

Databases

INTRODUCTION TO DATA ENGINEERING



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What are databases?



- Holds data
- Organizes data
- Retrieve/Search data through DBMS

A usually large collection of data organized especially for rapid search and retrieval.

Databases and file storage

Databases



- Very organized
- Functionality like search, replication, ...

File systems



- Less organized
- Simple, less added functionality

Structured and unstructured data

Structured: database schema

- Relational database



Semi-structured

- JSON

```
{ "key": "value" }
```

Unstructured: schemaless, more like files

- Videos, photos



SQL and NoSQL

SQL

- Tables
- Database schema
- Relational databases



NoSQL

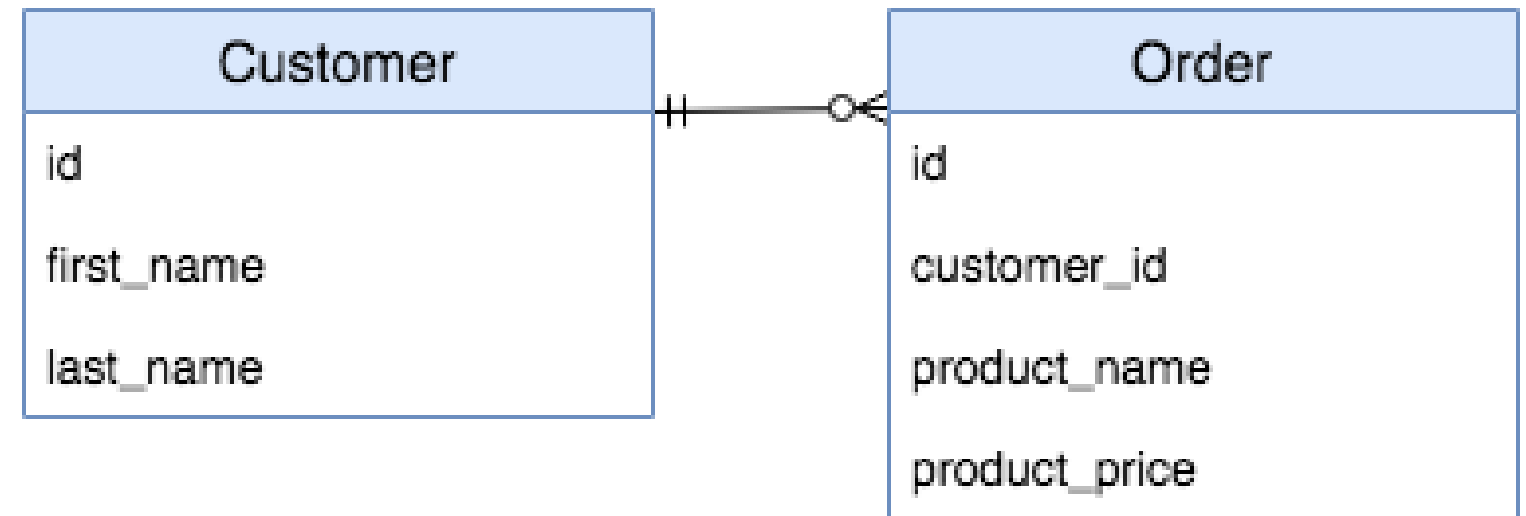
- Non-relational databases
- Structured or unstructured
- Key-value stores (e.g. caching)
- Document DB (e.g. JSON objects)



SQL: The database schema

```
-- Create Customer Table
CREATE TABLE "Customer" (
  "id" SERIAL NOT NULL,
  "first_name" varchar,
  "last_name" varchar,
  PRIMARY KEY ("id")
);

-- Create Order Table
CREATE TABLE "Order" (
  "id" SERIAL NOT NULL,
  "customer_id" integer REFERENCES "Customer",
  "product_name" varchar,
  "product_price" integer,
  PRIMARY KEY ("id")
);
```

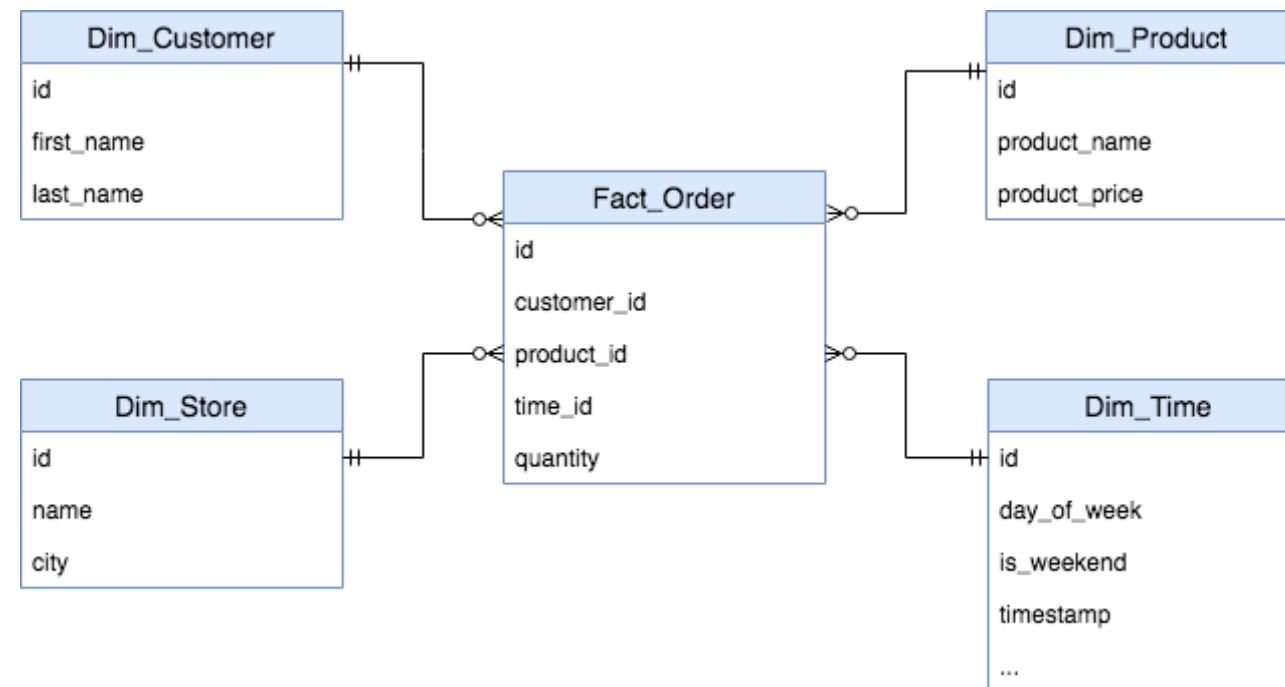


```
-- Join both tables on foreign key
SELECT * FROM "Customer"
INNER JOIN "Order"
ON "customer_id" = "Customer"."id";
```

```
id | first_name | ... | product_price
1  | Vincent   | ... |             10
```

SQL: Star schema

The star schema consists of one or more fact tables referencing any number of dimension tables.



- **Facts:** things that happened (eg. Product Orders)
- **Dimensions:** information on the world (eg. Customer Information)

¹ Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_schema

Let's practice!

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What is parallel computing

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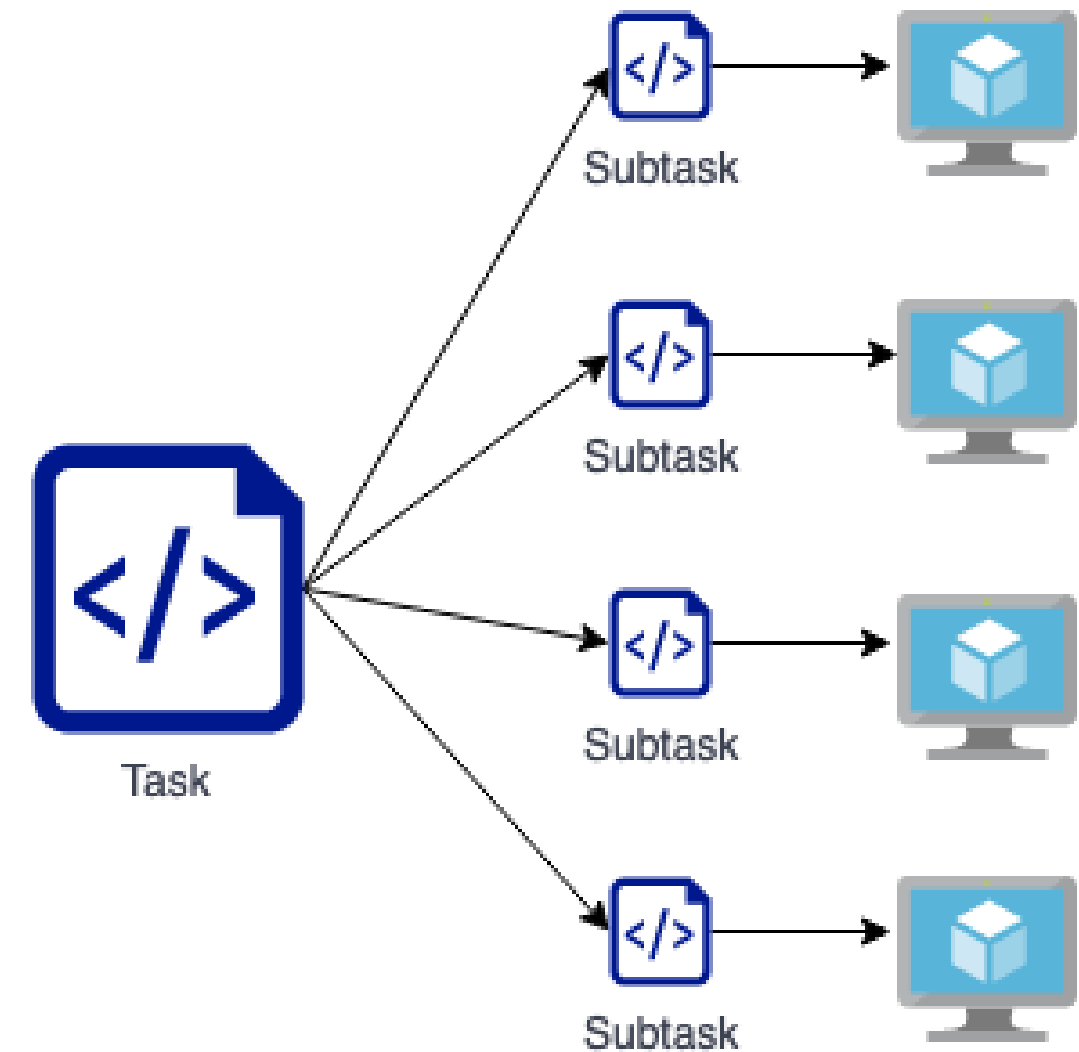
Idea behind parallel computing

Basis of modern data processing tools

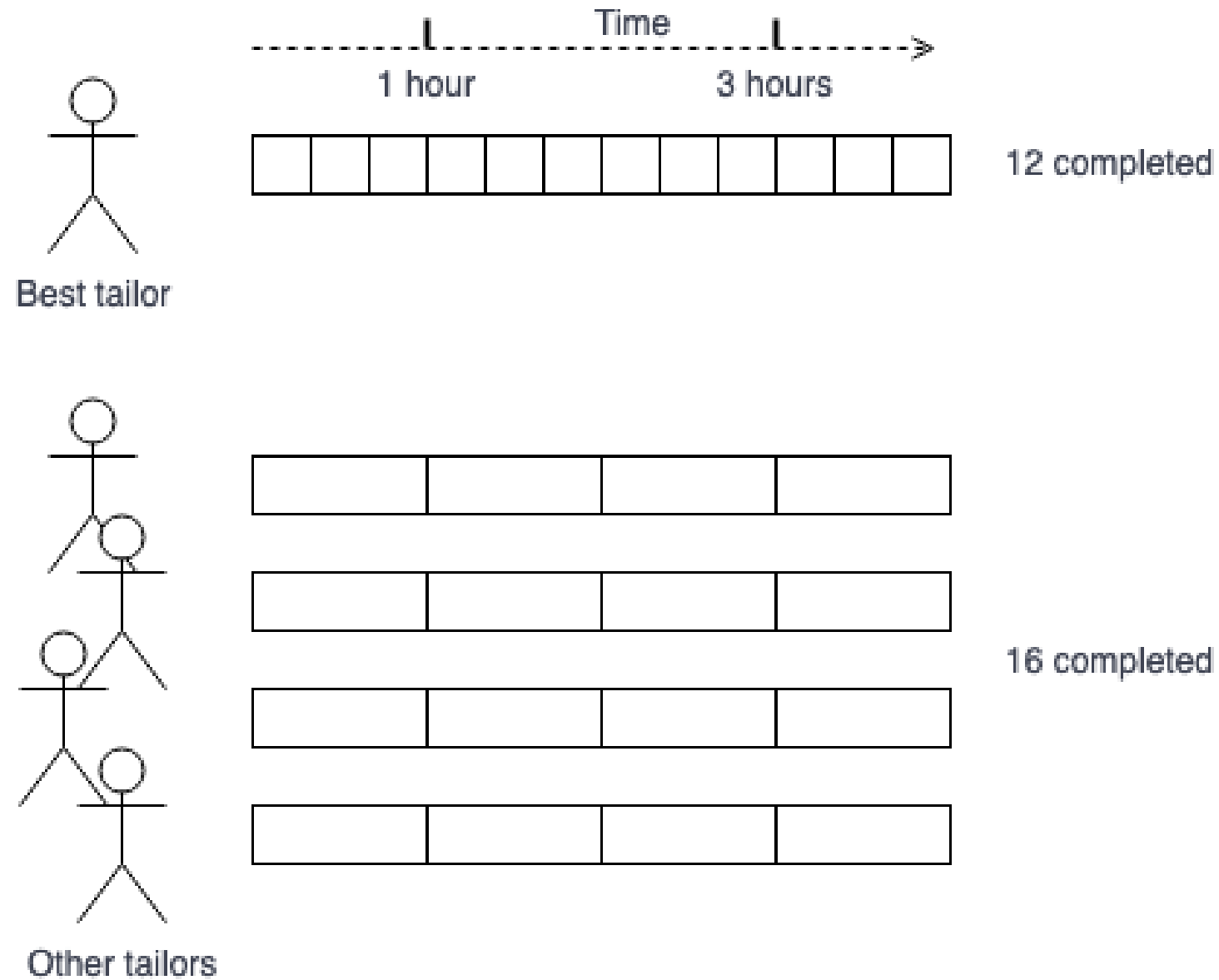
- Memory
- Processing power

Idea

- Split task into subtasks
- Distribute subtasks over several computers
- Work together to finish task



The tailor shop



Running a tailor shop

Goal: 100 shirts

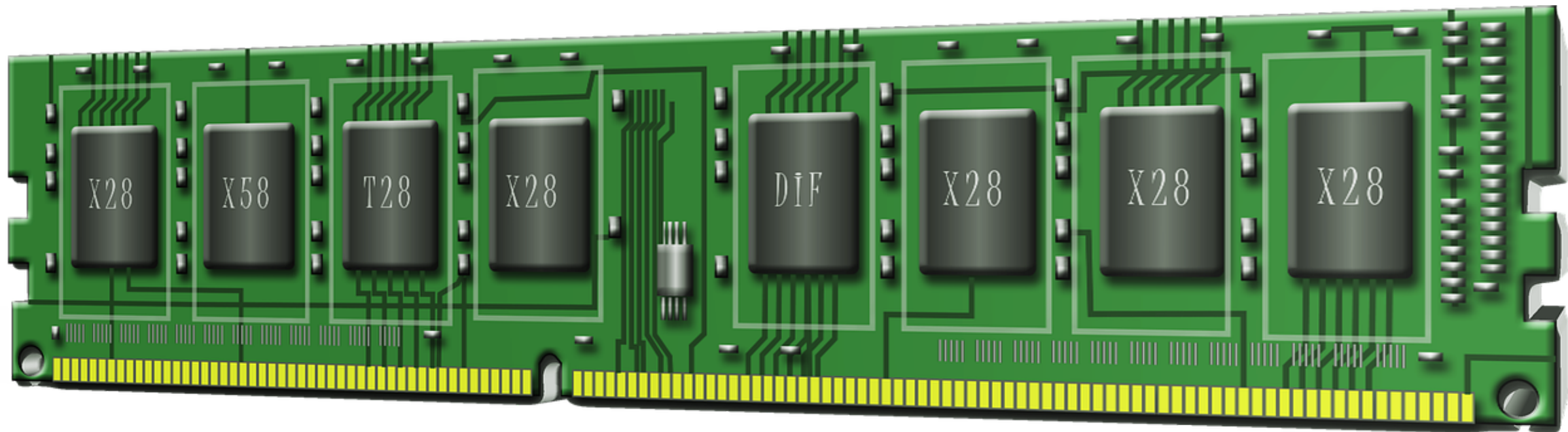
- Best tailor finishes shirt / 20 minutes
- Other tailors do shirt / 1 hour

Multiple tailors working together > best tailor

Benefits of parallel computing

- Processing power
- Memory: partition the dataset

RAM memory chip:

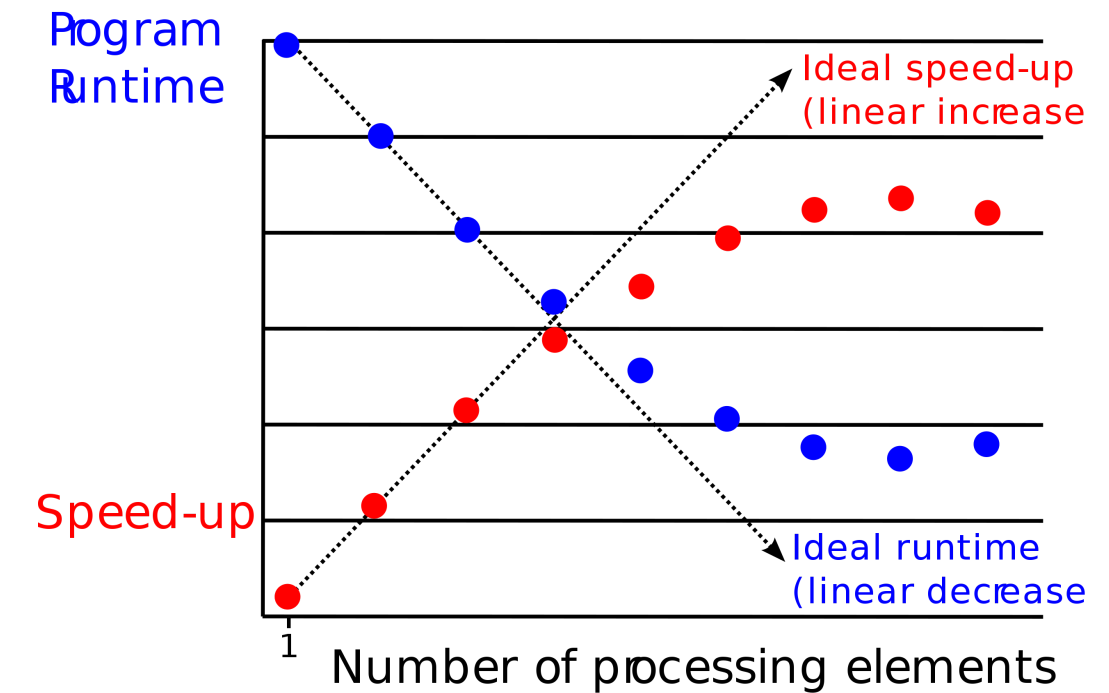


Risks of parallel computing

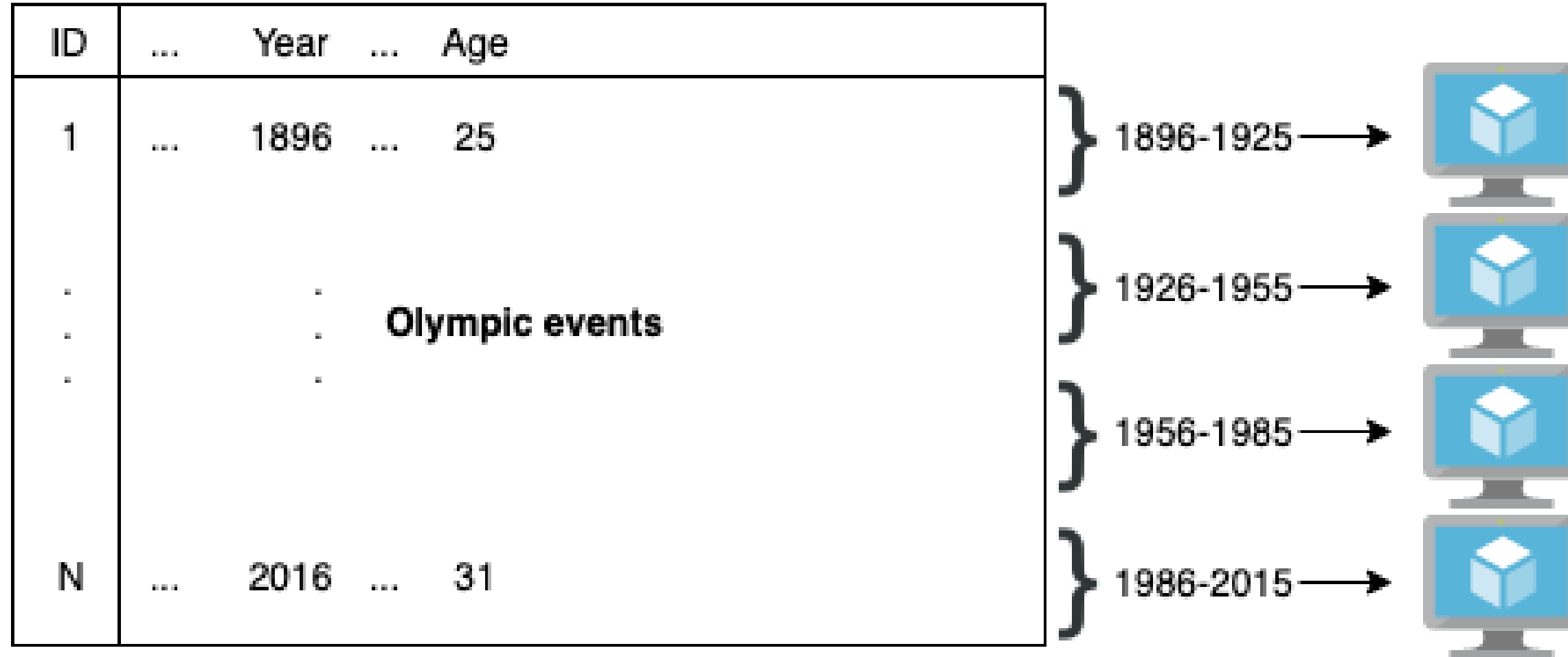
Overhead due to communication

- Task needs to be large
- Need several processing units

Parallel slowdown:



An example



multiprocessing.Pool

```
from multiprocessing import Pool

def take_mean_age(year_and_group):
    year, group = year_and_group
    return pd.DataFrame({"Age": group["Age"].mean()}, index=[year])

with Pool(4) as p:
    results = p.map(take_mean_age, athlete_events.groupby("Year"))

result_df = pd.concat(results)
```

dask

```
import dask.dataframe as dd

# Partition dataframe into 4
athlete_events_dask = dd.from_pandas(athlete_events, npartitions = 4)

# Run parallel computations on each partition
result_df = athlete_events_dask.groupby('Year').Age.mean().compute()
```


Let's practice!

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Parallel computation frameworks

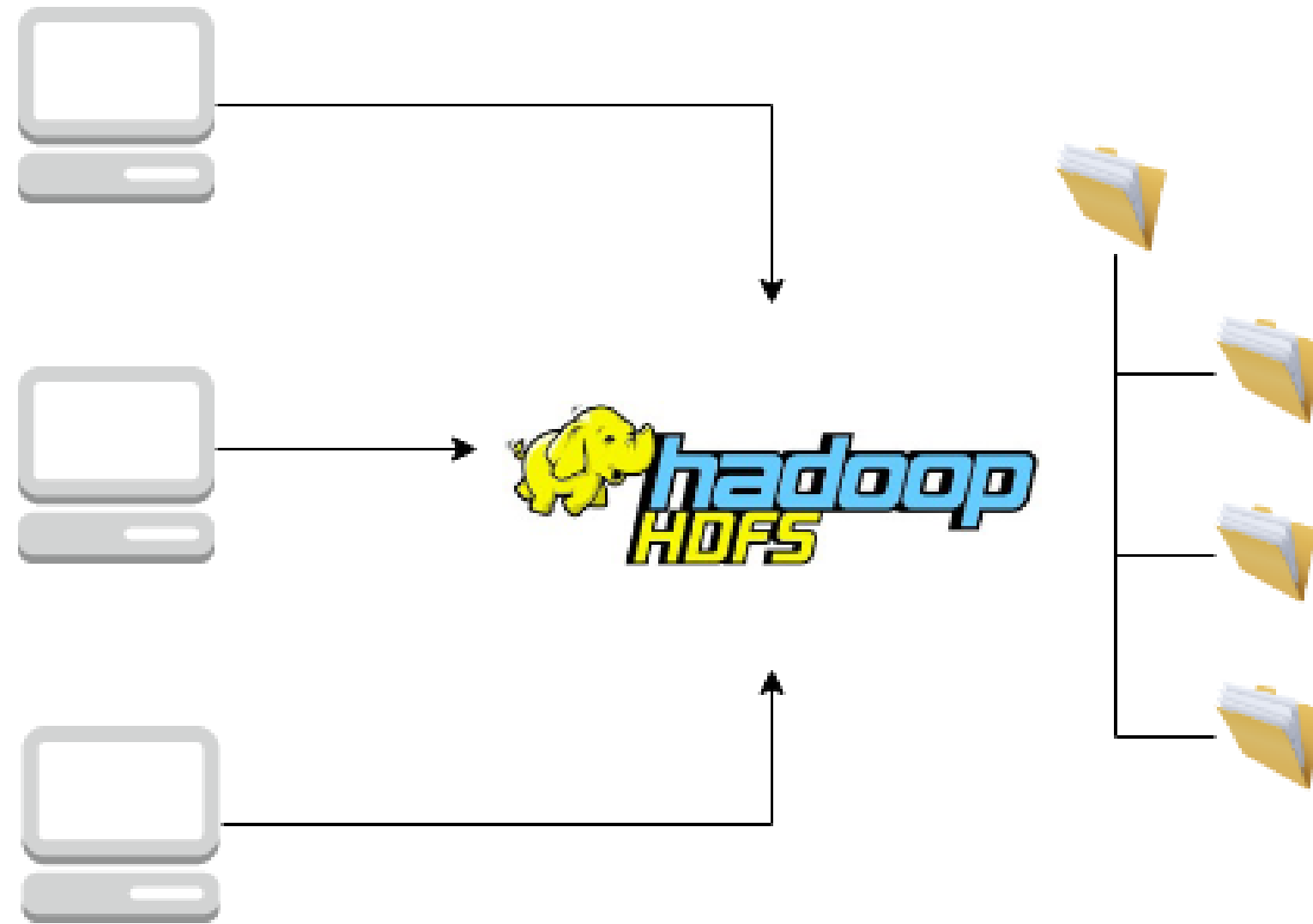
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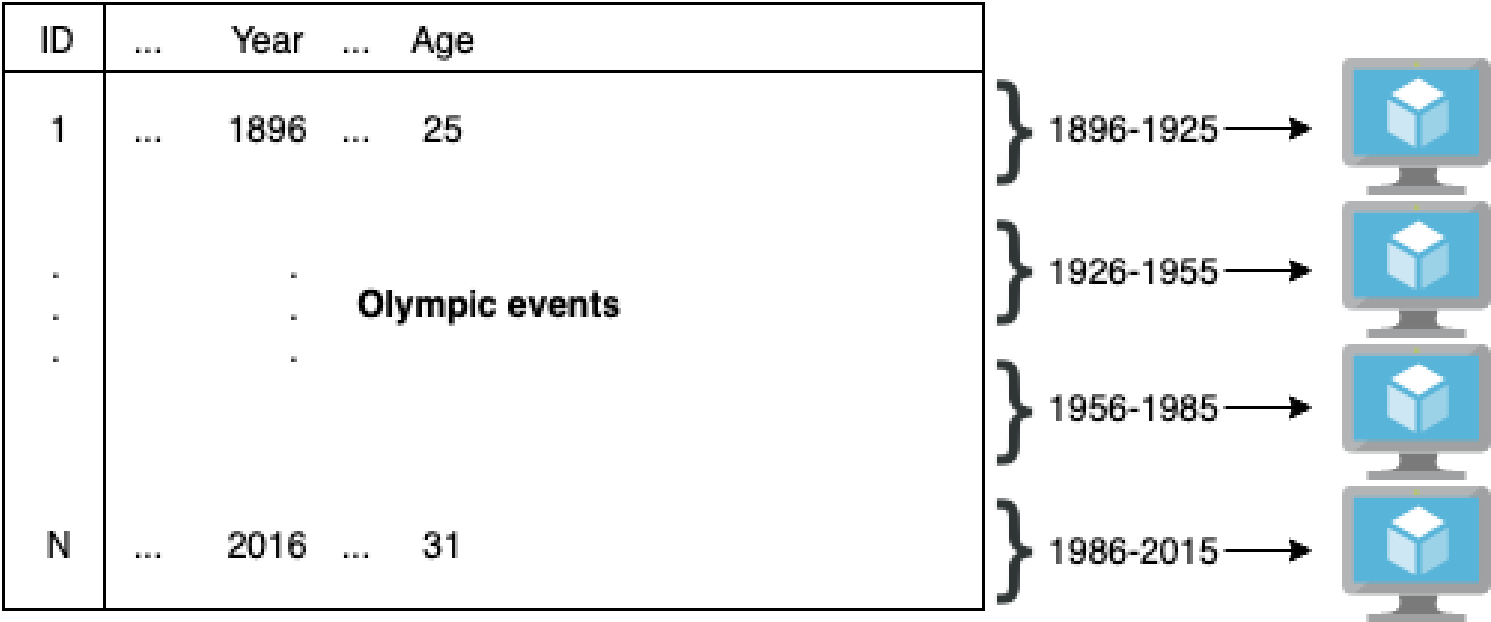
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HDFS



MapReduce



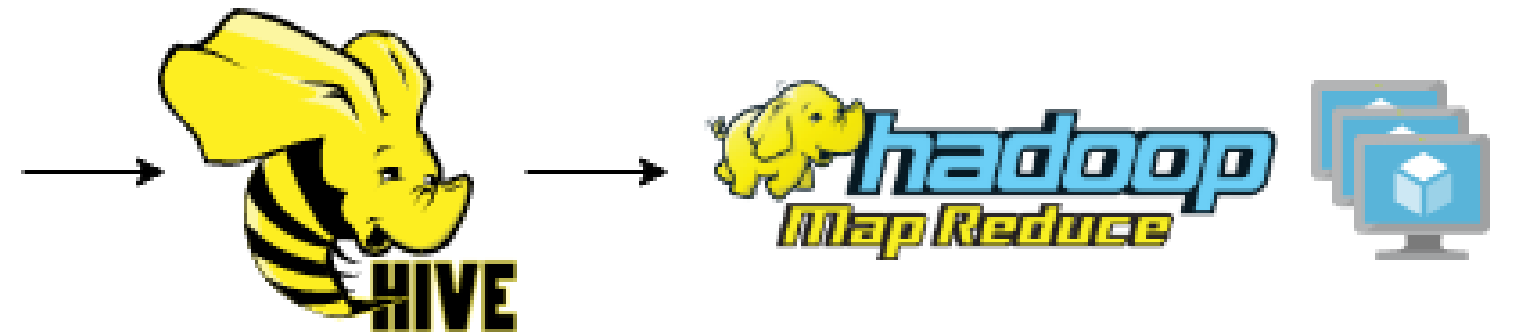
Hive

- Runs on Hadoop
- Structured Query Language: Hive SQL
- Initially MapReduce, now other tools



Hive: an example

```
SELECT year, AVG(age)
FROM views.athlete_events
GROUP BY year
```





- Avoid disk writes
- Maintained by Apache Software Foundation

Resilient distributed datasets (RDD)

- Spark relies on them
- Similar to list of tuples
- Transformations: `.map()` or `.filter()`
- Actions: `.count()` or `.first()`

PySpark

- Python interface to Spark
- DataFrame abstraction
- Looks similar to Pandas

PySpark: an example

```
# Load the dataset into athlete_events_spark first

(athlete_events_spark
 .groupBy('Year')
 .mean('Age')
 .show())
```

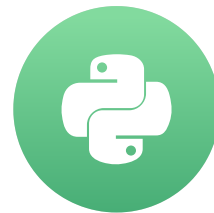
```
SELECT year, AVG(age)
FROM views.athlete_events
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Let's practice!

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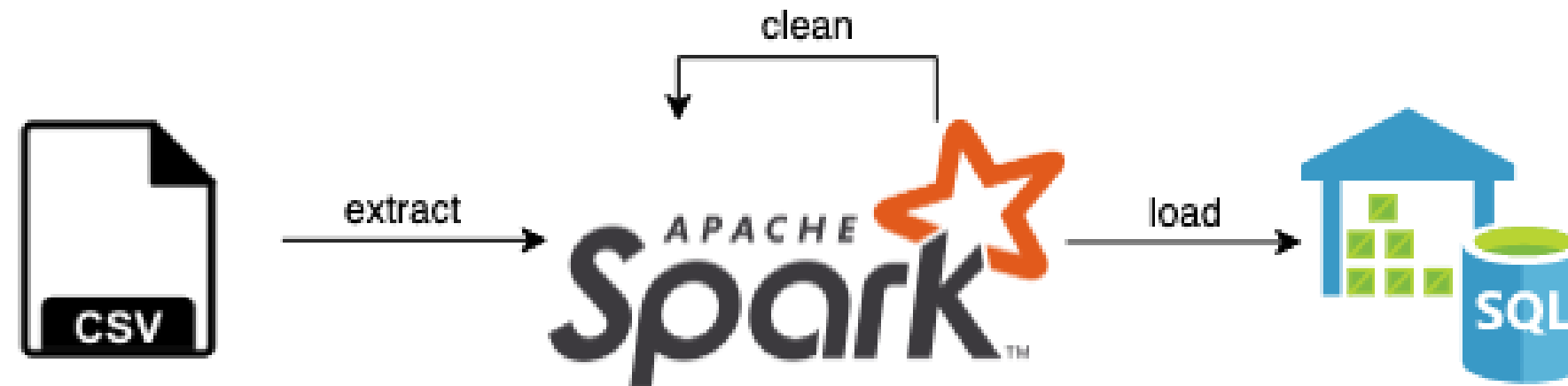
Workflow scheduling frameworks

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An example pipeline



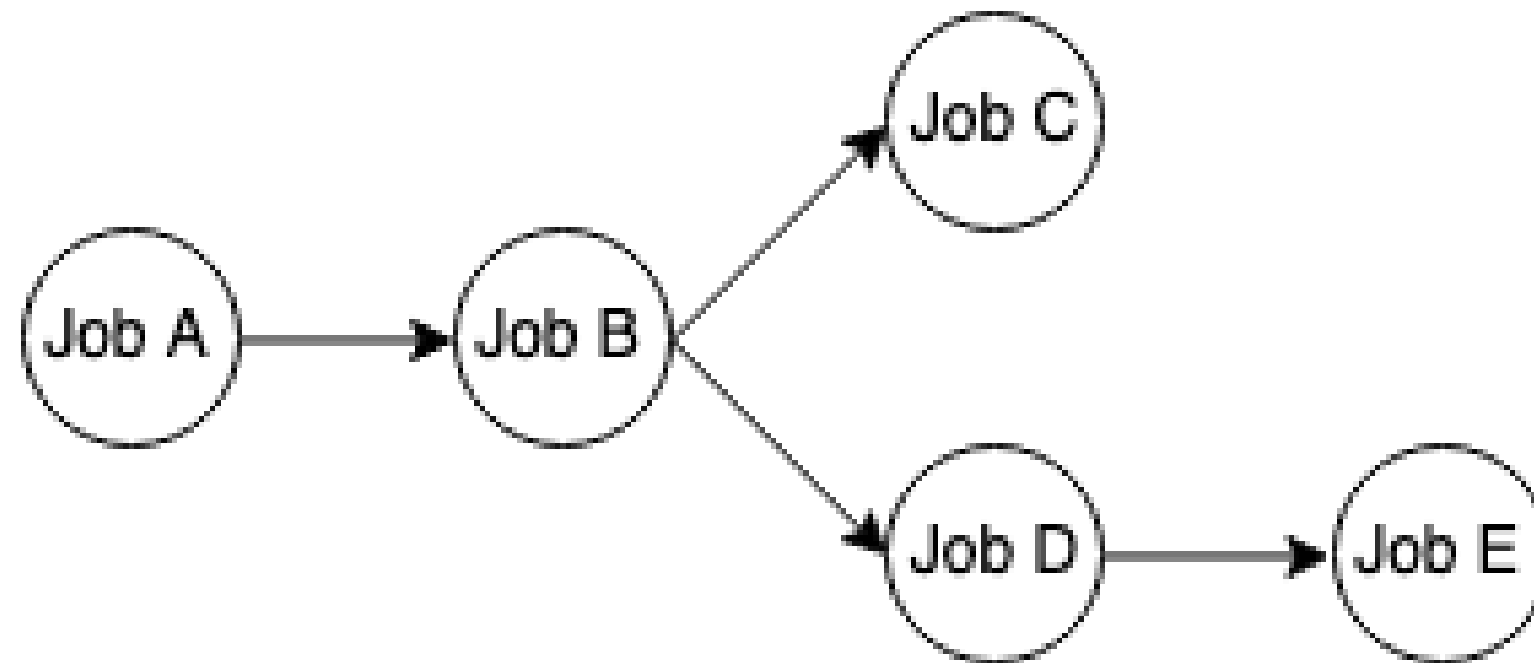
How to schedule?

- Manually
- `cron` scheduling tool
- What about dependencies?

DAGs

Directed Acyclic Graph

- Set of nodes
- Directed edges
- No cycles



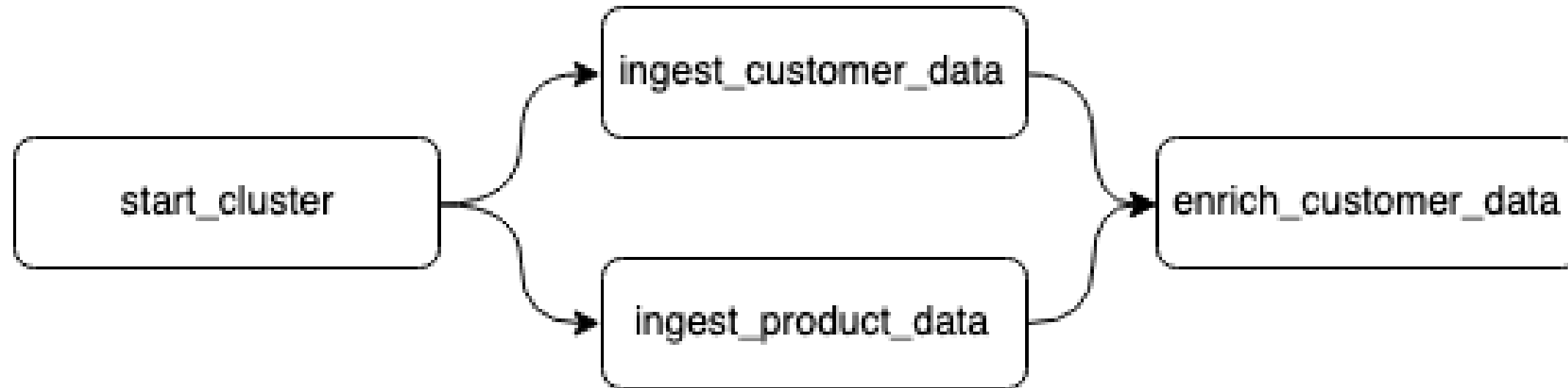
The tools for the job

- Linux's `cron`
- Spotify's Luigi
- Apache Airflow



- Created at Airbnb
- DAGs
- Python

Airflow: an example DAG



Airflow: an example in code

```
# Create the DAG object
dag = DAG(dag_id="example_dag", ..., schedule_interval="0 * * * *")

# Define operations
start_cluster = StartClusterOperator(task_id="start_cluster", dag=dag)
ingest_customer_data = SparkJobOperator(task_id="ingest_customer_data", dag=dag)
ingest_product_data = SparkJobOperator(task_id="ingest_product_data", dag=dag)
enrich_customer_data = PythonOperator(task_id="enrich_customer_data", ..., dag = dag)

# Set up dependency flow
start_cluster.set_downstream(ingest_customer_data)
ingest_customer_data.set_downstream(enrich_customer_data)
ingest_product_data.set_downstream(enrich_customer_data)
```

Let's practice!

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