

AI and Scientific Research Computing with Kubernetes

Monitoring your Work

A tutorial at PEARC24

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Ref: Tutorials at PEARC, SC, 5NRP by Igor Sfiligoi, Dmitry Mishin, and Mahidhar Tatineni

Understand what you are requesting

List your requests

- Listing the pods the most useful
`kubectl get pods`
 - Using the `-o wide` option provides good balance between detail and readability
- But remember that jobs are separate objects
`kubectl get jobs`
- And let's not forget about storage
`kubectl get pvc`

When pods don't start

Monitor K8S internals

- Events provide good overview of what is happening
`kubectl get events`
 - Usually better ordered `--sort-by=.metadata.creationTimestamp`

Make sure your requests are reasonable

- Check what's available
`kubectl get nodes`
- Use `-o wide` or `-o yaml` for detailed view

Description of pending/running pods

Get full information on pod

- `kubectl describe pod <pod name>`

Describe option can also be used to get node info

- `kubectl describe node <node name>`

Understanding running pods

Stdout and stderr can be accessed at any time

- `kubectl logs <pod name>`

Log into the pod for troubleshooting

- `kubectl exec`
- By default just runs a command, but can be made interactive with `-it -- /bin/bash`

Understanding the performance

Long-running pods report load to central collector

- `kubectl top pods`

You can also check what the node-level load is

- `kubectl top nodes <nodename>`



External tools



Most K8S clusters will have GUI tools

May differ between installations

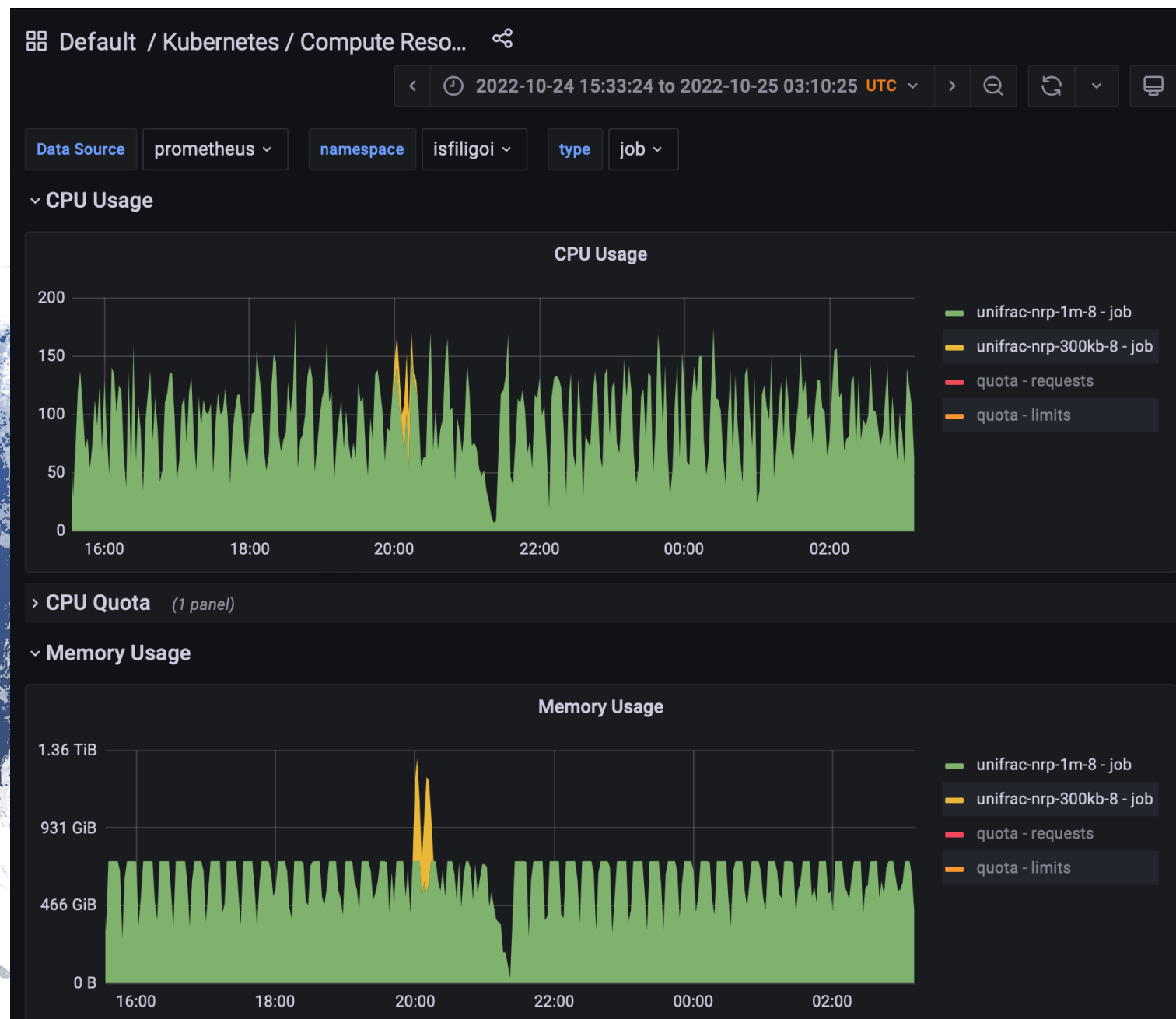
- There are many competing solutions available

Grafana often used for Web-based visualization

- Backend data often managed by Prometheus

<https://prometheus.io/docs/introduction/overview/>

Screenshot from Nautilus



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