MySQL Performance Monitoring with Zabbix

An alternative to the MySQL Enterprise Monitor?

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How many of you ...

- ... monitor their database servers?
- ... monitor their (MySQL) databases?
- ... monitor performance metrics?
- ... all the others: Why not?



Linux monitoring

Solution	Votes	%
Zabbix	394	33.2
Nagios	373	31.4
Uptime Software	91	7.7
other	77	6.5
Cacti	62	5.2
Hyperic	52	4.4
Zenoss	51	4.3
Ganglia	41	3.5
OpenNMS	34	2.9
Groundwork	12	1.0

- Question: What is your favourite Linux monitoring application?
- 1187 votes, April 2010
- Manipulated?
 - Lit: Linux Journal, [1]

What to monitor?

Devices / Software

- Server, Router, Switches, I/O systems etc.
- Operating System, Networks, Applications, etc.

Incidents

• DB down, Replication stopped, Server not reachable, etc.

Critical Events

Disk more than n% full or less than m Gbyte free,
 Replication more than n seconds lagging, Data node down,
 100% CPU utilization, etc.

→ Alert, immediate intervention, fire fighting

What to monitor?

- Trends (includes time!)
 - → Graphs
- How long does it take until ...
 - ... my disk is full?
 - ... my Index Memory is filled up?
- When does it happen?
 - Peak? Backup?
- How often does it happen? Does it happen periodically?
 - Once a day? Always at Sunday night?
- How does it correlate to other informations?
 - I/O problems during our backup window?
- Reading the patterns!
 - → this can help us to find the root cause of problems...

How to monitor?

Basic solutions:

- top, vmstat, iostat, mytop, innotop, SHOW GLOBAL STATUS, SHOW INNODB STATUS
- CLI!, no graphs, no log term information, but good for adhoc analysis!
- Graphical solutions
 - Nagios, Cactii, Zabbix, ...
 - Typically NOT specialised in DB monitoring...



Focus

- Database + Server
- Trends

Not the other stuff...

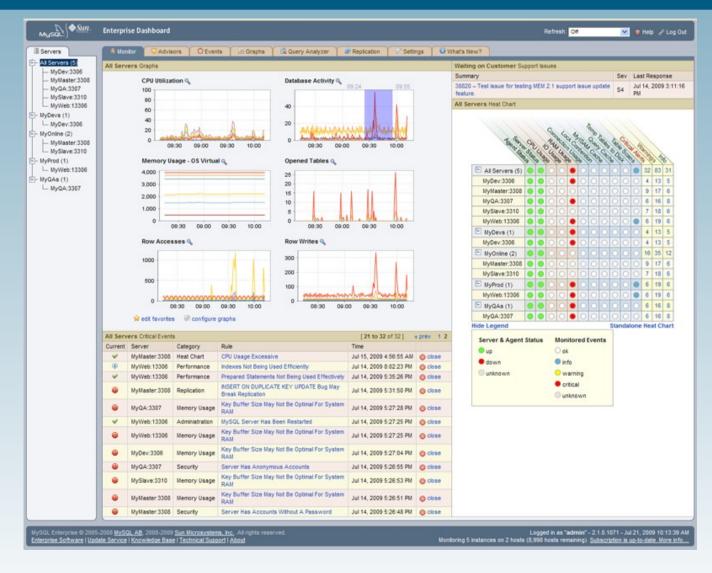
- Problem:
 - Monitoring solutions are generic
 - A database is a specific application!

MySQL monitoring

Solution	Votes	%
none	365	40.2
Nagios	211	23.3
home grown solution	85	9.4
other	78	8.6
Big Brother	38	4.2
IBM Tivoli	37	4.1
HP OpenView	31	3.4
Mytop	23	2.5
CA-Unicenter	15	1.7
Ganglia	14	1.5
Moodss	5	0.6
Hyperic	5	0.6

- Question: What monitoring software do you use?
- 907 votes, January 2005
- Pre-MySQL Enterprise Monitor era
 - Lit: MySQL, [1]

The MySQL Enterprise Monitor [4]





The MySQL Enterprise Monitor

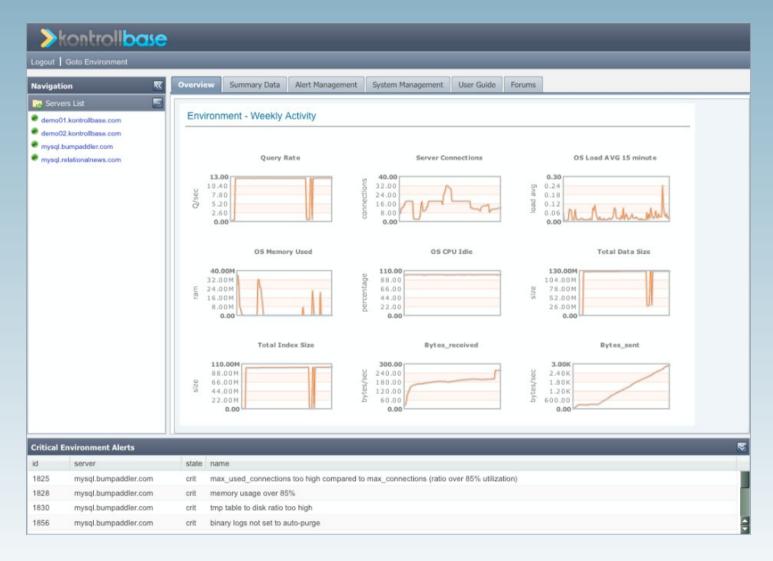
Pros

- Tailored for MySQL
- Easy install
- Handy GUI
- Query Analyser (caution!)
- Replication Monitor

Cons

- Only for paying customers
- Proprietary code
- Does NOT monitor MySQL Cluster yet [2], [3]
- Very resource intensive (Java App Server!)
- Future: Integration into Oracle Enterprise Manager???
 - MariaDB, Aria, XtraDB, PBXT, Drizzle, Sphinx SE, ...?

Kontrollbase [5]





Kontrollbase

Pros

- Tailored for MySQL
- Lightweight application (PHP)
- Open Source (New BSD)
- Easy install ???
- Replication Monitor

Cons

- Did not work for me (non default installations :-()!
- Answer from developer: "it works for me and my customers..."
- Found a few "bugs".
- Does NOT monitor MySQL Cluster?
- Query Analyser
 - MariaDB, Aria, XtraDB, PBXT, Drizzle, Sphinx SE, ...?

And now?

- MEM → €€€ → nogo
- Kontrollbase → no work → nogo
- Self written? → no time → nogo
- Nagios? → complicated? Shudder... → nogo
- Other solutions?

 A friend told me that he will evaluate Zabbix for monitoring MySQL...



Zabbix [6]

It claims: [7]

- . All in one solution
 - . Open Source
 - . Performance monitoring
 - . Agents for all platforms
 - . Availability and SLA reporting
 - . Collection of any data
 - Great graphs and network maps
- Scalability
 - . Up-to 100k monitored devices
 - . Up-to 1M of metrics
 - . Thousands of checks per second
 - . Small to large distributed setups
 - Easy maintenance

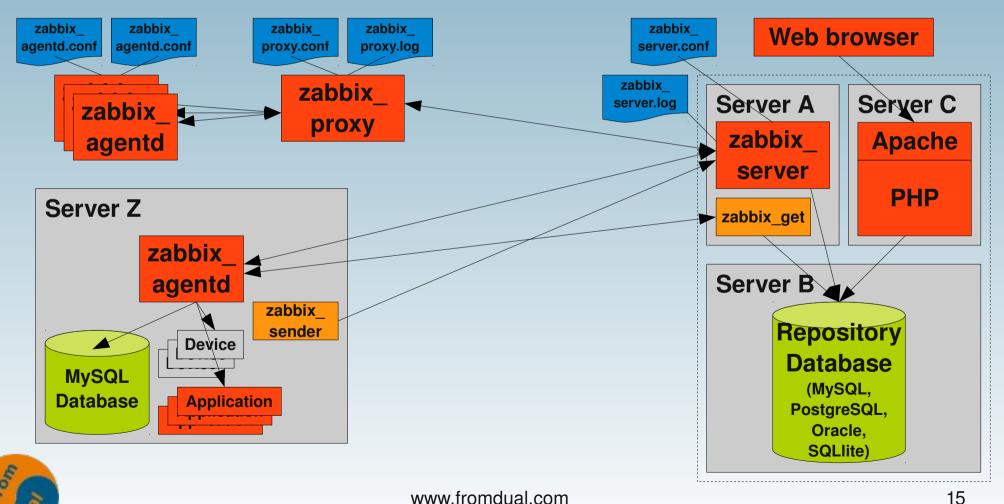
. Commercial support

- . Annual support agreements
- . Trouble-free deployment
- Professional Services
- . Technical Account Manager
- . Zabbix Training
- . Upgrade Services

etc, etc... Wow!

Zabbix architecture

Zabbix is a typical Agent – Server set-up:



Installation of Zabbix

Download

- http://www.zabbix.com/download.php
- Server (Source only, for Linux and Windows only)
- Agent (Binaries for: AIX, FreeBSD, HP-UX, Linux, OpenBSD, Solaris, Windows)
- Packages from your favourite Linux Distro

Documentation

- http://www.zabbix.com/documentation/1.8/manual/installation
- http://www.howtoforge.com/zabbix_network_monitoring

Recommendation:

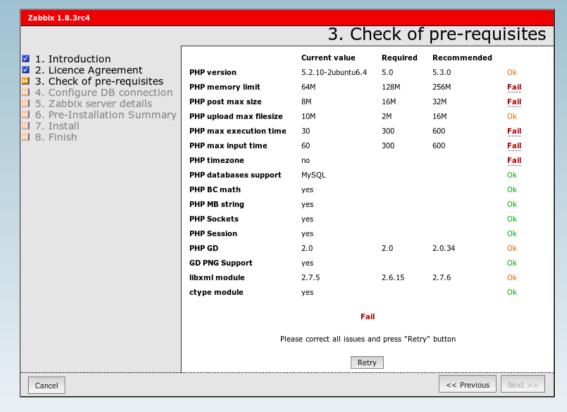
- One thing after the other
- Server first, Web interface next, then agents

Install Zabbix server

- Create zabbix user
- Untar source tarball
- Create zabbix database and populate it
 - A MySQL (PostgreSQL, ...) installation is needed...
- ./configure ; make ; make install
 - Some packages may be missing...
 - Does not take too long (< 10 min)
- Create configuration file for zabbix server
 - (misc/conf/zabbix_server.conf)
- Start the zabbix server

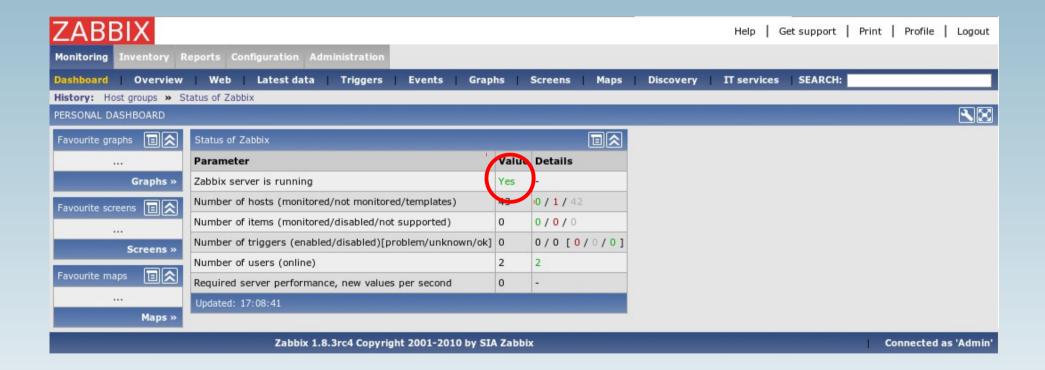
Install the Zabbix web interface

- Apache/PHP is required
- Copy PHP files to \$DocumentRoot/zabbix
- http://localhost/zabbix
- Change php.ini
 - Default settings are by far not enough!
 - date.timezone =Europe/Zurich
- Restart webserver
- Finish configuration
 - Login with admin/zabbix



The Zabbix Web Interface

It works!





The Zabbix agent

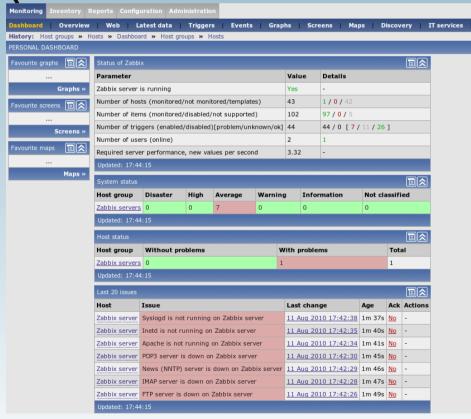
- Either from compiling or use the provided binary
- Create zabbix user
- Create configuration file for zabbix agent
 - (misc/conf/zabbix_agentd.conf)
- Start the zabbix agent
 - Use zabbix_agentd NOT zabbix_agent
 - Also install an agent on the server machine!

The Zabbix Agent

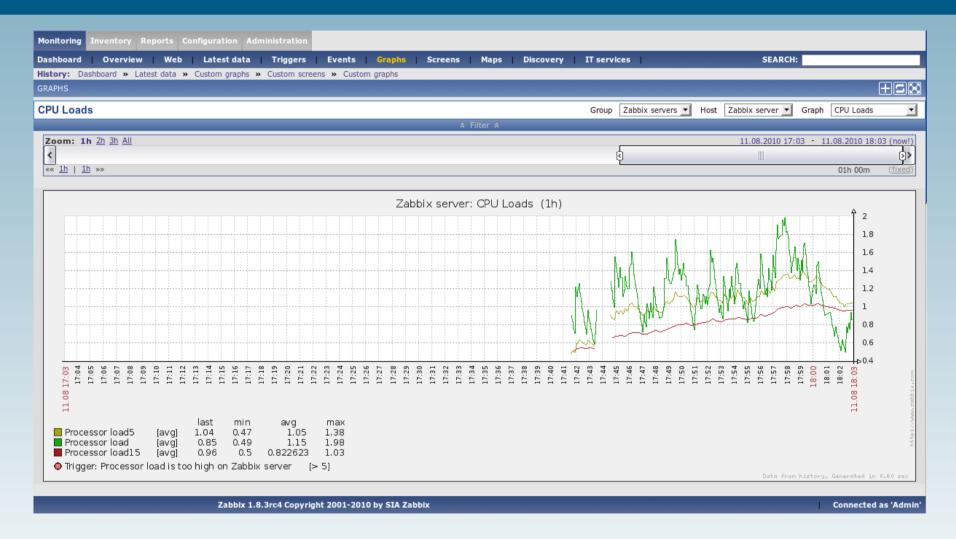
And now... Hurray!

Ups, it does NOT work :-(

- Configuration →
 Hosts → Status →
 Click on "Not Monitored" to enable...
- Happened sometimes to me
- Patience helps...

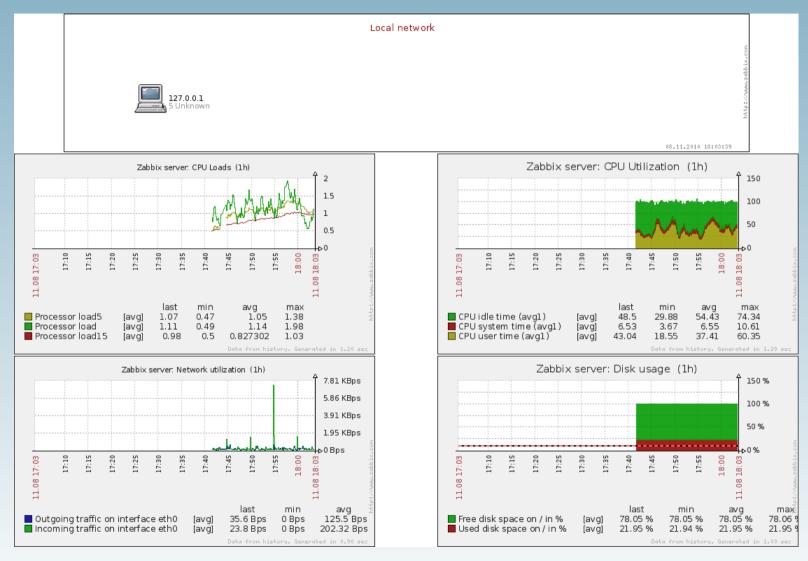


We want Graphs!



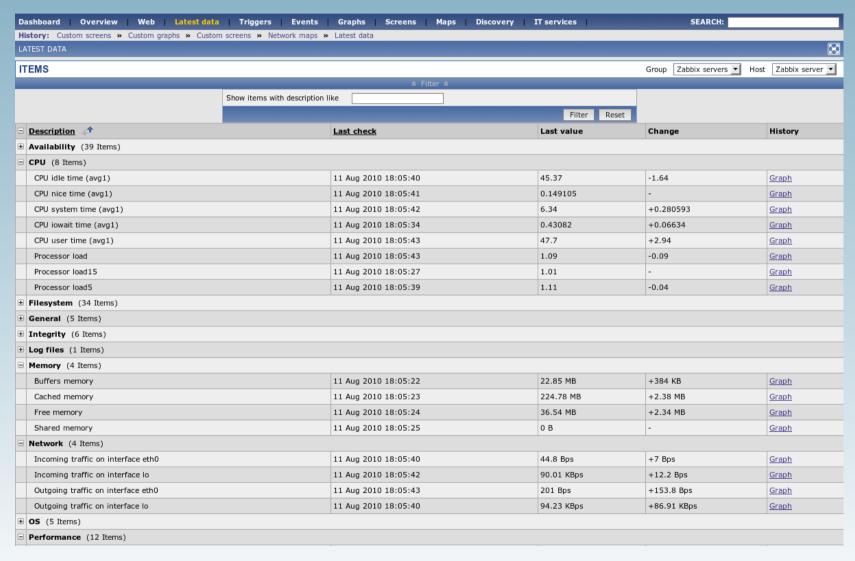


Screens





Latest data





The database

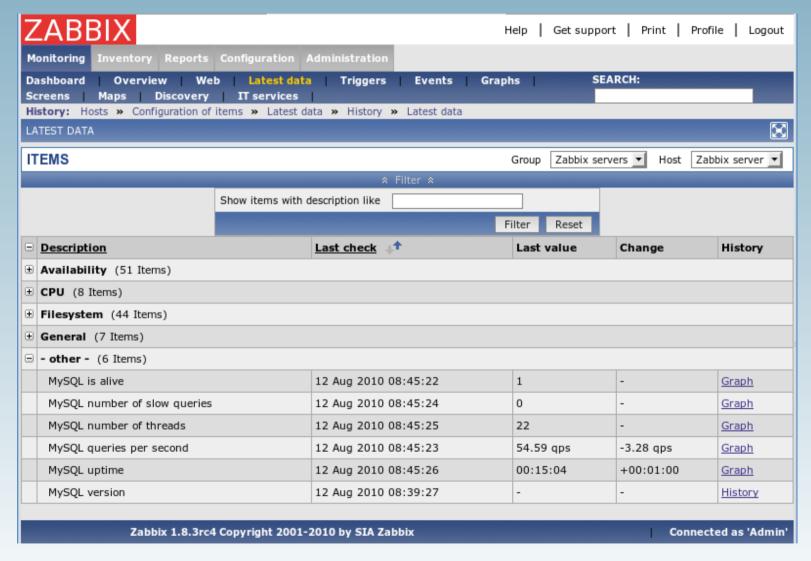
Nice, but what about my Database?

```
# /etc/zabbix/zabbix_agentd.conf

### Set of parameters for monitoring MySQL server (v3.23.42 and later)
### Change -u<username> and add -p<password> if required
#UserParameter=mysql.ping,mysqladmin -uroot ping|grep alive|wc -1
#UserParameter=mysql.uptime,mysqladmin -uroot status|cut -f2 -d":"|cut -f1 -d"T"
#UserParameter=mysql.threads,mysqladmin -uroot status|cut -f3 -d":"|cut -f1 -d"Q"
#UserParameter=mysql.questions,mysqladmin -uroot status|cut -f4 -d":"|cut -f1 -d"S"
#UserParameter=mysql.slowqueries,mysqladmin -uroot status|cut -f5 -d":"|cut -f1 -d"O"
#UserParameter=mysql.gps,mysqladmin -uroot status|cut -f9 -d":"
#UserParameter=mysql.version,mysql -V
```

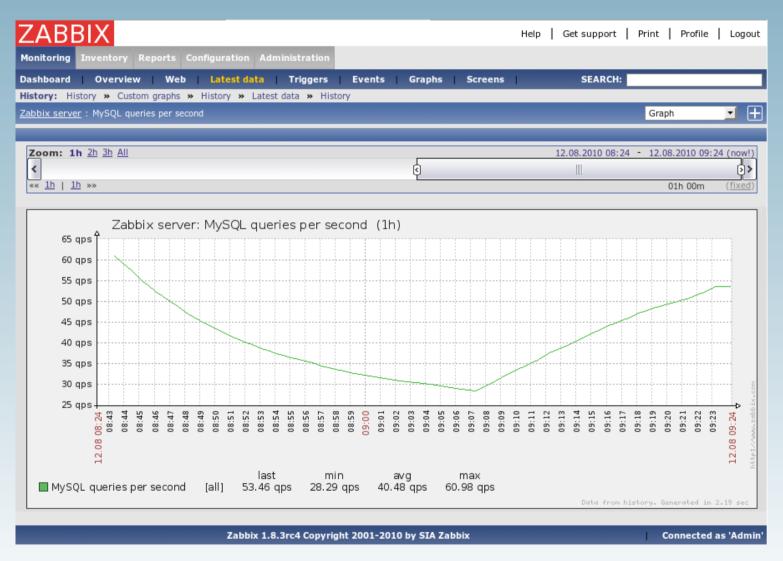
- Enable those and restart the agent...
- → Nothing will happen!
- We have to add a template to the server first
 - Template_App_MySQL

MySQL Latest Data





MySQL Queries per second





1st impression

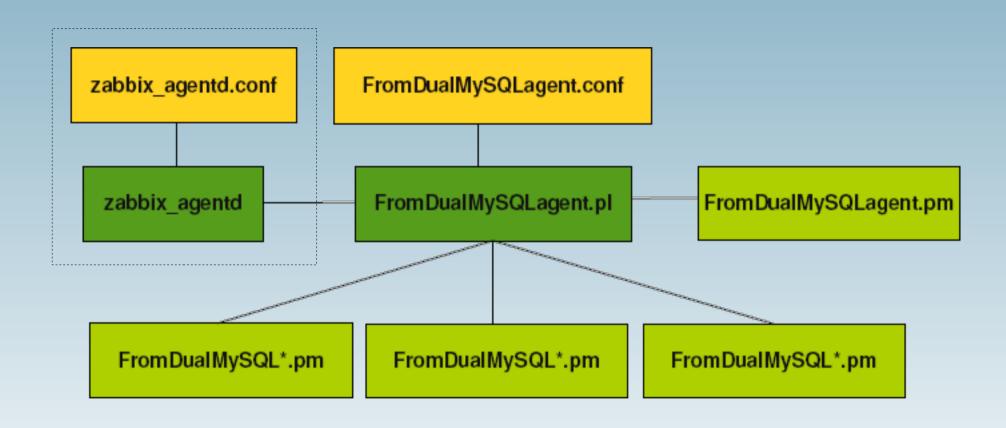
- Not really much data for MySQL :-(
- No efficient gathering method
- No nice graphs
- Is that all?
 - → Zabbix seems to be very flexible, so let's do it ourself!



Requirements

- Fit into Zabbix architecture
- Must support several mysqld per server
- Should provide much more information
- Must support other Storage Engines as well
 - MySQL Cluster, XtraDB, Aria, PBXT, Sphinx SE
- Simple
- Flexible
- Modular
 - Work on Unixoides (and Windows?)

From Dual Performance Monitor for MySQL / Zabbix Architecture





Available modules [10]

- Aria (for Aria SE, ex. Maria SE (crash-safe MyISAM))
- InnoDB (commercial)
- Master (for Master Slave replication)
- MylSAM (for MylSAM SE)
- MySQL (non SE related stuff for MariaDB and MySQL)
- NDB (commercial, for MySQL Cluster SE, pre 7.1 and 7.1)
- PBXT (for PBXT SE)
- Process (for UNIX processes)
- Slave (for Master Slave replication)
- XtraDB (for XtraDB SE (derivat of InnoDB))
- Sphinx (for the Sphinx SE plug-in (in planning)

Other modules on request...

From Dual Monitor for Zabbix

- Install Zabbix as described before.
- Download FromDual Performance Monitor for MySQL [9]
- Read installation documentation [10]
- Load the FromDual templates
- Create a host group (optional)
- Create a host (= database!)
 - Careful! Hostname MUST match the name in the FromDual agent configuration file!!!
- Link the chosen templates to the host
- Configure FromDual agent
- Hook FromDual agent into Zabbix agent:

```
# /etc/zabbix/zabbix_agentd.conf

UserParameter=FromDual MySOL check /etc/zabbix/FromDualMySOLagen
```

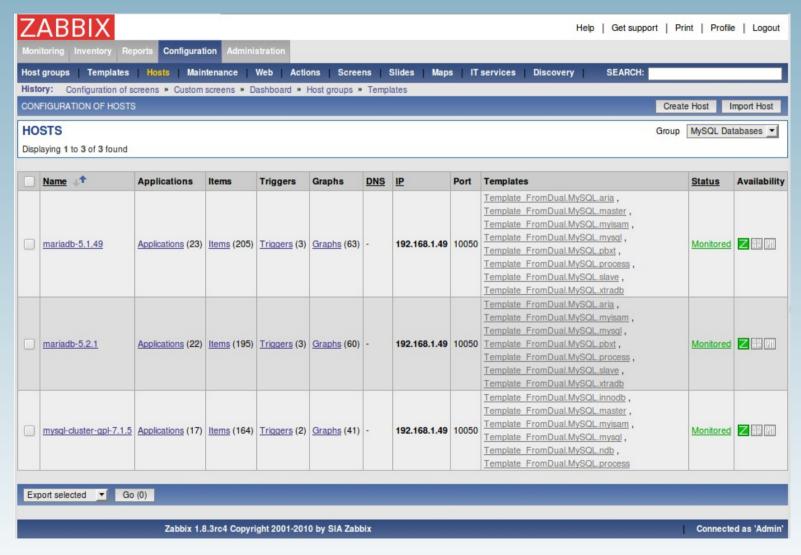
UserParameter=FromDual.MySQL.check,/etc/zabbix/FromDualMySQLagent.pl \
/etc/zabbix/FromDualMySQLagent.conf

Restart Zabbix agent

Templates

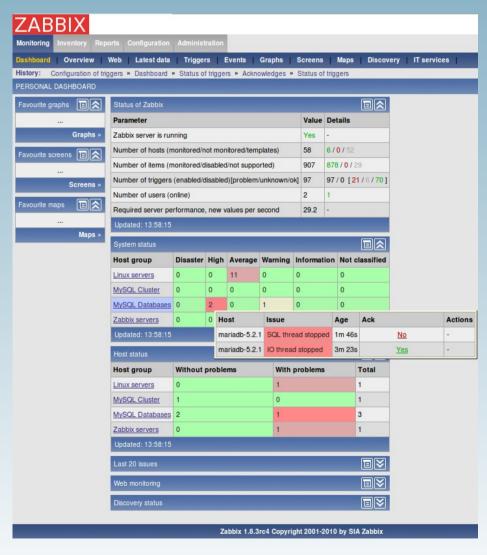
▼ Templates ◆									
	Template Cisco PIX 525	Applications (0)	Items (35)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (0)				
	Template Dell OpenManage	Applications (0)	Items (15)	Triggers (15)	Graphs (0)				
	Template Dell PowerConnect 5224	Applications (2)	<u>Items</u> (216)	Triggers (3)	Graphs (24)				
	Template Dell PowerConnect 5324	Applications (2)	<u>Items</u> (262)	Triggers (3)	Graphs (24)				
	Template Dell PowerConnect 6248	Applications (0)	<u>Items</u> (832)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (52)				
	Template Dell PowerEdge	Applications (0)	Items (2)	Triggers (2)	Graphs (1)				
	Template FreeBSD	Applications (12)	<u>Items</u> (102)	Triggers (44)	Graphs (0)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.aria	Applications (1)	<u>Items</u> (10)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (3)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.innodb	Applications (2)	<u>Items</u> (12)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (4)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.master	Applications (3)	<u>Items</u> (10)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (3)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.myisam	Applications (1)	Items (9)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (3)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.mysql	Applications (6)	<u>Items</u> (64)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (22)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.ndb	Applications (2)	<u>Items</u> (35)	Triggers (2)	Graphs (5)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.pbxt	Applications (5)	<u>Items</u> (60)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (21)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.process	Applications (3)	<u>Items</u> (34)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (4)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.slave	Applications (2)	Items (6)	Triggers (3)	Graphs (3)				
	Template FromDual.MySQL.xtradb	Applications (2)	<u>Items</u> (12)	Triggers (0)	Graphs (4)				

Host configuration



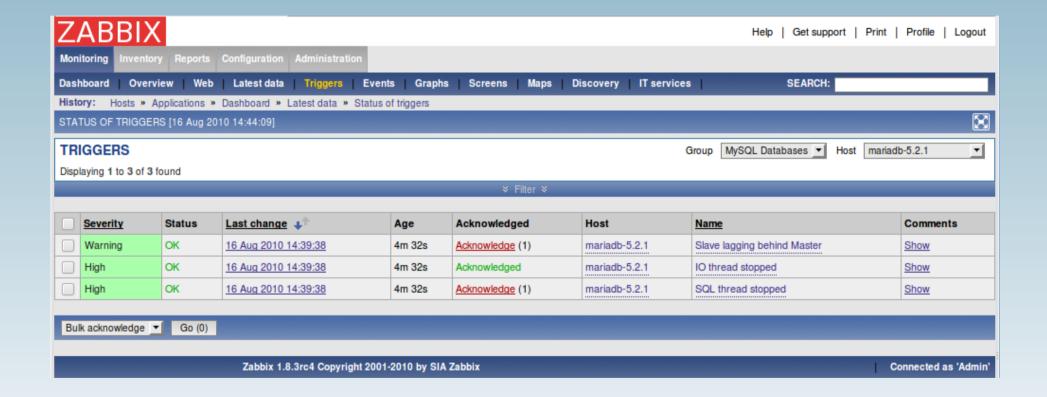


Overview / Dashboard



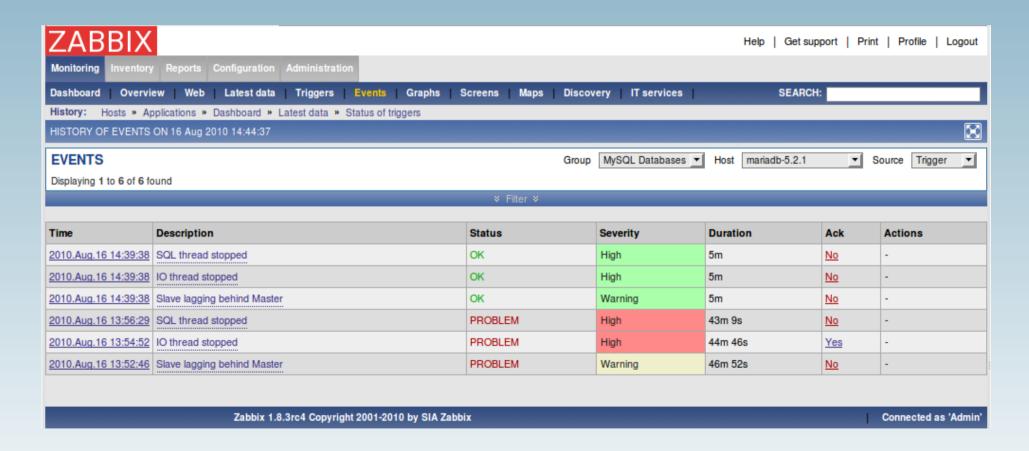


Triggers





Events



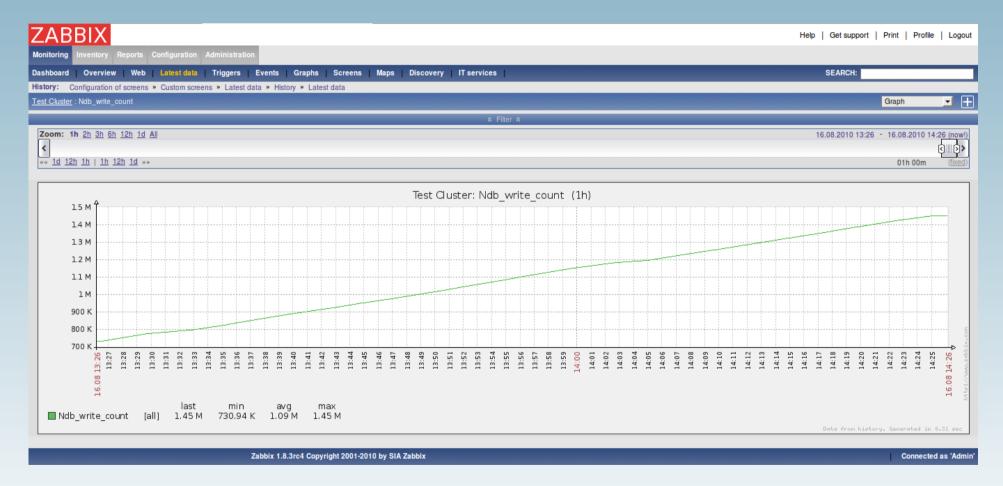


Latest data

ITEMS			Group MySQL	Cluster ▼ Host Test Cluster ▼						
× Filter ×										
□ <u>Description</u>	Last check	Last value	Change	History						
① Connections (10 Items)										
⊕ CPU (12 Items)										
□ Data node (15 ltems)										
Ndb_trans_count	16 Aug 2010 14:25:07	1449125	+24590	Graph						
Ndb_abort_count	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	14809	-	<u>Graph</u>						
Ndb_attr_info_count	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	16664923	+282785	Graph						
Ndb_commit_count	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	1434315	+24590	Graph						
Ndb_concurrent_operations	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	0	-	Graph						
Ndb_data_memory_total	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	134217728	-	Graph						
Ndb_data_memory_used	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	123469824	+2097152	Graph						
Ndb_index_memory_total	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	17301504	-	Graph						
Ndb_index_memory_used	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	15106048	+458752	Graph						
Ndb_operations	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	3916415	+49180	Graph						
Ndb_range_scans	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	0	-	Graph						
Ndb_read_count	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	88	-	Graph						
Ndb_scans	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	0	-	Graph						
Ndb_simple_read_count	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	0	-	Graph						
Ndb_write_count	16 Aug 2010 14:25:08	1449045	+24590	Graph						
★ MySQL (1 Items)										
→ Performance (34 Items)										
→ Process (4 Items)										
① Query Cache (9 Items)										
□ SQL node (20 Items)										
Table (9 Items) Table (19 Items)										
● Virtual Memory (17 Items)										

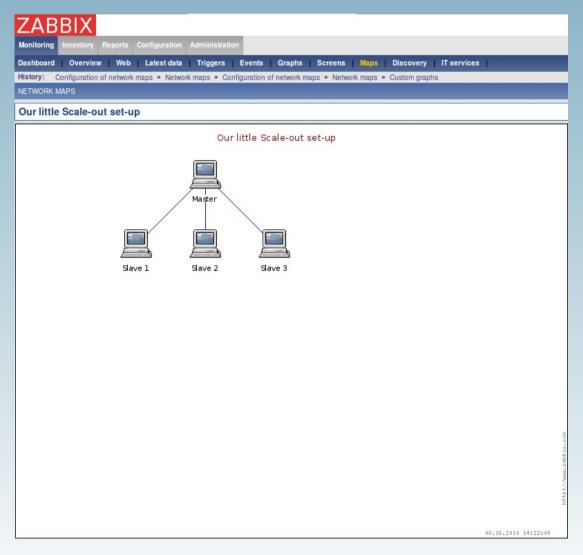


Raw graph from latest data



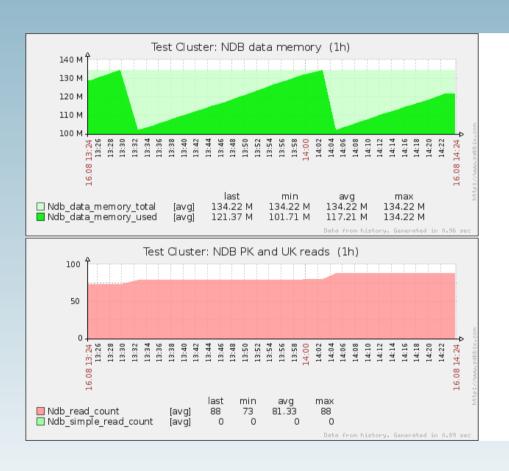


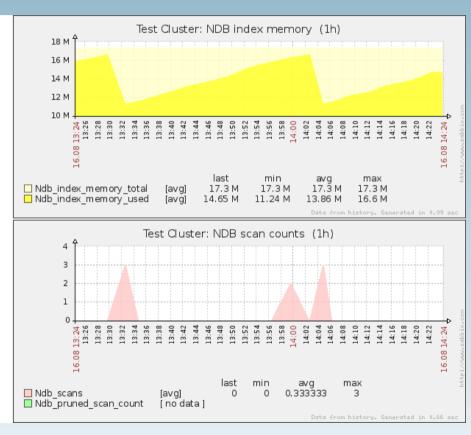
Maps for scale-out set-ups





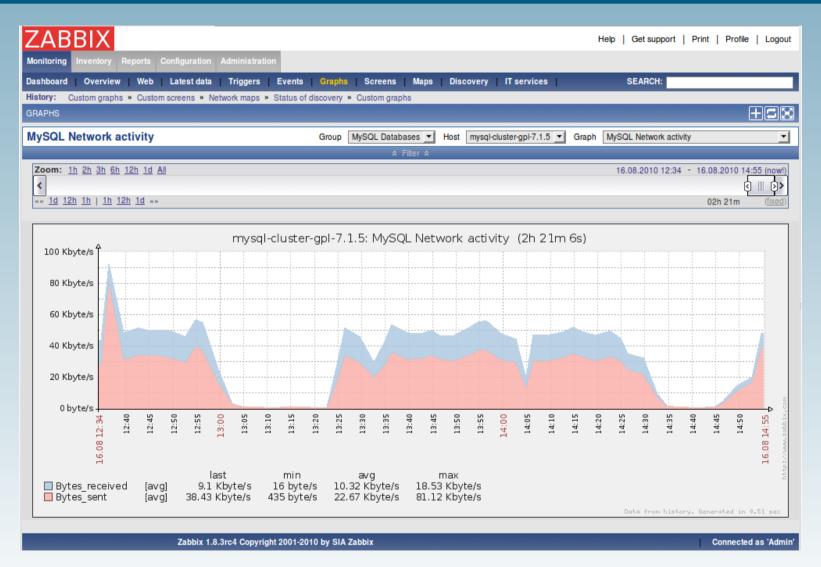
Screen for MySQL Cluster





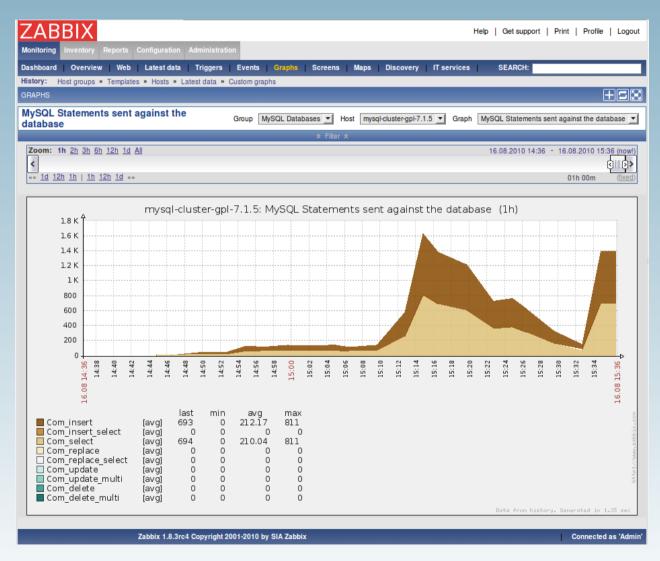


Graph (MySQL Network traffic)



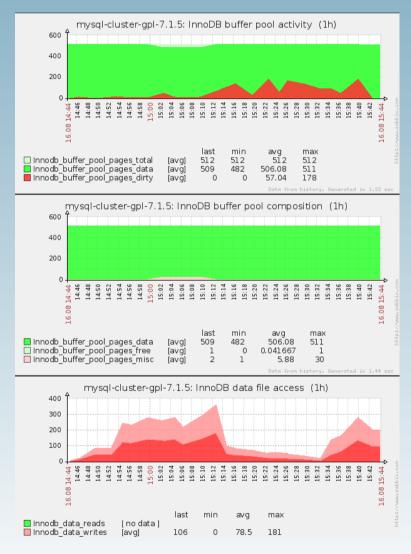


Graph (MySQL statements)



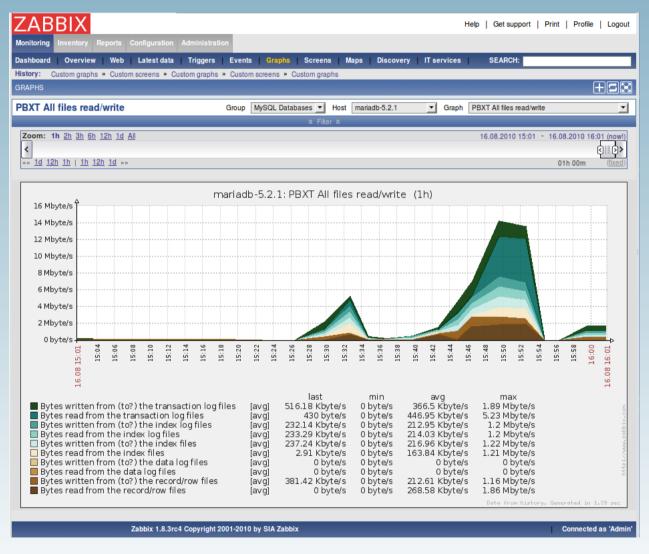


Screen (InnoDB buffer pool)





Graph (PBXT file read/write)





Problems / Discussion

- One can do nearly everything (!)
- It is a lot of work until everything is in place.
- The whole set-up is tricky and needs some time until understood.
- It is not so smooth like MEM. Installation is more labourish.
- There is no Query Analyser (QUAN) yet. Zabbix developer say it could be possible with v2.0!
- Usability is not perfect yet (links are not ending up where I expect it).
- No binaries available for server, only commercial!
- Installation docu is not fool-prove?
- Needs some experience to find problems
 - → but, its cool, give it a try if you have no solution in place yet!



Literature

- [1] MySQL Monitoring solutions: http://www.fromdual.com/mysql-monitoring-solutions
- [2] Cluster Monitoring CMON: http://johanandersson.blogspot.com/2008/08/cluster-monitoring-cmon.html
- [3] Configure MySQL Enterprise Monitor to monitor MySQL Cluster: http://www.clusterdb.com/mysql-cluster/configure-mysql-enterprise-monitor-to-monitor-mysql-cluster/
- [4] The MySQL Enterprise Monitor: http://www.mysql.com/products/enterprise/monitor.html
- [5] Kontrollbase: http://kontrollsoft.com/software-kontrollbase, http://code.google.com/p/kontrollbase/
- [6] Zabbix: http://www.zabbix.org/
- [7] Zabbix features: http://www.zabbix.org/features.php
- [8] Zabbix documentation: http://www.zabbix.com/documentation.php
- . [9] Download MySQL Performance Monitor: http://www.fromdual.com/download
- [10] Installation documentation: http://www.fromdual.com/mysql-performance-monitor

