

Placement Empowerment Program

Cloud Computing and DevOps Centre

Write the Shell Script to Monitor Logs
Create a script that monitors server logs for errors and
alert you

Name: Sri Pooja KA

Department: CSE

Introduction

Log files play a critical role in IT systems, as they record activities and events generated by applications, servers, and network devices. Monitoring these logs helps identify issues such as errors, warnings, and suspicious activities that may require immediate attention. Automating the monitoring process ensures efficiency and reduces the risk of missing critical information.

This PoC demonstrates the creation of a **PowerShell script** to monitor logs in real-time. The script will detect specific keywords (like "error") in a log file and alert the user when such events occur.

Step-by-Step Overview

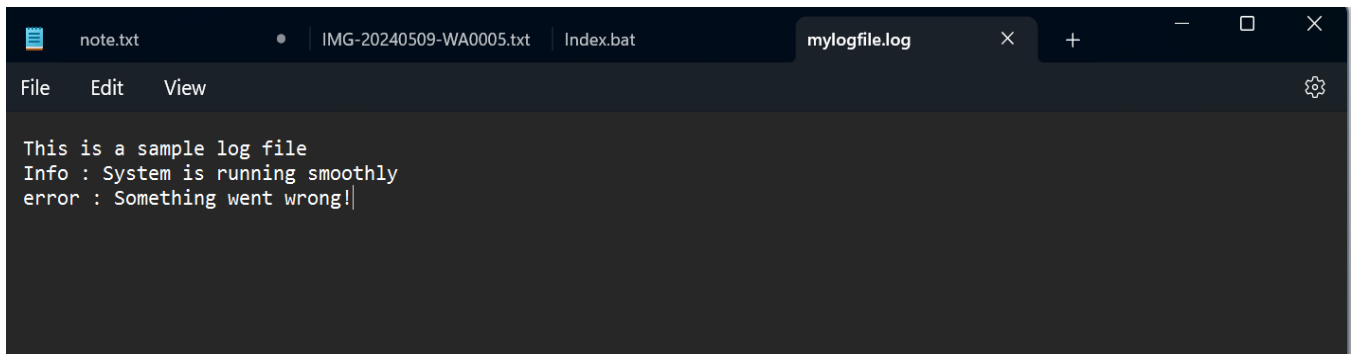
Step 1:

Create a Folder called logs for Your Logs and Script



Step 2:

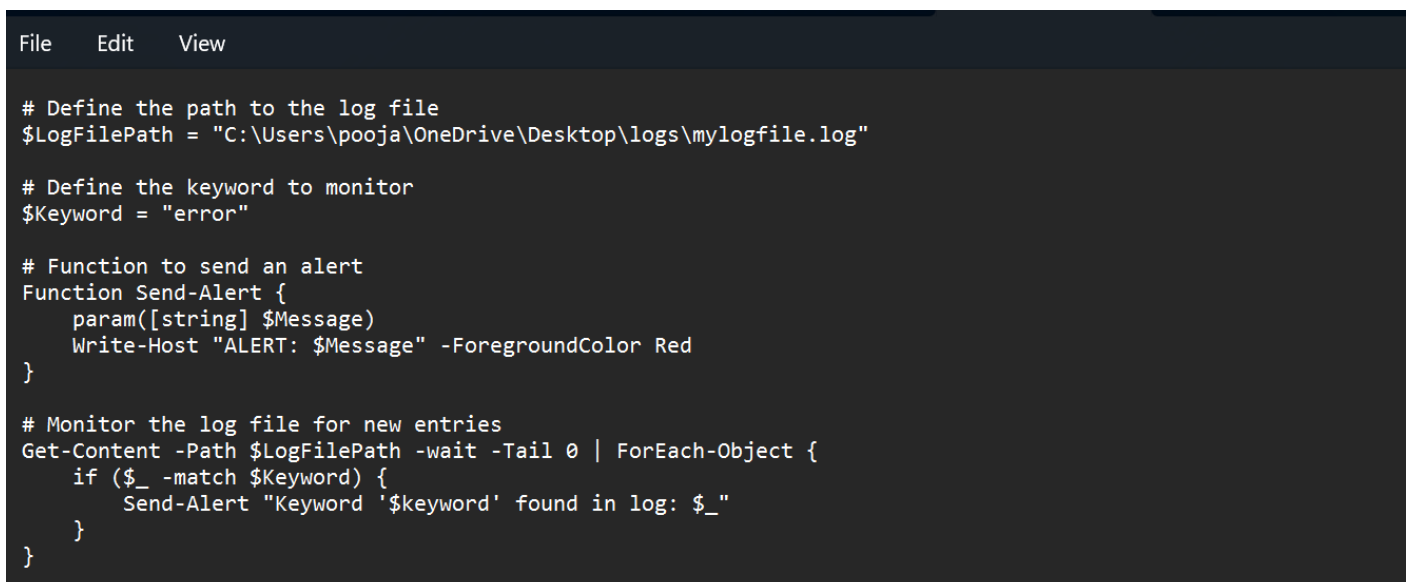
Open Notepad and Add the following sample text to it and Save the file as **mylogfile.log** inside the logs folder

A screenshot of a Notepad window with a dark theme. The title bar shows several tabs: 'note.txt', 'IMG-20240509-WA0005.txt', 'Index.bat', and 'mylogfile.log'. The 'mylogfile.log' tab is active. The menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', and 'View'. The text area contains the following content:

```
This is a sample log file
Info : System is running smoothly
error : Something went wrong!
```

Step 3:

Open Notepad and Type the following PowerShell script into it and Set the \$LogFilePath address to the mylogfile.log which you saved in logs folder. Save the file as monitor_logs.ps1 inside the same logs folder

A screenshot of a Notepad window with a dark theme. The menu bar includes 'File', 'Edit', and 'View'. The text area contains the following PowerShell script:

```
# Define the path to the log file
$LogFilePath = "C:\Users\pooja\OneDrive\Desktop\logs\mylogfile.log"

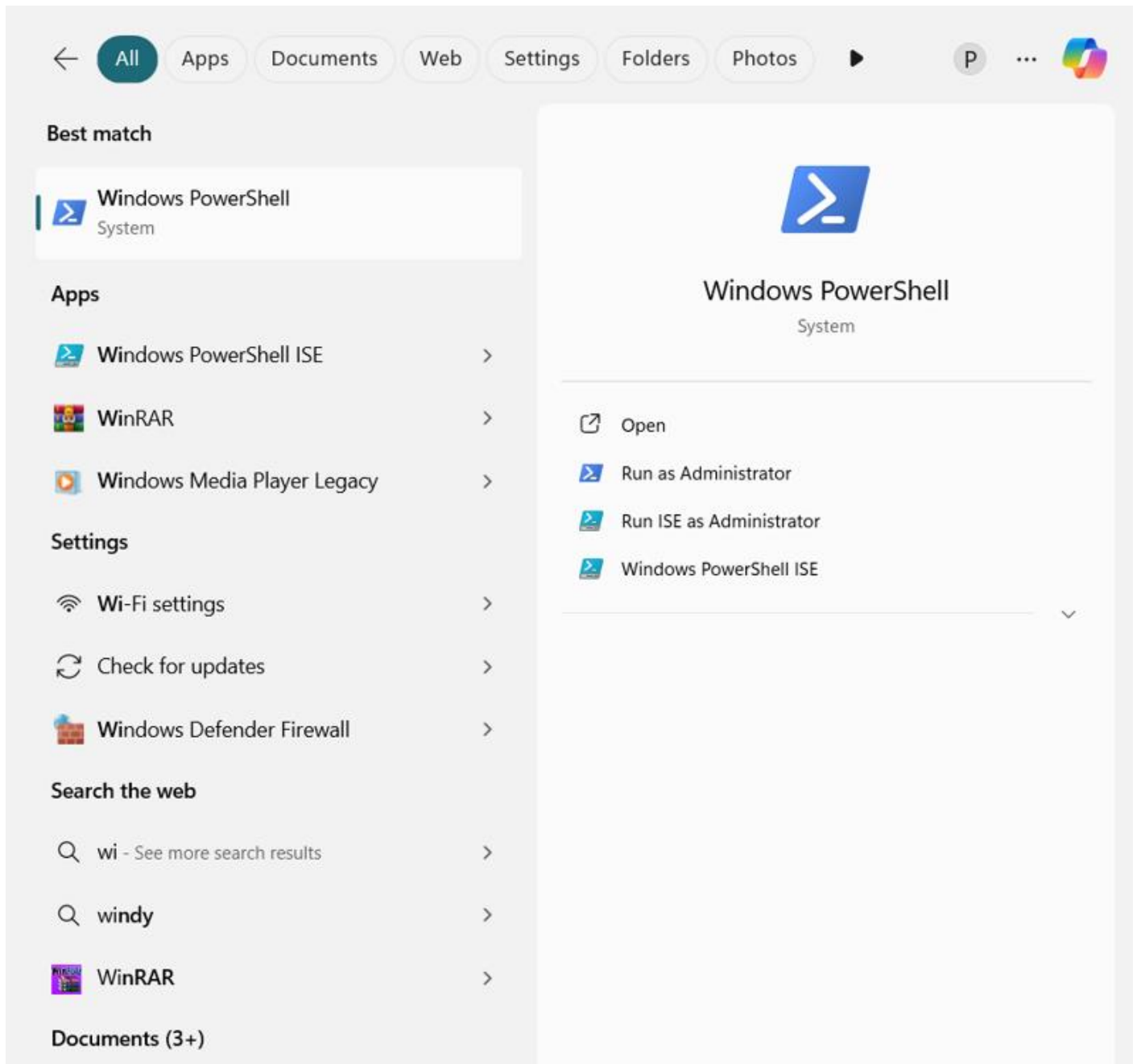
# Define the keyword to monitor
$Keyword = "error"

# Function to send an alert
Function Send-Alert {
    param([string] $Message)
    Write-Host "ALERT: $Message" -ForegroundColor Red
}

# Monitor the log file for new entries
Get-Content -Path $LogFilePath -wait -Tail 0 | ForEach-Object {
    if ($_ -match $Keyword) {
        Send-Alert "Keyword '$keyword' found in log: $_"
    }
}
```

Step 4:

Click the Windows Key and Search for Windows PowerShell and click Run as Administrator.

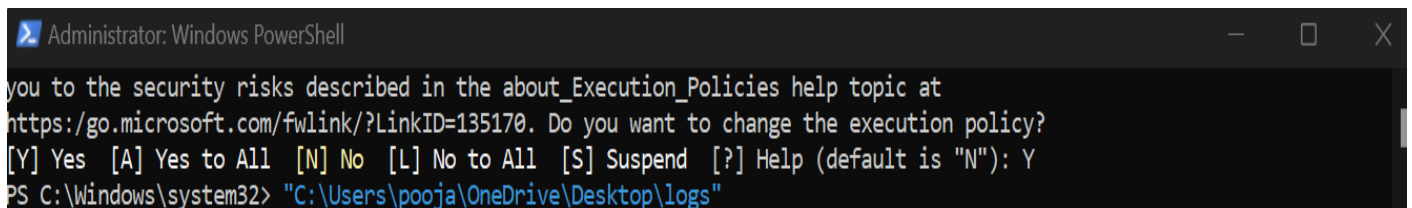


Step 5:

Run the following command to allow script execution:

Set-ExecutionPolicy -Scope CurrentUser -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned

When prompted, type Y and press Enter.



```
Administrator: Windows PowerShell
you to the security risks described in the about_Execution_Policies help topic at
https://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkID=135170. Do you want to change the execution policy?
[Y] Yes  [A] Yes to All  [N] No  [L] No to All  [S] Suspend  [?] Help (default is "N"): Y
PS C:\Windows\system32> "C:\Users\pooja\OneDrive\Desktop\logs"
```

Step 6:

Navigate to the logs folder

```
C:\Users\pooja>\OneDrive\Desktop\Desktop\logs> C:\Users\pooja\OneDrive\Desktop\logs
```

Step 7:

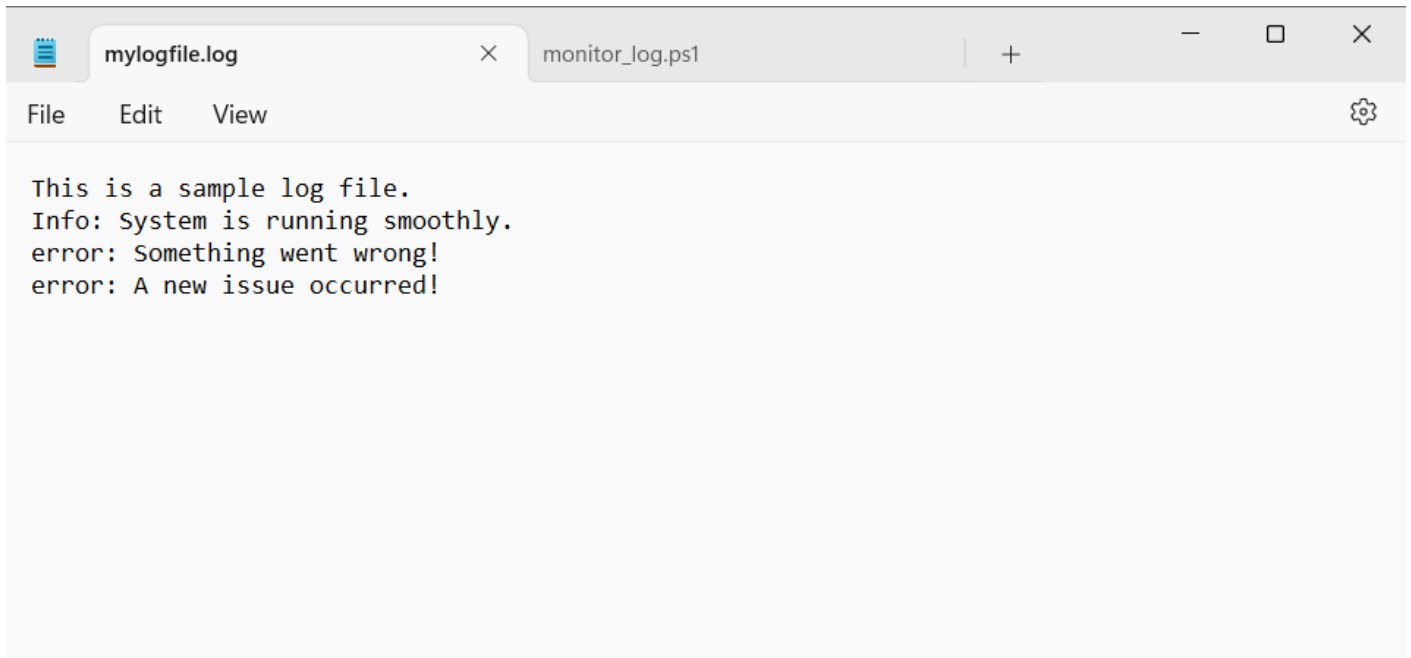
Run the script:

.\monitor_logs.ps1

```
PS C:\Users\pooja> .\monitor_logs.ps1
```

Step 8:

Open mylogfile.log in Notepad and Add a new line with the word "error" and Save the file.



Step 9:

Check PowerShell — you should see an alert like:

ALERT: Keyword 'error' found in log: error: A new issue occurred!

```
PS C:\Users\pooja\OneDrive\Desktop\logs> .\monitor_logs.ps1
ALERT: Keyword 'error' found in log: error : A new issue occurred
```

Outcome:

By completing this Proof of Concept (PoC), we will:

1. Successfully create and execute a PowerShell script to monitor log files in real time.
2. Detect and alert on predefined keywords (e.g., "error") to highlight critical events.
3. Gain hands-on experience with PowerShell scripting and automation on a Windows system.
4. Understand the importance of log monitoring in proactive system maintenance and troubleshooting.
5. Learn to customize and scale the script for more advanced monitoring scenarios in future projects.