

(Centralised) Elasticsearch Service

- A bit of History
- Project goals
- Security model
- Cluster management
- Experiences
- Summary



Elasticsearch at CERN in the past

- ES in use for the last years, also in IT (eg for monitoring)
- Many small clusters around
- Privately run, not always very well managed or secured
- Project to upgrade and **consolidate ES instances** launched in Jan 2016
 - Production status planned for Q1 2017



Centralised Elasticsearch Service

Goals:

- Consolidation of various use cases in a single place
 - Spare hardware resources by sharing where possible
- Setup of a reliable service covering as many use cases as possible
- Provide Elasticsearch and Kibana access



Centralised ES service: management

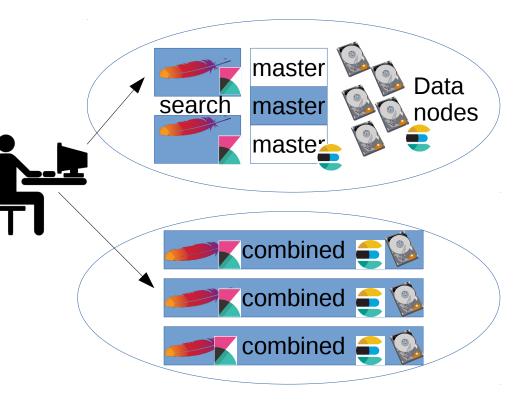
Architecture:

- Full integration into the existing infrastructure
- Puppet managed and monitored as any other cluster
- Shared and dedicated cluster
 - Preferred way is to go via the central monitoring
 - Offer shared clusters for users with public data
 - Dedicated clusters for use cases with sensitive data
- No commercial plugins (including security)



Node organisation: models in use

- Made to spare resources
- 4 node types:
 - ES Master nodes (3)
 - Search nodes (2+)
 - Http proxy (apache)
 - Kibana services
 - Data nodes (3+)
 - Combined nodes:
 - Master, search and data node
 - For small installations





Current status, numbers

- Currently 21 independent ES clusters, 30 use cases
- Up to **5** use cases on a single cluster
- Elasticsearch versions ranging from 2.3.3 to 5.1.1
- Kibana versions **4.5.1** to **5.1.1**
 - Plugins and version configurable by cluster
 - Allows to upgrade at different speed, as needed by the users



Hardware

Virtualized hardware

- Higher flexibility and better resource consolidation
- Allows to give smaller nodes to small use cases
- Allows for rapid access and replacement
- **114** VMs for search, master and combined nodes

Work horse for data nodes:

- Virtualised data nodes on special hypervisors
- Spinning disks with SSD cache (b-cache)
- 630GB/60GB RAM per full node
- Use full or half nodes (315GB/30GB RAM), **115** nodes in use







Security model and access

Access SSL only

- 443 Kibana, via CERN SSO
- Possibility to have read-only Kibana access (ES 2.X only, via readonlyrest plugin)
- Port 9103 REST access with basic authentication
- Java API is in general closed
- For shared clusters no access to ES plugins (head, ...)
- Firewall rules to separate clusters from each other
- Different access pattern rules for different entry points into the same cluster



Cluster management

Automation and monitoring:

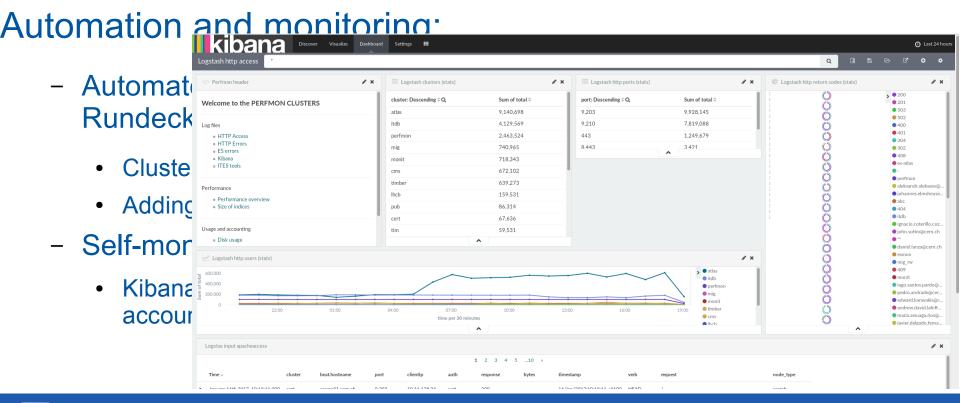
- Automated work flows
 - Cluster restart, Kernel upgrades
 - ES updates
 - Adding/removing data nodes
 - ...
- Self-monitoring
 - Kibana dashboard with health and accounti information

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	<u>Refresh firewall rules on selected cluster</u>
	<u>Restart elasticsearch</u> → Run Puppet on the selected cluster and restart elasticsearch. More >
	node to cluster → Moves selected nodes from spare to the target subhostgroup based on cluster name e type. More >
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Cluster management





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Experiences so far

- ES is very flexible and dynamic
- User expectations follow that pattern closely ...
- Hard to fit everybody with a single solution
 - Hence split into independent clusters
 - Also for performance reasons
- Resource consolidation tricky
 - Requires good control of ACLs
 - Work in progress





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