Module 4 :

Big Data Analysis using Apache Spark

ALY 6110: Big Data and Data Management

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Module 3: Topics

- Introduction to Spark
- Key Modules
- How does Spark work?
- Installation of Spark
- Load data into Spark
- Building Spark Application using Maven

- Reference Books for Machine Learning using Spark
  - Adi Polak (2023). Scaling Machine Learning with Spark : distributed ML with MLlib, Tensorflow, and PyTorch
  - Luu Hien (2021). Beginning Apache Spark 3 : with DataFrame, Spark SQL, structured streaming, and Spark machine learning library
  - Jules S. Damji, Denny Lee, Brooke Wenig, Tathagata Das, Denny Lee (2020). Learning Spark: lightning-fast data analytics
  - Butch Quinto (2020) Next-Generation Machine Learning with Spark : Covers XGBoost, LightGBM, Spark NLP, Distributed Deep Learning with Keras, and More.
  - Javier Luraschi, Kevin Kuo, Edgar Ruiz (2019). Mastering Spark with R: https://therinspark.com/
  - Micheal Bowles (2019). Machine Learning with Spark and Python.

Introduction to Spark

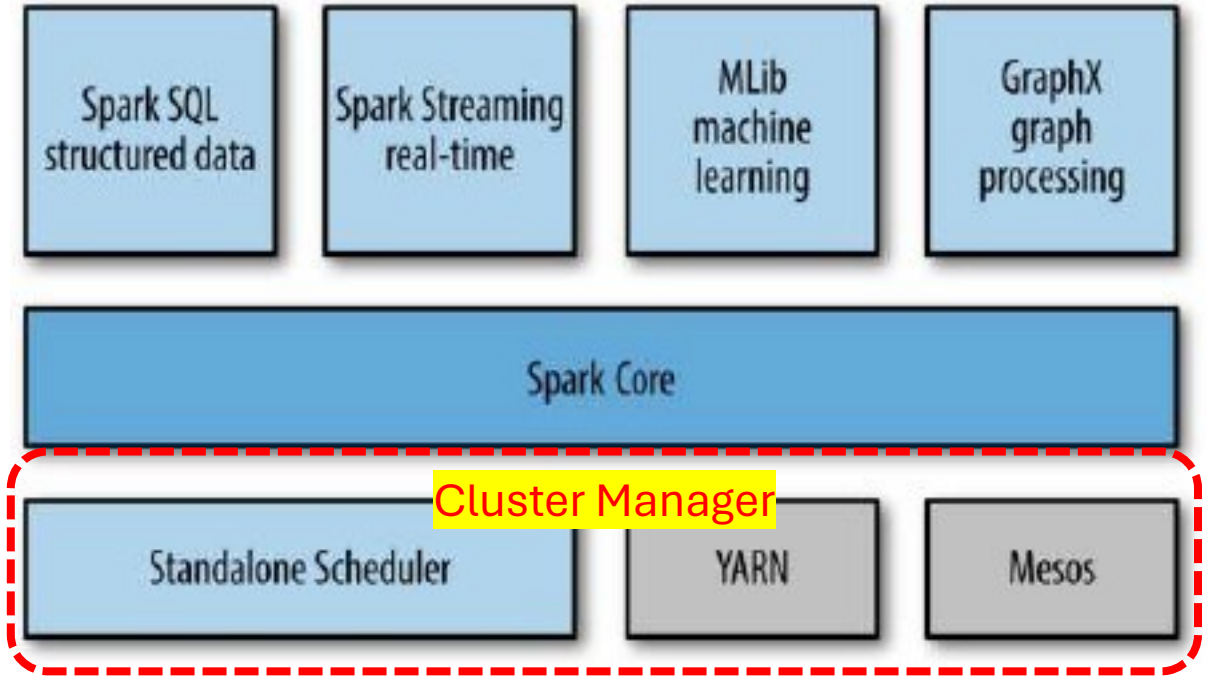
Introduction to Spark

- Spark is an open-source software solution that performs rapid calculations on in-memory distributed datasets referred as RDDs (Resilient Distributed Datasets);
  - RDD is a distributed collections of objects that can be cached in memory across cluster and can be manipulated in parallel;
  - RDD could be automatically recomputed on failure;
- Spark is designed as extension of MapReduce model to efficiently support a wide range of computational workloads including batch applications, iterative algorithms, interactive queries and stream processing;
- Spark is designed to be highly accessible:
  - offers simple APIs in Python, Java, Scala, SQL, and
  - Has rich built-in libraries;

Key Modules

Key Modules

- Spark has six core modules
- Spark Core: contains the basic functionality of Spark, including components:
  - Task scheduling;
  - Memory management;
  - Fault recovery;
  - Interacting with storage systems, etc.



- Spark SQL: is Spark's package for working with structured data
  - allows querying data via SQL as well as the Apache Hive variant of SQL—Hive Query Language (HQL)—and it supports many sources of data, including Hive tables, Parquet, and JSON
  - allows intermixing of SQL queries with the programmatic data manipulations in Python, Java, and Scala, all within a single application, thus combining SQL with complex analytics.

Key Modules

- **Spark Streaming:** enables processing of live streams of data such as log files of web servers, or queues of messages.
  - **Spark Streaming API** for manipulating data streams closely matches the Spark Core's RDD API, making it easy to move between apps to manipulate data in memory, on disk, or arriving in real time;

- **MLib:** is a library containing common machine learning functionalities
  - Provides multiple types of machine learning algorithms, including classification, regression, clustering, and collaborative filtering, as well as supporting functionality such as model evaluation and data import;
  - All of ML methods are designed to scale out across a cluster.

- **GraphX:** is a library for manipulating graphs (e.g., a social network's friend graph) and performing graph-parallel computations;
  - Extends the Spark RDD API, allowing to create a directed graph with arbitrary properties attached to each vertex and edge;
  - Provides various operators for manipulating graphs (e.g., subgraph and mapVertices) and a library of common graph algorithms (e.g., PageRank and triangle counting).

Key Modules

- **Cluster Manager:** allow Spark to efficiently scale up from one to many thousands of compute nodes;
  - Spark can run over a variety of cluster managers, including
    - Hadoop YARN,
    - Apache Mesos,
    - Standalone Scheduler and a simple cluster manager included in Spark itself);

How does Spark work?

How does Spark work?

- RDD: Your data is loaded in parallel into structured collections
- Actions: Manipulate the state of the working model by forming new RDDs and performing calculations upon them
- Persistence: Long-term storage of an RDD's state

- Spark Application is a definition in code of
  - RDD creation
  - Actions
  - Persistence

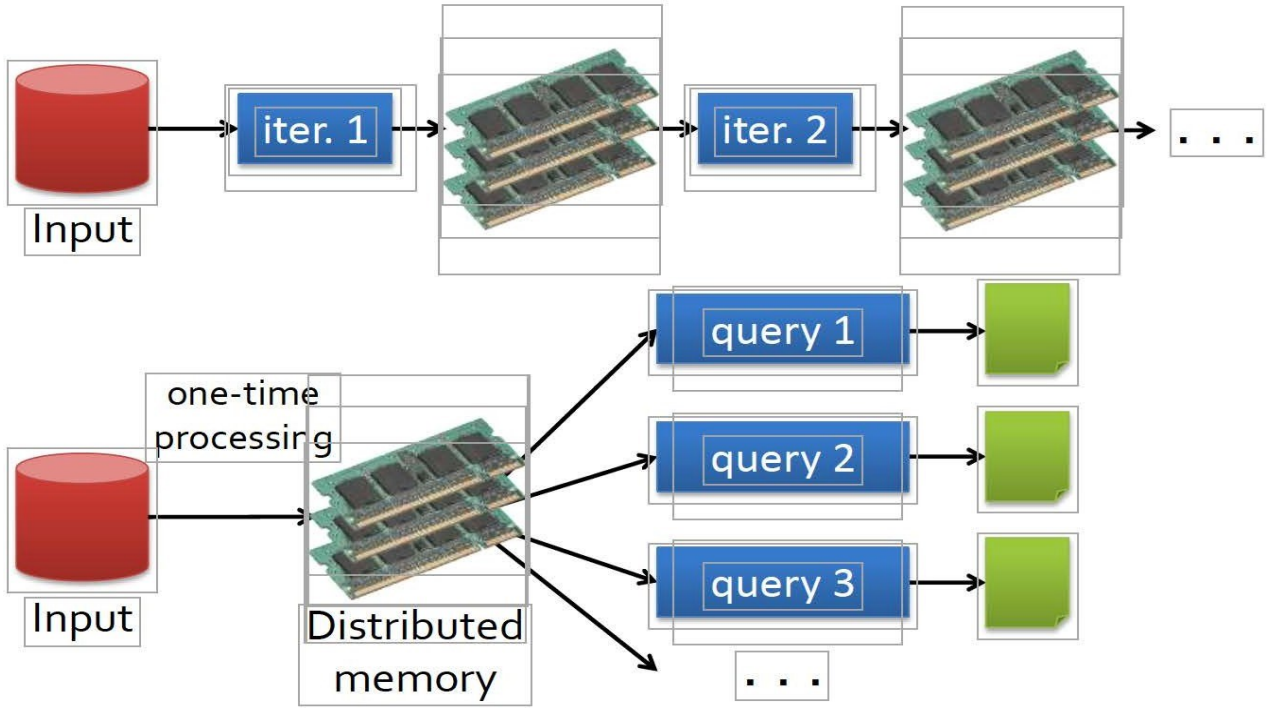
- Spark Application results in the creation of a DAG (Directed Acyclic Graph)
  - Each DAG is compiled into stages
  - Each Stage is executed as a series of Tasks
  - Each Task operates in parallel on assigned partitions
  - It all starts with the SparkContext 'sc'

How does Spark work?

Spark is much smarter, it keeps all results in memory

Distributed memory is 10-100X faster than network and disk Data Sharing in Spark

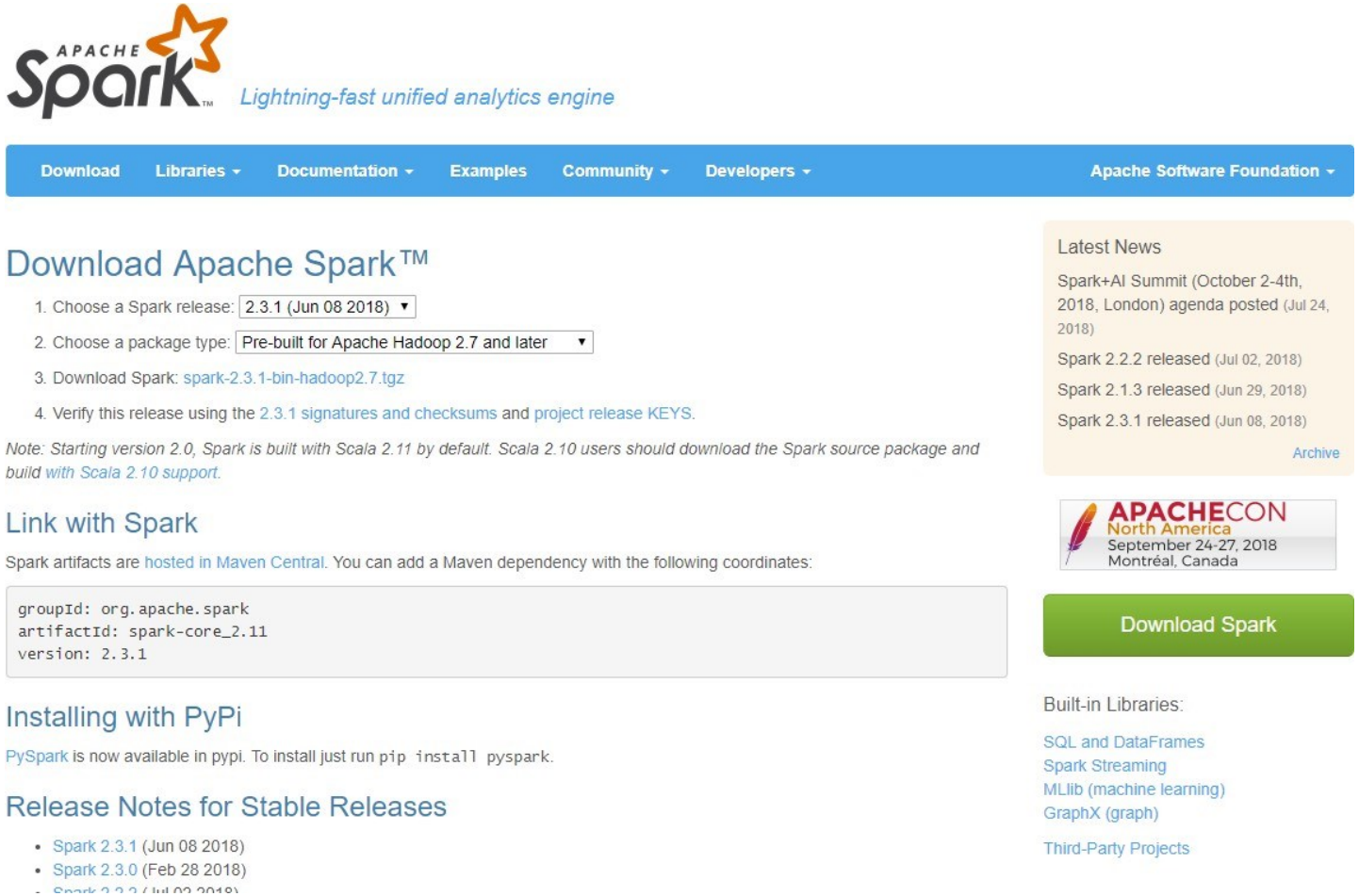
Spark's speed comes from its ability to run computations in memory;



Installation of Spark

Installation of Spark

- Visit http://spark.apache.org/downloads and fetch the latest release of Spark;
- There are a few options on what can be downloaded:
  - The source code;
  - Binaries;



- Use Maven for Source Code installation

Installation of Spark

- Working with Cloudera's VM-s we will do the following:
  - Make sure we have JDK 7+ installed;
  - Make sure we have hadoop-client package installed;

- For example, you could do:

  $ sudo yum install hadoop-client

  - yum will either install the package or tell you it is already there;

- Make sure all HDFS and YARN services are installed and running;
- Stop them and start them all;
- Use yum to run installation of Spark, by typing all on one line:

  $ sudo yum install spark-core spark-master spark-worker spark-history-server spark-python

  - Answer Yes to all the questions during installation process executed by yum

Installation of Spark

- Set your SPARK_HOME environment variable to /usr/lib/spark
- Add $SPARK_HOME/bin to your PATH environmental variable.
  - …. And you are all set now!

- yum made sure that you have Spark version which matches your Hadoop (Yarn) version;

- Without any further changes we will run Spark locally on this single machine;

Spark Interactive Shells for Python, Scala, R

- Spark comes with interactive shells that enable ad hoc data analysis.
- Spark's shells allow interaction with data distributed on disks or in memory across many machines.
- Spark can load data into memory on the worker nodes, and distributed computations, even ones that process large volumes of data across many machines, can run in a few seconds;
- This makes iterative, ad hoc, and exploratory analysis commonly done in shells a good fit for Spark;

Spark Interactive Shells for Python, Scala, R

- Spark provides both (and only) Python and Scala shells that have been augmented to support access to a cluster of machines.
- Python shell opens with PySpark command;
- Scala shell is very similar and opens with spark-shell command;
- You can program Spark from R using package SparkR;

Spark Interactive Shells: PySpark

PySpark

[cloudera@localhost conf]$ ***pyspark***

Python 2.8.1 (r231:90122, Aug 23 2025, 23:20:16)

[GCC 4.4.7 20201212 (Red Hat 7.4.1-11)] on linux2

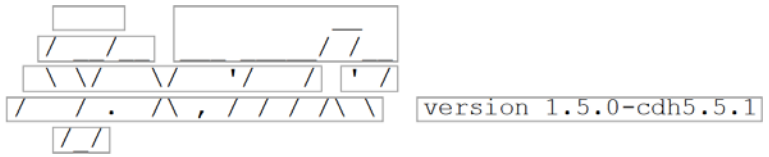
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information. SLF4J: Class path contains multiple SLF4J bindings.

SLF4J: Found binding in [jar:file:/usr/lib/zookeeper/lib/slf4j-log4j12-1.7.5.jar!/org/slf4j/impl/StaticLoggerBinder.class]

SLF4J: Found binding in [jar:file:/usr/lib/flume-ng/lib/slf4j-log4j12-1.7.5.jar!/org/slf4j/impl/StaticLoggerBinder.class]

SLF4J: See http://www.slf4j.org/codes.html#multiple_bindings for an explanation.

SLF4J: Actual binding is of type [org.slf4j.impl.Log4jLoggerFactory] Welcome to



Using Python version 2.6.6 (r266:84292, Jul 23 2015 15:22:56)

SparkContext available as sc, HiveContext available as sqlContext.

>>>

Spark Interactive Shells: PySpark

- The output is long and annoying. It would have been even longer had we not created log4j.properties file in the directory $SPARK_HOME/conf;
- You create that file by copying provided file log4j.properties.template and by changing line:
  - log4j.rootCategory=INFO, console **to:** log4j.rootCategory=ERROR, console
  - That lowered the logging level so that we see only the ERROR messages, and above;

- Another option is WARN, which is more verbose that ERROR but less than INFO;

- Before we proceed, let's see what kind of files and how many lines we have in HDFS
- hadoop fs –ls ulysis

  -rw-r--r-- 1 cloudera 5258688 2015-04-01 14:32 input/4300.txt
- hadoop fs -cat ulysis/4300.txt | wc

  33056 267980 1573079

Load data into Spark

Load data into Spark

- **Load Data (RDD) from HDFS {Python commands}**
- We create an RDD when we load some data (i.e. a file) into a shell variable:
- >>> lines = sc.textFile("ulysis/4300.txt")
- >>> lines.count()

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- We populated that RDD called “lines” with data in HDFS file “ulysis/4300.txt”;
  - “sc” stands for an implicit SparkContext that allows us to communicate with the execution environment;
  - RDD-s are objects and has many methods,
  - The method count() gives the number of lines in file 4300.txt;

Load data into Spark

- **Load Data (RDD) from Local File (i.e. on your VM desktop) {Python commands}**
- You can find the 4300.txt file in **/home/cloudera** directory and could do the following:

- We create an RDD when we load some data (i.e. a file) into a shell variable:
- >>> blines = sc.textFile("file:///home/cloudera/4300.txt")
- >>> blines.count()

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- You can print the first row using method
- >>> blines.first()

Load data into Spark: Source Formats

- Spark makes it very simple to load and save data in a large number of file formats;
- Spark transparently handles compressed formats based on the file extension;
- We can use both Hadoop's new and old file APIs for keyed (or paired) data;
- We can use those only with key/value data;

Format Name	Structured	Comments
Text File	No	Plain old text files. Records assumed to be one per line.
JSON	Semi	Common text-based format, semi-structured; most libraries require one record per line.
CSV	YES	Very common text-based format, often used with spreadsheet applications.
SequenceFile	YES	A common Hadoop file format used for key/value data
Protocol buffer	YES	A fast, space-efficient multi-language format
Object file	YES	Useful for saving data from a Spark job to be consumed by shared code. Breaks if you change your classes, as it relies on Java Serialization.