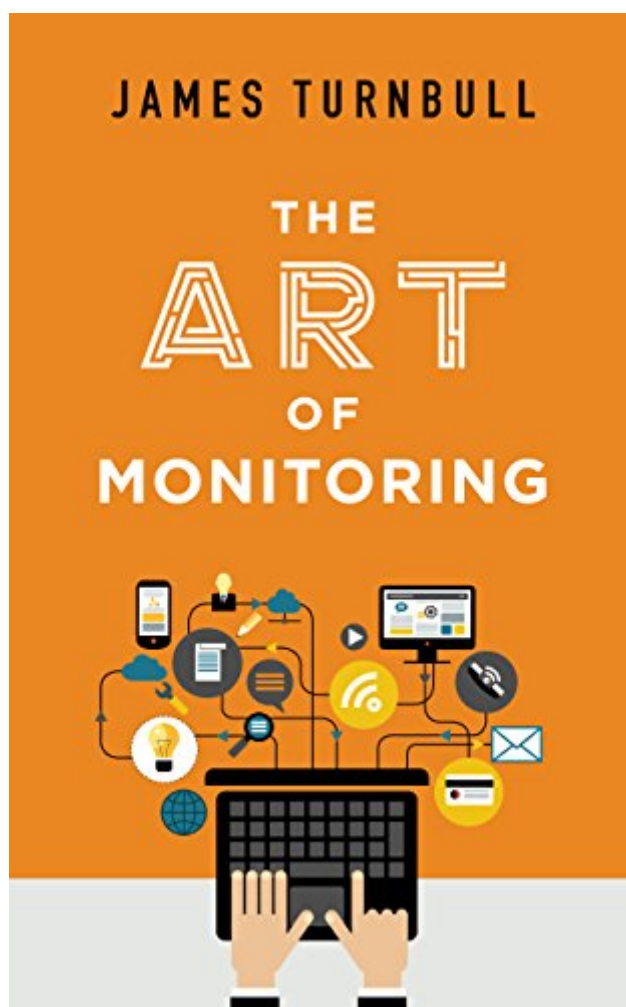


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# The Art Of Monitoring



## Synopsis

A hands-on and introductory guide to the art of modern application and infrastructure monitoring and metrics. We start small and then build on what you learn to scale out to multi-site, multi-tier applications. The book is written for both developers and sysadmins. We focus on building monitored and measurable applications. We also use tools that are designed to handle the challenges of managing Cloud, containerised and distributed applications and infrastructure. In the book we'll deliver:

- \* An introduction to monitoring, metrics and measurement.
- \* A scalable framework for monitoring hosts (including Docker and containers), services and applications built on top of the Riemann event stream processor.
- \* Graphing and metric storage using Graphite and Grafana.
- \* Logging with Logstash.
- \* A framework for high quality and useful notifications
- \* Techniques for developing and building monitorable applications
- \* A capstone that puts all the pieces together to monitor a multi-tier application.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Like most of the author's books, this is a practical deep dive into monitoring at scale. The examples

are coherent and span the gap between a typical projects "install this" page and actually using something in production. This isn't a simple cookbook, so even if you can't use the tools described, the concepts carry over to similar tools. In fact, the author calls out a number of tools in each space before settling on one.

If you want to learn how to do monitoring the right way, get this book. If you don't know anything about monitoring and you want a hands-on approach, get this book. If you want to set up a real production monitoring system using Riemann you'll learn a lot here. In fact, even if you don't choose to use the tools that the author uses, you'll still learn a lot. Did I say get the book?

I found the jump into Riemann in chapter 2 rather jarring and never quite recovered. Some of the concepts and observations in chapter 1 were actually quite good. My complaint is that the system proposed by the author will not stand the test of time. There is a solid effort to address optional software at the end of each chapter which is useful. I suppose what I was looking for was not what this book set out to provide. I wanted a higher level treatment similar to chapter 1 but with more detail and analysis. I felt like I was continually being pulled down the Riemann path against my wishes. It's not that I have anything against Riemann. I like Kyle and have learned a ton from his blog. Riemann adoption is fairly low. The author's own 2014 survey failed to turn up many adopters: The proposed monitoring infrastructure is also quite complex and difficult to setup and maintain. Graphite is unwieldy. Riemann, from my recollection, is difficult to setup and understand. Layer in ELK, syslog, statsd, collectd, and the like, and this is a huge undertaking. Who has setup an environment like the one proposed in this book? I'd hazard a guess there are very few such infrastructures deployed today. Overall, the author clearly knows a good deal about monitoring and has collected and presented good information about the leading open source projects out there. Where this book falls down is its failure to be more inclusive by treating the problem space at a slightly higher elevation.

A great read on implementing top tier monitoring for applications. Packed with examples and useful tools to implement in your own environment immediately. Excellent job on tying application metrics back to business objectives. Must read for anyone who writes or supports applications.

Although I will probably just implement the carbon/graphite/garbona layer, this book lays it all out with a step-by-step guide and always gives alternatives to the tools he chose as well as reference

links.

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