



DAY 10 – Performance Optimization



 databricks

14 DAYS

AI CHALLENGE

DAY 10

Topic:

Performance Optimization

Challenge:

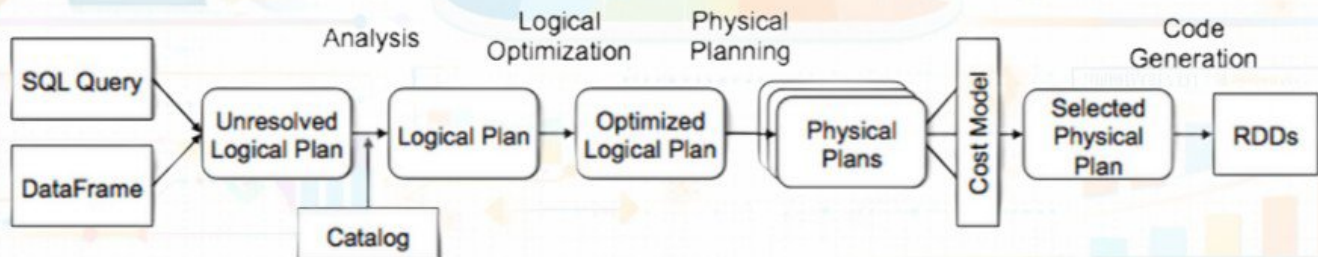
1. Analyze query plans
2. Partition large tables
3. Apply ZORDER
4. Benchmark improvements

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What is a Query Execution Plan?

- ♦ *A query execution plan shows how Spark runs your query internally*
- ♦ *Includes:*
 - *Table scans*
 - *Filters*
 - *Joins*
 - *Aggregations*
 - *Shuffles*
- ♦ *Helps identify performance bottlenecks*





Why Query Plans Matter? <<<>>>

- ◆ *Reveals why a query is slow*
- ◆ *Helps detect:*
 - *Full table scans*
 - *Expensive shuffles*
 - *Inefficient joins*
- ◆ *Essential for query tuning & optimization*

How to Analyze Query Plans

SQL :

```
EXPLAIN FORMATTED SELECT * FROM  
table;
```

PySpark:

```
df.explain(True)
```

Key things to look for:

- *Shuffle operations*
- *Filter pushdown*
- *Join strategies*



What is Partitioning?

- ◆ *Partitioning splits a table into folders based on a column*
- ◆ *Example:*
 - *order_date=2024-01-01*
 - *order_date=2024-01-02*
- ◆ *Reduces data scanned during queries*

Benefits of Partitioning

- *Faster query performance*
- *Lower compute cost*
- *Efficient filtering on partition columns*
- *Improves scalability for large datasets*



Partitioning Best Practices

- ◆ *Use low to medium cardinality columns*
- ◆ *Best columns:*
 - *Date, year, month*
- ◆ *Avoid:*
 - *High-cardinality columns (customer_id)*
- ◆ *Don't over-partition (small files problem)*



OPTIMIZE in Databricks

- *OPTIMIZE* compacts many small files into fewer large files
- Improves read performance
- Reduces file management overhead

```
OPTIMIZE sales_table;
```

What is ZORDER?

- *ZORDER* clusters related data inside files
- Improves query performance for selective filters
- Works best on high-cardinality columns

```
OPTIMIZE sales_table  
ZORDER BY (customer_id);
```




How to Cache Data

SQL :

```
CACHE TABLE sales_table;
```

PySpark:

```
df.cache()  
df.count()
```

Uncache when done :

```
UNCACHE TABLE sales_table;
```



When to Use Caching



Use caching for:

- *Dashboards*
- *Reused tables*
- *Intermediate datasets*



Avoid caching:

- *One-time queries*
- *Very large tables*
- *Memory-intensive workloads*