

PostgreSQL Monitoring

Using modern software stacks

Roman Fišer

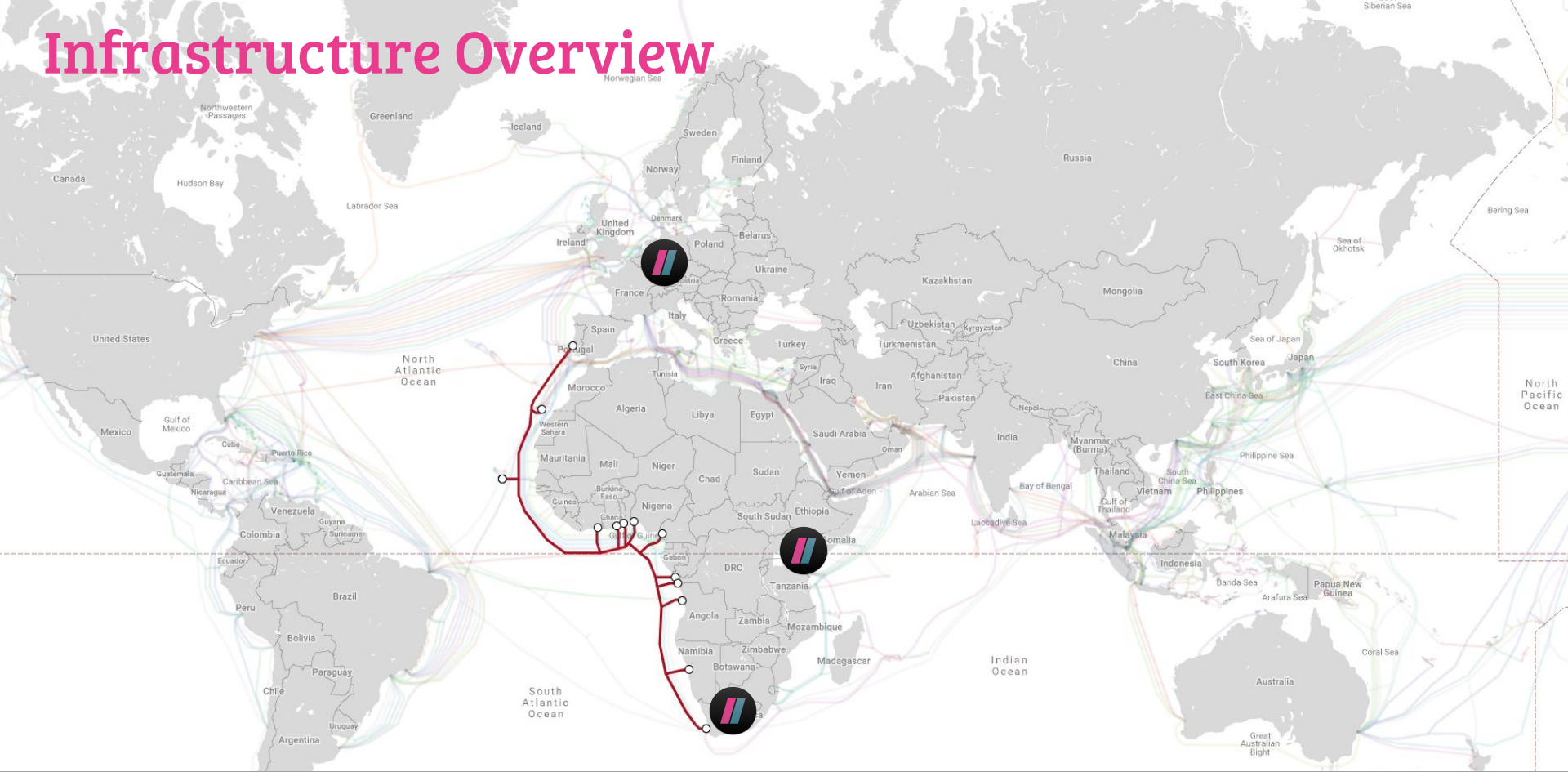
About me

- Roman Fišer
- Head of Infrastructure
- Showmax Engineering
- roman.fiser@showmax.com

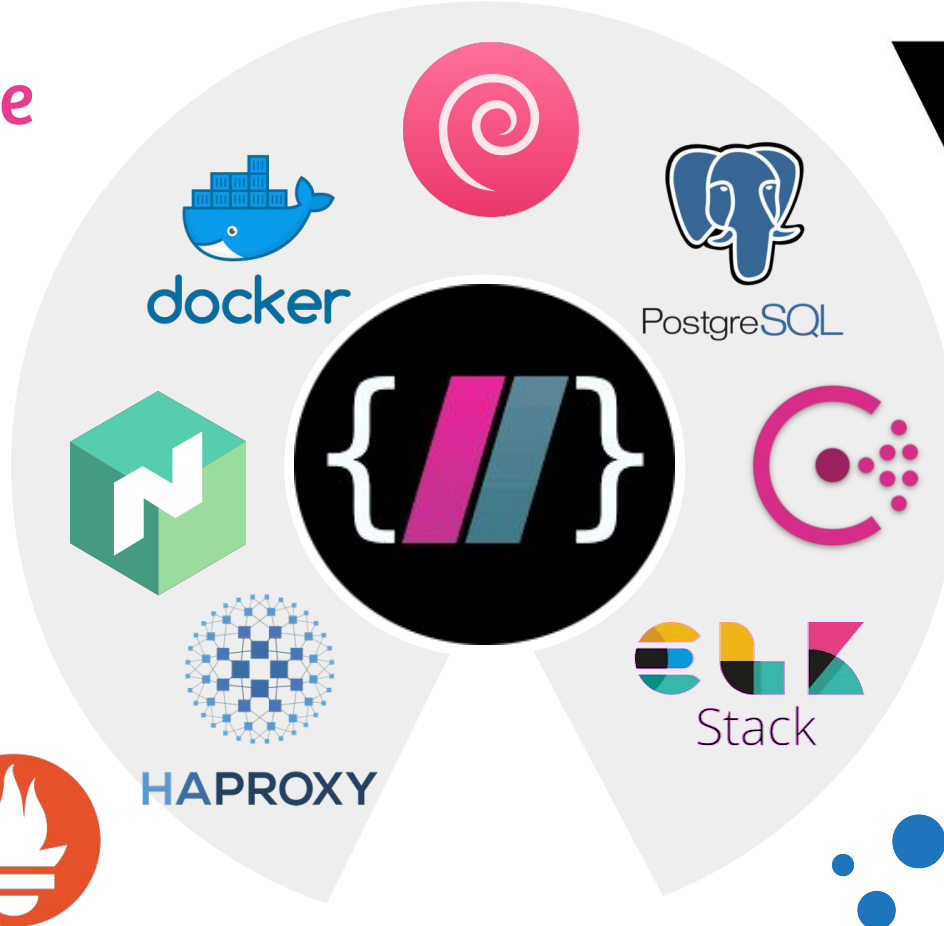
What is Showmax?

- VOD (Video On Demand) service
- Focusing on clients in Africa
- Engineering in Prague
- Based on Open source technologies

Infrastructure Overview

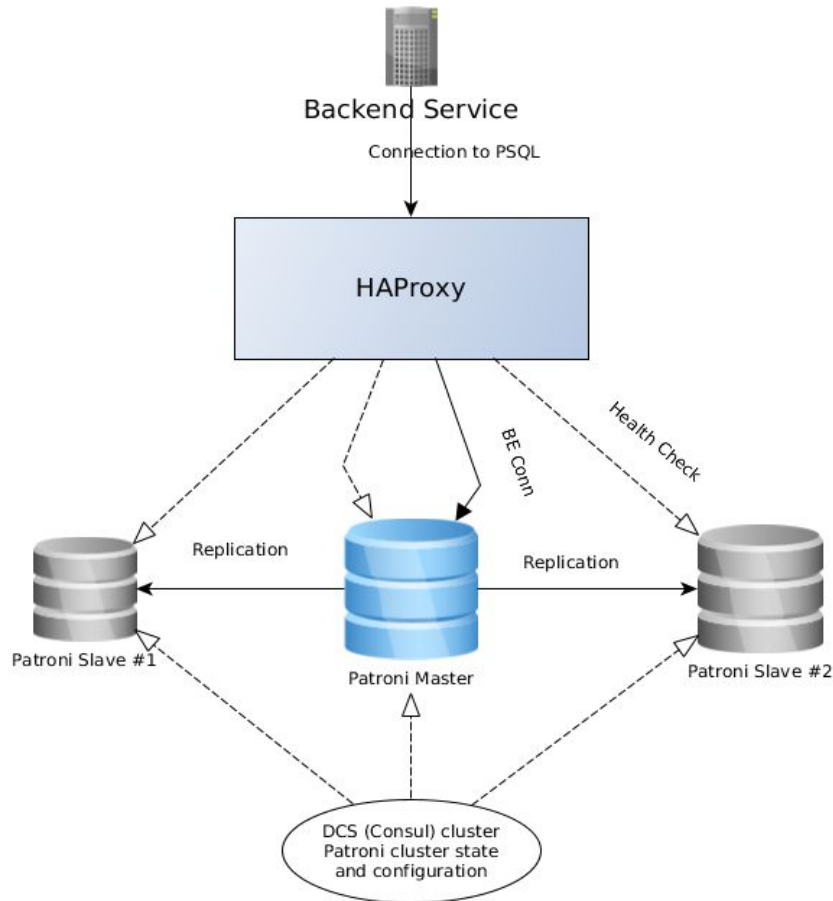


Open Source



PostgreSQL

- Cluster management handled by **Patroni**
 - High-availability
 - Automatic master/slave election
 - Auto-failover
 - Streaming replication
 - Written in python & Open Source
 - Multiple patches to upstream
- Secrets management w Vault
- Barman for Backups



PostgreSQL @ Showmax

- Backend - data store for Showmax business entities
 - Microservice architecture, each DB has RESTful microservice
- CMS
 - Stores CMS in PostgreSQL (then denormalized to Elastic)
 - Cache invalidations
- Analytics DWH
 - Copy over from all databases
 - Events digestion

What should the monitoring provide?

- Alerting based on Global properties
 - Do I have at least one operational read-only replica?
- Alerting based on historical data
 - Compare current data with data 7 days old
- Alerting based on comparison between services
 - Ratio of rates of transactions to application requests

What type of metrics are important?

- Four SRE Golden Signals
 - Latency
 - The time it takes to service a request
 - Traffic
 - A measure of how much demand is being placed on your system
 - Error
 - The rate of requests that fail
 - Saturations
 - How "full" your service is

Latency

- `pg_stat_statements`
 - Average call time
 - Maximum call time
- Replication delay

Traffic

- Pg_stat_statements
 - Calls
 - Returned rows
- Network traffic
- System IO Statistics (IOPS, traffic)

Errors

- Rollback / Commit ratio
- Deadlocks

Saturation

- `num_backends / max_connections`
- High IO utilization (`iowait`, `await`)
- High CPU utilization
- Checkpoints
- Tempfile usage
- Disk usage (free space, inodes)

Other important metrics

- Long running idle in transaction
- Blocked autovacuum
- Error events in PostgreSQL log
 - Server crashes
 - I/O Errors
 - Data corruption
 - Index corruption

Tools - Prometheus Stack

- Prometheus
 - Prometheus is a time-series database. Suitable for white-box monitoring
- Alert Manager
 - Part of the Prometheus project. Used for Alerting.
- Exporters
 - Patroni_exporter, Postgres_exporter - Exports PostgreSQL metrics
 - Node_exporter - Expose OS metrics
- Grafana
 - Web frontend for Prometheus data

Prometheus vs Nagios/Icinga

Nagios/Icinga

- Focus on black-box monitoring
- Checks usually complicated bash scripts
- Can't base alerts on relations between different metric types

Prometheus

- Promotes white-box monitoring
- High-performance TSDB
- Cloud-native ready with multiple service discovery providers
- Standardized interface for exporters

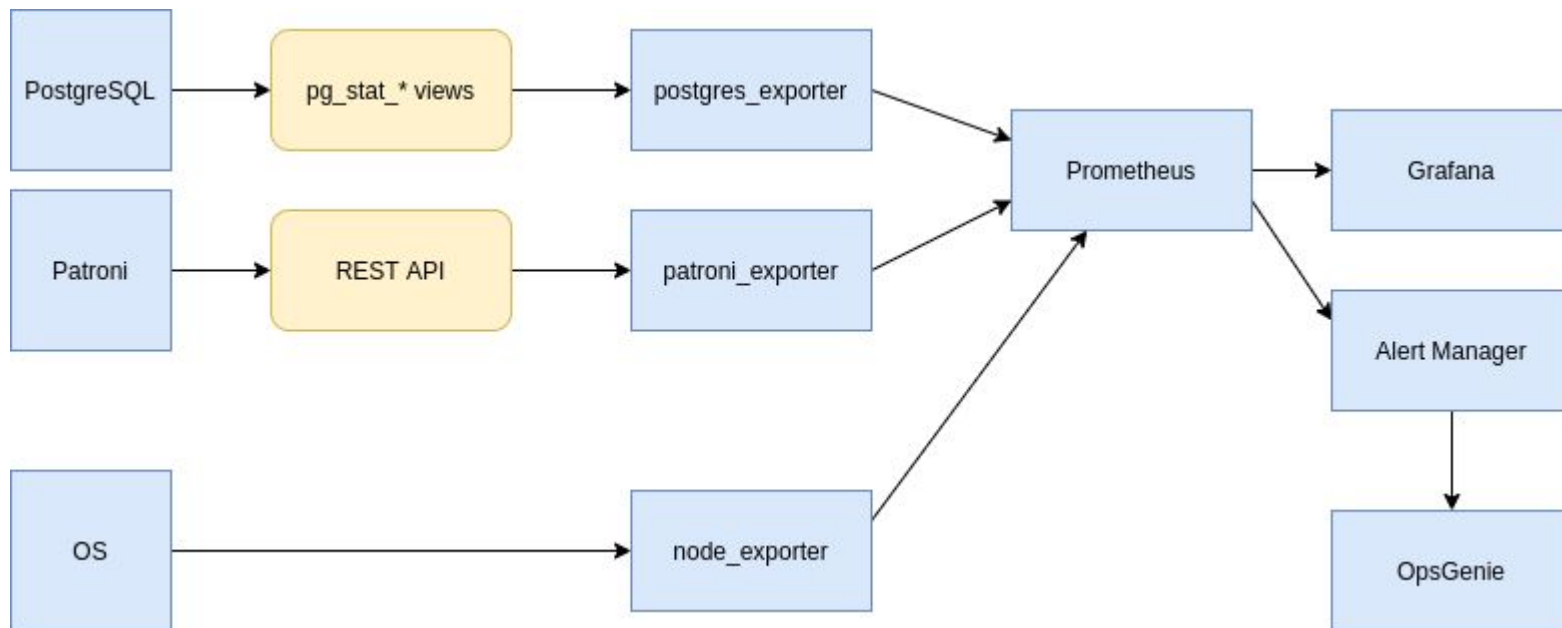
Prometheus

- Monitoring based on metrics with metadata (CPU, RAM, disk IO, disk utilization, etc.)
- Custom labels for metrics
- Functions to filter, change, remove metadata while fetching them
- Multiple exporters - expose data via HTTP API
- Effective data fetching:
 - Based on intervals measured in seconds
 - Million of data points
- Notifications can be reported via Email, Slack, etc.

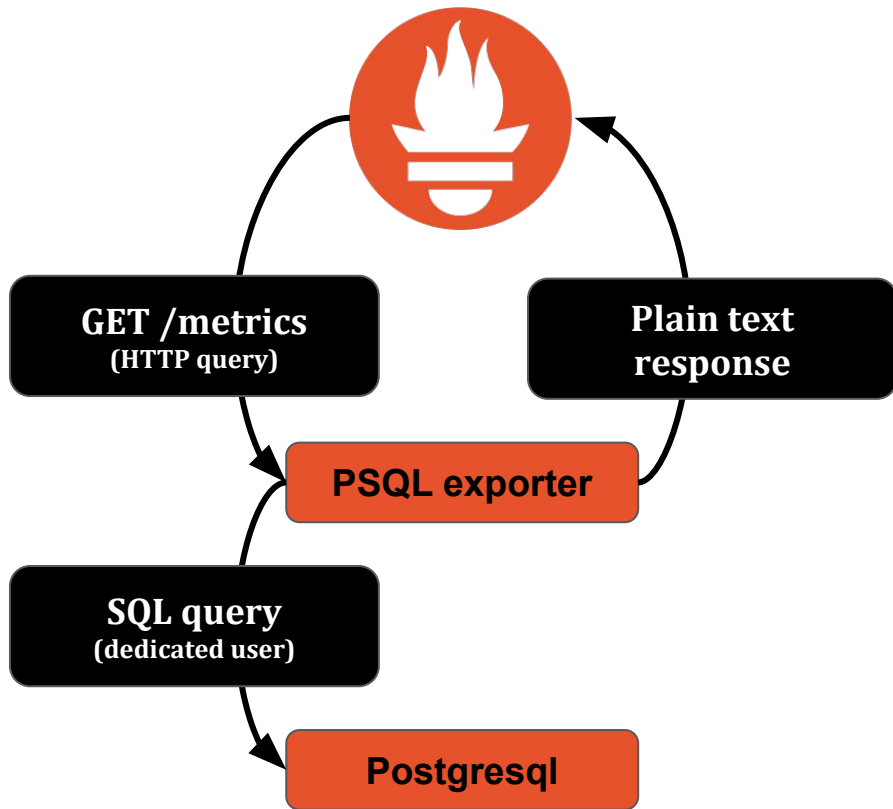


Prometheus
<https://prometheus.io>

Prometheus Pipeline



Prometheus



PromQL

Prometheus Alerts Graph Status ▾ Help

☐ Enable query history

pg_stat_database_numbackends

Load time: 14ms
Resolution: 14s
Total time series: 24

Execute

- insert metric at cursor - ▾

Graph

Console

Element	Value
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="1",datname="template1",instance="192.168.192.10:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni2:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="1",datname="template1",instance="192.168.192.13:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni1:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="1",datname="template1",instance="192.168.192.17:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni1:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="1",datname="template1",instance="192.168.192.25:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="1",datname="template1",instance="192.168.192.26:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="1",datname="template1",instance="192.168.192.7:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni2:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="12993",datname="template0",instance="192.168.192.10:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni2:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="12993",datname="template0",instance="192.168.192.13:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni1:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="12993",datname="template0",instance="192.168.192.17:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni1:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="12993",datname="template0",instance="192.168.192.25:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432")	0
pg_stat_database_numbackends(datid="12993",datname="template0",instance="192.168.192.26:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432")	0

PromQL

Prometheus Alerts Graph Status ▾ Help

☐ Enable query history

sort_desc(pg_stat_activity_count{state="active"}) > 0

Load time: 12ms
Resolution: 14s
Total time series: 8

Execute

- insert metric at cursor - ▾

Graph

Console

Element	Value
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="cms",instance="192.168.192.26:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432",state="active"}	6
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="cms",instance="192.168.192.25:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432",state="active"}	5
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="postgres",instance="192.168.192.17:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni1:5432",state="active"}	1
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="postgres",instance="192.168.192.7:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni2:5432",state="active"}	1
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="postgres",instance="192.168.192.26:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432",state="active"}	1
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="postgres",instance="192.168.192.25:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni3:5432",state="active"}	1
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="postgres",instance="192.168.192.10:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni2:5432",state="active"}	1
pg_stat_activity_count{datname="postgres",instance="192.168.192.13:9187",job="postgres-exporter",server="patroni1:5432",state="active"}	1

[Remove Graph](#)

PromQL

Prometheus Alerts Graph Status ▾ Help

☐ Enable query history

sum by (sm_env, state) (pg_stat_activity_count)

Load time: 85ms
Resolution: 14s
Total time series: 12

Execute - insert metric at cursor ▾

Graph Console

◀ Moment ▶

Element	Value
{sm_env="staging",state="active"}	3
{sm_env="staging",state="disabled"}	0
{sm_env="staging",state="fastpath function call"}	0
{sm_env="staging",state="idle in transaction"}	0
{sm_env="production",state="active"}	44
{sm_env="production",state="fastpath function call"}	0
{sm_env="production",state="idle in transaction"}	7
{sm_env="production",state="idle in transaction (aborted)"}	0
{sm_env="production",state="disabled"}	0
{sm_env="production",state="idle"}	1158
{sm_env="staging",state="idle"}	350

Alert Manager Rules - Latency

```
- alert: PgSQLSlowLoginQuery
  expr: avg_over_time(pg_stat_statements_mean_time_seconds{datname="cms", queryid="3985044216"}[1m])
  > 100
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: critical
    team: ops
  annotations:
    summary: "Slow login query (instance {{ $labels.instance }})"
    description: |
      Login queries are too slow (> 30s). Average is {{ $value }}.
      Check the PostgreSQL instance {{ $labels.instance }}
    runbook: pgsql@pgsqlslowloginquery
    title: PgSQLSlowLoginQuery
```

Alert Manager Rules - Latency

- alert: PostgreSQLReplicationLagIsTooBig

expr: pg_replication_lag{instance!~"^(ba-patroni|analytics-patroni).*" } > 300 and pg_is_in_recovery == 1

for: 15m

labels:

severity: critical

team: ops

annotations:

description:

Replication lag on PostgreSQL Slave {{ \$labels.instance }} is {{ humanizeDuration \$value }}. If lag is too big, it might be impossible for Slave to recover, it might not be considered as a new Patroni leader, or data loss could occur should such Slave be chosen as next leader.

summary: PostgreSQL Slave Replication lag is too big.

runbook: pgsql#pgsqlreplicationlagistoobig

title: PostgreSQLReplicationLagIsTooBig

Alert Manager Rules - Traffic

```
- alert: PgSQLCommitRateTooLow
  expr: |
    rate(pg_stat_database_xact_commit{datname="oauth", sm_env="prod"}[5m]) < 200
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: warn
    team: ops
  annotations:
    description: |
      Commit Rate {{$labels.instance}} for database {{$labels.datname}}
      is {{$value}} which is suspiciously low.
    runbook: postgresql#pgsqlcommitrateislow
    title: PgSQLCommitRateTooLow
```

Alert Manager Rules - Saturation

```
- alert: PgSQLNumberOfConnectionsHigh
  expr: (100 * (sum(pg_stat_database_numbackends) by (instance, job) / pg_settings_max_connections)) > 90
  for: 10m
  labels:
    severity: critical
    team: ops
  annotations:
    description:
      Number of active/open connections to PostgreSQL on {{ $labels.instance }}
      is {{ $value }}. It's possible PostgreSQL won't be able to accept any
      new connections.
    summary: Number of active connections to Postgresql too high.
    runbook: pgsql#pgsqlnumberofconnectionshigh
    title: PgSQLNumberOfConnectionsHigh
```

Alert Manager Rules - Errors

```
- alert: PostgreSQLRollbackRateTooHigh
  expr: |
    rate(pg_stat_database_xact_rollback{datname="oauth"}[5m])
    / ON(instance, datname)
    rate(pg_stat_database_xact_commit{datname="oauth"}[5m])
    > 0.05
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: warn
    team: ops
  annotations:
    description: |
      Ratio of transactions being aborted compared to committed is
      {{$value | printf "%.2f" }} on {{$labels.instance}}
    runbook: pgsql@pgsqlrollbackrateishigh
    title: PostgreSQLRollbackRateTooHigh
```

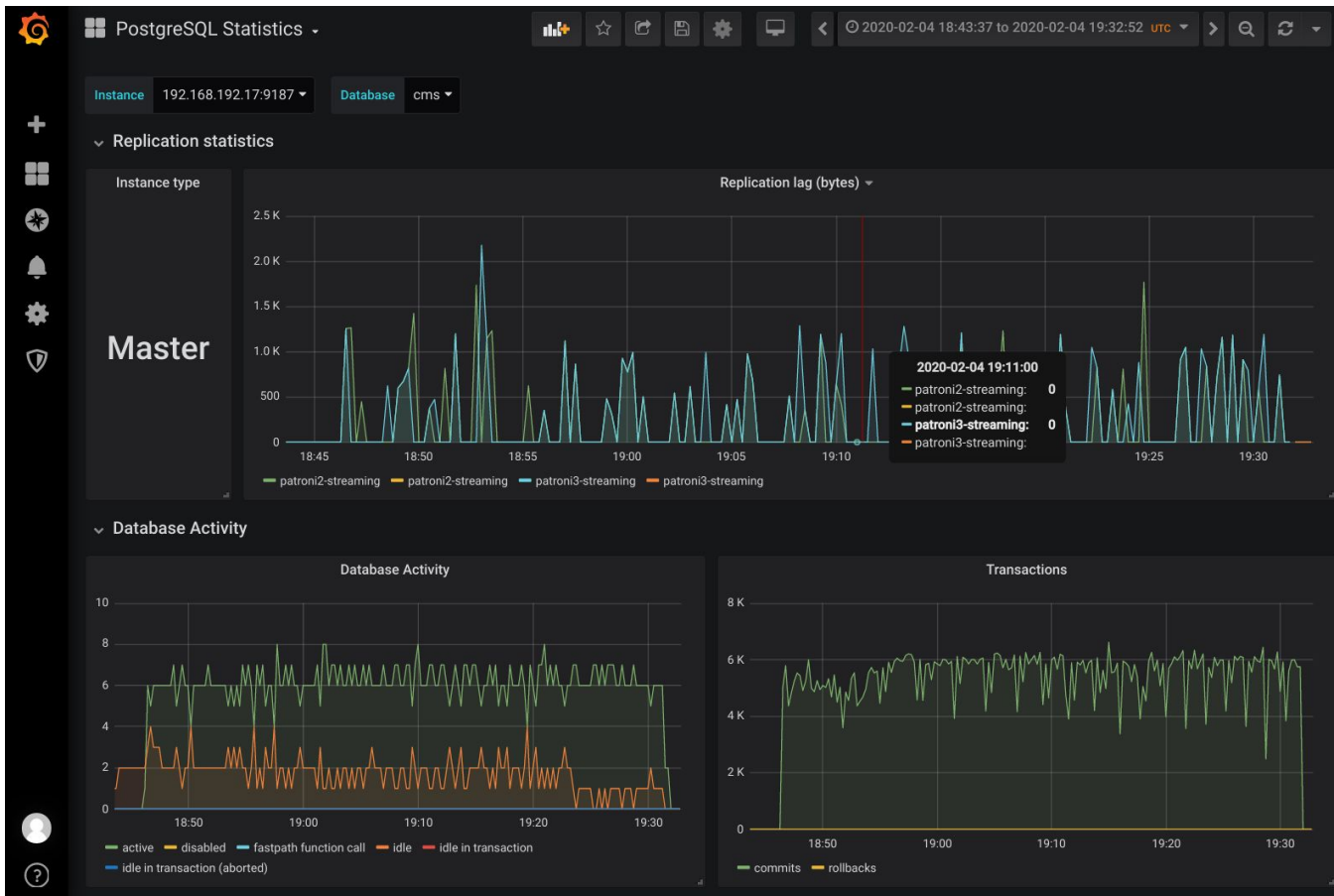
Alert Manager Rules - Errors

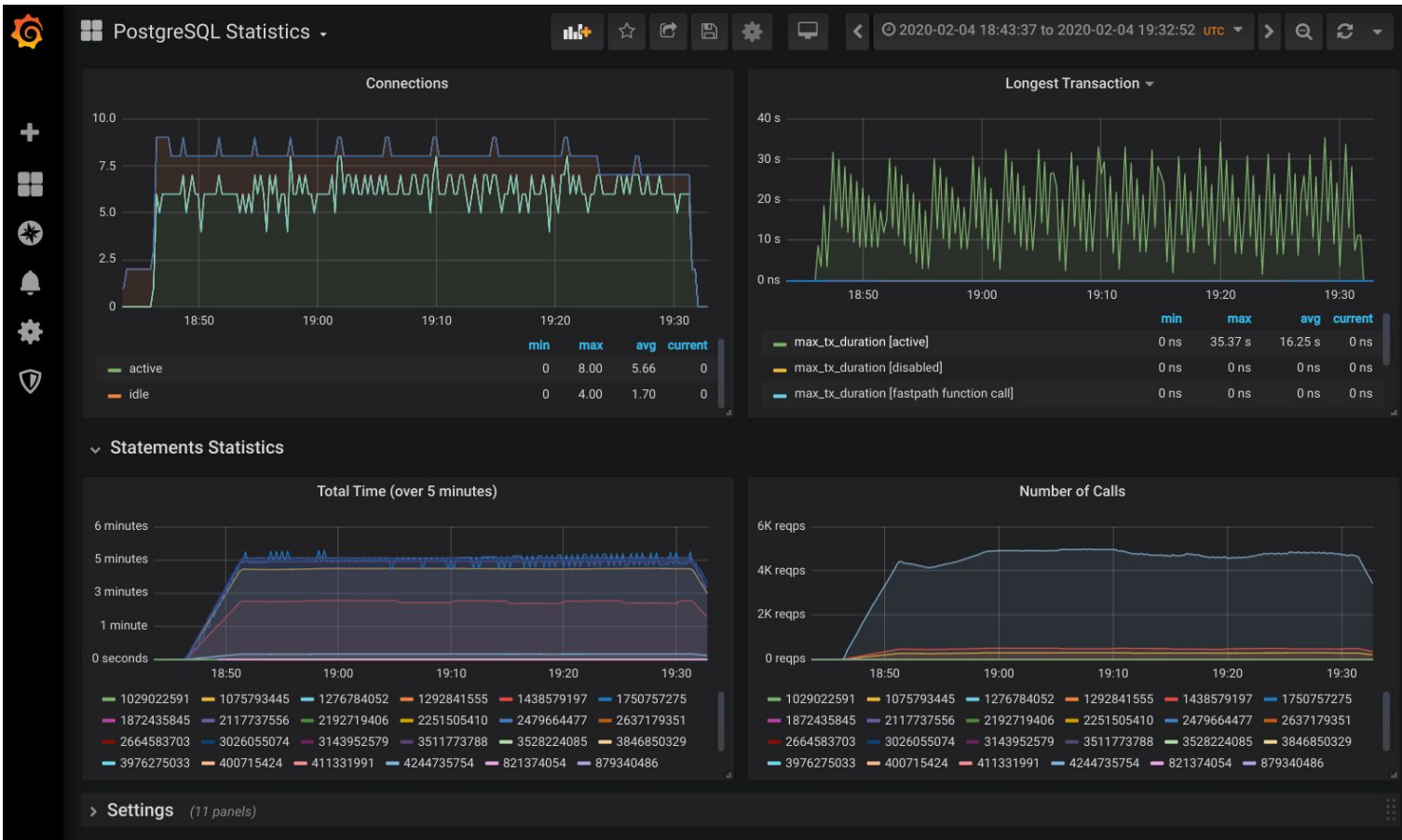
```
- alert: PgSQLDeadLocks
  expr: rate(pg_stat_database_deadlocks{datname!~"template.*|postgres"}[1m]) > 0
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: warn
    team: ops
  annotations:
    description: |
      Deadlocks has been detected on PostgreSQL {{ $labels.instance }}.
      Number of deadlocks: {{ $value }}
    summary: "Dead locks (instance {{ $labels.instance }})"
    runbook: pgsql#pgsqldeadlocksdetected
    title: PgSQLDeadLocks
```

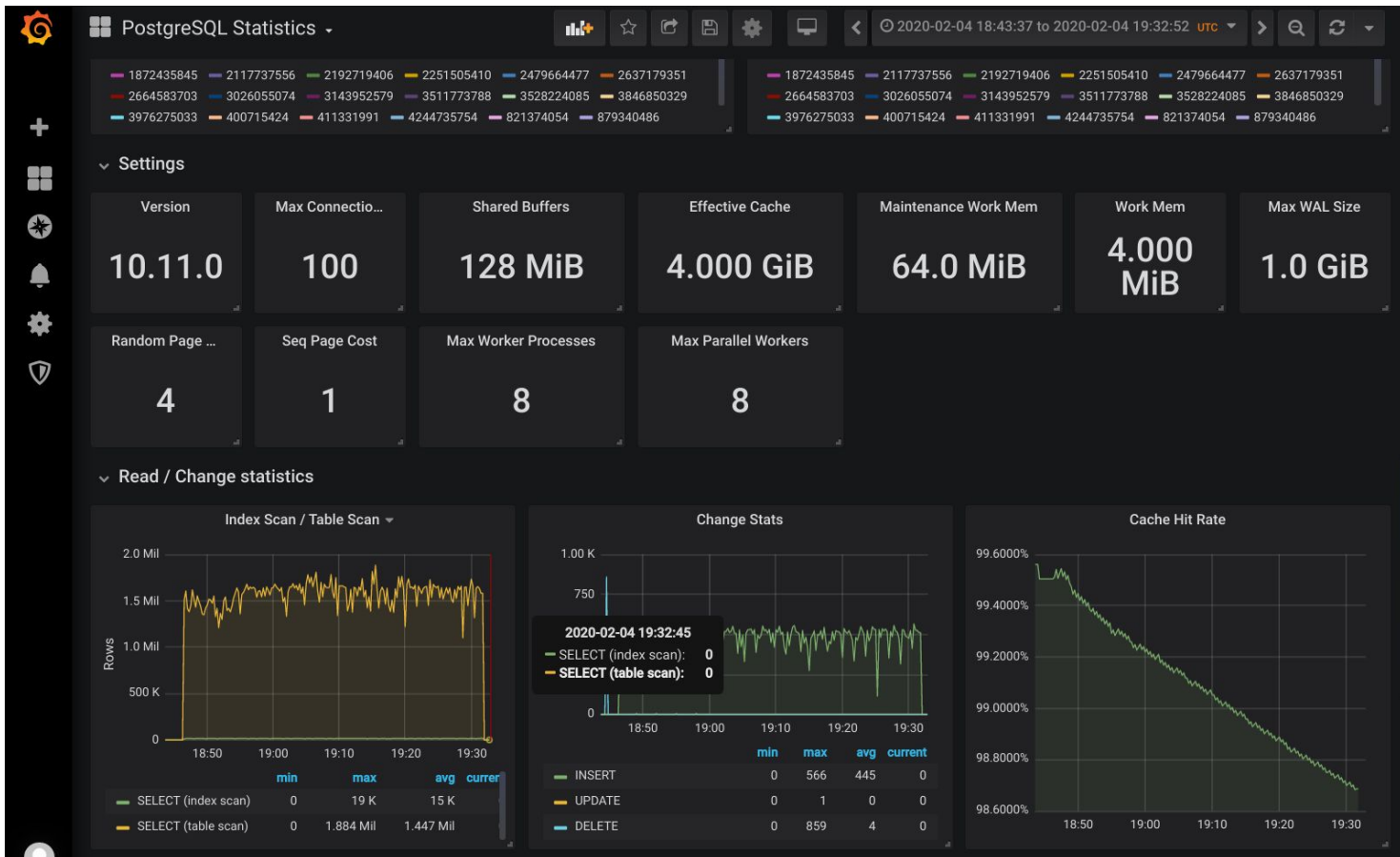
Alert Manager Rules - Errors

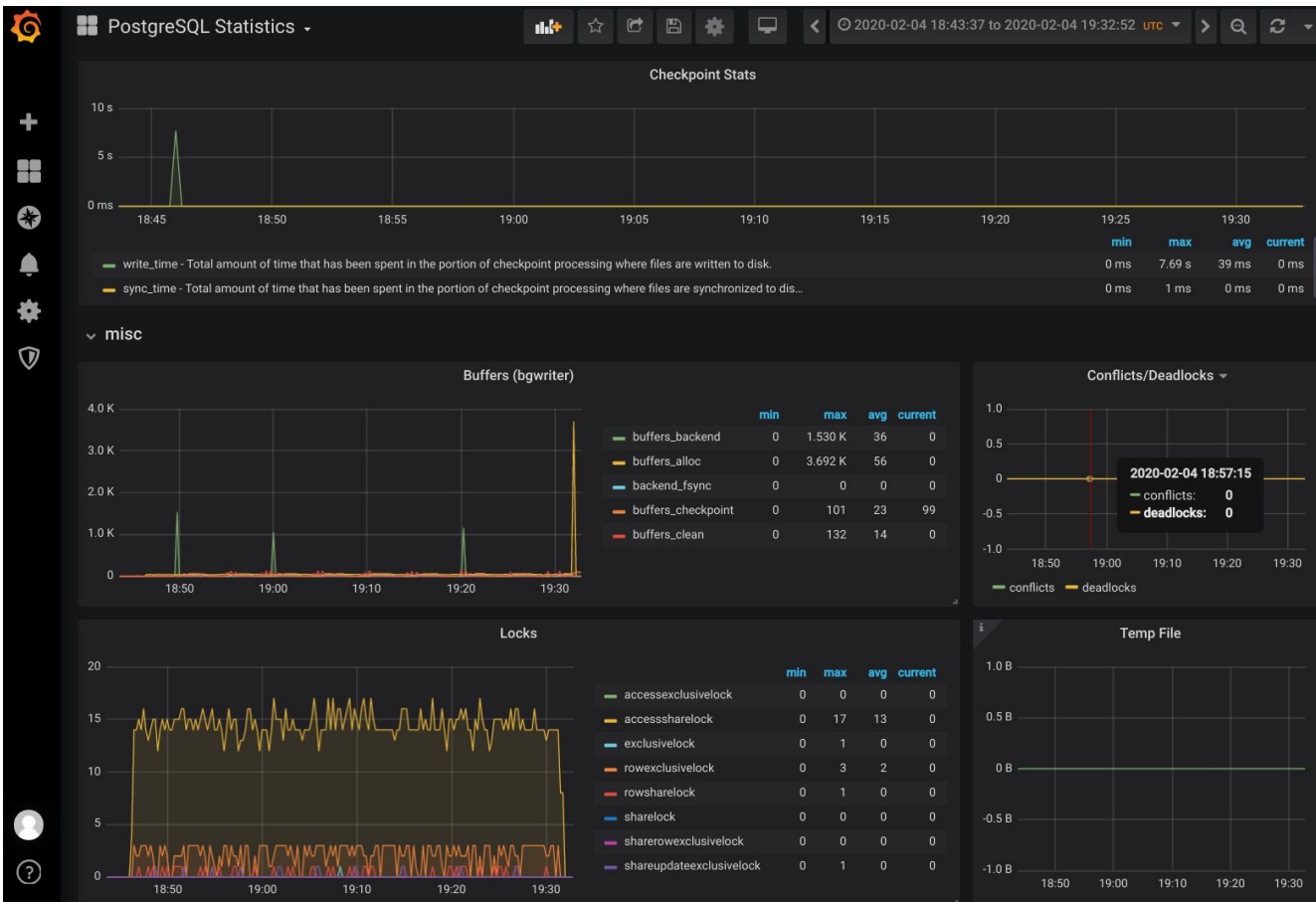
```
- alert: PgSQLTableNotVaccumed
  expr: time() - pg_stat_user_tables_last_autovacuum{datname="oauth", sm_env="prod"} > 60 * 60 * 24
  for: 5m
  labels:
    severity: warn
    team: ops
  annotations:
    summary: "Table not vaccumed (instance {{ $labels.instance }})"
    description: |
      Table has not been vaccum for 24 hours {{ $labels.relname }}
      (vacuumed before {{ humanizeDuration $value }}). There may be not enough vacuum workers.
    runbook: postgresql#pgsqltablenotvaccumed
    title: PgSQLTableNotVaccumed
```

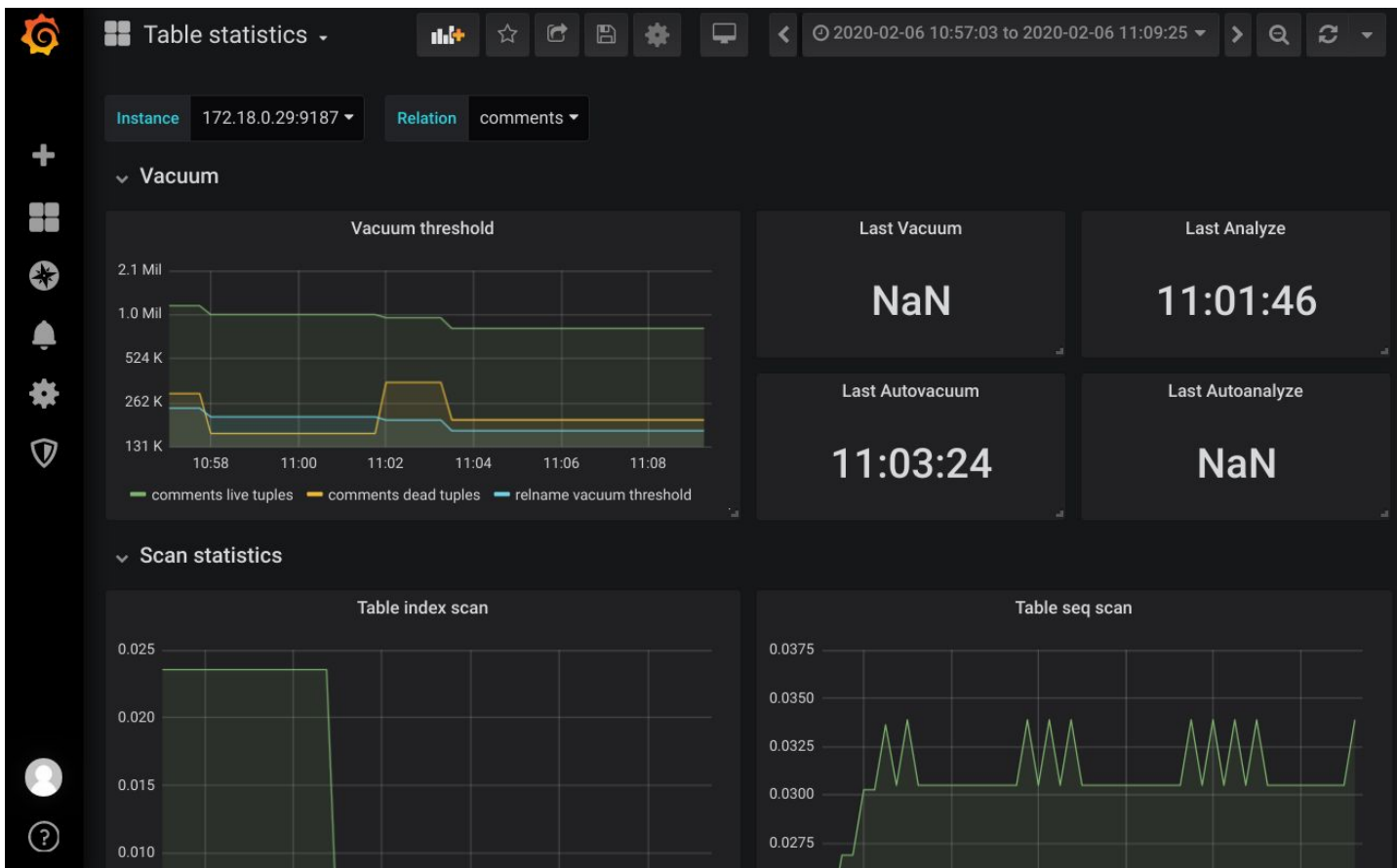
Grafana

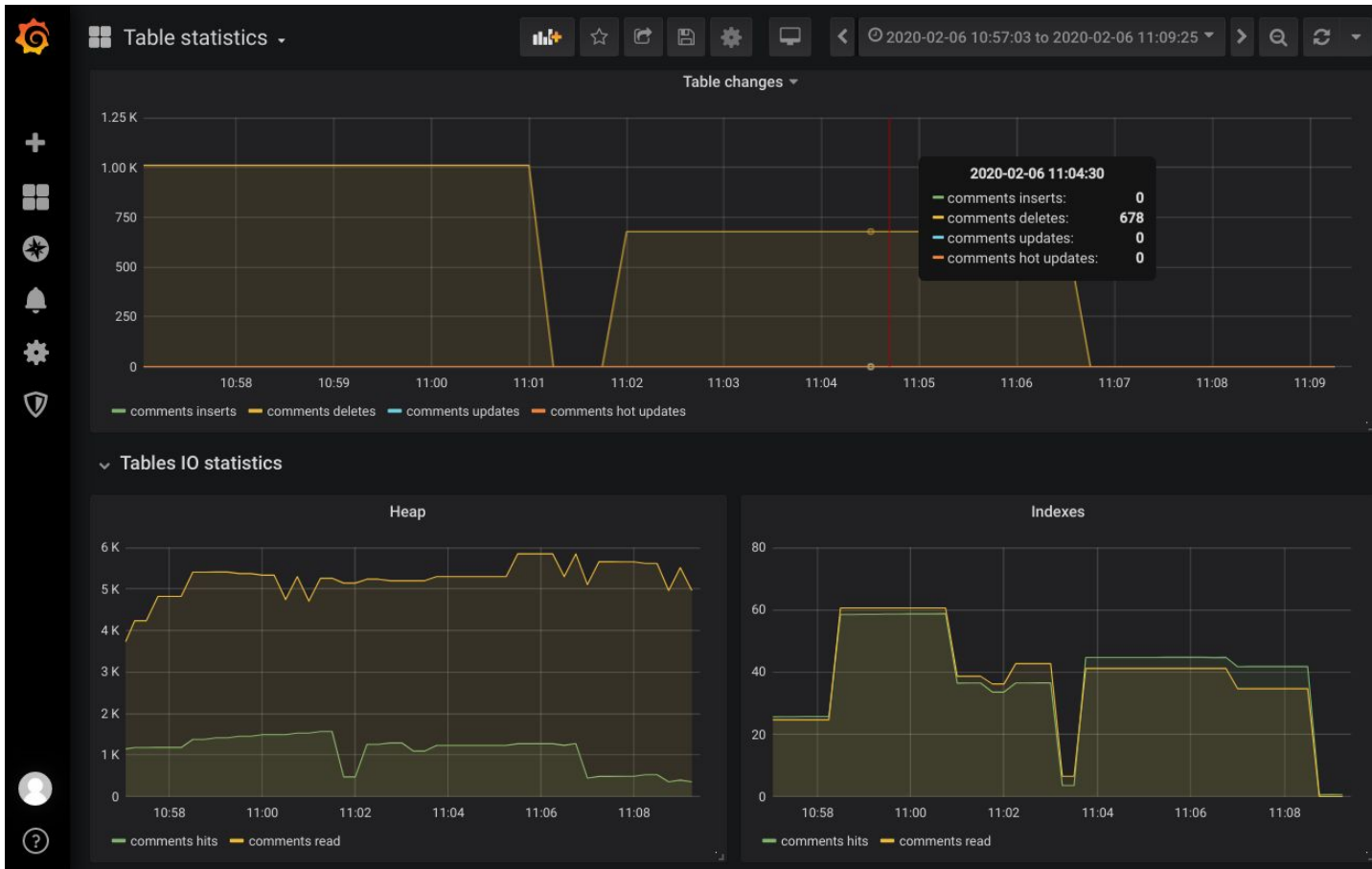
















PostgreSQL Top Queries ▾



🕒 Last 30 minutes ▾



30s ▾

Instance 192.168.192.17:9187 ▾

Database cms ▾

All ▾

Time consuming queries ▾

Database	Instance	Query ID	Total time ▾
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	2117737556	4.61 min
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3026055074	4.61 min
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3511773788	4.56 min
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1750757275	4.15 min
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1075793445	4.14 min
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1438579197	2.19 min
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	4244735754	14.15 s

Most frequent queries

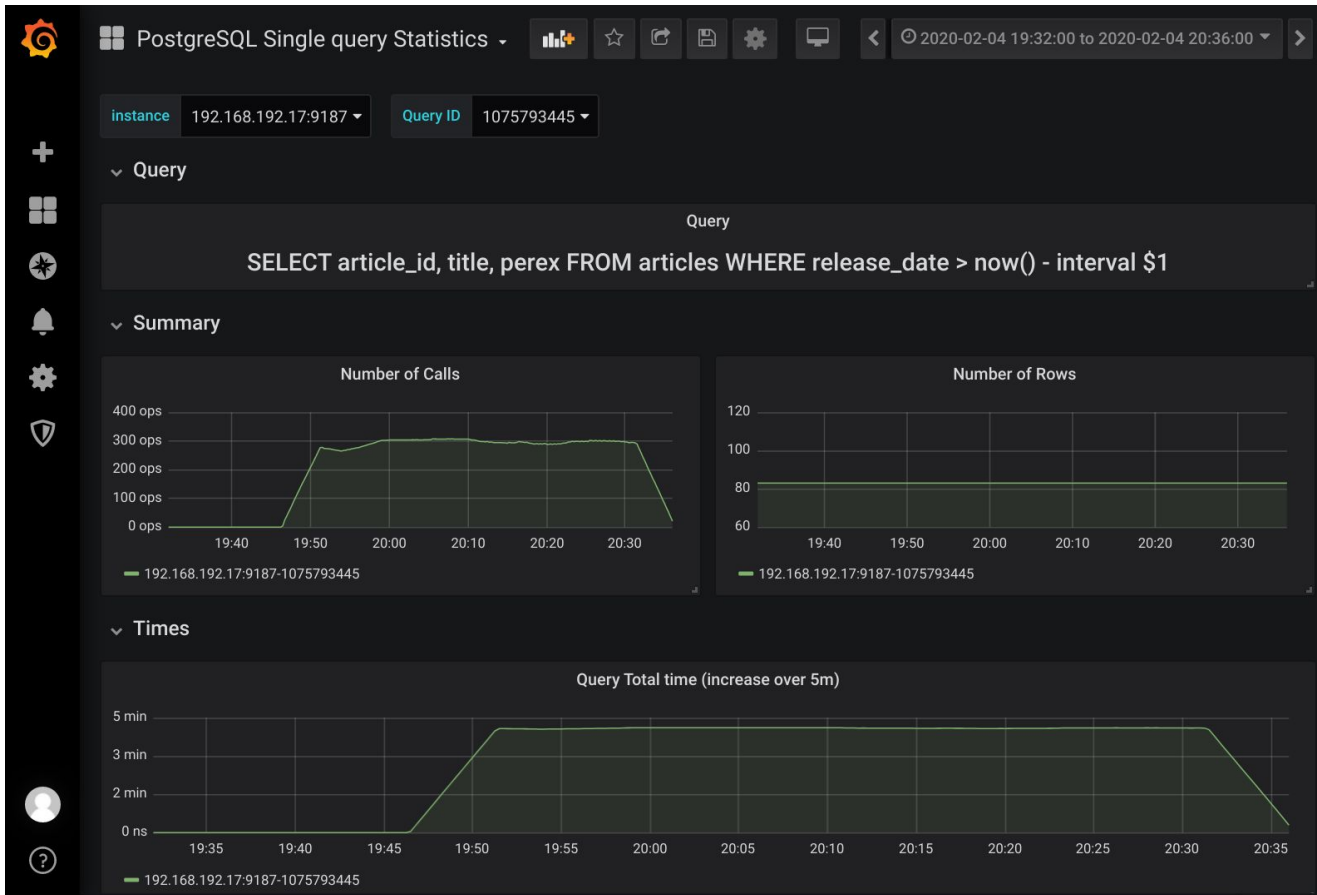
Database	Instance	Query ID	QPS ▾
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	4244735754	3.73K ops
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1438579197	336.53 ops
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1075793445	240.93 ops
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3511773788	0.90 ops
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3026055074	0.09 ops
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	2117737556	0.06 ops
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1750757275	0.02 ops

Total number of rows

Database	Instance	Query ID	Value ▾
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1750757275	41.21 K
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	4244735754	37.26 K
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1075793445	16.38 K
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3511773788	4.50 K
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1438579197	336.53
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3026055074	0.09
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	2117737556	0.06

Slowest individual queries

datname	Instance	Query ID	Max time ▾
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1750757275	56.47 s
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	2117737556	17.13 s
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3026055074	12.15 s
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	3511773788	1.21 s
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1075793445	191.06 ms
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	1438579197	156.35 ms
cms	192.168.192.17:9187	821374054	89.84 ms





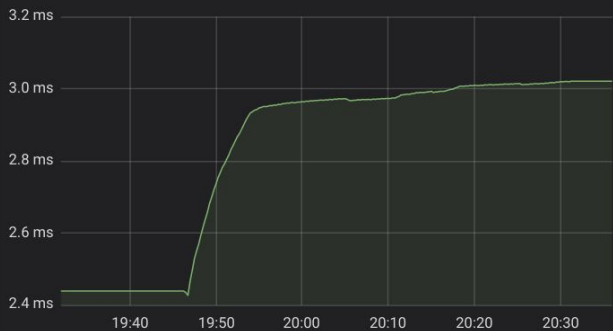
PostgreSQL Single query Statistics



2020-02-04 19:32:00 to 2020-02-04 20:36:00

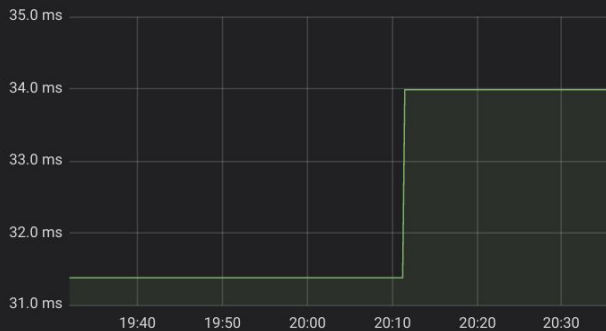


Query mean time (seconds)



192.168.192.17:9187-1075793445

Query max time (seconds)



192.168.192.17:9187-1075793445

Shared blocks

Blocks read



192.168.192.17:9187-1075793445

Blocks written

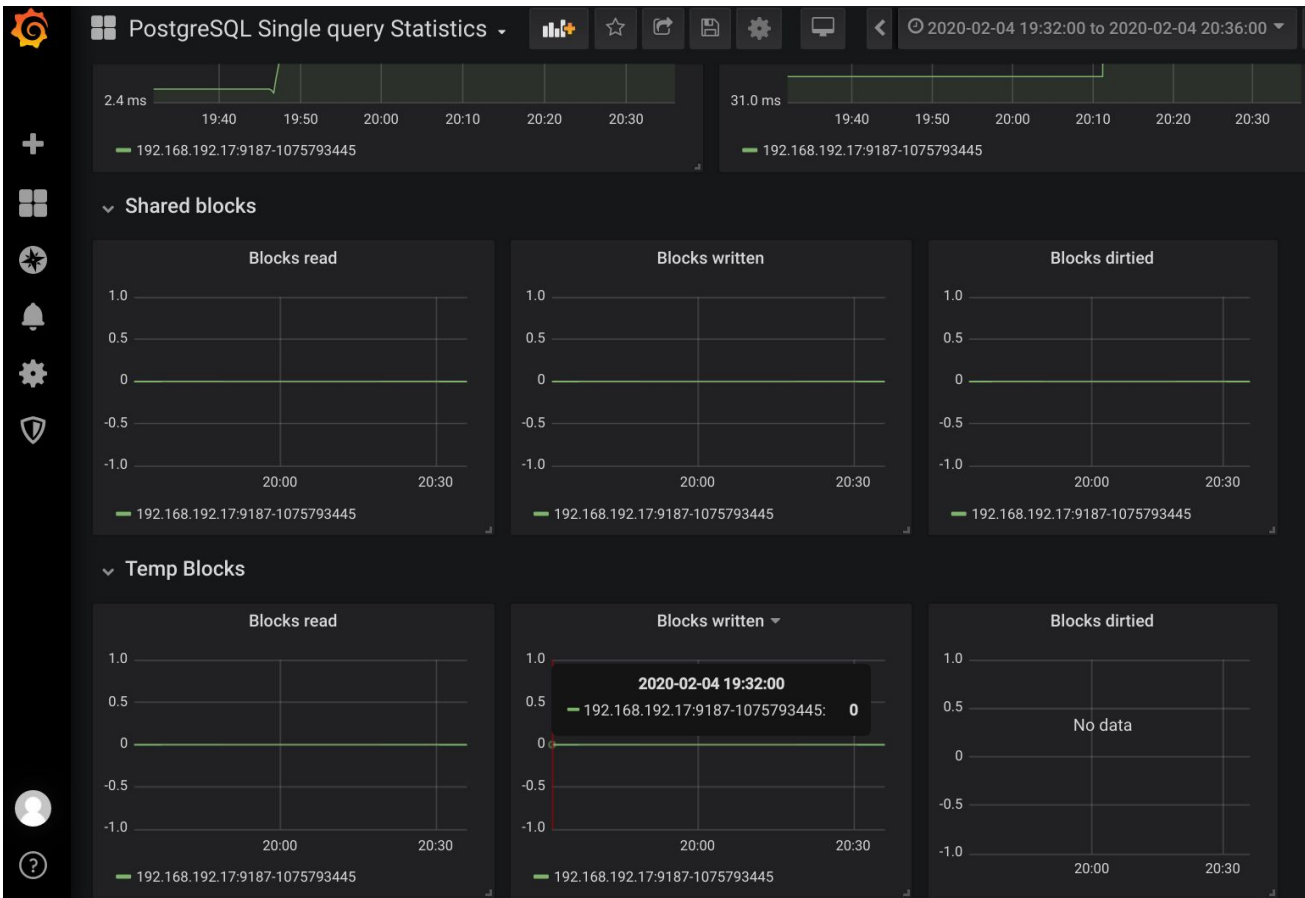


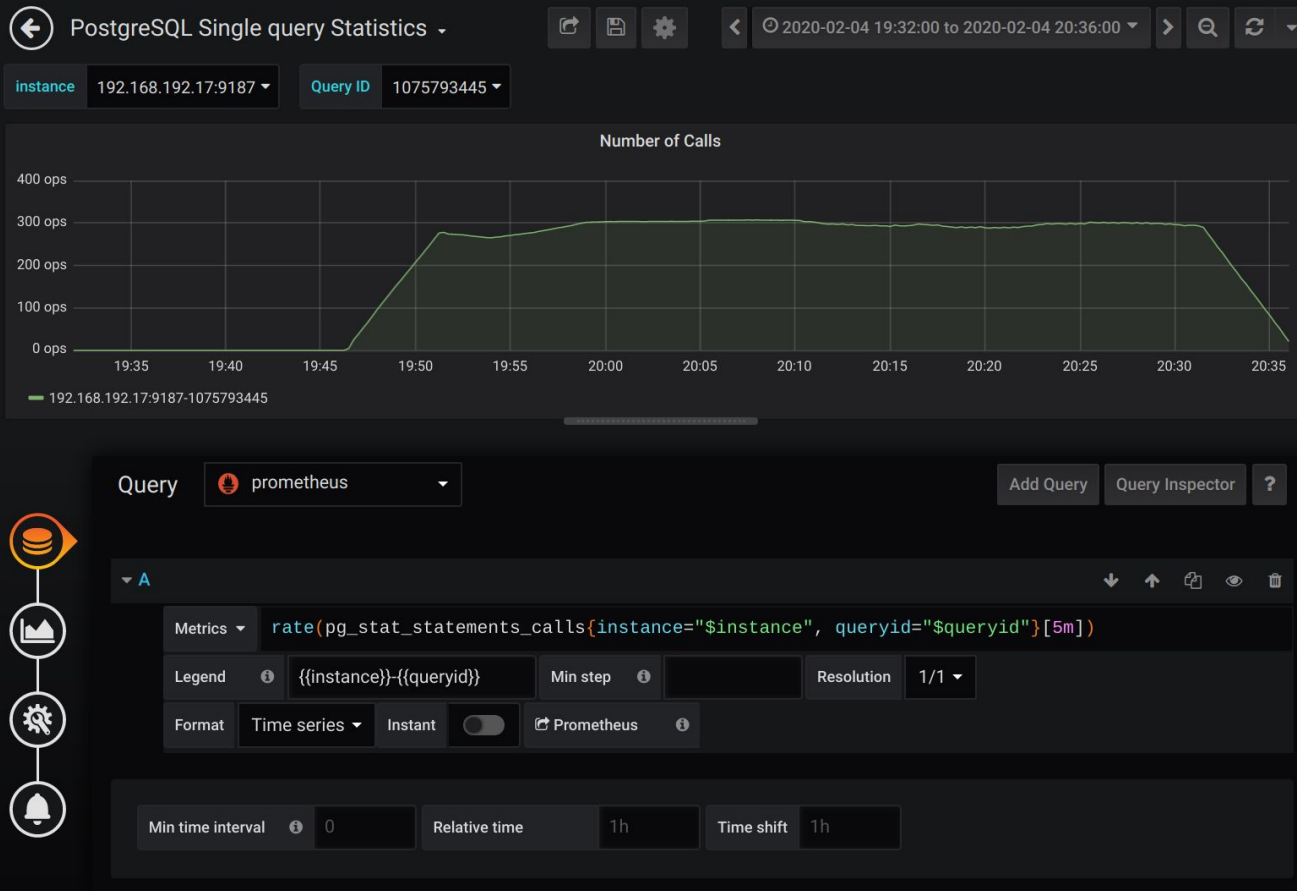
192.168.192.17:9187-1075793445

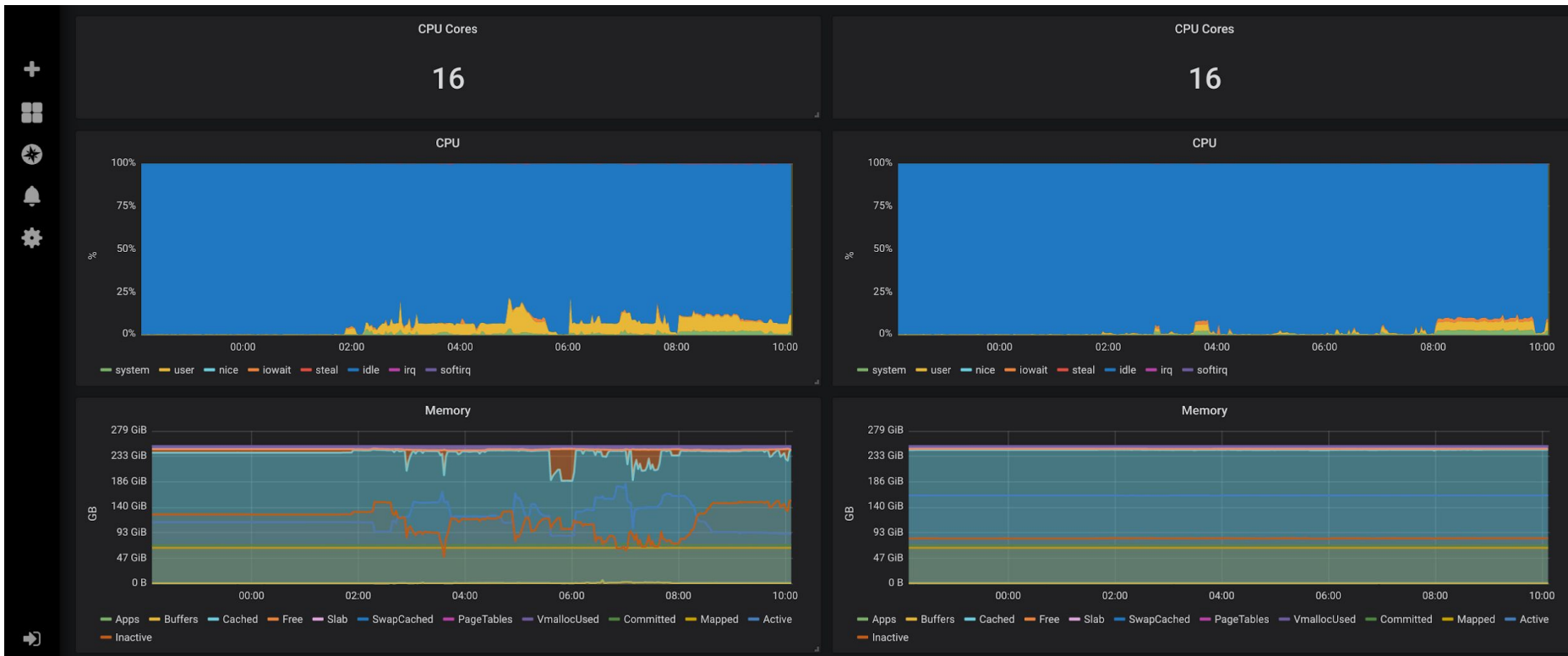
Blocks dirtied

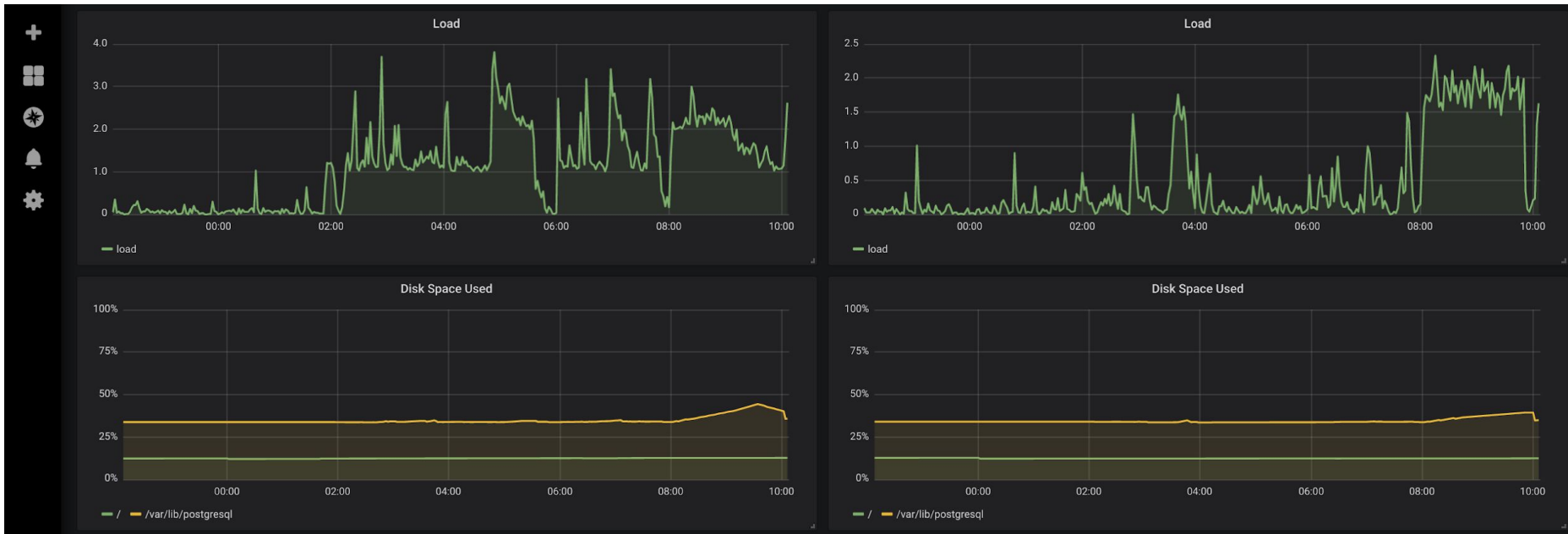


192.168.192.17:9187-1075793445







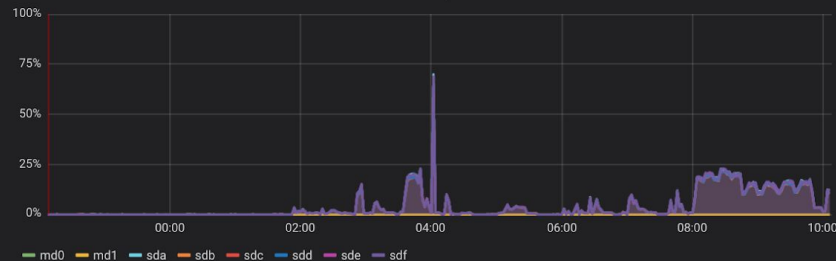




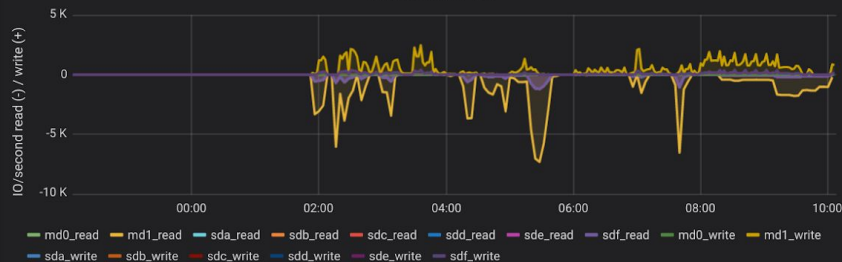
Disk Utilization per Device



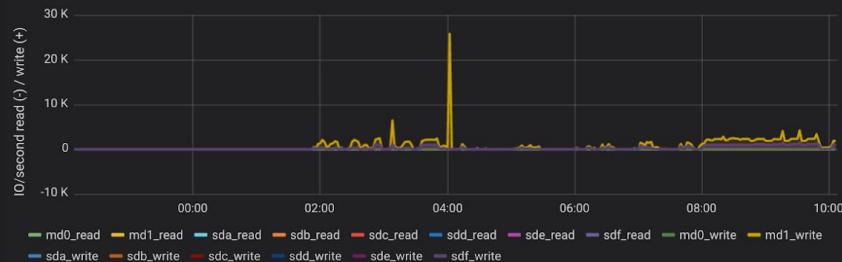
Disk Utilization per Device



Disk IOs per Device



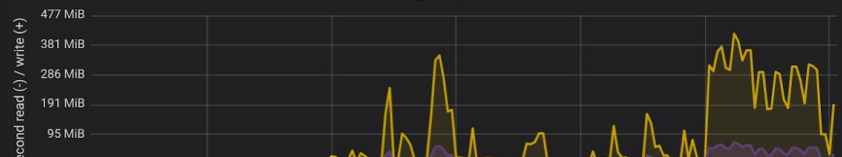
Disk IOs per Device

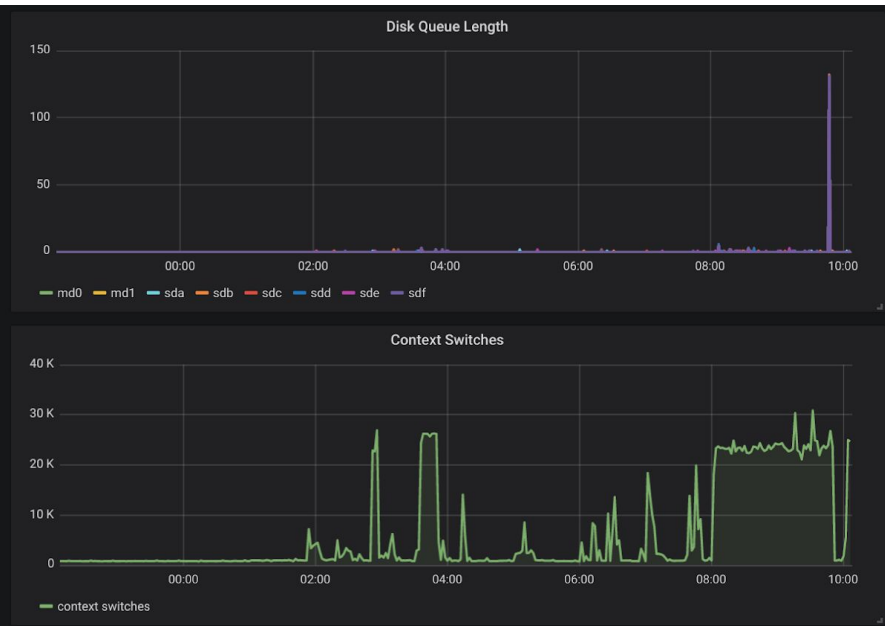


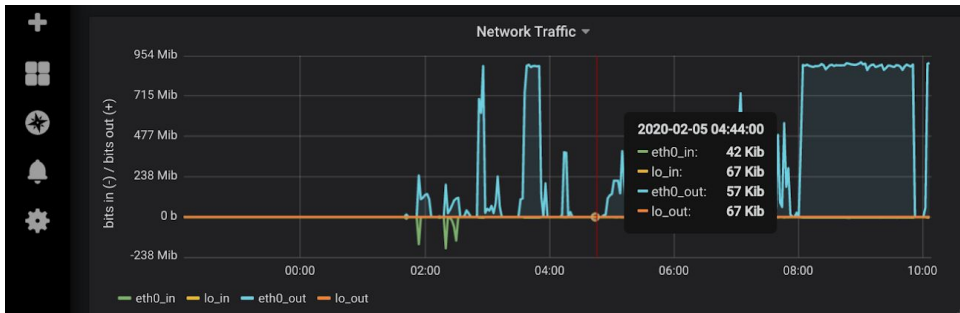
Disk Throughput per Device



Disk Throughput per Device







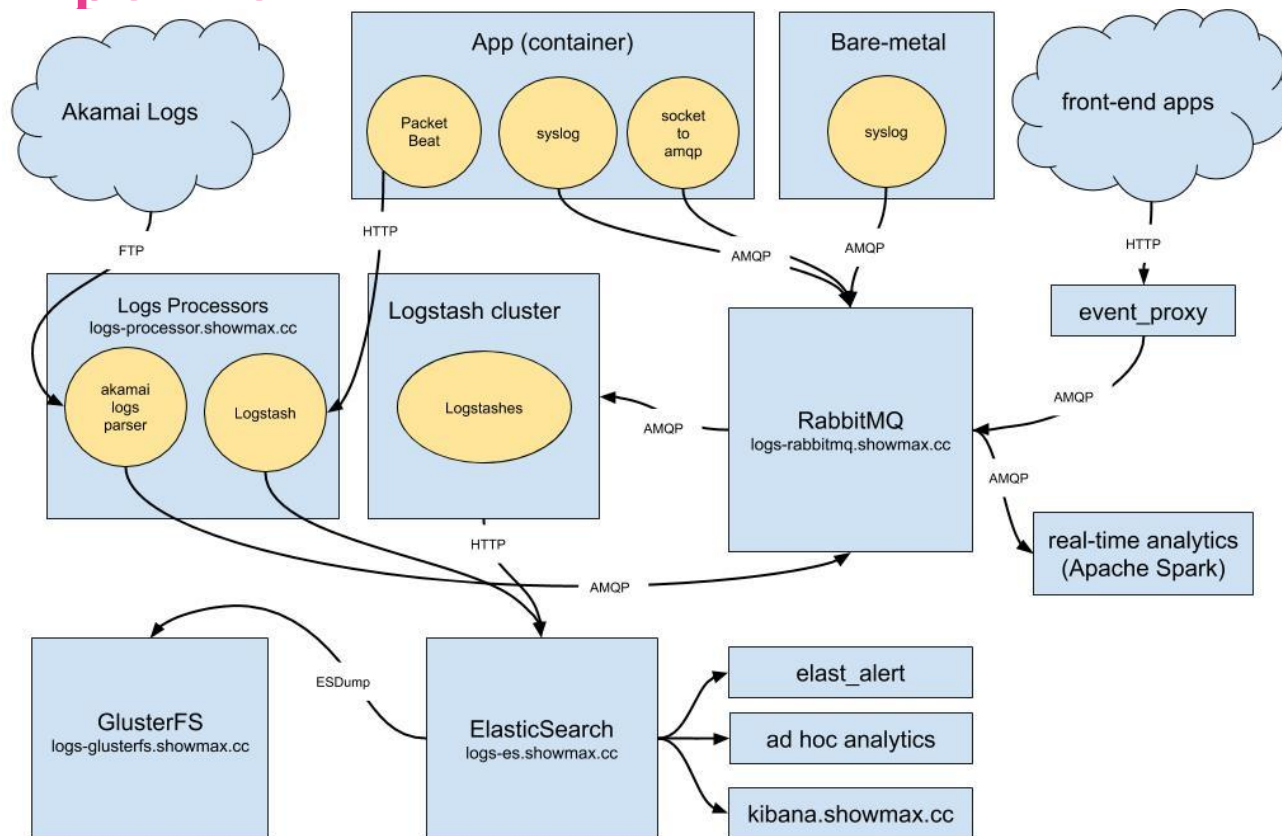
Prometheus caveats

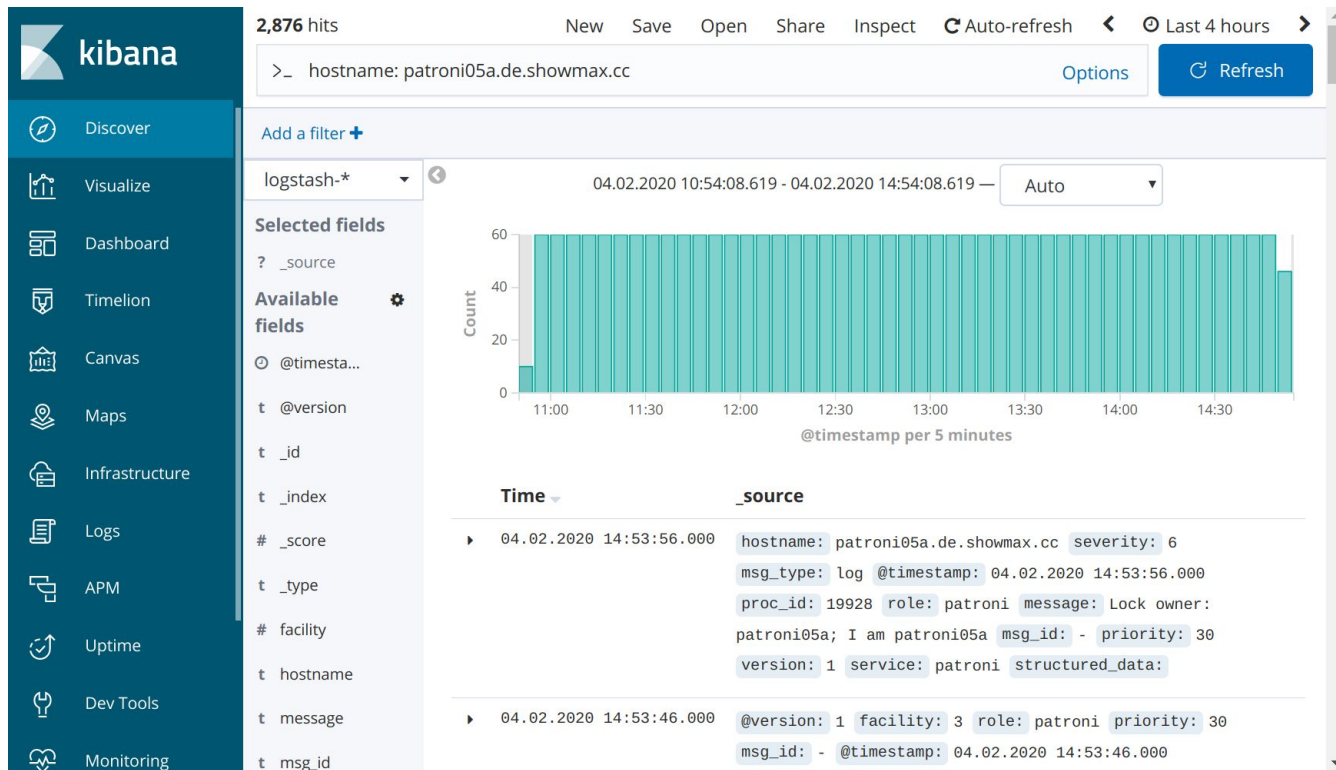
- Beware of labels with high cardinality
 - Significant performance penalty
 - It is not possible to remove labels from DB

Tools - ELK Stack

- Elastic
 - Search and analytics engine
- RabbitMQ
 - OSS Message broker. Used for log messages delivery
- Logstash
 - Server-side data processing pipeline
- Kibana
 - Kibana lets users visualize data with charts and graphs in Elasticsearch.

Logging Pipeline






kibana

- Discover
- Visualize
- Dashboard
- Timelion
- Canvas
- Maps
- Infrastructure
- Logs
- APM
- Uptime
- Dev Tools
- Monitoring
- Management

Log Explorer

? _log.queue_id...

? _log.queue_wait...

? _log.thread_id

_score

t _type

t agent ldap_user

t agent.user

api_major

api_minor

t be_name

t caller

client_asn

t client_asn_ow...

t client_city

t client_country

client_geopoint

client_ip

t client_isp

```

available FROM etl.etl_log WHERE job_id = 'daily_run_setup' AND daily_run_id =
(SELECT MAX(daily_run_id) FROM etl.etl_log) AND job_status = 'started';
data_warehouse_worker.thread: #<Thread:0x0000564309d241a8@worker.rb:33 run>
        
```

Table JSON Call Tracer

View surrounding documents View single document

@timestamp	05.02.2020 09:56:47.201
@version	1
_id	UCrIFHABJWHn0EJ0BrdY
_index	logstash-2020.02.05-000135
_log.outputter	amqp
_log.pid	399
_log.queue_length	0
_log.queue_wait_ms	0.113
_log.thread_id	47422963785940
_score	-
_type	fluentd
data_warehouse_worker.db	dwh
data_warehouse_worker.pid	18,767
data_warehouse_worker.query	SELECT 1 as available FROM etl.etl_log WHERE job_id = 'daily_run_setup' AND daily_run_id = (SELECT MAX(daily_run_id) FROM etl.etl_log) AND job_status = 'started';

Elastalert

- Simple framework to alert anomalies, spikes, or other patterns of interest from data in Elasticsearch
- Two types of components:
 - Rule types (frequency, spike, flatline, etc.)
 - Alert types (email, slack, OpsGenie, etc.)
- Alerts can include:
 - Link to Kibana dashboards
 - Aggregate counts for arbitrary fields
 - Combine alerts into periodic reports
 - Intercept and enhance match data

Elastalert

```
name: OPS Kernel OOM

# Rule description
description: >-
Rule monitors Kernel Out of Memory issues / OOM killer triggers. If experiencing OOM
the machine is short on free memory. Check the provided Kibana link in depth, find killed
process(es) that required too much memory (thus it has to be killed) and fix the situation
accordingly.

# (Required)
# Type of alert.
# the frequency rule type alerts when num_events events occur with timeframe time
type: frequency

# (Required)
# Index to search, wildcard supported
index: syslog-*

use_kibana4_dashboard: "https://kibana.showmax.cc/app/kibana#/discover/28305370-6b9e-11e7-a7ee-fd0eb2c06785"

# (Required, frequency specific)
# Alert when this many documents matching the query occur within a timeframe
num_events: 1

# (Required, frequency specific)
# num events must occur within this amount of time to trigger an alert
timeframe:
  minutes: 15

# (Required)
# A list of elasticsearch filters used for find events
# These filters are joined with AND and nested in a filtered query
# For more info: http://www.elasticsearch.org/guide/en/elasticsearch/reference/current/query-dsl.html
filter:
- term:
    service: "kernel"
- query:
    query_string:
      query: "message: \"Out of memory\""


```

OPS Kernel OOM

At least 1 events occurred between 2019-06-05 07:23 UTC and 2019-06-05 07:38 UTC

@timestamp: 2019-06-05T07:38:31Z

@version: 1

id: RCWTJmsBCc8JNV71Q6o

_index: syslog-2019.06.05

_type: syslog

facility: 0

hostname: nomad01we.de.showmax.io

kibana_link: https://kibana.showmax.cc/app/kibana#/discover/28305370-6b9e-11e7-a7ee-fd0eb2c06785?_g=%28refreshInterval%3A%28display%3AOff%2Csection%3A0%2Cvalue%3A0%29%2Ctime%3A%28from%3A%272019-06-05T07%3A23%3A31Z%27%2Cmode%3Aabsolute%2Cto%3A%272019-06-05T07%3A53%3A31Z%27%29%29

message: Memory cgroup out of memory: Kill process 18274 (ruby) score 837 or sacrifice child

msg_id: -

msg_type: syslog

num_hits: 1

num_matches: 1

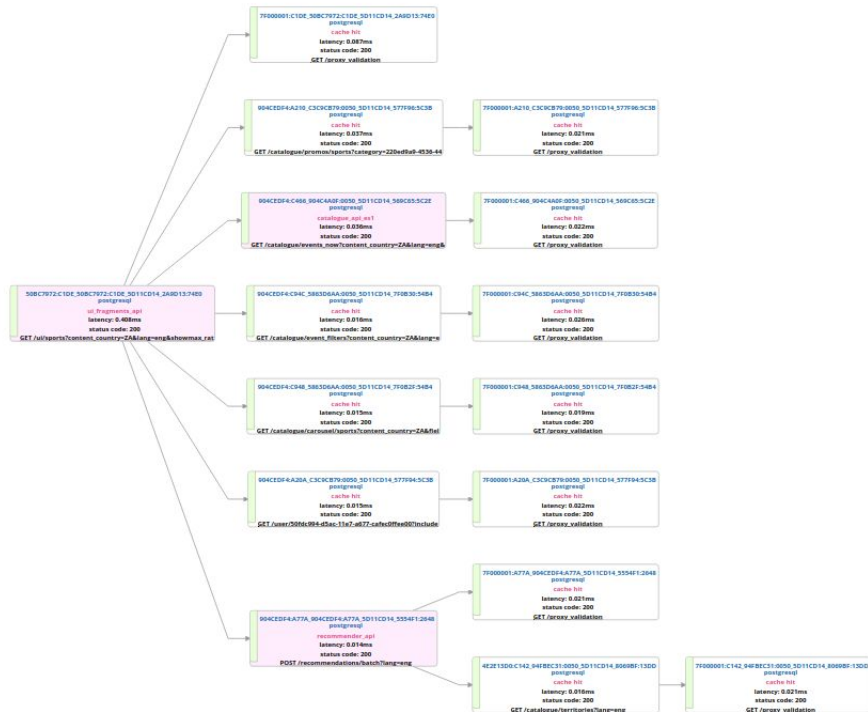
priority: 3

proc_id: -

service: kernel

Tracing the API requests

- Trace request across services
 - Down to DB statements



Going down to the DB statements

- Comments to the rescue
 - `SELECT "user_profiles".* FROM "user_profiles" WHERE "user_profiles"."user_id" = '6881a8eb-5e54-4073-a2ec-a62eb4e8e746' /* 74CA2798:B364_904C6C7E:0050_5E1D733D_12189B7:0428 */`
- Instrument the ORM layers to include the tracing information
 - Active Record for Ruby
 - `adapter.prepend(::ActiveRecord::Tags::ExecuteWithTags)`
- ELK stack to trace the sql requests

Why: #1 - Watchdog for the excellence

- Regularly analyze the queries, identify the weak points

Database queries taking too long based on logs-app-postgresql-2020.01.02-*

See <https://kibana.showmax.cc/app/kibana#/discover/c5869b80-fe1d-11e8-a107-856e4e008c55>

backend@showmax.com

download

002 1,605: DELETE FROM "download_events" WHERE "download_events"."download_id" = '<param>'

001 1,289: SELECT MAX("downloads"."updated_at") FROM "downloads" WHERE "downloads"."user_id" = '<param>'

001 1,209: SELECT "downloads".* FROM "downloads" WHERE ("downloads"."state" != '<param>') AND "downloads"."master_user_id" = '<param>'

Why: #2 - Easy investigation of failures

- Kibana queries based on request ID are completely trackable
- Easy to analyze abnormal patterns, and track back to user actions

Why: #3 - Auditing

- Find who messed with given data?
 - Additionally to classical audit log, we are able to track the API operations down to SQL statements.

Postgres @ Showmax - monitoring

- Icinga
 - Active checks - db connection test
 - HAProxy backends state monitoring
- Prometheus
 - Clusters stats ingestion and alerting
 - Master switching
 - Replica lags
 - Current connection count



Next steps

- Monitoring based on trends
 - Create usual traffic envelope using recording rules
 - Alert on anomalies in the traffic
- Loki
 - “Prometheus for logs” from Grafana
 - Tightly integrated with performance data
- Thanos
 - HA, Long term storage, Downsampling
 - Single interface to all Prometheus instances

Come and join us!

We're looking for new colleagues

tech.showmax.com



Thanks!

Questions?