Laboratory Practice Report
Practice 12

November 22, 2023

Computer Systems Engineering

Cloud Architecture

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Abstract

The current development has the goal of following a step-by-step tutorial on how to handle big volumes of data in order to provide insightful presentations that could eventually lead to a business success case.

Inside the present contents, cloud usage advantages will also be demonstrated, as several remote services are used to achieve the stated goals in a seamless and direct way, reducing significantly configuration time to jump straight to action.

As the custom follows, a well known public cloud provider will be used to not only demonstrate the implementation, but to understand this same implementation, as it is possible by a workshop hosted by the same entity.

State of the Art

It is not strange to heard nowadays that data is the new oil, even stated before in the contents of the current course. Greed always makes a fragile person to want more, to desire quantity with preferably quality, so it's not strange to find concepts such as data mining, scrapping, and more benevolent, **data lakes**.

As defined by AWS [1], a data lake is a centralized repository that allows to store all structured and unstructured data at any scale. In fact, data can be stored without having to first structure it, and that's when the concept of ETL comes into play; ETL means Extract, Transform, and Load [2], an abstract maneuver of processing data at different stages, being them at start, progress, and end, as a general rule.

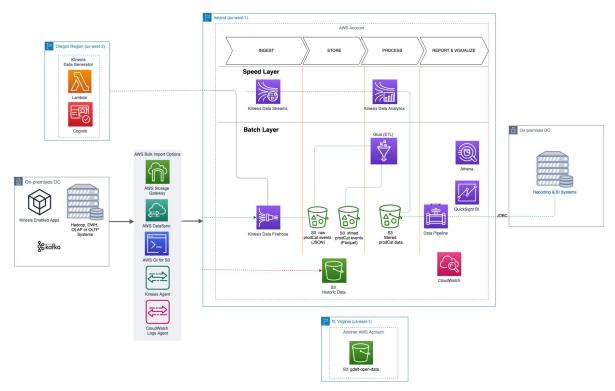
Both data lakes and ETL concepts are strongly linked, as having sparse data contained in the same location can result troublesome for analytics matters, although beneficial for ease of access. When combined together, business intelligence [3] solutions can be made in matter of mere hours having a well structured data flow or at least big amounts of information.

The current development has the goal of demonstrating several service usage through AWS provided resources in a public workshop made available exclusively for these matters. Although the complete implementation is a really heavy duty, each individual step demonstrates the platform's ability to link resources across several domains of use cases to address a common problematic.

The impact of doing this kind of developments resides in the importance of data, as in its pure state of simple bytes stored in disk arrays doesn't mean nothing, but, when taken through an appropriate process of handlers, it can even give support to enterprises devoted solemnly to provide other business with insightful reports to control their operations better, being this for sale optimization matters or decision taking acts.

Diagram

In this extremely rare occasion, the solution's diagram is provided. It looks like the following:



Although convenient, some discrepancies can be spotted, mainly the regions, as this proposal states the usage of European Union regions. This can be overlooked, but surely would make performance impacts in a real scenario, due to geographical circumstances.

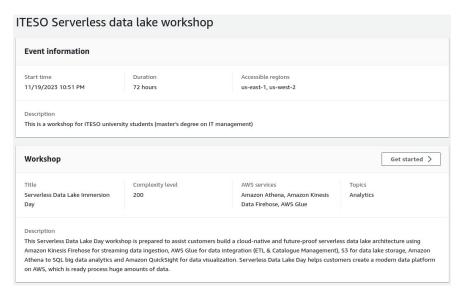
Practice Development

Introduction and prerequisites

Before digging into formal development, some considerations have to be taken, these primarily being AWS IAM [4] usage for IAM roles or OTP access. This step is basic, but if it isn't done properly, none of the following can be done.

Exploration

Similarly to a previously showed practice, the way of completing the current development is through an AWS hosted event. The details of accessing the *Serverless Data Lake Day* are spared. Once the workshop has been opened, a familiar panel will greet the user, stating the purpose of its contents.



Several services can be spotted, such as Athena [5], Kinesis Data Firehose [6], and Glue [7]. Each of these will be used in next sections.

Lab1: Data Ingestion & Storage

In this first part of the workshop, the user is presented with two options that will ultimately lead to the seam results: Batch Ingestion, and Real Time Streaming Data Ingestion. The main difference is Kinesis usage, with the first option lacking it altogether. For time constraint purposes, this is preferred, as the implementation is pretty straightforward.

The first step to this will be accessing CloudShell [8], this can be done inside AWS' console (located at the bottom left of the workshop, inside the panel). **Note**: Before doing so, change the region of the console from default value Oregon (us-west-2) to North Virginia (us-west-1), otherwise, errors will be prompt in subsequent steps.



AWS provides the following commands, which should be entered inside the console:

```
export MY_ACCOUNT_ID="$(aws sts get-caller-identity --query Account --output text)"

aws s3 cp s3://kat-tame-bda-immersion/raw/2019/06/18/20/ s3://sdl-immersion-day-

$MY_ACCOUNT_ID/raw/year=2019/month=06/day=18/hour=20/ --recursive

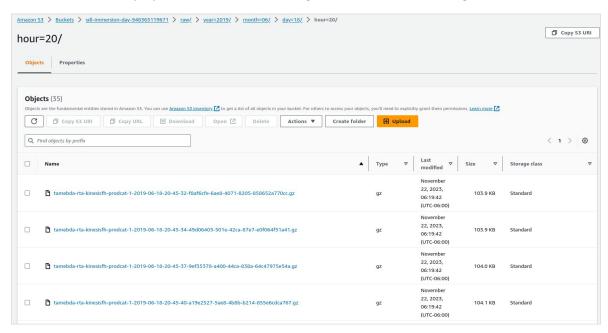
aws s3 cp s3://kat-tame-bda-immersion/raw/2019/06/18/21/ s3://sdl-immersion-day-

$MY_ACCOUNT_ID/raw/year=2019/month=06/day=18/hour=21/ --recursive
```

Multiple output lines will be displayed, and although it might seem cryptic, the presence of all these means that all has been set correctly. In fact, to verify this, search for the S3 service. A single

```
9-06-18-21-03-22-cc15a68d-bb74-4c4f-af86-c76e10d2decf.gz
copy: s3://kat-tame-bda-immersion/raw/2019/06/18/21/tamebc
3fa679d14b41.gz to s3://sdl-immersion-day-948365119671/raw
9-06-18-21-00-36-17e93af5-2be1-4602-9370-3fa679d14b41.gz
[cloudshell-user@ip-10-132-47-37 ~]$
[cloudshell-user@ip-10-132-47-37 ~]$ echo $MY_ACCOUNT_ID
948365119671
```

bucket should be displayed with its contents being several directories with .gz files inside.



This verification marks the end of the workshop's first part. Easy, right? At least for now. After this, CloudShell can be closed.

Lab2: Data Cataloging and ETL

As stated before, ETL stands for Extract, Transform, and Load; this term is often used in data streams where raw information is emitted and modifications are needed before passing it to third parties or another even another ETL process. There also exists the ELT (same terms, different order of execution) variant, in which transformation is made within the same workflow. In the current section, as it names suggest, previously imported data will be cataloged and processed.

The first step is to create a *crawler* for the S3 bucket containing all data. This is done through the Glue service's console. **Note**: several access to the AWS console will probably change it's region, just ensure that all actions made inside it are done trough us-east-1.

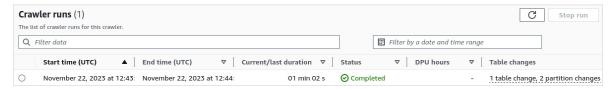
The specifications for this new crawler are the following:

- Name: sdl-demo-crawler
- Default data source configuration
 - Add a data source of type S3
 - Browse for the immersion day bucket and its raw directory
 - Select Crawl all sub-folders option
- Security settings
 - Select existing SDL-GlueRole IAM role
- Output and scheduling settings
 - Add database (this will take to another tab)
 - Name: sdl-demo-data
 - Refresh and select the created database

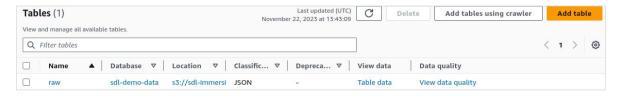
After all configurations are made, the crawler is created.



At this point, it's appropriate to mention that crawlers are components inside a data workflow that classify said data schema and then create metadata tables inside the same container catalog. A crawler run is the application of this concept.



Once the crawl it's complete, on the same service panel, the tables created from the crawl can be seen.



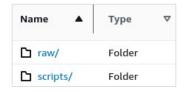
The next step is to modify this created table schema, as the crawler might've made some sort of mistake. First, locate the bottom of the table overview section an delete the existing partition index.

Once the previous indexes were modified, new ones will be created. To do so, search for *Actions* button and then *Edit schema* action. Select individually all rows from *year* to *hour* and assign partition indexes from 10 to 13 respectively, then save table as new version. After that, create a new one with an arbitrary name or the previous one (*crawler_partition_index*).



Each change done to the table creates a new version, so, if several changes were made, several new versions will be listed inside the version tab.

The next big step in this section will be the creation of a script directory inside the same S3 bucket, this will mimic a central repository for ETL. Having open the Glue service, open a new tab with the S3 service listing, then, select the bucket and create a new *scripts* directory inside it.



Now, in the open *Glue* tab, search for *ETL Jobs* in the side panel, where *Glue Studio* can be found. Once inside, create a new job through the visual ETL option. After this selection, a graphical interface will be displayed. Before digging deeper into this, switch to the job details tab and input the following parameters:

- Name: transform-json-to-parquet

IAM Role: SDL-GlueRole
Glue version: Glue 3.0
Language: Python 3
Worker type: G 1X
Advanced properties

Script filename: transform-json-to-parquet-py

Script path: Previously set script directory inside S3 path

Leave everything else as default and then **save** the details.



After this, return to visual tab to configure source & targets for the ETL transformation. Click on the add symbol located at the top left corner and select the sources tab, then, select S3. A new visual component inside the canvas will be shown; click it to bring up the data source properties. Inside this section, switch from default "S3 location" option to "Data Catalog table" and select the previously created Glue database (sdl-demo-data) with corresponding table (raw). This source status should now be in an *okay* status.

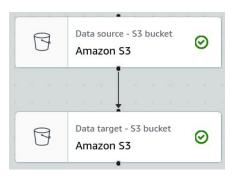
ITESO 7

Data source - S3 bucket

Amazon S3

Add another S3 node but now from the targets tab. Both nodes should be connected automatically. Configure it with the follow:

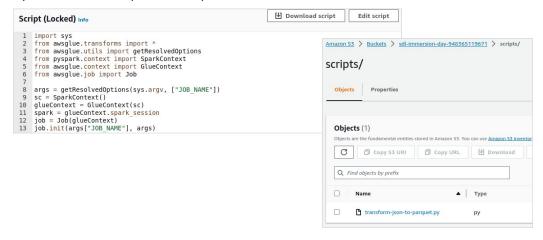
- Format: Parquet
- Compression type: Snappy
- Browse S3 and choose datalake bucket (immersion day)
- S3 location target: add /compressed-parquet/ to the bucket name (this will create a new directory)



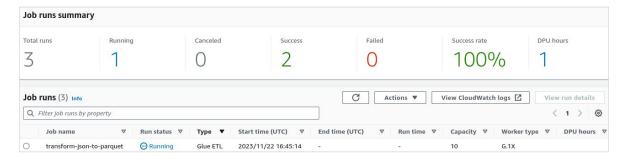
Next, select transforms tab and then "Change Schema" to apply a new mapping. In "Node parents" box, select "Amazon S3" option. Mark *color* field to drop and rename date fields to *date_start* and *date_until* (this may lag the panel a little bit). After that, select the target node, deselect the S3 data source and swap it to change schema, it'll link the recently configured node to the previous ones.



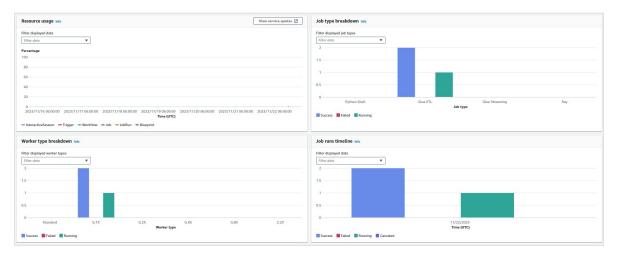
Once all this is done, **save** the job again. The job's generated script can be seen in the script tab or directly inside the S3 scripts directory.



With the job fully configured, it can be run and monitored. To run it, simply press the button from the same section as before. To monitor it, inside Glue Studio, search for "Job run monitoring". This management console shows details about all jobs runs.

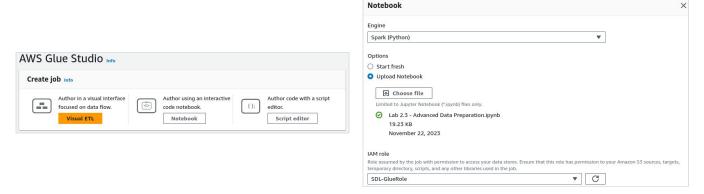


By selecting an individual run, more specific metrics can be seen at the inferior section of this console.



After each run, the S3 bucket will be updated inside the corresponding parquet path with several parquet files.

The next and final part of this workshop section covers Glue's interactive sessions through Jupyter notebooks. AWS provides <u>this</u> resource to save the hassle of a new notebook creation. Having the file downloaded from the source, it has to be uploaded as a new job inside the seen Glue Studio section.



After some time, an interactive Jupyter environment will be displayed. This workspace takes code snippets and runs them in an enclosed environment. The current file loaded has particular instructions that aid with connection and interfacing with AWS.

One of the first things prompted to do is changing the account number variable found in code snippet 1. To get this done, click on the top right of AWS' console and copy the Account ID field (there should be a copy button there), then replace the placeholder string without dashes. After the replacement is made, all code cells can be executed normally.

```
Welcome to the Glue Interactive Sessions Kernel
For more information on available magic commands, please type %help in any new cell.

Please view our Getting Started page to access the most up-to-date information on the Inte ractive Sessions kernel: https://docs.aws.amazon.com/glue/latest/dg/interactive-sessions.h tml
Installed kernel version: 0.38.1
Authenticating with environment variables and user-defined glue_role_arn: arn:aws:iam::948
365119671:role/SDL-GlueRole
Trying to create a Glue session for the kernel.
Worker Type: G.1X
Number of Workers: 5
Session ID: le250ca1-d2c2-4f36-9d7a-0ec98cled02d
Job Type: glueetl
Applying the following default arguments:
--glue_kernel_version 0.38.1
--enable-glue-datacatalog true
Waiting for session le250ca1-d2c2-4f36-9d7a-0ec98cled02d to get into ready status...
Session le250ca1-d2c2-4f36-9d7a-0ec98cled02d has been created.
```

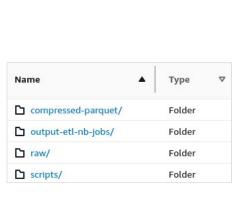
```
Count: 106000
root
|-- productName: string (nullable = true)
|-- color: string (nullable = true)
|-- department: string (nullable = true)
|-- department: string (nullable = true)
|-- product: string (nullable = true)
|-- product: string (nullable = true)
|-- dateSoldidnti: string (nullable = true)
|-- dateSoldidnti: string (nullable = true)
|-- dateSoldidnti: string (nullable = true)
|-- campajn: string (nullable = true)
|-- campajn: string (nullable = true)
|-- dateSoldidnti: string (nullable = true)
|-- dateSoldidnti: string (nullable = true)
|-- month: string (nullable = true)
|-- month: string (nullable = true)
|-- hour: string (nulla
```

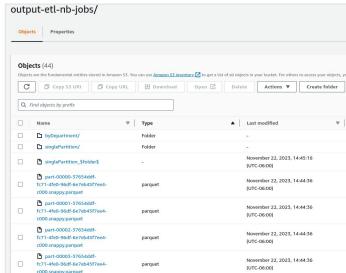
```
+----+
      productName| product|department|price| campaign|
+----+
|Awesome Plastic P...| Fish| Movies| 22|BlackFriday|
 Tasty Wooden Chips| Shirt|
                           Home
                                 42|BlackFriday|
Sleek Cotton Towels| Hat| Shoes|
Awesome Fresh Table| Bacon| Beauty|
                           Shoes| 137|BlackFriday|
                                  56|BlackFriday|
|Licensed Frozen P...|
                   Chair|
                           Games
                                  12|BlackFriday|
|Licensed Plastic ...|Computer|
                           Tools
                                  30|BlackFriday|
|Handmade Cotton P...|
                   Tuna
                            Toys
                                  60|BlackFriday|
|Gorgeous Metal Bacon| Mouse| Clothing|
                                  41|BlackFriday|
                         Garden| 114|BlackFriday|
   Tasty Rubber Hat| Chair|
|Rustic Plastic To...|
                           Games| 141|BlackFriday|
                   Tuna
+-----+
```

```
|-- productName: string (nullable = true)
|-- department: string (nullable = true)
|-- product: string (nullable = true)
|-- dateSoldSince: string (nullable = true)
|-- dateSoldUntil: string (nullable = true)
|-- price: integer (nullable = true)
|-- year: string (nullable = true)
|-- month: string (nullable = true)
|-- day: string (nullable = true)
|-- thumbnailImageUrl: string (nullable = true)
|-- campaignType: string (nullable = true)
----+----+
       productName|department| product|
                                    dateSoldSince|
year|month|day| thumbnailImageUrl|campaignType|
----+-----+
```

<awsglue.dynamicframe.DynamicFrame object at 0x7f69c9f4bc50>

The previous code run should leave the original S3 bucket with an additional directory called "output-etl-nb-jobs" with several contents inside.





Although an statement for section completion has already been issued, an additional exercise involving ETL automation through triggers is proposed. For time constraints, this demonstration will be skipped, but its core concept is that of creating a job that will be executed once a day to handle specified data through a ruleset.

This marks the end of the second section of the workshop.

Lab3: Data Analytics & Visualization

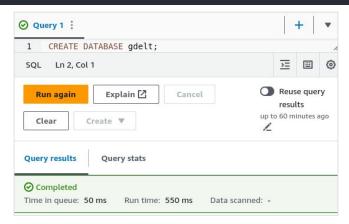
The final section of this workshops will handle bigger datasets than those seen before and will show them graphically in order to provide a deeper sense of understanding and an alternative way of presenting results.

For the first part, Athena service will be used. Inside it's own console section, search for "Launch query editor" button or "Query editor". Once inside, head for the settings tab and then click on manage to set query result location. Search for the immersion day S3 bucket and add /athenaresults/ at the end after selecting it.

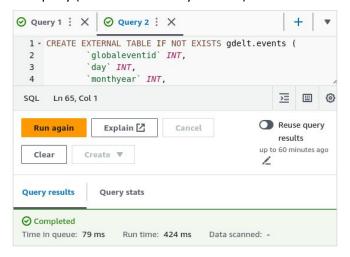


After that, locate the query editor box and input the following SQL statement:

CREATE DATABASE gdelt;



After that, a long creation guery (omitted for brevity reasons) will also be executed.



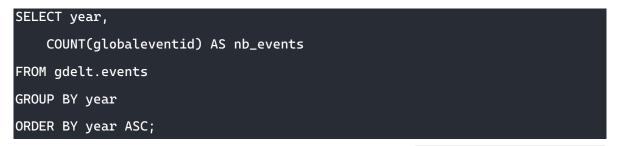
After the query completes successfully, four (1) (2) (3) (4) files have to been locally downloaded and then uploaded to the same S3 bucket inside a new directory named gdelt containing 4 folders with names *countries*, *eventcodes*, *groups* and *types*.

Once that is done, run the following SQL statements, one for each directory:

CREATE EXTERNAL TABLE IF NOT EXISTS gdelt.types (

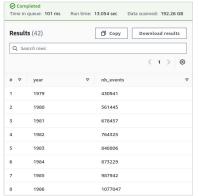
Evidently, replace the <YOUR_BUCKET_NAME> placeholder with the immersion day bucket name.

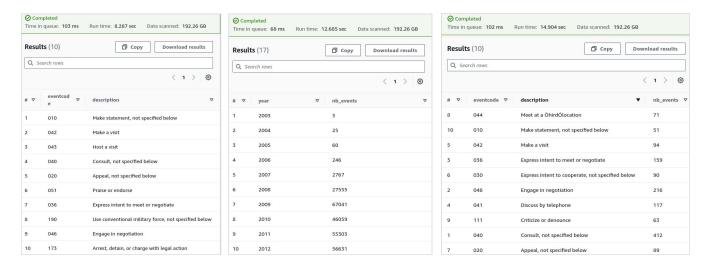
After each table creation has been made, run the next query to verify results (it should return number of events per year):



As seen on the left, results are being displayed after some processing time, this means that previous queries were correct and successful.

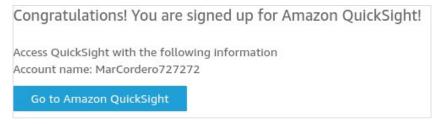
The following parts suggest more queries, which will be omitted, but results are shown below.



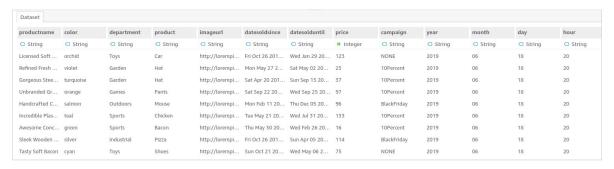


The next part involves QuickSight [9], another service for business intelligence (BI). When accessing it's panel for the first time, the user will be prompted with a sign up screen, as it requires an external account. Leave the default enterprise option selected and continue, skip the paginated add-on ad, and leave the rest as default except for account information, in which unique values are needed. Below account info, select Amazon Athena if it's not selected and then Amazon S3, a new window will be prompted, select the immersion day bucket; in the alternate tab inside the same popup

window, select the different bucket option and input gdelt-open-data as the name. After this, two buckets should be selected. The account creation may take some time.



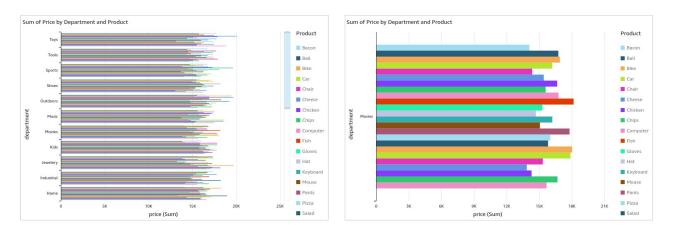
Having the newly created account, head to Amazon QuickSight and search for Data Sets on the left menu and then create a new one. The next screen will contain several data sources, select Athena. Give it a symbolic name and then create it. If everything was done correctly, the next screen should contain the previously created *sdl-demo-data* inside table sets, which has to be selected. Click on preview data to verify the table contents.



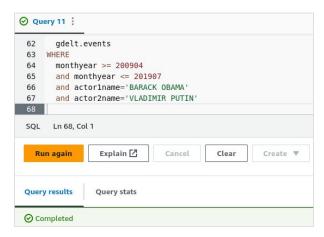
After everything has been verified, click on publish &visualize. An automatic redirection will be made to the new sheet screen. To demonstrate the current service, create an interactive sheet and search for the *horizontal bar chart* widget.



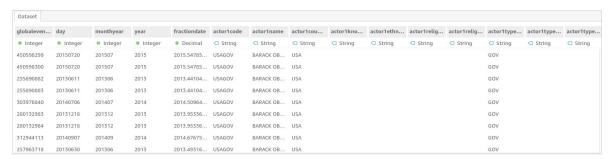
Set *department* as the column inside Y-Axis box, *price* in the Value box, and *product* in the Group/Color box. At first, multiple diminute colored lines will be displayed, but, as with any other dashboard, drill-down features are present to gaze upon better details of any selection.



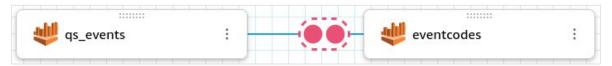
The next section will also use QuickSight, but now, it'll be used for S3 data visualization and dataset joining abilities. Inside the Athena service, the previously used *gdelt* table will be used again. Yet another long query will be executed, and yet again, for the same reasons, it's omitted here.



Similarly to the previous step, create a new dataset inside QuickSight with *existing* Athena data source and *gdelt* tableset and *qs_events* table. Preview the data.



After that, locate the *Add data* button on the top right corner and click it: data source > athena > table *eventcodes*. The visual editor now shows two tables with a join function between them.

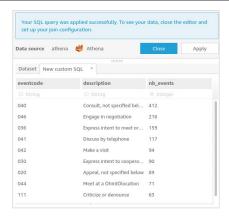


Apply the following configuration and proceed.

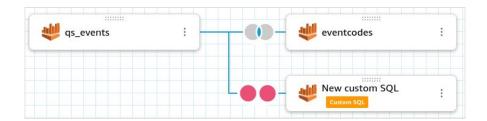


Repeat the same *Add data* process, but instead of manually selecting tables, go for the *Use custom SQL* function. Once inside the new screen, input the following query:

```
-- Count Obama/Putin events per category
SELECT eventcode,
```

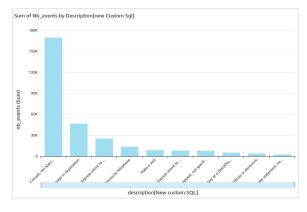


Once the query terminates, close the editor to see a new join operation available.



Set the join with the same configurations as before (use eventcode for both keys). After this, delete the eventcodes dataset, then publish & visualize.

To review these results, follow the same steps as before to create a dashboard view, but now use a vertical bart chart with description as X axis and nb events for Value.



As in another previous demonstration, the next final part will be purely theoretical, as the actual implementation requires more complex and heavier downloads, altogether with some configuration overkill for Linux.

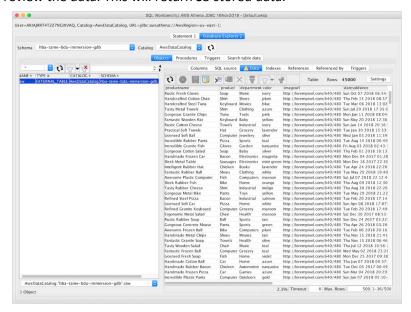
The first supposed step is to create long-lived IAM credentials inside AWS console, something thoroughly advised against by the same AWS, as it supposes a security risk. For this event, this is not necessary, as proper keys are provided.

```
export AWS_ACCESS_KEY_ID="ASIA5ZTXXKC3S2G24M5B"
export AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY="M/dySgNc0Z4myYnN1jwa0ecaaxbkMxmJ5amVjs/b"
export AWS_SESSION_TOKEN="IQoJb3JpZ2luX2VjEN///////wEaCXVzLWVhc3QtMSJGMEQCIC//ucxQF8D0qAyz9QH
```

Having these keys and SQL Workbench installed, follow these configuration steps:

- 1. Select File > Manage Drivers
- 2. Manage Drivers dialog box
 - a. Name = Athena JDBC Driver
 - b. Version = AthenaJDBC42.jar
 - c. Classname = com.simba.athena.jdbc.Driver
 - d. Sample URL = jdbc\:awsathena://AwsRegion=us-east-1
 - e. Username = AWS_ACCESS_KEY
 - f. Password = AWS SECRET ACCESS KEY
- 3. Extended properties
 - a. New property S3OutputLocation with value of the URL given for the immersion day S3 bucket and /Athena at the end

After this, open SQL Workbench and connect through the recently made configuration. After connection it's made, select Database Explorer inside the application, and then select the *sdl-demodata* schema. Preview the data. This will return S3 stored data.



This marks the end of this section and the workshop. Remember to end every resource created.

Problems and Solutions

No problems, and consequently, no solutions in this practice, as it was a step-by-step well document tutorial.

Experiments and Results

No experiments conducted this time, too archaic.

Budget Justification

Similarly to the diagram provided, another instance of extreme luck is that of cost information provision. This being said, the cost of monthly operating the seen implementation would be the following:

```
- Kinesis Firehose: < $0.1
```

– Athena: < \$5</p>

- Glue: < \$1

- S3: < \$0.1

- QuickSight: < \$10

Total: \approx \$16.2 USD (as of today)

This of course can be corroborated here.

Conclusions

This exhaustive demonstration was made possible only by the sheer fact that it's the last one of them all, at least for now. Although this might seem unflattering, rest assured that the knowledge gathered through the shown development it's definitely impactful and leaves behind a latent curiosity about data transformation.

In past activities, there were an opportunity to process raw data directly from memory latency checkers adapted inside some hardware motherboard, interfaced through a tool called *mlc*. Said process consisted in invoking the command line tool (extracting), placing the results inside Windows directories through dark magic made with bash (still extracting), creating a very case specific parsers with Python 3.8 and (loading) data through them, and then applying some modifications (transform) to finally pass the converted data to another unfortunate person. As it can be seen, this experience followed an ELT pattern implemented through very rudimentary methods. Based in this experience, the final conclusion to be stated is that AWS can be a blessing from time to time, saving tons of hours and countless headaches trying to implement something natively when it can be done in matter of seconds and just a few clicks away.

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