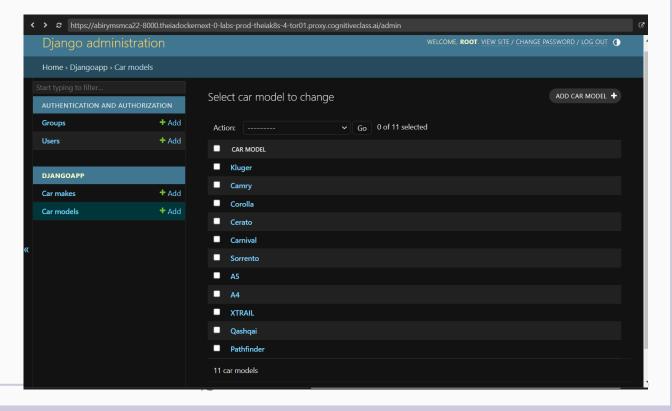
This task ensures that car makes can be added and viewed in the Django admin interface. It confirms the correct implementation of this feature, allowing administrators to manage the car inventory effectively.





Module 3: car model

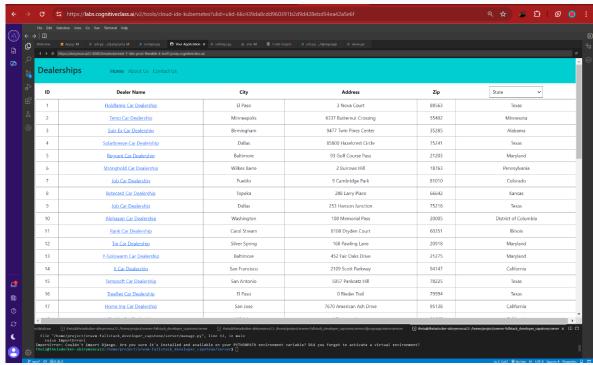
This screenshot demonstrates the functionality of adding and viewing car models, verifying the relationship between car makes and models. This feature ensures comprehensive management of the car dealership's inventory.





Module 4: dealers on the home page

The screenshot shows the list of dealers visible to unauthenticated users, ensuring that public access to dealer information is properly implemented. This feature provides potential customers with essential dealership information.

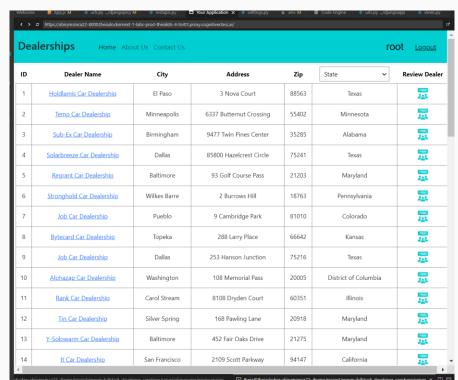


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Module 4: dealers on the home page

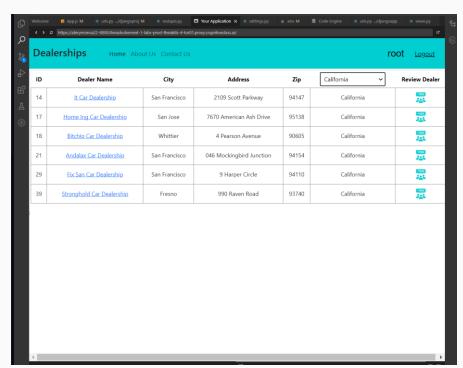
Logged-in users can see additional functionality, such as the "Post Review" button, ensuring proper role-based access control. This feature allows authenticated users to contribute reviews.





Module 4: dealers by state

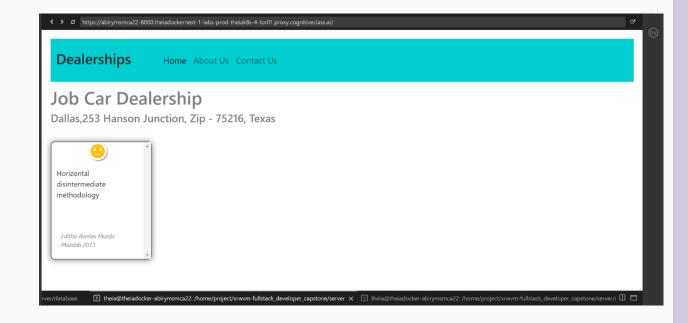
This screenshot demonstrates the filtering functionality on the frontend, allowing users to view dealers by state. This enhances user experience by providing customized search results.





Module 4: dealer reviews

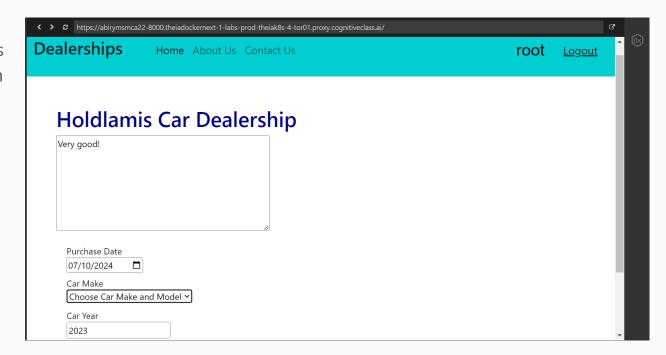
This task confirms that users can view detailed dealer information and their reviews, ensuring the front-end correctly displays detailed data. This feature helps users make informed decisions based on dealer reviews





Module 4: dealer review submission

The screenshot shows the review submission form filled out, ready to be submitted. This ensures the front-end form handling is functioning correctly, allowing users to submit reviews.





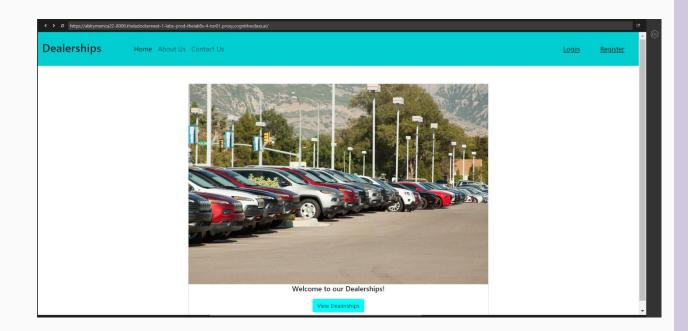
Module 4: dealer review submission

This task confirms that reviews are correctly posted and stored in the database, demonstrating the end-to-end functionality of the review feature.



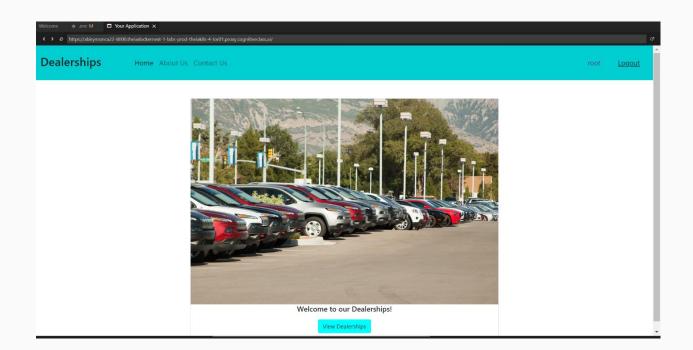


Deployed page landing page





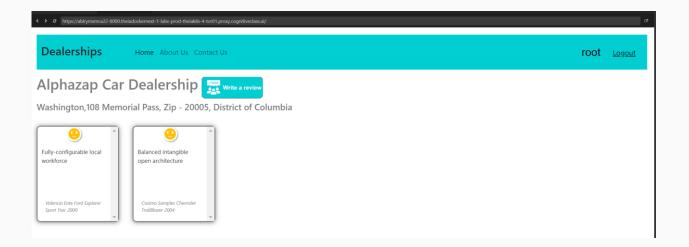
Deployed page logged in





Deployed page

Dealer details





Deployed page

Add new review



09 + Challenges



Challenges faced

- 1. IBM Cloud Engine Issues: Integrating and deploying the application on the IBM Cloud Engine presented challenges, possibly due to configuration complexities or platform-specific constraints.
- 2. Rhyme Environment Performance: The project was developed in the Rhyme environment provided by Coursera, which occasionally experienced slow performance. This lag led to inefficiencies, as tasks often had to be repeated, resulting in a loss of time and effort.
- 3. Testing and Debugging: Difficulties in testing individual components due to interdependencies, especially in a full-stack environment. Debugging was challenging due to complex error tracing across multiple layers of the stack.
- 4. Deployment Issues: Challenges related to deploying the application on IBM Cloud, including managing environment configurations and ensuring the application runs smoothly in the cloud environment.
- 5. Time Management: Managing time effectively to complete the project milestones within the set deadlines while maintaining code quality and meeting the project requirements.

10 + Conclusion

Conclusion

The Car Dealership Review App project provided hands-on experience in full-stack development, from front-end and back-end integration to cloud deployment. Despite challenges like integration complexities and performance optimization, the project was completed successfully, resulting in a functional and user-friendly application. This experience strengthened my technical skills and prepared me for real-world full-stack development.

11 + References +



References

- Django: https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/stable/
- Express.js: https://expressjs.com/en/4x/api.html
- MongoDB https://docs.mongodb.com/manual/
- Kubernetes : https://kubernetes.io/docs/home/
- Github actions: https://docs.github.com/en/actions
- Python: https://docs.python.org/3.12/
- React: https://reactjs.org/docs/getting-started.html

