

Cloud Design Patterns

Ravindu Nirmal Fernando SLIIT | March 2025

Load Balancing

- Improves the distribution of workloads across multiple computing resources
 - Some resources will be busy while others are idle

Aims to

- Optimize resource use
- Maximize throughput
- Minimize response time
- Avoid overload of any single resource

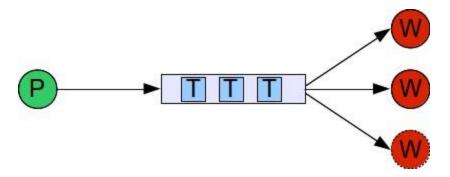
Load Balancing

- Counter by distributing load equally
 - When cost of problem is well understood (e.g., matrix multiplication, known tree walk) this is possible
- Some other problems are not that simple
 - Hard to predict how workload will be distributed
 - dynamic load balancing used
 - But require communication between tasks

- 2 methods for dynamic load balancing
 - Task queues vs. work stealing

Task Queues

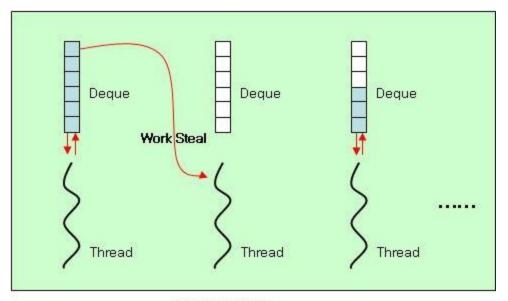
- Multiple instance of task queues (producer
 - consumer)
- Threads comes to the task queue after finishing a task & grab next task
- Typically run with a pool of workers



Source: http://blog.zenika.com

Work Stealing

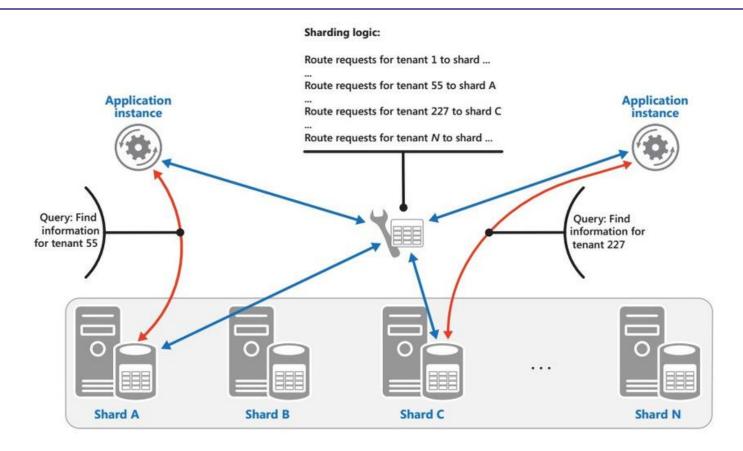
- Every worker has a task queue
- When 1 worker runs out of work, it goes to other worker's queue & "steal" the work



ThreadPool

Source: http://karlsenchoi.blogspot.com

Sharding Pattern



Divide a data store into a set of horizontal partitions or shards to improve scalability

Sharding Pattern (Cont)

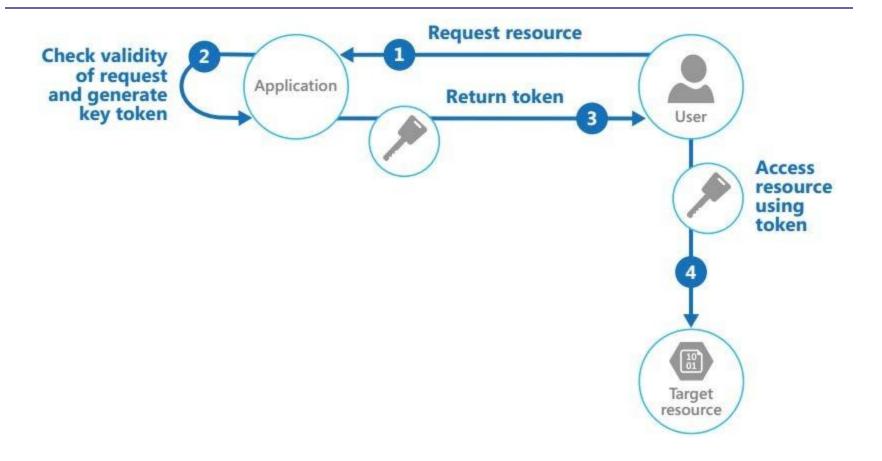
When

- Limited storage space
- Large computation requirement
- Network bandwidth
- Geographical constraints

Sharding Strategies

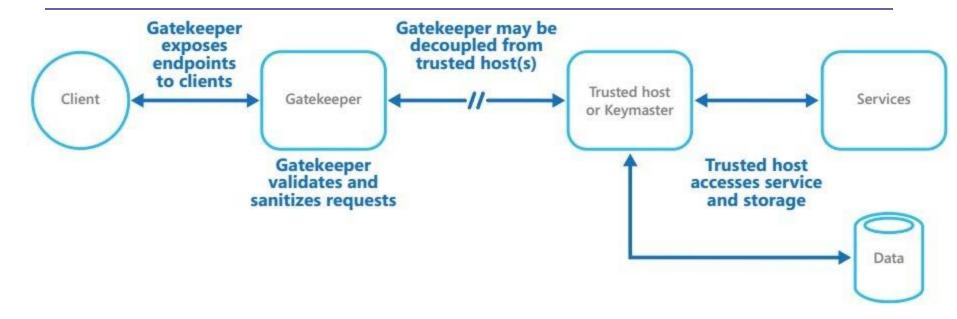
- Lookup Strategy map request using a shard key
- Range Strategy groups related items together in the same shard
- Hash Strategy shard decided based on hashing data attributes

Valet Key Pattern



Use a token or key that provides client with restricted direct access to a specific resource or service

Gatekeeper Pattern

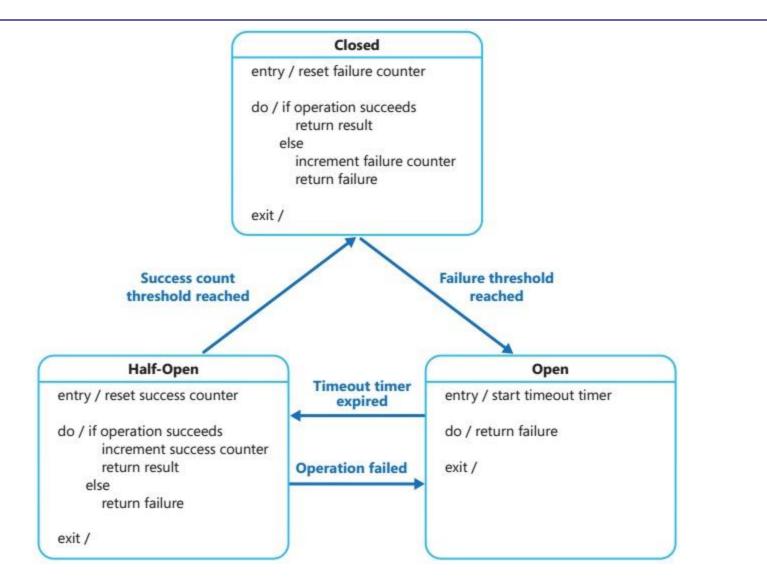


- Protect applications & services using a dedicated host instance that acts as a broker
 - Validates & sanitizes requests
 - Passes requests & data between them

Gatekeeper Pattern (Cont.)

- Only function is to validate & sanitize requests
- Should use secure communication between gatekeeper & trusted hosts
- Internal end point must connect only to gatekeeper
- Gatekeeper must run in limited privilege mode
- May use multiple gatekeepers for availability

Circuit Breaker Pattern



Circuit Breaker Pattern (Cont.)

When

- Handle faults that may take a variable amount of time to rectify when connecting to a remote service/resource
- When a simple retry will not work
- Prevent application from getting tied-up due to retry

Half-Open State

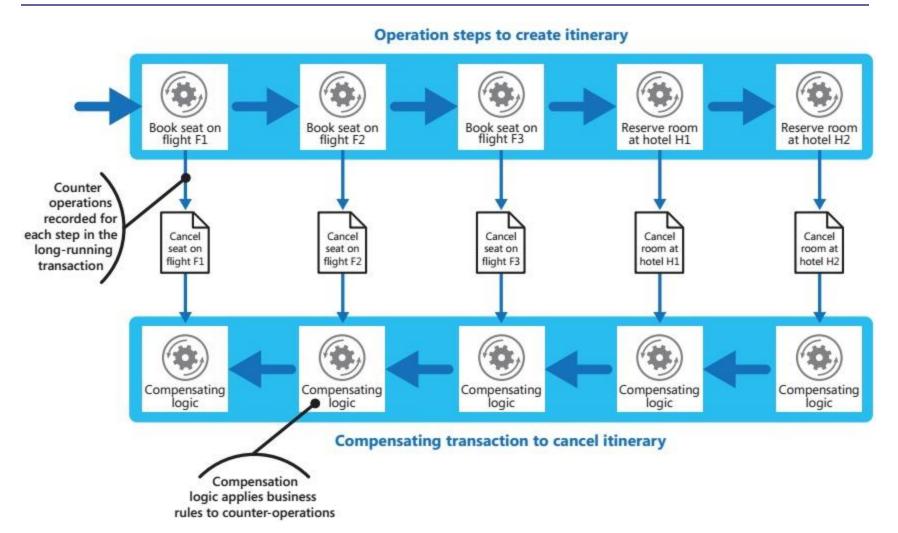
- Allow checking whether service is responding by issuing a limited set of requests
- Prevent repeated system failures due to rapid load/volume

Circuit Breaker Pattern (Cont.)

Parameters

- Types of exceptions
- Handling exceptions
- Logging & replay
- Testing failed operations
- Manual reset

Compensating Transaction Pattern



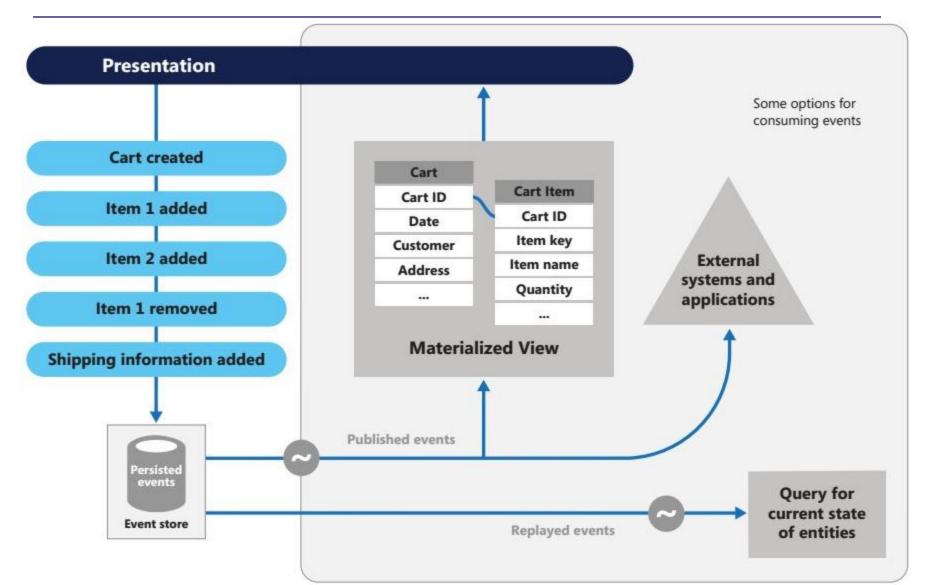
Compensating Transaction Pattern (Cont.)

Undo work performed by a series of steps, which

together define an eventually consistent operation

- Implement a workflow
 - As operation proceeds, system records information about each step & how the work by that step can be undone
 - □If operation fails at any point, workflow rewinds back through steps it has completed while performing work that reverses each step

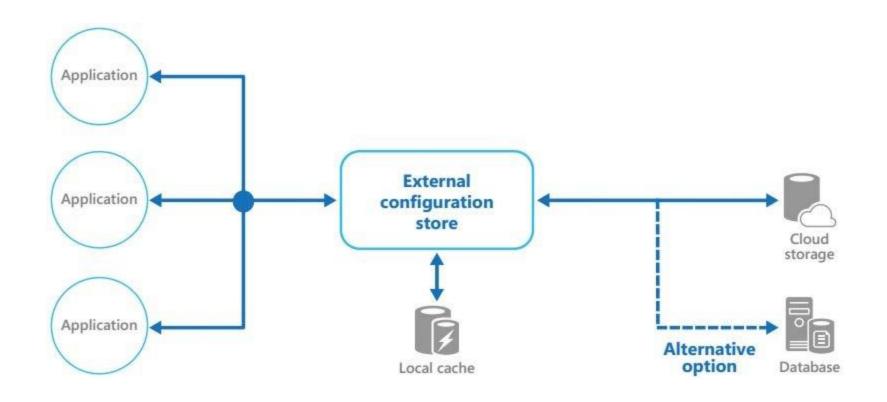
Event Sourcing Pattern



Event Sourcing Pattern (Cont.)

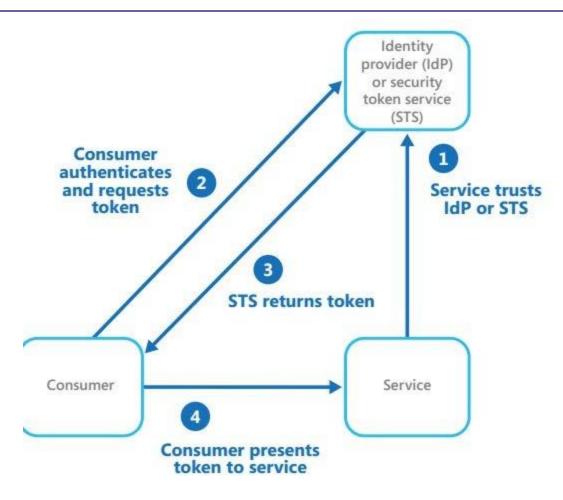
- Record full series of events than current state
- Pros
 - Avoid requirement to synchronize data
 - Traditional Create, Read, Update, & Delete (CRUD) model too slow
 - Improve performance with eventual consistency
 - Scalability
 - Responsiveness
 - Provide consistency for transactional data
 - Full audit trails
- Cons
 - Consistency relaxed

External Configuration Store Pattern



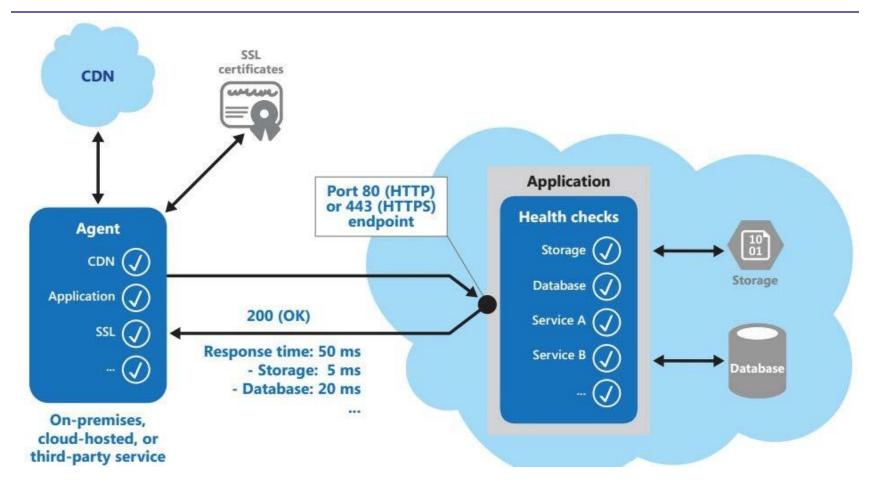
Move configuration information out of application deployment package to a central location

Federated Identity Pattern



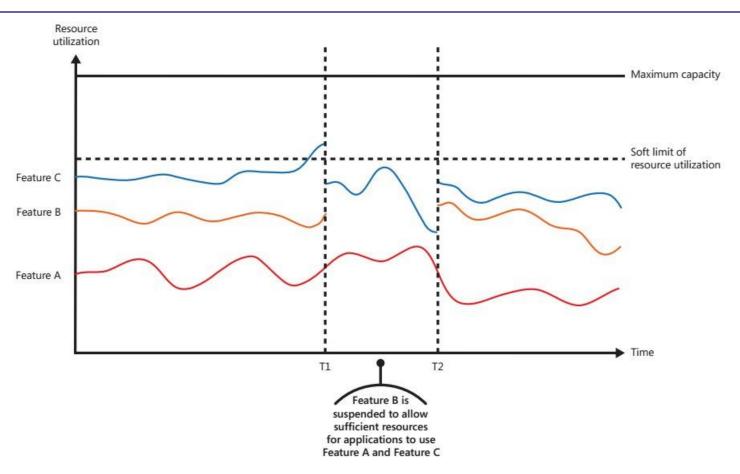
Delegate authentication to an external identity provider

Health Endpoint Monitoring Pattern



Functional checks within an application that external tools can access through exposed endpoints at regular intervals

Throttling Pattern



- Control consumption of resources used by an instance
- Allow system to continue to function & meet SLA even when an increase in demand places an extreme load on resources