Data Security and Anonymization

Introduction

Data security and privacy are paramount concerns in today's digital world, particularly when dealing with sensitive information. Organizations must ensure that individuals' data is protected and anonymized to prevent unauthorized access and comply with privacy regulations.

This project focuses on data security and anonymization using PySparkSQL in Azure Databricks. The goal is to implement techniques to anonymize sensitive data and ensure compliance with privacy regulations within Azure Databricks. By leveraging PySparkSQL's capabilities, we can process and anonymize large datasets efficiently, making it suitable for real-world applications.

The project will involve generating a sample dataset containing sensitive information such as names, emails, SSNs, and phone numbers. We will then use PySparkSQL to anonymize this data, applying techniques such as hashing to protect the privacy of individuals' information.

Through this project, we aim to demonstrate how organizations can use PySparkSQL in Azure Databricks to enhance data security and privacy, ensuring that sensitive information is protected and compliance with privacy regulations is maintained.

Project Overview

The project aims to anonymize sensitive data in a sample dataset using PySparkSQL in Azure Databricks. This involves generating fake data, applying anonymization techniques such as hashing, and saving the anonymized data to a new CSV file. The goal is to protect the privacy of individuals' information while ensuring compliance with privacy regulations.

Architecture diagram

Execution Overview

1. **Setting up Azure Databricks:**
    - Create an Azure Databricks workspace.
    - Set up Azure Storage for data storage.
2. **Uploading Source Data:**
    - Upload the source data file containing sensitive information to Azure Databricks.
3. **Creating the PySparkSQL Script:**
    - Develop a PySparkSQL script that reads the source data, anonymizes it, and saves the anonymized data to a new CSV file.
4. **Executing the PySparkSQL Script:**
    - Run the PySparkSQL script in an Azure Databricks notebook to process the data.
5. **Analyzing the Results:**

- Review the output CSV file containing the anonymized data to ensure that the data has been successfully anonymized.

Key-components/Requirements of the Project

1. **Azure Databricks:** Azure Databricks is a fast, easy, and collaborative Apache Spark-based analytics platform. It provides an interactive workspace for data engineers, data scientists, and analysts to collaborate on big data and machine learning projects. In this project, Azure Databricks is used to run PySparkSQL scripts for data processing and anonymization.
2. **Azure Storage:** Azure Storage is a cloud storage solution that provides scalable, secure, and highly available storage for data. In this project, Azure Storage is used to store the source data file containing sensitive information and the output CSV file containing the anonymized data. Azure Storage provides durability and accessibility for the data files used in the project.
3. **Azure Databricks File System (DBFS):** Azure Databricks File System (DBFS) is a distributed file system that is compatible with the Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS). It allows users to access and manage files stored in Azure Storage from within Azure Databricks. In this project, the output CSV file containing the anonymized data is saved to DBFS.
4. **Azure Databricks Cluster:** Azure Databricks Cluster is a group of virtual machines (VMs) that are used to process data in parallel. It provides the computing resources needed to execute PySparkSQL scripts and other data processing tasks. In this project, a Databricks Cluster is used to execute the PySparkSQL script for data anonymization.
5. **Azure Databricks Notebook:** Azure Databricks Notebook is an interactive environment for running code and visualizing data. It allows users to write and execute PySparkSQL scripts, Python code, and SQL queries. In this project, a Databricks Notebook is used to write and execute the PySparkSQL script for data anonymization.

Tasks Performed:

1. **Data Generation:** Generate a sample dataset with fake names, emails, SSNs, phone numbers, types of care, and insurance types using the Faker library.
2. **Data Anonymization:** Anonymize the **name**, **email**, **ssn**, and **phone_number** columns using MD5 hashing to protect sensitive information.
3. **Spark Implementation:** Use PySparkSQL to read the sample dataset, apply anonymization techniques, and write the anonymized data to a new CSV file.
4. **File Input/Output:** Read the sample dataset from a CSV file, anonymize the data, and save the anonymized data to a new CSV file.

Technologies/Tools Used

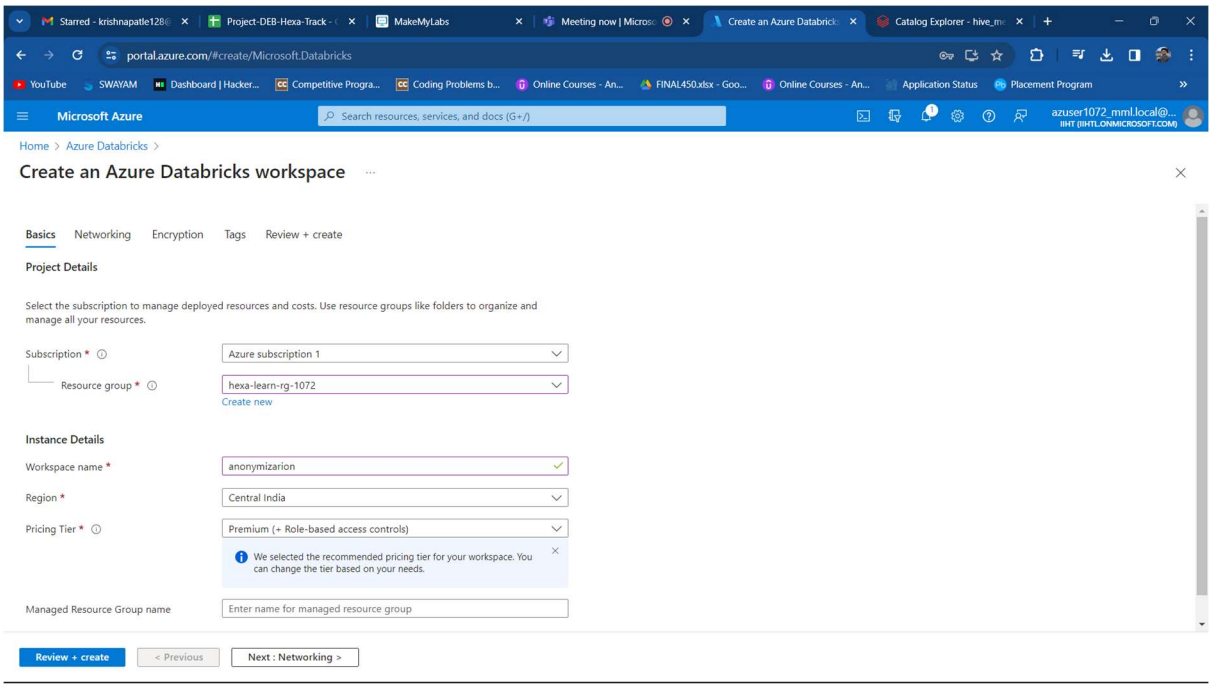
1. **Azure Databricks:** Azure Databricks is a cloud-based analytics platform built on Apache Spark. It provides a collaborative environment for data scientists, data engineers, and business analysts to work together on big data and machine learning projects. In this project, Azure Databricks is used for running PySparkSQL scripts to process and anonymize data.
2. **PySparkSQL:** PySparkSQL is the Python API for Spark SQL, which is a module in Apache Spark for processing structured data. PySparkSQL allows users to run SQL queries and manipulate data using DataFrame APIs. In this project, PySparkSQL is used to read, process, and anonymize the source data.
3. **Faker:** Faker is a Python library that generates fake data such as names, addresses, and phone numbers. It is used in this project to create a sample dataset for testing and demonstration purposes.
4. **Hashlib:** Hashlib is a Python library that provides cryptographic hashing functions. In this project, hashlib is used to hash sensitive data such as names, emails, SSNs, and phone numbers for anonymization.
5. **Azure Storage:** Azure Storage is a cloud storage solution provided by Microsoft Azure. It is used in this project to store the source data file and

the anonymized data file. Azure Storage provides scalable, secure, and reliable storage for big data applications.

How It works

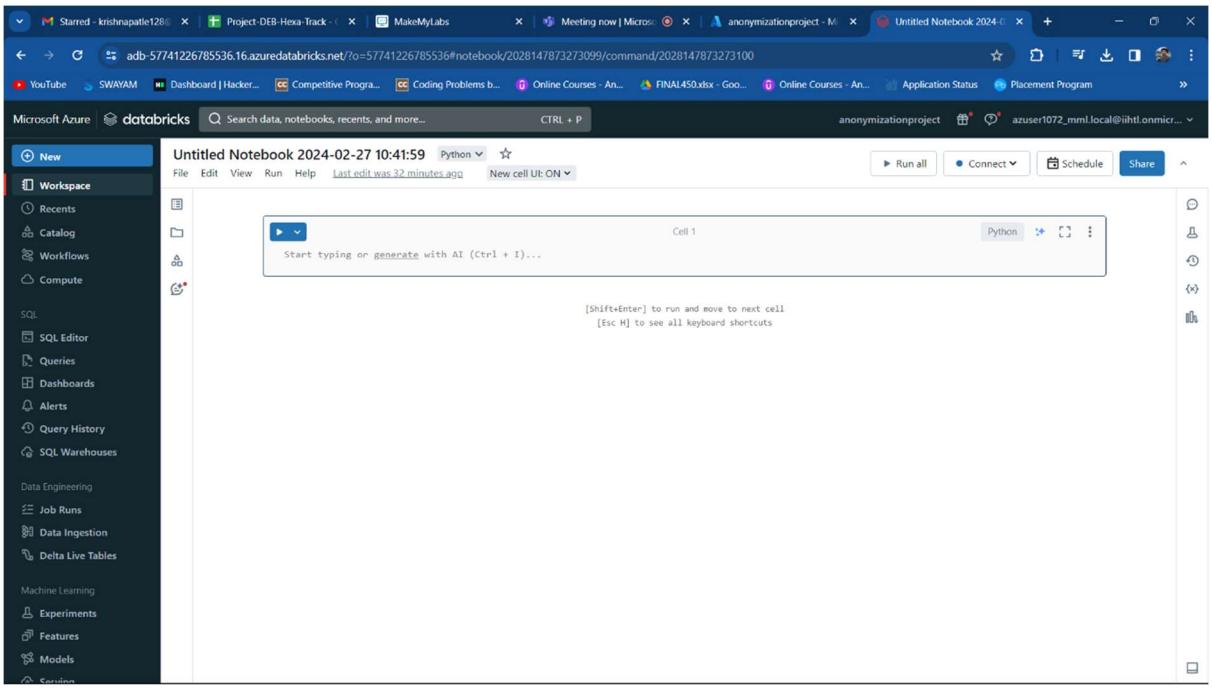
1. Setting Up Azure Databricks Environment:

   - Sign in to the Azure portal and create an Azure Databricks workspace. Configure workspace settings, including pricing tier, region, and workspace name.



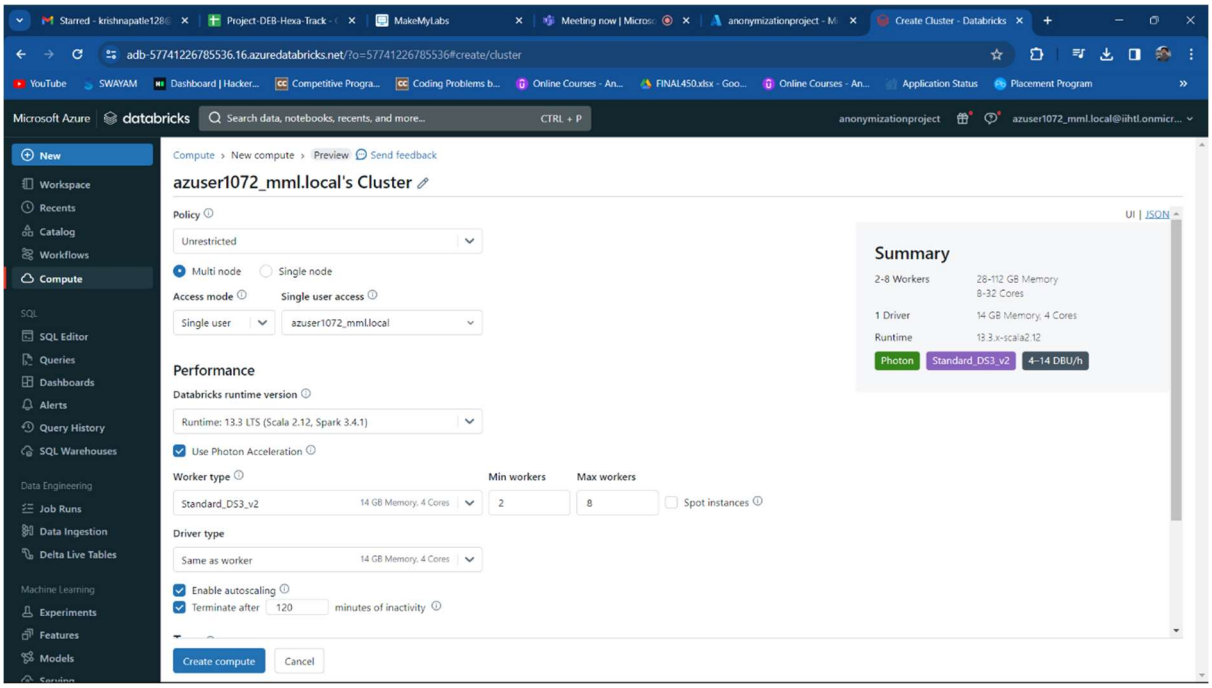
2. Developing PySpark Notebooks:

   - Create a new PySpark notebook within the Databricks workspace. Begin writing PySpark code to perform ETL operations, data transformations, and other data processing tasks.



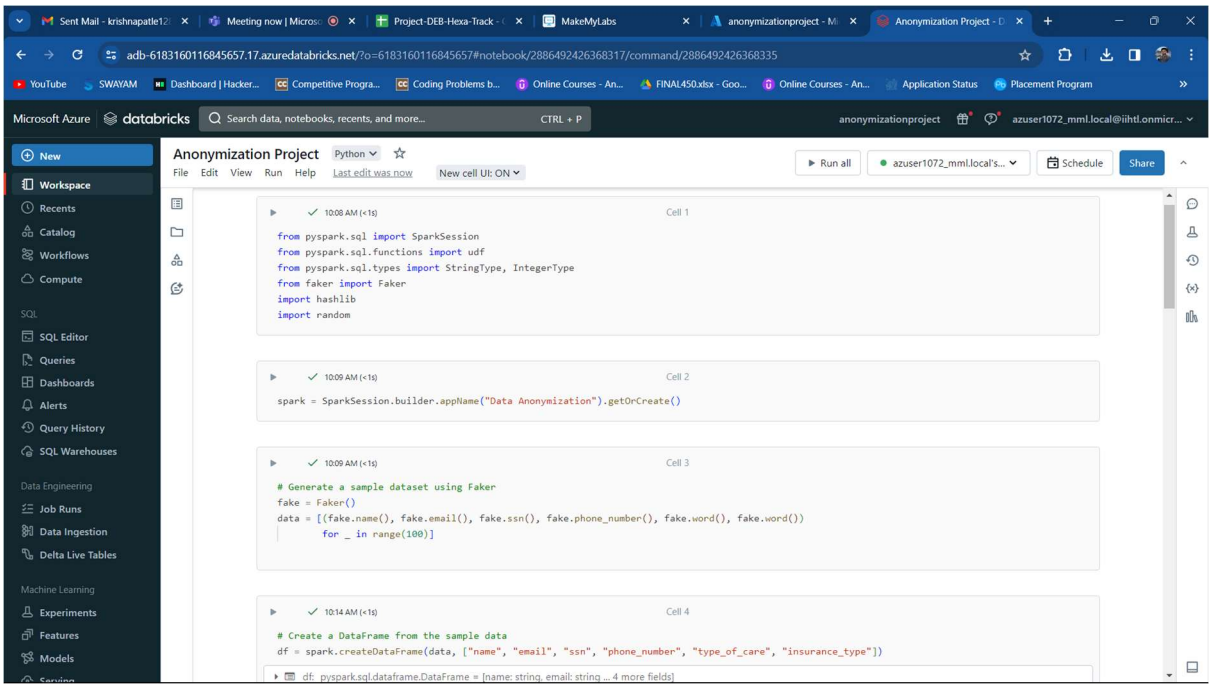
3. <u>Create Cluster and Connecting to notebook</u>

   - The cluster is created with 4 working nodes and autoscaling is enabled which automatically adjust cluster size to accommodate changes in workload demand, allowing for seamless scalability without manual intervention.

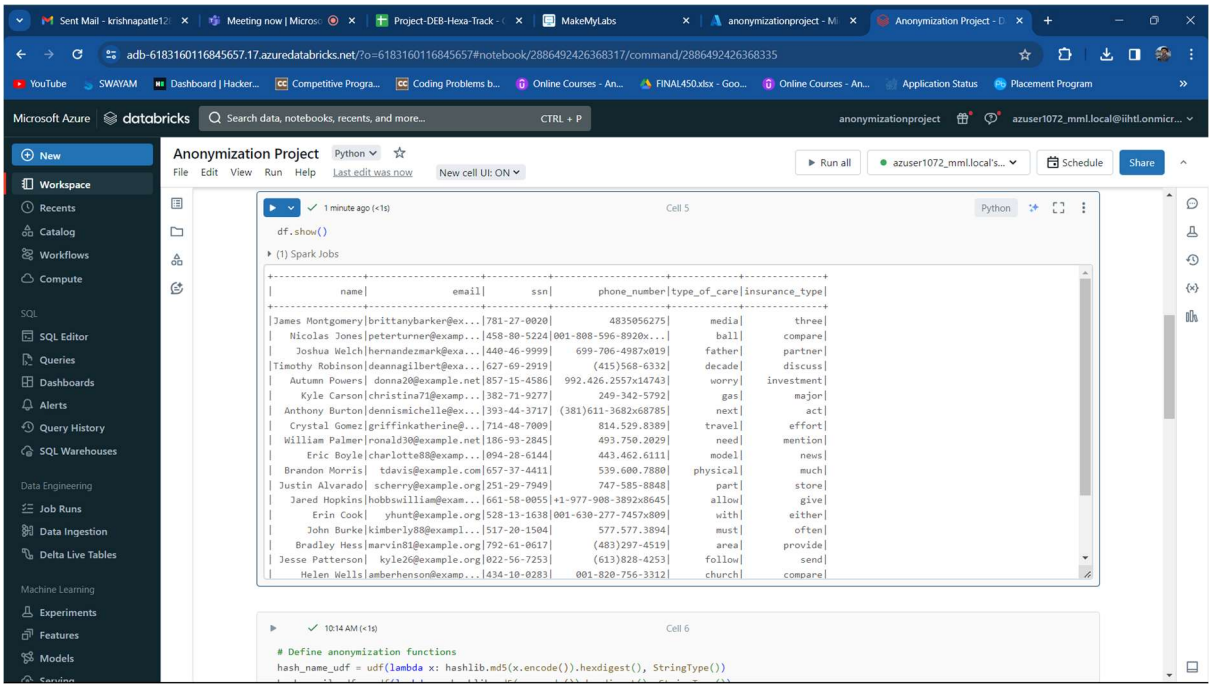


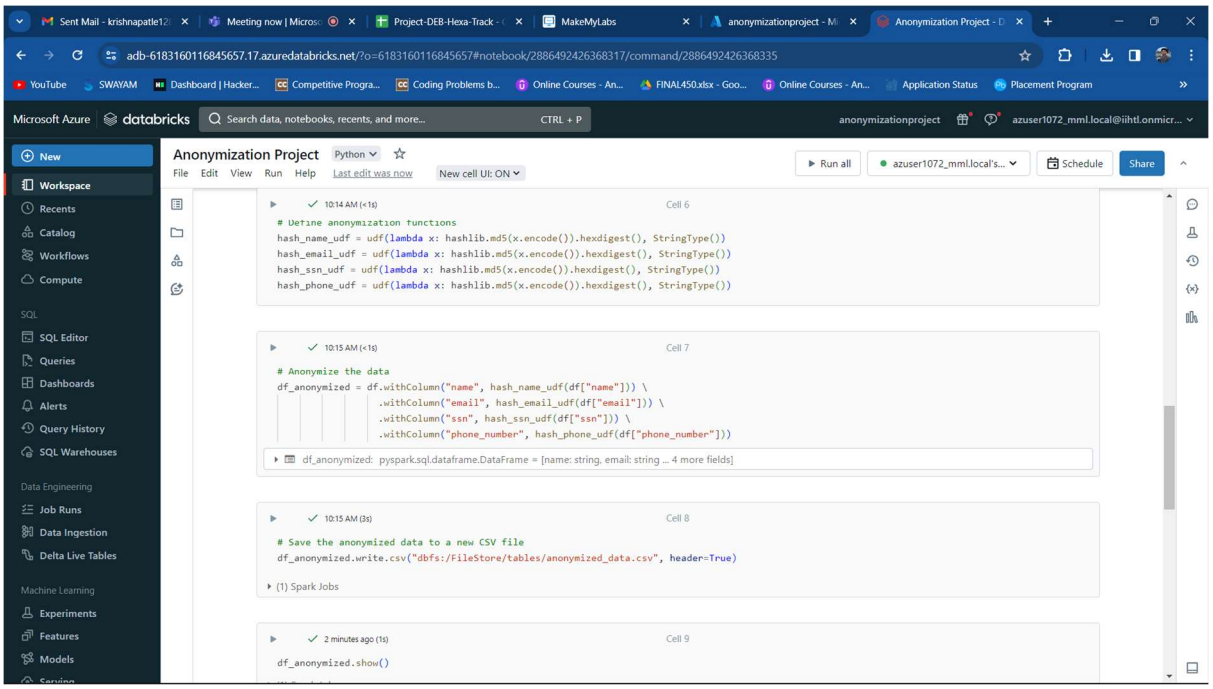
4. Importing Necessary libraries and Creating Spark Session:

   - Use SparkSession.builder to configure and create a SparkSession. specify the application name using .appName() and configure any additional Spark options using .config(). Finally, call .getOrCreate() to either create a new SparkSession



5. Generate a sample dataset using Faker and apply anonymization techniques:





6. Project Output:

name	email	ssn	phone_number	type_of_care	insurance_type
1139f72de7879191e...	339b3f53907348d79...	a367d8e6e40da2bd7...	6883c9c9d3d14b282...	media	three
d35c817ad038f664a...	537af6eaaaf24e980...	d5254f549dc44dd81...	4bce5beb5196f0bb6...	ball	compare
177008ca133af3346...	d4ec442e26cd77af6...	a66dcffeb359e8a5b...	62822532be3f2005d...	father	partner
3a29e477f119ca5f4...	1a1907a3a7074fe52...	0a91011eebe7c4593...	366e50e7c4cce1bf4...	decade	discuss
b9de6a05307dff37d...	1d519fb24ad8f6f0b...	b35684c7004d687f0...	07e158f10324e52c2...	worry	investment
48f80f3f1474abb40...	0fe325b532d735622...	73fc2df6884806fde...	489e3487049551eef...	gas	major
fe92e9cf60e58e4ea...	155a43a3672af9aff...	6cefa718029824e0f...	eca4554f0eb7acb2d...	next	act
9bf52b8261f98f0d6...	d63ffb233db24f774...	cf439bf28323af3bc...	9fd6e285551281041...	travel	effort
9bf061c5b344735f4...	ecbf0258f41c5e420...	ff240bb5d95193254...	627f4c052efa2bf69...	need	mention
c8f4f5c927671b78d...	0c582d0bc36c4964b...	6e2f08b77746fdf0b...	286ff7fa69cec1dd2...	model	news
9f5f04e93109f0810...	9143c41d99789f014...	8039fcba767cc076d...	54944a947d1fc4357...	physical	much
3499ba7cfd7cb7655...	cca6226bb229961b7...	66d8383dc6a2ec4cc...	d9fe8e57925f84715...	part	store
b7f4449ae03348d3f...	286c603ed35e7a9f8...	5a9cebb76b8ab4e93...	2cda7dba32f3689d1...	allow	give
a4ddb6513275224f5...	415ccef2fac73e56c...	3b2e7f26fa7a24536...	36c06f8a6639aefda...	with	either
fb81d623e50573838...	212c1cd0e47a10a0b...	2b973d47882aed0a3...	cc3aebdb99651d4c3...	must	often
03bfa28902f342b0b...	cbd68cc538de71a16...	be499171d433854fb...	eadcdce92f3c8e23c...	area	provide
af35066fa44d43bc4...	94d27739d3f489275...	386c11ccb034a3b4b...	6f04a287aaae6cc9c...	follow	send
fe3d62874383ce1b4...	377013f4d6c71b93b...	eecab592da2a79058...	209e74260270f91b3...	church	compare

Conclusion:

By applying anonymization techniques to the sample dataset, we have successfully protected sensitive information such as names, emails, SSNs, and phone numbers. This project demonstrates how PySparkSQL can be used for data anonymization in compliance with privacy regulations.