Voting System Project Using Django Framework

Introduction:

We will create a pollster (voting system) web application using Django. This application will conduct a series of questions along with many choices. A user will be allowed to give voting for that question by selecting a choice. Based on the answer the total votes will be calculated and it will be displayed to the user. Users can also check the result of the total votes for specific questions on the website directly. We will also build the admin part of this project. Admin user will be allowed to add questions and manage questions in the application.

Poll Questions



Pre-requisite:

Knowledge of Python and basics of Django Framework. Python should be installed in the system. Visual studio code or any code editor to work on the application.

Implementation of the Project Creating Project

Step-1: Create an empty folder pollster_project in your directory.

Step-2: Now switch to your folder and create a virtual environment in this folder using the following command.

pip install pipenv pipenv shell

Step-3: A Pipfile will be created in your folder from the above step. Now install Django in your folder using the following command. **pipenv install django**

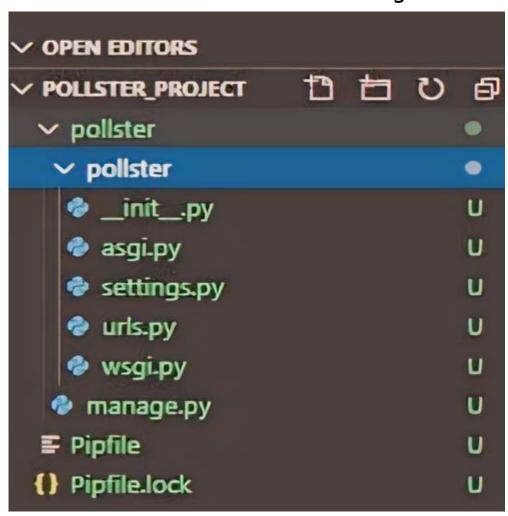
Step-4: Now we need to establish the Django project. Run the following command in your folder and initiate a Django project.

django-admin startproject pollster

A New Folder with name pollster will be created. Switch to the pollster folder using the following command.

cd pollster

The folder structure will look something like this.



Here you can start the server using the following command and check if the application running or not using your http://127.0.0.1:8000/ in your browser.

python manage.py runserver

Step-5: Create an app 'polls' using the following command **python manage.py startapp polls**

Below is the folder structure after creating "polls' app in the project.

Create Models

Step-1: In your models.py file write the code given below to create two tables in your database. One is 'Question' and the other one is 'Choice'. 'Question' will have two fields of 'question_text' and a 'pub_date'. Choice has three fields: 'question', 'choice_text', and 'votes'. Each Choice is associated with a Question.

Python3

from django.db import models #

Create your models here. class

Question(models.Model):

Step-2:Go to the settings.py file and in the list, INSTALLED_APPS write down the code below to include the app in our project. This will refer to the polls -> apps.py -> PollsConfig class.Go to the settings.py file and in the list, INSTALLED_APPS write down the code below to include the app in our project. This will refer to the polls -> apps.py -> PollsConfig class.

Python3

INSTALLED_APPS = ['polls.apps.PollsConfig',
'django.contrib.admin','django.contrib.auth',
'django.contrib.contenttypes','django.contrib.sessions',
'django.contrib.messages','django.contrib.staticfiles',]

Step-3: We have made changes in our database and created some tables but in order to reflect these changes we need to create migration here and then Django application will stores changes to our models. Run the following command given below to create migrations. python **manage.py** makemigrations polls

Inside polls->migrations a file 0001_initial.py will be created where you can find the database tables which we have created in our models.py file. Now to insert all the tables in our database run the command given below...

python **manage.py** migrate

Setting Up The Database:

Update voting_app/settings.py to use SQLite or other databases:

```
DATABASES = {
    'default': {
        'ENGINE': 'django.db.backends.sqlite3',
        'NAME': BASE_DIR / "db.sqlite3",
    }
}
Run Migrations:
Python manage.py makemigrations
Python manage.py migrate
```

Create an Admin User

Step-1: Run the command given below to create a user who can login to the admin site python **manage.py** createsuperuser

It will prompt username which we need to enter.

Username: 123

Now it will prompt an email address which again we need to enter here.

Email address: xyz@example.com

The final step is to enter the password. We need to enter the password twice, the second time as a confirmation of the first.

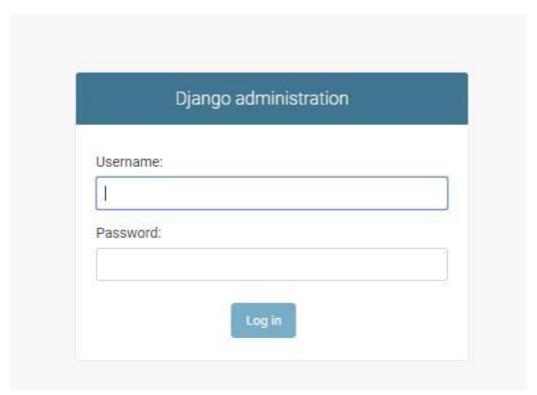
Password: *****

Password (again): *****

Superuser created successfully.

Now we can run the server using the same command python **manage.py** runserver and we can check our admin panel browsing the URL

http://127.0.0.1:8000/admin



Step-2: In the admin.py file we will write the code given below to map each question with choices to select. Also, we will write the code to change the site header, site title, and index_title. Once this is done we can add questions and choices for the question from the admin panel.

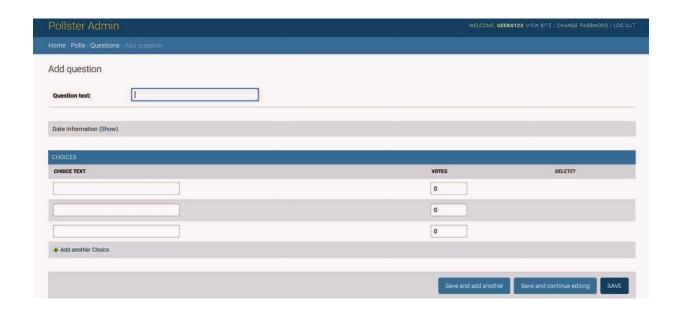
Python3

from django.contrib import admin

Register your models here. from

.models import Question, Choice

```
# admin.site.register(Question) #
admin.site.register(Choice)
admin.site.site_header = "Pollster Admin"
admin.site.site_title = "Pollster Admin Area"
admin.site.index_title = "Welcome to the Pollster Admin
Area"
class ChoiceInLine(admin.TabularInline):
    model = Choice extra = 3 class
QuestionAdmin(admin.ModelAdmin):
 fieldsets = [(None, {'fields': ['question_text']}), ('Date
Information', {'fields': ['pub_date'], 'classes':
['collapse']}), ]
                         inlines =
[ChoiceInLine]
admin.site.register(Question, Ques
```



Create Views

Now we will create the view of our application that will fetch the data from our database and will render the data in the 'template' (we will create 'template' folder and the files inside this folder in the next section) of our application to display it to the user.

Step-1 Open views.py file and write down the code given below.

Python3

From django.template import loader

```
From django.http import HttpResponse,
HttpResponseRedirec
From django.shortcuts import get_object_or_404, render
From django.urls import reverse
From .models import Question, Choice
# Get questions and display them
Def index(request):
  Latest question list =
Question.objects.order_by('pub_date')[:5]
  Context = {\latest_question_list': latest_question_list}
  Return render(request, 'polls / index.html', context)
# Show specific question and choices
Def detail(request, question_id):
Try:
 Question = Question.objects.get(pk = question_id)
  Except Question.DoesNotExist:
  Raise Http404("Question does not exist")
  Return render(request, 'polls / detail.html', {'question':
question})
```

```
# Get question and display results
Def results(request, question_id):
Question = get_object_or_404(Question, pk =
question_id)
Return render(request, 'polls / results.html', {'question':
question})
# Vote for a question choice
Def vote(request, question_id):
# print(request.POST['choice'])
  Question = get_object_or_404(Question, pk =
question_id)
  Try:
    Selected_choice = question.choice_set.get(pk =
request.POST['choice'])
    Except (KeyError, Choice.DoesNotExist):
    # Redisplay the question voting form.
    Return render(request, 'polls / detail.html',
{'question': question,'error_message': "You didn't select a
choice.",})
Else:
```

Selected_choice.votes += 1
Selected_choice.save()

Always return an HttpResponseRedirect after successfully dealing

with POST data. This prevents data from being posted twice if a

user hits the Back button.

Return HttpResponseRedirect

Step-2: Create a file urls.py inside the pollster->polls folder to define the routing for all the methods we have implemented in views.py file (don't get confused with the file inside the pollster->pollster->urls.py file). Below is the code of urls.py file...

Python3 from django.urls import path from . import views app_name = 'polls' urlpatterns = [path(", views.index, name = 'index'), path('<int:question_id>/', views.detail, name = 'detail'),

path('<int:question_id>/results/', views.results, name ='results'),path('<int:question_id>/vote/', views.vote, name ='vote'),]

Create Templates

Step-1: Follow the steps given below to create the front layout of the page.

Create a folder 'templates' in top-level pollster folder (alongside of polls and pollster) i.e. pollster-> templates.

Create 'base.html' file inside the template folder. We will define the head, body and navigation bar of our application in this file.

In the 'templates' folder create another folder 'polls'. In 'polls' folder create three files 'index.html', 'results.html' and 'detail.html'.

The folder structure will look like the image given below (we have highlighted the files which we have created in 'create views i.e urls.py' and 'create template' section)...



Step-2: By default Django will search the 'template' inside the 'polls' app but we have created a global 'template' folder which is outside the polls app. So in order to make it work, we need to define the 'template' folder path inside the settings.py file. Open settings.py file and add the code given below in the list 'TEMPLATES'. In order to make the given code work add "import os" in settings.py.

Python3

```
TEMPLATES = [

{

# make changes in DIRS[].

'BACKEND':

'django.template.backends.django.DjangoTemplates',

'DIRS': [os.path.join(BASE_DIR, 'templates')],

'APP_DIRS': True,

'OPTIONS': {'context_processors': [

'django.template.context_processors.debug',

'django.template.context_processors.request',

'django.contrib.auth.context_processors.auth',
```

'django.contrib.messages.context_processors.messages'}
],},}

Step-3: Open index.html file and write the code given below. This file will display the list of questions which are stored in our database. Also, two buttons will be displayed to the user. One for the voting (we will create a detail.html file for voting) and the other one is to check the results (we will create results.html file for results).

Python3

```
{% extends 'base.html' %}

{% block content %}

<h1 class="text-center mb-3">Poll Questions</h1>
{% if latest_question_list %}

{% for question in latest_question_list %}

<div class="card-mb-3">
<div class="card-body">
{{ question.question_text }}
```

```
<a href="{% url 'polls:detail' question.id %}" class="btn btn-primary btn-sm">Vote Now</a>
<a href="{% url 'polls:results' question.id %}" class="btn btn-secondary btn-sm">Results</a>
</div>
</div>
</div>
<% endfor %}
<% else %}
<p>No polls available
<% endif %}
<% endblock %}
```

Step-4: Open detail.html file and write the code given below. This file will be responsible for voting on specific questions. Whatever question a user will select for voting from the list of the question (index.html file), that specific question and the choices for the question will be displayed on this page. A user will be allowed to select one choice and give voting by clicking on the vote button.

Python3

{% extends 'base.html' %}

```
{% block content %}
<a class="btn btn-secondary btn-sm mb-3" href="{\% url
'polls:index' %}">Back To Polls</a>
<h1 class="text-center mb-
3">{{ question.question_text }}</h1>
{% if error_message %}
<strong>{{ error_message }}</strong>
{% endif %}
<form action="{% url 'polls:vote' question.id %}"
method="post">
{% csrf_token %}
{% for choice in question.choice_set.all %}
<div class="form-check">
<input type="radio" name="choice" class="form-
checkinput" id="choice{{ forloop.counter }}"
   Value="{{ choice.id }}" />
   <label for="choice{{ forloop.counter }}">{{
choice.choice_text }}</label>
```

```
</div>
{% endfor %}

<input type="submit" value="Vote" class="btn btnsuccess btn-lg btn-block mt-4" />

</form>
{% endblock %}
```

Step-5: Open results.html file and write the code given below. This file will display the result of total votes on a specific question whatever question the user will select (from the index.html file) to check the result.

```
Python3

{% extends 'base.html' %}

{% block content %}

<h1 class="mb-5 textcenter">{{
 question.question_text }}</h1>

class="list-group mb-5">
for choice in question.choice_set.all %}
```

```
{{ choice.choice_text }} <span class="badge"
badgesuccess float-right">{{ choice.votes }}
   Vote{{ choice.votes | pluralize }}</span>
   {% endfor %}
<a class="btn btn-secondary" href="{\% url
'polls:index' %}">Back To Polls</a>
<a class="btn btn-dark" href="{% url 'polls:detail'
question.id %}">Vote again?</a>
{% endblock %}
```

Step-6: Let's create the navigation bar for our application. Create a folder 'partials' inside the folder 'templates' and then create a file '_navbar.html' inside the 'partial' folder. File structure will be templates->partials>_navbar.html. Write the code given below in this file.

Python3

```
<nav class="navbar navbar-dark bg-primary mb-4">
<div class="container">
<a class="navbar-brand" href="/">Pollster</a>
</div>
</nav>
```

Step-7: We haven't included the head and body tag in every single HTML file we have created till now. We can write these codes in just one single file base.html and we can give the layout to our page. We will also bring our navigation bar(_navbar.html file) on this page. So open base.html file inside the 'template' folder and write down the code given below.

```
Integrity="sha384-
Vkoo8x4CGsO3+Hhxv8T/Q5PaXtkKtu6ug5TOeNV6gBiFeW
PGFN9MuhOf23Q9Ifjh" crossorigin="anonymous">
  <title>Pollster {% block title %}{% endblock
%}</title>
  </head>
 <body>
 <!--NavBar
{% include `partials/_navbar.html'%}
<div class="container">
<div class="row">
<div class=".col-md-6 m-auto">
{% block content %}{% endblock%}
  </div>
</div>
</div>
</body>
</html>
```

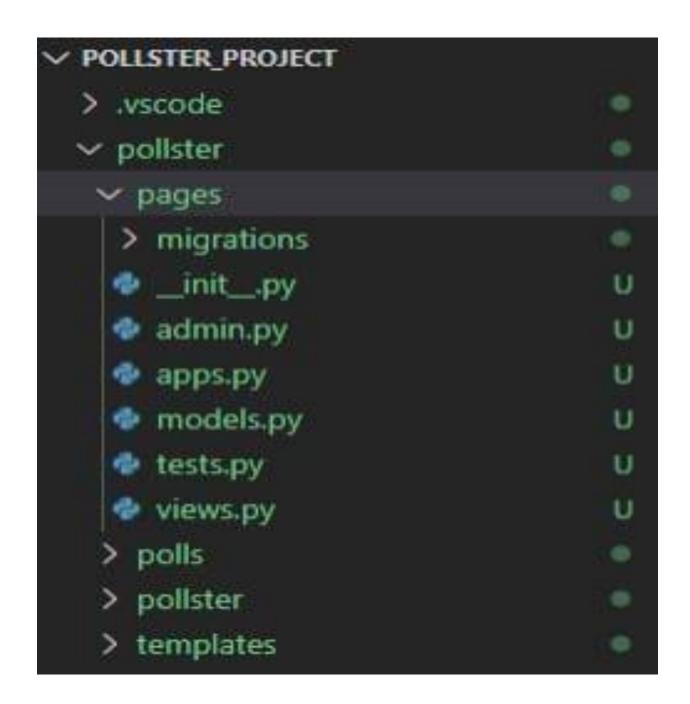
Create Landing Page

The URL http://127.0.0.1:8000/ should display a landing page for our web application. So to create a landing page we will follow the step given below.

Step-1 Switch to the top-level pollster folder and run the command given below to create an app 'pages'.

Python manage.py startapp page

Below is the folder structure once the 'pages' app will be created.



Step-2 Open 'views.py' inside 'pages' folder i.e. pages>views.py. Write down the code given below to visit on landing page.

Python3

From django.shortcuts import render

Create your views here.

Def index(request):

Return render(request, 'pages)

Step-3 Create urls.py file inside the 'pages' folder i.e. pages->urls.py. Write the code given below to define the routing of pages->index.html file (check step-1).

Python3

From django.urls import path

From . import views

Urlpatterns = [Path('', views.index, name ='index'),] **Step-4** Create a folder 'pages' inside 'template' folder.

Now inside 'pages' folder create a file index.html. Write down the code given below to display the landing page to the users.

Python3

```
{% extends 'base.html' %}
{% block content %}
<div class="card text-center">
<div class="card-body">
<h1>Welcome To Pollster!</h1>
This is an Polling Web Application built with
Django
<a class="btn btn-dark" href="{% url 'polls:index' %}">
View Available Polls</a>
</div>
</div>
{% endblock %}
Create routing inside the main urls.py file of the
application
```

We have created two apps in our application 'polls' and 'pages'. We need to define the routing of these two apps inside the main **urls.py** file which is pollster->pollster>urls.py file. So open the main **urls.py** file inside the pollster folder and write down the code given below to define the routing of these two apps('polls' and 'pages').

Python3

From django.contrib import admin

From django.urls import include, path

Urlpatterns = [

Path('', include('pages.urls')),

Path('polls/', include('polls.urls')),

Path('admin/', admin.site.urls),]

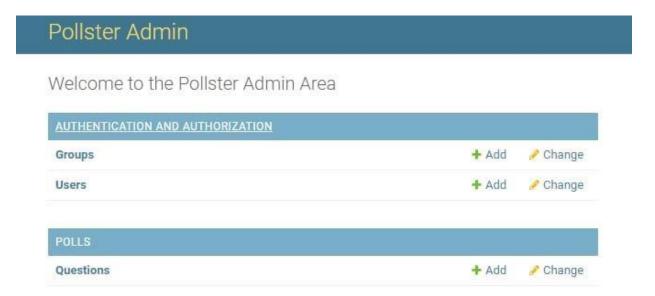
Testing of the Application

Admin Frontend

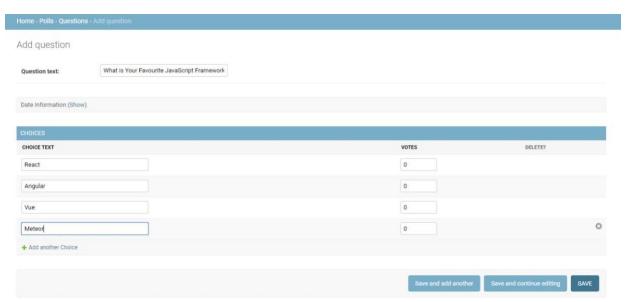
Step-1 Run the server using the command python manage.py runserver and browse the URL http://127.0.0.1:8000/admin/. Now enter the username and password to login into the system.

	Pollster Admin	
Jsername:		
geeks123		
Password:		

Step-2 Click on 'add' button next to the 'Questions'.



Step-2 Now add question and choices for those questions. Also, mention the date and time and then click on the 'save' button. You can add as many questions as you want. You will see a list of questions added in the database.



User Frontend

Step-1: Browse the URL http://127.0.0.1:8000/ and you will see the landing page of the application. Click on the "View Available Polls"



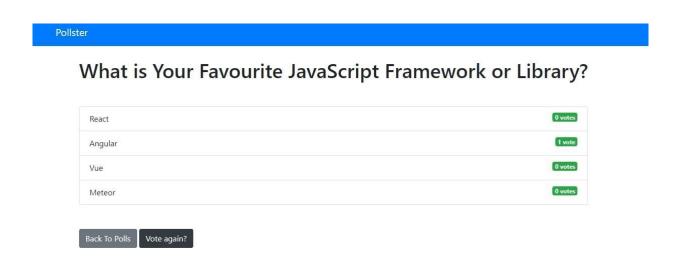
Step-2: You will see list of questions with two options 'Vote Now' and 'Results'. From here you need to select one question and click on the 'Vote Now' button.

Poll Questions Poll Questions What is Your Favourite Python Framework? Vote Now Results What is Your Favourite JavaScript Framework or Library? Vote Now Results

Step-3: Once this is done select any one choice and click on 'Vote' button. You can also go to the previous menu using the 'Back to Polls' button on the top.



You will see the total voting result for the question you have selected.



You can also check the total votes for any question using the option 'Results' from the 'Poll Questions' page.

Future Scope

This project can be used to conduct the online voting system in any field or industry. The project can be expanded and several other features can also be included based on the requirement. People can share the opinion and they can also check the total voting given by many users.

