

OpenLineage & Airflow - data lineage has never been easier

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OpenLineage to build a healthy data ecosystem



Interesting questions:

- What is the data source?
- What is the schema?
- Who is the owner?
- How often is it updated?
- Where does it come from?
- Who is using it?
- What has changed?







You can try to infer the date and location of an image after the fact...



...or you can capture it when the image is originally created!

OpenLineage mission

• To define an open standard for the collection of lineage metadata from pipelines as they are running.



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The dark past of Airflow Integration

- We want to achieve real-time notification about TaskInstance start, success, fail
- First way to do it? Subclassing DAG
 from airflow import DAG
 from openlineage.airflow import DAG
- We can overload DAG methods and get notifications this way.
- Modify all the dags, have to set up openlineage-airflow locally.



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- Stopped working in Airflow 2





The closer, slightly dark past

- LineageBackend sounds like right tool for the job?
- Both Airflow 1.10 and Airflow 2.1+ supported
- You can choose your LineageBackend in Airflow config
- Does not allow us to emit events on task start or failure
- We need those to reliably report what happened!
- Let's contribute!



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- Let's contribute!
- Turns out it's not so simple.

LineageBackend is notified on pre_execute and post fail #18470





The great present

- Let's add new interface!
- We want our plugin to be notified when TaskInstanceState changes to RUNNING, SUCCESS, FAILED

Variable state (airflow.models.taskinsta	ince)	100+ usages 🛄
또 🗝 🐟 🗽 间 🔳 All Place	₽5 ▼	Usages 🏚
🛃 dagrun.py	246 ↔ self.state = dr.state	
💑 dagrun.py	532 ++> none_deferred = all(t.state != State.DEFERRED for t in unfinished_tis)	
💑 dagrun.py	546 ↔ if not unfinished_tis and any(leaf_ti.state in State.failed_states for leaf_ti in leaf_tis):	
💑 dagrun.py	561 +> elif not unfinished_tis and all(leaf_ti. state in State.success_states for leaf_ti in leaf_tis):	
💑 dagrun.py	650 -•> ti.state = State.REMOVED	
💑 dagrun.py	653 +> unfinished_tis = [t for t in tis if t.state in State.unfinished]	
💑 dagrun.py	654 ↔ finished_tis = [t for t in tis if t. state in State.finished]	
💑 dagrun.py	656 + schedulable_tis = [ut for ut in unfinished_tis if ut. state in SCHEDULEABLE_STATES]	
🚜 dagrun.py	667 +•> new_unfinished_tis = [t for t in unfinished_tis if t. state in State.unfinished]	
💑 dagrun.py	668 ↔ finished_tis.extend(t for t in unfinished_tis if t. state in State.finished)	
💑 dagrun.py	726 ↔ changed_tis = any(ti.state != old_states[ti.key] for ti in fresh_tis)	
🛃 dagrun.py	833 + should_restore_task = (task is not None) and ti.state == State.REMOVED	
🚜 dagrun.py	837 🔸 ti.state = State.NONE	
💑 dagrun.py	839 +≎ if ti.state == State.REMOVED:	
🛃 dagrun.py	844 🔸 ti.state = State.REMOVED	
🚜 dagrun.py	859 🔸 ti.state = State.REMOVED	
🚜 dagrun.py	862 🔸 ti.state = State.REMOVED	
🚜 dagrun.py	866 → ti.state = State.NONE	
💑 dagrun.py	877 🔸 ti.state = State.REMOVED	
🚜 dagrun.py	886 - 🚸 ti.state = State.REMOVED	

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The great present

- SqlAlchemy allows us to listen to existing database events
- AirflowPlugin mechanism allows us to automatically load plugin code from external Python packages
- Pluggy allows us to call registered plugins without needing to know what they are

The great present

- Okay
- Is present in Airflow 2.3!



Add Listener Plugin API that tracks TaskInstance state changes #2





Features

- Extractors
- Built-in extractors -
 - BigQueryExtractor
 - SnowflakeExtractor
 - PostgresExtractor
 - GreatExpectationsExtractor
 - o ...
- Possibility to create custom extractors

Features

- Additional common library to help with writing extractors
- SQL parser
- Other integrations (dbt...) can use those features as well



The shiny future

- Prevalence of PythonOperator
- Can we get data directly from Hooks?
- Hooks are very diverse.



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The shiny future

- Prevalence of PythonOperator
- Can we get data directly from Hooks?
- Hooks are very diverse.
- AIP-48 solves a lot of those problems



Apache Spark Integration

Top 3 recent features:

- Support for Spark 3.2.1
- Extensibility API
 - Possibility to write custom plugins to enrich existing OpenLineage events.
- Column level lineage
 - Which input columns were used to produce output column X?

Other:

- Spawning Spark from your Airflow DAG? We'll keep track of that.
- Lifecycle state change understand the meaning of DROP, DELETE, ALTER...
- Dataset versions for Iceberg & Delta





Apache Flink integration

Status:

- Under construction.
- We're already able to:
 - Identify sources & sinks Kafka topics,
 - Fetch datasets' schemas for Avro,
 - Include checkpoint statistics in OpenLineage events,
 - Retrieve information on Iceberg sources & sinks,
 - …
- Looking forward to publish first experimental version.



You can contribute too!

Status:

• github.com/OpenLineage/OpenLineage

