

# OSS Tools for System Management

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# IBM i



# Agenda

- Current State of System Management on IBM i
- Operational Monitoring with Prometheus
- Data Visualization with Grafana
- Event Monitoring with Manzan
- Manzan + AI

# **Current State of System Management on IBM i**

# What tools are you using for monitoring your IBM i systems?

1. Dynatrace
2. Nagios
3. Instana
4. DataDog
5. Control4i
6. Syslog Reporting Manager (SRM)
7. Created your own
8. Other

# Specialty is a collective disadvantage

1. Dynatrace
2. Nagios
3. Instana
4. DataDog
5. Control4i
6. Syslog Reporting Manager (SRM)
7. Created your own
8. Other

Each solutions has their own...

- Configuration
- Host installation requirements
- Monitoring capabilities
  - Collect system metrics (active jobs, ASP consumption)
  - View sub system information
  - Identify long-running SQL
  - View job queue

# Do you use Grafana?

1. Yes, with IBM i
2. Yes, but not with IBM i
3. No, but we want to
4. No, we don't want to
5. No, don't know what it is

# Operational Monitoring with Prometheus

# Prometheus Overview

## What is it?

- Leading open-source systems monitoring and alerting toolkit
- Collects and stores metrics as timeseries data

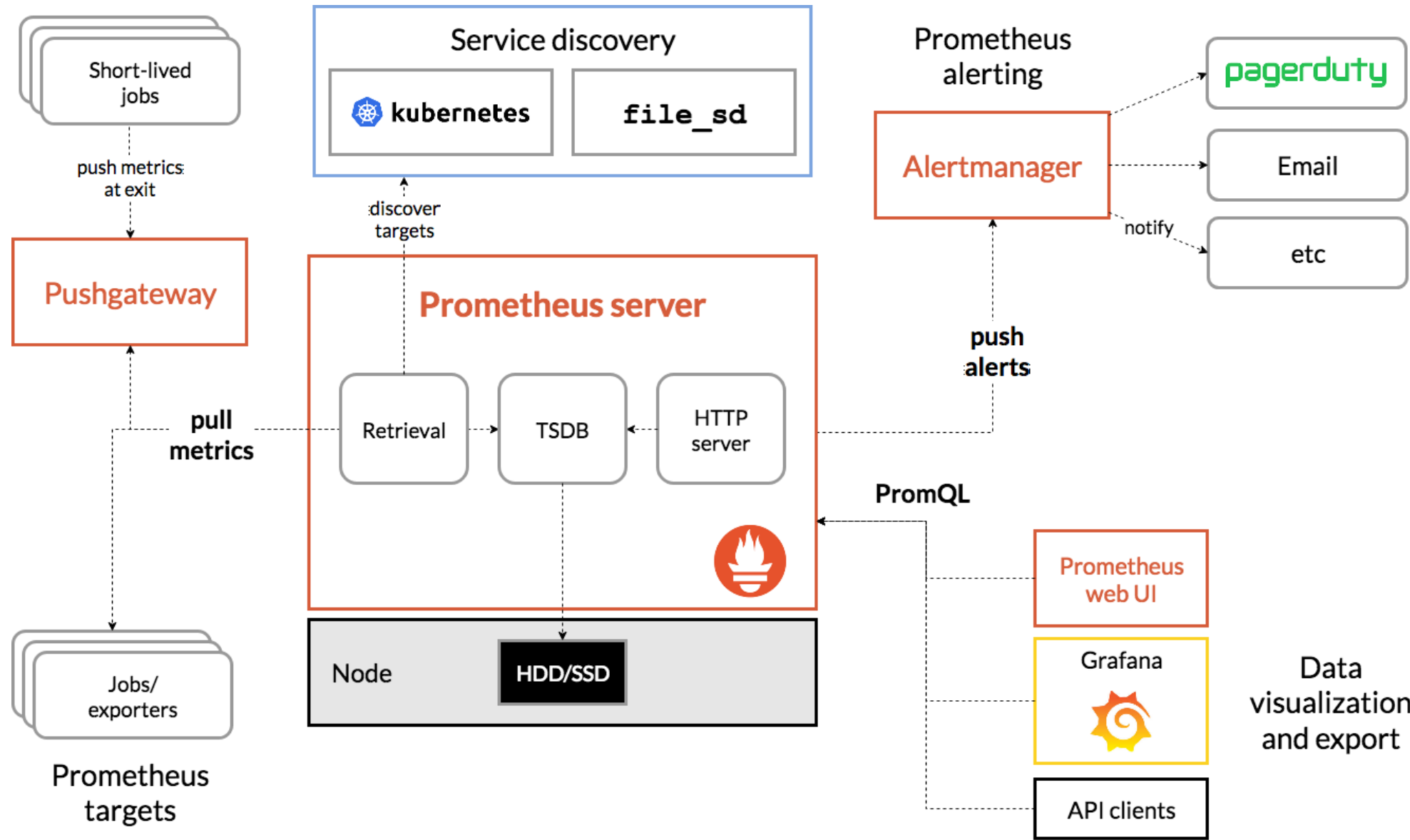
## Features

- Multi-dimensional data model with time series data identified by metric name and labels
- Provides a functional query language called PromQL
- No reliance on distributed storage
- Has an alert manager built-in
- Easily paired with Grafana and other monitoring solutions



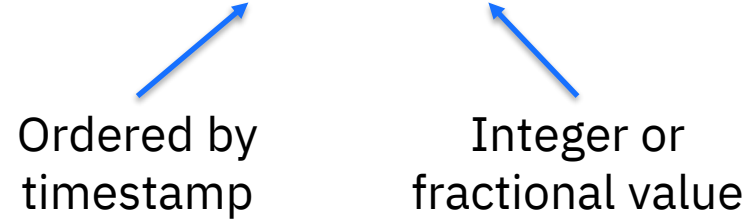


# Prometheus Architecture



# Prometheus Data Model

- All data is stored as a time series: (timestamp, value)



- Each time series has a name (metric name)
  - General feature of a system that is measured
- Each time series can have key/value pairs (metric labels)
  - Identifies a particular dimension of the metric
- Notation: <metric name>{<label name>=<label value>, ...}
  - `api_http_requests_total{method="POST", endpoint="/messages"}`
- Time series is uniquely identified by metric name + metric label
  - `temperature{city="Toronto"}`
  - `temperature{city="Rochester"}`

# PromQL (Prometheus Query Language)

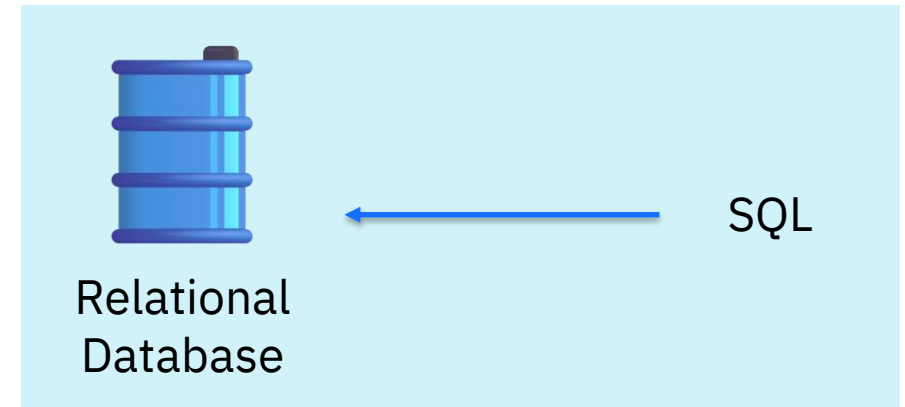
Functional query language that lets the user select and aggregate time series data in real time

## Types:

- Instant query: Evaluated at one point in time
- Range query: Evaluated at equally-spaced steps between a start and an end time

## Usage:

- Get/filter metrics we are interested in
- Aggregate metrics
- Build dashboards
- Setup alerts



SQL	PromQL
select * from http_server_request_count	http_server_quest_count
select * from http_server_request_count where uri="/api/people"	http_server_quest_count{uri="/api/people"}
select * from http_server_request_count where uri="/api/people" and method="GET"	http_server_quest_count{uri="/api/people",method="GET"}
select * from http_server_request_count where status like '2%' or status like '3%' or status like '4%'	http_server_quest_count{status=~"2.. 3.. 4.."}

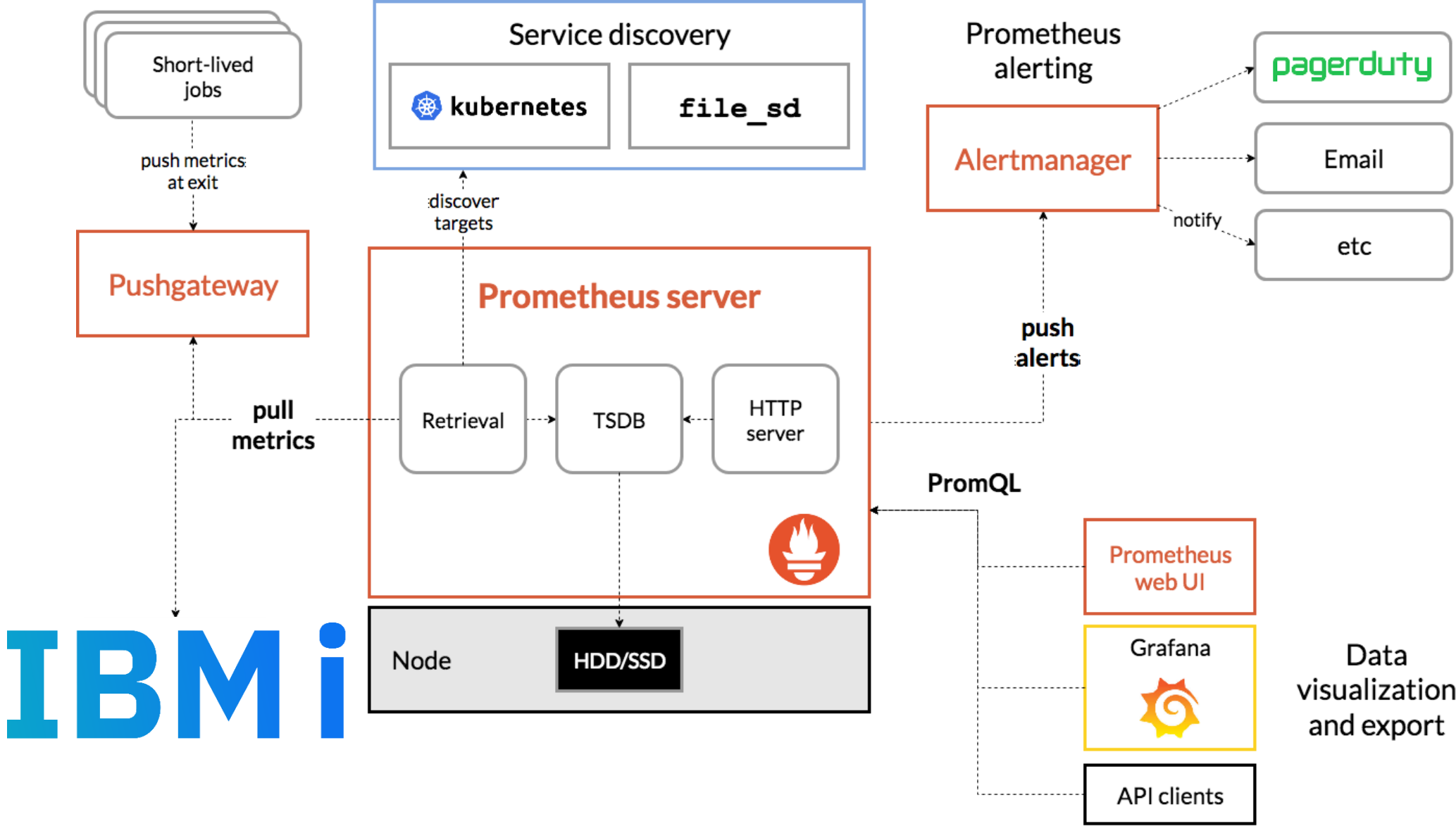
# More PromQL Basics

WIP

Instant query → Instant vector

Range query → Range vector

# How to use Prometheus with IBM i



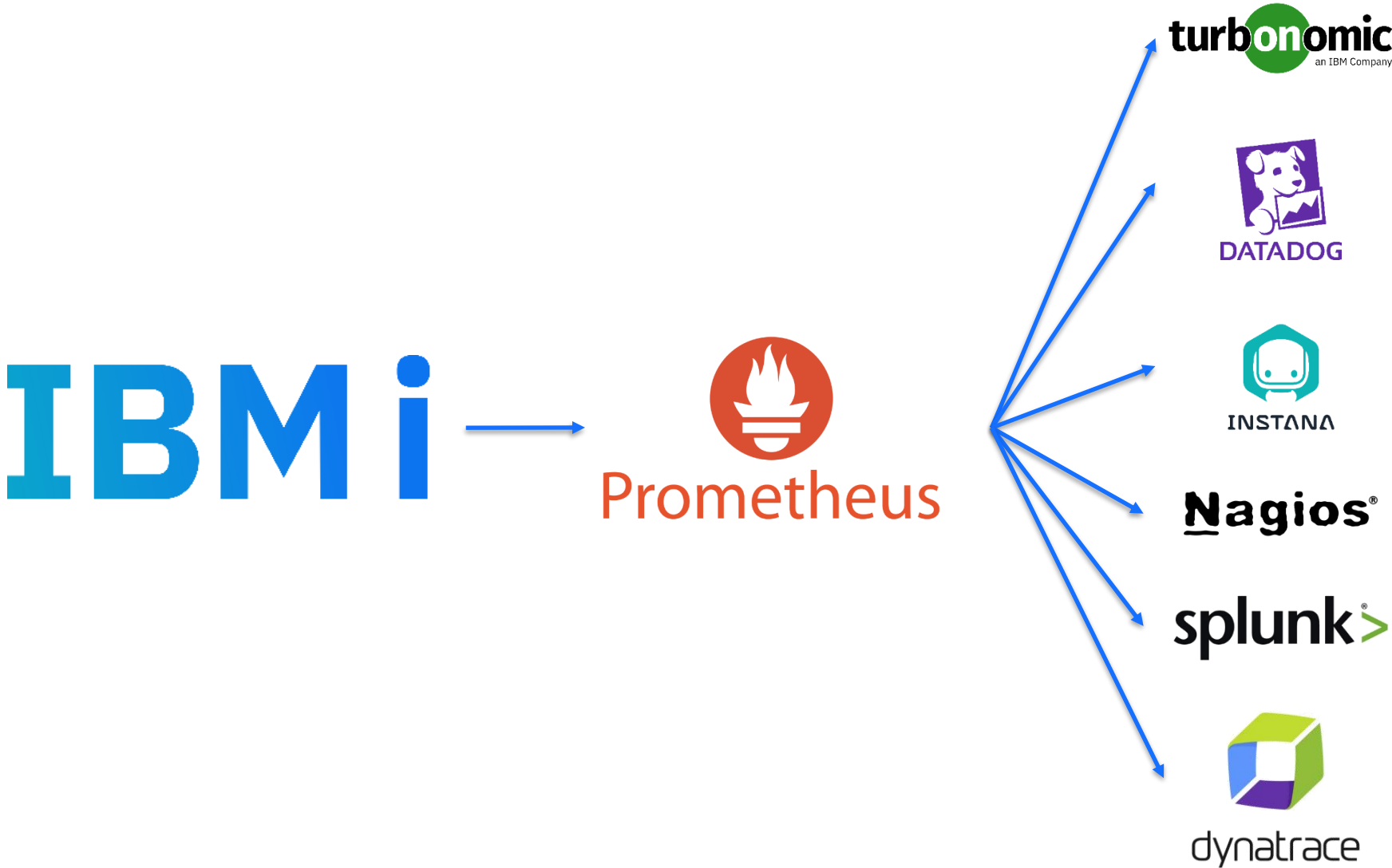
IBM i

# Monitoring IBM i with Prometheus

- Blog post by Jesse Gorzinski: "Monitoring IBM i with Prometheus"  
<https://techchannel.com/Trends/12/2022/ibm-i-prometheus>
- Simplified view
  - Passive exporter running on IBM I
  - Prometheus running on some central location, preferably Docker or Podman
  - Grafana running somewhere, preferably Docker or Podman



# Prometheus can be the bridge to other solutions





# JDBC Prometheus Exporter

- <https://github.com/ThePrez/prometheus-exporter-jdbc>
- An interface for passive metric collection which allows Prometheus to scrape it
- Deploys on IBM I
- Exports over 400 metrics
- Customizable metrics with SQL
- Demo: <http://ibm.biz/ibmi-prometheus>

```
{
  "port": 9853,

  "queries": [{
    "name": "System Statistics",
    "interval": 60,
    "enabled": true,
    "prefix": "STATS",
    "sql": "SELECT * FROM TABLE(QSYS2.SYSTEM_STATUS(RESET_STATISTICS=>'YES',DETAILED_INFO=>'ALL')) X"
  },
  {
    "name": "System Activity",
    "interval": 20,
    "prefix": "SYSACT",
    "include_hostname": true,
    "enabled": false,
    "sql": "SELECT * FROM TABLE(QSYS2.SYSTEM_ACTIVITY_INFO())"
  },
  {
    "name": "number of remote connections",
    "interval": 60,
    "sql": "select COUNT(REMOTE_ADDRESS) as REMOTE_CONNECTIONS from qsys2.netstat_info where TCP_STATE"
  },
  {
    "name": "Memory Pool Info",
    "interval": 100,
    "multi_row": true,
    "prefix": "MEMPOOL",
    "sql": "SELECT POOL_NAME,CURRENT_SIZE,DEFINED_SIZE,MAXIMUM_ACTIVE_THREADS,CURRENT_THREADS,RESERVED"
  }
  ]
}
```

# Data Visualization with Grafana

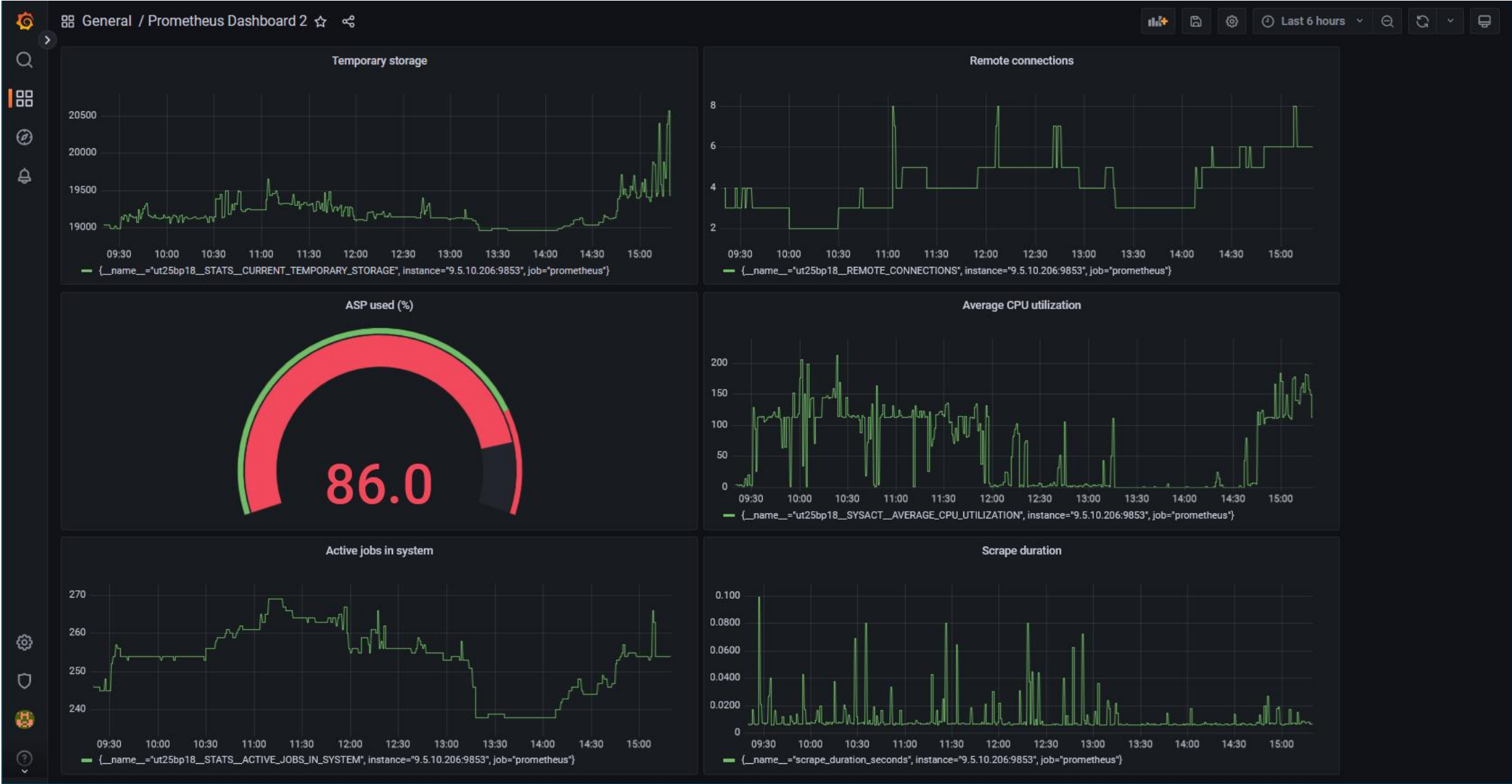
# Grafana Overview

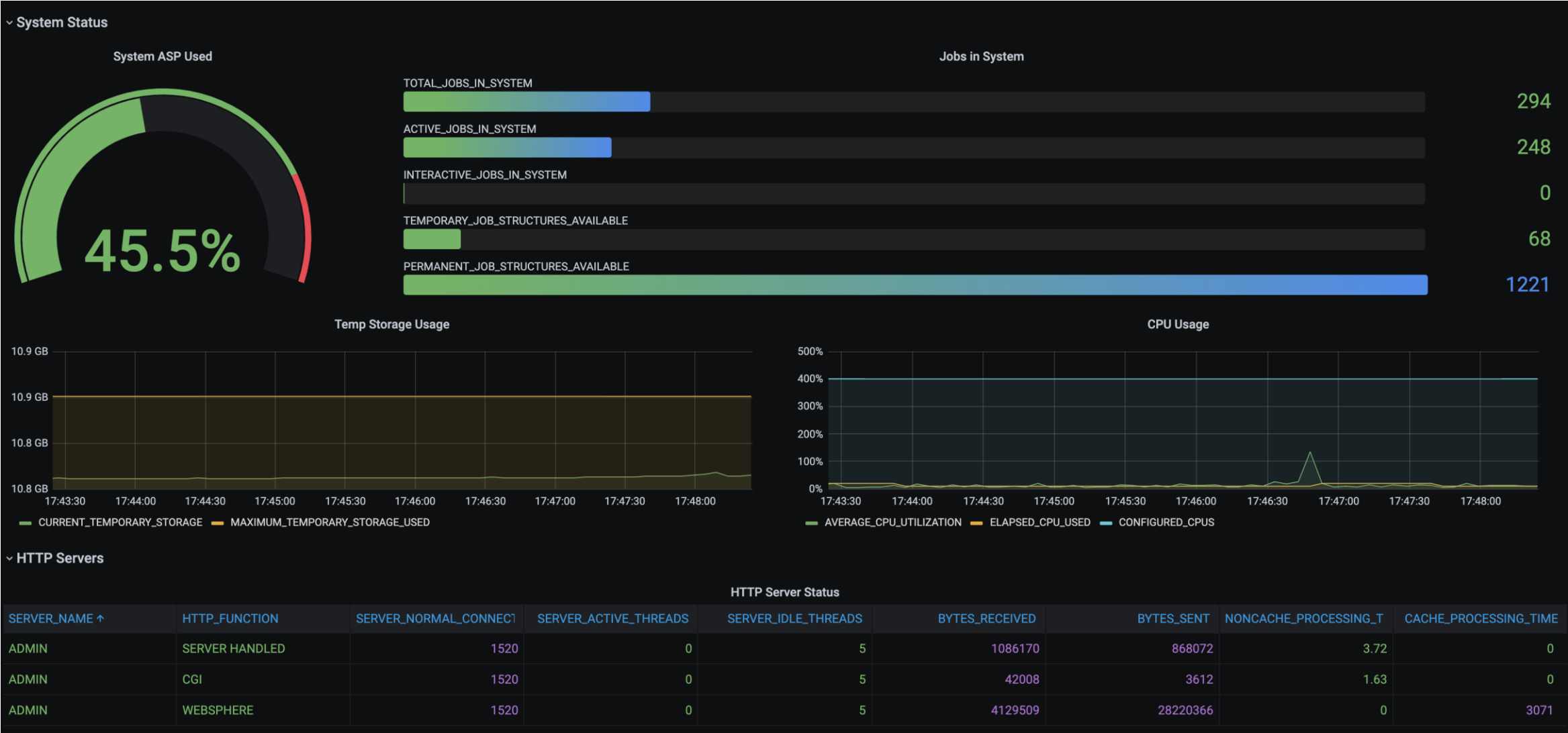
WIP

# LogQL Query Language

WIP

# Prometheus Visualization with Grafana





# Grafana with or without Prometheus

	Prometheus	Straight to Grafana
Persistent storage	Prometheus	Grafana
Persistent storage of unused metrics	Prometheus	--
Metric type	Numerics	Numerics/strings/other
Ecosystem	Extremely Broad	There
Scalability	Excellent	Good
IBM i requisites	None	Node.js
Initial setup	Easier	Easy

# Event Monitoring with Manzan



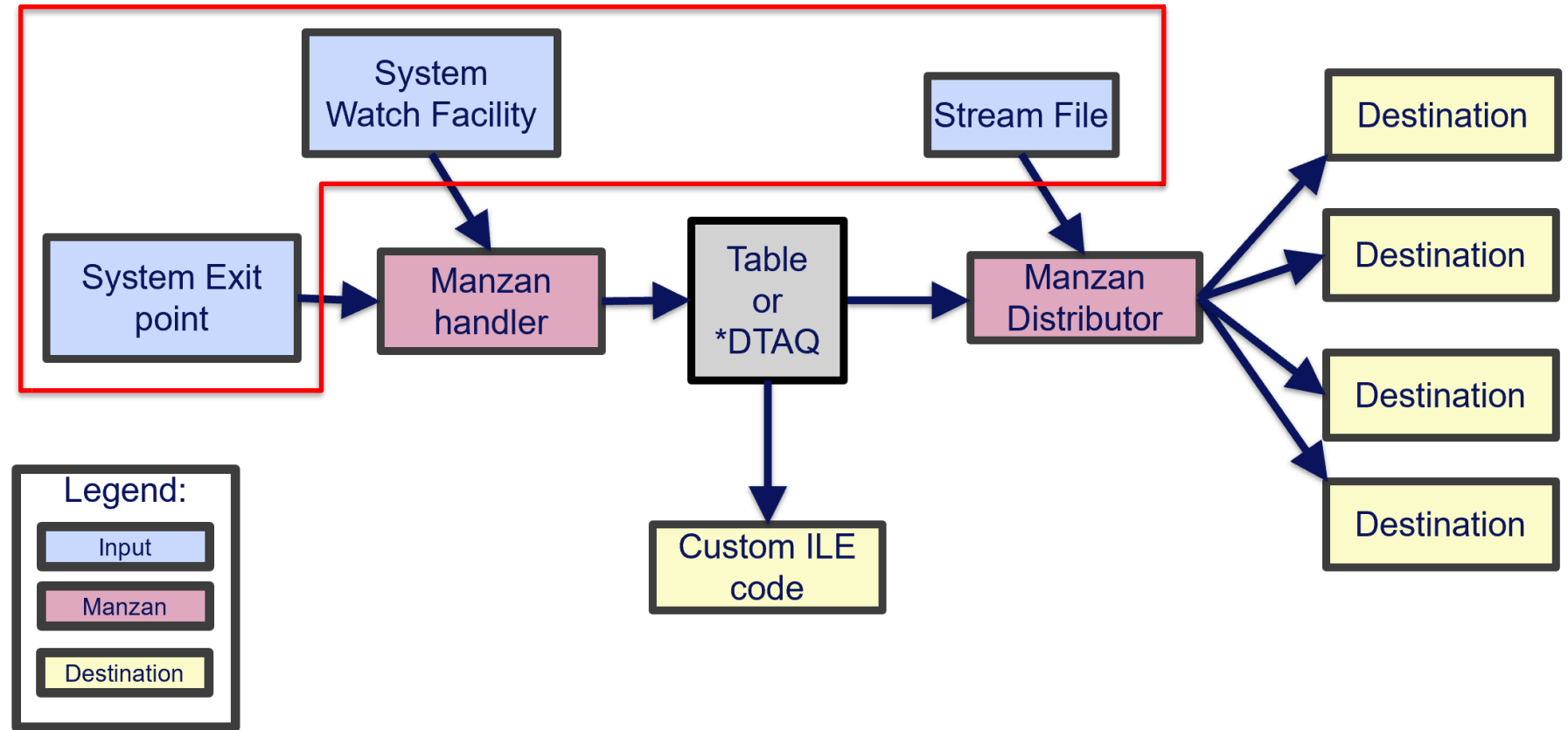
# Manzan Overview

- Open-source event handling tool designed to simplify handling of system events
- Serves as a gateway for publishing IBM i events to a variety of endpoints:
  - User applications
  - External resources
  - Open-source technologies
- Example use cases:
  - Monitoring system events with a third-party open source or proprietary tool
  - More comprehensive integration with syslog facilities
  - Queryable system events
  - Consolidated auditing/reporting activity.

# Understanding the Architecture: Inputs

## Inputs: Sources of your data

- Stream file
- System watch facility (STRWCH)
  - MSGQ
  - LIC logs
  - PAL logs
- System exit points
- Audit journals (*coming soon*)



# So what can Manzan monitor...?

Application  
crashes

Log data

Specific  
entries in log  
data

System  
Limits alerts

History Log  
entries

Problem log  
entries

\*SYSOPR  
messages

Specific job  
log messages

Audit journal  
events  
(future)

PAL entries

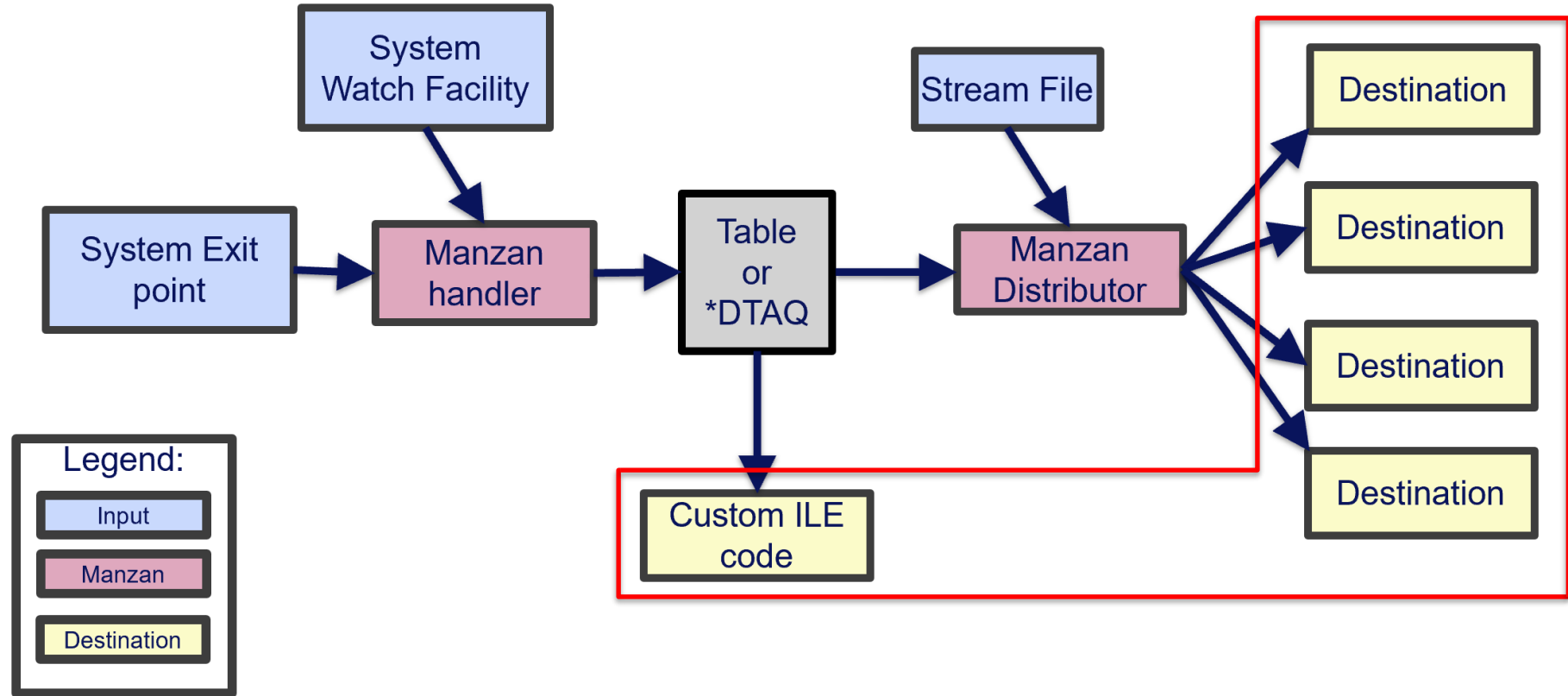
VLOGs

Fishy TCP  
connections  
(future)

# Understanding the Architecture: Destinations

## Destinations: Locations to send data

- Supported destinations:
  - HTTP/HTTPS endpoints (REST, etc)
  - Email (SMTP/SMTPS)
  - SMS (via Twilio)
  - Slack
  - FluentD
  - Kafka
  - Sentry
  - Grafana Loki
  - Google Pub/Sub
  - ActiveMQ



- Custom ILE Code

# So can Manzan send data anywhere...?

- Many destinations are already working, but there are more to come
- Desired target not on the list? Please open an issue to the repository and let us know!
- Track supported destinations:  
<https://theprez.github.io/Manzan/#/?id=where-can-i-send-these-events>

- [ActiveMQ](#) ⌚
- [AWS Simple Email Service \(SES\)](#) ⌚
- [AWS Simple Notification System \(SNS\)](#) ⌚
- [ElasticSearch](#) ⌚
- Email (SMTP/SMTPS) ✓
- [FluentD](#) ✓
- [Google Drive](#) ⌚
- [Google Pub/Sub](#) ✓
- [Grafana Loki](#) ✓
- HTTP endpoints (REST, etc) ✓
- HTTPS endpoints (REST, etc) ✓
- [Internet of Things \(mqtt\)](#) ⌚
- [Kafka](#) ✓
- [Mezmo](#) ⌚
- [Microsoft Teams](#) ⌚
- [PagerDuty](#) ⌚
- [Sentry](#) ✓
- [Slack](#) ✓
- SMS (via [Twilio](#)) ✓
- [Splunk](#) ⌚

✓ = implemented    🟡 = partially implemented    ⌚ = future

# Understanding the Architecture: Handler and Distributor

WIP

# Configuring Inputs and Destinations

Configuration files are located in [/QOpenSys/etc/manzan](#)

app.ini

data.ini

dests.ini

# Sending Messages to Slack

WIP

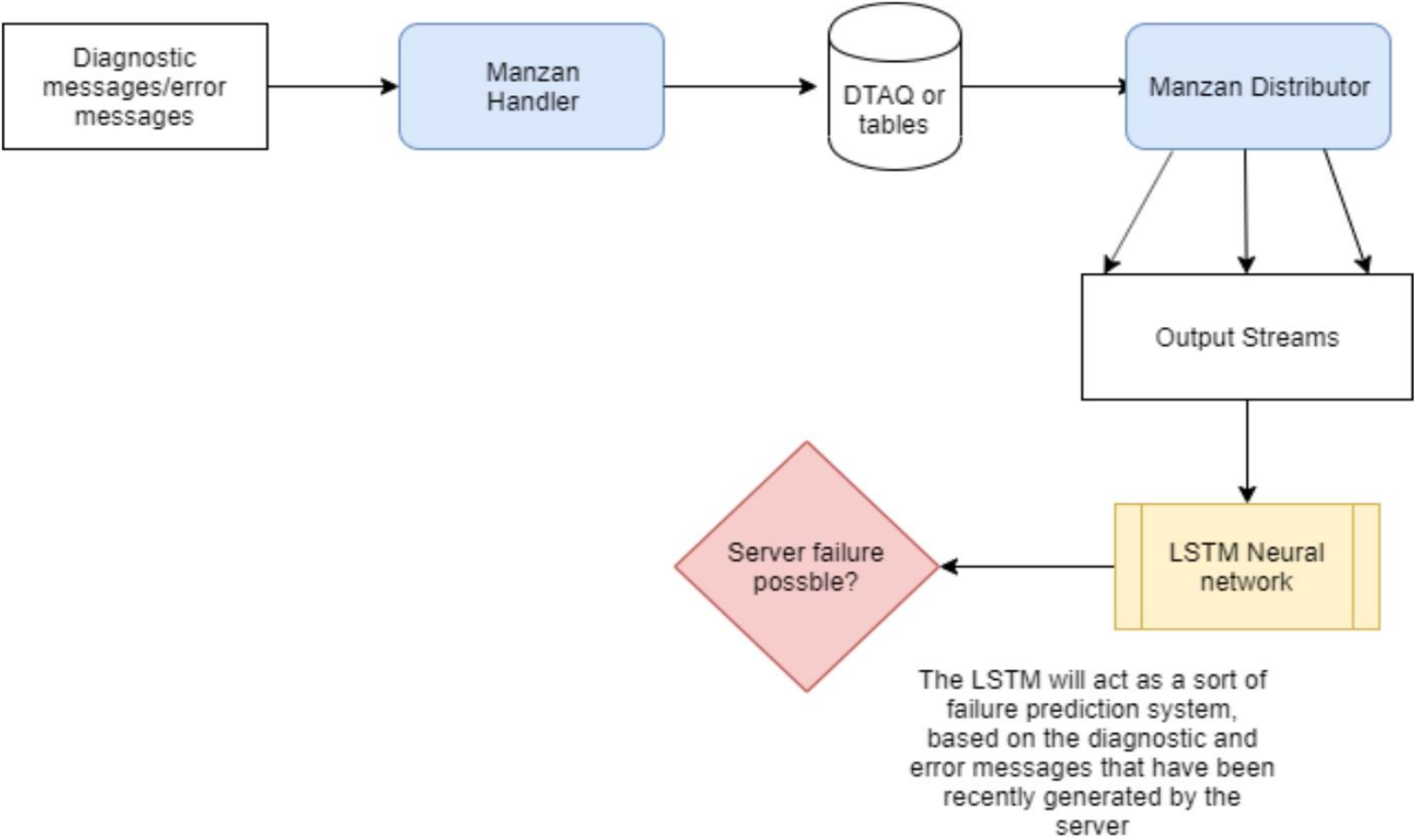


# Ingest Logs into Grafana Loki

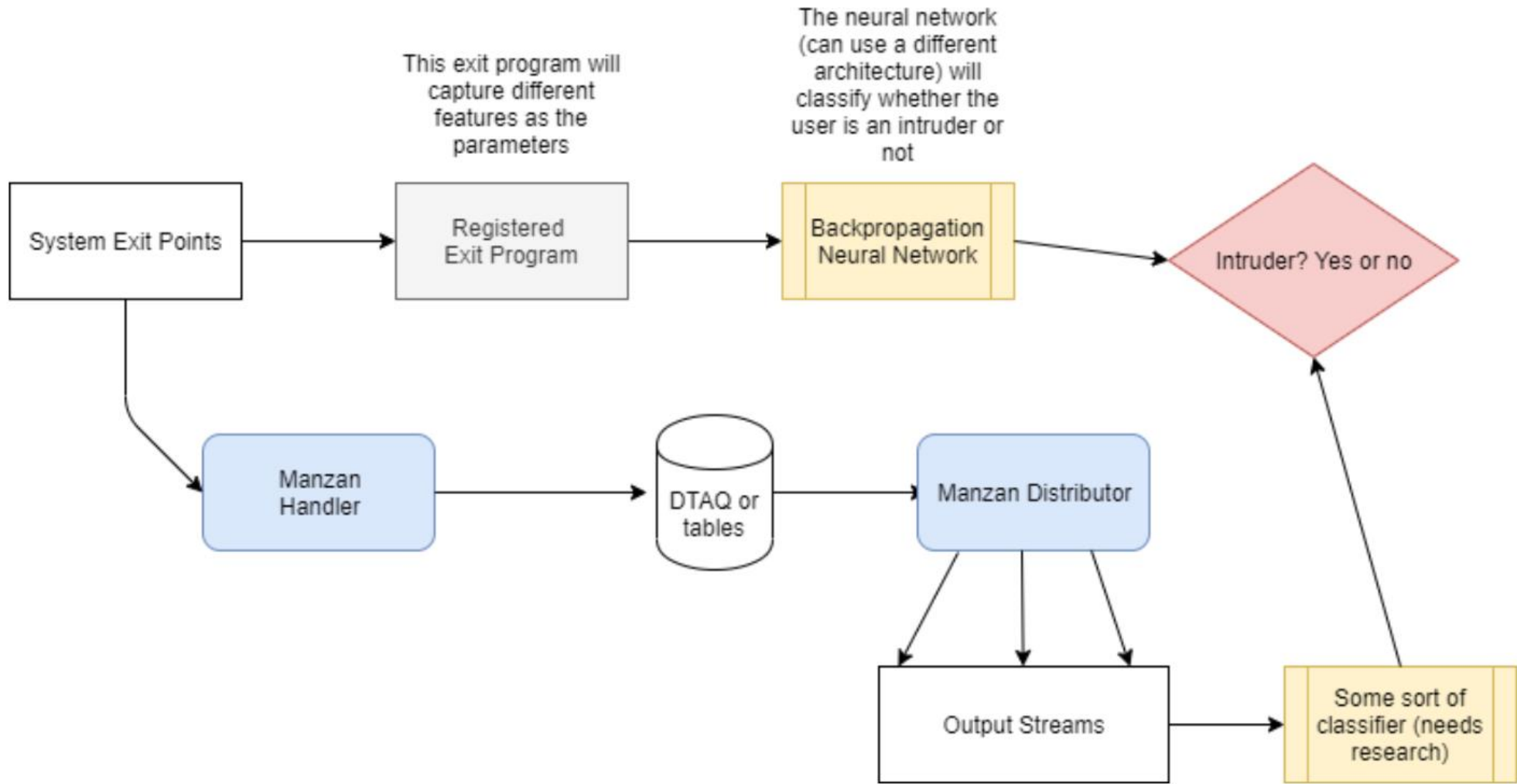
WIP

# Manzan + AI

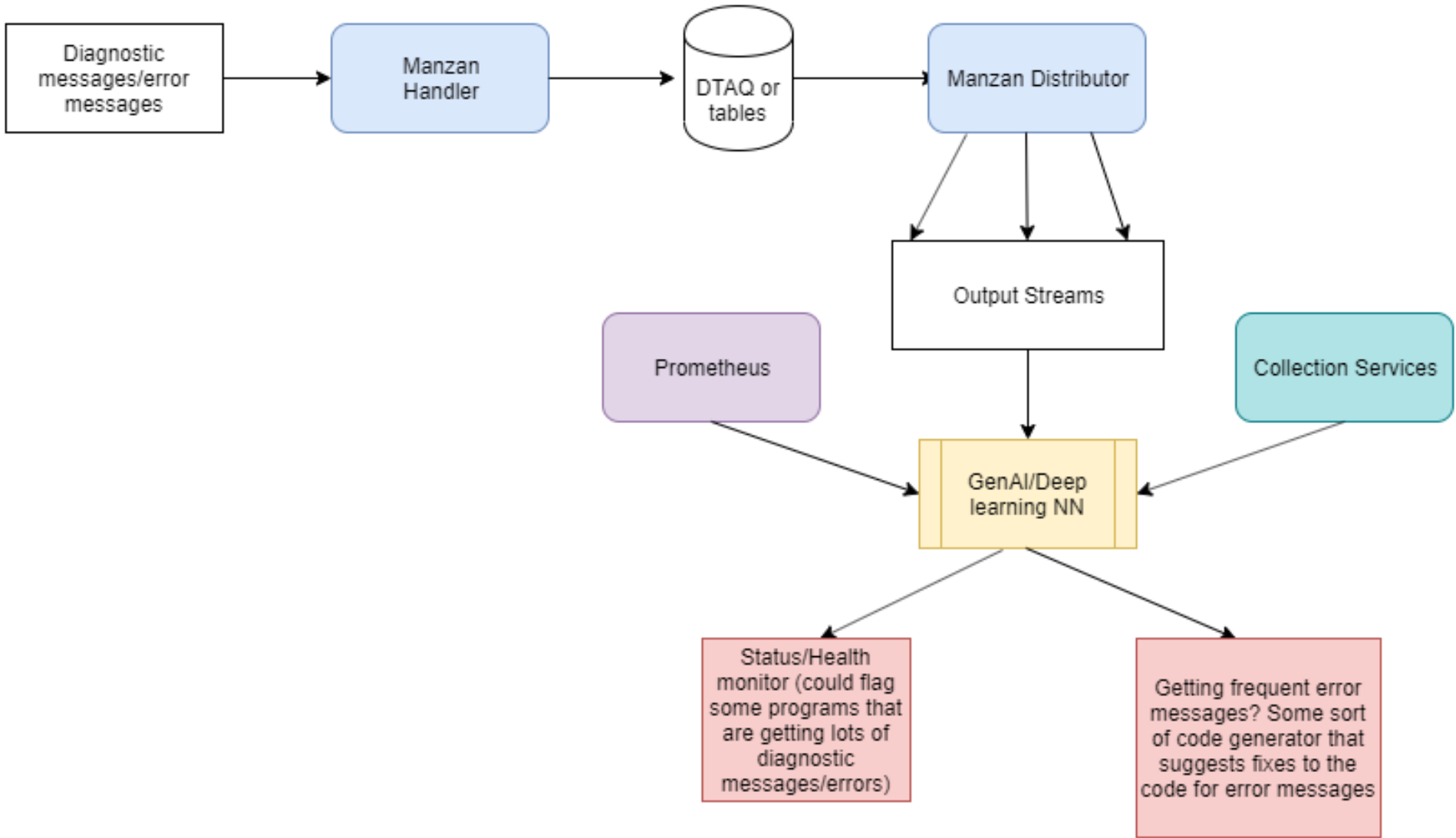
# AI-Based System Monitoring: Failure Prediction System



# AI-Based System Monitoring: Intrusion Detection System



# AI-Based System Monitoring: Health and Performance Assistant



# Takeaways

WIP

# Any Questions?

# Important Links




## ABC

- WIP
- WIP



# For More Information

Links You Need	Twitter	#Hashtags
<p>IBM i Home Page: <a href="https://www.ibm.com/it-infrastructure/power/os/ibm-i">https://www.ibm.com/it-infrastructure/power/os/ibm-i</a> (find link to Forrester Study and updated IBM i Strategy Whitepaper)</p> <p>IBM Strategy Whitepaper: <a href="https://www.ibm.com/it-infrastructure/us-en/resources/power/i-strategy-roadmap/">https://www.ibm.com/it-infrastructure/us-en/resources/power/i-strategy-roadmap/</a></p> <p>IBM Client Success: <a href="https://www.ibm.com/it-infrastructure/us-en/resources/power/ibm-i-customer-stories/">https://www.ibm.com/it-infrastructure/us-en/resources/power/ibm-i-customer-stories/</a></p> <p>Support Life Cycle: <a href="https://www.ibm.com/support/lifecycle/">https://www.ibm.com/support/lifecycle/</a></p> <p>License Topics: <a href="https://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=nas8N1022087">https://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=nas8N1022087</a></p> <p>Fortra IBM i Marketplace Survey <a href="https://www.fortra.com/resources/guides/ibm-i-marketplace-survey-results">https://www.fortra.com/resources/guides/ibm-i-marketplace-survey-results</a></p>	<div></div> <div><a href="#">@IBMSystems</a> <a href="#">@COMMONug</a> <a href="#">@IBMChampions</a> <a href="#">@IBMSystemsISVs</a> <a href="#">@IBMiMag</a> <a href="#">@ITJungleNews</a> <a href="#">@SAPonIBMi</a> <a href="#">@SiDforIBMi</a></div>	<div><a href="#">#PowerSystems</a> <a href="#">#IBMi</a> <a href="#">#IBMAIX</a> <a href="#">#POWER9</a> <a href="#">#LinuxonPower</a> <a href="#">#OpenPOWER</a> <a href="#">#HANAonPower</a> <a href="#">#ITinfrastructure</a> <a href="#">#OpenSource</a> <a href="#">#HybridCloud</a> <a href="#">#BigData</a></div>

