

CMPS 312 Mobile App Development

Lab 11 – Firebase

Objective

In this Lab, you will continue with the **Todo app** that you created in Lab 10 and replace the local offline SQLite/floor database with **Cloud Firestore**; which is a NoSQL document database that lets you easily store, sync, and query data for your mobile apps at global scale.

In this Lab you will practice:

- Read and write data to Firestore from an Flutter app.
- Query Firestore collections.
- Listen to changes in Firestore data in realtime.
- How to make Firebase APIs fit into an MVVM architecture

The image below shows MVVM architecture with Cloud **Firestore** instead of floor.

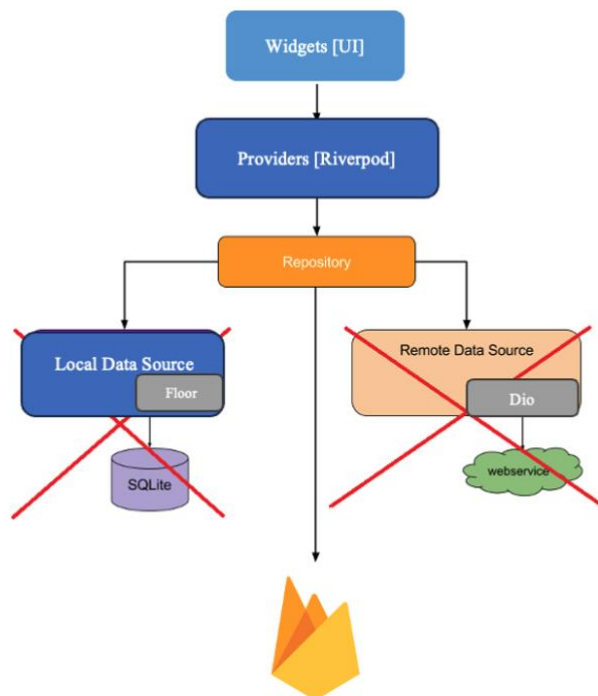


Figure 1 MVVM architecture with Cloud Firestore

Preparation

1. Sync the Lab GitHub repo and copy the **Lab 11-Cloud Firestore** folder into your repository.
2. Open the TodoList project in VS Code. You will see some compilation errors or warning messages. You will correct this in the next sections.

PART A: Implementing the Todo App

In this lab you will re-implement the Todo app you created in Lab 10 and replace the local database with Firestore. The functionality of the application will still be the same including get, add, update delete projects and to-dos.

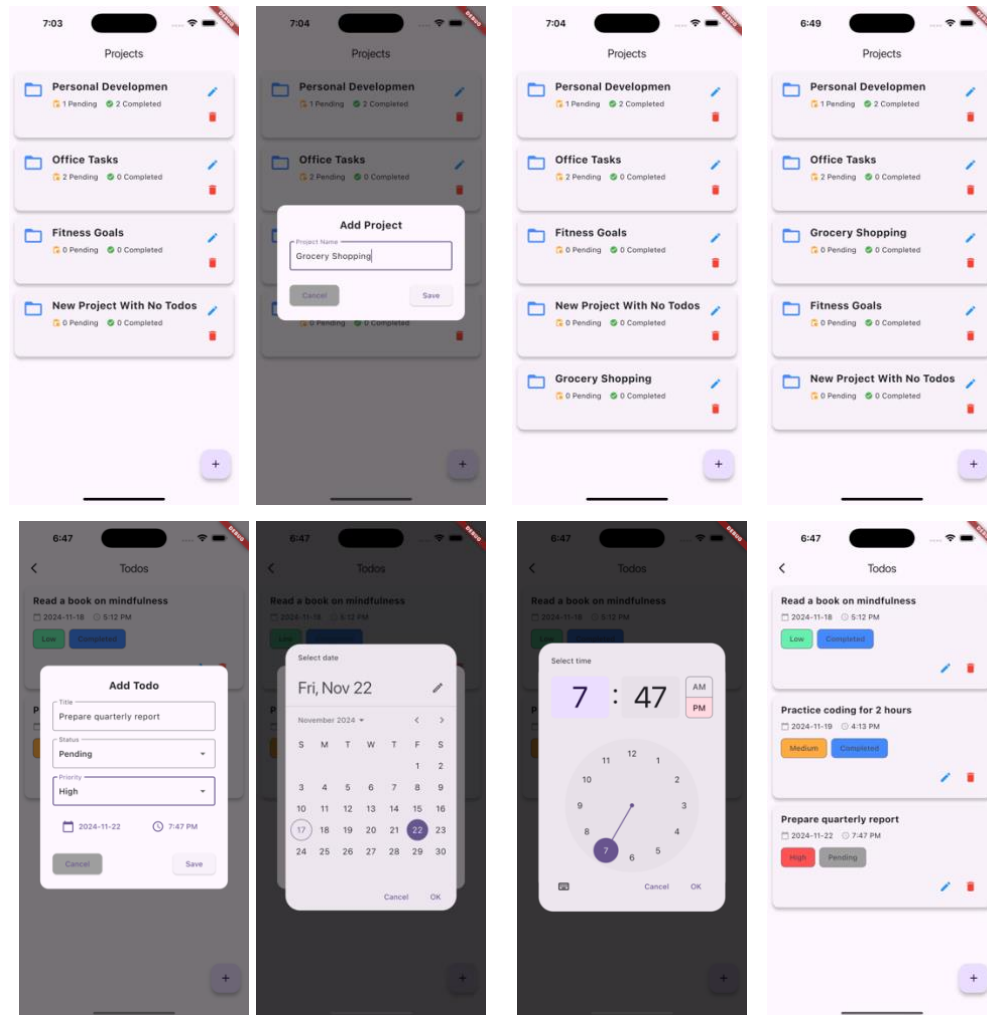


Figure 2 TodoList App

Task 1 : Seting up Firebase in your Flutter project

The following steps help you set up Firebase in your Flutter app, preparing it to use Firebase services such as Firestore, Authentication, etc.

A. Step 1: Creating Firebase Project Online

- Sign in to your google account
- Go to the Firebase Console: <https://console.firebase.google.com>
- Click on “Create Project.”
- Enter a project name (e.g., todolist) and click “Continue.”
- You can enable or skip Google Analytics based on your requirements.
- Complete the Setup:

B. Step 2 : Install Firebase CLI Firebase CLI (Command Line Interface) helps you manage Firebase projects from your terminal.

- a. Download Node.js from nodejs.org.
- b. Follow the installation steps for your operating system. Ensure you include npm (Node Package Manager) during installation.
- c. **Install Firebase CLI:** Open a terminal or command prompt and run:

```
npm install -g firebase-tools
```

- d. Verify the installation by checking the version:

```
firebase --version
```

- e. Login to firebase by running the command below. This command will open a browser window to authenticate with your Google account. After successful login, return to the terminal.

```
firebase login
```

C. Step 3: Activate FlutterFire CLI

- a. Install the FlutterFire CLI by running:

```
dart pub global activate flutterfire_cli
```

D. Step 4 : Connect Your Flutter Project with Firebase

- a. Make sure you are the root of your project *cd /path-to-your-flutter-project*
- b. Run the FlutterFire CLI to link your Firebase project:

```
flutterfire configure
```
- c. Select your Firebase project and the platforms (e.g., Android, iOS, Web) you want to configure.
- d. This will generate a **firebase_options.dart** file in your Flutter project under the lib/ directory. It contains all the Firebase configuration required for your app.
- e. Add the cloud firestore dependency to your project

```
flutter pub add cloud_firestore firebase_core
```
- f. Also in your lib/main.dart file, initialize Firebase using the DefaultFirebaseOptions object exported by the configuration file:

```
WidgetsFlutterBinding.ensureInitialized();  
await Firebase.initializeApp(  
  options: DefaultFirebaseOptions.currentPlatform,  
);  
runApp(const MyApp());
```

Task 2: Write , Read and Query Data from Cloud Firestore Database

In this section we will implement add/update/delete/query todo list data using **Firestore**.

Note : It is possible to enter data manually in the [Firebase console](#).

1. Implement **TodoRepository** class that call the methods on **projectRef** and **todoRef** to read/write data from the database.

```
class TodoListRepo {  
    final CollectionReference projectRef;  
    final CollectionReference todoRef;  
  
    TodoListRepo({required this.projectRef, required this.todoRef});
```

2. Implement the repository methods by calling the corresponding **projectRef** and **todoRef** functions. For the repository have the following methods:

```
// Projects  
Stream<List<Project>> observeProjects(); //get a real time data  
Future<Project?> getProjectById(String id);  
Future<void> addProject(Project project);  
Future<void> updateProject(Project project);  
Future<void> deleteProject(Project project);  
  
// Todos  
Stream<List<Todo>> observeTodos(String projectId);  
Future<Todo> getTodoById(int id);  
Future<void> addTodo(Todo todo);  
Future<void> updateTodo(Todo todo);  
Future<void> deleteTodo(Todo todo);  
// Project Todos Status Counts  
Stream<ProjectTodosStatusCounts?> getProjectTodosStatusCounts(String  
projectId);
```

3. Create a **TodoList Repository Provider**. This provider should instantiate the firestore database and then return an instance of the **TodoListRepo**.

```
final todoListRepoProvider = FutureProvider<TodoListRepo>((ref)  
async {  
    await Firebase.initializeApp(  
        options: DefaultFirebaseOptions.currentPlatform,  
    );  
    var db = Firestore.instance;  
    var projectRef = db.collection('projects');  
    var todoRef = db.collection('todos');  
    return TodoListRepo(projectRef: projectRef, todoRef: todoRef);  
});
```