

The perfSONAR Power Hour

Andy Lake – ESnet – andy@es.net

perfSONAR is developed by a partnership of



What is perfSONAR?

- An **open source software collaboration** led by ESnet, GEANT, Indiana University, Internet2, RNP and the University of Michigan.
- **Goal is to provide network measurements between organizations** to help identify and troubleshoot network issues. Most commonly these include (but are not limited to):
 - Throughput
 - Packet Loss
 - One-way latency
 - Traceroute



perfSONAR

- perfSONAR 5.0 released **April 17th, 2023**.
- **Over 50% of perfSONAR deployments** currently running 5.0
- **Enables greater visualization and analysis capabilities** through the replacement of the backend measurement storage database with OpenSearch
- **New pScheduler test plugins** to support WiFi BSSID, 802.1X authentication, DHCP response time and more
- **Ubuntu 20 support added** with additional OSes like
 - EL8 and EL9 added in early summer
 - Ubuntu 22 and Debian 11 coming soon
- **Looking ahead, 5.1 will focus on improving UI** and leverage the changes put in place by 5.0 to add new capabilities

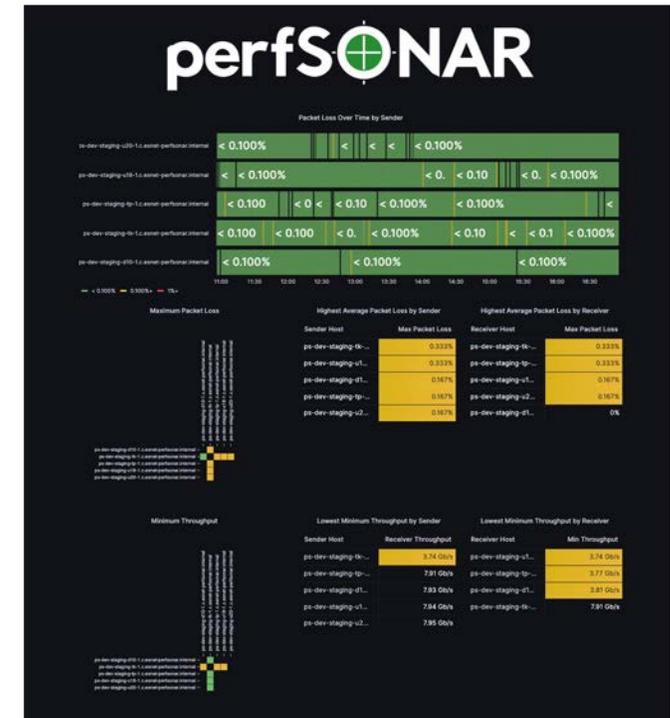


Image: Example of Grafana dashboard users can setup in 5.0 using our [guide](#)



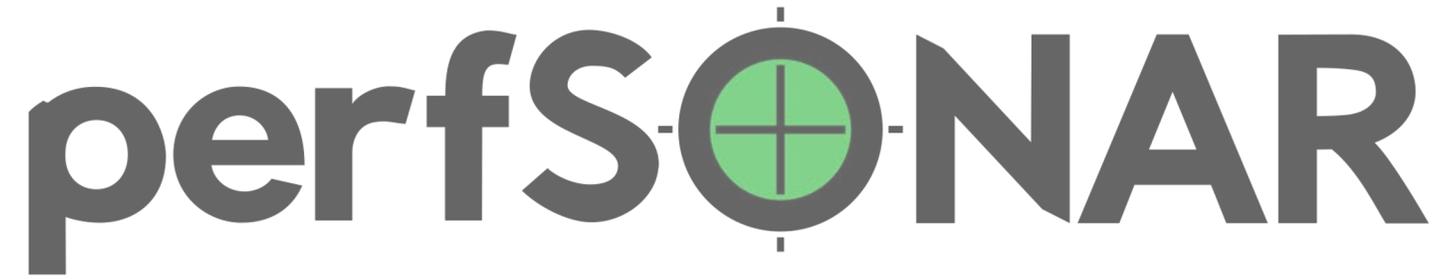
Building on the Foundation

UI: Toolkit UI and MaDDash Beyond 5.0

UI: On-Demand Testing

Tool Enhancements: Multi-threaded iperf3

Deployment Models: perfSONAR on Internet2 Backbone



Toolkit UI and MaDDash Beyond 5.0

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Today's Toolkit UI

perfSONAR Toolkit on HOST

[Log in](#)
[Configuration](#)
[? Help](#)

HOST Edit

All detected addresses are private, and private addresses are disabled. No addresses are being shown. To change this, edit `/etc/perfsonar/toolkit/web/web_admin.conf`

Organization:
Address:
Administrator:

Services

View services logs ↗

SERVICE	STATUS	VERSION	PORTS
archive ▾	Running	5.0.1-1.el7	
lsregistration	Running	5.0.1-1.el7	
owamp ▾	Running	5.0.1-1.el7	861
pscheduler ▾	Running	5.0.1-1.el7	
psconfig	Running	5.0.1-1.el7	
twamp ▾	Running	5.0.1-1.el7	862

Test Results (2 Results)

Configure tests ⚙

Search:

Results for the last...
1 week ▾

↑ SOURCE	↓ DESTINATION	THROUGHPUT	LATENCY (MS)	LOSS
ps-dev-staging-el7-tk-2.c.esnet-perfsonar.internal 10.128.15.192	ps-dev-prod-el7-tk-1.c.esnet-perfsonar.internal 10.128.0.54	→ n/a ← n/a	→ n/a ← n/a	→ 0.001% ← 0.001%

[Graphs](#) | [Traceroute](#) ↗

Host Information (Log in for more info)

Interfaces Details ▾

NTP Synced Yes

Globally Registered No

Allow Internal Addresses OFF

Virtual Machine No

RAM 16 GB

More Info Details ▾

[perfSONAR Privacy Policy](#) ↗

🔧 On-demand testing tools

[Reverse ping](#) ↗

[Reverse traceroute](#) ↗

[Reverse tracepath](#) ↗

📁 Other services

[Global node directory](#) ↗

Thinking about a new interface

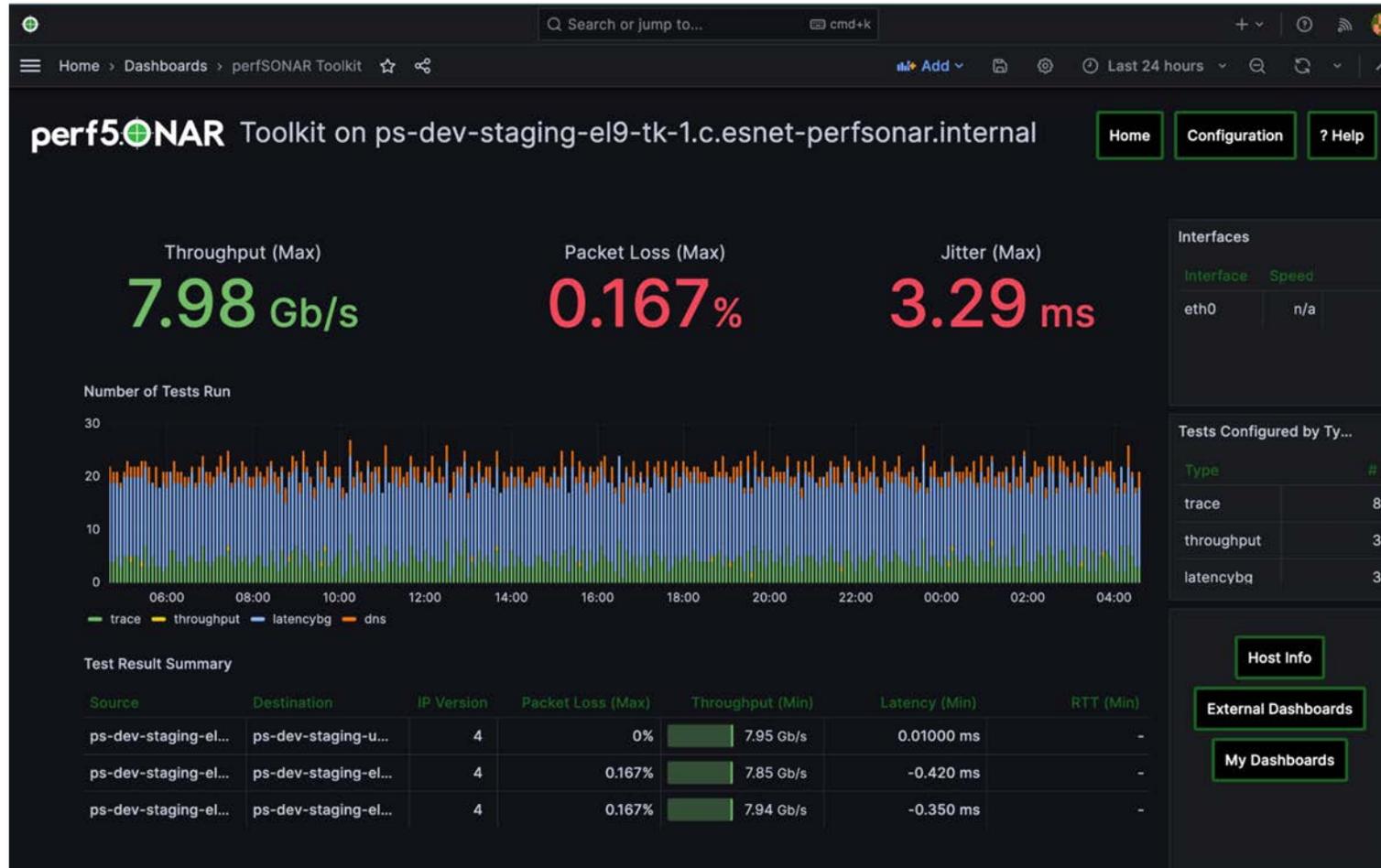
- User Requirements
 - Users need to still have ability to view test results of local tests
 - Authentication required to see additional system stats, configure tests, and configure LS registration
 - Whole subset of requirements around configuring test that won't cover in this deck
 - System information needs to be available via an API (see current JSON service)
- Dev Requirements
 - Devs need to get rid of old perl cgi scripts that are increasingly difficult to maintain
 - Ditto old Javascript
 - Consolidate redundant interfaces (e.g. PWA and Toolkit Test Config)
 - Stop discovering system stats that differ across OSes, when other things have this solved (eg. node_exporter)
- Other nice to haves
 - Users have greater flexibility in building own views of data
 - Tighter integration with MaDDash and main toolkit UI
 - We don't have a lot of UI devs, if there is a way to make easier to maintain without being JS expert, that is good thing.

What is Grafana?

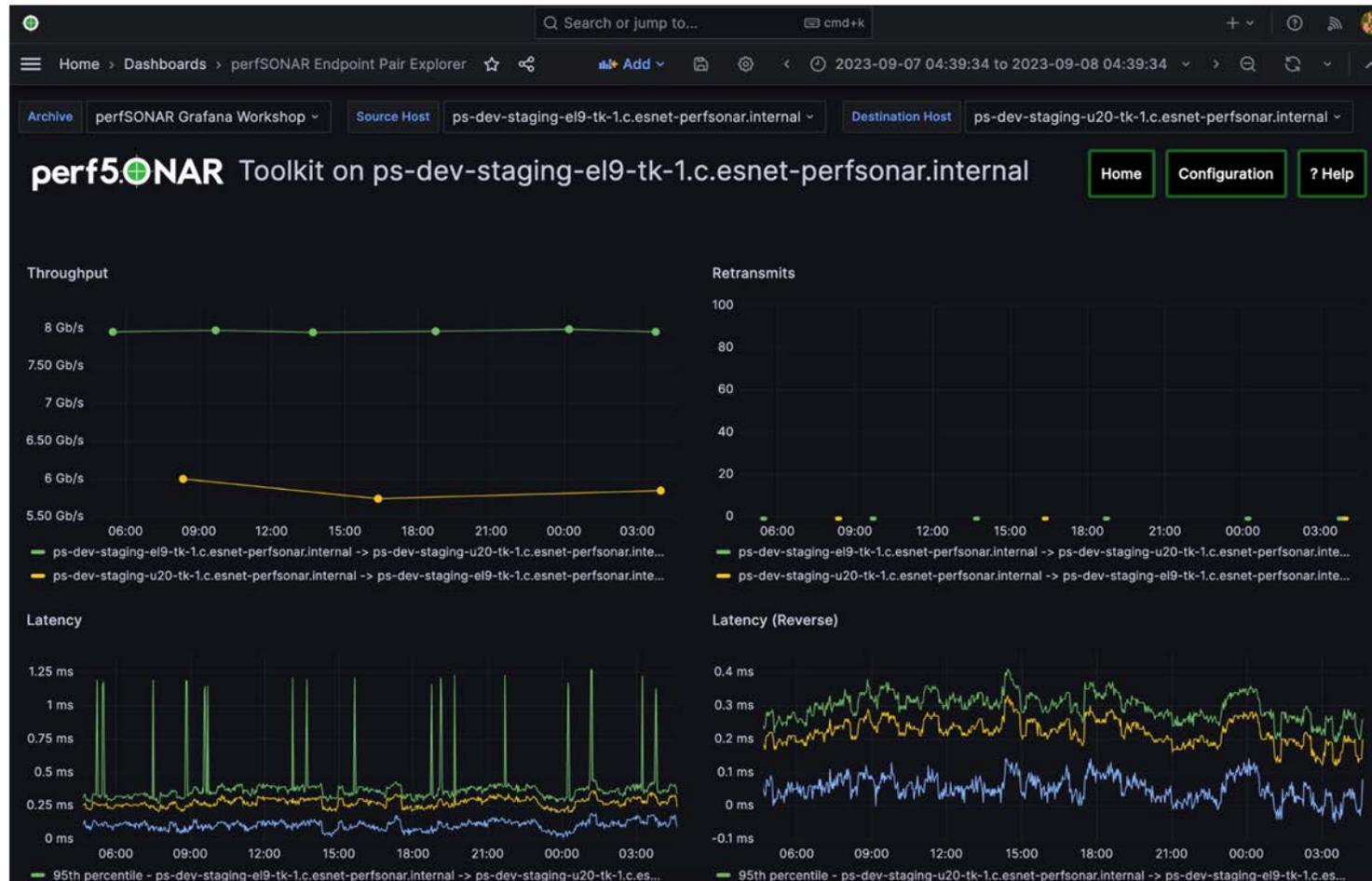
- Grafana is an **open-source platform** for for exploring data from a variety of sources
- It has a few key features
 - It's **multi-data source**
 - It has a bunch of **built-in visualizations** that **don't require you to be a Javascript developer** to use
 - It has a **plugin framework** for all of the above so they can be extended and a process for becoming official plugins
- More Info:
<https://grafana.com/docs/grafana/latest/introduction/>



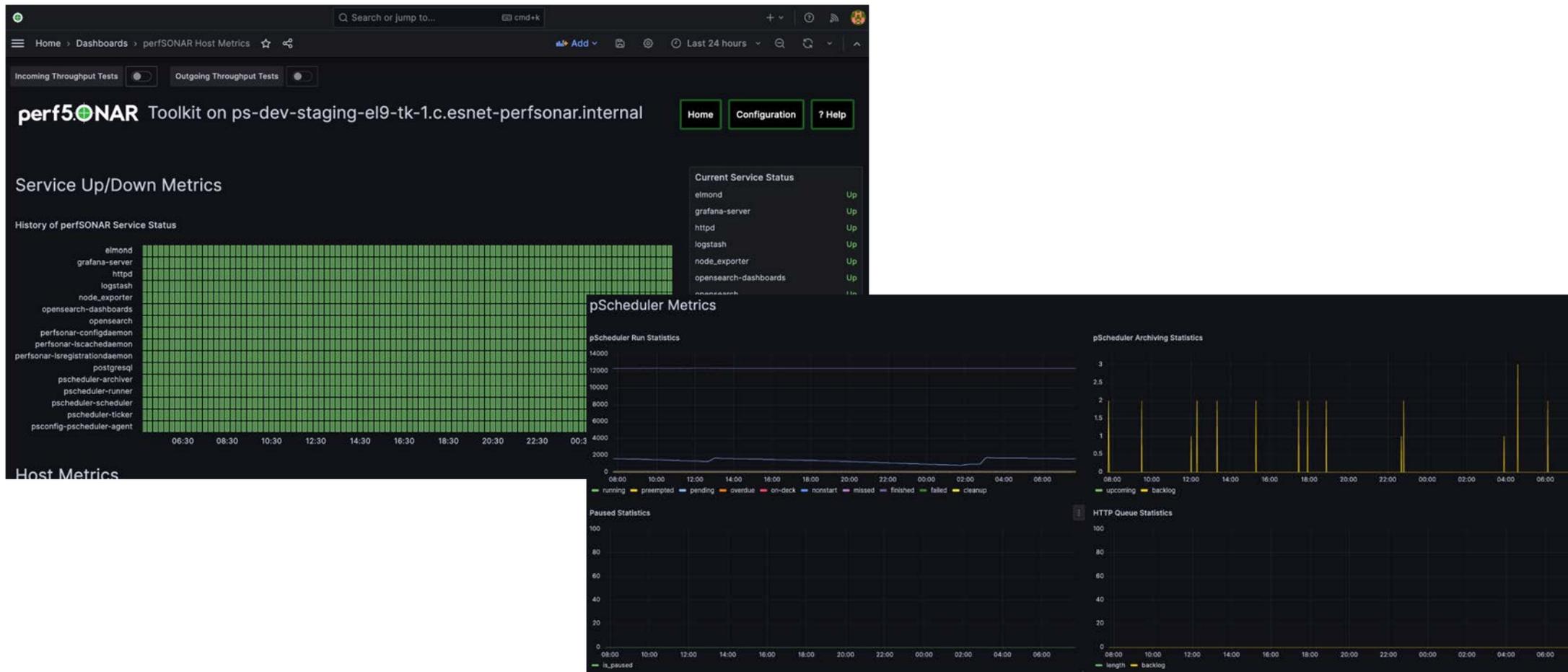
New UI: Focus on Measurements



New UI: Enhancing the Fundamentals



New UI: Instrumentation

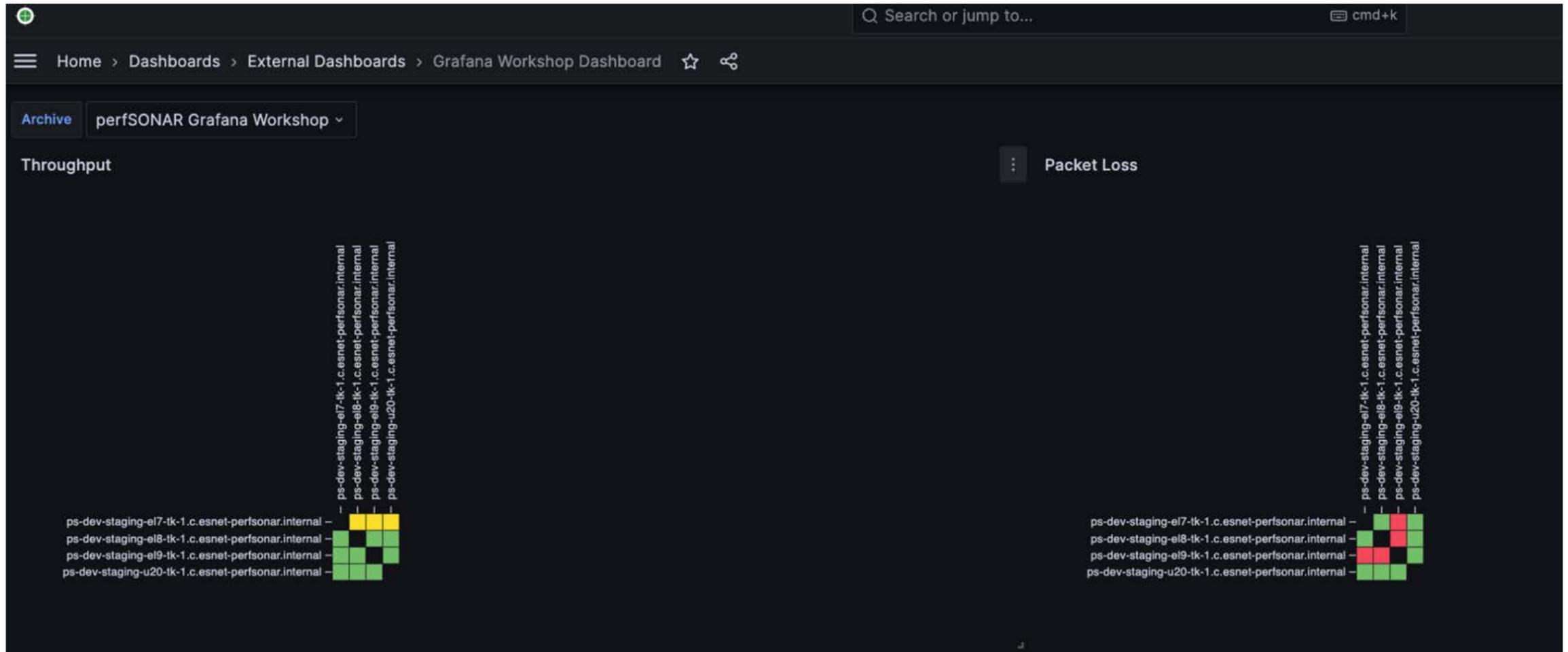


New UI: Data Correlation

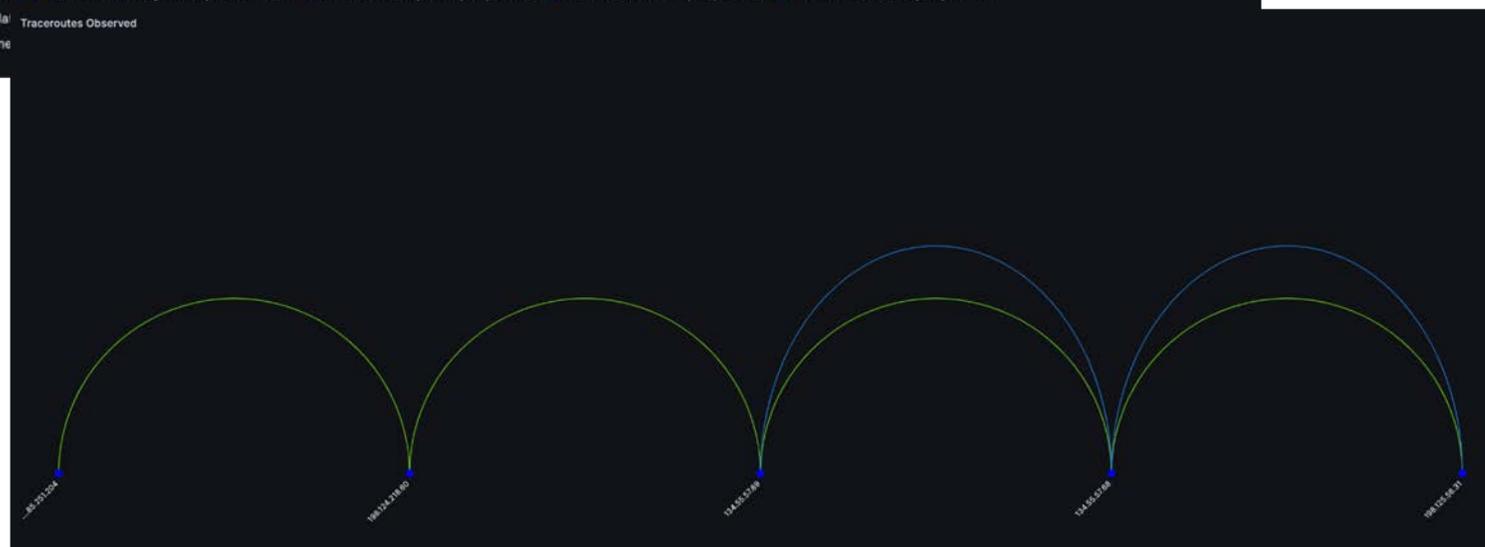
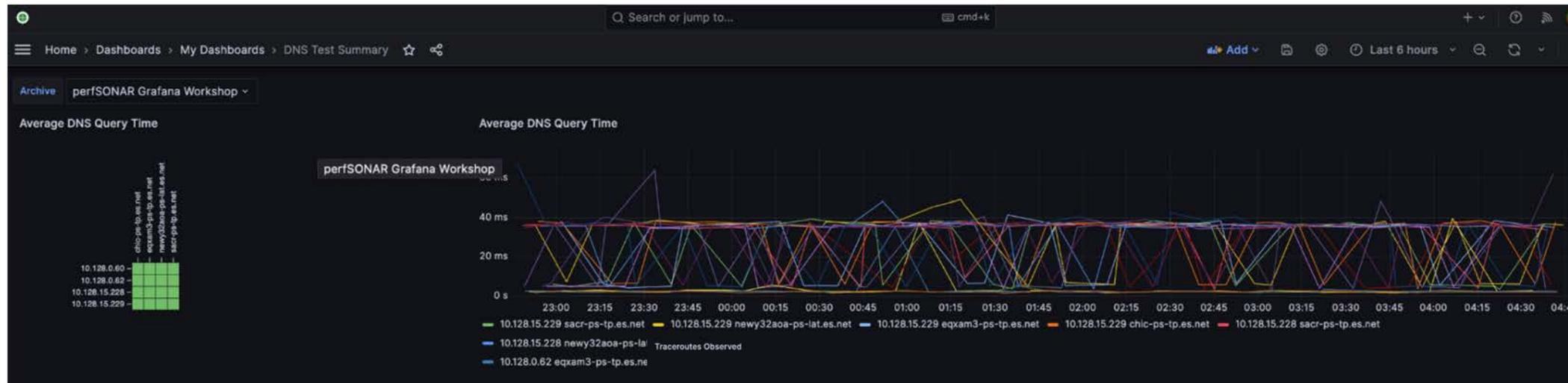
iperf3 overlay
on host
metrics



New UI: MaDDash Integration



New UI: Customization



**Check out our booth
for a
live demo!**



perfSONAR

Multi-Threaded iperf3

First There was One, Now There are Many

Bruce Mah and Sarah Larsen, ESnet

perfSONAR is developed by a partnership of



What is iperf3?

- iperf3 is an open-source tool that measures network traffic performance between a client and server
- It was designed to be used in perfSONAR, but can also be used on its own
- Linux, MacOS, and FreeBSD are all officially supported

Current State

- Before multi-threading, iperf3 was capable of 30-50 Gbps, with single stream TCP, possibly more with tuning
- Many links in ESnet6 are faster than iperf3
 - Site connections: N x 100G
 - Backbone: 400G +
- So what if we want to support connections with higher bandwidth? How do we get more throughput?
- The problem: Adding more parallel connections doesn't increase throughput

What are we doing about it?

- Adding multi-threading to iperf3
 - Goal: Use multiple CPU cores

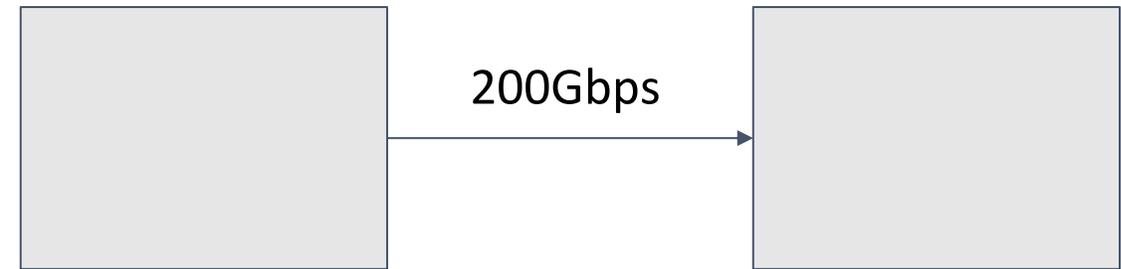
Example command: `iperf3 -parallel 3`

- Note: currently this refers to multiple parallel streams, but in the new multi-threaded iperf, this will represent the number of threads. This is because in the new version each stream will get its own thread.



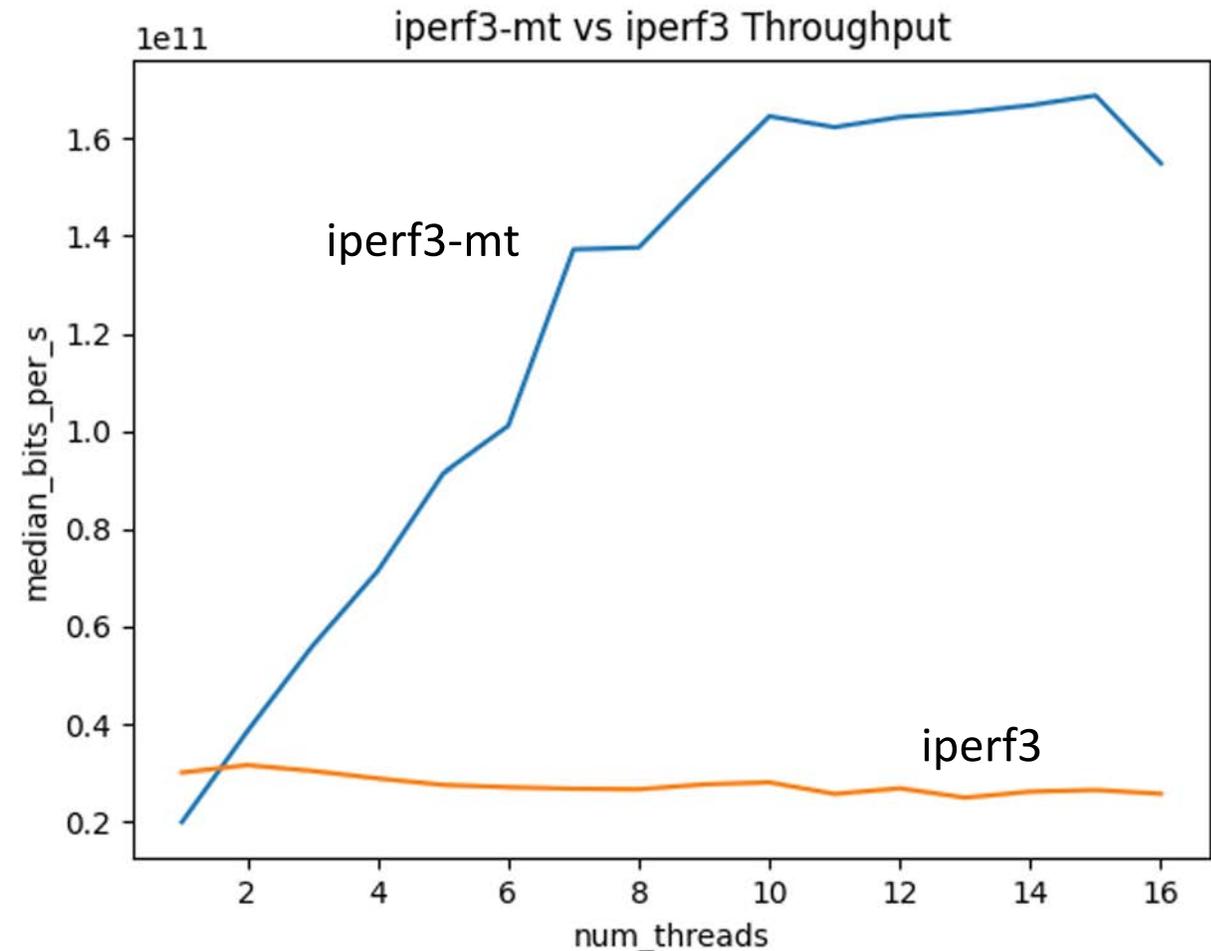
Performance Testing

- Test Setup:
 - Computers:
 - Back-to-back, no routers
 - 200 Gbps link
 - 16 cores, 2 packages, 32 cores total
 - More cores than parallel streams
 - Mellanox ConnectX6
 - ~3 GHz AMD CPU



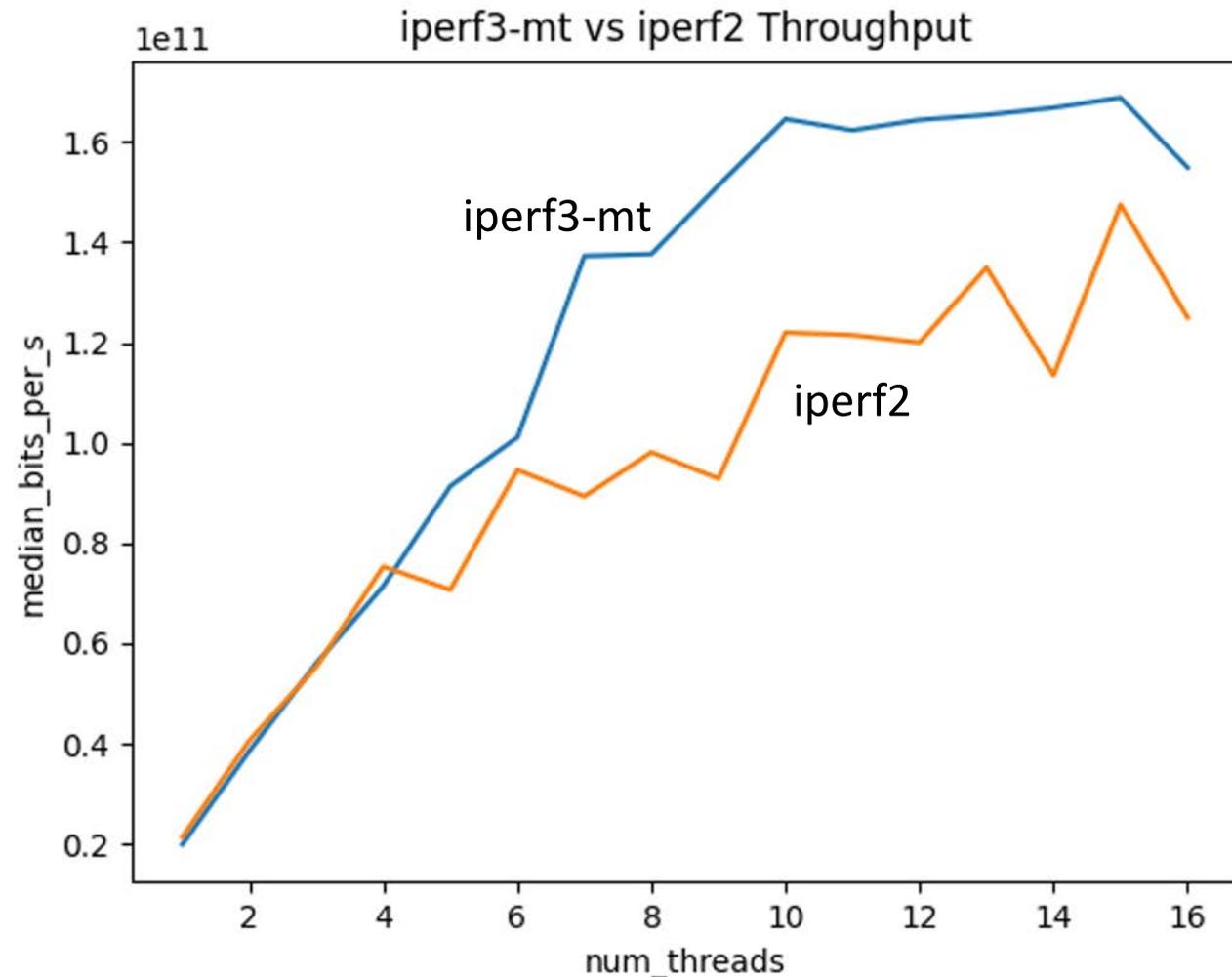
Effects on Performance

iperf3-mt has significant improvements in throughput performance over iperf3.



How does it compare to iperf2?

Multi-threaded iperf3 has similar throughput results to iperf2



What's Next?

- Testing on ESnet perfSONAR nodes and integration with pscheduler
- Further analysis with how threading impacts performance, virtual machines vs hardware
- Ensure correctness of threading prototype
- Experiments with tuning

When?

“Soon”

But seriously Q4 2023/Q1 2024

We’re going to test it on ESnet perfSONAR hosts before releasing the final version.

Any interest in testing or want the current working version:

<https://github.com/esnet/iperf/tree/mt>



Summary

The new multi-threaded iperf3 can better test performance of faster paths.

GitHub: <https://github.com/esnet/iperf>

Multi-threaded: <https://github.com/esnet/iperf/tree/mt>

Contact email: iperf@es.net

Questions?







2023 INTERNET2
TECHNOLOGY
exchange

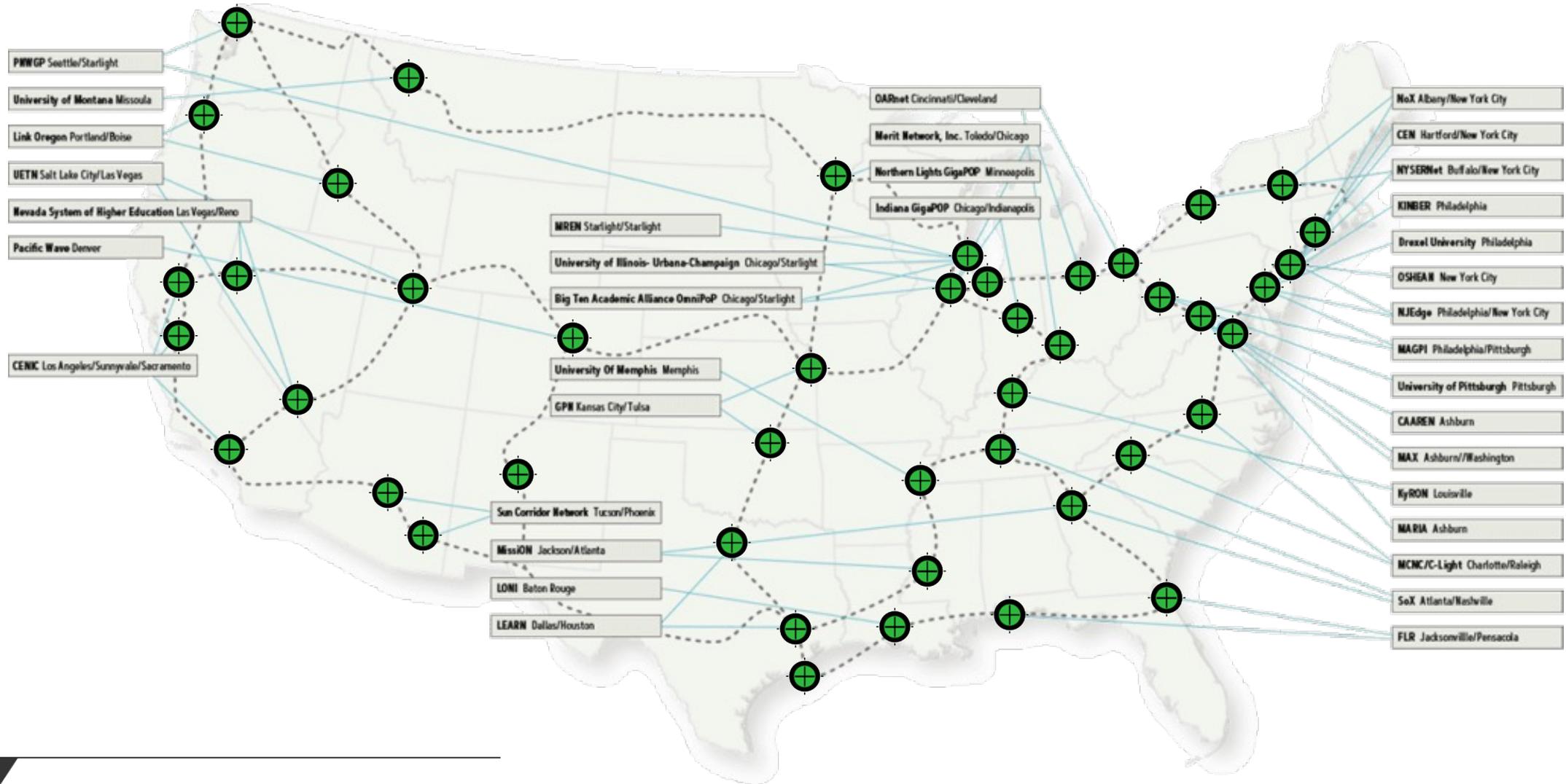
perfSONAR on the Internet2 Backbone

Mark Feit – Internet2 / perfSONAR Development Team
mfeit@internet2.edu

WE DID A THING



A Plethora of Public perfSONAR Points in PoPs



Using the Internet2 Public perfSONAR Nodes

PoP.ps.internet2.edu

- IPv4 and IPv6 available
- Log into a perfSONAR system (yours, not ours) and run a task with pScheduler

```
pscheduler task throughput --dest PoP.ps.internet2.edu
```



PoP Directory

Albany	alba	Hartford	hart2	Pensacola*	pens
Ashburn	ashb	Houston	houh	Philadelphia	phil
Atlanta	atla	Houston	hous	Phoenix	phoe
Boise*	bois	Indianapolis	indi	Pittsburgh	pitt
Boston**	bost	Jackson	jcsn	Portland	port
Charlotte	char	Jacksonville	jack	Raleigh	rale
Chicago	chic	Kansas City	kans	Reno	reno
Chicago	eqch	Las Vegas	lasv	Sacramento	sacr
Chicago	star	Los Angeles	losa	Salt Lake City	salt
Cincinnati	cinc	Los Angeles	losa2	San Jose	sanj
Cleveland	clev	Louisville	loui	Seattle*	seat
Dallas	dall	Minneapolis	minn	Sunnyvale	sunn
Dallas	dall3	Missoula	miss2	Toledo	tole2
Denver	denv	Nashville	nash	Tucson	tucs
El Paso	elpa	New York	newy2	Tulsa	tuls
Fargo**	farg	New York	newy32aoa	Washington	wash

*Not yet in service **Future

Topology

PoP Type	Router Connection
Distributed	Core*
Multi-Degree	
Interconnect	
Split Interconnect	Aggregation*

*First where more than one is installed

Network Reachability

Now

R&E + I2PX

Later

Elsewhere

Initial Administrative Limitations

- Caps on **throughput** test bandwidth
 - R&E* 10 Gb/s
 - Elsewhere 1 Gb/s
 - Higher bandwidth considered on a case-by-case basis
- No, **disk-to-disk**, **s3throughput**, **idleex** or **wifibssid** tests
- Tests with a **duration** parameter are limited to one minute
- Repeating tests
 - Not more-frequently than once per hour
 - Must wrap up within 24 hours
 - **repeat-until** parameter not allowed
- Testing priorities
 - Internet2 Internal
 - R&E Networks
 - Everyone Else
- These limits will be refined periodically to make sure the community's needs are being met.

*Determined using ESnet's R&E network list: http://stats.es.net/sample_configs/pscheduler/ren

Beta Period

- Now through January
- Feature set close to production
- Feedback is appreciated

pas@internet2.edu



Beta Will Be Beta

- Working through some teething with the NICs in some PoPs
 - Systems disappear from the network
- Ongoing experimentation on systems in **CLEV**, **PHOE** and **TUSC** PoPs



Performance Tuning

New OS

+ New Kernel

+ New NIC Driver

= New System Tunings

- Higher-speed throughput requires additional test parameters to run well





THE SYSTEMS

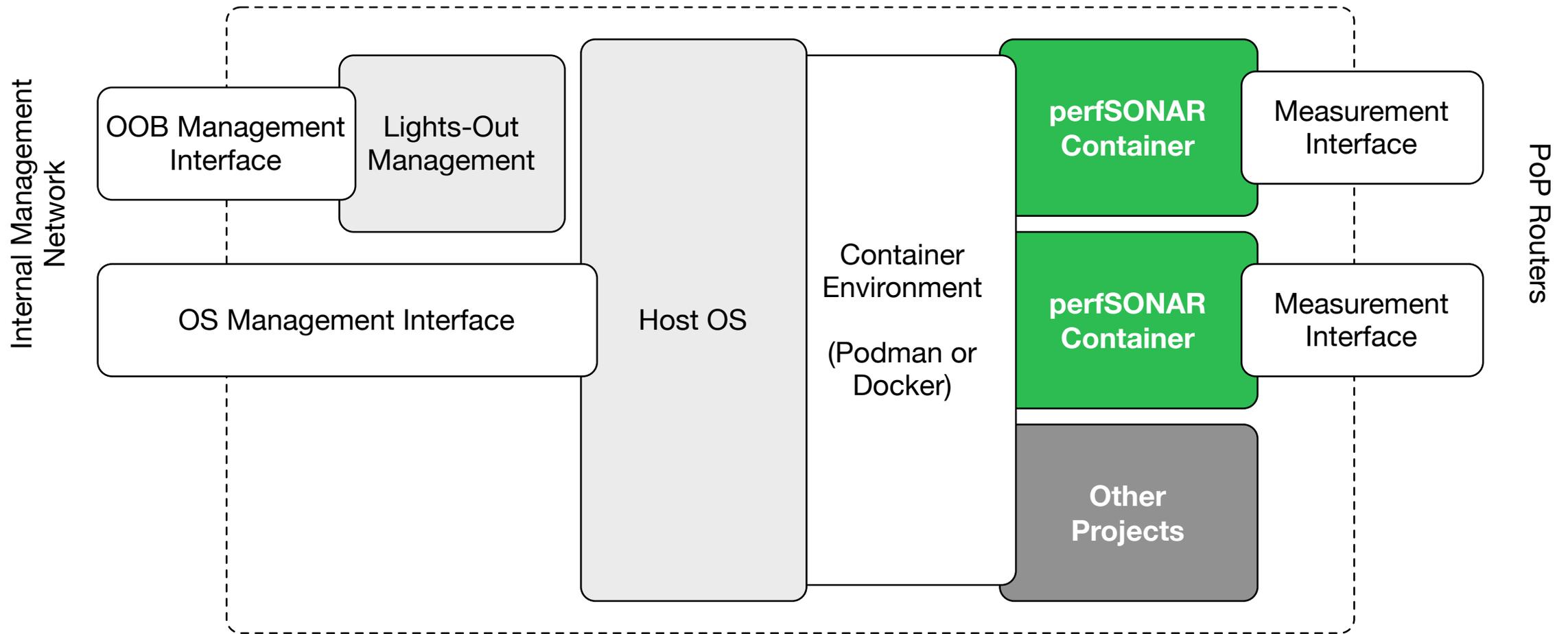
A Chicken System in Every Pot PoP

- Dell R6515 (NGI Buildout) and R6615 (Later)
- AMD EPYC 7402P 24 Cores / 48 Threads at 2.8 GHz
- 128 GiB RAM
- Broadcom 2x 10 GbE
- Mellanox Connect-X 5 2x 100 GbE
- AlmaLinux 9

Connections to routers vary by PoP type.



Host Architecture



Special Secret Sauce: The `macvlan` Network Driver

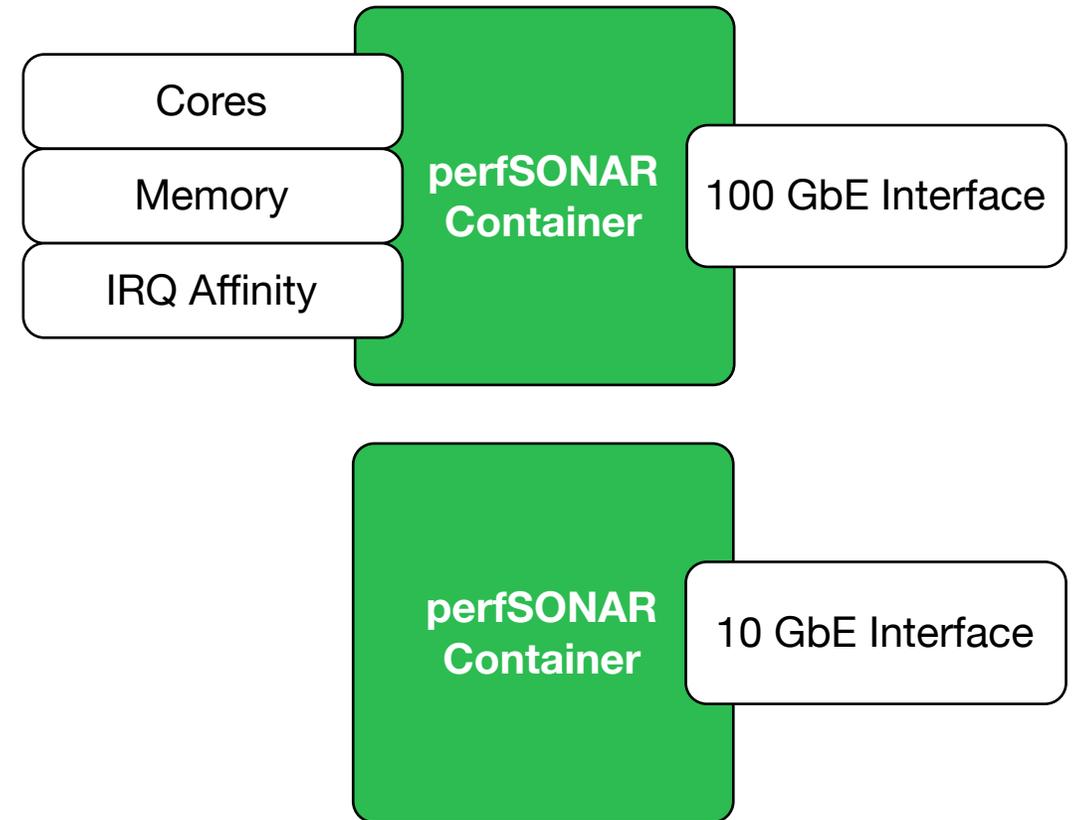
- Binds a host interface directly into a container
- Bypasses additional container networking code
- Negligible performance difference vs. bare metal
- No address assigned on the host
 - Prevents external access to the OS



Big MACVLAN

Resources for Performance

- 100 GbE Interface Containers
 - 12 Dedicated CPU Cores (Threads)
 - 32 GiB Dedicated RAM
 - IRQ Affinity (Tuning)
 - 93+ Gb/s
- 10 GbE Interface Containers
 - Shared CPU Cores
 - Shared Memory
 - No special performance tuning



Deployment Technology Stack(s)

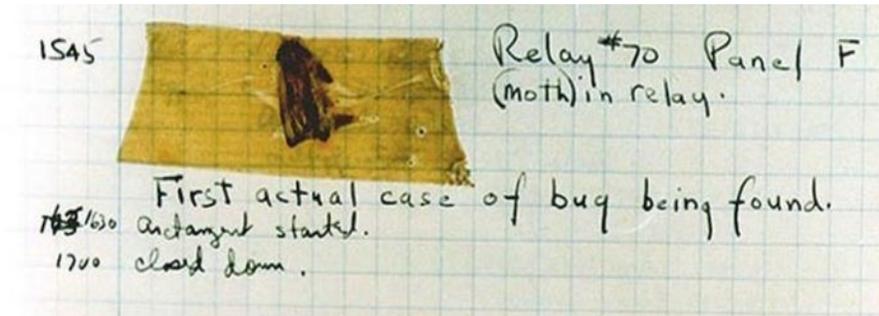
- Single data set with detailed information on PoPs, systems, interfaces and networks
 - System kickstart files
 - Ansible
 - Salt
 - Assorted shell scripts
 - DNS records
 - Internal proxy configuration and ACLs

- Ultimate goal is to use Salt



Why so many different technologies?

- The tools are buggy.
- IPv4 /31s used for point-to-point connections
 - Halves address use compared to /30s
 - See RFC 3021
- Docker couldn't handle those at all
 - Patch submitted in 2021, released in Docker 23.0.0 (2022).
- Podman is fine with them but its web API isn't.



The Long and Winding Road

- Began with Ansible for expediency
 - Problems with networks being re-created with each run
 - Destroyed/rebuilt the container. *No bueno.*
- Tried Salt
 - Stymied by the /31 problem
- Ended up with a set of shell scripts
 - Tied together for single-command provisioning of the entire system
 - Small bites that can be easily converted to Ansible or Salt



Future Development: Deployment Kit

- Will be derived from deployments at Internet2 and elsewhere
 - Based around Ansible
 - Minimal manual perfSONAR host configuration
 - Driven by data: Configure and go
 - Container-per-interface model (Plain or VLANs)
- Initial version targets Debian
 - EL to follow

Thanks!

Public perfSONAR

POP . ps . internet2 . edu

Feedback

pas@internet2 . edu





perfSONAR in GÉANT

2023 edition

Lætitia A Delvaux, PSNC / GÉANT Project

GN5-1 WP6T3 Task Leader

TechEX23, Minneapolis, MN, USA

20 September 2023

Public (PU)

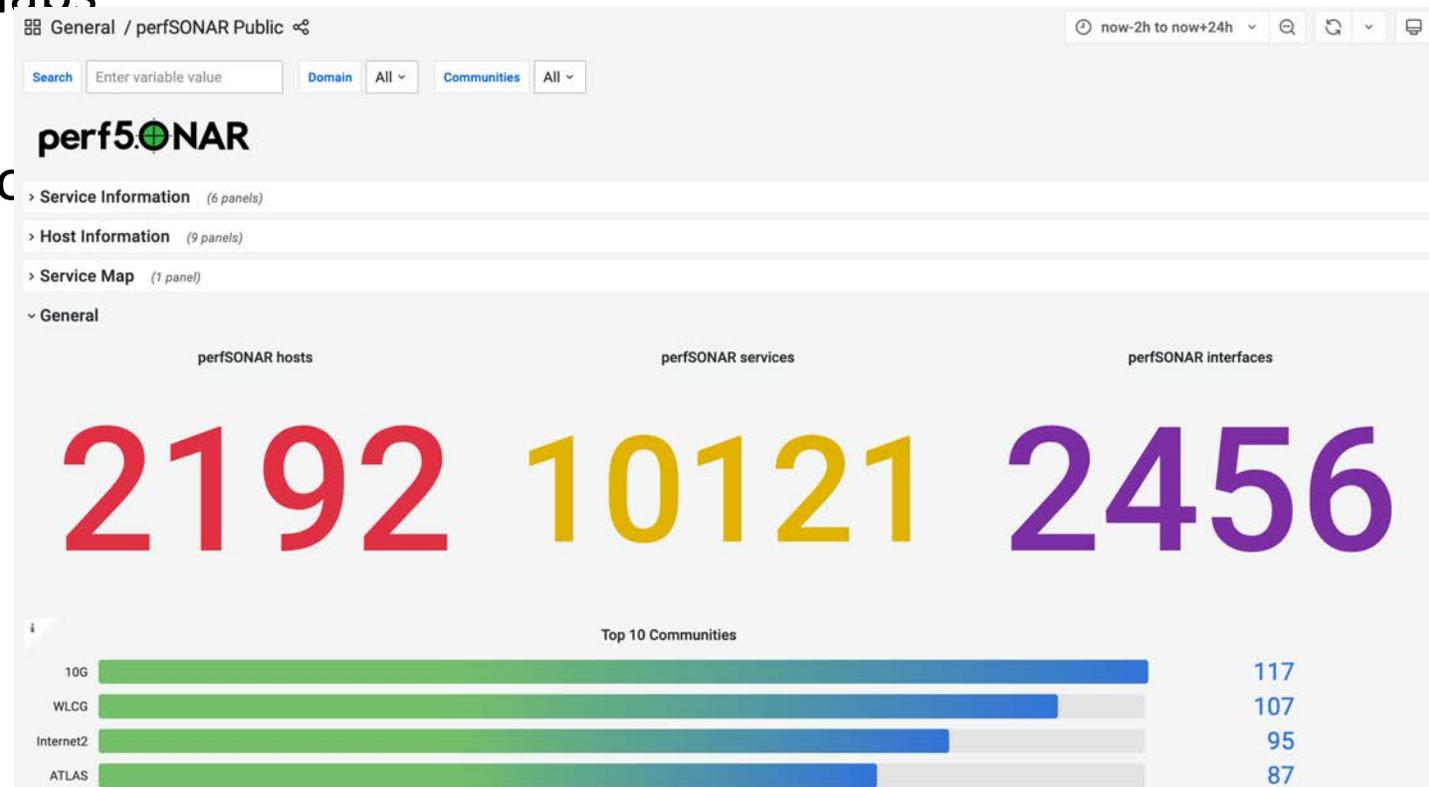
GN5-1

Multiple perfSONAR activities in GÉANT

- Lookup Service dashboards
- perfSONAR deployments
- Microdep integration
- On-demand perfSONAR Graphical User Interface (psGUI)

Lookup Service dashboards

- Display, filter and search the content of the Lookup Service
- Grafana 8 based
 - Filtering on text, domains, communities
 - Stats on hosts and services, mans
- <https://stats.perfsonar.net>
 - Replaces ESnet Service Directc
- Next steps:
 - Port to Grafana 9
 - Filter on multiple values



perfSONAR deployments in the GÉANT network (1/2)

- 10 public deployments on the core network: <https://network.geant.org/perfsonar/>



perfSONAR deployments in the GÉANT network (2/2)

- Performance Measurement Platform (PMP)
 - Small nodes (Intel NUC) and VM
 - Deployed in GÉANT partners organisations
- Measurements
 - Diverse set of measurements
 - Regularly to GÉANT core network
 - Verify GÉANT access links
 - International connections (ESnet, Internet2, RNP, ...)
 - 2nd tiers: University networks
- <https://pmp-central.geant.org>

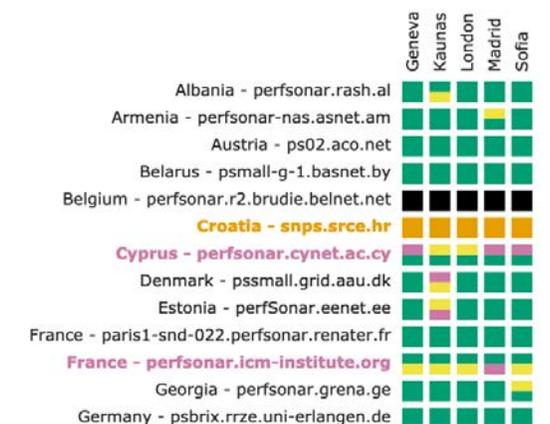


PMP IPv4 Dashboard

PMP - IPv4 OWD - Loss

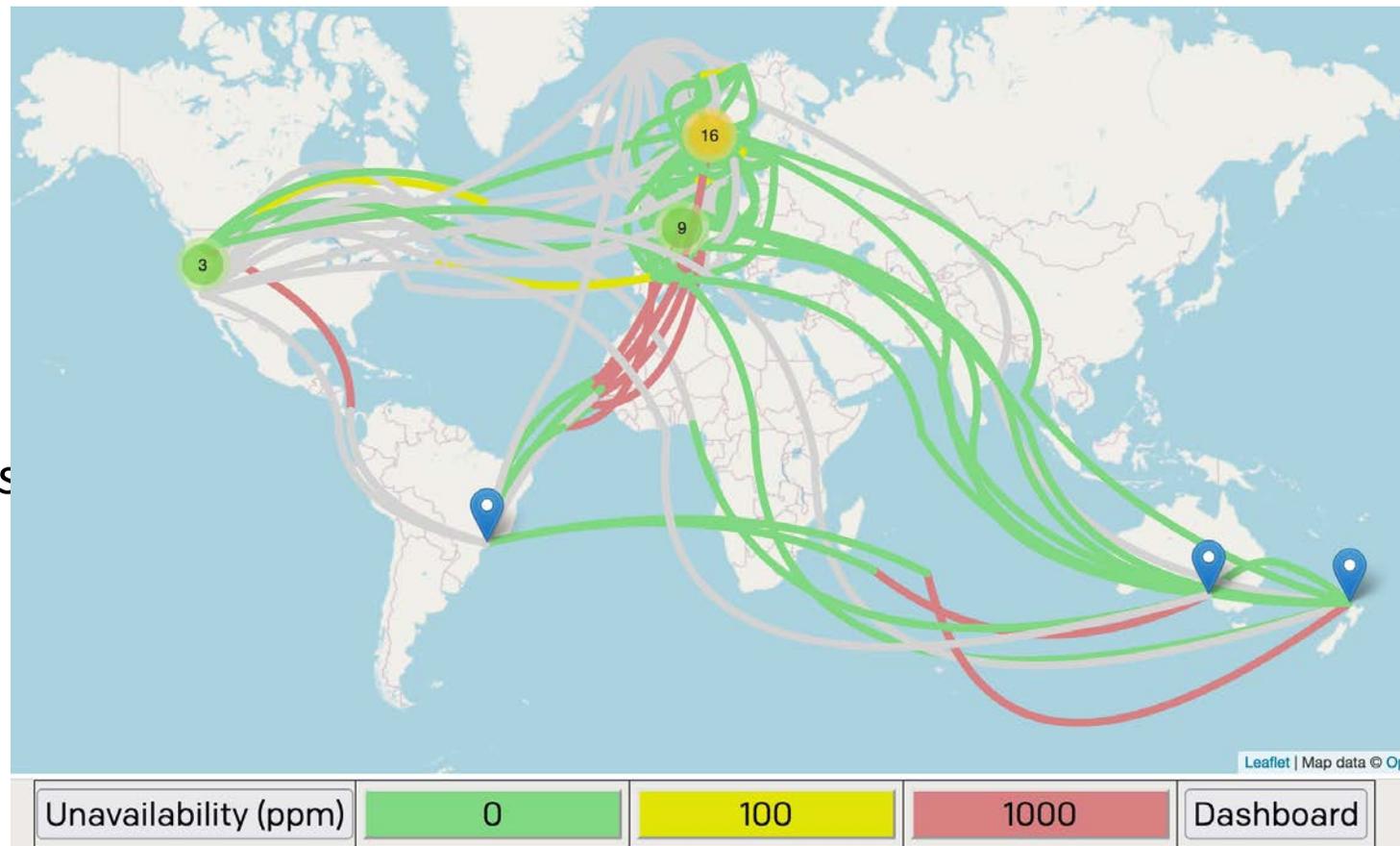


⚠ Found a total of 6 problems involving 6 hosts in the grid



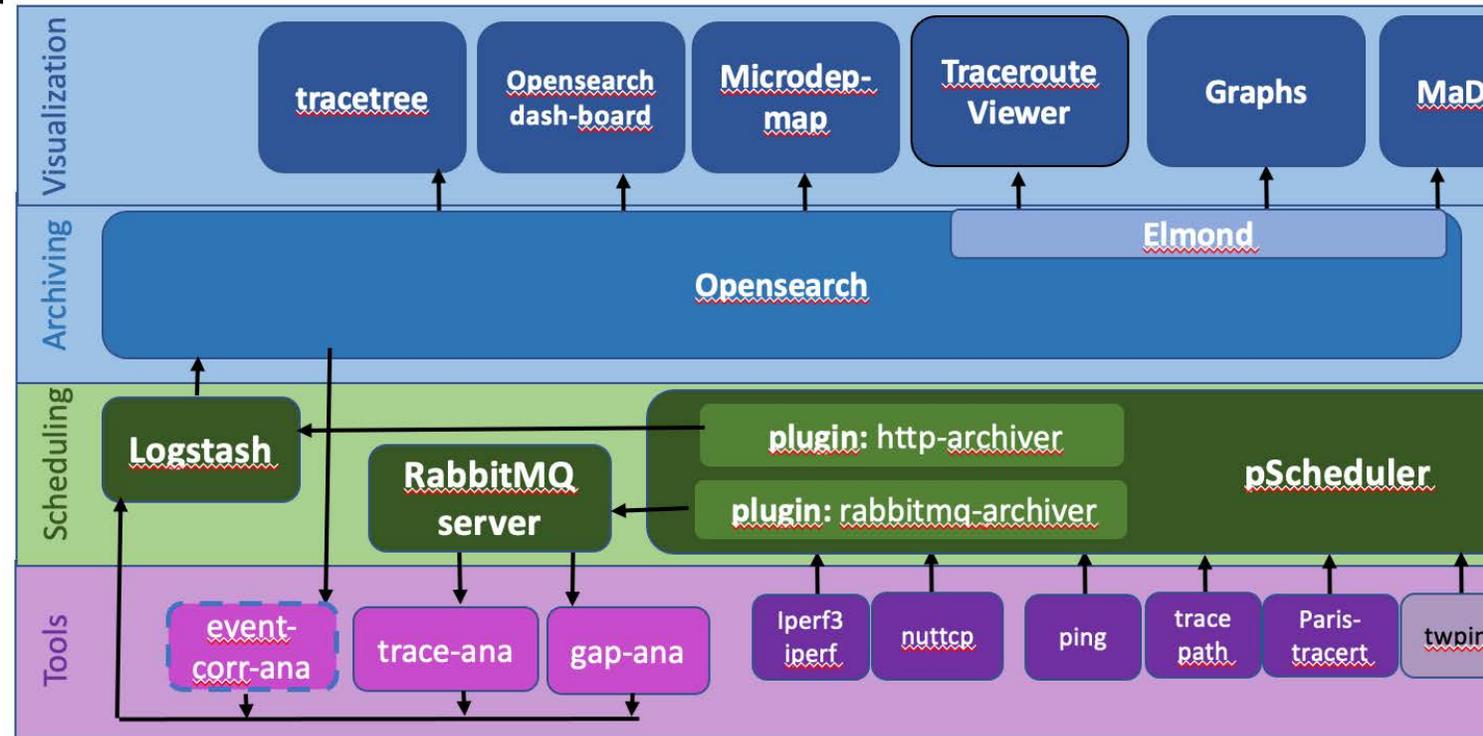
Microdep integration with perfSONAR (1/2)

- Microdep is a packet loss analysis and visualisation tool
 - Spotting packet gaps, micro failures, ~10 packets loss
 - Using 100 packet/sec probes
 - Traceroutes and ICMP response monitoring
- Realtime event analysis:
 - Packet-loss (gaps)
 - Queues (jitter)
 - Route failures and changes (traceroute)
 - Joint event anomaly and alarms (ELK and ML)



Microdep integration with perfSONAR (2/2)

- Using perfSONAR to generate probes
 - OWAMP for paced packets
 - Traceroute
 - Rely on 2000+ public perfSONAR hosts
 - Use pSConfig and pScheduler
- Adding a data pipeline to
 - Analyse packet gaps
 - Store history for further anal
- Next steps:
 - Package and bundle with pS



On-demand perfSONAR Graphical User Interface (psGUI) (1/2)

- GUI to drive perfSONAR / pScheduler
- Use case:
 - MaDDash setup, grids, regular measurements
 - Want to do a one off, on-demand additional test
 - List of pS nodes coming from pSConfig file, MaDDash grids

- GUI list all possible tests and main parameters:

Test:

IPv4 IPv6

[Advanced parameters](#)

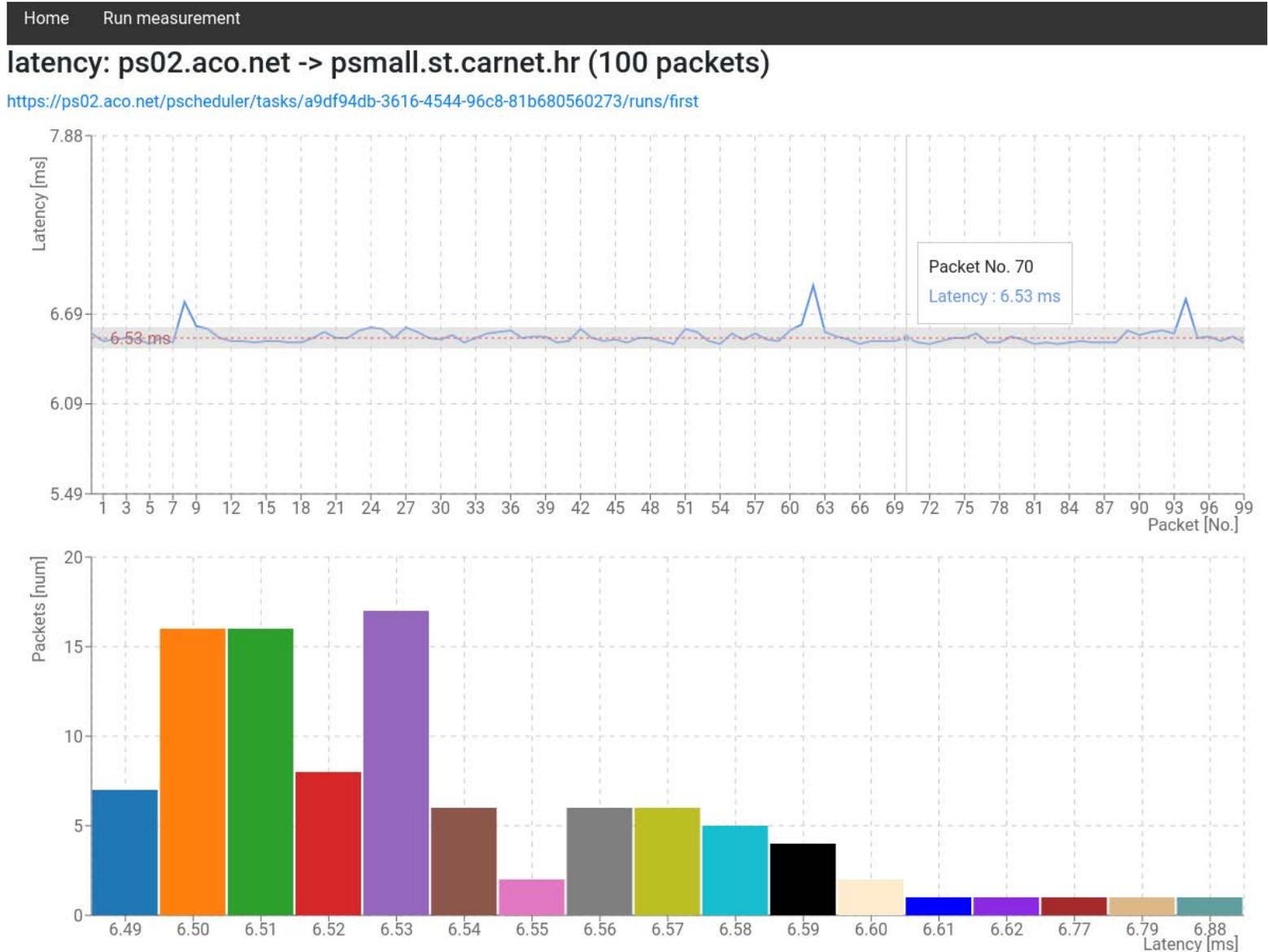
Packet Count: <input type="text" value="100"/> <small>The number of packets to send (10 - 1000000)</small>	Packet Interval: <input type="text" value="0.1"/> <small>The number of seconds to delay between sending packets (0.000001 - 1)</small>
Packet Timeout: <input type="text" value="2"/> <small>The number of seconds to wait before declaring a packet lost (1 - 10)</small>	Packet Padding: <input type="text" value="20"/> <small>The size of padding to add to the packet in bytes (14 - 20000)</small>

On-demand perfSONAR Graphical User Interface (psGUI) (2/2)

- Results:

- Packaged as a Docker Image to be built

- <https://github.com/perfsonar/psgui>





Thank You

Contact: perfsonar@lists.geant.org

www.geant.org



Co-funded by
the European Union



Cartoon text courtesy of
textstudio.com