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# Network Tapping for Zeek A Deep Dive

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March 17, 2023

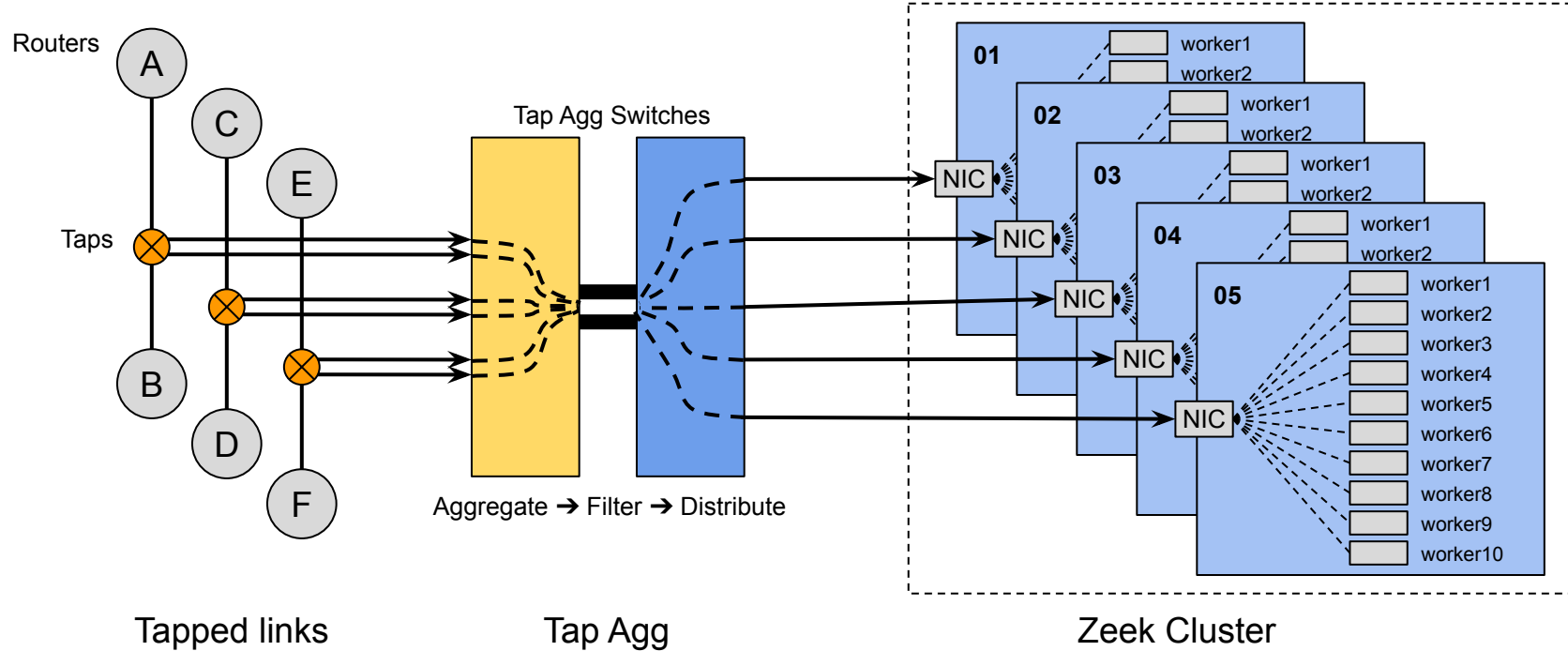
# Groundwork Definitions

Taps: make a copy of traffic

Tap Agg: aggregate + manipulate copies

Zeek: distill information, take action

# The Formula

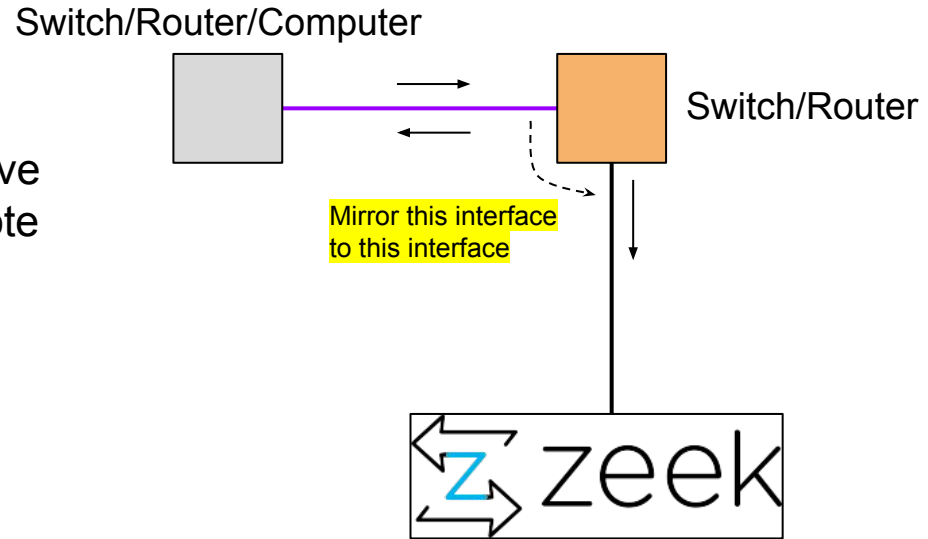


# Outline

- Taps
- Tap Aggregation
- LBNL's Environment
- Scaling Up with Load Balancing
- Static Traffic Filter
- Dynamic Filtering (Shunting)
- TCAM Limitations
- Ingress/Egress ACL Workaround
- Identity VLANs
- Tapping Cloud email
- Visibility in the Cloud
- Tapping & Tap Agg @ 400G

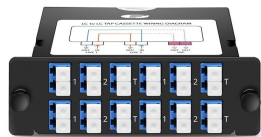
# Mirror / Monitor / SPAN\* Ports

- On-Device Packet Replication
- (+) Free?
- (+) Can filter at source
- (+) Non-disruptive add/change/remove
- (+) RSPAN/Lawful Intercept for remote capture
- (-) In-band / Resource contention?
- (-) Hardware limits
  - Ex: max 2 SPAN ports
- (-) Potential oversubscription
  - (1G TX, 1G RX = 2G tapped)



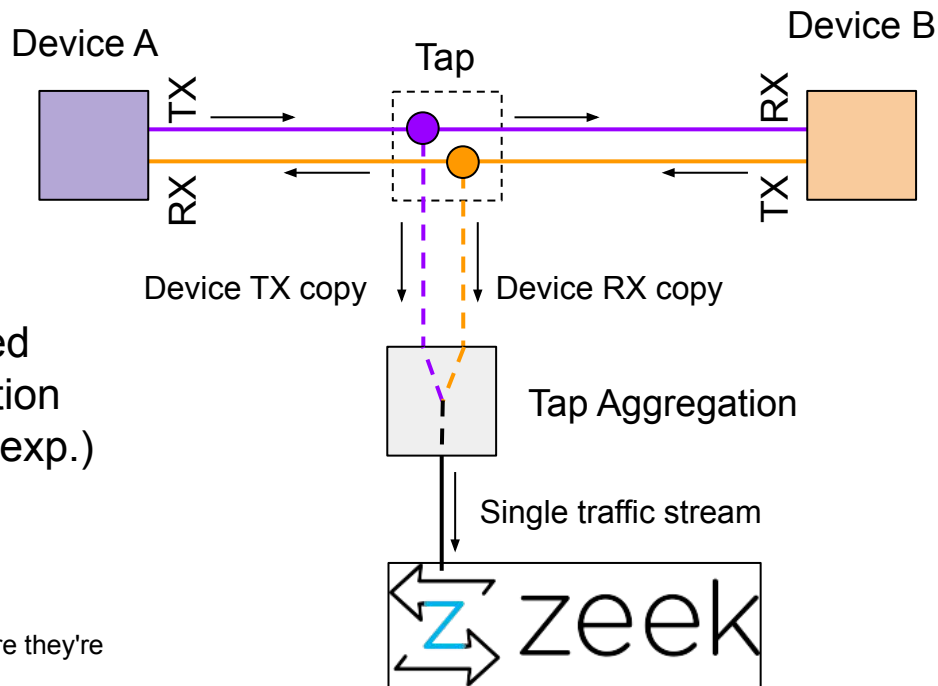
\*Switch Port ANalyzer

# Taps



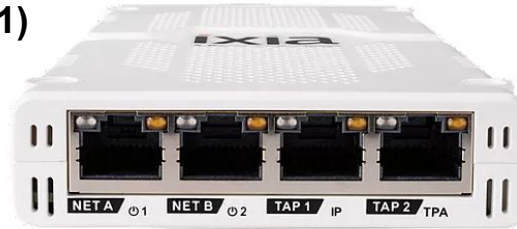
- (+) Out-of-Band
- (+) Fiber taps can be passive/unpowered
- (+) Fiber taps: all light, no oversubscription
- (+) Passive taps: Highly reliable (in our exp.)
- (+)/(-) Price
- (-) Disruptive add/change/remove\*

\*(there are maybe things like non-disruptive microbend taps, I'm not sure they're commercially available)

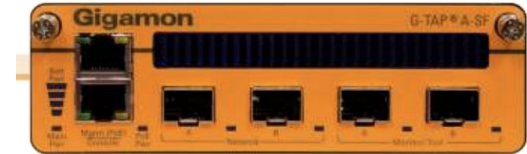


# Tap Hardware

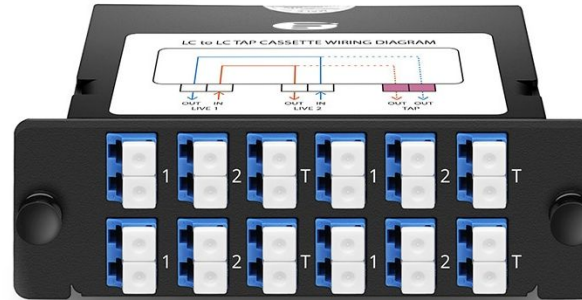
(1)



(2)



(3)



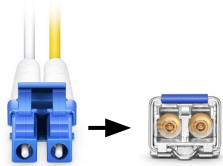
(4)



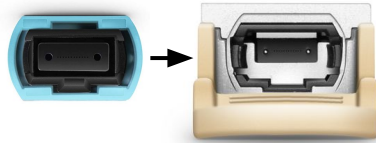
- Different Flavors of Taps
  1. Copper Taps
  2. Active Optical Taps
  3. Passive Optical Taps
  4. Fiber Patch Tap Cables

# Fiber

## Common Fiber connectors

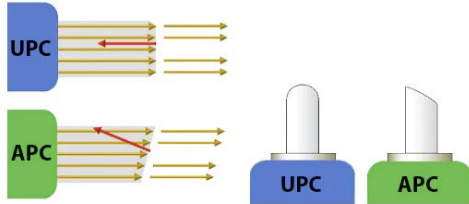


LC



MPO (aka MTP®)

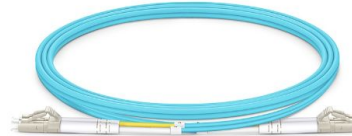
UPC vs APC  
Don't mix these!



## Common Fiber cables



OS2 (Optical Singlemode)  
Long distance, any speed



OM4 (Optical Multimode)  
LC/LC connectors  
Short dist., lower speeds

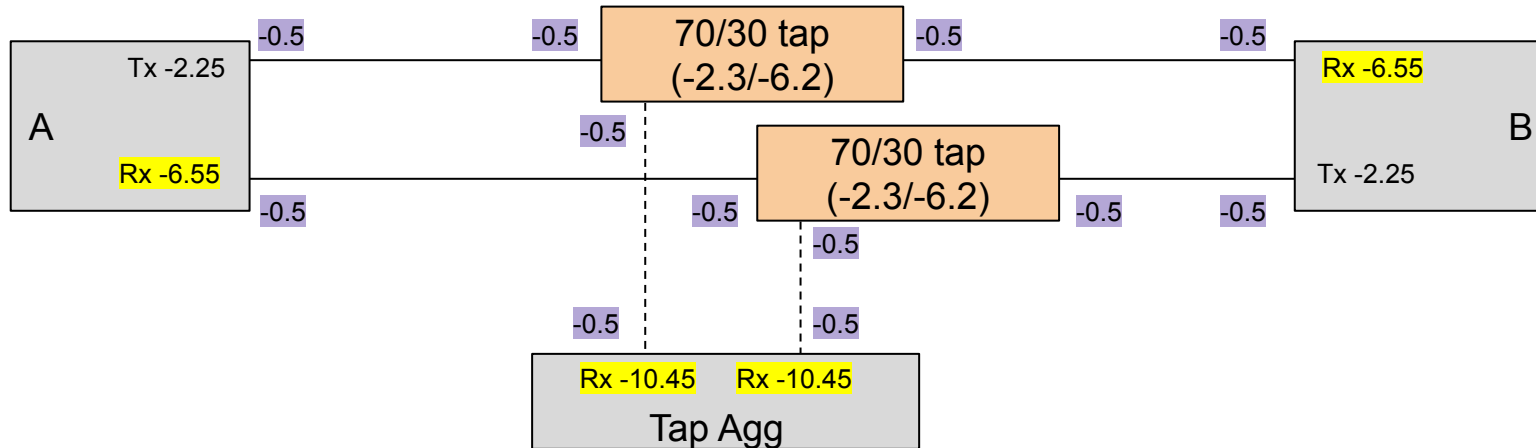


OM4 (Optical Multimode)  
MPO-MPO connectors  
(Polarity Type B)  
Short dist., higher speeds



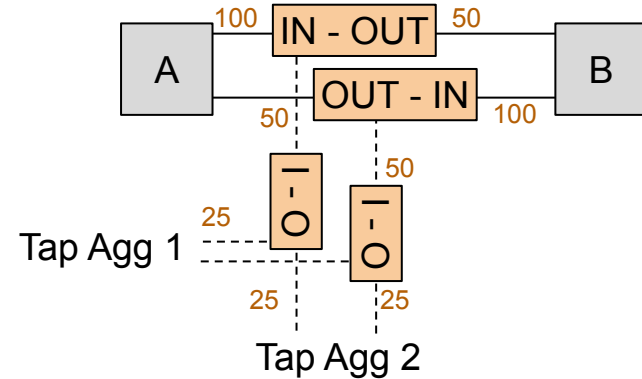
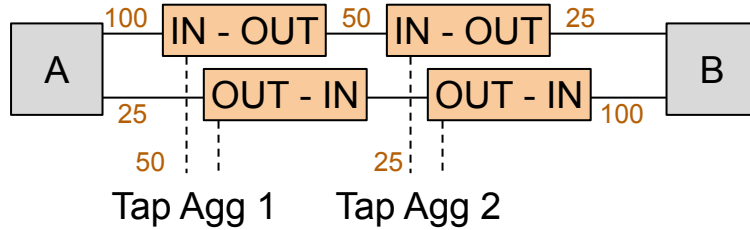
# Calculating Light Budget

- Light split ratios: 50/50, 70/30, 80/20
    - Do you have enough light budget?
- 0.5 = connector loss



# Calculating Light Budget

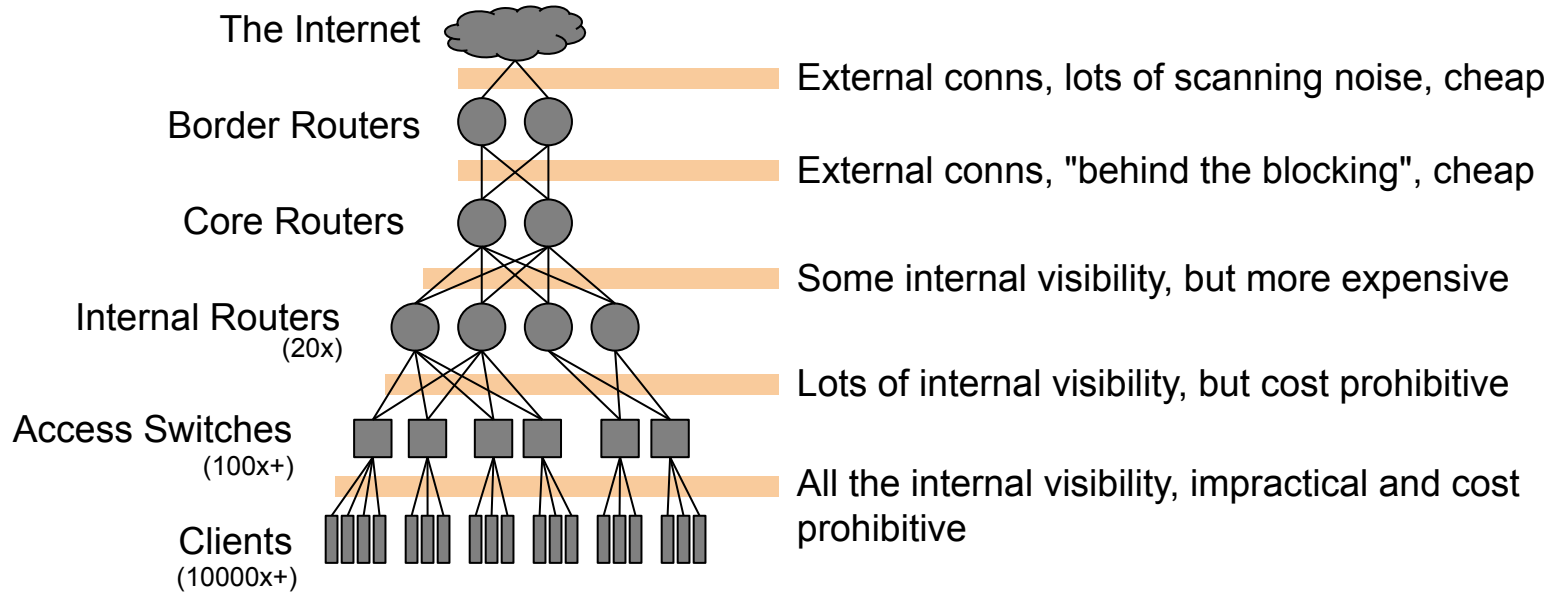
- Multiple taps for multiple locations



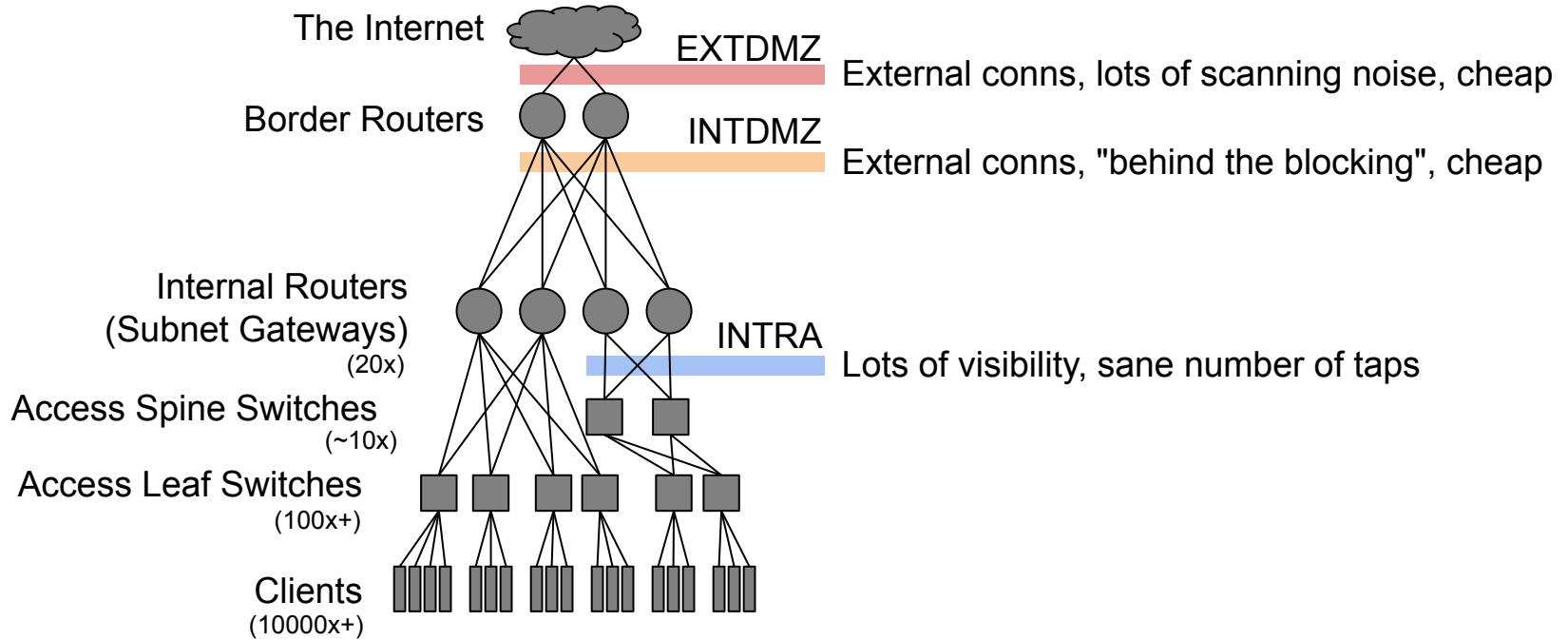
# Checking Light Levels

- Thresholds: device output below, or check the optical modules specs/data sheet, something like "Receiver Sensitivity" or "Receive Power" max/min.
- Cisco C6800s  
#show interfaces Te1/1 transceiver detail  
"Optical Receive Power (dBm)"
- Arista 7280s  
#show int et25/1 transceiver detail  
"Rx Power (dBm)"
- Juniper MX/EX  
> show interfaces diagnostics optics et-1/0/2  
"Laser receiver power"

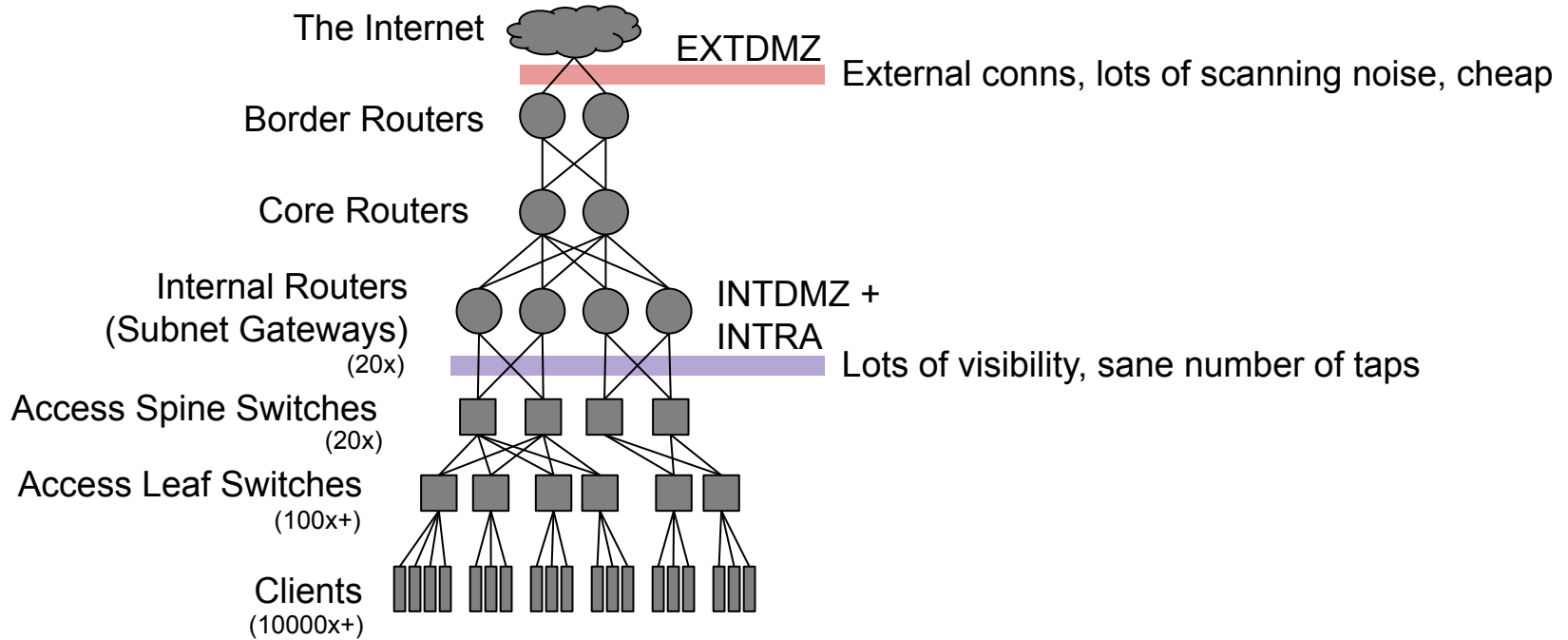
# Hierarchical Network Tapping



# LBNL's Current Tapping

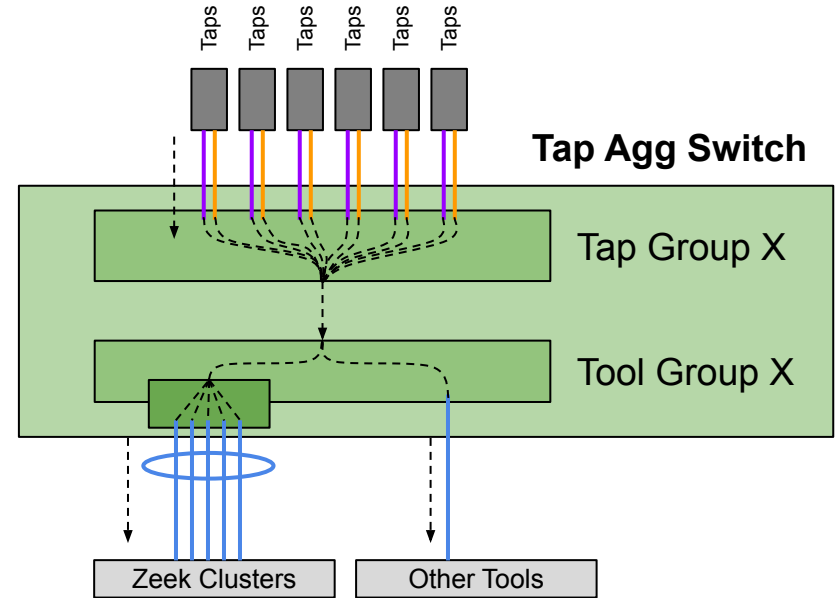


# LBNL's Future Tapping

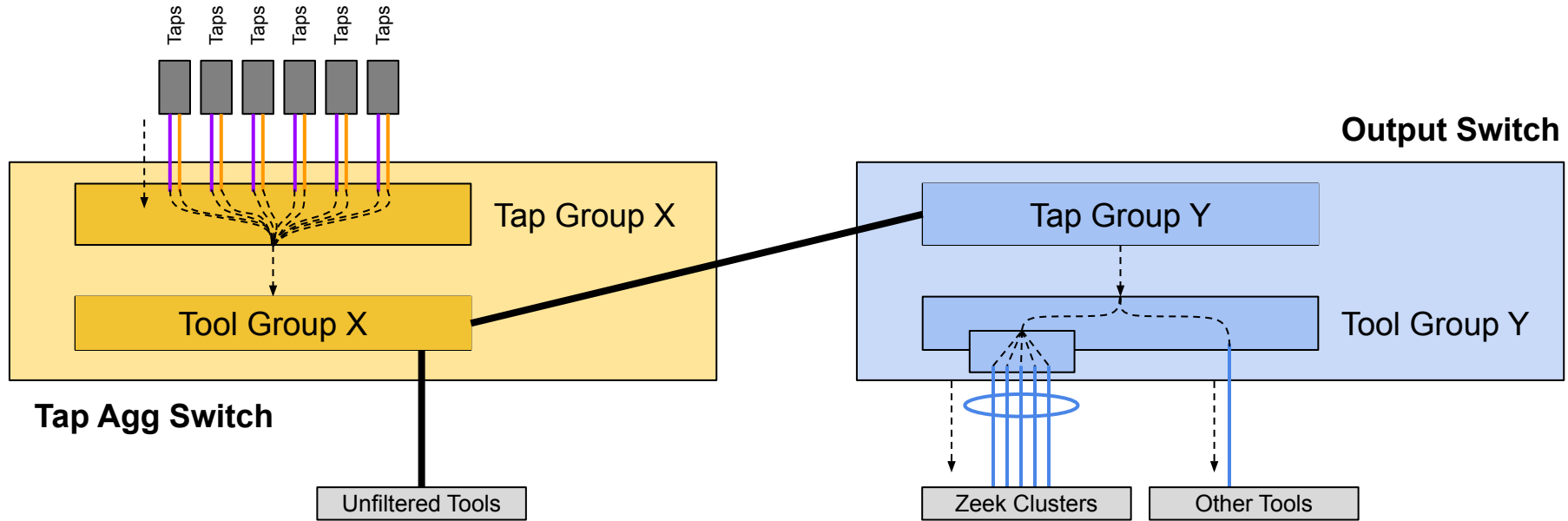


# Tap Agg Concepts (1)

- "Tap Agg Switch"  
AKA "Network Packet Broker"
- **Aggregate** taps to traffic streams
- **Filter** out traffic you don't want
- **Replicate** copies to different tools
- **Distribute** across cluster nodes

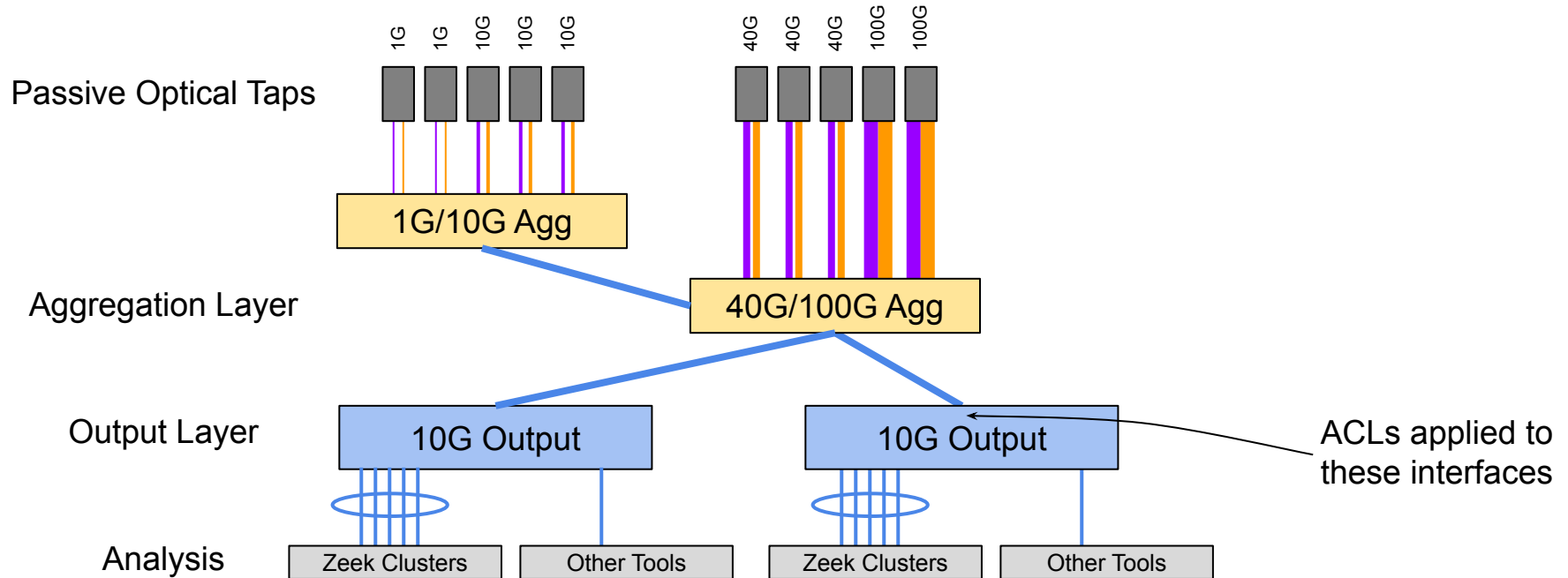


# Tap Agg Concepts (2)

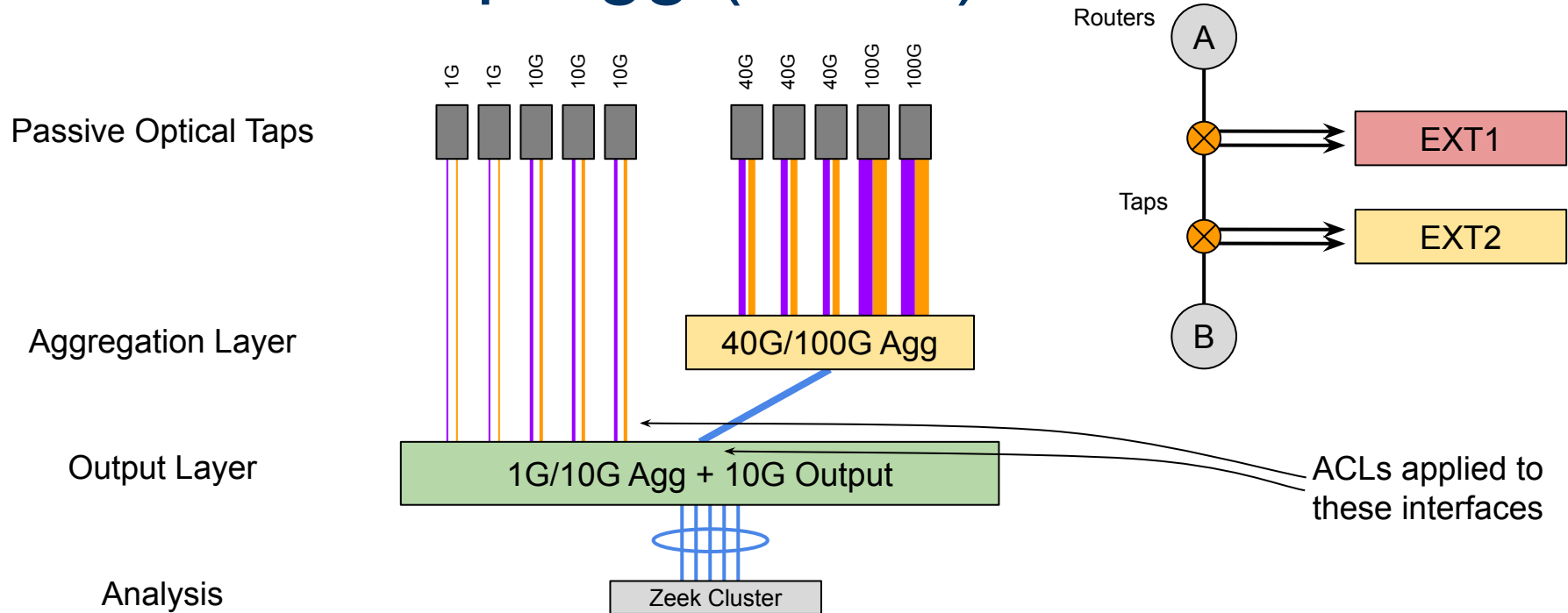




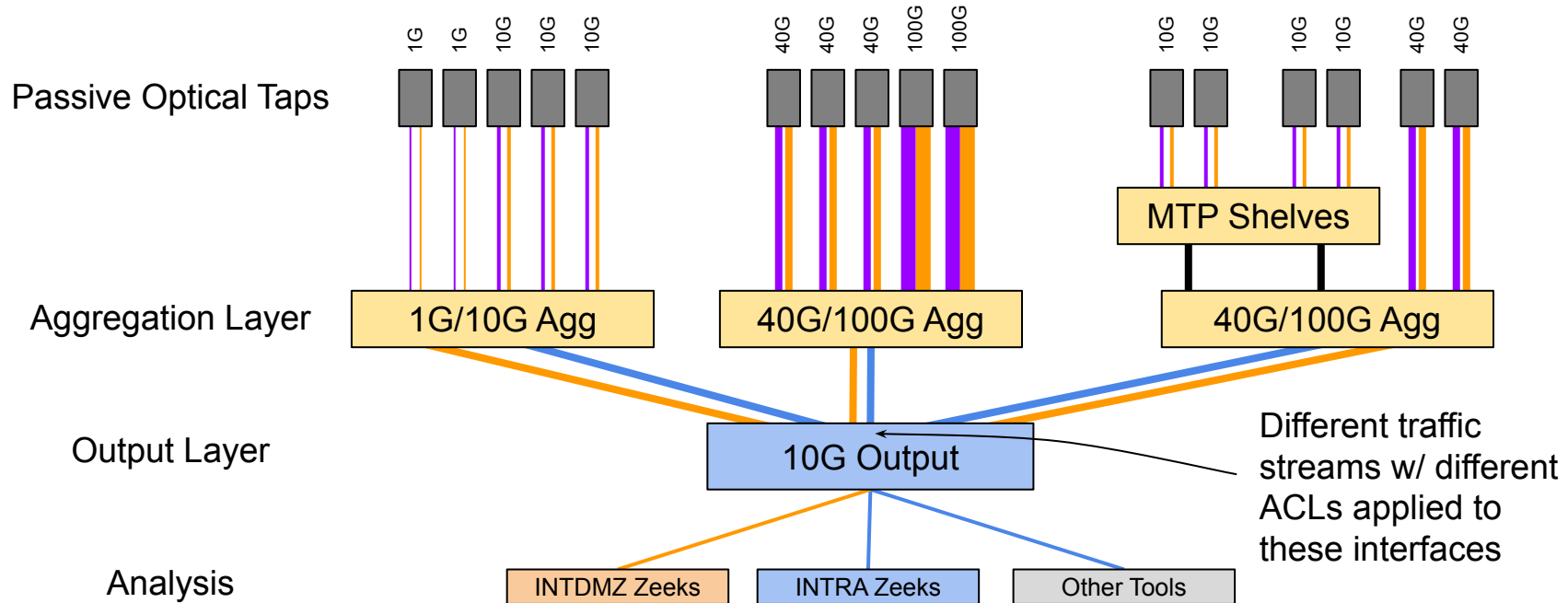
# LBNL's Tap Agg (EXT1)



# LBNL's Tap Agg (EXT2)



# LBNL's Tap Agg (INTDMZ + INTRA)



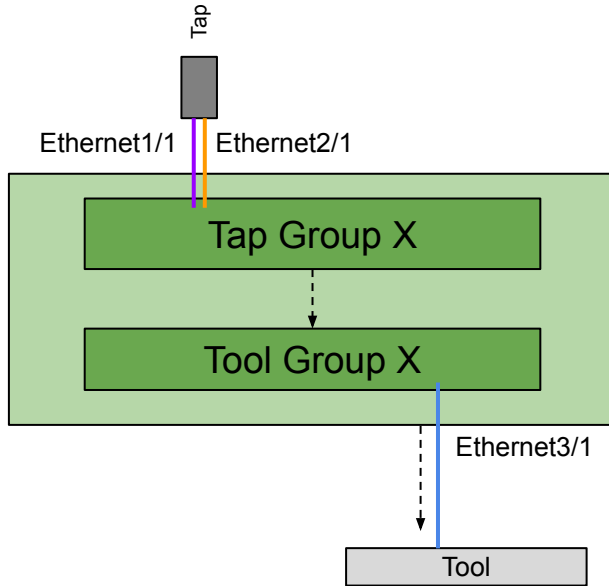
# Tap Agg Hardware



- Tap Agg Switches
  - Arista 7280SR(A)-48C6      48x1G/10G + 6x40G/100G
  - Arista 7280SR3-48YC8      48x1G/10G/25G + 8x40G/100G
  - Arista 7280QR-C36      24x40G + 12x40G/100G
  - Arista 7280CR3-32D4      32x100G + 4x400G
  - Need "Tap Agg Mode" Licenses
- Zeek Node NICs
  - Myricom 2x10G SFP+ w/ Sniff License (10G-PCIE2-8C2-2S+SNF3)
  - Intel X710 2x10G SFP+ w/ AF\_Packet

# Minimum Arista Tap Agg Config

(No ACLs, no port channels to clusters)



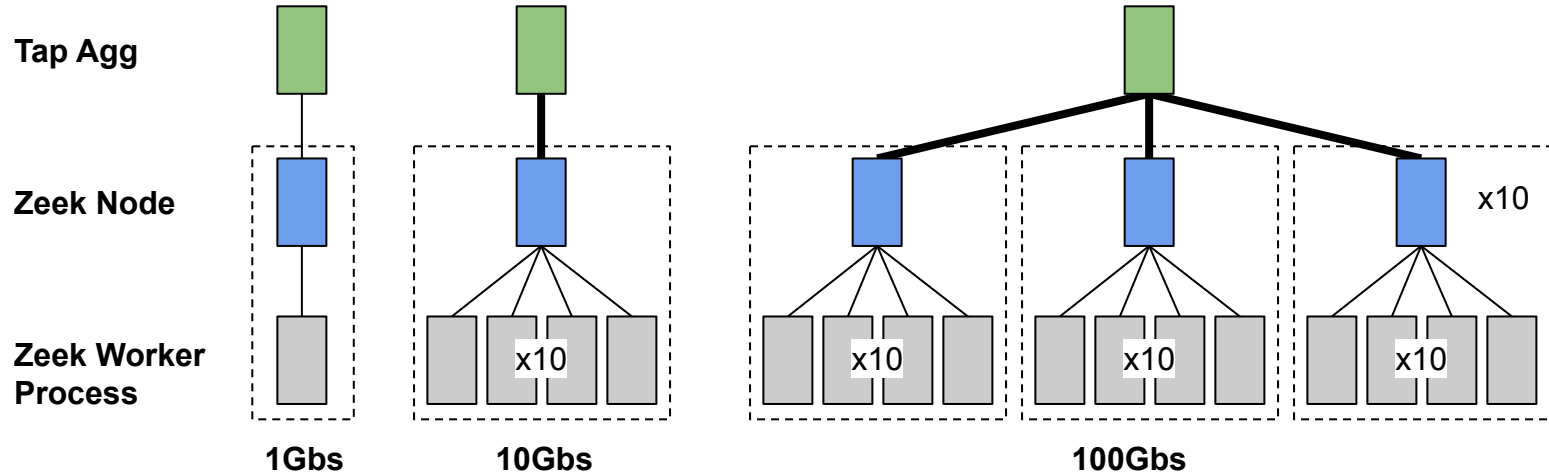
```
tap aggregation
mode exclusive
```

```
interface Ethernet1/1
description "TX Tap Input"
switchport mode tap
switchport tap default group X
```

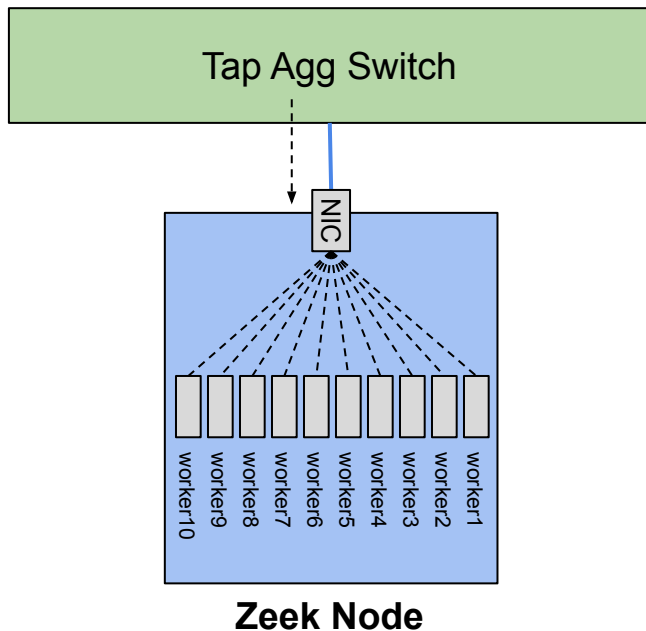
```
interface Ethernet2/1
description "RX Tap Input"
switchport mode tap
switchport tap default group X
```

```
interface Ethernet3/1
description "Output to Tool"
switchport mode tool
switchport tool group set X
```

# Scaling Up with Load Balancing



# Distribute to Zeek Workers



```
# (zeekpath)/host/etc/node.cfg
```

```
# Myricom Sniffer Driver
```

```
lb_method=myricom
```

```
lb_procs=10
```

```
pin_cpus=3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19,21
```

```
env_vars=LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/usr/local/opt/snf/lib:/usr/local/  
lib:$PATH, SNF_DATARING_SIZE=0x80000000,
```

```
SNF_NUM_RINGS=10, SNF_FLAGS=0x1, SNF_APP_ID=1
```

```
# AF_Packet
```

```
lb_method=custom
```

```
lb_procs=10
```

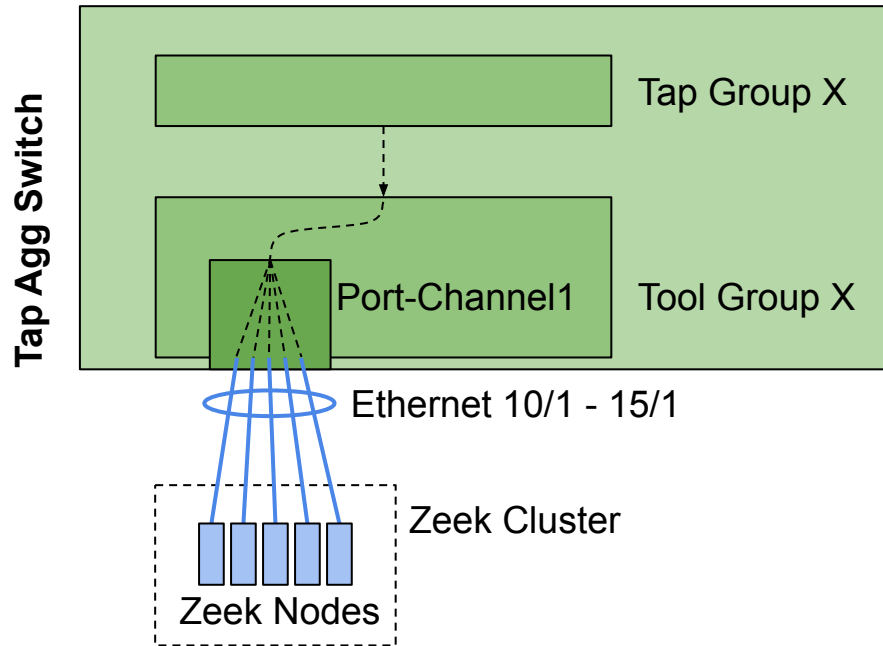
```
pin_cpus=2,4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18,20
```

```
af_packet_fanout_id=23
```

```
af_packet_fanout_mode=AF_Packet::FANOUT_HASH
```

```
af_packet_buffer_size=128*1024*1024
```

# Distribute to a Zeek Cluster



load-balance policies

load-balance sand profile symmetric

no fields mac

fields ipv4 symmetric-ip

fields ipv6 symmetric-ip

fields l4 symmetric-ports

no fields mpls

fields symmetric-hash

port-channel ip ip-tcp-udp-header

port-channel load-balance sand profile symmetric

interface Port-Channel1

switchport mode tool

switchport tool group set X

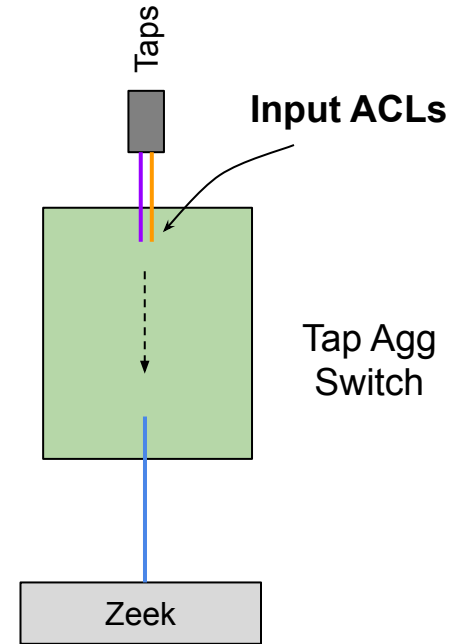
interface Ethernet 10/1 - 15/1

channel-group 1 mode on



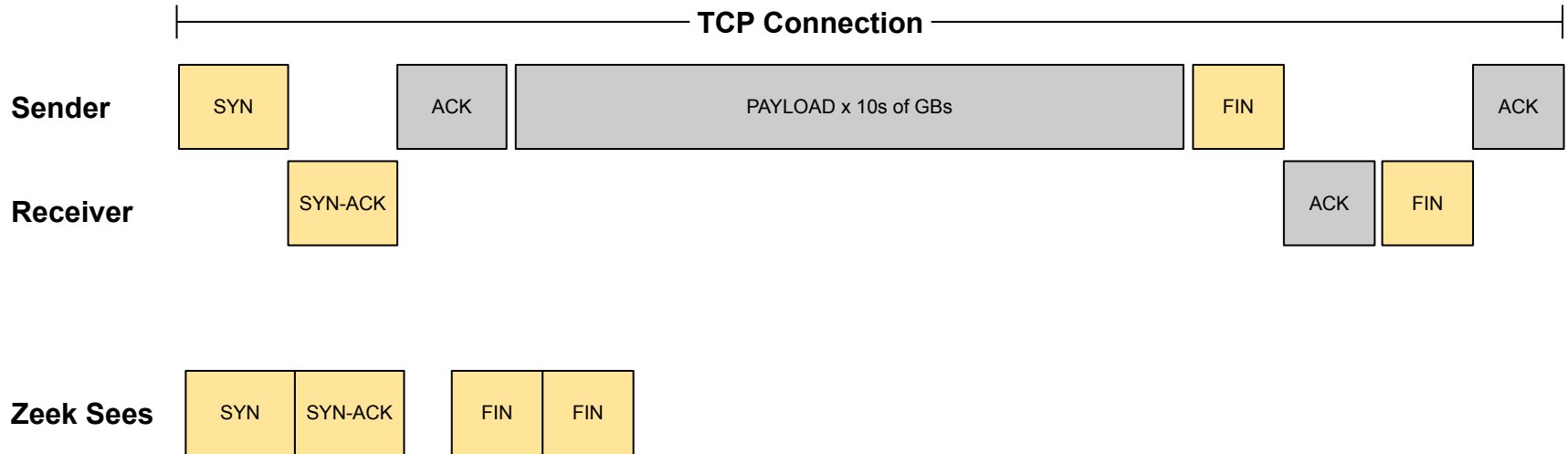
# Static Traffic Filtering

- **Why: filter out specific traffic from being analyzed**
  - Protect low capacity tools
  - Drop uninteresting traffic
- IP addresses, subnets/prefixes
- Ports/protocols
- Only "Control Packets"
- Packet Truncation



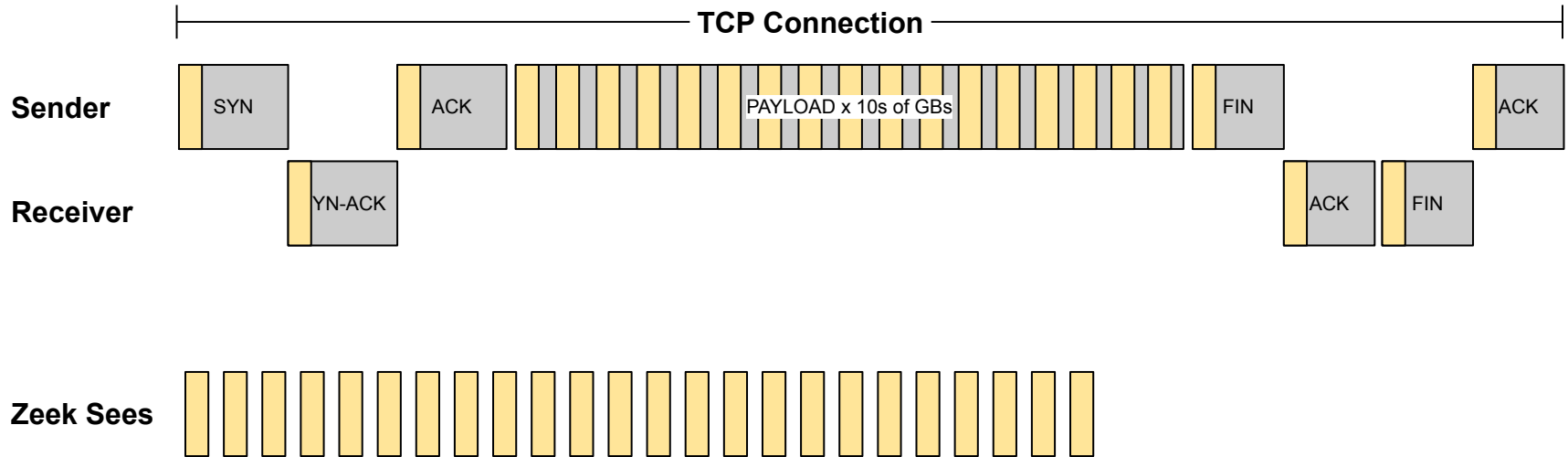
# Static: Control Packets

- Permit TCP SYN/FIN/RST/FRAG, UDP + GRE + ICMP



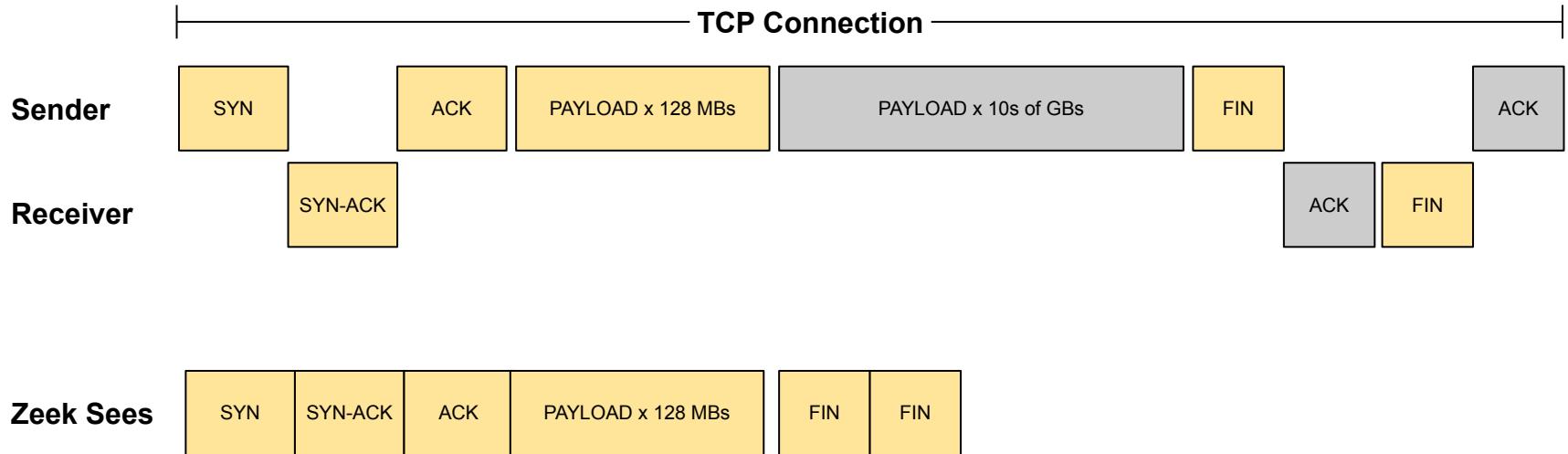
# Static: Packet Truncation

- Each packet is truncated to X bytes



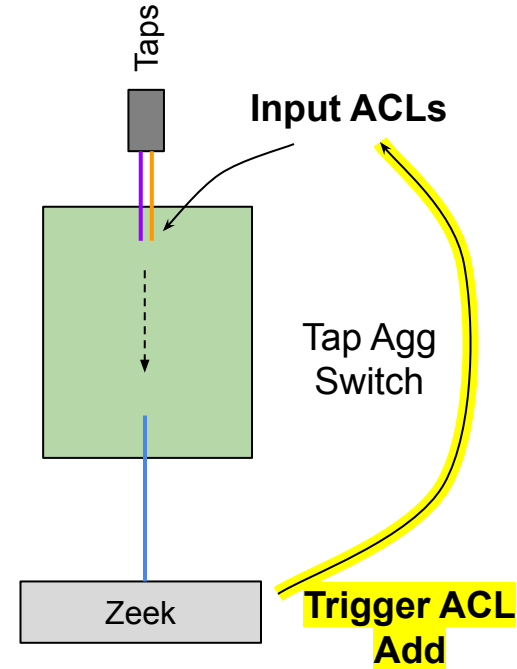
# Dynamic Traffic Filtering

- Accept Control Packets + up to 128MBs total connection size



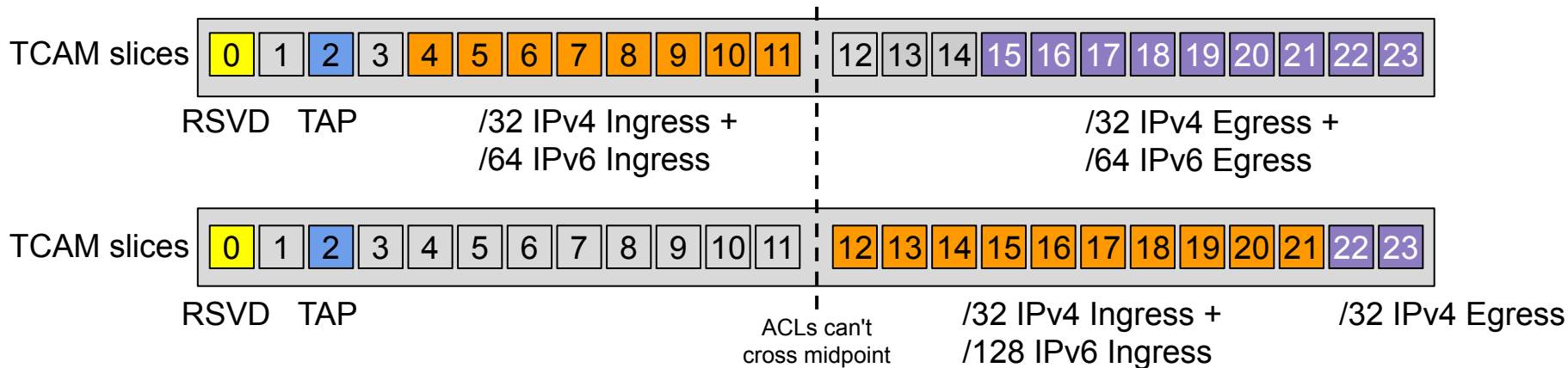
# Dynamic ACLing

- Dynamically "shunt" big (elephant) flows' payloads
- Use lots of match criteria
  - Connection size (1 direction, both directions)
  - Packets (1 direction, both directions)
  - Protocol, Port Numbers
  - Country code?
- On match, trigger adding 5-tuple ACL
- conn-bulk.zeek -> dumbno.py -> API -> tap agg switch



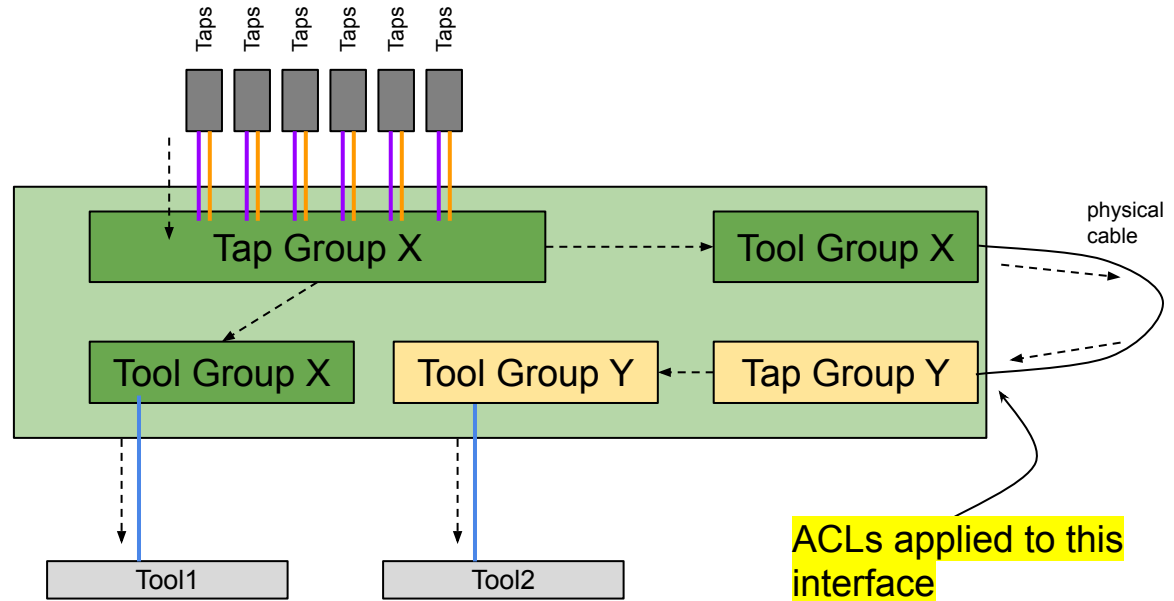
# TCAM Limitations

- Memory that (some) network devices like tap agg use
- May limit what kinds of ACLs you can do
- We ran into this on Arista 7150: `show platform fm6000 tcam usage`
  - Could do /32 Ingress + /128 Ingress + /32 Egress, but NOT /128 Egress
- Arista 7280s use Virtual Output Queues instead, haven't run into this there (but other limits)



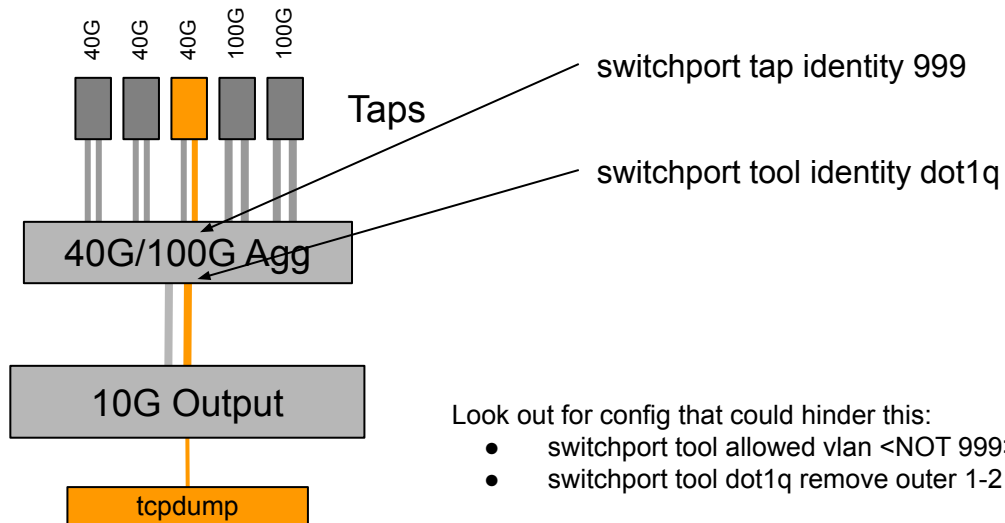
# Ingress/Egress ACL Workaround

- Need to send **different** traffic to **different** tools
- Used to be able to do Egress ACLs, now spotty support
- Loop a cable and apply it as an Ingress ACL
- It burns 2x more ports
- It's hacky but works



# Identity VLANs

- You need to be able to separate a specific link's traffic from everything else
- VLAN tag it at tap agg ingress
- Basically Q-in-Q (802.1ad)
- `$ tcpdump -e -i en0 'vlan 999'`



Look out for config that could hinder this:

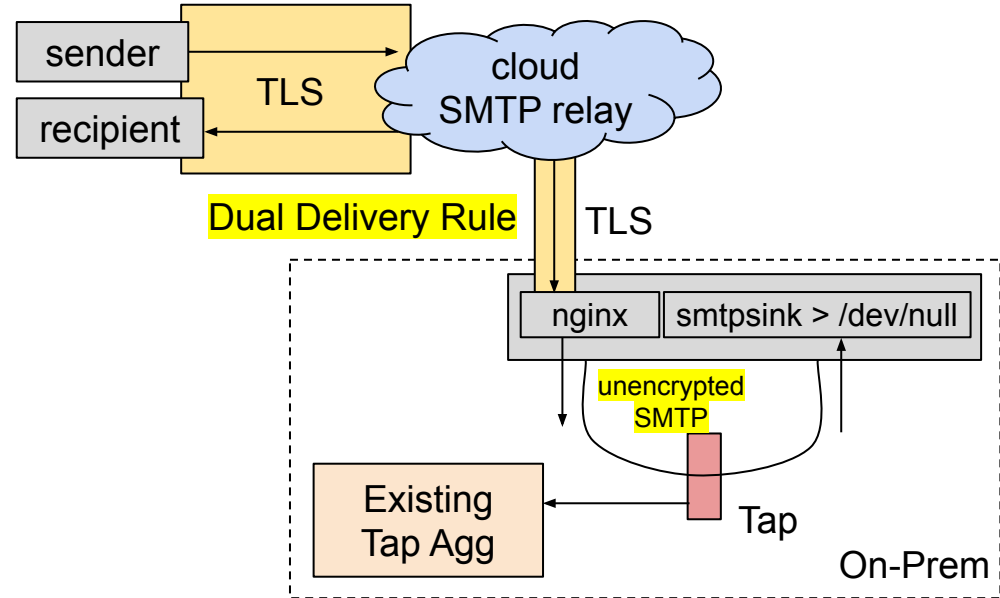
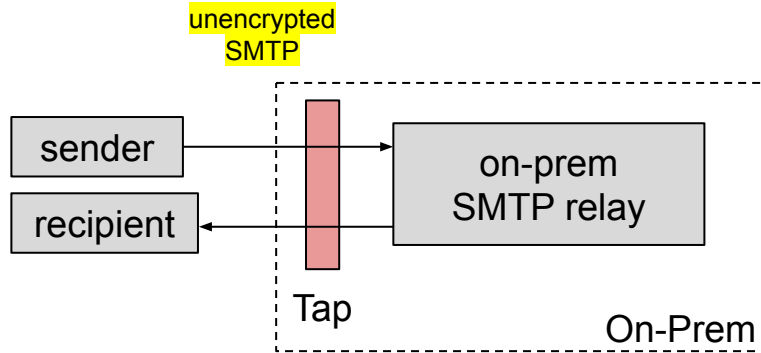
- switchport tool allowed vlan <NOT 999>
- switchport tool dot1q remove outer 1-2

Example packet capture:

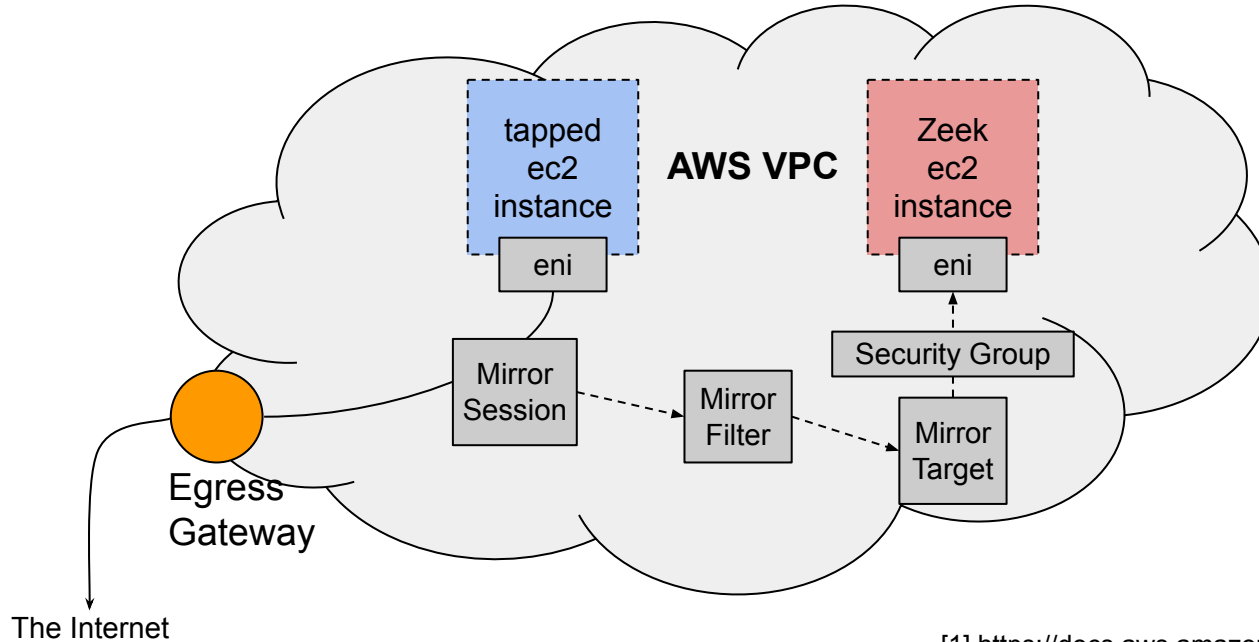
16:10:57.778824 00:53:00:e4:3d:3a > 00:53:ff:00:00:05, ethertype 802.1Q (0x8100), length 102: **vlan 999**, p 0, ethertype 802.1Q, **vlan 53**, p 6, ethertype IPv4, vlan53.ir998.lbl.gov > ospf-all.mcast.net: OSPFv2, Hello, length 60



# Tapping Email: Cloud+STARTTLS



# Visibility in the Cloud



- A filter is required, even if it just allows-all
- You may need to create a Security Group to allow VXLAN
- You may want to disable checksum offloading
- There are limitations[1]

[1] <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/vpc/latest/mirroring/traffic-mirroring-limits.html>

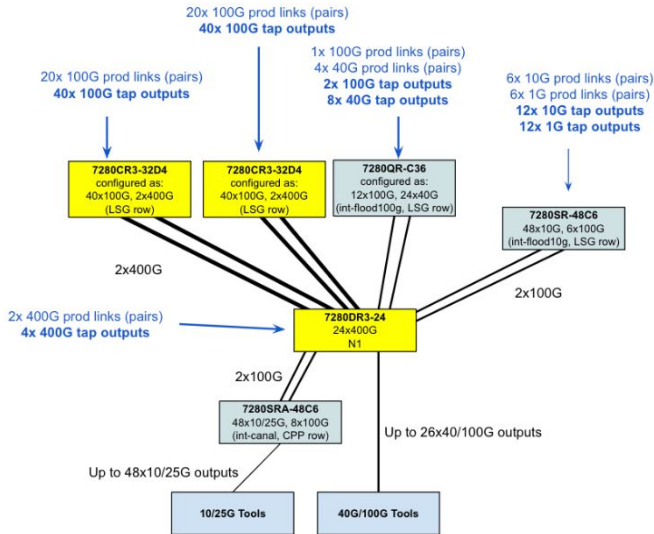
# Tapping 400G Ethernet

- We don't have this online yet, but it's coming
- Arista 7280R3 line has 400G ports + LANZ
  - 7280CR3-32D4 = 32x100G + 4x400G
  - 7280DR3-24 = 24x 400G
- Unsure on feature parity... 100G took a while to catch-up to 10G
- Possible gotcha[1]:
  - QSFP-DD 400G-LR4 may work with 100G-rated taps but @ 400G
  - But some tap manufacturers may say to use QSFP-DD 400G-**P**LR4 and break it out to 4x100G taps

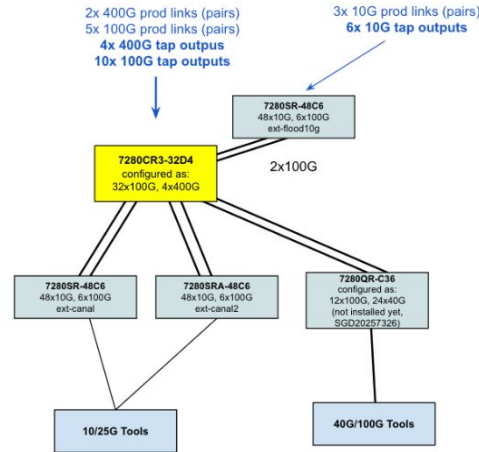
[1] Courtesy of Ryan Walker @ University of Illinois

# Our 400G Tap Agg Plans

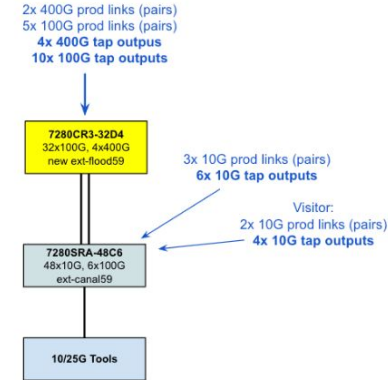
100G/400G INTDMZ/INTRA Tap Agg



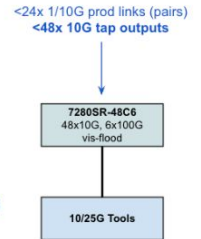
100G/400G Node 1 EXTDMZ Tap Agg



100G/400G Bldg 59 EXTDMZ Tap Agg



Node 1 Visitor Tap Agg



400G-capable switches



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# See Appendix for more examples

## Questions? Suggestions?

[mnsmitasin@lbl.gov](mailto:mnsmitasin@lbl.gov)

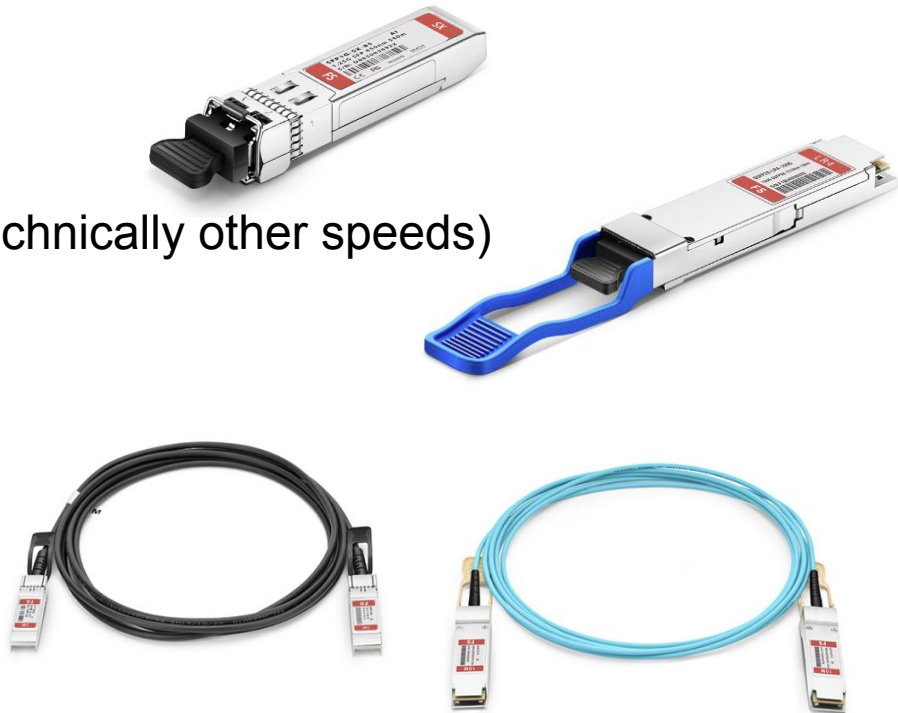
[security@lbl.gov](mailto:security@lbl.gov)

# Tap Install Checklist

- ☐ Check with policy / legal counsel
- ☐ Identify which specific link(s) you want to tap
- ☐ Note the link type: copper/fiber, Singlemode/Multimode, connector type, speed (1G/10G/40G/100G)
- ☐ Fiber: Check light levels, select appropriate ratio (80/20, 70/30, 50/50)
- ☐ Plan what will plug-in where
- ☐ Schedule a maintenance window (the link will go down)
- ☐ Disconnect, clean connectors, add new cable, add tap
- ☐ Confirm link comes up, check light levels after
- ☐ Plumb the output to your tap agg or Zeek

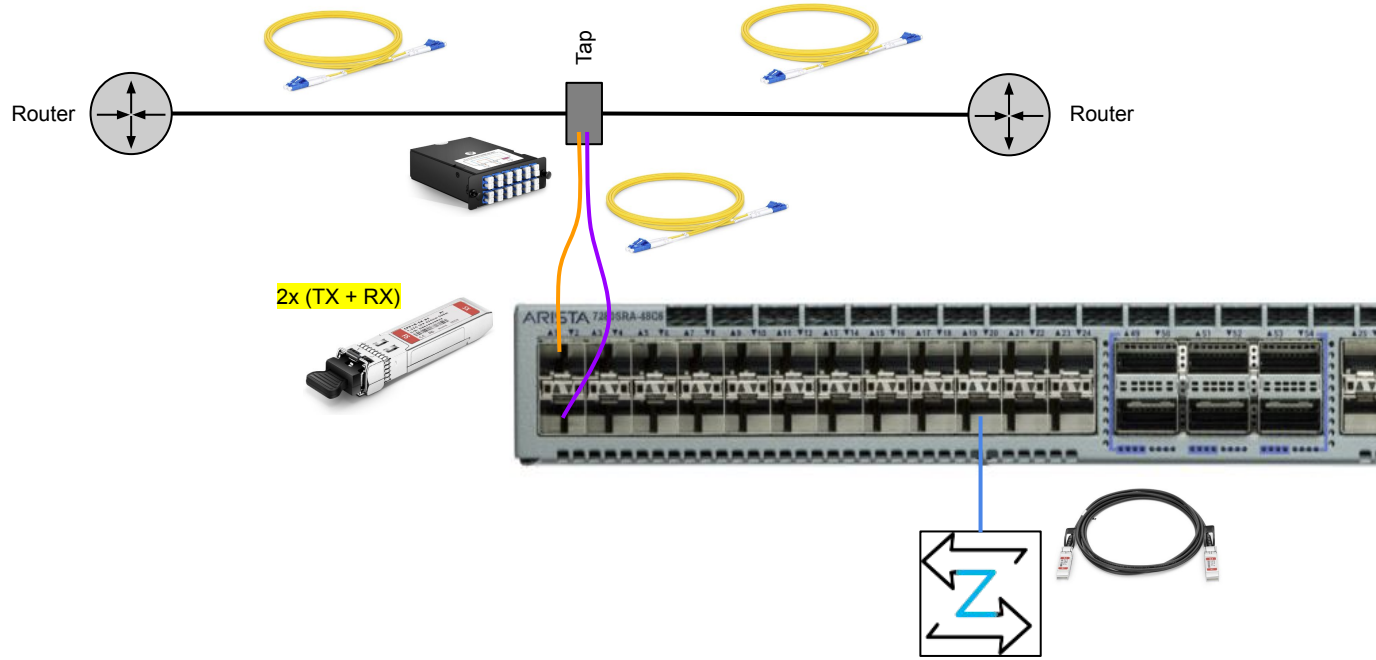
# Transceivers

- Optical Modules
  - SFP = 1Gbps (most commonly, technically other speeds)
  - SFP+ = 10Gbps
  - SFP28 = 25Gbps
  - QSFP+ = 40Gbps
  - QSFP28 = 100Gbps
  - QSFP-DD = 400Gbps
- Cables
  - DAC = Direct Attached Copper
  - AOC = Active Optical Cable



## Appendix

# Hardware Example Install

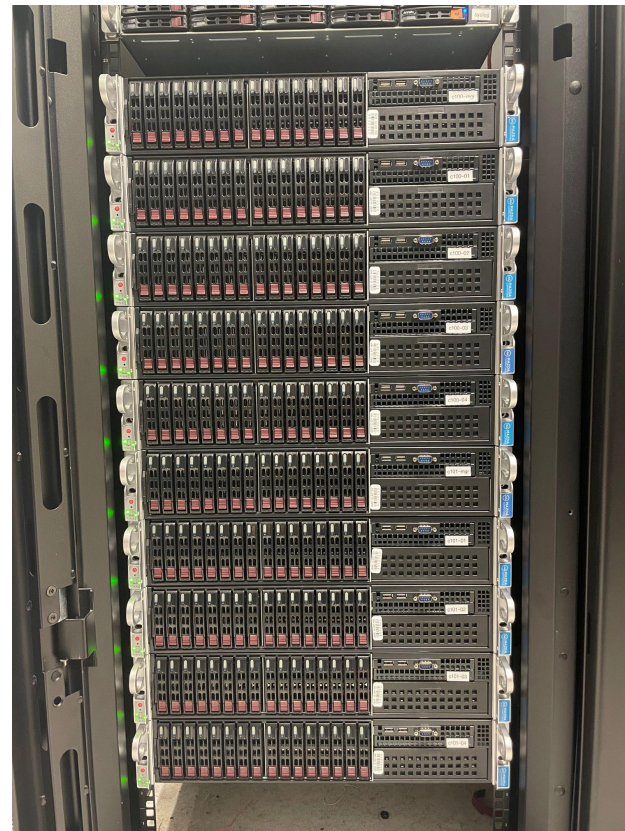




## Appendix

# Zeek Cluster Hardware

- Zeek Cluster Nodes
  - (1x) Manager
    - Supermicro 2216RSJ2L-2T chassis
    - 2x Intel Xeon 6230, 20x cores @ 2.10GHz
    - 512GB (16x32GB) DDR4 RAM
    - 2x1TB NVMe (OS - Intel P4510),  
4x3.8TB SSD (Data - Intel D3-S4610)
    - 1x Intel X710-DA2 10G NIC
  - (4-5x) Worker Nodes
    - Supermicro 2216RSJ2L-2T chassis
    - 2x Intel Xeon 6230, 20x cores @ 2.10GHz
    - 256GB (8x32GB) DDR4 RAM
    - 2x1TB NVMe (OS - Intel P4510)
    - 1x Intel X710-DA2 10G NIC



(this is 2 clusters)

## Appendix

# Static ACLing

TCP control packets + similar

```
ip access-list <ACLNAME>
  counters per-entry
  10 permit tcp any any syn
  20 permit tcp any any fin
  30 permit tcp any any rst
  40 permit tcp any any fragments
  50 permit udp any any
  60 permit gre any any
  70 permit icmp any any
  [...]
  100 deny ip host <perfsnar> any
  110 deny ip any host <perfsnar>
  [...]
```

PerfSonar Nodes

xRootd data transfer nodes

```
200 deny tcp any 131.243.135.0/26 range 1090 1100
210 deny tcp 131.243.135.0/26 range 1090 1100 any
220 deny tcp any range 1090 1100 131.243.135.0/26
230 deny tcp 131.243.135.0/26 any range 1090 1100
240 deny tcp any 131.243.135.0/26 range 10900 10910
250 deny tcp 131.243.135.0/26 range 10900 10910 any
260 deny tcp any range 10900 10910 131.243.135.0/26
270 deny tcp 131.243.135.0/26 any range 10900 10910
[...]
1000 deny tcp any host <SMTPSINK> eq smtp
1010 deny tcp host <SMTPSINK> eq smtp any
[...]
500001 permit ip any any
```

Encrypted SMTP

## Appendix

# Dynamic ACLing :: ACL example

```
ip access-list bulk_1
 counters per-entry
 10 permit tcp any any fin
 20 permit tcp any any syn
 30 permit tcp any any rst
 40 permit tcp any any fragments
 50 permit udp any any
 60 permit gre any any
 70 permit icmp any any
 80 deny pim any any
```

Accept TCP control packets + similar

[...]

```
36075 deny tcp host 192.0.2.32 eq ssh host 203.0.113.5 eq 44144
44051 deny tcp host 203.0.113.150 eq 62218 host 192.0.2.15 eq 50935
44053 deny tcp host 203.0.113.150 eq 62220 host 192.0.2.15 eq 50935
44057 deny tcp host 203.0.113.150 eq 62221 host 192.0.2.15 eq 50935
44059 deny tcp host 203.0.113.150 eq 62222 host 192.0.2.15 eq 50114
44623 deny tcp host 192.0.2.32 eq 53526 host 203.0.113.104 eq https
45255 deny tcp host 192.0.2.116 eq 53042 host 203.0.113.188 eq https
```

Big Shunted Payloads

[...]

```
500001 permit ip any any
```

## Appendix

# Dynamic ACLing :: conn-bulk.zeek

```
export {  
  const size_threshold = 134217728 &redef; #128 megabytes  
  
  if ((( c$orig$size > size_threshold || c$resp$size > size_threshold ) && c$orig$num_pkts > 100 && c$resp$num_pkts > 100))  
    event Bulk::connection_detected(c);  
    return -1sec;  
}
```

← Connection cut-off in bytes

You could use other criteria here too:

- orig\_pkts
- resp\_pkts
- IPs
- ports/protocols
- country code
- If it's a Zeek field, you can probably use it

# Dynamic ACLing :: dumbno.cfg

[switch]

ip = <Tap Agg mgmt IP>

user = <APIUSER>

password = <APIPASSWORD>

Input port(s) from taps

[ports]

Ethernet1 = <Dynamic ACL name applied to ingress Tap ports>

[egress\_ports]

Ethernet2 = tool1

Output port(s) that goes to Zeek

## Appendix

# Dynamic ACLing :: T-Shooting logs

- Zeek :: conn\_bulk.log

```
1663570498.392966    Coqv5l3qjHNZjqN1ag  192.0.2.70 44470 203.0.113.63 443  tcp  ssl
1.688105      625  445138831    SF    F    T    0    ShADdFafRR 14    1197  8    2687  -
worker-2-1    LK    US
```

- /var/log/dumbno/

```
@400000006323aeee121ea624 INFO:dumbno:op=ADD seq=32905 rule='tcp host 192.0.2.70 eq 44470
host 203.0.113.63 eq 443'
```

```
@400000006323aaf4267ad28c INFO:dumbno:op=REMOVE acl=bulk_1 family=ip seq=32905 rule='tcp
host 192.0.2.70 eq 44470 host 203.0.113.63 eq 443'
```

- /var/log/dumbno-stats/

```
@40000000632738e330d4639c INFO:dumbno_stats:mbps: in=3633 out=1852 filtered=1780
```