Grafana & Flux

New Flux support in Grafana

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TL;DR

- Flux is powerful
- You can start playing with Flux in Grafana today
  - Flux support in Grafana is available via a new datasource plugin
- For now, no automated way to migrate dashboards
  - Transpiler for Influx queries is being worked on
  - You can migrate your dashboards and panels manually

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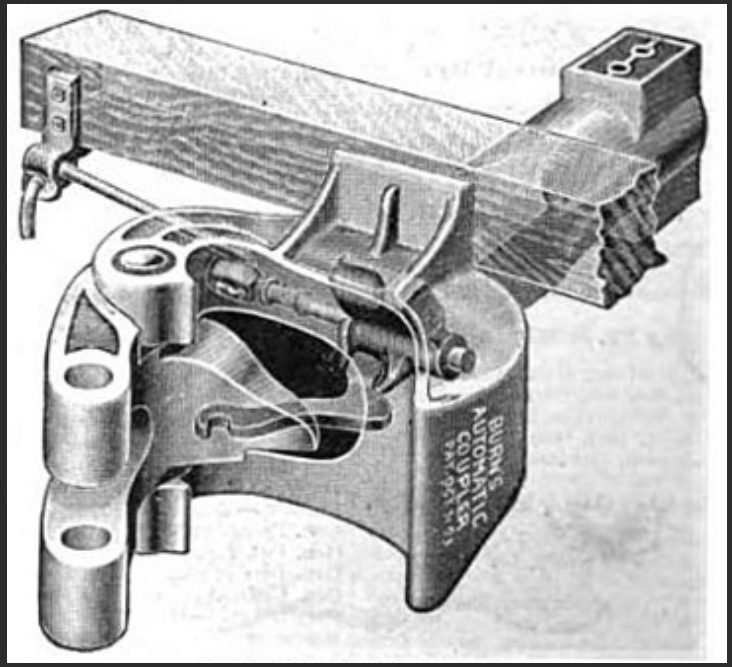
Flux Design Goals

- Decouple language from the execution engine
  - Execution engine takes a DAG of transformations
  - Transpilers: Flux, Influx Query, PromQL
- Decouple database from query computation
  - Iterate faster on query engine
  - Keep database untouched
  - Independently scalable
- Add more functions
  - Chainable: transformation from input table to output table



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Flux recap

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“host”] == “myServer”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
```

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Flux recap: Select one value from a table

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“host”] == “myServer”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
  |> max() // Selector
```

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Flux primer: Window-chunk and aggregate

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“_measurement”] == “cpu”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
  |> window(every: 10m)
  |> mean() // Aggregator
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r._value > 1) // Having
```

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Flux query planning

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“host”] == “myServer”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
  |> max()
```

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“host”] == “myServer”)
  |> max()
```

- **Same plan DAG**

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Flux query planning gotchas

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“host”] == “myServer”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
  |> max()
```

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“host”] == “myServer”)
  |> max() // Selector function returns 1 record
  |> range(start: -1h)
```

```
from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“_value”] > 1) // Full table scan
```

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User defined functions

```
select = (db=”telegraf”, m, f) => {
  return from(db:db)
    |> filter(fn: (r) => r._measurement == m
      and r._field == f)
}

select(m: “cpu”, f: “usage_user”)
  |> filter(fn: (r) => r[“host”] == “myServer”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
```

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Chainable user defined functions

```
myFilter = (m, f, table=<-) => {
  return table
    |> filter(fn: (r) => r._measurement == m
      and r._field == f)
}

from(db: “telegraf”)
  |> myFilter(m: “cpu”, f: “usage_user”)
  |> range(start: -1h)
```

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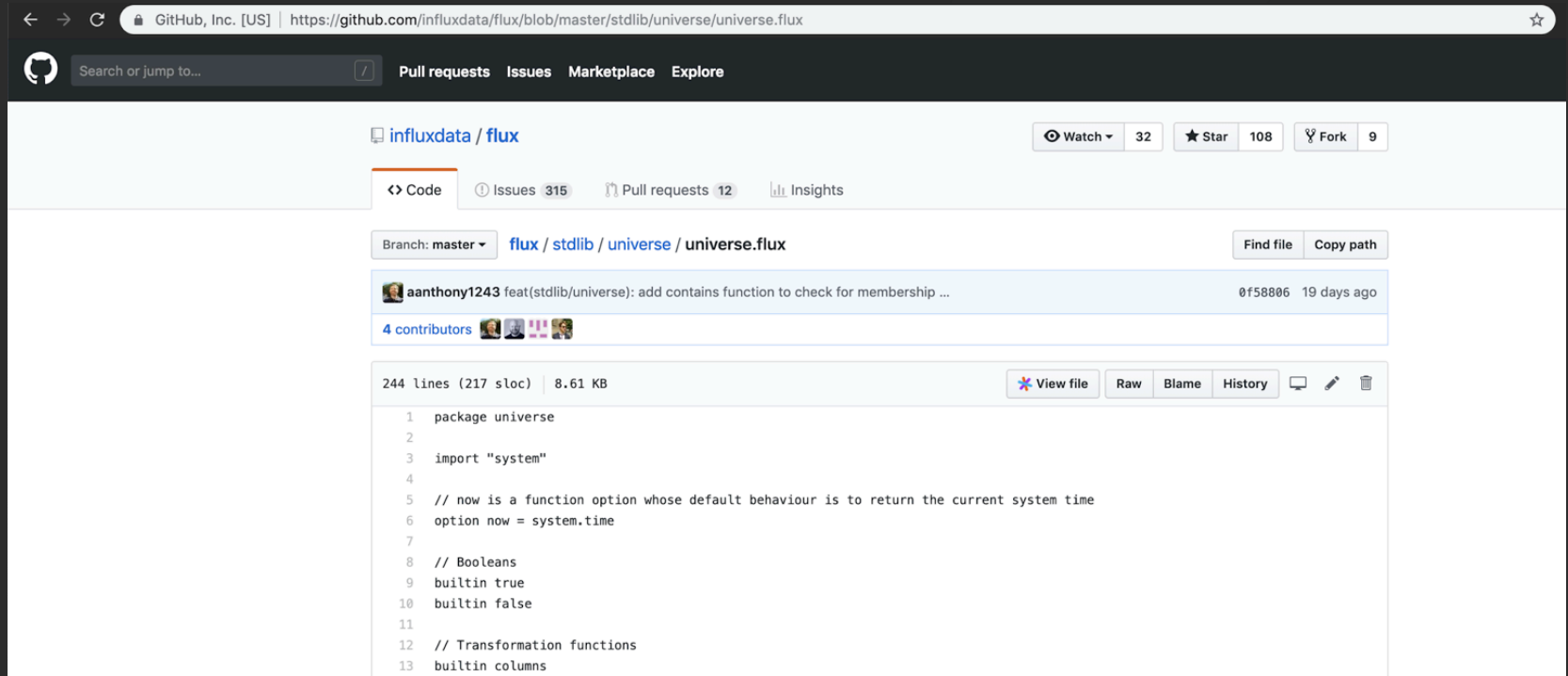
Flux StdLib

https://github.com/influxdata/flux/tree/master/stdlib



Math on tables

```
cpu = from(db)...

CpuRequests = from(db)...

join(
  tables: {cpu: cpu, req: CpuRequests},
  fn: (t) => t.cpu._value / t.req._value
) // Implicit join on time
```

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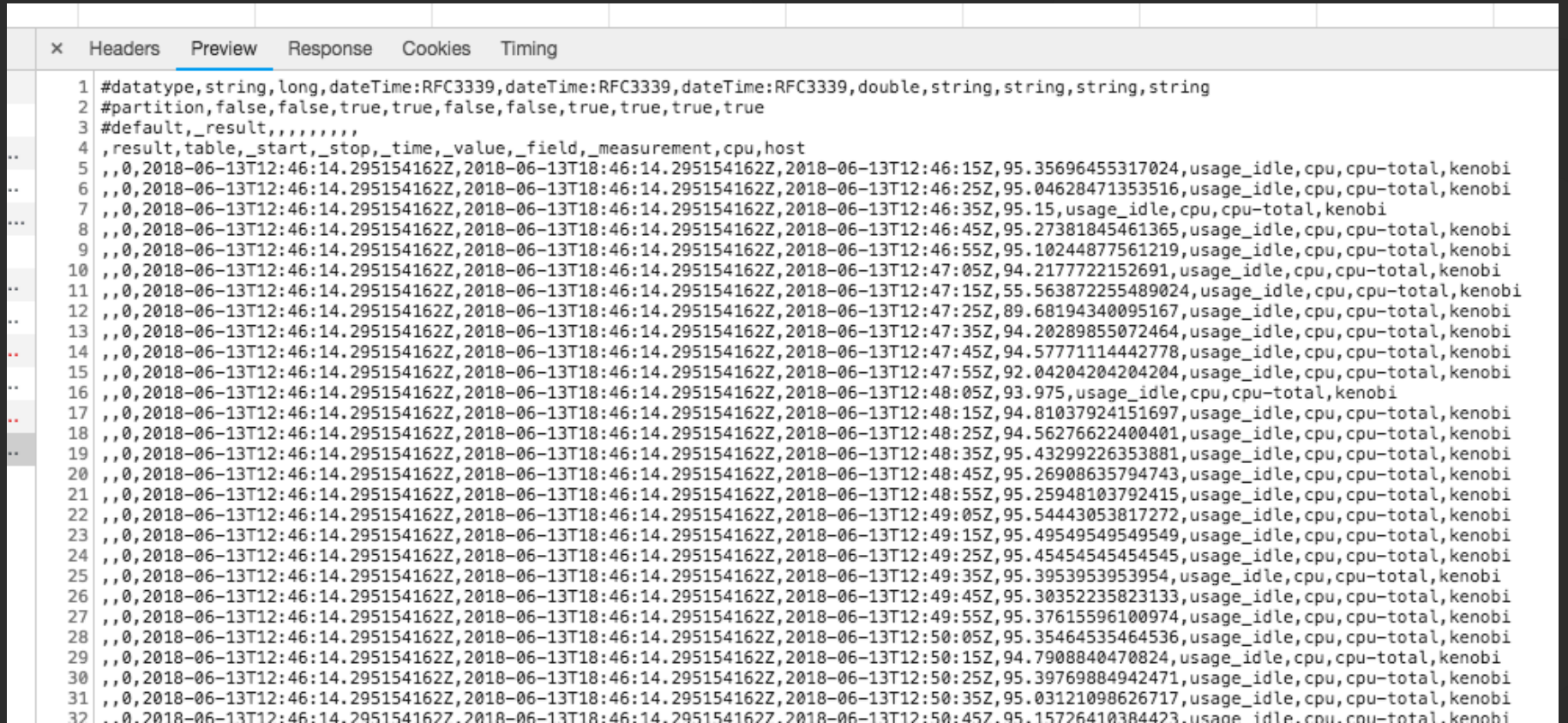
New response format: CSV



Headers | Preview | Response | Cookies | Timing

```
#datatype,string,long,dateTime:RFC3339,dateTime:RFC3339,dateTime:RFC3339,double,string,string,string,string
#partition,false,false,true,true,false,false,true,true,true,true
#default,_result,,,,,,,,,
,result,table,_start,_stop,_time,_value,_field,_measurement,cpu,host
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```

Getting Started With Flux

- Run latest influxd
  - https://portal.influxdata.com/downloads
  - Update your influxdb.conf to include

```
# ...
[http]
  # ...
  flux-enabled = true
  # ...
```

- Generate data
  - Telegraf

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Get started: Grafana datasource

- Get Grafana 5.3+
- Install Flux datasource plugin
  - https://github.com/grafana/influxdb-flux-datasource
  - Clone into your grafanas data/plugins
  - Restart Grafana
- Add your Flux datasource
- Add a dashboard
- Add a panel

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Demo

https://github.com/jtlisi/grafana_flux_demo

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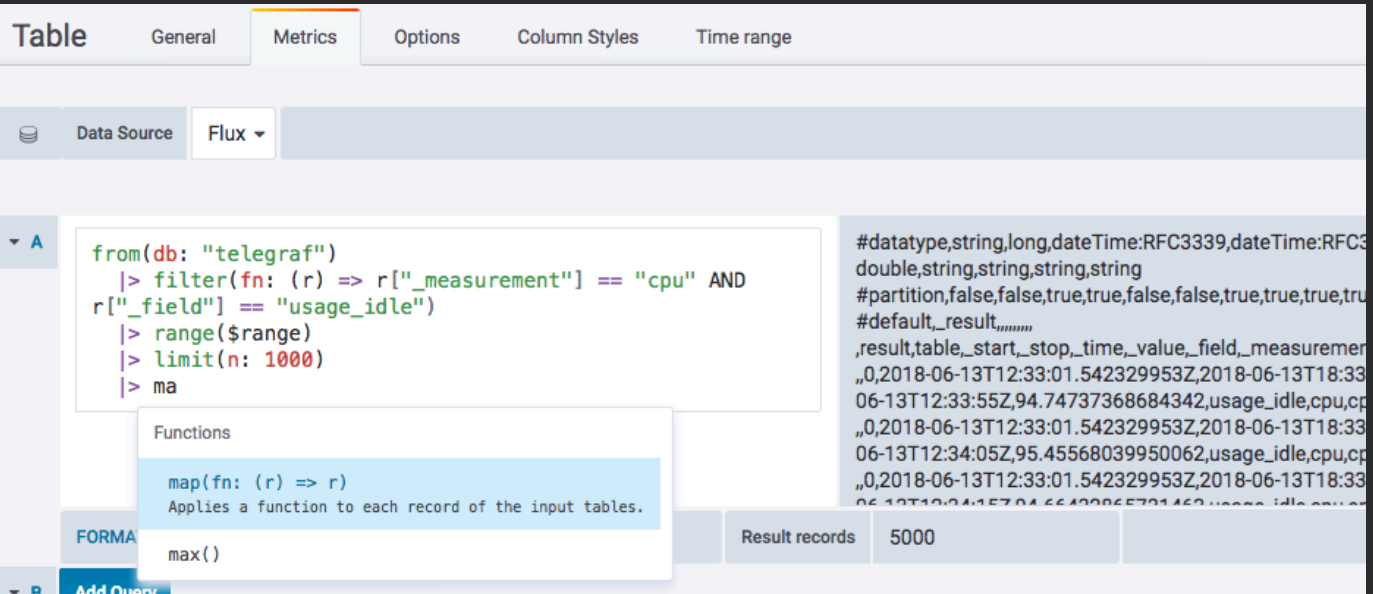
Datasource feature summary

- Syntax highlighting, tab completion, raw table preview
- Inline function documentation
- $range variable



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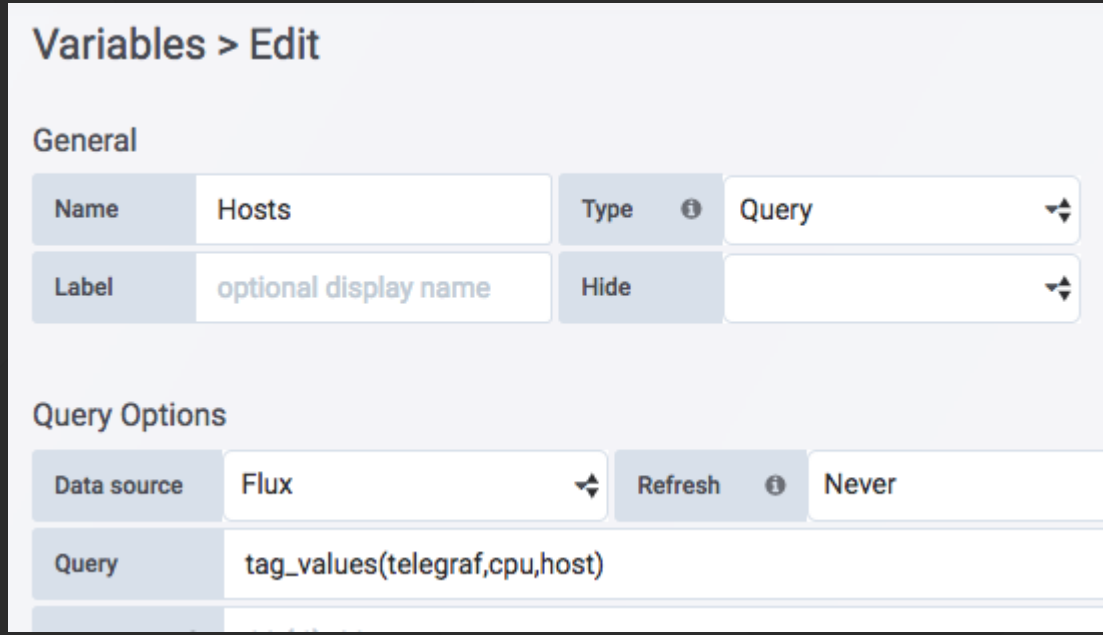
Datasource feature summary

- Shortcodes
- Template variables with helper functions
  - measurements()
  - field_keys()
  - tags()
  - tag_values()
- Annotations



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Roadmap

- Alerting
- UI improvements
- Improve Query Shortcuts
- Transitioning to a default plugin
- Dashboard Migrations?

Thanks for listening!
Questions?

@JacobLisi

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