

Himalayan Peaks of Testing Data Pipelines

Ksenia Tomak, Dodo Engineering
Pasha Finkelshteyn, JetBrains

Who we are

What is Big Data

Who are DEs?

What is a pipeline?

Who needs pipelines

QA of pipeline

QA \neq QC

QA of pipeline

QA \neq QC

QA is about processes and not only about software quality.

Pyramid of testing. Unit



Typical pipeline



Unit testing of pipeline

What may we test here?

A pipeline should transform data correctly!

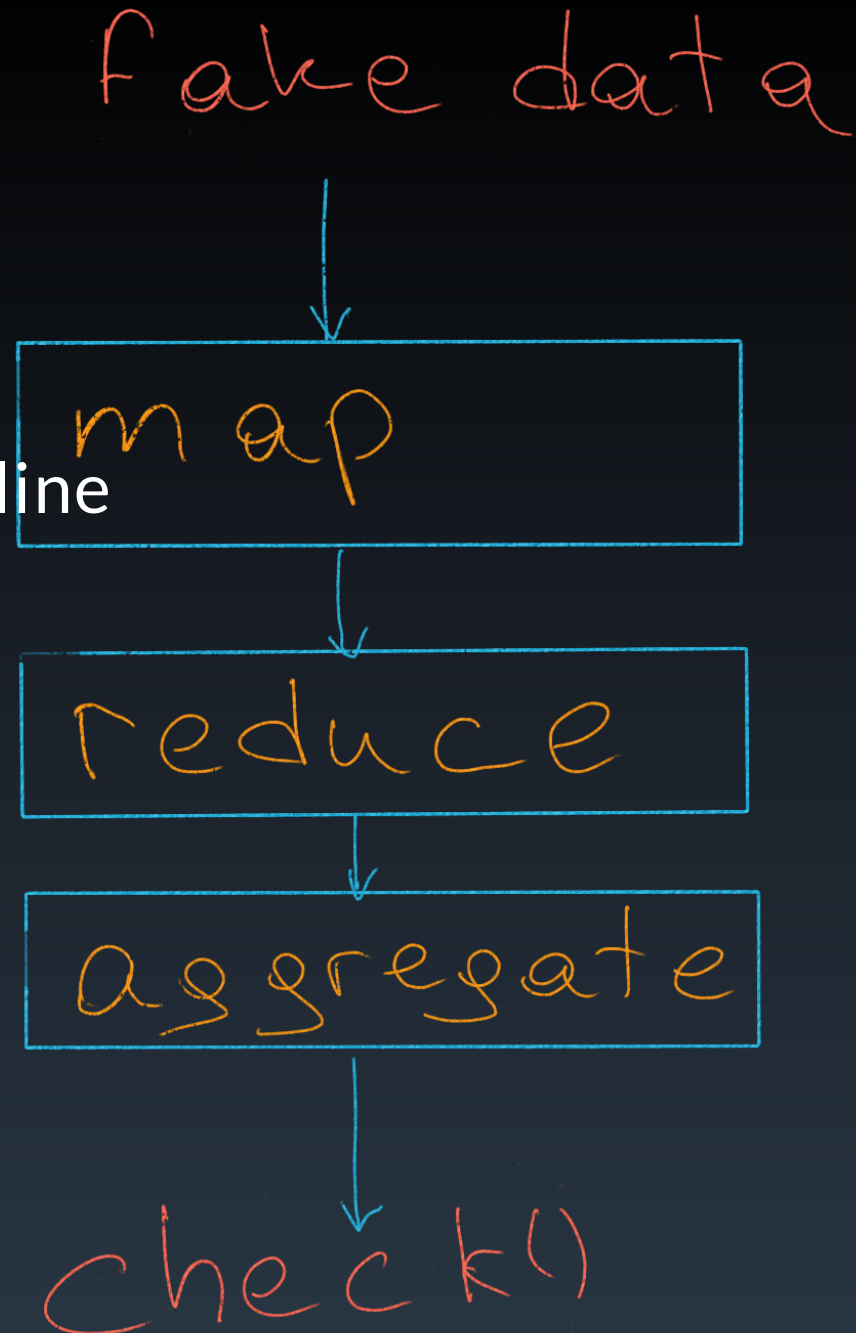
Correctness is a business term

Let's paste fakes!

Fake/mock input data

Reference data at the end of the pipeline

Separate
Function

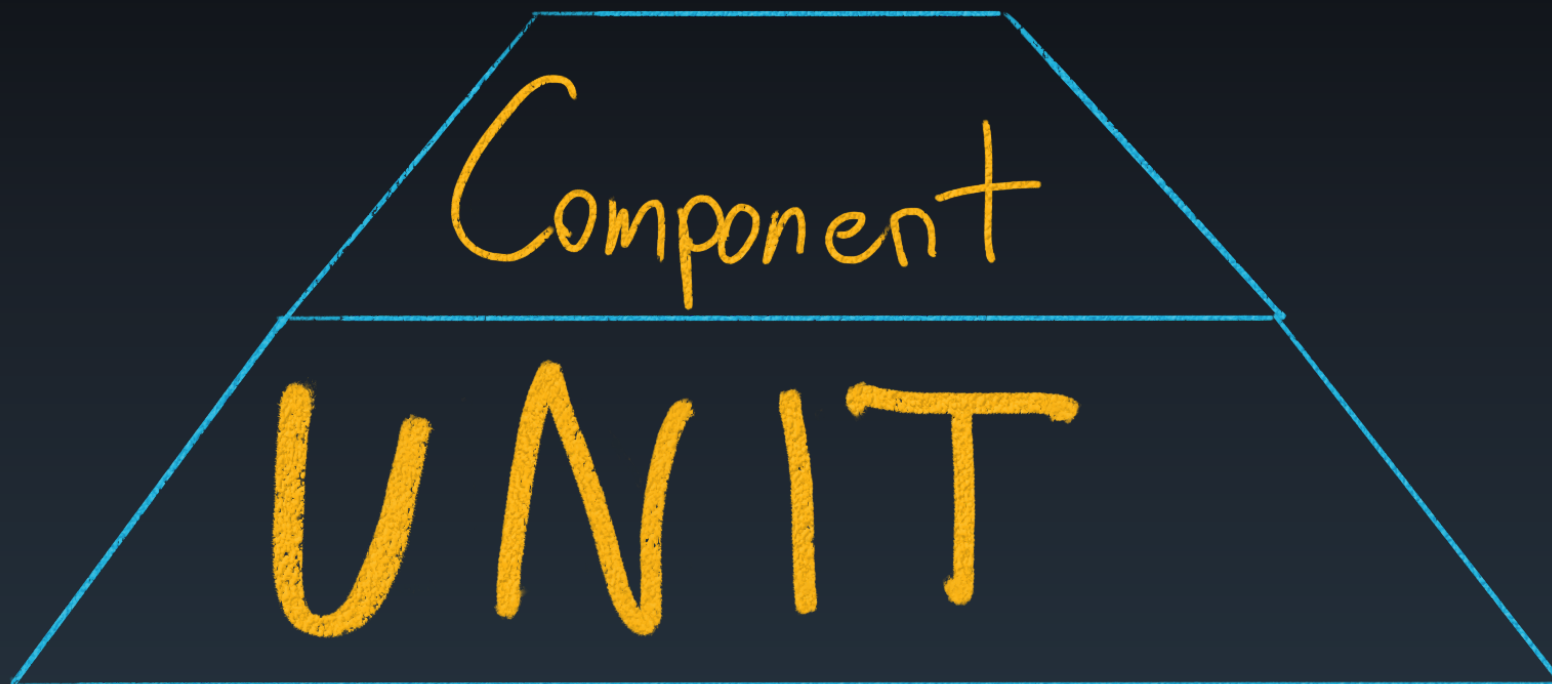


Tools

[holdenk/spark-testing-base](#) ← Tools to run tests

[MrPowers/spark-daria](#) ← tools to easily create test data

Component testing

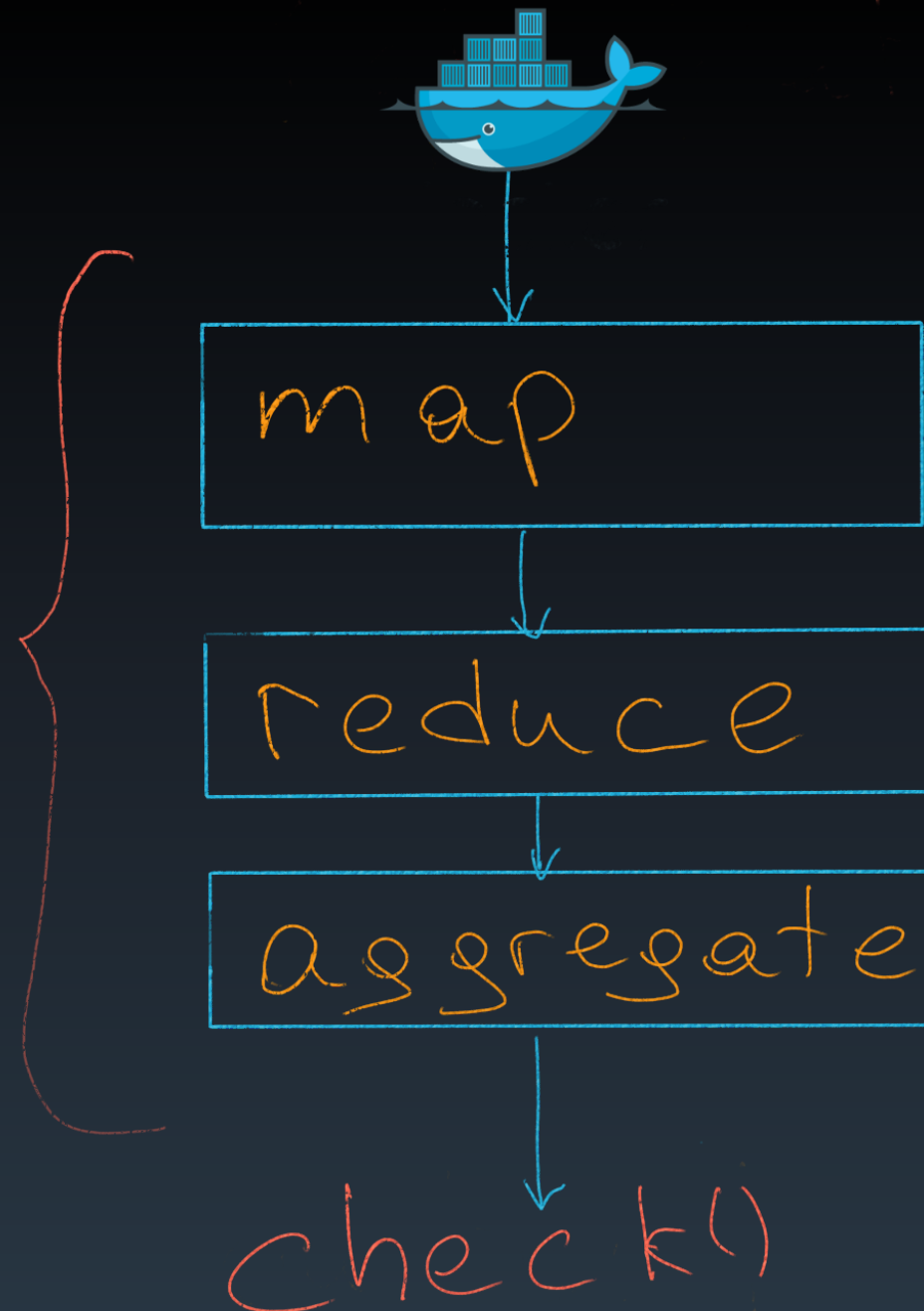




TESTCONTAINERS

TestContainers

Separate
Function



TestContainers

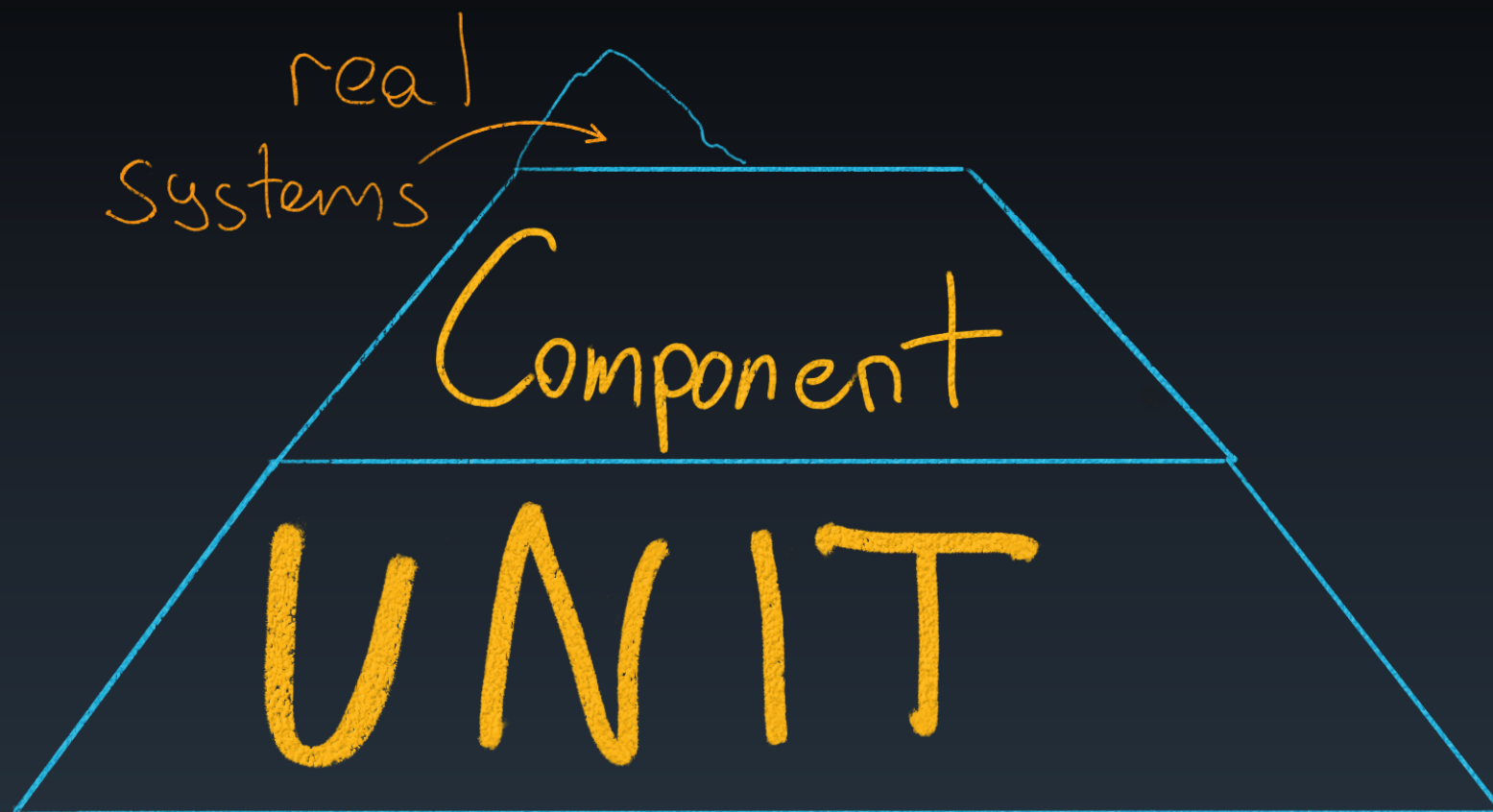
Supported languages:

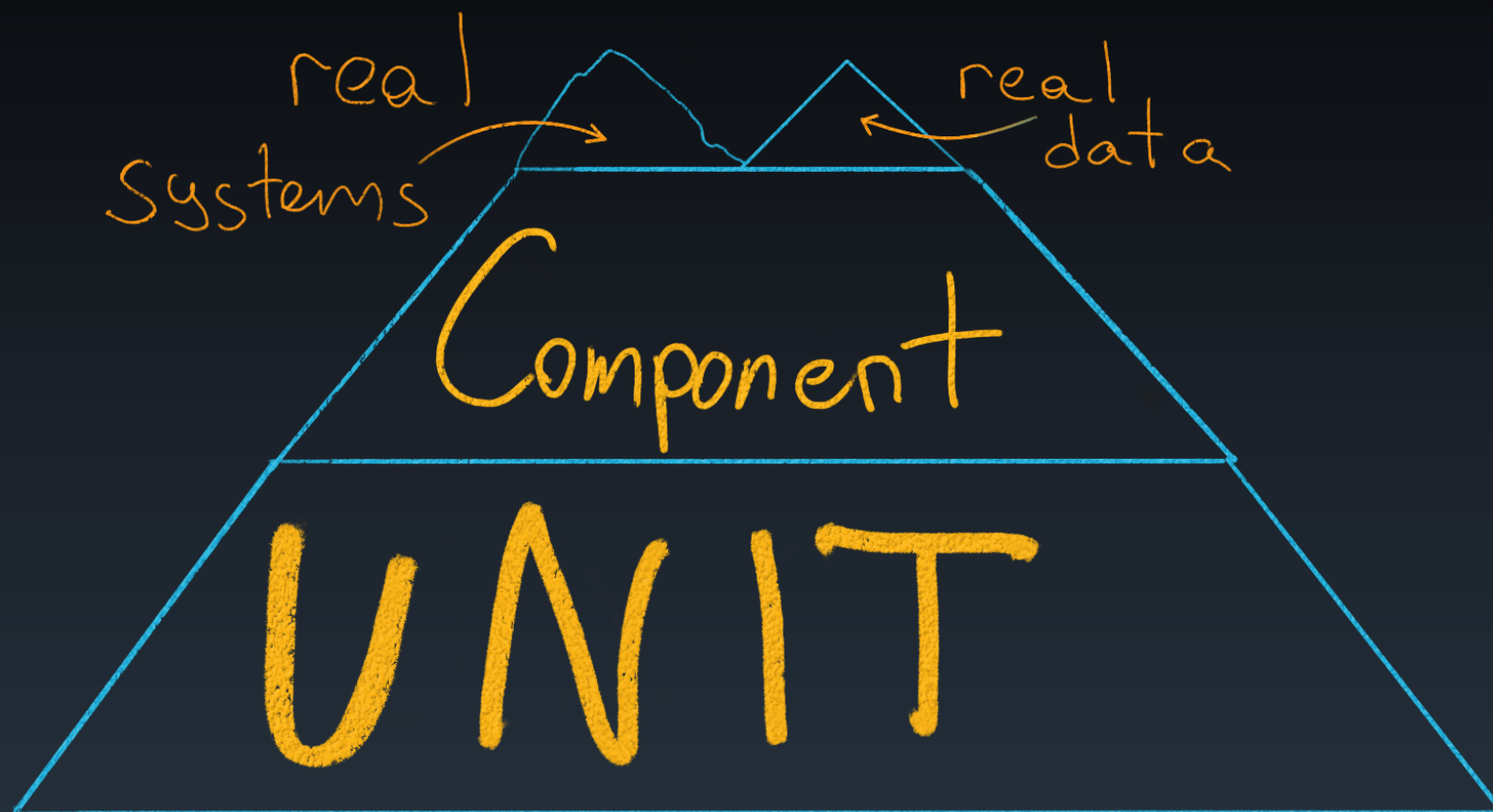
- Java (and compatibles: Scala, Kotlin, etc.)
- Python
- Go
- Node.js
- Rust
- .NET

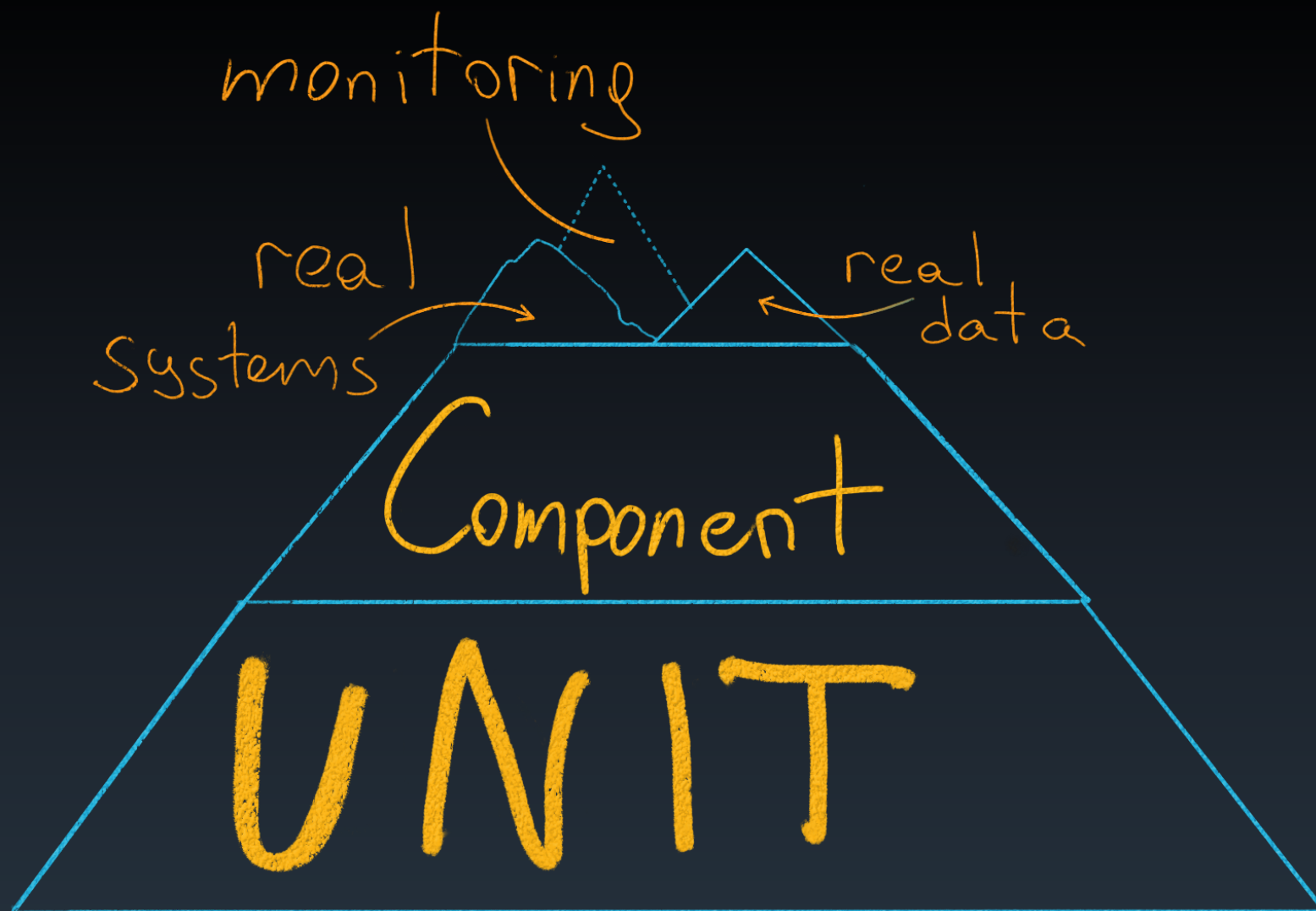
Test Containers

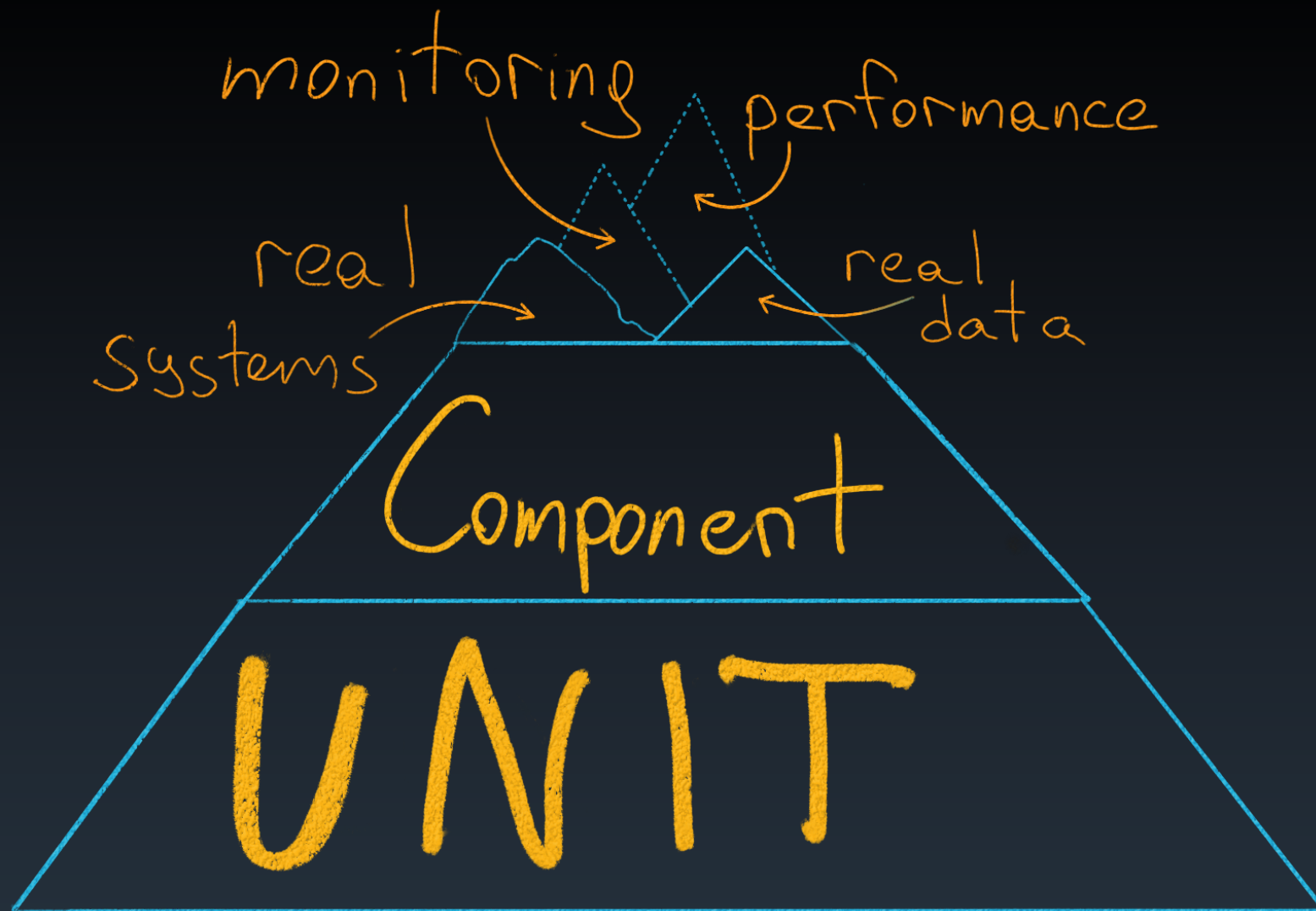
```
import sqlalchemy
from testcontainers.mysql import MySQLContainer

with MySQLContainer('mysql:5.7.17') as mysql:
    engine = sqlalchemy.create_engine(mysql.get_connection_url())
    version, = engine.execute("select version()").fetchone()
    print(version)    # 5.7.17
```









Real systems

Why are component tests not enough?

- vendor lock tools (DB, processing, etc.)
- external error handling

Real data

get data samples from prod, anonymize it

Real data expectations

Test:

- ✓ no data
 - ✓ valid data
 - ? invalid data
 - ? illegal data format
- Property-based testing

Real data expectations. Tools:

- [great expectations](#),
- [Deequ](#)

Monitoring

Why?

Monitoring

What?

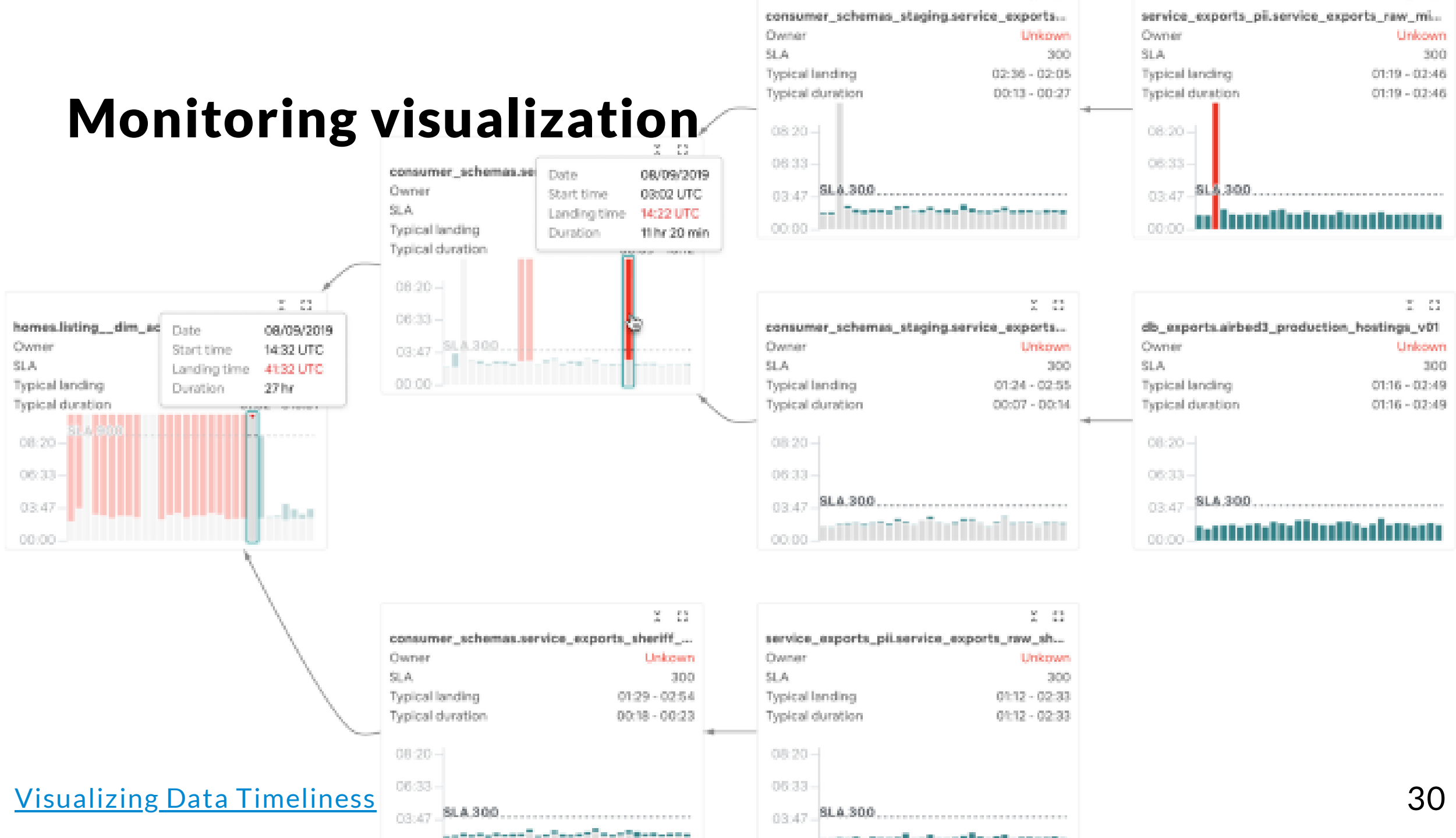
- data volumes,
- counters,
- time,
- dead letter queue monitoring

Monitoring

How?

- use Listeners
- use data aggregations

Monitoring visualization



End-to-End tests

Compare with reports, old DWH

Multiple dimensions:

- data
- data latency
- performance, scalability

Performance Tests

SLA

Best performance test - initial data load

How to apply?

Real data, real system

- deploy full data backup on stage env, anonymize it 💰

Real prod

- run a parallel job with different sink

[Using production data for testing in a post GDPR world](#)