



---

# VPP: IPv4-lite

**A 100Mpps+ BGP/OSPFv3 router  
with a single IPv4 address**

Pim van Pelt • 2024-09-27 • FRNOG • Paris, France  
[go.ipng.ch/frnog40](https://go.ipng.ch/frnog40)

---



Pim van Pelt

---

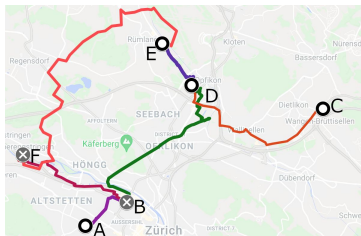
## Intro: Pim van Pelt (PBVP1-RIPE)

- Member of the RIPE community since 1999 (RIPE #34)
  - Has used [[pim@ipng.nl](mailto:pim@ipng.nl)] for 25 years
  - And also [[pim@ipng.ch](mailto:pim@ipng.ch)] for 18 years
  - Incorporated [[ipng.ch](http://ipng.ch)] in Switzerland in 2021

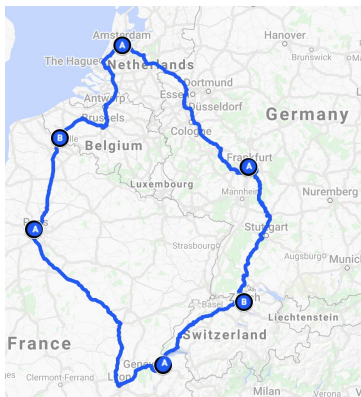


---

## Intro: IPng Networks - AS8298



- Developer of Software Routers - DPDK and VPP [ref]
- Tiny operator from Brüttisellen (ZH), Switzerland [ref]



- Thirteen VPP/Bird2 routers [ref] (UN/LOCODE names)
  - European ring: *peering on the FLAP\** [ref] ~2'150 adjacencies
  - Acquired AS8298 from SixXS [ref]
-



# Intro: Vector Packet Processing

FD.io VPP [ref] is an open source dataplane that:

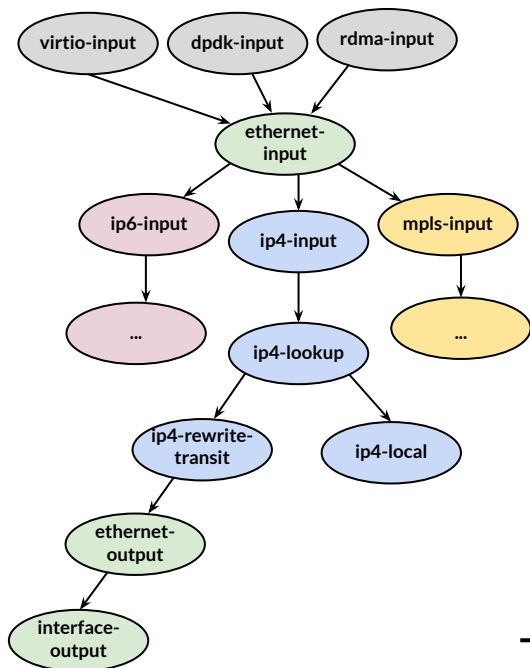
- runs in userspace,
- provides very fast networking,
- using DPDK, RDMA, VirtIO, VMXNet3, AVF, ...
- easily exceeds 100Mpps+ and 100Gbps+
- on commodity x86\_64 / amd64 hardware!

See FOSDEM'22 [video] or GRNOG #16 [video]

- Contributed\* to Linux Control Plane plugin [GitHub]
- LinuxCP adds BGP/OSPF/VRRP/etc to VPP

This talk: **ARP/ND/Unnumbered in VPP** and **OSPFv3+ in Bird2**.

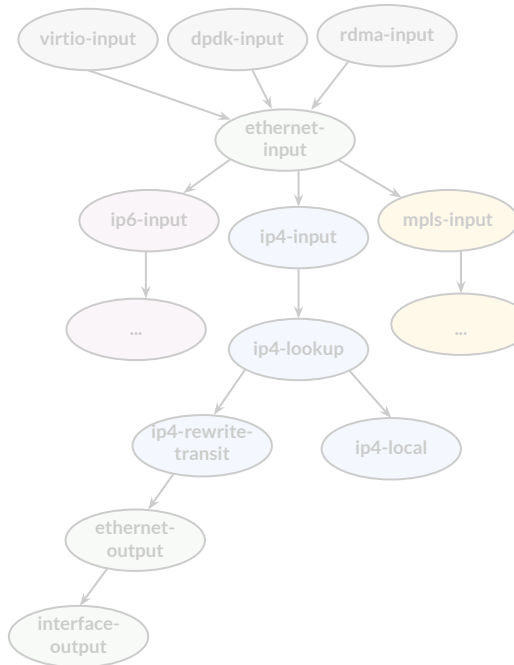
\*) Thanks to Pierre Pfister, Neale Ranns, Matt Smith and Jon Loeliger for the [collaboration]!





# Intro: VPP LinuxCP

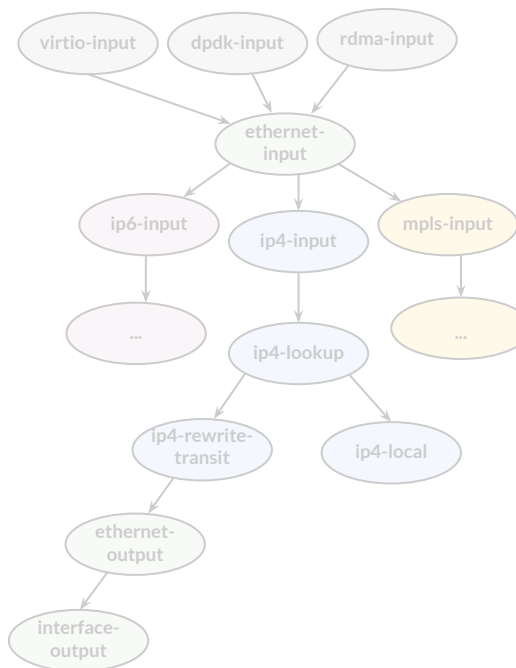
```
pim@hippo:~$ vppctl lcp create HundredGigabitEthernet4/0/0 host-if ice0
```





## Intro: VPP LinuxCP

```
pim@hippo:~$ vppctl lcp create HundredGigabitEthernet4/0/0 host-if ice0
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip link set ice0 up mtu 9000
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip address add 2001:db8:0:1::2/64 dev ice0
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip address add 192.0.2.2/24 dev ice0
```

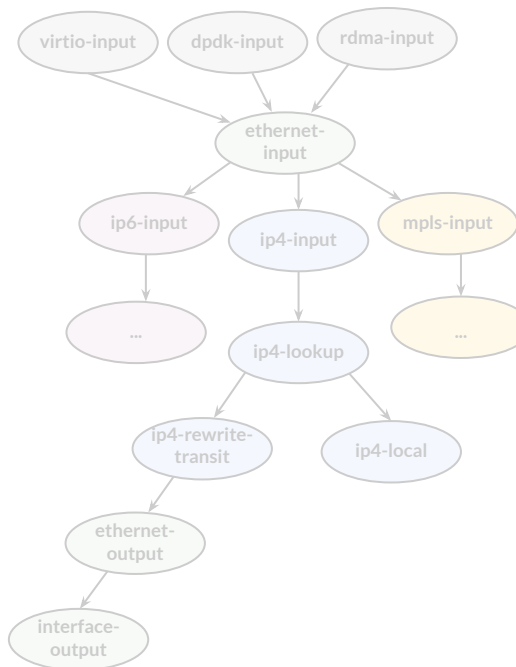




## Intro: VPP LinuxCP

```
pim@hippo:~$ vppctl lcp create HundredGigabitEthernet4/0/0 host-if ice0
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip link set ice0 up mtu 9000
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip address add 2001:db8:0:1::2/64 dev ice0
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip address add 192.0.2.2/24 dev ice0

pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip link add link ice0 name ipng type vlan id 101
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip link set ipng mtu 1500 up
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip addr add 2001:678:d78:3::86/64 dev ipng
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip addr add 194.1.163.86/27 dev ipng
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip route add default via 2001:678:d78:3::1
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip route add default via 194.1.163.65
```





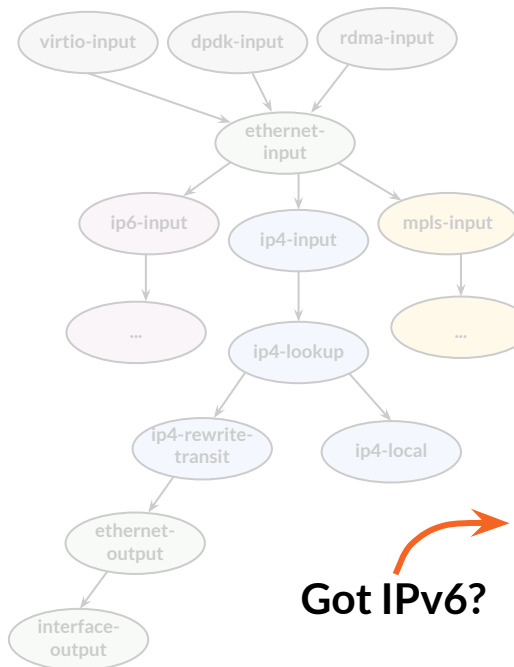
## Intro: VPP LinuxCP

```
pim@hippo:~$ vppctl lcp create HundredGigabitEthernet4/0/0 host-if ice0
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip link set ice0 up mtu 9000
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip address add 2001:db8:0:1::2/64 dev ice0
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip address add 192.0.2.2/24 dev ice0
```

```
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip link add link ice0 name ipng type vlan id 101
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip link set ipng mtu 1500 up
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip addr add 2001:678:d78:3::86/64 dev ipng
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip addr add 194.1.163.86/27 dev ipng
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip route add default via 2001:678:d78:3::1
pim@hippo:~$ sudo ip route add default via 194.1.163.65
```

```
pim@hippo:~$ ping frnog.org
PING frnog.org (2001:678:d78:564::d5ba:220c): 56 data bytes
64 bytes from 2001:678:d78:564::d5ba:220c: icmp_seq=0 hlim=52 time=17.785 ms
64 bytes from 2001:678:d78:564::d5ba:220c: icmp_seq=1 hlim=52 time=17.857 ms
...
```

Got IPv6?







## Act 1: IPv4 OSPFv3 with VPP

---



---

## OSPFv3: Enter a gross hack

[RFC 5838]: support multiple address families in OSPFv3

*Although IPv6 link local addresses could be used as next hops for IPv4 ...  
... it is desirable to have IPv4 next-hop addresses  
... IPv4 will be advertised in the “link local address” field in Link-LSA  
... address is placed in the first 32 bits of the “link local address” field  
... and the remaining bits MUST be set to zero.*

This approach fundamentally breaks IPv6 next-hops!



s/could be used/**cannot ever be used/**

---



---

## OSPFv3: Unnumbered

Clever solution by [santiago@](#) in [[commit](#)] to Bird2:

Add `update_loopback_addr()` to scan *all* IPv4 interfaces

1. prefer *host* (/32) addresses
2. else use *OSPF stub* addresses
3. else just any old IPv4 address

No interface IPv4 address?

- Find one for the (RFC5838) Link-LSA
  - Learn routes as `RNF_ONLINK` from /32 neighbors
-



## VPP: Unnumbered with OSPFv3

### Status

- ✓ VPP+BFDD: Config
- OSPFv3: Config
- BFDD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- OSPFv3: Learning
- VPP: Forwarding
- VPP: ICMPv4

```
vpp0-1# set interface ip address loop0 2001:678:d78:200::1/128
vpp0-1# set interface ip address loop0 192.168.10.1/32
vpp0-1# set interface state GigabitEthernet10/0/0 up
vpp0-1# set interface state GigabitEthernet10/0/1 up
vpp0-1# lcp create loop0 host-if loop0
vpp0-1# lcp create GigabitEthernet10/0/0 host-if e0
vpp0-1# lcp create GigabitEthernet10/0/1 host-if e1

pim@vpp0-1:~$ ip -br a
lo          UNKNOWN    127.0.0.1/8  ::1/128
loop0      UNKNOWN    192.168.10.1/32  2001:678:d78:200::1/128 fe80::dcad:...
e0         UP         fe80::5054:ff:fef0:1120/64
e1         UP         fe80::5054:ff:fef0:1121/64
pim@vpp0-1:~$ cat /etc/bird/core/bfd.conf
protocol bfd bfd1 {
    interface "e*" {
        interval 100 ms;
        multiplier 20;
    };
}
```



## VPP: Unnumbered with OSPFv3

### Status

- ✓ VPP+BFDD: Config
- ✓ OSPFv3: Config
- BFDD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- OSPFv3: Learning
- VPP: Forwarding
- VPP: ICMPv4

```
pim@vpp0-1:~$ cat /etc/bird/core/ospf.conf
protocol ospf v3 ospf4 {
  ipv4 { export all; import all; };
  area 0 {
    interface "loop0" { stub yes; };
    interface "e*" { type pointopoint; cost 5; bfd on; };
  };
}

protocol ospf v3 ospf6 {
  ipv6 { export all; import all; };
  area 0 {
    interface "loop0" { stub yes; };
    interface "e*" { type pointopoint; cost 5; bfd on; };
  };
}
```



## VPP: Adjacencies with OSPFv3

### Status

- ✓ VPP+bfd: Config
  - ✓ OSPFv3: Config
  - ✓ BFD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- OSPFv3: Learning  
VPP: Forwarding  
VPP: ICMPv4

```
pin@vpp0-1:~$ birdc show bfd session
```

```
BIRD v2.15.1-4-g280daed5-x ready.
```

```
bfd1:
```

IP address	Interface	State	Since	Interval	Timeout
fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1101	e0	Up	16:52:45.453	0.100	2.000
fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1120	e1	Up	16:53:06.857	0.100	2.000

```
pin@vpp0-1:~$ birdc show ospf neighbors
```

```
BIRD v2.15.1-4-g280daed5-x ready.
```

```
ospf4:
```

Router ID	Pri	State	DTime	Interface	Router IP
192.168.10.0	1	Full/PtP	36.931	e0	fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1101
192.168.10.2	1	Full/PtP	35.982	e1	fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1120

```
ospf6:
```

Router ID	Pri	State	DTime	Interface	Router IP
192.168.10.0	1	Full/PtP	36.931	e0	fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1101
192.168.10.2	1	Full/PtP	35.982	e1	fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1120



## VPP: Learning IPv4 prefixes with OSPFv3

### Status

- ✓ VPP+BFDD: Config
- ✓ OSPFv3: Config
- ✓ BFDD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- ✓ OSPFv3: Learning
- VPP: Forwarding
- VPP: ICMPv4

```
pim@vpp0-1:~$ birdc show route all for 192.168.10.3
BIRD v2.15.1-4-g280daed5-x ready.
Table master4:
192.168.10.3/32 unicast [ospf4 16:53:12.259] * I (150/5) [192.168.10.3]
    via 192.168.10.2 on e1 onlink
    Type: OSPF univ
    OSPF.metric1: 5
    OSPF.router_id: 192.168.10.3

pim@vpp0-1:~$ ip ro
default via 192.168.10.0 dev e0 proto bird metric 32 onlink
192.168.10.0 via 192.168.10.0 dev e0 proto bird metric 32 onlink
unreachable 192.168.10.0/24 proto bird metric 32
192.168.10.2 via 192.168.10.2 dev e1 proto bird metric 32 onlink
192.168.10.3 via 192.168.10.2 dev e1 proto bird metric 32 onlink
```



## VPP: Forwarding IPv4 on non-ip4 interface

### Status

- ✓ VPP+BFD: Config
- ✓ OSPFv3: Config
- ✓ BFD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- ✓ OSPFv3: Learning
- ✗ VPP: Forwarding
- VPP: ICMPv4

```
pim@vpp0-1:~$ vppctl show trace
...
07:42:53:178765: ethernet-input
    frame: flags 0x1, hw-if-index 1, sw-if-index 1
    IP4: 52:54:00:f0:11:01 -> 52:54:00:f0:11:10
07:42:53:178791: ip4-input
    ICMP: 192.168.10.0 -> 192.168.10.1
        tos 0x00, ttl 64, length 84, checksum 0xb02b dscp CS0 ecn NON_ECN
        fragment id 0xf52b, flags DONT_FRAGMENT
    ICMP echo_request checksum 0x43b7 id 26166
07:42:53:178810: ip4-not-enabled
    ICMP: 192.168.10.0 -> 192.168.10.1
        tos 0x00, ttl 64, length 84, checksum 0xb02b dscp CS0 ecn NON_ECN
        fragment id 0xf52b, flags DONT_FRAGMENT
    ICMP echo_request checksum 0x43b7 id 26166
07:42:53:178833: error-drop
    rx:GigabitEthernet10/0/0
07:42:53:178835: drop
    dpdk-input: no error
```





## VPP: ICMPv4 on non-ip4 interface

Attempt 1: `ip4_sw_interface_enable_disable()` in Linux CP

- Forwarding works ...
- ... but breaks ICMPv4 (eg. Path MTU)

### Status

- ✓ VPP+BFD: Config
- ✓ OSPFv3: Config
- ✓ BFD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- ✓ OSPFv3: Learning
- ✓ VPP: Forwarding
- ✗ VPP: ICMPv4

```
pim@vpp0-0:~$ ping -c3 192.168.10.3
PING 192.168.10.3 (192.168.10.3) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 192.168.10.3: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=9.92 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.3: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=9.81 ms
64 bytes from 192.168.10.3: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=8.67 ms
--- 192.168.10.3 ping statistics ---
3 packets transmitted, 3 received, 0% packet loss, time 3006ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 8.673/9.477/9.921/0.467 ms

pim@vpp0-0:~$ traceroute -n 192.168.10.3
traceroute to 192.168.10.3 (192.168.10.3), 30 hops max, 60 byte packets
 1 * * *
 2 * * *
 3 192.168.10.3 (192.168.10.3) 10.418 ms 10.343 ms 11.362 ms
```



## VPP: ARP for *on-link* IPv4 nexthop

Attempt 2: set interface unnumbered in VPP

- ICMPv4 works ...
- ... but forwarding breaks, VPP drops *on-link* ARP req

### Status

- ✓ VPP+BFD: Config
- ✓ OSPFv3: Config
- ✓ BFD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- ✓ OSPFv3: Learning
- ✗ VPP: Forwarding
- ✓ VPP: ICMPv4

```
vpp0-1# set interface unnumbered GigabitEthernet10/0/0 use loop0
vpp0-1# set interface unnumbered GigabitEthernet10/0/1 use loop0

pim@vpp0-1:~$ ip -br a
lo          UNKNOWN    127.0.0.1/8  ::1/128
loop0      UNKNOWN    192.168.10.1/32  2001:678:d78:200::1/128 fe80::dcad:ff:fe00:0/64
e0         UP         192.168.10.1/32  2001:678:d78:200::1/128 fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1120/64
e1         UP         192.168.10.1/32  2001:678:d78:200::1/128 fe80::5054:ff:fe0:1121/64

pim@vpp0-1:~$ ip ro
default via 192.168.10.0 dev e0 proto bird metric 32 onlink
192.168.10.0 via 192.168.10.0 dev e0 proto bird metric 32 onlink
192.168.10.2 via 192.168.10.2 dev e1 proto bird metric 32 onlink
192.168.10.3 via 192.168.10.2 dev e1 proto bird metric 32 onlink
unreachable 192.168.10.0/24 proto bird metric 32

vpp0-1# show err
Count      Node      Reason      Severity
5          arp-reply  IP4 source address not local to sub  error
```



## VPP: OSPFv3 and Unnumbered IPv4

Attempt 3: set interface unnumbered in VPP, inhibit Linux CP

- ARP issue fixed by pim@ in Gerrit [[40482](#)]
- Linux CP: inhibit sync of *unnumbered* to Linux [[GitHub](#)]

### Status

- ✓ VPP+BFD: Config
- ✓ OSPFv3: Config
- ✓ BFD+OSPFv3: Adjacency
- ✓ OSPFv3: Learning
- ✓ VPP: Forwarding
- ✓ VPP: ICMPv4

```
vpp0-1# lcp set lcp-sync-unnumbered disabled
vpp0-1# set interface unnumbered GigabitEthernet10/0/0 use loop0
vpp0-1# set interface unnumbered GigabitEthernet10/0/1 use loop0

pim@vpp0-1:~$ ip -br a
lo          UNKNOWN    127.0.0.1/8  ::1/128
loop0      UNKNOWN    192.168.10.1/32  2001:678:d78:200::1/128 fe80::dcad:ff:fe00:0/64
e0         UP         fe80::5054:ff:fef0:1120/64
e1         UP         fe80::5054:ff:fef0:1121/64

pim@lab:~$ traceroute -4 vpp0-3 9000
traceroute to vpp0-3.lab (192.168.10.3), 30 hops max, 9000 byte packets
 1 vpp0-0.lab.ipng.ch (192.168.10.0)  2.274 ms  0.621 ms  1.012 ms
 2 vpp0-1.lab.ipng.ch (192.168.10.1)  2.936 ms  3.515 ms  4.015 ms
 3 vpp0-2.lab.ipng.ch (192.168.10.2)  5.751 ms  6.218 ms  5.544 ms
 4 vpp0-3.lab.ipng.ch (192.168.10.3)  9.446 ms  9.531 ms  9.694 ms
```

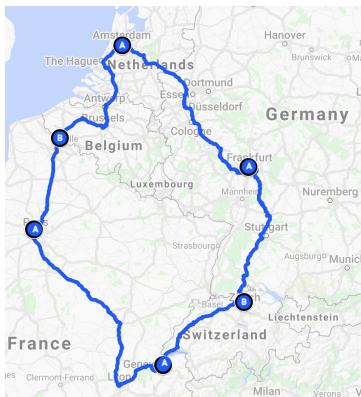
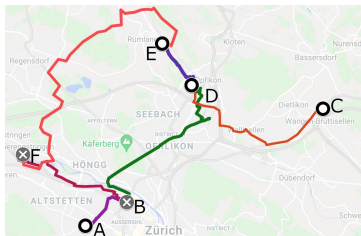


## Act 3: Rollout in AS8298

---



# AS8298: Removing IPv4/IPv6 PtP addresses



## Start situation:

- Each router has an IPv4 /32 and IPv6 /128 loop0
- IPv4 OSPF with /31 PtP, IPv6 OSPFv3 with /112 PtP

## Game plan:

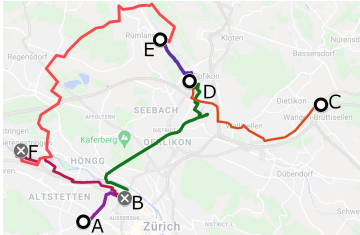
- Upgrade bird2, upgrade VPP dataplane:
  - rename 'ospf4' to 'ospf4\_old' (which is OSPFv2)
  - add an empty 'ospf4' (which is OSPFv3)
- Then, move all interfaces from 'ospf4\_old' to 'ospf4'
- Finally, delete 'ospf4\_old'

## End situation:

- Each router has *only one* IPv4 /32 and IPv6 /128 loop0
- ~~IPv4 OSPF with /31 PtP, IPv6 OSPFv3 with /112 PtP~~



## Step 1: Upgrade software



```
pim@ddlno:~$ sed -rn 's,cost (.+),cost 10\1,' /etc/bird/core/ospf.conf
pim@ddlno:~$ birdc configure

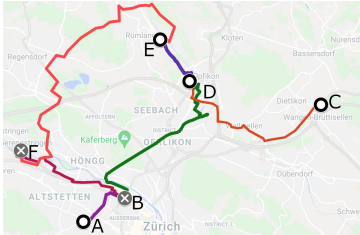
pim@ddlno:~$ sed -i 's,protocol.*ospf4,$1_old,' /etc/bird/core/ospf.conf
pim@ddlno:~$ scp bookworm-builder:bird2_2.15.1_amd64.deb .
pim@ddlno:~$ wget -m --no-parent \
  https://ipng.ch/media/vpp/bookworm/24.06-rc0~183-gb0d433978/

pim@ddlno:~$ sudo nsenter --net=/var/run/netns/dataplane

root@ddlno:~# pkill -9 vpp && systemctl stop vpp bird-dataplane
root@ddlno:~# dpkg -i ~pim/ipng.ch/media/vpp/bookworm/*/*.deb
root@ddlno:~# dpkg -i ~pim/bird2_2.15.1_amd64.deb
root@ddlno:~# systemctl start bird-dataplane
root@ddlno:~# systemctl restart vpp-snmp-agent-dataplane
root@ddlno:~# systemctl restart vpp-exporter-dataplane
```



# Step 1: Upgrade software



```
pin@summer:~$ ping ddln0.ipng.ch
PING ddln0.ipng.ch (194.1.163.5) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from ddln0.ipng.ch (194.1.163.5): icmp_seq=1 ttl=61 time=1.94 ms
64 bytes from ddln0.ipng.ch (194.1.163.5): icmp_seq=2 ttl=61 time=1.00 ms
...
64 bytes from ddln0.ipng.ch (194.1.163.5): icmp_seq=94 ttl=61 time=1001.83 ms
64 bytes from ddln0.ipng.ch (194.1.163.5): icmp_seq=95 ttl=61 time=1.03 ms
```

```
pin@ddln0:~$ birdc show ospf nei
BIRD v2.15.1-4-g280daed5-x ready.
```

**ospf4\_old:**

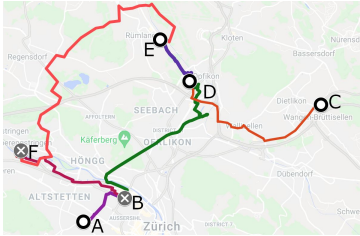
Router ID	Pri	State	DTime	Interface	Router IP
194.1.163.6	1	Full/PtP	32.113	xe1-1	194.1.163.27
194.1.163.0	1	Full/PtP	30.936	xe1-0.304	194.1.163.24

**ospf6:**

Router ID	Pri	State	DTime	Interface	Router IP
194.1.163.6	1	Full/PtP	32.113	xe1-1	fe80::3eec:efff:fe46:68a8
194.1.163.0	1	Full/PtP	30.936	xe1-0.304	fe80::6a05:caff:fe32:4616



## Step 2: Reconfigure VPP

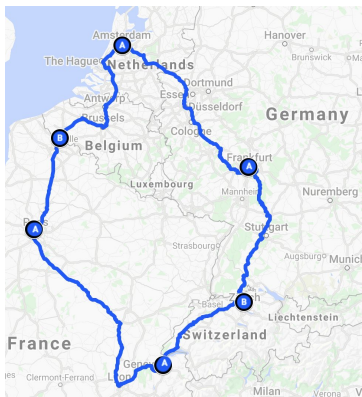
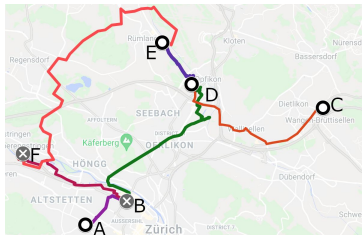


```
pin@ddlno:~$ vim /etc/vpp/vppcfg.yaml
...
loopbacks:
  loop0:
    description: 'Core: ddlno.ipng.ch'
    addresses: ['194.1.163.5/32', '2001:678:d78::5/128']
    lcp: loop0
    mtu: 9000
interfaces:
  TenGigabitEthernet6/0/1:
    device-type: dpdk
    description: 'Core: ddln1.ipng.ch'
    mtu: 9000
#   lcp: xe1-1
#   addresses: ['194.1.163.20/31', '2001:678:d78::2:5:1/112']
    lcp: ddln1
    unnumbered: loop0
```





## Step 2: Reconfigure VPP

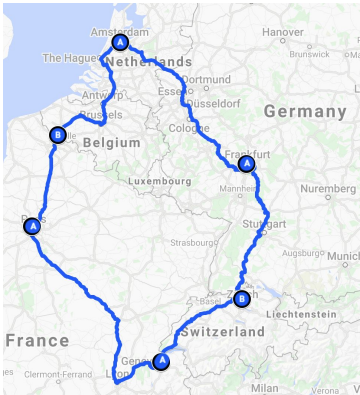
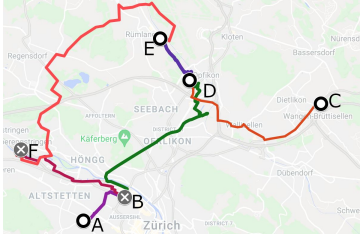


```
pim@ddlno:~$ vppcfg plan -c /etc/vpp/vppcfg.yaml
[INFO    ] root.main: Loading configfile /etc/vpp/vppcfg.yaml
[INFO    ] vppcfg.config.valid_config: Configuration validated successfully
[INFO    ] root.main: Configuration is valid
[INFO    ] vppcfg.vppapi.connect: VPP version is 24.06-rc0~183-gb0d433978
comment { vppcfg prune: 3 CLI statement(s) follow }
set interface ip address del TenGigabitEthernet6/0/1 194.1.163.20/31
set interface ip address del TenGigabitEthernet6/0/1 2001:678:d78::2:5:1/112
lcp delete TenGigabitEthernet6/0/1
comment { vppcfg create: 1 CLI statement(s) follow }
lcp create TenGigabitEthernet6/0/1 host-if ddln1
comment { vppcfg sync: 1 CLI statement(s) follow }
set interface unnumbered TenGigabitEthernet6/0/1 use loop0
[INFO    ] vppcfg.reconciler.write: Wrote 8 lines to (stdout)
[INFO    ] root.main: Planning succeeded

pim@ddlno:~$ vppcfg apply -c /etc/vpp/vppcfg.yaml
```



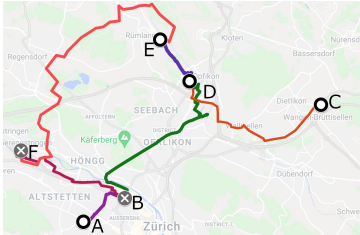
## Step 3: Move interface to OSPFv3



```
pin@ddlno:~$ vim /etc/bird/core/ospf.conf
protocol ospf v2 ospf4_old {
  ipv4 { export filter f_ospf; import filter f_ospf; };
  area 0 {
    interface "loop0" { stub yes; };
    # interface "xe1-1" { type pointopoint; cost 10; bfd on; };
    interface "xe1-0.304" { type pointopoint; cost 56; bfd on; };
  };
}
protocol ospf v3 ospf4 {
  ipv4 { export filter f_ospf; import filter f_ospf; };
  area 0 {
    interface "loop0","lo" { stub yes; };
    interface "ddl1" { type pointopoint; cost 10; bfd on; };
  };
}
```



## Step 3: Move interface to OSPFv3



```
pin@ddlno:~$ birdc show ospf nei
BIRD v2.15.1-4-g280daed5-x ready.
ospf4_old:
```

Router ID	Pri	State	DTime	Interface	Router IP
194.1.163.0	1	Full/PtP	30.936	xe1-0.304	194.1.163.24

```
ospf4:
```

Router ID	Pri	State	DTime	Interface	Router IP
194.1.163.6	1	Full/PtP	32.113	ddl1	fe80::3eec:efff:fe46:68a8

```
ospf6:
```

Router ID	Pri	State	DTime	Interface	Router IP
194.1.163.6	1	Full/PtP	32.113	ddl1	fe80::3eec:efff:fe46:68a8
194.1.163.0	1	Full/PtP	30.936	xe1-0.304	fe80::6a05:caff:fe32:4616

```
pin@ddlno:~$ $ birdc show route for 194.1.163.6
```

```
BIRD v2.15.1-4-g280daed5-x ready.
```

```
Table master4:
```

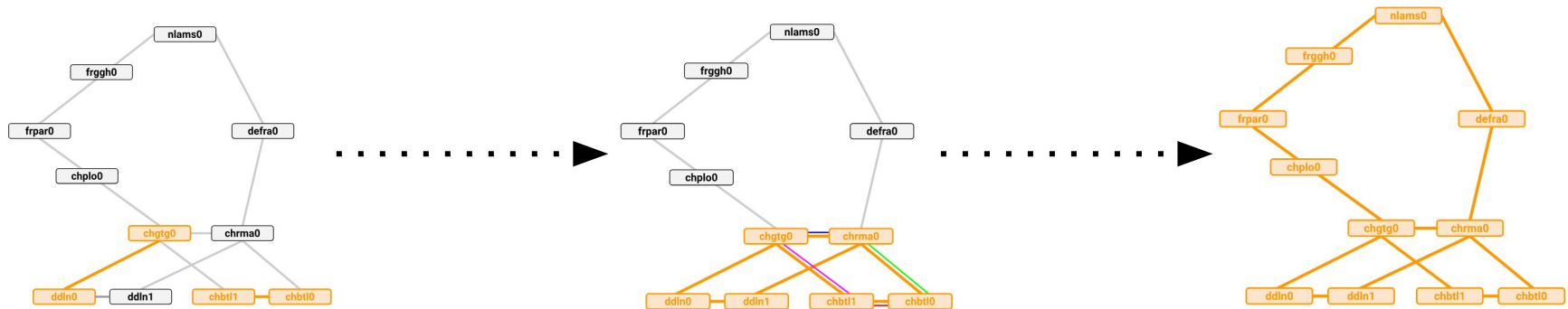
```
194.1.163.6/32    unicast [ospf4 2024-06-19 18:07:59] * I (150/5) [194.1.163.6]
                  via 194.1.163.6 on ddl1 onlink
```



## Step 4: Rinse, Repeat

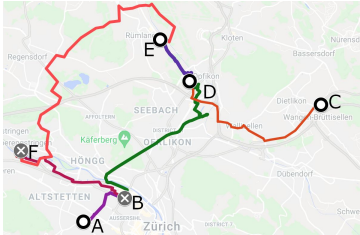
### OSPFv3 and OSPF can coexist peacefully

- Bird will learn routes twice, and they will be Ext-E1 within proto and Ext-E2 between proto
- Costs will be inconsistent, E1 always preferred
- No kittens were harmed!





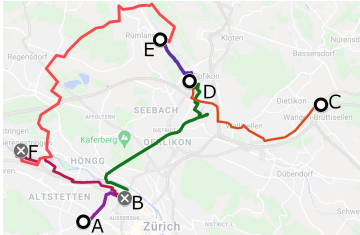
# Results



```
pin@frpar0:~$ ip -br a
lo          UNKNOWN 127.0.0.1/8 ::1/128
loop0      UP 194.1.163.9/32 2001:678:d78::9/128 fe80::dcad:ff:fe00:0/64
xe0-0      UP fe80::3eec:efff:fe6e:e4f8/64
xe0-1      UP fe80::3eec:efff:fe6e:e4f9/64
xe1-0      UP fe80::6a05:caff:fe32:3e38/64
xe1-1      UP fe80::6a05:caff:fe32:3e39/64
xe1-2      UP fe80::6a05:caff:fe32:3e3a/64
xe1-3      UP fe80::6a05:caff:fe32:3e3b/64
xe0-0.100@xe0-0 UP 2001:678:d78:c::1/64 fe80::3eec:efff:fe6e:e4f8/64
xe1-0.560@xe1-0 UP 37.49.238.25/22 2001:7f8:54::2:25/64 fe80::6a05:caff:fe...
xe1-0.563@xe1-0 UP 37.49.232.119/24 2001:7f8:54:5::119/64 fe80::6a05:caff:f...
xe1-0.1372@xe1-0 UP 46.20.247.139/29 2a02:2528:ff04::3/64 fe80::6a05:caff:fe...
xe1-1.101@xe1-1 UP 193.201.149.153/26 2001:7f8:52::206a:1/64 fe80::6a05:caf...
frggh0@xe1-3  UP fe80::6a05:caff:fe32:3e3b/64
chp100@xe0-0  UP fe80::3eec:efff:fe6e:e4f8/64
```



# Results



```
pim@squanchy:~$ traceroute bit.nl
traceroute to bit.nl (213.136.12.97), 64 hops max, 40 byte packets
 1 chbt10 (194.1.163.66)  0.55 ms  2.051 ms  0.311 ms
 2 chrma0 (194.1.163.0)  1.369 ms  1.496 ms  1.281 ms
 3 defra0 (194.1.163.7)  6.933 ms  7.007 ms  7.049 ms
 4 niams0 (194.1.163.8)  13.103 ms  12.93 ms  13.209 ms
 5 as12859.frys-ix.net (185.1.203.186)  17.774 ms  14.625 ms  21.249 ms
 6 http-bit.lb.network.bit.nl (213.136.12.97)  14.468 ms  14.677 ms  14.358 ms
```

```
pim@squanchy:~$ traceroute6 bit.nl
traceroute6 to bit.nl (2001:7b8:3:5::80:19), 64 hops max, 60 byte packets
 1 servers-vrrp.btl.ipng.nl (2001:678:d78:3::1)  0.593 ms  2.858 ms  0.352 ms
 2 chrma0 (2001:678:d78::)  1.248 ms  1.446 ms  1.236 ms
 3 defra0 (2001:678:d78::7)  7.093 ms  7.083 ms  7.188 ms
 4 niams0 (2001:678:d78::8)  13.201 ms  13.103 ms  13.17 ms
 5 as12859.frys-ix.net (2001:7f8:10f::323b:186)  14.488 ms  16.462 ms  17.489 ms
 6 http-bit.lb.network.bit.nl (2001:7b8:3:5::80:19)  14.027 ms  14.127 ms  14.118 ms
```

AS8298 returned:

- 27x IPv4 /31s and IPv6 /112s in total.





---

## Act 3: Performance of VPP

Dell R730  
(2016)





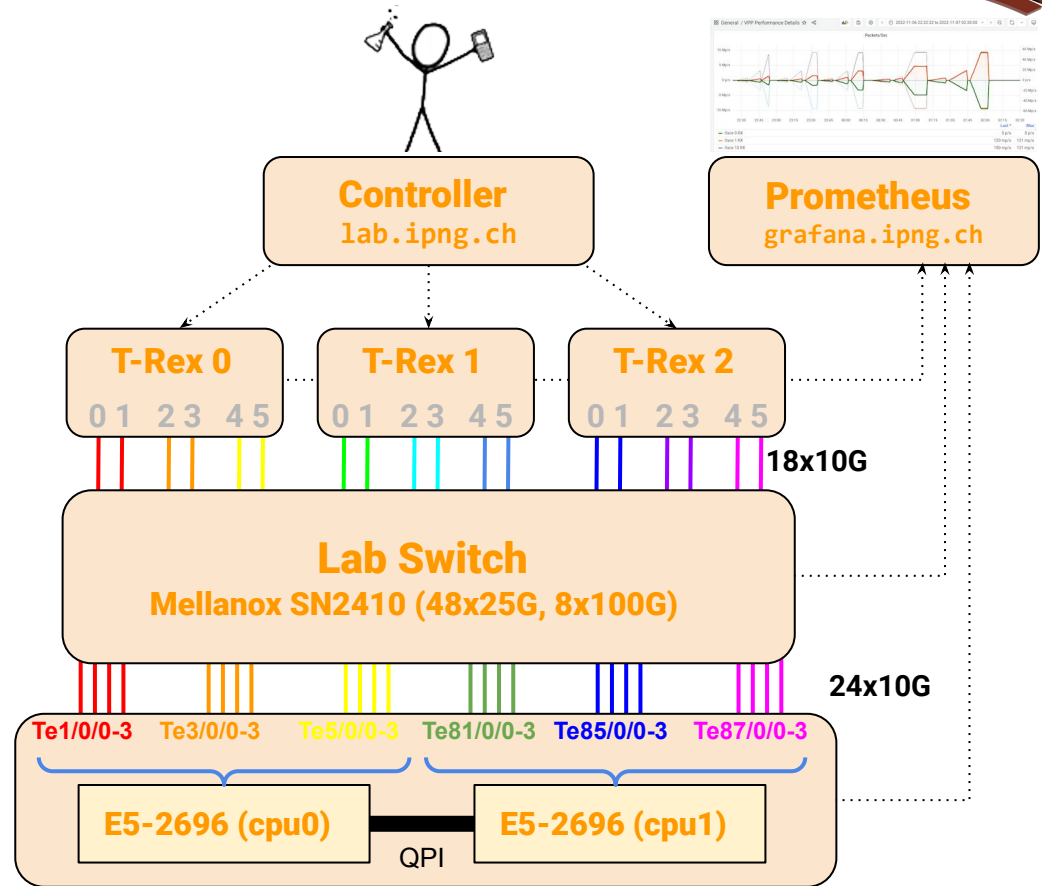
# Lab Setup

## Load Generator Machines

- 3x Dell R720 (E5-2620, 2.00GHz)
- 9x Dual Intel 82599ES (18x10G)
- Debian Bookworm, T-Rex v3.04
  - 4 CPUs per 10G interface pair

## Device Under Test

- Dell R730 (E5-2696 v4 @ 2.20GHz)
  - 2x(22C/44T), 64GB DDR4 2.4GT/s
  - 2x40 PCIe v3.0 Lanes
- 6x Intel X710-DA4 (24x10G)
  - 12x10G on cpu0, 12x10G on cpu1
- Debian Bookworm (Linux 6.1.0-25)
- VPP v24.10-rc0~204-ge9bc33201







---

## Load Testing Methodology

**Method 1:** VPP has one worker thread, one Rx/Tx queue

- Send *unidirectional* traffic
- Measure cycles/packet for 1kpps, 1Mpps, 10Mpps, ...  
⇒ Report max packets/sec for one CPU thread

**Method 2:** VPP has n-1 worker threads with [1, 2, 3, ... ] Rx queues

- Send *unidirectional*, or *bidirectional* (!) traffic
    - Warmup at 1kpps (30sec)
    - Ramp up to 100% line rate (in 600sec)
    - Keep at 100% (30sec)
  - Measure point at which packet forwarding loss > 0.1%  
⇒ Report bits/sec, packets/sec and % of line rate.
-



# Method 1 - Single Thread Saturation

## Legend

1. NIC Info, T-Rex CPU utilization
2. Sent traffic (L1, L2, packets/sec)
3. Received traffic (L2, packets/sec)
4. Detailed packet/byte counters

Shown here: 4x10G @64b

- Tx: 59.44Mpps, 39.94Gbps
- Rx: 59.44Mpps, 39.94Gbps

⇒ L2 XC is (at least)  
14.88Mpps per core!

### Global Statistics

```

connection : hvn4.lab, Port 4501
version     : STL @ v3.04
cpu_util.   : 25.46% @ 8 cores (4 per dual port)
rx_cpu_util.: 0.0% / 0 pps
async_util. : 0% / 75.49 bps
total_cps.  : 0 cps

total_tx_L2 : 30.43 Gbps
total_tx_L1 : 39.94 Gbps
total_rx    : 30.43 Gbps
total_pps   : 59.44 Mpps
drop_rate   : 0 bps
queue_full  : 0 pkts

```

### Port Statistics

port	0	1	2	3	total
owner	pim	pim	pim	pim	
link	UP	UP	UP	UP	
state	TRANSMITTING	TRANSMITTING	TRANSMITTING	TRANSMITTING	
speed	10 Gb/s	10 Gb/s	10 Gb/s	10 Gb/s	
CPU util.	25.72%	25.72%	25.2%	25.2%	
---					
Tx bps L2	7.61 Gbps	7.61 Gbps	7.61 Gbps	7.61 Gbps	30.43 Gbps
Tx bps L1	9.99 Gbps	9.99 Gbps	9.99 Gbps	9.99 Gbps	39.94 Gbps
Tx pps	14.86 Mpps	14.86 Mpps	14.86 Mpps	14.86 Mpps	59.44 Mpps
Line Util.	99.86 %	99.86 %	99.86 %	99.86 %	
---					
Rx bps	7.61 Gbps	7.61 Gbps	7.61 Gbps	7.61 Gbps	30.43 Gbps
Rx pps	14.86 Mpps	14.86 Mpps	14.86 Mpps	14.86 Mpps	59.44 Mpps
---					
opackets	4030964171	4030965886	4031039327	4031040832	16124010216
ipackets	4030963808	4030965471	4031038880	4031039784	16124007943
obytes	257981707520	257981817216	257986517440	257986613696	1031936655872
ibytes	257981684224	257981790720	257986488832	257986546688	1031936510464
tx-pkts	4.03 Gpkts	4.03 Gpkts	4.03 Gpkts	4.03 Gpkts	16.12 Gpkts
rx-pkts	4.03 Gpkts	4.03 Gpkts	4.03 Gpkts	4.03 Gpkts	16.12 Gpkts
tx-bytes	257.98 GB	257.98 GB	257.99 GB	257.99 GB	1.03 TB
rx-bytes	257.98 GB	257.98 GB	257.99 GB	257.99 GB	1.03 TB
---					
oerrors	0	0	0	0	0
ierrors	0	0	0	0	0



## Method 1: Results (E5-2696 v4)

	clocks/packet @ 1kpps	clocks/packet @ 1Mpps	clocks/packet @ 10Mpps	packets/sec per core
<i>L2 xconnect</i>	991	199	140	15.34Mpps
<i>MPLS</i>	1465	274	172	10.35Mpps
<i>L3 IPv4</i>	1596	299	156	11.08Mpps
<i>L3 IPv6</i>	1941	347	178	9.72Mpps

- CPU cycles/packet: lower is better
- Max PPS per core: higher is better



## Method 2: VPP can forward 100Gbit

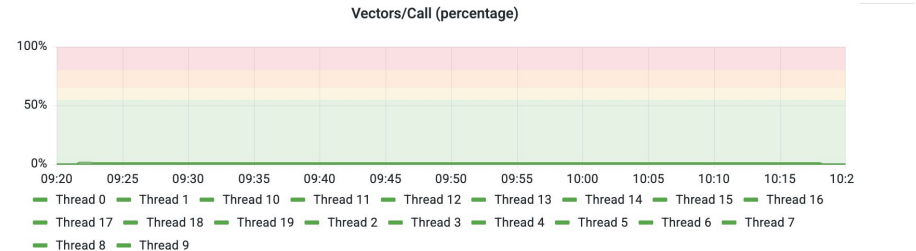
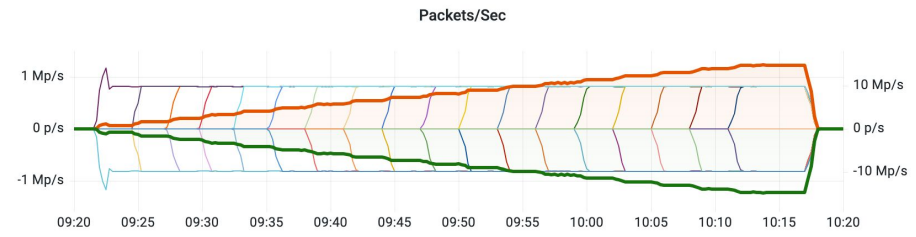
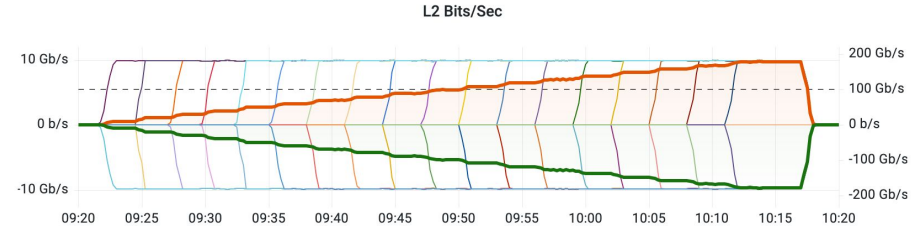
**Bidirectional (18 ports, 18 VPP threads):**

- 1) 09:22 - Incremental colored traces  
T-Rex ports turned on one by one,  
3 minutes apart, sending 1514b
- 2) 09:50 100Gbps achieved
- 3) 10:12 180Gbps achieved  
14.7Mpps @1514b



**Note: 24 CPU threads unused; 6 NICs unused.**

⇒ **Proof that VPP (easily) forwards 100Gbps**





## Method 2: VPP can forward 100Mpps

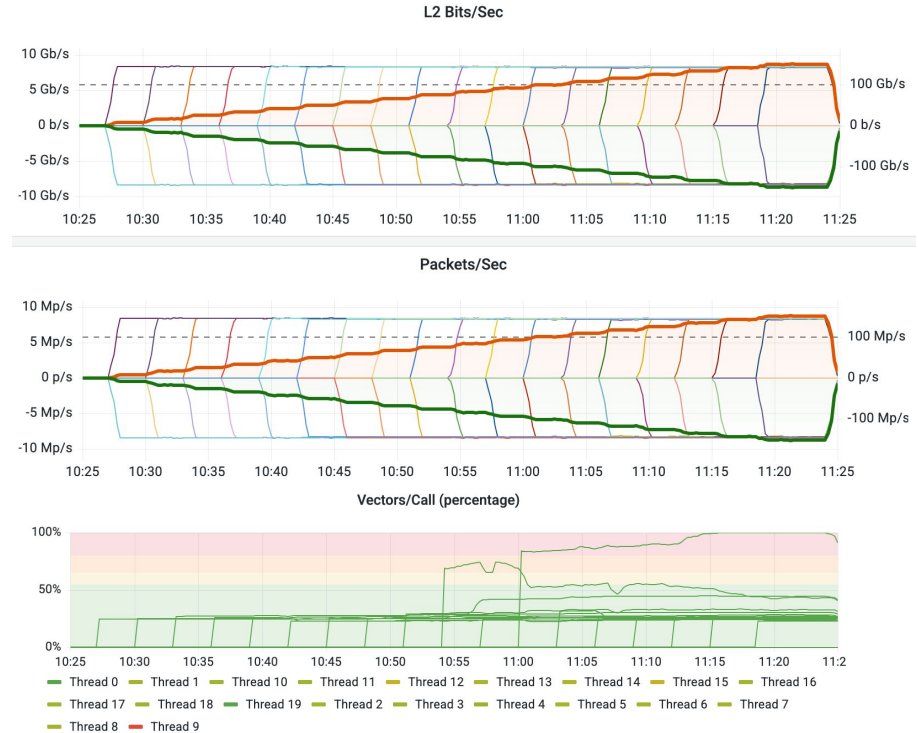
**Bidirectional (18 ports, 18 VPP threads):**

- 1) 10:26 - Incremental colored traces  
T-Rex ports turned on one by one,  
3 minutes apart, sending 128b.
- 2) 11:02 100Mpps achieved
- 3) 11:19 165Mpps achieved  
149Gbps @128b



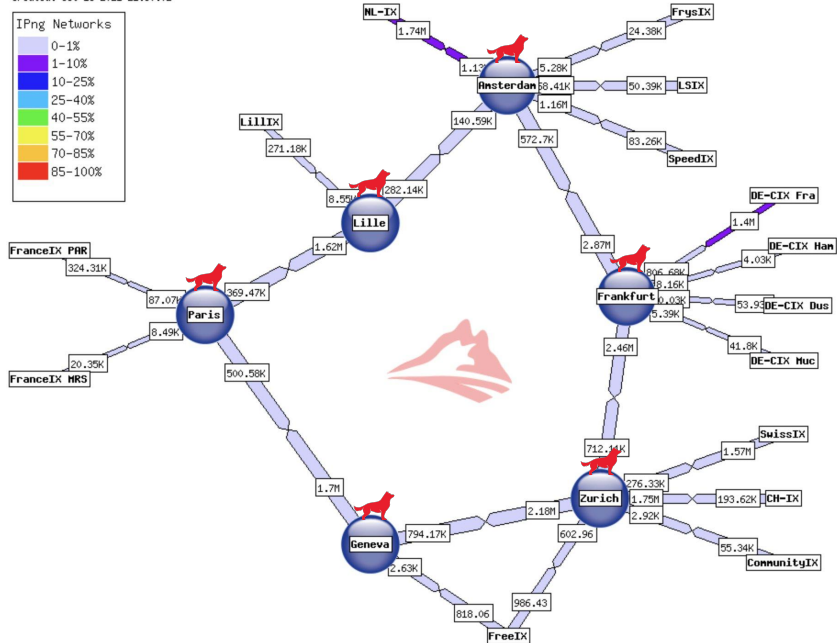
**Note: 24 CPU threads unused; 6 NICs unused.**

⇒ **Proof that VPP (easily) forwards 100Mpps**



# Questions, Discussion

Created: Oct 16 2021 21:30:02



If you peer with IPng Networks, thanks!  
If you don't: please peer with AS8298  
<peering@ipng.ch>

## Useful Resources

- VPP Mailinglist [[vpp-dev@lists.fd.io](mailto:vpp-dev@lists.fd.io)]
- VPP Linux CP [[GitHub](#)]
- Articles [[ipng.ch](http://ipng.ch)]
- Mastodon [[@IPngNetworks](#)]

Also: thanks for listening!