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Introducing the New Python Data Source API in Apache Spark







Ryan Nienhuis, Sr. Staff Product Manager, Databricks

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Agenda

Exploring the new Python Data Source API in Apache Spark

- Introduction
- Why Python Data Source API?
- Deep Dive into the Python Data Source API
 - Demo
 - Data Source Reader
 - Data Source Writer
- Streaming APIs
- Q & A

Custom Integrations in Spark

How do I simply read and write data?

You have a couple options...

- 1. Use ForEachBatch / ForEach for streaming workloads
- Build a custom integration in Scala/Java using the DataSource V2 API
- 3. Don't build one; get the data in Delta using a custom app
- 4. Import a library

...Which have some drawbacks

- ForEachBatch code is powerful but very hard to write well
- 2. Flexible but no API for Python developers
- 3. Added cost and latency copying data
- 4. Not optimized for Spark

Why don't I just do it in Python?

Pull in library, make some API calls, etc.

Custom data sources have lots of advantages

- End users can use like a built-in integration
 - df = spark.read.format("my_data_source")
 - df.write.format("my_data_source")
 - CREATE TABLE t(c1 INT, c2 INT) USING PYTHON `my_data_source`
- Rely on API for implemented partitioning and other Spark capabilities
- Build once and use across programming languages
- Custom data sources can be packaged and pip installed

How do we improve here?

Let's provide as simple experience for Python developers

- Aimed to focus on simplicity versus flexibility
- Supports distributed scan, append-only, atomic writes
- Does not support limit or aggregate push down, complete/update modes

Introducing the New Python Data Source API

Python Data Source API

- Available in Apache Spark 4.0 and Databricks Runtime 15.2+
- Fully open source:
- Support both read and write operations, for both batch and

streaming



Data Source Overview

Three easy steps to create and use custom data sources

Step 1: Create a Data Source

class MySource(DataSource):



0101



Step 2: Register the Data Source

Register the data source in the current Spark session using the Python data source class:

spark
.dataSource
.register(MySource)

Step 3: Read from or write
to the data source
spark.read
.format("my-source")
.load(...)

df.write
.format("my-source")
.mode("append")
.save(...)



pyspark-data-sources

An open source repo with demo Python data sources

- All examples in the following demo are open source
- You can install them using
 - pip install pyspark-data-sources[all]





Demo: Fake Data Source

A data source that generates synthetic data





Demo: REST API Data Source

A data source that fetches data from a REST API





Demo: HuggingFace Datasets

A data source that fetches datasets from HuggingFace



DATA SOURCE READ

spark.read
.format("my-source")
.option("key", "value")
.load()

Warning: Quiz at the end

i 15

A simple data source that generates one row

from pyspark.sql.datasource import DataSource, DataSourceReader

```
class SimpleDataSource(DataSource):
    @classmethod
    def name(self):
        return "simple"
    def schema(self):
        return "id int, name string"
    def reader(self, schema):
        return SimpleReader()
```

```
class SimpleReader(DataSourceReader):
    def read(self, partition):
        yield (1, "Alice")
```

A simple data source that generates one row

• Register the data source:

spark.dataSource.register(SimpleDataSource)

Load the data using its name:

```
spark.read.format("simple").load().show()
```

+---+ | id| name| +---+ | 1|Alice|

DataSource

The base class for Python data source

```
class DataSource(ABC):
   def __init__(self, options: Dict[str, str]) -> None:
       self.options = options
   @classmethod
   def name(cls) -> str:
       . . .
   def schema(self) -> Union[StructType, str]:
       . . .
   def reader(self, schema: StructType):
       . . .
    . . .
```

DataSource

The base class for Python data source

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class DataSource(ABC):
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   def schema(self) -> Union[StructType, str]:
       . . .
   def reader(self, schema: StructType):
       . . .
    . . .
```

```
User-defined values passed
in via `option()` or
`options()`:
```

spark.read
.option("key", "value")

df.write
.option("key", "value")

DataSource

The base class for Python data source

```
class DataSource(ABC):
   def __init__(self, options: Dict[str, str]) -> None:
       self.options = options
   @classmethod
   def name(cls) -> str:
       . . .
   def schema(self) -> Union[StructType, str]:
       . . .
   def reader(self, schema: StructType):
       . . .
    . . .
```

`path` is special key that stores the path value from `load()` and `save()`:

```
spark.read
.load("path/to/file")
```

```
df.write
.save("path/to/file")
```

```
self.options["path"]
> "path/to/file"
```

A simple data source that generates one row

from pyspark.sql.datasource import DataSource, DataSourceReader

```
class SimpleDataSource(DataSource):
  @classmethod
  def name(self):
      return "simple"
  def schema(self):
       return "id int, name string"
  def reader(self, schema):
       return SimpleReader()
class SimpleReader(DataSourceReader):
   def read(self, partition):
       yield (1, "Alice")
```

Short name of the data source that is used in `format()`.

A simple data source that generates one row

from pyspark.sql.datasource import DataSource, DataSourceReader

```
class SimpleDataSource(DataSource):
    @classmethod
    def name(self):
        return "simple"
```

```
def schema(self):
    return "id int, name string"
```



```
def reader(self, schema):
    return SimpleReader()
```

```
class SimpleReader(DataSourceReader):
    def read(self, partition):
        yield (1, "Alice")
```

Default schema when reading from a data source.

It can be static:

- DDL Sting
- StructType

Or dynamically determined

A simple data source that generates one row

from pyspark.sql.datasource import DataSource, DataSourceReader

```
class SimpleDataSource(DataSource):
    @classmethod
    def name(self):
        return "simple"
```

```
def schema(self):
    return "id int, name string"
```

```
def reader(self, schema):
    return SimpleReader()
```



```
class SimpleReader(DataSourceReader):
    def read(self, partition):
        yield (1, "Alice")
```

Instantiate a data source reader.

Intro to DataSourceReader

A base class for defining how to read from a data source

- The DataSourceReader is responsible for defining how data is read from a source and split for parallel processing.
- It includes two methods: partitions and read

```
class DataSourceReader(ABC):
    def partitions(self) -> Sequence[InputPartition]:
        ...
    @abstractmethod
    def read(self, partition: InputPartition) -> Iterator[Row]:
        ...
```

Intro to DataSourceReader

A base class for defining how to read from a data source

- The DataSourceReader is responsible for defining how data is read from a source and split for parallel processing.
- It includes two methods: partitions and read

How to split the data for parallel processing

Intro to DataSourceReader

A base class for defining how to read from a data source

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```
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    def partitions(self) -> Sequence[InputPartition]:
        ...
    @abstractmethod
    def read(self, partition: InputPartition) -> Iterator[Row]:
        ...
```

How to read the data

for each partition

Reading from a Data Source

Without partitions



Reading from a Data Source





Simple Example with Partitions

Reading data in parallel

```
@dataclass
class RangePartition(InputPartition):
   start: int
   end: int
class SimpleReader(DataSourceReader):
   def partitions(self):
       return [RangePartition(1, 3), RangePartition(3, 5)]
   def read(self, partition):
       for i in range(partition.start, partition.end):
           yield (i, f"name_{i}")
```

Subclass the InputPartition

Implement the partitions() method to return two range partitions

Simple Example with Partitions

Reading data in parallel

```
from pyspark.sql.functions import spark_partition_id
```

```
df = spark.read.format("simple").load()
df.withColumn("partition_id", spark_partition_id()).show()
```

Partitioning Strategy

Key considerations for implementing readable data sources

- When to implement partitions?
 - Handling large datasets
 - Parallelization to boost performance
- Why not partitioning?
 - Simpler to manage
 - Data volume might not require it
 - Data source constraints
- Common strategies for partitioning
 - Range partitions (e.g, start_date, end_date)

How It Works

DataSource V2 API

Python data source is implemented on top of DataSource V2.

Apache Arrow

Use Apache Arrow for (de)serialization to improve performance.



Quiz Time!



Understanding Data Source API basics

What method in the DataSourceReader must be overridden to specify how to read data from each partition?

- A) schema
- B) partitions
- C) read
- D) name





Understanding Data Source API basics

What method in the DataSourceReader must be overridden to specify how to read data from each partition?

- A) schema
- B) partitions







Quiz 2

Data source registration and usage

How do you register a custom data source class SimpleDataSource in Spark?

- A) spark.add_datasource(SimpleDataSource)
- B) spark.dataSource.register(SimpleDataSource)
- C) spark.dataSource.register("SimpleDataSource")
- D) You don't need to 🙂

Quiz 2

Data source registration and usage

How do you register a custom data source class SimpleDataSource in Spark?

A) spark.add_datasource(SimpleDataSource)

B) spark.dataSource.register(SimpleDataSource)

C) spark.dataSource.register("SimpleDataSource")

D) You don't need to 🙂

DATA SOURCE WRITE

df.write
 .format("my-source")
 .mode("append")
 .option("key", "value")
 .save("path/to/file")

Simple Example with Writer

A simple writable data source

from pyspark.sql.datasource import DataSource, DataSourceWriter,
WriterCommitMessage

```
class SimpleDataSource(DataSource):
  @classmethod
  def name(self):
    return "simple"
```

```
def writer(self, schema, overwrite):
    return SimpleWriter()
```



```
class SimpleWriter(DataSourceWriter):
    def write(self, iterator):
        for row in iterator:
            pass
        return WriterCommitMessage()
```

Implement the writer() method to make a data source writable.

Simple Example with Writer

A simple writable data source

• Register the data source (again):

spark.dataSource.register(SimpleDataSource)

• Write a dataframe into the sink:

```
df = spark.range(10).repartition(2)
```

df.write.format("simple").mode("append").save()

```
> (2) spark jobs
```



Intro to DataSourceWriter

A base class for defining how to write data

- The DataSourceWriter is responsible for defining how data is written in Spark.
- It has three methods designed to handle different aspect of the write process:
 write, commit, and abort

Intro to DataSourceWriter

A base class for defining how to write data

- The DataSourceWriter is responsible for defining how data is written in Spark.
- It has three methods designed to handle different aspect of the write process:
 write, commit, and abort

```
class DataSourceWriter(ABC):
@abstractmethod
def write(self, iterator: Iterator[Row]) -> "WriterCommitMessage":
    ...
def commit(self, messages: List["WriterCommitMessage"]) -> None:
    ...
def abort(self, messages: List["WriterCommitMessage"]) -> None:
    ...
```

```
Process all rows in a given partition passed as an iterator.
```

```
Returns a
WriterCommitMessage
that will be used by the
commit and abort
methods.
```

Intro to DataSourceWriter

A base class for defining how to write data

- The DataSourceWriter is responsible for defining how data is written in Spark.
- It has three methods designed to handle different aspect of the write process:
 write, commit, and abort

Handles transactional aspect of the write process

Commit: Finalizes successful write operations

Abort: Ensures proper cleanup if a write task fails

Initiating the Write Process

How the commit protocol works



Handling Task Success - Commit

How the commit protocol works



Handling Task Failure - Abort

How the commit protocol works



STREAMING DATA SOURCE

spark.readStream .format("my-source") .option("key", "value") .load() .writeStream .format("my-sink") .start()



Conclusion

Before Python data source API







Conclusion

After Python data source API







Other Recommended Sessions

View after the conference to learn about Spark OSS, Python, and Streaming

Session	Area
Your Guide to Data Engineering on the Data Intelligence Platform	Data Engineering
Supercharge Your Data Warehouse: Introducing Python Stored Procedures	PySpark
Databricks Streaming: Project Lightspeed Goes Hyperspeed	Streaming
What's Next for the Upcoming Apache Spark 4.0	Spark OSS
Introducing Databricks' New Native Ingestion Connectors	Streaming
Streaming Data Pipelines: From Supernovas to LLMs	Streaming, LLM
Exploring UDTFs (User-Defined Table Functions) in PySpark	PySpark

Take Home Exercises

Build your own data sources!

- [Easy] Implement a REST API data source that reads data from a REST API (e.g financial data, weather data).
- [Intermediate] Implement a streaming REST API data source
- [Intermediate] Implement a data source that fetches Kaggle datasets.
- [Hard] Implement a data source and sink that reads data from and writes data to Excel files.







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