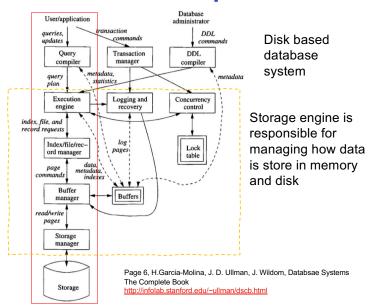
COMP5338 – Advanced Data Models

Week 4: MongoDB Indexing

Dr. Ying Zhou School of Computer Science



Review: DBMS Components



Outline

- Database Indexing
- MongoDB Indexes
- MongoDB Query Execution

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The primitive operations of a query

- Read query
 - ► Load the element of interest from disk to main-memory buffer(s) if it is not already there
 - Read the content to client's address space
- Write query
 - The new value is created in the client's address space
 - ▶ It is copied to the appropriate buffers representing the database in the memory
 - The buffer content is flushed to the disk
- Both operations involve data movement between <u>disk</u> and <u>memory</u> and between <u>memory spaces</u>
- Typically <u>disk access</u> is the predominant performance cost in single node settings. Network communication contributes to the cost in cluster setting
- One design goal of database system is to reduce the amount of disk I/Os in read and write queries

Typical Solutions to minimize Disk I/O

- Queries involve reading data from the database
 - ▶ Minimize the amount of data need to be moved from disk to memory
 - ▶ Use index and data distribution information to decide on a query plan
- Queries involve writing data to the database
 - ▶ Minimize the amount of disk I/O in the write path
 - Avoid flushing memory content to disk immediately after each write
 - Push non essential write out the of write path, e.g. do those asynchronously
 - ▶ To ensure durability, write ahead log/journal/operation log is always necessary
 - Appending to logs are much faster than updating the actual database file
 - The DB system may acknowledge once the data is updated in memory and appended in the WAL
 - Update to replicas can be done asynchronously, e.g. not in the write path

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Indexing

- An index on an attribute A of a table is a data structure that makes it efficient to find those rows(document) that have a required value for attribute/field A.
- An index consists of records (called index entries) each of which has a value for the attribute(s) of the form

	attr. value	Pointer to d	lata record				
	A-101		ا ہر	Perryridge	A-201	900	I
	A-102		/,	Brighton	A-217	750	Dialabla ala 4
	A-110		\longrightarrow	Downtown	A-110	600	Disk block 1
	A-201		\times				↓
	A-215			Perryridge	A-102	400	†
	A-217		` `	Downtown	A-101	500	Disk block 2
	A-222			Mianus	A-215	700	
In	dex on acc	ountno attr	Redwood	A-222	700	 	
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Indexing (con'td)

Textbook architecture of storage engine

■ Data is stored in disk blocks with row-based format

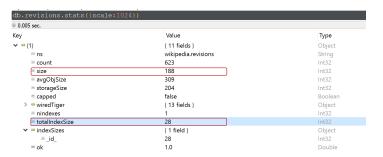
B-Tree primary and secondary indexes

MVCC (multi-version concurrency control)

ACID transaction support

Row based locking

- Index entries are sorted by the attribute (search key) value
- Index files are typically much smaller than the original file



Outline

- Database Indexing
- MongoDB Indexes
- MongoDB Query Execution

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MongoDB Basic Indexes

- The _id index
 - _id field is automatically indexed for all collections
 - ▶ The _id index enforces uniqueness for its keys
- Indexing on other fields
 - Index can be created on any other field or combination of fields
 - db.<collectionName>.createIndex({<fieldName>:1});
 - fieldName can be a simple field, array field or field of an embedded document (using dot notation)
 - db.blog.createIndex({author:1})
 - db.blog.createIndex({tags:1})
 - db.blog.createIndex({"comments.author":1})
 - the number specifies the direction of the index (1: ascending; -1: descending)
 - Additional properties can be specified for an index
 - Sparseness, uniqueness, background, ...
- Most MongoDB indexes are organized as B-Tree structure by default

http://www.mongodb.org/display/DOCS/Indexes

MongoDB Storage Engine

- MongoDB supports multiple storage engines
 - ▶ WiredTiger is the default one since version 3.2
- Some prominent features of WiredTiger
 - ▶ Provide both B-tree and Log Structured Merge tree index
 - Document level concurrency
 - ► Multi Version Concurrency Control (MVCC)
 - Snapshots are provided at the start of operation using timestamp
 - Snapshots are written to disk (creating checkpoints) at intervals of 60 seconds (or 2GB of journal data)
 - Journal
 - Write-ahead transaction log
 - Compression

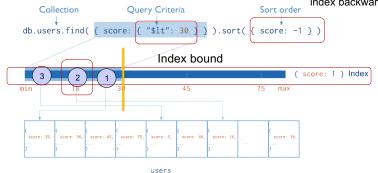
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Single field Index

db.users.createIndex({ score: 1 })

Descending order means traversing the index backwards

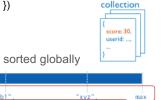


Single entry with filed value and pointer to document

https://docs.mongodb.com/manual/core/index-single/

Compound Index

- Compound Index is a single index structure that holds references to multiple fields within a collection
- The order of field in a compound index is very important
 - The index entries are sorted by the value of the first field, then second, third...
 - ▶ If we have a compound index: {userid:1, score:-1}
 - ▶ It supports queries like
 - db.users.find({userid: "ca2", score: {\$gt:30} })
 - db.users.find({userid: "ca2"})
 - ▶ But not queries like
 - db.users.find({score: 75})



{ userid: 1, score: -1 } Index No

Not sorted globally

https://docs.mongodb.com/manual/core/index-compound/

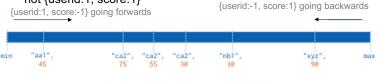
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Use Index to Sort (multiple fields)

Sort on multiple fields

- ▶ Compound index may be used on sorting multiple fields.
- ▶ There are constrains on fields and direction
 - Sort key should have the same order as they appear in the index
 - All field sort have same sort direction, either going forwards or backwards the index
 - E.g. {userid:1, score:-1} and {userid:-1, score:1} can use the index, but not {userid:1, score:1}



{ userid: 1, score: -1 } Index

Use Index to Sort (single field)

- Sort operation may <u>obtain the order from index</u> or <u>sort the</u> result in memory
- Index can be traversed in either direction
- Sort with a single field index
 - ► For single field index, sorting by that field can always use the index regardless of the sort direction
 - ▶ E.g. db.records.createIndex({ a: 1 }) supports both

```
db.records.find().sort({a:1}) and
```

db.records.find().sort({a: -1})

https://docs.mongodb.com/manual/tutorial/sort-results-with-indexes/

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Use Index to Sort (multiple fields)

Sort and Index Prefix

▶ If the sort keys correspond to the index keys or an index *prefix*, MongoDB can use the index to sort the query results.

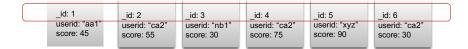
```
E.g. db.data.createIndex({ a:1, b: 1, c: 1, d: 1 })
Supported query:
db.data.find().sort({ a: -1 })
db.data.find().sort({ a: 1, b: 1 })
db.data.find({a:{ $gt: 4}}).sort({ a: 1, b: 1 })
```

Sort and Non-prefix Subset of an Index

An index can support sort operations on a non-prefix subset of the index key pattern if the query include equality conditions on all the prefix keys that precede the sort keys. Sort keys

Running Example

Suppose we have a users collection with the following 6 documents stored in the order of _id values



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Using index to find documents

- For queries that are able to use index, the first step is to find the boundary entries on the list based on given query condition
- Example query
 - db.users.find({userid:{\$gt: "b", \$lt:"s"}})
- This query is able to use the compound index and the two bounds are:("ca1", 75) and ("nb1",30) inclusive at both ends

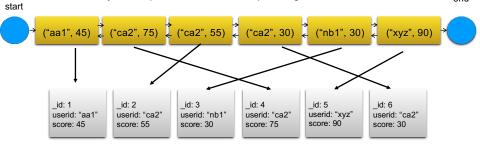


Index Entries

- Now we create a compound index on **userid** and **score** fields : db.users.createIndex(userid:1, score:-1)
- With the current data, the index has six entries because we have 6 records in the collection
 - ▶ The entries are sorted in descending (userid, score) value
 - the index entries usually form a doubly linked list to facilitate bi-directional traversal

▶ Each entry has a pointer to the corresponding record

end



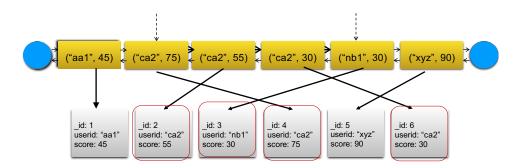
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Using index to find documents

■ The four documents with _id equals: 4, 2, 6 and 3 are the result of the above query

db.users.find({userid:{\$gt: "b", \$lt:"s"}})

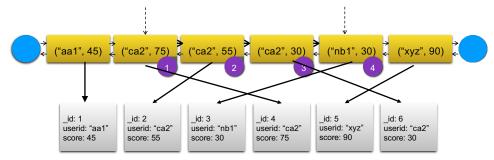


Using Index to sort

If our queries include a sorting criteria

```
db.users.find(
    {userid:{$gt: "b", $lt:"s"}}
).sort({userid:1, score:-1})
```

Theengine will start from the lower bound, following the <u>forward links</u> to the <u>upper</u> bound and return all documents pointed by the entries



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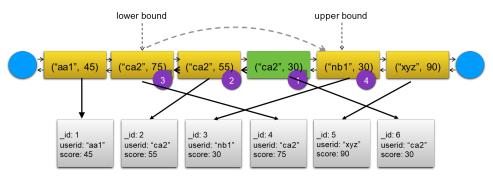
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Sorting that cannot use index

- If we want to use the index entry list to obtain the correct, we would start from a mysterious position ("ca2",30), follow the backward links to ("ca2",75), and make a magic jump to the entry ("nb1", 30).
 - complexity involved:
 - how do we find the start point in between lower and upper bound?
 - how do we decide when and where to jump in another direction?
 - The complexity of such algorithm makes it less optimal than a memory sort of the actual documents.



Sorting that cannot use index

If our query includes yet another sorting criteria

```
db.users.find(
    {userid:{$gt: "b", $lt:"s"}}
).sort({userid:1, score:1})
```

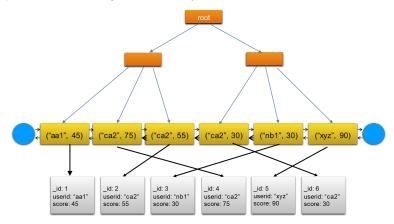
We can still use the index to find the bounds and the four documents satisfying the query condition, but we are not able to follow a single forward or backward link to get the correct order of the documents

General rules

- If you are able to traverse the list between the upper and lower bounds as determined by your query condition in one direction to obtain the correct order as specified in the sort condition, the index will be used to sort the result
- Otherwise you may still use index to obtain the results but have to sort them in memory

BTree motivation

- Finding the boundaries could be time consuming if we only have the list structure and can only start from one of the two ends
- B-Tree structure is built on top of the index values to accelerate the process of locating the boundary.



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Text Indexes

- Text indexes support efficient text search of string content in documents of a collection
- To create a text index
 - db.<collectionName>.createIndex({<fieldName>:"text"});
 - text index tokenizes and stems the terms in the indexed fields for the index entries.
- To perform text query
 - ▶ db.find(\$text:{\$search:<search string>}})
 - No field name is specified
- Restrictions:
 - ► A collection can have at most one text index, but it can include text from multiple fields
 - ▶ Different field can have different weights in the index, results can be sorted using text score based on weights
 - ▶ Sort operations cannot obtain sort order from a text index

Multi key index

Index can be created on array field, the key set includes each element in the array. It behaves the same as single index field otherwise

There are restrictions on including multi key index in compound index





{ "addr.zip": 1 } Index

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Other Indexes

- Geospatial Index
 - MongoDB can store and query spatial data in a flat or spherical surface
 - 2d indexes and 2dsphere indexes
- Hash indexes
 - Index the hash value of a field
 - ▶ Only support equality match, but not range query
 - Mainly used in hash based sharding

Indexing properties

- Similar to index in RDBMS, extra properties can be specified for index
- We can enforce the uniqueness of a field by create a unique indexes
 - db.members.createIndex({ "user_id": 1 }, { unique: true })
- We can reduce the index storage by specifying index as sparse
 - Only documents with the indexed field will have entries in the index
 - By default, non-sparse index contain entries for all documents. Documents without the indexed field will be considered as having null value.
- MongoDB also supports TTL indexes and partial index
 - Not all documents will be indexed, based on time or based on given condition

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Outline

- Database Indexing
- MongoDB Indexes
- MongoDB Query Execution

Indexing strategy

- Indexing cost
 - Storage, memory, write latency
- Performance consideration
 - In general, MongoDB only uses one index to fulfil specific queries
 - **\$or** query on different fields may use different indexes
 - MongoDB may use intersection of multiple indexes
 - When index fits in memory, you get the most performance gain
- Build index if the performance gain can justify the cost
 - ▶ Understand the query
 - ▶ Understand the index behaviour

Performance Monitoring Tools

Profiler

- Collects execution information about <u>queries</u> running on a database
- ▶ It can be used to identify various underperforming queries
 - Slowest queries
 - Queries not using any index
 - Queries running slower than some threshold
 - Custom tagged queries, e.g. by commenting
 - And more

Explain method

- Collect detailed information about <u>a particular query</u>
 - How the guery is executed
 - What execution plans are evaluated
 - Detailed execution statistics, e.g. how many index entries or documents have been examined

https://studio3t.com/knowledge-base/articles/mongodb-query-performance/

MongoDB Query Execution

- MongoDB supports querying any field in a collection
 - Including non-existent field
- When index exists on a query field
 - It uses the index to find intermediate or final results
- Otherwise
 - It performs a full collection scan and exams every document to find the results
- When multiple indexes can be used for a query
 - The query optimizer evaluates different plans and determine the best one
 - Usually the one with high selectivity that can narrow the results most using index
- The explain method output many information about a particular query.

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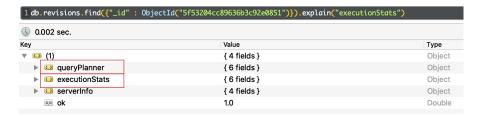
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Explain Verbosity Modes

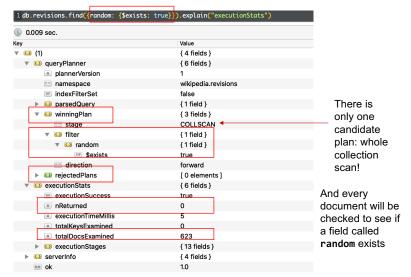
- Showing only the query plan
 - ▶ Use it without any parameter
- Showing also the execution statistics of the chosen plan
 - ▶ explain("executionStats")
- Showing execution statistics of all candidate plans
 - explain("allPlansExecution")



Using the explain method

- The method can be added on both **find** and **aggregate** command
- Explain find command:
 - ▶ db.collection.find(...).explain(...) or
 - ▶ db.collection.explain(...).find(...)
- Explain aggregation command:
 - db.collection.aggregate(...).explain(...)
 - db.collection.explain(...).aggregate(...)
- The Robo 3T shell only supports explain after find and explain before aggregate
- Other shell (e.g. VS + Mongo Ext) supports all four options.

No Index Query Plan



The query searches for documents with a field "random", The current collection does not have any document with that field COMP5338 Advanced Data Models – 2020 (Y. Zhou)

Two Collections with same data

```
db.revisionsWI.createIndex({user:1})
db.revisionsWI.createIndex({timestamp:1})
db.revisionsWI.createIndex({title:1})
db.revisionsWI.createIndex({parsedcomment:"text"})
```

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Multiple Query Plans

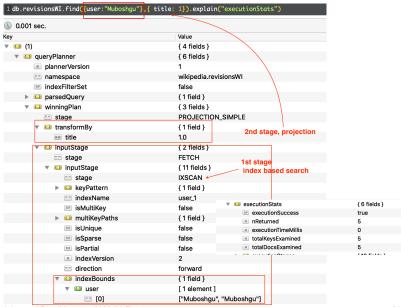
There are three possible plans to execute the query

We can find all revision documents for "Donald Trump" page using the title index; then check if the revision is maded by "ThiefOfBagdad"

We can find all revision documents made by "ThiefOfBagdad" using the **user** index; then check if the title is "Donald Trump"

We can find revision documents made by "ThiefOfBagdad" using the **user** index; then find revision documents for "Donald Trump" page using the **title** index. The intersection of these two sets is the query result.

Query with one indexed field



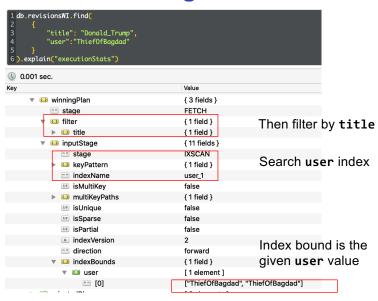
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Query Plans by MongoDB



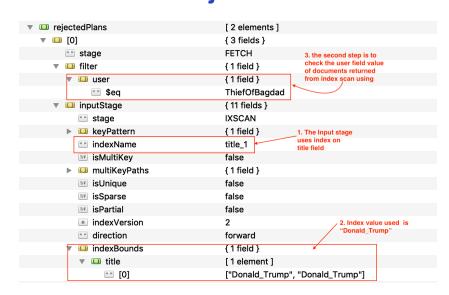
Winning Plan



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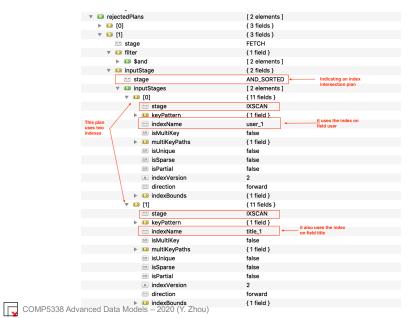
First Rejected Plan



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Second Rejected Plan



Candidate Plan Selection

- Theoretically it depends on selectivity of plan
 - ▶ Using user index can narrow the result to 68 documents, while using title index can only narrow the result to 434 documents
- How does the database build such knowledge
 - ▶ Using various statistics to calculate cost (most RDBMS)
 - ▶ Run each plan partially to estimate cost and cache the plan for future use (MongDB's current approach)

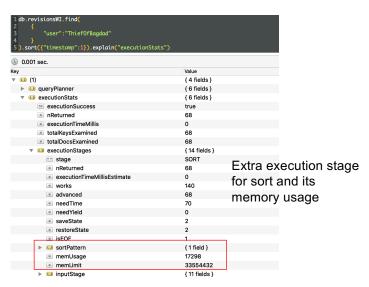
Check index usage on sort

- Index usage on SORT is not explicitly included in explain() result and the indication of sort usage in the explain() result varies in different MongoDB version
- In the current version, the inclusion of a stage called SORT means we cannot obtain sort order from index and sort need to be handled separately

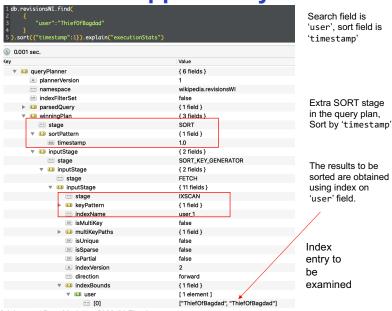
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Sort not supported by index



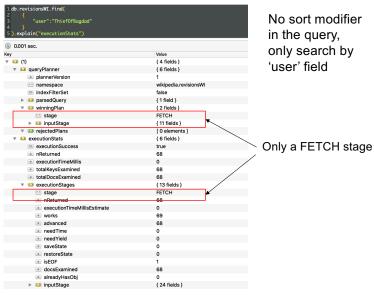
Sort not supported by index



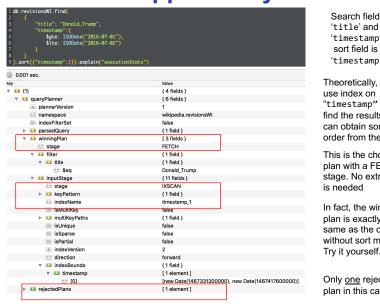
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No sort comparison



SORT supported by index



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Search fields are

'timestamp sort field is

'timestamp'

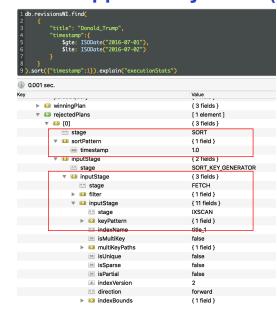
Theoretically, if we use index on "timestamp" to find the results, we can obtain sort order from the index

This is the chosen plan with a FETCH stage. No extra sort is needed

In fact, the winning plan is exactly the same as the one without sort modifier. Try it yourself.

Only one rejected plan in this case

SORT supported by index (rejected plan)



Use index on "title" to find the result, and sort based on "timestamp"

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Index Usage in Aggregation Pipeline

- Index can be used in some pipeline stages under certain conditions:
 - **\$match** stage if it is the first in the pipeline
 - **\$sort** stage if the original document has not been changed, e.g. there is no \$project, \$unwind or \$group stage in front
 - **\$group** stage if the grouping key is sorted right before and if the grouping accumulator is \$first
 - ▶ A few other stages under respective conditions
- The output of explain on information on pipe stage is limited
- See lab question for details

References

- MongoDB documentation on indexes
 - https://docs.mongodb.com/manual/indexes/
- MongoDB documentation on explain() method
 - https://docs.mongodb.com/manual/reference/explain-results/