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BUILDING HA ELK STACK FOR DRUPAL

Marji Cermak

DevOps track, Experience level: Intermediate



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**What is this ...
... ELK again?**

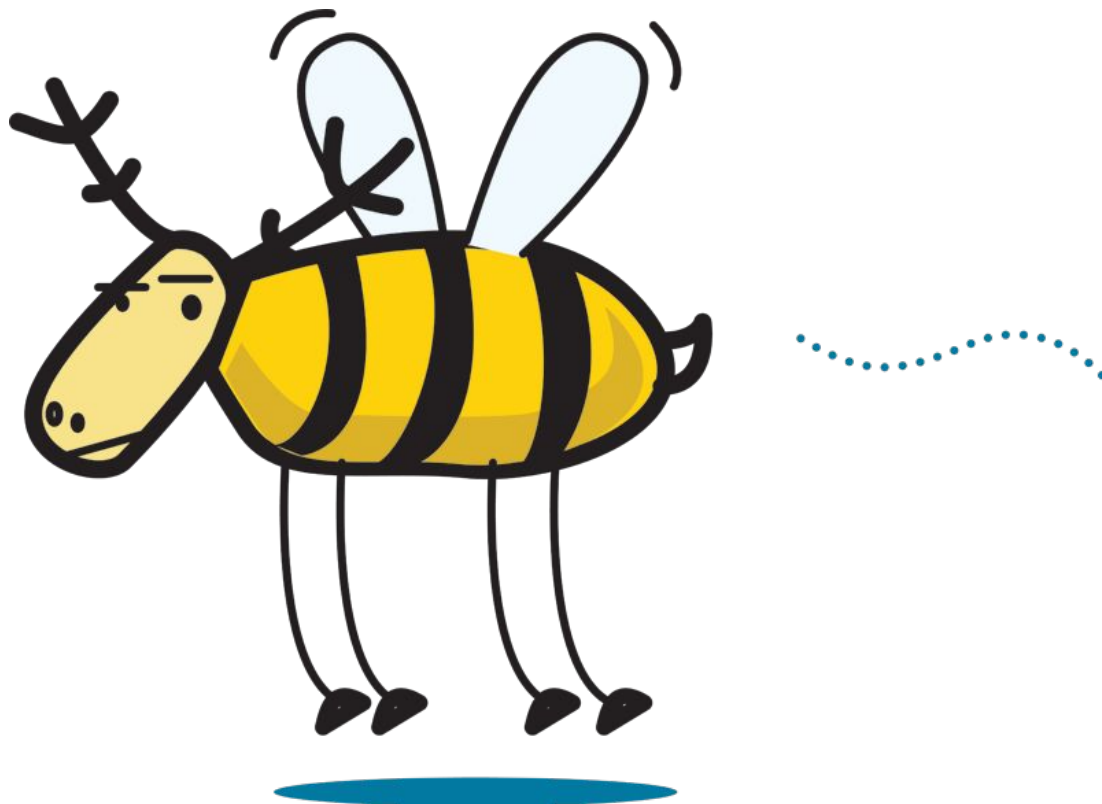


Source: "Family of Elk on Grassland" (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0) by Princess-Lodges

The ELK stack

Elasticsearch Logstash Kibana





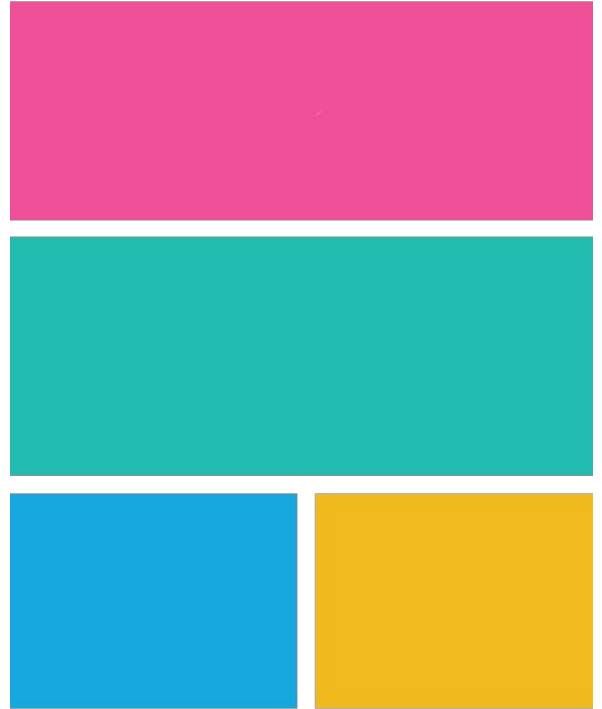
Source: <https://www.elastic.co/blog/hey-elastic-stack-and-x-pack>

The BELK stack

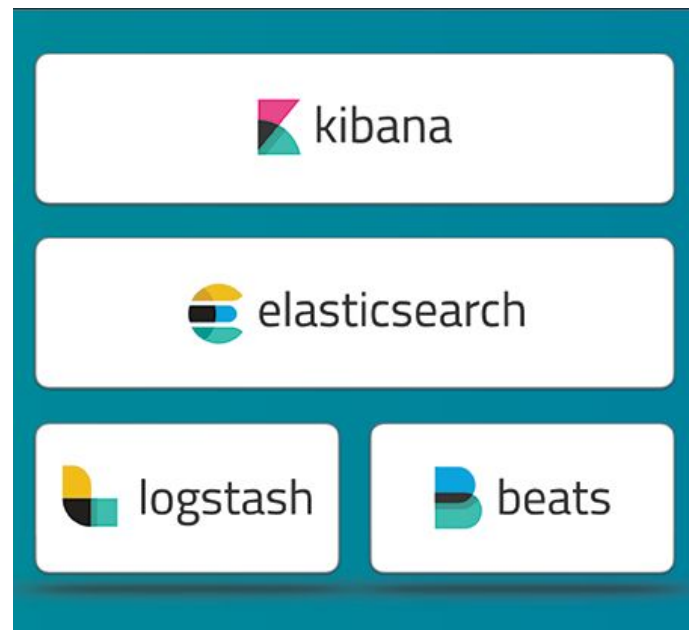
Beats **E**lasticsearch **L**ogstash **K**ibana



The elastic stack



The elastic stack



The stack's goal

- Take data from any source, any format,



The stack's goal

- Take data from any source, any format,
- process, transform and enrich it,



The stack's goal

- Take data from any source, any format,
- process, transform and enrich it,
- store it,



The stack's goal

- Take data from any source, any format,
- process, transform and enrich it,
- store it,
- so you can search, analyse and visualise it in real time.





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The four components of the BELK

Elasticsearch

- open source, full-text search analytic engine
- distributed, High Availability
- designed for horizontal scalability and reliability
- based on Apache Lucene (like Apache solr)
- written in Java
- Plugins - a way to enhance ES functionality



elasticsearch



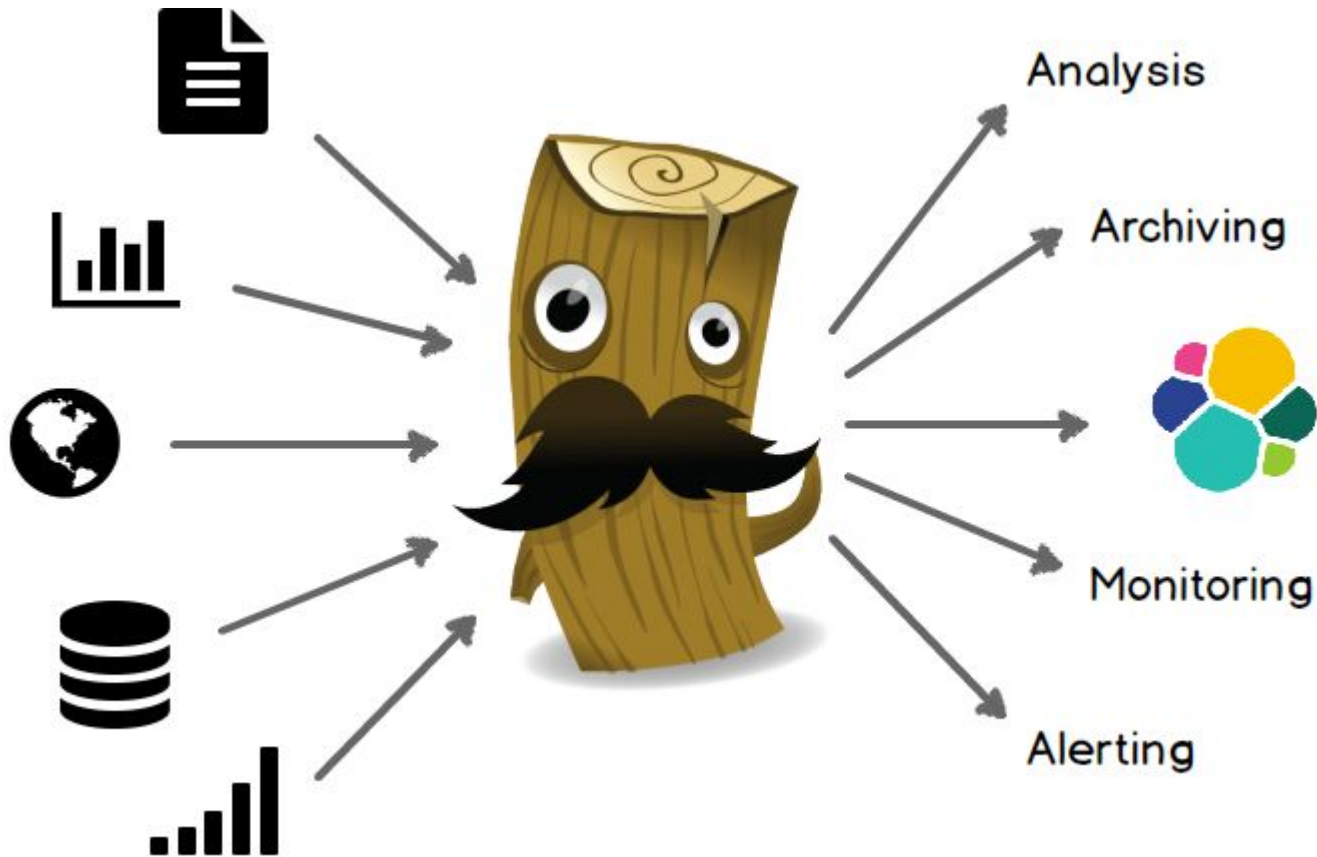
Logstash

- tool to collect, process, and forward events and log messages
- data collection, enrichment and transformation pipeline
- configurable input and output plugins
- e.g. logfile, MS windows eventlog, socket, Syslog, redis, salesforce, Drupal DBLog



logstash





Source: <https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/logstash/current/introduction.html>



Logstash

dozens of **input** plugins

- ❖ **Beats**
- ❖ file
- ❖ TCP, UDP, websocket
- ❖ syslog
- ❖ **redis**
- ❖ MS windows eventlog
- ❖ **drupal_dblog**



logstash



Logstash

dozens of **input** plugins

dozens of **output** plugins

- ❖ file
- ❖ TCP, UDP, websocket
- ❖ syslog
- ❖ **redis, SQS**
- ❖ graphite, influxdb
- ❖ nagios, zabbix
- ❖ jira, redmine
- ❖ s3
- ❖ **elasticsearch**



logstash



Logstash

dozens of **input** plugins

dozens of **output** plugins

dozens of **filter** plugins

- ❖ grok
- ❖ mutate
- ❖ drop
- ❖ date
- ❖ geoip



logstash



Kibana

- open source data visualisation platform
- allows to interact with data through powerful graphics
- brings data to life with visuals



kibana



Beats

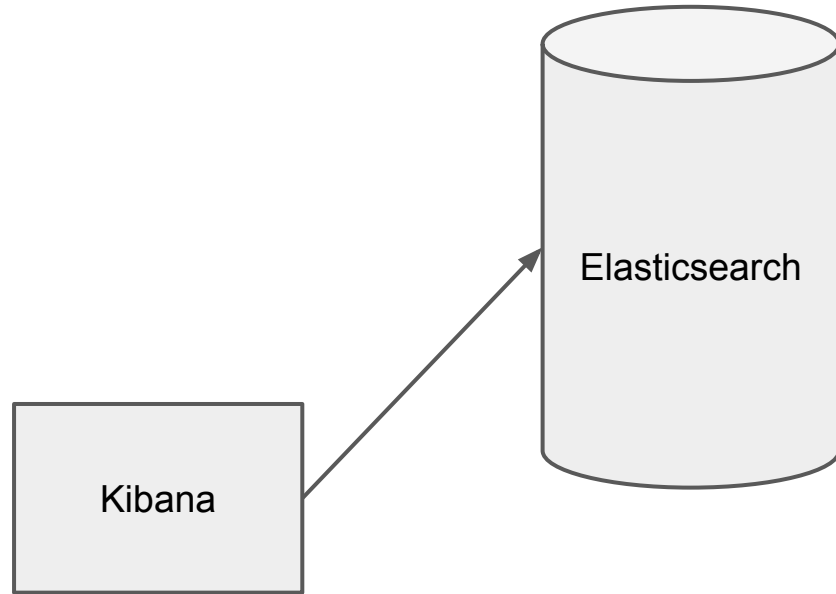
- Open source data shippers
- Lightweight
- Different beats:
Filebeat, Topbeat, Packetbeat,
Winlogbeat, Libbeat



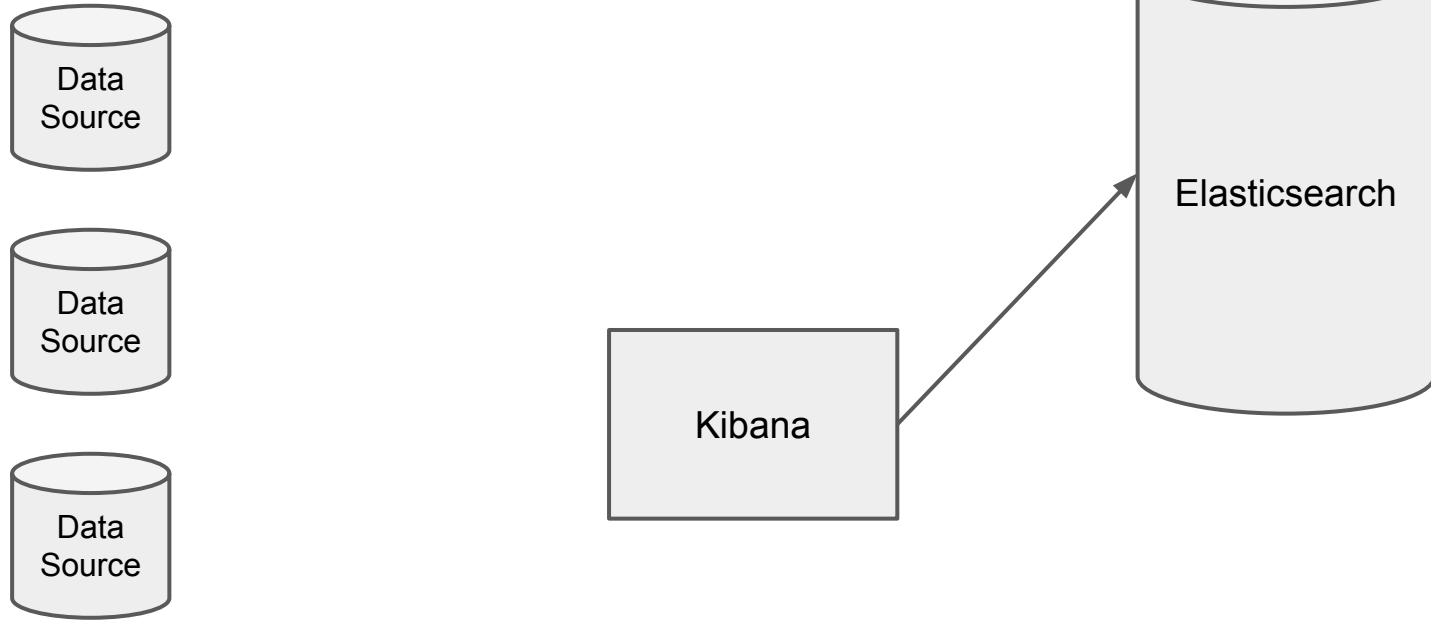
beats



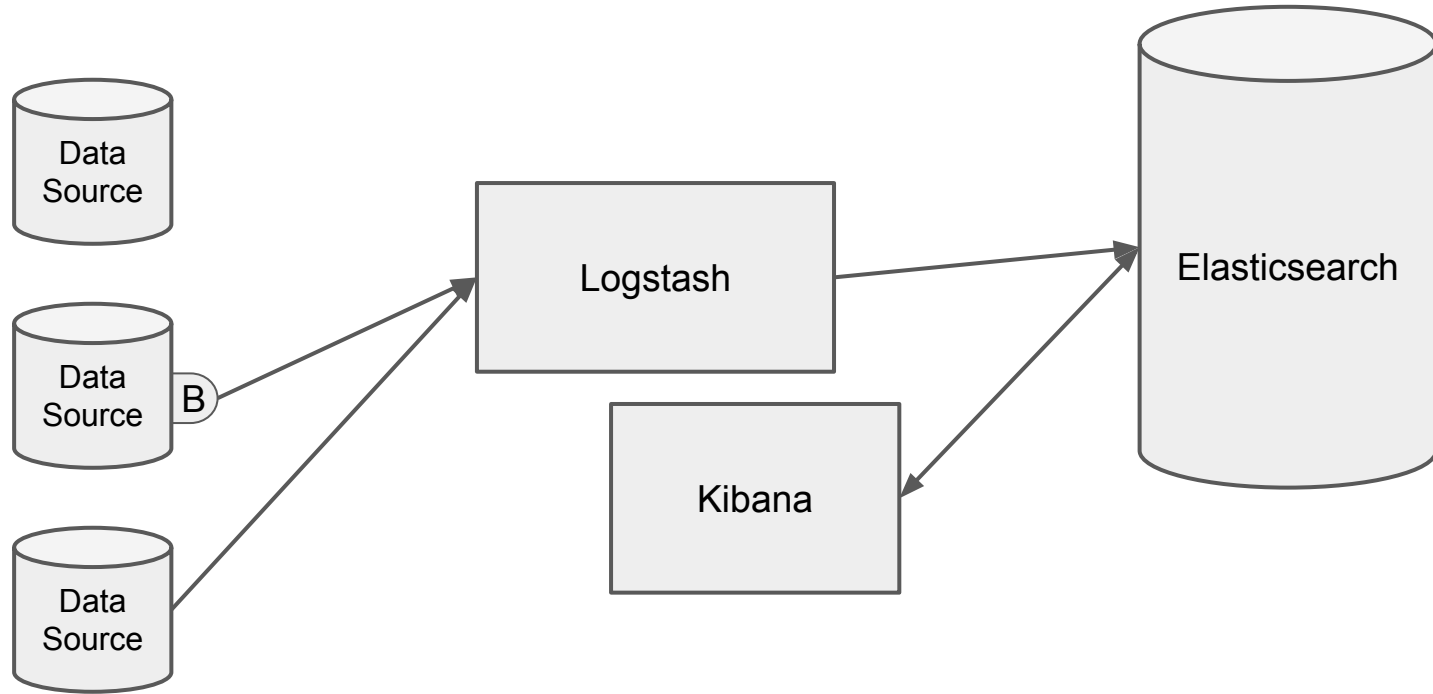
The BELK flow



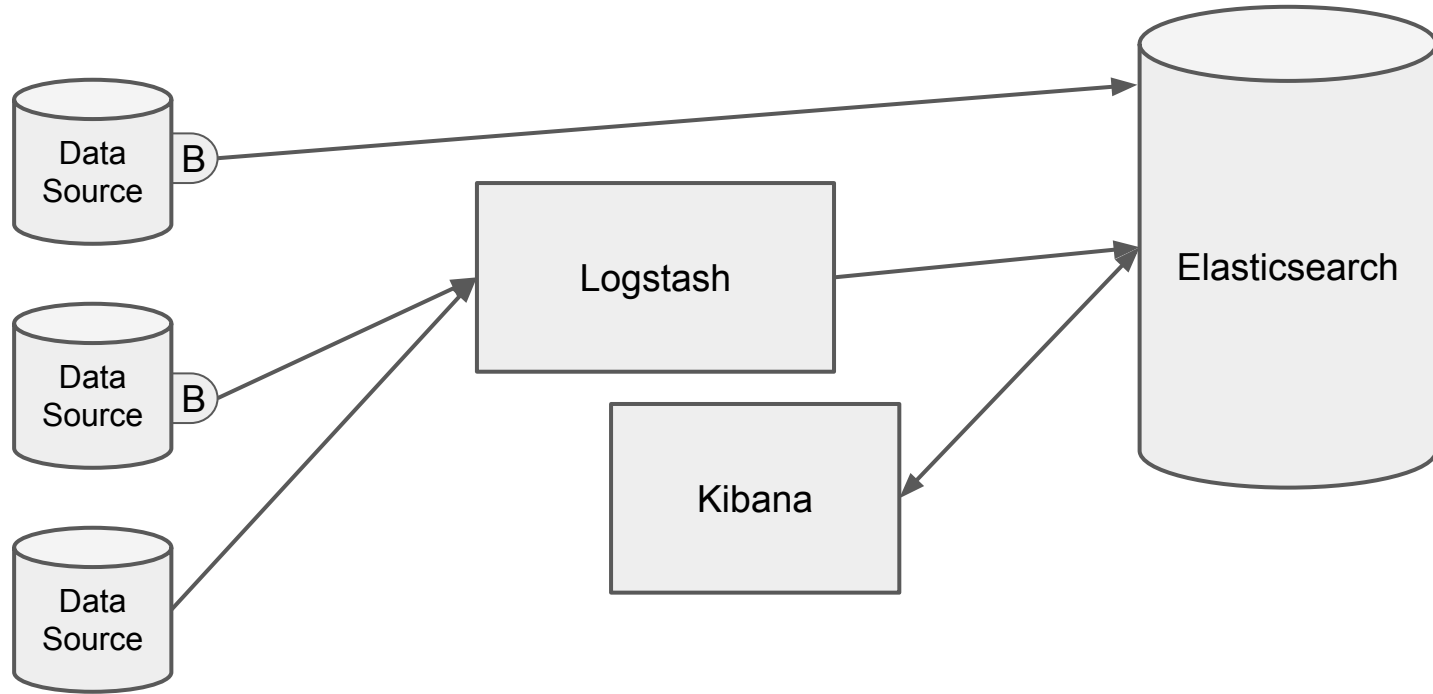
The BELK flow



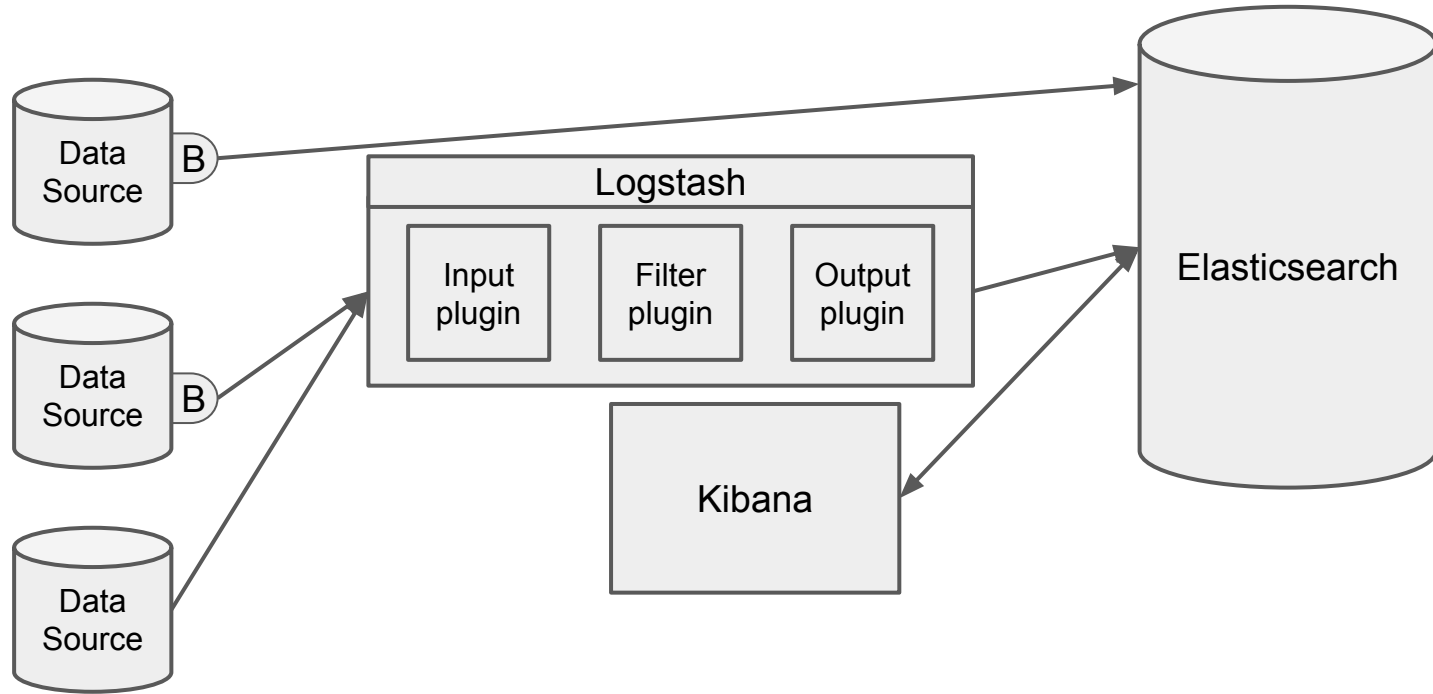
The BELK flow



The BELK flow



The BELK flow





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Tell me something new...
How do I build a HA ELK?

Why would you want a HA ELK (use case)

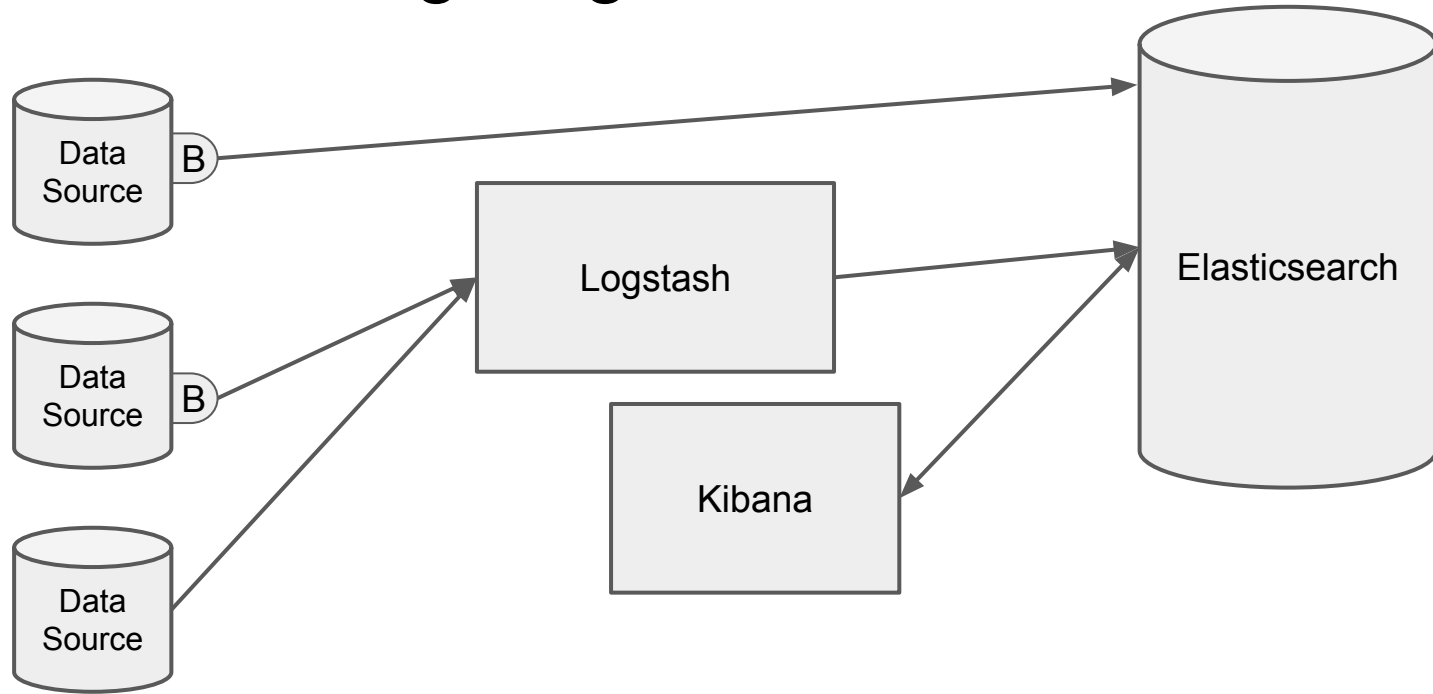
Imagine a banking industry client with a few dozens of sites (and servers).

They want all logs in one place. They cannot lose any log. They might have data retention requirements.

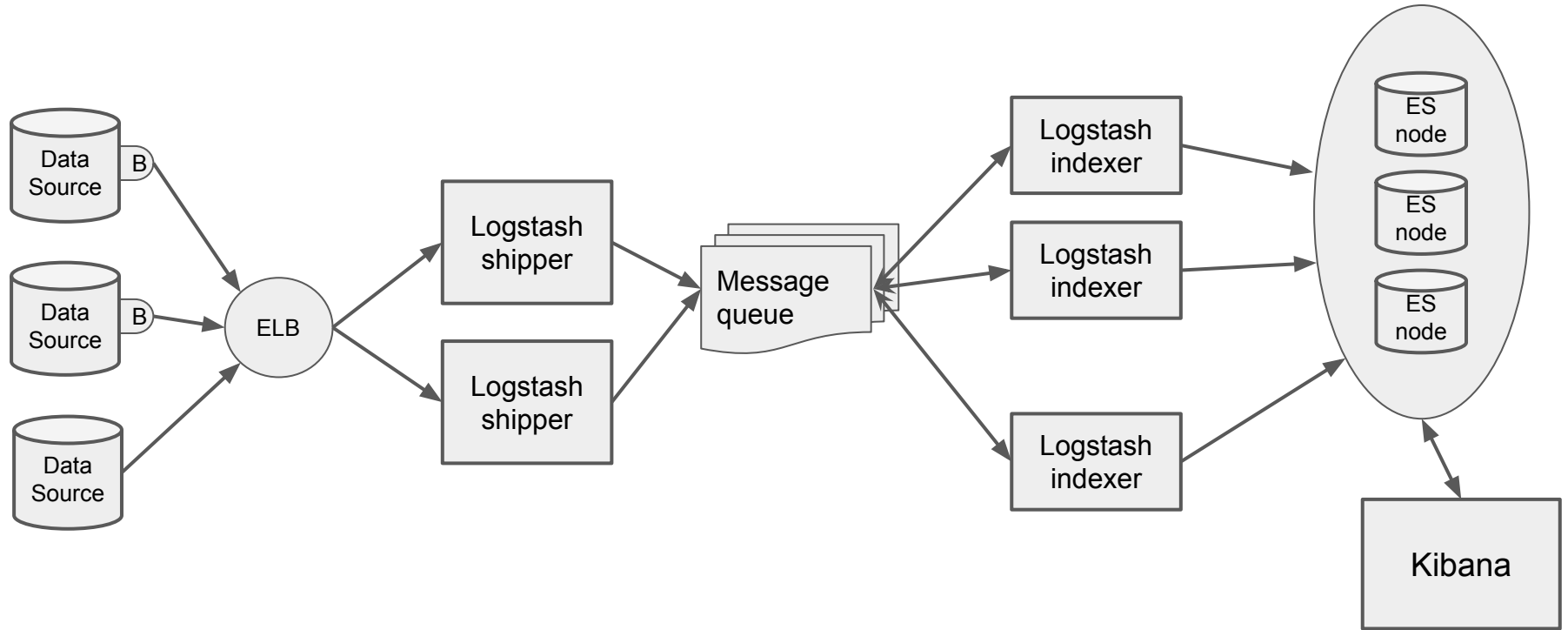
Audits, customer complaints.



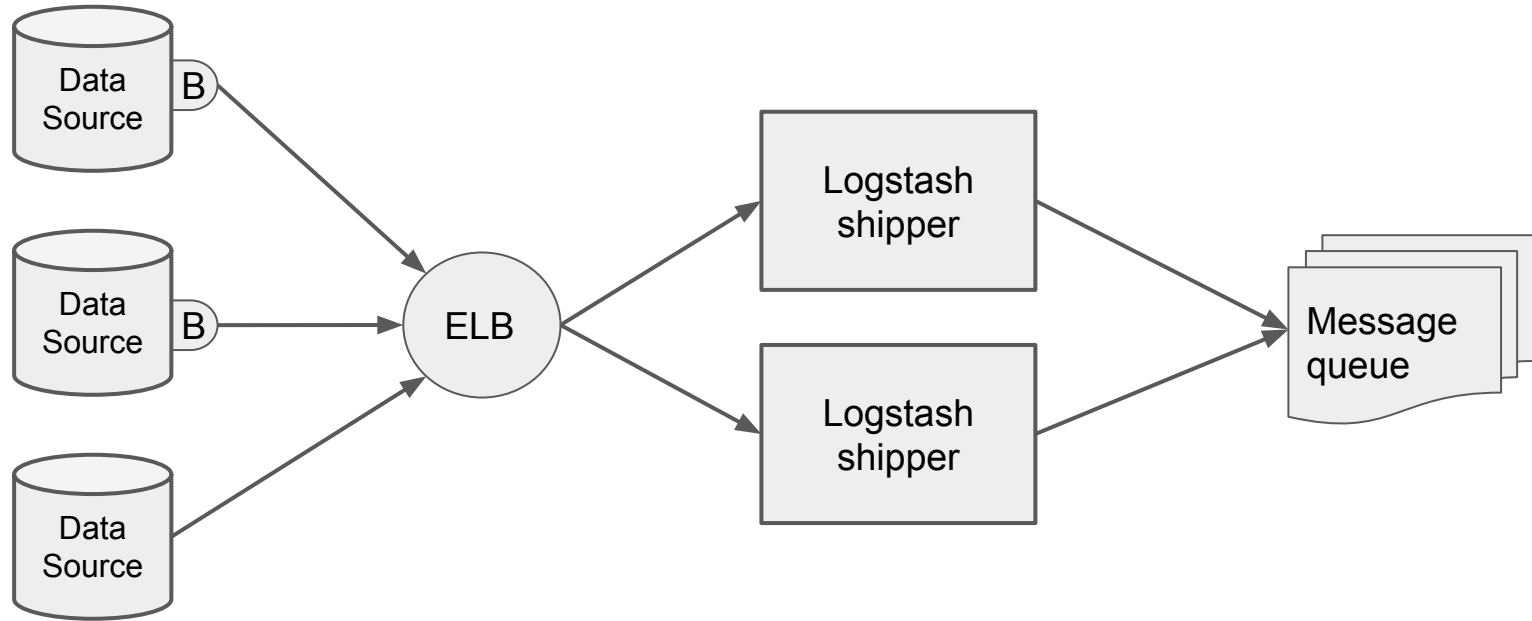
Let's make things high available



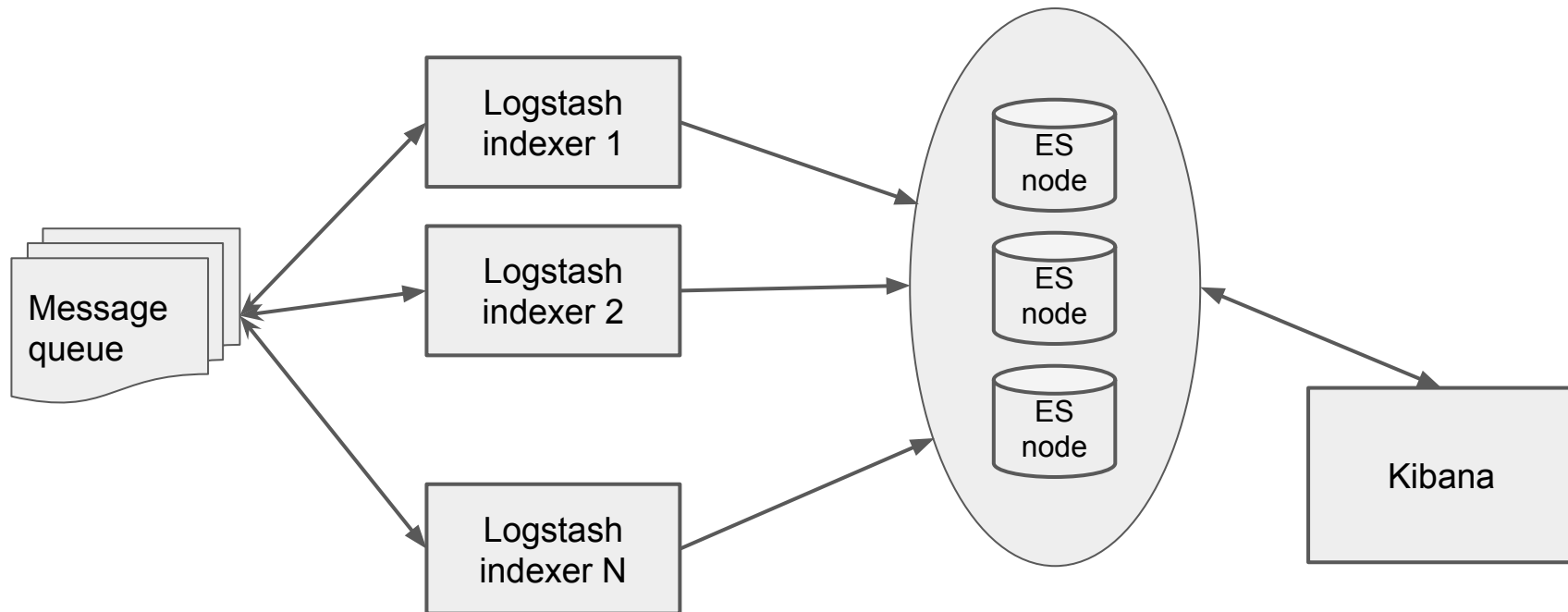
High Available ELK



High Available ELK (logs receiving part)



High Available ELK (logs processing part)



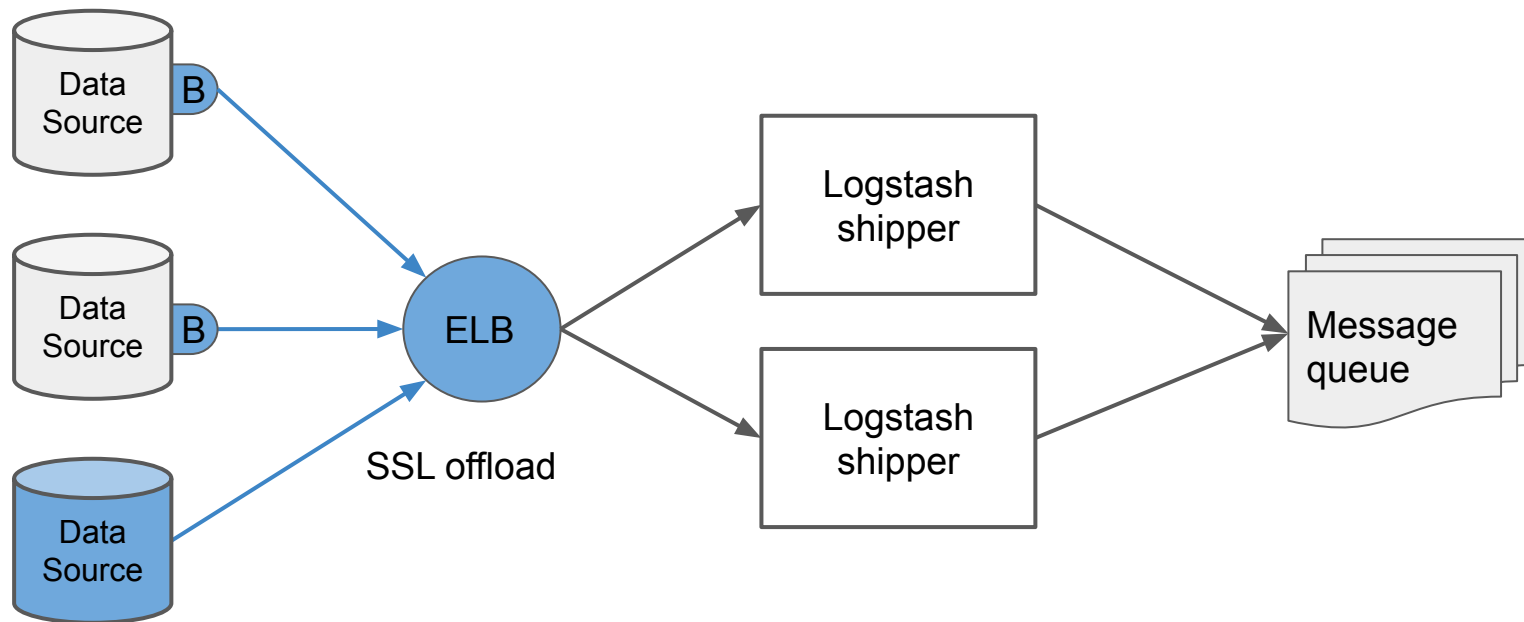


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High Available ELK

Diving in

Shipping data

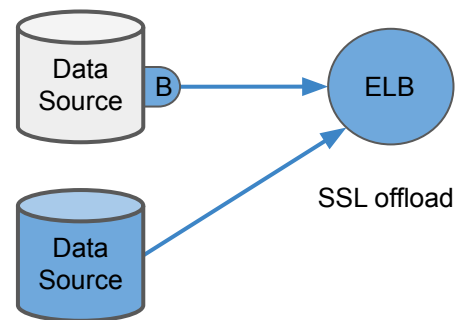


Shipping data

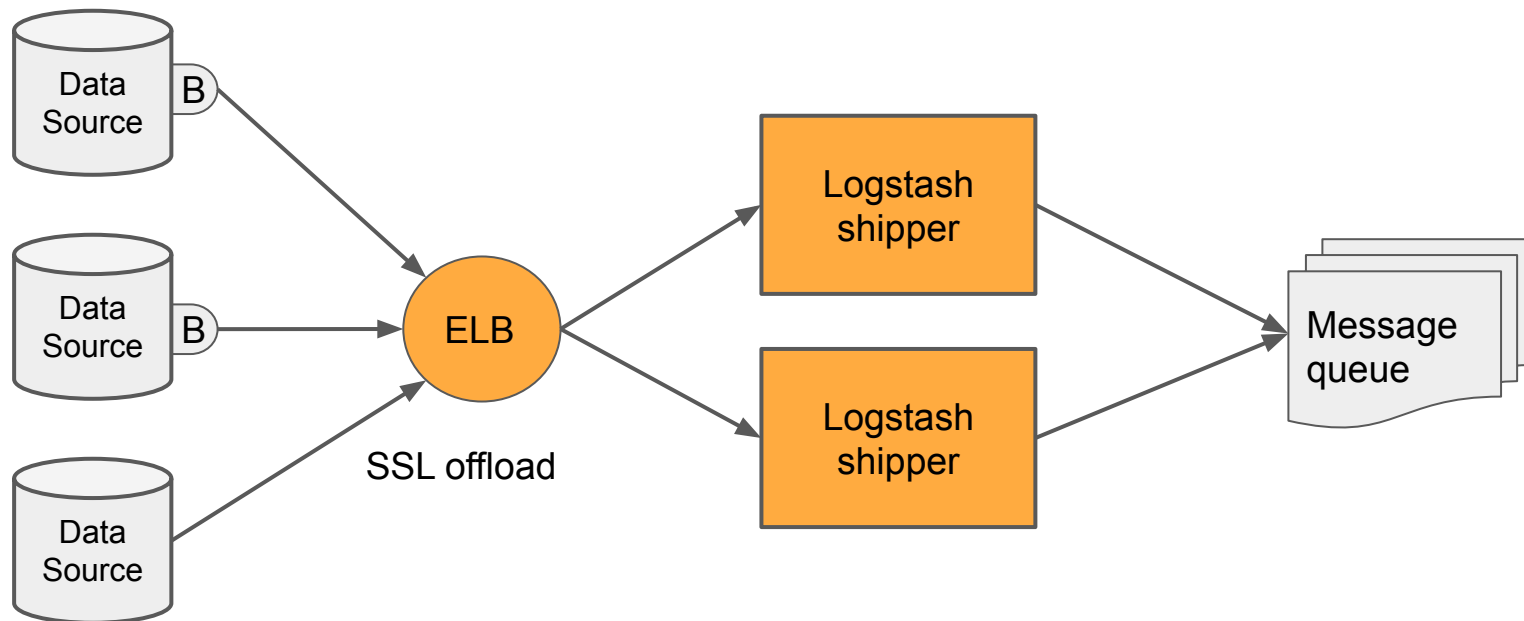
HA way of shipping

- Beats
- Syslog
- Avoid UDP

SSL encryption



ELB and multiple logstash shippers



ELB and multiple logstash shippers

Logstash shipper

- Main purpose is to store events in the message queue
- Very lightweight - minimal processing

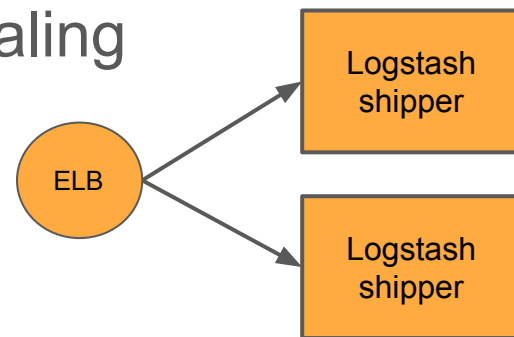
Logstash
shipper



ELB and multiple logstash shippers

Elastic Load Balancer

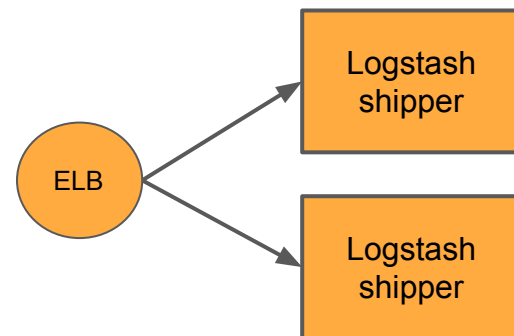
- Enable shipper failure / update / reboot / reprovision
- ELB can protect you from a zone failure
- SSL offload on the ELB - CPU auto scaling built in ELB



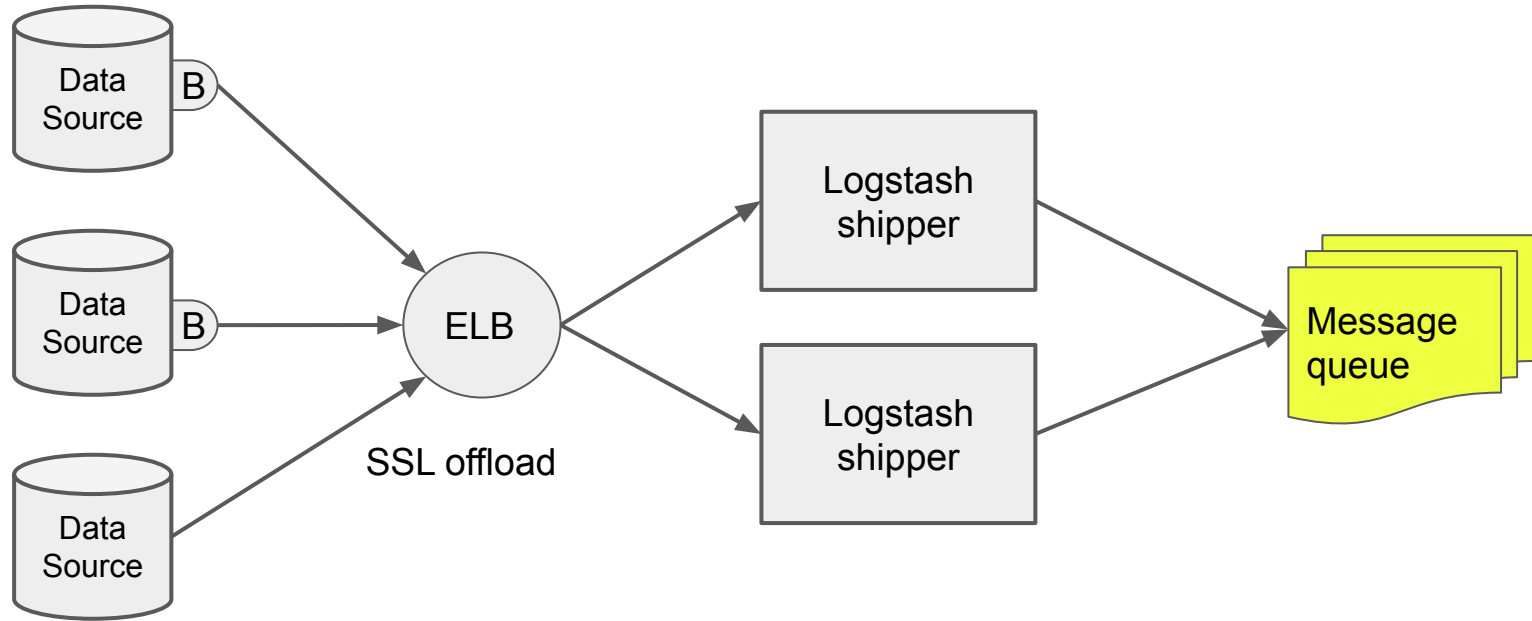
ELB and multiple logstash shippers

Cons

- No static IP / range - cannot whitelist in FW
- ELB does not support client side SSL Authentication (2-way SSL authentication)



Message queue



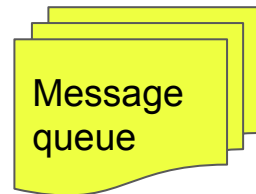
Message queue

SQS

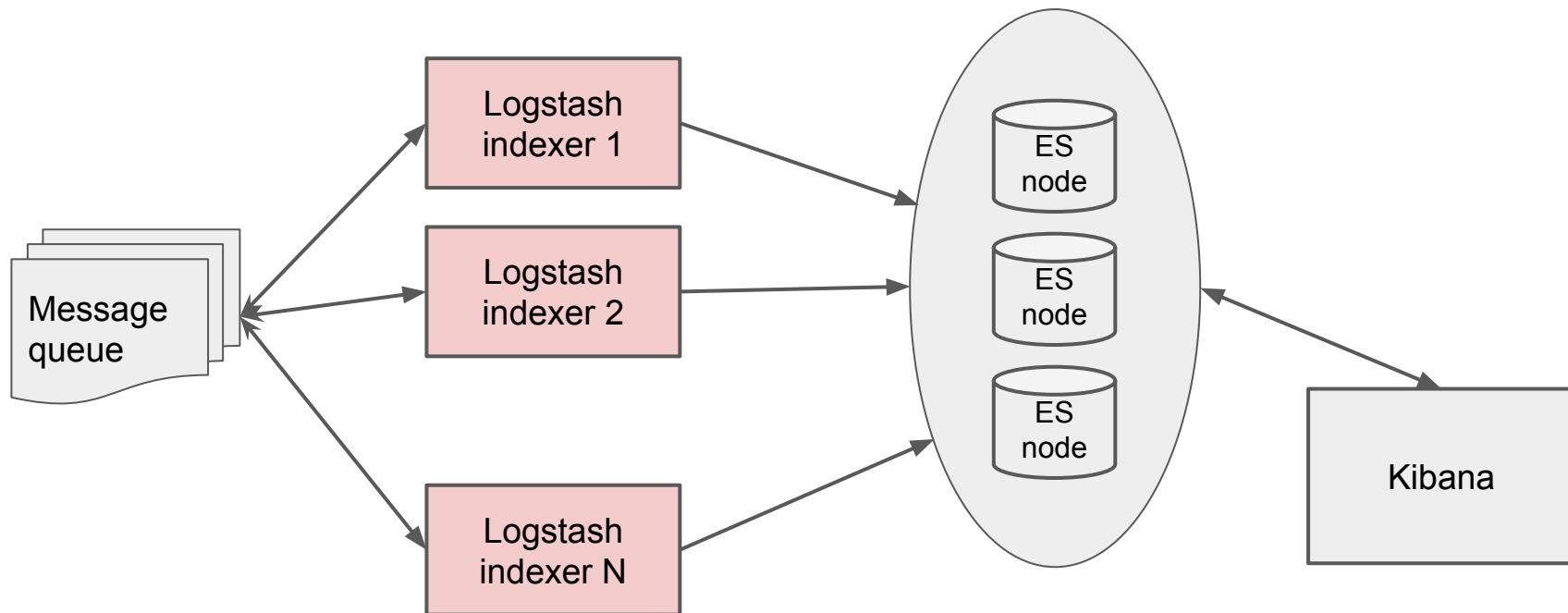
- fast, reliable, scalable, fully managed message queuing service
- unlimited number of services and messages

Cons

- Not supported by beats (while Redis is)



Logstash indexers



Logstash indexers

Provision more instances if the queue grows

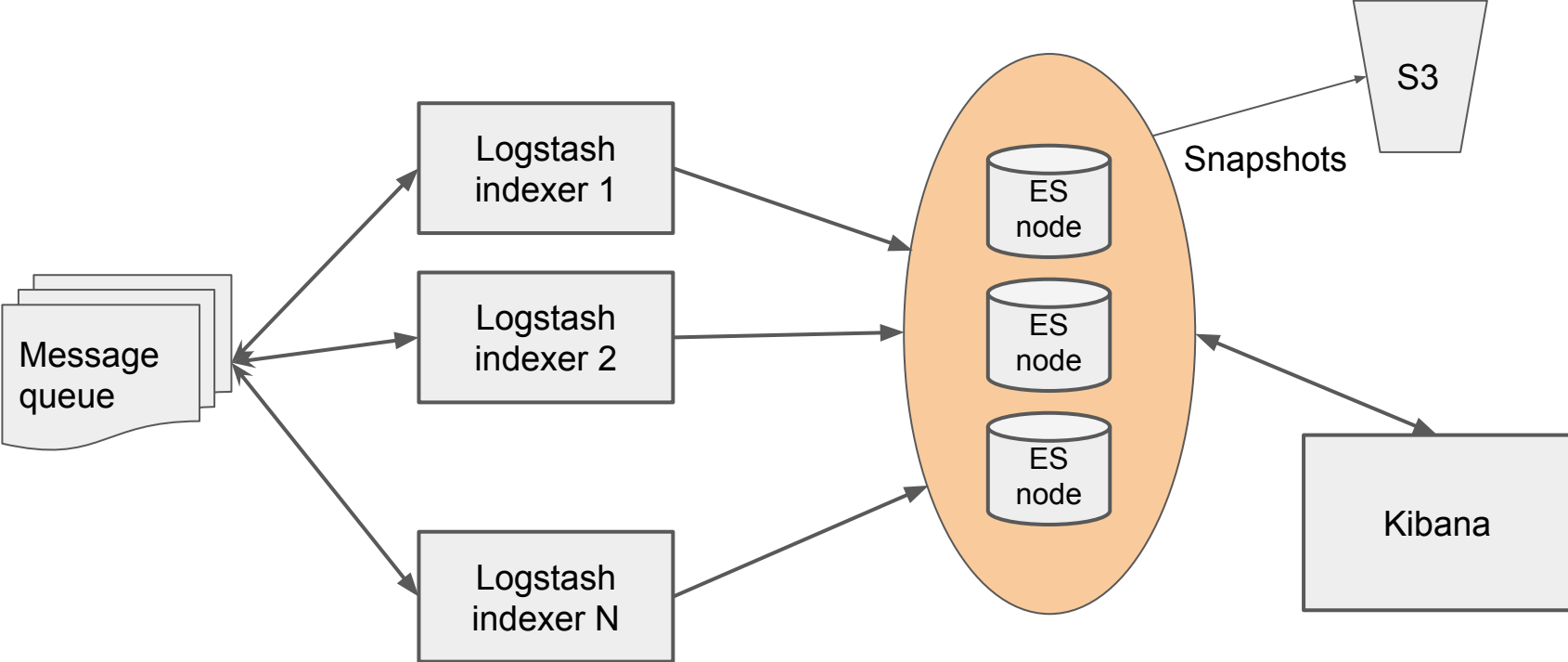
HA here means “logs are processed close to real-time”

Auto-scaling policy automatically adding extra instance when queue grows

Logstash
indexer N



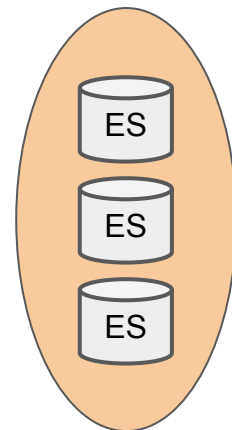
Elasticsearch cluster



Elasticsearch cluster

Avoid 2 nodes - either split-brain possibility or no HA

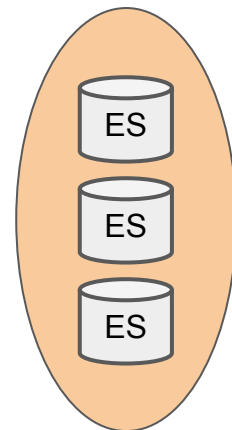
3 master-eligible nodes is the minimum



Elasticsearch cluster

No need for ELB:

- ES Cluster has load balancing built in
- Kibana recommends running a local ES node
- Logstash supports



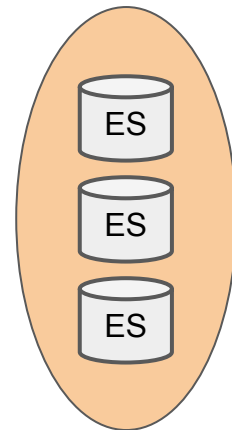
Elasticsearch - data storage

directory(ies) where ES stores data

Use SSD instance store if you can

If not, then SSD EBS :

- provisioned IOPS SSD (io1)
- max size General Purpose SSD (gp2)



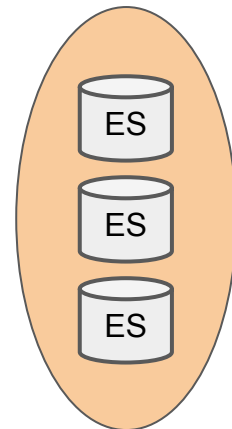
Elasticsearch - data storage maintenance

Avoid using more than 80% of disk space

Snapshot and restore module

- Allows to create snapshots into a remote repo
- Several backends - shared FS, AWS cloud, HDFS, Azure cloud

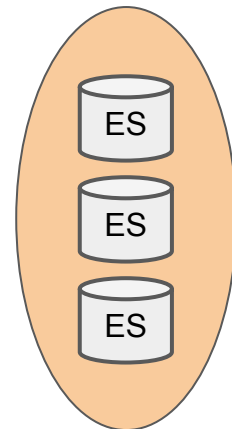
AWS Cloud plugin - S3 backup



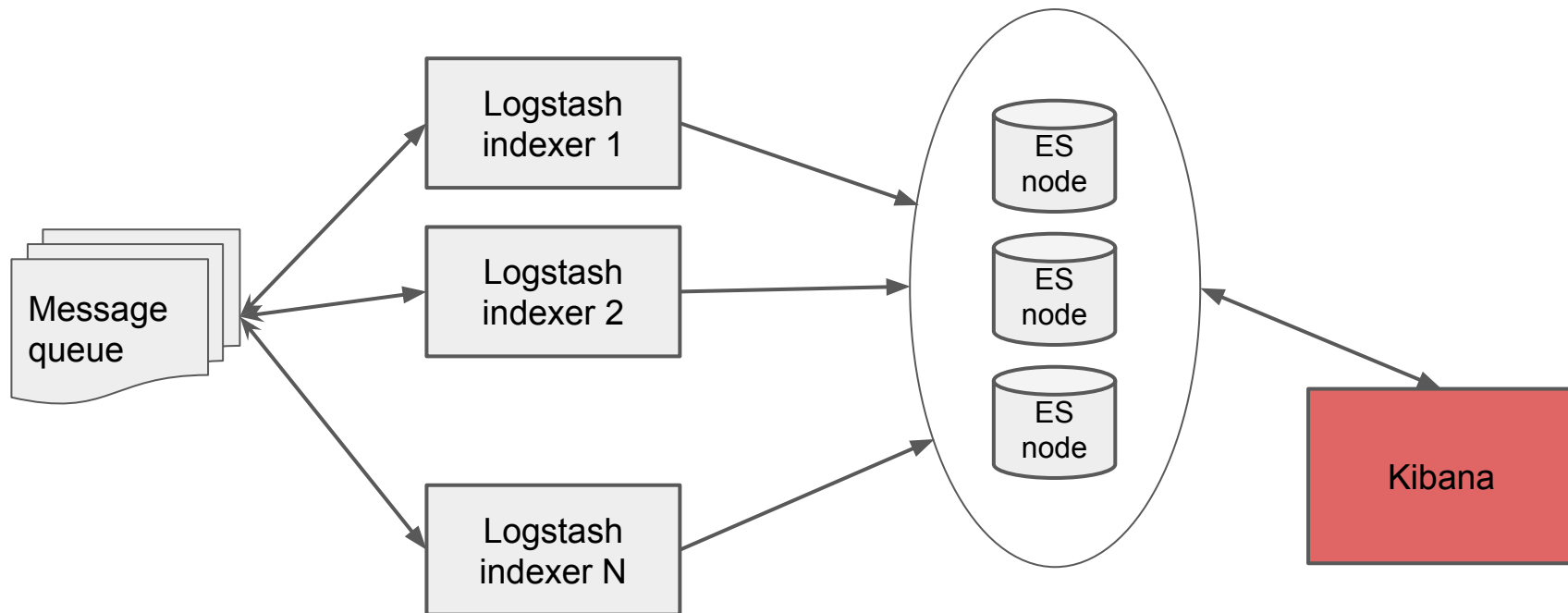
Elasticsearch - data storage maintenance

Curator

- Tool to curate ES indices and snapshots
- Perfect for creating and deleting snapshots



Kibana



Kibana

Single instance (ready to be reprovisioned)

If you have many heavy users, load balance across multiple Kibana instances



Kibana



Kibana

Don't run kibana on existing ES node (master/data)

Instead, install Kibana and ES client node on the same machine (ES client nodes are smart LB that are part of the cluster)



Kibana





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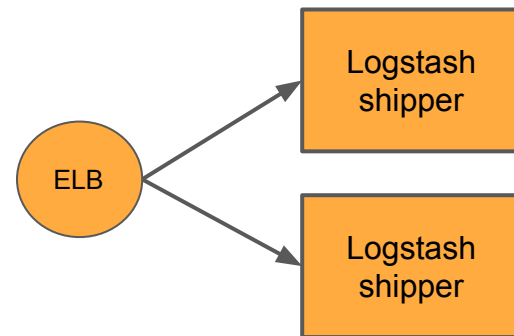
Upgrading / Patching ELK

without losing data

Patching Logstash servers

Shippers


- ELB with “Connection draining” enabled
- Add new (updated) instances
- Deregistering old instances



Patching Logstash servers

Indexers

- Provision a new instance or take it offline (no data lost, they consume from the queue)

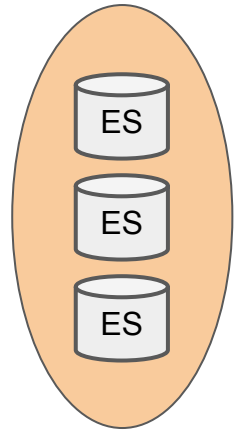


Logstash
indexer 1

Patching Elasticsearch nodes

Rolling upgrade (no service interruption) or Full cluster restart

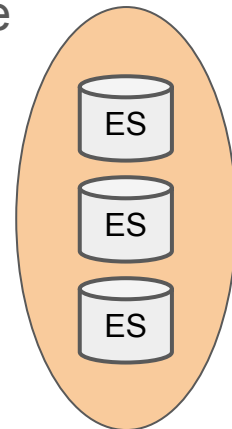
Plugins must be upgraded alongside Elasticsearch



Patching Elasticsearch nodes

Live migration

- Provision new ES cluster
- Have logstash indexers write to both old and new cluster for a while
- Load data from snapshot
- Make Kibana use new cluster
- Terminate old cluster



Patching Kibana

Provision new kibana server and

- take over the EIP or
- update Kibana's DNS record



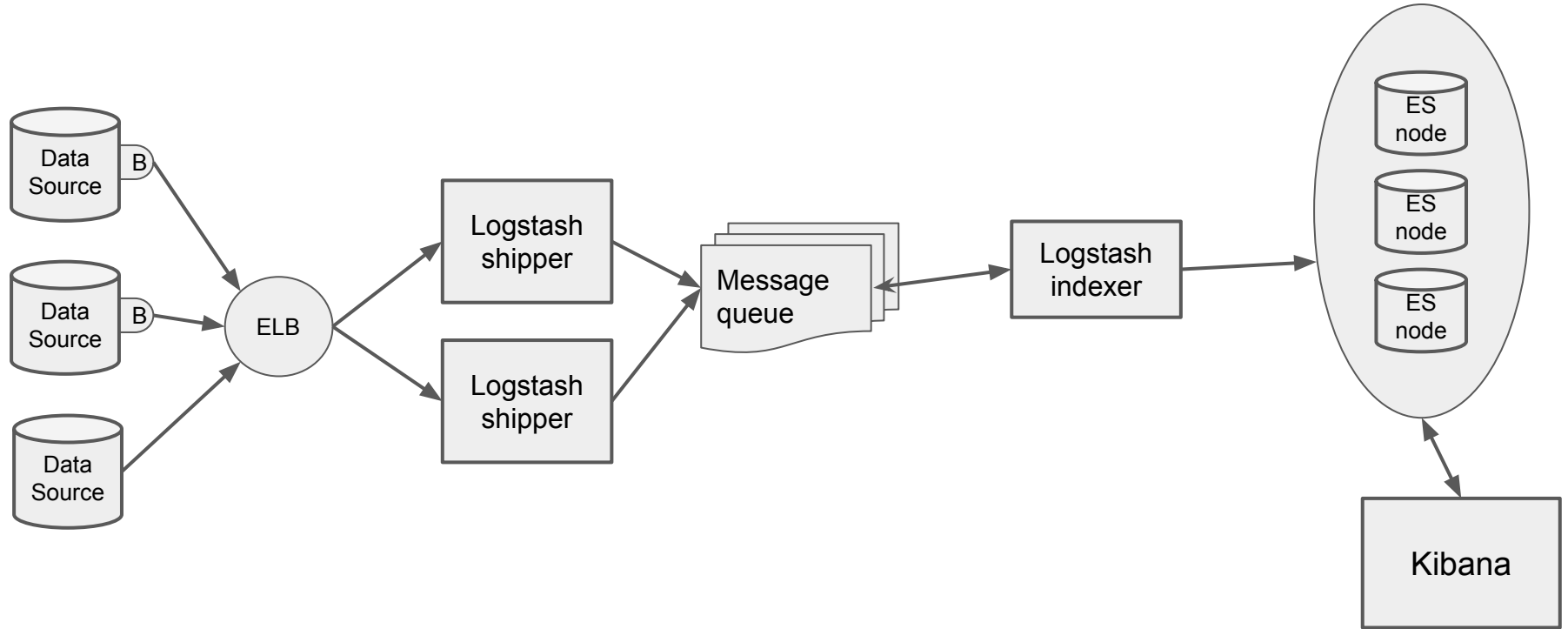
Kibana



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Cost estimate

Cost estimate



Cost estimate

<https://calculator.s3.amazonaws.com/index.html>

	USD per month
1 x indexer: c4.large	\$77
2 x shipper: c4.large	\$154
3 x ES node: m4.xlarge (\$175 each)	\$525
1 x kibana: t2.small	\$20
3 x SSD EBS (gp2), 1TB	\$350
S3, ELB, traffic	~ \$80
TOTAL per month	~ \$1200



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ELK Alternatives

ELK alternatives

Elastic Cloud

- AKA “Hosted Elasticsearch & Kibana on AWS”
- no logstash
- starts at \$45 per month

Loggly, Sumo Logic, Papertrail, Logentries





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Complements to HA ELK

Monitoring ELK

Cluster health

```
GET _cluster/health
```

green

yellow

red

```
{  
  "cluster_name": "cluster02",  
  "status": "green",  
  "timed_out": false,  
  "number_of_nodes": 1,  
  "number_of_data_nodes": 1,  
  "active_primary_shards": 10,  
  "active_shards": 10,  
  "relocating_shards": 0,  
  "initializing_shards": 0,  
  "unassigned_shards": 0  
}
```



Monitoring ELK

Alerting on

- ES cluster status
- ES disk space and inode usage
- Logstash heartbeat
- Timestamp of the most recent record in ES cluster
- Kibana availability

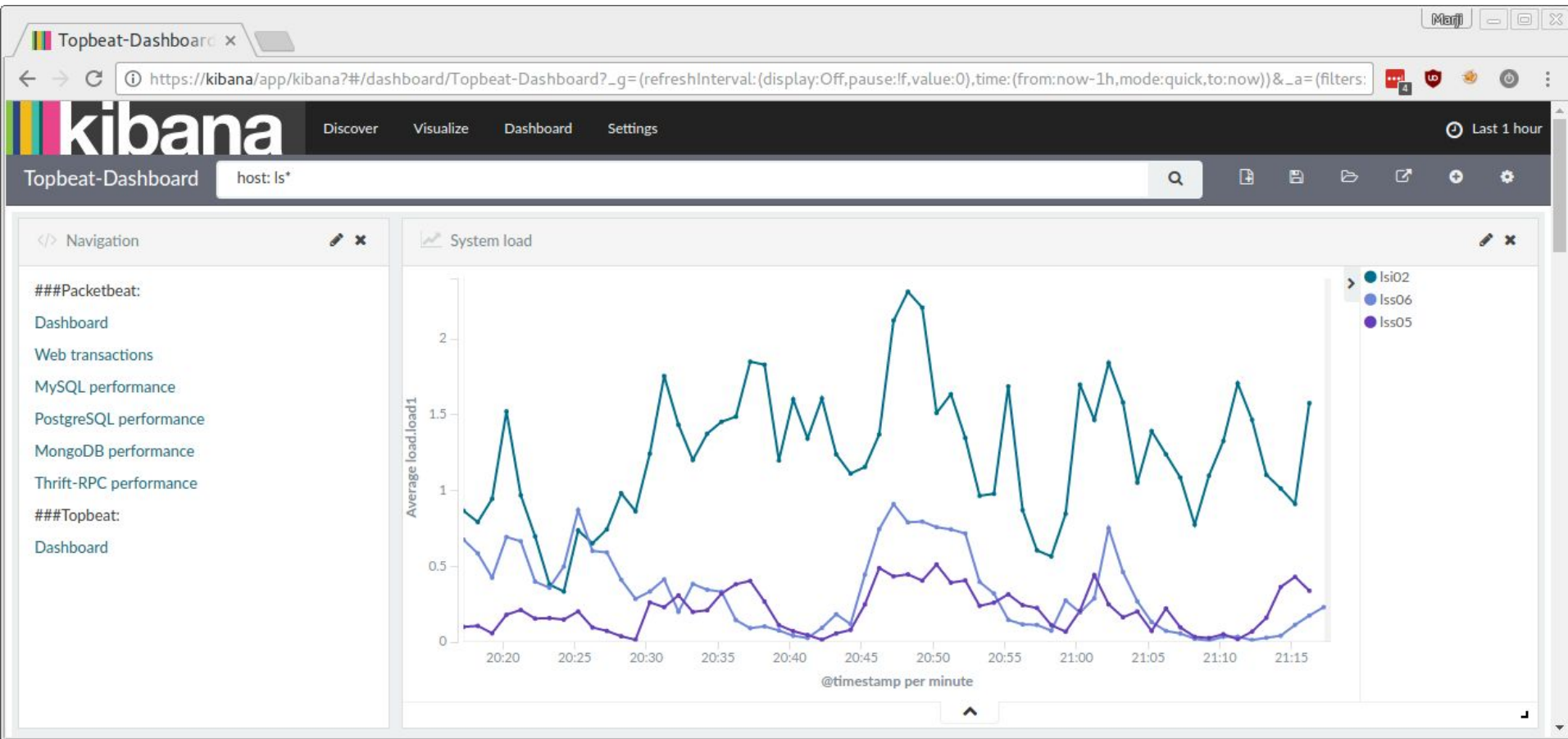


Monitoring ELK

Metrics

- be able to compare utilisation of cluster members
- memory and CPU, load, swap, descriptors trends
- ES monitoring - dozens of metrics, e.g. JVM performance





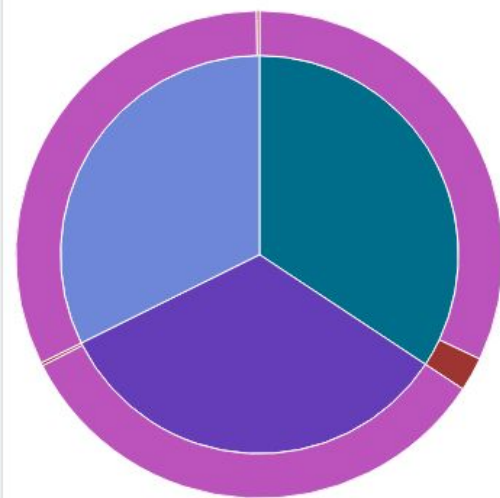
Topbeat-Dashboard x

https://kibana/app/kibana?#/dashboard/Topbeat-Dashboard?_g=(refreshInterval:(display:Off,pause:If,value:0),time:(from:now-1h,mode:quick,to:now))&_a=(filters:

Servers

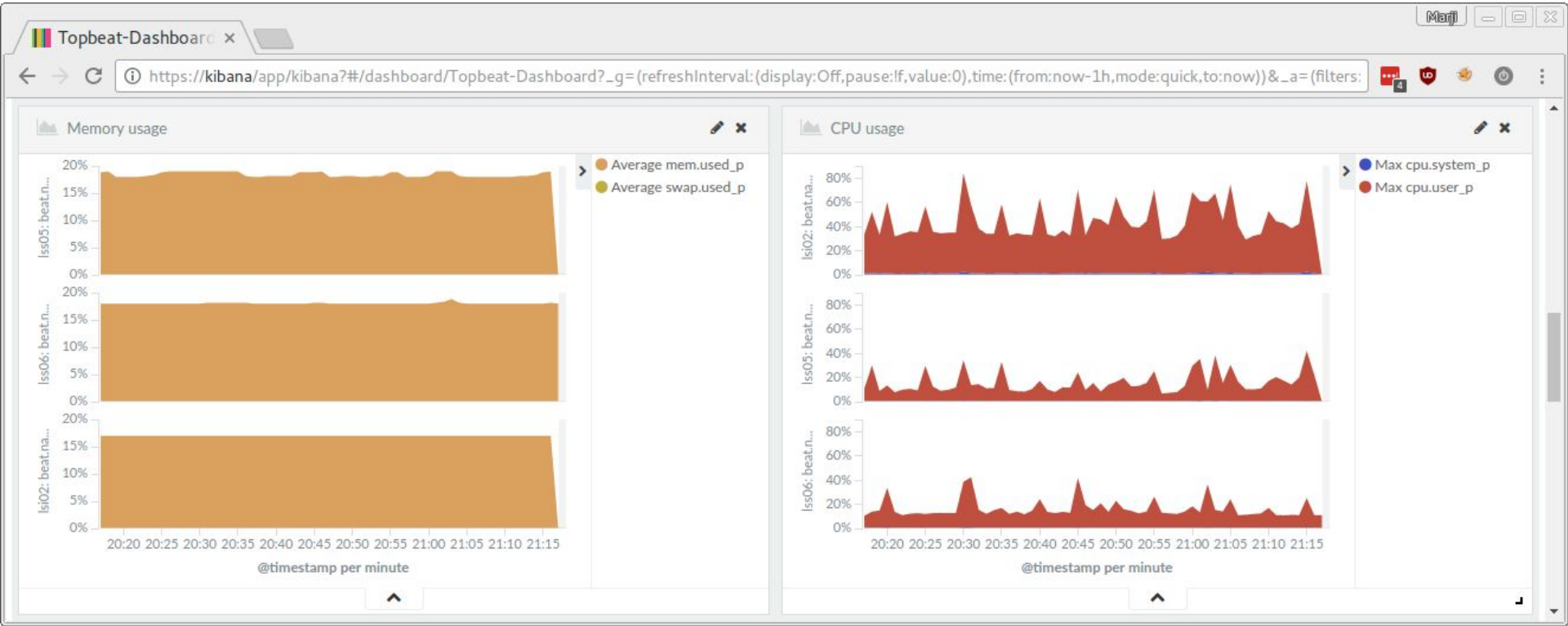
beat.name: Descending ↕ Q	Average cpu.user_p ↕	Average cpu.system_p ↕	Max mem.total ↕	Max mem.used ↕	Max mem.used_p ↕	Max mem.free ↕
Isi02	34.203%	1.05%	3.676GB	658.395MB	17%	3.047GB
Iss06	11.921%	0.337%	3.676GB	704.352MB	19%	3.024GB
Iss05	9.806%	0.278%	3.676GB	716.113MB	19%	3.015GB

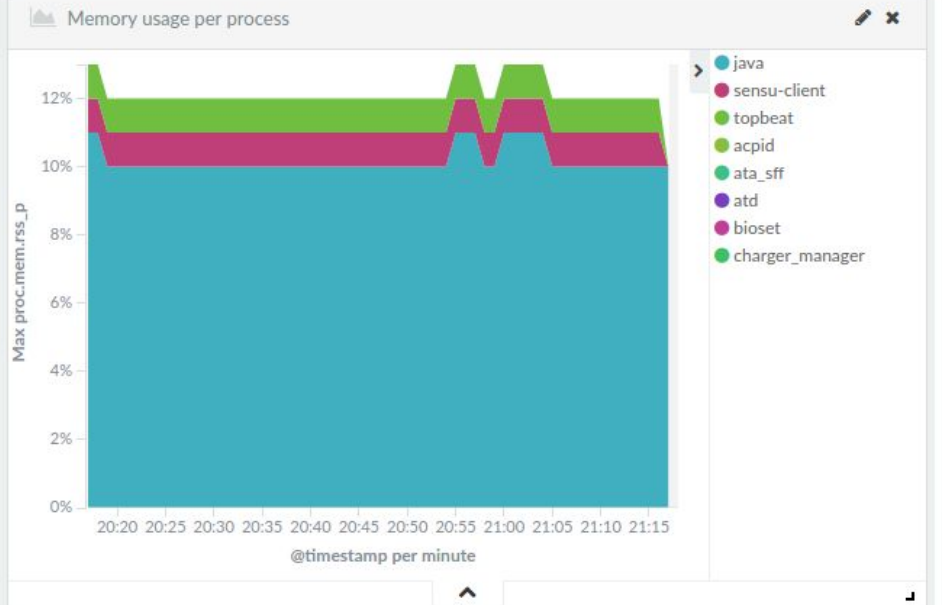
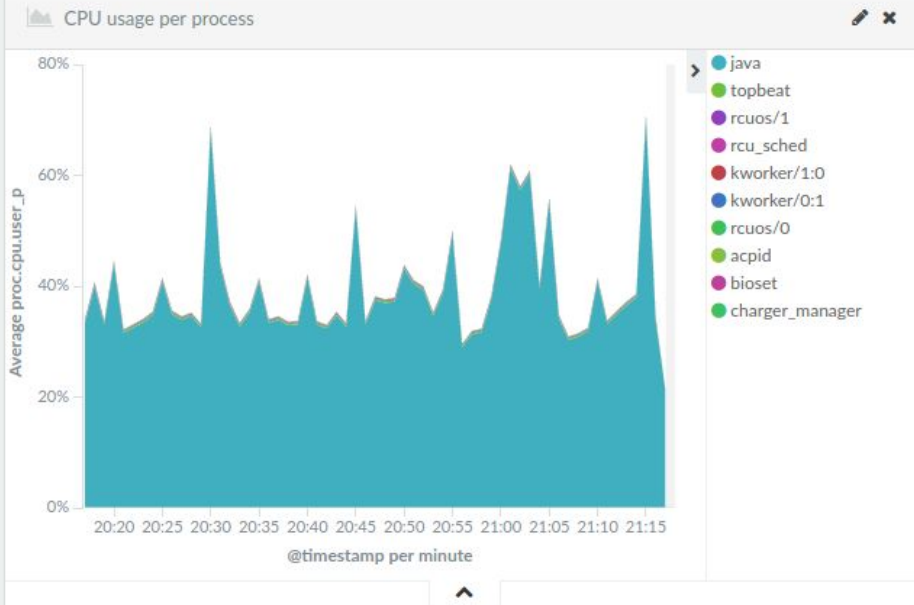
Process status



- Isi02
- Iss05
- Iss06
- sleeping
- running







Top processes

proc.name: Descending	Max proc.cpu.user_p	Max proc.mem.rss	Max proc.mem.rss_p	Max proc.mem.share
java	168.89%	398.555MB	11%	15.094MB
check-cpu.rb	0.5%	9.453MB	0%	2.723MB
topbeat	0.5%	21.32MB	1%	4.504MB



Elasticsearch web admin plugins

Kopf



Browser: kopf[cluster02] | URL: https://my-cluster/_plugin/kopf/#!/cluster

Navigation: cluster | nodes | rest | more

Cluster Info: cluster02 @ es32

Summary: 3 nodes | 311 indices | 3,102 shards | 1,996,299,633 docs ↑ 2,905 | 1.48TB

Search: logstash | closed (0) | special (1) | filter nodes by name | 1-4 of 62 selected

	logstash-2016.07.01 shards: 5 * 2 docs: 14,253,791 size: 6.51GB	logstash-2016.07.02 shards: 5 * 2 docs: 8,778,520 size: 3.88GB	logstash-2016.07.03 shards: 5 * 2 docs: 8,473,113 size: 3.53GB	logstash-2016.07.04 shards: 5 * 2 docs: 18,084,159 size: 7.36GB
es31 10.42.1.16 heap disk cpu load	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3	0 1 2 3	0 1 3 4
es32 10.42.2.50 heap disk cpu load	1 3 4	1 3 4	1 3 4	2 3 4
es33 10.42.3.188 heap disk cpu load	0 2 4	0 2 4	0 2 4	0 1 2

show log



Browser window: kopf[cluster02] | URL: https://my-cluster/_plugin/kopf/#!/nodes

Navigation: cluster | nodes | rest | more

Cluster Info: cluster02 @ es32

Summary: 3 nodes | 311 indices | 3,102 shards | 1,996,309,549 docs ↑ 2,806 | 1.48TB ↑ 5.01MB

Filter nodes by name: master data client

name ^	load average	cpu %	heap usage %	disk usage %	uptime
☆ es31 10.42.1.16 10.42.1.16:9300 <small>JVM: 1.8.0_91 ES: 2.3.5</small>	0.3	6.0	56.0 <small>used: 3.94GB max: 6.97GB</small>	52.0 <small>free: 467.91GB total: 984.18GB</small>	13d.
★ es32 10.42.2.50 10.42.2.50:9300 <small>JVM: 1.8.0_91 ES: 2.3.5</small>	0.3	7.0	52.0 <small>used: 3.69GB max: 6.97GB</small>	51.0 <small>free: 479.21GB total: 984.18GB</small>	13d.
☆ es33 10.42.3.188 es33/10.42.3.188:9300 <small>JVM: 1.8.0_91 ES: 2.3.5</small>	0.1	5.0	57.0 <small>used: 4.04GB max: 6.97GB</small>	50.0 <small>free: 490.99GB total: 984.18GB</small>	13d.



Elasticsearch web admin plugins

Kopf

Elastic HQ



22:18:06

Cluster Overview



Cluster Statistics

3
Nodes3,132
Total Shards3,132
Successful Shards314
Indices1,997,129,627
Documents757.1GB
Size

Cluster Health

Status	Green
Timed Out?	false
# Nodes	3
# Data Nodes	3
Active Primary Shards	1,566
Active Shards	3,132
Relocating Shards	0
Initializing Shards	0
Unassigned Shards	0

Indices

Index	# Docs	Primary Size	# Shards	# Replicas	Status
topbeat-2016.09.18	4,842,154	1.2GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.17	9,439,026	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.16	9,428,409	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.15	9,438,820	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.14	9,406,316	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.13	9,409,881	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.12	9,425,293	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.11	9,432,023	2.3GB	5	1	open

cluster02

Indices

Query

Mappings

REST

Node Diagnostics

es32

es31

es33

22:19:58

Indices Overview

Create Index

Refresh

Optimize

Flush

Clear Cache

Index	# Docs	Primary Size	# Shards	# Replicas	Status
topbeat-2016.09.18	4,854,307	1.2GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.17	9,439,026	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.16	9,428,409	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.15	9,438,820	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.14	9,406,316	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.13	9,409,881	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.12	9,425,293	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.11	9,432,023	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.10	9,509,116	2.3GB	5	1	open
topbeat-2016.09.09	9,982,428	2.4GB	5	1	open



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Getting logs from Drupal to ELK

Drupal Watchdog logs - shipping

Logstash drupal_dblog input filter

- not for production!

```
input {
  drupal_dblog {
    databases =>
      ["site1", "mysql://usr:pass@host/db"]
    interval => "1"
  }
}
```



Drupal Watchdog logs - shipping

Via syslog

- 1) Enable Drupal syslog module
- 2) Configure server rsyslog to write to dedicated logfile:

```
create e.g. /etc/rsyslog.d/60-drupal.conf:  
  
local0.* /var/log/drupal.log
```



Drupal Watchdog logs - shipping

Via syslog

- 3) Use filebeat to stream the log lines to logstash

```
filebeat:
  prospectors:
    -
      paths:
        - /var/log/drupal.log

      input_type: drupalsyslog

output:
  logstash:
    hosts: ["logstash.example.com:9876"]
```



Drupal Watchdog logs - processing

Logstash grok filter - many pre-defined patterns:

- **GREEDYDATA** .*
- **USERNAME** [a-zA-Z0-9._-]+
- **POSINT** \b(?:[1-9][0-9]*)\b

Drupal Watchdog logs - processing

Logstash grok filter - define your owns:

WATCHDOG

```
https?:://%{HOSTNAME:drupal_vhost}\|%{NUMBER:drupal_timestamp}\|(?!<drupal_action>[^\|]*)\|%{IP:drupal_ip}\|(?!<drupal_request_uri>[^\|]*)\|(?!<drupal_referer>[^\|]*)\|(?!<drupal_uid>[^\|]*)\|(?!<drupal_link>[^\|]*)\|(?!<drupal_message>.*)
```

```
https://stg.d8.com|1474269512|cron|127.0.0.1|https://stg.d8.com/||  
0|Cron run completed.
```

Drupal Watchdog logs - processing

Logstash grok filter - define your owns:

WATCHDOG

```
https?://{%{HOSTNAME:drupal_vhost}}\|{%{NUMBER:drupal_timestamp}}\|(?<drupal_action>[^\|]*)\|{%{IP:drupal_ip}}\|(?<drupal_request_uri>[^\|]*)\|(?<drupal_referer>[^\|]*)\|(?<drupal_uid>[^\|]*)\|(?<drupal_link>[^\|]*)\|(?<drupal_message>.*)
```

```
SYSLOGWATCHDOG {%{SYSLOGTIMESTAMP:logdate}} {%{IPORHOST:logsource}}  
{%{SYSLOGHOST:syslogprog}}: {%{WATCHDOG}}
```

Drupal Watchdog logs - processing

Logstash grok filter - use yours

```
filter {
  if [type] == "drupalsyslog" {
    grok {
      match => { "message" => "%{SYSLOGWATCHDOG}" }
    }
  }
}
```

Drupal Watchdog logs - shipping

Via the “Logs HTTP” module

- Provides JSON event pushing to Logs via the tag/http endpoint.
- when the Logs syslog agent is not an option





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Wrapping up

Wrapping up

It is not easy, evaluate SaaS options

Monitoring is a must

Links

Main docs area for the ELK stack:

<https://www.elastic.co/guide/index.html>

Deploying and Scaling Logstash

<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/logstash/current/deploying-and-scaling.html>

Follow up blog post:

<http://morpht.com/posts/ha-elk-drupal>



Links

Logs for Drupal: Why You Need Them and How to Do It

<https://www.loggly.com/blog/logs-for-drupal-why-you-need-them-and-how-to-do-it/>





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Questions?

Thank you!

@cermakm



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JOIN US FOR CONTRIBUTION SPRINTS

First Time Sprinter Workshop - 9:00-12:00 - Room Wicklow 2A

Mentored Core Sprint - 9:00-18:00 - Wicklow Hall 2B

General Sprints - 9:00 - 18:00 - Wicklow Hall 2A



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WHAT DID YOU THINK?

Evaluate This Session

events.drupal.org/dublin2016/schedule

THANK YOU!

