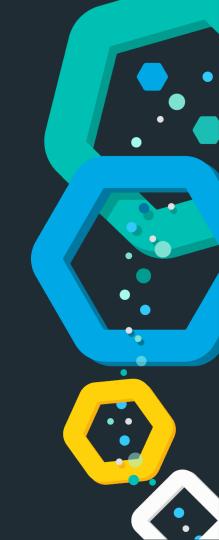
# Security for developers

**Secure your existing apps** 

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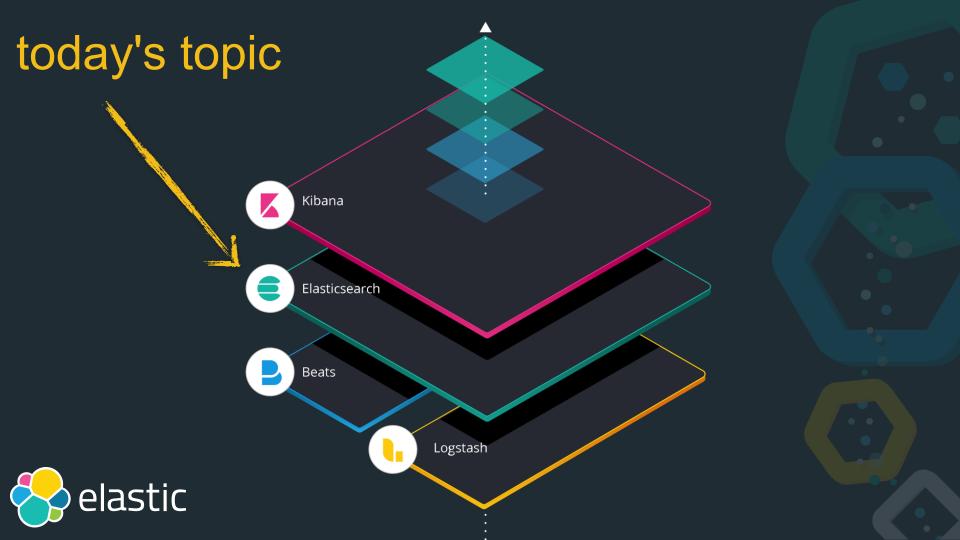
### Today's goal

Improve security in your own apps!









#### Elasticsearch in 10 seconds

- Search Engine (FTS, Analytics, Geo), real-time
- 🕾 Distributed, scalable, highly available, resilient
- **⊗ Interface: HTTP & JSON**
- ⇔ Heart of the Elastic Stack
- Uneducated conservative guess: Tens of thousands of clusters worldwide, hundreds of thousands of instances

### Naming is hard

Security vs. Safety vs. Resiliency

- ⊗ Do not run as root
- **⊗ Integrity checks**
- **⊗** OutOfMemoryException
- ⊗ System.exit
- ⊗ Stop writing data before running out of disk space

#### Agenda

- Sandboxing others people's code
- Prevent system call executions
- Se Ensure a smooth ride into production

# Sandbox

Sandboxing all the code!





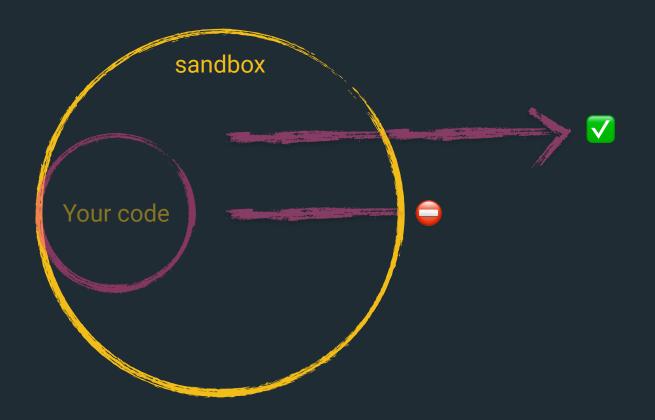
#### What is a sandbox?



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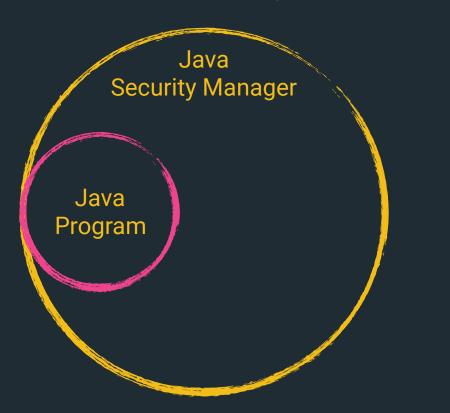


#### What is a sandbox?



#### Sandbox my own code?!

- Expect your code to be exploited
- Prevent unknown attack vectors
- ⊗ Is it really your code being executed
- ⊗ Simple security model
- **⊗** Blocklist vs. allowlist









FilePermission read /etc/elasticsearch

FilePermission write /var/log/elasticsearch

SocketPermission
 connect \*





```
Security Manager

Policy

Java

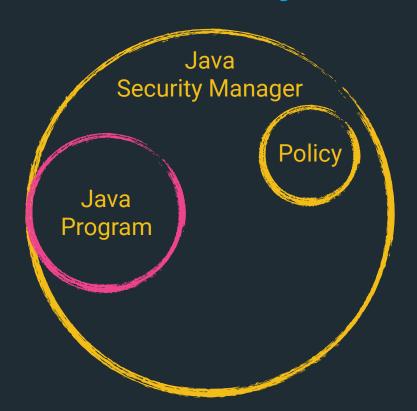
Program

grant {
// needed to do crazy reflection
```

permission java.lang.RuntimePermission "accessDeclaredMembers";

```
grant {
 // needed to generate runtime classes
  permission java.lang.RuntimePermission "createClassLoader";
  // expression runtime
  permission org.elasticsearch.script.ClassPermission "java.lang.String";
  permission org.elasticsearch.script.ClassPermission "org.apache.lucene.expressions.Expression";
  permission org.elasticsearch.script.ClassPermission "org.apache.lucene.search.DoubleValues";
  // available functions
  permission org.elasticsearch.script.ClassPermission "java.lang.Math";
  permission org.elasticsearch.script.ClassPermission "org.apache.lucene.util.MathUtil";
  permission org.elasticsearch.script.ClassPermission "org.apache.lucene.util.SloppyMath";
```

```
Policy
grant codeBase "${codebase.netty-common}" {
   // for reading the system-wide configuration for the backlog of established sockets
   permission java.io.FilePermission "/proc/sys/net/core/somaxconn", "read";
   // netty makes and accepts socket connections
   permission java.net.SocketPermission "*", "accept,connect";
grant codeBase "${codebase.netty-transport}" {
   // Netty NioEventLoop wants to change this, because of https://bugs.openjdk.java.net/browse/JDK-6427854
   // the bug says it only happened rarely, and that its fixed, but apparently it still happens rarely!
   permission java.util.PropertyPermission "sun.nio.ch.bugLevel", "write";
```



#### java.io.File

```
* Tests whether the file or directory denoted by this abstract pathname
* exists.
* @return <code>true</code> if and only if the file or directory denoted
           by this abstract pathname exists; <code>false</code> otherwise
  @throws SecurityException
           If a security manager exists and its {@link
           java.lang.SecurityManager#checkRead(java.lang.String)}
           method denies read access to the file or directory
public boolean exists() {
   SecurityManager security = System.getSecurityManager();
   if (security != null) {
       security.checkRead(path);
      (isInvalid()) {
        return false;
    return ((fs.getBooleanAttributes( f: this) & FileSystem.BA EXISTS) != 0);
```

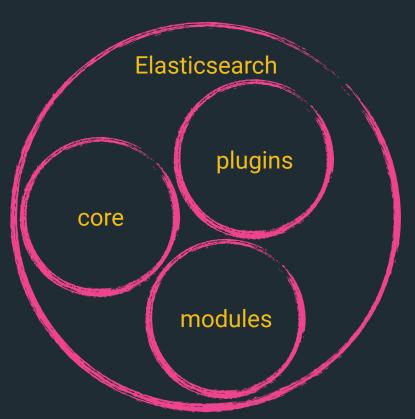
java.lang.SecurityManager

```
* Throws a <code>SecurityException</code> if the
* calling thread is not allowed to read the file specified by the
 * string argument.
 * This method calls <code>checkPermission</code> with the
 * <code>FilePermission(file, "read") </code> permission.
* If you override this method, then you should make a call to
 * <code>super.checkRead</code>
 * at the point the overridden method would normally throw an
 * exception.
              file the system-dependent file name.
* @param
 * @exception SecurityException if the calling thread does not have
              permission to access the specified file.
 * @exception NullPointerException if the <code>file</code> argument is
              <code>null</code>.
               #checkPermission(java.security.Permission) checkPermission
 * @see
public void checkRead(String file) {
   checkPermission(new FilePermission(file,
        SecurityConstants.FILE READ ACTION));
```

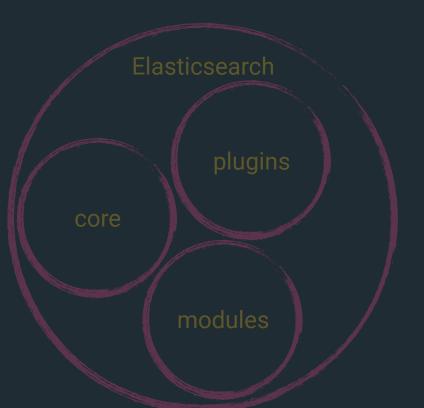
#### **Security Manager Summary**

- **Extensible**
- Requires knowledge of code execution within your dependencies!
- Many dependencies are not tested with the security manager, resulting in unknown code paths executions
- ⊗ No OOM protection!
- ⊗ No stack overflow protection!
- ⊗ No protection against java agents

#### Elasticsearch & the security manager



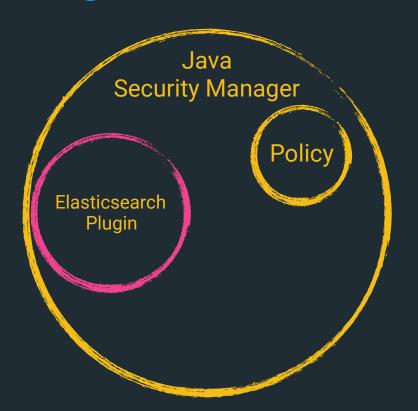
#### Elasticsearch & the security manager



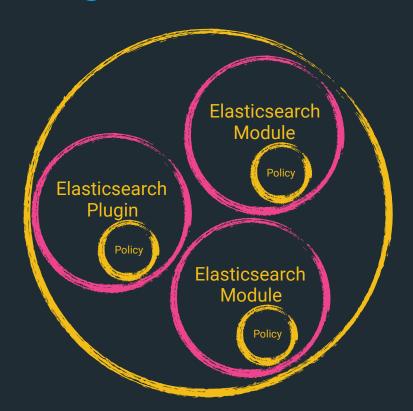
modules & plugins

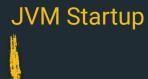
lang-mustache lang-painless transport-netty4 repository-azure analysis-icu

- plugins are just zip files
- each can have its own jars/dependencies
- each is loaded with its own classloader
- each can have its own security permissions









Read configuration file

Read configuration file

**IVM Startup** 

Native system calls

Read configuration file

VM Startup

Native system calls

Set security manager

Read configuration file

Native system calls

Set security manager

Load plugins

time

JVM Startup

Read configuration file

Native system calls

Set security manager

Load plugins

Bootstrap checks

**IVM Startup** 

Read configuration file

Native system calls

Set security manager

Load plugins

**Bootstrap checks** 

Network enabled

time

**IVM Startup** 

### Elasticsearch startup

Read configuration file

Native system calls

Set security manager

Load plugins

Bootstrap checks

Network enabled



JVM Startup

## #noroot

there is no reason to run code as root!





#### Do not run as root

Read configuration file

Native system calls

Set security manage

Load plugina

Bootstrap check

Network enabled





#### Do not run as root

```
/** Returns true if user is root, false if not, or if we don't know */
static boolean definitelyRunningAsRoot() {
    if (Constants.WINDOWS) {
        return false; // don't know
    }
    try {
        return JNACLibrary.geteuid() == 0;
    } catch (UnsatisfiedLinkError e) {
        // this will have already been logged by Kernel32Library, no need to repeat it return false;
    }
}
```

```
// check if the user is running as root, and bail
if (Natives.definitelyRunningAsRoot()) {
    throw new RuntimeException("can not run elasticsearch as root");
}
```

### seccomp

... or how I loved to abort system calls





Read configuration file

Native system calls

Set security manage

Load plugins

Bootstrap check

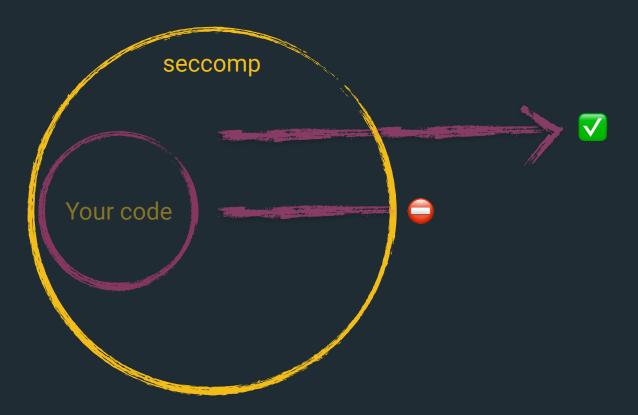
Network enabled

- Security manager could fail
- Elasticsearch should still not be able to fork processes
- One way transition to tell the operating system to deny
   execve, fork, vfork, execveat system calls
- ⊗ Works on Linux, Windows, Solaris, BSD, osx

```
// See <a href="https://www.kernel.org/doc/Documentation/prctl/seccomp filter.txt">https://www.kernel.org/doc/Documentation/prctl/seccomp filter.txt</a> for details.
SockFilter insns[] = {
 /* 1 */ BPF_STMT( code: BPF_LD + BPF_W + BPF_ABS, SECCOMP_DATA_ARCH_OFFSET),
 /* 2 */ BPF JUMP (code: BPF JMP + BPF JEQ + BPF K,
                                                           arch.audit,
                                                                            jt: 0, jf: 7),
 /* 3 */ BPF_STMT(code: BPF_LD + BPF_W + BPF_ABS, SECCOMP_DATA_NR_OFFSET),
 /* 4 */ BPF_JUMP(code: BPF_JMP + BPF_JGT + BPF_K,
                                                          arch.limit,
                                                                            jt: 5, jf: 0),
 /* 5 */ BPF_JUMP(code: BPF_JMP + BPF_JEQ + BPF_K, /
                                                          arch.fork,
                                                                            jt: 4, jf: 0),
                                                                            (jt: 3, jf: 0),
                                                                                                          // if (syscall == VFORK) goto fail;
 /* 6 */ BPF_JUMP(code: BPF_JMP + BPF_JEQ + BPF_K,
                                                          arch.vfork,
       */ BPF JUMP( code: BPF JMP + BPF JEQ + BPF K,
                                                           arch.execve,
                                                                            jt: 2, jf: 0),
                                                                                                          // if (syscall == EXECVE) goto fail;
                                                          arch.execveat,
                                                                           /jt: 1, jf: 0),
                                                                                                          // if (syscall == EXECVEAT) goto fail;
 /* 8 */ BPF_JUMP(code: BPF_JMP + BPF_JEQ + BPF_K,
 /* 9 */ BPF STMT(code: BPF RET + BPF K, SECCOMP RET ALLOW),
 /* 10 */ BPF_STMT(code: BPF_RET + BPF_K, k: SECCOMP_RET_ERRNO | (EACCES & SECCOMP_RET_DATA)), // fail: return EACCES;
```

```
SockFProg prog = new SockFProg(insns);
prog.write();
long pointer = Pointer.nativeValue(prog.getPointer());
int method = 1;
// first try it with seccomp(SECCOMP_SET_MODE_FILTER), falling back to prctl()
if ((linux_syscall(arch.seccomp,)SECCOMP_SET_MODE_FILTER, SECCOMP_FILTER_FLAG_TSYNC, new NativeLong(pointer)) != 0) {
    method = 0;
    int errno1 = Native.getLastError();
    if (logger.isDebugEnabled()) {
        logger.debug( message: "seccomp(SECCOMP_SET_MODE_FILTER): {}, falling back to prctl(PR_SET_SECCOMP)...",
                     JNACLibrary.strerror(errno1));
    if (linux_prctl(PR_SET_SECCOMP) SECCOMP_MODE_FILTER, pointer, arg4: 0, arg5: 0) != 0) {
        int errno2 = Native.getLastError();
        throw new UnsupportedOperationException("seccomp(SECCOMP_SET_MODE_FILTER): " + JNACLibrary.strerror(errno1) +
                                                ", prctl(PR_SET_SECCOMP): " + JNACLibrary.strerror(errno2));
if (linux_prctl(PR_GET_SECCOMP,) arg2: 0, arg3: 0, arg4: 0, arg5: 0) != 2) {
    throw new UnsupportedOperationException("seccomp filter installation did not really succeed. seccomp(PR_GET_SECCOMP): "
                                            + JNACLibrary.strerror(Native.getLastError()));
```

#### seccomp sandbox



Annoying you now instead of devastating you later





Read configuration file

Native system calls

Set security manage

Load plugins

Bootstrap checks

Network enabled

time

```
// the list of checks to execute
static List<BootstrapCheck> checks() {
    final List<BootstrapCheck> checks = new ArrayList<>();
    checks.add(new HeapSizeCheck());
    final FileDescriptorCheck fileDescriptorCheck
       = Constants.MAC_OS_X ? new OsXFileDescriptorCheck()
    checks.add(fileDescriptorCheck);
    checks.add(new MlockallCheck());
    if (Constants.LINUX) {
        checks.add(new MaxNumberOfThreadsCheck());
      (Constants.LINUX || Constants.MAC_OS_X) {
        checks.add(new MaxSizeVirtualMemoryCheck());
      (Constants.LINUX || Constants.MAC_OS_X) {
        checks.add(new MaxFileSizeCheck());
```

```
checks.add(new ClientJvmCheck());
checks.add(new UseSerialGCCheck());
checks.add(new SystemCallFilterCheck());
checks.add(new OnErrorCheck());
checks.add(new OnOutOfMemoryErrorCheck());
checks.add(new EarlyAccessCheck());
checks.add(new G1GCCheck());
checks.add(new AllPermissionCheck());
return Collections.unmodifiableList(checks);
```

```
static class FileDescriptorCheck implements BootstrapCheck {
   private final int limit;
   FileDescriptorCheck() {(this(limit: 65535);
   protected FileDescriptorCheck(final int limit) {
       if (limit <= 0) {</pre>
            throw new IllegalArgumentException("limit must be positive but was [" + limit + "]");
        this.limit = limit;
   public final BootstrapCheckResult check(BootstrapContext context) {
        final long maxFileDescriptorCount = getMaxFileDescriptorCount();
        if (maxFileDescriptorCount != -1 && maxFileDescriptorCount < limit)</pre>
            final String message = String.format(
                    Locale.ROOT,
                    format: "max file descriptors [%d] for elasticsearch process is too low, increase to at least [%d]",
                    getMaxFileDescriptorCount(),
                    limit);
            return BootstrapCheckResult.failure(message);
        } else {
            return BootstrapCheckResult.success();
    long getMaxFileDescriptorCount() { return ProcessProbe.getInstance().getMaxFileDescriptorCount(); }
```

```
static class G1GCCheck implements BootstrapCheck {
    @Override
    public BootstrapCheckResult check(BootstrapContext context) {
        if ("Oracle Corporation".equals(jvmVendor()) && isJava8() && isG1GCEnabled()) {
            final String jvmVersion = jvmVersion();
            final Pattern pattern = Pattern.compile("(\\d+)\\.(\\d+)-b\\d+");
            final Matcher matcher = pattern.matcher(jvmVersion);
            final boolean matches = matcher.matches();
            assert matches : jvmVersion;
            final int major = Integer.parseInt(matcher.group(1));
            final int update = Integer.parseInt(matcher.group(2));
            if((major == 25 \&\& update < 40)){
                final String message = String.format(
                        Locale.ROOT,
                         format: "JVM version [%s] can cause data corruption when used with G1GC; upgrade to at least Java 8u40", jvmVersion);
                return BootstrapCheckResult.failure(message);
        return BootstrapCheckResult.success();
```

# bonus: ease-of-use

don't forget your users...





#### Mark sensitive settings

```
private static final Setting.AffixSetting<SecureString> SETTING_URL_SECURE =
    Setting.affixKeySetting( prefix: "xpack.notification.slack.account.", suffix: "secure_url",
    (key) -> SecureSetting.secureString(key, fallback: null));
```

#### Register all your settings

stacks/7.1.1/elasticsearch-7.1.1 bin/elasticsearch -Ecluster.namr=my-cluster



```
[2019-06-21T10:42:56,943][WARN ][o.e.b.ElasticsearchUncaughtExceptionHandler] [rhincodon] uncaught exception in thread [main]
org.elasticsearch.bootstrap.StartupException: java.lang.IllegalArgumentException: unknown setting [cluster.namr] did you mean [cluster.name]?
at org.elasticsearch.bootstrap.Elasticsearch.init(Elasticsearch.java:163) ~[elasticsearch-7.1.1.jar:7.1.1]
at org.elasticsearch.bootstrap.Elasticsearch.execute(Elasticsearch.java:150) ~[elasticsearch-7.1.1.jar:7.1.1]
at org.elasticsearch.cli.EnvironmentAwareCommand.execute(EnvironmentAwareCommand.java:86) ~[elasticsearch-7.1.1.jar:7.1.1]
```



unknown setting [cluster.namr] did you mean [cluster.name]?

## Summary

**Security is hard - let's go shopping!** 





#### **Summary**

- Developers have huge impact on security
- Developers know their application best!
- ⊗ Don't reinvent, check out existing features!
- Developers are responsible for writing secure code!
  Before something happens!

## Thanks for listening!

**Questions?** 

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#### Resources

- https://github.com/elastic/elasticsearch/
- https://www.elastic.co/blog/bootstrap\_checks\_annoying\_instead\_of\_devastating
- https://www.elastic.co/blog/scripting
- https://www.elastic.co/blog/scripting-security
- https://docs.oracle.com/javase/9/security/toc.htm
- ♦ https://docs.oracle.com/javase/9/security/permissions-java-development-kit.htm
- https://www.elastic.co/blog/seccomp-in-the-elastic-stack

## Thanks for listening!

**Questions?** 

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