

Advanced Span Analytics

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Time-Series Analysis and Complex Aggregations

This notebook covers advanced analytical techniques for span data, including time-series analysis, trend detection, and complex aggregations for building dashboards and reports.




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Table of Contents

1. Time-Series with makeTimeseries
2. Trend Analysis
3. Complex Aggregations
4. Comparison Queries
5. Dashboard-Ready Queries

Prerequisites

Before starting this notebook, ensure you have:

-  Completed previous SPANS notebooks (01-04)
-  Understanding of summarize and aggregation functions
-  Familiarity with time-based filtering

1. Time-Series with makeTimeseries

Use `makeTimeseries` to create time-series data for visualization and trend analysis.

! [Timeseries Analytics]

```
(data:image/svg+xml;base64,PHN2YzB4bWxucz0iaHR0cDovL3d3dy53My5vcmcvMjAwMC9zdmc  
ciIHZpZXddCb3g9IjAgMCA3NTAgMzIwIj4KICA8ZGVmzcz4KICAgIDxsaw5LYXJHcmFkaWVudCBpZD0  
iY2hhcnRHcmFkIiB4MT0iMCUiIHhkePSIwJSIgeDI9IjAlIiB5Mj0iMTAwaSI+CiAgICAgIDxzdgG9w  
IG9mZnNldD0iMCUiIHNoewxlPSJzdG9wLWNvbG9yOIMxNDk2ZmY7c3RvcC1vcGFjaXR50jAuNCIg  
Lz4KICAgICAgPHN0b3Agb2Zmc2V0PSIxMDAlIiBzdHlsZT0ic3RvcC1jb2xvcjojMTQ5NmZm03N0b3  
Atb3BhY2l0eTowLjAlIiAvPgogICAgPC9saW5LYXJHcmFkaWVudD4KICAgIDxmaWw0ZXIgaWQ9ImN  
oYXJ0U2hhZG93Ij4KICAgICAgPGZlRHJvcFNoYWVrdyBkeD0iMSIgZHk9IjEiIHNoZERldmlhdGlv  
bj0iMiIgZmxvb2Qtb3BhY2l0eT0iMC4xIi8+C iAgICA8L2ZpbHRlcj4KICA8L2RlZnM+CgogIDwhL  
S0gQmFja2dyb3VuZCAtLT4KICA8cmVjdCB3aWR0aD0inZUwiBoZWlnaHQ9IjMyMCIgZmlsbD0iI2  
Y4ZjlmYSIgcn9IjEwIi8+CgogIDwhLS0gVGltbGUgLS0+C iAgPHRleHQgeD0iMzc1IiB5PSIyOCI  
gZm9udC1mYW1pbHk9IkFyaWFsLCBzYW5zLXNlcmMlIiBmb250LXNpemU9IjE4IiBmb250LXdlaWdo  
dD0iYm95ZCIqZmlsbD0iIzMzMzMyIgdGV4dC1hbmdob3I9Im1pZGRsZSI+VGltZS1TZXJpZXMqQW5hb
```

[illegible]

```
> ⚠️ **Important:** `makeTimeseries` does NOT support `percentile()` or
arithmetic expressions in aggregations. Use time-bucketed `summarize` for
those.
```

```

// Request volume over time by service
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| makeTimeseries {
    request_count = count(),
    error_count = countIf(span.status_code == "error")
}, by:{service.name}, interval: 5m
```

```dql
// Average duration over time (without grouping)
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| makeTimeseries {
    request_count = count(),
    avg_duration_ns = avg(duration)
}, interval: 5m
```

```dql
// For percentile trends, use time-bucketed summarize instead
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| fieldsAdd time_bucket = bin(start_time, 10m)
| summarize {
    request_count = count(),
    p95_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 95) / 1000000,
    error_count = countIf(span.status_code == "error")
}, by:{time_bucket, service.name}
| sort time_bucket asc
| limit 200
```

```

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## ## 2. Trend Analysis

Identify trends and patterns in your span data over time.

```

```dql
// Hourly error rate trend
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| fieldsAdd hour_bucket = bin(start_time, 1h)
| summarize {
    total_requests = count(),
    errors = countIf(span.status_code == "error")
}, by:{hour_bucket}
```

```

```
| fieldsAdd error_rate_pct = (errors * 100.0) / total_requests
| sort hour_bucket asc
| limit 48
```
```

```
```dql
// Latency trend by service (10-minute buckets)
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| fieldsAdd time_bucket = bin(start_time, 10m)
| summarize {
 request_count = count(),
 avg_duration_ms = avg(duration) / 1000000,
 p90_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 90) / 1000000
}, by:{time_bucket, service.name}
| sort time_bucket asc, service.name
| limit 300
```
```

```
```dql
// Identify services with degrading performance
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| fieldsAdd time_bucket = bin(start_time, 30m)
| summarize {
 request_count = count(),
 p95_ms = percentile(duration, 95) / 1000000
}, by:{time_bucket, service.name}
| filter p95_ms > 500
| sort time_bucket desc, p95_ms desc
| limit 50
```
```

3. Complex Aggregations

Perform multi-dimensional analysis with complex aggregation patterns.

```
```dql
// Service health scorecard
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| summarize {
 total_requests = count(),
 error_count = countIf(span.status_code == "error"),
 avg_duration_ms = avg(duration) / 1000000,
 p50_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 50) / 1000000,

```

```

 p95_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 95) / 1000000,
 p99_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 99) / 1000000,
 max_duration_ms = max(duration) / 1000000
 }, by:{service.name}
| fieldsAdd error_rate_pct = (error_count * 100.0) / total_requests
| fieldsAdd health_score = if(error_rate_pct > 5, "Critical",
 else: if(error_rate_pct > 1, "Warning",
 else: "Healthy"))
| sort error_rate_pct desc
| limit 30
```

```

```

```dql
// Endpoint-level analysis with multiple metrics
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| summarize {
 request_count = count(),
 error_count = countIf(span.status_code == "error"),
 slow_count = countIf(duration > 1000000000), // > 1 second
 avg_duration_ms = avg(duration) / 1000000,
 p95_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 95) / 1000000
 }, by:{service.name, span.name}
| fieldsAdd error_rate_pct = (error_count * 100.0) / request_count
| fieldsAdd slow_rate_pct = (slow_count * 100.0) / request_count
| filter request_count > 10
| sort error_rate_pct desc
| limit 50
```

```

```

```dql
// HTTP method distribution with performance metrics
fetch spans
| filter isNotNull(http.request.method)
| summarize {
 request_count = count(),
 error_count = countIf(span.status_code == "error"),
 avg_duration_ms = avg(duration) / 1000000
 }, by:{http.request.method, service.name}
| sort request_count desc
| limit 30
```

```

4. Comparison Queries

Compare metrics across different dimensions to identify outliers and

patterns.

```
```dql
// Compare span kinds: server vs client performance
fetch spans
| filter in(span.kind, {"server", "client"})
| summarize {
 span_count = count(),
 error_count = countIf(span.status_code == "error"),
 avg_duration_ms = avg(duration) / 1000000,
 p95_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 95) / 1000000
}, by:{span.kind}
| fieldsAdd error_rate_pct = (error_count * 100.0) / span_count
```
```

```
```dql
// Compare success vs error span characteristics
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| summarize {
 span_count = count(),
 avg_duration_ms = avg(duration) / 1000000,
 p95_duration_ms = percentile(duration, 95) / 1000000
}, by:{span.status_code, service.name}
| sort service.name, span.status_code
| limit 50
```
```

```
```dql
// HTTP status code distribution by service
fetch spans
| filter isNotNull(http.response.status_code)
| fieldsAdd status_class = if(http.response.status_code >= 500, "5xx",
 else: if(http.response.status_code >= 400, "4xx",
 else: if(http.response.status_code >= 300, "3xx",
 else: "2xx")))
| summarize {count = count()}, by:{status_class, service.name}
| sort service.name, status_class
```
```

5. Dashboard-Ready Queries

Queries optimized for use in Dynatrace dashboards and reports.

> 💡 ****Tip:**** These queries are designed to produce clean output suitable for dashboard tiles.

```

```dql
// Dashboard: Request rate and error rate over time
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| makeTimeseries {
 requests = count(),
 errors = countIf(span.status_code == "error")
}, interval: 5m
```

```dql
// Dashboard: Service health summary (single value tiles)
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| summarize {
 total_requests = count(),
 total_errors = countIf(span.status_code == "error"),
 unique_services = countDistinct(service.name),
 avg_latency_ms = avg(duration) / 1000000
}
| fieldsAdd overall_error_rate_pct = (total_errors * 100.0) / total_requests
```

```dql
// Dashboard: Top 10 services by request volume
fetch spans
| filter span.kind == "server"
| summarize {
 requests = count(),
 errors = countIf(span.status_code == "error"),
 p95_ms = percentile(duration, 95) / 1000000
}, by:{service.name}
| fieldsAdd error_rate = (errors * 100.0) / requests
| sort requests desc
| limit 10
```

```dql
// Dashboard: Recent errors list
fetch spans
| filter span.status_code == "error"
| fields start_time, service.name, span.name, span.status_message
| sort start_time desc
| limit 20
```

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```


Summary

In this notebook, you learned:

- ✓ **Time-series analysis** with `makeTimeseries` and its limitations
- ✓ **Time-bucketed summarize** for percentile trends
- ✓ **Trend analysis** to identify patterns over time
- ✓ **Complex aggregations** for multi-dimensional analysis
- ✓ **Comparison queries** to identify outliers
- ✓ **Dashboard-ready queries** for visualization

Next Steps

Continue to **SPANS-06: Security Analysis with Spans** to learn:

- Detecting security-relevant patterns in traces
- Analyzing authentication and authorization flows
- Finding anomalous behavior
- Security audit queries