

Journey of a Home-based Personal Cloud Storage Project



SCALE 21x

Julien RIOU

March 16, 2024

2007

Ubuntu Party, Paris



May 2007

Los Angeles



August 2007



Who am I?



- Julien RIOU
- Open Source DBA
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Summary

1. Why?
2. History
3. Infrastructure
4. Data management
5. Alerting
6. Observability
7. Automation
8. What's next?
9. Takeaways

Why?

Home-based Personal Cloud Storage, why on earth?

Why?

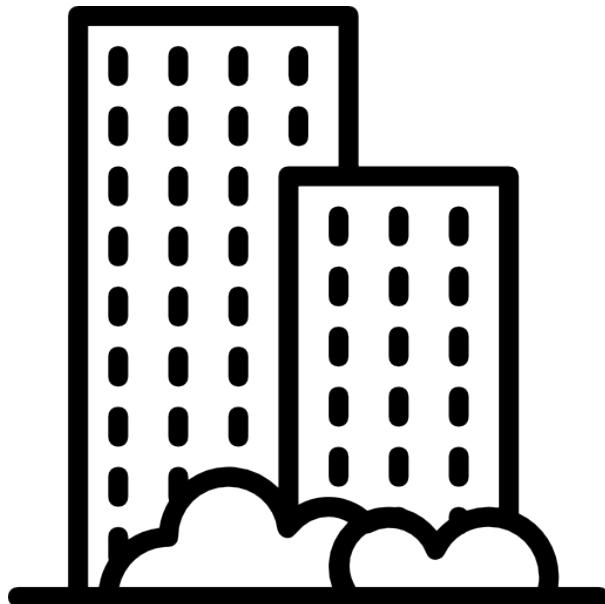
Home-based Personal Cloud Storage, why on earth?

- Never lose data again
- Control my data
- Learn new stuff
- Have fun!

History

Apartment

2013



USB drives



USB drives

- Hard to find
- NTFS (because Microsoft Windows)
- Physically plug, automount
- Umount/eject, unplug

Network Attached Storage (NAS)



Shared NAS

- Desktop PC
- Home office
- SMB shares with **Samba**
- Breaking upgrades

New job

2015

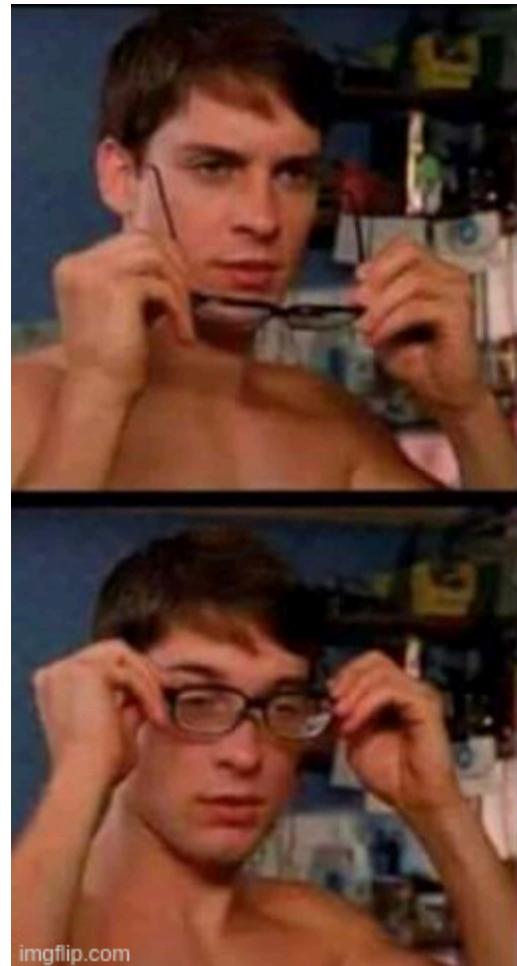


- Major cloud provider in Europe
- Discount price on HDDs (not anymore)
- OpenZFS (NFS, CIFS)
- GNU/Linux on servers and desktops

Small storage

- Must be small and silent
- Synology design
- 3x4TB HDD at discount price
- Intel NUC motherboard, PCI RAID card
- FreeBSD for built-in OpenZFS support

Motherboard sizes



**MINI
ITX**

**MICRO
ATX**



Copying data...

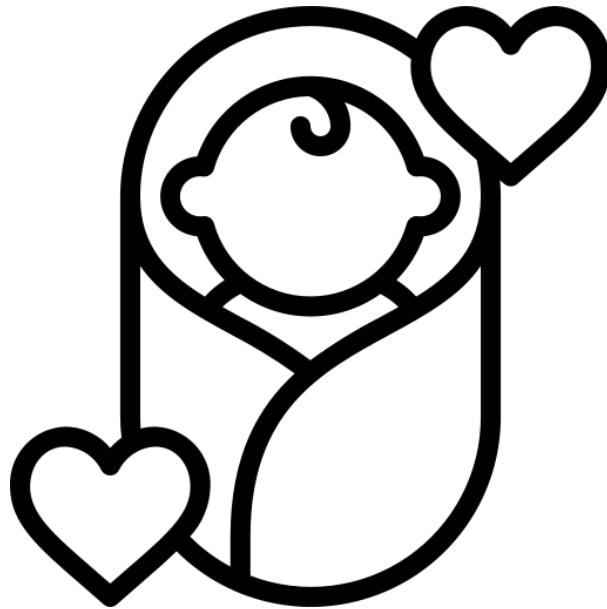


Big storage

- Classic ATX tower
- 3x2TB HDD at discount price
- FreeBSD

Baby

2018



- Put the computers away to the basement
- Time better spent with my baby

New house

2019



- More space!
- Noise is not an issue anymore
- Secure basement

Old storage

- Rebuilt my main computer
- Re-used my old computer as a storage server
 - The first computer I've ever built in 2008
- 3x1TB HDD from my stock

Issues

- USB stick not bootable
- CD-ROM of FreeBSD 12 had a **LUA error**
 - FreeBSD 11 too
 - Debian 10 worked
- Freezes
 - Hard reboot
- Fully replaced and upgraded today (3x2TB)

Recap

2024

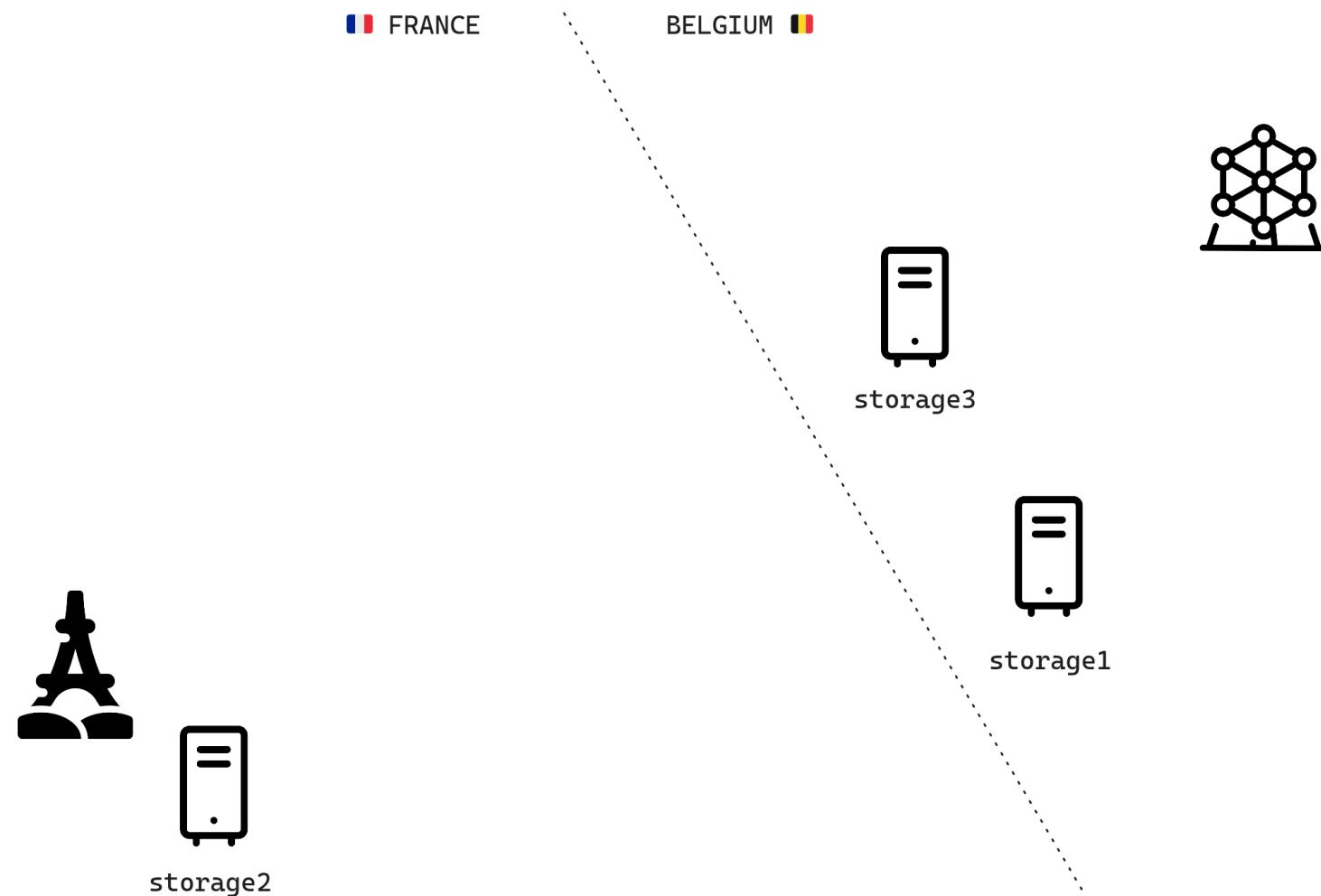
Description	Name	Capacity (TiB)	OS
Big storage	storage1	5.45	Debian
Old storage	storage2	5.45	Debian
Small storage	storage3	10.9	Debian



imgflip.com

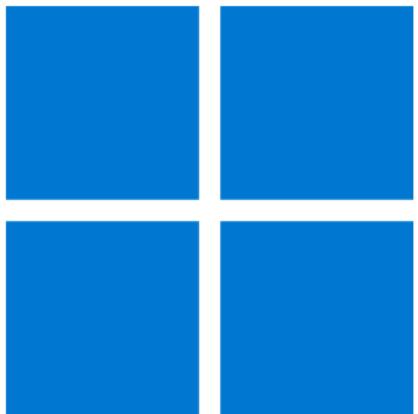
Infrastructure

Map



Clients

Operating systems



→ kubuntu®

- No more Microsoft Windows
- Ubuntu and friends

Network File System (NFS)

- Easy to set up
- Easy to maintain
- Mount a remote directory locally



- Harder to install and maintain
 - Easier with [Docker](#)
- User friendly
 - Drive client, Web UI ([seahub](#))
- Keep files in sync
 - Pinned full files, full files and placeholders

Connectivity

Static IP address

Static IP address

Fixed IP Option **€ 30 .25 /month**

Disposez d'une adresse IP Fixe pour accéder à distance à votre serveur au moyen d'une connexion internet.

[Read less ^](#)

Static IP address



ISP modem settings

ISP modem settings

- SSH, HTTP and HTTPS closed by default
- Port mapping
- Request the ISP to set **security level to low**
- It worked at the apartment, not in the house

ISP modem settings

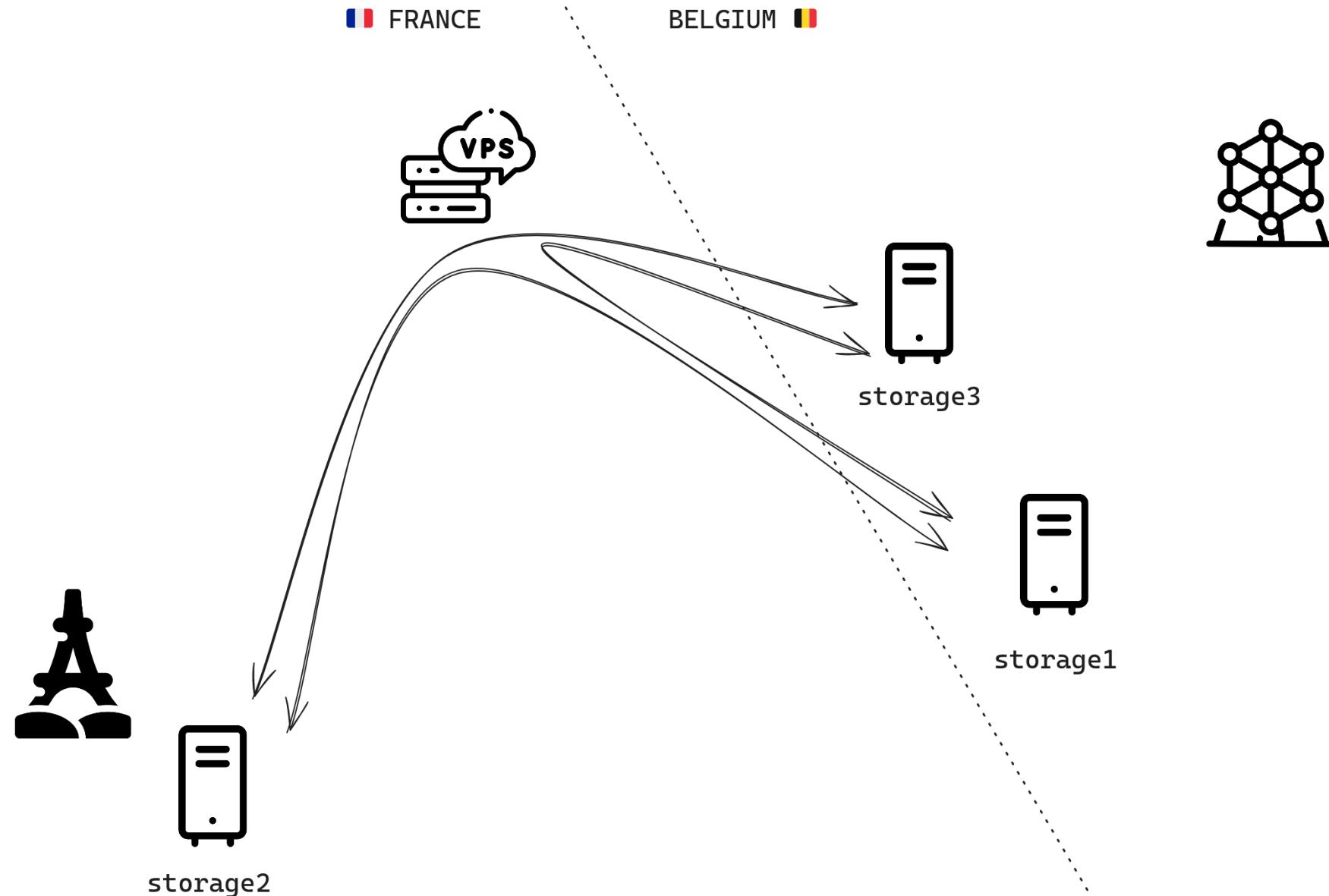
- SSH, HTTP and HTTPS closed by default
- Port mapping
- Request the ISP to set security level to low
- It worked at the apartment, not in the house



- Virtual Private Network (VPN)
- Client-server model
- Authentication with certificates
- TLS
- Client-to-client allowed
- Static IP address assignment to clients

Custom settings

```
topology subnet ; declare a subnet like home
server 10.xx.xx.xx 255.xx.xx.xx ; with the range you like
client-to-client ; allow clients to talk to each other
client-config-dir /etc/openvpn/ccd ; static IP configuration per client
ifconfig-pool-persist /var/log/openvpn/ipp.txt ; IP lease settings
```





Remote administration

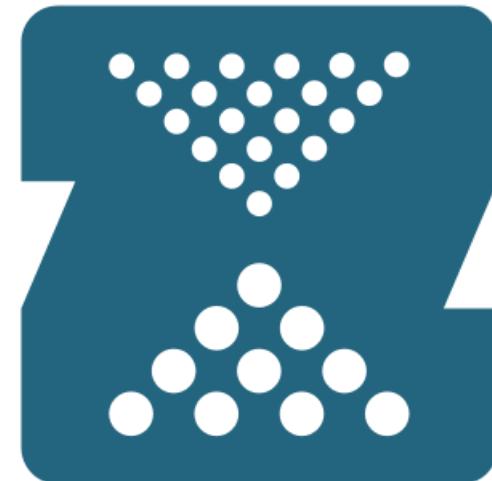


- Secure Shell protocol (SSH)
- Login and execute commands on a remote host

Data management

Disk management

- Zettabyte File System (ZFS)
- Volume manager, RAID-Z
- Filesystems
- Snapshots
 - Performance!
 - Replication, cloning, rollback
- Compression, encryption
- Production ready, even on Linux



OpenZFS

RAID-Z

```
storage1 ~ # zpool status
  pool: storage
  state: ONLINE
    scan: scrub repaired 0B in 02:59:40 with 0 errors on Sun Feb 11 03:23:41 2024
config:

  NAME      STATE      READ WRITE CKSUM
  storage   ONLINE       0     0     0
  raidz1-0  ONLINE       0     0     0
  sda       ONLINE       0     0     0
  sdb       ONLINE       0     0     0
  sdc       ONLINE       0     0     0

errors: No known data errors
```

RAID-Z

```
storage1 ~ # zpool list
NAME      SIZE  ALLOC   FREE  CKPOINT   EXPANDSZ   FRAG     CAP  DEDUP   HEALTH  ALTROOT
storage  5.44T  2.89T  2.55T        -          -      8%    53%  1.00x  ONLINE   -
```

Compression

```
storage1 ~ # zfs get compression storage
NAME      PROPERTY      VALUE          SOURCE
storage  compression  lz4            local
```

Filesystems

```
storage1 ~ # zfs list -t filesystem
NAME          USED  AVAIL   REFER  MOUNTPOINT
storage        1.93T  1.58T    139K  /storage
storage/julien  348G  1.58T    338G  /storage/julien
```

Snapshots

```
storage1 ~ # zfs list -t snapshot -r storage/julien | tail -n 3
storage/julien@autosnap_2024-02-25_00:00:01_daily      0B      -      338G  -
storage/julien@autosnap_2024-02-26_00:00:02_daily      0B      -      338G  -
storage/julien@autosnap_2024-02-27_00:00:02_daily      0B      -      338G  -
```

Replication

```
zfs send POOL/FS@SNAPSHOT-1 | ssh REMOTE_HOST zfs recv POOL/FS  
zfs send -i POOL/FS@SNAPSHOT-1 POOL/FS@SNAPSHOT-2 | ssh REMOTE_HOST zfs recv POOL/FS  
zfs send -i POOL/FS@SNAPSHOT-2 POOL/FS@SNAPSHOT-3 | ssh REMOTE_HOST zfs recv POOL/FS
```

Snapshot management



*Policy-driven snapshot management tool for ZFS
filesystems*

- Take snapshots
- Pre and post snapshot scripts
- Prune snapshots
- Monitoring (health, capacity)

Templates configuration

```
[template_main]
    hourly = 0
    daily = 31
    monthly = 12
    yearly = 10
    autosnap = yes
    autoprune = yes

[template_archive]
    hourly = 0
    daily = 31
    monthly = 12
    yearly = 10
    autosnap = no
    autoprune = yes
```

Policies

```
[storage/julien]
use_template = main
```

```
[storage/dad]
use_template = archive
```

Job definition

systemd service

```
storage1 ~ # systemctl cat sanoid.service
# /lib/systemd/system/sanoid.service
[Unit]
Description=Snapshot ZFS filesystems
Documentation=man:sanoid(8)
Requires=local-fs.target
After=local-fs.target
Before=sanoid-prune.service
Wants=sanoid-prune.service
ConditionFileNotEmpty=/etc/sanoid/sanoid.conf

[Service]
Type=oneshot
Environment=TZ=UTC
ExecStart=/usr/bin/sanoid --take-snapshots --verbose
```

Job scheduling

systemd timer

```
storage1 ~ # systemctl cat sanoid.timer
# /lib/systemd/system/sanoid.timer
[Unit]
Description=Run Sanoid Every 15 Minutes

[Timer]
OnCalendar=*:0/15
Persistent=true

[Install]
WantedBy=timers.target
```

Job scheduling

systemd timer

```
storage1 ~ # systemctl cat sanoid.timer
# /lib/systemd/system/sanoid.timer
[Unit]
Description=Run Sanoid Every 15 Minutes

[Timer]
OnCalendar=*:0/15
Persistent=true

[Install]
WantedBy=timers.target
```

```
storage1 ~ # systemctl list-timers sanoid.timer --all
NEXT           LEFT      LAST          PASSED      UNIT           ACTIVATES
Tue 2024-02-27 09:00:00 CET 11min left Tue 2024-02-27 08:45:01 CET 3min 20s ago sanoid.timer sanoid.ser
1 timers listed.
```

Snapshot replication

- Syncoid
 - included with Sanoid
- `rsync` -like
- Resume on interruption
- Bandwidth control

Usage

```
/usr/sbin/syncoid          \
    storage/julien          \
    zfs@REMOTE_STORAGE:storage/julien \
    --no-sync-snap          \
    --source-bwlimit=512k
```

Usage

```
/usr/sbin/syncoid          \
    storage/julien          \
    zfs@REMOTE_STORAGE:storage/julien \
    --no-sync-snap          \
    --source-bwlimit=512k
```

Added to `/opt/syncoid.sh` script

Job definition

systemd service

```
storage1 ~ # systemctl cat syncoid.service
# /etc/systemd/system/syncoid.service
[Unit]
Description=Send ZFS snapshots created by Sanoid
Requires=zfs.target
After=zfs.target

[Service]
Type=oneshot
User=zfs
ExecStart=-/opt/syncoid.sh

[Install]
WantedBy=multi-user.target
```

Job scheduling

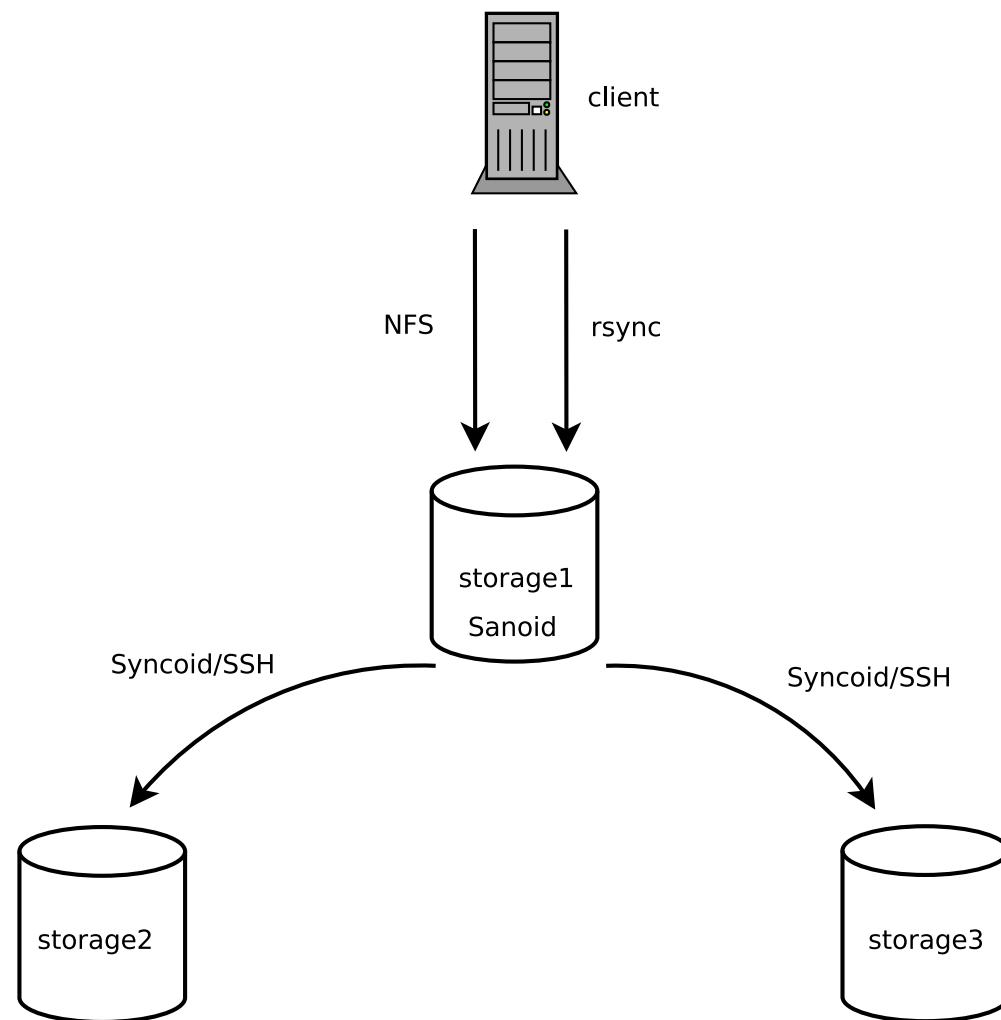
systemd timer

```
storage1 ~ # systemctl cat syncoid.timer
# /etc/systemd/system/syncoid.timer
[Unit]
Description=Run Syncoid every night

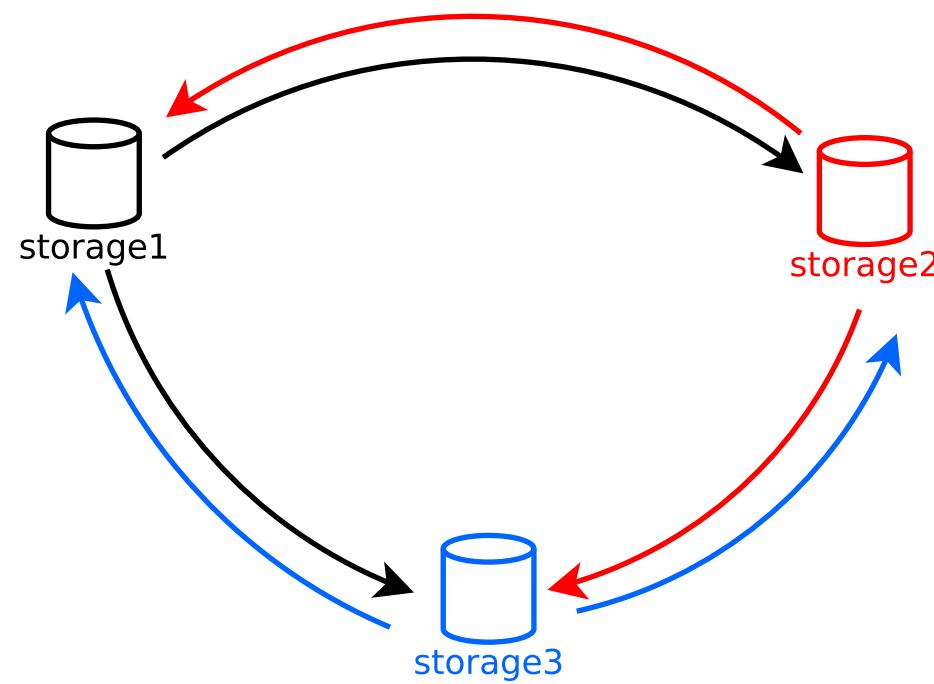
[Timer]
OnCalendar=--*-00,04:30:00 UTC
AccuracySec=1us
RandomizedDelaySec=2h30

[Install]
WantedBy=timers.target
```

Client replication



Replication overview



Health

```
storage1 ~ # sanoid --monitor-snapshots  
OK: all monitored datasets (storage/dad, storage/julien) have fresh snapshots
```

Health

```
storage1 ~ # sanoid --monitor-snapshots  
OK: all monitored datasets (storage/dad, storage/julien) have fresh snapshots
```

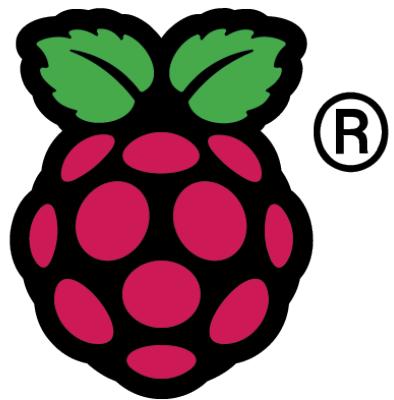
```
storage1 ~ # sanoid --monitor-health  
OK ZPOOL storage : ONLINE {Size:5.44T Free:2.55T Cap:53%}
```

Alerting

Nagios

- Nagios Core
- Simple configuration files
- Web UI
- Plugins

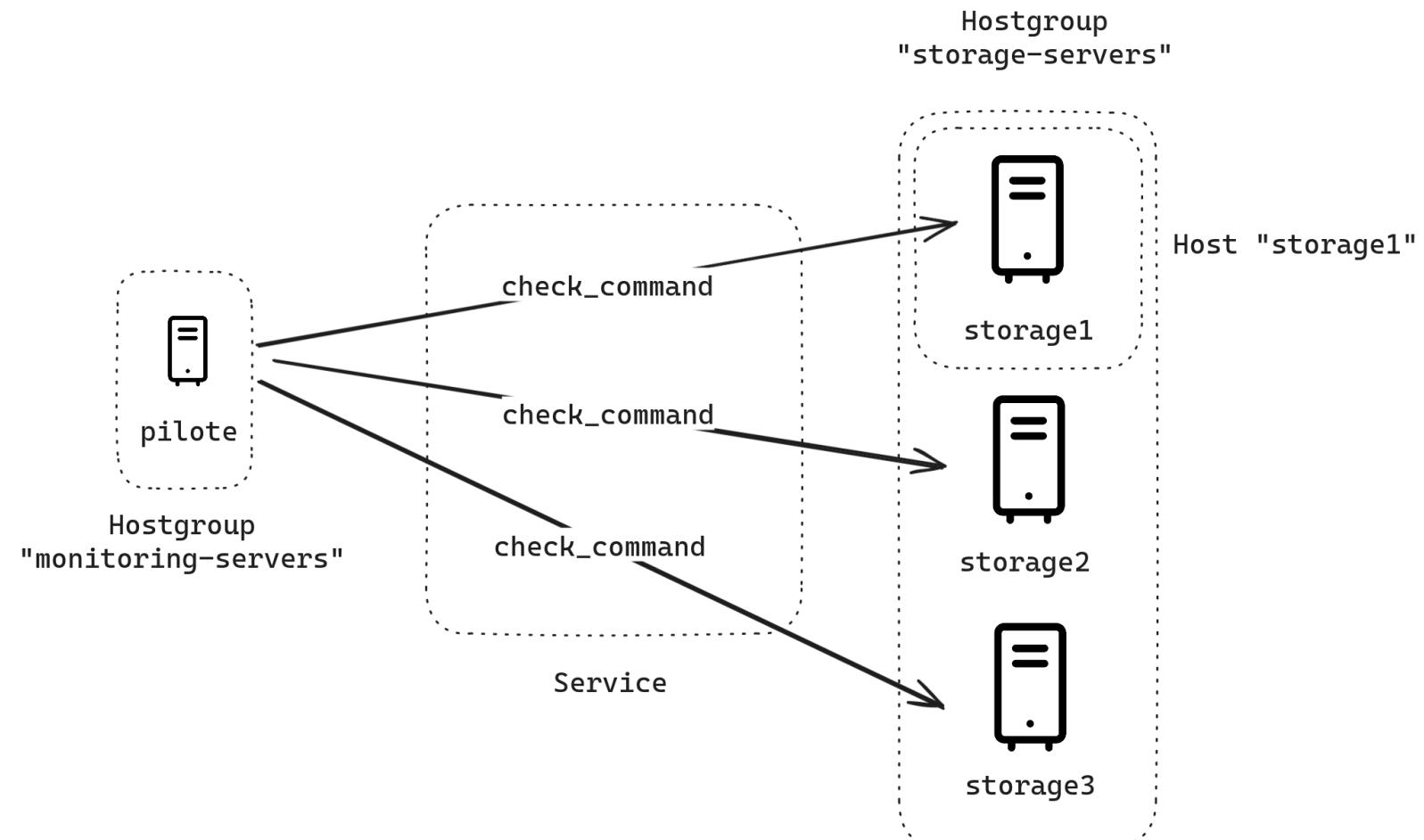
Welcome to pilote !



- Runs on Raspberry Pi
- Debian based distribution

Components

- Hosts
- Hostgroups
- Services
- Notifications



Host

/etc/nagios4/conf.d/hosts.cfg

```
define host {  
    use          home-host  
    host_name   storage1  
    alias       storage1  
    address     169.254.0.1  
}
```

Hostgroups

/etc/nagios4/conf.d/hostgroups.cfg

```
define hostgroup {  
    hostgroup_name storage-servers  
    alias          Storage servers  
    members        storage1,storage2,storage3  
}
```

Services commands

- `check_ping`
- `check_nrpe`
 - Nagios Remote Plugin Executor
- `check_http`

Services states

- OK
- WARNING
- CRITICAL
- UNKNOWN

Service configuration

```
define service {  
    use          home-service  
    hostgroup_name storage-servers  
    service_description zfs_snapshots  
    check_command   check_nrpe!check_zfs_snapshots  
}
```

NRPE agent

/etc/nagios/nrpe_local.cfg

```
command[check_zfs_snapshots]=/usr/bin/sudo /usr/sbin/sanoid --monitor-snapshots
```

Notifications

Send Nagios notifications to a [Telegram Messenger](#) channel.

[notify-by-telegram](#)

***** Nagios *****

Notification Type: PROBLEM

Service: zfs_snapshots

Host: storage3

Address: [REDACTED]

State: CRITICAL

Date/Time: Sun Dec 24 09:04:35 CET
2023

Additional Info:

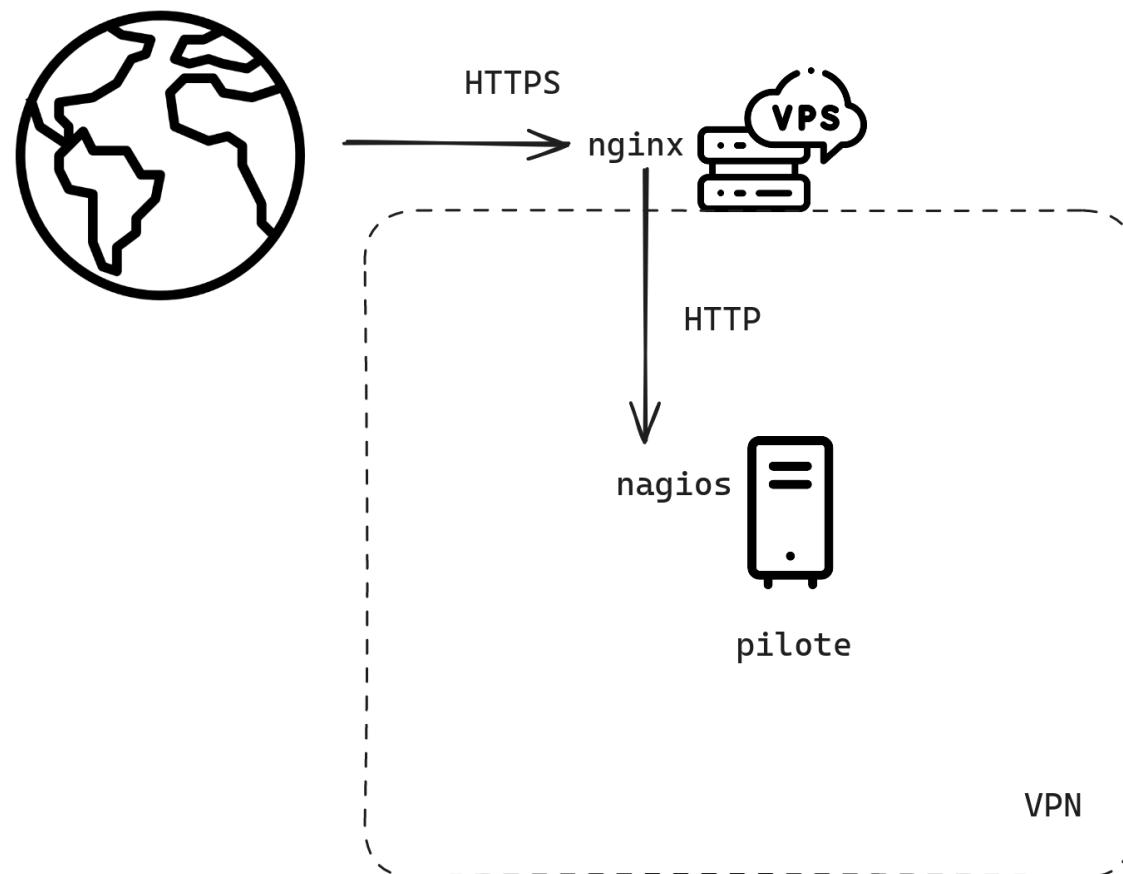
CRIT: storage/ [REDACTED] s newest daily
snapshot is 1d 8h 4m 33s old (should
be 1d 8h 0m 0s), CRIT: storage/
[REDACTED] s newest daily snapshot is 1d
8h 4m 33s old (should be 1d 8h 0m
0s), CRIT: storage/ [REDACTED] s newest
daily snapshot is 1d 8h 4m 34s old
(should be 1d 8h 0m 0s)

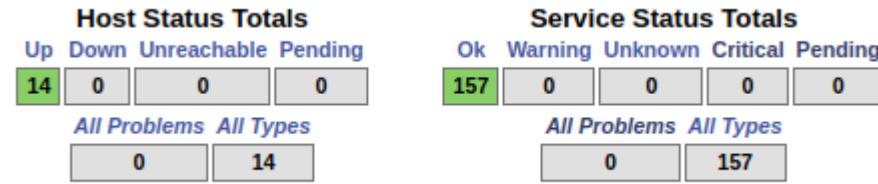
09:04

***** Nagios *****
Notification Type: RECOVERY
Service: zfs_health
Host: storage2
Address: [REDACTED]
State: OK
Date/Time: Wed Jan 17 21:47:04 CET
2024
Additional Info:
OK ZPOOL storage : ONLINE
{Size:5.45T Free:2.59T Cap:52%} 21:47

Web UI

External access





Host ↑↓	Service ↑↓	Status ↑↓	Last Check ↑↓	Duration ↑↓	Attempt ↑↓	Status Information
storage1	apc_battery_charge	OK	01-22-2024 08:48:30	19d 14h 39m 8s	1/12	OK - Battery Charge: 100.0%
	apc_load	OK	01-22-2024 08:48:58	26d 21h 58m 27s	1/12	OK - Load: 13.0%
	apc_status	OK	01-22-2024 08:49:22	18d 3h 3m 11s	1/12	OK - Power Line: ONLINE
	apc_time_left	OK	01-22-2024 08:48:38	98d 15h 43m 27s	1/12	OK - Time Left: 54.2 Minutes
	bacula_fd	OK	01-22-2024 08:48:15	17d 21h 59m 32s	1/12	PROCS OK: 1 process with command name 'bacula-fd'
	bacula_sd	OK	01-22-2024 08:50:22	12d 0h 7m 8s	1/12	PROCS OK: 1 process with command name 'bacula-sd'
	disk_root	OK	01-22-2024 08:51:13	115d 20h 34m 49s	1/12	DISK OK - free space: / 98794MIB (94% inode=98%):
	load	OK	01-22-2024 08:47:45	18d 10h 19m 59s	1/12	LOAD OK - scaled load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00 - total load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00
	ntp	OK	01-22-2024 08:48:04	17d 15h 4m 32s	1/12	NTP is healthy
	openvpn	OK	01-22-2024 08:48:34	19d 4h 54m 4s	1/12	PROCS OK: 1 process with command name 'openvpn'
	openvpn_cert	OK	01-22-2024 08:48:57	7d 1h 53m 31s	1/12	SSL_CERT OK - localhost:443, https, x509 certificate 'storage1' from 'Easy-RSA CA' valid until May 3 06:07:24 2026 GMT (expires in 831 days)
	serial2mqtt	OK	01-22-2024 08:49:22	15d 7h 18m 10s	1/12	PROCS OK: 2 processes with args 'serial2mqtt'
	telegraf	OK	01-22-2024 08:49:13	26d 4h 28m 56s	1/12	PROCS OK: 1 process with command name 'telegraf'
	total_procs	OK	01-22-2024 08:51:27	17d 17h 56m 0s	1/12	PROCS OK: 168 processes
	users	OK	01-22-2024 08:50:30	7d 19h 36m 58s	1/12	USERS OK - 0 users currently logged in
	zfs_capacity	OK	01-22-2024 08:50:26	12d 0h 7m 4s	1/12	OK ZPOOL storage : 52%
	zfs_health	OK	01-22-2024 08:50:45	11d 13h 21m 39s	1/12	OK ZPOOL storage : ONLINE {Size:5.44T Free:2.57T Cap:52%}
	zfs_snapshots	OK	01-22-2024 08:51:17	5d 23h 36m 9s	1/12	OK: all monitored datasets (storage/) have fresh snapshots
	zombie_procs	OK	01-22-2024 08:51:42	147d 20h 23m 10s	1/12	PROCS OK: 0 processes with STATE = Z

Observability

- Disk space evolution
- Network stability
- Elephant Temperature in the room
- Power consumption

TIG stack

- Telegraf
- InfluxDB
- Grafana



The plugin-driven server agent for collecting & reporting metrics.

<https://github.com/influxdata/telegraf>

Inputs

```
[[inputs.cpu]]  
  percpu = false  
  totalcpu = true  
  collect_cpu_time = false  
  report_active = false  
  
[[inputs.diskio]]  
  devices = ['sda', 'sdb', 'sdc', 'sdd']
```

Outputs

```
[ [outputs.influxdb]]  
  urls = ["https://x.x.x.x:8088"]  
  database = "metrics"  
  skip_database_creation = true  
  username = "telegraf"  
  password = "****"  
  insecure_skip_verify = true  
  content_encoding = "gzip"
```



*Scalable datastore for metrics, events and real-time
analytics*

<https://github.com/influxdata/influxdb>



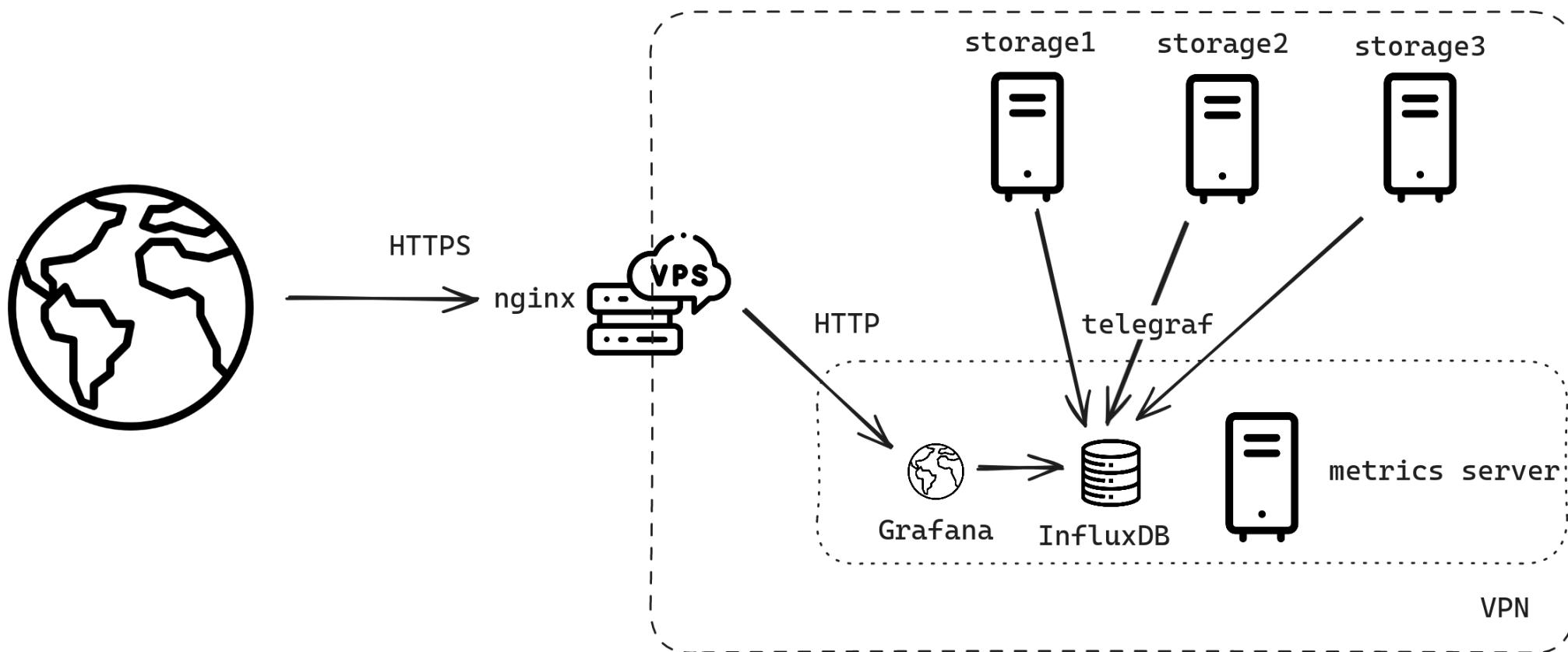
The open-source platform for monitoring and observability

<https://github.com/grafana/grafana>

Grafana dashboard



Overview



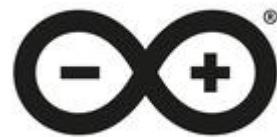
Notes

- Docker images available
 - InfluxDB, Grafana
- Not MicroSD friendly, prefer SSD or HDD
- Consider using Prometheus for the future

Sensors

- Temperature
- Humidity
- Noise

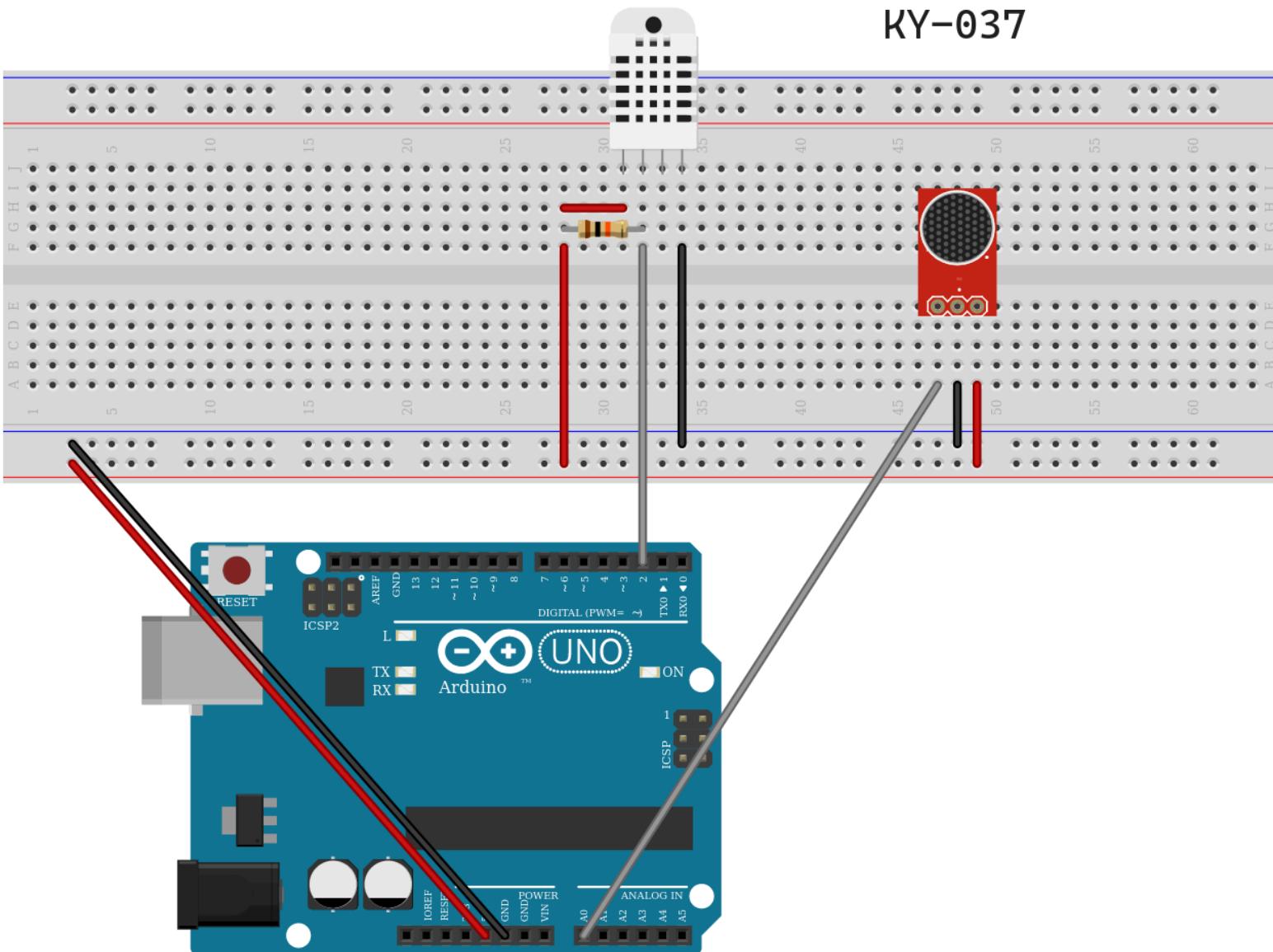
Hardware



- Arduino Uno (Elegoo Uno R3)
 - Powered by USB
- DHT22 sensor (temperature, humidity)
- KY-037 sensor (sound)
- Breadboard
- Cables

DHT22

KY-037



Software

- Arduino IDE
- Upload **sketch** to the board

Sketch

Definitions

```
#include <DHT.h>

#define KYPIN A0 // analog pin where KY-037 sensor is connected
#define DHTPIN 2 // digital pin where DHT22 sensor is connected

DHT dht(DHTPIN, DHT22); // initialize DHT22 object

float h; // humidity
float t; // temperature
int s; // sound
```

Setup

```
void setup()
{
    Serial.begin(9600);
    dht.begin();
}
```

Main loop (1/2)

```
void loop()
{
    // sensors need some time to produce valid values
    delay(2000);

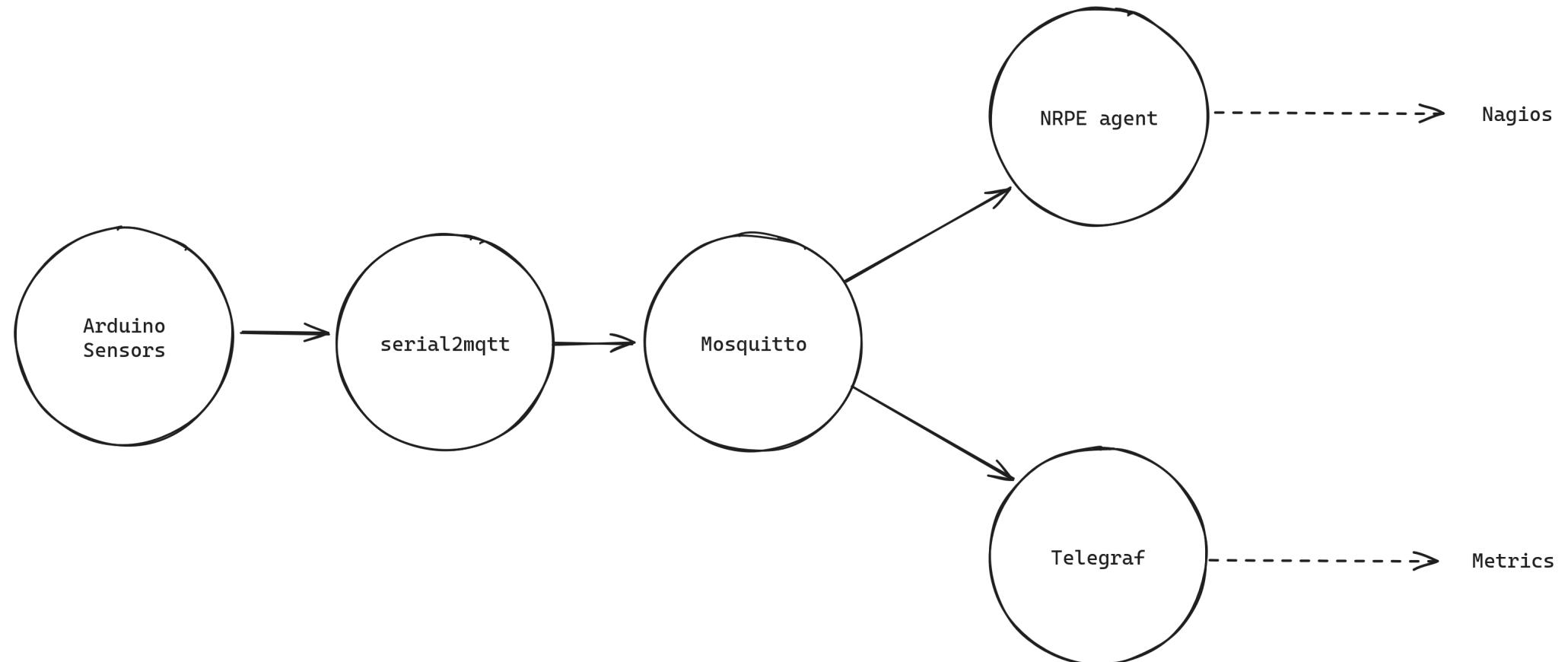
    // read values from sensors
    h = dht.readHumidity();
    t = dht.readTemperature();
    s = analogRead(KYPIN);
```

Main loop (2/2)

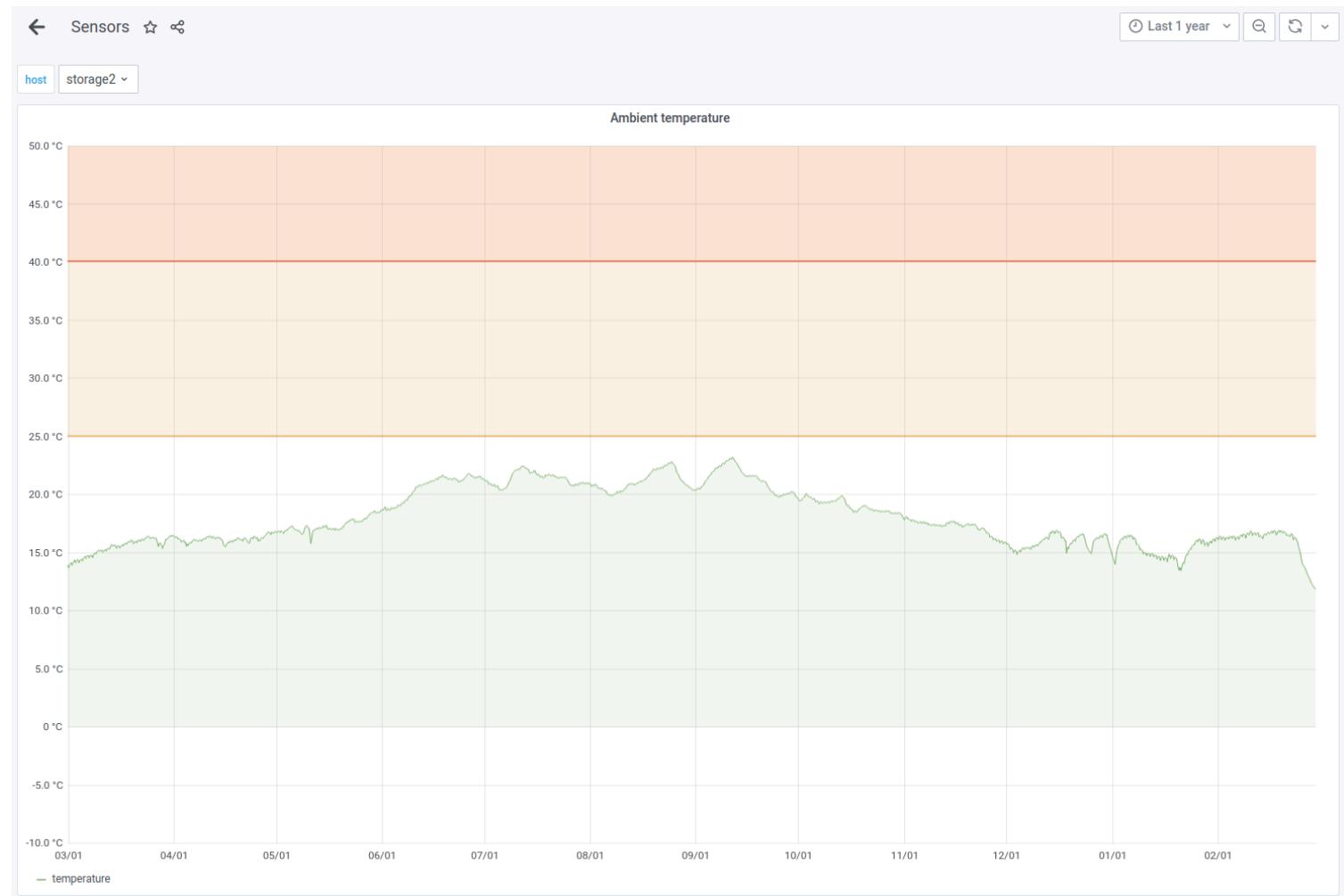
```
// print "<humidity>,<temperature>,<sound>" (CSV-like)
if (!isnan(h) && !isnan(t) && !isnan(s)) {
    Serial.print(h);
    Serial.print(",");
    Serial.print(t);
    Serial.print(",");
    Serial.println(s);
}
}
```

Multiplexing

- Serial port can be accessed by only one program
- MQTT Broker ([Mosquitto](#))
- [serial2mqtt](#)
- Nagios [check-mqtt](#)
- Telegraf [mqtt_consumer](#)



How is the temperature?

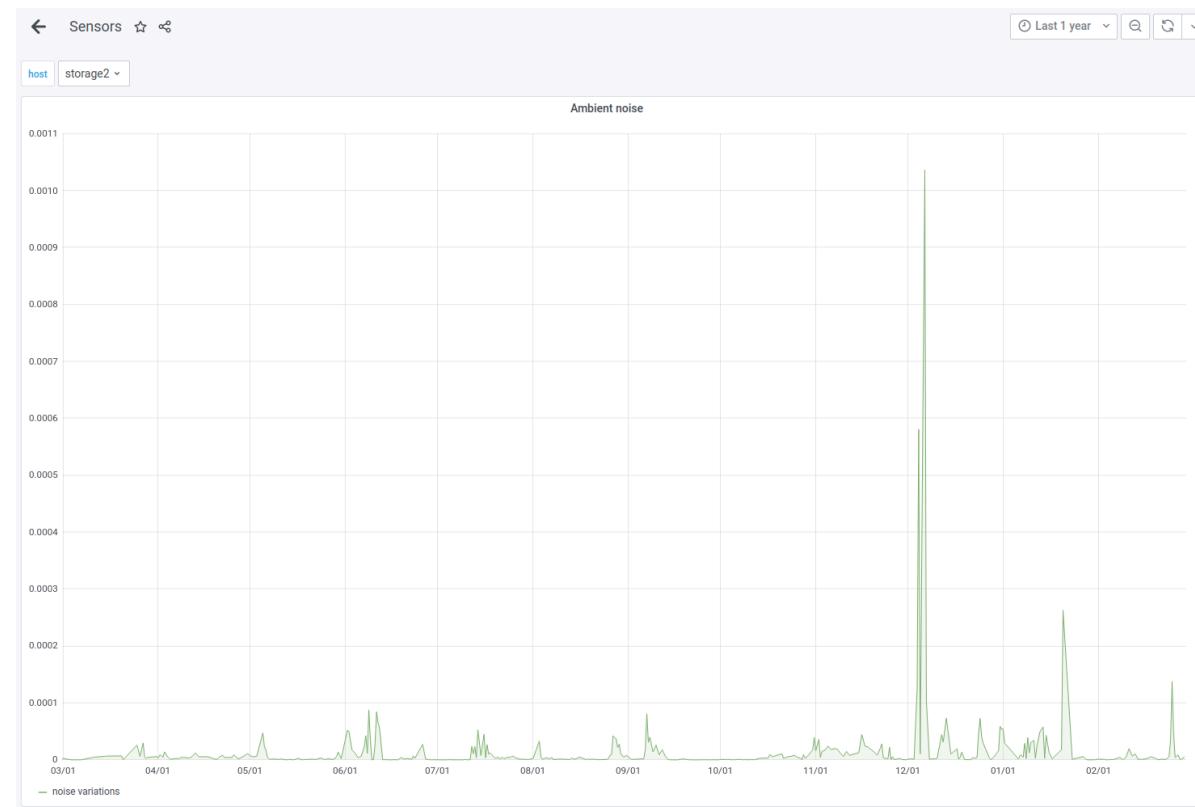


Humidity

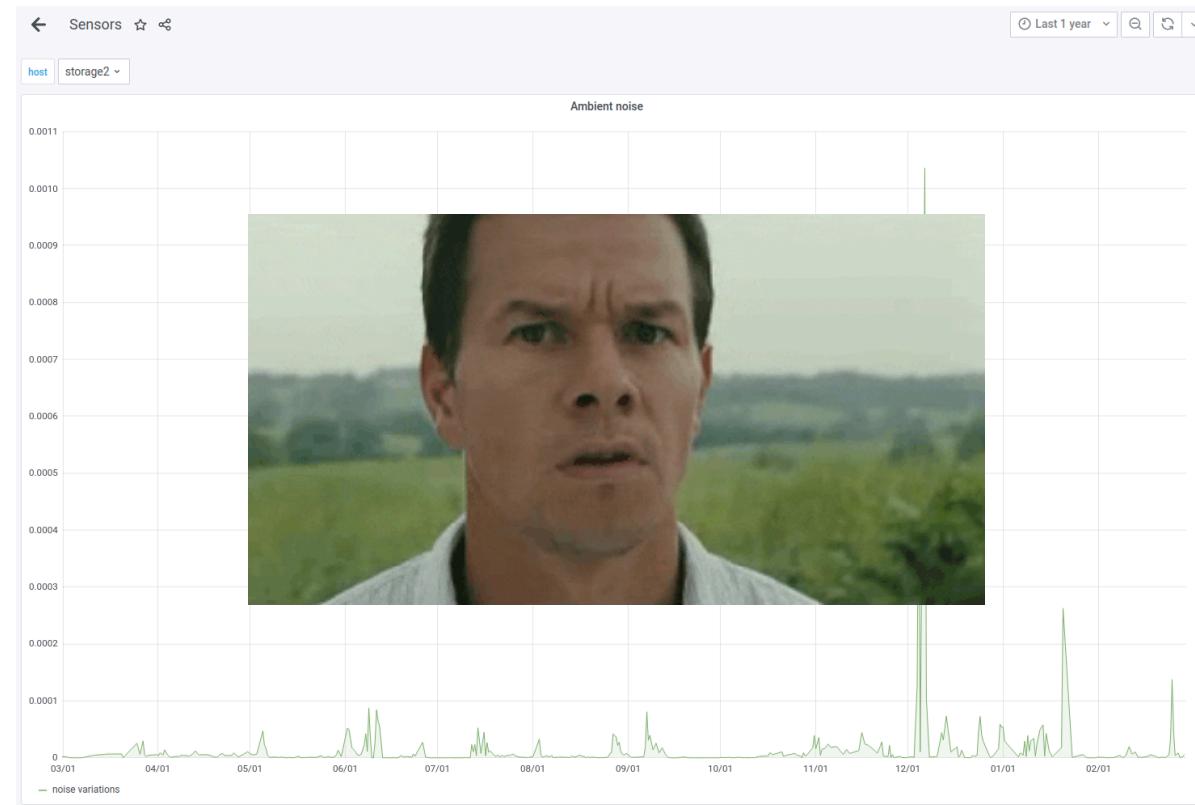


Noise

Noise



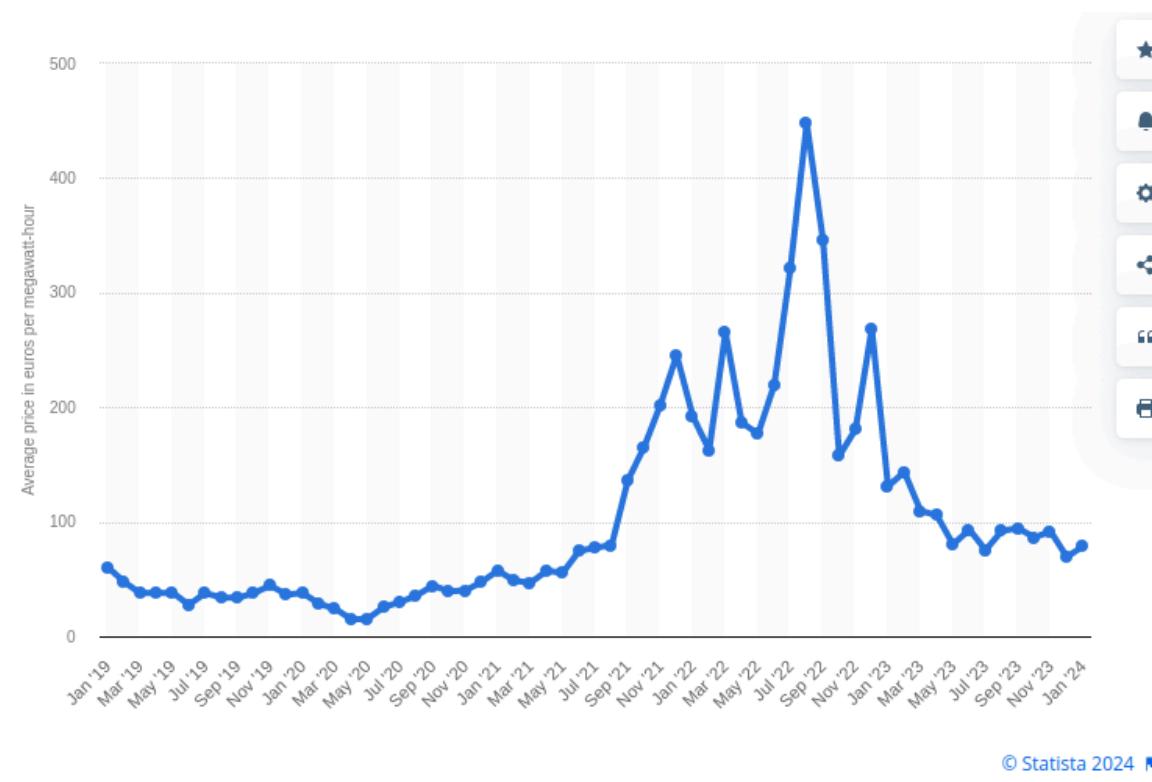
Noise



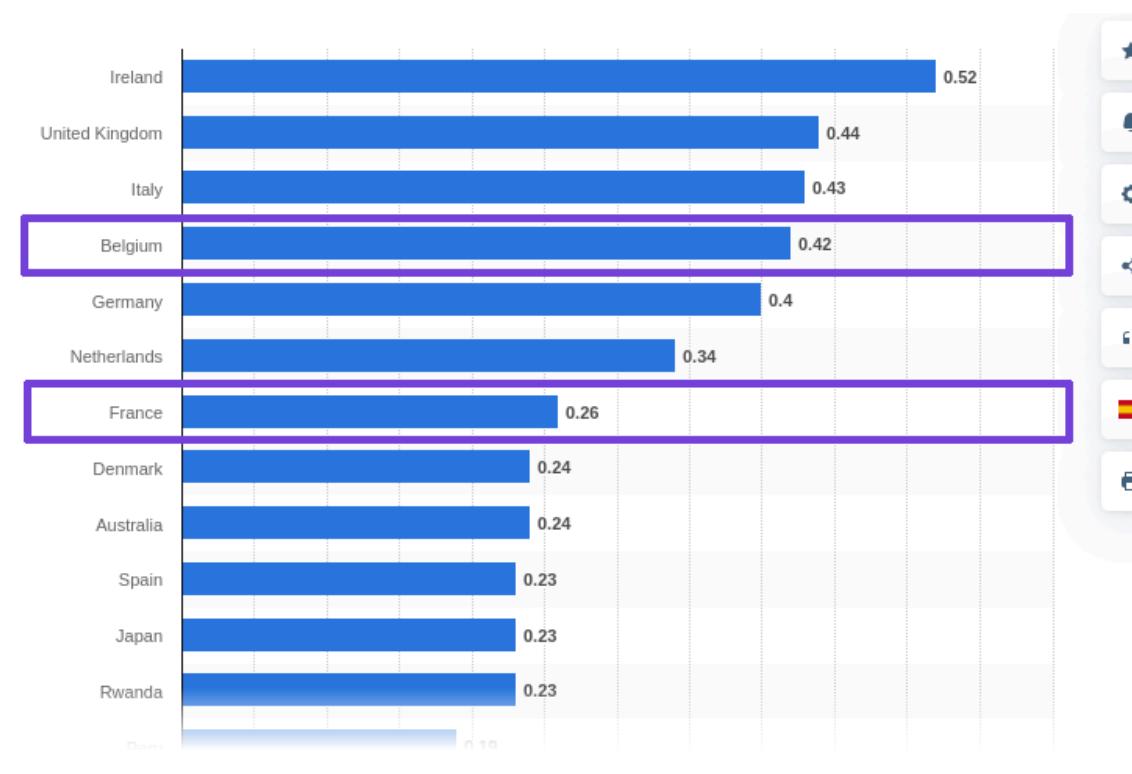
Power consumption

How much will it cost?

Average monthly electricity wholesale price in Belgium from January 2019 to January 2024 (in euros per megawatt-hour)



Household electricity prices worldwide in June 2023, by select country (in U.S. dollars per kilowatt-hour)



Wattmeter



Uninterruptible power supply (UPS)

- Apcupsd (APC UPS daemon) compatible
- Telegraf plugin
- Grafana dashboard already available
- Save from power outage
- A little bit pricey (€164,23 in 2020)

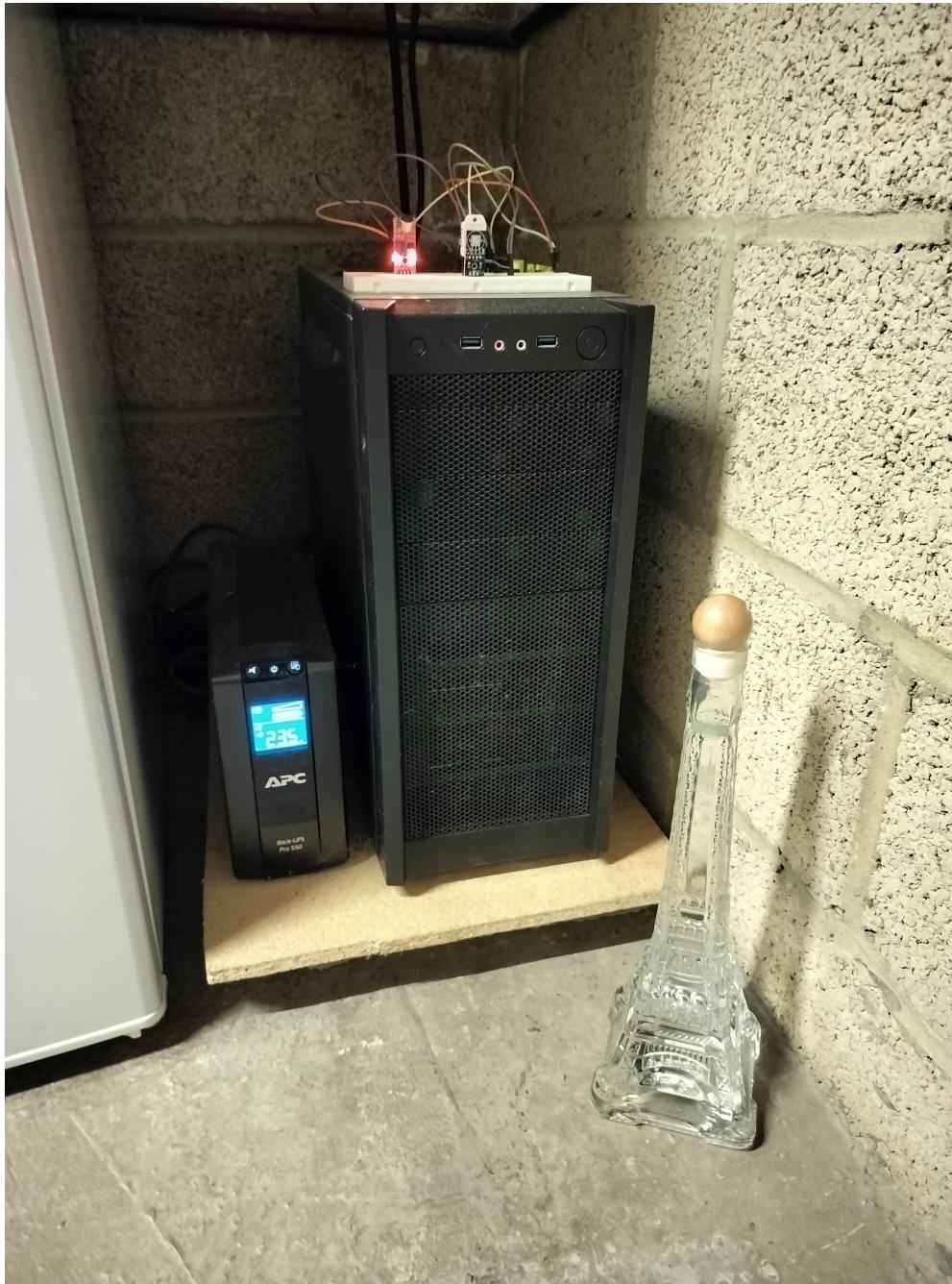


Yearly cost



\$7/y

In real life







Automation

Failures happen

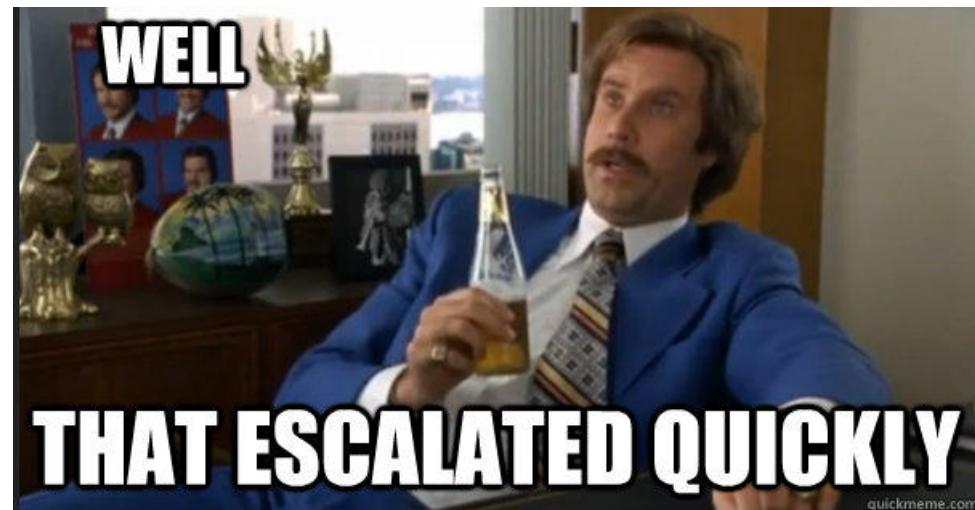
Failures happen

MicroSD cards with I/O errors

Failures happen

Flood or fire in the house

Failures happen



Deployments

Deployments

1. Install the operating system
2. Install and configure software
3. Restore data (optional)

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Ansible is a radically simple IT automation system.

<https://github.com/ansible/ansible>

Concepts

- **Inventory:** combination of
 - **Hosts:** remote machine to manage
 - **Groups:** hosts sharing a common attribute
- **Playbook:** list of tasks executed in order, on groups
 - **Roles:** group of tasks that can be shared to the world
 - **Tasks:** module + arguments
 - **Modules:** smallest unit of code to execute on hosts

Inventory

inventory/hosts file

```
[all]
vps ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
pilote ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
metrics ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
storage1 ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
storage2 ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
storage3 ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx

[storage]
storage1 ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
storage2 ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
storage3 ansible_host=xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx
```

Playbook overview

site.yml

- import_playbook: common.yml
- import_playbook: storage.yml
- import_playbook: ...

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```

common.yml

```
- hosts: all
  roles:
    - common
```

storage.yml

```
- hosts: storage
  roles:
    - zfs
    - openvpn
    - sanoid
    - ...
- hosts: storage1
  roles:
    - nfs
```

Role example

```
roles/sanoid/
├── defaults
│   └── main.yml
├── handlers
│   └── main.yml
├── tasks
│   └── main.yml
└── templates
    ├── sanoid.conf.j2
    ├── syncoid.service.j2
    ├── syncoid.sh.j2
    └── syncoid.timer.j2
```

Module examples

- `ansible.builtin.apt`
- `ansible.builtin.file`
- `ansible.builtin.service`
- `ansible.builtin.template`

Template example

Task

```
- name: Deploy Syncoid script
  ansible.builtin.template:
    src: syncoid.sh.j2
    dest: /opt/syncoid.sh
    owner: zfs
    group: root
    mode: "0750"
```

Template using **Jinja2**

```
#!/bin/bash
{{ ansible_managed | comment }}

{% for dataset in sanoid_main_datasets %}
{% for destination in syncoid_destinations %}
echo "Sending {{ dataset }} to {{ destination }}"
/usr/sbin/syncoid {{ dataset }} {{ syncoid_user }}@{{ destination }}:{{ dataset }} \
    --no-sync-snap \
    {% if syncoid_source_bwlimit %}--source-bwlimit={{ syncoid_source_bwlimit }} {% endif %}
{% endfor %}
{% endfor %}
```

Result on the managed host

```
#!/bin/bash
#
# Ansible managed
#
echo "Sending storage/julien to xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx"
/usr/sbin/syncoid storage/julien xxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx:storage/julien \
    --no-sync-snap \
    --source-bwlimit=512k
echo "Sending storage/dad to xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx"
/usr/sbin/syncoid storage/dad xxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx:storage/dad \
    --no-sync-snap \
    --source-bwlimit=512k
```

Upgrades

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upgrade.yml

```
- name: Upgrade systems
hosts: all
tasks:
  - include_tasks: tasks/apt-upgrade.yml
```

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tasks:
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```

tasks/apt-upgrade.yml

```
- name: Run apt upgrade
ansible.builtin.apt:
  update_cache: true
  upgrade: dist
```

CLI

```
ansible-playbook site.yml  
ansible-playbook upgrade.yml
```

What's next?

- Open-source my Ansible code base
- Automate certificates management
- Use ZFS encryption
- Use Prometheus for metrics
- Forward logs
- Handle mobile phones

Takeaways

- Self-hosting is not that hard
- Consider using [TrueNAS](#)
- FOSS is awesome!
- Enjoy what you are doing

Thank you



Questions

?

// reveal.js plugins