NAME
      sysstat − sysstat configuration file.

DESCRIPTION
      This file is read by **sa1**(8) and **sa2**(8) shell scripts from the sysstat's set of tools. It consists of a sequence of
      shell variable assignments used to configure sysstat logging. The variables and their meanings are:

COMPRESSAFTER
      Number of days after which daily data files are to be compressed. The compression program is
      given in the **ZIP** variable.

HISTORY
      The number of days during which a daily data file or a report should be kept. Data files or reports
      older than this number of days will be removed by the **sa2**(8) shell script. Data files and reports
      are normally saved in the /var/log/sysstat directory, under the name *saDD* (for data files) or *sarDD*
      (for reports), where the DD parameter indicates the current day.

      The number of files actually kept in the /var/log/sysstat directory may be slightly higher than the
      HISTORY value due to the way the **sa2** script figures out which files are to be removed (see be-
      low "How the **sa2**(8) script applies **HISTORY** value"). Using a value of 28 keeps a whole month's
      worth of data. If you set **HISTORY** to a value greater than 28 then you should consider using
      sadc's option −D to prevent older data files from being overwritten (see **sadc**(8) manual page). In
      this latter case data files are named *saYYYYMMDD* and reports *sarYYYYMMDD*, where YYYY
      stands for the current year, MM for the current month and DD for the current day.

      How the **sa2**(8) script applies **HISTORY** value

      The **sa2** script uses the "find" command with the "−mtime" option to figure out which files are to
      be removed. The "find" command interprets this value as "N 24 hour periods", ignoring any frac-
      tional part. This means that the last modified time of a given sa[r]DD data or report file, using a
      HISTORY of 1, has to have been modified at least two days ago before it will be removed. And
      for a **HISTORY** of 28 that would mean 29 days ago.

      To figure out how a **HISTORY** of 28 is applied in practice, we need to consider that the **sa2** script
      that issues the "find" command to remove the old files typically runs just before mid−night on a
      given system, and since the first record from **sadc** can also be written to the previous day's data
      file (thereby moving its modification time up a bit), the **sa2** script will leave 30 files untouched. So
      for a setting of 28, and counting the data file of the current day, there will always be 31 files (or 30
      files, depending on the number of days in a month) in the /var/log/sysstat directory during the ma-
      jority of a given day. E.g.:

      April 30th: 31 files (Apr 30th−1st, Mar 31th)
      May 1st: 30 files (May 1st, Apr 30th−2nd)

      Yet we can note the following exceptions (as inspected at Noon of the given day):

      February 28th: 31 files (Feb 28th−1st, Jan 31st, 30th & 29th)
      March 1st: 30 files (Mar 1st, Feb 28th−2nd, Jan 31st & 30th)
      March 2nd: 29 files (Mar 1st & 2nd, Feb 28th−3rd, Jan. 31st)
      March 3rd: 28 files (Mar 1st−3rd, Feb 28th−4th)
      March 4th − March 28th: 28 files
      March 29th: 29 files
      March 30th: 30 files
      March 31st: 31 files

(Determining the number of files in March on a leap year is left as an exercise for the reader).

Things are simpler if you use the sa[r]YYYYMMDD name format. Apply the same logic as above in this case and you will find that there are always **HISTORY** + 3 files in the */var/log/sysstat* directory during the majority of a given day.

REPORTS

Set this variable to false to prevent the **sa2** script from generating reports (the *sarDD* files).

SA_DIR

Directory where the standard system activity daily data and report files are saved. Its default value is */var/log/sysstat*.

SADC_OPTIONS

Options that should be passed to **sadc**(8). With these options (see **sadc**(8) manual page), you can select some additional data which are going to be saved in daily data files. These options are used only when a new data file is created. They will be ignored with an already existing one.

YESTERDAY

By default **sa2** script generates yesterday's summary, since the cron job usually runs right after midnight. If you want **sa2** to generate the summary of the same day (for example when cron job runs at 23:53) set this variable to no.

ZIP   Program used to compress data and report files.

FILES

/etc/sysstat/sysstat

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SEE ALSO

sadc(8), **sa1**(8), **sa2**(8)

https://github.com/sysstat/sysstat

http://pagesperso−orange.fr/sebastien.godard/