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<u>Ultimate Big Data Masters Program (Cloud Focused) by</u>
<u>Sumit Sir</u>

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# Higher Level APIs in Apache Spark

- 1. Dataframes
- 2. Spark SQL

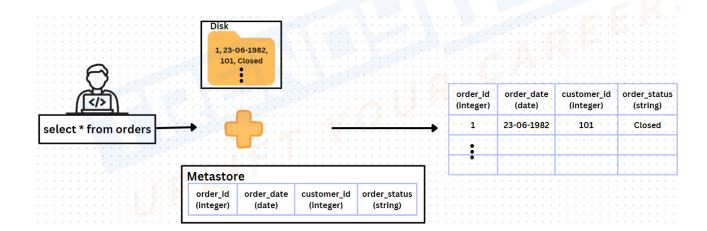
(Datasets is another language specific High Level API which is functional in case of Scala and Java and not with Python)

Previously we have understood about RDDs and its functionality -

RDDs consists of raw data distributed across partitions without any associated structure (schema/metadata)

**In case of Normal Databases**, where the data is stored in the form of tables, there are 2 things to it -

- 1. Actual Data
- 2. Schema / Metadata



#### In the case of Apache Spark,

1. Spark SQL/ Spark Table - Is Persistent over different sessions. Data files are stored on the Disk (any storage like Datalake / HDFS / S3) and the schema / metadata is in a Metastore (Database)

2. Dataframes - are in the form of RDDs with some structure / schema that is not Persistent as it is available only in that particular session. Data is stored in memory and Metadata is saved in a temporary metadata catalog.

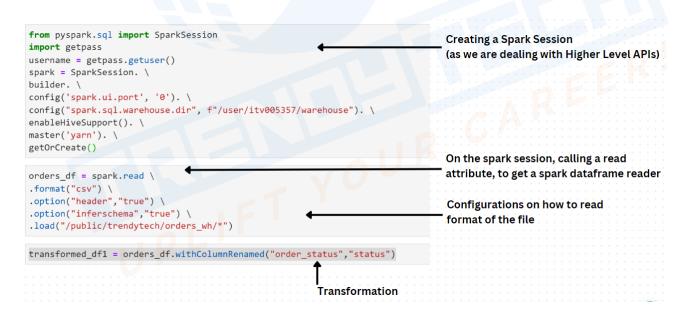
(Note: Why are Higher Level APIs more performant?

As the system, that is the spark engine is provided with more context to handle the data effectively with the help of metadata information.)

# **Working of Dataframes**

- 1. Load the data file and create a Spark Dataframe
- 2. Apply Transformations
- 3. Write the results back to Storage.

(Spark Session is an entry point to the Spark Cluster in case of Higher Level APIs. Spark Context is for lower level RDDs)



Note: Inferschema configuration attribute should be avoided as the inference of the data types may not always be correct and it takes some additional execution time to infer the schema.

#### **Dataframe Reader**

Standard way to create a Dataframe -

```
df = spark.read \
.format("csv") \
.option("header","true") \
.option("inferschema","true") \
.load("<file-path>")
```

#### Alternate shortcuts to create a Dataframe for different file formats :

#### CSV

```
df = spark.read \
.csv("<file-path>", header = "true", inferSchema = "true")
```

#### json

```
df = spark.read \
.ison("<file-path>")
```

parquet (column based file format with embedded schema and is most compatible with Spark)

```
df = spark.read \
.parquet("<file-path>")
```

#### orc

```
df = spark.read \
.orc("<file-path>")
```

#### Some transformations

#### **Filtering Data**

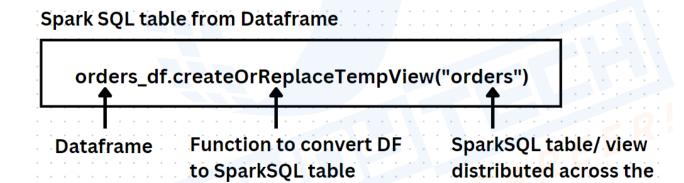
filtered\_df = orders\_df.where("customer\_id = 11599")



filtered\_df = orders\_df.filter("customer\_id = 11599")

# **Dataframes and Spark SQL table**

Dataframes and Spark SQL tables are interconvertible.



Now, we can execute normal SQL queries on the SparkSQL table view created from a Dataframe,

```
filtered_df = spark.sql("select * from orders where order_status = 'Closed'")
```

cluster

In order to be able to work in a normal SQL style (much convenient for SQL developers), a SparkSQL table view is created from a Dataframe.

#### **Converting from SparkSQL table to a Dataframe**

orders\_df = spark.read.table("orders")

orders\_df.show()

#### Other alternative to create a SparkSQL table from Dataframe

**createOrReplaceTempView** - **creates** a table. If the table exists, then it replaces the existing table without throwing any error.

**createTempView** - creates a table. If the table already exists, then it errors out, stating the table already exists.

**createGlobalTempView** - The table view will be visible across other applications as well. If the table already exists, then it errors out, stating the table already exists.

**createOrReplaceGlobalTempView** - replaces any existing table view with the newly created table.

# **Creating a Spark Table**

If a table is created without selecting the Database in which it has to be created, it will be created under the Default Database.

- To create Database

spark.sql("create database if not exists <Database-name-with-path>")

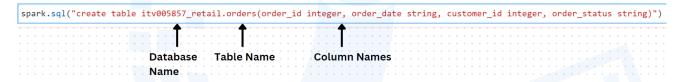
- To view the database

#### spark.sql("show databases")

- To view the databases with a certain pattern in their name
   spark.sql("show databases").filter("namespace like '<pattern>%"").show()
  - To view the tables

spark.sql("show tables").show()

#### To create spark sql table



Scenario: We have a temporary table (created using create TempView) with some data and we need to persist this data to a persistent table in the Database

```
spark.sql("insert into itv005857_retail.orders select * from orders")

Temporary View/
Table
```

To view the extended description of the table created, use the following command -

spark.sql("describe extended itv005857\_retail.orders").show()

The above table is a Managed Table. We know that the table consists of Data and Metadata

- 1. Metadata is in the metastore we can view this metadata using the describe table command
- 2. Data / actual data is stored in the directory (as highlighted in the above diagram as Location)

#### Note:

When a Managed table is dropped, both the data and metadata are deleted

#### **Types of Tables**

- 1. Managed Table
- 2. External Table

#### **Managed Table**

- Create an empty table
- Load the data from a temporary view / table
- When this table is dropped, both the data and metadata is lost

#### Ex:

spark.sql("create table itv005857\_retail.orders(order\_id integer, order\_date string, customer\_id integer, order\_status string) using csv")

#### **External Table**

- The data is already present in a specific location and a structure has to be created to get a tabular view
- When this table is dropped, only the metadata is lost.

#### Ex:

spark.sql("create table itv005857\_retail.orders(order\_id integer, order\_date string, customer\_id integer, order\_status string) using csv location '/public/trendytech/retail\_db/orders' ")

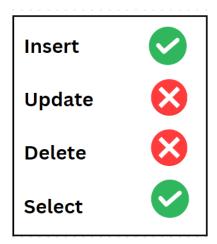
#### **Managed Table Vs External Table**

-When the data is owned by a single user then Managed tables could be used.

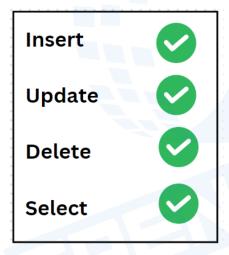
-However, if multiple users are accessing the data kept at a centralized location, then it is best to use external tables. With this, the data remains intact as the users just reuse the data by applying the schema on the existing data but cannot delete the data.

#### **DML Operations**

In case of open source Apache Spark:



However, In case of Databricks:



# Working with Spark SQL API Vs Dataframe API

Use cases to understand the working of these higher level APIs

Top 15 customers who placed most number of orders
 DataFrame way -

result = ordersdf.groupBy("customer\_id").count().sort("count",
ascending = false).limit(15)

#### SparkSQL way -

result = spark.sql("select customer\_id, count(order\_id) as count from orders group by customer\_id order by count desc limit 15")

2. Find the number of orders under each order status

DataFrame way -

```
result = ordersdf.groupBy("order_status").count()
```

[Note: count in this case when used with groupBy is a transformation as there is still scope for parallel processing]

SparkSQL way -

result = spark.sql("select order\_status, count(order\_id) as count from orders group by order\_status")

3. Number of active customers (customers who have placed atleast one order)

DataFrame way -

```
results = ordersdf.select("customer_id").distinct().count()
```

[Note: count in this case when used directly would be an action and the result is captured in a local variable.]

SparkSQL way -

results = spark.sql("select count(distinct(customer\_id)) as active\_customers from orders")

4. Customers with most number of orders

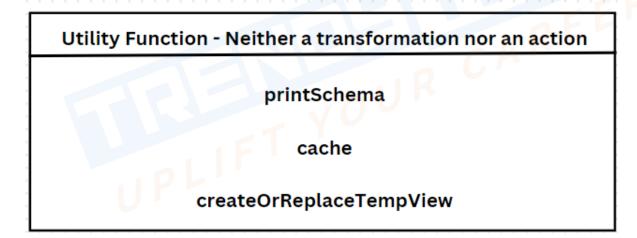
DataFrame way -

```
results = ordersdf.filter("order_status = 
'CLOSED'".groupBy("customer_id").count().sort("count", ascending = 
false )
```

#### SparkSQL way -

results = spark.sql("select customer\_id, count(order\_id) as count from orders where order\_status = 'CLOSED' group by customer\_id order by count desc")

Examples of Action	Examples of Transformation
count	groupBy.count
show	orderBy
head	filter
tail	distinct
take	join
collect	



## **Spark Optimizations / Performance Tuning**

#### **Types of Optimizations:**

1. Application Code Level Optimization

Ex- Usage of Cache, Using reduceByKey instead of groupByKey

2. Cluster Level Optimization / Resource level Optimization

**Containers / Executors** 

#### **Resource Level Optimization -**

In order for a job to run efficiently, the right amount of resources should be allocated.

Resources include -

Memory (RAM)

**CPU cores (Compute)** 

#### Scenario:

Consider a 10 node cluster (i.e., 10 worker nodes). Each machine has the following resources

16 CPU cores & 64GB RAM

**Executor / Container / JVM** - Is a container of resources (CPU & RAM). A single node can have more than one executor.

What is the ideal number of executors that a node can have for efficient processing?

#### **Strategies for creating Containers**

Thin Executors	Fat Executors
-Idea : More executors created holding minimal resources -total 16 executors -each executor holding 1 CPU core and 4GB RAM	-Idea : Give maximum resources to each executor -total 1 executor -each executor holding 16 CPU core and 64GB RAM
-Drawback: 1. No Multithreading 2. Shared variables leads to many copies	-Drawback: 1. HDFS throughput suffers 2. Takes a lot of time for garbage collection

## Right / Balanced strategy for creating Containers

We have 16 cores and 64GB RAM

1 core goes for background activity

1GB RAM is allocated to the Operating System

Therefore, left with 15 cores and 63GB RAM Requirement:

1.Multithreading within executor 2.HDFS throughput shouldn't suffer

5 cores and 21GB RAM / executor is considered ideal

Overhead / off heap memory = max(384MB, 7% of executor memory)

~ 1.5 GB (Not part of containers)

Therefore, 21GB - 1.5GB = 19GB

=> Each worker node can have ~ 3 executors

Each executor holds - 5 CPU cores & 19GB RAM

