

Git Repository

https://github.com/imvantastic/CPSC473_gradProj.git

Project Description

This project creates a magic kitty ball that you can use to ask your most cherished questions. Click the ball or shake it on your phone and receive its infinite wisdom.

The project is made using CoffeeScript as my exploratory language. It's completely client side.

*Note: When shaking your phone, an alert pops up with the response – no response is written to the screen. This was done on purpose, because it just didn't look as pretty with both.

Comparison

How does this compare to JS?

CoffeeScript is basically JS. In fact you can compile it directly into a .JS file for use. There is no interpretation needed at runtime – meaning the compiler will read it like any other JS file and works on any JavaScript runtime environment. It can use all of the same Javascript libraries as well.

The purpose of CoffeeScript is to “expose all the good parts of JS”. I'm not sure, if for me that was the case. I didn't particularly enjoy its heavy reliance on spacing. There were times where I swore the end of the method was obvious, but the compiler disagreed. I missed the semi-colons and the obvious visual separation of lines that JS offered. In order to use CoffeeScript in my application, I had to compile it to JS and reference the JS file in the index page. When I tried to reference the CoffeeScript file it didn't like it. At that point, having to write in CoffeeScript, compile to JS and then test, was just cumbersome. I would have preferred to just code in Javascript.

Furthermore, Javascript is more portable. I don't have to install anything or compile anything. I just write it, save it as a .JS file and reference it appropriately. CoffeeScript needs a little bit more setup (even if it's not a lot).

Resources

- JQuery
- CoffeeScript
- HTML
- XAMMP
- Bootstrap: <http://startbootstrap.com/template-overviews/bare/>
 - Additional CSS added through kittyball.css
- Mobile Phone shake handling – plugin from <https://github.com/alexgibson/shake.js>

Setup

The application was built on CPSC473's NodeBox.

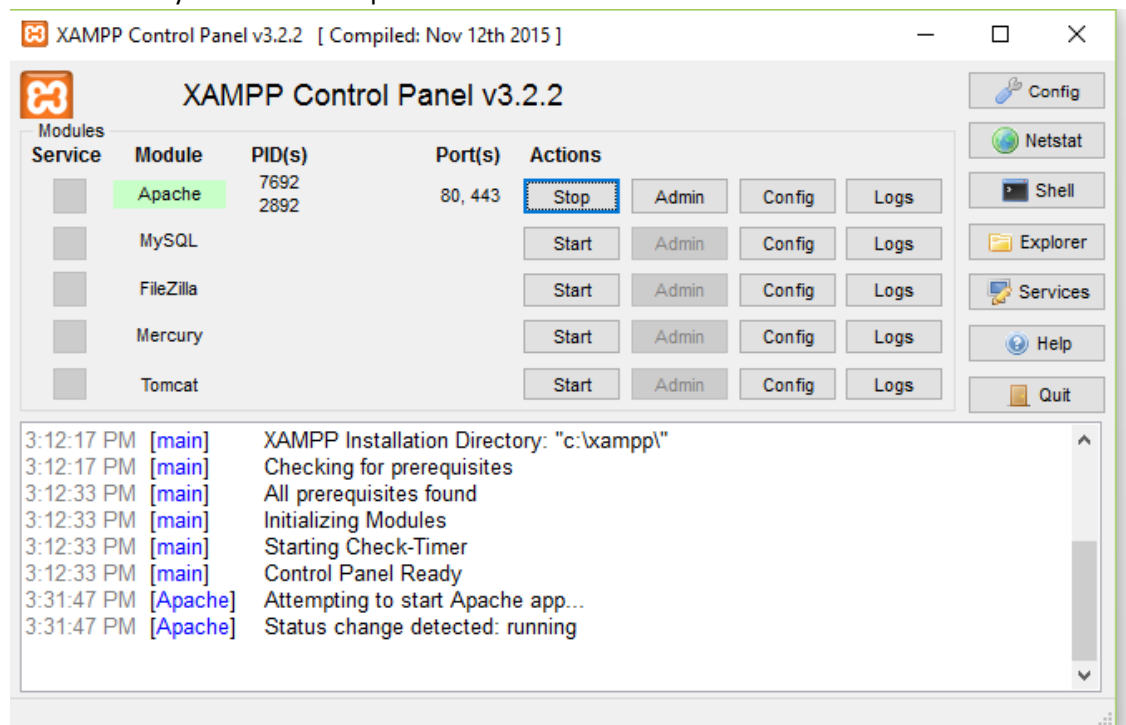
For initial testing, the simpleHTTPServer from python was used. However in order to test it on a mobile device a XAMPP server was setup.

On NodeBox

1. Load Resources, then navigate inside that folder to the root
2. Type `npm install jquery`
3. Type `npm install shake.js` (you might have to download the zip from <https://github.com/alexgibson/shake.js> if it doesn't install automatically)
4. Steps 2 and 3 assumes you do not have the proper node_modules already installed, if you do you can skip them
5. Type `python -m SimpleHTTPServer` inside the root of the hello kitty ball folder
6. Navigate to `localhost:8000`

On XAMPP

1. Download the proper version of XAMPP from <https://www.apachefriends.org/index.html>
2. Follow the instructions on <https://blog.udemy.com/xampp-tutorial/> to install it and launch it
 - a. Note: You only need to start Apache from the GUI



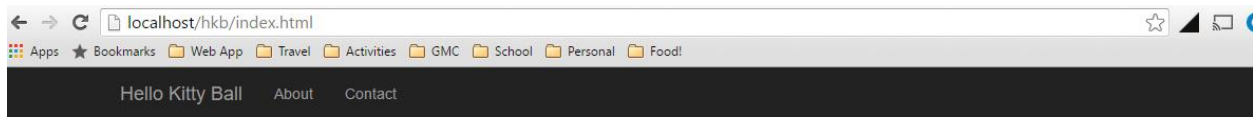
3. Load the resources into `..\xampp\htdocs` folder
4. Navigate to `localhost`
 - a. Note: if you place the resources in its own folder within `htdocs` you would navigate to `localhost/<folderName>`. For example, within `htdocs`, I have a folder named `HKB`, so I navigated to `localhost/HKB` in my browser

To Access it from a Mobile Device

1. XAMPP must be up and running
2. I tested the application on a Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge
3. Open up a web browser from your phone
4. Connect your phone to the same WIFI network as your computer that is hosting XAMPP is on
 - a. Note: I don't believe this worked for me on campus because of the firewall
5. Navigate to: <your Wireless LAN IPv4 address>/<folderName> (if the application is in its own folder within htdocs, otherwise just the IPv4 address will do). For example, 192.168.0.104/HKB
6. To find your IPv4 address, open up a cmd prompt and type ipconfig (assumes windows OS)

Application in Action

Homepage



I Am the All Powerful Hello Kitty

Ask me something divine, then click me! (Or Shake if you're on a mobile device)



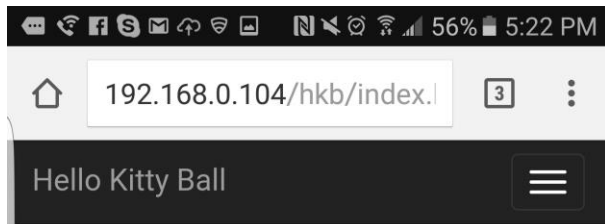
I Am the All Powerful Hello Kitty

Ask me something divine, then click me! (Or Shake if you're on a mobile device)

Kitty Says: Yes



On the Phone – Homepage



I Am the All Powerful Hello Kitty

Ask me something divine, then click me! (Or
Shake if you're on a mobile device)



On the Phone – In Action

