

Starting up with Grafana

Well, I have played with Splunk and the ELK (Elasticsearch - Logstash - [Kibana](#)) Stack for some time now; review these interesting Pages and Blogs:

- [Location Tracking in Splunk](#)
- [How to make splunk show an Image in a DIV](#)
- [Location Tracking in Splunk - Drilldown](#)
- [Splunk - Index fillings](#)
- [Parsing Apache Logs with Splunk for real user hits....](#)
- [Logging PageEvents to Splunk](#)
- [Different Loggings](#)
- [Loading Musicbrainz in Splunk](#)
- [SlideShow](#)
- [Beats for splunk](#)
- [Splunk](#)
- [Logging PageEvents to Elasticsearch](#)
- [Upgrading Elasticsearch from 5.1 to 5.2](#)
- [Elasticsearch Dashbord in Grafana](#)
- [Scripting Fields in Kibana](#)

both somehow, that was not sufficient. Recently i "stumbled" upon [Grafana](#), a Graphic frontend for several Datasouces, including Elasticsearch (ES) from version 4.1.

There is a fine installation guide, but due to the fact I did not want to "pollute" my installation via the package system with "apt-get", i decided to get the tar file and unpack it into /data/grafana (see under *Installing from binary tar file*)

This is absolutly excellent and the server spun up and I could start using ES as a datasource at once.

The trouble began with I tried to set autostart up via the guide in <http://docs.grafana.org/installation/debian/> - a lot of configurations was already saved under the manual startups adn workning, and several thing had to be corrected in the startup files to find these settings.

After a while I scratched it, and started with the genereel method from <https://gist.github.com/naholyr/4275302>

Remember to add user:

```
useradd grafana
```

My service.sh - called /etc/init.d/grafana-server is like this (notice the 2 times cd /data/grafana):

```
grafana.server
```

```

#!/bin/sh
### BEGIN INIT INFO
# Provides:          <NAME>
# Required-Start:    $local_fs $network $named $time $syslog
# Required-Stop:     $local_fs $network $named $time $syslog
# Default-Start:     2 3 4 5
# Default-Stop:      0 1 6
# Description:       <DESCRIPTION>
### END INIT INFO

SCRIPT=./bin/grafana-server
RUNAS=grafana

PIDFILE=/var/run/grafana-server.pid
LOGFILE=/var/log/grafana.log

start() {
    if [ -f /var/run/$PIDNAME ] && kill -0 $(cat /var/run/$PIDNAME); then
        echo 'Service already running' >&2
        return 1
    fi
    echo 'Starting service...' >&2
    cd /data/grafana
    local CMD="$SCRIPT &> \"$LOGFILE\" & echo \$!"
    su -c "$CMD" $RUNAS > "$PIDFILE"
    echo 'Service started' >&2
}

stop() {
    if [ ! -f "$PIDFILE" ] || ! kill -0 $(cat "$PIDFILE"); then
        echo 'Service not running' >&2
        return 1
    fi
    echo 'Stopping service...' >&2
    cd /data/grafana
    kill -15 $(cat "$PIDFILE") && rm -f "$PIDFILE"
    echo 'Service stopped' >&2
}

uninstall() {
    echo -n "Are you really sure you want to uninstall this service? That cannot be undone. [yes|No] "
    local SURE
    read SURE
    if [ "$SURE" = "yes" ]; then
        stop
        rm -f "$PIDFILE"
        echo "Notice: log file is not be removed: '$LOGFILE'" >&2
        update-rc.d -f <NAME> remove
        rm -fv "$0"
    fi
}

case "$1" in
    start)
        start
        ;;
    stop)
        stop
        ;;
    uninstall)
        uninstall
        ;;
    restart)
        stop
        start
        ;;
    *)
        echo "Usage: $0 {start|stop|restart|uninstall}"
esac

```



Make sure to change file ownership on all files to the grafana user:

```
chown -R grafana:grafana /var/lib/grafana*  
chown -R grafana:grafana /var/log/grafana*  
chown -R grafana:grafana /data/grafana*
```

And it works fine the cd to the /data/grafana ensures getting the right configs (As in the manual startup) and logs to /var/log/grafana/grafana.log