
Graylog Documentation

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Graylog, Inc.

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NOTE: There are multiple options for reading this documentation. See link to the lower left.

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Architectural considerations

There are a few rules of thumb when scaling resources for Graylog:

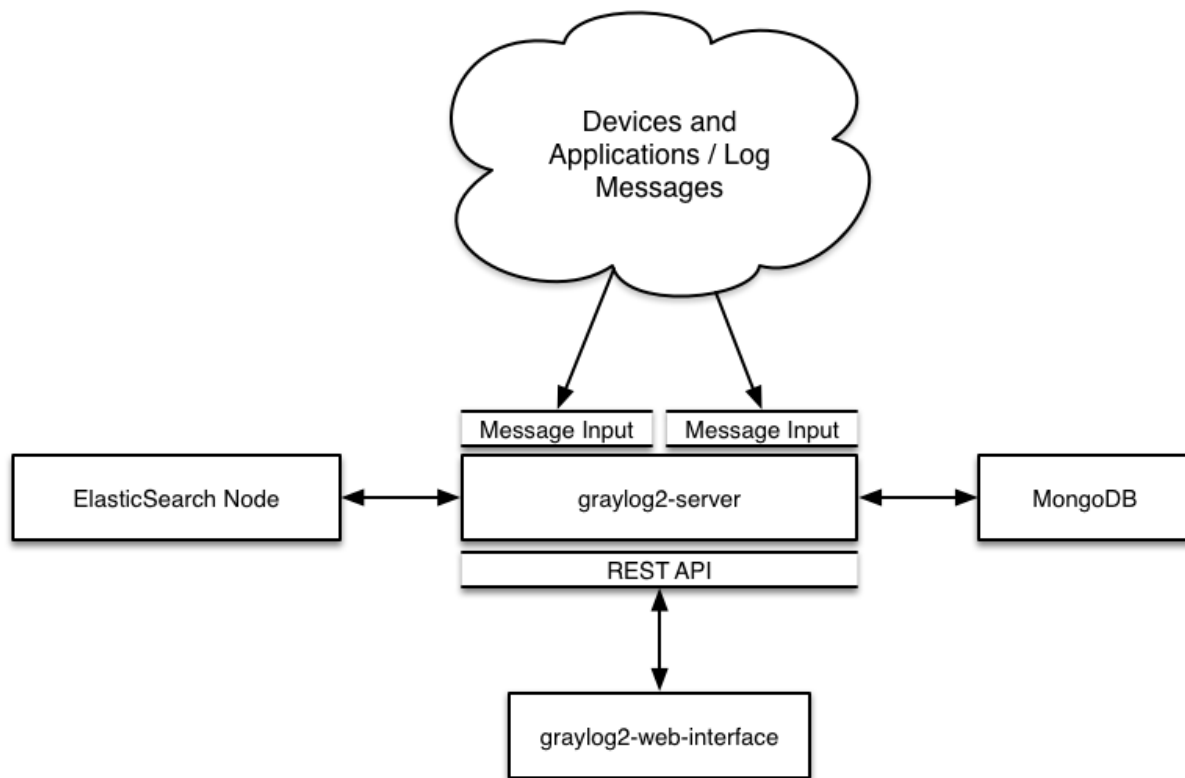
- `graylog-server` nodes should have a focus on CPU power.
- Elasticsearch nodes should have as much RAM as possible and the fastest disks you can get. Everything depends on I/O speed here.
- MongoDB is only being used to store configuration and the dead letter messages, and can be sized fairly small.
- `graylog-web-interface` nodes are mostly waiting for HTTP answers of the rest of the system and can also be rather small.
- `graylog-radio` nodes act as workers. They don't know each other and you can shut them down at any point in time without changing the cluster state at all.

Also keep in mind that messages are **only** stored in Elasticsearch. If you have data loss on Elasticsearch, the messages are gone - except if you have created backups of the indices.

MongoDB is only storing meta information and configuration data.

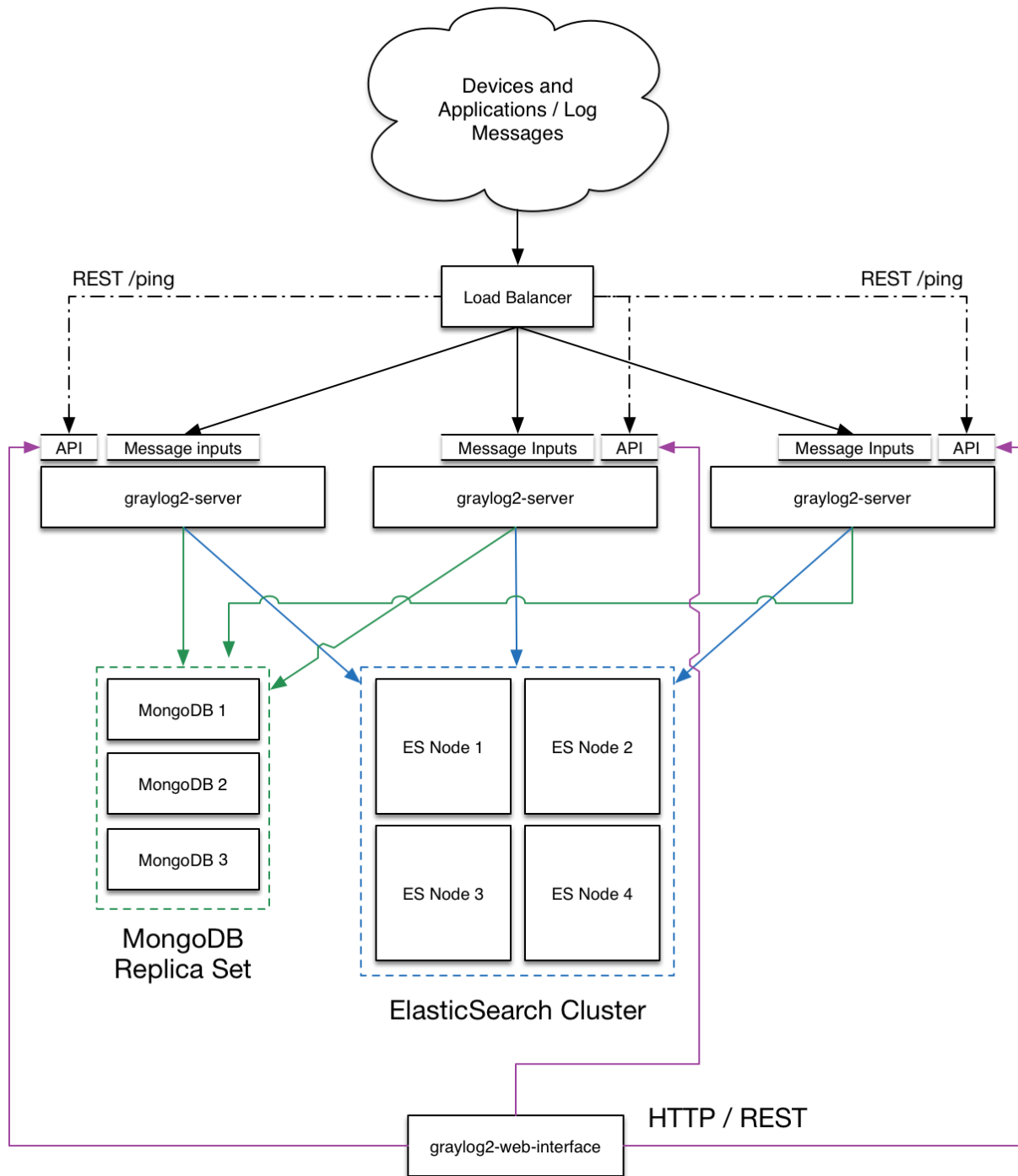
Minimum setup

This is a minimum Graylog setup that can be used for smaller, non-critical, or test setups. None of the components is redundant but it is easy and quick to setup.



Bigger production setup

This is a setup for bigger production environments. It has several `graylog-server` nodes behind a load balancer that share the processing load. The load balancer can ping the `graylog-server` nodes via REST/HTTP to check if they are alive and take dead nodes out of the cluster.



Highly available setup with Graylog Radio

Beginning with Graylog 1.0 on, we no longer recommend running Graylog Radio because we are now using a high-performant message journal (from the Apache Kafka project) in every *graylog-server* instance which is spooling all incoming messages to disk immediately and is able to buffer load spikes just at least as good as Graylog Radio was, but with less dependencies and maintenance overhead.

If you are running a setup with Graylog Radio we recommend to shut down the Graylog Radio architecture including AMQP or Kafka brokers completely and directly send messages to the *graylog-server* nodes. If you have been using Graylog Radio for load balancing, you should now put a classic load balancer in front of your *graylog-server* nodes.

This approach has been proven to work great in large high-throughput setups of several of our large scale customers and immensely reduced complexity of their setups.

The Kafka and AMQP inputs are still supported and can be used to build a custom setup using message brokers, if you want to keep using that. A reason for this might be that Graylog is not the only subscriber to the messages on the bus. However we would recommend to use Graylog forwarders to either write to a message bus after processing or write to other systems directly.

CHAPTER 2

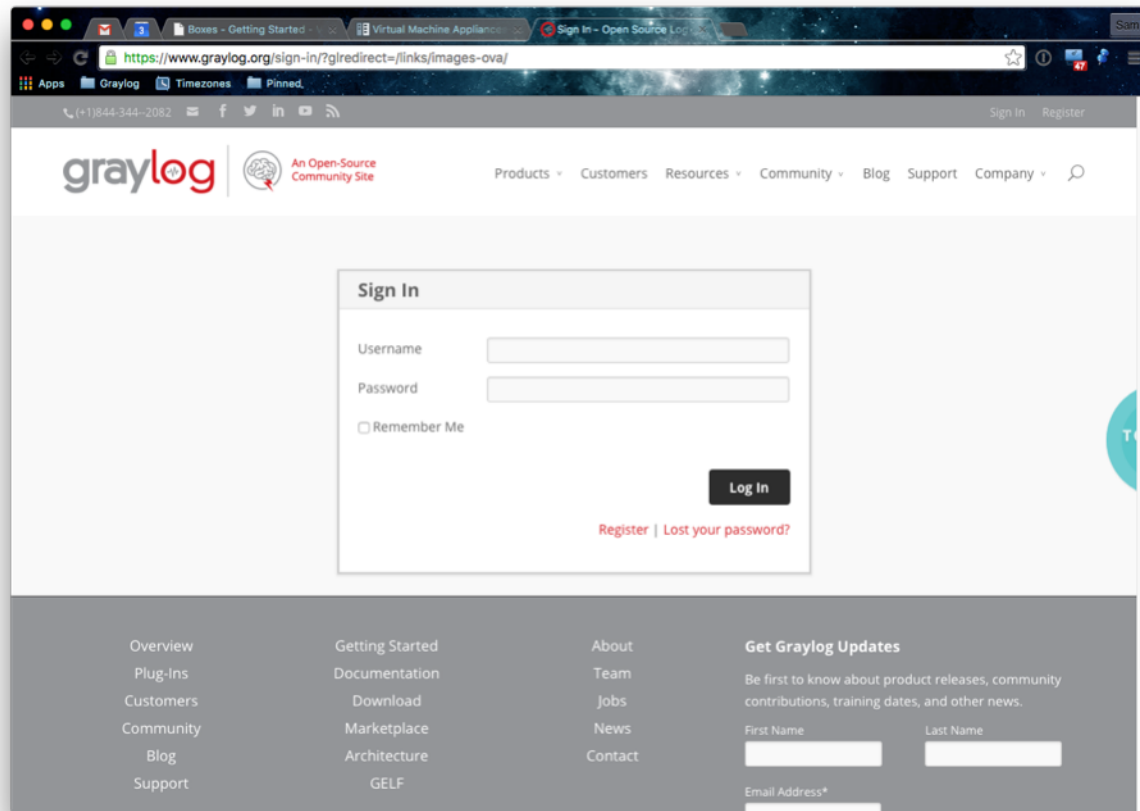
Getting Started

The fastest way to evaluate Graylog is to download the virtual appliance file and run it in VMWare or VirtualBox.

Install & Configure

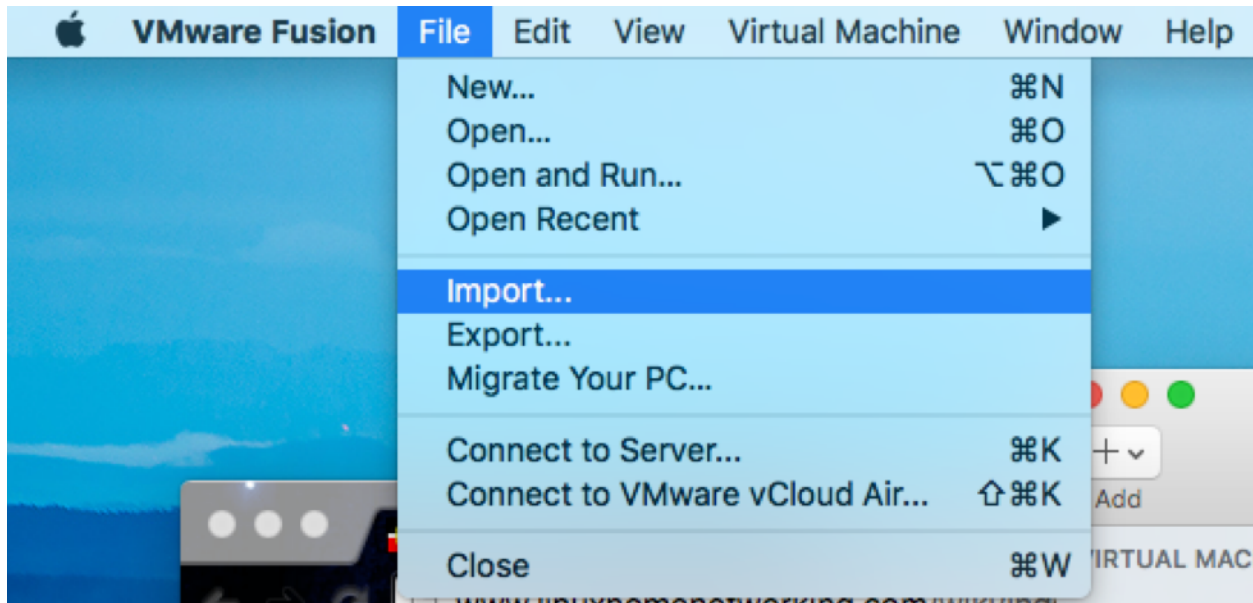
Download Graylog

Go [here](#) and download the virtual image.



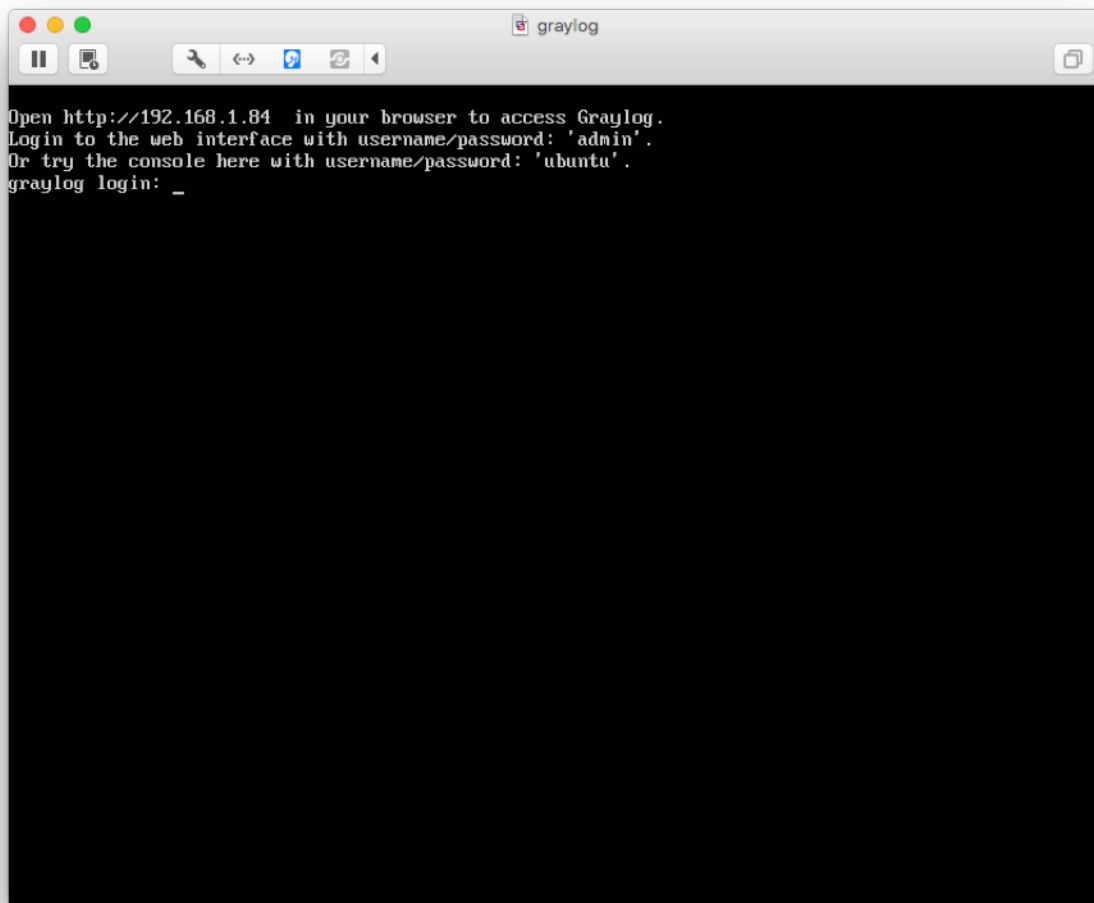
Import the VM

These screenshots are for VMWare (VirtualBox is nearly the same). Select *File -> Import...*, choose the `graylog.ova` file you downloaded, and follow the prompts.



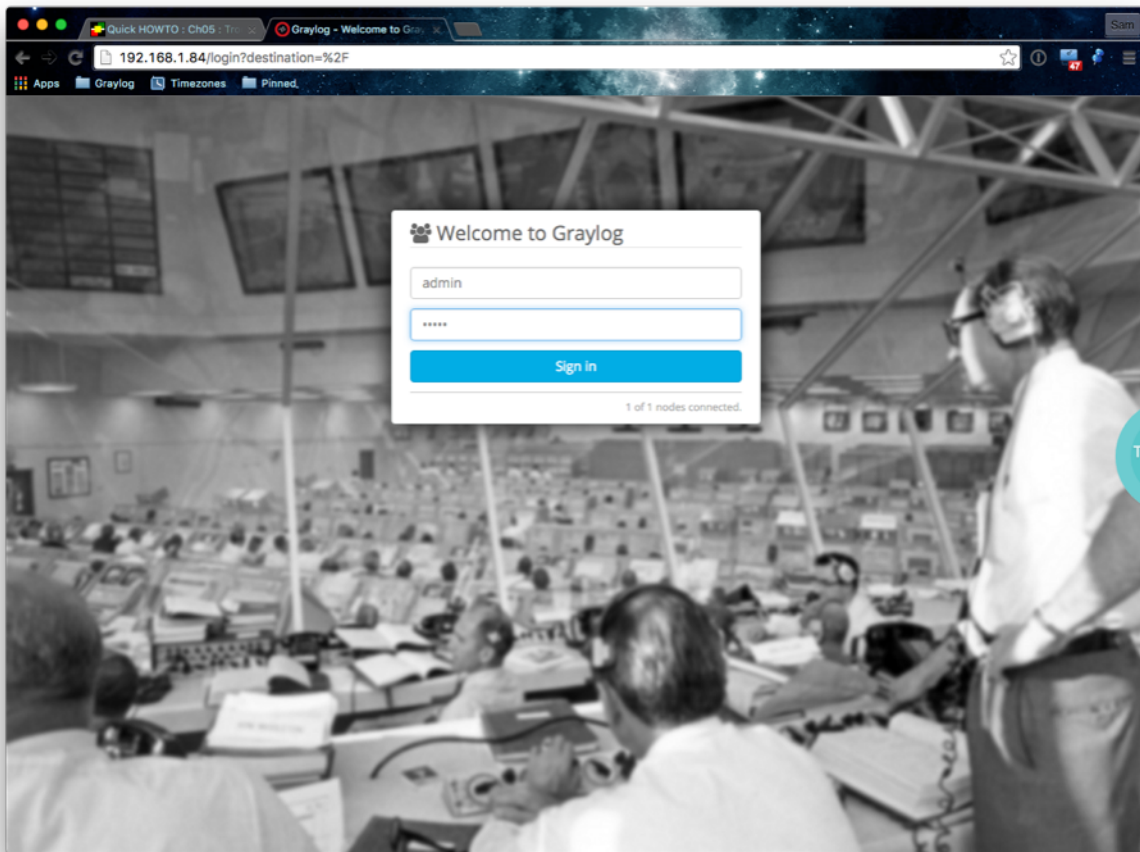
Start VM

This is what you'll see when you run the virtual machine. This is where all the Graylog server processes (more on that later) and the database will run. We can split them apart later for performance, but there's no need to do that right now for a quick overview. Don't close this window just yet, we're going to need the IP for the next step.

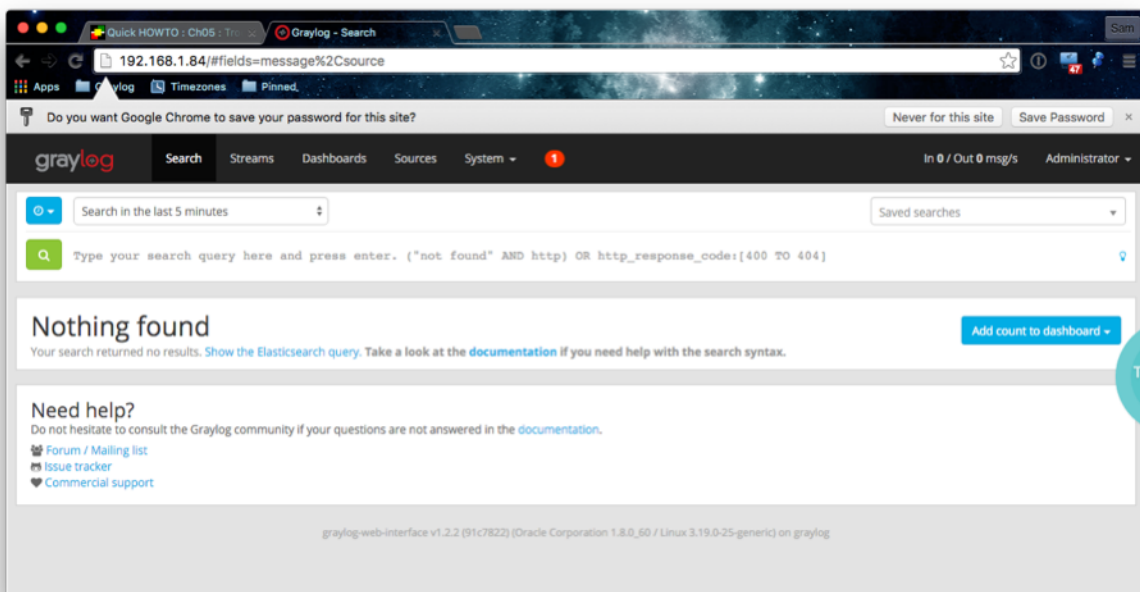


Connect to the Web Console

Go to a web browser on your host machine and type the IP address you saw in the previous screen. You should get a Graylog Web Console login page. Enter `admin/admin` to login.



Logging in will get you to blank screen. Not very fun? No problem, let's get some stuff in there!



Configure Graylog Input

Now you are not sending data to Graylog, so you need to configure an input. This will tell Graylog to accept the log messages.

Go back to the Graylog console open in your browser and click *System -> Inputs*. Then select Syslog UDP and click *Launch* new input. Fill out the circles with the values in the screen shown below.

Launch new input: *Syslog UDP*

Node(s) to spawn input on:
Select the node you want to spawn this input on.

ac472930 / graylog

or:
☐ Global input (started on all nodes)

Title
Select a name of your new input that describes it.

Syslog UDP

Bind address
Address to listen on. For example 0.0.0.0 or 127.0.0.1.

127.0.0.1

Port
Port to listen on.

5140

Receive Buffer Size (optional)

262144

The size in bytes of the recvBufferSize for network connections to this input.

Override source (optional)

The source is a hostname derived from the received packet by default. Set this if you want to override it with a custom string.

☐ **Force rDNS?** (optional)
Force rDNS resolution of hostname? Use if hostname cannot be parsed.

☒ **Allow overriding date?** (optional)
Allow to override with current date if date could not be parsed?

☐ **Store full message?** (optional)
Store the full original syslog message as full_message?

☐ **Expand structured data?** (optional)
Expand structured data elements by prefixing attributes with their SD-ID?

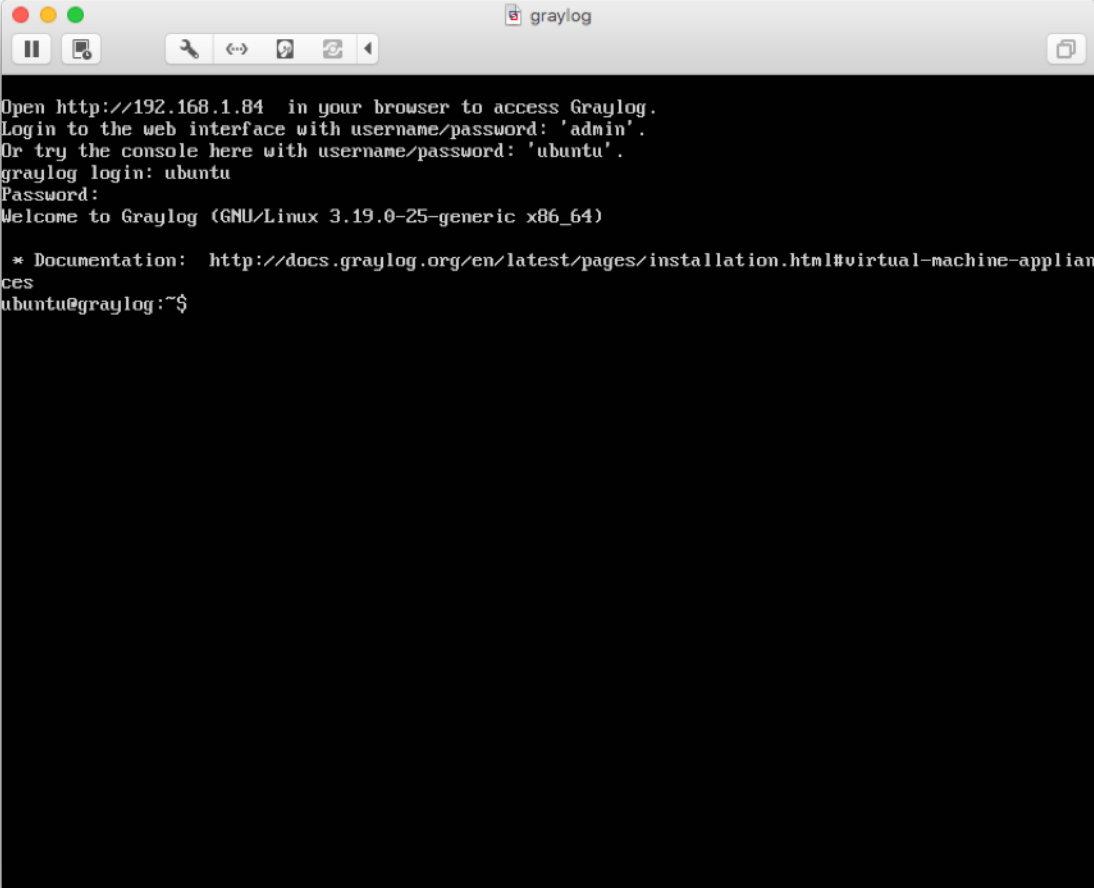
Close

Launch

Get Messages In

Log into the VM

We're going to use `rsyslog` because we already have it from the Graylog server image. So, go to the image and login with `ubuntu/ubuntu`.



```
Open http://192.168.1.84 in your browser to access Graylog.
Login to the web interface with username/password: 'admin'.
Or try the console here with username/password: 'ubuntu'.
graylog login: ubuntu
Password:
Welcome to Graylog (GNU/Linux 3.19.0-25-generic x86_64)

* Documentation: http://docs.graylog.org/en/latest/pages/installation.html#virtual-machine-appliances
ubuntu@graylog:~$
```

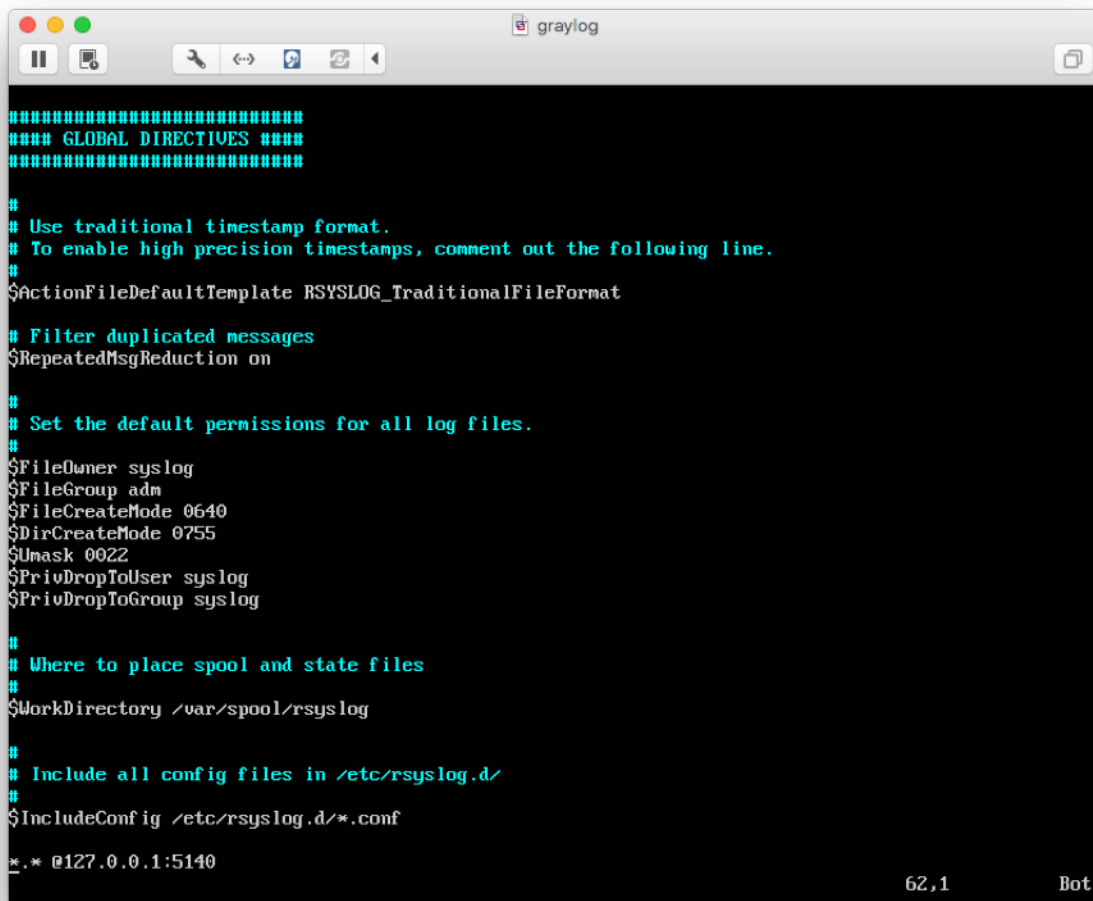
Modify `rsyslog.conf`

Go to the `/etc` directory, and use `vi`, `vim` ([vim Cheat Sheet](#)), or the editor of your choice to modify the `/etc/rsyslog.conf` file. There are excellent resources on the web for [rsyslog configuration](#).

At the bottom of the file, add the following so messages will forward:

```
*.* @127.0.0.1:5140;RSYSLOG_SyslogProtocol23Format
```

In case you wanted to know, `@` means UDP, `127.0.0.1` is localhost, and `5140` is the port.



```
##### GLOBAL DIRECTIVES #####
#
# Use traditional timestamp format.
# To enable high precision timestamps, comment out the following line.
#
$ActionFileDefaultTemplate RSYSLOG_TraditionalFileFormat
# Filter duplicated messages
$RepeatedMsgReduction on
#
# Set the default permissions for all log files.
#
$FileOwner syslog
$FileGroup adm
$FileCreateMode 0640
$DirCreateMode 0755
$Umask 0022
$PrivDropToUser syslog
$PrivDropToGroup syslog
#
# Where to place spool and state files
#
$WorkDirectory /var/spool/rsyslog
#
# Include all config files in /etc/rsyslog.d/
#
$IncludeConfig /etc/rsyslog.d/*.conf
*.* @127.0.0.1:5140
```

Restart rsyslog

Type:

```
$sudo service rsyslog status
$sudo service rsyslog restart
```

If you have modified the config file and it is somehow invalid, the service command will not bring rsyslog back up - so don't worry, you can always delete the line!

Check If You Have Messages

After that, you should see the Syslog UDP input appear on the screen.

Local inputs 1 configured on this node

Syslog UDP (Syslog UDP) running

On node ac472930 / graylog

Show received messages Manage extractors Stop input More actions

```

override_source:
recv_buffer_size: 262144
allow_override_date: true
bind_address: 127.0.0.1
port: 5140

```

Throughput / Metrics
1 minute average rate: 0 msg/s
Network I/O: 0B → 0B (total: 5.7KB → 0B)

Click *Show received messages* button on this screen, and you should have messages at the bottom. It may take a few minutes before you have messages coming in.


graylog Search Streams Dashboards Sources System In 0 / Out 0 msg/s Administrator

Search in the last 8 hours Saved searches

g12_source_input:563bec4be4b09abf23ab88b6

Search result
Found 64 messages in 61 ms, searched in 1 index.
Add count to dashboard
Save search criteria More actions

Fields
Default All None Filter fields
☐ facility
☐ level
☒ message
☒ source
 List fields of current page or all fields.

Histogram
Year, Quarter, Month, Week, Day, Hour, Minute

Add to dashboard

Messages Previous 1 Next

Timestamp [↑]	source
2015-11-06 18:35:33.000	graylog graylog ntpd_intres[891]: host name not found: 3.pool.ntp.org
2015-11-06 18:35:33.000	graylog graylog ntpd_intres[891]: host name not found: 1.pool.ntp.org
2015-11-06 18:35:33.000	graylog graylog ntpd_intres[891]: host name not found: 2.pool.ntp.org
2015-11-06 18:35:33.000	graylog graylog ntpd_intres[891]: host name not found: 0.pool.ntp.org

BOOM! Now that you have messages coming in, this is where the fun starts.

Skip the next section if you are all good.

If You Don't Have Messages

1. Check to see that you made the proper entries in the rsyslog configuration file.
2. Check the syslog UDP configuration and make sure that is right - remember we changed the default port to 5140.
3. Check to see if rsyslog messages are being forwarded to the port. You can use the `tcpdump` command to do this:

```
$sudo tcpdump -i lo host 127.0.0.1 and udp port 5140
```

4. Check to see if the server is listening on the host:

```
$sudo netstat -peanut | grep ":5140"
```

Create Your Dashboard

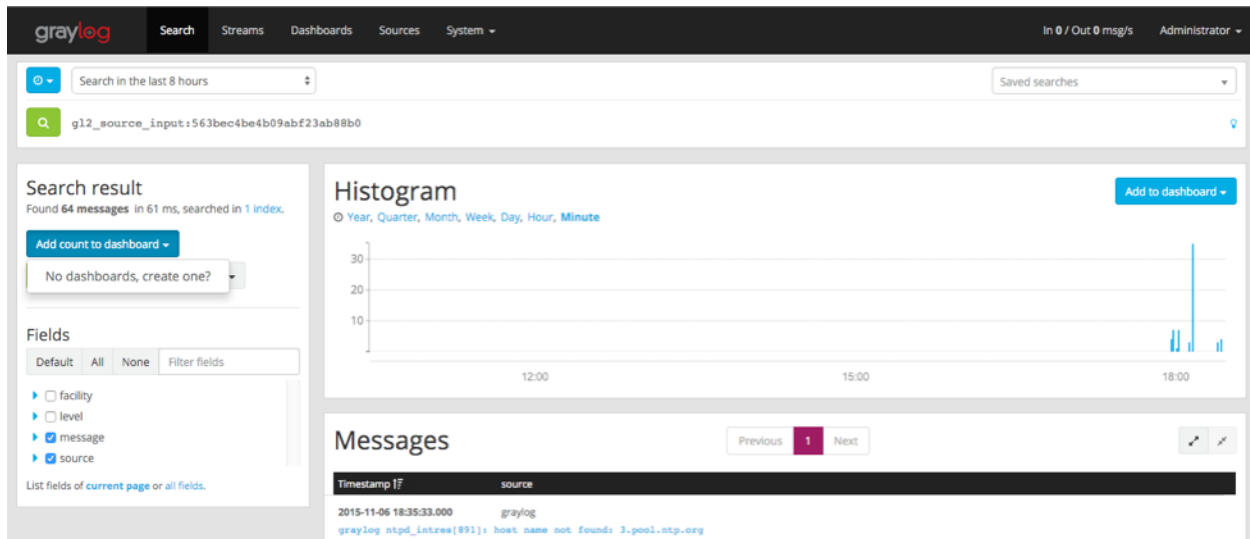
You should be at a screen like the one below. If you dozed off or went to cook some meatballs, go to System -> Inputs, select the Syslog UDP input you created, and hit Show messages.

Now it's go-time.

You've got data coming in, let's add information to a dashboard to better visualize the data we want to see.

Add a Dashboard

We'll start by adding the message count data to a dashboard. Click *Add count to dashboard*, and it will say *No Dashboards, create one?* Yes! Click that.



The screenshot shows the Graylog web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Search', 'Streams', 'Dashboards', 'Sources', and 'System'. Below the navigation bar, there's a search bar with the text 'g12_source_input:563bec4be4b09abf23ab88b0'. The main content area is divided into two sections. On the left, there's a 'Search result' section showing 'Found 64 messages in 61 ms, searched in 1 index.' Below this, there's a button 'Add count to dashboard' and a dropdown menu 'No dashboards, create one?'. On the right, there's a 'Histogram' section showing a bar chart with a peak at 18:00. Below the histogram, there's a 'Messages' section showing a table of search results.

Timestamp [7]	source
2015-11-06 18:35:33.000	graylog
graylog ntpd_intree[891]: host name not found: 3.pool.ntp.org	

Give your new dashboard a title and description.

New Dashboard

Title:

Important Stuff

Description:

Look at this, yo.

Cancel

Save

Add a Dashboard Widget

Now it will let you create a widget. In this case, we are creating a widget from our search result of message count in the last 8 hours. I like to put a timeframe in the title, and trends are always a big bowl of sunshine.

Create Dashboard Widget ✕

Title

Message count - Last 8 Hours

Type a name that describes your widget.

☒ Display trend

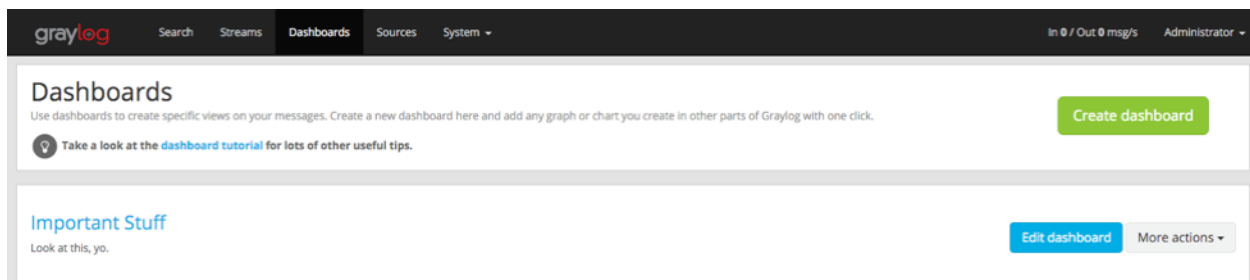
Show trend information for this number.

☒ Lower is better

Use green colour when trend goes down.

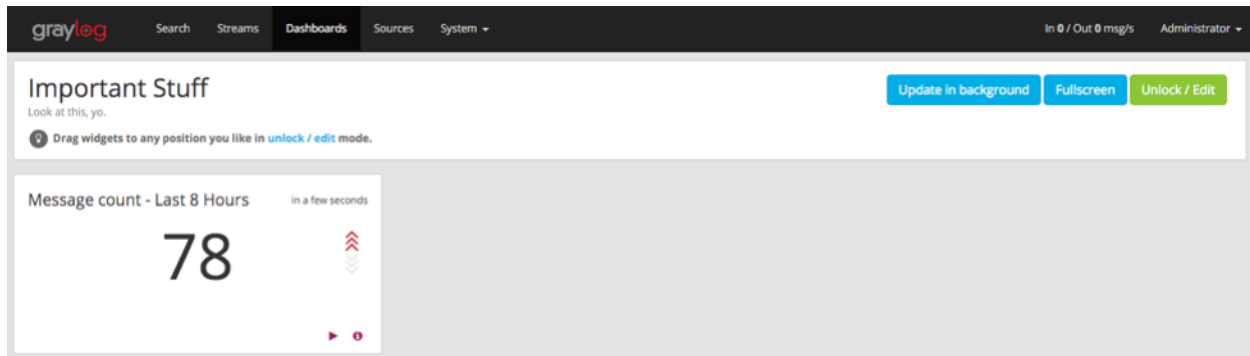
Cancel Create

When you hit create - *wa la!* Nothing happens. All you UX types, relax, we know. For now, click Dashboards and then the name of your dashboard.



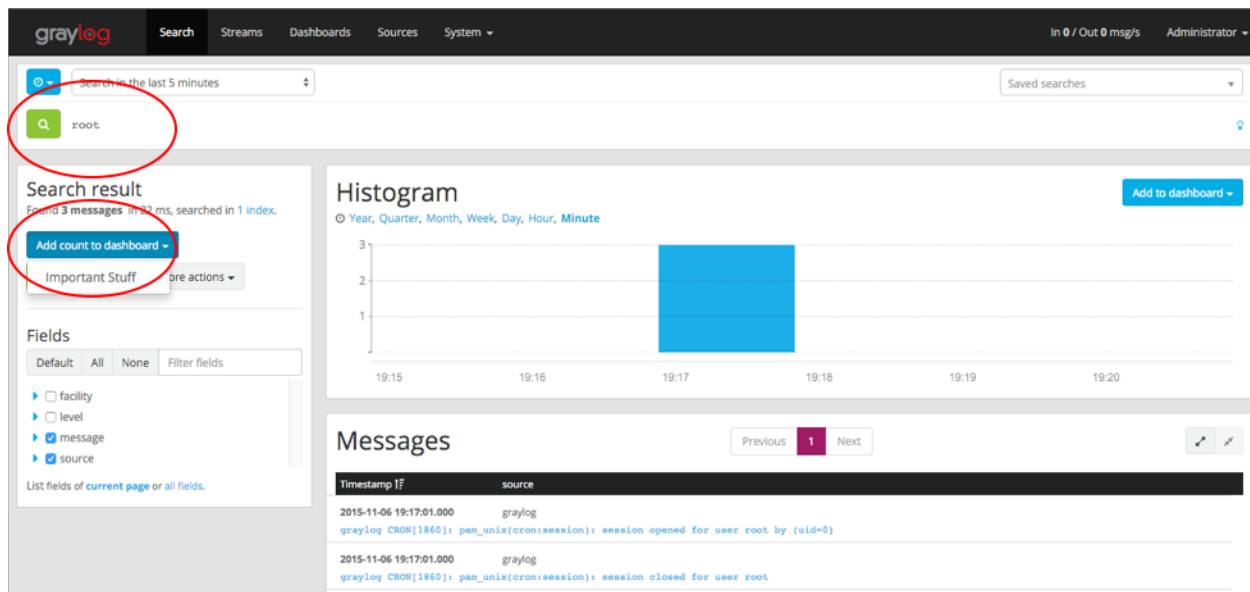
Smile

And you'll end up with the widget you created!



Extra Credit - One more

Let's add a widget for root activity, because that sounds like it may actually be useful. We need to start with a search query for root. Click *Search*. Type root in the search and select your timeframe. Once the search results come in, click *Add count to the dashboard*.



Give your chart a title and hit *Create*.

Create Dashboard Widget

Title

Root Activity - Last 5 Minutes

Type a name that describes your widget.

☐ Display trend

Show trend information for this number.

☐ Lower is better

Use green colour when trend goes down.

Cancel

Create

The new widget is now on the screen. Goob job - you've got this!

graylog

Search Streams Dashboards Sources System

In 0 / Out 0 msg/s Administrator

Important Stuff

Look at this, yo.

Drag widgets to any position you like in [unlock / edit mode](#).

Message count - Last 8 Hours

in a few seconds

93

Root Activity - Last 5 Minutes

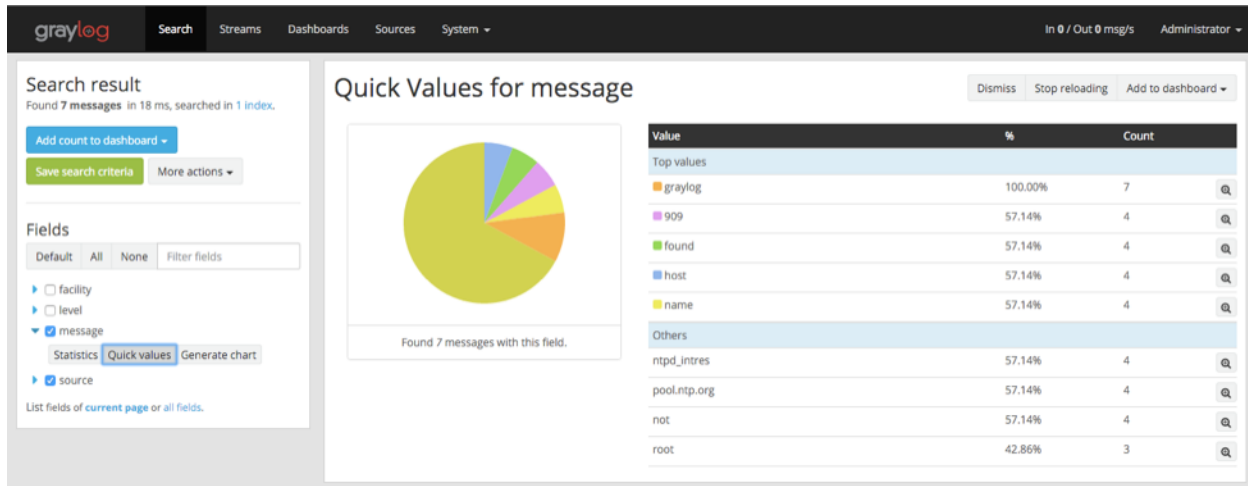
in a few seconds

0

Go play around. If you want to know how to create more exciting charts and graphs, check out the section below.

Extra Credit - Graphs

Let's start by searching for all messages within the last 1 hour. To do this, click *Search*, select Search in the last 1 hour, and leave the search bar blank. Once the search results populate, expand the messages field in the Search results sidebar and select *Quick Values*. Click *Add to dashboard* to add this entire pie chart and data table to your dashboard.



I like to track password changes, privilege assignments, root activity, system events, user logins, etc. Go knock yourself out and show your co-workers.

Once you have a few widgets in your dashboard, go into unlock / edit mode to quickly edit any widget, rearrange them on your dashboard, or delete. Make sure to click Lock to save!

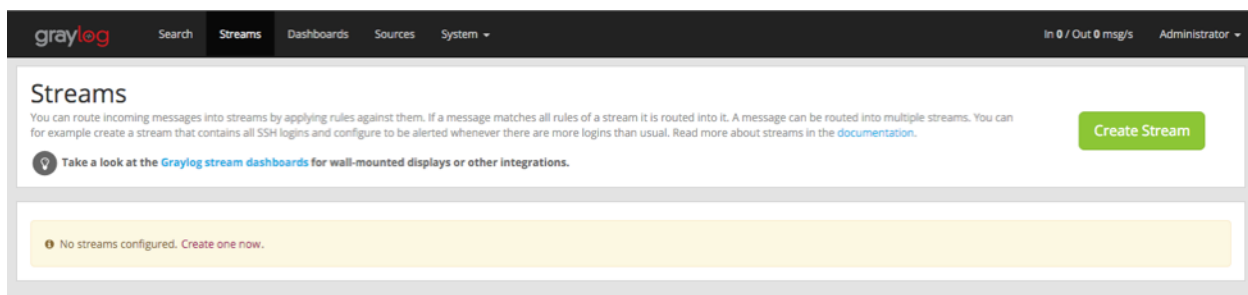
Get Alerted

I know, we're all lazy, and busy. Nobody wants to just stare at a dashboard all day like it's the World Cup. That's for management.

Let's configure some proactive alerts to let us know when something needs our attention.

Create a Stream

In order to set up an alert, we need to first create a stream. Streams process incoming messages in real time based on conditions that you set. Click *Streams*.



Let's create a stream for all incoming security/authentication error messages. Click Create Stream.

Type in a Title and Description.

Creating Stream

Title

Security/Auth Errors from Syslogs

Description

Security

Cancel

Save

Create a Stream Rule

Next, we are going to configure the stream to process our Syslog UDP input messages for any security alerts.

Hit the *Edit rules* button.

Security/Auth Errors from Syslogs stopped

Security

0 messages/second, No configured rules. Show stream rules

Edit rules

Manage outputs

Manage alerts

Start stream

More actions ▾

Pick the Syslog UDP Input, and click Add stream rule.

Rules of stream »Security/Auth Errors from Syslogs«

This screen is dedicated to an easy and comfortable creation and manipulation of stream rules. You can see the effect configured stream rules have on message matching here.

1. Load a message to test rules

Recent

Manual

Select an Input from the list below and click "Load Message" to load the most recent message from this input.

Syslog UDP (org.graylog2.inputs.syslog.udp.SyslogUDPin ▾)

Load Message

2. Manage stream rules

Please load a message to check if it would match against these rules and therefore be routed into this stream.

☒ A message must match all of the following rules

☐ A message must match at least one of the following rules

No rules defined.

I'm done!

Add stream rule

Then, type in the values shown below and hit save.

New Stream Rule

Field

Type

Value

☐ Inverted

Result: Field *facility* must match exactly *security/authorization*

The server will try to convert to strings or numbers based on the matcher type as good as it can.

[Take a look at the matcher code on GitHub](#)

Regular expressions use Java syntax. 💡

Cancel Save

Then click I'm done!

We have just configured this stream to process in real time all the messages that come in from the security/authorization facility.

Now let's create the alert.

Create the Alert

You can now either output your new stream to a 3rd party application or database, or trigger an alert to ping you in real time when a message that matches our stream rule comes in. Let's create an alert that will email us when there are more than 2 messages in the last 2 minutes . Click *Manage Alerts*.

Security/Auth Errors from Syslogs stopped

Security
0 messages/second, Must match all of the 1 configured stream rule(s). [Show stream rules](#)

Edit rules Manage outputs Manage alerts Start stream More actions ▾

In the Add new alert condition section, let's configure and add a new alert. Select message count condition, and configure the rest based on my screenshot (input 2's in every field). Then click Add alert condition.

The screenshot shows the Graylog web interface for configuring alerts on a specific stream. The top navigation bar includes 'graylog', 'Search', 'Streams', 'Dashboards', 'Sources', and 'System'. The user is logged in as 'Administrator' with 'In 0 / Out 0 msg/s'.

Alerts configuration for stream »Security/Auth Errors from Syslogs«

You can define thresholds on any message field or message count of a stream and be alerted based on this definition.

[Learn more about alerts in the documentation.](#)

Add new alert condition

Message count condition [Configure new alert condition](#)

Trigger alert when there are ☒ more ☐ less than messages in the last minutes and then wait at least minutes until triggering a new alert. (grace period)

When sending an alert, include the last messages of the stream evaluated for this alert condition.

[Add alert condition](#)

Configured alert conditions

No configured alarm conditions.

Callbacks

The following callbacks will be performed when this stream triggers an alert.

Select Callback Type [Add callback](#) [Find more callbacks](#)

No configured alarm callbacks.

Receivers

The following Graylog users will be notified about alerts via email if they have configured an email address in their profile. You can also add any other email address to the alert receivers if it has no Graylog user associated.

[Send test alert](#)

No configured alert receivers.

Username: [Subscribe](#) Email address: [Subscribe](#)

Send a Test Email

In the Callbacks section, select email alert callback, and input your email address in the Receivers section. After you've added a callback type and receiver, hit the blue 'Send test alert' button.

Callbacks

The following callbacks will be performed when this stream triggers an alert.

Select Callback Type
Add callback
Find more callbacks

Email Alert Callback

Executed once per triggered alert condition.

Edit callback
Delete callback

```

body:
    #####
    Alert Description: ${check_result.resultDescription}
    Date: ${check_result.triggeredAt}
    Stream ID: ${stream.id}
    Stream title: ${stream.title}
    Stream description: ${stream.description}
    ${if stream_url}Stream URL: ${stream_url}${end}

    Triggered condition: ${check_result.triggeredCondition}
    #####

    ${if backlog}Last messages accounting for this alert:
    ${foreach backlog message}${message}

    ${end}${else}<No backlog>
    ${end}

sender:
    graylog@example.org
subject:
    Graylog alert for stream: ${stream.title}: ${check_result.resultDescription}

```

Receivers

The following Graylog users will be notified about alerts via email if they have configured an email address in their profile. You can also add any other email address to the alert receivers if it has no Graylog user associated.

Send test alert

sam@graylog.com

Username:
Subscribe
Email address:
Subscribe

Going Further

If you want to configure an SMTP server, you can refer to the [this documentation](#).

If you want to make this stream active, just go back to Streams and where you see the stream name, click the green *Start stream* button.

Security/Auth Errors from Syslogs

stopped

Edit rules
Manage outputs
Manage alerts
Start stream
More actions

Security

0 messages/second, Must match all of the 1 configured stream rule(s). [Show stream rules](#)

You are done - go grab a Creamsicle, take a deep breath, and chillax. Tomorrow you can configure all your own logs and alerts. To help, go and get some deep knowledge in the official [documentation](#).

Installing Graylog

Modern server architectures and configurations are managed in many different ways. Some people still put new software somewhere in `opt` manually for each server while others have already jumped on the configuration management train and fully automated reproducible setups.

Graylog can be installed in many different ways so you can pick whatever works best for you. We recommend to start with the *virtual machine appliances* for the fastest way to get started and then pick one of the other, more flexible installation methods to build an easier to scale setup. (Note: The *virtual machine appliances* are suitable for production usage because they are also prepared to scale out to some level when required.)

System requirements

The Graylog server application has the following prerequisites:

- Some modern Linux distribution (Debian Linux, Ubuntu Linux, or CentOS recommended)
- [Elasticsearch 1.7.3 or later](#) (Elasticsearch 2.x is currently not supported)
- [MongoDB 2.0 or later](#) (latest stable version is recommended)
- Oracle Java SE 7 or later (Oracle Java SE 8 is supported, OpenJDK 7 and OpenJDK 8 also work; latest stable update is recommended)

The Graylog web interface has the following prerequisites:

- Some modern Linux distribution (Debian Linux, Ubuntu Linux, or CentOS recommended)
- Oracle Java SE 7 or later (Oracle Java SE 8 is supported, OpenJDK 7 and OpenJDK 8 also work; latest point release is recommended)

This chapter is explaining the many ways to install Graylog and aims to help choosing the one that fits your needs.

Choose an installation method:

Virtual Machine Appliances

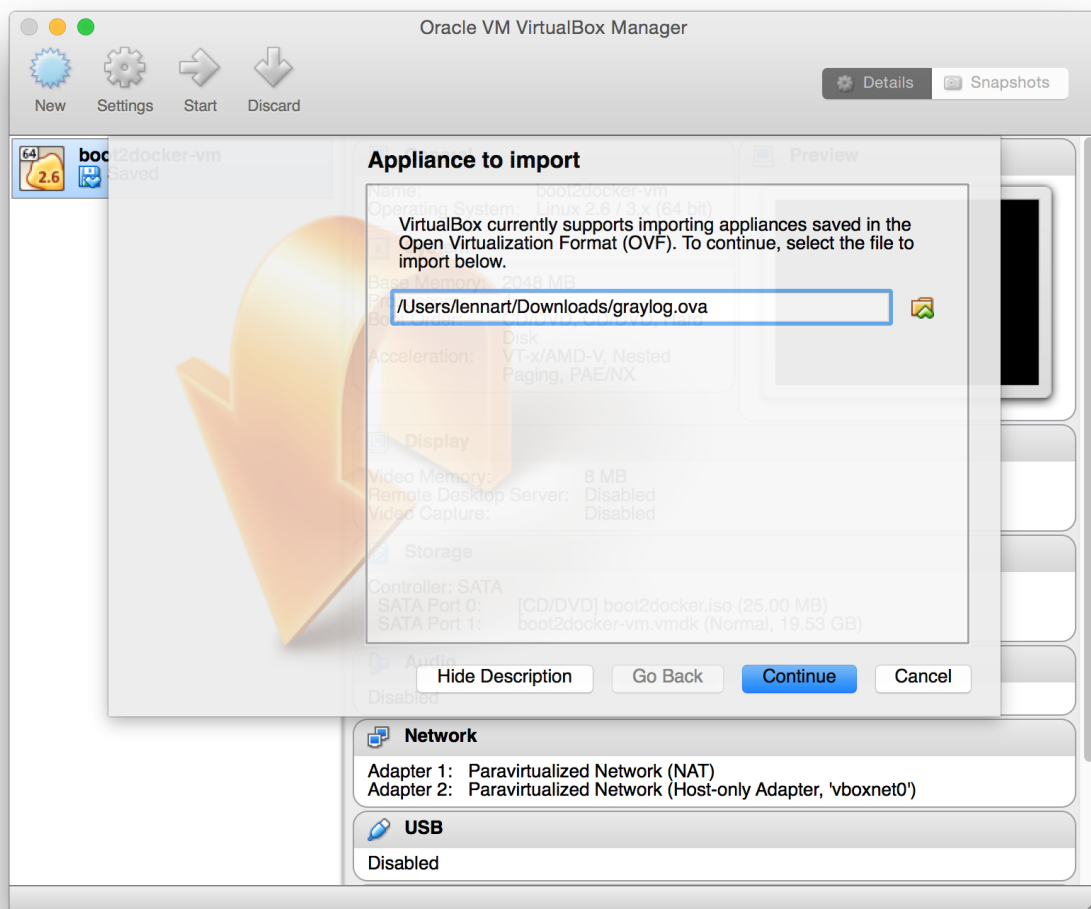
Download

Download the OVA image from [here](#) and save it to your disk locally.

Run the image

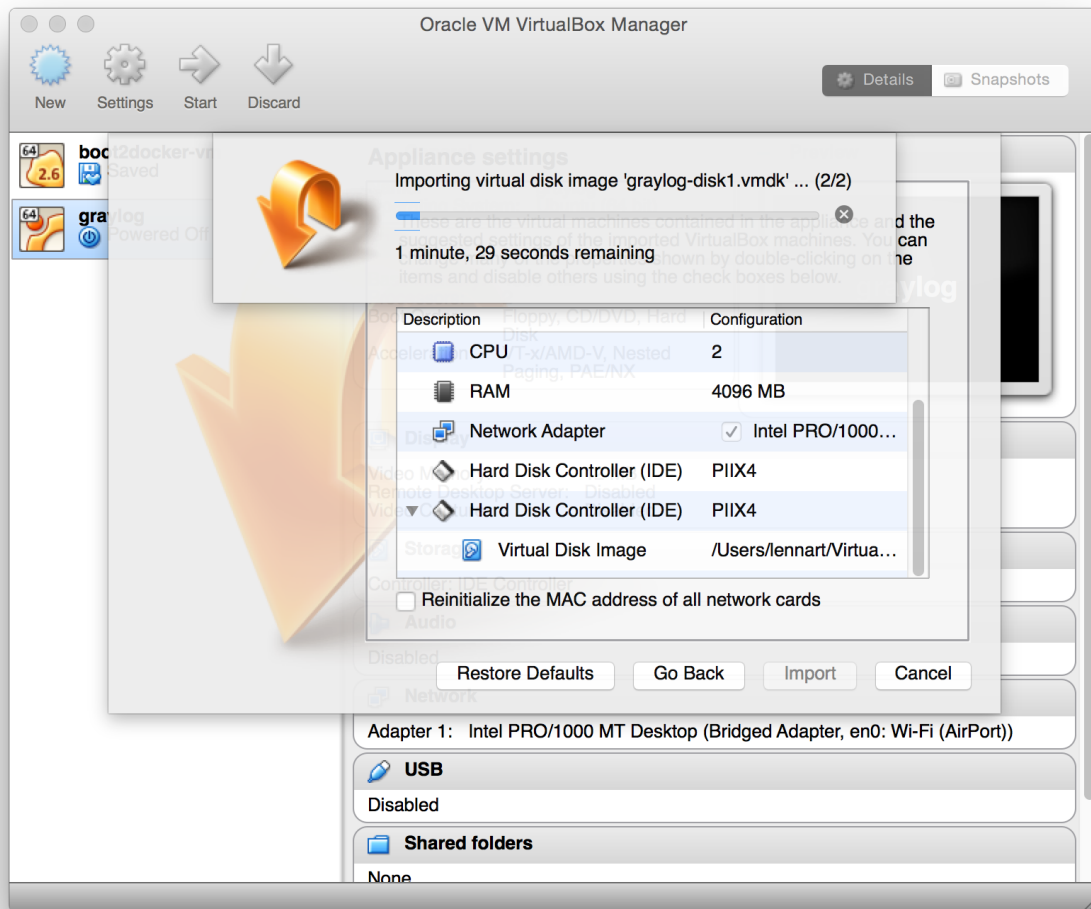
You can run the OVA in many systems like [VMware](#) or [Virtualbox](#). In this example we will guide you through running the OVA in the free Virtualbox on OSX.

In Virtualbox select *File -> Import appliance*:

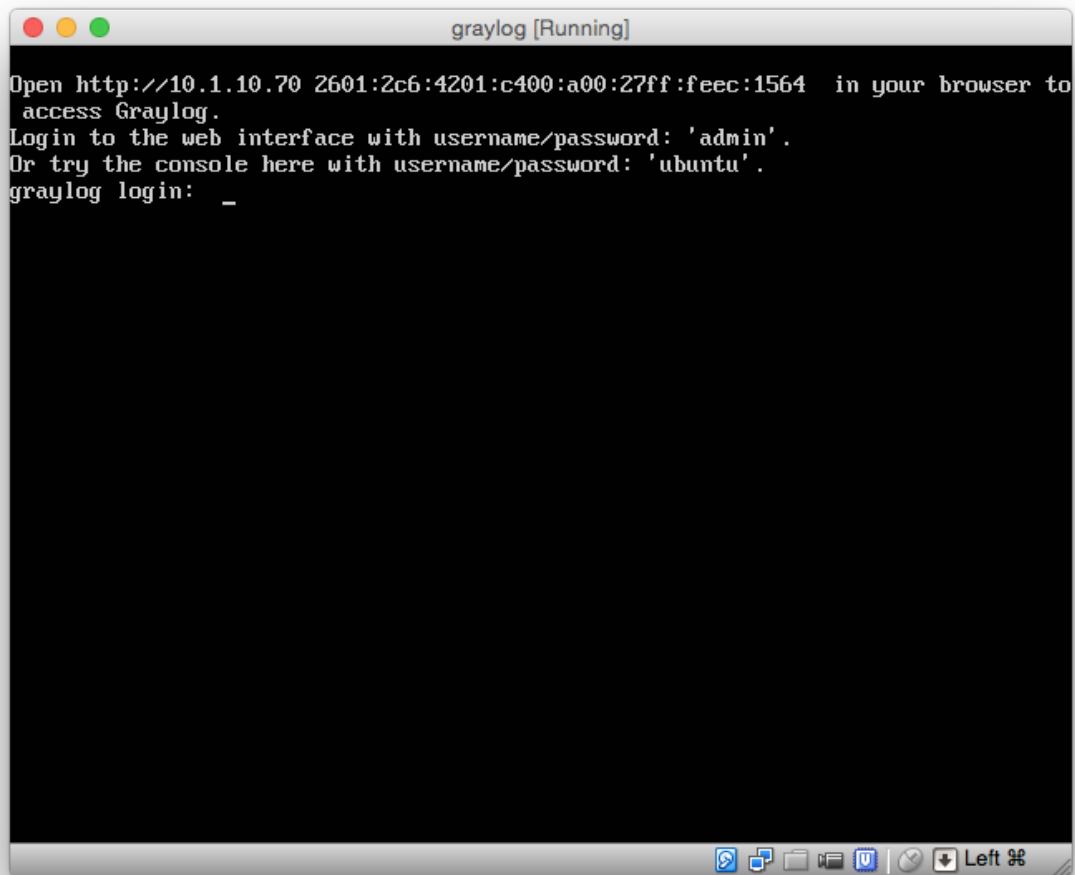


Hit *Continue* and keep the suggested settings on the next page as they are. Make sure that you have enough RAM and CPUs on your local machine. You can lower the resources the virtual machine will get assigned but we recommend to not lower it to ensure a good Graylog experience. In fact you might have to raise it if you plan to scale out later and send more messages into Graylog.

Press *Import* to finish loading the OVA into Virtualbox:



You can now start the VM and should see a login shell like this when the boot completed:



Logging in

You can log into the shell of the operating system of the appliance with the user *ubuntu* and the password *ubuntu*. You should of course change those credentials if you plan to go into production with the appliance.

The web interface is reachable on port 80 at the IP address of your virtual machine. The login prompt of the shell is showing you this IP address, too. (See screenshot above)

The standard user for the web interface is *admin* with the password *admin*.

Basic configuration

We are shipping the `graylog-ctl` tool with the virtual machine appliances to get you started with a customised setup as quickly as possible. Run these (optional) commands to configure the most basic settings of Graylog in the appliance:

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-email-config <smtp server> [--port=<smtp port> --user=<username>   
↪--password=<password>]  
sudo graylog-ctl set-admin-password <password>
```

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-timezone <zone acronym>
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

The `graylog-ctl` has much more functionality and is documented [here](#). We strongly recommend to learn more about it to ensure smooth operation of your virtual appliance.

The graylog-ctl script

Some packages of Graylog (for example the *virtual machine appliances*) ship with a pre-installed `graylog-ctl` script to allow you easy configuration of certain settings.

Important: The manual setup, operating system packages, configuration management scripts etc are not shipping with this.

Configuration commands

The following commands are changing the configuration of Graylog:

Command	Description
<code>sudo graylog-ctl set-admin-password <password></code>	Set a new admin password
<code>sudo graylog-ctl set-admin-username <username></code>	Set a different username for the admin user
<code>sudo graylog-ctl set-email-config <smtp server> [--port=<smtp port> --user=<username> --password=<password> --from-email=<sender-address> --web-url=<graylog web-interface url> --no-tls --no-ssl]</code>	Configure SMTP settings to send alert mails
<code>sudo graylog-ctl set-timezone <zone acronym></code>	Set Graylog's timezone. Make sure system time is also set correctly with <code>sudo dpkg-reconfigure tzdata</code>
<code>sudo graylog-ctl set-retention --size=<Gb> OR --time=<hours> --indices=<number> [--journal=<Gb>]</code>	Configure message retention
<code>sudo graylog-ctl enforce-ssl</code>	Enforce HTTPS for the web interface
<code>sudo graylog-ctl set-node-id <id></code>	Override random server node id
<code>sudo graylog-ctl set-server-secret <secret></code>	Override server secret used for encryption

After setting one or more of these options re-run:

```
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

You can also edit the full configuration files under `/opt/graylog/conf` manually. restart the related service afterwards:

```
sudo graylog-ctl restart graylog-server
```

Or to restart all services:

```
sudo graylog-ctl restart
```

Multi VM setup

At some point it makes sense to not run all services in one VM anymore. For performance reasons you maybe want to add more Elasticsearch nodes or want to run the web interface separately from the server components. You can reach this by changing IP addresses in the Graylog configuration files or you can use our canned configurations which come with the `graylog-ctl` command.

The idea is to have one VM which is a central point for other VMs to fetch all needed configuration settings to join your cluster. Typically the first VM you spin up is used for this task. Automatically an instance of `etcd` is started and filled with the necessary settings for other hosts.

For example to split the web interface from the rest of the setup, spin up two VMs from the same graylog image. On the first only start `graylog-server`, `elasticsearch` and `mongodb`:

```
vm1> sudo graylog-ctl set-admin-password sEcReT
vm1> sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure-as-backend
```

On the second VM, start only the web interface but before set the IP of the first VM to fetch configuration data from:

```
vm2> sudo graylog-ctl set-cluster-master <ip-of-vm1>
vm2> sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure-as-webinterface
```

This results in a perfectly fine dual VM setup. However if you want to scale this setup out by adding an additional Elasticsearch node, you can proceed in the same way:

```
vm3> sudo graylog-ctl set-cluster-master <ip-of-vm1>
vm3> sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure-as-datanode
```

The following configuration modes do exist:

Command	Services
<code>sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure</code>	Run all services on this box
<code>sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure-as-backend</code>	Run graylog-server, elasticsearch and mongodb
<code>sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure-as-webinterface</code>	Run only the web interface
<code>sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure-as-datanode</code>	Run only elasticsearch
<code>sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure-as-server</code>	Run graylog-server and mongodb (no elasticsearch)

Extend disk space

All data is stored in one directory `/var/opt/graylog/data`. In order to extend the disk space mount a second drive on this path. Make sure to move old data to the new drive before and give the graylog user permissions to read and write here.

Example procedure for an OVA appliance on VMWare:

Action	Explanation
shutdown the VM	Preparation for creating a consistend snapshot
take a snapshot through VMWare	Use the VMWare GUI to create a snapshot of the VM in case something goes wrong
attach an additional hard drive	Use the VMWare GUI to attach another harddrive suitable for the amount of logs you want to store
start the VM again and follow these steps:	
<code>sudo graylog-ctl stop</code>	Stop all running services to prevent disk access
<code>sudo lshw -class disk</code>	Check for the <i>logical name</i> of the new hard drive. Usually this is <code>/dev/sdb</code>
<code>sudo parted -a optimal /dev/sdb mklabel gpt</code> (A reboot may be necessary at this point) <code>sudo parted -a optimal -- /dev/sdb unit \\ compact mkpart primary ext3 "1" "-1"</code> <code>sudo mkfs.ext4 /dev/sdb1</code>	Partition and format new disk
<code>sudo mkdir /mnt/tmp</code> <code>sudo mount /dev/sdb1 /mnt/tmp</code>	Mount disk to temporary mount point
<code>cd /var/opt/graylog/data</code> <code>sudo cp -ax * /mnt/tmp/</code>	Copy current data to new disk
<code>sudo diff -qr --suppress-common-lines \\ /var/opt/graylog/data /mnt/tmp</code>	Compare both folders. Output should be: <i>Only in /mnt/tmp: lost+found</i>
<code>sudo rm -rf /var/opt/graylog/data/*</code>	Delete old data
<code>sudo umount /mnt/tmp</code> <code>sudo mount /dev/sdb1 /var/opt/graylog/data</code>	Mount new disk over data folder
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<code>echo "/dev/sdb1 /var/opt/graylog/data ext4 \\</code>	Make change permanent

Install Graylog plugins

The Graylog plugin directory is located in `/opt/graylog/plugin/`. Just drop a JAR file there and restart the server with `sudo graylog-ctl restart graylog-server` to load the plugin.

Install Elasticsearch plugins

Elasticsearch comes with a helper program to install additional plugins you can call it like this `sudo JAVA_HOME=/opt/graylog/embedded/jre /opt/graylog/elasticsearch/bin/plugin`

Install custom SSL certificates

During the first reconfigure run self signed SSL certificates are generated. You can replace this certificate with your own to prevent security warnings in your browser. Just drop the key and combined certificate file here: `/opt/graylog/conf/nginx/ca/graylog.crt` respectively `/opt/graylog/conf/nginx/ca/graylog.key`. Afterwards restart nginx with `sudo graylog-ctl restart nginx`.

Configure Message Retention

Graylog is keeping a defined amount of messages. It is possible to decide whether you want to have a set storage size or a set time period of messages. Additionally Graylog writes a so called Journal. This is used to buffer messages in case of a unreachable Elasticsearch backend. To configure those settings use the `set-retention` command.

Retention by disk size:

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-retention --size=3 --indices=10
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

Indices would be rotated when they reach a size of 3Gb and Graylog would keep up to 10 indices, resulting in 30Gb maximum disk space.

Retention by time:

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-retention --time=24 --indices=30
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

Indices would be rotated after 24 hours and 30 indices would be kept, resulting in 30 days of stored logs.

Both commands can be extended with the `-journal` switch to set the maximum journal size in Gb:

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-retention --time=24 --indices=30 --journal=5
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

Assign a static IP

Per default the appliance make use of DHCP to setup the network. If you want to access Graylog under a static IP please follow these instructions:

```
$ sudo ifdown eth0
```

Edit the file `/etc/network/interfaces` like this (just the important lines):

```
auto eth0
    iface eth0 inet static
    address <static IP address>
    netmask <netmask>
    gateway <default gateway>
    pre-up sleep 2
```

Activate the new IP and reconfigure Graylog to make use of it:

```
$ sudo ifup eth0
$ sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

Wait some time until all services are restarted and running again. Afterwards you should be able to access Graylog with the new IP.

Upgrade Graylog

Always perform a full backup or snapshot of the appliance before proceeding. Only upgrade if the release notes say the next version is a drop-in replacement. Look for the Graylog version you want to install [here](#), *graylog_latest* always links to the newest version:

```
wget https://packages.graylog2.org/releases/graylog-omnibus/ubuntu/graylog_latest.deb
sudo graylog-ctl stop
sudo dpkg -G -i graylog_latest.deb
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

Advanced Settings

To change certain parameters used by *graylog-ctl* during a reconfigure run you can override all default parameters found in the [attributes](#) file. If you want to change the username used by Graylog for example, edit the file `/etc/graylog/graylog-settings.json` like this:

```
"custom_attributes": {
  "user": {
    "username": "log-user"
  }
}
```

Afterwards run *sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure* and *sudo graylog-ctl restart*. In this way you can change things like the path to the data directory or memory settings for Graylog and Elasticsearch

Production readiness

You can use the Graylog appliances (OVA, Docker, AWS, ...) for small production setups but please consider to harden the security of the box before.

- Set another password for the default ubuntu user
- Disable remote password logins in `/etc/ssh/sshd_config` and deploy proper ssh keys
- Separate the box network-wise from the outside, otherwise Elasticsearch can be reached by anyone

If you want to create your own customised setup take a look at our [other installation methods](#).

Operating System Packages

Until configuration management systems made their way into broader markets and many datacenters, one of the most common ways to install software on Linux servers was to use operating system packages. Debian has DEB, Red Hat has RPM and many other distributions are based on those or come with own package formats. Online repositories of software packages and corresponding package managers make installing and configuring new software a matter of a single command and a few minutes of time.

Graylog offers official DEB and RPM package repositories for the following operating systems.

- Ubuntu 12.04, 14.04
- Debian 7, 8
- RHEL/CentOS 6, 7

The repositories can be setup by installing a single package. Once that's done the Graylog packages can be installed via `apt-get` or `yum`. The packages can also be downloaded with a web browser at <https://packages.graylog2.org/> if needed.

Make sure to install and configure Java (≥ 7), MongoDB and Elasticsearch 1.7 before starting the Graylog services.

Ubuntu 14.04

Download and install `graylog-1.3-repository-ubuntu14.04_latest.deb` via `dpkg(1)` and also make sure that the `apt-transport-https` package is installed:

```
$ sudo apt-get install apt-transport-https
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-1.3-repository-ubuntu14.04_
→latest.deb
$ sudo dpkg -i graylog-1.3-repository-ubuntu14.04_latest.deb
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install graylog-server graylog-web
```

After the installation successfully completed, Graylog can be started with the following commands:

```
$ sudo start graylog-server
$ sudo start graylog-web
```

Ubuntu 12.04

Download and install `graylog-1.3-repository-ubuntu12.04_latest.deb` via `dpkg(1)` and also make sure that the `apt-transport-https` package is installed:

```
$ sudo apt-get install apt-transport-https
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-1.3-repository-ubuntu12.04_
→latest.deb
$ sudo dpkg -i graylog-1.3-repository-ubuntu12.04_latest.deb
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install graylog-server graylog-web
```

After the installation successfully completed, Graylog can be started with the following commands:

```
$ sudo start graylog-server
$ sudo start graylog-web
```

Debian 7

Download and install [graylog-1.3-repository-debian7_latest.deb](#) via `dpkg(1)` and also make sure that the `apt-transport-https` package is installed:

```
$ sudo apt-get install apt-transport-https
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-1.3-repository-debian7_
↳latest.deb
$ sudo dpkg -i graylog-1.3-repository-debian7_latest.deb
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install graylog-server graylog-web
```

After the installation successfully completed, Graylog can be started with the following commands:

```
$ sudo service graylog-server start
$ sudo service graylog-web start
```

Debian 8

Download and install [graylog-1.3-repository-debian8_latest.deb](#) via `dpkg(1)` and also make sure that the `apt-transport-https` package is installed:

```
$ sudo apt-get install apt-transport-https
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-1.3-repository-debian8_
↳latest.deb
$ sudo dpkg -i graylog-1.3-repository-debian8_latest.deb
$ sudo apt-get update
$ sudo apt-get install graylog-server graylog-web
```

After the installation successfully completed, Graylog can be started with the following commands:

```
$ sudo systemctl start graylog-server
$ sudo systemctl start graylog-web
```

CentOS 6

Download and install [graylog-1.3-repository-el6_latest.rpm](#) via `rpm(8)`:

```
$ sudo rpm -Uvh https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-1.3-repository-
↳el6_latest.rpm
$ sudo yum install graylog-server graylog-web
```

After the installation successfully completed, Graylog can be started with the following commands:

```
$ sudo service graylog-server start
$ sudo service graylog-web start
```

CentOS 7

Download and install [graylog-1.3-repository-el7_latest.rpm](#) via `rpm(8)`:

```
$ sudo rpm -Uvh https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-1.3-repository-  
el7_latest.rpm  
$ sudo yum install graylog-server graylog-web
```

After the installation successfully completed, Graylog can be started with the following commands:

```
$ sudo systemctl start graylog-server  
$ sudo systemctl start graylog-web
```

Feedback

Please open an [issue](#) in the [Github repository](#) if you run into any packaging related issues. **Thank you!**

Chef, Puppet, Ansible, Vagrant

The DevOps movement turbocharged market adoption of the newest generation of configuration management and orchestration tools like [Chef](#), [Puppet](#) or [Ansible](#). Graylog offers official scripts for all three of them:

- <https://supermarket.chef.io/cookbooks/graylog2>
- <https://forge.puppetlabs.com/graylog2/graylog2>
- <https://galaxy.ansible.com/list#/roles/3162>

There are also official [Vagrant](#) images if you want to spin up a local virtual machine quickly:

- <https://github.com/Graylog2/graylog2-images/tree/master/vagrant>

Docker

Requirements

You need a recent *docker* version installed, take a look [here](#) for instructions.

This will create a container with all Graylog services running:

```
$ docker pull graylog2/allinone  
$ docker run -t -p 9000:9000 -p 12201:12201 -p 12201:12201/udp graylog2/allinone
```

To run the container in the background replace *-t* with *-d*.

Using the beta container

You can also run a pre-release or beta version of Graylog using Docker. The pre-releases are included in the *graylog2/server* image. Follow this [guide](#) and pick a alpha/beta tag like:

```
$ docker run --link some-mongo:mongo --link some-elasticsearch:elasticsearch -d  
graylog-server:2.0.0-beta.1-1
```

We only recommend to run beta versions if you are an experienced Graylog user and know what you are doing.

Usage

After starting the container, your Graylog instance is ready to use. You can reach the web interface by pointing your browser to the IP address of your Docker host: `http://<host IP>:9000`

The default login is Username: *admin*, Password: *admin*.

How to get log data in

You can create different kinds of inputs under *System -> Inputs*, however you can only use ports that have been properly mapped to your docker container, otherwise data will not get through. You already exposed the default GELF port 12201, so it is a good idea to start a GELF TCP input there.

To start another input you have to expose the right port e.g. to start a raw TCP input on port 5555; stop your container and recreate it, whilst appending `-p 5555:5555` to your run argument. Similarly, the same can be done for UDP by appending `-p 5555:5555/udp` option. Then you can send raw text to Graylog like `echo 'first log message' | nc localhost 5555`

Additional options

You can configure the most important aspects of your Graylog instance through environment variables. In order to set a variable add a `-e VARIABLE_NAME` option to your *docker run* command. For example to set another admin password start your container like this:

```
$ docker run -t -p 9000:9000 -p 12201:12201 -p 12201:12201/udp -e GRAYLOG_
  ↳PASSWORD=SeCuRePwD graylog2/allinone
```

Variable Name	Configuration Option
GRAYLOG_PASSWORD	Set admin password
GRAYLOG_USERNAME	Set username for admin user (default: admin)
GRAYLOG_TIMEZONE	Set timezone (TZ) you are in
GRAYLOG_SMTP_SERVER	Hostname/IP address of your SMTP server for sending alert mails
GRAYLOG_RETENTION	Configure how long or how many logs should be stored
GRAYLOG_NODE_ID	Set server node ID (default: random)
GRAY-LOG_SERVER_SECRET	Set salt for encryption
GRAYLOG_MASTER	IP address of a remote master container (see multi container setup)
GRAYLOG_SERVER	Run only server components
GRAYLOG_WEB	Run web interface only
ES_MEMORY	Set memory used by Elasticsearch (syntax: 1024m). Defaults to 60% of host memory

Examples

Set an admin password:

```
GRAYLOG_PASSWORD=SeCuRePwD
```

Change admin username:

```
GRAYLOG_USERNAME=root
```

Set your local timezone:

```
GRAYLOG_TIMEZONE=Europe/Berlin
```

Set a SMTP server for alert e-mails:

```
GRAYLOG_SMTP_SERVER="mailserver.com"
```

Disable TLS/SSL for mail delivery:

```
GRAYLOG_SMTP_SERVER="mailserver.com --no-tls --no-ssl"
```

Set SMTP server with port, authentication, backlink URL and changed sender address:

```
GRAYLOG_SMTP_SERVER="example.com --port=465 --user=username@mailserver.com --
↳password=SecretPassword --from-email=graylog@example.com --web-url=http://my.
↳graylog.host"
```

Set a static server node ID:

```
GRAYLOG_NODE_ID=de305d54-75b4-431b-adb2-eb6b9e546014
```

Set a configuration master for linking multiple containers:

```
GRAYLOG_MASTER=192.168.3.15
```

Only start server services:

```
GRAYLOG_SERVER=true
```

Only run web interface:

```
GRAYLOG_WEB=true
```

Keep 30Gb of logs, distributed across 10 Elasticsearch indices:

```
GRAYLOG_RETENTION="--size=3 --indices=10"
```

Keep one month of logs, distributed across 30 indices with 24 hours of logs each:

```
GRAYLOG_RETENTION="--time=24 --indices=30"
```

Limit amount of memory Elasticsearch is using:

```
ES_MEMORY=2g
```

Persist data

In order to persist log data and configuration settings mount the Graylog data directory outside the container:

```
$ docker run -t -p 9000:9000 -p 12201:12201 -p 12201:12201/udp -e GRAYLOG_NODE_
↳ID=some-rand-omeu-uidasnodeid -e GRAYLOG_SERVER_SECRET=somesecretsaltstring -v /
↳graylog/data:/var/opt/graylog/data -v /graylog/logs:/var/log/graylog graylog2/
↳allinone
```

Please make sure that you always use the same node-ID and server secret. Otherwise your users can't login or inputs will not be started after creating a new container on old data.

Other volumes to persist:

Path	Description
/var/opt/graylog/data	Elasticsearch for raw log data and MongoDB as configuration store
/var/log/graylog	Internal logs for all running services
/opt/graylog/plugin	Graylog server plugins

Multi container setup

The Omnibus package used for creating the container is able to split Graylog into several components. This works in a Docker environment as long as your containers run on the same hardware respectively the containers need to have direct network access between each other. The first started container is the so called *master*, other containers can grab configuration options from here.

To setup two containers, one for the web interface and one for the server component do the following:

Start the *master* with Graylog server parts:

```
$ docker run -t -p 12900:12900 -p 12201:12201 -p 12201:12201/udp -p 4001:4001 -e   
→GRAYLOG_SERVER=true graylog2/allinone
```

The configuration port 4001 is now accessible through the host IP address.

Start the web interface in a second container and give the host address as *master* to fetch configuration options:

```
$ docker run -t -p 9000:9000 -e GRAYLOG_MASTER=<host IP address> -e GRAYLOG_WEB=true   
→graylog2/allinone
```

SSL Support

Graylog comes with a pre-configured SSL configuration. On start-up time a self-signed certificate is generated and used on port 443 to provide the web interface via HTTPS. Simply expose the port like this:

```
$ docker run -t -p 443:443 graylog2/allinone
```

It is also possible to swap the certificate with your own files. To achieve this mount the CA directory to the Docker host:

```
$ docker run -t -p 443:443 -v /somepath/ca:/opt/graylog/conf/nginx/ca graylog2/   
→allinone
```

If you put a file called */somepath/ca/graylog.crt* respectively */somepath/ca/graylog.key* in place before starting the container, Graylog will pick up those files and make use of your own certificate.

Problems

- In case you see warnings regarding open file limit, try to set ulimit from the outside of the container:

```
$ docker run --ulimit nofile=64000:64000 ...
```

- The *devicemapper* storage driver can produce problems with Graylogs disk journal on some systems. In this case please pick another driver like *aufs* or *overlay*. Have a look [here](#)

Build

To build the image from scratch run:

```
$ docker build -t graylog .
```

Vagrant

Requirements

You need a recent *vagrant* version, take a look [here](#).

Installation

These steps will create a Vagrant virtual machine with all Graylog services running:

```
$ wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Graylog2/graylog2-images/master/vagrant/
↪ Vagrantfile
$ vagrant up
```

Usage

After starting the virtual machine, your Graylog instance is ready to use. You can reach the web interface by pointing your browser to the IP address of your localhost: *http://<host IP>:9000*

The default login is Username: *admin*, Password: *admin*.

Basic configuration

We are shipping the `graylog-ctl` tool with the virtual machine appliances to get you started with a customised setup as quickly as possible. Run these (optional) commands to configure the most basic settings of Graylog in the appliance:

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-email-config <smtp server> [--port=<smtp port> --user=<username>
↪ --password=<password>]
sudo graylog-ctl set-admin-password <password>
sudo graylog-ctl set-timezone <zone acronym>
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

The `graylog-ctl` has much more functionality and is documented [here](#). We strongly recommend to learn more about it to ensure smooth operation of your virtual appliance.

OpenStack

Installation

These steps will download the Graylog image, uncompress it and import it into the Openstack image store:

```
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/releases/graylog2-omnibus/qcow2/graylog.qcow2.gz
$ gunzip graylog.qcow2.gz
$ glance image-create --name='graylog' --is-public=true --container-format=bare --
  ↪ disk-format=qcow2 --file graylog.qcow2
```

You should now see an image called *graylog* in the Openstack web interface under *Images*

Usage

Launch a new instance of the image, make sure to reserve at least 4GB ram for the instance. After spinning up, login with the username *ubuntu* and your selected ssh key. Run the reconfigure program in order to setup Graylog and start all services:

```
$ ssh ubuntu@<vm IP>
$ sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

Open *http://<vm ip>* in your browser to access the Graylog web interface. Default username and password is *admin*.

Basic configuration

We are shipping the *graylog-ctl* tool with the virtual machine appliances to get you started with a customised setup as quickly as possible. Run these (optional) commands to configure the most basic settings of Graylog in the appliance:

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-email-config <smtp server> [--port=<smtp port> --user=<username>
  ↪ --password=<password>]
sudo graylog-ctl set-admin-password <password>
sudo graylog-ctl set-timezone <zone acronym>
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

The *graylog-ctl* has much more functionality and is documented [here](#). We strongly recommend to learn more about it to ensure smooth operation of your virtual appliance.

Amazon Web Services

AMIs

Select your [AMI](#) and [AWS Region](#).

Usage

- Click on *Launch instance* for your AWS region to start Graylog into.
- Choose an instance type **with at least 4GB memory**
- Finish the wizard and spin up the VM.
- Login to the instance as user *ubuntu*
- Run *sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure*
- Open port 80 and ports for receiving log messages in the security group of the appliance

Open *http://<vm ip>* in your browser to access the Graylog web interface. Default username and password is *admin*.

Basic configuration

We are shipping the `graylog-ctl` tool with the virtual machine appliances to get you started with a customised setup as quickly as possible. Run these (optional) commands to configure the most basic settings of Graylog in the appliance:

```
sudo graylog-ctl set-email-config <smtp server> [--port=<smtp port> --user=<username>
↪--password=<password>]
sudo graylog-ctl set-admin-password <password>
sudo graylog-ctl set-timezone <zone acronym>
sudo graylog-ctl reconfigure
```

The `graylog-ctl` has much more functionality and is documented [here](#). We strongly recommend to learn more about it to ensure smooth operation of your virtual appliance.

Microsoft Windows

Unfortunately there is no officially supported way to run Graylog on Microsoft Windows operating systems even though all parts run on the Java Virtual Machine. We recommend to run the *virtual machine appliances* on a Windows host. It should be technically possible to run Graylog on Windows but it is most probably not worth the time to work your way around the cliffs.

Should you require running Graylog on Windows, you need to disable the message journal in `graylog-server` by changing the following setting in the `graylog.conf`:

```
message_journal_enabled = false
```

Due to restrictions of how Windows handles file locking the journal will not work correctly. This will be improved in future versions.

Please note that this impacts Graylog's ability to buffer messages, so we strongly recommend running the Linux-based OVAs on Windows.

Manual Setup

Graylog server on Linux

Prerequisites

You will need to have the following services installed on either the host you are running `graylog-server` on or on dedicated machines:

- [Elasticsearch 1.7.3 or later](#) (Elasticsearch 2.x is currently not supported)
- [MongoDB 2.0 or later](#) (latest stable version is recommended)
- Oracle Java SE 7 or later (Oracle Java SE 8 is supported, OpenJDK 7 and OpenJDK 8 also work; latest stable update is recommended)

Most standard MongoDB packages of Linux distributions are outdated. Use the [official MongoDB APT repository](#) (available for many distributions and operating systems)

You also **must** install **Java 7** or higher! Java 6 is not compatible with Graylog and will also not receive any more publicly available bug and security fixes by Oracle.

A more detailed guide for installing the dependencies will follow. **The only important thing for Elasticsearch is that you set the exactly same cluster name (e. g. “cluster.name: graylog”) that is being used by Graylog in the Elasticsearch configuration (“conf/elasticsearch.yml”).**

Downloading and extracting the server

Download the tar archive from the [download pages](#) and extract it on your system:

```
~$ tar xvfz graylog-VERSION.tgz
~$ cd graylog-VERSION
```

Configuration

Now copy the example configuration file:

```
~# cp graylog.conf.example /etc/graylog/server/server.conf
```

You can leave most variables as they are for a first start. All of them should be well documented.

Configure at least the following variables in `/etc/graylog/server/server.conf`:

- **is_master = true**
 - Set only one `graylog-server` node as the master. This node will perform periodical and maintenance actions that slave nodes won't. Every slave node will accept messages just as the master nodes. Nodes will fall back to slave mode if there already is a master in the cluster.
- **password_secret**
 - You must set a secret that is used for password encryption and salting here. The server will refuse to start if it's not set. Generate a secret with for example `pwgen -N 1 -s 96`. If you run multiple `graylog-server` nodes, make sure you use the same `password_secret` for all of them!
- **root_password_sha2**
 - A SHA2 hash of a password you will use for your initial login. Set this to a SHA2 hash generated with `echo -n yourpassword | shasum -a 256` and you will be able to log in to the web interface with username *admin* and password *yourpassword*.
- **elasticsearch_max_docs_per_index = 20000000**
 - How many log messages to keep per index. This setting multiplied with `elasticsearch_max_number_of_indices` results in the maximum number of messages in your Graylog setup. It is always better to have several more smaller indices than just a few larger ones.
- **elasticsearch_max_number_of_indices = 20**
 - How many indices to have in total. If this number is reached, the oldest index will be deleted. **Also take a look at the other retention strategies that allow you to automatically delete messages based on their age.**
- **elasticsearch_shards = 4**
 - The number of shards for your indices. A good setting here highly depends on the number of nodes in your Elasticsearch cluster. If you have one node, set it to 1.
- **elasticsearch_replicas = 0**

- The number of replicas for your indices. A good setting here highly depends on the number of nodes in your Elasticsearch cluster. If you have one node, set it to 0.

- **mongodb_***

- Enter your MongoDB connection and authentication information here. Make sure that you connect the web interface to the same database. You don't need to configure `mongodb_user` and `mongodb_password` if `mongodb_useauth` is set to `false`.

Starting the server

You need to have Java installed. Running the OpenJDK is totally fine and should be available on all platforms. For example on Debian it is:

```
~$ apt-get install openjdk-7-jre
```

You need at least Java 7 as Java 6 has reached EOL.

Start the server:

```
~$ cd bin/
~$ ./graylogctl start
```

The server will try to write a `node_id` to the `graylog-server-node-id` file. It won't start if it can't write there because of for example missing permissions.

See the startup parameters description below to learn more about available startup parameters. Note that you might have to be `root` to bind to the popular port 514 for syslog inputs.

You should see a line like this in the debug output of `graylog-server` successfully connected to your Elasticsearch cluster:

```
2013-10-01 12:13:22,382 DEBUG: org.elasticsearch.transport.netty - [graylog-server]
↪connected to node [[Unuscione, Angelo][thN_gIBkQDm2ab7k-2Zaaw][inet[/10.37.160.
↪227:9300]]]
```

You can find the `graylog-server` logs in the directory `logs/`.

Important: All `graylog-server` instances must have synchronised time. We strongly recommend to use [NTP](#) or similar mechanisms on all machines of your Graylog infrastructure.

Supplying external logging configuration

The `graylog-server` uses Log4j for its internal logging and ships with a [default log configuration file](#) which is embedded within the shipped JAR.

In case you need to overwrite the configuration `graylog-server` uses, you can supply a Java system property specifying the path to the configuration file in your `graylogctl` script. Append this before the `-jar` paramter:

```
-Dlog4j.configuration=file:///tmp/logj4.xml
```

Substitute the actual path to the file for the `/tmp/logj4.xml` in the example.

In case you do not have a log rotation system already in place, you can also configure Graylog to rotate logs based on their size to prevent its logs to grow without bounds.

One such example `log4j.xml` configuration is shown below. Graylog includes the `log4j-extras` companion classes to support time based and size based log rotation. This is the example:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE log4j:configuration PUBLIC "-//APACHE//DTD LOG4J 1.2//EN" "log4j.dtd">
<log4j:configuration xmlns:log4j="http://jakarta.apache.org/log4j/">

  <appender name="FILE" class="org.apache.log4j.rolling.RollingFileAppender">
    <rollingPolicy class="org.apache.log4j.rolling.FixedWindowRollingPolicy" >
      <param name="activeFileName" value="/tmp/server.log" /> <!-- ADAPT -->
      <param name="fileNamePattern" value="/tmp/server.%i.log" /> <!-- ADAPT -->
      <param name="minIndex" value="1" /> <!-- ADAPT -->
      <param name="maxIndex" value="10" /> <!-- ADAPT -->
    </rollingPolicy>
    <triggeringPolicy class="org.apache.log4j.rolling.SizeBasedTriggeringPolicy">
      <param name="maxFileSize" value="5767168" /> <!-- ADAPT: For example 5.
↪5MB in bytes -->
    </triggeringPolicy>
    <layout class="org.apache.log4j.PatternLayout">
      <param name="ConversionPattern" value="%d %-5p: %c - %m%n"/>
    </layout>
  </appender>

  <!-- Application Loggers -->
  <logger name="org.graylog2">
    <level value="info"/>
  </logger>
  <!-- this emits a harmless warning for ActiveDirectory every time which we can't
↪work around :( -->
  <logger name="org.apache.directory.api.ldap.model.message.BindRequestImpl">
    <level value="error"/>
  </logger>
  <!-- Root Logger -->
  <root>
    <priority value="info"/>
    <appender-ref ref="FILE"/>
  </root>

</log4j:configuration>
```

Command line (CLI) parameters

There are a number of CLI parameters you can pass to the call in your `graylogctl` script:

- `-h, --help`: Show help message
- `-f CONFIGFILE, --configfile CONFIGFILE`: Use configuration file *CONFIGFILE* for Graylog; default: `/etc/graylog/server/server.conf`
- `-t, --configtest`: Validate the Graylog configuration and exit with exit code 0 if the configuration file is syntactically correct, exit code 1 and a description of the error otherwise
- `-d, --debug`: Run in debug mode
- `-l, --local`: Run in local mode. Automatically invoked if in debug mode. Will not send system statistics, even if enabled and allowed. Only interesting for development and testing purposes.
- `-r, --no-retention`: Do not automatically delete old/outdated indices
- `-p PIDFILE, --pidfile PIDFILE`: Set the file containing the PID of graylog to *PIDFILE*; default: `/tmp/graylog.pid`

- `-np, --no-pid-file`: Do not write PID file (overrides `-p/-pidfile`)
- `--version`: Show version of Graylog and exit

Problems with IPv6 vs. IPv4?

If your `graylog-server` instance refuses to listen on IPv4 addresses and always chooses for example a `rest_listen_address` like `:::12900` you can tell the JVM to prefer the IPv4 stack.

Add the `java.net.preferIPv4Stack` flag in your `graylogctl` script or from wherever you are calling the `graylog.jar`:

```
~$ sudo -u graylog java -Djava.net.preferIPv4Stack=true -jar graylog.jar
```

Graylog web interface on Linux

Prerequisites

The only thing you need is at least one compatible `graylog-server` node. Please use the same version number to make sure that it is compatible.

You also **must** use **Java 7!** Java 6 is not compatible with Graylog and will also not receive any more publicly available bug and security fixes by Oracle.

Downloading and extracting the web-interface

Download the package from the [download pages](#).

Extract the archive:

```
~$ tar xvfz graylog-web-interface-VERSION.tgz
~$ cd graylog-web-interface-VERSION
```

Configuring the web interface

Open `conf/graylog-web-interface.conf` and set the two following variables:

- `graylog2-server.uris="http://127.0.0.1:12900/"`: This is the list of `graylog-server` nodes the web interface will try to use. You can configure one or multiple, separated by commas. Use the `rest_listen_uri` (configured in `graylog.conf`) of your `graylog-server` instances here.
- `application.secret=""`: A secret for encryption. Use a long, randomly generated string here. (for example generated using `pwgen -N 1 -s 96`)

Starting the web interface

You need to have Java installed. Running the OpenJDK is totally fine and should be available on all platforms. For example on Debian it is:

```
~$ apt-get install openjdk-7-jre
```

You need at least Java 7 as Java 6 has reached EOL.

Now start the web interface:

```
~$ bin/graylog-web-interface
Play server process ID is 5723
[info] play - Application started (Prod)
[info] play - Listening for HTTP on /0:0:0:0:0:0:0:9000
```

The web interface will listen on port 9000. You should see a login screen right away after pointing your browser to it. Log in with username `admin` and the password you configured at `root_password_sha2` in the `graylog.conf` of your `graylog-server`.

Changing the listen port and address works like this:

```
~$ bin/graylog-web-interface -Dhttp.port=1234 -Dhttp.address=127.0.0.1
```

Java generally prefers to bind to an IPv6 address if that is supported by your system, while you might want to prefer IPv4. To change Java's default preference you can pass `-Djava.net.preferIPv4Stack=true` to the startup script:

```
~$ bin/graylog-web-interface -Djava.net.preferIPv4Stack=true
```

All those `-D` settings can also be added to the `JAVA_OPTS` environment variable which is being read by the startup script, too.

You can start the web interface in background for example like this:

```
~$ nohup bin/graylog-web-interface &
```

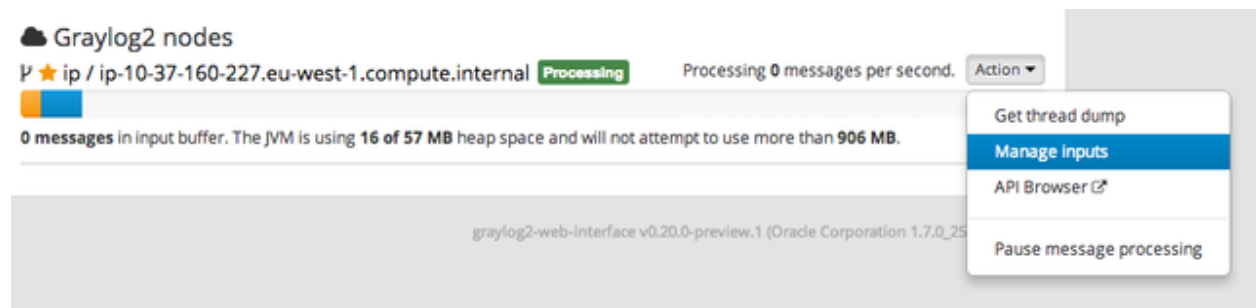
Custom configuration file path

You can put the configuration file into another directory like this:

```
~$ bin/graylog-web-interface -Dconfig.file=/etc/graylog-web-interface.conf
```

Create a message input and send a first message

Log in to the web interface and navigate to *System -> Nodes*. Select your `graylog-server` node there and click on *Manage inputs*.



Launch a new *Raw/Plaintext UDP* input, listening on port 9099 and listening on `127.0.0.1`. No need to configure anything else for now. The list of running inputs on that node should show you your new input right away. Let's send a message in:

```
echo "Hello Graylog, let's be friends." | nc -w 1 -u 127.0.0.1 9099
```

This has sent a short string to the raw UDP input you just opened. Now search for *friends* using the searchbar on the top and you should already see the message you just sent in. Click on it in the table and see it in detail:

Message 090508c0-2a97-11e3-95fa-22000a25a0e3 ✕

Received by input test on [ip / ip-10-37-160-227.eu-west-1.compute.internal](#)

Timestamp: 2013-10-01 12:43:13.100 [Terms](#)

Index: *graylog2_0*

message: Hello Graylog2, let's be friends.

source: localhost

You have just sent your first message to Graylog! Why not spawn a syslog input and point some of your servers to it? You could also create some user accounts for your colleagues.

HTTPS

Enabling HTTPS is easy. Just start the web interface like this:

```
bin/graylog-web-interface -Dhttps.port=443
```

This will generate self-signed certificate. To use proper certificates you must configure a Java key store. Most signing authorities provide instructions on how to create a Java keystore and the official keystore utility docs can be found [here](#).

- `https.keyStore` The path to the keystore containing the private key and certificate, if not provided generates a keystore for you
- `https.keyStoreType` The key store type, defaults to JKS
- `https.keyStorePassword` The password, defaults to a blank password
- `https.keyStoreAlgorithm` The key store algorithm, defaults to the platforms default algorithm

To disable HTTP without SSL completely and enforce HTTPS, use this parameter:

```
-Dhttp.port=disabled
```

Configuring logging

The default setting of the web interface is to write its own logs to `STDOUT`. You can take control of the logging by specifying an own [Logback](#) configuration file to use:

```
bin/graylog-web-interface -Dlogger.file=/etc/graylog-web-interface-log.xml
```

This is an example Logback configuration file that has a disabled `STDOUT` appender and an enabled appender that writes to a file (`/var/log/graylog/web/graylog-web-interface.log`), keeps 30 days of logs in total and creates a new log file if a file should have reached a size of 100MB:

```
<configuration>

  <!--
```

```
<appender name="STDOUT" class="ch.qos.logback.core.ConsoleAppender">
  <encoder>
    <pattern>%date %-5level [%thread] - [%logger]- %msg%n</pattern>
  </encoder>
</appender>
-->

<appender name="ROLLING_FILE" class="ch.qos.logback.core.rolling.
↪RollingFileAppender">
  <file>/var/log/graylog/web/graylog-web-interface.log</file>
  <rollingPolicy class="ch.qos.logback.core.rolling.TimeBasedRollingPolicy">
    <FileNamePattern>/var/log/graylog/web/graylog-web-interface.log.%d{yyyy-
↪MM-dd}.%i.log.gz</FileNamePattern>
    <MaxHistory>30</MaxHistory>
    <timeBasedFileNamingAndTriggeringPolicy class="ch.qos.logback.core.
↪rolling.SizeAndTimeBasedFNATP">
      <maxFileSize>100MB</maxFileSize>
    </timeBasedFileNamingAndTriggeringPolicy>
  </rollingPolicy>
  <encoder class="ch.qos.logback.classic.encoder.PatternLayoutEncoder">
    <pattern>%date [%thread] %-5level %logger{36} - %msg%n</pattern>
  </encoder>
</appender>

<root level="INFO">
  <!--<appender-ref ref="STDOUT" />-->
  <appender-ref ref="ROLLING_FILE" />
</root>

</configuration>
```

Configuring and tuning Elasticsearch

We strongly recommend to use a dedicated Elasticsearch cluster for your Graylog setup. If you are using a shared Elasticsearch setup, a problem with indices unrelated to Graylog might turn the cluster status to yellow or red and impact the availability and performance of your Graylog setup.

Configuration

Configuration of graylog-server nodes

The most important settings to make a successful connection are the Elasticsearch cluster name and the discovery mode. Graylog is able to discover the Elasticsearch nodes using multicast. This is great for development and proof of concepts but we recommend to use classic unicast discovery in production.

Cluster Name

You need to tell `graylog-server` which Elasticsearch cluster to join. The Elasticsearch cluster default name is `elasticsearch` and configured for every Elasticsearch node in its `elasticsearch.yml` configuration file with the setting `cluster.name`. Configure the same name in every `graylog.conf` as `elasticsearch_cluster_name`. We recommend to call the cluster `graylog-production` and not `elasticsearch`.

The `elasticsearch.yml` file is typically located in `/etc/elasticsearch/`.

Discovery mode

The default discovery mode is multicast. Graylog will try to find other Elasticsearch nodes automatically. This usually works fine when everything is running on the same system but gets problematic quickly when running in a bigger network topology. We recommend to use unicast for production setups. Configure Zen unicast discovery in Graylog with the following lines in your configuration file:

```
# Disable multicast
elasticsearch_discovery_zen_ping_multicast_enabled = false
# List of Elasticsearch nodes to connect to
elasticsearch_discovery_zen_ping_unicast_hosts = es-node-1.example.org:9300,es-node-2.
↪example.org:9300
```

Also make sure to configure **Zen unicast discovery** in the Elasticsearch configuration file by adding the `discovery.zen.ping.multicast.enabled` and `discovery.zen.ping.unicast.hosts` setting with the list of Elasticsearch nodes to `elasticsearch.yml`:

```
discovery.zen.ping.multicast.enabled: false
discovery.zen.ping.unicast.hosts: ["es-node-1.example.org:9300" , "es-node-2.example.
↪org:9300"]
```

The Elasticsearch default communication port is *9300/tcp* (not to be confused with the HTTP interface running on port *9200/tcp* by default). The communication port can be changed in the Elasticsearch configuration file (`elasticsearch.yml`) with the configuration setting `transport.tcp.port`. Make sure that Elasticsearch binds to a network interface that Graylog can connect to (see `network.host`).

Configuration of Elasticsearch nodes

Disable dynamic scripting

Elasticsearch prior to version 1.2 had an insecure default configuration which could lead to a remote code execution. (see [here](#) and [here](#) for details)

Make sure to add `script.disable_dynamic: true` to the `elasticsearch.yml` file to disable the dynamic scripting feature and prevent possible remote code executions.

Control access to Elasticsearch ports

Since Elasticsearch has no authentication mechanism at time of this writing, make sure to restrict access to the Elasticsearch ports (default: *9200/tcp* and *9300/tcp*). Otherwise the data is readable by anyone who has access to the machine over network.

Open file limits

Because Elasticsearch has to keep a lot of files open simultaneously it requires a higher open file limit that the usual operating system defaults allow. **Set it to at least 64000 open file descriptors.**

Graylog will show a notification in the web interface when there is a node in the Elasticsearch cluster which has a too low open file limit.

Read about how to raise the open file limit in the corresponding [Elasticsearch documentation page](#).

Heap size

It is strongly recommended to raise the standard size of heap memory allocated to Elasticsearch. Just set the `ES_HEAP_SIZE` environment variable to for example `24g` to allocate 24GB. We recommend to use around 50% of the available system memory for Elasticsearch (when running on a dedicated host) to leave enough space for the system caches that Elasticsearch uses a lot.

Merge throttling

Elasticsearch is throttling the merging of Lucene segments to allow extremely fast searches. This throttling however has default values that are very conservative and can lead to slow ingestion rates when used with Graylog. You would see the message journal growing without a real indication of CPU or memory stress on the Elasticsearch nodes. It usually goes along with Elasticsearch INFO log messages like this:

```
now throttling indexing
```

When running on fast IO like SSDs or a SAN we recommend to increase the value of the `indices.store.throttle.max_bytes_per_sec` in your `elasticsearch.yml` to 150MB:

```
indices.store.throttle.max_bytes_per_sec: 150mb
```

Play around with this setting until you reach the best performance.

Tuning Elasticsearch

Graylog is already setting specific configuration per index it creates. This is enough tuning for a lot of use cases and setups. A more detailed guide on deeper tuning of Elasticsearch is following.

Cluster Status explained

Elasticsearch provides a classification for the cluster health:

RED

The red status indicates that some or all of the primary shards are not available. In this state, no searches can be performed until all primary shards are restored.

YELLOW

The yellow status means that all of the primary shards are available but some or all shard replicas are not.

With only one Elasticsearch node, the cluster state cannot become green because shard replicas cannot be assigned. This can be solved by adding another Elasticsearch node to the cluster.

If the cluster is supposed to have only one node it is okay to be in the yellow state.

GREEN

The cluster is fully operational. All primary and replica shards are available.

Sending in log data

A Graylog setup is pretty worthless without any data in it. This page explains the basic principles of getting your data into the system and also explains common fallacies.

What are Graylog message inputs?

Message inputs are the Graylog parts responsible for accepting log messages. They are launched from the web interface (or the REST API) in the *System -> Inputs* section and are launched and configured without the need to restart any part of the system.

Content packs

Content packs are bundles of Graylog input, extractor, stream, dashboard, and output configurations that can provide full support for a data source. Some content packs are shipped with Graylog by default and some are available from the website. Content packs that were downloaded from [the marketplace](#) can be imported using the Graylog web interface.

You can load and even create own content packs from the *System -> Content Packs* section of your Graylog web interface.

Syslog

Graylog is able to accept and parse [RFC 5424](#) and [RFC 3164](#) compliant syslog messages and supports TCP transport with both the octet counting or termination character methods. UDP is also supported and the recommended way to send log messages in most architectures.

Many devices, especially routers and firewalls, do not send RFC compliant syslog messages. This might result in wrong or completely failing parsing. In that case you might have to go with a combination of *raw/plaintext* message inputs that do not attempt to do any parsing and [Extractors](#).

Rule of thumb is that messages forwarded by `rsyslog` or `syslog-ng` are usually parsed flawlessly.

Sending syslog from Linux hosts

Sending syslog data from Linux hosts is [described on the Graylog Marketplace](#).

Sending syslog from MacOS X hosts

Sending log messages from MacOS X syslog daemons is easy. Just define a `graylog-server` instance as UDP log target by adding this line in your `/etc/syslog.conf`:

```
*.* @graylog.example.org:514
```

Now restart `syslogd`:

```
$ sudo launchctl unload /System/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.apple.syslogd.plist
$ sudo launchctl load /System/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.apple.syslogd.plist
```

Important: If `syslogd` was running as another user you might end up with multiple `syslogd` instances and strange behaviour of the whole system. Please check that only one `syslogd` process is running:

```
$ ps aux | grep syslog
lennart      58775   0.0   0.0  2432768    592 s004   S+   6:10PM   0:00.00 grep_
↪ syslog
root         58759   0.0   0.0  2478772   1020   ??    Ss   6:09PM   0:00.01 /usr/
↪ sbin/syslogd
```

That's it! Your MacOS X syslog messages should now appear in your Graylog system.

GELF / Sending from applications

The Graylog Extended Log Format (GELF) is a log format that avoids the shortcomings of classic plain syslog and is perfect to logging from your application layer. It comes with optional compression, chunking and most importantly a clearly defined structure. There are [dozens of GELF libraries](#) for many frameworks and programming languages to get you started.

Read more about GELF [on graylog.org](#).

GELF via HTTP

You can send in all GELF types via HTTP, including uncompressed GELF that is just a plain JSON string.

After launching a GELF HTTP input you can use the following endpoints to send messages:

```
http://graylog.example.org:[port]/gelf (POST)
```

Try sending an example message using `curl`:

```
curl -XPOST http://graylog.example.org:12202/gelf -p0 -d '{"short_message":"Hello_
↪ there", "host":"example.org", "facility":"test", "_foo":"bar"}'
```

Both keep-alive and compression are supported via the common HTTP headers. The server will return a 202 Accepted when the message was accepted for processing.

Using Apache Kafka as transport queue

Graylog supports [Apache Kafka](#) as a transport for various inputs such as GELF, syslog, and Raw/Plaintext inputs. The Kafka topic can be filtered by a regular expression and depending on the input, various additional settings can be configured.

Learn how to use rsyslog and Apache Kafka in the [Sending syslog via Kafka into Graylog guide](#).

Using RabbitMQ (AMQP) as transport queue

Graylog supports [AMQP](#) as a transport for various inputs such as GELF, syslog, and Raw/Plaintext inputs. It can connect to any AMQP broker supporting [AMQP 0-9-1](#) such as [RabbitMQ](#).

Learn how to use rsyslog and RabbitMQ in the [Sending syslog via AMQP into Graylog guide](#).

Microsoft Windows

Sending syslog data from Windows is [described on the Graylog Marketplace](#).

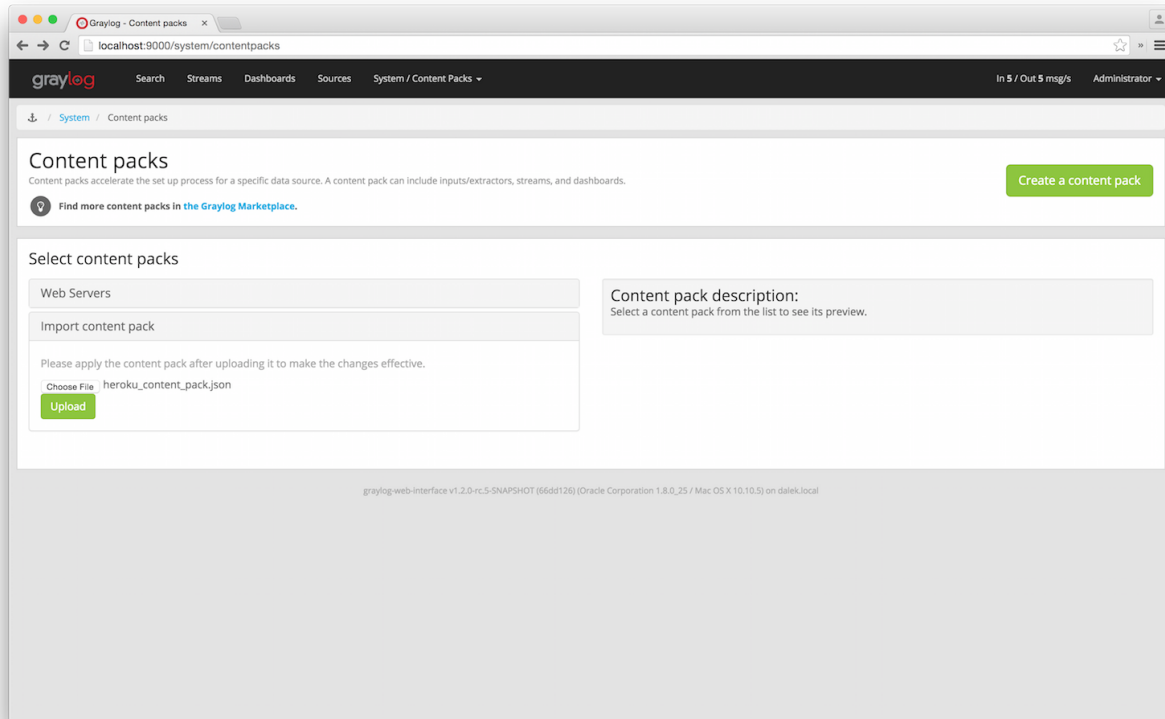
Heroku

Heroku allows you to forward the logs of your application to a custom syslog server by creating a so called [Syslog drain](#). The drain sends all logs to the configured server(s) via TCP. Following example shows you how to configure Graylog to receive the Heroku logs and extract the different fields into a structured log message.

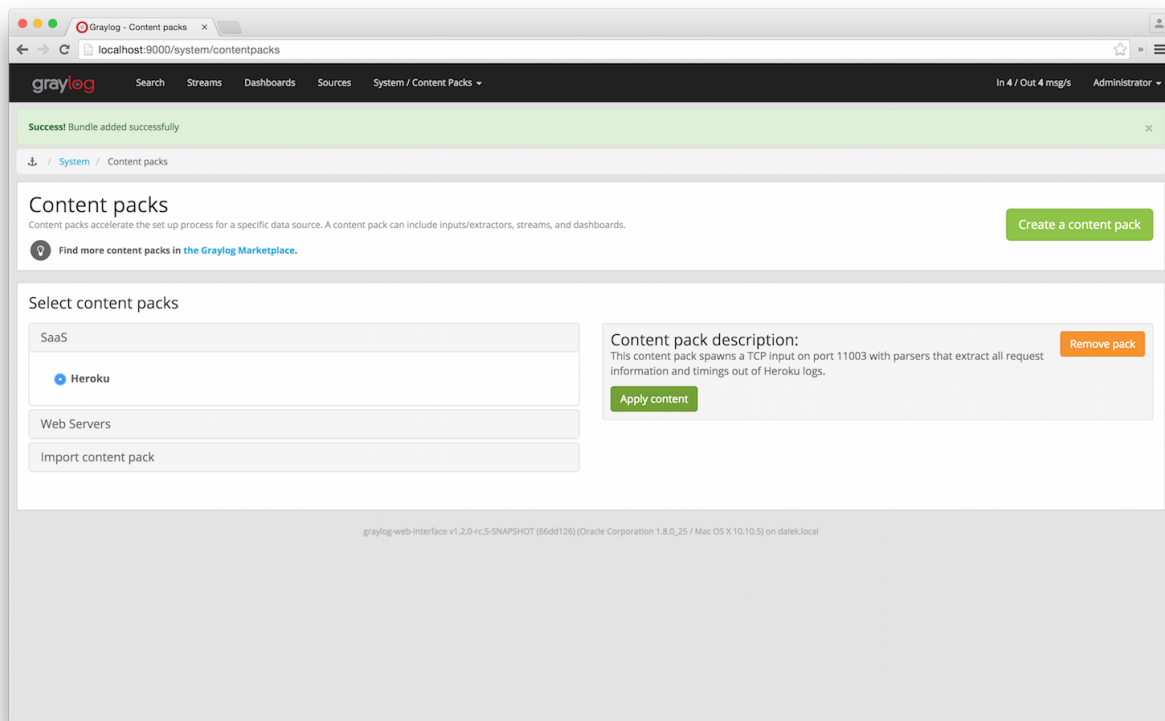
Configuring Graylog to receive Heroku log messages

The [Graylog Marketplace](#) contains a [content pack for Heroku logs](#), including extractors to parse the Heroku log format. You can download and use that [content pack](#) to configure Graylog to be able to receive Heroku logs.

Go to *System -> Content packs*, and click on *Import content pack*. Select the content pack downloaded from the Graylog Marketplace, and click *Upload*



On the same page, select *Heroku* on the *SaaS* category on the left column, and click on *Apply*.



That's it! You can verify that there is a new input for Heroku, containing a set of extractors to parse your log messages.

Make sure your firewall setup allows incoming connections on the inputs port!

Local inputs 4 configured on this node

Heroku (Raw/Plaintext TCP)  **running**
On node  41283fec / 172.16.0.7

```
recv_buffer_size: 1048576
port: 11003
tls_key_file:
tls_key_password: *****
tls_client_auth_cert_file:
max_message_size: 2097152
tls_client_auth: disabled
override_source:
bind_address: 0.0.0.0
tls_cert_file:
```

Show received messages

Manage extractors

Stop input

More actions ▾

Throughput / Metrics

1 minute average rate: 0 msg/s
Network IO: ~0B ~0B (total: ~0B ~0B)
Active connections: 0 (0 total)

Configuring Heroku to send data to your Graylog setup

Heroku has a detailed [documentation](#) regarding the Syslog drains feature. The following example shows everything that is needed to setup the drain for you application:

```
$ cd path/to/your/heroku/app
$ heroku drains
No drains for this app
$ heroku drains:add syslog://graylog.example.com:5556
Successfully added drain syslog://graylog.example.com:5556
$ heroku drains
syslog://graylog.example.com:5556 (d.8cf52d32-7d79-4653-baad-8cb72bb23ee1)
```

The [Heroku CLI](#) tool needs to be installed for this to work.

Your Heroku application logs should now show up in the search results of your Graylog instance.

Ruby on Rails

This is easy: You just need to combine a few components.

Log all requests and logger calls into Graylog

The recommended way to send structured information (i.e. HTTP return code, action, controller, ... in additional fields) about every request and explicit `Rails.logger` calls is easily accomplished using the [GELF gem](#) and [lograge](#). Lograge builds one combined log entry for every request (instead of several lines like the standard Rails logger) and has a Graylog output since version 0.2.0.

Start by adding Lograge and the GELF gem to your Gemfile:

```
gem "gelf"
gem "lograge"
```

Now configure both in your Rails application. Usually `config/environments/production.rb` is a good place for that:

```
config.lograge.enabled = true
config.lograge.formatter = Lograge::Formatters::Graylog2.new
config.logger = GELF::Logger.new("graylog.example.org", 12201, "WAN", { :host =>
  ↪ "hostname-of-this-app", :facility => "heroku" })
```

This configuration will also send all explicit `Rails.logger` calls (e.g. `Rails.logger.error "Something went wrong"`) to Graylog.

Log only explicit logger calls into Graylog

If you don't want to log information about every request, but only explicit `Rails.logger` calls, it is enough to only configure the Rails logger.

Add the GELF gem to your Gemfile:

```
gem "gelf"
```

...and configure it in your Rails application. Usually `config/environments/production.rb` is a good place for that:

```
config.logger = GELF::Logger.new("graylog.example.org", 12201, "WAN", { :host =>  
  ↪ "hostname-of-this-app", :facility => "heroku" })
```

Heroku

You need to apply a workaround if you want custom logging on Heroku. The reason for this is that Heroku injects an own logger (`rails_log_stdout`), that overwrites your custom one. The workaround is to add a file that makes Heroku think that the logger is already in your application:

```
$ touch vendor/plugins/rails_log_stdout/heroku_fix
```

Raw/Plaintext inputs

The built-in *raw/plaintext* inputs allow you to parse any text that you can send via TCP or UDP. No parsing is applied at all by default until you build your own parser using custom *Extractors*. This is a good way to support any text-based logging format.

You can also write *Plugins* if you need extreme flexibility.

JSON path from HTTP API input

The JSON path from HTTP API input is reading any JSON response of a REST resource and stores a field value of it as a Graylog message.

Example

Let's try to read the download count of a release package stored on GitHub for analysis in Graylog. The call looks like this:

```
$ curl -XGET https://api.github.com/repos/YourAccount/YourRepo/releases/assets/12345  
{  
  "url": "https://api.github.com/repos/YourAccount/YourRepo/releases/assets/12345",  
  "id": 12345,  
  "name": "somerelease.tgz",
```

```
{
  "label": "somerelease.tgz",
  "content_type": "application/octet-stream",
  "state": "uploaded",
  "size": 38179285,
  "download_count": 9937,
  "created_at": "2013-09-30T20:05:01Z",
  "updated_at": "2013-09-30T20:05:46Z"
}
```

The attribute we want to extract is `download_count` so we set the JSON path to `$.download_count`.

This will result in a message in Graylog looking like this:



You can use Graylog to analyse your download counts now.

JSONPath

JSONPath can do much more than just selecting a simple known field value. You can for example do this to select the first `download_count` from a list of releases where the field `state` has the value `uploaded`:

```
$.releases[?(@.state == 'uploaded')][0].download_count
```

...or only the first download count at all:

```
$.releases[0].download_count
```

You can [learn more about JSONPath here](#).

Reading from files

Graylog is currently not providing an out-of-the-box way to read log messages from files. We do however recommend two fantastic tools to do that job for you. Both come with native Graylog (GELF) outputs:

- [fluentd](#)
- [logstash](#)

CHAPTER 6

Graylog Collector

Graylog Collector is a lightweight Java application that allows you to forward data from log files to a Graylog cluster. The collector can read local log files and also Windows Events natively, it then can forward the log messages over the network using the [GELF format](#).

Installation

Linux/Unix

You need to have Java ≥ 7 installed to run the collector.

Operating System Packages

We offer official package repositories for the following operating systems.

- Ubuntu 12.04, 14.04
- Debian 8
- CentOS 7

Please open an [issue](#) in the [Github repository](#) if you run into any packaging related issues. **Thank you!**

Ubuntu 14.04

Download and install [graylog-collector-latest-repository-ubuntu14.04_latest.deb](#) via `dpkg` (1) and also make sure that the `apt-transport-https` package is installed:

```
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-collector-latest-  
repository-ubuntu14.04_latest.deb  
$ sudo dpkg -i graylog-collector-latest-repository-ubuntu14.04_latest.deb  
$ sudo apt-get install apt-transport-https  
$ sudo apt-get update  
$ sudo apt-get install graylog-collector
```

Ubuntu 12.04

Download and install [graylog-collector-latest-repository-ubuntu12.04_latest.deb](#) via `dpkg` (1) and also make sure that the `apt-transport-https` package is installed:

```
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-collector-latest-  
→repository-ubuntu12.04_latest.deb  
$ sudo dpkg -i graylog-collector-latest-repository-ubuntu12.04_latest.deb  
$ sudo apt-get install apt-transport-https  
$ sudo apt-get update  
$ sudo apt-get install graylog-collector
```

Debian 8

Download and install [graylog-collector-latest-repository-debian8_latest.deb](#) via `dpkg` (1) and also make sure that the `apt-transport-https` package is installed:

```
$ wget https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-collector-latest-  
→repository-debian8_latest.deb  
$ sudo dpkg -i graylog-collector-latest-repository-debian8_latest.deb  
$ sudo apt-get install apt-transport-https  
$ sudo apt-get update  
$ sudo apt-get install graylog-collector
```

CentOS 7

Download and install [graylog-collector-latest-repository-el7_latest.rpm](#) via `rpm` (8):

```
$ sudo rpm -Uvh https://packages.graylog2.org/repo/packages/graylog-collector-latest-  
→repository-el7_latest.rpm  
$ sudo yum install graylog-collector
```

Manual Setup

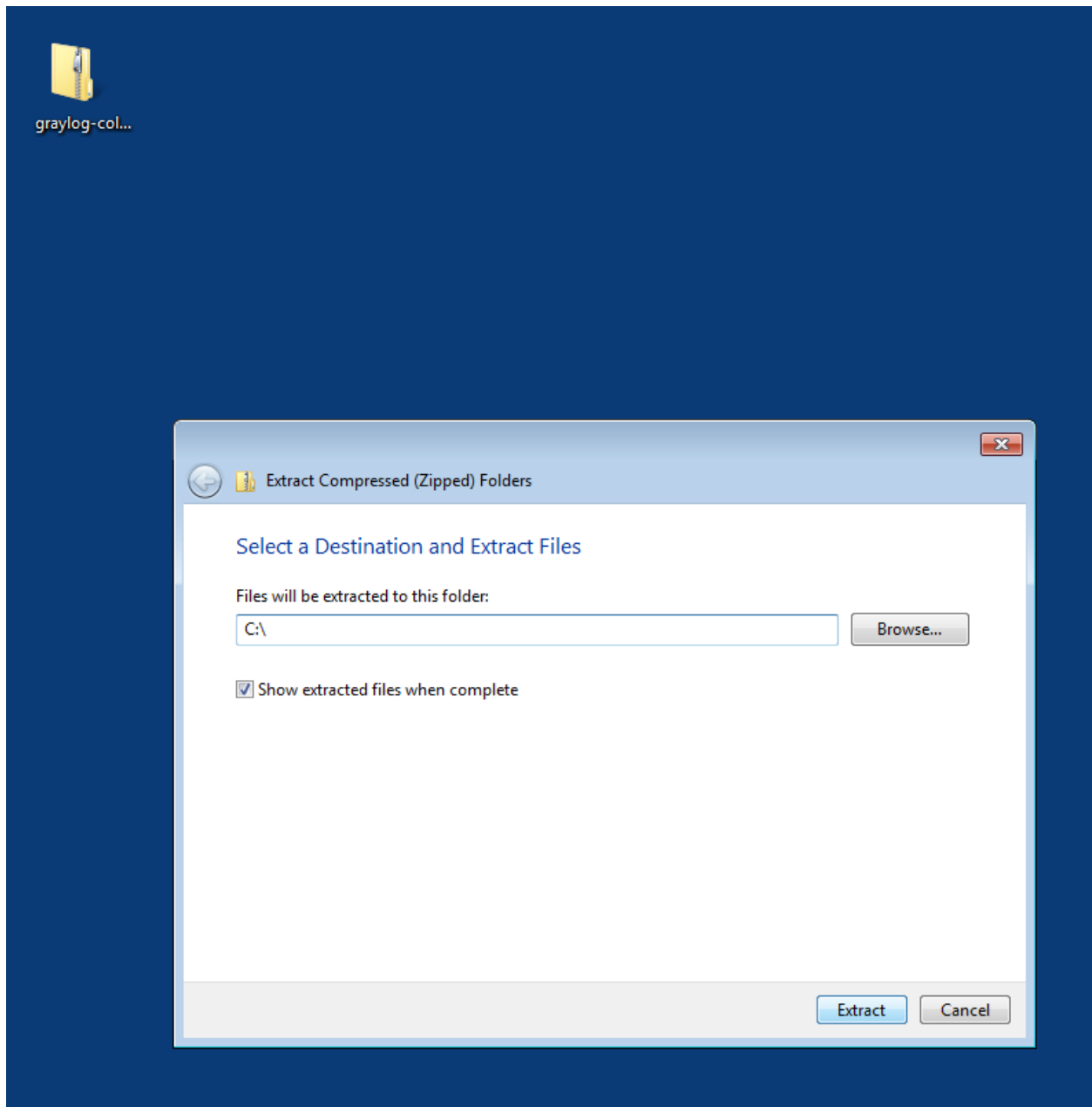
1. Download the latest collector release. (find download links in the [collector repository README](#))
2. Unzip collector tgz file to target location
3. `cp config/collector.conf.example to config/collector.conf`
4. Update `server-url` in `collector.conf` to correct Graylog server address (required for registration)
5. Update file input configuration with the correct log files
6. Update `outputs->gelf-tcp` with the correct Graylog server address (required for sending GELF messages)

Note: The collector will not start properly if you do not set the URL or the correct input log files and GELF output configuration

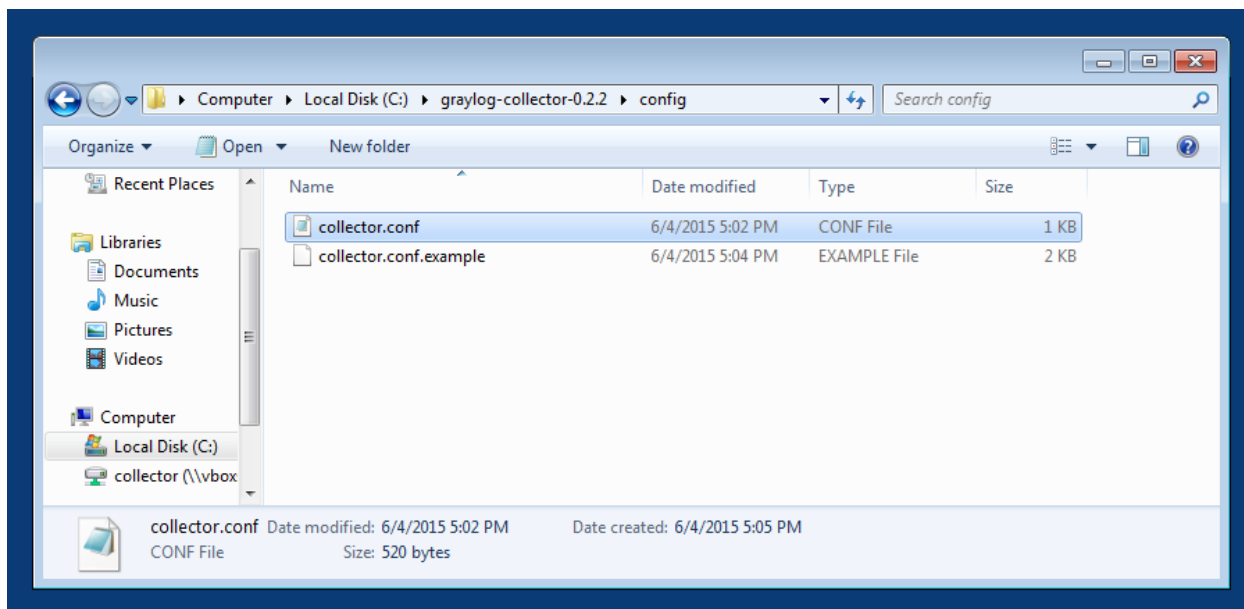
Windows

You need to have Java `>= 7` installed to run the collector.

Download a release zip file from the [collector repository README](#). Unzip the collector zip file to target location.



Change into the extracted collector directory and create a collector configuration file in `config\collector.conf`.



The following configuration file shows a good starting point for Windows systems. It collects the *Application*, *Security*, and *System* event logs. Replace the `<your-graylog-server-ip>` with the IP address of your Graylog server.

Example:

```
server-url = "http://<your-graylog-server-ip>:12900/"

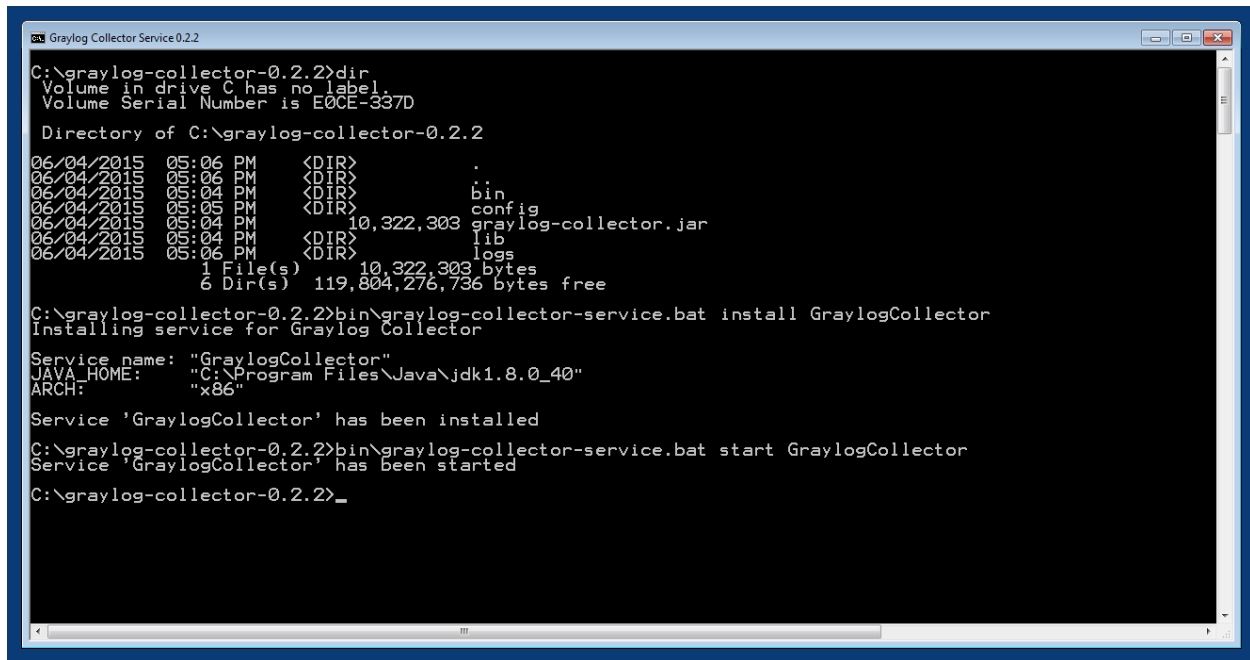
inputs {
  win-eventlog-application {
    type = "windows-eventlog"
    source-name = "Application"
    poll-interval = "1s"
  }
  win-eventlog-system {
    type = "windows-eventlog"
    source-name = "System"
    poll-interval = "1s"
  }
  win-eventlog-security {
    type = "windows-eventlog"
    source-name = "Security"
    poll-interval = "1s"
  }
}

outputs {
  gelf-tcp {
    type = "gelf"
    host = "<your-graylog-server-ip>"
    port = 12201
  }
}
```

Start a `cmd.exe`, change to the collector installation path and execute the following commands to install the collector as Windows service.

Commands:


```
C:\> cd graylog-collector-0.2.2
C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2> bin\graylog-collector-service.bat install GraylogCollector
C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2> bin\graylog-collector-service.bat start GraylogCollector
```



```
Graylog Collector Service 0.2.2
C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2>dir
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is E0CE-337D

Directory of C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2

06/04/2015  05:06 PM    <DIR>          .
06/04/2015  05:06 PM    <DIR>          bin
06/04/2015  05:06 PM    <DIR>          config
06/04/2015  05:06 PM    <DIR>          10,322,303  graylog-collector.jar
06/04/2015  05:06 PM    <DIR>          lib
06/04/2015  05:06 PM    <DIR>          logs
               1 File(s)      10,322,303 bytes
               6 Dir(s)      119,804,276,736 bytes free

C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2>bin\graylog-collector-service.bat install GraylogCollector
Installing service for Graylog Collector

Service name: "GraylogCollector"
JAVA_HOME:   "C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.8.0_40"
ARCH:        "x86"

Service 'GraylogCollector' has been installed

C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2>bin\graylog-collector-service.bat start GraylogCollector
Service 'GraylogCollector' has been started

C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2>_
```

Configuration

You will need a configuration file before starting the collector. The configuration file is written in the [HOCON](#) format which is a human-optimized version of JSON.

If you choose the operating system installation method, the configuration file defaults to `/etc/graylog/collector/collector.conf`. For the manual installation method you have to pass the path to the configuration to the start script. (see [Running Graylog Collector](#))

Here is a minimal configuration example that collects logs from the `/var/log/syslog` file and sends them to a Graylog server:

```
server-url = "http://10.0.0.1:12900/"

inputs {
  syslog {
    type = "file"
    path = "/var/log/syslog"
  }
}

outputs {
  graylog-server {
    type = "gelf"
    host = "10.0.0.1"
    port = 12201
  }
}
```

There are a few global settings available as well as several sections which configure different subsystems of the collector.

Global Settings

server-url - The API URL of the Graylog server Used to send a heartbeat to the Graylog server.

(default: "http://localhost:12900")

enable-registration - Enable heartbeat registration Enables the heartbeat registration with the Graylog server. The collector will not contact the Graylog server API for heartbeat registration if this is set to `false`.

(default: `true`)

collector-id - Unique collector ID setting The ID used to identify this collector. Can be either a string which is used as ID, or the location of a file if prefixed with `file:`. If the file does not exist, an ID will be generated and written to that file. If it exists, it is expected to contain a single string without spaces which will be used for the ID.

(default: "file:config/collector-id")

Input Settings

The input settings need to be nested in a `input { }` block. Each input has an ID and a type:

```
inputs {
  syslog {           // => The input ID
    type = "file"    // => The input type
    ...
  }
}
```

An input ID needs to be unique among all configured inputs. If there are two inputs with the same ID, the last one wins.

The following input types are available.

File Input

The file input follows files in the file system and reads log data from them.

type This needs to be set to `"file"`.

path The path to a file that should be followed.

Please make sure to escape the `\` character in Windows paths: `path = "C:\\Program Files\\Apache2\\logs\\www.example.com.access.log"`

(default: none)

path-glob-root The globbing root directory that should be monitored. See below for an explanation on globbing.

Please make sure to escape the `\` character in Windows paths: `path = "C:\\Program Files\\Apache2\\logs\\www.example.com.access.log"`

(default: none)

path-glob-pattern The globbing pattern. See below for an explanation on globbing.

(default: none)

content-splitter The content splitter implementation that should be used to detect the end of a log message.

Available content splitters: NEWLINE, PATTERN

See below for an explanation on content splitters.

(default: "NEWLINE")

content-splitter-pattern The pattern that should be used for the PATTERN content splitter.

(default: none)

charset Charset of the content in the configured file(s).

Can be one of the [Supported Charsets](#) of the JVM.

(default: "UTF-8")

reader-interval The interval in which the collector tries to read from every configured file. You might set this to a higher value like 1s if you have files which do not change very often to avoid unnecessary work.

(default: "100ms")

Globbing / Wildcards

You might want to configure the collector to read from lots of different files or files which have a different name each time they are rotated. (i.e. time/date in a filename) The file input supports this via the `path-glob-root` and `path-glob-pattern` settings.

A usual glob/wildcard string you know from other tools might be `/var/log/apache2/**/*.{access,error}.log`. This means you are interested in all log files which names end with `.access.log` or `.error.log` and which are in a sub directory of `/var/log/apache2`. Example: `/var/log/apache2/example.com/www.example.com.access.log`

For compatibility reasons you have to split this string into two parts. The root and the pattern.

Examples:

```
// /var/log/apache2/**/*.{access,error}.log
path-glob-root = "/var/log/apache2"
path-glob-pattern = "**/*.{access,error}.log"

// C:\Program Files\Apache2\logs\*.access.log
path-glob-root = "C:\\Program Files\\Apache2\\logs" // Make sure to escape the \
↳character in Windows paths!
path-glob-pattern = "*.access.log"
```

The file input will monitor the `path-glob-root` for new files and checks them against the `path-glob-pattern` to decide if they should be followed or not.

All available special characters for the glob pattern are documented in the [Java docs for the `getPathMatcher\(\)` method](#).

Content Splitter

One common problem when reading from plain text log files is to decide when a log message is complete. By default, the file input considers each line in a file to be a separate log message:

```
Jul 15 10:27:08 tumble anacron[32426]: Job `cron.daily' terminated # <-- Log
↳message 1
Jul 15 10:27:08 tumble anacron[32426]: Normal exit (1 job run) # <-- Log
↳message 2
```

But there are several cases where this is not correct. Java stack traces are a good example:

```
2015-07-10T11:16:34.486+01:00 WARN [InputBufferImpl] Unable to process event
↳RawMessageEvent{raw=null, uuid=bde580a0-26ec-11e5-9a46-005056b26ca9,
↳encodedLength=350}, sequence 19847516
java.lang.NullPointerException
    at org.graylog2.shared.buffering.JournallingMessageHandler$Converter.
↳apply(JournallingMessageHandler.java:89)
    at org.graylog2.shared.buffering.JournallingMessageHandler$Converter.
↳apply(JournallingMessageHandler.java:72)
    at com.google.common.collect.Lists$TransformingRandomAccessList$1.
↳transform(Lists.java:617)
    at com.google.common.collect.TransformedIterator.next(TransformedIterator.
↳java:48)
    at java.util.AbstractCollection.toArray(AbstractCollection.java:141)
    at java.util.ArrayList.<init>(ArrayList.java:177)
    at com.google.common.collect.Lists.newArrayList(Lists.java:144)
    at org.graylog2.shared.buffering.JournallingMessageHandler.
↳onEvent(JournallingMessageHandler.java:61)
    at org.graylog2.shared.buffering.JournallingMessageHandler.
↳onEvent(JournallingMessageHandler.java:36)
    at com.lmax.disruptor.BatchEventProcessor.run(BatchEventProcessor.java:128)
    at com.codahale.metrics.InstrumentedExecutorService$InstrumentedRunnable.
↳run(InstrumentedExecutorService.java:176)
    at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor.runWorker(ThreadPoolExecutor.
↳java:1142)
    at java.util.concurrent.ThreadPoolExecutor$Worker.run(ThreadPoolExecutor.
↳java:617)
    at java.lang.Thread.run(Thread.java:745)
2015-07-10T11:18:18.000+01:00 WARN [InputBufferImpl] Unable to process event
↳RawMessageEvent{raw=null, uuid=bde580a0-26ec-11e5-9a46-005056b26ca9,
↳encodedLength=350}, sequence 19847516
java.lang.NullPointerException
    ...
    ...
```

This should be one message but using a newline separator here will not work because it would generate one log message for each line.

To solve this problem, the file input can be configured to use a PATTERN content splitter. It creates separate log messages based on a regular expression instead of newline characters. A configuration for the stack trace example above could look like this:

```
inputs {
  graylog-server-logs {
    type = "file"
    path = "/var/log/graylog-server/server.log"
    content-splitter = "PATTERN"
    content-splitter-pattern = "^\\d{4}-\\d{2}-\\d{2}T" // Make sure to escape the \
↳character!
  }
}
```

This instructs the file input to split messages on a timestamp at the beginning of a line. So the first stack trace in the message above will be considered complete once a new timestamp is detected.

Windows Eventlog Input

The Windows eventlog input can read event logs from Windows systems.

type This needs to be set to "windows-eventlog".

source-name The Windows event log system has several different sources from which events can be read.

Common source names: Application, System, Security

(default: "Application")

poll-interval This controls how often the Windows event log should be polled for new events.

(default: "1s")

Example:

```
inputs {
  win-eventlog-application {
    type = "windows-eventlog"
    source-name = "Application"
    poll-interval = "1s"
  }
}
```

Output Settings

The output settings need to be nested in a `output { }` block. Each output has an ID and a type:

```
outputs {
  graylog-server { // => The output ID
    type = "gelf" // => The output type
    ...
  }
}
```

An output ID needs to be unique among all configured outputs. If there are two outputs with the same ID, the last one wins.

The following output types are available.

GELF Output

The GELF output sends log messages to a GELF TCP input on a Graylog server.

type This needs to be set to "gelf".

host Hostname or IP address of the Graylog server.

(default: none)

port Port of the GELF TCP input on the Graylog server host.

(default: none)

client-tls Enables TLS for the connection to the GELF TCP input. Requires a TLS-enabled GELF TCP input on the Graylog server. (default: false)

client-tls-cert-chain-file Path to a TLS certificate chain file. If not set, the default certificate chain of the JVM will be used.

(default: none)

client-tls-verify-cert Verify the TLS certificate of the GELF TCP input on the Graylog server.

You might have to disable this if you are using a self-signed certificate for the GELF input and do not have any certificate chain file.

(default: `true`)

client-queue-size The [GELF client library](#) that is used for this output has an internal queue of messages. This option configures the size of this queue.

(default: 512)

client-connect-timeout TCP connection timeout to the GELF input on the Graylog server.

(default: 5000)

client-reconnect-delay The delay before the output tries to reconnect to the GELF input on the Graylog server.

(default: 1000)

client-tcp-no-delay Sets the `TCP_NODELAY` option on the TCP socket that connects to the GELF input.

(default: `true`)

client-send-buffer-size Sets the TCP send buffer size for the connection to the GELF input.

It uses the JVM default for the operating system if set to `-1`.

(default: `-1`)

STDOUT Output

The STDOUT output prints the string representation of each message to STDOUT. This can be useful for debugging purposes but should be disabled in production.

type This needs to be set to `"stdout"`.

Static Message Fields

Sometimes it is useful to be able to add some static field to a message. This can help selecting extractors to run on the server, simplify stream routing and can make searching/filtering for those messages easier.

Every collector input can be configured with a `message-fields` option which takes key-value pairs. The key needs to be a string, the value can be a string or a number.

Example:

```
inputs {
  apache-logs {
    type = "file"
    path = "/var/log/apache2/access.log"
    message-fields = {
      "program" = "apache2"
      "priority" = 3
    }
  }
}
```

Each static message field will end up in the GELF message and shows up in the web interface as a separate field.

An input might overwrite a message field defined in the input configuration. For example the file input always sets a `source_file` field with the path to the file where the message has been read from. If you configure a `source_file` message field, it will be overwritten by the input.

Input/Output Routing

Every message that gets read by the configured inputs will be routed to every configured output. If you have two file inputs and two GELF outputs, every message will be received by both outputs. You might want to send some logs to only one output or have one output only accept logs from a certain input, though.

The collector provides two options for inputs and outputs which can be used to influence the message routing.

Inputs have a `outputs` option and outputs have a `inputs` option. Both take a comma separated list of input/output IDs.

Example:

```
inputs {
  apache-logs {
    type = "file"
    path-glob-root = "/var/log/apache2"
    path-glob-pattern = "/*.{access,error}.log"
    outputs = "gelf-1,gelf-2"
  }
  auth-log {
    type = "file"
    path = "/var/log/auth.log"
  }
  syslog {
    type = "file"
    path = "/var/log/syslog"
  }
}

outputs {
  gelf-1 {
    type = "gelf"
    host = "10.0.0.1"
    port = 12201
  }
  gelf-2 {
    type = "gelf"
    host = "10.0.0.1"
    port = 12202
  }
  console {
    type = "stdout"
    inputs = "syslog"
  }
}
```

Routing for this config:

- `apache-logs` messages will only go to `gelf-1` and `gelf-2` outputs.
- `auth-log` messages will go to `gelf-1` and `gelf-2` outputs.
- `syslog` messages will go to all outputs.

- console output will only receive messages from syslog input.

inputs	outputs	gelf-1	gelf-2	console
apache-logs				
auth-log				
syslog				

This is pretty powerful but might get confusing when inputs and outputs have the routing fields. This is how it is implemented in pseudo-code:

```
var message = Object(message)
var output = Object(gelf-output)

if empty(output.inputs) AND empty(message.outputs)

    // No output routing configured, write the message to the output.
    output.write(message)

else if output.inputs.contains(message.inputId) OR message.outputs.contains(output.id)

    // Either the input that generated the message has the output ID in its "outputs"
    ↪field
    // or the output has the ID of the input that generated the message in its "inputs"
    ↪field.
    output.write(message)

end
```

Running Graylog Collector

You will need a configuration file before starting the collector. See the configuration documentation above for detailed instructions on how to configure it.

Linux/Unix

The start method for the collector depends on the installation method your choose.

Operating System Package

We ship startup scripts in our OS packages that use the startup method of the particular operating system.

OS	Init System	Example
Ubuntu	upstart	<code>sudo start graylog-collector</code>
Debian	systemd	<code>sudo systemctl start graylog-collector</code>
CentOS	systemd	<code>sudo systemctl start graylog-collector</code>

Manual Setup

If you use the manual setup, the location of the start script depends on where you extracted the collector.

Example:

```
$ bin/graylog-collector run -f config/collector.conf
```

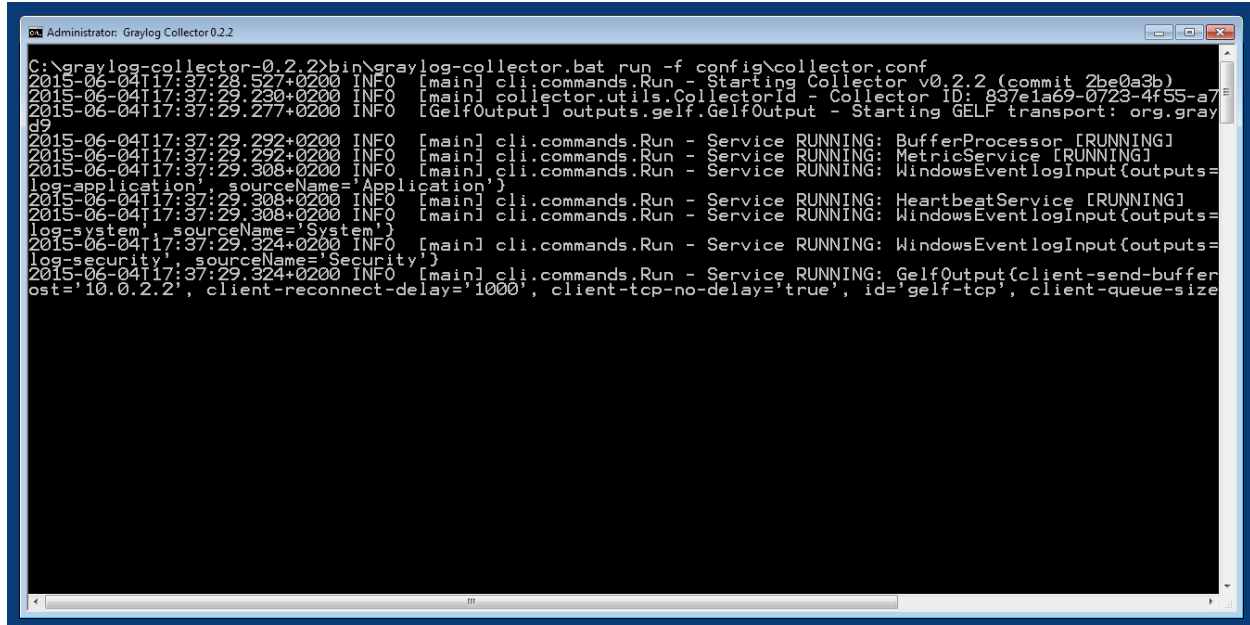

Windows

You probably want to run the collector as Windows service as described in the Windows installation section above. If you want to run it from the command line, run the following commands.

Make sure you have a valid configuration file in `config\collector.conf`.

Commands:

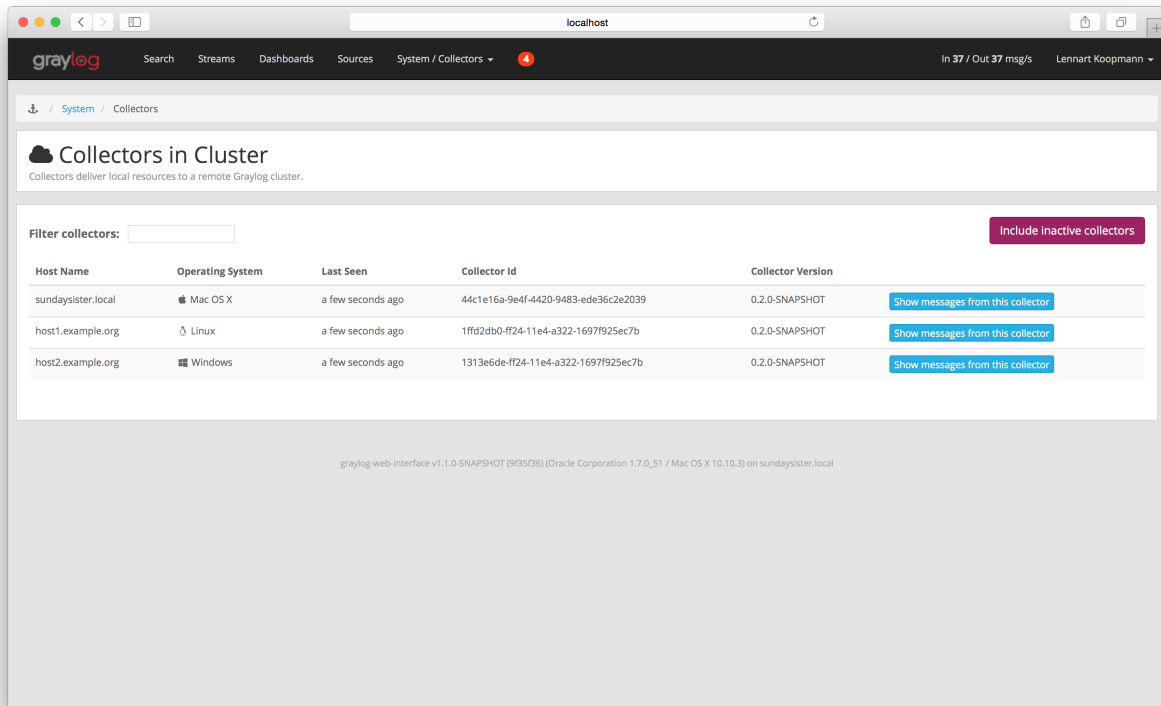
```
C:\> cd graylog-collector-0.2.2
C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2> bin\graylog-collector.bat run -f config\collector.conf
```



```
Administrator: Graylog Collector 0.2.2
C:\graylog-collector-0.2.2\bin\graylog-collector.bat run -f config\collector.conf
2015-06-04T17:37:29.527+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Starting Collector v0.2.2 (commit 2ba0a3b)
2015-06-04T17:37:29.230+0200 INFO [main] collector.utils.CollectorId - Collector ID: 837e1a69-0723-4f55-a7d9
2015-06-04T17:37:29.277+0200 INFO [GelfOutput] outputs.gelf.GelfOutput - Starting GELF transport: org.graylog
2015-06-04T17:37:29.292+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Service RUNNING: BufferProcessor [RUNNING]
2015-06-04T17:37:29.292+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Service RUNNING: MetricService [RUNNING]
2015-06-04T17:37:29.308+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Service RUNNING: WindowsEventlogInput{outputs=
log-application', sourceName='Application'}
2015-06-04T17:37:29.308+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Service RUNNING: HeartbeatService [RUNNING]
2015-06-04T17:37:29.308+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Service RUNNING: WindowsEventlogInput{outputs=
log-system', sourceName='System'}
2015-06-04T17:37:29.324+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Service RUNNING: WindowsEventlogInput{outputs=
log-security', sourceName='Security'}
2015-06-04T17:37:29.324+0200 INFO [main] cli.commands.Run - Service RUNNING: GelfOutput{client-send-buffer
ost='10.0.2.2', client-reconnect-delay='1000', client-tcp-no-delay='true', id='gelf-tcp', client-queue-size
```

Collector Status

Once the collector has been deployed successfully, you can check on the status from the Graylog UI.



You can reach the collector status overview page this way:

1. Log into Graylog Web Interface
2. Navigate to System / Collectors
3. Click Collectors

Troubleshooting

Check the standard output of the collector process for any error messages or warnings. Messages not arriving in your Graylog cluster? Check possible firewalls and the network connection.

Command Line Options

Linux/Unix

The collector offers the following command line options:

```
usage: graylog-collector <command> [<args>]
```

The most commonly used graylog-collector commands are:

help	Display help information
run	Start the collector
version	Show version information on STDOUT

See '`graylog-collector help <command>`' for more information on a specific command.

NAME

`graylog-collector run` - Start the collector

SYNOPSIS

`graylog-collector run -f <configFile>`

OPTIONS

`-f <configFile>`
Path to configuration file.

Correctly Configured Collector Log Sample

This is the *STDOUT* output of a healthy collector starting:

```
2015-05-12T16:00:10.841+0200 INFO [main] o.graylog.collector.cli.commands.Run -
↳ Starting Collector v0.2.0-SNAPSHOT (commit a2ad8c8)
2015-05-12T16:00:11.489+0200 INFO [main] o.g.collector.utils.CollectorId - Collector
↳ ID: cf4734f7-01d6-4974-a957-cb71bbd826b7
2015-05-12T16:00:11.505+0200 INFO [GelfOutput] o.g.c.outputs.gelf.GelfOutput -
↳ Starting GELF transport: org.graylog2.gelfclient.GelfConfiguration@3952e37e
2015-05-12T16:00:11.512+0200 INFO [main] o.graylog.collector.cli.commands.Run -
↳ Service RUNNING: BufferProcessor [RUNNING]
2015-05-12T16:00:11.513+0200 INFO [main] o.graylog.collector.cli.commands.Run -
↳ Service RUNNING: MetricService [RUNNING]
2015-05-12T16:00:11.515+0200 INFO [main] o.graylog.collector.cli.commands.Run -
↳ Service RUNNING: FileInput{id='local-syslog', path='/var/log/syslog', charset='UTF-8
↳ ', outputs='', content-splitter='NEWLINE'}
2015-05-12T16:00:11.516+0200 INFO [main] o.graylog.collector.cli.commands.Run -
↳ Service RUNNING: GelfOutput{port='12201', id='gelf-tcp', client-send-buffer-size=
↳ '32768', host='127.0.0.1', inputs='', client-reconnect-delay='1000', client-connect-
↳ timeout='5000', client-tcp-no-delay='true', client-queue-size='512'}
2015-05-12T16:00:11.516+0200 INFO [main] o.graylog.collector.cli.commands.Run -
↳ Service RUNNING: HeartbeatService [RUNNING]
2015-05-12T16:00:11.516+0200 INFO [main] o.graylog.collector.cli.commands.Run -
↳ Service RUNNING: StdoutOutput{id='console', inputs=''}
```

Troubleshooting

Unable to send heartbeat

The collector registers with your Graylog server on a regular basis to make sure it shows up on the Collectors page in the Graylog web interface. This registration can fail if the collector cannot connect to the server via HTTP on port 12900:

```
2015-06-06T10:45:14.964+0200 WARN [HeartbeatService RUNNING] collector.heartbeat.
↳ HeartbeatService - Unable to send heartbeat to Graylog server: ConnectException:
↳ Connection refused
```

Possible solutions

- Make sure the server REST API is configured to listen on a reachable IP address. Change the “rest_listen_uri” setting in the Graylog server config to this: `rest_listen_uri = http://0.0.0.0:12900/`
- Correctly configure any firewalls between the collector and the server to allow HTTP traffic to port 12900.

Search query language

Syntax

The search syntax is very close to the Lucene syntax. By default all message fields are included in the search if you don't specify a message field to search in.

Messages that include the term *ssh*:

```
ssh
```

Messages that include the term *ssh* or *login*:

```
ssh login
```

Messages that include the exact phrase *ssh login*:

```
"ssh login"
```

Messages where the field *type* includes *ssh*:

```
type:ssh
```

Messages where the field *type* includes *ssh* or *login*:

```
type:(ssh login)
```

Messages where the field *type* includes the exact phrase *ssh login*:

```
type:"ssh login"
```

Messages that do not have the field *type*:

```
_missing_:type
```

Messages that have the field *type*:

```
_exists_:type
```

By default all terms or phrases are OR connected so all messages that have at least one hit are returned. You can use **Boolean operators and groups** for control over this:

```
"ssh login" AND source:example.org
("ssh login" AND (source:example.org OR source:another.example.org)) OR _exists_
↪:always_find_me
```

You can also use the NOT operator:

```
"ssh login" AND NOT source:example.org
NOT example.org
```

****Note** that AND, OR, and NOT are case sensitive and must be typed in all upper-case.

Wildcards: Use ? to replace a single character or * to replace zero or more characters:

```
source:*.org
source:exam?le.org
source:exam?le.*
```

Note that leading wildcards are disabled to avoid excessive memory consumption! You can enable them in your `graylog-server.conf`: `allow_leading_wildcard_searches = true`

Also note that *message*, *full_message*, and *source* are the only fields that can be searched via wildcard by default.

Fuzziness: You can search for similar but not equal terms:

```
ssh logni~
source:exmaple.org~
```

This is using the [Damerau–Levenshtein distance](#) with a default distance of 2. You can change the distance like this:

```
source:exmaple.org~1
```

You can also use the fuzzyness operator to do a **proximity** search where the terms in a phrase can have different/fuzzy distances from each other and don't have to be in the defined order:

```
"foo bar"~5
```

Numeric fields support **range queries**. Ranges in square brackets are inclusive, curly brackets are exclusive and can even be combined:

```
http_response_code:[500 TO 504]
http_response_code:{400 TO 404}
bytes:{0 TO 64}
http_response_code:[0 TO 64}
```

You can also do searches with one side unbounded:

```
http_response_code:>400
http_response_code:<400
http_response_code:>=400
http_response_code:<=400
```

It is also possible to combine unbounded range operators:

```
http_response_code: (>=400 AND <500)
```

Escaping

The following characters must be escaped with a backslash:

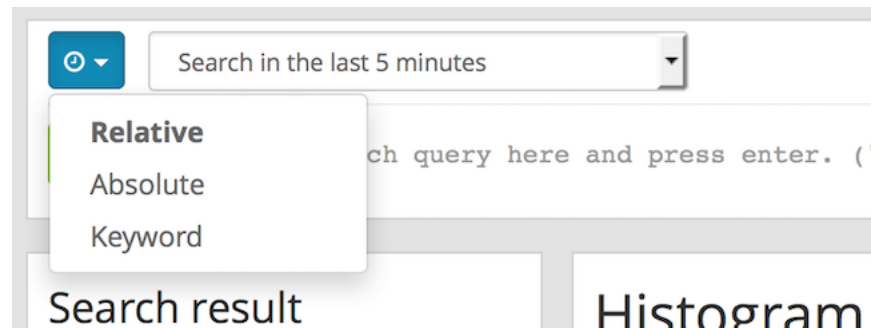
```
& | : \ / + - ! ( ) { } [ ] ^ " ~ * ?
```

Example:

```
resource:\posts\45326
```

Time frame selector

The time frame selector defines in what time range to search in. It offers three different ways of selecting a time range and is vital for search speed: If you know you are only interested in messages of the last hour, only search in that time frame. This will make Graylog search in relevant indices only and greatly reduce system load and required resources. You can read more about this here: [The Graylog index model explained](#)



Relative time frame selector

The relative time frame selector lets you look for messages from the selected option to the time you hit the search button. The selector offers a wide set of relative time frames that fit most of your search needs.

Absolute time frame selector

When you know exactly the boundaries of your search, you want to use the absolute time frame selector. Simply introduce the dates and times for the search manually or click in the input field to open up a calendar where you can choose the day with your mouse.

Keyword time frame selector

Graylog offers a keyword time frame selector that allows you to specify the time frame for the search in natural language like *last hour* or *last 90 days*. The web interface shows a preview of the two actual timestamps that will be used for the search.

last 90 days

Preview: 2015-03-12 13:22:01 to 2015-06-10 13:22:01

Q

Type your search query here and press enter. ("not found" AND http) OR http_response_code:[400 TO 404]

Here are a few examples for possible values.

- “last month” searches between one month ago and now
- “4 hours ago” searches between four hours ago and now
- “1st of april to 2 days ago” searches between 1st of April and 2 days ago
- “yesterday midnight +0200 to today midnight +0200” searches between yesterday midnight and today midnight in timezone +0200 - will be 22:00 in UTC

The time frame is parsed using the [natty natural language parser](#). Please consult its documentation for details.

Saved searches

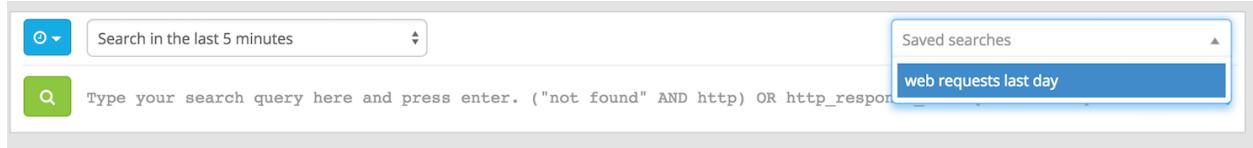
Sometimes you may want to search a specific search configuration to be used later. Graylog provides a saved search functionality to accomplish exactly that.

Once you submitted your search, selected the fields you want to show from the search sidebar, and chosen a resolution for the histogram, click on the *Save search criteria* button on the sidebar.

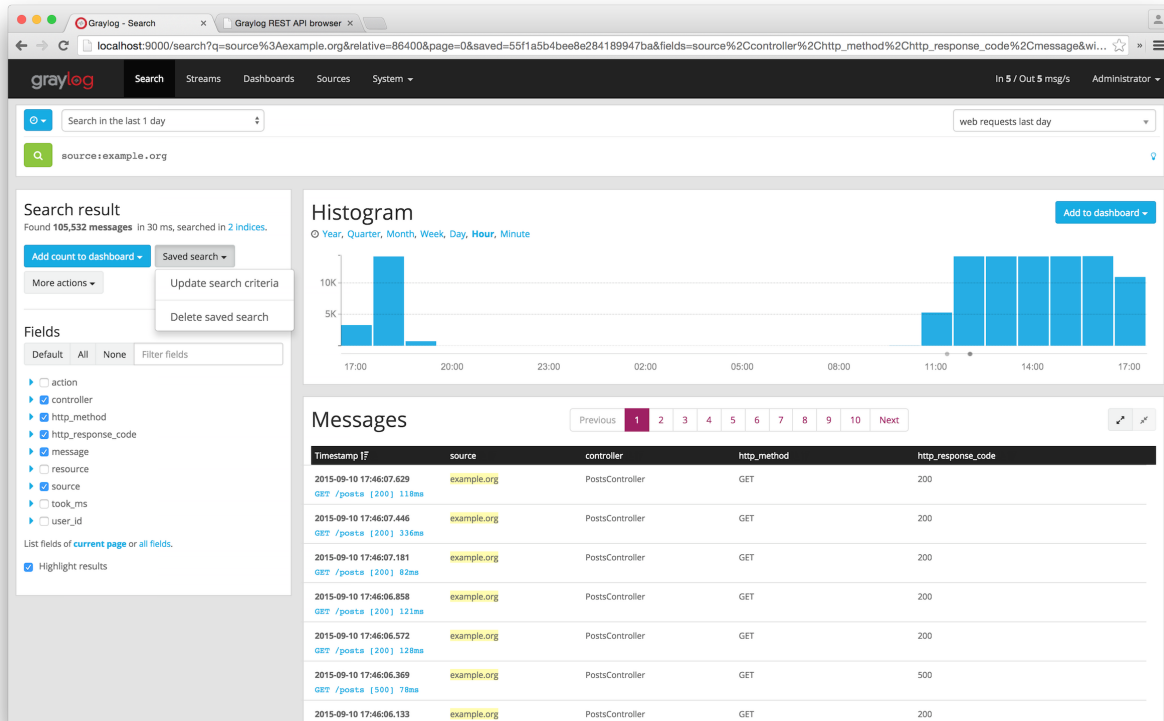
The screenshot shows the Graylog Search interface. A modal dialog titled "Save search criteria" is open in the center. It contains a text input field with the text "web requests last day" and a "Save" button. Below the input field is a smaller text field with the placeholder "Type a name describing the current search." and "Cancel" and "Save" buttons. In the background, the search results for "source:example.org" are visible. On the left, there's a sidebar with "Fields" and "More actions". The main area shows a histogram and a table of messages. The table has columns: Timestamp, source, controller, http_method, and http_response_code. The messages are from 2015-09-10 17:45:30.581 to 2015-09-10 17:45:29.014.

Timestamp	source	controller	http_method	http_response_code
2015-09-10 17:45:30.581	example.org			
2015-09-10 17:45:30.360	example.org	PostsController	GET	200
2015-09-10 17:45:30.053	example.org	LoginController	GET	200
2015-09-10 17:45:29.805	example.org	PostsController	GET	200
2015-09-10 17:45:29.510	example.org	PostsController	GET	200
2015-09-10 17:45:29.269	example.org	PostsController	GET	200
2015-09-10 17:45:29.014	example.org	PostsController	GET	200

Give a name to the current search and click on save. When you want to use the saved search later on, you only need to select it from the saved search selector.

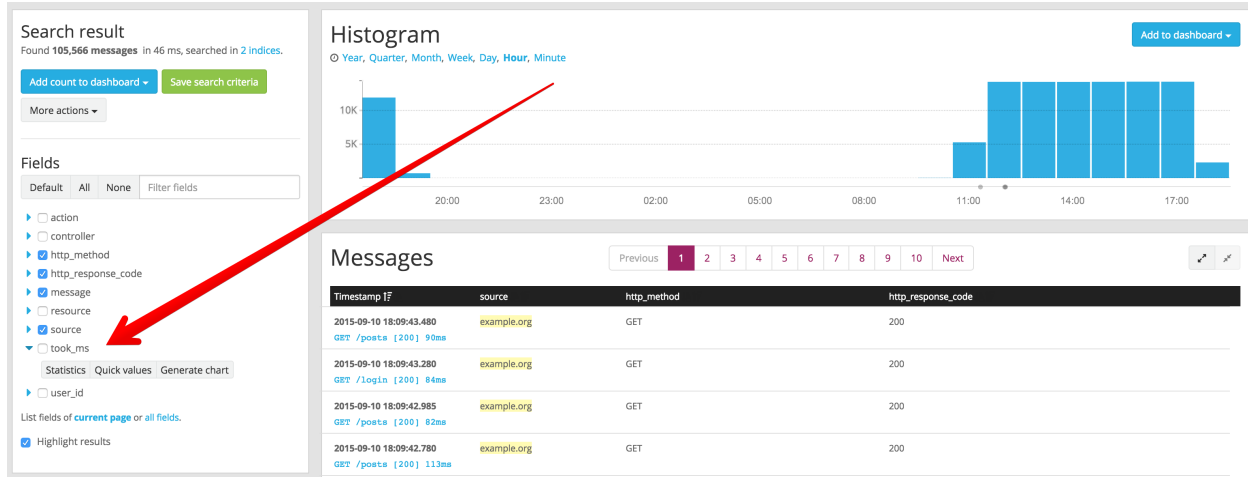


Of course, you can always update the selected fields or name of your saved search. To do so, select the saved search from the saved search selector, update the field selection or histogram resolution, and click on *Saved search -> Update search criteria*. It is also possible to delete the saved search by selecting *Saved search -> Delete saved search*.



Analysis

Graylog provides several tools to analyze your search results. It is possible to save these analysis into dashboards, so you can check them over time in a more convenient way. To analyze a field from your search results, expand the field in the search sidebar and click on the button of the analysis you want to perform.



Field statistics

Compute different statistics on your fields, to help you better summarize and understand the data in them.

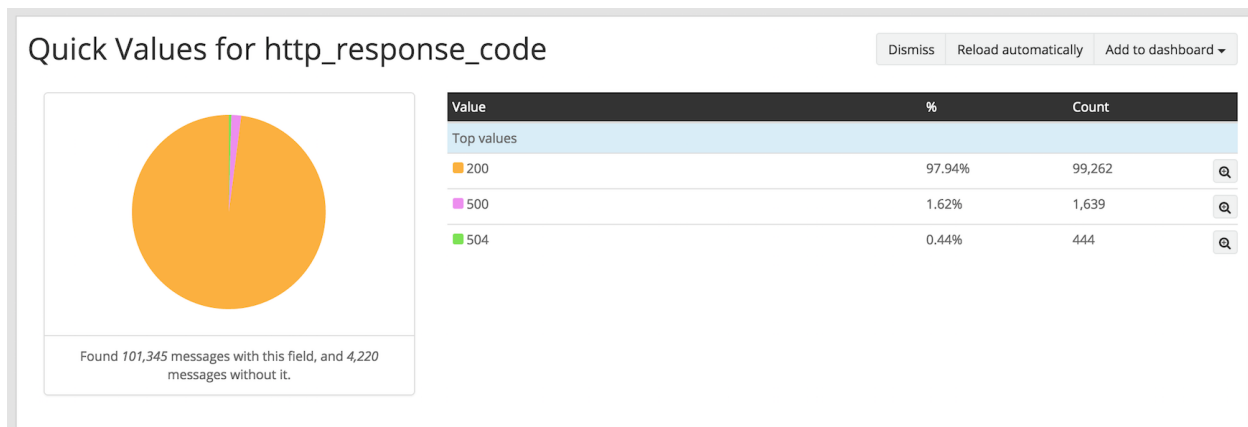
The statistical information consist of: total, mean, minimum, maximum, standard deviation, variance, sum, and cardinality. On non-numeric fields, you can only see the total amount of messages containing that field, and the cardinality of the field, i.e. the number of unique values it has.

Field Statistics Dismiss Reload automatically Add to dashboard

Field	Total	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Std. deviation	Variance	Sum	Cardinality
controller	101,327	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	3
resource	101,324	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	5
took_ms	101,326	122.23	71	5,450	326.98	106,915.15	12,385,059	134

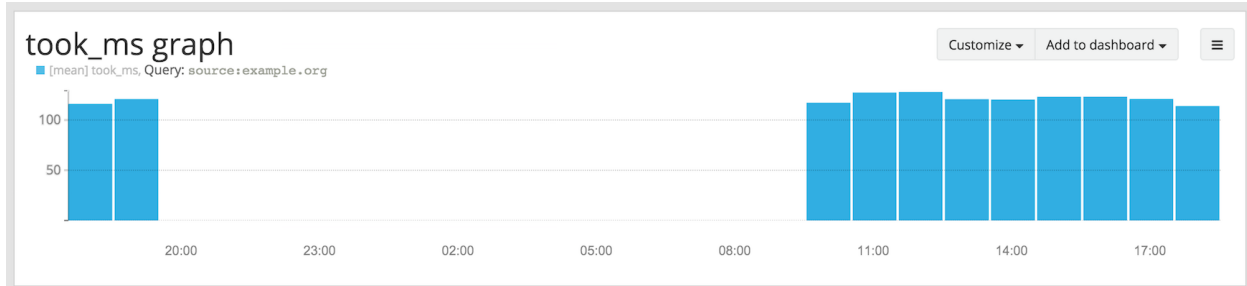
Quick values

Quick values helps you to find out the distribution of values for a field. Alongside a graphic representation of the common values contained in a field, Graylog will display a table with all different values, allowing you to see the number of times they appear. You can include any value in your search query by clicking on the magnifying glass icon located in the value row.

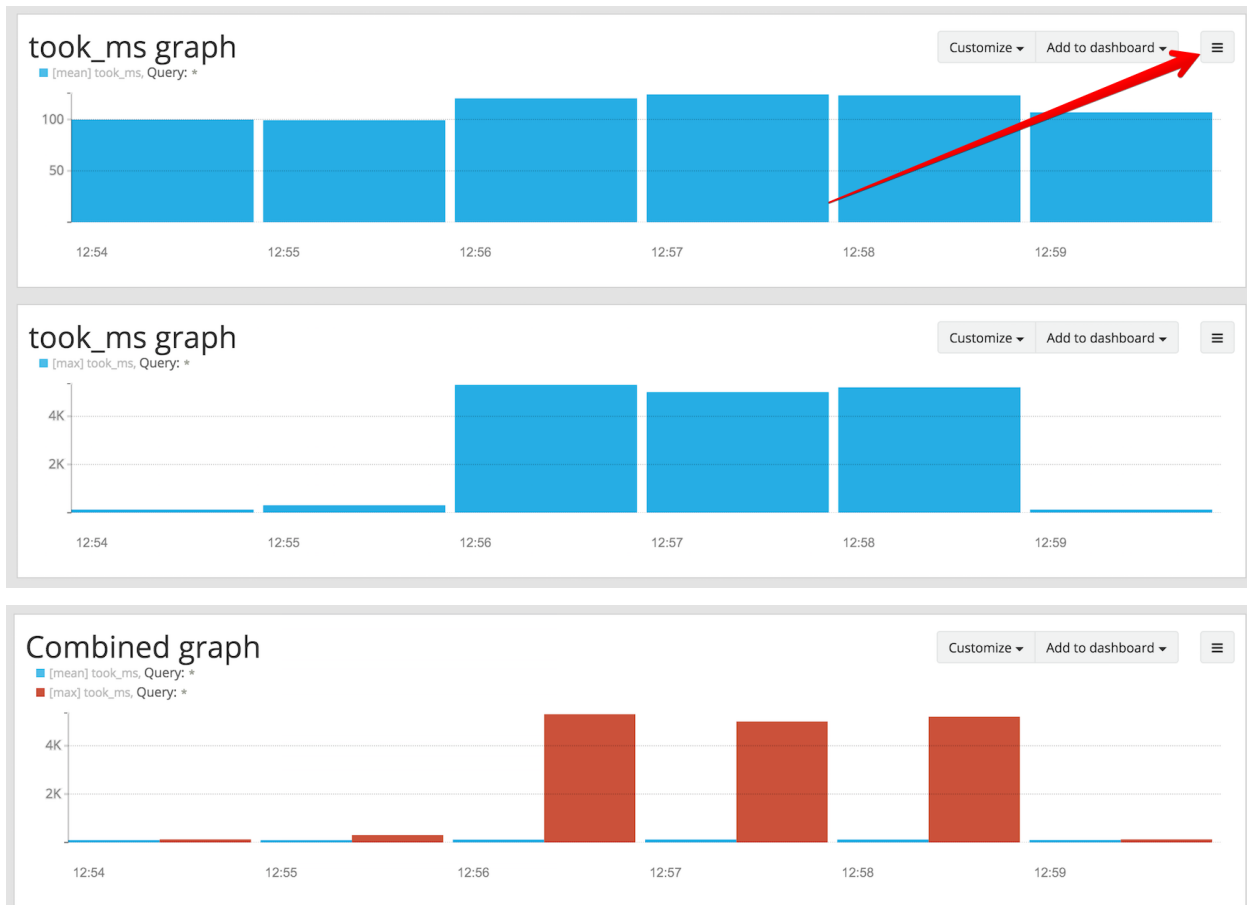


Field graphs

You can create field graphs for any numeric field, by clicking on the *Generate chart* button in the search sidebar. Using the options in the *Customize* menu on top of the field graph, you can change the statistical function used in the graph, the kind of graph to use to represent the values, the graph interpolation, as well as the time resolution.



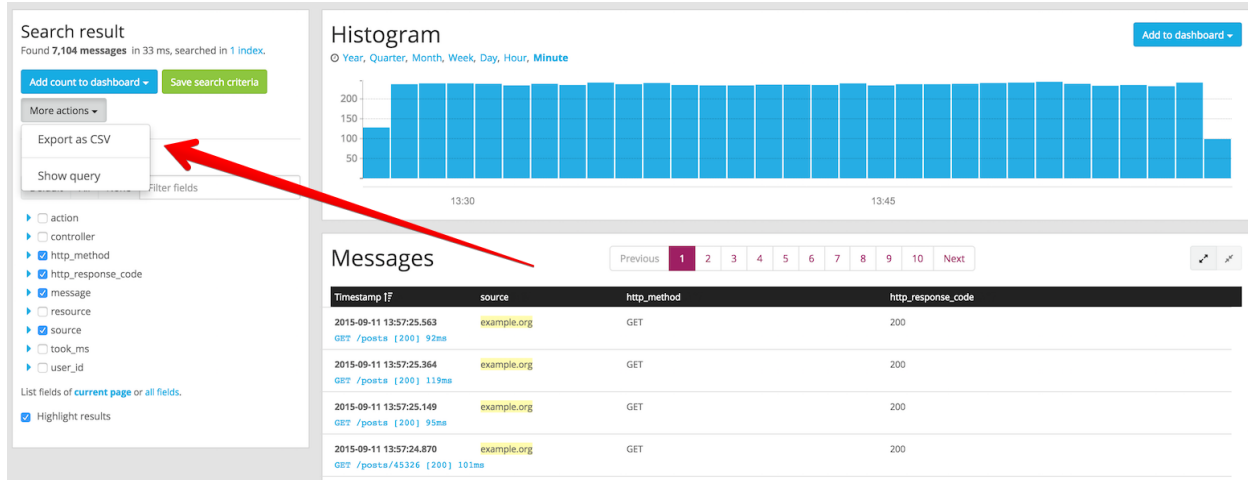
Once you have customized some field graphs, you can also combine them by dragging them from the hamburger icon on the top corner of the graph, and dropping them into another field graph. You can see the location of the hamburger icon and the end result in the the following screenshots:



Field graphs appear every time you perform a search, allowing you to compare data, or combine graphs coming from different streams.

Export results as CSV

It is also possible to export the results of your search as a CSV document. To do so, select all fields you want to export in the search sidebar, click on the *More actions* button, and select *Export as CSV*.



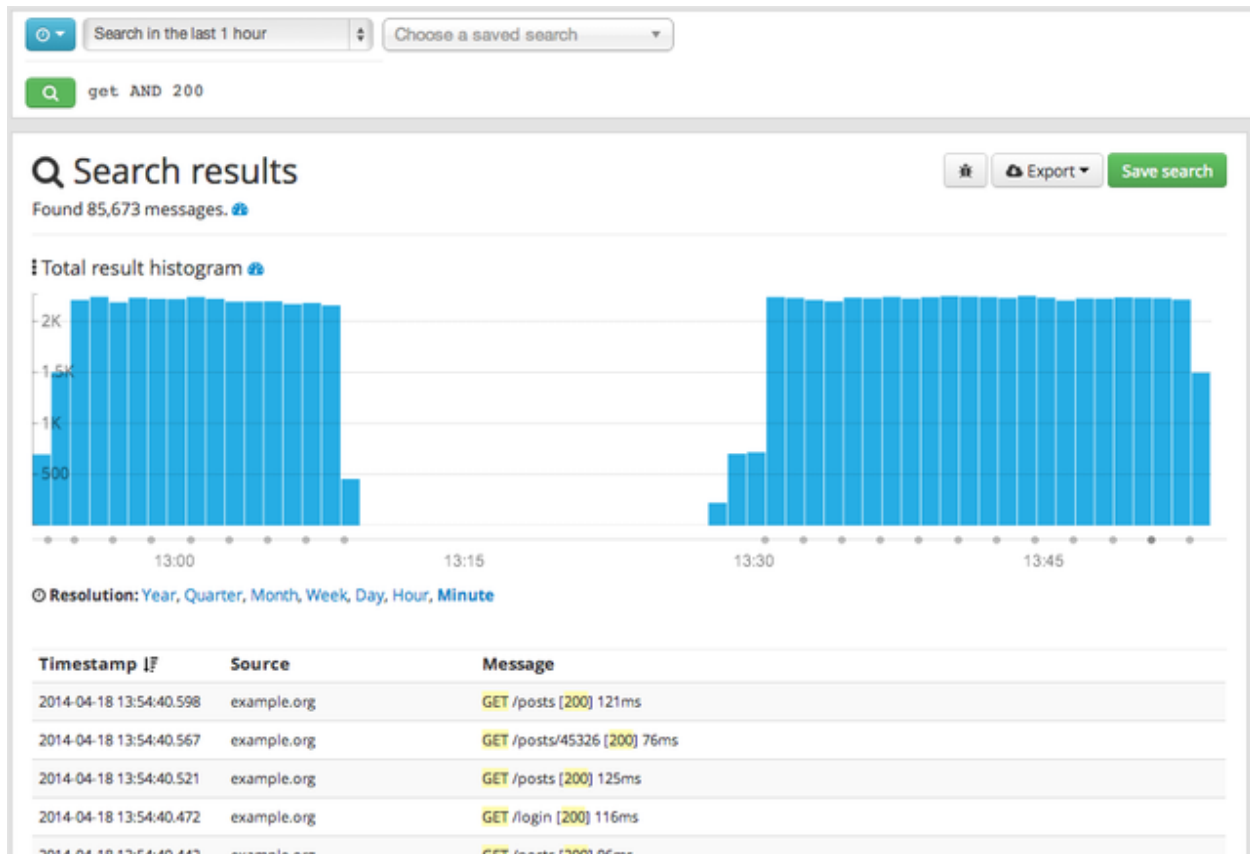
The screenshot shows the Graylog search interface. On the left, the 'Search result' sidebar displays 'Found 7,104 messages in 33 ms, searched in 1 index.' Below this, the 'More actions' dropdown menu is open, showing options like 'Export as CSV' (highlighted with a red arrow), 'Show query', and 'Filter fields'. The main area features a 'Histogram' chart and a 'Messages' table. The 'Messages' table has columns for 'Timestamp', 'source', 'http_method', and 'http_response_code'. The first message is from 'example.org' with a 'GET' method and a '200' response code.

Timestamp	source	http_method	http_response_code
2015-09-11 13:57:25.563 GET /posts (200) 92ms	example.org	GET	200
2015-09-11 13:57:25.364 GET /posts (200) 119ms	example.org	GET	200
2015-09-11 13:57:25.149 GET /posts (200) 95ms	example.org	GET	200
2015-09-11 13:57:24.870 GET /posts/45326 (200) 101ms	example.org	GET	200

Hint: Some Graylog inputs keep the original message in the *full_message* field. If you need to export the original message, you can do so by clicking on the *List all fields* link at the bottom of the sidebar, and then selecting the *full_message* field.

Search result highlighting

Graylog supports search result highlighting since v0.20.2:



Enabling/Disabling search result highlighting

Using search result highlighting will result in slightly higher resource consumption of searches. You can enable and disable it using a configuration parameter in the `graylog.conf` of your `graylog-server` nodes:

```
allow_highlighting = true
```


What are streams?

The Graylog streams are a mechanism to route messages into categories in realtime while they are processed. You define rules that instruct Graylog which message to route into which streams. Imagine sending these three messages to Graylog:

```
message: INSERT failed (out of disk space)
level: 3 (error)
source: database-host-1

message: Added user 'foo'.
level: 6 (informational)
source: database-host-2

message: smtp ERR: remote closed the connection
level: 3 (error)
source: application-x
```

One of the many things that you could do with streams is creating a stream called *Database errors* that is catching every error message from one of your database hosts.

Create a new stream with these rules, selecting the option to match all rules:

- Field `level` must be greater than 4
- Field `source` must match regular expression `^database-host-\d+`

This will route every new message with a `level` higher than *WARN* and a `source` that matches the database host regular expression into the stream.

A message will be routed into every stream that has all (or any) of its rules matching. This means that a message can be part of many streams and not just one.

The stream is now appearing in the streams list and a click on its title will show you all database errors.

Streams can be used to be alerted in case certain condition happens. We cover more topics related to alerts in [Alerts](#).

What's the difference to saved searches?

The biggest difference is that streams are processed in realtime. This allows realtime alerting and forwarding to other systems. Imagine forwarding your database errors to another system or writing them to a file by regularly reading them from the message storage. Realtime streams do this much better.

Another difference is that searches for complex stream rule sets are always comparably cheap to perform because a message is *tagged* with stream IDs when processed. A search for Graylog internally always looks like this, no matter how many stream rules you have configured:

```
streams: [STREAM_ID]
```

Building a query with all rules would cause significantly higher load on the message storage.

How do I create a stream?

1. Navigate to the streams section from the top navigation bar.
2. Click “Create stream”.
3. Save the stream after entering a name and a description. For example *All error messages* and *Catching all error messages from all sources*. The stream is now saved but **not yet activated**.
4. Click on “Edit rules” for the stream you just created. That will open a page where you can manage and test stream rules.
5. Indicate whether any or all of the rules must be true to include a message in the stream.
6. Add stream rules, by indicating the field that you want to check, and the condition that should satisfy. Try the rules against some messages by loading them from an input or manually giving a message ID. Once you are satisfied with the results, click on “I’m done”.
7. The stream is still paused, click on the “Start stream” button to activate the stream.

Alerts

You can define conditions that trigger alerts. For example whenever the stream *All production exceptions* has more than 50 messages per minute or when the field *milliseconds* had a too high standard deviation in the last five minutes.

Hit *Manage alerts* in the stream *Action* dropdown to see already configured alerts, alerts that were fired in the past or to configure new alert conditions.

You can configure the interval for alert checks in your *graylog.conf* using the *alert_check_interval* variable. The default is to check for alerts every 60 seconds.

Graylog ships with default *alert callbacks* and can be extended with *Plugins*.

Alert condition types explained

Message count condition

This condition triggers whenever the stream received more than X messages in the last Y minutes. Perfect for example to be alerted when there are many exceptions on your platform. Create a stream that catches every error message and be alerted when that stream exceeds normal throughput levels.

Field value condition

Triggers whenever the result of a statistical computation of a numerical message field in the stream is higher or lower than a given threshold. Perfect to monitor for performance problems: Be alerted whenever the standard deviation of the response time of your application was higher than X in the last Y minutes.

Field string value condition

This condition triggers whenever the stream received at least one message since the last alert run that has a field set to a given value. Get an alert when a message with the field *type* set to *security* arrives in the stream.

Important: We do not recommend to run this on analyzed fields like *message* or *full_message* because it is broken down to terms and you might get unexpected alerts. For example a check for *security* would also alert if a message with the field set to *no security* is received because it was broken down to *no* and *security*. This only happens on the analyzed *message* and *full_message* in Graylog. Please also take note that only a single alert is raised for this condition during the alerting interval, although multiple messages containing the given value may have been received since the last alert.

What is the difference between alert callbacks and alert receivers?

There are two groups of entities configuring what happens when an alert is fired: Alarm callbacks and alert receivers.

Alarm callbacks are a list of events that are being processed when an alert is triggered. There could be an arbitrary number of alarm callbacks configured here. If there is no alarm callback configured at all, a default email transport will be used to notify about the alert. If one or more alarm callbacks are configured (which might include the email alarm callback or not) then all of them are executed for every alert.

If the email alarm callback is used because it appears once or multiple times in the alarm callback list, or the alarm callback list is empty so the email transport is used per default, then the list of alert receivers is used to determine which recipients should receive the alert notifications. Every Graylog user (which has an email address configured in their account) or email address in that list gets a copy of the alerts sent out.

Alert callbacks types explained

In this section we explain what the default alert callbacks included in Graylog do, and how to configure them. Alert callbacks are meant to be extensible through [Plugins](#), you can find more types in the [Graylog Marketplace](#) or even create your own.

Email alert callback

The email alert callback can be used to send an email to the configured alert receivers when the conditions are triggered.

Three configuration options are available for the alert callback to customize the email that will be sent.

Create new Email Alert Callback



Sender

The sender of sent out mail alerts

E-Mail Body (optional)

```
#####  
Alert Description: ${check_result.resultDescription}  
Date: ${check_result.triggeredAt}  
Stream ID: ${stream.id}  
Stream title: ${stream.title}  
Stream description: ${stream.description}  
${if stream_url}Stream URL: ${stream_url}${end}  
  
Triggered condition: ${check_result.triggeredCondition}  
#####  
  
${if backlog}Last messages accounting for this alert:  
${foreach backlog message}${message}  
  
${end}${else}<No backlog>  
${end}
```

The template to generate the body from

E-Mail Subject

The subject of sent out mail alerts

CancelSave

The *email body* and *email subject* are JMTE templates. JMTE is a minimal template engine that supports variables, loops and conditions. See the [JMTE documentation](#) for a language reference.

We expose the following objects to the templates.

stream The stream this alert belongs to.

- `stream.id` ID of the stream
- `stream.title` title of the stream
- `stream.description` stream description

stream_url A string that contains the HTTP URL to the stream.

check_result The check result object for this stream.

- `check_result.triggeredCondition` string representation of the triggered alert condition
- `check_result.triggeredAt` date when this condition was triggered
- `check_result.resultDescription` text that describes the check result

backlog A list of message objects. Can be used to iterate over the messages via `foreach`.

message (only available via iteration over the backlog object) The message object has several fields with details about the message. When using the message object without accessing any fields, the `toString()` method of the underlying Java object is used to display it.

- `message.id` autogenerated message id
- `message.message` the actual message text
- `message.source` the source of the message
- `message.timestamp` the message timestamp
- `message.fields` map of key value pairs for all the fields defined in the message

The `message.fields` fields can be useful to get access to arbitrary fields that are defined in the message. For example `message.fields.full_message` would return the `full_message` of a GELF message.

HTTP alert callback

The HTTP alert callback lets you configure an endpoint that will be called when the alert is triggered.

Graylog will send a POST request to the callback URL including information about the alert. Here is an example of the payload included in a callback:

```
{
  "check_result": {
    "result_description": "Stream had 2 messages in the last 1 minutes with_
    ↳trigger condition more than 1 messages. (Current grace time: 1 minutes)",
    "triggered_condition": {
      "id": "5e7a9c8d-9bb1-47b6-b8db-4a3a83a25e0c",
      "type": "MESSAGE_COUNT",
      "created_at": "2015-09-10T09:44:10.552Z",
      "creator_user_id": "admin",
      "grace": 1,
      "parameters": {
        "grace": 1,
        "threshold": 1,
        "threshold_type": "more",
        "backlog": 5,
        "time": 1
      },
      "description": "time: 1, threshold_type: more, threshold: 1, grace: 1",
      "type_string": "MESSAGE_COUNT",
    }
  }
}
```

```
    "backlog": 5
  },
  "triggered_at": "2015-09-10T09:45:54.749Z",
  "triggered": true,
  "matching_messages": [
    {
      "index": "graylog2_7",
      "message": "WARN: System is failing",
      "fields": {
        "gl2_remote_ip": "127.0.0.1",
        "gl2_remote_port": 56498,
        "gl2_source_node": "41283fec-36b4-4352-a859-7b3d79846b3c",
        "gl2_source_input": "55f15092bee8e2841898eb53"
      },
      "id": "b7b08150-57a0-11e5-b2a2-d6b4cd83d1d5",
      "stream_ids": [
        "55f1509dbee8e2841898eb64"
      ],
      "source": "127.0.0.1",
      "timestamp": "2015-09-10T09:45:49.284Z"
    },
    {
      "index": "graylog2_7",
      "message": "ERROR: This is an example error message",
      "fields": {
        "gl2_remote_ip": "127.0.0.1",
        "gl2_remote_port": 56481,
        "gl2_source_node": "41283fec-36b4-4352-a859-7b3d79846b3c",
        "gl2_source_input": "55f15092bee8e2841898eb53"
      },
      "id": "afd71342-57a0-11e5-b2a2-d6b4cd83d1d5",
      "stream_ids": [
        "55f1509dbee8e2841898eb64"
      ],
      "source": "127.0.0.1",
      "timestamp": "2015-09-10T09:45:36.116Z"
    }
  ]
},
"stream": {
  "creator_user_id": "admin",
  "outputs": [],
  "matching_type": "AND",
  "description": "test stream",
  "created_at": "2015-09-10T09:42:53.833Z",
  "disabled": false,
  "rules": [
    {
      "field": "gl2_source_input",
      "stream_id": "55f1509dbee8e2841898eb64",
      "id": "55f150b5bee8e2841898eb7f",
      "type": 1,
      "inverted": false,
      "value": "55f15092bee8e2841898eb53"
    }
  ],
  "alert_conditions": [
    {
```

```

    "creator_user_id": "admin",
    "created_at": "2015-09-10T09:44:10.552Z",
    "id": "5e7a9c8d-9bb1-47b6-b8db-4a3a83a25e0c",
    "type": "message_count",
    "parameters": {
      "grace": 1,
      "threshold": 1,
      "threshold_type": "more",
      "backlog": 5,
      "time": 1
    }
  ],
  "id": "55f1509dbee8e2841898eb64",
  "title": "test",
  "content_pack": null
}

```

Alert callback history

Sometimes sending alert callbacks may fail for some reason. Graylog provides an alert callback history for those occasions, helping you to debug and fix any problems that may arise.

The screenshot shows the 'Triggered alerts' section in Graylog, indicating 3 alerts total. A 'Show: 10' dropdown is in the top right. The table below lists the alerts:

Triggered	Condition	Reason	Actions
2 minutes ago	5e7a9c8d-9bb1-47b6-b8db-4a3a83a25e0c	Stream had 6 messages in the last 1 minutes with trigger condition more than 1 messages. (Current grace time: 1 minutes)	Hide callbacks
HTTP Alarm Callback ✖ Hide configuration Expected successful HTTP response [2xx] but got [404]. url: http://graylog.org/fail			
4 minutes ago	5e7a9c8d-9bb1-47b6-b8db-4a3a83a25e0c	Stream had 7 messages in the last 1 minutes with trigger condition more than 1 messages. (Current grace time: 1 minutes)	Hide callbacks
HTTP Alarm Callback ✔ Show configuration			
an hour ago	5e7a9c8d-9bb1-47b6-b8db-4a3a83a25e0c	Stream had 2 messages in the last 1 minutes with trigger condition more than 1 messages. (Current grace time: 1 minutes)	Show callbacks

At the bottom, there is a pagination control showing page 1 of 1.

To check the status of alert callbacks, go to the *Streams* page, and click on the *Manage alerts* button next to the stream containing the alert callbacks. You can find the alert callback history at the bottom of that page, in the *Triggered alerts* section.

On the list of alerts, clicking on *Show callbacks* will open a list of all the callbacks involved in the alert, including their status and configuration at the time the alert was triggered.

Outputs

The stream output system allows you to forward every message that is routed into a stream to other destinations.

Outputs are managed globally (like message inputs) and not for single streams. You can create new outputs and activate them for as many streams as you like. This way you can configure a forwarding destination once and select

multiple streams to use it.

Graylog ships with default outputs and can be extended with *Plugins*.

Use cases

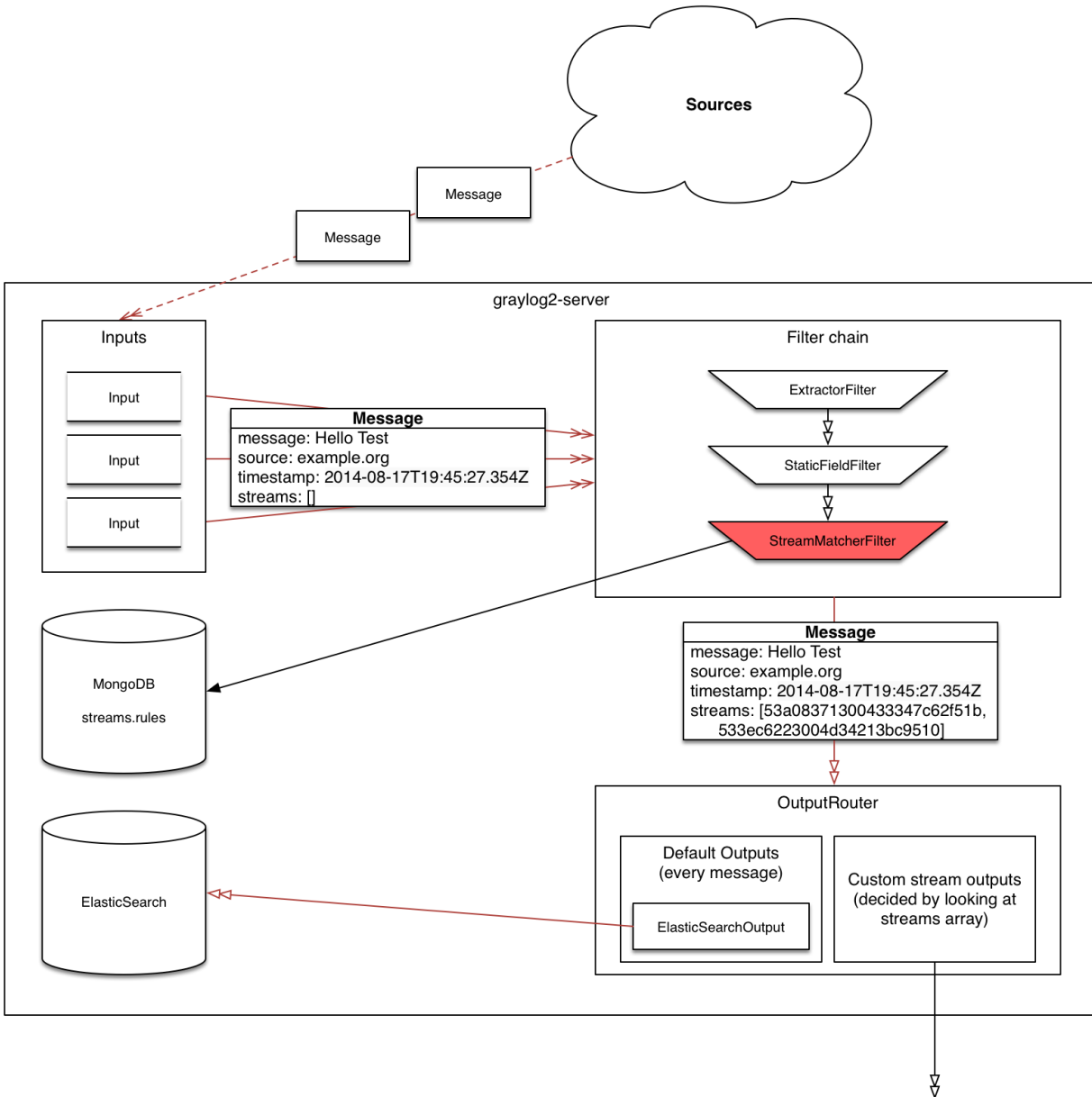
These are a few example use cases for streams:

- Forward a subset of messages to other data analysis or BI systems to reduce their license costs.
- Monitor exception or error rates in your whole environment and broken down per subsystem.
- Get a list of all failed SSH logins and use the *quickvalues* to analyze which user names were affected.
- Catch all HTTP POST requests to `/login` that were answered with a HTTP 302 and route them into a stream called *Successful user logins*. Now get a chart of when users logged in and use the *quickvalues* to get a list of users that performed the most logins in the search time frame.

How are streams processed internally?

The most important thing to know about Graylog stream matching is that there is no duplication of stored messages. Every message that comes in is matched against all rules of a stream. The internal ID of every stream that has *all* rules matching is appended to the `streams` array of the processed message.

All analysis methods and searches that are bound to streams can now easily narrow their operation by searching with a `streams:[STREAM_ID]` limit. This is done automatically by Graylog and does not have to be provided by the user.



Stream Processing Runtime Limits

An important step during the processing of a message is the stream classification. Every message is matched against the user-configured stream rules. If every rule of a stream matches, the message is added to this stream. Applying stream rules is done during the indexing of a message only, so the amount of time spent for the classification of a message is crucial for the overall performance and message throughput the system can handle.

There are certain scenarios when a stream rule takes very long to match. When this happens for a number of messages, message processing can stall, messages waiting for processing accumulate in memory and the whole system could become non-responsive. Messages are lost and manual intervention would be necessary. This is the worst case scenario.

To prevent this, the runtime of stream rule matching is limited. When it is taking longer than the configured runtime

limit, the process of matching this exact message against the rules of this specific stream is aborted. Message processing in general and for this specific message continues though. As the runtime limit needs to be configured pretty high (usually a magnitude higher as a regular stream rule match takes), any excess of it is considered a fault and is recorded for this stream. If the number of recorded faults for a single stream is higher than a configured threshold, the stream rule set of this stream is considered faulty and the stream is disabled. This is done to protect the overall stability and performance of message processing. Obviously, this is a tradeoff and based on the assumption, that the total loss of one or more messages is worse than a loss of stream classification for these.

There are scenarios where this might not be applicable or even detrimental. If there is a high fluctuation of the message load including situations where the message load is much higher than the system can handle, overall stream matching can take longer than the configured timeout. If this happens repeatedly, all streams get disabled. This is a clear indicator that your system is overutilized and not able to handle the peak message load.

How to configure the timeout values if the defaults do not match

There are two configuration variables in the configuration file of the server, which influence the behavior of this functionality.

- `stream_processing_timeout` defines the maximum amount of time the rules of a stream are able to spend. When this is exceeded, stream rule matching for this stream is aborted and a fault is recorded. This setting is defined in milliseconds, the default is 2000 (2 seconds).
- `stream_processing_max_faults` is the maximum number of times a single stream can exceed this runtime limit. When it happens more often, the stream is disabled until it is manually reenabled. The default for this setting is 3.

What could cause it?

If a single stream has been disabled and all others are doing well, the chances are high that one or more stream rules are performing bad under certain circumstances. In most cases, this is related to stream rules which are utilizing regular expressions. For most other stream rules types the general runtime is constant, while it varies very much for regular expressions, influenced by the regular expression itself and the input matched against it. In some special cases, the difference between a match and a non-match of a regular expression can be in the order of 100 or even 1000. This is caused by a phenomenon called *catastrophic backtracking*. There are good write-ups about it on the web which will help you understanding it.

Summary: How do I solve it?

1. Check the rules of the stream that is disabled for rules that could take very long (especially regular expressions).
2. Modify or delete those stream rules.
3. Re-enable the stream.

Programmatic access via the REST API

Many organisations already run monitoring infrastructure that are able to alert operations staff when incidents are detected. These systems are often capable of either polling for information on a regular schedule or being pushed new alerts - this article describes how to use the Graylog Stream Alert API to poll for currently active alerts in order to further process them in third party products.

Checking for currently active alert/triggered conditions

Graylog stream alerts can currently be configured to send emails when one or more of the associated alert conditions evaluate to true. While sending email solves many immediate problems when it comes to alerting, it can be helpful to gain programmatic access to the currently active alerts.

Each stream which has alerts configured also has a list of active alerts, which can potentially be empty if there were no alerts so far. Using the stream's ID, one can check the current state of the alert conditions associated with the stream using the authenticated API call:

```
GET /streams/<streamid>/alerts/check
```

It returns a description of the configured conditions as well as a count of how many triggered the alert. This data can be used to for example send SNMP traps in other parts of the monitoring system.

Sample JSON return value:

```
{
  "total_triggered": 0,
  "results": [
    {
      "condition": {
        "id": "984d04d5-1791-4500-a17e-cd9621cc2ea7",
        "in_grace": false,
        "created_at": "2014-06-11T12:42:50.312Z",
        "parameters": {
          "field": "one_minute_rate",
          "grace": 1,
          "time": 1,
          "backlog": 0,
          "threshold_type": "lower",
          "type": "mean",
          "threshold": 1
        },
        "creator_user_id": "admin",
        "type": "field_value"
      },
      "triggered": false
    }
  ],
  "calculated_at": "2014-06-12T13:44:20.704Z"
}
```

Note that the result is cached for 30 seconds.

List of already triggered stream alerts

Checking the current state of a stream's alerts can be useful to trigger alarms in other monitoring systems, but if one wants to send more detailed messages to operations, it can be very helpful to get more information about the current state of the stream, for example the list of all triggered alerts since a certain timestamp.

This information is available per stream using the call:

```
GET /streams/<streamid>/alerts?since=1402460923
```

The since parameter is a unix timestamp value. Its return value could be:

```
{
  "total": 1,
  "alerts": [
    {
      "id": "539878473004e72240a5c829",
      "condition_id": "984d04d5-1791-4500-a17e-cd9621cc2ea7",
      "condition_parameters": {
        "field": "one_minute_rate",
        "grace": 1,
        "time": 1,
        "backlog": 0,
        "threshold_type": "lower",
        "type": "mean",
        "threshold": 1
      },
      "description": "Field one_minute_rate had a mean of 0.0 in the last 1 minutes_
↳with trigger condition lower than 1.0. (Current grace time: 1 minutes)",
      "triggered_at": "2014-06-11T15:39:51.780Z",
      "stream_id": "53984d8630042acb39c79f84"
    }
  ]
}
```

Using this information more detailed messages can be produced, since the response contains more detailed information about the nature of the alert, as well as the number of alerts triggered since the timestamp provided.

Note that currently a maximum of 300 alerts will be returned.

FAQs

Using regular expressions for stream matching

Stream rules support matching field values using regular expressions. Graylog uses the [Java Pattern class](#) to execute regular expressions.

For the individual elements of regular expression syntax, please refer to Oracle's documentation, however the syntax largely follows the familiar regular expression languages in widespread use today and will be familiar to most.

However, one key question that is often raised is matching a string in case insensitive manner. Java regular expressions are case sensitive by default. Certain flags, such as the one to ignore case sensitivity can either be set in the code, or as an inline flag in the regular expression.

To for example route every message that matches the browser name in the following user agent string:

```
Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_9_1) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko)_
↳Chrome/32.0.1700.107 Safari/537.36
```

the regular expression `.*applewebkit.*` will not match because it is case sensitive. In order to match the expression using any combination of upper- and lowercase characters use the `(?i)` flag as such:

```
(?i).*applewebkit.*
```

Most of the other flags supported by Java are rarely used in the context of matching stream rules or extractors, but if you need them their use is documented on the same Javadoc page by Oracle.

Can I add messages to a stream after they were processed and stored?

No. Currently there is no way to re-process or re-match messages into streams.

Only new messages are routed into the current set of streams.

Can I write own outputs or alert callbacks methods?

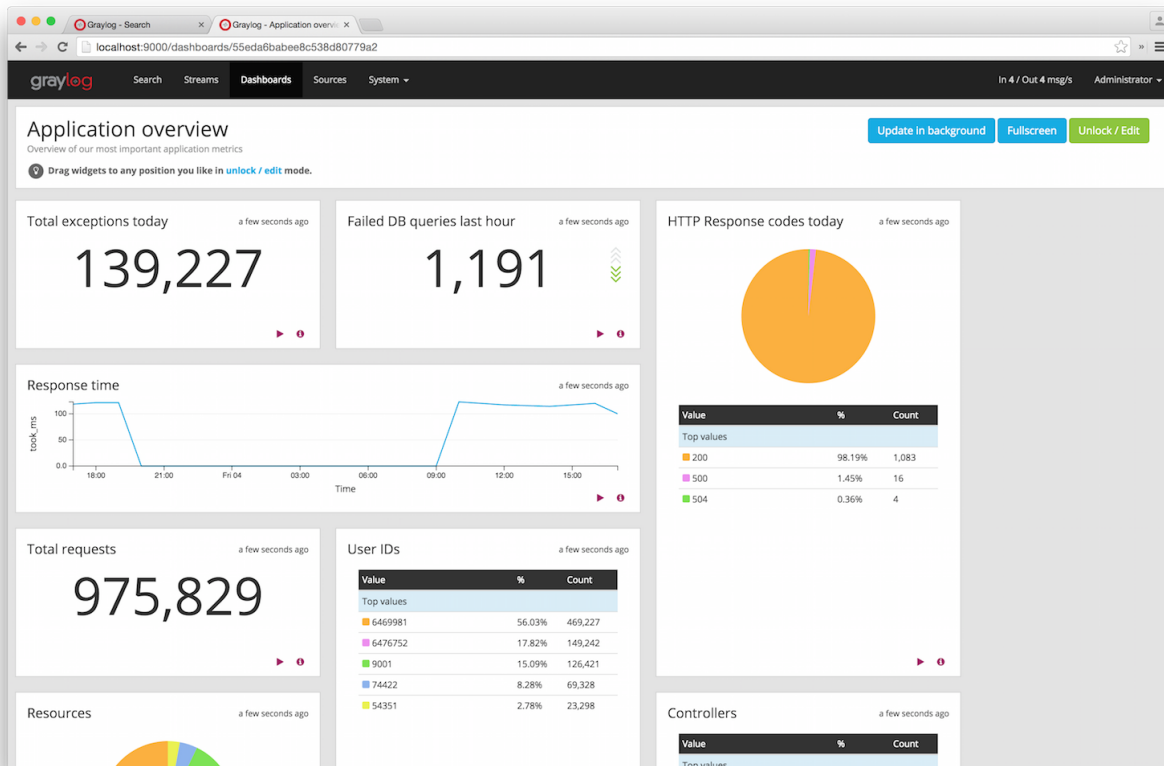
Yes. Please refer to the [Plugins](#) documentation page.

Why dashboards matter

Using dashboards allows you to build pre-defined views on your data to always have everything important just one click away.

Sometimes it takes domain knowledge to be able to figure out the search queries to get the correct results for your specific applications. People with the required domain knowledge can define the search query once and then display the results on a dashboard to share them with co-workers, managers, or even sales and marketing departments.

This guide will take you through the process of creating dashboards and storing information on them. At the end you will have a dashboard with automatically updating information that you can share with anybody or just a subset of people based on permissions.



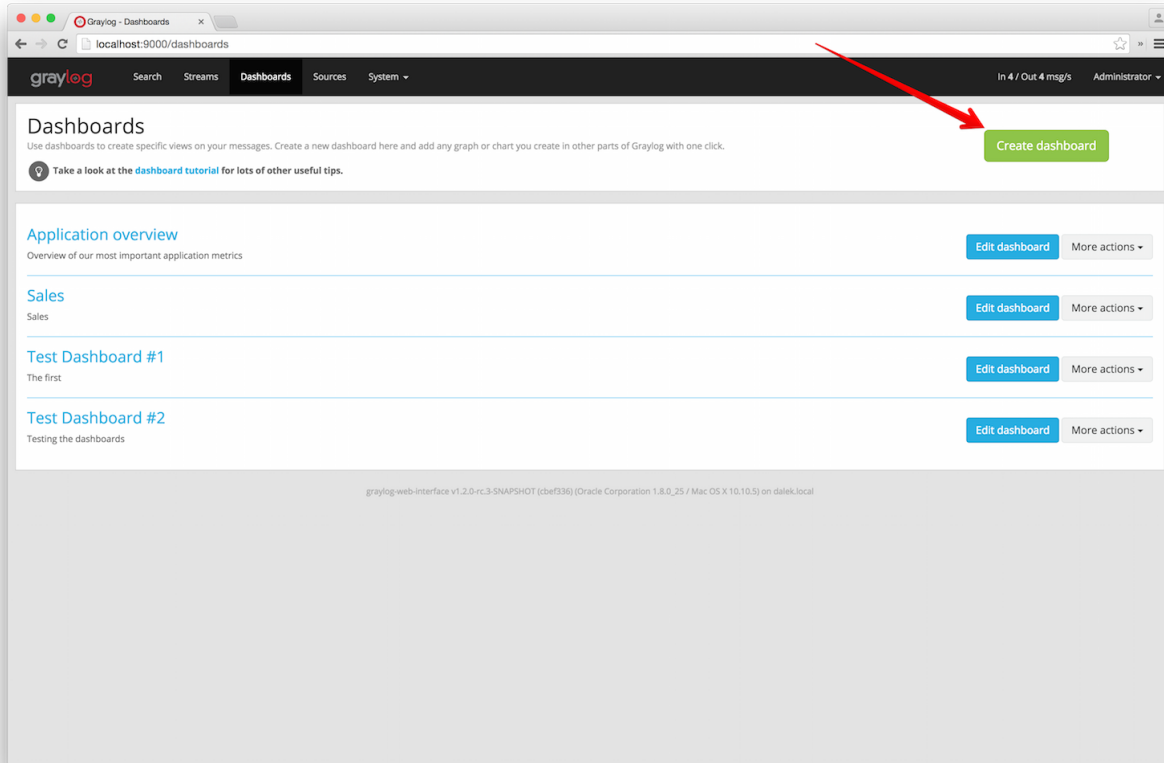
How to use dashboards

Creating an empty dashboard

Navigate to the *Dashboards* section using the link in the top menu bar of your Graylog web interface. The page is listing all dashboards that you are allowed to view. (More on permissions later.) Hit the *Create dashboard* button to create a new empty dashboard.

The only required information is a *title* and a *description* of the new dashboard. Use a specific but not too long title so people can easily see what to expect on the dashboard. The description can be a bit longer and could contain more detailed information about the displayed data or how it is collected.

Hit the *Create* button to create the dashboard. You should now see your new dashboard on the dashboards overview page. Click on the title of your new dashboard to see it. Next, we will be adding widgets to the dashboard we have just created.



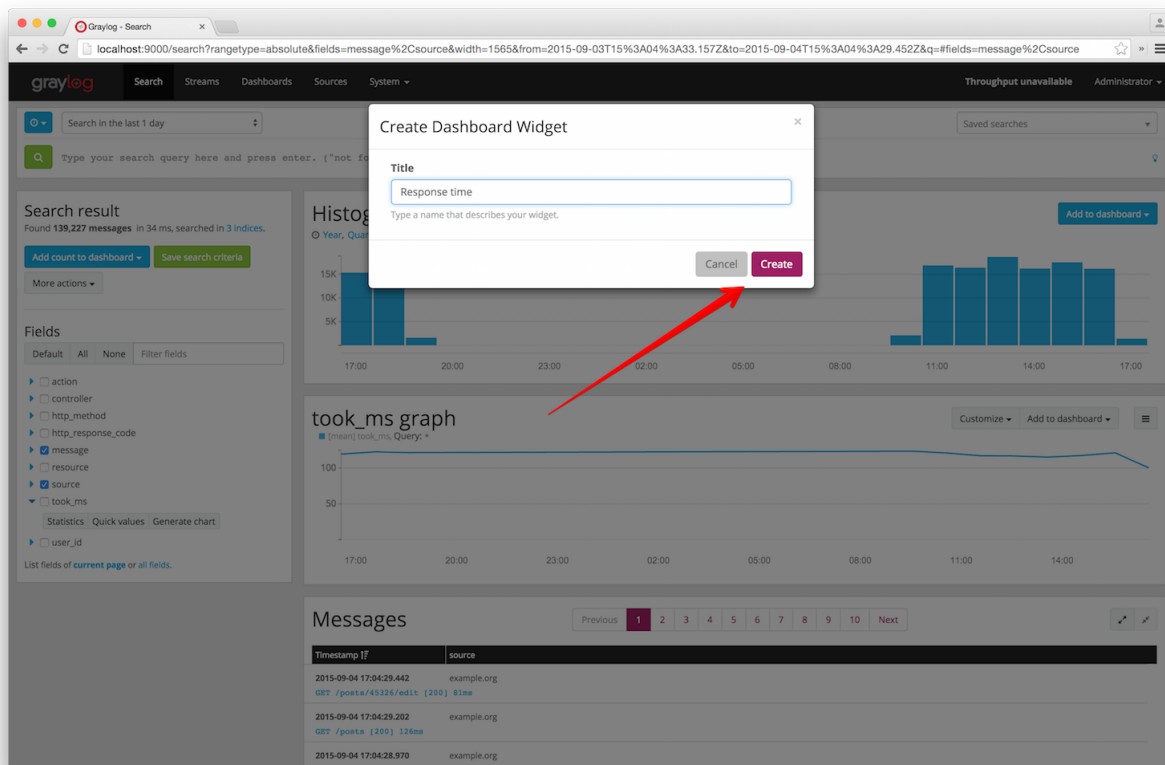
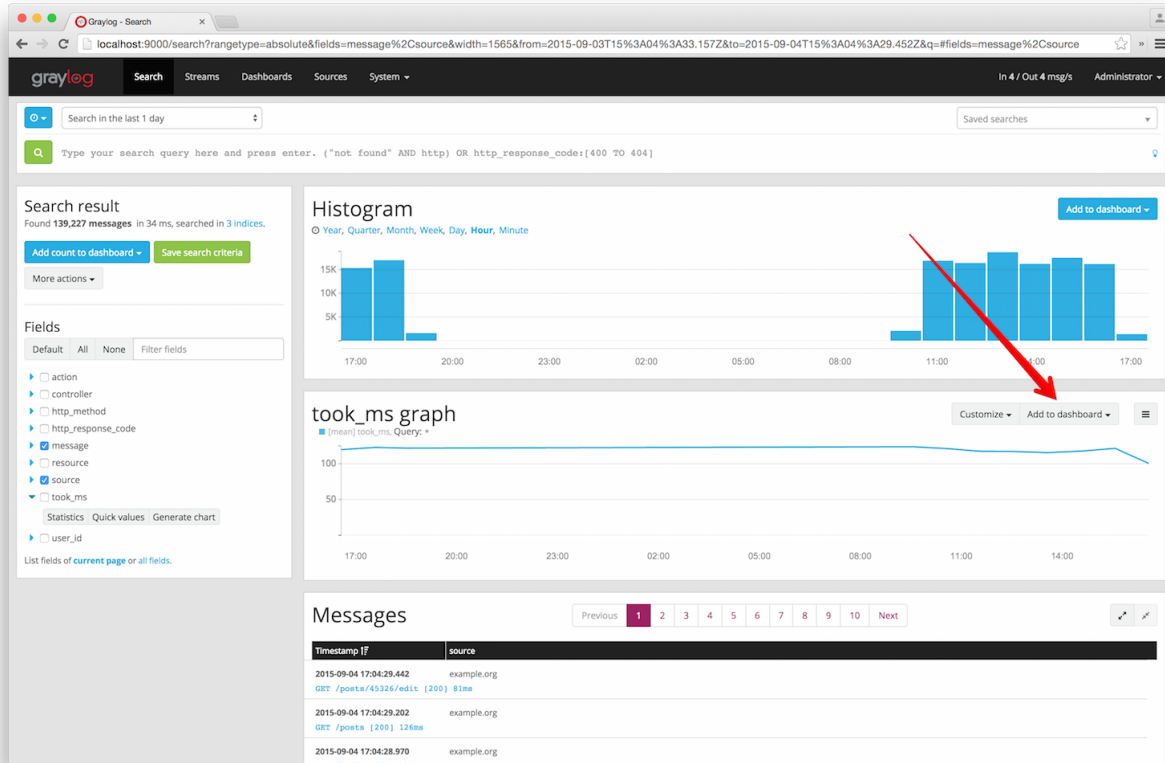
Adding widgets

You should have your empty dashboard in front of you. Let's add some widgets! You can add search result information to dashboards with a couple of clicks. The following search result types can be added to dashboards:

- Search result counts
- Search result histogram charts
- Statistical values
- Field value charts
- Stacked charts
- Quick values results

You can learn more about the different widget types in [Widget types explained](#).

Once you can see the results of your search, you will see buttons with the “Add to dashboard” text, that will allow you to select the dashboard where the widget will be displayed, and configure the widget.



Examples

It is strongly recommended to read the getting started guide on basic searches and analysis first. This will make the following examples more obvious for you.

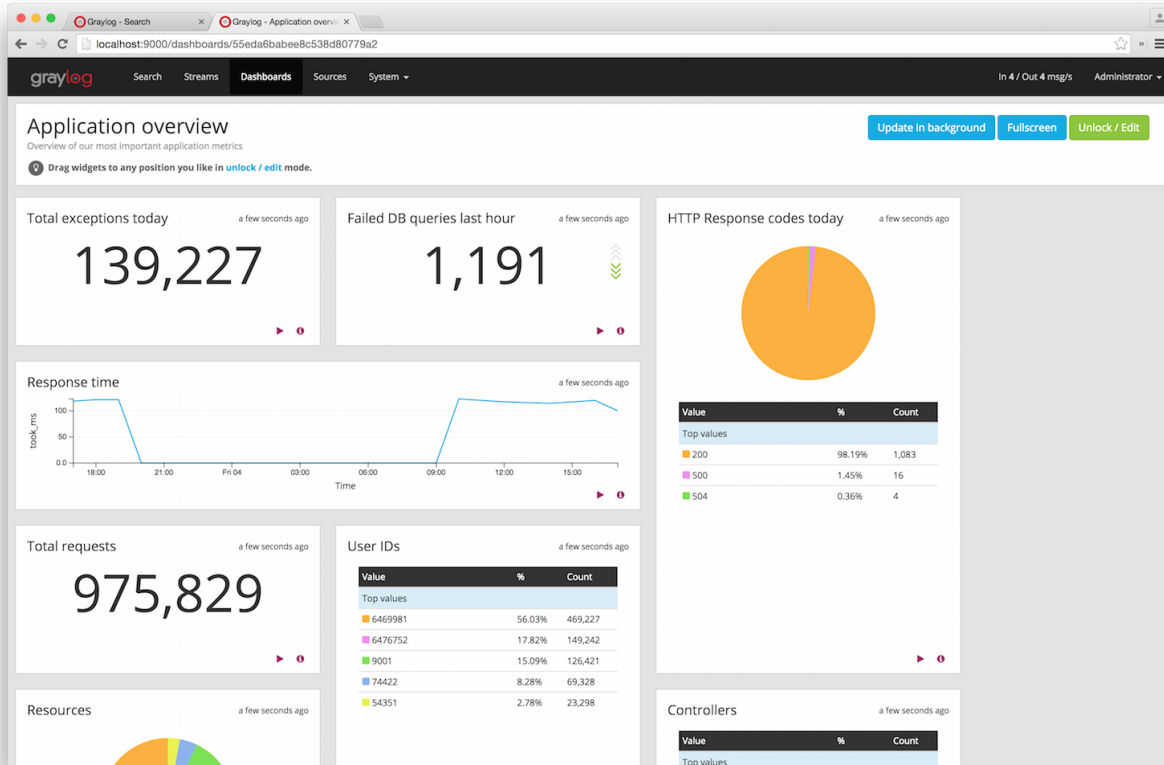
- **Top log sources today**
 - Example search: `*`, timeframe: Last 24 hours
 - Expand the `source` field in the the sidebar and hit *Quick values*
 - Add quick values to dashboard
- **Number of exceptions in a given app today**
 - Example search: `source:myapp AND Exception`, timeframe: Last 24 hours
 - Add search result count to dashboard
- **Response time chart of a given app**
 - Example search: `source:myapp2`, any timeframe you want
 - Expand a field representing the response time of requests in the sidebar and hit *Generate chart*
 - Add chart to dashboard

Widgets from streams

You can of course also add widgets from stream search results. Every widget added this way will always be bound to streams. If you have a stream that contains every SSH login you can just search for everything (`*`) in that stream and store the result count as *SSH logins* on a dashboard.

Result

You should now see widgets on your dashboard. You will learn how to modify the dashboard, and edit widgets in the next chapter.



Widget types explained

Graylog supports a wide variety of widgets that allow you to quickly visualize data from your logs. This section intends to give you some information to better understand each widget type, and how they can help you to see relevant details from the many logs you receive.

Search result counts

This kind of widget includes a count of the number of search results for a given search. It can help you to quickly visualize things like the number of exceptions an application logs, or the number of requests your site receives.

All search result counts created with a relative time frame can additionally display trend information. The trend is calculated by comparing the count for the given time frame, with the one resulting from going further back the same amount of time. For example, to calculate the trend in a search result count with a relative search of *5 minutes ago*, Graylog will count the messages in the last 5 minutes, and compare that with the count of the previous 5 minutes.

Search result histogram charts

The search result histogram displays a chart using the time frame of your search, graphing the number of search result counts over time. It may help you to visualize how the number of request to your site change over time, or to see how many downloads a file has over time.

Changing the graph resolution, you can decide how much time each bar of the graph represents.

Statistical values

You can add to your dashboard any statistical value calculated for a field. This may help you to see the mean time response for your application, or how many unique servers are handling requests to your application, by using the cardinality value of that field. Please refer to [Field statistics](#) for more information on the available statistical functions and how to display them in your searches.

As with search result counts, you can also add trend information to statistical value widgets created with a relative time frame.

Field value charts

To draw an statistical value over time, you can use a field value chart. They could help you to see the evolution of the number of unique users visiting your site in the last week. In the [Field graphs](#) section we explain how to create these charts and ways you can customize them.

Stacked charts

Stacked charts group several field value charts under the same axes. They let you compare different values in a compact way, like the number of visits to two different websites. As explained in [Field graphs](#), stacked charts are basically field value charts represented in the same axes.

Quick values results

In order to show a list of values a certain field contains and their distribution, you can use a quick value widget. This may help you to see the percentage of failed requests in your application, or which parts of your application experience more problems. Please refer to [Quick values](#) to see how to request this information in your search result page.

The quick values information can be represented as a pie chart and/or as a table, so you can choose what is the best fit for your needs.

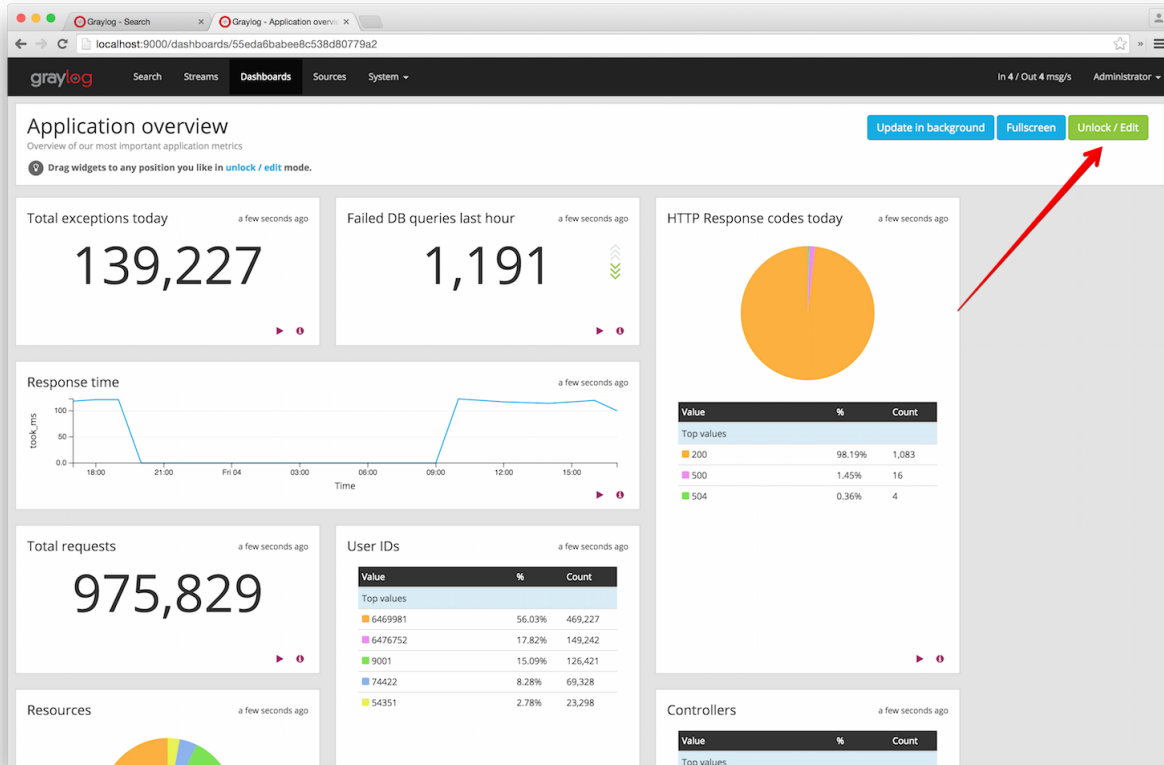
Modifying dashboards

You need to *unlock* dashboards to make any changes to them. Hit the “Unlock/Edit” button in the top right corner of a dashboard to unlock it. You should now see different icons at the bottom of each widget, that allow you to perform more actions.

Unlocked dashboard widgets explained

Unlocked dashboard widgets have two buttons that should be pretty self-explanatory.

- Delete widget
- Edit widget configuration
- Change widget size (when you hover over the widget)



Widget cache times

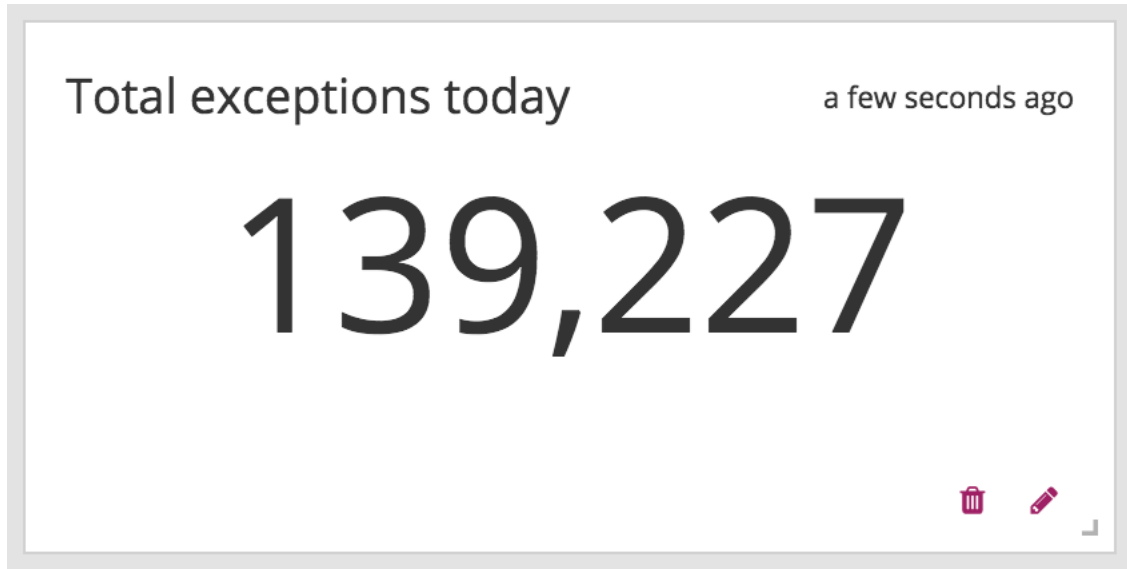
Widget values are cached in `graylog-server` by default. **This means that the cost of value computation does not grow with every new device or even browser tab displaying a dashboard.** Some widgets might need to show real-time information (set cache time to 1 second) and some widgets might be updated way less often (like *Top SSH users this month*, cache time 10 minutes) to save expensive computation resources.

Repositioning widgets

Just grab a widget with your mouse in unlocked dashboard mode and move it around. Other widgets should adopt and re-position intelligently to make place for the widget you are moving. The positions are automatically saved when dropping a widget.

Resizing widgets

When hovering over a widget, you will see that a gray arrow appears in its bottom-right corner. You can use that icon to resize widgets. Their contents will adapt to the new size automatically!



Dashboard permissions

Graylog users in the *Admin* role are always allowed to view and edit all dashboards. Users in the *Reader* role are by default not allowed to view or edit **any** dashboard.

graylog Search Streams Dashboards Sources System / Roles In 4 / Out 4 msg/s Administrator

Roles

Roles bundle permissions which can be assigned to multiple users at once

Create a new role

Name
Dashboards

Description
Users with access to dashboards

Permissions
Select the permissions for this role

Streams Dashboards

Filter Dashboards Filter Reset

<input type="checkbox"/> Select all	
<input type="checkbox"/> Test Dashboard #2 Testing the dashboards	Allow reading Allow editing
<input type="checkbox"/> Test Dashboard #1 The first	Allow reading Allow editing
<input type="checkbox"/> Application overview Overview of our most important application metrics	Allow reading Allow editing
<input type="checkbox"/> Sales Sales	Allow reading Allow editing

Save Cancel

Navigate to *System -> Roles* and create a new role that grant the permissions you wish. You can then assign that new role to any users you wish to give dashboard permissions in the *System -> Users* page.

You can read more about user permissions and roles under `users_roles`.

That's it!

Congratulations, you have just gone through the basic principles of Graylog dashboards. Now think about which dashboards to create. We suggest:

- Create dashboards for yourself and your team members
- Create dashboards to share with your manager
- Create dashboards to share with the CIO of your company

Think about which information you need access to frequently. What information could your manager or CIO be interested in? Maybe they want to see how the number of exceptions went down or how your team utilized existing hardware better. The sales team could be interested to see signup rates in realtime and the marketing team will love you for providing insights into low level KPIs that is just a click away.

The problem explained

Syslog ([RFC3164](#), [RFC5424](#)) is the de facto standard logging protocol since the 1980s and was originally developed as part of the sendmail project. It comes with some annoying shortcomings that we tried to improve in [GELF](#) for application logging.

Because syslog has a clear specification in its RFCs it should be possible to parse it relatively easy. Unfortunately there are a lot of devices (especially routers and firewalls) out there that send logs looking like syslog but actually breaking several rules stated in the RFCs. We tried to write a parser that reads all of them as good as possible and failed. Such a loosely defined text message usually breaks the compatibility in the first date field already. Some devices leave out hostnames completely, some use localized time zone names (e. g. “MESZ” instead of “CEST”), and some just omit the current year in the timestamp field.

Then there are devices out there that at least do not claim to send syslog when they don’t but have another completely separate log format that needs to be parsed specifically.

We decided not to write custom message inputs and parsers for all those thousands of devices, formats, firmwares and configuration parameters out there but came up with the concept of *Extractors* introduced the v0.20.0 series of Graylog.

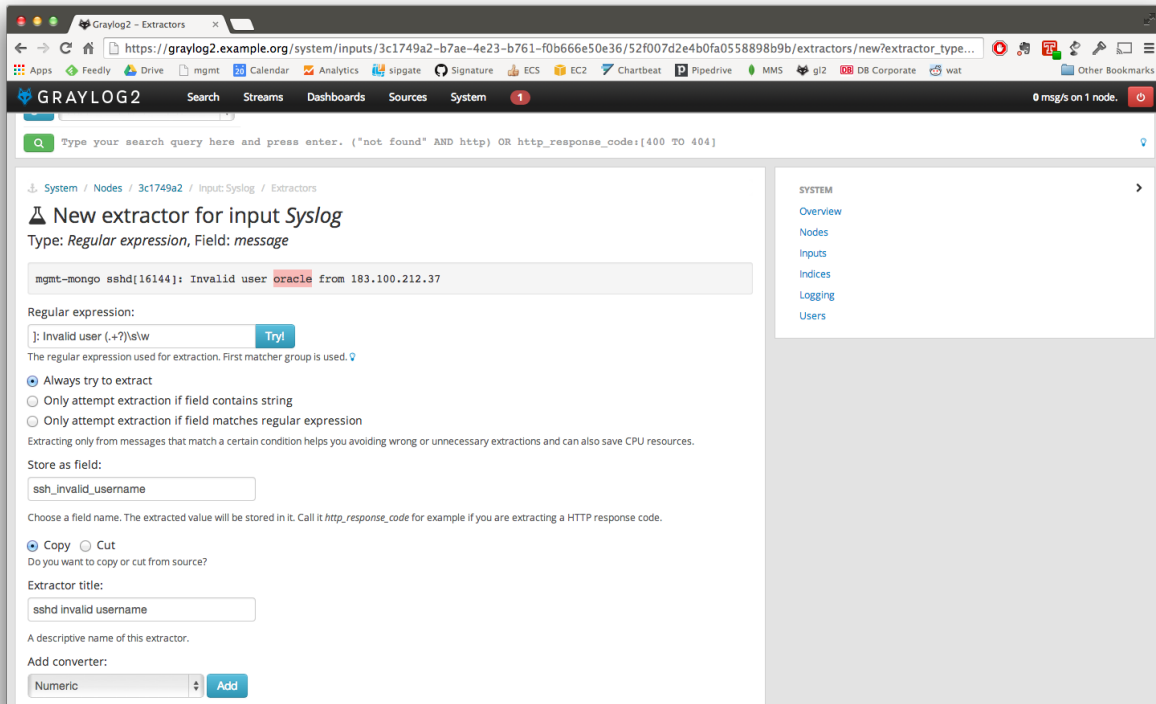
Graylog extractors explained

The extractors allow you to instruct Graylog nodes about how to extract data from any text in the received message (no matter from which format or if an already extracted field) to message fields. You may already know why structuring data into fields is important if you are using Graylog: There are a lot of analysis possibilities with full text searches but the real power of log analytics unveils when you can run queries like `http_response_code:>=500 AND user_id:9001` to get all internal server errors that were triggered by a specific user.

Wouldn’t it be nice to be able to search for all blocked packages of a given source IP or to get a quickterms analysis of recently failed SSH login usernames? Hard to do when all you have is just a single long text message.

Attention: Graylog extractors only work on text fields but won't be executed for numeric fields or anything other than a string.

Creating extractors is possible via either Graylog REST API calls or from the web interface using a wizard. Select a message input on the *System -> Inputs* page and hit *Manage extractors* in the actions menu. The wizard allows you to load a message to test your extractor configuration against. You can extract data using for example regular expressions, Grok patterns, substrings, or even by splitting the message into tokens by separator characters. The wizard looks like this and should be pretty intuitive:



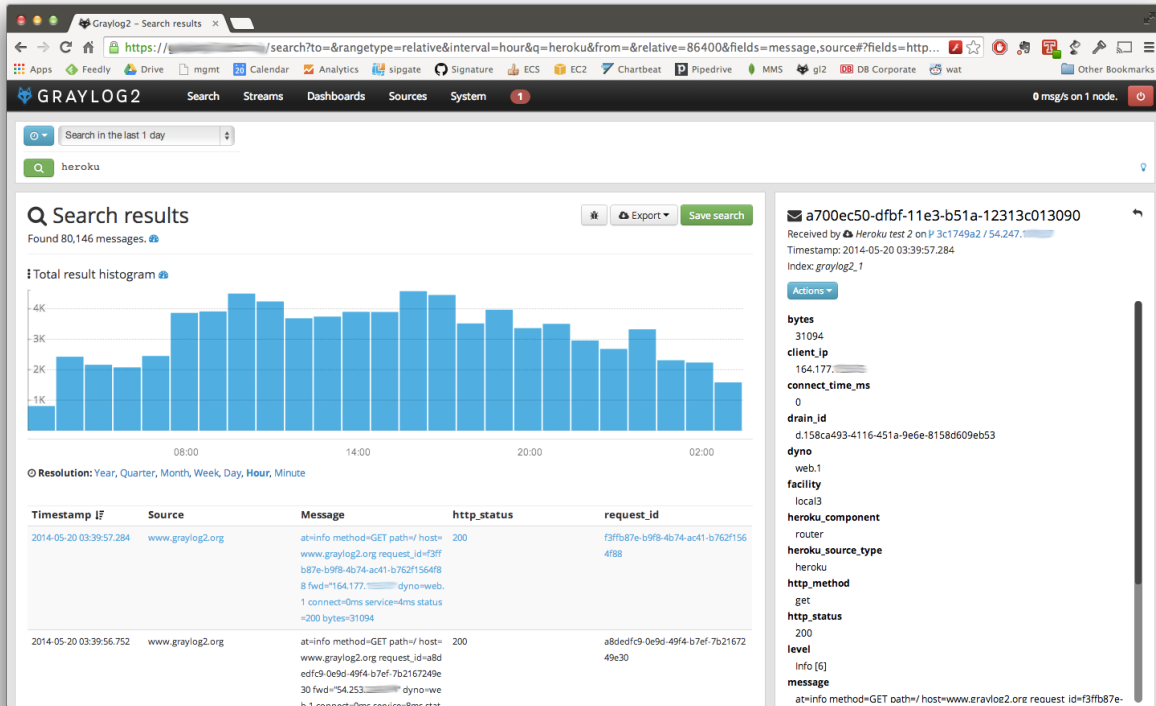
You can also choose to apply so called *converters* on the extracted value to for example convert a string consisting of numbers to an integer or double value (important for range searches later), anonymize IP addresses, lower-/uppercase a string, build a hash value, and much more.

Import extractors

The recommended way of importing extractors in Graylog is using *Content packs*. The [Graylog Marketplace](#) provides access to many content packs that you can easily download and import into your Graylog setup.

You can still import extractors from JSON if you want to. Just copy the JSON extractor export into the import dialog of a message input of the fitting type (every extractor set entry in the directory tells you what type of input to spawn, e. g. syslog, GELF, or Raw/plaintext) and you are good to go. The next messages coming in should already include the extracted fields with possibly converted values.

A message sent by Heroku and received by Graylog with the imported *Heroku* extractor set on a plaintext TCP input looks like this: (look at the extracted fields in the message detail view)



Using regular expressions to extract data

Extractors support matching field values using regular expressions. Graylog uses the `Java Pattern` class to evaluate regular expressions.

For the individual elements of regular expression syntax, please refer to Oracle's documentation, however the syntax largely follows the familiar regular expression languages in widespread use today and will be familiar to most.

However, one key question that is often raised is matching a string in case insensitive manner. Java regular expressions are case sensitive by default. Certain flags, such as the one to ignore case sensitivity can either be set in the code, or as an inline flag in the regular expression.

For example, to create an extractor that matches the browser name in the following user agent string:

```
Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_9_1) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/32.0.1700.107 Safari/537.36
```

the regular expression `(applewebkit)` will not match because it is case sensitive. In order to match the expression using any combination of upper- and lowercase characters use the `(?i)` flag as such:

```
(?i)(applewebkit)
```

Most of the other flags supported by Java are rarely used in the context of matching stream rules or extractors, but if you need them their use is documented on the same Javadoc page by Oracle. One common reason to use regular expression flags in your regular expression is to make use of what is called non-capturing groups. Those are parentheses which only group alternatives, but do not make Graylog extract the data they match and are indicated by `(?:)`.

Using Grok patterns to extract data

Graylog also supports the extracting data using the popular Grok language to allow you to make use of your existing patterns.

Grok is a set of regular expressions that can be combined to more complex patterns, allowing to name different parts of the matched groups.

By using Grok patterns, you can extract multiple fields from a message field in a single extractor, which often simplifies specifying extractors.

Simple regular expressions are often sufficient to extract a single word or number from a log line, but if you know the entire structure of a line beforehand, for example for an access log, or the format of a firewall log, using Grok is advantageous.

For example a firewall log line could contain:

```
len=50824 src=172.17.22.108 sport=829 dst=192.168.70.66 dport=513
```

We can now create the following patterns on the System/Grok Patterns page in the web interface:

```
BASE10NUM (?<![0-9.+~]) (?>[+-]? (?:(?:[0-9]+(?:\.[0-9]+)?)|(?:\.[0-9]+)))
NUMBER (?:%{BASE10NUM})
IPV6 ((([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}:){7}([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|:))|(([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}:){6}(:[0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)\.([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)){3}|:))|(([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}:){5}((:([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|1,2))|(:([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)\.([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)){3})|:))|(([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}:){4}((:([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|1,3))|(:([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|?:([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)\.([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)){3})|:))|(([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}:){3}((:([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|1,4))|(:([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)\.([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)){3})|:))|(([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}:){2}((:([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|1,5))|(:([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)\.([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)){3})|:))|(([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}:){1}((:([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|1,6))|(:([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)\.([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)){3})|:))|(:((:([0-9A-Fa-f]{1,4}|1,7))|(:([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)\.([25[0-5]|2[0-4]\d|1\d\d|1-9]?\d)){3})|:))|(:)))(%.+)?
IPV4 (?<![0-9]) (?:(?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|0-1)?[0-9]{1,2})[.](?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|0-1)?[0-9]{1,2})[.](?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|0-1)?[0-9]{1,2})[.](?:25[0-5]|2[0-4][0-9]|0-1)?[0-9]{1,2}))(![0-9])
IP (?:%{IPV6}|%{IPV4})
DATA .*?
```

Then, in the extractor configuration, we can use these patterns to extract the relevant fields from the line:

```
len=%{NUMBER:length} src=%{IP:srcip} sport=%{NUMBER:srcport} dst=%{IP:dstip} dport=%{NUMBER:dstport}
```

This will add the relevant extracted fields to our log message, allowing Graylog to search on those individual fields, which can lead to more effective search queries by allowing to specifically look for packets that came from a specific source IP instead of also matching destination IPs if one would only search for the IP across all fields.

If the Grok pattern creates many fields, which can happen if you make use of heavily nested patterns, you can tell Graylog to skip certain fields (and the output of their subpatterns) by naming a field with the special keyword `UNWANTED`.

Let's say you want to parse a line like:

```
type:44 bytes:34 errors:122
```

but you are only interested in the second number `bytes`. You could use a pattern like:

```
type:%{BASE10NUM:type} bytes:%{BASE10NUM:bytes} errors:%{BASE10NUM:errors}
```

However, this would create three fields named `type`, `bytes`, and `errors`. Even not naming the first and last patterns would still create a field names `BASE10NUM`. In order to ignore fields, but still require matching them use `UNWANTED`:

```
type:%{BASE10NUM:UNWANTED} bytes:%{BASE10NUM:bytes} errors:%{BASE10NUM:UNWANTED}
```

This now creates only a single field called `bytes` while making sure the entire pattern must match.

If you already know the data type of the extracted fields, you can make use of the type conversion feature built into the Graylog Grok library. Going back to the earlier example:

```
len=50824 src=172.17.22.108 sport=829 dst=192.168.70.66 dport=513
```

We know that the content of the field `len` is an integer and would like to make sure it is stored with that data type, so we can later create field graphs with it or access the field's statistical values, like average etc.

Grok directly supports converting field values by adding `;datatype` at the end of the pattern, like:

```
len=%{NUMBER:length;int} src=%{IP:srcip} sport=%{NUMBER:srcport} dst=%{IP:dstip}
↳ dport=%{NUMBER:dstport}
```

The currently supported data types, and their corresponding ranges and values, are:

Type	Range	Example
byte	-128 ... 127	<code>%{NUMBER:fieldname;byte}</code>
short	-32768 ... 32767	<code>%{NUMBER:fieldname;short}</code>
int	-2 ³¹ ... 2 ³¹ -1	<code>%{NUMBER:fieldname;int}</code>
long	-2 ⁶³ ... 2 ⁶³ -1	<code>%{NUMBER:fieldname;long}</code>
float	32-bit IEEE 754	<code>%{NUMBER:fieldname;float}</code>
double	64-bit IEEE 754	<code>%{NUMBER:fieldname;double}</code>
boolean	<i>true, false</i>	<code>%{DATA:fieldname;boolean}</code>
string	Any UTF-8 string	<code>%{DATA:fieldname;string}</code>
date	See SimpleDateFormat	<code>%{DATA:timestamp;date;dd/MMM/yyyy:HH:mm:ss Z}</code>
datetime	Alias for <i>date</i>	

There are many resources on the web with useful patterns, and one very helpful tool is the [Grok Debugger](#), which allows you to test your patterns while you develop them.

Graylog uses [Java Grok](#) to parse and run Grok patterns.

Using the JSON extractor

Since version 1.2, Graylog also supports extracting data from messages sent in JSON format.

Using the JSON extractor is easy: once a Graylog input receives messages in JSON format, you can create an extractor by going to *System -> Inputs* and clicking on the *Manage extractors* button for that input. Next, you need to load a message to extract data from, and select the field containing the JSON document. The following page let you add some extra information to tell Graylog how it should extract the information. Let's illustrate how a message would be extracted with an example message:

```
{"level": "ERROR", "details": {"message": "This is an example error message",
↳ "controller": "IndexController", "tags": ["one", "two", "three"]}}
```

Using the default settings, that message would be extracted into these fields:

details.tags one, two, three

level ERROR

details.controller IndexController

details.message This is an example error message

In the create extractor page, you can also customize how to separate list of elements, keys, and key/values. It is also possible to flatten JSON structures or expand them into multiple fields, as shown in the example above.

Automatically extract all key=value pairs

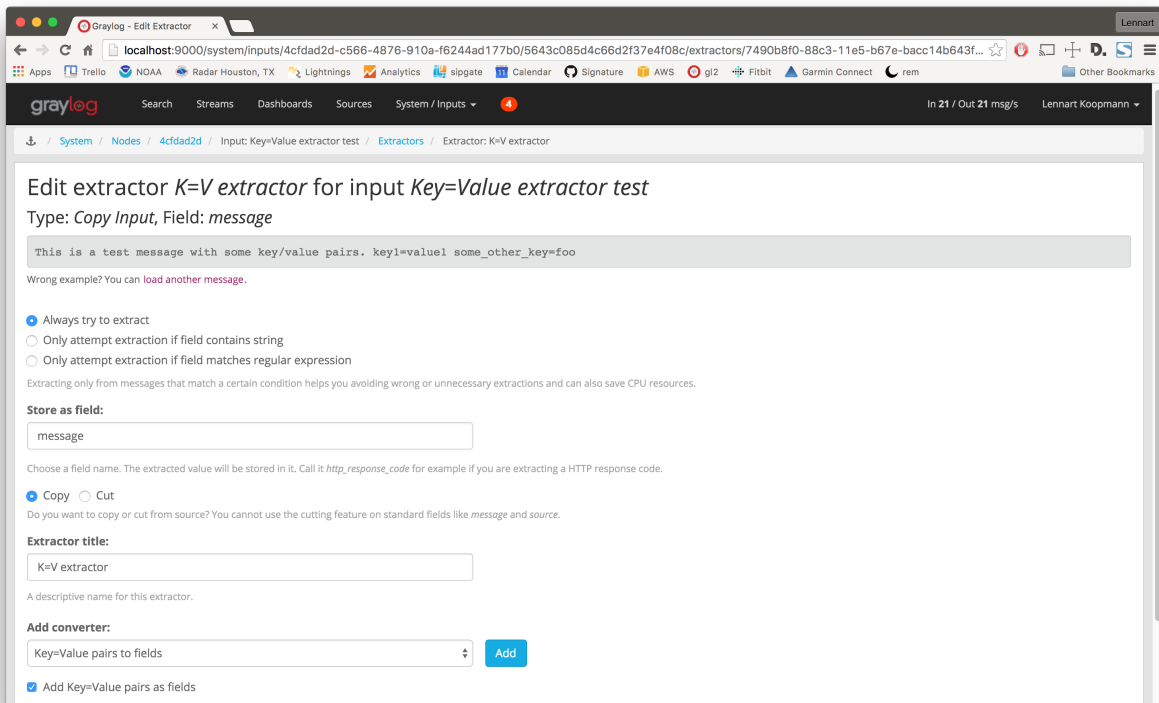
Sometimes you will receive messages like this:

```
This is a test message with some key/value pairs. key1=value1 some_other_key=foo
```

You might want to extract all `key=value` pairs into Graylog message fields without having to specify all possible key names or even their order. This is how you can easily do this:

Create a new extractor of type “Copy Input” and select to read from the field `message`. (Or any other string field that contains `key=value` pairs.) Configure the extractor to store the (copied) field value to the same field. In this case `message`. The trick is to add the “Key=Value pairs to fields” converter as last step. Because we use the “Copy Input” extractor, the converter will run over the complete field you selected and convert all `key=value` pairs it can find.

This is a screenshot of the complete extractor configuration:



... and this is the resulting message:

The screenshot shows the Graylog Messages interface. At the top, there's a 'Messages' header with navigation buttons 'Previous', '1' (selected), and 'Next'. Below the header, a table lists messages. The selected message has a timestamp of '2015-11-11 16:27:59.310' and source 'sundaysister.local'. The message body is 'This is a test message with some key/value pairs. key1=value1 some_other_key=foo'. Below the message body, there's a checkbox for '768535f0-88c3-11e5-b67e-bacc14b643f0' and buttons for 'Permalink', 'Copy ID', and 'Test against stream'. On the left, there's a sidebar with 'Received by' (Key=Value extractor test on 4cfdad2d / 10.1.10.79), 'Stored in index' (graylog2_2), and 'Routed into streams' (Forward to Splunk). On the right, there's a list of fields with search icons: facility (gelf-rb), file (irb), key1 (value1), level (6), line (5), message (This is a test message with some key/value pairs. key1=value1 some_other_key=foo), some_other_key (foo), source (sundaysister.local), and version (1.0).

Normalization

Many log formats are similar to each other, but not quite the same. In particular they often only differ in the names attached to pieces of information.

For example, consider different hardware firewall vendors, whose models log the destination IP in different fields of the message, some use `dstip`, some `dst` and yet others use `destination-address`:

```
2004-10-13 10:37:17 PDT Packet Length=50824, Source address=172.17.22.108, Source
↳port=829, Destination address=192.168.70.66, Destination port=513
2004-10-13 10:37:17 PDT len=50824 src=172.17.22.108 sport=829 dst=192.168.70.66
↳dport=513
2004-10-13 10:37:17 PDT length="50824" srcip="172.17.22.108" srcport="829" dstip="192.
↳168.70.66" dstport="513"
```

You can use one or more non-capturing groups to specify the alternatives of the field names, but still be able to extract the a parentheses group in the regular expression. Remember that Graylog will extract data from the first matched group of the regular expression. An example of a regular expression matching the destination IP field of all those log messages from above is:

```
(?:dst|dstip|[dD]estination\saddress)="?(\\d{1,3}\\d{1,3}\\d{1,3}\\d{1,3})"?
```

This will only extract the IP address without caring about which of the three naming schemes was used in the original log message. This way you don't have to set up three different extractors.

The standard date converter

Date parser converters for extractors allow you to convert extracted data into timestamps - Usually used to set the timestamp of a message based on some date it contains. Let's assume we have this message from a network device:

```
<131>: foo-bar-dc3-org-de01: Mar 12 00:45:38: %LINK-3-UPDOWN: Interface_
↪GigabitEthernet0/31, changed state to down
```

Extracting most of the data is not a problem and can be done easily. Using the date in the message (*Mar 12 00:45:38*) as Graylog message timestamp however needs to be done with a date parser converter.

Use a standard extractor rule to select the timestamp and apply the *Date* converter with a format string:

```
MMM dd HH:mm:ss
```

(format string table at the end of this page)

Store as field:

Choose a field name. The extracted value will be stored in it. Call it *http_response_code* for example if you are extracting a HTTP response code.

☒ Copy ☐ Cut

Do you want to copy or cut from source?

Extractor title:


A descriptive name of this extractor.


Add converter:

☒ Convert to date type

Format string: ?

Please note that you cannot use the cutting feature on standard fields like *message* and *source*.

✉ 4765e370-aa42-11e3-a7dd-4c8d79f2b596 

Received by  Cisco System Messages on [fb66b27e](#) / 10.226.163.44

Timestamp: 2014-03-12 00:45:38.000

Index: *graylog2_356*

Actions ▾

facility

local0

level

Error [3]

local_facility

link

local_level

3

message

Interface GigabitEthernet0/31, changed state to down

source

foo-bar-dc3-org-de01

type

updown

Standard date converter format string table

Symbol	Meaning	Presentation	Examples
G	era	text	AD
C	century of era (≥ 0)	number	20
Y	year of era (≥ 0)	year	1996
x	weekyear	year	1996
w	week of weekyear	number	27
e	day of week	number	2
E	day of week	text	Tuesday; Tue
y	year	year	1996
D	day of year	number	189
M	month of year	month	July; Jul; 07
d	day of month	number	10
a	halfday of day	text	PM
K	hour of halfday (0~11)	number	0
h	clockhour of halfday (1~12)	number	12
H	hour of day (0~23)	number	0
k	clockhour of day (1~24)	number	24
m	minute of hour	number	30
s	second of minute	number	55
S	fraction of second	millis	978
z	time zone	text	Pacific Standard Time; PST
Z	time zone offset/id	zone	-0800; -08:00; America/Los_Angeles
'	escape for text	delimiter	
'	single quote	literal	'

The flexible date converter

Now imagine you had one of those devices that send messages that are not so easy to parse because they do not follow a strict timestamp format. Some network devices for example like to send days of the month without adding a padding 0 for the first 9 days. You'll have dates like `Mar 9` and `Mar 10` and end up having problems defining a parser string for that. Or maybe you have something else that is really exotic like just *last wednesday* as timestamp. The flexible date converter is accepting any text data and tries to build a date from that as good as it can.

Examples:

- **Mar 12**, converted at 12:27:00 UTC in the year 2014: 2014-03-12T12:27:00.000
- **2014-3-12 12:27**: 2014-03-12T12:27:00.000
- **Mar 12 2pm**: 2014-03-12T14:00:00.000

Note that the flexible date converter is using UTC as time zone by default unless you have time zone information in the parsed text or have configured another time zone when adding the flexible date converter to an extractor (see this [comprehensive list of time zones](#) available for the flexible date converter).

Message rewriting with Drools

Graylog can optionally use [Drools Expert](#) to evaluate all incoming messages against a user defined rules file. Each message will be evaluated prior to being written to the outputs.

The rule file location is defined in the Graylog configuration file:

```
# Drools Rule File (Use to rewrite incoming log messages)
rules_file = /etc/graylog.d/rules/graylog.drl
```

The rules file is located on the file system with a `.drl` file extension. The rules file can contain multiple rules, queries and functions, as well as some resource declarations like imports, globals, and attributes that are assigned and used by your rules and queries.

For more information on the DRL rules syntax please read the [Drools User Guide](#).

Getting Started

1. Uncomment the `rules_file` line in the Graylog configuration file.
2. Copy the [sample rules file](#) to the location specified in your Graylog configuration file.
3. Modify the rules file to parse/rewrite/filter messages as needed.

Example rules file

This is an example rules file:

```
import org.graylog2.plugin.Message

rule "Rewrite localhost host"
  when
    m : Message( source == "localhost" )
  then
```

```

        m.addField("source", "localhost.example.com" );
        System.out.println( "[Overwrite localhost rule fired] : " + m.toString() );
    end

    rule "Drop UDP and ICMP Traffic from firewall"
        when
            m : Message( getField("full_message") matches "(?i).*(ICMP|UDP) Packet (.
↪|\\n|\\r)*" && source == "firewall" )
        then
            m.setFilterOut(true);
            System.out.println("[Drop all syslog ICMP and UDP traffic] : " + m.toString());
↪);
    end

```

Parsing Message and adding fields

In the following script we turn the PID and the src IP into additional fields:

```

import org.graylog2.plugin.Message
import java.util.regex.Matcher
import java.util.regex.Pattern

// Raw Syslog Apr 18 15:34:58 server01 smtp-glass[3371]: NEW (1/0) on=1.1.1.1:9100,
↪src=2.2.2.2:38776, ident=, dst=3.3.3.3:25, id=1303151698.3371
rule "SMTP Glass Logging to GELF"
    when
        m : Message( message matches "^smtp-glass.*" )
    then
        Matcher matcher = Pattern.compile("smtp-glass\\[(\\d+)].* src (\\d+\\.\\d+\\.
↪\\d+\\.\\d+)").matcher(m.getMessage());
        if (matcher.find()) {
            m.addField("_pid", Long.valueOf(matcher.group(1)));
            m.addField("_src", matcher.group(2));
        }
    end

```

Another example: Adding additional fields and changing the message itself

We send Squid access logs to Graylog using Syslog. The problem is that the *host* field of the message was set to the IP address of the Squid proxy, which not very useful. This rule overwrites the source and adds other fields:

```

import org.graylog2.plugin.Message
import java.util.regex.Matcher
import java.util.regex.Pattern
import java.net.InetAddress;

/*
Raw Syslog: squid[2099]: 1339551529.881 55647 1.2.3.4 TCP_MISS/200 22 GET http://www.
↪google.com/

squid\\[\\d+\\]: (\\d+\\.\\d+\\.\\d+) *(\\d+) *(\\d+\\.\\d+\\.\\d+\\.\\d+) *(\\w+\\/\\w+) (\\d+) (\\w+) (\\d+)
matched: 13:1339551529.881
matched: 29:55647
matched: 35:1.2.3.4

```

```

matched: 47:TCP_MISS/200
matched: 60:22
matched: 64:GET
matched: 68:http://www.google.com/
*/

rule "Squid Logging to GELF"
  when
    m : Message( getField("facility") == "local5" )
  then
    Matcher matcher = Pattern.compile("squid\\[\\d+\\]: (\\d+\\.\\d+) *(\\d+)␣
↪*(\\d+\\.\\d+\\.\\d+\\.\\d+) *(\\w+\\/\\w+) (\\d+) (\\w+) (.*)" ).matcher(m.getMessage());

    if (matcher.find()) {
      m.addField("facility", "squid");
      InetAddress addr = InetAddress.getByName(matcher.group(3));
      String host = addr.getHostName();
      m.addField("source", host);
      m.addField("message", matcher.group(6) + " " + matcher.group(7));
      m.addField("_status", matcher.group(4));
      m.addField("_size", matcher.group(5));
    }
  end

```

Blacklisting messages

You can also use Drools rules to blacklist messages. How to do this is described [here](#).

CHAPTER 12

Blacklisting

If you have messages coming into Graylog that should be discarded before being written to Elasticsearch or forwarded to another system you can use *Drools rules* to perform custom filtering.

The rule file location is defined in the Graylog configuration file:

```
# Drools Rule File (Use to rewrite incoming log messages)
rules_file = /etc/graylog.d/rules/graylog.drl
```

The rules file is located on the file system with a `.drl` file extension. The rules file can contain multiple rules, queries and functions, as well as some resource declarations like imports, globals, and attributes that are assigned and used by your rules and queries.

For more information on the DRL rules syntax please read the [Drools User Guide](#).

How to

The general idea is simple: Any Message marked with `setFilterOut(true)` will be discarded when processed in the Graylog filter chain. You can either *write and load your own filter plugin* that can execute any Java code to mark messages or just use the *Drools rules*. The following example shows how to do this.

Based on regular expressions

Put this into your `rules_file`:

```
import org.graylog2.plugin.Message
import java.util.regex.Matcher
import java.util.regex.Pattern

rule "Blacklist all messages that start with 'firewall'"
when
    m : Message( message matches "^firewall.*" )
```

```
    then
      System.out.println("DEBUG: Blacklisting message."); // Don't do this in
↳production.
      m.setFilterOut(true);
    end
```

This rule will blacklist any message that starts with the string “firewall” (matches `^firewall.*`).

Load balancer integration

When running multiple Graylog servers a common deployment scenario is to route the message traffic through an IP load balancer. By doing this we can achieve both a highly available setup, as well as increasing message processing throughput, by simply adding more servers that operate in parallel.

Load balancer state

However, load balancers usually need some way of determining whether a backend service is reachable and healthy or not. For this purpose Graylog exposes a load balancer state that is reachable via its REST API.

There are two ways the load balancer state can change:

- due to a lifecycle change (e.g. the server is starting to accept messages, or shutting down)
- due to manual intervention via the REST API

To query the current load balancer status of a Graylog instance, all you need to do is to issue a HTTP call to its REST API:

```
GET /system/lbstatus
```

The status knows two different states, `ALIVE` and `DEAD`, which is also the `text/plain` response of the resource. Additionally, the same information is reflected in the HTTP status codes: If the state is `ALIVE` the return code will be `200 OK`, for `DEAD` it will be `503 Service unavailable`. This is done to make it easier to configure a wide range of load balancer types and vendors to be able to react to the status.

The resource is accessible without authentication to make it easier for load balancers to access it.

To programmatically change the load balancer status, an additional endpoint is exposed:

```
PUT /system/lbstatus/override/alive
PUT /system/lbstatus/override/dead
```

Only authenticated and authorized users are able to change the status, in the currently released Graylog version this means only admin users can change it.

Graceful shutdown

Often, when running a service behind a load balancer, the goal is to be able to perform zero-downtime upgrades, by taking one of the servers offline, upgrading it, and then bringing it back online. During that time the remaining servers can take the load seamlessly.

By using the load balancer status API described above one can already perform such a task. However, it would still be guesswork when the Graylog server is done processing all the messages it already accepted.

For this purpose Graylog supports a graceful shutdown command, also accessible via the web interface and API. It will set the load balancer status to `DEAD`, stop all inputs, turn on messages processing (should it have been disabled manually previously), and flush all messages in memory to Elasticsearch. After all buffers and caches are processed, it will shut itself down safely.

Web Interface

It is possible to use the Graylog web interface behind a load balancer for high availability purposes.

However, in order to make the various metrics work in Graylog's web interface, you need to enable sticky sessions in your load balancer, or configure the second instance to be a failover instance only, which only gets requests in case the first instance is no longer reachable.

There are various terms used for sticky sessions. Session persistence or session management are also in use.

Please refer to your vendor's documentation to learn about how to enable sticky sessions.

Information for some popular load balancers and their settings can be found through the following links:

- [Amazon Web Services ELB](#)
- [HAProxy](#)
- [F5 BIG-IP](#)
- [KEMP](#)

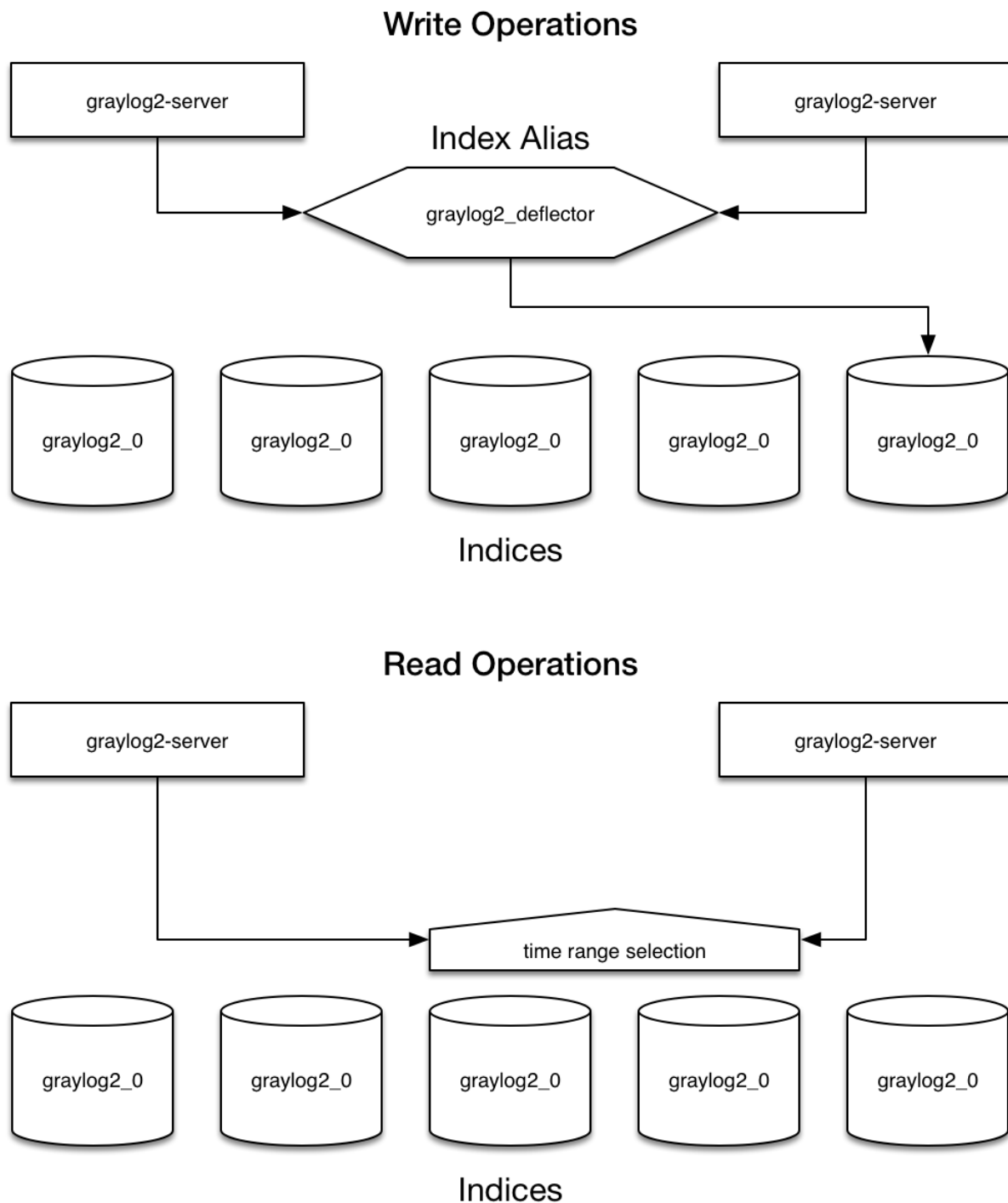
The Graylog index model explained

Overview

Graylog is transparently managing a set of indices to optimise search and analysis operations for speed and low resource utilisation. The system is maintaining an index alias called *graylog_deflector* that is always pointing to the current write-active index. We always have exactly one index to which new messages are appended until the configured maximum size (`elasticsearch_max_docs_per_index` in your `graylog.conf`) is reached.

A background task is running every minute and checks if the maximum size is reached. A new index is created and prepared when that happens. Once the index is considered to be ready to be written to, the `graylog_deflector` is atomically switched to the it. That means that all writing nodes can always write to the deflector alias without even knowing what the currently active write-active index is.

Note that there are also time based retention settings since v1.0 of Graylog. This allows you to instruct Graylog to keep messages based on their age and not the total amount. You can find the corresponding configuration settings in your `graylog.conf`.



Almost every read operation is performed with a given time range. Because Graylog is only writing sequentially it can keep a cached collection of information about which index starts at what point in time. It selects a lists of indices to query when having a time range provided. If no time range is provided it will search in all indices it knows.

Eviction of indices and messages

You have configured the maximum number of indices in your `graylog.conf` (`elasticsearch_max_number_of_indices`). When that number is reached the oldest indices will automatically be deleted. The deleting is performed by the *graylog-server* master node in a background process that is continuously comparing the actual number of indices with the configured maximum:

```
elasticsearch_max_docs_per_index * elasticsearch_max_number_of_indices
= maximum number of messages stored
```

Keeping the metadata in synchronisation

Graylog will notify you when the stored metadata about index time ranges has run out of sync. This can for example happen when you delete indices by hand. The system will offer you to just re-generate all time range information. This may take a few seconds but is an easy task for Graylog.

You can easily re-build the information yourself after manually deleting indices or doing other changes that might cause synchronisation problems:

```
$ curl -XPOST http://127.0.0.1:12900/system/indices/ranges/rebuild
```

This will trigger a systemjob:

```
INFO : org.graylog2.system.jobs.SystemJobManager - Submitted SystemJob <ef7057c0-5ae3-
↳11e3-b935-4c8d79f2b596> [org.graylog2.indexer.ranges.RebuildIndexRangesJob]
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.ranges.RebuildIndexRangesJob - Re-calculating index_
↳ranges.
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.ranges.RebuildIndexRangesJob - Calculated range of_
↳[graylog2_56] in [640ms].
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.ranges.RebuildIndexRangesJob - Calculated range of_
↳[graylog2_18] in [66ms].
...
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.ranges.RebuildIndexRangesJob - Done calculating index_
↳ranges for 88 indices. Took 4744ms.
INFO : org.graylog2.system.jobs.SystemJobManager - SystemJob <ef7057c0-5ae3-11e3-b935-
↳4c8d79f2b596> [org.graylog2.indexer.ranges.RebuildIndexRangesJob] finished in_
↳4758ms.
```

Manually cycling the deflector

Sometimes you might want to cycle the deflector manually and not wait until the configured maximum number of messages in the newest index is reached. You can do this either via a REST call against the *graylog-server* master node or via the web interface:

```
$ curl -XPOST http://127.0.0.1:12900/system/deflector/cycle
```

The screenshot shows the Graylog web interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the query `id AND http) OR http_response_code:[400 TO *]`. Below the search bar, there is a navigation menu on the right with the following items: SYSTEM, Overview, Nodes, Indices, Field mappers, Logging, and Users. A dropdown menu is open under the 'Maintenance' button, showing two options: 'Recalculate index ranges' and 'Manually cycle deflector'. The main content area displays two green status boxes: 'Current write-active index is *graylog2_90*.' and 'Shards: 380 active, 0 initializing, 0 relocating, 0 unassigned'. Below these boxes, there is a section titled 'd operations' with the following text: '1,504 ops (took a few seconds)', '0 ops', and '58 ops (took a few seconds)'.

This triggers the following log output:

```
INFO : org.graylog2.rest.resources.system.DeflectorResource - Cycling deflector.
↳ Reason: REST request.
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Cycling deflector to next index now.
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Cycling from <graylog2_90> to <graylog2_91>
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Creating index target <graylog2_91>...
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Done!
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Pointing deflector to new target index....
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Flushing old index <graylog2_90>.
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Setting old index <graylog2_90> to read-only.
INFO : org.graylog2.system.jobs.SystemJobManager - Submitted SystemJob <a05e0d60-5c34-
↳ 11e3-8df7-4c8d79f2b596> [org.graylog2.indexer.indices.jobs.OptimizeIndexJob]
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.Deflector - Done!
INFO : org.graylog2.indexer.indices.jobs.OptimizeIndexJob - Optimizing index
↳ <graylog2_90>.
INFO : org.graylog2.system.jobs.SystemJobManager - SystemJob <a05e0d60-5c34-11e3-8df7-
↳ 4c8d79f2b596> [org.graylog2.indexer.indices.jobs.OptimizeIndexJob] finished in
↳ 334ms.
```

Indexer failures and dead letters

Indexer failures

Every `graylog-server` instance is constantly keeping track about every indexing operation it performs. This is important for making sure that you are not silently losing any messages. The web interface can show you a number of write operations that failed and also a list of failed operations. Like any other information in the web interface this is also available via the REST APIs so you can hook it into your own monitoring systems.

The screenshot shows the Graylog2 web interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Apps, Feeds, salesforce, mgmt, Calendar, Analytics, sligate, Signature, ECS, EC2, Chartbeat, Pipedrive, MMS, gl2, DB Corporate, HelpScout, and Other Bookmarks. The main content area is titled "GRAYLOG2" and has tabs for Search, Streams, Dashboards, Sources, and System. A warning message at the top states: "There are Elasticsearch nodes in the cluster that have a too low open file limit, (below 64000) this will be causing problems that can be hard to diagnose. Read how to raise the maximum number of open files in the documentation." Below this, the "Active system jobs" section shows "No active system jobs." The "ElasticSearch cluster" section shows "ElasticSearch cluster is green." and "Shards: 8 assigned, 0 initializing, 0 relocating, 0 unassigned." The "Indexer failures" section is highlighted with a red box and shows "No failed indexing attempts in the last 24 hours." A red arrow points to the "Indexer failures" section. The "System messages" section shows a list of messages with columns for Timestamp, Node, and Message.

Timestamp	Node	Message
2014-08-01T17:00:15.598+02:00	3c1749a2-b7ae-4e23-b761-f0b666e50e36	Added static field [version] to input <53dbab66e4b0f9f5ac4ba56a>.
2014-08-01T16:59:50.227+02:00	3c1749a2-b7ae-4e23-b761-f0b666e50e36	Completed starting [org.graylog2.inputs.misc.jsonpath.jsonPathInput] input with ID <53dbab66e4b0f9f5ac4ba56a>
2014-07-29T10:07:41.182+02:00	3c1749a2-b7ae-4e23-b761-f0b666e50e36	Deleted widget <1718528e-9715-4605-a89b-c2c53373f117> from dashboard <52d510f0e4b00da57c144be2>. Reason: REST request.
2014-07-21T03:47:05.767+02:00	3c1749a2-b7ae-4e23-b761-f0b666e50e36	Systemjob <ca8405c0-1077-11e4-a13b-12313c013090> [org.graylog2.indexer.indices.jobs.OptimizeIndexJob] finished in 484488ms.
2014-07-21T03:39:01.278+02:00	3c1749a2-b7ae-4e23-b761-f0b666e50e36	Cycled deflector from <graylog2_2> to <graylog2_3>
2014-07-21T03:39:01.278+02:00	3c1749a2-b7ae-4e23-b761-f0b666e50e36	Optimizing index <graylog2_2>.
2014-07-21T03:39:01.262+02:00	3c1749a2-b7ae-4e23-b761-f0b666e50e36	Systemjob <c9fbae00-1077-11e4-a13b-12313c013090> [org.graylog2.indexer.ranges.RebuildIndexRangesJob] finished in 873ms.

Information about the indexing failure is stored in a capped MongoDB collection that is limited in size. A lot (many tens of thousands) of failure messages should fit in there but it should not be considered a complete collection of all errors ever thrown.

Dead letters

This is an experimental feature. You can enable the dead letters feature in your `graylog-server.conf` like this:

```
dead_letters_enabled = true
```

Graylog will write every message that could not be written to Elasticsearch into the MongoDB `dead_letters` collection. The messages will be waiting there for you to be processed in some other way. You could write a script that reads every message from there and transforms it in a way that will allow Graylog to accept it.

A dead letter in MongoDB has exactly the structure (in the `message` field) like the message that would have been written to the indices:

```
$ mongo
MongoDB shell version: 2.4.1
connecting to: test
> use graylog2
switched to db graylog2
> db.dead_letters.find().limit(1).pretty()
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("530a951b3004ada55961ee22"),
  "message" : {
    "timestamp" : "2014-02-24 00:40:59.121",
    "message" : "failing",
    "failure" : "haha",
    "level" : NumberLong(6),
    "_id" : "544575a0-9cec-11e3-b502-4c8d79f2b596",
    "facility" : "gelf-rb",
    "source" : "sundaysister",
    "gl2_source_input" : "52ef64d03004faafd4bb0fc2",
    "gl2_source_node" : "fb66b27e-993c-4595-940f-dd521dcdaa93",
    "file" : "(irb)",
    "line" : NumberLong(37),
    "streams" : [ ],
    "version" : "1.0"
  },
  "timestamp" : ISODate("2014-02-24T00:40:59.137Z"),
  "letter_id" : "54466000-9cec-11e3-b502-4c8d79f2b596"
}
```

The `timestamp` is the moment in time when the message could not be written to the indices and the `letter_id` references to the failed indexing attempt and its error message.

Every failed indexing attempt comes with a field called `written` that indicates if a dead letter was created or not:

```
> db.index_failures.find().limit(1).pretty()
{
  "_id" : ObjectId("530a951b3004ada55961ee23"),
  "timestamp" : ISODate("2014-02-24T00:40:59.136Z"),
  "message" : "MapperParsingException[failed to parse [failure]]; nested: ↵
↵NumberFormatException[For input string: \"haha\"]; ",
  "index" : "graylog2_324",
```

```
"written" : true,  
"letter_id" : "54466000-9cec-11e3-b502-4c8d79f2b596",  
"type" : "message"  
}
```

Common indexer failure reasons

There are some common failures that can occur under certain circumstances. Those are explained here:

MapperParsingException

An error message would look like this:

```
MapperParsingException[failed to parse [failure]]; nested: NumberFormatException[For  
↪input string: "some string value"];
```

You tried to write a `string` into a numeric field of the index. The indexer tried to convert it to a number, but failed because the `string` did contain characters that could not be converted.

This can be triggered by for example sending GELF messages with different field types or extractors trying to write strings without converting them to numeric values first. **The recommended solution is to actively decide on field types.** If you sent in a field like `http_response_code` with a numeric value then you should never change that type in the future.

The same can happen with all other field types like for example booleans.

Note that index cycling is something to keep in mind here. The first type written to a field per index wins. If the Graylog index cycles then the field types are starting from scratch for that index. If the first message written to that index has the `http_response_code` set as `string` then it will be a `string` until the index cycles the next time. Take a look at [The Graylog index model explained](#) for more information.

CHAPTER 16

Users and Roles

Graylog has a granular permission system which secures the access to its features. Each interaction which can look at data or change configuration in Graylog must be performed as an authenticated user.

Each user can have varying levels of access to Graylog's features, which can be controlled with assigning roles to users.

The following sections describe the capabilities of users and roles **and also how to use LDAP for authentication**.

Users

It is recommended to create an account for each individual user accessing Graylog.

User accounts have the usual properties such as a login name, email address, full name, password etc. In addition to these fields, you can also configure the session timeout, roles and timezone.

graylog Search Streams Dashboards Sources System / Users ▾ In 36 / Out 36 msg/s Administrator ▾

⚓ / System / Users / New

Create new user

Use this page to create new Graylog users. The users and their permissions created here are not limited to the web interface but valid and required for the REST APIs of your Graylog server nodes, too.

Username
Select a unique user name used to log in with.

Full Name
Give a descriptive name for this account, e.g. the full name.

Email Address
Give the contact email address.

Password
Passwords must be at least 6 characters long. We recommend using a strong password.

Roles
Assign the relevant roles to this user to grant them access to the relevant streams and dashboards.
The *Reader* role grants basic access to the system and will be enabled.
The *Admin* role grants access to everything in Graylog.

☐ Sessions do not time out
When checked sessions never time out due to inactivity.

Timeout
Session automatically end after this amount of time, unless they are actively used.

Time Zone
Choose your local time zone or leave it as it is to use the system's default.

Sessions

Each login for a user creates a session, which is bound to the browser the user is currently using. Whenever the user interacts with Graylog this session is extended.

For security reasons you will want to have Graylog expire sessions after a certain period of inactivity. Once the interval specified by `timeout` expires the user will be logged out of the system. Requests like displaying throughput statistics do not extend the session, which means that if the user keeps Graylog open in a browser tab, but does not interact with it, their session will expire as if the browser was closed.

Logging out explicitly terminates the session.

Timezone

Since Graylog internally processes and stores messages in the UTC timezone, it is important to set the correct timezone for each user.

Even though the system defaults are often enough to display correct times, in case your team is spread across different timezones, each user can be assigned and change their respective timezone setting. You can find the current timezone

settings for the various components on the *System -> Overview* page of your Graylog web interface.

Initial Roles

Each user needs to be assigned at least one role, which governs the basic set of permissions this user has in Graylog.

Normal users, which do not need to create inputs, outputs or perform administrative tasks like managing access control etc, should be assigned the built in `Reader` role in addition to the custom roles which grant access to streams and dashboards.

Roles

In Graylog, roles are named collections of individual permissions which can be assigned to users. Previous Graylog versions could only assign individual permissions to each user in the system, making updating stream or dashboard permissions for a large group of users difficult to deal with.

Starting in Graylog 1.2 you can create roles which bundle permissions to streams and dashboards. These roles can then be assigned to any number of users and later be updated to include new streams and dashboards.

Name	Description	Actions
Admin	Permissions for Graylog administrators (built-in)	
Developers	Grants access to test system logs	Delete Edit
Network Ops	All network hardware logs	Delete Edit
Product Management	Business KPI dashboards	Delete Edit
Reader	Grants basic permissions for every Graylog user (built-in)	

The two roles `Admin` and `Reader` are built in and cannot be changed. The `Admin` role grants all permissions and should only be assigned to users operating Graylog. The `Reader` role grants the basic permissions every user needs to be able to use Graylog. The interface will ensure that every user at least has the `Reader` role in addition to more business specific roles you create.

Roles cannot be deleted as long as users are still assigned to them, to prevent accidentally locking users out.

Create a role

In order to create a new role, choose the green *Add new role* button on the *System -> Roles* page.

This will display a dialog allowing you to describe the new role and select the permissions it grants.

graylog

SearchStreamsDashboardsSourcesSystem / Roles

In 37 / Out 37 msg/sAdministrator

Roles

Roles bundle permissions which can be assigned to multiple users at once

Create a new role

Name

Description

Permissions

Select the permissions for this role

Streams

Dashboards

Filter Streams

<input type="checkbox"/> Select all	
<input type="checkbox"/> nginx requests	<input type="button" value="Allow reading"/> <input type="button" value="Allow editing"/>
All requests that were logged into the nginx_access_log	
<input type="checkbox"/> nginx HTTP 4XXs	<input type="button" value="Allow reading"/> <input type="button" value="Allow editing"/>
All requests that were answered with a HTTP code in the 400 range by nginx	
<input type="checkbox"/> nginx HTTP 5XXs	<input type="button" value="Allow reading"/> <input type="button" value="Allow editing"/>
All requests that were answered with a HTTP code in the 500 range by nginx	
<input type="checkbox"/> nginx errors	<input type="button" value="Allow reading"/> <input type="button" value="Allow editing"/>
All requests that were logged into the nginx_error_log	

Please name the role and select at least one permission to save it.

After naming the role, select the permissions you want to grant using the buttons to the right of the respective stream or dashboard names. For each stream or dashboard you can select whether to grant `edit` or `read` permissions, but note that edit permissions always imply read permissions as well.

In case you have many streams or dashboards you can use the filter to narrow the list down, and use the checkboxes on the left hand side of the table to select multiple items. You can then use the bulk action buttons on the right hand side to toggle the permissions for all of the selected items at once.

Roles
Roles bundle permissions which can be assigned to multiple users at once

Create a new role

Name
Developer

Description
Grants access to error logs for debugging

Permissions
Select the permissions for this role

Streams **Dashboards**

Filter Streams **Filter** **Reset**

Permission	Allow reading	Allow editing
<input type="checkbox"/> Select all	Toggle read permissions	Toggle edit permissions
<input type="checkbox"/> nginx requests All requests that were logged into the nginx access_log	Allow reading	Allow editing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> nginx HTTP 4XXs All requests that were answered with a HTTP code in the 400 range by nginx	Allow reading	Allow editing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> nginx HTTP 5XXs All requests that were answered with a HTTP code in the 500 range by nginx	Allow reading	Allow editing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> nginx errors All requests that were logged into the nginx error_log	Allow reading	Allow editing

Please name the role and select at least one permission to save it.

Save **Cancel**

Once you are done, be sure to save your changes. The save button is disabled until you select at least one permission.

Editing a role

Administrators can edit roles to add or remove access to new streams and dashboards in the system. The two built in `Admin` and `Reader` roles cannot be edited or deleted because they are vital for Graylog's permission system.

Simply choose the *edit* button on the *System -> Roles* page and change the settings of the role in the following page:

Roles
Roles bundle permissions which can be assigned to multiple users at once

Edit role Developers

Name
Developers

Description
Grants access to test system logs

Permissions
Select the permissions for this role

Streams Dashboards

Filter Streams Filter Reset

☐ Select all

- ☐ nginx requests
All requests that were logged into the nginx access_log
- ☐ nginx HTTP 4XXs
All requests that were answered with a HTTP code in the 400 range by nginx
- ☐ nginx HTTP 5XXs
All requests that were answered with a HTTP code in the 500 range by nginx
- ☐ nginx errors
All requests that were logged into the nginx error_log

Save Cancel

You can safely rename the role as well as updating its description, the existing role assignment for users will be kept.

Deleting a role

Deleting roles checks whether a role still has users assigned to it, to avoid accidentally locking users out. If you want to remove a role, please remove it from all users first.

System users

The Graylog permission system is extremely flexible and allows you to create users that are only allowed to perform certain REST calls. The [Roles](#) UI allows you to create roles based on stream or dashboard access but does not expose permissions on a REST call level yet. This guide describes how to create those roles using the Graylog REST API.

Let's imagine we want to create a role that is only allowed to start or stop message processing on `graylog-server` nodes.

REST call permissions

Almost every REST call in Graylog has to be authenticated or it will return a HTTP 403 (Forbidden). In addition to that the requesting user also has to have the permissions to execute the REST call. A Graylog admin user can always

execute all calls and roles based on the standard stream or dashboard permissions can execute calls related to those entities.

If you want to create a user that can only execute calls to start or stop message processing you have to find the name of the required permission first. Until we include this functionality in the Graylog UI you'll have to look directly into the code. The permissions are listed in the `RestPermissions` class which you can find on [GitHub](#). (Make sure to select a branch that reflects your current `graylog-server` version.)

The permission you are searching for in this case is:

```
public static final String PROCESSING_CHANGESTATE = "processing:changestate";
```

Creating the role

You can create a new role using the REST API like this:

```
curl -v -XPOST -H 'Content-Type: application/json' 'http://ADMIN:PASSWORD@graylog.
↳example.org:12900/roles' -d '{"read_only": false, "permissions": [
↳"processing:changestate"], "name": "Change processing state", "description":
↳"Permission to start or stop processing on graylog-server nodes"}'
```

Notice the `processing:changestate` permission that we assigned. Every user with this role will be able to execute only calls that start or stop processing on `graylog-server` nodes. (and also the standard reader permissions that do not provide any access to data or maintenance functionalities though.)

This is the POST body in an easier to read formatting:

```
{
  "name": "Change processing state",
  "description": "Permission to start or stop processing on graylog-server nodes",
  "permissions": [
    "processing:changestate"
  ],
  "read_only": false
}
```

Assigning the role to a user

Create a new user in the Graylog Web Interface and assign the new role to it:

Create new user
Use this page to create new Graylog users. The users and their permissions created here are not limited to the web interface but valid and required for the REST APIs of your Graylog server nodes, too.

Username
Select a unique user name used to log in with.

Full Name
Give a descriptive name for this account, e.g. the full name.

Email Address
Give the contact email address.

Password
Passwords must be at least 6 characters long. We recommend using a strong password.

Roles

Assign the relevant roles to this user to grant them access to the relevant streams and dashboards.
The *Reader* role grants basic access to the system and will be enabled.
The *Admin* role grants access to everything in Graylog.

☐ Sessions do not time out
When checked sessions never time out due to inactivity.

Timeout

Every user needs to at least have the standard `reader` permissions but those do not provide any access to data or maintenance functionalities.

Now request the user information to see what permissions have been assigned:

```
$ curl -XGET 'http://ADMIN:PASSWORD@graylog.example.org:12900/users/maintenanceuser?pretty=true'
{
  "id" : "563d1024d4c63709999c4ac2",
  "username" : "maintenanceuser",
  "email" : "it-ops@example.org",
  "full_name" : "Rock Solid",
  "permissions" : [
    "indexercluster:read",
    "messagecount:read",
    "journal:read",
    "inputs:read",
    "metrics:read",
    "processing:changestate",
    "savedsearches:edit",
    "fieldnames:read",
    "buffers:read",
    "system:read",
    "users:edit:maintenanceuser",
    "users:passwordchange:maintenanceuser",
    "savedsearches:create",
    "jvmstats:read",
    "throughput:read",
    "savedsearches:read",
    "messages:read"
  ],
}
```



```
"preferences" : {
  "updateUnfocussed" : false,
  "disableExpensiveUpdates" : false,
  "enableSmartSearch" : true
},
"timezone" : "America/Chicago",
"session_timeout_ms" : 300000,
"read_only" : false,
"external" : false,
"startpage" : { },
"roles" : [
  "Change processing state",
  "Reader"
]
}
```

Now you can use this user in your maintenance scripts or automated tasks.

External authentication

LDAP / Active Directory

It is possible to use an external LDAP or Active Directory server to perform user authentication in Graylog. Since version 1.2, you can also use LDAP groups to perform authorization by mapping them to Graylog roles.

Configuration

To set up your LDAP or Active Directory server, go to *System -> Users -> Configure LDAP*. Once LDAP is enabled, you need to provide some details about the server. Please test the server connection before continuing to the next steps.

User mapping

In order to be able to look for users in the LDAP server you configured, Graylog needs to know some more details about it: the base tree to limit user search queries, the pattern used to look for users, and the field containing the full name of the user. You can test the configuration any time by using the login test form that you can find at the bottom of that page.

Login Test

Login ok!

Loads the LDAP entry for the given user name. If you omit the password, no authentication attempt will be made.

✓ User check ✓ Login check

LDAP attributes of the user

uid
foobar
uidnumber
1000
mail
foobar@graylog.test
homedirectory
/home/foo
givenname
Foo
gidnumber
501
sn
Bar
cn
Foo Bar
objectclass
posixAccount

LDAP Groups of the user

The login test information will indicate if Graylog was able to load the given user (and perform authentication, if a password was provided), and it will display all LDAP attributes belonging to the user, as you can see in the screenshot.

That's it for the basic LDAP configuration. Don't forget to save your settings at this point!

Group mapping

You can additionally control the default permissions for users logging in with LDAP or Active Directory by mapping LDAP groups into Graylog roles. That is extremely helpful if you already use LDAP groups to authorize users in your organization, as you can control the default permissions members of LDAP groups will have.

Once you configure group mapping, Graylog will rely on your LDAP groups to assign roles into users. That means that each time an LDAP user logs into Graylog, their roles will be assigned based on the LDAP groups their belong to.

In first place, you need to fill in the details in the *Group Mapping* section under *System -> Users -> Configure LDAP*, by giving the base where to limit group searches, a pattern used to look for groups, and the group name attribute.

Then you need to select which default user role will be assigned to any users authenticated with the LDAP server should have. It is also possible to assign additional roles to any users logging in with LDAP. Please refer to [Roles](#) for more details about user roles.

Note: Graylog only synchronizes with LDAP when users log in. After changing the default and additional roles for LDAP users, you may need to modify existing users manually or delete them in order to force them to log in again.

You can test the group mapping information by using the login test form, as it will display LDAP groups that the test user belongs to. Save the LDAP settings once you are satisfied with the results.

The screenshot shows the 'LDAP Group mapping' page in the Graylog web interface. The top navigation bar includes the Graylog logo and links for Search, Streams, Dashboards, Sources, and System / Overview. The main heading is 'LDAP Group mapping' with a subtitle 'Map LDAP groups to Graylog roles'. A light blue information box states: 'LDAP groups with no defined mapping will use the defaults set in your LDAP settings.' Below this, there are three rows for mapping LDAP groups to roles: 'Admins' mapped to 'Admin', 'Developers' mapped to 'Dashboards', and 'QA' mapped to 'Reader'. At the bottom of the mapping section are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons.

LDAP Group	Graylog Role
Admins	Admin
Developers	Dashboards
QA	Reader

[Save](#) [Cancel](#)

Finally, in order to map LDAP groups into roles, you need to go to *System -> Users -> LDAP group mapping*. That page will load all available LDAP groups using the configuration you previously provided, and will allow you to select a Graylog role that defines the permissions that group will have inside Graylog.

Note: Loading LDAP groups may take some time in certain configurations, specially if you have many groups. In those cases, creating a better filter for groups may help with the loading times.

Note: Remember that Graylog only synchronizes with LDAP when users log in, so you may need to modify existing users manually after changing the LDAP group mapping.

Troubleshooting

LDAP referrals for groups can be a problem during group mapping, in these cases please manage the user groups manually. In order to do this, the LDAP group settings must not be set.

General information

Graylog comes with a stable plugin API for the following plugin types since Graylog 1.0:

- **Inputs:** Accept/write any messages into Graylog
- **Outputs:** Forward messages to other endpoints in real-time
- **Services:** Run at startup and able to implement any functionality
- **Alarm Callbacks:** Called when a stream alert condition has been triggered
- **Filters:** Transform/drop incoming messages during processing
- **REST API Resources:** A REST resource to expose as part of the `graylog-server` REST API
- **Periodical:** Called at periodical intervals during server runtime

The first step for writing a plugin is creating a skeleton that is the same for each type of plugin. The next chapter is explaining how to do this and will then go over to chapters explaining plugin types in detail.

Creating a plugin skeleton

The easiest way to get started is to use our [maven archetype](#) that will create a complete plugin project infrastructure with all required classes, build definitions, and configurations using an interactive wizard.

Maven is a Java widely used build tool that comes pre-installed on many operating systems or can be installed using most package managers. Make sure that it is installed with at least version 3 before you go on.

Use it like this:

```
$ mvn archetype:generate -DarchetypeGroupId=org.graylog -DarchetypeArtifactId=graylog-  
↪plugin-archetype
```

It will ask you a few questions about the plugin you are planning to build. Let's say you work for a company called ACMECorp and want to build an alarm callback plugin that creates a JIRA ticket for each alarm that is triggered:

```
groupId: com.acmecorp
artifactId: jira-alarmcallback
version: 1.0.0
package: com.acmecorp
pluginClassName: JiraAlarmCallback
```

Note that you do not have to tell the archetype wizard what kind of plugin you want to build because it is creating the generic plugin skeleton for you but nothing that is related to the actual implementation. More on this in the example plugin chapters later.

You now have a new folder called `jira-alarmcallback` that includes a complete plugin skeleton including Maven build files. Every Java IDE out there can now import the project automatically without any required further configuration.

In [IntelliJ IDEA](#) for example you can just use the *File -> Open* dialog to open the skeleton as a fully configured Java project.

Change some default values

Open the `JiraAlarmCallbackMetaData.java` file and customize the default values like the plugin description, the website URI, and so on. Especially the author name etc. should be changed.

Now go on with implementing the actual login in one of the example plugin chapters below.

Example Alarm Callback plugin

Let's assume you still want to build the mentioned JIRA AlarmCallback plugin. First open the `JiraAlarmCallback.java` file and let it implement the `AlarmCallback` interface:

```
public class JiraAlarmCallback implements AlarmCallback
```

Your IDE should offer you to create the methods you need to implement:

public void initialize(Configuration configuration) throws AlarmCallbackConfigurationException

This is called once at the very beginning of the lifecycle of this plugin. It is common practice to store the Configuration as a private member for later access.

public void call(Stream stream, AlertCondition.CheckResult checkResult) throws AlarmCallbackException

This is the actual alarm callback being triggered. Implement your login that creates a JIRA ticket here.

public ConfigurationRequest getRequestedConfiguration()

Plugins can request configurations. The UI in the Graylog web interface is generated from this information and the filled out configuration values are passed back to the plugin in `initialize(Configuration configuration)`.

This is an example configuration request:

```
final ConfigurationRequest configurationRequest = new ConfigurationRequest();
configurationRequest.addField(new TextField(
    "service_key", "Service key", "", "JIRA API token. You can find this token in_
    ↪your account settings.",
    ConfigurationField.Optional.NOT_OPTIONAL)); // required, must be filled out
```

```
configurationRequest.addField(new BooleanField(
    "use_https", "HTTPs", true,
    "Use HTTP for API communication?"));
```

public String getName()

Return a human readable name of this plugin.

public Map<String, Object> getAttributes()

Return attributes that might be interesting to be shown under the alarm callback in the Graylog web interface. It is common practice to at least return the used configuration here.

public void checkConfiguration() throws ConfigurationException

Throw a `ConfigurationException` if the user should have entered missing or invalid configuration parameters.

Registering the plugin

You now have to register your plugin in the `JiraAlarmCallbackModule.java` file to make `graylog-server` load the alarm callback when launching. The reason for the manual registering is that a plugin could consist of multiple plugin types. Think of the generated plugin file as a bundle of multiple plugins.

Register your new plugin using the `configure()` method:

```
@Override
protected void configure() {
    addAlarmCallback(JiraAlarmCallback.class);
}
```

Building plugins

Building the plugin is easy because the archetype has created all necessary files and settings for you. Just run `mvn package` from the plugin directory:

```
$ mvn package
```

This will generate a `.jar` file in `target/` that is the complete plugin file:

```
$ ls target/jira-alarmcallback-1.0.0-SNAPSHOT.jar
target/jira-alarmcallback-1.0.0-SNAPSHOT.jar
```

Installing and loading plugins

The only thing you need to do to run the plugin in Graylog is to copy the `.jar` file to your plugins folder that is configured in your `graylog.conf`. The default is just `plugins/` relative from your `graylog-server` directory.

Restart `graylog-server` and the plugin should be available to use from the web interface immediately.

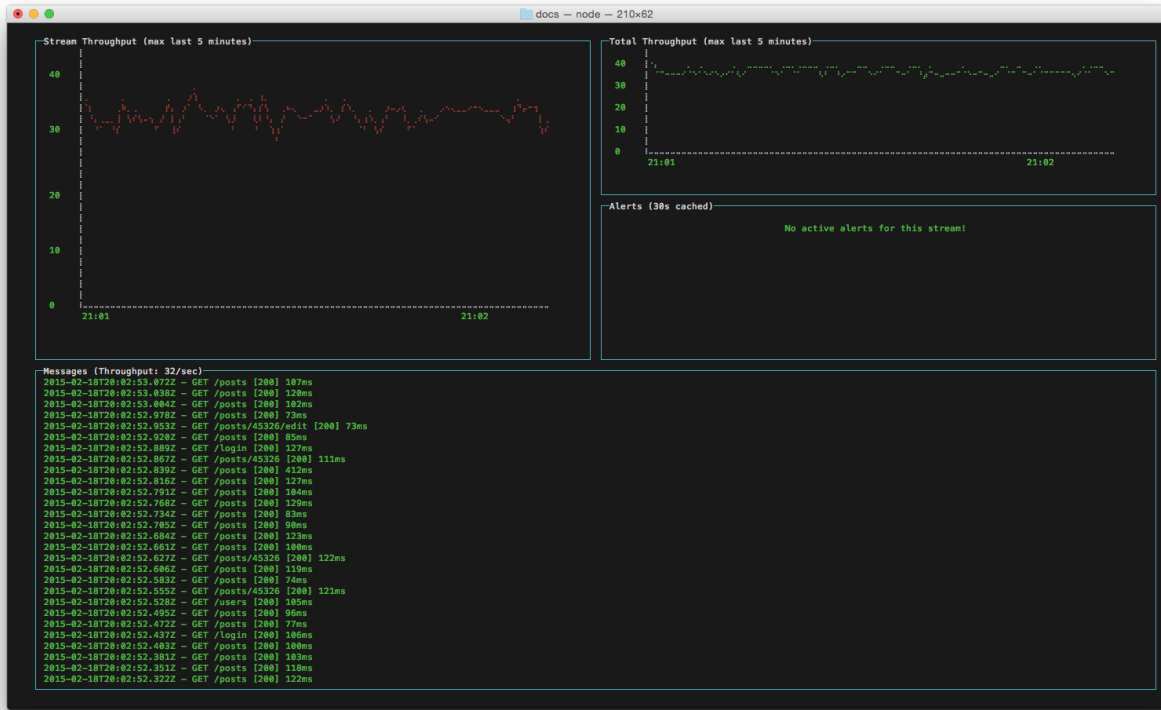
CHAPTER 18

External dashboards

There are other frontends that are connecting to the Graylog REST API and display data or information in a special way.

CLI stream dashboard

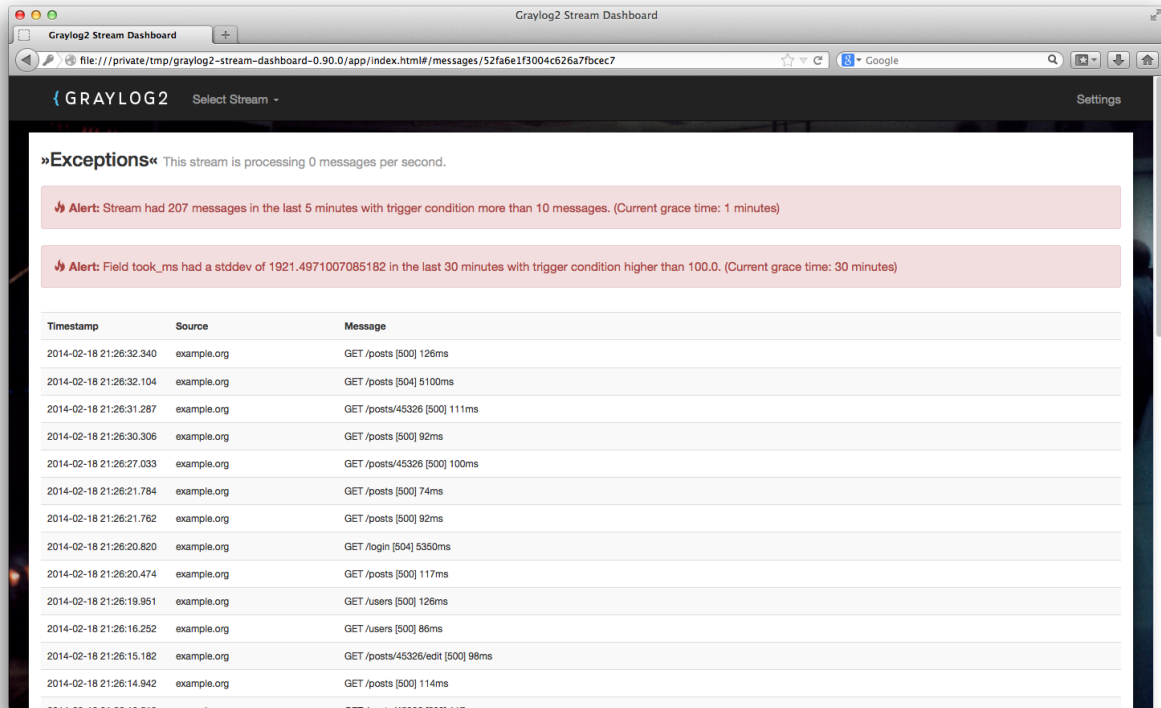
This official Graylog dashboard which is developed by us is showing live information of a specific stream in your terminal. For example it is the perfect companion during a deployment of your platform: Run it next to the deployment output and show information of a stream that is catching all errors or exceptions on your systems.



The CLI stream dashboard documentation is [available on GitHub](#).

Browser stream dashboard

This official Graylog dashboard is showing live information of a specific stream in a web browser. It will display and automatically reload the most recent messages and alerts of a stream and is perfect to display on large screens in your office.

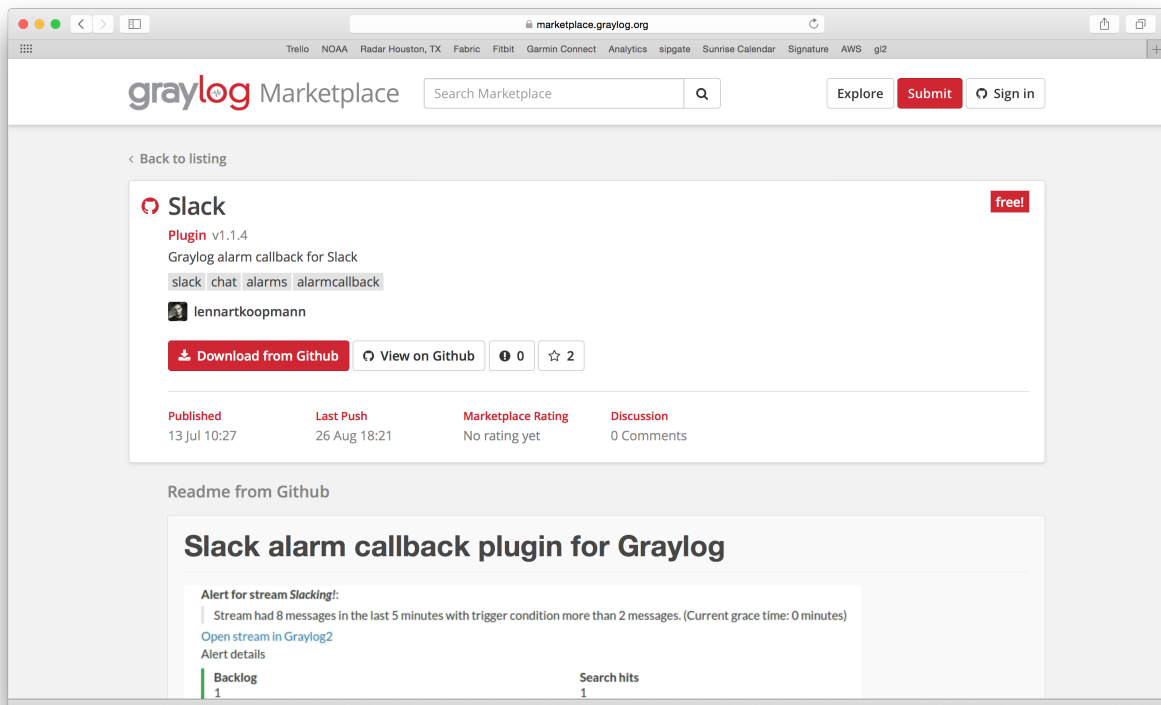


The browser stream dashboard documentation is available on [GitHub](#).

CHAPTER 19

Graylog Marketplace

The [Graylog Marketplace](#) is the central directory of add-ons for Graylog. It contains plugins, content packs, GELF libraries and more content built by Graylog developers and community members.



GitHub integration

The Marketplace is deeply integrated with GitHub. You sign-in with your GitHub account if you want to submit content and only have to select an existing repository to list on the Marketplace.

From there on you manage your releases and code changes in GitHub. The Marketplace will automatically update your content.

There is no need to sign-in if you only want to browse or download content.

General best practices

README content

We kindly ask you to provide an as descriptive as possible README file with your submission. This file will be displayed on the Marketplace detail page and should provide the following information:

- What is it.
- Why would you want to use it? (Use cases)
- Do you have to register somewhere to get for example an API token?
- How to install and configure it.
- How to use it in a Graylog context.

Take a look at the [Splunk plug-in](#) as an example.

The README supports [Markdown](#) for formatting. You cannot submit content that does not contain a README file.

License

You cannot submit content that does not contain a LICENSE or COPYING file. We recommend to consult [ChooseALicense.com](#) if you are unsure which license to use.

4 Types of Add-Ons

Plug-Ins: Code that extends Graylog to support a specific use case that it doesn't support out of the box.

Content Pack: A file that can be uploaded into your Graylog system that sets up streams, inputs, extractors, dashboards, etc. to support a given log source or use case.

GELF Library: A library for a programming language or logging framework that supports sending log messages in GELF format for easy integration and pre-structured messages.

Other Solutions: Any other content or guide that helps you integrate Graylog with an external system or device. For example, how to configure a specific device to support a format Graylog understands out of the box.

Contributing plug-ins

You *created a Graylog plugin* and want to list it in the Marketplace? This is great. Here are the simple steps to follow:

1. Create a GitHub repository for your plugin

2. Include a [README](#) and a [LICENSE](#) file in the repository.
3. Push all your code to the repository.
4. Create a [GitHub release](#) and give it the name of the plugin version. For example 0.1. The Marketplace will always show and link the latest version. You can upload as many release artifacts as you want here. For example the `.jar` file together with `DEB` and `RPM` files. The Marketplace will link to the detail page of a release for downloads.
5. Submit the repository to the Marketplace

Contributing content packs

Graylog content packs can be shared on the Marketplace by following these steps:

1. Export a Graylog content pack from the Graylog Web Interface and save the generated JSON in a file called `content_pack.json`.
2. Create a GitHub repository for your content pack
3. Include a [README](#) and a [LICENSE](#) file in the repository.
4. Include the `content_pack.json` file in the root of your GitHub repository.
5. Submit the repository to the Marketplace

Contributing GELF libraries

A GELF library can be added like this:

1. Create a GitHub repository for your GELF library.
2. Include a [README](#) and a [LICENSE](#) file in the repository.
3. Describe where to download and how to use the GELF library in the `README`.

Contributing other content

You want to contribute content that does not really fit into the other categories but describes how to integrate a certain system or make it send messages to Graylog?

This is how you can do it:

1. Create a GitHub repository for your content
2. Include a [README](#) and a [LICENSE](#) file in the repository.
3. All content goes into the `README`.

Frequently asked questions

General

Do I need to buy a license to use Graylog?

We believe software should be open and accessible to all. You should not have to pay to analyze your own data, no matter how much you have.

Graylog is licensed under the [GNU General Public License](#). We do not require license fees for production or non-production use.

How long do you support older versions of the Graylog product?

For our commercial support customers, we support older versions of Graylog up to 12 months after the next major release is available. So if you're using 1.X, you will continue to receive 1.X support up to a full year after 2.0 has been released.

Architecture

What is MongoDB used for?

Graylog uses MongoDB to store your configuration data, not your log data. Only metadata is stored, such as user information or stream configurations. None of your log messages are ever stored in MongoDB. This is why MongoDB does not have a big system impact, and you won't have to worry too much about scaling it. With our recommended setup architecture, MongoDB will simply run alongside your graylog-server processes and use almost no resources.

Can you guide me on how to replicate MongoDB for High Availability?

MongoDB actually supplies this information as part of their documentation. Check out :

- About [MongoDB Replica Sets](#).
- How to [convert a standalone MongoDB node to a replica set](#).

After you've done this, add all MongoDB nodes into the `replica_set` configuration in all `graylog-server.conf` files.

I have datacenters across the world and do not want logs forwarding from everywhere to a central location due to bandwidth, etc. How do I handle this?

You can have multiple `graylog-server` instances in a federated structure, and forward select messages to a centralized GL server.

Which load balancers do you recommend we use with Graylog?

You can use any. We have clients running AWS ELB, HAProxy, F5 BIG-IP, and KEMP.

Isn't Java slow? Does it need a lot of memory?

This is a concern that we hear from time to time. We understand Java has a bad reputation from slow and laggy desktop/GUI applications that eat a lot of memory. However, we are usually able to prove this assumption wrong. Well written Java code for server systems is very efficient and does not need a lot of memory resources.

Give it a try, you might be surprised!

Does Graylog encrypt log data?

All log data is stored in Elasticsearch. They recommend you use *dm-crypt* at the file system level. Please see [here](#).

Installation / Setup

Should I download the OVA appliances or the separate packages?

If you are downloading Graylog for the first time to evaluate it, go for the appliance. It is really easy, and can be quickly setup so you can understand if Graylog is right for you. If you are wanting to use Graylog at some scale in production, and do things like high availability (Mongo replication) we recommend you go for the separate packages.

How do I find out if a specific log source is supported?

We support many log sources – and more are coming everyday. For a complete list, check out [Graylog Marketplace](#), the central repository of Graylog extensions. There are 4 types of content on the Marketplace:

- **Plug-Ins:** Code that extends Graylog to support a specific use case that it doesn't support out of the box.
- **Content Pack:** A file that can be uploaded into your Graylog system that sets up streams, inputs, extractors, dashboards, etc. to support a given log source or use case.
- **GELF Library:** A library for a programming language or logging framework that supports sending log messages in GELF format for easy integration and pre-structured messages.
- **Other Solutions:** Any other content or guide that helps you integrate Graylog with an external system or device. For example, how to configure a specific device to support a format Graylog understands out of the box.

Can I install the Graylog Server on Windows?

Even though our engineers say it is “technically possible”, don’t do it. The Graylog server is built using Java, so technically it can run anywhere. But we currently have it optimized to run better on other operating systems. If you don’t feel comfortable running your own Linux system, we recommend you use our Linux virtual appliance which will run under VMWare.

Functionality

Can Graylog automatically clean old data?

Absolutely we have data retention features, please see [here](#).

Does Graylog support LDAP / AD and its groups?

Yup, we’re all over this too with read/write roles and group permissions. To start, see [this](#). If you want to get very granular, you can go through our Rest API.

Do we have a user audit log for compliance?

Coming soon in a future release – stay tuned!

It seems like Graylog has no reporting functionality?

That’s correct. We currently don’t have built-in reporting functionality that sends automated reports. However, you can use our REST API to generate and send you own reports. A cron job and the scripting language of your choice should do the trick.

Can I filter inbound messages before they are processed by the Graylog server?

Yes, check out our page on how to use [blacklisting](#).

Graylog & Integrations

What is the best way to integrate my applications to Graylog?

We recommend that you use [GELF](#). It’s easy for your application developers and eliminates the need to store the messages locally. Also, GELF can just send what app person wants so you don’t have to build extractors or do any extra processing in Graylog.

I have a log source that creates dynamic syslog messages based on events and subtypes and grok patterns are difficult to use - what is the best way to handle this?

Not a problem! Use our [key=value](#) extractor.

I want to archive my log data. Can I write to another database, for example HDFS / Hadoop, from Graylog?

Yes, you can output data from Graylog to a different database. We currently have an HDFS output [plug-in](#) in the Marketplace - thank you [sivasamyk!](#)

It's also easy and fun to [write your own](#), which you can then add to Graylog Marketplace for others to use.

I don't want to use Elasticsearch as my backend storage system – can I use another database, like MySQL, Oracle, etc?

You can, but we don't suggest you do. You will not be able to use our query functionality or our analytic engine on the dataset outside the system. We only recommend another database if you want it for secondary storage.

Troubleshooting

I'm sending in messages, and I can see they are being accepted by Graylog, but I can't see them in the search. What is going wrong?

A common reason for this issue is that the timestamp in the message is wrong. First, confirm that the message was received by selecting 'all messages' as the time range for your search. Then identify and fix the source that is sending the wrong timestamp.

Have another troubleshooting question?

See below for some additional support options where you can ask your question.

Support

I think I've found a bug, how do I report it?

Think you spotted a bug? Oh no! Please report it in our issue trackers so we can take a look at it. All issue trackers are hosted on [GitHub](#), tightly coupled to our code and milestones. Don't hesitate to open issues – we'll just close them if there is nothing to do. We have GitHub repos for the [web interface](#) and the [server](#).

I'm having issues installing or configuring Graylog, where can I go for support?

Check out our Google Group [mailing list](#) – you can search for your problem which may already have an answer, or post a new question.

Another source is the [#Graylog IRC chat channel on Freenode](#). Our developers and a lot of community members hang out here. Just join the channel and add any questions, suggestions or general topics you have.

If you're looking for professional commercial support from the Graylog team, we do that too. Please [get in touch here](#) for more details.

The thinking behind the Graylog architecture and why it matters to you

A short history of Graylog

The Graylog project was started by Lennart Koopmann some time around 2009. Back then the most prominent log management software vendor issued a quote for a one year license of their product that was so expensive that he decided to write a log management system himself. Now you might call this a bit over optimistic (*I'll build this in two weeks*, end of quote) but the situation was hopeless: There was basically no other product on the market and especially no open source alternatives.

The log management market today

Things have changed a bit since 2009. Now there are viable open source projects with serious products and a growing list of SaaS offerings for log management.

Architectural considerations

Graylog has been successful in providing log management software **because it was built for log management from the beginning**. Software that stores and analyzes log data must have a very specific architecture to do it efficiently. It is more than just a database or a full text search engine because it has to deal with both text data and metrics data on a time axis. Searches are always bound to a time frame (relative or absolute) and only going back into the past because future log data has not been written yet. **A general purpose database or full text search engine that could also store and index the private messages of your online platform for search will never be able to effectively manage your log data.** Adding a specialized frontend on top of it makes it look like it could do the job in a good way but is basically just putting lipstick on the wrong stack.

A log management system has to be constructed of several services that take care of processing, indexing, and data access. The most important reason is that you need to scale parts of it horizontally with your changing use cases and usually the different parts of the system have different hardware requirements. All services must be tightly integrated to allow efficient management and configuration of the system as a whole. A data ingestion or forwarder tool is hard to tedious to manage if the configuration **has** to be stored on the client machines and is not possible via for example

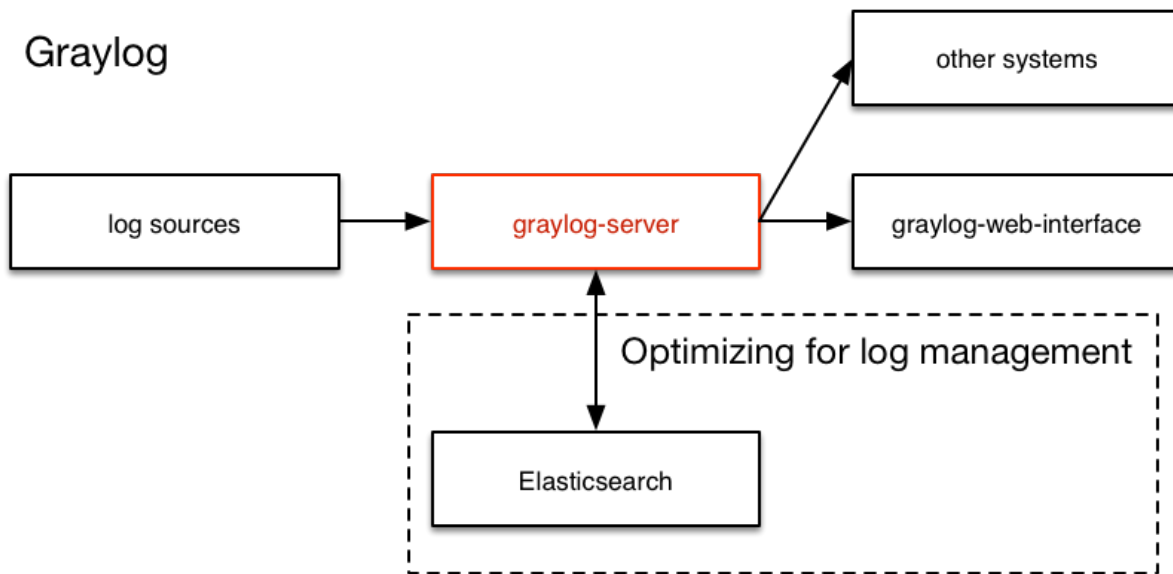
REST APIs controlled by a simple interface. A system administrator needs to be able to log into the web interface of a log management product and select log files of a remote host (that has a forwarder running) for ingestion into the tool.

You also want to be able to see the health and configuration of all forwarders, data processors and indexers in a central place because the whole log management stack can easily involve thousands of machines if you include the log emitting clients into this calculation. You need to be able to see which clients are forwarding log data and which are not to make sure that you are not missing any important data.

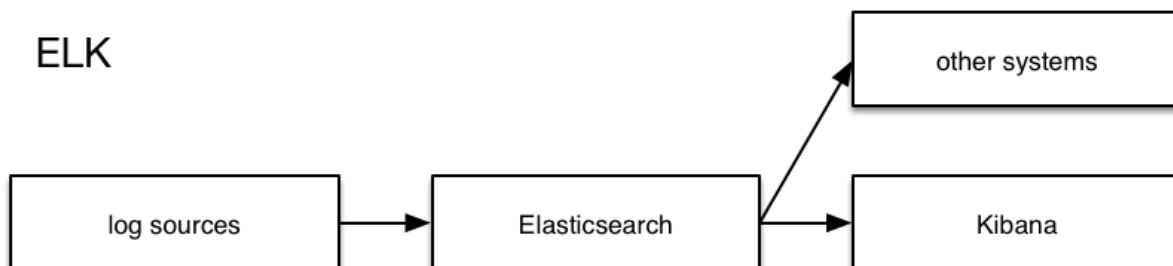
Graylog is coming the closest to the Splunk architecture:

- **Graylog was solely built as a log management system from the first line of code.** This makes it very efficient and easy to use.
- The `graylog-server` component sits in the middle and works around shortcomings of Elasticsearch (a full text search engine, not a log management system) for log management. It also builds an abstraction layer on top of it to make data access as easy as possible without having to select indices and write tedious time range selection filters, etc. - Just submit the search query and Graylog will take care of the rest for you.
- All parts of the system are tightly integrated and many parts speak to each other to make your job easier.
- Like Wordpress makes MySQL a good solution for blogging, Graylog makes Elasticsearch a good solution for logging. You should never have a system or frontend query Elasticsearch directly for log management so we are putting `graylog-server` in front of it.

Graylog



ELK



Unlimited data collection

Volume based license models are making your job unnecessary hard. Price is a big factor here but it is even worse that volume based license models make you (or your manager makes you) try to save volume. This means that you will be finding yourself thinking about which data really needs to be ingested. The big problem is that you do not know what you might need the data for in the moment you are sending (or not sending) it. We have seen operations teams during a downtime wishing that they had collected the data of a certain log file that was now not searchable. **This is counter-productive and dangerous. You can be limited by disk space or other resources but never by the license that somebody bought.**

It is also a law of the market that you have to build your volume pricing model on the amount of data that is usually collected **today**. The amount of generated data has increased dramatically and vendors are nailed to their pricing model from 2008. This is why you get quotes that fill you with sadness in today's world.

Blackboxes

Closed source systems tend to become black boxes that you cannot extend or adapt to fit the needs of your use case. This is an important thing to consider especially for log management software. The use cases can range from simple syslog centralization to ultra flexible data bus requirements. A closed source system will always make you depending on the vendor because there is no way to adapt. As your setup reaches a certain point of flexibility you might hit a wall earlier than expected.

Consider spending a part of the money you would spend for the wrong license model for developing your own plugins or integrations.

The future

Graylog is the only open source log management system that will be able to deliver functionality and scaling in a way that Splunk does. It will be possible to replace Elasticsearch with something that is really suited for log data analysis without even changing the public facing APIs.

Graylog 1.3.4

Released: 2016-03-16

<https://www.graylog.org/blog/49-graylog-1-3-4-is-now-available>

- Fix security issue which allowed redirecting users to arbitrary sites on login [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1729](#)
- Fix issue with time-based index rotation strategy [Graylog2/graylog2-server#725](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1693](#)
- Fix issue with `IndexFailureServiceImpl` [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1747](#)
- Add default Content-Type to `GettingStartedResource` [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1700](#)
- Improve OS platform detection [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1737](#)
- Add prefixes `GRAYLOG_` (environment variables) and `graylog.` (system properties) for overriding configuration settings [Graylog2/graylog2-server@48ed88d](#)
- Fix URL to Graylog Marketplace on Extractor/Content Pack pages [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1817](#)
- Use monospace font on message values [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface@3cce368](#)

Graylog 1.3.3

Released: 2016-01-14

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-3-3-is-now-available/>

- Absolute and relative time spans give different results [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1572](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1463](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1672](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1679](#)
- Search result count widget not caching [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1640](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1681](#)

- Field Value Condition Alert, does not permit decimal values [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1657](#)
- Correctly handle null values in nested structures in JsonExtractor [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1676](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1677](#)
- Add Content-Type and X-Graylog2-No-Session-Extension to CORS headers [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1682](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1685](#)
- Discard Message Output [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1688](#)

Graylog 1.3.2

Released: 2015-12-18

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-3-2-is-now-available/>

- Deserializing a blacklist filter (FilterDescription) leads to StackOverflowError [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1641](#)

Graylog 1.3.1

Released: 2015-12-17

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-3-1-is-now-available/>

- Add option to AMQP transports to bind the queue to the exchange [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1599](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1633](#)
- Install a Graylog index template instead of set mappings on index creation [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1624](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1628](#)

Graylog 1.3.0

Released: 2015-12-09

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-3-ga-is-ready/>

- Allow index range calculation for a single index. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1451](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1455](#)
- Performance improvements for index ranges.
- Make internal server logs accessible via REST API. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1452](#)
- Make specific configuration values accessible via REST API. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1484](#)
- Added Replace Extractor. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1485](#)
- Added a default set of Grok patterns. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1495](#)
- Log operating system details on server startup. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1244](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1553](#)
- Allow reader users to set a dashboard as start page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1681](#)
- Auto content pack loader – download and install content packs automatically
- Appliance pre-configured for log ingestion and analysis

- Show a getting started guide on first install. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1662](#)
- Include role permissions in “/roles/{rolename}/members” REST API endpoint. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1549](#)
- Fixed NullPointerException in GELF output. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1538](#)
- Fixed NullPointerException in GELF input handling. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1544](#)
- Use the root user’s timezone for LDAP users by default. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1000](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1554](#)
- Fix display of JSON messages. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1686](#)
- Improve search robustness with missing Elasticsearch indices. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1547](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1533](#)
- Fixed race condition between index creation and index mapping configuration. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1502](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1563](#)
- Fixed concurrency problem in GELF input handling. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1561](#)
- Fixed issue with widget value calculation. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1588](#)
- Do not extend user sessions when updating widgets. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1655](#)
- Fixed compatibility mode for Internet Explorer. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1661](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1668](#)
- Fixed whitespace issue in extractor example. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1650](#)
- Fixed several issues on the indices page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1691](#) [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1692](#)
- Fixed permission issue for stream alert management. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1659](#)
- Fixed deletion of LDAP group mappings when updating LDAP settings. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1513](#)
- Fixed dangling role references after deleting a role [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1608](#)
- Support LDAP Group Mapping for Sun Directory Server (new since beta.2) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1583](#)

Graylog 1.2.2

Released: 2015-10-27

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-2-2-is-now-available/>

- Fixed a whitespace issue in the extractor UI. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1650](#)
- Fixed the index description on the indices page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1653](#)
- Fixed a memory leak in the GELF UDP handler code. (Analysis and fix contributed by @lightpriest and @onyx-master on GitHub. Thank you!) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1462](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1488](#)
- Improved the LDAP group handling code to handle more LDAP setups. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1433](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1453](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1491](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1494](#)
- Fixed email alerts for users with multiple email addresses. (LDAP setups) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1439](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1492](#)
- Improve index range handling performance. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1465](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1493](#)
- Fixed JSON extractor with null values. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1475](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1505](#)

- Fixed role assignment when updating user via REST API. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1456](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1507](#)

Graylog 1.2.1

Released: 2015-09-22

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-2-1-is-now-available/>

- Fixed various issues around importing and applying content packs [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1423](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1434](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1605](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1614](#)
- Fixed loading existing alarm callbacks that had been created with Graylog 1.0.x or earlier [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1428](#)
- Fixed compatibility problem with Elasticsearch 1.5.x and earlier [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1426](#)
- Fixed handling of statistical functions in field graphs [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1604](#)
- Use correct title when adding quick values to a dashboard [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1603](#)

Graylog 1.2.0

Released: 2015-09-14

<https://www.graylog.org/announcing-graylog-1-2-ga-release-includes-30-new-features/>

- Make sure existing role assignments survive on LDAP account sync. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1405](#) | [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1406](#)
- Use memberOf query for ActiveDirectory to speed up LDAP queries. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1407](#)
- Removed `disable_index_range_calculation` configuration option. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1411](#)
- Avoid potentially long-running Elasticsearch cluster-level operations by only saving an index range if it actually changed. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1412](#)
- Allow editing the roles of LDAP users. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1598](#)
- Improved quick values widget. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1487](#)

Graylog 1.2.0-rc.4

Released: 2015-09-08

<https://www.graylog.org/announcing-graylog-1-2-rc-4/>

- Deprecated MongoDB storage of internal metrics feature.
- Added customizable LDAP filter for user groups lookup. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#951](#)
- Allow usage of count and cardinality statistical functions in dashboard widgets. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1376](#)
- Disabled index range recalculation on every index rotation. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1388](#)
- Added automatic migration of user permissions to admin or reader roles. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1389](#)
- Fixed widget problem with invalid timestamps. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1390](#)

- Added config option to enable TLS certificate validation in REST client. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1393](#)
- Fixed rule matching issue in stream routing engine. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1397](#)
- Changed default titles for stream widgets. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1476](#)
- Changed data filters to be case insensitive. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1585](#)
- Improved padding for stack charts. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1568](#)
- Improved resiliency when Elasticsearch is not available. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1518](#)
- Redirect to user edit form after updating a user. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1588](#)
- Improved dashboard widgets error handling. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1590](#)
- Fixed timing issue in streams UI. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1490](#)
- Improved indices overview page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1593](#)
- Fixed browser back button behavior. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1594](#)
- Fixed accidental type conversion for number configuration fields in alarmcallback plugins. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1596](#)
- Fixed data type problem for extracted timestamps via grok. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1403](#)

Graylog 1.2.0-rc.2

Released: 2015-08-31

<https://www.graylog.org/announcing-graylog-1-2-rc/>

- Implement global Elasticsearch timeout and add `elasticsearch_request_timeout` configuration setting. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1220](#)
- Fixed lots of documentation links. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1238](#)
- Groovy shell server removed. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1266](#)
- Lots of index range calculation fixes. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1274](#)
- New Raw AMQP input. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1280](#)
- New Syslog AMQP input. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1280](#)
- Updated bundled Elasticsearch to 1.7.1.
- The fields in configuration dialogs for inputs and outputs are now ordered. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1282](#)
- Allow server startup without working Elasticsearch cluster. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1136](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1289](#)
- Added OR operator to stream matching. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1292](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1552](#)
- New stream router engine with better stream matching performance. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1305](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1309](#)
- Grok pattern import/export support for content packs. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1300](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1527](#)
- Added MessageListCodec interface for codec implementations that can decode multiple messages from one raw message. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1307](#)
- Added keepalive configuration option for all TCP transports. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1287](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1318](#)

- Support for roles and LDAP groups. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1321](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#951](#)
- Added timezone configuration option to date converter. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1320](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1324](#)
- Added alarmcallback history feature. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1313](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1537](#)
- Added more configuration options to GELF output. (TCP settings, TLS support) [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1337](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#979](#)
- Store timestamp and some other internal fields in Elasticsearch as doc values. Removed “elasticsearch_store_timestamps_as_doc_values” option from configuration file. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1335](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1342](#)
- Added TLS support for GELF HTTP input. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1348](#)
- Added JSON extractor. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#632](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1355](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1555](#)
- Added support for TLS client certificate authentication to all TCP based inputs. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1357](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1363](#)
- Added stacked chart widget. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1284](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1513](#)
- Added cardinality option to field histograms. [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1529](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1303](#)
- Lots of dashboard improvements. [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1550](#)
- Replaced Gulp with Webpack. [Graylog2/graylog2-web#1548](#)
- Updated to Play 2.3.10.

Graylog 1.1.6

Released: 2015-08-06

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-1-6-released/>

- Fix edge case in `SyslogOctetCountFrameDecoder` which caused the Syslog TCP input to reset connections ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#1105](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1339](#))
- Properly log errors in the Netty channel pipeline ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#1340](#))
- Prevent creation of invalid alert conditions ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#1332](#))
- Upgrade to [Elasticsearch 1.6.2](#)

Graylog 1.1.5

Released: 2015-07-27

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-1-5-released/>

- Improve handling of exceptions in the `JournallingMessageHandler` ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#1286](#))
- Upgrade to [Elasticsearch 1.6.1](#) ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#1312](#))
- Remove hard-coded limit for UDP receive buffer size ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#1290](#))
- Ensure that `elasticsearch_index_prefix` is lowercase ([commit 2173225](#))
- Add configuration option for time zone to Date converter ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#1320](#))

- Fix NPE if the disk journal is disabled on a node (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1520)
- Statistic and Chart error: Adding time zone offset caused overflow (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1257)
- Ignore stream alerts and throughput on serialize (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1309)
- Fix dynamic keyword time-ranges for dashboard widgets created from content packs (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1308)
- Upgraded Anonymous Usage Statistics plugin to version 1.1.1

Graylog 1.1.4

Released: 2015-06-30

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-1-4-is-now-available/>

- Make heartbeat timeout option for AmqpTransport optional. Graylog2/graylog2-server#1010
- Export as CSV on stream fails with “Invalid range type provided.” Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1504

Graylog 1.1.3

Released: 2015-06-19

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-1-3-is-now-available/>

- Log error message early if there is a MongoDB connection error. Graylog2/graylog2-server#1249
- Fixed field content value alert condition. Graylog2/graylog2-server#1245
- Extend warning about SO_RCVBUF size to UDP inputs. Graylog2/graylog2-server#1243
- Scroll on button dropdowns. Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1477
- Normalize graph widget numbers before drawing them. Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1479
- Fix highlight result checkbox position on old Firefox. Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1440
- Unescape terms added to search bar. Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1484
- Load another message in edit extractor page not working. Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1488
- Reader users aren’t able to export search results as CSV. Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1492
- List of streams not loaded on message details page. Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1496

Graylog 1.1.2

Released: 2015-06-10

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-1-2-is-now-available/>

- Get rid of NoSuchElementException if index alias doesn’t exist. Graylog2/graylog2-server#1218
- Make Alarm Callbacks API compatible to Graylog 1.0.x again. Graylog2/graylog2-server#1221, Graylog2/graylog2-server#1222, Graylog2/graylog2-server#1224
- Fixed issues with natural language parser for keyword time range. Graylog2/graylog2-server#1226

- Unable to write Graylog metrics to MongoDB [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1228](#)
- Unable to delete user. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1209](#)
- Unable to unpause streams, despite editing permissions. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1456](#)
- Choose quick values widget size dynamically. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1422](#)
- Default field sort order is not guaranteed after reload. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1436](#)
- Toggling all fields in search list throws error and breaks pagination. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1434](#)
- Improve multi-line log messages support. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#612](#)
- NPE when clicking a message from a deleted input on a stopped node. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1444](#)
- Auto created search syntax must use quotes for values with whitespaces in them. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1448](#)
- Quick Values doesn't update for new field. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1438](#)
- New Quick Values list too large. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1442](#)
- Unloading referenced alarm callback plugin breaks alarm callback listing. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1450](#)
- Add to search button doesn't work as expected for "level" field. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1453](#)
- Treat "*" query as empty query. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1420](#)
- Improve title overflow on widgets. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1430](#)
- Convert NaN to 0 on histograms. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1417](#)
- "<>" values in fields are unescaped and don't display in Quick Values. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1455](#)
- New quickvalues are not showing number of terms. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1411](#)
- Default index for split & index extractor results in an error. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1464](#)
- Improve behaviour when field graph fails to load. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1276](#)
- Unable to unpause streams, despite editing permissions. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1456](#)
- Wrong initial size of quick values pie chart. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1469](#)
- Problems refreshing data on quick values pie chart. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1470](#)
- Ignore streams with no permissions on message details. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1472](#)

Graylog 1.1.1

Released: 2015-06-05

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-1-1-is-now-available/>

- Fix problem with missing alarmcallbacks. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1214](#)
- Add additional newline between messages to alert email. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1216](#)
- Fix incorrect index range calculation. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1217](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1266](#)
- Fix sidebar auto-height on old Firefox versions. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1410](#)
- Fix "create one now" link on stream list page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1424](#)

- Do not update StreamThroughput when unmounted. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1428](#)
- Fix position of alert annotations in search result histogram. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1421](#)
- Fix NPE when searching. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1212](#)
- Hide unlock dashboard link for reader users. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1429](#)
- Open radio documentation link on a new window. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1427](#)
- Use radio node page on message details. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1423](#)

Graylog 1.1.0

Released: 2015-06-04

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-1-is-now-generally-available/>

- Properly set `node_id` on message input [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1210](#)
- Fixed handling of booleans in configuration forms in the web interface
- Various design fixes in the web interface

Graylog 1.1.0-rc.3

Released: 2015-06-02

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-1-rc3-is-now-available/>

- Unbreak server startup with collector thresholds set. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1194](#)
- Adding verbal alert description to alert email templates and subject line defaults. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1158](#)
- Fix message backlog in default body template in `FormattedEmailAlertSender`. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1163](#)
- Make `RawMessageEvent`'s fields volatile to guard against cross-cpu visibility issues. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1207](#)
- Set default for `"disable_index_range_calculation"` to `"true"`.
- Passing in value to text area fields in configuration forms. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1340](#)
- Stream list has no loading spinner. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1309](#)
- Showing a helpful notification when there are no active/inactive collectors. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1302](#)
- Improve behavior when field graphs are stacked. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1348](#)
- Keep new lines added by users on alert callbacks. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1270](#)
- Fix duplicate metrics reporting if two components subscribed to the same metric on the same page. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1199](#)
- Make sidebar visible on small screens. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1390](#)
- Showing warning and disabling edit button for output if plugin is missing. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1185](#)
- Using formatted fields in old message loader. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1393](#)

- Several styling and UX improvements

Graylog 1.1.0-rc.1

Released: 2015-05-27

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-1-rc1-is-now-available/>

- Unable to send email alerts. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1346](#)
- “Show messages from this collector view” displays no messages. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1334](#)
- Exception error in search page when using escaped characters. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1356](#)
- Wrong timestamp on stream rule editor. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1328](#)
- Quickvalue values are not linked to update search query. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1296](#)
- Stream list has no loading spinner. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1309](#)
- Collector list with only inactive collectors is confusing. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1302](#)
- Update sockjs-client to 1.0.0. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1344](#)
- Scroll to search bar when new query term is added. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1284](#)
- Scroll to quick values if not visible. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1284](#)
- Scroll to newly created field graphs. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1284](#)
- Problems with websockets and even xhr streaming. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1344](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1353](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1338](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1322](#)
- Add to search bar not working on sources tab. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1350](#)
- Make field graphs work with streams. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1352](#)
- Improved page design on outputs page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1236](#)
- Set startpage button missing for dashboards. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1345](#)
- Generating chart for http response code is broken. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1358](#)

Graylog 1.1.0-beta.3

Released: 2015-05-27

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-1-beta-3-is-now-available/>

- Kafka inputs now support syslog, GELF and raw messages [Graylog2/graylog2-server#322](#)
- Configurable timezone for the flexdate converter in extractors. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1166](#)
- Allow decimal values for greater/smaller stream rules. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1101](#)
- New configuration file option to control the default widget cache time. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1170](#)
- Expose heartbeat configuration for AMQP inputs. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1010](#)
- New alert condition to alert on field content. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#537](#)
- Add `Dwebsockets.enabled=false` option for the web interface to disable websockets. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1322](#)

- Clicking the Graylog logo redirects to the custom startpage now. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1315](#)
- Improved reset and filter feature in sources tab. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1337](#)
- Fixed issue with stopping Kafka based inputs. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1171](#)
- System throughput resource was always returning 0. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1313](#)
- MongoDB configuration problem with replica sets. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1173](#)
- Syslog parser did not strip empty structured data fields. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1161](#)
- Input metrics did not update after input has been stopped and started again. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1187](#)
- NullPointerException with existing inputs in database fixed. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1312](#)
- Improved browser input validation for several browsers. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1318](#)
- Grok pattern upload did not work correctly. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1321](#)
- Internet Explorer 9 fixes. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1319](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1320](#)
- Quick values feature did not work with reader users. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1169](#)
- Replay link for keyword widgets was broken. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1323](#)
- Provide visual feedback when expanding message details. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1283](#)
- Allow filtering of saved searches again. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1277](#)
- Add back “Show details” link for global input metrics. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#1168](#)
- Provide visual feedback when dashboard widgets are loading. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1324](#)
- Restore preview for keyword time range selector. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1280](#)
- Fixed issue where widgets loading data looked empty. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1324](#)

Graylog 1.1.0-beta.2

Released: 2015-05-20

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-1-1-beta-is-now-available/>

- CSV output streaming support including full text message
- Simplified MongoDB configuration with URI support
- Improved tokenizer for extractors
- Configurable UDP buffer size for incoming messages
- Enhanced Grok support with type conversions (integers, doubles and dates)
- Elasticsearch 1.5.2 support
- Added support for integrated Log Collector
- Search auto-complete
- Manual widget resize
- Auto resize of widgets based on screen size
- Faster search results
- Moved search filter for usability

- Updated several icons to text boxes for usability
- Search highlight toggle
- Pie charts (Stacked charts are coming too!)
- Improved stream management
- Output plugin and Alarm callback edit support
- Dashboard widget search edit
- Dashboard widget direct search button
- Dashboard background update support for better performance
- Log collector status UI

Graylog 1.0.2

Released: 2015-04-28

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-2-has-been-released/>

- Regular expression and Grok test failed when example message is a JSON document or contains special characters (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1190, Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1195)
- “Show message terms” was broken (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1168)
- Showing message indices was broken (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1211)
- Fixed typo in SetIndexReadOnlyJob (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1206)
- Consistent error messages when trying to create graphs from non-numeric values (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1210)
- Fix message about too few file descriptors for Elasticsearch when number of file descriptors is unlimited (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1220)
- Deleting output globally which was assigned to multiple streams left stale references (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1113)
- Fixed problem with sending alert emails (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1086)
- TokenizerConverter can now handle mixed quoted and un-quoted k/v pairs (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1083)

Graylog 1.0.1

Released: 2015-03-16

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-1-has-been-released/>

- Properly log stack traces (Graylog2/graylog2-server#970)
- Update REST API browser to new Graylog logo
- Avoid spamming the logs if the original input of a message in the disk journal can't be loaded (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1005)
- Allows reader users to see the journal status (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1009)
- Compatibility with MongoDB 3.0 and Wired Tiger storage engine (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1024)

- Respect `rest_transport_uri` when generating entity URLs in REST API (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1020)
- Properly map `NodeNotFoundException` (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1137)
- Allow replacing all existing Grok patterns on bulk import (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1150)
- Configuration option for discarding messages on error in AMQP inputs (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1018)
- Configuration option of maximum HTTP chunk size for HTTP-based inputs (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1011)
- Clone alarm callbacks when cloning a stream (Graylog2/graylog2-server#990)
- Add `hasField()` and `getField()` methods to `MessageSummary` class (Graylog2/graylog2-server#923)
- Add per input parse time metrics (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1106)
- Allow the use of <https://logging.apache.org/log4j/extras/> `log4j-extras` classes in `log4j` configuration (Graylog2/graylog2-server#1042)
- Fix updating of input statistics for Radio nodes (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1022)
- Emit proper error message when a regular expression in an Extractor doesn't match example message (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1157)
- Add additional information to system jobs (Graylog2/graylog2-server#920)
- Fix false positive message on LDAP login test (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1138)
- Calculate saved search resolution dynamically (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#943)
- Only enable LDAP test buttons when data is present (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1097)
- Load more than 1 message on Extractor form (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1105)
- Fix NPE when listing alarm callback using non-existent plugin (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1152)
- Redirect to nodes overview when node is not found (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1137)
- Fix documentation links to integrations and data sources (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1136)
- Prevent accidental indexing of web interface by web crawlers (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1151)
- Validate grok pattern name on the client to avoid duplicate names (Graylog2/graylog2-server#937)
- Add message journal usage to nodes overview page (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1083)
- Properly format numbers according to locale (Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1128, Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1129)

Graylog 1.0.0

Released: 2015-02-19

<https://www.graylog.org/announcing-graylog-v1-0-ga/>

- No changes since Graylog 1.0.0-rc.4

Graylog 1.0.0-rc.4

Released: 2015-02-13

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-rc-4-has-been-released/>

- Default configuration file locations have changed. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#950](#)
- Improved error handling on search errors. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#954](#)
- Dynamically update dashboard widgets with keyword range. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#956](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#958](#)
- Prevent duplicate loading of plugins. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#948](#)
- Fixed password handling when editing inputs. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1103](#)
- Fixed issues getting Elasticsearch cluster health. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#953](#)
- Better error handling for extractor imports. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#942](#)
- Fixed structured syslog parsing of keys containing special characters. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#845](#)
- Improved layout on Grok patterns page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1109](#)
- Improved formatting large numbers. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1111](#)
- New Graylog logo.

Graylog 1.0.0-rc.3

Released: 2015-02-05

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-rc-3-has-been-released/>

- Fixed compatibility with MongoDB version 2.2. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#941](#)
- Fixed performance regression in process buffer handling. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#944](#)
- Fixed data type for the `max_size_per_index` config option value. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1100](#)
- Fixed problem with indexer error page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1102](#)

Graylog 1.0.0-rc.2

Released: 2015-02-04

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-rc-2-has-been-released/>

- Better Windows compatibility. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#930](#)
- Added helper methods for the plugin API to simplify plugin development.
- Fixed problem with input removal on radio nodes. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#932](#)
- Improved buffer information for input, process and output buffers. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1096](#)
- Fixed API return value incompatibility regarding node objects. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#933](#)
- Fixed reloading of LDAP settings. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#934](#)
- Fixed ordering of message input state labels. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1094](#)
- Improved error messages for journal related errors. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#931](#)
- Fixed browser compatibility for stream rules form. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1095](#)
- Improved grok pattern management. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1099](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1098](#)

Graylog 1.0.0-rc.1

Released: 2015-01-28

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-rc-1-has-been-released/>

- Cleaned up internal metrics when input is terminating. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#915](#)
- Added Telemetry plugin options to example graylog.conf. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#914](#)
- Fixed problems with user permissions on streams. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1058](#)
- Added information about different rotation strategies to REST API. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#913](#)
- Added better error messages for failing inputs. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1056](#)
- Fixed problem with JVM options in bin/radiotcl script. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#918](#)
- Fixed issue with updating input configuration. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#919](#)
- Fixed password updating for reader users by the admin. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1075](#)
- Enabled the `message_journal_enabled` config option by default. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#924](#)
- Add REST API endpoint to list reopened indices. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1072](#)
- Fixed problem with GELF stream output. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#921](#)
- Show an error message on the indices page if the Elasticsearch cluster is not available. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1070](#)
- Fixed a problem with stopping inputs. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#926](#)
- Changed output configuration display to mask passwords. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1066](#)
- Disabled message journal on radio nodes. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#927](#)
- Create new message representation format for search results in alarm callback messages. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#923](#)
- Fixed stream router to update the stream engine if a stream has been changed. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#922](#)
- Fixed focus problem in stream rule modal windows. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1063](#)
- Do not show new dashboard link for reader users. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1057](#)
- Do not show stream output menu for reader users. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1059](#)
- Do not show user forms of other users for reader users. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1064](#)
- Do not show permission settings in the user profile for reader users. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1055](#)
- Fixed extractor edit form with no messages available. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1061](#)
- Fixed problem with node details page and JVM locale settings. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1062](#)
- Improved page layout for Grok patterns.
- Improved layout for the message journal information. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1084](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1085](#)
- Fixed wording on radio inputs page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1077](#)
- Fixed formatting on indices page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1086](#)
- Improved error handling in stream rule form. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1076](#)
- Fixed time range selection problem for the sources page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1080](#)

- Several improvements regarding permission checks for user creation. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1088](#)
- Do not show stream alert test button for reader users. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1089](#)
- Fixed node processing status not updating on the nodes page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1090](#)
- Fixed filename handling on Windows. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#928](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-server#732](#)

Graylog 1.0.0-beta.2

Released: 2015-01-21

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-beta-3-has-been-released/>

- Fixed stream alert creation. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#891](#)
- Suppress warning message when PID file doesn't exist. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#889](#)
- Fixed an error on outputs page with missing output plugin. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#894](#)
- Change default heap and garbage collector settings in scripts.
- Add extractor information to log message about failing extractor.
- Fixed problem in SplitAndIndexExtractor. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#896](#)
- Improved rendering time for indices page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1060](#)
- Allow user to edit its own preferences. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1049](#)
- Fixed updating stream attributes. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#902](#)
- Stream throughput now shows combined value over all nodes. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1047](#)
- Fixed resource leak in JVM PermGen memory. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#907](#)
- Update to gelfclient-1.1.0 to fix DNS resolving issue. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#882](#)
- Allow arbitrary characters in user names (in fact in any resource url). [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1005](#), [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1006](#)
- Fixed search result CSV export. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#901](#)
- Skip GC collection notifications for parallel collector. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#899](#)
- Shorter reconnect timeout for Radio AMQP connections. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#900](#)
- Fixed random startup error in Radio. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#911](#)
- Fixed updating an alert condition. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#912](#)
- Add system notifications for journal related warnings. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#897](#)
- Add system notifications for failing outputs. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#741](#)
- Improve search result pagination. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#834](#)
- Improved regex error handling in extractor testing. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1044](#)
- Wrap long names for node metrics. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1028](#)
- Fixed node information progress bars. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1046](#)
- Improve node buffer utilization readability. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1046](#)
- Fixed username alert receiver form field. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1050](#)
- Wrap long messages without break characters. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1052](#)

- Hide list of node plugins if there aren't any plugins installed.
- Warn user before leaving page with unpinned graphs. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#808](#)

Graylog 1.0.0-beta.2

Released: 2015-01-16

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-0-beta2/>

- SIGAR native libraries are now found correctly (for getting system information)
- plugins can now state if they want to run in server or radio
- Fixed LDAP settings testing. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1026](#)
- Improved RFC5425 syslog message parsing. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#845](#)
- JVM arguments are now being logged on start. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#875](#)
- Improvements to log messages when Elasticsearch connection fails during start.
- Fixed an issue with AMQP transport shutdown. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#874](#)
- After index cycling the System overview page could be broken. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#880](#)
- Extractors can now be edited. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#549](#)
- Fixed saving user preferences. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1027](#)
- Scripts now return proper exit codes. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#886](#)
- Grok patterns can now be uploaded in bulk. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#377](#)
- During extractor creation the test display could be offset. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#804](#)
- Performance fix for the System/Indices page. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1035](#)
- A create dashboard link was shown to reader users, leading to an error when followed. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1032](#)
- Content pack section was shown to reader users, leading to an error when followed. [Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1033](#)
- Failing stream outputs were being restarted constantly. [Graylog2/graylog2-server#741](#)

Graylog2 0.92.4

Released: 2015-01-14

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-92-4/>

- [SERVER] Ensure that Radio inputs can only be started on server nodes ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#843](#))
- [SERVER] Avoid division by zero when finding rotation anchor in the time-based rotation strategy ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#836](#))
- [SERVER] Use username as fallback if display name in LDAP is empty ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#837](#))

Graylog 1.0.0-beta.1

Released: 2015-01-12

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog-v1-0-0-beta1/>

- Message Journaling
- New Widgets
- Grok Extractor Support
- Overall stability and resource efficiency improvements
- Single binary for `graylog2-server` and `graylog2-radio`
- Inputs are now editable
- Order of field charts rendered inside the search results page is now maintained.
- Improvements in focus and keyboard behaviour on modal windows and forms.
- You can now define whether to disable expensive, frequent real-time updates of the UI in the settings of each user. (For example the updating of total messages in the system)
- Experimental search query auto-completion that can be enabled in the user preferences.
- The API browser now documents server response payloads in a better way so you know what to expect as an answer to your call.
- Now using the standard Java ServiceLoader for plugins.

Graylog2 0.92.3

Released: 2014-12-23

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-92-3/>

- [SERVER] Removed unnecessary instrumentation in certain places to reduce GC pressure caused by many short living objects ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#800](#))
- [SERVER] Limit Netty worker thread pool to 16 threads by default (see `rest_worker_threads_max_pool_size` in `graylog2.conf`)
- [WEB] Fixed upload of content packs when a URI path prefix (`application.context` in `graylog2-web-interface.conf`) is being used ([Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#1009](#))
- [WEB] Fixed display of metrics of type Counter ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#795](#))

Graylog2 0.92.1

Released: 2014-12-11

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-92-1/>

- [SERVER] Fixed name resolution and overriding sources for network inputs.
- [SERVER] Fixed wrong delimiter in GELF TCP input.
- [SERVER] Disabled the output cache by default. The output cache is the source of all sorts of interesting problems. If you want to keep using it, please read the upgrade notes.

- [SERVER] Fixed message timestamps in GELF output.
- [SERVER] Fixed connection counter for network inputs.
- [SERVER] Added warning message if the receive buffer size (SO_RECV) couldn't be set for network inputs.
- [WEB] Improved keyboard shortcuts with most modal dialogs (e. g. hitting Enter submits the form instead of just closing the dialogs).
- [WEB] Upgraded to play2-graylog2 1.2.1 (compatible with Play 2.3.x and Java 7).

Graylog2 0.92.0

Released: 2014-12-01

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-92/>

- [SERVER] IMPORTANT SECURITY FIX: It was possible to perform LDAP logins with crafted wildcards. (A big thank you to Jose Tozo who discovered this issue and disclosed it very responsibly.)
- [SERVER] Generate a system notification if garbage collection takes longer than a configurable threshold.
- [SERVER] Added several JVM-related metrics.
- [SERVER] Added support for Elasticsearch 1.4.x which brings a lot of stability and resilience features to Elasticsearch clusters.
- [SERVER] Made version check of Elasticsearch version optional. Disabling this check is not recommended.
- [SERVER] Added an option to disable optimizing Elasticsearch indices on index cycling.
- [SERVER] Added an option to disable time-range calculation for indices on index cycling.
- [SERVER] Lots of other performance enhancements for large setups (i.e. involving several Radio nodes and multiple Graylog2 Servers).
- [SERVER] Support for Syslog Octet Counting, as used by syslog-ng for syslog via TCP (#743)
- [SERVER] Improved support for structured syslog messages (#744)
- [SERVER] Bug fixes regarding IPv6 literals in mongodb_replica_set and elastic-search_discovery_zen_ping_unicast_hosts
- [WEB] Added additional details to system notification about Elasticsearch max. open file descriptors.
- [WEB] Fixed several bugs and inconsistencies regarding time zones.
- [WEB] Improved graphs and diagrams
- [WEB] Allow to update dashboards when browser window is not on focus (#738)
- [WEB] Bug fixes regarding timezone handling
- Numerous internal bug fixes

Graylog2 0.92.0-rc.1

Released: 2014-11-21

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-92-rc-1/>

- [SERVER] Generate a system notification if garbage collection takes longer than a configurable threshold.

- [SERVER] Added several JVM-related metrics.
- [SERVER] Added support for Elasticsearch 1.4.x which brings a lot of stability and resilience features to Elasticsearch clusters.
- [SERVER] Made version check of Elasticsearch version optional. Disabling this check is not recommended.
- [SERVER] Added an option to disable optimizing Elasticsearch indices on index cycling.
- [SERVER] Added an option to disable time-range calculation for indices on index cycling.
- [SERVER] Lots of other performance enhancements for large setups (i. e. involving several Radio nodes and multiple Graylog2 Servers).
- [WEB] Upgraded to Play 2.3.6.
- [WEB] Added additional details to system notification about Elasticsearch max. open file descriptors.
- [WEB] Fixed several bugs and inconsistencies regarding time zones.
- Numerous internal bug fixes

Graylog2 0.91.3

Released: 2014-11-05

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-90-3-and-v0-91-3-has-been-released/>

- Fixed date and time issues related to DST changes
- Requires Elasticsearch 1.3.4; Elasticsearch 1.3.2 had a bug that can cause index corruptions.
- The `mongodb_replica_set` configuration variable now supports IPv6
- Messages read from the on-disk caches could be stored with missing fields

Graylog2 0.91.3

Released: 2014-11-05

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-90-3-and-v0-91-3-has-been-released/>

- Fixed date and time issues related to DST changes
- The `mongodb_replica_set` configuration variable now supports IPv6
- Messages read from the on-disk caches could be stored with missing fields

Graylog2 0.92.0-beta.1

Released: 2014-11-05

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-92-beta-1/>

- Content packs
- [SERVER] SSL/TLS support for Graylog2 REST API
- [SERVER] Support for time based retention cleaning of your messages. The old message count based approach is still the default.

- [SERVER] Support for Syslog Octet Counting, as used by syslog-ng for syslog via TCP ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#743](#))
- [SERVER] Improved support for structured syslog messages ([Graylog2/graylog2-server#744](#))
- [SERVER] Bug fixes regarding IPv6 literals in `mongodb_replica_set` and `elasticsearch_discovery_zen_ping_unicast_hosts`
- [WEB] Revamped “Sources” page in the web interface
- [WEB] Improved graphs and diagrams
- [WEB] Allow to update dashboards when browser window is not on focus ([Graylog2/graylog2-web-interface#738](#))
- [WEB] Bug fixes regarding timezone handling
- Numerous internal bug fixes

Graylog2 0.91.1

Released: 2014-10-17

<https://www.graylog.org/two-new-graylog2-releases/>

- Messages written to the persisted master caches were written to the system with unreadable timestamps, leading to
- errors when trying to open the message.
- Extractors were only being deleted from running inputs but not from all inputs
- Output plugins were not always properly loaded
- You can now configure the `alert_check_interval` in your `graylog2.conf`
- Parsing of configured Elasticsearch unicast discovery addresses could break when including spaces

Graylog2 0.90.1

Released: 2014-10-17

<https://www.graylog.org/two-new-graylog2-releases/>

- Messages written to the persisted master caches were written to the system with unreadable timestamps, leading to errors when trying to open the message.
- Extractors were only being deleted from running inputs but not from all inputs
- Output plugins were not always properly loaded
- You can now configure the `alert_check_interval` in your `graylog2.conf`
- Parsing of configured Elasticsearch unicast discovery addresses could break when including spaces

Graylog2 0.91.0-rc.1

Released: 2014-09-23

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-90-has-been-released/>

- Optional Elasticsearch v1.3.2 support

Graylog2 0.90.0

Released: 2014-09-23

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-90-has-been-released/>

- Real-time data forwarding to Splunk or other systems
- Alert callbacks for greater flexibility
- New disk-based architecture for buffering in load spike situations
- Improved graphing
- Plugin API
- Huge performance and stability improvements across the whole stack
- Small possibility of losing messages in certain scenarios has been fixed
- Improvements to internal logging from threads to avoid swallowing Graylog2 error messages
- Paused streams are no longer checked for alerts
- Several improvements to timezone handling
- JavaScript performance fixes in the web interface and especially a fixed memory leak of charts on dashboards
- The GELF HTTP input now supports CORS
- Stream matching now has a configurable timeout to avoid stalling message processing in case of too complex rules or erroneous regular expressions
- Stability improvements for Kafka and AMQP inputs
- Inputs can now be paused and resumed
- Dozens of bug fixes and other improvements

Graylog2 0.20.3

Released: 2014-08-09

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-20-3-has-been-released/>

- Bugfix: Storing saved searches was not accounting custom application contexts
- Bugfix: Editing stream rules could have a wrong a pre-filled value
- Bugfix: The create dashboard link was shown even if the user has no permission to so. This caused an ugly error page because of the missing permissions.
- Bugfix: graylog2-radio could lose numeric fields when writing to the message broker

- Better default batch size values for the Elasticsearch output
- Improved `rest_transport_uri` default settings to avoid confusion with loopback interfaces
- The deflector index is now also using the configured index prefix

Graylog2 0.20.2

Released: 2014-05-24

<https://www.graylog.org/graylog2-v0-20-2-has-been-released/>

- Search result highlighting
- Reintroduces AMQP support
- Extractor improvements and sharing
- Graceful shutdowns, Lifecycles, Load Balancer integration
- Improved stream alert emails
- Alert annotations
- CSV exports via the REST API now support chunked transfers and avoid heap size problems with huge result sets
- Login now redirects to page you visited before if there was one
- More live updating information in node detail pages
- Empty dashboards no longer show lock/unlock buttons
- Global inputs now also show IO metrics
- You can now easily copy message IDs into native clipboard with one click
- Improved message field selection in the sidebar
- Fixed display of floating point numbers in several places
- Now supporting application contexts in the web interface like `http://example.org/graylog2`
- Several fixes for LDAP configuration form
- Message fields in the search result sidebar now survive pagination
- Only admin users are allowed to change the session timeout for reader users
- New extractor: Copy whole input
- New converters: uppercase/lowercase, flexdate (tries to parse any string as date)
- New stream rule to check for presence or absence of fields
- Message processing now supports trace logging
- Better error message for ES discovery problems
- Fixes to GELF HTTP input and it holding open connections
- Some timezone fixes
- CSV exports now only contain selected fields
- Improvements for `bin/graylog*` control scripts
- UDP inputs now allow for custom receive buffer sizes

- Numeric extractor converter now supports floating point values
- Bugfix: Several small fixes to system notifications and closing them
- Bugfix: Carriage returns were not escaped properly in CSV exports
- Bugfix: Some AJAX calls redirected to the startpage when they failed
- Bugfix: Wrong sorting in sources table
- Bugfix: Quickvalues widget was broken with very long values
- Bugfix: Quickvalues modal was positioned wrong in some cases
- Bugfix: Indexer failures list could break when you had a lot of failures
- Custom application prefix was not working for field chart analytics
- Bugfix: Memory leaks in the dashboards
- Bugfix: NullPointerException when Elasticsearch discovery failed and unicast discovery was disabled
- Message backlog in alert emails did not always include the correct number of messages
- Improvements for message outputs: No longer only waiting for filled buffers but also flushing them regularly. This avoids problems that make Graylog2 look like it misses messages in cheap benchmark scenarios combined with only little throughput.