

Where does logrotate save its own log?

Asked 11 years, 6 months ago Modified 3 years, 9 months ago Viewed 81k times



50



I have `logrotate` running in an EC2 AWS machine rotating Apache logs. Once packed, Apache logs are saved into AWS S3 via s3fs. The problem is that I recently noticed that I didn't have logs rotated. In S3 I have old logs from day 48->60 but the 1->47 doesn't appear.

My question is: Where does logrotate save its own log? It's possible that I have some kind of problem with s3fs, but I need to know before I do anything. I tried to find somewhere the logs but I couldn't find it out.

Any idea?

logrotate

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edited Sep 11, 2018 at 10:35



womble ♦

96.5k ● 29 ● 175 ● 230

asked Apr 19, 2012 at 11:30



enedebe

1,066 ● 3 ● 11 ● 18

6 Answers

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37



`logrotate` does not log anything by default. normally it should be in your cron somewhere, for instance:


```
$ grep -r -- 'logrotate.conf' /etc/cron*  
/etc/cron.daily/logrotate:/usr/sbin/logrotate /etc/logrotate.conf
```


You can either run that manually to see what is wrong, or redirect the logrotate output to a file in the above cron to see what happened next day.

Likely somewhere the config is incorrect and caused the logrotate run to break.



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edited Sep 11, 2018 at 10:34
 **StackzOfZtuff**
 1,864 ● 13 ● 21

answered Apr 19, 2012 at 12:16
 **johnshen64**
 5,865 ● 24 ● 17

3 +1 on running logrotate manually to see what's wrong – **cjc** Apr 19, 2012 at 12:20

thanks for the answer, but what I really want to know what has happened in my system to get this kind result. Thank's! – **enedebe** Apr 19, 2012 at 21:26

does manually run logrotate give any errors? if there are errors, you need to fix them in the conf file or /etc/logrotate.d/apache (or apache2). – **johnshen64** Apr 19, 2012 at 21:50

7 You can use the `-d` debug flag and the `-f` force flag to see exactly what logrotate is attempting to do. `-d` disables action but the printed messages will still claim they're changing things. – **David Lord** Jul 23, 2015 at 3:44

1 When running `/usr/sbin/logrotate /etc/logrotate.conf`, I'd add `-v` to see the detailed log. – **Dennis Golomazov** Nov 18, 2019 at 13:25



The only thing that logrotate records normally is in `cat /var/lib/logrotate/status`.


23


This is taken from <https://serverfault.com/a/518134/266525>



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edited Apr 13, 2017 at 12:14
 **Community Bot**
 1

answered May 2, 2016 at 17:17
 **dragon788**
 806 ● 8 ● 10

1 It turns out there are differences in the actual path depending on the distribution and version used. Check the linked serverfault answer and it's comments for details. – **Attila Csipak** Oct 1, 2020 at 12:46

4 `/var/lib/logrotate/logrotate.status` on my CentOS 7 system. – **rinogo** Oct 2, 2020 at 18:25



Another good place to look is `/var/log/messages` on CentOS for errors such as this from the cron.daily `/etc/cron.daily/logrotate`

9

logrotate: ALERT exited abnormally with [1]



You can also run in debug mode manually and check for errors:



```
/usr/sbin/logrotate -d /etc/logrotate.conf
```

Source: <https://access.redhat.com/solutions/32831>

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answered Feb 23, 2016 at 15:52



Tony-Caffe

268 ● 2 ● 8



If you're running `logrotate` from cron and not redirecting the output, the output, if there is any, will go to email for whichever ID is running the cron job. I redirect my output to a log file.

4



For example:

```
25 3 * * 7 /usr/sbin/logrotate -s /home/user/conf/mwarelogrotate.state  
/home/user/conf/mwarelogrotate.conf >> /home/user/logs/logrotate.log 2>&1
```



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edited Sep 11, 2018 at 10:35



StackzOfZtuff

1,864 ● 13 ● 21

answered Oct 8, 2013 at 18:15



Geoffrey M.

51 ● 1



When logrotate doesn't rotate logs or enters failed state, it's a good idea to run logorate manually in debug mode to see what errors it lists, like this:

2

```
/usr/sbin/logrotate -d /etc/logrotate.d/*
```



This command tests rotating the logs for all the services that have files located in `/etc/logrotate.d/`. If it lists errors (such as errors caused by duplicate log entries), you'll know why logrotate has problems.



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answered Dec 9, 2019 at 9:58



Ludvik

21 ● 5



Check `/etc/logrotate.conf` for global config settings that may be affecting tasks configured through `/etc/logrotate.d/`