Final Writeup

SPACE is a data story on the analysis of population growth in Singapore, against a backdrop of scarcity – with limited land, housing, and jobs. It aims to answer the questions: How much space is there left in Singapore? How feasible is it to expect to own a house in Singapore? Can Singapore continue to accommodate the growth rate of its population?

I was inspired by my own worries about finding stability and security in Singapore after I graduate from university. With an impending possibility of a recession and a job crunch, I'm sure many of my peers carry the same fears as I do. This led me to think about the scarcity in Singapore – how we have little land and resources, yet our population is healthy, bordering on a problem of overcrowding. Therefore, this data story aims to offer an investigation into providing a clearer answer to these doubts.

After many, many hours of sitting at my desk and coding and trying to figure out what worked best, I am very satisfied with the outcome of my final project. Some highlights that I love are the Favicon and the form on the homepage as they make my page unique and give it a touch of personalisation which I adore.

For the Favicon, I searched for resources (linked in references) on how to install a customised Favicon on my page and followed them appropriately. I intentionally chose an astronaut as my project is titled SPACE, and then I subsequently titled my data story page "Exploration" as a play on 'space exploration'.

For the small little form nestled in my homepage, I went back to basics and made use of the form HTML codealong from Session02, which was somewhat nostalgic. I wanted to make the site more interpersonal and interactive since my target audience was my peers. Although there were many buttons to click on, I wanted my audience to be able to contribute something to the site, as a legacy that they've visited and gone through the data story.



Hi there! SPACE is a data story on a social issue that I resonate with deeply. This is a final project submission as part of a module in the I'm Sonya, the creator of this site, and I'm a Year 2 NUS Undergraduate majoring in Political Science.

Feel free to explore my other works done for this module here.

So, tell me more about yourself!
What's your name? Sonya
What's your major? Political Science
Submit.

I used a window.alert() within my function to interact with the audience through the screen. I used unique IDs for each value of the form and retrieved it to bring it to the pop-up when they click "Submit."

Doing this project and reading this module was quite eye-opening for me, as it forced me to step out of my comfort zone to be a little tech-savvy with newly acquired technical coding skills and know how to debug through Google's 'Developer Tools'. Something new I learnt was effective visualisation. Although it was emphasised closer to the final project, I believe that I have been learning to present my data in different ways to make it clear, concise and eye-catching even. For example, I started playing around with fonts and colours quite early on in the module, to make sure that my content was readable and 'aesthetically pleasing' to the eye. That being said, effective visualisation was a big challenge for me during my final project. I was initially struggling to make sense of the data and how to present it in charts. I was also fortunate to have a large dataset that came from SingStat, but this came at the cost of my confusion! Therefore, I decided to create a narrative that helped me to decide the kind of data I wanted to show to illustrate my points. Thereafter, knowing what data I wanted to show, allowed me to brainstorm the best visualisations such that seeing the charts told one what they needed to know about the trendline.

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