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UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI ROMA

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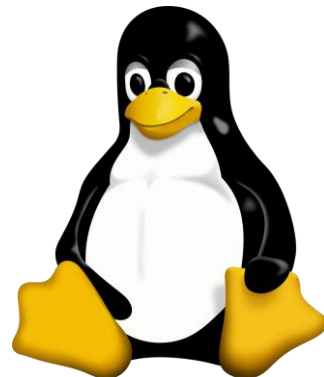
# SRv6 in Linux Kernel, FRR and eBPF : review the current status and plan the future evolution



Organizer: Stefano Salsano

University of Rome Tor Vergata / CNIT

**Netdev 0x19 - Zagreb, Croatia**  
**March, 11th 2025**



- A cornerstone for modern network programmability
- SRv6 embeds instructions directly into the IPv6 packet headers
- Standardized under IETF RFC 8986, SRv6 has evolved significantly since its initial support in Linux kernel 4.10 (2017)

- SRv6 employs lightweight tunnel infrastructures

## **seg6** and **seg6local**

- SRv6 extends its support to key subsystems like **Netfilter** and **eBPF**, fostering its adoption in diverse scenarios

# Goals for today: learn, discuss & plan

- Explore how SRv6 innovations have shaped the Linux ecosystem (*learn*)
- Delve into future opportunities for SRv6 (*discuss* and *plan*)

- SRv6 in Linux kernel
- Several projects leverage the Linux kernel's SRv6 implementation for advanced networking functionalities
  - FRR
  - SONiC
  - Cilium

- FRR facilitates L3VPN services and integrates SRv6 behaviors across its daemons
- SONiC leverages SRv6 to deliver scalable routing services and policy management for large-scale deployments
- Cilium harnesses SRv6 with eBPF for container networking: high performance and observability in Kubernetes

- An SRv6 performance issue in Linux kernel and its mitigation
- Identify the current limitations of SRv6 in the Linux kernel
- Plan a roadmap for improvements and new features
- Ask feedback and support within the netdev community!

# Today's program

09:00 - 09:15	Stefano Salsano Introduction to the workshop	11:10 - 11:25	Stefano Salsano eBPF and SRv6
09:15 - 09:35	Ahmed Abdelsalam Technical intro to SRv6, IETF status, interoperability status	11:25 - 11:40	Angelo Tulumello eBPF and SRv6: a use case for RoCEv2 support
09:35 - 10:05	Andrea Mayer SRv6 in Linux kernel: past, present and future	11:40 - 12:00	Emilien Wansart Mitigating the Double-Reallocation Issue for IPv6 Lightweight Tunnel Encapsulations
10:05 - 10:20	Ahmed Abdelsalam SoNIC and SRv6	12:00 - 12:30	Stefano Salsano (Moderator) Panel discussion on next steps for SRv6 in Linux networking
10:20 - 10:50	Carmine Scarpitta FRR: status and evolution of SRv6 support		
10:50 - 11:10	COFFEE BREAK		





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# SRv6 Open Source Ecosystem

## ROSE - Research on Open SRv6 Ecosystem

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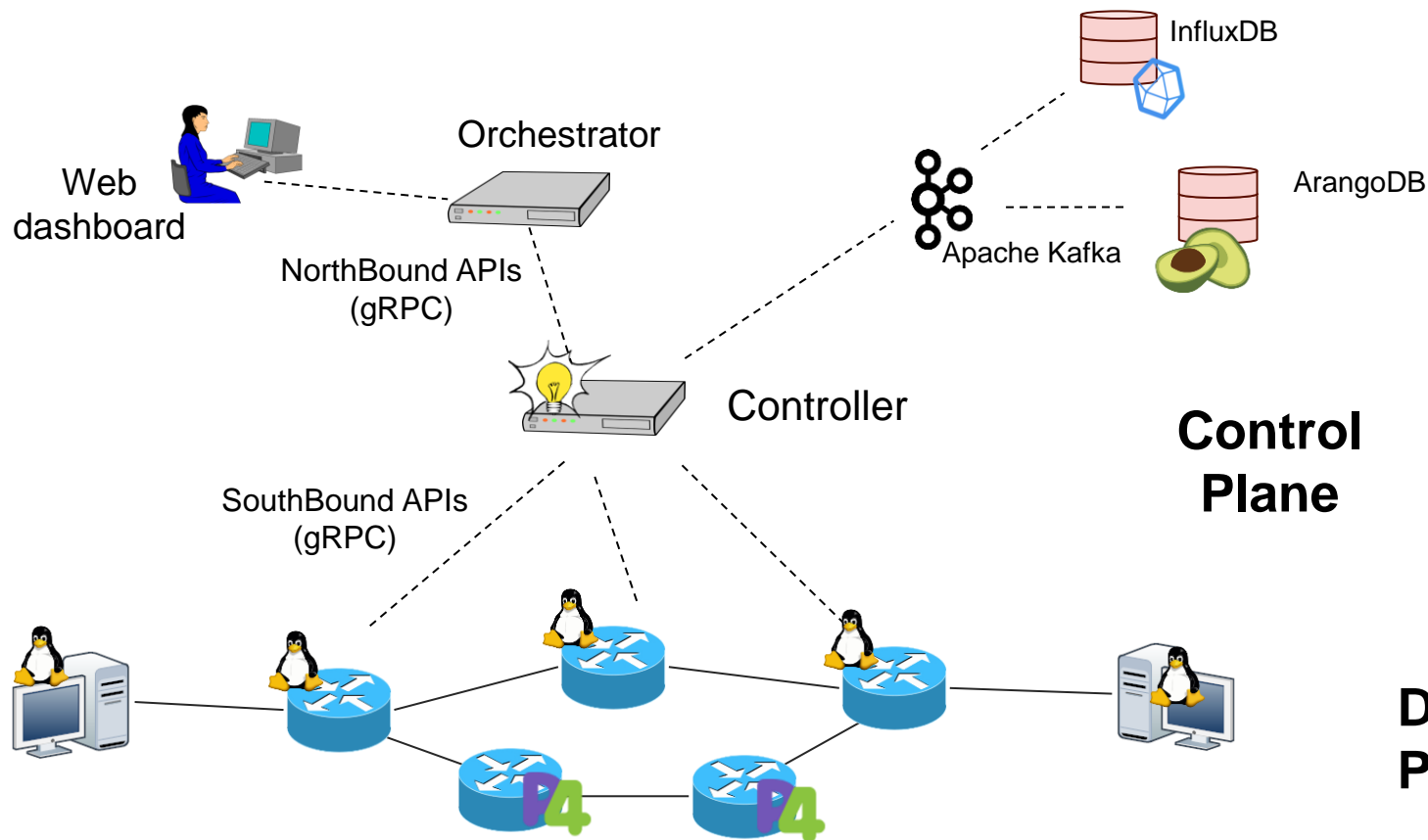
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- ROSE is an “umbrella” project, started in 2017, to develop and maintain an Open Source Ecosystem for SRv6.
- The ROSE project has contributed to the standardization of SRv6 in IETF.
- Over the years, ROSE has received funding by CISCO, under the CISCO University Research Program.

ROSE includes several sub-projects (10+), related to multiple aspects of the SRv6 technology:

- Data Plane
- Control Plane
- SRv6 host networking stack
- SRv6 integration with applications
- SRv6 integration with Cloud/Data Center Infrastructures

# The ROSE ecosystem for SRv6



**Big-data  
Plane**

**Control  
Plane**

**Data  
Plane**

[View on GitHub](#)



## Research on Open SRv6 Ecosystem

Segment Routing (SR) is a form of source routing. The SR architecture works by including a list of *segments* in the packet headers. A segment can represent a *topological* instruction (e.g. a node to be crossed) or a *service* instruction (e.g. an operation to be executed on the packet).

The Segment Routing architecture can be implemented using MPLS or IPv6 as data plane. We focus on the IPv6 implementation, called *SRv6*, in which the *segments* are identified by IPv6 addresses. SRv6 supports advanced services like Traffic Engineering, Service Function Chaining and Virtual Private Networks in IPv6 backbones and datacenters.

We list our published papers [below](#) and present hereafter our open source *SRv6* ecosystem, with a bottom up approach:

[SREXT kernel module](#)

[SRNK SR proxy Native Kernel](#)

[pyroute2 extensions to support SRv6](#)

[SRv6 uSID \(micro segment\) implementation on P4](#)

[SRv6 PM - Performance Monitoring](#)

[SRv6 SDN](#)

[Emulation tools](#)

More than 15 scientific papers (see in <https://netgroup.github.io/rose/>), including this tutorial:

P. L. Ventre, S. Salsano, M. Polverini, A. Cianfrani, A. Abdelsalam, C. Filsfils, P. Camarillo, F. Clad,

**“Segment Routing: a Comprehensive Survey of Research Activities, Standardization Efforts and Implementation Results”,**

IEEE Communications Surveys & Tutorials, First quarter 2021 (~200 cits.)

<https://netgroup.github.io/rose/rose-vm.html>

A ready-to-go Virtual Machine is available for tutorial and development  
It includes an emulated network environment based on Mininet and relies on the Linux kernel for implementing the SRv6 data plane.

Two step-by-step tutorials are included:

- Manual creation of SRv6 tunnels in the Linux SRv6 data plane
- ROSE Control Plane : setting up SRv6 tunnels from the SDN controller

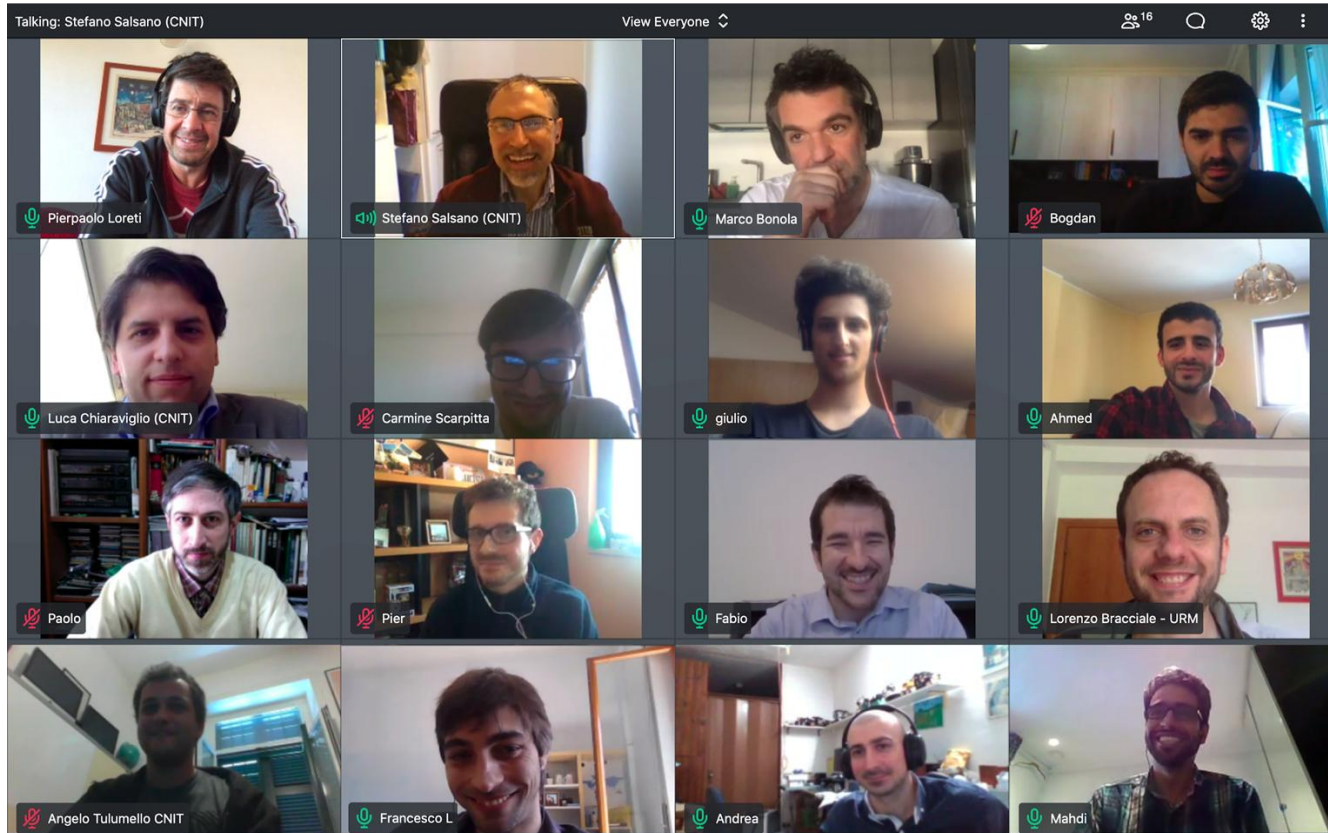
Many people contributed to the projects...

Pier Luigi Ventre  
Ahmed Abdelsalam  
Andrea Mayer  
Paolo Lungaroni  
Francesco Lombardo  
Carmine Scarpitta  
Bogdan Iatco  
Giulio Sidoretti  
Mahdi Tajiki  
Arianna Quinci

Lorenzo Bracciale  
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Angelo Tulumello  
Marco Bonola  
Luca Chiaraviglio  
Fabio D'Andreagiovanni  
Marco Ferrari  
Daniele Zaccariello  
Emanuele Altomare  
Stefano Salsano



# Team work...





**Thank you for your attention!**

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