

Which Is Deeper

Comparison of Deep Learning Frameworks Atop Spark

Zhe Dong, Dr. Yu Cao
EMC Corporation



SPARK SUMMIT 2016
DATA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT SCALE
JUNE 6-8, 2016 SAN FRANCISCO

Outline

- Motivation
- Theoretical Principle
- State-of-the-Art
- Evaluation Criteria
- Evaluation Results
- Summary
- Conclusion



Deep Learning on Spark Motivation

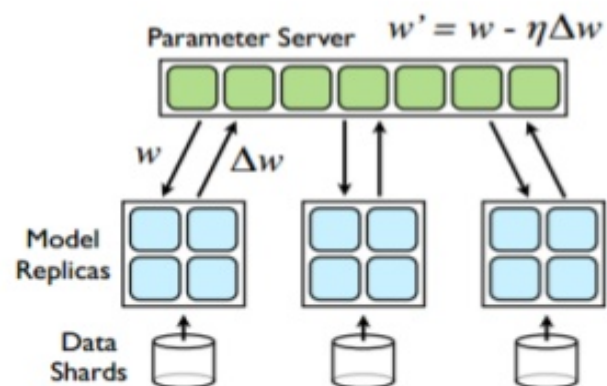
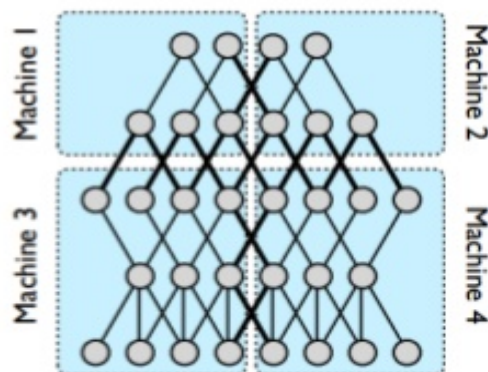


- ```
graph LR
 subgraph DLC [Deep Learning Cluster]
 direction TB
 DL[DL training & Test]
 DLS[Storage System for DL]
 end
 subgraph HSC [Hadoop/Spark Cluster]
 direction TB
 H1["(1) Prepare datasets"]
 H3["(3) Apply DL model"]
 HDFS[Distributed File Systems]
 end
 HSC -- Data --> DLC
 DLC -- Model --> HSC
```
- Dedicated deep learning cluster
  - Massive data movement
  - High maintenance cost
- Spark+Deep Learning = Truly All-in-One



# Theoretical Principle

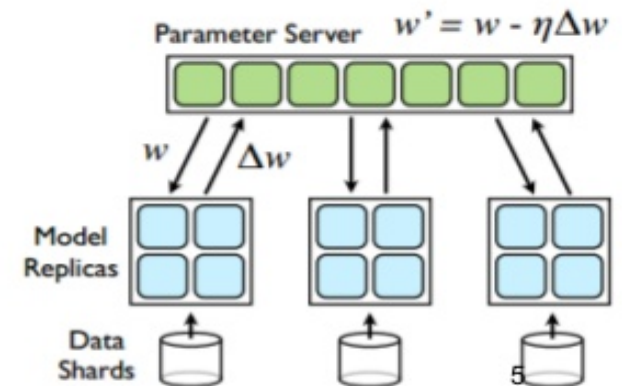
- Large Scale Distributed Deep Networks, Jeffrey Dean, 2012
  - Model parallelism
  - Data parallelism



<https://papers.nips.cc/paper/4687-large-scale-distributed-deep-networks.pdf>

# Data Parallelism for distributed SGD

- Model is replicated on worker nodes
- Two repeating steps
  - Train each model replica with mini-batches
  - Synchronize model parameters across cluster
- Specific implementations can be different
  - How parameters are combined
  - Synchronization (strong or weak)
  - Parameter server (centralized or not)





# DownpourSGD Client Pseudo code

---

**Algorithm 7.1:** DOWNPOURSGDCLIENT( $\alpha, n_{\text{fetch}}, n_{\text{push}}$ )

---

```
procedure STARTASYNCHRONOUSLYFETCHINGPARAMETERS(parameters)
 parameters \leftarrow GETPARAMETERSFROMPARAMSERVER()

procedure STARTASYNCHRONOUSLYPUSHINGGRADIENTS(accruedgradients)
 SENDGRADIENTSTOPARAMSERVER(accruedgradients)
 accruedgradients \leftarrow 0

main
 global parameters, accruedgradients
 step \leftarrow 0
 accruedgradients \leftarrow 0
 while true
 if (step mod n_{fetch}) == 0
 then STARTASYNCHRONOUSLYFETCHINGPARAMETERS(parameters)
 data \leftarrow GETNEXTMINIBATCH()
 gradient \leftarrow COMPUTEGRADIENT(parameters, data)
 do {
 accruedgradients \leftarrow accruedgradients + gradient
 parameters \leftarrow parameters - α * gradient
 if (step mod n_{push}) == 0
 then STARTASYNCHRONOUSLYPUSHINGGRADIENTS(accruedgradients)
 step \leftarrow step + 1
```

---



# DL on Spark – State-of-the-Art

- AMPLab SparkNet
- Yahoo! CaffeOnSpark
- Arimo Tensorflow On Spark
- Skymind DeepLearning4J
- DeepDist
- H2O Spark

Which is deeper?



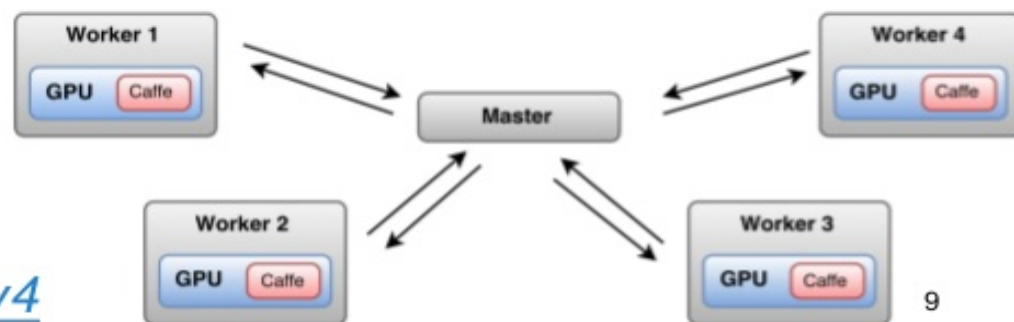
# Evaluation Criteria

| Evaluation Criteria     | Dimensions          | For Example                                               |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Ease of Getting Started | Documentation       | Are there detailed, well-organized, up-to-date documents? |
|                         | Installation        | How automatic it is?                                      |
|                         | Built-in Examples   | Examples available for quick warming up?                  |
| Ease of Use             | Interface           | Programming language support                              |
|                         | Model Encapsulation | Model/Layer/Node                                          |
| Functionality           | Built-in Models     | Which NN models have been implemented?                    |
|                         | Parallelism         | Model parallelism or data parallelism                     |
| Performance             | Performance         | MNIST benchmark results                                   |
| Status Quo              | Community Vitality  | Github project statistics                                 |
|                         | Enterprise Support  | Contributions from organizations?                         |



# SparkNet

- Started by AMPLab from 2015
- Wrapper of Caffe and Tensorflow
- Centralized parameter server
- Strong SGD synchronization
- Differentiating feature: A fixed number ( $\tau$ ) of iterations (mini-batch) on its subset of data

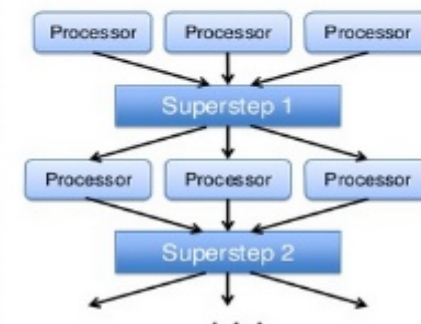
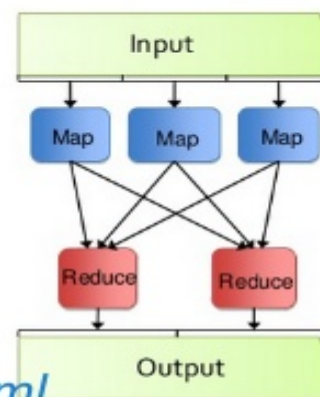


| Evaluation Criteria     | Dimensions    | SparkNet                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |        |        |        | Score  |       |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| Ease of Getting Started | Documentation | Paper, No Blog, README.md in Github                                                                                                                                                                                        |        |        |        | ★★★★   |       |
| Ease of Use             | Performance   | <pre>val netParams = NetParams(<br/>  RDDBatchLayer("data", shape=List(batchsize, 1, 28, 28)),<br/>  RDDBatchLayer("label", shape=List(batchsize, 1))<br/>// initialize nets on workers<br/>workers.foreach( =&gt; {</pre> |        |        |        | ★★★★★  |       |
|                         |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |        |        |        | ★★★★   |       |
| Full Support            | Performance   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1      | 2      | 3      | 4      | ★★★★★ |
|                         |               | Iterations                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1000   | 2000   | 5000   | 10000  | ★★★★★ |
|                         |               | Time (seconds)                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2130   | 4218   | 10471  | 21003  | ★★★★★ |
|                         |               | Accuracy                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 94.13% | 94.26% | 94.01% | 94.22% | ★★★★  |
| Support                 | Performance   | <pre>SoftmaxWithLoss("loss", List("lp2", "label"))</pre>                                                                                                                                                                   |        |        |        | ★★★★   |       |
|                         |               | Listing 2: Example network specification in SparkNet                                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        | ★★★    |       |
|                         | Support       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |        |        |        | ★★★    |       |

# Deeplearning4J

- Started by Skymind from 2014
- An open-source, distributed deep-learning project in Java and Scala
- Parameter server: IterativeReduce
- Strong SGD synchronization

MapReduce vs. Parallel Iterative

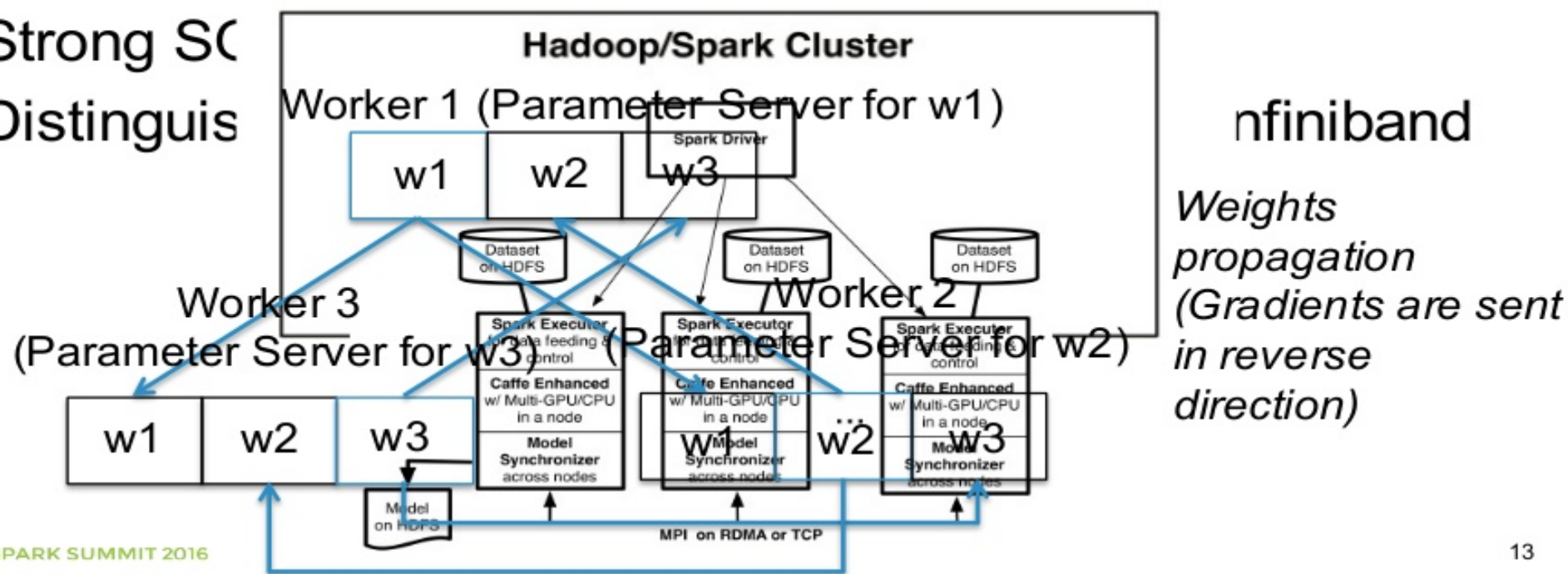


| Evaluation Criteria     | Dimensions     | DL4J                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |      |       |       | Score |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ease of Getting Started | Documen        | <pre> MultiLayerConfiguration conf = new NeuralNetConfiguration.Builder()     .seed(12345)     .iterations(1)     .weightInit(WeightInit.XAVIER)     .updater(Updater.ADAGRAD)     .activation("relu")     .optimizationAlgo(OptimizationAlgorithm.STOCHASTIC_GRADIENT_DESCENT)     .learningRate(0.05)     .regularization(true).l2(0.0001)     .list() </pre> |      |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
|                         | Instal         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |       |       | ☆☆☆☆☆ |
|                         | Built-i        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
| Ease of Use             | Interfa        | <pre>     .optimizationAlgo(OptimizationAlgorithm.STOCHASTIC_GRADIENT_DESCENT)     .learningRate(0.05)     .regularization(true).l2(0.0001)     .list() </pre>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |      |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
|                         | Mode           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
| Function                | Epochs         | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 2    | 3     | 4     |       |
|                         | Time (seconds) | 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 10   | 15    | 20    |       |
| Perform                 | Accuracy       | 2098                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 4205 | 6303  | 8367  |       |
| Status C                | Accuracy       | 70%                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 79%  | 82.7% | 84.6% |       |
| vitalit                 | Enter          | <pre>     .pretrain(false).backprop(true)     .build(); </pre>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |      |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
|                         | Support        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |



# CaffeOnSpark

- Started by Yahoo! from 2015
- Peer-to-Peer parameter server
- Strong SC
- Distinguis

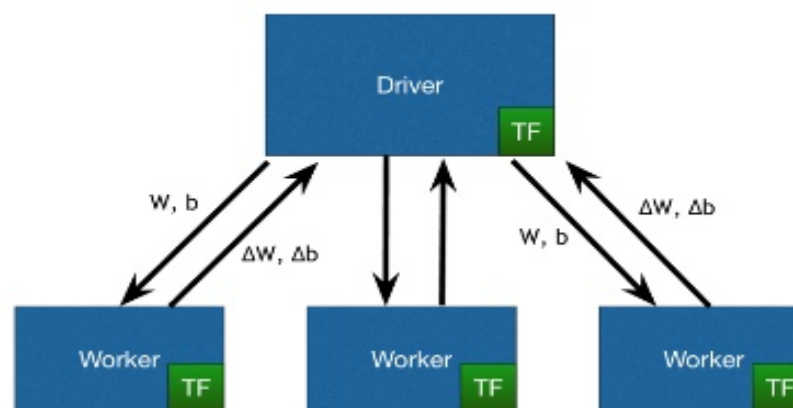




| Evaluation Criteria     | Dimensions         | CaffeOnSpark                                                                                      |       |       |       | Score |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Ease of Getting Started | Documentation      | Blog; README.md in github                                                                         |       |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
|                         | Installation       | Have to install all Caffe needed in each node                                                     |       |       |       | ☆☆☆   |
|                         | Built-in Examples  | Cifar10/MNIST                                                                                     |       |       |       | ☆☆☆   |
| Ease of Use             | Interface          | .java/Scala DataFrames                                                                            |       |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
| Functional              |                    | 1                                                                                                 | 2     | 3     | 4     |       |
|                         | Iterations         | 1000                                                                                              | 2000  | 5000  | 10000 |       |
|                         | Time(seconds)      | 224                                                                                               | 445   | 1113  | 2229  |       |
| Performance             | Accuracy           | 97%                                                                                               | 99.4% | 99.7% | 99.6% | ☆☆☆☆  |
| Status Quo              | Community Vitality | Watch 105            Star 626            Fork 157            66 commits            4 contributors |       |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |
|                         | Enterprise Support | Yahoo!                                                                                            |       |       |       | ☆☆☆☆  |

# Tensorflow on Spark

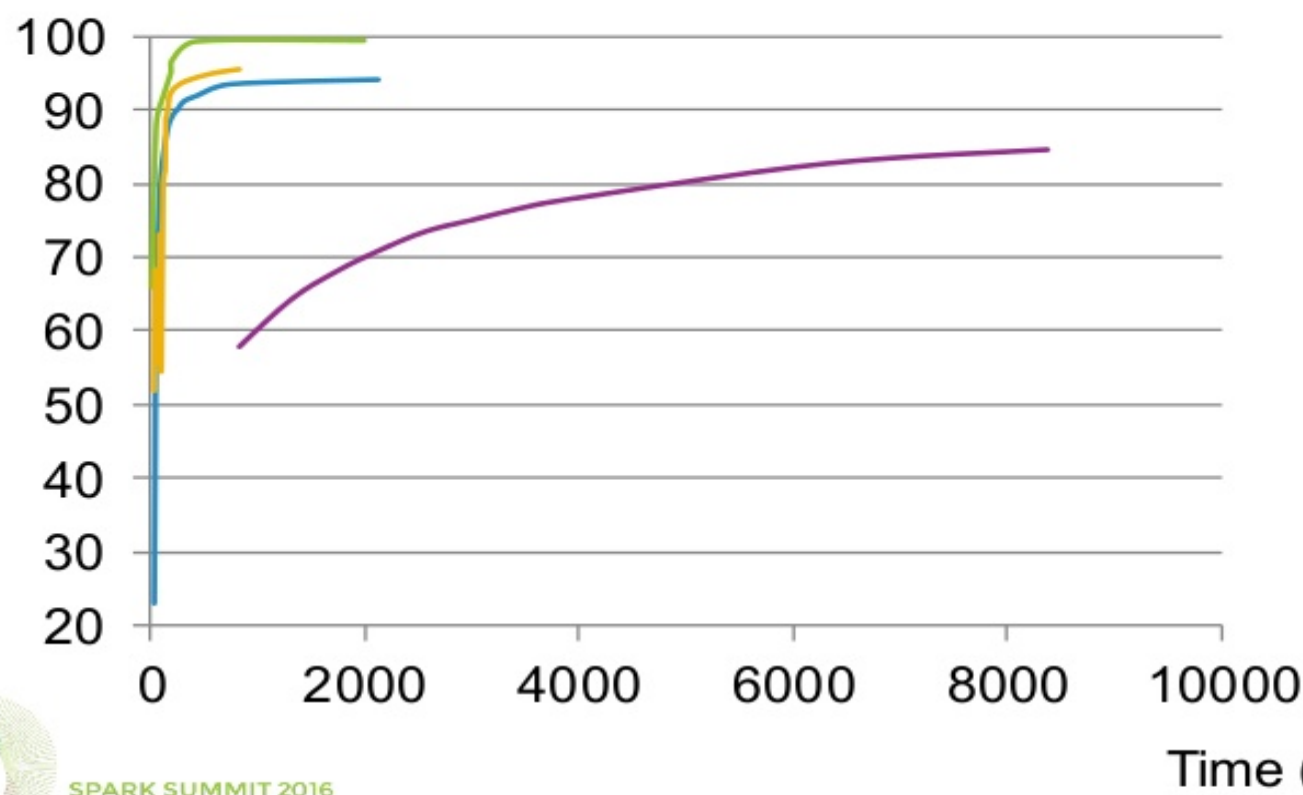
- Started by Arimo from 2014
- A data-parallel Downpour SGD implementation on Spark
- Centralized parameter server
- Weak SGD synchronization



| Evaluation Criteria     | Dimensions         | Tensorflow on Spark                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |       |       | Score |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| Ease of Getting Started | Documentation      | <pre> def __init__(self):     session = tf.InteractiveSession()     x = tf.placeholder("float", shape=[None, 784], name='x')     x_image = tf.reshape(x, [-1,28,28,1], name='reshape')     y_ = tf.placeholder("float", shape=[None, 10], name='y_')     W_conv1 = weight_variable([5, 5, 1, 32], 'W_conv1')     b_conv1 = bias_variable([32], 'b_conv1')     h_conv1 = tf.nn.relu(conv2d(x_image, W_conv1) + b_conv1)     h_pool1 = max_pool_2x2(h_conv1)     W_conv2 = weight_variable([5, 5, 32, 64], 'W_conv2') </pre> |     |       |       | ★★★★  |
|                         | Installation       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |       |       | ★★★★  |
|                         | Built-in Examples  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |       |       | ★★★★  |
| Ease of Use             | Interface          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |       |       | ★★★★  |
|                         | Model              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |       |       | ★★★★★ |
| Functionality           |                    | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2   | 3     | 4     |       |
|                         | Epochs             | 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 10  | 15    | 20    |       |
|                         | Time(seconds)      | 223                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 415 | 615   | 828   |       |
|                         | Accuracy           | 93%                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 94% | 94.2% | 95.4% |       |
| Performance             | Vitality           | <pre> W_fc2 = weight_variable([1024, 10], 'W_fc2') b_fc2 = bias_variable([10], 'b_fc2') </pre>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |     |       |       | ★★★   |
|                         | Enterprise Support |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |       |       | ★★★★  |

# Benchmark – MNIST

Accuracy



One master (16-Core,64GB)  
Five slaves (8-Core,32GB)  
Executor memory: 20GB  
Batch size: 64

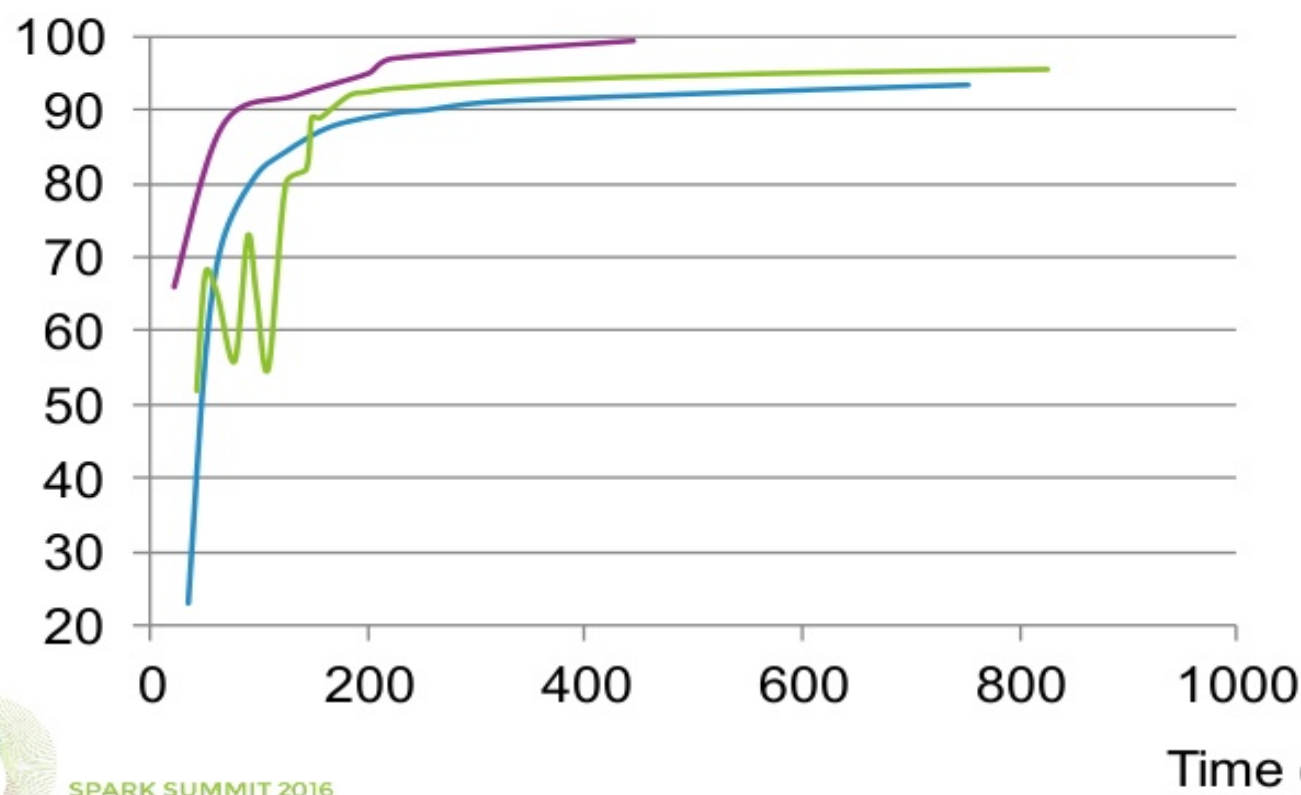
— SparkNet  
— DL4J  
— CaffeOnSpark  
— Tensorflow on Spark



SPARK SUMMIT 2016

# Benchmark – MNIST

Accuracy



One master (16-Core,64GB)  
Five slaves (8-Core,32GB)  
Executor memory: 20GB  
Batch size: 64

— SparkNet  
— CaffeOnSpark  
— Tensorflow on Spark



SPARK SUMMIT 2016



| Evaluation Criteria     | Dimensions          | SparkNet | DL4J  | CaffeOnSpark | Tensorflow on Spark |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|-------|--------------|---------------------|
| Ease of Getting Started | Documentation       | ☆☆☆☆     | ☆☆☆☆  | ☆☆☆☆         | ☆☆☆☆                |
|                         | Installation        | ☆☆☆☆☆    | ☆☆☆☆☆ | ☆☆☆          | ☆☆☆☆                |
|                         | Built-in Examples   | ☆☆☆☆     | ☆☆☆☆  | ☆☆☆          | ☆☆☆☆                |
| Ease of Use             | Interface           | ☆☆☆☆     | ☆☆☆☆  | ☆☆☆☆☆        | ☆☆☆☆                |
|                         | Model Encapsulation | ☆☆☆☆☆    | ☆☆☆☆  | ☆☆☆☆☆        | ☆☆☆☆☆               |
| Functionality           | Built-in Models     | ☆☆☆☆☆    | ☆☆☆☆☆ | ☆☆☆☆         | ☆☆☆☆                |
|                         | Parallelism         | ☆☆☆      | ☆☆☆   | ☆☆☆          | ☆☆☆                 |
| Performance             | Performance         | ☆☆☆☆     | ☆☆☆   | ☆☆☆☆☆        | ☆☆☆☆                |
| Status Quo              | Community Vitality  | ☆☆☆      | ☆☆☆☆  | ☆☆☆☆         | ☆☆☆                 |
|                         | Enterprise Support  | ☆☆☆      | ☆☆☆☆  | ☆☆☆☆         | ☆☆☆☆                |

# Conclusion

- Common issues
  - Lack of model parallelism
  - Potential network congestion
  - Early-stage development
- Future evaluation work
  - GPU integration
  - SGD synchronization
  - Scalability



# THANK YOU.

Zhe.Dong@emc.com



**SPARK SUMMIT 2016**  
DATA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING AT SCALE  
JUNE 6-8, 2016 SAN FRANCISCO