Al-assisted retrieval and visualization of control-system data from the InfluxDB time-series database at the European XFEL



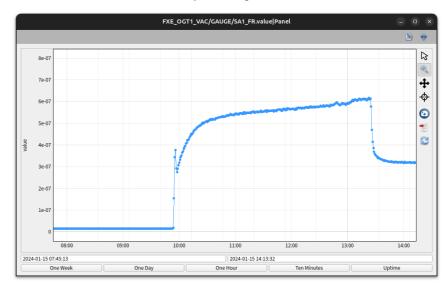
F. Sohn

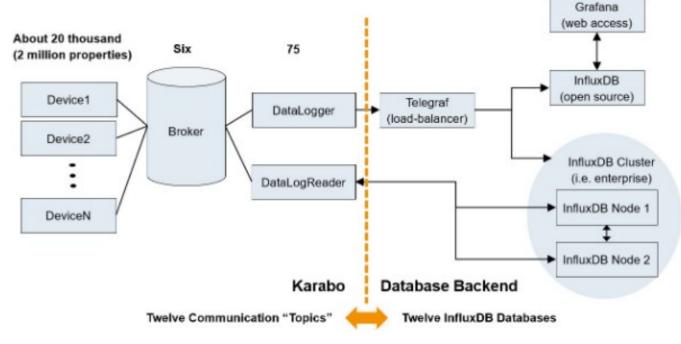
14.11.2025

8th Round Table on Deep Learning @ DESY

The InfluxDB time-series database

- Continuous logging of control data, such as device settings and low-bandwidth measurements.
- Integrated in Karabo
- Grafana web interface
- InfluxQL (SQL-like) query language
- Facilitates trend analysis, anomaly detection, and performance optimization.





A prototype for an InfluxDB query assistant

- Intended use: Query data from InfluxDB via the Zulip chat tool.
- Allows to integrate data plots easily into the instrument log books.
- No knowledge of Grafana or the Karabo GUI required.
- Automatic data aggregation
- Readiness Level: TRLs 3-4: development





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@Influx Query Bot in Plot property 'value' of 'FXE_OGT1_VAC/GAUGE/SA1_FR' from 15 Jan 2024, 08:00 to 15 Jan 2024, 14:00.

Influx Query Bot 🖮

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Parameters:

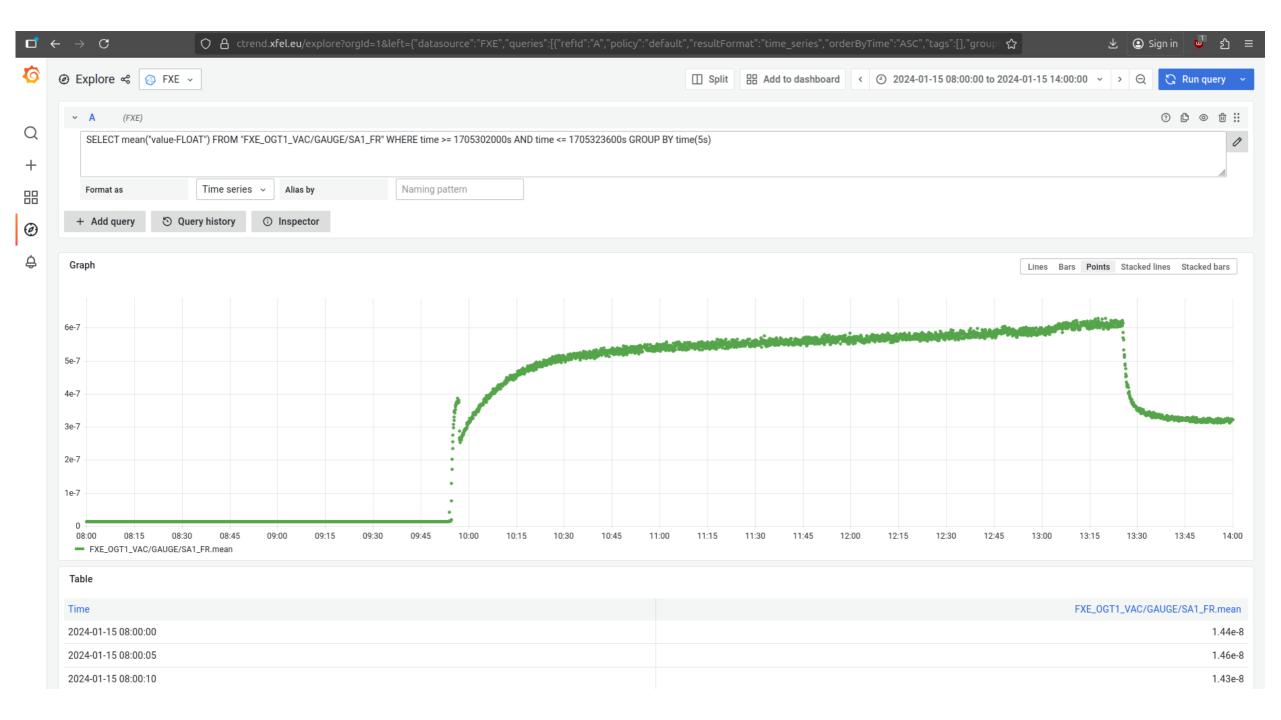
- Device ID: FXE_OGT1_VAC/GAUGE/SA1_FR
- · Property: value
- Start time: 2024-01-15T08:00:00+01:00
- End time: 2024-01-15T14:00:00+01:00
- Aggregation: mean, 5s (applied automatically)

Note: the query backend applied automatic aggregation (mean) with a 5s period to limit data points. Aggregation periods smaller than 5s are not allowed; if you need a different aggregation function or coarser/finer period (>=5s), tell me and I can re-run.

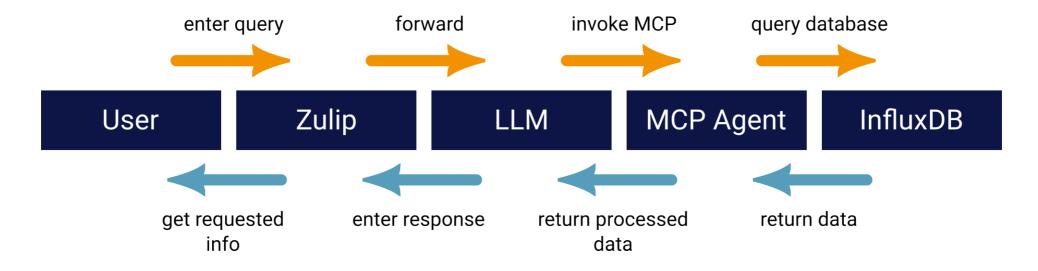
Grafana view: Open in Grafana

Plot





InfluxDB query assistant



- The LLM extracts query parameters from the user input.
- The MCP agent queries InfluxDB via a python-based tool.

- The MCP tool processes and formats the data.
- The LLM processes the data and generates a response for the user.

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Conclusion

- MCP allows to provide the LLM with tools in a generic fashion, allowing for flexible AI assistant implementations.
- Downside of using MCP:
 - Requires more powerful LLMs.
 - Increases computational cost and/or query processing times.
 - Drawbacks might become less relevant over time due to technological evolution.
- Todo: allow more generic database queries
- Nice-to-have: Karabo-agnostic queries, no device IDs and property names.



@Influx Query Bot in Plot property 'value' of 'FXE_OGT1_VAC/GAUGE/SA1_FR' from 15 Jan 2024, 08:00 to 15 Jan 2024, 14:00.



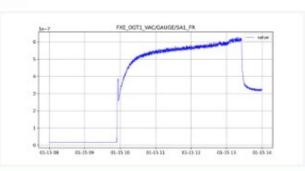
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European XFEL