

Scalable Software-Defined Monitoring

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Monitoring today

• Centralized and manual = scalability limitations





The UNIFY project in a nutshell



- Increased velocity of service introduction
- Unified network-cloud programming abstraction: orchestration and generic processing
- Novel observability and verification features

Control-data split for monitoring functions



Major requirements for supporting the monitoring split architecture

- Access for deploying or implementing data plane monitoring components
- More expressive programming capabilities
- Better scalability for information dissemination
- Ease of integration with information consumers
 - APIs easily accessible to programmers and automated actors

ZeroMQ choice for a monitoring bus

- Advantages
 - Multitude of transport protocols optimized for different communication scenarios:
 - inproc, IPC: same application, multiple threads
 - TCP/IP
 - TPIC
 - PGM reliable multicast
 - Wide support for programming language bindings
 - High throughput, low latency
- Disadvantages
 - No message persistency
 - No high-availability
 - No guaranteed ordering

Example of implementing a ZeroMQ bus in UNIFY



Distributed link utilization monitor

- Use two counters (first and second statistical moments for link utilization)
- Transmit only the estimate to the controller, instead of high-speed data flow
- Could be used to estimate the risk of congestion





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0.3s threshold	5 minute			0.3s	
t = 0.01	true positive	false positive	true negative	hit	miss
t/15	72	23	9	1184	17
t/10	69	11	24	1180	21
t/5	49	6	49	1088	113

Monitoring support in UNIFY APIs



Conclusion

- Scalability of monitoring could be improved by
 - using monitoring buses
 - adopting split-architecture principles for certain monitoring functions
- More flexible dataplane programming capabilities required for advanced monitoring
- More expressive programming capabilities required for better integrating monitoring with orchestration and controllers

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