Performance overview and validation in AWS - Cloud Volume ONTAP

NetApp Solutions

NetApp
October 20, 2023

Table of Contents

Performance overview and validation in AWS

Previous: Why NetApp NFS for Kafka workloads?.

A Kafka cluster with the storage layer mounted on NetApp NFS was benchmarked for performance in the AWS cloud. The benchmarking examples are described in the following sections.

Kafka in AWS cloud with NetApp Cloud Volumes ONTAP (high-availability pair and single node)

A Kafka cluster with NetApp Cloud Volumes ONTAP (HA pair) was benchmarked for performance in the AWS cloud. This benchmarking is described in the following sections.

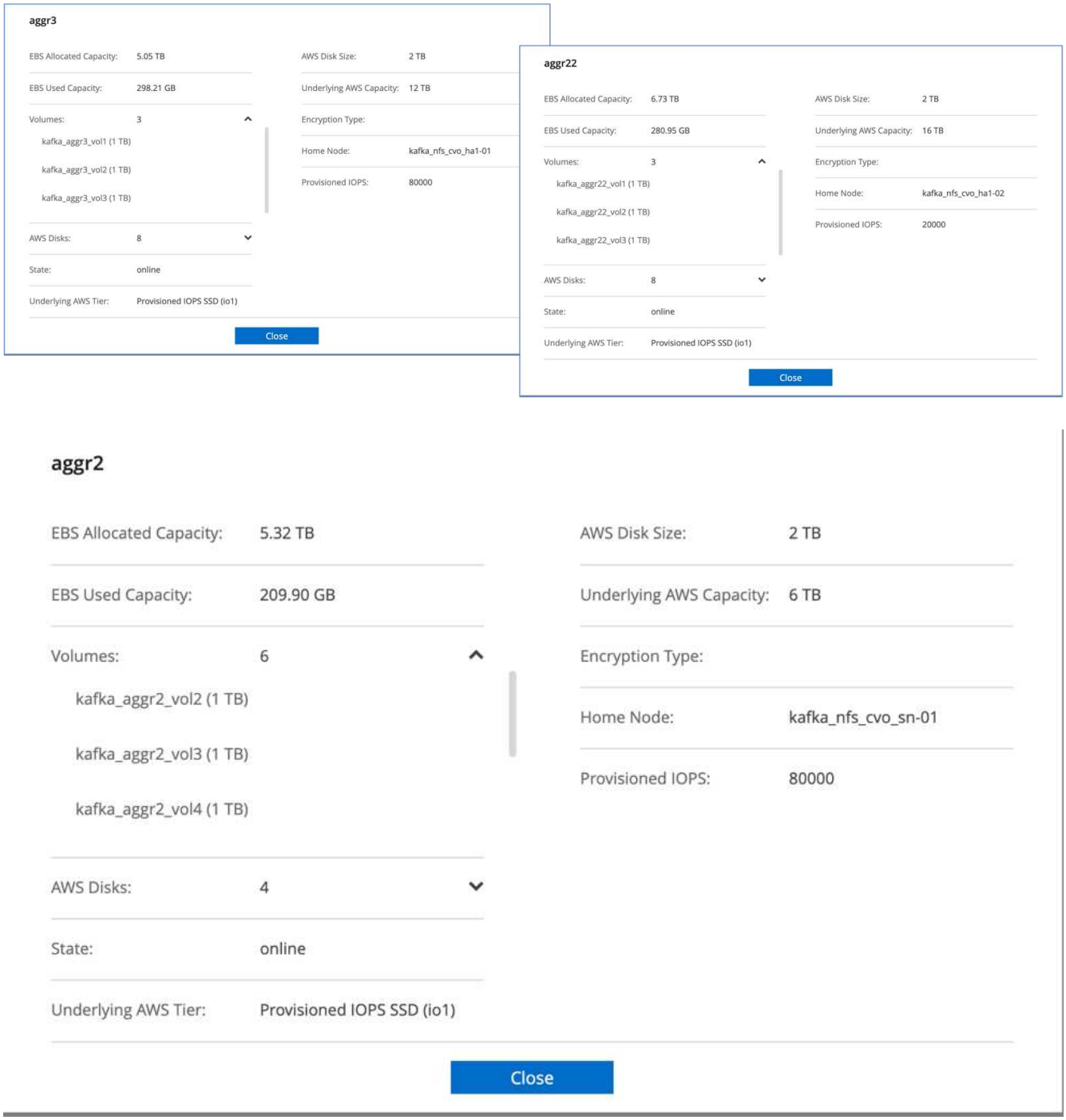
Architectural setup

The following table shows the environmental configuration for a Kafka cluster using NAS.

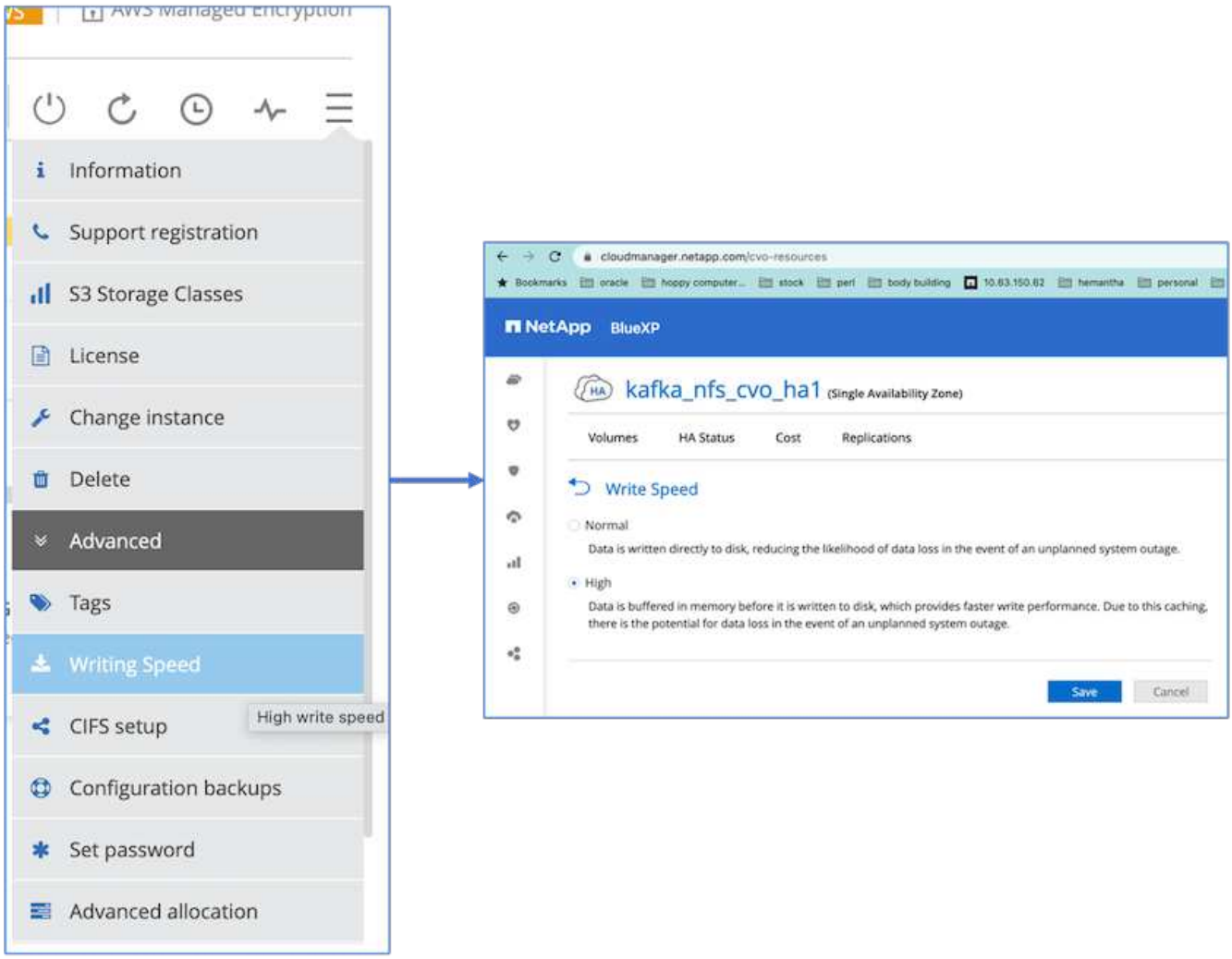
Platform component	Environment configuration
Kafka 3.2.3	• 3 x zookeepers – t2.small • 3 x broker servers – i3en.2xlarge • 1 x Grafana – c5n.2xlarge • 4 x producer/consumer — c5n.2xlarge *
Operating system on all nodes	RHEL8.6
NetApp Cloud Volumes ONTAP instance	HA pair instance – m5dn.12xLarge x 2node Single Node Instance - m5dn.12xLarge x 1 node

NetApp cluster volume ONTAP setup

1. For the Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pair, we created two aggregates with three volumes on each aggregate on each storage controller. For the single Cloud Volumes ONTAP node, we create six volumes in an aggregate.

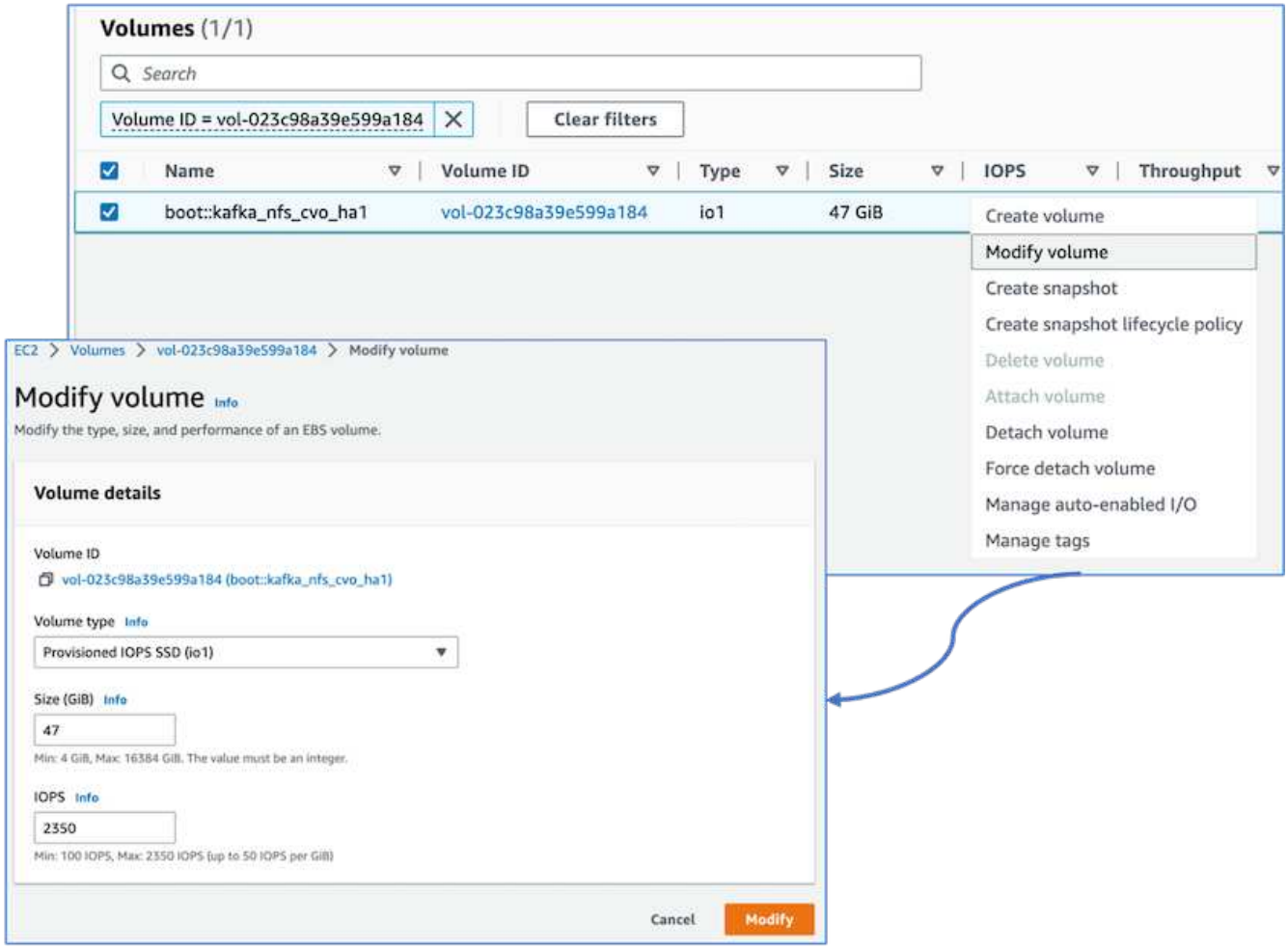


2. To achieve better network performance, we enabled high speed networking for both the HA pair and the single node.



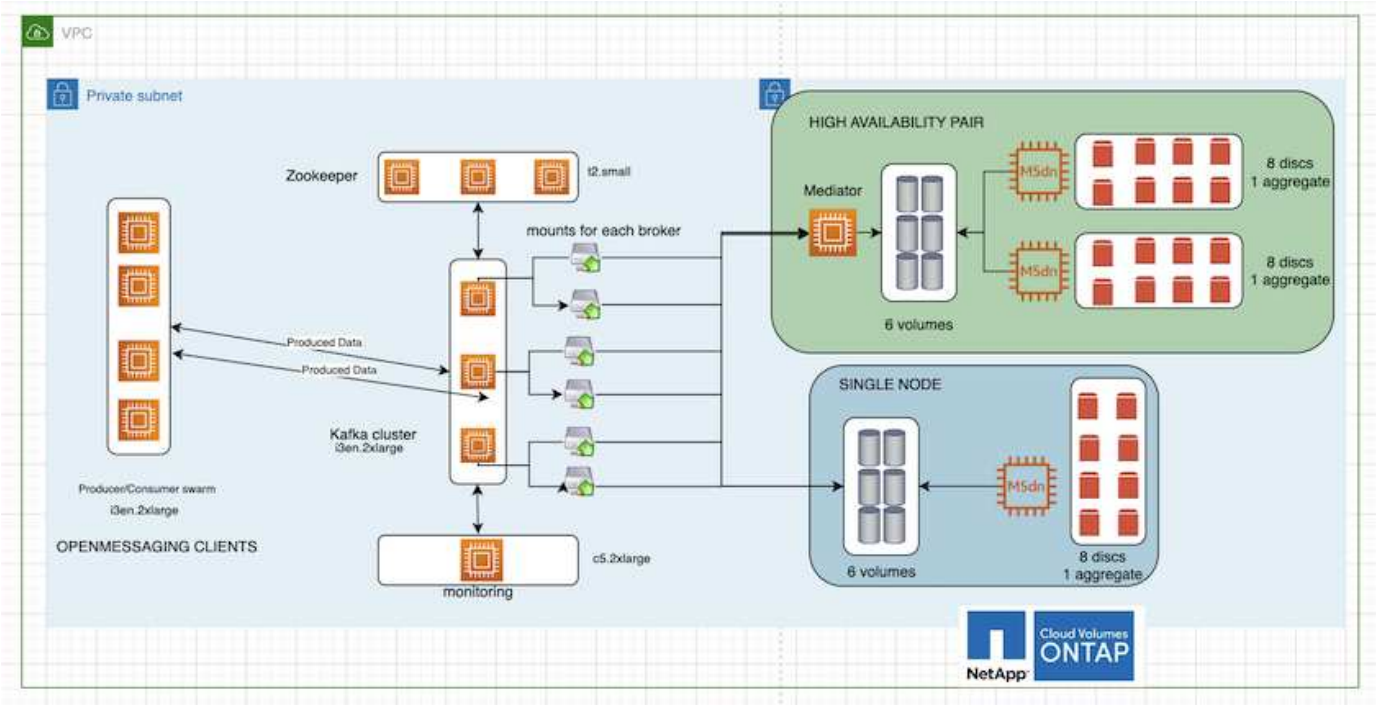
3. We noticed that the ONTAP NVRAM had more IOPS so we changed the IOPS to 2350 for the Cloud Volumes ONTAP root volume. The root volume disk in Cloud Volumes ONTAP was 47GB in size. The following ONTAP command is for the HA pair, and the same step is applicable for the single node.

```
statistics start -object vnvram -instance vnvram -counter
backing_store_iops -sample-id sample_555
kafka_nfs_cvo_ha1::*> statistics show -sample-id sample_555
Object: vnvram
Instance: vnvram
Start-time: 1/18/2023 18:03:11
End-time: 1/18/2023 18:03:13
Elapsed-time: 2s
Scope: kafka_nfs_cvo_ha1-01
    Counter                                                     Value
    -------------------------------- --------------------------------
    backing_store_iops                                           1479
Object: vnvram
Instance: vnvram
Start-time: 1/18/2023 18:03:11
End-time: 1/18/2023 18:03:13
Elapsed-time: 2s
Scope: kafka_nfs_cvo_ha1-02
    Counter                                                     Value
    -------------------------------- --------------------------------
    backing_store_iops                                           1210
2 entries were displayed.
kafka_nfs_cvo_ha1::*>
```



The following figure depicts the architecture of an NAS-based Kafka cluster.

- **Compute.** We used a three-node Kafka cluster with a three-node zookeeper ensemble running on dedicated servers. Each broker had two NFS mount points to a single volume on the Cloud Volumes ONTAP instance through a dedicated LIF.
- **Monitoring.** We used two nodes for a Prometheus-Grafana combination. For generating workloads, we used a separate three-node cluster that could produce and consume to this Kafka cluster.
- **Storage.** We used an HA-pair Cloud volumes ONTAP instance with one 6TB GP3 AWS-EBS volume mounted on the instance. The volume was then exported to the Kafka broker with an NFS mount.



OpenMessage Benchmarking configurations

1. For better NFS performance, we need more network connections between the NFS server and the NFS client, which can be created using nconnect. Mount the NFS volumes on the broker nodes with the nconnect option by running the following command:

```
[root@ip-172-30-0-121 ~]# cat /etc/fstab
UUID=eaa1f38e-de0f-4ed5-a5b5-2fa9db43bb38/xfsdefaults00
/dev/nvme1n1 /mnt/data-1 xfs defaults,noatime,nodiscard 0 0
/dev/nvme2n1 /mnt/data-2 xfs defaults,noatime,nodiscard 0 0
172.30.0.233:/kafka_aggr3_vol1 /kafka_aggr3_vol1 nfs
defaults,nconnect=16 0 0
172.30.0.233:/kafka_aggr3_vol2 /kafka_aggr3_vol2 nfs
defaults,nconnect=16 0 0
172.30.0.233:/kafka_aggr3_vol3 /kafka_aggr3_vol3 nfs
defaults,nconnect=16 0 0
172.30.0.242:/kafka_aggr22_vol1 /kafka_aggr22_vol1 nfs
defaults,nconnect=16 0 0
172.30.0.242:/kafka_aggr22_vol2 /kafka_aggr22_vol2 nfs
defaults,nconnect=16 0 0
172.30.0.242:/kafka_aggr22_vol3 /kafka_aggr22_vol3 nfs
defaults,nconnect=16 0 0
[root@ip-172-30-0-121 ~]# mount -a
[root@ip-172-30-0-121 ~]# df -h
Filesystem                         Size  Used Avail Use% Mounted on
devtmpfs                            31G     0   31G   0% /dev
tmpfs                               31G  249M   31G   1% /run
tmpfs                               31G     0   31G   0% /sys/fs/cgroup
/dev/nvme0n1p2                      10G  2.8G  7.2G  28% /
/dev/nvme1n1                       2.3T  248G  2.1T  11% /mnt/data-1
/dev/nvme2n1                       2.3T  245G  2.1T  11% /mnt/data-2
172.30.0.233:/kafka_aggr3_vol1     1.0T   12G 1013G   2% /kafka_aggr3_vol1
172.30.0.233:/kafka_aggr3_vol2     1.0T  5.5G 1019G   1% /kafka_aggr3_vol2
172.30.0.233:/kafka_aggr3_vol3     1.0T  8.9G 1016G   1% /kafka_aggr3_vol3
172.30.0.242:/kafka_aggr22_vol1    1.0T  7.3G 1017G   1%
/kafka_aggr22_vol1
172.30.0.242:/kafka_aggr22_vol2    1.0T  6.9G 1018G   1%
/kafka_aggr22_vol2
172.30.0.242:/kafka_aggr22_vol3    1.0T  5.9G 1019G   1%
/kafka_aggr22_vol3
tmpfs                              6.2G     0  6.2G   0% /run/user/1000
[root@ip-172-30-0-121 ~]#
```

2. Check the network connections in Cloud Volumes ONTAP. The following ONTAP command is used from the single Cloud Volumes ONTAP node. The same step is applicable to the Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pair.

```
Last login time: 1/20/2023 00:16:29
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn::> network connections active show -service nfs*
-fields remote-host
node               cid        vserver              remote-host
```

```
------------------ ---------- ------------------- ------------
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762628 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762629 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762630 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762631 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762632 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762633 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762634 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762635 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762636 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762637 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762639 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762640 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762641 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762642 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762643 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762644 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762645 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762646 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762647 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762648 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762649 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762650 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762651 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762652 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762653 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762656 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762657 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762658 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762659 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762660 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762661 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762662 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762663 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762664 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762665 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762666 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762667 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762668 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762669 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762670 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762671 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762672 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.72
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762673 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762674 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762676 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.121
```

```
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762677 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762678 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
kafka_nfs_cvo_sn-01 2315762679 svm_kafka_nfs_cvo_sn 172.30.0.223
48 entries were displayed.

kafka_nfs_cvo_sn::>
```

3. We use the following Kafka `server.properties` in all Kafka brokers for the Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pair. The `log.dirs` property is different for each broker, and the remaining properties are common for brokers. For broker1, the `log.dirs` value is as follows:

```
[root@ip-172-30-0-121 ~]# cat /opt/kafka/config/server.properties
broker.id=0
advertised.listeners=PLAINTEXT://172.30.0.121:9092
#log.dirs=/mnt/data-1/d1,/mnt/data-1/d2,/mnt/data-1/d3,/mnt/data-
2/d1,/mnt/data-2/d2,/mnt/data-2/d3
log.dirs=/kafka_aggr3_vol1/broker1,/kafka_aggr3_vol2/broker1,/kafka_aggr
3_vol3/broker1,/kafka_aggr22_vol1/broker1,/kafka_aggr22_vol2/broker1,/ka
fka_aggr22_vol3/broker1
zookeeper.connect=172.30.0.12:2181,172.30.0.30:2181,172.30.0.178:2181
num.network.threads=64
num.io.threads=64
socket.send.buffer.bytes=102400
socket.receive.buffer.bytes=102400
socket.request.max.bytes=104857600
num.partitions=1
num.recovery.threads.per.data.dir=1
offsets.topic.replication.factor=1
transaction.state.log.replication.factor=1
transaction.state.log.min.isr=1
replica.fetch.max.bytes=524288000
background.threads=20
num.replica.alter.log.dirs.threads=40
num.replica.fetchers=20
[root@ip-172-30-0-121 ~]#
```

   - For broker2, the `log.dirs` property value is as follows:

```
log.dirs=/kafka_aggr3_vol1/broker2,/kafka_aggr3_vol2/broker2,/kafka_a
ggr3_vol3/broker2,/kafka_aggr22_vol1/broker2,/kafka_aggr22_vol2/broke
r2,/kafka_aggr22_vol3/broker2
```

   - For broker3, the `log.dirs` property value is as follows:

```
log.dirs=/kafka_aggr3_vol1/broker3,/kafka_aggr3_vol2/broker3,/kafka_a
ggr3_vol3/broker3,/kafka_aggr22_vol1/broker3,/kafka_aggr22_vol2/broke
r3,/kafka_aggr22_vol3/broker3
```

4. For the single Cloud Volumes ONTAP node, The Kafka `servers.properties` is the same as for the Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pair except for the `log.dirs` property.
   - For broker1, the `log.dirs` value is as follows:

```
log.dirs=/kafka_aggr2_vol1/broker1,/kafka_aggr2_vol2/broker1,/kafka_a
ggr2_vol3/broker1,/kafka_aggr2_vol4/broker1,/kafka_aggr2_vol5/broker1
,/kafka_aggr2_vol6/broker1
```

   - For broker2, the `log.dirs` value is as follows:

```
log.dirs=/kafka_aggr2_vol1/broker2,/kafka_aggr2_vol2/broker2,/kafka_a
ggr2_vol3/broker2,/kafka_aggr2_vol4/broker2,/kafka_aggr2_vol5/broker2
,/kafka_aggr2_vol6/broker2
```

   - For broker3, the `log.dirs` property value is as follows:

```
log.dirs=/kafka_aggr2_vol1/broker3,/kafka_aggr2_vol2/broker3,/kafka_a
ggr2_vol3/broker3,/kafka_aggr2_vol4/broker3,/kafka_aggr2_vol5/broker3
,/kafka_aggr2_vol6/broker3
```

5. The workload in the OMB is configured with the following properties: `(/opt/benchmark/workloads/1-topic-100-partitions-1kb.yaml)`.

```
topics: 4
partitionsPerTopic: 100
messageSize: 32768
useRandomizedPayloads: true
randomBytesRatio: 0.5
randomizedPayloadPoolSize: 100
subscriptionsPerTopic: 1
consumerPerSubscription: 80
producersPerTopic: 40
producerRate: 1000000
consumerBacklogSizeGB: 0
testDurationMinutes: 5
```

   The `messageSize` can vary for each use case. In our performance test, we used 3K.

We used two different drivers, Sync or Throughput, from OMB to generate the workload on the Kafka cluster.

- The yaml file used for Sync driver properties is as follows `(/opt/benchmark/driver-kafka/kafka-sync.yaml)`:

```
name: Kafka
driverClass:
io.openmessaging.benchmark.driver.kafka.KafkaBenchmarkDriver
# Kafka client-specific configuration
replicationFactor: 3
topicConfig: |
  min.insync.replicas=2
  flush.messages=1
  flush.ms=0
commonConfig: |

bootstrap.servers=172.30.0.121:9092,172.30.0.72:9092,172.30.0.223:909
2
producerConfig: |
  acks=all
  linger.ms=1
  batch.size=1048576
consumerConfig: |
  auto.offset.reset=earliest
  enable.auto.commit=false
  max.partition.fetch.bytes=10485760
```

- The yaml file used for the Throughput driver properties is as follows `(/opt/benchmark/driver-kafka/kafka-throughput.yaml)`:

```
name: Kafka
driverClass:
io.openmessaging.benchmark.driver.kafka.KafkaBenchmarkDriver
# Kafka client-specific configuration
replicationFactor: 3
topicConfig: |
  min.insync.replicas=2
commonConfig: |

bootstrap.servers=172.30.0.121:9092,172.30.0.72:9092,172.30.0.223:909
2
  default.api.timeout.ms=1200000
  request.timeout.ms=1200000
producerConfig: |
  acks=all
  linger.ms=1
  batch.size=1048576
consumerConfig: |
  auto.offset.reset=earliest
  enable.auto.commit=false
  max.partition.fetch.bytes=10485760
```

Methodology of testing

1. A Kafka cluster was provisioned as per the specification described above using Terraform and Ansible. Terraform is used to build the infrastructure using AWS instances for the Kafka cluster and Ansible builds the Kafka cluster on them.
2. An OMB workload was triggered with the workload configuration described above and the Sync driver.

```
Sudo bin/benchmark –drivers driver-kafka/kafka- sync.yaml workloads/1-
topic-100-partitions-1kb.yaml
```

3. Another workload was triggered with the Throughput driver with same workload configuration.

```
sudo bin/benchmark –drivers driver-kafka/kafka-throughput.yaml
workloads/1-topic-100-partitions-1kb.yaml
```

Observation

Two different types of drivers were used to generate workloads to benchmark the performance of a Kafka instance running on NFS. The difference between the drivers is the log flush property.

For a Cloud Volumes ONTAP HA pair:

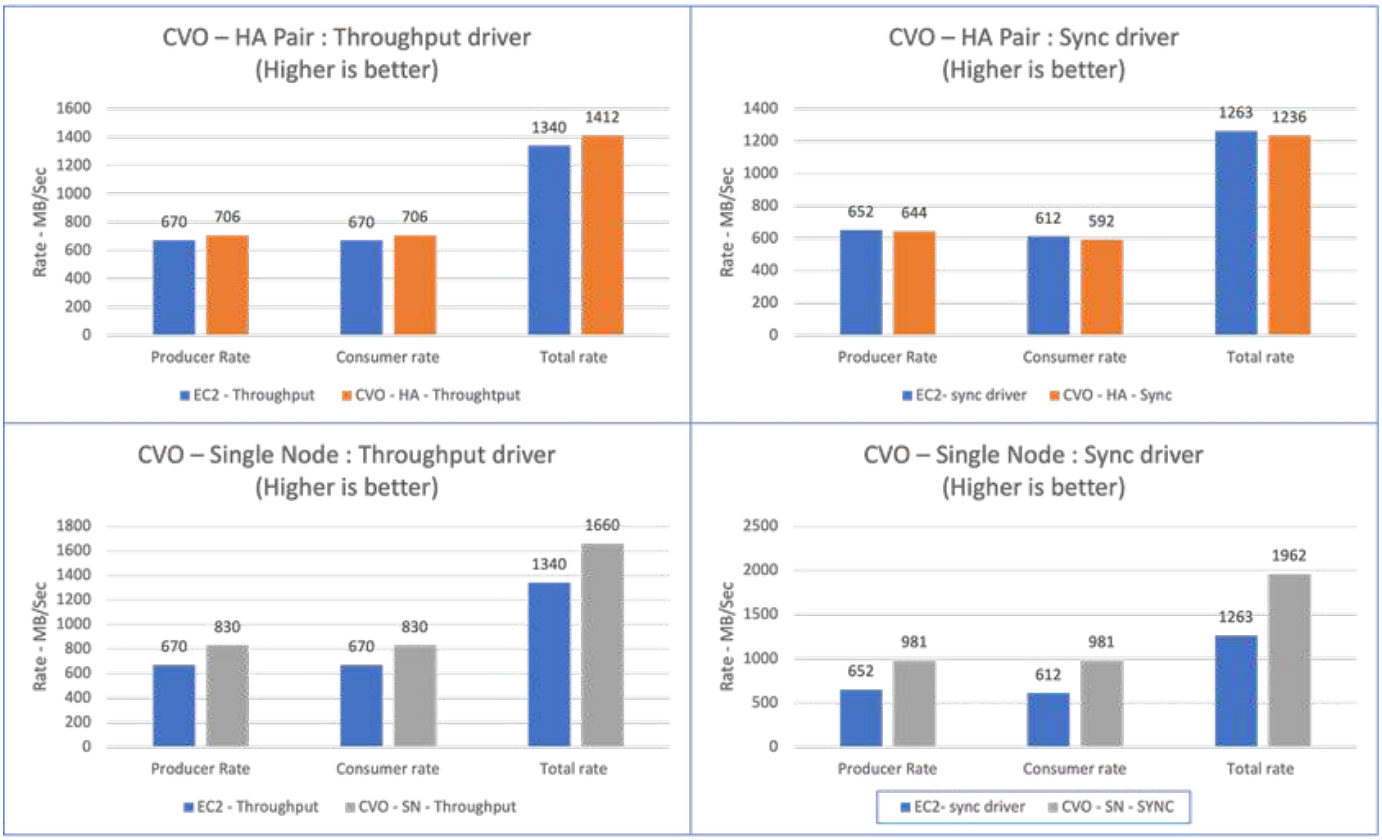
- Total throughput generated consistently by the Sync driver: ~1236 MBps.
- Total throughput generated for the Throughput driver: peak ~1412 MBps.

For a single Cloud Volumes ONTAP node:

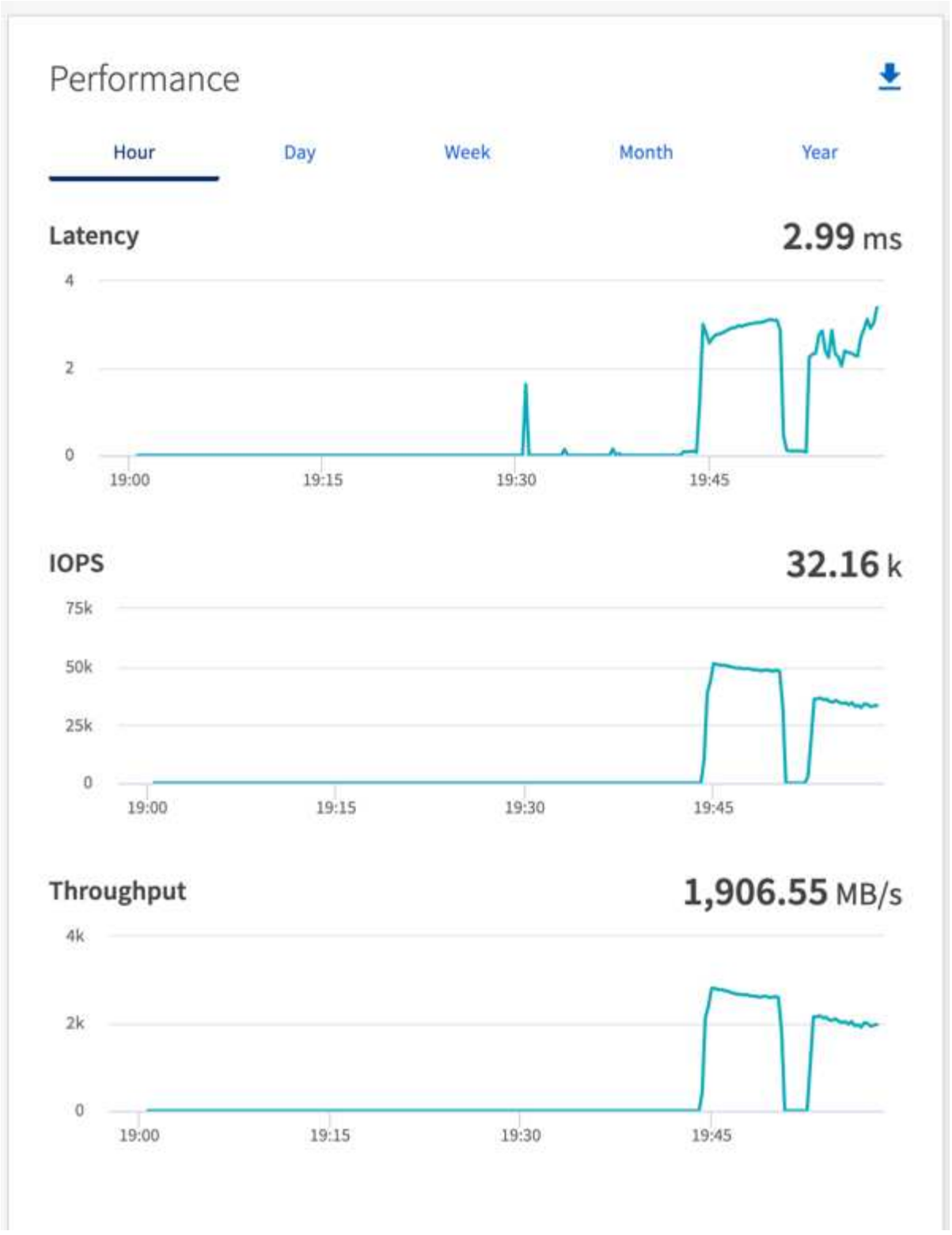
- Total throughput generated consistently by the Sync driver: ~ 1962MBps.
- Total throughput generated by the Throughput driver: peak ~1660MBps

The Sync driver can generate consistent throughput as logs are flushed to the disk instantly, whereas the Throughput driver generates bursts of throughput as logs are committed to disk in bulk.

These throughput numbers are generated for the given AWS configuration. For higher performance requirements, the instance types can be scaled up and tuned further for better throughput numbers. The total throughput or total rate is the combination of both producer and consumer rate.



Be sure to check the storage throughput when performing throughput or sync driver benchmarking.



Next: Performance overview and validation in AWS FSxN NetApp ONTAP.

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