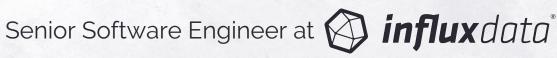
From logs to metrics.

on the desperate attempt to combat entropy

Who I am.

Leonardo Di Donato



Creator of go-syslog



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How many logs do we generate every day?

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The quantity is not the only factor ...

How many standards - if any - we use to log?

How strictly we follow those standards formats?

How to transform kubernetes logs into metrics with the TICK stack.

Almost everyone needs to govern their logs. Deriving metrics, synthesizing and visualizing them helps in decision making.

git.io/k8s-logs-to-metrics-tick (PoC)

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First of all we needed a log parser.

But to parse which format ...?

BSD-syslog - RFC 3164 - resembled a de-facto standard. Wide usage, lot of tools, long lifetime span (2001). But ...

messy/informal RFC ...
no strict well-defined grammar
no single stable framing technique
too many customisations around.



Thus we chose

RFC 5424 deprecates RFC 3164

- Well-defined grammar
- Octet counting framing
 - o finally the stack trace for a 27 STRUCTURED 28 SD-ELEMENT 29 SD-PARM 30 SD-ID 31 PARAM-NAME 31 PARAM-NAME
- TLS transport mapping
 - secure logs
- Only 9 years old ie., 2009

```
5 PRIVAL
                  = 1*3DIGIT ; range 0 .. 191
                  = NONZERO-DIGIT 0*2DIGIT
 6 VERSION
                  = NILVALUE / 1*255PRINTUSASCII
 7 HOSTNAME
                             3F INT SC'
                  = NILVALU / I JEPKINI JASCII
                  = NILVALUE / FULL-DATE "T" FULL-TIME
13 TIMESTAMP
                  = DATE-FULLYEAR "-" DATE-MONTH "-" DATE-MDAY
14 FULL-DATE
15 DATE-FULLYEAR
                  = 4DIGIT
                  = 2DIGIT : 01-12
16 DATE-MONTH
17 DATE-MDAY
                  = 2DIGIT ; 01-28, 01-29, 01-30, 01-31 based on month/year
18 FULL-TIME
                  = PARTIAL-TIME TIME-OFFSET
19 PARTIAL-TIME
                  = TIME-HOUR ":" TIME-MINUTE ":" TIME-SECOND [TIME-SECFRAC]
20 TIME-HOUR
                  = 2DIGIT ; 00-23
                  = 2DIGIT ; 00-59
21 TIME-MINUTE
22 TIME-SECOND
                  = 2DIGIT : 00-59
23 TIME-SECFRAC
                  = "." 1*6DIGIT
                  = "Z" / TIME-NUMOFFSET
24 TIME-OFFSET
25 TIME-NUMOFFSET
                  = ("+" / "-") TIME-HOUR ":" TIME-MINUTE
27 STRUCTURED-DATA = NILVALUE / 1*SD-ELEMENT
                  = "[" SD-ID *(SP SD-PARAM) "]"
29 SD-PARAM
                  = PARAM-NAME "=" %d34 PARAM-VALUE %d34
30 SD-ID
                  = SD-NAME
31 PARAM-NAME
                  = SD-NAME
32 PARAM-VALUE
                  = UTF-8-STRING; characters '"', '\' and ']' MUST be escaped.
33 SD-NAME
                  = 1*32PRINTUSASCII ; except '=', SP, ']', %d34 (")
35 MSG
                  = MSG-ANY / MSG-UTF8
36 MSG-ANY
                  = *OCTET; not starting with BOM
                  = BOM UTF-8-STRING
37 MSG-UTF8
38 BOM
                  = %xEF.BB.BF
39 UTF-8-STRING
                  = *OCTET; UTF-8 string as specified in RFC 3629
41 OCTET
                  = %d00-255
42 SP
                  = %d32
43 PRINTUSASCII
                  = %d33-126
44 NONZERO-DIGIT
                  = %d49-57
45 DIGIT
                  = %d48 / NONZERO-DIGIT
                                                                              @leodido
                  = "-"
46 NILVALUE
```

= HEADER SP STRUCTURED-DATA [SP MSG]

= "<" PRIVAL ">"

= PRI VERSION SP TIMESTAMP SP HOSTNAME SP APP-NAME SP PROCID SP MSGID

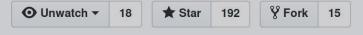
1 SYSLOG-MSG 2 3 HEADER

4 PRI



parser

syslog



Blazing fast syslog parser rfc5424 rfc5425 Manage topics

We chose Ragel to create the (Go) syslog parser qithub.com/influxdata/qo-sysloq

A state machine compiler

- regular languages -> FSM
- can execute code (actions) at arbitrary points
- non-determinism operators
- table or control flow driven state machines
- various host languages c, c++, obj-c, asm, d, go, java, ruby, c#, ocaml

```
action dgt
                  { printf("DGT: %c\n", fc); }
                                                             st0:
action dec
                  { printf("DEC: .\n"); }
                                                               if (++p == pe)
action exp { printf("EXP: %c\n", fc); }
                                                                 goto out0;
action exp_sign { printf("SGN: %c\n", fc); }
                                                               if (48 \le (*p) \& (*p) \le 57)
action number { /*NUMBER*/ }
                                                                 goto tr0;
                                                               goto st err;
number =
                                                             trO:
    [0-9]+ $dgt ( '.' @dec [0-9]+ $dgt )?
                                                               { printf("DGT: %c\n", (*p)); }
    ([eE] ([+\-] \$exp\_sign)? [0-9] + \$exp)?
) %number;
                                                               if (++p == pe)
                                                                 goto out1;
main := ( number '\n' )*;
                                                               switch ( (*p) ) {
                                                                 case 10: goto tr5;
                                                                 case 46: goto tr7;
                                                                 case 69: goto st4;
                                                                 case 101: goto st4;
                                                               if (48 \le (*p) \& (*p) \le 57)
                                                                 goto tr0;
                                                               goto st err;
```

The gotos are your best friends. Only when you do not write them!

go-syslog provides parsers for RFC 5424 and RFC 5425.

<<mark>85</mark>>1 2018-10-11T22:14:15.003Z leodido - 31932 - [ex@31932 iut="3"] An auth token...

Numerical Code	Facility					
0	kernel messages					
1	user-level messages					
2	mail system					
3	system daemons					
4	security/authorization messages					
2 3 4 5	messages generated internally by syslogd					
6	line printer subsystem					
7	network news subsystem					
8	UUCP subsystem					
9	clock daemon					
10	security/authorization messages					
11	FTP daemon					
12	NTP subsystem					
13	log audit					
14	log alert					
15	clock daemon (note 2)					
16	local use 0 (local0)					
17	local use 1 (local1)					
18	local use 2 (local2)					
19	local use 3 (local3)					
20	local use 4 (local4)					
21	local use 5 (local5)					
22	local use 6 (local6)					
23	local use 7 (local7)					

Table 1. Syslog Message Facilities

```
Numerical Severity
Code

0 Emergency: system is unusable
1 Alert: action must be taken immediately
2 Critical: critical conditions
3 Error: error conditions
4 Warning: warning conditions
5 Notice: normal but significant condition
6 Informational: informational messages
7 Debug: debug-level messages
```

Table 2. Syslog Message Severities

- tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5424.html (Syslog grammar)
- tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5425.html (TLS + octet counting)
- tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5426.html (UDP)
- tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6587.html (TCP + octet counting)
- man7.org/linux/man-pages/man3/syslog.3.html
- man7.org/linux/man-pages/man0/syslog.h.op.html
- man7.org/linux/man-pages/man1/logger.1.html

```
bestEffortOn := true
i := []byte(`<165>1 2018-10-11T22:14:15.003Z mymach.it e - 1 [ex@32473 iut="3"] An app event...`)
p := rfc5424.NewParser()
m, e := p.Parse(i, &bestEffortOn) // best effort mode on means both m and e can have value ...
This results in m being equal to the following SyslogMessage instance. While error e is nil in this case.
// (rfc5424.SyslogMessage)({
// priority: (*uint8)(165),
// facility: (*uint8)(20),
// severity: (*uint8)(5),
// version: (uint16) 1,
// timestamp: (*time.Time)(2018-10-11 22:14:15.003 +0000 UTC),
// hostname: (*string)((len=9) "mymach.it"),
// appname: (*string)((len=1) "e"),
// procID: (*string)(<nil>),
// msqID: (*string)((len=1) "1"),
// structuredData: (*map[string]map[string]string)((len=1) {
   (string) (len=8) "ex@32473": (map[string]string) (len=1) {
  (string) (len=3) "iut": (string) (len=1) "3"
// message: (*string)((len=33) "An app event...")
// })
```

It provides also a builder.

Incrementally build <u>valid</u> syslog messages

```
msg := &SyslogMessage{}
msg.SetTimestamp("not a RFC3339MICRO timestamp")
// Not yet a valid message (try msg.Valid())
msg.SetPriority(191)
msg.SetVersion(1)
msg.Valid() // Now it is minimally valid
str, _ := msg.String()
// str is "<191>1 - - - - - - "
```

Notice that its API ignores input values that does not follow the grammar.

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Performances.

- ~250ns to parse the smallest legal message
- ~2µs to parse an average legal message
- ~4µs to parse a very long legal message

[no]_empty_input4	30000000	253	ns/op	224 B/op	3 allocs/op
<pre>[no]_multiple_syslog_messages_on_multiple_lines4</pre>	20000000	433	ns/op	304 B/op	12 allocs/op
[no]_impossible_timestamp4	10000000	1080	ns/op	528 B/op	11 allocs/op
[no]_malformed_structured_data4	20000000	552	ns/op	400 B/op	12 allocs/op
<pre>[no]_with_duplicated_structured_data_id4</pre>	5000000	1246	ns/op	688 B/op	17 allocs/op
[ok]_minimal4	30000000	264	ns/op	247 B/op	9 allocs/op
[ok]_average_message4	5000000	1984	ns/op	1536 B/op	26 allocs/op
[ok]_complicated_message4	5000000	1644	ns/op	1280 B/op	25 allocs/op
[ok]_very_long_message4	2000000	3826	ns/op	2464 B/op	28 allocs/op
[ok]_all_max_length_and_complete4	3000000	2792	ns/op	1888 B/op	28 allocs/op
[ok]_all_max_length_except_structured_data_and_mes-4	5000000	1830	ns/op	883 B/op	13 allocs/op
[ok]_minimal_with_message_containing_newline4	20000000	294	ns/op	250 B/op	10 allocs/op
[ok]_w/o_procid,_w/o_structured_data,_with_message-4	10000000	956	ns/op	364 B/op	11 allocs/op
[ok]_minimal_with_UTF-8_message4	20000000	586	ns/op	359 B/op	10 allocs/op
[ok]_with_structured_data_id,_w/o_structured_data4	10000000	998	ns/op	592 B/op	14 allocs/op
[ok]_with_multiple_structured_data4	5000000	1538	ns/op	1232 B/op	22 allocs/op
[ok]_with_escaped_backslash_within_structured_data-4	5000000	1316	ns/op	920 B/op	20 allocs/op
[ok]_with_UTF-8_structured_data_param_value,_with4	5000000	1580	ns/op	1050 B/op	21 allocs/op

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Telegraf is the plugin-driven server agent for collecting & reporting metrics.

github.com/influxdata/telegraf

Thus we created the syslog input plugin for it, using go-syslog

- Listens for syslog messages transmitted over UDP RFC 5426 or TCP.
- Supports (atm) only messages formatted according to RFC 5424.
- Supports TLS, octet framing (both over TCP RFC 6587 and TLS RFC 5425).
- BSD format RFC 3164 in progress.

Metrics

Measurement: syslog

- tags
 - severity (string)
 - facility (string)
 - hostname (string)
 - o appname (string)
- fields
 - version (integer)
 - severity_code (integer)
 - facility_code (integer)
 - timestamp (integer) the time recorded in the syslog message
 - procid (string)
 - msgid (string)
 - o sdid (bool)
 - structured data elements (string)
- timestamp the time the messages was received

```
[[inputs.syslog]]
 ## Specify an ip or hostname with port - eq., tcp://localhost:6514, tcp://10.0.0.1:6514
 ## Protocol, address and port to host the syslog receiver.
 ## If no host is specified, then localhost is used.
 ## If no port is specified, 6514 is used (RFC5425#section-4.1).
 server = "tcp://:6514"
 ## TLS Confia
 # tls_allowed_cacerts = ["/etc/telegraf/ca.pem"]
 # tls cert = "/etc/telegraf/cert.pem"
 # tls_key = "/etc/telegraf/key.pem"
 ## Period between keep alive probes.
 ## 0 disables keep alive probes.
 ## Defaults to the OS configuration.
 ## Only applies to stream sockets (e.g. TCP).
 # keep_alive_period = "5m"
 ## Maximum number of concurrent connections (default = 0).
 ## 0 means unlimited.
 ## Only applies to stream sockets (e.g. TCP).
 # max connections = 1024
 ## Read timeout is the maximum time allowed for reading a single message (default = 5s).
 ## 0 means unlimited.
 # read timeout = "5s"
 ## Whether to parse in best effort mode or not (default = false).
 ## By default best effort parsing is off.
 # best effort = false
 ## Character to prepend to SD-PARAMs (default = "_").
 ## A syslog message can contain multiple parameters and multiple identifiers within structured data
 ## Eg., [id1 name1="val1" name2="val2"][id2 name1="val1" nameA="valA"]
 ## For each combination a field is created.
 ## Its name is created concatenating identifier, sdparam_separator, and parameter name.
 # sdparam_separator = "_"
```

Input (with octet counting)

```
169 <165>1 2018-10-01:14:15.000Z mymachine.example.com evntslog - ID47 [exampleSDID@32473 iut="3" eventSource="Application" eventID="1011"] An application event log entry...
```

Output

```
syslog,appname=evntslog,facility=local4,hostname=mymachine.example.com,severity=notice exampleSDID@32473_eventID="1011",exampleSDID@32473_eventSource="Application",exampleSDID@32473_iut="3",facility_code=20i,message="An application event log entry...",msgid="ID47",severity_code=5i,timestamp=1065910455003000000i,version=1i 1538421339749472344
```

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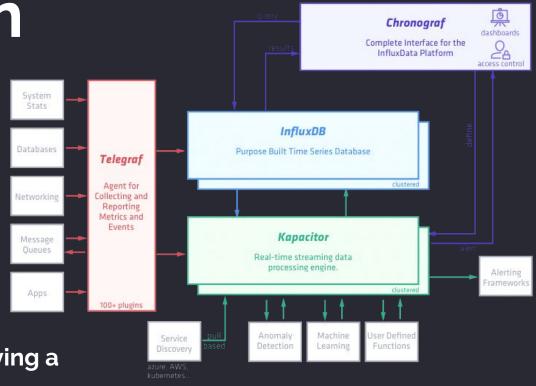
Our solution

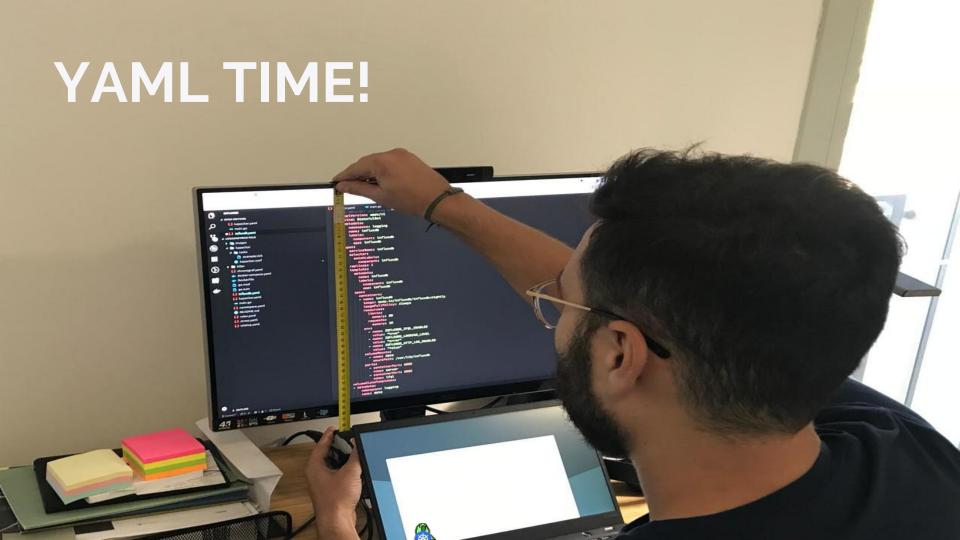
Grab k8s and kernel logs from journald.

Parse them via telegraf syslog input plugin.

Visualize logs with chronograf log viewer.

Elicit new metrics to plot applying a kapacitor UDF.





Using rsyslog to grab RFC 5424 syslog messages from journald.

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: ConfigMap
metadata:
 name: rsyslog
 namespace: logging
 labels:
   component: rsyslog
   app: rsyslog
data:
 rsyslog.conf: |+
   # ...
   module(load="imjournal" ...)
   # This module only works with the journald and json-file docker log drivers
   module(load="mmkubernetes" tls.cacert="..." tokenfile="..." annotation_match=["."])
   # Extracts k8s metadata
   action(type="mmkubernetes")
   # ...
   # Compose RFC5424 message
   template(name="rfc5424" type="list") { ... }
   action(type="omfwd" target="127.0.0.1" port="6514" protocol="tcp" tcp_framing="octet-counted"
     template="rfc5424" ...)
```

Setup telegraf syslog plugin to receive log messages over TCP.

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: ConfigMap
metadata:
 name: telegraf
 namespace: logging
 labels:
   component: telegraf
   app: telegraf
data:
 telegraf.conf: |+
   # ...
   [agent]
     interval = "10s"
     round interval = true
     metric batch size = 1000
     # ...
   [[outputs.influxdb]]
     urls = ["http://influxdb:8086"] # required
     database = "telegraf" # required
     retention_policy = "autogen"
     write_consistency = "any"
     timeout = "1m"
   [[inputs.syslog]]
     server = "tcp://:6514"
     best effort = true
```



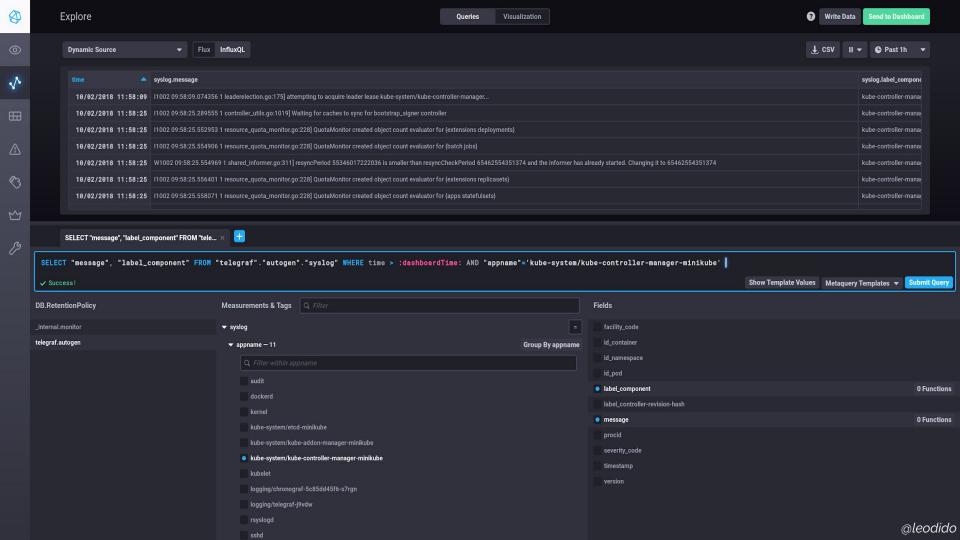


Let's deploy chronograf and influxDB

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Service
metadata:
 name: chronograf
 namespace: logging
 labels:
   component: chronograf
   app: chronograf
spec:
 ports:
 - port: 80
   targetPort: 8888
   name: server
 selector:
   component: chronograf
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
# ...
```

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Service
metadata:
 name: influxdb
 namespace: logging
 labels:
   component: influxdb
   app: influxdb
 annotations:
   service.alpha.kubernetes.io/tolerate-unready-endpoints: "true"
spec:
 clusterIP: None
 ports:
 - port: 8086
   name: server
 selector:
   component: influxdb
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: StatefulSet
# ...
```





Logs are just a mess!

Inspecting logs coming from a single server is easy.
Inspecting logs coming from a distributed system is hard.

We need metrics!

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Now we want to detect and count the OOMs.

Logs are streams. We need a streaming processor!

github.com/influxdata/kapacitor

A streaming processor can be programmed to identify the patterns we want and act on them, e.g. OOM Kills.

Memory cgroup out of memory: Kill process 13012 (stress) score 1958 or sacrifice child

Let's write a tick script to grab log points

```
dbrp "telegraf"."autogen"
stream
     |from()
          .measurement('syslog')
          .truncate(1ms)
          .where(lambda: "appname" == 'kernel') # filter by points tag
          .where(lambda: "message" =~ /sacrifice/) # filtering on messages with regex
    @example() # passing points to our user defined function (UDF)
     |influxDBOut()
          .database('telegraf')
          .measurement('k8s')
                                                                     Stream
                                                                  reprocessing
         Collection
                            Ingestion
                                               Storage
                                                                   Dashboards
```



Let's configure kapacitor

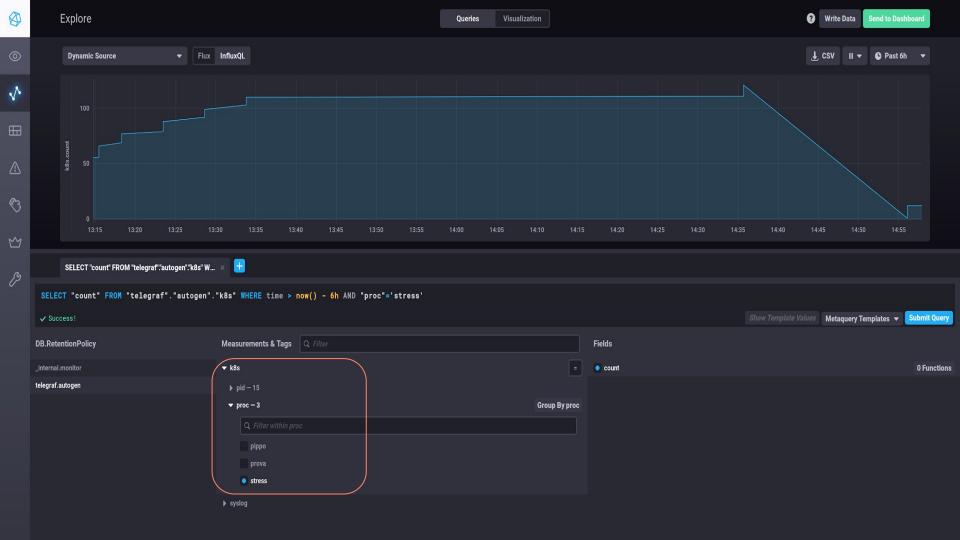
```
udf
udf.functions
   [udf.functions.example]
    socket = "/tmp/example.sock"
    timeout = "10s"
[[influxdb]]
enabled = true
default = true
name = "logging"
urls = ["http://localhost:8086"]
timeout = 0
startup-timeout = "5m"
 [influxdb.subscriptions]
  telegraf = ["autogen"]
```



Let's write the UDF

```
func (h *handler) Point(p *agent.Point) error {
    var r = regexp.MustCompile(`(?m).*Kill process (?P<pid>\d+) (?P<proc>\(.*\)) score (?P<score>\d+)`)
    message, ok := p.FieldsString["message"]
    if ok {
        m := r.FindStringSubmatch(message)
        data := mapSubexpNames(m, r.SubexpNames())
        proc := strings.Trim(data["proc"], "()")
        state := h.state[proc]
        if state == nil {
            state := &myState{Counter: 0}
            h.state[proc] = state
        h.state[proc].update()
        newpoint := &agent.Point{
            Time: time.Now().UnixNano(),
            Tags: map[string]string{
                "proc": proc.
                "pid": string(data["pid"]),
            FieldsInt: map[string]int64{
                "count": h.state[proc].Counter,
            },
        // Send point
        h.agent.Responses <- &agent.Response{</pre>
            Message: &agent.Response_Point{
                Point: newpoint,
            },
    return nil
```





Thanks.

@leodido git.io/k8s-logs-to-metrics-tick git.io/go-syslog github.com/influxdata







