

System Design Overview

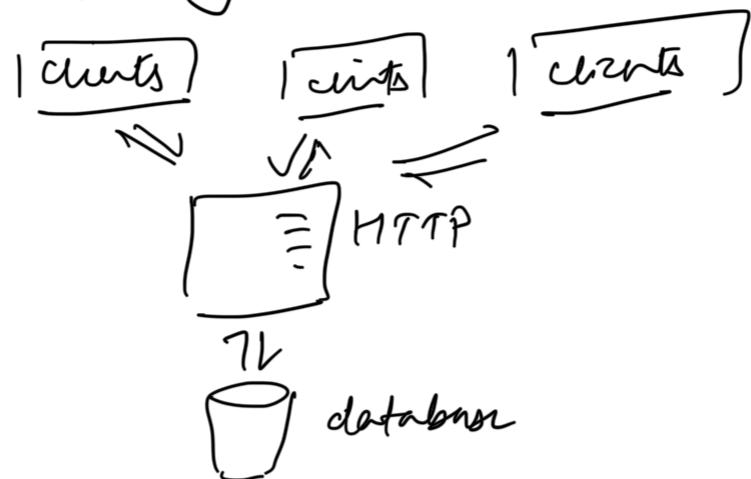
Horizontal vs Vertical scaling

→ Single server system

- is a single point of failure
- budget friendly and still has a place
but less tolerant of failures

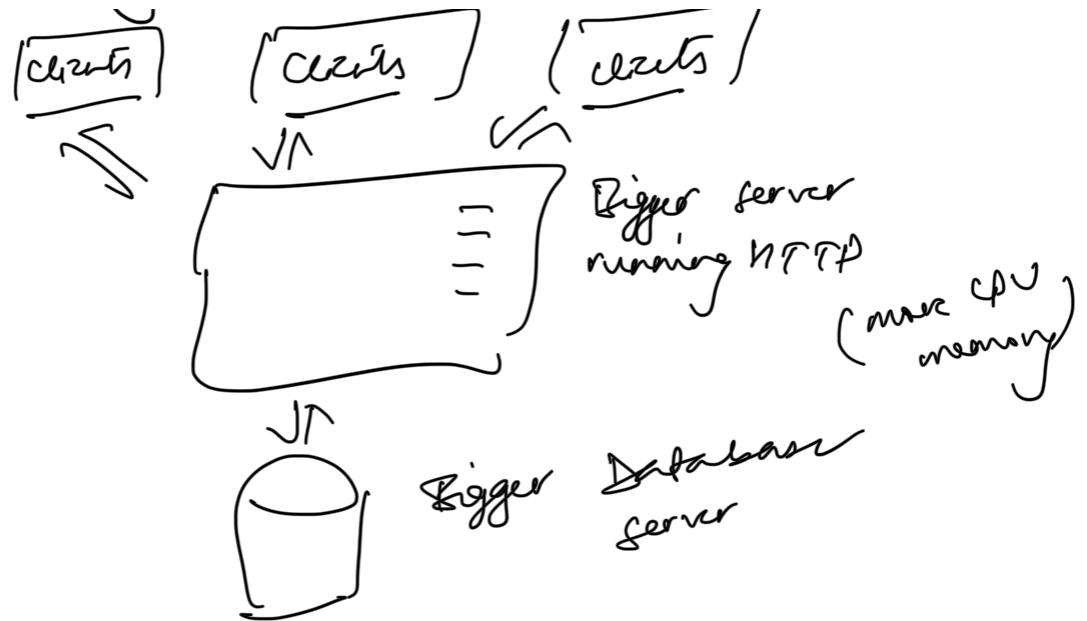


Let us make the design a little bit more tolerant so that HTTP server and Database are hosted separately



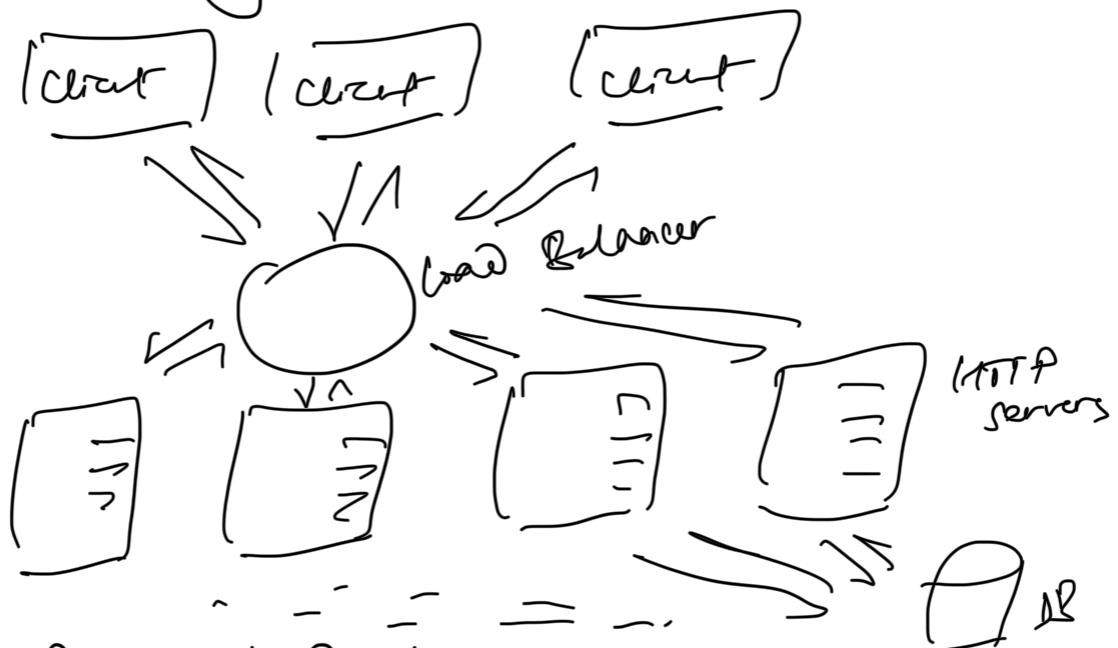
Little bit better because we can scale independently

Vertical Scaling : use bigger machine (CPU, mem)



- Still each machine is not tolerant to failures. If it goes down, service goes down
- Each machine can only be scaled so much if there is a max of CPU and max of mem that you cannot scale beyond

Horizontal Scaling : ADD more servers



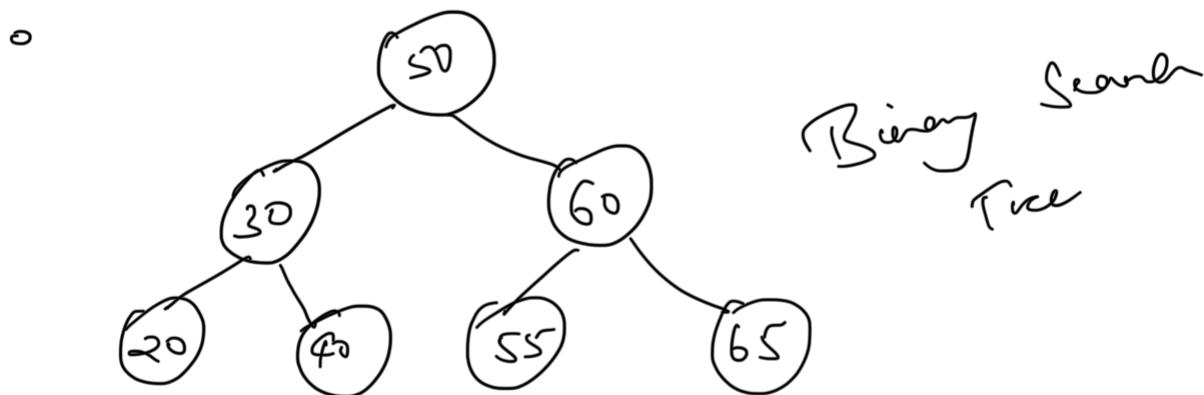
- needs a load balancer
- fault tolerant : one server goes down, request can be served still by other available servers
- can scale infinitely
- Downside : now we have more stuff to maintain
- Horizontal scaling is easier if the servers are **stateless**, meaning any subsequent request coming into the server should not rely on the server's state. (changes can be and will be made in Database).
- This means any next incoming request should be independent of earlier request
 - Because if they are dependent (and not reflected in the database), then there is no way to be certain which HTTP server the earlier request was served by and which server the next request will be routed to

Binary Search Tree

- Binary Tree: each member has a left and a right child - each node has at most 2 children.
- Binary Search Tree: each left is less than

right child and parent. And right child is greater than parent.

- Rule applies to the entire tree, many any value to the left must be less and any value to the right must be higher
- Access in a BST is $O(\log n)$
worst case is $O(n)$



Failover Strategies: Database

→ Servers can be

- hosted within your own company
- using cloud services
- using fully managed "serverless" services

→ How to scale DB

→ using "cold standby server"

- create a periodic backup to other storage
- providers:
 - Amazon

- ~~worst~~
- Downside
 - possible data loss
 - downtime could be significant
- Using "warm standby server"
 - create another ~~database~~ server that is a replicator, and is always ready to handle requests
 - many databases allow replication. If a data is written / updated / deleted, operation is replicated in both the places; may be after a delay
 - There could still be a tiny window where you could lose data; but still better option
- How is this handled in practice??
- Using "hot standby approach"
 - Replication in real time
 - this is hot
- Using "Multi Primary"
 - Writing simultaneously both both servers rather than relying on replicators

Horizontal Scaling : Sharding