Glossary: Basics of MongoDB

Welcome! This alphabetized glossary contains many of the terms you'll find within this course. This comprehensive glossary also includes additional industry-recognized terms not used in course videos. These terms are important for you to recognize when working in the industry, participating in user groups, and participating in other certificate programs.

Term	Definition
Aggregation pipeline	The aggregation pipeline in MongoDB allows for data transformation and processing using a series of stages, including filtering, grouping, sorting, and projecting. The aggregation pipeline is a powerful tool for expressive data manipulation.
Code-first	Code-first refers to a development approach where developers create the application code first and let the code define the database schema. In MongoDB, this means that the schema is flexible and adapts to evolving application needs.
Collection	In MongoDB, a collection is a group of MongoDB documents. Collections are analogous to tables in a relational database and store related data documents in a schema-free, JSON-like format.
Database	A database in MongoDB is a logical container for one or more collections. It provides an isolation mechanism for collections and their associated data.
Document	A NoSQL database model that stores data in semi-structured documents, often in formats like JSON or BSON. These documents can vary in structure and are typically grouped within collections.
Extract, transform, and load (ETL)	A process of extracting data from its sources, transforming the data into a business-usable format, and then loading the data into a target database, often used with MongoDB for data integration.
Expressive querying	Expressive querying refers to the ability to write complex and flexible queries that address data retrieval and manipulation needs, often facilitated by MongoDB's query language and aggregation framework.
High availability (HA)	High availability (HA) in MongoDB refers to the ability of the database system to maintain near-continuous operation and data accessibility, even in the face of hardware failures or other issues. High availability is often achieved through features like replication and failover.
JSON	JSON is an acronym for JavaScript Object Notation, a lightweight data-interchange format used in NoSQL databases and other data systems. JSON is human-readable and easy for machines to parse.
MQL	MongoDB Query Language is a query language specific to MongoDB used to retrieve and manipulate data in the database.
NoSQL	NoSQL stands for "not only SQL." A type of database that provides storage and retrieval of data that is modeled in ways other than the traditional relational tabular databases.
Operational data	Operational data in MongoDB refers to the data that the application actively uses and manipulates, as opposed to historical or archived data.
Unstructured data	Unstructured data in MongoDB is data that does not adhere to a fixed schema. MongoDB allows for flexible and unstructured data storage, making MongoDB suitable for semi-structured or rapidly changing data.

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