Collins Mucyo

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Mobile App Development

April 24, 2019

Originally I had planned to make a book search application using google books API. I thought of adding on an ASP .Net back-end to connect to the actual books database and making a nativescript front-end that connects to it through a server. I thought that doing this would add more structure and stability to my application. After connecting to the back end, I would display the list of books on a List View using nativescript.

I ran into several problems during the project. The first was the fact that google books API require Google’s OAuth 2.0, which I have never used before. However, I discovered an “open-source” version that does not require authentication and decided to go with that. The second problem I ran into was the fact that using an ASP .Net core backend with nativescript was something that did not have a lot of documentation, and moving forward with it may delay further functionality of the project in the future, which to some degree it did. At the end, with the little time I had since my project re-propasal, I only managed to connect to google books and display a list of books from a search time appended to the google books link.

The most difficult part was definitely connecting and creating my back-end to the google endpoint then connection it to nativescript. The main problem was that I could not find enough documentation to handle my particular problem domain. The one good aspect that I learnt from this project is the fact that planning is everything, and it is good to recognize when a particular function is too ambitious earlier on in the project.

If I add more time, I would make sure the project is fully complete with a functioning back end and front end. I would improve the UI to become more friendly. I would also add more functionality than just searching for books, like perhaps marking which books are one’s favorite.