

# Querying ~~1.6~~ 1.8 billion reddit comments with python

Daniel Rodriguez / PyData NYC / Nov 11, 2015

[github.com/danielfrg/pydata-nyc-2015](https://github.com/danielfrg/pydata-nyc-2015) (<https://github.com/danielfrg/pydata-nyc-2015>)

# About me

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[1] Yes, it's spelled like that, with two 'o's. Columbia with a 'u' is a university in New York City. It's not that hard: CoLOmbia is a cOuntry, CoLUmbia is a University.

# What is this talk about?

Querying 1.8 billion reddit comments with python

And how you can do it

- Data science "friendly" clusters
- ETL plus a little bit on data formats
  - Parquet
- Querying data with some new python libraries that target remote engines
  - Impala

Assumes some basic knowledge of big data tools like HDFS, Map Reduce, Spark or similar

More info at: <http://blaze.pydata.org/blog/2015/09/16/reddit-impala/>  
(<http://blaze.pydata.org/blog/2015/09/16/reddit-impala/>)

**Data**

Data



reddit

The frontpage of the Internet

# Data

I have every publicly available Reddit comment for research. ~ 1.7 billion comments @ 250 GB compressed. Any interest in this?

([https://www.reddit.com/r/datasets/comments/3bxlg7/i\\_have\\_every\\_publicly\\_available\\_reddit\\_co](https://www.reddit.com/r/datasets/comments/3bxlg7/i_have_every_publicly_available_reddit_co)

I have every publicly available Reddit comment for research. ~ 1.7 billion comments @ 250 GB compressed. Any interest in this?

submitted 4 months ago \* by [Stuck\\_In\\_the\\_Matrix](#) 🤖

I am currently doing a massive analysis of Reddit's entire publicly available comment dataset. The dataset is ~1.7 billion JSON objects complete with the comment, score, author, subreddit, position in comment tree and other fields that are available through Reddit's API.

I'm currently doing NLP analysis and also putting the entire dataset into a large searchable database using Sphinxsearch (also testing ElasticSearch).

This dataset is over 1 terabyte uncompressed, so this would be best for larger research projects. If you're interested in a sample month of comments, that can be arranged as well. I am trying to find a place to host this large dataset -- I'm reaching out to Amazon since they have open data initiatives.

**EDIT: I'm putting up a Digital Ocean box with 2 TB of bandwidth and will throw an entire months worth of comments up (~5 gigs compressed) It's now a torrent. This will give you guys an opportunity to examine the data. The file is structured with JSON blocks delimited by new lines (\n).**

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One month of comments is now available here:

**Download Link:** [Torrent](#)

**Direct Magnet File:** magnet:?xt=urn:btih:32916ad30ce4c90ee4c47a95bd0075e44ac15dd2&dn=RC%5F2015-01.bz2&tr=udp%3A%2F%2Ftracker.openbittorrent.com%3A80&tr=udp%3A%2F%2Fopen.demonii.com%3A1337&tr=udp%3A%2F%2Ftracker.coppersurfer.tk%3A6969&tr=udp%3A%2F%2Ftracker.leechers-paradise.org%3A6969

**Tracker:** udp://tracker.openbittorrent.com:80

**Total Comments:** 53,851,542

**Compression Type:** bzip2 (5,452,413,560 bytes compressed | 31,648,374,104 bytes uncompressed)

**md5:** a3fc3d9db18786e4486381a7f37d08e2 RC\_2015-01.bz2

# Data











Is available on S3: `s3://blaze-data/reddit/json`

Upload

Create Folder

Actions ▾

All Buckets / blaze-data / reddit / json

	Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2007
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2008
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2009
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2010
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2011
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2012
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2013
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2014
<input type="checkbox"/>	 2015
<input type="checkbox"/>	 README

New monthly dumps at: <http://pan.whatbox.ca:36975/reddit/comments/monthly/>  
(<http://pan.whatbox.ca:36975/reddit/comments/monthly/>)

# Clusters



# Clusters

Big Data technologies (Hadoop zoo) are here to stay

Really good management tools for IT/DevOps people from Cloudera and Hortonworks

- Automated deployment and configuration
- Customizable monitoring and reporting
- Effortless, robust troubleshooting
- Zero downtime maintenance: rolling upgrades and rollbacks
- Security: Kerberos, LDAP

# Clusters

Data science "friendly" clusters

Some of the features before plus:

- Data analysis packages and environment management
- Interactive access to the cluster (Jupyter Notebook)
- Short living clusters (?)
- CLI instead of UI (?)
- More freedom (?)

Still requires to know what you are doing: AWS, Keypairs, Security groups, SSH.

No need to hide stuff. No magic.

# Clusters: Anaconda Cluster

- Resource management tool that allows users to easily create, provision, and manage bare-metal or cloud-based clusters.
- It enables management of Conda environments on clusters
- Provides integration, configuration, and setup management for Hadoop
- Supported platforms include Amazon Web Services, physical machines, or even a collection of virtual machines.

<http://docs.continuum.io/anaconda-cluster> (<http://docs.continuum.io/anaconda-cluster>)

```
$ conda install anaconda-client  
$ anaconda login  
$ conda install anaconda-cluster -c anaconda-cluster
```

Not open source: 4 free nodes

Soon 16 free nodes in the cloud 4 in-house

# Clusters: Anaconda Cluster

Provider:

```
aws:
  cloud_provider: ec2
  keyname: {{ keyname in aws }}
  location: us-east-1
  private_key: ~/.ssh/{{ keyname in aws }}.pem
  secret_id: {{ aws key }}
  secret_key: {{ aws secret }}
```

Profile:

```
name: impala-profile
provider: aws
user: ubuntu
num_nodes: 10
node_id: ami-08faa660 # Ubuntu 12.04
node_type: m3.2xlarge
root_size: 1000
plugins:
  - hdfs:
      namenode_dirs:
        - /data/dfs/nn
      datanode_dirs:
        - /data/dfs/dn
  - hive
  - impala
  - notebook
```

Launch cluster:

```
$ acluster create impala-cluster -p impala-profile
```

# Clusters: Anaconda Cluster

## **acluster**

```
$ acluster create name -p profile
```

```
$ acluster destroy
```

```
$ acluster ssh
```

```
$ acluster cmd 'date'
```

```
$ acluster cmd 'apt-get install build-essential' --sudo
```

```
$ acluster conda install numpy
```

```
$ acluster conda install my_pkg -c channel
```

```
$ acluster submit script.py
```

```
$ acluster put script.py /tmp/script.py
```

```
$ acluster get /tmp/script.py script.py
```

# Clusters: Anaconda Cluster

## **acluster install**

```
$ acluster install hdfs
$ acluster install hive
$ acluster install impala

$ acluster install elasticsearch
$ acluster install kibana
$ acluster install logstash

$ acluster install notebook
$ acluster install spark-standalone
$ acluster install spark-yarn

$ acluster install storm

$ acluster install ganglia
```

# Clusters: Anaconda Cluster

```
$ acluster conda install -c r r-essentials  
Installing packages on cluster "impala": r-essentials
```

```
Node "ip-172-31-0-186.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-190.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-182.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-189.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-191.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-183.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-184.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-187.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-185.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1  
Node "ip-172-31-0-188.ec2.internal":  
  Successful actions: 1/1
```

# Clusters: DataScienceBox

Pre Anaconda Cluster: Command line utility to create instances in the cloud ready for data science. Includes conda package management plus some Big Data frameworks (spark).

<https://github.com/danielfrg/datasciencebox> (<https://github.com/danielfrg/datasciencebox>)

```
$ pip install datasciencebox
```

CLI will be available:

```
$ datasciencebox
```

```
$ dsb
```

```
$ dsb up
```

```
$ dsb install miniconda
```

```
$ dsb install conda numpy
```

```
$ dsb install notebook
```

```
$ dsb install hdfs
```

```
$ dsb install spark
```

```
$ dsb install impala
```



# Clusters: Under the Hood

Both DSB and AC use a very similar approach: SSH for basic stuff and then use Salt



Salt: <https://github.com/saltstack/salt> (<https://github.com/saltstack/salt>)

- 100% free and open source
- Fast: ZMQ instead of SSH
- Secure
- Scalable to thousands of nodes
- Declarative yaml language instead of bash scripts

```
numpy-install:  
  conda.installed:  
    - name: numpy  
    - require:  
      - file: config-file
```

- A lot of free formulas online

**Data**

# Data: Moving the data

Move data from S3 to our HDFS cluster

```
hadoop distcp -Dfs.s3n.awsAccessKeyId={{ }} -Dfs.s3n.awsSecretAccessKey={{ }}  
s3n://blaze-data/reddit/json/**/*.json /user/ubuntu
```

# Data: Parquet



Apache Parquet is a columnar storage format available to any project in the Hadoop ecosystem, regardless of the choice of data processing framework, data model or programming language.

# Data: Parquet

SSN	Name	Age	Addr	City	St
101259797	SMITH	88	899 FIRST ST	JUNO	AL
892375862	CHIN	37	16137 MAIN ST	POMONA	CA
318370701	HANDU	12	42 JUNE ST	CHICAGO	IL

101259797|SMITH|88|899 FIRST ST|JUNO|AL 892375862|CHIN|37|16137 MAIN ST|POMONA|CA 318370701|HANDU|12|42 JUNE ST|CHICAGO|IL

**Block 1**

**Block 2**

**Block 3**

SSN	Name	Age	Addr	City	St
101259797	SMITH	88	899 FIRST ST	JUNO	AL
892375862	CHIN	37	16137 MAIN ST	POMONA	CA
318370701	HANDU	12	42 JUNE ST	CHICAGO	IL

101259797 | 892375862 | 318370701 468248180 | 378568310 | 231346875 | 317346551 | 770336528 | 277332171 | 455124598 | 735885647 | 387586301

**Block 1**

---

[1] [http://docs.aws.amazon.com/redshift/latest/dg/c\\_columnar\\_storage\\_disk\\_mem\\_mgmnt.html](http://docs.aws.amazon.com/redshift/latest/dg/c_columnar_storage_disk_mem_mgmnt.html)

# Data: Load

```
hive > CREATE TABLE reddit_json (  
    archived                boolean,  
    author                  string,  
    author_flair_css_class  string,  
    author_flair_text       string,  
    body                    string,  
    controversiality        int,  
    created_utc             string,  
    distinguished           string,  
    downs                   int,  
    edited                  boolean,  
    gilded                  int,  
    id                     string,  
    link_id                 string,  
    name                    string,  
    parent_id               string,  
    removal_reason          string,  
    retrieved_on            timestamp,  
    score                   int,  
    score_hidden            boolean,  
    subreddit               string,  
    subreddit_id            string,  
    ups                     int  
)  
ROW FORMAT  
    serde 'com.amazon.elasticmapreduce.JsonSerde'  
    with serdeproperties ('paths'='archived,author,author_flair_css_class,author_flai  
r_text,body,controversiality,created_utc,distinguished,downs,edited,gilded,id,link_i  
d,name,parent_id,removal_reason,retrieved_on,score,score_hidden,subreddit,subreddit_i  
d,ups');  
  
hive > LOAD DATA INPATH '/user/ubuntu/*.json' INTO TABLE reddit_json;
```

# Data: Transform

```
hive > CREATE TABLE reddit_parquet (  
  archived          boolean,  
  author            string,  
  author_flair_css_class string,  
  author_flair_text string,  
  body             string,  
  controversiality  int,  
  created_utc       string,  
  distinguished     string,  
  downs            int,  
  edited           boolean,  
  gilded           int,  
  id               string,  
  link_id           string,  
  name             string,  
  parent_id        string,  
  removal_reason    string,  
  retrieved_on      timestamp,  
  score            int,  
  score_hidden      boolean,  
  subreddit         string,  
  subreddit_id      string,  
  ups              int,  
  created_utc_t     timestamp  
)  
STORED AS PARQUET;
```

```
hive > SET dfs.block.size=1g;
```

```
hive > INSERT OVERWRITE TABLE reddit_parquet select *, cast(cast(created_utc as doubl  
e) as timestamp) as created_utc_t FROM reddit_json;
```

# Querying





# Querying

Using the regular hive/impala shell

```
impala > invalidate metadata;
```

```
impala > SELECT count(*) FROM reddit_parquet;
```

```
Query: select count(*) FROM reddit_parquet
```

count(*)
1830807828

```
Fetches 1 row(s) in 4.88s
```

# Querying with python

Numpy and Pandas like API that targets not local files but another engines

SQL:

- Postgres
- Impala
- Hive
- Spark SQL

NoSQL:

- Mongo DB
- Still local files

Projects:

- Blaze: [github.com/blaze/blaze](https://github.com/blaze/blaze) (<https://github.com/blaze/blaze>)
- Ibis: [github.com/cloudera/ibis](https://github.com/cloudera/ibis) (<https://github.com/cloudera/ibis>)

# Blaze

An interface to query data on different storage systems

Code at <https://github.com/blaze/blaze> (<https://github.com/blaze/blaze>)

Blaze ecosystem: <http://blaze.pydata.org> (<http://blaze.pydata.org>)

```
In [1]: import blaze as bz  
import pandas as pd
```

```
In [2]: data = bz.Data('impala://54.209.0.148/default::reddit_parquet')
```

# Blaze

Number of comments

```
In [4]: data.id.count()
```

```
Out[4]: 1830807828
```

```
In [5]: print(bz.compute(data.id.count()))
```

```
SELECT count(reddit_parquet.id) AS id_count  
FROM reddit_parquet
```

# Blaze

Total number of up votes

```
In [6]: n_up_votes = data.ups.sum()
```

```
In [7]: print(bz.compute(n_up_votes))
```

```
SELECT sum(reddit_parquet.ups) AS ups_sum  
FROM reddit_parquet
```

```
In [8]: %time int(n_up_votes)
```

```
CPU times: user 22.4 ms, sys: 6.84 ms, total: 29.2 ms  
Wall time: 3.69 s
```

```
Out[8]: 9696701385
```

# Blaze

Counting the total number of posts in the /r/soccer subreddit

```
In [9]: n_posts_in_r_soccer = data[data.subreddit == 'soccer'].id.count()
```

```
In [10]: print(bz.compute(n_posts_in_r_soccer))
```

```
SELECT count(alias_1.id) AS id_count
FROM (SELECT reddit_parquet.id AS id
FROM reddit_parquet
WHERE reddit_parquet.subreddit = %(subreddit_1)s) AS alias_1
```

```
In [11]: %time int(n_posts_in_r_soccer)
```

```
CPU times: user 28.6 ms, sys: 8.61 ms, total: 37.2 ms
Wall time: 5 s
```

```
Out[11]: 13078620
```

# Blaze

Counting the number of comments before a specific hour

```
In [12]: before_1pm = data.id[bz.hour(data.created_utc_t) < 13].count()
```

```
In [13]: print(bz.compute(before_1pm))
```

```
SELECT count(alias_3.id) AS id_count
FROM (SELECT reddit_parquet.id AS id
FROM reddit_parquet
WHERE EXTRACT(hour FROM reddit_parquet.created_utc_t) < %(param_1)s) AS alias_3
```

```
In [14]: %time int(before_1pm)
```

```
CPU times: user 32.7 ms, sys: 9.88 ms, total: 42.6 ms
Wall time: 5.54 s
```

```
Out[14]: 812870494
```

# Blaze

Plotting the daily frequency of comments in the /r/IAmA subreddit

```
In [15]: iama = data[(data.subreddit == 'IAmA')]
```

```
In [16]: days = (bz.year(iama.created_utc_t) - 2007) * 365 + (bz.month(iama.created_utc_t) - 1)
          * 31 + bz.day(iama.created_utc_t)
```

```
In [17]: iama_with_day = bz.transform(iama, day=days)
```

```
In [18]: by_day = bz.by(iama_with_day.day, posts=iama_with_day.created_utc_t.count())
```



# Blaze

Plotting the daily frequency of comments in the /r/IAmA subreddit

Pandas

```
In [19]: by_day_result = bz.odo(by_day, pd.DataFrame) # Actually triggers the computation
```

```
In [20]: by_day_result.head()
```

Out[20]:

	day	posts
0	2405	16202
1	2978	2361
2	1418	5444
3	1874	8833
4	1257	4480

```
In [21]: by_day_result = by_day_result.sort_values(by=['day'])
```

```
In [22]: rng = pd.date_range('5/28/2009', periods=len(by_day_result), freq='D')  
by_day_result.index = rng
```

# Blaze

Plotting the daily frequency of comments in the /r/IAmA subreddit

```
In [23]: from bokeh._legacy_charts import TimeSeries, output_notebook, show
```

```
In [24]: output_notebook()
```

(<http://bokeh.pydata.org>)  
BokehJS successfully loaded.

# Ibis

Ibis is a new Python data analysis framework with the goal of enabling data scientists and data engineers to be as productive working with big data as they are working with small and medium data today. In doing so, we will enable Python to become a true first-class language for Apache Hadoop, without compromises in functionality, usability, or performance

Code at:

More info: <http://www.ibis-project.org> (<http://www.ibis-project.org>)

# Ibis

Number of posts with more than 1k up votes

```
In [1]: import ibis
        from ibis.impala.compiler import to_sql

        import pandas as pd
```

```
In [2]: ibis.options.interactive = True
        ibis.options.sql.default_limit = 20000
```

```
In [3]: hdfs = ibis.hdfs_connect(host='52.91.39.64')
        con = ibis.impala.connect(host='54.208.255.126', hdfs_client=hdfs)
```

```
In [4]: data = con.table('reddit_parquet')
```

# Ibis

```
In [5]: data.schema()
```

```
Out[5]: ibis.Schema {
          archived          boolean
          author             string
          author_flair_css_class string
          author_flair_text  string
          body               string
          controversiality   int32
          created_utc        string
          distinguished      string
          downs              int32
          edited             boolean
          gilded             int32
          id                 string
          link_id            string
          name               string
          parent_id          string
          removal_reason     string
          retrieved_on       timestamp
          score              int32
          score_hidden       boolean
          subreddit          string
          subreddit_id       string
          ups                int32
          created_utc_t      timestamp
      }
```

# Ibis

Number of posts with more than 1k up votes

```
In [6]: more_than_1k = data[data.ups >= 1000]
```

```
In [7]: month = (more_than_1k.created_utc_t.year() - 2007) * 12 + more_than_1k.created_utc_t.month()
month = month.name('month')
```

```
In [8]: with_month = more_than_1k['id', month]
```

```
In [9]: posts = with_month.count()
groups = with_month.aggregate([posts], by='month')
```

```
In [10]: month_df = groups.execute()
```

# Ibis

Number of posts with more than 1k up votes

Pandas

```
In [11]: month_df = month_df.set_index('month')
month_df.sort_index(inplace=True)
rng = pd.date_range('10/01/2007', periods=len(month_df), freq='M')
month_df.index = rng
```

```
In [12]: from bokeh._legacy_charts import TimeSeries, output_notebook, show

output_notebook()
```

(<http://bokeh.pydata.org>)  
BokehJS successfully loaded.

# Spark?

Data is on HDFS in Parquet, Spark is happy with that

```
In [ ]: from pyspark.sql import SQLContext
sqlContext = SQLContext(sc)
```

```
In [ ]: # Read in the Parquet file
parquetFile = sqlContext.read.parquet("people.parquet")

# Parquet files can also be registered as tables and then used in SQL statements
parquetFile.registerTempTable("parquetFile");
teenagers = sqlContext.sql("SELECT name FROM parquetFile WHERE age >= 13 AND age <= 19")

# These are spark DataFrames so you can do other stuff like map
teenNames = teenagers.map(lambda p: "Name: " + p.name)
for teenName in teenNames.collect():
    print(teenName)
```

## UDFs

---

Taken from: <http://spark.apache.org/docs/latest/sql-programming-guide.html#parquet-files>



# Wrap up

- We can make Data Scientist access to big data tools easier
- Data Scientists need to understand the underlying big data and dev ops tools to some degree
- Some of these tools are very useful for SQL type queries (BI, Tableau) but for more advanced analytics or ML other tools are needed
- Download Anaconda Cluster (or DataScienceBox) and try for yourself

Ideas:

**Thanks**