

Project Documentation

Blog Setup and Configuration Records

Date: December 9, 2025

Project: Academic Blog at blog.drabdus.info

Tech Stack: Next.js, Tailwind CSS, MDX

Package Manager: Yarn

1. AI-Powered Reference Verification Blog Post

Task

Create a blog post explaining how LLMs can verify manuscript references.

Deliverables

- **HTML Version:** reference-verification-post.html - Full standalone HTML page with custom styling
- **MDX Version:** ai-powered-reference-verification.mdx - Blog post formatted for Next.js blog template

Content Covered

- Cross-reference validation
- Web-based existence verification
- Format consistency checking
- PDF-enhanced deep verification
- Quote verification capabilities
- Workflow and real-world benefits

Status

■ **Completed** - Post successfully published at: <https://blog.drabdus.info/blog/ai-powered-reference-verification>

2. Custom Domain Configuration

Issue

Site deployed with incorrect URL structure showing /myblog prefix in all routes, causing:

- Broken CSS styling
- Incorrect navigation links
- Assets loading from wrong paths

Root Cause

- Hardcoded basePath: '/myblog' in next.config.js
- Duplicate/conflicting configuration exports
- Configuration intended for GitHub Pages deployment

Solution

Fixed next.config.js by:

- Removing hardcoded basePath: '/myblog'
- Using environment-based configuration: basePath: process.env.BASE_PATH || undefined
- Consolidating duplicate exports into single clean configuration
- Making build process flexible for both custom domain and GitHub Pages

Configuration Details

```
# For custom domain (blog.drabdus.info)
yarn build

# For GitHub Pages (if needed)

BASE_PATH=/myblog EXPORT=true UNOPTIMIZED=true yarn build
```

Status

■ **Completed** - Site working correctly at <https://blog.drabdus.info/>

3. Domain Naming Best Practices

Question

Should subdomain use www.blog.drabdus.info or blog.drabdus.info?

Answer

- **Correct:** blog.drabdus.info
- **Incorrect:** www.blog.drabdus.info

Rationale

- Standard subdomain convention doesn't use www prefix
- www is for main domains only
- Examples: api.example.com, docs.example.com, shop.example.com

4. Site Metadata Customization

Task

Remove/edit the default description: 'A blog created with Next.js and Tailwind.css'

Location

siteMetadata.js or data/siteMetadata.js

Instructions Provided

Edit the description field to customize site tagline

Status

- **User Action Required**

5. Content Management

Posts Backed Up & Removed

User requested backup of template example posts:

1. 'Introducing Multi-part Posts with Nested Routing'
2. 'Introducing Tailwind Nextjs Starter Blog'

Instructions Provided

Delete the following files:

```
data/blog/nested-route/introducing-multi-part-posts-with-nested-routing.mdx  
data/blog/introducing-tailwind-nextjs-starter-blog.mdx
```

Then rebuild: yarn build

Status

■ **User Action Required** (User will handle backup and deletion)

6. Favicon Configuration

Issue

Favicon not displaying on the website despite file being uploaded

Diagnosis

- Favicon accessible at: <https://blog.drabdus.info/static/favicons/favicon.ico> ■
- Favicon NOT accessible at: <https://blog.drabdus.info/favicon.ico> ■
- Missing explicit favicon link in HTML <head> section

Solution Implemented

Step 1: File Placement

Ensured favicon.ico exists in both locations:

```
public/favicon.ico ← Added  
public/static/favicons/favicon.ico ← Already exists
```

Step 2: Layout Modification

Updated app/layout.tsx to include explicit favicon link:

Added line 84:

```
<link rel="icon" type="image/x-icon" href={`${basePath}/favicon.ico`} />
```

Deliverable

- **File:** layout.tsx - Corrected layout with proper favicon reference

Next Steps

1. Replace app/layout.tsx with corrected version
2. Ensure favicon.ico is in public/ folder
3. Run yarn build
4. Redeploy
5. Hard refresh browser (Ctrl+Shift+R)

Status

■ **Pending Deployment** - Waiting for user to deploy changes

7. Files Delivered

File	Purpose	Location
reference-verification-post.html	Standalone blog post (HTML)	/mnt/user-data/outputs/
ai-powered-reference-verification.mdx	Blog post (MDX format)	/mnt/user-data/outputs/
next.config.js	Fixed configuration	/mnt/user-data/outputs/
layout.tsx	Fixed layout with favicon	/mnt/user-data/outputs/

8. Build Commands Used

```
# Standard build for custom domain  
yarn build  
  
# Build for GitHub Pages (if needed)  
BASE_PATH=/myblog EXPORT=true UNOPTIMIZED=true yarn build
```

9. Key Learnings

1. **Next.js basePath** is for subdirectory deployments, not custom domains
2. **Favicon caching** is aggressive in browsers - always hard refresh or test in incognito
3. **Explicit favicon links** in HTML head are necessary for reliable display
4. **Subdomain naming** should never include www prefix
5. **MDX frontmatter** follows Hugo standards for Next.js blog templates

10. Outstanding Tasks

- Deploy updated layout.tsx with favicon fix
- Verify favicon appears after deployment
- Update site description in siteMetadata.js
- Backup and remove template example posts (user handling)



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