

CONTROL NETWORK CALLS



YOU WILL LEARN

- how to spy on / stub network calls
- how to wait for the network calls from tests
- how to use network calls in assertions
- how to delay a network call

A screenshot of a web browser window showing a todo list application at `localhost:3000`. The page title is "todos". The main content area displays a single item: "one". Below the item is a footer bar with buttons for "All", "Active", and "Completed". The status bar at the bottom of the browser shows "cy-vs-pw-example-todomvc" and "Cypress vs Playwright course".

The bottom half of the image shows the browser's developer tools Network tab. The table lists a single request:

Name	Method	Status	URL	Type	Initiator
todos	GET	200	http://localhost:3000/todos	xhr	axios.m...

An orange arrow points to the "Status" column of the first row, with the text "GET /todos" written below it.

- clean up the existing code
 - git reset --hard
 - git clean -d -f
- git checkout d1
- npm install

STUB NETWORK CALLS

Let's mock the GET /todos network call and respond with the JSON fixture data.

IMPORTANT

Always set up network spies / stubs **before** the action that makes the app make that network call.

PLAYWRIGHT STUB THE NETWORK CALL

```
// pw/todos.spec.js

const { test, expect } = require('@playwright/test')
const items = require('../fixtures/products.json')

test.describe('App', () => {
  test.beforeEach(async ({ page }) => {
    // set up a route handler for "/todos" endpoint
    // when the route matches, fulfill it using
    // the loaded items array
    // Tip: make sure to set the content type header
    //
    // set up a promise that waits for the response
    // to the network call "/todos"
    // https://playwright.dev/docs/network
    await page.goto('/')
  })
})
```

Stub the GET /todos network call in Playwright

```
// pw/todos.spec.js

const { test, expect } = require('@playwright/test')
const items = require('../fixtures/products.json')

test.describe('App', () => {
  let loadSpy

  test.beforeEach(async ({ page }) => {
    // set up a route handler for "/todos" endpoint
    // when the route matches, fulfill it using
    // the loaded items array
    // Tip: make sure to set the content type header
    await page.route('/todos', (route) =>
      route.fulfill({
        headers: { 'Content-Type': 'application/json' },

```

Playwright Test

PLAYRIGHT ⏪ ⏴ ⏵

> Filter (e.g. text, @tag)
Status: all Projects: chromium

1/1 passed (100%) ⏪ ⏴ ⏵ ⏷ ⏹

✓ todos.spec.js
 ✓ App
 ✓ shows the items ... ⏪ ⏵

Actions	Metadata	Action	Before	After
✓ Passed	869ms			
↳ Before Hooks	811ms			
✓ beforeEach hook	809ms			
> fixture: browser	362ms			
> fixture: context	46ms			
✓ fixture: page	164ms			
browserContext.newPage	111ms			
page.route	5ms			
page.waitForResponse	168ms			
✓ page.goto /	135ms			
route.fulfill	4ms			
expect.toHaveCount locator('.todo-list li')	31ms			
> After Hooks	3ms			

about:blank

route.fulfill

TIME

wall time: 12/5/2023, 10:17:48 AM

duration: 4ms

PARAMETERS

status: 200

headers: [{"name": "content-type", "value": "application/json"}, {"name": "content-length", "value": "163"}]

body: [{"title": "Buy apples \$1", "completed": false, "id": "1"}, {"title": "Rent movie \$4", "completed": true, "id": "2"}, {"title": "See a concert \$50", "completed": false, "id": "3"}]

3 . 3

CYPRESS NETWORK STUB

```
// cypress/e2e/todos.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  beforeEach(() => {
    // stub the "GET /todos" network call the application makes
    // and return the data from the fixture file "products.json"
    // give this network stub an alias "load"
    // https://on.cypress.io/intercept
    // https://on.cypress.io/as
    cy.visit('/')
  })

  it('shows 3 items', () => {
    const todos = '.todo-list li'
    // wait for the intercepted network call "load"
```

```
// cypress/e2e/todos.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  beforeEach(() => {
    // stub the "GET /todos" network call the application makes
    // and return the data from the fixture file "products.json"
    // give this network stub an alias "load"
    // https://on.cypress.io/intercept
    // https://on.cypress.io/as
    cy.intercept('/todos', { fixture: 'products.json' }).as('load')
    cy.visit('/')
  })

  it('shows 3 items', () => {
    const todos = '.todo-list li'
    // wait for the intercepted network call "load"
  })
})
```

Cypress network stub solution

Specs

todos.cy.js

App

✓ shows 3 items

ROUTES (1)

Method	Route Matcher	Stubbed	Alias	#
*	/todos	Yes	load	1

BEFORE EACH

1 visit /

TEST BODY

```
1   wait @load
    (xhr) GET /todos
  2   get .todo-list li
  3   - assert expected [ <li.todo>, 2 more... ] to have a length of 3
```

http://localhost:3000/ Electron 114

todos

What needs to be done?

- Buy apples \$1
- Rent movie \$4
- See a concert \$59

2 items left All Active Completed Clear completed

Pinned

Elements Console Sources Network Performance Memory Application Security Lighthouse

top Filter Default

```
10:33:43.762 console.clear() was prevented due to 'Preserve log'
10:33:43.764 Command: wait
10:33:43.764 Waited for: load
10:33:43.764 Yielded: {id: 'interceptedRequest13', browserRequestId: '68310.103', routeId: '1701790411520-2', request: {...}, state: 'Complete', ...} i
  browserRequestId: "68310.103"
  id: "interceptedRequest13"
  request: {headers: {...}, url: 'http://localhost:3000/todos', method: 'GET', httpVersion: '1.1', resourceType: 'xhr', ...}
```

click on the WAIT @load command

SPY ON NETWORK CALL

Instead of stopping the network call, let it travel to the server. Use the response from the test.

- get checkout d2

In the next lessons:

- **stub** the initial GET /todos
- **spy** on POST /todos calls

PLAYWRIGHT NETWORK SPY

```
// pw/todos.spec.js
const { test, expect } = require('@playwright/test')

test.describe('App', () => {
  test.beforeEach(async ({ page }) => {
    // intercept the route "/todos"
    // - "GET /todos" respond with an empty list
    // - otherwise let the request continue
    await page.goto('/')
  })

  test('shows the items with css class', async ({ page }) => {
    // confirm the application has finished loading
    // by checking the presence of an element with class "loaded"
    // there should be no todos
    // spy on the "POST /todos" call
  })
})
```

See <https://playwright.dev/docs/network>

```
// pw/todos.spec.js

const { test, expect } = require('@playwright/test')

test.describe('App', () => {
  test.beforeEach(async ({ page }) => {
    // intercept the route "/todos"
    // - "GET /todos" respond with an empty list
    // - otherwise let the request continue
    await page.route('/todos', (route) => {
      if (route.request().method() === 'GET') {
        return route.fulfill({
          headers: { 'Content-Type': 'application/json' },
          body: JSON.stringify([])
        })
      } else {
    
```

CYPRESS NETWORK SPY

```
// cypress/e2e/todos.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  beforeEach(() => {
    // stub the "GET /todos" network calls
    // and return an empty array
    cy.visit('/')
  })

  it('sends new todo object', () => {
    const todos = '.todo-list li'
    // confirm the application has finished loading
    // by checking the presence of an element with class "loaded"
    // and there are no items

    // spy on the "POST /todos" call
  })
})
```

See <https://on.cypress.io/network-requests>

```
// cypress/e2e/todos.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  beforeEach(() => {
    // stub the "GET /todos" network calls
    // and return an empty array
    cy.intercept('GET', '/todos', { body: [] })
    cy.visit('/')
  })

  it('sends new todo object', () => {
    const todos = '.todo-list li'
    // confirm the application has finished loading
    cy.get('.loaded')
    // and there are no items
    cy.get(todos).should('have.length', 0)
  })
})
```

Cypress network spy solution

USE NETWORK DATA

- git checkout d3

Let's spy on the network call and confirm the app shows the data correctly

PLAYWRIGHT TEST

```
// pw/todos.spec.js

const { test, expect } = require('@playwright/test')

test.describe('App', () => {
  test.beforeEach(async ({ page }) => {
    // spy on the network calls to "/todos" endpoint
    await page.goto('/')
  })

  test('shows the same number of items as sent by the server', async ({
    page
  }) => {
    // confirm the network call has happened
    // and get the response as json
    // confirm the page shows the same number of todo items
  })
})
```

```
// pw/todos.spec.js

const { test, expect } = require('@playwright/test')

test.describe('App', () => {
  let load

  test.beforeEach(async ({ page }) => {
    // spy on the network calls to "/todos" endpoint
    load = page.waitForRequest('/todos')
    await page.goto('/')
  })

  test('shows the same number of items as sent by the server', async ({
    page
  }) => {
```

CYPRESS TEST

```
// cypress/e2e/todos.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  beforeEach(() => {
    // spy on the network call "GET /todos"
    // give the network intercept an alias
    cy.visit('/')
  })

  it('shows the same number of items as sent by the server', () => {
    // wait for the network alias
    // get its response body and confirm
    // it is an array
    // grab its length and pass it to the cy.then callback
    // inside the callback get the number of Todo items
    // on the page, it should equal to the number of items
  })
})
```

```
// cypress/e2e/todos.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  beforeEach(() => {
    // spy on the network call "GET /todos"
    // give the network intercept an alias
    cy.intercept('GET', '/todos').as('load')
    cy.visit('/')
  })

  it('shows the same number of items as sent by the server', () => {
    // wait for the network alias
    // get its response body and confirm
    // it is an array
    // grab its length and pass it to the cy.then callback
    // inside the callback get the number of Todo items
  })
})
```

Tip: in Cypress you always pass data that you get from the app using
cy.then(callback)

DATA CACHING

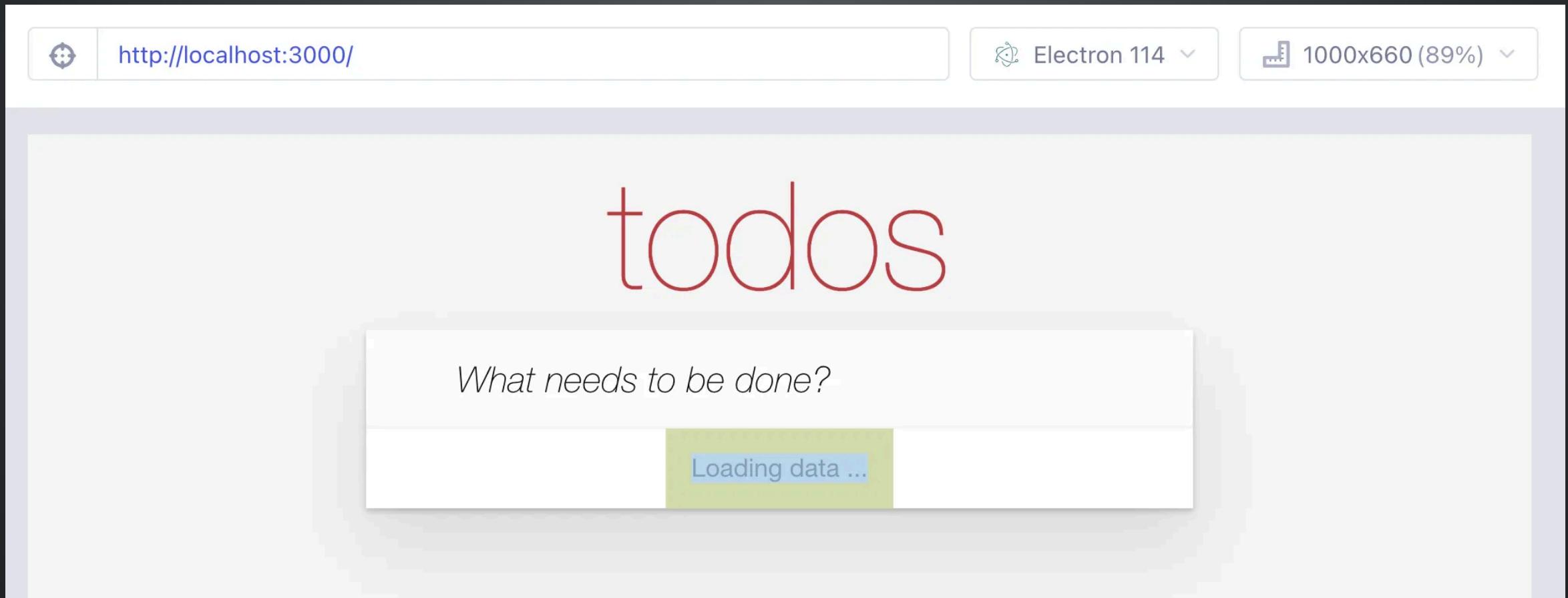
Important: our application and browser cache network data using ETag and If-None-Match headers. Playwright disables caching automatically. In Cypress you have to control it yourself, see <https://glebbahmutov.com/blog/cypress-intercept-problems/>

DISABLE NETWORK CACHING IN CYPRESS

```
beforeEach(() => {
  // disable network caching using a Chrome Debugger Protocol command
  // by using "cy.wrap" command we ensure that the promise returned
  // by the Cypress.automation method resolves before proceeding
  // to the next Cypress command
  cy.wrap(
    Cypress.automation('remote:debugger:protocol', {
      command: 'Network.setCacheDisabled',
      params: {
        cacheDisabled: true
      }
    })
  )
  // spy on the network call "GET /todos"
  // give the network intercept an alias
  cy.intercept('GET', '/todos').as('load')
```

SLOW DOWN NETWORK REQUEST

Let's spy on the GET /todos network request and slow it down to test the loading element.



SLOW DOWN NETWORK CALL IN PLAYWRIGHT

- git checkout d5

```
// pw/loader.spec.js

const { test } = require('@playwright/test')

test.describe('App', () => {
  test('shows a loader', async ({ page }) => {
    // intercept the "/todos" call
    // and delay it by 2 seconds before
    // allowing it to continue to the server

    // spy on the "/todos" network call
    // visit the page after setting up the network spies
    await page.goto('/')
    // confirm the loading element is visible
    // confirm the loading element is hidden
    // confirm the "/todos" call has happened
  })
})
```

Tip: read the <https://playwright.dev/docs/api/class-route> documentation.

```
// pw/loader.spec.js

const { test } = require('@playwright/test')

test.describe('App', () => {
  test('shows a loader', async ({ page }) => {
    // intercept the "/todos" call
    // and delay it by 2 seconds before
    // allowing it to continue to the server
    await page.route('/todos', (route) => {
      setTimeout(() => {
        route.continue()
      }, 2000)
    })
    // spy on the "/todos" network call
    const loading = page.waitForResponse('/todos')
```

Playwright solution

DELAY NETWORK CALL IN CYPRESS

```
// cypress/e2e/loader.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  it('shows a loader', () => {
    // intercept the "GET /todos" network call
    // let the call continue to the server
    // but delay it by 2 seconds
    // This should give the loading element plenty of time
    cy.visit('/')
    // confirm the loading element is visible
    // and then becomes hidden

    // confirm the app finishes loading really quickly
    // after the loader becomes hidden
  })
})
```

Hint: read <https://on.cypress.io/intercept> documentation

```
// cypress/e2e/loader.cy.js

describe('App', () => {
  it('shows a loader', () => {
    // intercept the "GET /todos" network call
    // let the call continue to the server
    // but delay it by 2 seconds
    // This should give the loading element plenty of time
    cy.intercept('GET', '/todos', () => Cypress.Promise.delay(2000))
    cy.visit('/')
    // confirm the loading element is visible
    // and then becomes hidden
    cy.get('.loading').should('be.visible')
    cy.get('.loading').should('not.be.visible')
    // confirm the app finishes loading really quickly
    // after the loader becomes hidden
  })
})
```

Cypress network request delay example



SPY AND STUB THE NETWORK FROM YOUR TESTS

- stub network calls to control the data
- spy on network calls during tests
- network caching might affect the testing
- 🎓 [Cypress Network Testing Exercises](#) course



Pick the [next section](#) or jump to the [07-clock](#) chapter

WRITE E2E TESTS IDEAS

using Cypress and / or Playwright

Adding todos

- add 1 todo
- load all todos from a JSON fixture and add
- add 1 todo without resetting the DB
- clearing the input field
- trims the input text

Editing todos

- edit an existing item text

Deleting todos

- delete 1 todo
- delete multiple todos

Completing todos

- check one todo
- clear completed todos

Application routing

- item filters