

Databases on AWS

Storing application data

- Self-managed Databases vs Managed Database Services
- Understanding & Using RDS (incl. Aurora)
- Understanding & Using DynamoDB



So Many Options!



Different Types of Databases

e.g., SQL vs NoSQL

Different data or workload requirements favor different database types



AWS allows you to run & use all database types



Different Hosting Options

Self-hosted vs managed

You can install + operate databases yourself (e.g., on EC2 instances) or let AWS do that



AWS supports both options



Database Types: SQL vs NoSQL

Data can be stored & structured in different ways

Two main kinds of database types

Relational & Fixed Schema (SQL)

Non-Relational & No Schema (NoSQL)

Data is **normalized** and **split** across multiple tables

Data is **not normalized** and only split across a **few** (or **no**) tables

Every table has a clearly defined data schema which enforces homogenous data records

Tables **don't enforce** a fixed structure and allow for **heterogenous** data records

Examples: MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle SQL, ...

Examples: MongoDB, AWS DynamoDB, ...



Self-Hosted: Advantages & Disadvantages



Self-hosted Databases

Install & operate database software manually

e.g., on EC2 instances

Full control but also full responsibility

Important duties: Keep software patched, manage backups etc.



Managed Databases

Let AWS manage setup & database operations

Key services: **RDS**, **DynamoDB**

Less control but also less responsibility

You define general rules but AWS does the heavy lifting



Relational Database Service (RDS)



Managed SQL Databases

Choose Database Engine

e.g., MySQL, PostgreSQL

Database version

Auto-update settings

Choose Hardware & Network Configuration

Instance class (hardware profile)

VPC, subnet & security group

Configure Database Server

Login credentials & port

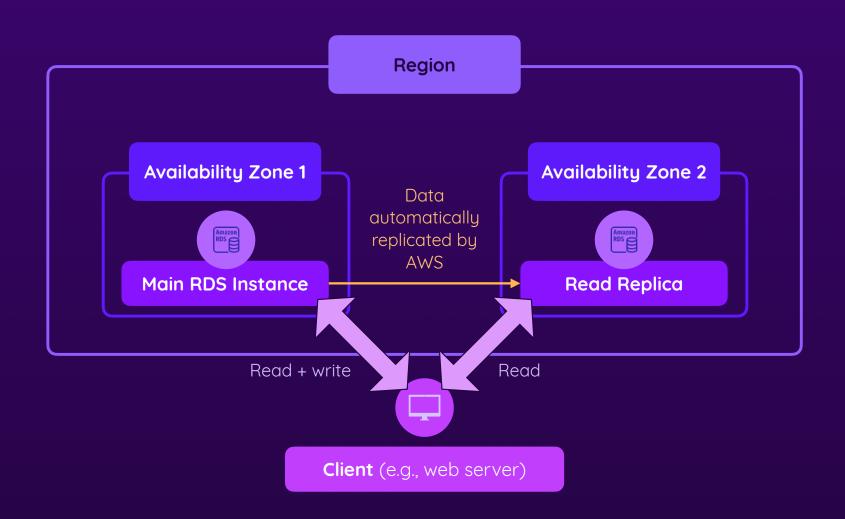
Replication (for high availability & performance)

Monitoring settings

Encryption & backup settings



High Availability Thanks To Replication





Amazon Aurora



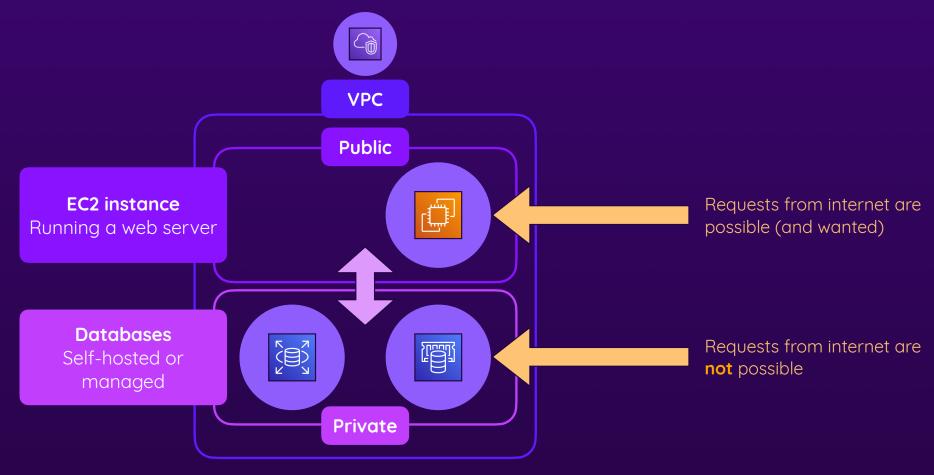
Amazon's own SQL database engine



MySQL & PostgreSQL compatible database engine with great scalability & performance



Databases & VPCs





Caching Data with ElastiCache



A fully managed in-memory caching database

Choose Database Engine

Redis or Memcached

Optionally enable cluster mode (for scaling)

Choose engine version

Choose Hardware & Network Configuration

Node type (hardware profile)

VPC, subnet & security group

Configure Database Server

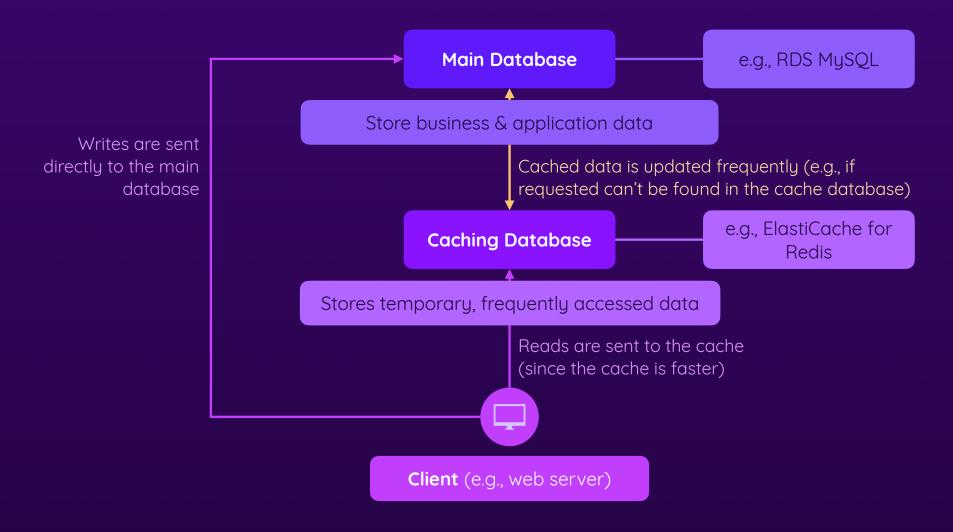
Encryption & backup settings

Maintenance settings

Monitoring settings

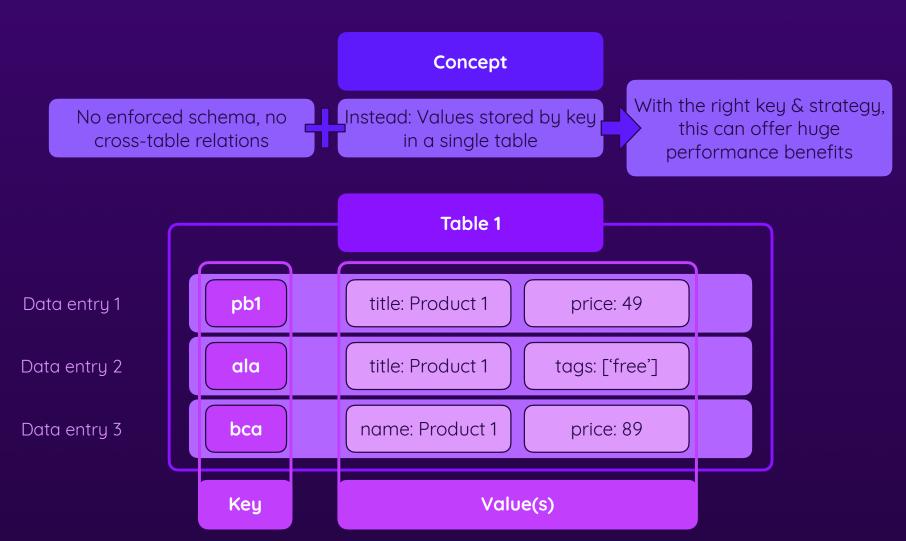


What Is "Caching"?





SQL Alternative: NoSQL Key-Value Stores





Understanding DynamoDB



A fully managed NoSQL key-value database

Create Tables

Set name & key(s)

Set expected read / write capacities (or on-demand)

Choose encryption settings

Manage Data

Write & read via AWS API / CLI / SDK

Configure backups



More DynamoDB Features



Streams

Time-ordered series of database item changes

Subscribe to process item changes



Global Tables

Fully managed multi-region database

High availability thanks to automatic replication

Great performance thanks to global reach



DAX

Managed in-memory cache for DynamoDB

Accelerates database queries



Other Database Services



MemoryDB

Persistent in-memory storage



Neptune

Graph database (complex data relations)



DocumentDB

Document (nested data structure) database



Timestream

Time series database



Keyspaces

Wide column database (flexible column formats)



Quantum Ledger Database

Immutable log of data changes



AWS Backup



Centralized Backup

Management

Create Plan

Use template or create custom

Set frequency, retention period etc.

Define destination & timeframe

Manage Resources & Backups

Assign resources (e.g., RDS cluster) to backup plan

Access & restore backups if necessary



Summary



Different Database Services

Self-hosted (on EC2) vs managed services

SQL (RDS, Aurora) vs NoSQL (DynamoDB, DocumentDB, ...)

Different database for different workloads / data requirements



RDS, Aurora & ElastiCache

Managed relational database services

Configure database cluster hardware, network & behavior

Leverage built-in scaling & availability (replication) features

Access databases via HTTP endpoints / SQL queries



DynamoDB & More

DynamoDB: Managed highperformance key-value database

Define partition keys & read / write capacity (or on-demand)

Access DynamoDB data via AWS

API / SDKs

Other databases for specific usecases