



splunk>

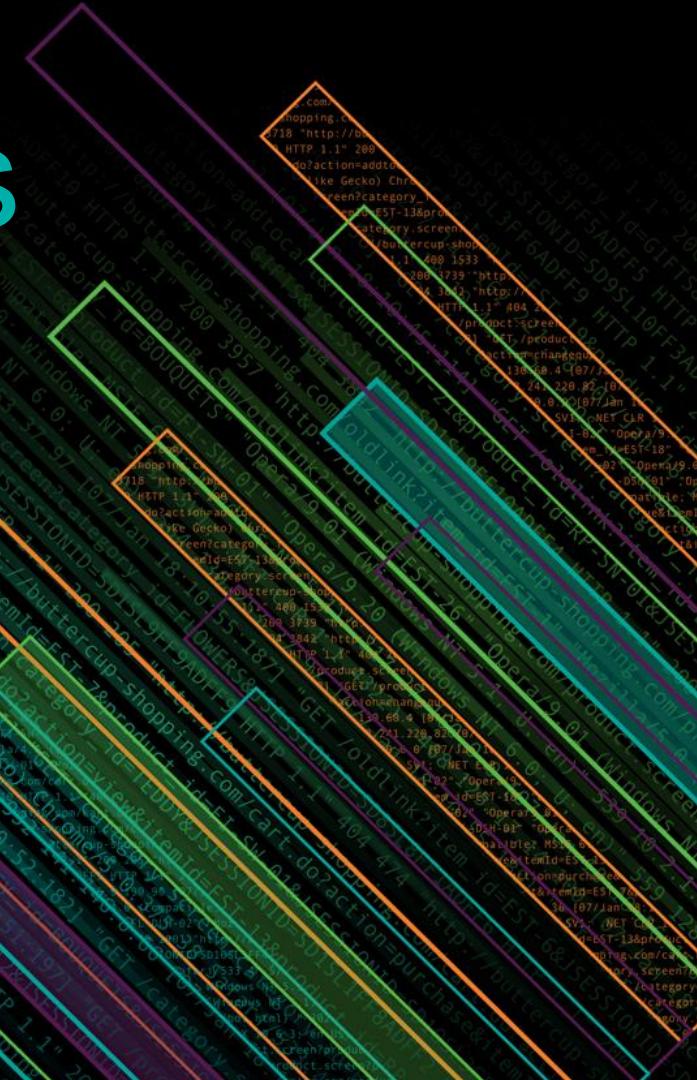
How We Track All Changes to Our Splunk Deployment

And what we learned along the way

Gabriel Vasseur - Thales UK - Senior cyber security analyst

Olivier Lauret - Octamis - Co-founder / Splunk Consultant

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Forward-Looking Statements

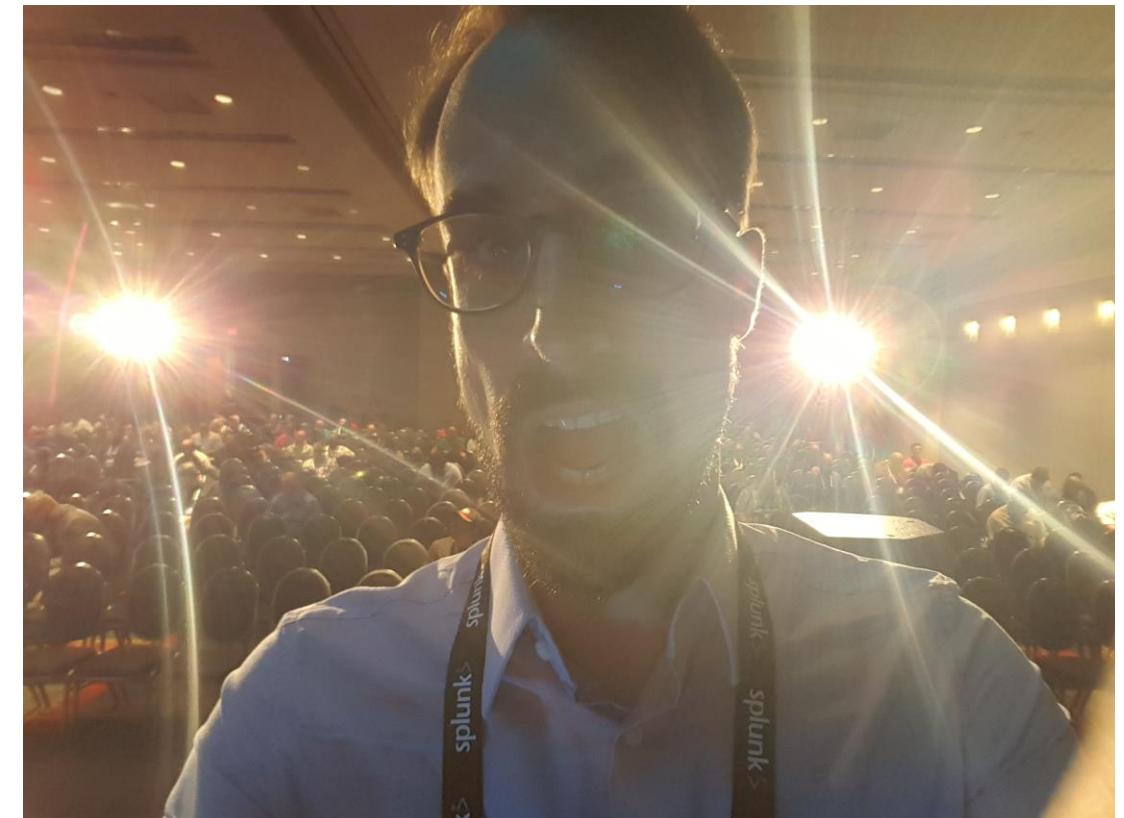
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Who is Gabriel?

- ▶ French
- ▶ Lives in England
- ▶ PhD in theoretical physics
- ▶ Works for **THALES** UK
- ▶ 11 years in the IT security industry
- ▶ Currently
 - on paper: Senior Cyber Security Analyst
 - in reality: resident Data Scientist / Splunk Guru
- ▶ Likes to talk splunk
 - conf2016 [Become a Regular Expressions Ninja and Unlock Your Splunk Potential](#)
 - conf2017 [Running Enterprise Security at Capacity: Tuning ES With Data Model Acceleration](#)



→ one of the best-rated sessions!

Who is Olivier?

- ▶ French (guess where exactly from?) and British (100 years of fighting with myself)
- ▶ Based in Frankfurt, Germany

- ▶ Co-founder of **OCTAMIS** (UK, Germany)

Best company in the world (no doubt!)

- NMON/Metricator app

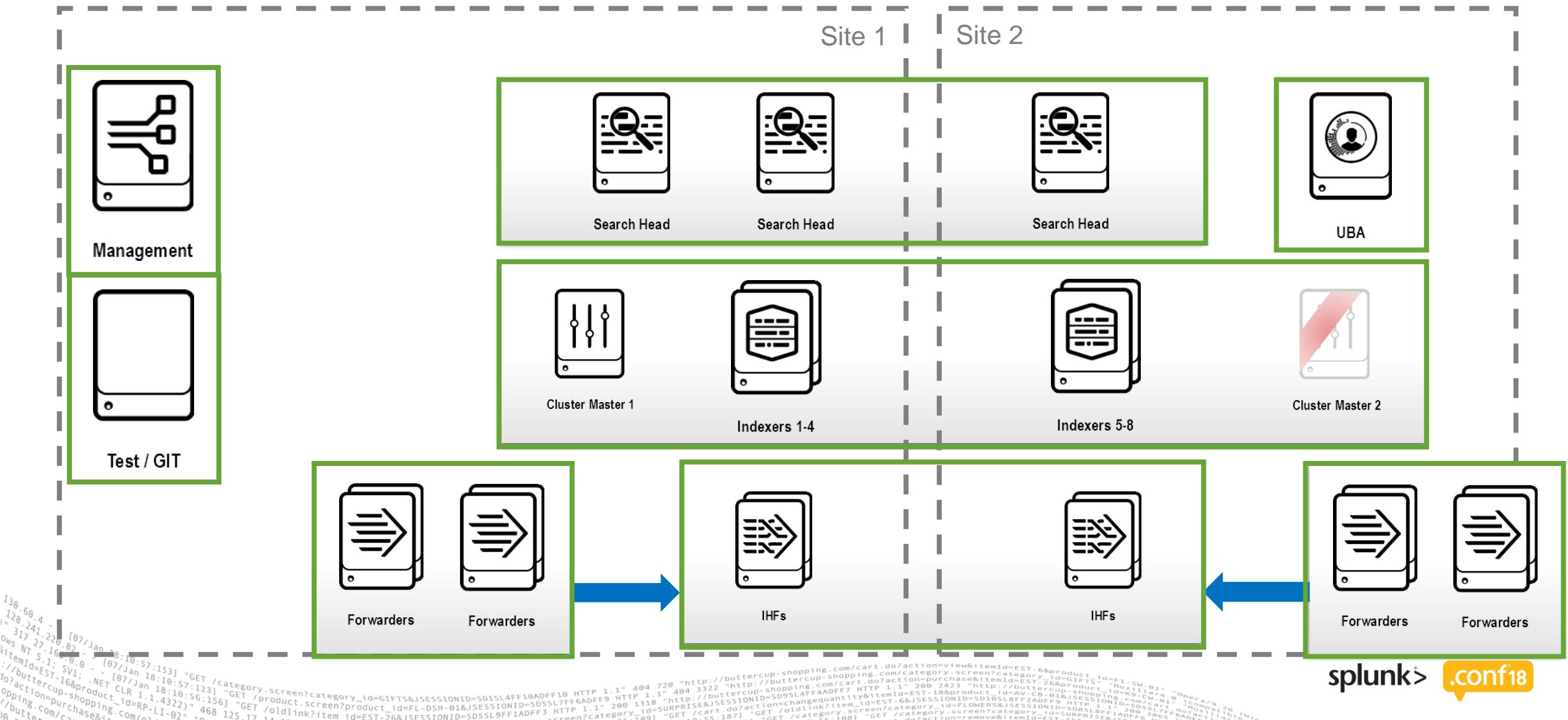


— Best App in the world (still not biased)

- ▶ Working as a Splunk consultant (looking for the next project!)
- ▶ 7+ years of passion with Splunk (many others with HP software, but let's not talk about the mistakes we did in our youth!)
- ▶ Some of you might recognise my voice from a Splunk Education class



Splunk at Thales UK





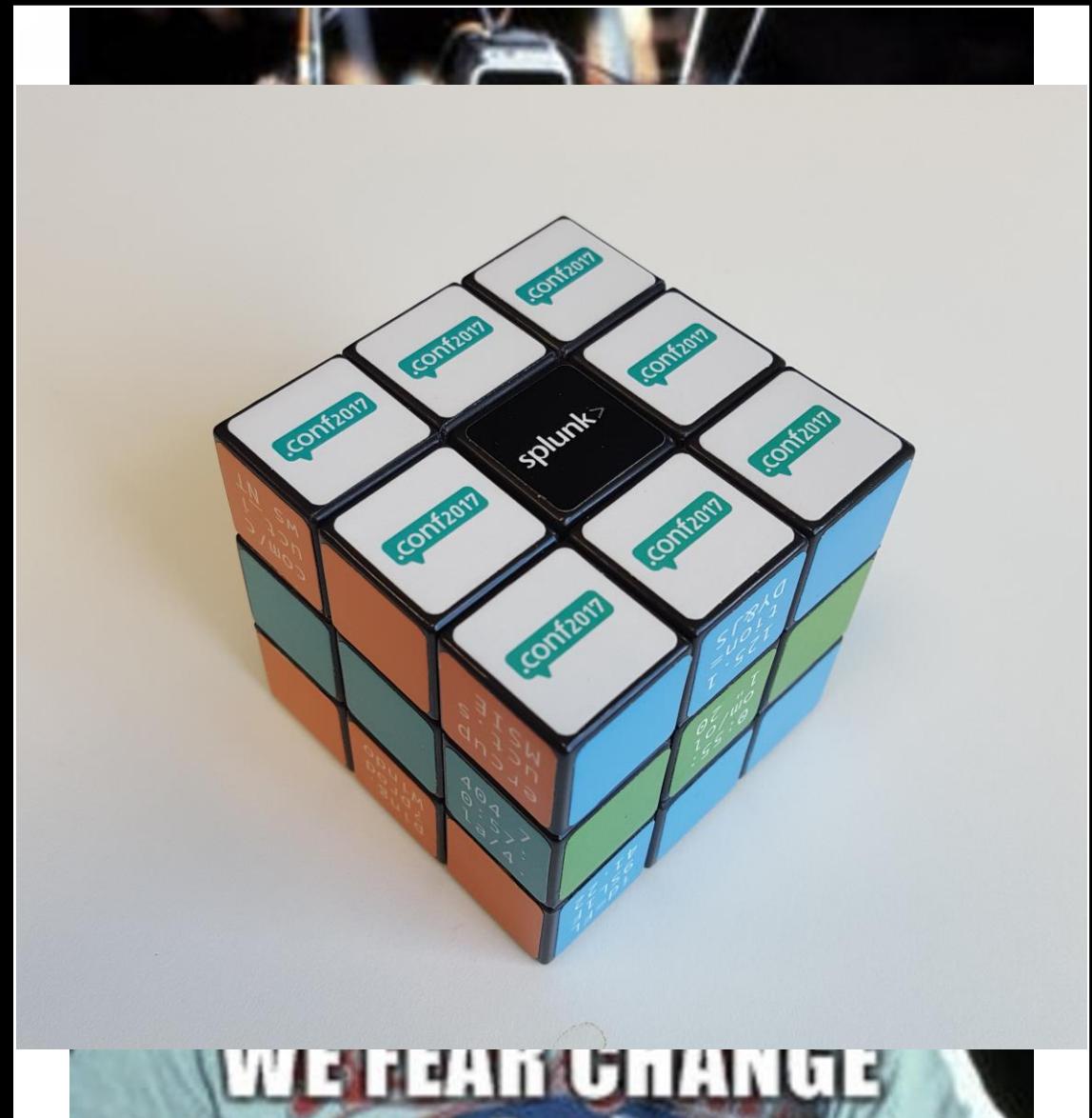
The one slide to photograph



- ▶ There will be subliminal information flashing on the screen, so watch the recording! <http://conf.splunk.com/sessions/2018-sessions.html>
 - ▶ Your hosts:
 - Gabriel Vasseur gabriel.vasseur@uk.thalesgroup.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/gabrielvasseur/>
 - Olivier Lauret olivier@octamis.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/olivierlauret/>
 - ▶  There are bonus slides :-)
 - ▶ Slides and (a bit) more available now at <https://bit.ly/TrackSplunk>

The journey ahead

- ▶ Intro - Us and our environment
- ▶ Full change control is heavy: just track
- ▶ Tracking problem 1: precedence
- ▶ Canonical configuration
- ▶ Tracking problem 2: diff explosions
- ▶ Track all changes (inc. glass tables)
- ▶ Control deployment server deployments
- ▶ Control search head deployments
- ▶ Control upgrades
- ▶ Conclusion



The journey ahead

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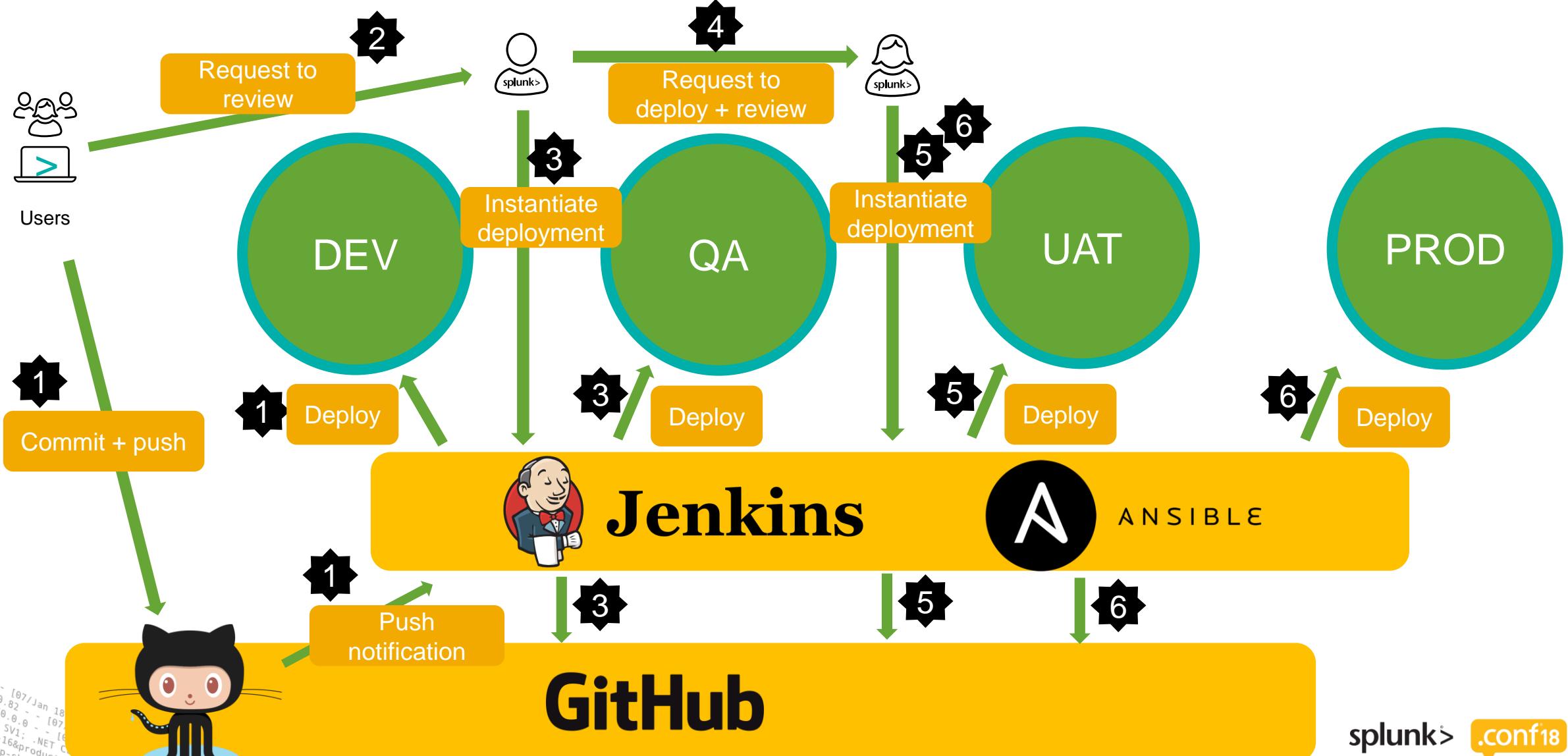


Proper Change Control is heavy



The heavy solution

Complete control on changes (NOT at Thales)



The **heavy** solution (Cont'd)

Complete control on changes

Advantages

Summary:

ight be too much for a small team
with a single environment!

splunk> .conf18

Problem: Many ways to effect change

Don't give up the flexibility of Splunk's native change mechanisms

- ▶ Click in the web UI
 - ▶ Deploy some nodes
 - deployment
 - cluster master
 - search head
 - ▶ Edit conf files
(and then probably)
 - ▶ inputlookup
 - ▶ Things in KV
 - ▶ Can you think of more?

Solution:

Let it be!

Control where possible, just track otherwise.

bug/refresh/)

Just time for a quick recap

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Precedence rules



Problem: complex precedence rules

What is a rule of precedence?

/opt/splunk/etc/system/local/example.conf

/opt/splunk/etc/apps/app1/local/example.conf



Runtine example.conf

[mystanza]
Option1 = A
Option2 = ??

Problem: complex precedence rules

How does it apply to Splunk config?

Index time processing

vs

Search time processing

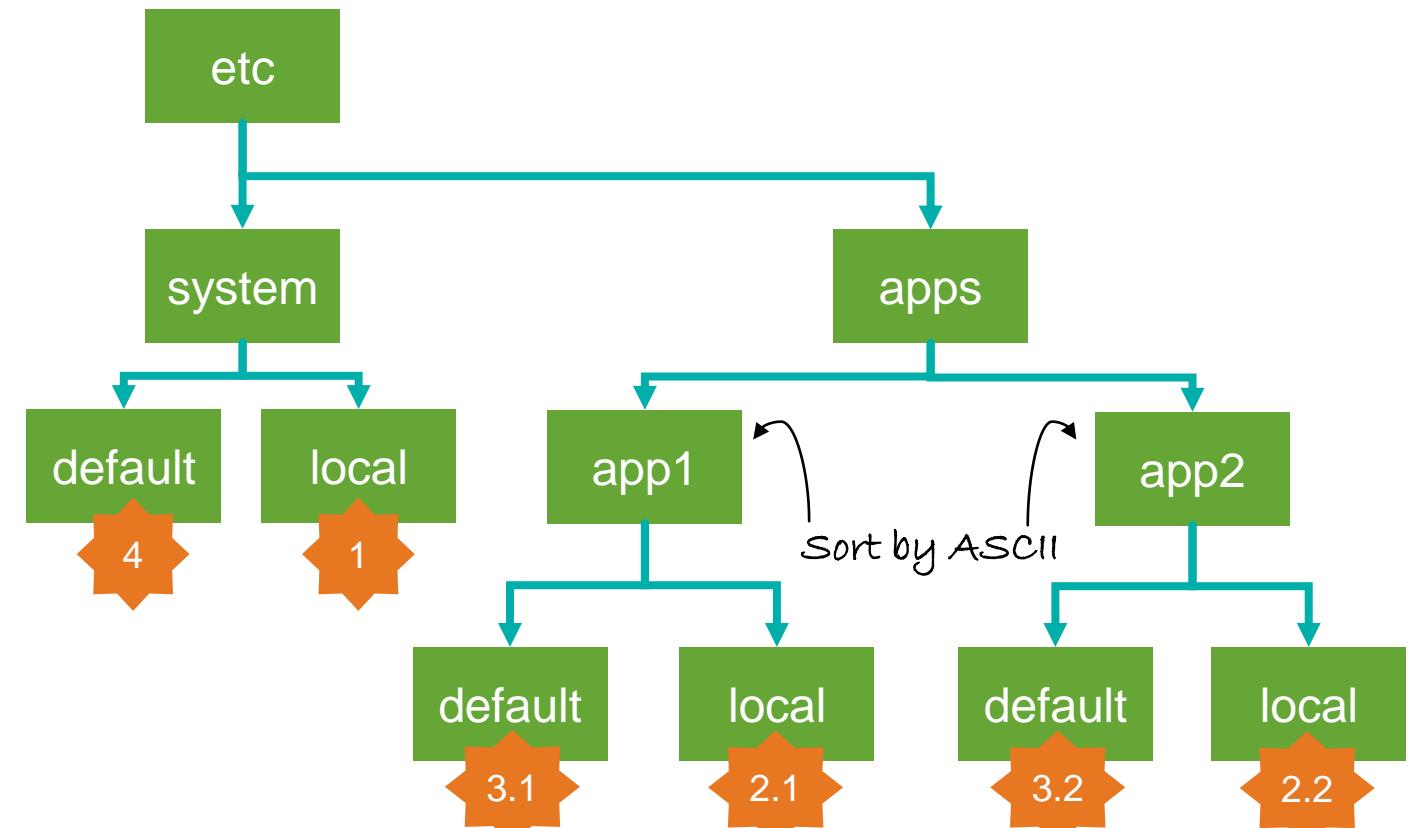
Problem: complex precedence rules

Index time processing : on indexers or forwarders

Indexer cluster

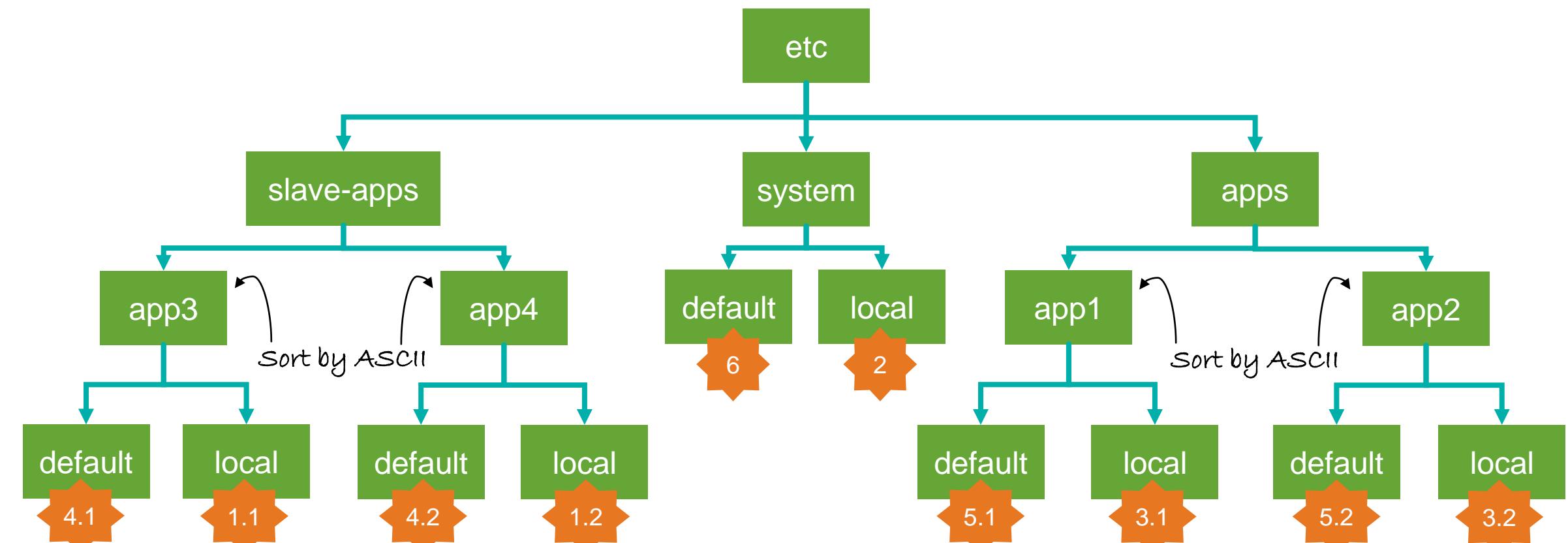
Any impact on precedence rules if you are using indexer cluster?

Answer: YES



Problem: complex precedence rules

Index time processing : on indexers



Problem: complex precedence rules

Search time processing : on search heads

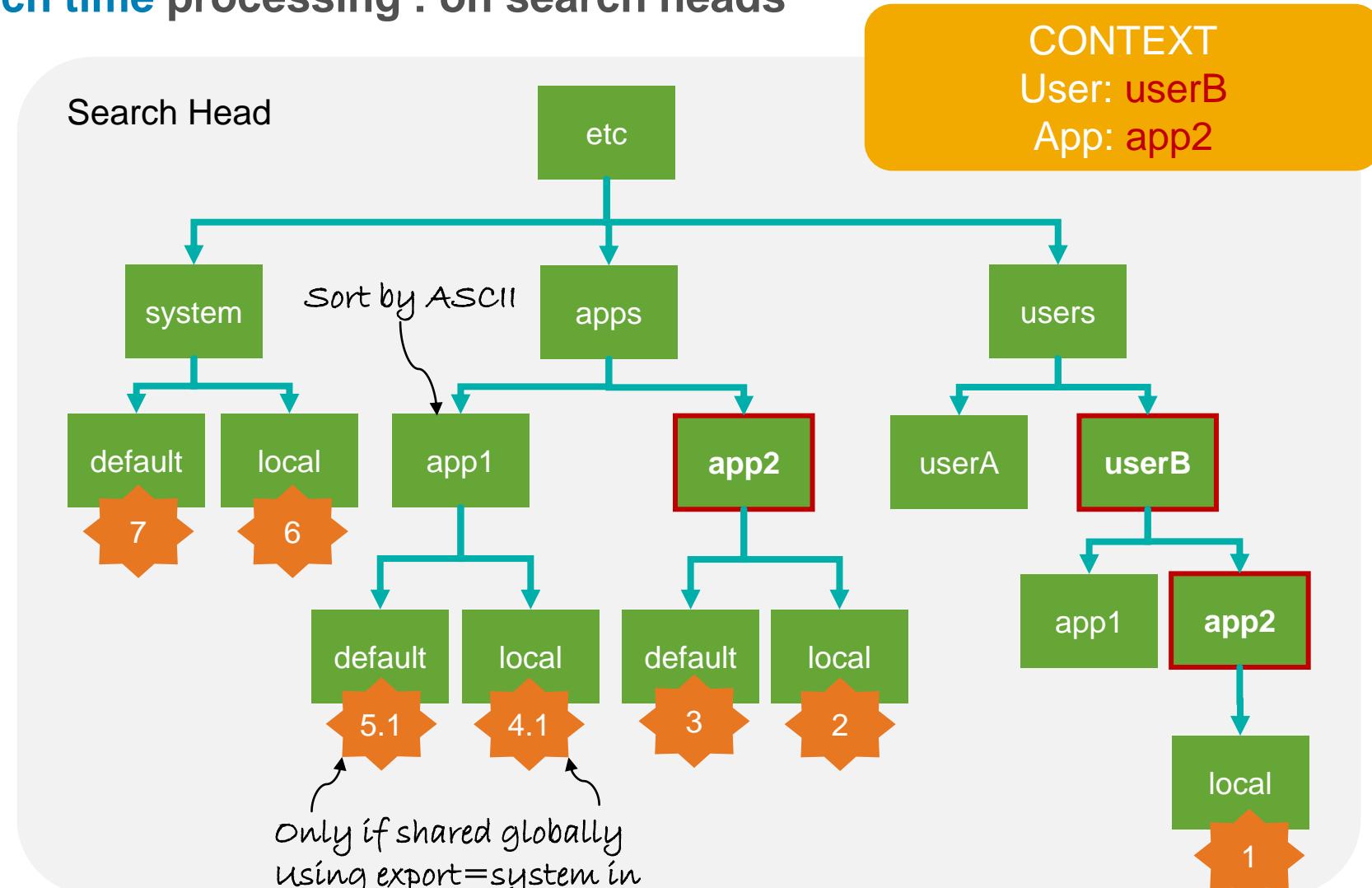
⚠ Beware of ES

“import=app1,app2,...” in metadata
overwrites the “export=system”

ⓘ Search head cluster

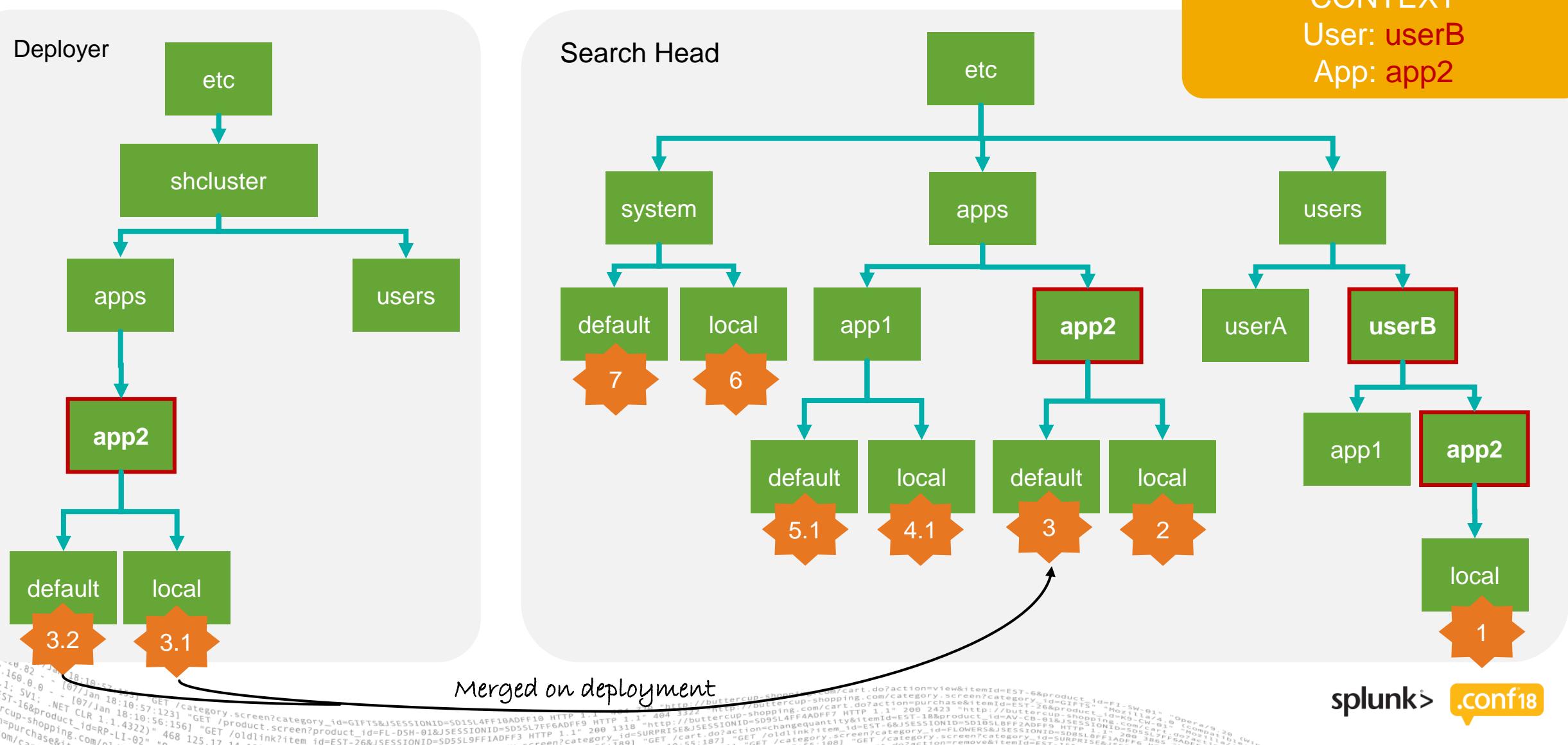
Any impact on precedence rules if
you are using search head cluster?

Answer: YES



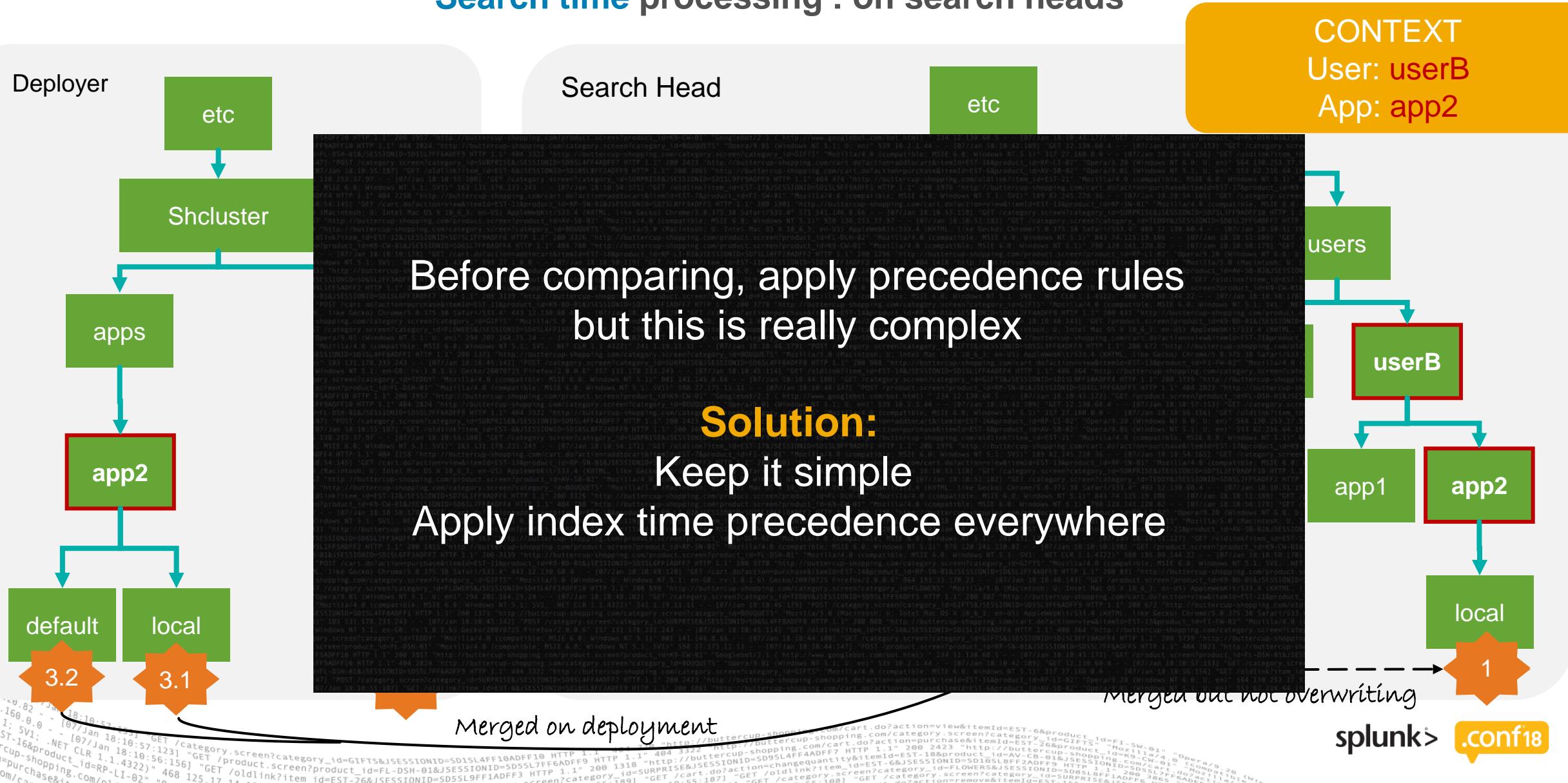
Problem: complex precedence rules

Search time processing : on search heads



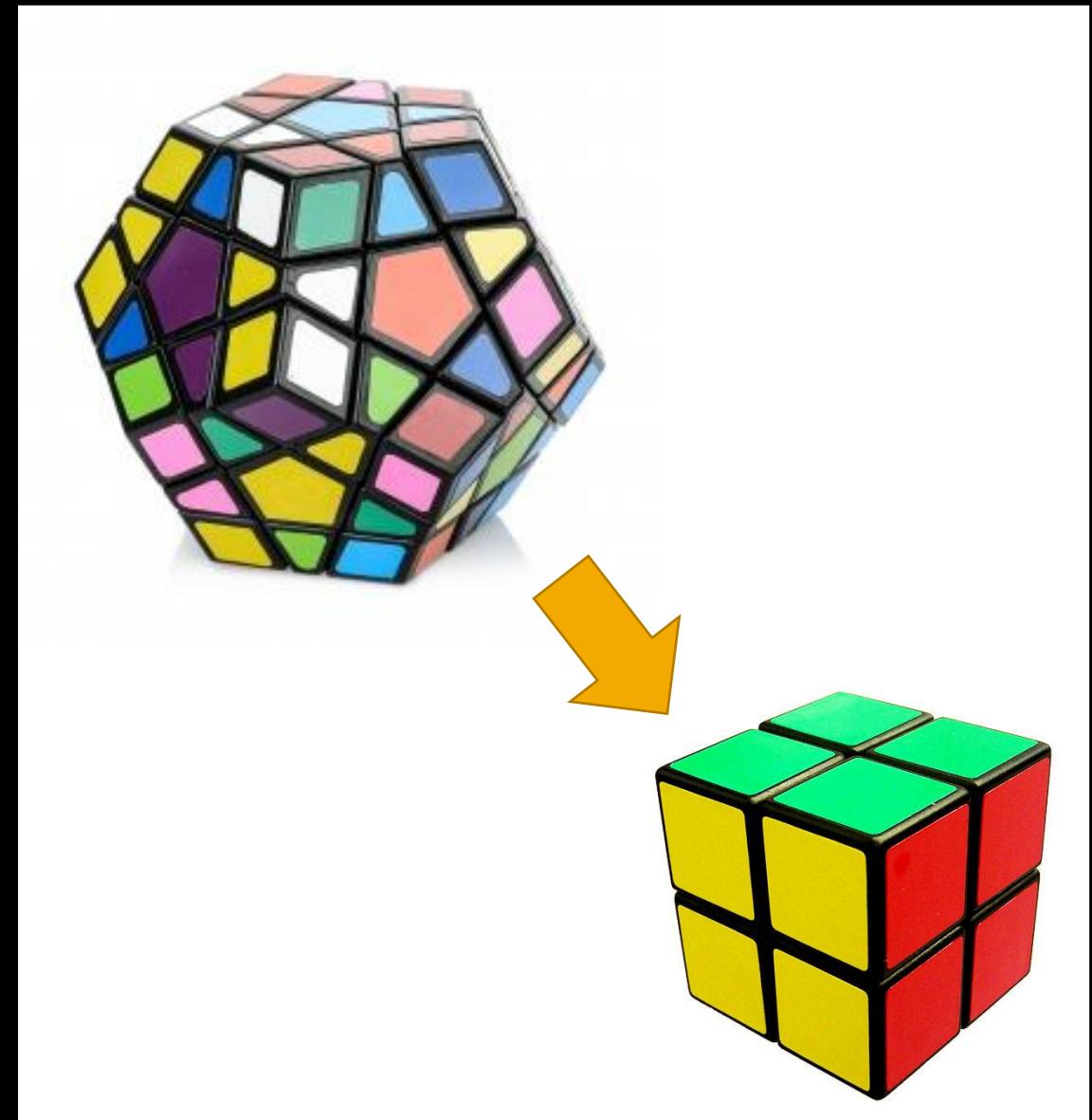
Problem: complex precedence rules

Search time processing : on search heads



Just time for a quick recap

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Canonical configuration

Sophisticated or over-engineered?



Splunk instance

Canonicalisation

The diagram illustrates the file system structure of `/opt/splunk/etc/`. A yellow box highlights the path `apps/myapp/`, indicating that only enabled applications are shown. The structure includes:

- `apps/`:
 - `myapp/`:
 - `appserver/...` (css, js, etc...)
 - `bin/...` (python, json, etc...)
 - `default/`:
 - `...conf files...`
 - `data/`:
 - `ui/`:
 - `nav/...` (xml menus...)
 - `views/...` (xml dashboards...)
 - `models/...` (json datamodels...)
 - `local/`:
 - `...conf files...`
 - `data/`:
 - `ui/`:
 - `nav/...` (xml menus...)
 - `views/...` (xml dashboards...)
 - `models/...` (json datamodels...)
 - `lookups/...` (csv lookups...)
 - `metadata/...` (default.meta & local.meta...)
 - `.../`
 - `deployment-apps/...`
 - `master-apps/...`
 - `slave-apps/...`
 - `shcluster/...`
 - `system/`:
 - `bin/...` (python, json, etc...)
 - `default/...`
 - `local/...`
 - `metadata/...`

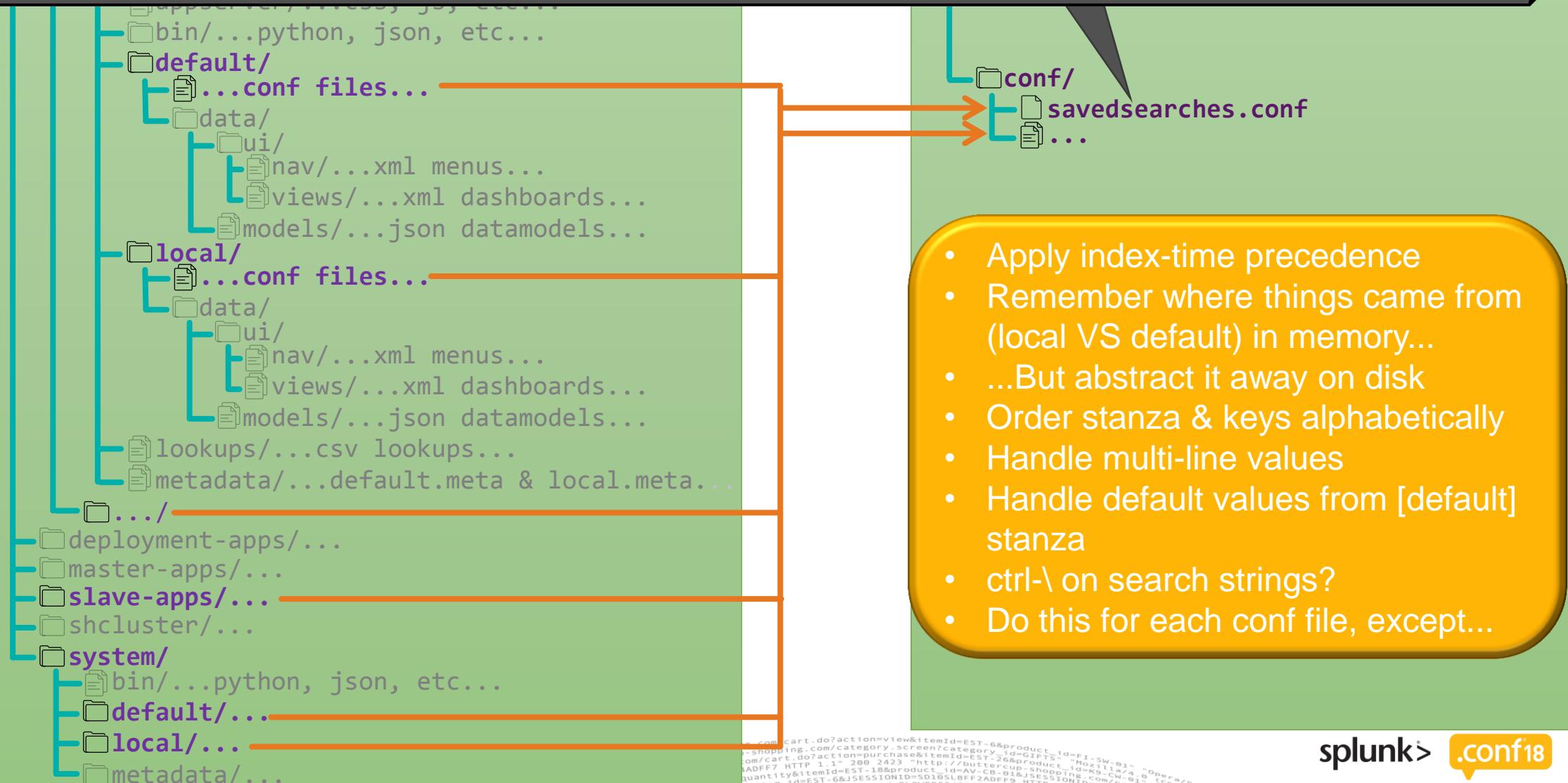
Canonical version on disk

/canonical/

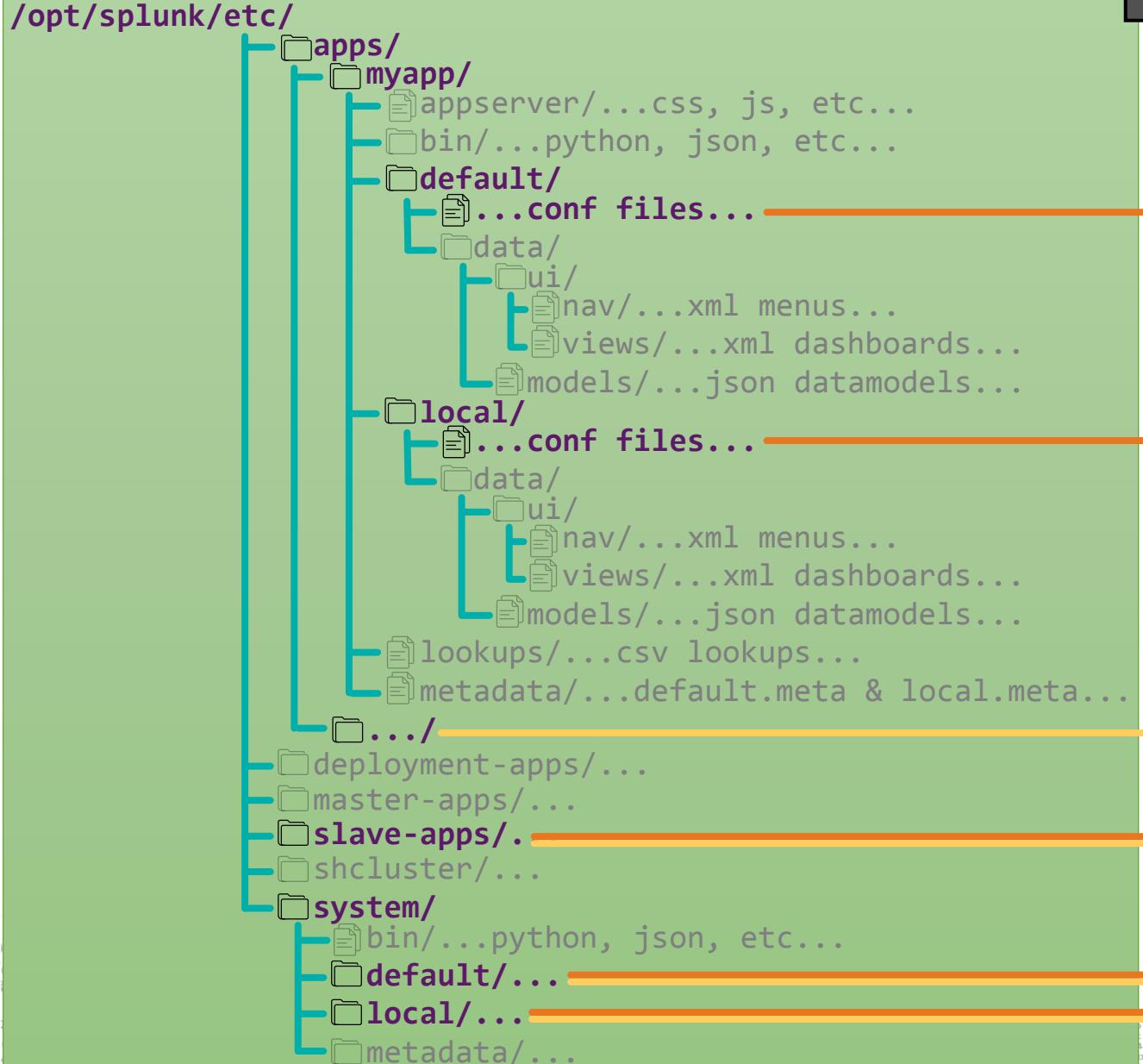
[Last known uptime by host] etc/system schedule_window = 0

[Last known uptime by host] etc/apps/nmon search = | tstats latest(...) blah blah blah
 [Last known uptime by host] etc/apps/nmon search . | stats blah blah blah
 [Last known uptime by host] etc/apps/nmon search . | eval blah blah | table blah blah

...



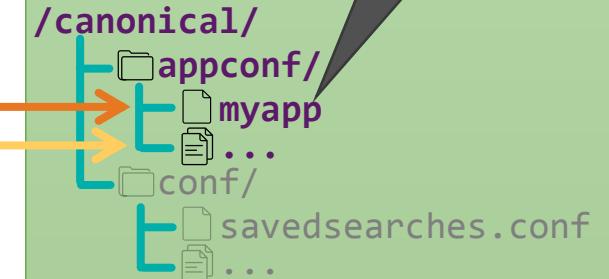
Splunk instance



```

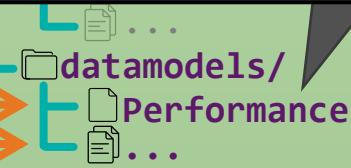
[launcher] author = Gabriel & Olivier
[ui] is_visible = 1
...
  
```

Canonical version on disk



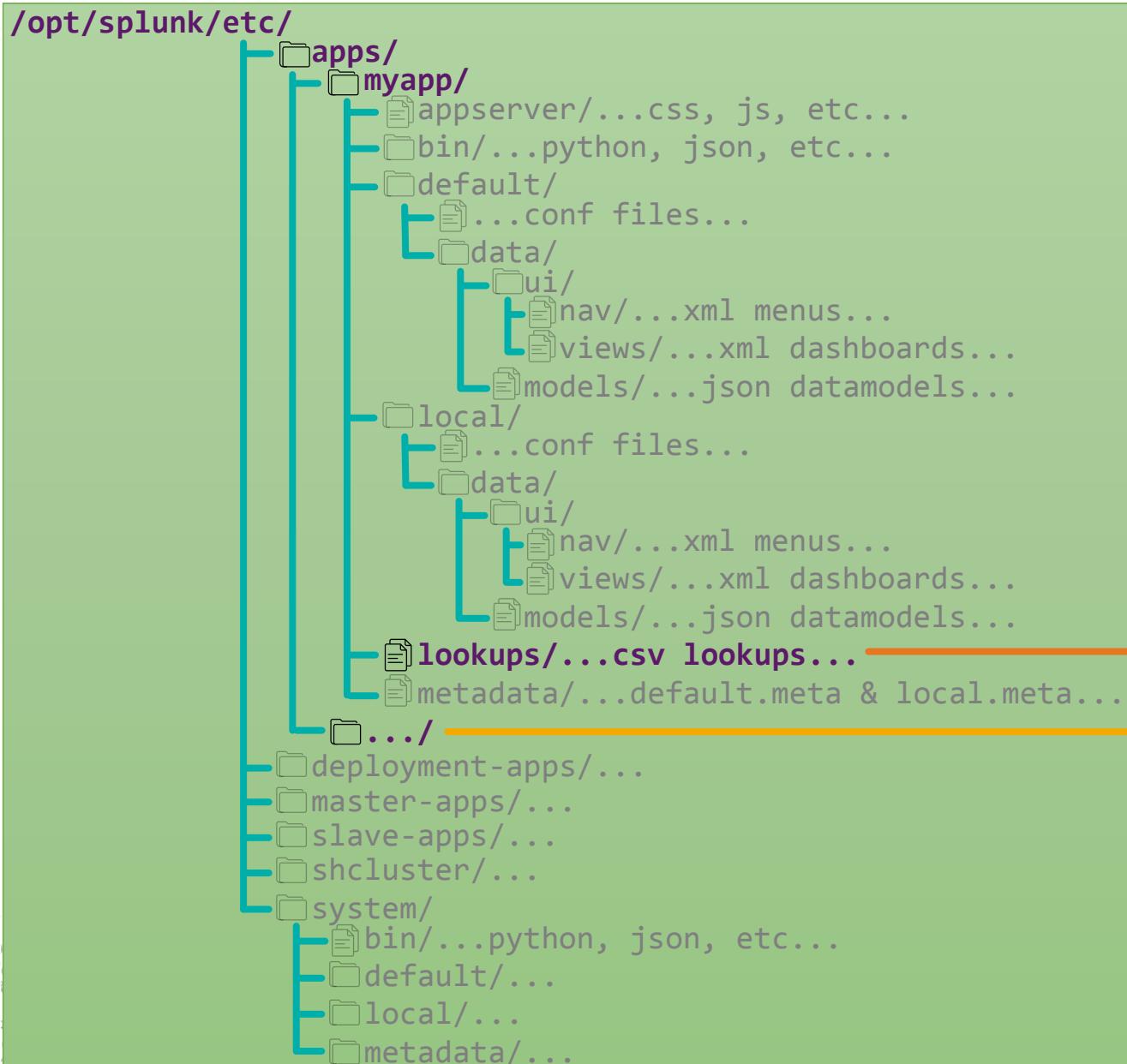
- app.conf is special!
- scope is only app-wise
- still have to apply precedence with system, but not with the other apps
- one file per app

```
Object:All_Performance - displayName: All Performance  
Object:All_Performance - parentName: BaseEvent  
Object:All_Performance - Field:dest_bunit - fieldName: dest_bunit  
Object:All_Performance - Field:dest_bunit - required: 1  
Object:All_Performance - Calculation:All_Performance_fillnull_dest - expression: if(..., ...)  
Object:CPU - parentName: All_Performance  
Object:CPU - Field:cpu_load_mhz - fieldName: cpu_load_mhz  
...  
data/  
  ui/  
    nav/...xml menus...  
    views/...xml dashboards...  
  models/...json datamodels...  
local/  
  ...conf files...  
  data/  
    ui/  
      nav/...xml menus...  
      views/...xml dashboards...  
    models/...json datamodels...  
  lookups/...csv lookups...  
  metadata/...default.meta & local.meta...  
.../  
  deployment-apps/...  
  master-apps/...  
  slave-apps/...  
  shcluster/...  
  system/  
    bin/...python, json, etc...  
    default/...  
    local/...  
    metadata/...
```



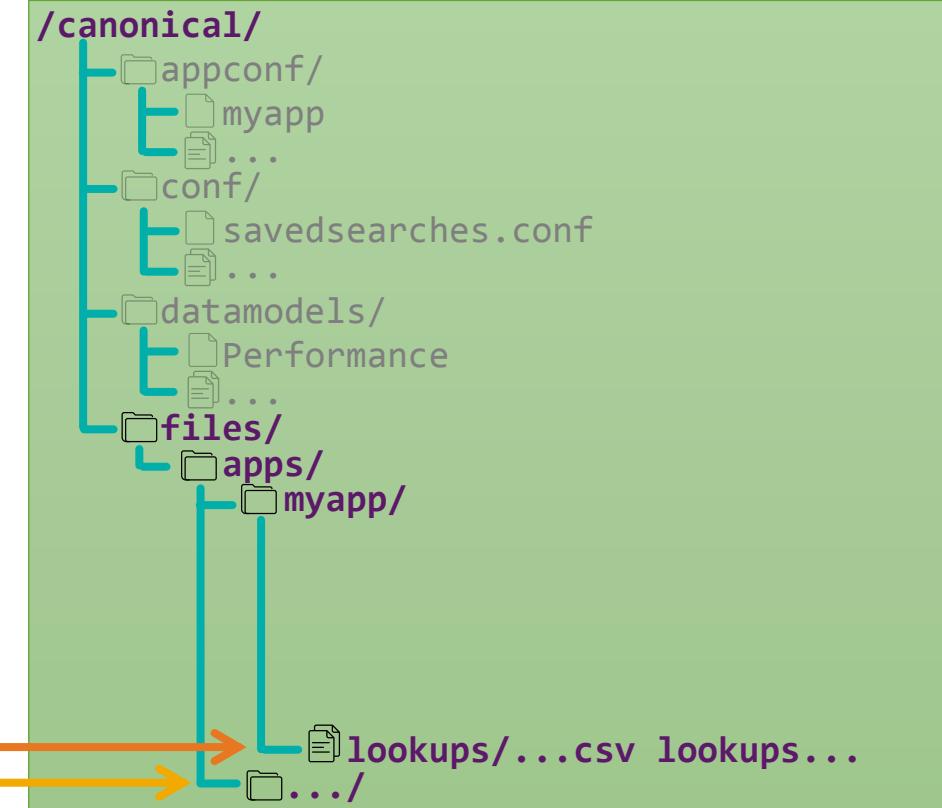
- Use precedence to find the ***one*** file that matters
- Read and parse JSON
- Beware of broken JSON!
- Rewrite:
 - remove default fields (_time source etc)
 - remove fields if present in parent/ancestor object

Splunk instance



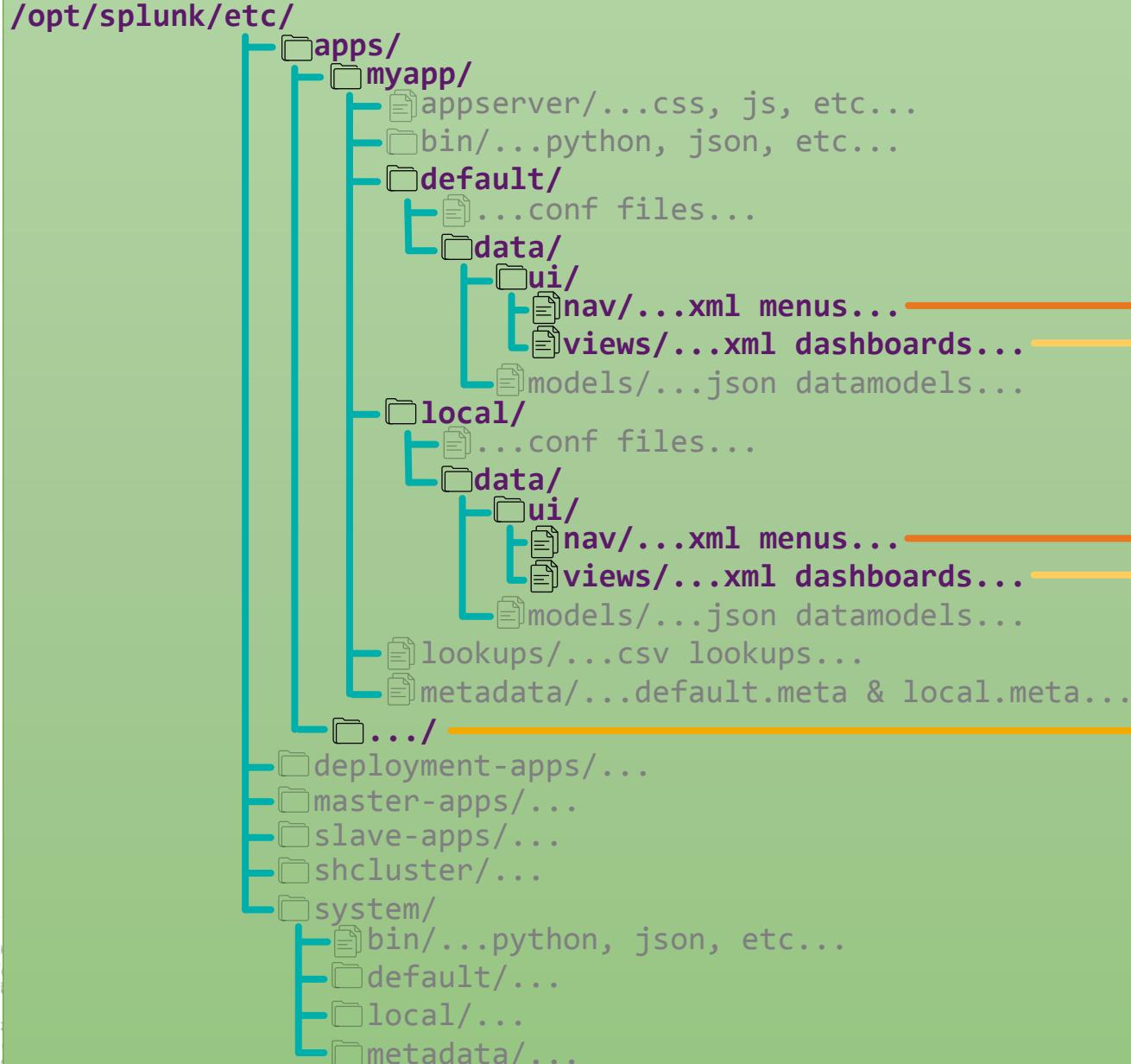
Canonicalisation – csv lookups

Canonical version on disk



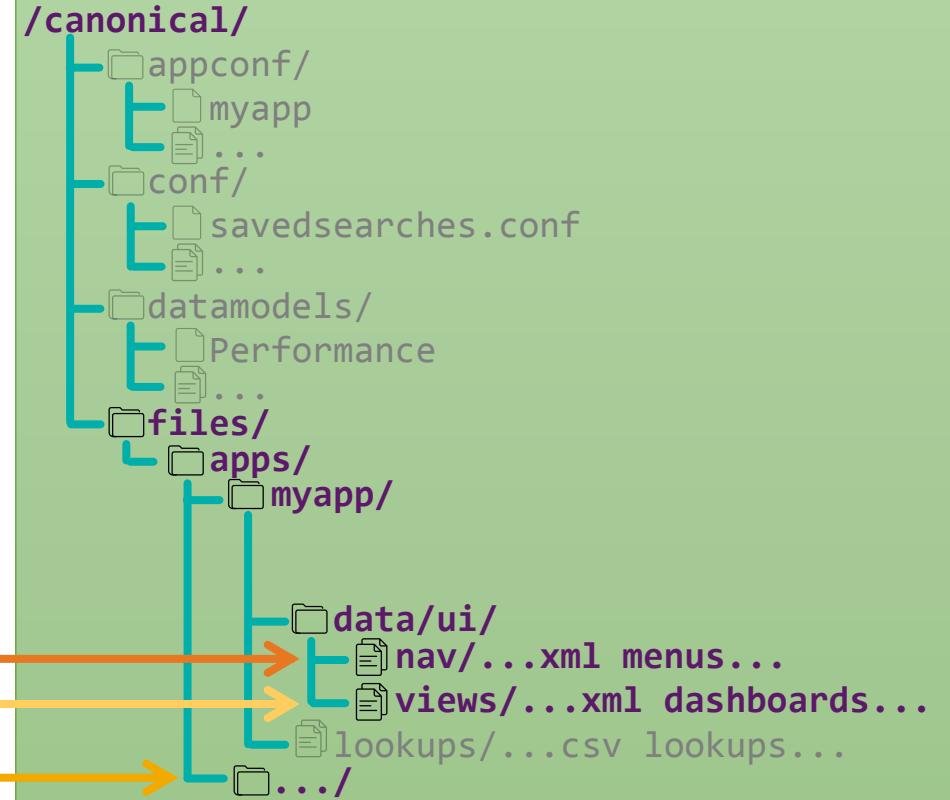
- No precedence to worry about!
- Rewrite each file:
 - order columns alphabetically
 - use library to quote consistently
 - fix any broken lookups!

Splunk instance



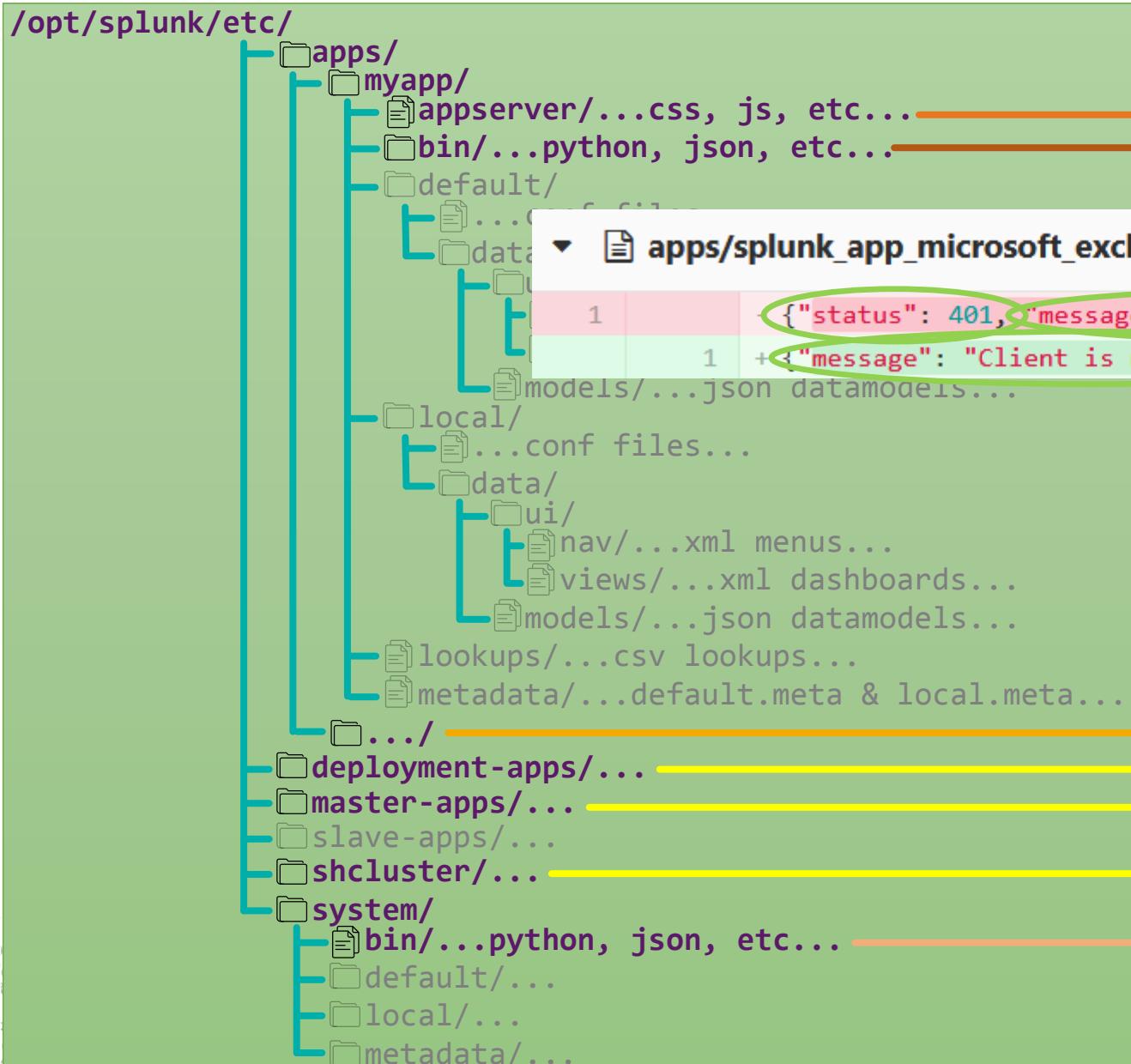
Canonicalisation – other local/default

Canonical version on disk



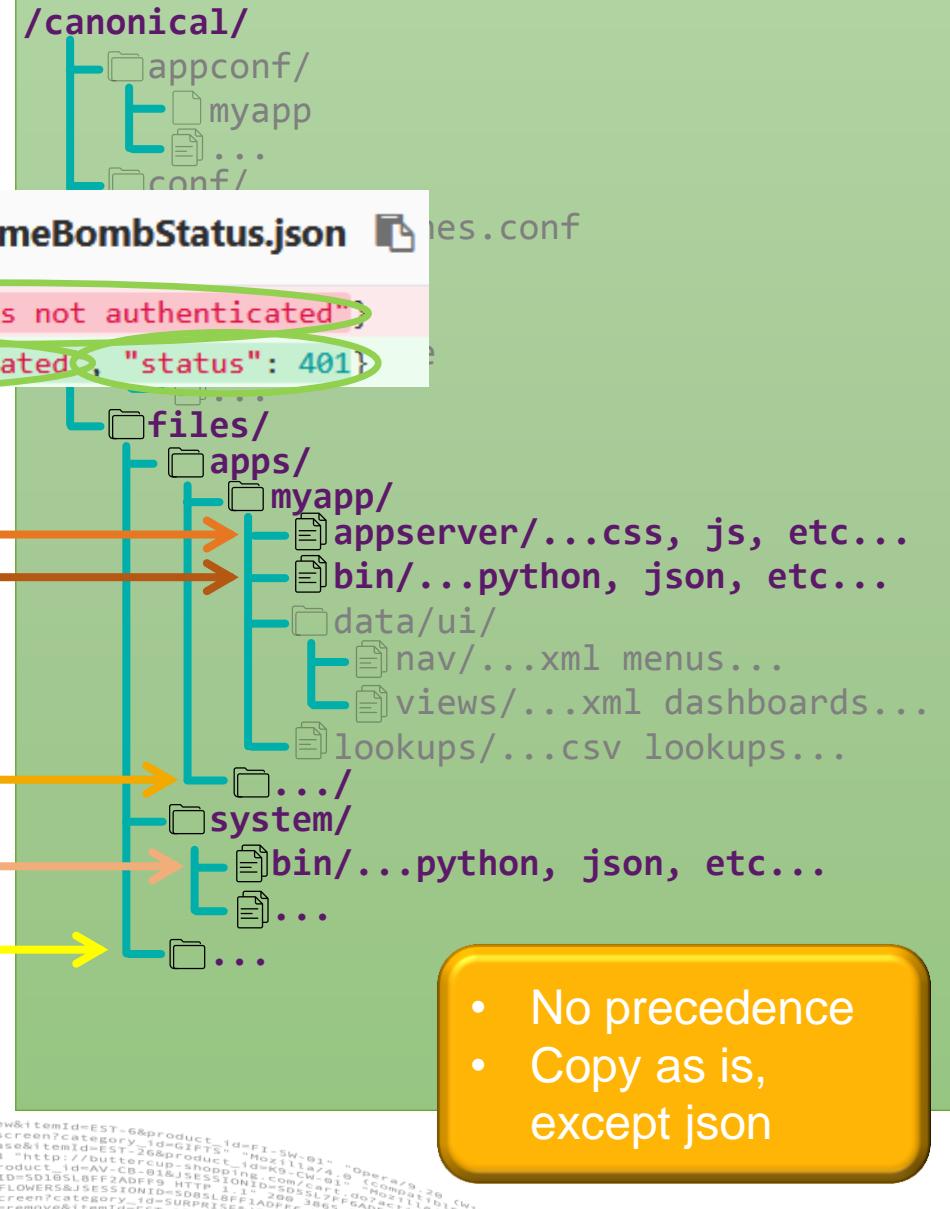
- Take local file if present, otherwise take default file
- Just take the file as it is!

Splunk instance



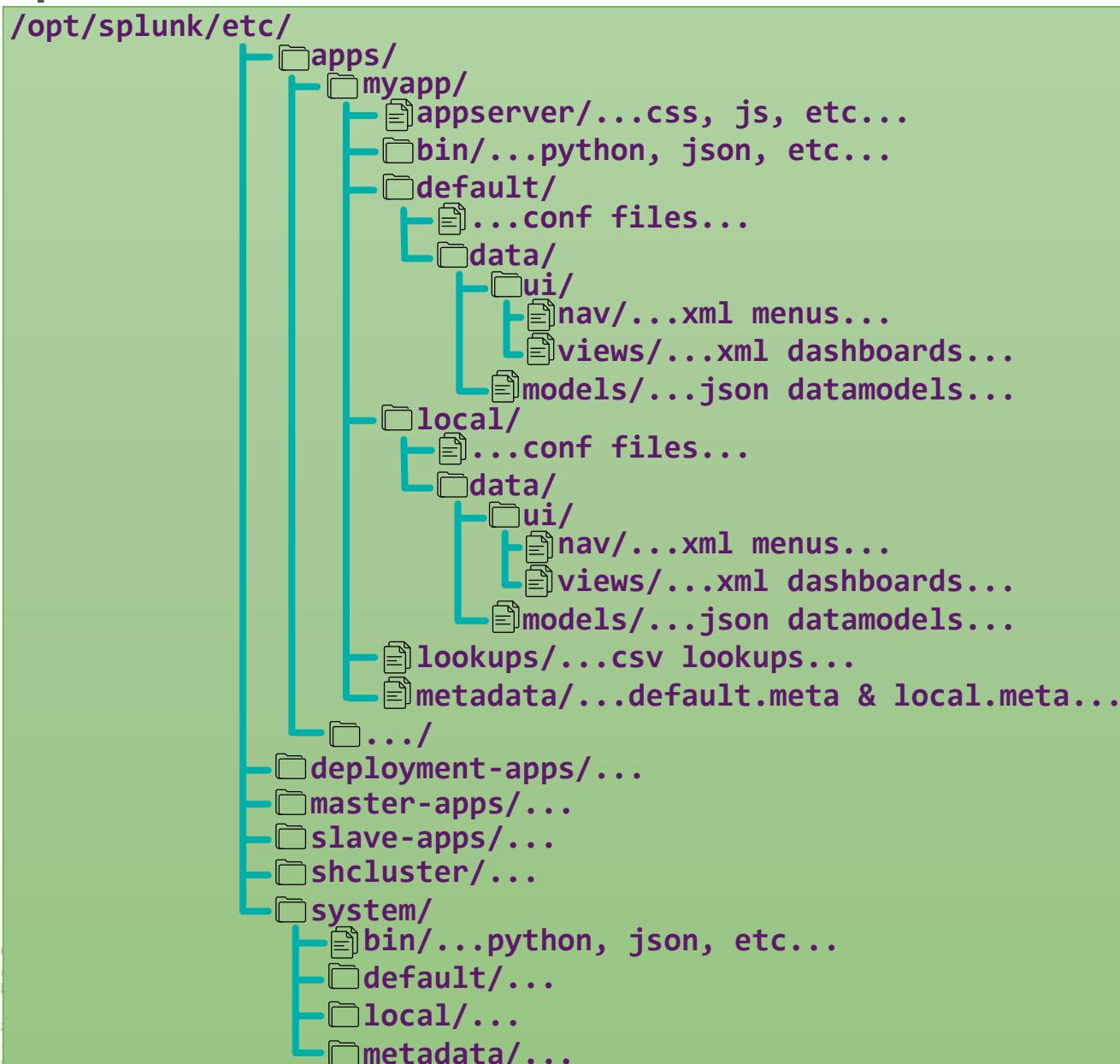
Canonicalisation – anything else

Canonical version on disk

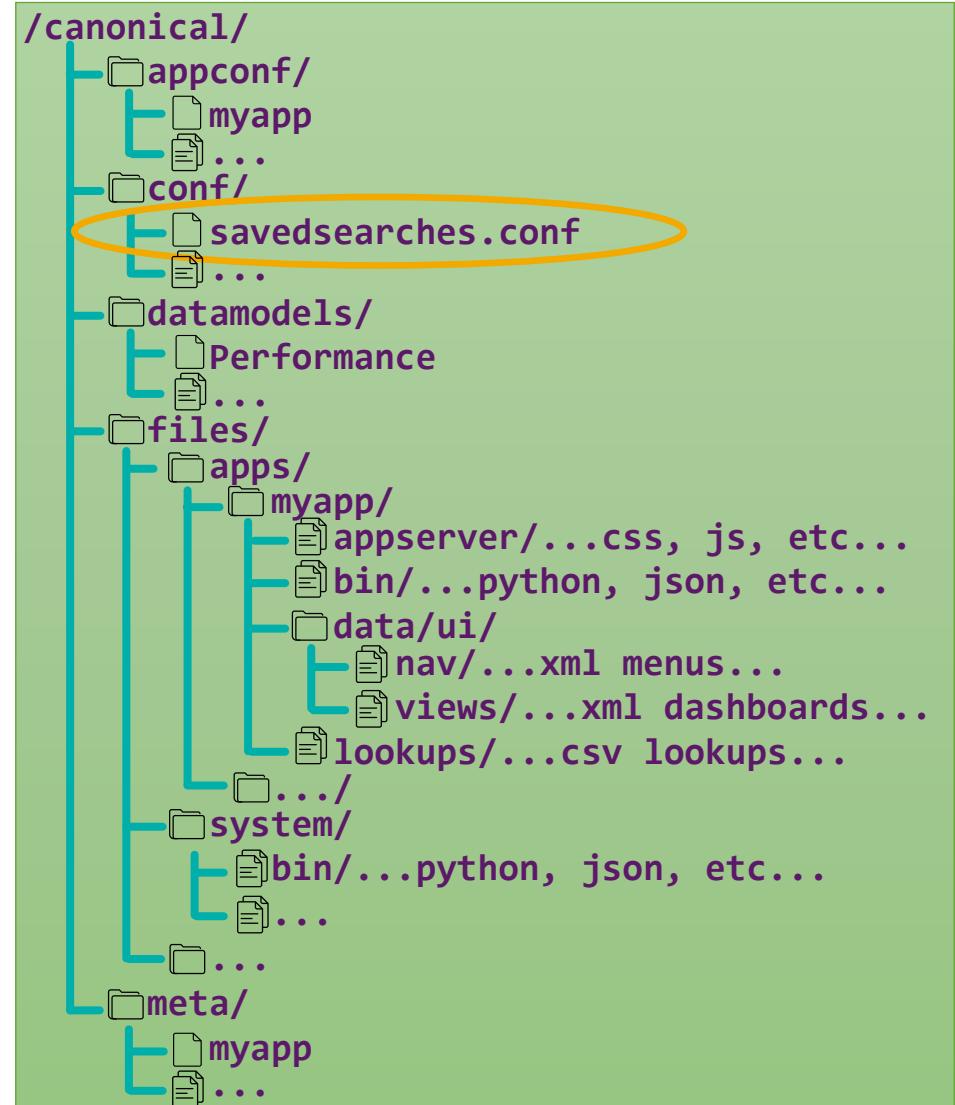


Splunk instance

Canonicalisation



Canonical version on disk



Re-inventing btool but better!

- ▶ DIGRESSION: When you've re-invented btool you can do some pretty cool searching and filtering!
 - ▶ E.g. I want the cron schedule and search string of every enabled correlation searches that use the Web data model
 - for each saved search:
 - is it a correlation search?
 - is it not disabled?
 - does the 'search' key contain "Web."?
 - if yes to all, display the stanza name, cron schedule and search string

[REDACTED]



Just time for a quick recap

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Diff explosions

A.k.a. the diff butterfly effect



explosion 1: conf stanza

Correlation Search

Search Name *

Completely Inactive Account

Application Context *

SA-AccessProtection

UI Dispatch Context *

None

Set an app to use for links such as the drill-down search in a notable event or links in an email adaptive response action. If None, uses the Application Context.

Description

Accounts that are no longer used.

Describes what kind of issues this search is intended to detect.

Mode

Guided

Manual

Search *

```
| inputlookup append=T access_tracker | eval user=lower(user) | sort -userLastTime | dedup user where ((now() - userLastTime) / 86400) > 0
```

Time Range

Earliest Time

Set a time range of events to search. Type an earliest time using relative time modifiers.

Latest Time

Type a latest time using relative time modifiers.

Cron Schedule *

40 * * 6

Enter a cron-style schedule. For example */5 * * * *

(every 5 minutes), or 0 0 ? * * (every day at 0 AM)

explosion 1: conf stanza

etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection/local/savedsearches.conf

```

1 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule]
2 - action.nbtstat.param.verbose = 0
3 - action.nslookup.param.verbose = 0
4 - action.ping.param.verbose = 0
5 - description = Accounts that are no longer used.
6 - dispatch.rt_backfill = 1
7 -
8 [Access - Insecure Or Cleartext Authentication - Rule]
9 action.customsearchbuilder.enabled = true
10 action.nbtstat.param.verbose = 0
...
92 relation = greater than
93 schedule_window = auto
94 search = | tstats allow_old_summaries=true summariesonly=t values(All_Sessions.src_ip) AS src_ip count from
datamodel=Network_Sessions where nodename=All_Sessions.VPN All_Sessions.action=failure by
All_sessions.thales_customer All_Sessions.user | where count>19 |`drop_dm_object_name(All Sessions)
88 +
89 + [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule]
90 + action.customsearchbuilder.enabled = raise
91 + action.nbtstat.param.verbose = 0
92 + action.nslookup.param.verbose = 0
93 + action.ping.param.verbose = 0
94 + cron_schedule = 1 0 * * *
95 - description = Accounts that are no longer used.
96 + dispatch.rt_backfill = 1
97 + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showBackwards = 0
98 + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLabels = 1
99 + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLegend = 1
100 + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showSelf = 0
101 + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showTooltip = 1
102 + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.styleBackwards = 0
103 + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.useColors = 1

```

explosion 1: conf stanza

```

...
5710 5710 @@ -5710,6 +5710,7 @@ vsid =
5711 5711     action.correlationsearch = 0
5712 5712     action.correlationsearch.enabled = 1
5713 5713     action.correlationsearch label = Completely Inactive Account
+ action.customsearchbuilder.enabled = false

```

```

5714 5714     action.email = 1
5715 5715     action.email.format = csv
5716 5716     action.email.inline = 1
...
5767 5768     auto_summarize.suspend_period = 24h
5768 5769     auto_summarize.timespan =
5769 5770     counttype = number of events

```

```

5770 5770     - cron_schedule = 3 0 * * 6
+ cron_schedule = 4 0 * * 6

```

```

5771 5772     description = Accounts that are no longer used.
5772 5773     disabled = 0
5773 5774     dispatch.auto_cancel = 0
...
```

```

@@ -5862,13 +5863,13 @@ display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.colorMode = cate

```

```

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.maxColor = #3fc77a
display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.minColor = #d93f3c
display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.numOfBins = 6

```

```

5865 5865     - display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showBackwards = false
5866 5866     - display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLabels = true
5867 5867     - display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLegend = true
5868 5868     - display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showSelf = false
5869 5869     - display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showTooltip = true
5870 5870     - display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.styleBackwards = false
5871 5871     - display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.useColors = true

```

```

5866 5866     + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showBackwards = 0
5867 5867     + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLabels = 1
5868 5868     + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLegend = 1
5869 5869     + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showSelf = 0
5870 5870     + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showTooltip = 1
5871 5871     + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.styleBackwards = 0
5872 5872     + display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.useColors = 1

```

> splunk btool savedsearches list



which search?

... ... @@ -5684,6 +5684,7 @@

5684 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection action.correiationsearch.label =

5685 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule]

5686 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection action.correiationsearch.enabled = 1

5687 + [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection action.customsearchbuilder.enabled = false

5688 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection action.email = 1

5689 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection action.email.format = csv

5690 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection action.email.inline = 1

... ... @@ -5741,7 +5742,7 @@

5741 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system auto_summarize.suspend_period = 24h

5742 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system auto_summarize.timespan =

5743 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection counttype = number of events

5744 - [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection cron_schedule = 3 0 * * 6

5745 + [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection cron_schedule = 4 0 * * 6

5746 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection description = Accounts that are no longer used.

5747 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection disabled = 0

5748 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system dispatch.auto_cancel = 0

... ... @@ -5836,13 +5837,13 @@

5836 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/sankey_diagram_app

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.maxColor = #3fc77a

5837 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/sankey_diagram_app

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.minColor = #d93f3c

5838 [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/sankey_diagram_app

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.numOfBins = 6

5839 - [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showBackwards = false

- [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLabels = true

- [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showLegend = true

- [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showSelf = false

- [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showTooltip = true

- [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.styleBackwards = false

- [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/system

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.useColors = true

5840 + [Access - Completely Inactive Account - Rule] etc/apps/SA-AccessProtection

display.visualizations.custom.sankey_diagram_app.sankey_diagram.showBackwards = 0

explosion 1: conf stanza



EST-68product_id=F1-SW-01...
=EST-26&product_id=d942911a/4@0...
butercup-show.com-01@0...
AV-CLOUDSESSIONS.COM-01@0...
SESSIONID=5D8SLBPF-2603865...
R001-SURPRISE&ADPF=1
enid=EST-2603865...
category=GIFTS

Explosion 2: Data model definition

Performance

Performance

[All Data Models](#)

Datasets [Add Dataset ▾](#) All Performance All_Performance [Rename](#) [Delete](#)

EVENTS

All Performance

- CPU
- Facilities
- Memory
- Storage
- Network
- OS
 - Time Synchronization
 - System Uptime

CONSTRAINTS

```
(`cim_Performance_indexes`) tag=performance (tag=cpu OR tag=facilities OR tag=memory OR tag=storage OR tag=network OR (tag=os ((tag=time tag=synchronize) OR tag=uptime)))
```

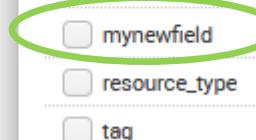
Bulk Edit ▾ [Add Field ▾](#)

INHERITED

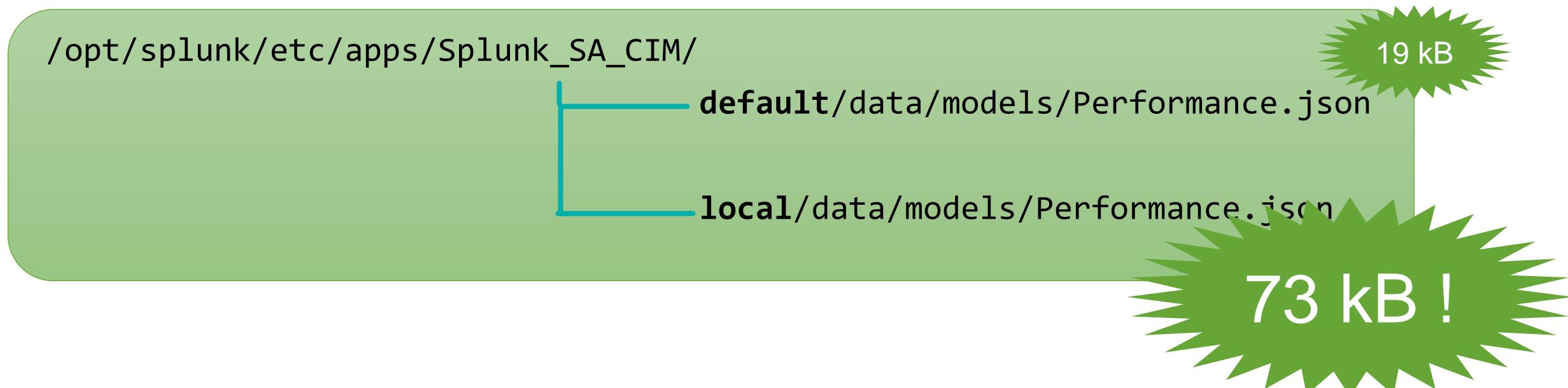
	Type	
_time	Time	
<input type="checkbox"/> host	String	Override
<input type="checkbox"/> source	String	Override
<input type="checkbox"/> sourcetype	String	Override

EXTRACTED

	Type	
<input type="checkbox"/> dest_bunit	String	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> dest_category	String	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> dest_priority	String	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> dest_should_timesync	Boolean	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> dest_should_update	Boolean	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> hypervisor_id	String	Edit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mynewfield	String	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> resource_type	String	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> tag	String	Edit



Explosion 2: Data model definition



Explosion 2: Data model definition

Explosion 2: Data model definition

Performance

Performance

< All Data Models

Edit Download Pivot Documentation

Datasets

Add Dataset

Rename Delete

EVENTS

All Performance

- CPU
- Facilities
- Memory
- Storage
- Network
- OS
 - Time Synchronization
 - System Uptime

constraint Edit

Add Field

Override

Override

Override

Edit

dest_category String Edit

dest_priority String Edit

dest_should_timesync Boolean Edit

dest_should_update Boolean Edit

hypervisor_id String Edit

mynewfield String Edit

resource_type String Edit

tag String Edit



.conf18

~~Explosion~~ 2: Data model definition

datamodels/Performance

... ... @@ -42,6 +42,12 @@ DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:hypervisor_id - type: string
42 42 DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:hypervisor_id - required: 1
43 43 DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:hypervisor_id - hidden: 1
44 44 DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:hypervisor_id - multivalue: 1
45 + DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:mynewfield - fieldName: mynewfield
46 + DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:mynewfield - displayName: mynewfield
47 + DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:mynewfield - type: string
48 + DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:mynewfield - required: 1
49 + DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:mynewfield - hidden: 1
50 + DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:mynewfield - multivalue: 1
45 51 DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:resource_type - fieldName: resource_type
46 52 DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:resource_type - displayName: resource_type
47 53 DM:Performance - Object:All_Performance - Field:resource_type - type: string

COOL

Explosion 3: csv lookup

	just_for_fun.csv
1	zzz,aaa
2	hello,bonjour
3	hi,au revoir
4	hello world,bonjour tout le monde
5	hello world!,bonjour tout le monde!

A screenshot of the Splunk interface showing a search results page. A green oval highlights the search command in the search bar:

```
| inputlookup just_for_fun.csv
| eval zzz=replace(zzz,"hi","goodbye")
| outputlookup just_for_fun.csv
```

The search results table shows the following data:

aaa	zzz
bonjour	hello
au revoir	goodbye
bonjour tout le monde	hello world
bonjour tout le monde!	hello world!

Explosion 3: csv lookup

	lookups/just_for_fun.csv
1	- zzz,aaa
2	- hello,bonjour
3	- hi,au revoir
4	- hello world,bonjour tout le monde
5	- hello world!,bonjour tout le monde!
1	+ aaa,zzz
2	+ bonjour,hello
3	+ "au revoir",goodbye
4	+ "bonjour tout le monde","hello world"
5	+ "bonjour tout le monde!","hello world!"

~~Explosion~~ 3: csv lookup

just_for_fun.csv		View file @ 206f3cc1
1	aaa,zzz	1 aaa,zzz
2	bonjour,hello	2 bonjour,hello
3	- "au revoir",hi	3 + "au revoir",goodbye
4	"bonjour tout le monde","hello world"	4 "bonjour tout le monde","hello world"
5	"bonjour tout le monde!","hello world!"	5 "bonjour tout le monde!","hello world!"

COOL

Just time for a quick recap

- ▶ Intro - Us and our environment
 - ▶ Full change control is heavy: just track
 - ▶ Tracking problem 1: precedence
 - ▶ Canonical configuration
 - ▶ Tracking problem 2: diff explosions
 - ▶ Track all changes (inc. glass tables)
 - ▶ Control deployment server deployments
 - ▶ Control search head deployments
 - ▶ Control upgrades

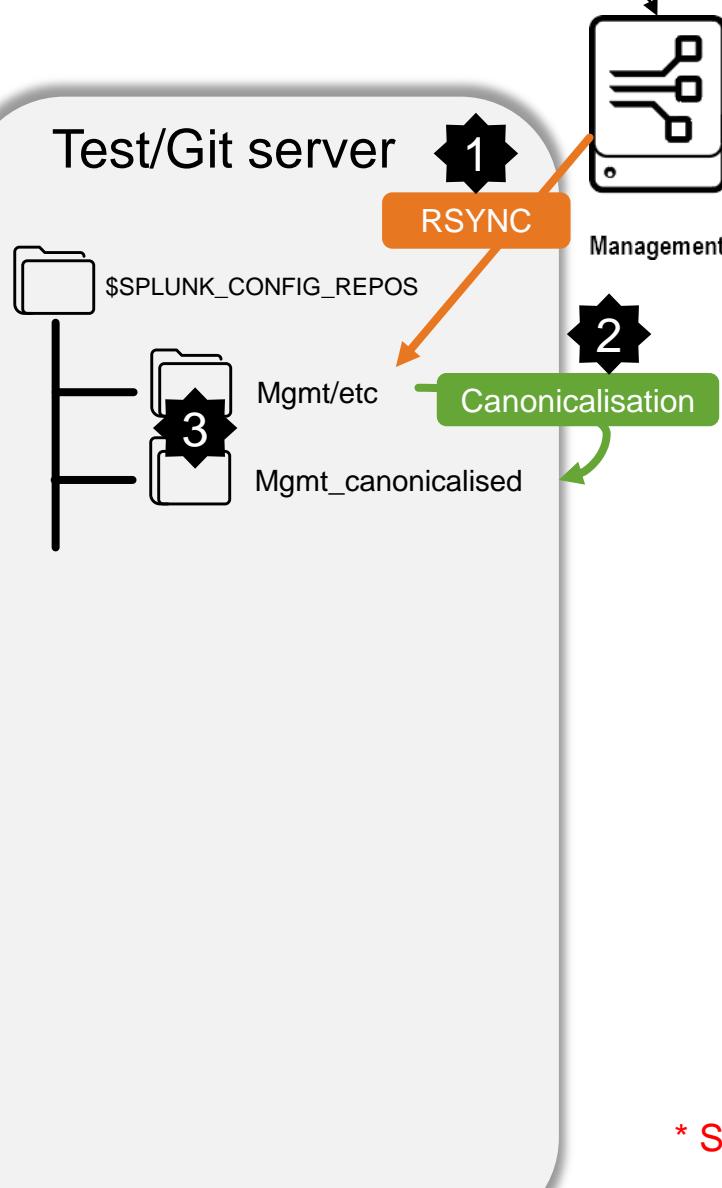


Change tracking

(not change control)



One example



Change tracking

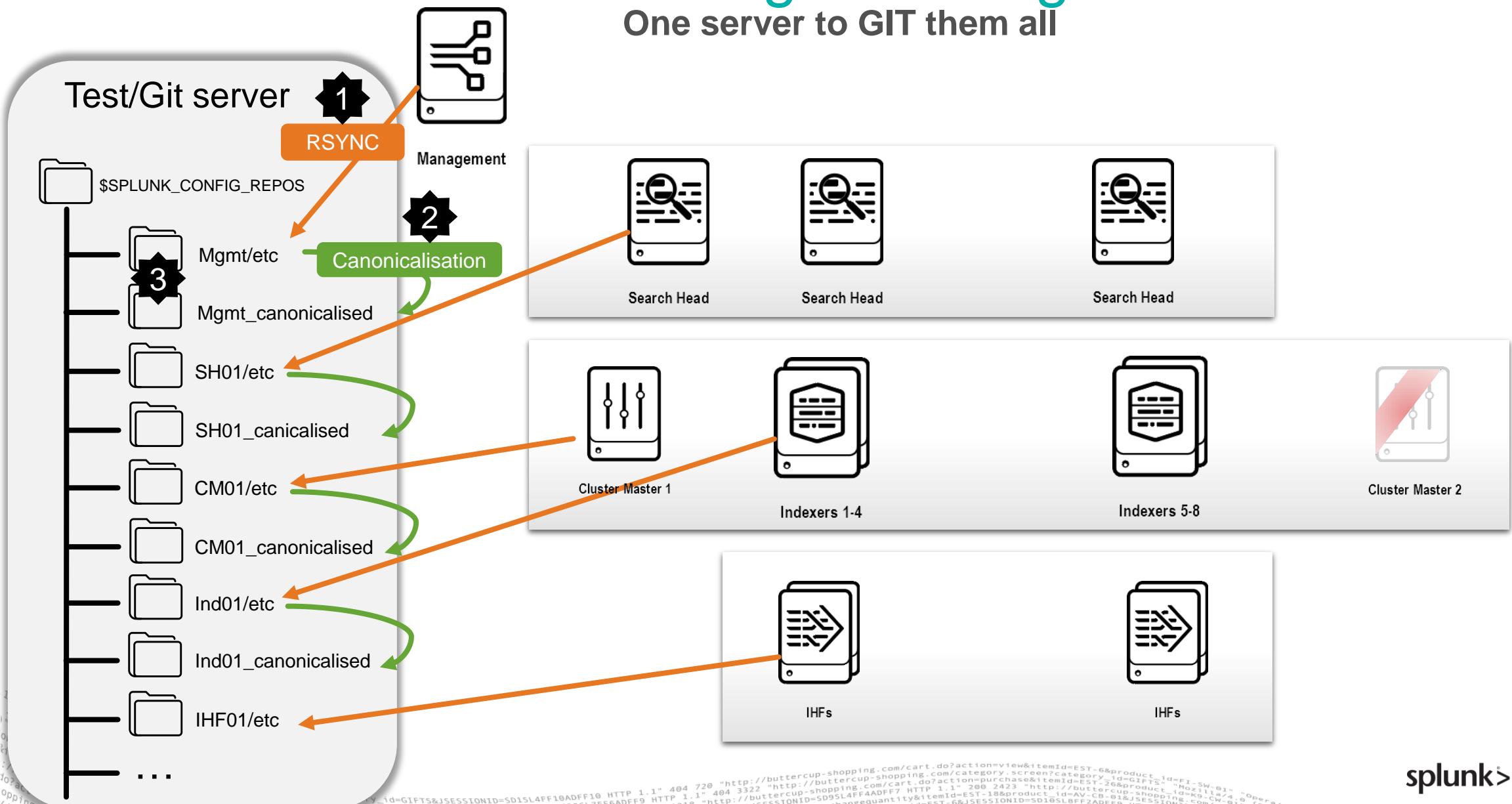
One server to GIT them all

- ▶ Rsync \$SPLUNK_HOME/etc
 - Exclude some files/folders* such as
 - Large csv files
 - Binaries or jars
 - Some folders: learned app or private object
- ▶ Canonicalise “Mgmt/etc” to “Mgmt_canonicalised”
- ▶ “Git” both folders
 - Beware of deleted files*

* See bonus slide

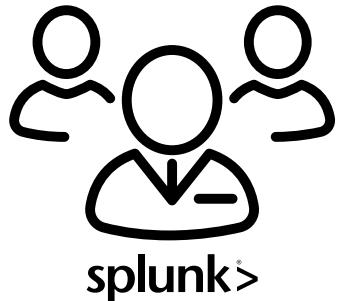
Change tracking

One server to GIT them all

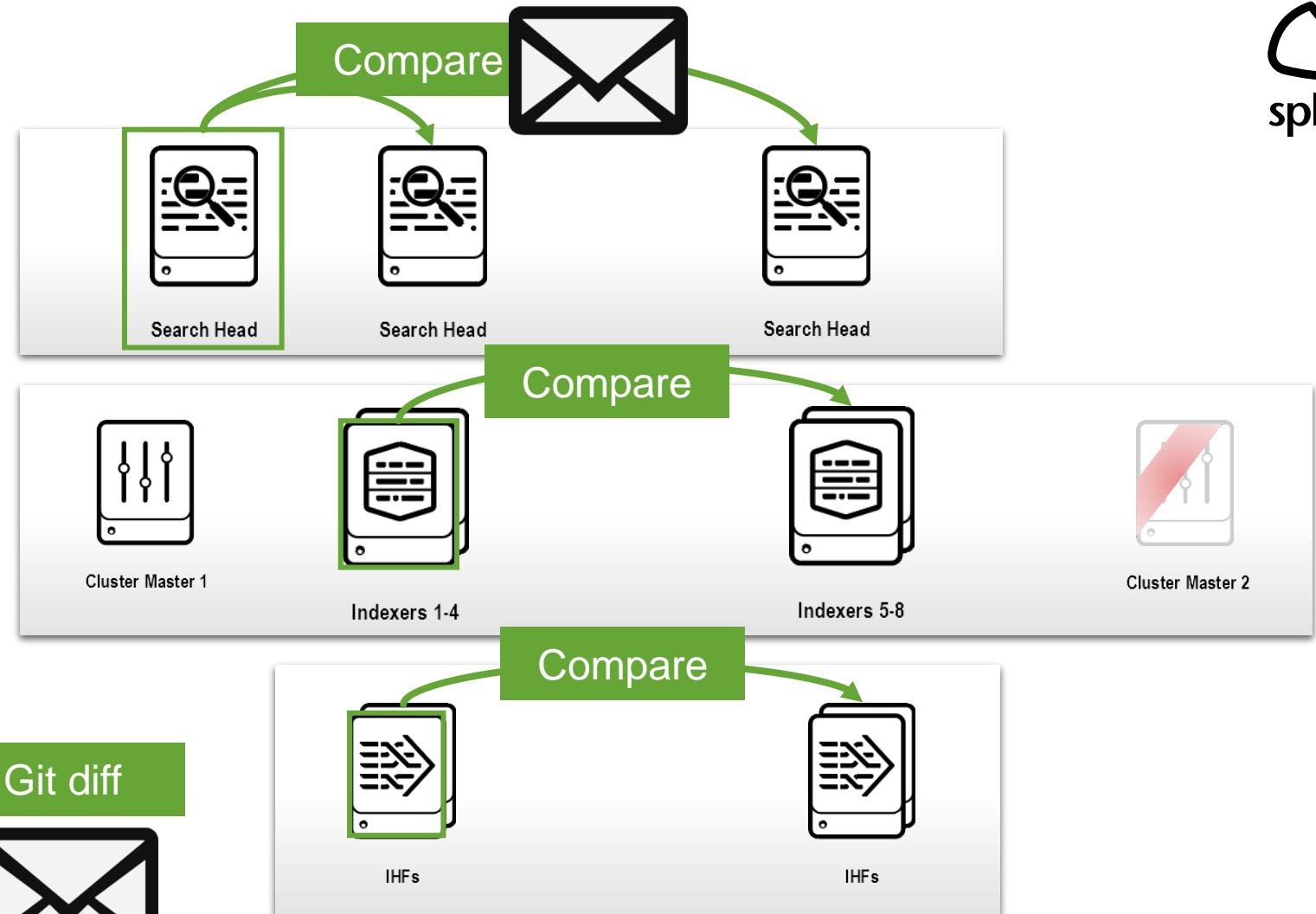
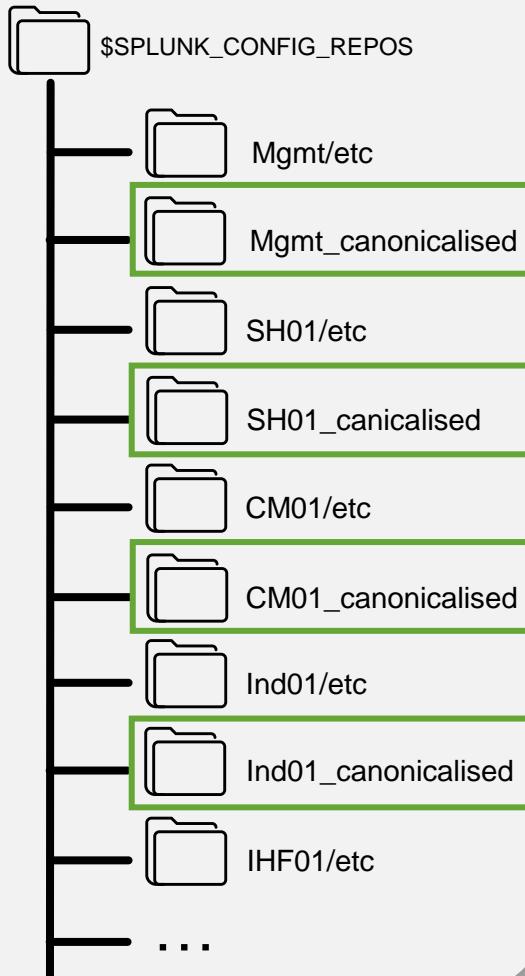


Change tracking

One server to GIT them all

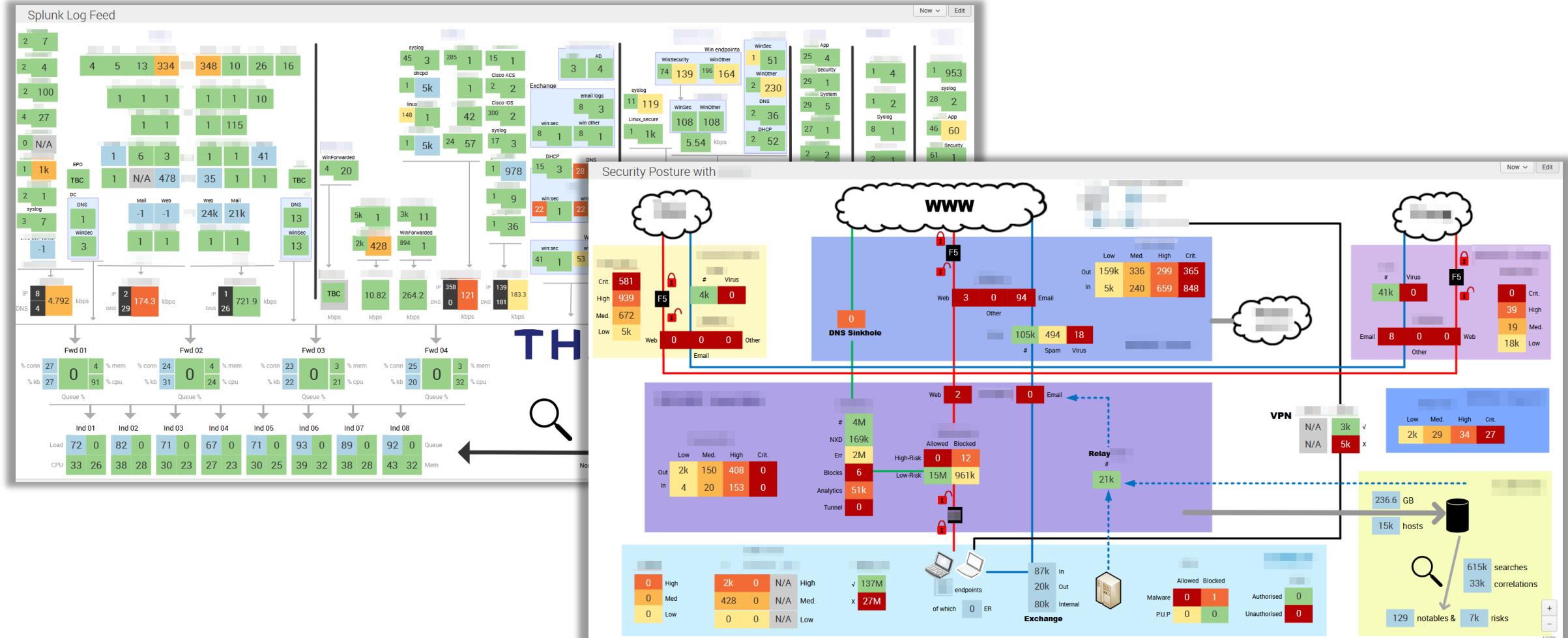


Test/Git server



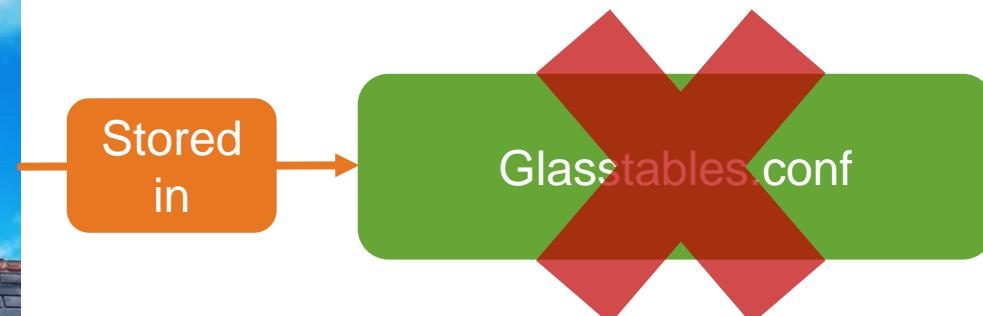
Glass tables

But have you forgotten your glasstables?



Glass tables

Where are they stored?



Glass tables



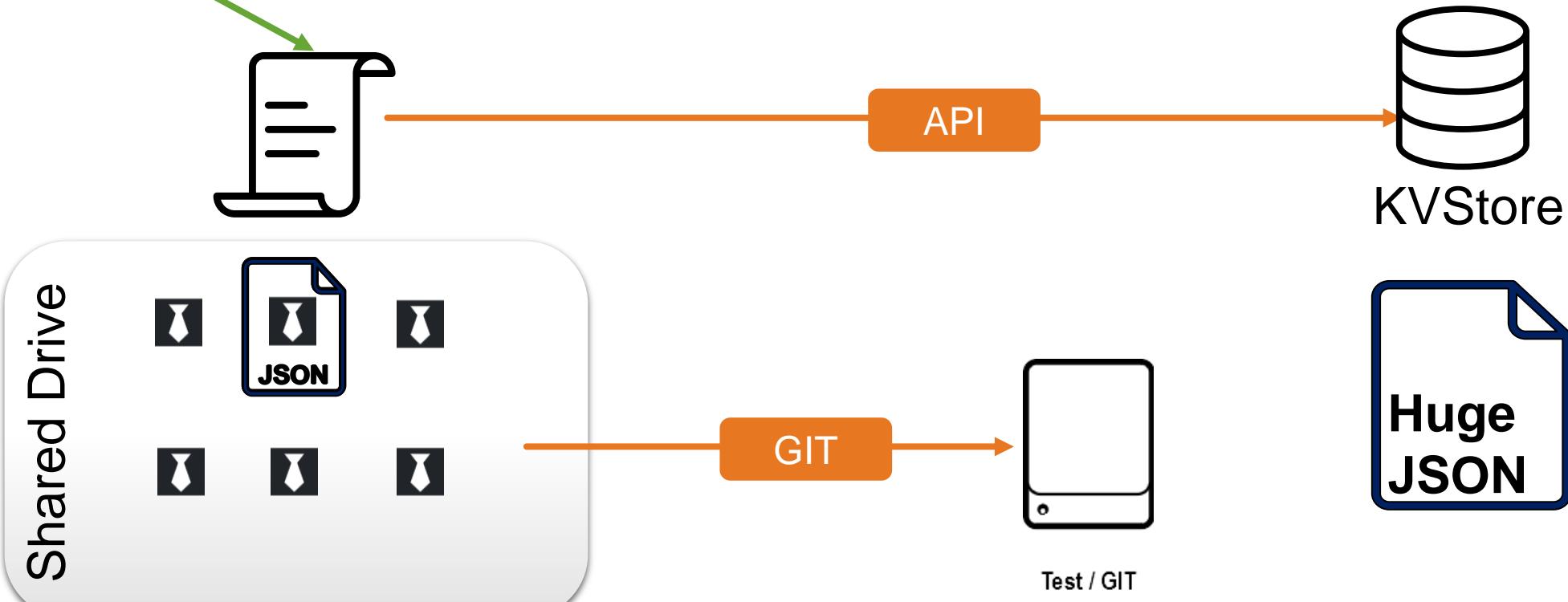
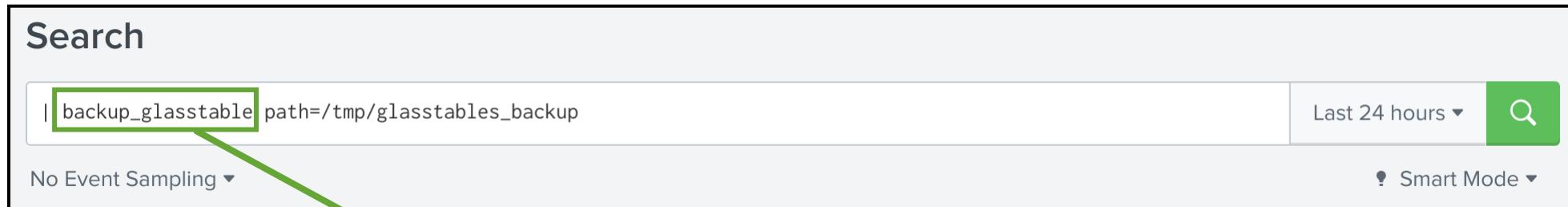
- ▶ Officially: You can **manually** export glasstables via the UI ... but it's manual!
- ▶ You can automate the backup of the **whole** KVStore. But:
 - Backup process is heavy (stop splunk, copy KVStore folder, start splunk)
 - Backup/Restore of KVStore is all or nothing (impact on Incident Review!)
- ▶ If you delete a glass table by mistake ... it is permanently deleted

```

138.60.4 ~ [07/Jan 18:10:57:153] "GET /category.screen?category_id=GIFTS&JSESSIONID=SD15LAFF10ADFF10 HTTP 1.1" 404 720 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=view&itemId=EST_6&product_id=F1-SW-01" "Opera/9.80 (Windows NT 5.1; SV1; .NET CLR 1.1.4322)" - [07/Jan 18:10:57:156] "GET /product.screen?product_id=FL-DSH-01&JSESSIONID=SD55L7FF6ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 404 3322 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=update&productId=EST_26&product_id=F1-SW-01" "Opera/9.80 (Windows NT 5.1; SV1; .NET CLR 1.1.4322)" - [07/Jan 18:10:56:156] "GET /oldlink?item_id=EST_26&JSESSIONID=SD55L9FF1ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 200 1318 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_18&product_id=AU-CUP-18&JSESSIONID=SD55L4FFAADDFF1 HTTP 1.1" 200 2423 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_6&product_id=AU-CUP-18&JSESSIONID=SD55L8FF2ADFF1 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_19&product_id=AU-CUP-19&JSESSIONID=SD55L9FF3ADFF2 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_20&product_id=AU-CUP-20&JSESSIONID=SD55L8FF4ADFF3 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_21&product_id=AU-CUP-21&JSESSIONID=SD55L9FF5ADFF4 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_22&product_id=AU-CUP-22&JSESSIONID=SD55L8FF6ADFF5 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_23&product_id=AU-CUP-23&JSESSIONID=SD55L9FF7ADFF6 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_24&product_id=AU-CUP-24&JSESSIONID=SD55L8FF8ADFF7 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_25&product_id=AU-CUP-25&JSESSIONID=SD55L9FF9ADFF8 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865 "http://buttercup-shopping.com/cart.do?action=changequantity&itemId=EST_26&product_id=AU-CUP-26&JSESSIONID=SD55L8FF10ADFF9 HTTP 1.1" 200 3865
  
```

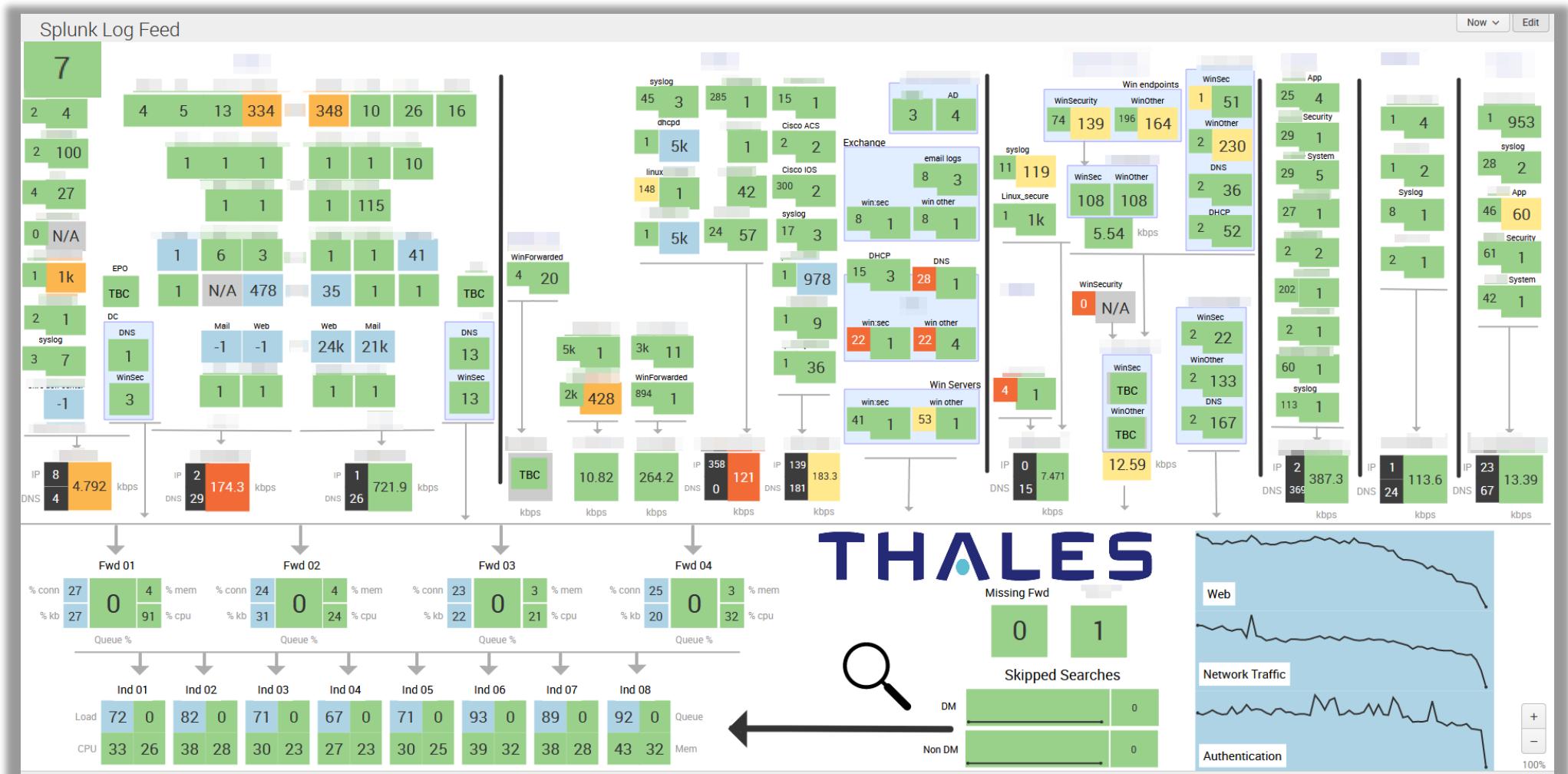
Glass tables

Our tracking/backup solution



Glass tables

Tracking solution side effect

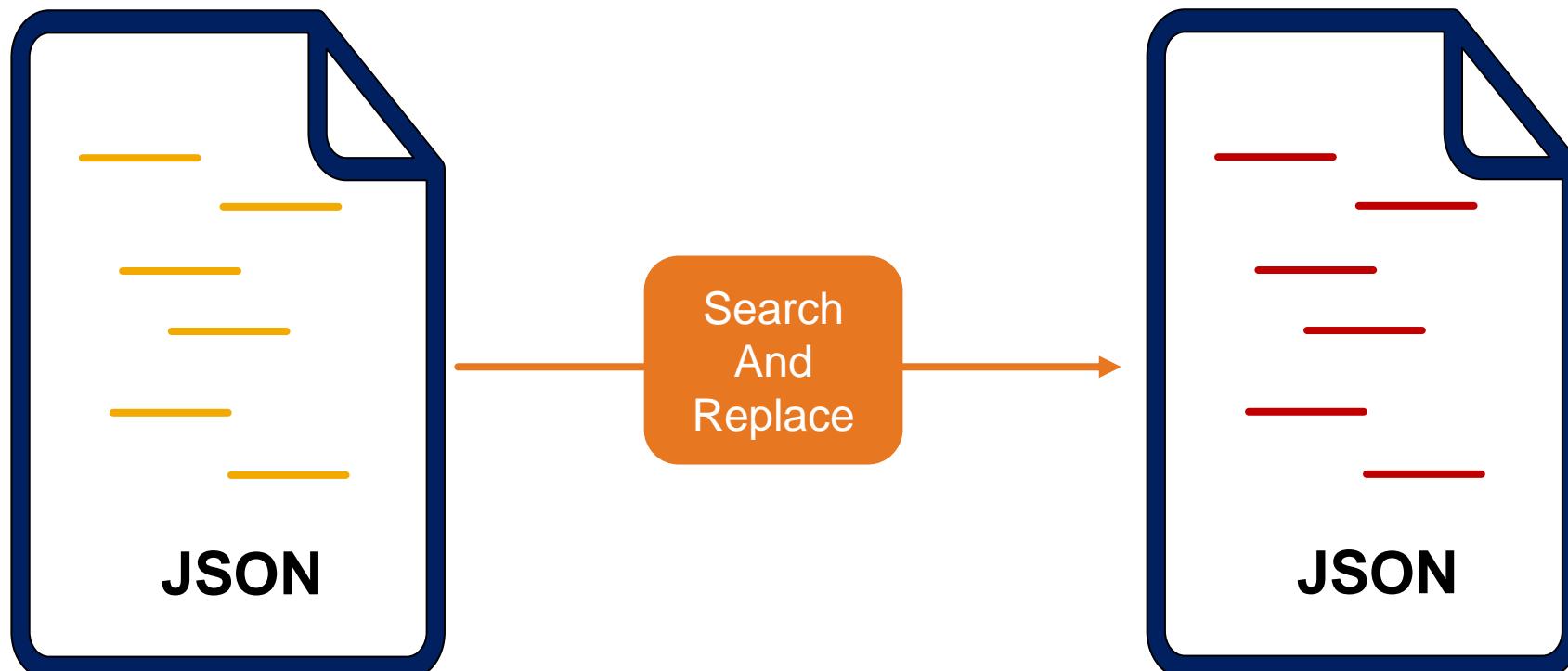


The diagram illustrates the flow of data from a log entry to a neural network for classification. The process starts with a log entry containing various fields such as timestamp, URL, and session ID. This is followed by a step labeled "Preprocess & Extract Features". The resulting features are then fed into a "Classification Model". The output of the model is a probability distribution over different classes, represented by a bar chart. The highest probability is indicated by a red bar, corresponding to the class "Authentication".

Glass tables

Tracking solution side effect

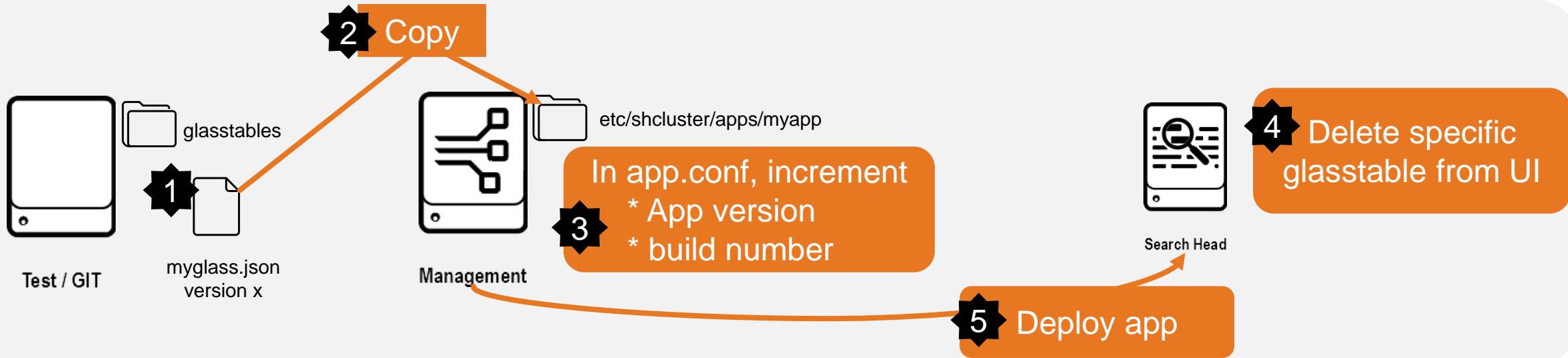
7 | loadjob my_user:my_app:my_sched_search



Glass tables

Restore/deploy solution

SHC env



Single SH env



Glass tables

Happy Glasstables



Just time for a quick recap

- ▶ Intro - Us and our environment
- ▶ Full change control is heavy: just track
- ▶ Tracking problem 1: precedence
- ▶ Canonical configuration
- ▶ Tracking problem 2: diff explosions
- ▶ **Track all changes (inc. glass tables)**
- ▶ Control deployment server deployments
- ▶ Control search head deployments
- ▶ Control upgrades

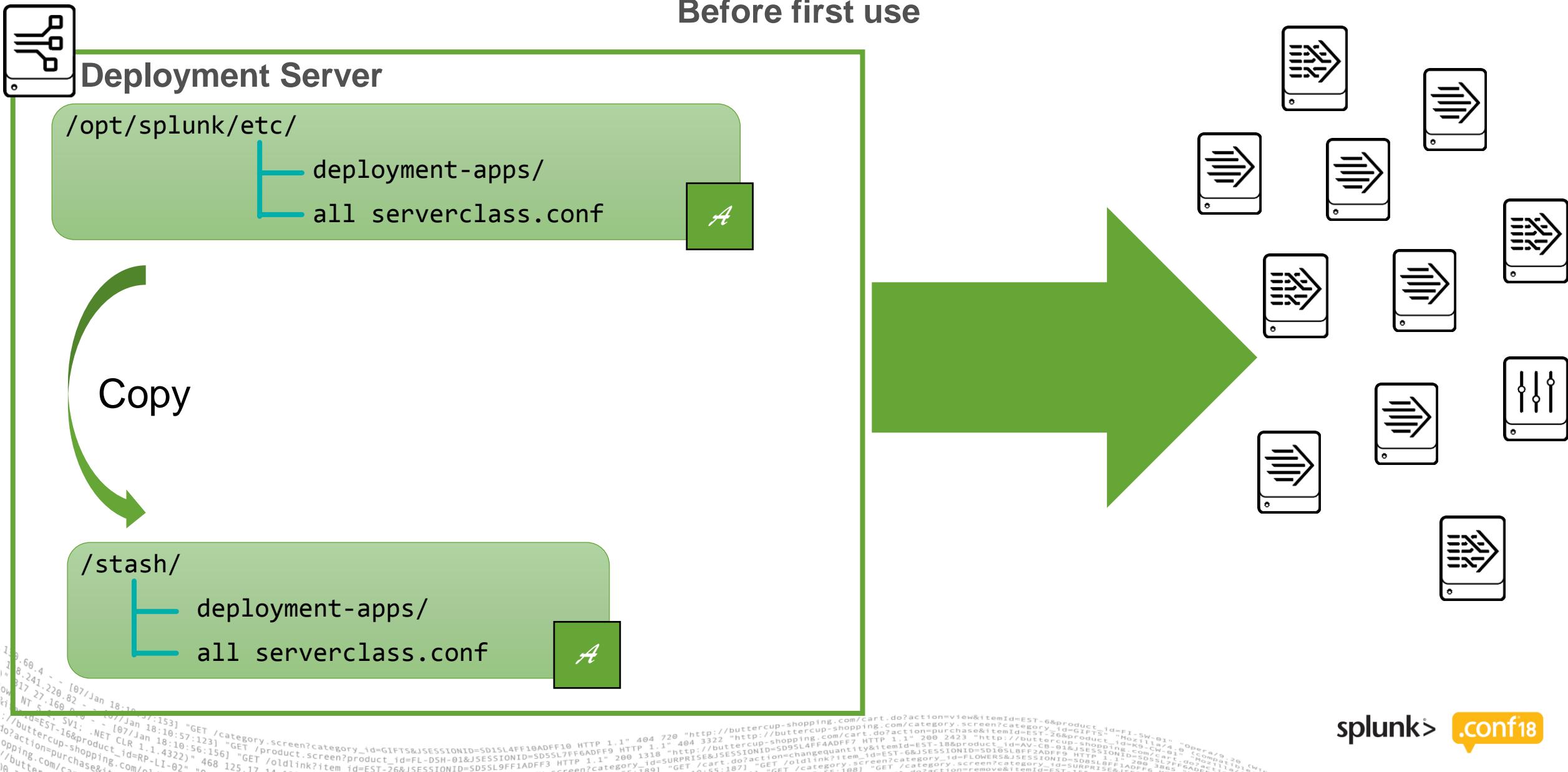


Deployment Server

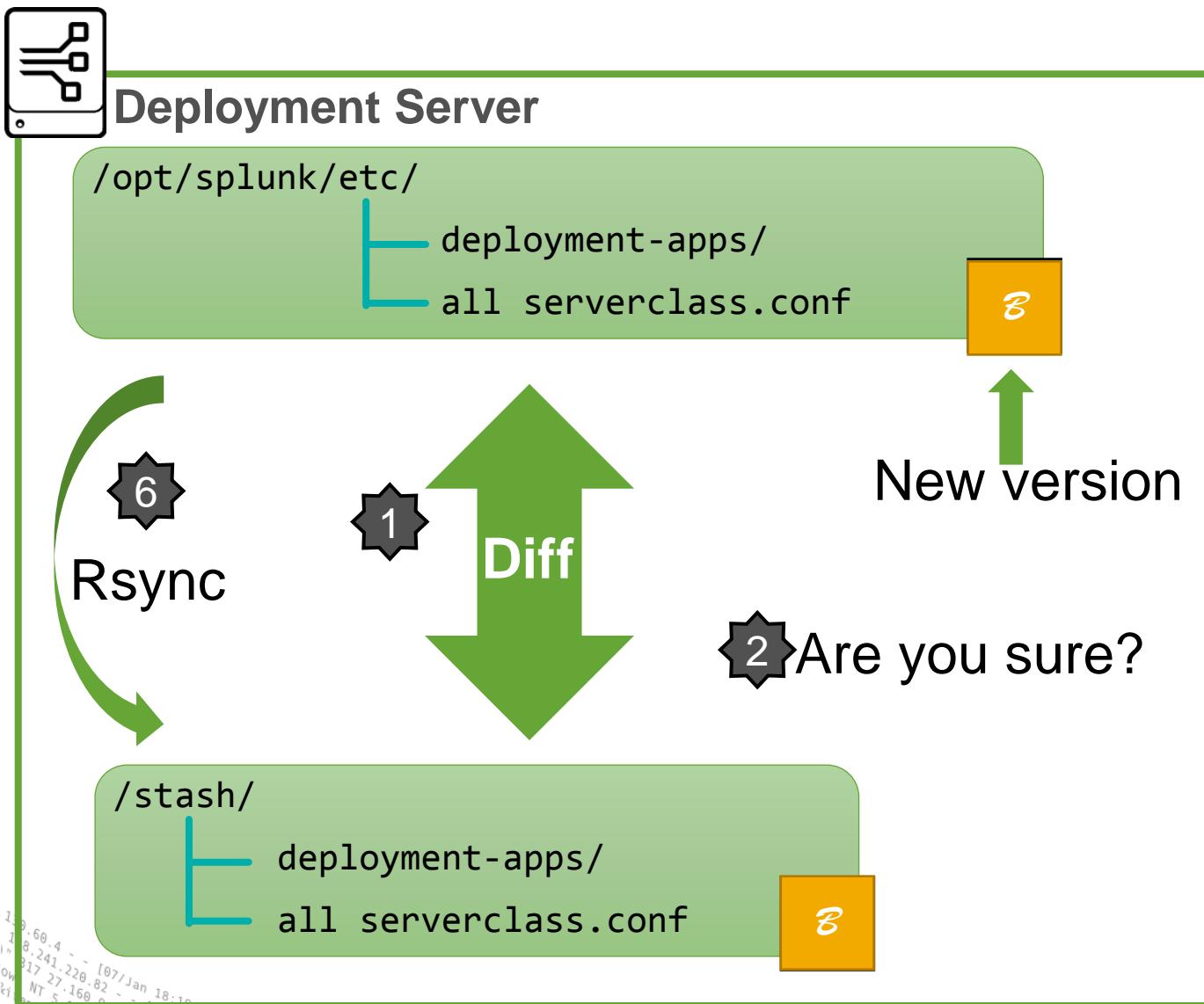


reload deploy-server wrapper v1

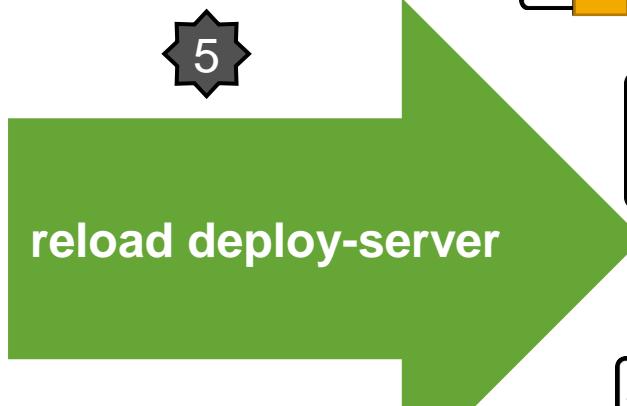
Before first use



reload deploy-server wrapper v1



⚠️ Never deploy without the script!



4

Race condition / Friday check

3

Email diffs



reload deploy-server wrapper

Advantages

- ▶ Fairly easy to implement
 - ▶ Avoid deploying other people's work-in-progress if they are not ready
 - ▶ Can do peer review at the diff stage or after-the-fact with the email
 - ▶ Good place to add more checks and balances

Disadvantages

- ▶ Requires discipline: never reload deploy-server directly
 - ▶ Not ideal if you also use the Forwarder management Web UI to make changes
 - ▶ May lie next time if the last step fails
 - ▶ Doesn't actually know what's up with the deployment clients: trusts the stash is correct

reload deploy-server wrapper v2

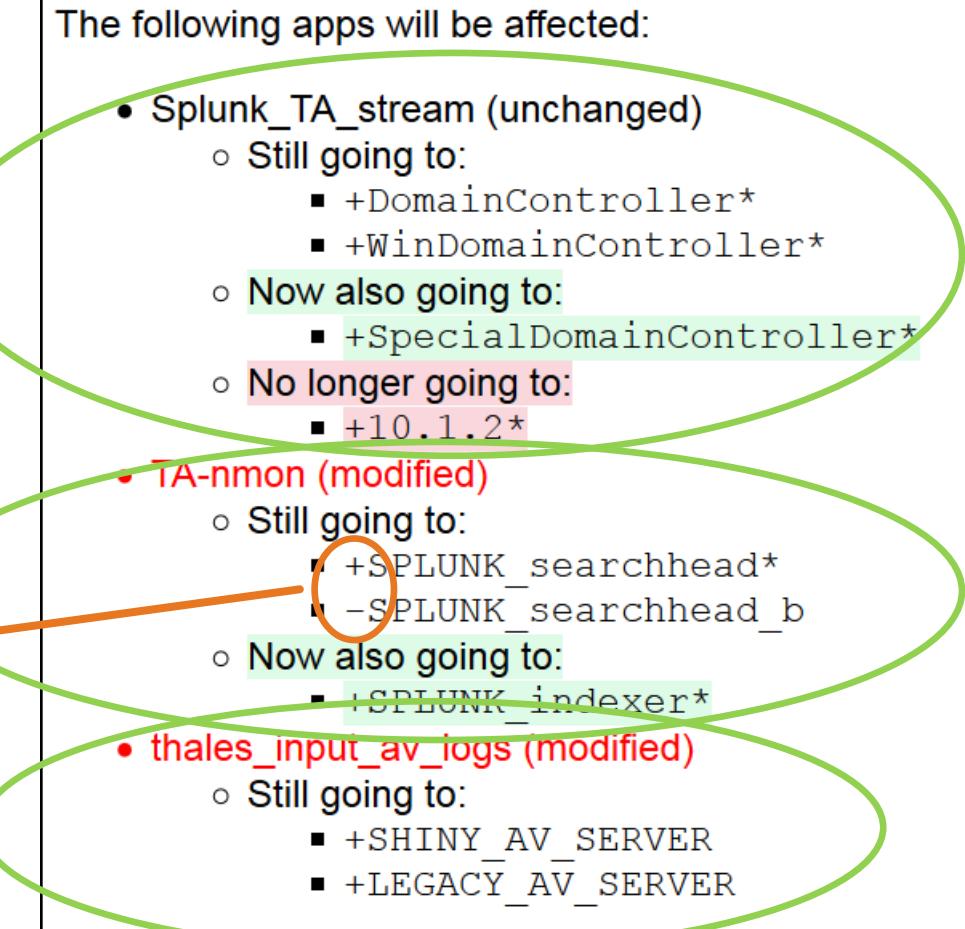
Summary = Most important improvement!

- ▶ parse before and after server classes
- ▶ compute which server classes are affected
- ▶ deduce which apps are affected
- ▶ parse deployment-apps diff: compute which apps are changed
- ▶ put this together and compute summary

Serverclass.conf example:

```
[serverClass:Monitored_Splunk]
whitelist.0=SPLUNK_searchhead*
blacklist.0=SPLUNK_searchhead_b
whitelist.1=SPLUNK_indexer*
```

[serverClass:Monitored_Splunk:app:TA-nmon]



reload deploy-server wrapper v3

Make it fancy

- ▶ inputs.conf catch-all review and suggestions

The Critical Syslog Tricks That No One Seems to Know About

Wednesday, September 27, 2017 | 4:35 PM-5:20 PM ADVANCED

George Barrett, Splunk Consultant, Rational Cyber

Jonathan Margulies, Splunker. Co-author of textbook "Security in Computing", Department of Justice

- ▶ Naming convention check/enforcement for new apps

1

apply cluster-bundle script

- ▶ You can do the same on your Cluster Master for your indexer cluster.
 - ▶ Even simpler since no serverclass complexity.
 - ▶ Just stash /opt/splunk/etc/master-apps/

Just time for a quick recap

- ▶ Intro - Us and our environment
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 - ▶ Tracking problem 2: diff explosions
 - ▶ Track all changes (inc. glass tables)
 - ▶ Control deployment server deployments
 - ▶ Control search head deployments
 - ▶ Control upgrades

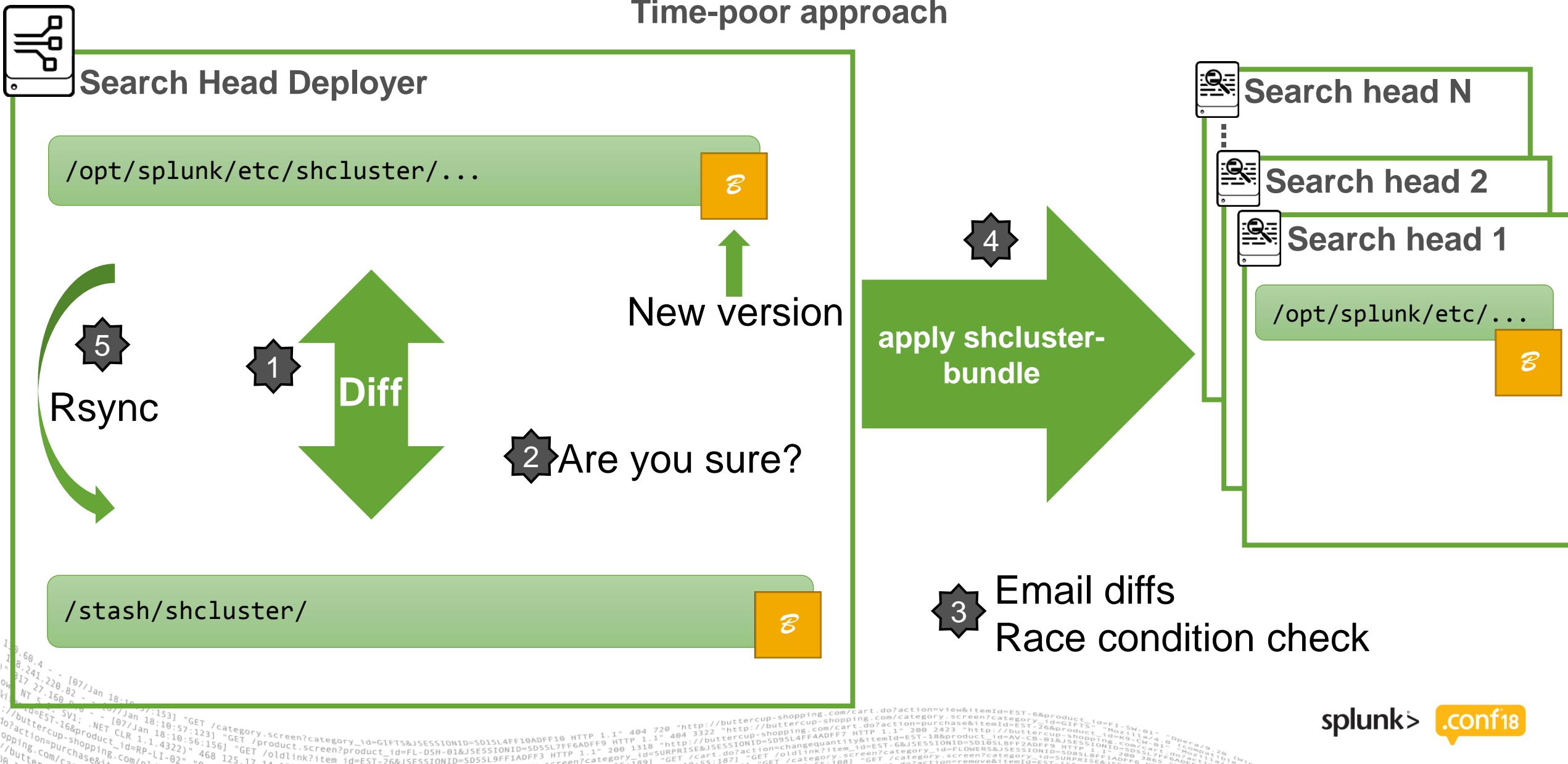


Search Head Deployer



apply shcluster-bundle wrapper v1

Time-poor approach



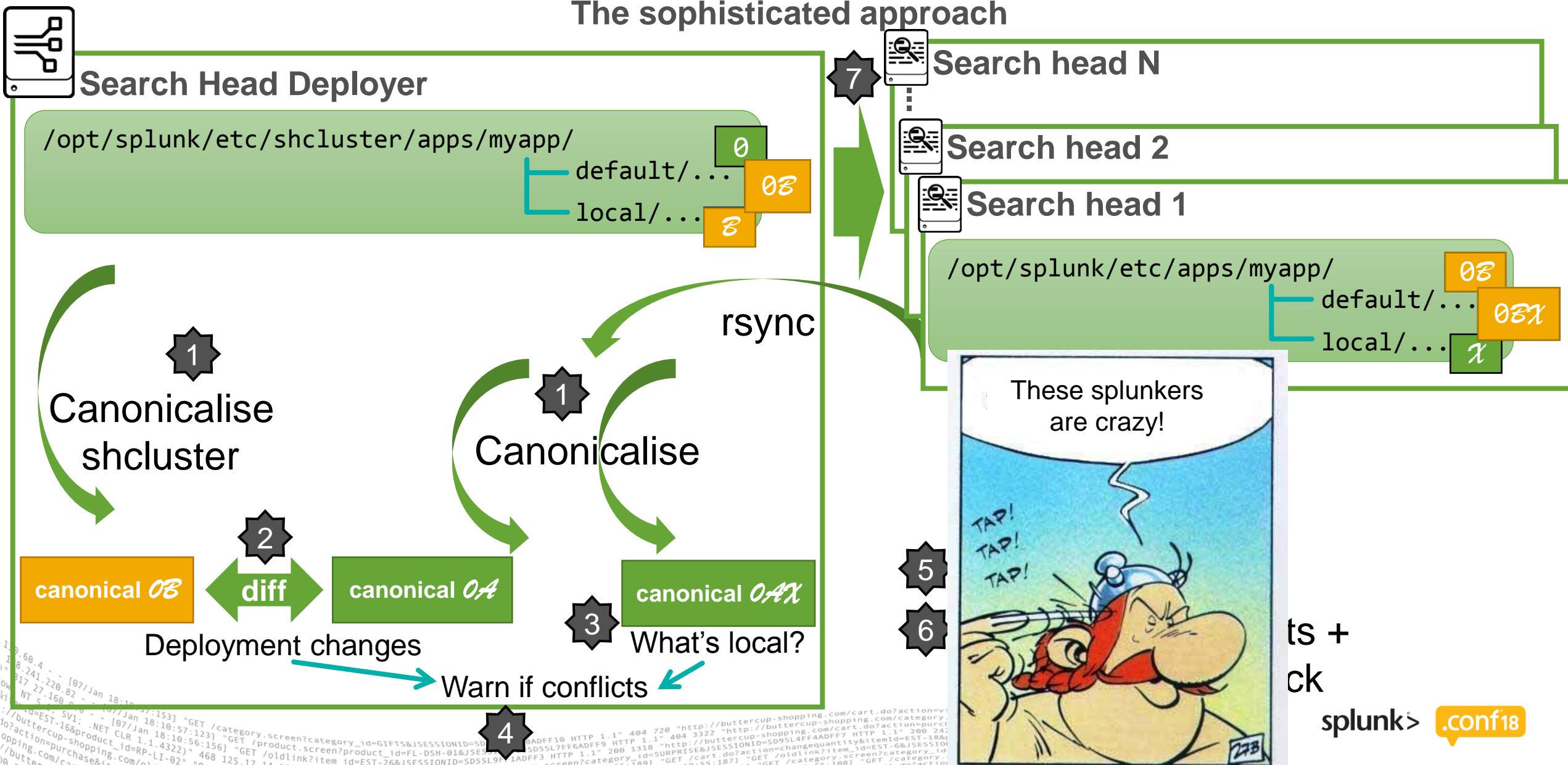
apply shcluster-bundle wrapper v1

Advantages

Disadvantages

- ▶ Easy
 - ▶ Doesn't know what's up with the search heads

apply shcluster-bundle wrapper v2



apply shcluster-bundle wrapper v2

Advantages

- ▶ Accurately predict actual effective change!
 - ▶ Accurate even if other changes have happened (e.g. direct apply shcluster-bundle)
 - ▶ Warm fuzzy feeling for control freaks

Disadvantages

- ▶ Slow (rsync + canonical = 1 minute)
 - ▶ Fair amount of work to implement

Just time for a quick recap

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 - ▶ Canonical configuration
 - ▶ Tracking problem 2: diff explosions
 - ▶ Track all changes (inc. glass tables)
 - ▶ Control deployment server deployments
 - ▶ **Control search head deployments**
 - ▶ Control upgrades



Control upgrades



Precedence + upgrades = recipe for disaster

- ▶ Later we upgrade Splunk_SA_CIM from version A to version B:

Search Head

/opt/splunk/etc/apps/Splunk_SA_CIM/

└── default/data/models/Malware.json

constraint: tag=malware tag=attack
fields: ...

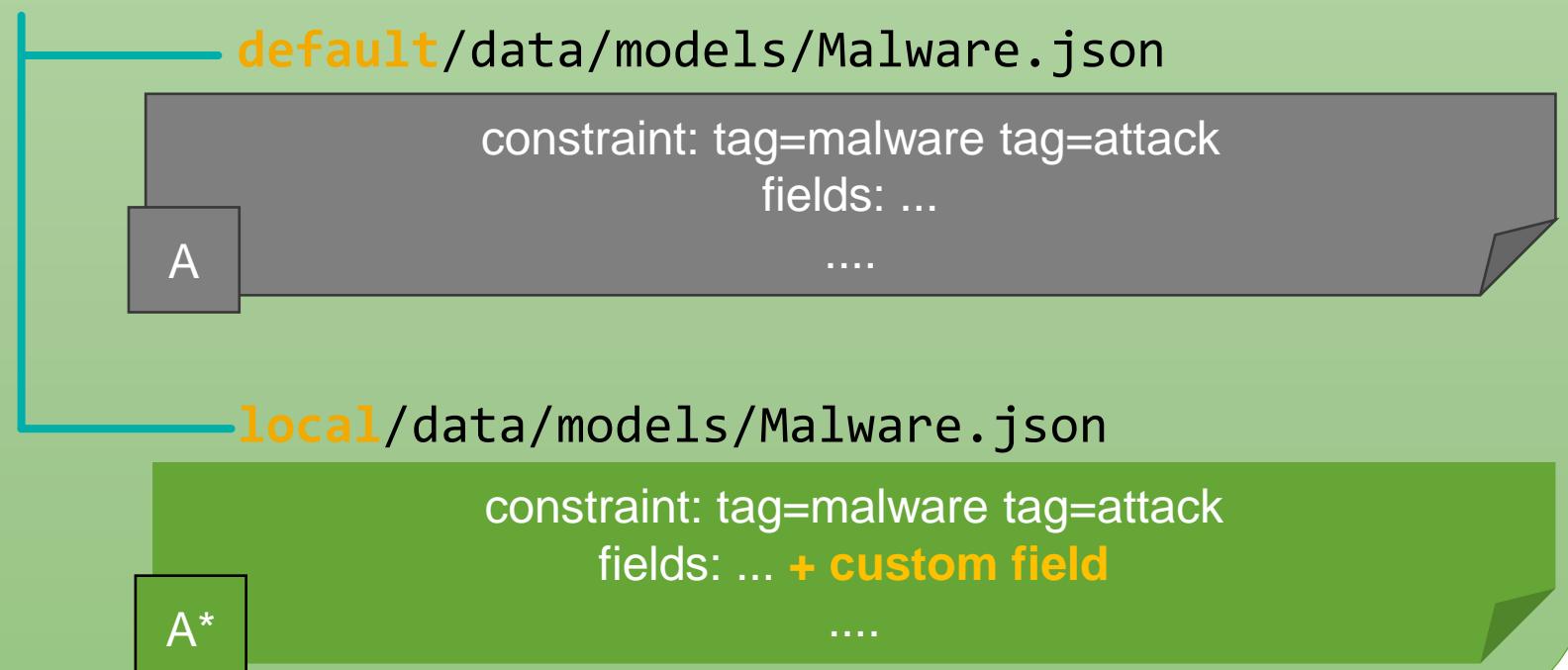
A

Precedence + upgrades = recipe for disaster

- Later we upgrade Splunk_SA_CIM from version A to version B:

Search Head

/opt/splunk/etc/apps/Splunk_SA_CIM/

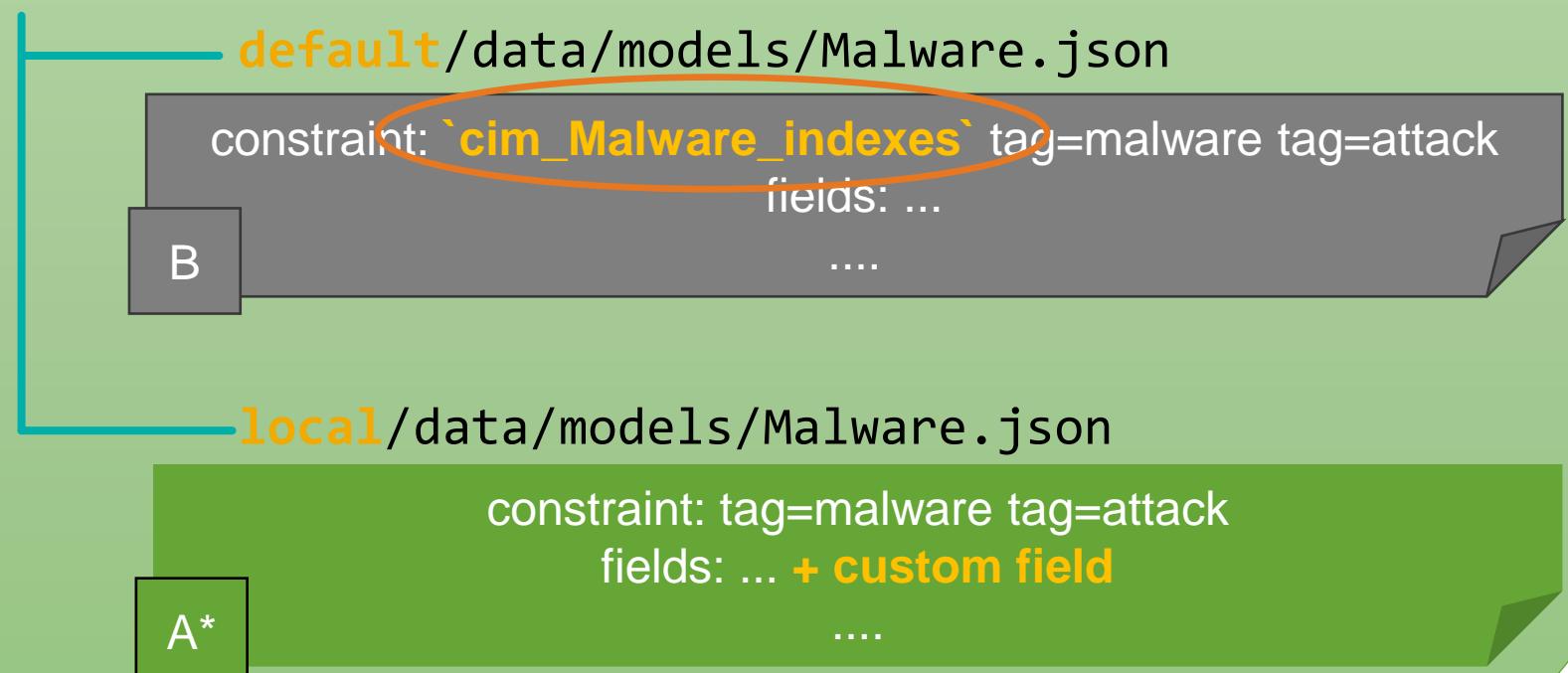


Precedence + upgrades = recipe for disaster

- Later we upgrade Splunk_SA_CIM from version A to version B:

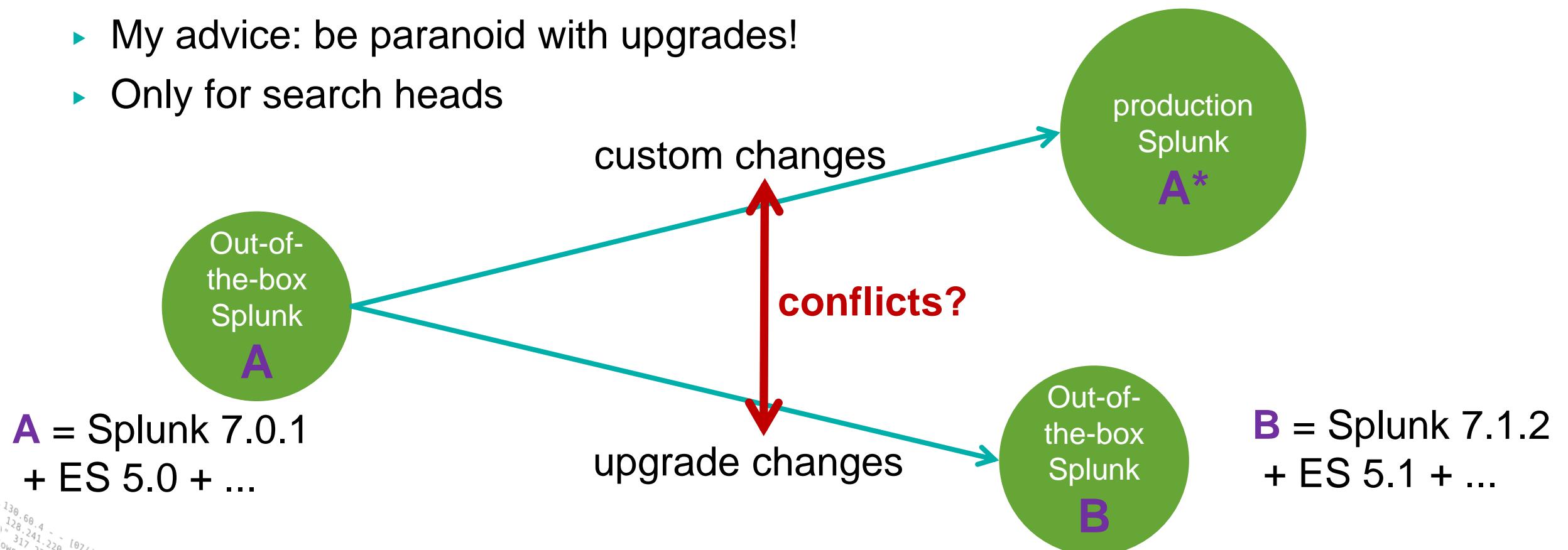
Search Head

/opt/splunk/etc/apps/Splunk_SA_CIM/

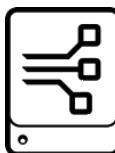


Upgrade strategy

- ▶ The advice you hear: "clone before you modify"
 - I don't see the point as it doesn't solve the problem
- ▶ My advice: be paranoid with upgrades!
- ▶ Only for search heads

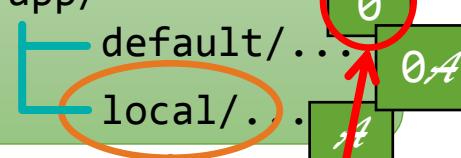


Pre-upgrade report script



Search Head Deployer

/opt/splunk/etc/shcluster/apps/myapp/

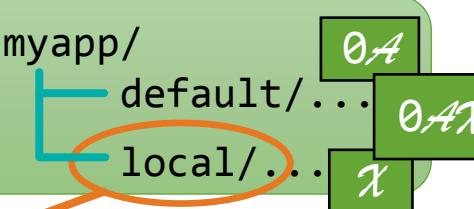


Search head N

Search head 2

Search head 1

/opt/splunk/etc/apps/myapp/



conflicts?

upgrade
changes

diff

1 VS χ
conflicts!

Out-of-the-box* current

/opt/splunk/etc/apps/myapp/default/...



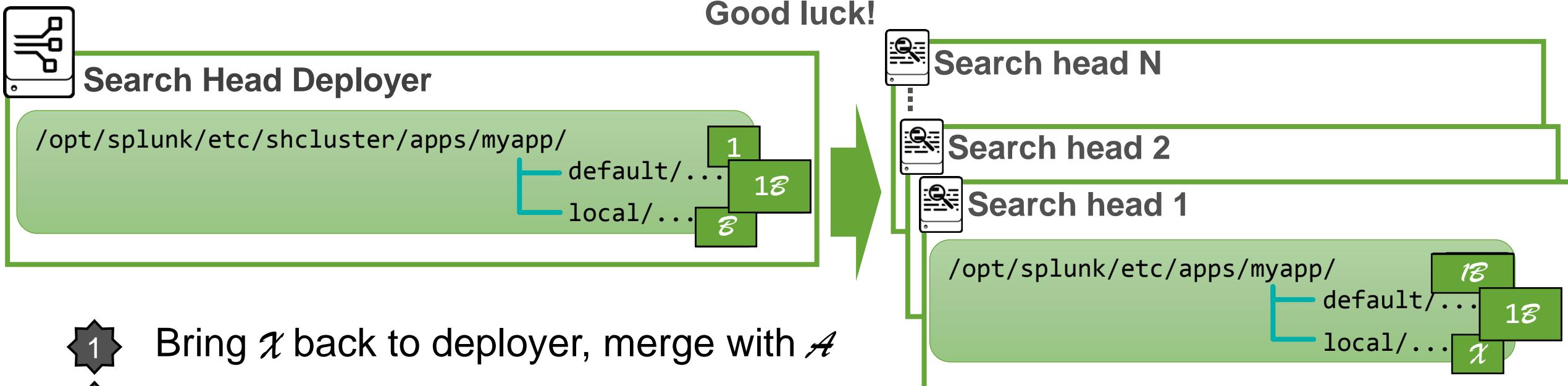
Out-of-the-box* future

/opt/splunk/etc/apps/myapp/default/...

1

* See bonus slide

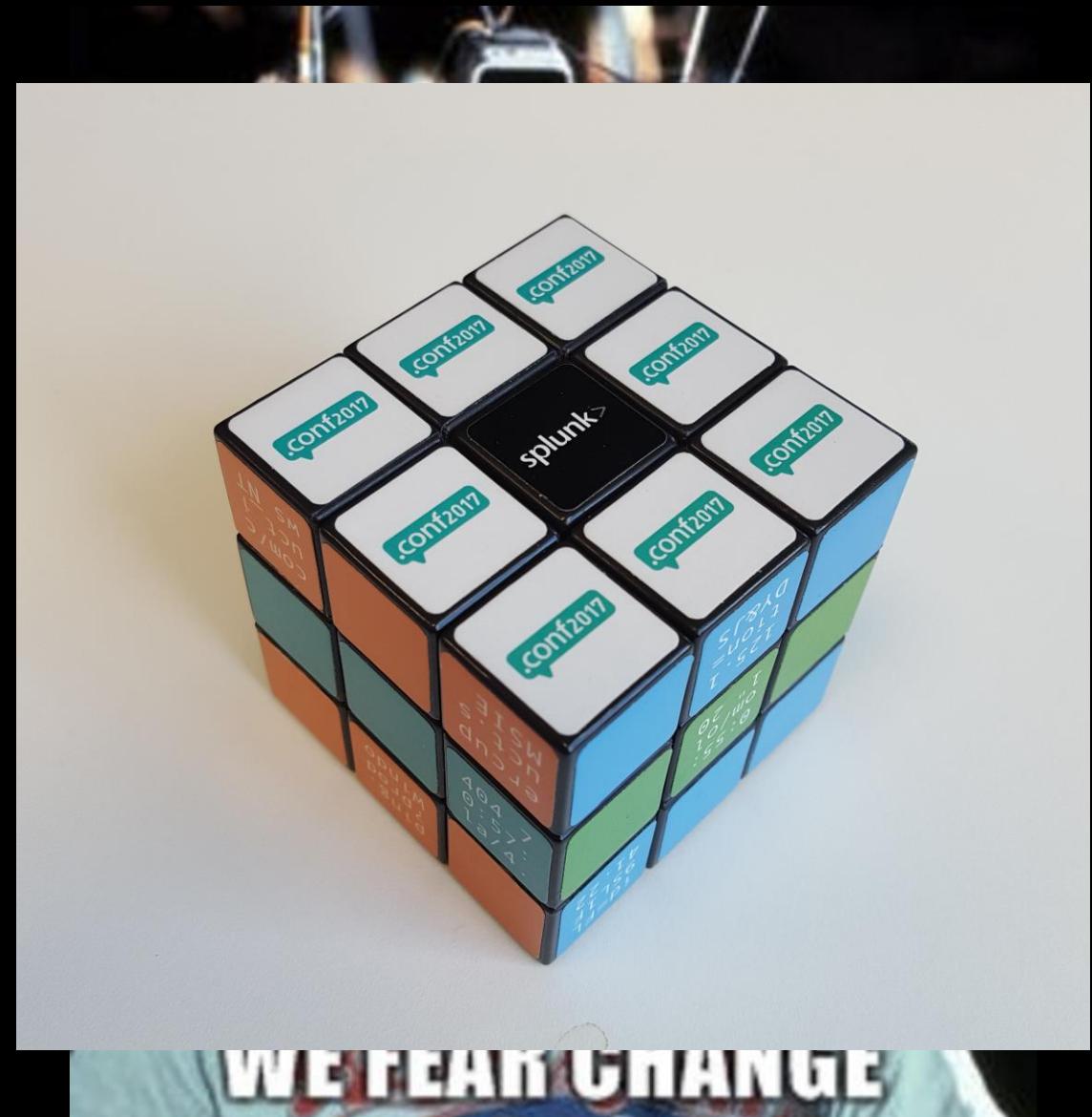
Fixing upgrade conflict on a search head cluster



- 1 Bring χ back to deployer, merge with A
 - 2 Deploy 0χ
 - 3 Remove local χ on search heads
 - 4 Upgrade on deployer
 - 5 Fix any conflicts between 0χ and 1 with 1β
 - 6 Deploy 1β

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 - ▶ Tracking problem 2: diff explosions
 - ▶ Track all changes (inc. glass tables)
 - ▶ Control deployment server deployments
 - ▶ Control search head deployments
 - ▶ **Control upgrades**



WE FEAR CHANGE

Conclusions

"It's a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no knowing where you might be swept off to."



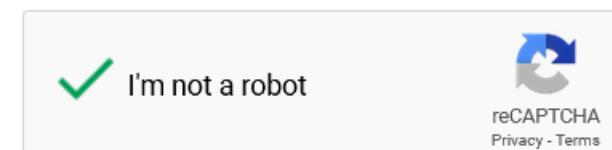
Last words

Take out

- ▶ Some things are easy to do and bring a lot of value
- ▶ With some significant coding you can enrich things further a long way

Words of caution

- ▶ Splunk is complicated: taking everything into account is difficult
- ▶ Splunk can change: future versions might be completely different
- ▶ Splunk is many: know the particularities of your setup
- ▶ Don't trust the robots: scripts can save your bacon but don't blindly trust them



Q & A

Thank you!

1. Slides and recording available on <http://conf.splunk.com/sessions/2018-sessions.html> in a few days/weeks
2. Slides and material available now at <https://bit.ly/TrackSplunk>
3. Rate this session in the app :-)
4. Poke us if you see us in the airport!
Gabriel Vasseur & Olivier Lauret

Bonus slides



rsync include pattern

```
rsync -avz myserver:/opt/splunk/etc/ /var/tmp/myserver/  
--prune-empty-dirs --exclude-from=<PATTERN_FILE>
```

```
- *.index
- README
- samples
- *.tmp
- .
- *.old
- *.context.csv
- *.context.csv.default
- *_tracker.csv
- *_tracker2.csv
- *_tracker.csv.default
- *_tracker2.csv.default
- *.pyc
- *.pyo
- *.spl
- *.tgz
- *.tar.gz
- apps/*/default.old*
- jars
- *_x86_*
- app_common
- *_app_common
- install
- /etc/users/**
- /etc/apps/learned/**
+ *.conf
+ *.meta
+ /etc/*
+ /etc/system/bin/*
+ /etc/system/lookups/*
+ /etc/system/local/**
+ /etc/system/default/data/**
+ /etc/apps/*/*bin/*
+ /etc/apps/*/*lookups/*
+ /etc/apps/*/*local/*
+ /etc/apps/*/*default/data/**
+ /shcluster/apps/*/*bin/*
+ /shcluster/apps/*/*lookups/*
+ /shcluster/apps/*/*local/*
+ /shcluster/apps/*/*default/data/**
+ /etc/auth/**
+ /etc/licenses/**
+ /etc/modules/**
+ /etc/slave-apps/**
+ /etc/master-apps/**
+ /etc/deployment-apps/**
+ /etc/shcluster/**
```

Change tracking: putting in git

- ▶ “rsync --delete” to Mgmt/etc
 - ▶ Delete all files in the Mgmt/etc_canonicalised folder (except the .git folder)
 - ▶ Use canonicalise script to create Mgmt/etc_canonicalised from Mgmt/etc
 - ▶ Then git both folders but don’t forget deleted files:

```
cd $SPLUNK_CONFIG_REPOS
# Run through all repos
for REPO in `/bin/ls $SPLUNK_CONFIG_REPOS` ; do
    cd $SPLUNK_CONFIG_REPOS/$REPO ;
    for DELETED_FILE in `git status --porcelain | egrep "^\ D " | sed "s/ \ D //"`; do
        git rm $DELETED_FILE;
    done
    git add *
    git commit -m "Automated commit on `date +\"%Y-%m-%dT%T\`"
    git push origin HEAD
    cd $SPLUNK_CONFIG_REPOS
done
```

Glass tables

Our tracking/backup solution

- ▶ The backup is orchestrated by a **custom search command** scheduled daily
- ▶ The script behind gets the glasstables definition via the Splunk API
 - 2 collectors in the KVStore to retrieve as 2 big json files:
 - `SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite_glasstables`
 - `/servicesNS/nobody/SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite/storage/collections/data/SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite_glasstables?limit=0&count=0&output_mode=json`
 - `SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite_files` (include images)
 - `/servicesNS/nobody/SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite/storage/collections/data/SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite_files?limit=0&count=0&output_mode=json`
 - ▶ Each big json file is split, prettified and saved into discrete json files corresponding to individual glass tables or their dependencies.
 - ▶ Each discrete json file is saved on a shared location available to the GIT server

We then GIT the shared location and pushed into Gitlab

Out-of-the-box splunk + ES

Faking it: no need to run anything, just unpack

- ▶ Unpack splunk core tgz /var/tmp/
 - ▶ Unpack enterprise security tgz in /var/tmp/splunk/etc/apps/
 - ▶ Unpack *.tgz and *.spl from
/var/tmp/splunk/etc/apps/SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite/install/
in /var/tmp/splunk/etc/apps/
 - ▶ Remove *.tgz and *.spl from
/var/tmp/splunk/etc/apps/SplunkEnterpriseSecuritySuite/install/
 - ▶ Unpack any other TA or app spl in /var/tmp/splunk/etc/apps/
 - ▶ Rename any .csv.default to .csv
 - ▶ Make /var/tmp/splunk/etc/system/default/authentication.conf readable
 - ▶ Remove any bundled TA that you don't have in production
 - ▶ Check that you have the same apps and versions as production