

fully open-source, on-premises architecture for monitoring and alerting on ISO 8583 transactions at **100,000–200,000 TPS**, designed for scalability, cost-efficiency, and real-time responsiveness:

1. Data Collection & Ingestion

Tools:

Apache Kafka: Distributed message broker for high-throughput ingestion (handles 200k+ TPS with horizontal scaling).

Filebeat: Lightweight agent to collect ISO 8583 logs from switches/terminals.

Telegraf: Collect system metrics (CPU, memory, disk I/O) from servers.

Parsing:

Use **jPOS** (Java) or **iso8583-python** to decode ISO 8583 messages and extract critical fields (MTI, response codes, PAN, amount).

2. Stream Processing

Tools:

Apache Flink: Stateful stream processing for real-time metrics (e.g., TPS, error rates, fraud detection).

Kafka Streams: Lightweight processing for enrichment (e.g., adding merchant details from a PostgreSQL DB).

Key Workflows:

Compute **success/error rates** per transaction type (MTI/processing code).

Detect **velocity-based fraud** (e.g., >5 transactions per PAN in 60 seconds).

Track **end-to-end latency** (request-to-response time).

3. Storage

Time-Series Data:

VictoriaMetrics: Prometheus-compatible, high-performance TSDB (handles 1M+ samples/sec on modest hardware).

Apache Parquet + HDFS: For cost-effective long-term retention of raw metrics.

Logs & Traces:

Elasticsearch: Store parsed ISO 8583 logs (retain 30 days hot storage, archive to **MinIO** for cold storage).

PostgreSQL: For reconciliation data (request/response matching) and reference tables (BIN ranges, merchant IDs).

4. Visualization

Grafana: Unified dashboards for:

Real-time TPS, error rates, and latency (sourced from VictoriaMetrics).

Geo-distribution of transactions (integrate with GeoIP in Elasticsearch).

Kibana: Investigate raw transaction logs (e.g., filter by response code 06 for "Error") and system health.

5. Alerting

Prometheus Alertmanager: For threshold-based alerts:

`response_code != 00 > 5% over 5m`

`http_server_requests_seconds:percentile95 > 2s`

ElastAlert: Detect anomalies in Elasticsearch logs (e.g., PAN velocity spikes).

Grafana Alerts: Notify teams via email/Slack for dashboard-based thresholds.

6. Infrastructure Design

Hardware Requirements (example for 200k TPS):

Kafka Brokers: 3 nodes (16 vCPU, 64GB RAM, NVMe SSDs) – handle message buffering.

Flink Cluster: 4 task managers (32 vCPU, 128GB RAM) – process streams.

VictoriaMetrics: 2 nodes (32 vCPU, 128GB RAM, 10TB SSD) – store metrics.

Elasticsearch: 5-node cluster (64 vCPU, 256GB RAM, 20TB NVMe) – hot storage.

Networking:

10 Gbps NICs for Kafka/Flink/Elasticsearch nodes.

Segment traffic: Isolate transaction processing from analytics.

7. Security & Compliance

Data Masking:

Use Flink to tokenize PANs (e.g., replace with SHA-256 hash) before storage.

PostgreSQL pgcrypto for encrypting sensitive fields at rest.

Access Control:

Keycloak: Integrate with Grafana/Kibana for RBAC.

Auditbeat: Log access to Elasticsearch and PostgreSQL.

Encryption:

TLS for Kafka/Flink/Elasticsearch inter-node communication.

LUKS disk encryption for VictoriaMetrics/Elasticsearch data.

8. Scalability & Reliability

Kafka:

Use 6+ partitions per topic to parallelize Flink processing.

Enable replication factor=3 for fault tolerance.

Flink:

Configure RocksDB state backend for checkpointing (fault tolerance).

Scale horizontally by adding task managers.

Elasticsearch:

Use time-based indices (e.g., transactions-2024-01-01) with 3 shards per index.

Deploy dedicated master nodes to prevent split-brain.

9. Cost Optimization

MinIO: Replace S3 for cold storage (deploy on HDDs for cost savings).

ZFS Compression: Enable on Elasticsearch/MinIO nodes to reduce storage costs.

Vertical Scaling: Start with smaller nodes and expand as traffic grows.

10. Deployment Tools

Ansible: Automate provisioning of Kafka/Flink/Elasticsearch nodes.

Docker Compose: For local testing (e.g., MinIO, Grafana).

Prometheus Operator: Manage VictoriaMetrics/Prometheus via Kubernetes (optional).

11. Disaster Recovery

Backups:

Daily Elasticsearch snapshots to MinIO.

VictoriaMetrics hourly snapshots to NFS.

DR Site:

Async Kafka mirroring to a secondary data center.