

Monitoring HPC Security at LLNL

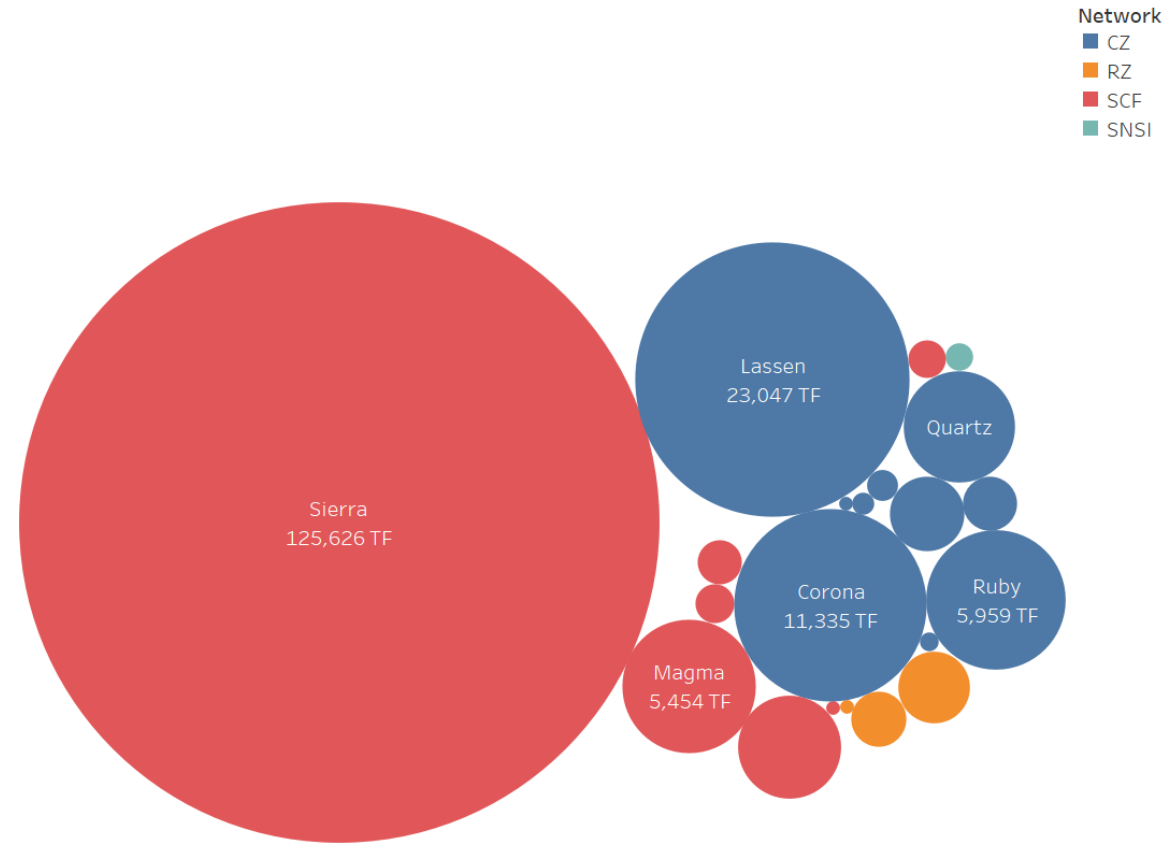
4th NIST HPC Security Workshop

Ian Lee
HPC Security Architect

2024-05-20

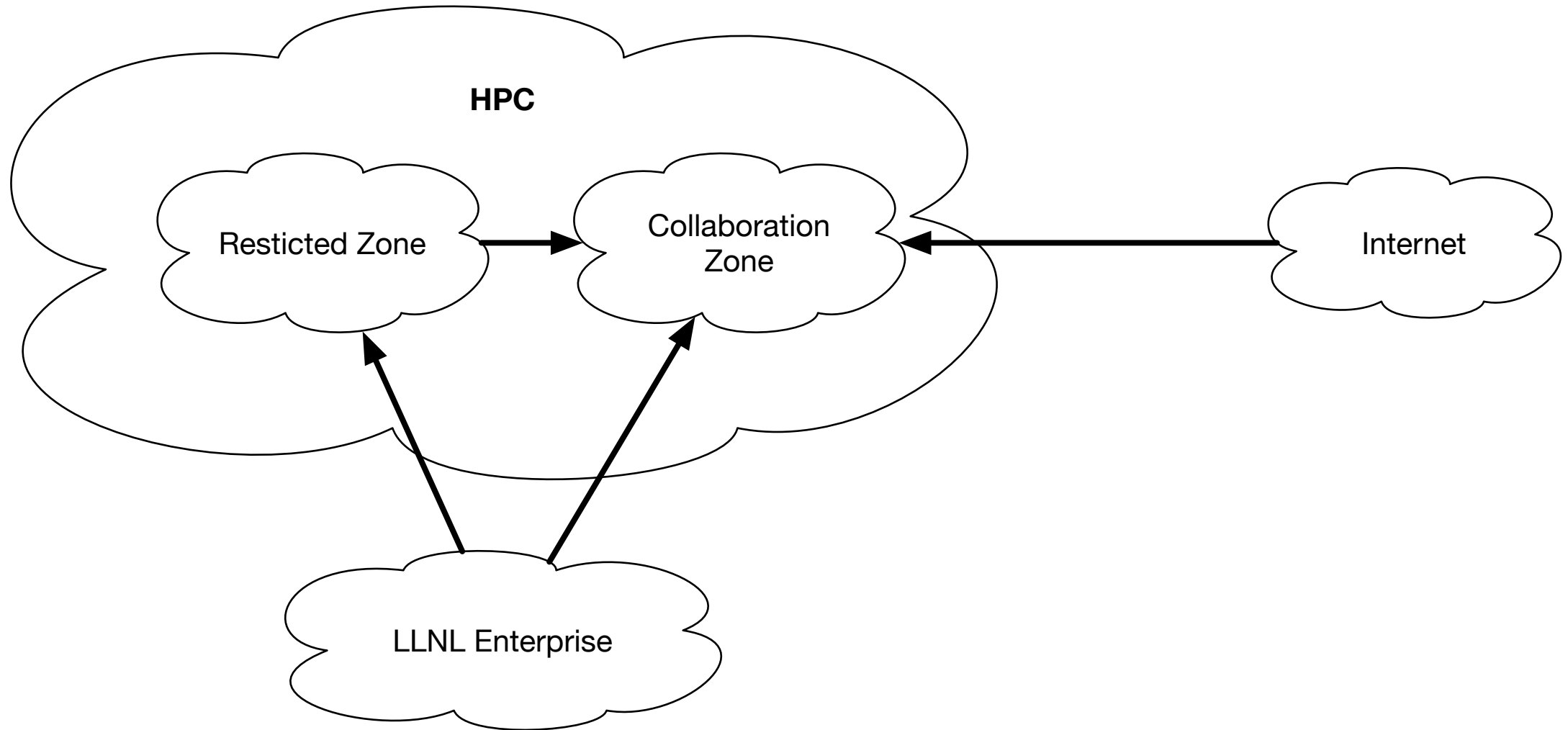


User Centric View of LC

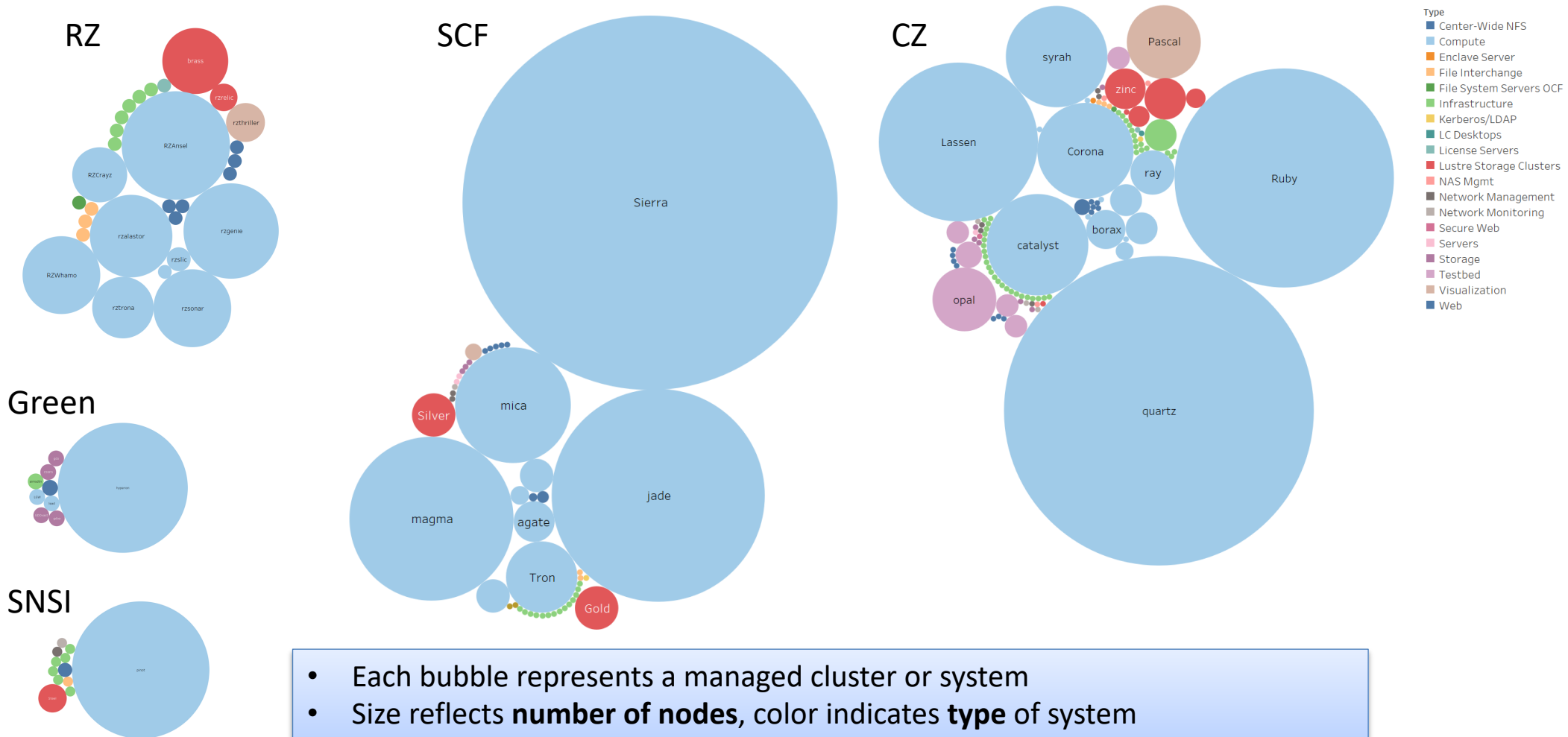


- Each bubble represents a cluster
- Size reflects **theoretical peak performance**, color indicates **computing zone**
- Only large user-facing compute clusters are represented

HPC Zones – User View

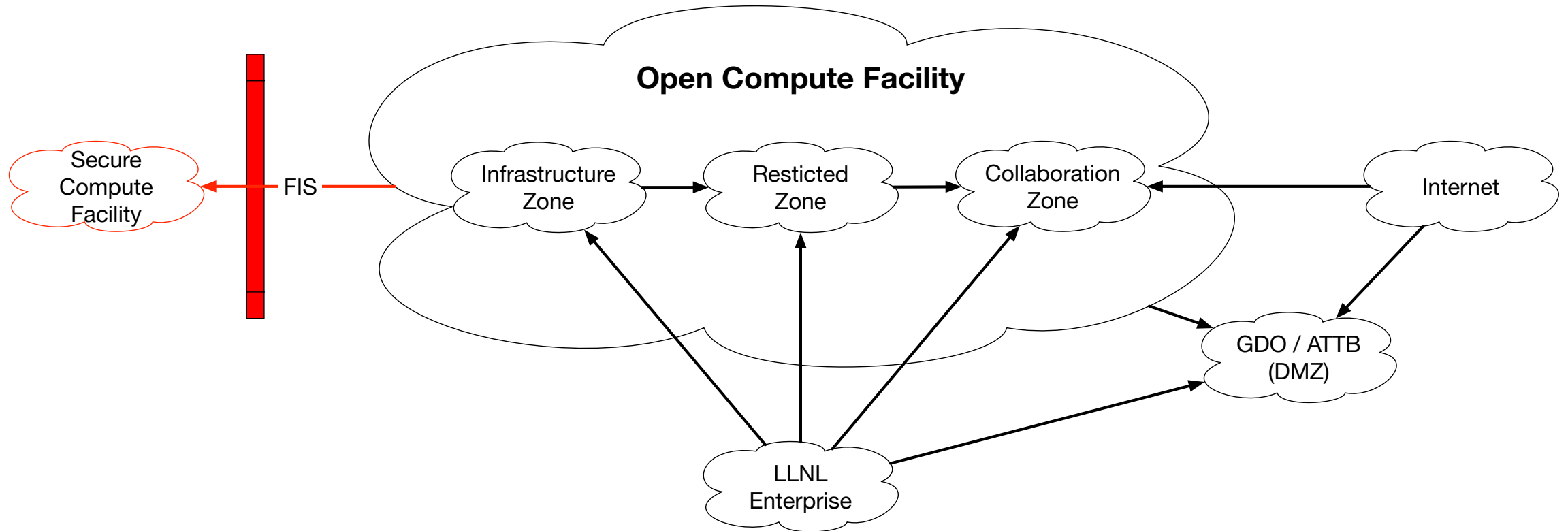


More Complete View of LC



- Each bubble represents a managed cluster or system
- Size reflects **number of nodes**, color indicates **type** of system
- All production systems are shown, including non-user-facing systems

HPC Zones – Wider View



Where We're Heading



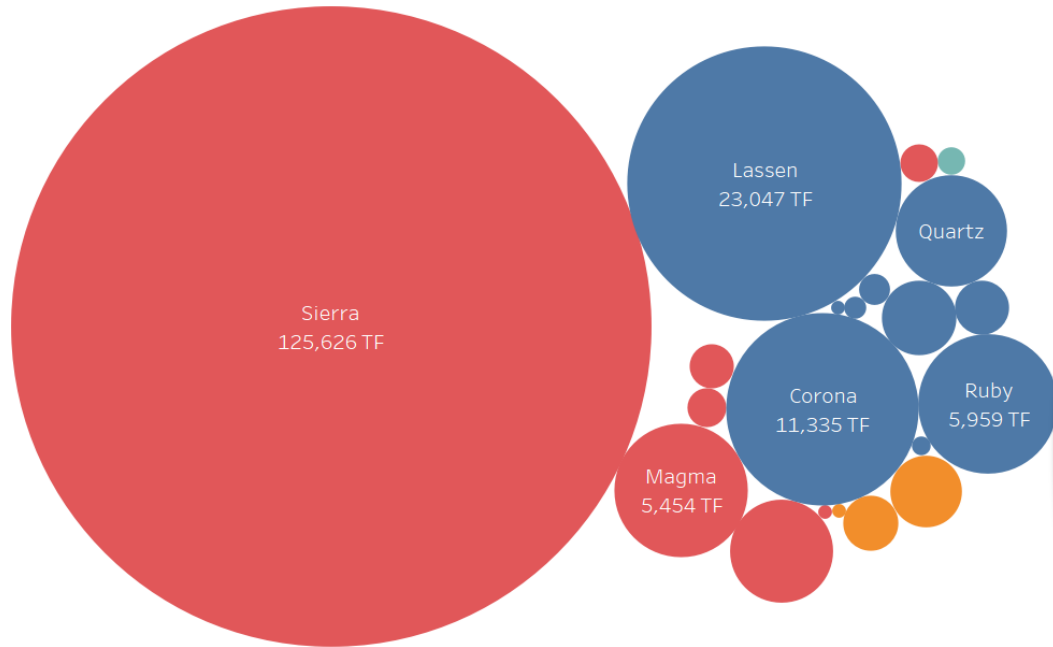
© 2016 Ian Lee

El Capitan



El Capitan vs the Rest

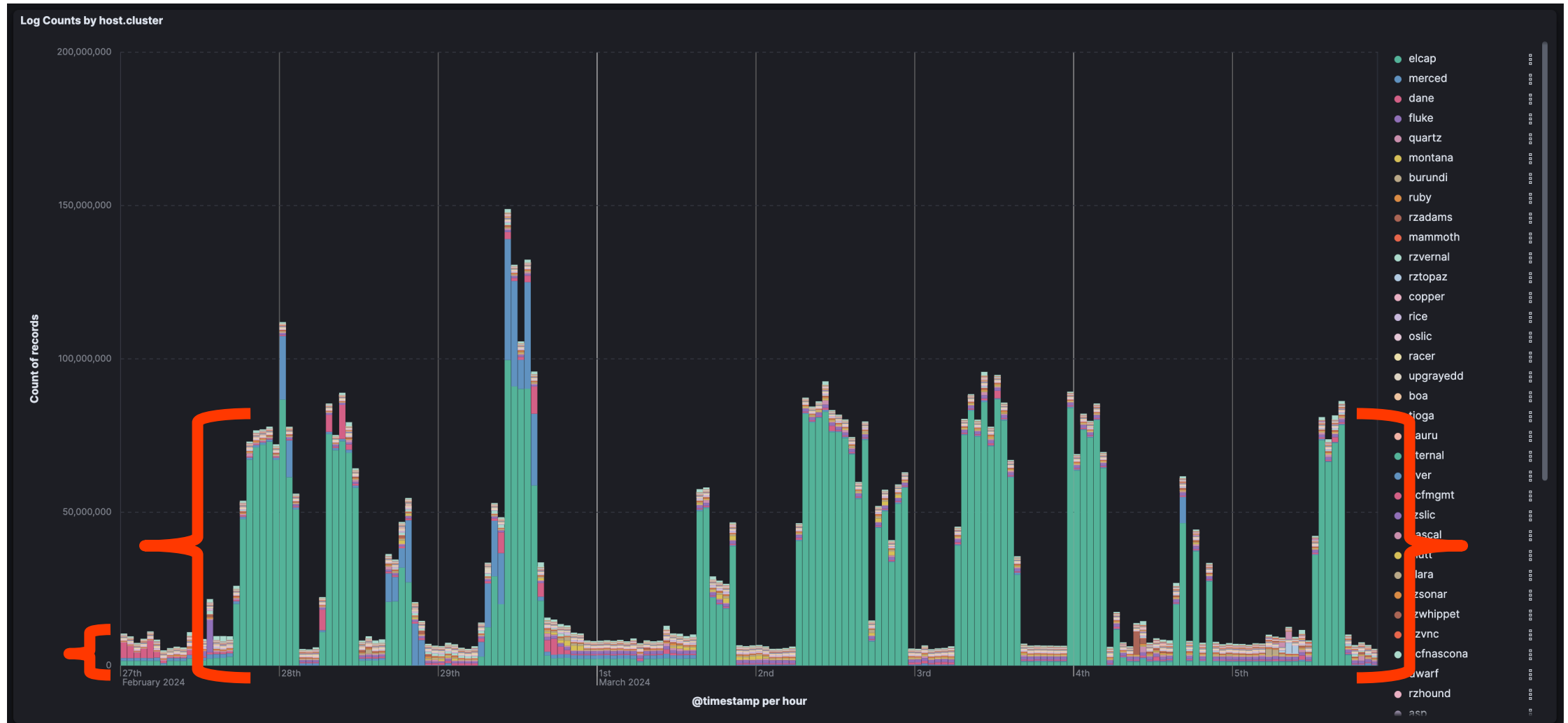
Network
■ CZ
■ RZ
■ SCF
■ SNSI



El Capitan
~ 2 EF (~ 2,000,000 TF)

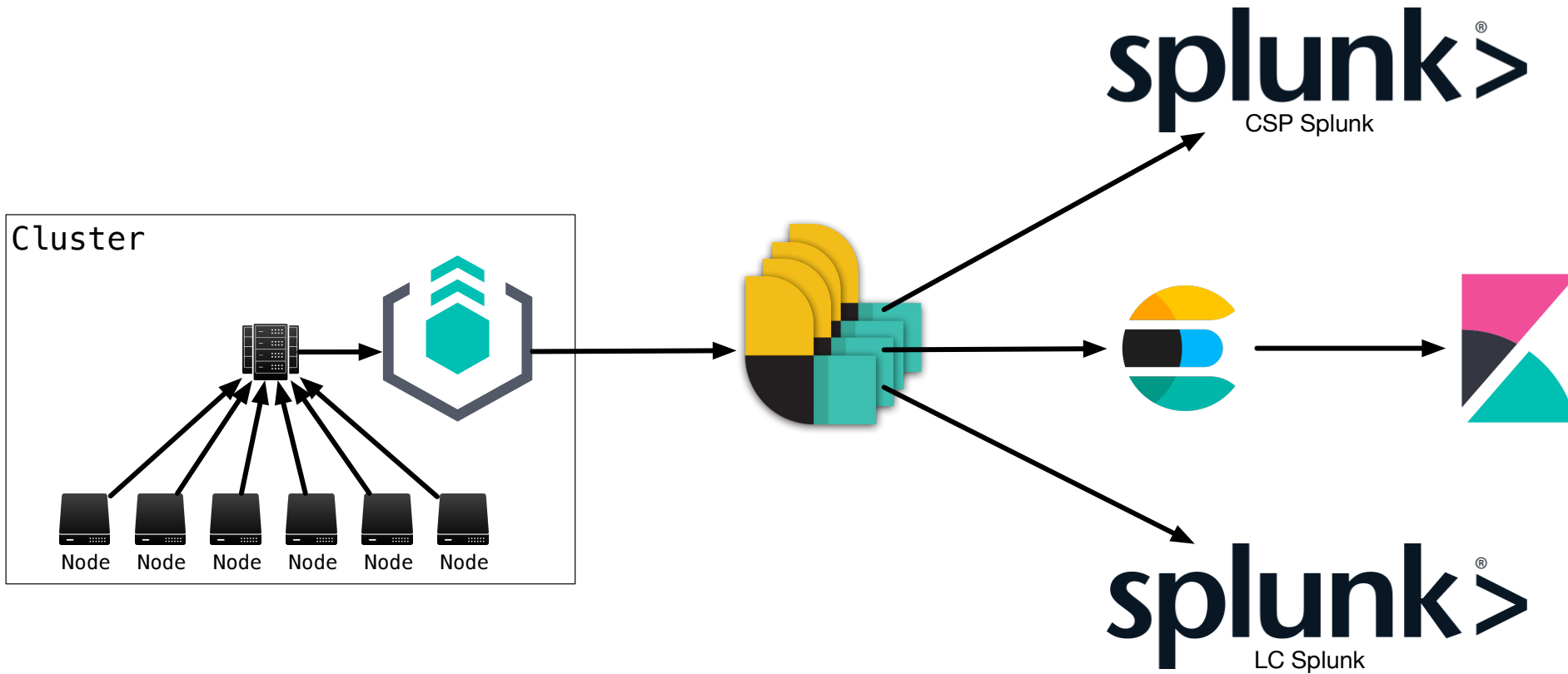
- Each bubble represents a cluster
- Size reflects **theoretical peak performance**, color indicates **compute network**
- Only large user-facing compute clusters are represented

system.syslog per hour

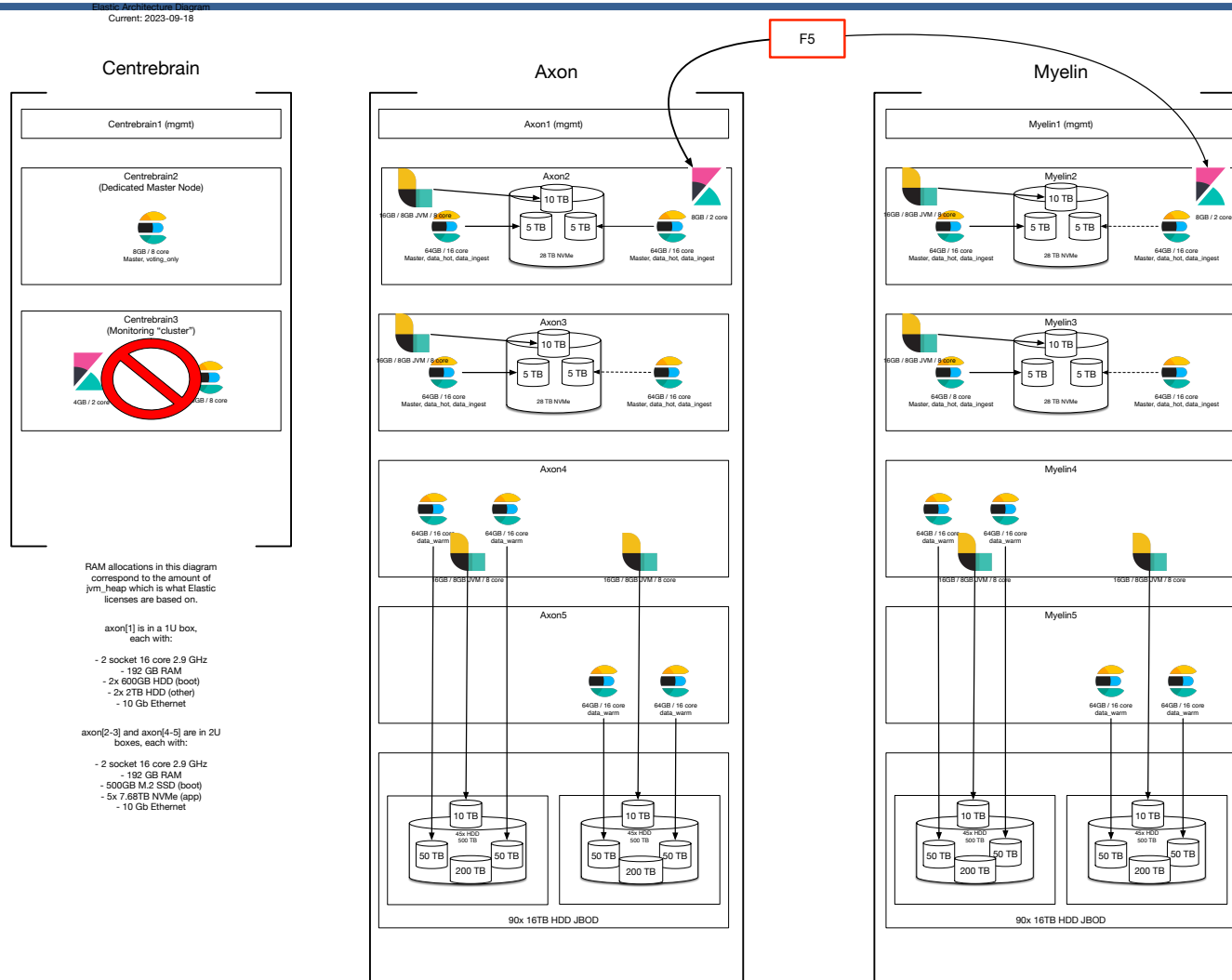


Logging Infrastructure

Logging Architecture

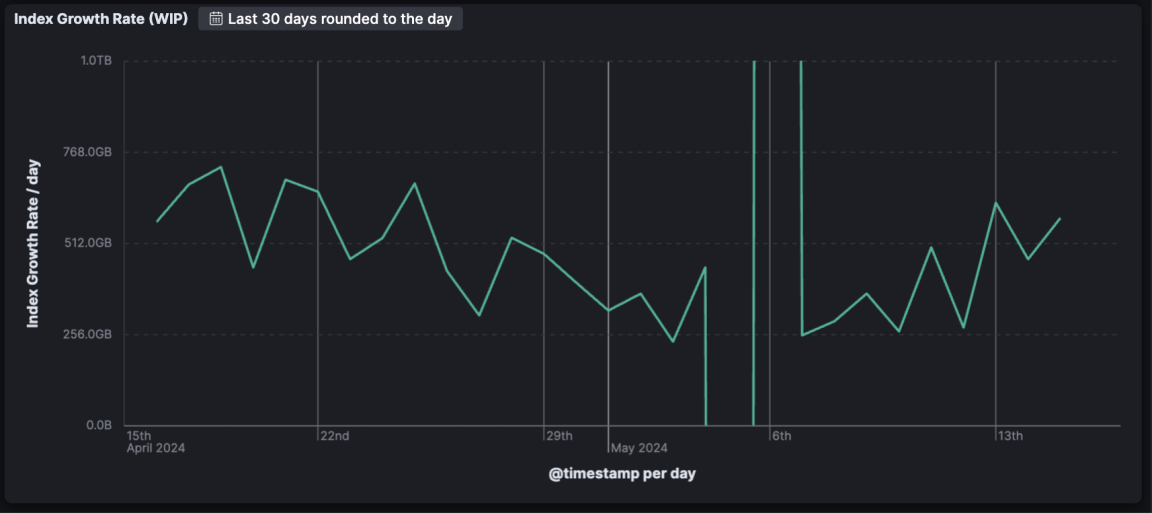
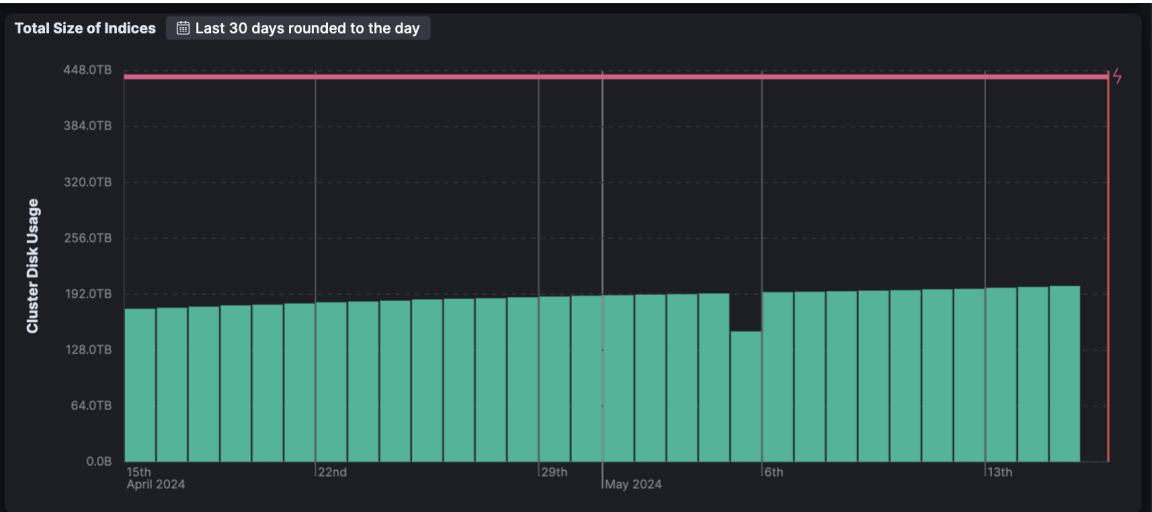
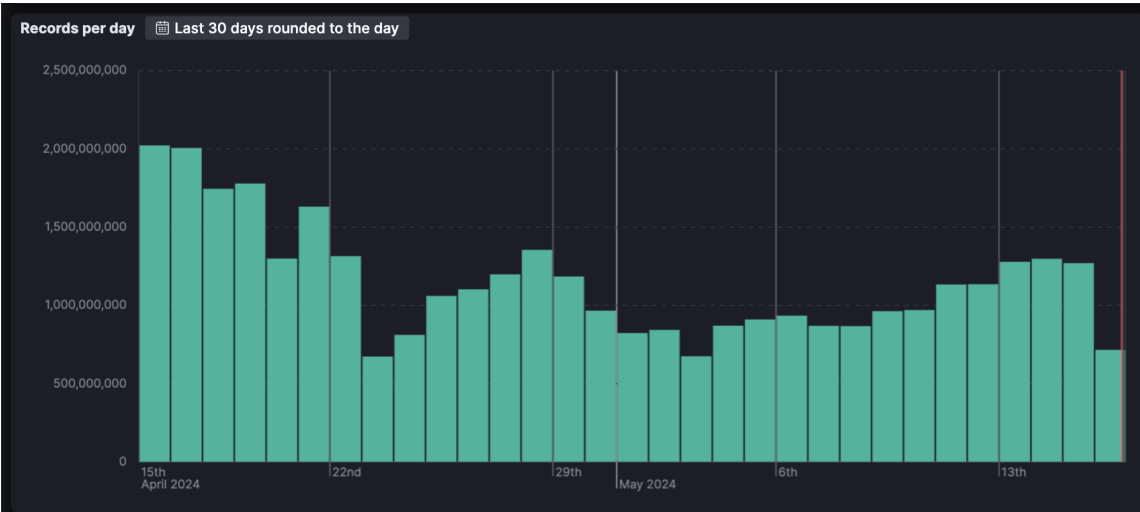


Current Service to Hardware Allocations



~ 112TB NVMe (total)
~ 2PB HDD (total)

Cluster Stats Today

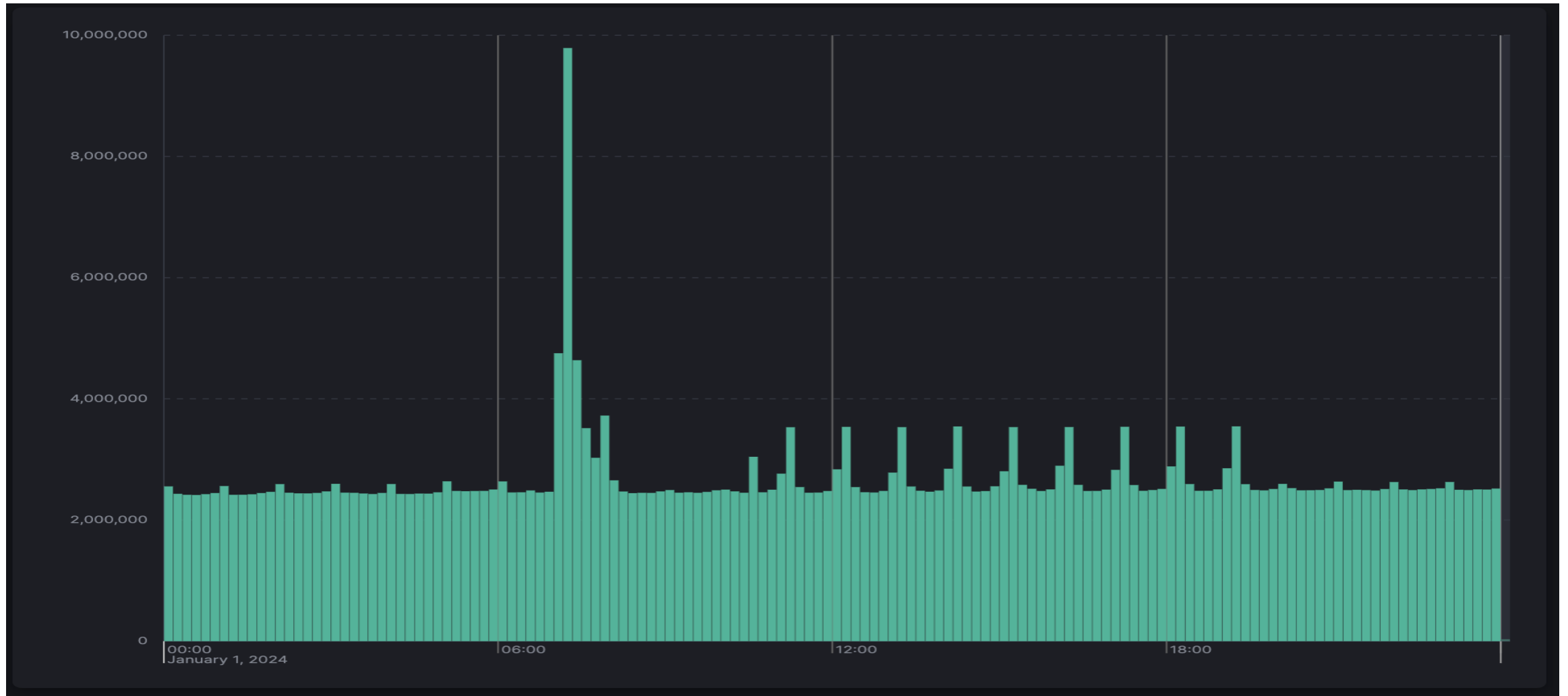


Log Sources Breakdown

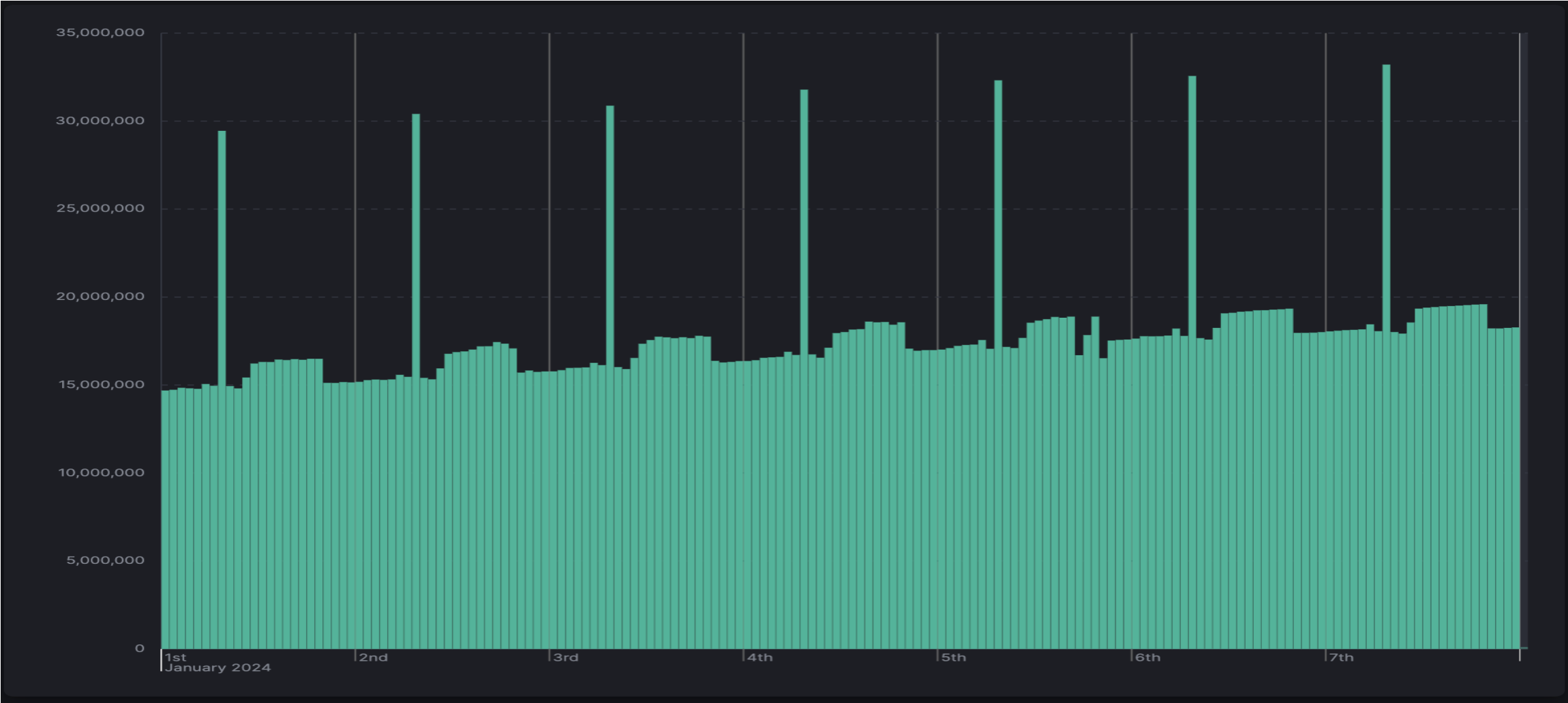


Example: Auditd log issue

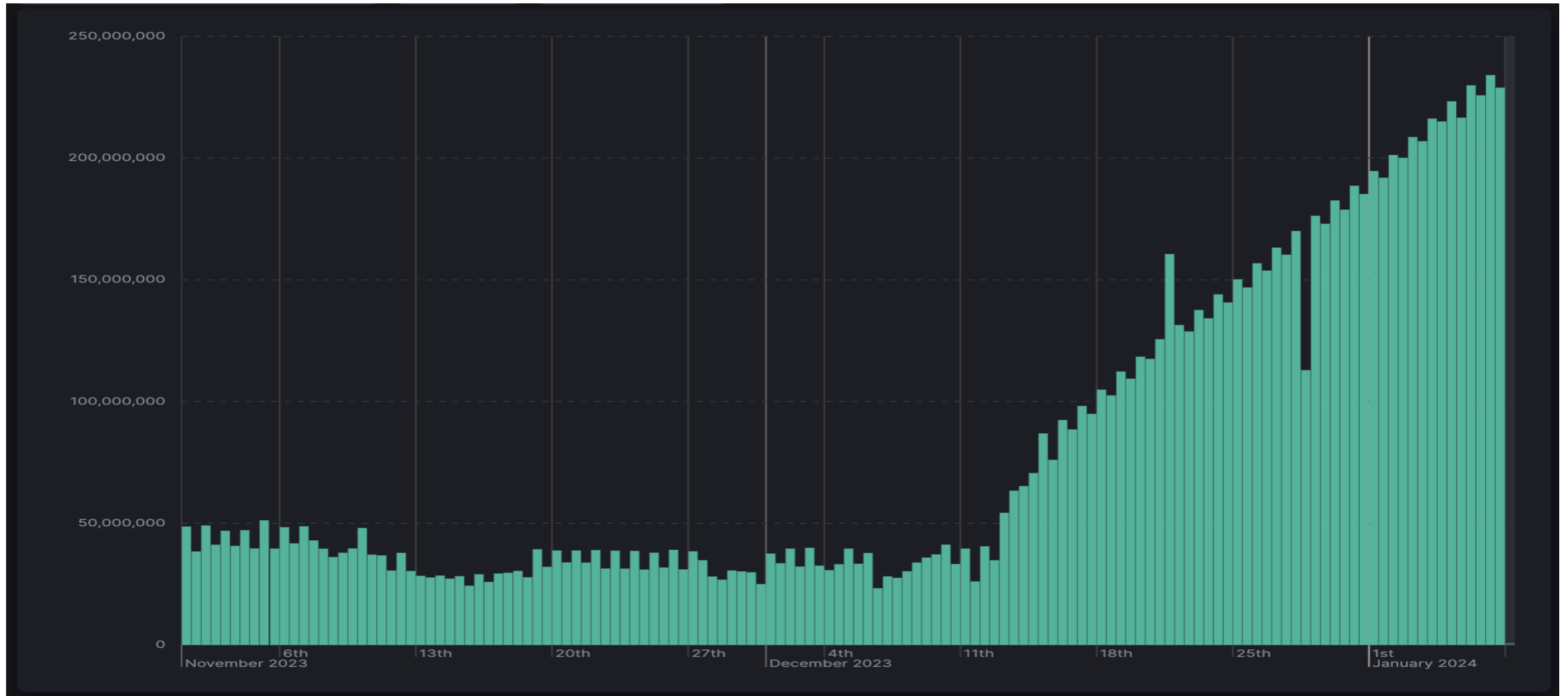
Jan 1 – Jan 2 (1.25 seconds)



Jan 1 – Jan 8 (20 seconds)



Nov 1 – Jan 8 (42 seconds)



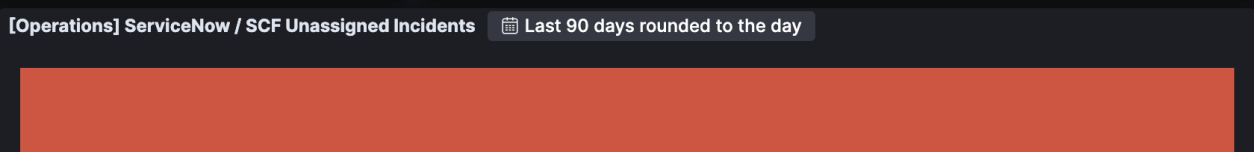
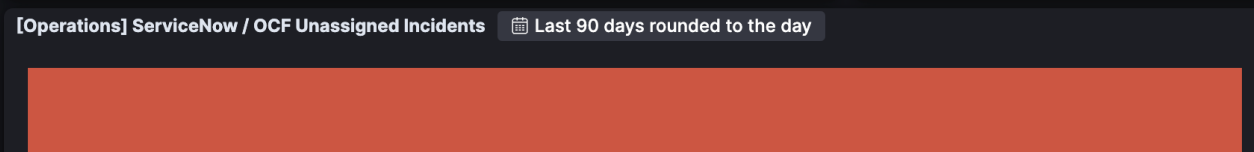
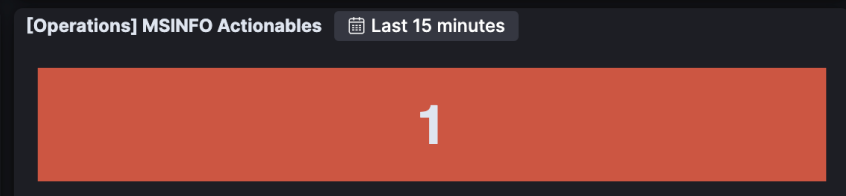
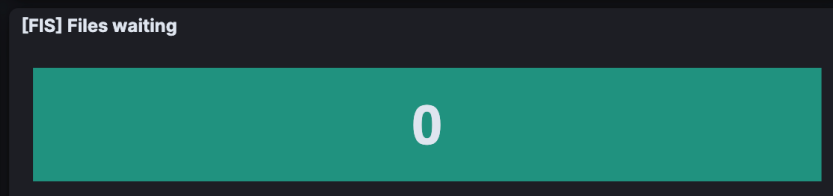
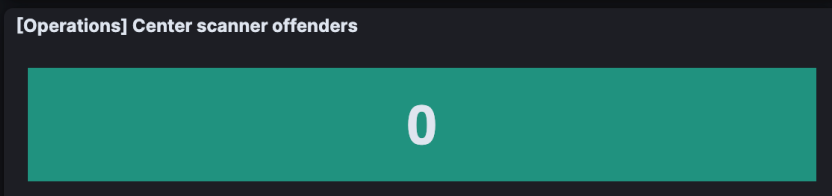
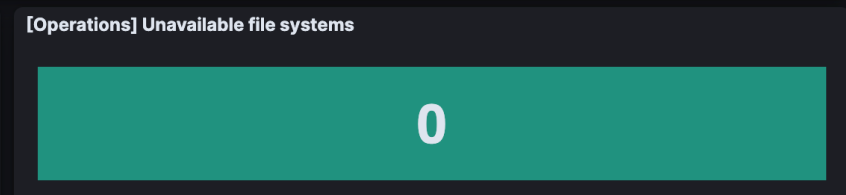
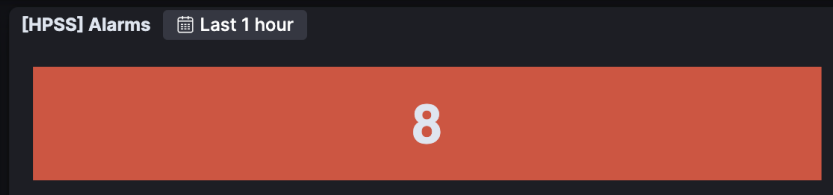
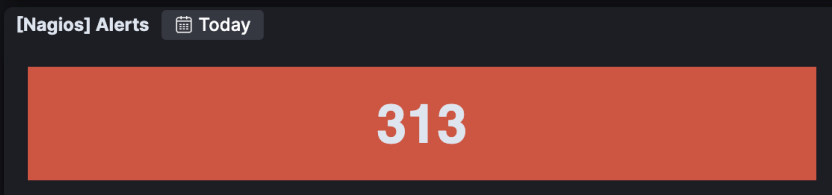
Monitoring

- [ServiceNow Incident Activity](#)
- [RMA Dashboard](#)
- [ZFS Panel](#)
- [ZFS Panel Lite](#)
- [IB Fabric Checker](#)
- [Resolution Notes Review](#)
- [WEG POG](#)

[Operations] Hotline Events Today

Impacted systems	Event details	Start time	End time
all	Default desktop updates on all VNC servers. Only affects new sessions.	2024-03-05T07:30	2024-03-05T07:30
pascal	TOSS-4.7-4 rolling update on Pascal. See 'news TOSS_4.7-4_update' Autogenerated tickets are disabled for the 'Impacted Systems' between 0	2024-03-05T09:00	2024-03-05T09:00
poodle	TOSS-4.7-4 update on Poodle. See 'news TOSS_4.7-4_update' Autogenerated tickets are disabled for the 'Impacted Systems' between 07:00 a	2024-03-05T08:00	2024-03-05T10:00
rztopaz or rzwhippet	TOSS-4.7-4 rolling update on RZTopaz, RZWhippet. See 'news TOSS_4.7-4_update' Autogenerated tickets are disabled for the 'Impacted Syster	2024-03-05T08:00	2024-03-05T08:00

Clicking on the objects below should lead you to details for their respective panels. Give it a shot.



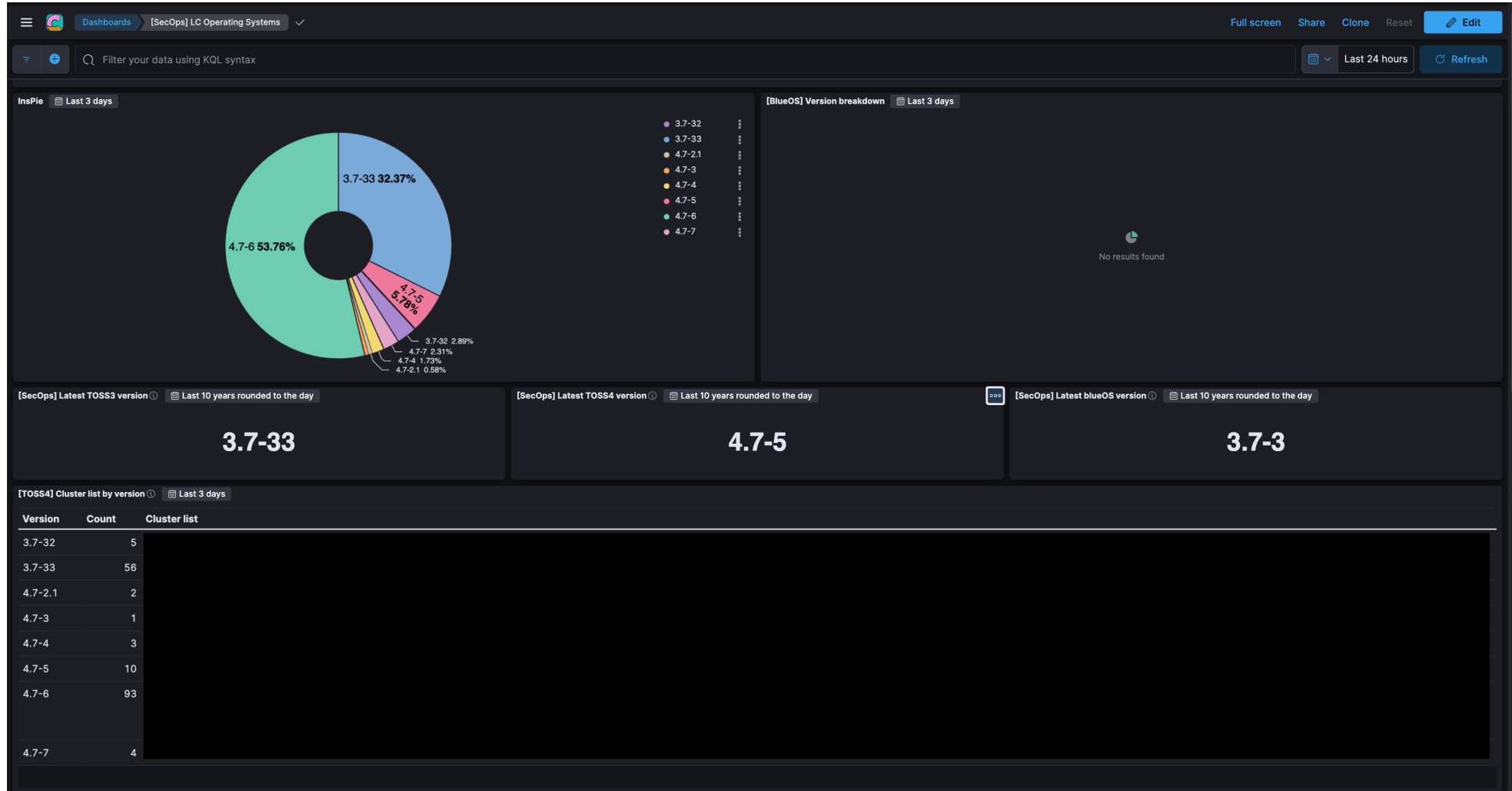
🔍 short_description:** and assignment_group:("LC Operations" or "LC NAS" or "LC Data Storage" or "LC Production Systems" or "LC Lustre" or "LC Networks") 🗓️ Last 10 years 🔄 Refresh

Incident # Any Short description Any Cluster Any Created by Any
Assigned to Any Assignment group Any State Any Close code Any
Shift / Assigned to Any Shift / Opened by Any

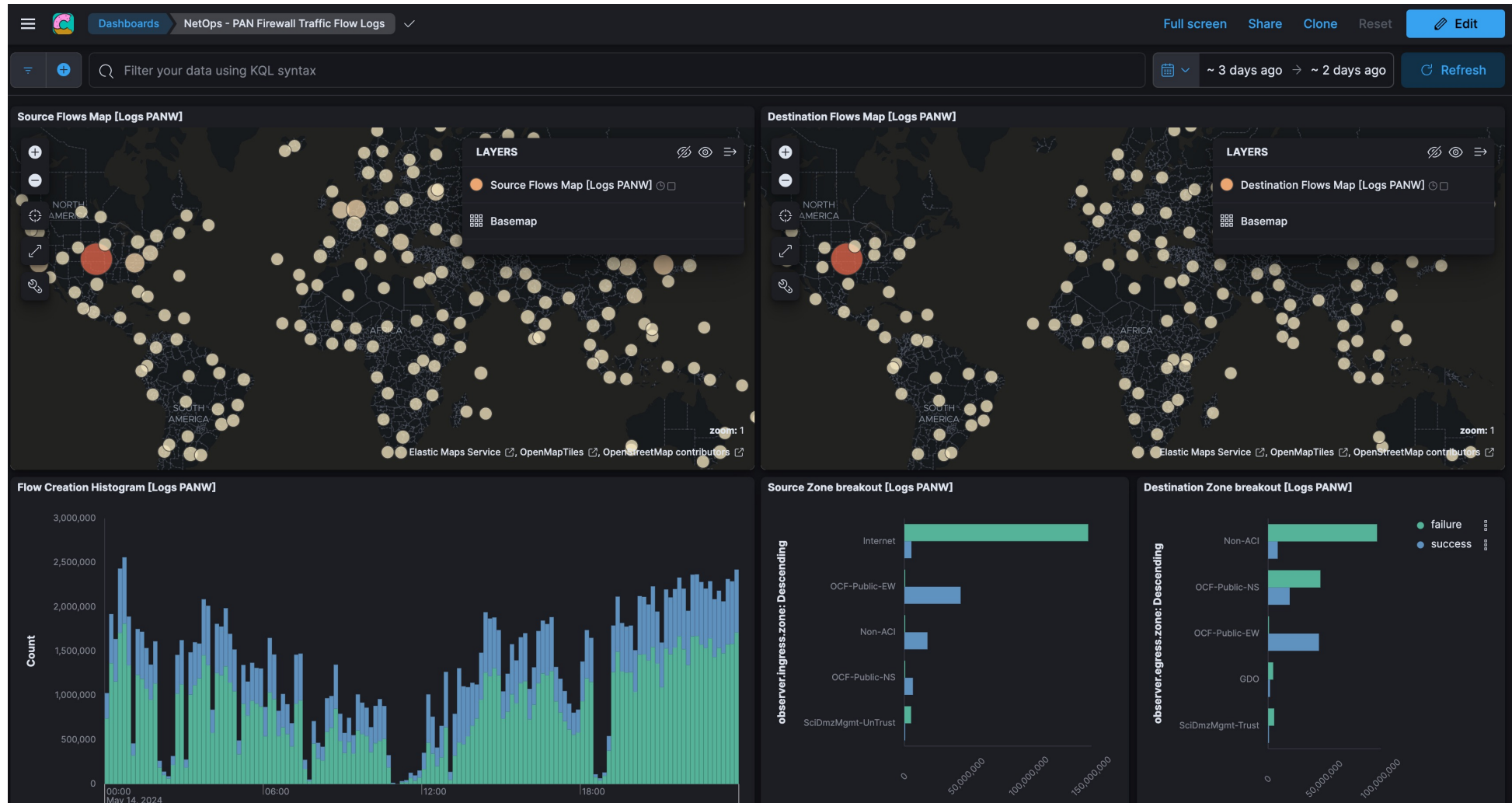
Use the search bar at the top for searching more broadly like 'short_description:*quartz*'
Click on the dots on the right side of the rows below to view Incident information.

Incident	Created on	Updated on	Short description	Recent Incident:	Assigned to	Assignment group	State	Close code
INC0406042	Mar 5, 2024 @ 21:50:52.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 23:23:30.000		4		LC Operations	Active	-
INC0406041	Mar 5, 2024 @ 21:14:29.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 21:29:13.000		0		LC Operations	Active	-
INC0406035	Mar 5, 2024 @ 19:17:53.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 20:40:04.000		43		LC Operations	Resolved	Resolved Remotely
INC0406032	Mar 5, 2024 @ 19:13:34.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 19:14:49.000		0		LC Production Systems	Active	-
INC0406011	Mar 5, 2024 @ 18:40:16.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 19:34:27.000		2		LC Operations	Resolved	Cancelled
INC0405988	Mar 5, 2024 @ 17:48:56.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 18:54:36.000		0		LC Operations	Resolved	Software - Bounced
INC0405946	Mar 5, 2024 @ 16:53:50.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 19:46:53.000		0		LC Operations	Resolved	Cancelled
INC0405938	Mar 5, 2024 @ 16:40:58.000	Mar 5, 2024 @ 18:58:26.000		1		LC Operations	Resolved	Solved

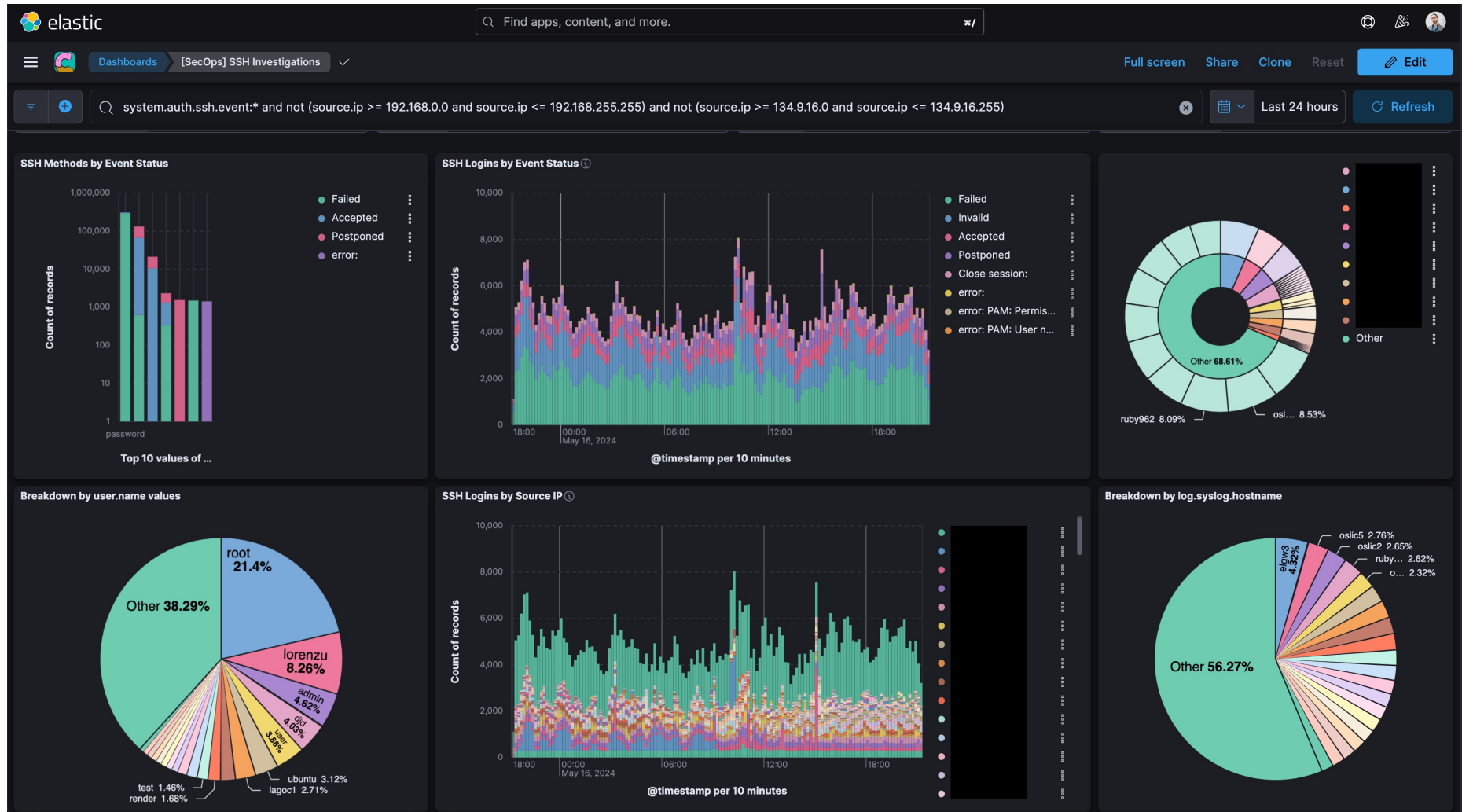
Operating System Versions



PAN Firewall Traffic Flows



SSH Authentications



Kibana Security Dashboards

The screenshot displays the Kibana Security Dashboards interface. The top navigation bar includes the Elastic logo, a search bar, and user profile information. The left sidebar contains navigation options for Security, Dashboards, Rules, Alerts, Findings, Cases, Timelines, Intelligence, and Explore. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Recent cases:** A section titled "Created by me" showing a case titled "RFI Request - 2023-10-25" with a description: "Contacted for information. Hi Ian, I don't believe we've formally met but I'm the... 7 months ago".
- Recent timelines:** A section with a message: "You haven't favorited any timelines yet. Get out there and start threat hunting!".
- Security news:** A section titled "Dissecting REMCOS RAT: An in-depth analysis of a widespread 2024 malware, Part Two" with a date of 2024-05-16.
- New & updated prebuilt Elastic rules available:** A section with a date of 2024-05-15.
- Alert trend:** A bar chart showing 11,785 alerts. The legend includes: Potential SSH Password Gue..., Potential Successful SSH Bru..., Potential SSH Brute Force De..., Potential Internal Linux SSH B..., and Watcher / Failing watch actions.
- Events:** A bar chart showing 708,689,628 events. The legend includes: system.syslog (3,007), custom.openshift, netflow.log, panw.panos, auditd.log, system.auth, and custom.console.
- Host events:** A section showing 267,623,555 events with a "View hosts" button.
- Network events:** A section showing 80,440,197 events with a "View network" button.

Monitoring Vision Going Forward

- Explore other offerings
 - ML / Anomaly Detection
 - Enterprise Search (unified search across web + confluence + gitlab)
 - Elastic Defend
- More automated alerts / processes

Today



Ic-kibana BOT 00:58

WARNING: Disk Utilization is 86% on gumby1,xf/,dev/sda2,/ [details](#)



Ic-kibana BOT 05:28

WARNING: Disk Utilization is 80.5% on pokey1,xf/,dev/sda1,/ [details](#)



Ic-secops BOT 19:46

Center Host	Alert Type	Help URL
unexpected_connection: ssh->montana1.llnl.gov:22	red / unexpected connection	Link



Ic-kibana BOT 20:15

Cluster health alert is firing for Ic_elastic. Current health is red. Allocate missing primary and replica shards.



Ic-secops BOT 20:16

Center Host	Alert Type	Center Status
unexpected_connection: ssh->montana1.llnl.gov:22	red / unexpected connection	cleared

- Security requirements often quite prescriptive
 - STIG > CIS Benchmark > Vendor Guideline > generic NIST 800-53 controls

- Developed a STIG for the TOSS operation system with DISA
 - Inspired by RHEL 8 STIG, which TOSS 4 is derived from
 - Small tweaks: adjust some DoD specific language to make compatible for other Gov agencies
 - Larger requests: no explicit allow-listing of software on TOSS, being a software development OS
 - HPC specific: RHEL STIG says 10 concurrent sessions for DOS reasons, TOSS STIG allows 256

- Need to regularly check and validation configuration
 - <https://github.com/llnl/toss-stig>

Community Work

- <https://github.com/llnl/cmvl> (WIP)
 - Repository of Elastic, Splunk, etc queries, dashboards, and visualizations
- <https://github.com/LLNL/elastic-stacker>
 - Export saved objects from Kibana for sharing
- <https://github.com/LLNL/toss-configs> (WIP)
 - Configuration files and scripts for setting up and maintaining TOSS HPC systems
- <https://github.com/llnl/toss-stig>
 - Ansible implementation of the TOSS STIG

HPC Security Technical Exchange – August 2024

- August 5 – 8, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, CA
- Government focus; CUI up to TS//SCI
- Registration to open imminently, including Call For Topics / Prompts
— Contact ian@llnl.gov for details / “wait list”

Thank you!

Happy to chat and answer questions!

ian@llnl.gov

@IanLee1521



What is Elastic?

- Elastic Stack is a collection of software for logging, reporting, and visualization of data
 - Formerly “ELK stack” or just “ELK”

- Consists of Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana, Beats, and more



Kibana



Beats



Logstash



Elasticsearch

- Open source components, commercial support, similar idea to GitLab

Why Elastic?

- Were already using parts of the Elastic stack before (Logstash, *Beats)
- Better integration / extension support
 - Enterprise Search, Machine Learning tools, Elastic Integrations via Agent
- Performance claims (should be significantly faster searches compared to Splunk)
 - Reality has been a bit mixed here, and there is definitely room to continue tuning our deployment.
- Compared notes with ORNL folks who moved (at least partially) from Splunk to Elastic

Deployment

- GitLab CI + Ansible configuration (separate from the TOSS Ansible repo)
 - James Taliaferro did a talk at S3C at NLIT going into detail on this
- Very fast to destroy and rebuild the Elastic clusters
- Straightforward to scale up the service to meet demand