Lesson 05 Demo 05

Building an Automated Log Processing Pipeline with Kafka and ELK Stack

Objective: To integrate Kafka with ELK Stack to buffer and process log surges, protecting Logstash and Elasticsearch during high-volume events for improved reliability and scalable log management

Tools required: ELK Stack and Kafka

Prerequisites: None

Steps to be followed:

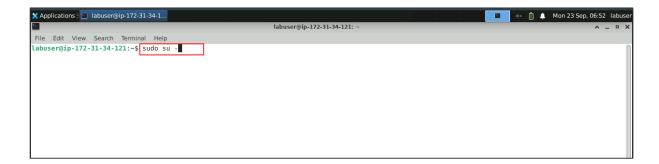
- 1. Set up the system and install Java Runtime Environment (JRE)
- 2. Set up the Apache Kafka message broker
- 3. Create a topic for the Apache logs

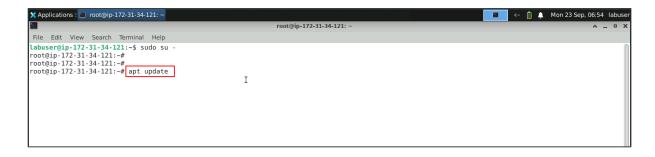
Step 1: Set up the system and install Java Runtime Environment (JRE)

1.1 Run the following commands in the Ubuntu lab to log in as the root user, gain admin access, and update Ubuntu packages:

sudo su -

apt update





1.2 Execute the following command to install JRE, which Filebeat will use:

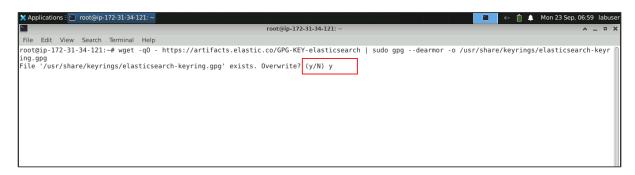
apt -y install default-jre

```
root@ip-172-31-43-84: # apt -y install default-jre
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
    default-jre-headless
The following NEW packages will be installed:
    default-jre default-jre-headless
0 upgraded, 2 newly installed, 0 to remove and 267 not upgraded.
Need to get 3938 B of archives.
After this operation, 26.6 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 http://us-east-1.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 default-jre-headless amd64 2:1.11-72build2 [3042 B]
Get:2 http://us-east-1.ec2.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 default-jre amd64 2:1.11-72build2 [896 B]
Fetched 3938 B in 0s (222 kB/s)
Selecting previously unselected package default-jre-headless.
(Reading database ... 50%
```

After JRE is installed, proceed with the installation of the Elasticsearch component of ELK Stack. To do this, add the signing key and repositories to the system first.

1.3 Execute the following command to add the Elasticsearch signing key: wget -qO - https://artifacts.elastic.co/GPG-KEY-elasticsearch | sudo gpg --dearmor -o /usr/share/keyrings/elasticsearch-keyring.gpg





Note: If the command displays an error indicating that the file already exists, type **y** and press the **enter** key to proceed with overwriting the existing file.

1.4 Run the following command to add the repository in /etc/apt/sources.list.d/elastic-8.x.list:

echo "deb [signed-by=/usr/share/keyrings/elasticsearch-keyring.gpg] https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/8.x/apt stable main" | sudo tee /etc/apt/sources.list.d/elastic-8.x.list

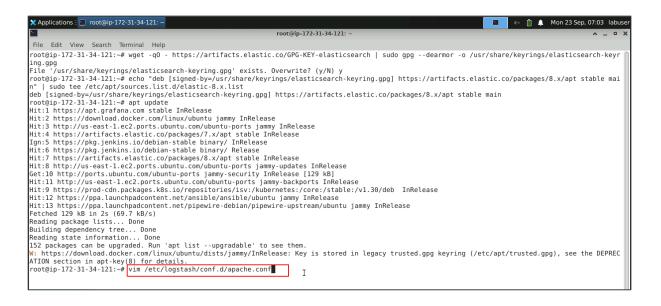


1.5 Run following command to update the system packages:

apt update

```
root@ip-172-31-36-251:-#
root@ip-172-31-36-251
```

1.6 Run the following command to configure a Logstash pipeline that pulls logs from a Kafka topic, processes them, and ships them to Elasticsearch for indexing:
vim /etc/logstash/conf.d/apache.conf



1.7 Copy and paste the following configurations input { kafka { bootstrap_servers => "localhost:9092" topics => "apache" } } filter { grok { match => { "message" => "%{COMBINEDAPACHELOG}" } } date { match => ["timestamp" , "dd/MMM/yyyy:HH:mm:ss Z"] } geoip { source => "source_ip" target => "source_geo" } } output { elasticsearch { hosts => ["localhost:9200"] index => "logstash" }

}

```
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~# vim /etc/logstash/conf.d/apache.conf
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~# cat /etc/logstash/conf.d/apache.conf
input {
 kafka {
    bootstrap_servers => "localhost:9092"
    topics => "apache"
filter {
   grok {
     match => { "message" => "%{COMBINEDAPACHELOG}" }
   match => [ "timestamp" , "dd/MMM/yyyy:HH:mm:ss Z" ]
  geoip {
      source => "source ip"
      target => "source_geo"
output {
 elasticsearch {
   hosts => ["localhost:9200"]
    index => "logstash"
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~#
```

1.8 Execute the following commands to install the Apache package:

apt install -y apache2 service apache2 start service apache2 status

```
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~# apt install -y apache2
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
    apache2-bin apache2-data apache2-utils libapr1 libaprutil1 libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3 libaprutil1-ldap liblua5.3-0
Suggested packages:
    apache2-doc apache2-suexec-pristine | apache2-suexec-custom
The following NEW packages will be installed:
    apache2 apache2-bin apache2-data apache2-utils libapr1 libaprutil1 libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3 libaprutil1-ldap liblua5.3-0
0 upgraded, 9 newly installed, 0 to remove and 267 not upgraded.
Need to get 2062 kB of archives.
After this operation, 8234 kB of additional disk space will be used.
```

```
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~# service apache2 start
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~#
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~# service apache2 status

    apache2.service - The Apache HTTP Server

     Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/apache2.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
     Active: active (running) since Thu 2024-09-12 16:50:14 UTC; 29s ago
       Docs: https://httpd.apache.org/docs/2.4/
  Main PID: 15081 (apache2)
     Tasks: 55 (limit: 18808)
     Memory: 5.3M
        CPU: 35ms
     CGroup: /system.slice/apache2.service
              ─15081 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              —15083 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
             └15084 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
Sep 12 16:50:14 ip-172-31-43-84 systemd[1]: Starting The Apache HTTP Server...
Sep 12 16:50:14 ip-172-31-43-84 systemd[1]: Started The Apache HTTP Server.
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~#
```

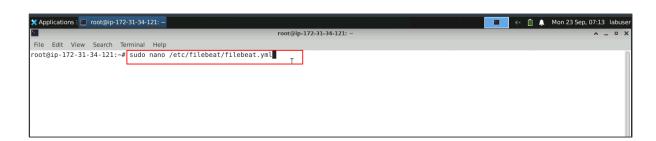
1.9 Execute the following command to install the Filebeat package:

apt -y install filebeat

```
root@ip-172-31-43-84:~# apt -y install filebeat
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following NEW packages will be installed:
 filebeat
0 upgraded, 1 newly installed, 0 to remove and 267 not upgraded.
Need to get 54.6 MB of archives.
After this operation, 201 MB of additional disk space will be used.
Get:1 https://artifacts.elastic.co/packages/8.x/apt stable/main amd64 filebeat amd64 8.15.1 [54.6 MB]
Fetched 54.6 MB in 1s (58.0 MB/s)
Selecting previously unselected package filebeat.
(Reading database ... 332039 files and directories currently installed.)
Preparing to unpack .../filebeat 8.15.1 amd64.deb ...
Unpacking filebeat (8.15.1) ...
Setting up filebeat (8.15.1) ...
Scanning processes...
Scanning linux images..
```

1.10 Run the command below to modify Filebeat so it can send logs to Logstash:

sudo nano /etc/filebeat/filebeat.yml



```
1.11 Update the YAML file using the following script:
    filebeat.inputs:
    - type: filestream
     enabled: true
     paths:
      - /var/log/apache2/access.log
    # ====== Filebeat modules
    _____
    filebeat.config.modules:
     # Glob pattern for configuration loading
     path: ${path.config}/modules.d/*.yml
     # Set to true to enable config reloading
     reload.enabled: false
     # Period on which files under path should be checked for changes
     #reload.period: 10s
    output.kafka:
     codec.format:
      string: '%{[@timestamp]} %{[message]}'
     hosts: ["localhost:9092"]
     topic: apache
     partition.round_robin:
      reachable_only: false
     required_acks: 1
     compression: gzip
```

max_message_bytes: 1000000



Step 2: Set up the Apache Kafka message broker

2.1 Execute the following command to install and set up the Apache Kafka message broker:

sudo apt-get install zookeeperd



Note: Kafka uses ZooKeeper to maintain configuration information and synchronization.

```
Applications: Took@ip-172-31-34-121:-

root@ip-172-31-34-121:-

rile Edit View Search Terminal Help

root@ip-172-31-34-121:-# sudo nano /etc/filebeat/filebeat.yml
root@ip-172-31-34-121:-# sudo apt-get install zookeeperd

Reading package Lists:.. Done

Building dependency tree... Done

Reading packages will be installed:
Libjline-java liblog4j1.2-java libxerces2-java libxml-commons-external-java libxml-commons-resolver1.1-java libzookeeper-java zookeeper

Suggested packages:
Libjline-java-doc Liblog4j1.2-java libxerces2-java libxml-commons-external-java libxml-commons-resolver1.1-java-doc libzookeeper-java-doc

The following NEW packages will be installed:
Libjline-java liblog4j1.2-java libxerces2-java libxml-commons-external-java libxml-commons-resolver1.1-java-doc libzookeeper-java-doc

The following NEW packages will be installed:
Libjline-java liblog4j1.2-java libzerces2-java libxml-commons-external-java libxml-commons-resolver1.1-java libzookeeper-java-doc

The following NEW packages will be installed:
Libjline-java liblog4j1.2-java libxerces2-java libxml-commons-external-java libzookeeper-java zookeeper

zookeeperd

8 upgraded, 8 newly installed, 8 to remove and 152 not upgraded.

Need to get 3778 kB of archives.

After this operation, 4548 kB of additional disk space will be used.

Bo you want to continue? [Y/n] y

Get:1 http://us-east-1.ec2.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy/universe arm64 libjline-java all 1.2-17-11 [439 kB]

Get:2 http://us-east-1.ec2.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy/universe arm64 libzookeeper-java all 1.4-01-5 [240 kB]

Get:3 http://us-east-1.ec2.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-universe arm64 libzookeeper-java all 3.4-13-Gubuntu4.1 [1372 kB]

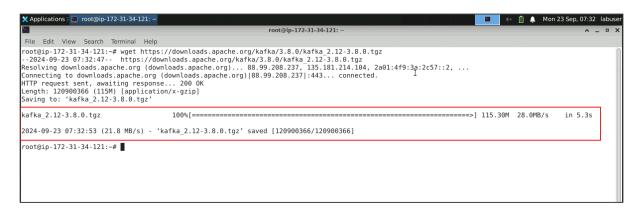
Get:5 http://us-east-1.ec2.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-updates/universe arm64 libzookeeper-java all 3.4-13-Gubuntu4.1 [112 kB]

Get:6 http://us-east-1.ec2.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-updates/universe arm64 zookeeper all 3.4-13-Gubuntu4.1 [200 B]

Get:1 http://us-east-1.ec2.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-updates/unive
```

2.2 Run the following commands to download and extract Kafka: wget https://downloads.apache.org/kafka/3.8.0/kafka_2.12-3.8.0.tgz tar -xvzf kafka_2.12-3.8.0.tgz sudo cp -r kafka_2.12-3.8.0 /opt/kafka







2.3 Run the following command to start Kafka:

sudo /opt/kafka/bin/kafka-server-start.sh /opt/kafka/config/server.properties



You will see the following interface:

```
e may not be available. (org.apache.kafka.clients.NetworkClient)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,034] INFO [Controller id=0, targetBrokerId=0] Client requested connection close from node 0 (org.apache.kafka.clients.NetworkClient)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,078] INFO [/config/changes-event-process-thread]: Starting (kafka.common.ZkNodeChangeNotificationListenerSchangeEventProcessThread)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,115] INFO [SocketServer ListenerType=ZK_BROKER, nodeId=0] Enabling request processing, (kafka.network.SocketServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,122] INFO Awaiting socket connections on 0.0.0.0.09092. (kafka.network.DataPlaneAcceptor)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,158] INFO [KafkaServer id=0] Start processing authorizer futures (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,159] INFO [KafkaServer id=0] End processing authorizer futures (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,159] INFO [KafkaServer id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,159] INFO [KafkaServer id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,160] INFO [KafkaServer id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,160] INFO [KafkaServer id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,160] INFO [KafkaServer.id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,167] INFO [KafkaServer.id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,167] INFO [KafkaServer.id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,177] INFO [KafkaServer.id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,177] INFO [KafkaServer.id=0] End processing enable request processing future (kafka.server.KafkaServer)
[2024-09-02 15:31:08,177] INFO [KafkaServer.id=0] End processing enable reque
```

Step 3: Create a topic for the Apache logs

3.1 Execute the following command in a new terminal tab to create a topic for the Apache logs:

/opt/kafka/bin/kafka-topics.sh --create --bootstrap-server localhost:9092 -- replication-factor 1 --partitions 1 --topic apache

```
root@ip-172-31-36-251:-# /opt/kafka/bin/kafka-topics.sh --create --bootstrap-server localhost:9092 --replication-factor 1 --partitions 1 --topic apache Created topic apache.
root@ip-172-31-36-251:-#
```

The **Created topic apache** message is displayed as shown below:

```
root@ip-172-31-36-251;-# /opt/kafka/bin/kafka-topics.sh --create --bootstrap-server localhost:9092 --replication-factor 1 --partitions 1 --topic apache Created topic apache. root@ip-172-31-36-251:-# |
```

3.2 Run the commands below to start the Filebeat service, enable Filebeat at system startup, and check the status:

sudo systemctl start filebeat sudo systemctl enable filebeat sudo systemctl status filebeat

```
root@ip-172-31-43-84:-# sudo systemctl start filebeat
root@ip-172-31-43-84:-# sudo systemctl enable filebeat
Synchronizing state of filebeat.service with SysV service script with /lib/systemd/systemd-sysv-install.
Executing: /lib/systemd/systemd/systemd-sysv-install enable filebeat
Created symlink /etc/systemd/system/system/multi-user.target.wants/filebeat.service → /lib/systemd/system/filebeat.service.
root@ip-172-31-43-84:-# sudo systemctl status filebeat

● filebeat.service - Filebeat sends log files to Logstash or directly to Elasticsearch.
Loaded: loaded (/lib/systemd/system/filebeat.service; enabled; vendor preset: enabled)
Active: active (running) since Thu 2024-09-12 16:44:39 UTC; 14s ago
Docs: https://www.elastic.co/beats/filebeat
Main PID: 13336 (filebeat)
Tasks: 9 (limit: 18808)
Memory: 36.8M
CPU: 110ms
CGroup: /system.slice/filebeat.service

□1336 /usr/share/filebeat/bin/filebeat --environment systemd -c /etc/filebeat/filebeat.yml --path.home /usr/share/filebeat
Sep 12 16:44:39 ip-172-31-43-84:-#

Sep 12 16:44:39 ip-172-31-43-84 systemd[1]: Started Filebeat sends log files to Logstash or directly to Elasticsearch..
root@ip-172-31-43-84:-#
```

3.3 Run the following command to verify that ElasticSearch is receiving the Filebeat data log:

curl -X GET "localhost:9200/_cat/indices?v" | grep logstash

```
root@ip-172-31-21-55:/var/log/filebeat# curl -X GET "localhost:9200/ cat/indices?v" | grep logstash
% Total % Received % Xferd Average Speed Time Time Time Current
Dload Upload Total Spent Left Speed
100 2975 0 2975 0 0 442k 0 -:--:- 484k
Yellow open logstash
20.4kb
root@ip-172-31-21-55:/var/log/filebeat# root@ip-172-31-21-55:/var/log/filebeat#
```

The displayed output is as shown below:

By following these steps, you have successfully integrated Kafka with ELK Stack to buffer and process log surges, protecting Logstash and Elasticsearch during high-volume events for improved reliability and scalable log management.