

## Spark Structured Streaming

## What is Spark Structured Streaming?

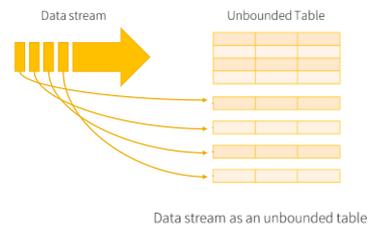
- **Structured Streaming** is a scalable and fault-tolerant stream processing engine that **is built on the Spark SQL engine**
- **Input data** are represented by means of (streaming) **DataFrames**
- Structured Streaming uses the existing Spark SQL APIs to query data streams
  - The same methods we used for analyzing "static" DataFrames
- A set of specific methods that are used to define
  - Input and output streams
  - Windows

## Input data model

- Each input data stream is modeled as a table that is being continuously appended
  - Every time new data arrive they are appended at the end of the table
  - i.e., each **data stream** is considered an **unbounded input table**

## Input data model

- New input data in the stream = new rows appended to an unbounded table



## Queries

- The expressed queries are incremental queries that are run incrementally on the unbounded input tables
  - The arrive of new data triggers the execution of the incremental queries
  - The **result of a query** at a specific timestamp is the one obtained by running the query **on all the data arrived until that timestamp**
    - i.e., "stateful queries" are executed
  - Aggregation queries combine new data with the previous results to optimize the computation of the new results

## Queries

- The queries can be executed
  - As micro-batch queries with a fixed batch interval
    - **Standard behavior**
    - **Exactly-once** fault-tolerance guarantees
  - As continuous queries
    - **Experimental**
    - **At-least-once** fault-tolerance guarantees

### Queries

- In this example the (micro-batch) query is executed every 1 second

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Note that every time the query is executed, all data received so far are considered

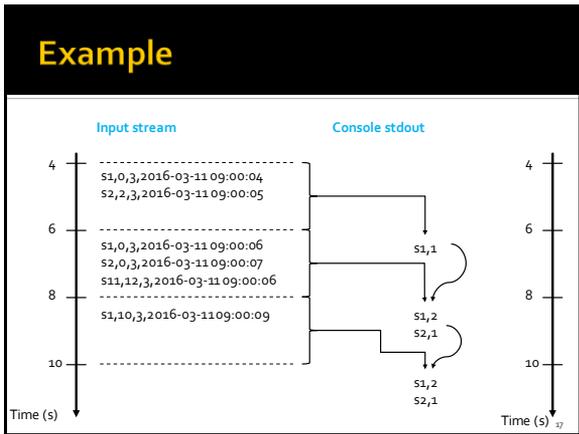
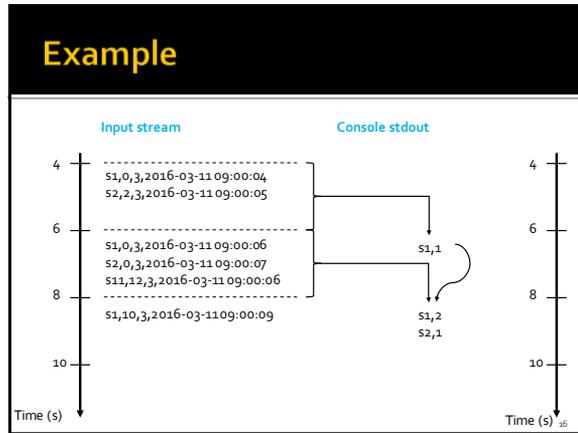
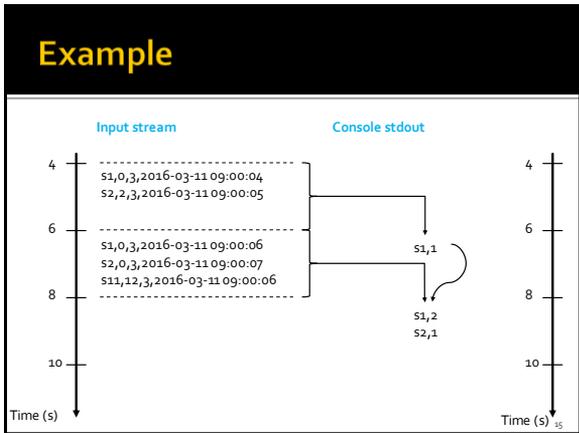
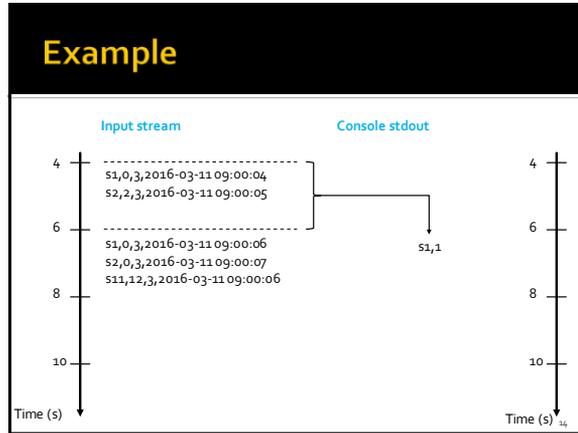
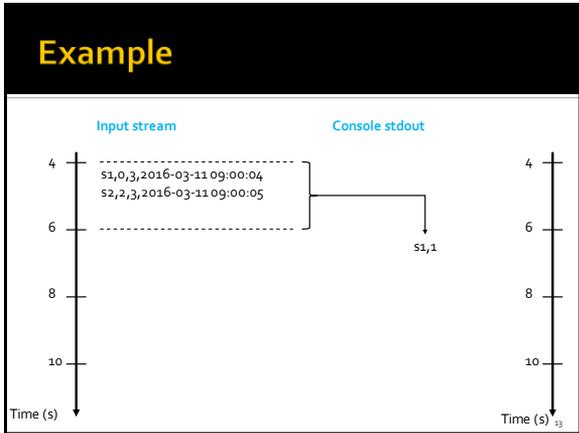
### Example

- Input
  - A stream of records retrieved from localhost:9999
  - Each input record is a reading about the status of a station of a bike sharing system in a specific timestamp
  - Each input reading has the format
    - stationId,#free slots,#used slots,timestamp
- For each stationId, print on the standard output the total number of received input reading with a number of free slots equal to 0
  - Print the requested information when new data are received by using the micro-batch processing mode
  - Suppose the batch-duration is set to 2 seconds

### Example

### Example

### Example



- ### Key concepts
- Input sources
  - Transformations
  - Outputs
    - External destinations/sinks
    - Output Modes
  - Query run/execution
  - Triggers

## Input sources

- File source
  - Reads files written in a directory as a stream of data
  - Each line of the input file is an input record
  - Supported file formats are text, csv, json, orc, parquet, ..
- Kafka source
  - Reads data from Kafka
  - Each Kafka message is one input record

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## Input sources

- Socket source (for debugging purposes)
  - Reads UTF8 text data from a socket connection
  - This type of source **does not provide end-to-end fault-tolerance guarantees**
- Rate source (for debugging purposes)
  - Generates data at the specified number of rows per second
  - Each generated row contains a timestamp and value of type long

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## Input sources

- The `readStream` property of the `SparkSession` class is used to create `DataStreamReaders`
- The methods `format()` and `option()` of the `DataStreamReader` class are used to specify the input streams
  - Type, location, ...
- The method `load()` of the `DataStreamReader` class is used to return `DataFrames` associated with the input data streams

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## Input sources

- In this example the (streaming) `DataFrame` `recordsDF` is created and associated with the input stream of type socket
  - Address: localhost
  - Input port: 9999

```
recordsDF = spark.readStream \
  .format("socket") \
  .option("host", "localhost") \
  .option("port", 9999) \
  .load()
```

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## Transformations

- Transformations are the same of `DataFrames`
- However, there are **restrictions on** some types of queries/**transformations that cannot be executed incrementally**

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## Transformations

- **Unsupported** operations
  - Multiple streaming aggregations (i.e. a chain of aggregations on a streaming `DataFrame`)
  - Limit and take first N rows
  - Distinct operations
  - Sorting operations are supported on streaming `DataFrames` only after an aggregation and in complete output mode
  - Few types of outer joins on streaming `DataFrames` are not supported

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## Outputs

- Sinks
  - They are instances of the class `DataStreamWriter` and are used to specify the external destinations and store the results in the external destinations
- File sink
  - Stores the output to a directory
  - Supported file formats are text, csv, json, orc, parquet, ..
- Kafka sink
  - Stores the output to one or more topics in Kafka
- Foreach sink
  - Runs arbitrary computation on the output records

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## Outputs

- Console sink (for debugging purposes)
  - Prints the computed output to the console every time a new batch of records has been analyzed
  - This should be used for debugging purposes on low data volumes as the entire output is collected and stored in the driver's memory after each computation
- Memory sink (for debugging purposes)
  - The output is stored in memory as an in-memory table
  - This should be used for debugging purposes on low data volumes as the entire output is collected and stored in the driver's memory

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## Output modes

- We must define how we want Spark to write output data in the external destinations
- Supported output modes:
  - Append
  - Complete
  - Update
- The supported output mode depend on the query type

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## Output modes

- Append mode
  - Default mode
  - Only the new rows added to the computed result since the last trigger (computation) will be outputted
  - This mode is supported for only those queries where rows added to the result is never going to change
    - This mode guarantees that each row will be output only once
  - Queries with only select, filter, map, flatMap, filter, join, etc. support append mode

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## Output modes

- Complete mode
  - The whole computed result will be outputted to the sink after every trigger (computation)
  - This mode is supported for aggregation queries

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## Output modes

- Update mode
  - Only the rows in the computed result that were updated since the last trigger (computation) will be outputted
- The complete list of supported output modes for each query type is available at
  - <https://spark.apache.org/docs/latest/structured-streaming-programming-guide.html#output-modes>

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## Outputs

- The `writeStream` property of the `SparkSession` class is used to create `DataStreamWriters`
- The methods `outputMode()`, `format()` and `option()` of the `DataStreamWriter` class are used to specify the output destination
  - Data format, location, output mode, etc.

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## Outputs

- In this example
  - The `DataStreamWriter` `streamWriterRes` is created and associated with the console
  - The output mode is set to append

```
streamWriterRes = stationIdTimestampDF\
  .writeStream\
  .outputMode("append")\
  .format("console")
```

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## Query run/execution

- To start executing the defined queries/structured streaming applications you must explicitly invoke the `start()` action on the defined sinks (`DataStreamWriter` objects associated with the external destinations in which the results will be stored)
- You can start several queries in the same application
- Structured streaming queries run forever
  - You must explicitly stop/kill them otherwise they will run forever

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## Triggers

- For each Spark structured streaming query we can specify when new input data must be processed
- And whether the query is going to be executed
  - as a micro-batch query with a fixed batch interval
  - or as a continuous processing query (experimental)
- The trigger type for each query is specified by means of the `trigger()` method of the `DataStreamWriter` class

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## Trigger Types

- No trigger type is explicitly specified
  - Default trigger setting
  - The query will be executed in **micro-batch mode**
  - Each micro-batch is generated and processed as soon as the previous micro-batch has been processed

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## Trigger Types

- Fixed interval micro-batches
  - The query will be executed in **micro-batch mode**
  - Micro-batches will be processed at the user-specified intervals
    - The parameter `processingTime` of the trigger method() is used to specify the micro-batch size
    - If the previous micro-batch completes within its interval, then the engine will wait until the interval is over before processing the next micro-batch

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## Trigger Types

- If the previous micro-batch takes longer than the interval to complete (i.e. if an interval boundary is missed), then the next micro-batch will start as soon as the previous one completes

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## Trigger Types

- One-time micro-batch
  - The query will be executed in **micro-batch mode**
  - But the query will be **executed only one time** on one single micro-batch containing all the available data of the input stream
    - After the single execution the query stops on its own

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## Trigger Types

- This trigger type is useful when you want to periodically spin up a cluster, process everything that is available since the last period, and then shutdown the cluster
  - In some case, this may lead to significant cost savings

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## Trigger Types

- Continuous with fixed checkpoint interval (**experimental**)
  - The query will be executed in the new low-latency, **continuous processing mode**
  - **At-least-once** fault-tolerance guarantees

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

- Problem specification
  - Input
    - A stream of records retrieved from localhost:9999
    - Each input record is a reading about the status of a station of a bike sharing system in a specific timestamp
    - Each input reading has the format
      - stationId,# free slots,#used slots,timestamp
  - Output
    - For each input reading with a number of free slots equal to 0 print on the standard output the value of stationId and timestamp
    - Use the standard micro-batch processing mode

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

```
from pyspark.sql.types import *
from pyspark.sql.functions import split

# Create a "receiver" DataFrame that will connect to localhost:9999
recordsDF = spark.readStream()
    .format("socket") \
    .option("host", "localhost") \
    .option("port", 9999) \
    .load()
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

```
# The input records are characterized by one single column called value
# of type string
# Example of an input record: s1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04
# Define four more columns by splitting the input column value
# New columns:
# - stationId
# - freeslots
# - usedslots
# - timestamp

readingsDF = recordsDF
.withColumn("stationId", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[0].cast("string"))
.withColumn("freeslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[1].cast("integer"))
.withColumn("usedslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[2].cast("integer"))
.withColumn("timestamp", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[3].cast("timestamp"))
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

```
# The input records are characterized by one single column called value
# of type string
# Example of an input record: s1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04
# Define four more columns by splitting the input column value
withColumn() is used to add new columns.
It is a standard DataFrame method.

withColumn() returns a DataFrame with the same columns
of the input DataFrame and the new defined column

readingsDF = recordsDF
.withColumn("stationId", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[0].cast("string"))
.withColumn("freeslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[1].cast("integer"))
.withColumn("usedslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[2].cast("integer"))
.withColumn("timestamp", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[3].cast("timestamp"))
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

```
# The input records are characterized by one single column called value
# of type string
# Example of an input record: s1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04
# Define four more columns by splitting the input column value

Foreach new column you must specify:
- Name
- The SQL function that is used to define its value in each record

The cast() method is used to specify the data type of each defined column.

readingsDF = recordsDF
.withColumn("stationId", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[0].cast("string"))
.withColumn("freeslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[1].cast("integer"))
.withColumn("usedslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[2].cast("integer"))
.withColumn("timestamp", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[3].cast("timestamp"))
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Select stationid and timestamp
# Use the standard select transformation
stationIdTimestampDF = fullReadingsDF.select("stationId", "timestamp")
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

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# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

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# Use the standard select transformation
stationIdTimestampDF = fullReadingsDF.select("stationId", "timestamp")
```

Standard DataFrame transformations

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Select stationid and timestamp
# Use the standard select transformation
stationIdTimestampDF = fullReadingsDF.select("stationId", "timestamp")

# The result of the structured streaming query will be stored/printed on
# the console "sink".
# append output mode
queryFilterStreamWriter = stationIdTimestampDF \
.writeStream \
.outputMode("append") \
.format("console")
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 1

```
# Start the execution of the query (it will be executed until it is explicitly stopped)
queryFilter = queryFilterStreamWriter.start()
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 2

### ■ Problem specification

#### ■ Input

- A stream of records retrieved from localhost:9999
- Each input record is a reading about the status of a station of a bike sharing system in a specific timestamp
- Each input reading has the format
  - stationId, #free slots, #used slots, timestamp

#### ■ Output

- For each stationId, print on the standard output the total number of received input reading with a number of free slots equal to 0
- Print the requested information when new data are received by using the standard micro-batch processing mode

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 2

```
from pyspark.sql.types import *
from pyspark.sql.functions import split

# Create a "receiver" DataFrame that will connect to localhost:9999
recordsDF = spark.readStream\
    .format("socket") \
    .option("host", "localhost") \
    .option("port", 9999) \
    .load()
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 2

```
# The input records are characterized by one single column called value
# of type string
# Example of an input record: s1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04
# Define four more columns by splitting the input column value
# New columns:
# - stationId
# - freeslots
# - usedslots
# - timestamp

readingsDF = recordsDF\
    .withColumn("stationId", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[0].cast("string"))\
    .withColumn("freeslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[1].cast("integer"))\
    .withColumn("usedslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[2].cast("integer"))\
    .withColumn("timestamp", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[3].cast("timestamp"))
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 2

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 2

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Count the number of readings with a number of free slots equal to 0
# for each stationId
# The standard groupBy method is used
countsDF = fullReadingsDF\
    .groupBy("stationId")\
    .agg({"*": "count"})
```

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 2

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Count the number of readings with a number of free slots equal to 0
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# The standard groupBy method is used
countsDF = fullReadingsDF
  .groupBy("stationId")
  .agg({"*","count"})
```

Standard DataFrame transformations

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## Sparks Structured Streaming: Example 2

```
# The result of the structured streaming query will be stored/printed on
# the console "sink"
# complete output mode
# (append mode cannot be used for aggregation queries)
queryCountStreamWriter = countsDF
  .writeStream()
  .outputMode("complete")
  .format("console")

# Start the execution of the query (it will be executed until it is explicitly stopped)
queryCount = queryCountStreamWriter.start()
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations

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## Event Time and Window Operations

- Input streaming records are usually characterized by a time information
  - It is the **time when the data was generated**
  - It is usually called **event-time**
- For many applications, you want to operate by taking into consideration the event-time and windows containing data associated with the same event-time range

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## Event Time and Window Operations

- For example
  - Compute the number of events generated by each monitored IoT device every minute based on the event-time
    - For each window associated with one distinct minute consider only the data with an event-time inside that minute/window and compute the number of events for each IoT device
    - One computation for each minute/window
  - You want to use the time when the data was generated (i.e., the event-time) rather than the time Spark receives them

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## Event Time and Window Operations

- Spark allows defining **windows based on the time-event** input column
- And then apply aggregation functions over each window

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## Event Time and Window Operations

- For each structured streaming query on which you want to apply a window computation you must
  - Specify the name of the time-event column in the input (streaming) DataFrame
  - The characteristics of the (sliding) windows
    - windowDuration
    - slideDuration
      - Do not set it if you want non-overlapped windows, i.e., if you want to a slideDuration equal to windowDuration
- You can set different window characteristics for each query of your application

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## Event Time and Window Operations

- The `window(timeColumn, windowDuration, slideDuration=None)` function is used inside the standard `groupBy()` one to specify the characteristics of the windows
- Windows can be used only with queries that are applying aggregation functions

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

- Problem specification
  - Input
    - A stream of records retrieved from localhost:9999
    - Each input record is a reading about the status of a station of a bike sharing system in a specific timestamp
    - Each input reading has the format
      - stationId,# free slots,#used slots,timestamp
    - timestamp is the **event-time column**

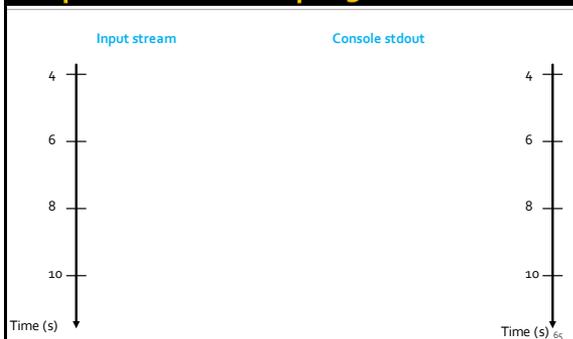
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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

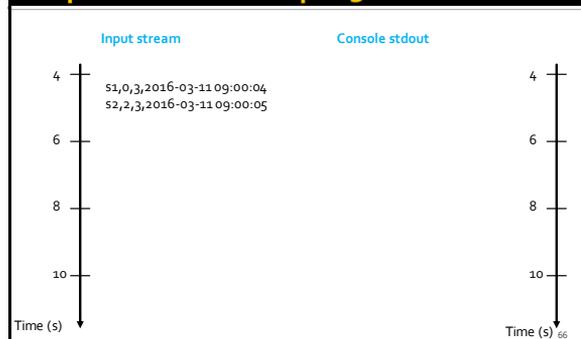
- Output
  - For each stationId, print on the standard output the total number of received input reading with a number of free slots equal to 0 in each window
  - The query is executed for each window
  - Set windowDuration to 2 seconds and no slideDuration
    - i.e., non-overlapped windows

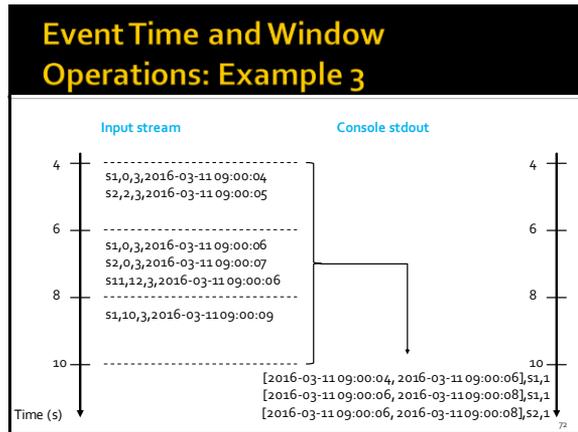
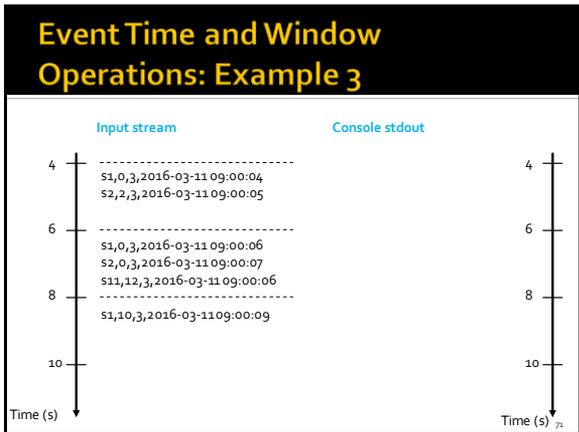
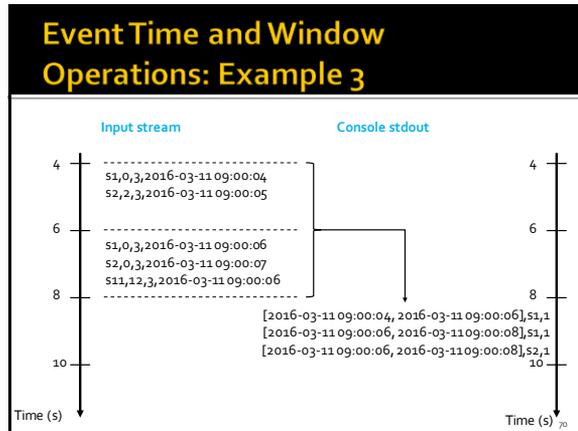
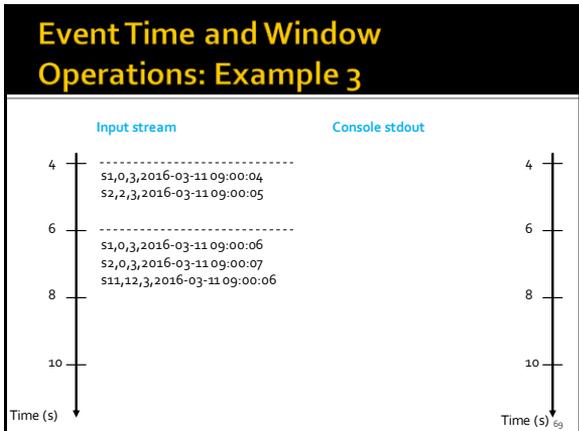
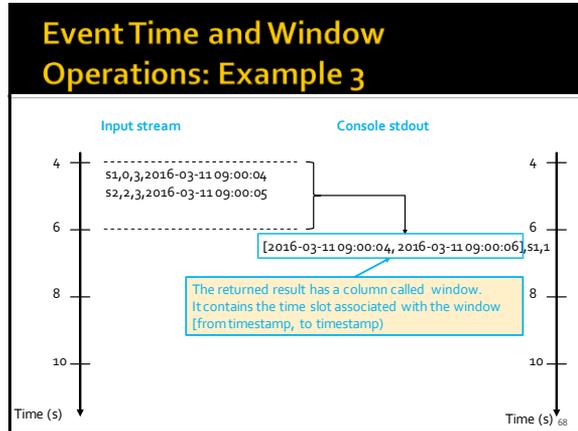
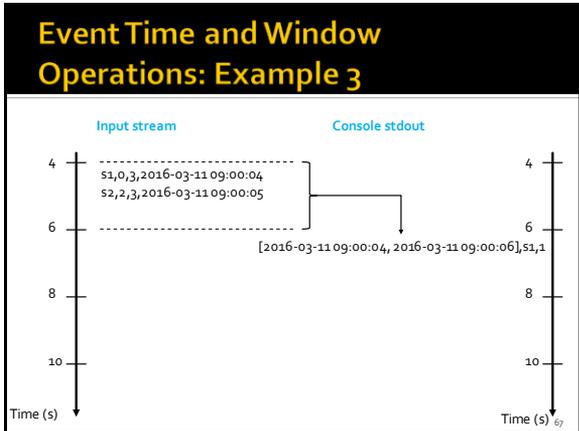
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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3



## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3





## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

```
from pyspark.sql.types import *
from pyspark.sql.functions import split
from pyspark.sql.functions import window

# Create a "receiver" DataFrame that will connect to localhost:9999
recordsDF = spark.readStream
    .format("socket") \
    .option("host", "localhost") \
    .option("port", 9999) \
    .load()
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

```
# The input records are characterized by one single column called value
# of type string
# Example of an input record: s1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04
# Define four more columns by splitting the input column value
# New columns:
# - stationId
# - freeslots
# - usedslots
# - timestamp

readingsDF = recordsDF \
    .withColumn("stationId", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[0].cast("string")) \
    .withColumn("freeslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[1].cast("integer")) \
    .withColumn("usedslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[2].cast("integer")) \
    .withColumn("timestamp", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[3].cast("timestamp"))
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Count the number of readings with a number of free slots equal to 0
# for each stationId in each window.
# windowDuration = 2 seconds
# no overlapping windows
countsDF = fullReadingsDF \
    .groupBy(window(fullReadingsDF.timestamp, "2 seconds"), "stationId") \
    .agg({"*": "count"}) \
    .sort("window")
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Count the number of readings with a number of free slots equal to 0
# for each stationId in each window.
# windowDuration = 2 seconds
# no overlapping windows
countsDF = fullReadingsDF \
    .groupBy(window(fullReadingsDF.timestamp, "2 seconds"), "stationId") \
    .agg({"*": "count"}) \
    .sort("window")
```

Specify window characteristics

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3

```
# The result of the structured streaming query will be stored/printed on
# the console "sink"
# complete output mode
# (append mode cannot be used for aggregation queries)
queryCountWindowStreamWriter = countsDF \
    .writeStream \
    .outputMode("complete") \
    .format("console") \
    .option("truncate", "false")

# Start the execution of the query (it will be executed until it is explicitly stopped)
queryCountWindow = queryCountWindowStreamWriter.start()
```

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### Late data

- Sparks handles data that have arrived later than expected based on its event-time
  - They are called late data
- Spark has full control over updating old aggregates when there are late data
  - Every time new data are processed the result is computed by combining old aggregate values and the new data by considering the event-time column instead of the time Spark receives the data

### Late data: Running example

- Problem specification
  - Input
    - A stream of records retrieved from localhost:9999
    - Each input record is a reading about the status of a station of a bike sharing system in a specific timestamp
    - Each input reading has the format
      - stationId,# free slots,#used slots,timestamp
    - timestamp is the event-time column

### Late data: Running example

- Output
  - For each stationId, print on the standard output the total number of received input reading with a number of free slots equal to 0 in each window
  - The query is executed for each window
  - Set windowDuration to 2 seconds and no slideDuration
    - i.e., non-overlapped windows

### Late data: Running example

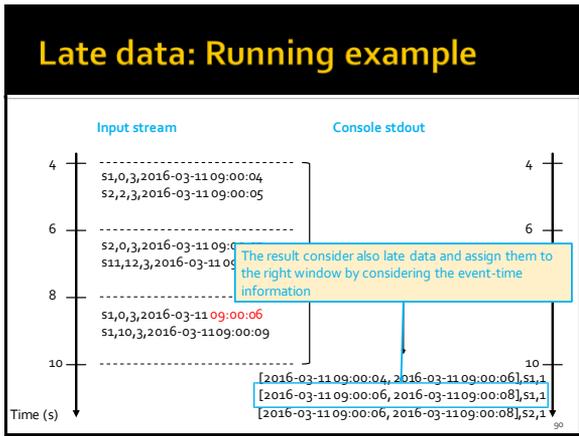
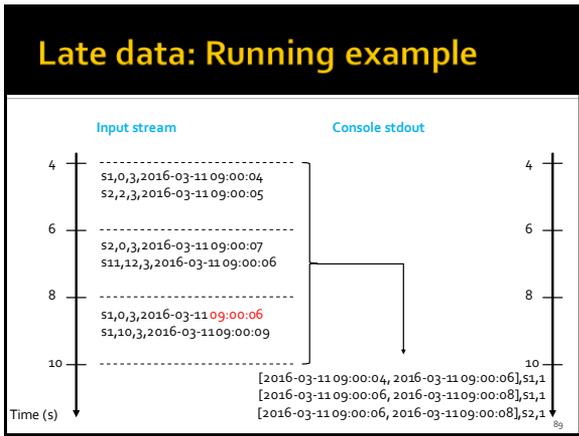
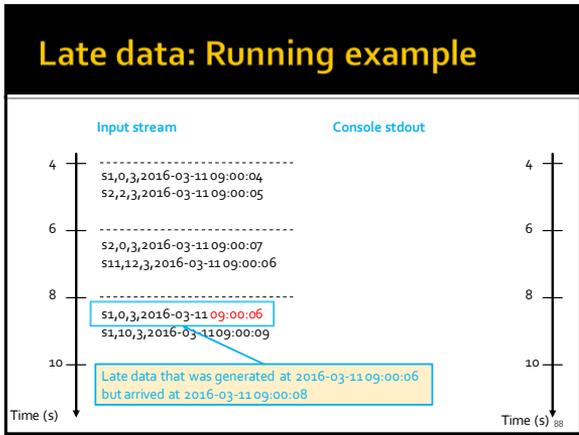
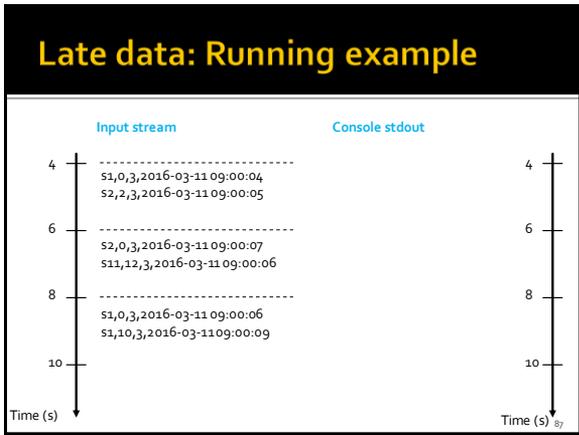
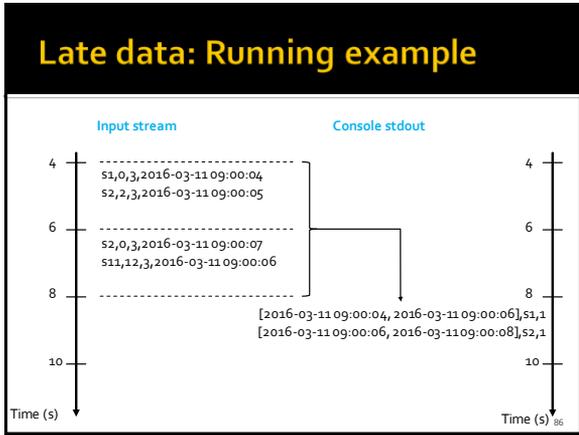
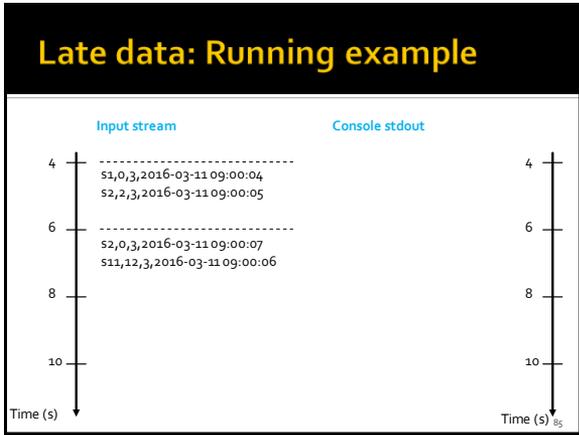
The diagram shows two vertical axes representing time in seconds. The left axis is labeled 'Input stream' and the right axis is labeled 'Console stdout'. Both axes have tick marks at 4, 6, 8, and 10 seconds, with the origin at the top. No data points are present on either axis.

### Late data: Running example

The diagram shows two vertical axes representing time in seconds. The left axis is labeled 'Input stream' and the right axis is labeled 'Console stdout'. Both axes have tick marks at 4, 6, 8, and 10 seconds. The 'Input stream' axis has two data points: 's1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04' at approximately 5.5s and 's2,2,3,2016-03-11 09:00:05' at approximately 6.5s. The 'Console stdout' axis is currently empty.

### Late data: Running example

The diagram shows two vertical axes representing time in seconds. The left axis is labeled 'Input stream' and the right axis is labeled 'Console stdout'. Both axes have tick marks at 4, 6, 8, and 10 seconds. The 'Input stream' axis has two data points: 's1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04' at approximately 5.5s and 's2,2,3,2016-03-11 09:00:05' at approximately 6.5s. A bracket groups these two points, and a dashed line extends from the top of this bracket to the right axis at approximately 6.5s. The 'Console stdout' axis has one data point: '[2016-03-11 09:00:04, 2016-03-11 09:00:06],s1,1' at approximately 6.5s.



### Late data: Running example

- The code is the same of "Event Time and Window Operations: Example 3"
- Late data are automatically handled by Spark

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### Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

- Problem specification
  - Input
    - A stream of records retrieved from localhost:9999
    - Each input record is a reading about the status of a station of a bike sharing system in a specific timestamp
    - Each input reading has the format
      - stationId,# free slots,#used slots,timestamp
    - **timestamp** is the **event-time column**

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### Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

- Output
  - For each window, print on the standard output the total number of received input reading with a number of free slots equal to 0
  - The query is executed for each window
  - Set windowDuration to 2 seconds and no slideDuration
    - i.e., non-overlapped windows

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### Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

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### Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

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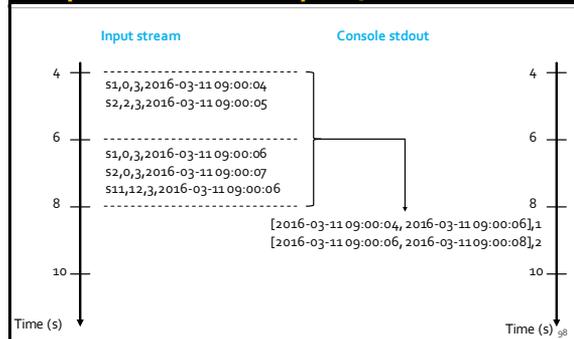
### Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4



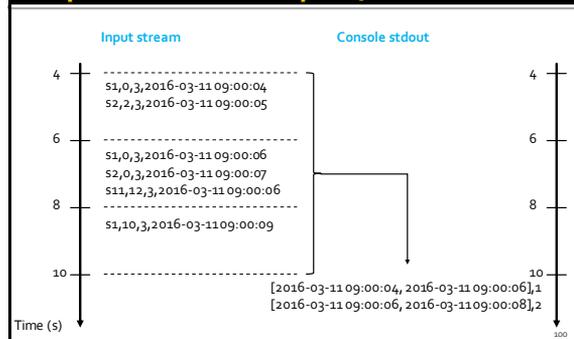
## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4



## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4



## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4



## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

```
from pyspark.sql.types import *
from pyspark.sql.functions import split
from pyspark.sql.functions import window

# Create a "receiver" DataFrame that will connect to localhost:9999
recordsDF = spark.readStream()
    .format("socket") \
    .option("host", "localhost") \
    .option("port", 9999) \
    .load()
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

```
# The input records are characterized by one single column called value
# of type string
# Example of an input record: s1,0,3,2016-03-11 09:00:04
# Define four more columns by splitting the input column value
# New columns:
# - stationId
# - freeslots
# - usedslots
# - timestamp

readingsDF = recordsDF()
    .withColumn("stationId", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[0].cast("string")) \
    .withColumn("freeslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[1].cast("integer")) \
    .withColumn("usedslots", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[2].cast("integer")) \
    .withColumn("timestamp", split(recordsDF.value, ',')[3].cast("timestamp"))
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Count the number of readings with a number of free slots equal to 0
# for in each window.
# windowDuration = 2 seconds
# no overlapping windows
countsDF = fullReadingsDF
  .groupBy(window(fullReadingsDF.timestamp, "2 seconds"))
  .agg({"*": "count"})
  .sort("window")
```

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

```
# Filter data
# Use the standard filter transformation
fullReadingsDF = readingsDF.filter("freeslots=0")

# Count the number of readings with a number of free slots equal to 0
# for in each window.
# windowDuration = 2 seconds
# no overlapping windows
countsDF = fullReadingsDF
  .groupBy(window(fullReadingsDF.timestamp, "2 seconds"))
  .agg({"*": "count"})
  .sort("window")
```

We define one group for each window

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## Event Time and Window Operations: Example 4

```
# The result of the structured streaming query will be stored/printed on
# the console "sink"
# complete output mode
# (append mode cannot be used for aggregation queries)
queryCountWindowStreamWriter = countsDF
  .writeStream()
  .outputMode("complete")
  .format("console")
  .option("truncate", "false")

# Start the execution of the query (it will be executed until it is explicitly stopped)
queryCountWindow = queryCountWindowStreamWriter.start()
```

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## Watermarking

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## Watermarking

- Watermarking is a feature of Spark that allows the user to specify the threshold of late data, and allows the engine to accordingly clean up old state
- Results related to old event-times are not needed in many real streaming applications
  - They can be dropped to improve the efficiency of the application
  - Keeping the state of old results is resource expensive
- Every time new data are processed only recent records are considered

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## Watermarking

- Specifically, to run windowed queries for days, it is necessary for the system to bound the amount of intermediate in-memory state it accumulates
  - This means the system needs to know when an old aggregate can be dropped from the in-memory state because the application is not going to receive late data for that aggregate any more
- To enable this, in Spark 2.1, watermarking has been introduced

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## Watermarking

- Watermarking lets the Spark Structured Streaming engine automatically track the current event time in the data and attempt to clean up old state accordingly
- You can define the watermark of a query by specifying the event time column and the threshold on how late the data is expected to be in terms of event time
  - For a specific window ending at time T, the engine will maintain state and allow late data to update the state/the result until
    - max event time seen by the engine < T + late threshold
  - In other words, late data within the threshold will be aggregated, but data later than T+threshold will be dropped

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## Join Operations

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## Join Operations

- Spark Structured Streaming manages also join operations
  - Between two streaming DataFrames
  - Between a streaming DataFrame and a static DataFrame
- The result of the streaming join is generated incrementally

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## Join Operations

- Join between two streaming DataFrames
- For both input streams, past input streaming data must be buffered/recorded in order to be able to match every future input record with past input data and accordingly generate joined results
- Too many resources are needed for storing all the input data
- Hence, **old data must be discarded**
  - You must **define watermark thresholds on both input streams** such that the engine knows how delayed the input can be and drop old data

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## Join Operations

- The methods `join()` and `withWatermark()` are used to join streaming DataFrames
- The join method is similar to the one available for static DataFrame

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## Join Operations: Example

```
from pyspark.sql.functions import expr
impressions = spark.readStream. ...
clicks = spark.readStream. ...

# Apply watermarks on event-time columns
impressionsWithWatermark = impressions.withWatermark("impressionTime", "2
hours")

clicksWithWatermark = clicks.withWatermark("clickTime", "3 hours")

# Join with event-time constraints
impressionsWithWatermark.join(
clicksWithWatermark,
expr("""
clickAdId = impressionAdId AND clickTime >= impressionTime AND
clickTime <= impressionTime + interval 1 hour
""")) )
```

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