

Dead Coder Society

MINUTES

OCTOBER 29TH, 2010 15:30

LAB D-004

Agenda topics

ACCESS, C# AND MYSQL SERVER

JASON SCHOLLENBEGRER

DISCUSSION	<p>Jason presented a C# application that he wrote for his job which reads a Microsoft Access database, converts the contents of a table into MySQL statement which are then executed on a remote MySQL Server. The purpose of the application is to allow a customer who currently uses their accounting software to have an online inventory tracking system. He demonstrated the front end of the web interface which included pagination, sorting and more. He finished the demonstration by showing some of the C# code which does the importing into the MySQL database and back end PHP code which displays the uploaded data. He also showed a live demonstration of the MySQL database being updated and we observed the row count increasing as inventory items statuses were being added.</p>
-------------------	---

LOSERSTATS
AUGUSTAMBIENCE.COM

BRIAN O'KEEFE

DISCUSSION	<p>Facebook provides an API to allow anyone to develop Facebook applications. It's available for many languages and platforms, but the primary language is PHP. To develop an app, you can simply use PHP to build a normal web application on your own server, and then use the Facebook API to include two important aspects: FBML and FQL data. FBML is Facebook Markup Language, and is a set of simple tags that will allow you to use prebuilt elements to build a UI for your application (for example, a tag might display the current user's name or pop up a window that requests permission for a certain action). Using the API, it is possible to query Facebook's public FQL tables, which store all sorts of information about every user. To make certain queries, the user must first give permission.</p> <p>LoserStats is a simple application that queries a bunch of data about a user and then uses it in an algorithm to give the user a "loser score" from 0 to 100 (0 meaning lame, 100 meaning cool). Users can get their score once per week and then compare their score with their friends. The problem with this app is that because of the extremely large query that is required, it often times out when calculating the score. Additionally, Facebook changed the way pages work, making the algorithm inaccurate.</p> <p>AugustAmbience.com is a website that simply plays a looping sound of crickets chirping, in a way similar to RainyMood.com. It makes use of jQuery for a cool fade effect, jPlayer to make the sound work cross-platform (even works on smartphones!), and Open Graph protocol to connect with Facebook. Since being launched in August, AugustAmbience.com has received over 120,000 unique viewers.</p>
-------------------	--

PERL

STAN SCHWERTLY

DISCUSSION	<p>Stan discussed an outline for automating his open mic website, JerseyMic.com. He's using Perl to scrape information from local data sources like Craigslist and Twitter. This will provide up-to-date information to users of the website without requiring the open mic host to contact JerseyMic. Different approaches were discussed, along with the benefits of storing information in a database for later retrieval.</p>
-------------------	---