Zabbix: monitoring millions of metrics ...and a Zabbix 3.0 sneak peek





What is Zabbix?

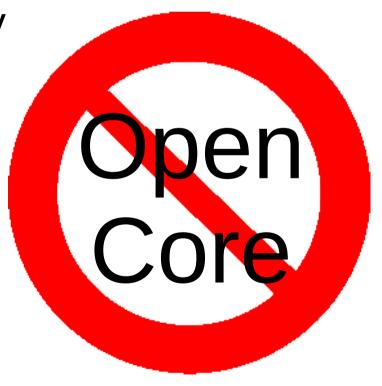
- Monitoring solution
- One package, less plugins
- Mature (not old) first public release in 2001





True open source

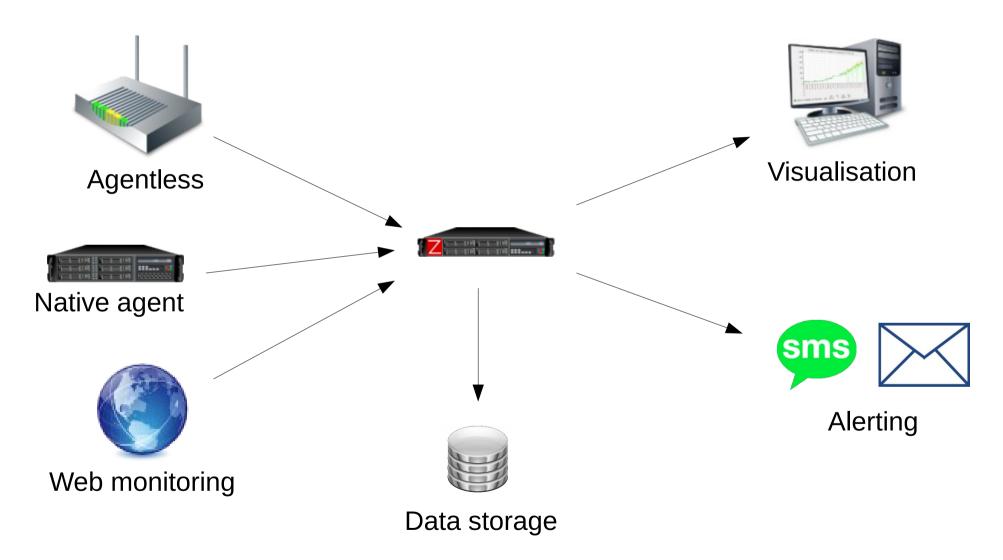
- No "enterprise", "professional" model
- Zabbix = true opensource
- We promise to stay that way







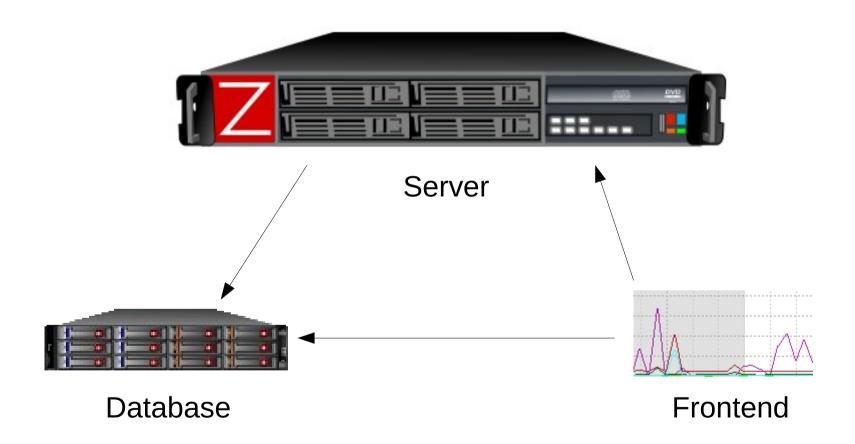
Main functionality







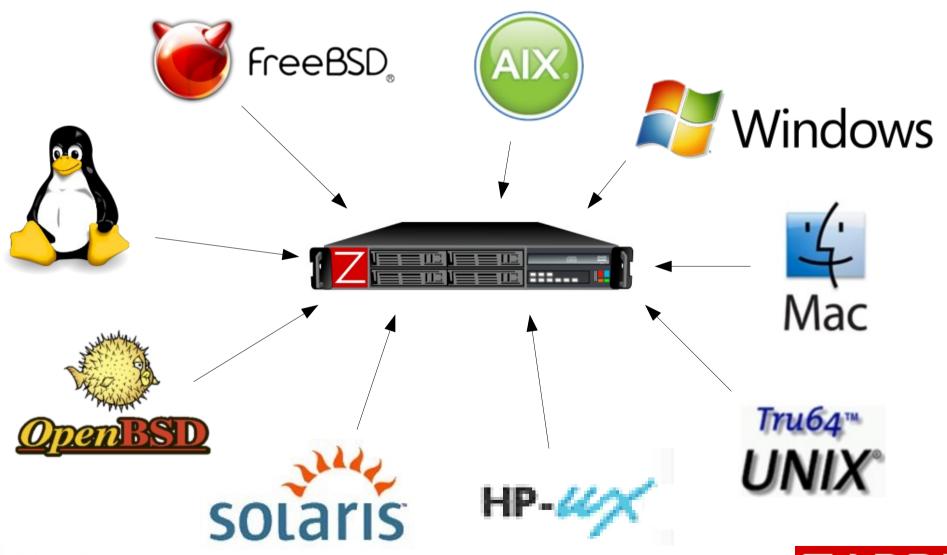
Components







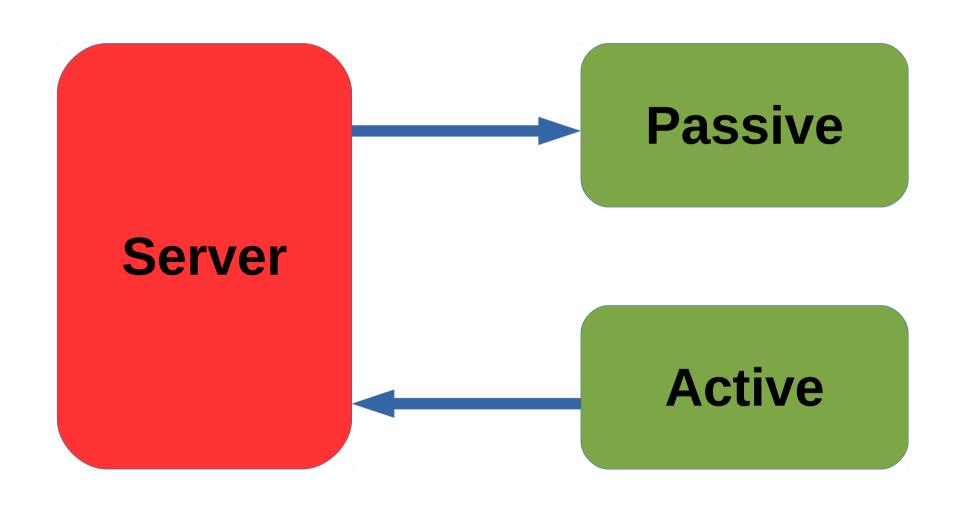
Native agent





ZABBIX

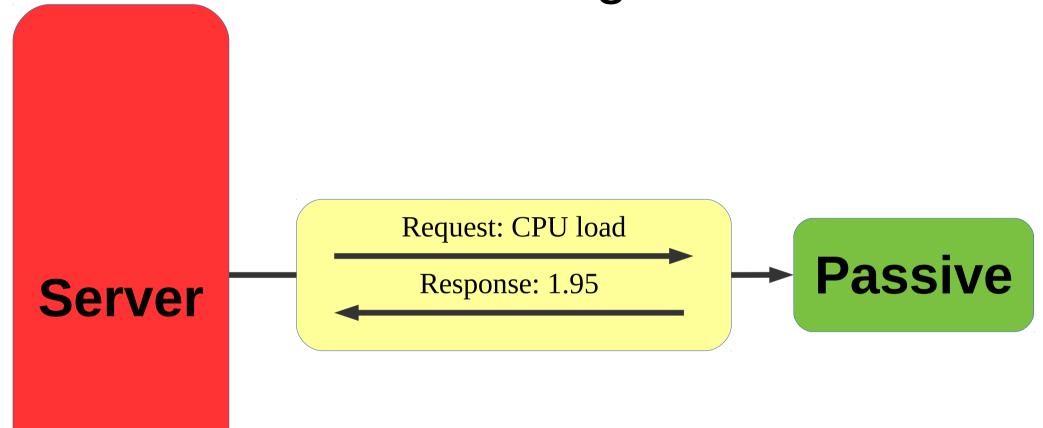
Direction of communication







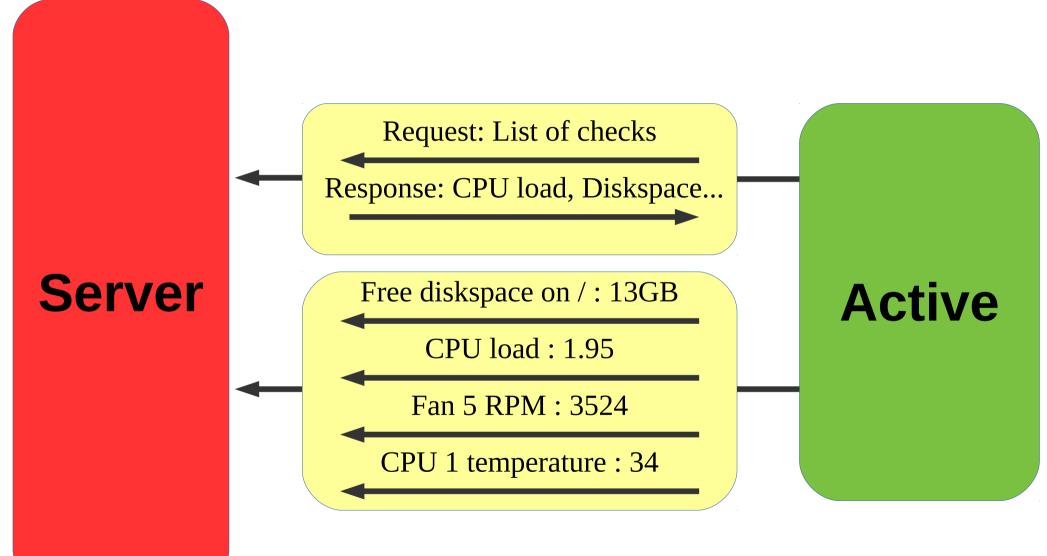
Passive agent



NLUUG



Active agent



NLUUG



Agent capabilities

- CPU
- Memory
- Filesystem
- Logfiles
- ...more than 70 different things built-in

```
proc.num[inetd]
proc.mem[inetd]
system.cpu.switches
system.cpu.intr
system.cpu.util[all,user,avgl]
system.cpu.load[all,avgl]
system.cpu.num[online]
system.cpu.discovery
system.uname
system.hw.chassis
system.hw.cpu
```

```
[u|0]
[u|0]
[u|522013252]
[u|244599437]
[m|ZBX_NOTSUPPORTED] [Collector is not started.]
[d|0.080000]
[u|1]
[m|ZBX_NOTSUPPORTED] [Collector is not started.]
[s|Linux rich 3.14.3 #2 Wed May 7 12:20:42 CDT 2014 i6]
[s|
[t|processor 0: GenuineIntel Intel(R) Pentium(R) D CPU
```



Agentless? Sure.

- TCP checks
- SNMP
- IPMI
- JMX
- VMware
- SSH, telnet





Advanced methods

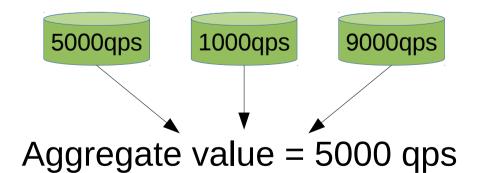
Calculated

Total - free = used

Aggregate

Total free diskspace for all fileservers

Average qps for all database servers







What's a problem?

- Extremely flexible problem conditions
 - Check multiple values
 - Comparison, math, boolean logic
- Functions last, min, max, avg, delta etc
- 6 severity levels







Detecting problems – really flexible

- Average over last 10 minutes, count of matching values over last 30 minutes
- Average for the last hour relative to the same hour day/two days/week ago
- Check multiple hosts





Templating

- Manage uniform config across many hosts
- Variable usage

Template_MySQL

Template_Apache

Web server





Bundled frontend

- Monitoring
- Visualisation
- Configuration





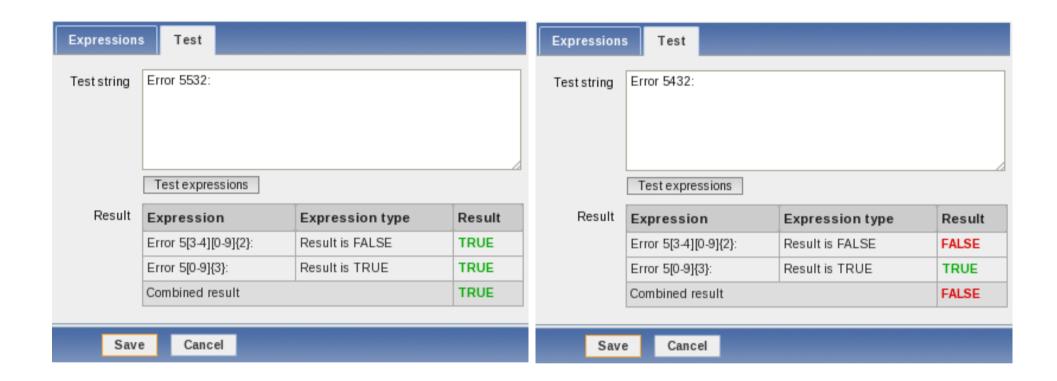
Value mapping

| <u>Aizkraukle_UPS</u> : Battery Status | |
|--|------------|
| Timestamp | Value |
| 2009.Jul.31 04:31:56 | Normal (2) |
| 2009.Jul.31 04:29:55 | Normal (2) |





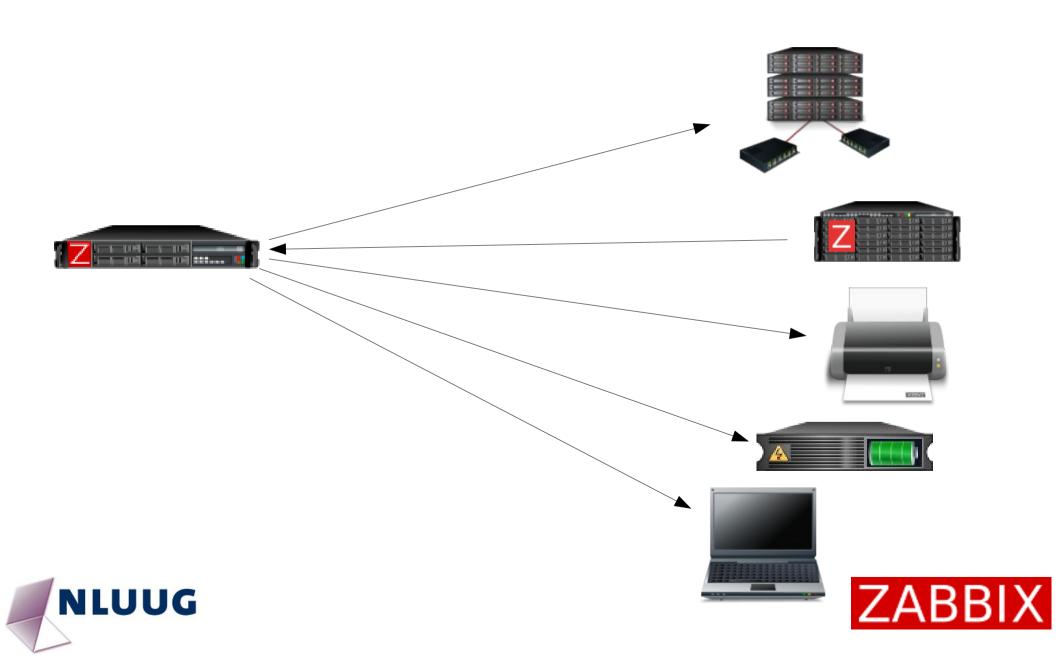
Regexp builder



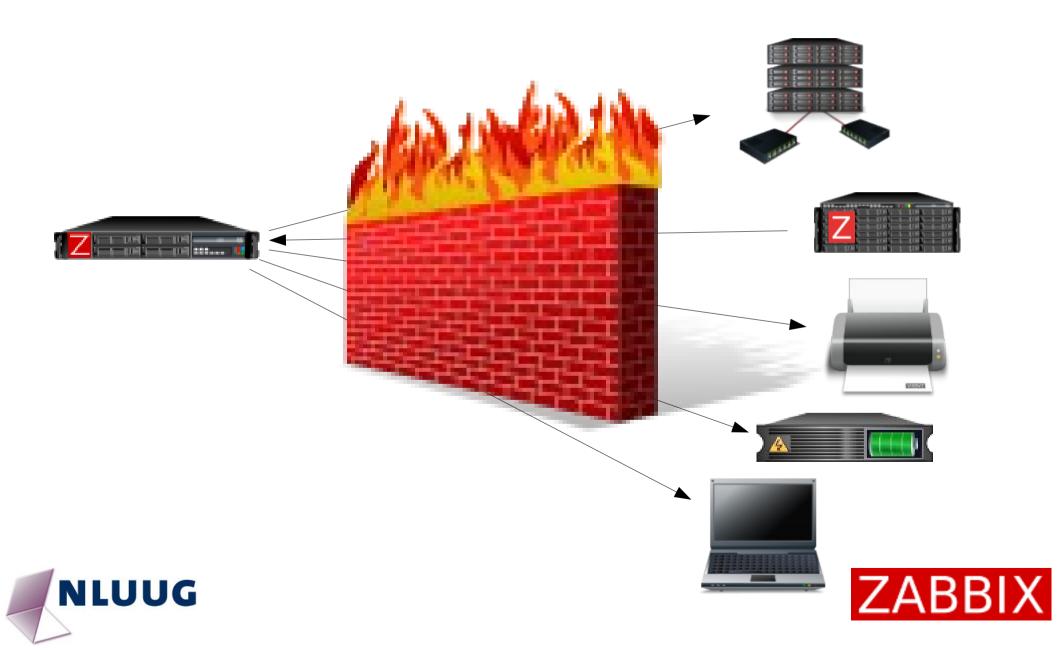




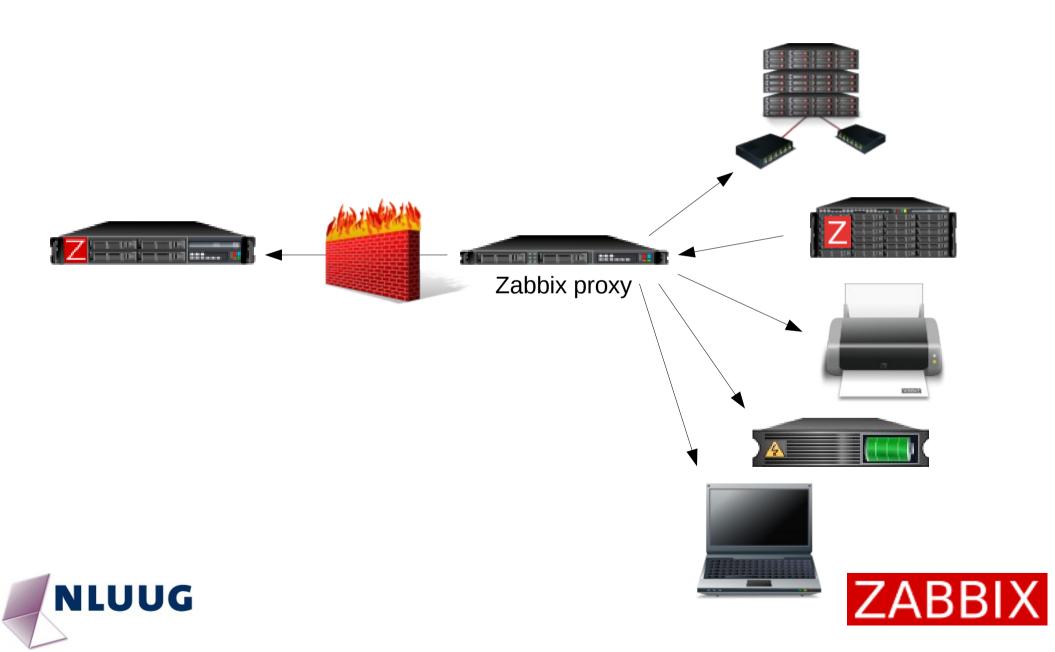
Remote environments...



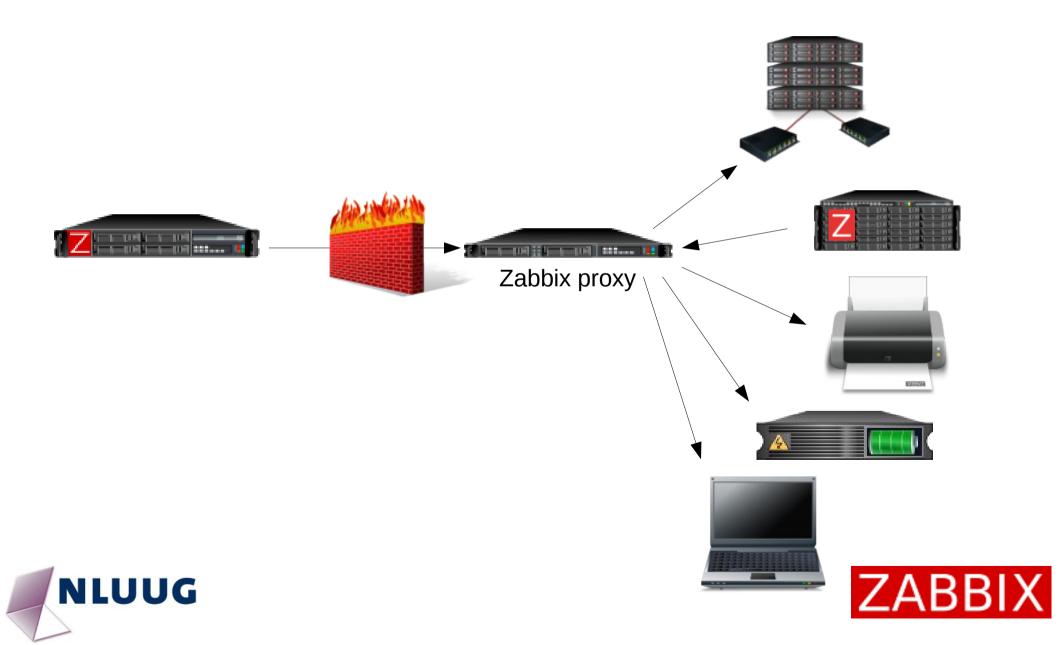
...can be a problem



Solution – Zabbix proxy



DMZ – passive proxy



Extendability

- Run any command on the agent or server
- Run any command in response to events
- Feed timestamped data in Zabbix
- No language restrictions





Pushing custom values

Sender

```
> zabbix_sender -z 10.11.12.13 -s "Shop 13" -k customer.count -o 113
```

Timestamps, multiple values from file

```
"Shop 13" customer.count 1393393587 123
"Shop 12" customer.count 1393393587 19
"Shop 11" customer.count 1393393587 45
"Shop 10" customer.count 1393393587 87
"Shop 09" customer.count 1393393587 13
"Shop 08" customer.count 1393393587 66
```





Upgrade policies

- No database changes in one major release
- All old agents supported
 - Yes, Zabbix agent from 2001 works with the current server





Automating

- JSON-RPC API
- XML import/export (for some entities)





Scaling

- Distributed collection with proxies
- Value buffering on the active agent
- Various caching on the server
 - A million of values per minute, storing, evaluating









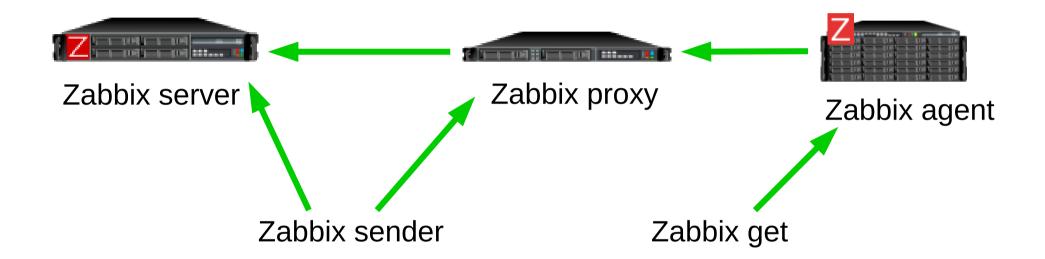
Sad things

Forced item polling - sorry





Built-in encryption







Encryption methods

- SSL/TLS
- Preshared key





What can we rely on?

- Libraries can become unsupported
- Security issues can be discovered
- Distributions can break libraries
- Zabbix encryption will support:
 - OpenSSL
 - GnuTLS
 - PolarSSL (mbed TLS now)





Improved low level discovery

- Dependencies between trigger prototypes
 - 70% → depends on 90%
 - but not for discovered filesystems





Resolving macros/variables







Easier scheduled maintenance

- Maintenance for hosts/groups
- Requires write (admin) access
- Will have option for users to control this





User-created visualisation

- Creating maps, screens, slideshows admin only
- Allow that for normal users





User macro/variable context

```
{$VARIABLE}
free diskspace < {$VARIABLE}
...and now for {$VARIABLE:/home}</pre>
```





Item scheduling

- Frequency → schedule
- Think "cron"





SMTP auth

- Previously relaying MTA or a script
- Now libcurl based direct support
 - ...also a custom SMTP port



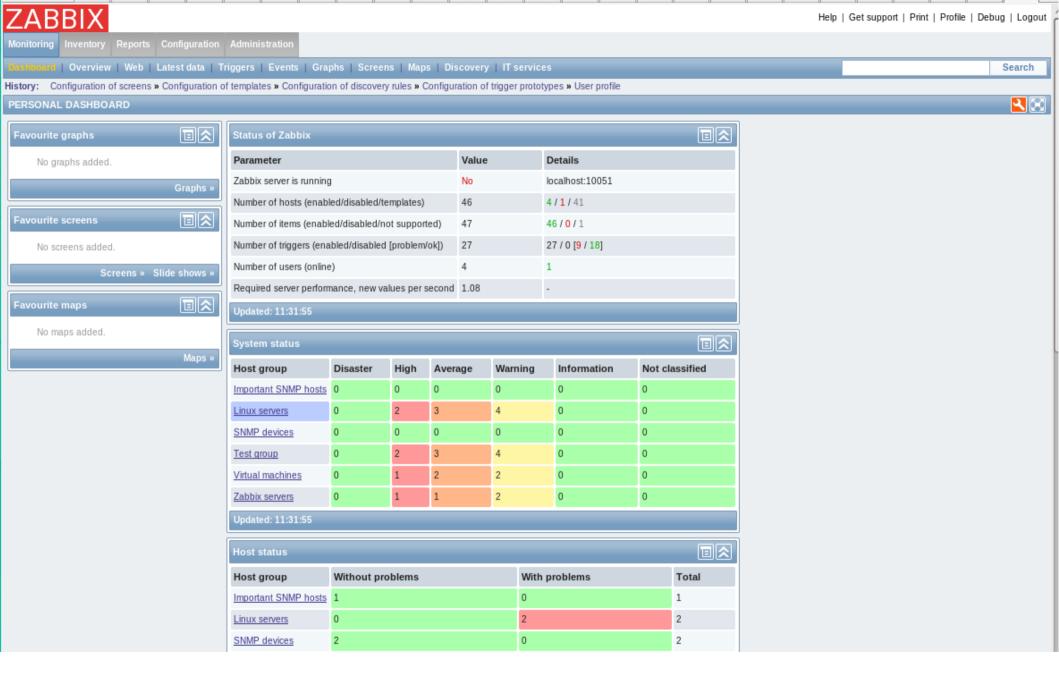


Windows service discovery

- Monitor all services individually
- Discover services that are
 - ("start automatically" and "stopped")

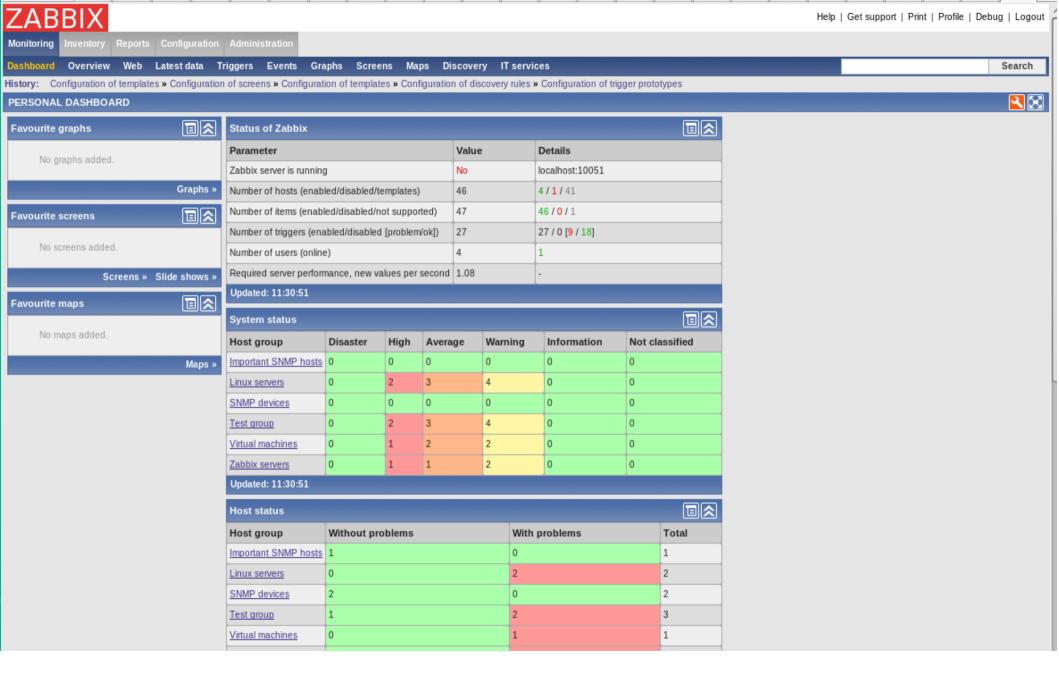






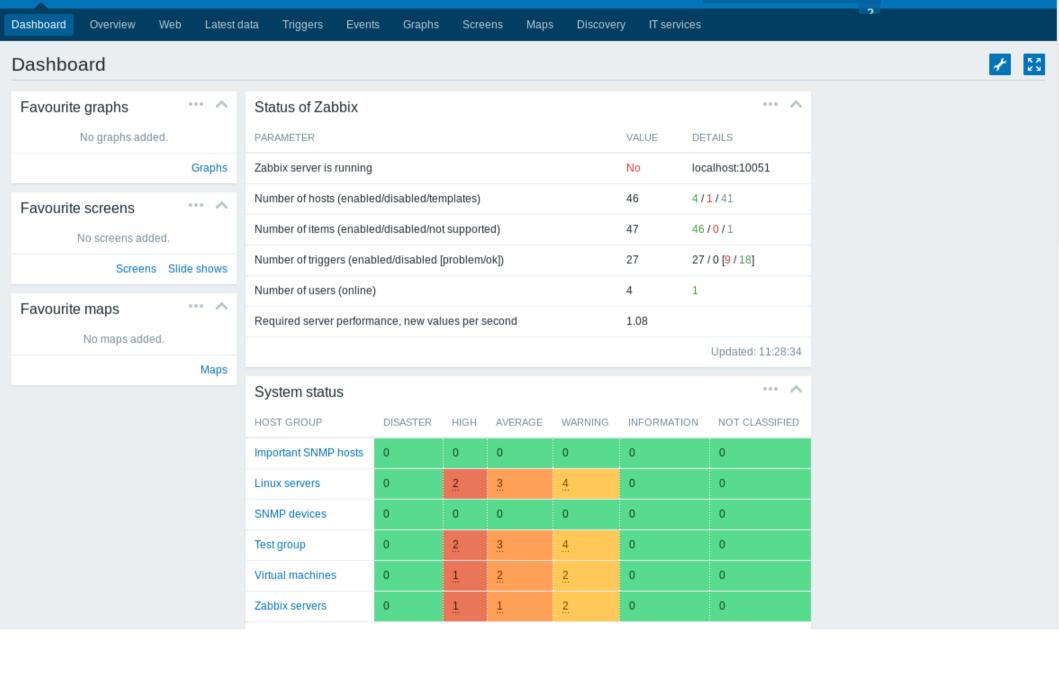












Configuration

Administration

Reports



Monitoring

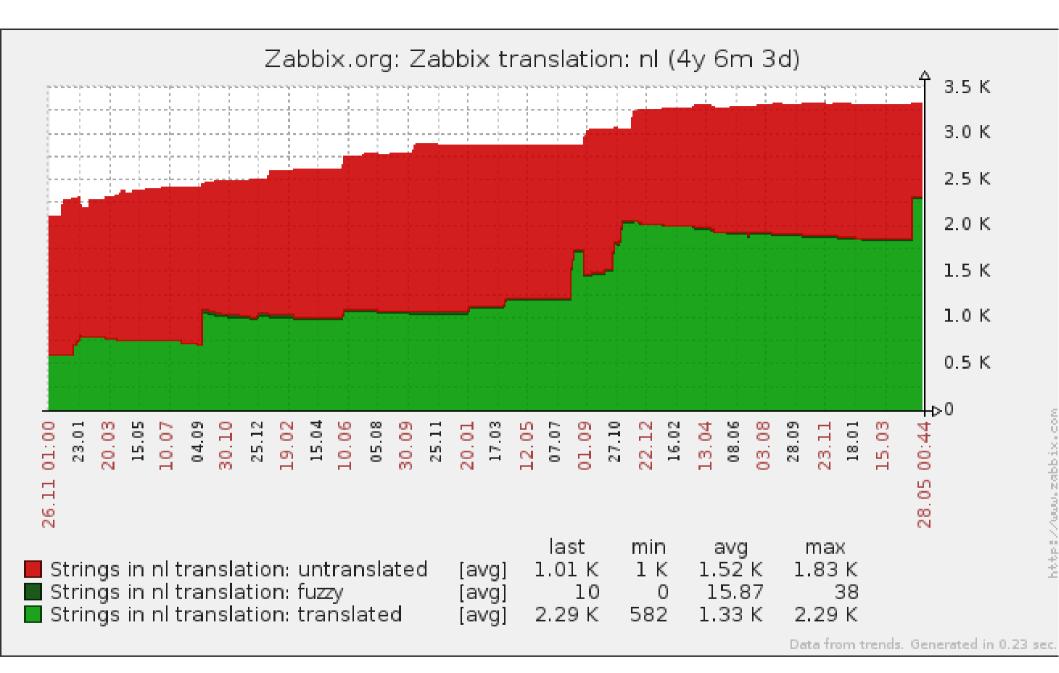


Z Share

Community Popularity



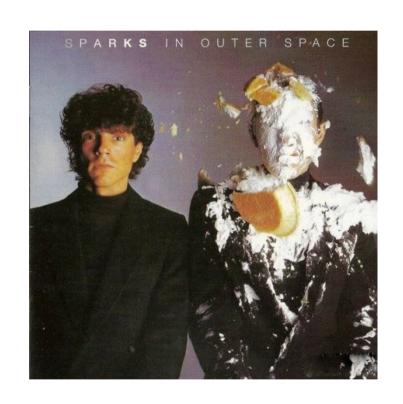








Popularity

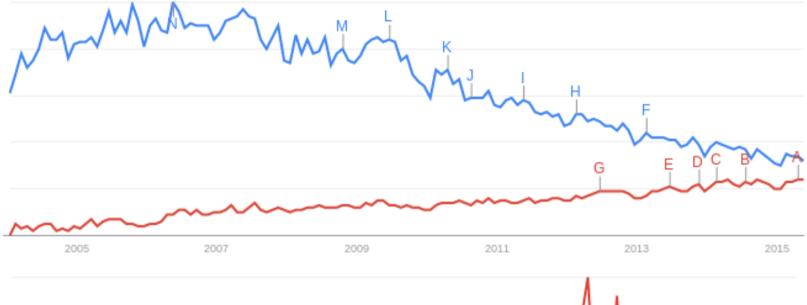




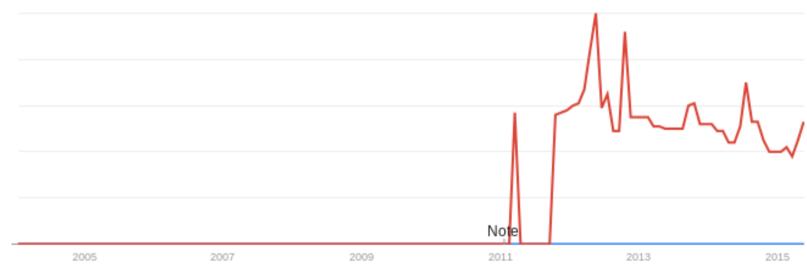


Popularity

Worldwide



Latvia

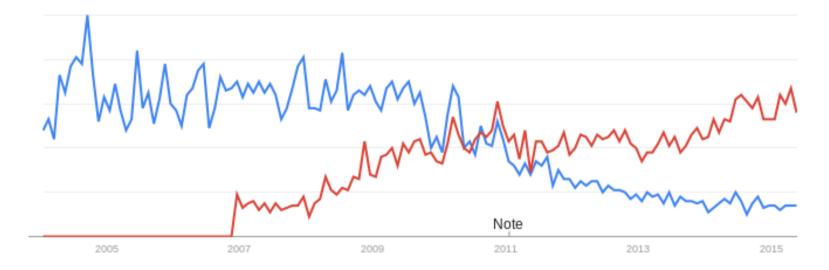


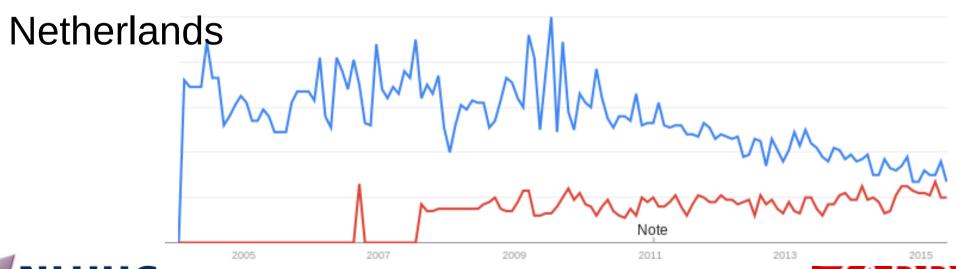




Popularity

Japan







Try it out

Virtual appliance – easy, upgradeable







Friendly community

IRC: #zabbix on Freenode

Forum: http://www.zabbix.com/forum

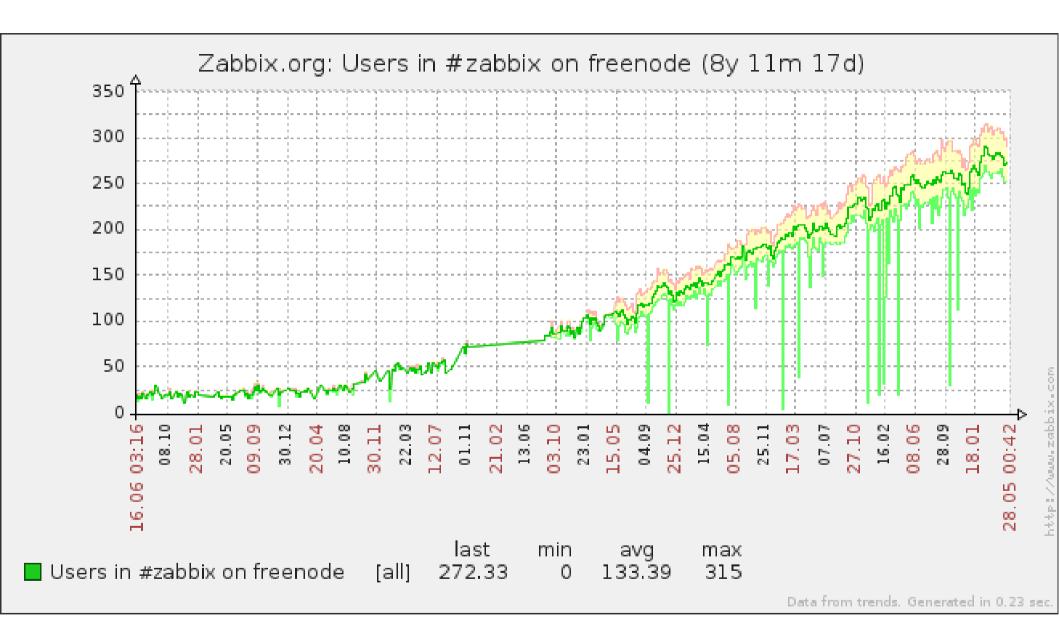
Blog: http://blog.zabbix.com

Visit us in the Zabbix office (Riga)













Question time, yay





When will 3.0 be out?

...you can probably guess

When it's ready. Yep, we missed the planned dates.



