

# APACHE SPARK FOR DATA SCIENTISTS

## Session 1: Introduction to Apache Spark

## Recommended Prerequisite Knowledge in Python Language

- Primitive Data Types in Python
- Flow Control in Python (for, while loops, if...else etc.)
- Standard Functions & Lambda Expressions
- Python Collections and optionally Classes
- Pandas, Numpy, Scipy
- String Operations & Regular Expressions
- Data Visualization in Python (matplotlib, bokeh, plotly etc.)
- Basic Functional Methods in Python (map, filter, reduce, itertools etc.)
- Scikit-learn (good to know it resembles syntactically to Spark MLlib)

<https://www.codecademy.com/learn/learn-python>

<https://lectures.quantecon.org/py/>

<https://runestone.academy/runestone/static/python/index.html>

- I. Course Overview
- II. Spark: Background & Position in Big Data Analytics
- III. Core Concepts & Challenges of Distributed Computing
- IV. Overview of Spark Components
- V. Conceptual Introduction to Spark Application
- VI. Appendix

# Apache Spark Overview

## *Apache Spark:*

- is a fast and general purpose big data processing engine.
- is an open source project incubated by Apache Software Foundation

<https://spark.apache.org/>

<https://github.com/apache/spark>

- is an unified engine with built-in modules for SQL, streaming, machine learning, graph processing & third-party packages.

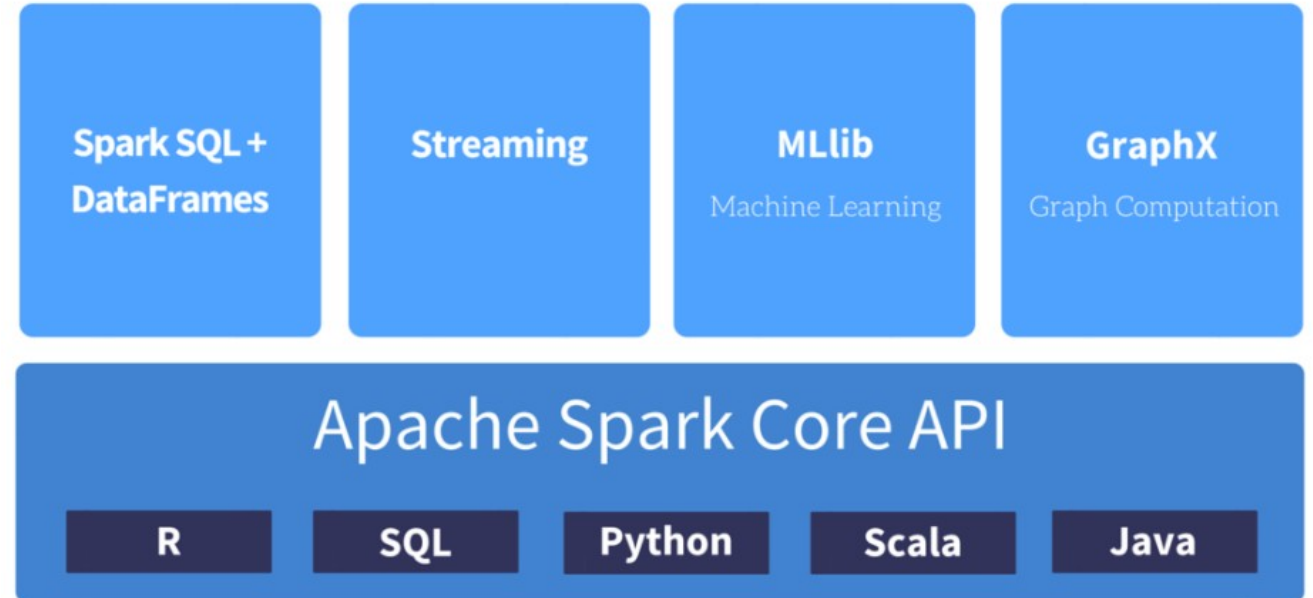


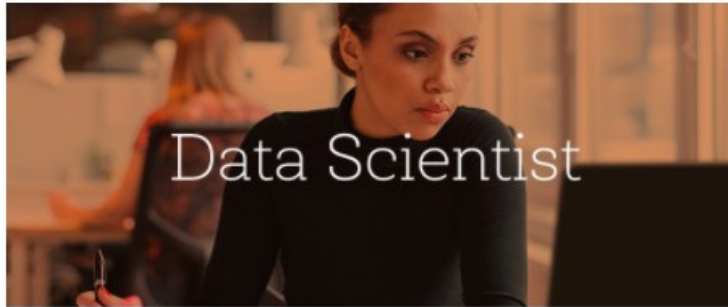
Figure Ref: <http://syntelli.com/data-capability/apache-spark/>



# Common Use Cases of Apache Spark for Big Data

- I. Extract-Transform-Load (ETL) operations
- II. Predictive analytics and machine learning
- III. Data access operations, such as interactive SQL queries and visualizations
- IV. Text mining and processing
- V. Real-time / Near real-time event processing
- VI. Graph analysis applications
- VII. Pattern recognition & Deep Learning
- VIII. Recommendation engines
- IX. and so on...

# Apache Spark for Data Scientists & Data Engineers



You have questions  
and you need answers quickly.

- Test hypotheses iteratively to converge on a solution.
- Leverage machine learning or graph processing algorithms to aid your investigation.
- Visually explore data and diagnose issues.
- Document your thinking and publish findings.



Your team counts on you to prepare data  
and deploy applications to production.

- Build, operate, and manage infrastructure.
- Convert your existing codebase to a distributed setting.
- Deploy production-quality data pipelines.

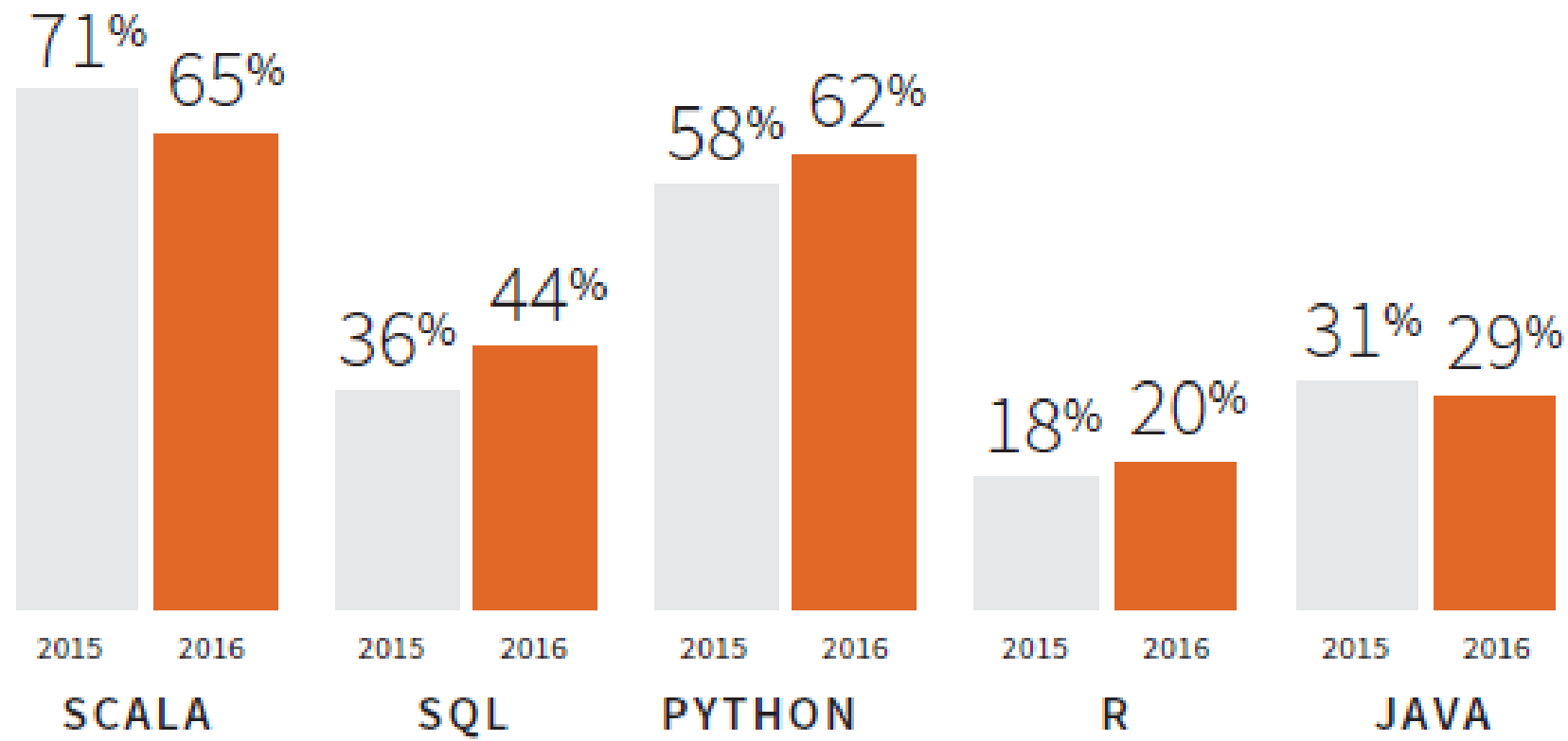


Ref: <https://databricks.com/solutions/by-role>

# Spark Programming Languages

## LANGUAGES USED IN APACHE SPARK

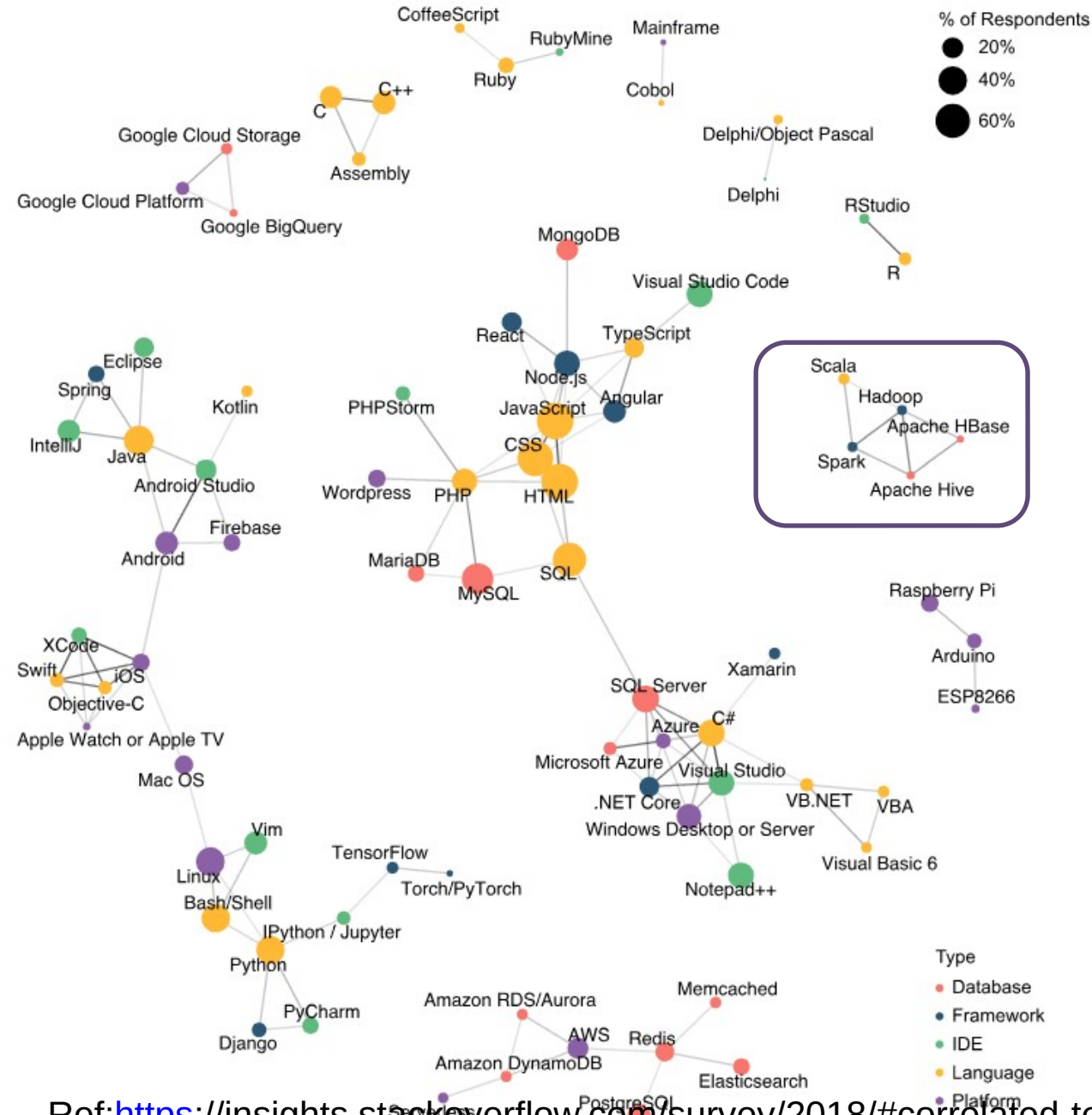
*Respondents were allowed to select more than one language.*



March 2017 Ref:

<https://www.slideshare.net/JohanPicard/a-short-introduction-to-spark-and-its-benefits>

## How Technologies Are Connected





# Python vs. Scala for Spark Development (1/2)



Python is an interpreted scripting language and Pyspark API is a set of wrappers on Scala-Spark methods/functions, therefore there is always additional computational overhead.

It involves many widely used data science libraries like numpy, pandas, scipy, pyarrow, matplotlib, tensorflow, pixiedust, numba, spacy etc. which can be mixed-in with Pyspark.



Apache Spark is built with Scala, therefore it is:

- ✓ 10x faster than Pyspark
- ✓ New features are always initially available in Scala API
- ✓ More robust & extensive integration with other ecosystem tools like Kafka, Akka, Hadoop etc.

Scala & Java has less commonly used data science libraries like breeze, vegas, stanford NLP, deeplearning4j etc.

## Python vs. Scala for Spark Development (2/2)



It is dynamically typed, which limits type-safe Spark features and hardens debugging.

Suits better to interactive data exploration, model training & evaluation and prototyping projects.

Limited streaming features more relevant to prototyping rather than production applications & there are limitations of Pyspark Connectors to other Big Data Tools.

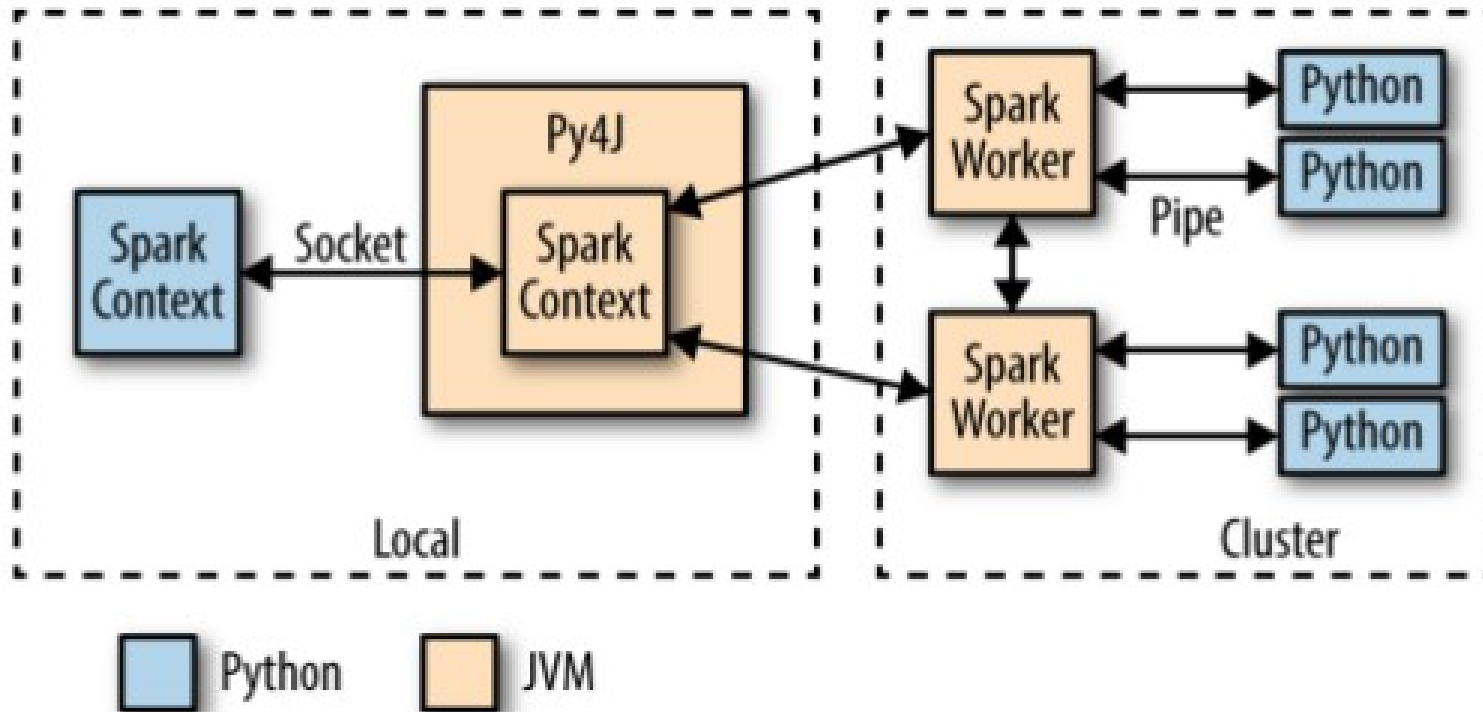


It is a statically typed & functional, complex functional & type-safe implementations are feasible and majority of bugs can be caught in compile time.

Suits better for production (live system) implementations & potentially a more robust option in any real-time analytics

Advanced streaming & data product development capabilities, more variety of Scala-Spark Connectors to other Big Data Tools which are also developed in Scala or Java.

## About Pyspark (Python API for Spark)

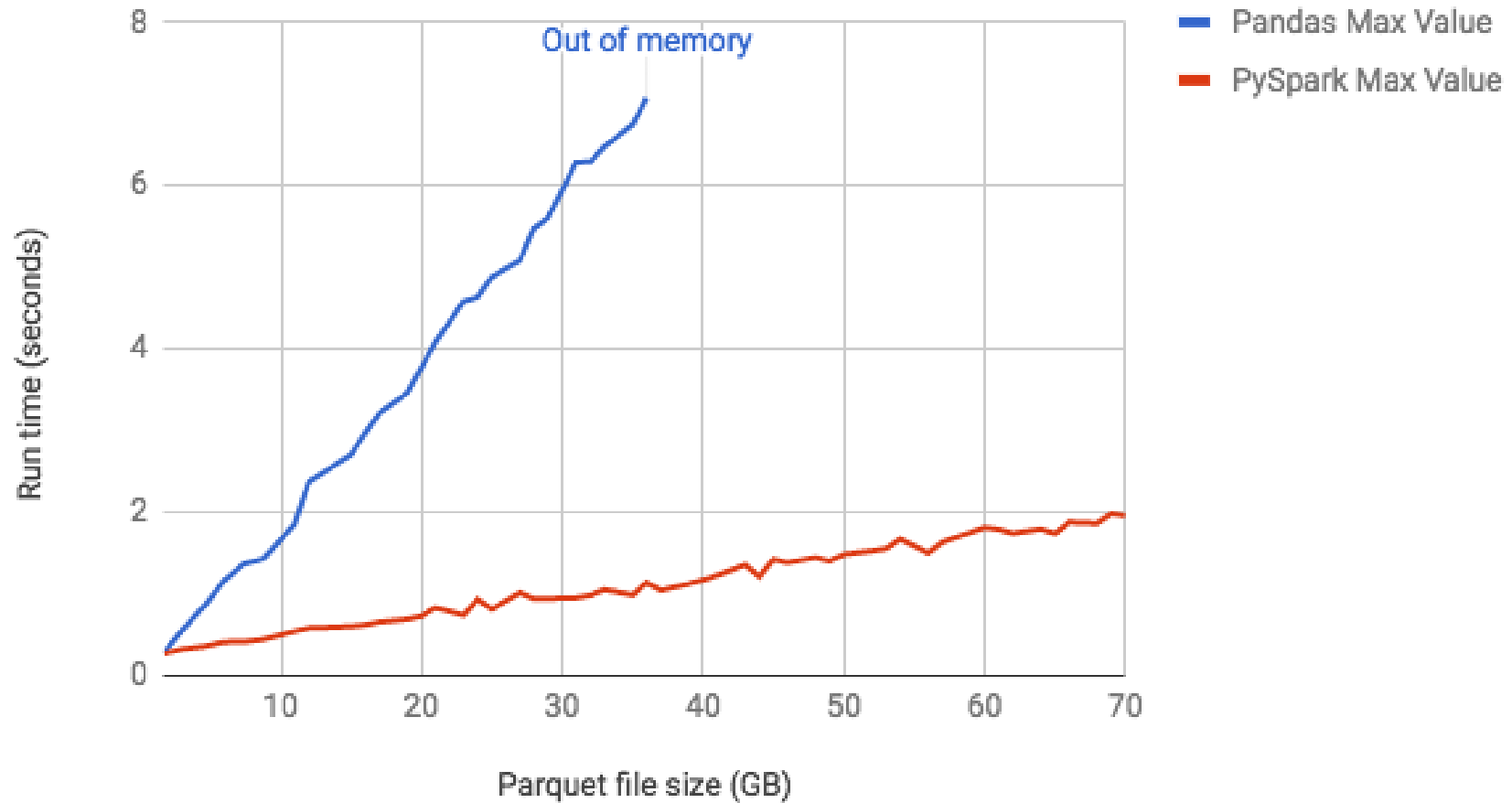


Spark is internally developed in Scala. Scala Apps run on JVM (Java Virtual Machine) Threads similar to Java. [List of JVM Languages](#)

IMPORTANT: Pyspark API Documentation: <https://spark.apache.org/docs/latest/api/python/index.html>

# Benchmarking Pandas Vs Pyspark Dataframes on a Single Node Machine

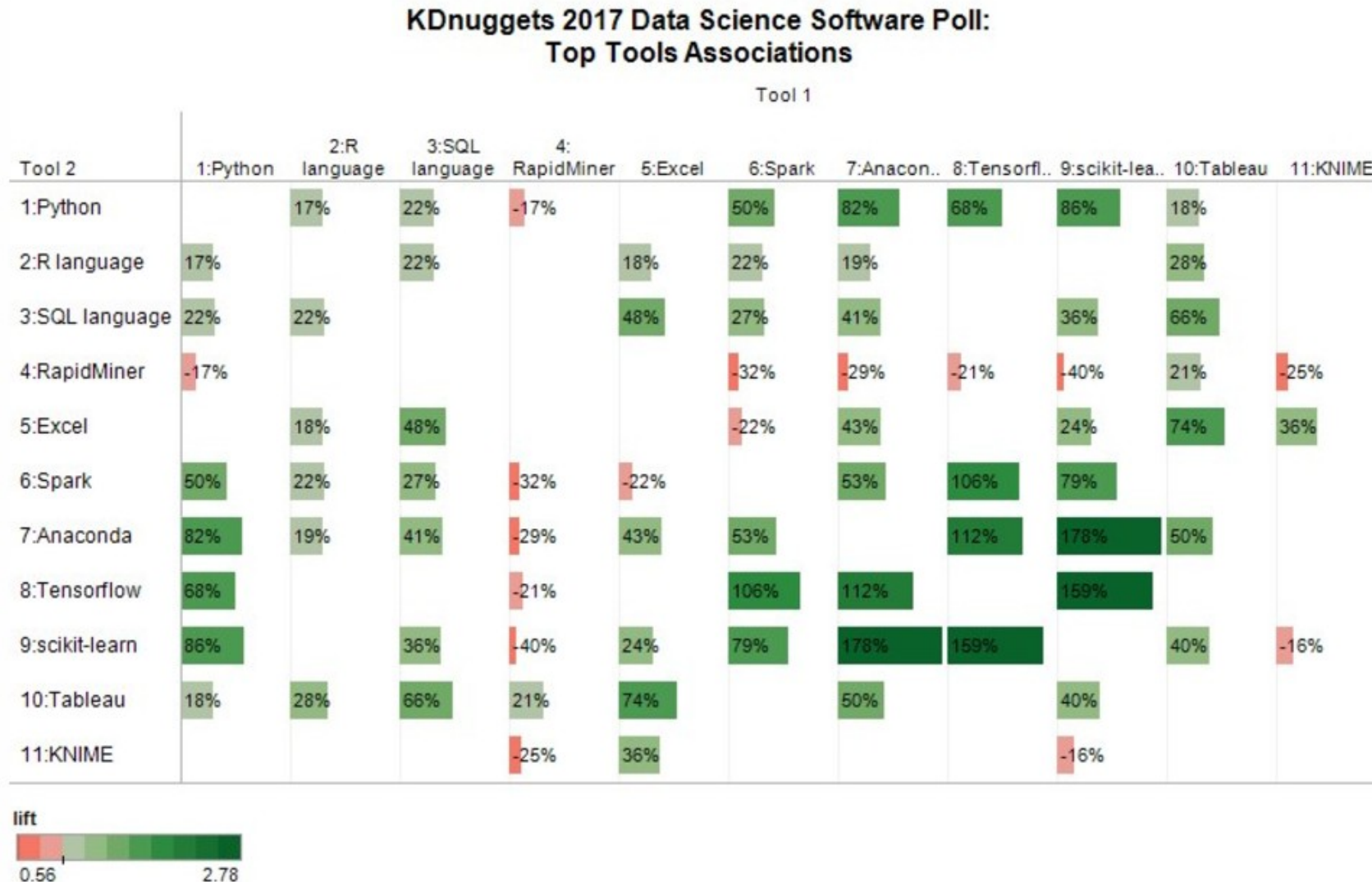
Pandas VS PySpark: max value



Ref:

<https://databricks.com/blog/2018/05/03/benchmarking-apache-spark-on-a-single-node-machine>

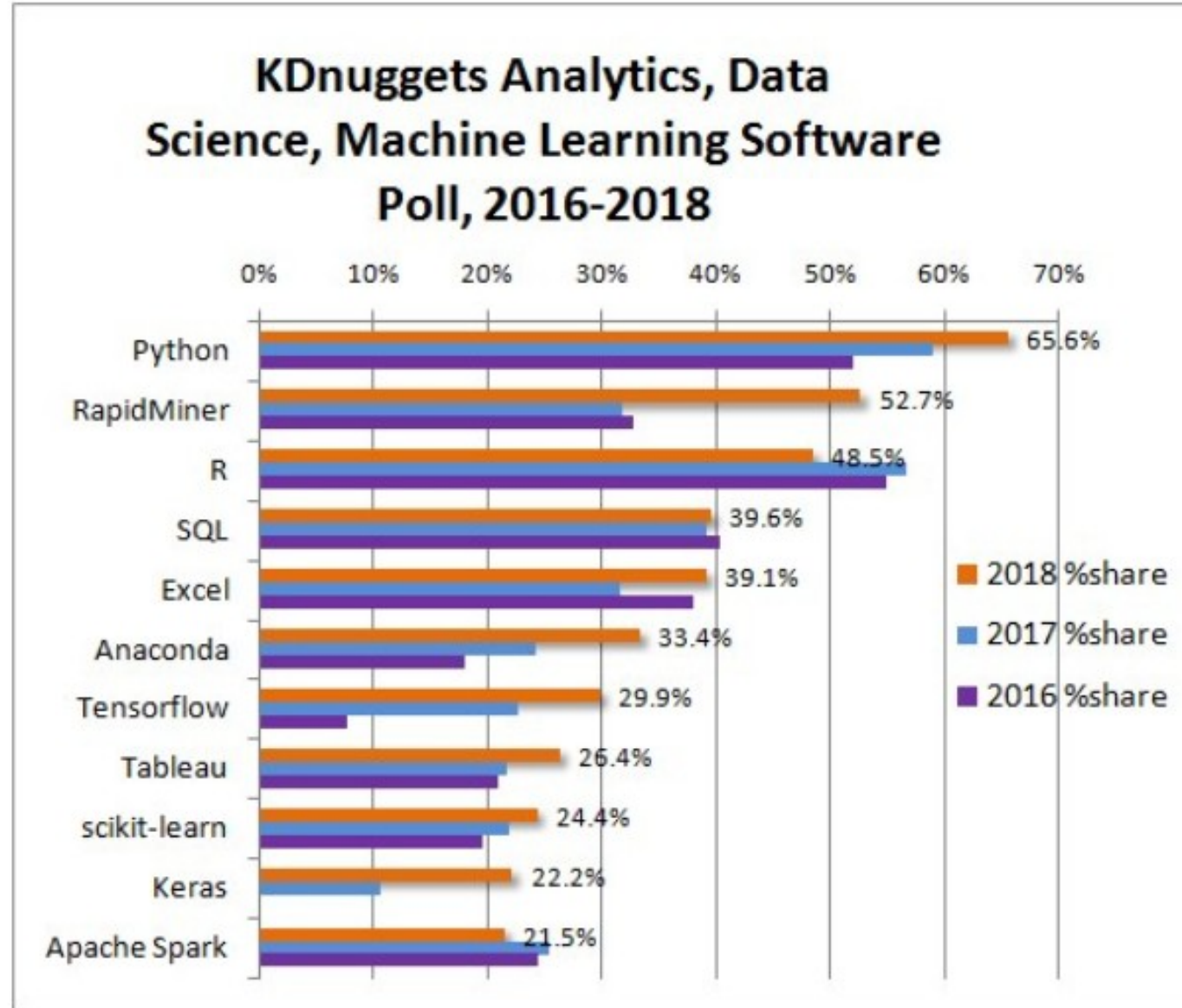
# Top Data Science Tools Associations (2017 KDnuggets Survey)



Ref:

<http://www.kdnuggets.com/2017/06/ecosystem-data-science-machine-learning-software.html>

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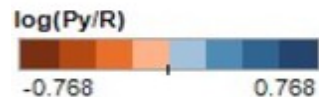
Ref:

<https://www.kdnuggets.com/2018/05/poll-tools-analytics-data-science-machine-learning-results.html>

# Deep Learning vs Spark/Hadoop affinity for top Data Science Tools(2017 KDnuggets)



Circle size  
corresponds to  
tool share of use,  
and color  
to Python (blue) vs  
R (Orange) bias.

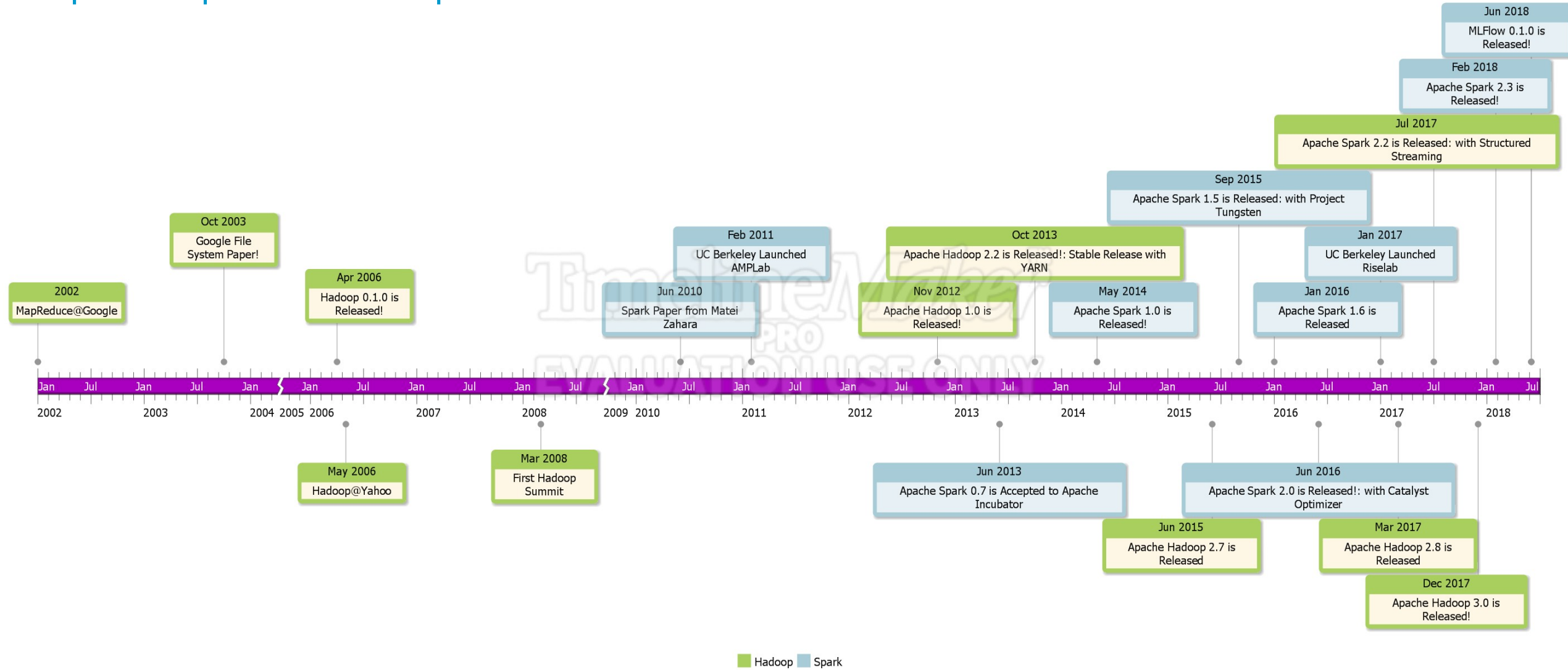


Ref:

<http://www.kdnuggets.com/2017/06/ecosystem-data-science-machine-learning-software.html/2>



# Apache Spark & Hadoop Timeline



Created with Timeline Maker Pro v4. Produced on Aug 11 2018.