

Anomaly Detection for Partially Observable Container Systems Based on Architecture Profiling

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Abstract: Managing and diagnosing faults in microservices architectures is a challenge, especially in a service provider environment that hosts third-party services. Solutions such as anomaly detection can help, as anomalies often indicate underlying problems that can lead to system failures. We develop an integrated solution that extracts microservice architecture knowledge and detects anomalies using the architecture knowledge to provide context for these anomalies. Our approach combines the use of latency thresholds with temporal distribution of latency anomalies to determine normal behavior of a system and detect deviations that point to faults. The solution proposed was validated using data from an Internet Service Provider's microservices system. We were able to identify critical components as key points of failure during fault conditions. The combined use of architecture mining and anomaly detection enabled us to analyse anomalies in depth.

1 INTRODUCTION

Microservices allow large applications to be split into smaller, independent services that are easier to manage and scale. This architectural style supports the development of applications that can be updated and deployed more frequently. However, the increased number of services and their interdependencies can lead to challenges in system monitoring and anomaly detection (von Leon et al.,). Thus, an effective anomaly analysis is crucial for ensuring the reliability and performance of microservices (Ikram et al., 2022). While much research has focused on anomaly detection in microservices using log analysis and statistical methods, there has been limited exploration of specialized tools that include architectural knowledge.

Our goal was to create a proof-of-concept framework that combines different approaches, including architecture mining and anomaly detection. We used BIRCH clustering as part of our hybrid method to extract knowledge from microservice trace logs and validate our results. We were able to better understand patterns of latency spikes, which in turn helped us to identify potential issues more accurately in terms of dependencies between components.

A challenging aspect of this project was to analyze the available data in order to understand how the microservices interacted and to identify the roles of key components in the system. The task was to un-

derstand how microservice behaviour, including their functions and how errors could propagate through the system. We used architecture mining to map the connections between the system components and understand the overall architectural pattern, and anomaly detection to identify abnormal behavior. Identifying whether components shared similar roles or supported different parts of the system was found to be critical to understand the architecture and dynamics of the system. A further constraint of our system was the assumed unavailability of system metrics such as CPU, network, memory or database utilization - which are typically essential for a deeper cause analysis.

We will address the following key questions:

RQ1 - Spatial Perspective: What architectural information can be extracted from traces to support anomaly detection? By mining trace logs, we were able to extract key architectural details, such as component interactions, dependencies, and data flow patterns. This is called the *spatial dimension* as we are interested in the structural architecture settings in terms of call/invoke dependencies and also distribution of components over hosts and resources.

RQ2 - Temporal Perspective: How exactly can anomalies be detected using trace logs? We identify anomalies by applying suitable latency thresholds and analyzing deviations from baseline system behavior. The analysis of trace logs revealed specific latency patterns that indicated abnormal behav-

ior, such as spikes in response times during fault injection periods. This is called the *temporal dimension* as we are primarily interested in the time-based change of anomalies, e.g., to distinguish sudden and gradual changes in so-called anomaly patterns.

2 BACKGROUND

Microservices architecture allows an application to be divided into independent and small services. We worked with microservices deployed using Docker (Merkel, 2014). Each container runs an application and shares the host operating system's kernel while remaining isolated from other containers. This isolation ensures that containers do not interfere with one another, even though they share the same system resources (Scolati et al., 2020).

Tracing is a technique used to monitor how requests move through different services in a microservice system. Each trace logs the request's path, capturing the services involved and step durations (Sigelman et al., 2010). As (Dragoni et al., 2017) emphasize, effective tracing can significantly enhance the ability to pinpoint performance bottlenecks and diagnose the root causes of issues.

Anomaly detection involves identifying patterns that deviate from the norm, which could indicate potential problems such as unexpected latency spikes, increased error rates, or unusual resource usage. For microservices, where services are distributed and interdependent, early detection of anomalies is essential to prevent cascading failures and maintain system reliability. Threshold-based approaches use specific limits set for acceptable performance metrics. Behavioral comparison methods (Forsberg, 2019) analyse system behavior against established baselines.

3 RELATED WORK

Research in microservices has aimed to improve analyses by creating tools to monitor and diagnose system issues. Various studies have focused on tracing and logging methods to understand system behavior, especially during failures (Fonseca et al., 2007). For instance, X-Trace tracks the path of requests through a system, crucial for pinpointing where problems start and how they spread. Other tools, (Sigelman et al., 2010), automate tracing to manage the complexity of microservices without extensive manual effort.

(Forsberg, 2019) introduces a method for anomaly detection and root cause analysis in microservice environments by learning normal behav-

ior patterns and identifying deviations. It emphasizes the importance of modeling normal behavior to effectively detect deviations that signify faults. (Mohamed and El-Gayar, 2021) studied the impact of CPU and network utilization on latency in microservices, highlighting that network utilization is a significant contributor to latency spikes. High CPU utilization often lead to consistent performance degradation, while network congestion tends to cause abrupt and unpredictable latency spikes. (Komosny, 2022) showed that anomalies typically occur when latency exceeds 150 ms in many applications. To understand latency distribution in our specific context, we use a study of wireless ISPs (Sundberg S. and S., 2024). This study showed that many subnets had latencies above 50 ms, but only a few exceeded 100 ms. Based on this finding, we decided to use a threshold of 100 ms to focus on significant outliers in our similar ISP context.

A latency of 100 ms can mimic a network disruption that only affects directly connected services (Yu et al., 2024). Their findings highlight the importance of network topologies when analyzing latency spikes, as the impact of faults can vary depending component connections. To address CPU and memory faults, we looked at (Samir and Pahl, 2020), which uses Hidden Markov Models (HMMs) to detect problems such as CPU hogs and memory leaks.

Finally, (Wang et al., 2023) provided insight into how Increased message rates can lead to spikes in CPU and memory usage, which in turn can lead to latency variations (Wang et al., 2023), highlighting the importance of monitoring message rates as an indicator of underlying issues that could escalate.

4 ARCHITECTURE MINING

This section presents our architecture mining method, focusing on analyzing the components and their interactions in terms of call dependencies and architecture patterns for different component types as formulated in the first research question. This creates an architectural profile. We evaluate the accuracy and completeness of these results to ensure a thorough understanding of the microservice system's structure.

4.1 Trace Log Dataset

The main objectives of our study were to identify the system's architecture type and extract a detailed call graph that reflects the interactions between components. We performed trace log mining to extract this architecture information. We used a dataset of trace logs from a real ISP microservice system as a found-

dition for our research¹. This was used to map the system architecture and analyze error patterns by using the same dataset as Li et al. for their experiments (Li et al., 2021).

Table 1: Excerpt of the trace log (rca_2020_04_22.csv).

trace_id	latency	succ	source	target	timestamp
5b93517183b7e8235950	3	TRUE	docker_008	db_003	1587484800127
5b93517183b7e8235950	2	TRUE	docker_008	db_003	1587484800132
5b93517183b7e8235950	2	TRUE	docker_008	docker_008	1587484800127
5b93517183b7e8235950	46	TRUE	docker_001	docker_008	1587484800099
5b93517183b7e8235950	0	TRUE	docker_001	docker_001	1587484800088
5b93517183b7e8235950	2	TRUE	docker_008	db_003	1587484800154
5b93517183b7e8235950	3	TRUE	docker_008	db_003	1587484800157
5b93517183b7e8235950	1	TRUE	docker_008	docker_008	1587484800154
5b93517183b7e8235950	3	TRUE	docker_008	db_003	1587484800164
5b93517183b7e8235950	1	TRUE	docker_008	docker_008	1587484800163

Table 1 shows a screenshot of the ‘rca_2020_04_22.csv’ trace log file, which logs interactions between different components of the system such as containers and databases. Each column in the table represents a different aspect of the interaction: a unique identifier for each trace, the latency value, a success indicator, source and target of the interaction, and a timestamp.

This data structure is the basis for analyzing the dependencies between microservices, and for validating that the recorded interactions match the fault injection events documented in a separate file. Overall, 5 different types of CPU, network and storage faults were injected (Li et al., 2021).

4.2 Call Dependencies and Patterns

The objectives of this analysis were to:

- Extract the structure of the architecture by identifying call dependencies and creating a graph that maps calling and called components.
- Determine the application type of the architecture, such as identifying a generic architecture pattern like load balancing.

For instance, (Poonam and Sangwan, 2020) provide important insights into load balancing mechanisms, especially the round-robin algorithm. This helped us identify patterns in our system that indicated a balanced distribution of requests across components and were consistent with load balancing behavior. This understanding was critical to analyzing how our system handled interactions and distributed workloads.

In order to extract this information, the pre-processed logs are parsed and analysed. We extracted and visualized the interactions between components, with the length of the lines automatically adjusted to correspond to the number of interactions, thereby pro-

viding a clear representation of communication intensity between components. Additionally, we extracted a depiction of the system architecture, highlighting the layers of interactions and the role of each component. This form was crucial for identifying the load balancing pattern behavior and understanding the overall data flow within the system.

The architecture mining steps are:

- **Data Collection and Preparation:** We imported the log trace file to analyze component interactions, and used the faults file to determine the timing and location of fault injections.
- **Component Identification:** To identify and categorize the unique components within the system, we used the source and target columns from the interaction data. This allowed us to group the components into three main categories based on their roles and interactions within the system.
- **Interaction Analysis:** By analyzing the flow of requests and responses, we mapped the interactions between these components. This helped us understand the communication patterns and dependencies within the system. Visual representations of these interactions help in identifying paths and understanding the structure.

Below, we illustrate the architecture mining techniques for the ISP use case in order to illustrate their function and usefulness.

4.2.1 Structure and Call Dependencies

Through our analysis, we determined from the call dependencies that the system had a well-defined microservices architecture, with components such as os_021 and os_022 acting as the main entry points for user requests. These components evenly distributed requests across backend services, helping to manage load and avoid bottlenecks.

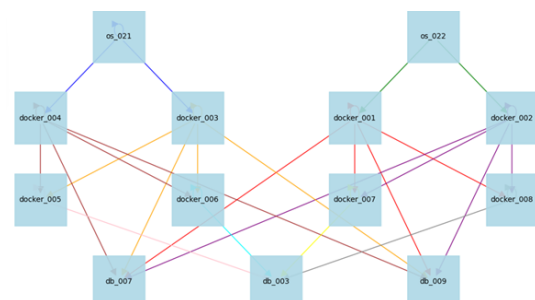


Figure 1: Call dependencies: interactions between Docker containers and databases within the system.

As shown in Figure 1, we observed that certain docker containers (docker_001, docker_002,

¹<https://github.com/NetManAIOps/TraceRCA>

docker_003, docker_004) handled tasks that appeared central to the system's processing, suggesting that these could be considered core services. Other containers (docker_005, docker_006, docker_007, docker_008) seemed to manage additional tasks that supported the core functions. The system's databases (db_003, db_007, db_009) handled data storage operations, with interactions focused on storing data.

Based on the trace data, we found that most of the interactions between the components appeared to be synchronous. This conclusion was drawn from the observation of sequential, low-latency events, where one component waited for a response from another before proceeding. We also observed some interactions with higher latency and less tightly grouped timing. This suggested the possibility of asynchronous communication in certain cases, where the initiating component did not immediately depend on a response to continue processing.

Overall, we observed a predominantly synchronous communication pattern, with possible exceptions where timing and latency differed.

4.2.2 Invocations and Patterns

We performed an analysis of call paths and trace ID distribution to gain insight into the flow of requests and interaction patterns within the microservices architecture.

Examining the distribution of interaction rows, it was evident that user requests were initially handled by os_021 and os_022, which balanced the traffic before passing it on to core processing services such as docker_001 and docker_002. These services in turn interact with the system's databases (such as db_007 and db_009) for data management tasks.

The trace ID distribution showed that external requests were split evenly between os_021 and os_022, with core tasks handled by docker_001 through docker_004. Supporting docker containers handled specialized tasks. This was reflected in the higher number of unique trace IDs. Each database handled a similar number of trace IDs, and the volume of trace IDs processed by the databases was double that of docker containers interacting with them.

Thus, we can confirm a load balancing pattern with respective roles of the respective components.

4.3 Evaluation of Architecture Mining

We focused on two evaluation criteria: accuracy and completeness. Our goal was to ensure that the system's architecture was accurately mapped, identifying all critical components and their interactions without missing any significant elements. In addition,

we evaluated the validity of the architecture, ensuring that it reflected the real-world system and adhered to established patterns in microservice systems.

To ensure the accuracy and reliability of our architecture mapping, we used a combination of manual verification and automated cross-checking. We compared the generated architecture maps and component profiles to system documentation and prior research to validate the identified components and their interactions. Our goal was to verify that the interactions recorded in the rca_2020_04_22.csv file matched the fault injection details, including date, time, and affected components, as documented in the ret_info.csv file. Automated scripts were used to perform consistency checks to ensure that dependencies and interactions were accurately represented throughout the system. This cross-verification was critical to confirm that the observed interactions were correctly aligned with the times when faults were injected, ensuring that our analysis of the system architecture was based on accurate and reliable data.

5 DETECTION OF ANOMALIES

In order to address the second research question, we discuss the discovery of anomalies in a microservice architecture drawing on the architecture mining results. To identify anomalous behavior, the obtained results are examined in terms of failure rates and latency values. The focus of the assessment criterion for these outcomes is completeness and correctness.

5.1 Methodology

The objective is to detect anomalies within the ISP system by analyzing trace logs for signs of abnormal behavior. This involved observing latencies to establish a baseline and identify potential issues. We employed a threshold-based anomaly detection approach to identify significant deviations in system performance (Ahmed et al., 2016). This method involves setting specific latency thresholds to differentiate between normal and abnormal behavior, enabling the identification of potential anomalies effectively. Additionally, we analyzed success and failure rates to further investigate the presence of anomalies.

5.2 Threshold-Based Anomalies

We present how anomalies can be detected using trace logs within a microservices architecture. We explore different methods to identify anomalies by analyzing latency and interaction patterns across the system.

We introduce first our approach to detecting anomalies using predefined latency thresholds, including a detailed analysis of 100ms and 50ms thresholds, which we selected as suitable based on the literature review above for the specific ISP setting. Then, we examine the anomaly patterns identified in the data, highlighting how specific latency spikes correlate with system faults. Afterwards, we compare the baseline latency before and after fault injections to further validate our anomaly detection methods.

This builds on (Komosny, 2022) and (Sundberg S. and S., 2024) that suggest that latency thresholds (150 ms and 100 ms, respectively) are effective in detecting performance anomalies in our setting. (Reed and Perigo, 2024) provide insights into latency variations under load, with under-250 ms latencies typically being non-disruptive. (Forsberg, 2019) emphasizes the importance of learning normal system behavior to identify deviations.

The goals of our anomaly detection here were to:

- Identify abnormal behaviors in the system, particularly focusing on deviations in latency, error rates, and interaction patterns.
- Establish thresholds and rules to detect anomalies and distinguish them from normal system operations.

Unusual patterns were found by analyzing data in the trace logs after they had been organized and prepared for analysis, with a particular focus on latency values. As an illustration, we visualized the spread of latency values over time. We plotted the latency distribution across different time periods, clearly showing when anomalies were detected. It also highlighted specific time frames where spikes occurred, with a focus on the number of interactions that exceeded the set threshold. This visualization was key to understanding when and how the system's performance deviated from its normal behavior, helping to pinpoint the moments when faults were introduced (i.e., anomalies occurred).

In our study, we applied the insights from the literature to implement a latency threshold approach for anomaly detection. We chose a 100 ms threshold based on the literature and validated this against the (Li et al., 2021) dataset. Forsberg's approach guided us in establishing baseline metrics, allowing us to detect significant deviations. Additionally, we incorporated success/failure rates as an anomaly indicator, marking any unsuccessful request as an anomaly.

- **Latency-Based Anomaly Detection:** We implemented two approaches for anomaly detection: one based on a predefined latency threshold, and the other using the maximum latency observed

during the pre-fault period as the benchmark. Python was utilized to automate the entire process, from calculating latency values to threshold analyses and generating relevant statistics.

- **Success/Failure-Based Anomaly Detection:** In addition to latency-based detection, we utilized failure analysis to identify anomalies. We monitored requests that failed to complete successfully and analyzed the corresponding time periods to determine components with higher failure rates, which pointed to potential issues.

In the following subsections, we present the results of the anomaly detection techniques applied to the ISP use case, demonstrating their effectiveness and practical value in identifying system issues taking into account the architectural roles and interactions from the mining part.

5.2.1 Anomaly Threshold Calibration

To detect anomalies effectively, we implemented a threshold-based approach. The calibration of these thresholds was based on literature settings specific to the architectural container setting that applies here. Thus, we analyzed latency data using both 100ms and 50ms thresholds. These thresholds help to identify spikes in response times that indicate abnormal behavior, especially during fault injection periods.

We evaluated each component based on latency statistics, including minimum, maximum, average, and median latency, as well as the number of interactions and unique trace IDs that exceeded the analysed thresholds.

Anomaly Patterns and Rates. The length (duration) of the critical system state and its change in significance – i.e., the temporal latency spike distribution – are important elements of a deep analysis.

We capture different temporal changes in the latency anomalies for the components in form of patterns such as gradual or steep increases (Azimi and Pahl, 2024). The count of latencies over a given period is also a factor. ROCOF resembles the count of latency anomalies we use here for given period to distinguish gradual and sharp increases of latency anomalies, i.e., lower or higher ROCOF values in that case.

Analysis with Defined Threshold of 100ms. We analyse this in terms of anomalies per interaction, component and trace.

Core statistics: In our analysis of the statistical data for all components, we observed that `docker_004`,

os_021, and db_009 exhibited significantly higher maximum latencies compared to other components, which indicated potential anomalies within these parts of the system. Additionally, os_021 and os_022 had higher mean and median latencies, which could suggest that these components experienced consistent latency issues or were more involved in interactions, potentially handling a higher volume of requests or more complex tasks.

The substantial number of interactions and distinct trace IDs exceeding the 100ms threshold across all components indicated that this threshold was appropriate. To confirm, we also analyzed the system using a 50ms threshold, which showed consistent relative differences in component behavior, reinforcing our decision to use the 100ms threshold.

Anomaly counts per Interaction: From our analysis of the data, docker_004 had more interactions as a source component than any other component, with a particularly high count of interactions with itself (2,081). Notably, when os_021 and os_022 were the source components, they recorded nearly the same number of interactions, with counts around 2,000. This pattern indicated that these components were more involved in high-latency interactions, underscoring their critical role in the system’s operations during fault conditions.

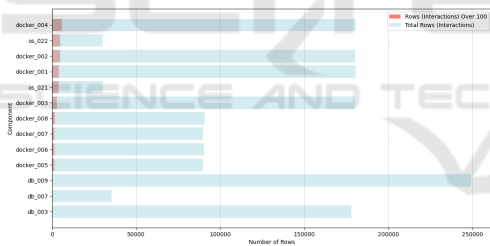


Figure 2: Comparison of Interactions with Latency Over 100ms and Total Interaction Counts per Component.

Anomaly counts per Component: Figure 2 compares the number of interactions with latency exceeding 100ms to the total interaction counts per component. We observed that os_021 and os_022 had the highest proportion of interactions over 100ms, followed by docker_001 through docker_004. This indicated that these components were more prone to latency issues, likely due to their roles in handling primary interactions where fault was injected.

In contrast, the databases exhibited the lowest ratios of high-latency interactions, suggesting they were less affected by fault conditions. These findings directed our anomaly detection focus towards os_021, os_022, and the core docker containers.

Anomaly counts per Trace: Figure 3 compares the

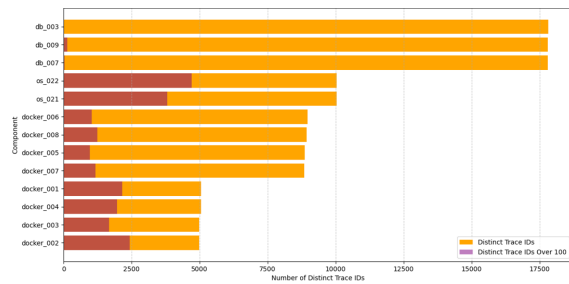


Figure 3: Number of Distinct Trace IDs and Distinct Trace IDs with Latency Over 100ms per Component.

total number of distinct trace IDs to those with latencies exceeding 100ms for each component. We observed that the databases had the highest number of distinct trace IDs overall, indicating their extensive involvement in system interactions. However, their lower proportion of trace IDs exceeding the 100ms threshold suggests these databases generally maintained efficient performance under fault conditions.

In contrast, components like os_021, os_022, and docker_001 through docker_004 showed a higher proportion of distinct trace IDs exceeding the 100ms latency threshold. This finding indicates that these components were more susceptible to performance degradation during fault conditions.

When comparing this data to the earlier analysis of interaction counts (Figure 2), it became more apparent through trace ID analysis which components were consistently involved in interactions that exceeded the latency threshold, highlighting the components most affected during the fault conditions.

Analysis with Defined Threshold of 50ms. The 50ms threshold analysis revealed similar latency patterns to those observed at the 100ms threshold. While the 50ms threshold captured a broader range of latency issues, it did not alter the overall conclusions regarding the impact of fault injection compared to the 100ms analysis.

5.2.2 Anomaly Patterns and Architecture-Based Anomaly Clusters

In judging latency anomalies, two dimensions are important: the changing scale of the latency over time and the rate of latency occurrences over time (temporal distribution of spikes).

In Figure 4, we observed a specific latency pattern: multiple significant latency spikes that also increase occurring approximately 5 minutes into the observation period, with the effects lasting for about 5 minutes. These spikes were most pronounced in docker_004 and os_021, indicating that these com-

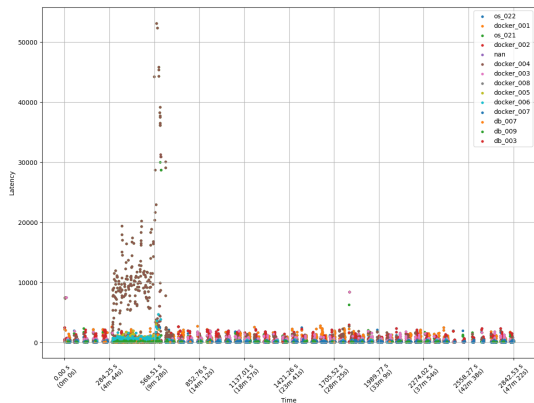


Figure 4: Scale of Latency Over Time for Each Component: Increasing Latency Spikes Pattern.

ponents were particularly impacted by the injected fault during this time. Other components exhibited relatively stable latency levels throughout the period, which aligns with the anomaly detection results from previous analyses.

In Figure 5, we can see that the count of latency rows exceeding the 100ms threshold over time for each component. We observed that `docker_004`, `docker_005`, `docker_006`, `db_007`, and `db_009` exhibited similar patterns, indicating their involvement in the same fault-affected communication path. We call this an *anomaly cluster* of dependent components where we have a causal dependency confirmed through the architecture mining. In contrast, other components maintained more stable counts of high-latency interactions, suggesting they were less impacted by the fault. This observation aligned with earlier findings, highlighting the critical role these components played during the fault condition.

Figure 6 shows a significant drop in interactions for multiple components around the time of fault injection, indicating the fault’s immediate impact on overall system activity. We observed that `docker_001` through `docker_004` experienced a sharp decline in interactions, followed by a recovery period. The components appeared to be impacted according to their level of interactions, with three distinct levels of interaction counts becoming evident. The synchronization of these drops across several components suggested a coordinated response to the fault, likely due to their dependencies. Meanwhile, components like `os_021` and `os_022` maintained a relatively stable interaction count, indicating a different role and overall number of interactions as confirmed by the architecture mining as entry points after the load balancer.

Failure Analysis. While the main focus in this investigation was on latency anomalies, we briefly look

at failure as well. We observed that all Docker components had similar numbers of failed interactions, with failures being relatively small compared to the overall number of interactions. Notably, all failures were isolated to interactions within the components themselves, rather than in their communications with other components. This suggests that while the faults affected the internal processing within each Docker instance, the inter-component communication remained stable, demonstrating the resilience of the overall system architecture to contain and manage faults at the component level.

Figure 7 shows a sharp increase in failures for several components around the time of fault injection. However, the overall number of failures remained relatively low compared to the total number of traces. Despite the spike, the pattern of failures was consistent with other observations, reinforcing the presence of an anomaly during the fault period.

5.2.3 Baseline Latency Comparison

We identified a significant number of interactions that exceeded the maximum latency observed during the pre-fault period, particularly in `docker_004`. For example, during self-interactions, `docker_004` had 663 rows that exceeded this threshold, indicating a clear anomaly. Similarly, its interactions with `docker_005` and `docker_006`, as well as `os_021`’s interactions with `docker_004`, also showed significant increases. These findings point to `docker_004` and its related interactions as key areas where anomalies occurred.

Figure 8 shows that before the fault injection, the latency patterns of all components over time were consistent and recognizable. Each component exhibited stable latency levels with no significant spikes, indicating that the system was functioning normally.

The scatter plot in Figure 9 reveals significant latency spikes during the fault injection period, particularly in components such as `os_021` and `docker_004`. These spikes highlighted the components most affected by the anomaly.

5.3 Evaluation of Anomaly Detection

We focused on accuracy, assessing how well the methods identified anomalies, and completeness, ensuring that significant anomalies were detected.

We evaluated our anomaly detection approach by first determining the most suitable latency threshold (50 ms or 100 ms) for identifying issues in the system. After selecting the threshold, we compared the results of this threshold-based detection with a normal behavior approach, where anomalies were identified by deviations from pre-fault maximum laten-

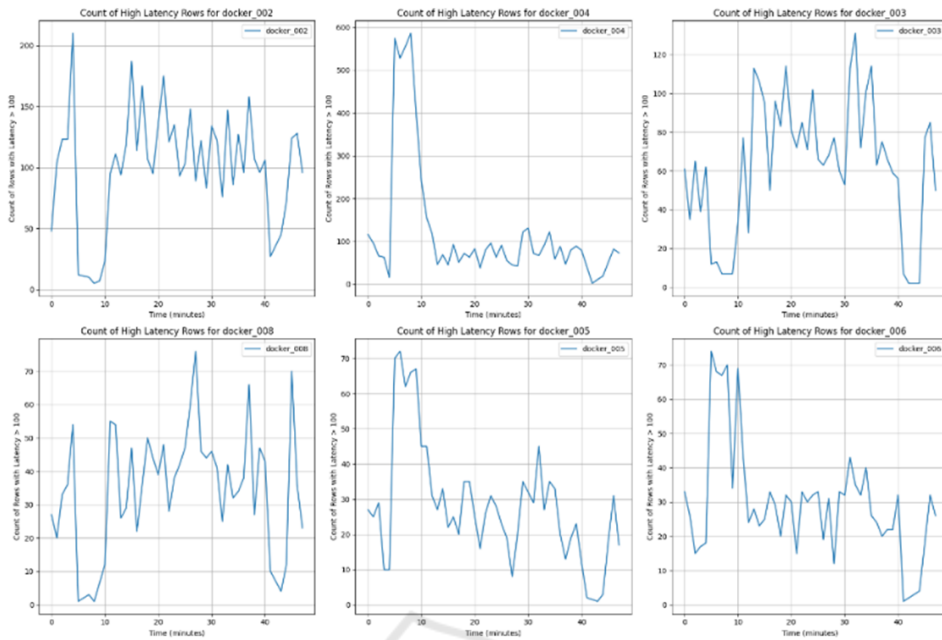


Figure 5: Count of Latency Interactions Exceeding 100ms Over Time for Each Component: Rate of Latency Occurrences.

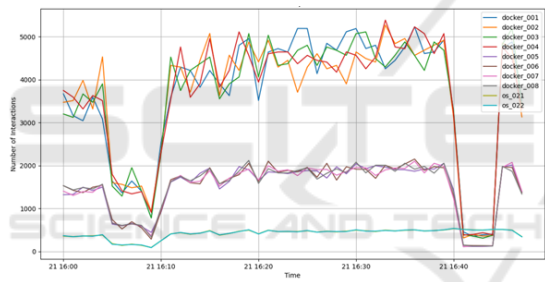


Figure 6: Fault impact: Interactions Per Component Over Time.

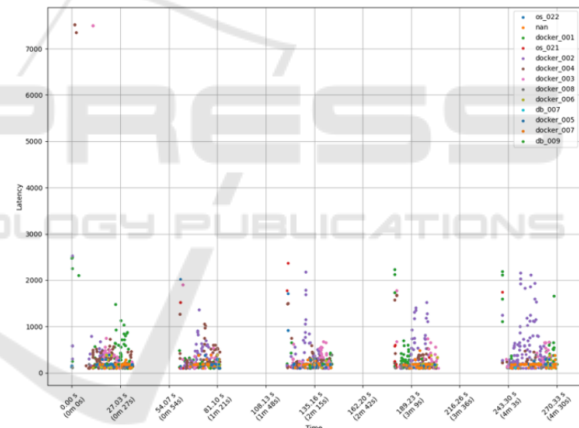


Figure 8: Latency Over Time for Each Component (Before Fault Injection).

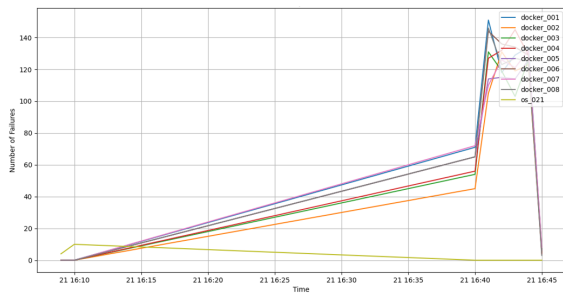


Figure 7: Failures Per Component Over Time.

cies. This comparison assessed the consistency of anomaly detection across different methods. Additionally, we incorporated failure analysis as a metric to detect anomalies. By monitoring and analyzing requests that failed to complete successfully (success flag set to FALSE), we identified components with higher failure rates, which indicated potential anom-

lies within those areas of the system. By using both the threshold-based and normal behavior approaches, as well as incorporating failure rate analysis, we ensured that no significant issues were overlooked.

6 CONCLUSIONS

We developed an integrated approach for diagnosing faults in a microservices architecture. We mined logs to extract microservices architecture knowledge and effectively identified anomalies using latency thresholds based on architecture knowledge. Our work provided detailed insight into the structure of the system,

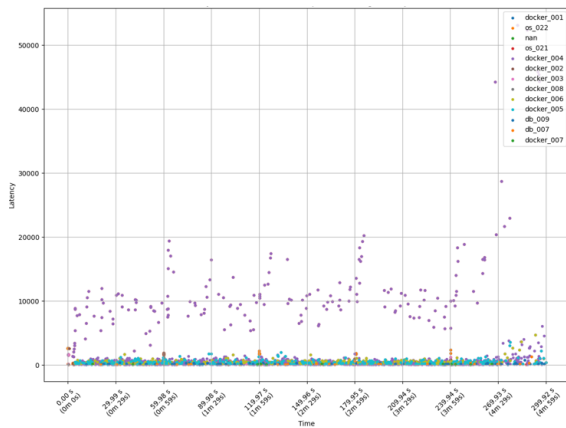


Figure 9: Latency Over Time for Each Component (During Fault Injection).

helping to identify performance issues.

By demonstrating the effectiveness of a hybrid approach that combines core architecture knowledge with latency anomalies, this work contributes to the development of more resilient and fault-tolerant distributed systems. We demonstrated that specific patterns (architecture patterns such as load balancing or anomaly change patterns such as gradual or steep increases) can be identified and that this type of knowledge is useful to complement other monitoring insights, without being comprehensive in terms of pattern coverage here. Our aim was a proof-of-concept solution to demonstrate the utility of the approach.

Future research will add to automation, e.g., remediation processes to complement our anomaly detection in root cause analyses (Pahl, 2023). Currently, the core of knowledge mining and anomaly detection is automated, but not all pattern types are covered and rely still on manual classification.

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