**Exercise 7a**

*Get started with Cassandra and import data*

**Prior Knowledge**

Unix Command Line Shell

HDFS

Simple Python

Spark Python  
Simple SQL syntax

**Learning Objectives**

Understand Cassandra’s CQL shell

Integrate Python, Cassandra and Spark

Load data from CSV into Cassandra using Spark Python

**Software Requirements**

(see separate document for installation of these)

* Apache Spark 1.5.1
* Python 2.7.x
* Apache Cassandra 2.1.11
* Nano text editor or other text editor

Part A

1. Make sure Cassandra is running
   1. In a Terminal window (Crtl-Alt-T) type:  
      service cassandra status
   2. You should see  
      \* Cassandra is running
   3. If not, try   
      sudo service cassandra start  
      and then check the status again
2. Now you can ask Cassandra about its own situation:  
   nodetool status  
     
   You should see something like:  
   Datacenter: datacenter1

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Status=Up/Down

|/ State=Normal/Leaving/Joining/Moving

-- Address Load Tokens Owns Host ID Rack

UN 127.0.0.1 668.72 MB 256 ? 56a82160-ee44-47aa-810a-d8b56b751a92 rack1

Note: Non-system keyspaces don't have the same replication settings, effective ownership information is meaningless

1. You can also try:  
   nodetool info  
   You should see something like:

ID : 56a82160-ee44-47aa-810a-d8b56b751a92

Gossip active : true

Thrift active : false

Native Transport active: true

Load : 668.72 MB

Generation No : 1447268202

Uptime (seconds) : 144

Heap Memory (MB) : 424.54 / 1984.00

Off Heap Memory (MB) : 3.08

Data Center : datacenter1

Rack : rack1

Exceptions : 0

Key Cache : entries 23, size 1.87 KB, capacity 99 MB, 26 hits, 54 requests, 0.481 recent hit rate, 14400 save period in seconds

Row Cache : entries 0, size 0 bytes, capacity 0 bytes, 0 hits, 0 requests, NaN recent hit rate, 0 save period in seconds

Counter Cache : entries 0, size 0 bytes, capacity 49 MB, 0 hits, 0 requests, NaN recent hit rate, 7200 save period in seconds

Token : (invoke with -T/--tokens to see all 256 tokens)

1. Now you can start the Cassandra Shell:  
   Type:

cqlsh  
  
You should see:  
Connected to Test Cluster at 127.0.0.1:9042.

[cqlsh 5.0.1 | Cassandra 2.2.3 | CQL spec 3.3.1 | Native protocol v4]

Use HELP for help.

cqlsh>

1. Let’s create a new database (Keyspace):
   1. Type (all on a single line)  
        
      CREATE KEYSPACE TEST WITH REPLICATION = { 'class' : 'SimpleStrategy', 'replication\_factor' : 1 };
   2. Check it worked:  
      Type:  
        
      desc keyspace test;
   3. You should see:  
        
      CREATE KEYSPACE test WITH replication = {'class': 'SimpleStrategy', 'replication\_factor': '1'} AND durable\_writes = true;
2. Now we need to select to use that keyspace:  
   use test;
3. The command prompt will change to:  
   cqlsh:test>
4. Let’s create a simple (key, value) table
   1. Type:  
      create table kv ( key text, value text, primary key (key));
   2. Now type  
      desc kv;
   3. You should see:

cqlsh:test> desc kv;

CREATE TABLE test.kv (

key text PRIMARY KEY,

value text

) WITH bloom\_filter\_fp\_chance = 0.01

AND caching = '{"keys":"ALL", "rows\_per\_partition":"NONE"}'

AND comment = ''

AND compaction = {'class': 'org.apache.cassandra.db.compaction.SizeTieredCompactionStrategy'}

AND compression = {'sstable\_compression': 'org.apache.cassandra.io.compress.LZ4Compressor'}

AND dclocal\_read\_repair\_chance = 0.1

AND default\_time\_to\_live = 0

AND gc\_grace\_seconds = 864000

AND max\_index\_interval = 2048

AND memtable\_flush\_period\_in\_ms = 0

AND min\_index\_interval = 128

AND read\_repair\_chance = 0.0

AND speculative\_retry = '99.0PERCENTILE';

* 1. Add some simple values:  
     insert into kv (key, value) values ('a','1');

insert into kv (key, value) values ('b','2');

insert into kv (key, value) values ('c','3');

* 1. Now type:  
     select \* from kv;  
       
     You should see:  
     key | value

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a | 1

c | 3

b | 2

(3 rows)

1. You can also do other simple SQL of course

cqlsh:test> select \* from kv where key='a' ;

key | value

-----+-------

a | 1

(1 rows)

1. Now exit the cqlsh:  
   exit
2. Congratulations! You have Cassandra running and working.   
     
   **PART B – Stress testing Cassandra**
3. Now let’s run a performance test on Cassandra.
   1. We will use the cassandra-stress tool which is part of the Cassandra distribution.
   2. First we need to write some data into Cassandra using the tool
   3. cassandra-stress write n=100000
   4. You should see:

INFO 19:27:23 Did not find Netty's native epoll transport in the classpath, defaulting to NIO.

INFO 19:27:23 Using data-center name 'datacenter1' for DCAwareRoundRobinPolicy (if this is incorrect, please provide the correct datacenter name with DCAwareRoundRobinPolicy constructor)

INFO 19:27:23 New Cassandra host localhost/127.0.0.1:9042 added

Connected to cluster: Test Cluster

Datatacenter: datacenter1; Host: localhost/127.0.0.1; Rack: rack1

Created keyspaces. Sleeping 1s for propagation.

Sleeping 2s...

Warming up WRITE with 50000 iterations...

Running WRITE with 200 threads for 100000 iteration

type, total ops, op/s, pk/s, row/s, mean, med, .95, .99, .999, max, time, stderr, errors, gc: #, max ms, sum ms, sdv ms, mb

total, 15657, 15820, 15820, 15820, 15.0, 11.7, 38.6, 93.7, 129.9, 135.5, 1.0, 0.00000, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0

total, 32473, 14669, 14669, 14669, 13.5, 9.4, 35.8, 96.0,

288.7, 316.8, 5.7, 0.04323, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0

total, 98307, 16813, 16813, 16813, 11.8, 7.1, 33.6, 125.0, 164.2, 172.2, 6.9, 0.05918, 0, 1, 115, 115, 0, 293

total, 100000, 15868, 15868, 15868, 11.5, 8.0, 31.6, 86.9, 88.9, 89.9, 7.0, 0.05107, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0

Results:

op rate : 14256 [WRITE:14256]

partition rate : 14256 [WRITE:14256]

row rate : 14256 [WRITE:14256]

latency mean : 14.2 [WRITE:14.2]

latency median : 9.5 [WRITE:9.5]

latency 95th percentile : 36.4 [WRITE:36.4]

latency 99th percentile : 107.0 [WRITE:107.0]

latency 99.9th percentile : 254.2 [WRITE:254.2]

latency max : 316.8 [WRITE:316.8]

Total partitions : 100000 [WRITE:100000]

Total errors : 0 [WRITE:0]

total gc count : 2

total gc mb : 592

total gc time (s) : 0

avg gc time(ms) : 102

stdev gc time(ms) : 13

Total operation time : 00:00:07

END

1. Now you can try a full test:  
   cassandra-stress mixed n=100000
2. At what thread count did you get the highest throughput? And the lowest latency?  
     
   **PART C – Loading data from CSV files into Cassandra**
3. Firstly, we need to create a database and a table in which to store our data. Start up the **cqlsh** again and type the following commands:

CREATE KEYSPACE wind   
WITH replication = {'class': 'SimpleStrategy', 'replication\_factor': '1'};  
  
USE wind;  
  
CREATE TABLE winddata (

stationid text,

time timestamp,

direction float,

temp float,

velocity float,

PRIMARY KEY (stationid, time)

);

1. In order to load the CSV files into Cassandra, we are going to use two Spark packages to help us. The first is the Databricks Spark CSV reader, and the second is the Cassandra plugin for Pyspark.   
   1. To use these, we need to start Pyspark with the correct command line. Start a terminal window and change into the Spark directory:  
        
      cd spark-1.5.1
   2. Now type the following:  
      bin/pyspark --packages \  
      TargetHolding:pyspark-cassandra:0.1.5,\  
      com.databricks:spark-csv\_2.11:1.2.0
   3. You should see an inordinate amount of log before you see:

15/11/12 14:53:48 INFO BlockManagerMaster: Registered BlockManager

Welcome to

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/\_\_ / .\_\_/\\_,\_/\_/ /\_/\\_\ version 1.5.1

/\_/

Using Python version 2.7.6 (default, Jun 22 2015 17:58:13)

SparkContext available as sc, SQLContext available as sqlContext.

1. Now we need to set up our imports:  
   In the shell type (or cut and paste from <http://freo.me/oxclo-spark-cass>)  
     
   from pyspark\_cassandra import CassandraSparkContext

from pyspark import SparkContext, SparkConf

import time

from datetime import datetime

from pyspark.sql import SQLContext

1. Next we need to stop the existing SparkContext. We want to create a special Cassandra-aware context and you can’t have two running at the same time:  
    sc.stop()
2. Next we need to initialize a CassandraSparkContext pointing to our local Cassandra:  
     
   conf = SparkConf() \  
    .setAppName("PySpark Cassandra Test")\  
    .setMaster("local")\  
    .set("spark.cassandra.connection.host", "127.0.0.1")  
     
   sc = CassandraSparkContext(conf=conf)  
     
   sqlContext = SQLContext(sc)
3. Before the next step make sure that HDFS is running!  
   Remember you can test it with:  
   hadoop fs –ls –R /  
   and start it with   
   start-dfs.sh
4. Now lets load the CSV files into a SQL Dataframe:  
   df = sqlContext.read.format('com.databricks.spark.csv').\  
   options(header='true', inferschema='true').\  
   load('hdfs://localhost:54310/user/oxclo/wind/\*')
5. Take a look at the data in df:  
   df.first()  
   After the log, you should see something like:  
     
   Row(Station\_ID=u'SF04', Station\_Name=u'Lincoln High School', Location\_Label=u'2162 24th Ave', Interval\_Minutes=5, Interval\_End\_Time=u'2015-01-5? 07:50', Wind\_Velocity\_Mtr\_Sec=0.979, Wind\_Direction\_Variance\_Deg=40.31, Wind\_Direction\_Deg=57.69, Ambient\_Temperature\_Deg\_C=6.297, Global\_Horizontal\_Irradiance=0.706)
6. We have two challenges. Firstly we want to map the Interval\_End\_Time into something we can put in Cassandra. Cassandra expects a Python datetime.datetime object.

This chunk of python will convert the string date/time into that:  
  
convertTime = lambda t: \  
datetime.fromtimestamp( \  
time.mktime(time.strptime(t, "%Y-%m-%d? %H:%M")))

1. Secondly, we need to create a Python dictionary with the right names for our Cassandra Table. This function does that. I recommend you cut and paste!  
     
   toDict = lambda s: \

dict(stationid=s.Station\_ID, \

time=convertTime(s.Interval\_End\_Time), \

direction=s.Wind\_Direction\_Deg, \

temp=s.Ambient\_Temperature\_Deg\_C, \

velocity=s.Wind\_Velocity\_Mtr\_Sec)

1. We need to map this function onto the data:  
     
   rdd2 = df.rdd.map(toDict)
2. Finally, we can do the work:  
     
   rdd2.saveToCassandra('wind', 'winddata')  
     
   This will take a bit longer!
3. Check that the data has loaded. In your **cqlsh** window type:  
     
   select \* from wind.winddata limit 15;
4. You should see something like:

stationid | time | direction | temp | velocity

-----------+--------------------------+-----------+-------+----------

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:00:00+0000 | 116.9 | 11.33 | 2.727

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:05:00+0000 | 108.5 | 11.25 | 1.814

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:10:00+0000 | 113.7 | 11.2 | 2.621

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:15:00+0000 | 117.8 | 11.11 | 3.678

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:20:00+0000 | 117.3 | 11.07 | 2.842

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:25:00+0000 | 117.3 | 11.07 | 2.629

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:30:00+0000 | 117.3 | 11.09 | 2.235

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:35:00+0000 | 117.2 | 11.09 | 2.043

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:40:00+0000 | 117.2 | 11.05 | 1.635

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:45:00+0000 | 117.3 | 10.93 | 2.224

SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:50:00+0000 | 112.5 | 10.86 | 1.822

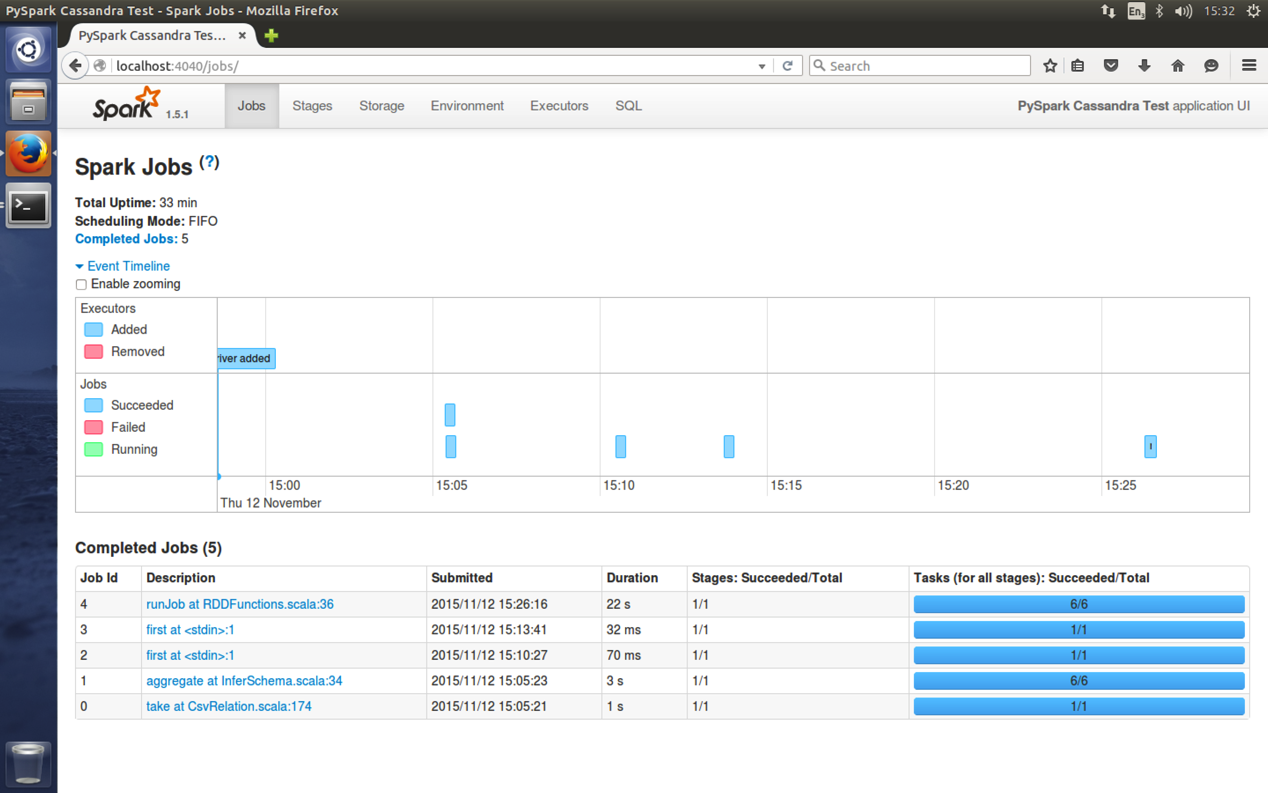
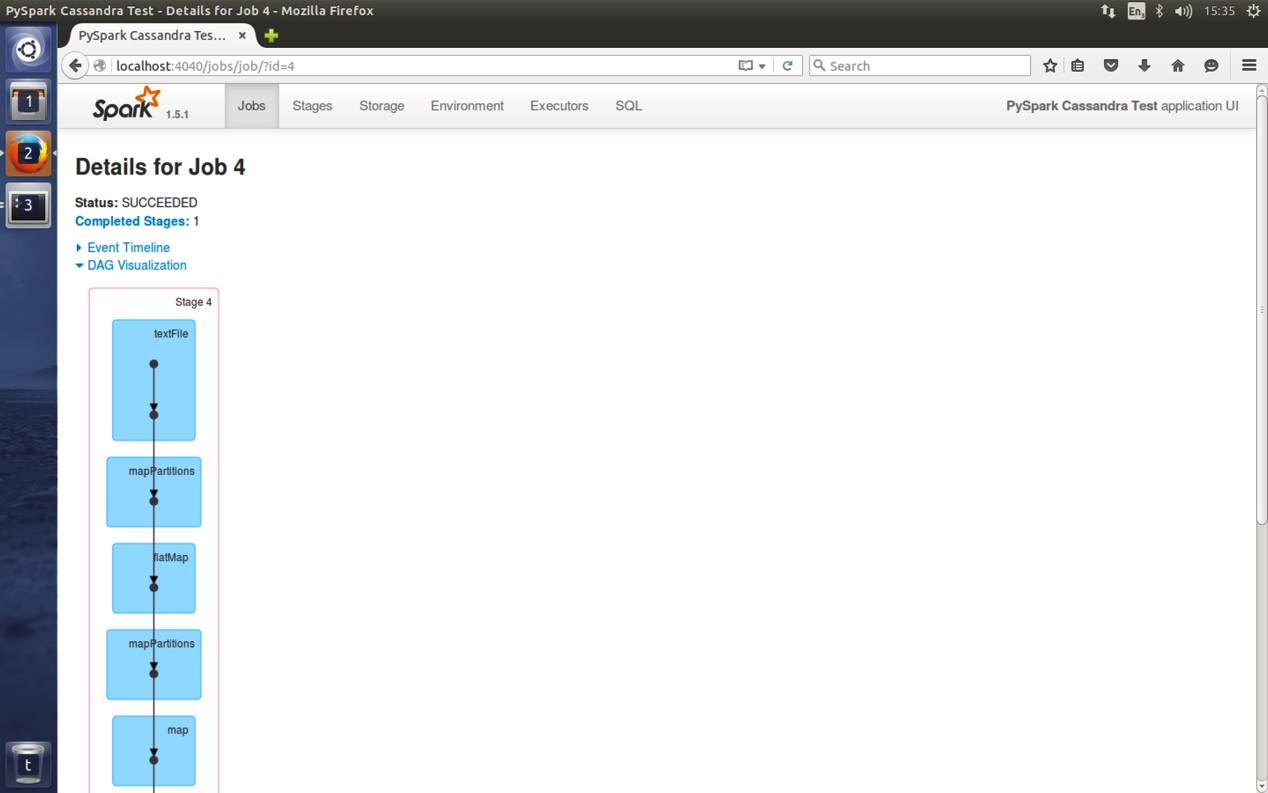
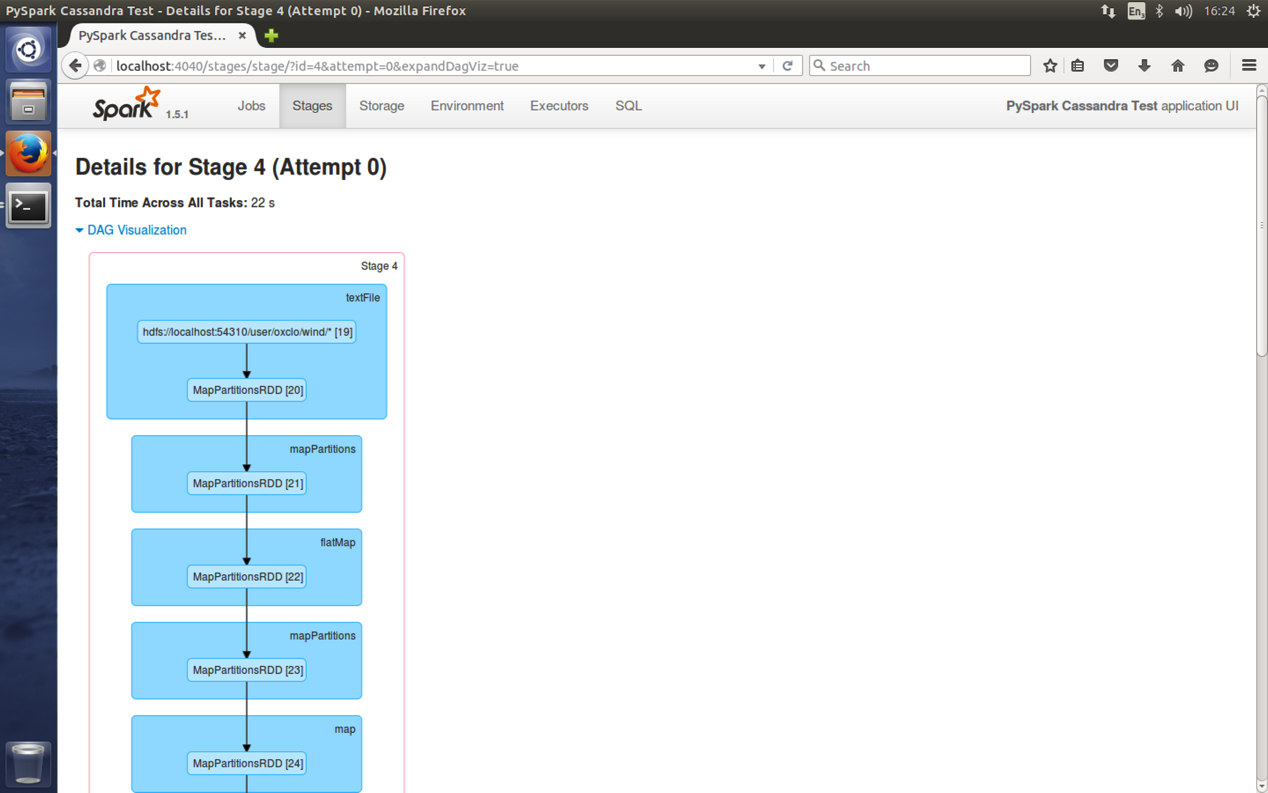
SF36 | 2015-01-01 00:55:00+0000 | 108.7 | 10.8 | 0.866

SF36 | 2015-01-01 01:00:00+0000 | 108.7 | 10.67 | 1.068

SF36 | 2015-01-01 01:05:00+0000 | 108.6 | 10.54 | 1.393

SF36 | 2015-01-01 01:10:00+0000 | 108.7 | 10.44 | 1.468

(15 rows)

1. Browse to <http://localhost:4040>   
   It will look similar to:  
   
2. Click on the most recent job:   
   
3. You can also get more details by clicking on a stage in the DAG (Directed Acyclic Graph) picture:  
   
4. Congratulations, you have finished this lab.