



Deadline Alerts In Airflow 3.1

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Beyond SLA

Deadline Alerts in Airflow 3.1

3.0



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What was an SLA?

In Airflow 2, an SLA allowed users to set a duration for a Dag or Task and get a notification if they ran longer.

What is a Deadline Alert?

In Airflow 3, Deadline Alerts allow you to set time thresholds for your Dag runs, and automatically respond when those thresholds are exceeded.

That sounds awfully
similar, what's the
difference?



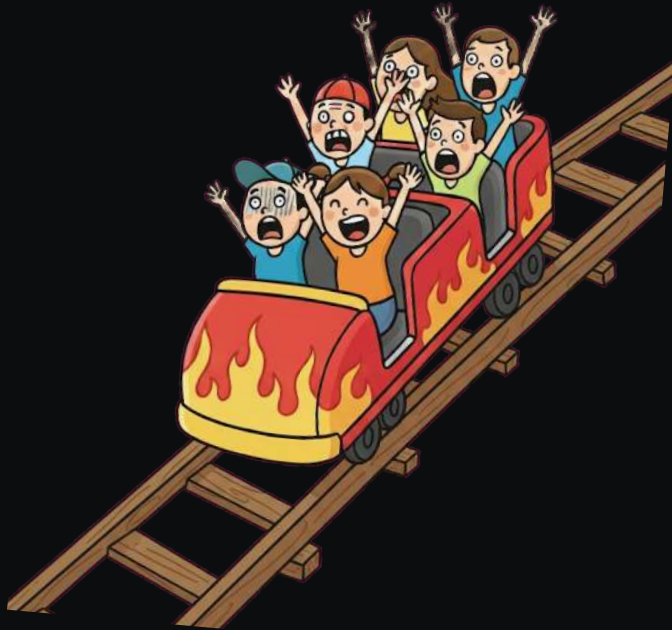
SLA

- **sla_miss** was evaluated **only** if the task_id was ever in SUCCESS or SKIPPED state
- SLA was defined as a timedelta relative to the dagrun.data_interval_end
- Callback was an attribute of the **Dag**, but the SLA was an attribute of individual **tasks**
- Callback was executed after the Dag run finished
- Dag files were parsed **each time** the callback was sent to the DagFileProcessor
- DagFileProcessor was overloaded

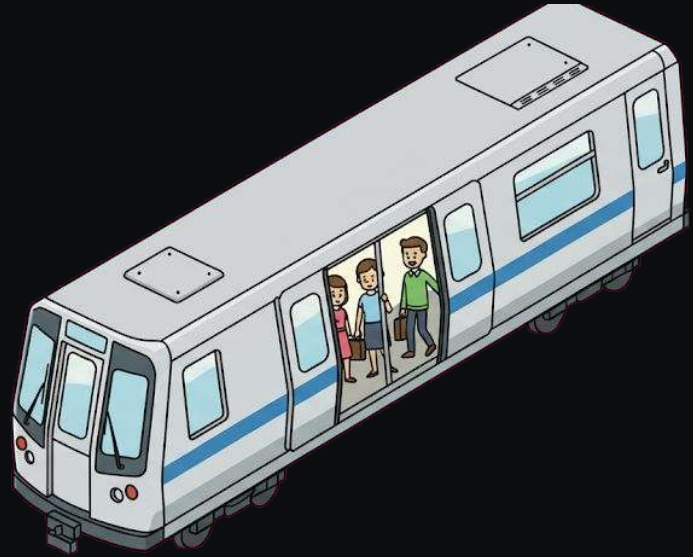
Deadline Alerts

- Evaluated every scheduler pass
- You can define the **Reference** (starting point) and **Interval** (timedelta)
- Callback is an attribute of the **Deadline**
- Callback is executed within seconds of the missed deadline
- Deadline is calculated at Dag run creation and stored, no need for multiple passes
- DagFileProcessor can focus on its job

SLA



Deadline Alerts



SLA

User defines a length of time. When (if?) the Dag run finishes: if it took longer than that amount of time, run the callback.

More flexible and timely!

Deadline Alerts

User defines a length of time and a reference point from which to start counting. When a Dag run is created, calculate that expiration time.

Each scheduler pass (5 seconds by default), if that time has passed: run the callback, even if the Dag is still currently running.

I'm Sold!

How do Deadlines Work?



How is a Deadline Alert Defined?

Deadline Alert

Reference

When to start counting

Interval

How long to wait

Callback

How to respond



What Does This Look Like?

If the **DAGRUN** has not finished
[Interval] 30 minutes after
[Reference] the DAGRUN_QUEUED_AT
Then
[Callback] send a slack message

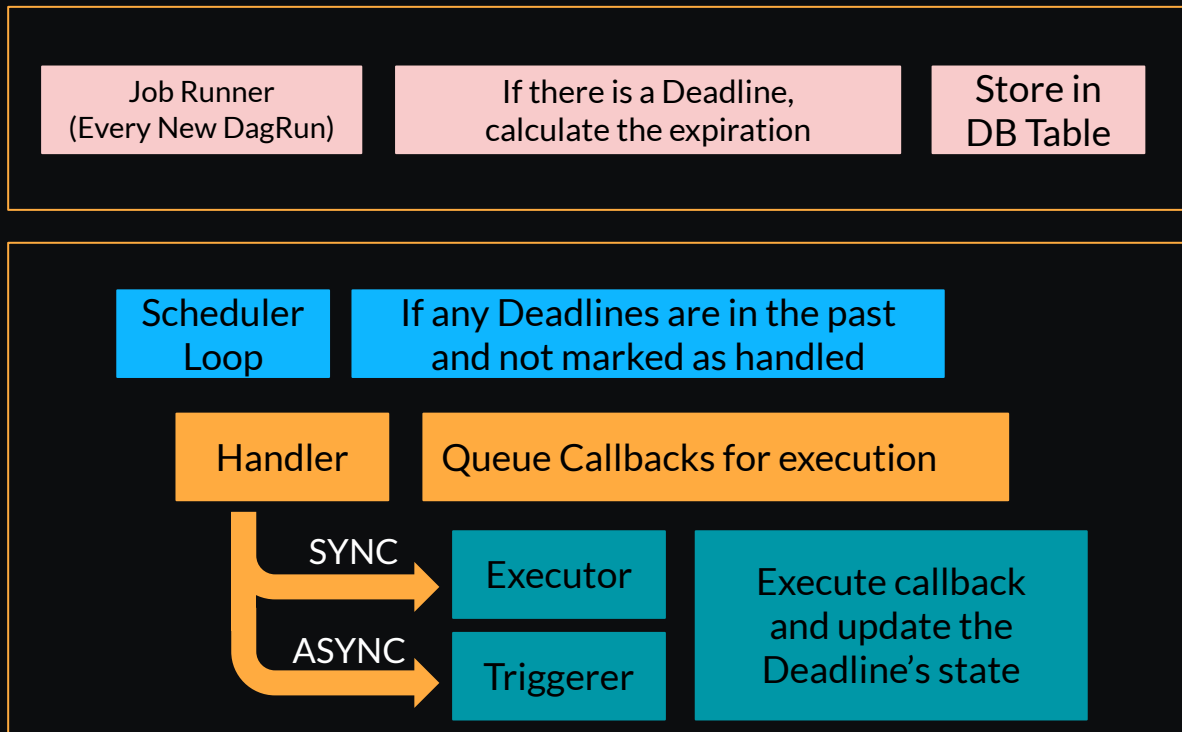
If the **DAGRUN** has still not finished
[Interval] 60 minutes after
[Reference] the DAGRUN_QUEUED_AT
Then
[Callback] send an email message

```
SLACK_TEAM = AsyncCallback(
    SlackWebhookNotifier,
    kwargs: {"text": "🔴 {{ dag_run.dag_id }} is running late."}
)

EMAIL_ONCALL = AsyncCallback(
    callback_callable=SmtpNotifier,
    kwargs={
        "to": ONCALL_ADDRESS,
        "subject": "🔴 {{ dag_run.dag_id }} missed deadline at {{ deadline.deadline_time }}.",
        "html_content": "Dag Run details: {{ dag_run }}",
    }
)

with DAG(
    dag_id="deadline_alerts_demo",
    deadline=[
        DeadlineAlert(
            reference=DeadlineReference.DAGRUN_QUEUED_AT,
            interval=timedelta(minutes=30),
            callback=SLACK_TEAM,
        ),
        DeadlineAlert(
            reference=DeadlineReference.DAGRUN_QUEUED_AT,
            interval=timedelta(minutes=60),
            callback=EMAIL_ONCALL,
        )
    ]
):
    task1()
```

How Does It Work?



Built-in Deadline References

DAGRUN_QUEUED_AT

Measures time from when the DagRun was queued.

Useful for monitoring resource constraints.

DAGRUN_LOGICAL_DATE

Measures time from when the Dag run was scheduled to start.

Useful for ensuring scheduled Dags complete before their next scheduled run.

FIXED_DATETIME

Specifies a fixed point in time.

Useful when Dags must complete by a specific time.

AVERAGE_RUNTIME

Calculates the average historical runtime of the Dag.

Useful for detecting unusual activity in a Dag run or environment.

Callback Support

Asynchronous Callbacks
(Available in 3.1)

Run in the Triggerer

Existing Notifiers - Async Notifiers Work

Custom Callbacks - Must be in the Triggerer's sys.path (for example, the Plugins folder)

Synchronous Callbacks
(Coming in 3.2)

Run in the Executor/worker

Existing Notifiers - All Work

Custom Callbacks - Can be placed anywhere in the Dag Bundle

Async vs Sync Callbacks

Asynchronous Callbacks (Available in 3.1)

Lower runtime overhead - runs on triggerer

Requires restarting the triggerer to apply changes in callback

Requires async callable

Synchronous Callbacks (Coming in 3.2)

Higher runtime overhead - runs on worker/executor

Automatically uses the callback definition from the Dag bundle

Runs any python callable

Callback Support

Asynchronous Callbacks

Existing Notifiers with async support:

Slack, Email, AWS (SES, SNS, SQS) + more coming soon

Custom Callbacks - Must be in the Triggerer's sys.path (for example, the Plugins folder)

Synchronous Callbacks

All existing Notifiers

Custom Callbacks - Can be placed anywhere in the Dag Bundle

DEMO!

3.0

```
1 with DAG("slack_as_on_success_callback", tags=["slack"]):
2     BashOperator(
3         task_id='example_task',
4         bash_command="echo 'Hello World'",
5         on_success_callback=[
6             SlackWebhookNotifier(
7                 text=f"On_success callback!",
8             )
9         ],
10    )
```

please-ignore

Messages Add canvas Files +

Today

Message #please-ignore

+ Aa @ | D + []

Airflow

http://localhost:28080/dags

Days Dag Runs Task Instances

Search Dags

Advanced Search Ctrl+K

All Failed Queued Running Success Required Actions All Filter by tag

3 Dags

Dag ID	Schedule	Next Run	Latest Run	Tags
slack_as_deadline_should_not_trigger				slack
slack_as_Deadline_should_trigger				slack
slack_as_on_success_callback				slack

What's To Come?

Available in 3.1

- DAG-level Deadlines
 - Dagrun: Started
 - Dagrun: Queued
 - Fixed datetime (every day at 9AM)
 - Average runtime
- Multiple Deadlines per DAG
- Async Callbacks and Notifiers
 - Executed by the Triggerer

Future Work

- Synchronous Callbacks
 - Pick your Executor!
- Task-Level Deadlines
- Expand trigger options:
 - Dataset: Created
 - Dataset: Updated
 - Asset-Driven
 - ???
- Add more Asynchronous Notifiers

Questions?

3.0



**Get
Involved**



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Slide Deck