

COM3504/6504 The Intelligent Web

Lecture 6: MongoDB



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Learning Objectives

- During this unit you will learn about:
 - Relational vs. NoSQL Databases
 - Types of NoSQL Databases
 - What is MongoDB
 - How do we query it
 - How do we connect to MongoDB
 - How do we model the data





Large scale data storage

- Large providers such as social media providers need to scale up their infrastructure
 - both physical (number of servers) and software
- Their infrastructure is composed of hundreds of thousands of physical servers
 - Failure of nodes is expected, rather than exceptional
 - They require to build in backup and failover.
 - The number of nodes in a cluster is not constant





Relational databases

- •Relational databases (e.g. MySQL) are based on the idea of storing data through a standard data modeling and query language
 - SQL
- •Since the rise of the web, the volume of data stored has increased
- Data is also accessed more frequently, and is processed more intensively
- •Relational databases were never designed to cope with the scale and agility challenges





How are relational DB used

- We need to define structure and schema of data first and then only we can process the data
- They are designed for the old mainframe world
 - They provides consistency and integrity of data
 - Useful in e.g. a banking system
 - But a significant performance overhead with large distributed data
- They require vertical scaling (i.e. increasing resources to the existing machine)



How are relational DB used – cont.

- They are designed for a world where the data is to be mapped into a predefined structure
- Most applications store their data in JSON format
 - which is flexible by design
- Conversion of data has an enormous overhead in applications with high throughput
 - in one of our applications with 1 million users sending location data at high velocity
 - conversion from JSON to relational data was the single bottleneck





NoSQL databases

- NoSQL databases are characterised by
 - Dynamic schemas
 - to allow the insertion of data without a predefined schema
 - But you can use one if best for your application
 - •We will see how to use one
 - easy to make significant application changes in real-time
 - Relational databases require schemas to be defined before you can add data.
 - Changes require downtime





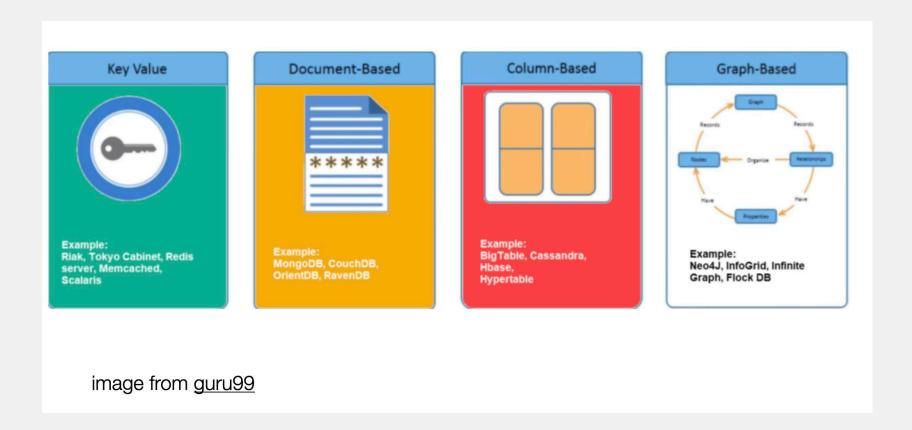
NoSQL databases – cont.

- NoSQL databases are characterised by
 - Auto-sharding, replication and integrated caching
 - Sharding is creating partitions in DBs to allow for fastdata processing
 - •relational databases usually scale vertically a single server has to host the entire database to ensure reliability and continuous availability of data
 - NoSQL DBs automatically scale horizontally, by adding servers instead of concentrating more capacity in a single server.
 - Distributed architecture
 - automatic replication, meaning that you get high availability and disaster recovery
 - •integrated caching capabilities, keeping frequently-used data in system memory, removing the need for a separate caching layer





NoSQL databases – many different types







Key-value stores



- Key-value stores
 - •e.g. Riak and Voldemort.





Document stores

- Document databases pair each key with a complex data structure known as a document.
 - MONGODB
 - •Documents can contain many different key-value pairs, or key- array pairs, or even nested documents.





Wide Column stores

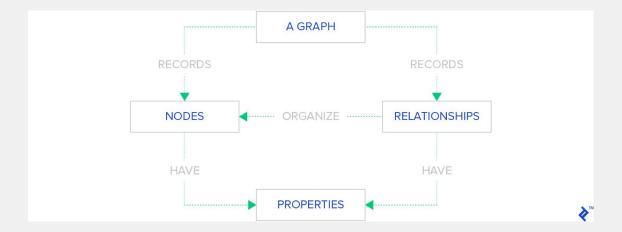
- Data is stored in columns, as opposed to rows in SQL DBs
- Fast read/write access to the data stored
- Enable effective compression as columns are typically largely uniform
- Focus on querying on one aspect of the data (e.g. price over time) rather than the entire record (price of company x between two periods)
- e.g. Cassandra and HBase
 - optimized for queries over large datasets
- BigQuery
 - created by Google for their core search engine storage system





Graph stores

- A directed graph structure is used to represent the data
- Graphs are composed of edges and nodes
- Typically used in social networking applications.
- Graph databases allow developers to focus more on relations than on objects
 - •e.g. Neo4J and HyperGraphDB.







An overview

	Storage Type	Query Method	Interface	Programming Language	Open Source	Replication
Cassandra	Column Store	Thrift API	Thrift	Java	Yes	Async
MongoDB	Document Store	Mongo Query	TCP/IP	C++	Yes	Async
HyperTable	Column Store	HQL	Thrift	Java	Yes	Async
CouchDB	Document Store	MapReduce	REST	Erlang	Yes	Async
BigTable	Column Store	MapReduce	TCP/IP	C++	No	Async
HBase	Column Store	MapReduce	REST	Java	Yes	Async





Issues with NoSQL DB

- No standardisation for data into relations
 - Freedom but also a damning feature if overused
- Limited query capabilities
- No automatic consistency checking
 - e.g. when multiple transactions are performed simultaneously
- Eventual consistency is not appropriate for every application





MONGODB



https://docs.mongodb.com/gettingstarted/shell/introduction/

What is MongoDB

- MongoDB is an open-source document database that provides
 - high performance
 - high availability
 - automatic scaling
- It is a NoSQL database
 - Document database
 - Suitable for high volume data storage
- MongoDB is written in C++





Advantages



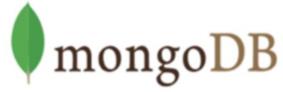
Faster process



Open Source



Sharding





Schemaless



Document based



No SQL Injection





Structure

- Each database contains collections
 - which in turn contains documents.
- Each document can be different with a varying number of fields.
 - •The size and content of each document can be different from each other.
- The document structure is in line with how developers construct their classes and objects
- The data model allows you to represent hierarchical relationships, to store arraysetc.





Documents

- A record in MongoDB is a document, which is a data structure composed of field and value pairs.
- MongoDB documents are similar to JSON objects.
- The values of fields may include other documents, arrays, and arrays ofdocuments

SQL Records -> Mongos' Documents





Collections

- MongoDB stores documents in collections. Collections are analogous to tables in relational databases.
 - Unlike a table, however, a collection does not require its documents to have the same schema
- In MongoDB, documents stored in a collection must have a unique _id field that acts as
- a primary key

SQL Relations -> Mongos' Collections





Example

 Example of a MongoDB document describing a restaurant

```
"_id": ObjectId("54c955492b7c8eb21818bd09"),
"address" : {
 "street": "2 Avenue",
 "zipcode": "10075",
 "building" : "1480",
 "coord" : [ -73.9557413, 40.7720266 ]
"borough" : "Manhattan",
"cuisine" : "Italian",
"grades" : [
   "date": ISODate("2014-10-01T00:00:00Z"),
   "grade" : "A",
   "score": 11
   "date": ISODate("2014-01-16T00:00:00Z"),
   "grade" : "B",
   "score": 17
"name" : "Vella",
"restaurant_id" : "41704620"
```





BSON

 Mongo's documents are internally represented as binary JSON

```
JSON-style Document represented as BSON
        {"hello": "world"}
    x16x00x00x00
    \x00\x06\x00\x00\x00\x00world
    \x00\x00
```



BASIC MONGODB COMMANDS





Create a database

- · Tocreate a database in MongoDB,
 - start by creating a MongoClient object,
 - then specify a connection URL with
 - the correct ip addressand
 - the name of the database you want to create.
- MongoDB will create the database if it does not exist, and make a connection to it.





Create a database — cont.

- Remember In MongoDB, a database is not created until it gets content!
 - waits until you have created a collection with at least one document before it actually creates it





Example

Example

Create a database called "mydb":

```
var MongoClient = require('mongodb').MongoClient;
var url = "mongodb://localhost:27017/mydb";

MongoClient.connect(url, function(err, db) {
   if (err) throw err;
   console.log("Database created!");
   db.close();
});
```



Create a collection

• To create a collection in MongoDB: createCollection() method

```
MongoClient
                    = require('mongodb').MongoClient;
var
     url = "mongodb://localhost:27017/mydb";
var
MongoClient.connect(url, function(err,
                                                  db) {
 if
         (err)
                throw err;
          dbo = db.db("mydb");
 var
     dbo.createCollection("cats",
                                          function(err, res) { if (err)
                                                                                  throw
                                                                                           err;
          console.log("Collection
                                         created!"); db.close();
 });
});
```





Inserting a document

- Tocreate a document
 - insertOne()method.
- It takes as parameters
 - an object containing the name(s) and value(s) of each field in the document
 - •A callback function where you can work with any errors, or the result of the insertion





Inserting a document - example

```
var MongoClient = require('mongodb').MongoClient;
var url = "mongodb://localhost:27017/";
MongoClient.connect(url, function(err, db) {
    (err) throw err;
     dbo = db.db("mydb");
 var
     myobj = { name: "Neve", breed: "Angora" };
 var
dbo.collection("cats").insertOne(myobj, function(err, res) {
            (err) throw err;
        console.log("1 document inserted"); db.close();
 });
});
```





Finding a document

- Tofind a document
 - findOne()method.
- It takes as parameters
 - an object containing the query
 - If empty finds all
 - •A callback function where you can work with any errors, or the result of the function





Finding a document - example

```
MongoClient
var
require('mongodb').MongoClient;
     url = "mongodb://localhost:27017/";
var
MongoClient.connect(url, function(err,
                                                db) {
  if
         (err)
               throw
                         err;
      dbo = db.db("mydb");
  var
dbo.collection("cats").findOne({}), function(err, result) {
                       throw err; console.log(result.name); console.log(result.breed);
       db.close();
  });
});
```





Querying a document

- Toquery adocument
 - find()method.
- It takes as parameters
 - an object containing the query
 - used to limit the search.
 - Can use regular expressions
 - •A callback function where you can work with any errors, or the result of the function





Querying a document - example

```
MongoClient = require('mongodb').MongoClient;
var
    url = "mongodb://localhost:27017/";
var
MongoClient.connect(url, function(err,
                                             db) {
 if
        (err) throw err;
      dbo = db.db("mydb");
 var
         query = { breed: "Angora" };
 var
dbo.collection("cats").find(query).toArray(function(err, result) {
             (err) throw err; console.log(result); db.close();
 });
});
```





Other commands

- sort()
 - sort the result in ascending or descending order
 - sort object takes as value
 - 1 ascending
 - -1 descending

```
    var mysort = { name: 1 };
    dbo.collection("customers").find().sort(mysort).toArray(function(e rr, result))
```

- deleteOne()
 - defining which document to delete.





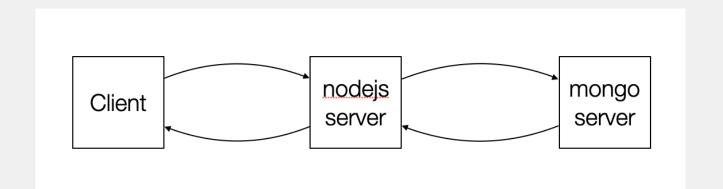
Other commands – cont.

- drop()
 - Deletes a collection
- updateOne()
 - Updates a document.

```
MongoClient.connect(url, function(err, db) {
   if (err) throw err;
   var dbo = db.db("mydb");
   var myquery = { name: "Neve" };
   var newvalues = { $set: {name: "Neve",
   breed: "Turkish Van" } };
   dbo.collection("cats").updateOne(myquery,
   newvalues, function(err, res) {
      if (err) throw err;
      console.log("1
      document
      updated");
      db.close();
   });
```



A separate process



- Mongo, as any db system, must run in a separate process from your main nodejs server
 - remember: nodeJS is fast and scalable but no long-running process is to be run on its single thread
- Create a separate process for that and connect using the appropriate library
 - Mongoose in our case





How to connect MongoDB to Node.JS

- First of all you must download MongoDB
 - https://www.mongodb.com/download-center/ community
- To access Mongo from within a Node application, a driver is required.
 - There are number of Mongo drivers available
 - Mongoose and MongoDB are among the most popular.
- You can install it from command line or IntelliJ
 - We will do this in the live lesson





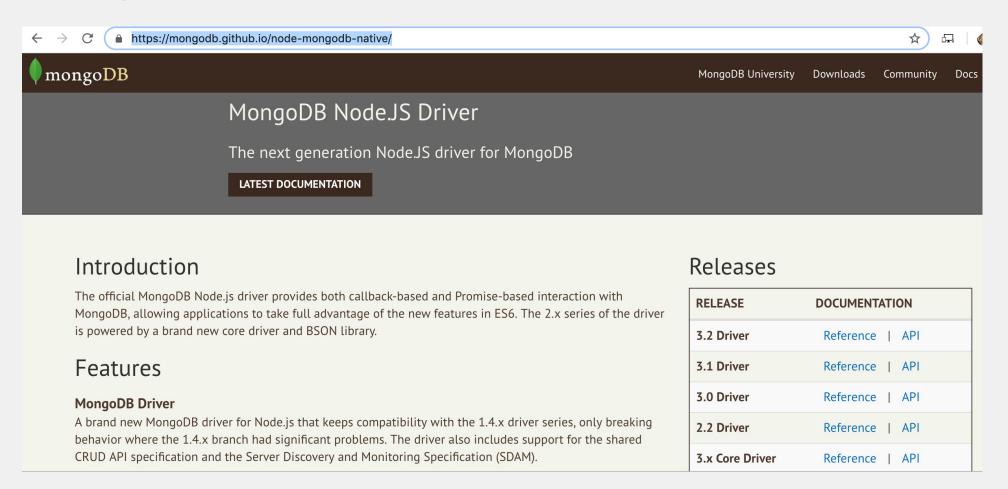
Mongoose and MongoDB driver

- MongoDB driver is the native driver for interacting with a mongodb instance
- Mongoose is an Object modeling tool for MongoDB
 - •built upon the MongoDB driver to provide programmers with a way to model their data.
 - Abstraction layer over MongoDB
 - We will use both!





MongoDB driver







Mongoose



npm install mongoose

```
// Using Node.js `require()`
const mongoose = require('mongoose');
```





USING MONGOOSE AND DATA MODELS





Why?

- Using an Object Data Model ("ODM") / Object Relational Model ("ORM")
 - Allows to represent our data as JavaScript objects
 - which are then mapped to the underlying database.
- Advantages
 - •It is consistent with the language you are using
 - You can continue to think in terms of JavaScript objects rather than database ones
- Mongoose acts as a front end to MongoDB





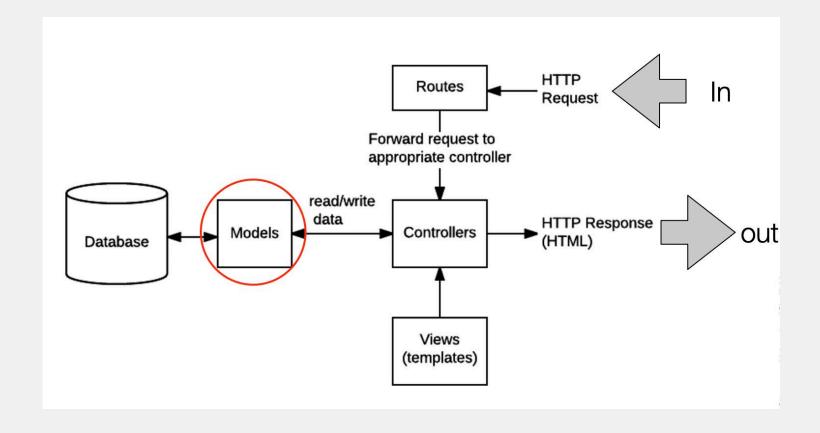
Why? – cont.

- Creating a data model allows you to reason on your data
- It helps to
 - validate data integrity of documents
 - Ensure legibility/maintenance
- When designing your models you should have separate models for every "object" (a group of related information)
 - e.g. a model for cats, dogs, instance of cats, instances of dogs
- You can think in terms of UML diagrams if it helps





Do you remember this?







How to create models

- Models are defined using the Schema interface:
 - the fields stored in each document
 - their validation requirements and default values.
 - static and instance helper methods
 - virtual properties
 - Are not stored in the database but can be used





How to create models – cont.

- •Each model maps to a *collection* of *documents* in the MongoDB database.
- •Schemas are then "compiled" into models using the mongoose.model() method.
 - you can use it to find, create, update, and delete





Like Java

- · A schema is the equivalent of a java interface
 - · it must be implemented in a model before being used
- Unlike java interfaces however, itdefines types and restrictions
- It is not an instance that can be used





Example

```
// grab the things we need
var mongoose = require('mongoose');
                                                           Uses mongoose
var Schema = mongoose.Schema;
                                                   Creates a new Schema
// create a schema
                                            Creates a schema of a cat with some variables
var catSchema = new Schema({
    name: String,
    breed: String,
    location: String,
    age: Number,
    created at: Date.
    updated at: Date
}):
catSchema.methods.catOfTheMonth = function() {
                                                            Creates a method that does something
    // add some stuff to the users name
    this.name = this.name + '- Cat of the Month';
    return this.name;
};
// the schema is useless so far
// we need to create a model using it
var Cat = mongoose.model('Cat', catSchema);
Creates a model of my cat
// make this available to our users in our Node applications
module.exports = Cat;
```



Compiling a schema into a model

- The Schema allows you to define the fields stored in each document along with their validation requirements and default values.
- Schemas are then "compiled" into models using the mongoose.model() method.
- Once you have a model you can use it to
 - find,
 - create,
 - · update,
 - delete

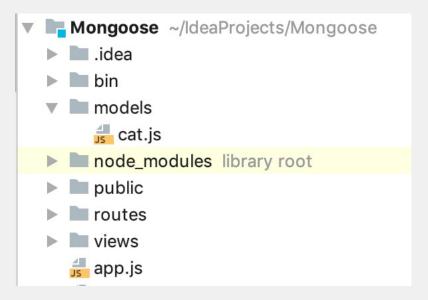
instances of that model (i.e. records in the db)





How to save models

- · Your models will be saved as a .js file
- Keep them in a specific folder to keep your code organised
 - E.g. models







Validation

- Mongoose provides built-in and custom validators, and synchronous and asynchronous validators. It allows you to specify both the acceptable range or values and the error message for validation failure in all cases.
- Examples of built-in validators
 - Numbers have min and max validators.
 - Strings have:
 - · enum: specifies the set of allowed values for the field.
 - · match: specifies a regular expression that the string must match.
 - maxlength and minlength for the string.





Validation - Example

```
max string length
var Character = new Schema(
        first_name: {type: String, required:true,max:
                                                          100},
        family_name:{type: String, required:true,max:
                                                          100},
        dob: {type: Number, required: true, max: 2020},
        whatever: {type: String} //any other field
);
                                                   max value
```





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Instances

```
new <ModelName>({<fields>}) creates an instance of a model
        Cat = require('./models/cat')
 var
    var cat = new Cat({ name: 'Neve', breed:
        'Angora',
        location: 'Sheffield', age: '12'
 });
 then you can save it into the database (with callback)
 cat.save(function
                      (err, results)
      console.log(results._id);
```



Virtual properties

- Document properties that you can get and set but that do not get persisted to MongoDB
- useful for formatting or combining fields,
 - It is easier and cleaner and uses less disk space
 - it allows for dynamic properties





Virtual properties - example

- a full name virtual property starting from concrete fields called first name and last name
- ·(Dynamic): the age of a person computed from the current year and date of birth

```
// Virtual for age of a person
Character.virtual('age')
.get(function () {
   const currentDate = new Date().getTime();
   return currentDate-this.date_of_birth;
});
```



Searching

- You can search over your objects with the same commands we used before, only calling them on your object
 - i.e. to find a cat

```
var Cat = require('./models/cat')
Cat.find({name: 'Fluffy'}, function(err, results) {
  if (err) throw err;

console.log(results);
});
```



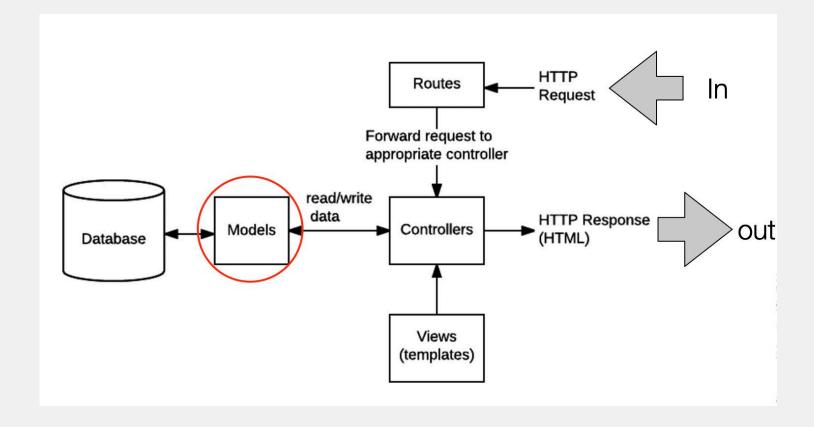


HOW SHOULD A PROJECT LOOK LIKE AT THE END?





The diagram, again!

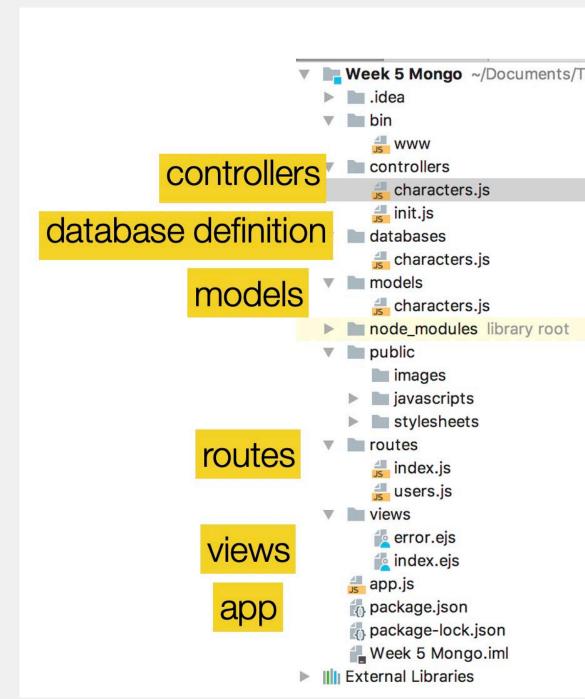






Project Structure

- Your app will be organised in this way
- There is a database called 'cats'
 - which has a model called 'cats' representing name, breed, location and age of each cat





Organising models

- It is
 recommende
 d that you
 define just one
 model per file
 - and then export the model

```
var mongoose = require('mongoose');
var Schema = mongoose.Schema;
// create a schema
var catSchema = new Schema({
   name: String, breed: String,
   location: String, age:
   Number, created_at: Date,
   updated_at: Date
});
// the schema is useless so far
// we need to create a model using it
var Cat = mongoose.model('Cat', catSchema);
// make this available to our users in our Node applications
module.exports = Cat;
```





Controllers

- Controllers are the route-handler callback function
- Controller functions get the requested data from the models, create an HTML page displaying the data, and return it to the user to view





How controllers work

- They Import the models and use the model as an object, e.g.:
 - · then they define a list of exported functions to be used in the routes

```
var Author = require('../models/author');

// Display list of all Authors.
exports.author_list = function(req, res) {
    res.send('NOT IMPLEMENTED: Author list');
};

// Display detail page for a specific Author.
exports.author_detail = function(req, res) {
```





Linking a controller to a route

Once is exported a controller can be used in the routes

```
// POST request to update Author.
router.post('/author/:id/update', author_controller.author_update_post);
// GET request for one Author.
router.get('/author/:id', author_controller.author_detail);
// GET request for list of all Authors.
router.get('/authors', author_controller.author_list);
/// GENRE ROUTES ///
// GET request for creating a Genre. NOTE This must come before route that di
router.get('/genre/create', genre_controller.genre_create_get);
```





Questions



