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## **Databricks Associate-Developer-Apache-Spark-3.5 Dumps Guide | Hot Associate-Developer-Apache-Spark-3.5 Spot Questions**

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## **Databricks Certified Associate Developer for Apache Spark 3.5 - Python Sample Questions (Q93-Q98):**

### NEW QUESTION # 93

33 of 55.

The data engineering team created a pipeline that extracts data from a transaction system.

The transaction system stores timestamps in UTC, and the data engineers must now transform the `transaction_datetime` field to the "America/New\_York" timezone for reporting.

Which code should be used to convert the timestamp to the target timezone?

- A. `raw.withColumn("transaction_datetime", to_utc_timestamp(col("transaction_datetime"), "America/New_York"))`
- B. `raw.withColumn("transaction_datetime", convert_timezone(col("transaction_datetime"), "America/New_York"))`
- C. `raw.withColumn("transaction_datetime", date_format(col("transaction_datetime"), "America/New_York"))`
- D. `raw.withColumn("transaction_datetime", from_utc_timestamp(col("transaction_datetime"), "America/New_York"))`

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

In Spark SQL, to convert a UTC timestamp to another timezone, you use the function `from_utc_timestamp()`.

Correct syntax:

```
from pyspark.sql.functions import from_utc_timestamp, col
df_converted = raw.withColumn(
    "transaction_datetime",
    from_utc_timestamp(col("transaction_datetime"), "America/New_York")
)
```

This adjusts the UTC time into the specified timezone using Spark's timezone database.

Why the other options are incorrect:

B: `to_utc_timestamp()` converts local time to UTC, not the other way around.

C: `date_format()` formats timestamps as strings but doesn't adjust timezones.

D: `convert_timezone()` is not a valid Spark SQL function.

Reference:

Spark SQL Functions - `from_utc_timestamp()` and `to_utc_timestamp()`.

Databricks Exam Guide (June 2025): Section "Using Spark SQL" - working with timestamps and timezone conversions.

### NEW QUESTION # 94

What is the difference between `df.cache()` and `df.persist()` in Spark DataFrame?

- A. Both `cache()` and `persist()` can be used to set the default storage level (`MEMORY_AND_DISK_SER`)
- B. `cache()`- Persists the DataFrame with the default storage level (`MEMORY_AND_DISK`) and `persist()`- Can be used to set different storage levels to persist the contents of the DataFrame
- C. `persist()`- Persists the DataFrame with the default storage level (`MEMORY_AND_DISK_SER`) and `cache()`- Can be used to set different storage levels to persist the contents of the DataFrame.
- D. Both functions perform the same operation. The `persist()` function provides improved performance as its default storage level is `DISK_ONLY`.

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

`df.cache()` is shorthand for `df.persist(StorageLevel.MEMORY_AND_DISK)`

`df.persist()` allows specifying any storage level such as `MEMORY_ONLY`, `DISK_ONLY`, `MEMORY_AND_DISK_SER`, etc.

By default, `persist()` uses `MEMORY_AND_DISK`, unless specified otherwise.

Reference: Spark Programming Guide - Caching and Persistence

### NEW QUESTION # 95

A data engineer writes the following code to join two DataFrames `df1` and `df2`:

```
df1 = spark.read.csv("sales_data.csv") # ~10 GB
df2 = spark.read.csv("product_data.csv") # ~8 MB
result = df1.join(df2, df1.product_id == df2.product_id)
```

```
df1 = spark.read.csv("sales_data.csv")
df2 = spark.read.csv("product_data.csv")
result = df1.join(df2, df1.product_id == df2.product_id)
```

Which join strategy will Spark use?

- A. Shuffle join, as the size difference between df1 and df2 is too large for a broadcast join to work efficiently
- B. Shuffle join, because AQE is not enabled, and Spark uses a static query plan
- C. Shuffle join because no broadcast hints were provided
- **D. Broadcast join, as df2 is smaller than the default broadcast threshold**

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract:

The default broadcast join threshold in Spark is:

`spark.sql.autoBroadcastJoinThreshold = 10MB`

Since df2 is only 8 MB (less than 10 MB), Spark will automatically apply a broadcast join without requiring explicit hints.

From the Spark documentation:

"If one side of the join is smaller than the broadcast threshold, Spark will automatically broadcast it to all executors." A is incorrect because Spark does support auto broadcast even with static plans.

B is correct: Spark will automatically broadcast df2.

C and D are incorrect because Spark's default logic handles this optimization.

Final Answer: B

## NEW QUESTION # 96

25 of 55.

A Data Analyst is working on `employees_df` and needs to add a new column where a 10% tax is calculated on the salary.

Additionally, the DataFrame contains the column `age`, which is not needed.

Which code fragment adds the tax column and removes the age column?

- **A. `employees_df = employees_df.withColumn("tax", col("salary") * 0.1).drop("age")`**
- B. `employees_df = employees_df.withColumn("tax", col("salary") + 0.1).drop("age")`
- C. `employees_df = employees_df.dropField("age").withColumn("tax", col("salary") * 0.1)`
- D. `employees_df = employees_df.withColumn("tax", lit(0.1)).drop("age")`

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

To create a new calculated column in Spark, use the `.withColumn()` method.

To remove an unwanted column, use the `.drop()` method.

Correct syntax:

`from pyspark.sql.functions import col`

`employees_df = employees_df.withColumn("tax", col("salary") * 0.1).drop("age")`

`.withColumn("tax", col("salary") * 0.1)` → adds a new column where tax = 10% of salary.

`.drop("age")` → removes the age column from the DataFrame.

Why the other options are incorrect:

B: `lit(0.1)` creates a constant value, not a calculated tax.

C: `.dropField()` is not a DataFrame API method (used only in struct field manipulations).

D: Adds 0.1 to salary instead of calculating 10%.

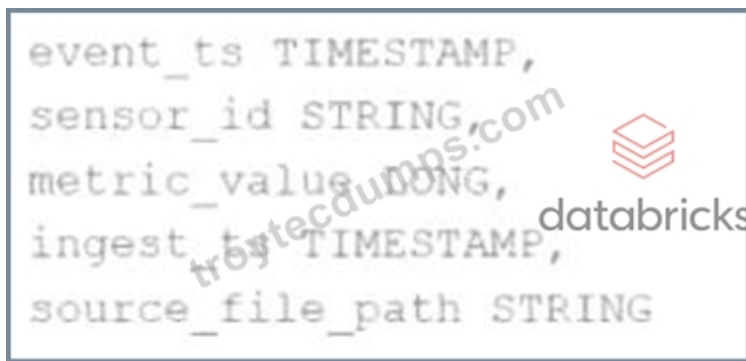
Reference:

PySpark DataFrame API - `withColumn()`, `drop()`, and `col()`.

Databricks Exam Guide (June 2025): Section "Developing Apache Spark DataFrame/DataSet API Applications" - manipulating, renaming, and dropping columns.

## NEW QUESTION # 97

Given the schema:



```
event_ts TIMESTAMP,  
sensor_id STRING,  
metric_value LONG,  
ingest_ts TIMESTAMP,  
source_file_path STRING
```

The goal is to deduplicate based on: event\_ts, sensor\_id, and metric\_value.

Options:

- A. dropDuplicates on all columns (wrong criteria)
- **B. dropDuplicates on the exact matching fields**
- C. groupBy without aggregation (invalid use)
- D. dropDuplicates with no arguments (removes based on all columns)

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

dedup\_df = iot\_bronze\_df.dropDuplicates(["event\_ts", "sensor\_id", "metric\_value"]) dropDuplicates accepts a list of columns to use for deduplication.

This ensures only unique records based on the specified keys are retained.

Reference: DataFrame.dropDuplicates() API

## NEW QUESTION # 98

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