

Third-Party Data Enhances Alluvio IQ Processes

Better tailor automated investigations to your troubleshooting processes.

Alluvio IQ Unified Observability service supports data from third-party solutions with public APIs to bring more context to its runbook output. This mitigates the labor-intensive step of manually collecting and correlating data from multiple monitoring tools.

Tools sprawl hinders troubleshooting

According to Enterprise Management Associates, 64% of organizations use 4-10 monitoring tools, while another 17% use 11 or more. This tools sprawl exacerbates the challenge of correlating disparate data to better determine root cause of complex incidents. Problems such as alert fatigue, death by dashboards, and lack of technical expertise also often coincide with tools sprawl.

However, many of these monitoring tools are necessary to supply different perspectives of network, application, and end user performance, and some of these tools can be so entrenched that any change or attempt to consolidate becomes no trivial endeavor. To move away from them often means incurring significant costs and time.

Third-party data enhances Alluvio IQ

Alluvio IQ runbooks are specifically designed to capture all the critical data around an issue. However, when a company uses an abundance of monitoring tools, all the relevant data may not be in Alluvio products alone. This sparks the need to incorporate alternate data.

Alluvio IQ currently receives data from Alluvio packet, flow, infrastructure, and end user experience monitoring solutions. And excitingly, it now supports importing complementary data from third-party solutions with a REST API that can access the internet. This addition of non-Alluvio data is the most requested feature by Alluvio IQ users. The third-party data is added through the Alluvio IQ runbooks and can be used in decision branches and visualizations. This way, IT can better tailor IQ's automated investigations to their organization's particular troubleshooting process.

Now Alluvio IQ users can get relevant data, apply logic or comparisons, and even set priorities based on third-party data. This capability adds more context to supplement runbook outputs and mitigates the labor-intensive step of manually collecting and correlating monitoring data from Alluvio and other monitoring tools.

Alternatively, Alluvio IQ runbooks can push incident data to third-party solutions. For example, Alluvio IQ can send context-rich, actionable alerts to solutions like ServiceNow, Splunk, or Moogsoft or you can kick-off remediation scripts.

How it works

The integration is simple yet flexible enough to support a broad set of solutions in just a few steps. Alluvio IQ developed two new runbook nodes: “Integrations” enables IT to leverage external REST APIs with internet access to obtain additional contextual data in the automated investigations, while “Transform” lets you translate the names of third-party data into common Alluvio terms.

But first, if the third-party solution requires authentication you need to define and store the authentication method on the third-party authentication page. This page allows you to store all your authentication credentials in one place. You can use a variety of authentication methods, including API keys, OAuth2, Access Token, or Basic Authentication.

Then you are ready to build or edit runbooks to include third-party data. The Integrations node allows IT to build an HTTP query and add logic to pull in the third-party data. Build the HTTP query by referencing the authentication method, add the link to the API (for example `datadog.com/api`), and specify the data.

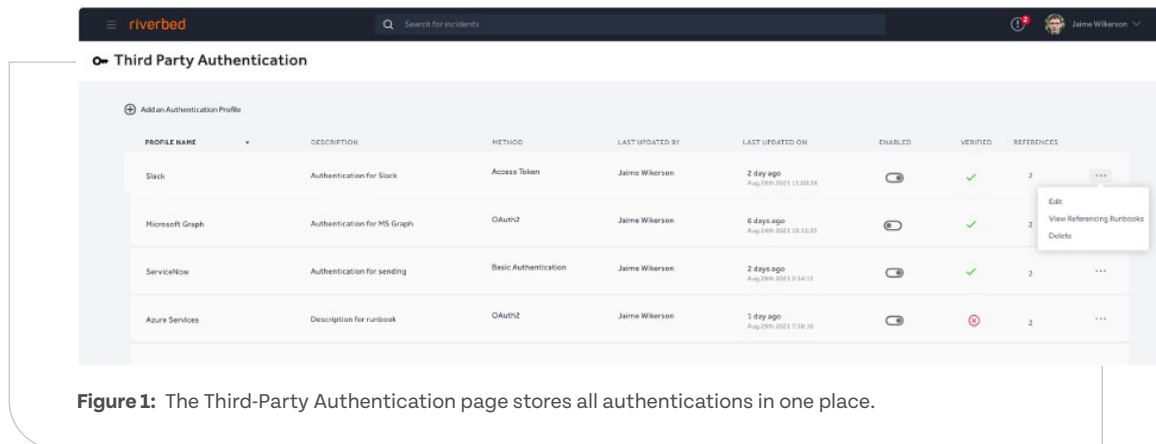


Figure 1: The Third-Party Authentication page stores all authentications in one place.

Lastly, to view the response in the runbook, add and define a Transform node to convert data from the third-party solution into names that are understood by Alluvio IQ users. For example, values may be identified by one name in our DataDog example, but you may want to call them by the Alluvio value in IQ.

Now IT can treat this data as if it's Alluvio data. For example, run it through another decision branch to monitor and alert on the status of the data, or add visualizations that tell Alluvio IQ where and how to display the data in the Impact Summary.

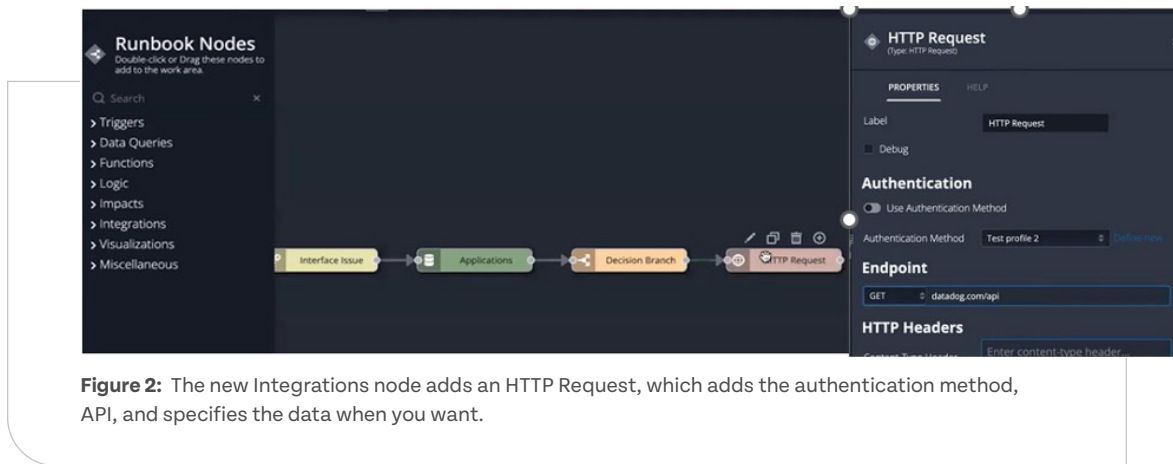


Figure 2: The new Integrations node adds an HTTP Request, which adds the authentication method, API, and specifies the data when you want.

Summary

The addition of third-party data to Alluvio IQ runbooks helps mitigate the labor-intensive step of manually collecting and correlating data from multiple monitoring tools. Alluvio IQ’s automated investigations bring disparate data together to enable effective cross-domain collaboration and decision-making to accelerate mean time to know/resolution. IT has one place to go to for context-rich, filtered, fix-first insights, ready for IT action.

To learn more about the Alluvio IQ Unified Observability service, [click here](#).



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