MIDS W205

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| **Lab #** | 6 | **Lab Title** | Apache Spark SQL - a few features |
| **Related Module(s)** | 6 | **Goal** | Get you started on spark, pyspark and Spark SQL |
| **Last Updated** | 9/26/15 | **Expected duration** | 20 to 30 minutes |

# Intro

## Apache Spark

Apache Spark is an open-source distributed computing. Spark uses in-memory processing and can sometime be up to 100 times faster than regular Hadoop Map Reduce on certain types of jobs. The core of the Spark architecture is the concept of RDD’s. You should read about them and why the enable scale and resiliency in a distributed environment with unreliable nodes.

Apache Spark has a basic computing substrate and several frameworks built on top of it. There is a framework for querying structured data (Spark SQL), a streaming analytics framework, a machine learning framework etc. In this Lab you will be learning about the basic RDD’s as well as about Spark SQL.



Spark SQL assumes that data is structured according to a relational model, which enables us to use SQL to query the data. It provides a programming abstraction is based on what is called DataFrames. Spark SQL acts as a distributed SQL query engine.

Spark can use used from several different programming languages. We will be using Python as our preferred way of interactive with Spark. Spark is commonly utilized in a programmatic way. Sometime there are command line interfaces (CLI’s) that provide convenient ways of interactively using RDDs. In this Lab we will be using both.

# Here are some useful resources:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Resource** | **What** |
| http://spark.apache.org/docs/latest/programming-guide.html | This guide shows each of these features in each of Spark’s supported languages. It is easiest to follow along with if you launch Spark’s interactive shell.  This includes reference to the basic commands you can perform on RDD’s. Such as filter records, count records, join records. |
| https://spark.apache.org/docs/1.1.0/sql-programming-guide.html | Guide for using Spark SQL. |
| https://spark.apache.org/docs/latest/sql-programming-guide.html#running-the-spark-sql-cli | Guide to Spark SQL CLI Shell. |
| https://spark.apache.org/docs/0.9.0/python-programming-guide.html | Python spark programming guide. |
| http://spark.apache.org/docs/latest/api/scala/index.html#org.apache.spark.SparkContext | Programming guide for the Spark Context object. Here you can find actions available on the Spark Contexts. |

# Step-0. Check installation and preparing data

In this section we will help you understand the basic of you Spark installation. We will also help you download and assemble a data set we like to use later in the Lab. We have to go through some trouble to get the dataset downloaded since it is reasonably big and stored in Github. Github has limitations on files size so we needed to split the file up. Your instructor may provide you with an alternative way of getting the same data set.

Firstly, if an example starts with the “$” prompt, it is run in the Linux shell. If it starts with the “>>>” prompt it is run in pyspark shell.

Echo your SPARK\_HOME environment variable to see where you Spark is installed.

%echo $SPARK\_HOME

You should see something like:

$ echo $SPARK\_HOME

/Applications/devtools/spark

Got to that directory and look what is in it.

$ cd $SPARK\_HOME

$ ls

CHANGES.txt NOTICE README.md bin data ec2 lib python

LICENSE R RELEASE conf derby.log examples old sbin

If you look in bin you will see spark-shell, pyspark and other tools for running and managing spark.

In your shell profile (often .bash\_profile) you may have something along the following lines so that the Spark commands are in your shell execution path.

export SPARK=/usr/lib/spark

export SPARK\_HOME=$SPARK

export PATH=$SPARK/bin:$PATH

You can test to see that your shell can find them by running the Unix/Linux which command.

$ which spark-shell

$ which pyspark

$ which spark-sql

If your shell cannot find any of those programs you will likely need to check you installation. If which can find the commands it will return the location of the programs.

For this lab you can use any substantial data file as replacement for “Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv” but you need to modify the commands accordingly. You can down load the “Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv” file from github. Because it is a big file and we uploaded it to github we needed to compress and spit the file. So you will need merge the parts and un-compress the result.

The instructors may have the files more easily accessible for you if you have problems with the below.

Get the files in this directory on github: <https://github.com/UC-Berkeley-I-School/w205-labs-exercises/tree/master/data/Crimes_-_2001_to_present_data>

You can get them by cloning the exercise repository if you have not already done that. If you done that can just get a git pull.

git clone <https://github.com/UC-Berkeley-I-School/w205-labs-exercises/>

The files are in the data/Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present\_data directory.

Once you have the files (should be seven of them all starting with the letter “x”) run the following commands (make sure you do not have other files starting with x in the directory). The first one will just concatenate the split files into one file. The original file was a compressed cvs file, so we name it appropriately. Next we un-compress it to get the original csv file.

$ cat x\* > Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv.gz

$ gunzip Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv.gz

The result should be that you have the Crime data csv file in your directory. You also still have the original split files. If you run ls it should look something like this:

$ ls

Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv xac xaf

xaa xad xag

xab xae

You can check the correcteness of the resulting files by checking the size of the file or number of rows in the file.

$ du -s Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv

2688712 Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv

$ wc -l Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv

5862796 Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv

If you like you can remove the split files use; rm, but use the –i option so that you do not accidentally remove other files in the directory that you like to save.

$ rm -i x\*

At this point you should be able to see the Crime data file in your directory.

$ ls

Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv

You are good to go. In addition, also tried some useful Linux/Unix commands such as du, wc and cat.

## What you should have learnt

You should have checked the basic installation of Spark. And you have checked that the Spark programs can be found by your interactive Linux (Unix) shell.

# Step-1. Start pyspark

First we will start a spark shell so that we can access spark and interactively process Spark commands. We will be using pyspark, which is a python based shell for spark.

If we assume you have the spark bin directory in your PATH environment variable you can start pyspark by just issuing the command.

$pyspark

Otherwise go to the /bin directory in the installation ($SPARK\_HOME) folder and type.

$./pyspark

In the pyspark shell you can use python instructions and you can create RDDs. Consequently you can apply operations on RDD’s as well. Create a Python variable with some value using this command. This is plain old Python.

>>> x = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9];

>>> print x

[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

>>> len(x)

9

There is something call a Spark Context. The spark context is the “object” you use to refer to the spark cluster. Type sc to verify you have one already in you Python shell:

>>> sc

<pyspark.context.SparkContext object at 0x1063b3410>

So far you only used Python statements and you checked you have a Spark Context. You can use the Spark context to create a Spark RDD from Python data using the command parallelize

>>> distData = sc.parallelize(x);

>>> print distData;

ParallelCollectionRDD[0] at parallelize at PythonRDD.scala:391

The Spark Context parallelize action is used to take local programming collections and create RDDs from them. In this case we created a RDD from an Python array.

The resulting value of the distData variable is an RDD representation. Try doing len(distData) ; what happens and why? To count elements in an RDD you need to use RDD actions. You can find a list of actions in the programming guide. To count the elements you use the count() action. Try the following:

>>> nx=distData.count()

>>> print nx

9

As you probably noticed, the default level of logging can be distracting. To reduce the logging information go to the $SPARK\_HOME/conf directory. Create a log4j.properties file. If you do not already have one you can get one by copying the log4j.properties.template file. Change the logging level to warnings (WARN) by change INFO to WARN in the property log4j.rootCategory=WARN, console

# Set everything to be logged to the console

log4j.rootCategory=WARN, console

log4j.appender.console=org.apache.log4j.ConsoleAppender

log4j.appender.console.target=System.err

log4j.appender.console.layout=org.apache.log4j.PatternLayout

Restarts pyspark and rerun the commands above. You should see much less output in the Spark shell.

## What you should have learnt

You should understand how to start pyspark and have learnt that pyspark is a shell with access to the Python language and to the underlying Spark cluster capabilities. We also show you how to make pyspark less verbose by reducing the amount of logging displayed. If you have problems you may consider increasing logging again to understand what is going on in your execution.

# Step-2. Load a file and count the rows.

Spark is commonly used to process large sets of data, and naturally we often read these data files from disc. The action textFile is an operation on Spark Contexts that creates a RDD from a file that resides in HDFS or the local files system. Make sure you cloned the data file Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv in the lab directory. Now create an RDD from that file using this action:

crimedata =sc.textFile("Crimes\_-\_2001\_to\_present.csv")

Print the number of lines this RDD using the following command:

>>> print crimedata.count()

5862796

>>>

## As you can see there are almost 6 million records, so it took a few seconds to count them.

You can get the first element of the RDD with the operation first:

>>> crimedata.first()

You can get the n first elements with the operation take(n)

>>> crimedata.take(10)

As you see the data include the header information. Remove the header from the RDD is not straight forward. The reason is that RDD is immutable by design. One way to remove it is to create a new RDD and to filter the first row out. There are many ways to do that, here is an example:

>>> noHeaderCrimedata = crimedata.zipWithIndex().filter(lambda (row,index): index > 0).keys()

It is a quite a processing heavy way of doing it, but as we mentioned RDD’s are immutable you can not just go in and remove a record. It is an inherent assumption to Spark which allows it to certain things more efficiently.

Print the first line to check that the header if gone. And count the lines to make sure the number seems correct.

>>> noHeaderCrimedata.first()

>>> noHeaderCrimedata.count()

Here is a more Python like way of doing the same, that may be easier to understand. We first define a Python function in our Python spark shell using the following line.

>>> def remove\_header(itr\_index, itr): return iter(list(itr)[1:]) if itr\_index == 0 else itr

We then execute a mapPartitionWithIndex operations passing that function as an argument.

## >>> noHeaderCrimeData2 = crimedata.mapPartitionsWithIndex(remove\_header)

Print the first line and the count to make sure it is correct.

## What you should have learnt

You should understand how to create an RDD from a file, how apply operations on RDD. You used examples such as first and count. We also illustrated that RDD’s are immutable and that to even remove one row (the header) you need to create a new RDD.

# Step-3. Filter records, structures

One obvious operation for Spark is to filter the data. Lets filter out all crimes that seems to be related to “NARCOTICS”.

We can do this using the filter operations and a lambda function that checks if the word “NARCOTICS” appears in the each row. We will only return rows that included that word.

narcoticsCrimes = noHeaderCrimedata.filter(lambda x: "NARCOTICS" in x)

>>> narcoticsCrimes.count()

663712

It appears that the are 663712 crimes related to narcotics. Use take(n) to check that the data seems ok. For example:

>>> narcoticsCrimes.take(20)

The RDD we have are just long strings, the fact that fields are comma separated does not mean anything to the Spark RDD. If we want to create a structure with which we want to do some more advanced things with we need to parse the rows and create the appropriate structure. The operations below splits each record up as an array using the Python operation split. It then create a new RDD were each row is an array of strings as opposed to one long string.

>>> narcoticsCrimeRecords = narcoticsCrimes.map(lambda r : r.split(","))

You can see the first array record using:

>>> narcoticsCrimeRecords.first()

You can check that you still have the same number of rows using:

>>> narcoticsCrimeRecords.count()

## What you should have learnt

You should understand that RDD’s are immutable. You can filter RDD’s but it creates a new RDD. You should also understand that RDD’s do not understand anything about the structure of the records (except for key-value structures which we discuss in the next section). But you can store any Python structure that seems useful in an RDD.

# Step-3. Key-values

An important structure in spark is called Key Value pairs. In Python those are represented as Python tuples. A tuples is an immutable sequence of elements of various types.

You can create a new RDD consisting of tuples using the following operation:

>>> narcoticsCrimeTuples = narcoticsCrimes.map(lambda x: (x.split(",")[0], x))

You can check that the number of tuples is the same as the number of records in the data.

>>> narcoticsCrimeTuples.count()

It takes the first first element and makes it a key and the rest if the row becomes the value part of the tuple. You can examine the tuple using the following operations:

>>> narcoticsCrimeTuples.first()

And you can check it out using these RDD and Python functions.

Get the first tuple:

>>> firstTuple=narcoticsCrimeTuples.first()

How many elements do you have in the tuple?

>>> len(firstTuple)

What is the key of the first tuple?

>>> firstTuple[0]

What is the value of the first tuple?

>>> firstTuple[1]

There are many operations you can do once you have a key-value tuple. You can join, reduce, map etc. You can read about the operations in the RDD Spark programming guide. One operation you can do is to sort by key:

>>> sorted=narcoticsCrimeTuples.sortByKey()

If print the first element in the sorted RDD and the original RDD you will see they are different.

>>> sorted.first()

>>> narcoticsCrimeTuples.first()

## What you should have learnt

Now you should understand the concept of Key-Value tuples, and understand how you can create them. You have also tried one operation on RDD’s using the key-value structure.

# Step-4. Start Spark-SQL

Spark SQL can be used directly from pyspark or a scala shell. But there is also an Spark SQL CLI called the Beeline client. If you use pyspark or use Spark SQL programmatically you need create a special Spark SQL contexts. With the Spark SQL CLI the context is already there for you and you can use SQL commands.

You start Beeline with the command

$spark-sql

Once started you can run some commands to see that it works. Show tables, create a table and drop the table by running the commands below.

spark-sql> show tables;

spark-sql> create table dummy (somedata varchar(500));

OK

Time taken: 0.369 seconds

spark-sql> show tables;

dummy false

Time taken: 0.053 seconds, Fetched 1 row(s)

spark-sql> drop table dummy;

spark-sql> show tables;

## You should see the following result

You should understand the difference between using the Spark SQL CLI and using Spark SQL programmatically. You are able to start Spark SQL CLI and issues some basic commands to see that it works.

# Step-5. Let’s create a table and load data using CSV file:

You can create a Spark SQL table. The following create statement creates a table that has a schema that corresponds to the web\_session\_log data. Run the following create statement directly on the spark-sql shell prompt.

create table Web\_Session\_Log

(DATETIME varchar(500),

USERID varchar(500),

SESSIONID varchar(500),

PRODUCTID varchar(500),

REFERERURL varchar(500))

row format delimited fields terminated by ‘\t’

stored as textfile;

You can load files from the local files system or from HDFS. Lets load a the web\_log data available on github.

Run the describe command to see that it was created correctly. Otherwise you may need to drop it and try again correcting any mistakes.

spark-sql> describe web\_session\_log;

datetime varchar(500) NULL

userid varchar(500) NULL

sessionid varchar(500) NULL

productid varchar(500) NULL

refererurl varchar(500) NULL

Time taken: 0.083 seconds, Fetched 5 row(s)

Assuming you have the weblog data in the directory were you are running spark-sql shell, you can load the file from the files system into the table using the command below. If the file is located somewhere else you need to modify the path ot the file.

spark-sql> LOAD DATA LOCAL INPATH "./weblog\_lab.csv" INTO TABLE web\_session\_log;

Once the data is loaded you can count the number of rows. You can count the number of rows with the following select statement.

spark-sql> select count(\*) from web\_session\_log;

You can check that this seems reasonable by comparing with the number of rows in the original file. You can get the number of files using the Unix/Linux command wc.

$ wc -l weblog\_lab.csv

Using Spark SQL you can use a number of SQL command so query your data. Lets select all rows in the web log that are related eBay.

spark-sql> select \* from web\_session\_log where refererurl = "http://www.ebay.com" ;

And now lets count the number of rows that are related to eBay.

spark-sql> select count(\*) from web\_session\_log where refererurl = "http://www.ebay.com" ;

You should get that there are 3943 entries related to eBay in this data set.

## What you should have learnt

In this section you should have learnt how to create a table in the Spark SQL CLI and how to load data into the empty table. You also practiced some simple SQL commands on the loaded data set.

# Step-6. Accessing Spark-SQL in Python Code:

Spark SQL can also be used from a program or directly from a shell such as pyspark. It will require that you create the appropriate spark context and programmatically define schemas and such. A table is ultimately represented as a Spark DataFrame. Below we will go through step by step how what you need to imports, how you read the data, how you create an object that represents the schema, and finally how you combine the schema definition and the data to create a table DataFrame.

We also show some simple queries using SQL in the resulting SQL DataFrame.

First make sure to import all necessary types etc to you Python environment. You can try the below example interactively in a pyspark shell. Make sure you run it in the directory were you have the data file, or adapt the path in the example accordingly.

$ pyspark

>>> from pyspark.sql import SQLContext

>>> from pyspark.sql.types import \*

Create the Spark SQL Context.

>>> sqlContext = SQLContext(sc)

Read the web log data into an RDD.

>>> lines = sc.textFile('./weblog\_lab.csv')

Create a map of the data so that it can be structured into a table.

>>> parts = lines.map(lambda l: l.split('\t'))

>>> Web\_Session\_Log = parts.map(lambda p: (p[0], p[1],p[2], p[3],p[4]))

Create string with the name of the columns of your table.

>>> schemaString = 'DATETIME USERID SESSIONID PRODUCTID REFERERURL'

Create a data structure of StructFields that can be used to create a table.

>>> fields = [StructField(field\_name, StringType(), True) for field\_name in schemaString.split()]

Combine the fields into a Schema object.

>>> schema = StructType(fields)

Create a table based on a DataFrame using the data that was read and the structure representing the Schema.

>>> schemaWebData = sqlContext.createDataFrame(Web\_Session\_Log, schema)

Reguster the the object as a table with a table name.

>>> schemaWebData.registerTempTable('Web\_Session\_Log')

Query the table.

>>> results = sqlContext.sql('SELECT count(\*) FROM Web\_Session\_Log')

Use the DataFrame operation show to print the content of the result of the query.

>>> results.show()

Is should print that the result has 1 cell with the value 40002.

Another query, with a screen shot.

>>> results = sqlContext.sql('SELECT \* FROM Web\_Session\_Log')

>>> results.show()

See below for screenshot of what you should see.



You can also run the program as a scripts. Lets assume you create a script mysql.py which you placed in /tmp with the data file. The content of mysql.py is as follows.

from pyspark import SparkContext

from pyspark.sql import SQLContext

from pyspark.sql.types import \*

sc = SparkContext("local", "weblog app")

sqlContext = SQLContext(sc)

lines = sc.textFile('/tmp/weblog\_lab.csv')

parts = lines.map(lambda l: l.split('\t'))

Web\_Session\_Log = parts.map(lambda p: (p[0], p[1],p[2], p[3],p[4]))

schemaString = 'DATETIME USERID SESSIONID PRODUCTID REFERERURL'

fields = [StructField(field\_name, StringType(), True)

for field\_name in schemaString.split()]

schema = StructType(fields)

schemaWebData = sqlContext.createDataFrame(Web\_Session\_Log, schema)

schemaWebData.registerTempTable('web\_session\_log')

results = sqlContext.sql('SELECT \* FROM web\_session\_log')

results.show()

You can now run the python Spark SQL script using the command. You can use pyspark to run the command, but the recommended way is to use spark-submit.

$ spark-submit /tmp/mysql.py

The output may look something like the following screen shot.



## What you should have learnt

You should have learnt how to create a Python script that uses Spark SQL and how to run the script.

# 

# Step-7. Caching tables and Un-caching tables;

## Caching tables

This is extremely useful when you are joining tiny dataset with huge dataset.

CACHE TABLE and UNCACHE TABLE statements are available to do the above making it very easy.

To Cache a table :

CACHE TABLE logs\_last\_month;

To UnCache a table :

UNCACHE TABLE logs\_last\_month;

Once as table is cached, you can use in your spark queries.

# What you should have learnt

1. What are the various components of Apache Spark?
2. What is the difference between Spark-shell and Spark-sql?
3. What is a RDD?
4. Why Spark is faster than Map-reduce FW?
5. How will you use Spark from your visualization tools?

# Troubleshooting

If you get an exception looking like “ERROR SparkContext: Error initializing SparkContext. java.net.UnknownHostException:…” make sure you have the make of our computer added to the /etc/hosts file. For example add the line “127.0.0.1 <myhost>”, where <myhost> is the name of our computer.