

The InfluxDB platform organizes time series in a structured format. At the top level is a measurement name, followed by a set of key/value pairs called tags that describe the metadata, followed by key/value pairs of the actual values called fields. Field values in InfluxDB can be boolean, int64, float64 or strings. Finally, there is a timestamp for the set of values. All data is queried by the measurement, tags, and field along with the time range.

This structure makes it easy for developers to build tools around the APIs that InfluxData provides. Unlike relational or document databases, InfluxDB organizes time series data into a set structure. This structure is also what sets InfluxDB apart from other solutions. The richness of the time series data structures that can be represented open InfluxDB up to more time series and metrics use cases, while also widening the performance lead that InfluxDB has over other solutions. With the right schema and setup, a single InfluxDB server can handle over 2,000,000 writes per second, something the competition is unable to match.

## Horizontal use case

In recent years, time series has become a common use case across many industries and a database category of its own. Metrics, events and other time-based data are being generated at an exponential rate, as there is a growing requirement for analyzing today's complex environments. The InfluxData platform provides a comprehensive set of tools and services to collect and accumulate metrics and events data, analyze the data, and act on the data via powerful visualizations and notifications.

Whether the data comes from humans, sensors or machines, InfluxData empowers developers to build next-generation monitoring, analytics, and IoT applications faster, easier, and to scale delivering real business value quickly.

InfluxData has customers and users that span three primary use cases: [DevOps monitoring](#), [real-time analytics](#), and [IoT monitoring](#). Anyone who has sensors, servers, VMs, containers, applications, users or events to track could benefit from using InfluxData.

