Challenge 3 - Batu Isik - 18005470
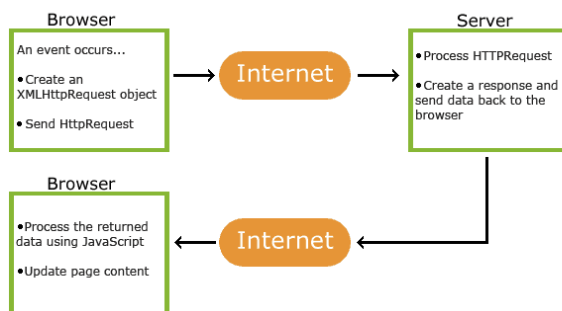
What we have learned :

During the last two weeks in programming extended class, we focused on AJAX, API and Json with different applications.

AJAX - (Asynchronous JavaScript and XLM)
Ajax enables updating a page without reloading the page which brings a faster performance. It can also read other data from an online server after the page is loaded.

Fetch

Just like AJAX, fetch easily makes web requests and handle responses.

API - (Application Programming Interface)

An API is basically a tool that sends data back and forth between a website and a user. It is a code that owns some sort of access point to the requested server. We can send an API a request for the information we want.

In our example, we learned about Openweather API and learned certain things such as playing around with the city, temperature and certain extra stuff such as displaying relevant icons..etc.

Another example was Mapbox. Mapbox is a map api that displays a customised map with extra features such as search bar, directions, pinpoints, informative pop ups..etc

Assignment :

The main goal of the assignment was to design an interface with 2 combined APIs. Therefore, their functionalities had to be somewhat relevant. The assignment was about designing the UI for the landing back to earth for Elon Musk and his crew. It also needed to be user - interactive, therefore not a static and plain website.

I used Mapbox and Openweather for this challenge

After setting up my account and gettin my api, I made my custom map in mapbox studio. I went for a dark mode map with almost no extra data to display apart from country, city and street names. Due to the gravitational difference and the effect of gforce during a landing has on the human body, I thought it would be wise for the travellers to get a check up after landing. Therefore I highlighted the hospitals and medical buildings around the landing zone. The landing zone I selected was the birthplace of Elon Musk in South Africa where I set the parameters of (coordinates, zoom, angle...etc)
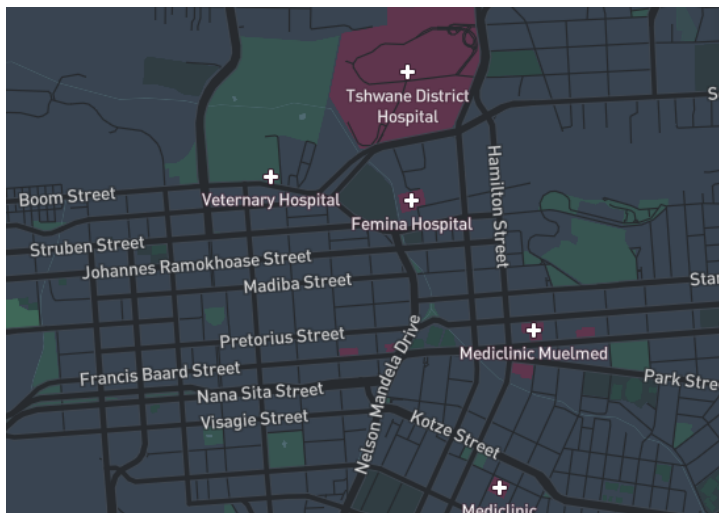
To combine the first API with another one, I used OpenWeather to display the weather conditions of the selected landing zone inside a pop up. After writing some necessary text, styling the map and the entire website with the help of exporting figma css codes, I completed the challenge
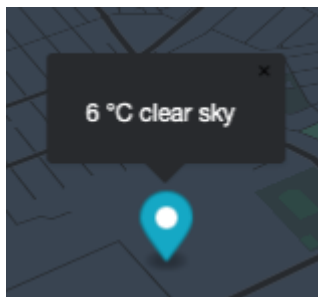
Overall Feedback :

During the course of programming extended, I learned many ways to execute and realise design ideas in the digital world in a more extensive, complex and interactive way. I very much enjoyed the high energy of Chris Heydra, my lecturer. I assumed that watching someone code through a shared screen is not the best way of teaching, however without a doubt he made the best of this situation especially early in the morning. He was also very open to all sorts of (sometimes stupid) questions and comments we had during the lectures and workshops. Due to my other courses being on the same schedule from 2nd year, I did my best to follow everything I could, It was very ideal to give us the flexibility by not making expos mandatory for resitters. Another nice point was the theme of the challenges. They

were very relevant and fun to execute. I learned how to manage my time better thanks to the flexibility I had and the motivation to code. The only minor issue I had was about the lack of detail in grading / instructions. I tried to do my best within the given time, however I feel like the quality of my work varied a bit among the 3 challenges.

I am more than confident that this will be the basis of my future front end designer career at some point in my life.

Github page : https://batuisik.github.io/challenge3/