

Governance

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Flink metadata collection using Atlas

In Cloudera Streaming Analytics, you can use Flink with Apache Atlas to track the input and output data of your Flink jobs.

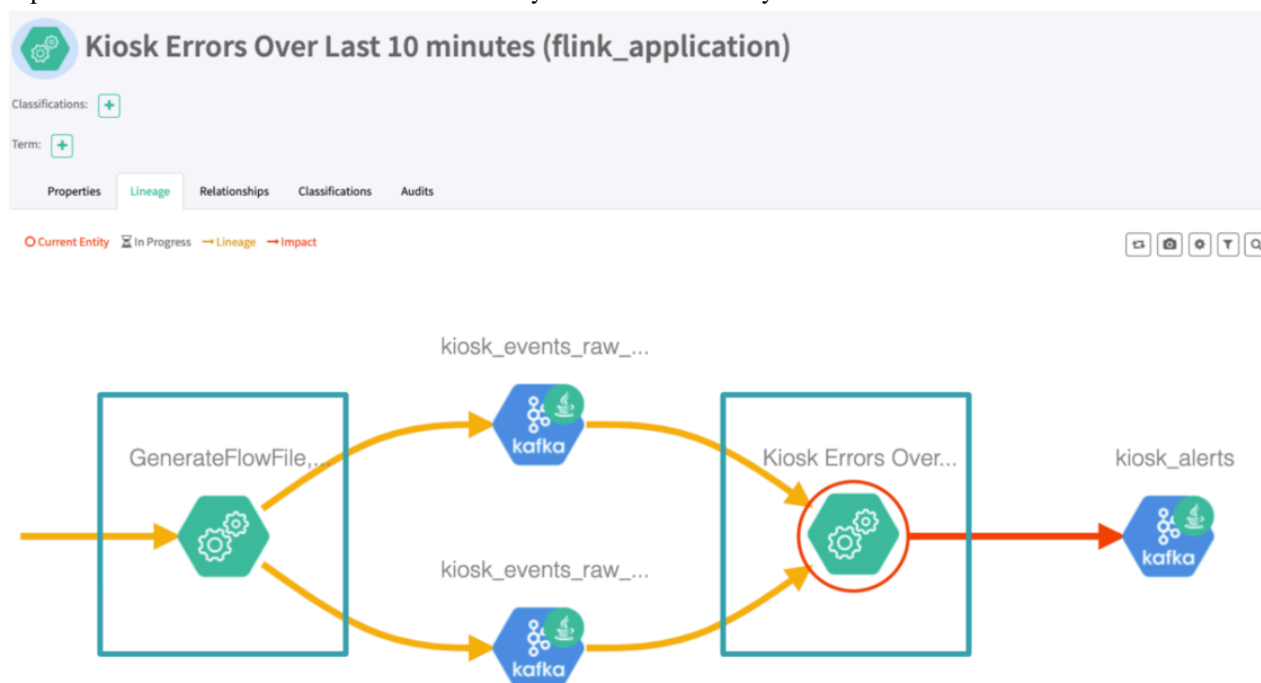
Atlas is a lineage and metadata management solution that is supported across the Cloudera Data Platform. This means that you can find, organize and manage different assets of data about your Flink applications and how they relate to each other. This enables a range of data stewardship and regulatory compliance use cases.

For more information about Atlas, see the [Cloudera Runtime documentation](#).

Atlas entities in Flink metadata collection

In Atlas, the core concept of representing Flink applications, Kafka topics, HBase tables, and so on, is called an entity. You need to understand the relation and definition for entities in a Flink setup to enhance the metadata collection.

When submitting updates to Atlas, a Flink application describes itself and the entities it uses as sources and sinks. Atlas creates and updates the corresponding entities, and creates lineage from the collected and already available entities. Internally, the communication between the Flink client and the Atlas server is implemented using a Kafka topic. This solution is referred to as Flink hook by the Atlas community.



Creating Atlas entity type definitions for Flink

Before submitting Flink jobs to collect their metadata, you need to create Atlas entity type definitions for Flink. In the command line, you need to connect to the atlas server and add the predefined type definitions. You also need to enable Atlas for Flink in Cloudera Manager.

About this task

Atlas does not include the metadata source of Flink by default. The administrator must manually upload the entity type definitions to the cluster to be able to start the Flink metadata collection.



Note: The default ports for the Atlas admin server are 31433 and 31000 when TLS is enabled or disabled respectively.

Procedure

1. Upload the designed entity type definitions to the cluster using the Atlas REST API.

```
curl -k -u <atlas_admin>:<atlas_admin_pwd> --location --request POST 'https://<atlas_server_host>:<atlas_server_port>/api/atlas/v2/types/typedefs' \
--header 'Content-Type: application/json' \
--data-raw '{
  "enumDefs": [],
  "structDefs": [],
  "classificationDefs": [],
  "entityDefs": [
    {
      "name": "flink_application",
      "superTypes": [
        "Process"
      ],
      "serviceType": "flink",
      "typeVersion": "1.0",
      "attributeDefs": [
        {
          "name": "id",
          "typeName": "string",
          "cardinality": "SINGLE",
          "isIndexable": true,
          "isOptional": false,
          "isUnique": true
        },
        {
          "name": "startTime",
          "typeName": "date",
          "cardinality": "SINGLE",
          "isIndexable": false,
          "isOptional": true,
          "isUnique": false
        },
        {
          "name": "endTime",
          "typeName": "date",
          "cardinality": "SINGLE",
          "isIndexable": false,
          "isOptional": true,
          "isUnique": false
        },
        {
          "name": "conf",
          "typeName": "map<string,string>",
          "cardinality": "SINGLE",
          "isIndexable": false,
          "isOptional": true,
          "isUnique": false
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

```
    ],
    "relationshipDefs": []
  },
}
```

2. Log in to Cloudera Manager.
3. Go to **Flink>Configuration**.
4. Search for 'enable atlas' in the search bar.
5. Enable Atlas Metadata Collection.

The screenshot shows the Cloudera Manager interface for the Flink-1 cluster. The 'Configuration' tab is selected. A search bar at the top contains the text 'enable atlas'. On the left, a 'Filters' sidebar shows a table for the 'SCOPE' filter:

SCOPE	Count
FLINK-1 (Service-Wide)	1
Flink Dashboard	0
Gateway	0

The main content area displays the configuration for 'Enable Atlas Metadata Collection'. It shows a checkbox that is checked, labeled 'FLINK-1 (Service-Wide)', with an 'Undo' link. Below this, the configuration key 'atlas.collection.enable' is visible.

Results

The Flink client notifies Atlas about the metadata of the job on successful submission.

Verifying metadata collection

After enabling Atlas metadata collection, newly submitted Flink jobs on the cluster are also submitting their metadata to Atlas. You can verify the metadata collection with messages in the command line by requesting information regarding the Atlas hook.

To verify the metadata collection, you can run the "Streaming WordCount" example from Running a Flink Job.

In the log, the following new lines appear:

```
...
20/05/13 06:28:12 INFO hook.FlinkAtlasHook: Collecting metadata for a new Flink Application: Streaming WordCount
...
20/05/13 06:30:35 INFO hook.AtlasHook: <== Shutdown of Atlas Hook
```

Flink communicates with Atlas through a Kafka topic, by default the one named ATLAS_HOOK.

Related Information

[Running a Flink job](#)