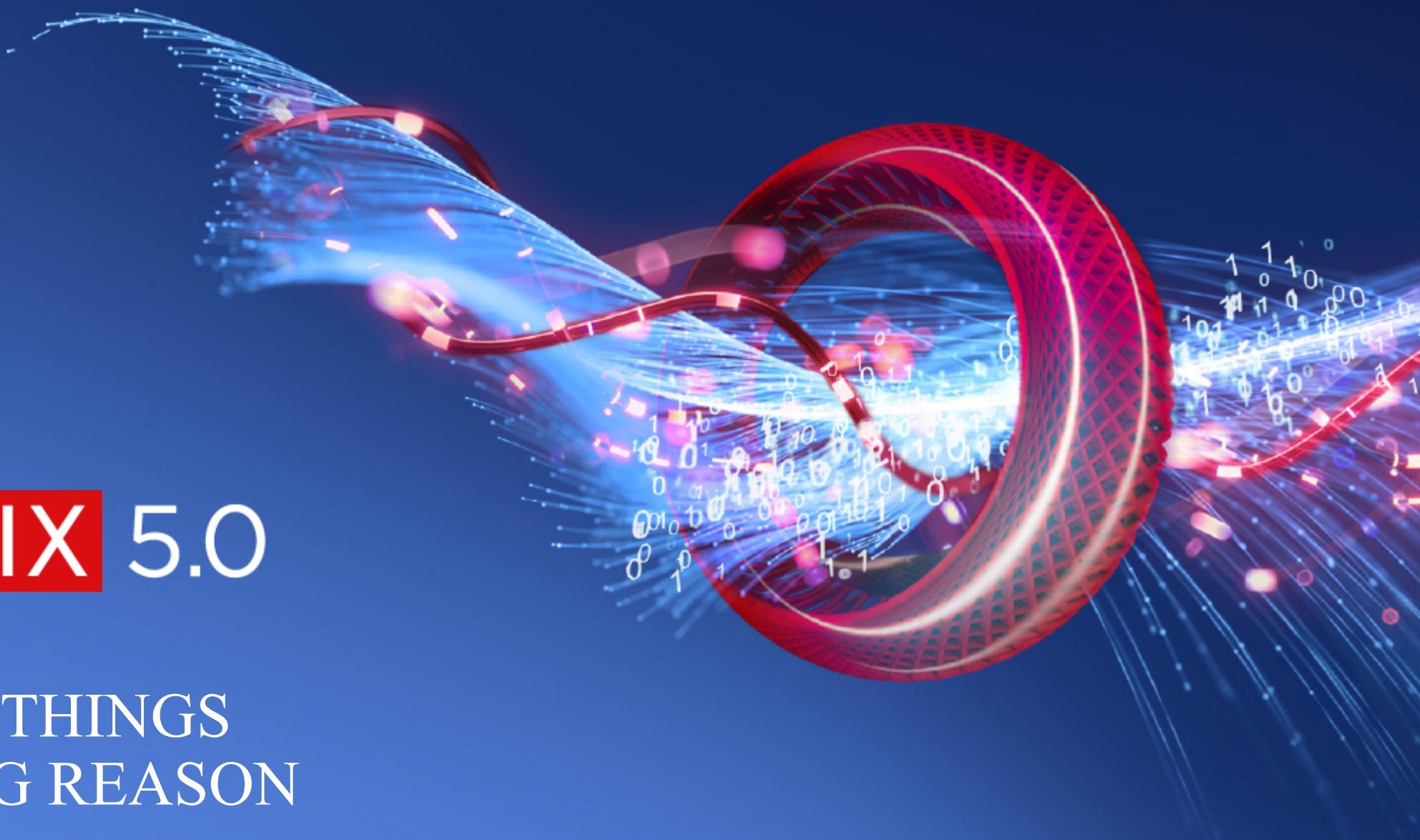


ZABBIX 5.0

5 SMALL THINGS
FOR A BIG REASON



01

NANOSECOND SUPPORT ZABBIX SENDER INPUT FILE

- ④ A new Zabbix Sender option
- ④ Allows to support nanoseconds in Zabbix sender input file. This option can be used together with the --with-timestamps option
- ④ This option specifies that each line of the input file contains the following, whitespace-delimited <host> <key> <timestamp> <ns> <value>



ZABBIX SENDER

WHAT IT IS AND WHERE TO USE IT (BEFORE 5.0)

- Light-weight, easy to install utility
- Used to send data to Zabbix server/proxy trapper item
- Most commonly seen in external scripts that are running outside of Zabbix

```
shell> cd bin  
shell> ./zabbix_sender -z zabbix -s "Linux DB3" -k db.connections -o 43
```

- Input file support with --input-file ; -i
- Timestamp support --with-timestamps ; -T

```
Input file format  
<hostname> <key> <timestamp> <value>
```

ZABBIX SENDER

WHY IT WAS A PROBLEM

- Some database replication solution require Primary keys on all tables (Galera, Innodb Cluster)
- In Zabbix Database there are tables without primary keys (history ...)

What is a primary key in MySQL?

In MySQL, a primary key is a single field or combination of fields that uniquely defines a record. None of the fields that are part of the primary key can contain a NULL value. A table can have only one primary key.

- How can we solve it? Manually add primary keys!

ZABBIX SENDER PRIMARY KEYS

- Default history table structure looks like this:

```
MariaDB [zabbix]> show create table history;
+-----+-----+
| Table | Create Table
+-----+-----+
| history | CREATE TABLE `history` (
  `itemid` bigint(20) unsigned NOT NULL,
  `clock` int(11) NOT NULL DEFAULT '0',
  `value` double(16,4) NOT NULL DEFAULT '0.0000',
  `ns` int(11) NOT NULL DEFAULT '0',
  KEY `history_1` (`itemid`,`clock`)
) ENGINE=InnoDB DEFAULT CHARSET=utf8 COLLATE=utf8_bin |
+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

- Two options that I personally have seen
 - > Alter table history add primary key (itemid, clock, ns) – **Good!**
 - > Alter table history add primary key (itemid, clock) – Not that good..

ZABBIX SENDER ONCE AGAIN – WHY IT IS A PROBLEM?

```
[root@meetup tmp]# cat /tmp/input.txt
ZabbixRocks item 1589529351 5
[root@meetup tmp]#
[root@meetup tmp]#
[root@meetup tmp]# zabbix_sender -z 127.0.0.1 -i /tmp/input.txt -T
Response from "127.0.0.1:10051": "processed: 5; failed: 0; total: 5; seconds spent: 0.000521"
sent: 5; skipped: 0; total: 5
```

```
7093:20200507:233629.509 [Z3005] query failed: [1062] Duplicate entry '28754-1589529351-0' for key 'PRIMARY' [insert into history (itemid,clock,ns,value) values (28754,1589529351,0,5.000000);
]
7093:20200507:233629.510 [Z3005] query failed: [1062] Duplicate entry '28754-1589529351-1' for key 'PRIMARY' [insert into history (itemid,clock,ns,value) values (28754,1589529351,1,5.000000);
]
7093:20200507:233629.510 [Z3005] query failed: [1062] Duplicate entry '28754-1589529351-2' for key 'PRIMARY' [insert into history (itemid,clock,ns,value) values (28754,1589529351,2,5.000000);
]
7093:20200507:233629.510 [Z3005] query failed: [1062] Duplicate entry '28754-1589529351-3' for key 'PRIMARY' [insert into history (itemid,clock,ns,value) values (28754,1589529351,3,5.000000);
]
7093:20200507:233629.510 [Z3005] query failed: [1062] Duplicate entry '28754-1589529351-4' for key 'PRIMARY' [insert into history (itemid,clock,ns,value) values (28754,1589529351,4,5.000000);
```

ZABBIX SENDER NANOSECOND SUPPORT

- Use additional Zabbix-sender options -N ; --with-ns

```
Input file format
```

```
<hostname> <key> <timestamp> <nanoseconds> <value>
```

```
[root@meetup tmp]# cat input.txt
ZabbixRocks item 1589529351 123 5
ZabbixRocks item 1589529351 234 5
ZabbixRocks item 1589529351 345 5
ZabbixRocks item 1589529351 456 5
ZabbixRocks item 1589529351 567 5
[root@meetup tmp]#
[root@meetup tmp]#
[root@meetup tmp]# zabbix_sender -z 127.0.0.1 -i /tmp/input.txt -T --with-ns -vv
zabbix_sender [8323]: DEBUG: answer [{"response":"success","info":"processed: 5; failed: 0; total: 5; seconds spent: 0.000099"}]
Response from "127.0.0.1:10051": "processed: 5; failed: 0; total: 5; seconds spent: 0.000099"
sent: 5; skipped: 0; total: 5
```

```
MariaDB [zabbix]> select * from history where itemid = 28754;
+-----+-----+-----+
| itemid | clock      | value   | ns    |
+-----+-----+-----+
| 28754 | 1589529351 | 5.0000  | 123   |
| 28754 | 1589529351 | 5.0000  | 234   |
| 28754 | 1589529351 | 5.0000  | 345   |
| 28754 | 1589529351 | 5.0000  | 456   |
| 28754 | 1589529351 | 5.0000  | 567   |
+-----+-----+-----+
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

02

NODATA TRIGGERS AND PROXY AVAILABILITY

- ⌚ nodata() triggers are now, by default, sensitive to proxy availability
- ⌚ Turn off sensitiveness to proxy availability with new parameter nodata(5m,strict)
- ⌚ Avoid massive event storms and other issues because of single proxy

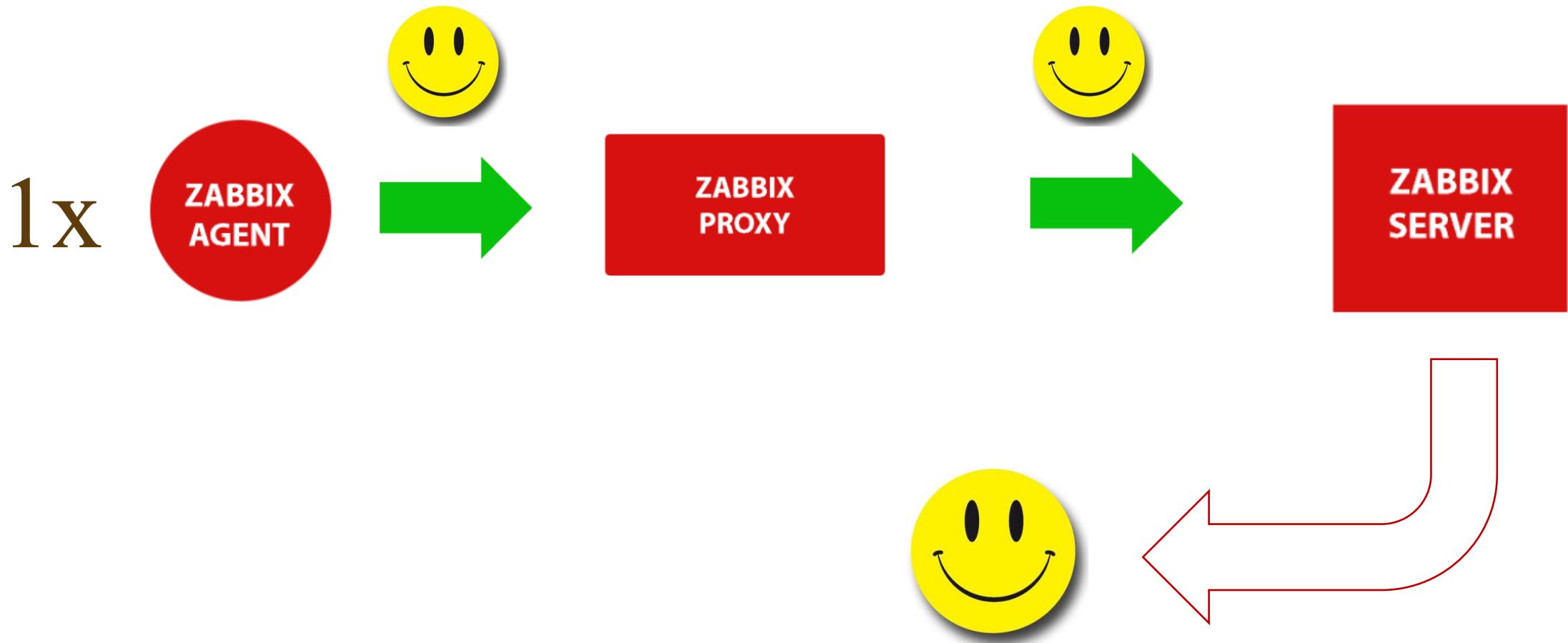


NODATA TRIGGERS AND PROXY AVAILABILITY BACKGROUND

[ZBXNEXT-1891](#) – Implicit trigger dependency when monitored via proxy (2003)

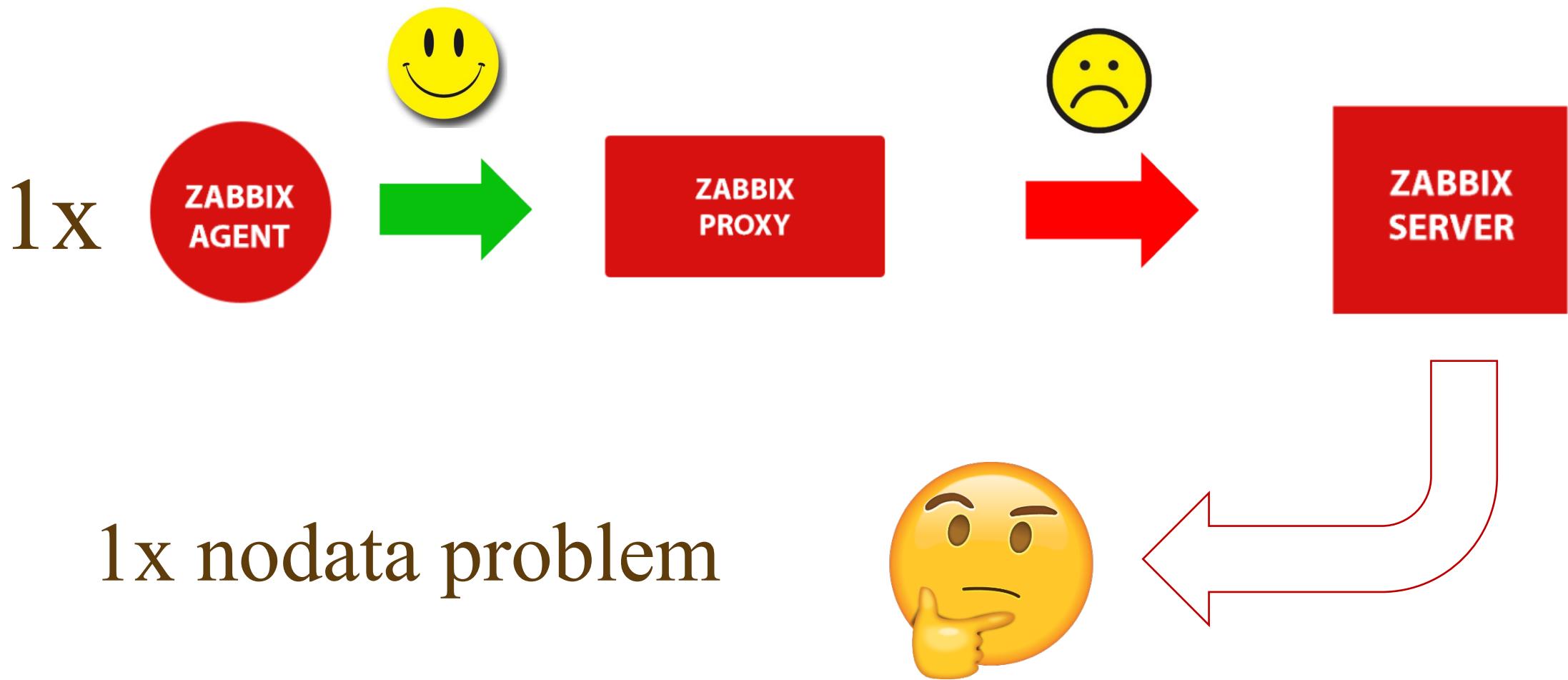
- nodata() trigger function – Checking for no data received
- If host is monitored by proxy, but proxy can't report data to server = no data
- Event and alert storms, other performance issues
- nodata() triggers are used in official Zabbix agent templates
- nodata() triggers are not bad! You can and should use them!

NODATA TRIGGERS LET'S VISUALIZE

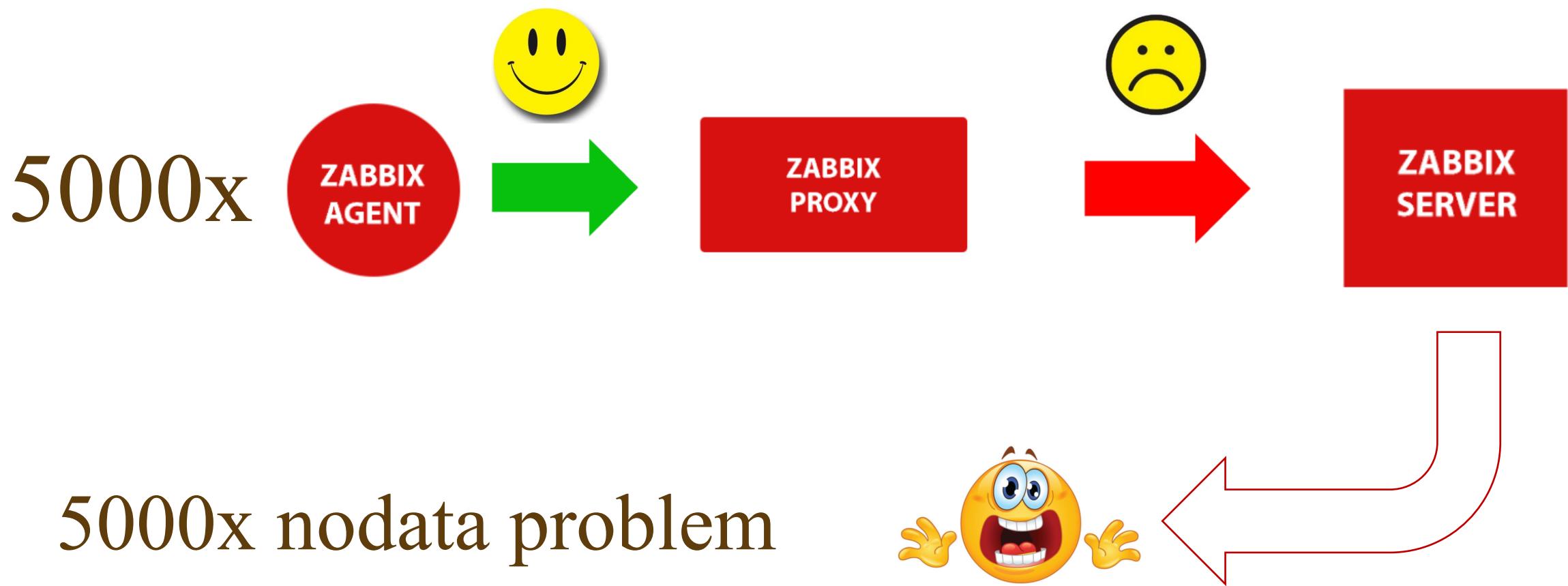


NODATA TRIGGERS

LET'S VISUALIZE

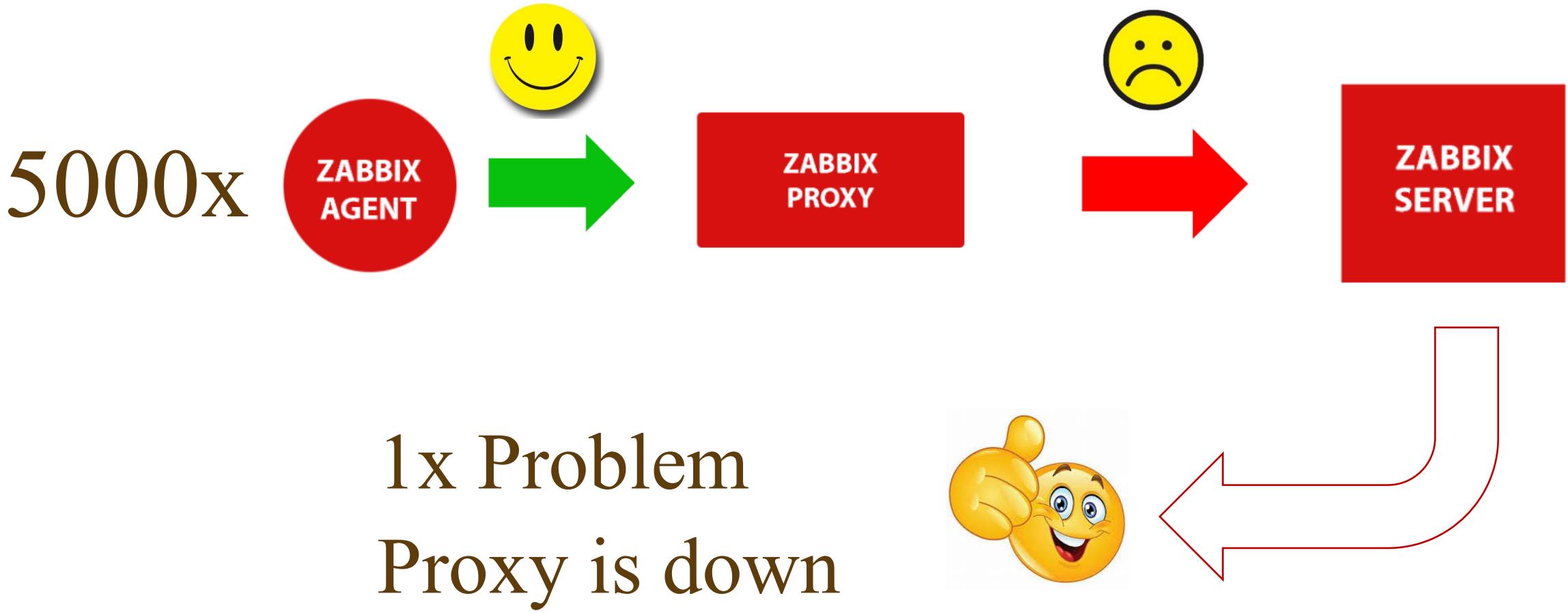


NODATA TRIGGERS LET'S VISUALIZE



NODATA TRIGGERS

LET'S VISUALIZE – 5.0



NODATA TRIGGERS

FINAL NOTES

- Was there a way to solve this before 5.0 ?
- How much time do we need to configure such setup in 5.0 ?
- What if I don't want to respect proxy availability? Nodata(5,strict) !
- Global correlation

03

TEST ITEM FROM USER INTERFACE

- ⊖ In previous versions it was difficult to tell if a newly-configured item was configured correctly or not.
- ⊖ Now it is possible to test item from UI even before saving it, and get a real value in return.
- ⊖ And even test all pre-processing steps



TEST ITEM

WHAT WE DID BEFORE?

- Simply wait for next update interval cycle
- zabbix_agentd -t < item_key >
- Zabbix_get -s <host> -k <key>

The screenshot shows the Zabbix interface for creating a new item. The fields are as follows:

- * Key: system.hostname
- * Host interface: 127.0.0.1 : 10050
- Type of information: Text
- * Update interval: 5h
- Custom intervals: Flexible (selected), Scheduling, 50
- Add button at the bottom

```
[root@meetup tmp]# zabbix_get -s 127.0.0.1 -k system.hostname
meetup
[root@meetup tmp]#
[root@meetup tmp]#
[root@meetup tmp]# zabbix_agentd -t system.hostname
system.hostname
[s|meetup]
[root@meetup tmp]#
```

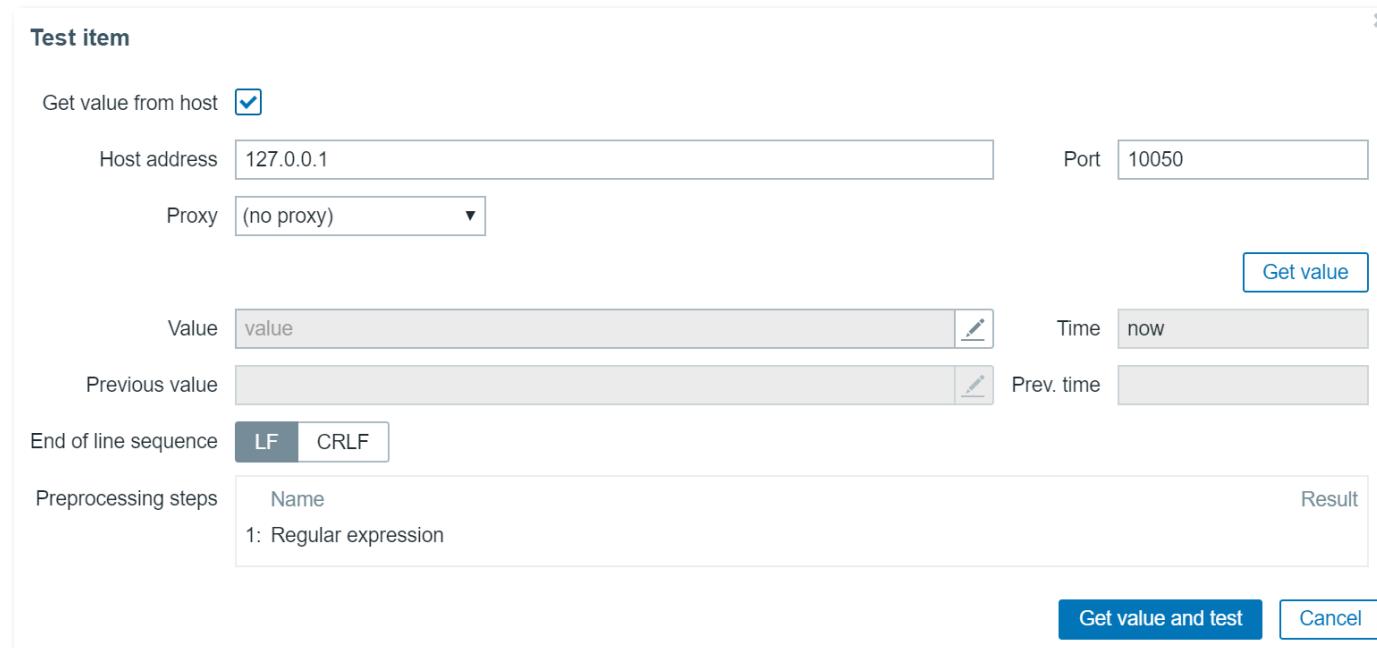
TEST ITEM PROBLEM

- Update interval can be too big
- In case of custom intervals – it's even worse
- Zabbix_agentd and zabbix-get don't respect pre-processing

TEST ITEM

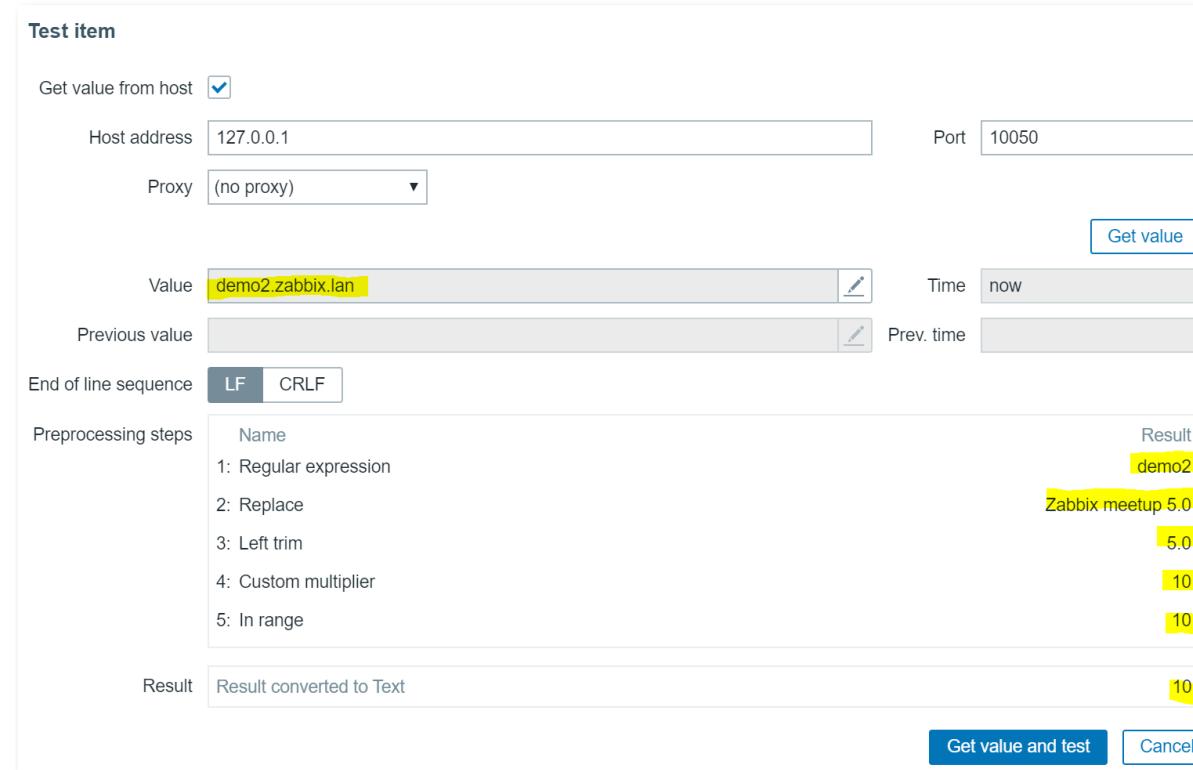
5.0

- Choose IP address:port against which you want to test item
- Want to test host behind a proxy? Why not!
- See progression of all pre-processing steps
- Configure complex items with an ease even on Template level



TEST ITEM

5.0

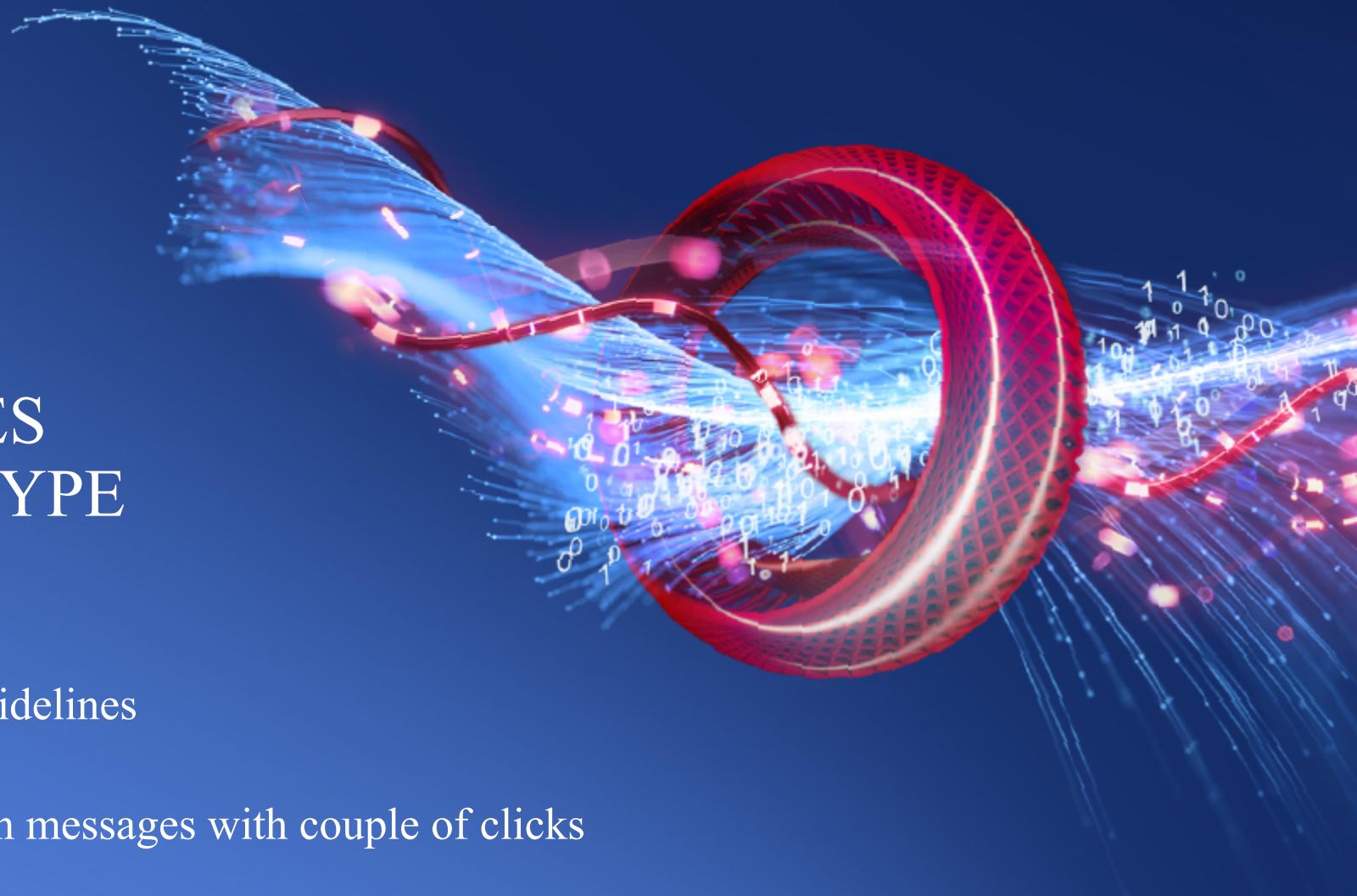


```
[root@demo2 ~]# zabbix_get -s 127.0.0.1 -k system.hostname
demo2.zabbix.lan
[root@demo2 ~]#
```

04

DEFAULT MESSAGES FOR EACH MEDIA TYPE

- ⊖ Easier to manage messaging guidelines
- ⊖ Perform mass changes in Action messages with couple of clicks
- ⊖ Simplify configuration of Actions



DEFAULT MESSAGES FOR EACH MEDIA TYPE

- Previously configurable per action
- Flexible enough, but....
- Hard to follow company guidelines
- Hard to make mass changes

Actions

Action	Operations	Recovery operations	Update operations		
* Default operation step duration	1h				
Default subject	Problem: {EVENT.NAME}				
Default message	Problem started at {EVENT.TIME} on {EVENT.DATE} Problem name: {EVENT.NAME} Host: {HOST.NAME} Severity: {EVENT.SEVERITY}				
	Original problem ID: {EVENT.ID} {TRIGGER.URL}				
Pause operations for suppressed problems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Operations	Steps	Details	Start in	Duration	Ac
New					

* At least one operation, recovery operation or update operation must exist.

Add Cancel

DEFAULT MESSAGES FOR EACH MEDIA TYPE

- Always think about scalability
- There could be users with 500+ Actions
- There could be users with 500+ Media types
- There could be users with 500 different messaging standards for different things

The screenshot shows the Zabbix Administration interface with the 'Media types' configuration page. The left sidebar includes 'Monitoring', 'Inventory', 'Reports', 'Configuration', and 'Administration'. The 'Administration' section is expanded. The main area has tabs for 'Media type', 'Message templates' (which is highlighted with a yellow box), and 'Options'. The 'Message templates' tab is active. It contains fields for a new media type:

- * Name: Email
- Type: Email
- * SMTP server: 127.0.0.1
- SMTP server port: 25
- * SMTP helo: demo.zabbix.lan
- * SMTP email: demo-zabbix@zabbix.lan

DEFAULT MESSAGES FOR EACH MEDIA TYPE

- Define standard messaging for Media type
- Define standard messaging for every state of a problem
- If needed – override on Action level

Screenshot of a software interface for managing message templates:

The top navigation bar includes tabs: **Media type**, **Message templates** (which is selected), and **Options**.

The main content area displays a table of message templates:

Message type	Template	Actions
Problem	Problem started at {EVENT.TIME} on {EVENT.DATE} Pro...	Edit Remove
Problem recovery	Problem has been resolved at {EVENT.RECOVERY.TIME}...	Edit Remove
Problem update	{USER.FULLNAME} {EVENT.UPDATE.ACTION} problem ...	Edit Remove
Discovery	Discovery rule: {DISCOVERY.RULE.NAME} Device IP: {D...	Edit Remove
Autoregistration	Host name: {HOST.HOST} Host IP: {HOST.IP} Agent port:...	Edit Remove

Buttons at the bottom of this section include: **Add**, **Update**, **Clone**, **Delete**, and **Cancel**.

A modal window titled "Message template" is open, showing the details for a "Problem" template:

Message type: Problem

Subject: Problem: {EVENT.NAME}

Message:

```
Problem started at {EVENT.TIME} on {EVENT.DATE}
Problem name: {EVENT.NAME}
Host: {HOST.NAME}
Severity: {EVENT.SEVERITY}
Operational data: {EVENT.OPDATA}
Original problem ID: {EVENT.ID}
{TRIGGER.URL}
```

Buttons at the bottom of the modal include: **Update** and **Cancel**.

05

SNMP CREDENTIALS AT HOST INTERFACE LEVEL

- ⊖ Avoid any typos when creating a lot of Items
- ⊖ Simplify configuration
- ⊖ SNMPv1, SNMPv2, SNMPv3 => SNMP Agent



SNMP CREDENTIALS AT HOST INTERFACE LEVEL

- Complexity of authentication parameters
- Simple human mistakes – typos
- In case of many items, chance to make mistake increases
- One mistake in Item prototype can affect whole host

* Name

Type ▾

* Key

* SNMP OID

Context name

Security name

Security level ▾

Authentication protocol

Authentication passphrase

Items

All templates / Cisco 2620 SNMPv3 Applications Items 10 Triggers 3 Graphs 2 Screens Discovery rules

Item Preprocessing

* Name

Type ▾

* Key

* SNMP OID

Context name

Security name

Security level ▾

Authentication protocol

Authentication passphrase

Privacy protocol

Privacy passphrase

Port

Type of information ▾

* Update interval

SNMP CREDENTIALS AT HOST INTERFACE LEVEL

- Instead of suggesting to «be careful!» minimize possibilities to make mistake
- snmpv1, snmpv2, snmpv3 replaced with SNMP Agent
- All configuration is done on interface level
- All items inherit settings from chosen interface

* Interfaces	Type	IP address	DNS name	Connect to	Port	Default
<input type="button" value="▲"/>	SNMP	10.100.0.42	net.cisco.c7600	<input type="radio"/> IP <input type="radio"/> DNS	161	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Remove
* SNMP version <input type="button" value="SNMPv2 ▾"/>						
* SNMP community <input type="text" value="{\$SNMP_COMMUNITY}"/>						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use bulk requests						
Add						

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138-1772-0274



china@zabbix.com



www.grandage.cn
www.zabbix.com/cn



上海市徐汇区虹梅路1905号



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THANK YOU!

