

# Developing with DynamoDB

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# Overview



How to access DynamoDB

Different APIs

Create shop items database

Optimistic locking

Transactions

How to implement full-text search



# DynamoDB API



**How to interact with DynamoDB**

**Low-level interface**

**Document interface**

**Object persistence interface**

# How to Interact with DynamoDB



**RDBS - interact with SQL queries**

**DynamoDB - interact with HTTP interface**

**Has several HTTP methods**

# DynamoDB Methods

CreateTable  
DeleteTable  
ListTables  
UpdateTable

BatchGetItem  
GetItem  
Query  
Scan

BatchWriteItem  
DeleteItem  
PutItem  
UpdateItem

DescribeTimeToLive  
UpdateTimeToLive

TagResource  
UntagResource  
ListTagsOfResource

DescribeLimits



# Request Example

POST / HTTP/1.1

Host: dynamodb.us-west1.amazonaws.com;

...

X-Amz-Date: 20160811T122000Z

X-Amz-Target: DynamoDB\_20120810.GetItem

{

  "TableName": "ForumMessages",

  "Key": {

    "UserId": {"N": "1"},

    "Timestamp": {"N": "1498928631"}

  }

}



# Reply Example

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

x-amzn-RequestId: <RequestId>

x-amz-crc32: <Checksum>

Content-Type: application/x-amz-json-1.0

Content-Length: <PayloadSizeBytes>

```
{  
  "Item": {  
    "UserId": {"N": "1"},  
    "Timestamp": {"N": "1498928631"},  
    "Message": {"S": "This forum is boring..."}  
  }  
}
```



# DynamoDB APIs

## Low-level

Directly maps  
DynamoDB  
HTTP methods

## Document Interface

Higher-level interface  
to perform  
CRUD operations

## Object Persistence

Create objects that  
represent tables and  
interact with them





# Low-level Interface Example

```
HashMap<String, AttributeValue> key = new HashMap<>();  
key.put("UserId", new AttributeValue()  
    .withN("1"));  
key.put("Timestamp", new AttributeValue()    .withN("1498928631"));  
  
GetItemRequest request = new GetItemRequest()  
    .withTableName("ForumMessages")  
    .withKey(key);
```



# Low-level Interface Example (cont.)

```
AmazonDynamoDB client =  
AmazonDynamoDBClientBuilder.standard().build();  
  
GetItemResult result = client.getItem(request);  
AttributeValue year = result.getItem().get("Message");  
String message = attributeValue.getS();
```



# Document Interface

```
AmazonDynamoDB client =  
AmazonDynamoDBClientBuilder.standard().build();  
DynamoDB docClient = new DynamoDB(client);  
  
Table table = docClient.getTable("ForumMessages");  
GetItemOutcome outcome = table.getItemOutcome("UserId", "1",  
    "Timestamp", "1498928631");  
  
String message = outcome.getItem().getString("Message");
```



# High-level DynamoDB API



**Object persistence interface**

**How to define classes for it**

**How to use it**

# Define Class with Annotations

```
@DynamoDBTable(tableName="ForumUsers")
```

```
public class User {
```

```
    @DynamoDBHashKey(attributeName="UserId")
```

```
    public int getUserId() { return userId;}
```

```
    @DynamoDBAttribute(attributeName = "Name")
```

```
    public int getName() { return name;}
```

```
}
```

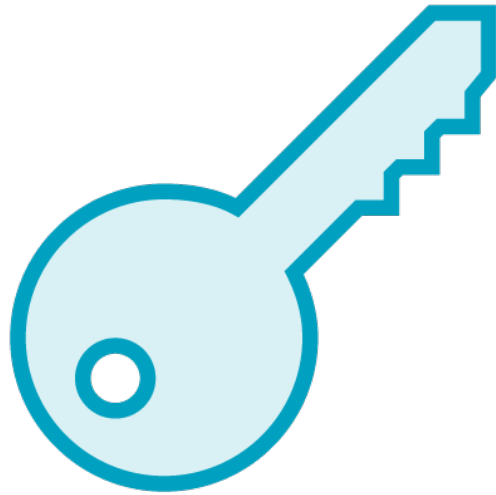


# Get Item with Object Persistence Interface

```
AmazonDynamoDB client =  
AmazonDynamoDBClientBuilder.standard().build();  
DynamoDBMapper mapper = new DynamoDBMapper(client);  
User key = new User();  
key.setUserId(1);  
User result = mapper.load(key);
```



# Complex Queries



**Composite key**

**Learn how to use LSI and GSI**

**Implement comments for shop items**



# What Queries do We Need?



**Get all comments for an item**

**Get all comments with rating higher than**

**Get all comments by a user**





# Data Model

Primary key

Sort key

GSI Primary key

LSI

ItemId MsgId Msg

Timestamp UserId Rating

124	1	Delivered on time.	300	101	5
124	2	Good stuff!	200	800	4
124	3	Not as described!	100	456	1
865	4	So-so...	454	2	3
317	5	Kittens photos here:	50	412	5

GSI Sort key



```
@DynamoDBRangeKey(  
    attributeName="MessageId")  
@DynamoDBIndexRangeKey(  
    localSecondaryIndexName="lsi",  
    attributeName="Time")  
@DynamoDBIndexHashKey(  
    globalSecondaryIndexName="gsi",  
    attributeName="UserId")  
@DynamoDBIndexRangeKey(  
    globalSecondaryIndexName="gsi",  
    attributeName="Time")
```

- ◀ Specify sort key
- ◀ Local secondary index
- ◀ Global secondary index partition key
- ◀ Global secondary index sort key



# Conditional Updates



**Discuss conditional updates**

**Why are they important**

**How to use them**

# Write Conflict



Get item 1

Edit description

Write item



Get item 1

Edit title

Write item



# Conditional Update



**Perform an operation only if  
a condition met**

**Check attribute value**

**Check if attribute exists**

**Supports Boolean logic**

**Will implement optimistic locking**

# Add Version Attribute

```
@DynamoDBTable(tableName="ProductCatalog")
public class Item {
    ...
    @DynamoDBVersionAttribute
    public Long getVersion() {
        return version;
    }
}
```

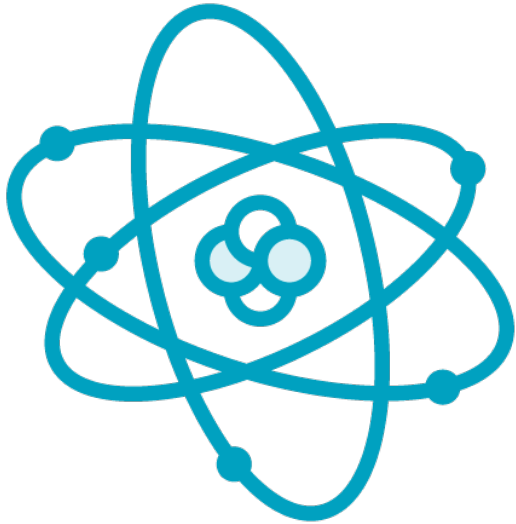


# Override Optimistic Locking

```
mapper.save(item,  
    new DynamoDBMapperConfig(  
        DynamoDBMapperConfig.SaveBehavior.CLOBBER));
```



# Transactions in DynamoDB



**Why would we use transactions**

**How to use them**

**Limitations they have**



# Use-case to Implement



**Add rating to item's comments**

**Rating of an item**

- Average of all comments' ratings
- Updated when a comment added or updated

# Will this Work?

```
Comment comment = ...
```

```
Item item = getItem(comment.getItemId());
```

```
item.rating = newRating(comment);
```

```
mapper.save(comment);
```

```
mapper.save(item);
```



# This is not Safe

```
Comment comment = ...
```

```
Item item = getItem();
```

```
item.rating = newRating(comment);
```

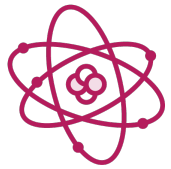
```
mapper.save(comment);
```

```
// Process crashes here
```

```
mapper.save(item);
```



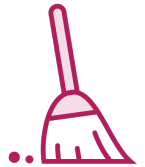
# Transactions in DynamoDB



Atomic writes



Isolated reads



Removes stuck transactions



Easy to use



Transactions implemented  
via a client-side library in  
Java



# How to Enable Transactions

```
AmazonDynamoDB client = new AmazonDynamoDBClient();  
TransactionManager.verifyOrCreateTransactionTable(  
client, "Transactions",  
10, 10, // RCU/WCU  
10 * 60); // wait time in seconds  
TransactionManager.verifyOrCreateTransactionImagesTable(  
client, "TransactionImages",  
10, 10, // RCU/WCU  
10 * 60); // wait time in seconds
```



# How to Use TransactionManager

```
Transaction t = txManager.newTransaction();
```

```
Comment comment = ...
```

```
Item item = getItem();
```

```
item.rating = newRating(comment);
```

```
t.save(comment);
```

```
t.update(item);
```

```
t.commit();
```

```
t.delete();
```



# How Transactions Work



## Transaction manager stores:

- List of updates in a transaction
- Items copies
- Lock attributes

## Uses optimistic locking

## Can read in more details:

<https://github.com/awslabs/dynamodb-transactions/blob/master/DESIGN.md>



# Limitations



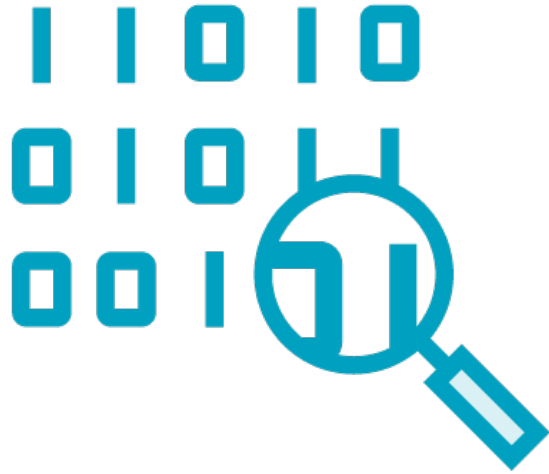
Will not scale to many update commands

Does not lock ranges

Every transaction requires  $7N+4$  writes



# Full Text Search with DynamoDB

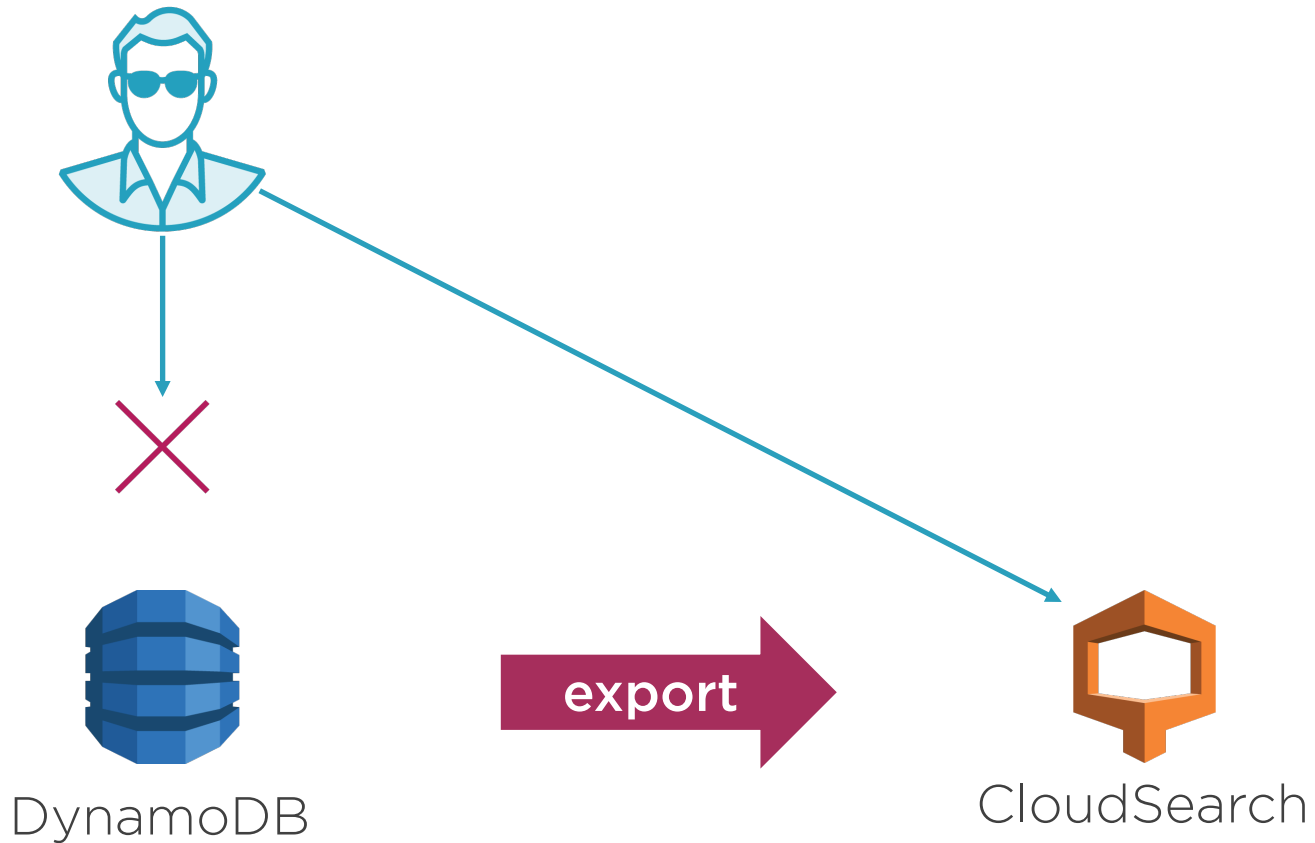


Implement text search

Overview of CloudSearch service

How to use CloudSearch with DynamoDB

# Text Search in DynamoDB



# What is CloudSearch



**Managed search service**

**Built on top of Apache Solr**

**Allows to import data from different sources**

**Simple text searches**

**Boolean combination of fields**

**Implements ranking**

# Search Domain



**Document service**



**Search service**



**Configuration service**



# How to Use CloudSearch



Create a search domain



Upload data to the search domain



Submit search requests



# Import Data to CloudSearch



## Cloud Search console

- From filesystem/DynamoDB/S3
- Up to 5MB

**cs-import-documents**

# Summary



Low-level and high-level APIs

How to use keys, LSIs, and GSIs

Conditional updates

DynamoDB transactions

Full-text search with CloudSearch

