

# Cassandra Query Language

# Cassandra Query Language (CQL)

query language for communicating  
with the Cassandra database

commands are intentionally similar  
SQL commands so it's easy to pick up

# Cassandra Query Language (CQL)

**case insensitive**

**internally keyspace, columnfamily and  
columnnames are stored in lowercase**

**But you can force cql to preserve  
case by enclosing the name in  
double quotation marks**

# Cassandra Query Language (CQL)

We can interact with Cassandra using **cqlsh**

**cqlsh** is a python based **command line client**

it comes bundled with the cassandra installation

# Example 3:

## Using cqlsh

# Starting cqlsh

Go to the cassandra installation directory on your machine

Start cqlsh by running the following command:

```
>bin/cqlsh
```

if you have used `—pwd-auth` option while creating your cluster, then provide user/  
password

By default cqlsh uses localhost and port 9042 to connect to cassandra

# Starting cqlsh

Go to the cassandra installation directory on your machine

Start cqlsh by running the following command:

```
>bin/cqlsh
```

by default cqlsh uses localhost and port 9042 to connect to cassandra

**But if you want to use a different host or a port number, you can set them in environment variables CQLSH\_HOST and CQLSH\_PORT respectively**



# Login to cqlsh

cassandra is the  
default username and  
password

```
>cqlsh -u cassandra -p cassandra
```

Since we used `--pwd-auth`  
(password authenticator) while  
creating a cluster we need  
credentials to login



Example 4:

cqlsh

Creating a keyspace

# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

For keyspace names which have upper and lower cases,

```
cassandra@cqlsh:catalog> create keyspace "MyCatalog" WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy', 'replication_factor': 3};
```

enclose the name in double quotes

# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

Command to  
create a  
keyspace

# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                                    'replication_factor': '3'};
```

**Name of the  
keyspace**

# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

Properties of the  
keyspace

Let's go through the  
properties

# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

**The only property we  
configure here is those  
for replication**



# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

## REPLICATION

Multiple copies of data are created  
and stored on different nodes

Each copy is called a **replica**

**Fault- tolerant**



# Creating a keyspace

## REPLICATION

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

## Replica Placement Strategy

Algorithm to determine which nodes  
hold the replicas for this keyspace

# Creating a keyspace

## REPLICATION

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

## Replica Placement Strategy

### SIMPLE STRATEGY

For only one datacenter

### NETWORK TOPOLOGY STRATEGY

For multiple datacenters

# Creating a keyspace

## REPLICATION

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

Number of replicas for our  
data

We store 3 copies of our data

# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

**Lets check if our keyspace was  
created**

# Creating a keyspace

```
cassandra@cqlsh> CREATE KEYSPACE catalog WITH replication={'class': 'SimpleStrategy',  
                                                         'replication_factor': '3'};
```

Lets check if our keyspace was created

```
cassandra@cqlsh> describe keyspaces;    command to list all the keyspaces
```

```
system_schema  system_auth  system  catalog  system_distr  
ibuted  system_traces
```

The remaining keyspaces are system generated keyspaces. We will come back to them later