Coursework Report

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1 Introduction

The assignment aims to develop a web app that use the CRUD API, meaning that this app can create, read, update and delete from a local or online database. Some online research, along with 2 books suggested by the lectures (beginning node js and pro express js) displayed a variety of applications that can be done using node.js along with express as well as ajax and as online database the majority were poinintg at MongoDB. In this jungle of API the best option was node.js and express, while the database of choice was MongoDb hosted on mLab website, which offers 500Mb of free storage using amazon services.

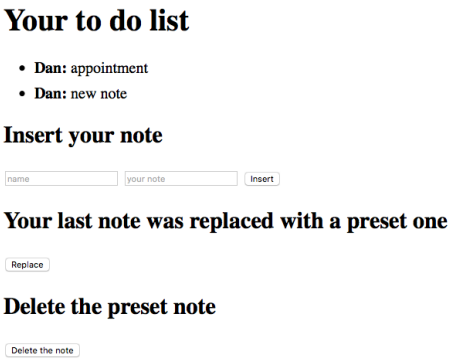

Figure 1: $main_page$

2 Software Design

To develop this app, a HTML is used to let a web browser display and interact with the user, while a javascript ejs file handles all the scriptlet that populate the html file. This app is a simple list that include the name and a note that will display as bulletpoint into the html files. A button below will replace the note with a different one and another button will deleted, which such notes are stored into the mLab online database.This app only display one page to minimize confusion in the navigation. The main page is a HTML page that uses javascript contained in the folder views/index.ejs file. This ejs file uses function scripts that are linked to a file called main.js located into the public folder. The main file update and delete the notes from the database. In the same folder the css is handling the size of the text and colors. To run the app, a file called server.js needs to be launched from the command line and a web browser can detect the html file from the localhost:3000 port.

3 Implementation

The app includes only a single page with just simple titles to keep the layout tidy. This app will only do the basic CRUD functions without using any heavy HTML page. A simple bullet point list will display and update whenever any operations are made, such as add, delete, replace.

4 Critical Evaluation

This web app lacks a complex interface that can be found in more advanced web blogs, having only one simple page without any other navigation items as well as warnings that could accompany the main index page. The buttons are simple to locates as they are in list sequence, however not appealing to the eye, and can look monotonous and boring for most users. The aim was to keep it as simple as possible, as long as the web app would do the job as required, but a bit more of interface could help a bit. Sometimes errors can occur using Google Chrome and Apple Safari. A restart usually fix the issue.

5 Personal Evaluation

Personally, I found this coursework completely confusing, especially using so many different APIs to achieve a CRUD function. Not enough time as well no lab support, and finding myself with a bad app, which was hard to build. At the end I managed to create a simple web app as displays notes (reminder) which work appropriately, and managed to learn the basics. A bit more support would have been great (lab and surgeries)

6 References

(2018). Researched app: Basarat Ali Syed (2014). Beginning Node.js. New York: Apress. 583.

Azat Mardan (2014). Pro Express.js. New York: Apress. 901.