

Large scale distributed indexing with Kafka



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Who am I?



Remi Dettai (@rdettai on Github)

Core dev on the Quickwit engine (Rust)

Lead on the Quickwit distribution for AWS Lambda

Data/Cloud engineer background

Agenda



1) The large scale logging problem

2) How Quickwit and its Kafka source solve the problem

- Architecture
- Indexing pipelines
- Exactly-once with the Kafka source
- Distributing indexing pipelines

3) Real world example



1) The large scale logging problem



1) The large scale logging problem

Some domains, like finance, have harsh logging requirements:

- Petabyte scale
- Huge traffic spikes that need to be queryable in seconds
- Cannot compromise on delivery reliability (exactly once)

1) The large scale logging problem



Query	Metric	Quickwit (indexed)	Loki (columnar only)
`queen`	Latency (s)	0.6s	9.3s (+1,425%)
	CPU Time (s)	2.7s	146s (+5,270%)
	# of GET Requests	206	14,821* (+7,095%)
`us-east-2` (label)	Latency (s)	0.6s	1.0s (+74%)
	CPU Time (s)	2.7s (+35%)	2s
	# of GET Requests	211* (+348%)	47

16 vCPUs / 64GB RAM

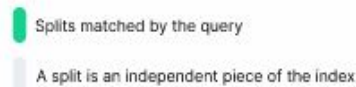
Elastic Integration
Corpus Generator

212.40 GB

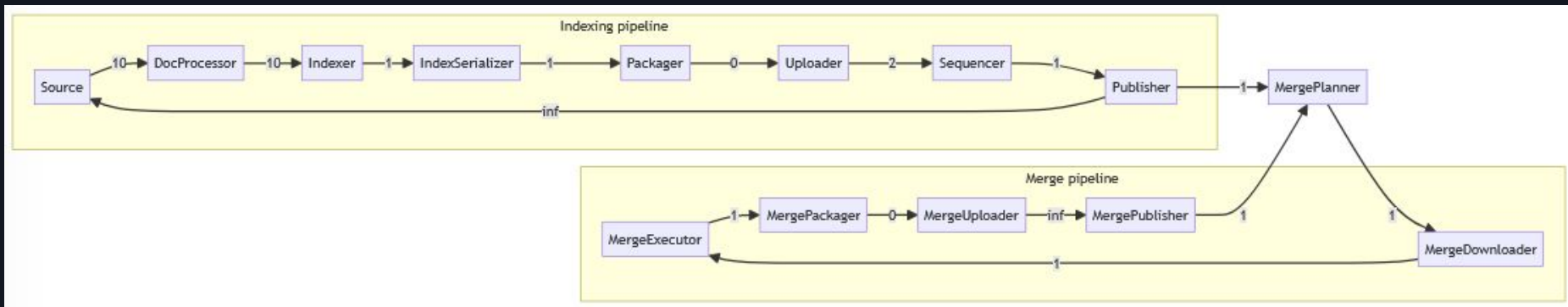
243,527,673 logs



2) How Quickwit and its Kafka source solve the problem

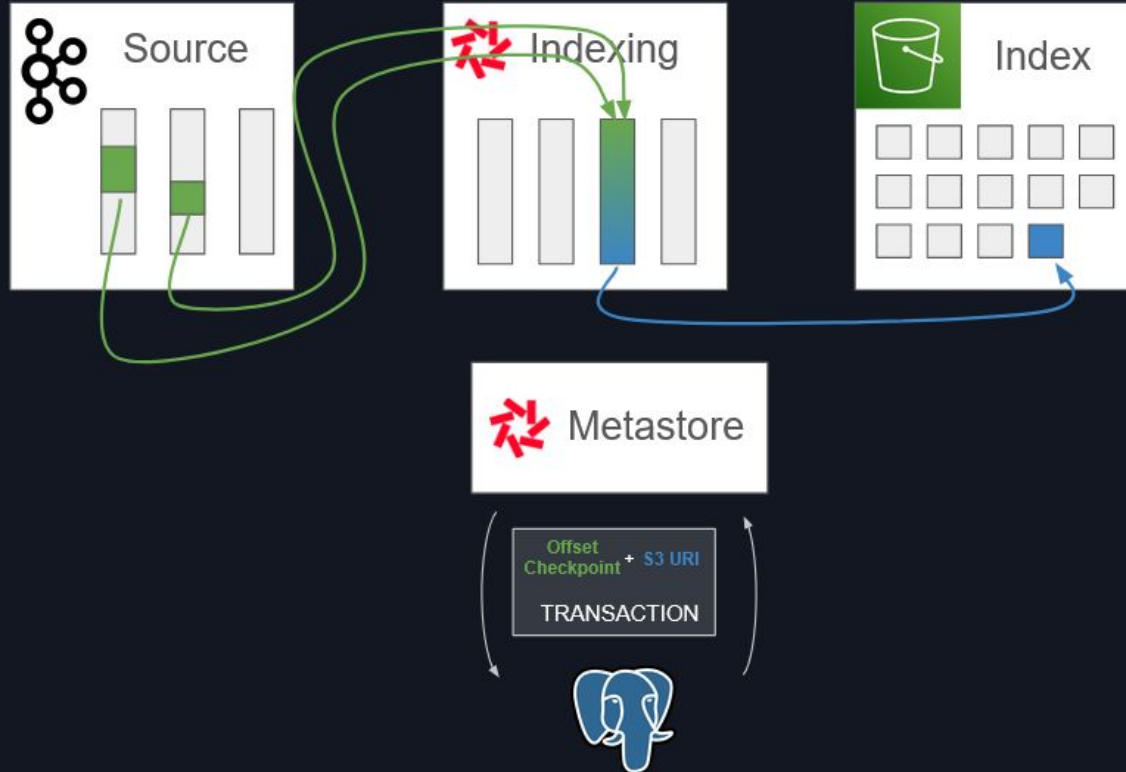


2) Indexing pipelines

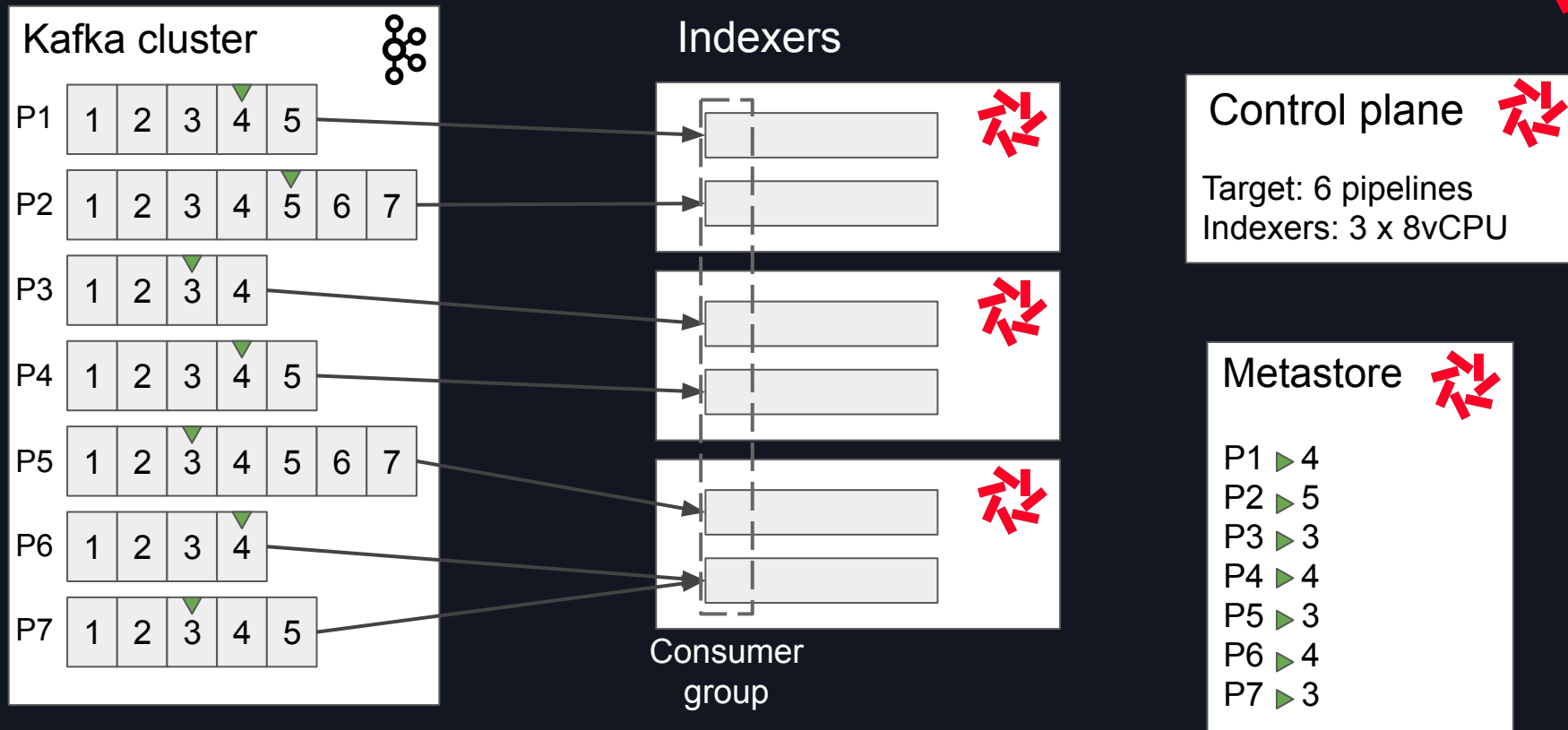


Engine	Quickwit	Loki
Ingestion time (min)	123 (+123%)	55
Mean vCPU	2.2	2.75
Total CPU time (min)	~270 (+80%)	~151
Number of files on GCS	25	145,756 (x5,829)
Bucket size (GiB)	53	55

2) Kafka source exactly-once semantics



2) Distributing indexing pipelines





3) Real world example

3) Real world example



Indexing at Binance, leading crypto platform

Indexing throughput

13.4 GB/s

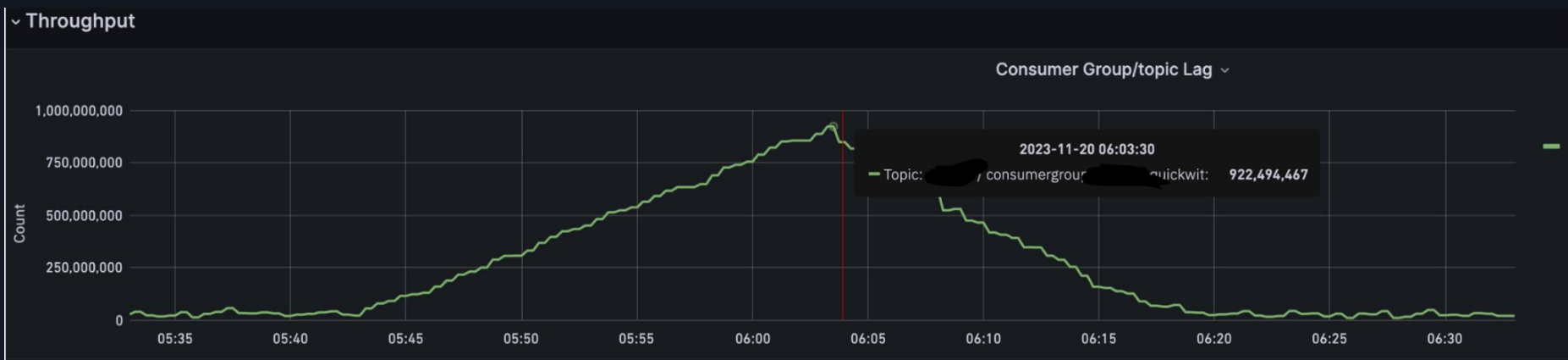
Documents throughput

14503371 docs/s

Indexer Running Pods

200

3) Real world example



3) Real world example

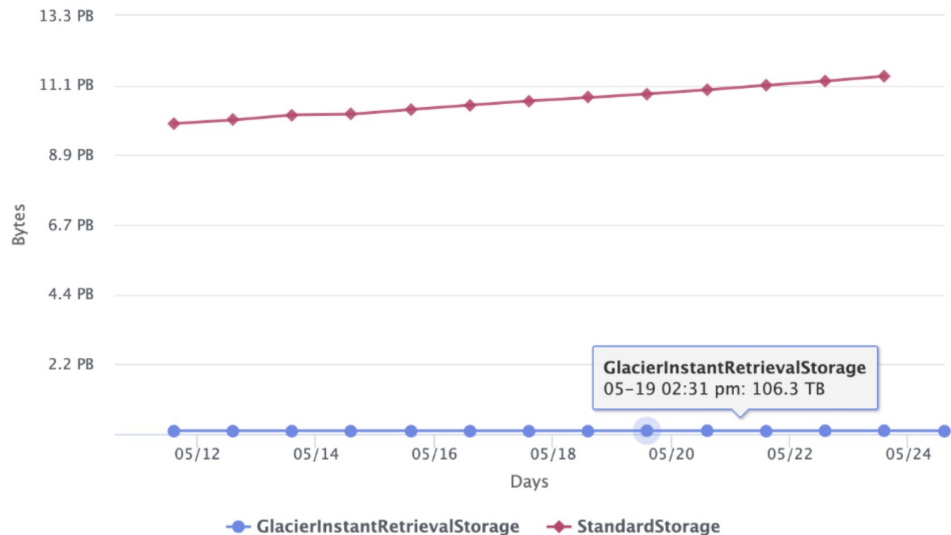


Splits in S3

Total bucket size

[View in CloudWatch](#)

Amount of data in bytes stored in this bucket.



Older data stored on Glacier:

- total is 20PB

With a compression ratio of 8:

- 160PB ingested



3) Real world example

Cost comparison for 1PB per day

Cloudwatch

- $1\text{PB} * \$0.5/\text{GB} \rightarrow \$500\text{k} / \text{day}$

Quickwit

- 1000 indexers with 6CPU running on c7g
- $\$0.0361 (/cpu.h) * 1000 * 6 * 24 = \$5200 / \text{day}$

100X



References

Quickwit architecture	https://quickwit.io/docs/overview/architecture
Loki vs Quickwit	https://quickwit.io/blog/benchmarking-quickwit-loki
Kafka source tutorial	https://quickwit.io/docs/ingest-data/kafka
Kafka rebalancing	https://www.confluent.io/online-talks/everything-you-always-wanted-to-know-about-kafkas-rebalance-protocol-but-were-afraid-to-ask-on-demand/

Thank you

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