

Survey Application

Problem :

Design the back-end for a survey application: It should give the capability for simple polls comprising questions with multiple choice answers

Entity design

- Survey Entity:
 1. Id (long)
 2. Survey Name (text)
 3. Created User
 4. Expiring Date
 5. List of Questions
 - a. This will be a one to many mapping to Questions Entity
- Questions Entity
 1. Id (long)
 2. Question (text)
 3. QuestionType (Enum : MCQ, TEXT, TRUE_OR_FALSE)
 4. List<Options>
 - a. One to many mapping from question to Options
 - b. This will store the values of , mcq, and boolean questions
- Options Entity
 1. Id(long)
 2. Value(text)
- Answer Entity
 1. (SurveyId, QuestionId, UserId) composite Key
 2. Answer (text) (will save all answers as text for now)

Important Rest Endpoints:

Submit survey

POST /api/surveys/{surveyId}/submitSurvey

```
{
  "userId": 0,
  "answerList": [
    {
      "questionId": 0,
      "answer": "string",
      "userId": 0
    }
  ]
}
```

GET all answers of a question

GET /api/surveys/{surveyId}/questions/{questionId}/answer

```
{
  "question": {
    "id": 0,
    "questionType": "string",
    "question": "string",
    "optionsList": [
      {
        "id": 0,
        "value": "string"
      }
    ]
  },
  "answers": [
    {
      "questionId": 0,
      "answer": "string",
      "userId": 0
    }
  ]
}
```

```

GET All questions of a survey
GET /api/surveys/{surveyId}
{
  "id": 0,
  "surveyName": "string",
  "createdUserName": "string",
  "expiringDate": "string",
  "questionList": [
    {
      "id": 0,
      "questionType": "string",
      "question": "string",
      "optionsList": [
        {
          "id": 0,
          "value": "string"
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}

```

Rest of the endpoints can be referred in <https://github.com/prasad14/survey/blob/main/src/main/java/com/example/survey/rest/SurveyController.java>

Swagger document is generated in <http://localhost:8080/swagger-ui/index.html#/> if the application is started locally.

Enhancements TODO

- We could use **Elasticsearch** to store the answers.(in scaling aspects where millions of people are responding to the survey)
- The survey and questions will be stored in Database only. Since the amount of data saved will be less. Further , we can use local caching to enhance the performance of these APIs

- Elasticsearch will allow the data search to be simplified and its built feature of aggregation can be used to get the relative distribution of answers in a MCQ or true/false question
- Elasticsearch index design
 - One index will be created for one survey
 - The id of the document will be surveyId + questionId + userId
 - User id is important to distinguish from various answers, we can choose to add user email or other fields to distinguish them later
 - Document structure

```

put survey_name/_doc/{id}
{
  "surveyId": "",
  "questionId": "",
  "questionType": "",
  "userId": "",
  "answer": ""
}

```

- QuestionType is added to check with the answer is MCQ or not
- We can easily fetch answers of one survey by in a simple query specifying the survey Id

```

{
  "query" : {
    "term" : {
      "surveyId" : 123;
    }
  }
}

```

- We can further do terms aggregation on the answer field so that we could get a count of set of unique answers, easily determine the relative distribution of responses
- If we have a cluster of Elasticsearch, We can store the data consistently and scaling the elastic nodes is easier to accommodate more data.