Solution Guide: Kibana Continued

Scenario

In this activity, you played the role of a cloud architect and were tasked with setting up an ELK

server to gather logs for the Incident Response team.

Before you hand over the server to the IR team, your senior architect has asked that you verify

the ELK server is working as expected and pulling both logs and metrics from the pen-testing

web servers.

You had three tasks:

1. Generate a high amount of failed SSH login attempts and verify that Kibana is picking up

this activity.

2. Generate a high amount of CPU usage on the pen-testing machines and verify that Kibana

picks up this data.

3. Generate a high amount of web requests to your pen-testing servers and make sure that

Kibana is picking them up.

SSH Barrage

Task: Generate a high amount of failed SSH login attempts and verify that Kibana is picking up

this activity.

▼ Solution Guide: SSH Barrage

SSH Barrage Solutions

1. Start by logging into your jump-box.

• Run: ssh username@ip.of.web.vm

You should receive an error:

```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ ssh sysadmin@10.0.0.5
sysadmin@10.0.0.5: Permission denied (publickey).
```

- This error was also logged and sent to Kibana.
- 2. Run the failed SSH command in a loop to generate failed login log entries.

```
# Creates 1000 login attempts on the 10.0.0.5 server.
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ for i in {1..1000}; do ssh sysadmin@
10.0.0.5; done
```

- Syntax Breakdown:
 - for begins the for loop.
 - i in creates a variable named i that will hold each number in our list.
 - {1..1000} creates a list of 1000 numbers, each of which will be given to our i variable.
 - ; separates the portions of our for loop when written on one line.
 - do indicates the action taken each loop.
 - ssh sysadmin@10.0.0.5 is the command run by do .
 - ; separates the portions of our for loop when it's written on one line.
 - done closes the for loop.
- 3. Search through the logs in Kibana to locate your generated failed login attempts.

```
# IMPORTANT: This loop will continue to run until you stop it using `
CTRL + C`
# It will create thousands of login attempts on the 10.0.0.5 server.
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ while true; do ssh sysadmin@10.0.0.5; done
```

- Syntax Breakdown:
 - while begins the while loop.
 - true will always be equal to true so this loop will never stop, unless you force quit it.
 - ; separates the portions of our while loop when it's written on one line.
 - do indicates the action taken each loop.
 - ssh sysadmin@10.0.0.5 is the command run by do .
 - ; separates the portions of our for loop when it's written on one line.
 - done closes the for loop.

- Search through the logs in Kibana to locate your generated failed login attempts.
- You should find a section of logs that look like this:

21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57856 [pre auth] $$
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57860 [pre auth]
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57864 [pre auth]
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57868 [pre auth]
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57872 [pre auth]
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57876 [pre auth] $$
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57880 [pre auth] $$
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57884 [pre auth]
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57888 [pre auth]
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57892 [pre auth]
21:28:27.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57896 [pre auth]
21:28:28.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57900 [pre auth]
21:28:28.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57904 [pre auth]
21:28:28.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57908 [pre auth] $$
21:28:28.000	system.auth	Connection closed by authenticating user sysadmin 10.0.0.4 port 57912 [pre auth] $$

4. Bonus: Create a nested loop that generates SSH login attempts across all 3 of your VM's.

```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ while true; do for i in {5..7}; do s
sh sysadmin@10.0.0.$i; done; done
```

- **Important:** This loop will continue to run until you stop it using CTRL + C and will create thousands of login attempts.
- Syntax Breakdown:
 - i in creates a variable named i that will hold each number in our list.
 - {5..7} creates a list of numbers (5, 6 and 7), each of which will be given to our i variable.
 - do indicates the action taken each loop.
 - ssh sysadmin@10.0.0.\$i is the command run by do. It is passing in the variable so the wget command will be run on each server.
- Note that the brace expansion ({5..7}) will only work if the IP addresses of your servers end in 5, 6, or 7. If their IP numbers are not in sequence, we can list

them explicitly:

```
# Note `for i in 5 8 12`
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ while true; do for i in 5 8 12; do s
sh sysadmin@10.0.0.$i; done; done
```

• **Note**: This loop will continue to run until you stop it using CTRL + C and will create thousands of login attempts.

Linux Stress

Task: Generate a high amount of CPU usage on the pen-testing machines and verify that Kibana picks up this data.

▼ Solution Guide: Linux Stress

Solutions

1. From your Jump-Box, start up your Ansible container and attach to it.

```
```bash
$ sudo docker container list a #to obtain the container name

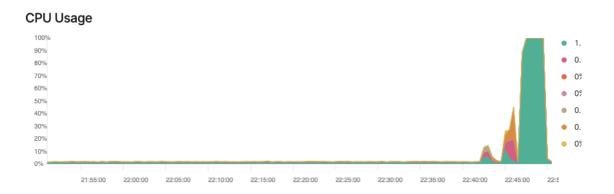
$ sudo docker start container_name
$ sudo docker attach container_name
```
```

2. SSH from your Ansible container to one of your WebVM's.

```
```bash
$ ssh username@ip.of.web.vm
```

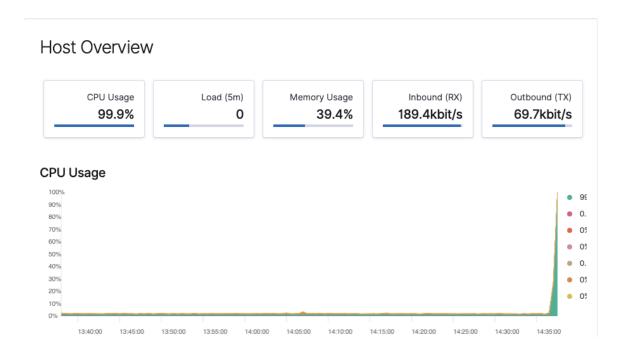
- 3. Run sudo apt install stress to install the stress program.
- 4. Run sudo stress --cpu 1 and allow stress to run for a few minutes.
- 5. View the Metrics page for that VM in Kibana.

- Are you able to see the CPU usage increase?
- **Answer:** Yes. Leave the stress test running and continue to refresh the Kibana metrics page for that VM. You should see a jump in CPU usage similar to the below image:



- 6. Run the stress program on all three of your VMs and take screen shots of the data generated on the metrics page of Kibana.
  - **Solution:** You should be able to create screen shots similar to the below:





# wget-DoS

Task: Generate a high amount of web requests to your pen-testing servers and make sure that Kibana is picking them up.

- ▼ Solution Guide: wget-DoS
  - 1. Login to your Jump-Box
  - 2. Run wget ip.of.web.vm

3. Run 1s to view the file you downloaded from your web vm to your jump-box:

```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ ls
index.html
```

- 4. Run the wget command in a loop to generate a ton of web requests.
  - You can use a bash for or while loop, directly on the command line, just as you did with the SSH command.
  - for loop:

```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ for i in {1..1000}; do wget 10.0.
0.5; done
```

**Important:** This loop will create 1000 web requests on the 10.0.0.5 server and 1000 downloaded files on your jump-box.

Syntax Breakdown:

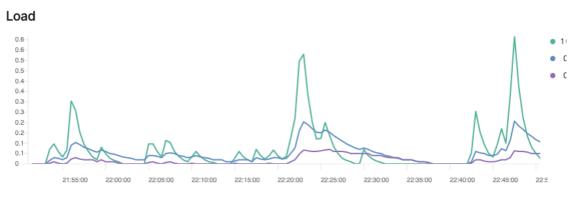
- {1..1000} creates a list of 1000 numbers, each of which will be given to our i variable.
- ; separates the portions of our for loop when it's written on one line.
- do is what each iteration of the loop will do.
- do wget 10.0.0.5 is the command run by with each loop.

### while loop:

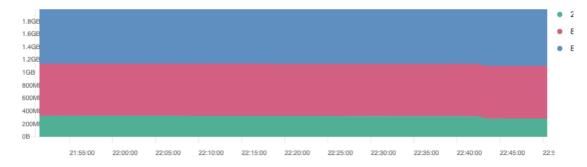
```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ while true; do wget 10.0.0.5; done
```

**Important:** This loop will continue to run until you stop it using CTRL + C and will create thousands of web requests on the 10.0.0.5 server as well as files on your jump-box.

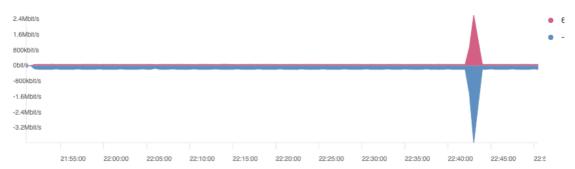
- 5. Open the Metrics page for the web machine you attacked and answer the following questions:
  - Which of the VM Metrics was affected the most from this traffic?
  - Answer: The Load and Networking Metrics were hit:



#### Memory Usage



#### **Network Traffic**



- 6. **Bonus**: Notice that your wget loop creates a lot of duplicate files on your jump-box.
  - Write a command to delete all of these files at once.

```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ rm *
```

- Find a way to run the wget command without generating these extra files.
  - Look up the flag options for wget and find the flag that lets you choose a location to save the file it downloads.

Answer: From the man pages:

```
-O file
--output-document=file
The documents will not be written to the appropriate fil
be concatenated together and written to file. If - is a
documents will be printed to standard output, disabling
(Use ./- to print to a file literally named -.)
```

- Save that file to the linux directory known as the 'void' or the directory that doesn't save anything.
  - Answer: The directory known as the 'void' that doesn't save anything is
     /dev/null
  - Full command: while true; do wget 10.0.0.5 -0 /dev/null; done
- 7. **Bonus**: Write a nested loop that sends your wget command to all 3 of your web VM's over and over.

```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ while true; do for i in {5..7}; do w
get -0 /dev/null 10.0.0.$i; done; done
```

- **Important:** This loop will continue to run until you stop it using CTRL + C and will create thousands of web requests.
- Syntax Breakdown:
  - i in create a variable named i that will hold each number in our list.
  - {5..7} creates a list of numbers, (5, 6 and 7) each of which will be given to our i variable.
  - separates the portions of our for loop when it's written on one line.
  - do wget 10.0.0.\$i is the command run by do. Notice that here we are passing in our \$i variable so the wget command will be run on each server.
- Or:

```
sysadmin@Jump-Box-Provisioner:~$ while true; do for i in 5 8 12; d
o wget -0 /dev/null 10.0.0.$i; done; done
```

• **Important:** This loop will continue to run until you stop it using CTRL + C and will create thousands of web requests.

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