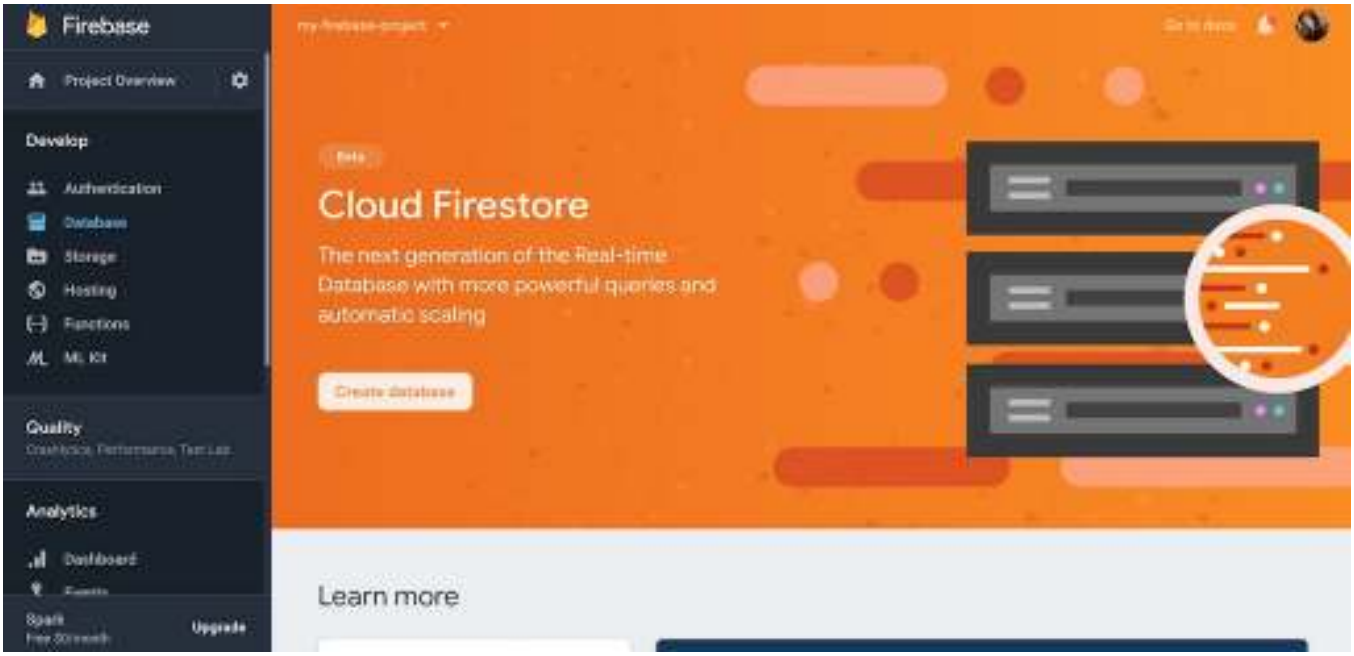
Firebase Database

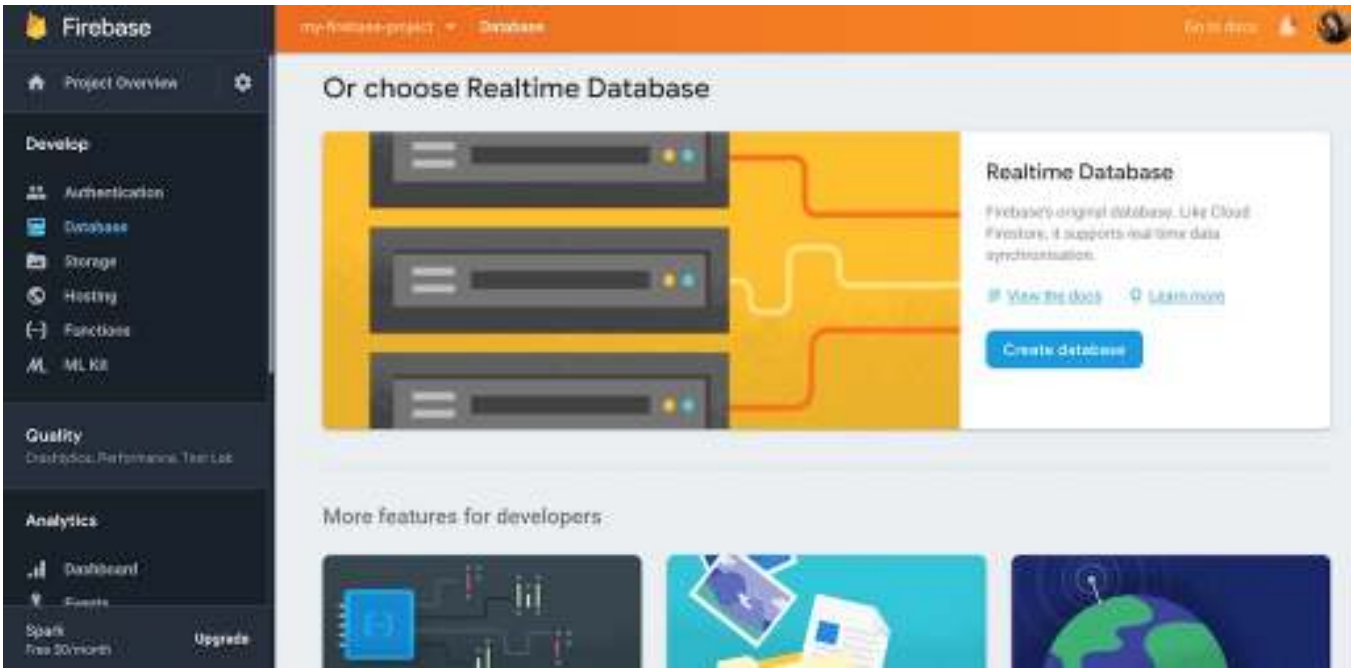
This lesson explores the two databases available in Firebase.

If we navigate to the **Database** option, we will be presented with two database options for Firebase:

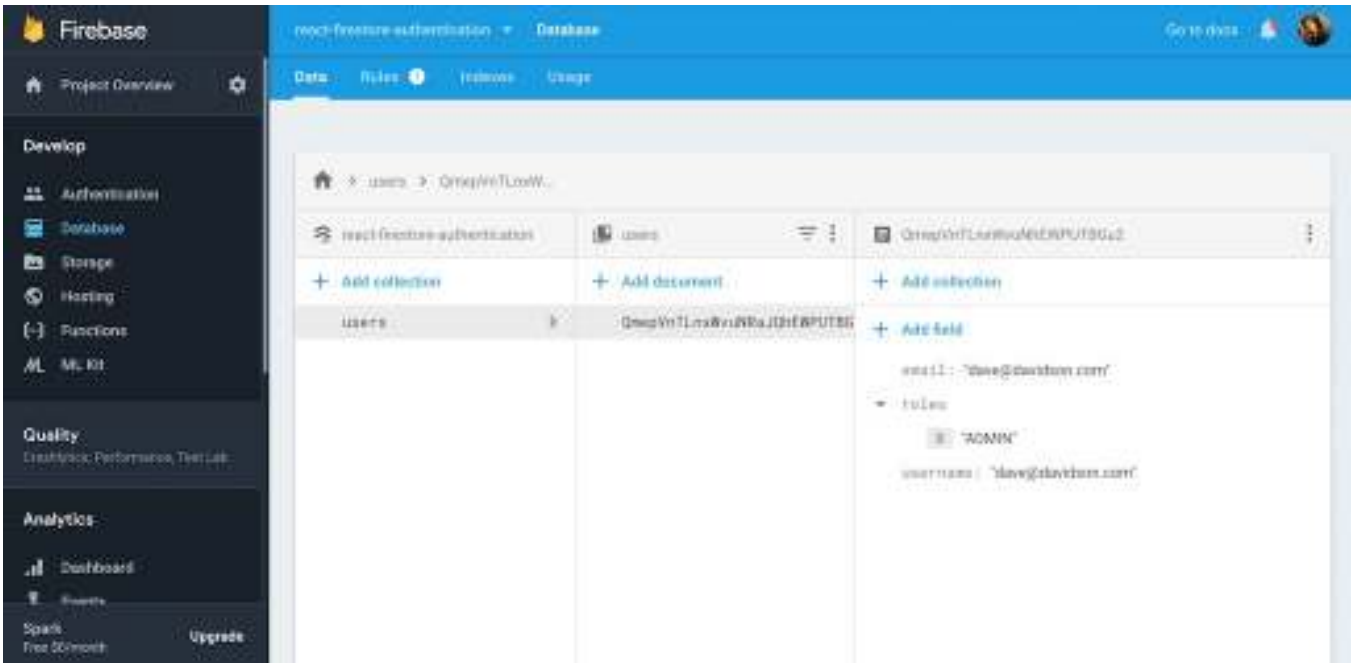
- the newer Cloud Firestore
- the Firebase Realtime Database



This link can help us understand which database fits our needs best.



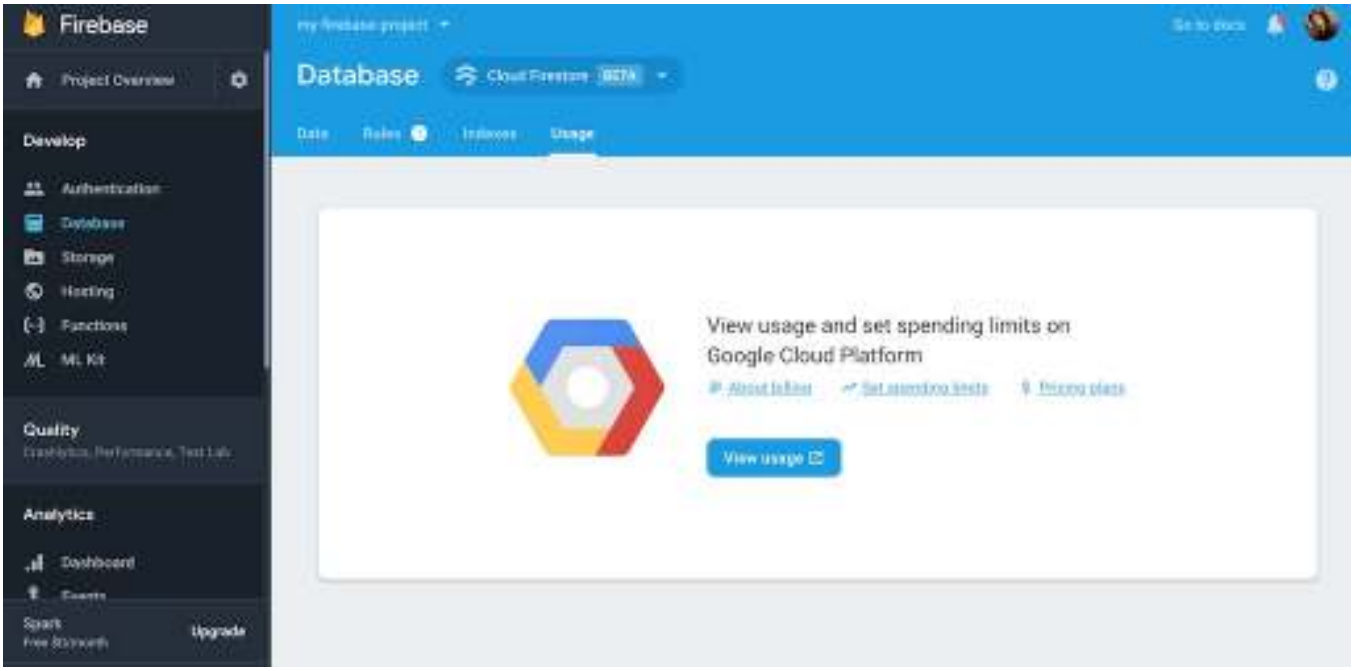
This course will teach you how to implement the older Firebase Real-time Database, but it will also show us how to migrate over to Cloud Firestore in the end. Choosing one doesn't mean we have to use it forever. The Cloud Firestore looks like this on the Firebase project's dashboard:



While Firebase manages users that are created from authentication sign up/in methods with email/password or social logins such as Google, Facebook or Twitter, we are in charge of creating the user entities in the database.

Next to the users, we can create other entities such as messages for a chat application or projects for project management software.

> **Note**: While Firebase Real-time Database can be used on the free plan, Cloud Firestore is charged by usage. That's why we can set monthly quotas and budget alerts. To see or adjust the pricing plan, move to the bottom left corner of the Firebase project's dashboard.



For the sake of completion, the **Indexes** option for Realtime Database and Cloud Firestore can be used to make our database queries faster.

For instance, if you query a list of items ordered by property X, it makes sense to index the items by property X and not only by their default identifier. This makes it easier for Firebase to retrieve the data indexed by the query property.

Next, we'll have a look at the different hosting plans available in Firebase.