

# Real-Time Decisions Using ML on the Google Cloud Platform

**Przemysław Pastuszka & Carlos Garcia**  
QCon London  
7th March 2018



**How many of you are  
interested in machine  
learning?**

**but... how many of you are  
running real-time machine  
learning in production?**

# Who is Ocado?



Ocado is the **world's largest** dedicated online grocery retailer



We have **645,000** active shoppers



And **49,000** SKUs in our webshop



Three highly-automated fulfilment centres



**263,000** orders a week 'picked'



**3 million** routing calculations per second



- Donate Food
- Make the Change
- Valentine's Day
- Top Offers
- Amazing Baby Sale



Welcome to Ocado

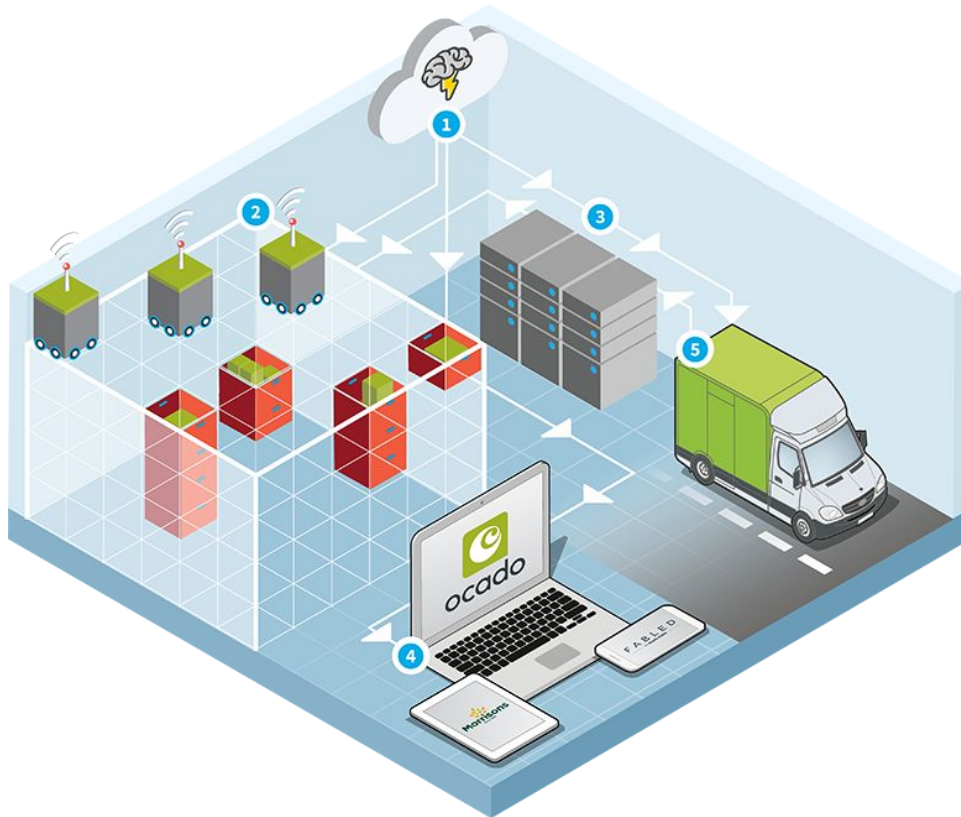
[Start shopping](#)
[Offers](#)
[Book a delivery](#)

**30% OFF**  
your first grocery shop  
+ FREE deliveries for a year

Groceries you'll love, perfectly delivered.



# What Ocado Technology does



- (1) **Cloud and AI**
- (2) **Automation and robotics**
- (3) **Big Data**
- (4) **Web and app development**
- (5) **IoT**



# Fraud: An ML journey







# But then... what is fraud?

- Mainly chargebacks
- Other types of fraud?
- Learn from the actual outcome



**Do I really need to do any  
ML?**

# Know your target

- Do you need ML?
- What do you want to predict?
- How good are you at predicting that?



# Cost of mistakes

- False positives and false negatives
- How expensive are they?



# Start with heuristics

- Ask domain experts
- Derive rules from expert knowledge
  - “If more than 80% of order is alcohol, then classify as risky”



**Heuristics are not enough**

# Motivations for Machine Learning



Data-driven





# Motivations for Machine Learning



Data-driven

Fraudsters learn



# Motivations for Machine Learning



Data-driven

Fraudsters learn

Customer patterns



# Motivations for Machine Learning



Data-driven

Fraudsters learn

Customer patterns

Business changes



# Challenges

- Fraud (human) agents
- ML is affected by human decisions
- Unbalanced classes (fraud / not-fraud)



# What ML model do you choose?

**“With great power there  
must also come... great  
responsibility”**

Spider-Man

# Criteria

Online vs batch  
predictions



# Criteria

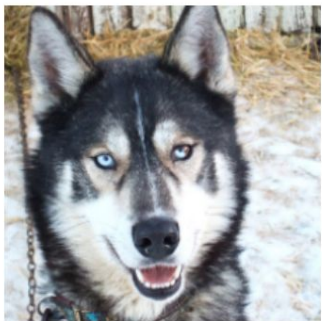
Online vs batch  
predictions

Explainable  
predictions

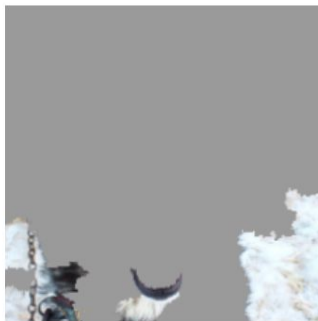




# Challenge your explanations



(a) Husky classified as wolf



(b) Explanation

“Why should I trust you?”

2016, M. Tulio, S. Singh, C. Guestrin



# Criteria

Online vs batch  
predictions

Programming  
language

Explainable  
predictions



# Criteria

Online vs batch  
predictions

Explainable  
predictions

Programming  
language

Cloud vs on-premise



# Our ML choice

# Criteria

Online vs batch  
predictions

online

Explainable  
predictions

preferable

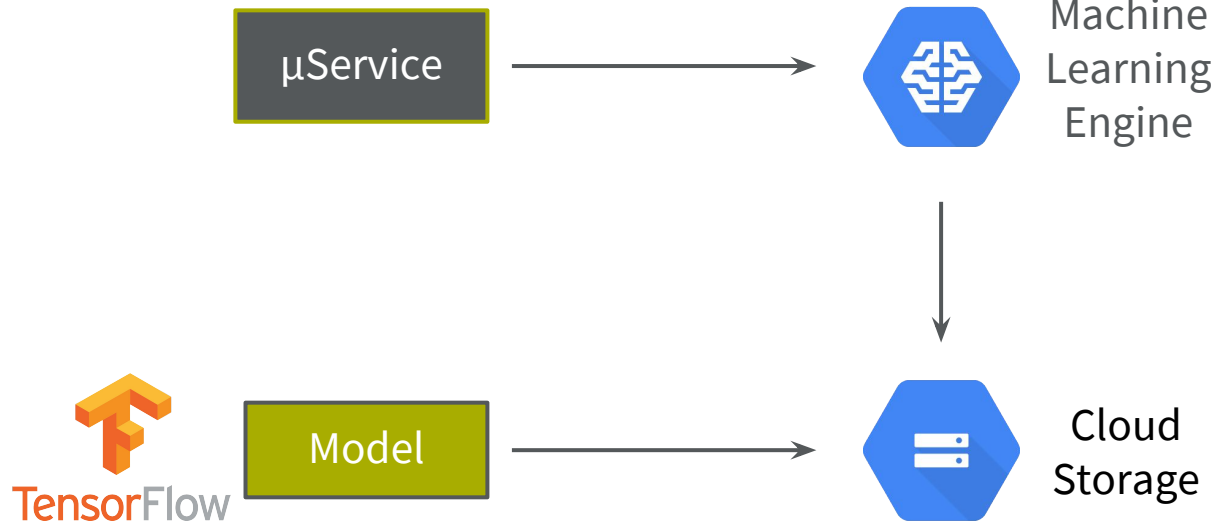
Programming  
language

Python /  
Java

Cloud vs on-premise

cloud





Time Display Type

STEP

RELATIVE

WALL

 colors  
step 9

 mask\_every\_other\_prediction  
step 9

Runs

Write a regex to filter runs

- colors
- mask\_every\_other\_prediction
- temperature:t0=270,tA=270,kH=0.001
- temperature:t0=270,tA=270,kH=0.005
- temperature:t0=270,tA=310,kH=0.001
- temperature:t0=270,tA=310,kH=0.005
- temperature:t0=270,tA=350,kH=0.001
- temperature:t0=270,tA=350,kH=0.005
- temperature:t0=310,tA=270,kH=0.001
- temperature:t0=310,tA=270,kH=0.005
- temperature:t0=310,tA=310,kH=0.001
- temperature:t0=310,tA=310,kH=0.005
- temperature:t0=310,tA=350,kH=0.001
- temperature:t0=310,tA=350,kH=0.005
- temperature:t0=350,tA=270,kH=0.001

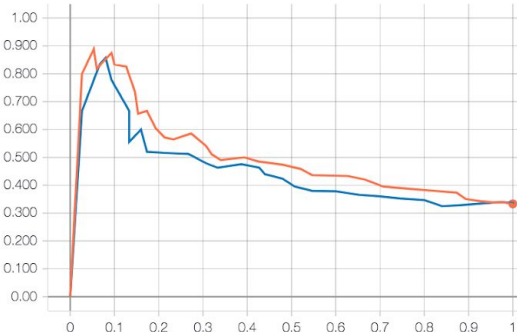
TOGGLE ALL RUNS

/Users/chizeng/Desktop/pr\_curve\_demo

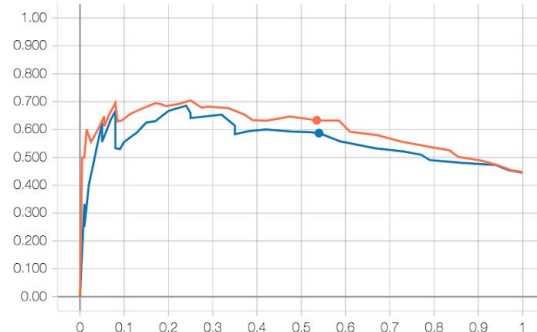
Q.\*

Tags matching ./.\* (all tags)

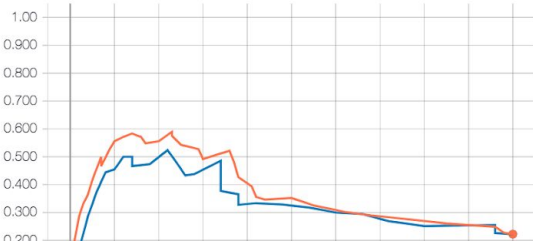
3

 classifying blue  
tag: blue/pr\_curves


- colors is at step 9  
(Sat Aug 26 2017 00:34:34 GMT+0400 (EDT))
- mask\_every\_other\_prediction is at step 9  
(Sat Aug 26 2017 00:34:35 GMT+0400 (EDT))

 classifying green  
tag: green/pr\_curves


Run	Threshold	Precision	Recall	TP	FP	TN	FN
colors	0.3000	0.6331	0.5350	107	62	188	93
mask_every_other_prediction	0.2600	0.5870	0.5400	54	38	87	46

 classifying red  
tag: red/pr\_curves


# Interesting alternatives



Amazon  
SageMaker





# Interesting alternatives




Amazon  
SageMaker



mxnet


APACHE  
Spark™



TensorFlow



Google Cloud  
Machine Learning  
Engine



TensorFlow

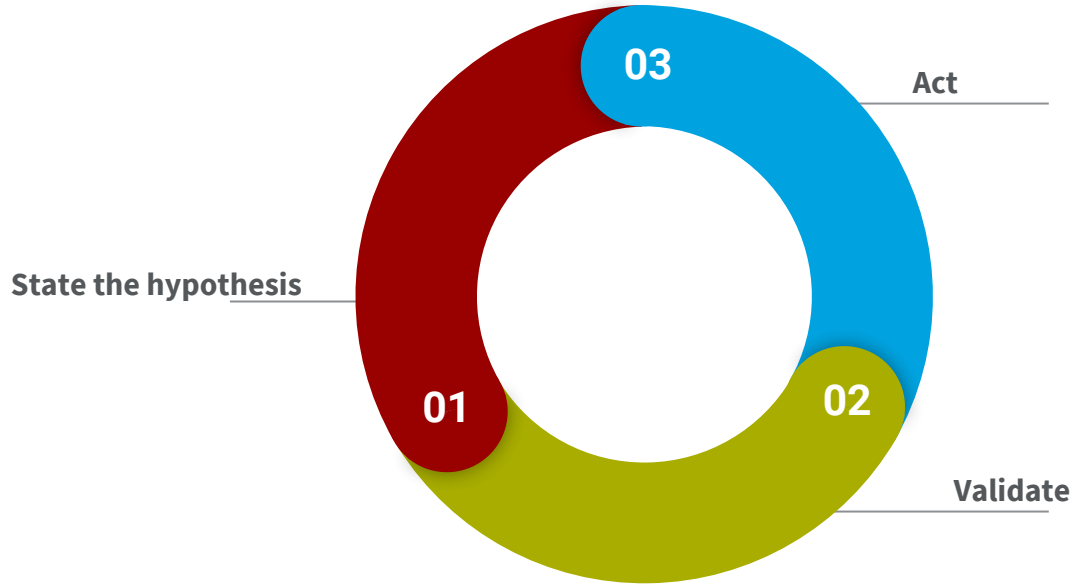


dmlc  
**XGBoost**



# Problem #1 Not fast enough

# Data exploration cycle



# Validate your hypothesis - fast!



Big Query



COMPOSE QUERY

Query History

Job History

- ▶ adhoc\_js
- ▶ adhoc\_mk
- ▶ adhoc\_mm
- ▶ adhoc\_mz
- ▼ duf
  - 📊 **past\_orders\_(1)**
  - 📊 past\_orders\_sample\_(1)
  - 📊 with\_past\_skus\_(1)
  - ▶ duf\_e2e\_tests
  - ▶ duf\_features
  - ▶ duf\_ocean\_ocado
  - ▶ duf\_osp\_eQTITmpyTs\_EveniN...
  - ▶ duf\_osp\_j5IPDsadMk\_ku8TED...
  - ▶ duf\_osp\_LxyPPBg0Xg\_EveniN...

## Table Details:

past\_orders\_20170929 (2017-09-29) ▾

Schema Details Preview

customer_no	STRING	NULLABLE	Describe this field...
order_number	STRING	NULLABLE	Describe this field...
placed_date	TIMESTAMP	NULLABLE	Describe this field...
skus	STRING	REPEATED	Describe this field...

Add New Fields

## New Query ?

```
1 SELECT * FROM [rsh-osp-eu-mlservices:dof.past_orders_20170929]
```

RUN QUERY ▾

Save Query

Save View

Format Query

Show Options

### Table Details:

past\_orders\_20170929 (2017-09-29) ⬆

Schema

Details

Preview

Row	customer_no	order_number	placed_date	skus
1	00627486	3838642622	2017-09-12 00:00:00.000 UTC	330215011
				45547011

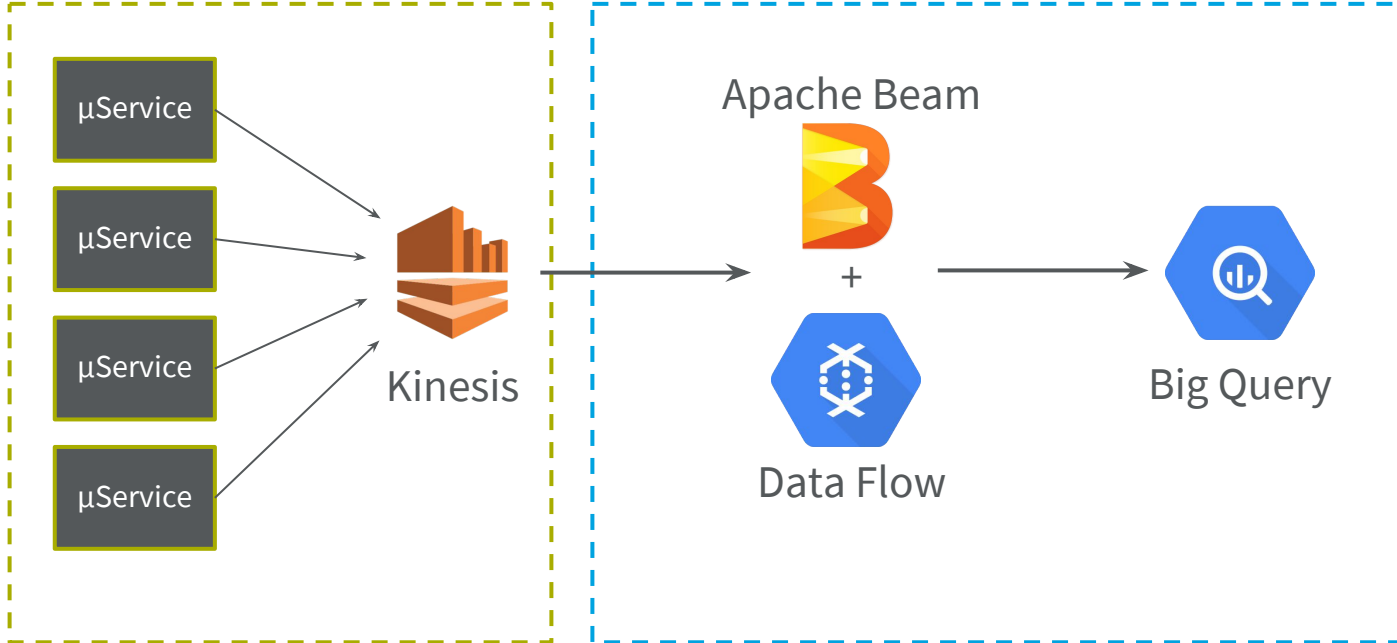


# **Problem #2**

## **Data delivered too late**

# Amazon Web Services

# Google Cloud Platform





```
List<String> strings = ...  
strings.stream().collect(  
    Collectors.groupingBy(  
        word -> word.charAt(0),  
        Collectors.counting()));
```

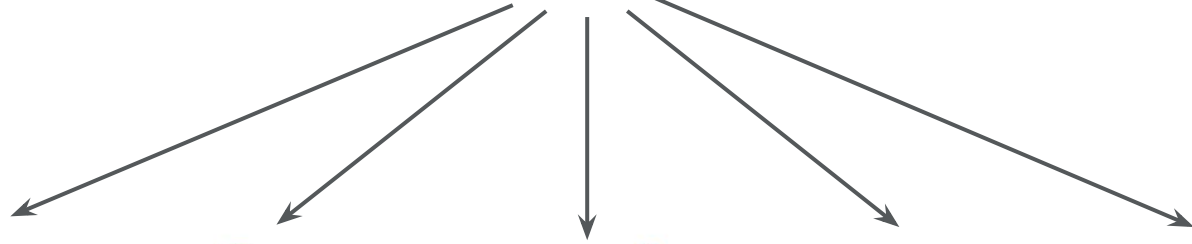


```
PCollection<String> pipeline = ...  
pipeline
```

```
.apply(MapElements.via(row -> KV.of(word.charAt(0), word)))  
.apply(GroupByKey.create())  
.apply(Count.perKey())
```



Apache Beam



Apache  
Apex



Apache  
Flink



Apache  
Spark



Google  
Dataflow



Apache  
Gearpump



# Problem #3

## Missing data

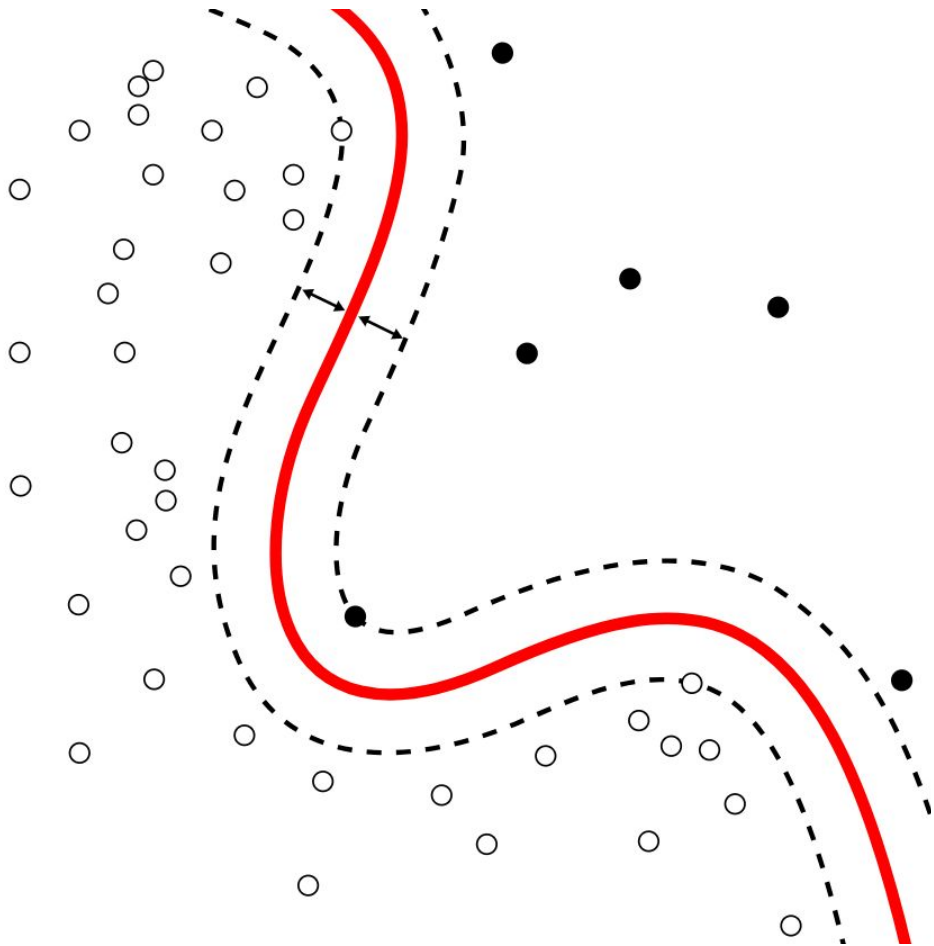
# Missing data





**Capture every change to the  
business state**

# Training



$\text{train}(C_1, \dots, C_N, O_1, \dots, O_N, Y) = \text{model}$

$C_1, \dots, C_N, O_1, \dots, O_N$  - customer and order features

$C_1$  - Average basket size for the customer

$O_1$  - % of alcoholic items in current order

...

$Y$  - Fraud or not fraud





Events



Features

$C_1, \dots, O_1, \dots$

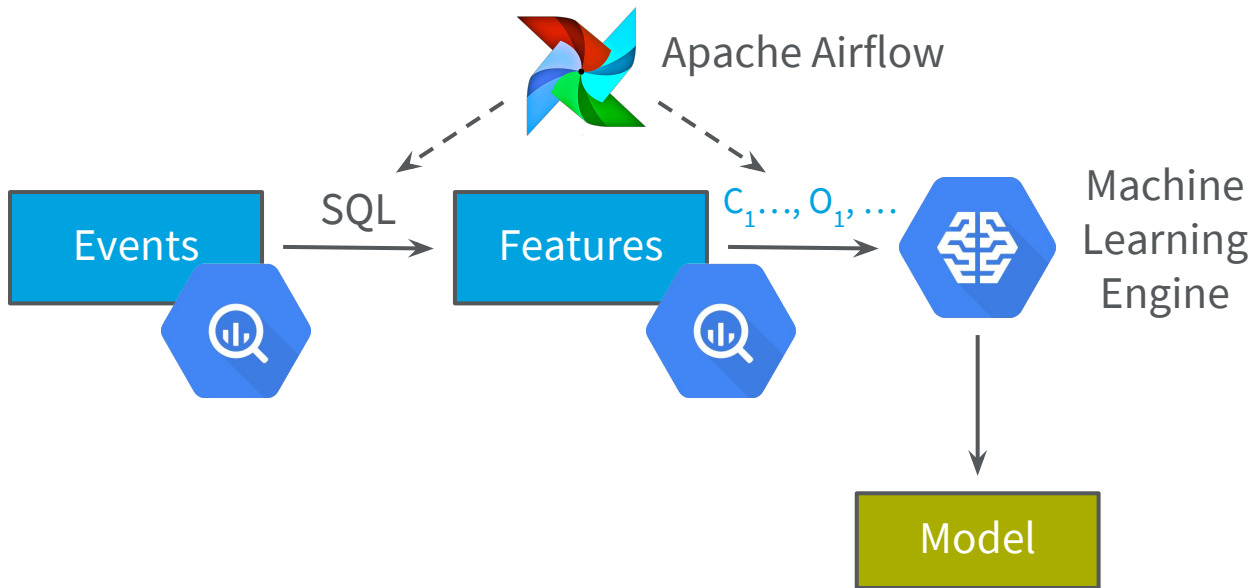


Machine Learning Engine



Model







# Serving predictions

$\text{train}(C_1, \dots, C_N, O_1, \dots, O_N, Y) = \text{model}$

$\text{model}(C_1, \dots, C_N, O_1, \dots, O_N) = \text{prediction}$

$C_1, \dots, C_N, O_1, \dots, O_N$  - customer and order features

$C_1$  - Average basket size for the customer

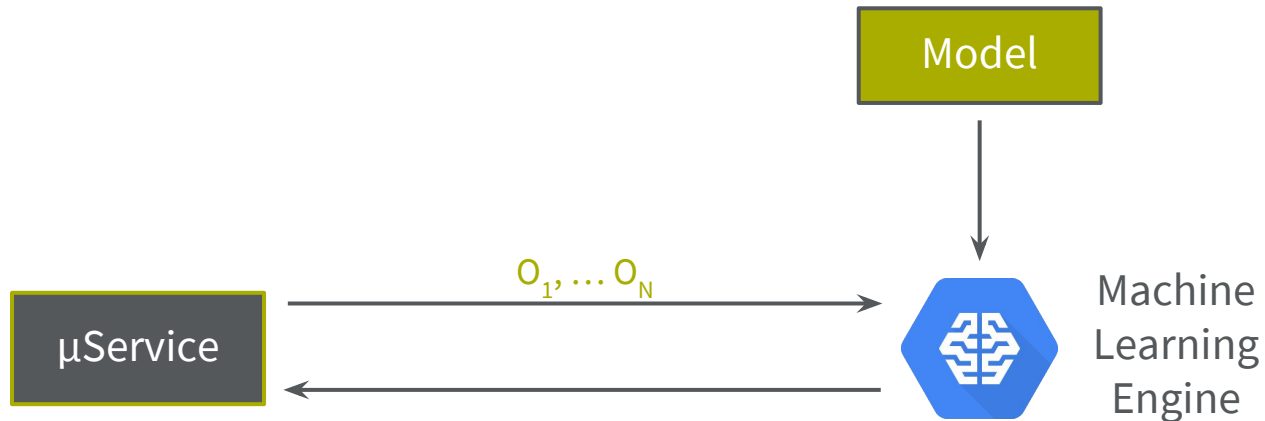
$O_1$  - % of alcoholic items in current order

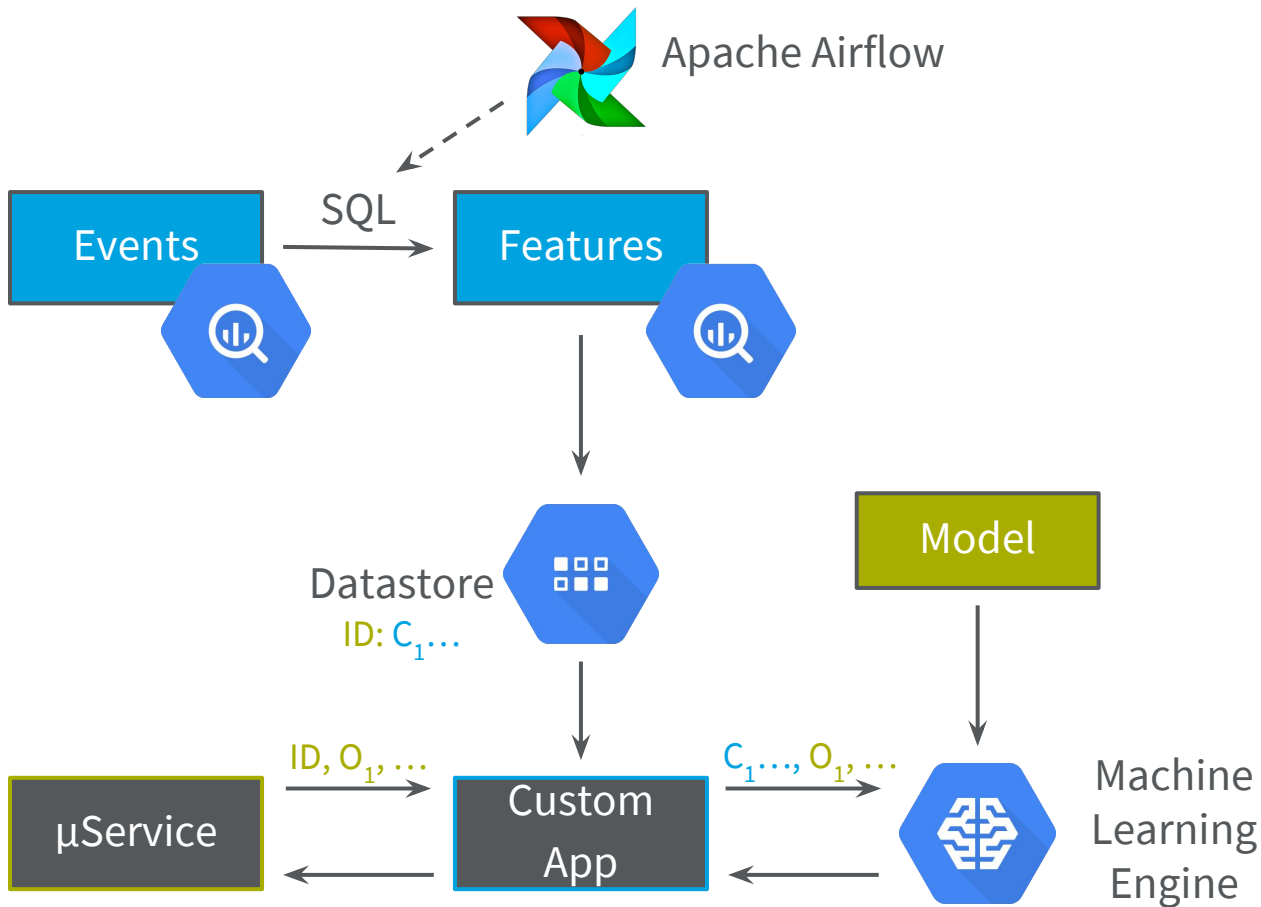
...

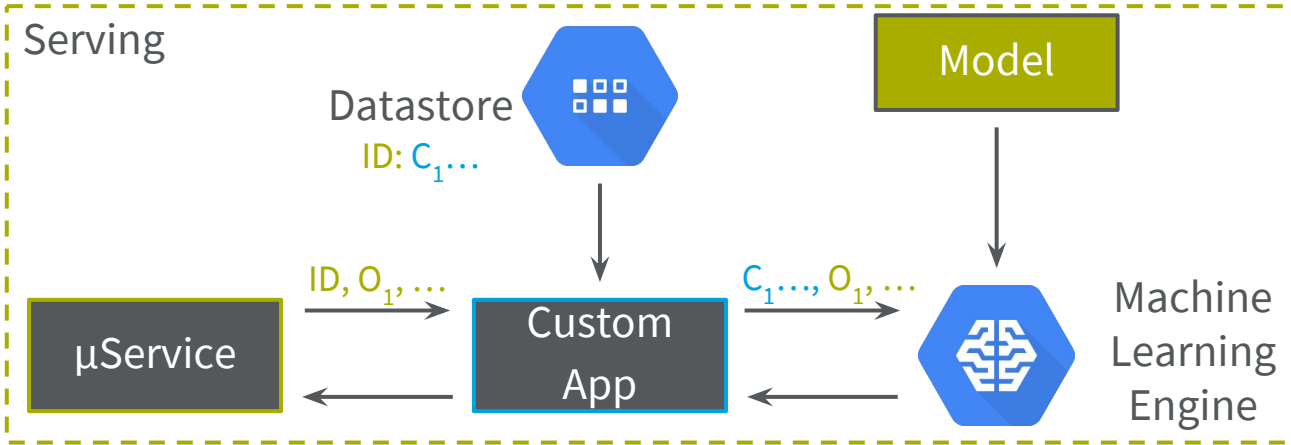
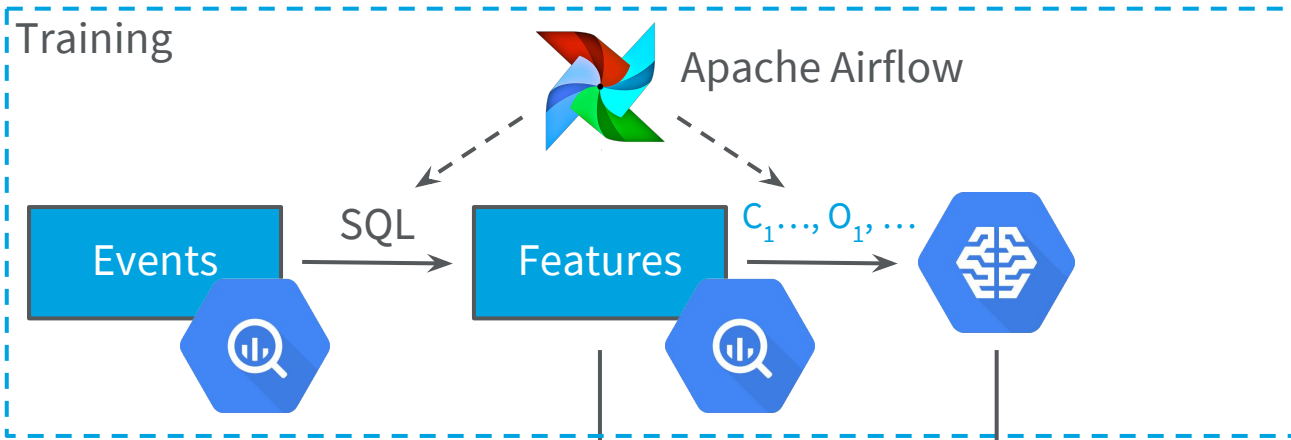
$Y$  - Fraud or not fraud

prediction - Probability of current order being fraudulent





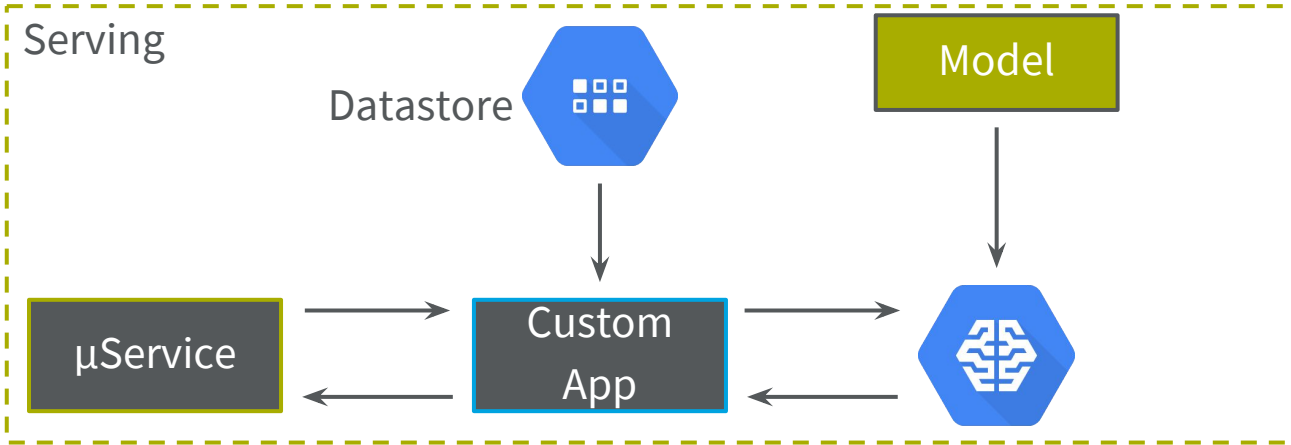
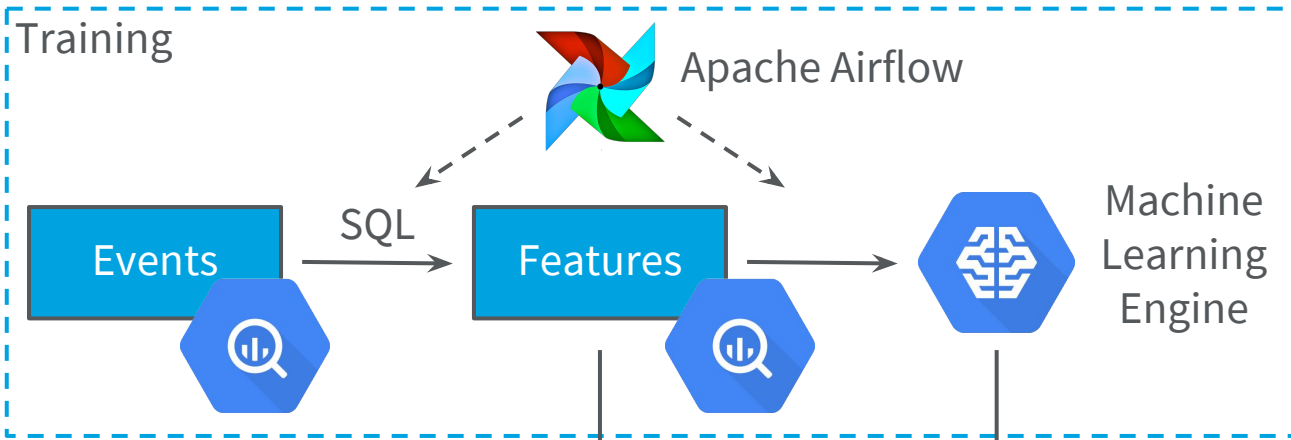






# Architecting for the future





**Know your target**



**Keep It Simple**

**Choose your model wisely**

**Google Cloud ML Engine for Neural Nets**

**Have data and tools ready**

**BigQuery is king**

**Unified architecture for training and serving predictions**



**Thank you!**