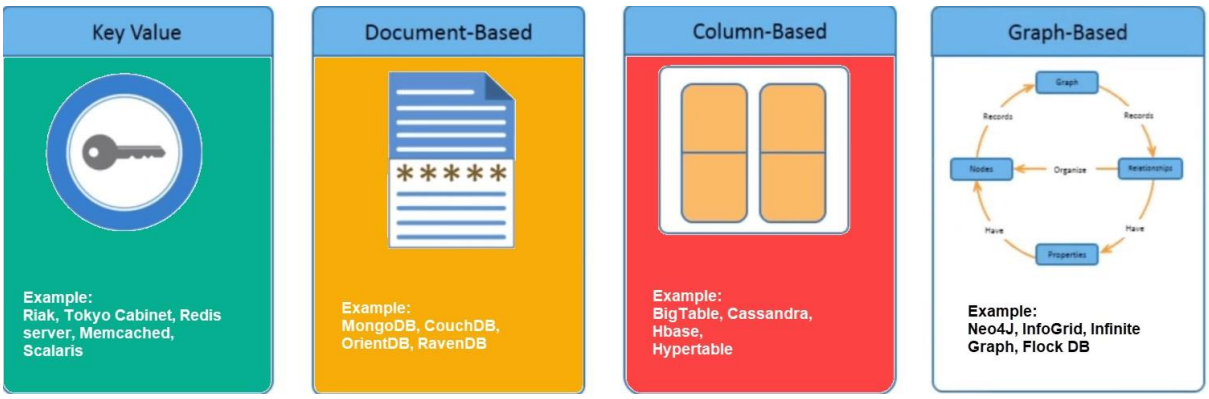
Types of NoSQL Databases / Architectural Patterns

NoSQL Databases are mainly categorized into four types: Key-value pair, Column-oriented, Graph-based and Document-oriented. Every category has its unique attributes and limitations. None of the above-specified database is better to solve all the problems. Users should select the database based on their product needs. Types of NoSQL Databases:

- Key-value Pair Based
- Column-oriented Graph
- Graphs based
- Document-oriented



Key Value Pair Based

Data is stored in key/value pairs. It is designed in such a way to handle lots of data and heavy load.

Key-value pair storage databases store data as a hash table where each key is unique, and the value can be a JSON, BLOB(Binary Large Objects), string, etc.

Key	Value
Name	Joe Bloggs
Age	42
Occupation	Stunt Double
Height	175cm
Weight	77kg

- A key-value store is a simple database that when presented with a simple string (the key) returns an arbitrary large BLOB of data (the value). A key-value store is like a dictionary.

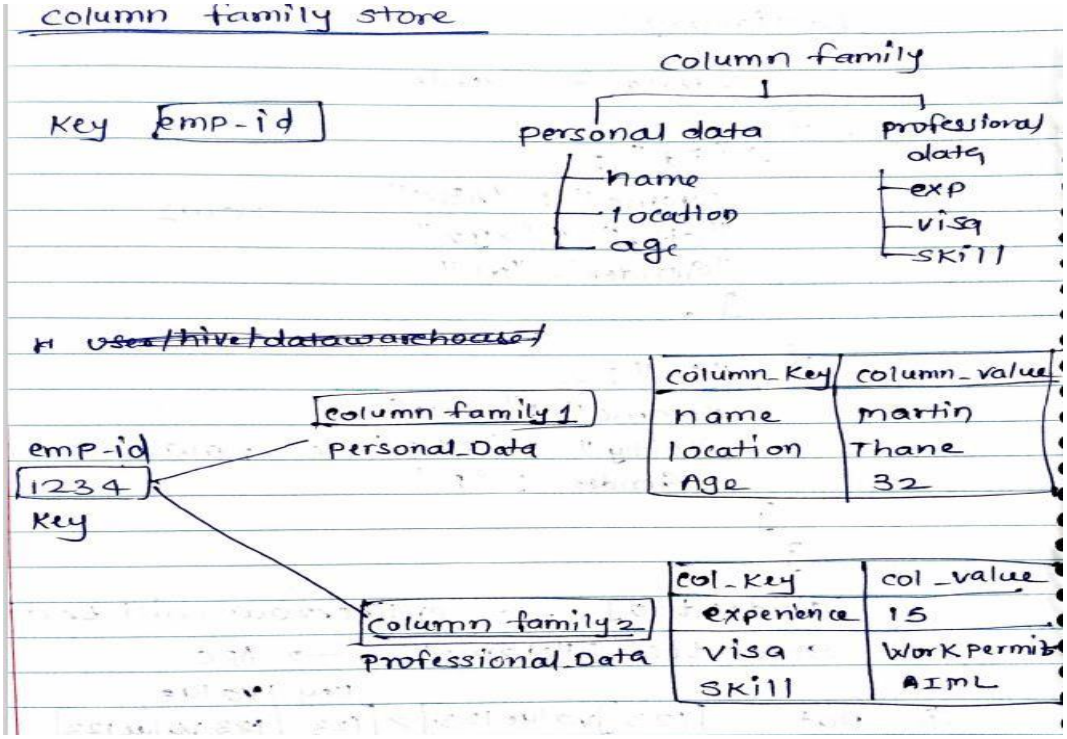
	Key	Value
Image name →	image-12345.jpg	Binary image file
Web page URL →	http://www.example.com/my-web-page.html	HTML of a web page
File path name →	N:/folder/subfolder/myfile.pdf	PDF document
MD5 hash →	9e107d9d372bb6826bd81d3542a419d6	The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog
REST web service call →	view-person?person-id=12345&format=xml	<Person><id>12345</id .</Person>
SQL query →	SELECT PERSON FROM PEOPLE WHERE PID="12345"	<Person><id>12345</id .</Person>

It is one of the most basic NoSQL database example. This kind of NoSQL database is used as a collection, dictionaries, associative arrays, etc. Key value stores help the developer to store schema-less data. They work best for shopping cart contents.

Redis, Dynamo, Riak are some NoSQL examples of key-value store DataBases. They are all based on Amazon's Dynamo paper.

Column-based

Column-oriented databases work on columns and are based on BigTable paper by Google. Every column is treated separately. Values of single column databases are stored contiguously.



Column based NoSQL database

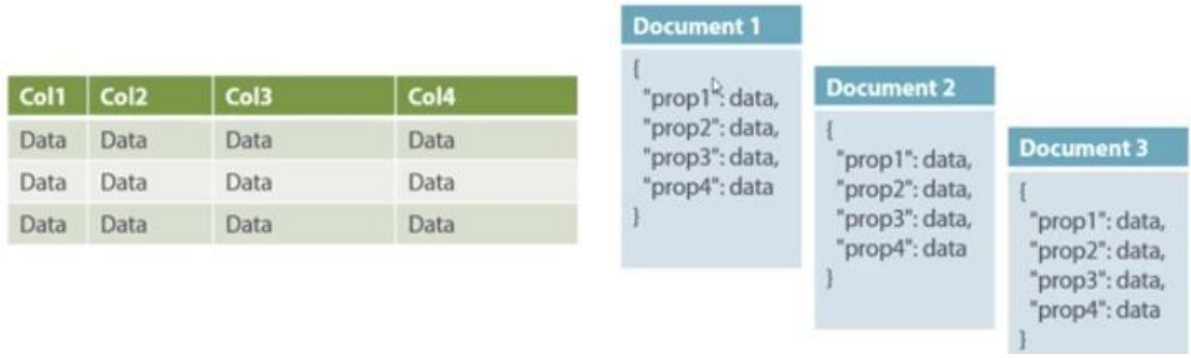
They deliver high performance on aggregation queries like SUM, COUNT, AVG, MIN etc. as the data is readily available in a column.

Column-based NoSQL databases are widely used to manage data warehouses, business intelligence, CRM, Library card catalogs,

HBase, Cassandra, HBase, Hypertable are NoSQL query examples of column based database.

Document-Oriented:

Document-Oriented NoSQL DB stores and retrieves data as a key value pair but the value part is stored as a document. The document is stored in JSON or XML formats. The value is understood by the DB and can be queried.



Relational Vs. Document

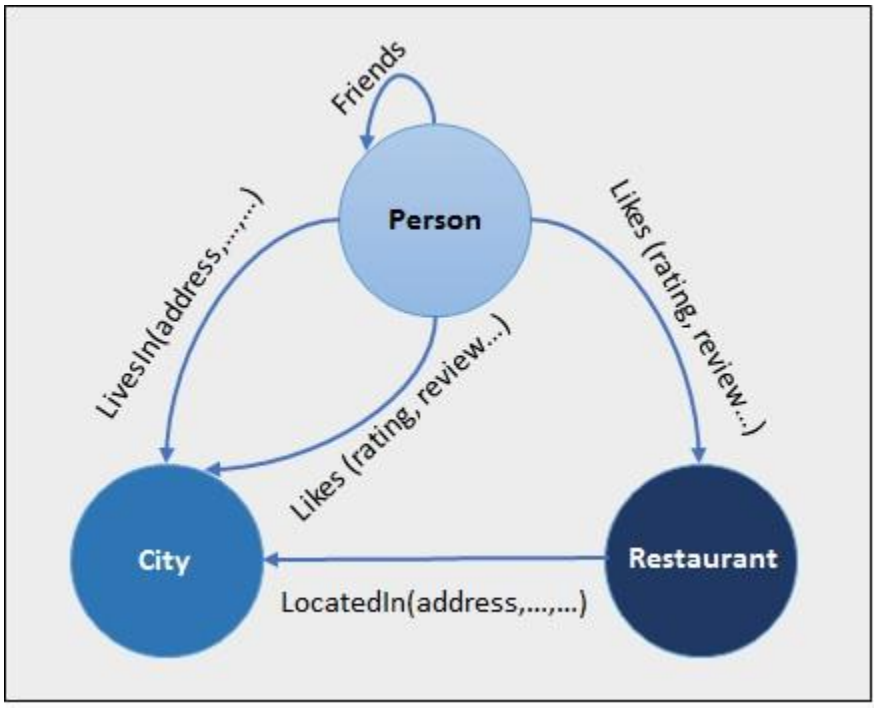
In the above diagram on your left you can see we have rows and columns, and in the right, we have a document database which has a similar structure to JSON. Now for the relational database, you have to know what columns you have and so on. However, for a document database, you have data store like JSON object. You do not require to define which make it flexible.

The document type is mostly used for CMS systems, blogging platforms, real-time analytics & e-commerce applications. It should not use for complex transactions which require multiple operations or queries against varying aggregate structures.

Amazon SimpleDB, CouchDB, MongoDB, Riak, Lotus Notes, MongoDB, are popular Document originated DBMS systems.

Graph-Based

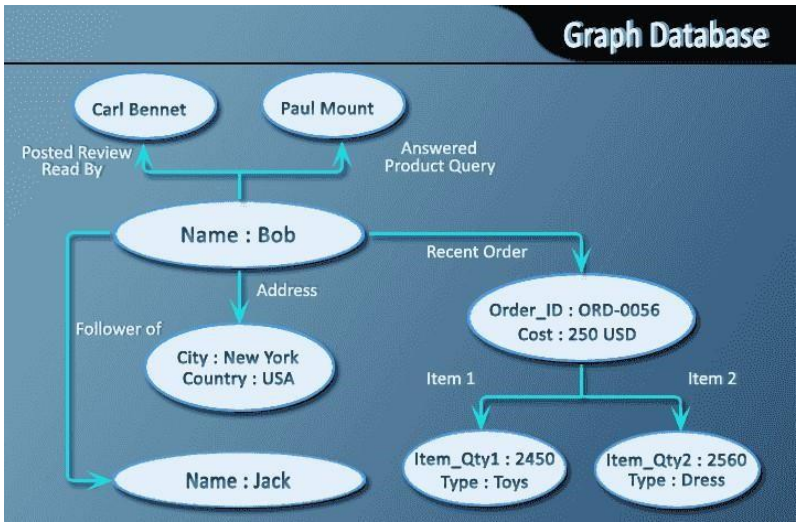
A graph type database stores entities as well the relations amongst those entities. The entity is stored as a node with the relationship as edges. An edge gives a relationship between nodes. Every node and edge has a unique identifier.



Compared to a relational database where tables are loosely connected, a Graph database is a multi-relational in nature. Traversing relationship is fast as they are already captured into the DB, and there is no need to calculate them.

Graph base database mostly used for social networks, logistics, spatial data.

Neo4J, Infinite Graph, OrientDB, FlockDB are some popular graph-based databases.


Graph Database
Carl Bennet
Paul Mount
Posted Review Read By
Answered Product Query
Name : Bob
Recent Order
Address
Order_ID : ORD-0056
Cost : 250 USD
Follower of
City : New York
Country : USA
Item 1
Item 2
Item_Qty1 : 2450
Type : Toys
Item_Qty2 : 2560
Type : Dress
Name : Jack