Watson AlOps Demo Guide

Prerequisites

There are several steps that you will need to take to ensure a successful demo.

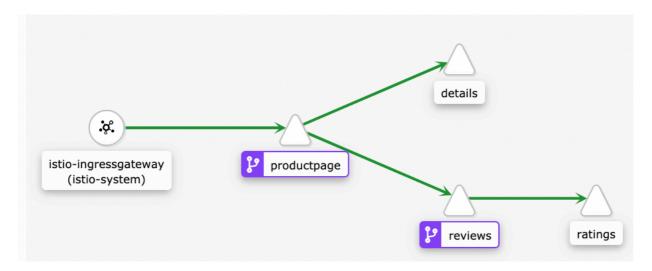
Please make sure that you have followed the steps to <u>prepare for the demo</u> and/or watch my <u>video walkthrough</u>.

Demo

Intro

You should start your demo by showing the **Bookinfo Application**

Here you should explain the architecture of Bookinfo



And the mapping of the page elements



Simulate incident

Make sure you are logged-in to the Kubernetes Cluster first (see chapter Prerequisites)

In the terminal type

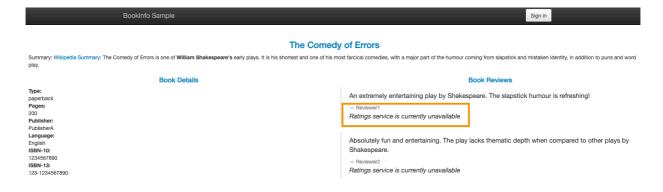
```
cd demo
./gitpush_bookinfo.sh
```

Script:

I will now do a simulated push of new code to the Bookinfo Git Repository.

This will simulate a push to the Bookinfo Git Repository with all the Events and Logs being simulated that lead to an outage of the Ratings Service.

Go back to back to the <u>Bookinfo Application</u> and show that the Ratings service has a failure now.



Script:

As you can see the application is still running, however it is no longer returning product reviews. This is a key service for customer to evaluate how good a product is, and it is no longer working, which may well result in loss of sales.

Slack

Script:

1. Switch to the Slack channel and show the Story for Bookinfo that you selected in the Preparation step.

I will now demonstrate our AIOps capabilities using a ChatOps workflow. ChatOps empowers high-performing, cross-functional and, often, global or remote teams especially in these times to get notified, investigate, collaborate with key SMEs and solve the problem in one platform without the need of emails, phone calls, tool switching and meetings.

In this scenario, the team I am working with has embraced ChatOps and uses Slack as our collaboration platform. So right now I am heads down working when I see a notification from Watson AlOps about a problem.

As I get to the Slack channel, Watson AlOps gives me a succinct report of key information telling me:

- 1. There's a problem happening that I need to pay attention to.
- 2. A pointer to where the problem is and other services that might be affected.
- 3. Synthesized evidence and advice to diagnose and resolve the situation.

This is key as an IT Operator. Without Watson AIOPs, I had to work through pages and pages of high priority alerts that were more noisy than helpful.

Let's break down this message before diving into the details.

2. Explain the basic information in the Story (Title, Description, Replies)

- First, Watson AlOps presents a high-level summary of the potential issue with an initial title, description, and severity based on evidence grouped in the background.
- The title and description are distilled from the extracted entities using NLP from the evidence data. In this issue Watson AlOps has autogenerated the title based on the pods impacted and the number of events correlated.

3. Go to Relevant events

- In this specific example, Watson AIOPs is alerting that an event has occurred
 in the BookInfo application and there are several events correlated from
 different components of application and succulently presented here.
- Now let's dig into the evidence.

- As previously mentioned, Watson AlOps algorithms connect my siloed data sources to synthesize a single holistic problem report.
- Watson AlOps has grouped a diverse set of log anomalies and alerts together based on spatial and temporal reasoning as well as similarity to past situations.
 - Behind the scenes, this leverages pre-built models and unsupervised ML training on 'what normal means' in my environment.
- Watson AlOps shows me the specific data points that were correlated so I
 can gain confidence in the synthesized report. If I want to see the source
 data, I can always link in context to the originating tool.

4. Click View Relevant Events

5. **DO NOT** click on Attach template logs as this messes up the stream

- As you can see, Watson AlOps has grouped several Events in this one Story.
- There are simple alerts having been triggered from sources like Metrics Manager, Humio, Sysdig, Falco, Prometheus Alertmanager, Git, and many more.
- But we find detected Log Anomalies as well.
- Everything grouped in one nice package, ready for me to dive in and understand the problem I'm facing.

6. Click Show More, Preview Logs

- Click on preview logs and show that there has been an anomaly detected and that the Ratings Service is unreachable.
- I can also look at the log anomalies. For Watson AlOps, an anomaly is the
 occurrence of message patterns (as shown here) that are not seen in the
 normal operation of the product. Watson AlOps helps me read every log
 message that is coming and understand the impact, and then notifies me only
 when necessary. I no longer worry about issues I have never seen before.

7. Click on Search Recommended Actions and select Search - explain Similar Incidents, NLP, ...

- I have not seen this particular problem before, so I hope Watson AIOps can help me leverage expertise from my team in similar past incidents and identify potential root causes even before I have done deep investigation into the problem.
- Behind the scenes, Watson AIOps uses Watson NLP to mine human language and historical knowledge - from ServiceNow tickets or as in this demo from GitHub Issues - to understand the content in previous tickets to

- identify and extract resolution actions automatically.
- This saves time for my team with relevant content in the ticket, we're able to share the knowledge.
- It's easy to see as well why Watson AIOps considers this relevant based on the services affected and nature of the problem. The first recommended action looks good, let's look deeper.
- Now when I click on the proposed solution it takes me to a GitHub Issue that tells me that last time this type of problem has been resolved by scaling back up the Ratings deployment and that there is an automated Runbook available.
- So I would be able to correct the problem right here and right now, but let's dig a little bit deeper in the information

8. Go to Localization and Blast Radius

To better understand the localization and the effects of the outage, Watson
AlOps shows me a hypothesized source of the problem and the blast radius what else might be affected based on an understanding of the application
topology.

9. Click on View Relationships - explain

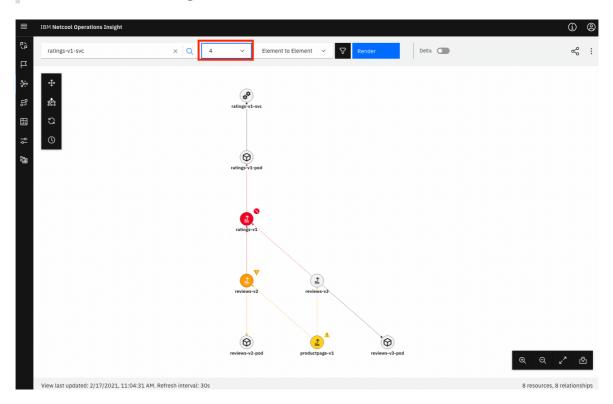
- At one glance, I can immediately see the pods and services impacted and the potential blast radius of this emerging issue designated by the numbers 1 and 2.
- Watson AlOps shows me a hypothesized location of the event and the next most distant dependencies to help me understand the potential blast radius of the problem.
- In the background Watson AIOps uses a built-in dynamic topology mapping service to understand dependencies and relationships within my application.
- Watson AlOps shows me more granular relationships based on topology understanding designated by numbers 1 and 2. I can see the pods impacted and the services impacted with in the pods.
- In can also see a graphical representation of the information.

10. Click on View Blast Radius - this takes you to the Event Manager

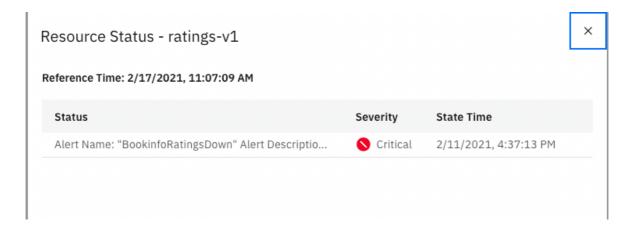
- Now let's take a closer look at the Blast Radius
- The localization and blast radius reasoning is based on topology understanding, timeline, and entity names where the evidence is coming from.

Event Manager and Topology

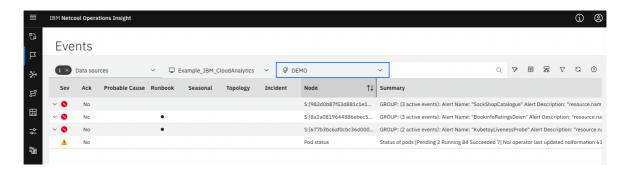
- 1. Select 4 from the dropdown and click on Render This shows you the topology with the affected elements
 - First let's get a bigger picture of where my problem is located and how it affects surrounding elements



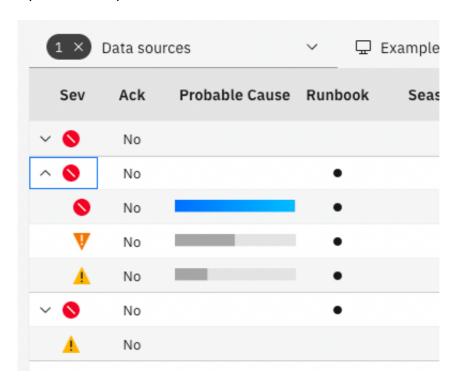
- 2. Right click on ratings-v1 and select Resource Status Talk about Events
 - When checking for the Ratings Service, I can see that there has been a critical Event created on this component



- 3. Click on Events in the left hand menu and select DEMO view in the dropdown this brings you to the list of Events
 - Now let's take a look at all the events that made up the Slack Message



4. Open the Group for Bookinfo



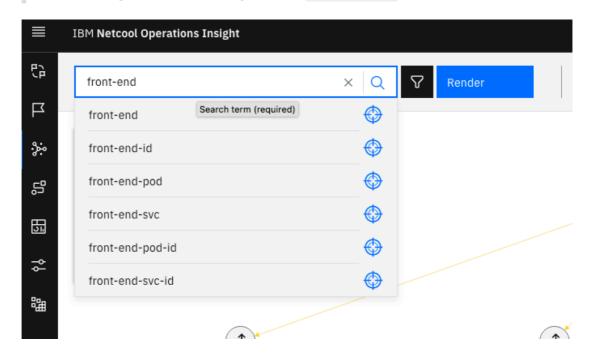
- 5. Click on the line with ratings-v1
- 6. Open Scope Based Correlation Explain
 - There are different ways in which Watson AlOps can correlate and group
 Events
 - The first way is through Scope Based Correlation, this groups similar events based on their Scope
- 7. Open Temporal Correlation Explain (click on More information if you want to show more detail)
 - The Second way is through Temporal Correlation, this groups Events that regularly occur together
 - You can see that the grouped events have been



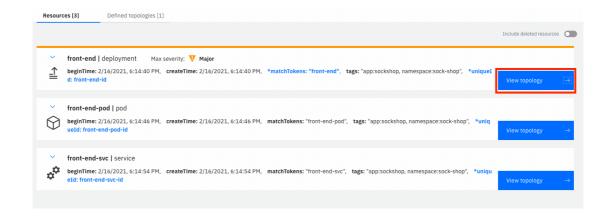
4f914a40-660a-11eb-bd42-9df8228d3906 @



- 8. Open Topology Correlation Explain click on More information
 - Topology Correlation works by grouping events that happen on adjacent nodes on the topology graph
 - Let's take a closer look at the Bookinfo App Topology
- 9. Explain Topology more in-depth if you have time. You could for example type `front-end' in the search box and show how to create the topology for the Sockshop Application
 - 1. Create Sockshop Topology
 - You can create your custom topology views.
 - Let's create the topology for another demo Application called Sockshop
 - Starting with the main page called front-end

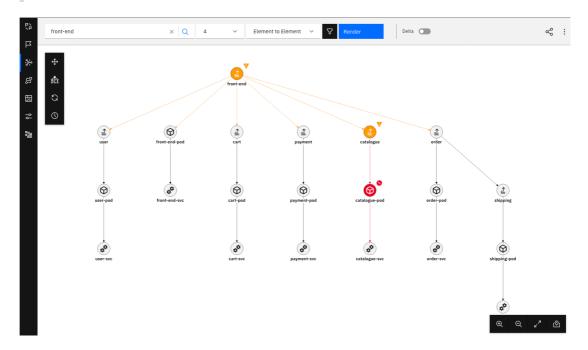


So I select to seed the view with the Frontend Deployment



Increase level to 4 - click Render

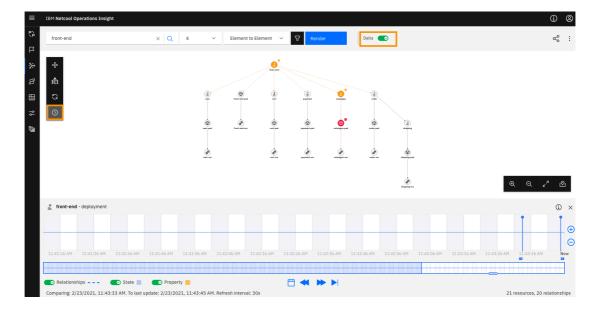
Let's get some more information



 And voilà I have a complete overview of the dependencies of my Sock Shop Application

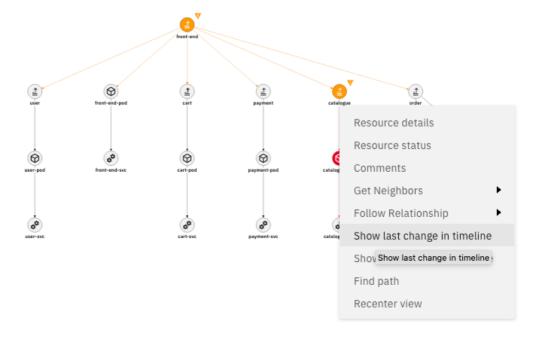
2. Show Delta

- With the topology tool, I also have the ability to track back, and see what has changed over time, If I turn on the "Delta" function, I am able to select a time period and see the changes in the Topology
- Let's enable the functionality

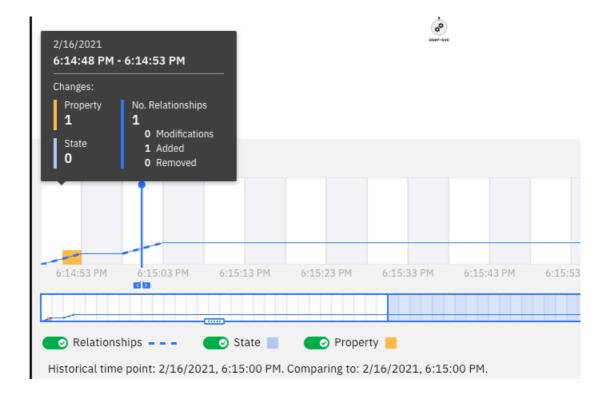


 The Catalog Servcie has an issue (it's red). To examine the last changes it had, I right click on it and select

Show last change in timeline



This teleports me to the last change performed on this component, so here I can see that there have been added properties and relationships when the service was initially deployed.



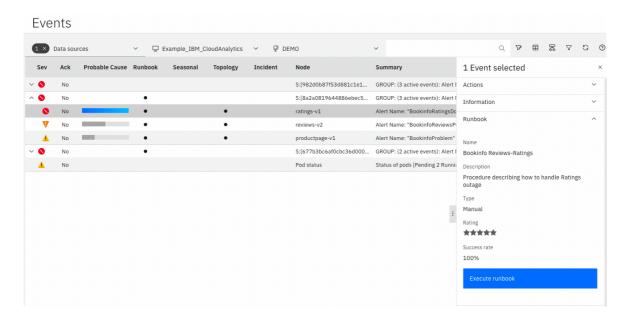
Mitigate the Problem

1. Go back to the Event List

 Now that we have gotten a good grasp at the localization, side effects of the outage, I will mitigate the problem.

2. Open Runbook

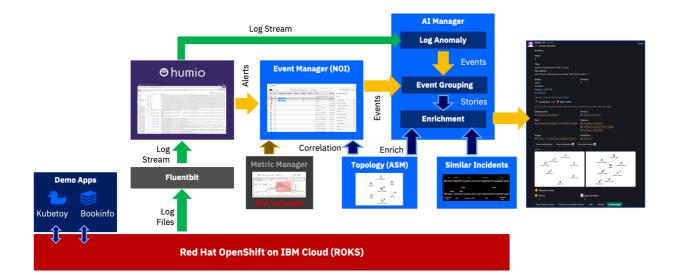
- As we have seen in the GitHub Issue, a fellow SRE has created a Runbook to correct this problem.
- In addition to that the Runbook is even automated, so no need to run through manual steps.



- 3. Click Execute Runbook
 - I go the Runbook
- 4. Click Start Runbook
 - Start it Runbook
- 5. Click Run this takes a moment
 - And run the mitigation
 - This can take a minute or two, so let's wait
- 6. Show the script that has been executed
 - When finished, I can see the actions that has been executed
- 7. Click Next Step
- 8. Click Complete
- 9. Rate the Runbook
 - Ok, done. Let's rate the Runbook and tell Watson AlOps that it has worked as planned.
- 10. Click Runbook Worked
- 11. Go back to back to the <u>Bookinfo Application</u> and show that the Ratings service is working now.
 - Ok, done. We can see that the Ratings Service is back up.

What have we seen

• The demo that I have just walked you through has the following flow



- The IT environement (based on Kubernetes, Applications, ...) creates logs that are being fed into a Log Management Tool (Humio in this case).
- The Log Management Tool (Humio) generates Alerts when it detects a Problem and sends them into the Event Manager (Netcool Operations Insight).
- Event Manager can ingest Alerts from various sources like Metrics Manager, Humio, Sysdig, Falco, Prometheus Alertmanager, Git, and many more.
- Which in turn sends them to the Al Manager for Event Grouping.
- At the same time Al Manager ingests the raw logs coming from the Log Management Tool (Humio) and looks for anomalies in the stream based on the trained model.
- If it finds an anomaly it forwards it to the Event Grouping as well.
- Out of this, Al Manager creates a Story that is being enriched with Topology (Localization and Blast Radius) and with Similar Incidents that might help correct the problem.
- The Story is then sent to Slack.