Part 2 - Configuration

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Services

After NiFi has been deployed, we can start configuring it to consume events from Kafka and send them to OpenSearch. Once NiFi is ready, you should be able to access it by going to http://localhost:32002/nifi.

Before we begin, we need to define the services our processors will need. To do this, find the Settings button underneath the "NiFi Flow" text on the middle-left side of the screen. Selecting this should pop up the NiFi Flow Configuration screen. Then, select the "Controller Services" tab.



Exercise: Configuring NiFi Services (2)

After that, press the "+" symbol near the top-right side of the table to add a service. We will need to add the following services:

- JsonTreeReader
- JsonRecordSetWriter
- StandardRestrictedSSLContextService
- ElasticSearchClientServiceImpl

The JsonTreeReader and JsonRecordSetWriter can both be enabled immediately by clicking on the *lightning bolt icons* to the right of their respective rows and selecting "Enable" in the window that pops up.

Note: once "Enable" has been clicked, the button will change to a "Cancel" button, so clicking again will cause the enable to be cancelled.

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Services (3)

StandardRestrictedSSLContextService needs to be configured by clicking the Settings button on its row, then going to the Properties tab. Fill in the following properties:

- Keystore Filename: keytool/keystore.p12
- Keystore Password: keystore
- Key Password: (leave blank)
- Keystore Type: PCKS12
- Truststore Filename: keytool/truststore.p12
- Truststore Password: truststore
- Truststore Type: PCKS12

Then select apply.

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Services (4)

Next, we need to configure ElasticSearchClientServiceImpl. Click on the settings button to the right, and nagivate to Properties. Enter the following settings:

- HTTP Hosts: https://opensearch-cluster-master:9200
- Username: admin
- Password: admin
- SSL Context Service: StandardRestrictedSSLContextService

Click apply, then enable both the StandardRestrictedSSLContextService and the ElasticSearchClientServiceImpl.

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Processors

Double check to ensure that all your services are properly enabled. Every service should show the *Enabled* state as shown below:

Name 🔺	Туре	Bundle	Stat	e	Scope	
ElasticSearchClient	ElasticSearchClient	org.apache.nifi - nifi	7	Enabled	NiFi Flow	* *
JsonRecordSetWriter	JsonRecordSetWrite	org.apache.nifi - nifi	4	Enabled	NiFi Flow	* *
JsonTreeReader	JsonTreeReader 1.2	org.apache.nifi - nifi	4	Enabled	NiFi Flow	* *
StandardRestrictedS	StandardRestrictedS	org.apache.nifi - nifi	4	Enabled	NiFi Flow	• ×

Note: If they are not enabled, try clicking on the **lightning bolt icon** on the far right in the same row.

Once verified, exit out of the NiFi Flow Configuration screen. Now that all the services we need are enabled, we can add the processors. In the top left of the screen, find the Processors icon. Click and drag the icon to create a new processor. Find the ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 processor and add it.

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Processors (2)

Double click on the processor to open its settings, then set the following properties:

- Kafka Brokers: kafka:9092
- Topic Name(s): filebeat
- Value Record Reader: JsonTreeReader
- Record Value Writer: JsonRecordSetWriter
- Group ID: nifi
- Security Protocol: SASL_PLAINTEXT
- SASL Mechanism: PLAIN
- Username: user1
- Password: kafka

Note: The username and password fields do not appear until SASL Mechanism is set to plain.

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Processors (3)

Create a PutElasticsearchRecord processor, and configure the following settings:

- Index: filebeat
- Client Service: ElasticSearchClientServiceImpl
- Record Reader: JsonTreeReader

Click apply.

Background: NiFi Relationships

NiFi processors are connected with each other using relationships. All relationships need to be configured in order for a NiFi processor to be runnable. To view a processor's relationships, double click the processor to open its settings, then navigate to the "Relationships" tab to view its relationships.

For example, the ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 processor has two relationships: success , and parse.failure .

Background: NiFi Relationships (2)

Below each relationship is a brief explanation. For example, in our case, if the event cannot be parsed by JsonTreeReader , the event will be sent to the parse.failure relationship. Every relationship has both a "terminate" and "retry" option. SETTINGS SC

Automatically Terminate / Retry Relationships 📀

parse.failure

🗹 terminate 🛛 retry

If a message from Kafka cannot be parsed using the configured Record Reader, the contents of the message will be routed to this Relationship as its own individual FlowFile.

success

□ terminate □ retry

FlowFiles received from Kafka. Depending on demarcation strategy it is a flow file per message or a bundle of messages grouped by topic and partition.

Background: NiFi Relationships (3)

Enabling the "retry" option will cause the event to be re-processed by the processor a set number of times in a configurable manner. The "terminate" option causes the event to be dropped. Both "retry" and "terminate" options can be enabled, which causes the event to be dropped after all retries have been exhausted.

Any relationship that does not have the "terminate" option enabled must be connected to another processor, even if "retry" is enabled on that relationship. In our case, we will be connecting our ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 processor's success relationship to our PutElasticsearchRecord processor.

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Relationships

First, we need to terminate all the relationships we don't need. Open the ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 settings again. Go to the "Relationships" tab, and select "terminate" under parse.failure, and apply.

Then, open the PutElasticsearchRecord processor settings, go to the "Relationships" tab, and select "terminate" for all relationships. We will be handling errors later. Exit out of the processor's settings.

Exercise: Configuring NiFi Relationships (2)

Now, hover over the ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 processor until an arrow appears in the middle of it. Drag the arrow to the PutElasticsearchRecord processor. Select the success relationship, and apply. This creates a connection for the success relationship between the ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 and the PutElasticsearchRecord processors.



Click and drag this arrow to the PutElasticsearchRecord processor

Exercise: Running NiFi processors

The screen should now look like this:

Now, for each processor, click on it once, and in the "Operate" panel on the left, select the "Play" button to run the processor.

Note: if your processors are still displaying a yellow triangle instead of a "Stop" symbol, it has not been configured correctly. You can hover over the triangle to see the error.

Please ask for help if you are stuck and the yellow triangle doesn't go away.

1	ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 1.28.0 org.apache.nifi - nifi-kafka-2-6-nar	
In	0 (0 bytes)	5 mi
Read/V	Nrite 0 bytes / 0 bytes	5 mi
Out	0 (0 bytes)	5 mi
Tasks/	Time 0/00:00:00.000	5 mi
	PutElasticsearchRecord PutElasticsearchRecord 1.28.0	
·····	org.apache.nm - nm-elasticsearch-restapi-nar	5 mir
In	0 (0 bytes)	
In Read/V	0 (0 bytes) Nrite 0 bytes / 0 bytes	5 mir
In Read/V Out	0 (0 bytes) Nrite 0 bytes / 0 bytes 0 (0 bytes)	5 mi 5 mi

Exercise: Running NiFi processors (2)

The screen should now look like this:

You can stop the processor again by clicking on it once, then selecting the "Stop" button in the "Operate" panel on the left.

Note: once a processor is running, its properties can no longer be edited. To edit the properties, you must stop the processor first. Once the processor is stopped, its properties can be edited again.

Note: By default, selecting "Stop" will gracefully shut down the processor. If the processor is stuck while stopping, the "Stop" button will change into a "Terminate" button. Selecting this will kill the processor.

,	org.apache.nifi - nifi-kafka-2-6-nar	
In	0 (0 bytes)	5 min
Read/Write	0 bytes / 0 bytes	5 min
Out	0 (0 bytes)	5 min
Tasks/Time	49 / 00:00:10.307	5 min
N	inne	
Q	ueued 0 (0 bytes)	
	PutElasticsearchRecord PutElasticsearchRecord 1.28.0 org.apache.nifi - nifi-elasticsearch-restapi-nar	
	PutElasticsearchRecord PutElasticsearchRecord 1.28.0 org.apache.nifi - nifi-elasticsearch-restapi-nar 0 (0 bytes)	5 min
In Read/Write	PutElasticsearchRecord PutElasticsearchRecord 1.28.0 org.apache.nifi - nifi-elasticsearch-restapi-nar 0 (0 bytes) 0 bytes / 0 bytes	5 min 5 min
In Read/Write Out	ueued 0 (0 bytes) PutElasticsearchRecord PutElasticsearchRecord 1.28.0 org.apache.nifi - nifi-elasticsearch-restapi-nar 0 (0 bytes) 0 bytes / 0 bytes 0 (0 bytes)	5 min 5 min 5 min

Exercise: Configuring Other Processors

Duplicating processors: To duplicate a processor, right click on it and select "Copy". Then right click on any blank space and select "Paste" to paste a copy of the processor with identical configuration.

Hint: You can select multiple processors by holding down "Shift".

Mini-Lab: Configure the processors for the *metricbeat*, *packetbeat*, and *prometheus* topics.

Ensure that both the **Topic Name** in the ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 processor and the **Index** in the PutElasticsearchRecord processor are set to the Kafka topic name.

Exercise: Configuring Other Processors (2)

Mini-Lab Hint:: When done, the processors should look like this



Optional: Inspecting FlowFiles

NiFi lets you inspect queued FlowFiles pretty easily. To do this, **you must first stop the PutElasticsearchRecord processor**. Then, right click the queue (i.e., the box labeled "success"). Then select "List queue". This shows a list of all FlowFiles in the queue.

You can select the "eye" icon to view its content. (If you get an error, ensure you stopped the PutElasticsearchRecord processor that was downstream from the queue)

In the "View as" selection box, select "formatted" to see the formatted JSON.

Checkpoint: Common Issues

If no events are arriving at your ConsumeKafkaRecord_2_6 processors after a while, ensure that the settings are correct by double clicking it and verifying the processor's properties. Common mistakes include:

- Leaving the Kafka Brokers value as localhost:9092 instead of setting it to kafka:9092
- Typos being present in the Topic Name(s) field

Recovery: NiFi Configuration

Below are instructions to recover if issues are encountered and the NiFi lab(s) could not be completed.

To quickly deploy the correct NiFi configuration, run:

cd ~/data-pipeline/nifi-answers
./answer.sh

Exercise: Configure OpenSearch

Now that everything is deployed, we can visualize it in OpenSearch. Go to http://localhost:32001. Log in using username admin and password admin , if prompted.

Select "Explore on my own". Close the dialog box about the new theme. Then, select the menu button on the top left, scroll down and select "Dashboards Management".



Exercise: Configure OpenSearch (2)

Create index patterns with the names filebeat , packetbeat , metricbeat , prometheus , and *beat, prometheus . Set the "Time field" to the value @timestamp for all of them.

Hint: Click on "Index patterns" on the left to go back to the screen with the "Create index pattern" button.

OpenSearch Dashboards			
	Index patterns	1. Create an index pattern by clicking here	a 0
Dashboards Management ③ Index patterns Data sources	Index patterns	+ Create index pat	tern
Step 1 Index pa filebea Use an ar	L of 2: Define an index pattern ttern name at sterisk (*) to match multiple indices. Spaces and th	2. Fill in your index pattern name (should be either filebeat, metricbeat, packetbeat, prometheus, or *beat, prometheu Next step >	ıs)
Time fiel	d 3. Sel	lect @timestamp as the time field Refresh	

Background: Index Patterns

What are index patterns?

Index patterns allow you to search one or more indices in OpenSearch at the same time. We created index patterns for each type of data so we could search them individually, but also defined a *beat, prometheus pattern that matches all four of our indices.

Checkpoint: OpenSearch Configuration

Once you have created all your patterns, you should see the following:

Index patterns		+ Create index patter
Create and manage the index patterns that help yo	ou retrieve your data from OpenSearch.	
Q Search		
Pattern ↑	Data Source Connection	
*beat,prometheus		
filebeat		
metricbeat		
packetbeat		
prometheus		
Rows per page: 10 ${\scriptstyle\!$		< 1

If some patterns were added but don't show up, try refreshing the page.

Checkpoint: Searching Data

Open the menu, and select "Discover". Discover should look like this:



If you do not see any data, you can change the search time frame on the top right input to the left of the "Refresh" button. A relative time of "Past 1 hour" should yield some results. You can also change the index pattern using the field on the left side of the screen, to the left of the search box.

Exercise: Creating Visualizations

Create a visualization to view data. To do this, select the menu button, and navigate to Visualize.

Create a new "Line" visualization, and choose the prometheus index pattern.

Click on the Y-axis to expand the aggregation. Select the average aggregation. For the field, select prometheus.metric.slice_through



Exercise: Creating Visualizations (2)

Add an X-axis by selecting "Add" below the "Bucket" panel in the bottom right side of the screen. Add a date histogram to the X-axis using the @timestamp field. Press the Update button in the bottom right to apply changes. Save the visualization by pressing Save on the top right. Give the visualization a title and optionally a description.



Checkpoint: Visualization Configuration

If done correctly, your visualization settings should match the image on the right:

Metrics & axes Panel settings Metrics Y-axis Aggregation Average Field prometheus.metrics.slice_throughput Custom label Advanced Advanced Advanced X-axis	Average help @
Aetrics ~ Y-axis Aggregation Average Field prometheus.metrics.slice_throughput Custom label > Advanced • Add Buckets ~ X-axis	Average help
 Y-axis Aggregation Average Field prometheus.metrics.slice_throughput Custom label > Advanced Add Buckets X-axis 	Average help ()
Aggregation Average Field prometheus.metrics.slice_throughput Custom label > Advanced • Add Buckets > X-axis	Average help ()
Average Field prometheus.metrics.slice_throughput Custom label Advanced Advanced Add Buckets V X-axis	~
Field prometheus.metrics.slice_throughput Custom label Advanced Advanced Buckets V X-axis	~
prometheus.metrics.slice_throughput Custom label Advanced Advanced Add Buckets V X-axis	~
Custom label Advanced Advanced Add Buckets X-axis	
 > Advanced • Add Buckets × X-axis 	
 > Advanced • Add • Add • X-axis 	
 Add Buckets X-axis 	
♥ Add	
Suckets → X-axis	
✓ X-axis	
	© ×
Aggregation Date H	istogram help 🛛
Date Histogram	~
Field	
@timestamp	~
Minimum interval	
Auto	• •
Select an option or create a custom value. Examples: 30s, 20m, 2	4h 2d 1w 1M
Drop partial buckets	2411, ZU, IW, IM
	411, ZU, IW, IM

28

Checkpoint: Visualization Configuration (2)

If done correctly, your line chart should look something like this:



If nothing shows up, please try a larger time range on the top right.

Exercise: Creating Dashboards

Create a dashboard to view a collection of visualizations. Select the menu button, and navigate to Dashboards under OpenSearch Dashboards .

Note: Be careful not to select the Observability dashboards. You should see a screen like the image below.



Select "Create new dashboard", then select "Add an existing", and add the visualization you just created. Press save on the top right and give it a title and optionally a description.

Recovery: OpenSearch Configuration

Below are instructions to recover if issues are encountered and the OpenSearch lab(s) could not be completed.

To quickly deploy the OpenSearch index patterns, dashboards and visualizations, run:

cd ~/data-pipeline/opensearch-answers
./answer.sh

Extra Lab: NiFi Enrichment

If time permits, the NiFi enrichment slides can be found here.

Extra Lab: NiFi Error Handling

If time permits, the NiFi error handling slides can be found here.

Optional: NiFi Extra Lab Configuration

To quickly deploy the NiFi configuration with all the extra labs incorporated, run:

cd ~/data-pipeline/nifi-answers
./extra-answer.sh

Next Steps

Congratulations!

You have successfully completed the following:

- Deployed a highly available data pipeline
- Configured agents to collect statistics from custom Prometheus exporters
- Learned about how to transform, enrich, and handle errors in data using NiFi
- Explored the data being sent by the agents using OpenSearch Dashboards

What's Next?

In the afternoon session, we will dive into 5G slice modeling and dynamic resource scaling.