

..

# Downloading and uploading Model Repositories for an air-gapped environment

Date published: 13 May 2025

Date modified:

# CLOUDERA

# Legal Notice

© Cloudera Inc. 2025. All rights reserved.

The documentation is and contains Cloudera proprietary information protected by copyright and other intellectual property rights. No license under copyright or any other intellectual property right is granted herein.

Unless otherwise noted, scripts and sample code are licensed under the Apache License, Version 2.0.

Copyright information for Cloudera software may be found within the documentation accompanying each component in a particular release.

Cloudera software includes software from various open source or other third party projects, and may be released under the Apache Software License 2.0 (“ASLv2”), the Affero General Public License version 3 (AGPLv3), or other license terms. Other software included may be released under the terms of alternative open source licenses. Please review the license and notice files accompanying the software for additional licensing information.

Please visit the Cloudera software product page for more information on Cloudera software. For more information on Cloudera support services, please visit either the Support or Sales page. Feel free to contact us directly to discuss your specific needs.

Cloudera reserves the right to change any products at any time, and without notice. Cloudera assumes no responsibility nor liability arising from the use of products, except as expressly agreed to in writing by Cloudera.

Cloudera, Cloudera Altus, HUE, Impala, Cloudera Impala, and other Cloudera marks are registered or unregistered trademarks in the United States and other countries. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

Disclaimer: EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED IN A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH CLOUDERA, CLOUDERA DOES NOT MAKE NOR GIVE ANY REPRESENTATION, WARRANTY, NOR COVENANT OF ANY KIND, WHETHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, IN CONNECTION WITH CLOUDERA TECHNOLOGY OR RELATED SUPPORT PROVIDED IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. CLOUDERA DOES NOT WARRANT THAT CLOUDERA PRODUCTS NOR SOFTWARE WILL OPERATE UNINTERRUPTED NOR THAT IT WILL BE FREE FROM DEFECTS NOR ERRORS, THAT IT WILL PROTECT YOUR DATA FROM LOSS, CORRUPTION NOR UNAVAILABILITY, NOR THAT IT WILL MEET ALL OF CUSTOMER’S BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS. WITHOUT LIMITING THE FOREGOING, AND TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, CLOUDERA EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, QUALITY, NON-INFRINGEMENT, TITLE, AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND ANY REPRESENTATION, WARRANTY, OR COVENANT BASED ON COURSE OF DEALING OR USAGE IN TRADE.

# Contents

<b>Downloading and uploading Model Repositories for an air-gapped environment.....</b>	<b>4</b>
Prerequisites for downloading and uploading Model artifacts in air-gapped environment.....	4
Understanding NVIDIA NGC file.....	6
Downloading Model Repositories for an air-gapped environment.....	8
Uploading Model Repositories for an air-gapped environment.....	9
Creating the Model entry in Cloudera AI Registry in air-gapped environment.....	12
Importing Model to Cloudera AI Registry in air-gapped environment.....	13

## Downloading and uploading Model Repositories for an air-gapped environment

An air-gapped environment is physically isolated from the internet and external networks, preventing the transmission or reception of data online. As a result, enabling the download of Model Repositories in such environments requires the Administrator to perform additional steps.

To use Models from NVIDIA NGC and Hugging Face, the Administrator must download Model artifacts from these sources on specially networked hosts. The artifacts must then be manually transferred, uploaded to the object storage utilized by the Cloudera AI Registry and Cloudera AI Inference service. Following that, the available Models are ready to be used. This solution is an alternative to accessing Model Hub in an air-gapped environment.

### Prerequisites for downloading and uploading Model artifacts in air-gapped environment

Before downloading or uploading models, ensure you have the following tools and configurations installed on the host that is connected to the airgap setup. This might be your bastion host.

- Required tools:
  - Hugging Face CLI: `pip install -U "huggingface_hub[cli]"`
  - AWS CLI: `pip install awscli==1.35.0`
  - PyYAML: `pip install pyyaml`
  - NVIDIA NGC CLI: Install from <https://org.ngc.nvidia.com/setup/installers/cli> for NVIDIA NGC catalog models. Make sure you configure the NVIDIA NGC client with the credentials provided by Cloudera.
  - Azure CLI: `pip install azure-cli`
  - Python: Ensure your Python version is 3.10.12 or higher and lower than version 3.11
  - Python requests package: `pip install requests`
- Configuration details:
  - Configure the NGC client with credentials provided by Cloudera during onboarding. Use the following commands to add your key and organization to your `~/.bashrc` file.
  - Bash

```
echo 'export NGC_CLI_API_KEY=<key>' >> ~/.bashrc
echo 'export NGC_API_KEY=<key>' >> ~/.bashrc
echo 'export NGC_CLI_ORG=<org>' >> ~/.bashrc
```



**Note:** If the system has `~/.bash_profile` follow the above steps, but replace `bashrc` with `bash_profile`.

- Installing the NVIDIA Inference Microservice (NIM) CLI

This procedure details how Cloudera organization accounts can request early access and install the NIM CLI.

- Obtaining Early Access to NIM CLI: Navigate to the [NVIDIA developer portal](#) and follow the on-screen instructions to request early access.
- Installing NIM CLI: Once early access is granted, use the following steps to download and install the NIM CLI:

- Download the installer using the NVIDIA GPU Cloud (NGC) CLI:

```
ngc registry resource download-version nvidia/nim-tools/nimtools_installer:0.0.8
```

- Navigate to the installer directory:

```
cd nimtools_installer_v0.0.8/
```

- Run the Python installation script. Be sure to provide your NGC service key and the `--nimcli-only` flag:

```
python3 nimtools_installer.py --ngc-api-key [***your-ngc-service-key***] --nimcli-only
```



**Important:** You must also download the manifest folder from <https://github.com/cloudera/Model-Hub/tree/main/manifests>. Ensure the NGC specification file and these manifests are in the same directory.

- Download Script:


Use the `import_to_airgap.py` script to download model repositories from Hugging Face or NVIDIA NGC and upload them to your cloud storage.

You can download the script from this GitHub location: [https://github.com/cloudera/Model-Hub/blob/main/airgap-scripts/pbc/import\\_to\\_airgap.py](https://github.com/cloudera/Model-Hub/blob/main/airgap-scripts/pbc/import_to_airgap.py)

The script has the following parameters:

**Table 1:**

Parameter	Value	Description
-do		Activates download mod
-rt	hf or ngc	Repository type: use hf for Hugging Face. Use ngc for NVIDIA NGC catalog.
-t	<token>	Hugging Face API token: required for accessing private or gated models that need authentication.  Models or Models that require authentication. For more information about tokens, see: <a href="https://huggingface.co/docs/hub/en/security-tokens">https://huggingface.co/docs/hub/en/security-tokens</a>
-p	\$PWD/models	Local Path: The destination directory where model files will be downloaded (example: \$PWD/models). It uses the current working directory.

Parameter	Value	Description
-ri	<ID>	<p>Repository ID: The model's ID from either Hugging Face or NVIDIA NGC.</p> <p>You can obtain the ri argument for Hugging Face as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open up the Hugging Face page at: <a href="https://huggingface.co/">https://huggingface.co/</a>.</li> <li>2. Search for the required model.</li> </ol> <p>The page of the model displays.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Click the  icon next to the name of the model, and copy the model ID, that is the ri argument to be used.</li> </ol>
-ns	<file name>	<p>NGC Specification File: Required when downloading NGC models. The file can be downloaded from: <a href="https://github.com/cloudera/Model-Hub/blob/main/models/airgapped/public/1.50.0_concatenated.yaml">https://github.com/cloudera/Model-Hub/blob/main/models/airgapped/public/1.50.0_concatenated.yaml</a></p>

## Understanding NVIDIA NGC file

The NGC specification script includes commands to iterate through the NGC specification file and retrieve the repository ID.

The NVIDIA NGC specification YAML file specifies metadata for NGC AI models, including multiple optimization profiles for each model. These profiles describe how each model is packaged and optimized for specific hardware and use cases (for example, latency or throughput tuning).

```
models:
  - name: ...
    modelVariants:
      - variantId: ...
        optimizationProfiles:
          - profileId: ...
```

The profileId of each optimizationProfile is the repository ID we provide as an -ri argument in the script.

The example NVIDIA NGC specification file provided below has the following details:

- one model: E5 Embedding v5
- one variant under modelVariants: E5 Embedding
- one optimizationProfile: nim/nvidia/nv-embedqa-e5-v5:5\_FP16\_onnx

```
models:
  - name: E5 Embedding v5
    displayName: E5 Embedding v5
    modelHubID: e5-embedding-v5
    category: Embedding
    type: NGC
    description: NVIDIA NIM for GPU accelerated NVIDIA Retrieval QA E5 Embe
dding v5
      inference
    modelVariants:
      - variantId: E5 Embedding
        displayName: E5 Embedding
        source:
          URL: https://catalog.ngc.nvidia.com/orgs/nim/teams/nvidia/containers/
nv-embedqa-e5-v5
        optimizationProfiles:
```

```
- profileId: nim/nvidia/nv-embedqa-e5-v5:5_FP16_onnx
  displayName: Embedding ONNX FP16
  framework: ONNX
  sha: onnx
  ngcMetadata:
    onnx:
      container_url: https://catalog.ngc.nvidia.com/containers
      model: nvidia/nv-embedqa-e5-v5
      model_type: embedding
      tags:
        llm_engine: onnx
      workspace: !workspace
      components:
        - dst: ''
          src:
            repo_id: ngc://nim/nvidia/nv-embedqa-e5-v5:5_tokenizer
        - dst: onnx
          src:
            repo_id: ngc://nim/nvidia/nv-embedqa-e5-v5:5_FP16_onnx
      modelFormat: onnx
      latestVersionSizeInBytes: 668847682
  spec:
    - key: DOWNLOAD SIZE
      value: 1GB
    - key: MAX TOKENS
      value: 512
    - key: Dimension
      value: 1024
    - key: NIM VERSION
      value: 1.0.1
```

To download this optimization profile using the airgap script use the following the command:

```
python3 import_to_airgap.py -do -rt ngc -p $PWD/models -ri nim/nvidia/nv-emb
edqa-e5-v5:5_FP16_onnx -ns ./ngc_spec.yaml
```

### Optimization profile ID

To understand optimization profiles, pay attention to the information highlighted in bold in the following example optimization profile:

nim/meta/llama-3.2-11b-vision-instruct:0.15.0.dev2024102300+ea8391c56-**h100x2-fp8-latency**.0.3.20143152

It conveys the following information:

- h100: The NVIDIA GPU type required to run this model is H100.
- x2: It specifies the two GPUS of H100.
- fp8: The precision is FP8, representing 8-bit floating-point format.
- latency: The model profile is designed to optimize latency.

### Traversing NVIDIA NGC specification file

The provided NGC specification file is nearly 5,000 lines long, making it tedious to manually locate the profile ID. To simplify this process, the airgap script includes commands to efficiently navigate through the NGC spec file.

Use the following commands to list all the models in the NGC specification file:

```
# List all models
python import_to_airgap.py -ns ./ngc-spec.yaml --list-all
=== ALL MODELS ===
1. Llama 3.2 Vision Instruct
   Display Name: Llama 3.2 Vision Instruct
```

```

Category: Image to Text Generation
Hub ID: llama-3.2-vision-instruct
Description: The Llama 3.2 Vision instruction-tuned models are optimized
for visual recognition, image reasoning,...

2. Mixtral Instruct
Display Name: Mixtral Instruct
Category: Text Generation
Hub ID: mixtral-instruct
Description: The Mixtral Large Language Model (LLM) is a pretrained ge
nerative Sparse Mixture of Experts model. M...

3. E5 Embedding v5
Display Name: E5 Embedding v5
Category: Embedding
Hub ID: e5-embedding-v5
Description: NVIDIA NIM for GPU accelerated NVIDIA Retrieval QA E5 Embe
dding v5 inference

```

To display all variants of a specific model, use the `-m` parameter to specify the model name from the list above, along with the `--list-variants` parameter to list all available model variants.

```

python3 import_to_airgap.py -ns ./ngc-spec.yaml -m "Llama 3.2 Vision Instruc
t" --list-variants

=== VARIANTS FOR 'LLAMA 3.2 VISION INSTRUCT' ===
1. Llama 3.2 11B Vision Instruct
2. Llama 3.2 90B Vision Instruct

```

To list all the optimization profiles for a given model and a model variant, use the following command:

```

python3 import-pvc.py -ns ./ngc-private.yaml -m "Llama 3.2 Vision Instruct"
-vid "Llama 3.2 11B Vision Instruct" --list-profiles

=== OPTIMIZATION PROFILES FOR 'LLAMA 3.2 VISION INSTRUCT' VARIANT 'LLAMA
3.2 11B VISION INSTRUCT' ===
1. nim/meta/llama-3.2-11b-vision-instruct:0.15.0.dev2024102300+ea8391c56-h
100x2-bf16-latency.0.3.20143152
2. nim/meta/llama-3.2-11b-vision-instruct:0.15.0.dev2024102300+ea8391c56-a10
gx4-bf16-throughput.0.3.20143152
3. nim/meta/llama-3.2-11b-vision-instruct:0.15.0.dev2024102300+ea8391c56-a1
0gx8-bf16-latency.0.3.20143152
4. nim/meta/llama-3.2-11b-vision-instruct:0.15.0.dev2024102300+ea8391c56-
h100x2-fp8-latency.0.3.20143152
....

```

Select an optimization profile that matches your hardware requirements and provide it as the repository ID using the `-ri` parameter in the `airgap` script to download the specific NGC model profile.

```

python3 import_to_airgap.py -do -rt ngc -p $PWD/models -ns ./ngc-spec.yaml -
ri nim/meta/llama-3.2-11b-vision-instruct:0.15.0.dev2024102300+ea8391c56-h10
0x2-fp8-latency.0.3.20143152

```

## Downloading Model Repositories for an air-gapped environment

To use Models from NVIDIA NGC and Hugging Face, the Administrator must download Model artifacts from these sources on specially networked hosts.



## Downloading a HuggingFace model

1. Download the Llama-3.1-Nemotron-70B-Instruct-HF Model from Hugging Face to your local file system with the following command:

```
python3 import_to_airgap.py -do -rt hf -t hf_hVQbUCkpCicZYjnqsNAfafaafafa
fafaAEkj -p $PWD/models -ri Nvidia/Llama-3.1-Nemotron-70B-Instruct-HF
```

The download includes all Model files along with metadata in the specified destination directory.


2. Download a different Hugging Face Model to your local file system with the following command:

```
python3 import_to_arigap.py -do -rt hf -t <your-hf-token> -p $PWD/models -
ri meta-llama/Llama-2-70b-chat-hf
```

- You can obtain the ri argument for Hugging Face as follows:

- a. Open up the Hugging Face page at: <https://huggingface.co/>.
- b. Search for the required model.

The page of the model displays.

- c. Click the  icon next to the name of the model, and copy the model ID, that is the ri argument to be used.

The download includes all Model files along with metadata in the specified destination directory.



**Note:** The above commands download Model artifacts to Models subfolder in the current working directory.

## Downloading NGC model

- Download the NVIDIA NGC Model to your local file system with the following command:

```
python3 import_to_airgap.py -do -rt ngc -p $PWD/models -ri nim/meta/llam
a-3_1-70b-instruct:0.11.1+14957bf8-h100x4-fp8-throughput.1.2.18099809 -ns
ngc_spec.yaml
```



### Note:

For NVIDIA NGC catalog downloads, use the -rt NGC argument and provide an NVIDIA NGC specification file with the -ns parameter. The -ns parameter is only required when downloading NVIDIA NGC Models and the NGC-specific file to use is specified. Cloudera distributes these specific files to you. For more information, contact Cloudera Support.

The download includes all Model files along with metadata in the specified destination directory.

## Uploading Model Repositories for an air-gapped environment

The Model artifacts must be manually transferred, uploaded to the cloud storage utilized by the Cloudera AI Registry and Cloudera AI Inference service.

### Before you begin

You will need to obtain the data lake bucket or container information for your cloud provider to use as the destination for the model artifacts.

#### For AWS

1. In the Cloudera console, click the Management Console tile.

2. Click Environments, then select your AWS environment.
3. On the Environment details page, click Summary.
4. Scroll down to the Logs Storage and Audit field and copy the storage location.

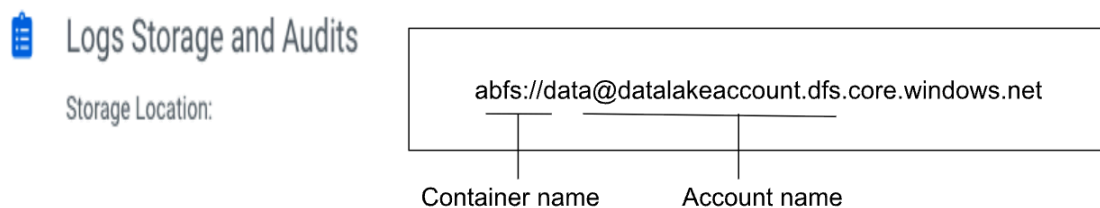


5. Omit /logs from the location.

Example: If the log storage location is s3://datalakebucket/datalakeenv-dl/logs, the datalake bucket is s3://datalakebucket/datalakeenv-dl. The final destination for the model artifacts will be s3://datalakebucket/datalakeenv-dl/modelregistry/secured-models.

### For Azure

1. In the Cloudera console, click the Management Console tile.
2. Click Environments, then select your AWS environment.
3. On the Environment details page, click Summary.
4. Scroll down to the Logs Storage and Audit field and copy the storage location.



Example: If the log storage location is data@datalakeaccount.dfs.core.windows.net, the container name is data, and the account name is datalakeaccount. You will need this information for the --account and --container parameters when running the upload script.

1. Run the import\_to\_airgap.py script to upload the model artifacts to a secured location in your cloud environment.

### For AWS

Run the script using the following command to upload the Model artifacts to a secured location.

```
python3.9 import_to_airgap.py -i -e <endpoint> -c <cloud_type> -s <source_directory> -d <destination> -ri <repository_id>
```

Example:

```
python3.9 import_to_arigap.py -c aws -s $PWD/models -d s3://datalakebucket/datalakeenv-dl/modelregistry/secured-models -ri nim/meta/llama-3_1-70b-instruct:0.11.1+14957bf8-h100x4-fp8-throughput.1.2.18099809
```



**Note:** The script uploads the downloaded Model artifacts to a secured location in Cloudera on cloud. The destination format must be s3://[\*\*\*datalake bucket\*\*\*]/modelregistry/secured-models. An administrator can modify this destination.

You can use the following parameters for uploading the Models.

**Table 2: Paramaters for uploading the Models**

Parameter	Description	Example
-c	Cloud type (AWS, Azure)	-c aws
-s	Must contain the previously downloaded Model artifacts as it is the source directory of the downloaded Model.	-s \$PWD/models
-d	Must point to the Cloudera AI Registry bucket with the appropriate path.  The destination format must be: s3://bucket/secured-models	-d s3://bucket/secured-models
-rt	Repository type (Hugging Face or NVIDIA NGC)	-rt hf
-ri	Repository ID of the Model downloaded to local filesystem	-ri nim/meta/llama-3_1-70b-instruct: 0.11.1+14957bf8-h100x4-fp8-throughput. 1.2.18099809

### For Azure

Run the script using the following command to upload the Model artifacts to a secured location.

```
python3.9 import_to_arigap.py <endpoint> -c azure -s $PWD/models -d modelregistry/secured-models -ri <repository_id> --account $AZURE_STORAGE_ACCOUNT_NAME --container data
```

Example:

```
python3.9 import_to_arigap.py https://ccycloud-5.cml-cai.root.comops.site:9879 -c azure -s $PWD/models -d modelregistry/secured-models -ri nim/m
```

```
eta/llama-3_1-70b-instruct:0.11.1+14957bf8-h100x4-fp8-throughput.1.2.18099809 --account datalakeaccount --container data
```



**Note:** The script uploads the downloaded Model artifacts to a secured location in Cloudera on cloud. The destination is modelregistry/secured-models under the account in the container. An administrator can modify this destination.

You can use the following parameters for uploading the Models.

**Table 3: Paramaters for uploading the Models**

Parameter	Description	Example
-c	Cloud type (AWS, Azure)	-c zure
-s	Must contain the previously downloaded Model artifacts as it is the source directory of the downloaded Model.	-s \$PWD/models
-d	Must point to the Cloudera AI Registry bucket with the appropriate path. The destination format must be: s3://bucket/secured-models	-d s3://bucket/secured-models
-rt	Repository type (Hugging Face or NVIDIA NGC)	-rt hf
-ri	Repository ID of the Model downloaded to local filesystem	-ri nim/meta/llama-3_1-70b-instruct: 0.11.1+14957bf8-h100x4-fp8-throughput. 1.2.18099809
--account	Azure storage account name (Azure only)	--account \$AZURE_STORAGE_ACCOUNT_NAME
--container	Azure storage container name (Azure only)	--container data

## Creating the Model entry in Cloudera AI Registry in air-gapped environment

The example outlines how to create the Model entry in Cloudera AI Registry within an air-gapped environment.

### For AWS

```
curl -k https://$MODELREGISTRYDOMAIN/api/v2/models -X POST -H 'Content-Type: application/json' -H "Authorization: Bearer $TOKEN" --data-raw '{
  "name": "llama3-instruct-70b",
  "createModelVersionRequestPayload": {
    "metadata": {
      "model_repo_type": "NGC"
    },
    "downloadModelRepoRequest": {
      "source": "REMOTE",
      "remoteObjectStoragePath": "s3://bucket1/secured-models",
      "repo_id": "nim/meta/llama-3_1-70b-instruct:0.11.1+14957bf8-h100x4-fp8-throughput.1.2.18099809"
    }
  }
}'
```

### For Azure

```
curl -k https://$MODELREGISTRYDOMAIN/api/v2/models -X POST -H 'Content-Type: application/json' -H "Authorization: Bearer $TOKEN" --data-raw '{
  "name": "llama3-instruct-70b",
  "createModelVersionRequestPayload": {
    "metadata": {
      "model_repo_type": "NGC"
    },
    "downloadModelRepoRequest": {
      "source": "REMOTE",
      "remoteObjectStoragePath": "abfs://data@datalakeaccount.dfs.core.windows.net/modelregistry/secured-models",
      "repo_id": "nim/meta/llama-3_1-70b-instruct:0.11.1+14957bf8-h100x4-fp8-throughput.1.2.18099809"
    }
  }
}'
```

These curl requests create a new model named llama3-instruct-70b in Cloudera AI Registry, and its initial version.

These requests also trigger the copying of model artifacts from your uploaded, secured model location (specified by remoteObjectStoragePath in your cloud-specific object store) to a preferred Cloudera AI Registry object store location.

## Importing Model to Cloudera AI Registry in air-gapped environment

You can import the Hugging Face models listed on the Model Hub page into your Cloudera AI Registry.

### Before you begin

Download the following script to enable downloading Model repositories from the Hugging Face or NVIDIA NGC catalog and uploading Models to on-cloud storage providers.

Download the script from here: [https://raw.githubusercontent.com/cloudera/Model-Hub/refs/heads/main/airgap-scripts/pbc/import\\_to\\_airgap.py](https://raw.githubusercontent.com/cloudera/Model-Hub/refs/heads/main/airgap-scripts/pbc/import_to_airgap.py)

The script has the following parameters:

**Table 4:**

Parameter	Value	Description
-do		Activates the download mod
-rt	hf or ngc	Repository type: use hf for Hugging Face. Use ngc for NVIDIA NGC catalog.
-t	hf_hVQbUsafafafadfadfsNAynASXJoTCWHAekj	Hugging Face API token for authentication (required for private or gated Models)  The Hugging Face token (-t) is required for accessing gated  Models or Models that require authentication. For more information about tokens, see: <a href="https://huggingface.co/docs/hub/en/security-tokens">https://huggingface.co/docs/hub/en/security-tokens</a>
-p	\$PWD/models	Local destination path where Model files are downloaded (uses the current working directory)

Parameter	Value	Description
-ri	Nvidia/Llama-3.1-Nemotron-70B-Instruct-HF	Repository ID for the Model on Hugging Face

### Procedure

1. In the **Cloudera** console, click the Cloudera AI tile.  
The **Cloudera AI Workbenches** page displays.
2. Click **Model Hub** under **AI Hub** in the left navigation menu.  
The **Model Hub** page displays. The page lists different models along with their source type, tags, and description.



8. Enable the **Use Preloaded Artifacts** feature with its checkbox.
9. Click Import. The Model Hub page displays a message that the Model import has been triggered successfully along with a button to view the status of that import process.

### Results

You can click Cloudera AI Registry in the left navigation menu to view the newly imported Model.