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Summary

Introduction of the two solutions

To improve the performance, we have tried following two solutions:

- 1. Solution 1 reducing shuffle partition number
 - a) Rewrite the source data to 4 parquet files using bucketing
 - b) set "spark.sql.shuffle.partitions" to 4 and driver number to 4

As a result, there is reduced shuffle/write. Also we gain good performance at the scenario when broadcast join is disabled

- 2. Solution 2 using bucketing
 - a) Rewrite the source data to 4 parquet files using bucketing
 - b) Read the data to DataFrame as tables
 - c) set "spark.sql.shuffle.partitions" to 4 and driver number to 4

As a result, there is NO shuffle read/write in the execution plan. Also we gain good performance when broadcast join is disabled

The above two solutions are similar. Maybe the only difference is that, solution 2 reads the data as a table and solution 1 reads the data not as table. But the results are quite different. For solution 2, 'bucketing' is achieved, which means, there is no shuffle in the execution plan However one thing worth mentioning, strangely, the performance of solution 2 is slightly worse than solution 1

Performance comparison

As these two tables are both small, the Broadcast join is automatically used for the query by Spark. So we also do experiments on the scenarios that Broadcast join can not be used. This will happen when the two tables are large, say, bigger than 10Mb (the default value "spark.sql.autoBroadcastJoinThreshold").

	With broadcast Join	With broadcast Join Disabled
Original query	3.45 3.17	19.48 18.13
Solution 1	2.17 2.15	2.30 2.22
Solution 2	3.08 3.08	3.23 3.27

The experiments also show:

- For solution 1, there is reduced shuffle;
- For solution 2 , there is no shuffle

Conclusion

The experiment results have confirmed that:

Our solutions have better performance than the original query.

 More importantly, our solutions are stable – even when broadcast join can not be used, they still gain good performance

Implementation Details

1. Environment

We set up Spark on a local machine (Windows 10) and ran the experiments on it.

2. Scripts

Here are the scripts we used. Note:

- 1. We slightly changed the original script by adding timing measurement logic
- 2. For user cases where 'broadcast join' is disabled, we basically using the same script and just adding one line:

spark.conf.set("spark.sql.autoBroadcastJoinThreshold",-1)

Original query	p20_optim_10.py
Solution 1	p20_write1.py: re-write the source data to 4 files p20_optim_21.py: improved solutio
Solution 2	p20_write2.py: re-write the source data to 4 files p20_optim_31.py: improved solution
Other file	Ut_spr.py: we are using a decorator method 'timer()' from this module to measure the time.

Experiment Details

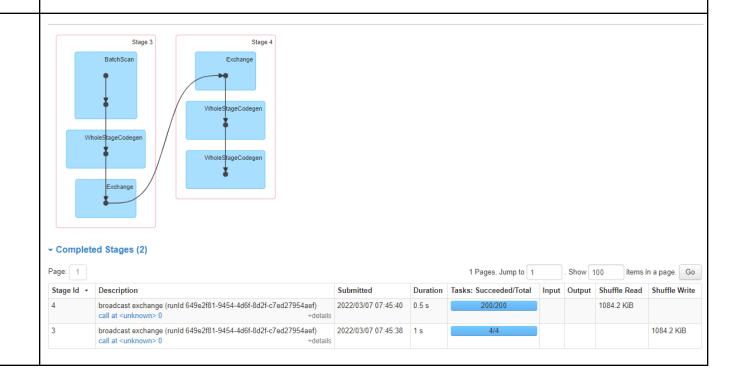
1. Original Query

1.1 With BroadcastJoin used (by default)

Note It is noticed: BroadcastJoin has been used as the two dataset are small (less than 10Mb) and 'spark.sql.autoBroadcastJoinThreshold' is default to 10M. So the performance is not bad 2. 200 partitions are used for shuffle Run Run 1: 3.45 Run 2: 3:17 time Run 1: 3.45 sec באט בט - שני שלו אויים באט באיים באיים באיים באט באיים באט באט באיים באט באיים באט באיים באט באיים באט באיים ב 156026 2015-01-01 04:49:... | Does Bell's inequ... | only showing top 20 rows Elapsed:3.457381 Run 2: 3.17 sec resultDF.orderBy('question_id', 'month').show(3) question_id creation_date title|month|cnt| 155989|2014-12-31 17:59:...|Frost bubble form...| 2| 1| 155989 2014-12-31 17:59:...|Frost bubble form...| 12 1 155990 2014-12-31 18:51:... | The abstract spac... | 1 | 1 | only showing top 3 rows Elapsed:3.174859 >>> resultDF.orderBy('question id', 'month').explain() Expl ain == Physical Plan == *(4) Sort [question id#44L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#60 ASC NULLS FIRST], true, 0 plan +- Exchange rangepartitioning(question id#44L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#60 ASC NULLS FIRST, 200), true, [id=#222] +- *(3) Project [question id#44L, creation date#46, title#47, month#60, cnt#76L] +- *(3) BroadcastHashJoin [question id#44L], [question id#32L], Inner, BuildRight :- *(3) Project [question id#44L, creation date#46, title#47] : +- *(3) Filter isnotnull(question id#44L) +- *(3) ColumnarToRow +- BatchScan[question id#44L, creation date#46, title#47] ParquetScan Location: InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/questions], ReadSchema: struct<guestion_id:bigint,creation_date:timestamp,title:string>, PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question id)] +- BroadcastExchange HashedRelationBroadcastMode(List(input[0, bigint, true])), [id=#217] +- *(2) HashAggregate(keys=[question_id#32L, month#60], functions=[count(1)])

- +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question_id#32L, month#60, 200), true, [id=#213]
 - +- *(1) HashAggregate(keys=[question_id#32L, month#60], functions=[partial_count(1)])
 - +- *(1) Project [question_id#32L, month(cast(creation_date#34 as date)) AS month#60]
 - +- *(1) Filter isnotnull(question id#32L)
 - +- *(1) ColumnarToRow
 - +- BatchScan[question_id#32L, creation_date#34] ParquetScan Location:

InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/answers], ReadSchema: struct<question_id:bigint,creation_date:timestamp>, PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question_id)]



1.2. original query with BroadcastJoin distabled

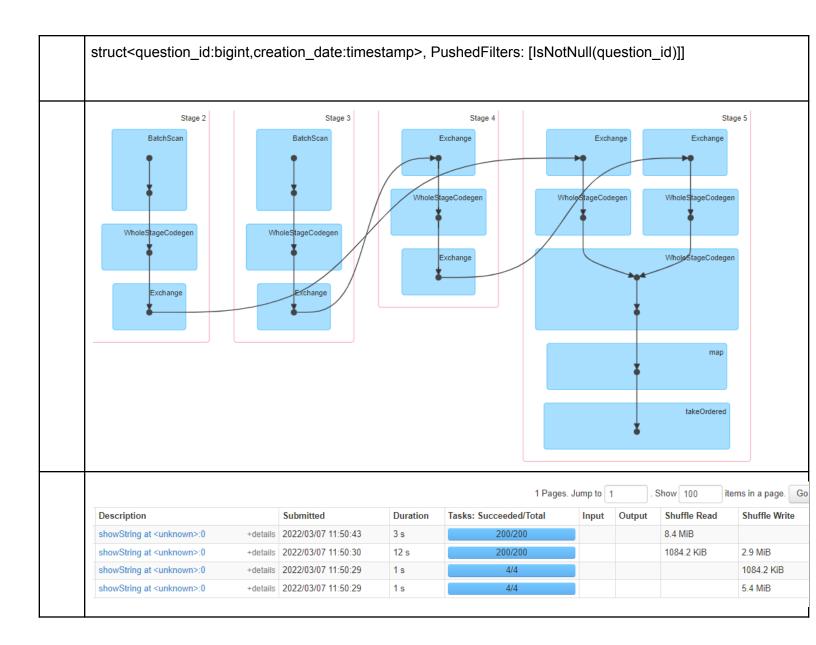
We added "spark.conf.set("spark.sql.autoBroadcastJoinThreshold",-1)" to the script so the Broadcast Join was disabled

Obs erva

tion

- 200 partitions took part in shuffle process
- There are shuffles. Shuffle read/write data size is large (each 9.5 M in total)
- Worst performance running time is 6 times of when broadcast is used

```
Run time:
        19.48 sec
        18.13 sec.
      Run 1
       >>> spark.conf.set("spark.sql.autoBroadcastJoinThreshold",-1)
       >> with ut1.timer():
               resultDF.orderBy('question_id', 'month').show(3)
                         creation_date
                                                    title | month | cnt |
       question id
            155989 2014-12-31 17:59:... | Frost bubble form... | 2 |
                                                                1
            155989 2014-12-31 17:59:...|Frost bubble form...|
                                                             12
                                                                 1
            155990 2014-12-31 18:51:... | The abstract spac... |
                                                             1 1
       only showing top 3 rows
       Elapsed:19.479335
       Run 2:
       only showing top 3 rows
       Elapsed: 18.129344
Plan
      >>> resultDF.orderBy('question id', 'month').explain()
      == Physical Plan ==
      *(7) Sort [question id#44L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#60 ASC NULLS FIRST], true, 0
      +- Exchange rangepartitioning (question id#44L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#60 ASC NULLS FIRST, 200),
      true, [id=#407]
        +- *(6) Project [question id#44L, creation date#46, title#47, month#60, cnt#76L]
          +- *(6) SortMergeJoin [question id#44L], [question id#32L], Inner
            :- *(2) Sort [question id#44L ASC NULLS FIRST], false, 0
            : +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question id#44L, 200), true, [id=#384]
               +- *(1) Project [question id#44L, creation date#46, title#47]
                 +- *(1) Filter isnotnull(question id#44L)
                   +- *(1) ColumnarToRow
                     +- BatchScan[question id#44L, creation date#46, title#47] ParquetScan Location:
      InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/questions], ReadSchema:
      struct<question id:bigint,creation date:timestamp,title:string>, PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question id)]
            +- *(5) Sort [question id#32L ASC NULLS FIRST], false, 0
              +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question id#32L, 200), true, [id=#399]
                +- *(4) HashAggregate(keys=[question id#32L, month#60], functions=[count(1)])
                 +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question id#32L, month#60, 200), true, [id=#395]
                   +- *(3) HashAggregate(keys=[guestion_id#32L, month#60], functions=[partial_count(1)])
                     +- *(3) Project [question id#32L, month(cast(creation date#34 as date)) AS month#60]
                       +- *(3) Filter isnotnull(question id#32L)
                         +- *(3) ColumnarToRow
                           +- BatchScan[question id#32L, creation date#34] ParguetScan Location:
      InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/answers], ReadSchema:
```



- 2. Solution 1 rewrite source data and set sjuffle partition numbe We made following improvements:
 - 1) Rewrite the source data to 4 parquet files using bucketing

```
questionsDF\
.coalesce(1)\
.write\
.mode('overwrite')\
.bucketBy(4, 'question_id')\
.sortBy("question_id")\
.option("path", "data/questions_n")\
.saveAsTable('questions', format='parquet')
```

```
answersDF\
.coalesce(1)\
.write\
.mode('overwrite')\
.bucketBy(4, 'question_id')\
.sortBy("question_id")\
.option("path", "data/answers_n")\
.saveAsTable('answers', format='parquet')
```

2) Set spark.sql.shuffle.partitions to 4 and set number of drivers to 4 (master("local[4])

```
spark.conf.set ("spark.sql.shuffle.partitions",4)

spark = SparkSession.builder.appName('Optimize I')\
    .master("local[4]") \
```

2.1 When 'Broadcast join' used by default

Note

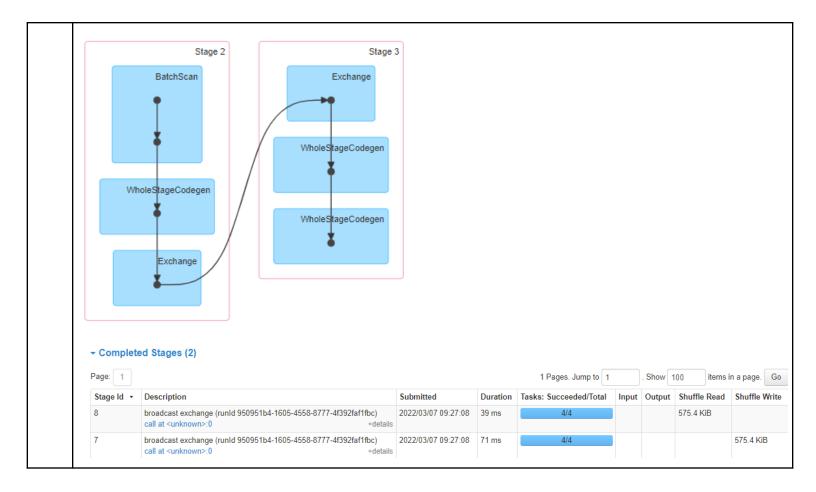
- There are shuffle read/write, but shuffle data size is reduced((575k)
- 4 partitions are used for shuffle
- Gained best performance (shortest time of running query)

Run 1: 2.17 sec

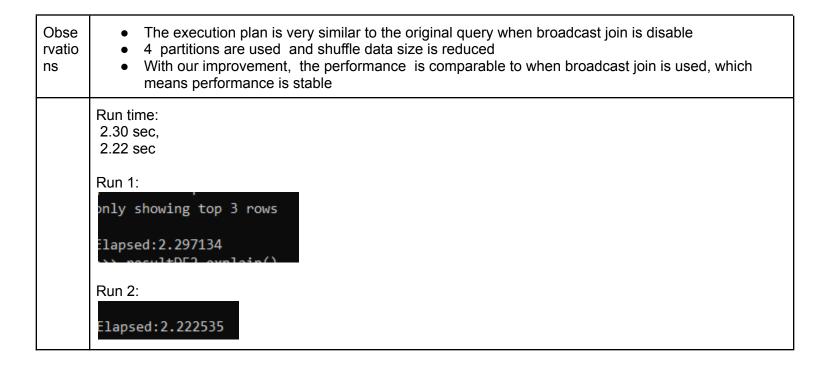
Run 2: 2.15 sec

Execution plan:

```
>>> resultDF.orderBy('question id', 'month').explain()
== Physical Plan ==
*(4) Sort [question id#12L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST], true, 0
+- Exchange rangepartitioning(question_id#12L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST, 4),
true, [id=#149]
 +- *(3) Project [question id#12L, creation date#14, title#15, month#28, cnt#44L]
   +- *(3) BroadcastHashJoin [question id#12L], [question id#0L], Inner, BuildRight
     :- *(3) Project [question id#12L, creation date#14, title#15]
      +- *(3) Filter isnotnull(question id#12L)
        +- *(3) ColumnarToRow
          +- BatchScan[question_id#12L, creation_date#14, title#15] ParquetScan Location:
InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/questions n1.
ReadSchema: struct<question id:bigint,creation date:timestamp,title:string>, PushedFilters:
[IsNotNull(question id)]
     +- BroadcastExchange HashedRelationBroadcastMode(List(input[0, bigint, true])), [id=#144]
       +- *(2) HashAggregate(keys=[question id#0L, month#28], functions=[count(1)])
        +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question id#0L, month#28, 4), true, [id=#140]
          +- *(1) HashAggregate(keys=[question id#0L, month#28], functions=[partial count(1)])
            +- *(1) Project [question id#0L, month(cast(creation date#2 as date)) AS month#28]
              +- *(1) Filter isnotnull(question id#0L)
                +- *(1) ColumnarToRow
                  +- BatchScan[question id#0L, creation date#2] ParquetScan Location:
InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/answers n],
ReadSchema: struct<question id:bigint,creation date:timestamp>, PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question id)]
```



2.2 When Broadcast is disabled

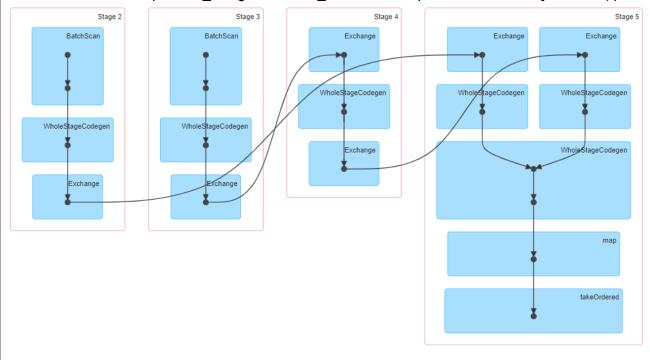


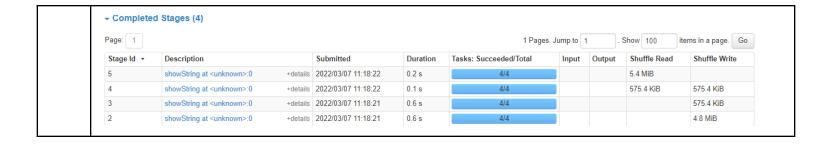
- >>> resultDF2.explain()
- == Physical Plan ==
- *(7) Sort [question id#12L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST], true, 0
- +- **Exchange rangepartitioning**(question_id#12L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST, 4), true. [id=#181]
 - +- *(6) Project [question id#12L, creation date#14, title#15, month#28, cnt#44L]
 - +- *(6) SortMergeJoin [question_id#12L], [question_id#0L], Inner
 - :- *(2) Sort [question id#12L ASC NULLS FIRST], false, 0
 - : +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question id#12L, 4), true, [id=#158]
 - +- *(1) Project [question id#12L, creation date#14, title#15]
 - +- *(1) Filter isnotnull(question id#12L)
 - +- *(1) ColumnarToRow
 - +- BatchScan[question_id#12L, creation_date#14, title#15] ParquetScan Location:

InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/questions_n], ReadSchema: struct<question_id:bigint,creation_date:timestamp,title:string>, PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question_id)]

- +- *(5) Sort [question id#0L ASC NULLS FIRST], false, 0
 - +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question_id#0L, 4), true, [id=#173]
 - +- *(4) HashAggregate(keys=[question_id#0L, month#28], functions=[count(1)])
 - +- Exchange hashpartitioning(question id#0L, month#28, 4), true, [id=#169]
 - +- *(3) HashAggregate(keys=[question id#0L, month#28], functions=[partial count(1)])
 - +- *(3) Project [question id#0L, month(cast(creation date#2 as date)) AS month#28]
 - +- *(3) Filter isnotnull(question id#0L)
 - +- *(3) ColumnarToRow
 - +- BatchScan[question id#0L, creation_date#2] ParquetScan Location:

InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/answers_n], ReadSchema: struct<question id:bigint,creation date:timestamp>, PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question id)]





3. Solution 2 – using bucketing

With this solution, we are using 'Bucketing' technology:

1) Rewrite the source data to 4 parquet files using bucketing by specifying following

```
answersDF\
   .coalesce(1)\
   .write \
   .bucketBy(4, 'question id') \
   .mode('overwrite')\
   .sortBy('question_id') \
   .option("path", "data/tb answer") \
   .saveAsTable('tb_answer', format='parquet')
questionsDF\
   .coalesce(1)
   .write\
   .bucketBy(4, 'question_id') \
   .mode('overwrite')\
   .sortBy('question id') \
   .option("path", "data/tb_question") \
   .saveAsTable('tb_question', format='parquet')
```

- 2) Also set "spark.sql.shuffle.partitions" to 4 and driver number to 4, similar to solution 1
- 3) Read the data to DataFrame as tables

```
df_ans =spark.read.table('tb_answer')
df_que = spark.read.table('tb_question')
```

As a result, there is no shuffle in the execution plan

obser serva tions

- There is broadcast join but no shuffle read/write (from the execution plan)
- The performance is slightly better than original query but is worse than solution 1

Run 1: 3.08 sec

Run 2: 3.08 sec

- >>> resultDF.orderBy('question id', 'month').explain()
- == Physical Plan ==
- *(3) Sort [question id#0L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST], true, 0
- +- **Exchange rangepartitioning**(question_id#0L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST, 4), true, [id=#135]
 - +- *(2) Project [question id#0L, creation date#2, title#3, month#28, cnt#44L]
 - +- *(2) BroadcastHashJoin [question_id#0L], [question_id#16L], Inner, BuildRight
 - :- *(2) Project [question id#0L, creation date#2, title#3]
 - : +- *(2) Filter isnotnull(question id#0L)
 - +- *(2) ColumnarToRow
- : +- FileScan parquet default.tb_question[question_id#0L,creation_date#2,title#3] Batched: true, DataFilters: [isnotnull(question_id#0L)], Format: Parquet, Location:

InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/tb_question], PartitionFilters: [], PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question_id)], ReadSchema:

struct<question id:bigint,creation date:timestamp,title:string>, SelectedBucketsCount: 4 out of 4

- +- BroadcastExchange HashedRelationBroadcastMode(List(input[0, bigint, true])), [id=#130]
 - +- *(1) HashAggregate(keys=[question_id#16L, month#28], functions=[count(1)])
 - +- *(1) HashAggregate(keys=[question_id#16L, month#28], functions=[partial_count(1)])
 - +- *(1) Project [question_id#16L, month(cast(creation_date#18 as date)) AS month#28]

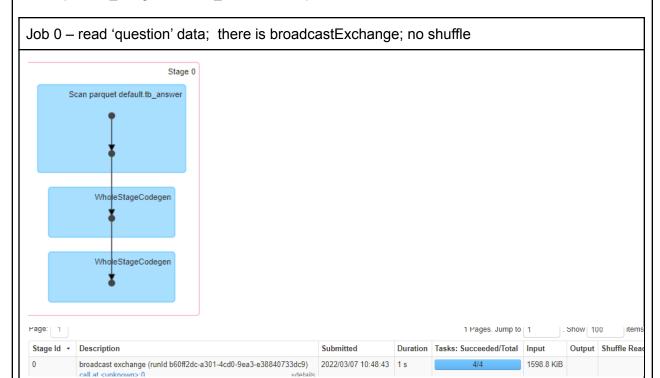
- +- *(1) Filter isnotnull(question_id#16L)
 - +- *(1) ColumnarToRow
- +- FileScan parquet default.tb_answer[question_id#16L,creation_date#18] Batched: true,

DataFilters: [isnotnull(question id#16L)], Format: Parquet, Location:

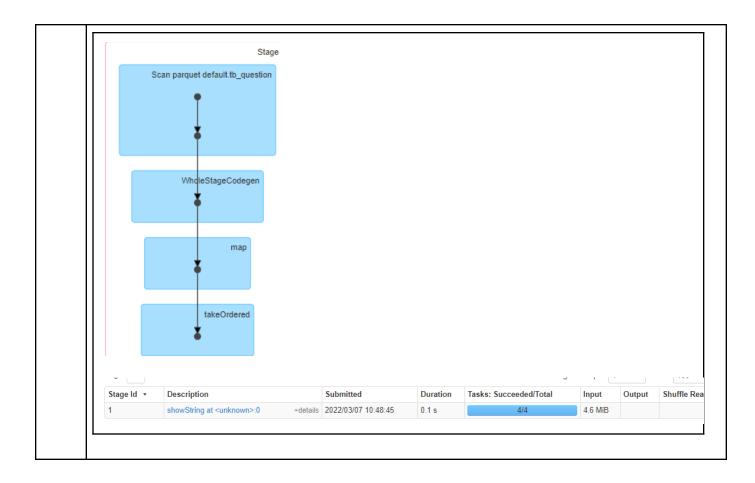
InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/tb_answer],

PartitionFilters: [], PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question_id)], ReadSchema:

struct<question_id:bigint,creation_date:timestamp>, SelectedBucketsCount: 4 out of 4



Job 1: read 'answer' data, no shuffle



3. 2. With 'broadcast join' disabled:

- There is no shuffle read/write (from the execution plan)
- The performance is slightly slower than using this solution when broadcast join is used, and a lot better than original query when broadcast join is disabled

Running time:

Run 1: 3.23 sec

```
---- resultUF2.5how ---
>>> with ut1.timer():
... resultDF.orderBy('question_id', 'month').show(3)
...
|question_id| creation_date| title|month|cnt|
| 155989|2014-12-31 17:59:...|Frost bubble form...| 2 | 1|
| 155989|2014-12-31 18:51:...|The abstract spac...| 1 | 1|
only showing top 3 rows
Elapsed:3.226743
```

Run 2: 3.27 sec

only showing top 3 rows

- >>> resultDF.orderBy('question id', 'month').explain()
- == Physical Plan ==
- *(4) Sort [question id#0L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST], true, 0
- +- Exchange rangepartitioning(question_id#0L ASC NULLS FIRST, month#28 ASC NULLS FIRST, 4), true, fid=#1471
 - +- *(3) Project [question_id#0L, creation_date#2, title#3, month#28, cnt#44L]
 - +- *(3) SortMergeJoin [question_id#0L], [question_id#16L], Inner
 - :- *(1) Sort [question id#0L ASC NULLS FIRST], false, 0
 - : +- *(1) Project [question_id#0L, creation_date#2, title#3]
 - : +- *(1) Filter isnotnull(question id#0L)
 - +- *(1) ColumnarToRow
 - +- FileScan parquet default.tb_question[question_id#0L,creation_date#2,title#3] Batched: true,

DataFilters: [isnotnull(question id#0L)], Format: Parquet, Location:

InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/tb question],

PartitionFilters: [], PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question id)], ReadSchema:

struct<question_id:bigint,creation_date:timestamp,title:string>, SelectedBucketsCount: 4 out of 4

- +- *(2) Sort [question id#16L ASC NULLS FIRST], false, 0
 - +- *(2) HashAggregate(keys=[question_id#16L, month#28], functions=[count(1)])
 - +- *(2) HashAggregate(keys=[question_id#16L, month#28], functions=[partial_count(1)])
 - +- *(2) Project [question id#16L, month(cast(creation date#18 as date)) AS month#28]
 - +- *(2) Filter isnotnull(question id#16L)
 - +- *(2) ColumnarToRow
 - +- FileScan parquet default.tb answer[question id#16L,creation date#18] Batched: true,

DataFilters: [isnotnull(question id#16L)], Format: Parquet, Location:

InMemoryFileIndex[file:/C:/demo/c17-spark-ex1/01-HelloSpark-and-other-app/data/tb answer],

PartitionFilters: [], PushedFilters: [IsNotNull(question id)], ReadSchema:

struct<question id:bigint,creation date:timestamp>, SelectedBucketsCount: 4 out of 4

It has only one job:

