Data store selection

Document databases

- A document database is conceptually similar to a key/value store, except that it stores a collection of named fields and data (known as documents),
- Unlike key/value stores, the fields in documents are exposed to the storage management system, enabling an application to query and filter data by using the values in these fields.
- document contains the entire data for an entity
- Pros
  - A document store does not require that all documents have the same structure.
  - unique identifier for the document, which is often hashed, to help distribute data evenly
  - Some document databases support indexing to facilitate fast lookup of documents based on one or more indexed fields.
- Read and write operations over multiple fields in a single document are usually atomic.
- Sub documents are also allowed in few document DB

Column-family databases

- A column-family database organizes data into rows and columns.
- The real power of a column-family database lies in its denormalized approach to structuring sparse data.
- columns are divided into groups known as column families. Each column family holds a set of columns that are logically related together and are typically retrieved or manipulated as a unit
- this form of data store highly suited for storing structured, volatile data.
- most column-family databases store data in key order, rather than by computing a hash.
- Read and write operations for a row are usually atomic with a single column-family, although some implementations provide atomicity across the entire row, spanning multiple column-families.

Search Engine Databases

- A search engine database can be used to index massive volumes of data and provide near real-time access to these indexes.
- PROs
  - ability to store and index information very quickly, and provide fast response times for search requests
  - Indexes can be multi-dimensional and may support free-text searches across large volumes of text data.
- Searching can be exact or fuzzy
  - A fuzzy search finds documents that match a set of terms and calculates how closely they match.

Object storage

- optimized for storing and retrieving large binary objects (images, files, video and audio streams, large application data objects and documents, virtual machine disk images)

Graph databases

- A graph database stores two types of information, nodes and edges
- Both nodes and edges can have properties that provide information about that node or edge, similar to columns in a table
- Edges can also have a direction indicating the nature of the relationship.
- The purpose of a graph database is to allow an application to efficiently perform queries that traverse the network of nodes and edges, and to analyze the relationships between entities.

Key/value stores

- a large hash table
- Each data value has a unique key
- key/value store uses this key to store the data by using an appropriate hashing function
- To modify a value (either partially or completely), an application must overwrite the existing data for the entire value
- reading or writing a single value is an atomic operation
- values are blobs and the key/value store simply retrieves or stores the value by key.
- Schemaless so application will interpret the schema
- PRos
  - Key/value stores are highly optimized for applications performing simple lookups
  - performing lookups based only on keys
  - A single key/value store can be extremely scalable, as the data store can easily distribute data across multiple nodes on separate machines.
- CONs
  - less suitable for systems that need to query data across different key/value stores
  - Key/value stores are also not optimized for scenarios where querying by value is important,

RDBMS

- ACID
- SQL
- schema-on-write model
- data structure is defined ahead of time
- all read or write operations must use the schema
- joins cause bottlenecks on read, with data distributed across a cluster, this model does not scale horizontally
- useful when
  - strong consistency guarantees are importan
  - where all changes are atomic, and transactions always leave the data in a consistent state
- Cons
  - structures do not lend themselves to scaling out by distributing storage and processing across machines

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Data Modeling

- RDBMS
  - the focus and effort is around describing the entity and its relation with other entities
  - the queries and indexes are designed later
  - normalize your schema, which eliminates redundant data and makes storage efficient
  - Entity Relationship
    - Entities: Main objects in your application
    - Attributes: properties of the objects in your application
    - Relationships: connections between entities - 1-1, 1-many, many-many
  - Normalisation
  - Denormalisation

Factors

- Feature set
- Cost
- ease of management

Time Series Databases

- Time series data is a set of values organized by time, and a time series database is a database that is optimized for this type of data
- must support a very high number of writes, as they typically collect large amounts of data in real time from a large number of source
- Updates are rare, and deletes are often done as bulk operations
- Time series databases are good for storing telemetry data. Scenarios include IoT sensors or application/system counters.

Data analytics

- Data analytics stores provide massively parallel solutions for ingesting, storing, and analyzing data.

Shared files

Feature

- multimodel support
- polyglot persistence