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**INNOVATION**  
**SUMMIT 2023**

02-05 March 2023,  
Sofitel Dubai  
The Palm Jumeirah  
Dubai

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Accionlabs

Is Spark is losing its sparkle?  
How big data analytics platforms are evolving





**DC**

**Chief Architect**

An old guy who still plays around with Legacy and Modern Technologies in the process consults our customers to achieve their lofty goals of Digital Transformation.

A Hands-on Technologist.





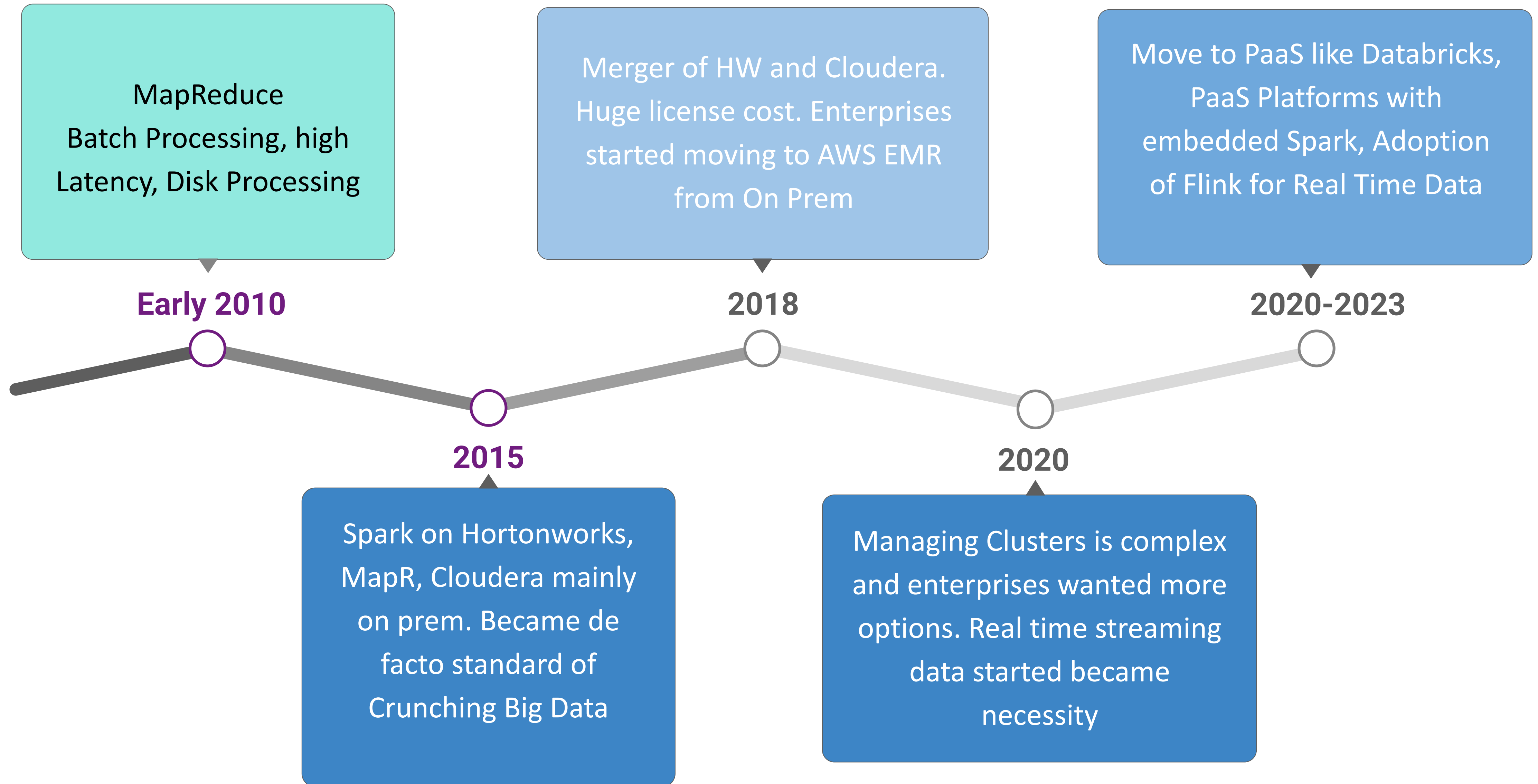
## Sanket Shah

### Cloud Maverick

Forever learner and experimenter on multi-cloud Architecture combined with Business needs mapping. Swinging between old to new technologies through hands-on experiences.



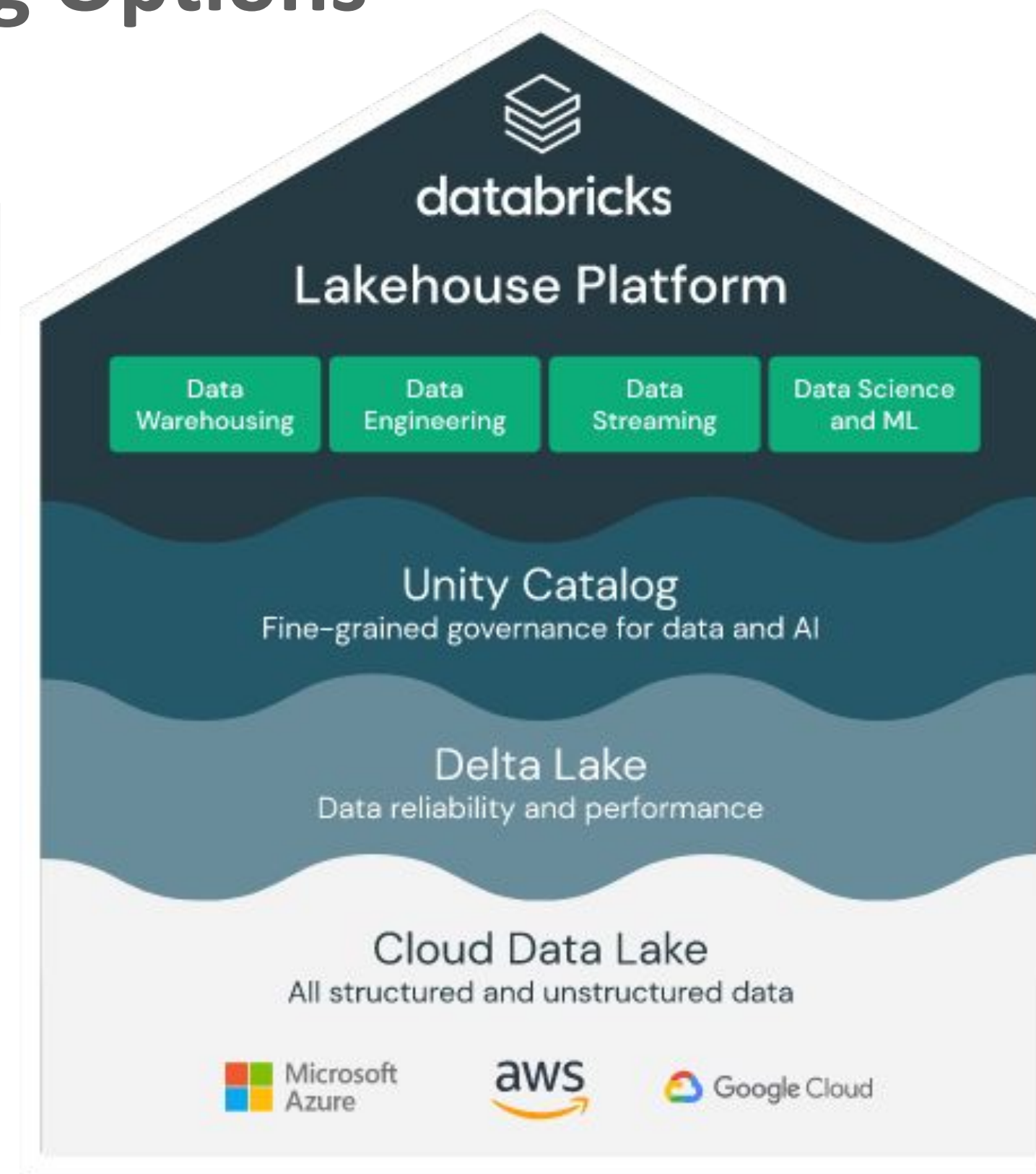
# Evolution of Spark



# Batch Processing Options



**Spark running on On Prem or Cloud Cluster**



**Multi Cloud PaaS - Spark, MLFlow and Delta Lake**



**Azure PaaS - wrapper on Spark**



**Unicorn. True HPC engine. Compiler Driven. Claims to be faster than Spark**

**Comparison on: Maturity | DevOps Complexity | Flexibility | Security**

# Batch Processing Options - Maturity



## Spark - On-prem / Cloud

- Maintained by active OSS Community
- Cloud Providers use underlying services
- Range of manual override feature configuration options

## Databricks

- Abstracts default configurations
- Provides Delta Lake, Delta Sharing, MLFlow and Redash natively
- True multi-cloud

## Azure Synapse

- Features of Databricks plus:
- Microsoft Cloud specific libraries and support
- Integrates natively with Cosmos DB (NoSQL)

## BODO.AI

- Bodo currently does not support native integrations to most of the databases

# Batch Processing Options - DevOps Complexity



## Spark - On-prem / Cloud

- Needs manual configuration
- CI / CD can be difficult if multiple services are used
- Secrets and configuration maintenance needs to be considered additionally

## Databricks

- In-built support for Git Repository

## Azure Synapse

- In-built support for Git Repository
- Secrets & configuration management can be driven externally through Azure DevOps and Azure Key Vault

## BODO.AI

- Bodo Cloud managed instances does not have DevOps complexity
- On Prem complexity is similar to Spark On Prem



# Batch Processing Options - Flexibility



## Spark - On-prem / Cloud

- Completely flexible
- All options can be overridden by custom configurations and support provided by Cloud Providers

## Databricks

- Semi-flexible as only few options can be changed
- Supports Cluster libraries
- Workload type based pricing

## Azure Synapse

- Semi-flexible as only few options can be changed
- Supports Cluster libraries

## BODO.AI

- Completely flexible
- All options can be overridden by custom configurations and support provided by Cloud Providers



# Batch Processing Options - Security



## Spark - On-prem / Cloud

- Depends on the Cloud Platform and Team maturity
- Need to configure manually for enterprise level features, and availability may be restricted

## Databricks

- Row Level Security
- Data Masking on the fly (through Fernet)

## Azure Synapse

- Row Level Security
- Data Masking on the fly

## BODO.AI

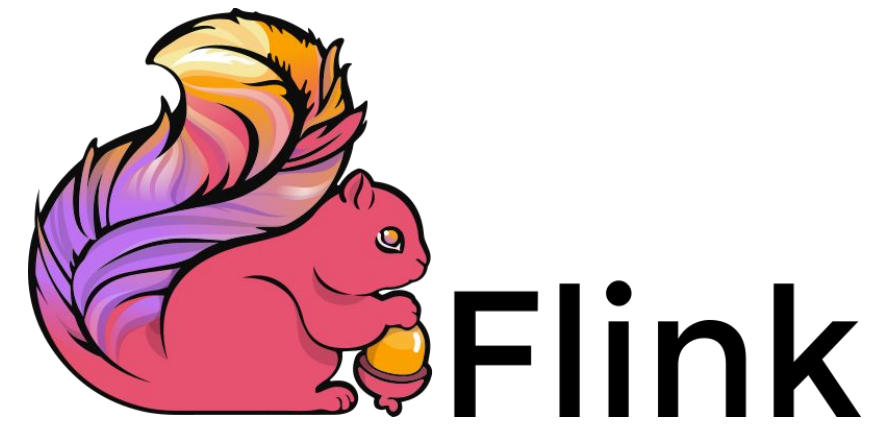
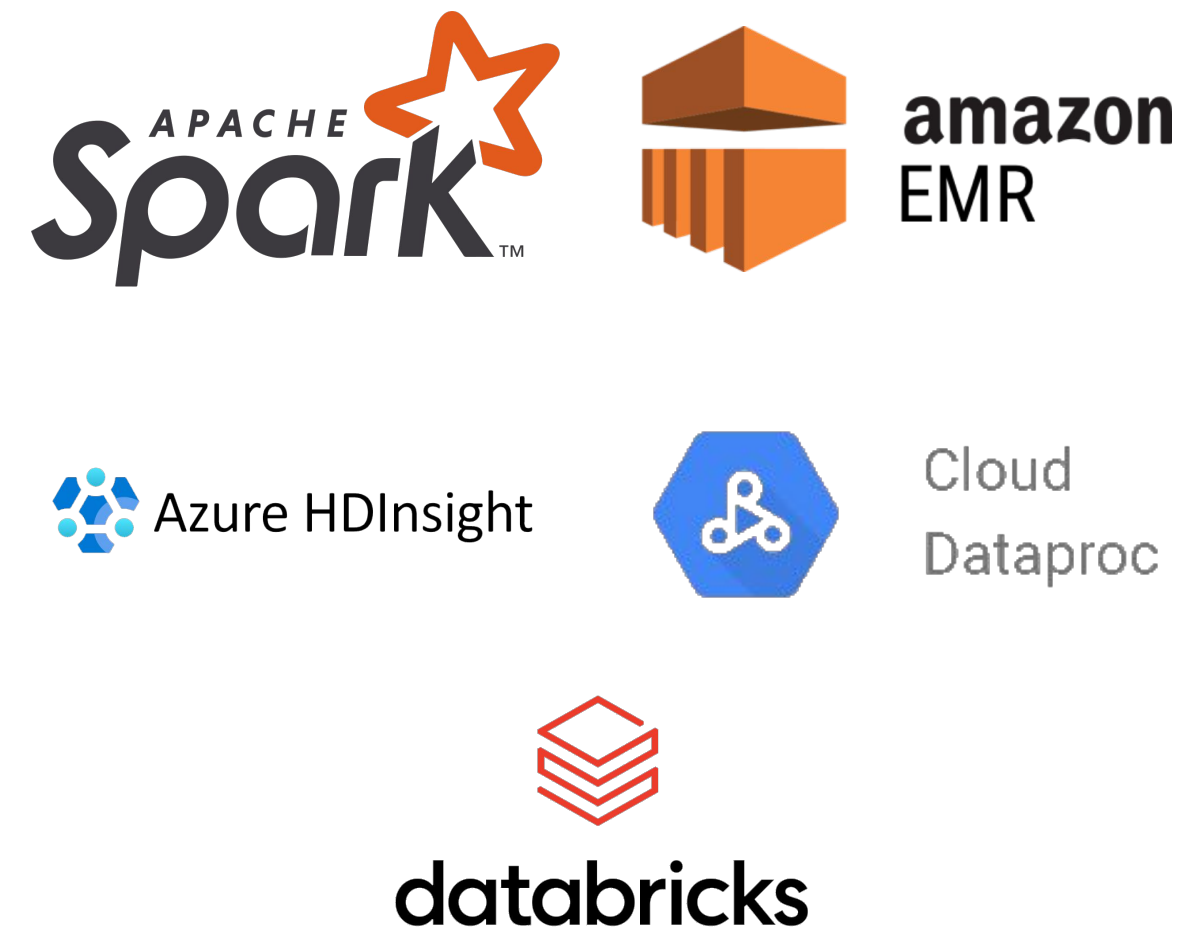
- Need to write custom code for row level security or Data Masking



- Although Enterprises are trying to move out of managed Clusters using Spark, Spark is still the Enterprise Choice for Batch Processing Albeit in a different Avatar
- Features of Spark are constantly developed and are being pulled into commercial versions and wrapper products
- Development of Spark is supported by Databricks, AWS, Microsoft and other corporations
- Depending on the business case, cloud agnostic vision and other factor, appropriate derivative of Spark can be used



# Stream Processing Options



**Spark based Platforms**

**Apache Flink**

**Azure Stream Analytics**

**Comparison on: Latency | Windowing | Data Processing Methodology | State Management**



# Stream Processing Options - Latency



## Spark based Platforms

- High (due to micro-batching)
- Increases latency for higher throughputs

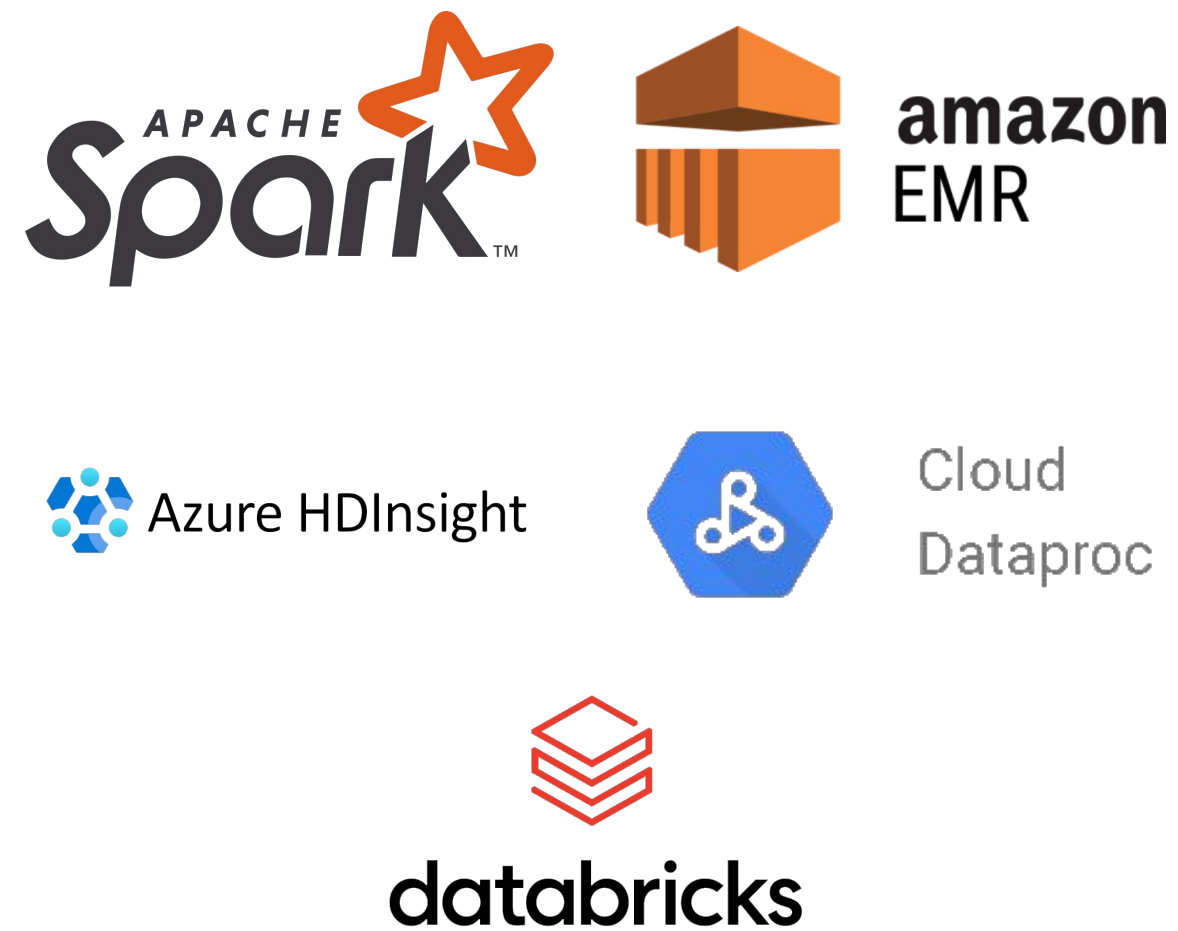
## Apache Flink

- Very Low
- Scales well for high throughputs

## Azure Stream Analytics

- Very Low
- Scales extremely well for high throughputs

# Stream Processing Options - Data Processing Methodology



## Spark based Platforms

- Micro Batching
  - Batch processes on much smaller accumulations of data – typically less than a minute's worth of data with low volumes.

## Apache Flink

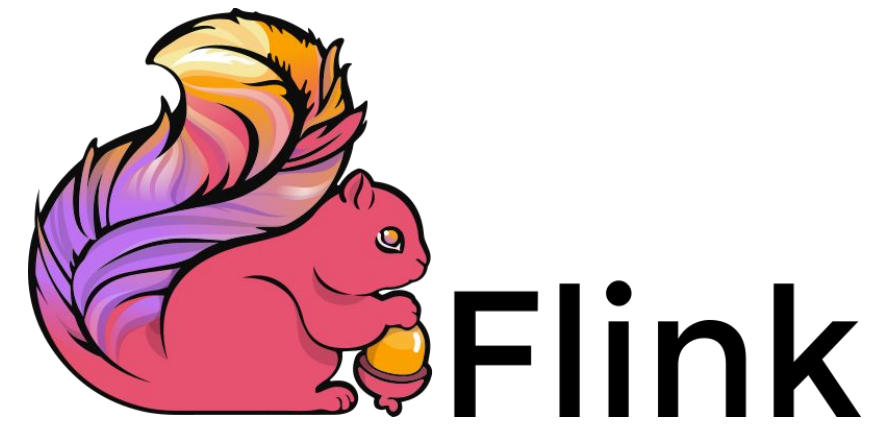
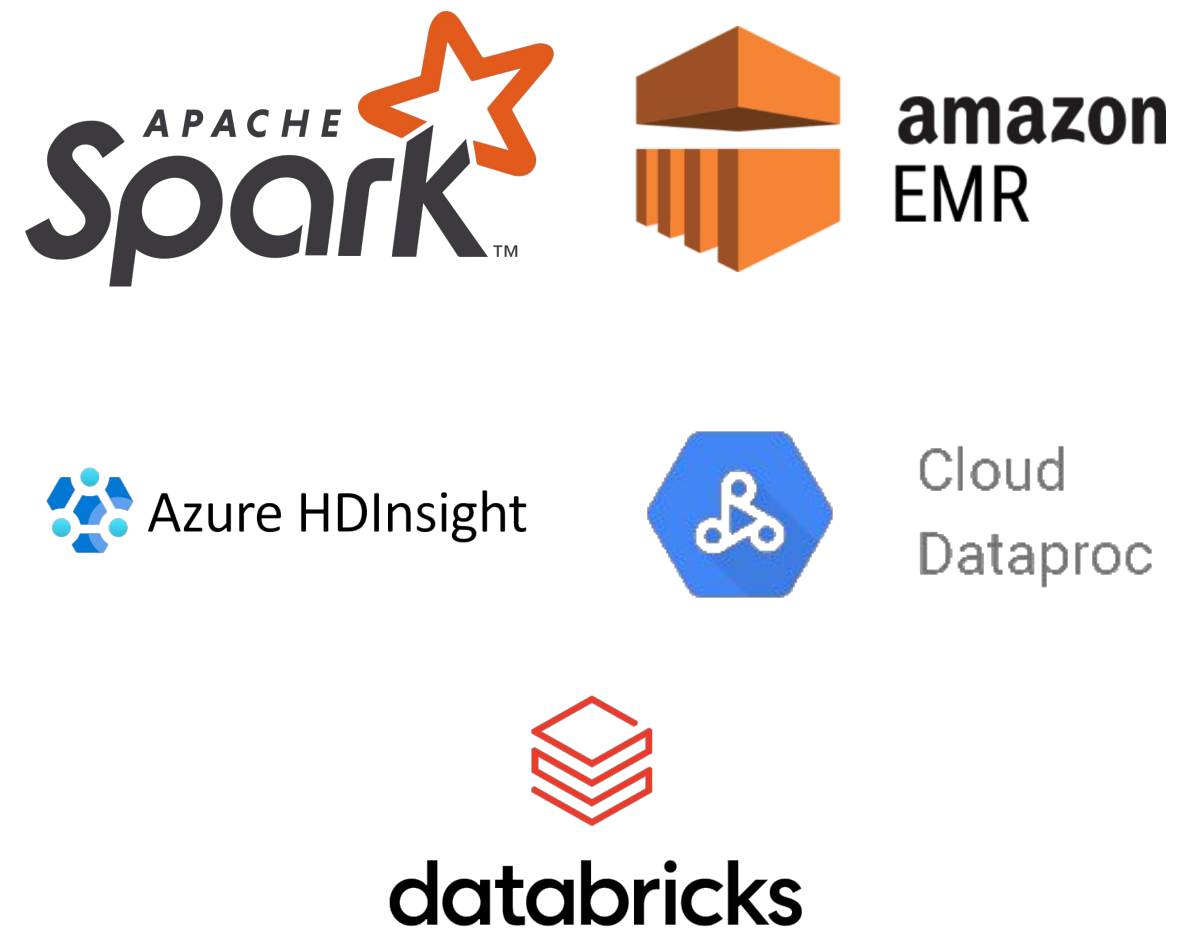
- Native - Streaming
  - Immediately process new records through the whole pipeline, which we need for continuous and low-latency stream processing.

## Azure Stream Analytics

- Native - Streaming
  - Immediately process new records through the whole pipeline, which we need for continuous and low-latency stream processing.



# Stream Processing Options - Windowing



## Spark based Platforms

- Tumbling
- Sliding

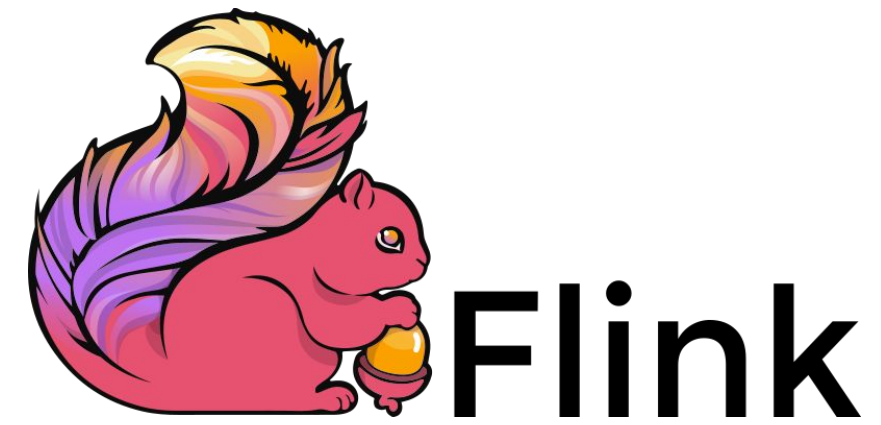
## Apache Flink

- Tumbling
- Sliding
- Session
- Global
- Custom

## Azure Stream Analytics

- Tumbling
- Sliding
- Session
- Snapshot

# Stream Processing Options - State Management



## Spark based Platforms

- Only HDFS based file systems
- May result into out-of-memory issues as memory is shared with Executor

## Apache Flink

- Memory
- File System
- RocksDB

## Azure Stream Analytics

- Checkpointing
- Query Partitions



# Stream Processing Options - Verdict

- Spark is still a choice when throughput is low and near real time suffices the need
- Enterprises are trying to move out of Spark in the Real Time streaming world
- Azure Stream Analytics is also being adopted at a very fast pace for following reasons:
  - Easy to Setup - can be hosted on cloud or on-premises
  - Easy to Use - SQL style support
  - Can be used with Azure Functions for CEP (Complex Events Processing)
  - Supports C# and JavaScript for extensibility
- Flink has matured over time and is becoming a CTO's choice because of native streaming and stateful functions for following reasons:
  - Cloud Agnostic and Containerization support
  - More Flexible as developers can extend all the functions in Java or Scala

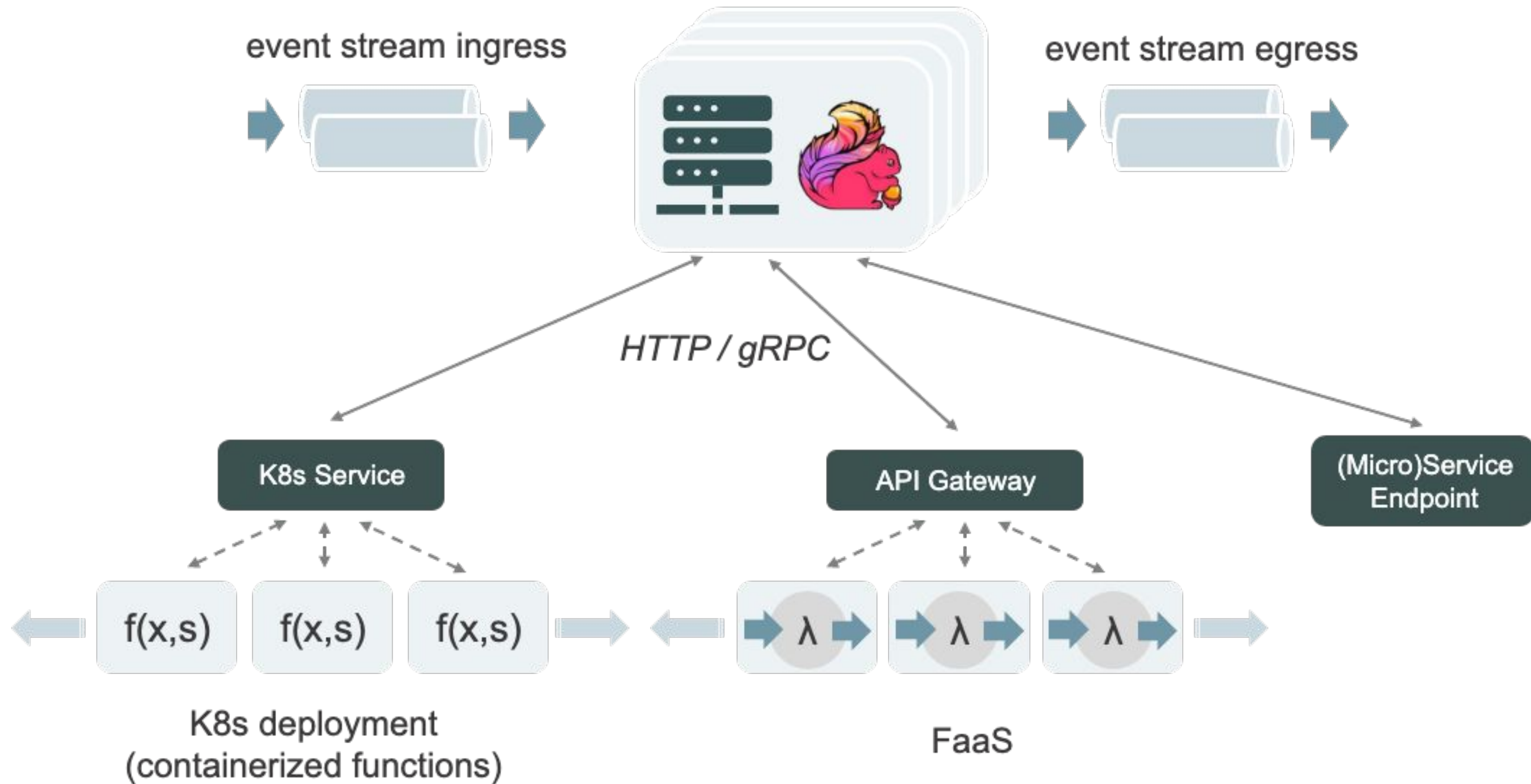


- A simple way to create efficient, scalable, and consistent applications on modern infrastructure - at small and large scale
- <https://nightlies.apache.org/flink/flink-statefun-docs-stable/>
- Stateful Functions
  - is an API that simplifies the building of distributed stateful applications with a runtime built for serverless architectures.
  - It brings together the benefits of stateful stream processing - the processing of large datasets with low latency and bounded resource constraints
    - along with a runtime for modeling stateful entities that supports location transparency, concurrency, scaling, and resiliency.



# Stateful Functions: Architecture

## Apache Flink StateFun Cluster





No, Spark has NOT lost  
its Sparkle



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**Short Demo to show how easy  
is today to use a spark cluster**

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Thank you!!!

Please reach out us for discussing more at:

DC (Dwaip Chowdhury)

[dc@acciolabs.com](mailto:dc@acciolabs.com) | +91 93410 19168

Sanket Shah

[sanket.shah@accionlabs.com](mailto:sanket.shah@accionlabs.com) | +91 98793 56075

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