The Case to Not Outsource Your Metrics

March 15th, 2024
Storytime

1. Ideological Friends & Foes
2. An Olive Branch
3. A Clunky Sales Pitch
4. A Sense of Dread
5. Let’s Talk!
Target audience

All creatures, great and small:

- Passion Projects
- Startups
- Enterprise
Scope + Terms

Metrics

- Counters, Histograms, Gauges, etc.
- Logs

... things that you’d use to construct SLI’s, SLO’s, and SLA’s on.

Outsourcing

- Not deploying your own TSDB, Visualizer, and Alerting system(s).
  - ELK
  - Victoria Metrics
  - Prometheus
  - Grafana
  - Loki
  - ...etc

- Metrics or logs are emitted and shipped to one of the many SaaS providers in this space
## The Case

| 1 - Dog Food                      | • Acquire or build the skills to run your own metrics stack  
|                                  | • Empower a strong DevOps practice |
| 2 - Availability                 | • Don’t fall for the FUD  
|                                  | • High uptimes are doable in the real world without dedicating a lot of human resources to it. |
| 3 - High Fidelity                | • No pre-downsampling. Downsample later, object storage is cheap  
|                                  | • No excuse to not instrument every part of your stack |
| 4 - Cost                         | • Predictability  
|                                  | • Can be highly optimized - compromise less |
Spoiled for Choice:
No solution is perfect forever. As requirements change, so too should solutions, and it’s a good thing we have so many to choose from.
Thank you!