

Big Data Platform

Lessons Learned in Growing a Big Data
Capability for Network Defense



Who am I?

- Technical Director, Enlighten IT Consulting, a MacAulay-Brown company
- Software Engineering Consultant
- Helped found Apache Rya
- Chief Architect of DoD's Big Data Platform
- Currently working for:
 - Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)
 - Army Cyber Command
 - US Cyber Command
 - Center for Army Analysis
 - Air Force

Talk Overview

- DCO Big Data Problem Space
- DoD's Big Data Platform
- Scaling for Big Data
- Multi-Tenancy
- Lessons Learned

Problem Space

- Huge variety of DCO sensors
- Heterogeneous data formats
- No enterprise standardization on infrastructure
- Petabyte scale storage/retention/analysis requirements
- No single “out of the box” COTS, GOTS, or OSS solution by itself meets the unique DoD cyber security challenges
- Enabling collaborative investigation while eliminating redundant efforts

Problem Space

Network Security

Network Firewall



Network Monitoring/Forensics



Intrusion Prevention Systems



Unified Threat Management



Endpoint Security

Endpoint Prevention



Endpoint Detection & Response



Application Security

WAF & Application Security



Vulnerability Assessment



Managed Security Service Provider



Messaging Security



Web Security



Risk & Compliance



Security Operations & Incident Response



Momentum

CYBERScape · 3Q16

Threat Intelligence



Specialized Threat Analysis & Protection



Mobile Security



Data Security



Industrial / IoT Security



Fraud Prevention / Transaction Security



Identity & Access Management



Cloud Security



What is the BDP?

- A cloud-based distributed architecture for ingesting and storing large datasets, building analytics, and visualizing the results.
- Allows critical decisions to be made based on rich and broad data.
- Developed around open source and unclassified components while leveraging community tech transfer from other DoD entities.
- DISA-controlled software baseline
- RMF accredited with current Authority To Operate in multiple organizations
- 99% open source, specifically integrated to meet DoD's needs

Data Sources

JRSS
HBSS
Netflow
Proxies

ArcSight
Firewalls
IDS
IPS



Network
Management
Devices



Hosts Logs
Router Logs
Switch Logs

Application
Services



SQL
File Server
Active Directory
ACAS
DNS Logs

Intel/
Operational



NTOC
Incident Handling
OpenPhish

1

Connect

2



Transform (Enrich)

Data Fusion



Geospatial



Trends



Persona



3

Store

Structured
Unstructured
Semi-structured
Data

Data Caching



HDFS and
Accumulo

4

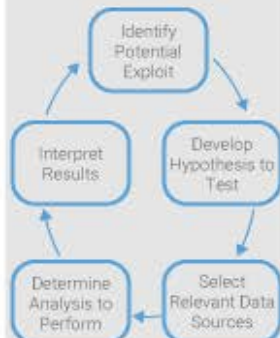
Analyze

When will it happen?

What happened?

Why did it happen?

How can we prevent it
from happening?



5

Visualize/Act

Data Exploration

Unity



Kibana



6

Big Data Platform Technology Stack

INGEST AND MESSAGING

Ingest Pipeline

Parse

Canonincalize

Enrich

NiFi

Flume

Kafka

Storm

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYTICS

OWF

R Shiny Server

Navigator

Kibana

Watchtower

AFD

DATA PROCESSING

R

YARN

MapReduce2

Spark

DATA STORES

PostgreSQL

ElasticSearch

HDFS

Accumulo

Kronos

Content

AFD

GEM (RYA)

Metrics

BDP CORE

OS

RHEL

Core Services

SIMP

Puppet

Java

Citadel

OpenLDAP

Active Directory

Akamai

INFRASTRUCTURE

Bare Metal Commodity Servers

AWS (GovCloud)

Azure/HyperV

Vsphere/ESXi

OpenStack

OPERATIONS

MANAGEMENT

Puppet

RDA Deployer

Slider

COORDINATION

Zookeeper

Consul

MONITORING

Grafana

Overseer

ALERTING

Nagios

WEB SERVICES

nGINX

BIG DATA PLATFORM 3.0 ARCHITECTURE

Sensor Events, Reports, Data Feeds

DATA PROCESSING

Streaming Analytics

KAFKA

STORM

Parse

Canonicalize

Enrich

AsyncServices



MANAGEMENT

RDAs

AFD Service

Alerting

Analytics

Metric Service

Webapps

Consul

Airflow

Overseer

SCALABLE WEB TIER

User Driven Analytics

JETTY

Services

Common API

Resolvers

GEM

Widgets



Navigator

NGINX

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

Cache

Elastic Search

R/Shiny

Widgets



Node.js

Kibana

Shiny Apps

Data Science Analytics

DATA STORAGE & ANALYTICS

ACCUMULO

Content

Metrics

Kronos

Analytics Datasets

GEM (RYA)

HADOOP W/ YARN

MR/2 Analytics

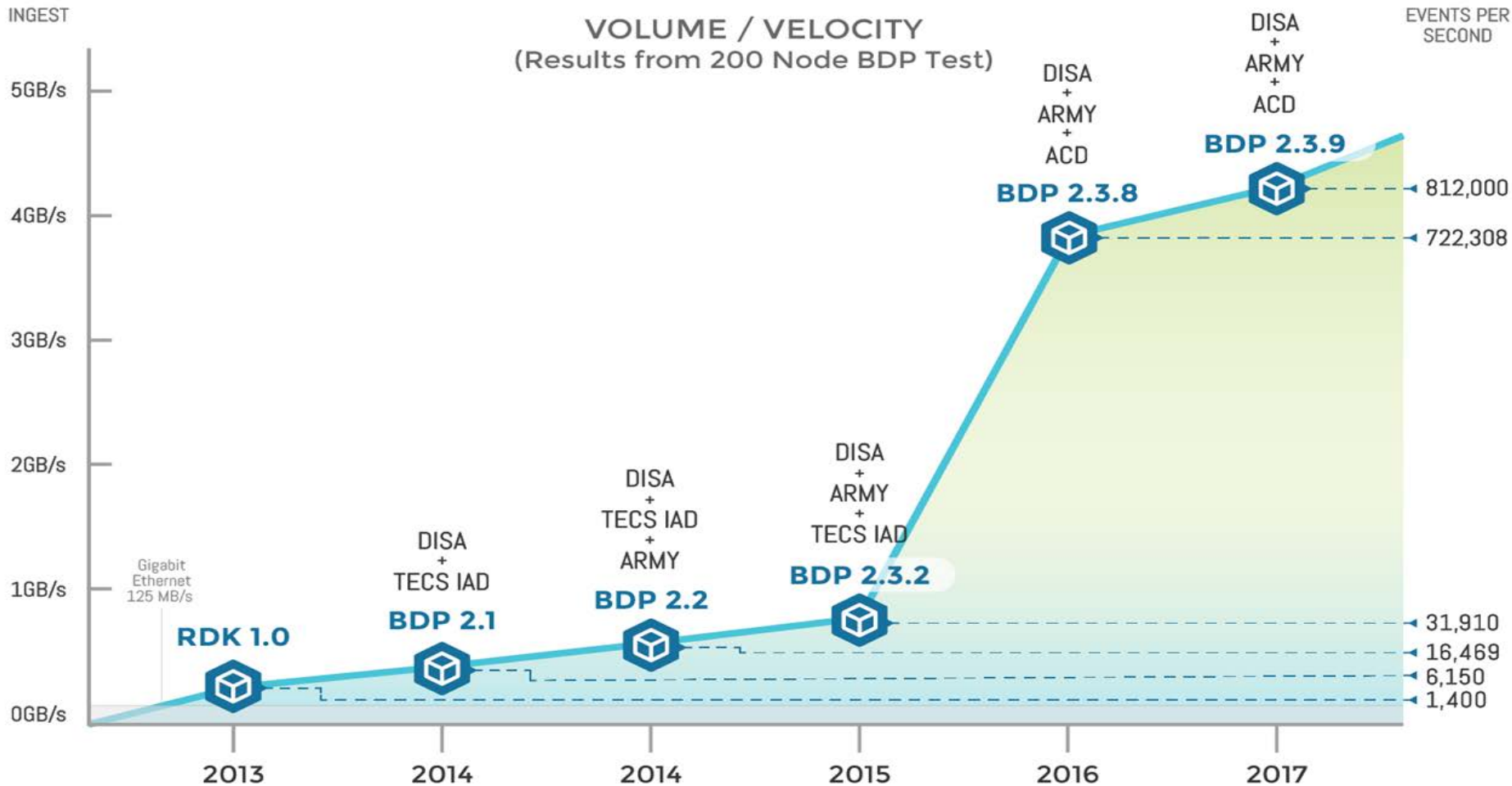
R on Data Nodes

Spark Analytics

CITADEL



Scaling for Volume and Velocity



Multi Tenancy (Learning to share)

- HDFS / Accumulo (Storage)
- Analytics
 - Spark
 - Streaming- Kafka/Storm
 - RShiny
- Web Applications
 - Jetty
 - NodeJS
- Microservices
 - Spring/Java/NodeJS
- Ingest

Lesson Learned: It's all about the data

- Don't underestimate the difficulty of collecting and sharing data
- End user analytic questions have to drive data priorities
- You can't wait to start collecting data until you need to use it
- *Just enough* normalization will allow unplanned correlations to emerge
- Data from many vantage points increases the value (but analysts need to understand the vantage point of each)

Lesson Learned:

Use commercial cloud infrastructure

- It lets your engineering teams focus on your problems not on infrastructure
- It provides “just in time” capacity that reduces costs in the long run
- It has a refresh rate that is much more frequent than traditional in-house data centers
- It reduces barriers for data transport and acquisition

Lesson Learned: Standardize your platform early, but evolve it

- Organizations can share security accreditation
- Shared data structures will encourage correlations
- Be willing to change and evolve, without reinventing everything every time
- Create and document APIs that encourage reuse
- Leverage a community to share costs

Lesson Learned: Analytics need to scale

- Need to run on commodity hardware (if you can fit all your data into memory, you don't have big data)
- Need to be parallelizable
- Need to handle preemption (half your job may be killed at any moment to make way for higher priority tasks)
- Need to be secure (can't open ports, store passwords; need to handle data security controls)

Lesson Learned:

You need to optimize your load

- Use batch ingest
- Cache data near the web tier
- Adjust the allocation of resources to your mission (YARN is great, but it needs to be managed)
- Test with real world datasets (size and variety)
- Understand the computational costs of your analytics before deploying them

Questions?