

Project Critique - minhTuev

User's perspective

The first thing I get when I go to the site is an error message that says 'error: undefined'. This error message repeatedly pops up, when signing in, logging in/out and clicking the sign up/log in links. I am also confused as to why the root URL is set to the sign up page instead of the log in page (or something else).

There is no validation for email and thus I can enter something that's not an email, which is definitely a problem for the email functionality of the app. There are a lot of annoying alerts like *'new note created successfully'*, *'note deleted successfully'* and *'new note updated successfully'*, which are just distracting and disrupting. The email functionality seems to not be working; clicking the 'Email me!' button does nothing.

Double clicking the save button creates multiple instances of the same note.

The UI itself is pretty easy to use but is not much to look at.

Developer's perspective

The code is under-commented and reading the design documents was not very helpful in understanding the structure. I had a hard time understanding the point of the `user_note` class is. Looking at the schema it seems to be a relation table between users and notes. I guess this is how you're going to allow for note sharing but that has yet to be implemented, which makes this table completely useless. I shouldn't have to investigate what your code is doing it should be documented well enough. In your object model you mention viewer vs. owner but this dichotomy is non-existing in your implementation.

You have some useless templates in your views like `create` and `destroy` in `sessions` and `create` in `users`. The `authenticate_user` is definitely misnamed; all it does is check if user is logged in and if not it redirects to root. I question the usefulness of this function.

The JavaScript code is good and easy to understand. It could have been separated into different files for a better separation of concerns. The asynchronous calls to the server work well (except for email) and are well structured. However, I really hate all the alerts in the callbacks. They are a nuisance.

Tests have a good breadth but are poorly documented and no testing strategy is given. Moreover, three functional tests related to the email controller have errors in them and the `note_test` has a syntax error. When you add new features/fix bugs/make other modifications you should always do regression testing.

Most Successful Decision

Since you did not allow users to create notes without logging in, it was successful that every asynchronous call to the server updated the database instead of storing in cookies.

Least Successful Decision

Not allowing people to create stickies without signing in.

Improvement

- Fix error message pop-up
- Fix email extension
- Remove unnecessary `user_notes` database
- Get rid of unnecessary alerts
- Comment code better
- Make a better UI