**What is Grafana?**

**What are the features of Grafana? Why Grafana?**

**What type of monitoring can be done via Grafana?**

**What databases work with Grafana?**

**What are metrics and visualizations in Grafana?**

**What is the difference between Grafana and Prometheus?**

Grafana is a multi-platform open-source analytics and interactive visualization web application. It provides charts, graphs, and alerts for the web when connected to supported data sources

**Unify your data, not your database**

Grafana doesn’t require you to ingest data to a backend store or vendor database. Instead, Grafana takes a unique approach to providing a “single-pane-of-glass” by unifying your existing data, wherever it lives.

With Grafana, you can take any of your existing data- be it from your Kubernetes cluster, raspberry pi, different cloud services, or even Google Sheets- and visualize it however you want, all from a single dashboard.

**Data everyone can see**

Grafana was built on the principle that data should be accessible to everyone in your organization, not just the single Ops person.

By democratizing data, Grafana helps to facilitate a culture where data can easily be used and accessed by the people that need it, helping to break down data silos and empower teams.

**Dashboards that anyone can use**

Not only do Grafana dashboards give insightful meaning to data collected from numerous sources, but you can also share the dashboards you create with other team members, allowing you to explore the data together.

With Grafana, anyone can create and share dynamic dashboards to foster collaboration and transparency.

**Flexibility and versatility**

Translate and transform any of your data into flexible and versatile dashboards. Unlike other tools, Grafana allows you to build dashboards specifically for you and your team.

With advanced querying and transformation capabilities, you can customize your panels to create visualizations that are actually helpful for you.

Companies use Grafana to monitor their infrastructure and log analytics, predominantly to improve their operational efficiency. Dashboards make tracking users and events easy as it automates the collection, management, and viewing of data. Grafana allows you to query, visualize, alert on, and understand your metrics no matter where they are stored.

Redis, the open source in-memory data store.

Databases MongoDB, InfluxDB, Oracle, and MySQL.

GitHub, for data about your software development.

Snowflake, the cloud-based data storage and analytics platform.

Jira, for project management and insights into your development process.

Metrics tell you how much of something exists, such as how much memory a computer system has available or how many centimetres long a desktop is. In the case of Grafana, metrics are most useful when they are recorded repeatedly over time. This permits us to compare things like how running a program affects the availability of system resources.

A chart showing this change of resource use across time is an example of a visualization. Comparing these time-stamped metrics over time using visualizations makes it quick and easy to see changes to a computer system, especially as events occur.

Prometheus collects rich metrics and provides a powerful querying language; Grafana transforms metrics into meaningful visualizations. Both are compatible with many, if not most, data source types. In fact, it is very common for DevOps teams to run Grafana on top of Prometheus.