Follow the steps below to install and configure Spark on Windows.

Installing Prerequisites:

1. Java

Spark requires Java 1.8.x or above

Check if Java is already available by opening the command prompt and giving the command as shown here.

```
C:\>java -version

java version "1.8.0_281"

Java(TM) SE Runtime Environment (build 1.8.0_281-b09)

Java HotSpot(TM) 64-Bit Server VM (build 25.281-b09, mixed mode)
```

If not available, then download JDK that is appropriate to your system from official Oracle website from the link below and install it.

```
https://www.oracle.com/in/java/technologies/javase/javase8u211-later-archive-downloads.html
```

After installing check as shown above and make sure the correct version is installed and available. Also, make a note of the folder where it is installed as we will need the path later.

Note: If you are going to use Spark only with Scala then Python installation is not required and you can skip the following step.

2. Python

Python 3.x is required to run PySpark.

Check if Python is already from the command prompt as shown here.

```
C:\>python --version
Python 3.9.7
```

You can download the Python installer from the link below and install it.

```
https://www.python.org/downloads/windows/
```

For an IDE, based on your requirement you can choose to install Jupyter or Anaconda or PyCharm community edition.

```
https://jupyter.org/install
https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/download/?section=windows or
https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/download/download-
thanks.html?platform=windows&code=PCC
https://www.anaconda.com/products/individual
```

While or after installing make sure that Python installation folder is added to the path.

Installing Spark:

Download Spark from Apache Spark web site:

https://spark.apache.org/downloads.html

Choose Spark release: most recent release as now is 3.5.5

Most importantly choose package type: Pre-built for Apache Hadoop 3.3

Download Apache Spark™

- Choose a Spark release: 3.5.5 (Feb 27 2025) ✓
- 2. Choose a package type: Pre-built for Apache Hadoop 3.3 and later
- 3. Download Spark: spark-3.5.5-bin-hadoop3.tgz
- Verify this release using the 3.5.5 signatures, checksums and project release KEYS by following these procedures.

Copy the above file into a folder C:\Spark Make sure not to use spaces in the folder names.

Extract the files into a sub-folder say spark-3.5.5-bin-hadoop3 using a utility like 7-Zip or WinRAR that is available on your system.

Note that if you use 7-Zip, from the above .tgz file it first extracts .tar file. You need to use 7-Zip on the .tar file one more time and extract the files and folders from it.

Make a note of the folder where it is installed as we will need the path later.

Adding Hadoop winutils.exe:

To run Apache Spark on windows, you need Hadoop utilities winutils.exe and hadoop.dll

Download them from:

```
https://github.com/cdarlint/winutils/blob/master/hadoop-3.3.5/bin/winutils.exe
https://github.com/cdarlint/winutils/blob/master/hadoop-3.3.5/bin/hadoop.dll
```

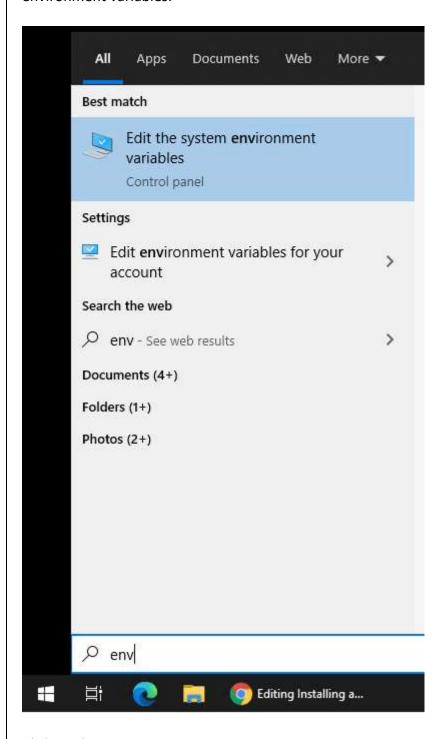
Make sure you download the winutils.exe file corresponding to the Spark and Hadoop version you are using.

Create a folder C:\Hadoop and a sub-folder named bin in it. Make sure you do not use spaces in the folder names. Now copy the files winutils.exe and hadoop.dll in the sub-folder bin.

Setting up Environment Variables:

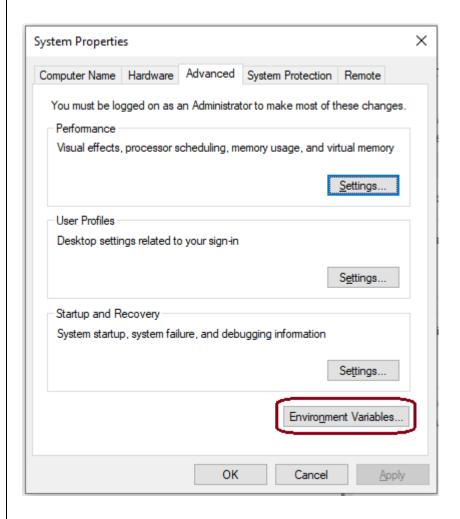
Environment variables need to be set so that Spark can look up the correct folders for the required files.

In the Windows search box (textbox next to Windows icon in the status bar) type <code>env</code> to add and edit environment variables.



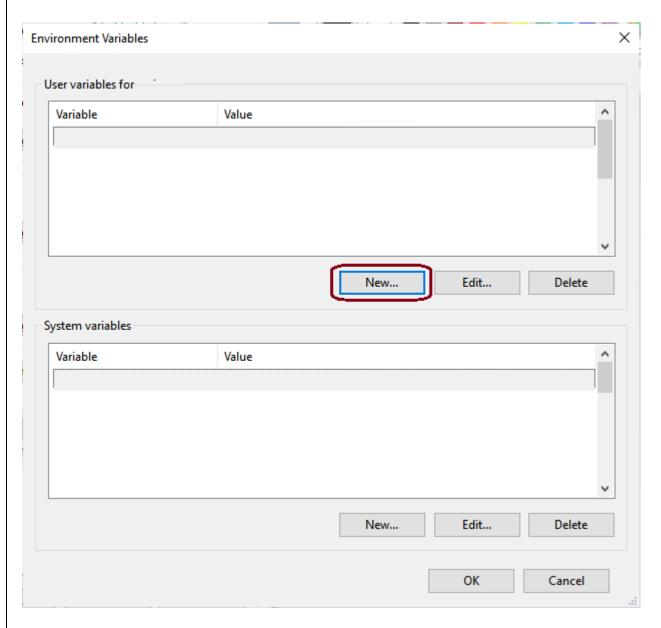
Click on the Edit the system environment variables

A window as shown below pops up. Click on Environment Variables... button.



On the next screen (shown below) click on New button below User variables for... section.

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And add a new variable in the next screen as shown below.



Add each of the new variables listed below.

1. Variable name: JAVA HOME (if not already present)

Variable value: <Name of the folder where Java is installed>

(Usually it will be C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0 281 or C:\Program Files (x86)\ Java\jdk1.8.0 281)

2. Variable name: SPARK HOME

Variable value: C:\Spark\spark-3.5.5-bin-hadoop3

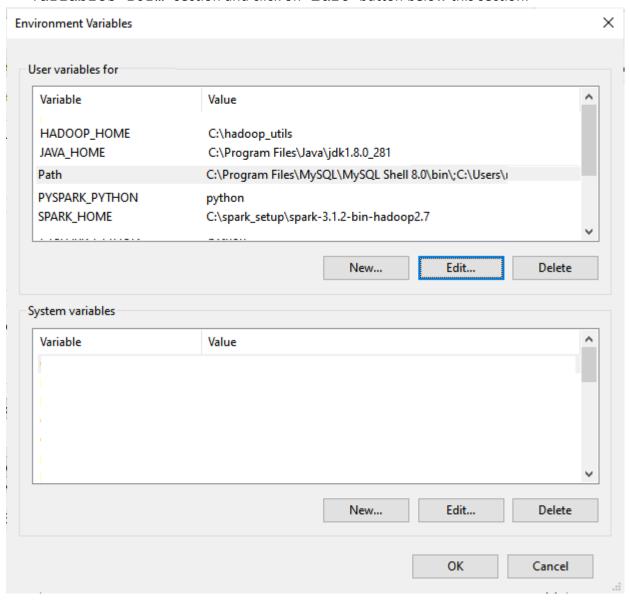
3. Variable name: HADOOP_HOME Variable value: C:\Hadoop

4. Variable name: PYSPARK PYTHON

Variable value: python

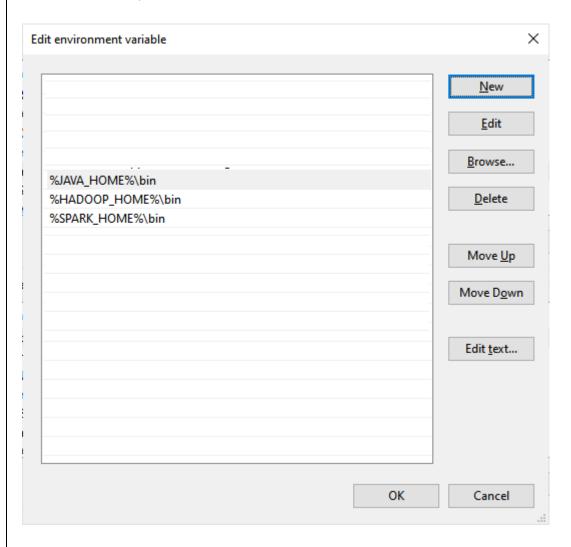
5. Set the Path variable.

On Environment Variables window choose/highlight Path variable in User variables for... section and click on Edit button below this section.



Note that the screen-shot above is given as an example; the folder names could be different; please use the names as given on your system.

In the next screen, click on the New button and add the variables as shown below.



- 1. %JAVA HOME%\bin (if not present already)
- 2. %HADOOP HOME%\bin
- 3. %SPARK HOME%\bin

This completes the installation of Spark on the Windows.

You can run Spark shell from the command prompt by giving the command spark-shell and verify.

For PySpark you can run PySpark shell from the command prompt by giving the command pyspark
and verify.

Installing IntelliJ IDEA:

One of the preferred IDEs for Spark applications with Scala is IntelliJ IDEA of JetBrains. You can download the free community edition from the link below.

https://www.jetbrains.com/idea/download/?section=windows

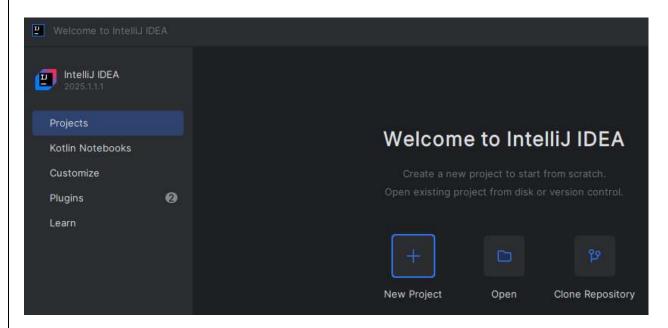
Use the link below to start the download directly.

https://www.jetbrains.com/idea/download/download-thanks.html?platform=windows&code=IIC

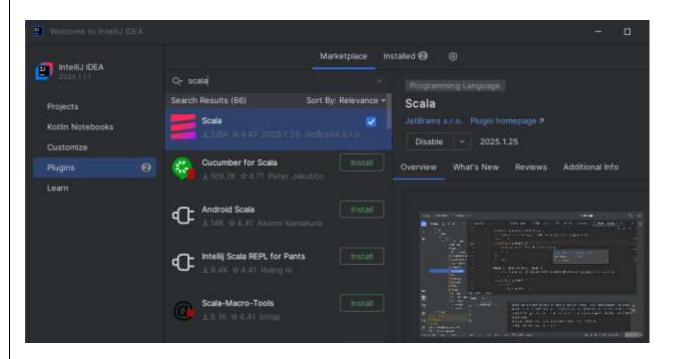
While installing, choose the options create desktop shortcut and add to path/environment variables.

After installation is completed, run IntelliJ and install Scala Plug-in.

As shown in the screenshots below, you can select plugins from the main screen, then search for Scala under Market Place and select Install.



After installing Scala plugin a check box will be displayed in place of the *Install* button as in the screenshot below.



Installing Scala language is not mandatory. We can use Spark-shell which is an interactive REPL shell to learn Scala features or IntelliJ for writing code.