Elasticsearch

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What is Elasticsearch

- It is a horizontally distributed NoSQL (non-relational) database/ search engine.
- Elasticsearch was created by Shay Bannon and was released in Febuary 2010.
- To make search and update the database elastic search (Behaves like/uses a RESTful API) using HTTP VERBS - GET, POST, PUT, DELETE, etc. to make queries.
- Used in text-search business analytics geo-spatial analysis.

Overview

- Documents == JSON files
- Inverse index (because querying faster)
- Shards (to horizontally scale faster)
- Nodes (to use different machines)
- Cluster
- Indexes (templates/namespaces for different types of data, address within the cluster)
- replicas (for redundancy)

The Structure of Elasticsearch

In Elasticsearch data is organised in the following structure:

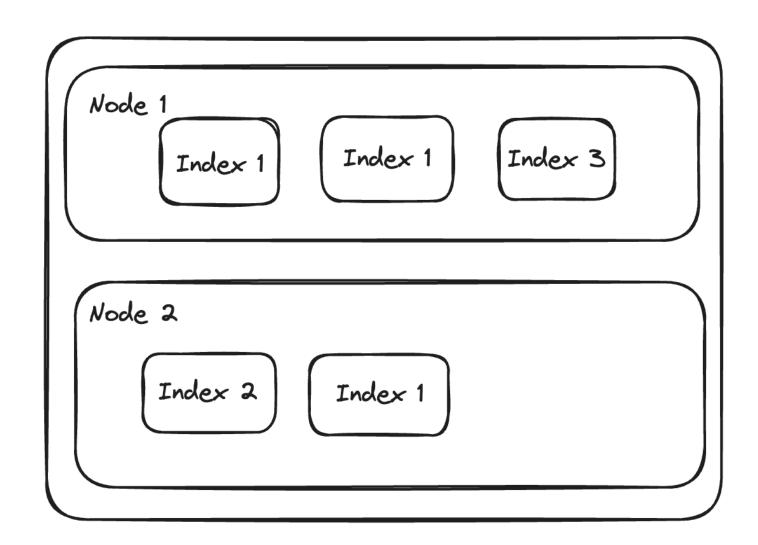
- First we have indices which are analogous to tables in a relational database.
- Each of these are comprised of shards which are parts of an index (more on the next slide).
- Then we have documents which are individual pieces of JSON.

Shards & Nodes

So how does this help us?

- We can then split the index shards and put them on nodes.
- Meaning we can search an indices in parallel.

Structure



The Cap Theorem

• There is a lot of discussion over where Elasticsearch fits in the CAP Theorem. The general feeling is that it fits into AP with eventual consistency.

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What is OpenSearch

• A fork of ElasticSearch created in 2021.

Who uses it and why?

- Uber uses it for it searching and storing geospatial data.
- Netflix uses ElasticSearch for its recommendation system.