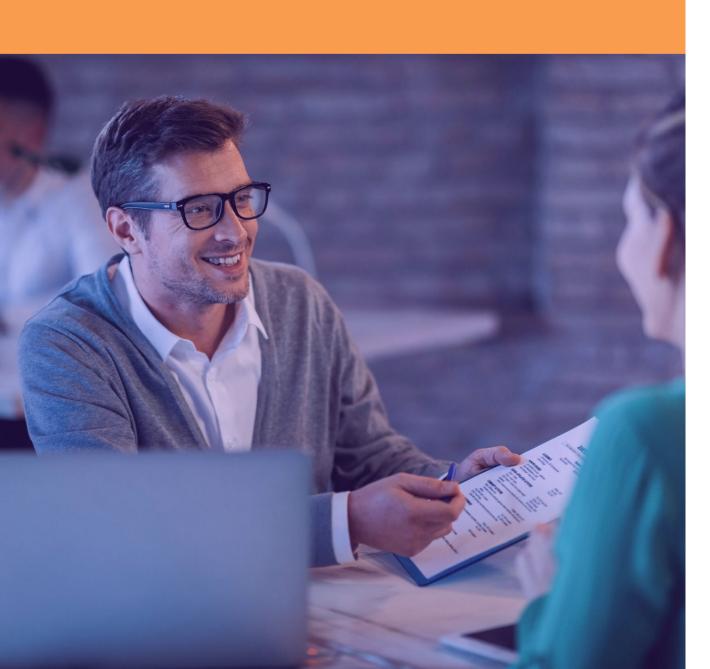## Overview

Databricks is a leading Data + AI company that combines the best of data warehouses and data lakes to offer an open and unified platform for data and AI. Founded in 2013 by the creators of Apache SparkTM, Delta Lake, and ML flow, Databricks has 5000+ clients, including Shell, Conde Nast, and Regeneron. Databricks seeks to empower these enterprises to solve the world's toughest data problems with massive-scale data engineering, collaborative data science, and business analytics.

Challenge

With events being a major part of outreach for Databricks, it was natural to transition to hosting them virtually with the unleashing of the pandemic. With over 7k registrations, Data+AI Summit was a free virtual event for data teams with workshops, hands-on exercises sessions from leading practitioners and including the creators of Spark, Delta Lake, ML flow, and Koalas.

While they had the content and intellectual expertise to seamlessly run the show, lack of in-house capabilities to manage the virtual event posed a threat to its success. Acquiring cloud resources to deploy such big events, limited by regional quota restrictions was one of the top challenges that Databricks faced. Additionally, despite the right talent, in-house data teams required weeks or months to research modern approaches to reach their goals, which sought to delay the event considerably.

CloudLabs
By Spektra Systems

Solution

Keeping in mind the massive scale of the deployment, CloudLabs leveraged its unparalleled cloud capabilities to ensure smooth event execution, albeit virtually. The CloudLabs team ensured that the cloud required capacity is allocated across various regions from Azure & AWS, without running into quota and capacity issues. Clusters were hot when attendees started the lab without having to wait for any environment readiness.

CloudLabs provided an effective learning experience by facilitating lab like environment for the participants at a specified time. No external actions were necessary to set up the workshops and the Databricks clusters. It was also made sure that Instructors had a comfortable transition while monitoring participant activities with shadow features.

To configure the Databricks workspace, CloudLabs used Azure and AWS APIs, with extensive to run different training programs and create an extraordinary experience on both. Additionally Databricks APIs were leveraged to create, start, edit, list, terminate, and delete a cluster, creating a customized experience throughout the course of the event.

Multi-cloud Capabilities

With extensive experience, CloudLabs team quickly leveraged the multi-cloud option to empower the participants to seamlessly transition between Azure and AWS, based on need and convenience.

Provisioning, Support, Security & more…

Various monitoring and validation tools by CloudLabs also facilitated a fast, effortless, and effective learning experience for the participants. by allowing them to request support in real-time from their trainers. Additionally, a support technical team was available throughout the event to address any unexpected interruption.

An Alerting mechanism was also built into the system to track any deployment failure. Validation Jobs were in place to identify the root cause analysis while giving the participants an option to raise tickets related to infra failure.

Outcome

With the ability to provide on-demand, pre-validated cloud-based practice labs to thousands of participants from around the globe and post event support to ensure all cloud resources were stopped and event budget were met, CloudLabs helped Databricks host a highly publicized virtual Data Conference with additional detailed insights on cloud expenditure and user participation. Overall, a seamless and user-friendly experience for the instructor and the attendees made this summit a huge success.

Book a Demo

CloudLabs
By Spektra Systems