

Router for Academia Research Education

RARE/freeRtr in a nutshell



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Public

www.geant.org



funded project

- Control plane software
- ~~P4~~ (**not only P4**) **Programmable** dataplane
- Interface them and the result is ...

- Feature rich routing platform
 - various hardware line rate
 - Flexible, DIY “hackable/extensible” router
 - Control plane independence

One familiar platform



Multiple solutions



Each solution addresses



R&E

use case

Why RARE now?

- Starting from early 2010:
 - Several valuable Open Source control plane usage besides well know commercial vendor



- Starting from 2020:
 - Dataplane solution reached maturity ready to implement production grade use case



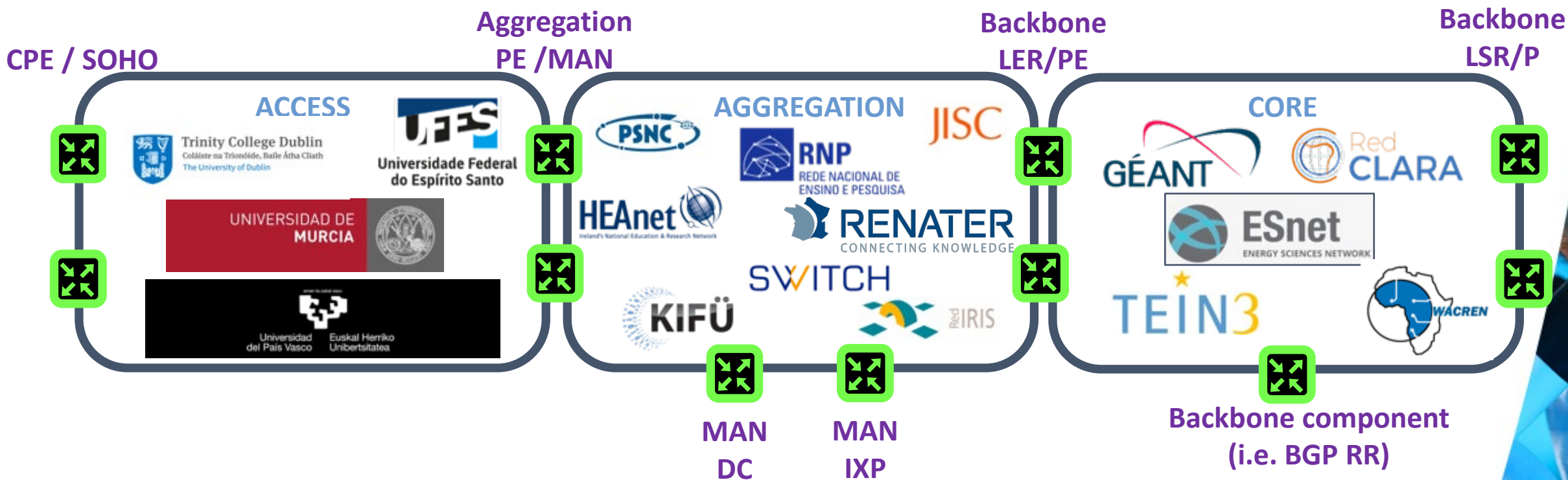
- NOS emergence



- Technology convergence (Hypervisor/VM, K8s/Container, kernel bypass ...)

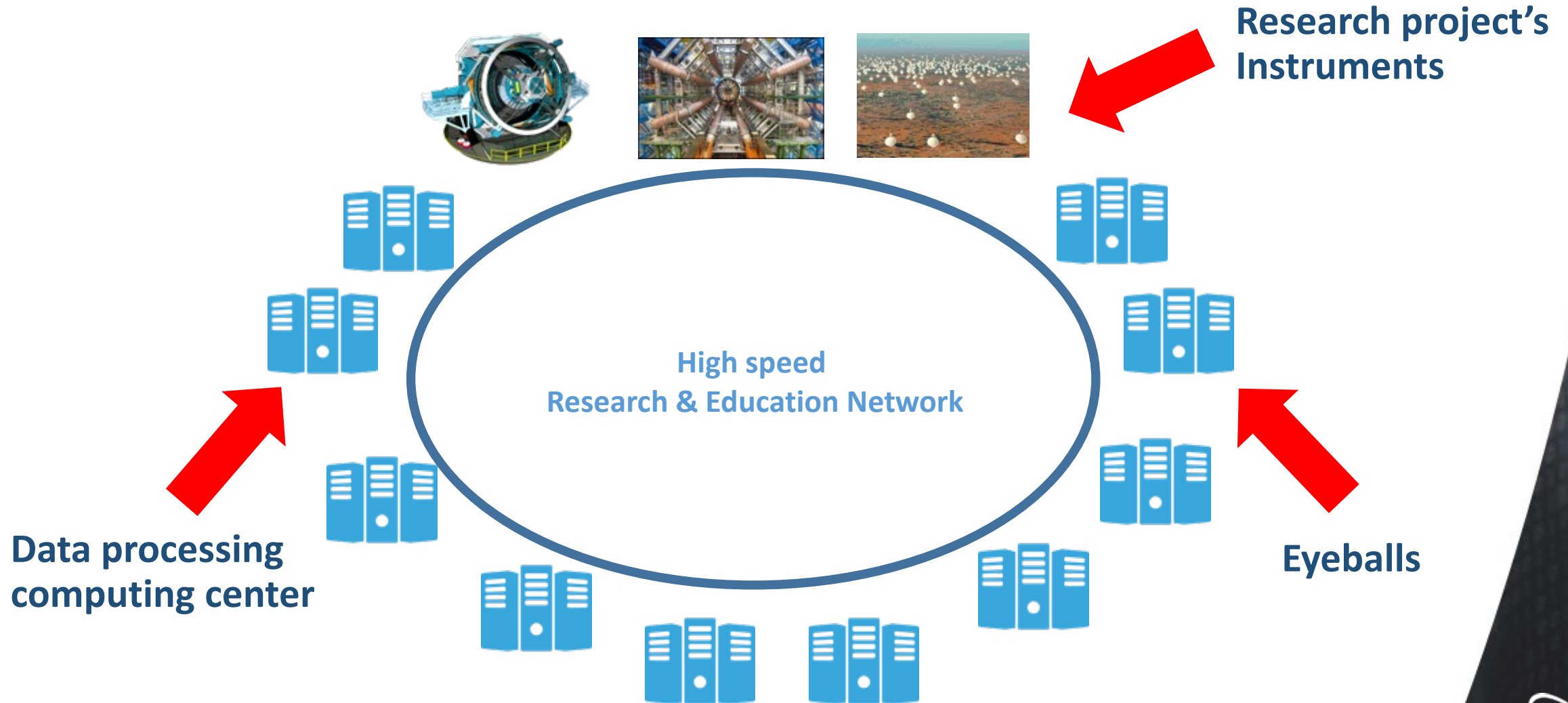
It's a good time to tie Control Plane and Dataplane!

RARE use cases

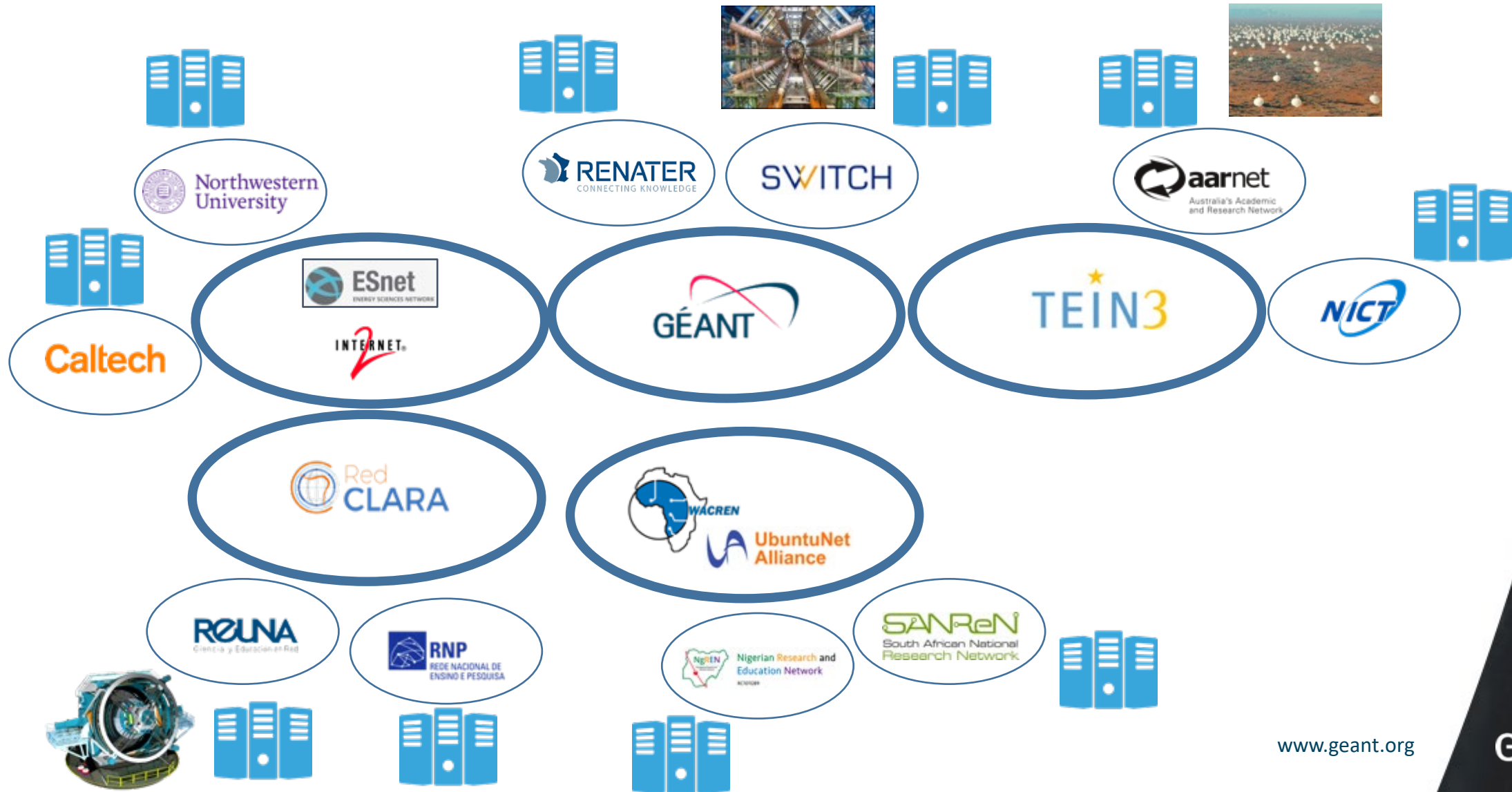


IPv4 and IPv6 compliant!

Anatomy of a typical R&E worldwide research project #1



Anatomy of a typical R&E worldwide research project #2



RARE is for everyone

- **Routing (CP+DP) platform solution**
 - Open Platform
 - Programmable
- **RARE for Research and Education connectivity**
 - Emerging NREN
 - Or not ...
- **RARE for content provider DCI**
 - IaaS owned by NREN
 - IaaS owned by International Global Research project
- **RARE for end user institution**
 - Primary/Secondary schools
 - University campus
 - MAN network for Regional network
- **RARE for International Global research project connectivity**
 - Network research
 - Science research

Positive societal consequences!



RARE latest news (Month 29 of 48)

- RARE p4 targets



bmv2 software switch



Programmable Ethernet ASIC on WEDGE-BF100-32X

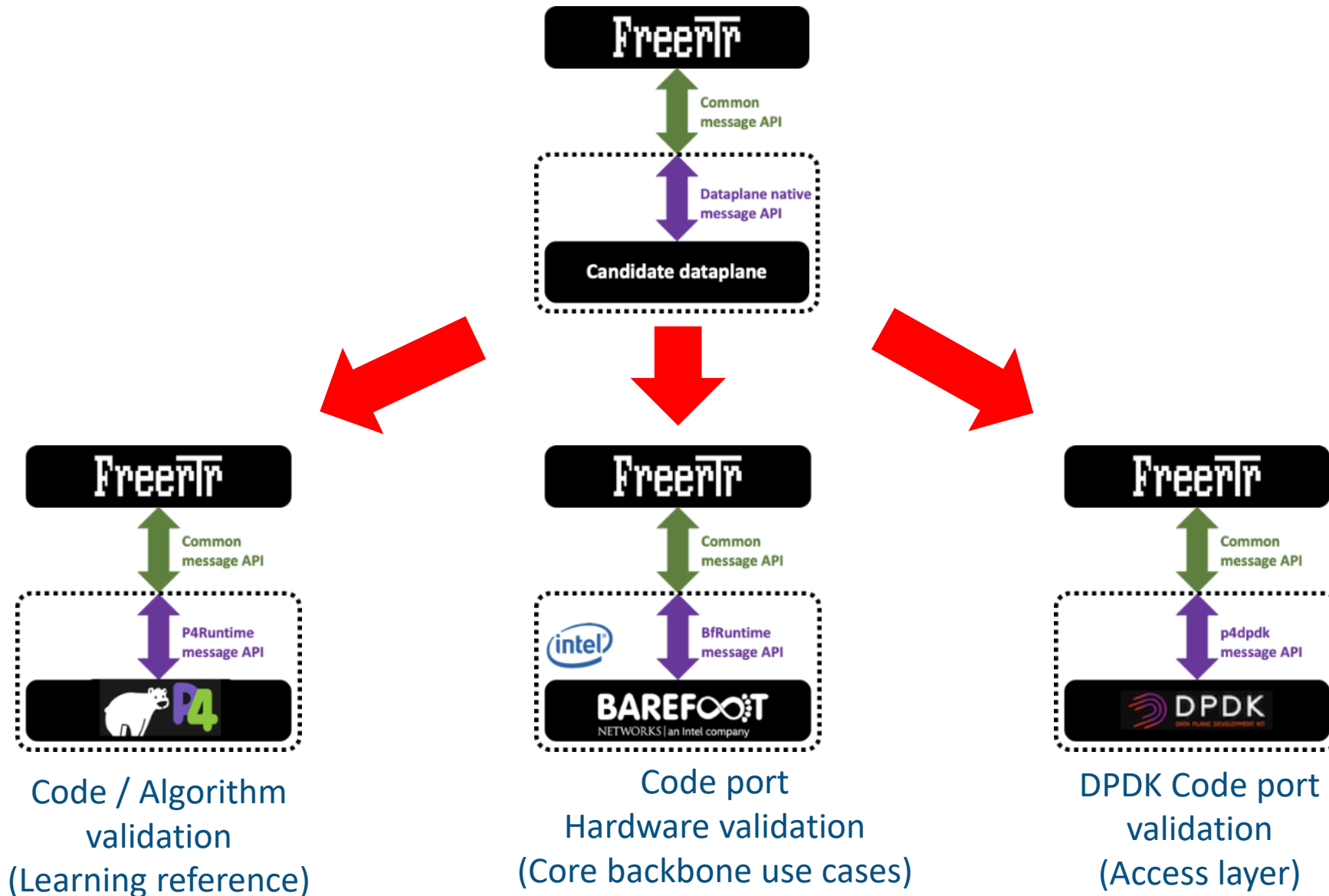


under study

- RARE p4 discussion emulation targets



RARE “target” development






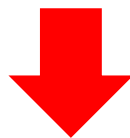
RARE testing framework : ~ 2300 features = 2300 tests

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|---|
| crypt-skip12.tst | success | skip with sha1 | description wireguard over ipv6 addrouter r1 int ser1 ser - \$1a\$ \$1b\$! vrf def v1 rd 1:1 exit int ser1 vrf for v1 ipv4 addr 1.1.1.1 255.255.255.0 ipv6 addr 1234::1 ffff:: exit crypto ipsec ips key EFW2rJEdqFGDgC80um3fwMmAafwgXno+PsbMHPZ0umM=M6vDV8QdiWDQppVKjKf8xjoKtyGAeRK/Ue48kwKI5Ss= exit int tun1 tunnel vrf v1 tunnel prot ips tunnel mode wireguard tunnel source ser1 tunnel destination 1234::2 vrf for v1 ipv4 addr 2.2.2.1 255.255.255.0 ipv6 addr 4321::1 ffff:: exit ! addrouter r2 int ser1 ser - \$1b\$ \$1a\$! vrf def v1 rd 1:1 exit int ser1 vrf for v1 ipv4 addr 1.1.1.2 255.255.255.0 ipv6 addr 1234::2 ffff:: exit crypto ipsec ips key 6JhyvKPutQ9DNLupOPmDnQLRWtUWlUjI6PTJ/IZ91lw=bQMmpCaGVyq9f+v48XGmfH5DMLytKqziID+rBH+qQic= exit int tun1 tunnel vrf v1 tunnel prot ips tunnel mode wireguard tunnel source ser1 tunnel destination 1234::1 vrf for v1 ipv4 addr 2.2.2.2 255.255.255.0 ipv6 addr 4321::2 ffff:: exit ! r1 tping 100 5 2.2.2.2 /vrf v1 r2 tping 100 5 2.2.2.1 /vrf v1 r1 tping 100 5 4321::2 /vrf v1 r2 tping 100 5 4321::1 /vrf v1 |
| crypt-skip13.tst | success | skip with sha256 | |
| crypt-skip14.tst | success | skip with sha512 | |
| crypt-ssh.tst | success | ssh test | |
| crypt-swipe01.tst | success | swipe over ipv4 | |
| crypt-swipe02.tst | success | swipe over ipv6 | |
| crypt-swipe03.tst | success | swipe over swipe | |
| crypt-swipe04.tst | success | swipe over loopback | |
| crypt-swipe05.tst | success | swipe with des | |
| crypt-swipe06.tst | success | swipe with blowfish | |
| crypt-swipe07.tst | success | swipe with 3des | |
| crypt-swipe08.tst | success | swipe with aes128 | |
| crypt-swipe09.tst | success | swipe with aes192 | |
| crypt-swipe10.tst | success | swipe with aes256 | |
| crypt-swipe11.tst | success | swipe with md5 | |
| crypt-swipe12.tst | success | swipe with sha1 | |
| crypt-swipe13.tst | success | swipe with sha256 | |
| crypt-swipe14.tst | success | swipe with sha512 | |
| crypt-tls.tst | success | tls test | |
| crypt-wireguard01.tst | success | wireguard over ipv4 | |
| crypt-wireguard02.tst | success | wireguard over ipv6 | |
| crypt-wireguard03.tst | success | wireguard over wireguard | |
| crypt-wireguard04.tst | success | wireguard over loopback | |
| crypt-wireguard05.tst | success | wireguard over asymmetric ports | |
| demo01.tst | success | empty demo network | |
| demo02.tst | success | addressed demo network | |
| intop1-bgp01.tst | success | interop1: ebgp | |
| intop1-bgp02.tst | success | interop1: ibgp | |
| intop1-bgp03.tst | success | interop1: bgp locpref | |
| intop1-bgp04.tst | success | interop1: bgp origin | |
| intop1-bgp05.tst | success | interop1: bgp metric | |
| intop1-bgp06.tst | success | interop1: bgp community | |
| intop1-bgp07.tst | success | interop1: bgp aspath | |
| intop1-bgp08.tst | success | interop1: bgp with labels | |
| intop1-bgp09.tst | success | interop1: bgp addpath | |
| intop1-bgp10.tst | success | interop1: bgp prefix withdraw | |
| intop1-bgp11.tst | success | interop1: bgp vpnv4 | |
| intop1-bgp12.tst | success | interop1: bgp authentication | |
| intop1-bgp13.tst | success | interop1: bgp vpnv6 | |

RARE testing framework: Dataplane tests ~300 tests

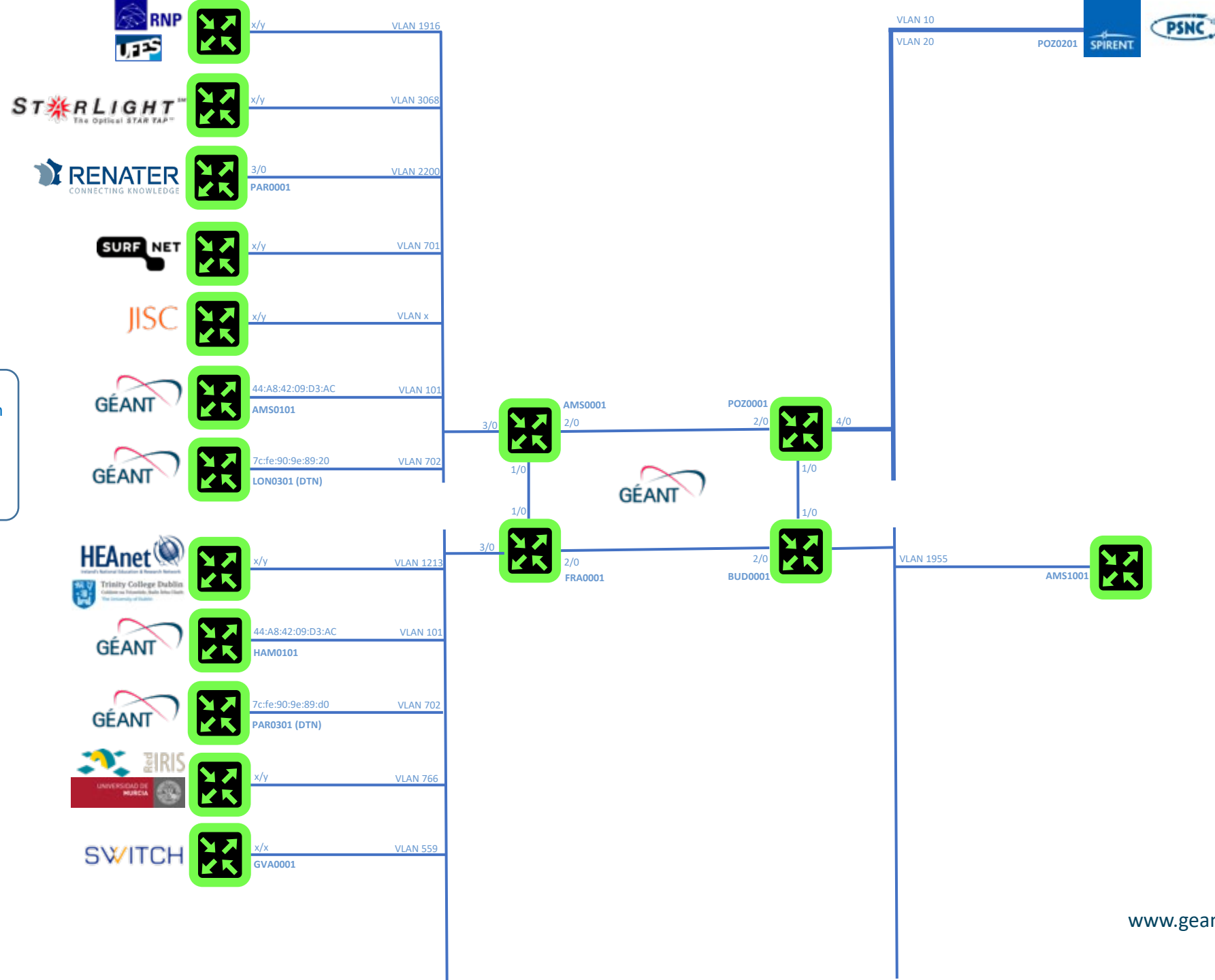
Complete feature list

| Type | Test # | Name |  |  |  |
|------|--------|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| acl | 01 | copp | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 02 | ingress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 03 | egress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 04 | nat | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 05 | vlan ingress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 06 | vlan egress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 07 | bundle ingress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 08 | bundle egress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 09 | bundle vlan ingress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 10 | bundle vlan egress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| acl | 11 | bridge ingress access list | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

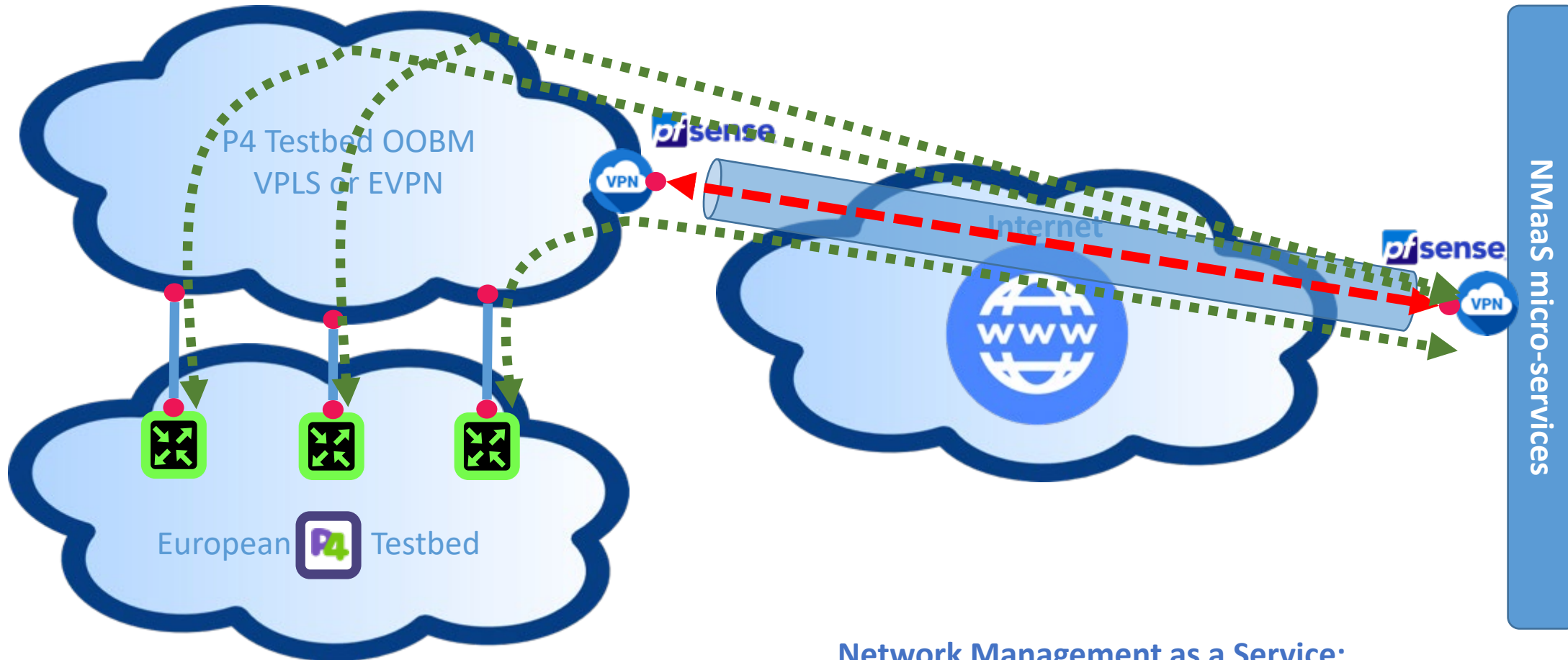


And more features !

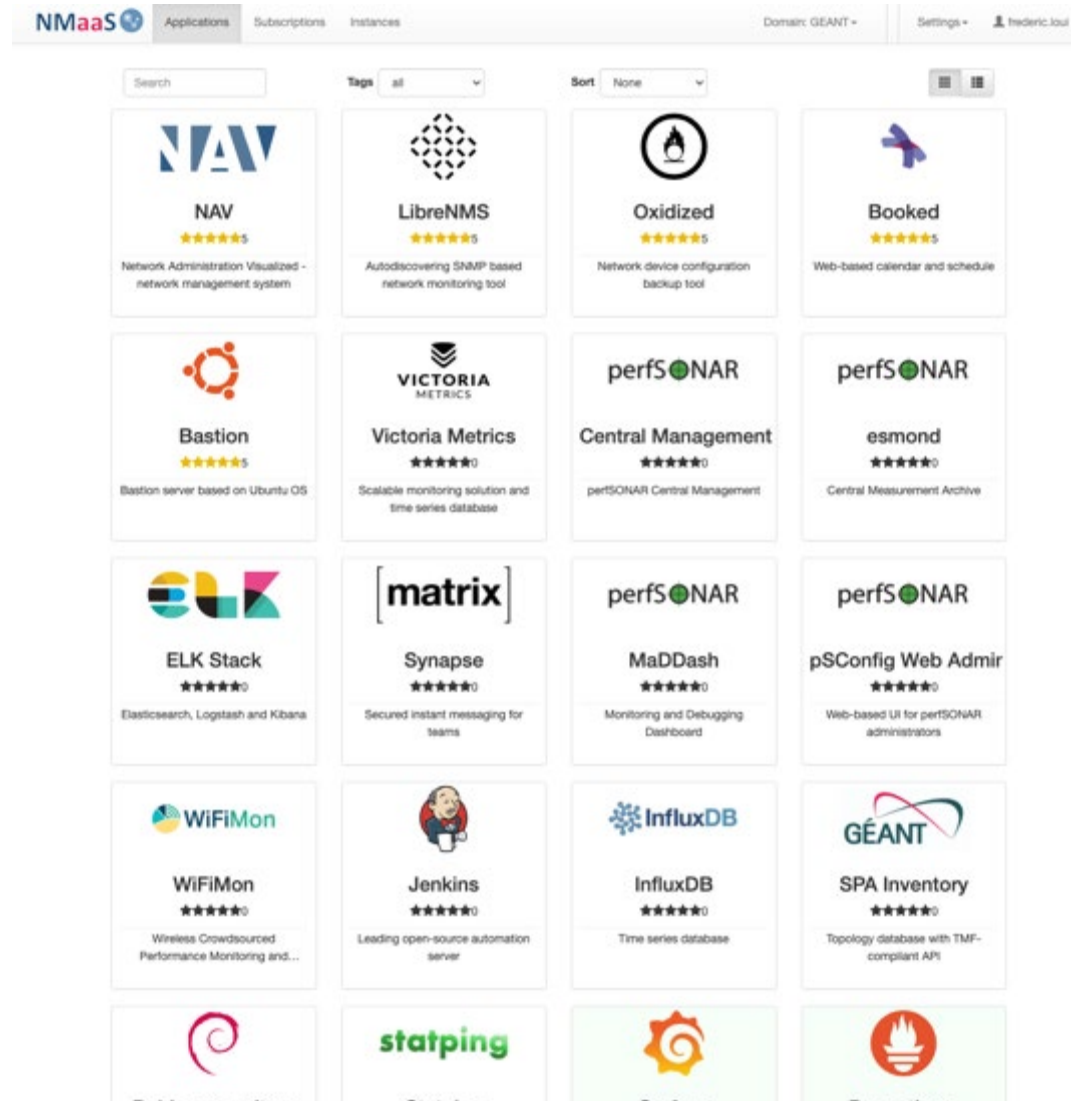
Please come @IRC #freertr and submit your idea!



RARE validation designs: P4 LAB network management via NMaaS*! (Network Management as a Service)



P4 LAB network management via (Network Management as a Service)



Network Management as a Service:

<https://nmaas.eu>

<https://wiki.geant.org/display/NMAAS>

Monitoring at node level! (Prometheus agent)



Monitoring at node level! (Grafana dashboard)



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Dashboards

Official & community built dashboards

Product updates
Sign up to receive occasional product news and updates:
Enter your email address

Filter by:

Name / Description

Data Source
All






Panel Type
All

Category
All

Collector
All

Sort By
Name

Share your dashboard

| | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|
|  | RARE/freeRouter - Link State IGP peers / reachability & neighbor count summary by fredericloui Display link state IGP peer reachability and neighbor count metrics PROMETHEUS OTHER | Downloads: 2 Reviews: 0 |
|  | RARE/freeRouter - Routing / Computed - Redistributed by fredericloui PROMETHEUS OTHER | Downloads: 5 Reviews: 0 |
|  | RARE/freeRouter - Routing / Interfaces by fredericloui PROMETHEUS OTHER | Downloads: 4 Reviews: 0 |
|  | RARE/freeRouter - Routing / Neighbors by fredericloui PROMETHEUS OTHER | Downloads: 4 Reviews: 0 |
|  | RARE/freeRouter - BFD states by fredericloui Display BFP state metrics PROMETHEUS OTHER | Downloads: 2 Reviews: 0 |

<https://grafana.com/grafana/dashboards?search=freeRouter>



Key take-way – We are ready to roll into production

- Automated testing
- 3rd party testing via Spirent usage
 - (thanks PSNC@WB team)
- P4 profile calibration
- DPDK currently in operation SOHO
- Production deployment



- Work in progress production deployment



Practicle use case #001 SOHO router

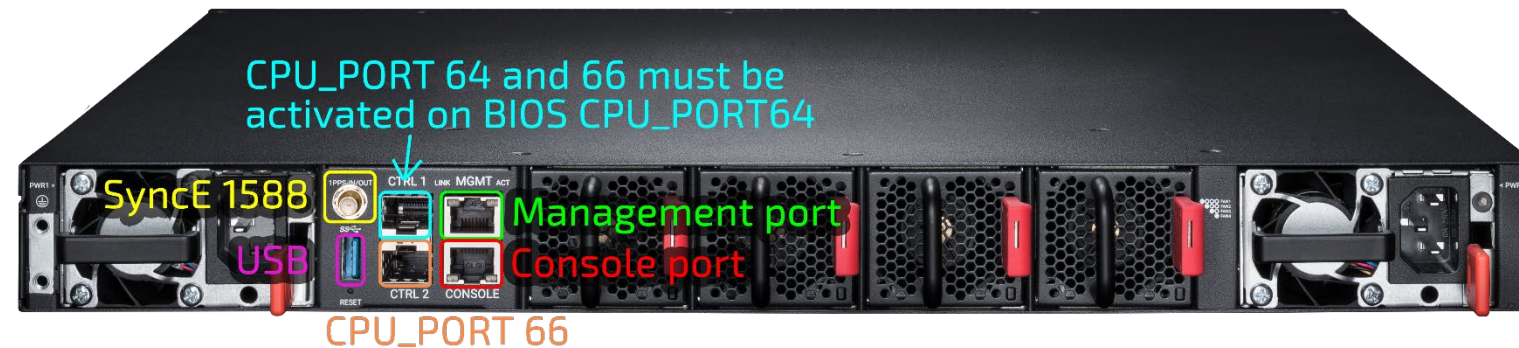
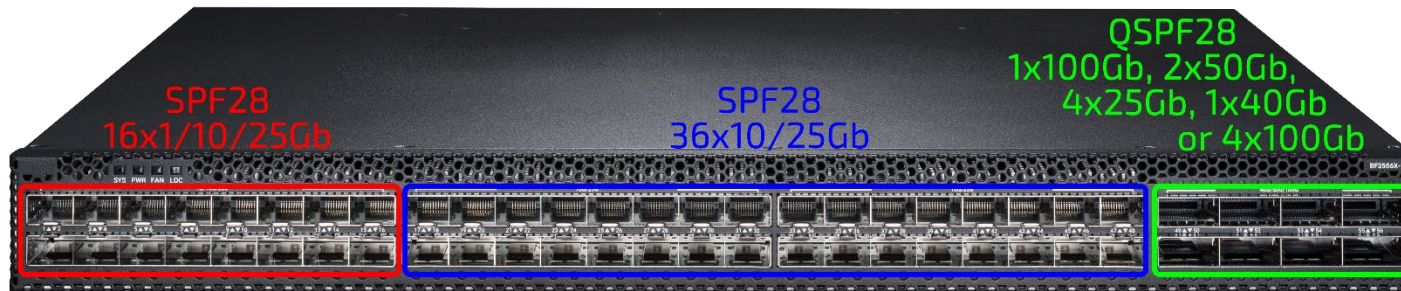
- DPDK flavor ideal for CPE
- nx1GE
- nx10GE small MAN ideal for small campus
- Couple of 100GE (Depending on server generation)





Practical use case #002 BRAS router

- DPDK and P4 dataplane
→ suitable for CAMPUS / EDGE BACKBONE router
- nx1GE, nx10GE, nx100GE



Practical use case #003 LSR router

- P4 dataplane fits perfectly pure **LSR** core router
- NNI: 4 directions with (8x100GE) bundle



Practical use case #004 LER router

- P4 dataplane fits perfectly pure **LER** use case
- NNI: EST/WEST direction @ (8x100GE) bundle
- UNI: 16x100GE left for end user connection!



Practical use case #005 high performance BGP RR

- Recycling new server?
- Ideal for **K8s** cluster using **BGP** as **CNI** network plugin
- Taking advantage of server « huge » amount of RAM
- No need specific high performance dataplane



Practical use case #006 « small PE » Practical

Ideal for aggregation

- 2x10GE or 2x100GE NIC server side
- 2x10g+48x1g or 1x100g+48x1/10g switch





Practical use case #007 100GE Private Peering node

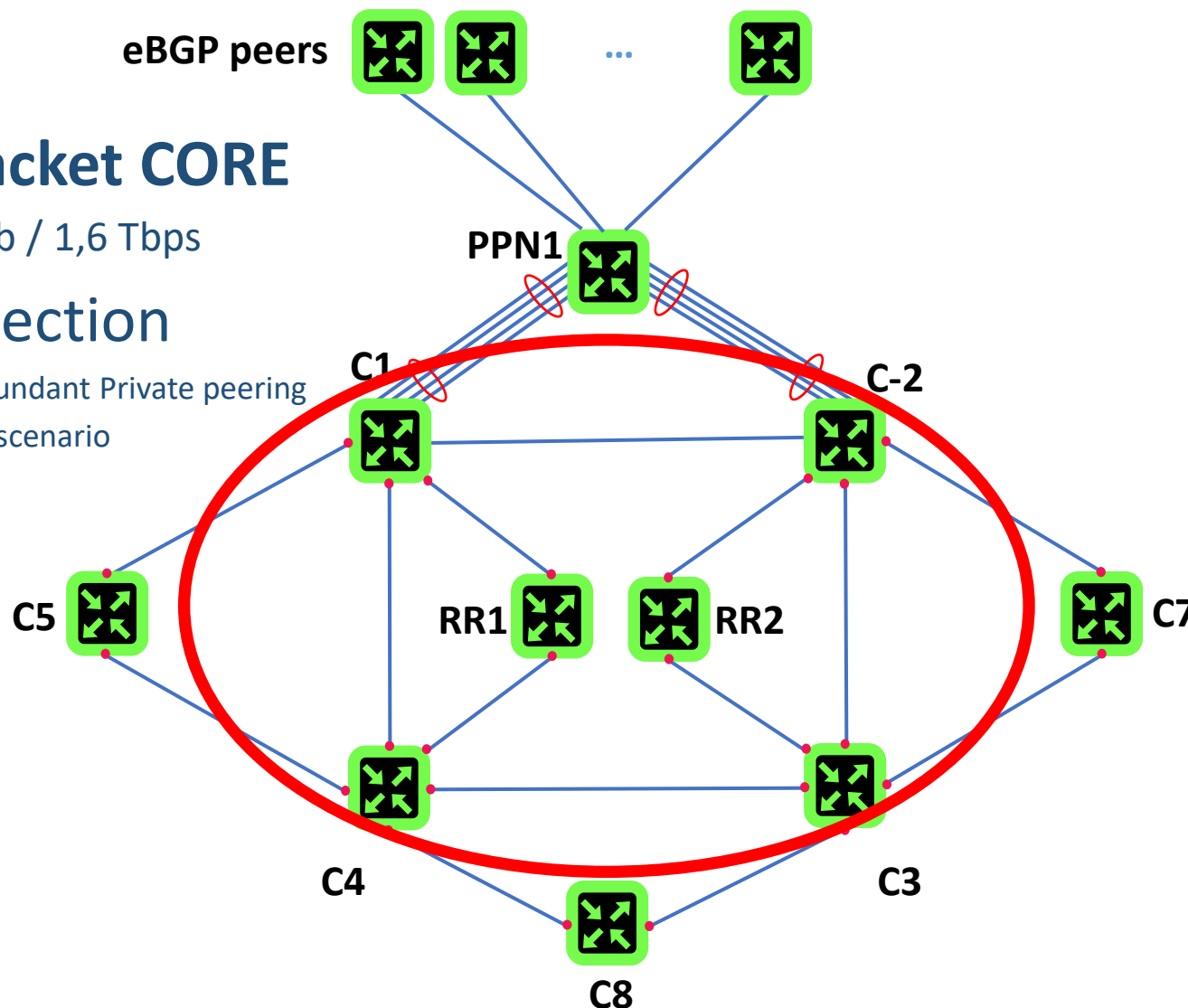


- High resilient **Packet CORE**

- 2 direction @ 400Gb / 1,6 Tbps

- User ports connection

- 24 ports left for 2x12 redundant Private peering
- 1:3 ratio with redundant scenario



Practical use case #xxx **The sky is the limit**

- Automation integration
- IXP with MPLS core
- ToR router combined to BGP aware network plugin
- Spine/Leaf DC router
- Global BGP monitoring for your entire BGP domain
- Global IGP guard for your entire IGP domain
- BGP flowspec aware anti DDOS
- AAA servers (TACACS, RADIUS)
- ...

We need YOUR creativity!



Key take-way – Room for improvement

- **Network Management**

- Node monitoring
- Flow Monitoring

- **New Network Management Paradigm**

- Streaming Telemetry
- INT

➔ **It is a good opportunity to rethink how Network Management is handled**

- « Closing the dots » with automation existing project

Why not joining the effort?





Key take-way – Final words – RARE vision

- **Open Network programming opportunity**
 - R&E small institution
 - R&E global project (100GE is real, 400GE just landed)
- **Opportunity to define NGN NMS**
 - Scaling new NMS (horizontal scaling with K8s)
 - Streaming Telemetry
 - INT

→ Rethink how Network Management is handled
- Opportunity to integrate existing automation initiatives

**Instantaneous & Flexible
Network Services for the users!**

Acknowledgements ...



APS Networks



Useful links

- Project

freeRtr control plane's home: freertr.net

more information on dataplanes: rare.freertr.net

Project members' journey: blog.freertr.net

FreeRtr configuration guide: docs.freertr.net

- Contact

For daring RARE/freeRtr users: rare-users@lists.geant.org

For RARE/freeRtr JEDI developer wanabee: rare-dev@lists.geant.org

For RARE/freeRtr supporters  [@rare_freerouter](https://twitter.com/rare_freerouter)



IRC@DN42 #freertr



Useful links: Source code!!!!



freeRtr core: sources.nop.hu/src/



TOFINO ASIC: sources.nop.hu/misc/p4bf/



P4Lang bmv2: sources.nop.hu/misc/p4lang/



p4emu: sources.nop.hu/misc/native/p4*



p4dpk: sources.nop.hu/misc/native/p4*

Looking ahead: Finalize transition to production



Extend HCL:

new TOFINO based hardware support
new DPDK release

New target:

TOFINO2
NVIDIA DPU
P4 SmartNIC
FPGA

New idea:

Polka
P42VPP
T4P4S ELTE
Leverage Nix paradigm

And more ...

Thank you

Any questions?

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