

Syslog and Log Rotate

wangth (2017-2021, CC BY-SA)
? (1996-2016)

交大資工系資訊中心

Computer Center of Department of Computer Science, NCTU

Log files

- Execution information of each services
 - sshd log files
 - httpd log files
 - ftpd log files
- Purpose
 - For post-incident tracking
 - Like insurance

```
ad3: WARNING - READ_DMA UDMA ICRC error (retrying request) LBA=96553119
ad3: WARNING - READ_DMA UDMA ICRC error (retrying request) LBA=96553119
ad3: FAILURE - READ_DMA status=51<READY,DSC,ERROR> error=84<ICRC,ABORTED>
LBA=96553119
g_vfs_done():ad3sla[READ(offset=49435164672, length=36864)]error = 5
vnode_pager_getpages: I/O read error
vm_fault: pager read error, pid 850 (cp)
ad3: WARNING - READ_DMA UDMA ICRC error (retrying request) LBA=96556319
ad3: WARNING - READ_DMA UDMA ICRC error (retrying request) LBA=96556319
ad3: FAILURE - READ_DMA status=51<READY,DSC,ERROR> error=84<ICRC,ABORTED>
LBA=96556319
g_vfs_done():ad3sla[READ(offset=49436803072, length=36864)]error = 5
vnode_pager_getpages: I/O read error
vm_fault: pager read error, pid 850 (cp)
```

Logging Policies

- Common schemes
 - Throw away all log files
 - Rotate log files at periodic intervals

```
#!/bin/sh
/usr/bin/cd /var/log
/bin/mv logfile.2.gz logfile.3.gz
/bin/mv logfile.1.gz logfile.2.gz
/bin/mv logfile logfile.1
/usr/bin/touch logfile
/bin/kill -signal pid
/usr/bin/gzip logfile.1
```

- Archiving log files

```
0 3 * * * /usr/bin/tar czvf /backup/logfile.`/bin/date +%Y%m%d`.tar.gz /var/log
```

Finding Log Files

- Ways and locations

- Common directory

- /var/log

- Read software configuration files

- Ex: /usr/local/etc/apache22/httpd.conf

- TransferLog /home/www/logs/access.log

- Ex: /usr/local/etc/smb.conf

- log file = /var/log/samba/%m.log

- See /etc/syslog.conf

Under /var/log in FreeBSD (1/2)

- You can see that under /var/log ...

```
zfs[/var/log] -chiahung- ls
```

```
./          lastlog          maillog.7.bz2    sendmail.st
../         lpd-errs         messages         sendmail.st.0
auth.log    maillog          messages.0.bz2  sendmail.st.1
cron        maillog.0.bz2   messages.1.bz2  sendmail.st.2
cron.0.bz2  maillog.1.bz2   messages.2.bz2  sendmail.st.3
cron.1.bz2  maillog.2.bz2   mount.today     setuid.today
cron.2.bz2  maillog.3.bz2   mount.yesterday wtmp
debug.log   maillog.4.bz2   pf.today        xferlog
dmesg.today maillog.5.bz2   ppp.log
dmesg.yesterday maillog.6.bz2  security
```

Lots of logs

- Applications

Under /var/log in FreeBSD (2/2)

- Logs – because of syslogd

```
bsd5[~] -chiahung- cat /etc/syslog.conf | grep -v ^#
*. *                               /var/log/all.log
*. *                               @loghost
*.err;kern.warning;auth.notice;mail.crit      /dev/console
*.notice;authpriv.none;kern.debug;lpr.info;mail.crit;news.err /var/log/messages
security.*                               /var/log/security
auth.info;authpriv.info                 /var/log/auth.log
mail.info                               /var/log/maillog
lpr.info                                /var/log/lpd-errs
ftp.info                                /var/log/xferlog
cron.*                                  /var/log/cron
*.=debug                               /var/log/debug.log
*.emerg                                 *
console.info                           /var/log/console.log
!sudo
*. *                                   /var/log/sudo.log
```

Syslogd

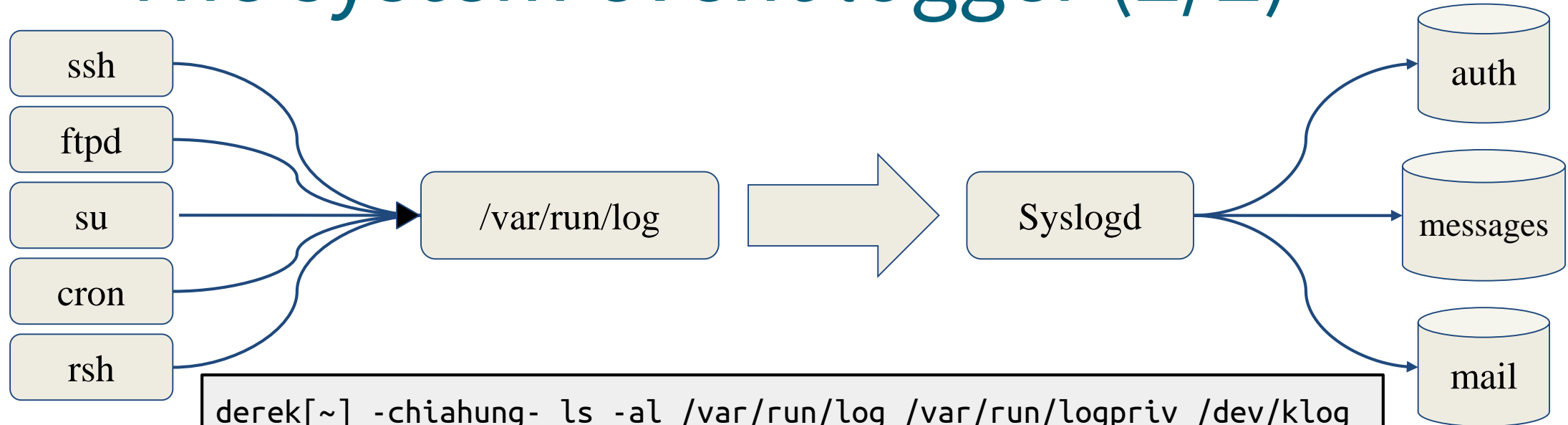
Syslog –

The system event logger (1/2)

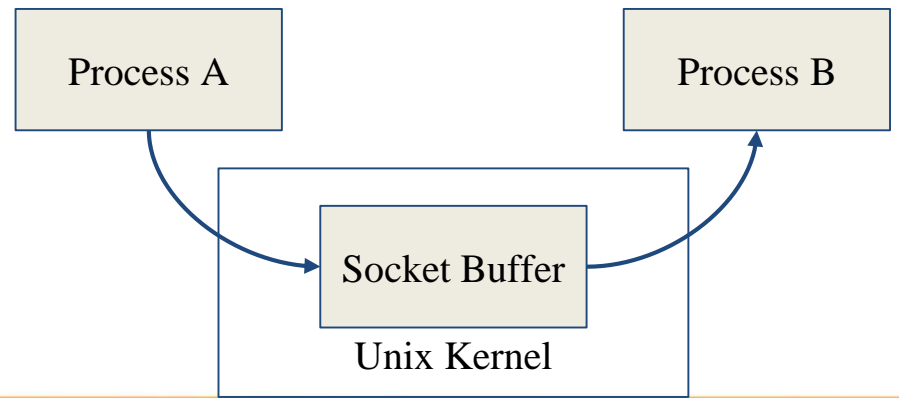
- Two main functions
 - To release programmers from the tedious of writing log files
 - To put administrators in control of logging
- Three parts:
 - syslogd, /etc/syslog.conf
 - The logging daemon and configure file
 - openlog(), syslog(), closelog()
 - Library routines to use syslogd
 - logger
 - A user command that use syslogd from shell

Syslog -

The system event logger (2/2)



```
derek[~] -chiahung- ls -al /var/run/log /var/run/logpriv /dev/klog
crw----- 1 root wheel 0x17 Sep 9 18:19 /dev/klog
srw-rw-rw- 1 root wheel 0 Sep 9 18:20 /var/run/log
srw----- 1 root wheel 0 Sep 9 18:20 /var/run/logpriv
```



Configuring syslogd (1/6)

- Basic format
 - The configuration file `/etc/syslog.conf` controls syslogd's behavior
 - selector <Tab> action
 - **Selector: program.level**
 - **Program:** the program that sends the log message
 - **Level:** the message severity level
 - **Action:** tells what to do with the message
 - Ex.
 - `mail.info` `/var/log/maillog`

Configuring syslogd (2/6)

- selector
 - Syntax: facility.level
 - Facility and level are predefined
(see next page)
 - Combined selector
 - facility.level
 - facility1,facility2.level
 - facility1.level;facility2.level
 - *.level
 - Level indicate the minimum importance that a message must be logged
 - A message matching any selector will be subject to the line's action

Configuring syslogd (3/6)

Facility	Programs that use it
kern	The kernel
user	User processes (the default if not specified)
mail	sendmail and other mail-related software
daemon	System daemons
auth	Security and authorization-related commands
lpr	The BSD line printer spooling system
news	The Usenet news system
uucp	Reserved for UUCP, which doesn't use it
cron	The cron daemon
mark	Timestamps generated at regular intervals
local0-7	Eight flavors of local message
syslog	syslogd internal messages
authpriv	Private authorization messages (should all be private, really)
ftp	The FTP daemon, ftpd
*	All facilities except "mark"

Level	Approximate meaning
emerg	Panic situations
alert	Urgent situations
crit	Critical conditions
err	Other error conditions
warning	Warning messages
notice	Things that might merit investigation
info	Informational messages
debug	For debugging only

facility: auth, authpriv, console, cron, daemon, ftp, kern, lpr, mail, mark, news, ntp, security, syslog, user, uucp, and local0 through local7



Configuring syslogd (4/6)

- Action
 - filename
 - Write the message to a local file
 - @hostname
 - Forward the message to the syslogd on hostname
 - @ipaddress
 - Forwards the message to the host at that IP address
 - user1, user2
 - Write the message to the user's screen if they are logged in
 - *
 - Write the message to all user logged in

Configuring syslogd (5/6)

- Ex.

```
*.emerg /dev/console
*.err;kern,mark.debug;auth.notice;user.none /var/log/console.log
*.info;kern,user,mark,auth.none @loghost
*.alert;kern.crit;local0,local1,local2.info root
```

```
lpr.err → /var/log/console.log
        @loghost
```

Level	Approximate meaning
emerg	Panic situations
alert	Urgent situations
crit	Critical conditions
err	Other error conditions
warning	Warning messages
notice	Things that might merit investigation
info	Informational messages
debug	For debugging only

Configuring syslogd (6/6)

- Output of syslogd

```
Aug 28 20:00:00 chbsd newsyslog[37324]: logfile turned over due to size>100K
Aug 28 20:01:45 chbsd sshd[37338]: error: PAM: authentication error for root from 204.16.125.3
Aug 28 20:01:47 chbsd sshd[37338]: error: PAM: authentication error for root from 204.16.125.3
Aug 28 20:07:15 chbsd sshd[37376]: error: PAM: authentication error for root from 204.16.125.3
Aug 28 20:07:17 chbsd sshd[37376]: error: PAM: authentication error for root from 204.16.125.3
Aug 30 09:47:49 chbsd sudo:   chwong : TTY=ttyp4 ; PWD=/usr/home/chwong ; USER=root ; COMMAND=
Aug 30 22:02:02 chbsd kernel: arp: 140.113.215.86 moved from 00:d0:b7:b2:5d:89 to 00:04:e2:10:
Aug 30 22:05:13 chbsd kernel: arp: 140.113.215.86 moved from 00:04:e2:10:11:9c to 00:d0:b7:b2:
Sep  1 14:50:11 chbsd kernel: arplookup 0.0.0.0 failed: host is not on local network
Sep  3 13:16:29 chbsd sudo:   chwong : TTY=ttyp4 ; PWD=/usr/ports ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/b
Sep  3 13:18:40 chbsd sudo:   chwong : TTY=ttyp4 ; PWD=/usr/ports ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/l
Sep  3 13:25:06 chbsd sudo:   chwong : TTY=ttyp4 ; PWD=/usr/ports ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/l
Sep  3 13:27:09 chbsd kernel: arp: 140.113.215.86 moved from 00:d0:b7:b2:5d:89 to 00:04:e2:10:
Sep  3 13:27:14 chbsd kernel: arp: 140.113.215.86 moved from 00:04:e2:10:11:9c to 00:d0:b7:b2:
Sep  3 15:27:05 chbsd sudo:   chwong : TTY=ttyp4 ; PWD=/usr/ports ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/l
Sep  3 15:27:10 chbsd sudo:   chwong : TTY=ttyp4 ; PWD=/usr/ports ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/l
Sep  3 15:27:25 chbsd sudo:   chwong : TTY=ttyp4 ; PWD=/usr/ports ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/usr/l
```

Software that use syslog (1/2)

Program	Facility	Levels	Description
amd	daemon	err-info	NFS automounter
date	auth	notice	Sets the time and date
ftpd	daemon	err-debug	FTP daemon
gated	dameno	alert-info	Routing daemon
halt/reboot	auth	crit	Shutdown programs
inetd	daemon	err, warning	Internet super-daemon
login/rlogind	auth	crit-info	Login programs
lpd	lpr	err-info	BSD line printer daemon
named	daemon	err-info	Name server (DNS)
nnrpd	news	crit-notice	INN news readers
ntpd	daemon, user	crit-info	Network time daemon
passwd	auth	err	Password-setting program
popper	local0	notice, debug	Mac/PC mail system
sendmail	mail	alert-debug	Mail transport system
su	suth	crit, notice	Switches UIDs
sudo	local2	alert, notice	Limited su program
syslogd	syslog, mark	err-info	Internal errors, timestamps
tcpd	local7	err-debug	TCP wrapper for inetd
cron	cron, daemon	info	System task-scheduling damemon
vmunix	kern	varies	The kernel

FreeBSD Enhancement (1/2)

- Facility name

- FreeBSD allows you to select messages based on the name of the program

```
!sudo
*.*    /var/log/sudo.log
```

- Severity level

Selector	Meaning
mail.info	Selects mail-related messages of info priority and higher
mail.>=info	Same meaning as mail.info
mail.=info	Selects only messages at info priority
mail.<=info	Selects messages at info priority and below
mail.<info	Selects all priorities lower than info
mail.>info	Selects all priorities lower than info

FreeBSD Enhancement (2/2)

- Restriction log messages from remote hosts
 - `syslogd -a *.csie.nctu.edu.tw -a 140.113.209.0/24`
 - Use `-ss` option to prevent `syslogd` from opening its network port
 - `rc.conf`

```
syslogd_enable="YES"  
syslogd_flags="-a 140.113.209.0/24:* -a 140.113.17.0/24:*"
```

Debugging syslog

- logger
 - It is useful for submitting log from shell
- For example
 - Add the following line into /etc/syslog.conf

```
local5.warning    /tmp/evi.log
```

- Use **logger** to verify

- logger(1)

```
# logger -p local5.warning "test message"  
# cat /tmp/evi.log  
Nov 22 22:22:50 zfs chiahung: test message
```

- The default priority is user.info
- logger -h host

Using syslog in programs

```
#include <syslog.h>

int main() {
    openlog("mydaemon", LOG_PID, LOG_DAEMON);
    syslog(LOG_NOTICE, "test message");
    closelog();
    return 0;
}
```

```
zfs[~] -chiahung- tail -1 /var/log/messages
Nov 22 22:40:28 zfs mydaemon[4676]: test message
```

Log rotate

- Logs are rotated – because newsyslog facility

- In crontab

```
chbsd [/etc] -chwong- grep newsyslog /etc/crontab
0 * * * * root newsyslog
```

- newsyslog.conf (newsyslog.conf(5), newsyslog(8))

- ISO 8601 restricted time format: [[[[[cc]yy]mm]dd][T[hh[mm[ss]]]]]]

- Day, week, and month time format: [Dhh], [Ww[Dhh]], and [Mdd[Dhh]]

```
chbsd [/etc] -chwong- cat /etc/newsyslog.conf
# logfilename      [owner:group] mode count size when  flags
[/pid_file] [sig_num]
/var/log/all.log   600 7 * @T00 J
/var/log/amd.log   644 7 100 * J
/var/log/auth.log  600 7 100 * JC
/var/log/console.log 600 5 100 * J
/var/log/cron      600 3 100 * JC
/var/log/daily.log 640 7 * @T00 JN
/var/log/debug.log 600 7 100 * JC
/var/log/maillog   640 7 * @T00 JC
/var/log/messages  644 5 100 * JC
/var/log/monthly.log 640 12 * $M1D0 JN
/var/log/security  600 10 100 * JC
/var/log/sendmail.st 640 10 * 168 B
```

Vendor Specifics

- FreeBSD
 - newsyslog utility
 - /etc/newsyslog.conf
 - /usr/ports/sysutils/logrotate
- Red Hat
 - logrotate utility
 - /etc/logrotate.conf, /etc/logrotate.d directory

```
linux1[/etc/logrotate.d] -chiahung- cat mail
/var/log/mail/maillog /var/log/mail/mail.info /var/log/mail.warn
/var/log/mail.err {
missingok
monthly
size=100M
rotate 4
create 0640 root security
nocompress
}
```