

Studying the given backend model

How to dive into the model project

(The model project is at draft stage. It has many good ideas how to do things. But it's not a perfect professional example yet. Updated each semester.)

Disclaimer: You cannot understand all details of a project at once. You need to be able to handle feelings of discomfort and uncertainty when you look at a big chunk the first few times.

You'll also have to develop ways to systematically study something that has about 100-100 details, and about 20-30 modules.

Your approach should be e.g. something like this:

- What are we looking at? What is the relationship of this project with other projects?
- What is the big picture? (Is there an architectural diagram / drawing somewhere?)
- What is the folder structure like? What is where?
- How are the modules connected to each other?
- Where/How does the system start?
- Where are the points of external interaction (E.g Views of UI app, AJAX of the UI apps, REST API services of a Backend, Database operations of the Backend)
- Then following the system startup chain, including from where does the system read its configuration
- Then following a Frontend interaction call chain ("User clicks the Save button...",
- Or a backend interaction call chain "A new REST API service "/customer/all GET" call arrives to the backend"
- I.e. towards the details....

What is there to look at this time

Architecture drawing

Backend example project repo (Code, settings files, libraries. But also possibly documentation, Database design)

The abstracted list of possible steps needed in Backend creation

Task steps

Picture to Backend code

1. Look at the Architecture picture. Go through all the details related to the Backend.
2. Open the Backend code
3. Create a brief list of notes (concentrate on information, not on full English sentences) of all places in the code, where you see connection between the picture and the code

Backend creation step list to Backend code

1. Look at the backend creation step list document. Go through it and find all possible connections to the code. **Note:** Do not spend more than 5 mins on any of the listed ~30 steps. Skip even faster when needed. (Otherwise you would spend 3h with this task)
2. Create a brief list of notes (concentrate on information, not on full English sentences) of all places in the code, where you see connection between the list of steps and the code. Here you can use just the step number and e.g. name of folder or file, and few bulleted words if needed.