

MongoDB and CouchDB

The
Pragmatic
Programmers

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- All concepts in slides
- MongoDB tutorial
- Web
 - <https://www.mongodb.com/>
 - Official docs
 - pymongo
- Book
 - Seven Databases in Seven Weeks, 2e

Seven Databases in Seven Weeks

Second Edition

A Guide to Modern
Databases and the
NoSQL Movement

Luc Perkins
with Eric Redmond and Jim R. Wilson

Series editor: Bruce A. Tate
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Key-Value Store vs Document DBs

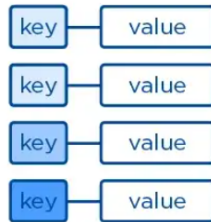
- **Key-value stores**

- Basically a map or a dictionary
 - E.g., HBase, Redis
- Typically only look up values by key
 - Sometimes can do search in value field with a pattern
- Uninterpreted value (e.g., binary blob) associated with a key
- Typically one namespace for all key-values

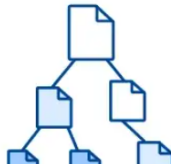
- **Document DBs**

- Collect sets of key-value pairs into *documents*
 - E.g., MongoDB, CouchDB
- Documents represented in JSON, XML, or BSON (binary JSON)
- Documents organized into *collections*
 - Similar to *tables* in relational DBs
 - Large collections can be partitioned and indexed

Key-Value



Document



MongoDB



- Developed by MongoDB Inc.
 - Founded in 2007
 - Based on DoubleClick experience with large-scale data
 - Mongo comes from “hu-mongo-us”
- One of the most used NoSQL DBs (if not the most used)
- **Document-oriented NoSQL database**
 - Schema-less
 - No Data Definition Language (DDL), like for SQL
 - You can store maps with any keys and values
 - Application tracks the schema, mapping between documents and their meaning
 - Keys are hashes stored as strings
 - Document Identifiers **_id** created for each document (field name reserved by Mongo)
 - Values use BSON format
 - Based on JSON (B stands for Binary)
- Written in C++
- Supports APIs (drivers) in many languages
 - E.g., JavaScript, Python, Ruby, Java, Scala, C++, ...

MongoDB: Example of Document

- **A document is a JSON data structure**
- It corresponds to a row in a relational DB
 - Without schema
 - Primary key is `_id`
 - Values nested to an arbitrary depth

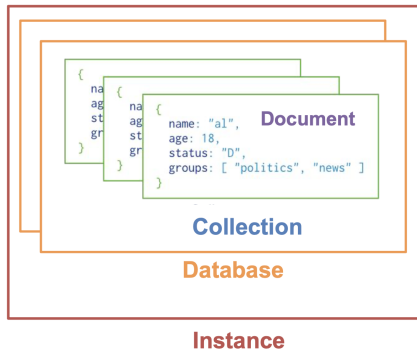
```
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("4d0b6da3bb30773266f39fea"),
  "country" : {
    "$ref" : "countries",
    "$id" : ObjectId("4d0e6074deb8995216a8309e")
  },
  "famous_for" : [
    "beer",
    "food"
  ],
  "last_census" : "Sun Jan 07 2018 00:00:00 GMT -0700 (PDT)",
  "mayor" : {
    "name" : "Ted Wheeler",
    "party" : "D"
  },
  "name" : "Portland",
  "population" : 582000,
  "state" : "OR"
}
```

MongoDB: Functionalities

- **Design goals**
 - Performance
 - Availability / scalability
 - Rich data storage (not rich querying!)
- **Dynamic schema**
 - No DDL (Data Definition Language)
 - Secondary indexes
 - Query language via an API
- **Several levels of data consistency**
 - E.g., atomic writes and fully-consistent reads (at document level)
- **No joins nor transactions across multiple documents**
 - Makes distributed queries easy and fast
- **High availability through replica sets**
 - E.g., primary replication with automated failover
- **Built-in sharding**
 - Horizontal scaling via automated range-based partitioning of data
 - Reads and writes distributed over shards

MongoDB: Hierarchical Objects

- A Mongo **instance** has:
 - Zero or more “databases”
 - Mongo instance ~ Postgres instance
- A Mongo **database** has:
 - Zero or more “collections”
 - Mongo collection ~ Postgres tables
 - Mongo database ~ Postgres database
- A Mongo **collection** has:
 - Zero or more “documents”
 - Mongo document ~ Postgres rows
- A Mongo **document** has:
 - One or more “fields”
 - It has always primary key `_id`
 - Mongo field ~ Postgres columns



Relational DBs vs MongoDB: Concepts

RDBMS Concept	MongoDB Concept	Meaning in MongoDB
database	database	Container for collections
relation / table / view	collection	Group of documents
row / instance	document	Group of fields
column / attribute	field	A name-value pair
index	index	Automatic
primary keys	<code>_id</code> field	Always the primary key
foreign key	reference	Pointers
table joins	embedded documents	Nested name-value pairs

```
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("4d0b6da3bb30773266f39fea"),
  "country" : {
    "$ref" : "countries",
    "$id" : ObjectId("4d0e6074deb8995216a8309e")
  },
  "famous_for" : [
    "beer",
    "food"
  ],
  "last_census" : "Sun Jan 07 2018 00:00:00 GMT -0700 (PDT)",
  "mayor" : {
    "name" : "Ted Wheeler",
    "party" : "D"
  },
  "name" : "Portland",
  "population" : 582000,
  "state" : "OR"
}
```



Relational vs Document DB: Workflows

- **Relational DBs**

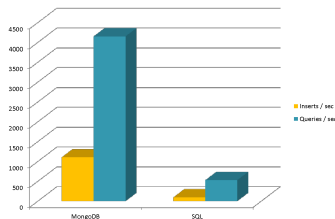
- E.g., PostgreSQL
- Know what you want to store
 - Tabular data
- Do not know how to use it
 - Static schema allows query flexibility (e.g., joins)
- Complexity is at insertion time
 - Decide how to represent the data (i.e., schema)

- **Document DBs**

- E.g., MongoDB
- No assumptions on what to store
 - E.g., irregular JSON data
- Know a bit how to access data
 - You want to access the data by key
 - E.g., it's a nested key-value map
- Complexity is at access time
 - Get the data from the server
 - Process data on the client side

Why Use MongoDB?

- Simple to query
 - Do the work on client side
- It's fast
 - 2-10x faster than Postgres
- Data model / functionalities suitable for most web applications
 - Semi-structured data
 - Quickly evolving systems
- Easy and fast integration of data
- Not well suited for heavy and complex transactions systems
 - E.g., banking system



MongoDB: Data Model

- **Documents** are composed of field and value pairs
 - **Field names** are strings
 - **Values** are any BSON type
 - Arrays of documents
 - Native data types
 - Other documents
- E.g.,
 - `_id` holds an `ObjectId`
 - `name` holds a document that contains the fields `first` and `last`
 - `birth` and `death` are of `Date` type
 - `contribs` holds an array of strings
 - `views` holds a value of the `NumberLong` type

```
{  
  name: "sue",  
  age: 26,  
  status: "A",  
  groups: [ "news", "sports" ]  
}
```

← field: value
← field: value
← field: value
← field: value

```
{  
  _id: ObjectId("5099803df3f4948bd2f98391"),  
  name: { first: "Alan", last: "Turing" },  
  birth: new Date('Jun 23, 1912'),  
  death: new Date('Jun 07, 1954'),  
  contribs: [ "Turing machine", "Turing test", "Turingery" ],  
  views : NumberLong(1250000)  
}
```

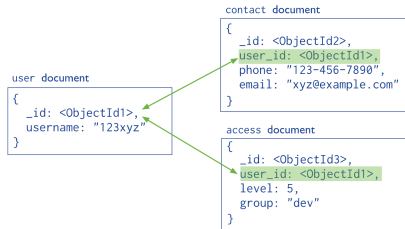
MongoDB: Data Model

- Documents can be nested
 - Embedded sub-document
- **Denormalized data models**
 - Store multiple related pieces of information in the same record
 - Conceptually is the result of a join operation
- **Normalized data models**
 - Eliminate duplication
 - Represent many-to-many relationships

```
{
  _id: <ObjectId>,
  username: "123xyz",
  contact: {
    phone: "123-456-7890",
    email: "xyz@example.com"
  },
  access: {
    level: 5,
    group: "dev"
  }
}
```

Embedded sub-document

Embedded sub-document



Schema Free

- MongoDB does not need any pre-defined data schema
- Every **document** in a **collection** can have different fields and values
 - No need for NULL values / union of fields like in relational DBs
- E.g., dishomogeneous data instances

Document

Document

Collection

```
{name: "will",  
  eyes: "blue",  
  birthplace: "NY",  
  aliases: ["bill", "la ciacco"],  
  loc: [32.7, 63.4],  
  boss: "ben"}
```

```
{name: "jeff",  
  eyes: "blue",  
  loc: [40.7, 73.4],  
  boss: "ben"}
```

```
{name: "brendan",  
  aliases: ["el diablo"]}
```

```
{name: "ben",  
  hat: "yes"}
```

```
{name: "matt",  
  pizza: "DiGiorno",  
  height: 72,  
  loc: [44.6, 71.3]}
```



mongoDB

JSON Format

- JSON = JavaScript Object Notation
- Data is stored in field / value pairs
- A field / value pair consists of:
 - A field name (always a string)
 - Followed by a colon :
 - Followed by a typed value

```
"name": "R2-D2"
```

- **Data in documents is separated by commas ','**

```
"name": "R2-D2", race: "Droid"
```

- Curly braces {} hold documents

```
{"name": "R2-D2", race : "Droid", affiliation: "rebels"}
```

- An array is stored in brackets []

```
[{"name": "R2-D2", race: "Droid", affiliation: "rebels"},  
 {"name": "Yoda", affiliation: "rebels"}]
```

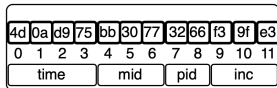
- Supports:

BSON Format

- Binary-encoded serialization of JSON-like documents
 - <https://bsonspec.org>
- Zero or more key/value pairs are stored as a single entity
 - Each entry consists of:
 - a field name (string)
 - a data type
 - a value
- Similar to Protocol Buffer, but more schema-less
- Large elements in a BSON document are prefixed with a length field to facilitate scanning
- MongoDB understands the internals of BSON objects, even nested ones
 - Can build indexes and match objects against query expressions for BSON keys

ObjectId

- Each JSON data contains an `_id` field of type `ObjectId`
 - Same as a SERIAL constraint incrementing a numeric primary key in PostgreSQL
- An `ObjectId` is 12 bytes, composed of:
 - a timestamp
 - client machine ID
 - client process ID
 - a 3-byte auto-incremented counter
- Each Mongo process can handle its own ID generation without colliding
 - Mongo has a distributed nature
- Details [here](#)



Indexes

- **Primary index**
 - Automatically created on the `_id` field
 - B+ tree indexes
- **Secondary index**
- Users can create secondary indexes to:
 - Improve query performance
 - Enforce unique values for a particular field
- Single field index and compound index (like SQL)
 - Order of the fields in a compound index matters
- Sparse property of an index
 - The index contains only entries for documents that have the indexed field
 - Ignore records that do not have the field defined
- Reject records with duplicate key value if an index is unique and sparse
- Details [here](#)