HOW APACHE SPARK IS HELPING TAME THE WILD WEST OF WI-FI

Tomasz Magdanski Director, Big Data and Analytics, iPass



Who Are We?

iPass: the world's largest Wi-Fi network



- Global operations, Silicon Valley headquarters
- On Nasdaq since 2003
- 40+ patents
- 800 of the Fortune 2000
- Launched iPass SmartConnect™ in Fall 2015







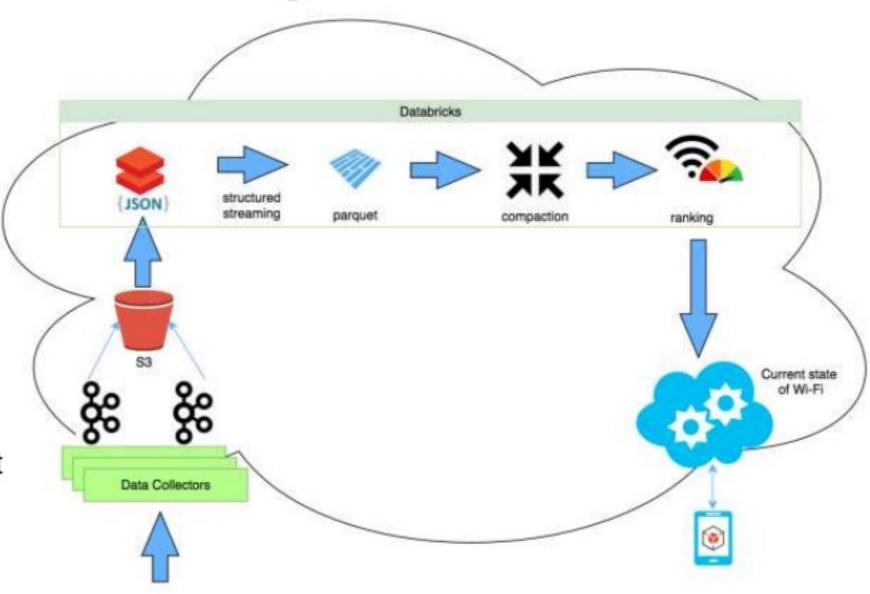
Spark & Databricks

- 21B scans -> 500M records -> 100M hotspots
- Spark helped us make sense of the data
- We needed a solution that can automatically scale and handle real time analytics



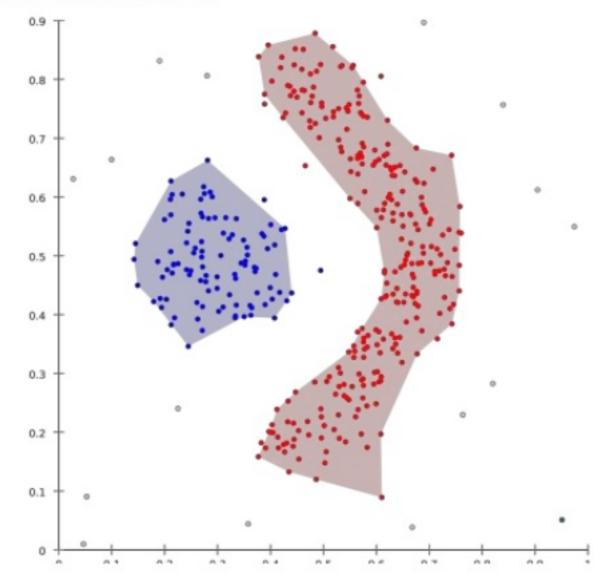
Spark: From Concept to Production

- Past:
 - in-house prototyping
 - Spark 1.3
 - RDD
- Present:
 - AWS and Databricks
 - Spark 2.0
 - Datasets
 - UDFs
 - Window aggregations
 - Full advantage of Tungsten and Catalyst



Building Wi-Fi Network Characteristics

- Future:
 - Moving Hotspot
 - Changing SSID
 - Grouping and
 Graphframes to find
 relationships
- Most of our code is written in Scala notebooks
- Ready to switch to structure streaming



Conclusions

- Now we know
- Thanks to Databricks platform
 - Smaller team big result
 - Focus on building scalable business logic, not infrastructure
- Small companies can successfully run big data projects without breaking the bank





THANK YOU.

tmagdanski@ipass.com

