# Debugging Spark Applications

#### Melike GEÇER

Supervised by

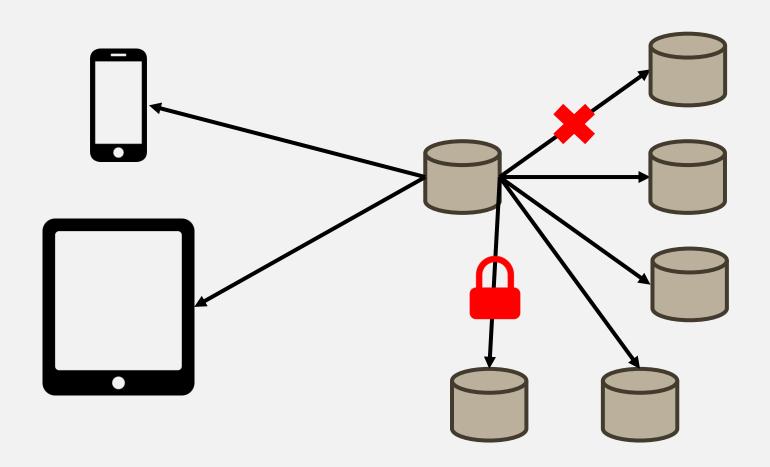
Dr. Haidar Osman

and

Prof. Oscar Nierstrasz

10.12.2019

## Why is debugging hard in distributed systems?



## Why is debugging hard?

## Lack of tooling



## Logs on the Resource Manager

```
Java HotSpot(TM) 64-Bit Server VM warning: ignoring option MaxPermSize=256m; support was removed in 8.0
 SLF4J: Class path contains multiple SLF4J bindings.
SLF41: Found binding in Jarifle: /tmp/hadop-mels.

SLF41: Found binding in Jarifle: /tmp/hadop-mels.

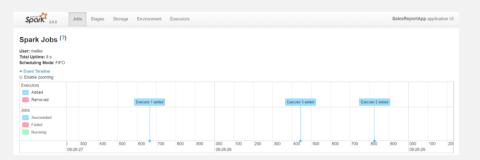
SLF41: Found binding in Jarifle: /opt/hadop-3.1.2/share/hadop/common/lb/slF41-log4j12-1.7.25.jar!/org/slF4J/impl/StaticloggerBinder.class]

SLF41: Found binding in Jarifle: /opt/hadop-3.1.2/share/hadop/common/lab/slF41-log4j12-1.7.25.jar!/org/slF4J/impl/StaticloggerBinder.class]

SLF41: See http://www.slF41-org/codes.thml#multple_bindings for an explanation.
SLF4J: Actual binding is of type [org.slf4j.impl.Log4jLoggerFactory]
2019-06-24 00:40:02,129 INFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for TERM
 2019-06-24 00:40:02,131 INFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for HUP
2019-06-24 00:40:02,131 TNFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for INT 2019-06-24 00:40:02,720 WARN util.NativeCodeLoader: Unable to load native-hadoop library for your platform... using builtin-java classes where
 2019-06-24 00:40:02,973 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: Preparing Local resources
2019-06-24 00:40:03,935 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: Prepared Local resources Map(_app_.jar -> resource { scheme: "hdfs" host: "leela.unibe.c 2019-06-24 00:40:03,970 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: ApplicationAttemptId: appattempt_1561329314867_0002_000002
2019-06-24 00:40:03,980 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls to: melike 2019-06-24 00:40:03,981 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing modify acls to: melike
 2019-06-24 00:40:03,981 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls groups to:
2019-06-24 00:40-03,902 INFO spark. SecurityManager: Changing modify acis groups to:
2019-06-24 00:40-03,903 INFO spark. SecurityManager: SecurityManager: authentication disabled; ui acls disabled; users with view permissions: S
2019-06-24 00:40:04,905 INFO yarm.ApplicationMaster: Starting the user application in a separate Thread
2019-06-24 00:40:04,022 INFO yarm.ApplicationMaster: Waiting for spark context initialization
2019-06-24 00:40:04,022 INFO yarm.ApplicationMaster: Waiting for spark context initialization ...
2019-06-24 00:40:04,048 INFO spark.SparkContext: Running Spark version 2.0.2 2019-06-24 00:40:04,099 INFO spark.SecurityManager: Changing view acls to: melike
  2019-06-24 00:40:04,099 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing modify acls to: melike
2019-06-24 00:40:04,099 INFO spark.SecurityManager: Changing view acls groups to: 2019-06-24 00:40:04,099 INFO spark.SecurityManager: Changing modify acls groups to:
2019-06-24 08:40:04,099 IMFO spark,SecurityManager: SecurityManager: authentication disabled; ui acls disabled; users with view permissions: S 2019-06-24 00:40:04,427 IMFO util.Utils: Successfully started service 'sparkDriver' on port 42097. 2019-06-24 00:40:04,427 IMFO spark.SparkEnv: Registering MapOutputTracker
2019-06-24 08:40:04,484 INFO spark.SparkEnv: Registering BlockManagerMaster
2019-06-24 00:40:04,502 INFO storage.DiskBlockManager: Created local directory at /tmp/hadoop-melike/nm-local-dir/usercache/melike/appcache/app
2019-06-24 00:40:04,523 INFO memory.MemoryStore: MemoryStore started with capacity 93.3 MB
 2019-06-24 00:40:04,641 INFO spark.SparkEnv: Registering OutputCommitCoordinator
 2019-06-24 00:40:04,758 INFO util.log: Logging initialized @3466ms
2019-06-24 00:40:04,813 INFO ui.JettyUtils: Adding filter: org.apache.hadoop.yarn.server.webproxy.amfilter.AmIpFilter 2019-06-24 00:40:04,880 INFO server.Server: jetty-9.2.z-SNAPSHOT
2019-06-24 00:40:04,908 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@557d5a49{/jobs,null,AVAILABLE}
```

#### 

#### Logs on the console



History Server

## Why is debugging hard? Data is always dirty

employee_no	employee_name	designation	manager	hire_date	salary	Department_no
7000	SMITH	CLERK	7902	12/17/1980	800	70
7499	ALLEN	SALESMAN	7698	2/20/1981	1600	30
<b>752</b> I	WARD	SALESMAN	7698	2/22/1981	1250	30
7566	TURNER	MANAGER	7839	4/2/1981	2975	20
7654	MARTIN	SALESMAN	7698	9/28/1981	1250	30
7698	MILLER	MANAGER	7839	5/1/1981	thousand	30
7782	CLARK	MANAGER	7839	6/9/1981	2450	10
7788	SCOTT	ANALYST	7566	12/9/1982	3000	20
7839	KING	PRESIDENT	2000	11/17/1981	5000	10
7844	TURNER	SALESMAN	7698	9/8/1981	1500	30
7876	ADAMS	CLERK	7788	1/12/1983	1100	20
7900	JAMES	CLERK	7698	12/3/1981	950	30
7902	FORD	ANALYST	7566	12/3/1981	3000	20
7934	MILLER	CLERK	7782	1/23/1982	1300	10

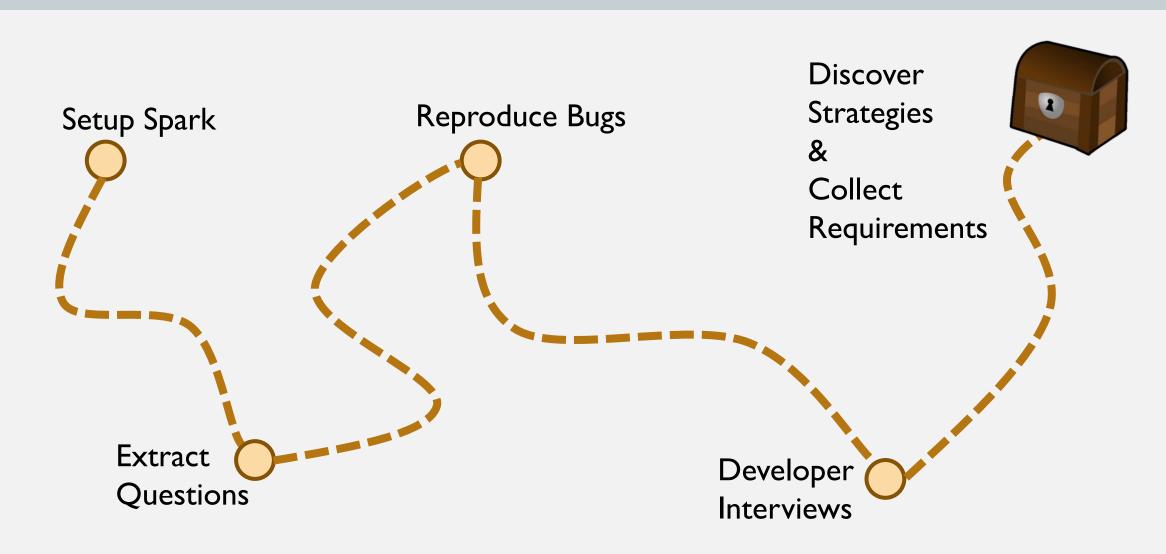
## Research Questions

RQI: How do developers debug distributed applications like Spark?

**RQ2:** What are the challenges that developers face when they debug such applications?

**RQ3:** How can we overcome these challenges?

## Investigation Roadmap



## Setup Spark



2019-06-24 00.40.03 982 TNFO snark SecurityManager: Changing modify acls groups to:



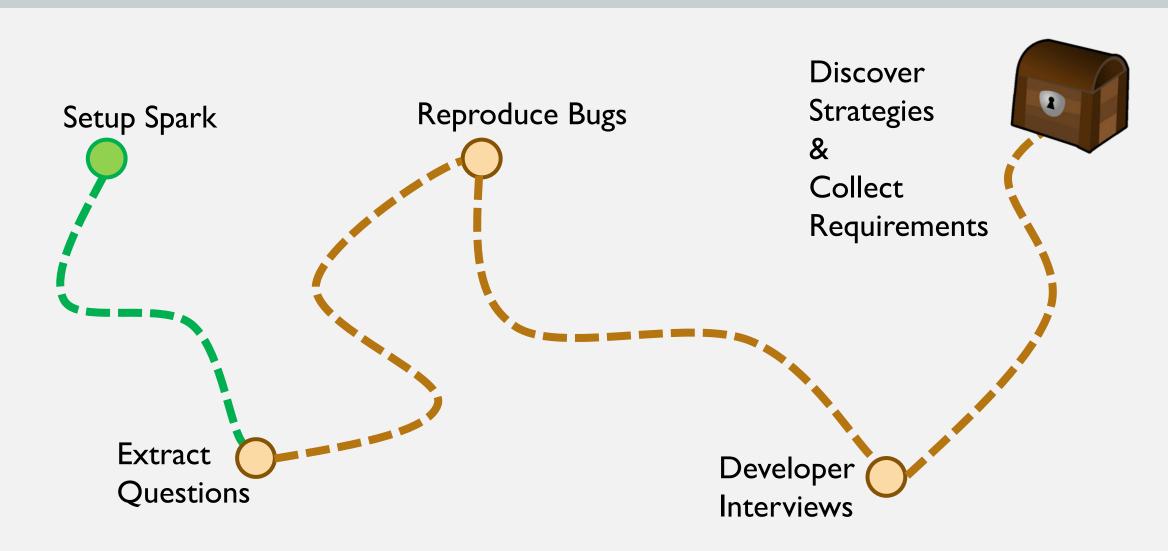


5

ID *	User	Name ¢	Application Type 0	Queue \$
application_1561329314867_0002	melike	MainClass	SPARK	default

```
Java HotSpot(TM) 64-Bit Server VM warning: ignoring option MaxPermSize=256m; support was removed in 8.0
SLF4J: Class path contains multiple SLF4J bindings.
SLF4J: Found binding in [jar:file:/tmp/hadoop-melike/nm-local-dir/usercache/melike/filecache/10/_spark_libs__7564521103123317951.zip/slf4j-log4j12-1.7.16.jar!/org/slf4j/
SLF4J: Found binding in [jar:file:/opt/hadoop-3.1.2/share/hadoop/common/lib/slf4j-log4j12-1.7.25.jar!/org/slf4j/impl/StaticLoggerBinder.class]
SLF4J: See http://www.slf4j.org/codes.html#multiple bindings for an explanation.
SLF4J: Actual binding is of type [org.slf4j.impl.Log4jLoggerFactory]
2019-06-24 00:40:02,129 INFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for TERM
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2019-06-24 00:40:02,131 INFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for INT
2019-06-24 00:40:02,720 WARN util.NativeCodeLoader: Unable to load native-hadoop library for your platform... using builtin-java classes where applicable
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2019-06-24 00:40:03,970 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: ApplicationAttemptId: appattempt 1561329314867 0002 000002
2019-06-24 00:40:03,980 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls to: melike
2019-06-24 00:40:03,981 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing modify acls to: melike
2019-06-24 00:40:03,981 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls groups to:
```

## Investigation Roadmap



## **Extract Questions**



Extract question on Stack Overflow

Have a pilot interview

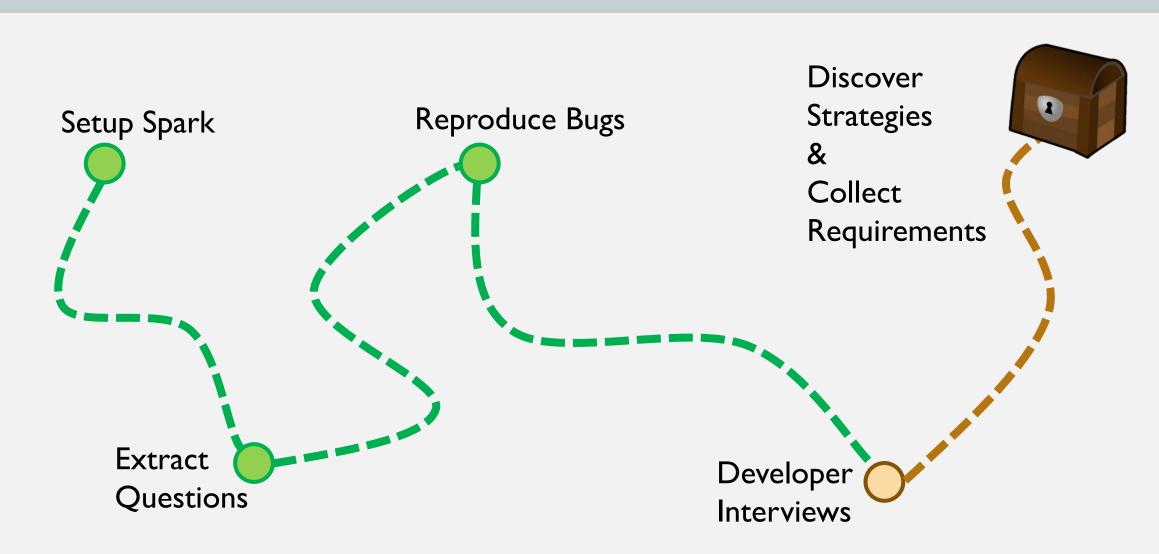
Talk to an expert and ask a recommendation

Review the questions

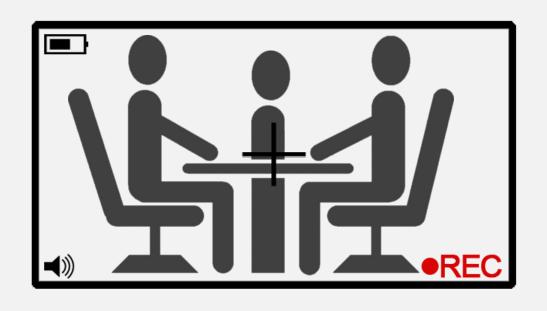
## **Extract Questions**

Exception	Reason	Solution
Task Not Serializable	The class is not serializable	<ul> <li>Make the class Serializable</li> <li>Change the method to a function</li> <li>Copy the value to a local variable</li> </ul>
Stack Overflow	Nested structures with many fields	<ul><li>Remove the nesting</li><li>Decrease the number of fields</li></ul>
Number Format Exception	A String value found where an integer expected in the production environment	<ul><li>Change the data</li><li>Discard the data</li></ul>
Stack Overflow	Making an action after 1000 transformations	<ul> <li>Put checkpoints</li> <li>Use caching</li> <li>Decrease the number of transformations</li> <li>Increase heap size of Java</li> </ul>

## Investigation Roadmap



## Interview Setup



#### **Semi-structured interview**

An interviewer, an interviewee and an observer

With their consent, we record the screen and audio.

## Interview Setup

Professional Information

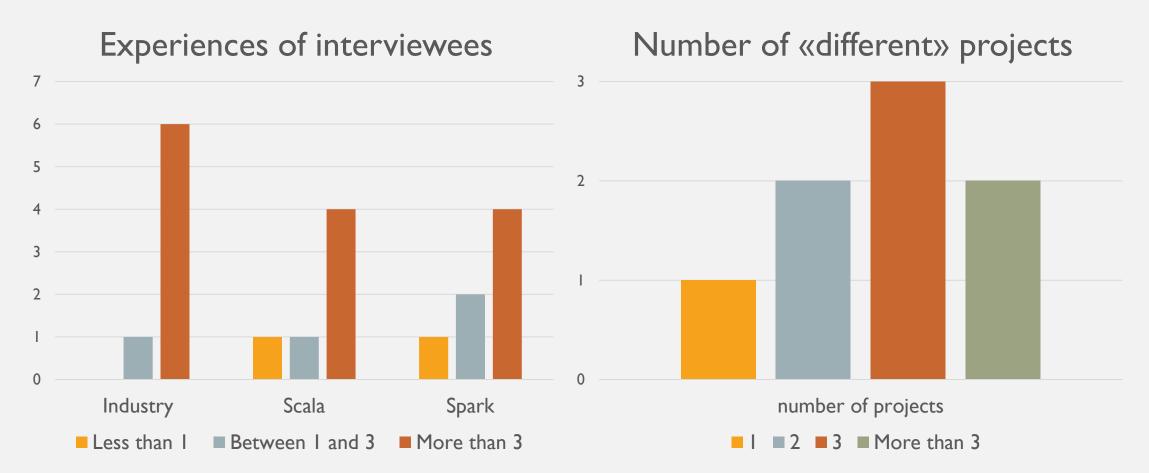
Coding Interview

Post-mortem
Questionnaire

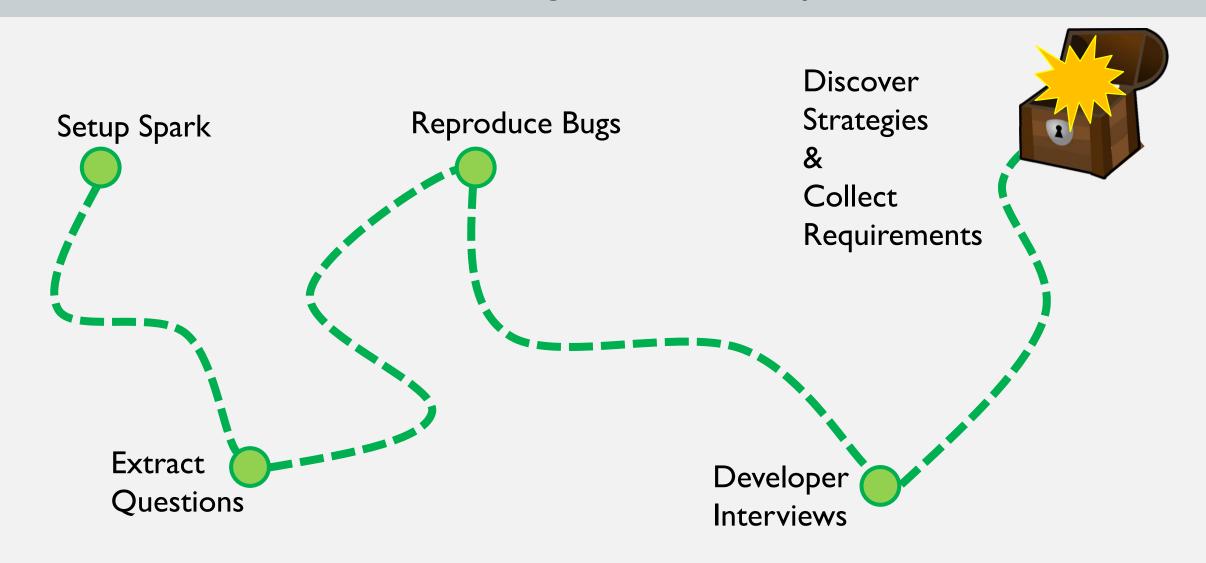
#### Professional Information

- I. How long is your professional experience in Industry?
- 2. How long is your experience in Scala?
- 3. How long is your experience in Spark?
- 4. How many «different» projects that use Spark did you work on in your experience?
- 5. When you encounter a Spark job failure, what are your first steps to investigate?
- 6. What are your tools for debugging failed Spark jobs?

#### Interviewees



## Investigation Roadmap



## Coding Interview - Patterns

Α	Checks the logs on the console	
В	Sees the exception message	Log Interactions
С	Checks the logs on the Resource Manager	
Е	Inspects the class that threw the exception	Code Inspection
N	Inspects the script	Code Inspection
D	Suspects something	Como Un vul Hynothosis
F	Suggests to do something	Come Up w/ Hypothesis
Н	Makes changes in the code	
Р	Writes tests	Making Changes
R	Changes the script	

## Coding Interview - Patterns

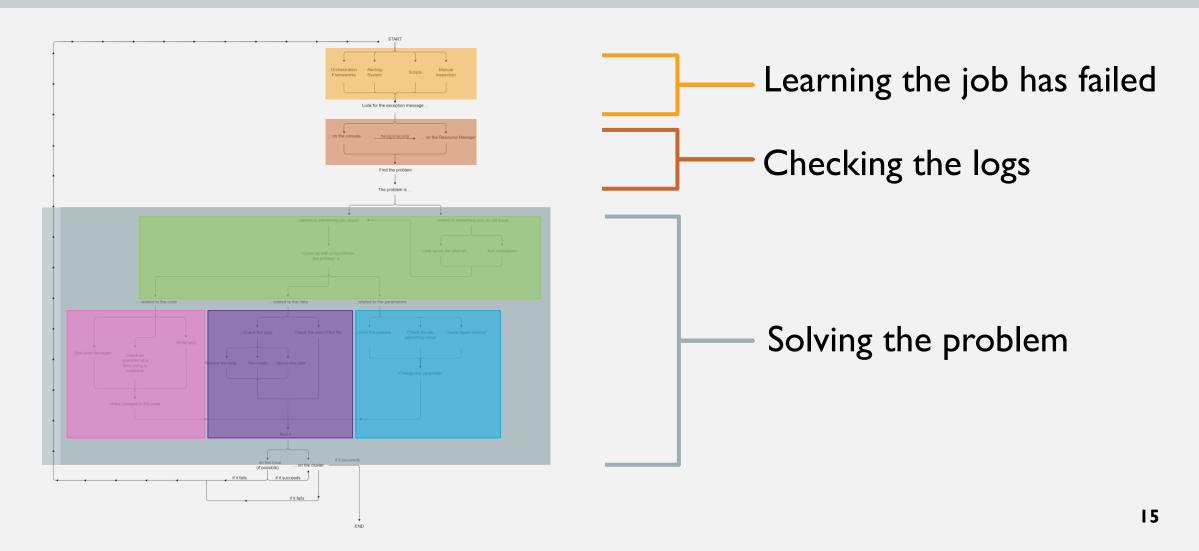
Q	Runs their own tests	
1	Runs the test with the new changes	Test Execution
G	Runs the test without any changes in the code	
K	Searches the exception on the internet	Seek Help
J	Runs the code with the new changes on the cluster	Run On The Cluster
L	Checks the size of the file on HDFS	Checks The File's Size
M	Checks the file on cluster	Checks The File
О	Checks the file on local	Checks the File

## Coding Interview - Patterns

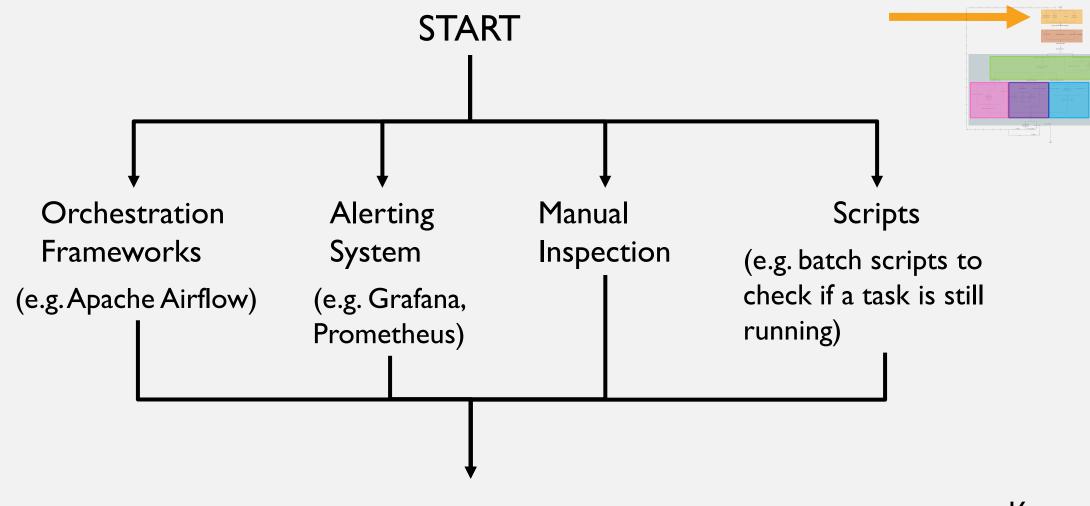
	D #4	Λ	D	C	D	Е	D	г		ш				$\overline{}$
	B #1	Α	В	С	D	E	D	F	G	Н	l I			
1#1	B #2	Α	В	C	D	D	Н	J						
	B #3	Α	В	D			l							
$\vdash$	B #4	Α	В	С	D	D								
	B #1	Α	R	J	Α	В	E	K	Н	- 1				
1#2	B #2	С	В	D	L	D	D							
1 112	B #3	Α	G	В	D	M								
	B #4	Α	N	С	D	D								
	B #1	Α	G	В	D	K	D	Е	K	Н	- 1			
1#3	B #2	Α	С	В	D	M	D	N	D					
1#3	B #3	Α	В	D	M									
	B #4	Α	С	В	D	Н	J							
	B #1	М	Α	С	В	D	Н	Α	С	Н	G	С	Е	Н
	B #2	M	С	В	D	K	D	D	Н					
1#4	B #3	G	М	0	Α	С	В	Н	М					
	B #4	Α	М	С	D	В	D	D						
	B #1	Α	В	G	Н	- 1								
l	B #2	С	В	D	Н	D								
1 #5	B #3	G	Α	В	F	0	Α	D						
	B #4	Α	В	M	D									
	B #1	G	В	Е	Н	- 1								
	B #2	С	В	D	D									
1#6	B #3	Α	С	В	G									
	B #4	Α	С	В	С	D								
	B #1	Α	D	С	В	Е	С	G	D	Н	- 1			$\neg \neg$
l	B #2	Α	С	В	D	D	Р	Q						
1 #7	B #3	G	Α	В	D				'					
	B #4	Α	С	В	D	Н								

A B C	Log Interactions
E N	Code Inspection
D F	Come Up w/ Hypothesis
H P R	Making Changes
Q I G	Test Execution
12	
K	Seek Help
K	Seek Help
K J	Seek Help  Run On The Cluster
	Run On The Cluster

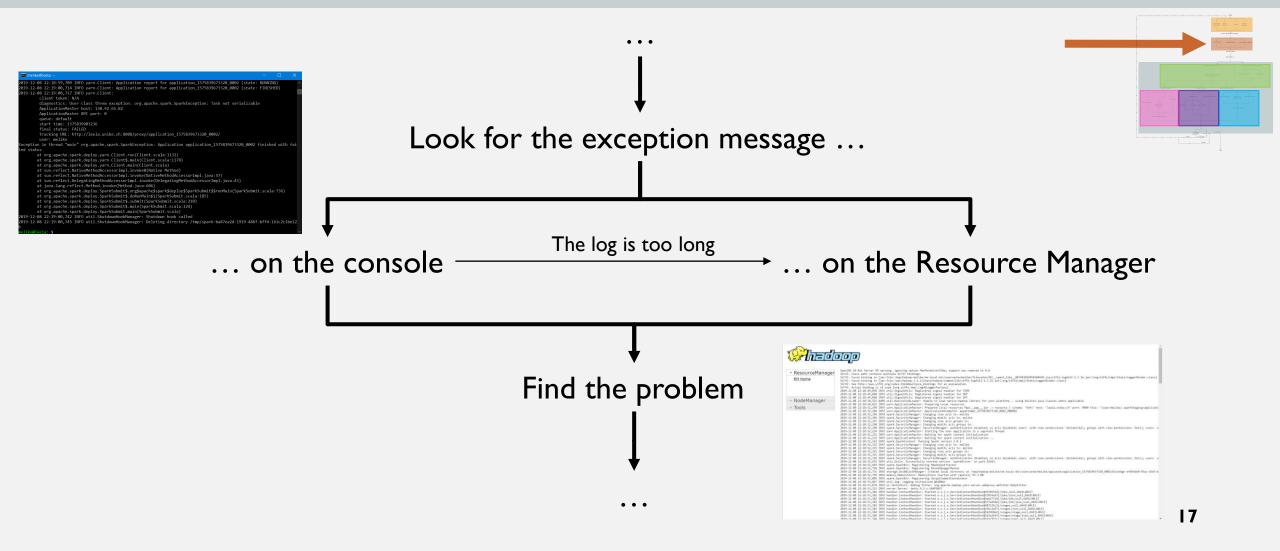
## **Debugging Flow**



## Learning the job has failed



## Checking the logs



### Checking the logs ... on the console

```
melike@leela: ~
2019-12-08 22:18:59,709 INFO yarn.Client: Application report for application 1575839673320 0002 (state: RUNNING)
2019-12-08 22:19:00,714 INFO yarn.Client: Application report for application 1575839673320 0002 (state: FINISHED)
2019-12-08 22:19:00,717 INFO yarn.Client:
        client token: N/A
        diagnostics: User class threw exception: org.apache.spark.SparkException: Task not serializable
        ApplicationMaster host: 130.92.65.82
        ApplicationMaster RPC port: 0
        queue: default
        start time: 1575839903236
        final status: FAILED
        tracking URL: http://leela.unibe.ch:8088/proxy/application 1575839673320 0002/
        user: melike
Exception in thread "main" org.apache.spark.SparkException: Application application 1575839673320 0002 finished with fai
led status
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.yarn.Client.run(Client.scala:1132)
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.yarn.Client$.main(Client.scala:1178)
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.yarn.Client.main(Client.scala)
       at sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.invoke0(Native Method)
       at sun.reflect.NativeMethodAccessorImpl.invoke(NativeMethodAccessorImpl.java:57)
       at sun.reflect.DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl.invoke(DelegatingMethodAccessorImpl.java:43)
       at java.lang.reflect.Method.invoke(Method.java:606)
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.SparkSubmit$.org$apache$spark$deploy$SparkSubmit$$runMain(SparkSubmit.scala:736)
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.SparkSubmit$.doRunMain$1(SparkSubmit.scala:185)
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.SparkSubmit$.submit(SparkSubmit.scala:210)
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.SparkSubmit$.main(SparkSubmit.scala:124)
       at org.apache.spark.deploy.SparkSubmit.main(SparkSubmit.scala)
2019-12-08 22:19:00,742 INFO util.ShutdownHookManager: Shutdown hook called
2019-12-08 22:19:00,745 INFO util.ShutdownHookManager: Deleting directory /tmp/spark-ba87ea2d-1919-486f-bff4-161c2c1be12
nelike@leela:~$
```

### Checking the logs ... on the Resource Manager

2019-12-08 22:18:53,184 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@5a5a2bf3{/stages/stage/json,null,AVAILABLE}



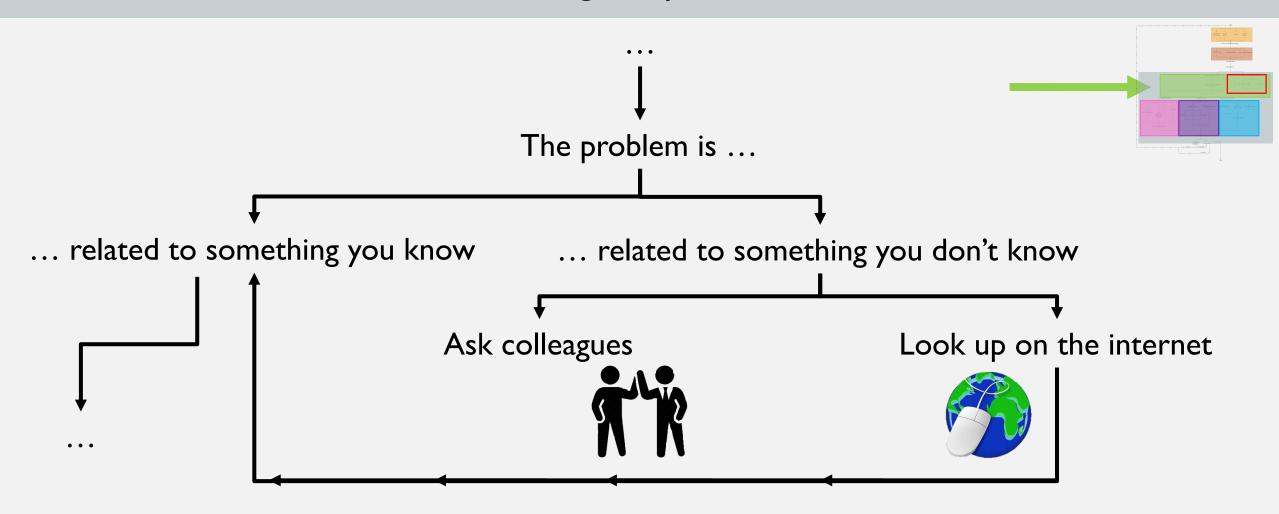
▼ ResourceManager

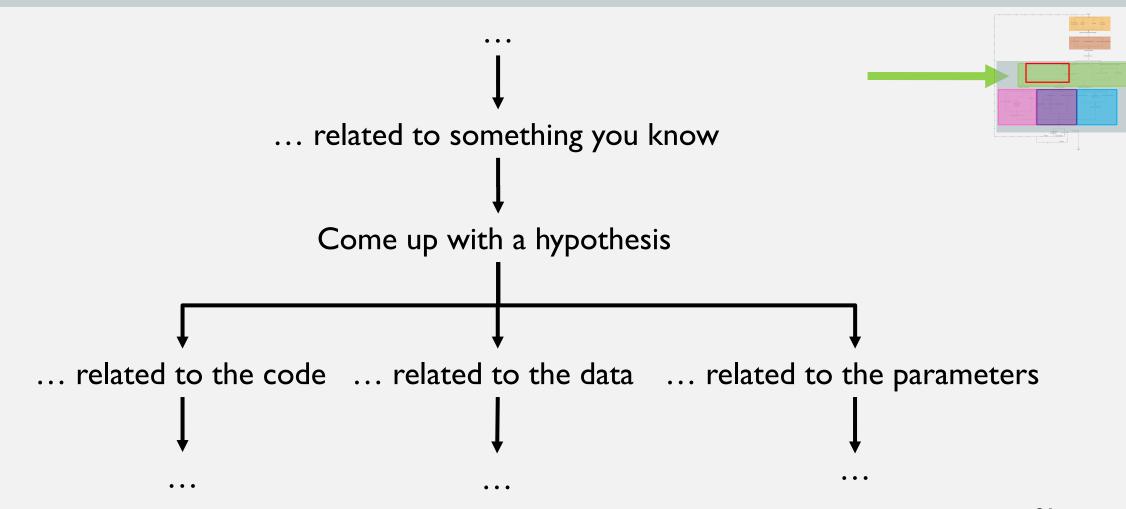
RM Home

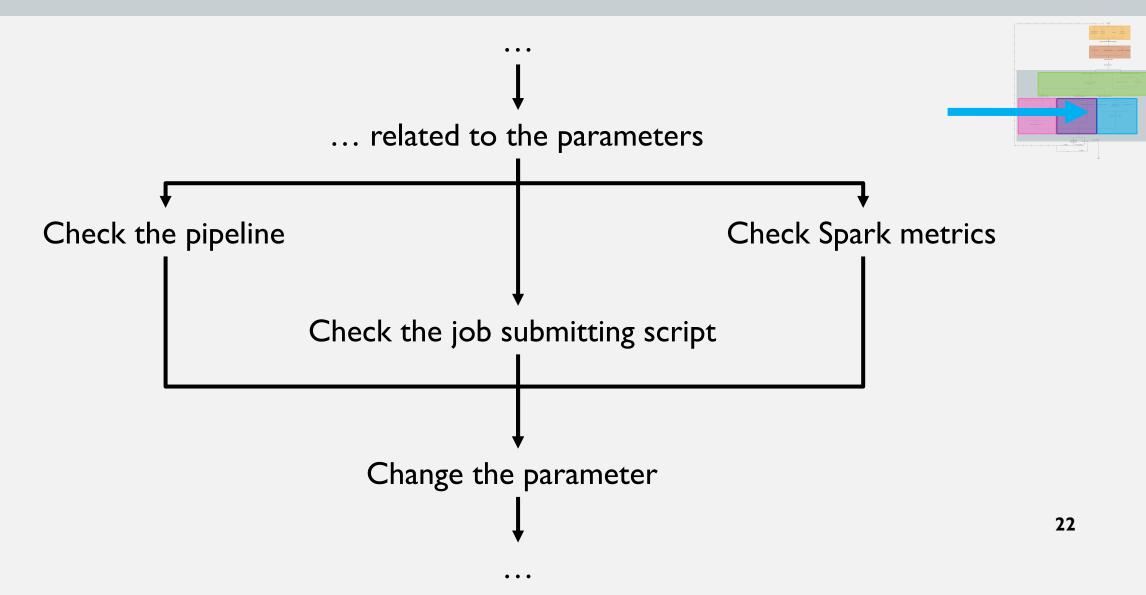
▶ NodeManager

▶ Tools

```
OpenJDK 64-Bit Server VM warning: ignoring option MaxPermSize=256m; support was removed in 8.0
SLF4J: Class path contains multiple SLF4J bindings.
SLF4J: Found binding in [jar:file:/tmp/hadoop-melike/nm-local-dir/usercache/melike/filecache/10/_spark_libs__887481056050304420.zip/slf4j-log4j12-1.7.16.jar!/org/slf4j/impl/Statictogg
SLF4J: Found binding in [jar:file:/opt/hadoop-3.1.2/share/hadoop/common/lib/slf4j-log4j12-1.7.25.jar!/org/slf4j/impl/StaticLoggerBinder.class]
SLF4J: See http://www.slf4j.org/codes.html#multiple bindings for an explanation.
SLF4J: Actual binding is of type [org.slf4j.impl.Log4jLoggerFactory]
2019-12-08 22:18:49,858 INFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for TERM
2019-12-08 22:18:49,860 INFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for HUP
2019-12-08 22:18:49,860 INFO util.SignalUtils: Registered signal handler for INT
2019-12-08 22:18:50,525 WARN util.NativeCodeLoader: Unable to load native-hadoop library for your platform... using builtin-java classes where applicable
2019-12-08 22:18:50,823 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: Preparing Local resources
2019-12-08 22:18:52,149 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: Prepared Local resources Map(_app__.jar -> resource { scheme: "hdfs" host: "leela.unibe.ch" port: 9000 file: "/user/melike/.sparkStaging/applicati
2019-12-08 22:18:52,184 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: ApplicationAttemptId: appattempt 1575839673320 0002 000002
2019-12-08 22:18:52,196 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls to: melike
2019-12-08 22:18:52,196 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing modify acls to: melike
2019-12-08 22:18:52,197 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls groups to:
2019-12-08 22:18:52,198 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing modify acls groups to:
2019-12-08 22:18:52,198 INFO spark. SecurityManager: SecurityManager: authentication disabled; ui acls disabled; users with view permissions: Set(melike); groups with view permissions: Set(melike);
2019-12-08 22:18:52,224 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: Starting the user application in a separate Thread
2019-12-08 22:18:52,231 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: Waiting for spark context initialization
2019-12-08 22:18:52,232 INFO yarn.ApplicationMaster: Waiting for spark context initialization ...
2019-12-08 22:18:52,263 INFO spark.SparkContext: Running Spark version 2.0.2
2019-12-08 22:18:52,325 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls to: melike
2019-12-08 22:18:52,325 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing modify acls to: melike
2019-12-08 22:18:52,325 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing view acls groups to:
2019-12-08 22:18:52,325 INFO spark. Security Manager: Changing modify acls groups to:
2019-12-08 22:18:52,326 INFO spark. SecurityManager: SecurityManager: authentication disabled; ui acls disabled; users with view permissions: Set(melike); groups with view permissions; groups wit
2019-12-08 22:18:52,655 INFO util.Utils: Successfully started service 'sparkDriver' on port 41643.
2019-12-08 22:18:52,683 INFO spark.SparkEnv: Registering MapOutputTracker
2019-12-08 22:18:52,710 INFO spark.SparkEnv: Registering BlockManagerMaster
2019-12-08 22:18:52,731 INFO storage.DiskBlockManager: Created local directory at /tmp/hadoop-melike/nm-local-dir/usercache/melike/appcache/application_1575839673320_0002/blockmgr-ef493bb0-95ac-43e5-b
2019-12-08 22:18:52,759 INFO memory.MemoryStore: MemoryStore started with capacity 93.3 MB
2019-12-08 22:18:52,885 INFO spark.SparkEnv: Registering OutputCommitCoordinator
2019-12-08 22:18:53,017 INFO util.log: Logging initialized @4208ms
2019-12-08 22:18:53,079 INFO ui.JettyUtils: Adding filter: org.apache.hadoop.yarn.server.webproxy.amfilter.AmIpFilter
2019-12-08 22:18:53,153 INFO server.Server: jetty-9.2.z-SNAPSHOT
2019-12-08 22:18:53,182 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@5978551d{/jobs,null,AVAILABLE}
2019-12-08 22:18:53,182 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@57814a31{/jobs/json,null,AVAILABLE}
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             19
2019-12-08 22:18:53,182 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@5de2772d{/jobs/job,null,AVAILABLE}
2019-12-08 22:18:53,183 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@537a410d{/jobs/job/json,null,AVAILABLE}
2019-12-08 22:18:53,183 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@483136c2{/stages,null,AVAILABLE}
2019-12-08 22:18:53,183 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@15bc2d37{/stages/json,null,AVAILABLE}
2019-12-08 22:18:53,184 INFO handler.ContextHandler: Started o.s.j.s.ServletContextHandler@5b296bb2{/stages/stage,null,AVAILABLE}
```







## Solving the problem - Check the pipeline



Jobs

Stages

Storage

## Spark

Jobs

Stages

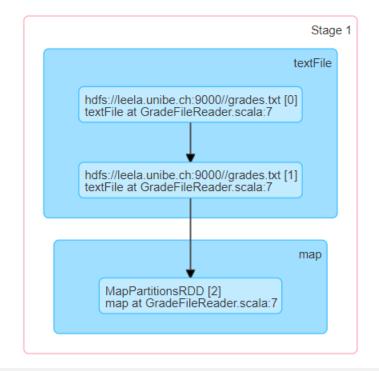
Storage

#### **Details for Stage 1 (Attempt 0)**

Total Time Across All Tasks: 1 s Locality Level Summary: Rack local: 1

Input Size / Records: 24.0 B / 11

▼ DAG Visualization



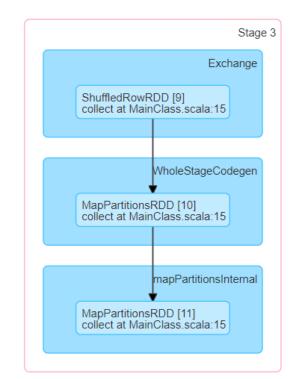
#### **Details for Stage 3 (Attempt 0)**

Total Time Across All Tasks: 5 s

Locality Level Summary: Node local: 3; Process local: 201

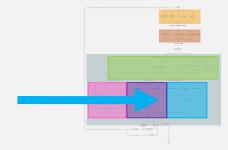
Shuffle Read: 616.0 B / 3

▼ DAG Visualization





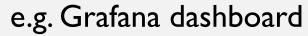
### Solving the problem - Check the job submitting script



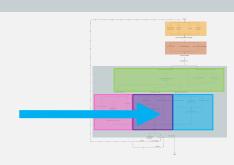
```
melike@leela:~

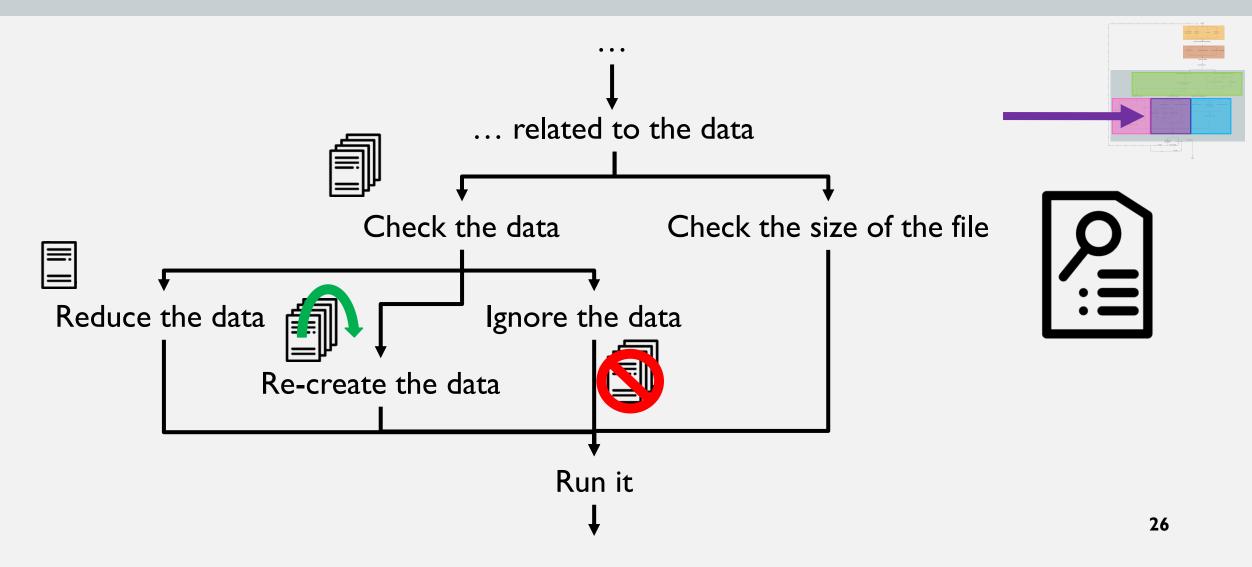
melike@leela:~$ spark-submit --num-executors 3 --master yarn --deploy-mode cluster --class ch.unibe.scg.MainClass CodeSa ^
mpleOne-assembly-0.1.jar hdfs://leela.unibe.ch:9000//sales.txt_
```

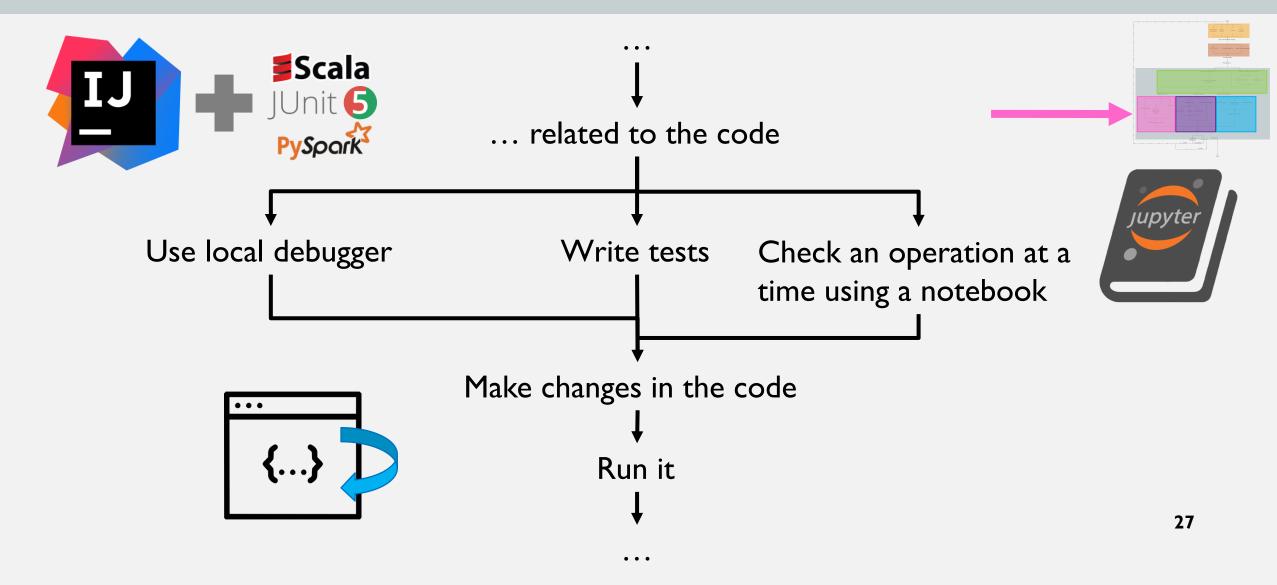
## Solving the problem - Check Spark metrics



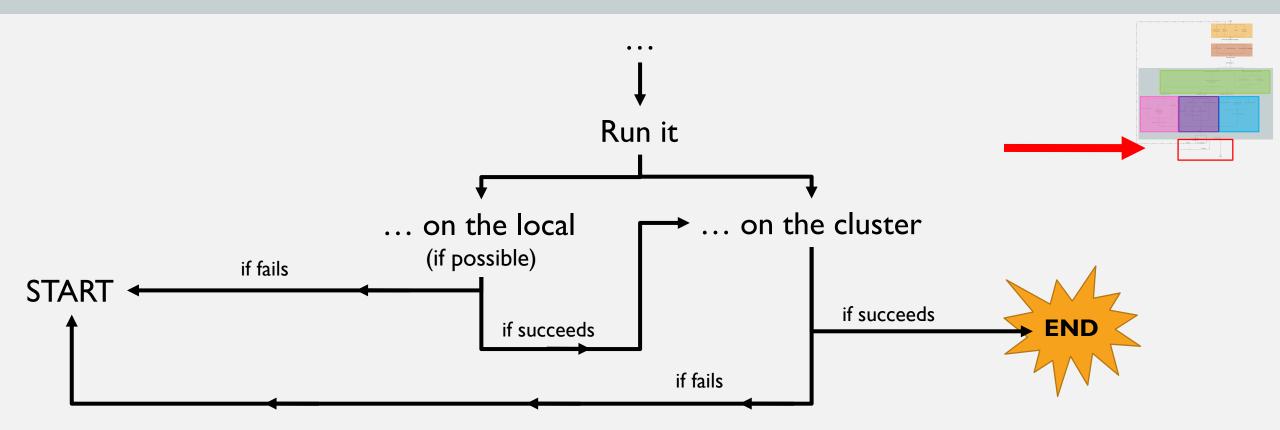








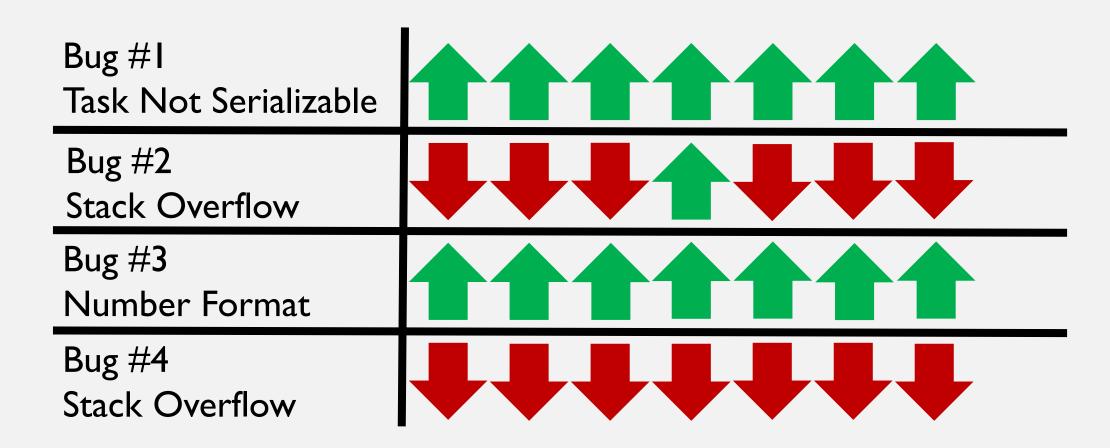
## **Epilogue**



## Postmortem Questionnaire

- I. Have you seen these bugs before?
- 2. What do you do, after you see the exception message?
- 3. How do you know if there is a job failure?
- 4. What is the nastiest type of bugs you encountered in Spark applications?
- 5. Would you describe a tool that you miss when debugging Spark applications? What does it do? Why do you think it's not there?

## Have you seen these bugs before?



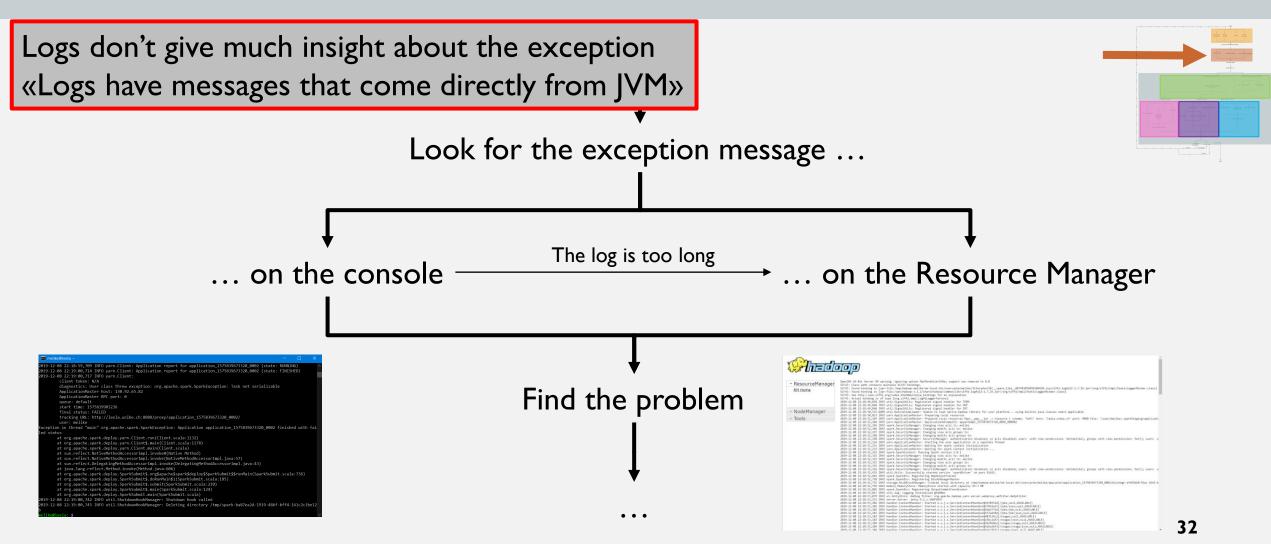
## What is the nastiest type of bugs you encountered in Spark applications?

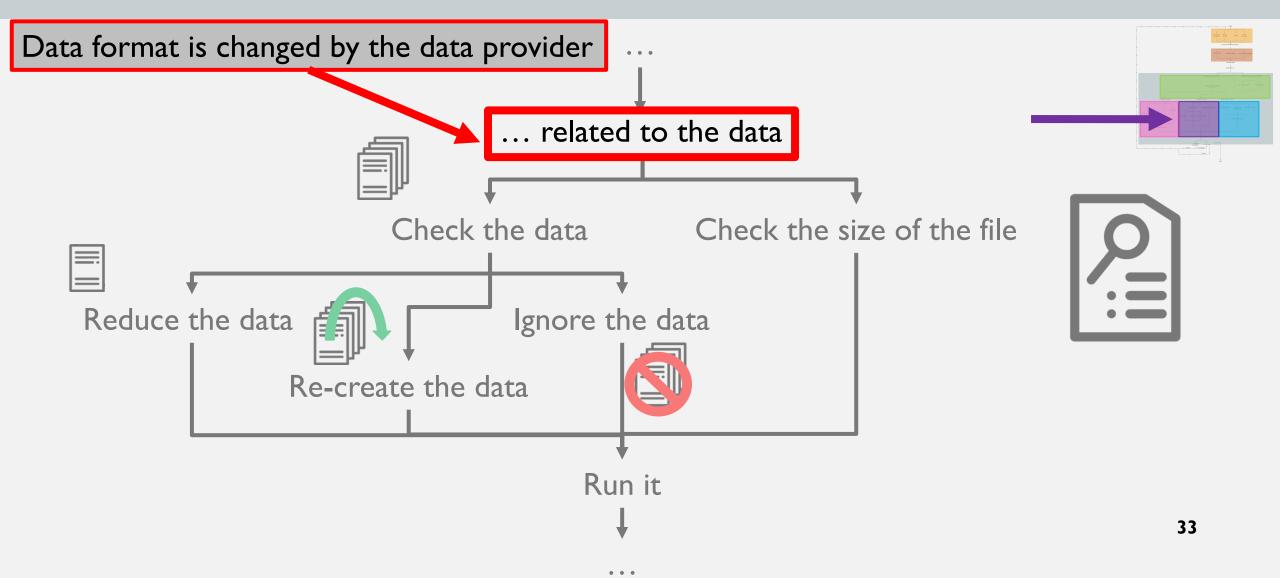
Spark is difficult for new learners.

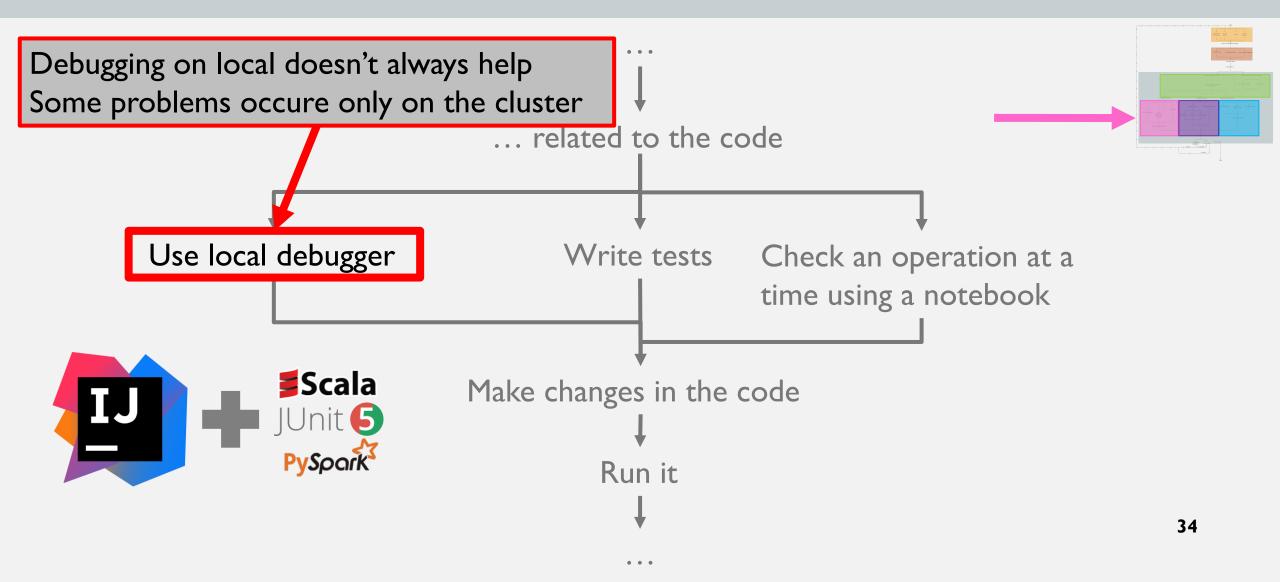
Assigning executors to partitions.

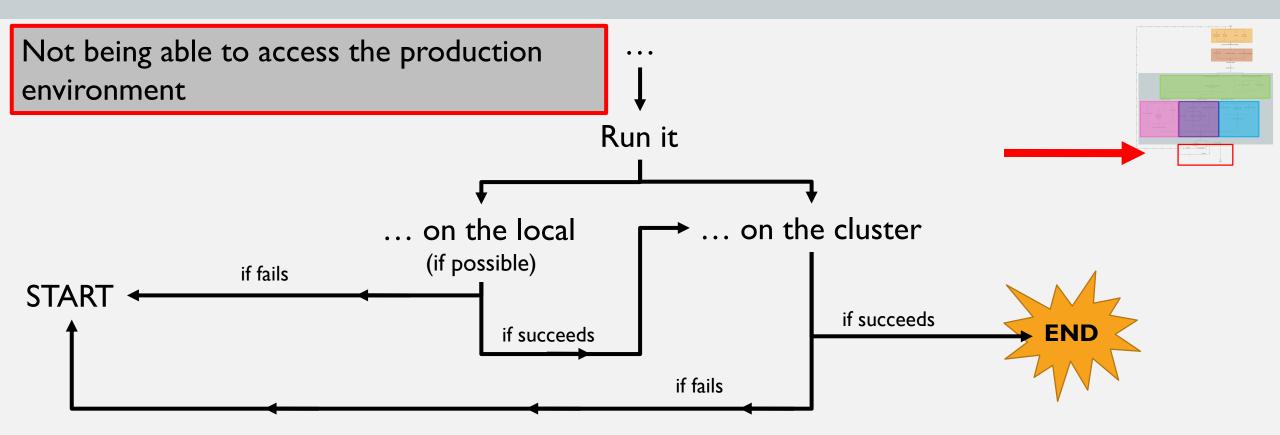
A job failes with Memory Overhead.

«Other components are nastier.»



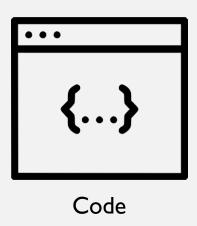






### How can we overcome these challenges?

### 3 categories of enhancements were proposed:









**Dashboard** 

## Tool Recommendations to Enhance Coding

- Monitor data after each transformation
- Find the line in a data file, which causes a problem
- A distributed debugger
  - A unified debugger interface (Leske, Chiş and Nierstrasz, 2016)
  - A remote debugging model based on reflection (Papoulias et al., 2015)

## Tool Recommendations to Enhance Logs

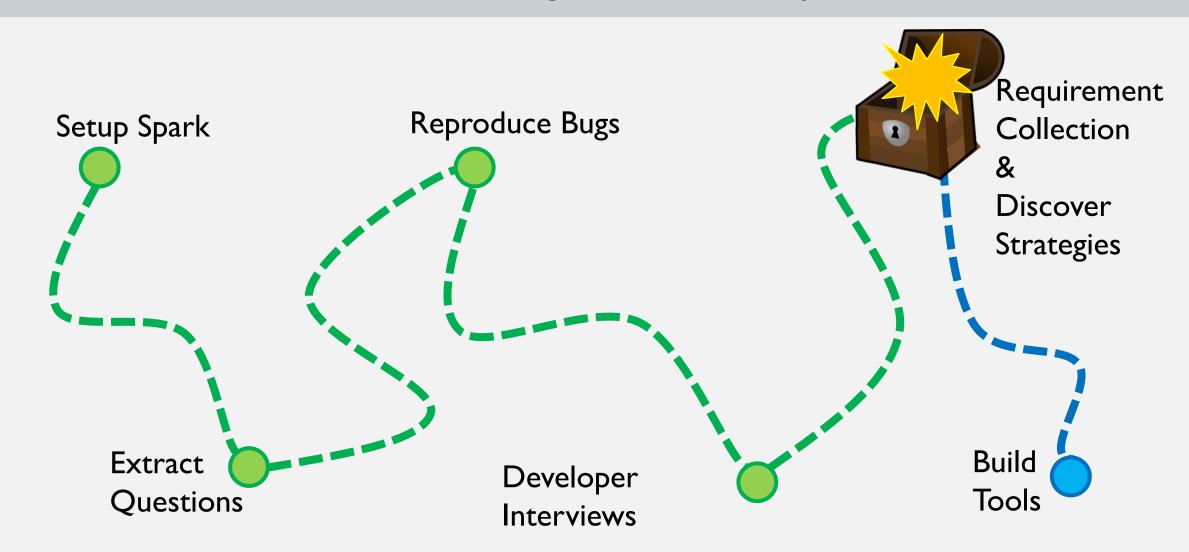
- A Log parser
  - A tool which separates important and useless parts of logs
  - Better exception messages, instead of taking the message from JVM
  - Using ML techniques to learn and advice solutions to certain problems

- See in which line the application dies like in Java
- See logs per stage on Spark UI

#### Tool Recommendation: Dashboard

- A tool which displays configuration of the cluster
  - Memory, GC, Network Bandwith, and other parameters
- A tool which can compare different environments
  - when there's no access to the other environment.

## Investigation Roadmap



## Duration vs. Number of Steps

