CPE Datacollection and API Development

By: Rathinadevan E M _ SVCE _ CSE

Tech Stack:

- 1. Fastapi
- 2. Jinja templating Engine (for frontend)
- 3. mongodb
- 4. uvicorn(for server)
- 5. xmltodict(conversion of xml to json)

Logical Approach Taken:

- 1. Conversion of xml to json
- 2. Creation of mongodb database by running a container with port mapping done
- 3. Uploading of data to it following a schema
- 4. Creation of fastapi app and running it through uvicorn
- 5. Creation of endpoints for db fetching
- 6. Parsing parameters from endpoints and performing operations

Q1: Converting XML to json:

File used: extractor.py

Why: Fastapi has native support to json and hence easier to use

What it does: creates a file named xml.json which contains all data converted into xml

format

What tools used: xmltodict and json package



Q: Parsing the json data and pushing it into mongodb:

Running: As a container with port mapping done

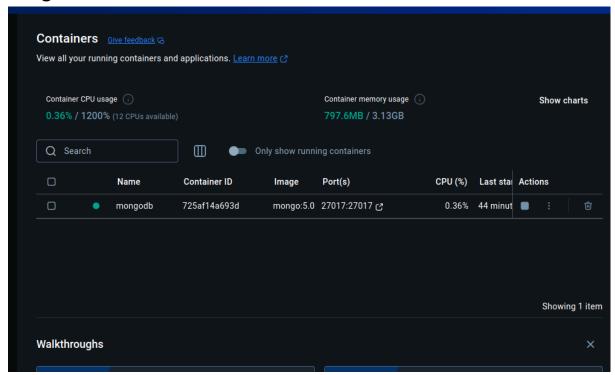
Access Methods: Connecting through Mongodb Compass

Tools used: json and pymongo, Docker(to run mongodb instance)

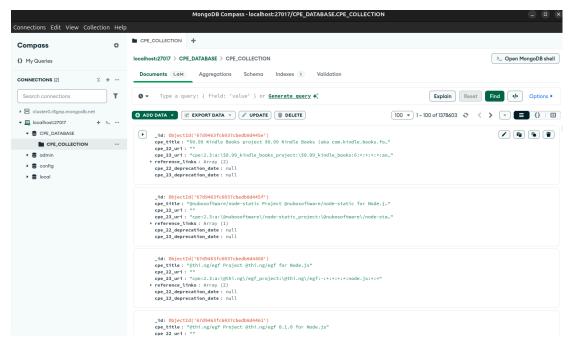
Url of running mongodb: mongodb://localhost:27017/

File used to load data : db_loader.py

Images:



```
Processed 1359000 items
Processed 1360000 items
Processed 1361000 items
Processed 1362000 items
Processed 1363000 items
Processed 1364000 items
Processed 1365000 items
Processed 1366000 items
Processed 1367000 items
Processed 1368000 items
Processed 1369000 items
Processed 1370000 items
Processed 1371000 items
Processed 1372000 items
Processed 1373000 items
Processed 1374000 items
Processed 1375000 items
Processed 1376000 items
Processed 1377000 items
Processed 1378000 items
Completed processing 1378603 items
(myvenv) (base) ratu@ratu-IdeaPad-Gaming-3-15ACH6:~/Des
ktop/securin$
```

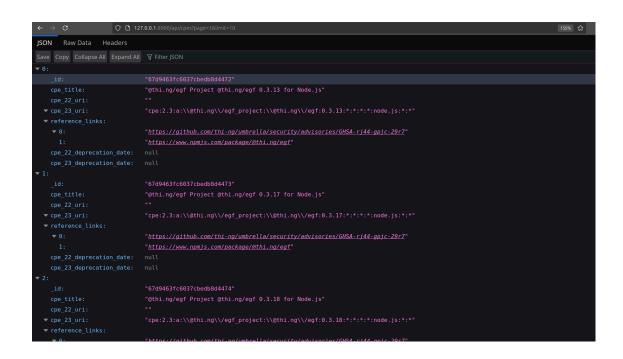


Q 3: Working of endpoint (/api/cpes)

Parameters used: page(optional), limit(optional)

Use: Retrieves the data from the server while simultaneously utilizing pagination with parameters such as page and limit

Notes : Default limit is set to 10 and can be changed by the user



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Q 4 : Working of endpoint (api/cpes/search) :

- > These parameters are optional and the api displays all the data if the option not given
- > Partial parameters are also taken care as shown below



Q 5 : Serving Frontend :

Done using : Jinja Templating Engine Steps :

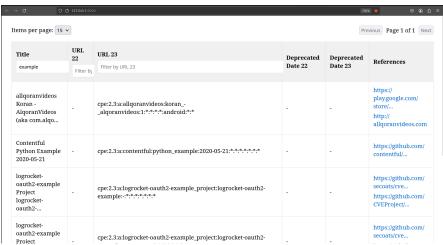
- 1. Index.html template is placed in the templates folder .
- 2. The $\mbox{templated directory selected}$ as default directory for $\mbox{templates}$ for \mbox{jinja}
- 3. The user is redirected to the frontend whenever they access the default route or /.
- 4. The redirection is done by rendering the frontend whenever the user accesses / directory.
- 5. The Ui was designed to enable user to decide the number of data displayed at a page at a time.
- 6. Filters can also be done through the UI itself enabling easier user interaction

Images:

Images showing default rendering along with pagination



Implementing search in the frontend:



Q 6 : Deletion from database:

Can use the delete.py to delete the mongodb database if needed clearing File used: delete.py

```
    ~/Desktop/securin$ python delete.py
        Deleted 1378603 documents from the collection
        (myvenv) (base) ratu@ratu-IdeaPad-Gaming-3-15ACH6:
        ~/Desktop/securin$
```

Challenged Encountered:

- 1. Parsing of the very large xml data
- 2. Pushing the data into the database , due to its heavy nature the pushing was done in parts of 1000

- 3. Pushing of data into the database , due to its large size the pushing took much time .
- 4. Parsing of Date type from the mongodb and actually using it as a query
- 5. Processing or iterating through all the data in the mongodb as the _id is of ObjectId type , the conversion of object ID into str was needed in order to iterate through all the instances of the data
- 6. References and titles had to done special iteration methods as they were sometimes dictionary and sometimes list , this iteration was also required while changing the ObjectId into string
- 7. Using date parameters and querying based on it were tougher as dates was implemented in different format while querying using different format
- 8. The null values of data such as in cpe_22_deprecation_date,cpe_23_deprecation_date,cpe_22_uri,cpe_22 _uri should be taken care due to their nature of having null value sometimes and should be taken care with retrieving such data or iterating through them
- 9. Mongodb server not running locally , requiring a container with port mapping to be spun in docker to used as mongodb server.
- 10. Uploading and using the data sometimes crashed the system due to its size , hence the upload had to done as chunks so that it can be used and .