



Storing & Analyzing the Internet

Orchestrastructure, July 25, 2018

bit.ly/orchestrastructure-censys-2018-07-25



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About Censys

- Discover the devices, networks, and infrastructure on the Internet and monitor how they change over time
- Created by the University of Michigan research team behind [ZMap](#)
 - Open source Internet-wide scanning and measurement tools

A Search Engine Backed by Internet-Wide Scanning

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ABSTRACT

Fast Internet-wide scanning has opened new avenues for

would need to develop a high-performance application scanner to make HTTPS connections to hosts listening on port 443 and find vulnerable hosts to the best of their ability.

About Censys

The image displays three overlapping browser windows showing the Censys.io interface. The central window is the primary focus, showing the details for the IP address 141.213.10.231 (benson.eecs.umich.edu). The left window shows the IPv4 Hosts list, and the right window shows the Browser Trust section.

Central Window: 141.213.10.231 (benson.eecs.umich.edu)

- Summary** | **WHOIS** | **Raw Data**
- Basic Information**
 - OS: Ubuntu 9.10
 - Network: UMICH-AS-5 - University of Michigan (US)
 - Routing: 141.213.0.0/16 via AS36375
 - Protocols: 80/HTTP, 445/SMB, 110/POP3, 995/POP3S, 25/SMTP, 993/IMAPS, 143/IMAP, 22/SSH
- 80/HTTP**
 - GET /
 - Server: Apache httpd 2.2.12
 - Status Line: 200 OK
 - GET / [view page]
- 445/SMB**
 - SMBv1
 - Support: True
- 22/SSH**
 - SSHv2 Handshake
 - Server: OpenSSH 5.1p1
- Geographic Location**
 - City: Ann Arbor
 - State: Michigan
 - Country: United States (US)
 - Lat/Long: 42.2923, -83.7145
 - Timezone: America/Detroit
- Browser Trust**
 - Apple: Browser Trusted
 - Microsoft: Browser Trusted
 - Mozilla NSS: Browser Trusted
- Key Usage and Constraints**
 - Key Usage: Digital Signature, Key Encipherment
 - Ext. Key Usage: Client Auth, Server Auth
- Certificate Transparency**
 - Argon 2018: 2018-06-16 16:33 229,058,952
 - G Icarus: 2018-06-16 16:33 284,377,598
 - Nimbus 2018: 2018-06-16 16:33 171,240,476
- Censys Metadata**
 - Added At: 2018-06-16 16:35:36

Left Window: IPv4 Hosts

- Quick Filters: For all fields, see Data Definitions
- Autonomous System:
 - 332 UMICH-AS-5 - University of Michigan, US
 - 130 COMCAST-7922 - Comcast Cable Communications, LLC, US
 - 51 AMAZON-AES - Amazon.com, Inc., US
 - 45 BAYAREA-AS-vXchng - Operating, LLC, US
 - 29 AMAZON-02 - Amazon.com, Inc., US
- Protocol:
 - 872 80/http
 - 567 443/https
 - 328 22/ssh
 - 172 53/dns
 - 113 47808/bacnet
- Tag:
 - 873 http
 - 567 https
 - 328 ssh
 - 172 dns
 - 113 bacnet

Right Window: Browser Trust

- Apple: Browser Trusted
- Microsoft: Browser Trusted
- Mozilla NSS: Browser Trusted

censys.io/about

We're Hiring!

censys.io/careers

Censys Pipeline

Internet-wide Scanning

IPv4, popular websites,
CT Logs

Emit facts about the
public Internet

```
{  
  "ip": "...",  
  protocols: {  
    "mysql": {  
      "server_version": "...",  
      "compatibility_flags": "..."  
    },  
    ...  
  }  
}
```



Data Pipeline

Stream processing of
scan data

Raw data stored in
custom database

Warehoused in Google
BigQuery

Stream processing emits
deltas to apps & services



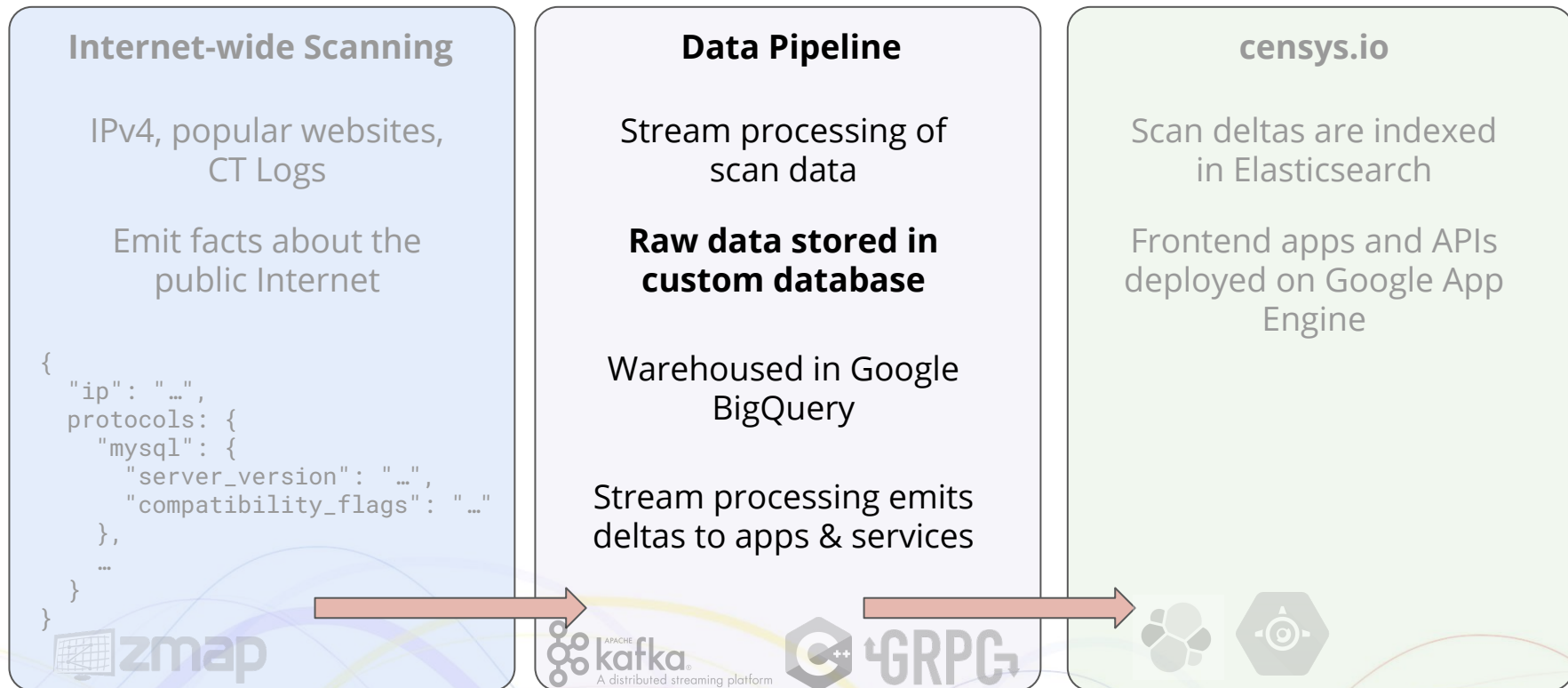
censys.io

Scan deltas are indexed
in Elasticsearch

Frontend apps and APIs
deployed on Google App
Engine



Censys Pipeline



Old Data Pipeline Problems

- *“Home-rolled”* or *“bespoke”* is not how we want to describe our database
 - a. RAID is not a backup strategy
- Code became unmanageable to change
 - a. Stream & batch processing was an amalgamation of C++ & Python
- Built to run on hardware with fast persistent storage
 - a. No autoscaling based on scan data backlog or new enrichment services

But it was fast...

Moving our data pipeline to the cloud

Data Pipeline

Streaming processing of
scan data

**Raw data stored in
Google Bigtable**

Warehoused in Google
BigQuery

Stream processing emits
deltas to apps & services

Bigtable + Dataflow + Kubernetes +
gRPC + Airflow
=
♥-ish



Why Bigtable?

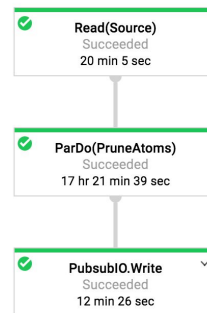


- Distributed hash-table
 - Row-level atomicity
 - Read-modify-write
- Fast, scales linearly
 - Fast lookup and scan
 - ~10K QPS / node (advertised)
- Column version history
 - Consistent snapshots
- Authoritative source-of-truth
 - Use to populate downstream services (e.g. BigQuery, Elasticsearch)



Why Google Dataflow?

- Google Cloud's stream & batch data processing
- Built with the [Apache Beam SDK](#)
 - Single abstraction for stream and batch processing
 - Out-of-the-box integration with our target data stores
 - Throughput-based autoscaling for streaming jobs



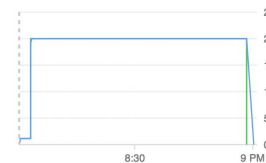
Job summary

Job name	prune-domain-ba0fcb76
Job ID	2018-07-24_17_00_23-17114679677087136677
Region	us-central1
Job status	✓ Succeeded
SDK version	Google Cloud Dataflow SDK for Java 2.3.0
Job type	Batch
Start time	Jul 24, 2018, 8:00:23 PM
Elapsed time	1 hr 0 min

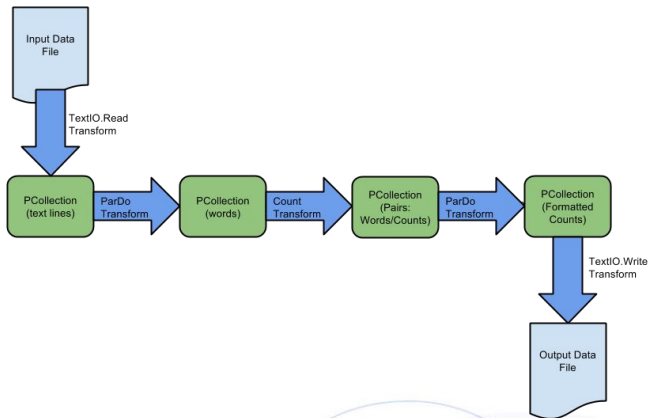
Autoscaling

Workers	0
Current state	Worker pool stopped.

Jul 24, 2018 8:00 PM



Example Apache Beam Word Count



```
public class MinimalWordCount {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        PipelineOptions options = PipelineOptionsFactory.fromArgs(args);
        Pipeline p = Pipeline.create(options);

        p
            .apply(TextIO.read().from("gs://apache-beam-samples/shakespeare/*"))

            .apply(
                FlatMapElements.into(TypeDescriptors.strings())
                    .via((String word) → Arrays.asList(word.split("[^\\p{L}]+")))
            )

            .apply(Filter.by((String word) → !word.isEmpty()))

            .apply(Count.perElement())

            .apply(
                MapElements.into(TypeDescriptors.strings())
                    .via(
                        (KV<String, Long> wordCount) →
                            wordCount.getKey() + ": " + wordCount.getValue()
                    )
            )

            .apply(TextIO.write().to("wordcounts"));

        p.run();
    }
}
```



Why Google Kubernetes Engine?

- Pipeline includes various enrichment services
 - Routing info and geolocation lookups of hosts
 - Schema validation and Elasticsearch bulk indexing
 - Fancy attribution analysis
- Services don't necessarily live in Java Dataflow land
- Unify services' communication via gRPC APIs
- GKE makes it almost too easy to run a cluster of our services :-)



Why Apache Airflow?

- Scheduler of batch processing
- Workloads expressed via Python DSL
- Good toolchain to build “deterministic” scheduled tasks
- Easily deployable via [Google Cloud Composer](#)

Putting it all together

Censys Cloud Pipeline

Internet-wide Scanning

IPv4, popular websites,
CT Logs

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    "mysql": {  
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    },  
    ...  
  }  
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```



Data Pipeline

Google Dataflow stream
& batch processing

Raw data stored in
Google Bigtable

Warehoused in Google
BigQuery

Stream processing emits
deltas to apps & services



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What We've Learned

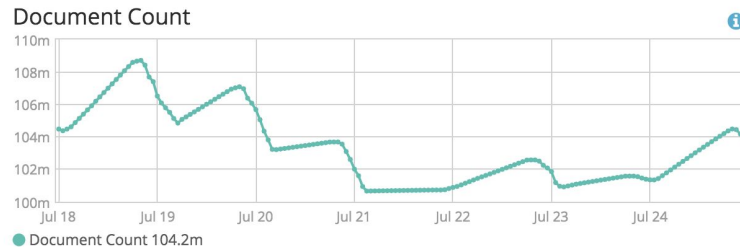
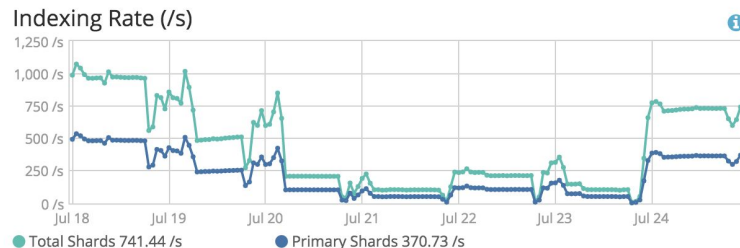
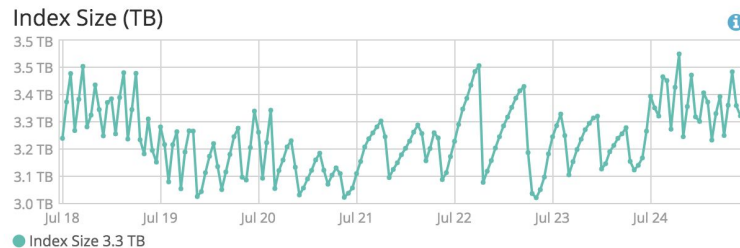
- Hard to autoscale when talking to network services
 - CPU usage is likely low
 - Dataflow may fuse steps, need to inject max parallelism manually with GroupBy
- The state of Kubernetes remains complicated
 - Resource requests/limits are not intuitive
 - Helm is a mess, but so is DIY
 - Buzzwords make learning difficult
- Load balancing correctly takes time
 - Don't build push services when you need pull services
 - Sometimes you need an L7 load balancer (k8s Ingress)
 - Cloud Egress bandwidth is expensive
- A "cloud migration" often means rewrite, and takes a whole team
 - Andrew knows all Simpsons references
 - Don't start a startup while a PhD student
 - isthisadag.tumblr.com

Stats

- 714MM certificates
 - *Unbounded, infinitely growing dataset*
 - *On track for 1B by the end of the year*
- 828,025,790 documents in production ES cluster
 - *Only going up as we add more protocols*
- ~16TB scan traffic per day
 - *Only going up as we add more protocols*
- Sustain >2K scan results per second, with bursts up to 25K
 - *Only going up as we add more protocols*

Elasticsearch

- 35-node cluster
 - 2 frontend-only
 - 33 data nodes with 1 TB storage
- ~24 TB across all indexes
- 3 indexes
 - **IPv4 (3.5 TB) [see right]**
 - Domain (0.5 TB)
 - Certificates (20 TB)





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Questions?

Further Reading

- [ZMap](#)
 - Open-source tools are on [Github](#)
- The original Censys [research paper](#)
 - Other research papers co-authored by [Zakir](#), [David](#), or [Alex](#)
- [Google Dataflow](#)
 - [Getting to Know Cloud Dataflow](#)
- [Google Bigtable](#)
- [Censys is hiring!](#)