

# Unified Logging and Activity Tracing

Logging for the future

Session 721

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# Agenda

Introduction

Logging Concepts

Demo

Using the Unified System

Tools

Best Practices

Gathering Logs

Deprications

# Introduction

Background

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In 2014 Apple introduced Activity Tracing

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We also introduced the concept of Faults and Errors

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We also introduced the concept of Faults and Errors

We recognize that Apple has several logging APIs

# Goals



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One common, efficient logging mechanism for both user and kernel mode

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Maximize information collected while minimizing observer effect

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Maximize information collected while minimizing observer effect

- Compressing data
- Deferring work and data collection
- Managing log message lifecycle

We want as much logging on all the time as possible

Design privacy into the system

# Features



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Improved categorization and filtering of log messages

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Swift support in upcoming seed



# Current Console

The screenshot displays the macOS Console application window titled "All Messages". The interface includes a top toolbar with icons for "Hide Log List", "Clear Display", "Reload", "Ignore Sender", "Insert Marker", and "Inspector". A search bar is located in the top right corner. The left sidebar is divided into three sections: "SYSTEM LOG QUERIES" (with "All Messages" selected), "DIAGNOSTIC AND USAGE INFORMATION" (with "Diagnostic and Usage Messages" selected), and "FILES" (listing "system.log", "~/Library/Logs", "/Library/Logs", and "/var/log"). The main pane shows a list of system log messages, including notifications from identityservicesd, launchd, digest-service, watchdogd, coreaudiod, and kernel. The messages are timestamped and include detailed system information. At the bottom, a status bar indicates "2314 messages from 6/14/15, 7:32:53 AM to 6/11/16, 9:12:35 AM" and navigation buttons for "Earlier", "Later", and "Now".

```
6/5/16, 8:50:33 PM identityservicesd: <IMMacNotificationCenterManager: 0x7fa38b421b30>: notification observer: com.apple.icnat notification: __CFNotification...
6/5/16, 8:50:33 PM identityservicesd: <IMMacNotificationCenterManager: 0x7fa38b421b30>: NC Disabled: NO
6/5/16, 8:50:33 PM identityservicesd: <IMMacNotificationCenterManager: 0x7fa38b421b30>: DND Enabled: YES
6/5/16, 8:50:33 PM identityservicesd: <IMMacNotificationCenterManager: 0x7fa38b421b30>: Updating enabled: NO (Topics: (
6/5/16, 8:50:33 PM com.apple.xpc.launchd: (com.apple.imfoundation.IMRemoteURLConnectionAgent) The _DirtyJetsamMemoryLimit key is not available on this platform.
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: label: default
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: dbname: od:/Local/Default
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: mkey_file: /var/db/krb5kdc/m-key
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: acl_file: /var/db/krb5kdc/kadmind.acl
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: digest-request: uid=0
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: digest-request: netr probe 0
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: digest-request: init request
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: digest-request: init return domain: MACBOOKPRO-ABD1 server: ELIZABETHS-MBP indomain was: <NULL>
6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: digest-request: uid=0
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6/5/16, 8:50:35 PM digest-service: digest-request: init return domain: ELIZABETHS-MBP server: ELIZABETHS-MBP indomain was: <NULL>
6/5/16, 8:50:39 PM watchdogd: [watchdog_daemon] @ ( pm_callback) - ref=0x0 msg_type=0xe0000280 msg=0x147001d
6/5/16, 8:50:39 PM coreaudiod: 2016-06-05 08:50:39.692002 PM [AirPlay] Power: SystemWillSleep
6/5/16, 8:50:39 PM watchdogd: [watchdog_daemon] @ ( wd_daemon_thread) - events buffer: 30r2392 44s2392 567r11029 9353s11029 9376r30721 12195s30721 12233r38527...
6/5/16, 8:50:39 PM coreaudiod: 2016-06-05 08:50:39.692792 PM [AirPlay] BTLE client stopping to browse for AirPlay Solo Target Presence.
6/5/16, 8:50:39 PM coreaudiod: 2016-06-05 08:50:39.693035 PM [AirPlay] BTLE discovery removing all devices
6/5/16, 8:50:39 PM coreaudiod: 2016-06-05 08:50:39.693870 PM [AirPlay] BTLE client stopped to browse for AirPlay Solo Target Presence.
6/5/16, 8:50:39 PM com.apple.xpc.launchd: (com.apple.imfoundation.IMRemoteURLConnectionAgent) The _DirtyJetsamMemoryLimit key is not available on this platform.
6/5/16, 8:50:40 PM WindowServer: device_generate_desktop_screenshot: authw 0x0(0), shield 0x7fddf8f365d0(2001)
6/5/16, 8:50:40 PM WindowServer: device_generate_lock_screen_screenshot: authw 0x0(0)[inf, inf, 0, 0] shield 0x7fddf8f365d0(2001), dev [1440,900]
6/5/16, 8:50:54 PM mDNSResponder: DeregisterInterface: Frequent transitions for interface awdl0 (FE80:0000:0000:0000:400D:7CFF:FE53:8D69)
6/5/16, 8:50:55 PM imagent: [Warning] No incoming push handler for selector: handler:isConnectedChanged: topic: (null) command: (null) context: (null)
6/5/16, 8:50:56 PM SystemUIServer: Menu Extra: <DisplaysExtra: 0x7f9e60754750> is over retained.
6/5/16, 8:50:59 PM kernel: PM response took 5153 ms (56, powerd)
6/5/16, 8:50:59 PM kernel: ARPT: 14791.703803: AirPort_Brcm43xx::powerChange: System Sleep
6/5/16, 8:50:59 PM kernel: ARPT: 14791.703808: wl0: powerChange: *** BONJOUR/MDNS OFFLOADS ARE NOT RUNNING.
6/5/16, 8:50:59 PM kernel: [0x2a48dd9000, 0x19000000]
6/5/16, 8:50:59 PM kernel: [0x2e0c9cc000, 0x27000000]
6/5/16, 8:50:59 PM kernel: [0x0, 0x0]
6/5/16, 8:51:02 PM kernel: AppleThunderboltNHIType2::prePCIWake - power up complete - took 2 us
6/5/16, 8:51:02 PM kernel: IO80211AWDLPeerManager::doDisable source [handleSIOCSIFFLAGS]
6/5/16, 8:51:02 PM kernel: AppleThunderboltGenericHAL::earlyWake - complete - took 0 milliseconds
6/5/16, 8:51:02 PM kernel: en0: BSSID changed to 58:6d:8f:2a:ba:90
6/5/16, 8:51:02 PM kernel: en0: channel changed to 1
6/5/16, 8:51:02 PM kernel: AirPort: Link Down on awdl0. Reason 1 (Unspecified).
```



# Console Revisited...

The screenshot shows the macOS Console application with 779 activities. The left sidebar lists devices (Matthieu's MacBook Pro, iPhone de Matthieu, iPad, iPod touch) and reports (Diagnostic and Usage Data, System Reports, User Reports, system.log, ~/Library/Logs, /Library/Logs, /var/log). The main pane displays a list of activities with columns for Time, Process, Library, and Activity. A tree view on the right shows a sequence of events for the 'cloud (CloudKitDaemon)' process, including 'upload', 'client/modify-records', 'daemon/modify-records', 'daemon/db-operation', 'mmcs-register-items', 'url-request', 'NEHelperServer processing client message', 'url-request-transmission', 'mmcs-put-items', 'mmcs-chunking', 'mmcs-authorize-put', and 'mmcs-put-container'. Below this, a detailed log for 'cloud (CloudKitDaemon)' is shown, including Activity ID (99860), Parent Activity ID (99841), Thread ID (0xc6d70), and PID (326). The log messages include network-related events such as 'Created DB, header sequence number = 13932', 'CCDS: requirements', 'SUBMITTING: com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task', and 'TIC [0x7f9d965446c0]: DAS scheduler submitted activity 0x7f9d96552b80'.

| Time            | Process  | Library               | Activity                                 |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------------|--|
| 15:34:15.083533 | bird     | QuickLookThumbnailing | !quicklook/thumbnail-retrieval           |
| 15:34:15.094374 | bird     | CloudDocsDaemon       | upload                                   |
| 15:34:15.094950 | bird     | CloudKit              | client/modify-records                    |
| 15:34:15.109501 | cloud    | CloudKitDaemon        | daemon/modify-records                    |
| 15:34:15.113061 | cloud    | CloudKitDaemon        | daemon/db-operation                      |
| 15:34:15.121625 | cloud    | CloudKitDaemon        | daemon/db-operation                      |
| 15:34:15.135751 | cloud    | MMCS                  | mmcs-register-items                      |
| 15:34:15.154190 | cloud    | MMCS                  | mmcs-register-items                      |
| 15:34:15.161521 | cloud    | CloudKitDaemon        | url-request                              |
| 15:34:15.181657 | nehelper | nehelper              | NEHelperServer processing client message |
| 15:34:15.216500 | cloud    | CloudKitDaemon        | url-request-transmission                 |
| 15:34:15.286013 | cloud    | MMCS                  | mmcs-put-items                           |
| 15:34:15.287290 | cloud    | MMCS                  | mmcs-chunking                            |
| 15:34:15.295514 | cloud    | MMCS                  | mmcs-authorize-put                       |
| 15:34:15.375961 | cloud    | MMCS                  | mmcs-put-container                       |

**cloud (CloudKitDaemon)**  
Activity ID: 99860 Parent Activity ID: 99841 [Hide](#) Volatile  
Thread ID: 0xc6d70 PID: 326 06-02-2016 15:34:15.161521

| Type | Time            | Process          | Message   |
|------|-----------------|------------------|---|
|      | 15:34:15.181071 | cloud            | Created DB, header sequence number = 13932  |
|      | 15:34:15.181977 | nsurlsessiond    | CCDS: requirements { kConditionalConnectionActivityName = "Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:com.apple.Des...     |
|      | 15:34:15.182265 | nsurlsessiond    | activity [0x7f9d96552b80] <_DASActivity: "com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:co... |
|      | 15:34:15.182309 | nsurlsessiond    | SUBMITTING: com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:com.apple.Desktop:secondaryID:4/... |
|      | 15:34:15.182432 | nsurlsessiond    | TIC [0x7f9d965446c0]: DAS scheduler submitted activity 0x7f9d96552b80   |
|      | 15:34:15.182814 | DuetHeuristic-BM | Start network path monitoring for activity:com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:c... |
|      | 15:34:15.183316 | DuetHeuristic-BM | com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:com.apple.Desktop:secondaryID:4/com.apple.cl... |
|      | 15:34:15.183359 | DuetHeuristic-BM | Activity:com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:com.apple.Desktop:secondaryID:4/com... |
|      | 15:34:15.183404 | DuetHeuristic-BM | With com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:com.apple.Desktop:secondaryID:4/com.app... |
|      | 15:34:15.183482 | DuetHeuristic-BM | Running activities : ( "com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:com.apple.Deskto...     |
|      | 15:34:15.183663 | DuetHeuristic-BM | Stop network path monitoring for activity:com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:co... |
|      | 15:34:15.183734 | nsurlsessiond    | STARTING: com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bid:com.apple.Desktop:secondaryID:4/co... |
|      | 15:34:15.183771 | nsurlsessiond    | TIC [0x7f9d965446c0]: activity 0x7f9d96552b80 start handler called  |
|      | 15:34:15.183794 | nsurlsessiond    | TIC TCP Conn Start [4121:0x7f9d965446c0]  |



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|      | 15:34:15.183359 | DuetHeuristic-BM | Activity:com.apple.CFNetwork-cc-331-4121-Task <com.apple.cloud>.<CKBackgroundSession:bID:com.apple.Desktop:secondaryID:4/com... |
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# Logging Concepts

Adoption

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- Build with the macOS 10.12, iOS 10.0, tvOS 10.0 or watchOS 3.0 SDK
- Legacy APIs (NSLog, asl\_log\_message, syslog...) redirected into new system
- Log data will be in new format and location

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If you don't want to use the new Unified Logging system

- Build with macOS 10.11, iOS 9.0, tvOS 9.0 and watchOS 2.0 SDK
- No changes

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com.your-company.test.your-application

test

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Behavior can be customized by installing profiles or, on macOS, via log command

# Standard Behavior

NEW



# Standard Behavior

NEW

| Message Level | Enabled | Destination |
|---------------|---------|-------------|
| DEFAULT LEVEL | ALWAYS  | DISK        |
| INFO LEVEL    | YES     | MEMORY      |
| DEBUG LEVEL   | NO      | N/A         |

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NEW

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|---------------|---------|-------------|
| DEFAULT LEVEL | ALWAYS  | DISK        |
| INFO LEVEL    | YES     | MEMORY      |
| DEBUG LEVEL   | NO      | N/A         |
|               |         |             |
| ERROR         | ALWAYS  | DISK        |
| FAULT         | ALWAYS  | DISK        |

# Privacy

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Prevent accidental logging of Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

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Dynamic strings, collections, arrays, etc. are assumed to be private

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Faults represent more global problems in the system

# Faults and Errors

NEW

We do extra work saving additional information on Fault or Error

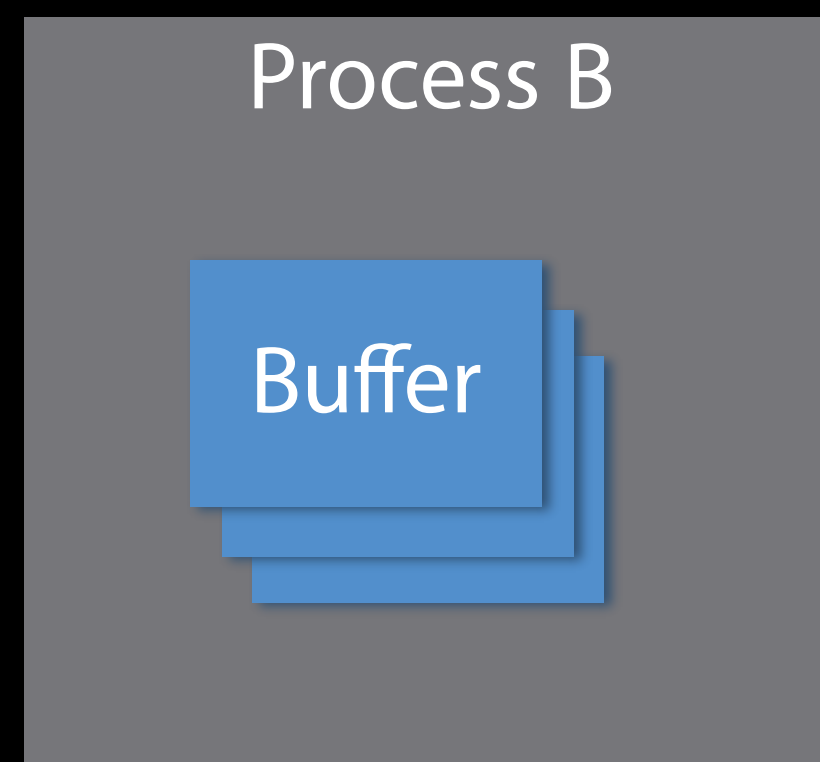
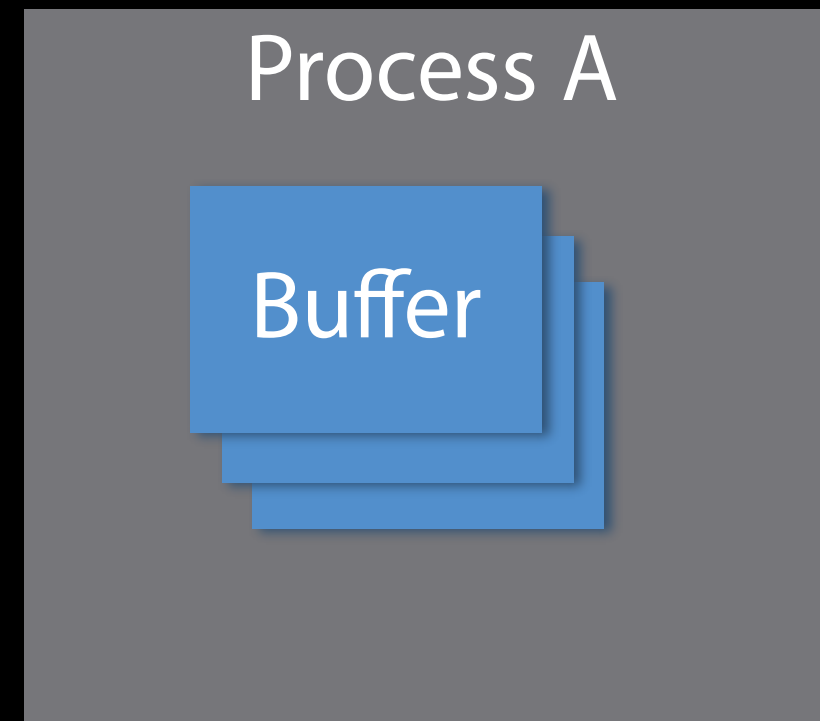
Errors represent issues discovered within a given application/library

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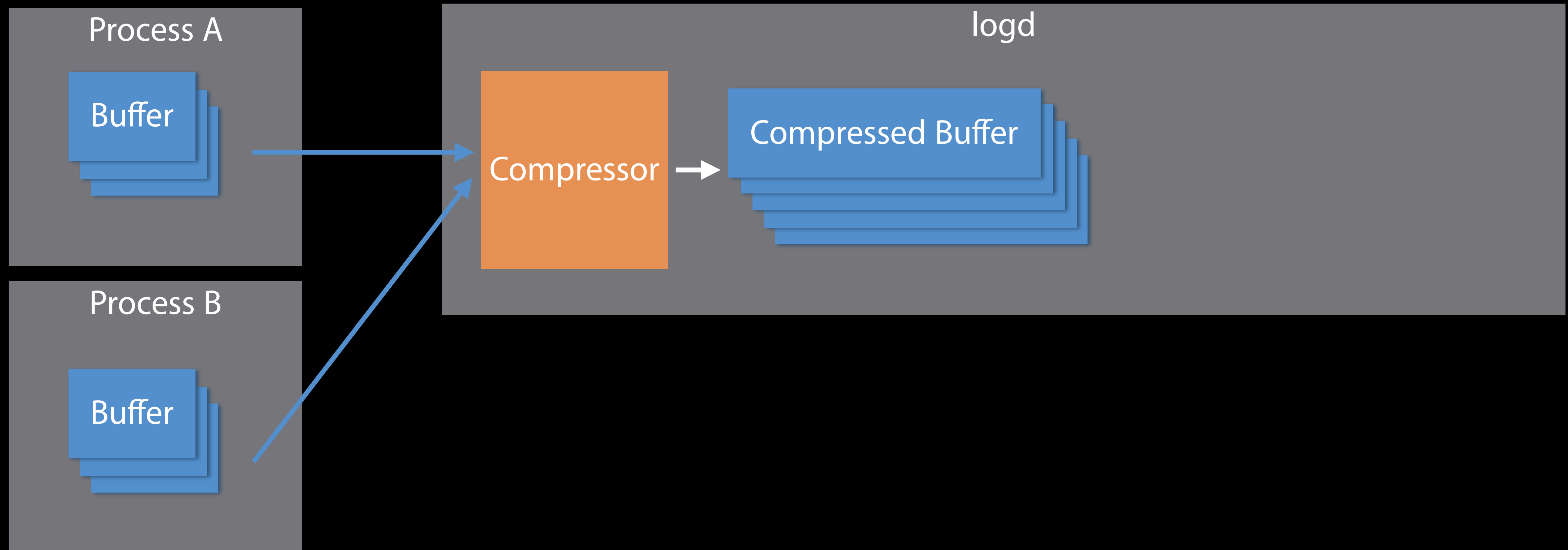
Faults and Error log information is captured into a separate set of log files

Architecture

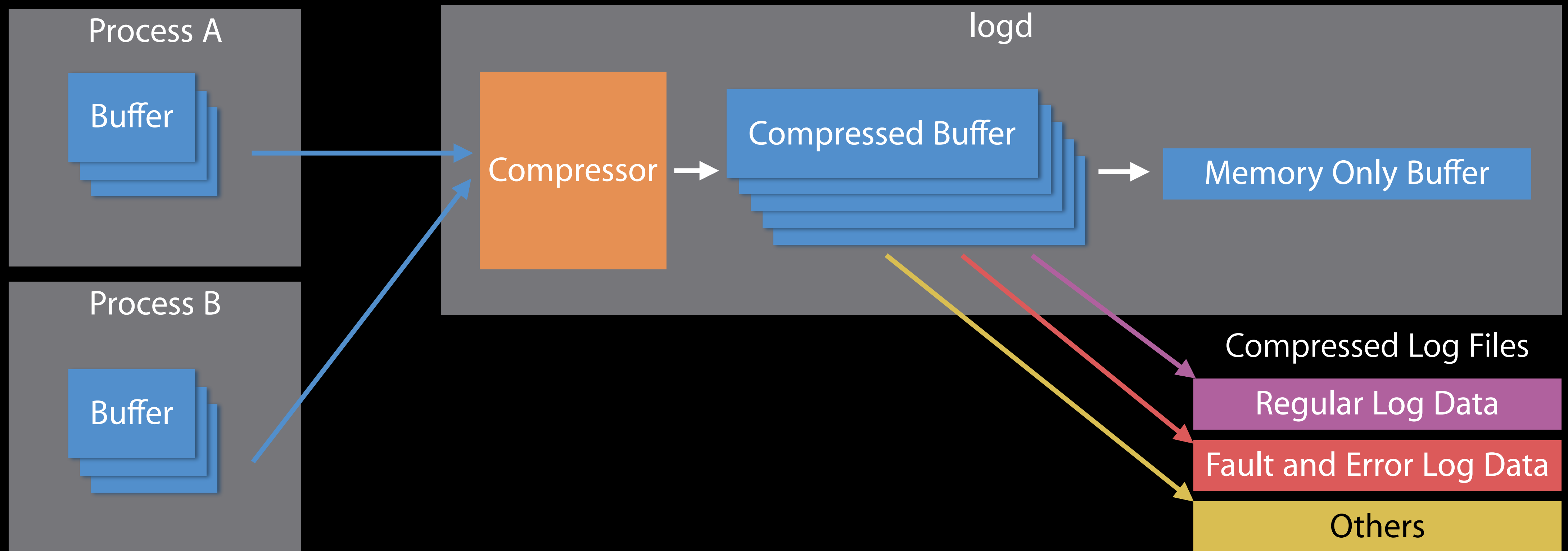
# Architecture



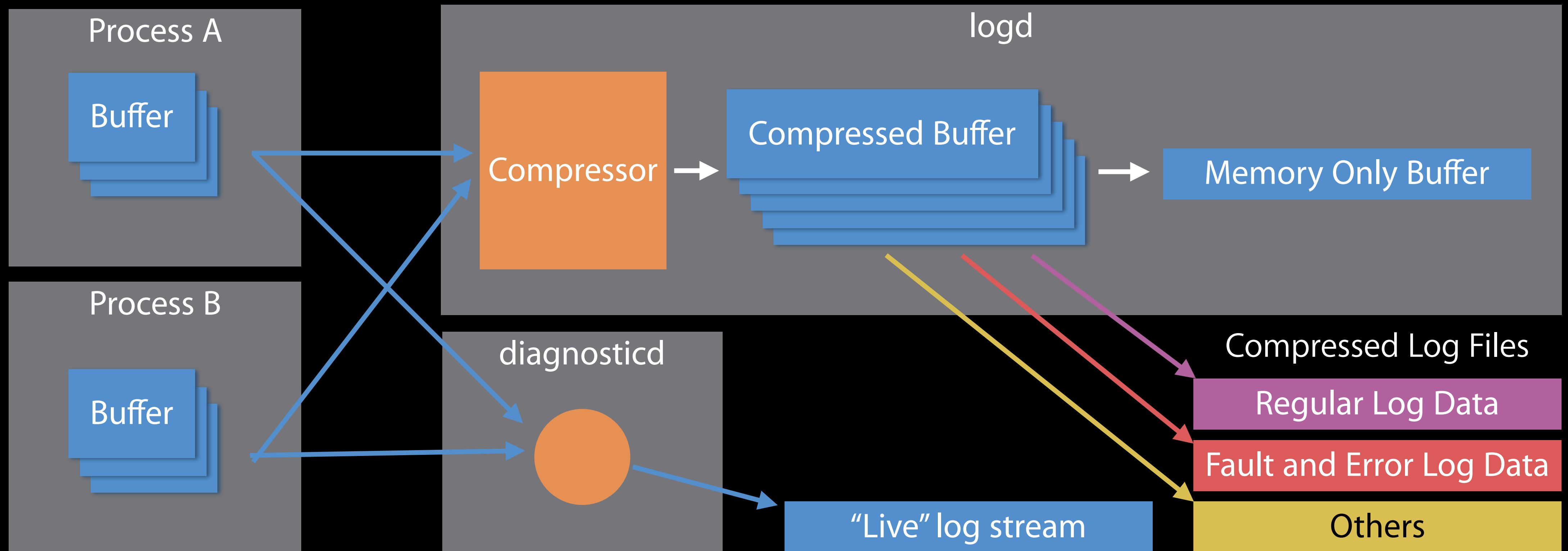
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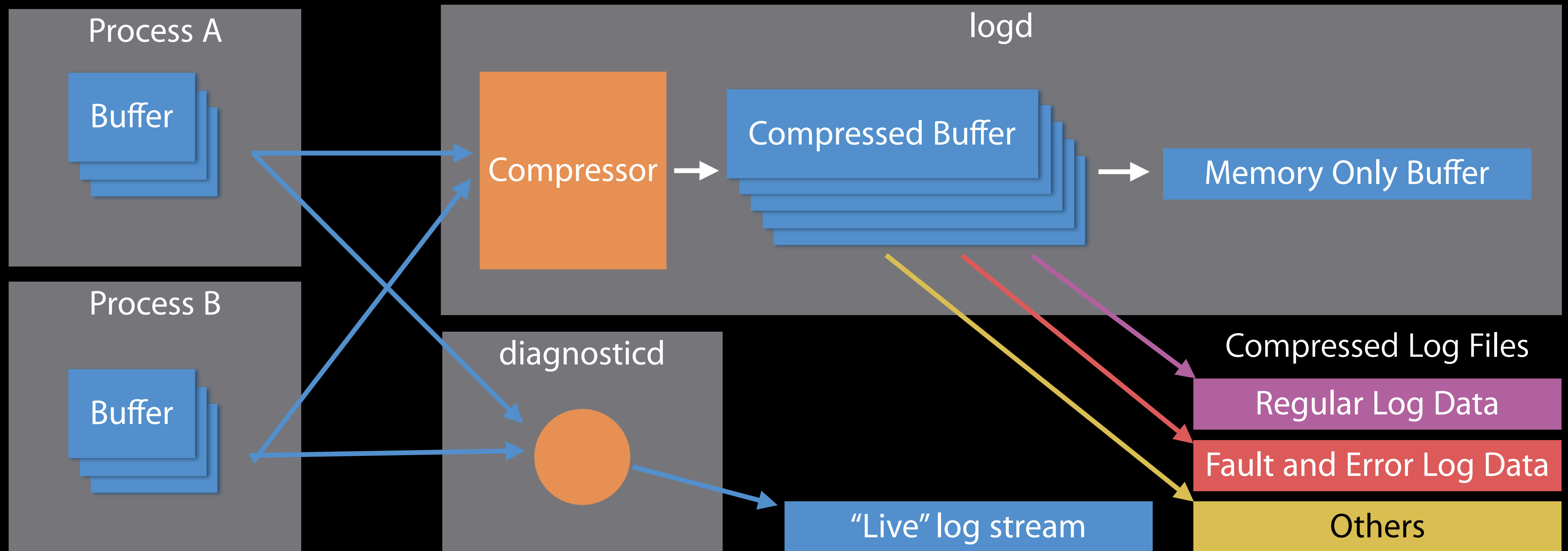
# Architecture



# Architecture



# Architecture



Profile can change routing and rules for given applications or subsystems



*Demo*

Console demo

# Using the Unified System

# Summary of New APIs

NEW

| API                        | Destination | Description  |
|----------------------------|-------------|--|
| <code>os_log</code>        | Disk        | Default logging level that is always captured            |
| <code>os_log_info</code>   | Memory      | Additional information (defaults to memory-only buffers) |
| <code>os_log_debug</code>  | Off         | Debug level content (off-by default)                     |
| <code>os_log_error</code>  | Disk        | Process local error                                      |
| <code>os_log_fault</code>  | Disk        | System-level error (usually involves multiple processes) |
| <code>os_log_create</code> | n/a         | Create a log object for custom behaviors                 |

# Creating a Log Object

NEW

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```
os_log_t log = os_log_create("com.your_company.subsystem", "network");
```

Create thread-safe singleton object that controls behavior of log messages

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"%. *P"
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Built-in decoding for common values

```
"%{time_t}d" or "%{errno}d"
```

Arbitrary binary data using a new format type

```
"%.*P"
```

Built-in decoding for binary-types

```
"%{uuid_t}.16P"
```

# Example Type Formatters

NEW

| Type     | Format String                 | Example Output                        |
|----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| time_t   | %{time_t}d                    | 2016-01-12 19:41:37                   |
| timeval  | %{timeval}.*P                 | 2016-01-12 19:41:37.774236            |
| timespec | %{timespec}.*P                | 2016-01-12 19:41:37.774236823         |
| errno    | %{errno}d                     | Broken pipe                           |
| uuid_t   | %{uuid_t}.16P<br>%{uuid_t}.*P | 10742E39-0657-41F8-AB99-878C5EC2DCAA  |
| sockaddr | %{network:sockaddr}.*P        | fe80::f:86ff:fee9:5c16<br>17.43.23.87 |
| in_addr  | %{network:in_addr}d           | 17.43.23.87                           |
| in6_addr | %{network:in6_addr}.16P       | fe80::f:86ff:fee9:5c16                |

# Per Parameter Privacy

NEW



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Privacy is handled on a parameter by parameter basis

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Scalars and static strings are assumed to be public

Dynamic strings, collections, and objects are assumed to be private

Can be overridden on a per-parameter basis

```
"%{public}@" or "%{private}d"
```

Combine privacy and formatting

```
"%{public, uuid_t}.16P"
```









```
/*  
 * Log Message Simplification  
 */  
  
// Old way:  
if (LogLevelEnabled(info)) {  
    uuid_string_t uuid_str;  
    uuid_unparse_upper(uuid, uuid_str);  
}
```

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 * Log Message Simplification
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if (LogLevelEnabled(info)) {
    uuid_string_t uuid_str;
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    char *addr_desc = _convert_sockaddr(&sa);
```

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if (LogLevelEnabled(info)) {
    uuid_string_t uuid_str;
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    char *addr_desc = _convert_sockaddr(&sa);
    NSLog(@"%s (%s:%d) - fd: %d, uuid: %s, IP: %s",
    __PRETTY_FUNCTION__, __FILE__, __LINE__, fd, uuid_st, addr_desc);
```

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    NSLog(@"%s (%s:%d) - fd: %d, uuid: %s, IP: %s",
__PRETTY_FUNCTION__, __FILE__, __LINE__, fd, uuid_st, addr_desc);
    free(addr_desc);
}
```















```
/*  
 * Example Code  
 */  
  
os_log_t general_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "general");
```

```
/*  
 * Example Code  
 */  
  
os_log_t general_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "general");  
os_log_t time_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "timestamp");
```

```
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os_log_t general_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "general");  
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os_log(general_log, "running example code");
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os_log(general_log, "running example code");  
  
os_log_info(general_log, "processing file %{public}s", filename);
```

```
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 * Example Code
 */

os_log_t general_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "general");
os_log_t time_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "timestamp");

os_log(general_log, "running example code");

os_log_info(general_log, "processing file %{public}s", filename);

int fd = open(filename, O_RDONLY);
if (fd < 0) {
    os_log_error(general_log, "Cannot open file %{public}s - %{errno}d", filename, errno);
    . . .
}
```

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 * Example Code
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os_log_t general_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "general");
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os_log(general_log, "running example code");

os_log_info(general_log, "processing file %{public}s", filename);

int fd = open(filename, O_RDONLY);
if (fd < 0) {
    os_log_error(general_log, "Cannot open file %{public}s - %{errno}d", filename, errno);
    . . .
}

struct stat sb;
if (fstat(fd, &sb) < 0) {
    os_log_fault(general_log, "Failed to fstat %{public}s - %{errno}d", filename, errno);
    . . .
}
```



```
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 * Example Code
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os_log_t general_log = os_log_create("com.apple.logging.example", "general");
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if (fd < 0) {
    os_log_error(general_log, "Cannot open file %{public}s - %{errno}d", filename, errno);
    . . .
}

struct stat sb;
if (fstat(fd, &sb) < 0) {
    os_log_fault(general_log, "Failed to fstat %{public}s - %{errno}d", filename, errno);
    . . .
}

os_log_info(time_log,
            "status for file %{public}s, atime:%{timespec}.*P, mtime:%{timespec}.*P, ctime:%{timespec}.*P",
            filename,
            sizeof(struct timespec), &sb.st_atimespec,
            sizeof(struct timespec), &sb.st_mtimespec,
            sizeof(struct timespec), &sb.st_ctimespec);
```

# Activity API Improvements

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Activities are now objects that can be stored and re-used

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- Direct control of activity relationships during creation

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New API to auto-scope activities within your code

# Improved Activity APIs

NEW

---

`os_activity_create`

Creates a new activity object

---

`os_activity_scope`

Makes an execution block a part of an activity

---

`os_activity_apply`

Invokes a block scoped to a given activity

---

`os_activity_label_useraction`

Label an activity as a user action (UI-based activities)

---



```
/*  
 * New Activity API Example  
 */  
  
os_activity_t init_activity = os_activity_create("Init", OS_ACTIVITY_CURRENT,  
OS_ACTIVITY_FLAG_DEFAULT);
```



```
/*
 * New Activity API Example
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os_activity_t init_activity = os_activity_create("Init", OS_ACTIVITY_CURRENT,
OS_ACTIVITY_FLAG_DEFAULT);

os_activity_t verify_activity = os_activity_create("Verify", init_activity,
OS_ACTIVITY_FLAG_DEFAULT);
```

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OS_ACTIVITY_FLAG_DEFAULT);

os_activity_t verify_activity = os_activity_create("Verify", init_activity,
OS_ACTIVITY_FLAG_DEFAULT);

if (isReady) {
    os_activity_scope(verify_activity);
    // All of the following work is done under "verification activity scope"
    . . .
}
```





Tools

# Console

NEW

# Console

NEW

View live content from a system

# Console

NEW

View live content from a system

Open log archives



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New Activity centric view of logging and tracing

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Advanced filtering and searching

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# Best Practices

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Log only what you need from collections (Dictionaries, Arrays, etc.)



# Logging Etiquette

Ensure messages contain only information useful for debugging

Let us do the formatting for you—leverage built-in formatters

Avoid creating wrapper functions for `os_log*` APIs

Log only what you need from collections (Dictionaries, Arrays, etc.)

Avoid logging in tight code loops

# Using os\_log Family of APIs

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Use `os_log` to log critical details to help debug issues

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Use `os_log_error` to cause additional information capture from app

Use `os_log_fault` to cause additional information capture from system

# Gathering Logs



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NEW

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NEW

sysdiagnose is the preferred method to capture data for bug reports

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Transfer from device using iTunes

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sysdiagnose on Apple Watch will trigger on both Apple Watch and iPhone

Transfer from device using iTunes

This is the file to send to Apple (either Radar or Developer Technical Support)

# Key-chords for sysdiagnose

NEW

---

Mac OS      Shift + Control + Option + Command + Period (.)

---

iOS      Volume Up + Volume Down + Power  
Slight vibration on iPhone to indicate start

---

watchOS      Press and hold Digital Crown + Side Button for 1 second  
A screen shot is triggered if not held long enough. Slight haptic to indicate start.

---

tvOS      Play/Pause + Volume Down  
On older remote controls for Apple TV, must be held for 5 seconds

---



Deprecations

# Deprecation of Legacy logging APIs



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All ASL logging APIs are superseded by the new APIs

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New APIs for searching new log data will not be made public this release

- No equivalent `asl_search` functionality

# Deprecated Activity APIs



---

`os_activity_start`      Use `os_activity_create` and `os_activity_scope` / `os_activity_apply`

---

`os_activity_end`      Use `os_activity_create` and `os_activity_scope` / `os_activity_apply`

---

`os_activity_set_breadcrumb`      Use `os_activity_label_useraction`

---

`os_trace_with_payload`      Use `os_log*`

---

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- Gives you more control

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The new Unified Logging system is

- Faster
- Easier to use
- Gives you more control

But requires using new APIs and new tools

# Related Sessions

---

Fix Bugs Faster Using Activity Tracing

---

WWDC 2014

More Information

<https://developer.apple.com/wwdc16/721>



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