Elasticsearch Plugin - Reference Documentation

Carsten Götzinger

Version 2.7.6

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	
1.1. Features	
1.2. History	
1.3. Acknowledgments	
1.4. Plugin Versioning	
1.5. License	8
2. Configuration	9
2.1. Overriding Spring Boot elasticsearch version	9
2.2. Default configuration script	9
2.3. Mapping Migration properties	
2.4. Dynamic Method Injection	14
2.5. Others properties	14
3. Quick Start	19
3.1. Default mapping	20
3.2. Custom mapping	21
3.3. Limit properties with only/except	21
3.4. Including transients	22
3.5. Transients and collections	23
3.6. The Mapper Attachment plugin	24
4. Mapping	25
4.1. Class Mapping	25
4.2. Properties Mapping	26
4.3. Parent Child	28
4.4. Geo Point	29
4.5. Alias	29
4.6. Dynamic	29
4.7. Searchable Component Reference	
4.8. Mapping Migrations	
5. Indexing	
5.1. Index examples	
5.2. Unindex examples	
6. Searching	
6.1. Query Strings	40
6.2. Query Closure	40
6.3. Query Builder	40
6.4. Filter Closure	41
6.5. Filter Builder	41
6.6. Highlighting	41

	6.7. Sorting
	6.8. Pagination 44
	6.9. Aggregation 44
7.	Admin
	7.1. Refresh
	7.2. Delete Index 47
8.	Low Level API
9.	Example
	9.1. Twitter
	9.2. Geo Distance Search 52
	9.3. Parent/Child mapping
10). Frequently Asked Questions
	10.1. Conflicting module versions

Chapter 1. Introduction

The ElasticSearch plugin intends to implement a simple integration with Grails of the Open Source Search Engine ElasticSearch, which is based on Lucene and provide distributed capabilities.

The plugin focuses on exposing Grails domain classes for the moment. It highly takes the existing Searchable Plugin as reference for its syntax and behaviour.

Note that the plugin is still under development, so you may not be able to use all the features of ElasticSearch yet.

In addition to this document, you may want to read the official ElasticSearch documentation here.

1.1. Features

- Maps domain classes to their corresponding index in ElasticSearch
- Provides an ElasticSearch service for cross-domain searching
- Injects domain class methods for specific domain searching, indexing and unindexing
- Automatically mirrors any changes made through GORM to the index
- Allow to use the Groovy Content Builder DSL for search queries
- Support for term highlighting

1.2. History

1.2.1. Grails 4.x version

- December 24, 2019
 - 2.8.0 (still wip)
 - Upgraded to Grails 4.0.1
 - Upgraded to Elasticsearch 7.5.1

1.2.2. Grails 3.x version

- June 12, 2020
 - · 2.7.6
 - REVERT: Change plugin group id to de.cgoit.grails.plugins
- June 08, 2020
 - · 2.7.5
 - ElasticSearchAdminService has the ability to execute a snapshot policy on demand
- June 05, 2020
 - · 2.7.4

- Upgrade to Elasticsearch version 7.7.x
- Allow usage of SnapshotsLifecycleManagement-API
- Change plugin group id to de.cgoit.grails.plugins
- February 12, 2020
 - · 2.7.3
 - Ignore _domainTypeName in DomainClassUnmarshaller
- January 2, 2020
 - · 2.7.2
 - Upgraded to Grails 3.3.11
 - Upgraded to Elasticsearch 7.5.1
 - Don't use old _type in mapping (deprecated in ES)
 - Optionally add _domainTypeName in mapping
- August 12, 2019
 - · 2.7.0
 - Upgraded to Grails 3.3.10
 - Upgraded to Elasticsearch 7.3.0
 - Return type of count method in ElasticSearchService is now java.lang.Long (was java.lang.Integer before)
 - The property total in class grails.plugins.elasticsearch.ElasticSearchResult is now of type org.apache.lucene.search.TotalHits
 - Make java.time classes usable
 - Make aggregations usable with this plugin
- August 6, 2019
 - · 2.6.0
 - Upgraded to Grails 3.3.9
 - Upgraded to Elasticsearch 6.8.2
 - mapping option index: was before analyzed, not_analyzed, no and can now only be: true, false
 - include_in_all is deprecated because of https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/6.4/mapping-all-field.html, but could be enabled with https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/6.4/mapping-all-field.html# enabling-all-field, but now completely disabled in ElasticSearchMappingFactory.groovy:125
 - Removal of mapping types: https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/ current/removal-of-types.html
 - In the documentation 4.1. Class Mapping → 4.1.1. root is not used anymore, because every domain class will get its own index

- parent is no longer useable (not supported by Elasticsearch 6.x)
- Embedded ES was removed and so there is no accurate possibility to run integration tests with ES, see here: https://discuss.elastic.co/t/in-memory-testing-with-resthighlevelclient/106196/6. For now the integration tests are only working if a local elasticsearch version is running, which can be downloaded here: https://www.elastic.co/downloads/past-releases please note that you've to use the same version like described in the above comments, so for now it is 6.8.2
- May 10, 2018
 - · 2.4.1
 - search method now returns ElasticsearchResult instead of Map.
 - Added configuration elasticSearch.plugin.mapperAttachment.enabled to disable Mapper Attachment plugin.
- December 12, 2017
 - · 2.4.0.RC1
 - Support Grails 3.3.x
 - The mapper-attachments plugin has been changed to provided.
- August 17, 2017
 - · 1.4.1
 - Upgraded to Elasticsearch 5.4.1
 - Changed data types 'string' to 'text' and 'keyword' with sensible defaults
 - BREAKING CHANGE: if you want to sort or aggregate by text properties your need to add fielddata: true since it is disabled by default in ES 5.x
 - BREAKING CHANGE: default search type changed to QUERY_THEN_FETCH. See the tip at the end of here
 - Added initial support for fields
 - Ignore _all configuration for component objects
- June 3, 2016
 - · 1.2.0
 - Upgraded to Elasticsearch 2.3.3
 - Support for elasticsearch-groovy client removed (no available compatible version, pending on Issue 35)
 - delete migration strategy has been replaced by deleteIndex, due to new Elasticsearch 2.x API's
 - Removed test classes from plugin distribution
- April 18, 2016
 - 1.0.0.1
 - Add ability to change search method name in domain class via config

- Updated documentation to asciidoc
- February 29, 2016
 - · 1.0.0
 - Support for Grails 3.1.1

1.2.3. Grails 2.x version

- April 3, 2016
 - · 0.1.0
 - New Elasticsearch 2.1.2 release
 - Immutable Settings Removed Use Settings.builder() instead of ImmutableSettings.builder()
 - BroadcastOperationResponse got renamed to BroadcastResponse
 - Removed deleteMapping
 - memory type is now deprecated
 - Query/filter refactoring org.elasticsearch.index.queries.FilterBuilders has been removed as part of the merge of queries and filters. These filters are now available in QueryBuilders with the same name. All methods that used to accept a FilterBuilder now accept a QueryBuilder instead.
 - For more information related to changes in underline Java API click here
- June 30, 2015
 - · 0.0.4.5
 - Upgrade to ElasticSearch 1.6.0
 - Support the return of aggregation results
- June 15, 2015
 - · 0.0.4.5
 - Add the ability to define property names that are excluded by default
 - Fix NPE
 - Add the attachment type
- March 5, 2015
 - · 0.0.4.4
 - Upgrade to Elasticsearch-Groovy 1.4.4
- February 22, 2015
 - · 0.0.4.3
 - Add mapping configuration support for '_all'
 - Fix issue with indexing nested GeoPoint
 - Add support for transient properties

- February 10, 2015
 - · 0.0.4.2
 - Reduce severity of non-searchable property in index document when unmarshalling domain
- February 03, 2015
 - · 0.0.4.1
 - Upgrade to Elasticsearch 1.4.2
 - Enable configuration of the number of replicas created per shard
- January 28, 2015
 - · 0.0.4.0
 - Included Mapping migrations
 - Included read and write aliases to indices to deal with migrations on multinode deployments
- December 14, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.8
 - Upgrade to ElasticSearch 1.4.1
 - Support the min_score query parameter.
 - Try to detect the MongoDB without using the plugin manager.
- December 01, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.7
 - Create separate SimpleTypeConverter per-thread
- November 06, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.6
 - Upgrade to ElasticSearch 1.4.0
- October 28, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.5
 - Fix the bulk index guery iteration.
- October 14, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.4
 - Upgrade to latest version of ElasticSearch and remove the Groovy client dependency.
- August 28, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.3
 - Configure a component field to act as an inner object instead of a nested object.
- August 3, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.2

- Add the ability to mark fields with aliases
- Support ES client HTTP configuration parameters
- Improve Hibernate 4 support
- June 9, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.1
 - Upgrade to ElasticSearch 1.2.x
 - Add special treatment for MongoDB ObjectId data types
 - Return raw result objects when now class mapping is found
 - Fix integration-test NPE
- May 25, 2014
 - · 0.0.3.0
 - Upgrade to Grails dependency 2.2.x
 - Upgrade to Grails runtime 2.3.x
 - Upgrade to ElasticSearch 1.x
 - Apply ElasticSearch 1.x compatibility fixes
 - Enable customization of index name types when mapping classes
- May 15, 2014
 - · 0.0.2.6
 - Use 'grails.util.Holders' instead of ApplicationHolder
- April 2, 2014
 - · 0.0.2.5
 - Start releasing the plugin as 'elasticsearch' instead of 'elasticsearch-gorm'
 - Fix NPE when marshalling JSONObject fields
- March 24, 2014
 - · 0.0.2.4
 - GeoPoint mapping
 - Injected service now supports filters (e.g. geo_reference) and sort builders (e.g. for geo_distance sorting)
 - Marshalled date values are now with correct time zone
 - Removed dependency on Java 7
 - Fix support of BigDecimal
 - Searchable mapping property name and Elasticsearch plugin path are now configurable.
- February 4, 2014
 - 0.0.2.3 Bugfix release
- January 19, 2014

- 0.0.2.2 Bugfix release
- November 24, 2013
 - 0.0.2.1 Bugfix release
- November 12, 2013
 - 0.0.2 release
- November 2, 2013
 - initial 0.0.1 release

1.3. Acknowledgments

Many thanks to all the users who reported issues and sent me pull requests.

1.3.1. Authors and Contributors

- Noam Y. Tenne
- Stefan Rother-Stübs (Dating Cafe)
- Sven Kiesewetter (Dating Cafe)
- Michael Schwartz (Dating Cafe)
- Marcos Carceles
- Puneet Behl
- Carsten Götzinger (cgo IT)

1.3.2. Authors and Contributors of the original plugin

- Manuarii Stein (doc4web consulting)
- Stephane Maldini (doc4web consulting)
- Serge P. Nekoval

1.3.3. Previous work

Graeme Rocher started the first draft which this plugin is based on.

Get the full and updated list of contributors on the github repository.

1.4. Plugin Versioning



The versioning model has changed. The version number of the plugin will reflect the one of the underline integrated Elasticsearch. If necessary a 4th level point release number will be used for successive changes on the plugin's code with same version of Elasticsearch.

<GRAILS_VERSION>.<ES_VERSION>.<FEATURE/PATCH_VERSION>, where there isn't really a 1-to-1 plugin

version to grails or es version, but we just increase our major or minor version by one, whenever there are breaking changes on either Grails or ES. <GRAILS_VERSION>.<FEATURE/PATCH_VERSION>, where there isn't really a 1-to-1 plugin version to grails or es version, but we just increase our major or minor version by one, whenever there are breaking changes on either Grails or ES. Therefore future release versions could look something similar to this (depending on Grails and Elasticsearch versions):

Plugin Version	Grails	Elasticsearch
2.8.0 (wip)	4.0.x	7.7.x
2.7.7-SNAPSHOT	3.3.x	7.7.x
2.7.6	3.3.x	7.7.x
2.7.5	3.3.x	7.7.x
2.7.4	3.3.x	7.7.x
2.7.3	3.3.x	7.6.x
2.7.2	3.3.x	7.x

Existing versions in **bold**

The current version is **2.7.6** (for Grails 2.x the latest version is **0.1.0**)

1.5. License

This plugin is released under the Apache License, Version 2.0

Chapter 2. Configuration

The plugin provide a default configuration, but you may add your own settings in your **Config.groovy** for Grails 2.x and **application.groovy** or **application.yml** for Grails 3.x.

2.1. Overriding Spring Boot elasticsearch version

Spring Boot 1.3.x supports Elasticsearch 1.5.2 OOTB (https://github.com/spring-projects/spring-boot/blob/master/spring-boot-dependencies/pom.xml#L76) and will install dependencies for this version, if not explicitly overriden. To do so add the following to your build.gradle:

```
def elasticsearchVersion = '5.4.3'
ext['elasticsearch.version'] = elasticsearchVersion
```

2.2. Default configuration script

Below is the default configuration loaded by the plugin (any of your settings in the Config.groovy script overwrite those).

Config.groovy

```
elasticSearch {
  * Date formats used by the unmarshaller of the JSON responses
 date.formats = ["yyyy-MM-dd'T'HH:mm:ss'Z'"]
  * Hosts for remote ElasticSearch instances.
 client.hosts = [
         [host:'localhost', port:9300]
  ]
  * Default mapping property exclusions
  * No properties matching the given names will be mapped by default
  * i.e., when using "searchable = true"
  * This does not apply for classes using mapping by closure
 defaultExcludedProperties = ["password"]
 /**
  * Determines if the plugin should reflect any database save/update/delete
automatically
  * on the ES instance. Default to false.
```

```
*/
 disableAutoIndex = false
   * Should the database be indexed at startup.
   * The value may be a boolean true false.
  * Indexing is always asynchronous (compared to Searchable plugin) and executed
after BootStrap.groovy.
 bulkIndexOnStartup = true
  /**
   * Max number of requests to process at once. Reduce this value if you have memory
issue when indexing a big amount of data
  * at once. If this setting is not specified, 500 will be use by default.
  */
 maxBulkRequest = 500
   * The name of the ElasticSearch mapping configuration property that annotates
domain classes. The default is 'searchable'.
 searchableProperty.name = 'searchable'
}
environments {
 development {
    /**
     * Possible values : "local", "dataNode", "transport"
     */
    elasticSearch.client.mode = 'local'
 }
 test {
      elasticSearch {
          client.mode = 'local'
          index.store.type = 'fs'
     }
 }
}
```

2.2.1. Grails 3.3.x Sample YAML configuration

application.yml

```
elasticSearch:
date:
formats: ["yyyy-MM-dd'T'HH:mm:ss.SSS'Z'"]
```

```
client:
    connectTimeout: 2
    socketTimeout: 30
   mode: local
   hosts:
      - {host: localhost, port: 9200}
   transport.sniff: false
   username: zzb-elasticsearch
    password: /+mh&K@2sF('X7J
 datastoreImpl: hibernateDatastore
 defaultExcludedProperties: ['password']
 disableAutoIndex: false
 index:
   compound_format: true
    store.type: fs
    settings:
      analysis:
        filter:
          replace_synonyms:
            type: synonym
            synonyms: ['abc => xyz']
        analyzer:
          test_analyzer:
            tokenizer: standard
            filter: ['lowercase']
          repl_analyzer:
            tokenizer: standard
            filter: ['lowercase', 'replace_synonyms']
 snapshots:
    repository:
      name: ss_repo
      config:
        type: fs
        settings:
          ## see
https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/snapshots-register-
repository.html for all params
          location: snapshots
          compress: false
          chunk_size: 20MB
   policies:
      - id: nightly-snapshots
        config:
          schedule: "0 30 1 * * ?"
          name: "<nightly-snap-{now/d}>"
          repository: "ss_repo"
          config:
            indices: ["*"]
            retention:
              expire_after: "30d"
              min_count: 5
```

```
max_count: 50
      - id: hourly-snapshots
        config:
          schedule: "0 0 */1 * * ?"
          name: "<hourly-snap-{now/d}>"
          repository: "ss_repo"
          config:
            indices: ["*"]
            retention:
              expire_after: "1d"
              min_count: 5
              max count: 24
 unmarshallComponents: true
 searchableProperty:
    name: searchable
 includeTransients: false
 includeDomainTypeName: true
environments:
 production:
    elasticSearch:
      client:
        mode: node
```

2.3. Mapping Migration properties

Define the application's behaviour when a conflict is found while installing Elasticsearch mappings on startup. For a detailed explanation, see Mapping Migrations.

2.3.1. elasticSearch.migration.strategy

Defines the behaviour to follow if an error occurs on startup when the application is installing new mappings on ElasticSearch due to conflicting mappings.

Table 1. Possible Values for migration strategy

Value	Description
'none'	No changes on the indices or mappings will happen, the merge problem will be logged and a MappingException will be thrown.
'delete'	The conflicting mapping will be deleted (along with all indexed content of that type) and replaced with a new mapping. Deleted content can be automatically reindexed on startup by using this in combination the elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup config option

Value	Description
'alias'	Applies Elasticsearch recommended approach for migrating conflicting mappings. A new numbered index will be created (<indexname>_vX) where new mappings will installed for all the types included on the original index. An Elasticsearch alias called <indexname> will point to the new index. As content won't be available on the new index, content can be automatically reindexed on startup by using this in combination the elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup config option. It is recommended to set elasticSearch.aliasReplacesIndex to deal with potential index/alias conflicts.</indexname></indexname>



The default is 'alias'.

2.3.2. elasticSearch.migration.aliasReplacesIndex

Deals with a special conflict case using the 'alias' strategy. When the 'alias' migration strategy is chosen and there's a mapping conflict on an index, defines whether to replace the index with a versioned index (<indexName>_vX) and an alias (<indexName>). This is required when applying the alias strategy on top of existing indices for the first time as indices cannot be renamed (from <indexName>_vX) and an alias cannot exist with the same name as an index.

Table 2. Possible Values for aliasReplacesIndex

Value	Description
true	The index and it's content will be deleted and a versioned index and an alias will be created. Deleted content can be automatically reindexed on startup by using this in combination the elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup config option
false	Falls back to the 'none' strategy. Event will be logged and a MappingException will be thrown.



The default is true.

2.3.3. elasticSearch.migration.disableAliasChange

In some cases the developer may prefer not to upgrade the alias to the new version of the index until some other tasks are performed. This allows them to disable automatically pointing the alias to a new version of the index when this is created. Aliases can be changed later on manually or programatically using elasticSearchAdminService

Table 3. Possible Values for disableAliasChange

Value	Description
false	Standard behaviour
true	Prevents the aliases to be changed to point to a new index



The default is false.

2.4. Dynamic Method Injection

2.4.1. elasticSearch.searchMethodName

Change the name of search method in domain class. By default it's search.

For example

MyDomain.search("\${params.query}")



In order to change the method name to esSearch just update the elasticSearch.searchMethodName='esSearch' in application.groovy

2.4.2. elasticSearch.countHitsMethodName

Change the name of countHits method in domain class. By default it's countHits.

For example

MyDomain.countHits("\${params.query}")



In order to change the method name to esCountHits just update the elasticSearch.countHitsMethodName='esCountHits' in application.groovy

2.4.3. elasticSearch.disableDynamicMethodsInjection

To complete disabled injection of dynamic methods set elasticSearch.disableDynamicMethodsInjection = true in application.groovy

2.5. Others properties

2.5.1. elasticSearch.datastoreImpl

Only required when enabling the auto-index feature. This property specifies which GORM datastore implementation should be watched for storage events. The value should be the name of the datastore bean as it is configured in the Spring context; some possible values:

Table 4. Possible Values for datastoreImpl

Value	Description
mongoDatastore	The name of the MongoDB datastore bean.
hibernateDatastore	The name of the Hibernate datastore bean.

2.5.2. elasticSearch.bootstrap.config.file

When using then plugin to construct a local node, the default Elasticsearch configuration is used by default. If you use a modified Elasticsearch configuration, you can use this property to specify the location of the file (as an application resource).

2.5.3. elasticSearch.bootstrap.transportSettings.file

When choosing transport mode this configuration will be used to set up the TransportClient settings (used by some cloud providers).

2.5.4. elasticSearch.client.transport.sniff

Only usable in with a transport client. Allows to sniff the rest of the cluster, and add those into its list of machines to use. In this case, the ip addresses used will be the ones that the other nodes were started with (the "publish" address)

2.5.5. elasticSearch.cluster.name

The name of the cluster for the client to join.

2.5.6. elasticSearch.date.formats

List of date formats used by the JSON unmarshaller to parse any date field properly. Note: future version of the plugin may change how formats are manipulated.

2.5.7. elasticSearch.defaultExcludedProperties

List of domain class properties to automatically ignore (will not be indexed) if their name match one of those. This will apply to both the default-mapped domain class, with the static searchable property set to "true", and when using closure mapping. To override this setting on a specific class, it can be added to the only property of the searchable closure.

2.5.8. elasticSearch.disableAutoIndex

A boolean determining if the plugin should reflect any database save/update/delete automatically on the indices. Default to false.

2.5.9. elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup

Determines whether the application should launch a bulk index operation upon startup.

Table 5. Possible Values for bulkIndexOnStartup

Value	Description
false	No indexing will happen on startup.
true	All content will be indexed on startup.
'deleted'	This value is related to the mapping migration strategy chosen. If any migration is required and any content is deleted due to it, on startup only indices and mappings lost will be indexed. More on Mapping Migrations.



Default to true.

2.5.10. elasticSearch.index.name

A string indicating which ElasticSearch index should be used. If not present, will default to the package name of the domain in question.



From Elasticsearch 5.0 on only selected settings like for instance index.codec can be set on the node level. All other settings must be set on each individual index. To set default values on every index, index templates should be used instead. So, unset this value if you are using Elasticsearch v5.0 or above.

2.5.11. elasticSearch.index.compound_format

Should the compound file format be used (boolean setting). Set to false by default (really applicable for file system based index storage). More details on this setting on the ElasticSearch Documentation.

2.5.12. elasticSearch.index.store.type

Determine how the indices will be stored. More details on the possible values on the ElasticSearch Documentation.

Table 6. Possible value for index store type

Value	Description
fs	Default file system implementation. This will pick the best implementation depending on the operating environment, which is currently hybridfs on all supported systems but is subject to change.
simplefs	The Simple FS type is a straightforward implementation of file system storage (maps to Lucene SimpleFsDirectory) using a random access file. This implementation has poor concurrent performance (multiple threads will bottleneck) and disables some optimizations for heap memory usage.

Value	Description
niofs	The NIO FS type stores the shard index on the file system (maps to Lucene NIOFSDirectory) using NIO. It allows multiple threads to read from the same file concurrently. It is not recommended on Windows because of a bug in the SUN Java implementation and disables some optimizations for heap memory usage.
mmapfs	The MMap FS type stores the shard index on the file system (maps to Lucene MMapDirectory) by mapping a file into memory (mmap). Memory mapping uses up a portion of the virtual memory address space in your process equal to the size of the file being mapped. Before using this class, be sure you have allowed plenty of virtual address space.
hybridfs	The hybridfs type is a hybrid of niofs and mmapfs, which chooses the best file system type for each type of file based on the read access pattern. Currently only the Lucene term dictionary, norms and doc values files are memory mapped. All other files are opened using Lucene NIOFSDirectory. Similarly to mmapfs be sure you have allowed plenty of virtual address space.

2.5.13. elasticSearch.index.settings.numberOfReplicas

Sets the number of replicas created for each shard of the index. If not present, will default to zero.

2.5.14. elasticSearch.gateway.type

Determine the gateway type to be used. More details on the possible values are in the ElasticSearch Documentation. Using a setting of "none" (possibly in combination with index.store.type set to "memory") can be useful for tests.

2.5.15. elasticSearch.maxBulkRequest

Max number of requests to process at once. Reduce this value if you have memory issue when indexing a big amount of data at once. If this setting is not specified, 500 will be use by default.

2.5.16. elasticSearch.path.data

The location of the data files of each index / shard allocated on the node.

2.5.17. elasticSearch.path.plugins

The location of plugin files such as native scripts. Each plugin will be contained in a subdirectory.

2.5.18. elasticSearch.searchableProperty.name

The name of the ElasticSearch mapping configuration property that annotates domain classes. The default is 'searchable'.

2.5.19. elasticSearch.includeTransients

Whether to index and search all non excluded transient properties. All explicitly included transients in only will be indexed regardless.



Default is false.

Chapter 3. Quick Start

- Install Elasticsearch using instructions from here.
- Just like any other Grails plugin, through the Grails Plugin center and Edit your project's build.gradle file, by adding the plugin's dependency declaration:

```
dependencies {
    ...
    compile "grails.plugins:elasticsearch:2.7.6"
    ...
}
```

• Updated application.yml with default configurations:

```
elasticSearch:
    datastoreImpl: hibernateDatastore
    client:
        hosts:
        - {host: localhost, port: 9200}
    cluster.name: <ENTER CLUSTER NAME HERE>
```

In order debug Elasticsearch plugin, add logger("grails.plugins.elasticsearch", DEBUG, ['STDOUT'], false) in logback.groovy file as following:

```
import grails.util.BuildSettings
import grails.util.Environment
import org.springframework.boot.logging.logback.ColorConverter
import org.springframework.boot.logging.logback.WhitespaceThrowableProxyConverter
import java.nio.charset.Charset
conversionRule 'clr', ColorConverter
conversionRule 'wex', WhitespaceThrowableProxyConverter
// See http://logback.gos.ch/manual/groovy.html for details on configuration
appender('STDOUT', ConsoleAppender) {
    encoder(PatternLayoutEncoder) {
        charset = Charset.forName('UTF-8')
        pattern =
                '%clr(%d{yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss.SSS}){faint} ' + // Date
                         '%clr(%5p) ' + // Log level
                         '%clr(---){faint} %clr([%15.15t]){faint} ' + // Thread
                         '%clr(%-40.40logger{39}){cyan} %clr(:){faint} ' + // Logger
                         '%m%n%wex' // Message
    }
}
def targetDir = BuildSettings.TARGET_DIR
if (Environment.isDevelopmentMode() && targetDir != null) {
    appender("FULL_STACKTRACE", FileAppender) {
        file = "${targetDir}/stacktrace.log"
        append = true
        encoder(PatternLayoutEncoder) {
            pattern = "%level %logger - %msg%n"
        }
    }
    logger("StackTrace", ERROR, ['FULL_STACKTRACE'], false)
    logger("grails.plugins.elasticsearch", DEBUG, ['STDOUT'], false)
    root(ERROR, ['STDOUT', 'FULL_STACKTRACE'])
}
else {
    root(ERROR, ['STDOUT'])
}
```

3.1. Default mapping

To declare a domain class to be searchable, the simplest way is to define the following static property in the code:

```
static searchable = true
```

The plugin will generate a default mapping for each properties of the domain.

3.2. Custom mapping

You can customize how each properties are mapped to the index using a closure. The syntax is similar to GORM's mapping DSL.

```
static searchable = {
   // mapping DSL...
}
```

See below for more details on the mapping DSL.

3.3. Limit properties with only/except

only and except are used to limit the properties that are made searchable. You may not define both except & only settings at the same time.

The following code will only map the 'message' property, any others will be ignored.

```
class Tweet {
    static searchable = {
        only = 'message'
    }
    String message
    String someUselessField
}
```

The following code will map all properties except the one specified.

```
class Tweet {
    static searchable = {
        except = 'someUselessField'
    }
    String message
    String someUselessField
}
```

You can use a Collection to specify several properties.

```
class Tweet {
    static searchable = {
        except = ['someUselessField', 'userName']
    }
    String message
    String userName
    String someUselessField
}
```



The properties that are ignored will not be sent to ElasticSearch. It also means that when you will get back a domain from ElasticSearch, some fields that are not supposed to be null, may still be null.

3.4. Including transients

How the plugin manages transient properties is controlled by the elasticSearch.includeTransients configuration property. If this is set to false only transient properties explicitly included in only will be mapped and searchable, if set to true, all domain class properties will be mapped, including transients.

The following are valid examples

```
//assert grailsApplication.config.elasticSearch.includeTransients == false
class Person {
    String firstName
    String getFullName() {
        firstName + " " + lastName
    }
    static transients = ['fullName']
    static searchable = {
        only = ['fullName']
    }
}

// new Person(firstNameme: "Nikola", lastName: "Tesla")
// can be found using:
// def tesla = Person.search("Nikola Tesla").searchResults.first()
```

```
//assert grailsApplication.config.elasticSearch.includeTransients == true
class Multiplication {
   int opA
   int opB
   int getResult() {
      opA * opB
   }
   static transients = ['result']
   static searchable = true
}
// new Multiplication(opA: 2, opB: 3)
// can be found using:
// def multiplication = Multiplication.search("2").searchResults.first()
// def multiplication = Multiplication.search("6").searchResults.first()
// def multiplication = Multiplication.search("6").searchResults.first()
```



From the examples above, once the domain object is found, its transient values will be calculated from the information stored on ElasticSearch: multiplication.result == 6, but tesla.fullName == "null null", as firstName and lastName where not indexed. This behaviour can be prevented by creating convenient setters for the transient properties.

3.5. Transients and collections

When transient properties are collections the only way the plugin can define the correct ElasticSearch mapping during boot is if the element types are explicitly defined on the grails domain object. For instances of Collection this can be achieved by defining its type on the hasMany property (otherwise the ElasticSearch type will be defined as object). This is not required for arrays.

Some valid examples:

```
class Tweet {
   String message
   List getHashtags() { ... }
   static transients = ['hashtags']
   static hasMany = [hashtags: String]
   static searchable = {only = 'hashtags' }
}
```

```
class FamilyGuy {
   String wife
   String son
   String daughter
   String baby
   String[] getRelatives() { ... }
   static transients = ['relatives']
   static searchable = { only = 'relatives' }
}
```

3.6. The Mapper Attachment plugin

The Elasticsearch Mapper Attachment plugin is deprecated since ES version 5.0.0. Hence it is no longer supported in this plugin.

In future versions it could be possible to support the new Ingest Attachment Processor Plugin.

Chapter 4. Mapping

From version 0.0.4.0 in addition to the indices generated by the plugin based on the domain objects package names or configuration, two new aliases are created for every index: <indexName>_read and <indexName>_write. These two aliases are being used by the plugin to index and query from Elasticsearch and are needed to centralise the choice of index to use during mapping migrations when the 'alias' strategy is being used and there are multiple instances of the application.

4.1. Class Mapping

4.1.1. root

Determine if the domain class will have its own index or not. Take a boolean as parameter, and is set to true by default.

```
class Preference {
    static searchable = {
        root false
    }
    // ...
}
class Tag {
    static searchable = true
    // ...
}
class Tweet {
    static searchable = {
        message boost:2.0
    }
    // ...
}
```

In this code, the classes Tweet and Tag are going to have their own index. The class Preference will not. It also means that any search request will never return a Preference-type hit. The dynamic method search will not be injected in the Preference domain class.

The domains not root-mapped can still be considered searchable, as they can be components of another domain which is root-mapped. For example, considered the following domain:

```
class User {
    static searchable = {
        userPreferences component:true
    }
    Preference userPreferences
}
```

When searching, any matches in the userPreferences property will be considered as a User match.

4.1.2. all

Set default analyzer for all domain class fields.

```
static searchable = {
  all = [analyzer: 'russian_morphology']
}
```

```
static searchable = {
  all = false
}
```

When disabling the all field, it is a good practice to set index.query.default_field to a different value (for example, if you have a main 'message' field in your data, set it to message).

4.2. Properties Mapping

You can customize the mapping for each domain properties using the closure mapping. The syntax is simple:

```
static searchable = {
   propertyName option1:value, option2:value, ...
}
```

4.2.1. Available options

Option Name	Values	Description
boost	Number	A decimal boost value. With a positive value, promotes search results for hits in this property; with a negative value, demotes search results that hit this property.

Option Name	Values	Description
component	true, false	To use only on domain (or collection of domains), make the property a searchable component.
converter	A Class	A Class to use as a converter during the marshalling/unmarshalling process for that peculiar property. That class must extends the PropertyEditorSupport java class.
excludeFromAll	true, false	determines if the property is to append in the "_all" field. Default to true.
index	false, true.	The index option controls whether field values are indexed. It accepts true or false and defaults to true. Fields that are not indexed are not queryable.
fielddata	true, false	Enables the use of text fields in sorting and aggregation. Be careful as fielddata can consume a lot of heap space, especially when loading high cardinality text fields. Default false
reference	true, false	To use only on domain (or collection of domains), make the property a searchable reference.
parent	true, false	A boolean value to be used in conjunction with the reference or component property. Set to true if the referenced field should be mapped as the parent of this document. Default set to false.
multi_field	true, false	A boolean value. Maps the value of the field twice; Once with it being analyzed, and once with it being not_analyzed under the name untouched. Default set to false.

Option Name	Values	Description
fields	A map describing the extra fields	Maps the value of the field more than once; it is useful when you want to index a field with different analyzers. See the ElasticSearch documentation. Default set to null.
geoPoint	true, false	Maps the field to a geo_point. Default: false
alias	String	A string value. The field noted with this parameter will be duplicated to an alias
dynamic	true, false	Only available for String properties. Determines whether this field should be dynamically mapped by elasticsearch.

4.3. Parent Child

To map a parent/child relationship, the child element must either contain the parent element as a component or reference it as a referenced document. This component must be mapped as a parent in the child element.

Example

```
class ParentElement {
...
}

class EmbeddingChild {
    ParentElement parentElement

    static searchable = {
        parentElement parent: true, component: true
    }
}

class ReferencingChild {
    ParentElement parentElement

    static searchable = {
        parentElement parent: true, reference: true
    }
}
```

4.4. Geo Point

A geographic location can be mapped to a geo_point. The field for the longitude has to be named lon and the field for the latitude has to be named lat

Example

```
class GeoPoint {
    Double lat
    Double lon

    static searchable = {
        root false
    }
}

class Building {
    String name
    GeoPoint location

    static searchable = {
        location geoPoint: true, component: true
    }
}
```

4.5. Alias

A field can be aliased. This is useful in situations where another service may expect certain tags.

For example, Kibana uses an \@timestamp field to filter report records by date.

Example

```
class Session {
    Date loginTime

    static searchable = {
        loginTime alias:'@timestamp'
    }
}
```

4.6. Dynamic

Elasticsearch can map field contents as dynamic objects.

This is especially useful if you store JSON Strings in your database and want to make those objects searchable in elasticsearch.

Example

```
class Session {
    String jsonData

    static searchable = {
        dynamic: true
    }
}

Session session = new Session()
session.jsonData = ([foo: 'bar'] as JSON).toString()
```

The default mapping would make the jsonData field an escaped String field and a search for jsonData.foo = bar would result in no result. With dynamic mapping enabled for this field, we enable JSON handling of this field and tell elasticsearch to map this field dynamically. The result is that a search for jsonData.foo=bar would result in a search hit.



This will only work on String fields and will result in an error if the String is no valid json

4.7. Searchable Component Reference

The plugin support a similar searchable-component & searchable-reference behaviour from Compass when you are dealing with domain association. See below to find out about the difference between both mapping modes.

4.7.1. Searchable Reference

The searchable-reference mapping mode is the default mode used for association, and requires the searchable class of the association to be root-mapped in order to have its own index. With this mode, the associated domains are not completely marshalled in the resulting JSON document: only the id and the type of the instances are kept. When the document is retrieved from the index, the plugin will automatically rebuild the association from the indices using the stored id.

Example

```
class MyDomain {
    // odom is an association with the OtherDomain class, set as a reference
    OtherDomain odom

    static searchable = {
        odom reference:true
    }
}

// The OtherDomain definition, with default searchable configuration
class OtherDomain {
    static searchable = true

    String field1 = "val1"
    String field2 = "val2"
    String field3 = "val3"
    String field4 = "val4"
}
```

When indexing an instance of MyDomain, the resulting JSON documents will be sent to ElasticSearch:

```
{
    "mydomain": {
        "_id":1,
        "odom": { "id":1 }
    }
}

{
    "otherdomain": {
        "_id":1,
        "field1":"val1",
        "field2":"val2",
        "field3":"val3",
        "field4":"val4"
    }
}
```

4.7.2. Searchable Component

The searchable-component mapping mode must be explicitly set, and does not require the searchable class of the association to be root-mapped.

With this mode, the associated domains are nested in the parent document.

Example

```
class MyDomain {
    // odom is an association with the OtherDomain class, set as a reference
    OtherDomain odom

    static searchable = {
        odom component:true
    }
}

// The OtherDomain definition, with default searchable configuration
class OtherDomain {
    static searchable = true

    String field1 = "val1"
    String field2 = "val2"
    String field3 = "val3"
    String field4 = "val4"
}
```

When indexing an instance of MyDomain, the resulting JSON document will be sent to ElasticSearch:

```
{
    "mydomain": {
        "_id":1,
        "odom": {
            "_id":1,
            "field1":"val1",
            "field2":"val2",
            "field3":"val3",
            "field4":"val4"
        }
    }
}
```

If you'd rather that the reference object be mapped with type 'inner' rather than the default 'nested', set the 'component' key with a value of 'inner' rather than 'true':

```
class MyDomain {
    // odom is an association with the OtherDomain class, set as a reference
    OtherDomain odom

static searchable = {
       odom component: 'inner'
    }
}
```

4.8. Mapping Migrations

During the application startup the application will attempt to create the needed indices on Elasticsearch and create the type mappings defined by the user. If these indices and mappings already existed on the Elasticsearch cluster (ie. an older version of the application was running against it) and the new mapping definitions differ with the existing ones there's the potential for a Mapping conflict. This section describes how to configure the application to deal with this scenario.

It is important to highlight that not all type mapping changes will result on a conflict. Ie. adding a new field to a mapping does not result in a conflict whilst changing a property from component:'inner' to nested or vice-versa, will. These strategies will only be needed and applied when a **conflicting** mapping is being found.

4.8.1. Migration Strategies

The migration strategy is being defined by the elasticSearch.migration.strategy configuration property, and it accepts three values:

- 'none'
- 'deleteIndex'
- 'delete' is no longer supported since the upgrade to Elasticsearch > 2.0
- 'alias'

The default strategy is 'alias' as it is the only strategy that can achieve zero-downtime migrations and thus recommended by Elasticsearch

These values are described on more detail further ahead

4.8.2. Migration Strategy 'none'

This option keeps the original behaviour the plugin used before the Migration Strategies were implemented. When a Mapping Merge conflict id identified the event will be logged and an Exception will be logged. It will be responsibility for the application administrator to manually fix the problem.

This configuration was left as a backwards compatibility and it will prevent the application from booting successfully, therefore we **discourage teams from using this option**.

4.8.3. Migration Strategy 'deleteIndex'

When choosing this option, when a conflict occurs installing mapping, the application will delete the existing index for the type, alongside with all content indexed on that index (including content from other mappings) and it will recreate the index and all its mappings. There are a couple of important details on this information:

- Deleted documents can be automatically reindexed on startup by using the elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup configuration property (See below)
- New indices will be created with a version number and the right aliases, to make them

compatible with potential future 'alias' migrations (without requiring additional index deletions)

• Using this configuration there will always be a time window (between deletion and reindexation) where documents can't be found by search, therefore this option cannot achieve a **zero-downtime** deployment

See Dealing with deleted content below for more details on automatic indexing.

4.8.4. Migration Strategy 'alias'

This is the migration strategy recommended by Elasticsearch.

To better understand this strategy we will describe a typical 'alias' migration.

```
Elasticsearch contains
  index 'myapplication.store v27' with types 'car' and 'motorbike'
 alias 'myapplication.store' pointing to 'myapplication.store_v27'
  'myapplication.store v27/car' contains 520 documents
  'myapplication.store v27/motorbike' contains 12 documents
  index 'myapplication.admin_v0' with type 'quote'
 alias 'myapplication.admin' pointing to 'myapplication.admin v0'
  'myapplication.admin_v0/quote' contains 3200 documents
The application is configured to use indexes based on package names
'myapplication.store' and 'myapplication.admin'
(which as we already explained are actually aliases that point to versioned indices)
The team introduced a change on the Car domain that results in a conflict on the 'car'
mapping
The application starts up
    Tries to install the mapping for 'motorbike', it detects the conflict
    Creates a new index called 'myapplication.store v28'
    Creates mappings 'myapplication.store v28/car' and
'myapplication.store_v28/motorbike'
    Points all indexing requests for Car and Motorbike to the new index, while queries
still happen on 'myapplication.store'
On Boostrap (bulkIndexOnStartup)
    It indexes 520 cars into 'myapplication.store v28/car'
    It indexes 12 motorbikes into 'myapplication.store v28/motorbike'
    Switches the 'myapplication.store' alias to point to 'myapplication.store_v28'
    Now all cars are indexed according to the new mapping
    Now all motorbikes are indexed according to the new mapping
```



All content can be queried at all times, during Bootstrap bulkIndexOnStartup content will be retrieved from the old index.



Even though there wasn't a conflict on 'car', all cars needed to be reindexed as they lived on the same index.

There are three potential scenarios when using the 'alias' strategy:

Scenario	Behaviour
The index (ie. 'myapplication.store') does not exist	On this case there is not possibility of conflicts, as no previous mapping exist. However the application will behave slightly different than on the other to scenarios. Instead of creating the index (ie. 'myapplication.store'), it will create version 0 of it (ie. 'myapplication.store_v0') and an alias pointing to it. This is to facilitate the creation of future versions in case of conflict.
Alias exists pointing to a version (ie. 'myapplication.store' → 'myapplication.store_v27')	If there's a conflict on a mapping on the index, it will create a new version (ie. 'myapplication.store_v28'), reindex the content or not depending on the value of the elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup configuration property and point the alias to the new version once done.
Index already exists (ie. 'myapplication.store')	Elasticsearch cannot rename an index or create an alias with the same name as an index. The two alternatives here are to delete the index or fail the migration. This is controlled by the elasticSearch.migration.aliasReplacesIndex configuration property, if set to true, it will delete the index and proceed the same way as when the index did not exist. The deleted documents will be reindexed or not depending on the value of the elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup. This is the only scenario where there is content loss/downtime using the 'alias' strategy.

In the case you wanted to create a new version of an index, but not change where the alias points to (ie. for testing or if you wanted to perform extra tasks on the index before updating the alias), the elasticSearch.migration.disableAliasChange configuration property can be used



Aliases will only point to the new version of the index once all content is reindexed (if chosen to). Meanwhile, all index requests, either by elasticSearchService or using dynamic finders will go to the new version of the index, whilst queries will go to the old version of the index.

See Dealing with deleted content below for more details on automatic indexing.

4.8.5. Dealing with deleted content

Using the 'delete' or 'alias' strategy may lead to deleting content stored on Elasticsearch. This

content can be automatically reindexed using the <code>elasticSearch.bulkIndexOnStartup</code>. The duration of this process will depend on the amount of content to index.

When this property is set to true all content will be deleted. When set to 'deleted' only the domain classes which documents where deleted will be indexed. In either case, when using the 'alias' strategy, once all content is indexed all aliases will point to the latest version of the index.

Chapter 5. Indexing

With its default configuration (with the disableAutoIndex configuration key set to false), the plugin is indexing automatically any searchable domains when GORM/Hibernate do a save or an update in the database.

It also deletes automatically from the index any document corresponding to a domain that is deleted from the database. You normally shouldn't have to worry about indexing, but sometimes you may have to do it by yourself, for example on dirty domain object that you may not want to save right now.

The plugin is providing a few injected methods in the domain or in the ElasticSearchService to allow that.

5.1. Index examples

```
// Index all searchable instances
elasticSearchService.index()
// Index a specific domain instance
MyDomain md = new MyDomain(value:'that')
md.save()
elasticSearchService.index(md)
// Index a collection of domain instances
def ds = [new MyDomain(value:'that'), new MyOtherDomain(name:'this'), new
MyDomain(value:'thatagain')]
ds*.save()
elasticSearchService.index(ds)
// Index all instances of the specified domain class
elasticSearchService.index(MyDomain)
elasticSearchService.index(class:MyDomain)
elasticSearchService.index(MyDomain, MyOtherDomain)
elasticSearchService.index([MyDomain, MyOtherDomain])
```

5.2. Unindex examples

```
// Unindex all searchable instances
elasticSearchService.unindex()
// Unindex a specific domain instance
MyDomain md = new MyDomain(value:'that')
md.save()
elasticSearchService.unindex(md)
// Unindex a collection of domain instances
def ds = [new MyDomain(value:'that'), new MyOtherDomain(name:'this'), new
MyDomain(value:'thatagain')]
ds*.save()
elasticSearchService.unindex(ds)
// Unindex all instances of the specified domain class
elasticSearchService.unindex(MyDomain)
elasticSearchService.unindex(class:MyDomain)
elasticSearchService.unindex(MyDomain, MyOtherDomain)
elasticSearchService.unindex([MyDomain, MyOtherDomain])
```

Chapter 6. Searching

The plugin provides 2 ways to send search requests.

 You can use the elasticSearchService and its public search method for cross-domain searching, meaning that ElasticSearch may analyze multiple indices and return hits of different types (=different domains).

```
def res = elasticSearchService.search("${params.query}")
// 'res' search results may contains multiple types of results
```

• You can use the injected dynamic method in the domain for domain-specific searching.

```
def res = Tweet.search("${params.query}")
// 'res' search results contains only Tweet instances
```

These search methods return a Map containing 3 entries:

- a total entry, representing the total number of hits found
- a searchResults entry, containing the hits
- a scores entry, containing the hits scores

Example

```
def res = Tweet.search("${params.query}")
println "Found ${res.total} result(s)"
res.searchResults.each {
    println it.message
}

def res = elasticSearchService.search("${params.query}")
println "Found ${res.total} result(s)"
res.searchResults.each {
    if(it instanceof Tweet) {
        println it.message
    } else {
        println it.toString()
    }
}
```

If you're willing to retrieve only the number of hits for a peculiar query, you can use the countHits() method. It will only return an Integer representing the total hits matching your query.

Example

```
def res = Tweet.countHits("${params.query}")
println "Found ${res} result(s)"

def res = elasticSearchService.countHits("${params.query}", [indices:'test'])
println "Found ${res} result(s)"
```

6.1. Query Strings

The search method injected in the domain or the <code>ElasticSearchService</code> has multiple signatures available. You can pass it a simple <code>String</code> to compute your search request. That string will be parsed by the <code>Lucene query parser</code> so feel free to use its syntax to do more specific search query.

You can find out about the syntax on the Apache Lucene website.

Example

```
def results = elasticSearchService.search("${params.query}")
def resultsTweets = Tweet.search("message:${params.query}")
```

6.2. Query Closure

You can use the Groovy Query DSL to build your search query as a Closure.

The format of the search Closure follow the same JSON syntax as the ElasticSearch REST API and the Java Query DSL.

Example

```
def result = elasticSearchService.search(searchType:'dfs_query_and_fetch') {
    bool {
        must {
            query_string(query: params.query)
        }
        if (params.firstname) {
                must {
                     term(firstname: params.firstname)
                }
        }
    }
}
```

6.3. Query Builder

A QueryBuilder can be passed to the search method.

Example

```
QueryBuilder query = QueryBuilders.matchAllQuery()
def result = elasticSearchService.search(query)
```

6.4. Filter Closure

A filter closure can be passed as a second argument after the search closure to the search method.

Example

```
def result = elasticSearchService.search(
    [indices: Building, types: Building, sort: sortBuilder],
    null as Closure,
    {
        geo_distance(
            'distance': '5km',
            'location': [lat: 48.141, lon: 11.57]
        )
    })
```

6.5. Filter Builder

A FilterBuilder filter can be passed as a second argument after the search parameter to the search method.

Example

```
FilterBuilder filter = FilterBuilders.rangeFilter("price").gte(1.99).lte(2.3)
def result = elasticSearchService.search(
   [indices: Building, types: Building, sort: sortBuilder],
   null as Closure,
   filter)
```

6.6. Highlighting

The search method support highlighting: automatic wrapping of the matching terms in the search results with HTML/XML/Whatever tags.

You can activate this with a Closure containing the highlight settings in the search method highlight parameter.

The format of the Closure for defining the highlight settings is the same as the ElasticSearch REST API.

Example

```
// Define the pre & post tag that will wrap each term matched in the document.
def highlighter = {
   field 'message'
   field 'tags.name'
   preTags '<strong>'
   postTags '</strong>'
}

def results = Tweet.search("${params.query}", [highlight: highlightSettings])
```

6.6.1. Highlight results

If a search result is found, the search method will add a highlight entry in the map result.

That entry contains a `List`with every highlighted fragments/fields found for each hit.

```
def results = Tweet.search("${params.query}", [highlight: { field 'message' }])
def highlighted = results.highlight

results?.searchResults?.eachWithIndex { hit, index ->
    // Retrieve the 'message' field fragments for the current hits
    def fragments = highlighted[index].message?.fragments

// Print the fragment
    println fragments?.size() ? fragments[0] : ''
}
```

6.6.2. Highlighted fields

To determine which fields are to be processed by ElasticSearch, use the field setting.

You can call the field setting as many time as you want to add any field.

Signature

```
field <fieldName>, <fragmentSize>, <numberOfFragment>
```

Examples

```
def highlightSettings = {
    field 'message'
                                       // Add the 'message' field in the highlighted
fields list
    field 'tags.name'
                                       // Add the 'name' field contained in the 'tags'
field of
                                       // the document in the highlighted fields list
    field 'thatAwesomeField', 0, 20
                                       // Add the 'thatAwesomeField' field with
                                       // some values fixed for fragmentSize and
                                       // numberOfFragment parameters
}
def highlightSettings2 = {
    field '_all'
                                       // Add the special '_all' field in the
highlighted
                                       // fields list
}
def results = Tweet.search("${params.query}", [highlight: highlightSettings])
def results2 = Tweet.search("${params.query}", [highlight: highlightSettings2])
```

6.6.3. Highlighting tags

By default, ElasticSearch will use emphasis tag "..." to wrap the matching text.

You can customize the tags with the preTags and postTags settings.

```
def highlightSettings = {
    field 'message'
    preTags '<myAweSomeTag>'
    postTags '</myAweSomeTag>'
}
```

6.7. Sorting

To sort the search results, either a field name or a SortBuilder must be passed.

Returned sort values

The sort values are not part of the search results themselves but are part of result.sort.

sort contains all search values calculated by the ElasticSearch server as a list mapped to the id of the respective domain objects

Example

```
assert [1:[23, 42], 2: [24, 40]] == result.sort
```

Unresolved directive in searching/sorting.adoc - include::sorting/geoDistanceSorting.adoc[]

6.8. Pagination

To return paginated results one can pass from and size to search method query params.

Example

```
Post.search('xyz', [ indices: Post, types: Post, from: 0, size: 10 ] )
// or
elasticSearchService.search('xyz', [ indices: Post, types: Post, from: 0, size: 10 ])
```

6.9. Aggregation

You can use AggregationBuilders while searching. The aggregations' framework helps provide aggregated data based on a search query. It is based on simple building blocks called aggregations, that can be composed in order to build complex summaries of the data.

You could use preconstructed AggregationBuilders or use the standard DSL based aggregations

Examples

Use of AggregationBuilders

```
// build your aggregation(s)
def aggregations = []
aggregations << AggregationBuilders.filters('types',
        new FiltersAggregator.KeyedFilter('jpg', QueryBuilders.matchQuery('type',
'jpg')),
        new FiltersAggregator.KeyedFilter('png', QueryBuilders.matchQuery('type',
'png'))
)
aggregations << AggregationBuilders.terms('names').field('name')</pre>
aggregations << AggregationBuilders.avg('avg_size').field('size')</pre>
// Use it
Photo.search('xyz', null as Closure, aggregations)
// or
elasticSearchService.search(
                     'xyz',
                    null as Closure,
                    aggregations,
                    [ indices: Photo, types: Photo ])
```

Use of DSL

```
Photo.search('xyz', null as Closure, {
            "types" {
                filters {
                    "filters" {
                        "jpg" { match(type: 'jpg') }
                        "png" { match(type: 'png') }
                    }
               }
            }
            "names" {
               terms(field: 'name')
            }
            "avg_size" {
               avg(field: 'size')
            }
        })
// ог
elasticSearchService.search(
                    'xyz',
                    null as Closure,
                    {
                        "types" {
                            filters {
                                "filters" {
                                    "jpg" { match(type: 'jpg') }
                                    "png" { match(type: 'png') }
                                }
                            }
                        }
                        "names" {
                            terms(field: 'name')
                        }
                        "avg_size" {
                           avg(field: 'size')
                        }
                    },
                    [ indices: Photo, types: Photo ])
```

Chapter 7. Admin

The plugin implements a few convenience methods for a few admin-oriented actions.

7.1. Refresh

Explicitly refresh one or more index, making all operations performed since the last refresh available for search. It will also flush the current IndexRequestQueue if there are pending index or delete requests from the application side.

The refresh method is not asynchronous, meaning that it will wait for all operations to complete before resuming the execution of your application.

```
elasticSearchService.index(domain)
// Some code...
// ...

elasticSearchService.index(domain2)
// Some code...
// ...

elasticSearchService.index(domain3)
// Some code...
// ...

elasticSearchAdminService.refresh() // Ensure that the 3 previous index
// requests have been made searchable by ES
```

7.2. Delete Index

Delete an index, all its mapping and its content from the ElasticSearch instance. Be careful when using this command because it cannot be undone.



The generated mapping from the grails plugin is also deleted.

The method can be limited to one or more specific indices or applied to all indices at once (called with no parameter).

```
elasticSearchAdminService.deleteIndex()
```

Chapter 8. Low Level API

If you need to use the Elastic Search client directly, you can use the elasticSearchHelper bean that is injected in any services/controllers to get the current instance.

Simply encapsulate your code within a withElasticSearch bloc, and you will get a org.elasticsearch.client.Client implementation to play with.

Please refer to the Elastic Search API for more information on the methods and properties available on the client.

Chapter 9. Example

9.1. Twitter

9.1.1. The Domains

```
class Tweet {
  static searchable = {
    message boost:2.0
  }

static belongsTo = [
        user:User
]

static hasMany = [
        tags:Tag
]

static constraints = {
    tags nullable:true, cascade:'save, update'
}

String message = ''
Date dateCreated = new Date()
}
```

```
class User {
 static searchable = {
    except = 'password'
   lastname boost:20
   firstname boost:15, index:'true'
   listOfThings index:'false'
    someThings index:'false'
   tweets component:true
 }
 static constraints = {
    tweets cascade: 'all'
 }
 static hasMany = [
         tweets:Tweet
  ]
 static mappedBy = [
         tweets: 'user'
 ]
 String lastname
 String firstname
 String password
 String activity = 'Evildoer'
 String someThings = 'something'
 ArrayList<String> listOfThings = ['this', 'that', 'andthis']
}
```

```
class Tag {
   static searchable = {
     except=['boostValue']
   }

String name
   Integer boostValue = 1
}
```

9.1.2. The Controller

• A action triggering indexation

ElasticSearchController (testCaseService is just dealing with GORM instructions):

```
class ElasticSearchController {
 def elasticSearchService
 def testCaseService
 def postTweet = {
   if(!params.user?.id) {
      flash.notice = "No user selected."
      redirect(action: 'index')
      return
    }
    User u = User.get(params.user.id)
    if (!u) {
      flash.notice = "User not found"
      redirect(action: 'index')
      return
   }
   // Create tweet
   testCaseService.addTweet(params.tweet?.message, u, params.tags)
    flash.notice = "Tweet posted"
    redirect(action: 'index')
 }
}
```

With this code (considering that there are already User in the database), new Tweets will be indexed automatically, and corresponding User indexed documents will be updated since we have set the tweets association as component.

Searching for Tweets

```
def searchForUserTweets = {
    def tweets = Tweet.search("${params.message.search}").searchResults
    def tweetsMsg = 'Messages : '
    tweets.each {
        tweetsMsg += "<br />Tweet from ${it.user?.firstname} ${it.user?.lastname} :
    ${it.message} "
        tweetsMsg += "(tags : ${it.tags?.collect{t -> t.name}})"
    }
    flash.notice = tweetsMsg
    redirect(action: 'index')
}
```

Searching for anything

```
def searchAll = {
    def res = elasticSearchService.search("${params.query}").searchResults
    def resMsg = '<strong>Global search result(s):</strong><br />'
    res.each {
      switch(it){
        case Tag:
          resMsg += "<strong>Tag</strong> ${it.name}<br />"
          break
        case Tweet:
          resMsg += "<strong>Tweet</strong> \"${it.message}\" from
${it.user.firstname} ${it.user.lastname}<br />"
          break
        case User:
          resMsg += "<strong>User</strong> ${it.firstname} ${it.lastname}<br />"
        default:
          resMsg += "<strong>Other</strong> ${it}<br />"
     }
    }
    flash.notice = resMsg
    redirect(action:'index')
}
```

9.2. Geo Distance Search

A search for buildings with a geo_distance filter, ordered by distance.

9.2.1. Domains

```
class GeoPoint {
    Double lat
    Double lon

static searchable = {
    root false
    }
}
```

GeoPoint represents the geo coordinates for a building. The field names lat and lon are mandatory.

```
class Building {
    String name
    GeoPoint location

    static searchable = {
        location geoPoint: true, component: true
    }
}
```

The location of the building is mapped to an ElasticSearch geo_point.

9.2.2. Service Methods

Searching for all buildings sorted by distance with 5km radius around geo location (lat=41.141, lon=11.57)

```
def searchForBuildings() {
   Closure filter = {
        geo_distance(
            'distance': '5km',
            'location': [lat: 48.141, lon: 11.57]
        )
   }
    def sortBuilder = SortBuilders.geoDistanceSort("location").
        point(48.141, 11.57).
        unit(DistanceUnit.KILOMETERS).
        order(SortOrder.ASC)
    def result = elasticSearchService.search(
        [indices: Building, types: Building, sort: sortBuilder],
        null as Closure,
        filter)
    return [results: result.searchResults, distances: result.sort]
}
```

The calculated distances are not part of the search results themselves but are part of result.sort. sort contains all search values calculated by the ElasticSearch server as a list mapped to the id of the respective domain objects

Example

```
assert [1:[23, 42], 2: [24, 40]] == result.sort
```

9.3. Parent/Child mapping

Mapping types being removed, please see: https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/removal-of-types.html

A store with many departments

```
class Store {
    String name
    String description = "A description of a store"
    String owner = "Shopowner"
    static searchable = true
   static constraints = {
        name blank: false
        description nullable: true
        owner nullable: false
    }
}
class Department {
    String name
    Long numberOfProducts
    Store store
    static constraints = {
        numberOfProducts nullable: true
    }
    static searchable = {
        store join: true, component:true
   }
}
```

Search for all departments which are childs of a store with the owner "Shopowner"

```
def result = elasticSearchService.search(
    QueryBuilders.hasParentQuery("store", QueryBuilders.matchQuery("owner",
"Shopowner")),
    null as Closure,
    [indices: Department, types: Department]
)
```

Chapter 10. Frequently Asked Questions

10.1. Conflicting module versions

Normally this issues happen where different versions of same modules are download from different plugins or dependencies in build.gradle

It seems like there are multiple versions of groovy in the classpath. Looks similar to http://stackoverflow.com/questions/31099214/tomcat-conflicting-module-versions-module-groovy-all-is-loaded-in-version-2-3

10.1.1. Exception

```
log4j:ERROR Error initializing log4j: null
java.lang.ExceptionInInitializerError
   at org.codehaus.groovy.runtime.InvokerHelper.<clinit>(InvokerHelper.java:61)
   at groovy.lang.GroovyObjectSupport.<init>(GroovyObjectSupport.java:32)
   at org.codehaus.groovy.grails.commons.AbstractGrailsApplication.<init>(
             AbstractGrailsApplication.java:45)
   at org.codehaus.groovy.grails.commons.DefaultGrailsApplication.<init>
            (DefaultGrailsApplication.java:95)
   at org.codehaus.groovy.grails.commons.DefaultGrailsApplication.<init>
            (DefaultGrailsApplication.java:91)
   at sun.reflect.NativeConstructorAccessorImpl.newInstanceO(Native Method)
   at sun.reflect.NativeConstructorAccessorImpl.newInstance(
            NativeConstructorAccessorImpl.java:62)
   at sun.reflect.DelegatingConstructorAccessorImpl.newInstance(
       DelegatingConstructorAccessorImpl.java:45)
   at java.lang.reflect.Constructor.newInstance(Constructor.java:423)
   at java.lang.Class.newInstance(Class.java:442)
   at
org.apache.tomcat.util.net.JIoEndpoint$SocketProcessor.run(JIoEndpoint.java:314)
   at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor.runWorker(ThreadPoolExecutor.java:1142)
   at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor$Worker.run(ThreadPoolExecutor.java:617)
   at
org.apache.tomcat.util.threads.TaskThread$WrappingRunnable.run(TaskThread.java:61)
   at java.lang.Thread.run(Thread.java:745)
**Caused by: groovy.lang.GroovyRuntimeException: Conflicting module versions. Module
[groovy-all is loaded in version 2.3.11 and you are trying to load version 2.4.4**
```

10.1.2. Workaround

```
grails.project.dependency.resolution = {
    plugins {
        compile ":elasticsearch:0.0.4.5", { exclude "groovy-all" } // elasticsearch
1.6.0
    }
}
```

• Above problem was reported with plugin version 0.0.4.5 and Grails 2.5.5.