

CVWO Assignment: Riding on Rails

Cai Kaian (A0222378A)

What a journey this has been. I embarked on this project a few days into the new year and now a few weeks later, I am content with how far I have come. Looking at my personal goals I set for myself getting into this project, it is safe to say I have attained most of them. I have picked up numerous web development skills, getting my hand dirty with Redux, Typescript, Material UI, etc. and have had fun building this little project.

Prior to this, I had no experience with web development, but I am happy to say that this project has truly taught me a lot. The hours spent scrolling through documentations and stack overflow has not only imparted to me a much better understanding of knowledge of React, Redux, Typescript to name a few, but also the importance of learning and figuring out things on my own.

Now I'll discuss more about the app.

You may access the app at <https://todid.herokuapp.com/>.

Looking at the goals for the app that I set out, I am disappointed to say that the problems I foresaw did come to haunt me. Having overloaded, a hectic start to the semester meant that I had very little time to work on the project as much as I wanted. As a result, the app is unfortunately still rather unpolished. I will discuss some limitations and unfinished aspects, but also look at what I did manage to accomplish in this short time. Despite my late start and hectic schedule, I can still say that I am proud of how far I've come.

Use Cases

1. **User creation and authentication:** Accomplished. I am overall quite satisfied with how the sign up and login forms look and function. Some extensions/improvements that I might look into include using Formik to build the forms and also setting an expiry for the JSON Web Tokens so that users will log out after a set period of time.

You may use the demo account to save yourself the trouble of creating a new account. However, the seeded data is very limited as I was planning to add more towards the end of the project but ran out of time.

2. CRUD: The forms for the creation and updating of Todos were rather rushed and might not be as polished as I would have liked. However, I think they mostly function as expected. The tags functionality has a small limitation in that it cannot contain commas, as it is stored as comma separated values. This should be rather easy to fix.
3. List View: Once again, there are some details that I have yet to smooth out, such as having to refresh after every CRUD operation but other than that, it looks and functions mostly like what I have envisioned.

You can filter the Todos with some default filters such as “Upcoming”, “Today”, etc. or by the tags you have given.

4. Search: Sadly, I did not get the time to implement this feature, but I would think that it should be quite straight forward considering how I set up the React components etc.

Improvements

There are many details that I am looking to polish up. Apart from those, I also didn't manage to look into Docker (which I have been wanting to learn), Cron Jobs, and others (such as Formik, Redux Saga, etc.)

All in all, being the first web application that I have ever developed, I am still happy with how far I have managed to come and achieve. My only regret is the hectic workload I have taken on this semester preventing me from working on this project as much as I would have liked.