Open source monitoring and observability stack on Kubernetes

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Abstract
- What is observability
- Pillars of observability
- Observability vs Monitoring
- Observability Use cases
- Observability solution with Prometheus, Grafana, Loki and Jaeger
- Demo
- Learnings
- Next steps



Introduction

- Aim Open source monitoring and observability stack on kubernetes.
- **Kubernetes** open-source container orchestration platform.
- Designed to automate the deployment, scaling, and management of containerized applications.
- Three pillars of observability logs, metrics, and traces
 When combined, they provide sufficient insights to monitor software at any scale.
- The project covers Monitoring, Alerting/Visualization, Log Aggregation/analytics, and Distributed systems tracing infrastructure which collectively make up observability.



Abstract

- Physical Server vs Virtual Machine vs Containers.
- Containerization and role of Kubernetes.
- Observability and Monitoring with respect to K8s.
- Setting up kubernetes tools Micro K8s, Minikube, K3s.
- Using Grafana and Prometheus stack on the cluster to observe metrics of cluster.
- Configuring Alertmanager to receive alerts on slack channel.
- Logging and Tracing using Loki and Jaeger.



What is Observability?

- A way to get insights into the whole infrastructure.
- Can explain any questions about what is happening on the inside of the system just by observing the outside of the system.
- Helps developers understand multi-layered architectures: what's slow, what's broken, and what needs to be done to improve performance.
- Creates an insight through an actionable knowledge of the whole environment by assembling all fragments from logs, monitoring tools and organizing them.



Three Pillars Of Observability

Metrics:

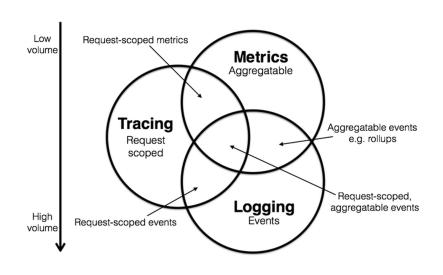
These are numeric representation of data measured over intervals of time.

Logging:

They are discrete events and data in a structured textual form.

Tracing:

Represents consecutive events which reflect an end-to-end request path in a distributed system.





Observability vs Monitoring

| Observability | Monitoring |
|---|---|
| What is the system doing? | Is the system working? |
| Tells us why something goes wrong | Tells us when something went wrong |
| Proactive in nature | Reactive in nature |
| Reduces the duration and impact of incidents | Enables quick response when an incident occurs |
| Gain understanding actively | Consume information passively |
| Build to tame dynamic environments with changing complexity | Built to maintain static environments with little variation |
| Preferred by developers of systems with variability and unknown permutations | Used by developers of systems with little change and known permutation |



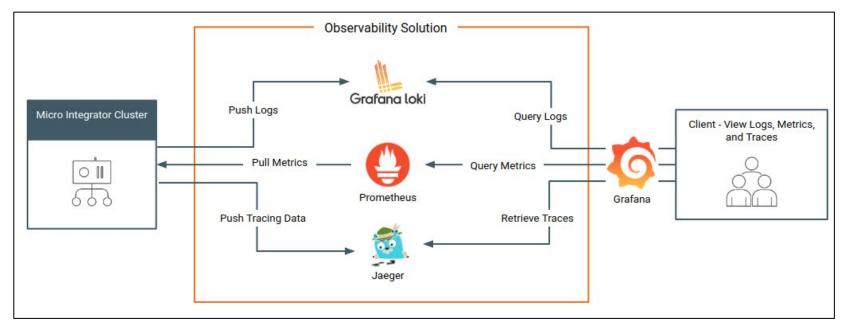


Observability Use cases

- As an Infrastructure Admin, I would like the "Platform" services are monitored constantly for application runtime errors, re-curing operational / API / UI failures and generate alerts so that assigned / scheduled Support team gets notified immediately and is able to troubleshoot the error through Operations Console.
- As an Infrastructure Admin, I would like to configure Monitoring in the "Platform" to send Monitoring alerts to Operations console for any persistent failures in the System for timely response from the Operations team.
- As an SRE, I would like to monitor a gradual but consistent degradation of the Platform services performance / response times so that I can rectify any hardware resource related or scaling issues with the application and prevent missing any SLA(s).
- As an IT Operator, I would like to monitor cluster kube state and node metrics of Platform.
- As an IT Operator, I would like to monitor all the namespaces of the Platform.



Observability solution with Prometheus, Grafana, Loki and Jaeger



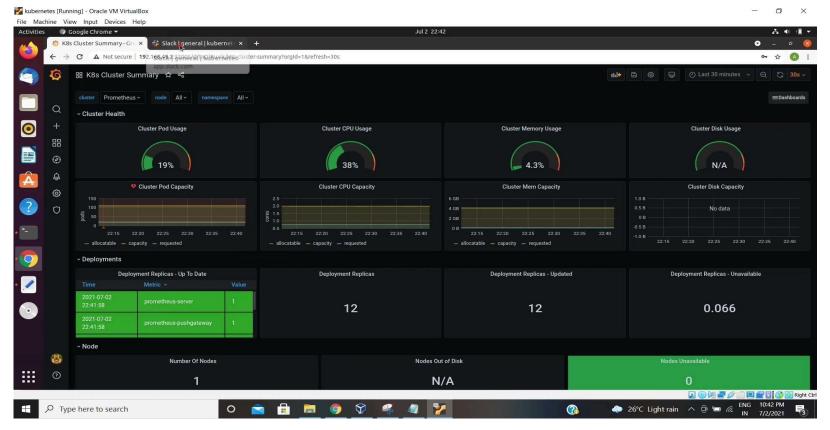




Demo





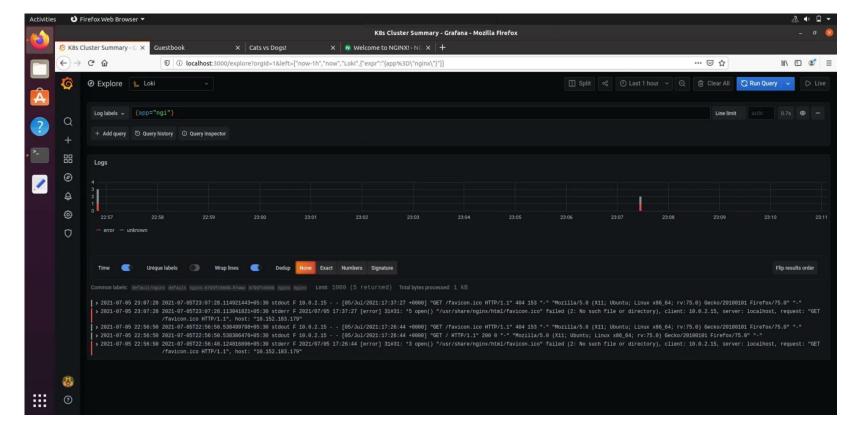




Demo





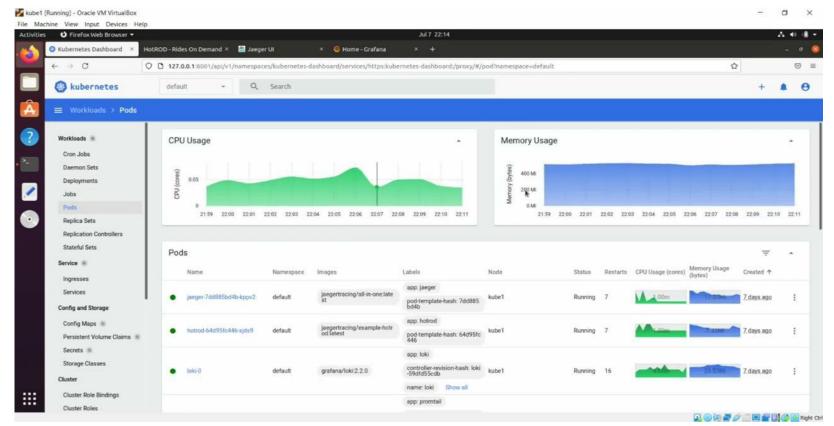




Demo









Learnings

- Importance of containerization and container orchestration.
- Importance of using Kubernetes.
- Using different tools to set up kubernetes clusters.
- Importance of observability and monitoring.
- Exploring different tools for observability and monitoring.
- Deploying multiple applications on a kubernetes cluster.
- Practical implementation of three pillars of observability i.e metrics, logging and tracing.
- Exploring multi-cluster observability.



Next steps

- Creating a central dashboard for visualizing metrics of multiple clusters.
- Using Spark to process Big Data on Kubernetes.
- Implementation of load balancers using traefik.
- Monitoring and observability using EFK Stack.
- Observability using Open Telemetry.
- Setting up a High availability cluster using K3d.
- AI/ML stack on Kubernetes.



CHALLENGES FACED

- Working remotely
- Insufficient hardware
- Ramp up time in working with various tools



Any Questions?



Thank You!

