

# Building Data Processing Pipelines Out of Microservices

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# Overview



The role of orchestration in microservices

Problems with the status quo

About Spring Cloud Data Flow

Comparing Streams and Tasks

Installing Spring Cloud Data Flow

Creating Streams and Tasks

Using the Dashboard and Flo

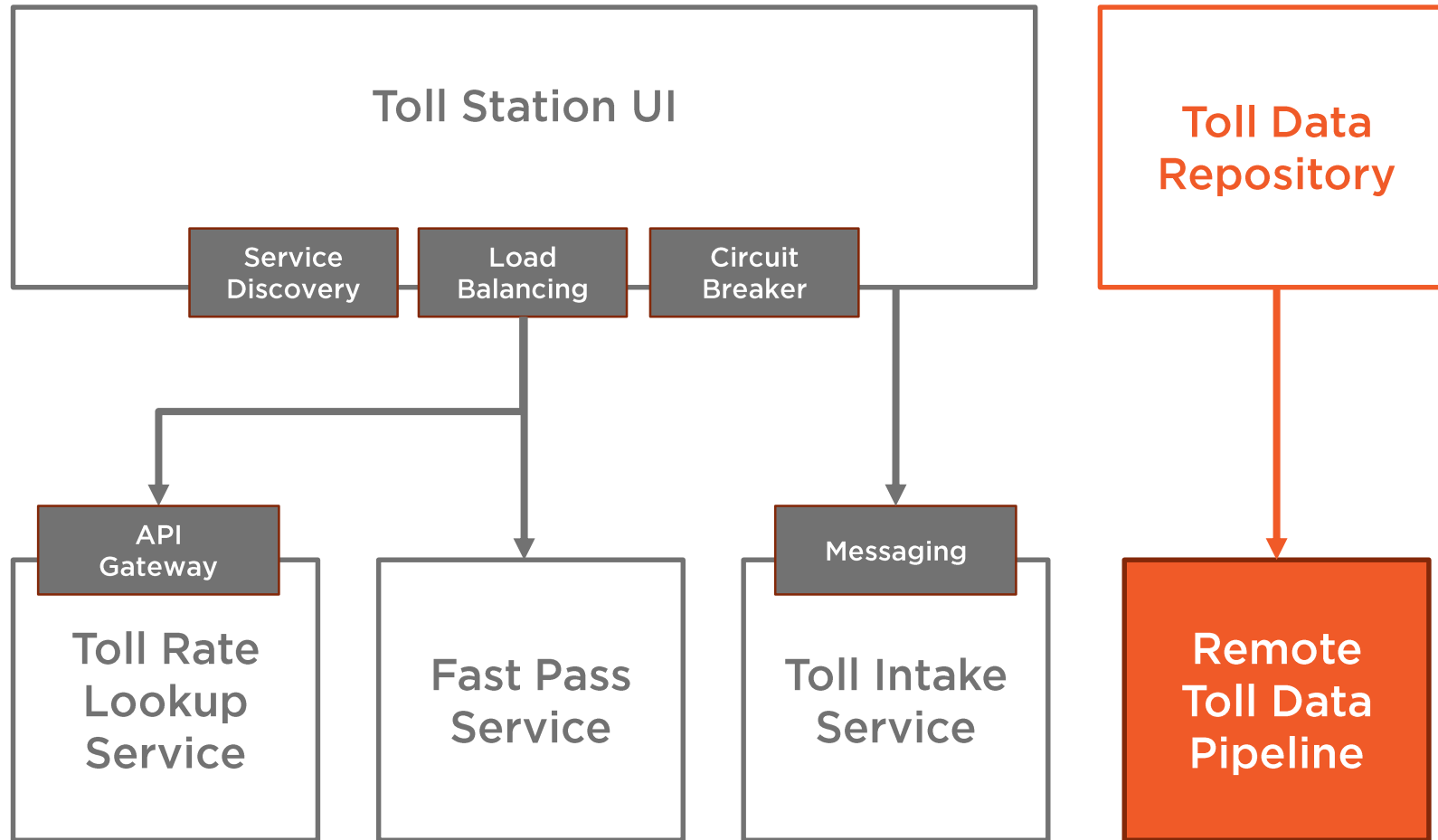
Creating Composed Tasks

Monitoring and updating pipelines

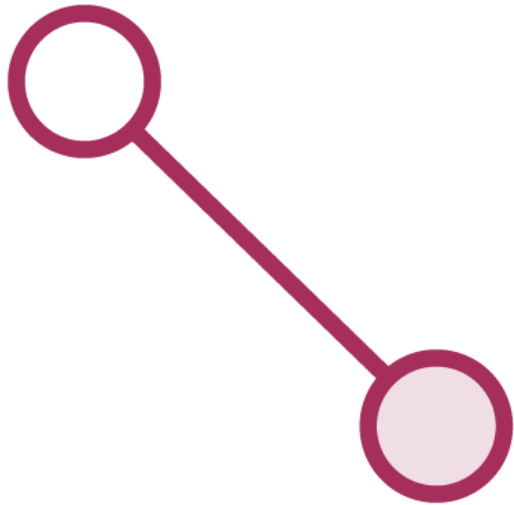
Summary



# Capabilities That We Will Add in This Module



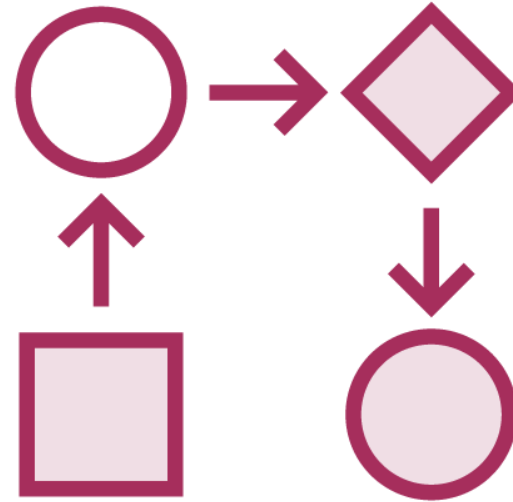
# The Role of Orchestration in Microservices



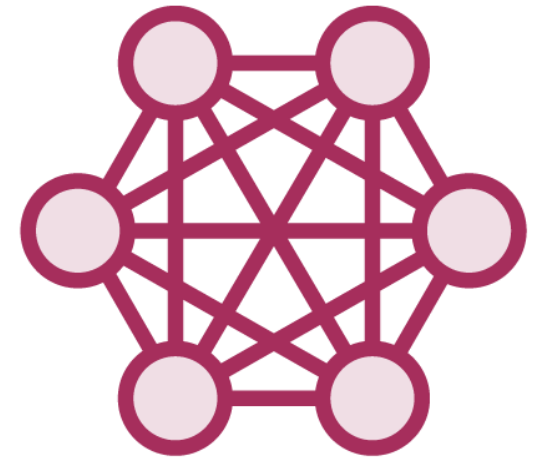
Integrate  
systems, apps,  
and data  
sources



Do batch and  
real-time  
processing or  
analytics



Group services  
and quickly  
adjust processes



Establish an  
event-driven  
architecture



# Problems with the Status Quo



**Existing solutions are monolithic in nature**

**Hard to quickly change processes**

**Scaling is done in all-or-nothing fashion**

**Any changes are delivered in bulk**

**Specialized skills require silos of expertise in the company**

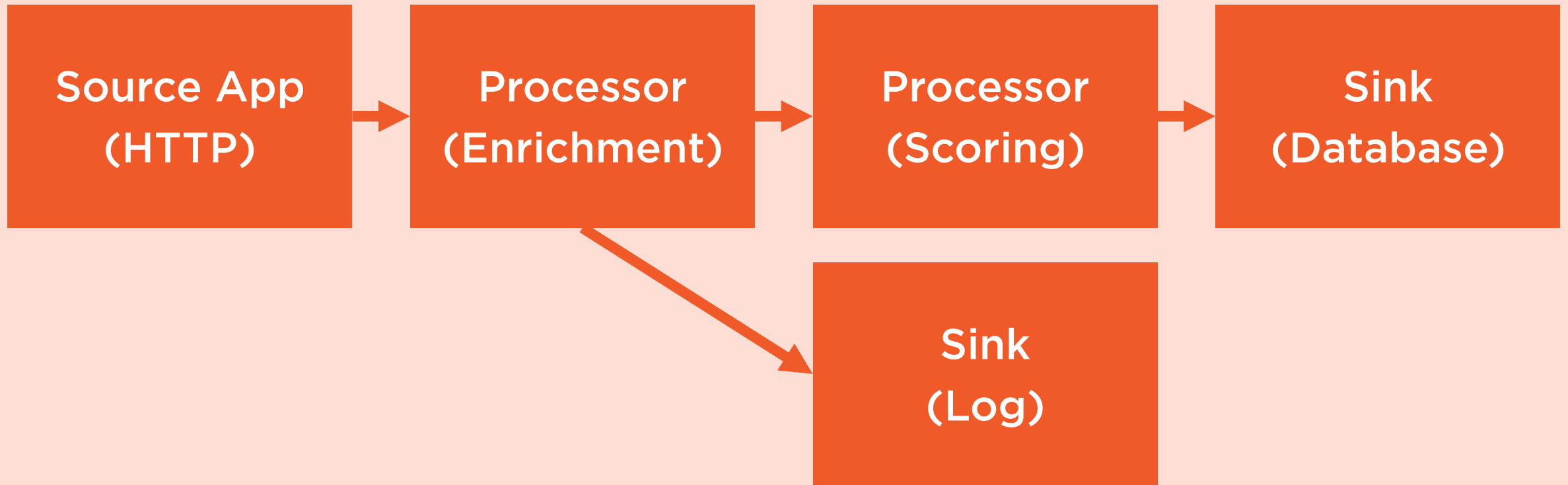
# Spring Cloud Data Flow

Toolkit for building data  
pipelines.

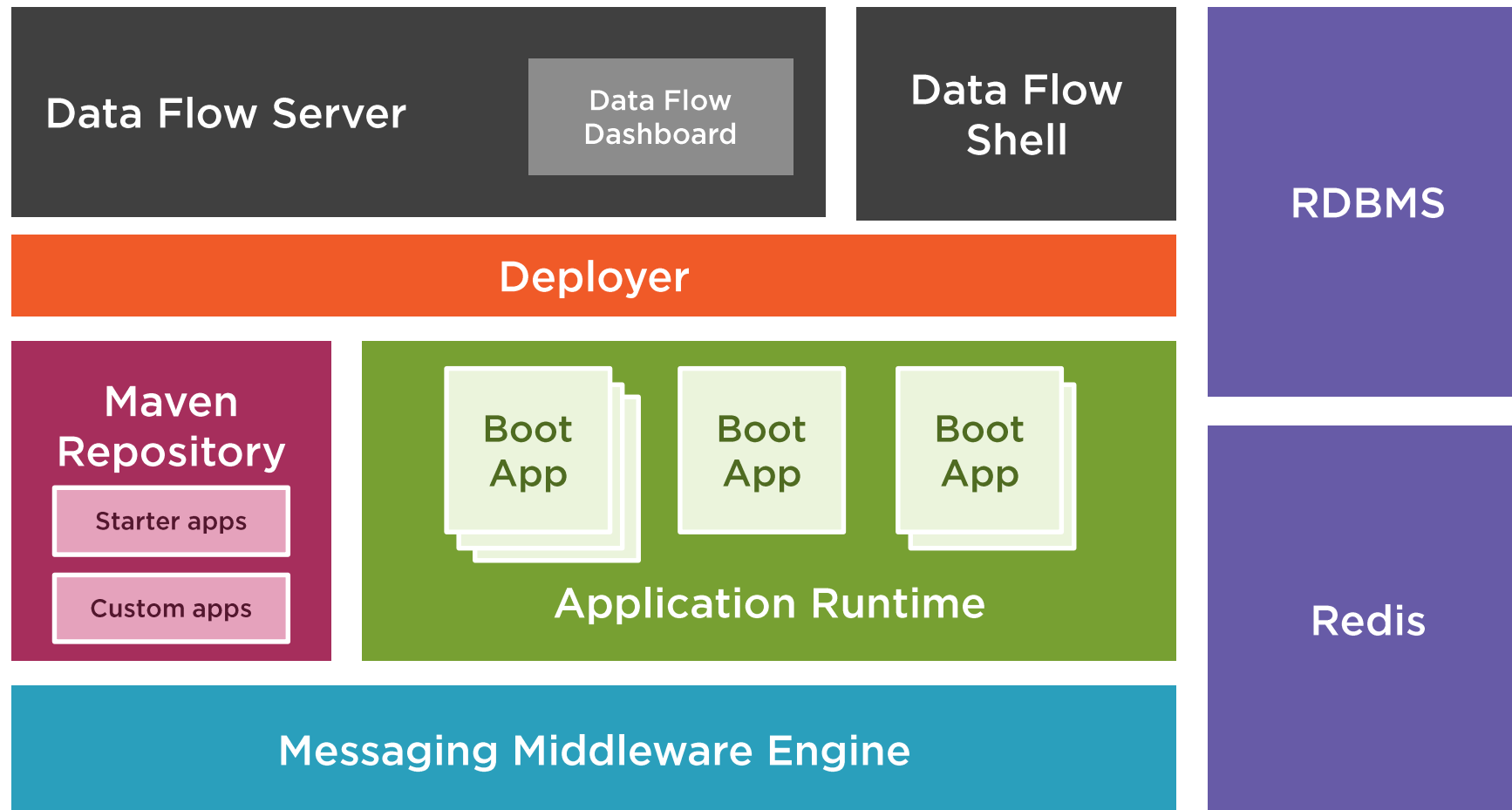


# Logical View of a Streaming Pipeline

## Stream



# Core Components of Spring Cloud Data Flow





# About the Data Flow Server

**Exposes REST  
endpoints**

**Executable jars for  
each target  
runtime**

**Change  
functionality via  
startup parameters**

**All features  
enabled by default**

**Multiple security  
options**

**Provides schemas  
for popular  
relational databases**



# Consider Streams vs. Tasks

## Streaming pipelines

Process “ceaseless” workloads

Built with Spring Cloud Stream

Instances always running

Run as event-driven, sequential process

Tap into streams

## Task pipelines

Process irregular workloads

Built with Spring Cloud Task

Instances started on-demand

Branching and conditional operations

Lifecycle hooks and task events emitted



# Where “Apps” Come From



Import Spring Cloud Stream App Starters and Spring Cloud Task App Starters.



Build custom stream or task apps.



All apps are standalone and can be created, unit-tested, and debugged in isolation.



# Installing Spring Cloud Data Flow

1

Ensure Java and  
Maven installed

2

Setup RDBMS  
and Redis

3

Stand up  
messaging  
middleware

4

Download and  
launch Server  
and Shell apps



# Demo



Configure RabbitMQ instance

Set up MySQL storage

Set up Redis

Download local Data Flow Server binaries

Download Data Flow shell

Start server and log in with shell



# About Stream Starter Apps



**Stream offers sources, processor, and sinks**

**Either Maven or Docker artifacts**

**Example sources: file, http, JDBC, Amazon S3, MongoDB, Gemfire, and Twitter**

**Example processors: filter, http client, PMML, transform, and splitter**

**Example sinks: counter, file, HDFS, log, Amazon S3, WebSocket, and JDBC**

**Regularly updated list of apps**



# Creating Streams with Spring Cloud Data Flow

Develop using  
DSL via REST API,  
shell, or Flo

DSL describes  
flow of data

Register one or  
more apps for use  
in streams

Pipe symbol (“|”)  
connects apps

Alter app behavior  
through whitelisted  
properties

Labels make it  
easy to tap,  
extend streams



# Stream DSL Examples

```
dataflow:> stream create --definition "file | filter | log" --  
name stream1
```





# Stream DSL Examples

```
dataflow:> stream create --definition "file --directory=/temp |  
filter | log" --name ps-stream
```



# Stream DSL Examples

```
dataflow:> stream create --definition "file --directory=/temp |  
alias: filter | log" --name ps-stream
```



# Stream DSL Examples

```
dataflow:> stream create --definition "file --directory=/temp |  
alias: filter | log" --name ps-stream
```

```
dataflow:> stream create --definition ":ps-stream.alias > log" --  
name ps-stream2
```



# Deploying Data Pipelines



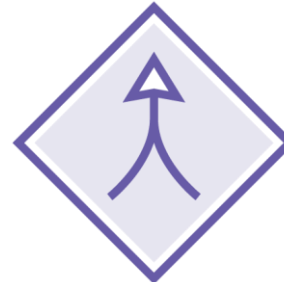
Runtime drives  
resource utilization



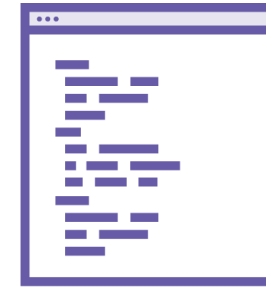
Data Flow sets  
required SCSt  
properties



Set instance count for  
apps



Configure partitioning  
support



Apply application and  
deployer properties



Stop and delete  
streams too



# Demo



Load Stream app starters into server

Create a streaming pipeline that takes in an HTTP request and sends data to a file

Test it!

Create a second pipeline that takes data from a file system, transforms it, and writes the result to another file



# Creating Tasks with Spring Cloud Data Flow

**Develop using  
DSL via REST API,  
shell, or Flo**

**Register one or  
more apps for use  
in tasks**

**Create a Task  
Definition from a  
Task app**

**When launched, can  
send properties as  
arguments**

**Task execution  
stored in  
repository**

**Options for  
launching tasks  
from streams**



# Demo



Load Task app starters into the server

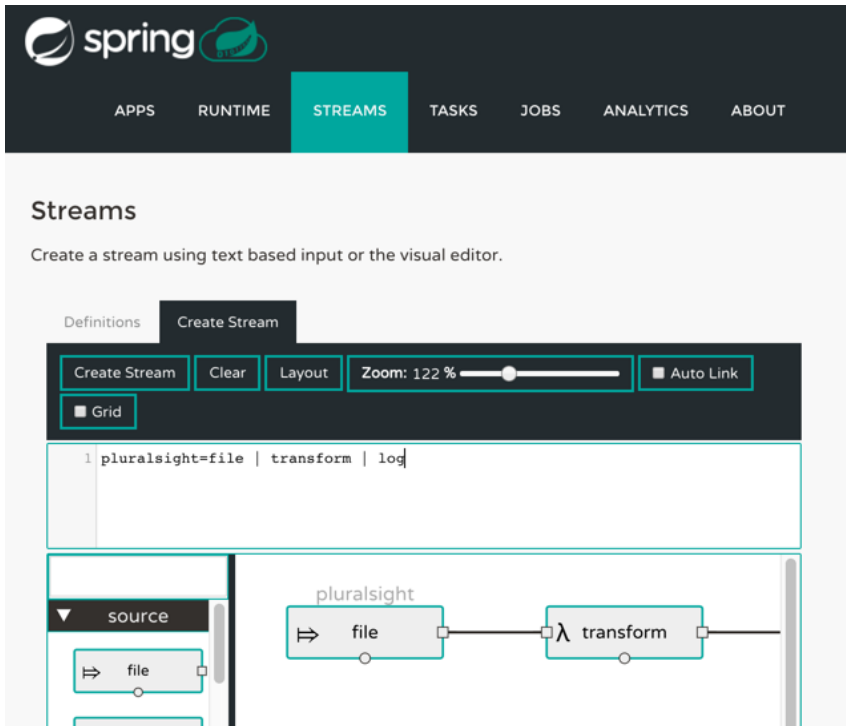
Create a new task

Launch the task

View the output, execution history



# Using the Dashboard and Flo



Browser-based GUI

Tabs for apps, runtime, streams, tasks, jobs, and analytics

Import apps in bulk

Visualize existing streams

Use Flo to visually create data pipelines

Get data visualization capabilities for apps that support it





# Demo



Browse Flo interface

Create a new stream pipeline that receives JSON from HTTP, splits, routes to log

Deploy with logs written to console

Add a tap to the stream



# Creating Custom Streaming or Task Apps



Create “regular” Spring Cloud Stream or Spring Cloud Task apps



Whitelist properties so that shell and UI can show them as options



Install module into local Maven repository



# Demo



Create a custom Stream application

Register the custom application

Build a streaming pipeline that uses the custom component

Deploy and test the application

Create an updated stream with partition processing



# Creating Composed Tasks

A directed graph  
where each node  
is a task app

Build via REST  
API, shell, Flo

Data Flow Server  
generates app for  
composed task

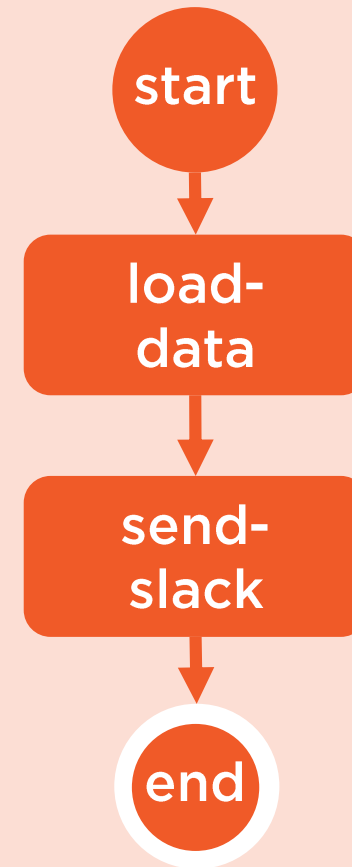
Executed by the  
Composed Task  
Runner app

Rich DSL with  
conditionals,  
parallel execution



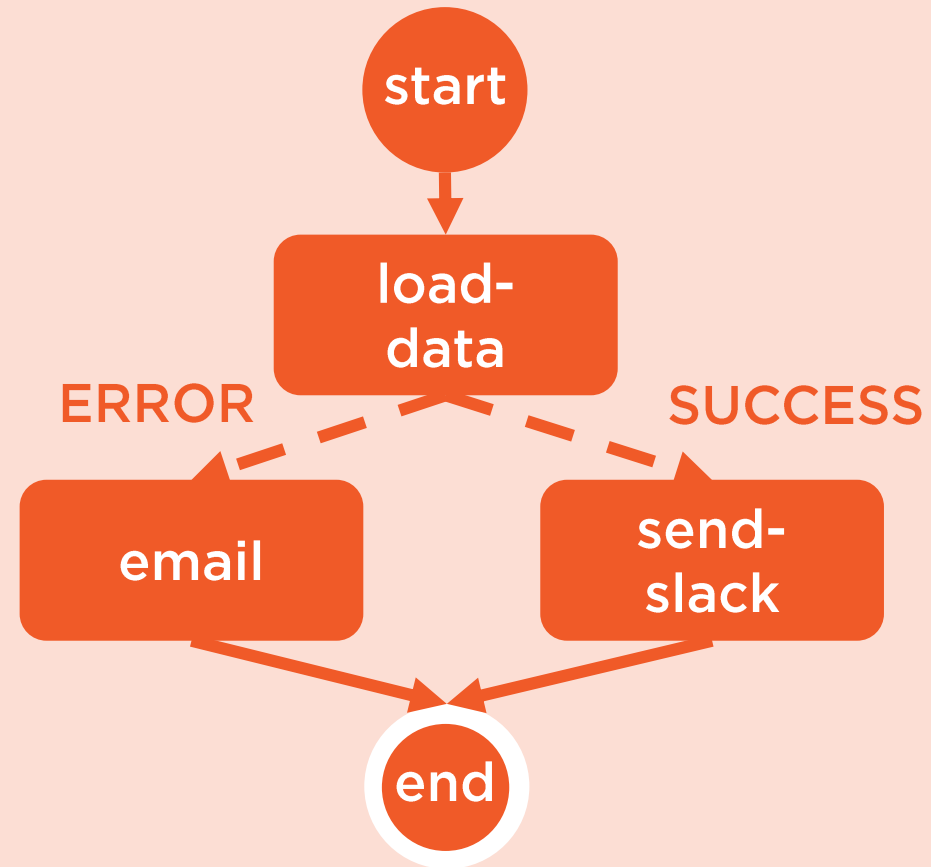
# Composed Task Examples

```
dataflow:> task create  
mytask --definition  
"load-data && send-  
slack"
```



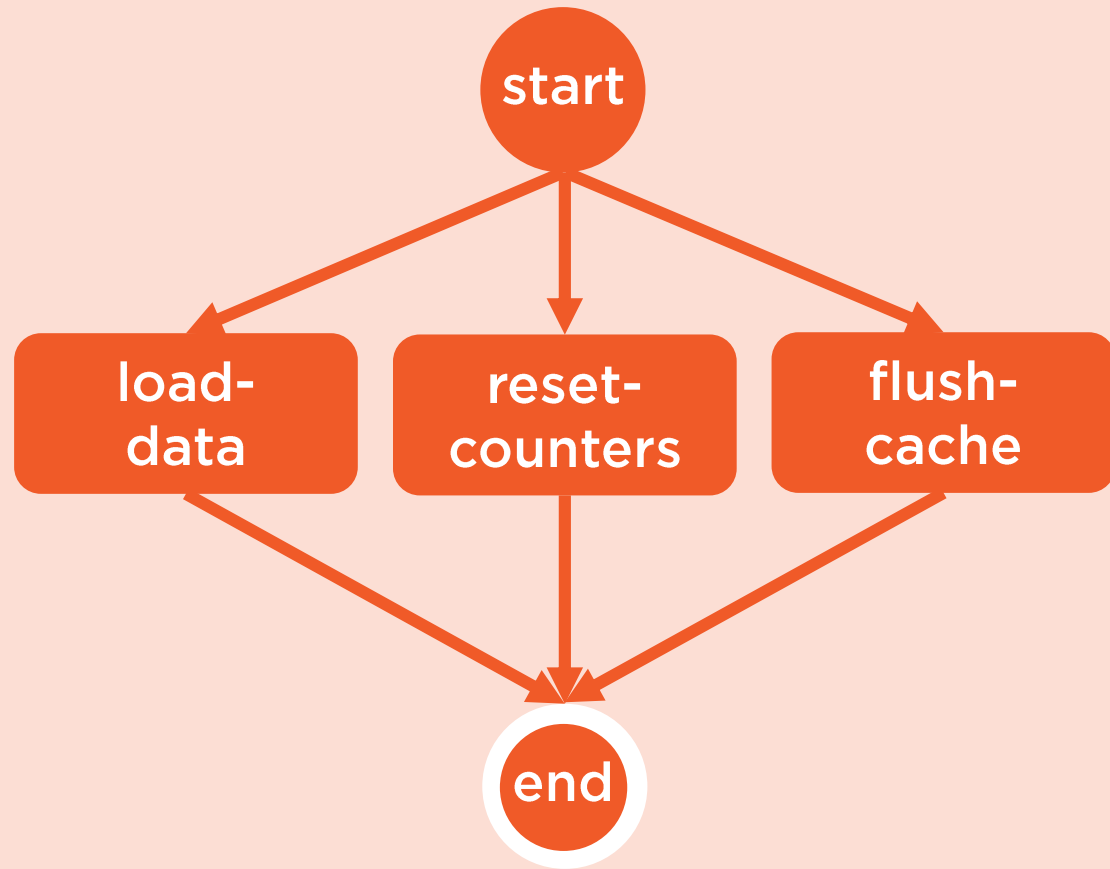
# Composed Task Examples

```
dataflow:> task create  
mytask --definition  
"load-data 'ERROR' ->  
email 'SUCCESS' ->  
send-slack"
```



# Composed Task Examples

```
dataflow:> task create  
mytask --definition  
"<load-data || reset-  
counters || flush-  
cache>"
```



# Demo



Create a custom task application

Register and execute that individual task

Register two pre-built task applications

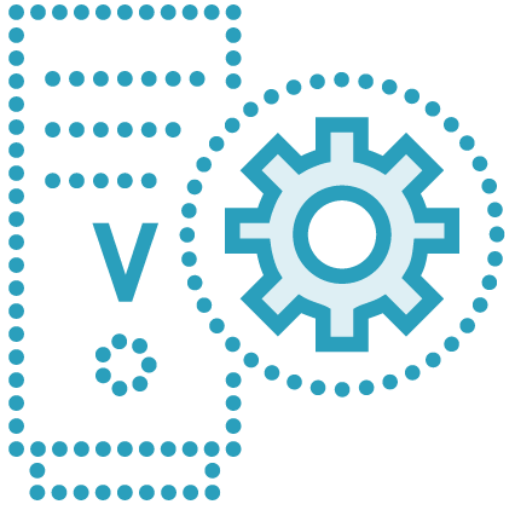
Create composed tasks

Execute and observe the results





# Monitoring Spring Cloud Data Flow Pipelines



Standard monitoring  
through Actuators

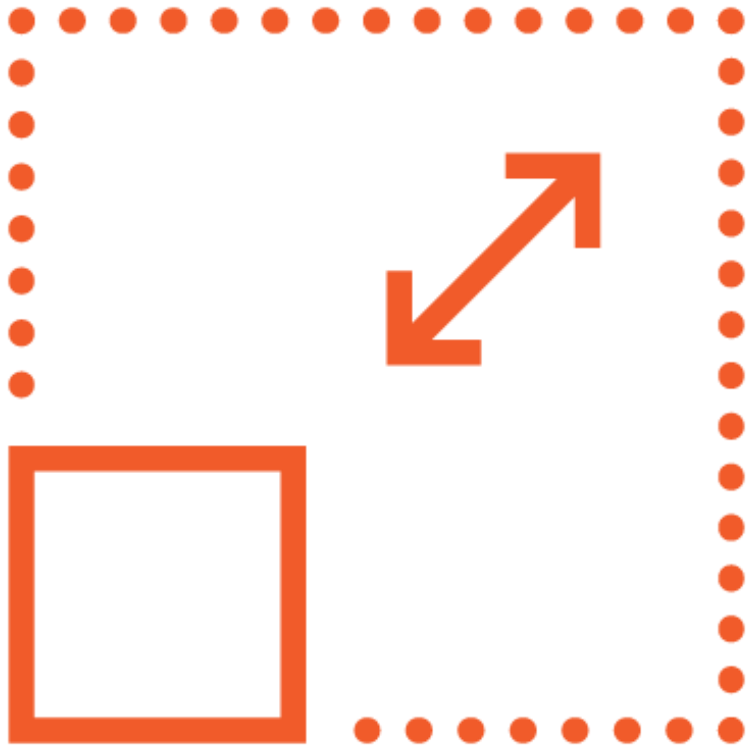


Sink applications that  
write counter data



Create Data Flow  
Streams to collect  
metrics

# Updating Apps, Streams, and Tasks



**Scale standard streams via target runtime**

**Cannot scale partitioned streams**

**Cannot scale apps that use Kafka 0.8 binder**

**Versioning not yet baked in**

**Many improvements coming in this area!**

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