

# Time Series DB for IoT

## Choosing the Right IoT Data Platform On-Premises and Azure



September 12



2017  
IoT Summit

Sofia,  
Bulgaria

## About me

- **Project Manager @ ICB** | SOFTWARE & CONSULTING
  - 15 years professional experience
  - .NET Web Development MCPD
- **External Expert Horizon 2020**
- **External Expert Eurostars & IFD**
- **Business Interests**
  - Web Development, SOA, Integration
  - Security & Performance Optimization
  - IoT, Computer Intelligence
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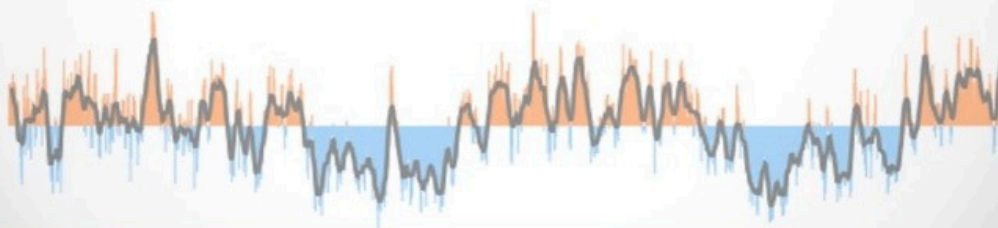


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# Agenda

## Time Series

- Why Time Series
- Choosing the Right IoT Data Platform
- InfluxDB vs Competitors
- Key Concepts
- Demo



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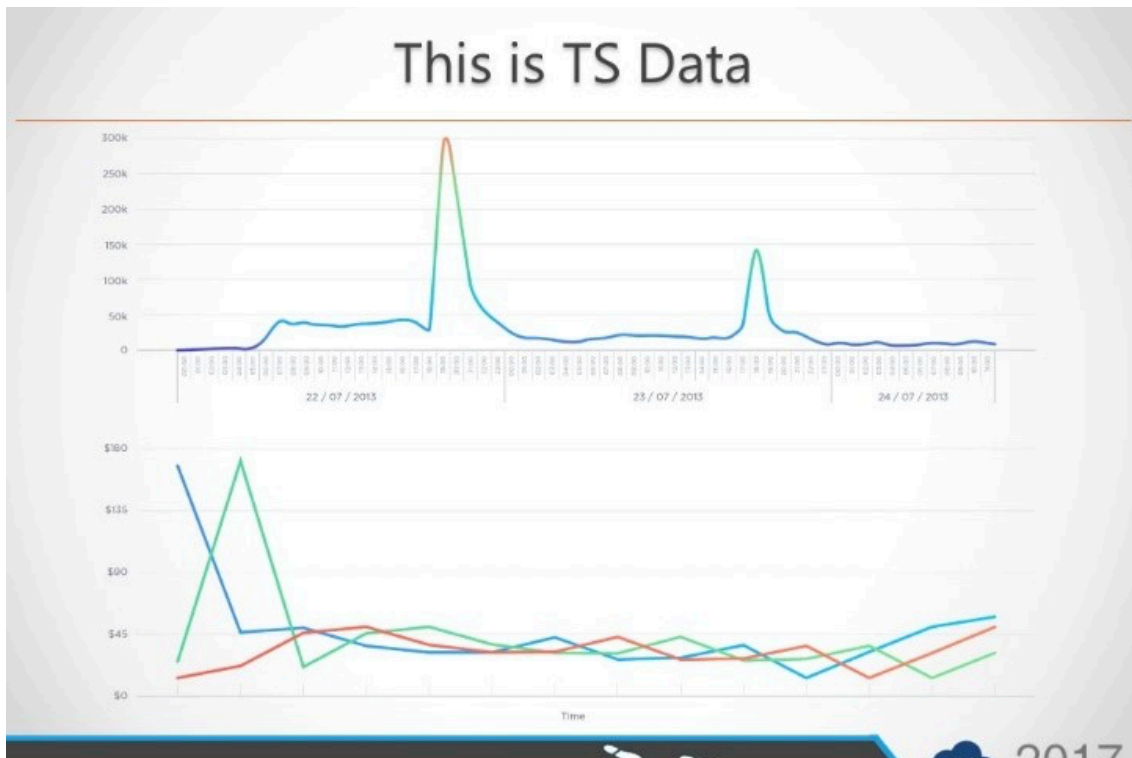
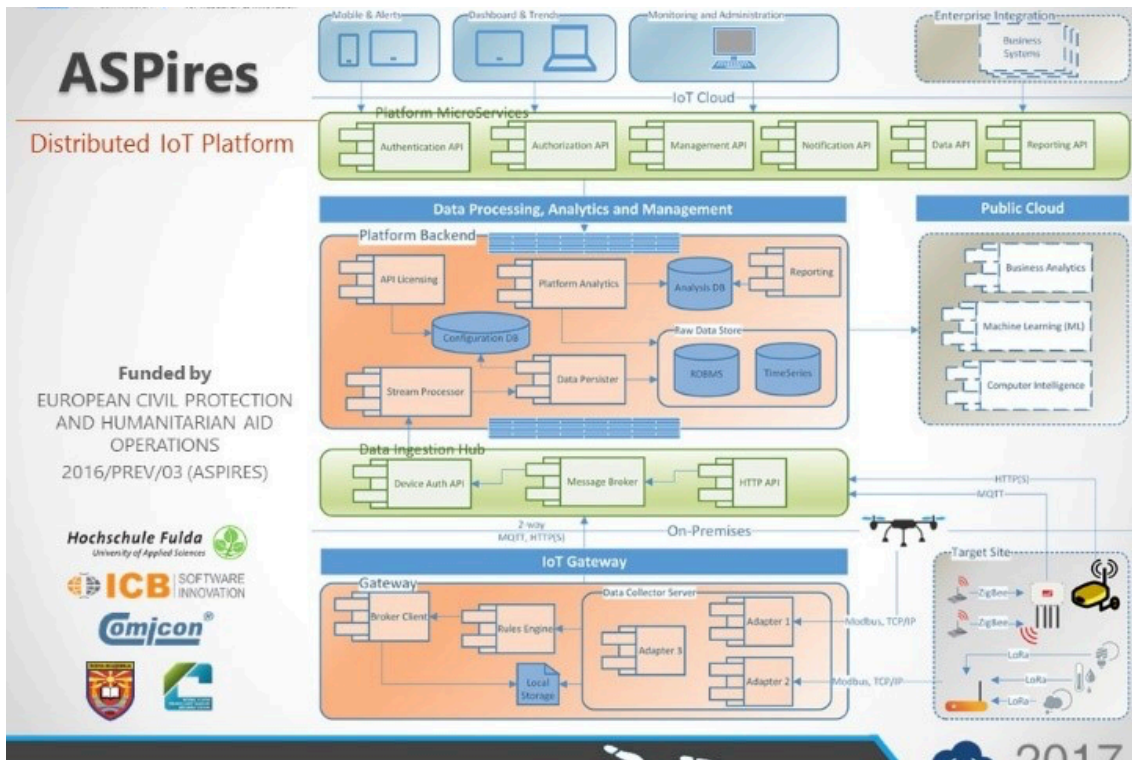
## IoT Data



- **IoT** (buzzword of the year)
  - 30 billion "things" by 2020 (Forbes)
- **Top IoT Industries**
  - Manufacturing
  - Healthcare
- **What are the benefits from IoT?**
- **The discussion has shifted**
  - How to make IoT work?
  - How to gain insight on hidden relations?
  - How to get actionable results?



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# IoT Data is Time Stamp Data

- **Series**

- Identified by source name (i.e. sensor ID) and metric name (i.e. temp)
- Consists of ordered {time, value} measurements
- Regular and Irregular



- **Time Series DB**

- Optimized for TS Data

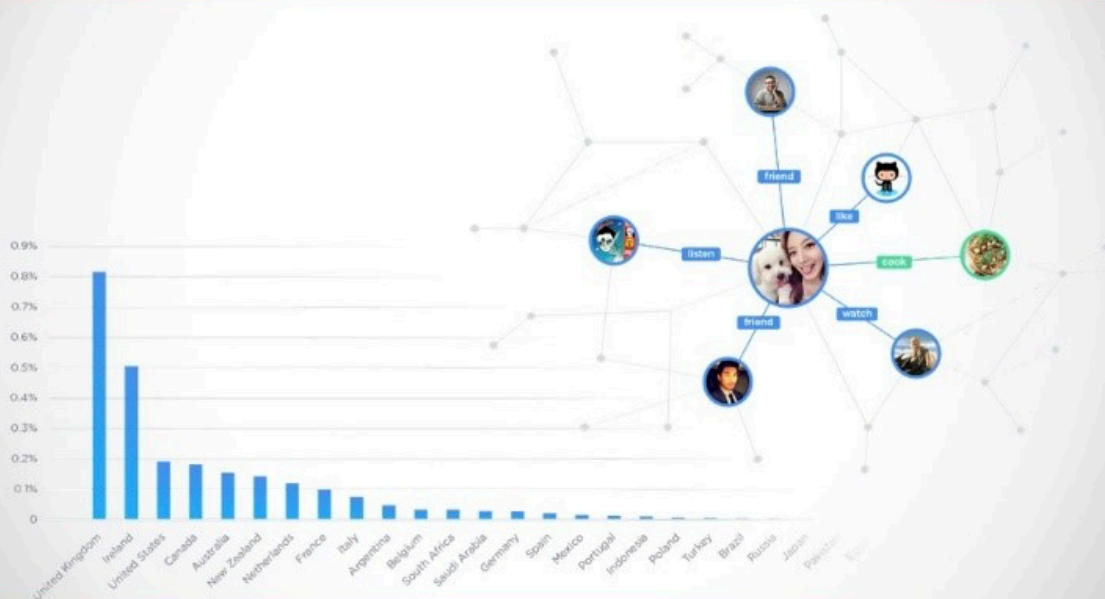


- **Process Historian – more than TS DB**

- Interfaces to read data from multiple data sources
- Render graphics for meaningful points
- Statistical process control
- Redundancy and high availability

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## And this is NOT



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## TS Data Characteristics

- **Writes**
  - 95%-99% of all operations
  - Streaming live data from multiple devices
  - Typically sequential appends
- **Updates** to modify values are rare
- **Deletes** are bulk on large ranges (*days, months, years*)
- **Queries**
  - Typically sequential
  - Concurrent reads are common
- **Performance issues** are typically I/O bound
  - Caching does not work well for BigData
  - Systems are typically distributed by design

Credits: Baron Schwartz

<https://www.xaprb.com/blog/2014/06/08/time-series-database-requirements/>

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## Choosing a Proper Data Platform

# Data Platform Services for IoT Data

- Data Aggregation Services
  - Collect, normalize, aggregate metrics and events data
- Data Storage Services
  - Distributed by nature
  - High write load, fast retrieval, efficient compression
- Analytics and Visualization Services
- **Technologies not designed for the use case**
  - Relational DB Engines
  - Columnar or key-value databases (HBase, Cassandra)
  - Search engine (Elasticsearch)
  - Document-oriented (MongoDB, DocumentDB)
  - First gen. TS DB (Graphite, OpenTSDB)

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## Validation Setup

InfluxDB	v1.3.0 single node	SQL Server	2016 Standard
<b>CPU:</b> Intel Core i7 3.40GHz (quad, 8MB cache)			
<b>Memory:</b> 16GB DDR3 1333MHz			
<b>OS:</b> Windows 10 Enterprise, 64 bit			
<b>SSD:</b> Samsung 850 EVO 250GB			
<b>HDD:</b> Seagate 7200RPM, 16MB cache, 500GB			

### InfluxDB schema:

Name	Type	
tagID	Int	Tag Key
value	Int	Field Key
time	DateTime	TimeStamp

### SQL Server schema:

Name	Type	Indexed
ID (PK)	int	Yes
TagID	int	Yes
Value	int	No
Timestamp	DateTime	Yes

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# When TS overperform RDBMS

- **Target scenarios**

- High I/O rate
- Number of tags
- Volume of data
- Aggregation of irregular data
- Compression & De-duplication

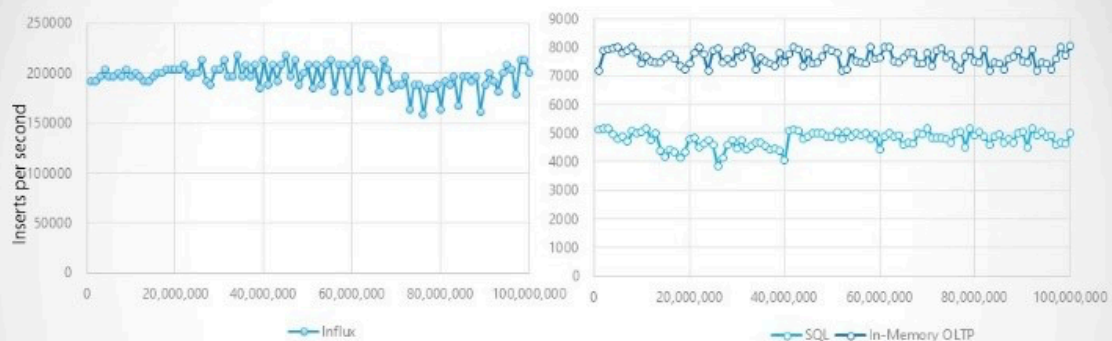


- **Requires a learning**

- Do you expect that many data?
- Do you need to plot?
- Do you need to aggregate?

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## Write Performance (writes/sec)



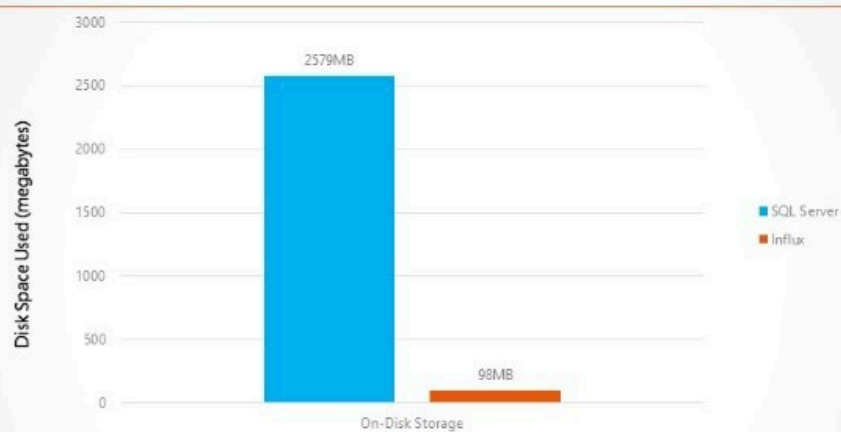
- Influx average write speed of 200,000 writes/second
- SQL Server average write speed of 5,000-8,000 writes/second
- **Memory optimized tables increases write performance by 1.4x**
- **Write trend unaffected by the amount of data (in this volumes)**
- **Influx outperforms SQL Server 40x**

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# InfluxDB vs SQL Server 2016

Credits: Angelin Nedelchev (ICB)

## Disk Storage



- 27% improvement is SQL Server page compression is enabled (1883MB)
- Influx has 19x-26x less disk requirements for the same functionality



## Read Performance (queries/sec)



### Benchmark query:

Aggregate samples of 10,000 points, average over 1,000 runs.

- SQL Server mean query response time – 78ms (13 queries/sec)
- Influx mean query response time – 1,3ms (769 queries/sec)
- Influx has 59x better query throughput than SQL Server

## Database as a Service in Azure

### • Typical Azure IoT Services (Before 2017.04.20)



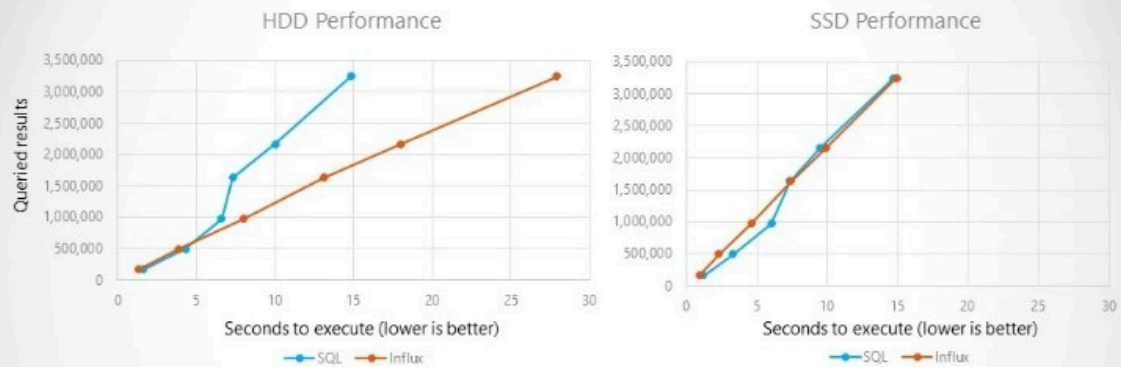
### • With Time Series Insights (beta)



### • Other

- CosmosDB with MongoDB (SLA 10ms reads, 15ms writes)

## Read Performance (rows at a time)



- SQL Server relatively unaffected by SSD (due to caching)
- Influx performance improves up to 100% on SSD, chunk size 10'000
- SQL Server is up to 2x better on HDD (Influx is better up to 600K)
- Relatively equal on SSD (Influx is better up to 1.6M)

## Azure Stream Insights

Fully managed analytics, storage and visualization service

### Benefits

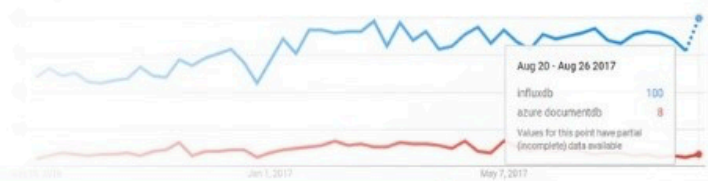
- Reduced number of services used
- Monitor IoT solutions
- Event source from IoT Hub and Event Hub (only)
- Visualize and analyze data at large scale
- Root cause analysis and anomaly detection
- APIs available for management of raw data

### Cons

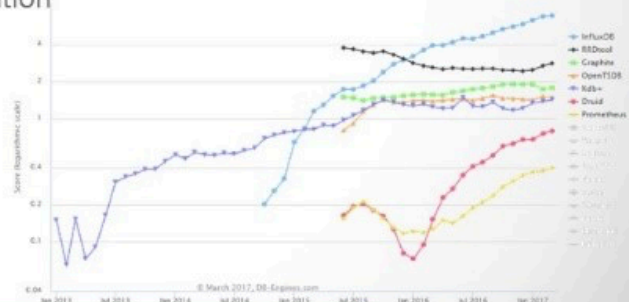
- Pricey (€126.53, 1M events - €1,138.50/month/unit, 10M events)
- Specific use cases
- Limited capabilities

# InfluxDB vs NonSQL for TS Data

- InfluxDB vs MongoDB
  - WRITE: 27x greater
  - STORAGE: 84x less
  - QUERY: Equal performance
- InfluxDB vs Cassandra
  - WRITE: 5.3x greater
  - STORAGE: 9.3x less
  - QUERY: up to 168x faster
- InfluxDB vs Elasticsearch
  - WRITE: 8x greater
  - STORAGE: 4x less
  - QUERY: 3.5x – 7.5x faster
- InfluxDB vs DocumentDB
  - More popular (Google Trends)
  - Cloud and on-premises
  - No external dependencies
  - Aggregations
- InfluxDB vs OpenTSDB
  - WRITE: 5x greater
  - STORAGE: 16.5x less
  - QUERY: 4x faster



- **Open-source distributed TS database**
- **Key Features**
  - Easy setup, no external dependencies, implemented in Go
  - Runs on Linux, Windows, OS X
  - Supports .NET, Java, JS, R, PHP, Python, Ruby, Go, Node.js
  - Comprehensive documentation
  - Scalable, highly efficient
  - REST API (JSON)
  - SQL-like syntax
  - On-premise and cloud
- **Top ranked TS DB**





# Key Concepts

Term	Description
<b>Measurement</b>	Container (Table)
<b>Point</b>	Single record for timestamp
<b>Field Set</b>	Required; <u>Not-indexed</u>
Field key	Define what is measured
Field value	Actual measured value (string, bool, int64, float64)
<b>Tag Set</b>	Metadata about the point Optional; <u>Indexed</u> ; Key-value;
Tag key	Unique per measurement
Tag value	Unique per tag key
<b>Series</b>	Points with common tag set

- Aggregation functions
- Retention policies
- Downsampling
- Continuous queries

Measurement

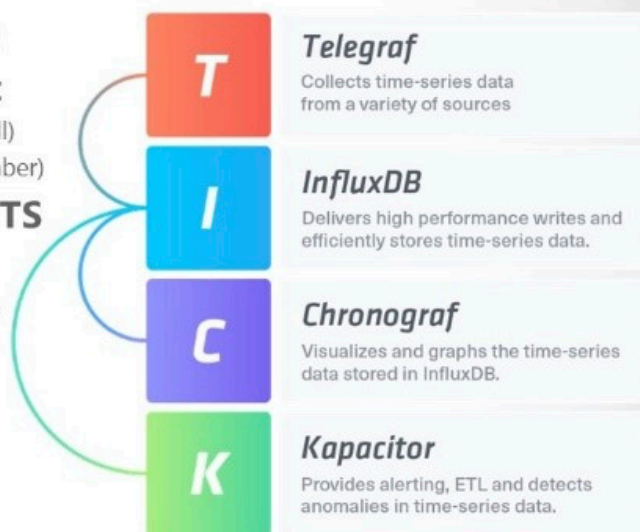
name: census

	Field key	Field key	Tag key	Tag key
time	butterflies	honeybees	location	scientist
2015-08-18T00:00:00Z	12	23	1	langstroth
2015-08-18T00:00:00Z	1	30	1	perpetua
2015-08-18T00:06:00Z	3	28	1	perpetua
2015-08-18T05:54:00Z	2	11	2	langstroth
2015-08-18T06:00:00Z	1	10	2	langstroth
2015-08-18T06:06:00Z	8	23	2	perpetua
2015-08-18T06:12:00Z	7	22	2	perpetua

Timestamp    Field value    Field value    Tag value    Tag value

# InfluxData Advantages

- **End-to-end solution**
- **Flexible tag support**
  - Graphite, RRD (no tags at all)
  - OpenTSDB, Kairos (tag number)
- **Regular & Irregular TS**
  - Graphite, OpenTSDB
- **Multiple Data Types**
- **High Performance**
  - Hbase, Elastic, Cassandra
- **Functionality**
  - Hbase, Cassandra




# Scalability & Sizing Guidelines

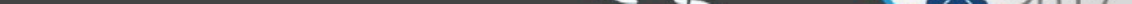
- **Single node or cluster**
  - Single node is open source and free
- **Recommendations**

Load	Resources	Writes/Sec	Moderate Queries/Sec.	Unique Series
Low	Cores: 2-4; RAM: 2-4 GB	0 - 5K	0 - 5	0 - 100K
Moderate	Cores: 4-6; RAM: 8-32 GB	5K - 250K	5 - 25	100K - 1M
High	Cores: 8+; RAM: 32+	250K - 750K	25 - 100	1M - 10M

- **Query complexity (Moderate)**
  - Multiple functions, few regular expressions
  - Complex GROUP BY clause or sampling over weeks
  - Runtime 500ms - 5sec

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  - Complex GROUP BY clause or sampling over weeks
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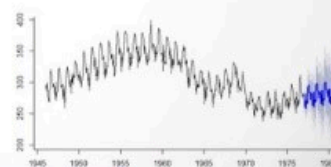
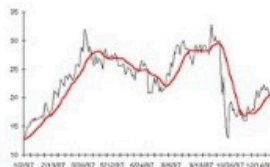
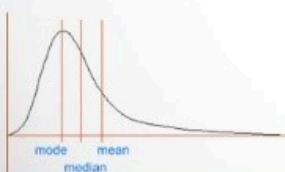
# InfluxDB & Grafana

DEMO



# Functions

Aggregations	Selectors	Transformations	Predictors
COUNT()	BOTTOM()	CEILING()	HOLT_WINTERS()
DISTINCT()	FIRST()	CUMULATIVE_SUM()	
INTEGRAL()	LAST()	DERIVATIVE()	
MEAN()	MAX()	DIFFERENCE()	
MEDIAN()	MIN()	ELAPSED()	
MODE()	PERCENTILE()	FLOOR()	
SPREAD()	SAMPLE()	HISTOGRAM()	
STDDEV()	TOP()	MOVING_AVERAGE()	
SUM()		NON_NEGATIVE_DERIVATIVE()	



# Takeaways

- **Why Time Series Matters for IoT**
  - <https://www.influxdata.com/resources/webinar-time-series-monitoring-metrics-real-time-analytics-iotsensor-data/>
- **InfluxDB**
  - <https://www.influxdata.com/resources/>
  - [https://docs.influxdata.com/influxdb/v1.3/guides/hardware\\_sizing/](https://docs.influxdata.com/influxdb/v1.3/guides/hardware_sizing/)
  - <https://docs.influxdata.com/influxdb/v1.3/concepts/glossary/>
  - [https://docs.influxdata.com/influxdb/v1.3/query\\_language/schema\\_exploration/](https://docs.influxdata.com/influxdb/v1.3/query_language/schema_exploration/)
- **Grafana Plugins**
  - <https://grafana.com/plugins>
- **Time Series Insights**
  - <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/time-series-insights/time-series-insights-overview>



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