



Powering Monitoring Analytics with ELK stack

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Powering Monitoring Analytics with ELK stack

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References

online Tutorials

- ▶ Elasticsearch Reference:
<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/index.html>
- ▶ Elasticsearch, The Definitive Guide:
<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/guide/current/index.html>
- ▶ Logstash Reference:
<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/logstash/current/index.html>
- ▶ Kibana User Guide:
<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/kibana/current/index.html>

Books

- ▶ Rafal Kuc, Marek Rogozinski: Mastering Elasticsearch, Second Edition, February 27, 2015

Monitoring data

Machine-generated data

- ▶ Nagios logs
- ▶ Snort and suricata logs
- ▶ Web server and ssh logs
- ▶ Honeypots logs
- ▶ Network event logs: NetFlow, IPFIX, pcap traces

Snort log

```
[**] [1:2000537:6] ET SCAN NMAP -sS [**] [Classification: Attempted Information Leak]
[Priority: 2] 11/08-11:25:41.773271 10.2.199.239:61562 -> 180.242.137.181:5222 TCP TTL:38
TOS:0x0 ID:9963 IpLen:20 DgmLen:44 *****S* Seq: 0xF7D028A7 Ack: 0x0 Win: 0x800 TcpLen: 24
TCP Options (1) => MSS: 1160
```

Web server log

```
128.1.0.0 - - [30/Apr/1998:22:38:48] "GET /english/venues/Paris/St-Denis/ HTTP/1.1" 404 333
```

Monitoring data: properties

- ▶ Variety of data sources: flows, logs, pcap data
- ▶ Structure: structured, non structured
- ▶ Massive volume: grow at Moore's Law kinds of speeds

Who is looking into them ?

- ▶ IT administrators
- ▶ Researchers and scientists

Why ?

- ▶ Continuous monitoring tasks
- ▶ Extract useful information and insights: finding meaningful events leading to new discoveries
- ▶ Looking for a needle in a haystack: forensics and Incident Handling
- ▶ Data search, aggregation, correlation
- ▶ Predictive modelling, statistical analysis, anomaly detection

Traditional tools and techniques

Storage

- ▶ Text files, binary files
- ▶ Relational databases: MySQL, PostgreSQL, MS Access
- ▶ New trends: NoSQL databases (Redis, MongoDB, HBase, ...)

```
May 31st 2015, 15:44:06.039    com.whatsapp    10.29.12.166    50048    184.173.179.38    443
May 31st 2015, 15:55:40.268    com.facebook.orca    10.29.12.166    47236    31.13.64.3    443
```

Tools and commands

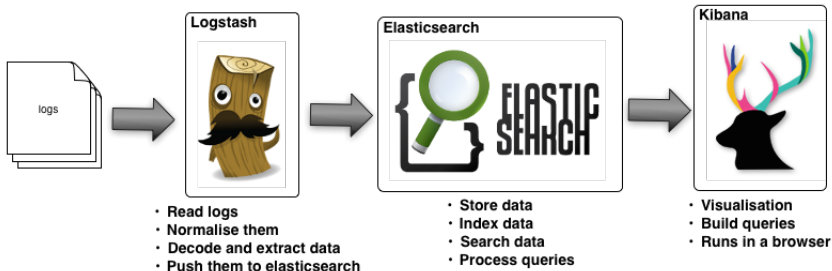
- ▶ SQL, Grep, sed, awk, cut, find, gnuplot
- ▶ Perl, Python, Shell

```
perl -p -e 's/\t/ /g' raw | cut -d ' ' -f5-
```

ELK Components

Elasticsearch Logstash Kibana

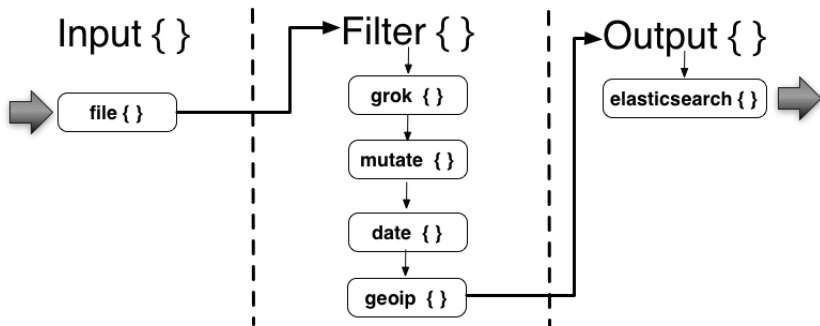
- ▶ end to end solution for logging, analytics, search and visualisation



Logstash: architecture

Event processing engine: data pipeline

- ▶ Inputs: collect data from variety of sources
- ▶ Filters: parse, process and enrich data
- ▶ Outputs: push data to a variety of destinations



Logstash: Inputs and codecs

Receive data from files, network, etc

- ▶ Network (TCP/UDP), File, syslog, stdin
- ▶ Redis, RabbitMQG, irc, Twitter, IMPA, xmpp
- ▶ syslog, ganglia, snmptrap, jmx, log4j

```
input {  
  file {  
    path => "/var/log/messages"  
    type => "syslog"  
  }  
  
  file {  
    path => "/var/log/apache/access.log"  
    type => "apache"  
  }  
}
```

Logstash: Filters

Enrich and process the event data

- ▶ grok, date, mutate, elapsed, ruby
- ▶ dns, geoip, useragent

```
filter {
  grok {
    match => { "message" => "%{COMBINEDAPACHELOG}" }
  }
  date {
    match => [ "timestamp" , "dd/MMM/yyyy:HH:mm:ss Z" ]
  }
}
```

Logstash: Outputs

Send event data to other systems

- ▶ file, stdout, tcp
- ▶ elasticsearch, MongoDB, email
- ▶ syslog, Ganglia

```
output {  
  stdout { codec => rubydebug }  
  elasticsearch { host => localhost }  
}
```

Elasticsearch: better than Grep!

Search engine

- ▶ Built on top of Apache Lucene: full-text-search engine library
- ▶ Schema-free
- ▶ JSON document oriented: store and REST API
- ▶ index, search, sort and filter documents

Distributed search and store

- ▶ scaling up (bigger servers) or scaling out (more servers)
- ▶ coping with failure: replication

RESTfull API

- ▶ store, fetch, alter, and delete data
- ▶ Easy backup with snapshot and restore
- ▶ No transactions nor rollback

Elasticsearch: glossary

- ▶ **Document**: main data unit used during indexing and searching, contains one or more fields
- ▶ **Field**: section of the document, a couple of name and value
- ▶ **Term**: unit of search representing a word from the text
- ▶ **Index**: named collection of documents (Like a database in a relational data base)
- ▶ **type**: a class of similar documents (like a table in in a relational data base)
- ▶ **Inverted index**: data structure that maps the terms in the index to the documents
- ▶ **Shard**: a separate Apache Lucene index. Low level "worker" unit.
- ▶ **Replica**: an exact copy of a shard

Relational DB => Databases => Tables => Rows => Columns
Elasticsearch => Indices => Types => Documents => Fields

Elasticsearch: indexes and documents

Create Index

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs' -d {  
  "settings": {  
    "number_of_shards" : 1,  
    "number_of_replicas" : 0  
  }  
}
```

Indexing a document

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/1' -d {  
  "clientip" => "8.0.0.0",  
  "verb" => "GET",  
  "request" => "/images/comp_stage2_brc_topr.gif",  
  "httpversion" => "1.0",  
  "response" => "200",  
  "bytes" => "163"  
}
```

Retrieving a document

```
curl -XGET 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/1'
```

Elasticsearch: mapping

Define the schema of your documents

- ▶ elasticsearch is able to dynamically generate a mapping of fields type
- ▶ It is better to provide your own mapping: date fields as dates, numeric fields as numbers string fields as full-text or exact- value strings

Create a mapping

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs' {
  "mappings": {
    "apachelogs" : {
      "properties" : {
        "clientip" : {
          "type" : "ip"
        },
        "verb" : {
          "type" : "string"
        },
        "request" : {
          "type" : "string"
        },
        "httpversion" : {
          "type" : "string"
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Elasticsearch: Querying

Search Lite

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/_search'  
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/_search?q=response:200'
```

Search with Query DSL: match, filter, range

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/_search' -d {  
  "query" : {  
    "match" : {  
      "response" : "200"  
    }  
  }  
}  
  
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/_search' -d {  
  "query" : {  
    "filtered" : {  
      "filter" : {  
        "range" : {  
          "bytes" : { "gt" : 1024 }  
        }  
      },  
      "query" : {  
        "match" : {  
          "response" : "200"  
        }  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```


Elasticsearch: Aggregation

Analyze and summarize data

- ▶ How many needles are in the haystack?
- ▶ What is the average length of the needles?
- ▶ What is the median length of the needles, broken down by manufacturer?
- ▶ How many needles were added to the haystack each month?

Buckets

- ▶ Collection of documents that meet a criterion

Metrics

- ▶ Statistics calculated on the documents in a bucket

SQL equivalent

```
SELECT COUNT(response) FROM table GROUP BY response
```

- ▶ COUNT(response) is equivalent to a metric
- ▶ GROUP BY response is equivalent to a bucket

Aggregation: buckets

- ▶ partitioning document based on criteria: by hour, by most-popular terms, by age ranges, by IP ranges

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/_search?search_type=count' -d {
  "aggs" : {
    "responses" : {
      "terms" : {
        "field" : "response"
      }
    }
  }
}
```

- ▶ Aggregations are placed under the top-level aggs parameter (the longer aggregations will also work if you prefer that)
- ▶ We then name the aggregation whatever we want: responses, in this example
- ▶ Finally, we define a single bucket of type terms
- ▶ Setting search_type to count avoids executing the fetch phase of the search making the request more efficient

Aggregation: metrics

- ▶ metric calculated on those documents in each bucket: min, mean, max, quantiles

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/logs/apachelogs/_search?search_type=count' -d {
  "aggs": {
    "responses": {
      "terms": {
        "field": "response"
      },
      "aggs": {
        "avg_bytes": {
          "avg": {
            "field": "bytes"
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Aggregation: combining them

An aggregation is a combination of buckets and metrics

- ▶ Partition document by client IP (bucket)
- ▶ Then partition each client bucket by verbe (bucket)
- ▶ Then partition each verbe bucket by response (bucket)
- ▶ Finally, calculate the average bytes for each response (metric)
- ▶ **Average bytes per <client IP, verbe, response>**

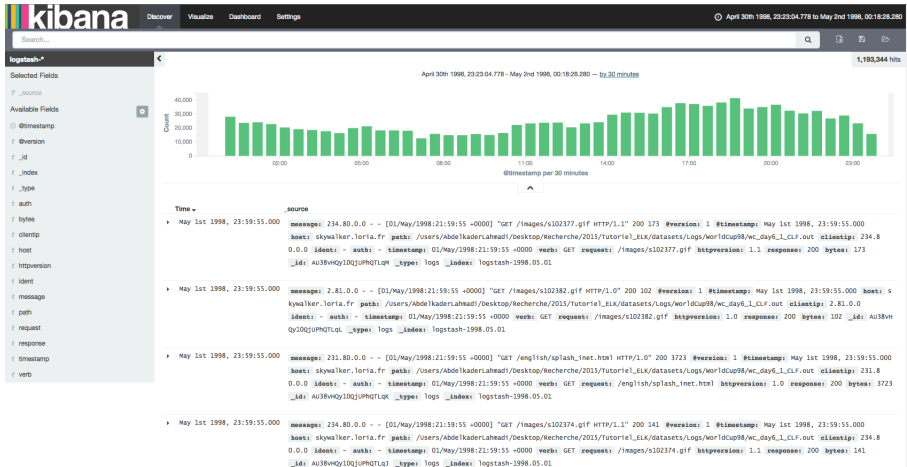
Many types are available

- ▶ terms
- ▶ range, date_range, ip_range
- ▶ histogram, date_histogram
- ▶ stats/avg, min, max, sum, percentiles

Kibana: visualisation

Data visualisation

- ▶ browser-based interface
- ▶ search, view, and interact with data stored in Elasticsearch indice
- ▶ charts, tables, and maps
- ▶ dashboards to display changes to Elasticsearch queries in real time



Kibana: setting your index

```
curl 'localhost:9200/_cat/indices?v'  
index pri rep docs.count docs.deleted store.size pri.store.size  
logstash-1998.04.30 5 1 98434 0 20.6mb 20.6mb  
logstash-1998.05.01 5 1 1094910 0 205.8mb 205.8mb
```

The screenshot shows the Kibana interface for the 'logstash-*' index. The top navigation bar includes 'Discover', 'Visualize', 'Dashboard', and 'Settings'. The 'Settings' tab is active, showing 'Index Patterns' and 'logstash-*'. Below the index name, there are three colored buttons: a green plus sign, an orange square, and a red square. A descriptive paragraph explains that the page lists every field in the index and its core type as recorded by Elasticsearch. Below this is a table of fields with columns for name, type, format, analyzed, indexed, and controls. The table lists 24 fields, including 'tags', 'host', '_source', '_index', 'path.raw', '@version', 'tags.raw', 'message', '@timestamp', '_type', '_id', 'host.raw', 'path', 'geoip.location', 'bytes', 'clientip.raw', 'clientip', and 'response'. Each field has a corresponding type and format, and a 'controls' column with a dropdown arrow.

name	type	format	analyzed	indexed	controls
tags	string		✓	✓	⌵
host	string		✓	✓	⌵
_source	_source				⌵
_index	string				⌵
path.raw	string			✓	⌵
@version	string			✓	⌵
tags.raw	string			✓	⌵
message	string		✓	✓	⌵
@timestamp	date			✓	⌵
_type	string			✓	⌵
_id	string				⌵
host.raw	string			✓	⌵
path	string		✓	✓	⌵
geoip.location	geo_point			✓	⌵
bytes	string		✓	✓	⌵
clientip.raw	string			✓	⌵
clientip	string		✓	✓	⌵
response	string		✓	✓	⌵

Kibana: discover

- ▶ Explore you data with access to every document
- ▶ Submit search query, filter the search
- ▶ Save and Load searches

The screenshot displays the Kibana Discover interface. At the top, the search bar contains the query `response:200`. The left sidebar shows the 'logstash-*' index pattern and a list of available fields including `_source`, `@timestamp`, `@version`, `_id`, `_index`, `_type`, `auth`, `bytes`, `clientip`, `host`, `httpversion`, `ident`, `message`, `path`, `request`, `response`, `timestamp`, and `verb`.

The main view features a bar chart titled 'April 30th 1998, 23:23:04.778 to May 2nd 1998, 00:18:28.280 - by 30 minutes'. The chart shows the count of documents per 30-minute interval, with a peak of approximately 35,000 documents around 17:00 on May 1st, 1998. The total number of hits is 1,038,471.

Below the chart, a table of log entries is displayed. Each entry includes a timestamp, a message, and various fields like `host`, `path`, `clientip`, `ident`, `auth`, `timestamp`, `verb`, `request`, `response`, `bytes`, `httpversion`, `ident`, and `index`.

Time	_source
May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000	<pre>message: 234.80.0.0 - - [01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000] "GET /images/s102377.gif HTTP/1.1" 200 173 response: 200 @version: 1 @timestamp: May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000 host: skywalker.loria.fr path: /Users/AbdelkaderLahmadi/Desktop/Recherche/2015/Tutoriel_ELK/datasets/Logs/worldcup98/wc_day6_1_CLF.out clientip: 234.80.0.0 ident: - auth: - timestamp: 01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000 verb: GET request: /images/s102377.gif httpversion: 1.1 bytes: 173 _id: AU38vHqY10QjUPHQTLQw _type: logs _index: logstash-1998.05.01</pre>
May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000	<pre>message: 2.81.0.0 - - [01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000] "GET /images/s102382.gif HTTP/1.0" 200 102 response: 200 @version: 1 @timestamp: May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000 host: skywalker.loria.fr path: /Users/AbdelkaderLahmadi/Desktop/Recherche/2015/Tutoriel_ELK/datasets/Logs/worldcup98/wc_day6_1_CLF.out clientip: 2.81.0.0 ident: - auth: - timestamp: 01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000 verb: GET request: /images/s102382.gif httpversion: 1.0 bytes: 102 _id: AU38vHqY10QjUPHQTLQl _type: logs _index: logstash-1998.05.01</pre>
May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000	<pre>message: 231.80.0.0 - - [01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000] "GET /english/splash_inet.html HTTP/1.0" 200 3723 response: 200 @version: 1 @timestamp: May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000 host: skywalker.loria.fr path: /Users/AbdelkaderLahmadi/Desktop/Recherche/2015/Tutoriel_ELK/datasets/Logs/worldcup98/wc_day6_1_CLF.out clientip: 231.80.0.0 ident: - auth: - timestamp: 01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000 verb: GET request: /english/splash_inet.html httpversion: 1.0 bytes: 3723 _id: AU38vHqY10QjUPHQTLQK _type: logs _index: logstash-1998.05.01</pre>
May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000	<pre>message: 234.80.0.0 - - [01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000] "GET /images/s102374.gif HTTP/1.1" 200 141 response: 200 @version: 1 @timestamp: May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000 host: skywalker.loria.fr path: /Users/AbdelkaderLahmadi/Desktop/Recherche/2015/Tutoriel_ELK/datasets/Logs/worldcup98/wc_day6_1_CLF.out clientip: 234.80.0.0 ident: - auth: - timestamp: 01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000 verb: GET request: /images/s102374.gif httpversion: 1.1 bytes: 141 _id: AU38vHqY10QjUPHQTLQj _type: logs _index: logstash-1998.05.01</pre>
May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000	<pre>message: 141.80.0.0 - - [01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000] "GET /images/32c49827.jpg HTTP/1.1" 200 4022 response: 200 @version: 1 @timestamp: May 1st 1998, 23:59:55.000 host: skywalker.loria.fr path: /Users/AbdelkaderLahmadi/Desktop/Recherche/2015/Tutoriel_ELK/datasets/Logs/worldcup98/wc_day6_1_CLF.out clientip: 141.80.0.0 ident: - auth: - timestamp: 01/May/1998:21:59:55 +0000 verb: GET request: /images/32c49827.jpg httpversion: 1.1 bytes: 4022 _id: AU38vHqY10QjUPHQTLQk _type: logs _index: logstash-1998.05.01</pre>

Kibana: search

Query language

lang:en	to just search inside a field named "lang"
lang:e?	wildcard expression
user.listed_count:[0 to 10]	range search on numeric fields
lang:ens	regular expression search (very slow)

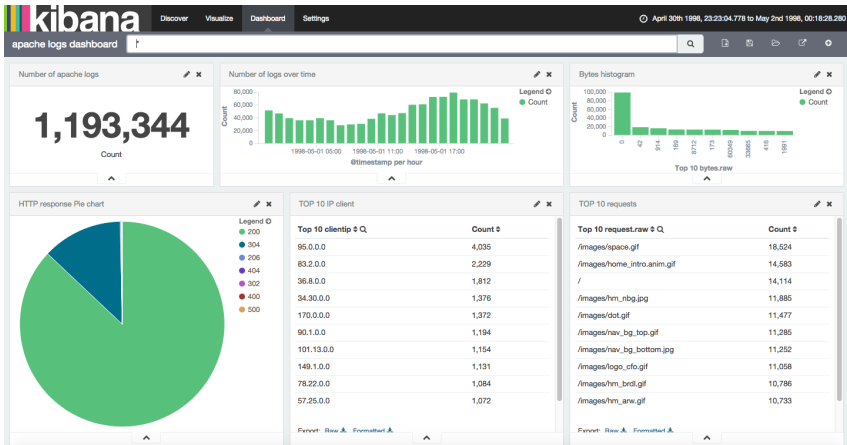
Kibana: visualize

- ▶ Area chart: Displays a line chart with filled areas below the lines. The areas can be displayed stacked, overlapped, or some other variations.
- ▶ Data table: Displays a table of aggregated data.
- ▶ Line chart: Displays aggregated data as lines.
- ▶ Markdown widget: Use the Markdown widget to display free-form information or instructions about your dashboard.
- ▶ Metric: Displays one the result of a metric aggregation without buckets as a single large number.
- ▶ Pie chart: Displays data as a pie with different slices for each bucket or as a donut (depending on your taste).
- ▶ Tile map: Displays a map for results of a geohash aggregation.
- ▶ Vertical bar chart: A chart with vertical bars for each bucket.

Kibana: dashboard

Displays a set of saved visualisations in groups

- ▶ Save, load and share dashboards



What else ?

Elasticsearch is very active and evolving project

- ▶ Watchout when using the wildcard !
- ▶ Deleting a mapping deletes the data
- ▶ Respect procedures to update mappings
- ▶ Backup is easy ¹, do it!

¹<https://github.com/taskrabbit/elasticsearch-dump>

Hands-on Lab