

# Analysis of NoSQL Databases: A Comparative Study

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**Abstract**—A relational database is a table based system where there's no scalability, lowest data duplication, computationally overpriced table joins and issue in addressing complicated data. The matter with relations in relational database is that advanced operations with massive data sets quickly become prohibitively resource intense. Relational databases don't lend themselves well to the type of horizontal scalability that is needed for large -scale social networking or cloud applications. NoSQL has emerged as results of the demand for relational database alternatives. The most important motivation behind NoSQL is scalability. NoSQL is supposed for the present growing breed of net applications that require scaling effectively. This paper analyzes the NoSQL database that is the demand of the present large-scale social networking or cloud applications. The analysis of assorted NoSQL databases like Bigtable, Cassandra, CouchDB, MongoDB and Couchbase has been highlighted.

**Index Terms**— NoSQL, Scalability, Bigtable, Cassandra, CouchDB, MongoDB, Couchbase.

## I. INTRODUCTION

A relational database management system (RDBMS) is a database management system (DBMS) that is based on the relational model as introduced by E. F. Codd [16]. It supports a tabular structure for the data, with implemented relationships between the tables. Preferred business and open source databases presently in use are based on the relative model. The problem with RDBMS is not that they do not scale, it's that they're incredibly hard to scale [19]. The foremost common RDBMS are Microsoft SQL Server, DB2, Oracle, MYSQL etc. Many web applications merely don't need to represent data as a group of connected tables which means all applications need not to be a traditional relational database management system (RDBMS) that uses SQL to perform operations on data [11]. Rather, data can be stored in the form of objects, graphs, documents and retrieved using a key. For instance, a user profile will be drawn as associate object graph (such as pojo) with one key being the user id. Another example: documents or media files can be stored with a single key with indexing of metadata handling by a separate search engine.

These types of data storage are not relational and lack SQL, however they may be quicker than RDBMS as a result of they do not have to maintain indexes, relationships, constraints and parse SQL [7]. Technology like that has existed since the 1960s (consider, as an example, IBM's VSAM file system). Relational databases

are able to handle countless products and service very large sites [3]. However, it is difficult to create redundancy and parallelism with relative databases, so that they become one purpose of failure [2]. Especially, replication isn't trivial. To understand why, take into account the matter of getting 2 database servers that require to own identical data. Having both servers for reading and writing knowledge makes it difficult to synchronize changes. Having one master server and another slave is unhealthy too, as a result of the master has got to take all the warmth once users looking for writing information [10]. So as a relational database grows, it becomes a bottleneck and therefore the purpose of failure for the complete system. In master-slave setup, writes are made to the master server, and then replicated to slave. Reads are then made against either the master or the slave server. All reads are performed against the replicated slave database server. Critical reads may be incorrect as writes may not have been propagated down. Large data sets can create problems as master needs to duplicate data to slave. The problem with multiple peers is that there may be structural conflicts such as type conflicts - where an object may be represented by an attribute in one schema and by an entity in another - or key conflicts, where different candidate keys are available and different primary keys are selected in different schemas [6]. The main problems with single database server are performance bottleneck and single point of failure. As mega e-commerce sites grew over the past decade they became conscious of this issue - adding a lot of web servers doesn't facilitate as a result of it is the database that finishes up being a problem.

## II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Literature survey is a review of published materials that are relevant to a particular issue, theory of area of research. It provides a description, summary and critical evaluation of each work. The study of the existing literature has been carried out during the research and is given as following:

Moniruzzaman and Hossain [1] discussed - classification, characteristics and analysis of NoSQL databases in massive data Analytics. The description was meant to assist users, particularly to the organizations to get an independent understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of assorted NoSQL information approaches to supporting applications those method Brobdignagian volumes of information. The study report motivated to offer an independent understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of varied NoSQL database approaches to supporting applications that method vast volumes of data; similarly on provide a worldwide summary of the non-relational NoSQL databases. Lourenço et al. [8] highlighted the performance comparison of various NoSQL databases. In the paper, author had gathered a brief and up-to-date comparison of NoSQL engines, their most useful use case situations from the programmer viewpoint, their benefits and disadvantages by measuring the presently on the market literature. The author concluded that though there are a spread of studies and evaluations of NoSQL technology, there's still not enough data to verify although every non-relational database is suited during a specific state of affairs or system. Moreover, every operating system differs from one another and the required functionalities and mechanisms extremely have an effect on the database selection. Typically there's no chance of clearly stating the simplest information answer.

Chitra and Jeevarani [10] focused primarily on the market, scalable and Eventually Consistent NoSQL Databases. The paper analyses the requirement of following generation data storage that is that the need of the present large-scale social networking or cloud applications additionally author analyze the capabilities of assorted NoSQL models like BigTable, Cassandra, CouchDB, generator and MongoDB. The author concluded that NoSQL databases usually process data faster than relative databases to extend performance. Developers typically don't have their NoSQL databases supporting ACID properties, however this will cause issues once used for applications that need accuracy. Sharma and Dave [19] discussed about NoSQL, its background, fundamentals like ACID, BASE and CAP theorem. The main aim of the paper is to give a summary of NoSQL databases, regarding however it's declined the dominance of SQL, with its background and characteristics. It also describes its fundamentals that type the bottom of the NoSQL databases like ACID, BASE and CAP theorem. ACID property isn't utilized in the NoSQL database therefore it is important to understand how SQL lags data consistency. Kaisler et al. [15] presented an Introduction to massive Data: Challenges, Opportunities and Realities. Big data remains a maturing and evolving discipline. Big data databases and files have scaled on the far side the capacities and capabilities of business direction systems. Structured representations become a bottleneck to economic data storage and retrieval. Author concludes that increasing variety of disciplines and drawback domains wherever big data has a sway and one sees a rise within the variety of challenges and opportunities for big data to own a serious impact on business, science, and government.

Pore and Pawar [17] presented comparative Study of SQL & NoSQL Databases. The fundamental analysis of and the comparative analysis of SQL and NoSQL databases were given. The author describes the axiomatics of SQL and NoSQL databases. ACID property isn't utilized in the NoSQL databases. The paper additionally describes samples of SQL databases and kinds of NoSQL databases on the premise of CAP Theorem. Databases are horizontally ascendible just {in case} of NoSQL databases and vertically ascendible in case of SQL databases. Performance of each the information is counting on the database size and therefore the variety of queries which is able to be performed by the applications. Truica et al. [4] describes performance analysis for CRUD operations in asynchronously replicated document oriented database. The paper examines asynchronous replication, one among the key options for an ascendible and flexible system. Three of the most in style Document-Oriented Databases, MongoDB, CouchDB, and Couchbase, are examined. Author concludes that though CouchDB performs alright for the insert, update and delete, MongoDB is that the quickest once it involves attractive knowledge. Overall, the NoSQL databases perform higher than the relational ones. V et al. [18] highlighted comparative study of NoSQL database. The aim of the paper is to explore NoSQL technologies and present a comparative study of document and column store NoSQL databases like Cassandra, MongoDB and Hbase in varied attributes of relative and distributed information system principles. Author concludes that mongodb fits to be used cases with document storage, document search and wherever aggregation functions are mandate. Hbase suits the eventualities wherever Hadoop map scale back is helpful for bulk read and load operations Hbase offers optimized scan performance with hadoop platform.

### III. NOSQL DATABASES

Organizations that collect large amounts of unstructured data are increasingly turning to non-relational databases. Frequently called NoSQL databases are discussed as follows:

#### *A. Bigtable*

Bigtable is Google's internal database system. Bigtable is a distributed storage system for managing structured data that's designed to scale to a really massive size i.e. computer memory units (1 petabyte =  $1.2589991 \times 10^{15}$  bytes) of data across thousands of commodity servers [10]. Several projects at Google store data in Bigtable, including web indexing, Google Earth, and Google Finance. These applications place terribly different demands on Bigtable, each in terms of data size (from URLs to web pages to satellite images) and latency requirements (from backend bulk processing to real-time data serving) [10]. Despite these varied demands, Bigtable has successfully provided a versatile, high -performance answer for all of those Google products. A Bigtable is a distributed and persistent multidimensional sorted map. The map is indexed by a row key, column key, and a timestamp; every value within the map is an uninterpreted array of bytes [7]. Every cell in a Bigtable (like field in DBMS) can contain multiple versions of a similar data; these versions are indexed by timestamp (Microseconds). Bigtable timestamps are 64-bit integers [11]. Different versions of a cell are stored in decreasing timestamp order, so the foremost recent versions are often read first. Bigtable depends on a cluster management system for scheduling jobs, managing resources on shared machines, addressing machine failures, and observing machine status.

#### *B. Cassandra*

A decentralized, extremely scalable, eventually consistent database Cassandra is extremely reliable second-generation distributed database. Cassandra was open sourced by Facebook in 2008 and is presently being developed as an Apache incubator project [12]. The system offers a fault tolerant, high availableness, decentralized store for information which may be scaled up by adding hardware nodes to the system [9]. Cassandra implements an "eventually consistent" model that trades-off consistency of data stores within the system for availableness [14]. Information is automatically replicated to multiple nodes for fault-tolerance. Replication across multiple information centres is supported. Unsuccessful nodes may be replaced with no period. Cassandra is in use at Rackspace, Digg, Facebook, Twitter, Cisco, Mahalo, Ooyala, and additional corporations that have massive, active information sets. The biggest production cluster has over a hundred TB of knowledge in over a hundred and fifty machines.

### C. CouchDB

CouchDB, is a free and open source document-oriented database written within the erlang programming language for its emphasis on fault tolerance, accessible using a restful JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) API [5]. The term "Couch" is an acronym for "Cluster Of Unreliable commodity Hardware", reflective the goal of CouchDB being extremely scalable, providing high availability and reliability, even whereas running on hardware that's usually vulnerable to failure [7]. Hence CouchDB is a document database server, Ad-hoc and schema-free with a flat address space, highly available even if hardware fails, query-able and index-able, featuring a table oriented reporting engine that uses JavaScript as a query language [19]. CouchDB is a distributed database that includes strong, incremental replication with bi-directional conflict detection and management [10].

### D. MongoDB

It is a document oriented database that has high performance, high accessibility, and easy scalability. MongoDB database is simple to introduce that makes reads and writes quick. This database uses the indexes that include keys from documents and arrays [4]. This provides the high availability for higher performance and really simple to scale and easy to manage the operations. MongoDB stores the data into documents and collections rather than storing data in table as rows and columns [10]. Collections enable representation of advanced relationships simply. It has the potential to handle the big volume of data and may load data across a cluster. It will perform several operations that relational database cannot do. MongoDB includes Map Reduce and aggregation tool support. MongoDB is a schema less Document based database [18]. MongoDB give the power to use secondary indexes and geospatial indexes [5]. It is simple to handle in cases of failures. MongoDB designed to produce high performance and stores files of any size without all the way down to failure of memory.

### E. Couchbase

Couchbase is an open source NoSQL database that can be used as either a document-oriented or pure key-value database and is supported by Couchbase Inc. and authorized under the Apache 2.0 license [5]. It aims for simple scalability, consistent high performance, high reliableness and easy development. When used as a document-oriented database, data is stored in JSON format which can be indexed and queried [13]. While Couchbase took inspiration from Apache CouchDB and memcached, it's a completely different and separate open source project. It a separate and independent community, provides a very different set of capabilities, and supports very different use cases. More specifically, Couchbase leveraged and changed memcached technology to provide inbuilt caching and leveraged and modified Apache CouchDB technology to enable the document capabilities in recent releases of Couchbase [4]. In the formulation of Eric Brewer's CAP theorem, Couchbase is a CP kind system that means it provides consistency and partition tolerance [19]. But Couchbase Server are often established as an AP (availability and partition tolerance) system with multiple clusters using XDCR (Cross data Center Replication) [17].

## IV. ANALYSIS OF NOSQL DATABASES

In this section comparison and analysis of the NoSQL databases named Bigtable, Cassandra, CouchDB, MongoDB and Couchbase has been highlighted. The Table I below shows comparative analysis of above mentioned NoSQL databases.

Table I shows the comparative analysis of Bigtable, Cassandra, CouchDB, MongoDB and Couchbase NoSQL databases. The comparison and analysis of NoSQL databases has been done on the basis of various parameters such as database type, scalability, availability, performance, consistency, reliability, flexibility, complexity and their best use. NoSQL databases support scalability. The extent of scalability, availability and flexibility has been mentioned above in the Table I. According to the Brewer's cap theorem, a NoSQL database can impose two of the attributes of cap theorem [17]. The NoSQL databases provide eventual consistency or immediate consistency (provided dynamically) [18]. Some of the NoSQL databases lack consistency to provide data availability as to increase the performance. NoSQL databases provide less complexity. Later in the above Table I, the best use has been also mentioned according to the type of NoSQL database.

TABLE I. ANALYSIS OF NoSQL DATABASES

S. No.	NoSQL DB's	Bigtable	Cassandra	CouchDB	MongoDB	Couchbase
1	DB type	Key-Value store DB	Column Oriented DB	JSON Document Oriented DB	BSON Document Oriented DB	Document, Key-Value
2	Developer	Google	Apache	Apache	10gen	Couchbase
3	Scalability	Highly Scalable	Highly Scalable	Easily scalable and readily extensible	Scalable	Elastic scalability
4	Availability	Highly Available	High availability is achieved using replication	Highly Available	High write availability	Highly Available
5	Performance	High Performance	High Performance at massive scale	Loading speeds are better than retrieval speeds	Excellent solution for short read	Consistent high Performance
6	Consistency	Eventual Consistency	Eventual Consistency Immediate Consistency	Eventual Consistency	Eventual Consistency Immediate Consistency	Eventual Consistency Immediate Consistency
7	Reliability	Provides reliability at a massive scale	At massive scale is a very big challenge	Excellent solution for short read	Avoid growing documents unsafe writes by default	Better reliability
8	Flexibility	High	Moderate	High	High	High
9	Complexity	None	Low complexity	Low complexity	Low complexity	Very low complexity
10	Best Use	Designed to scale hundreds or thousands of machines	Write often, read less	Accumulating, occasionally changing data with predefined queries	Dynamic queries, frequently written, rarely read statistical data	Session store, user profile store, content store

## V. CONCLUSION

RDBMS are used for small but frequent read and write transactions but comes with many problems. NoSQL Databases largely address some of the points: being non-relational, distributed, open-source and horizontal scalable. The original intention has been modern web-scale databases. NOSQL databases typically process data quicker than relational databases. Developers usually don't have their NOSQL databases supporting ACID properties, however this can cause issues when used for applications that need great precision. Some of the NoSQL databases lack consistency to provide data availability as to increase the performance. NOSQL databases are usually faster as a result of their data models are less complicated. The comparison and analysis of NoSQL databases has been done on the basis of various parameters such as database type, scalability, availability, consistency, reliability, complexity and their best use. Several leading NOSQL systems are flexible enough to permit developers to use the applications in ways that fulfil their needs.

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