A Tale of Two Databases with DynamoDB and RDS



Ryan Lewis
WEB ENGINEER

@ryanmurakami www.ryanhlewis.com

Summary

Relational Introduction Service

A Database has to start somewhere

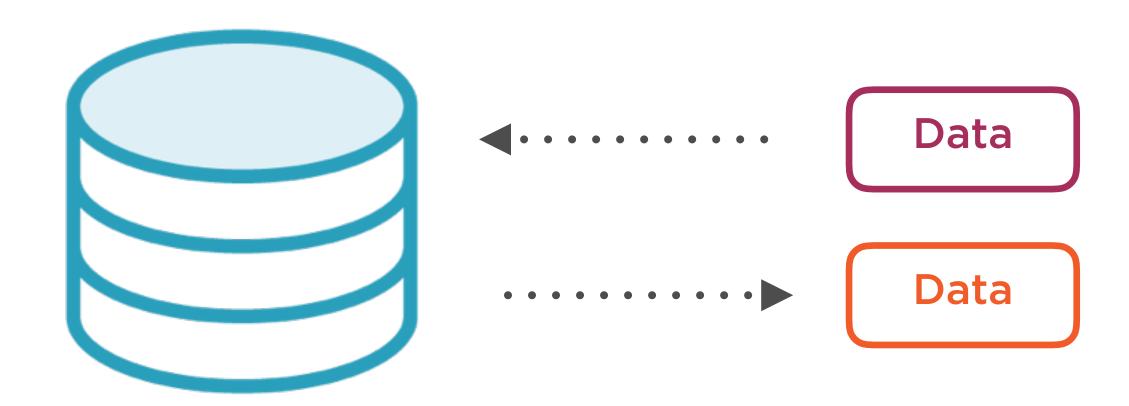
Database Connection Protocol

Back to the DynamoDB Basics

Bringing data to the Table

Relational Database Service (RDS) Overview

Databases





Database Admin



Developer



Software Updates

Performance

Backups

Relational Database Service

Managed database instances in AWS running on EC2

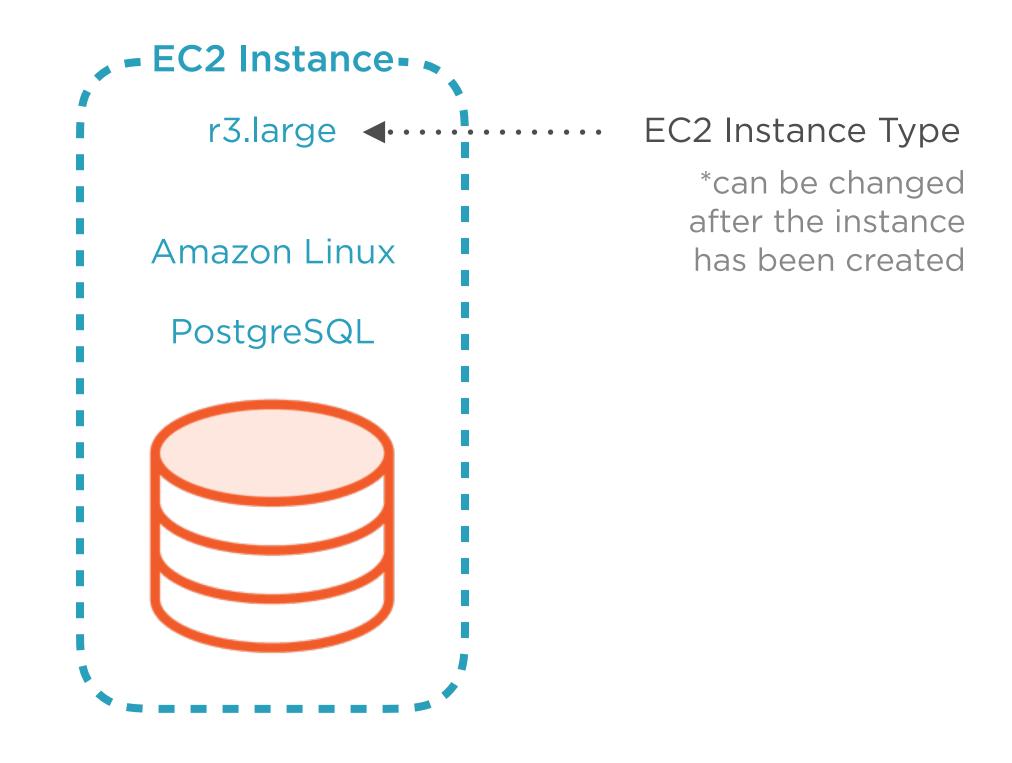
RDS Managed Task Examples

Software Upgrades

Nightly Database Backups

Monitoring

RDS Instance Architecture





RDS Backups

Occurs daily

Configurable backup window

Backups stored 1 - 35 days

Restore database from backup

Multi-AZ Deployment Database replication to different Availability Zone

Automatic failover in case of catastrophic event

Database Read Replica

Non-production copy of database

Eventual consistency with source

Useful for running queries on data

Will not be used as failover

Choosing a Database Engine in RDS

RDS Database Options











Amazon Aurora

What database type are you using locally?

How much do you want to spend?

What database type do you have the most experience with?

Which database client do you like the most?

Creating a Database in RDS



Create a PostgreSQL Database Instance

Connecting to a Database in RDS



Connect to Postgres Database with Postico

PostgreSQL Clients

pgAdmin

Postico

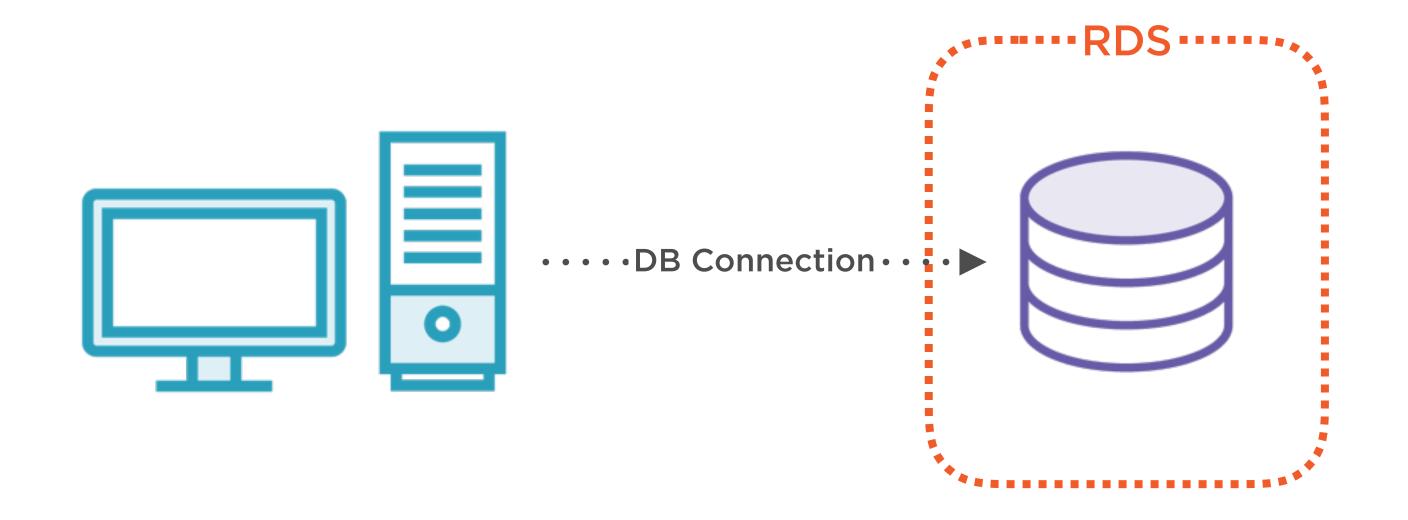
Free, Cross-Platform

Free Trial, Mac Only

https://www.pgadmin.org/

https://eggerapps.at/postico/

Interacting with RDS in Code



Object Relational Mapping (ORM)

Converts between database records and in-code "Objects"

Sequelize

Node.js ORM library
Supports PostgreSQL, MySQL, and more

DynamoDB Overview

Why Do We Need a Database?

Persistance between application restarts
Scalability when activity increases

Database Services in AWS

RDS

DynamoDB

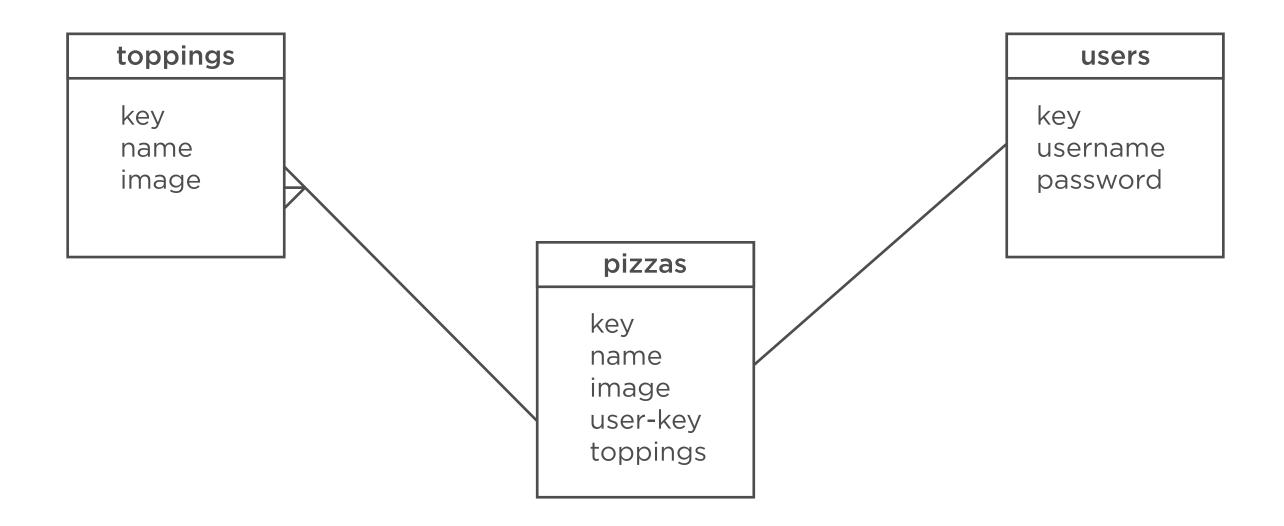
Relational

Non-Relational

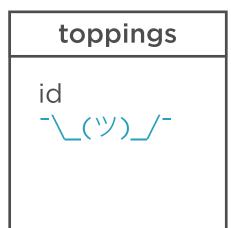
SQL

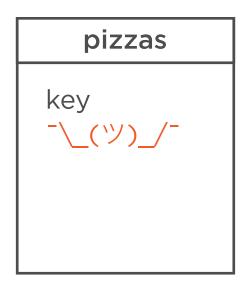
NoSQL

Relational Database Design Example



DynamoDB Design Example







Table

Item

Primary Key (required)

Item

Primary Key (required)

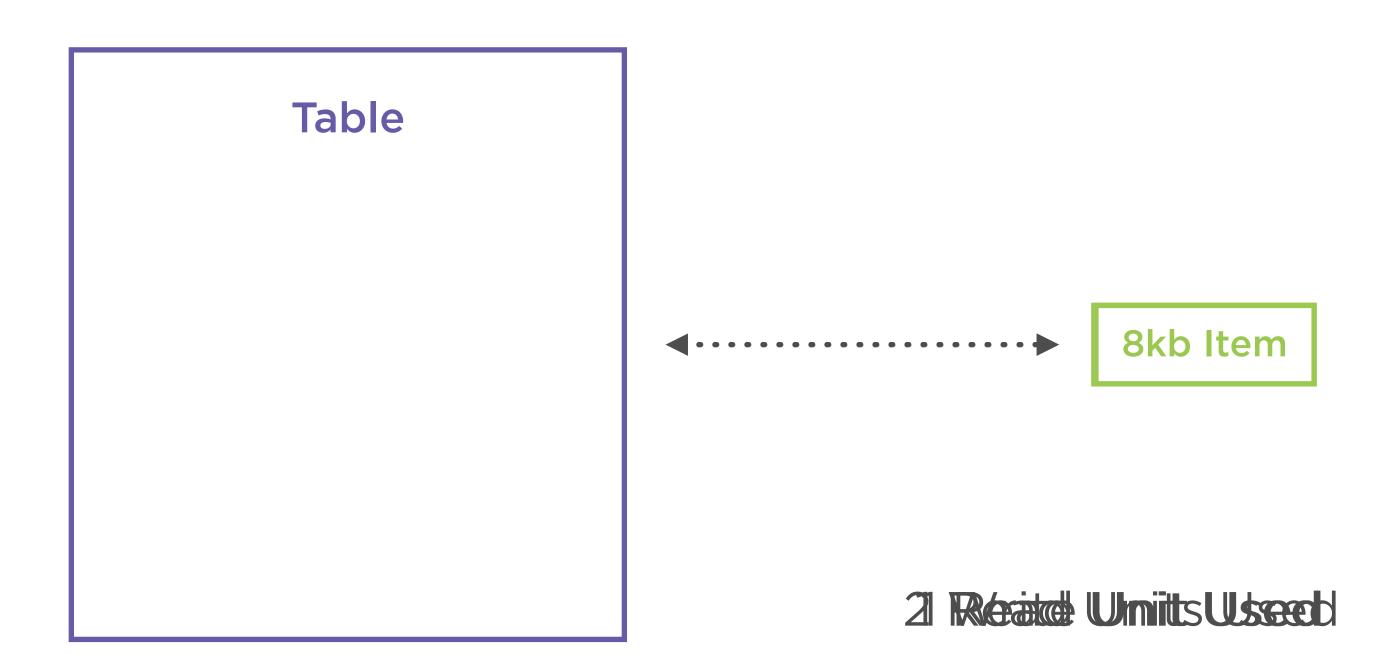
Item

Primary Key (required)

Provisioned Throughput Capacity

Read/Write operations per second provisioned for your DynamoDB table

Provisioned Throughput Example



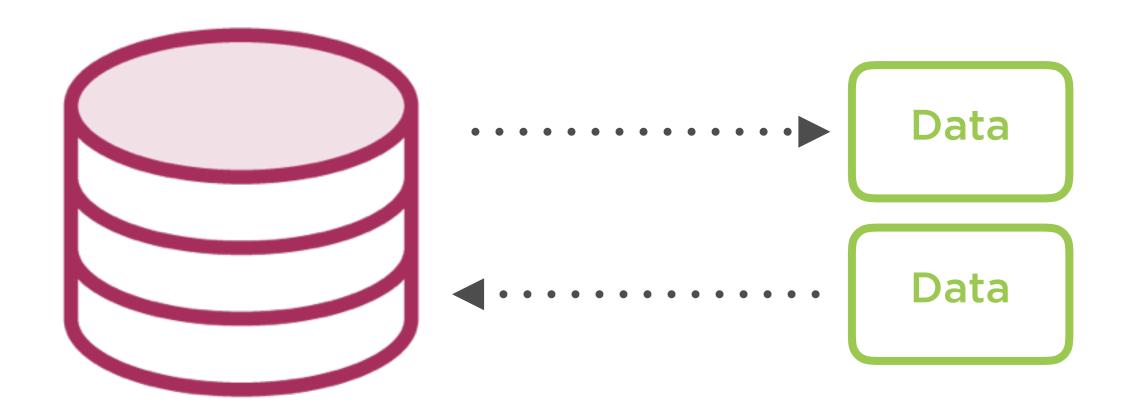
DynamoDB will throttle or deny requests that exceed the table's provisioned throughput capacity

Deciding Between RDS and DynamoDB

Relational or Non-Relational?

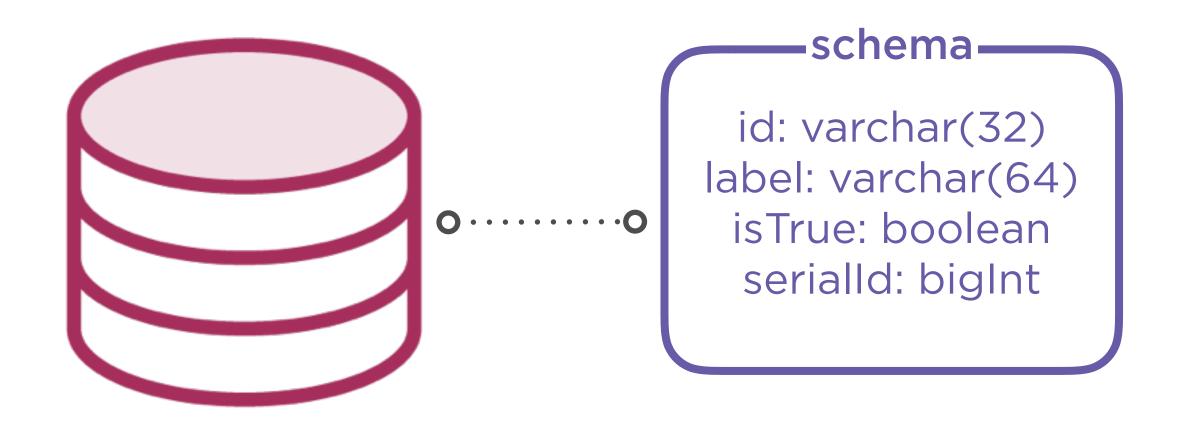
SQL or NoSQL?

Relational DB



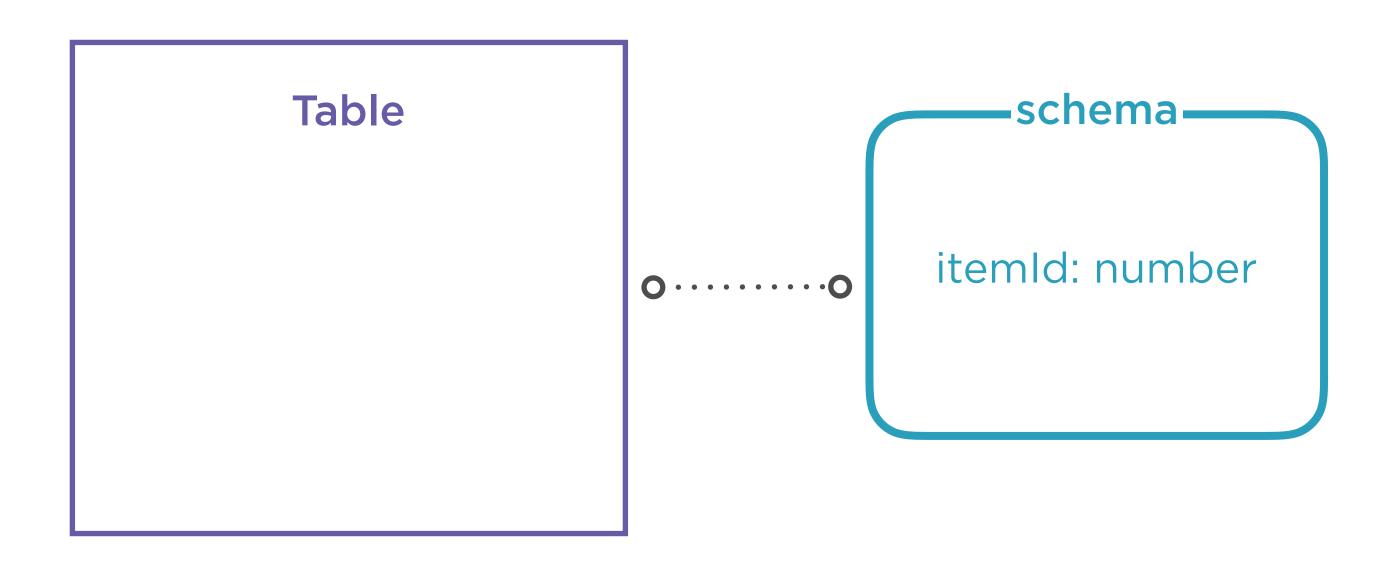
Efficient Data Transfer & Storage

Relational DB



Strict Record Schema

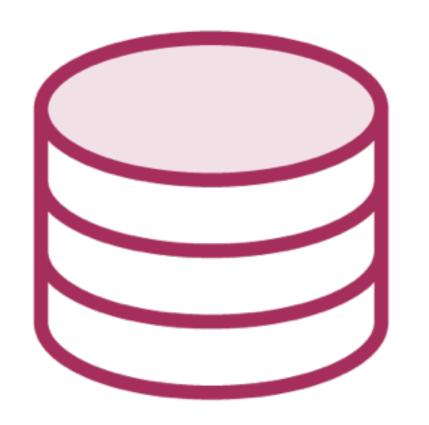
DynamoDB



No Schema; Only Primary Key Restriction

DynamoDB has Storage Flexibility

Relational DB



SELECT id,
label
FROM my_table
WHERE isTrue = true

Easy Querying with SQL

DynamoDB

Table ◄·····query ····· itemId = 12345

Limited Query Properties

RDS has Query Flexibility

Storage Flexibility vs Query Flexibility

DynamoDB

RDS

Creating a Table in DynamoDB



Create DynamoDB Tables for Toppings and Users

Connecting to DynamoDB with Code



Create Module to Interact with DynamoDB

To run on EC2 add

AmazonRDSFullAccess and

AmazonDynamoDBFullAccess

to the pizza-ec2-role

Conclusion

Summary

Relational Database Fundamentals

Pepperoni Pizzabase

The key to the table

Dynamo launched

Up Next:

Automating Your App with Elastic Beanstalk and CloudFormation

Elastic Beanstalk & CloudFormation

Automated Application Deployment

Infrastructure as Code