DataStax Developer Day

DataStax Enterprise Search



What are we doing today?

- Explore the product catalog use case
- Discuss how your use case might be limited using just Cassandra
- Use DSE Search to perform queries on different columns
- Make changes to our DSE Search schema
- Dive into full text searching





How's your Cassandra?

- We assume that you are somewhat familiar with Cassandra
- If you don't, the reasons to use Search may not make sense

DSE Search

Product Catalog Use Case



What Functionality Do We Need?

- Querying columns
- Search in text

- Sorting through results
- Counting
- Pagination

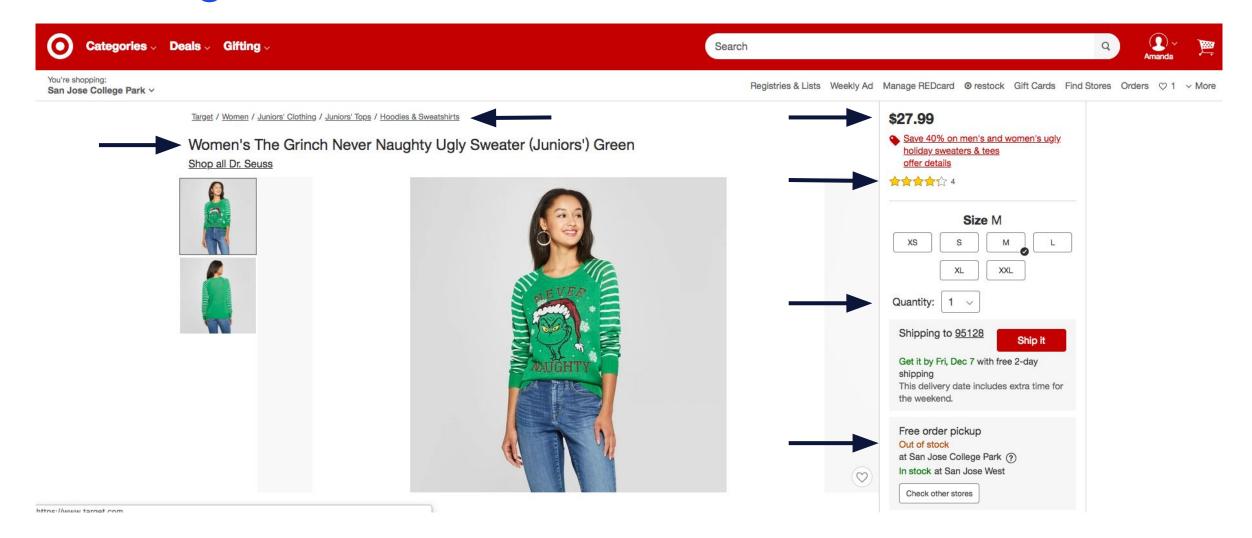
Searching

 Cassandra designed to allow on specific columns – partition key columns

- Some additional features to make querying more flexible
 - Secondary Indexes
 - Materialized Views
 - SASI SSTable attached secondary indexes



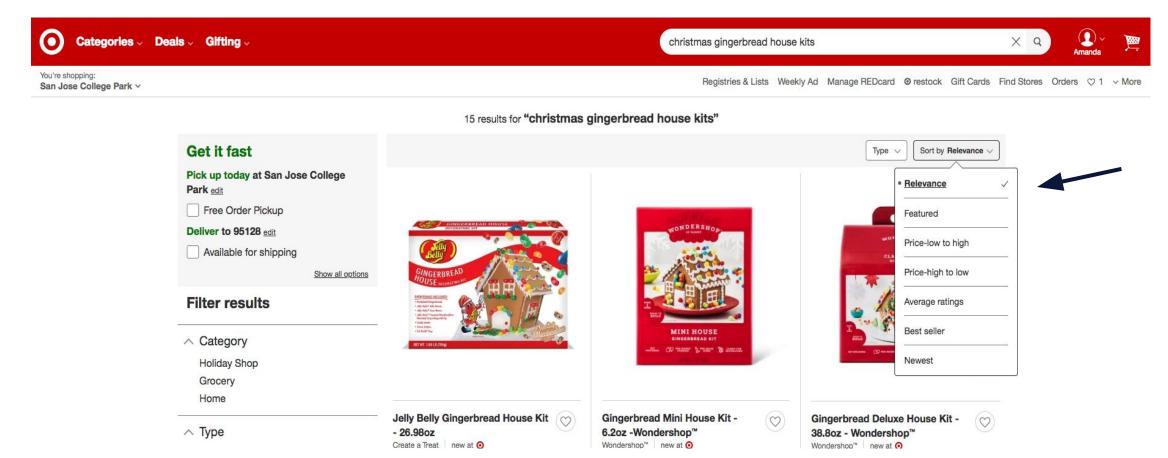
Searching



Sorting

- Limited in Cassandra by how data is stored to disk
- Can only sort within a partition
 - Need to search on partition key
- Only clustering columns are ordered
 - Need to know what columns that can order ahead of time
 - Need to re-create table if new ordering requirements
- Clustering columns sorted in groups following the primary key ordering
- Cannot arbitrarily change clustering column order
 - Depends on the order of the proceeding clustering columns

Sorting



Counting

- Cassandra does have COUNT, but...
- Need to read through partitions to get the count
- If not restricting to a partition, that means doing a full table scan
- Also no way to count how much each value shows up in a column

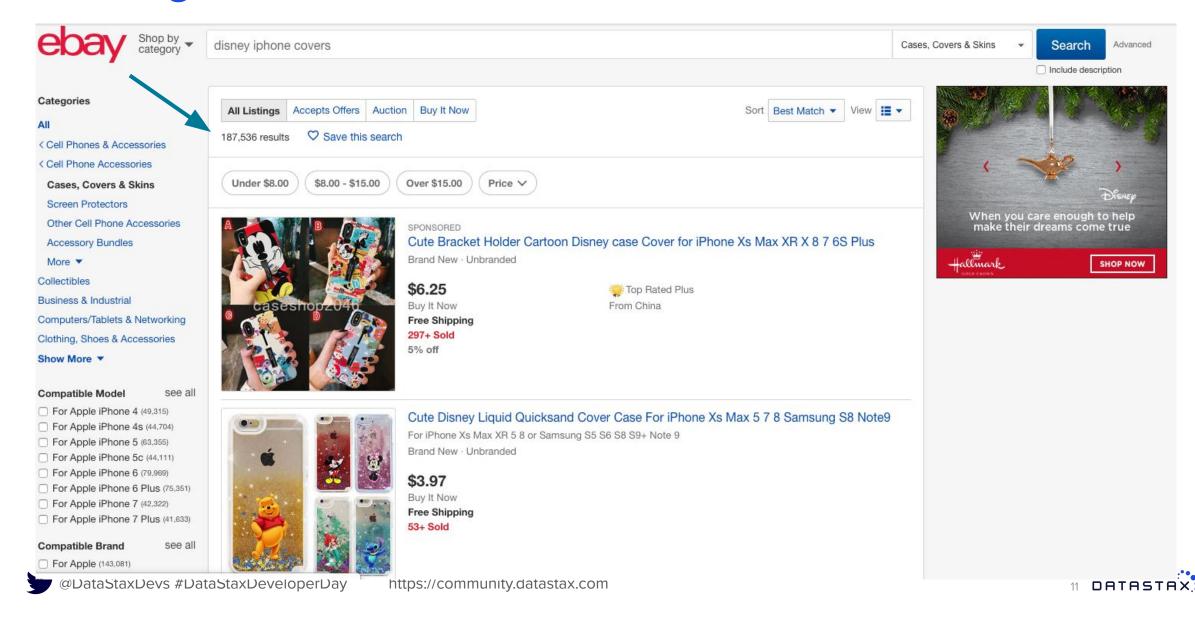


https://academy.datastax.com/support-blog/counting-keys-might-well-be-counting-stars



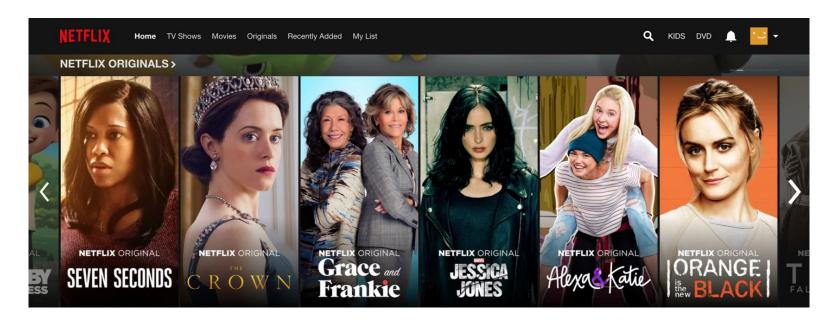


Counting

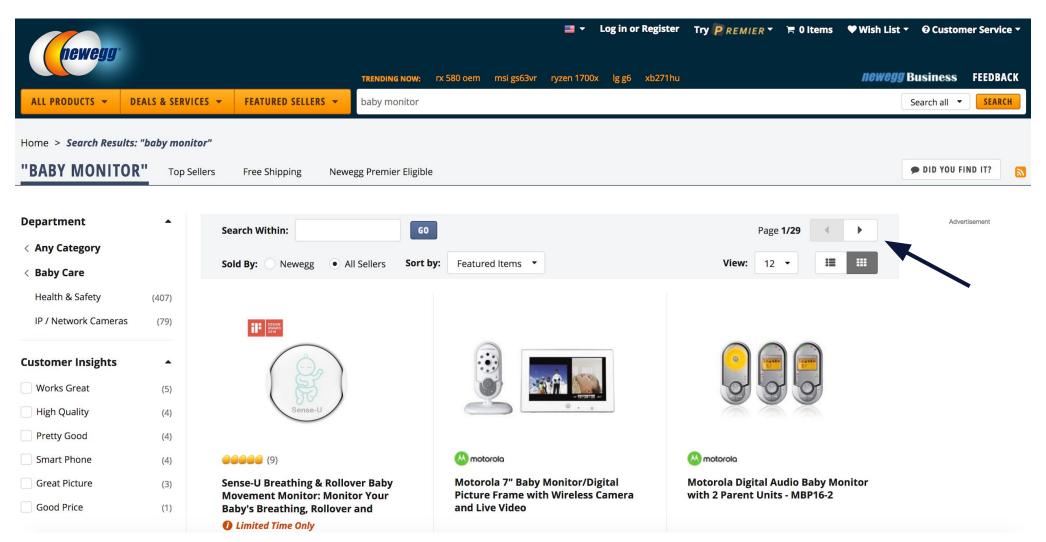


Pagination

- Affected by limitations of counting, cannot efficiently do offset paging
- Cassandra driver can do cursor-based paging through results
- Essentially can only go forward or back from the current page



Pagination



Introducing DSE Search

- Apache Solr[™]
 - Open-source enterprise search platform
 - Provides tools and an interface for running search queries
- Apache Lucene[™]
 - Text indexing and search engine library
 - The core of the indexing and search capabilities available with DSE Search





DSE Search

- Rich functionality not available in Cassandra
- More convenient way to access data
 - Doesn't require complex data models or data duplication
 - Less work needed on the application side to format results
- Accessible from CQL
 - Core functionality using pure CQL syntax
 - More features available using the solr_query column
 - Changes to the search index schema or configuration



DATAMODEL CAVEAT



Search features

- CQL enabled search
- SQL "like" syntax
- Filtering / Matching
- Allows indexing on non-primary key columns
- Indexing and Lucene under the hood
- Tight integration with Apache Cassandra in DSE
 - "-s" switch to "dse cassandra"
- CQL auto filters and uses search indexes when combined with DSE Analytics (Spark)
- Geospatial queries



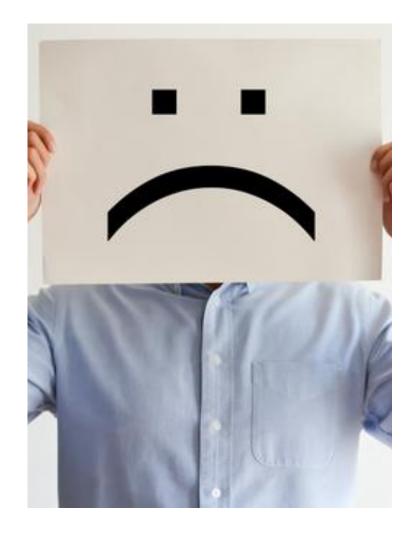
DSE Search

Data model and trade-offs

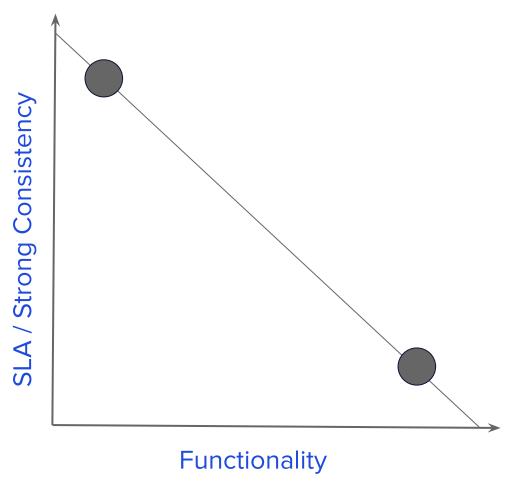


Data model

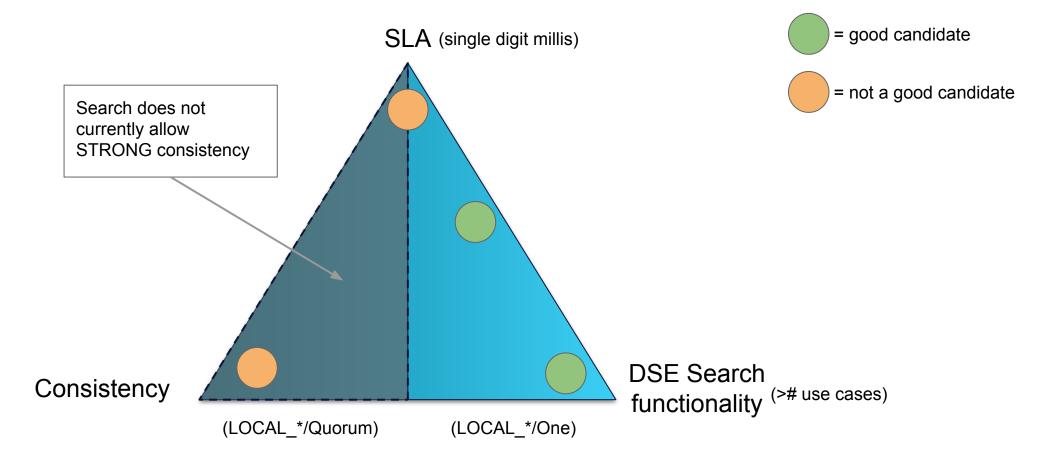
- DSE Search is not here to bail you out of a bad data model
- Still need to denormalize tables
- There are trade-offs and balance, depends on your needs



Balancing act



Balancing act



DSE Search

Getting Started with Search



Creating a search index

- Use CQL to create the search index
 - Command runs on all Search nodes in the datacenter
 - Uses a default search schema and config, which can be altered later
 - Also indexes existing table data
 - New data that you add to the table is automatically indexed

```
// Index all columns in the table
CREATE SEARCH INDEX ON keyspace.table;

// Only index certain columns in the table
CREATE SEARCH INDEX ON keyspace.table WITH COLUMNS column1, column2, ...;
```

CQL Search Query

- Accessing a query using search index can be done through CQL
- Will execute query just using Cassandra, if possible
- Otherwise will use the search index

```
SELECT * FROM keyspace.table WHERE predicate1 AND predicate2 AND ...;

SELECT col1, col2, ... FROM keyspace.table WHERE predicate1 AND predicate2 AND ...;

SELECT COUNT(*) FROM keyspace.table WHERE predicate1 AND predicate2 AND ...;

SELECT * FROM keyspace.table WHERE predicate1 AND predicate2 AND ... LIMIT #rows;
```

CQL Query Predicates

```
CREATE TABLE killrvideo.users (
    userid UUID,
    created_date TIMESTAMP,
    email TEXT,
    firstname TEXT,
    lastname TEXT,
    phone_number SET<TEXT>
    PRIMARY KEY ((userid))
);
```

Equality and Inequality

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.users
  WHERE email = 'eboyeri5@aol.com';
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.users
  WHERE email != 'eboyeri5@aol.com';
```

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Range

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.users
WHERE created_date >= '2018-04-01'
AND created_date < '2018-05-01';</pre>
```

Contains

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.users WHERE
  phone_number CONTAINS '650-389-6000';
```

In

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.users
WHERE firstname IN ('Beauregard','Muffin');
```

Like

https://community.datastax.com

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.users
WHERE lastname LIKE 'McD%';
```



CQL Query

Sort by any column

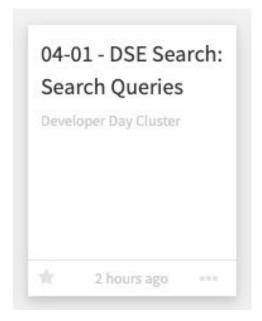
 Text can't be sorted by default, but can be changed in the search index schema

 Ascending (default) or descending order SELECT email, added_date, lastname,
firstname
FROM killrvideo.users
ORDER BY added_date DESC, lastname ASC,
firstname ASC;

Time for an exercise!



Search Queries





DSE Search

Text Search



Text Search

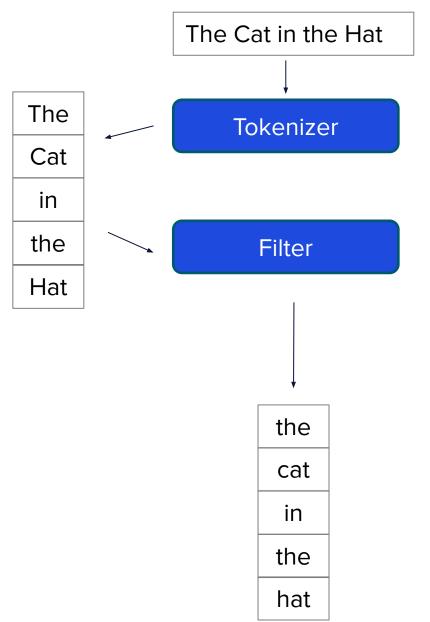
- One of DSE Search's strengths is in full-text search
- Retrieves results based on how well the text matches the search parameters
 - Calculates a relevancy score
 - Only includes the rows with the highest score are included in the search results
- Uses the more expressive Lucene query syntax instead of just CQL

Field Types

- The Search equivalent to data types found in the search index schema
- Cassandra data types map to a corresponding field type
- Some data types may have several compatible field types
 - For the Cassandra TEXT data type, you can use:
 - StrField (default)
 - TextField (text search capabilities)
- Power users can even create fully customizable field types

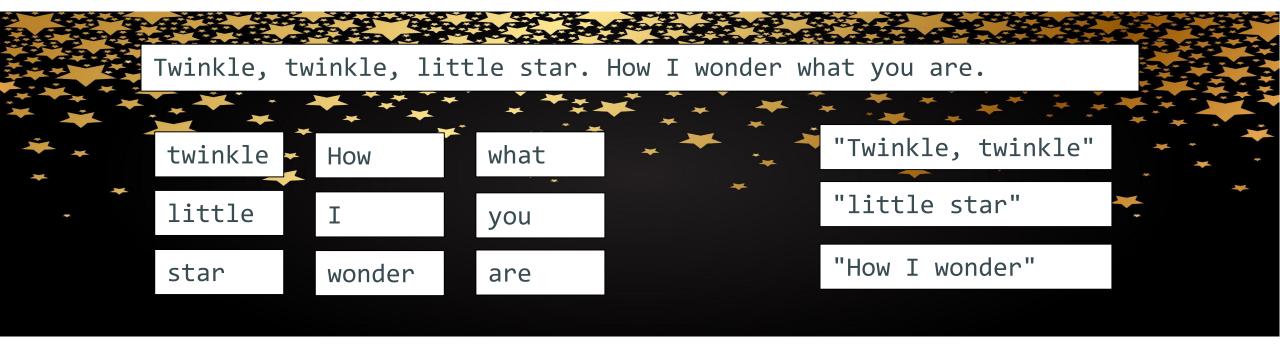
TextField

- TextField is processed as it is indexed
 - Analysis Chain
 - Tokenizer breaks up text into tokens
 - Filter performs some sort of processing
 - Resulting terms is what is indexed
- Search parameters also go through analysis chain
 - Compared against the indexed terms
 - Matching rows included in the results



Terms and Phrases

- Term Tokenized data, or words, from text analysis or search input
- Phrase Terms that are positioned in a certain order



Search index schema

- Written and stored as a XML file
- Can edit using CQL, or by uploading the new schema XML file

```
DESCRIBE ACTIVE SEARCH INDEX SCHEMA ON keyspace.table; // CQLSH only
DESCRIBE PENDING SEARCH INDEX SCHEMA ON keyspace.table; // CQLSH only
```

Making changes to the schema

- We need to define our TextField and change the field type for our fields
- Schema with changes that haven't been applied yet is PENDING
- Currently running schema is ACTIVE

```
ALTER SEARCH INDEX SCHEMA ON keyspace.table

ADD fieldType[@name='TextField', @class='solr.TextField']

WITH '{"analyzer": [{
        "tokenizer": {"class": "solr.StandardTokenizerFactory"},
        "filter": {"class":"solr.LowerCaseFilterFactory"} }]}';

ALTER SEARCH INDEX SCHEMA ON keyspace.table

SET field[@name='name']@type='TextField';
```

Applying changes to the search index

- Reload the search schema to apply the changes to the schema
 - Afterwards, PENDING schema replaces the ACTIVE schema
- Rebuild the search index to reindex the existing data in the table
 - Current indexes would not match the new schema
 - Not needed if changes only made to the search index config

```
RELOAD SEARCH INDEX ON keyspace.table;
REBUILD SEARCH INDEX ON keyspace.table;
```



Using solr_query in CQL

- solr_query is a pseudo-column created with the search index
- Set a query string to the solr_query column in the WHERE clause

```
SELECT select-clause FROM keyspace.table WHERE solr_query = 'query';
```

- Passed to DSE Search / Solr to be executed
- Uses Apache Lucene query syntax
- Search results return to Cassandra, and then retrieves the actual row and column data

Lucene Query syntax in a nutshell

- Search all the things: *:*
- Term search: field-name:term

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.videos WHERE solr_query = 'name:cassandra';
```

Phrase search: field-name:"term term"

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.videos WHERE solr_query = 'name:"Distributed Data Show"';
```

Lucene Query syntax in a nutshell (continued)

- Multiple terms: field-name:(term OR (term AND term))
 - OR / AND must be capitalized!

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.users WHERE solr_query = 'name:(Jack OR Jill)';
```

Multiple fields: field-name:term AND (field-name:term OR field-name:term)

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.videos WHERE solr_query = 'name:something AND tags:cats';
```

Range search: field-name:(1 TO 0] () - exclusive bounds, [] - inclusive bounds

```
SELECT * FROM killrvideo.videos WHERE solr_query = 'year:[2017 TO *]'
```



Levenshtein Distance

- Measure of how similar two strings are
- Based on the number of edits for one string to match the other
- Used by both fuzzy search and proximity search

```
// Distance between the word kitten and sitting is 3

Edit 1: kitten → sitten (substitution of "s" for "k")

Edit 2: sitten → sittin (substitution of "i" for "e")

Edit 3: sittin → sitting (insertion of "g" at the end)
```

Fuzzy Search

- Add ~ at the end of a term
- Degree of similarity to the term is controlled by adding a value after the $^{\sim}$
 - This optional parameter can be 1 or 2
 - Represents the max number of edits to the indexed term

```
SELECT * FROM keyspace.table WHERE solr_query = 'field:term~#';
```

seven~1

The Magnificent Seven
Se7en
The Even Stevens Movie

Proximity Search

- Add ~ at the end of a phrase
- Degree of similarity controlled by adding a value after the $^{\sim}$
- Represents the maximum distance that terms in the phrase can be apart

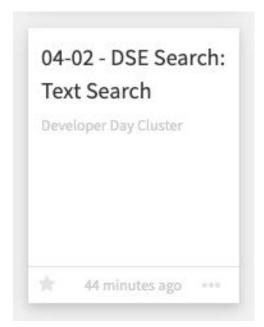
```
SELECT * FROM keyspace.table WHERE solr_query = 'field:"phrase"~#';
```

```
"the road"~3'
The Best of Bray Road
The Black Rider: Revelation Road
```

Time for an exercise!



Text Search





DSE Search

Wrapping Up



In summary...

- Some use cases can be a challenge to implement with just Cassandra
 - DSE Search makes it much easier
- If you can write CQL, you can search
 - Basic search done using only CQL
 - Use the solr_query column for more complex search and text search
 - Also for managing your schema and config
- Search is great at many things, especially:
 - Text search
 - Counting
 - GeoSpatial



Some resources to learn more

- DataStax Academy
 - https://academy.datastax.com
 - DS310 DataStax EnterpriseSearch
- DataStax Community
 - https://community.datastax.com
 - Tags: "search", "dse search"
- DataStax Documentation
 - DSE Developer Guide











Thank You



