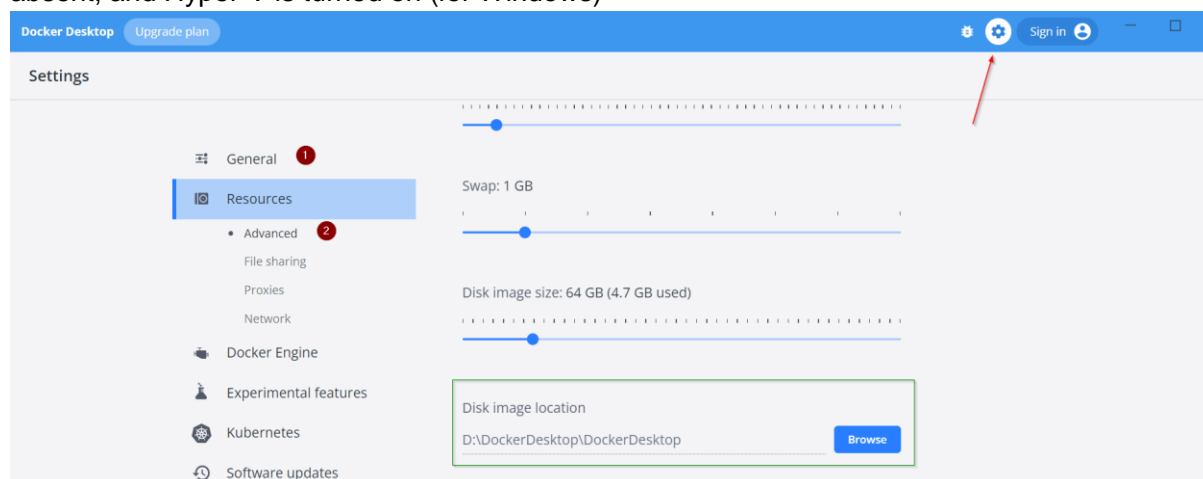


Prerequisites

Elasticsearch & Kibana should be up and running (in Docker container or as an application) on default ports (9200 and 5601 respectively). Token that was generated after the first Elastic startup or generated manually with `elasticsearch-create-enrollment-token` utility, is added to Kibana. I used this guide:

<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/kibana/current/docker.html>

NOTE! Docker images take a lot of C:\ drive disk space. Looks like it is impossible to change Docker installation drive! But it is possible to change a folder where images are saved in Advanced (2) options. Checkbox Use the WSL 2 based engine on General (1) should be absent, and Hyper-V is turned on (for Windows)



Filebeat installation and configuration

1. Install Filebeat as a service on a PC where log files are collected according to manual <https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/beats/filebeat/current/filebeat-installation-configuration.html>

In 5th step, I used a command `.\filebeat.exe run` to start Filebeat. This command has many useful features, like `test`. To see all of them, type `-help`:

```

PS C:\Program Files\Filebeat> .\filebeat.exe --help
Usage:
  filebeat [flags]
  filebeat [command]

Available Commands:
  export      Export current config or index template
  generate    Generate Filebeat modules, filesets and fields.yml
  help        Help about any command
  keystore    Manage secrets keystore
  modules     Manage configured modules
  run         Run filebeat
  setup       Setup index template, dashboards and ML jobs
  test        Test config
  version     Show current version info

Flags:
  -E, --E setting=value      Configuration overwrite
  -M, --M setting=value      Module configuration overwrite
  -N, --N                     Disable actual publishing for testing
  -c, --c string              Configuration file, relative to path.config (default "filebeat.yml")
  --cpuprofile string         Write cpu profile to file
  -d, --d string              Enable certain debug selectors
  -e, --e                     Log to stderr and disable syslog/file output
  --environment environmentVar set environment being ran in (default default)
  -h, --help                  help for filebeat
  --httpprof string           Start pprof http server
  --memprofile string          Write memory profile to this file
  --modules string            List of enabled modules (comma separated)
  --once                      Run filebeat only once until all harvesters reach EOF
  --path.config string        Configuration path
  --path.data string          Data path
  --path.home string          Home path
  --path.logs string          Logs path
  --strict.perms              Strict permission checking on config files (default true)
  -v, --v                     Log at INFO level

Use "filebeat [command] --help" for more information about a command.
PS C:\Program Files\Filebeat> .\filebeat.exe run

```

2. Prepare configuration file. Mine was like this:

```

filebeat.inputs:
- type: filestream
  id: my-filestream-id
  enabled: true
  paths:
    - D:\DEV\demostock\logs\*.log

filebeat.config.modules:
  path: ${path.config}/modules.d/*.yaml

  # Set to true to enable config reloading
  reload.enabled: false

setup.template.settings:
  index.number_of_shards: 1

setup.kibana:
  host: "localhost:5601"
  username: "elastic"
  password: "9w=8x+XZY5xS1_q0VirV"

output.elasticsearch:
  # Array of hosts to connect to.
  hosts: ["https://localhost:9200"]
  pipeline: parse_log

```

```

username: "elastic"
password: "9w=8x+XZY5xS1_q0VirV"
ssl:
  enabled: true
  ca_trusted_fingerprint:
    "b0d800b7d27de668a129b8d3b50e298947541fe61055e3d21707d72112503203"

processors:
  - add_host_metadata:
      when.not.contains.tags: forwarded
  - add_cloud_metadata: ~
  - add_docker_metadata: ~
  - add_kubernetes_metadata: ~

```

Logs parsing

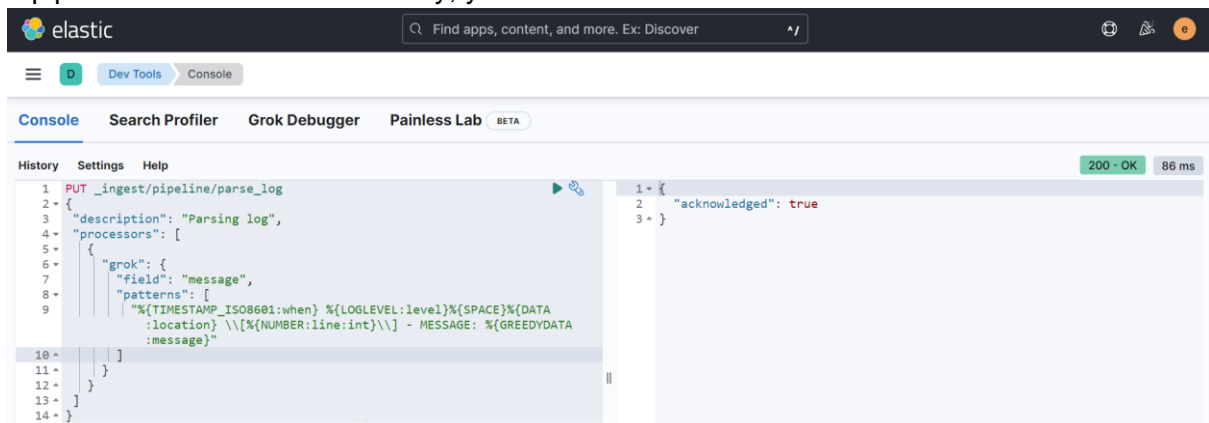
To parse log messages, I added a line `pipeline: parse_log` where `parse_log` is a pipeline that should be added in Elastic's Dev console:

```

PUT _ingest/pipeline/parse_log
{
  "description": "Parsing log",
  "processors": [
    {
      "grok": {
        "field": "message",
        "patterns": [
          "%{TIMESTAMP_ISO8601:when} %{LOGLEVEL:level} %{SPACE}%{DATA:location} \\[%{NUMBER:line:int}\\] - MESSAGE: %{GREEDYDATA:message}"
        ]
      }
    ]
  ]
}

```

If pipeline was added successfully, you should see a screen like below:



Please read more for details:

<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/8.3/grok.html>

<https://www.elastic.co/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/ingest.html#pipelines-for-beats>

Here is a pattern list that can be used for parsing:

<https://github.com/elastic/elasticsearch/blob/master/libs/grok/src/main/resources/patterns/legacy/grok-patterns>

To check the pattern works, I used a Grok Debugger:

The screenshot shows the Elastic Grok Debugger interface. At the top, there's a search bar with the text "Find apps, content, and more. Ex: Discover". Below that, there's a navigation bar with tabs: "Console", "Search Profiler", "Grok Debugger" (which is active), and "Painless Lab" (with a "BETA" badge). The "Grok Debugger" tab is selected, and it shows a "Sample Data" section with a log entry: "1 2022-07-19 18:30:10,287 INFO ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.TestLogLevels [28] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Information". Below that, there's a "Grok Pattern" section with a pattern: "1 %{TIMESTAMP_ISO8601:when} %{LOGLEVEL:level}%{SPACE}%{DATA:location} \[%{NUMBER:line:int}\] - MESSAGE: %{GREEDYDATA:message}". A "Custom Patterns" link is also visible. A "Simulate" button is present. At the bottom, there's a "Structured Data" section showing a JSON object: {"level": "INFO", "line": 28, "location": "ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.TestLogLevels", "message": "TestLogLevels - Information", "when": "2022-07-19 18:30:10,287"}.

Having these logs:

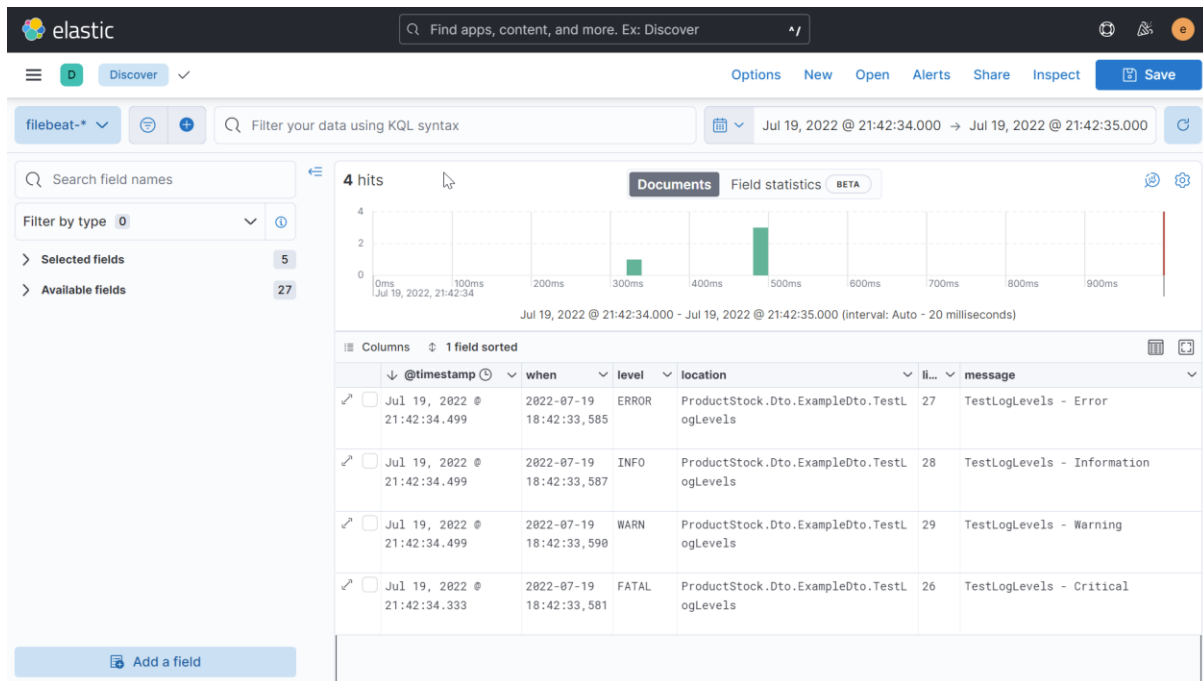
2022-07-19 18:53:46,949 FATAL ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.TestLogLevels [26] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Critical

2022-07-19 18:53:46,954 ERROR ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.TestLogLevels [27] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Error

2022-07-19 18:53:46,957 INFO ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.TestLogLevels [28] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Information

2022-07-19 18:53:46,960 WARN ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.TestLogLevels [29] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Warning

I got a nice table:



Updates to process multiline messages and stack trace

log4net.config has filters to separate different level logs. You should add a `filter` node to do so. For messages above WARN, this configuration will print 4 last lines of stack trace starting from next line:

```
<log4net>
  <root>
    <level value="INFO" />
    <appender-ref ref="UpToWarnings" />
    <appender-ref ref="ExceptionsAndAbove" />
  </root>
  <appender name="UpToWarnings" type="log4net.Appender.RollingFileAppender">
    <filter type="log4net.Filter.LevelRangeFilter">
      <levelMax value="WARN" />
      <acceptOnMatch value="true" />
    </filter>
    <appendToFile value="true" />
    <file value="D:\DEV\demostock\logs\logfile" />
    <staticLogFileName value="false" />
    <rollingStyle value="Date" />
    <datePattern value="yyyyMMdd-HH:mm:ss\g" />
    <layout type="log4net.Layout.PatternLayout">
      <conversionPattern value="[%utctdate] %-5level %logger.%method [%line] - MESSAGE: %message%newline" />
    </layout>
  </appender>
  <appender name="ExceptionsAndAbove"
type="log4net.Appender.RollingFileAppender">
    <filter type="log4net.Filter.LevelRangeFilter">
      <levelMin value="ERROR" />
```

```

        <acceptOnMatch value="true" />
    </filter>
    <appendToFile value="true" />
    <file value="D:\DEV\demostock\logs\logfile" />
    <staticLogFileName value="false" />
    <rollingStyle value="Date" />
    <datePattern value="yyyyMMdd-HH:mm.err" />
    <layout type="log4net.Layout.PatternLayout">
        <conversionPattern value="[%utcdate] %-5level %logger.%method
[%line] - MESSAGE: %message %newline CALLSTACK: %stacktrace{4}%newline" />
    </layout>
</appender>
</log4net>

```

Filebeat converts multiline message into one line. [Here are details](#)

Because errors and information logs were divided into two files, one more file path was added into configuration. The updated filebeat.yml is:

```

filebeat.inputs:
- type: filestream
  id: my-filestream-id
  enabled: true
  paths:
    - D:\DEV\demostock\logs\*.log
    - D:\DEV\demostock\logs\*.err
  parsers:
    - multiline:
        type: pattern
        pattern: '^\['
        negate: true
        match: after
filebeat.config.modules:
  # Glob pattern for configuration loading
  path: ${path.config}/modules.d/*.yaml

  # Set to true to enable config reloading
  reload.enabled: false
setup.template.settings:
  index.number_of_shards: 1
setup.kibana:
  host: "localhost:5601"
  username: "elastic"
  password: "9w=8x+XZY5xS1_q0VirV"
output.elasticsearch:
  # Array of hosts to connect to.
  hosts: ["https://localhost:9200"]
  pipeline: parse_log
  username: "elastic"
  password: "9w=8x+XZY5xS1_q0VirV"
  ssl:
    enabled: true
    ca_trusted_fingerprint:
      "b0d800b7d27de668a129b8d3b50e298947541fe61055e3d21707d72112503203"
processors:
- add_host_metadata:
    when.not.contains.tags: forwarded
- add_cloud_metadata: ~
- add_docker_metadata: ~
- add_kubernetes_metadata: ~

```

Updated pipeline is:

```
PUT _ingest/pipeline/parse_log
{
  "description": "Parsing log",
  "processors": [
    {
      "grok": {
        "field": "message",
        "patterns": [
          "\\[%{TIMESTAMP_ISO8601:when}\\] \\[%{LOGLEVEL:level}\\] \\[%{SPACE}\\] \\[%{DATA:location}\\] \\[%{NUMBER:line:int}\\] \\[" -
          MESSAGE: (?<message>.+(?=(\\r\\n|$)) (\\[%{SPACE}\\]CALLSTACK:)?%{GREEDYDATA:stacktrace}"
        ]
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

[Please read more about custom patterns here](#)

Highlighted with a blue color expression should be interpreted as: put into `<message>` everything before line break `\\r\\n` or before end of the line `$`. Then optionally (everything inside `()?` is optional) find whitespaces and `CALLSTACK:` Put all the rest in `stacktrace`.

Having such .log and .err files:

```
[2022-07-20 19:18:17,936] INFO ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.MoveNext [0] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Information
```

```
[2022-07-20 19:18:17,940] WARN ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.MoveNext [0] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Warning
```

```
[2022-07-20 19:18:17,928] ERROR ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.MoveNext [29] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Error
```

CALLSTACK:

```
System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.MoveNext >
System.Threading.ExecutionContext.RunInternal >
System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.ExecutionContextCall
back > ProductStock.Api.Controllers.ExampleController+<TestLogLevels>d__3.MoveNext
[2022-07-20 19:18:17,933] FATAL ProductStock.Dto.ExampleDto.MoveNext [0] - MESSAGE: TestLogLevels - Critical
```

CALLSTACK:

```
System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.MoveNext >
System.Threading.ExecutionContext.RunInternal >
System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.ExecutionContextCall
back > ProductStock.Api.Controllers.ExampleController+<TestLogLevels>d__3.MoveNext
```

Kibana parses like below (columns `line`, `when` and so on still exists, just are not shown in the table):

Columns 1 field sorted				
	@timestamp	level	message	stacktrace
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jul 20, 2022 @ 22:18:22.711	WARN	TestLogLevels - Warning	(empty)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jul 20, 2022 @ 22:18:22.711	FATAL	TestLogLevels - Critical	System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.MoveNext > System.Threading.ExecutionContext.RunInternal > System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.ExecutionContextCallba...
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jul 20, 2022 @ 22:18:22.711	ERROR	TestLogLevels - Error	System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.MoveNext > System.Threading.ExecutionContext.RunInternal > System.Runtime.CompilerServices.AsyncTaskMethodBuilder`1+AsyncStateMachineBox`1.ExecutionContextCallba...
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jul 20, 2022 @ 22:18:22.711	INFO	TestLogLevels - Information	(empty)

