SURF SURF



RIPE88 Joachim Opdenakker Network Engineer SURF 21-05-2024

800G for LHC: physics beat ethernet

Who am I?

Joachim Opdenakker

- Network engineer at SURF (Dutch NREN) since aug. 2022
- Specialised in:
 - Peering
 - BGP and BGP analysis
 - Service development
 - Architecture



SURF?

- Dutch National Research & Education network
- National network of apporx. 14000 km fiber and 2000 km internationally
- ~470 backbone routers
- International PoP's in London, Brussels, Hamburg, Geneva
- Involved with LHC networks
- Developing the Workflow Orchestrator for vendor Agnostic SDN
- Consortium of trans-atlantic research network capacity



Why 800Gbps testing?

LHC

World's largest and highest-energy particle collider. Located across the border of France and Switzerland.

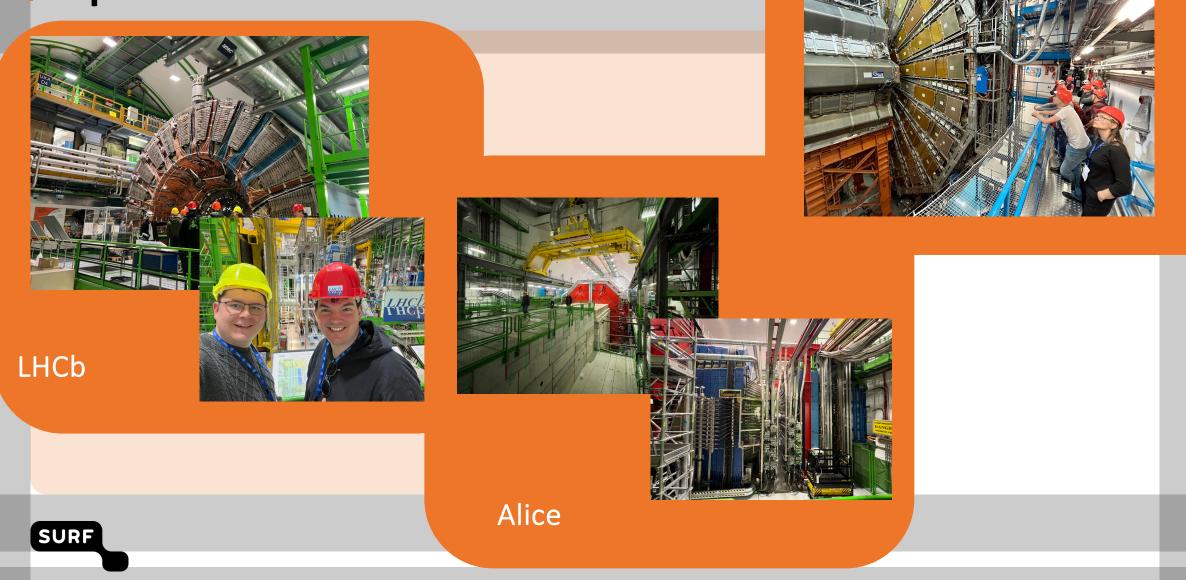
Experiments

Alice, LHCb, ATLAS and CMS





Experiments

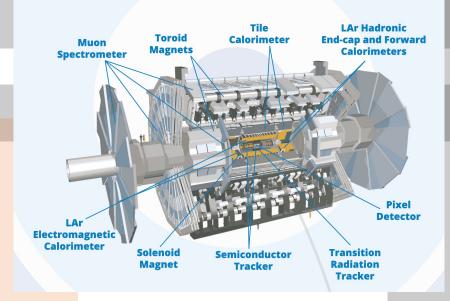


ATLAS detector

Event rates:

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- At a beam luminosity of 10 34 cm-2 s-1, there will be about 20 collisions per bunch crossing.
- 40 million bunch crossings per second.
- Yields about 1 billion collisions per second.
- Level 1 trigger filters that down to about 75 000 events per second.
- Level 2 trigger reduces it to about 2 000 events per second.
- The Event Filter then selects for permanent storage about 200 "interesting" events per second.



Trigger and Data Acquisition (TDAQ)

TDAQ has a 3 level Trigger system (reduction in three steps). Total event reduction factor by the trigger system: 200 000.

- \cdot 1st level trigger: Hardware, level 1 is done using special-purpose processors.¹
- \cdot 2nd level trigger: Software, large computing farms with ~ 500 dual pc processors.

 \cdot 3rd level trigger: Software, large computing farms with ~ 1700 dual pc processors. The rates and reduction factors at 14 TeV are summarized as:

	Incoming event rate per second	Outgoing event rate per second	Reduction factor
Level 1	40 000 000	100 000	400
Level 2	100 000	3 000	30
Level 3	3 000	200	15

TDAQ records 320 Mbytes per second, which would fill more than 27 CDs per minute.

From the ATLAS fact sheet (pre HL-LHC)



Data transport: tiered

Tiered storage locations

need to be connected

CERN is TO storage site





Data transport: T0 -> T1: LHCOPN

LHCOPN – Large Hadron Collider Optical Private Network

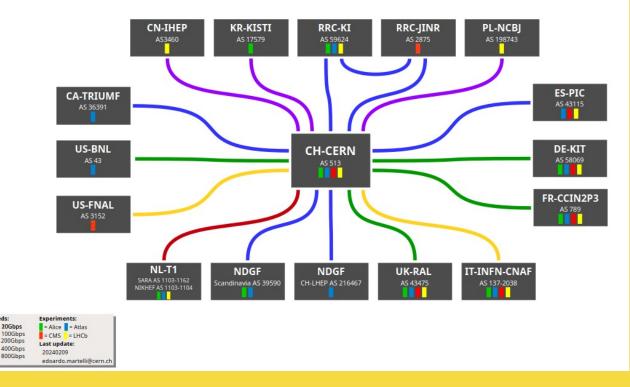
Private network between TO and T1 storage sites.

Netherlands has a shared T1 storage facility:

- SURF (formerly SURFsara)
- Nikhef (Dutch National Institute

for Subatomic Physics)



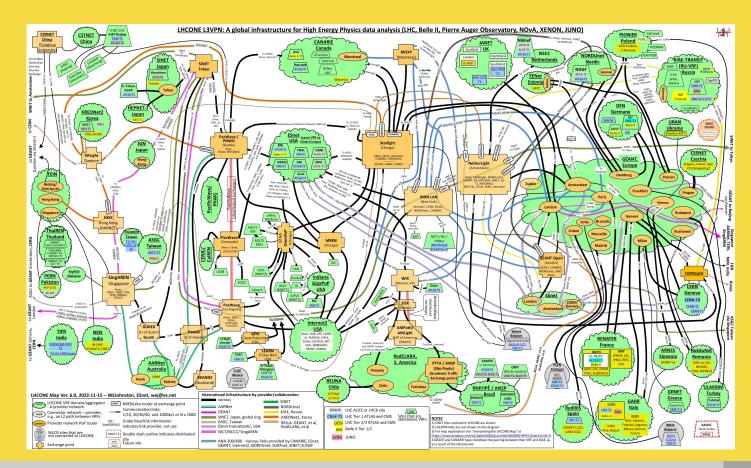




Data transportation: T1 -> T2: LHCONE

LHCONE – Large Hadron Collider Open Network Environment

Private network between T1 and T2 storage sites.

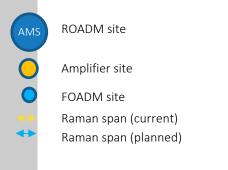


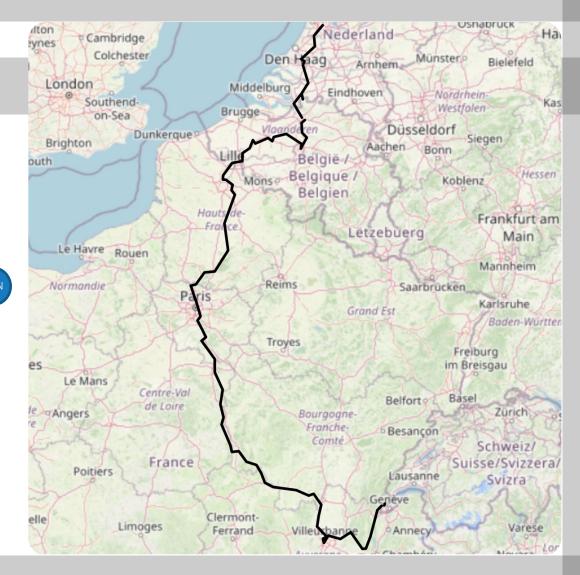


SURF's line system on a map

Amsterdam – Geneva

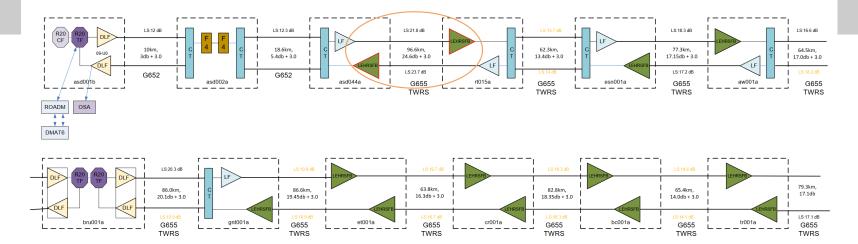
• Total fiber distance (one-way) is 1648 km.

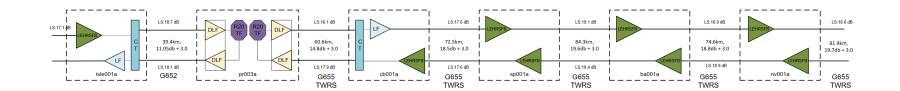


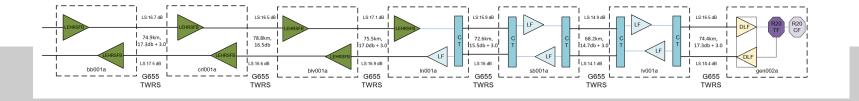




SURF's line system between Amsterdam and Geneva







Preparing...

Q1/Q2 2023 - New software release for NMS and amplifiers

• Minor improvement of signal quality

Q3 2023 – RAMAN upgrades

• Replacing Raman for Raman with VOA and optimise OSC in scope, reducing tilt.

Q4 2023 – RAMAN installations

Replacing EDFA type for Raman on some spans, improve link performance.

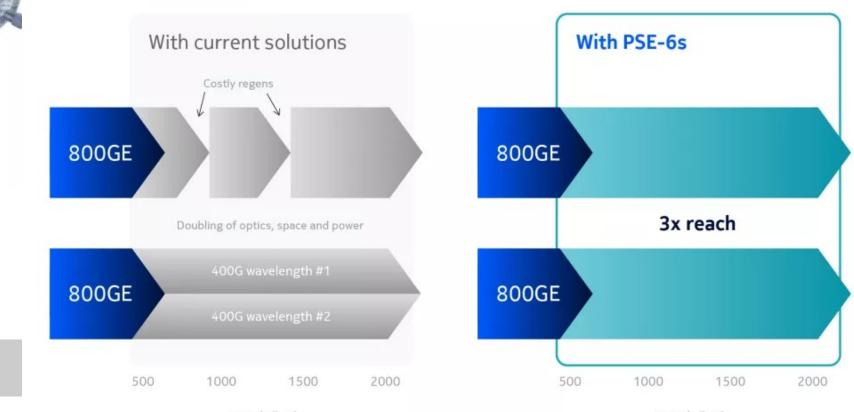
Week 8 / 2024 – Trial with Nokia transponder and IP equipment



Hardware used: optical transport (Nokia)

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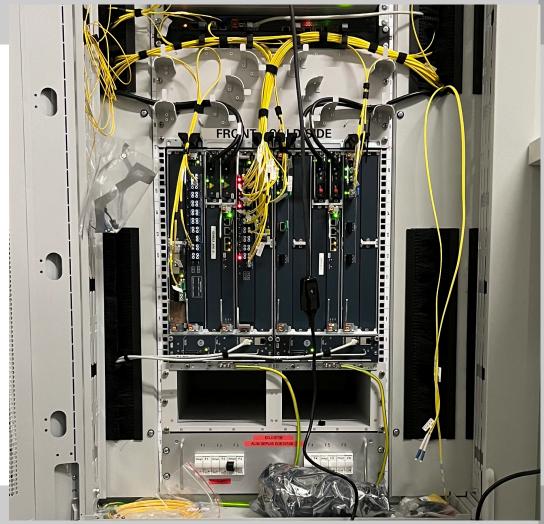


Reach (km)

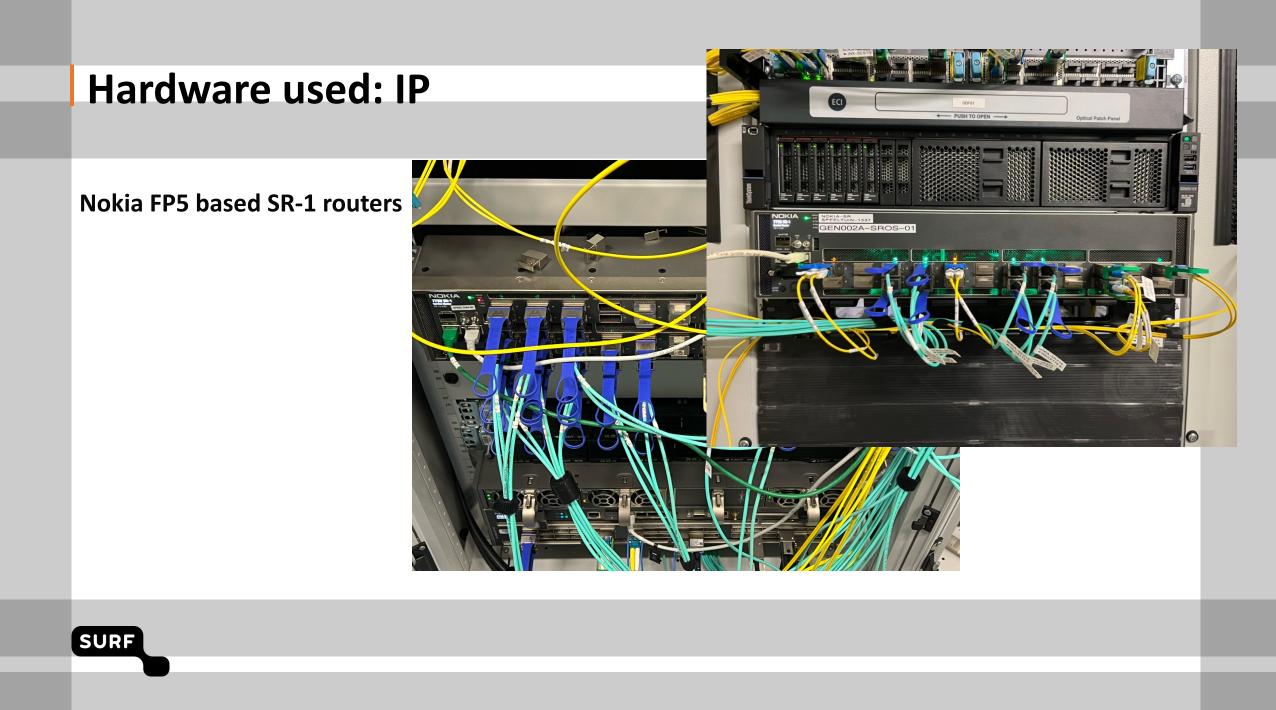
Reach (km)

Hardware used: optical transport (Ribbon)

- Ribbon Apollo 96xx chassis
- Roadm's
- Amplifiers
- Transponders

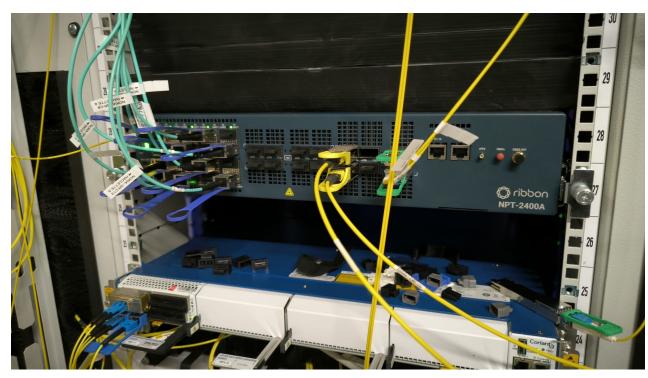






Hardware used: IP

Ribbon NPT-2400 Broadcom J2C 4.8T







Hardware used: IP

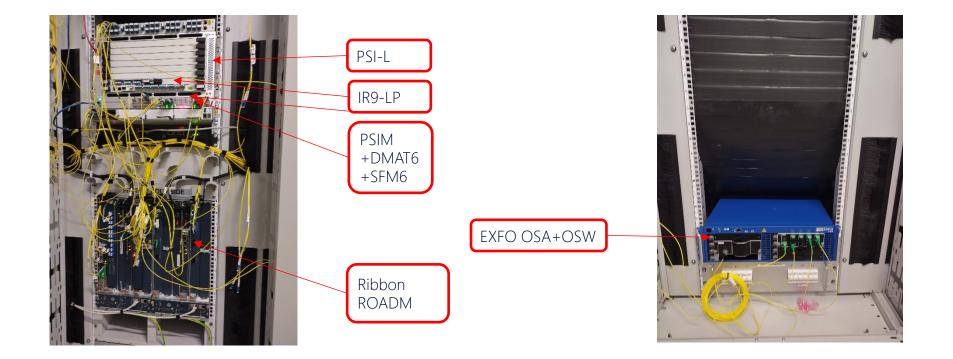
• Ribbon NPT 2400: Broadcom 4.8Tbit/s Jericho2c





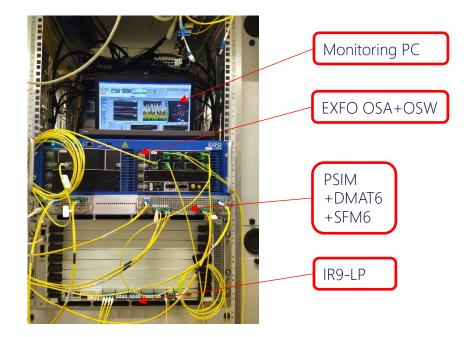


SURF's LHCOPN 800G test: CERN Pictures



Confidential

SURF's LHCOPN 800G test: Pictures AMSTERDAM



Confidential



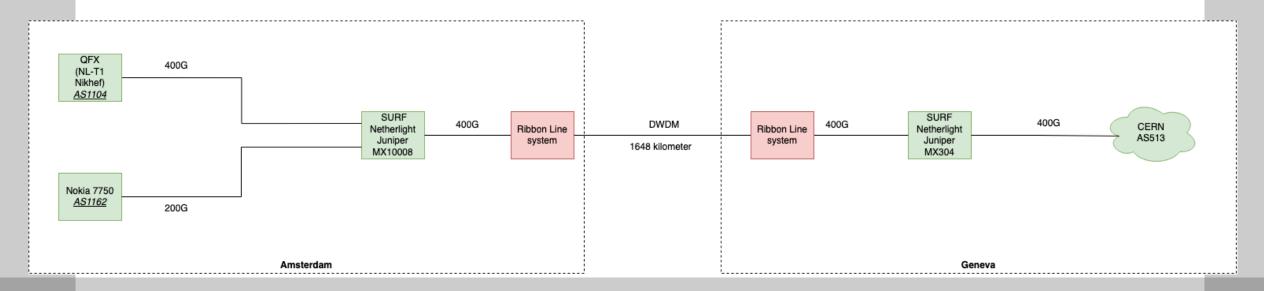
SURF's LHCOPN Production topology (as of end 2023)

400GE capable transport system

- 1648km fiber trajectory long between Amsterdam & Geneva
- 400GE capable routers on each end

SURF

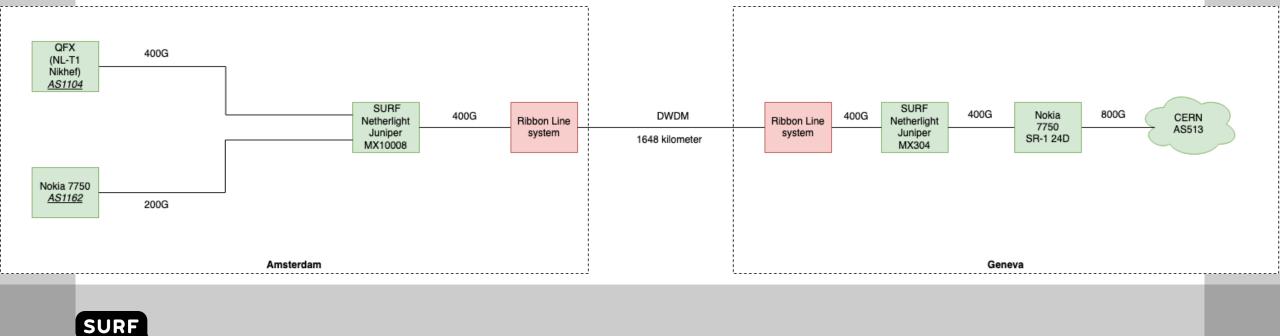
• 2x 200GE lambda between linesystem ends



SURF's LHCOPN intermediate topology (as of 07/02/2024)

400GE capable transport system

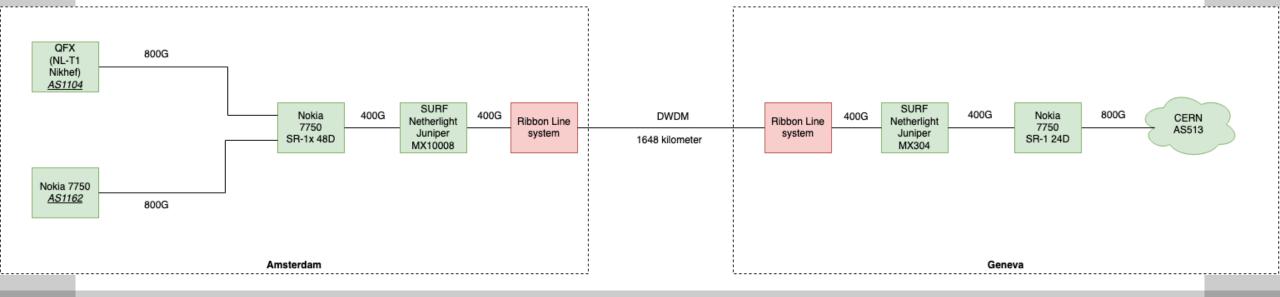
- Add in Nokia in between MX304 and CERN
- Moved service attach point from MX304 to Nokia



SURF's LHCOPN intermediate topology (as of 14/02/2024)

400GE capable transport system

- Add in Nokia between SURF and Nikhef in Amsterdam
- Add extra service attach point to Nokia

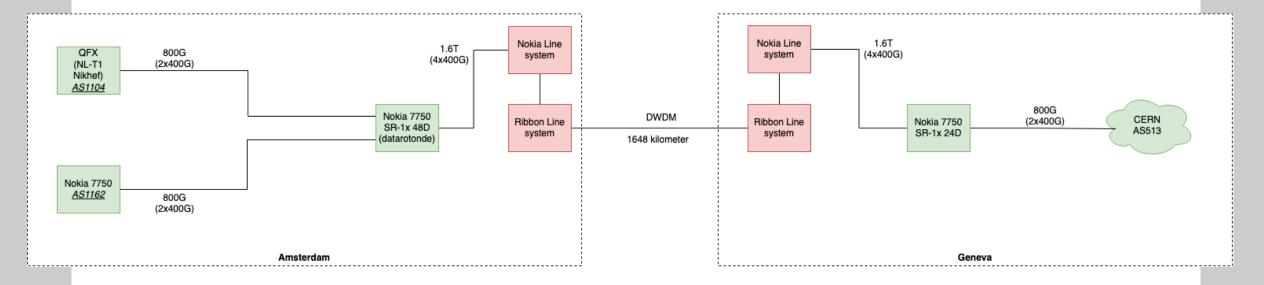


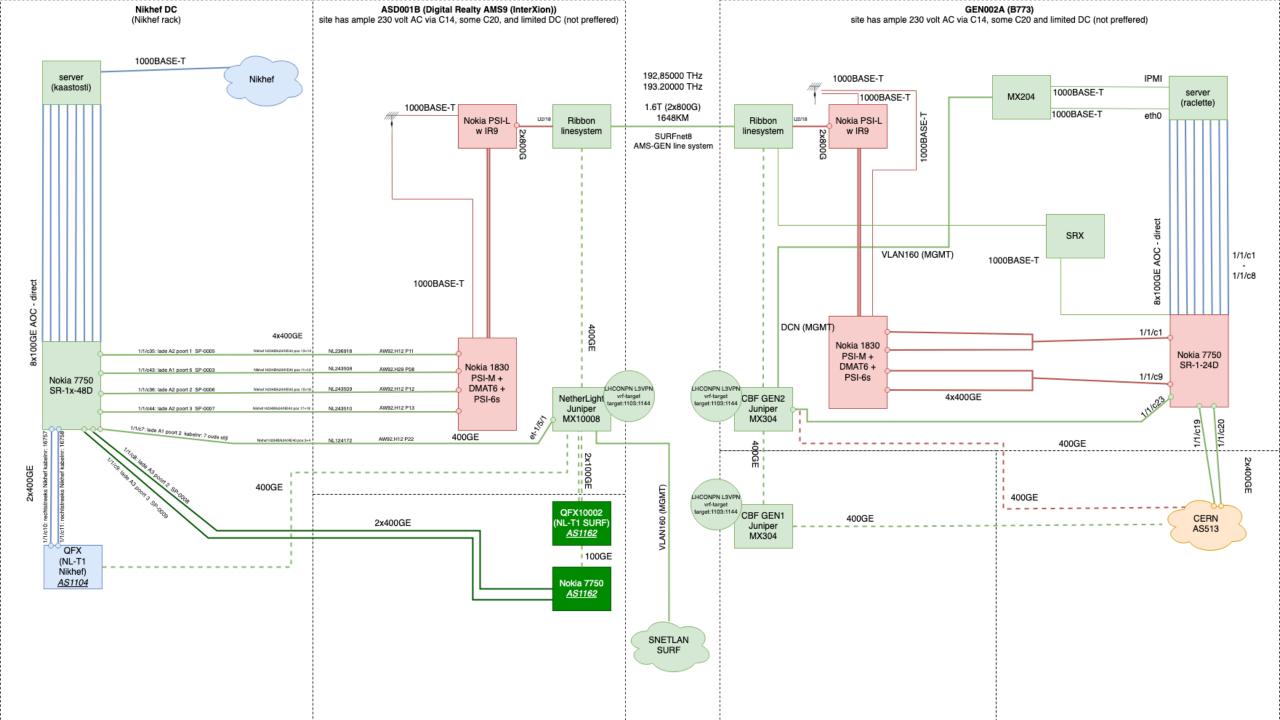


SURF's LHCOPN Test topology

800GE capable transport system

- 1648km fiber trajectory long between Amsterdam & Geneva
- 800GE capable routers on each end (stacking 400G towards sites)





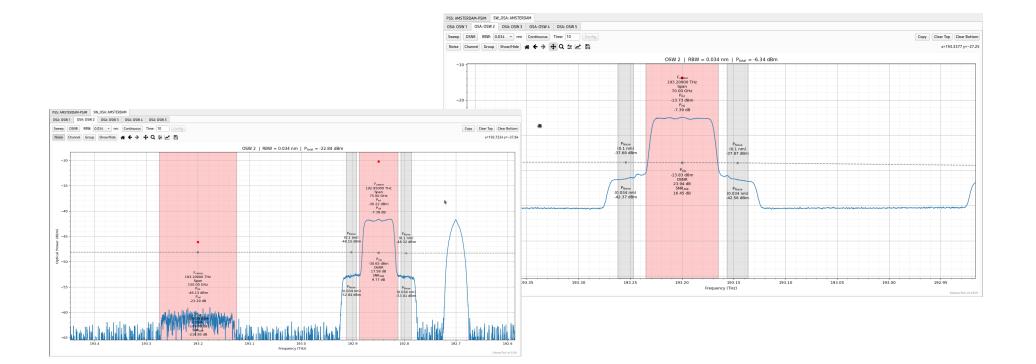
Spectrum analyzer: CERN







Spectrum analyzer: AMSTERDAM



SURF's LHCOPN 800G test: Protocol stack

No IGP between Nokia routers

- iBGP with short BFD timers
- Used our testbed AS 1125
- "pretend" to SURFsara, Nikhef and CERN to be AS 1103
- Hiding global AS

Shifting traffic

- During migration phase, used LOCAL-PREF and AS-prepend
- In production, short AS path always results in test path being used

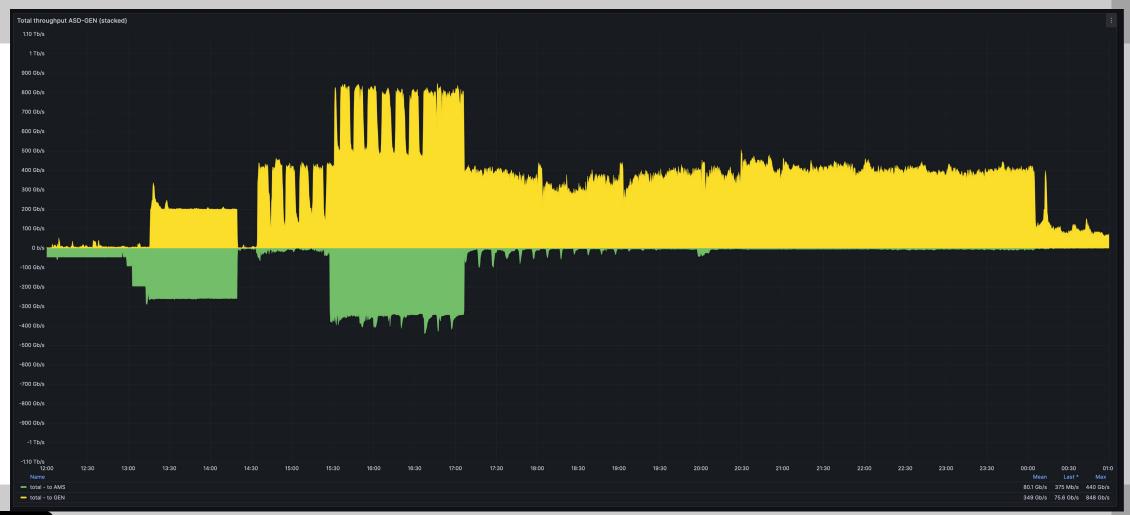


Hardware used: Test servers

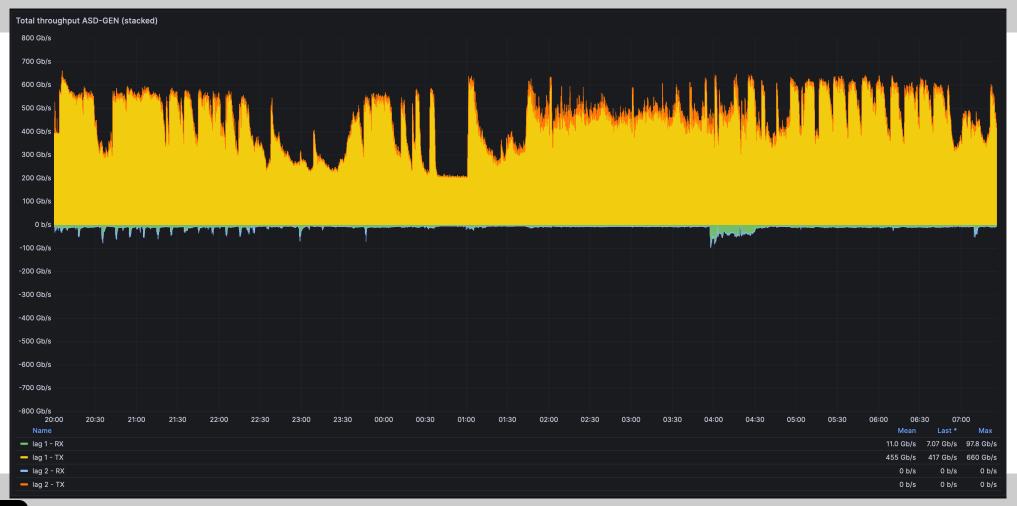
- AMD EPYC 9554P 64C 128T @3,76 Ghz
- 768GB DDR5 4800 MT/s
- 4x dual port Mellanox ConnectX-7
- 6x 3.84T Intel/Solidigm P5520 Nvme
- DPDK pkt-gen



Total throughput Amsterdam <-> Geneva



Last day of only production testing

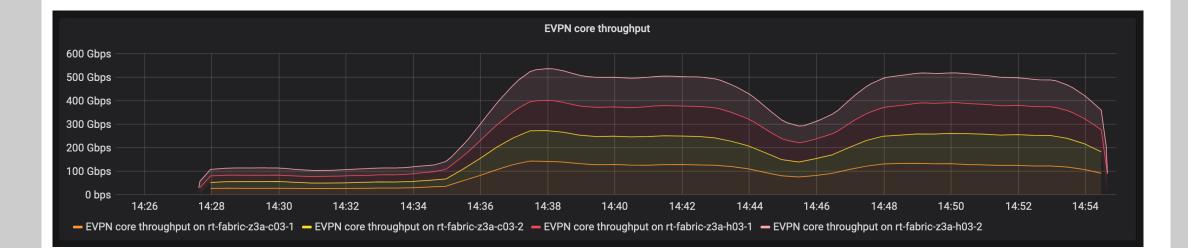


Last day of only production testing

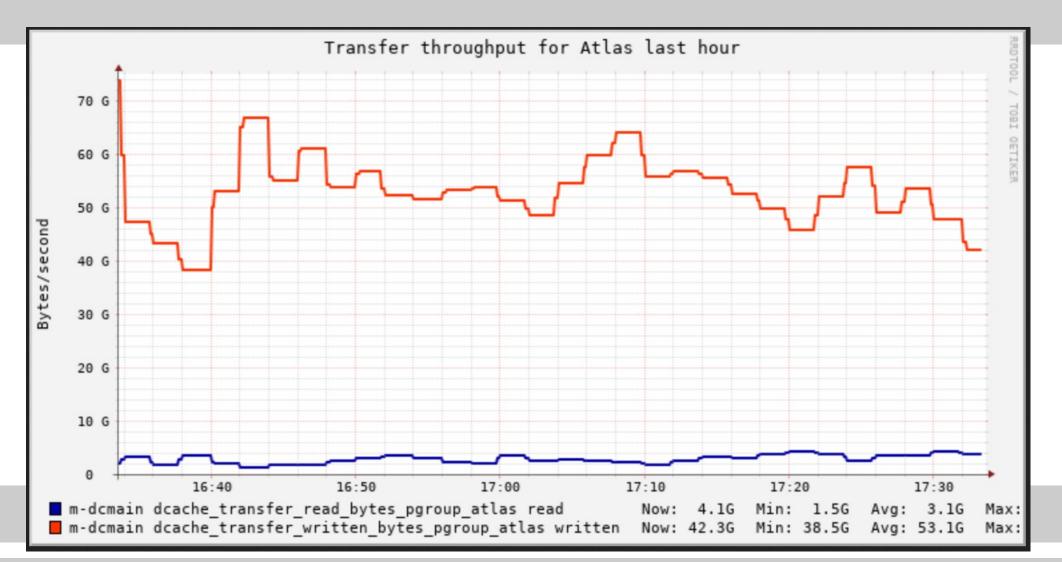




SURF datacenter network fabric load



dCache storage throughput



dCache CPU load

Tier1 Cluster > orca1.mgmt.grid.surfsara.nl

15:40

User Now: 1.9%

□ Nice Now: 0.0%

16:00

System Now: 5.5% Min: 0.0% Avg: 2.3%

■ Wait Now: 68.4% Min: 0.0% Avg: 20.2%

□ Idle Now: 24.2% Min: 20.1% Avg: 76.4%

16:20

Min: 0.1% Avg: 1.1%

Min: 0.0% Avg: 0.0%

16:40

17:00

Max: 4.5%

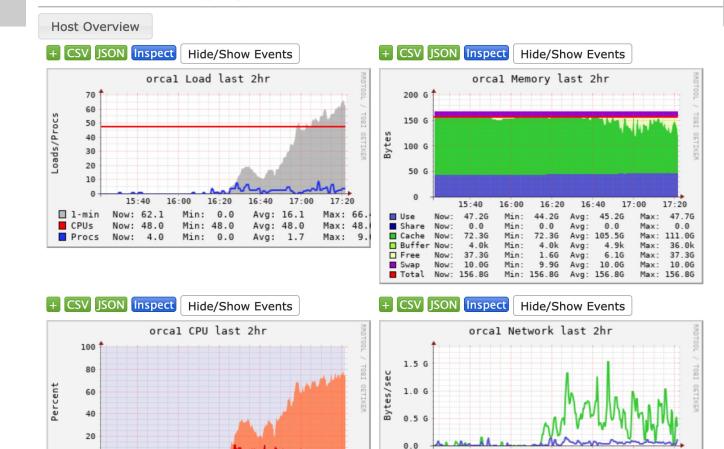
Max: 0.3%

Max: 9.8%

Max: 76.6%

Max: 99.9%

17:20



15:40

16:00

16:20

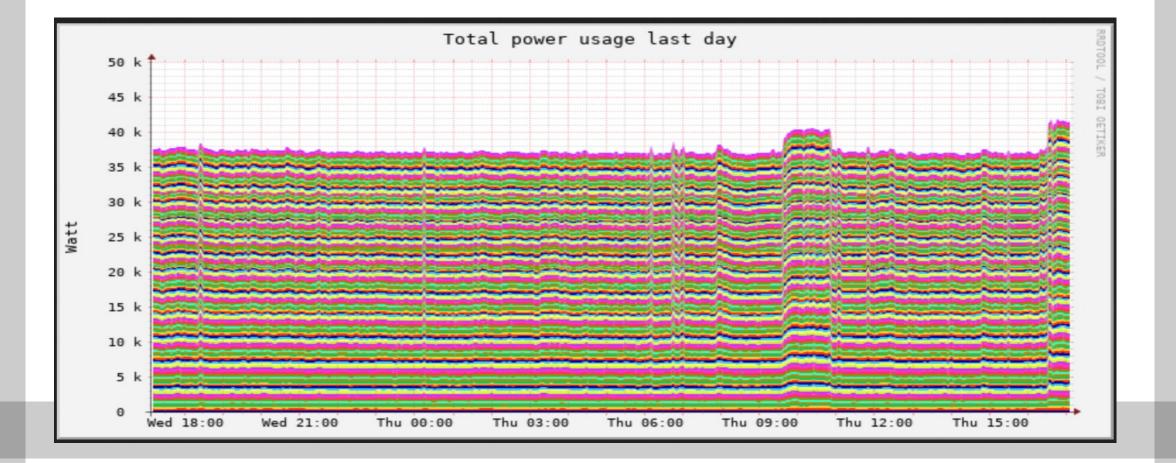
In Now:366.3M Min: 3.4k Avg:306.7M Max: 1.5G
Out Now:110.8M Min: 24.3k Avg: 41.9M Max:164.7M

16:40

17:00

17:20

dCache power consumption



Lessons learned

- Fiber AMS-GEN is of poor quality. In trial environments we might reach 800G per channel, but in production environments there is insufficient margin
- Different vendors on the line system side and transponder side seem to work quite well.
- IP hardware used in trial worked as expected. (no 200G Ethernet available yet)
- L3VPN interop between Nokia and Juniper worked great
- Packet canons can easily reach 800G with 8x100G
- We are the fastest LHC T1 both on network and storage throughput!! Reached up to 661Gbit/s
- Continued testing at 2 400G Channels to reach 800Gb/s Connectivity to NL-T1 for storage troughput testing

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