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Project Report:

Software Construction & Development

Submitted To:

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Project Title:

GitHub Code Finder:

Using Spring Boot and GitHub REST API

Github Link:

https://github.com/obaid305/Project-SCD-6.git

Project Overview:

The GitHub Code Finder is a Java-based Spring Boot web application that allows users to search for code snippets hosted on GitHub using the official GitHub REST API. Users can input search queries via a form, and the system will retrieve relevant code data such as file names, paths, URLs, and repositories where the code exists.

Objectives:

- To build a lightweight and fast web interface to search code on GitHub.
- To utilize Spring Boot's features such as @Controller, @Service, and dependency injection.
- To learn API consumption using RestTemplate.
- To understand and apply MVC architecture and Service Layer Design Pattern.
- To map external JSON data to internal Java objects using model classes.

Technologies Used:

- Java: Core programming language
- Spring Boot: Web application framework
- Maven: Dependency management
- Thymeleaf: Template engine for frontend (if used)
- GitHub REST API: To retrieve code search results
- **Rest Template:** For making REST API calls
- IntelliJ IDEA: Development IDE

Architecture Overview:

The application is structured following the MVC (Model-View-Controller) pattern. It also adopts the Service Layer Pattern for separating business logic from the controller.

Layer Breakdown:

Controller Layer:

- File: SearchController.java
- Handles form submissions and REST endpoints.
- Calls the service layer with user input.

Service Layer:

- File: GitHubSearchService.java
- Contains business logic for interacting with GitHub's API.
- Uses RestTemplate to send GET requests.

Model Layer:

- Files: SearchRequest.java, CodeItem.java, Repository.java, SearchResponse.java, TextMatch.java
- Maps the JSON response from GitHub into Java objects for processing.

Core Functionalities:

- Search GitHub Code: User enters a query and submits it.
- **API Communication:** The backend service constructs a GitHub API URL and makes a GET request.
- JSON ParsingMaps: GitHub's JSON response into CodeItem, Repository, etc.
- **Display Results:** Controller returns the list of results to the frontend.
- **REST Endpoint Support:** Exposes a /api/search endpoint to be used by frontends or APIs.

Configuration Details:

The GitHub personal access token is read from application.properties:

github.token=ghp YourAccessTokenHere

github.api.url=https://api.github.com/search/code

These properties are injected into **GitHubSearchService** using **Spring's** @Value annotation.

Class Summary:

• SearchController.java

Handles GET and POST requests to /search and /api/search.

Integrates with Thymeleaf or other frontend views.

Delegates the code search logic to GitHubSearchService.

• GitHubSearchService.java

Contains logic to build GitHub API query URLs.

Uses RestTemplate to fetch data.

Maps the response into Java objects (SearchResponse, CodeItem, etc.).

• SearchRequest.java

A simple POJO to carry the user's query input.

• CodeItem.java

Represents a code snippet returned from GitHub.

Includes fields like name, path, HTML URL, and associated repository.

Repository.java

Represents the repository in which a file or code snippet is found.

TextMatch.java

Represents the specific matched text fragment in the search result.

SearchResponse.java

Wraps the entire response returned from GitHub into a manageable Java object.

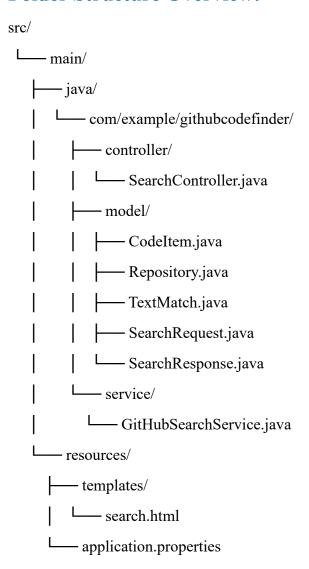
Features:

- Clean and modular code structure.
- Easy to maintain and extend with more API features.
- Search functionality works with real-time GitHub API.
- RESTful endpoint to allow further integration (e.g., mobile apps).

Future Improvements:

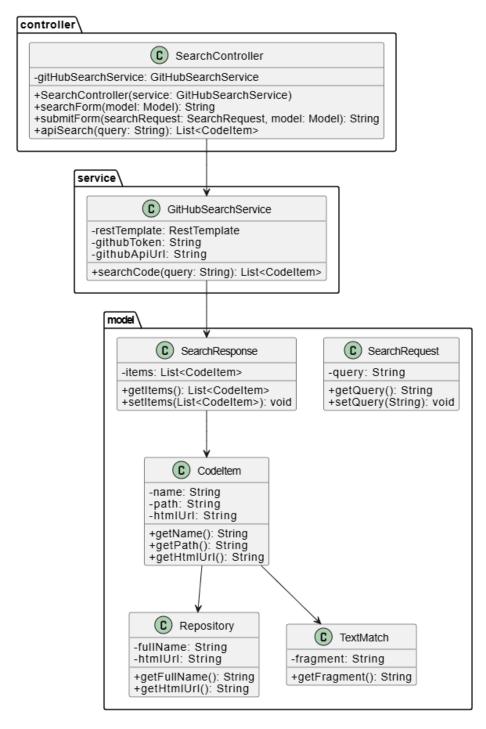
- Add authentication using Spring Security for protected usage.
- Display syntax-highlighted code previews.
- Save search history to a database.
- Paginate results from GitHub API.
- Implement caching for repeated queries.

Folder Structure Overview:



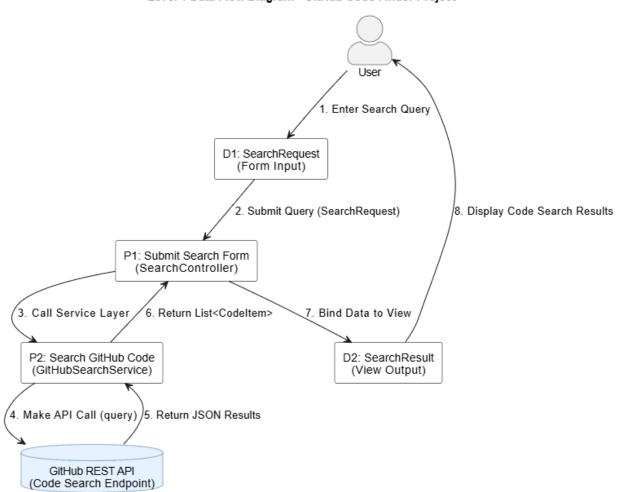
Diagrams:

Class Diagram:



Data Flow Diagram:

Level 1 Data Flow Diagram - GitHub Code Finder Project



UI Screenshots:

