

Invoke External Function

Contents:

- *Pre-requisites*
- *Invoke*
- *Examples*
 - *ConcatUDF*
 - *AdderUDF*

Through the Search panel, you can access and apply functions that have been developed external to Trifacta® Self-Managed Enterprise Edition.

Pre-requisites

Also known as user-defined functions, external functions must be developed in an environment external to the product and then registered for use in it. These steps require developer skills. For more information, see *User-Defined Functions*.

Invoke

After an external function has been registered with the product, you can complete the following steps to invoke the function within your recipe.

Steps:

1. In the Transform Builder, you can search for any of the following:
 - a. `udf`
 - b. `invoke external function`

NOTE: You cannot search for the name of the external function.

2. Select **Invoke external function**.
3. The list of available external functions is displayed. Select the function to use.
4. Depending on the function, the following options may be available:
 - a. Columns: specify the column or columns to which to apply the function.
 - b. Arguments: If the function accepts arguments, you can enter them on individual lines.
 - c. New column name: Some functions generate a new column. Enter a new column name.
5. To add the instance of the function to your recipe, click **Add**.
6. The step is added to your recipe.

Examples

You can create these examples functions in Java for use in the platform. For more information, see *Java UDFs*.

ConcatUDF

The ConcatUDF function concatenates two strings together.

Tip: This function is provided for demonstration purposes only. In practice, you should use the MERGE function instead. See *MERGE Function*.

Transformation Name	Invoke external function
Parameter: Column	colA, colB
Parameter: Arguments	(empty)
Parameter: New column name	myConcatUDFColumn

AdderUDF

The AdderUDF function adds an input value to a constant that is submitted by parameter. The following invocation of AdderUDF adds colA and the constant 100.

Tip: This function is provided for demonstration purposes only. In practice, you should use the ADD function instead. See *ADD Function*.

Transformation Name	Invoke external function
Parameter: Column	colA
Parameter: Arguments	100
Parameter: New column name	myAdderUDFColumn