

Beyond the distributed monolith

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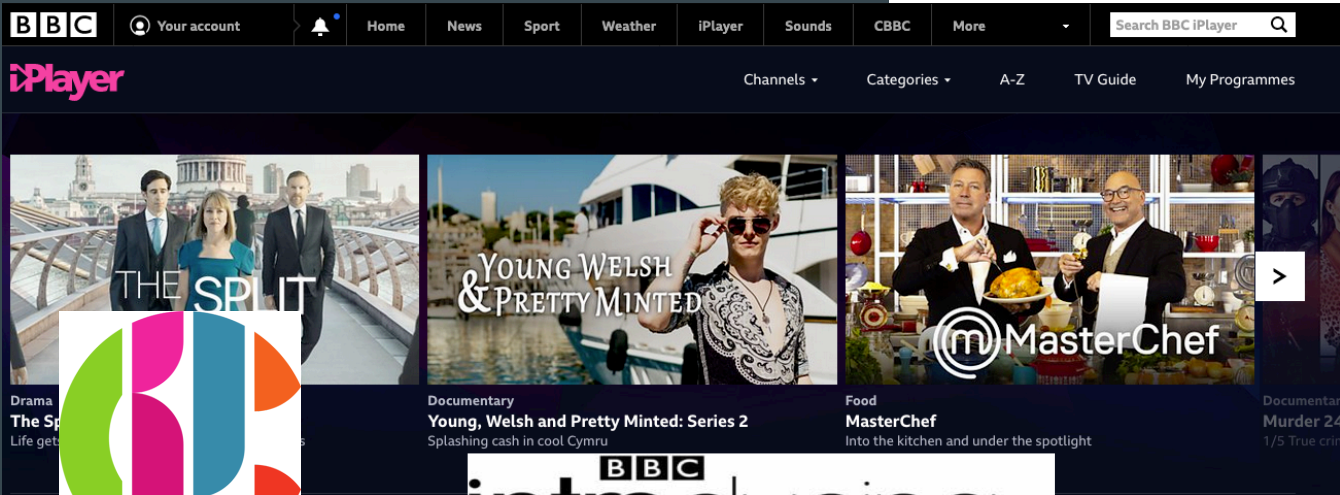
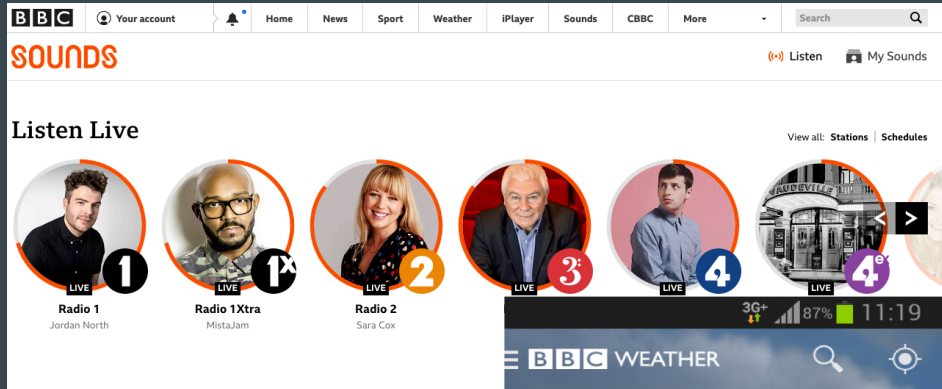
Blanca Garcia Gil
Principal Systems Engineer, BBC
 @blanquish



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A more
personal
BBC





Why?

Privacy promise

A more
personal
BBC for you

A better
BBC for
everyone

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/usingthebbc/privacy-promise>

The acceptable face of personalisation

Dr Who

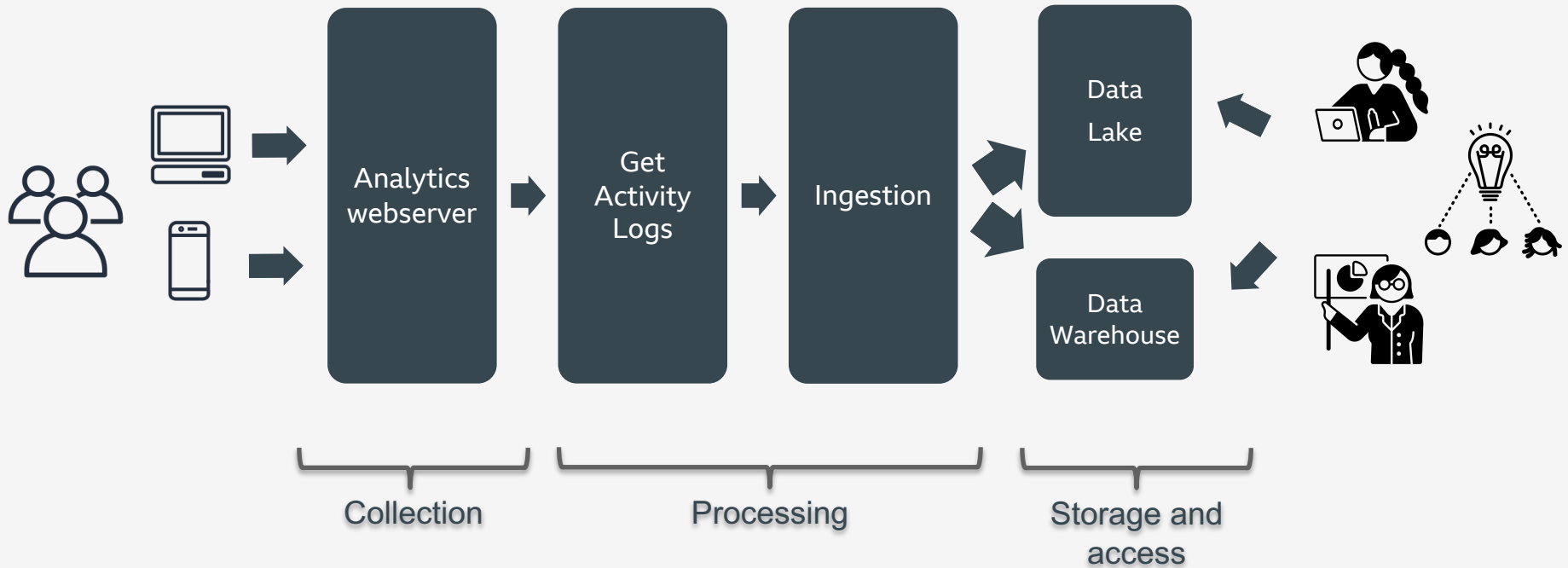


Daleks

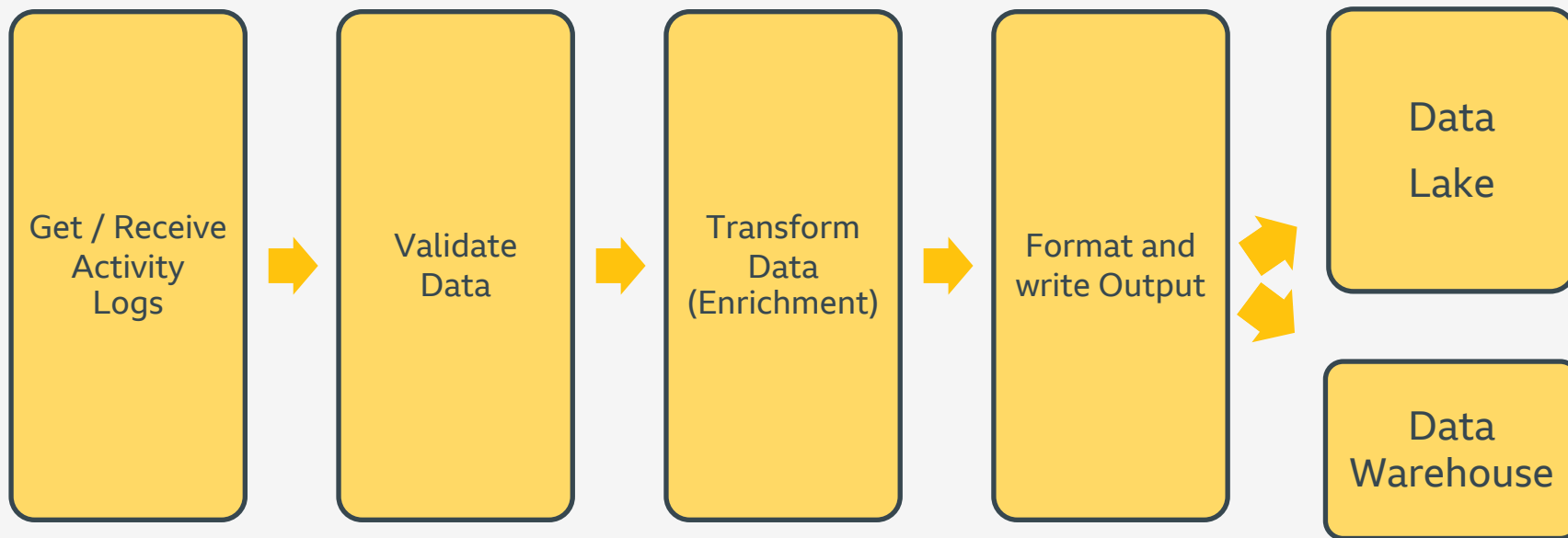


2. How does analytics processing work?

Typical data analytics end to end pipeline

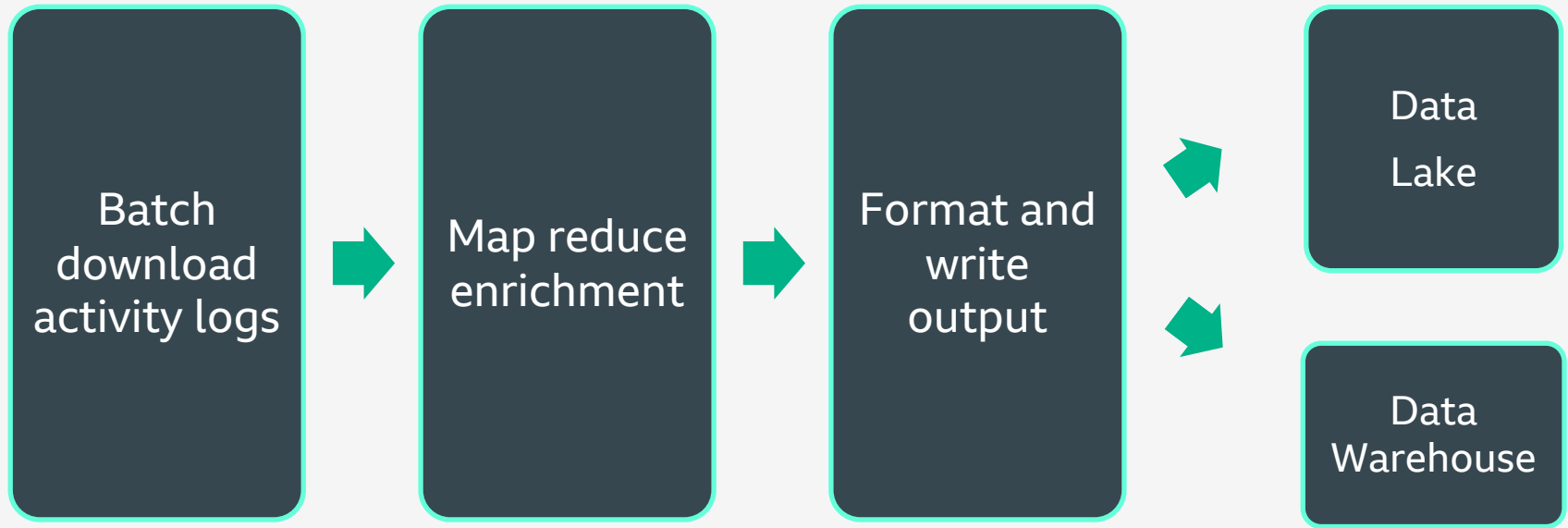


Typical data analytics ingestion flow

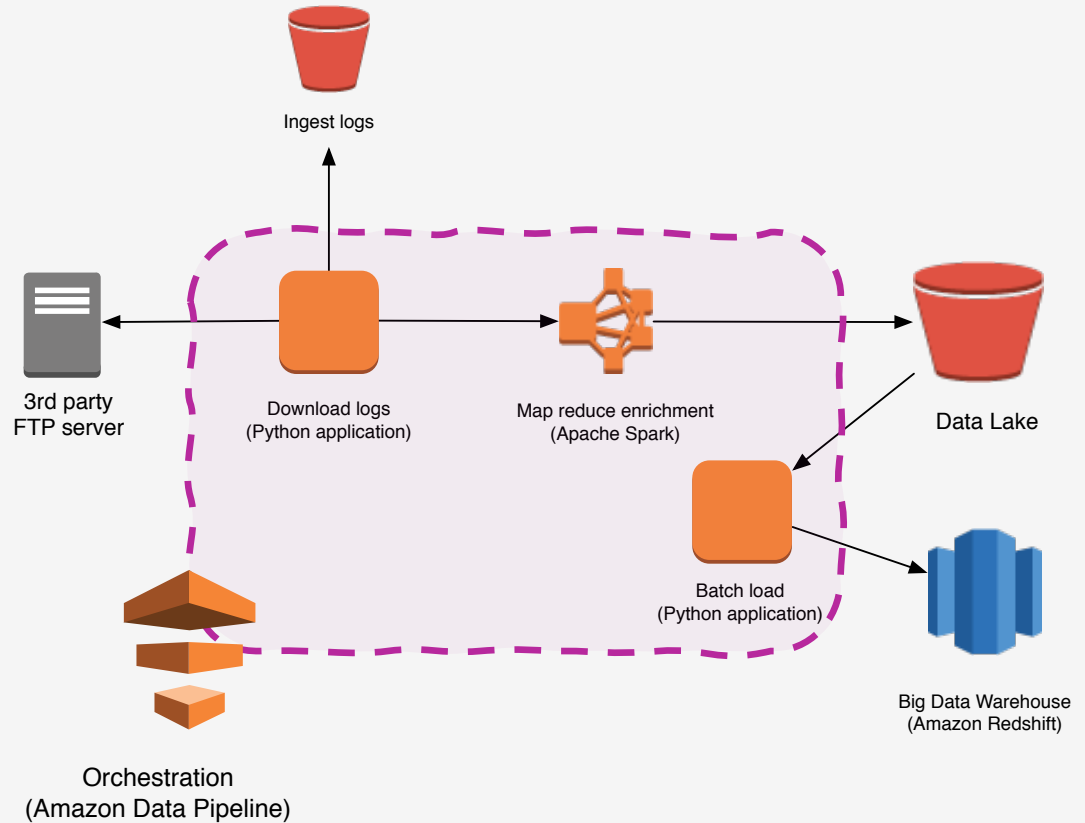


3. The distributed monolith and lessons learnt

How our data analytics pipeline architecture was



How our data analytics pipeline architecture was



Microservices + Big Data

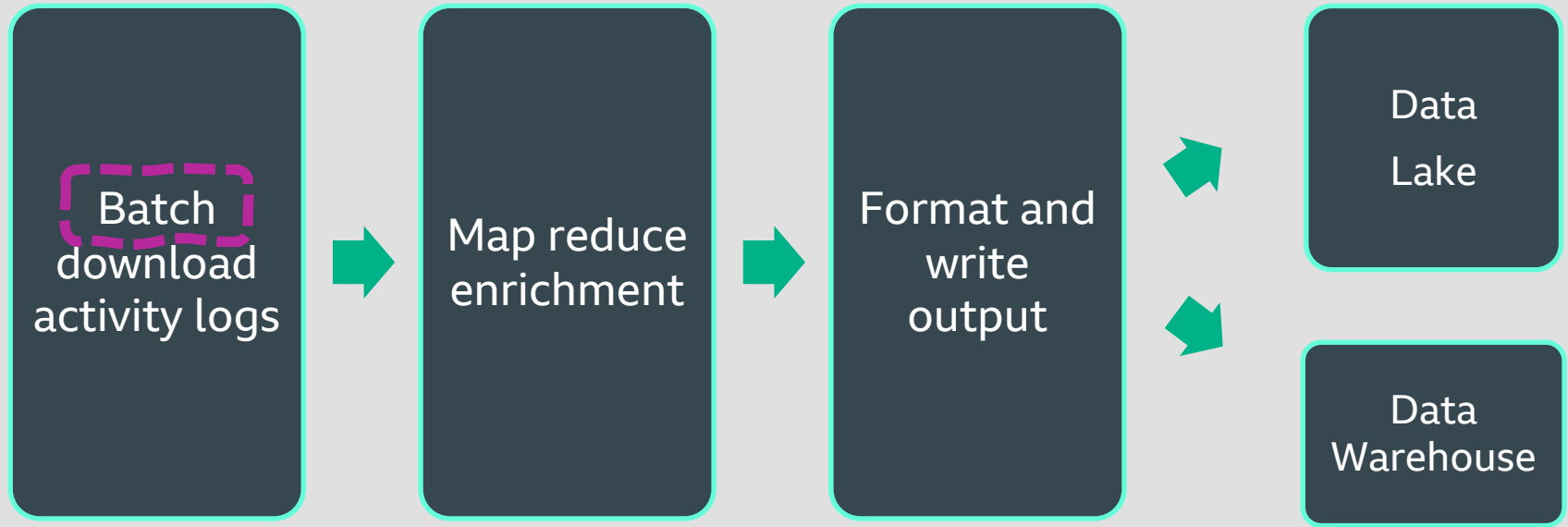
Highest scale data
pipeline within our team

Billions of
messages
per day

Peta byte
scale data
lake

Lessons learnt

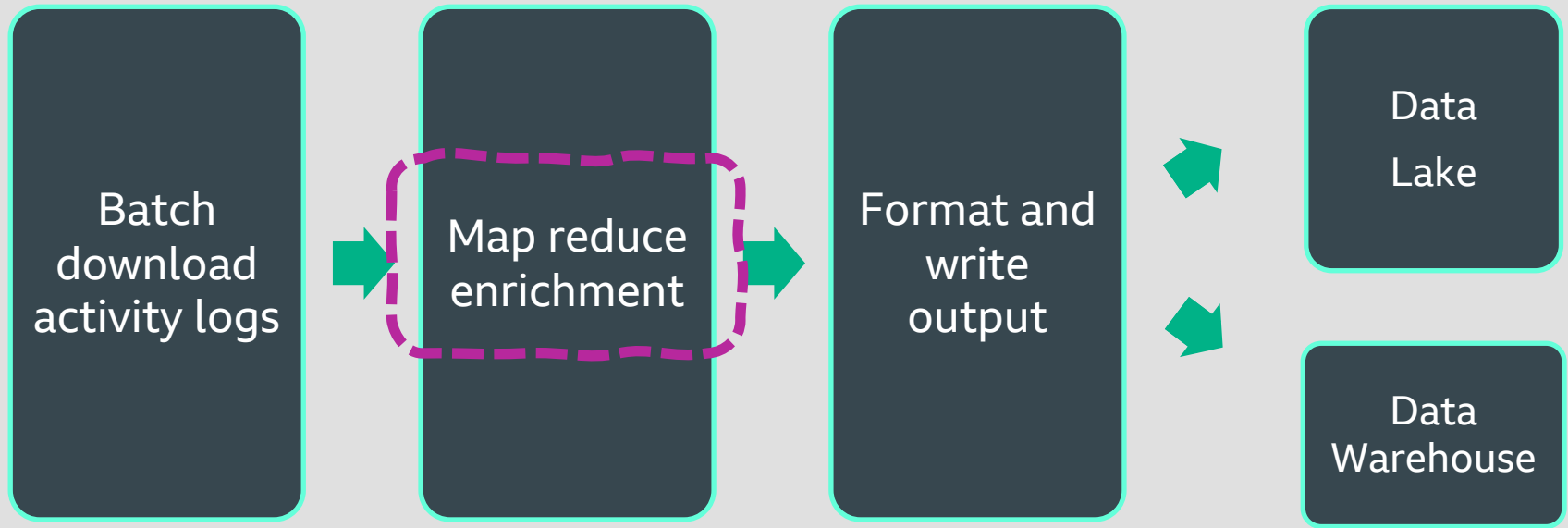
Lesson #1: batch processing





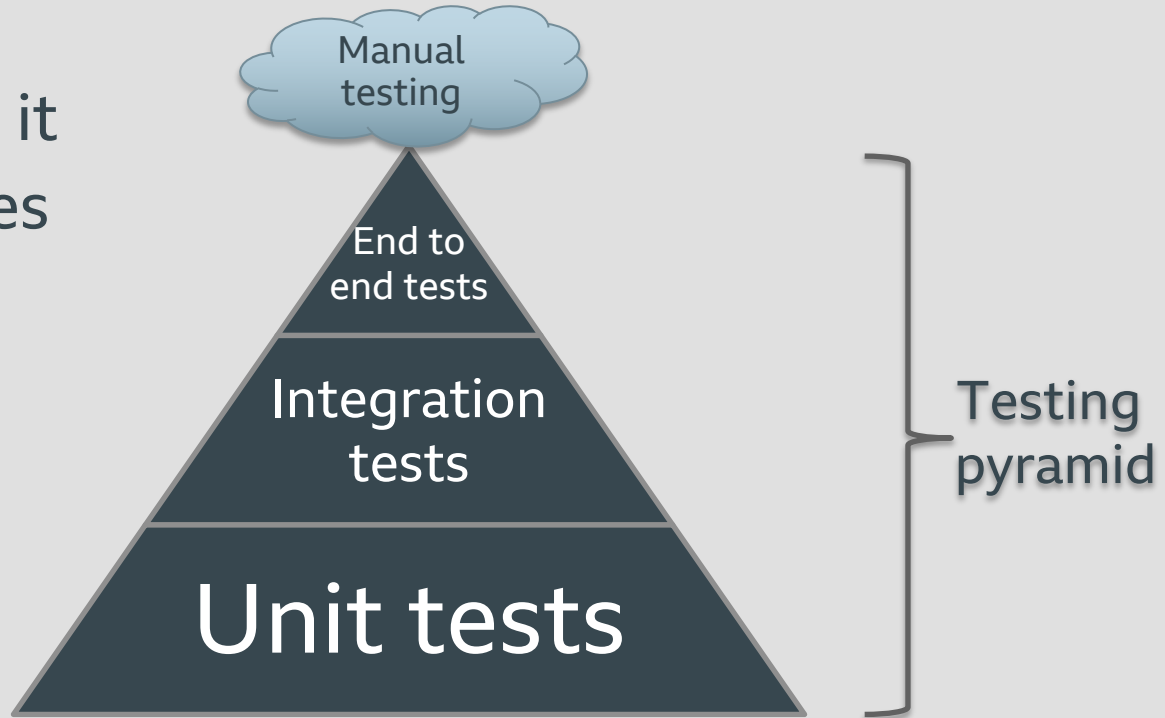
Finding needles

Lesson #2: validating input and testing

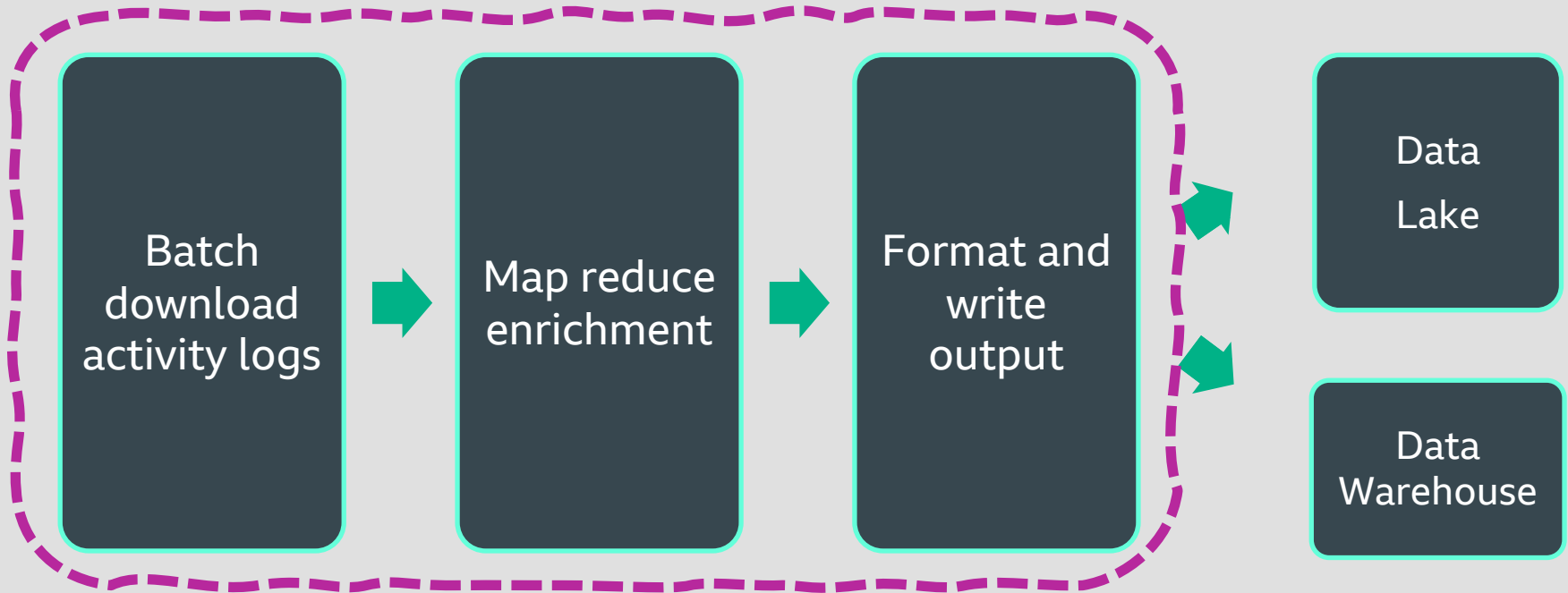


Testing

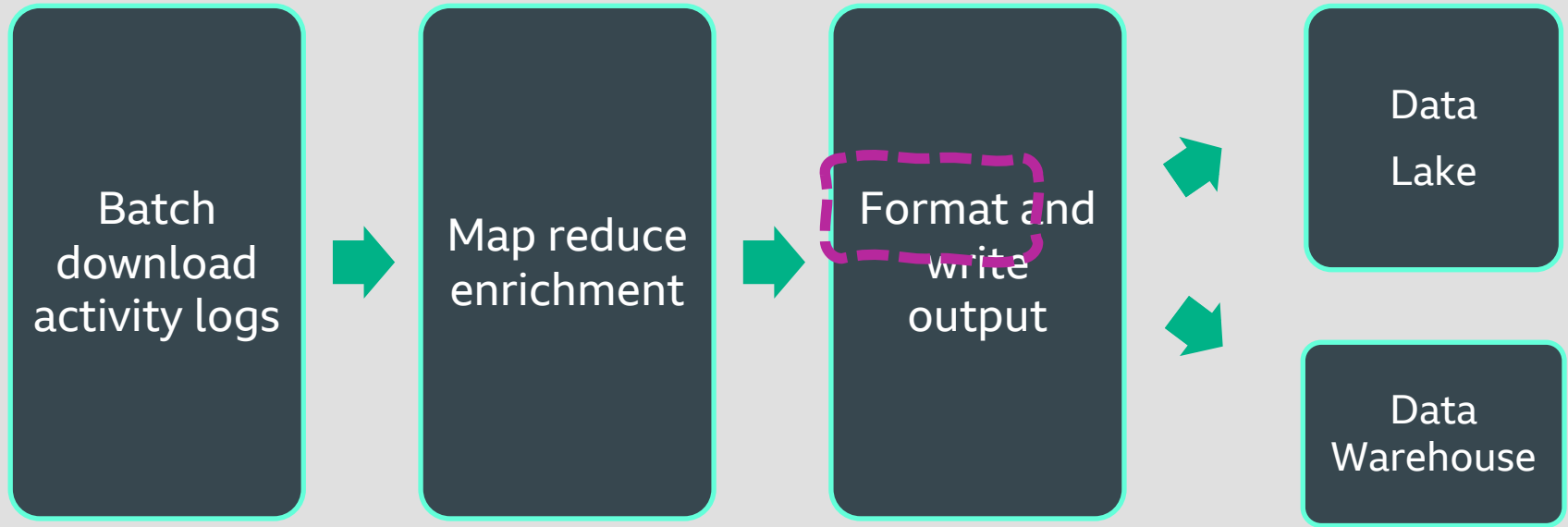
Very few tests made it hard to make changes to the code with confidence



Lesson #3: tight coupling



Lesson #3: tight coupling



Lesson #4: Monitoring

Is every alert worth
your team being
interrupted?

Lesson #5: understanding our traffic patterns

Big News Days



Data volume is
ever increasing



Lesson #6: Cost effective solution



Lesson #7:
Getting feedback
from our internal
users

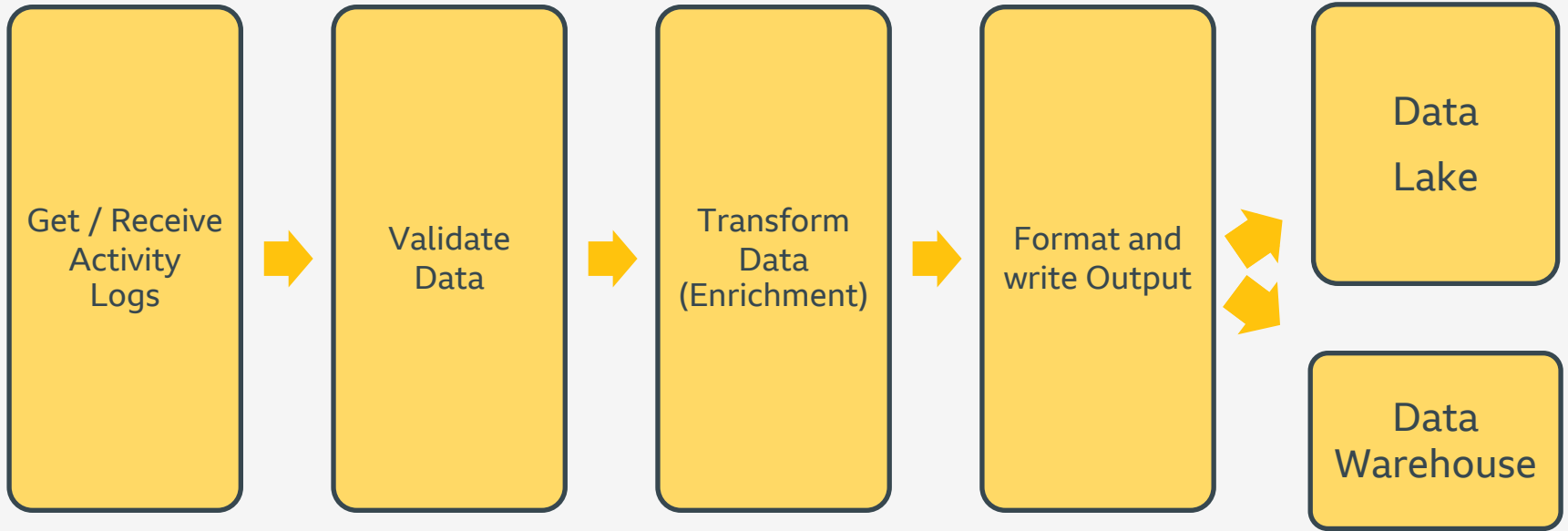


4. Designing a new analytics ingestion architecture

“Small, autonomous services
that work together, modelled
around a business domain”

Definition of microservices from
“Building microservices” book by
Sam Newman

Revisiting the typical data analytics ingestion flow



Smaller problems to solve

Squads to focus on each bounded context:

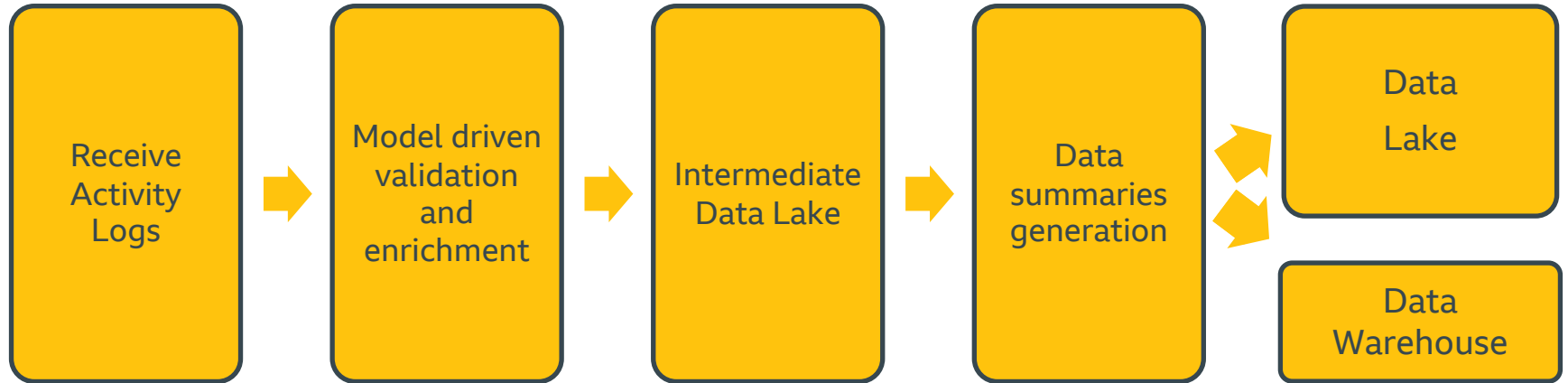
1. Receiving activity logs and keeping track of the data received
2. Model driven validation, enrichment and transformation to columnar format
3. Data aggregations (summaries) based on users' needs to make easier getting value from the data

Different approaches to testing

Auto generated data
(load testing)

Production-like data
(quality)

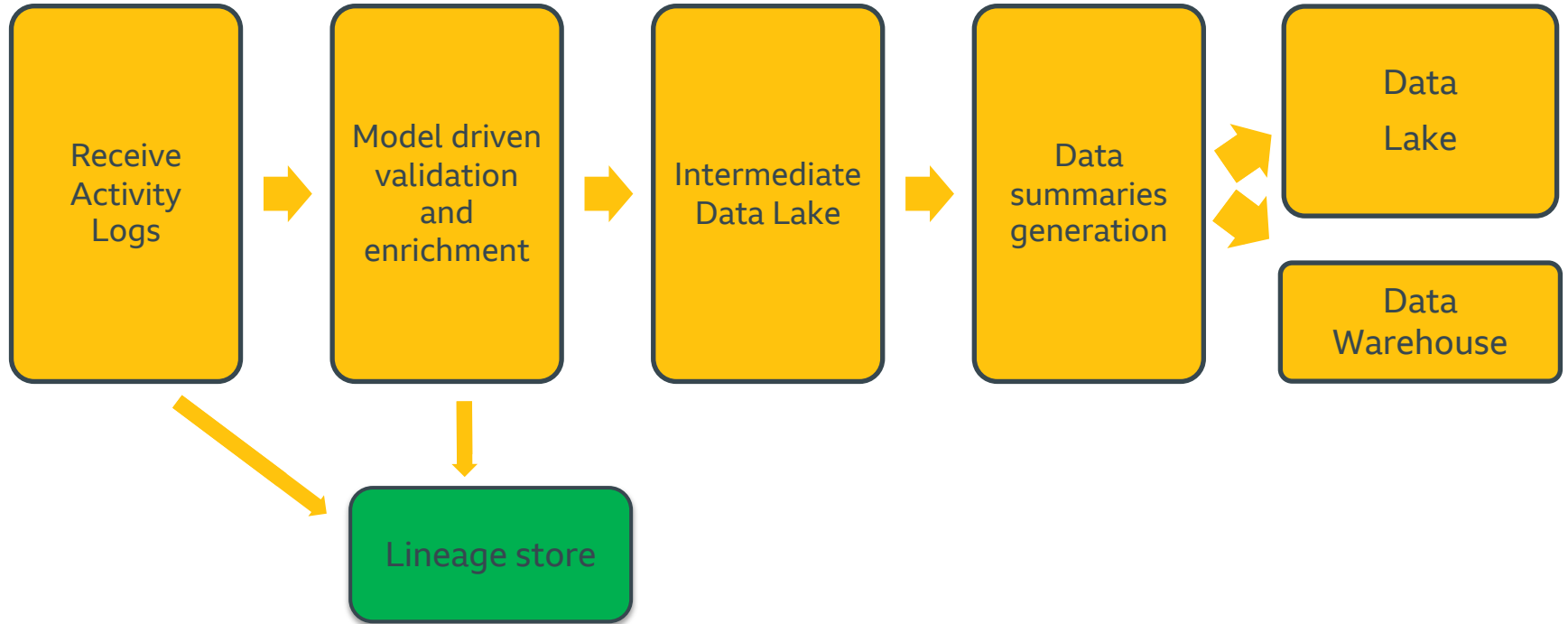
New pipeline architecture



Keeping track of the data

Introduced a lineage
store

New pipeline architecture

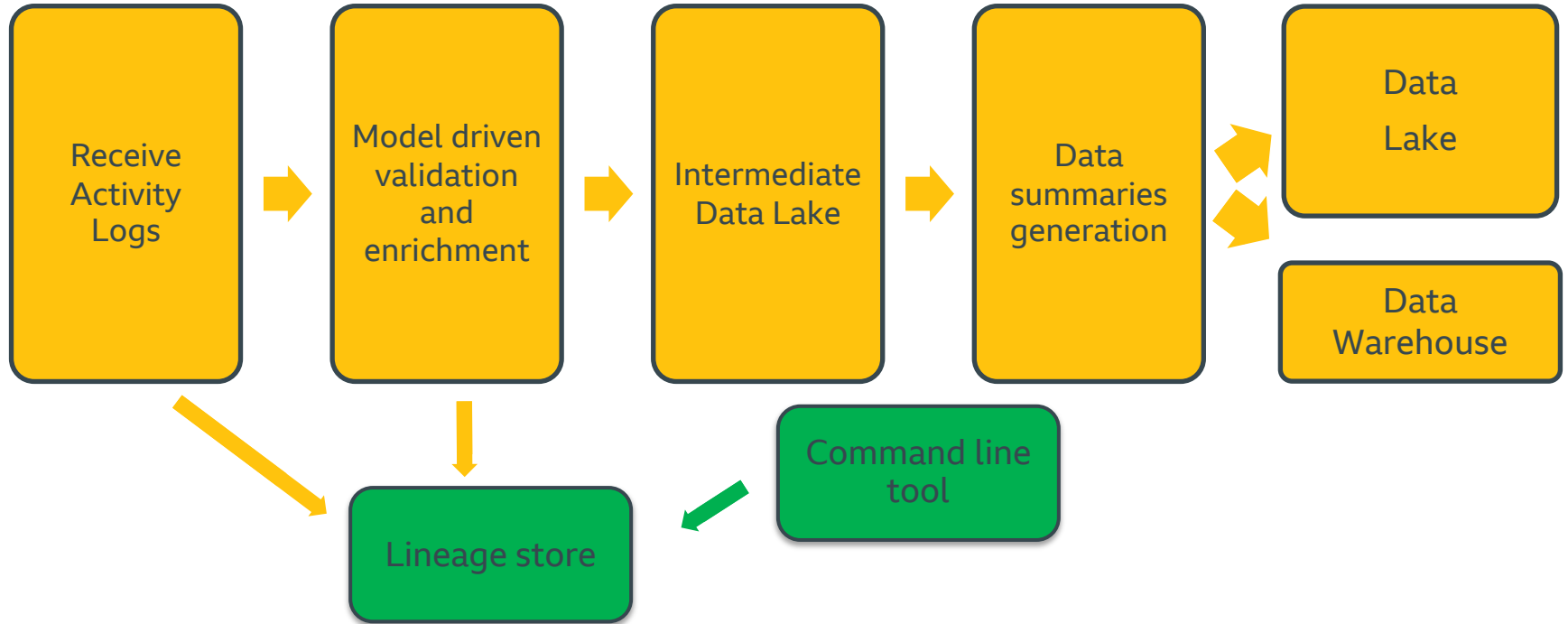


Operating the new architecture

Minimize the knowledge
needed to be able to
share the operational
load within the team

 command line tools

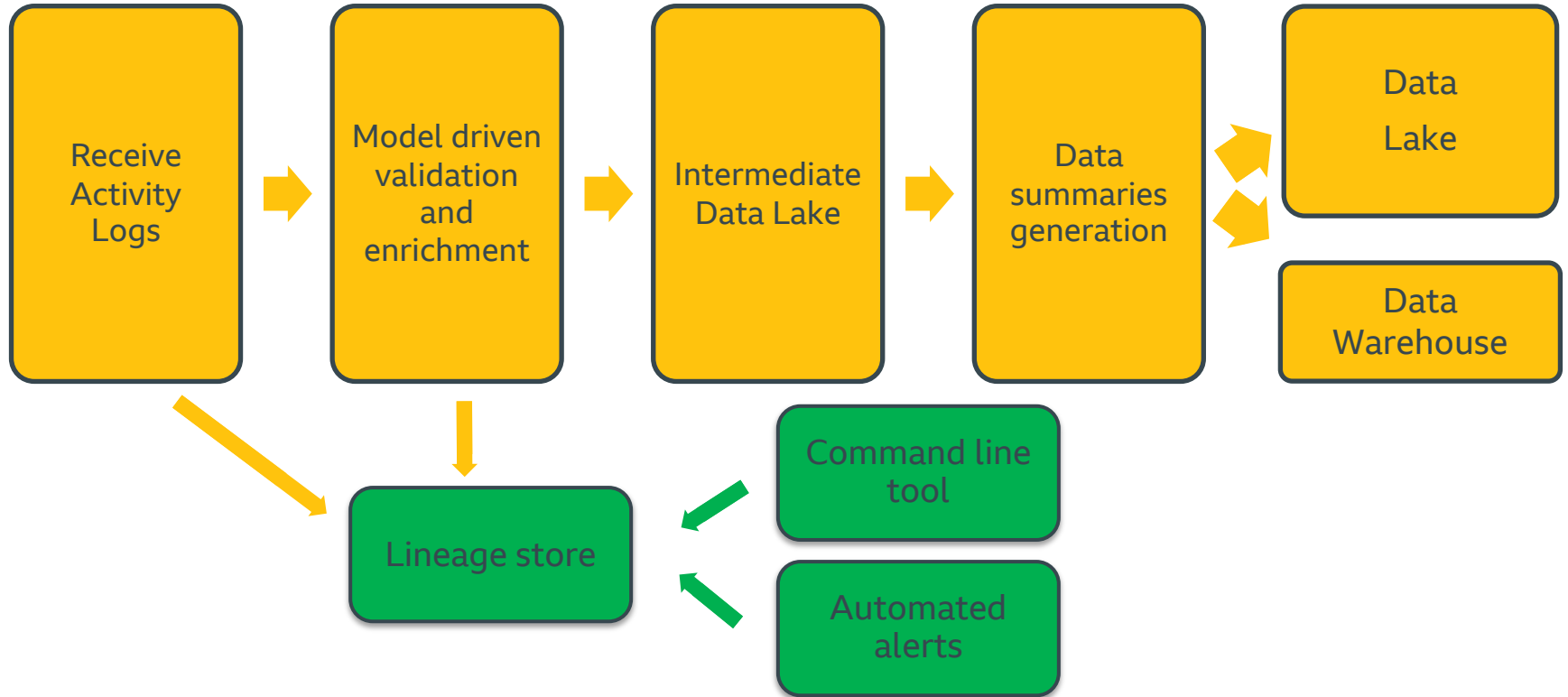
New pipeline architecture



Operating the new architecture

Alerting on missing
data

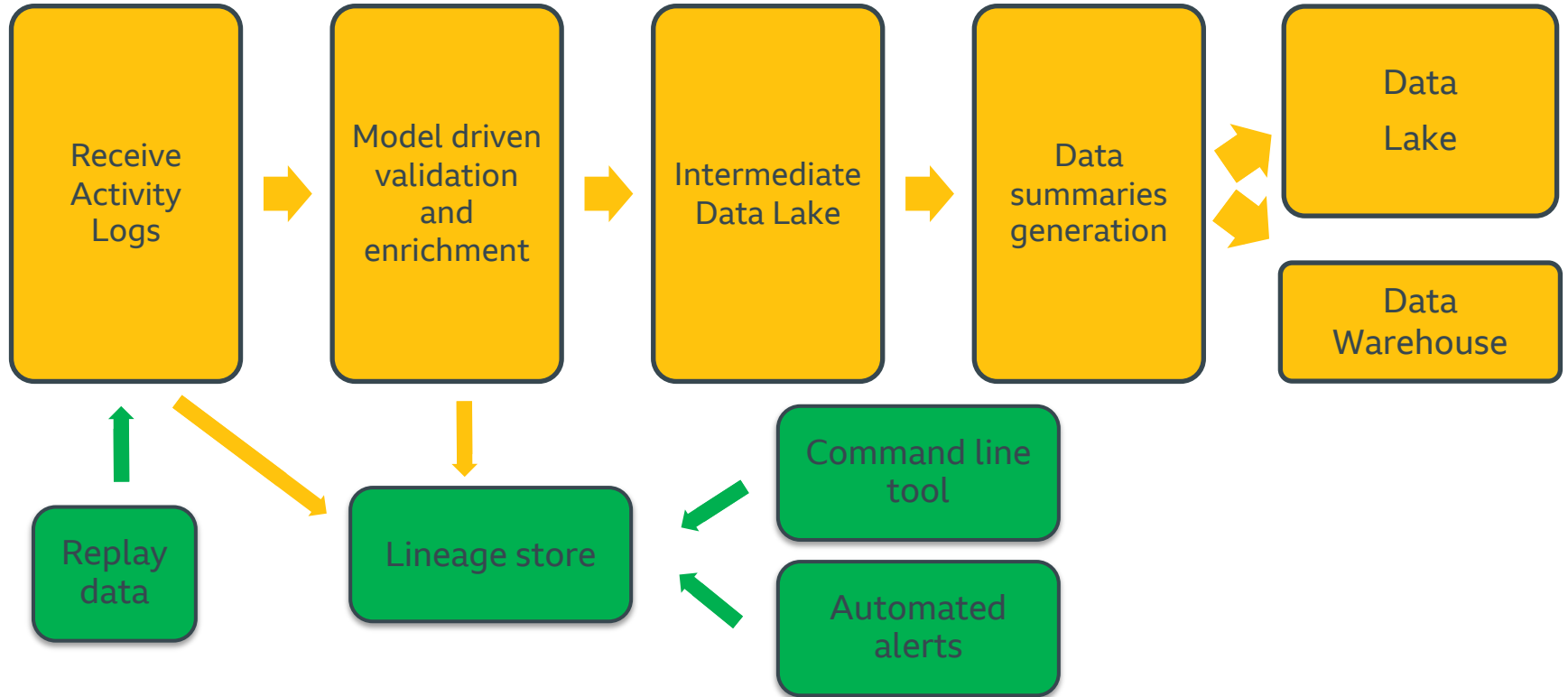
New pipeline architecture



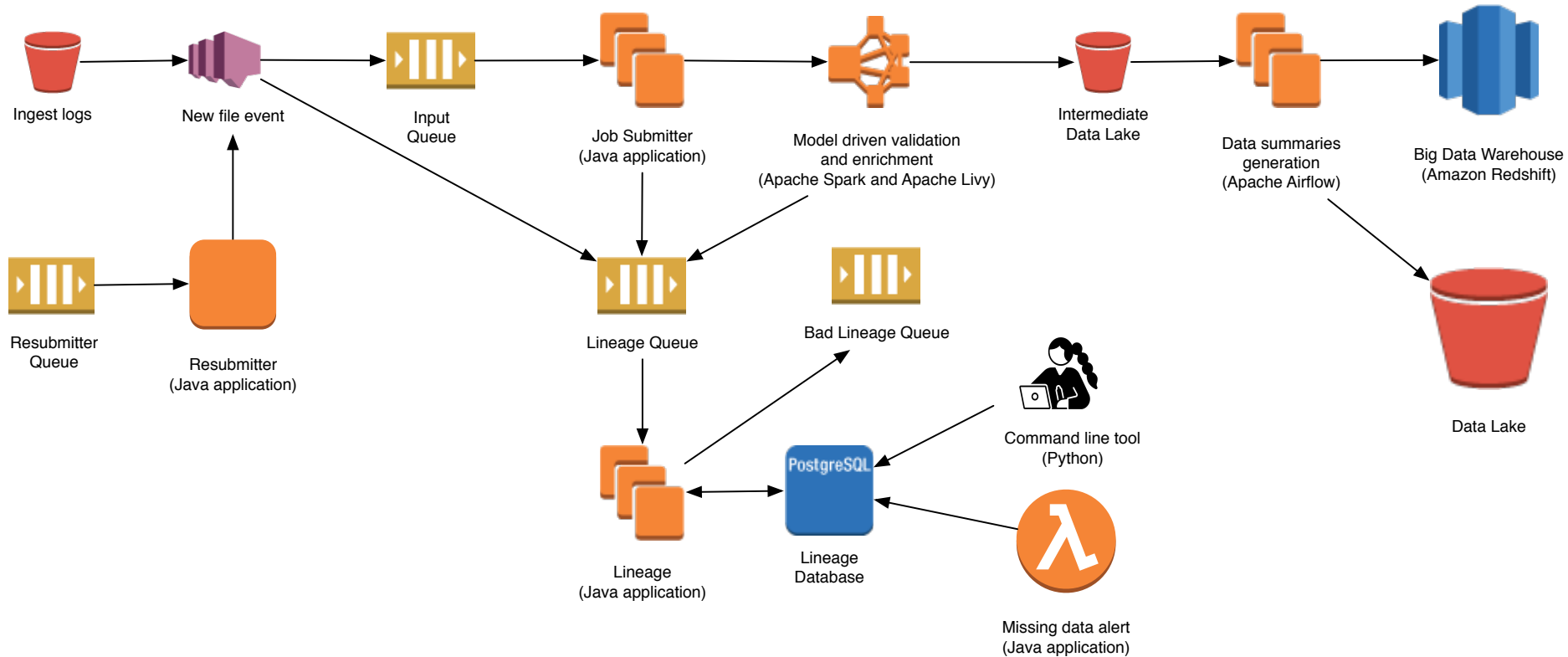
Operating the new architecture

Replaying data
without stopping
everything else

New pipeline architecture



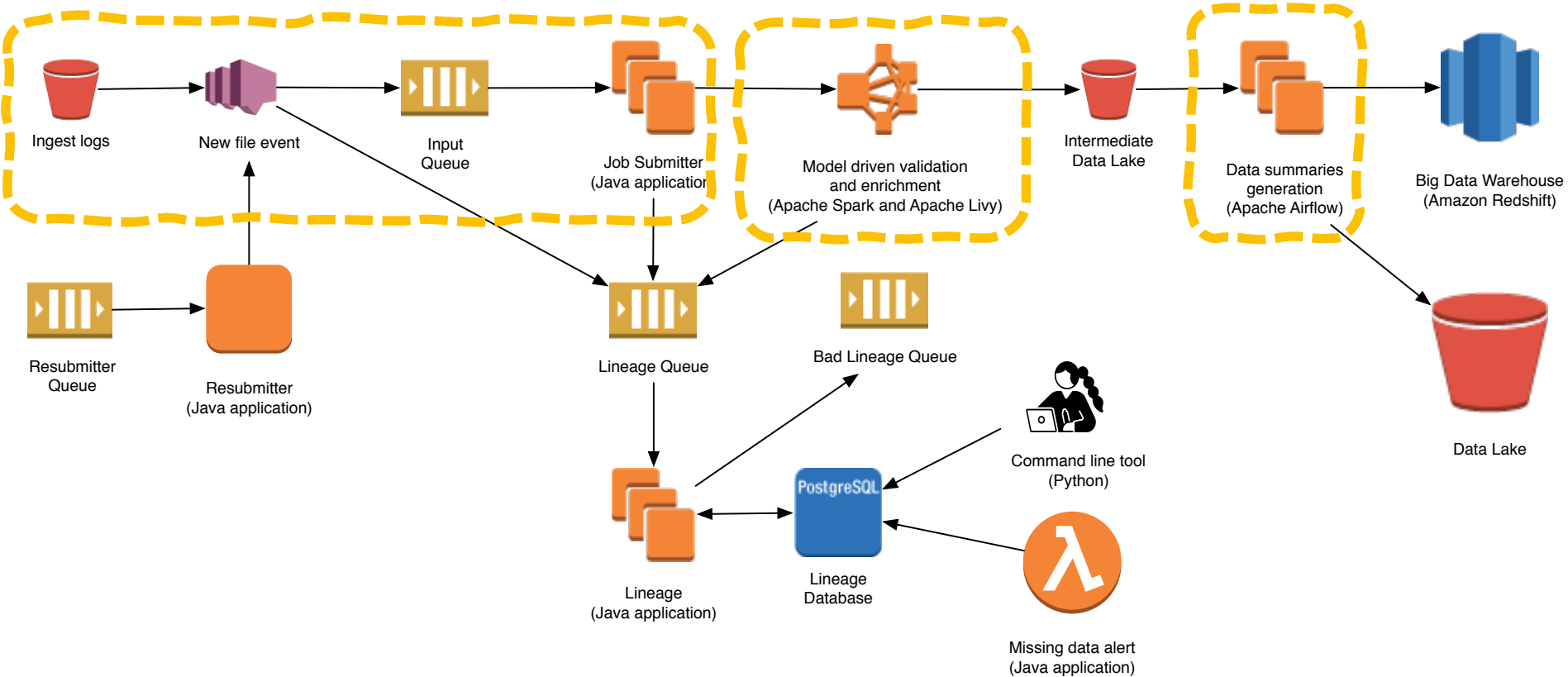
New pipeline architecture



Benefit #1

Enabling team to
choose fit for
purpose tech and
architecture

Benefit #1: choose fit for purpose tech

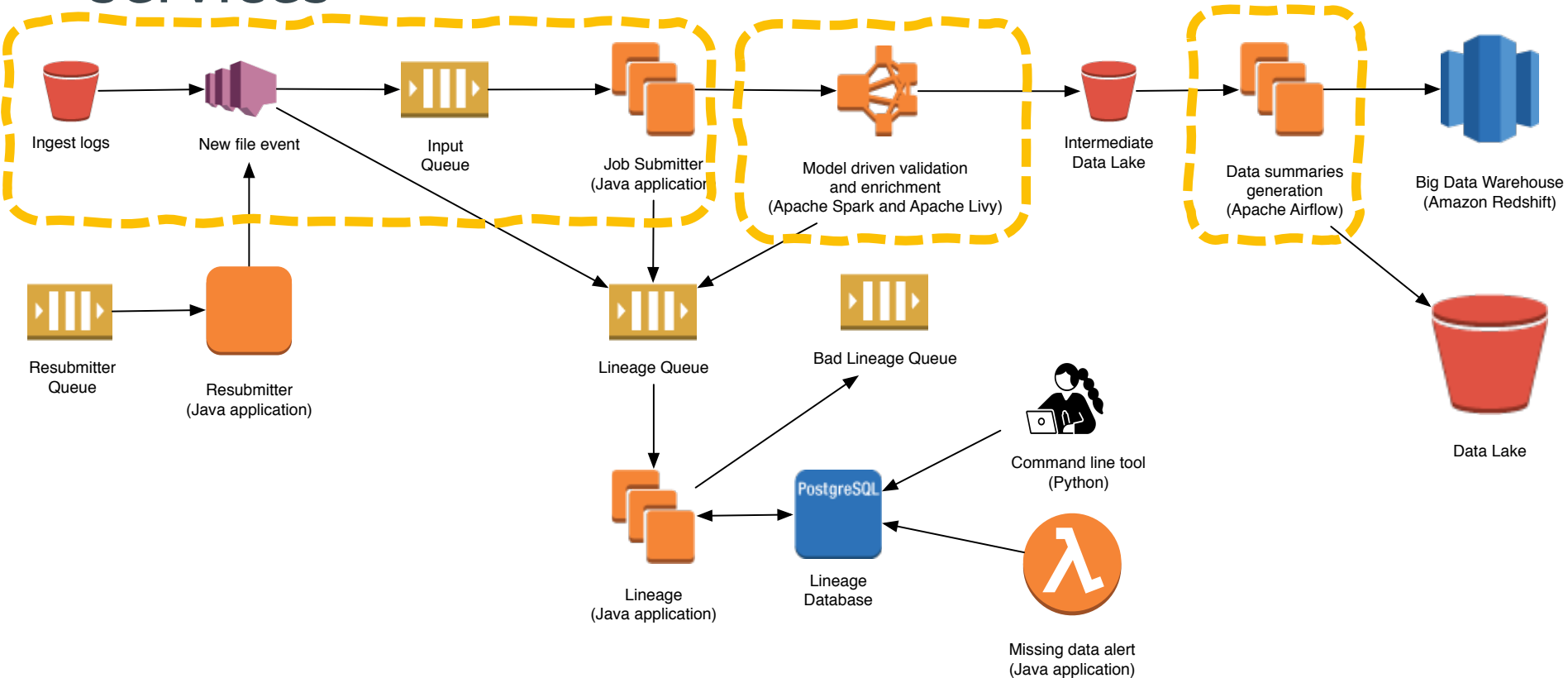


Benefit #2

Make it easier to
change or replace
microservices



Benefit #2: make it easier to change or replace services



Benefit #3

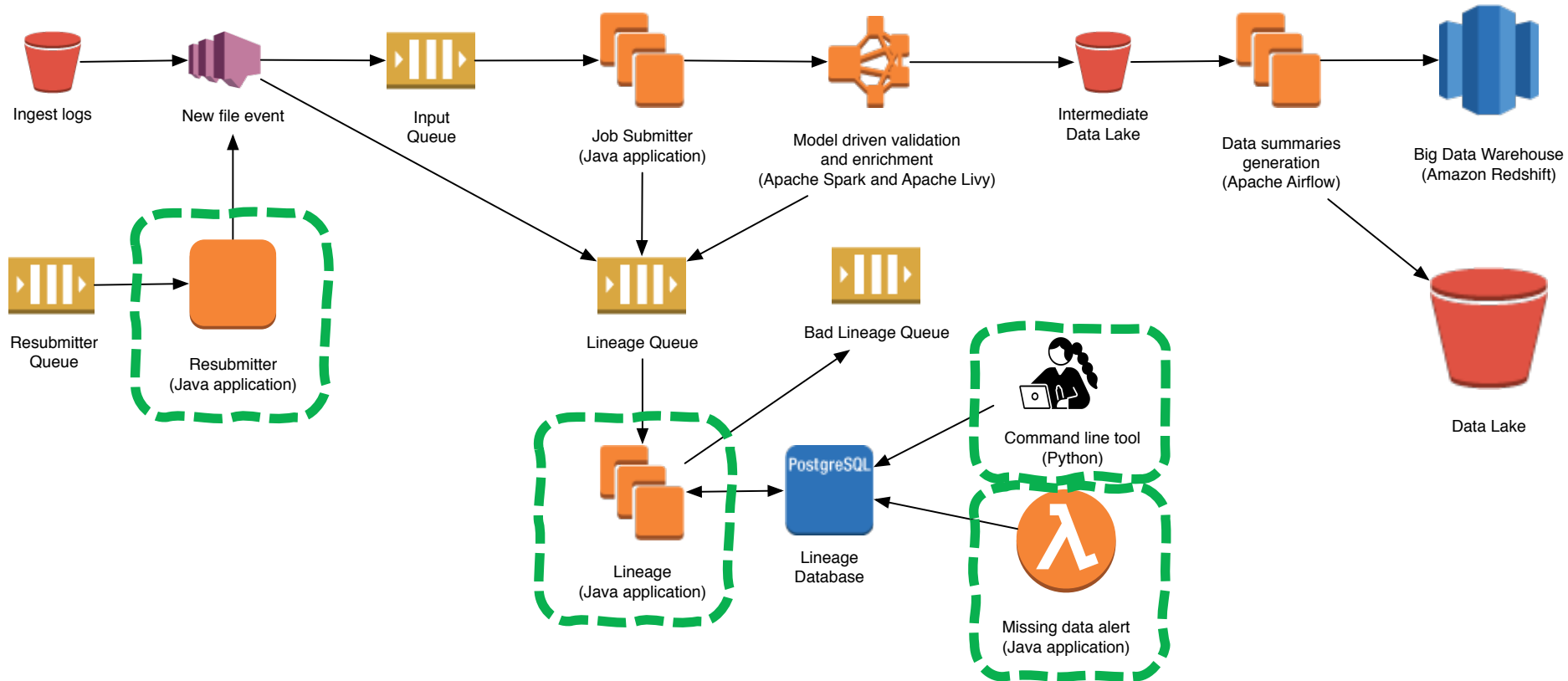
Isolate failure



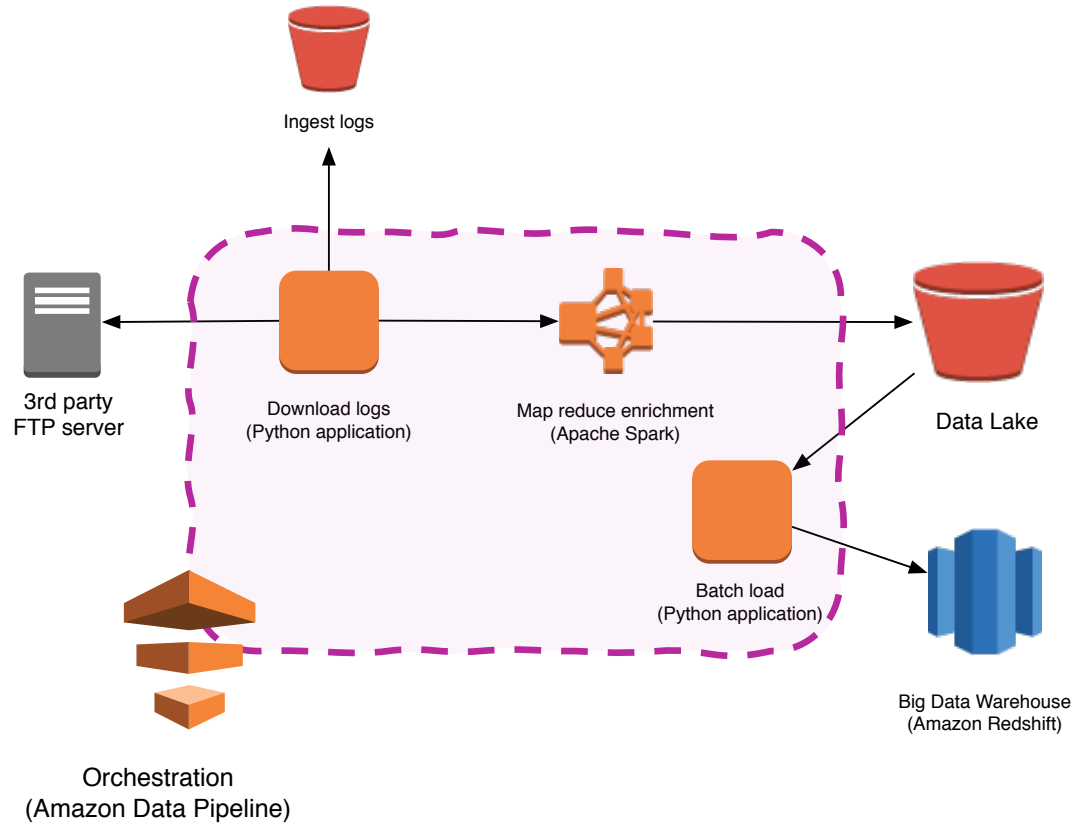
Benefit #4

Organic system
growth as we
operate it and learn

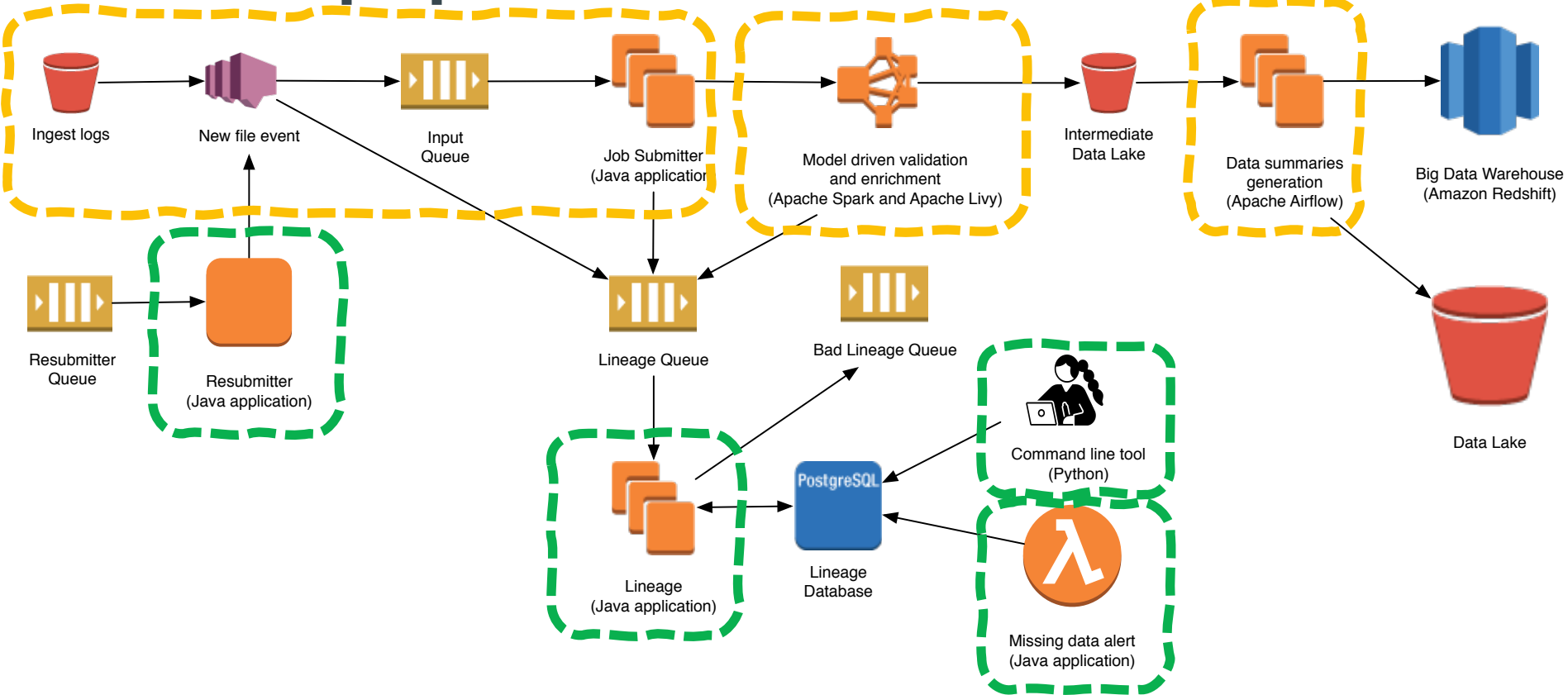
Benefit #4: organic system growth



How our data analytics pipeline architecture was



New pipeline architecture



Main takeaways

Design with change in mind, you can't predict how your traffic will evolve over time

Make sure everyone in the team can triage live issues

Choosing languages and tools which the whole team owns

5. The future of the Data Platform

Challenges as we look into the future

1. How will this architecture evolve as our data load increases?

Challenges as we look into the future

2. What are the future usage requirements for our data platform?

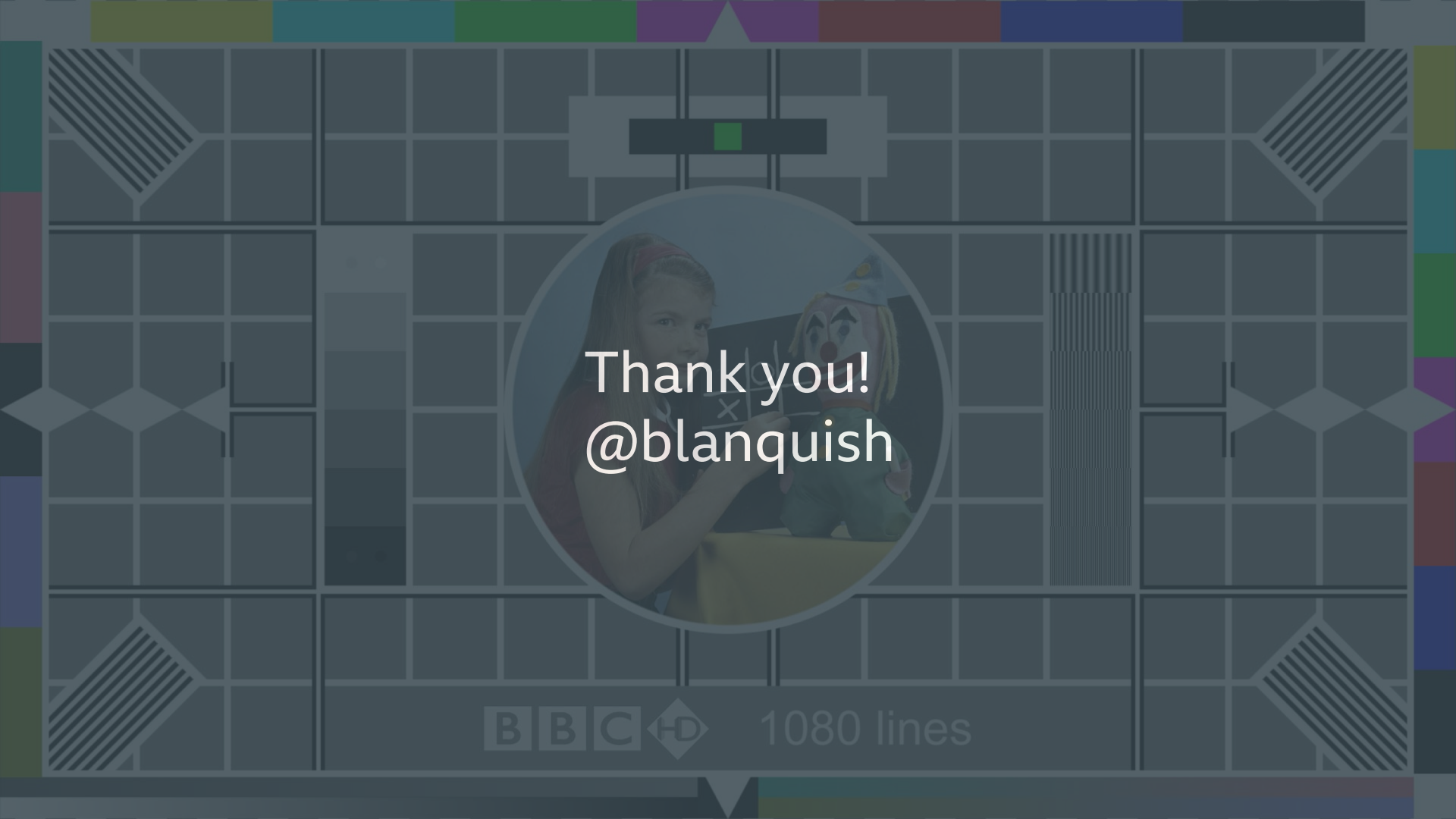
Challenges as we look into the future

3. How can we make it easier for our users to self serve while keeping the data secure?



A data story

KILLING EVE



Thank you!
@blanquish

BBC HD

1080 lines