

Why NoSQL, Principles, Overview

Lecture 1 of *NoSQL Databases* (PA195)

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Agenda



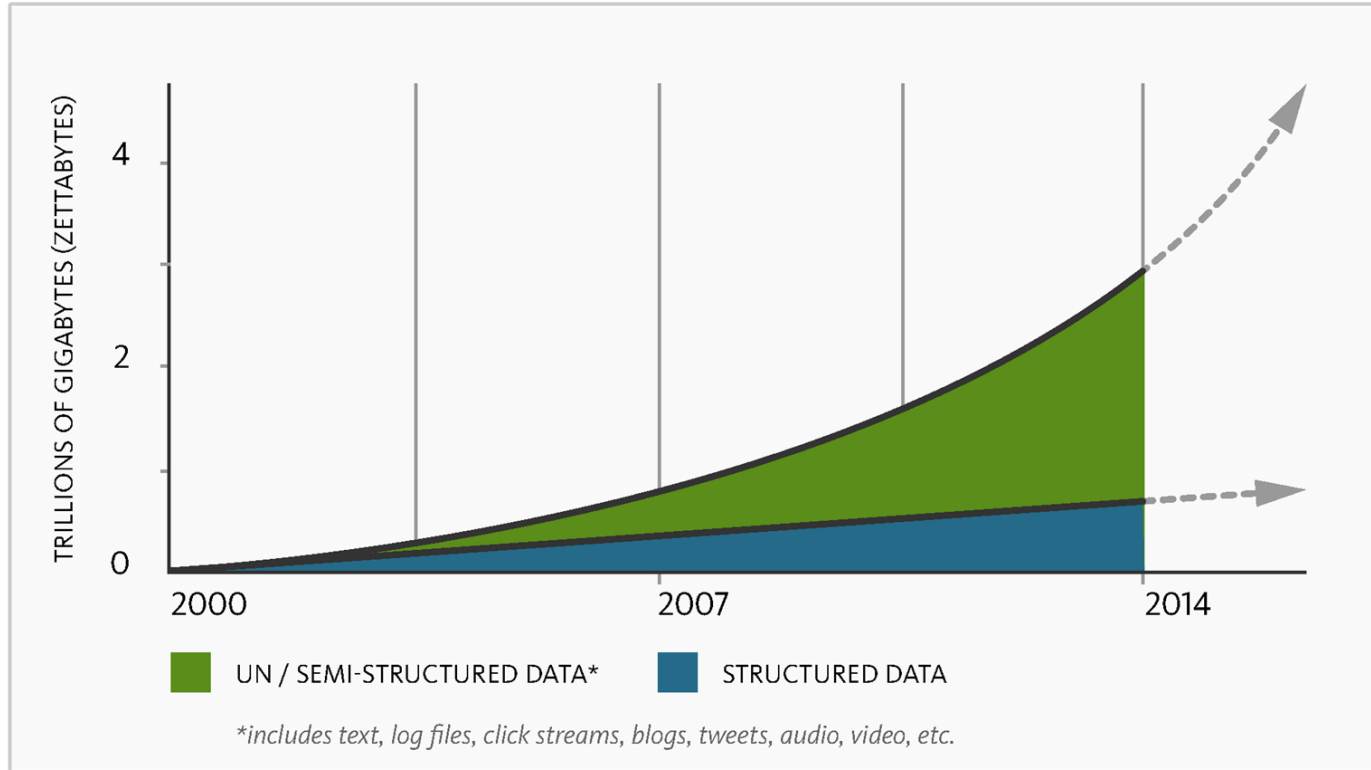
- Current **trends** in data management & computing
- **Big Data**
- Relational vs. NoSQL databases
 - the value of **relational databases**
 - new **requirements**
 - NoSQL features, strengths and challenges
- **Types** of NoSQL databases
 - **key-value** stores, **document** databases, **column-family** databases, **graph** databases
 - principles and examples

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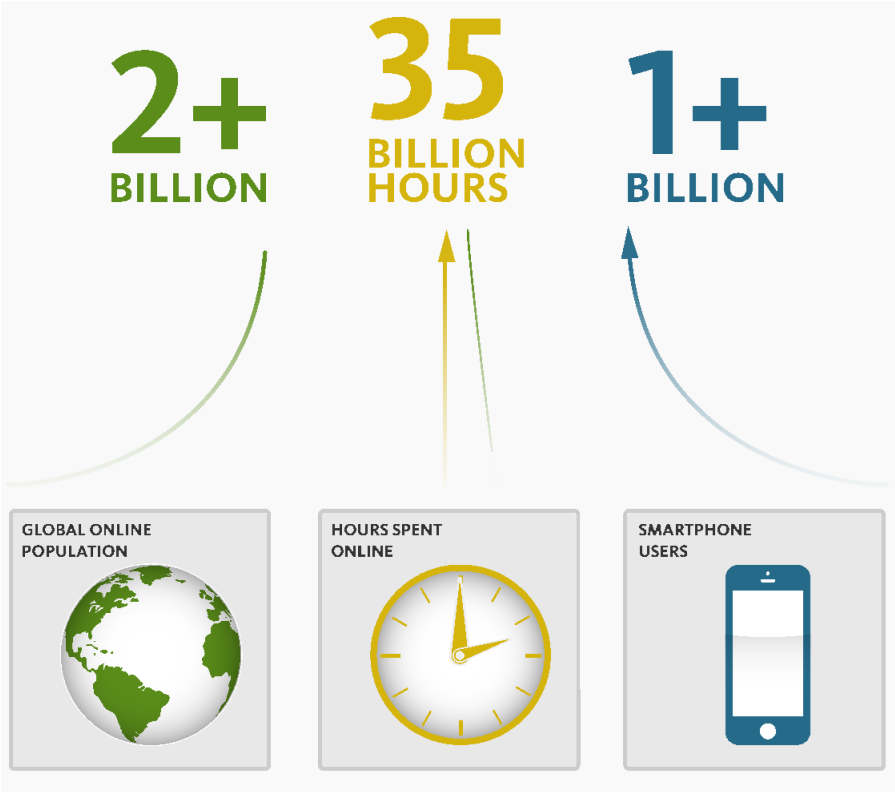
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Current Trends: Big Data



- Volume, Velocity and Variety of data

Current Trends: Big Users



- It is common to start a Web-based **system** and have **millions** of users within a **few months**

Current Trends: Cloud Computing



- **Everything** is in Cloud
 - flexibility and **distributed** nature of the systems

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Big Data



“Big data is high **volume**, high **velocity**, and/or high **variety** information assets that require new forms of processing to enable enhanced decision making, insight discovery and process optimization.”
(Gartner, 2012)

- veracity** – precision vs. uncertainty of data
- value** – information extraction needed to get a value



Sources of Big Data



- **Social** networks
 - this data is huge, but volumes can be **relatively limited**
- **Logs** of various web/email servers or routers
 - **growing** beyond limits
- **Sensor** networks
 - this sector is expected to **grow** even **faster**
- Internet of **things** (IoT)
- Computer-driven machines, like **airplanes**:
 - **one** overseas **flight** of Boeing generates **640 TB** of data
- etc.

Processing (Traditional) Data



- **OLTP**: Online Transaction Processing
 - Standard **databases** (DBMSs) and database applications
 - Storing, querying, multi-user access
- **OLAP**: Online Analytical Processing (Warehousing)
 - Answer multi-dimensional **analytical** queries
 - Financial/marketing reporting, budgeting, forecasting, ...
- **RTAP**: Real-Time Analytic Processing
(Big Data Architecture & Technology)
 - Data gathered & processed in **real-time** (streaming)
 - Real-time and history **data combined**

Technologies for Big Data



- Distributed file **systems** (GFS, HDFS, etc.)
- **MapReduce**
 - and other models for distributed programming
- **NoSQL databases**
- Data **Warehouses**
- Grid computing, cloud computing
- Large-scale machine learning

Agenda



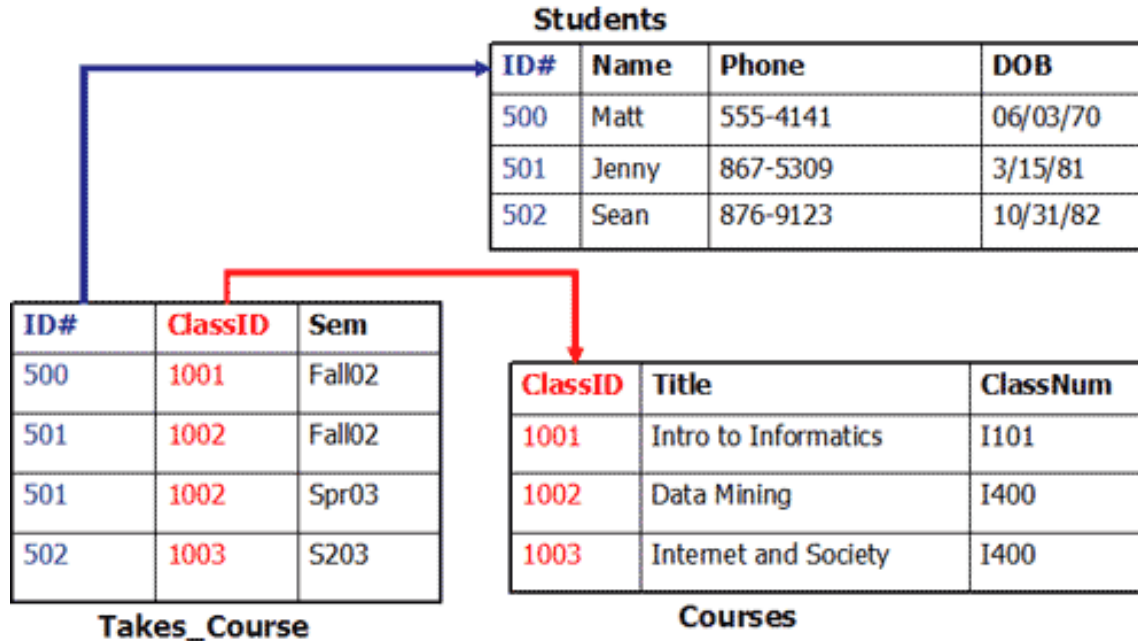
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Relational Database Management Systems



- RDBMS are **predominant** database technologies
 - first defined in 1970 by Edgar Codd, IBM Research Lab
- Data modeled as relations (**tables**)
 - object = **tuple** of attribute values
 - each attribute has a certain **domain**
 - a **table** is a set of objects (tuples, rows) of the **same type**
 - relation is a **subset** of cartesian product of the attribute domains
 - each tuple identified by a **key**
 - field (or a set of fields) that uniquely **identifies** a **row**
 - tables and objects “interconnected” via **foreign keys**
- Relational algebra, **SQL** query language

RDBMS Example



SELECT Name **FROM** Students **NATURAL JOIN**
Takes_Course **WHERE** ClassID = 1001

The Value of Relational Databases



- A (mostly) **standard** data model
- Many well **developed** technologies
 - physical organization of the data, search indexes, query optimization, search operator implementations
- Good **concurrency** control (ACID)
 - **transactions**: atomicity, **consistency**, isolation, durability
- Many reliable **integration** mechanisms
 - “shared database integration” of applications
- Well-**established**: familiar, mature, supported,...

RDBMS for Big Data



- relational **schema**
 - data in tuples
 - **a priori** known schema
- schema **normalization**
 - data split into tables (3NF)
 - queries merge the data
- **transaction** support
 - trans. management with ACID
 - Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation, Durability
 - safety first
- but current data are naturally **flexible**
- **inefficient** for large data
- slow in **distributed** environment
- **full transactions** very inefficient in **distributed** envir.

NoSQL Databases



- **What is “NoSQL”?**

- term used in late 90s for a different type of technology:
Carlo Strozzi: http://www.strozzi.it/cgi-bin/CSA/tw7/l/en_US/NoSQL/
- “Not Only SQL”?
 - but many RDBMS are also “not just SQL”

“NoSQL is an accidental term with no precise definition”

- **first used** at an informal meetup in **2009** in San Francisco (presentations from Voldemort, Cassandra, Dynamite, HBase, Hypertable, CouchDB, and MongoDB)

NoSQL Databases (cont.)



- NoSQL: Database technologies that are (mostly):
 - **Not using** the **relational** model (nor the SQL language)
 - Designed to run on **large clusters** (horizontally scalable)
 - **No schema** - fields can be freely added to any record
 - Open source
 - Based on the needs of 21st century web estates

[Sadalage & Fowler: NoSQL Distilled, 2012]

- Other characteristics (often true):
 - easy **replication** support (fault-tolerance, query efficiency)
 - **simple** API
 - **eventually** consistent (not ACID)

Just Another Temporary Trend?



- There have been **other trends** here before
 - **object** databases, XML databases, etc.
- **But** NoSQL databases:
 - are answer to **real** practical **problems** big companies have
 - are often developed by the **biggest players**
 - outside academia but based on **solid theoretical** results
 - e.g., old results on distributed processing
 - widely used

NoSQL Properties in Detail



1. Good **scalability**

- **horizontal** scalability instead of vertical

2. **Dynamic schema** of data

- different levels of flexibility for **different** types of DB

3. Efficient **reading**

- spend more time to store the data, but **read fast**
- keep relevant information together

4. Cost **saving**

- designed to run on **commodity** hardware
- typically **open-source** (with a support from a company)

Challenges of NoSQL Databases



1. **Maturity** of the technology

- it's getting better, but RDBMS had a lot of time

2. User **support**

- rarely professional support as provided by, e.g. Oracle

3. **Administration**

- massive **distribution** requires advanced administration

4. **Standards** for data access

- RDBMS have SQL, but the NoSQL world is wilder

5. Lack of **experts**

- not enough DB experts on **NoSQL** technologies

...but



More and more **companies** accept the weak points and **choose NoSQL** databases for their strengths. NoSQL technologies are also often used as **secondary databases** for specific data processing.

<https://redis.io/docs/about/users/>

<https://www.mongodb.com/who-uses-mongodb>

<http://planetcassandra.org/companies/>

<http://neo4j.com/customers/>

The End of Relational Databases?



- **Relational databases** are not going away
 - are ideal for a lot of structured data, reliable, mature, etc.
- **RDBMS** became one **option** for data storage

Polyglot persistence – using different data stores under different circumstances [Sadalage & Fowler: NoSQL Distilled, 2012]

Two trends:

1. **NoSQL** databases **implement standard** RDBMS features
2. **RDBMS** are **adopting** NoSQL principles

Agenda

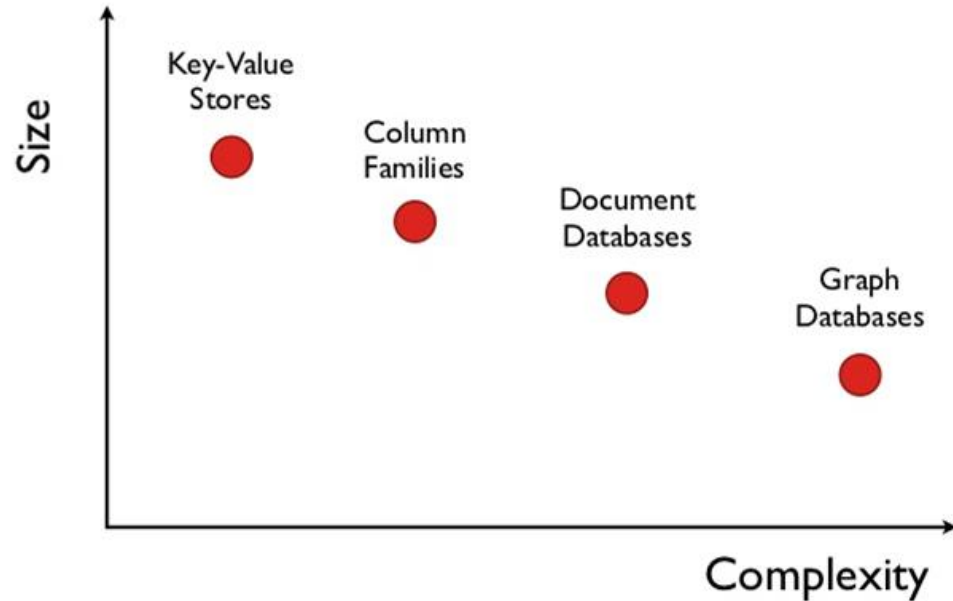


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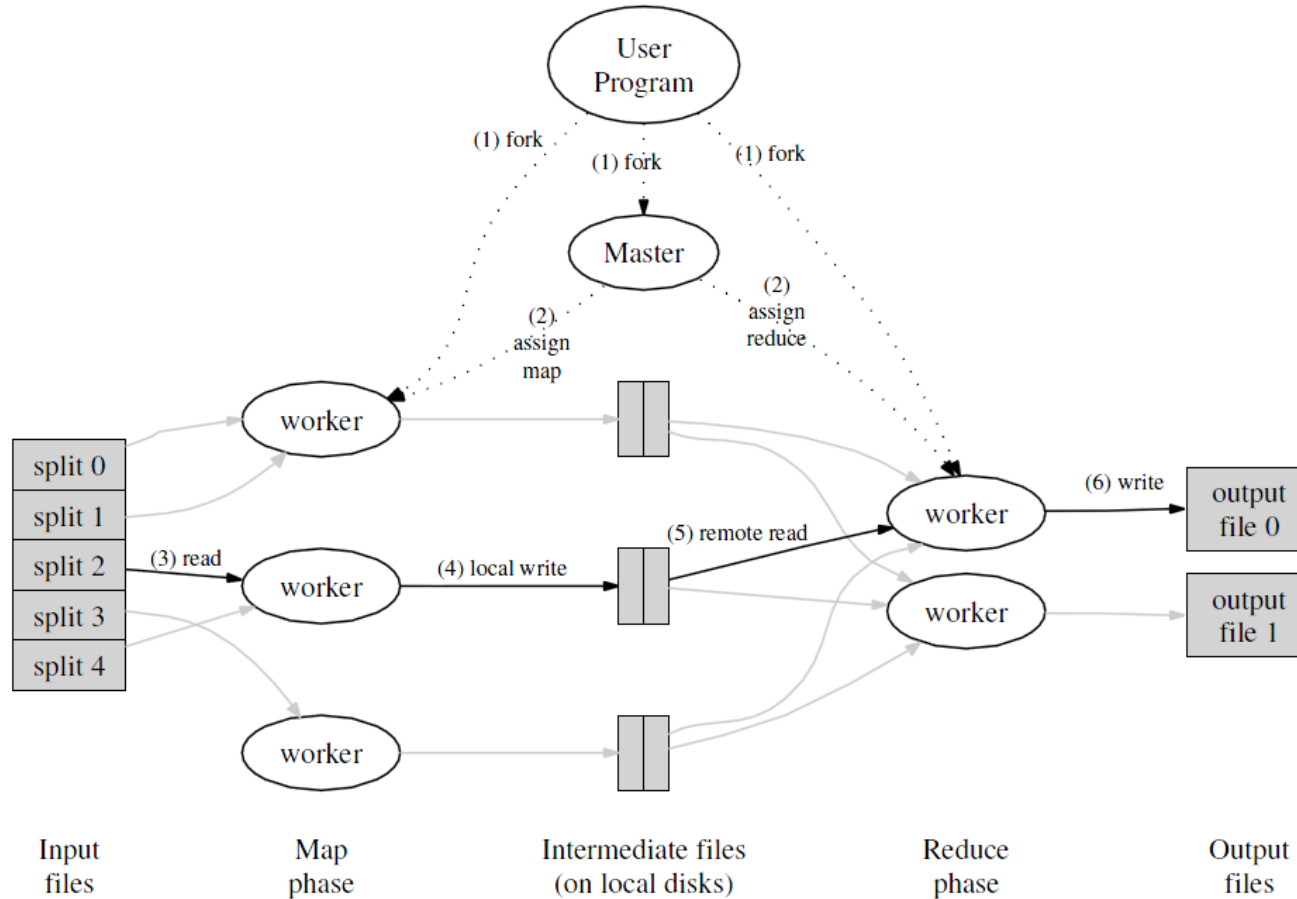
NoSQL Technologies



- **MapReduce** programming model
 - running over a distributed file system
- **Key-value** stores
- **Document** databases
- **Column-family** stores
- **Graph** databases



MapReduce: Principles



MapReduce: Features



- MapReduce is a **generic** approach for **distributed** processing of **large** data collections
- **Requires** a way to distribute the **data**
 - and to collect the results back after the processing
- The **user** must only specify two **functions**: **map & reduce**

MapReduce: Implementation



Amazon Elastic
MapReduce



Key-value Stores: Basics



- A simple **hash table** (map), primarily used when all accesses to the database are via **primary key**
 - **key-value** mapping
- In RDBMS world: A table with two columns:
 - ID column (**primary key**)
 - DATA column storing the value (unstructured BLOB)
- Basic **operations**:
 - **Put** a value for a key `put (key, value)`
 - **Get** the value for the key `value := get (key)`
 - **Delete** a key-value `delete (key)`

Key-value Stores: Architecture



1. Embedded systems

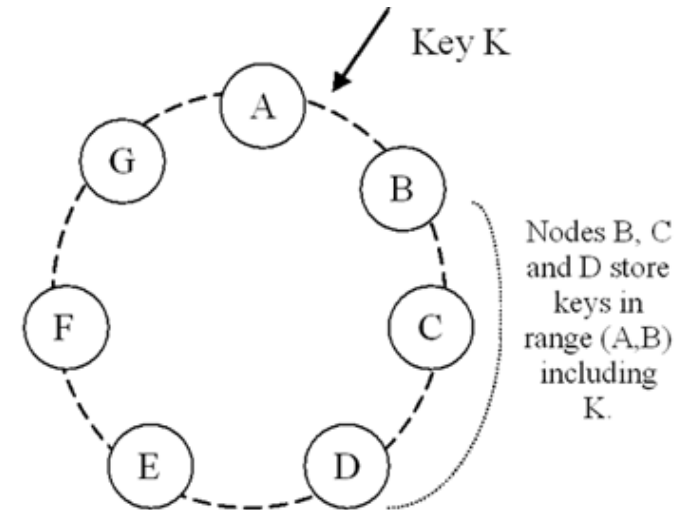
- the system is a **library** and the DB runs **within your** system

2. Large-scale Distributed stores

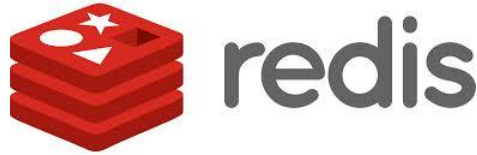
Architecture often as a **distributed hash table (DHT)**

Features: it is **simple**

- great **performance**, easily scaled



Key-value Stores: Representatives



levelDB



Document Databases: Basics



- Basic concept of data: *Document*
- Documents are **self-describing** pieces of data
 - **Hierarchical tree** data structures
 - Nested associative arrays (maps), collections, scalars
 - XML, JSON (JavaScript Object Notation), BSON, ...
- Documents in a **collection** should be “similar”
 - Their **schema** can **differ**
- **Documents** stored in the **value** part of key-value
 - Key-value stores where the values are **examinable**
 - Building search **indexes** on various **keys/fields**

Document Databases: Data Example



```
key=3 -> { "personID": 3,  
            "firstname": "Martin",  
            "likes": [ "Biking", "Photography" ],  
            "lastcity": "Boston",  
            "visited": [ "NYC", "Paris" ] }
```

```
key=5 -> { "personID": 5,  
            "firstname": "Pramod",  
            "citiesvisited": [ "Chicago", "London", "NYC" ],  
            "addresses": [  
                { "state": "AK",  
                  "city": "DILLINGHAM" },  
                { "state": "MH",  
                  "city": "PUNE" } ],  
            "lastcity": "Chicago" }
```

Document Databases: Queries



Example in **MongoDB** syntax

- **Query** language expressed via **JSON**
- clauses: where, sort, count, sum, etc.

SQL: SELECT * FROM users

MongoDB: db.users.find()

SELECT * FROM users WHERE personID = 3

db.users.find({ "personID": 3 })

SELECT firstname, lastcity FROM users WHERE personID = 5

db.users.find({ "personID": 5}, {firstname:1, lastcity:1})

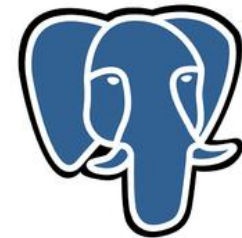
Document Databases: Representatives



databricks



Azure Cosmos DB



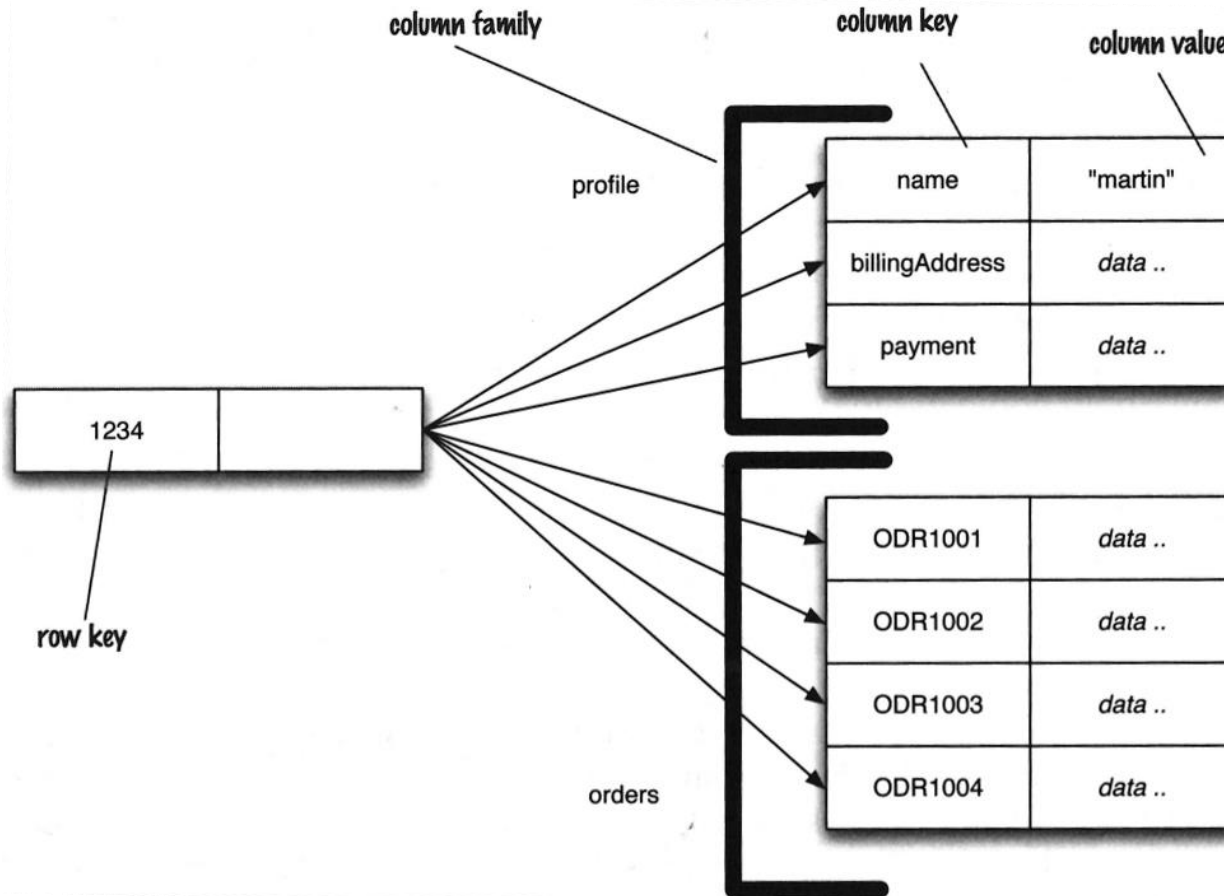
PostgreSQL

Column-family Stores: Basics



- AKA: wide-column, columnar
- Data model: **rows** (each identified with a row key)
each row can have **many columns**
- **Column families** are groups of related data (columns) that are often **accessed together**
 - e.g., for a **customer** we typically access all **profile** information at the same time, but not customer's **orders**

Column-family Stores: Example



Column-family Stores: BigTable

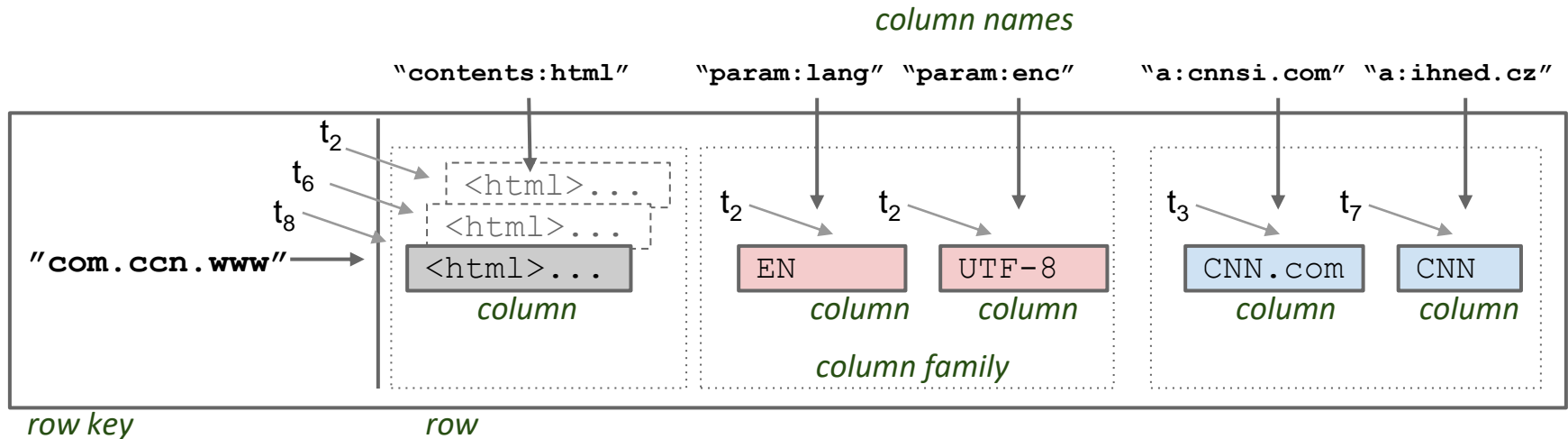


- 2008: **Google** publishes **Bigtable** Paper
- “BigTable = sparse, distributed, persistent, multi-dimensional sorted map indexed by (*row_key*, *column_key*, *timestamp*)”

Column-family Stores: BigTable



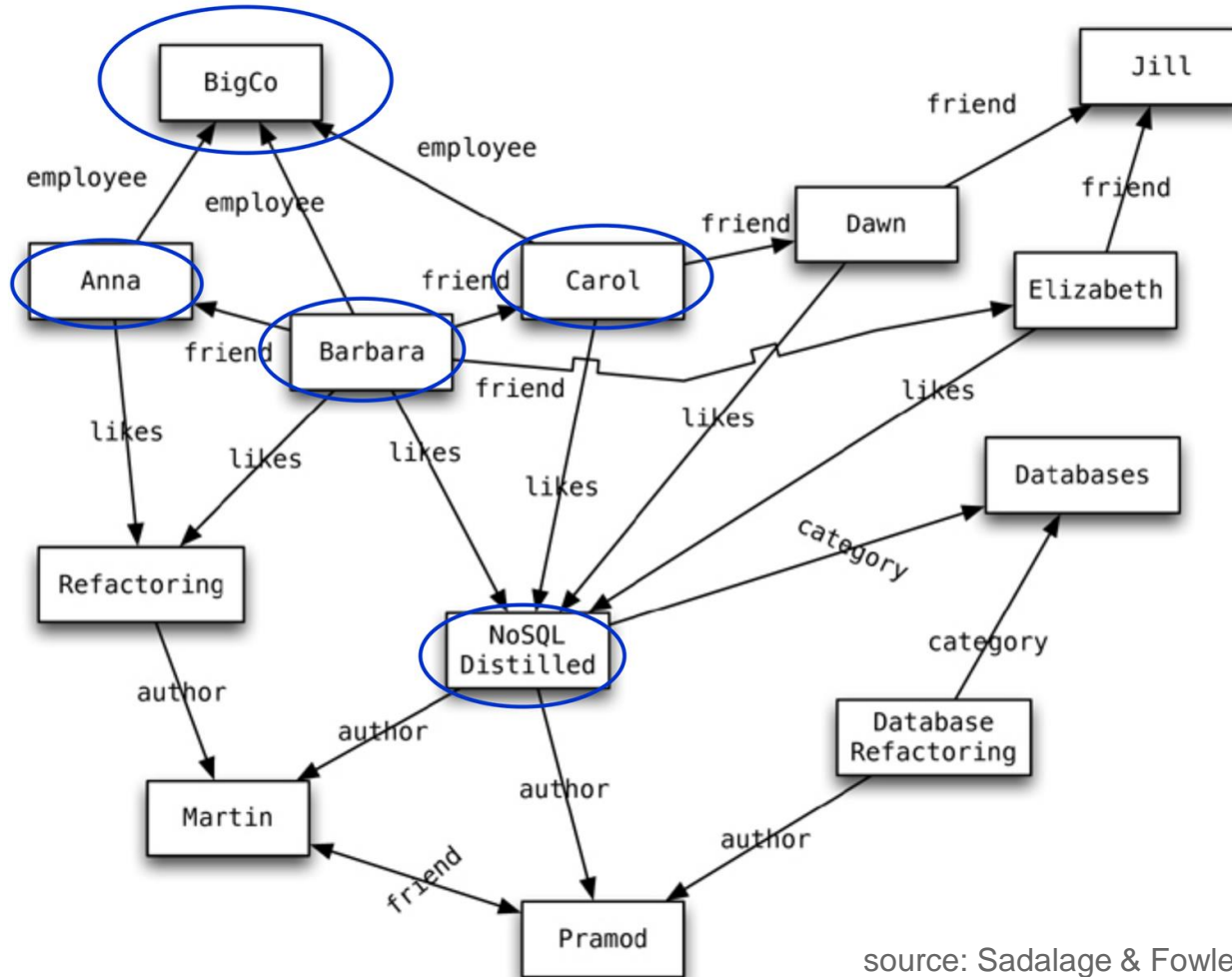
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Column-family Stores: Representatives



Graph Databases: Example



Graph Databases: Mission



- To store **entities** and **relationships** between them
 - **Nodes** are instances of objects
 - Nodes have **properties**, e.g., name
 - **Edges** have **directional** significance
 - Edges have **types** e.g., likes, friend, ...
- Nodes are organized by **relationships**
 - Allow to find interesting patterns
 - Example: Get all nodes that are “employee” of “Big Company” and that “likes” “NoSQL Distilled”

Graph Databases: Graphs in RDBMS



- When we store a **graph**-like structure in **RDBMS**, it is for a **single** type of **relationship**
 - “Who is my manager”
- **Adding** another relationship usually means a lot of **schema changes**
- In RDBMS, **we model** the graph **beforehand** based on the **traversal** we want
 - If the traversal changes, the data will have to change
 - **Graph DBs**: the relationship is not calculated but persisted

Graph Databases: Representatives



Ranked list: <http://db-engines.com/en/ranking/graph+dbms>

One Example: Facebook



Facebook statistics (2016)



- **1.86 billion** monthly active users
- **4 million** 'likes' per minute
- **250 billion** stored photos (350 million uploaded daily)
- **300 PB** of user data stored (2014)

2009: 10,000 servers

2010: 30,000 servers

2012: 180,000 servers (estimated)

source: <http://expandedramblings.com/index.php/by-the-numbers-17-amazing-facebook-stats/>
<https://www.brandwatch.com/blog/47-facebook-statistics-2016/>

Facebook: Database Tech. Behind



Apache Hadoop <http://hadoop.apache.org/>



- **Hadoop File System (HDFS)**
 - over 100 PB in a single HDFS cluster
- an open source implementation of **MapReduce**:
 - Enables efficient calculations on massive amounts of data

Apache Hive <http://hive.apache.org/>



- **SQL-like access** to Hadoop-stored data
- integration of **MapReduce** query evaluation

Facebook: Database Tech. Behind (2)



Apache HBase <http://hbase.apache.org/>



- a Hadoop **column-family** database
- used for e-mails, instant messaging and SMS
- **replacement** for MySQL and Cassandra
- but Instagram uses



Cassandra

Memcached <http://memcached.org/>



- distributed key-value store
- used as a **cache** between web servers and MySQL servers in the beginning of FB

Questions?



Please, any **questions**? Good question is a **gift**...

Found a bug/imprecision?

Please, report it by email.

References



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