# **Lesson End Project**

# **Monitoring Apache Server Metrics Using Prometheus**

**Project agenda**: To set up Prometheus to monitor an Apache web server, collect metrics using Apache Exporter, and analyze performance using PromQL queries

**Description:** As a DevOps engineer at a company running a high-traffic e-commerce website with Apache web servers, your team has identified performance issues during peak hours. Your task is to implement a monitoring solution to identify potential bottlenecks and ensure optimal performance. This involves configuring Prometheus to monitor the Apache web servers and collect relevant metrics. You are responsible for setting up Apache Exporter and Prometheus and using PromQL queries to track metrics. This setup will help proactively identify and address performance issues.

**Tools required:** Linux operating system, Prometheus, and Apache web server

Prerequisites: Refer to Demo 02 of Lesson 01 for installing a Prometheus server

**Expected deliverables:** A fully configured Prometheus and Apache Exporter setup to collect and visualize Apache web server metrics, accessible through a web interface for real-time monitoring and performance analysis using custom PromQL queries

#### Steps to be followed:

- 1. Install and configure the Apache web server
- 2. Install and configure the Apache Exporter for Prometheus
- 3. Configure Prometheus to scrape metrics from the Apache Exporter
- 4. Run PromQL queries in the Prometheus UI to analyze Apache web server metrics

## Step 1: Install and configure the Apache web server

1.1 Run the following command in the terminal to install the Apache2 server: sudo apt install apache2

```
File Edit View Search Te
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$ sudo apt install apache2
Reading package lists... Do<mark>ne</mark>
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
 mailcap mime-support
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 mailcap mime-support

upgraded, 11 newly installed, 0 to remove and 130 not upgraded.
Need to get 2038 kB of archives.
After this operation, 7643 kB of additional disk space will be used.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] Y
Get:1 http://ap-south-1c.clouds.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-updates/main arm64 libapr1 arm64 1.7.0-8ubuntu0.
22.04.1 [106 kB]
Get:2 http://ap-south-1c.clouds.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-updates/main arm64 libaprutil1 arm64 1.6.1-5ubun
tu4.22.04.2 [93.6 kB]
Get:3 http://ap-south-1c.clouds.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-updates/main arm64 libaprutil1-dbd-sqlite3 arm64
1.6.1-5ubuntu4.22.04.2 [11.2 kB]

Get:4 http://ap-south-lc.clouds.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy-updates/main arm64 libaprutil1-ldap arm64 1.6.1-
5ubuntu4.22.04.2 [9048 B]
Get:5 http://ap-south-1c.clouds.ports.ubuntu.com/ubuntu-ports jammy/main arm64 liblua5.3-0 arm64 5.3.6-1build1 [135
```

1.2 Run the following command to check the status of the Apache2 service: sudo systemctl status apache2

```
| Applications | Iabuser@ip-172-31-34-1... | Iabuser@ip-172-31-34-121:~ |
```

1.3 Run the following command to check the services that are occupying port 80 if the Apache2 server is not running:

#### sudo Isof -i:80

```
File Edit View Search Termi
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$ sudo lsof
          PID
                                 TYPE DEVICE SIZE/OFF NODE NAME
COMMAND
                   USER FD
                                                    0t0 TCP *:http (LISTEN)
0t0 TCP *:http (LISTEN)
nginx
           695
                   root
                            6u IPv4
                                       18053
nginx
           695
                    root
                            711
                                 TPv6
                                        18054
           700 www-data
                                 IPv4
                                                         TCP *: http (LISTEN)
                                        18053
                                                    0t0
nginx
                            6u
                                                         TCP *:http (LISTEN)
nginx
           700 www-data
                             7u
                                 IPv6
                                        18054
                                                    Otto TCP localhost:http->localhost:35928 (ESTABLISHED)
Otto TCP *:http (LISTEN)
           700 www-data
                                 IPv4 108796
nginx
                           11u
nginx
           701 www-data
                            6u
                                 IPv4
                                       18053
                                                    Otto TCP *:http (LISTEN)
Otto TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:47440->a23-212-
nginx 701 www-data
firefox 17166 labuser
                            7u
                                 IPv6
                                       18054
                                 IPv4 107533
                           61u
50-234.deploy.static.akamaitechnologies.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
firefox 17166 labuser
                          75u IPv4 107495
                                                    0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:53732->82.221.1
07.34.bc.googleusercontent.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
                                                    0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:53734->82.221.1
firefox 17166 labuser
                           80u IPv4 107498
07.34.bc.googleusercontent.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
firefox 17166 labuser
                           84u IPv4 107534
                                                    0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:47448->a23-212-
50-234.deploy.static.akamaitechnologies.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
firefox 17166 labuser
                          97u IPv4 107738
                                                    0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:38872->a23-212-
50-234.deploy.static.akamaitechnologies.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
                                                    oto TCP localhost:35928->localhost:http (ESTABLISHED)
oto TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:38876->a23-212-
firefox 17166 labuser 108u IPv4 107876
firefox 17166 labuser 115u IPv4 107739
50-234.deploy.static.akamaitechnologies.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
firefox 17166 labuser 123u IPv4 108986
                                                    0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:43080->152.195.
38.76:http (ESTABLISHED)
firefox 17166 labuser
                          127u IPv4 108987
                                                    0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:43086->152.195
```

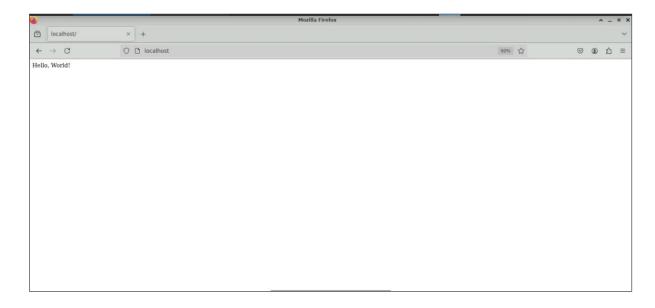
1.4 Run the following commands to stop the Nginx service, restart the Apache2 server, and check the status of the Apache2 service:

sudo systemctl stop nginx sudo systemctl restart apache2 sudo systemctl status apache2

```
firefox 17166 labuser
                        115u IPv4 107739
                                                  0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:38876->a23-212-
50-234.deploy.static.akamaitechnologies.com:http (ESTABLISHED)
firefox 17166 labuser
                        123u IPv4 108986
                                                  0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:43080->152.195.
38.76:http (ESTABLISHED)
                         127u IPv4 108987
                                                  0t0 TCP ip-172-31-20-210.ap-south-1.compute.internal:43086->152.195.
firefox 17166 labuser
38.76:http (ESTABLISHED)
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$ sudo systemctl stop nginx
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$ sudo systemctl restart apache2
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$ sudo systemctl status apache2
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 12:10:37 UTC; 4s ago
       Docs: https://httpd.apache.org/docs/2.4/
    Process: 17967 ExecStart=/usr/sbin/apachectl start (code=exited, status=0/SUCCESS)
   Main PID: 17971 (apache2)
      Tasks: 55 (limit: 9361)
     Memory: 4.7M
        CPIL: 30ms
     CGroup: /system.slice/apache2.service
                -17971 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
              -17972 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
-17973 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
Sep 12 12:10:37 ip-172-31-20-210 systemd[1]: Starting The Apache HTTP Server...
Sep 12 12:10:37 ip-172-31-20-210 systemd[1]: Started The Apache HTTP Server.
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$
```

**Note:** Check ports **80** for HTTP and **443** for HTTPS. In this case, it is **Nginx**, but it could be any process. Stop the process occupying these ports to start Apache2

1.5 Navigate to the preferred browser and enter the URL http://localhost



**Note:** If **http://localhost** shows only **Hello World!**, it indicates that Apache is serving the default index page. You can modify the index.html file in the document root (/var/www/html) to display the desired content.

1.6 Run the following command to open the configuration file **apache2.conf** in the vim editor:

sudo vim /etc/apache2/apache2.conf

```
| File Edit View Search Terminal Help | Sudo vim /etc/apache2/apache2.conf | Sudo vim /etc/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/apache2/a
```

The configuration file should look like this:

```
# It is split into several files forming the configuration hierarchy outlined below, all located in the /etc/apache2/ directory:

# It is split into several files forming the configuration hierarchy outlined below, all located in the /etc/apache2/ directory:

# It is split into several files forming the configuration hierarchy outlined below, all located in the /etc/apache2/ directory:

# /etc/apache2/
# /etc/apache2/
# | -- apache2.conf |
# | -- *.conf |
# | -- conf-enabled |
# | -- *.conf |
# | -- conf-enabled |
# | -- c
```

1.7 Scroll down to the end, press I to switch to **INSERT** mode, then copy and paste the following configuration at the end

**ExtendedStatus On** 

<Location /server-status>
SetHandler server-status
</Location>

```
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:
 File Edit View Search Terminal Help
# Use mod_remoteip instead.
"LogFormat "%v:%p %h %l %u %t \"%r\" %>s %0 \"%{Referer}i\" \"%{User-Agent}i\"" vhost_combined LogFormat "%h %l %u %t \"%r\" %>s %0 \"%{Referer}i\" \"%{User-Agent}i\"" combined LogFormat "%h %l %u %t \"%r\" %>s %0" common LogFormat "%{Referer}i -> %U" referer
LogFormat "%{User-agent}i" agent
# Include of directories ignores editors' and dpkg's backup files,
# see README.Debian for details.
# Include generic snippets of statements
IncludeOptional conf-enabled/*.conf
# Include the virtual host configurations:
IncludeOptional sites-enabled/*.conf
# vim: syntax=apache ts=4 sw=4 sts=4 sr noet
ExtendedStatus On
<Location /server-status>
SetHandler server-status
</Location>
-- INSERT --
                                                                                                                                           234.1
                                                                                                                                                              Bot
```

Press **Esc** and type :wq to save and exit the file.

1.8 Execute the following command to restart Apache2:

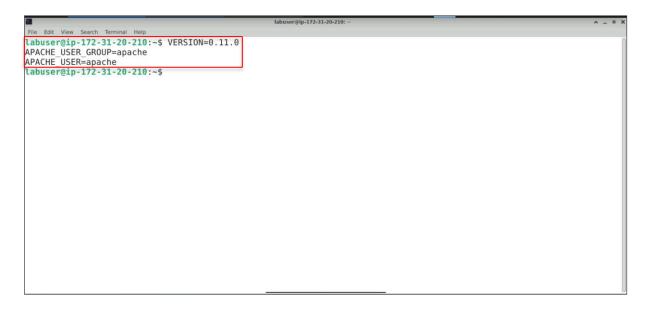
sudo systemctl restart apache2

## Step 2: Install and configure the Apache Exporter for Prometheus

2.1 Provide the following variables in the terminal to download the Apache Exporter:

VERSION=0.11.0

APACHE\_USER\_GROUP=apache
APACHE\_USER=apache



2.2 Run the following command to download the Apache Exporter file from the given URL: sudo wget

https://github.com/Lusitaniae/apache\_exporter/releases/download/v\$VERSION/apache\_exporter-\$VERSION.linux-arm64.tar.gz

```
| International Nation | International National National
```

2.3 Run the command given below to extract the downloaded Apache Exporter: sudo tar xvzf apache exporter-\$VERSION.linux-arm64.tar.gz

```
| Internation |
```

2.4 Run the following commands to change the file permissions of Apache Exporter and make it executable, then start it in the background: sudo chmod +x ./apache\_exporter-0.11.0.linux-arm64/apache\_exporter sudo ./apache\_exporter-0.11.0.linux-arm64/apache\_exporter -- scrape\_uri=http://localhost/server-status?auto --insecure --telemetry.address=:9117 --telemetry.endpoint=/metrics > /dev/null 2>&1 &

2.5 Run the following command to verify whether metrics are being fetched from the Apache Exporter running on the local machine:

### curl http://localhost:9117/metrics

```
Type apache accesses total counter apache connections statuses

# TYPE apache accesses total counter apache accesses (*)

# TYPE apache accesses total counter apache accesses (*)

# TYPE apache accesses total counter apache accesses (*)

# TYPE apache accesses total counter apache accesses (*)

# TYPE apache connections Apache connection statuses

# TYPE apache connections state="closing" 1

apache connections (state="keepalive") 0

apache connections (state="writing") 0

# HELP apache counter (ions (state="writing") 0

# HELP apache counter (ions (state="writing") 0

# HELP apache countime ms total counter apache countime ms total (type="system") 0

apache countime ms total (type="user") 10

# HELP apache couload from current percentage CPU used by each worker and in total by all workers combined (*)

# TYPE apache duration ms total total duration of all registered requests in ms

# TYPE apache duration ms total counter apache duration ms total counter apache duration ms total counter apache duration ms total ounter apache exporter build info A metric with a constant '1' value labeled by version, revision, branch, and gover sion from which apache exporter was built.

# TYPE apache exporter build info (branch="HEAD", goversion="gol.16.10", revision="f4fd9dd7e9672fdal20a3085f224431550baf2a7", version="6.11.0") 1
```

**Note:** You can also access these metrics in the browser using the same URL without the command **curl**.

# **Step 3: Configure Prometheus to scrape metrics from the Apache Exporter**

3.1 Run the following command to change the directory to **prometheus**, then create and open the file **prom-apache-exporter.yaml** using the **Vim** editor:

#### cd prometheus

sudo vim prom-apache-exporter.yaml

```
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$ ls
Desktop
            Templates
                                                             config.my-cnf
                                                                               prometheus-2.54.0.linux-arm64
Documents Videos
                                                             config.mycnf
                                                                               pushgateway-1.9.0.linux-arm64
Downloads alertmanager-0.27.0.linux-arm64
                                                             elk.sh
            apache_exporter-0.11.0.linux-amd64
Music
                                                             kubectl.sha256 thinclient_drives
Pictures
            apache_exporter-0.11.0.linux-arm64
                                                             metrics-demo
Public apache_exporter-0.11.0.linux-arm64.tar.gz prometheus labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~$ cd prometheus labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~/prometheus$____
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~/prometheus$ sudo vim prom-apache-exporter.yaml
```

Note: Ensure that Prometheus is already installed

3.2 Switch to **INSERT** mode, copy and paste the following configuration, then save and exit the file:

global:

scrape interval: 15s

scrape\_configs:

- job name: 'apache-exporter'

static\_configs:

- targets: ['localhost:9117']

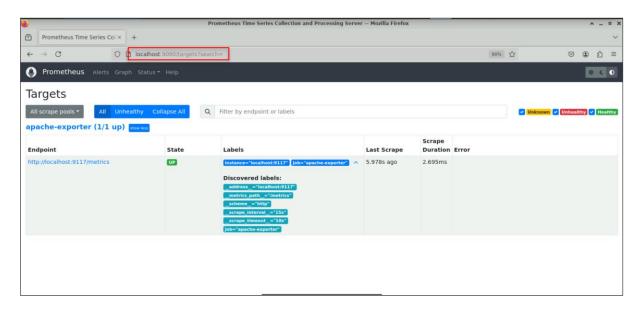
3.3 Run the following command to explore the Prometheus UI: sudo ./prometheus --config.file=prom-apache-exporter.yaml

```
labuser@ip-172-31-20-210:~/prometheus$ sudo ./prometheus --config.file=prom-apache-exporter.yaml
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.554Z caller=mai<mark>n.go:601 level=info msg="No time or size retention was set</mark> so using the defaul
t time retention" duration=15d
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.554Z caller=main.go:645 level=info msg="Starting Prometheus Server" mode=server version="(ver
sion=2.54.0, branch=HEAD, revision=5354e87a70d3eb26b81b601b286d66ff983990f6)
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.554Z caller=main.go:650 level=info build_context="(go=go1.22.6, platform=linux/arm64, user=ro
ot@68a9e2472a68, date=20240809-11:38:48, tags=netgo,builtinassets,stringlabels)
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.554Z caller=main.go:551 level=info host_details="(Linux 6.5.0-1017-aws #17~22.04.2-Ubuntu SMP
Mon Mar 25 20:47:22 UTC 2024 aarch64 ip-172-31-20-210 (none))
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.554Z caller=main.go:652 level=info fd_limits="(soft=1048576, hard=1048576)"
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.554Z caller=main.go:653 level=info vm_limits="(soft=unlimited, hard=unlimited)"
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.558Z caller=web.go:571 level=info component=web msg="Start listening for connections" address
=0.0.0.0:9090
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.564Z caller=main.go:1160 level=info msg="Starting TSDB ...
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.566Z caller=tls_config.go:313 level=info component=web msg="Listening on" address=[::]:9090 ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.571Z caller=tls_config.go:316 level=info component=web msg="TLS is disabled." http2=false add
ress=[::]:9090
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.574Z caller=head.go:626 level=info component=tsdb msg="Replaying on-disk memory mappable chun
ks if anv'
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.575Z caller=head.go:713 level=info component=tsdb msg="On-disk memory mappable chunks replay
completed" duration=3.824µs
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.575Z caller=head.go:721 level=info component=tsdb msg="Replaying WAL, this may take a while"
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.575Z caller=head.go:793 level=info component=tsdb msg="WAL segment loaded" segment=0 maxSegme
nt=0
ts=2024-09-12T12:34:05.575Z caller=head.go:830 level=info component=tsdb msg="WAL replay completed" checkpoint repla
y_duration=53.537µs wal_replay_duration=412.035µs wbl_replay_duration=205ns chunk_snapshot_load_duration=0s mmap_chu
```

Note: You can also run Prometheus in the background using the command sudo ./prometheus --config.file=prom-apache-exporter.yaml > /dev/null 2>&1 & However, this command will not detect port conflict issues.

# Step 4: Run PromQL queries in the Prometheus UI to analyze Apache web server metrics

4.1 Open the preferred browser and navigate to the URL http://localhost:9090/targets to explore the Apache Exporter on the Prometheus UI

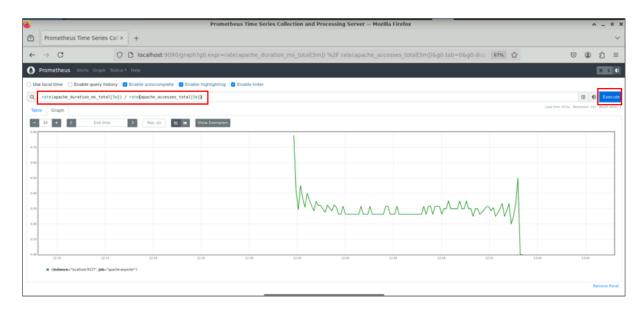


4.2 Navigate to the **Graph** section in Prometheus, enter the following query in the expression bar, and click the **Execute** button to calculate the rate of Apache requests per second over the last 5 minutes: rate(apache\_accesses\_total[5m])



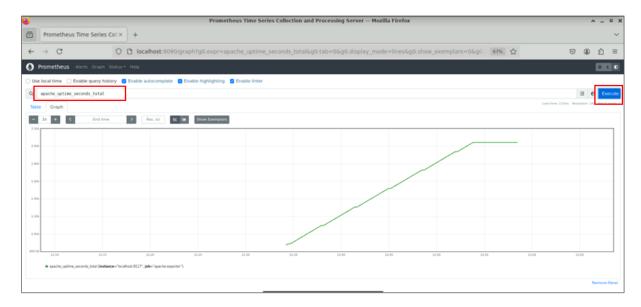
4.3 Enter the following query in the expression bar and click on the **Execute** button to measure the average response time of Apache requests in milliseconds over the last 5 minutes:

rate(apache\_duration\_ms\_total[5m]) / rate(apache\_accesses\_total[5m])



4.4 Enter the following query in the expression bar and click the **Execute** button to display the total uptime of the Apache server in seconds:

 $apache\_uptime\_seconds\_total$ 

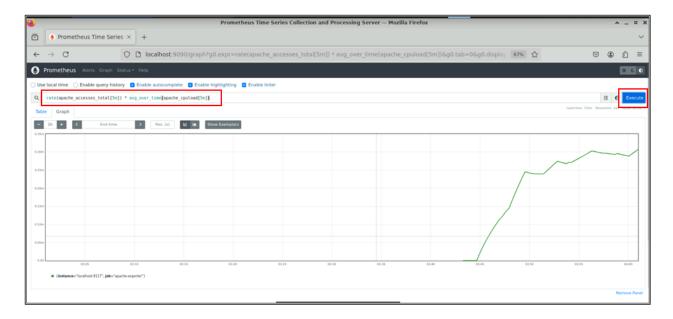


4.5 Enter the following query in the expression bar and click the **Execute** button to display the count of Apache workers for each instance:

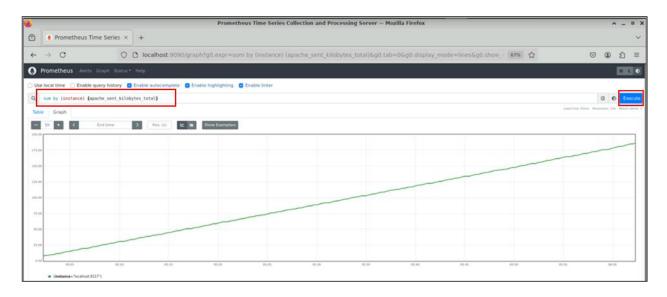
apache\_workers{instance=~".\*"}



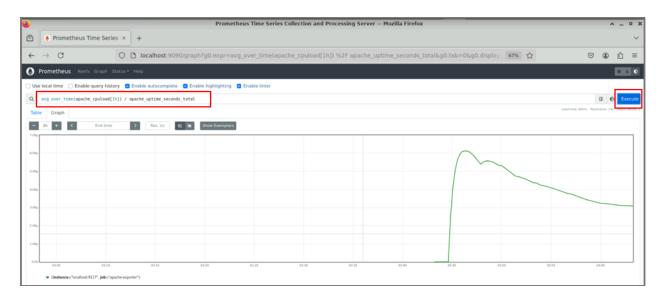
4.6 Enter the following query in the expression bar and click the Execute button to monitor Apache's request rate and CPU load over the same time interval: rate(apache\_accesses\_total[5m]) \* avg\_over\_time(apache\_cpuload[5m])



4.7 Enter the following query in the expression bar and click the **Execute** button to display the total amount of data sent (in kilobytes) by the Apache server for each instance: sum by (instance) (apache\_sent\_kilobytes\_total)



4.8 Enter the following query in the expression bar and click the **Execute** button to monitor the average CPU load of Apache over the last hour relative to its total uptime: avg\_over\_time(apache\_cpuload[1h]) / apache\_uptime\_seconds\_total



By following these steps, you have successfully set up and configured an Apache web server along with the Prometheus monitoring system, including the Apache Exporter setup to collect and visualize Apache web server metrics. These metrics are accessible through a web interface for real-time monitoring and performance analysis using custom PromQL queries.