MongoDB Photo Album Demo

This demo is intended to showcase MongoDB running as a replica set in Windows Azure, both on Windows Server and Linux CentOS operating systems. The databases hold a number of image files in one of two categories and are displayed by category with thumbnails and descriptions on one side, and a larger version of the image on the other. Clicking a thumbnail swaps the larger photo and clicking the tabs switches the displayed group of images. During the demo, passing in a query string parameter to the page changes database accessed, Windows, Linux or Localhost. While this demo can be uploaded to a Windows Azure account, this makes redundant the Localhost option and it is recommended the demo be run locally.

If the demo is being run on a local machine, some preparation is required. The demo requires the MongoDB driver for PHP to be installed on the local machine. The driver and instructions on how to install it can be found at <http://www.mongodb.org/display/DOCS/PHP+Language+Center>.

Opening the demo (Something like <http://localhost:31370/mongo-demo.php> depending on what port/site your PHP engine is running on) shows the Linux replica set by default. You can change this by adding ‘host’ as a query string parameter with the values ‘linux’ or ‘localhost’ (Case insensitive). Using localhost requires MongoDB to be installed upon the machine on which the demo is running.

Tabs at the top of the page swap between the image groups and do not require a page refresh. Each image is tagged with a group name when it is uploaded and is sorted when the images are downloaded. The current image group is displayed on the left side of the ‘photo album’ with a thumbnail, the image title and a description underneath. A scrollbar keeps the page from becoming unmanageably long. The currently selected image (By default, this is the first in the list) is displayed in a larger version on the right. Clicking any thumbnail swaps the current large photo for the clicked item.

New images can be added using the form at the bottom of the page. ‘Image file’ is the location of the image to be uploaded, ‘title’ is the short description to the right of the thumbnail, ‘description’ is the longer description under the thumbnail and title, group is which image set the new image will belong to. New images should not exceed ~1MB, as the upload size has been limited for performance reasons.

Images can be deleted from the database by clicking the ‘Remove Image’ link under the description of each image. Note that this only removes the image from the currently selected database.

