

Final Presentation – Real-Time Big Data Processing 2024/2025

# Real-Time Analysis of Public GitHub Activity

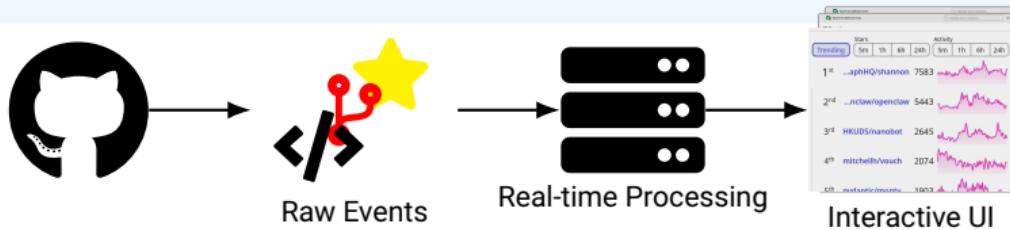
Roland Bernard

February 2026

# Application Domain

- ▶ Motivation and Context:
  - GitHub hosts millions of developers and repositories.
  - Generates large volumes of public events.
  - Most existing tools focus mainly on historical analysis.

- ▶ Project Objectives:
  - Collect GitHub events continuously.
  - Process data in real time.
  - Provide interactive dashboard.
  - Ensure low latency and reliability.



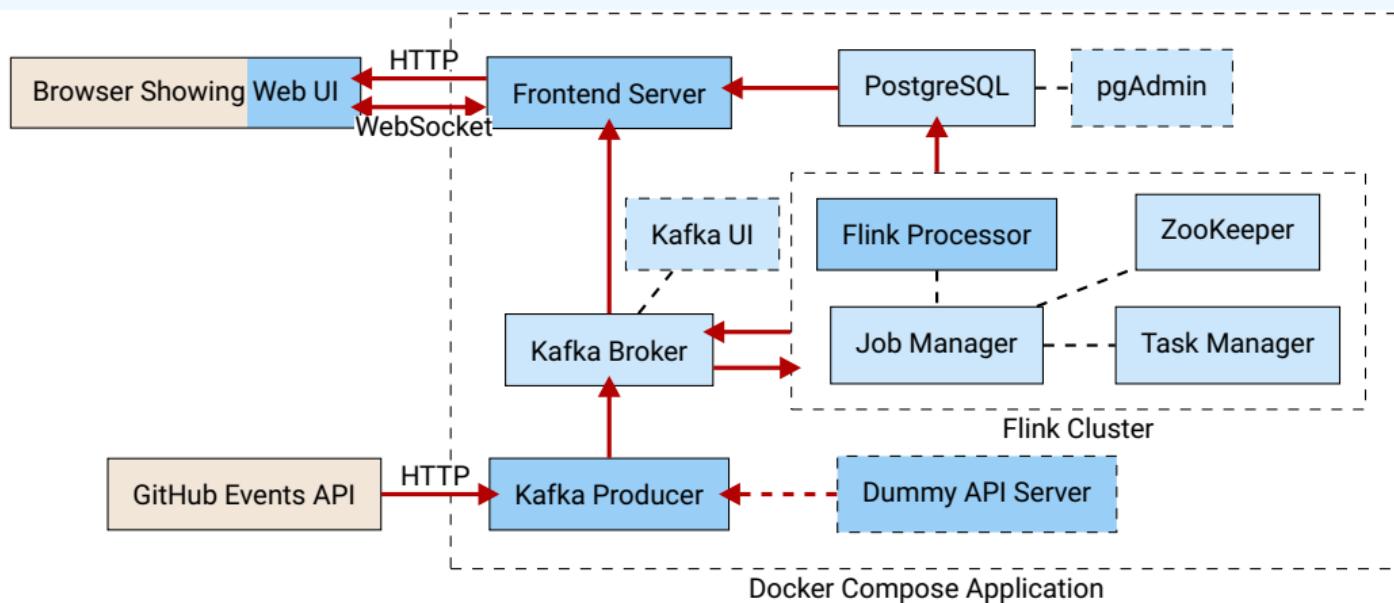
# Description of the Data Sources

- ▶ GitHub Events API:
  - Endpoint: <https://api.github.com/events>.
  - Up to 300 most recent public events in JSON format.
  - Rate limited, i.e., access token required.
- ▶ Key Properties:
  - Variety: many event types, e.g., push, issues, stars, etc.
  - Velocity: up to 120 events/sec, millions of events per day.
  - Veracity: out-of-order and delayed events.
  - Latency: API around 5 minutes behind real time.

```
{  
  "id": "8251545586",  
  "type": "PushEvent",  
  "actor": {  
    "id": 121951544,  
    "login": "movieflixgr",  
    "display_login": "movieflixgr",  
    "gravatar_id": "",  
    "url": "https://api.github.com/users/[REDACTED]",  
    "avatar_url": "https://avatars.githubusercontent.com/u/[REDACTED]?",  
  },  
  "repo": {  
    "id": 1126450259,  
    "name": "movieflixgr/Subtitles",  
    "url": "https://api.github.com/repos/[REDACTED]",  
  },  
  "payload": {  
    "repository_id": 1126450259,  
    "push_id": 30546526697,  
    "ref": "refs/heads/main",  
    "head": "d5e986993aa47729cb18a82ac9d1[REDACTED]",  
    "before": "6bf91f2d0600084cc7218c1934[REDACTED]",  
  },  
  "public": true,  
  "created_at": "2026-02-08T20:09:50Z"  
}
```

# System Architecture

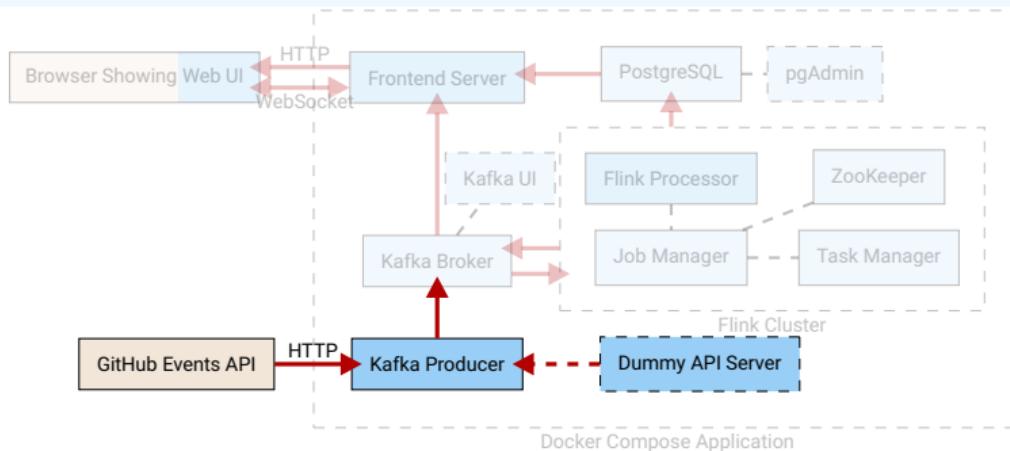
- ▶ Technology Stack:
  - Backend: Java + Maven; RxJava; Apache Kafka; Apache Flink; PostgreSQL + TimescaleDB
  - Frontend: Single Page Application with React + TypeScript; Vite; Recharts; RxJS
  - Deployment: Docker and Docker Compose



# System Architecture – Data Ingestion

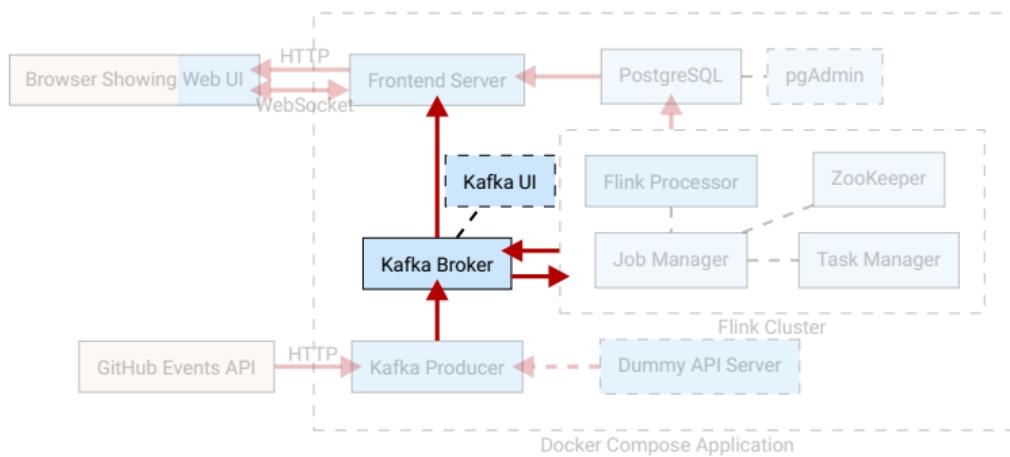
- ▶ Kafka Producer:
  - Polls GitHub API periodically, respecting rate limits.
  - Retrieves overlapping windows, then deduplicates events.
  - Publishes deduplicated events to Kafka topic.

- ▶ Testing Mode:
  - Dummy API server to simulate real GitHub API with configurable throughput.



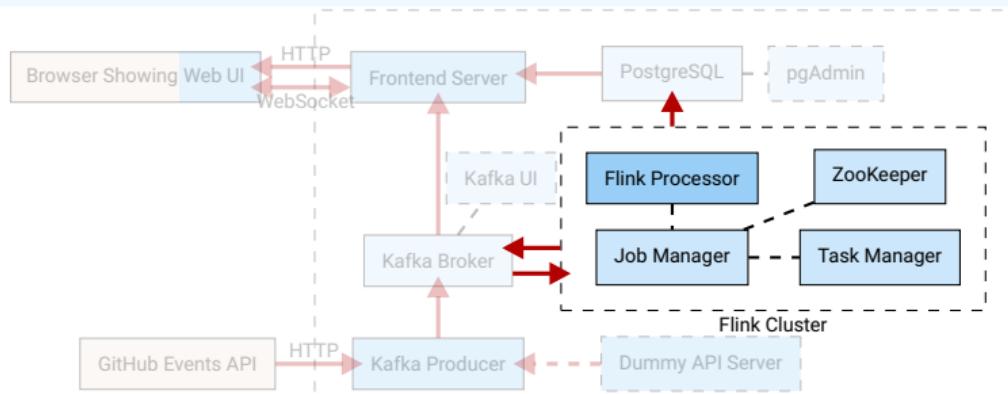
# System Architecture – Messaging

- ▶ Apache Kafka:
  - Decouples the ingestion from the processing.
  - Decouples the processing from the frontend.
  - Kafka message retention enables restarting Flink job without losing events.



# System Architecture – Stream Processing

- ▶ Core Processing Tasks:
  - Retrieve raw events from Kafka and parse JSON.
  - Event-time processing using Watermarks with 10s maximum out-of-orderness.
  - Writes results to PostgreSQL and Kafka.
  
- ▶ Windowed Aggregations:
  - Tumbling windows with 10s and 5min window sizes.
  - Custom sliding windows with 5min, 1h, 6h, and 24h length, updated every second.



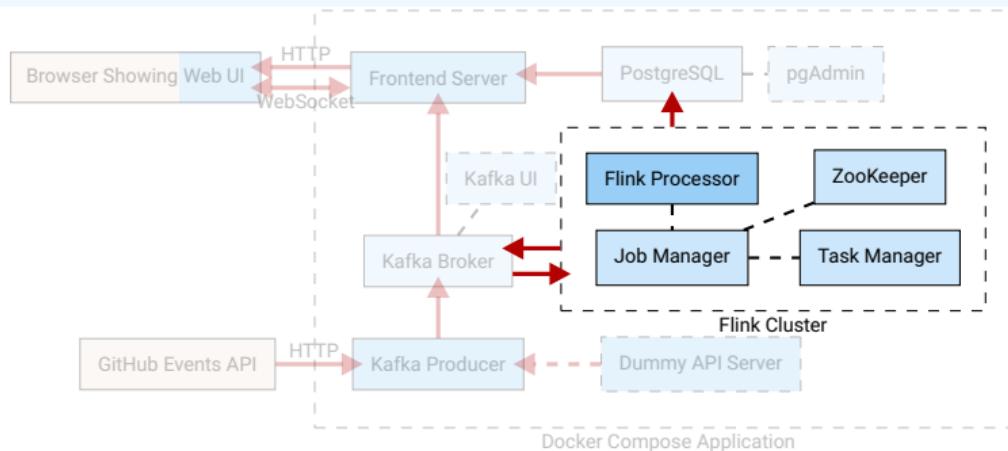
# System Architecture – Stream Processing

- ▶ Leaderboards:

- User and repository activity ranking.
- Based on latest values from sliding window aggregations.
- Optimization: Emits only changed rows and frontend reconstructs ranking.

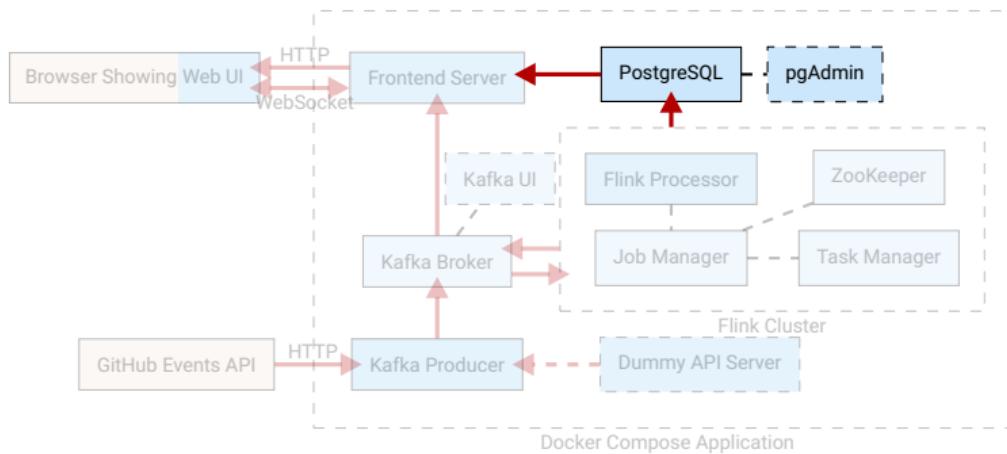
- ▶ Trending Score:

- Weighted sum of recent stars:  $t_{\text{score}} = 10s_{5m} + 5s_{5h} + 2s_{6h} + s_{24h}$ .



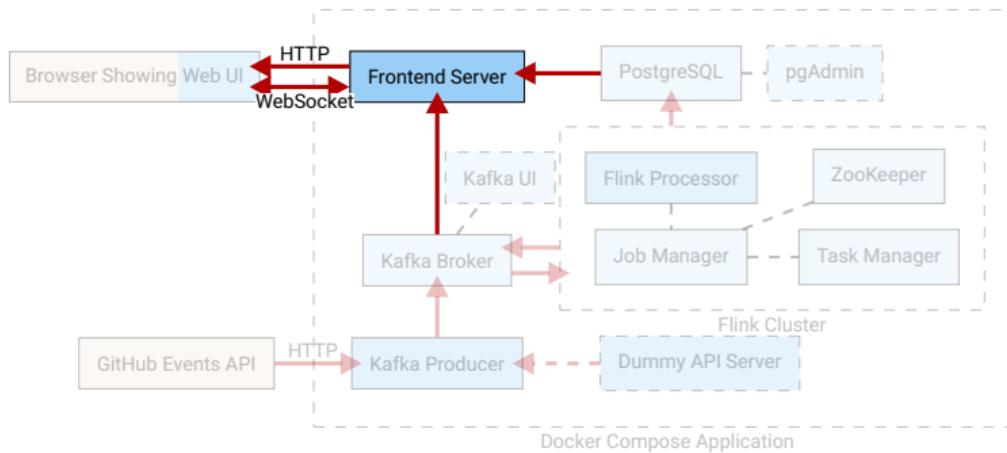
# System Architecture – Storage

- ▶ PostgreSQL + TimescaleDB:
  - Persistent storage for results of Flink processor.
  - Handles queries for initial snapshot and historical data.
  - Makes use of TimescaleDB hypertables and retention policy.
  - Database commit before Kafka publish to ensure consistency.



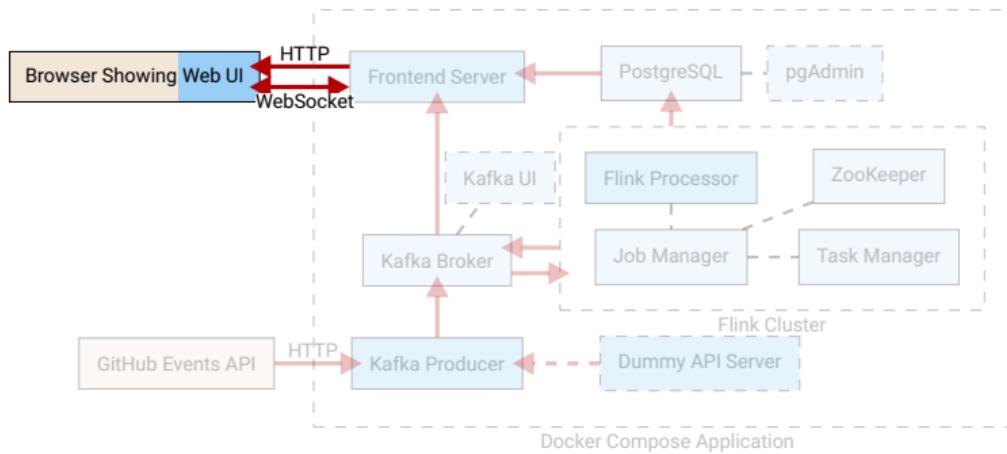
# System Architecture – Data Serving

- ▶ Frontend Server:
  - HTTP server for serving static files of the client web application.
  - WebSocket server to serve API.
  - Combines database queries for snapshots and Kafka streams for real-time updates.
  - Manages client subscriptions to route events received from Kafka.



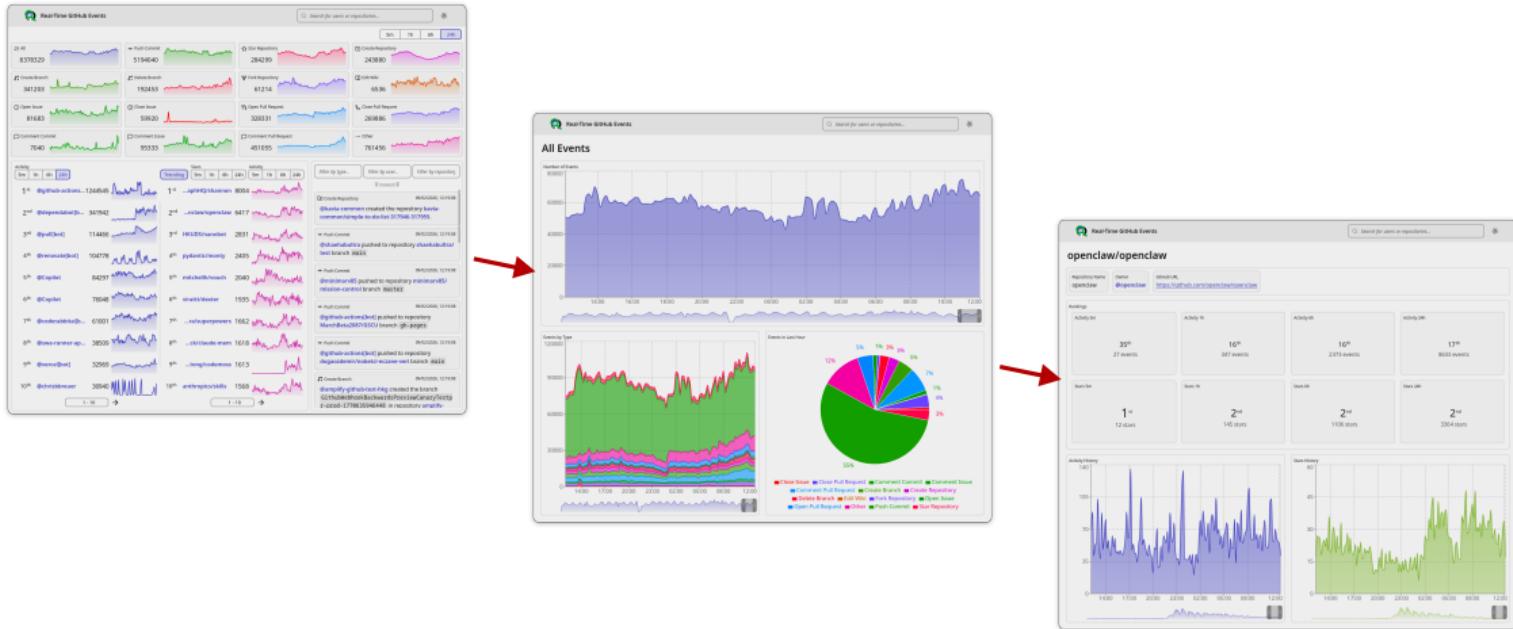
# System Architecture – Frontend

- ▶ Web Application:
  - A filterable live event stream.
  - WebSocket server to serve API.
  - Real-time counters for event volumes.
  - User and repository leaderboards.



# Functionalities and Demo

- ▶ Live Demo: <https://rtgh.rolandb.com>



# Conclusion

- ▶ Successes:
  - Robust architecture able to handle 70-120 events per second.
  - Docker and Docker Compose simplifies deployment.
  - Responsive UI with leaderboards and charts updated in real-time.
- ▶ Challenges:
  - Real-time rankings and long sliding window efficiency.
  - API changes made by GitHub reduced information.
  - Debugging Flink operator logic and state management.
- ▶ Future Improvements:
  - More advanced models to detect trending repositories.
  - Social media integration to see where repositories or users are mentioned.
  - Sentiment analysis on the text content of certain event types.

