NoSQL

Return to Glossary

NoSQL (Not SQL or Not Only SQL) is a generic term used for databases that do not depend on a relational model. The data does not need to have a strict schema or the usual SQL table structure. Most commonly, the data is aggregated as key-value pairs, JSON documents, graphs, or wide-column tables.

By using NoSQL databases, you can store immense volumes of unstructured data as it comes in and structures it at a later point. As expected, this leads to much better throughput, and read/write speeds, and allows you to scale out servers horizontally.

Non-relational databases, when applied in the right use-case environment, bring significant benefits in terms of performance and flexibility. However, not applying a schema at the data entry point also means it is more difficult to query NoSQL databases, maintain data consistency, and establish relationships between data sets.

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