

Splunk4Admins

Indexer Performance



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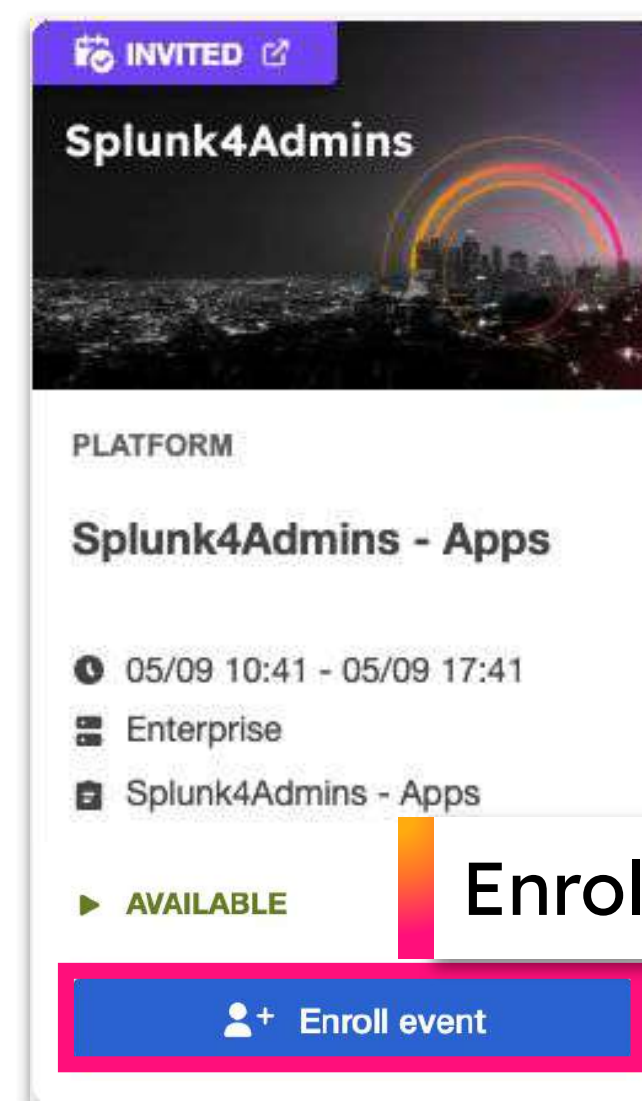
Enroll in Today's Workshop

Tasks

1. Get a splunk.com account if you don't have one yet:
<https://splk.it/SignUp>
2. Enroll in the Splunk Show workshop event:
<https://show.splunk.com/event/<eventID>>
3. Download the hands-on lab guide:
<https://splk.it/S4A-IDX-Lab-Guide>

Contains step-by-step instructions for all of today's exercises!
4. Download a copy of today's slide deck:
<https://splk.it/S4A-IDX-Attendee>

Goal



Enroll in today's event

Please introduce yourself!

- Name
- Company/organisation
- Role
- Are you currently using Splunk?
- What are you interested in using Splunk for?



Workshop Agenda

- Who?|What?|Why?
- Expectations
- Aspects of Splunk Performance
- Effects of Indexer Performance on Splunk
- Splunk Architecture and Specifications
- Effects of Search Workload on Splunk
- Scale-up or Scale-out?
- Performance Detection Tools
 - Lab¹
 - Lab²
 - Lab³
 - Lab⁴ - Lab⁶
- Performance Problem Mitigation
- Summary

Audience

Who is this Workshop for?

- Those who are interested in how to observe and detect issues within Splunk ...
 - Splunk Admins
 - “Required”: Power User Certified
 - “Required”: Splunk Admin enabled
 - “Required”: Splunk Admin Certified preferred

Expectations for Workshop

Indexer Performance

- Last roughly 90 - 120 minutes
- Understand what affects Splunk indexer performance
- Understand how Splunk Architecture affects performance
- Understand how Splunk Search load affects indexer performance
- Guidelines for when to “scale-out” vs when to “scale-up”
- Tools to use for performance issue detection
- Some solutions to common performance issues
- Many, many resources

What is Splunk “performance”

- What constitutes Splunk indexer performance diagnosis and remediation?
- Understand Architecture
 - Indexers vs Search head
 - Utility systems)
- Slow search
- Slow and delayed ingest

Maximizing performance with the latest Splunk platform capabilities

https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/UCE/Observability/Maximizing_performance_with_the_latest_Splunk_platform_capabilities

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Aspects of Splunk “performance”

- OS vs. Splunk
- Understanding how the two pieces interact is essential
- Understanding where the most likely bottlenecks exist helps accelerate diagnosis
- Using the correct tools helps ensure quick responses
 - Splunk tools first, then OS tools
 - Third party tools are available, but diagnosing Splunk should start with Splunk

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Splunk Specifications

- How important is “minimum specifications”?
- How important is using SVA?
 - Where to get SVA?
- How to use SVA?
- Minimum architecture? C1 or C11
- Prefer actual hardware to VM infrastructure

Planning for infrastructure and resource scalability	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/Splunk_Outcome_Paths/Improve_Performance/Planning_for_infrastructure_and_resource_scalability
Splunk Validated Architectures	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/SVA/current/Architectures/About
Reference hardware	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware

System Architecture

Tiering

- Search
 - Clustered or otherwise
- Indexing
 - Cluster Manager (CM) plus however many indexers, min: 3
- Utility
 - CM, License Manager (LM), Deployment Server (DS), and Deployer (search head cluster manager)
- Forwarding
 - Actual work environment for enterprise
 - May include Heavy Forwarder tier

Planning for infrastructure and resource scalability	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/Splunk_Outcome_Paths/Improve_Performance/Planning_for_infrastructure_and_resource_scalability
Splunk Validated Architectures	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/SVA/current/Architectures/About
Reference hardware	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware
Summary of performance recommendations	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Summaryofperformancerecommendations

Splunk Parallelism

- Map/Reduce is the key
- Parallelism scales much more easily than single-machine parallelism (SMP)
- Distributing workload reduces response time significantly
- Plenty of reasons to scale-up
 - Large memory footprint of KV Store or lookups
 - Every search sends a package of information related to the Knowledge Objects. The larger the package, the higher the latency as the search startup is delayed
 - Large results set returns

Configure parallel reduce search processing	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DistSearch/Setupparallelreduce
Capacity Planning Manual	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Performancechecklist
Summary of performance recommendations	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Summaryofperformancerecommendations

System Architecture

Storage

- Shared vs. direct attached storage devices (DASD)
 - Types - Recommendation
 - Hot-warm - NVME/SSD
 - Cold/Frozen - Large SSD, but can be spinning disk or network storage. Must be carefully tuned
 - Shared infrastructure should be dedicated to Splunk with Quality of Service (QoS) to tune performance needs (throughput and IOPs)
- Primary issues
 - Latency
 - < 20ms, but faster will always be better
 - IOPs
 - Dependent on Premium Apps
 - Minimum 800, but more for indexers
 - Throughput
 - More is better, but there are no recommendations

Sizing your Splunk architecture

[Link to Splunk Lantern](#)

What storage type should I use for a role?

[Link to Splunk Docs](#)

System Architecture

Memory

- More is better
- Competing requirements:
 - OS Write cache
 - OS Read cache
 - Search KV Store and lookups and then results loaded and returned
 - Splunkd
 - OS requirements
- Architecture for different tiers
 - For indexers - (sm: 12GB, mid: 64GB, high: 128GB)
 - Search heads - rough recommendation start at 32GB (MC can use more)
 - Utilities - start at the minimum, but have separate hardware/VM for the various services
 - Premium Apps - always require more

Sizing your Splunk architecture

[Link to Splunk Lantern](#)

Indexer Memory Specification

[Link to Splunk Docs](#)

System Architecture

CPU

- As with RAM, more is better
- Competing requirements:
 - OS activities
 - Splunk search (1 (v)cpu per search drives available concurrency)
 - Splunk indexing (also 1 (v)cpu per search drives available resources)
- For indexers - (sm: 12p/24vpcu, mid: 24p/48vcpu, high: 48p/96vcpu)
- Search heads - 16p/32vcpu
- Utilities - start at the minimum, but have separate hardware/VM for the various services
- Premium Apps - always require more

Sizing your Splunk architecture

[Link to Splunk Lantern](#)

Indexer CPU Specification

[Link to Splunk Docs](#)

System Architecture

Network

- Minimum recommendation is : 1Gbit, idx < 100ms, sh < 200ms
- More is better
- Among the Splunk infrastructure, 10Gbit is likely a reasonable minimum
- Competing aspects
 - Indexers
 - Ingest can be extremely high
 - Bucket replication among indexers leaches bandwidth
 - Search results returns
 - Search heads
 - Interactive workload is low
 - Copying search bundles with large KV/lookups can be significant
 - Search results returns

Sizing your Splunk architecture

[Link to Splunk Lantern](#)

Network latency limits for clustered deployments

[Link to Splunk Docs](#)

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Search Workload

Affects

- Bigger search workload = the bigger indexers required
- Competition between search and ingest is a balancing act
- Understanding where search workload comes from is essential
 - Savedsearches (Premium app and user-generated)
 - Poor SPL hygiene (especially if in a frequently run savedsearch)
 - Skipped searches can indicate insufficient resources at either the search head or the indexer - can also be slow networking ...
- In summary, understanding the search workload can help troubleshoot whether the issue is search- or indexer-related

Reducing search load	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/Splunk_Outcome_Paths/Reduce_Costs/Reducing_search_load
How search types affect Splunk Enterprise performance	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/HowsearchtypesaffectSplunkEnterpriseperformance
How concurrent users and searches impact performance	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Accommodatemany simultaneous searches

Scale-up or Scale-out

That is the question ...

- **Appropriate sizing**
 - Based on predicted ingest and search workload
 - Can be affected by new requirements, beyond what was initially envisioned for Splunk
- **Watch the indexer CPU and RAM usage**
 - If RAM is hitting the maximum on the system, scale-up
 - If CPU is hitting the maximum on the system, scale-out
 - If network traffic is tied, upgrade network
 - If storage is tied, upgrade storage, adjust workload (slow Cold/Frozen)
- **Reasonable suggestions to start with, but there are more subtle variations, not in scope**

Determine when to scale your Splunk Enterprise deployment	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Performancechecklist
Scalability in IT: The Complete Guide To Scaling	https://www.splunk.com/en_us/blog/learn/scalability.html
Determine when to scale your Splunk Enterprise deployment	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Performancechecklist
Indexing and search architecture	Link to Lantern

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Detect Performance issues

Tools

- Splunk monitors (Monitoring Console, custom dashboards)
 - MC: Indexing:Performance:[Instance|Advanced|Deployment]
 - MC:Indexing:Indexer Clustering:[Status|Service Activity]
 - MC:Indexing:Indexes and Volumes:*
 - MC:Indexing:Inputs:*
- OS tools - on system
 - Top/glances/iostat/iftop/mtr
- OS tools - performance monitoring with agent off-host

Monitoring Splunk Enterprise	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/9.3.2/DMC/DMCoverview
NixCraft System Monitoring Tools	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/top-linux-monitoring-tools.html
Glances	https://github.com/nicolargo/glances
Linux interface analytics on-demand with iftop	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/linux-interface-iftop

Access the lab

Tools

- ‘ssh’ to the ‘jumphost’ as per the command in the lab guide/SHOW spreadsheet
 - ssh -p 2222 attendee@<your_assigned_IP>, password ‘5p1unk.conf’ or Windows App (putty)
- Access to the GUI on the MC and the Cluster Manager
 - Cluster Manager - http://<your_assigned_IP>:4501
 - Monitoring Console - http://<your_assigned_IP>:4505
 - For both - username = ‘admin’, password = ‘5p1unk.conf’

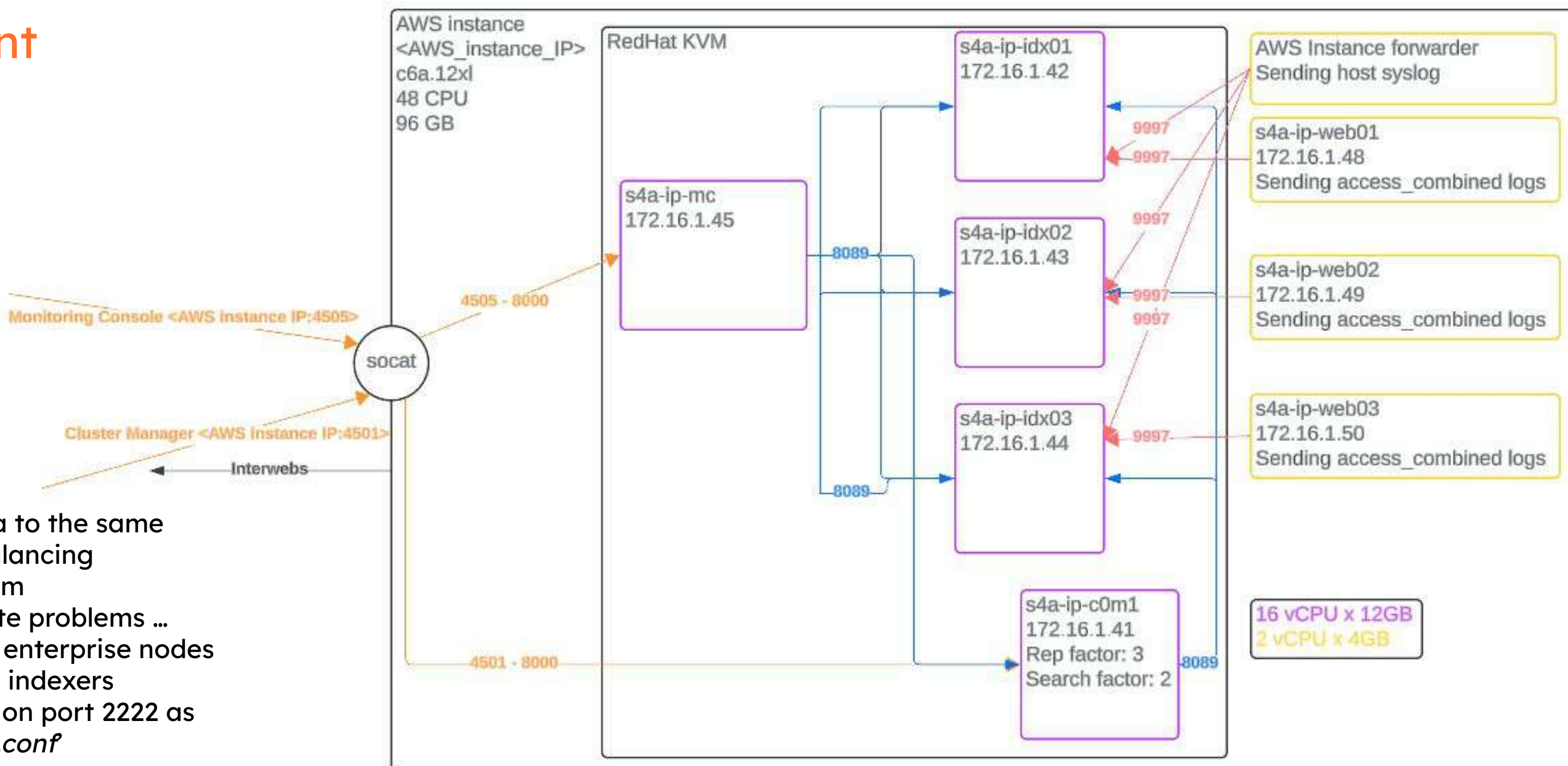
DO NOT USE THIS
ANYWHERE ELSE - LAB
ONLY

● Once on the jumphost, ssh to the hostname as necessary

Cluster Manager	s4a-ip-c0m1 (172.16.1.41)	Indexer 03	s4a-ip-idx01 (172.16.1.44)
Indexer 01	s4a-ip-idx01 (172.16.1.42)	Monitoring Console	s4a-ip-idx01 (172.16.1.45)
Indexer 02	s4a-ip-idx02 (172.16.1.43)	Load generators web01,2,3	s4a-ip-web0[1,2,3] (172.16.1.48,49,50)

Detect Performance issues

Lab environment



Note:

- Each “web” server sends data to the same numbered indexer. No loadbalancing
- Ensures consistent data stream
- Permits manipulation to create problems ...
- Syslog and perf metrics from enterprise nodes loadbalanced across all three indexers
- ssh to the <AWS instance IP> on port 2222 as ‘attendee’, password ‘5p1unk.conf’
- Web GUI
 - Cluster Manager <AWS instance IP>:4501
 - Monitoring Console <AWS instance IP>:4501

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Access the lab



Tools

- Likely be useful to have multiple open ssh sessions (one each) into each of the indexers (1, 2, and 3) as well as the cluster manager (c0m1)
- A GUI login into the Monitoring Console (MC)
- Explore the different instances in the CLI with the different commands
- The MC will be used to explore both Splunk performance and machine performance

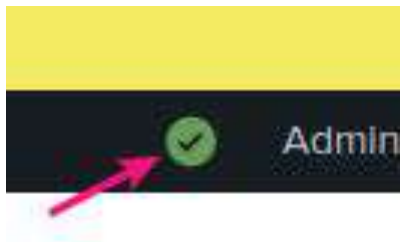
Detect Performance issues



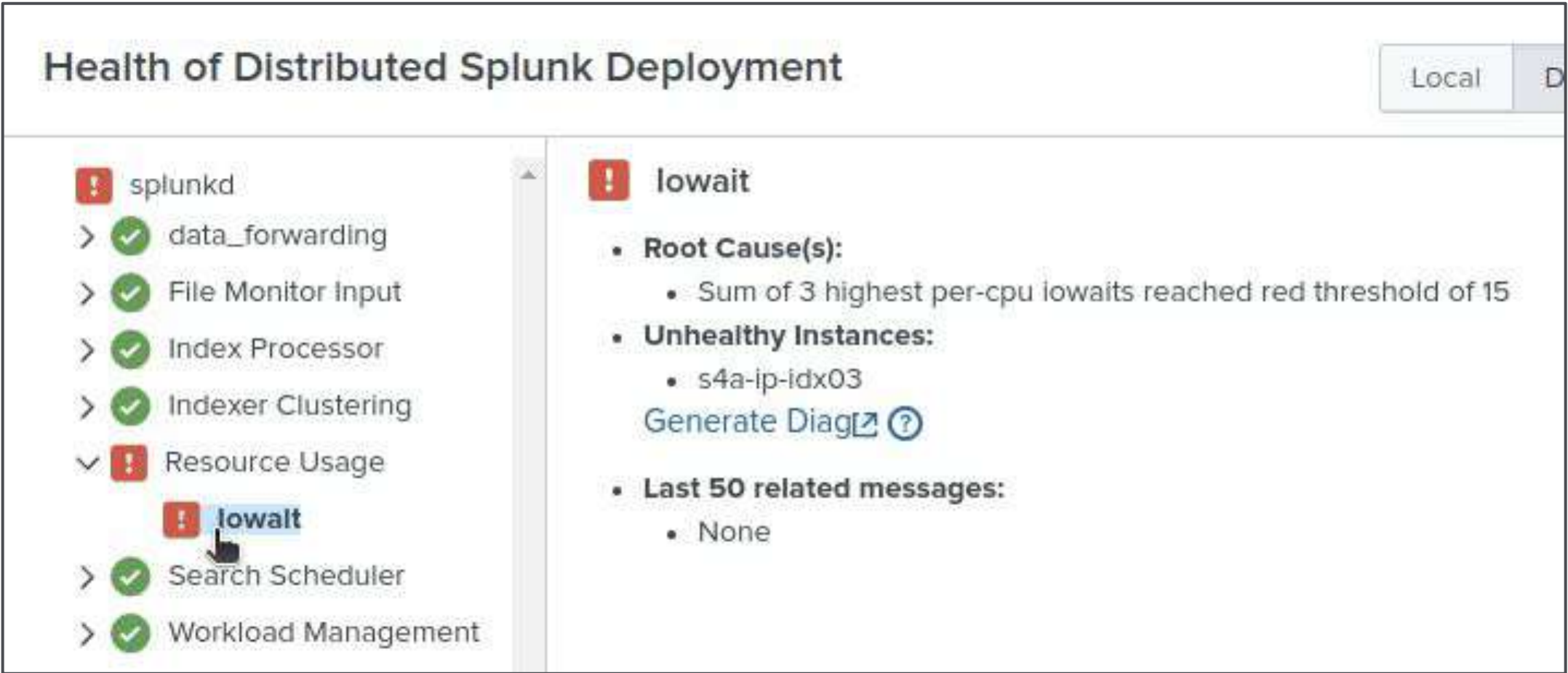
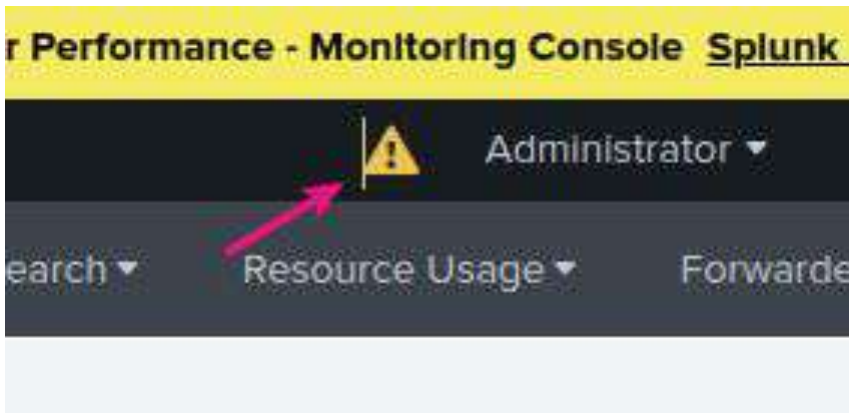
Tools: Splunk

- Alert Dropdown

Healthy



Un-Healthy

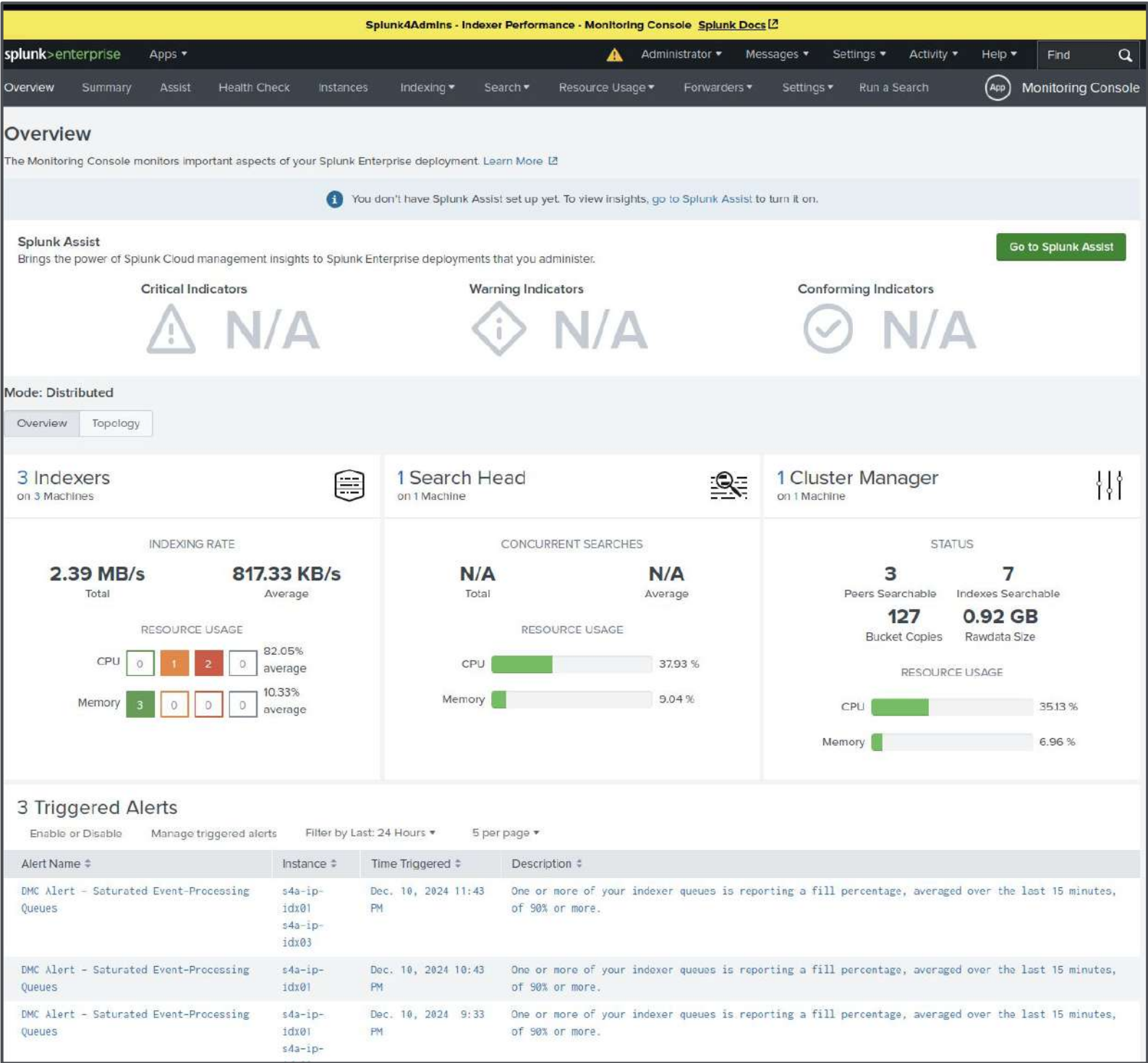
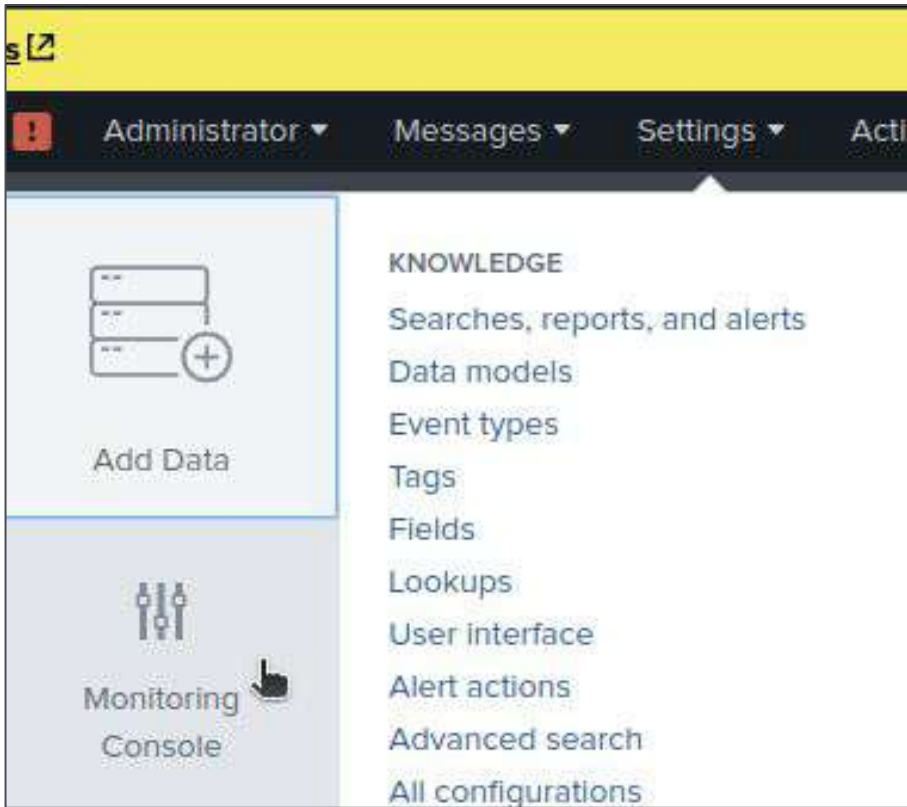


Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview
MC Summary/Overview	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/HowtheDMCworks

Detect Performance issues



- Tools: Splunk
- MC: Overview



Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC

<https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview>

MC Summary/Overview

<https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/HowtheDMCwork>

Detect Performance issues

Tools: Splunk

- When addressing Indexing Performance ...
- MC Indexing Performance Dashboards
 - Instance - specific to each Splunk indexer instance
 - Advanced - deeper dive into each indexer, including increased resolution CPU analysis, thread, pipeline, sourcetype performance
 - Deployment - Overview to provide both configuration and high-level knowledge leading to where the actual performance issue may be
- MC Indexer Clustering dashboards
 - Status - Much of the same information as from the Cluster Manager, just not accessing the CM directly
 - Service Activity - detect errors and administrative activities such as Fixup Tasks
- Resource Usage
 - Instance and Machine

Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MCc	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview
MC Summary/Overview	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/Summary
Indexing: Performance	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/IndexingDeployment

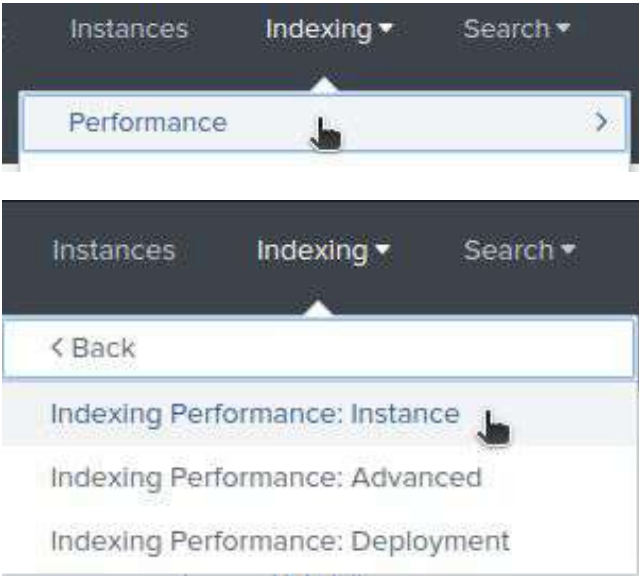
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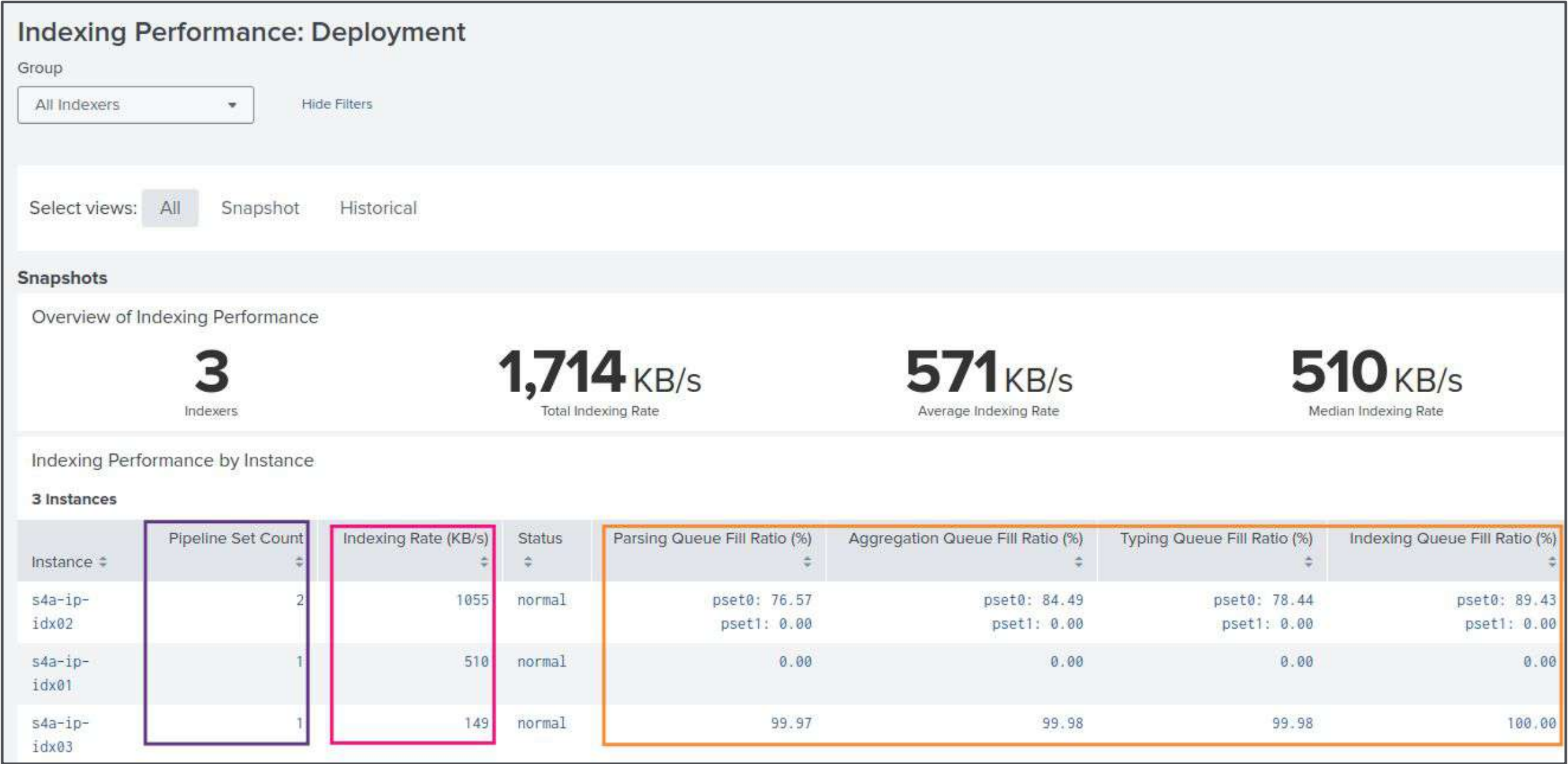
Detect Performance issues



Tools: SplunkMC:IP:Deployment



- Dashboards on IP:Deployment
- Get a direction on where issues exist
- Understand where outliers exist
- Purple - base configuration of indexers
- Pink - ingest rate of each indexers
- Orange - Queue fill percentages



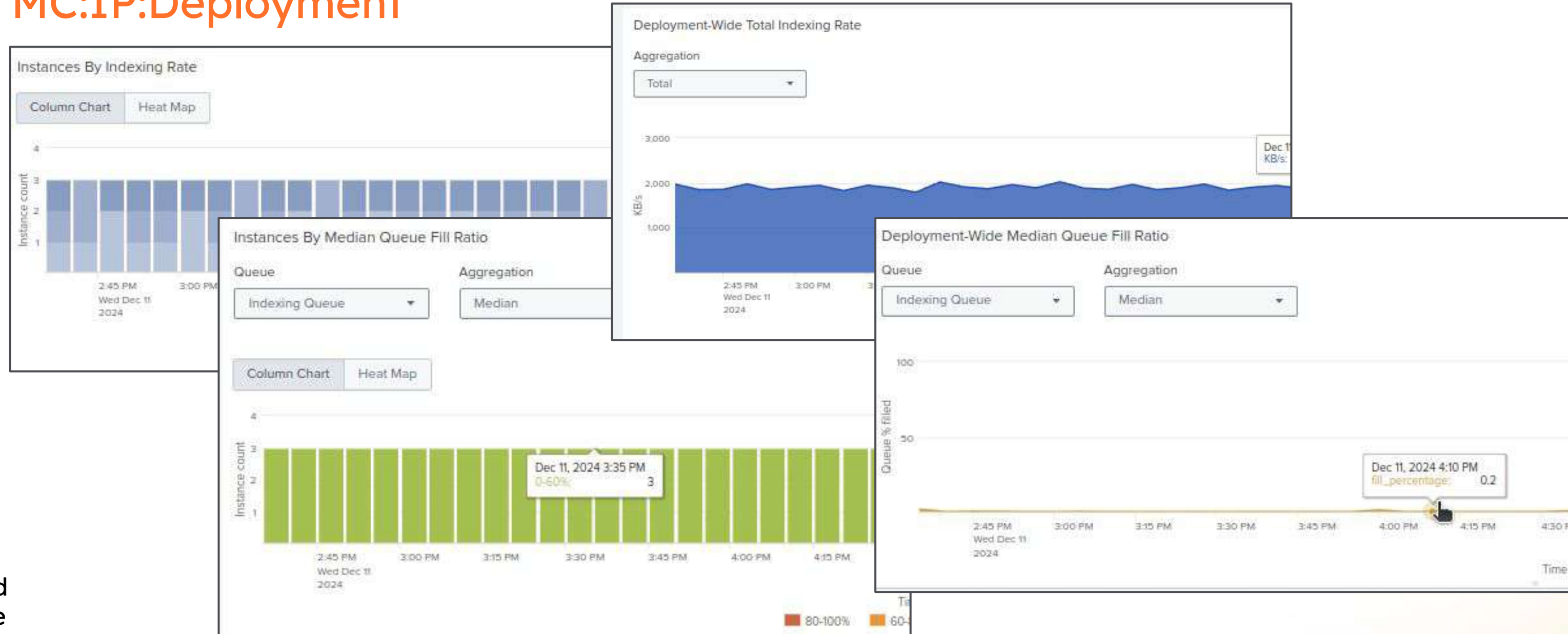
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Detect Performance issues



Tools: Splunk: MC:IP:Deployment

- Get a feel for overall performance
- Find outliers in the environment, especially over time
- Discover point-source events that have caused changes in performance



Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MCc

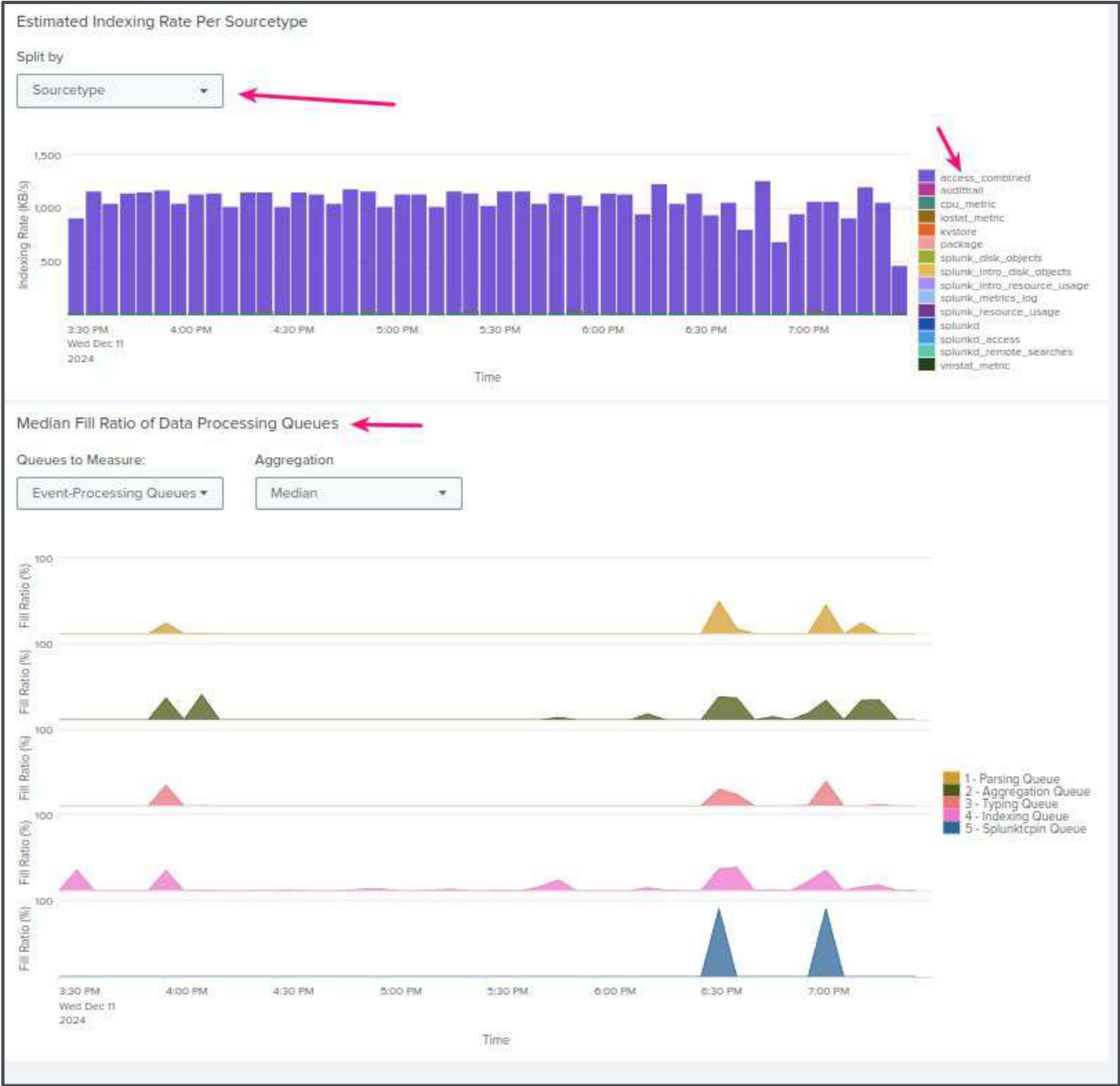
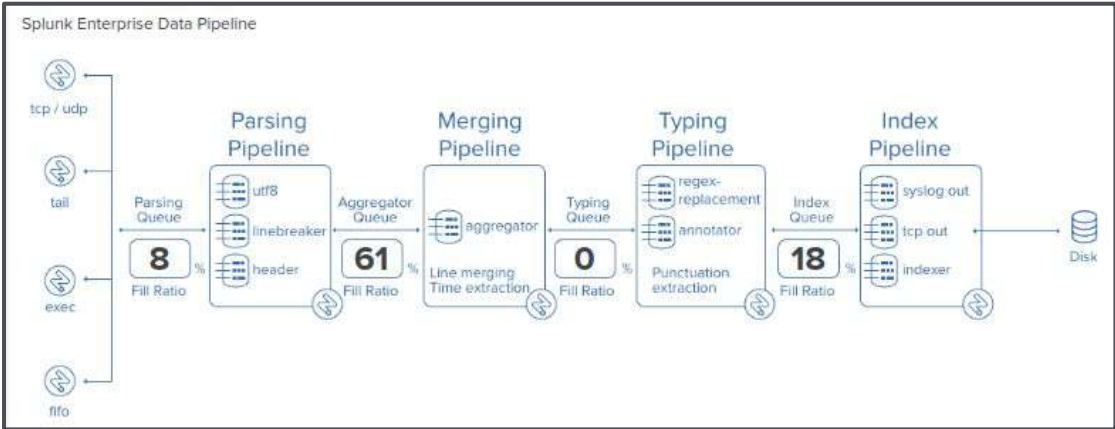
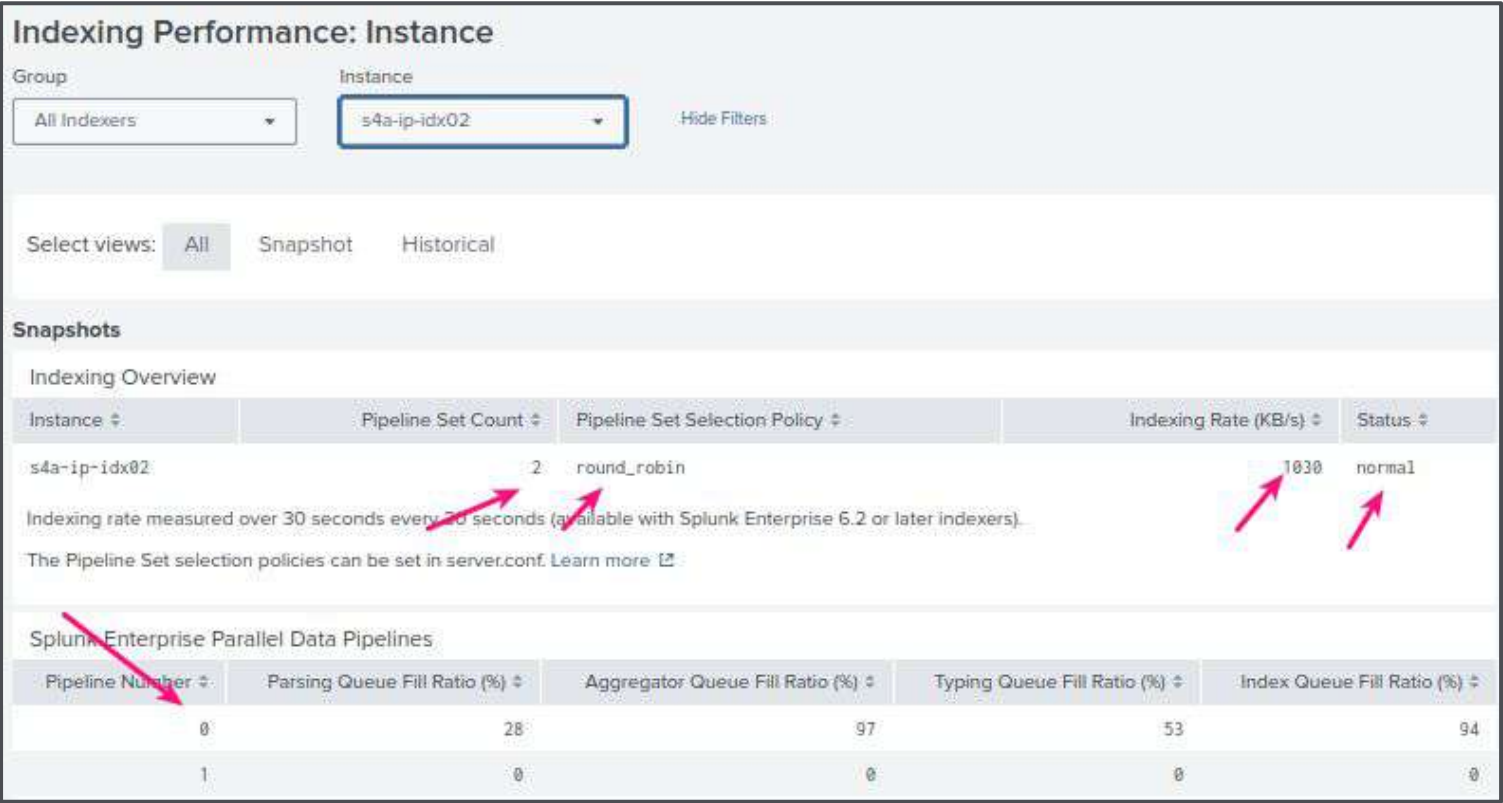
<https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview>

Indexing: Performance

<https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/IndexingDeployment>

Detect Performance issues

Tools: Splunk: MC:IP:Instance



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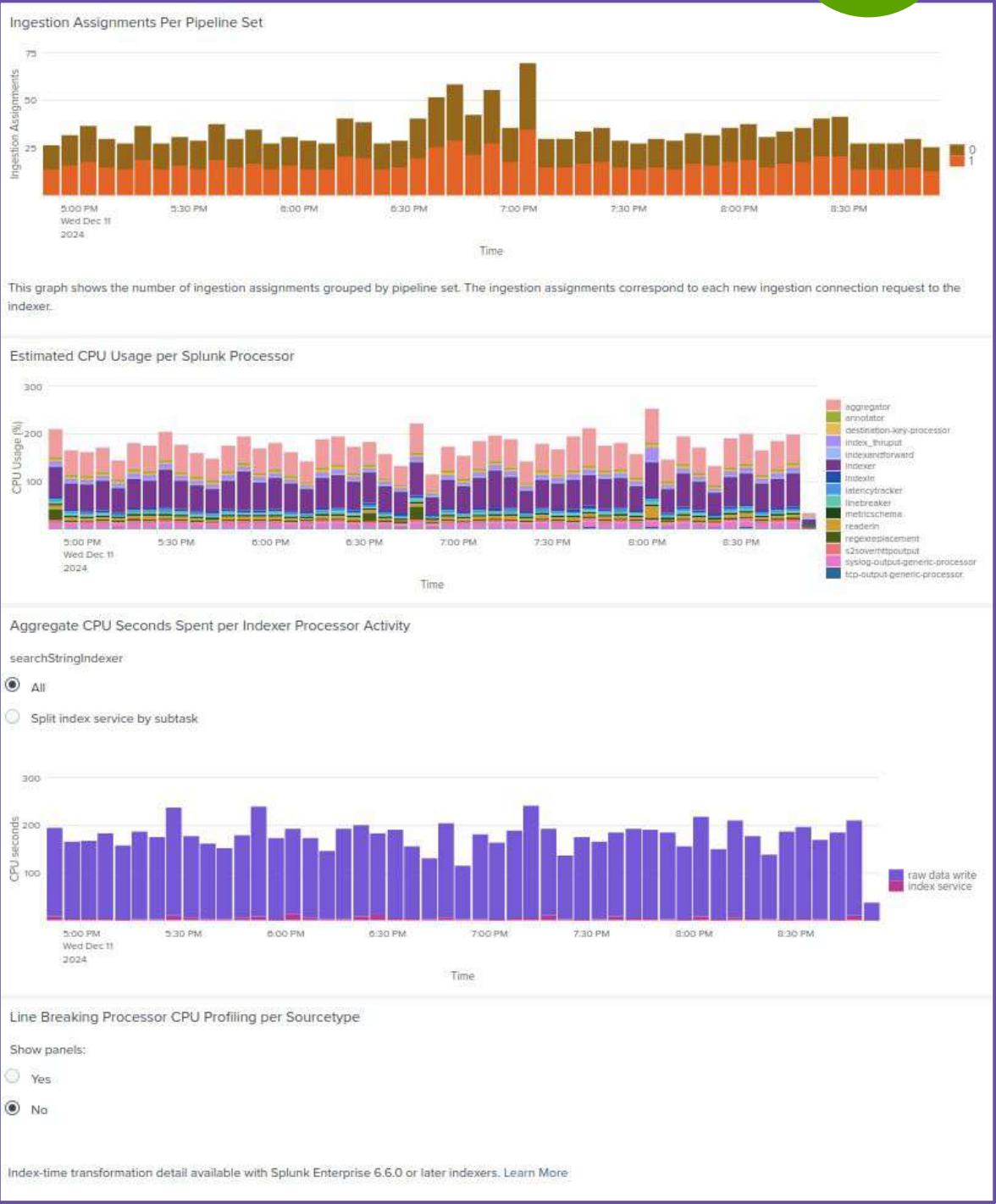
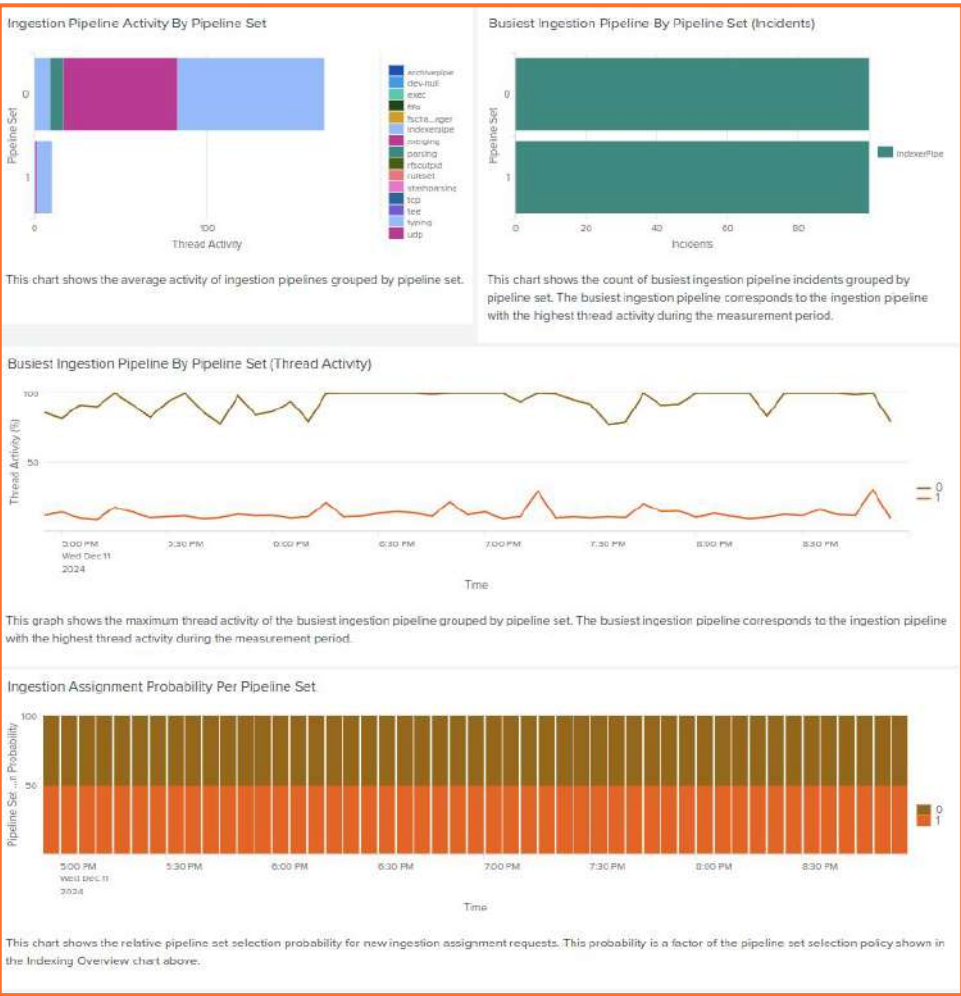
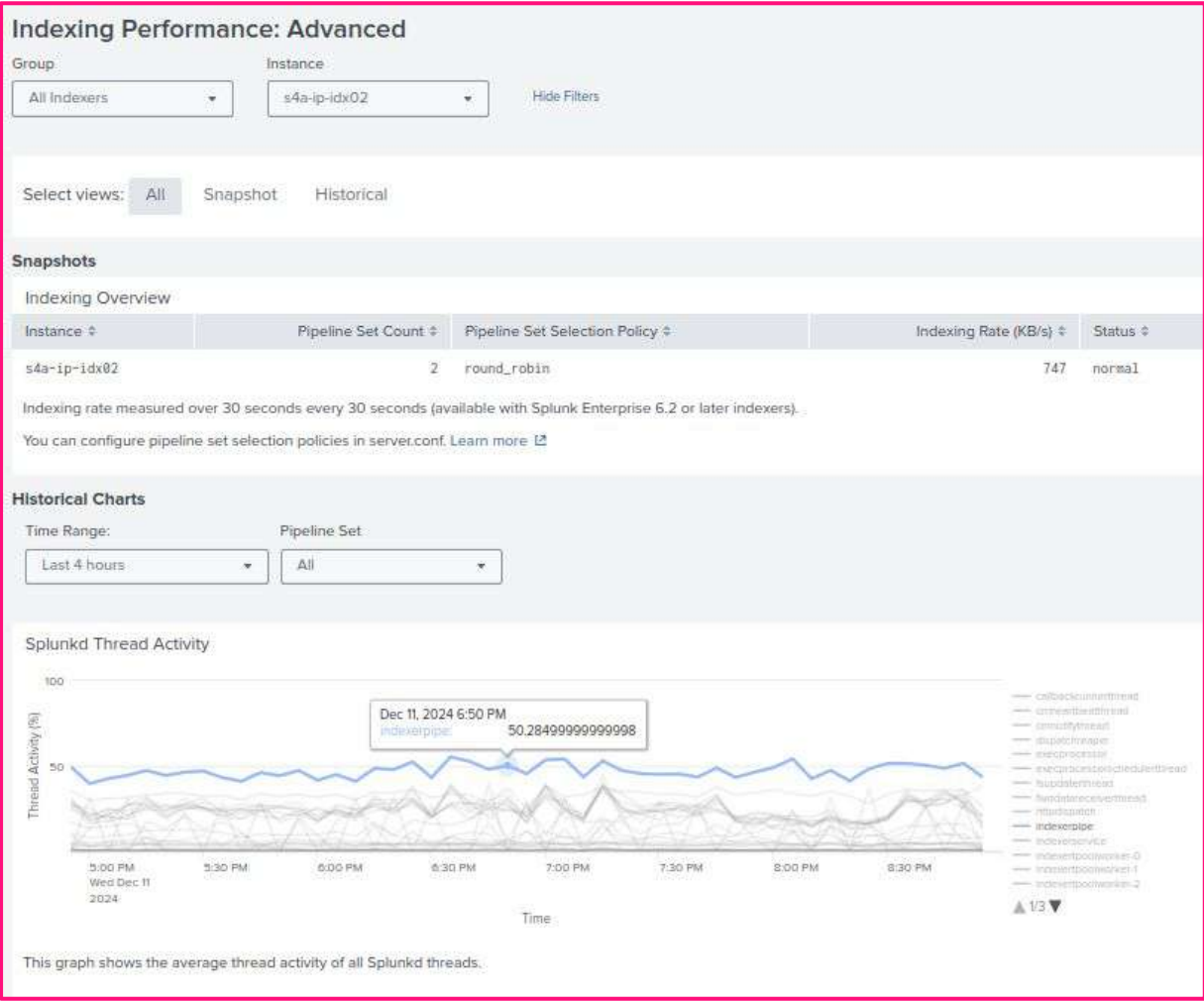
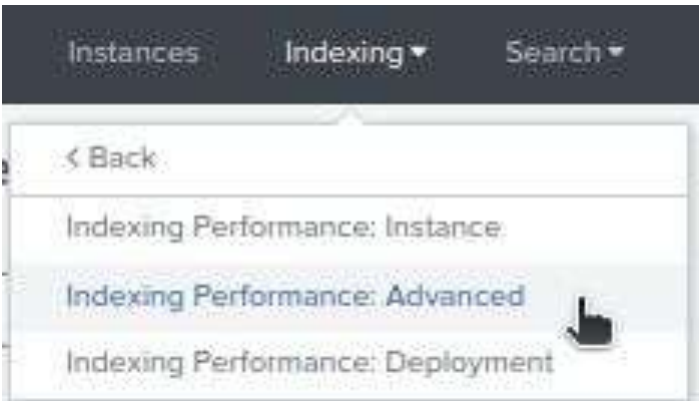
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Detect Performance issues



Tools: Splunk: MC:IP:Advanced

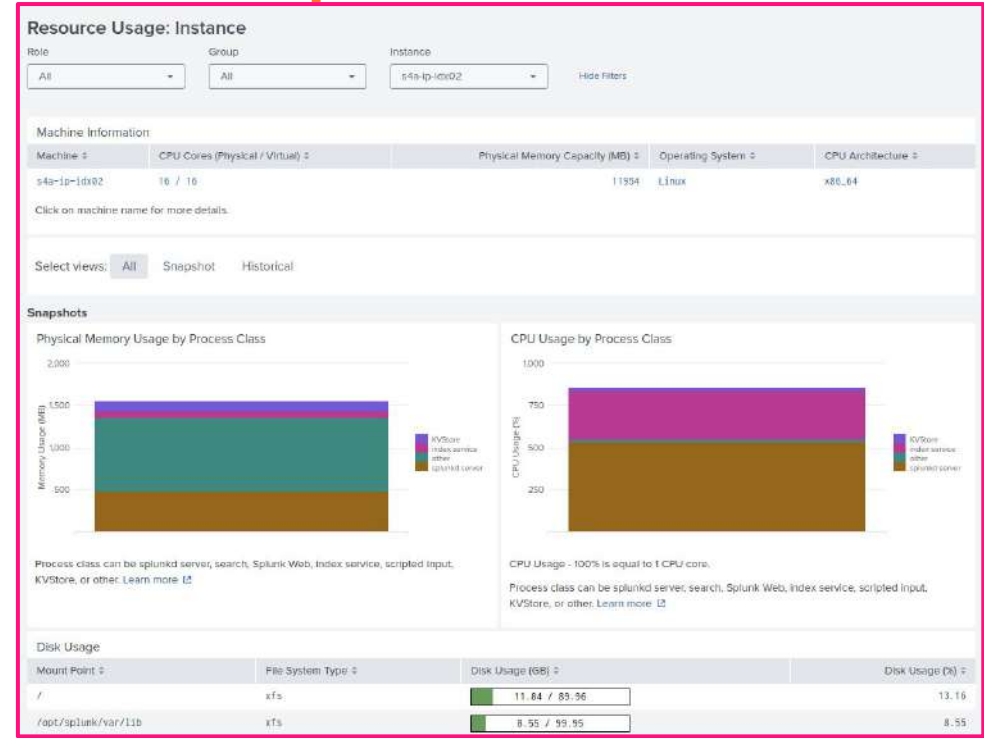


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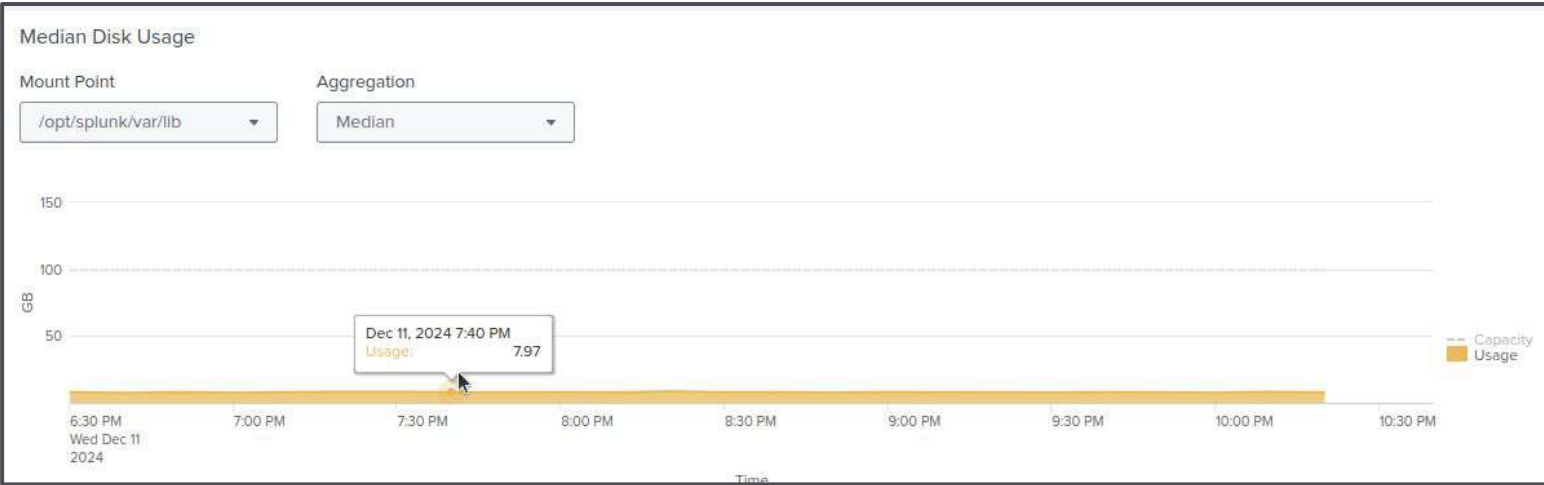
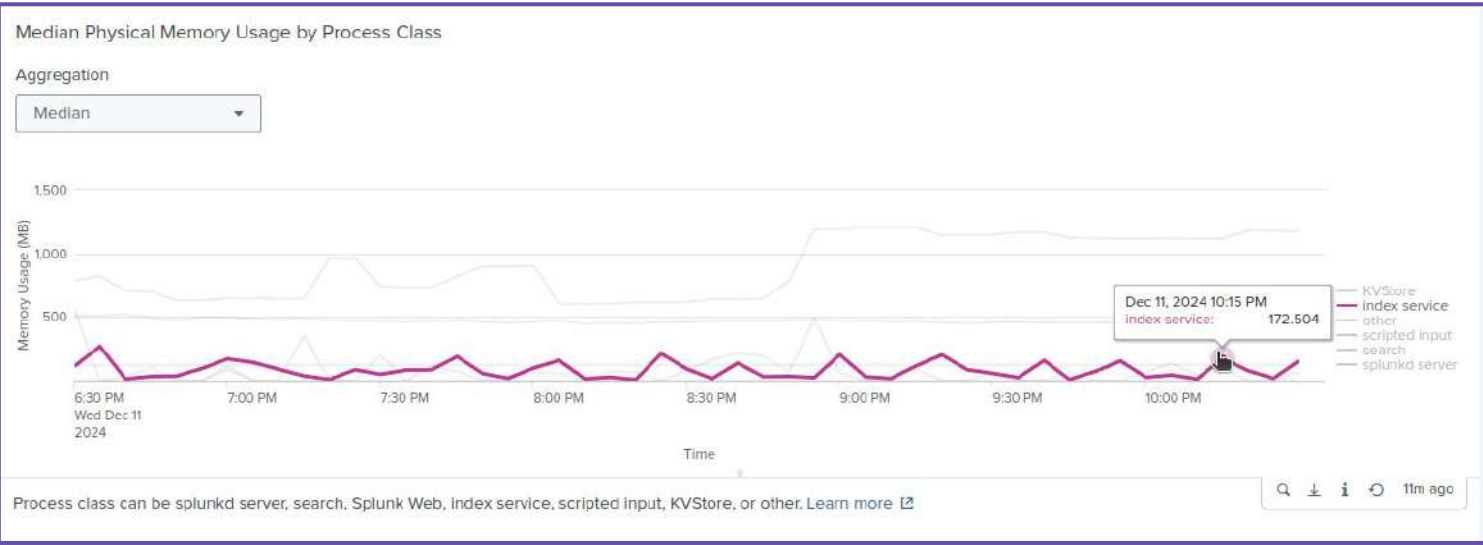
Detect Performance issues



Tools: Splunk: MC:Resource Usage:Instance



- Search
- Resource Usage
- Forwarder
- ✓ Resource Usage: Instance
- Resource Usage: Machine
- Resource Usage: Deployment
- CPU Usage: Instance
- CPU Usage: Deployment



Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC

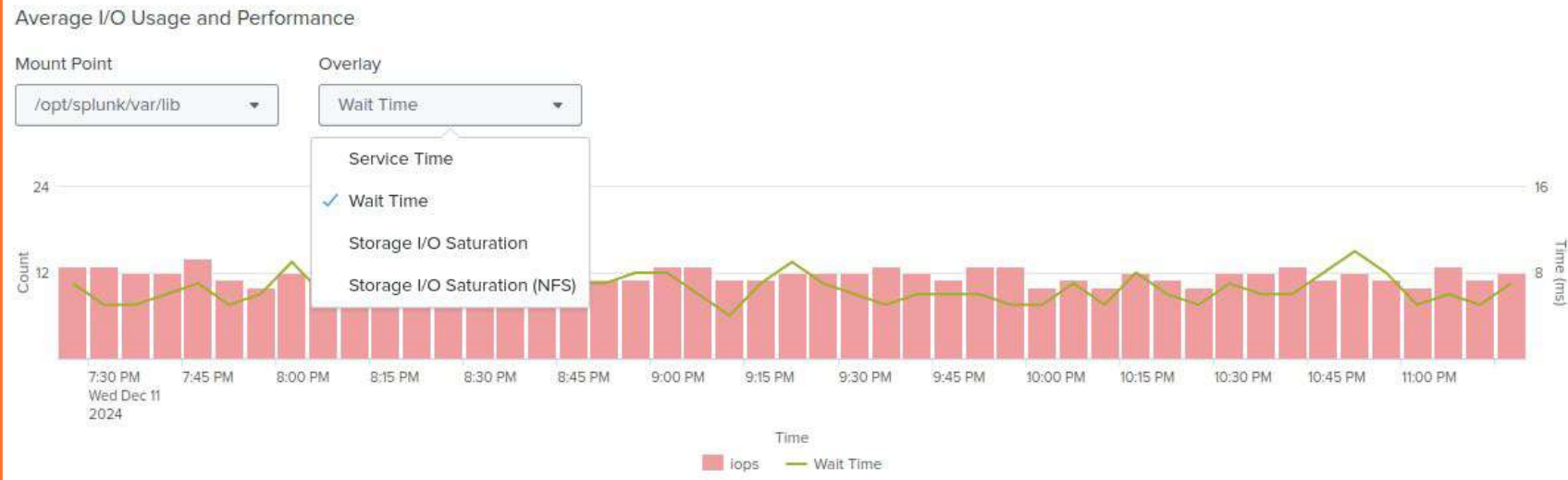
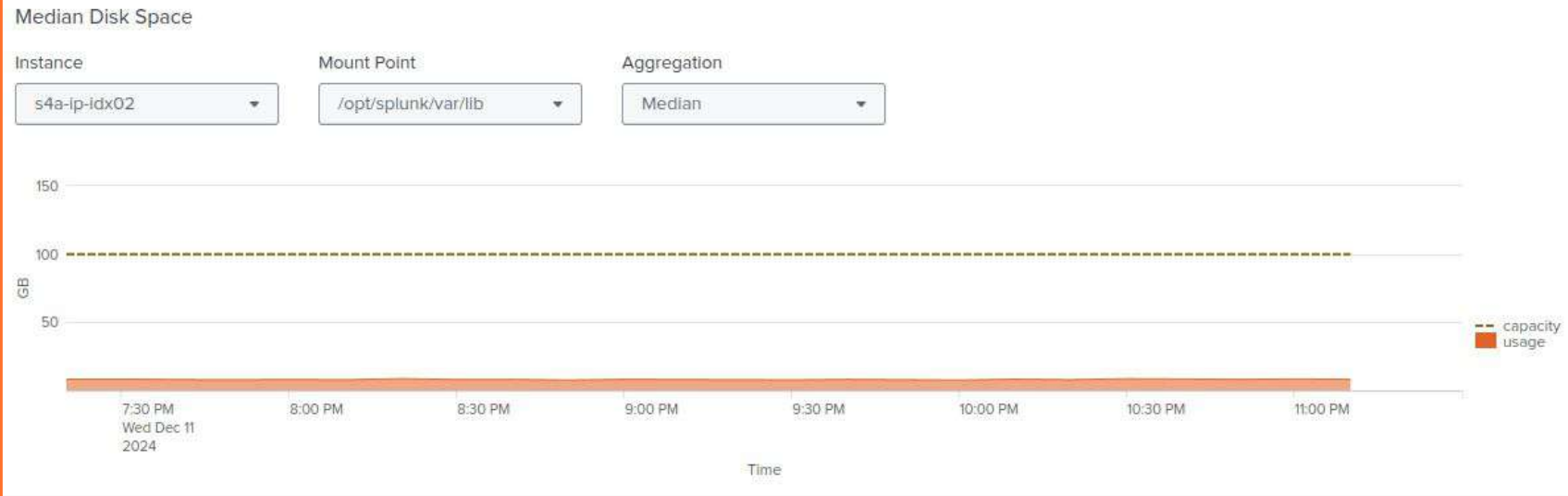
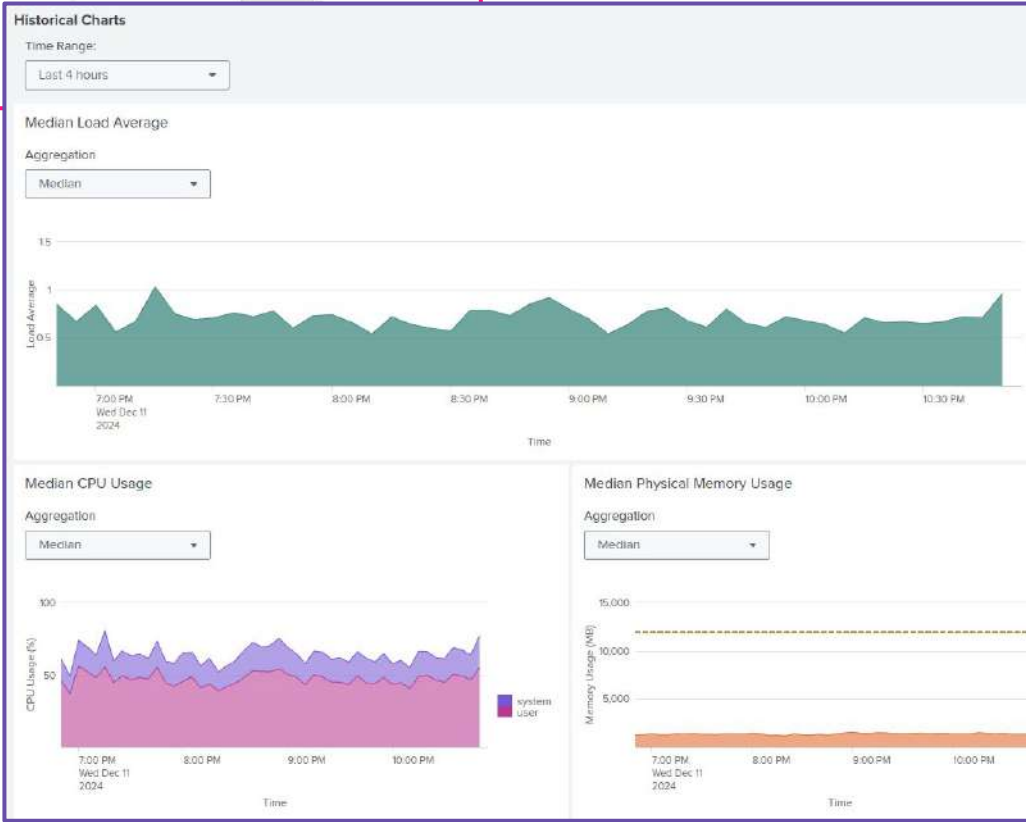
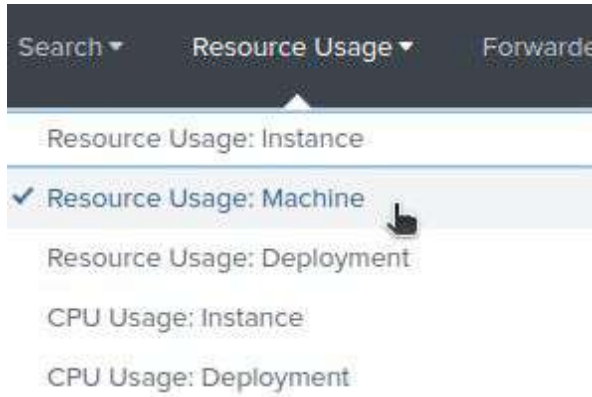
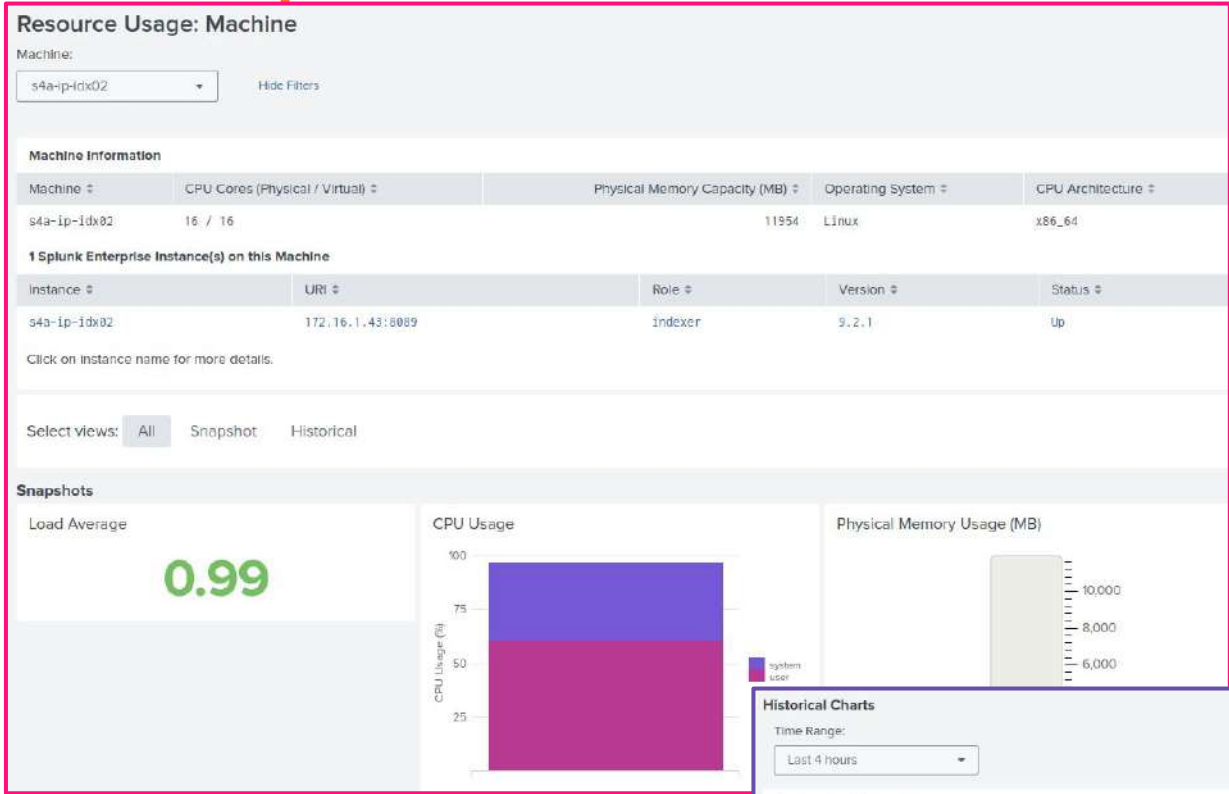
<https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview>

<https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/ResourceusageDeployme>

Detect Performance issues



Tools: Splunk: MC:Resource Usage:Machine



This panel shows data for instances running Splunk Enterprise 6.4+.

Service Time: The time for the device to execute the requests.

Wait Time: I/O queue + execution time for requests to complete. This reflects the end-to-end time spent on the requests.

Storage I/O Saturation: Percentage of time the CPU was servicing requests. Disk saturation occurs when this value is close to 100%.

Storage I/O Saturation (NFS): Percentage of time network resources were used to serve requests. Only applies to NFS disks.

Learn more about the source of this data.

Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC

[Link to Splunk Docs](#)

Resource Usage

[Link to Splunk Docs](#)

Detect Performance issues



Tools: Splunk: MC:Resource Usage:Machine

Search ▾ Resource Usage ▾ Forwarder

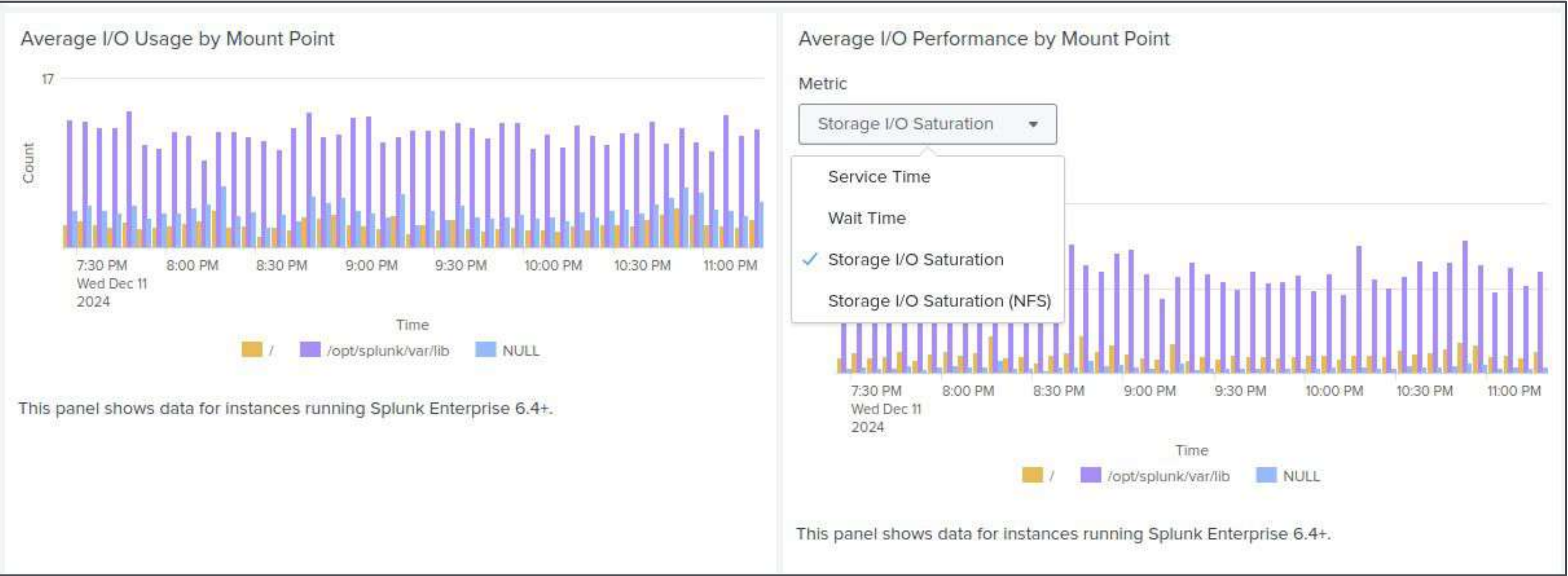
Resource Usage: Instance

✓ Resource Usage: Machine

Resource Usage: Deployment

CPU Usage: Instance

CPU Usage: Deployment



Detect Performance issues



Tools: OS

- iostat

```
splunk@Domane-Demo-i-0436a206221630029:~$ iostat -xz 1
Linux 5.15.0-1072-aws (Domane-Demo-i-0436a206221630029)      12/09/24      _x86_64_      (48 CPU)

avg-cpu:  %user   %nice %system %iowait  %steal   %idle
           77.64    0.00    2.57    0.03    0.00   19.76

Device            r/s    kB/s  rrqm/s  %rrqm r_await rareq-sz    w/s    kB/s  wrqm/s  %wrqm w_await wareq-sz    d/s    kB/s   drqm/s  %drqm d_await dareq-sz   aqu-sz   %util
loop0              0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.35    8.07    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop1              0.02    0.68    0.00   0.00    0.47   31.89    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.01
loop10             0.00    0.01    0.00   0.00    0.07    4.17    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop11             0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.31    8.27    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop12             0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    1.27    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop2              0.00    0.01    0.00   0.00    0.11    4.29    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop3              0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.07    2.75    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop4              0.00    0.01    0.00   0.00    0.06    3.47    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop5              0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.07    2.75    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop6              0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.43   14.99    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop7              0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.40   15.42    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
loop8              0.02    0.89    0.00   0.00    0.40   39.27    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.01
loop9              0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.08    3.10    0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00
nvme0n1            4.69   121.79    0.18    3.76    0.75   25.96   168.41  13679.48   15.63    8.49    2.92   81.23    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.50    4.64

avg-cpu:  %user   %nice %system %iowait  %steal   %idle
           79.77    0.00    1.71    0.02    0.00   18.49

Device            r/s    kB/s  rrqm/s  %rrqm r_await rareq-sz    w/s    kB/s  wrqm/s  %wrqm w_await wareq-sz    d/s    kB/s   drqm/s  %drqm d_await dareq-sz   aqu-sz   %util
nvme0n1            1.00    8.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    8.00   72.00  15420.00    0.00   0.00    2.85   214.17    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.21    2.80

avg-cpu:  %user   %nice %system %iowait  %steal   %idle
           72.39    0.00    1.10    0.00    0.00   26.51

Device            r/s    kB/s  rrqm/s  %rrqm r_await rareq-sz    w/s    kB/s  wrqm/s  %wrqm w_await wareq-sz    d/s    kB/s   drqm/s  %drqm d_await dareq-sz   aqu-sz   %util
nvme0n1            0.00    0.00    0.00   0.00    0.00    0.00    9.00   132.00    0.00   0.00    0.56   14.67    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.00    0.01    2.00
```

Linux troubleshooting 101: System performance	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/troubleshooting-system-performance
Brendan Gregg: Linux Performance	https://www.brendangregg.com/linuxperf.html
iostat – Monitor Linux disk activity	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/top-linux-monitoring-tools.html#:~:text=7.,iostat,-%E2%80%93%20Monitor%20Linux%20average

Detect Performance issues



Tools: OS

- Top

```
top - 23:50:19 up 2 days, 45 min, 1 user, load average: 13.92, 12.71, 12.01
Tasks: 281 total, 8 running, 273 sleeping, 0 stopped, 0 zombie
%D %Cpu(s): 52.5 us, 14.6 sy, 0.0 ni, 22.6 id, 0.0 wa, 0.0 hi, 0.2 si, 0.0 st
MiB Mem : 11954.4 total, 1159.3 free, 1154.9 used, 9640.1 buff/cache
MiB Swap: 8188.0 total, 8183.0 free, 5.0 used, 10470.7 avail Mem

  PID USER      PR  NI  VIRT  RES  SHR S %CPU  %MEM    TIME+  COMMAND
 632408 splunk    20   0 3166180 411356 76504 S 331.6   3.4   6755:21 splunkd --under-systemd --systemd-delegate=yes -p 8089 _int
1297359 splunk    20   0 446708 171020 55436 S 106.6   1.4    2:24.27 splunkd recover-metadata /opt/splunk/var/lib/splunk/weblogs
1298496 splunk    20   0  74524  10016  2612 R 100.0   0.1    0:07.30 splunk-optimize -d /opt/splunk/var/lib/splunk/weblogs/db/15
1298518 root      20   0  100956  90148  67216 R 100.0   0.7    0:05.88 /usr/bin/python3 /usr/lib/ubuntu-release-upgrader/check-new
1298252 splunk    20   0  106724  23340  2580 R 100.0   0.2    0:32.67 splunk-optimize -d /opt/splunk/var/lib/splunk/weblogs/db/15
1298466 splunk    20   0  102672  14940  2628 R 100.0   0.1    0:10.55 splunk-optimize -d /opt/splunk/var/lib/splunk/weblogs/db/14
1295848 splunk    20   0  506664  76316  55752 S 101.3   0.6    5:40.25 splunkd recover-metadata /opt/splunk/var/lib/splunk/weblogs
1298582 splunk    20   0   31392  26960  12076 R 100.0   0.2    0:02.51 /opt/splunk/bin/python3.7 /opt/splunk/etc/apps/splunk_assis
1298578 splunk    20   0   26596  22372   8676 R  96.1   0.2    0:02.60 /opt/splunk/bin/python3.7 /opt/splunk/etc/apps/splunk_assis
1298580 splunk    20   0   31668  27092  11980 R  94.7   0.2    0:02.46 /opt/splunk/bin/python3.7 /opt/splunk/etc/apps/splunk_assis
1298584 splunk    20   0    8100   3940   3160 R  22.4   0.0    0:00.52 top
  464 root      20   0         0         0         0 S    2.6   0.0   10:20.53 [xfisaild/dm-0]
```

Linux troubleshooting 101: System performance	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/troubleshooting-system-performance
Brendan Gregg: Linux Performance	https://www.brendangregg.com/linuxperf.html
top - Process activity monitoring command	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/top-linux-monitoring-tools.html#:~:text=top%20%E2%80%93%20Process%20activity%20monitoring%20command

Workshop Agenda

- Who?|What?|Why?
- Expectations
- Aspects of Splunk Performance
- Effects of Indexer Performance on Splunk
- Splunk Architecture and Specifications
- Effects of Search Workload on Splunk
- Scale-up or Scale-out?
- Performance Detection Tools
 - Lab¹
 - Lab²
 - Lab³
 - Lab⁴ - Lab⁶
- Performance Problem Mitigation
- Summary

Detect Performance issues



Exercise 4 - Full memory usage

- The tools to use have been presented, now more exercises
- Work on detecting Full memory usage

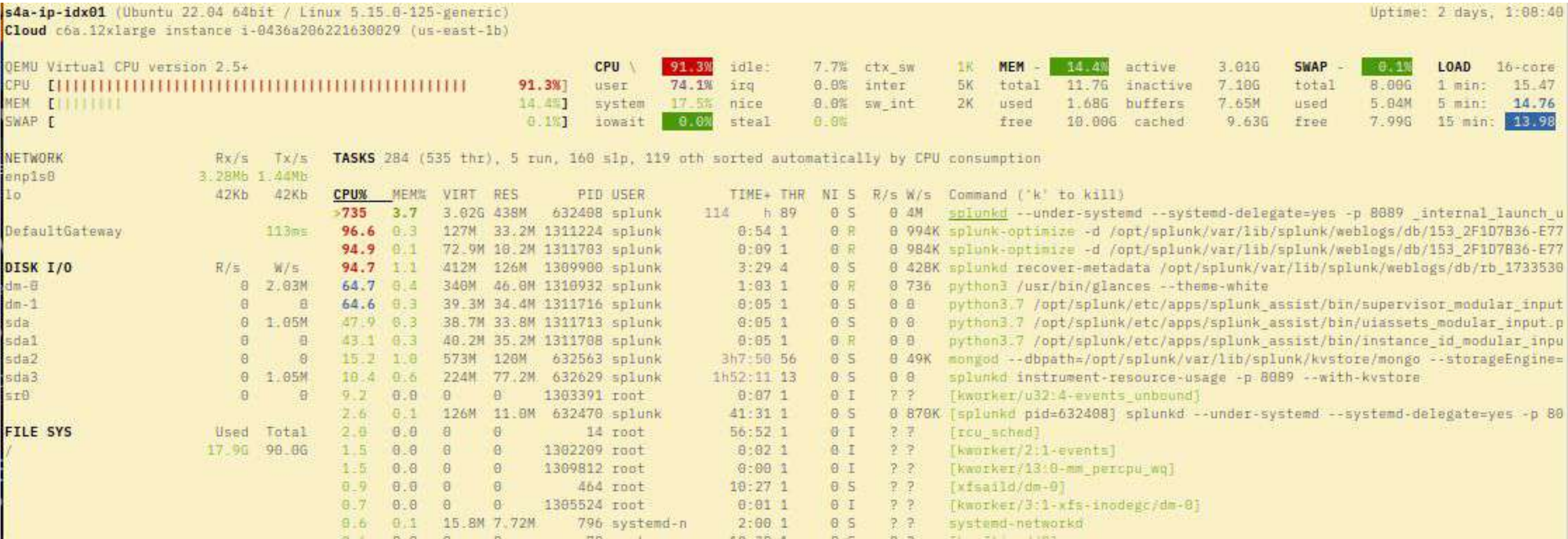
Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview
Resource Usage	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/ResourceusageDeployment

Detect Performance issues



Tools: OS

- Glances



Linux troubleshooting 101: System performance	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/troubleshooting-system-performance
Brendan Gregg: Linux Performance	https://www.brendangregg.com/linuxperf.html
Glances	https://github.com/nicolargo/glances

Detect Performance issues



Exercise 5 - Undersized node

- The tools to use have been presented, now more exercises
- Work on detecting an undersized node

Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview
Capacity Planning Manual	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Performancechecklist
Scalability in IT: The Complete Guide To Scaling	https://www.splunk.com/en_us/blog/learn/scalability.html
Reference hardware	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware

Detect Performance issues



Exercise 5 - Undersized node

- The ‘Instances’ dashboard helps discover specification issues

Instances						
Splunk Instances are listed here. Learn More						
Group						
All						
5 instances						
Instance	Machine	Role	Indexer Cluster	Search Head Cluster	OS	CPU Cores (Physical / Virtual)
s4a-ip-c0m1	s4a-ip-c0m1	Cluster Manager	s4a_idx_cl_01		Linux	16 / 16
s4a-ip-idx01	s4a-ip-idx01	Indexer	s4a_idx_cl_01		Linux	16 / 16
s4a-ip-idx02	s4a-ip-idx02	Indexer	s4a_idx_cl_01		Linux	10 / 10
s4a-ip-idx03	s4a-ip-idx03	Indexer	s4a_idx_cl_01		Linux	16 / 16
s4a-ip-mc	s4a-ip-mc	KV Store Search Head	s4a_idx_cl_01		Linux	16 / 16

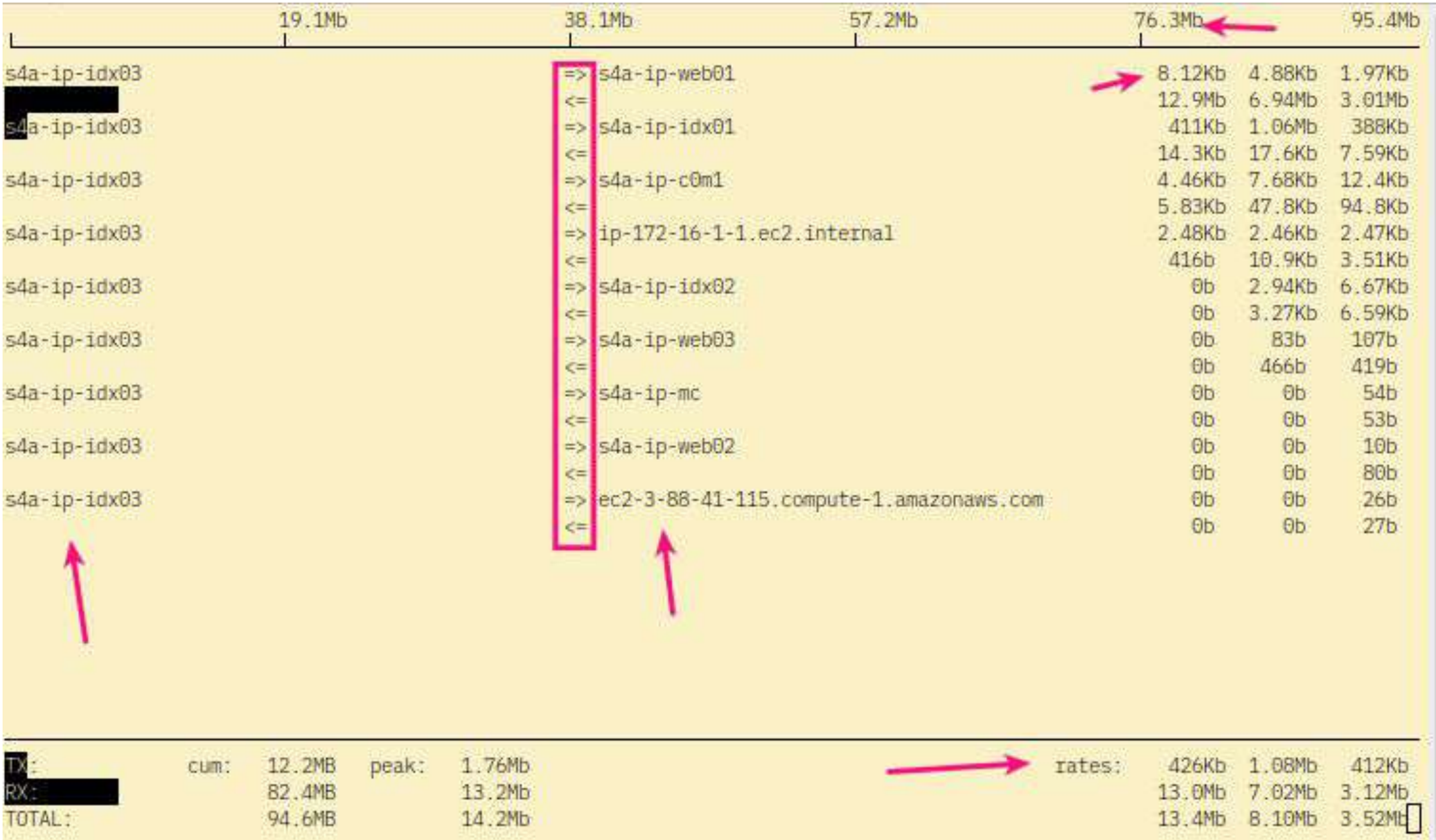
Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview
Capacity Planning Manual	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Performancechecklist
Scalability in IT: The Complete Guide To Scaling	https://www.splunk.com/en_us/blog/learn/scalability.html
Reference hardware	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware

Detect Performance issues



Tools: OS

- iftop



Linux troubleshooting 101: System performance	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/troubleshooting-system-performance
Brendan Gregg: Linux Performance	https://www.brendangregg.com/linuxperf.html
Linux interface analytics on-demand with iftop	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/linux-interface-iftop

Detect Performance issues



Tools: OS

- MTR

```
My traceroute [v0.95]
s4a-ip-c0m1 (172.16.1.41) -> 172.16.1.1 (172.16.1.1) 2024-12-09T23:54:43+0000
Keys: Help Display mode Restart statistics Order of fields quit

Host
1. ip-172-16-1-1.ec2.internal

Packets
Loss% Snt Last Avg Best Wrst StDev
0.0% 3 3.4 5.6 1.8 11.7 5.3
```

```
My traceroute [v0.95]
s4a-ip-c0m1 (172.16.1.41) -> s4a-ip-idx03 (172.16.1.44) 2024-12-09T23:55:17+0000
Keys: Help Display mode Restart statistics Order of fields quit

Host
1. s4a-ip-idx03

Packets
Loss% Snt Last Avg Best Wrst StDev
0.0% 3 3.2 4.7 3.2 6.9 1.9
```

Linux troubleshooting 101: System performance	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/troubleshooting-system-performance
Brendan Gregg: Linux Performance	https://www.brendangregg.com/linuxperf.html
mtr - monitor network connections and latency	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/finding-out-a-bad-or-simply-overloaded-network-link-with-linuxunix-oses.html

Detect Performance issues

Tools: Splunk:MC:Inputs and Indexes and Volumes

- When addressing Indexing Performance ...
- Five MC Inputs dashboards
 - HEC:Instance and Deployment - information related to HEC ingest and performance
 - Splunk TCP Input Performance:Instance and Deployment - information related to S2S TCP ingest performance
 - Data Quality - related to how well the ingest data is configured
 - Detects poorly defined event ingest, by sourcetype, especially time/date, event record size, line-breaking, line aggregation, and metrics issues
- Six MC Indexes and Volumes
 - Indexes and Volumes:Instance and Deployment - sizes, discover full volumes here
 - Index Detail:Instance and Deployment - specifics about each index
 - Volume Detail: Instance and Deployment - specifics about each volume

Monitoring Splunk Enterprise with MC	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMCoverview
Indexing: Performance	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/IndexingDeployment
Indexing: Inputs: HTTP Event Collector	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/Inputdashboards
Indexing: Inputs: Data Quality	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/Dataquality

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Mitigate Performance issues

- CPU at 100%, blocked running jobs \geq core count
 - Queue management, IO constraints, spread parallel
- Memory at 100%
 - Smaller, more tightly managed searches (restraint in bundle size, smaller event returns), search concurrency reduction (fewer searches run at once), scale-up opportunity
- IO constraints
 - Reduce search load (see above), reduce ingest amount (spread workload over more indexers), ensure on NVME SSD, not shared
- Network constraints
 - See Memory and IO, but ensure that the highest performance networks are available. 10G/s likely a minimum in enterprise
- Data Quality issues
 - Ensure the most efficient props/transforms/regexes - again, see this in high CPU in Parsing Queue

Summary of performance recommendations	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Summaryofperformancerecommendations
Sizing your Splunk architecture	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/Product_Tips/Administration/Sizing_your_Splunk_architecture
Splunk Validated Architectures	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/SVA/current/Architectures/About
Scalability in IT: The Complete Guide To Scaling	https://www.splunk.com/en_us/blog/learn/scalability.html
Lantern: Splunk Validated Architecture	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Success_Framework/Platform_Management/Indexing_and_search_architecture
Summary of performance recommendations	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Summaryofperformancerecommendations

Summary

Splunk Performance

- A fine dance between system and application configuration
- Pay attention to the Splunk requirements
- Scale-out first, but be ready to adjust due to memory requirements
- Storage and/or networking are the underpinning of everything
- Use the MC heavily, but do not modify the in-app MC dashboards. Copy those that are of most interest and modify in a private app
- Use MC to diagnose, if OS-related, use the OS tools as well

Links

Maximizing performance with the latest Splunk platform capabilities	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/UCE/Observability/Maximizing_performance_with_the_latest_Splunk_platform_capabilities
Planning for infrastructure and resource scalability	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/Splunk_Outcome_Paths/Improve_Performance/Planning_for_infrastructure_and_resource_scalability
Splunk Validated Architectures	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/SVA/current/Architectures/About
Reference hardware	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware
Indexing and search architecture	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Success_Framework/Platform_Management/Indexing_and_search_architecture
Configure parallel reduce search processing	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DistSearch/Setupparallelreduce
Capacity Planning Manual	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Performancechecklist
Summary of performance recommendations	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Summaryofperformancerecommendations
Sizing your Splunk architecture	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/Product_Tips/Administration/Sizing_your_Splunk_architecture
What storage type should I use for a role?	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware
Indexer Memory Specification	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware#:~:text=search%20performance.-,Indexer.-,When%20you%20distribute
Network latency limits for clustered deployments	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Referencehardware#:~:text=performance%20recommendations.-,Network%20latency%20limits%20for%20clustered%20deployments.-,A%20Splunk%20environment
How search types affect Splunk Enterprise performance	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/HowsearchtypesaffectSplunkEnterpriseperformance
How concurrent users and searches impact performance	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/Capacity/Accommodatemanysimultaneoussearches

Reducing search load	https://lantern.splunk.com/Splunk_Platform/Splunk_Outcome_Paths/Reduce_Costs/Reducing_search_load
Scalability in IT: The Complete Guide To Scaling	https://www.splunk.com/en_us/blog/learn/scalability.html
NixCraft System Monitoring Tools	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/top-linux-monitoring-tools.html
Monitoring Splunk Enterprise	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/DMC_overview
Glances	https://github.com/nicolargo/glances
Linux interface analytics on-demand with iftop	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/linux-interface-iftop
Resource Usage	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/latest/DMC/ResourceusageDeployment
top – Process activity monitoring command	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/top-linux-monitoring-tools.html#:~:text=top%20%E2%80%93%20Process%20activity%20monitoring%20command
Brendan Gregg: Linux Performance	https://www.brendangregg.com/linuxperf.html
Linux troubleshooting 101: System performance	https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/troubleshooting-system-performance
iostat – Monitor Linux disk activity	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/top-linux-monitoring-tools.html#:~:text=7.-,iostat.-,%E2%80%93%20Monitor%20Linux%20average
mtr - monitor network connections and latency	https://www.cyberciti.biz/tips/finding-out-a-bad-or-simply-overloaded-network-link-with-linuxunix-oses.html
Indexing: Inputs: HTTP Event Collector	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/9.3.2/DMC/Input_dashboards
Indexing: Inputs: Data Quality	https://docs.splunk.com/Documentation/Splunk/9.3.2/DMC/Data_quality
What is SSH (Secure Shell)?	https://www.ssh.com/academy/ssh
Download PuTTY: latest release	https://putty.org/

Thank you