Modern Data Architectures

Elasticsearch





What is Elasticsearch / Elastic Search

Key elements:

- Distributed document store
- Search and analytics engine
- Has the ability to be schema-less
- First released in 2010 and rebranded to Elastic Stack

Goals:

- Near real-time search and analytics
- Structured & Unstructured data

What is Elasticsearch

Instead of storing information as rows of columnar data, Elasticsearch stores complex data structures that have been serialized as **JSON documents**.

When you have multiple Elasticsearch nodes in a cluster, **stored documents** are **distributed** across the cluster and can be accessed immediately from any node.

Elasticsearch uses a data structure called an **inverted index** that supports very fast full-text searches. An inverted index lists every unique word that appears in any document and identifies all of the documents each word occurs in.

Source: https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/elasticsearch-intro.html https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/documents-indices.html

What is Elasticsearch

An index can be thought of as an optimized collection of documents and each document is a collection of fields, which are the key-value pairs that contain your data.

By default, Elasticsearch indexes all data in every field and each indexed field has a dedicated, optimized data structure.

For example, text fields are stored in inverted indices, and numeric and geo fields are stored in **BKD trees**. The ability to use the per-field data structures to assemble and return search results is what makes Elasticsearch so fast.

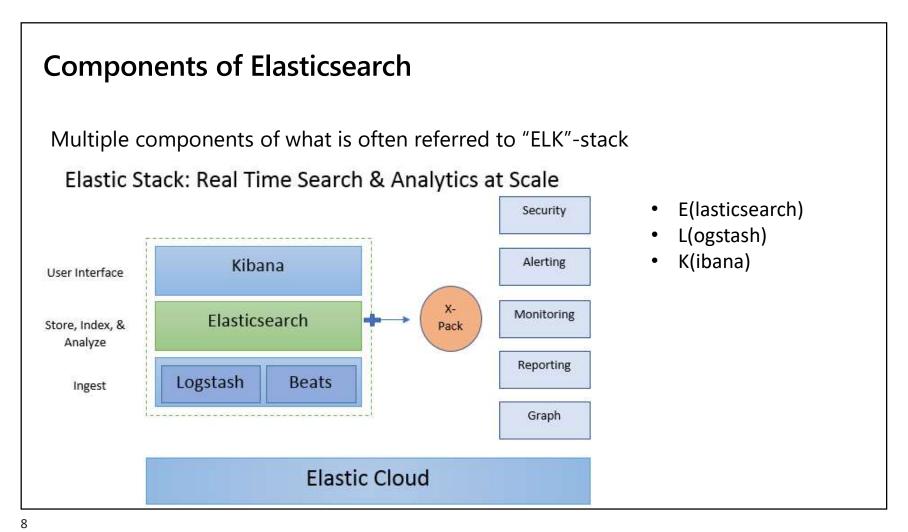
Source: https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/elasticsearch-intro.html https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/documents-indices.html

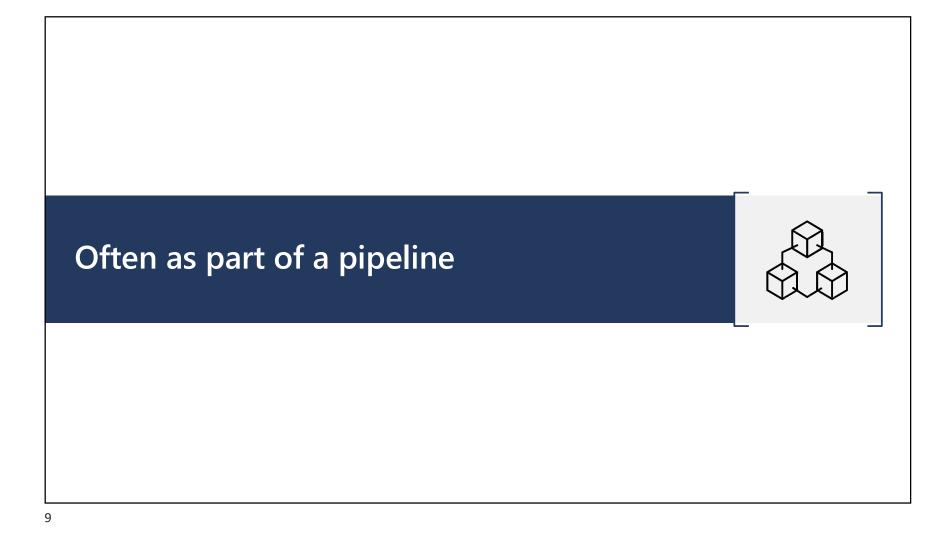
What is Elasticsearch

In the **CAP theorem**, Elasticsearch falls into the **AP** category of the CAP theorem, which prioritizes availability and partition tolerance over consistency. In other words, in the event of a network partition or node failure, Elasticsearch will prioritize returning results quickly and ensuring that the system remains available over providing strong consistency guarantees. However, Elasticsearch still ensures **eventual consistency**, meaning that updates to data are eventually propagated to all nodes in the cluster.

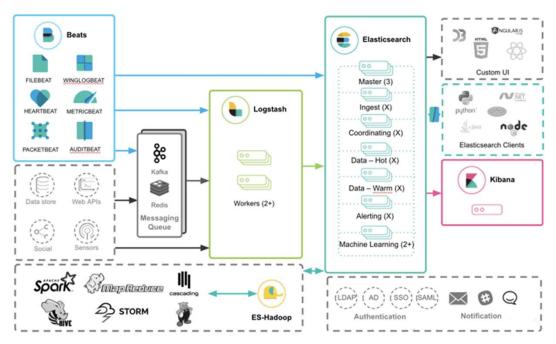
Source: https://medium.com/@TechTim42/elastic-search-and-open-search-a-brief-history-of-the-license-war-8f474743e2ff







Combining technologies



Source: https://www.alibabacloud.com/blog/getting-started-with-beats 597070



Quick start

Add a single document:

```
POST books/_doc {"name": "Snow Crash", "author": "Neal Stephenson", "release_date": "1992-06-01", "page_count": 470}
```

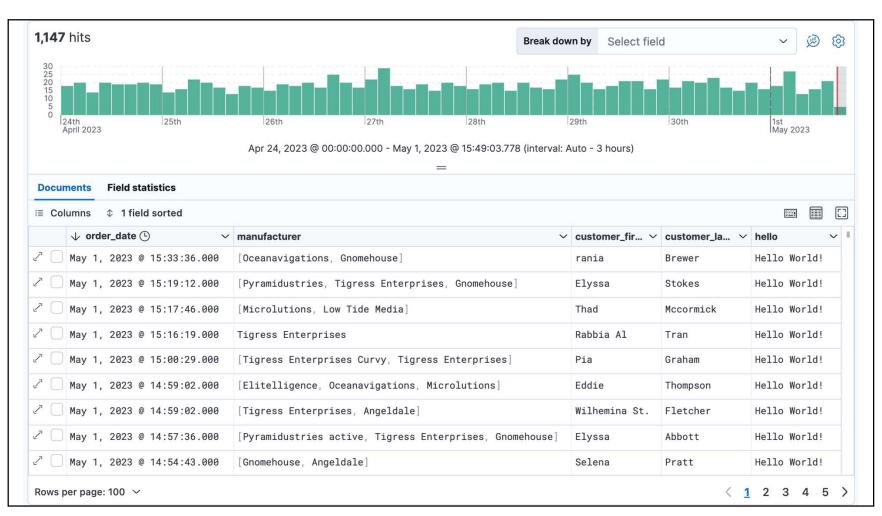
Search all documents:

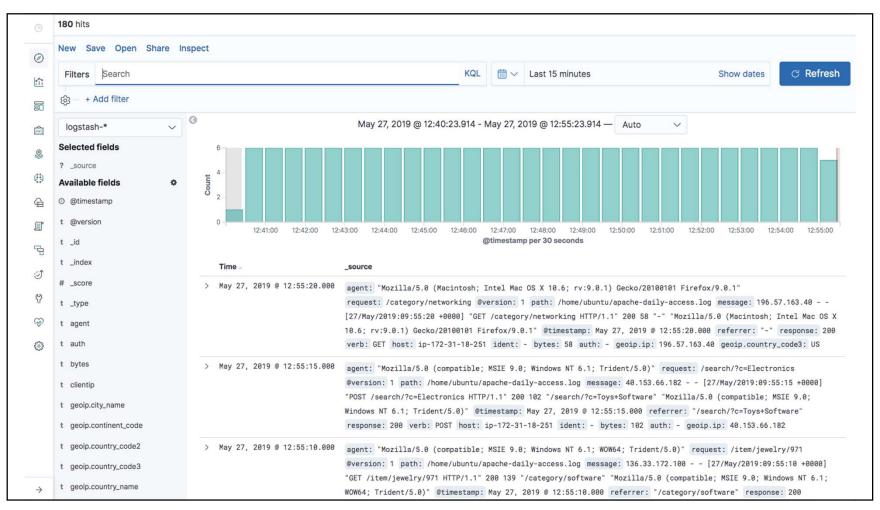
```
GET books/_search
```

Match query:

```
GET books/_search
{
    "query": {
        "match": {
            "name": "brave"
        }
    }
}
```

→ Kibana







Use cases: "searching"

Whenever search operations, retrieval and reporting are crucial.

- Logging in applications
- E-commerce
- Security events SIEM
 - Security Information and Event Management
 - "ELK"-stack
 - Opensearch / Wazuh
 - https://wazuh.com/



Elasticsearch vs Open Search

Interesting war over "licenses"

- 2014: Apache License (version 2.0) permissive open source license
- 2018: "Elastic license" restrictions added
- 2021: SSPL, similar to MongoDB (2019) → restrictions aimed to cloud providers

AWS is one of the largest users of Elastic Search and has contributed significantly to its development. In response to Elastic NV's license change, AWS announced that it would be forking Elastic Search and creating its own version of the software, called OpenSearch

More information: https://medium.com/@TechTim42/elastic-search-and-open-search-a-brief-history-of-the-license-war-8f474743e2ff



