
A FIRST TOUCH ON NOSQL SERVERS: COUCHDB

GENOVEVA VARGAS SOLAR, JAVIER ESPINOSA

CNRS, LIG-LAFMIA, FRANCE

Genoveva.Vargas@imag.fr; Javier.Espinosa@imag.fr

<http://www.vargas-solar.com>

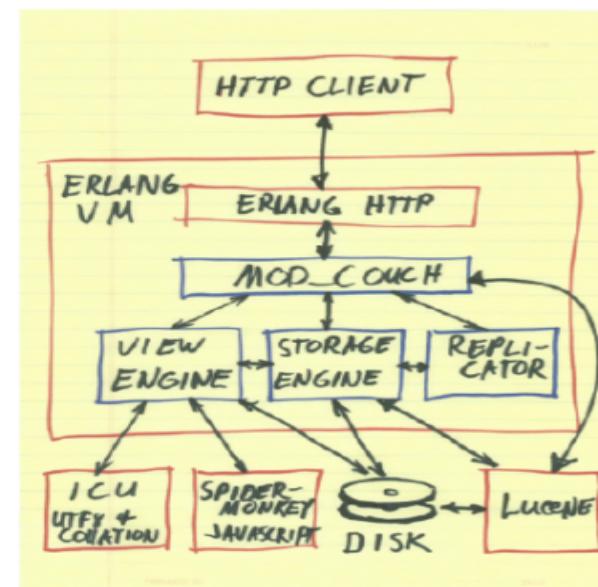


ARCHITECTURE

HTTP
the access protocol

JavaScript
the query language

JSON
the storage format



DOWNLOADS

- For executing these examples download CouchDB:
 - Binary version for windows
 - [http://wiki.apache.org/couchdb/Installing on Windows](http://wiki.apache.org/couchdb/Installing_on_Windows)
- For communicating with the server we can use a browser or the tool cURL:
 - cURL is a tool for transferring data from the server using different protocols including HTTP
 - <http://curl.haxx.se/download.html>

COUCHDB (I)

- CouchDB is a document oriented DBMS, i.e., it is not relational:
 - Without database schema
 - Key-value model
 - Distributed and fault tolerant
- Data are modeled as autocontained documents:
 - A document is represented by a JSON structure with attributes of any type
 - Queries are done via JavaScript

COUCHDB (2)

- Different data types are supported as add-in documents (video, audio, images, etc.)
- Communication with applications and users is done via RESTful services:
 - «*Representational State Transfer*» is a software client-server architecture model used for distributed hypermedia systems
 - The communication protocol HTTP:
 - Used the HTTP methods explicitly
 - Stateless
 - Exposes the structure via URIs
 - Data transferred are XML or JSON (for CouchDB)

CLIENT INTERFACE (2)

- **Update** – includes functions for:
 - Updating directly the whole content of the database
 - Executing simple operations such as connecting information to an existing register or decrementing integer values
 - **Delete** – includes an explicit command for deleting a pair key-value from the database:
 - Information can have associated invalidity values for indicating when the data must be automatically deleted
 - For example, 60 seconds, 31 December 2012, 12:00 pm
- The protocol «memcached» must be used for updating or deleting information from the database

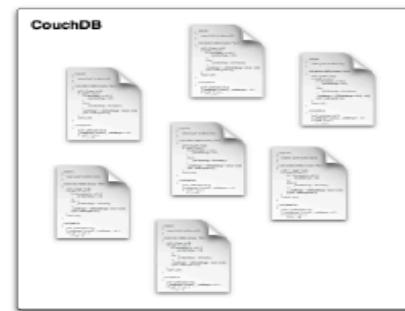
INTERACTING WITH COUCHDB



HTTP Client



PUT /dbname/_ID

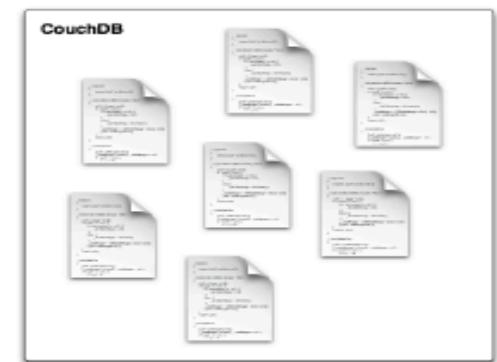


INTERACTING WITH COUCHDB



HTTP Client

GET /dbname/_ID



INTERACTING WITH COUCHDB



DELETE /dbname/_ID



CREATING AND RETRIEVING

- Creating the database "albums":

```
curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums
```

- Creating the document "album1":

```
curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums/album1 -d @-
{
    "artista": "Megadeth",
    "titulo": "Endgame",
    "anio": 2009
}
<EOF> // en Windows es ^z y en Unix ^d
```

- Retrieving the created document:

```
curl -X GET http://localhost:5984/albums/album1
```

UPDATING (I)

- For updating a document:
 - Give the last version
 - Otherwise an error (code 409) will be generated, as shown in the following example:

```
curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums/album1 -d @-
{
  "artista": "Megadeth",
  "titulo": "Endgame",
  "anio": 2010
}
^z
```

UPDATING (2)

- The attribute "_rev" specifies the version that will be updated:

```
curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums/album1 -d @-
{
    "_rev": "1-142438dc8c583cda2a1f292c62291215",
    "artista": "Megadeth",
    "titulo": "Endgame",
    "anio": 2010
}
^z
```

DELETING (I)

- Delete the document "album1":
 - `curl -X DELETE http://localhost:5984/albums/album1?rev=2-d05127b44500ec19a2e5a25adc610380`
- If you try to retrieve it, an error is generated:
 - `curl -X GET http://localhost:5984/albums/album1`
 - `{"error":"not_found","reason":"deleted"}`
- You have access to the version generated by the deletion operation:
 - `curl -X GET http://localhost:5984/albums/album1?rev=3-fac16c94309ed5ff842ffa89cc6048b1`
 - `{"_id":"album1","_rev":"3-fac16c94309ed5ff842ffa89cc6048b1","_deleted":true}`

DELETING (2)

- We purge the document from the database:

```
curl -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" http://localhost:5984/albums/_purge -d @-
{
  "album1": ["3-fac16c94309ed5ff842ffa89cc6048b1"]
}
```

- We try to query the version again:

- curl -X GET http://localhost:5984/albums/album1?rev=3-fac16c94309ed5ff842ffa89cc6048b1
 - {"error":"not_found","reason":"missing"}

ATTACHMENTS (I)

- Any binary type can be stored by adding it to a document
- Let us create again "album1":

```
curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums/album1 -d @-
{
  "artista": "Megadeth", "titulo": "Endgame", "anio": 2010
}
```

- The method HTTP PUT is used for attaching a file to the document using the attribute "cover.jpg":

```
curl -X PUT -H 'Content-Type: image/jpg' --data-binary @300px-Endgame_album_art.jpg
http://localhost:5984/albums/album1/cover.jpg?rev="1-8a015dd26403219af66f05542cb540b2"
```

ATTACHMENTS (2)

- On adding an attachment to a document its version number changes:
 - For adding an attachment it is imperative to specify the version number of the document object
 - Whe an attachment is created, the special attribute "_attachments" is created
- The method GET enables the retrieval of the attachment through the corresponding attribute:

```
curl -X GET http://localhost:5984/albums/album1/cover.jpg?  
rev="2-31e1ce62601aac5b9de7059788361641" > tmp.jpg
```

DEFINING VIEWS (I)

- Views are based on the working model MapReduce:
 - The keys of the B-tree that stores the view are computed by a map function
 - The values computed by the map function correspond the nodes sheet of the B-tree
 - A node of the B-tree stores the result of a reduce function applied to the values of its children
- Map and reduce function are specified in javascript
- Built-in views are provided
 - `curl -X GET http://localhost:5984/albums/_all_docs`

EXAMPLE: DEFINING A VIEW

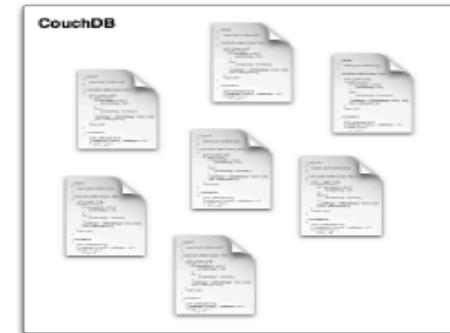
```
curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums/_design/vistas1 -d @-
{
  "language": "javascript",
  "views": {
    "por_anio": {
      "map": "function( doc ) { if( doc.anio ) { emit( doc.anio, 1 );}}",
      "reduce": "function( keys, values, rereduce ) {return sum( values );}"
    }
  }
}
```

QUERYING A VIEW

**GET /dbname/_design/hats/_view/all?
include_docs=true**



HTTP Client



EXAMPLE: USING A VIEW

- Reduce values retrieved without considering the keys:
 - `curl http://localhost:5984/albums/_design/vistas1/_view/por_anio`
 - `curl -X GET http://localhost:5984/albums/_design/vistas1/_view/por_anio`
- Reduce the values retrieved considering the values of the different keys:
 - `curl http://localhost:5984/albums/_design/vistas1/_view/por_anio?group=true`

MANAGEMENT TOOLS

- **Web management console** : complete interface for configuring , managing and monitoring a CouchDB instalation
- **REST API**: management interface exported under a REST HTTP protocol
- **Command interface**: tools providing information and control of a CouchDB instalation
 - Use the REST API
 - Can be used with scripts and management procedures (*failover, backups*)

USING COUCHDB WITH JAVA (I)

- There are several projects that enable the use of CouchDB with Java
- Visit the following links:
 - CouchDB4Java (<http://github.com/mbreese/couchdb4j>)
 - JRelax (<https://github.com/isterin/jrelax/wiki>)

USING COUCHDB WITH JAVA (2)

- CouchDB4Java is easy to use, you only have to download the application and integrate the JARs located in the folder lib
- Java code for connecting an application:

```
public static void main( String [] args ) throws Exception {  
    Session s = new Session( "localhost", 5984 );  
    Database db = s.getDatabase( "albums" );  
    Document newdoc = new Document();  
    newdoc.put( "artista", "Megadeth" );  
    newdoc.put( "titulo", "Endgame" );  
    newdoc.put( "anio", 2010 );  
    db.saveDocument( newdoc, "album1" );  
}
```

USING COUCHDB WITH JAVA (3)

JRelax

- For this case you have to download the project and its dependencies:
 - Restlet 2.0 (<http://www.restlet.org/>)
 - Jackson (JSON process - <http://jackson.codehaus.org/>)
- Particularly the following JARs:
 - org.json.jar
 - jackson-all-1.6.2.jar
 - org.restlet.jar
 - org.restlet.ext.json.jar

USING COUCHDB WITH JAVA (4)

Java code for connecting a JRelax application

```
public static void main( String[] args ) {
    ResourceManager resourceMgr = new
        DefaultResourceManager( "http://localhost:5984" );
    List<String> dbs = resourceMgr.listDatabases();
    for( String db : dbs ) {
        System.out.println( db );
    }
    Document doc = resourceMgr.getDocument( "albums", "album1" );
    System.out.println( doc.asJson() );
}
```

EXAMPLE:ALBUM DB

Adding more documents to the Albums database

```
curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums/album4 -d @-
{
  "artista": "Pantera",
  "titulo": "Reinventing the Steel",
  "anio": 2009
}

curl -X PUT http://localhost:5984/albums/album5 -d @-
{
  "artista": "Slayer",
  "titulo": "South of Heaven",
  "anio": 2009
}
```



BACK TO THEORY ...