

SECURITY-FOCUSED ELK STACK

UCLA Information Security Office





UCLA: Security-Focused ELK Stack



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A DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE PROBLEM

Servers we use write countless log entries. Buried in those logs are security events that **every** sysadmin, developer, or security professional should be paying attention to, but very likely isn't.



FRAMEWORK OF A SOLUTION

A better approach is to have logs automatically parsed for security events, and those events presented clearly in a human-readable format.



DISADVANTAGES OF NOT USING AN AUTOMATED LOG PARSER

- 1.** Day-to-day, logs are rarely examined;
- 2.** Discovered security issues might be days or weeks old. Slow and reactive response;
- 3.** Trends cannot be discerned from single, discrete log entries.

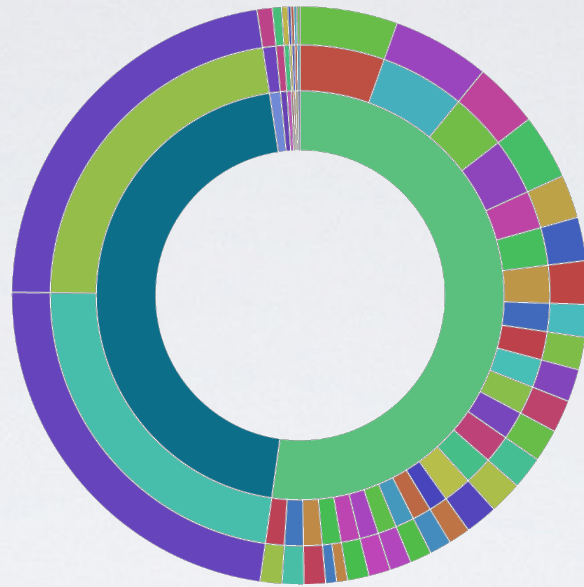


elastic





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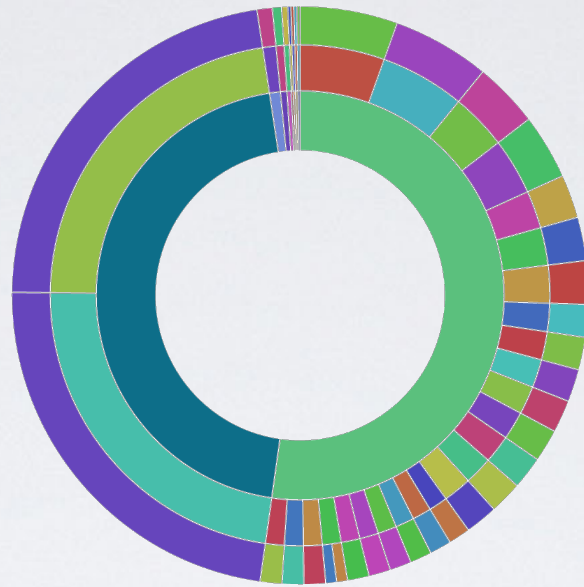


UCLA'S ELK STACK

Configured out of the box

Specific to InfoSec log events

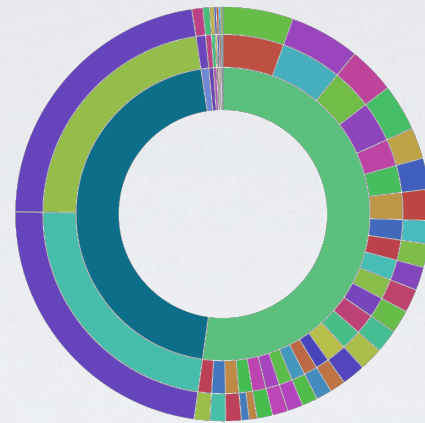
Useful for legal/forensic investigations



CONFIGURED OUT OF THE BOX

Well-documented, step-by-step installation provided

Our production `logstash.conf`, `logstash-forwarder.conf`, and Kibana dashboards posted to Github. Incredibly easy to import and update.



SPECIFIC TO INFOSEC LOG EVENTS

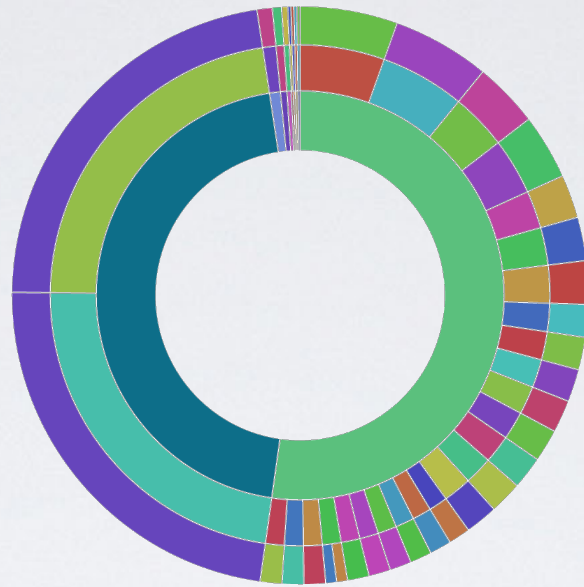
Authentication attempts (SSH, MySQL, Basic Auth, Google 2FA);

When new users and/or new groups are added or removed;

Password changes and privilege elevation attempts;

SQL injection attempts;

Successful + failed Shibboleth logins (pertinent to University of California campuses).



LEGAL FORENSICS/INVESTIGATIONS

Information security is deeply connected to legal investigations and forensics. Our security-focused ELK stack has reduced the time and effort involved in gathering log-based evidence.



SUMMER 2015 ROADMAP

[Linux: audit.d]

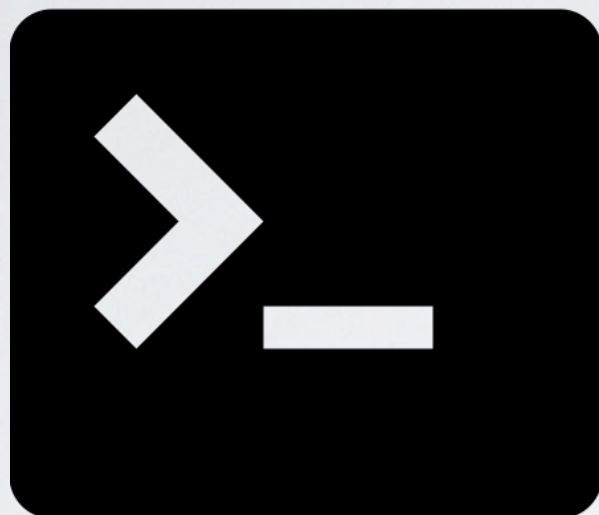
[Windows Server: logstash-forwarder]

[Linux: privileges on watched files/directories]

[Major Databases: MSSQL, MariaDB, Percona, etc.]

[Netflow: [D]DOS attacks]

[Netflow: Outbound/Inbound]



NEXT UP: LIVE DEMO