What makes InfluxData different?

We often get asked questions about what makes InfluxData different from other technology solutions. Generally these can be organized into three categories: applications, databases, and stream processing systems.

In the next few sections we'll look at these and Elasticsearch specifically since there is more overlap with their ELK stack than pure databases. So, let's start with a look at the InfluxDB platform and InfluxDB's data model, which is a key differentiator.

The InfluxDB Platform

InfluxDB is the essential time series toolkit — offering everything you need in a time series data platform in a single binary: a multi-tenanted time series database, UI and dashboarding tools, background processing and monitoring agent. All this makes deployment and setup a breeze and easier to secure.

influxdb **InfluxDB** is the database and storage tier.

telegraf **Telegraf** is InfluxDB's native plugin-driven metrics collection agent and has 200+ plugins that integrate with other products.

influxdb **InfluxDB client libraries** allow you to ingest and query data in your favorite programming language.

flux **Flux** is a fourth-generation programming language, built into InfluxDB, that is designed for data scripting, ETL, monitoring and alerting. As Flux is a functional language, you can structure queries and separate common logic into functions and libraries that are easily shared and help speed development. Flux can also be used to enrich time series data with other SQL data stores (Postgres, Microsoft SQL Server, SQLite, SAP Hana) along with cloud-based data stores (Google Bigtable, Amazon Athena, and Snowflake). Enriching time series data provides context that can provide further insights into your data.

InfluxDB is optimized for developer productivity. Everything in InfluxDB — ingest, query, storage and visualization — is accessible in a unified API. This enables faster time to awesome for developers because everything in the platform can now be programmatically accessed and controlled. This is combined with a powerful set of client libraries across 11 languages (like Go, Java, PHP and Python). A set of InfluxDB command line tools helps developers develop in a way that is most familiar to them.

InfluxDB features a best-in-class UI that includes a Data Explorer, dashboarding tools, and a script editor. Use the Data Explorer to quickly browse through the metric and event data you collected and apply common transformations. The Dashboarding tool comes with a handy list of visualizations that help you to see insights from your data faster. And finally, use the script editor to quickly learn Flux with easily accessible examples, auto-completion and real-time syntax checking.