Unified Data Applications with Shiny on Delta Lakes (**Shiny Lakehouse**)

Hossein Falaki

@mhfalaki





A unified data analytics platform for accelerating innovation across data engineering, data science, and analytics

- Global company with over 5,000 customers and 450+ partners
- Original creators of popular data and machine learning open source projects









Data Apps and Shiny

- Most enterprises (and vendors) focus on BI
 - Large addressable market
 - Easier to manage because of declarative SQL interface
- Data scientists (advanced users) prefer building dashboards using code
 - Data access is not restricted to SQL
 - Ability to use third-party packages
 - Non-trivial data manipulation
 - Ultimate control over Ul layout
 - Easy transition from EDA to presentation
- Shiny is the most popular framework for data apps.



Data Apps and Big Data

- Data grows fast (exponentially)
 - Very common quote: "our data grew beyond our assumptions"
- Data evolves
 - Data schema changes
 - New streams of data
 - New sources
 - New dimensions
 - New use cases
- Value/insight from data compounds as metadata grows
 - You want to join/merge additional datasets with your input

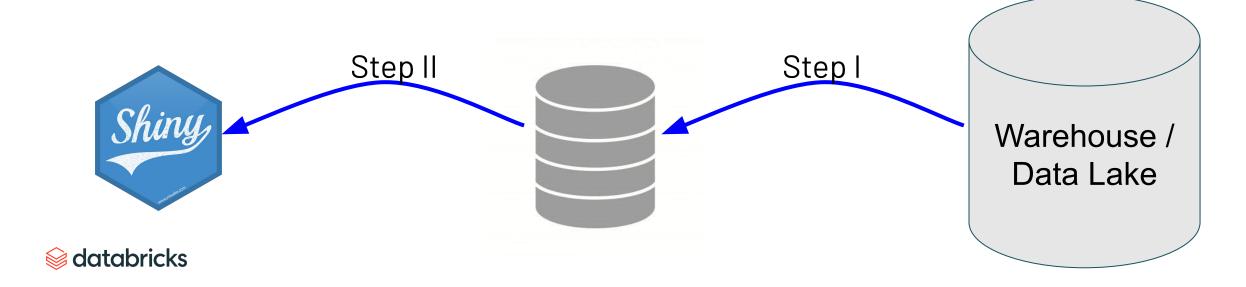


Two-stage architecture

Step I: Extract data from the Data Lake or Data Warehouse and stage it

- Filtering
- Aggregation (summarization)
- Sampling

Step II: Read staged data from disk or RDBMS into R (Shiny) and present



Pros and Cons

- Pros
 - Minimal change to existing Shiny application's data access patterns (Step I)
- Cons
 - Two data pipelines to maintain
 - Staged data gets stale
 - Data governance may have issues with the staging step

We have been working with many data teams to streamline and unify their data pipeline using the **lakehouse** pattern.



What is the Lakehouse

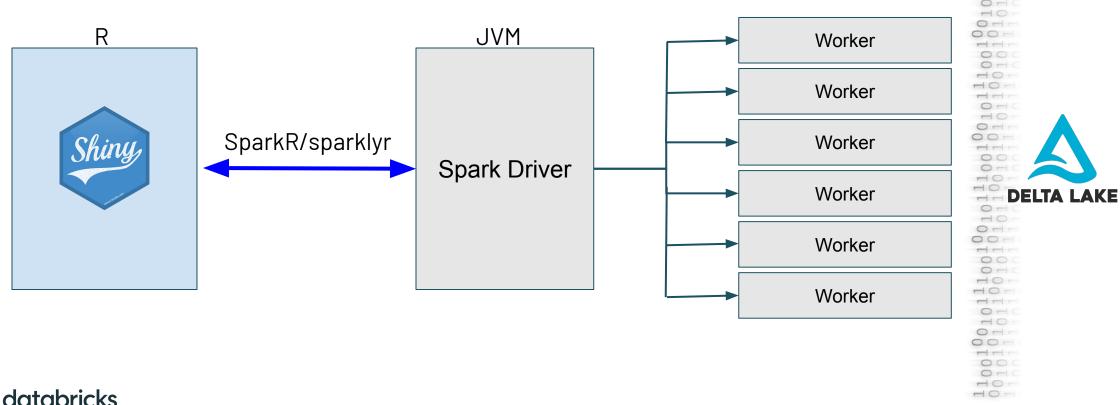
Data management features similar to data warehouses, directly on the low cost storage used for data lakes.

- ACID Transactional support
- Schema enforcement and governance
- Decoupled storage from compute
- Open storage formats
- Diverse data type support: e.g., images, audio, semi-structured data
- Enabling end-to-end streaming
- Support for diverse workloads



The Unified Architecture: Shiny Lakehouse

With Apache Spark and Delta you can directly operate on the Data Lake





SparkR/sparklyr

R packages to program Apache Spark.

- Provide R API front-end to (wrappers for) Apache Spark
- Expose Spark DataFrames (a.k.a. tables)
- Convenient interoperability between R data.frames and Spark DF





Robust distributed processing, vast data sources, in-memory computing, ...



Dynamic environment, interactivity, large package ecosystem, visualization, ...

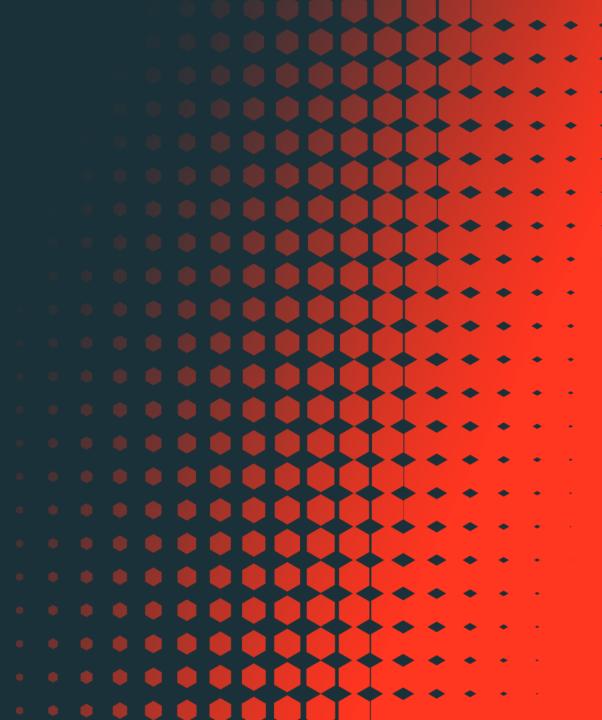


Access big data directly from a Shiny app

```
library('shiny')
library (SparkR)
sparkR.session()
uiFunc <- basicPage( ... )</pre>
serverFunc <- function(input, output) {</pre>
  df <- read.df(source = "delta", path = input$path)</pre>
  output$records <- nrow(df)</pre>
shinyApp(ui = uiFunc, server = serverFunc)
```



Demo



Databricks Unified Data Analytics Platform

DATA ENGINEERS

DATA SCIENTISTS

ML ENGINEERS

DATA ANALYSTS

Data science, ML, and analytics on one cloud platform

Access all business and big data in **open data lake**

Securely integrates with your **cloud ecosystem**





A&Q



For fun: big compute from a Shiny app

```
library('shiny')
library (SparkR)
sparkR.session()
monte.carlo <- function() { ... }</pre>
ui <- basicPage( numericInput('num', label = 'Number of runs, value = 1))</pre>
server <- function(input, output) {</pre>
  res <- spark.lapply(1:input$num, monte.carlo)</pre>
  output$mean <- renderPrint({ mean(res) })</pre>
  output$sd <- renderPrint({ sd(res) })</pre>
shinyApp(ui, server)
```

