

HANOI UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Scalable Lakehouse for Financial Analy-

Big Data Storage and Processing Capstone Project

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The Challenge: Taming Financial Data

Financial markets generate data at extreme volume, velocity, and variety, creating significant engineering challenges that demand a unified architecture.

Challenging

Supporting real-time streams (market quotes) with historical datasets (news articles, GDELT global

Dual Analytical Demands

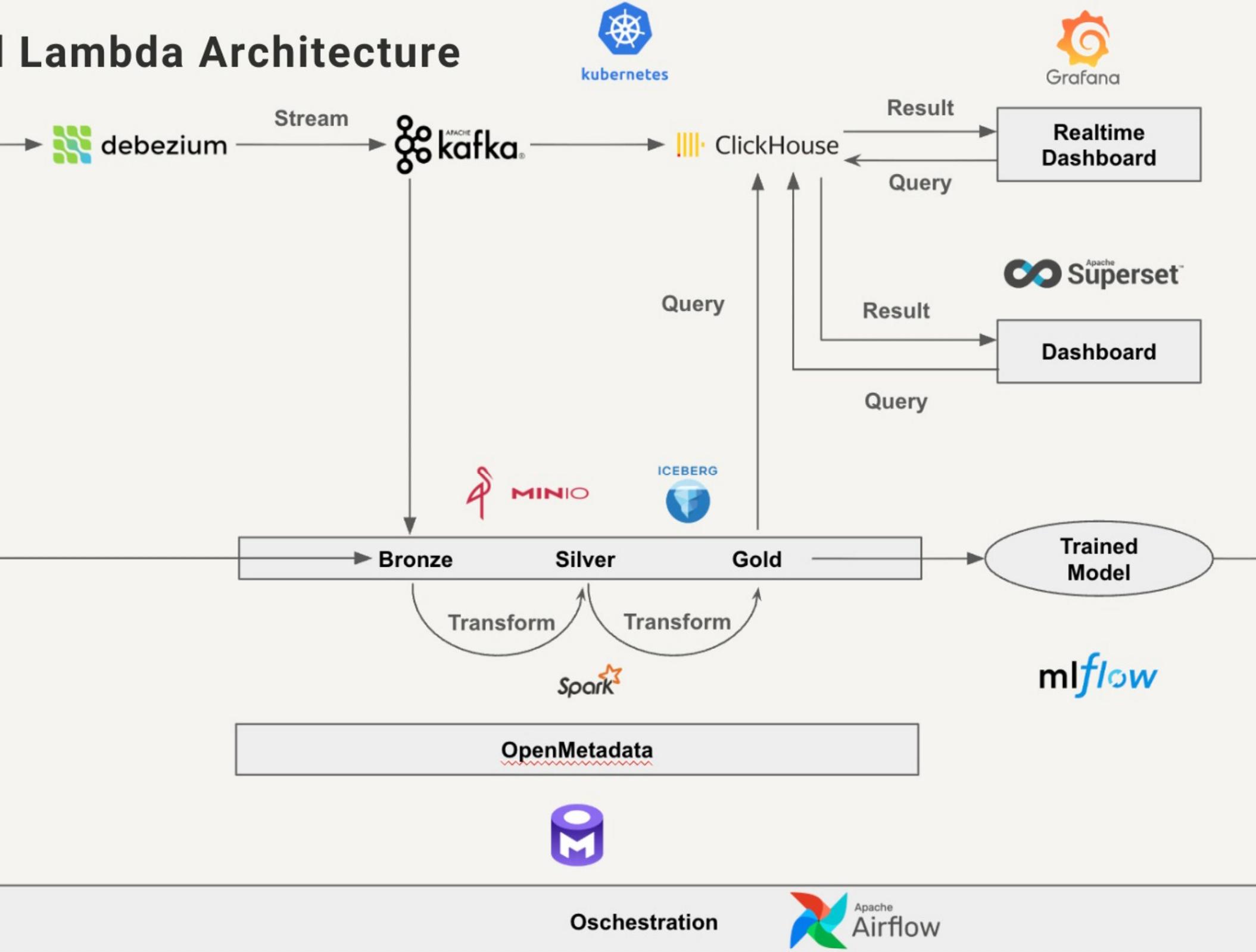
Supporting low-latency dashboards for real-time monitoring **and** deep, historical analysis for ML models.

Data Integrity & Governance

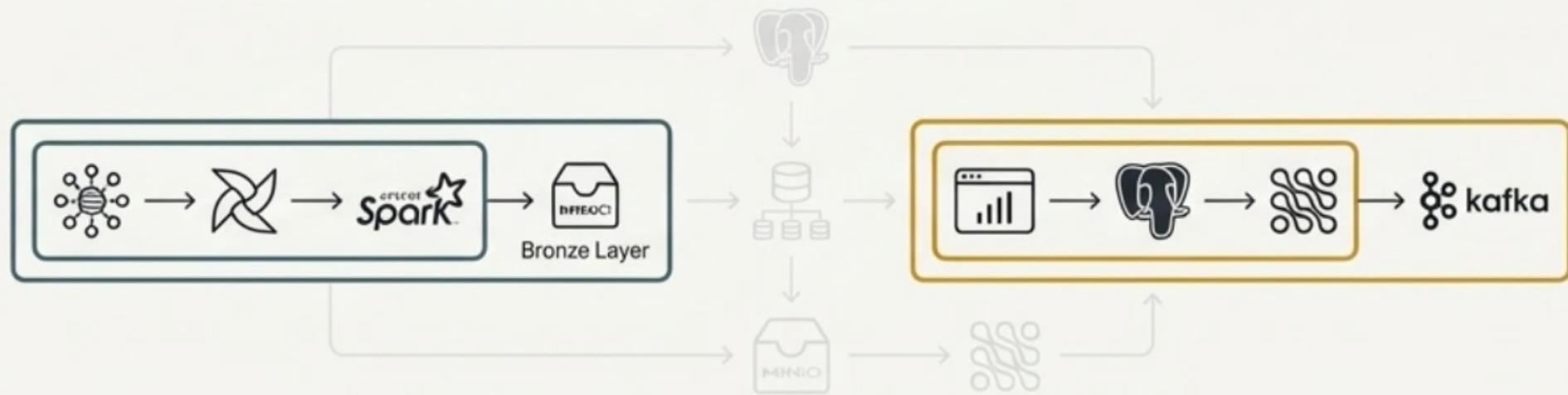
Ensuring consistency, quality, and traceability across a massive, ever-growing dataset from raw ingested data to aggregated insights.

Mission: To design and implement a scalable Big Data Lakehouse capable of ingesting, processing, and analyzing financial data in both real-time and batch modes.

Lambda Architecture



Question: A Hybrid, Purpose-Built Strategy



Bronze Layer (High Throughput)

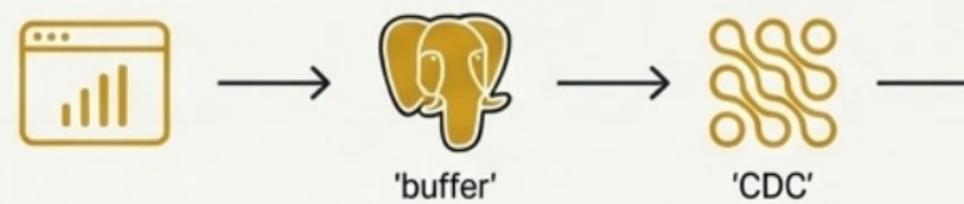
Stoq.



'Extract-to-Lake' approach bypasses relational databases to achieve high throughput and avoid I/O bottlenecks for bulk historical data.

Speed Layer (Low Latency & Integration)

Source: Finnhub API.



Principle: Uses PostgreSQL as a transactional buffer for deduplication. Debezium's Change Data Capture on the CDC creates a real-time, event-driven stream without impact.

Processing: The Medallion Lakehouse on Spark & Iceberg

v)

raw data from sources (GDELT, Stooq) stored as-is. Partitioned by date for efficient writes. The
uth for reprocessing.

ed & Enriched)

Validated, structured, and deduplicated data. Key transformations include schema enforcement,
on (UTC to EST), and linking news events to specific stock tickers.

gated)

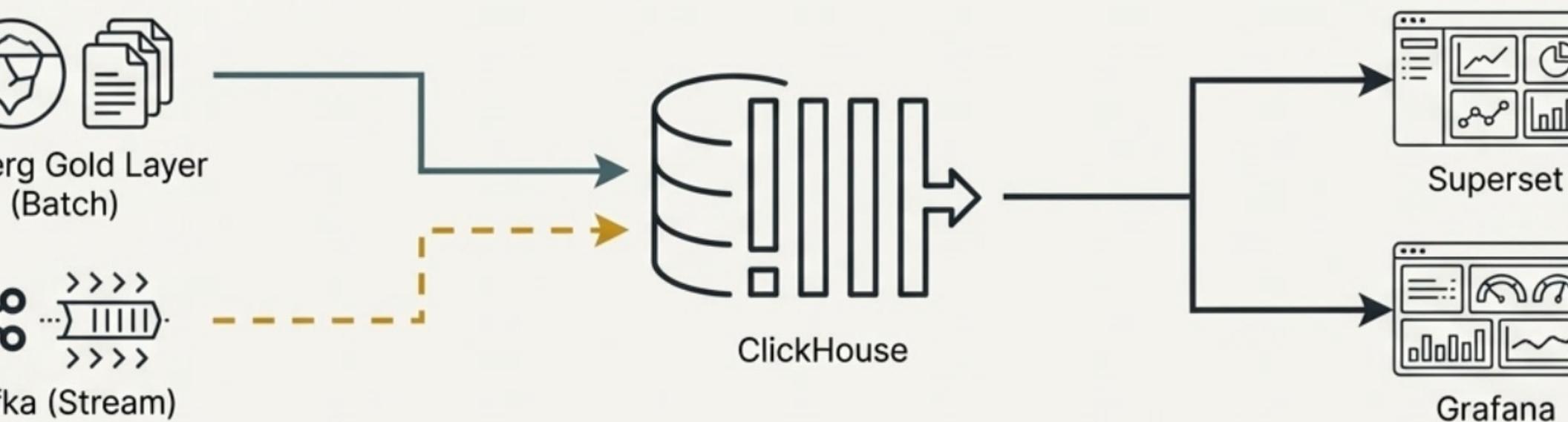
el aggregates optimized for analytics and ML. Examples: daily sentiment scores, news volume, a
icker.

er - Apache Iceberg

IO, Iceberg provides ACID transactions, schema evolution, and time-travel directly on the data lake, combin
iability with data lake scalability.

Iceberg: Unifying Batch and Stream with ClickHouse

ClickHouse provides a single, high-performance OLAP access point for both deep historical data and low-latency real-time streams.



Strategies:

Data: Utilizes the Iceberg Table Engine for **zero-copy queries** directly on Parquet files in Native storage. Ingested data is also loaded into 'MergeTree' tables for maximum dashboard performance.

Streaming Data: Ingests high-throughput streams from Kafka into optimized 'MergeTree' tables designed for time-series queries.

Sub-second query performance for interactive dashboards and immediate visibility of many metrics.

Stack: A Containerized & Cloud-Native Foundation

The system is built on a containerized, cloud-agnostic infrastructure, enabling reliable and scalable deployments.

Deployment & Orchestration



Workflow & Metadata



Processing & Storage



Streaming & Database



Machine Learning



m

Core Principles: Infrastructure as Code (IaC) • Scalability • Fault Tolerance

Lessons Learned

Lesson #1: Hybrid Ingestion is a Necessity

Problem

Clash Grotesk Medium

A “one-size-fits-all” ingestion approach created severe bottlenecks.

Routing massive batch files (GDEL) through PostgreSQL caused I/O overhead, while writing API streams directly to the lake risked data duplication.

Solution

Clash Grotesk Medium



Direct-to-Lake

Spark writes directly to MinIO, bypassing transactional overhead for maximum throughput.



Transactional Buffer

API -> Postgres -> CDC, using Postgres as a database for its strengths in integrity and deduplication, then streaming.

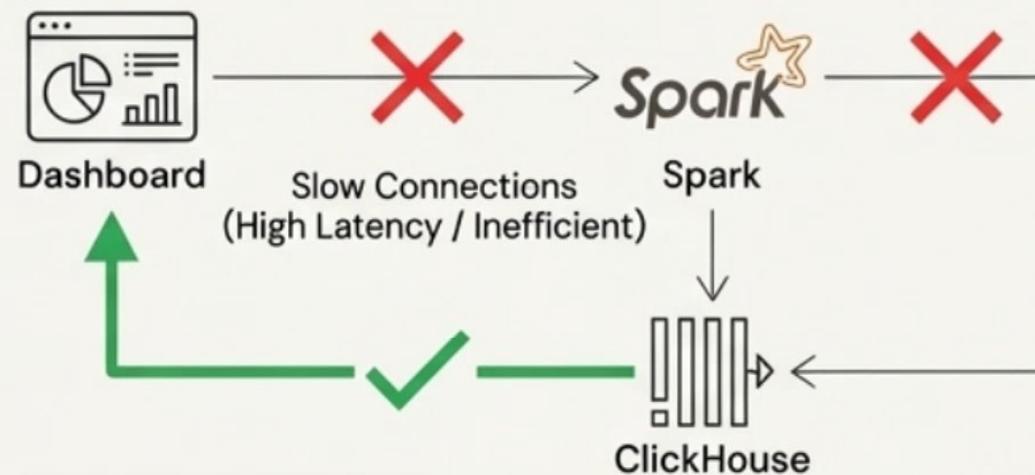
Takeaway

Don't put a database in the middle unless you have a transactional reason. Use raw object storage for bulk throughput.

Table Lesson #2: Separate Processing from Serving - Low-Latency BI

dashboards were sluggish and timed out. Connecting Superset directly to Spark was slow (high latency), and using PostgreSQL for large-scale aggregations was inefficient (row-oriented).

Solution



Dedicated OLAP Serving Layer
Implemented **ClickHouse** as a dedicated **OLAP serving** layer. columnar storage and vectorized query execution are perfect for the fast aggregation queries required by BI dashboards for sub-second responses.

seaway

throughput (ETL processing). ClickHouse is for latency (interactive serving). Use the right engine. Satoshi Regular

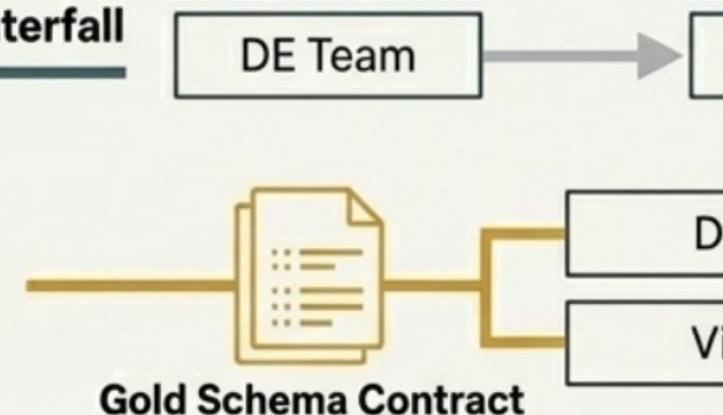
Table Lesson #3: Data Schemas as Contracts Enable Work

The visualization team was blocked, waiting for the data engineering pipeline to be completed. This forced a slow, sequential “waterfall” process.

Solution

Traditional Waterfall

Contract-First Development



Adopted **Contract-First Development**. The teams agreed on a “Gold” layer data schema (column names, types, formats). The visualization team built dashboards using mock data matching the schema in the gold contract, while the DE team built the pipeline to produce the same data. This required zero changes to the dashboard logic.

Takeaway

A well-defined data contract decouples teams, is the foundation for agile development in data projects, and reduces integration risk.

Lessons Learned

Lesson #4: Robust Deployment Requires Infrastructure as Code

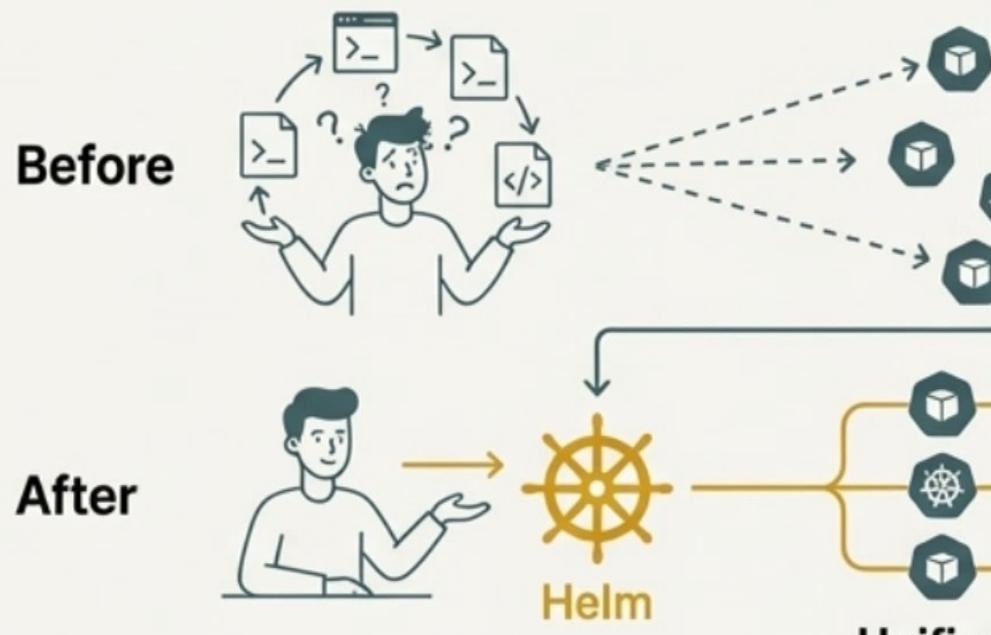


Managing 15+ Kubernetes resources with manual `kubectl apply` commands and shell scripts was brittle, error-prone, and lacked versioning.

Takeaway

Infrastructure as code (IaC) eliminates configuration drift and makes complex environments manageable, resilient, and repeatable.

Solution



Migrated all Kubernetes YAML manifests into a unified **Helm chart**. This templated the entire application, centralizing configuration in a `values.yaml` file and enabling versioned deployments and rollbacks with a single command.

Inclusion: An End-to-End Financial Data Platform

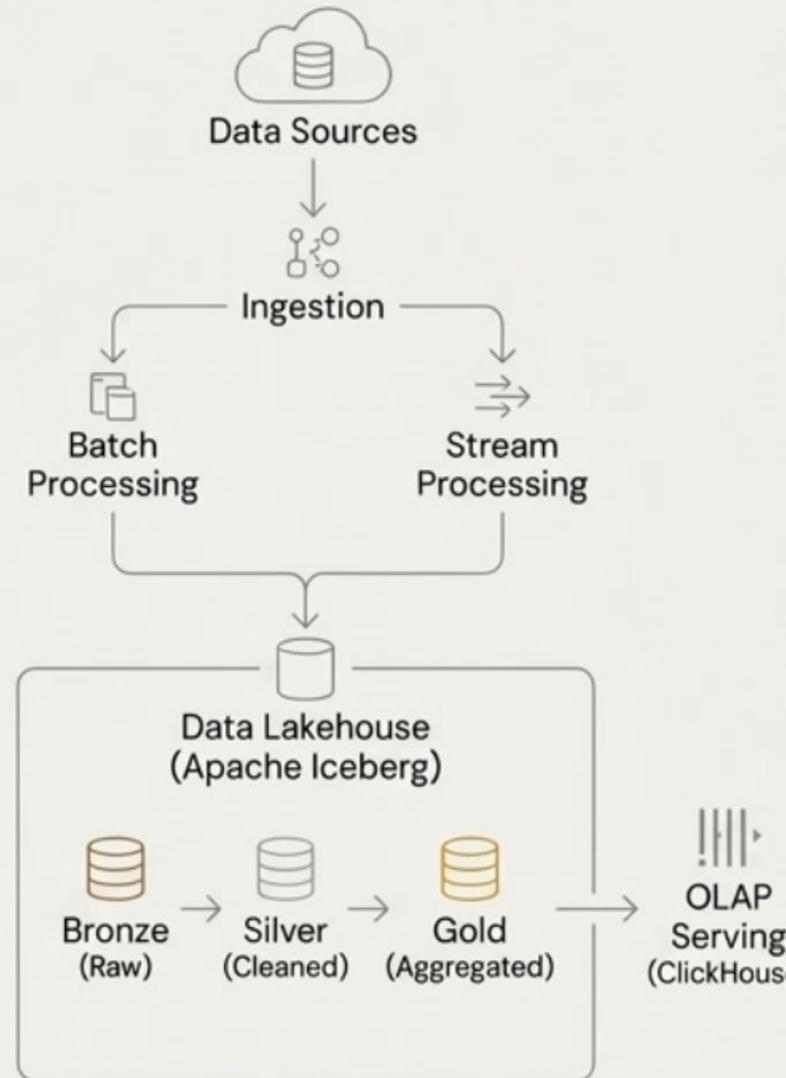
Successfully designed and implemented a scalable, end-to-end Big Data Lakehouse that addresses the challenges of complex financial analysis.

Architecture: Integrated batch and stream processing via a Lambda pattern.

Quality & Reliability: Ensured curated, reliable data with the Medallion model on Apache Iceberg.

Performance Analytics: Delivered low-latency dashboards through a dedicated OLAP serving layer (House).

Fast & Reproducible System: Built on a modern, containerized infrastructure managed with Infrastructure as Code (Helm).



Simplified Architecture Overview