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Google Analytics with reactrouter v4



#reactgoogleanalytics

image by: https://unsplash.com/@davidclode

The Problem:

Google analytics requires a Page URL to track analytics inside of the GA dashboard. Single Page applications only have mock transitions and are not actually changing there URL like classic

3 3 4





Using React-router, we have access to the powerful History API that uses the browser to manipulate the URL to look and function like an authentic page change.

Sources:

How to make Google Analytics work in a Single Page Application (SPA)

index.html

in the header of the index.html page, load the script to load google analytics

```
<script>
  (function (i, s, o, g, r, a, m) {
    i['GoogleAnalyticsObject'] = r; i[r] = i[r] || function (
        (i[r].q = i[r].q || []).push(arguments)
    }, i[r].l = 1 * new Date(); a = s.createElement(o),
    m = s.getElementsByTagName(o)[0]; a.async = 1; a.src = g;
})(window, document, 'script', '//www.google-analytics.com/an
</script>
```







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Inside app.js on componentDidMount() create an instance of GA script and attach it to the window so we have access to it at all times.

```
componentDidMount(){
    window.ga('create', 'UA-XXXXXXX-X', 'auto');
}
```

app.js

create a method that takes in a url and sets the page view , then sends the view to google analytics:

```
setPageAndSendToGA = url => {
   window.ga('set', 'page', url);
   window.ga('send', 'pageview');
};
```







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provided by this.props.location.

Build a conditional that fires our setPageAndSendToGA() whenever a specific URI path is passed in.

. . .

. . .

```
trackGoogleAnalytics = location => {
  if (window.ga) {
    if (location.pathname == '/sign-up') {
        let url = location.pathname;
        this.setPageAndSendToGA(url);
    }
  if (location.search.length == 10) {
        // here we are using search Params, so we concat it to th
        let url = location.pathname + location.search;
        this.setPageAndSendToGA(url);
    }
};
```













Then in the render() we call the function, and it will fire every time the page location changes

```
render(){
this.trackGoogleAnalytics(this.props.location);
}
```

Checkout the article listed above in the sources, for a more detailed explanation, this is just my adapted implementation I used for our app.

TROLL ME:

- there is probably a better time to run this function, instead of the render. for our use case, this render is in the top most component in app.js
- there might be a better way to listen for page changes in browserRouter object instead of













Comments so ream ream to: or make

adjustments to the article.



chowderhead + FOLLOW

code is my paint brush and the interwebs is my canvas
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Add to the discussion (1) 🐼 **SUBMIT** Jun 1 '18 ••• David Ewing 😱 How does implementing Google Analytics this way impact your application if Google's script fails to load? **REPLY** Jun 25 '18 ••• chowderhead 💆 🗘 Nice observation! I actually didn't even plan for google to fail at anything hahahahaha But, luckily this method will be unphased by google analytics failing because what it's doing is checking to see if the ga function is loaded in the first place.

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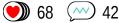
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