**Oak - Indexing**

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**What is an index?**

Index is a data structure which is used to quickly locate and access the data from AEM.

**How do we search & access data?**

We use JCR queries to search & retrieve the content.

**Why do we need to index?**

When a JCR query gets executed, usually it searches the index first. If there is no index, the query executes for the entire content. This is time consuming and an overhead for the AEM.

**Is index creation necessary always?**

If the frequency of queries executed are less, we can ignore the indexing. Indexing is required when there is a huge content and frequent JCR querying required.

**How indexing happens??**

When JCR query execution happens, the query gets parsed.

To identify the best index, system checks, whether the indexing is available or not.

Indexing Available -> Property/Lucene/Solr

Index is not available -> System travers and search the entire repository. Finally the results are returned.

**Oak Index comparison Table**

