Stack Overflow 2024 Developer Survey

- Developer types
- Databases
- Web framework
- Tools

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Fullstack Landscape

How to over-engineer "todo" apps

5 Ways to make Todo apps

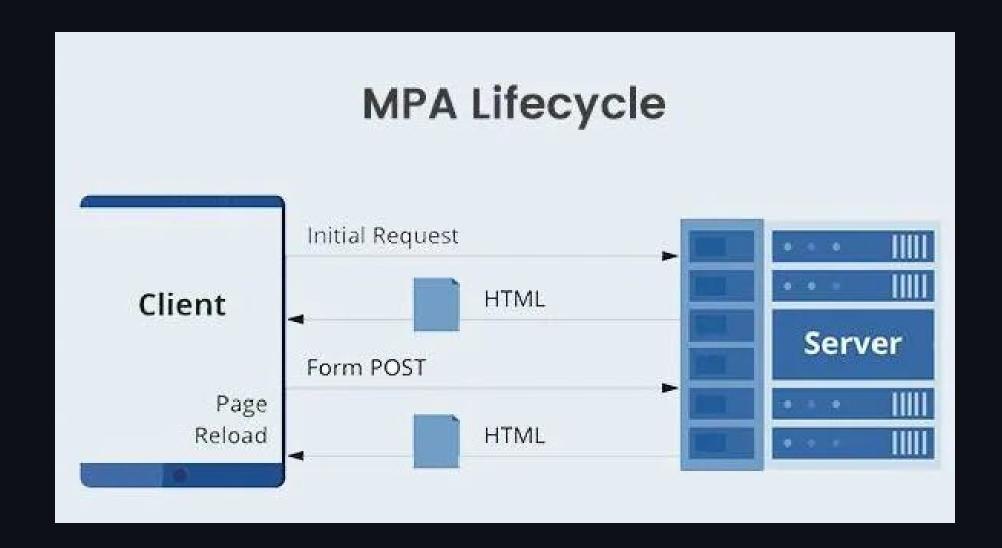
- Multi-Page Applications (MPA)
- Single-Page Applications (SPA)
- React Server Components (RSC)
- RSC + Client Components (React's New Architecture)
- HTMX

Round 1

Multi-Page Application (MPA) vs Single-Page Application (SPA)

Multi-page application

- Loads a new page every time you perform an action.
- Traditional web applications.
- Use server-side technologies
 - O PHP, Ruby on Rails, ASP.NET, Java, and Node JS.
- Can include JavaScript (script) for client-side interactivity



Todo app (MPA)

Express JS + Pug (renderer)

Get started

- npm install -g pnpmI am using pnpm
- git clone -b mpa https://github.com/fullstack-67/landscape-server mpa
- cd mpa
- pnpm install
- npm run dev

Endpoint

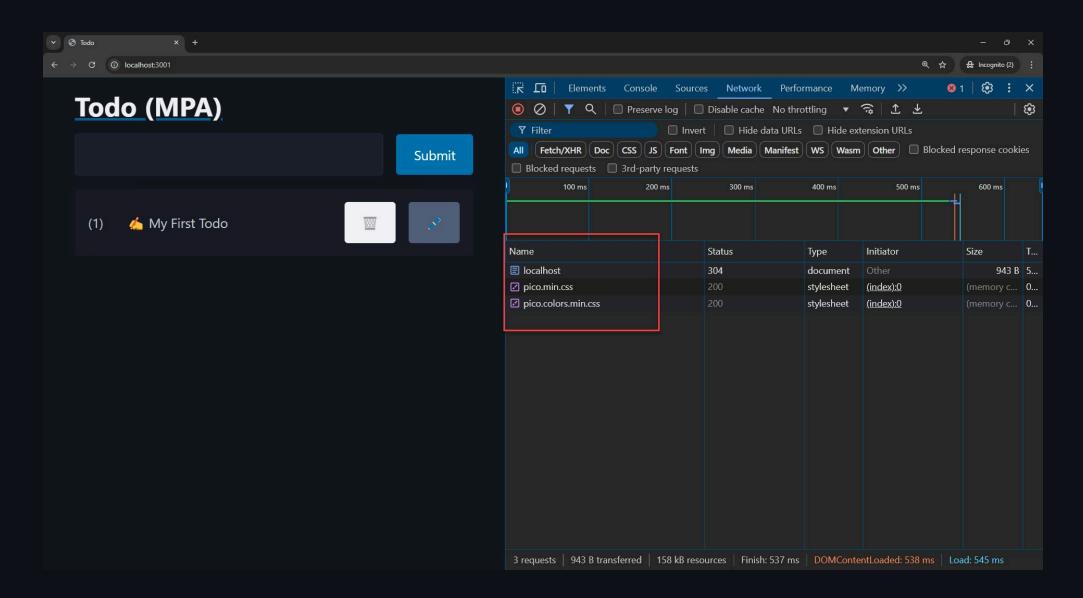
./src/index.ts

```
app.get("/", async (req, res) => {
  const message = req.query?.message ?? "";
  const todos = await getTodos();
  // Output HTML
  res.render("pages/index", {
    todos,
    message,
    mode: "ADD",
    curTodo: { id: "", todoText: "" },
  });
});
```

Renderer

./view/pages/index.pug

```
body
    main(class="container")
        a(href="/")
        h1 Todo (MPA)
        div(id="todoform")
            include ../components/inputform.pug
        div(id="todolist")
            include ../components/todolist.pug
```

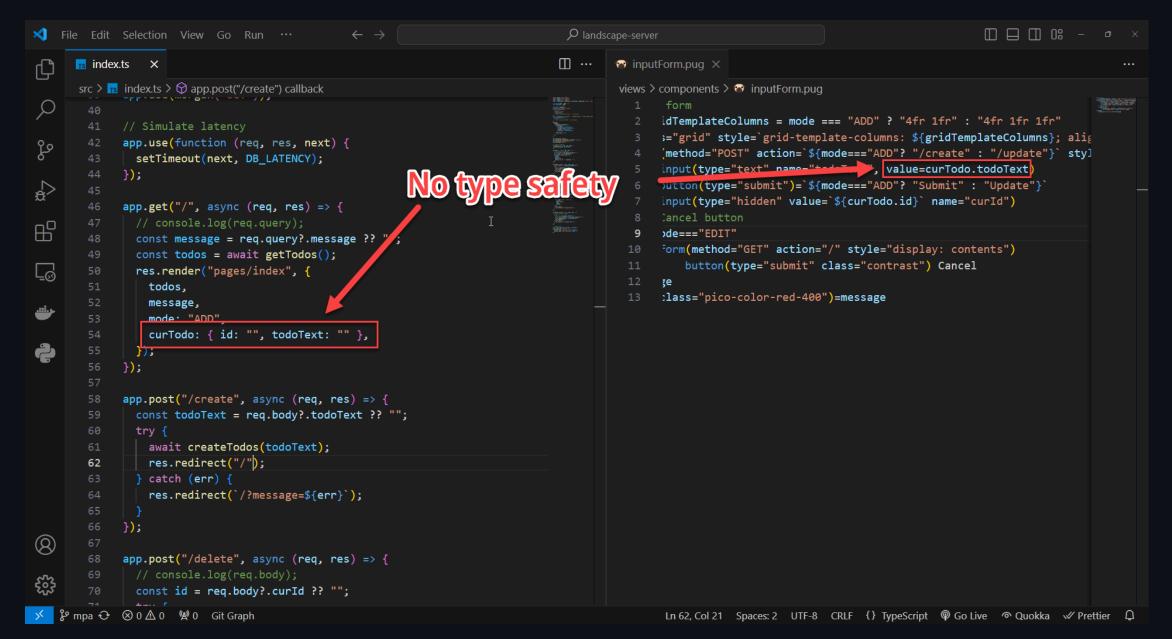


Use incognito mode to avoid loading chrome extensions.

Note

- Every button is wrapped in a separate form
 - Need to trigger different endpoints.
- Need to use input(type="hidden) to encode additional information.

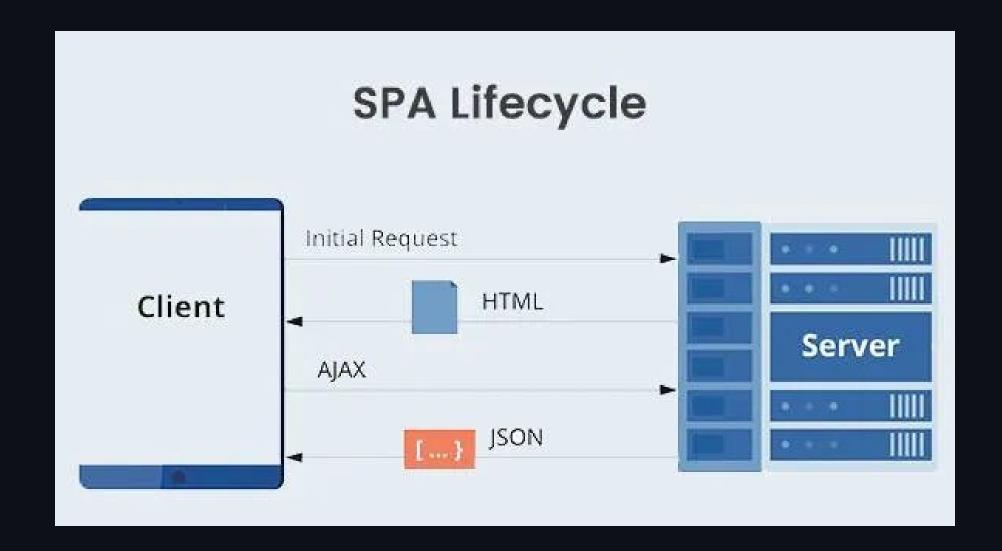
```
form(action="/delete" method="POST" style="display: contents")
  input(type="hidden" value=`${todo.id}` name="curId")
  button(type="submit" class="contrast" style="margin-bottom: 0") 
form(action="/edit" method="POST" style="display: contents")
  input(type="hidden" value=`${todo.id}` name="curId")
  button(type="submit" class="secondary" style="margin-bottom: 0")
```



Single-page application

- Single-page application
 - Loads a single HTML page and dynamically updates the content as the user interacts with the app.
- Use frontend and backend frameworks separately.

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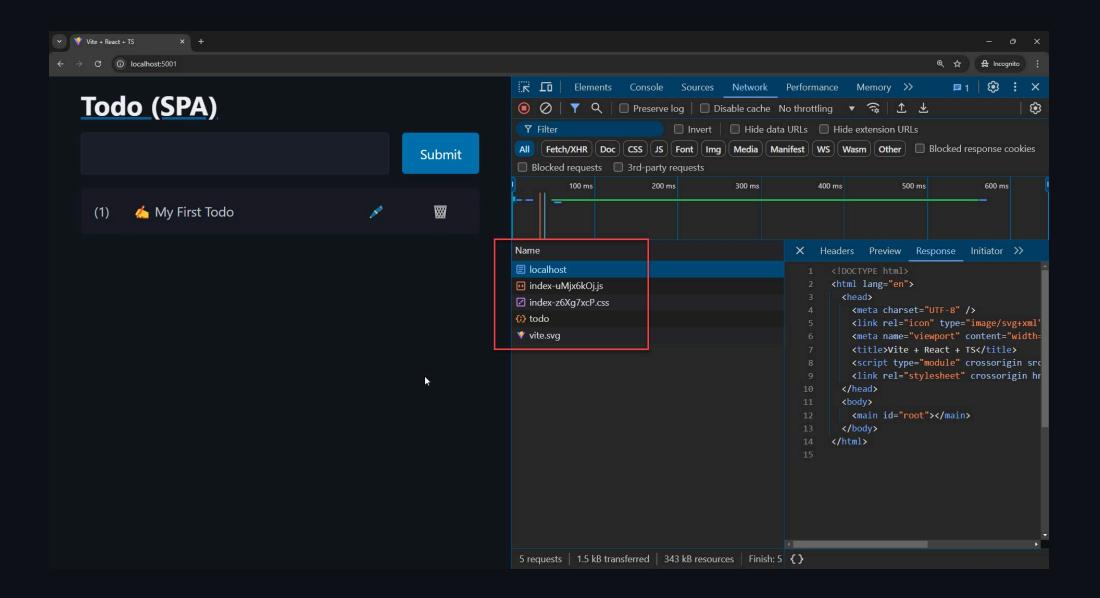
Todo app (SPA)

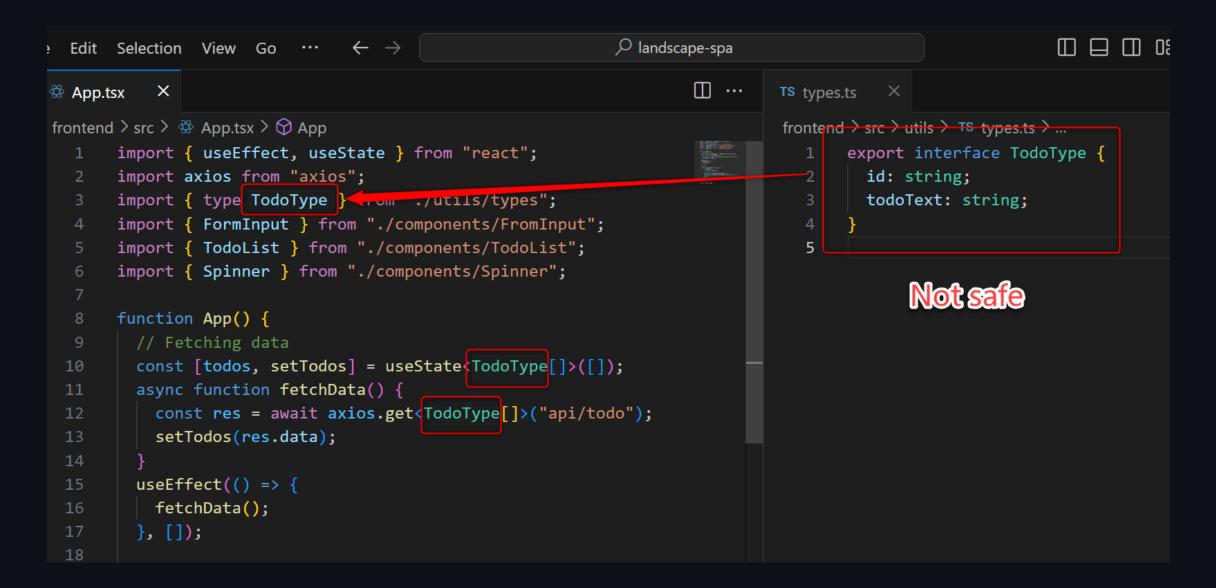
• Express JS + React

Get started

- git clone https://github.com/fullstack-67/landscape-spa
- Backend
 - o cd backend
 - o pnpm install
 - o npm run dev
- Frontend
 - cd frontend
 - pnpm install
 - o npm run build
 - npm run preview

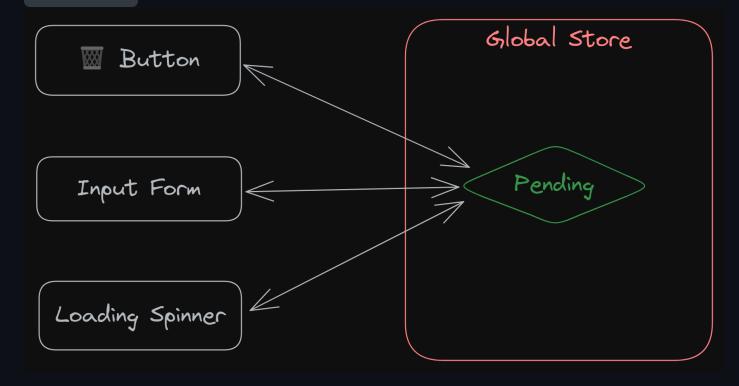
18





Global store

<u>zustand</u>



App comparison (UX)

ltem	MPA	SPA
No page-refresh	X	✓
Spinner	X	✓
Element disabling	X	<u> </u>

App comparison (technical)

ltem	MPA	SPA
Amount of JS loaded	✓	×
HTML content (SEO)	✓	X
State in URL	✓	X

DX

ltem	MPA	SPA
Number of frameworks	1 🗸	2 X
Complexity	Less <a>	More X
Lines of code	Less 🗸	More X
Type Safety	Less X	More <
Hot reloading	Partial X	Full 🗸

Amount of Codes

Dir	# Files	Total Lines
MPA		
./src	2	161
./views	3	42
SPA		
./backend/src	2	144
./frontend/src	10	6 360 €

Total: MPA=203, SPA=504

Round 2

Back to the server. (Next JS)

Server-Side Rendering (SSR)

- SSR
 - Generating the HTML for a web page on the server before sending it to the client's browser.
- CSR (Client-Side Rendering)
 - Browser loads a minimal HTML file and fetches and renders the content using JavaScript.
- See this explanation.

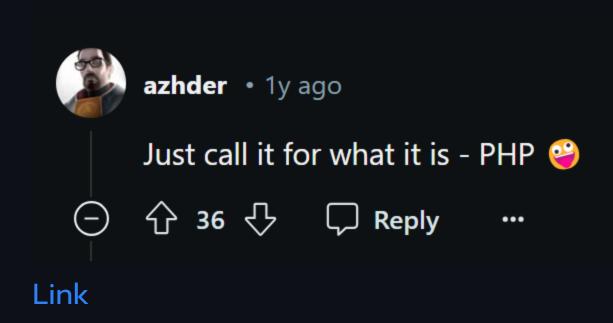
Next JS

- V12
 - "Full SSR" (*with DB query*) can only be done through top-level component (*page level*).
 - Ouse getServerSideProps function.
- V13 (and above)
 - Full SSR can be done through a special components called
 - React Server Components.

Server component

- Run *exclusively* on the server.
- Generate static HTML.
 - No interactivity (event handlers)
- It's code isn't included in the JS bundle.
 - Never re-render.
 - Output is static without change in router level.
- No hook
 - $^{\circ}$ useState , useEffect $^{\circ}$

Server component



Client component

- The "standard" React components we're familiar with.
- Client Components render on both the client and the server.
 - Still have SSR.

	Render on server?	Render on client?
Server Component		
Client Component		

Why server component?

- First "official" way to run server-exclusive code in React.
- Performance
 - Server Components don't get included in our JS bundles.
 - Faster load time
 - Real use-case
- Less complications
 - Dependency arrays, stale closures, memoization, ...
 - (All of these are caused by things changing.)

Missing piece

React

If RSC output is static, how can I mutate data then?

Missing piece

React

If RSC output is static, how can I mutate data then?

PHP

I had solved this problem before you were born, kid.

HTML <form> action Attribute

```
    HTML < form > tag
```

Example

On submit, send the form-data to a file named "action_page.php" (to process the input):

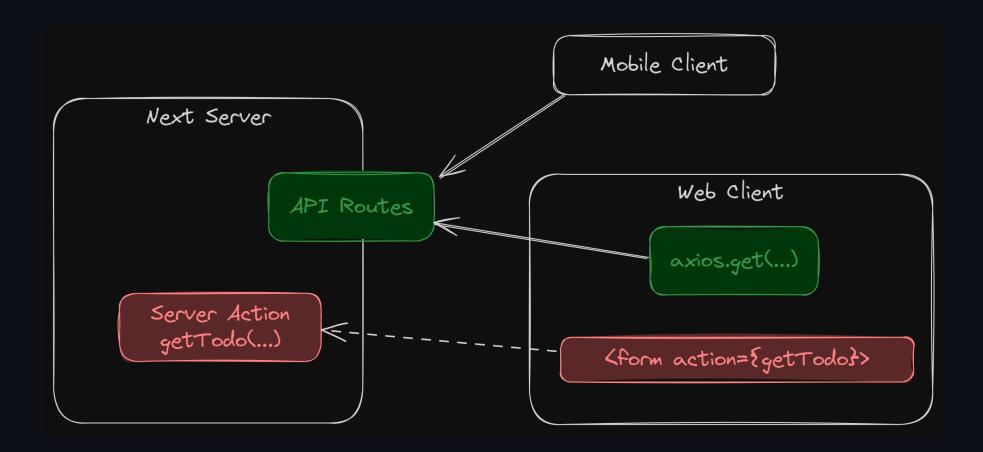
```
<form action="/action_page.php" method="get">
    <label for="fname">First name:</label>
    <input type="text" id="fname" name="fname"><br>
    <label for="lname">Last name:</label>
    <input type="text" id="lname" name="lname"><br>
    <input type="submit" value="Submit">
    </form>
```

Link

React's new architecture

- Client component
- Server component
- Server action
 - Asynchronous functions that are executed on the server.
 - Alternative to API routes.

Server Action vs API Route



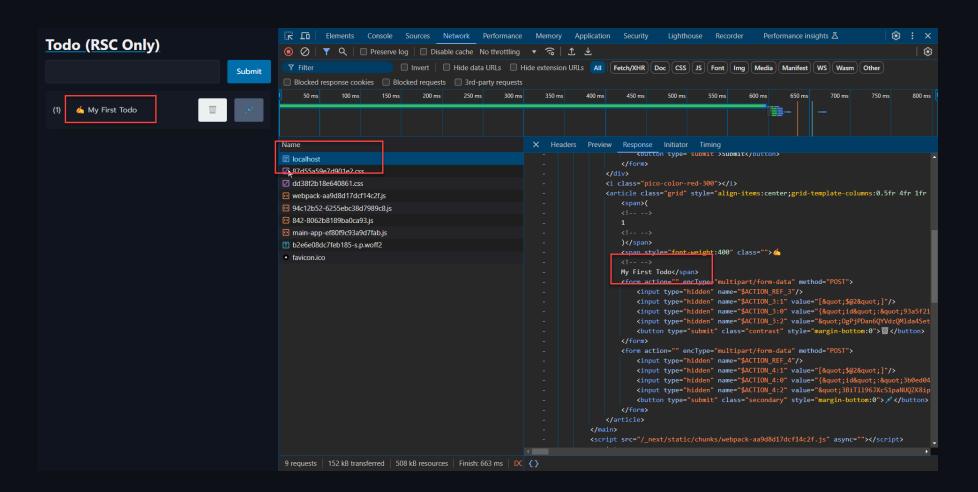
Form action

- No need to define new endpoints.
- Accept form-data
- Colocation
 - Type safe
 - Can "bind" data that is passed thought components' props.
- Can trigger RSC update without refreshing page. 👍

Todo App (RSC Only)

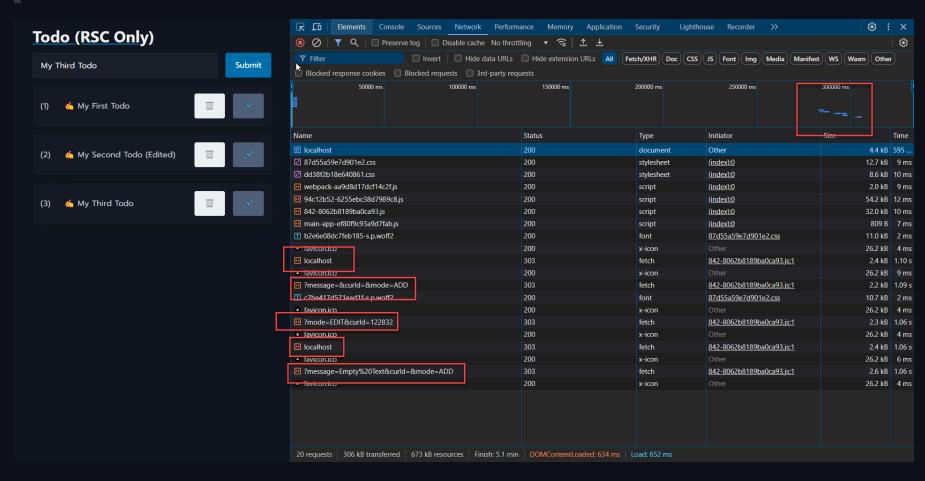
- git clone -b rsc-only https://github.com/fullstack-67/landscape-hybrid.git rsc-only
- cd rsc-only
- pnpm install
- npm run build
- npm run start

No blank HTML



No page refresh

Take that, PHP!



Server components

```
./src/app/page.tsx
```

```
export default async function Home({ params, searchParams }: PageProps) {
  const todos = await getTodos();
  //...
  return <main className="container">...</main>;
}
```

- Async function
- Data fetching without useEffect.
 - o It only runs once on the server. (Try console.log)
- Returns HTML to client.

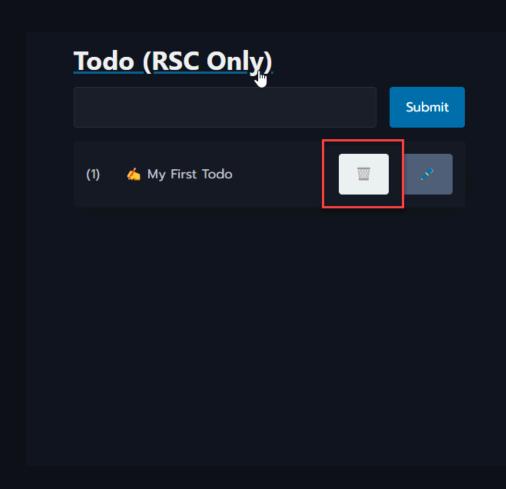
Server Action

./src/components/FormInput.tsx (Slightly modified)

```
export const FormInput: FC<Props> = async ({ message, mode, curld }) => {
  async function actionCreateTodo(formData: FormData) {
    "use server":
    const todoText = formData.get("todoText") as string; // Receive form-data
    await createTodos(todoText); // DB stuff
    redirect("/?message=&curId=&mode=ADD"); // Update content without refreshing page (Nice!)
  return (
    <form action={actionCreateTodo} style={{ display: "contents" }}>
      <input type="hidden" name="curId" value={curId ?? ""} />
      <button type="submit">{mode === "ADD" ? "Submit" : "Update"}</button>
    </form>
```

No need to create endpoint manually.

Automatic binding



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
▼ <body class="__className_cb38b8">
  ▼<main class="container">
   ▶ <a href="/">....</a>
   ▶ <div class="grid" style="grid-template-columns:4fr 1fr;align-items:end"> ... </div> (grid)
    <i class="pico-color-red-300"></i></i>
   ▼<article class="grid" style="align-items:center;grid-template-columns:0.5fr 4fr 1fr 1fr">
     grid
     <span> (--) </span>
     ▶ <span style="font-weight:400" class> ···· </span>
     ▼<<u>form_action_enctype="multipart/form-data"</u> method="POST"> == $0
        <input type="hidden" name="$ACTION REF 3">
        <input type="hidden" name="$ACTION 3:1" value="["$@2"]">
        <input type="hidden" name="$ACTION 3:0" value="{"id":"93a5f21308a8e5286c00fb0ca44981302c</pre>
        291c3d", "bound": "$@1"}">
        <input type="hidden" name="$ACTION_3:2" value=""9dFNnIpRBGdtgV+04XuLJgIWViAyKPqMyGiIazaN</pre>
       <button type="submit" class="contrast" style="margin-bottom:0">₩ </button>
      </form>
     ▶ <form action enctype="multipart/form-data" method="POST">... </form>
     </article>
   </main>
   /script spc="/ nevt/static/chunks/webpack-aa9d8d17dcf14c2f is" async>//script>
```

./src/components/TodoList.tsx

```
const ButtonDelete: FC<{ todo: Todo }> = ({ todo }) => {
                  async function actionDeleteTodo(formData: FormData) {
                                    "use server";
                                   await deleteTodo(todo.id); //>>>
                                   revalidatePath("/");
                 return (
                                   <form action={actionDeleteTodo}>
                                                      <button type="submit">\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overline{\overlin
                                   </form>
```

- "Binding" todo in the server action
- No need to use form-data. Type safety!
- No need to include hidden input field.

Side note

(for my future self)

- revalidatePath
 - Used when there is not change in url (params).
- redirect
 - Used when you need to change the url (change client states in the url).
- Both revalidatePath and redirect do not trigger page refresh. (Nice!)

Missing UX/DX

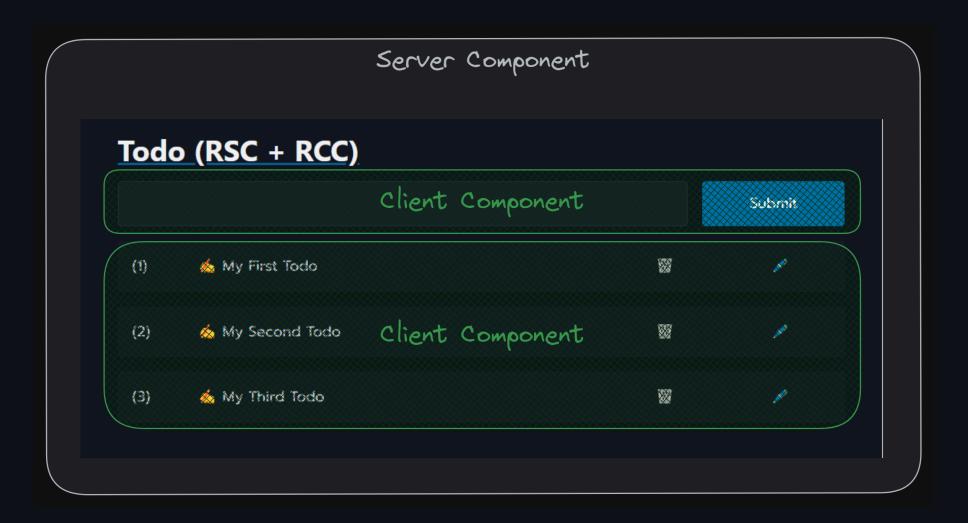
- UX
 - Form not resetting after submission.
 - No loading spinner
- DX
 - Client state is accessed from url. (searchParam in page.tsx)
 - Not type safety. Need validation.
 - Still need to include hidden input field (form input).
 - Way too complicated (compared with MPA)

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Hybrid (RSC + RCC)

- git clone -b rsc-client-v2 https://github.com/fullstack-67/landscapehybrid.git rsc-client
- cd rsc-client
- pnpm install
- npm run build
- npm run start

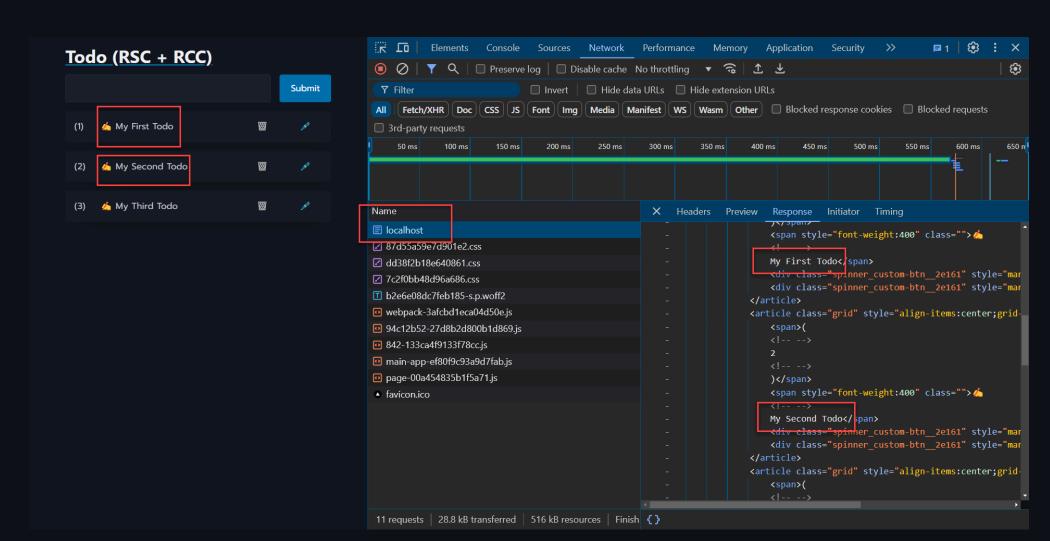
Structure



Client component

./src/components/TodoList.tsx

SSR

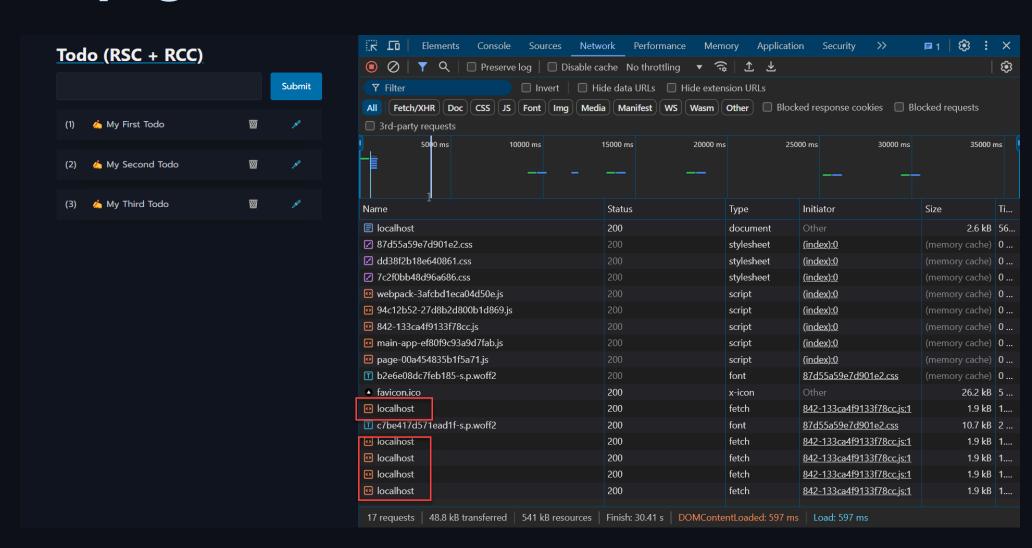


SSR

./src/app/page.tsx

```
export default async function Home() {
  const todos = await getTodos();
  return (
    <main className="container">
      <a href="/">
        <h1>Todo (RSC + RCC)</h1>
      </a>
      <FormInput />
      <TodoList todos={todos} /> //  Inject data to client component (SSR)
      <Spinner />
    </main>
```

No page refresh



Interactivity

- Elements disabled
- Spinner



Server action in a separate file

./src/app/actionAdnDb.ts (Slightly modified)

```
"use server"; // Mark functions in this file as server actions.
//...
export async function actionCreateTodo(todoText: string) {
    //...
    await createTodos(todoText);
    //...
    revalidatePath("/");
    return { message: "" };
}
```

- You can import this function into client component.
- You don't have to use form-data anymore.
- You can return data back to client component.

Server action in client component

./src/components/FormInput.tsx

```
const ButtonSubmit: FC<PropsButtonSubmit> = ({ setMessage }) => {
 // ...
  const submit = actionCreateTodo.bind(null, inputText); //  Bind data to server action
  // ...
  function handleClick() {
    setPending(true);
    // Call server action from click event
    submit().then((res) => {
      setMessage(res.message); //  Get return data from server action
   }); //...
  return <button onClick={handleClick}>Submit</button>;
```

• I can trigger server action anywhere, not just form.

Type safety

./src/components/FormInput.tsx

```
const submit = actionCreateTodo.bind(null, inputText);
function handleClick() {
  setPending(true);
  submit()
    .then((res) => {
      setMessage(res.);

    message

    .catch((err) =>
      console.log(err);
    .finally(() => {
      setPending(false);
      setInputText("");
    });
```

You get type safety from client component to database levels https://example.com/levels-be-

Flashing UI

```
File Edit Selection View Go Run ...

∠ landscape-hybrid

                ₁ actionsAndDb.ts ×
                                                                                                                                                                                                                ♠ FormInput.tsx X
                src > app > 

src > app > 

src > actionsAndDb.ts > 

actionUpdateTodo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  src > components > 🏶 FormInput.tsx > 🕪 FormInput
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  const ButtonSubmit: FC<PropsButtonSubmit> = ({ setMessage }) => {
                      1 "use server";
                                import { revalidatePath } from "next/cache";
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                state.pending,
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                state.setPending,
                                // import { redirect } from "next/navigation";
 state.inputText,
                                export async function actionCreateTodo(todoText: string) {
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                state.setInputText,
                                    try {
                                         await createTodos(todoText);
                                    } catch (err: any) {
B
                                         if (typeof err === "string") {
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      const submit = actionCreateTodo.bind(null, inputText);
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       function handleClick() {
                                             return { message: err };
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          setPending(true);
                                         } else {
return { message: "Unknown Error" };
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           submit()
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                .then((res) => {
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    setMessage(res.message);
                                    revalidatePath("/");
                                    return { message:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                .catch((err) => {
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    console.log(err);
                                export async function actionUpdateTodo(curId:_string, todoTextUpda
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    setPending(false);
                                         await updateTodo(curId, todoTextUpdated);
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  setInputText(""),
                                                                                                                                      for this to finish
                    22
                                       } catch (err) {
                                         if (typeof err === "string") {
                                             return { message: err };
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      if (mode !== "ADD") return <></>;
                                         } else {
                                              return { message: "Unknown Error" };
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      return (
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           <button disabled={pending} onClick={handleClick}>
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               Submit
                                    revalidatePath("/");
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          </button>
                                    return { message: "" };
565
> $\mathcal{P}\ \text{rsc-client-v2* }\cdot \omega \omega 0 \text{$\Delta$ 0 \omega 0 \omega
```

Flashing UI

- revalidatePath does not block server action from returning.
- I cannot set the pending state at the right time.
- Github Issue

Line of codes

Туре	# Line
MPA	203
SPA	504
RSC	292
RSC + RCC	6 527 €

(In Next JS project, I counted src dir.)

Have we gone too far?

Round 3

Back to basic



What exactly is HTMX?

Small JS library that can swap parts of UI with *HTML response* from a server.

2023 JavaScript Rising Stars

HTMX Demo

- git clone -b htmx-demo https://github.com/fullstack-67/landscape-server htmx-demo
- cd htmx-demo
- pnpm install
- npm run dev

Todo app (HTMX)

Get started

- git clone -b htmx https://github.com/fullstack-67/landscape-server htmx
- cd htmx
- pnpm install
- npm run dev

Todo app

- The stack is very similar to MPA (express + pug).
- SSR enabled (duh!)
- No reloading
- Spinner enabled

Code count

Туре	# Line
MPA	203
SPA	504
RSC	292
RSC + RCC	527
НТМХ	© 259

UX missing

- Button and input elements disabled during load.
- I could not get this feature working.

Beyond

• HTMX + Alpine.js