
Introduction to MongoDB

Welcome to MongoDB. This document provides a brief introduction to MongoDB and some key concepts. See the *installation guides* (page 5) for information on downloading and installing MongoDB.

1.1 What is MongoDB

MongoDB is an open-source document database that provides high performance, high availability, and automatic scaling.

1.1.1 Document Database

A record in MongoDB is a document, which is a data structure composed of field and value pairs. MongoDB documents are similar to JSON objects. The values of fields may include other documents, arrays, and arrays of documents.

```
{
  name: "sue",
  age: 26,
  status: "A",
  groups: [ "news", "sports" ]
}
```



← field: value
← field: value
← field: value
← field: value

The advantages of using documents are:

- Documents (i.e. objects) correspond to native data types in many programming languages.
- Embedded documents and arrays reduce need for expensive joins.
- Dynamic schema supports fluent polymorphism.