

Industrial network monitoring with ntopng



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Agenda

- Industrial networks in a nutshell
- Why monitor ICS networks?
- Network and protocols
- Why use ntopng?
- Baselining
- IEC 60870-5-104
- User plugin



ICS

Industrial Control System

SCADA

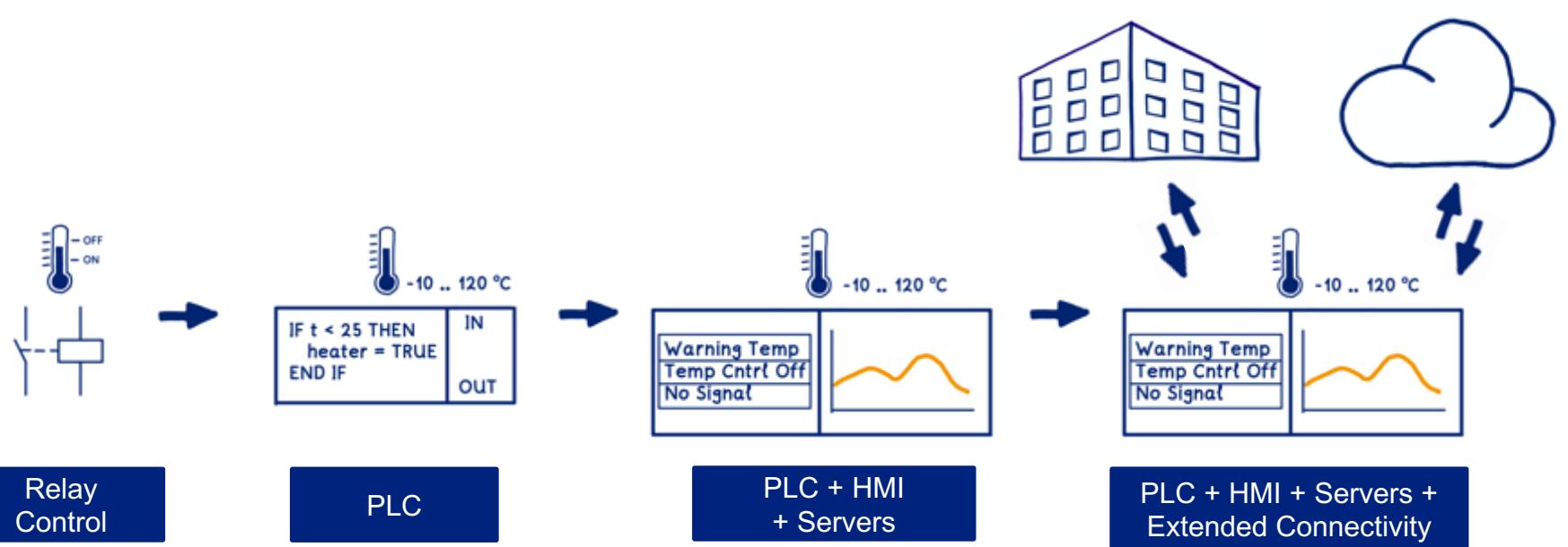
Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition

OT

Operational Technology

ICS Evolution

”Industrie 4.0”



Relay
Control

PLC

PLC + HMI
+ Servers

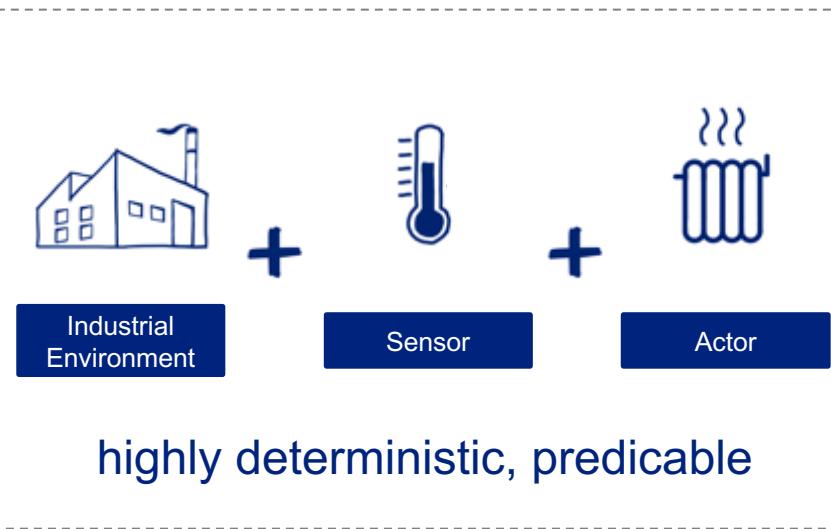
PLC + HMI + Servers +
Extended Connectivity

PLC =
Programmable Logic Controller

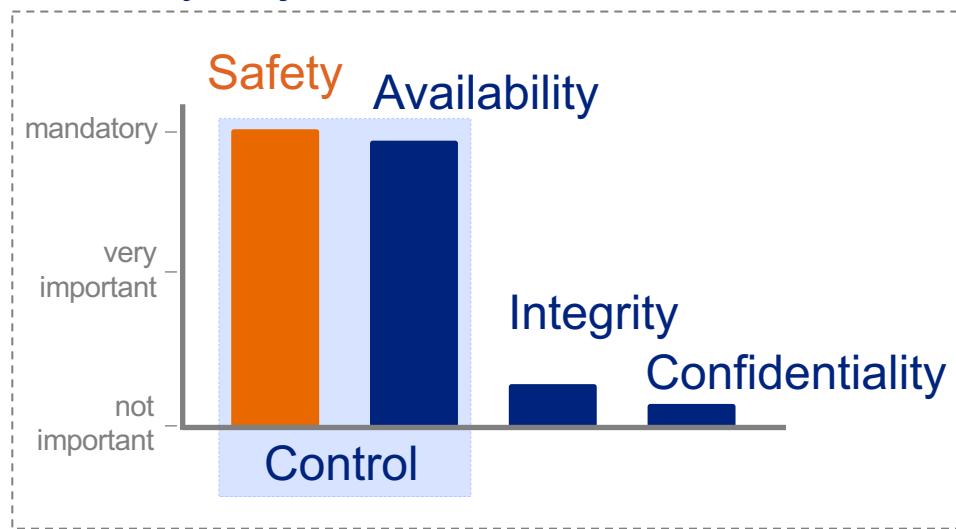
HMI =
Human Machine Interface

Concept and Objectives

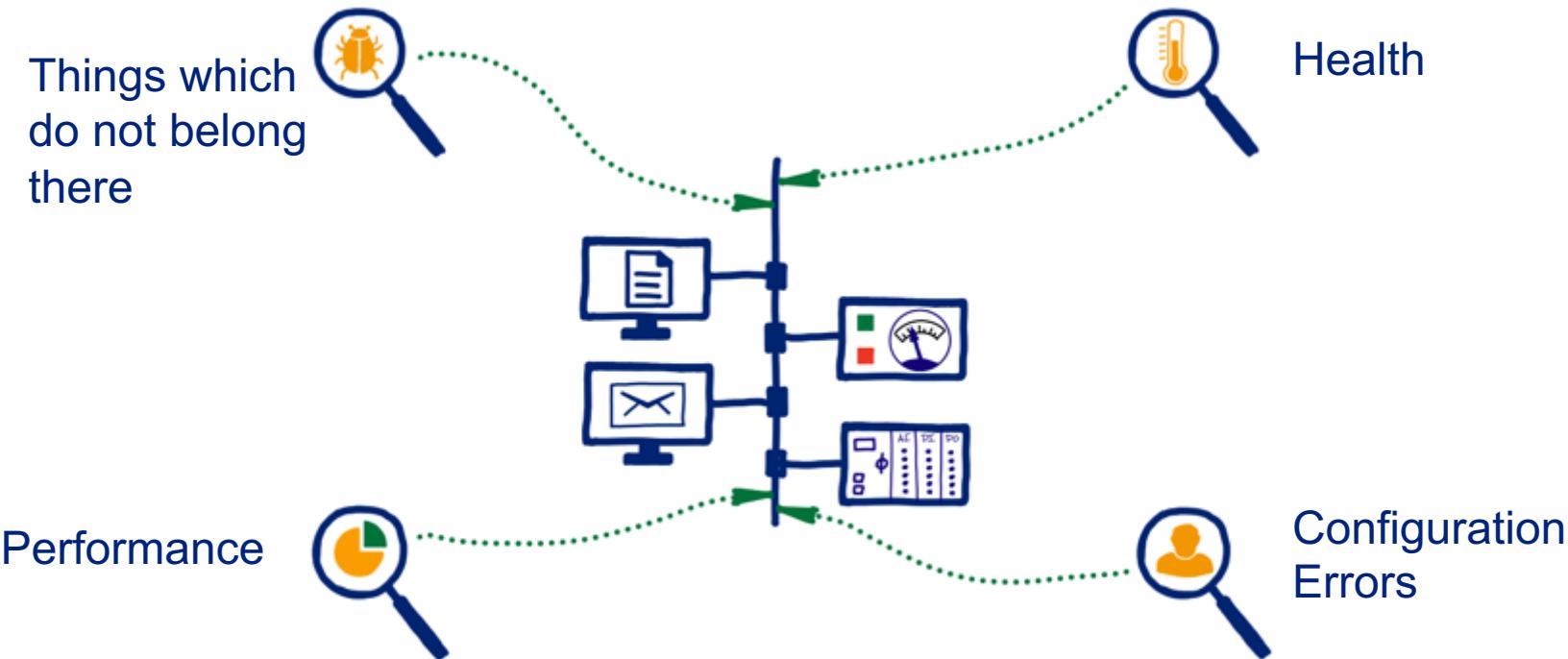
Industrial Control

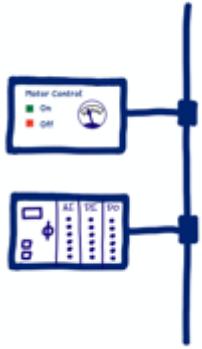


Security Objectives - AIC



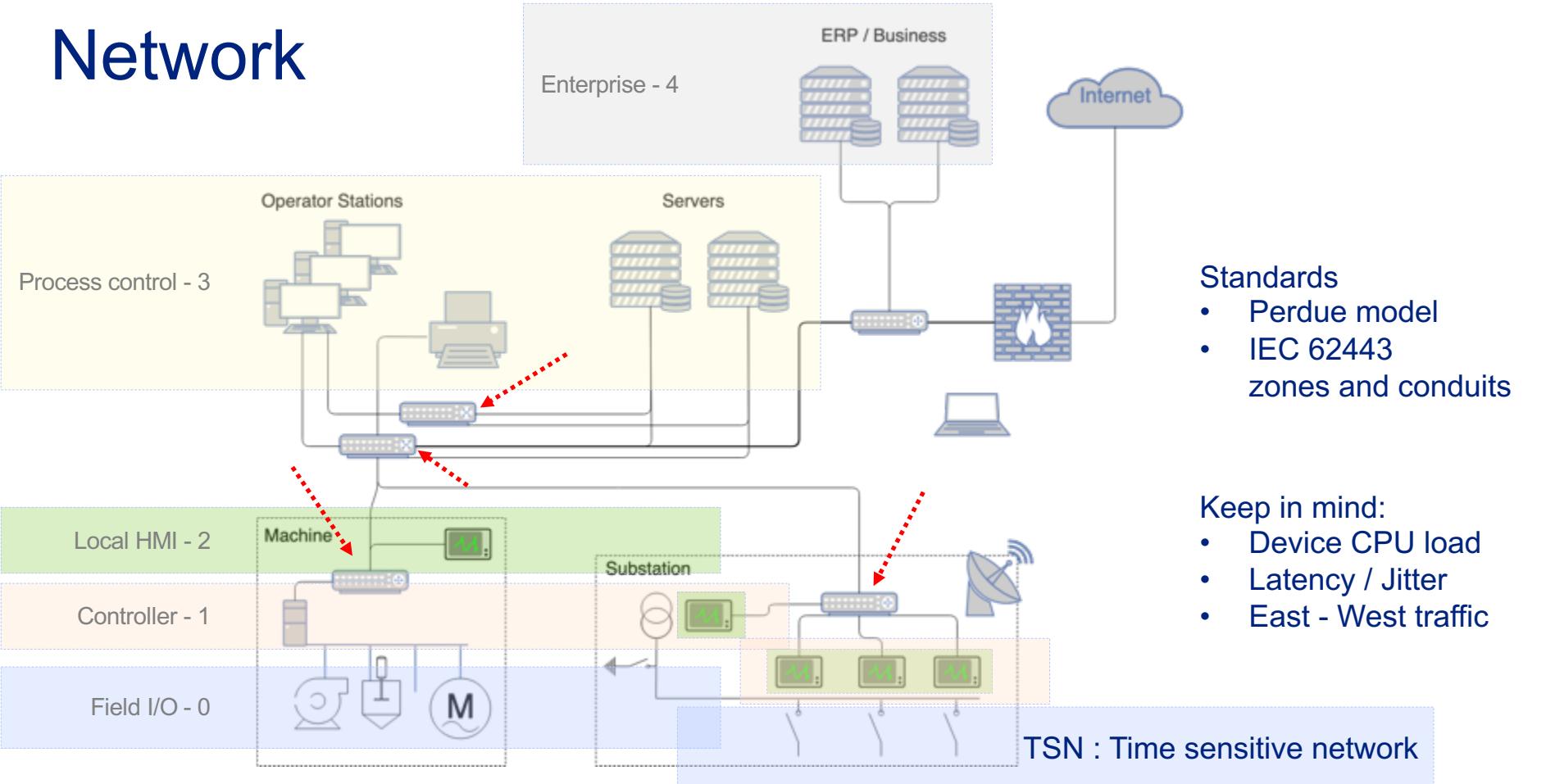
Why monitor ICS networks?





ICS Network and protocols

Network



Fieldbus

2 - wire

- PROFIBUS
- IEC 60870
- Modbus
- CAN
- IO-Link
- HART

Ethernet based

	PROFINET DCP/ RPC	CBA	OPC UA	IEC 60870-5-104
Application - 7	IO	RPC	DCOM	UA
Presentation - 6				
Session - 5				
Transport - 4		UDP	TCP	TCP
Network - 3		IP	IP	IP
Data Link - 2	TSN	C/C	C/C	C/C
Physical - 1	Eth	Eth	Eth	Eth

TSN: Time sensitive network

Safety

- ProfiSAFE
- IO-Link Safety

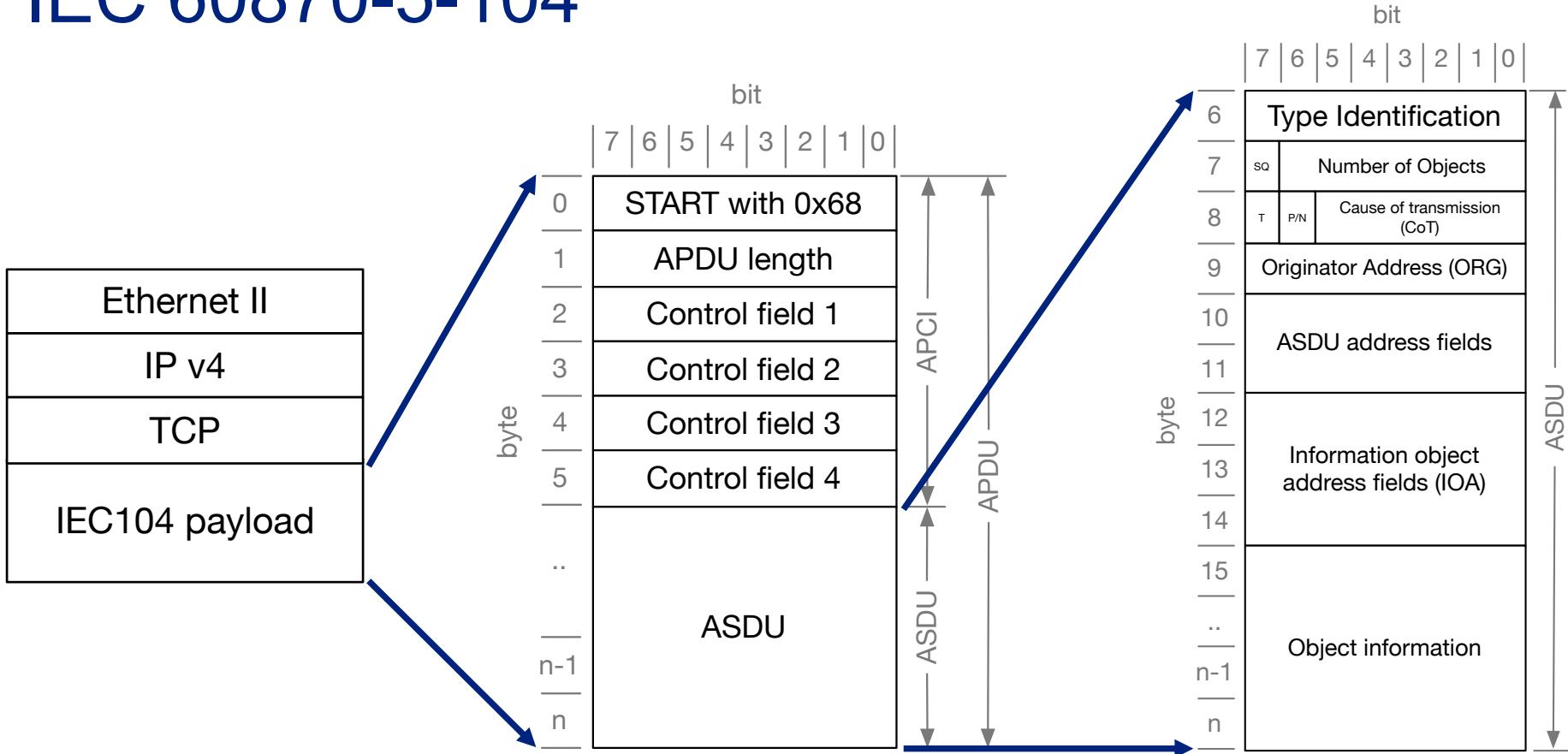
Implemented as
“black channel”

IEC 60870-5-104

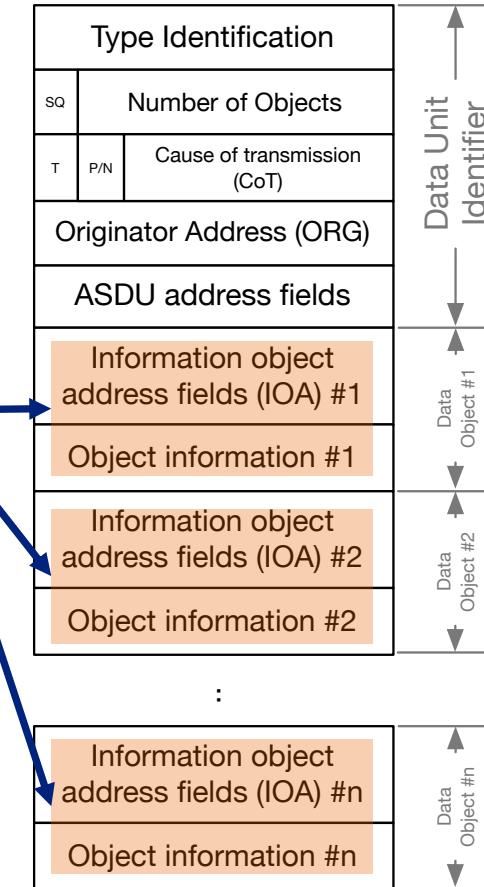
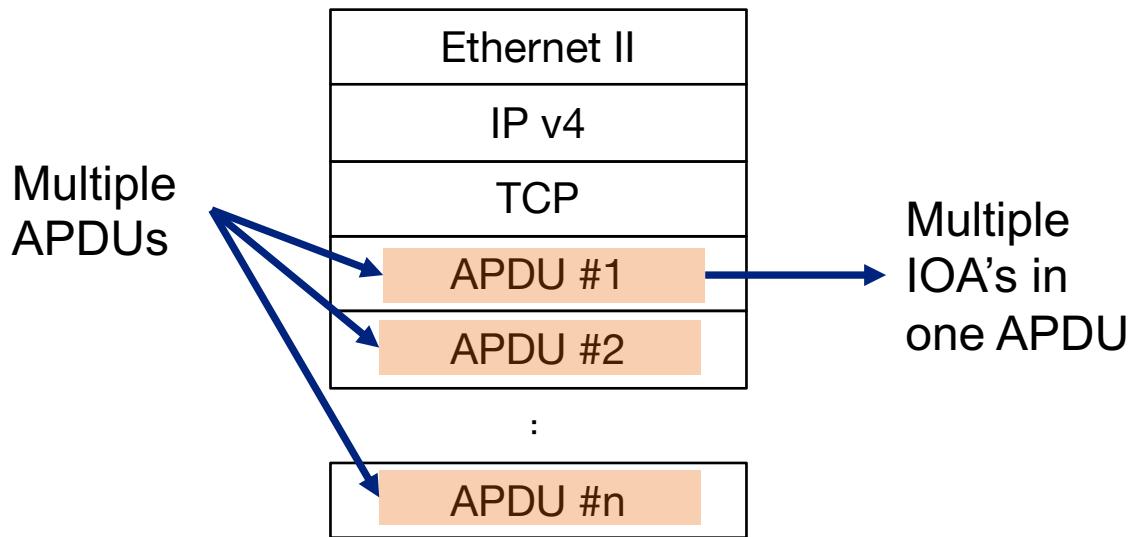
Protocol characteristics:

- Clear text, traditional controller / device protocol, published 1988
- Data exchange: long, single flows, running over days
- Connection check or keep alive communication: short, multiple flows

IEC 60870-5-104



IEC 60870-5-104





why use ntopng?

Open-source network monitoring

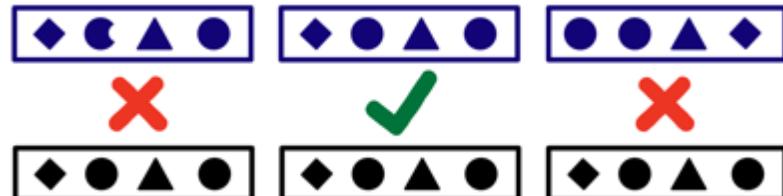
	IEC 104	Script language	Ease of use	Resource requirements	Setup and installation
Malcolm	no	zeek script	-	huge	very complicated
ntop	yes	Lua	+	minimal	easy
Suricata <small>Open Source IDS / IPS / I</small>	no	Lua	-	minimal	complicated
 Snort	yes	snort rules	-	minimal	complicated
 SOS	no	n/a	+	huge	complicated
 Zeek	PoC available	zeek script	-	minimal	complicated

Detection mechanism

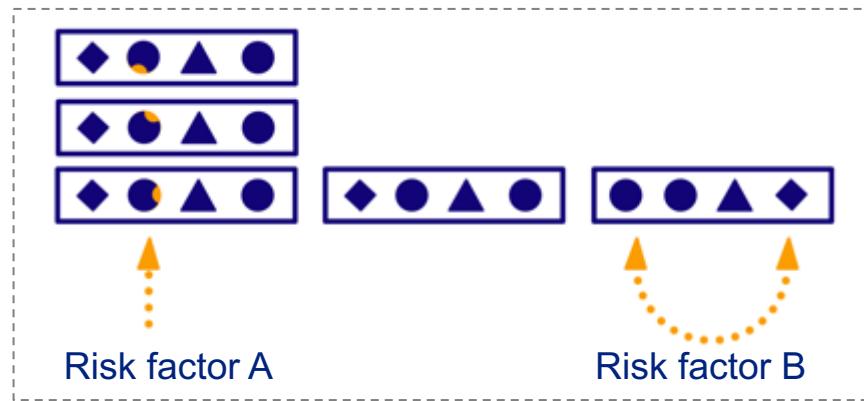
```
alert tcp any any -> any any (msg:"APT.Backdoor.MSIL.SUNBURST";  
content:"T "; offset:2; depth:3; content:"Host:";  
content:"freescanonline.com"; within:100; sid:77600852; rev:1;)
```

"detect IEC 104 traffic entering/exiting the network to
\$EXTERNAL_NET"

Signature based

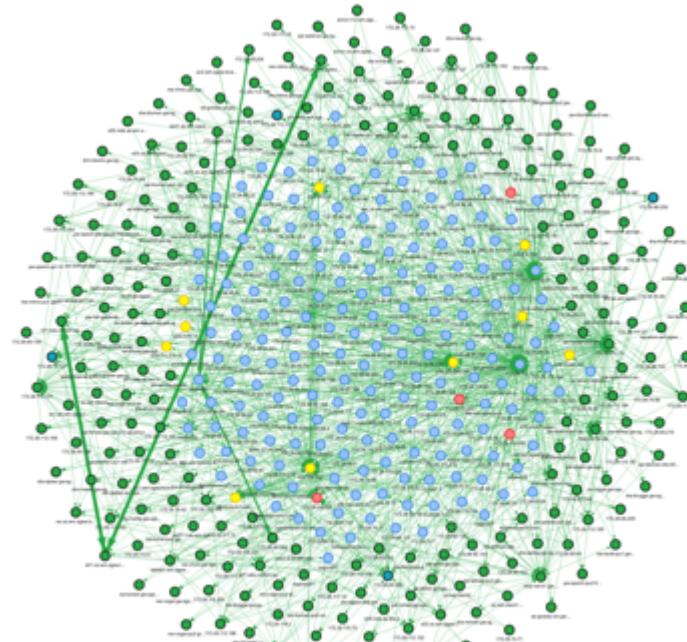
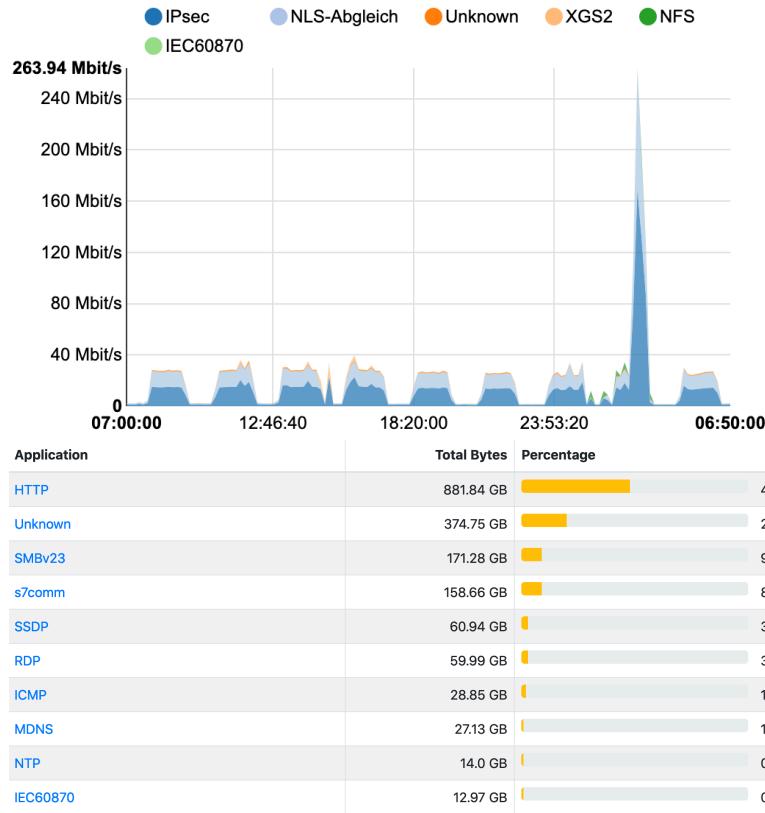


Risk based



Baselining

or how does normal look like?



IEC 60870-5-104

Application	Protocol	VLAN	Client	Server	Duration	Score	Breakdown	Actual Thpt	Total Bytes	Info
IEC60870	TCP	21	[REDACTED]:2404	[REDACTED]:44404	14:46			0 bps —	100.48 KB ↑	<- S, RX 21582
IEC60870	TCP	21	[REDACTED]:2404	[REDACTED]:59749	13:32			0 bps —	53.31 KB ↑	-> I, RX 65, TX 28985
IEC60870	TCP	21	[REDACTED]:58463	[REDACTED]:2404	08:17	30		0 bps —	8.44 KB —	<- S, RX 14
IEC60870	TCP	21	[REDACTED]:54827	[REDACTED]:2404	08:27			0 bps —	12.1 KB ↑	-> U (TESTFR con)

Type ID Transitions

M_ME_TF_1 (36) ⇌ M_ME_TF_1 (36)	98.651 %
M_IT_TB_1 (37) ⇌ M_IT_TB_1 (37)	1.000 %
M_ME_TF_1 (36) → M_IT_TB_1 (37)	0.116 %
M_IT_TB_1 (37) → M_ME_TF_1 (36)	0.116 %
C_CS_NA_1 (103) → M_ME_TF_1 (36)	0.047 %
M_ME_TF_1 (36) → C_CS_NA_1 (103)	0.047 %
C_CS_NA_1 (103) ⇌ C_CS_NA_1 (103)	0.023 %

Alarm Typ	Score	Applikation	Beschreibung	Actions
! Invalid IEC Transition	50	IEC60870	Invalid transition detected [M_ME_NB_1 (11) -> C_CS_NA_1 (103)] [Flow: [REDACTED] :2404 ⇌ [REDACTED] :22525] [TCP] [Applikation: IEC60870] [Info: IEC60870 <td> </td>	

Type I-S Ack Latency (Average / Std Dev)

0.160 ms (0.474 msec)

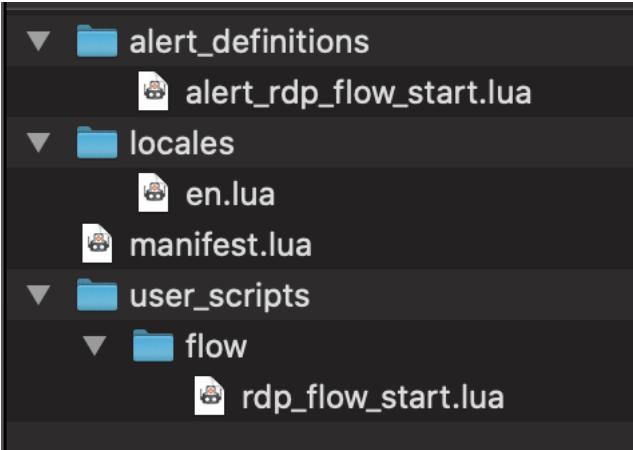
Messages Breakdown

83.9%	16.1%
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Messages Lost / Retransmissions

← 0, → 18 / 1 Retransmitted

User plugin



```
function script.hooks.protocolDetected(now)

    local appProtoID = flow.getnDPIAppProtoId()

    --RDP      ID 88

    if appProtoID == 88 then

        local line5tuple = shortFlowLabel(flow.getInfo())

        local line =  line5tuple .. " -RDP flow started"

        print(line)
        log:write(line)
        flow.setCustomInfo("Flow logged")

        local cli_score, srv_score, flow_score = 0, 0, 0
        local alert = alert_consts.alert_types.alert_rdp_flow_
            "Flow A Info",
            "Flow B Info"
        )

        alert:set_severity(alert_severities.warning)
        alert:trigger_status(cli_score, srv_score, flow_score)
```

General use cases

- Unusual or exceptional activities in a network
- Connection of a new device, disconnection of a device
- Rogue DHCP, DNS, SMTP or NTP server
- Data packets from an unknown device
- Data transmission between devices that have not previously communicated
- Data transmission via a protocol / port that has not been used before
- Data transmission via an unusual protocol or one not intended for the purpose at hand
- Events that occur at unusual times
- Use of unexpected addresses (public IP addresses, etc.)
- Generally noteworthy events such as address or port scans
- Changes in network quality, including high broadband usage, increased round-trip times and smaller TCP window sizes

Use cases ICS protocol specific

- Unusual error messages
- Unsupported function calls
- Function calls that have not been used before
- Flawed data packets
- Unknown function codes
- Abnormal protocol behaviour
- Unexpected transition from one protocol to another

requires DPI
and ICS
protocol
understanding

- Values outside of defined ranges
- Changes in frequency / periodicity
- Changes in cycle times
- Changing variance within certain periods of time

ICS
or
network monitoring?



Give it a try!

Tooling



ntopng

<https://packages.ntop.org/>



<https://www.wireshark.org/>



<https://studio.zerobrane.com/>

Sources

Picture / Information	Link
[1]	https://www.allianz-fuer-cybersicherheit.de/ACS/DE/_downloads/BSI-CS/BSI-CS_134.html?nn=6656412
IEC 60870-5-104	https://www.ensotest.com/iec-60870-5-104/introduction-to-the-iec-60870-5-104-standard/
IEC 60870-5-104	https://www.uni-muenster.de/imperia/md/content/informatik/agremke/comparison_of_scada_protocols_and_implementation_of_iec_104_and_mqtt_in_mosai_k.pdf
IEC 60870-5-104	https://infosys.beckhoff.com/english.php?content=../content/1033/tcpclibiec870_5_104/html/tcpclibiec870_5_104_telegrammstructure.htm&id=