



ESnet

ENERGY SCIENCES NETWORK

Hecate Update

Mariam Kiran, Scott Campbell, Nick Buraglio
Energy Sciences Network
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



Internet 2 TechEX
18–22 September, 2023



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY
Office of Science



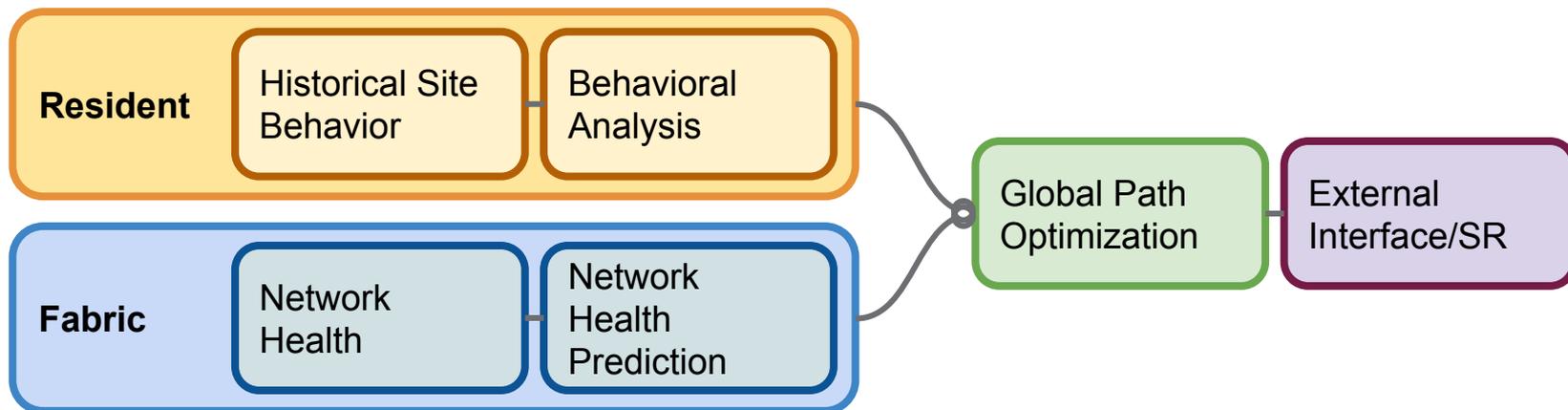
20 slides, 20 minutes

- Project Overview: What is Hecate about?
- Project Update: What have we done?
- Planned research agenda: How are we planning on reaching our objective?

I will focus on where we are in terms of providing a deliverable or more realistically *how we can best be in a position to deeply understand details around proposed vendor solutions.*

Project Overview

Objective: *Create efficient routing advice for traffic within ESnet based on a combination of historical site behaviors and current/projected network health.*

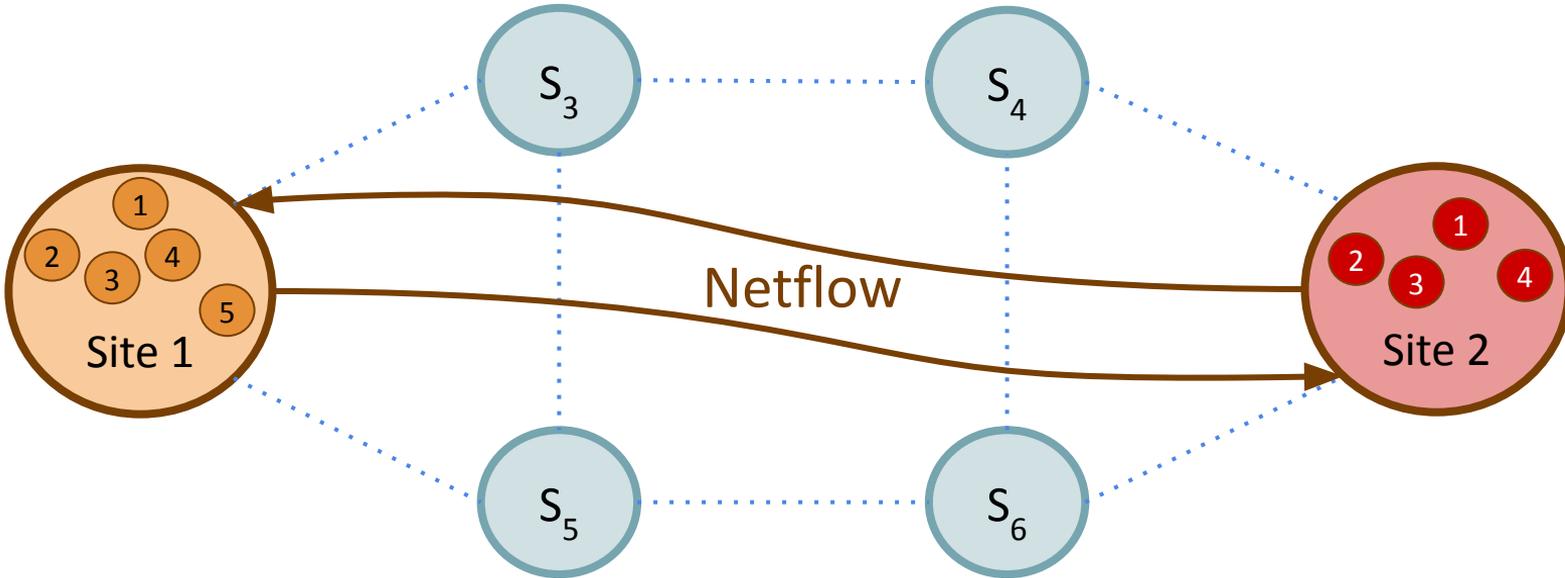


Data: What have we done?



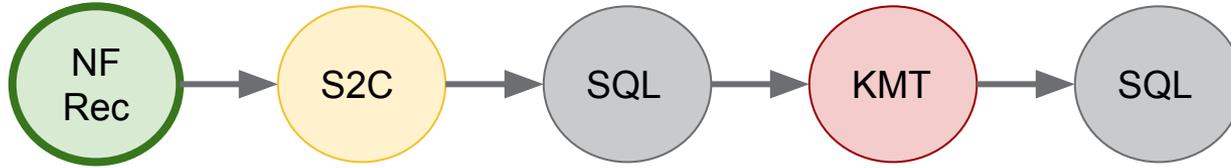
- Behavior of long term/permanent data plane residents: sites, facility, instrument
- Look backwards (time) for results
- Statistical not specific behaviors

Data: Historical Network Activity



x : Subnet of Site

Data: Historical Site Activity



Raw Flow Records

Raw flow records in Splunk

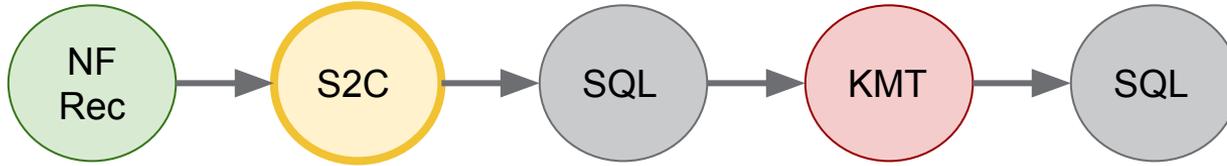
splunk_to_conn.py

Read time index flow records, process into connections w/ metadata -> SQLite

k-means-time.py

SQLite -> Read time window get clustered size and duration information -> SQLite

Data: Historical Site Activity



Raw Flow Records

Raw flow records in Splunk

splunk_to_conn.py

Read time index flow records, process into connections w/ metadata -> SQLite

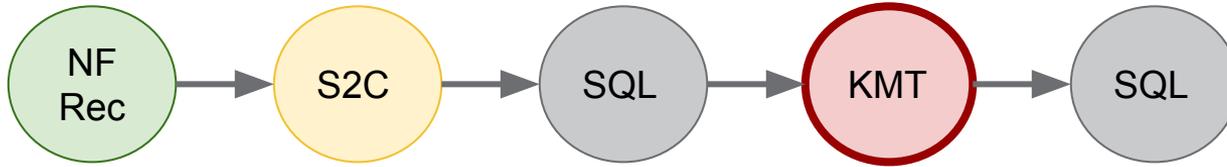
k-means-time.py

SQLite -> Read time window get clustered size and duration information -> SQLite

Connection Metadata: splunk_to_conn.py

C/S Site	Ex: LBNL, ORNL
cs_data_ratio_norm	client/server ratio: data ratio imbalance
cs_psize_ratio_norm	client/server ratio: pkt size ratio imbalance
C/S velocity	data/duration
C/S avg_size	data/total packets
C/S/T packets, bytes	packet count
duration	
Data taken from 1/1000 sampled flows; conn = IP1:high_port -> IP2:low_port Ratio Norm designed to separate A/B~1 vs. A/B >>1 OR A/B << 1	

Data: Historical Site Activity



Raw Flow Records

Raw flow records in Splunk

splunk_to_conn.py

Read time index flow records, process into connections w/ metadata -> SQLite

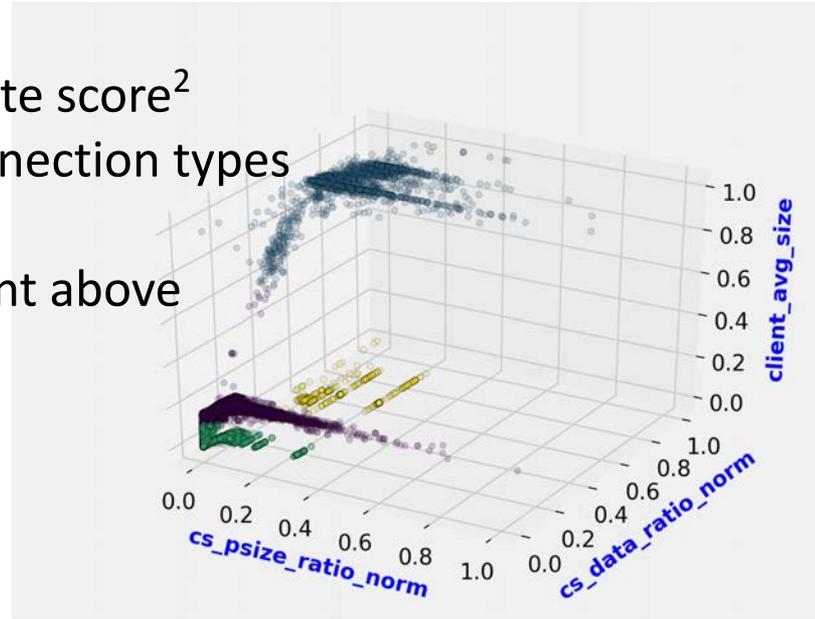
k-means-time.py

SQLite -> Read time window get clustered size and duration information -> SQLite

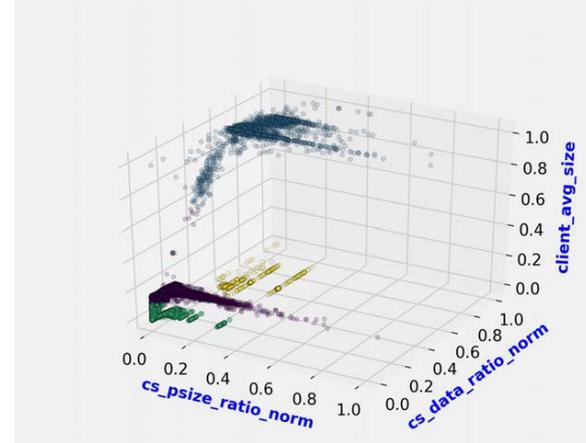
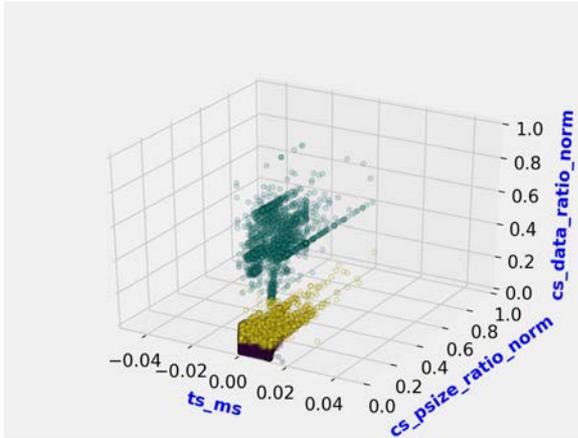
Unsupervised Clustering

1. Embed connection in {Packet size ratio, Data size ratio, client avg size}¹
2. Calculate number of clusters via Silhouette score²
3. ID cluster identities by taking known connection types and looking at each
4. Tag cluster members based on assignment above
5. Sanity check results

- 1: Test moving from mean to median to address outliers
- 2: if $n > 1000$, sample set and calc SS from it



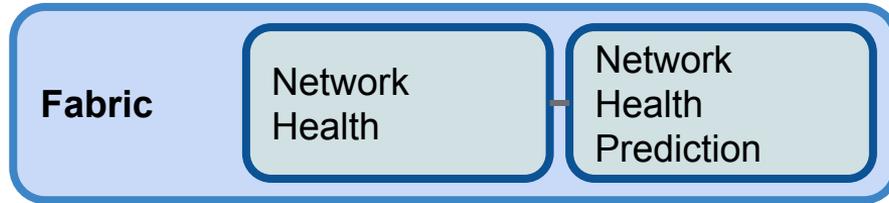
Data: Historical Site Activity



Time Focused Tag	Data Volume Focused Tag
Short Med Long : 000111 [n]	Small Med Large: 111000 [n]

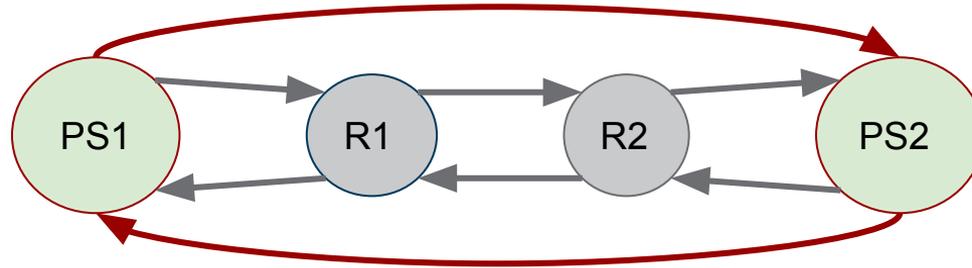
Individual Site1[x_1] -> Site2[x_2]

Data: What have we done?



- Shorter term transient effects
- Project forward (time) for results
- More specific than statistical behaviors

Network Health



Perfsonar: Node to Node

latency_mean

latency_sd

packet_lost

packet_reorder

packet_dupe

SNMP Link Data: Router Link

bytes_in

bytes_out

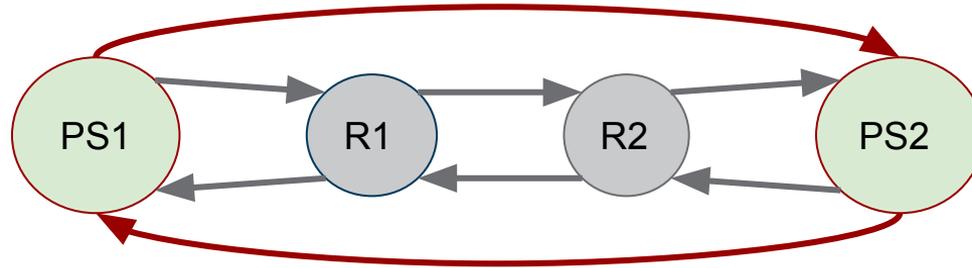
error_in

error_out

discard_in

discard_out

Network Health: Time and Value Normalization



Stardust/PerfSonar

Sample Time: ~15 min

Predict window: 1 hour

Stardust/SNMP

Sample Time: 60 sec

Predict window: 1 hour

Link vs. PS to PS

End-to-end measure vs. Link measure
*introduces question about where and
when the lost/reorder/duped packets
happened*

Network Health: Prediction

Initial work based on successful use of GNN in predicting Transatlantic WAN link traffic volumes over 24 hour windows.

(Based on Net Predict / DAPHNE)

Network Health: Prediction

Initial work based on successful use of GNN in predicting Transatlantic WAN link traffic volumes over 24 hour windows.

(Based on Net Predict / DAPHNE)

Current state of the art in predictive networking takes a different approach - ML architecture for sequence modeling called *Transformer* which can take into consideration the context of the data point within the sequence.

Think of this as a LLM/Chat Gpt for network traffic volumes and congestion/errors

Our Agenda



So how do we get
closer to our
objective?

Research Agenda

Project 1: Prediction. Can we take historical time series data for traffic volumes and accurately predict future values on individual links?

Project 2: Data feature engineering. What core features in terms of historical behaviors as well as network health are used/measured/required for optimal solutions.

Project 3: Optimization. How can we identify an optimal solution in terms of routing solution in terms of combining historical site behavior, current topological design, and predicted values?

Project 4: Routing integration + testing. How do we quantify changes to the (proposed) network to ensure that nothing bad is happening from our diffs?

Project 1: Prediction

- Can we take historical time series data for traffic volumes and accurately predict future values on individual links?
- Can this be done for errors, loss, jitter, and retransmits as well?
- There is some work already done here on this topic, but not anything in terms of code, data, and reproducibility.

Output if successful:

- (Transformer) model capable of predicting bandwidth and (possibly) related error values 1-24 hours in advance
- Paper describing method and related code
- Explore releasing model if possible

Project 2: Data feature engineering

- Look at current workflow wrt unsupervised clustering of historical network behavior from sites
- Measure continuity across time to ensure that $\langle \text{net1} \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle \text{net2} \rangle$ generalizations are stable enough to be used for optimization purposes
- Are there additional data features beyond the usual candidates? Think about this in terms of higher degree moments to better express stability and efficiency in prediction/optimization
- Explore **HT** as a data source: what (if any) new or additional metrics can we look at for health prediction and route optimization?

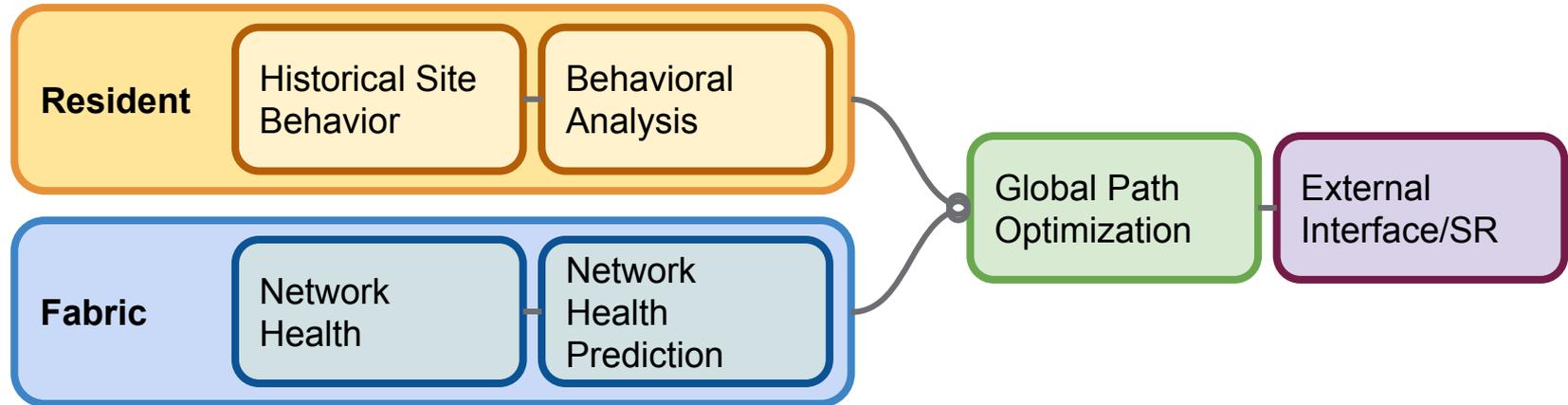
Project 2: Data feature engineering

Output of a successful project:

- Paper describing in detail how unsupervised clustering works across time and at scale for site related analysis
- Confirmation that the health values being looked at are relevant - are there others that could be used with greater utility?
- What would very high time resolution bring to a statistical measurement?

Questions?

FIN



This slide intentionally left blank

[1] Required Abstractions

Site₁ to Site₂: **Flow records** via ASN
dt = A



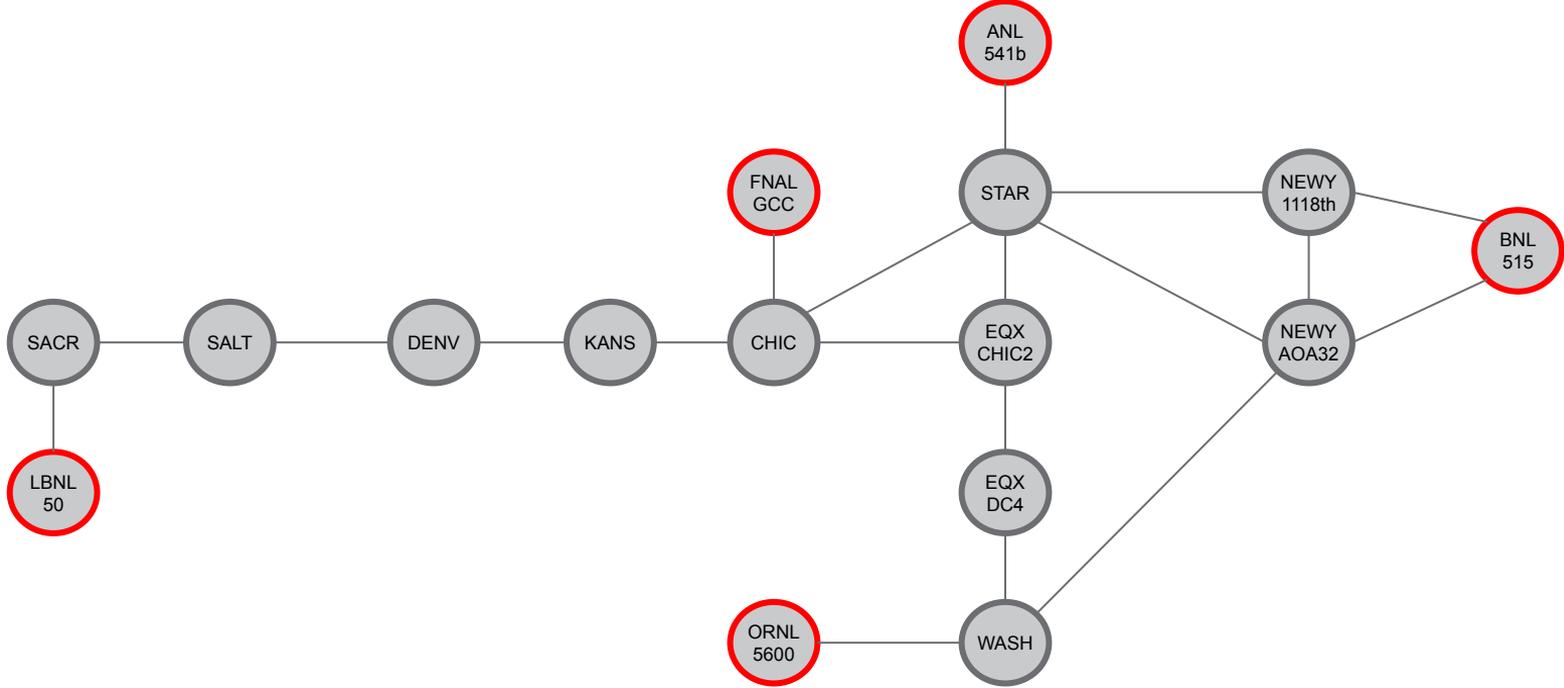
PS₁ to PS₂: **Latency, Jitter, Drops, Rxmits**
dt = B
Active test data
Unidirectional



SNMP **Interface Link**
Bandwidth Actual, drops, discards
dt = C
Passive data
Bidirectional



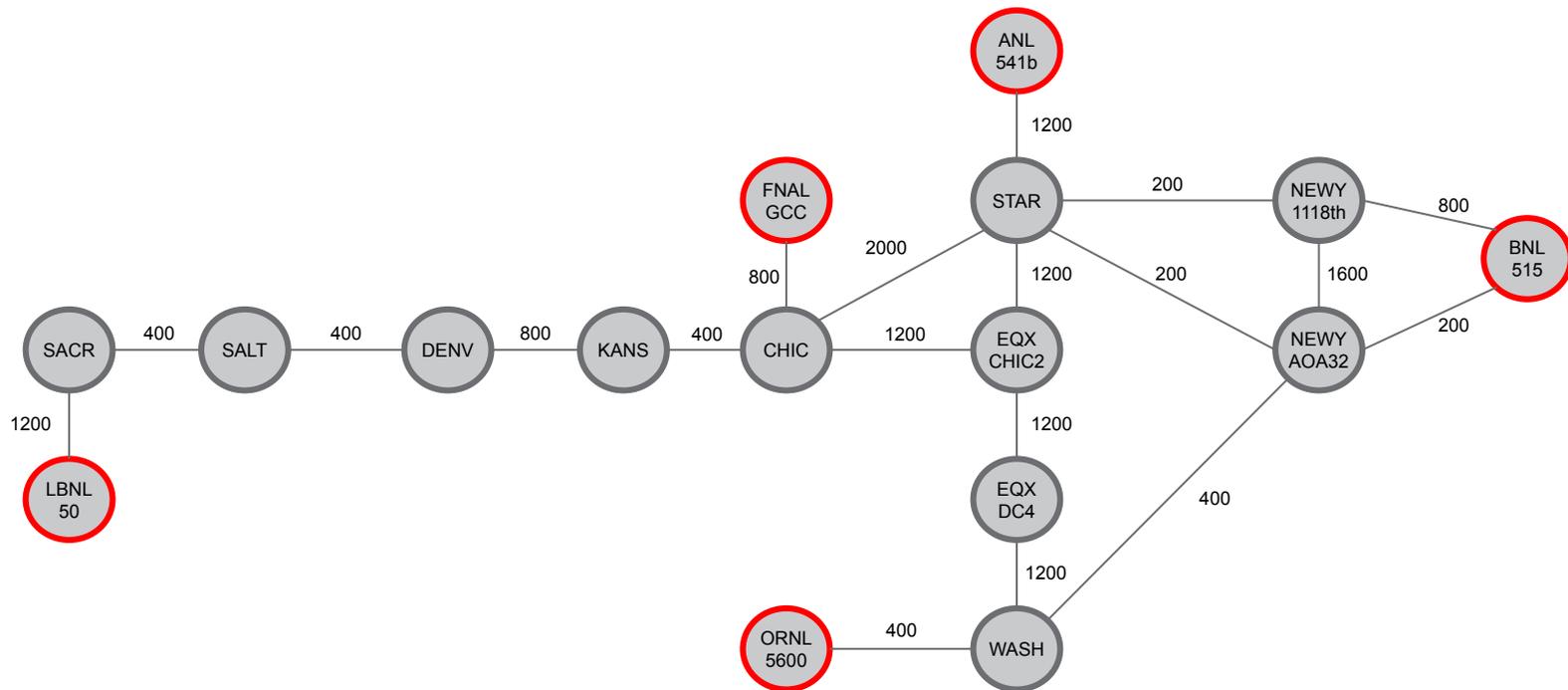
[2] Link Mesh: Logical



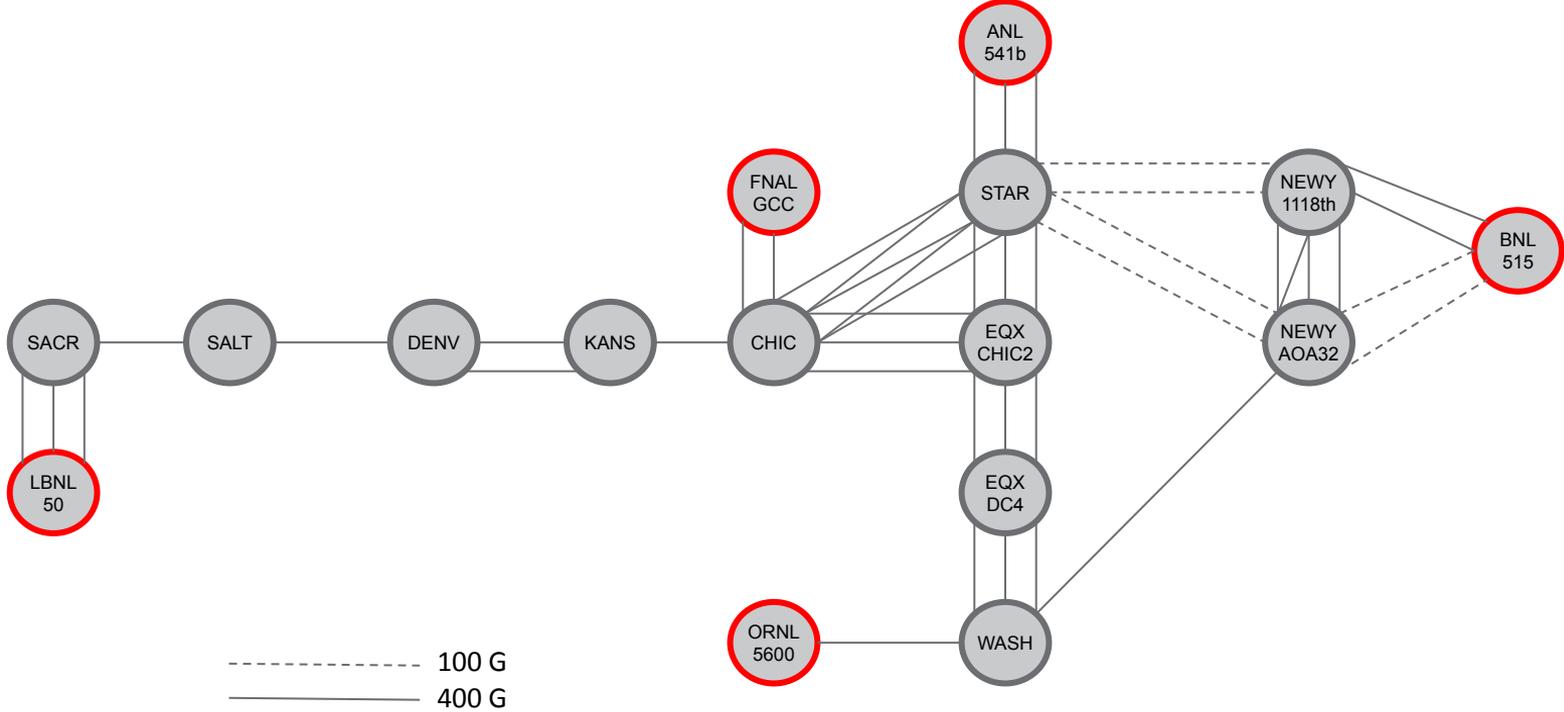
Data from Dec 2022



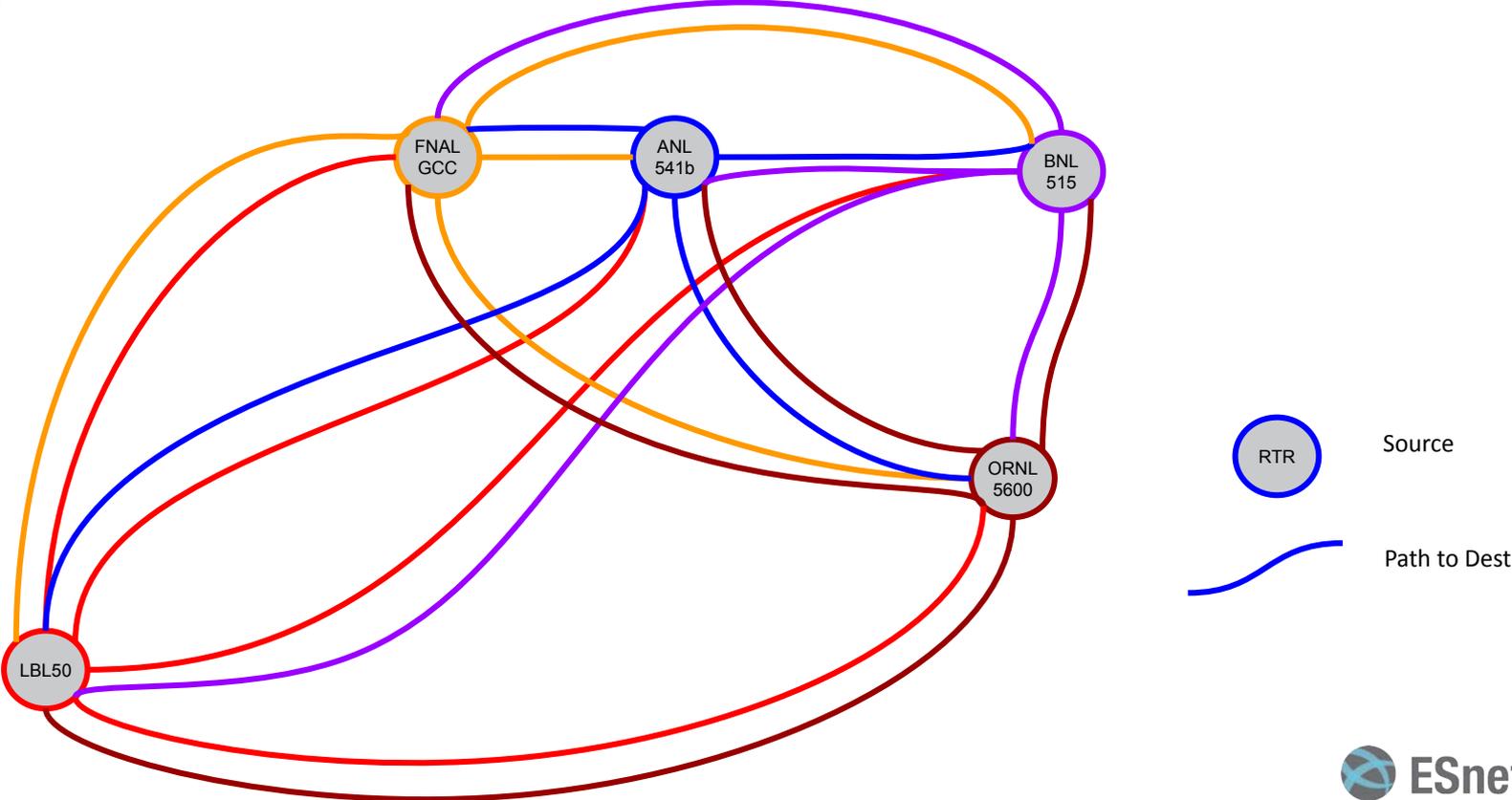
[3] Link Mesh: Logical, Weighted



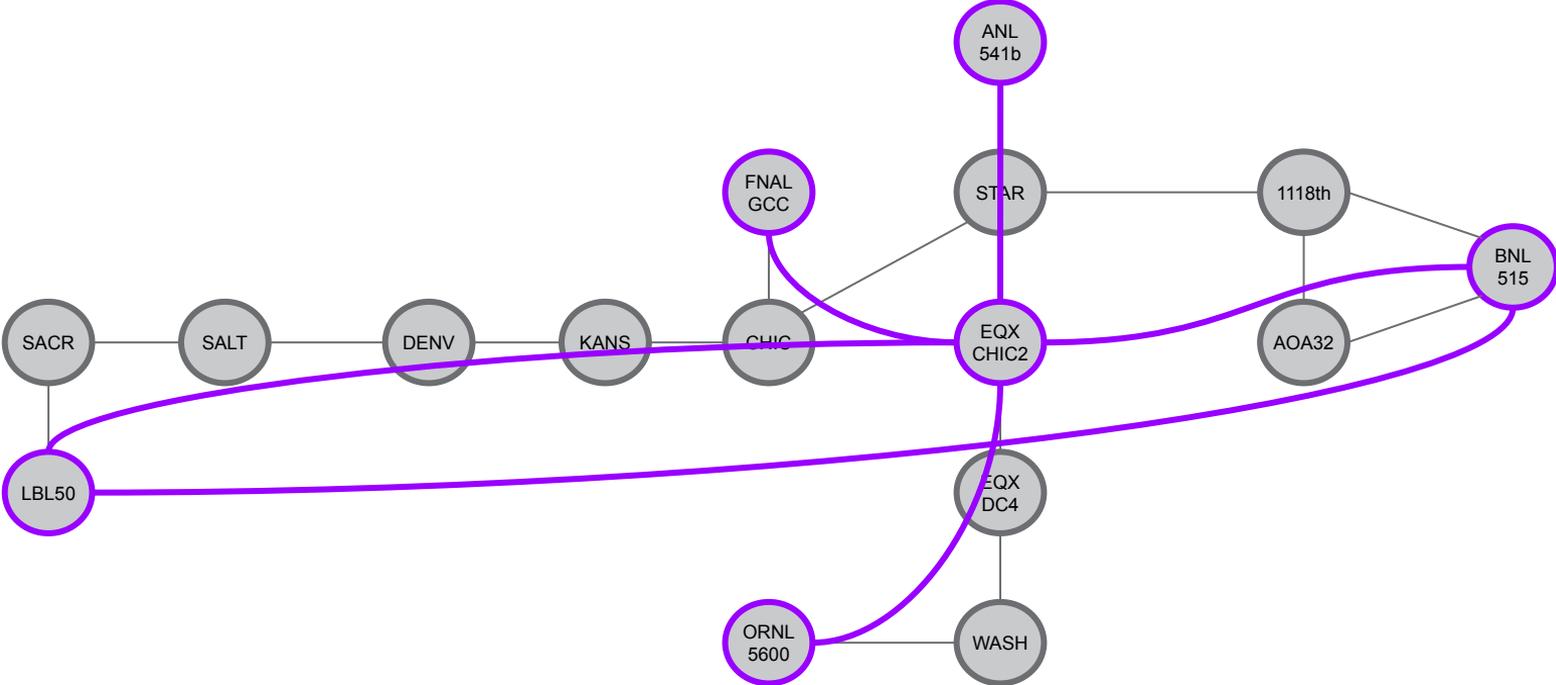
[4] Link Mesh: Physical



[5] PS Mesh: Abstract



[6] PS Mesh: Real



All Data **Directional**