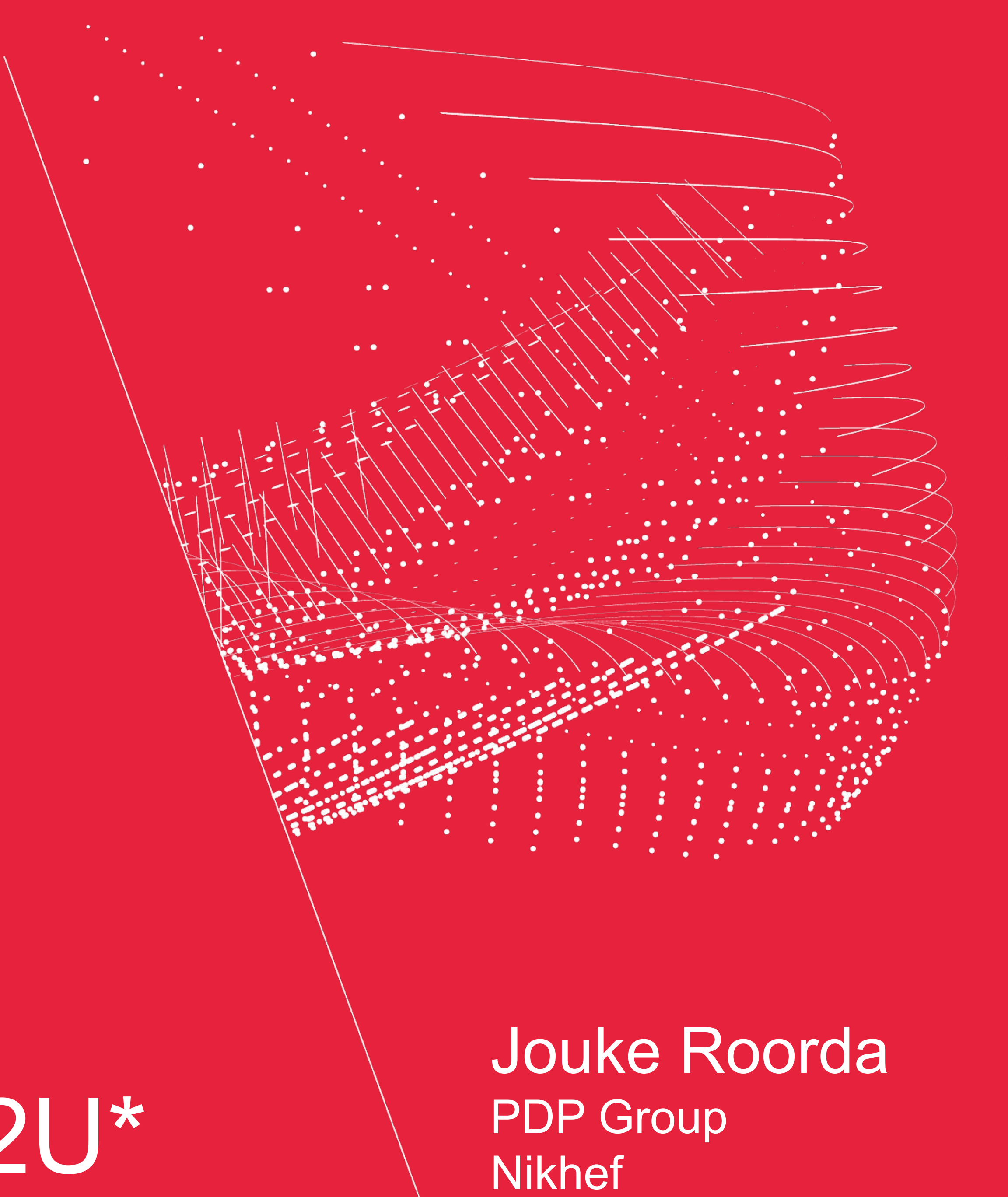


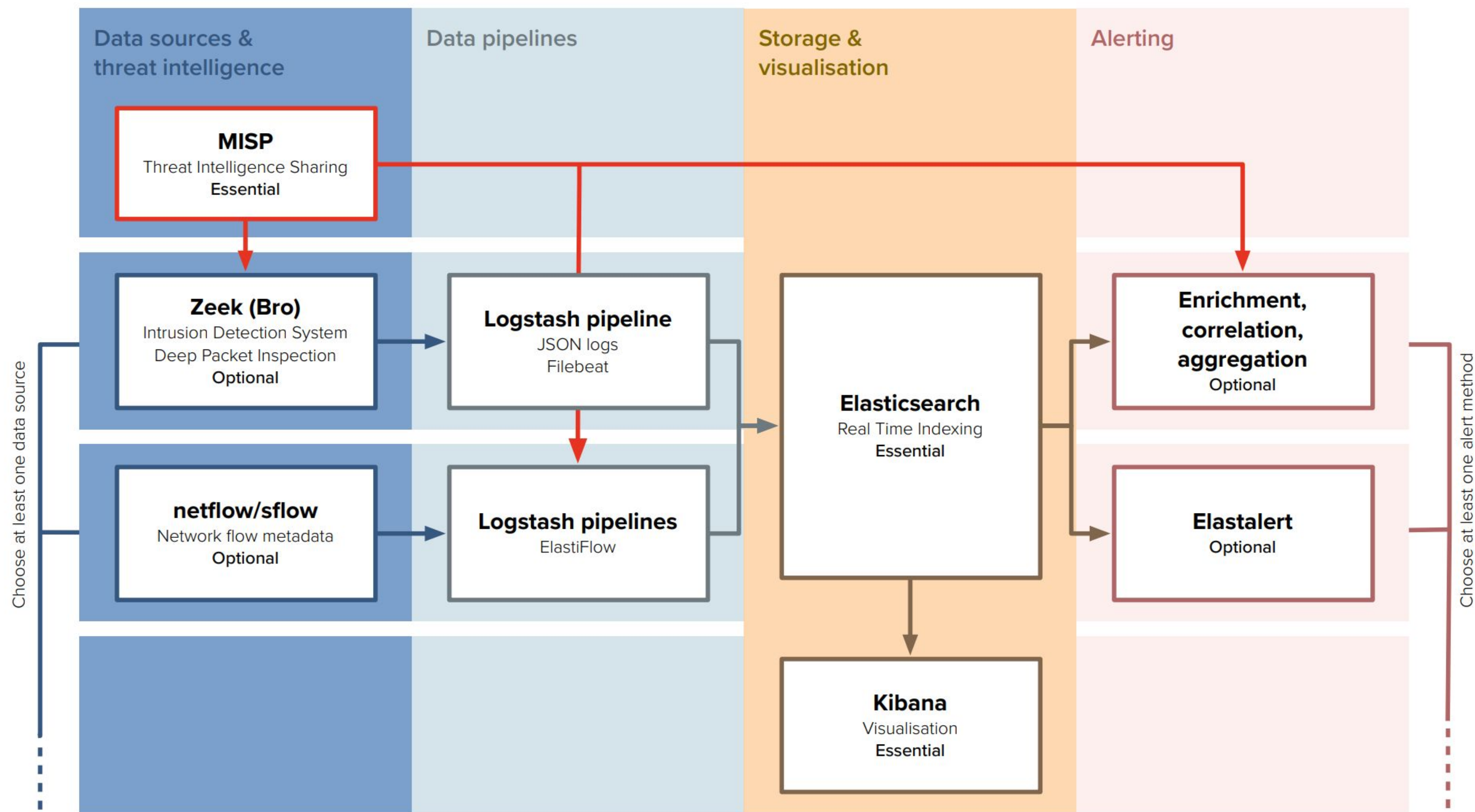


# Monitoring 100Gbit in 2U\*

Jouke Roorda  
PDP Group  
Nikhef

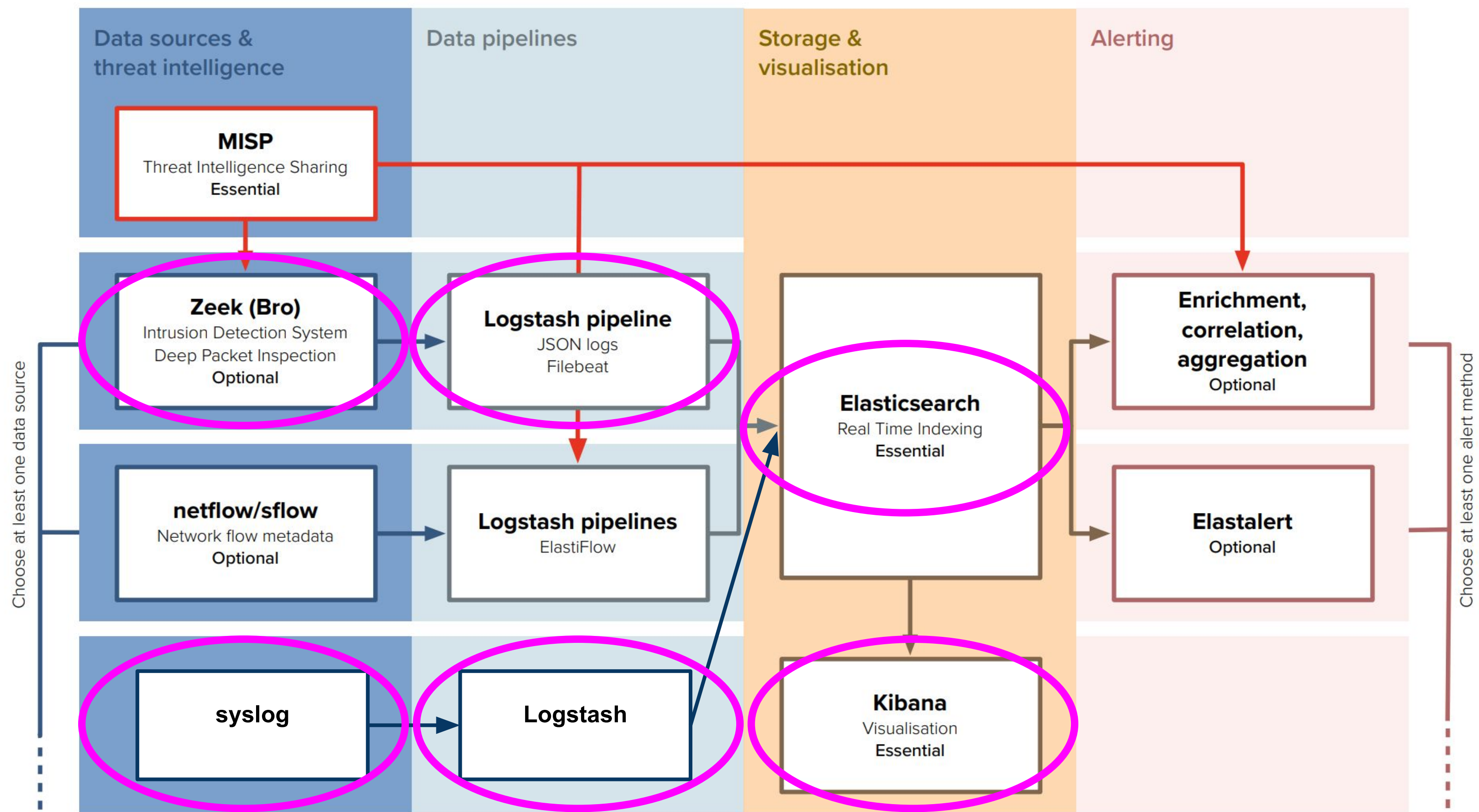


# Prelude: WLCG SOC WG Reference Model



D Crooks, et al. DOI 10.22323/1.351.0010

# WLCG SOC WG Reference Model, edited



D Crooks, et al. DOI 10.22323/1.351.0010



Things we tried



# IBM POWER8 S822L

Strange problems

More threads → more NIC drops

Less threads → more Zeek drops

One 100GE NIC?

Many 10GE NICs?



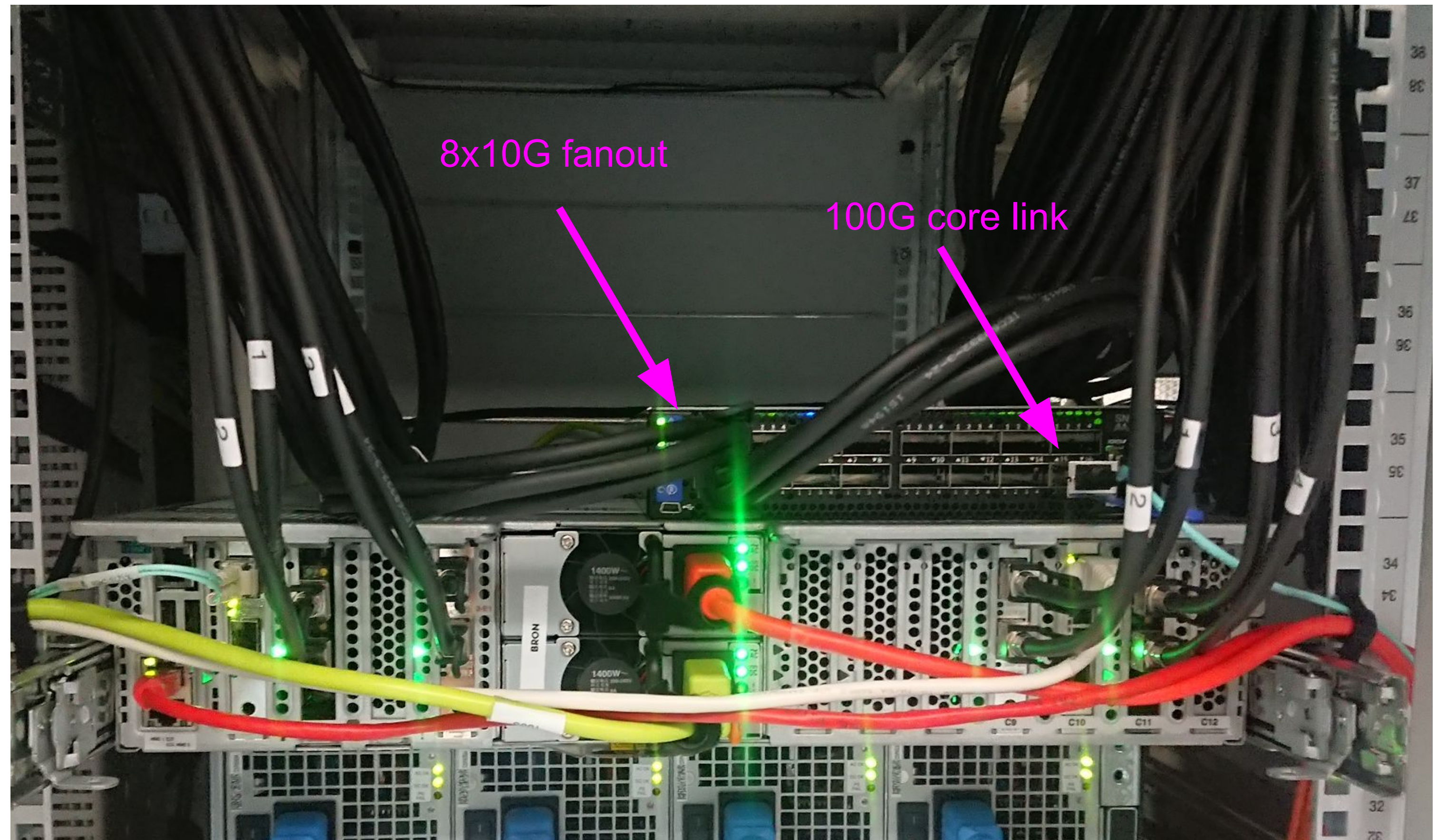


# IBM POWER8 S822L w/ switch-based fanout

Flow based fanout  
 $\text{size}(\text{flow}) > \text{size}(\text{link})$   
Switch drops

All NICs in different NUMAs

Still dropping packets







Let's try something else



# PoC: Lenovo SR655 w/ Connect-X 5 EN

AMD EPYC 7702P 64-Core  
SMT disabled

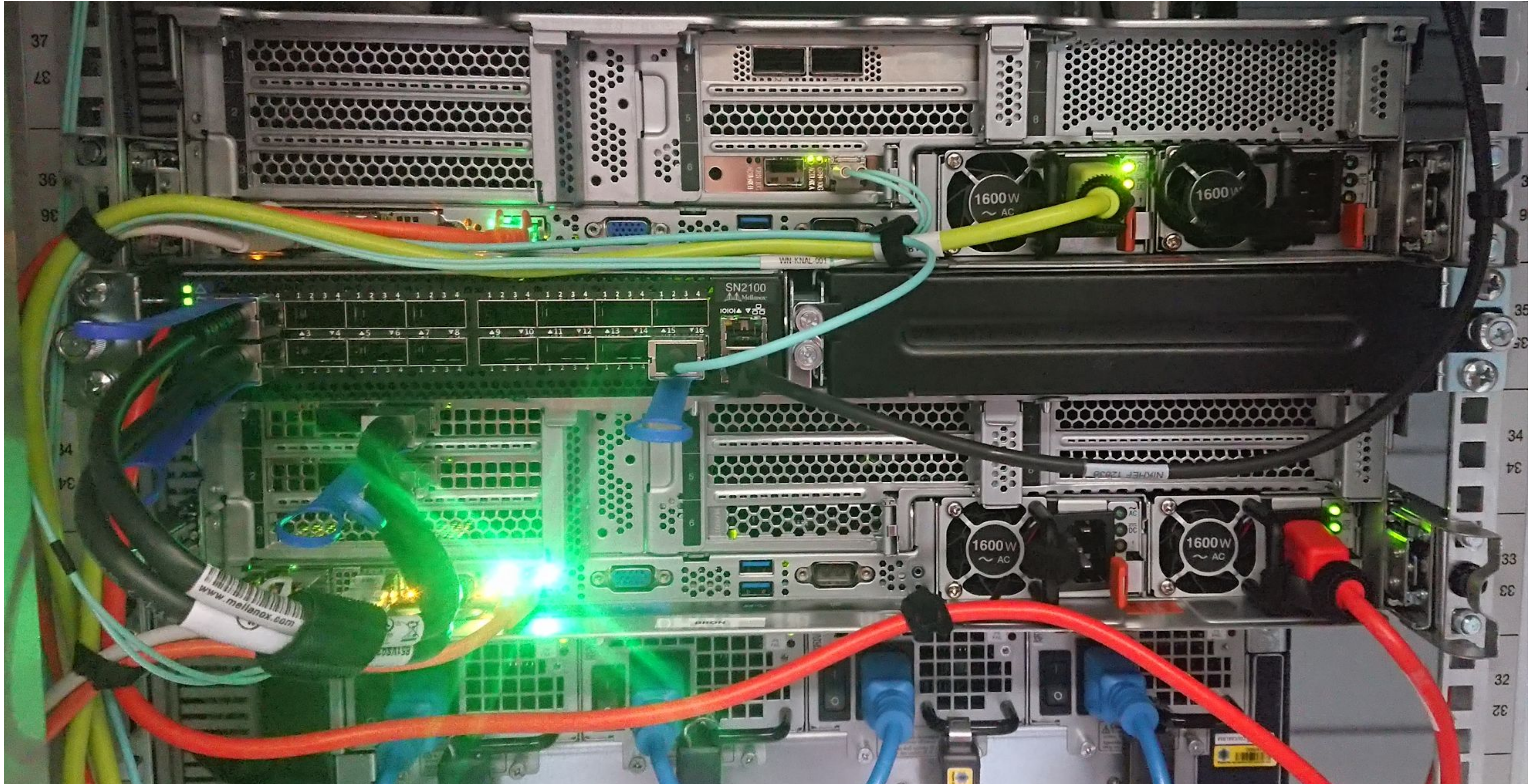
100Gb mirror from core

CentOS 8 + Zeek with 60 workers





# Migration...





# Produccion: Lenovo SR655 w/ 2\* Connect-X 6 Dx

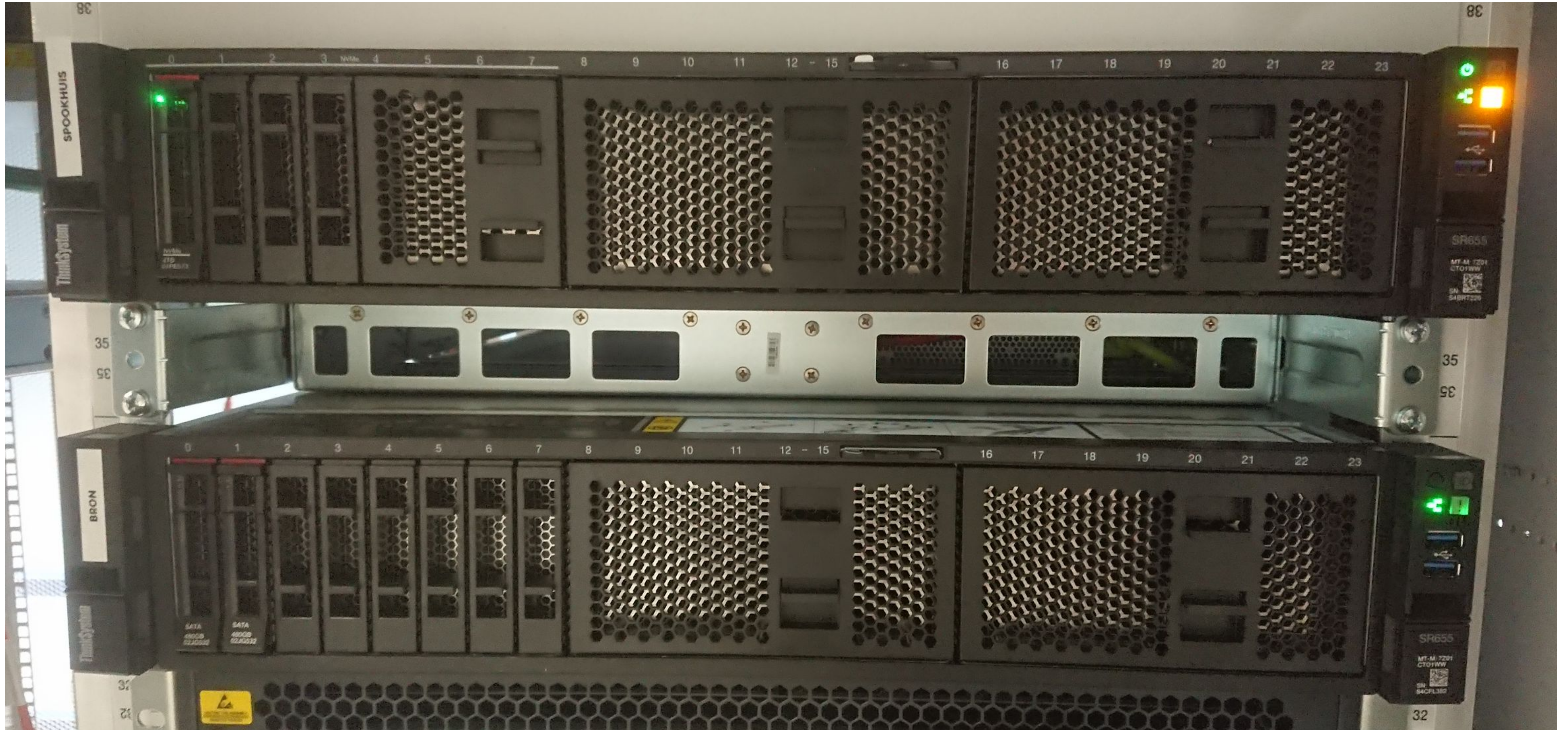
AMD EPYC 7702P 64-Core  
SMT disabled  
Zeek with 2\*30 workers

Debian 10  
100Gb mirror from core to SN2100  
2\*100G from SN2100 to NICs





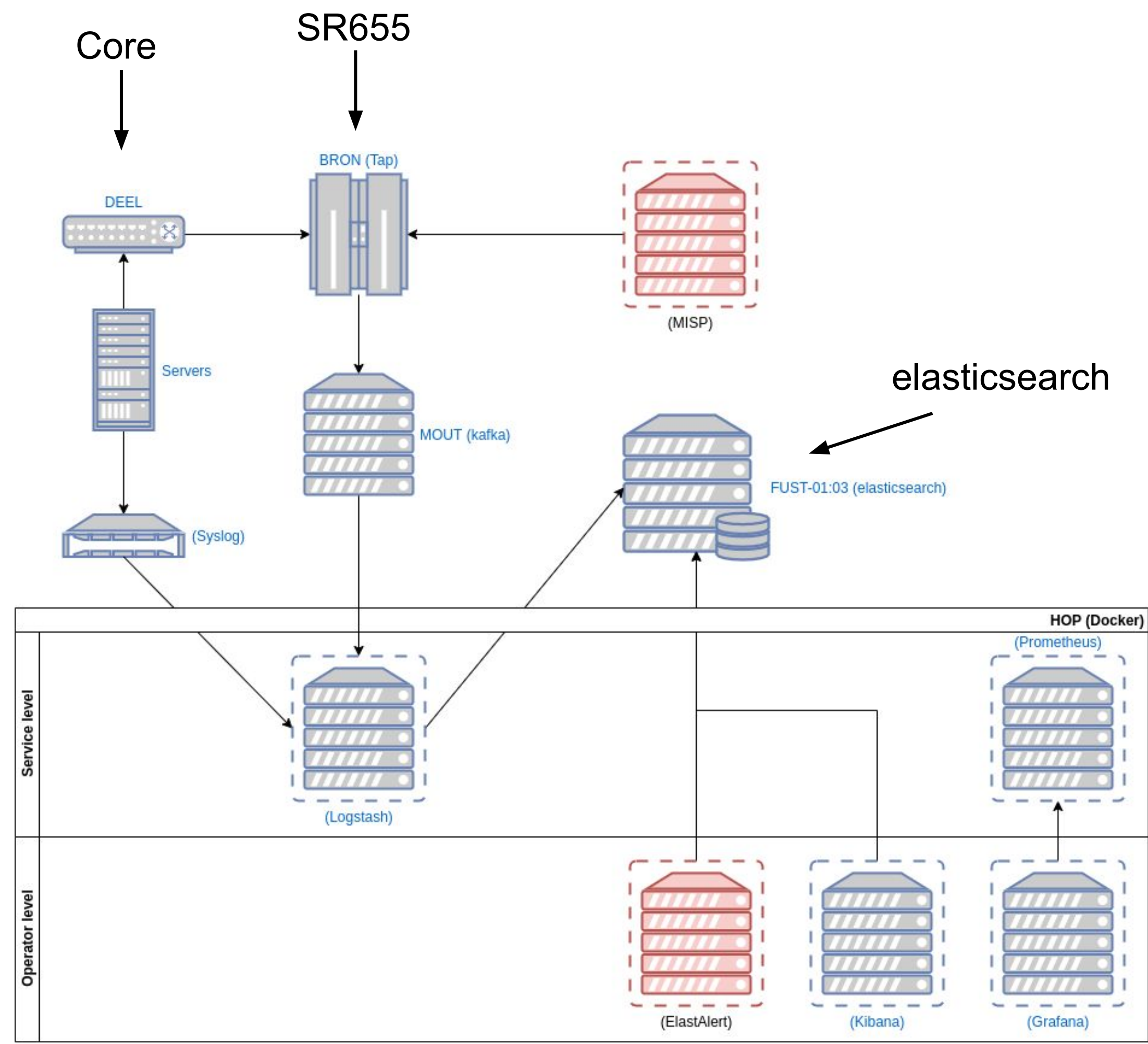
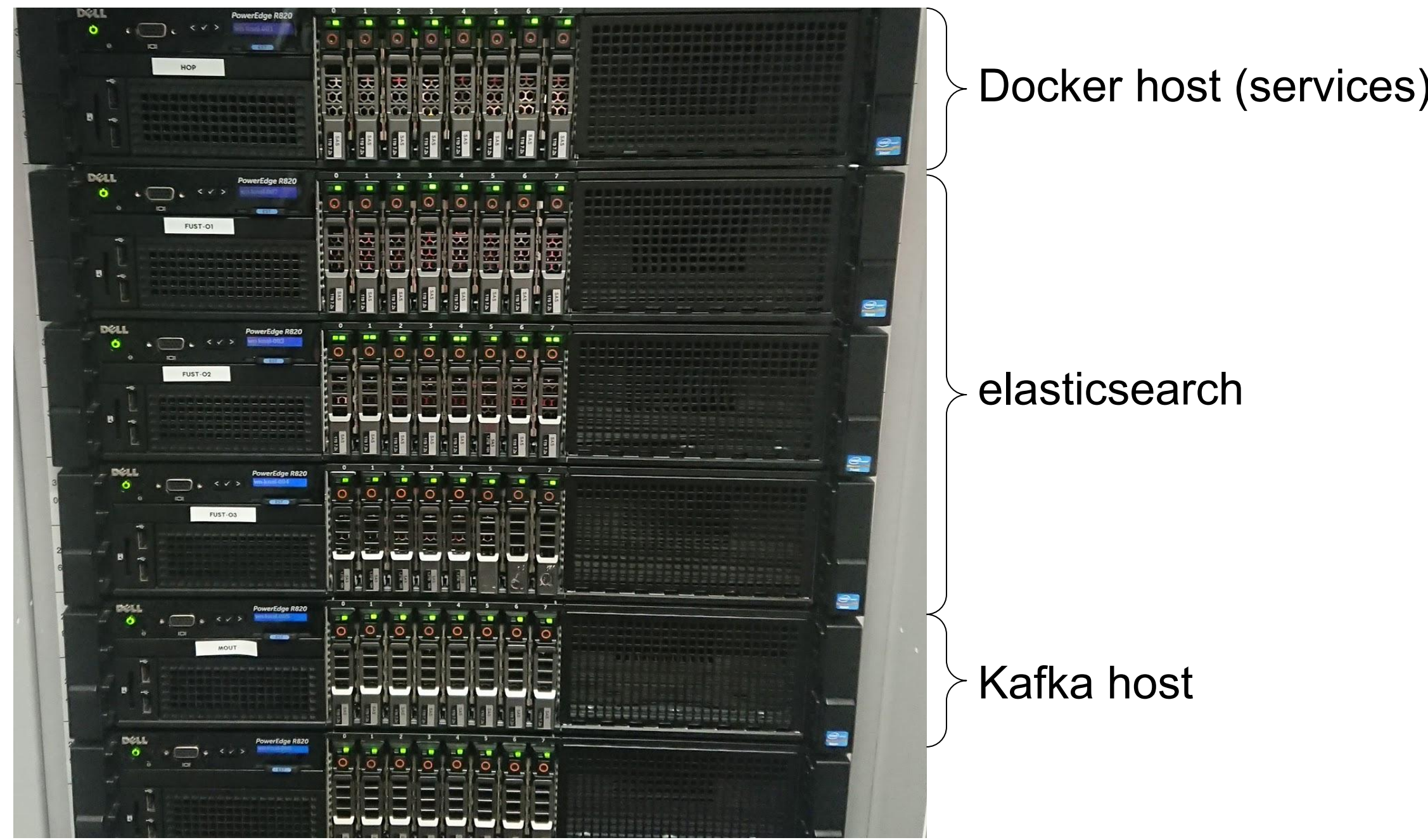
# Bonus picture





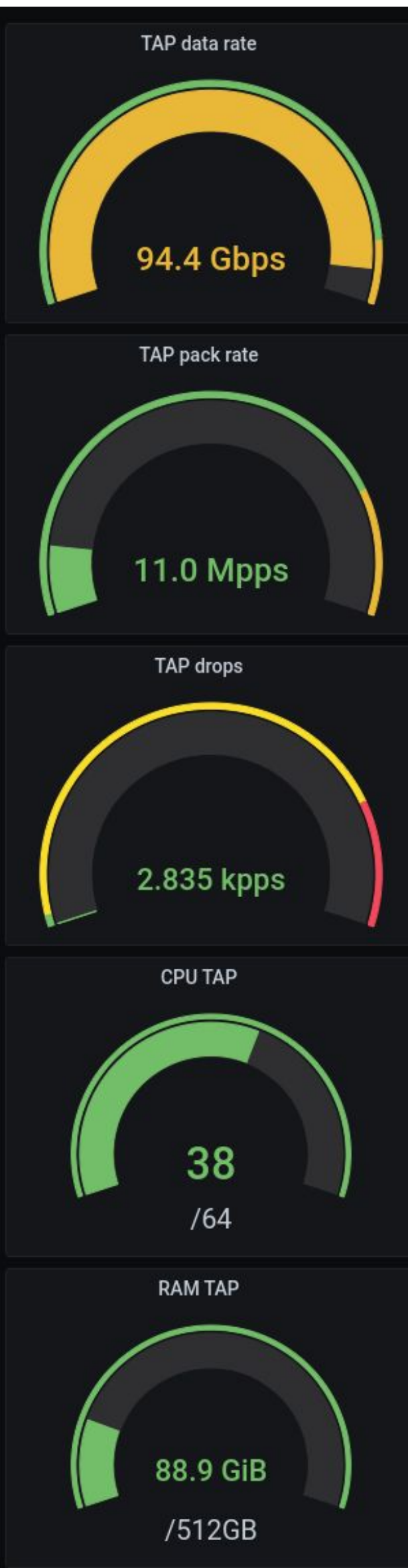
# Reality is usually more nuanced

10Gb dedicated private network  
5 (soon to be 7) ex-grid machines



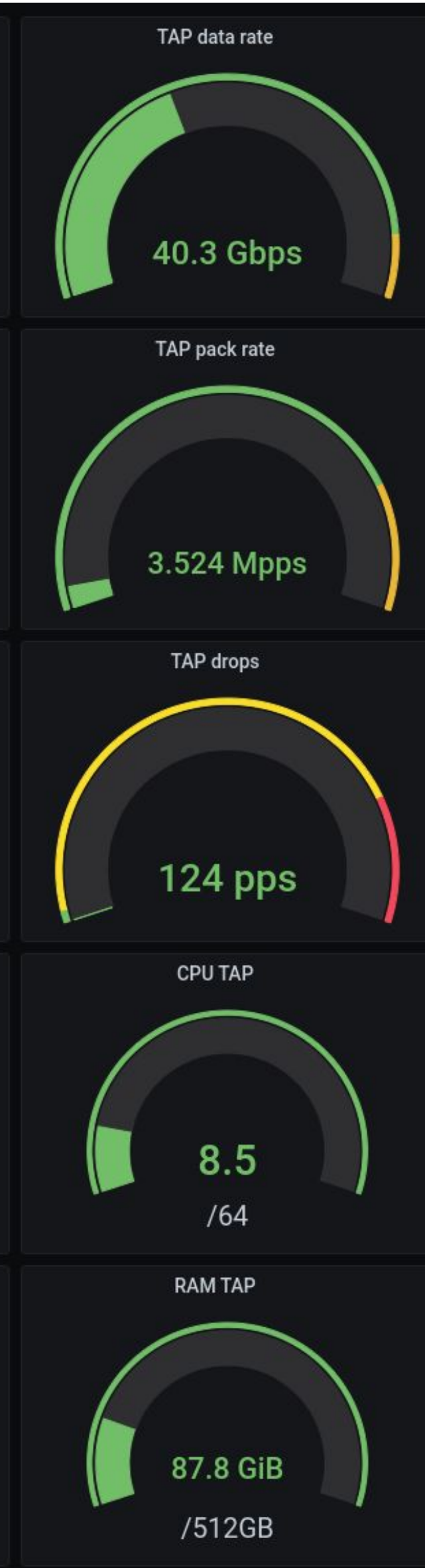
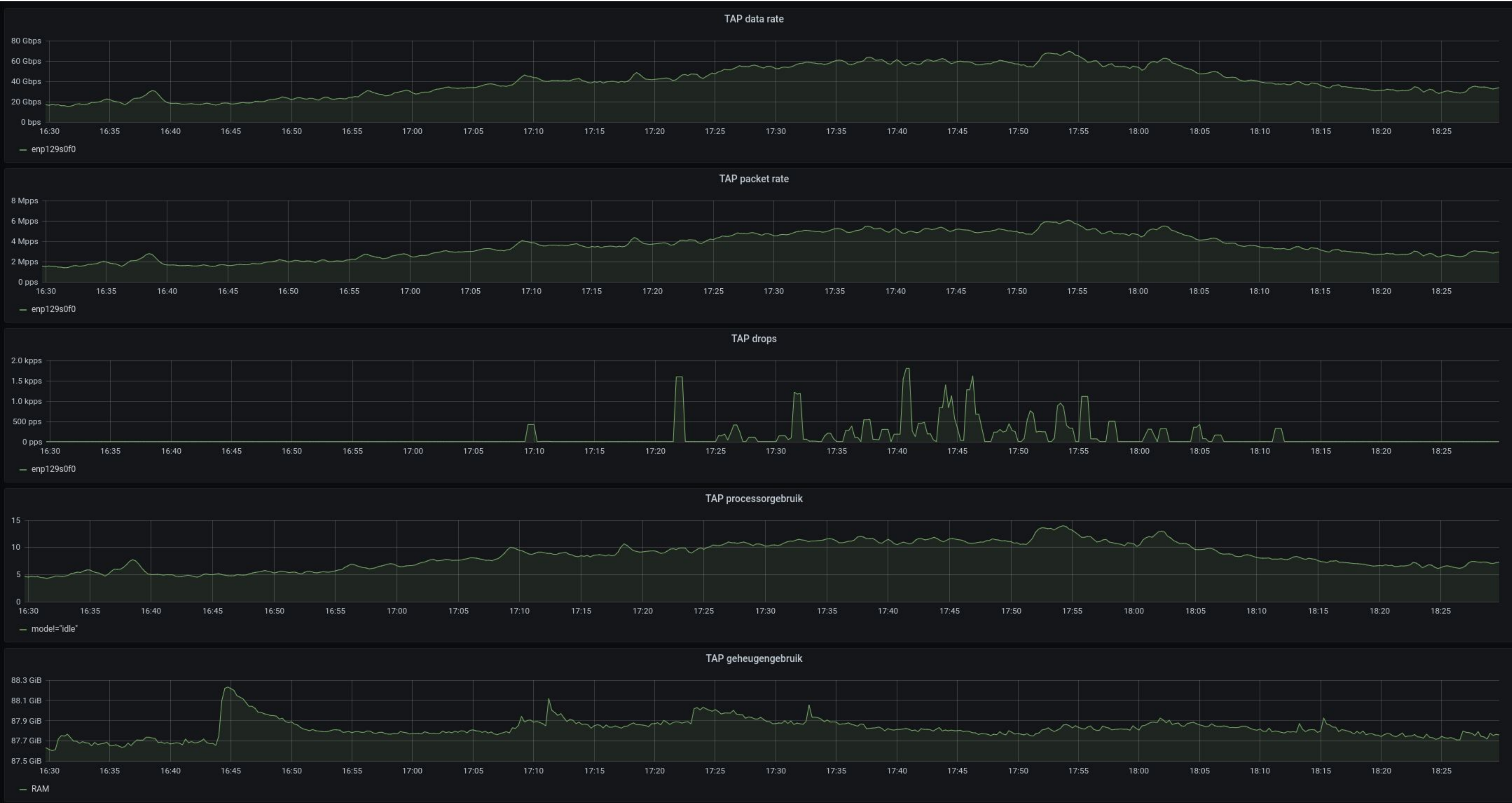


# Attack traffic



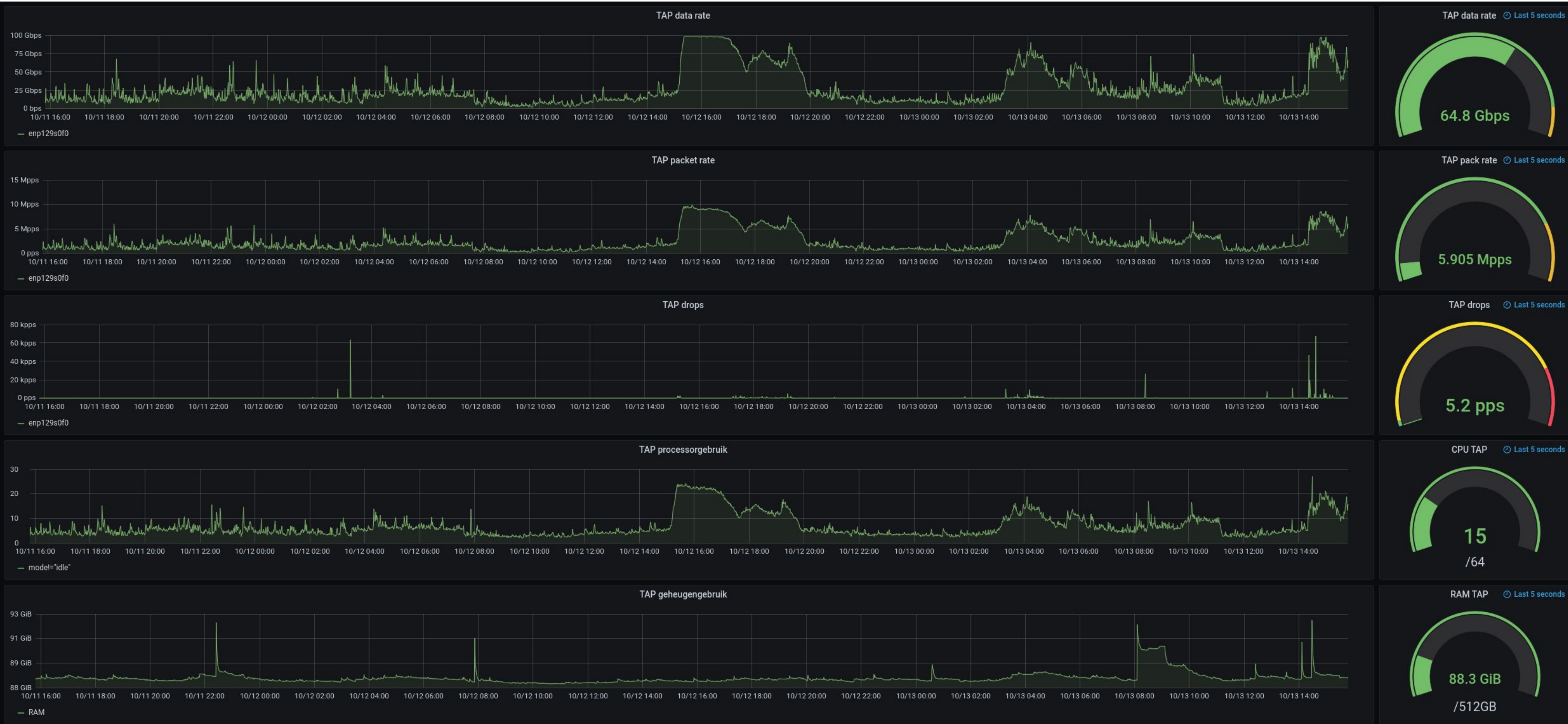


# Real traffic





# More real traffic



# Not yet done: drops

System still occasionally dropping  
5pps LLDP?

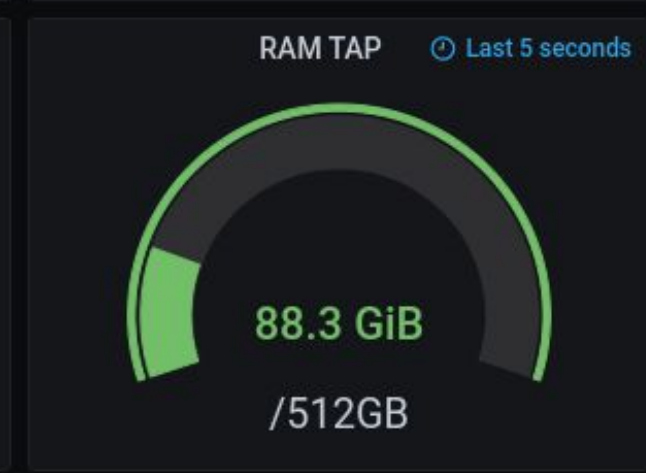
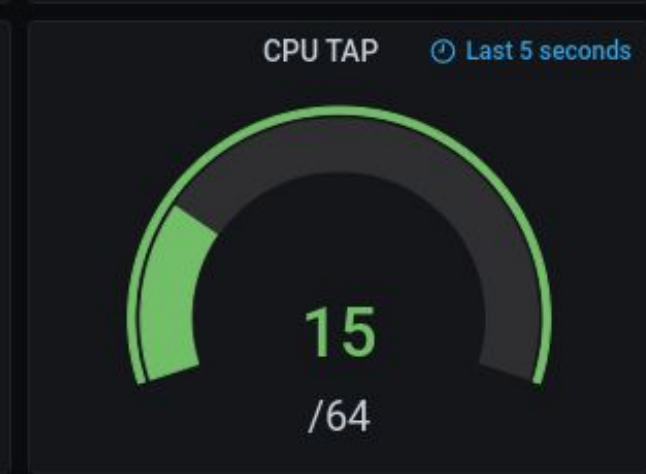
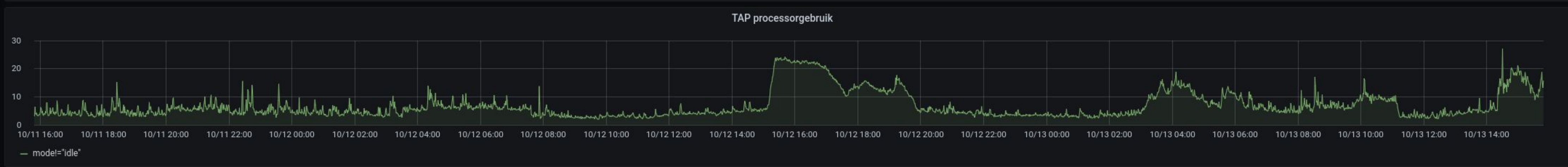
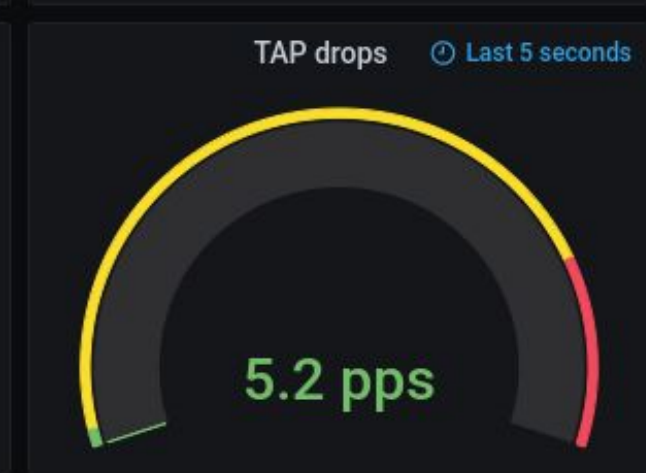
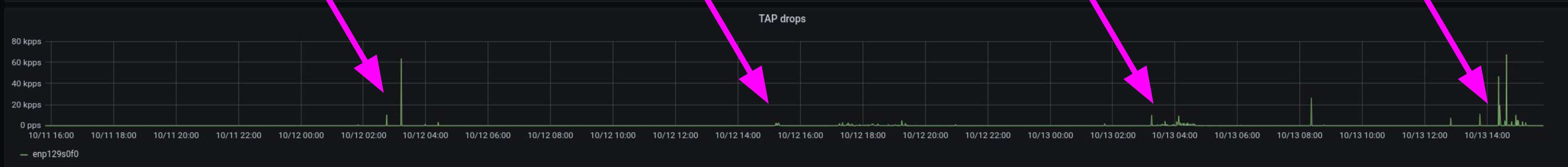
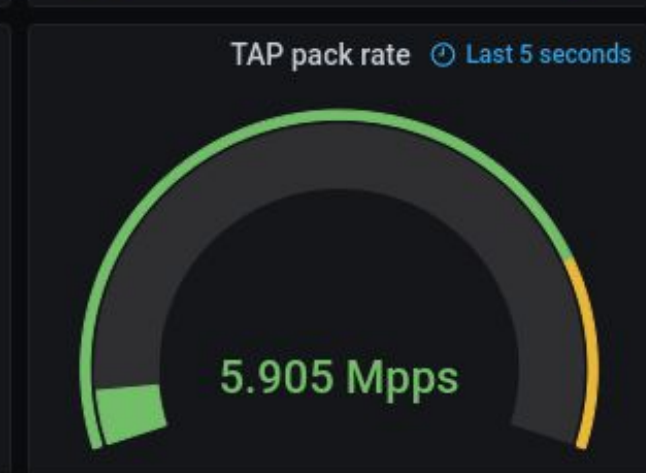
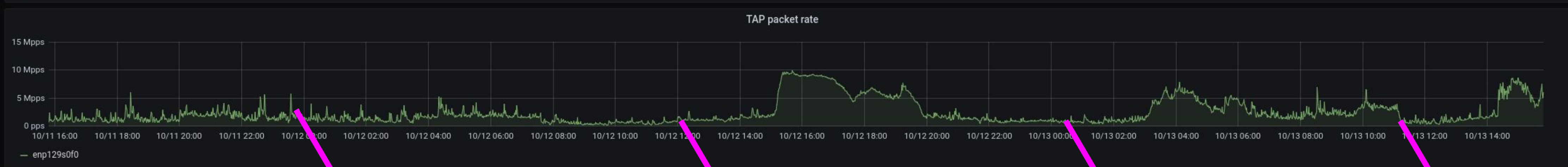
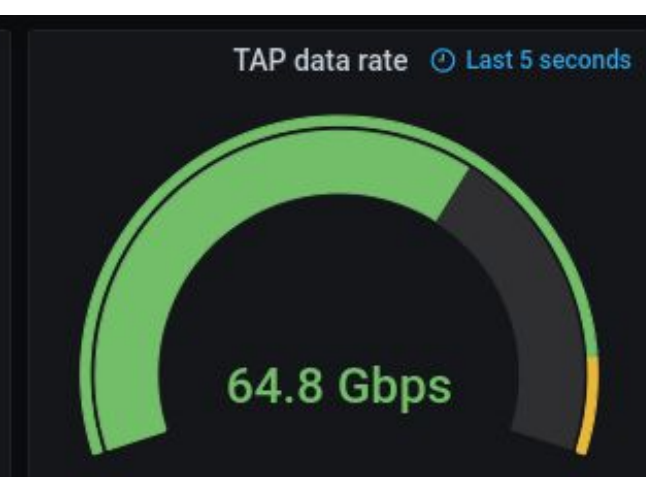
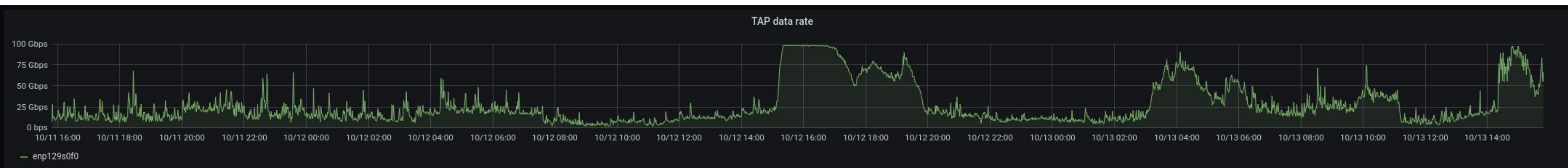
Reason for rest unclear

rx\_discards\_phy keeps rising

Low Coalescing gets rid of drops  
But also of traffic :)

Even with low traffic

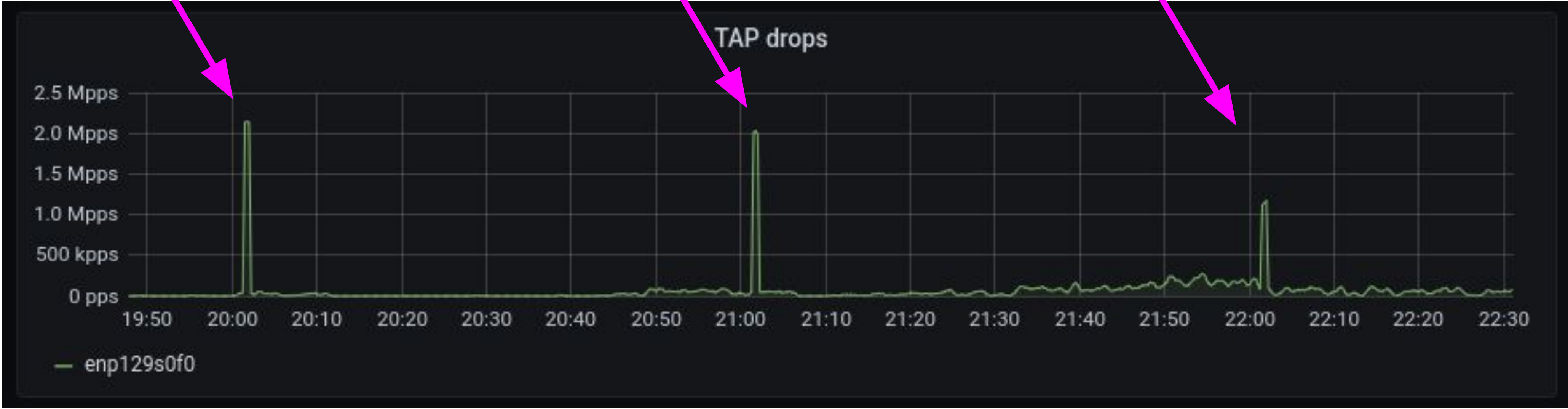
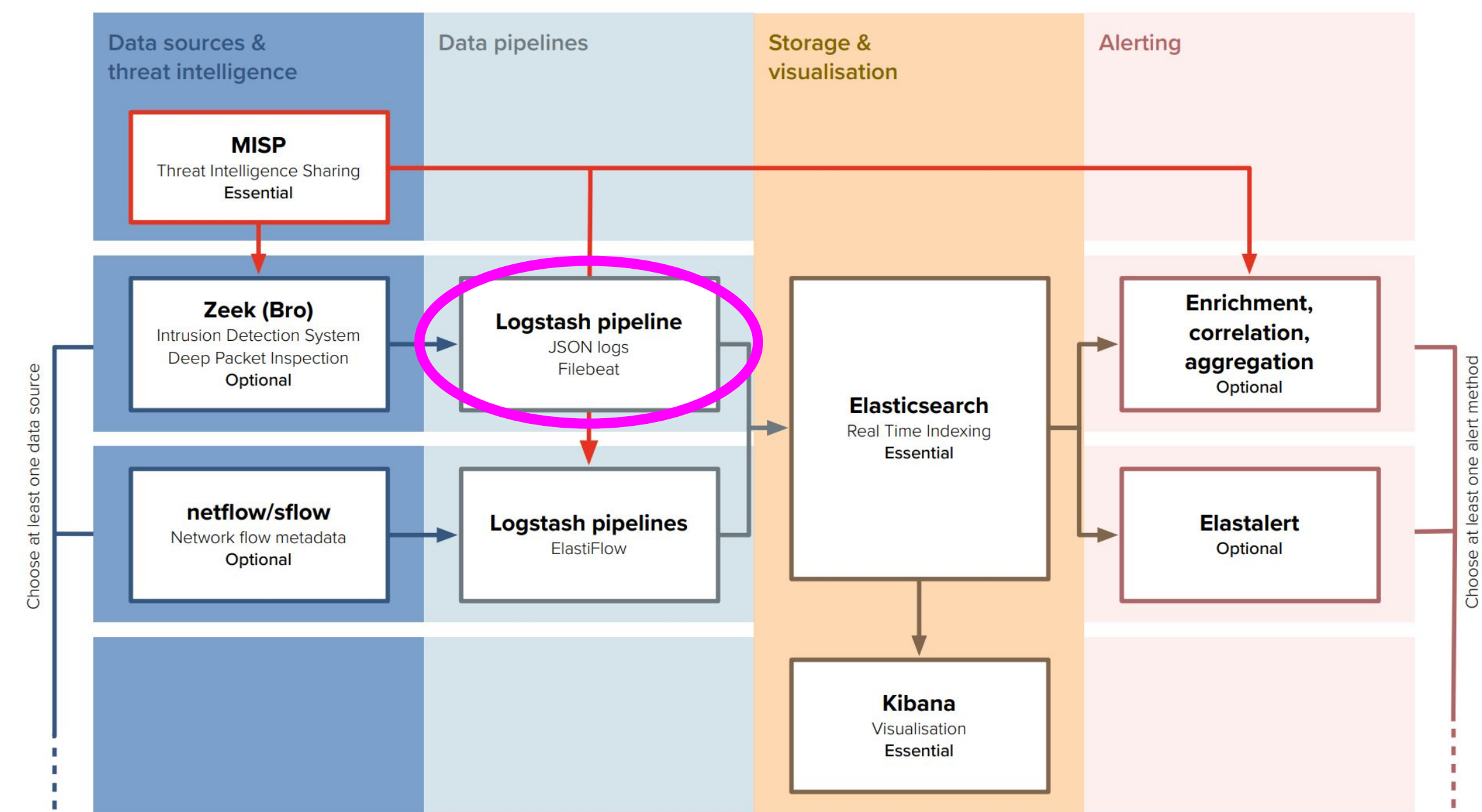






# What we did not do: log files

Writing Zeek logs to file  
Significant drops during log rotate  
Filebeat not even used yet





# Alternative solution: Kafka

Part of Apache Metron  
Continuous streaming

Zeek → Kafka → Logstash ⇌ Elasticsearch

Added bonuses:

- Communication is JSON by default, i.e. no parsing needed
- Kafka buffers when Logstash goes down



# What we did not do: zeekctl cron

Might be a side-effect of 1-box Zeek  
Reason for impact is unclear

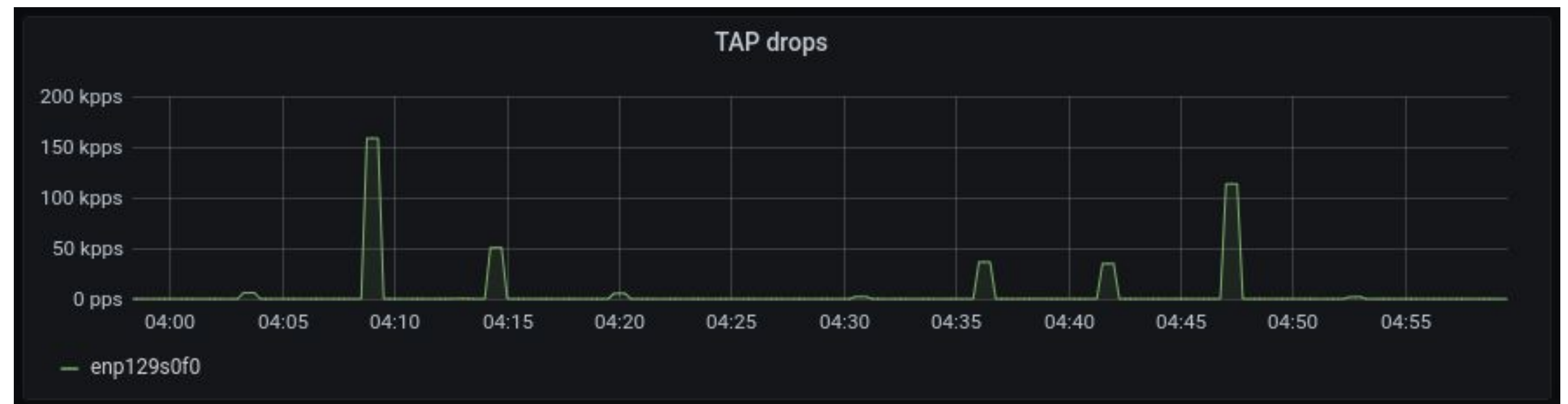
Alternative: to be determined  
Systemd is used for now

## [ZeekControl cron command](#)

The main purpose of the ZeekControl [cron](#) command is to check for Zeek nodes that have crashed, and to restart them. The command also performs other housekeeping tasks, such as removing expired log files, checking if there is sufficient free disk space, etc. Although this command can be run directly by a user, it is intended to be run from a cron job so that crashed nodes will be restarted automatically.

For example, to setup a cron job that runs once every five minutes, insert the following entry into the crontab of the user running ZeekControl (change the path to the actual location of zeekctl on your system) by running the `crontab -e` command:

```
* /5 * * * * /usr/local/zeek/bin/zeekctl cron
```





# Observations running our 100G SOC

ES data hungry: 2 more nodes

Flow size is more important than link size

Monitoring Zeek availability is not trivial



# Next steps & future work

Additional node to monitor storage

Zeek clustering?

Separate nodes?

Extra ES nodes

Same as current

Already reserved

See how newer POWER performs

Upgrades?

SSDs for ES nodes?

Core count vs clock performance

High availability



# In conclusion

100G monitoring in 2U: you can, and this is how

