Cloud Computing

Assignment #2

GIF VIEWER

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What is it

Gif viewer is a web app that allows you to view your favourite gifs based on your search criteria of type of gifs.

What it does

My web app is designed to work for multiple users with the use of authentication. It allows a user to input a type of gif and it will find a collection of gifs that match the query. Another added feature is the ability to store those gifs. As you browse various gifs especially the really funny ones you would probably want to save them to show others! My app allows this.

Architecture

Gif viewer is powered by Amazone EC2 and developed using Node.js. The datastore used was sqlite3. Gifs are obtained from Giphy public free-to-use API. Stormpath is another service used to help with user authentication.

Data is obtained via a REST GET call and the JSON response is parsed on server side Node.js, stored in the sqlite3 database, served using express with Twitter Bootstrap to assist with design and Jade/Pug used for templating and generating the HTML markup. The Giphy API has certain routes blocked and only accessible after being authenticated. I am specially only getting the raw gif url standard size and using that in the web app.

I am using Socket.io for real-time web sockets. This is done so that we can see the total number of active users in real-time! The server sends an update using socket.io and there is a script in the client side that can detect these updates and populate it in the html.

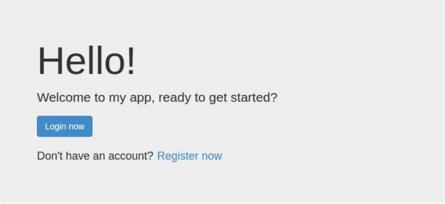
Novel features, challenges and solutions

An amazing feature that Gif viewer brings is the ability to just quickly find many gifs from a reliable and deep data collection and save them. Another great feature is that all previously shown gifs are saved! This is useful because gifs are amazing! They are very funny and really fun to just watch. I am sure this is a web app that many people would love to use including me.

The challenges I faced related mostly to dealing with websockets. It was very difficult to set up socket.io to get the real time active user count.

An in-depth look

Homepage

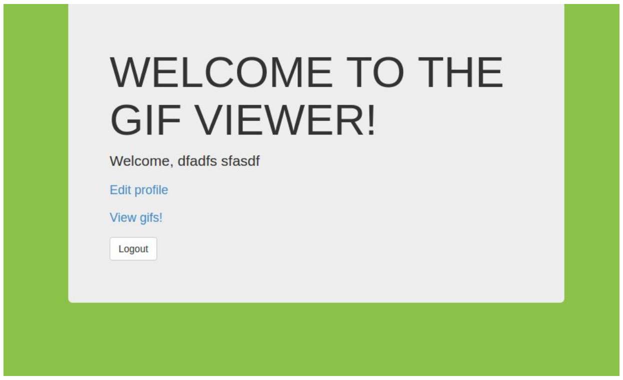


Hello!

Welcome to my app, ready to get started?

Login now

Don't have an account? Register now



WELCOME TO THE GIF VIEWER!

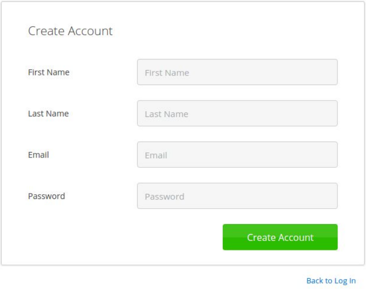
Welcome, dfadfs sfasdf

Edit profile

View gifs!

Logout

Registration



Create Account

First Name: First Name

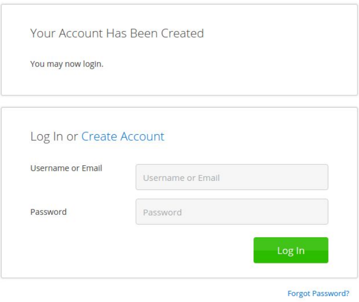
Last Name: Last Name

Email: Email

Password: Password

Create Account

Back to Log In



Your Account Has Been Created

You may now login.

Log In or Create Account

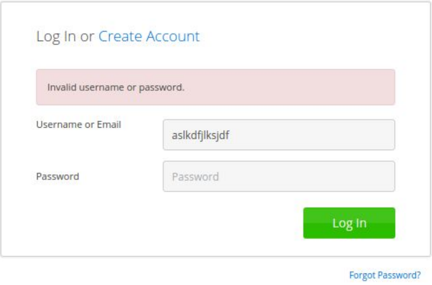
Username or Email: Username or Email

Password: Password

Log In

Forgot Password?

Incorrect login



Log In or Create Account

Invalid username or password.

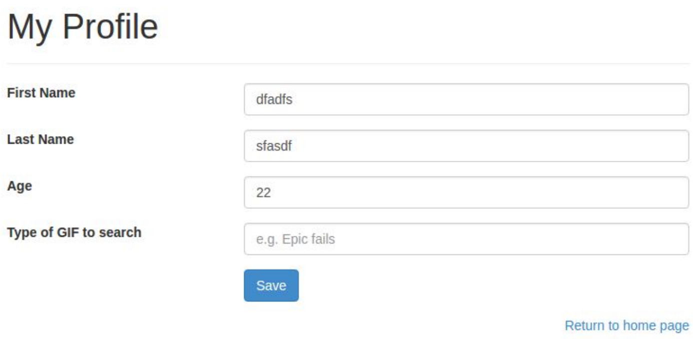
Username or Email: aslkdfjlksjdf

Password: Password

Log In

Forgot Password?

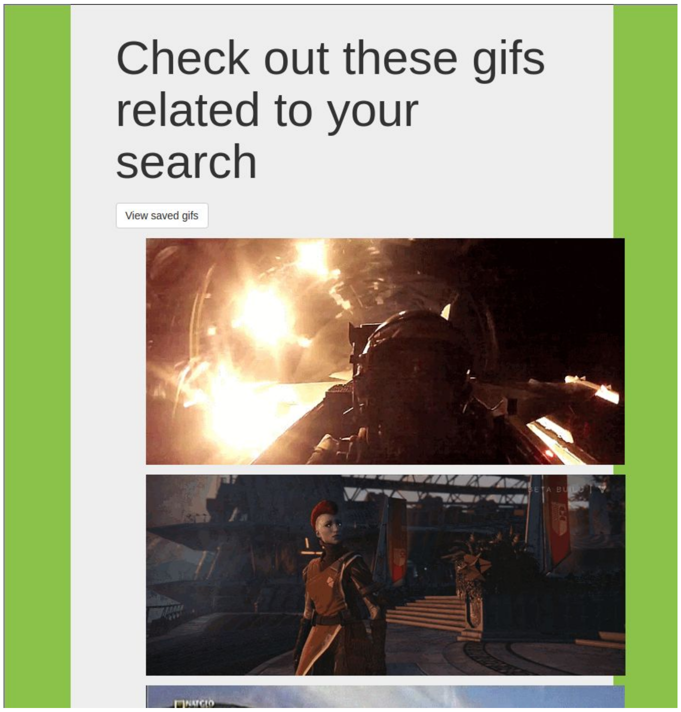
Update profile



My Profile

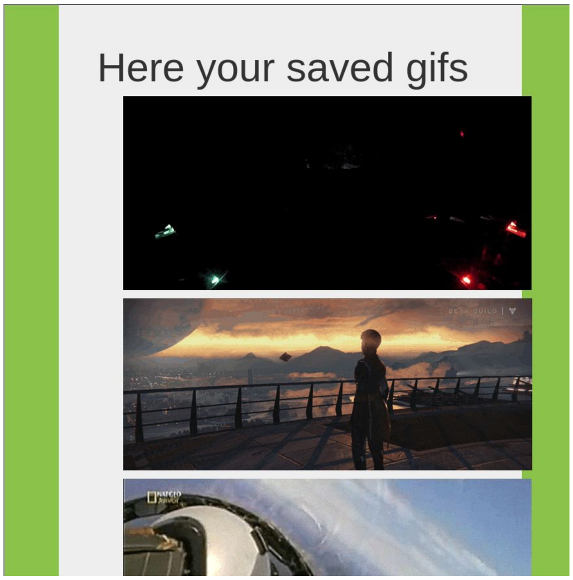
First Name	dfadfs
Last Name	sfasdf
Age	22
Type of GIF to search	e.g. Epic fails

View gifs



Check out these gifs related to your search

Saved gifs



Here your saved gifs