Flink Training for Real-Time Data Engineering

The Shift to Real-Time: From Batch to Streaming

About Instructor

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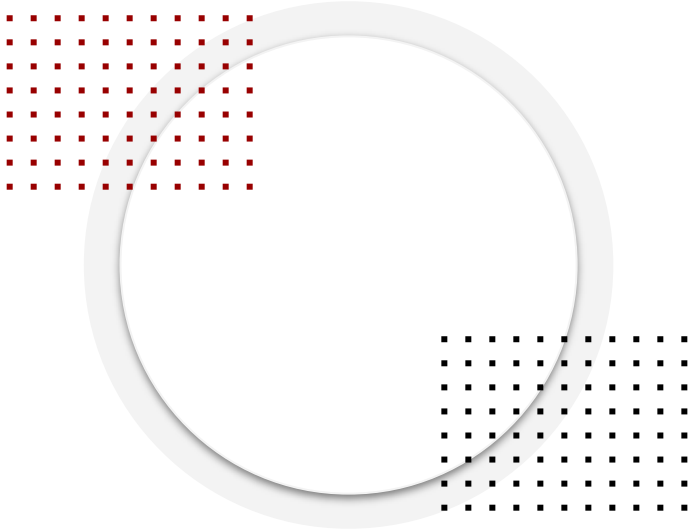

NAME

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AGENDA

- Introduction to Apache Flink
- Overview of Flink's architecture

What is Apache Flink?

Apache Flink is an open-source, distributed engine for stateful processing over unbounded (streams) and bounded (batches) data sets.

- Runs continuously with minimal downtime, processing data as ingested.
- Designed for **low latency**, **in-memory computations**, and **high availability**.
- Removes single points of failure and **scales horizontally**.
- Provides **exactly-once state management**.
- Supports **event-time processing**, handling out-of-order and late data.
- **Streaming-first** framework with a unified API for stream and batch processing.

Why Use Apache Flink?

Versatile framework for both streaming and batch applications.

Event-driven applications:

- Ingest events from one or more streams.
- Perform computations, update state, or trigger external actions.
- Supports **stateful processing**, enabling logic that depends on event history.

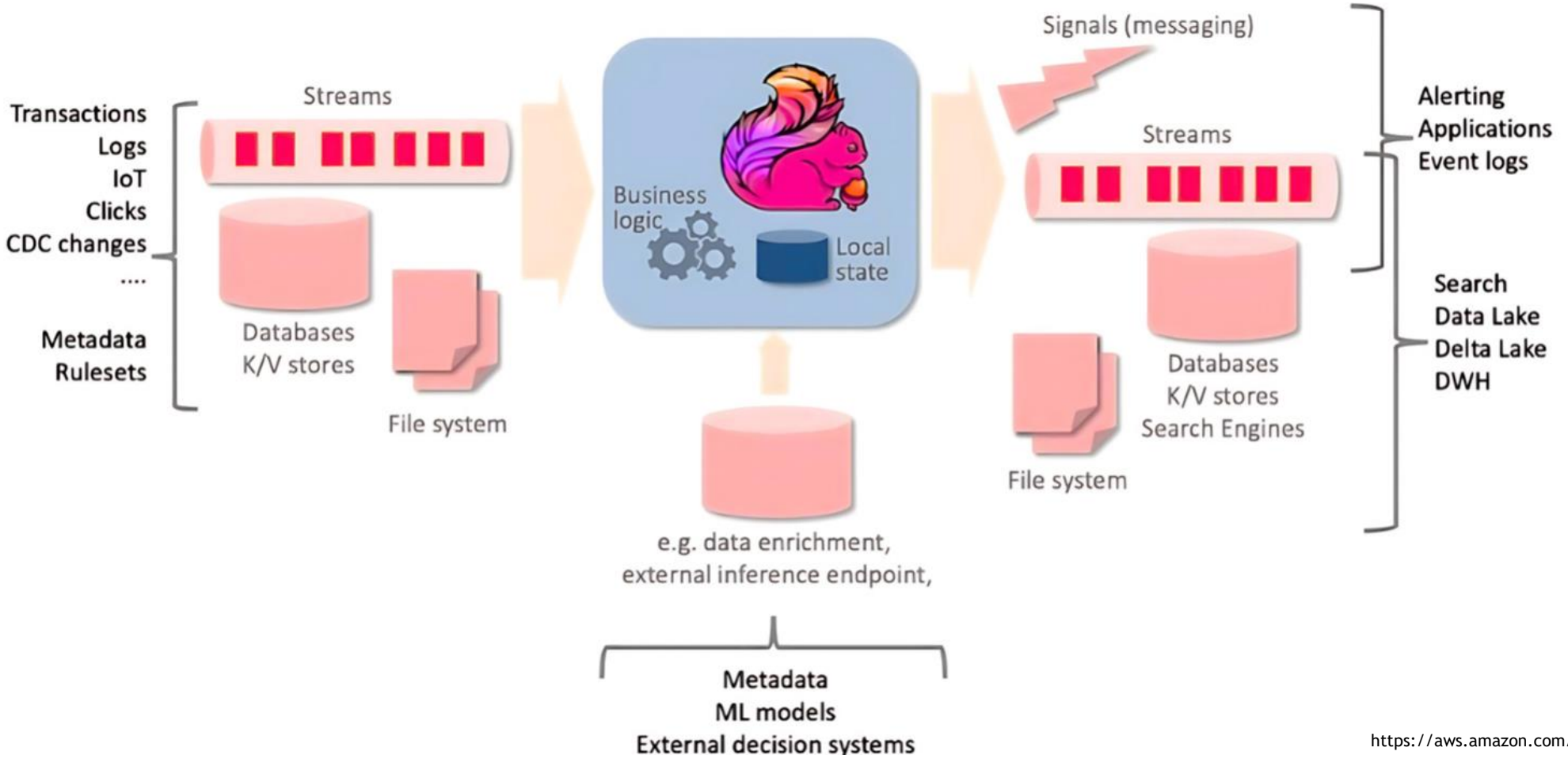
Data analytics applications:

- Extract insights continuously instead of re-running queries on finite datasets.
- Enable **real-time streaming queries** that emit and update results continuously.

Data pipeline applications:

- Transform and enrich data while moving it between storages.
- Replace periodic batch ETL with **continuous, low-latency data movement**.

Why Use Apache Flink?

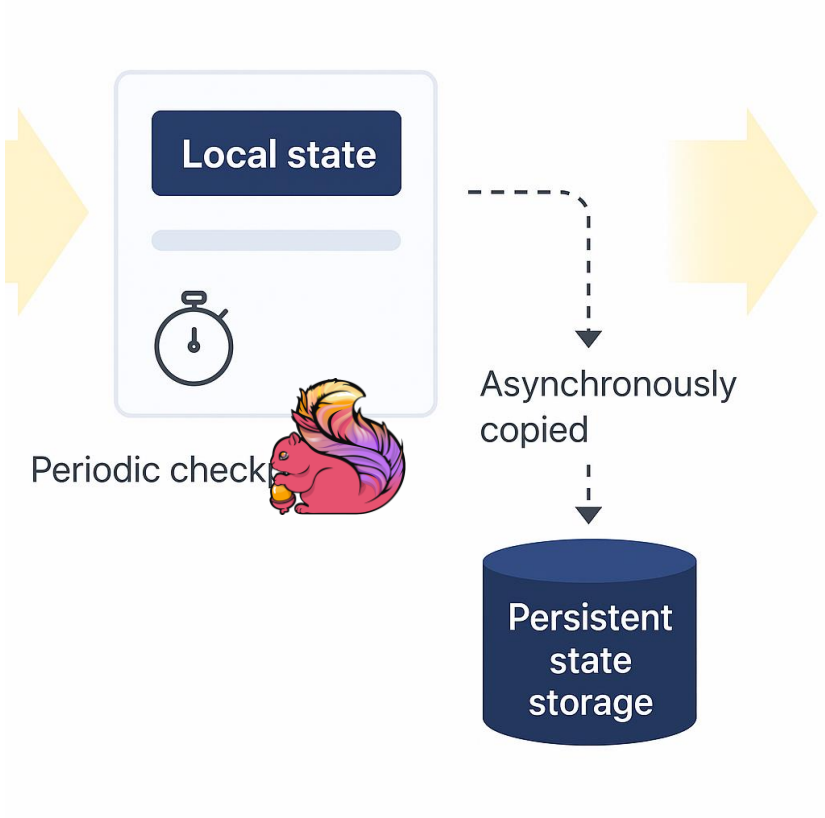


https://aws.amazon.com/what-is/apache-flink/

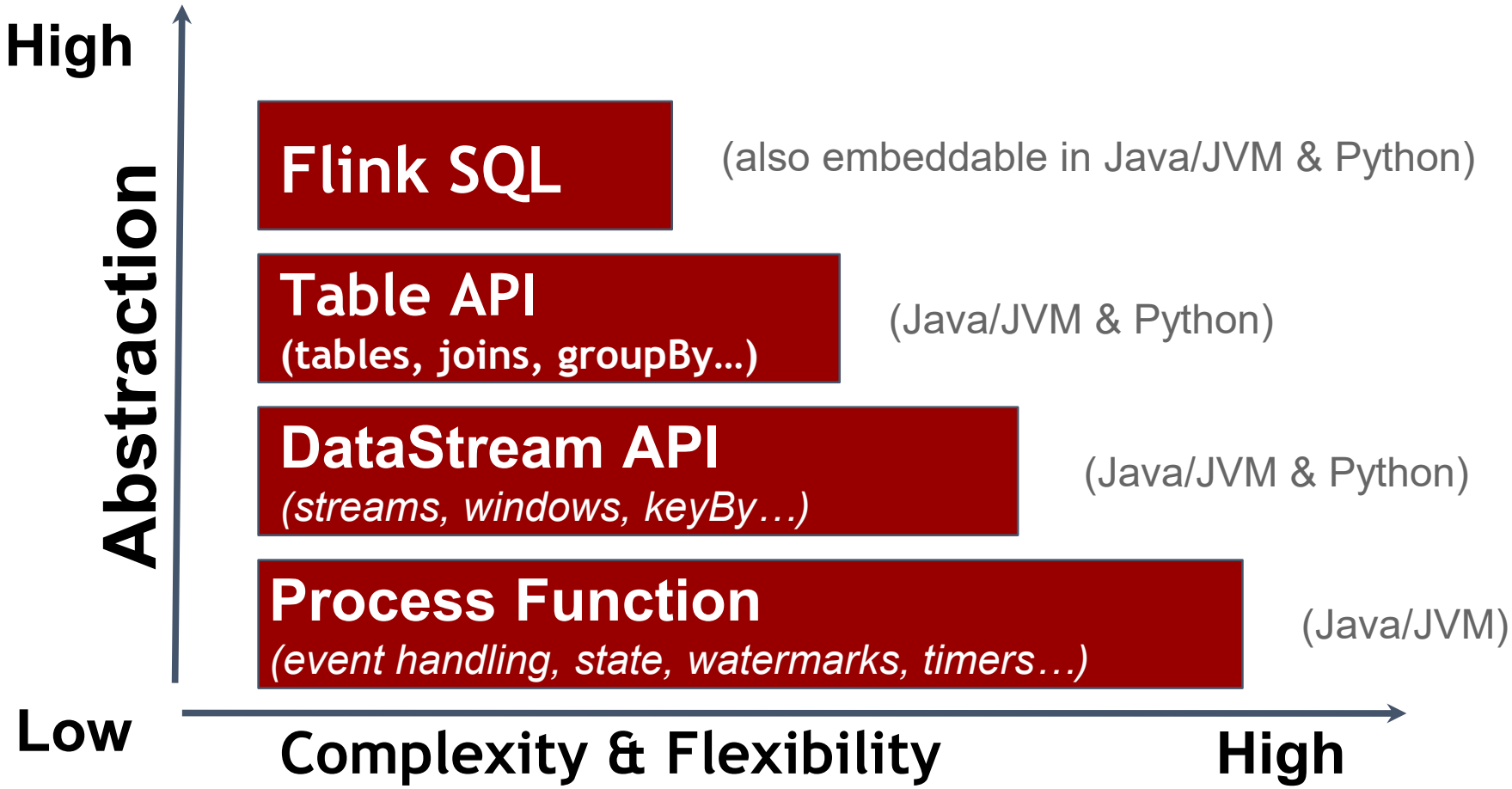
How does Apache Flink work?

1. Dataflow Model

- A Flink application is built as a **dataflow graph.**
    - **Sources:** where data comes in (files, message queues like Kafka, databases, search engines).
    - **Transformations:** operations applied on data streams (e.g., filtering, aggregations, pattern detection).
    - **Sinks:** where results are written (datastores, dashboards, files, etc.).
- The graph is **acyclic** but can be highly complex.
- Processing happens in **real time** with **high throughput** and **low latency.**



Apache Flink: Multiple Abstractions & Languages



Why Flink Excels at Stateful Stream Processing

True Stream-first Engine – Batch is treated as bounded streams.

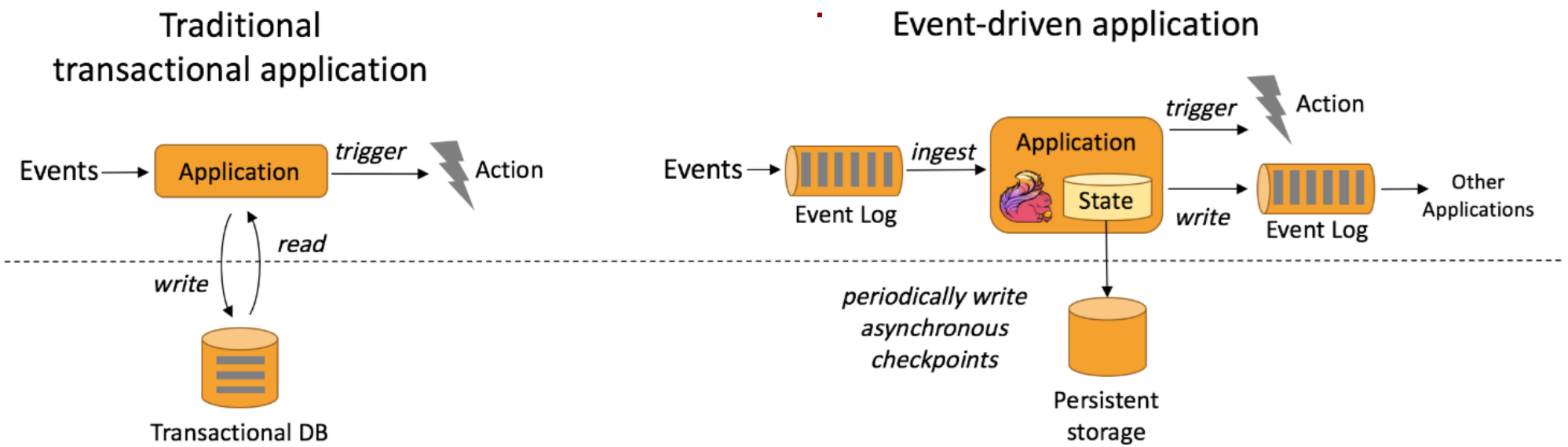
Stateful Processing – Applications keep **local state** for fast access.

Exactly-once Consistency – Through checkpoints & savepoints.

Low Latency + High Throughput – Designed for real-time workloads.

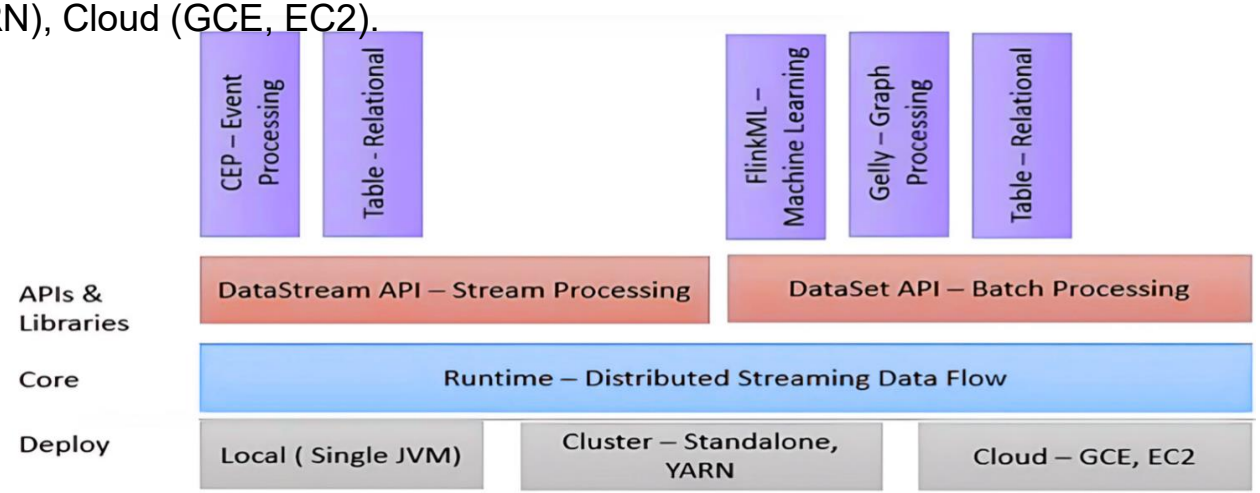
Scalability & Fault Tolerance – Distributed, resilient to failures.

Flexible Deployments – Local, cluster (YARN, Kubernetes), cloud.



Flink's architecture

- **APIs & Libraries**: CEP (events), Table/SQL, FlinkML (ML), Gelly (graphs).
- **Core APIs**:
  - **DataStream API** – Stream processing (unbounded).
  - **DataSet API** – Batch processing (bounded).
- **Runtime**: Distributed streaming data flow engine with parallelism & fault tolerance.
- **Deployment**: Local (JVM), Cluster (Standalone/YARN), Cloud (GCE, EC2).



Jobs, Tasks, and Operators

Jobs

- Represent a **user-submitted application**.
- Defined as a **JobGraph** (logical graph).
- Built using **sources → transformations → sinks**.

Operators

- Fundamental operations: **map, filter, keyBy, reduce, etc.**
- Connected into a **directed acyclic graph (DAG)**.
- Define the **flow of data** in the job.

Tasks

- **Parallel units of execution** derived from operators.
- Each processes a **data partition independently**.
- Mapped to **available cluster resources**.

Apache Flink Cluster Model

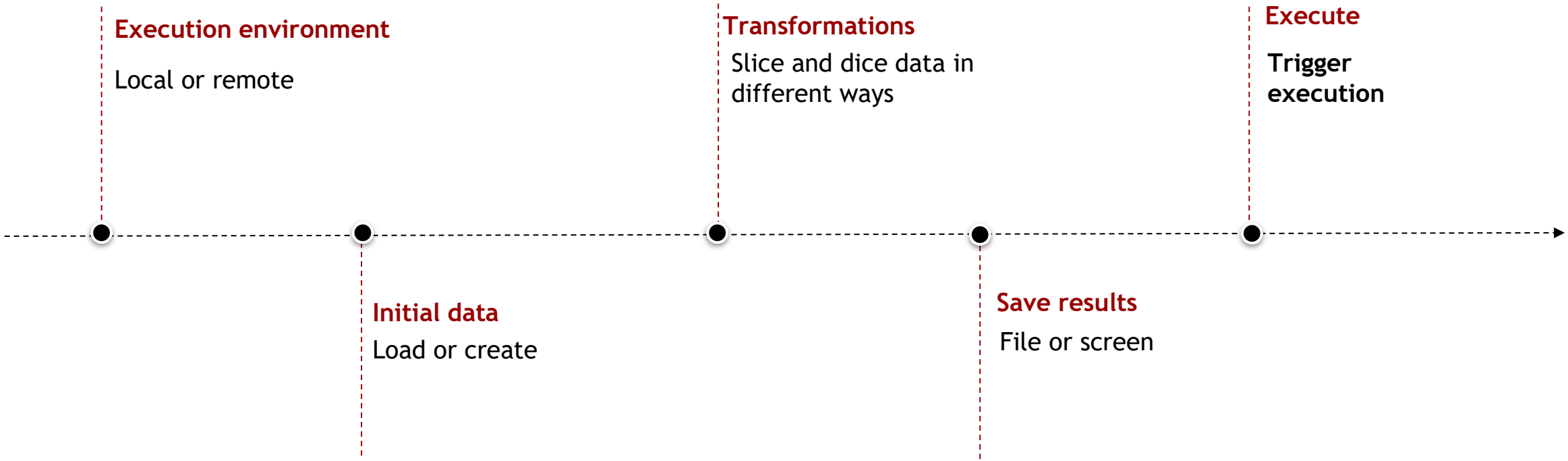
Master Components

- **Dispatcher**
  - Accepts job submissions (REST, CLI, Web UI).
  - Assigns unique Job IDs & forwards to JobManager.
- **JobManager**
  - Orchestrates job scheduling, checkpointing, state management, recovery.
  - Converts **JobGraph → Execution Graph**.
  - Coordinates execution & failover handling.
- **ResourceManager**
  - Integrates with **YARN, Kubernetes, AWS**.
  - Allocates resources & assigns task slots.
  - Enables **elastic scaling**.

Worker Component

- **TaskManagers**
  - Worker nodes running **slots** for task execution.
  - Execute operators & maintain **local + checkpointed state.**
  - Handle distributed data processing.

Basic Anatomy of a Flink Program



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SUGGESTIONS?

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