Application Monitoring and Tracing in Kubernetes: Avoiding Microservice Hell!

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Agenda

- Why do we care?
- Introduction to Metrics
- Introduction to Tracing
- Demo
- Q&A


Why do we care?

Microservices Are Awesome!

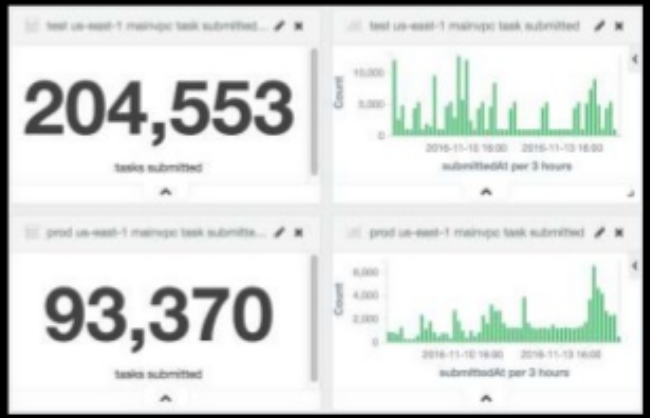
- Discrete Set of Functionality
- Resilient / Tolerates Failure
- Distributed / Highly Scalable
- Technology Freedom
- Autonomy of Dev Teams
- Enables Continuous Delivery

Can Be Your Worst Nightmare!

- Complex to Build
- Decentralized Nature
- Interface / Docs Required
- Operational Complexity
- Transaction Management
- Visibility is Difficult

Microservices at Scale (Excuse the pun)

Titus Batch Usage (Week of 11/7)



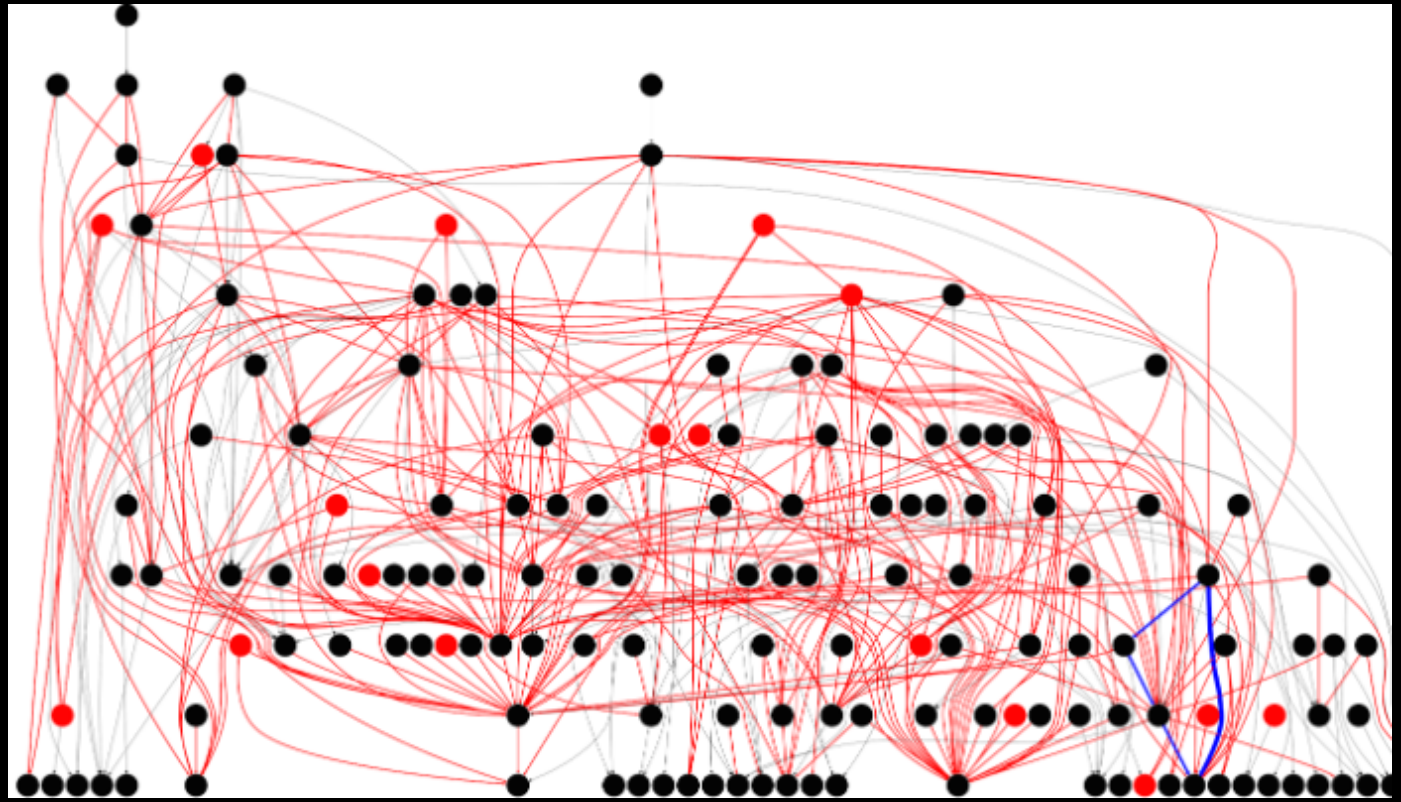
- Started ~ 300,000 containers during the week
- Peak of 1000 containers per minute
- Peak of 3,000 instances (mix of r3.8xls and m4.4xls)

https://www.slideshare.net/aspyker/reinvent-2016-container-scheduling-execution-and-aws-integration

Simple Failures

Complex Failures

Who is Talking to Who?



One Bad Apple…

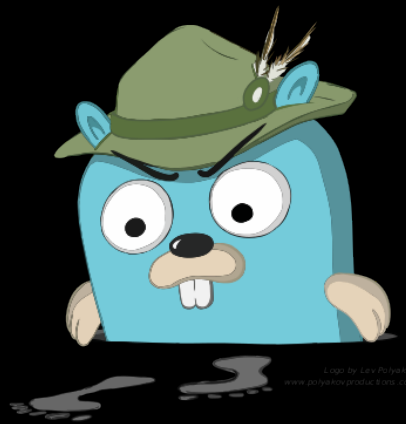
Logs Aren’t Enough

Gain Visibility Now!

The Answer is…

- Metrics/Instrumentation
  - Measure properties of a given system
  - Alarms and Notifications

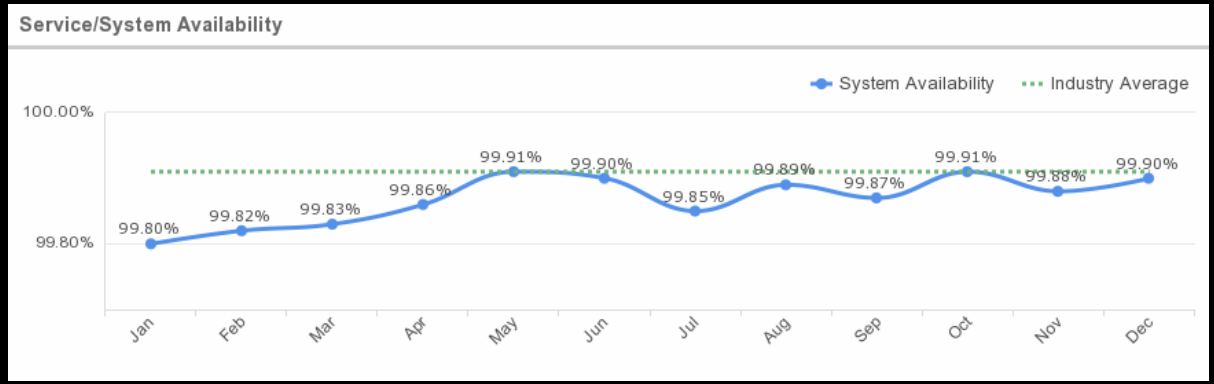
- Tracing
  - Observe interactions at a request level
  - Measure work in time



Introduction to Metrics

What are Metrics?

- Metrics are a quantifiable set of measurements of a property for a given system, process, or component.
  - Performance counters
  - Instrumentation
- Observe behavior
- React to changes



Prometheus

- Open-source systems monitoring and alerting project
- Cloud Native Compute Foundation (CNCF) hosted project
- Originally built by SoundCloud
- Data model with time series data
- https://github.com/prometheus/prometheus

Let’s Deploy Prometheus

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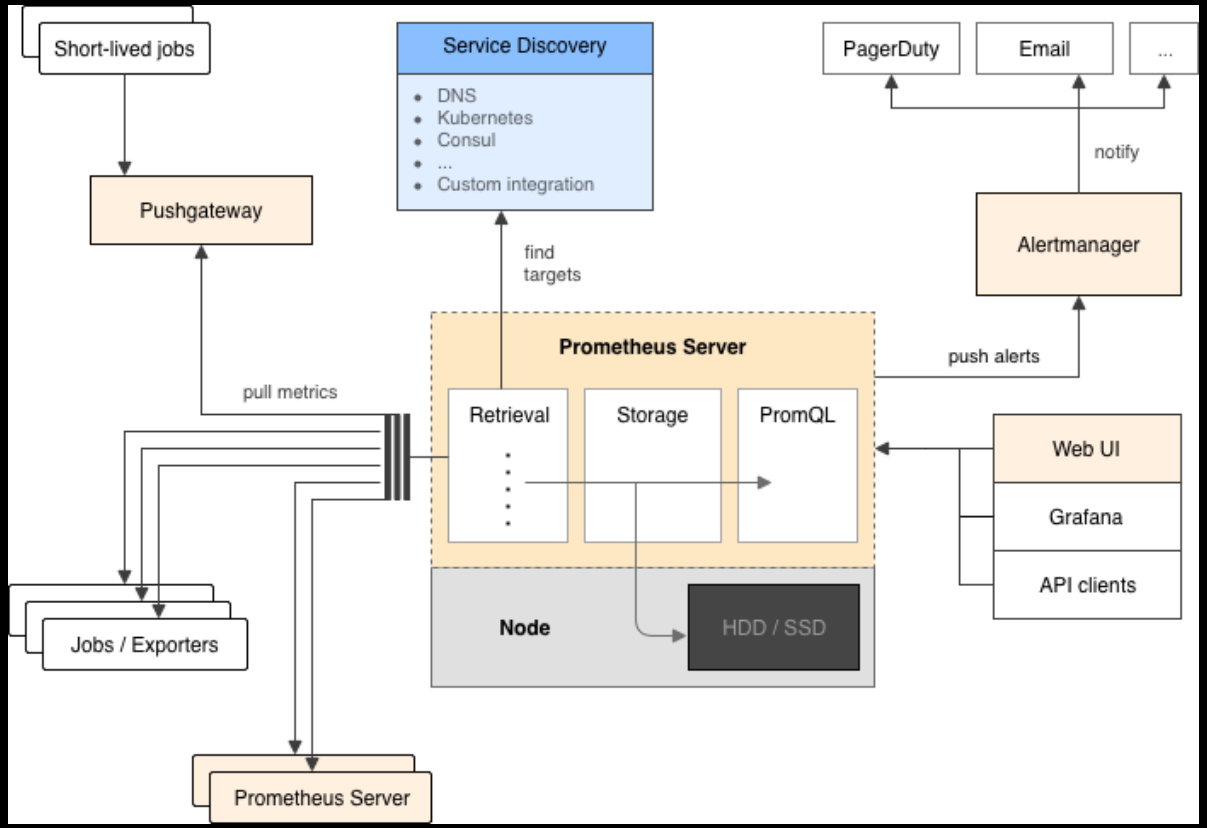
Architecture



Types of Metrics

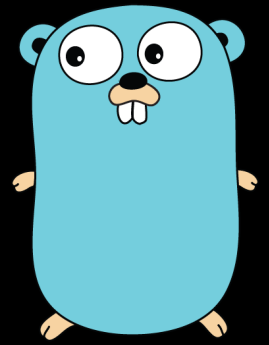
- Counter – only increases in value
- Gauge – value goes up or down over time
- Histogram – samples observations and counts them over buckets
- Summary – histogram plus a summation of value

Alerts

- Create rules based on observed metrics
- Alerts trigger actions to be taken
  - Email
  - Slack
  - Webhooks
- Why do we care?
  - Enables dynamic scale up and down

Prometheus Language Bindings

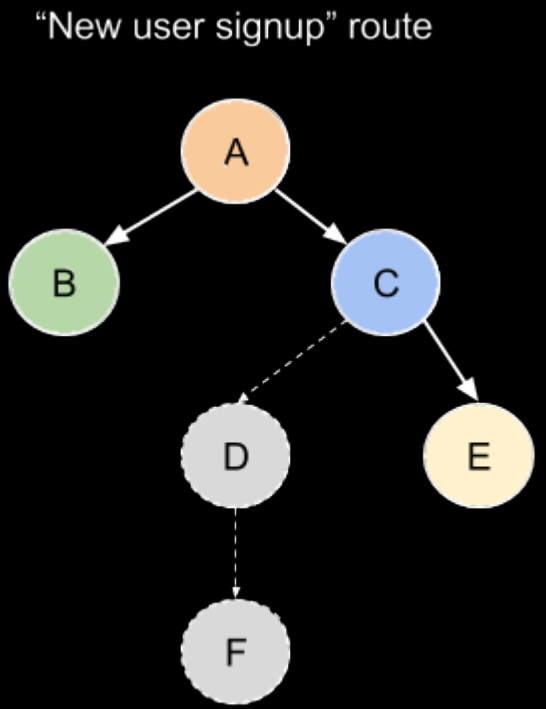
- 15 official and community supported libraries
  - Go, Java, Python, Ruby, C++, etc
- https://prometheus.io/docs/instrumenting/clientlibs/




Introduction to Tracing

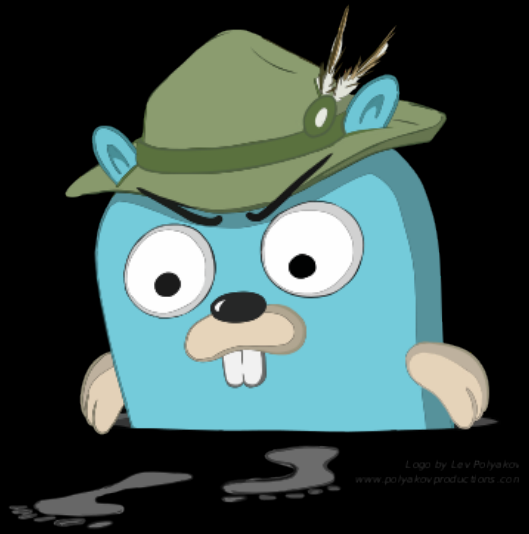
What is Tracing?

- Enables observability of a given transaction as it moves through a (distributed) system
- Allows visualization of which microservice instances are involved
- Tracks the path through the software stack + time metrics



Jaeger

- Open-source distributed tracing system
- CNCF hosted project
- Originally built by Uber
- OpenTracing compatible
- Root cause and observe performance
- https://github.com/jaegertracing/jaeger



Let’s Deploy Jaeger

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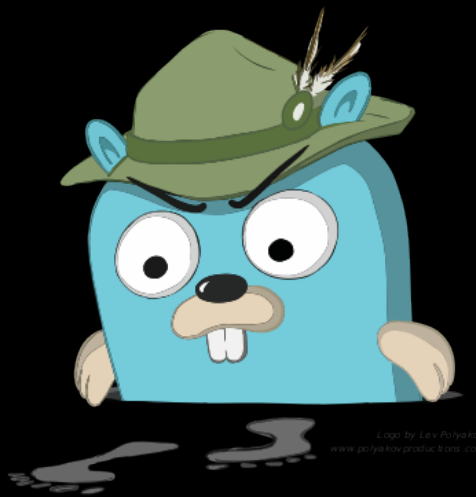
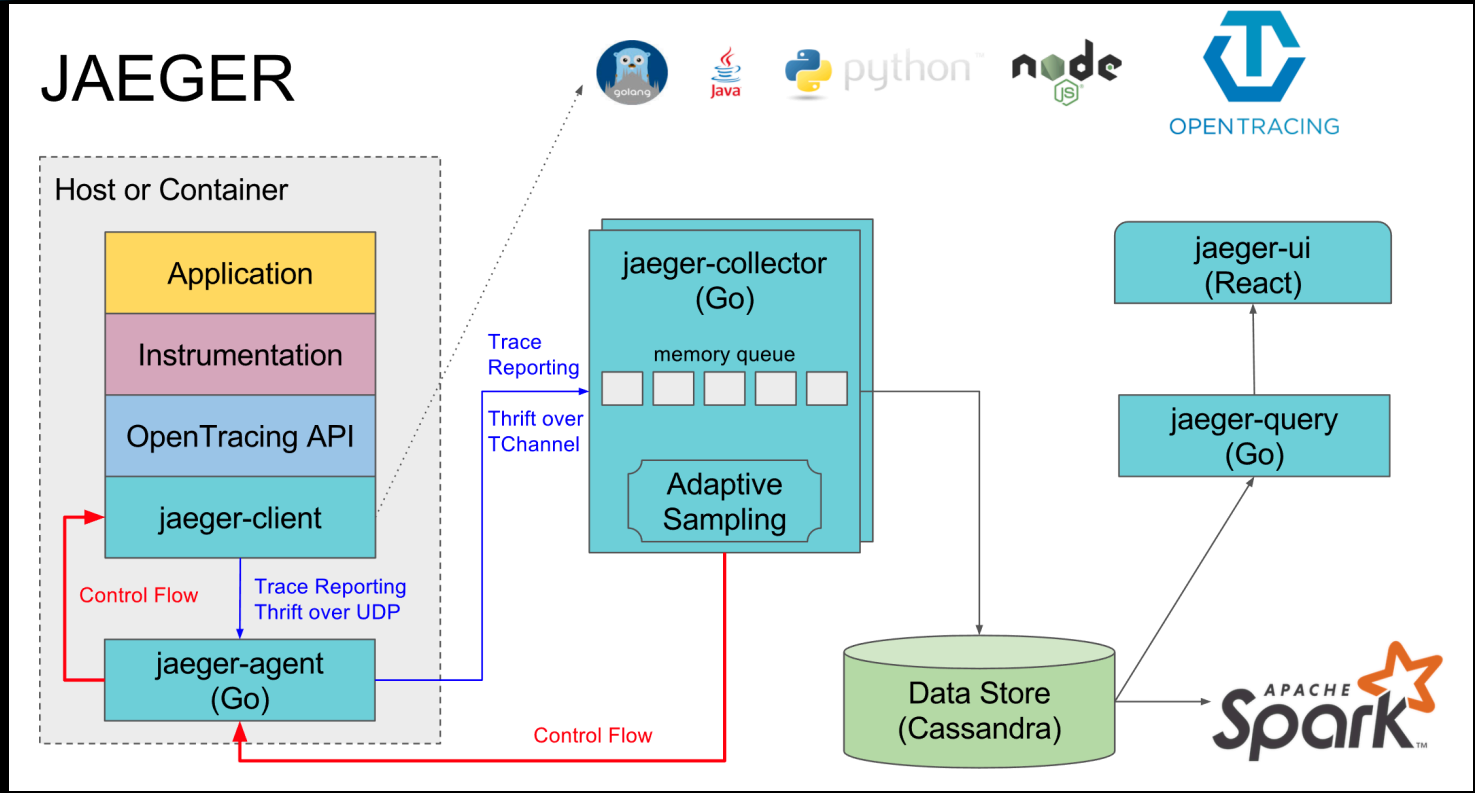
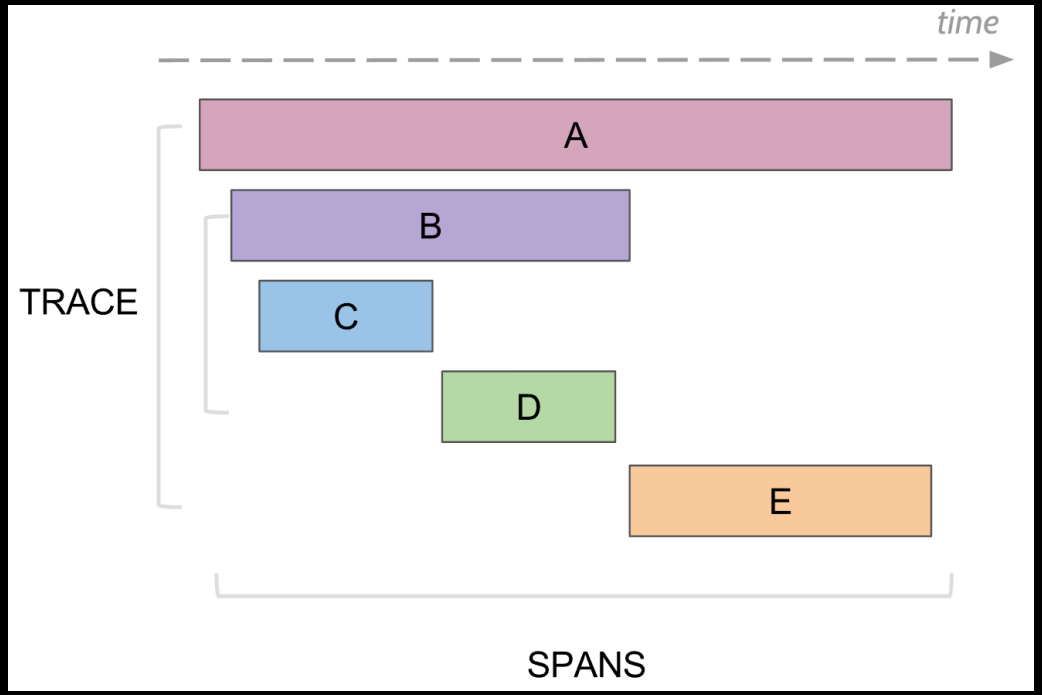
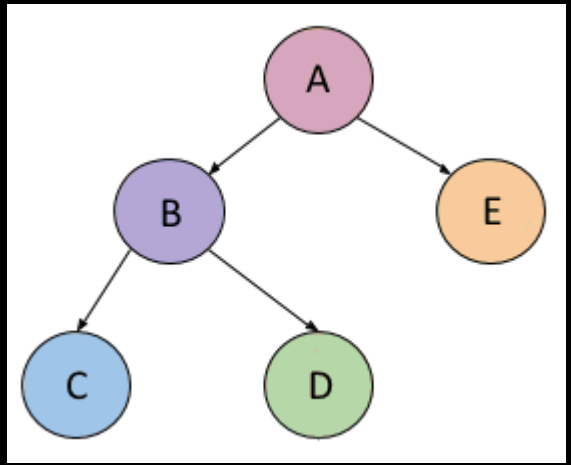


Architecture



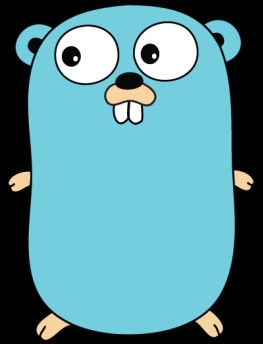
Traces and Spans





Jaeger Language Bindings

- 5 official and bunch of community supported libraries
  - Go, Java, Python, node, C++
  - http://jaeger.readthedocs.io/en/latest/client_libraries/



Metrics vs Tracing

- Metrics
  - Gives a singular per node, instance, or component view of the world
  - Health checks, performance monitoring, etc
  - Alerts and reaction to change
- Tracing
  - Follows a single transaction, API call, etc through a given system or application
  - Think what a stack trace provides except tracing is doing it in a distributed fashion

Demo

Demo Time!

Demo Configuration

- Kubernetes 1.7
- Prometheus 2.1
- Jaeger 1.0
- How-to: https://github.com/dvonthenen/proposals/tree/master/2018_SCALE16

Thank You

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