

This Lab assignment will be turned in as a PDF document. Save a copy of this document, paste your answers in the marked areas, and generate a PDF when you are complete. Your PDF file name should have the following format, all lower-case:

`yourname-mongodb-1.pdf`

All PDFs are to be committed to the `/homework/` directory in source control before the beginning of the following class.

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## MongoDB, Part I

MongoDB is a non-relational (NoSQL) database system. It is document-oriented with JSON structure, and presents a flat storage space where you can put all of your records. It uses the “`_id`” convention for primary keys.

MongoDB uses native drivers and a console to manage the database. If you wanted to use MongoDB from PHP, for example, you’d need to find and install a PHP driver.

## Setting Up A MongoDB Service

You can download the latest version of `mongod`, the MongoDB daemon/service, from:

<http://www.mongodb.org/downloads>

There should be a binary package for OSX, and either the 64-bit or 32-bit version will work. Unzip the file to your desktop, and you should find a `bin` folder inside. Open a Terminal window into that bin folder. You should be able to run the `mongod` program and get help for its command-line arguments:

```
$ ./mongod --help
Allowed options:
General options:
  -h [ --help ]      show this usage information
```

```
--version          show version information
...
```

For what you'll do in this assignment, you only need one argument, which is where to store the databases. Make a **db** directory and run the **mongod** service:

```
$ mkdir db
$ ./mongod --dbpath db
```

You should see a bunch of debugging information, but the program should not exit. You can verify that it is running by bringing up its status page in a web browser:

<http://127.0.0.1:28017/>

MongoDB runs a very minimalist web interface. Its status page is on port **28017**, while the native drivers will connect on port **27017** to do all of the queries and other work.

On the status page there will be lines with **db version**, **git hash**, and **sys info**. Copy and paste those lines here:

```
db version v2.4.9 git hash: 52fe0d21959e32a5bdbecdc62057db386e4e029c
sys info: Darwin bs-osx-106-x86-64-2.10gen.cc 10.8.0 Darwin Kernel
Version 10.8.0: Tue Jun  7 16:32:41 PDT 2011; root:xnu-
1504.15.3~1/RELEASE_X86_64 x86_64 BOOST_LIB_VERSION=1_49 uptime: 81
seconds
```

## Using the Console

Before you get MongoDB running with a server-side language, you need to learn how it works. There is a console application called **mongo** that will let you talk to the service interactively. Open a second Terminal window in MongoDB's **bin** folder and run it:

```
$ ./mongo
```

It should output a few lines of status information. Paste them here:

```
MongoDB shell version: 2.4.9

connecting to: test

Server has startup warnings:

Mon Mar  3 21:59:10.999 [initandlisten]

Mon Mar  3 21:59:10.999 [initandlisten] ** WARNING: soft rlimits too
low. Number of files is 256, should be at least 1000
```

Unlike using MySQL from the command line, you don't need to end your MongoDB commands with semicolons. Enter **help** to get a list of commands:

```
> help
  db.help()           help on db methods
  db.mycoll.help()     help on collection methods
  ...
```

Get a list of databases and paste them here:

```
adb1403    0.203125GB

local      0.078125GB

test 0.203125GB
```

In MongoDB you don't need to create a database before you use it—the service will create it for you when you insert your first document. Tell MongoDB you'd like to use a database named **itunes**:

```
> use itunes  
switched to db itunes
```

MongoDB has a concept of a *collection*, which is sort of like a database within a database. Like databases, MongoDB will create collections for you when you use them. You'll use a collection named **itunes**, just like your database. Most of the rest of your commands will be performed on an object named **db**, which has members named for your collections.

For example, you can get help on the methods available to your **itunes** collection from that object:

```
> db.itunes.help()  
DBCollection help  
  db.itunes.find().help() - show DBCursor help  
...
```

Try getting a count of the number of items in your **itunes** collection. You should get zero. Paste the command here:

```
db.itunes.find()
```

## Creating Objects & Documents

The MongoDB console works much like the Firebug or Developer Tools console. You can create and echo variables in it:

```
> var rick = { type: 'person', name: 'Rick' }  
> rick  
{ "type" : "person", "name" : "Rick" }
```

This can be handy for creating objects before you save them to the database. Saving is done with the **save()** method of your collection:

```
> db.itunes.save(rick)
```

You can also call the `save()` method with a JSON object literal. Create an object of type person with your name and save it to the database in one command, using a literal instead of a variable. Paste the command here:

```
db.itunes.save({type: 'person', name: 'Russell Schlup'})
```

The `find()` method of the collection can be called without arguments to list all of the documents. Run a `find()` and paste the command and its results here:

```
{ "_id" : ObjectId("5315458ce3b0b53edee15eff"), "type" : "person",  
  "name" : "Russell Schlup" }  
  
{ "_id" : ObjectId("53154623e3b0b53edee15f01"), "type" : "person",  
  "name" : "rick" }
```

You can see from the results that MongoDB will give your documents a random `_id` field if you don't explicitly provide one. MongoDB will let you search on fields other than the key. For example, you could find the Rick object you created earlier:

```
> db.itunes.find({name: 'Rick'})  
{ "_id" : ObjectId("..."), "type" : "person", "name" : "Rick" }
```

The `find()` function works similarly to how ORM works, by finding matches to a given object. In the case above, MongoDB searches for documents with a key `name` with a value `Rick`. Write an expression to find all `person`-typed documents and paste it here:

```
db.itunes.find({type: 'person'})
```

If you know you will only get back a single record, MongoDB provides a `findOne()` function that will return a single object that can be assigned to a variable. It takes the same arguments:

```
> rick = db.itunes.findOne({name: 'Rick'})
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("..."),
  "type" : "person",
  "name" : "Rick"
}
```

Write an expression to find the document with your name and assign it to a variable:

```
me = db.itunes.findOne({name: 'Russell Schlup'})
```

You can update a document by saving over it. On the console, this is easiest done using variables:

```
> rick.heightInches = 74
74
> rick
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("..."),
  "type" : "person",
  "name" : "Rick",
  "heightInches" : 74
}
> db.itunes.save(rick)
> db.itunes.find({heightInches: 74})
{ "_id" : ObjectId("..."), "type" : "person", "name" : "Rick",
  "heightInches" : 74 }
```

Update the document with your name to have your height in inches, save it, and find it again.

Paste those commands and results here:

```
db.itunes.save(me)

> db.itunes.find()
```

## More Advanced Queries

MongoDB also supports a number of advanced query options for its `find` and `findOne` methods.

For example, you could search for `person`-type documents with `heightInches` greater than 72:

```
> db.itunes.find({type: 'person', heightInches: { $gt: 72 }})
{ "_id" : ObjectId("4d786a8b09dc882f439c0081"), "type" : "person",
  "name" : "Rick", "heightInches" : 74 }
```

That may look funny, but the `$gt` acts as a greater-than operator. The operators go inside of an object so they can be combined:

```
> db.itunes.find({type: 'person', heightInches: { $gt: 72, $lte: 76 }})
```

These `$` operators are special in MongoDB, and pretty much all of the operators you're used to are supported. You can get the full list here:

<http://www.mongodb.org/display/DOCS/Advanced+Queries>

Write a query that would get `person`-type documents with either a name of `Rick` or your name, but nothing else. Paste it below:

```
db.itunes.find({$or:[{name: 'Russell Schlup'},{name:'rick'}]}))
```

## Working With Results

To show off the next set of features you will need some more documents. Create and save a document for each of the students in the class. Make sure that each document has a **type** of **person**, a unique **name**, and a guess for **heightInches**. When you're done, **find()** all of them and paste the results below:

```
{ "_id" : ObjectId("53154623e3b0b53edee15f01"), "type" : "person",  
  "name" : "rick" }  
  
{ "_id" : ObjectId("5315458ce3b0b53edee15eff"), "type" : "person",  
  "name" : "Russell Schlup", "heightInches" : 76 }  
  
{ "_id" : ObjectId("53154930e3b0b53edee15f02"), "type" : "person",  
  "name" : "Nate Dickinson", "heightInches" : 69 }
```

You can sort the results of a **find()** by chaining the **sort()** method:

```
> db.itunes.find({type: 'person'}).sort({ name: 1 })
```

The **sort()** function takes an object with the name of the key to sort on and a direction (1 for ascending, and -1 for descending).

You can chain **limit()** to fetch a specific number of documents:

```
> db.itunes.find({type: 'person'}).limit(2)
```

There's also **skip()** to help with pagination:

```
> db.itunes.find({type: 'person'}).limit(2).skip(2)
```



Write a query to find the 3 tallest persons and paste it below:

```
db.itunes.find().sort({heightInches:-1}).limit(3)
```

## Aggregate Functions

Just like SQL, you can perform aggregate functions on results in MongoDB. For example, you could get an array of the distinct person heights:

```
> db.itunes.distinct('heightInches')  
[ 70, 71, 72, 74 ]
```

Get an array of distinct person names and paste it below:

```
db.itunes.distinct('name')
```

Grouping works like SQL's **GROUP BY** clause:

```
> db.itunes.group({cond: {heightInches: { $exists: true }}, key: {type:  
true}, initial: {totalHeight: 0, count: 0}, reduce: function(obj,prev){  
prev.totalHeight += obj.heightInches; prev.count++; }, finalize:  
function(out){ out.avgHeight = out.totalHeight / out.count; } })
```

This looks bad, but not if you reformat it:

```
db.itunes.group({  
  cond: {heightInches: { $exists: true }},  
  key: {type: true},  
  initial: {totalHeight: 0, count: 0},  
  reduce: function(obj, prev){
```

```
        prev.totalHeight += obj.heightInches;
        prev.count++;
    },
    finalize: function(out){
        out.avgHeight = out.totalHeight / out.count;
    }
  })
```

Look at each of the arguments in turn:

- **cond**: This is the condition, like the **WHERE** clause or what you've used in a **find()**. Here, we're just making sure that we only look for documents that have a **heightInches** key.
- **key**: This is like the **GROUP BY** clause and defines which fields you'll have left over for keys.
- **initial**: MongoDB lets you give your Reduce function a starting object.
- **reduce**: This is the Reduce function. But instead of having to loop over an array of values, MongoDB calls your Reduce function for each and passes in the current object (**obj**) and your state variables (**prev**) that you set up in the **initial** key.
- **finalize**: Since you can't finish your calculations in the Reduce function because it will be called many times, you can add a function that will run once after all of the objects have been reduced.

Extend the query above to find and return the minimum and maximum heights:

```
db.itunes.group({
  cond: {heightInches: { $exists: true }},
```

```
    key: {type: true},

    initial: {totalHeight: 0, maxHeight: 0, minHeight: 100, count:
0},

    reduce: function(obj, prev){

        if(obj.heightInches > prev.maxHeights){

            prev.maxHeights = obj.heightInches

        }else if(obj.heightInches < prev.minHeights){

            prev.minHeights = obj.heightInches

        }

        prev.totalHeight += obj.heightInches;

        prev.count++;

    },

    finalize: function(out){

        out.avgHeight = out.totalHeight / out.count;

    }

})
```

## Deleting Documents

The `remove()` method takes the same arguments as the `find()` function, but deletes anything it matches. For example, to delete the Rick document:

```
> db.itunes.remove({name:'Rick'})  
> db.itunes.find({name:'Rick'})
```

Write a query to remove all of the **person**-type documents and then a second query to show they are gone. Paste both below:

```
>  
db.itunes.remove({type:'person'})  
  
> db.itunes.find({type:'person'}).count()  
  
0
```

## Bulk Import

MongoDB comes with some import tools, but we're going to import your iTunes Library. You can download Rick's importer from:

<http://cyberneticsimpleton.com/adb/itunes2db.jar> (Also in your repo)

Open a third Terminal to the directory where you saved the JAR. You can run the JAR from the command line to get its usage instructions:

```
$ java -jar itunes2db.jar
```

In this case, you're importing to MongoDB, and the default options are fine:

```
$ java -jar itunes2db.jar mongodb
```

The importer will display quite a bit of status information while it imports, but the entire process shouldn't take more than a few minutes. Once it is done you can close that Terminal window and switch back to the MongoDB console.

Get a count of documents in your database. Paste the query and result below:

```
db.itunes.find().count()
```

```
2101
```

This importer has set up all of the documents with a **type** key. Get an array of distinct **type** values. Paste the query and result.

```
db.itunes.distinct('type')
```

```
[ "album", "artist", "library", "track" ]
```

Write a **find()** query to fetch the track with the longest duration (**TotalTime**). Paste your query and results below:

```
db.itunes.find({type:'track'}).sort({TotalTime:-1}).limit(1)
```

```
{ "_id" : "track:b5deec87b641063d", "PlayCount" : 1,
  "AlbumRating" : 80, "TrackType" : "File", "TrackID" : 2104,
  "type" : "track", "Kind" : "MPEG audio file", "Year" : 3012,
  "TrackNumber" : 1, "Genre" : "Space", "PlayDateUTC" : [
    2013, 0, 5, 0, 10, 36 ], "FileFolderCount" : 5,
  "ArtworkCount" : 1, "Artist" : "Excision", "PlayDate" :
    NumberLong("3440085036"), "Size" : 134799429,
  "LibraryFolderCount" : 1, "SampleRate" : 44100, "DateAdded" :
    [ 2013, 0, 5, 0, 6, 17 ], "Location" :
    "file://localhost/Users/russellbenton/Music/iTunes/iTunes%20M
    edia/Music/Excision/Unknown%20Album/01%20Shambhala%202012%20D
    ubstep%20Mix.mp3", "PersistentID" : "B5DEEC87B641063D",
  "TotalTime" : 5566615, "Name" : "Shambhala 2012 Dubstep Mix",
  "AlbumRatingComputed" : false, "DateModified" : [ 2013, 0,
    3, 19, 10, 40 ], "Rating" : 80, "BitRate" : 192,
  "artistkey" : "artist:excision" }
```

Write a **group()** query to fetch the count of documents for each **type**. Don't overthink this! Hint: You don't need a **cond** or a **finalize**, but you do need a **key**. Paste the query and results below:

```
db.itunes.group({
  key: {type: true},
  initial: {amount: 0},
  reduce: function(obj, prev){
    prev.amount += 1
  }
})
```

## Closing Out MongoDB

You can quit the **mongo** console with the exit command:

```
> exit
bye
```

You can tell the **mongod** service to stop by typing **Control-C** into its Terminal. It will take a second or two to shut down gracefully and should drop you back a command prompt.

## Completing the Assignment

1. Go back through this document and ensure that you've filled in all of the answers, and that the orange "Answer" style has remained applied to all of them.
2. Save this document as a PDF with the following name:

[/homework/yourname-mongodb-1.pdf](#)

3. Add the PDF file to the repository and commit it.
4. At the beginning of the next class, push your repository changes up to Git