

Report of Click Labs

Network management and QoS provisioning Course

Hong-Nam Hoang, Manh-Ha Nguyen and Xuan-Thu Thi Le

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Contents

1	Introduction - ClickLabs package	2
1.1	File organization	2
1.2	Some introductions before surfing Click configurations	3
2	Test configuration	3
2.1	Counter_test Click configuration	4
2.2	RandInfiniteSource element	4
2.3	RandomQueue element	4
2.3.1	Using built-in Click elements (compound element)	5
2.3.2	Writing new element: RandomQueue	5
2.4	Random_IP_generator configuration	6
3	TCP/UDP traffic generation	7
3.1	TCP traffic	7
3.2	UDP traffic	8
3.3	TCP_UDP_generator configuration	8
4	Shapers and Policers	9
4.1	Uncontrolled flow	9
4.2	Leaky bucket	10
4.3	Token bucket	11
4.4	Negotiation (CIR, CBS, EBS)	13
4.5	Generic Cell Rate Algorithm - GCRA	14
5	Schedulers	16
5.1	FIFO scheduler	16
5.2	Round Robin scheduler	16
5.3	Deficit Round Robin scheduler	17
5.4	Weighted Round Robin Scheduler	17
5.4.1	WRR scheduler - compound element	17
5.4.2	WRR scheduler - new element	18
5.5	Weighted Deficit Round Robin scheduler	19
5.5.1	WDRR scheduler - compound element	19
5.5.2	WDRR scheduler - new element	20
5.6	SetVirtualClock element	21
5.7	Virtual Clock scheduler	21
6	Congestion control	23
6.1	Weighted RED buffer management	23

1 Introduction - ClickLabs package

1.1 File organization

elements/ This directory contains all the additional Click elements using in the lab. At this time, it includes:

- **randinfinitesource.{hh,cc}**: Similar **InfiniteSource** but random byte value in payload.
- **randomqueue.{hh,cc}**: Random Queue.
- **setvirtualclock.{hh,cc}**: Set Virtual Clock. It is used for GCRA and Virtual clock scheduler.
- **wrrsched.{hh,cc}**: Weighted Round Robin Scheduling.
- **wdrr.{hh,cc}**: Weighted Deficit Round Robin Scheduling.

plot-template/ This directory contains templates used for plotting data by **gnuplot**. These files are used by **draw-graph.sh**

bin/update-elements.sh Run this file to update the new elements implemented in directory **elements** (above). For more information, type:
`./update-elements.sh -h`

bin/visual-clicky.sh Shell script to visualize click experiment using **clicky**. For more information, type:
`./visual-clicky.sh -h`

bin/init.sh Initialize Click environment for lab. Just run **init.sh** in the first time you get this source or Click source directory changed.

bin/eclick-compile.sh Extend the Click file. A Click file can include another one to reuse some compound elements (similar include in C, or import in Java). File **eclick-compile.sh** is used to translate (or flatten) these extended-Click file to a normal Click file.

bin/convert-click-dump.sh This script used to transform dump files from Click (binary files) into text files. Note: this is one-way transformation, the binary files cannot be recovered from the text files.

bin/draw-graph.sh This script is used to draw graphs from data extracted in Click dump files. Just provide the dump files, this script will generate a graph for you. Note: No need to use **convert-click-dump.sh** before using **draw-graph.sh**.

bin/draw-graph-framerelay.sh Based on **draw-graph.sh**, this script helps to show the characteristics of verifying a conformance flow (which is deal with CIR, CBS, EBS).

clicky.css File supporting Clicky Cascading Style Sheets. It controls the appearance of a clicky diagram with style sheets written in a CSS-like language.

1-test-config/ This folder contains Click configurations for the first part of Click Lab: **Counter_test**, **RandomQueue**, **RandInfiniteSource**, **Random_IP_generator**.

2-tcp-udp-generation/ This folder contains Click configurations for the part of TCP/UDP generator.

3-shaper-policer/ This folder contains Click configurations for the part of Shaper and Policer: uncontrolled flows, Leaky bucket, Token bucket, negotiation with {CBS, EBS, CIR}, GCRA.

4-scheduler/ This folder contains Click configurations for the part of Scheduler: FIFO, RR, DRR, WRR, WDRR, Virtual clock.

5-congestion/ Click configurations for controlling congestion. At this time, there is only one Click configuration of WRED (Weighted-RED for two flows).

1.2 Some introductions before surfing Click configurations

1. First of all, initialize the Click environment for these stuffs. Run file `init.sh`:

```
chmod +x init.sh
./init.sh
```

Normally, this process takes long time for the first finding Click source path. To save time, you can create file `~/.clickrc` with the content similar to this:

```
export CLICK_SRC=/home/iizke/click/click-1.8.0
```
2. While finishing to code some Click elements, put it in directory `elements`, and then run file `update-elements.sh` to compile and install new elements:

```
update-elements.sh
```
3. Explore the Click configuration by using tool `visual-clicky.sh`. Simple way to use:

```
visual-clicky.sh $CLICK_CONFIGURATION_FILE
```

4. To support easy-reading and team-working activities, we developed a tool to allow including some Click files into one Click file. If you write some Click files as "*library*" files, you can reuse it by using *include statements*. For example, we have `TCP_Source.click` to implement a TCP-generator, and `UDP_Source.click` to implement an UDP-generator. In `TCP_UDP.click`, we reuse the implementation of these generator by adding these lines at anywhere in `TCP_UDP.click` file (but should be on the top for easy reading):

```
----- file: TCP_UDP.click -----
//include "TCP_Source.click"
//include "UDP_Source.click"
...
```

The syntax of include statement is simple:

```
//#include "CLICK_FILE_PATH"
```

where `CLICK_FILE_PATH` can be relative or absolute path. After that, you have to use our tool (`eclick-compile.sh`) to pre-compile this file before simulating it by Click, for example:

```
eclick-compile.sh -o extend-TCP_UDP.click [-f] TCP_UDP.click
```

Note: if using tool `visual-clicky.sh`, you don't have to pre-compile the extended-Click file. It will do all automatically.

5. To visualize your packet stream at input or output, we have developed `draw-graph.sh` to generate graph as picture (using `gnuplot` that should be installed before). The second, you have to provide the data. Normally, we usually generate data from Click with element `ToDump`. This data follows the tcpdump-like format. When you get the data, the last action you need is to run this command:

```
draw-graph.sh -f dataIn.dump -f dataOut.dump
[-o PNG_FILES]
[--plot-type COUNT (default) | RATE | DENSITY]
[--xrange 233:23221] [--yrange 282:2922]
[--xlabel XYZ] [--ylabel ABC]
[--xcol 2] [--ycol 1]
```

After program `draw-graph.sh` finishes its work, it will create a picture file (PNG file). If user does not use output option (-o), this program will export to screen (using default output file `/dev/output`). You may want to change the plotting template by modify files in `plot-template` directory.

2 Test configuration

In the first time of using Click, we try to implement `Counter_test` element, `Random_IP_generator` element using basic Click elements, such as `Print`, `InfiniteSource`, `RatedSource`, `Script`, also trying to modify a part of source code of `InfiniteSource` to generate packets that randomize byte value at a specific location in payload.

2.1 Counter_test Click configuration

Location: 1-test-config/Counter_test.click

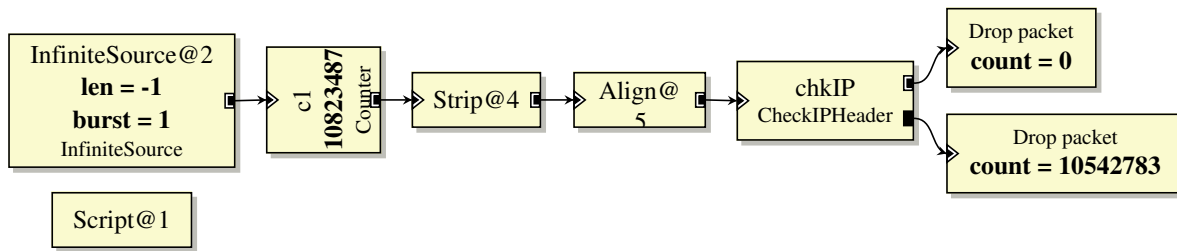


Figure 1: Counter_test Click configuration

To avoid IP CRC checking, we temporarily disable CRC checking by using flag "CHECKSUM false" in CheckIPHeader element. Another solution is to use SetIPChecksum to repair CRC in generated IP packets. Since we can visualize the result by using clicky to replace steps that print out screen counting results from Counter elements.

2.2 RandInfiniteSource element

Location: elements/randinfinitesource.*

This element is implemented by modifying source of InfiniteSource element. Its function is similar to InfiniteSource, but by adding one more keyword (RNDBYTEID), generated packets may have random byte value at a specified position in payload. The idea of implementation is that before pushing out packets to the output port, packet payload is changed. Originally, data packet is already prepared one time by setup_packet function before InfiniteSource releases packets. To make new element work, after modifying data, setup_packet function should be called, otherwise generated packets do not change their content. Figure 2 shows the result of using RandInfiniteSource element to generate five packets with random value at the first byte.

```
iizke@iizke-machine:~/svn/clicklabs/1-test-config$ click test-randinfinitesource.click
rand at byte 1: 8 | 68616e64 6f6d2062
rand at byte 1: 8 | 06616e64 6f6d2062
rand at byte 1: 8 | b5616e64 6f6d2062
rand at byte 1: 8 | 7c616e64 6f6d2062
rand at byte 1: 8 | 79616e64 6f6d2062
```

Figure 2: Test RandInfiniteSource element with 5 packets and random at the first byte

2.3 RandomQueue element

There are two ideas of implementing Random Queue:

- Random at input: Pushing packets at random positions in queue, but pulling out packets as FIFO queue. We try to simulate this behavior by using built-in Click elements.
- Random at output: Pushing packets in type of FIFO, but pulling out random packets in queue. We have implemented new element called RandomQueue.

To test our element, we first generate a high rate packet at input, store current timestamps, let packet go through our elements to output which has lower rate than the input. We then print out packet timestamps to see whether they are random or not.

2.3.1 Using built-in Click elements (compound element)

Location: 1-test-config/randomqueue.click

We have implemented two versions:

- **BRandomQueue** (we call it Binary Random Queue): **MixedQueue** allows us to put packets in type of FIFO (input port 0) or LIFO (input port 1). Based on this function, input packets are put randomly (by **RandomSwitch** element) in either FIFO or LIFO input port. By this way, if queue size is n , there are 2^{n-1} possibilities created over total possibilities ($n!$). Technical issue: "When full, **MixedQueue** drops incoming FIFO packets, but drops the oldest packet to make room for incoming LIFO packets". It means that at that time, when observing at output, we only see packets with increasingly timestamp, no randomly. We resolve this problem by writing a script to drop LIFO packet when queue is full.
- **2PRandomQueue** (Two Partition Random Queue): We expand the above idea with two queues and using Stride scheduler to join them to the output. Note that, dropped packets in the first queue are push to the second queue.



Figure 3: Random Queue configurations based on built-in Click elements

Figure 4 shows the result of testing these compound elements. The eight-byte number in each line is the timestamp of packet. We can see that this value does not increasing but randomly.

2.3.2 Writing new element: RandomQueue

Location: elements/randomqueue.*

This element is inherited from **ThreadSafeQueue** class. We reuse all the source code but modifying the **pull** function to make it pull out packets randomly. Since queue data structure is not suitable for pulling out random packet (only good for the head and tail packets), we use a trick that swapping between the random packet and the first packet. Step by step in our algorithm as following:

a:	8	54f80c00	c69d4c4d	a:	8	400d0300	42884c4d
a:	8	15000000	c79d4c4d	a:	8	36000000	41884c4d
a:	8	d3dd0600	c79d4c4d	a:	8	470d0300	45884c4d
a:	8	bb400900	c79d4c4d	a:	8	c0270900	46884c4d
a:	8	2b000000	c89d4c4d	a:	8	00000000	48884c4d
a:	8	e4010000	d99d4c4d	a:	8	00350c00	47884c4d
a:	8	d0dd0600	c89d4c4d	a:	8	00000000	4a884c4d
a:	8	50c30000	c99d4c4d	a:	8	c0270900	4a884c4d
a:	8	95d00300	c99d4c4d	a:	8	00000000	4c884c4d
a:	8	28350c00	d99d4c4d	a:	8	423c0c00	4c884c4d
a:	8	2d000000	da9d4c4d	a:	8	08350c00	4d884c4d

(a) BRandomQueue

(b) 2PRandomQueue

Figure 4: Test results of Random Queue configurations

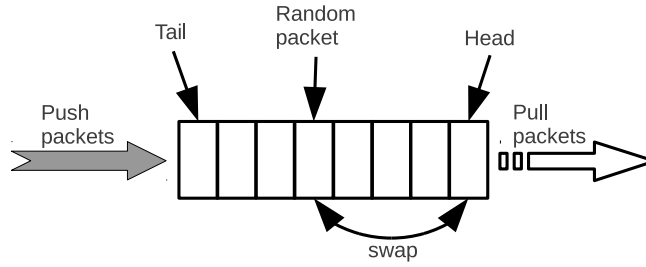


Figure 5: Behavior of RandomQueue element

- First, determining which packet is pulled out by a random number in the range from 0 to `RandomQueue.length`.
- Next, swapping the random packet and the first packet.
- Last, pull out the first packet (but actually the random packet).

Figure 6 shows the result of testing `RandomQueue` element. The eight-byte number in each line is the timestamp of packet. We can see that this value does not increasing but randomly. It means this element works well.

a:	8	8b350c00	a8a74c4d
a:	8	f61a0600	a8a74c4d
a:	8	40d10300	a9a74c4d
a:	8	f9dd0600	a9a74c4d
a:	8	aee10300	aaa74c4d
a:	8	7d350c00	a9a74c4d
a:	8	86000000	aaa74c4d
a:	8	8ff10900	a9a74c4d
a:	8	fb1a0600	aaa74c4d
a:	8	10eb0900	aaa74c4d
a:	8	74350c00	aaa74c4d

Figure 6: Test RandomQueue element

2.4 Random_IP_generator configuration

Location: 1-test-config/Random_IP_generator.click

We combine `RandInfiniteSource`, `RandomQueue` with other elements to build this configuration:

- `RandInfiniteSource`: generate packets with random source IP address in the form 192.168.1.x. In this situation, we set up "RNDBYTEID 30".

- **RandomQueue**: pull out packets at random position in queue. We can replace **RandomQueue** to another types of queue, such as FIFO or LIFO, by using **MixedQueue** element (comment lines in **Random_IP_generator** configuration).
- **SetCRC32**, **CheckCRC32**: set or check CRC32.
- **RandomBitError**: to simulate an error free link via a queue element.
- **Script**: we add some scripts to check states:
 - **autoupdate_lostp_estimation**: calculation of expected lost packets over input packets, based on bit error from **RandomBitError** and number of 'input' packets (**c1** in figure 7).
 - **autoupdate_real_bit_error**: real bit error cbased on **c1**, **c2**.
 - **autoupdate_lostp_percent**: real lost packets over input packets based on **c1**, **c2**.

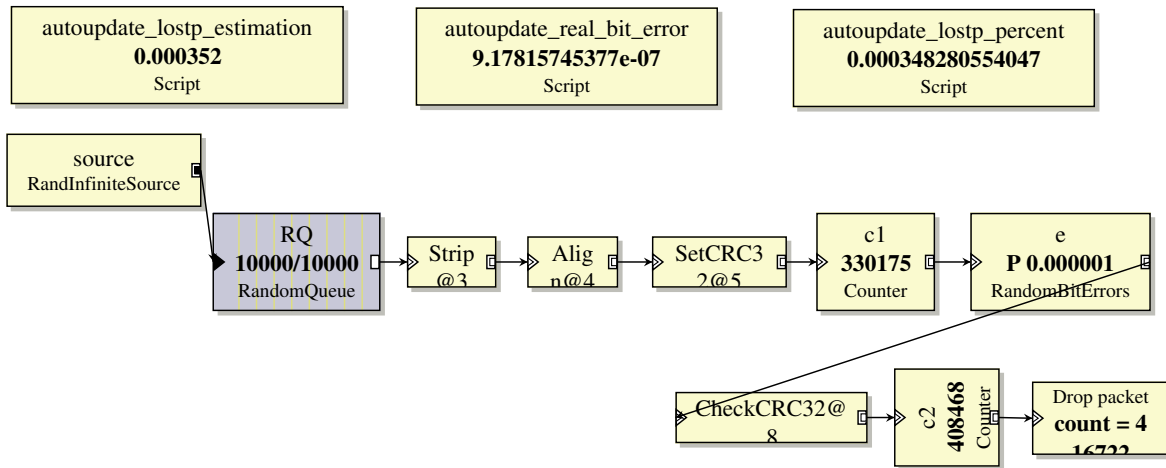


Figure 7: **Random_IP_generator** configuration

3 TCP/UDP traffic generation

3.1 TCP traffic

Location: 2-tcp-udp-generation/TCP.Source.click

The procedure of generating TCP packet as following:

- First, we use **TimedSource** to generate TCP packet without IP header.
- After that, this packet is encapsulated IP header by **IPEncap**. Remember to setup "PROTO 0x06" to say that it is TCP packet.
- Encapsulate ethernet header with "ETHERTYPE 0x0800" in each packet.

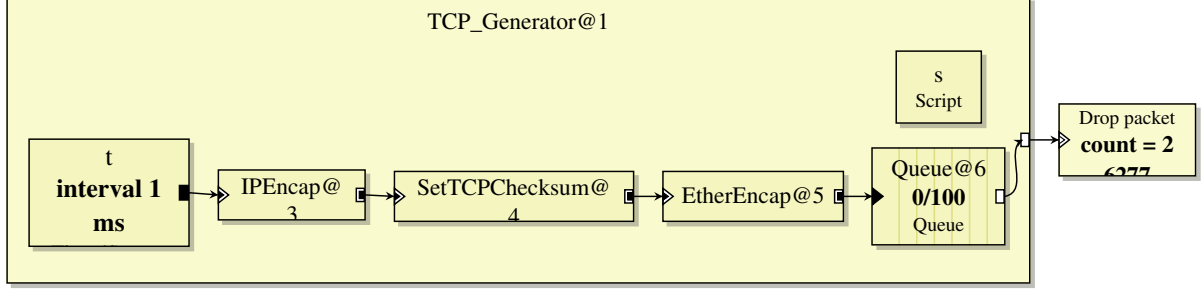


Figure 8: TCP_Source element

3.2 UDP traffic

Location: 2-tcp-udp-generation/UDP_Source.click

UDP_Generator operates like TCP_Generator. Note: when using IPEncap, setup "PROTO 0x11" for UDP packet.

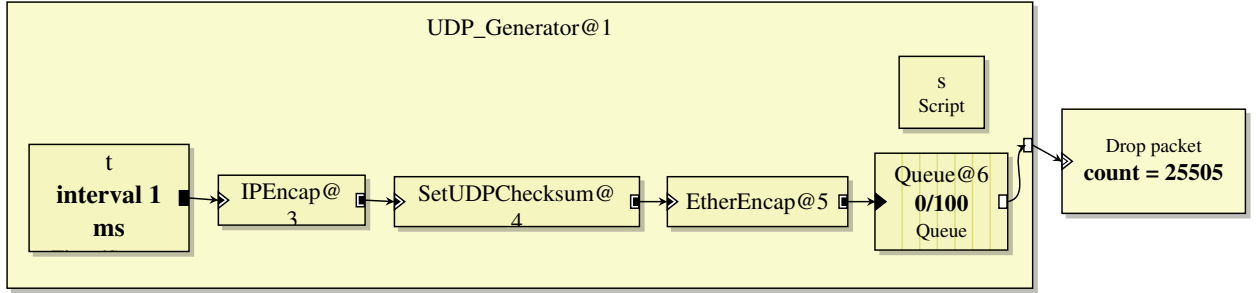


Figure 9: UDP_Source element

3.3 TCP_UDP_generator configuration

Location: 2-tcp-udp-generation/TCP_UDP_generator.click

We build this configuration as in figure 10. TCP source is created with rate about 1000 packets per second (pps) while UDP packet rate is 1 pps. Both sources are connected to a Round Robin scheduler (rrsched). Script autoupdate_scale is used to check online the ratio between number of TCP packets and number of UDP packets. We see that this generator works well when both queues are not full or speed of output link (TimedSink) is very fast. When queues are full, the expected ratio is not guaranteed. At our observation, we try to formalize the ratio as following:

- Let r_{tcp} , r_{udp} , r are respectively the rate of TCP source, UDP source and output link. Let $ratio$ is the ratio between number of TCP packets over number of UDP packets at output link.
- Let $R = (r_{tcp} + r_{udp})$, and $m = \min(r_{tcp}, r_{udp})$.
- If $r \geq R$: $ratio \rightarrow \frac{r_{tcp}}{r_{udp}}$
- If $r \leq 2m$: $ratio \rightarrow 1$
- If $2m < r < R$: $ratio \rightarrow \frac{m}{r-m}$

In general, we have a formular of ratio like: $ratio = \frac{m}{\min(R, \max(2m, r)) - m}$.

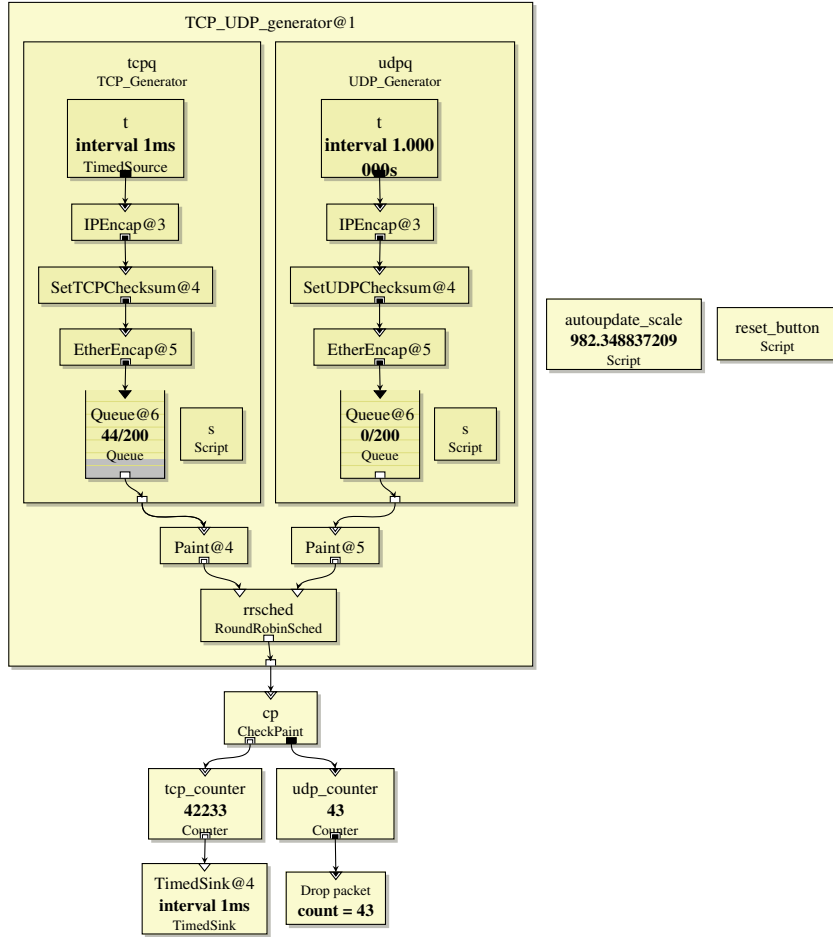


Figure 10: TCP_UDP_generator configuration

4 Shapers and Policers

In this part, we implement elements with consideration at packet level, not byte level.

4.1 Uncontrolled flow

Location: 3-shaper-policer/uncontrol-flow.click

We have tried some implementations of uncontrolled flow but the main idea is that the inter-time (interval) between two consecutive packets is a random number. All implementations of uncontrolled flow are put in 3-shaper-policer/uncontrol-flow.click. Normally, we use `RatedSource` or `TimedSource` to generate packets at a specific rate. After some time, we use `Script` to change their rate or interval at a random values. We list here with a few lines of description of each implementation:

- **UncontrolledFlow0:** We use two rated sources, one for generating regular rated source, one for generating burst. These sources are connected to a pull switch to choose from which source packets are generated. At any time generating packets, we choose a source to generate next packets through a script.
- **UncontrolledFlow1:** Only one source (`InfiniteSource`) is used and connected directly to the output. We used another two scripts named `change_rate` and `autoupdate_change_burst` to change rate and burst duration at runtime.
- **SimpleUncontrolledFlow:** we use `RatedSource` instead of `InfiniteSource` and one script to change the rate of source. This script operates in type `ACTIVE` and period of one second.

- **ProbUncontrolledFlow** (Figure 11): similar to **SimpleUncontrolledFlow** but change-rate script operates in type **PACKET**. When one packet go through this script, it will decide whether rate of source is changed or not based on a probability defined by user.
- **BurstUncontrolledFlow**: We use eight sources (**RatedSource**) generating packets in the same rate, all connected to a **ThreadSafeQueue**. In each source, packets can be dropped at a defined probability. As a result, this compound element generates packets at a particular rate but random burst duration (maximum is 8).

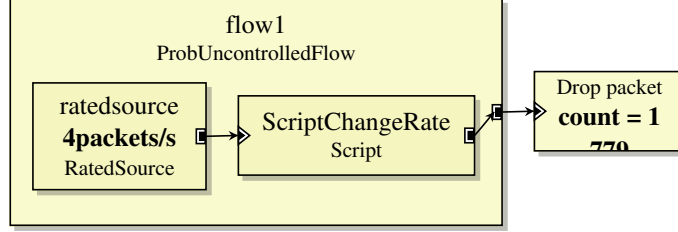


Figure 11: Uncontrolled flow with probability of changing rate source.

4.2 Leaky bucket

Location: 3-shaper-policer/leaky-bucket.click

Since leaky bucket does not admit any burstiness, we design the leaky bucket policer with a queue of size one (maximum one packet in a queue at a time) (figure 12). After that, we use **RatedUnqueue** or **TimedSource** to create CBR source. We use both these elements because of a technical issue: when the rate is less than 1000 packets/second, **RatedUnqueue** can release packets from queue with burstiness. So, at the beginning of starting leaky policer, the **Init** script will decide which one of unqueue elements is used.

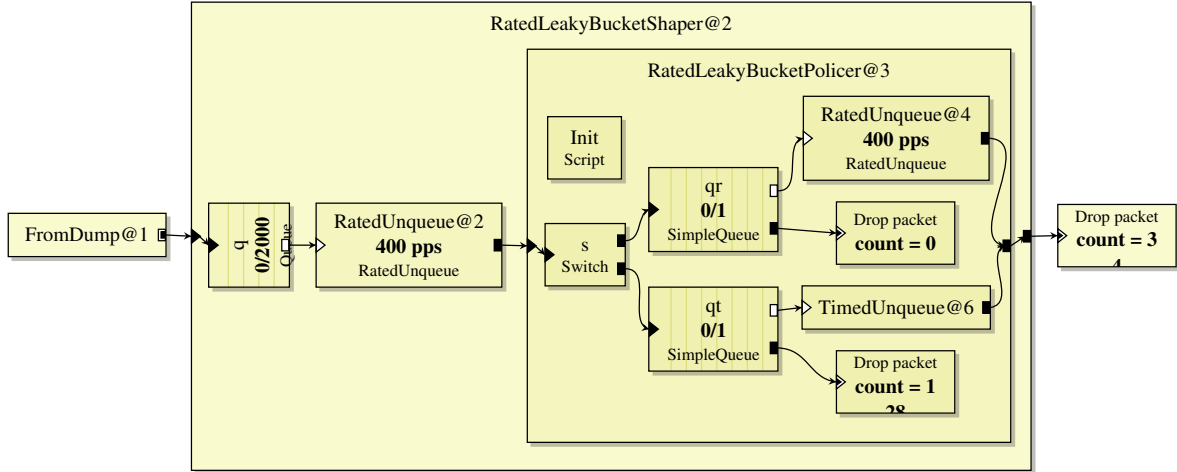


Figure 12: Leaky bucket configuration (policer and shaper)

Scenario of testing leaky bucket: **ProbUncontrolledFlow** is the source of packets with maximum rate 1000 pps (packets per second). The leaky policer only allows 400 pps. Shaper of leaky bucket uses a buffer of 2000 packets and generate packets from buffer at rate 400pps to the leaky policer. Figure 13 shows that the number of output packets is linear to time although the input is not.

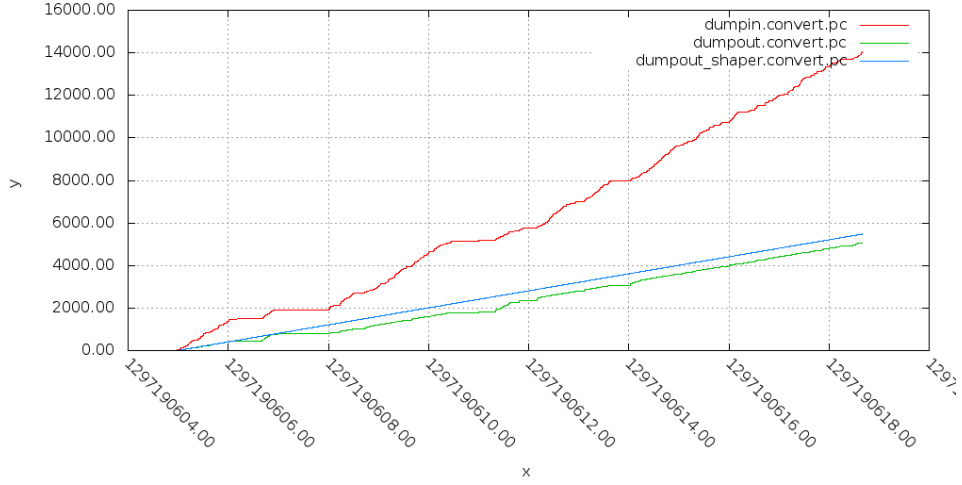


Figure 13: Monitor number of packets at input (uncontrolled flow) and output of leaky policer and shaper

4.3 Token bucket

Location: 3-shaper-policer/token-bucket.click

Token bucket is designed similar to leaky bucket but expand the size of queue as a number of burst duration, see `RatedTokenBucketPolicer3` in figure 14. But before implementing this element, there are some alternative implementations which are more complex:

- **RatedTokenBucketPolicer1:** We use a variable-size queue in this element. The size of queue is increased with the rate that is equal to the rate of token bucket. Each time a packet goes out of queue, size of queue is decreased one. To allow repeating burst at any periodic interval time, this element uses flag REPEATED.
- **RatedTokenBucketPolicer2:** This element uses a sample source (same rate as token bucket, operating as a *token generator*) and two counters counting the number of output packets (CO) and the number of generated token packets (CT). This element guarantees that at any time,

$$CO \leq CT \leq CO + burst_duration$$

If it is satisfied, input packets are pushed to output immediately, otherwise they are dropped. This element releases packets to output as soon as possible (no queue is needed to store input packets) while other implementations try to store input packets first and then regulate the output flow at a given rate.

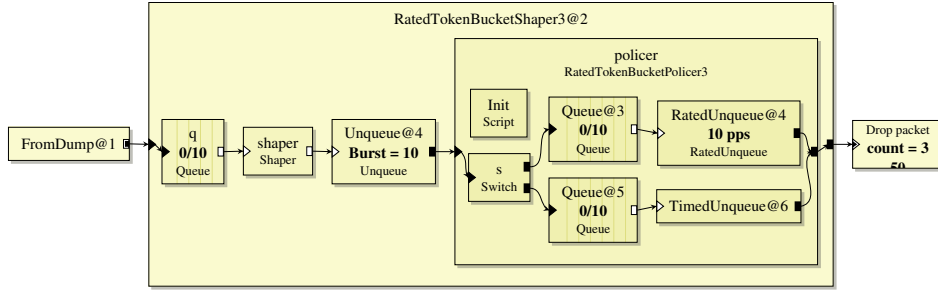


Figure 14: Token bucket configuration `RatedTokenBucketShaper3`

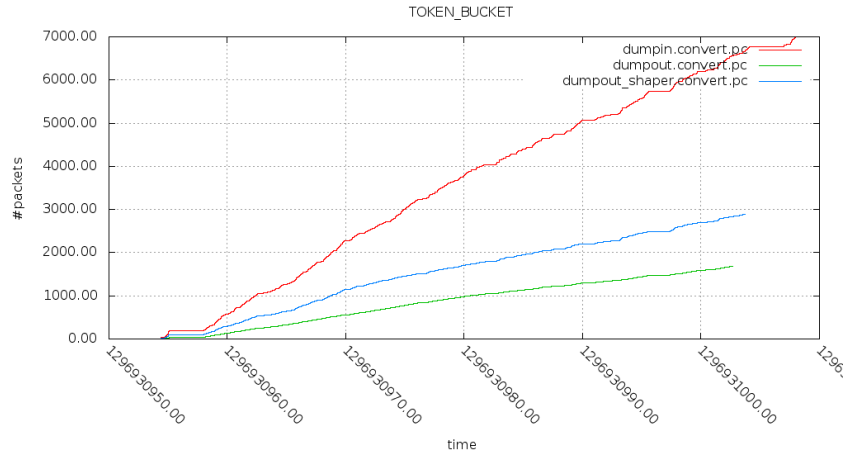


Figure 15: Number of packets at input (uncontrolled flow) and output of token policer and shaper

Figure 16 does a comparison of token and leaky bucket. The scenario is: we try to regulate a `BurstUncontrolledFlow` (rate is 1 pps and maximum burst is 8) by a token and a leaky bucket policer. Token bucket policer is `RatedTokenBucketPolicer3` (rate is 10 pps, burst is 10), and leaky policer is `RatedLeakyBucketPolicer` (rate is 10 pps). We see that token policer can allow some burst duration but leaky policer limits it.

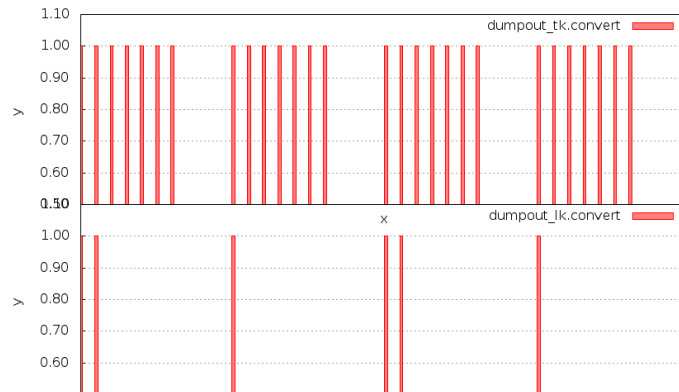


Figure 16: Comparison of Token bucket and Leaky bucket

4.4 Negotiation (CIR, CBS, EBS)

Location: 3-shaper-policer/negotiation.click

Figure 17 shows one implementation of negotiation (`RatedNegotiablePolicer2`). The idea is: input packets are gone through `RatedLeakyBucketShaper` (with leaky rate $R_L = \frac{CIR * (CBS + EBS)}{CBS}$) and then gone through `RatedTokenBucketShaper2` (with token rate $R_T = CIR$ and burst duration is EBS). At output, we guarantee that in interval time $T = \frac{CBS}{CIR}$, maximum number of output packets is $(CBS + EBS)$ and flow is shapped to rate CIR with a maximum burst duration EBS .

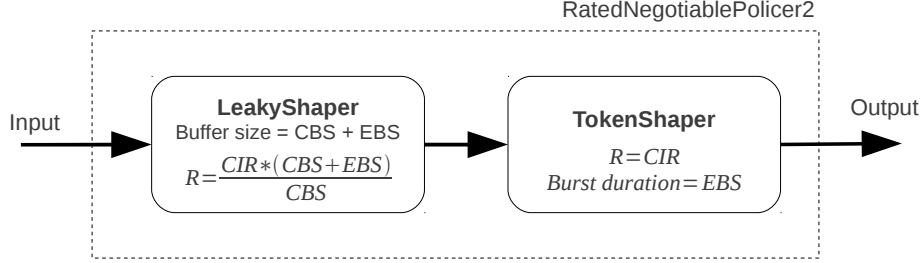


Figure 17: Implementation of `RatedNegotiablePolicer2`

We briefly describe other implementations of negotiation which can be found in `negotiation.click` as following:

- **RatedNegotiablePolicer1:** Input packets are stored in a queue with length $(CBS + EBS)$. At each interval $T = \frac{CBS}{CIR}$, all packets in queue are released. This implementation is simple with only one `TimedUnqueue` to control T , one `Queue` to do negotiation. To recognize high and low priority, at each packet, before storing it in queue, we check if queue length is larger than CBS then its priority is low. However, this element is a non-work-conserving element, so we only consider it when T is small (should be $T \leq 1$, or the best case is $CBS = 1$).
- **RatedNegotiablePolicer4:** See figure 18. Input packets are classified into low and high priority. Packet is high priority and put into `HighQueue` if there is free space in `HighQueue` (capacity CBS), otherwise it is in `LowQueue` (capacity EBS) with low priority. Since rate CIR is fixed, the window time $T = \frac{CBS}{CIR}$ is scale to CBS . We use a counter `TimeCount` to know when the window time is end (by observing `TimeCount = CBS`). If this happens, we reset all the counters for a new window time. Since we calculate the window time based on CBS , we have to make sure that there are always packets to `TimeCount` at rate CIR . So, `SampleSource` is used to generate packets at rate CIR to guarantee that condition. Whenever there are no packets from `HighQueue`, the `PrioScheduler` will get packets from `SampleSource`. In the end, temporary packets will be removed before going to the output. The number of packets in a window time T always less than or equal to $(CBS + EBS)$. The high priority packets are on port 0, and the low priority packets are on port 1.

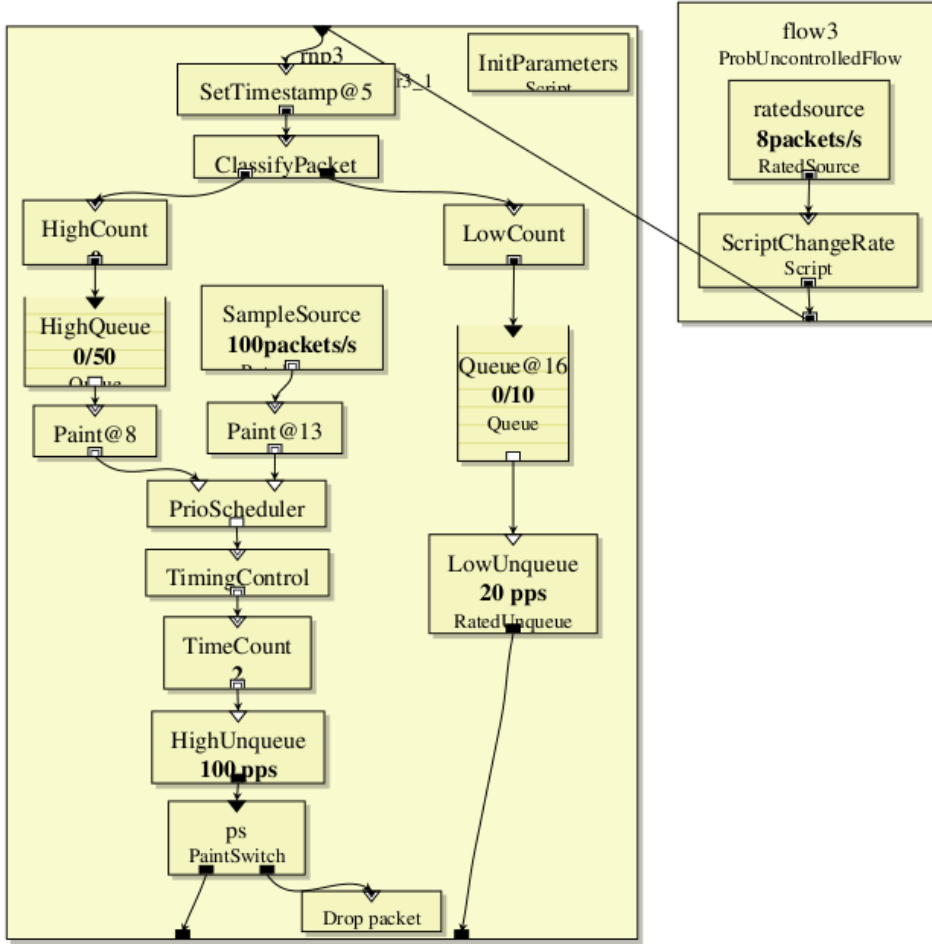


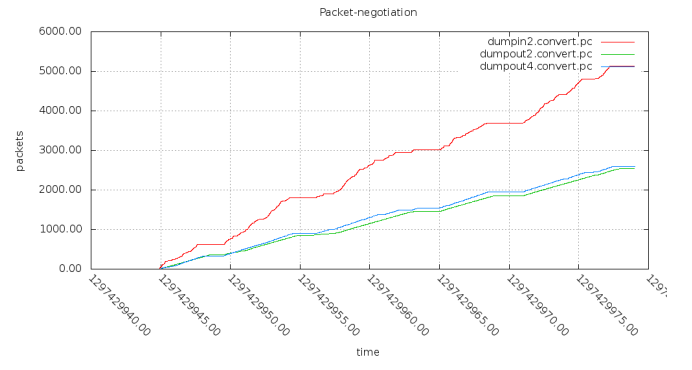
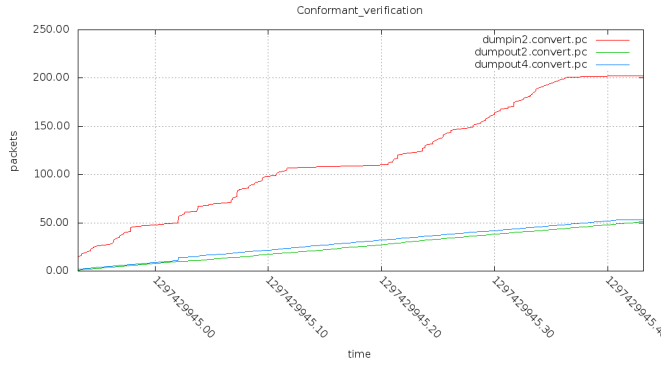
Figure 18: Implementation of RatedNegotiablePolicer4

We test `RatedNegotiablePolicer2` and `RatedNegotiablePolicer4` with an uncontrolled input source, maximum rate 500 pps. The negotiation is: CBS = 50, EBS = 10 and CIR = 100 (pps). Results are shown in figure 19. The red line (`dumpin2`) is representation of input flow. The green line (`dumpout2`) is represented to `RatedNegotiablePolicer2` and the other line of `RatedNegotiablePolicer4` (`dumpout4`). We can see that the number of output packets, in a window time $T = 0.5s$, is trimmed at 60 packets following the rules of negotiation, but line of (`dumpout4`) is a little higher than line of (`dumpout2`).

4.5 Generic Cell Rate Algorithm - GCRA

Location: 3-shaper-policer/gcra.click

GCRA configuration is in figure 20. We implement this element by using `SetVirtualClock`. Element `SetVirtualClock` works as following (more details in section 5.6): when a packet comes to this element, it will set this packet's timestamp annotation to a new value, and also remember the last theoretical cell arrival time (TAT). Before letting packets approach `SetVirtualClock`, packets have to go through script `CheckTime`. If packet comes too soon, it will be dropped, otherwise it will go to `SetVirtualClock` and make a new TAT . We test this element by a `ProbUncontrolledFlow` with maximum rate 10 pps. Our GCRA is set up to allow $TAT = 0.2$ and $\tau = 0$. In figure 21, we plot the packet arrival time of input (lower part) and output and see that output flow is less dense than input flow, and the inter-time between packets is guaranteed.



(a) Number of packets in a time interval $T = \frac{CBS}{CIR} = 0.5s$

(b) Number of packets over time

Figure 19: Negotiation with `RatedNegotiablePolicer2` and `RatedNegotiablePolicer4`

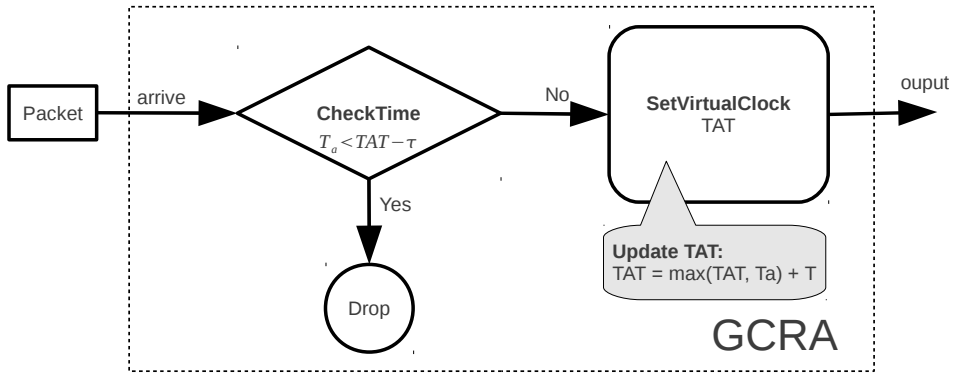


Figure 20: GCRA configuration

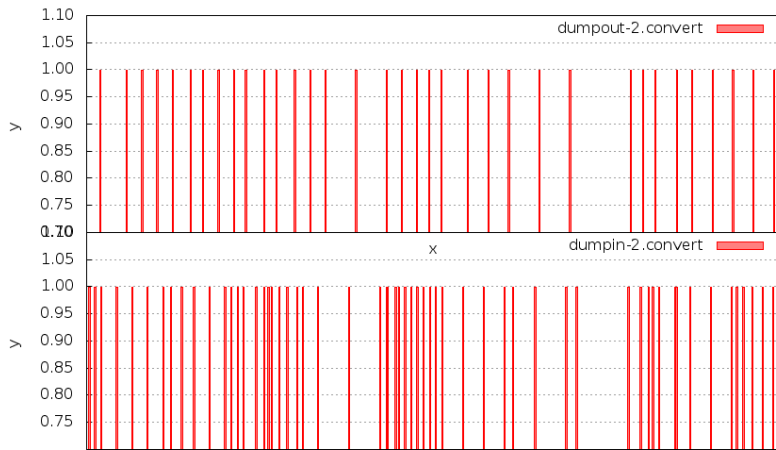


Figure 21: Testing GCRA configuration with flow `ProbUncontrolledFlow`

5 Schedulers

5.1 FIFO scheduler

Location: 4-scheduler/FIFO.Sched.click

There are two ways of building FIFO scheduler. The first and simple way is to use `ThreadSafeQueue` element. All inputs are connected into input of queue and output of queue is connected to output of FIFO scheduler. The second way is to use `TimeSortedSched` element to which all inputs connect through queues. We test our FIFO scheduler with three flows and their rate respectively 1 pps, 3 pps, 6 pps. FIFO scheduler only processes 1 pps. Figure 22 shows the result that the high rate flow (blue color - out2) makes a huge effect on the output link.

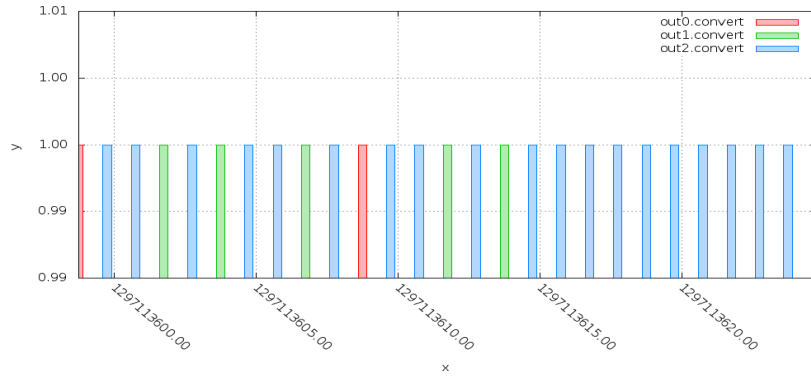


Figure 22: Testing FIFOSched configuration

5.2 Round Robin scheduler

Location: 4-scheduler/RR.Sched.click

Round Robin Scheduler is a built-in element in Click. We test this scheduler with the same scenario as described in testing FIFO scheduler. Although the inputs have different rates, the output link is shared fairly to all three flows (figure 23) but it does not take care of packet's length.

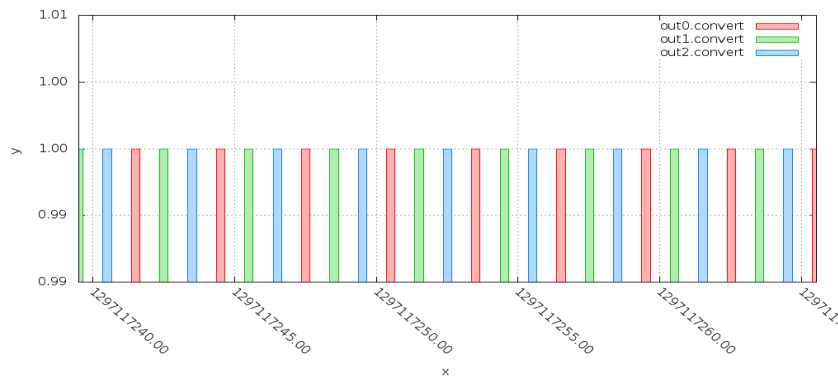


Figure 23: Testing RRSched configuration

5.3 Deficit Round Robin scheduler

Location: 4-scheduler/DRR_Sched.click

Deficit Round Robin (DRR) Scheduler is a built-in element in Click. We also test DRR scheduler with three flows, but the size of packets in each flow are 500, 1000 and 1500 bytes respectively. The result in figure 24 shows that DRR scheduler guarantee bandwidth provided to each flow. The small-packet size flow is scheduled more times than other flows. When working with DRR scheduler and checking its source code, we know that the quantum byte is 500. It means for each round, deficit of each flow is increased 500. If we setup flows with too small in packet length, those flows will send out a lot of packets before next flows are scheduled to send packets. Or in contrast, flows having large size packets will wait for a long time before sending out packets.

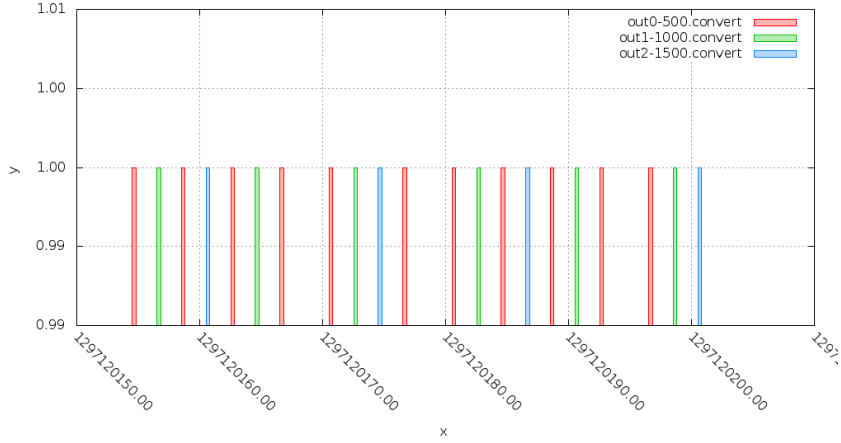


Figure 24: Testing DRRSched configuration

5.4 Weighted Round Robin Scheduler

We implement this scheduler in two versions. The first is compound element that based on Round Robin scheduler. The second is a new element.

5.4.1 WRR scheduler - compound element

Location: 4-scheduler/WRR_Sched.click

This scheduler is based on Round Robin scheduler. The main idea is that: weight of each flow is scaled to number of ports assigned to that flow. A high weight flow will have more input ports of Round Robin scheduler. Figure 25 is an example of WRR with two weights: 1 and 2. Source `s0` has weight 1 and connect to port 1 of `rrsched`. Source `s1`, weight 2, is provided two input ports (0 and 2) of `rrsched`. In practice, we need to take care of distribution of ports to have the fairness in response time. Besides, this approach also loses the sequence of packets in each flow. We build another WRR scheduler supporting three input flows with weight 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The result is shown in figure 26 which presents the timestamp of packets at output link.

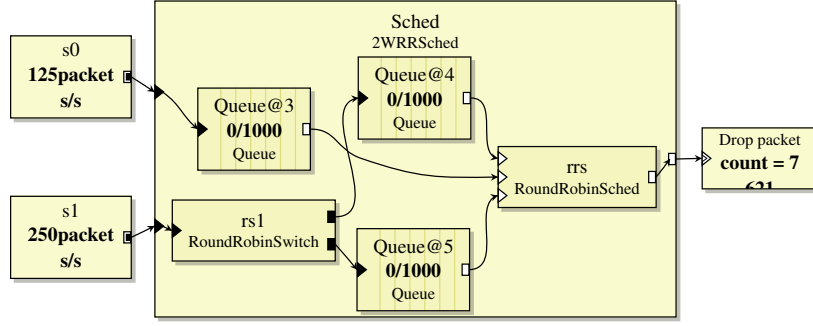


Figure 25: Configuration of WRRSched compound element with two input flows and weight 1, 2

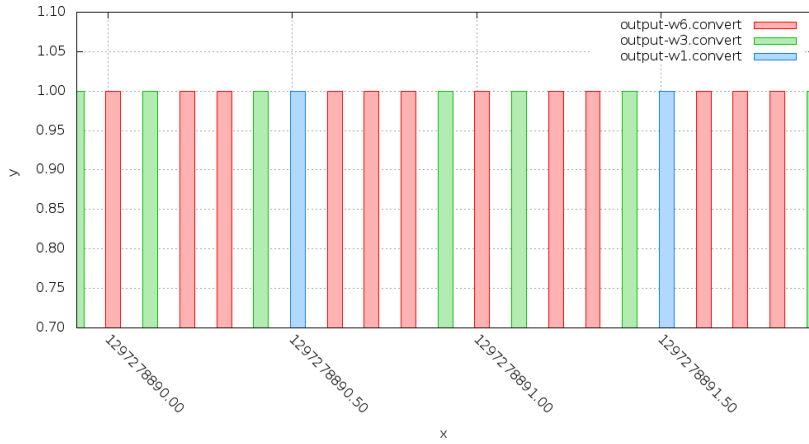


Figure 26: Testing WRRSched compound element

5.4.2 WRR scheduler - new element

Location:

elements/wrrsched.{cc, hh}

4-scheduler/WRR_Sched_element.click

Since WRR compound element is not easy to deal with big weight although only a few number of inputs, we developed a new element for WRR scheduler. Another good point of this element, compared with the above compound element, is that it guarantees the sequence of packets in each flow. N is number of input, w_i is weight of i -th input, W is total of weights. At initial time, this element will create a list of visited ports in period of W steps, and try to make fairness in response time. After finishing to process a packet at one port, it will process packet of next port in the list created in initial time. We test with three flows, weights are 1, 2 and 3. The result is shown in figure 27.

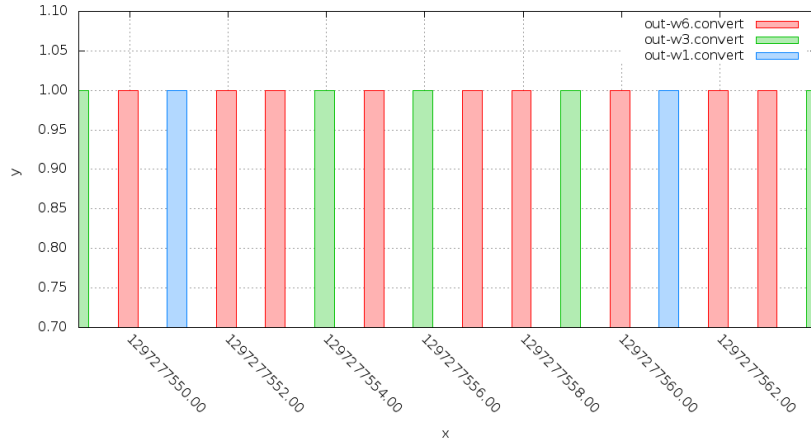


Figure 27: Testing WRRSched element

5.5 Weighted Deficit Round Robin scheduler

Similar to Weighted Round Robin (WRR), we also have two versions for Weighted Deficit Round Robin scheduler: compound element and new element.

5.5.1 WDRR scheduler - compound element

Location: 4-scheduler/WDRR.Sched.click.

The way of implementation is the same as WRR scheduler (compound element), that is to provide more input ports of Deficit Round Robin scheduler to the high weight input flows. Figure 28 shows the distribution of packets of each flow on the output link. We setup three flows with packet length 500, 1000, 1500 byte, and weights 1, 2, 3 respectively. We can see that a number of packets of each flows is nearly the same as we expect.

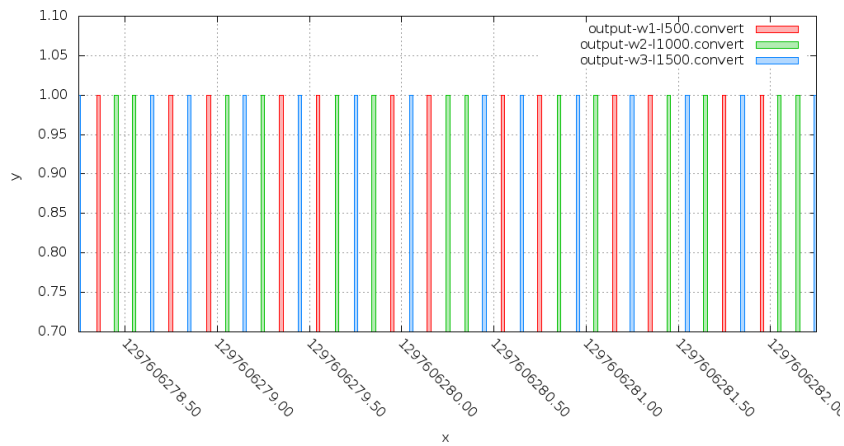


Figure 28: Testing WDRRSched compound element

5.5.2 WDRR scheduler - new element

Location:

elements/wdrr.{cc,hh}

4-scheduler/WDRR_Sched_element.click

There are some problems that motivate us to implement a new element for WDRR:

- Quantum is fixed. It is not fair to flows having large size packets.
- Weights cannot be positive real number.
- Weights cannot be changed in runtime.

By inheriting from source code of DRR scheduler, we have just needed to modify at the time updating deficit:

$$new_deficit = old_deficit + quantum * weight;$$

We test this element with three flows. Flow0 has 100 byte of packet length, weight 0.2. Flow1 has 200 byte of packet length, weight 0.4. Flow2 has 400 byte of packet length, weight 0.8. Output flow is shown in Figure 29. We can see that with these parameters, WDRR scheduler operates like a Round Robin scheduler.

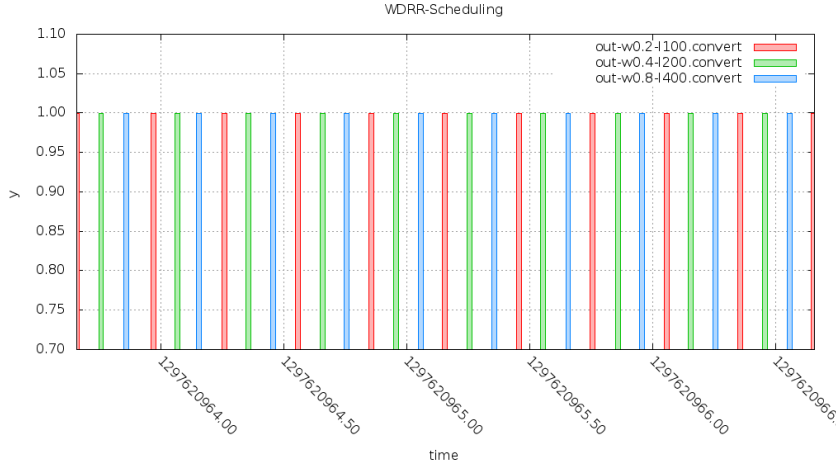


Figure 29: Testing WDRRSched element

Since this element allows real numeric weight, there are some applications of this element:

- Round Robin scheduling (figure 29). For each flow, setup

$$weight = \frac{avg_packet_length}{quantum}$$

- Round Robin scheduling with some burst duration. For each flow, setup

$$weight = \frac{burst_duration * avg_packet_length}{quantum}$$

- Give more fairness in response time. For example, assume there are two flows: packet length in flow 0 is 100 byte, and packet length in flow 1 is 200 byte. With the built-in DRR scheduler, the sequence of packets on the output link is:

$$f0, f0, f0, f0, f0, f1, f1, f0, f0, f0, f0, f1, f1, f1, \dots$$

where $f0, f1$ are represented to a packet from flow0 and flow1 respectively. We can do more better by using WDRR scheduler with weights 0.2, 0.2. The sequence of packets is changed as:

$$f0, f0, f1, f0, f0, f1, f0, f0, f1, f0, f0, f1, f0, f0, f1, \dots$$

5.6 SetVirtualClock element

Location: `elements/setvirtualclock.{cc, hh}`

It is a new Click element which is used to support Virtual Clock scheduler and Weighted Fair Queue scheduler. Its important feature is the ability of remembering the last computed values (virtual time, tag). Each time a packet arrives, it will set a new tag into timestamp annotation of packet. Computation of tag and virtual time is based on these equations:

$$F_i^k = \max(F_i^{k-1}, V(a_i^k)) + \frac{L_i^k}{r_i}$$

$$V(0) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \tau} = \frac{1}{\sum r_j}$$

To use this element, user needs to provide: *rate* (bandwidth of a flow), *max_bw* (maximum bandwidth of output link), *current_bw* (current used bandwidth of output link). At runtime, this element allows user to read *last_tag* and also modify *rate*, *max_bw*, *current_bw*. When a packet arrives to this element, it does the following tasks:

- Update virtual time:

$$last_virtual_time += \frac{(current_real_time - last_real_time) * max_bw}{current_bw}$$

- Update tag:

$$last_tag = \max(last_tag, last_virtual_time) + \frac{packet_length}{rate}$$

- Update packet's timestamp annotation to *last_tag*
- Update parameter of SetVirtualClock: *last_real_time* to the current time.

Note: when configuring SetVirtualClock with *max_bw* = *current_bw*, the virtual time is exactly the real time. We can use this property to implement GCRA and Virtual Clock scheduling.

5.7 Virtual Clock scheduler

Location: `4-scheduler/VC_Sched.click`

We implement the Virtual clock scheduler with support of SetVirtualClock. Each flow is connected to a SetVirtualClock and then to a TimeSortedSched (Figure 30). Element SetVirtualClock is set up with *MAXBW* = *CURRENTBW*.

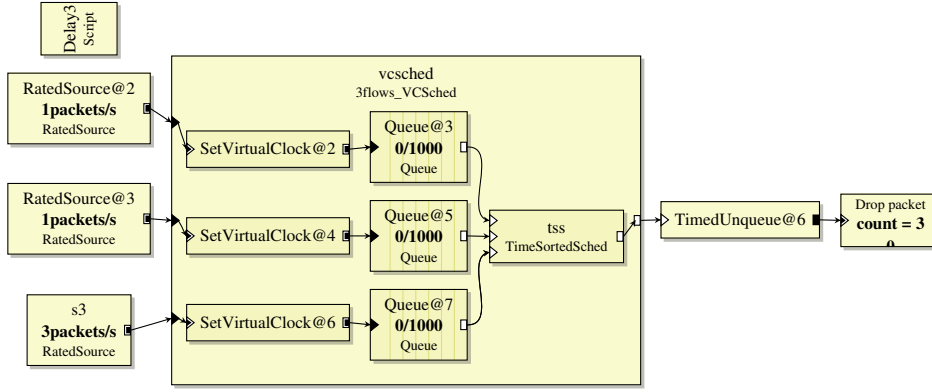


Figure 30: VirtualClock scheduler with 3 flows

Scenario of testing Virtual Clock scheduling: There are three flows,

- Flow 0: Rated source, packet length 1 byte, rate 1 pps.
- Flow 1: Rated source, packet length 1 byte, rate 1 pps.
- Flow 2: Rated source, packet length 1 byte, rate 3 pps.

We set up three `SetVirtualClock` with the same parameters:

$$RATE = 1, MAXBW = 3, CURRENTBW = 3$$

These parameters said that each flow can only use one-third bandwidth of output link. Output link speed is 1pps. Flow 2 is postponed 5 second later than flow 0 and flow 1. The result is shown in figure 31. We can see that when flow 2 starts to send packets, it does not make large effect to other flows but shares the output with others.

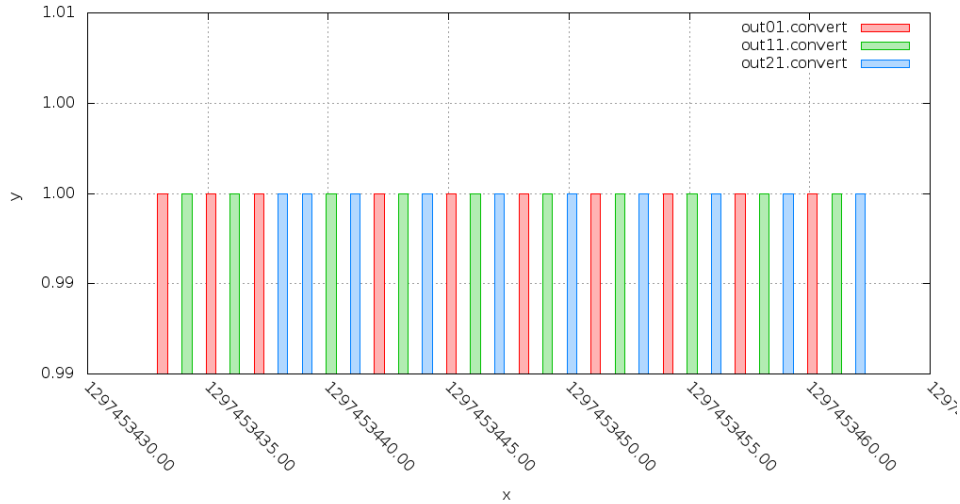


Figure 31: Testing VirtualClock scheduler with 3 flows

6 Congestion control

6.1 Weighted RED buffer management

We want to build a Weighted RED (WRED) based on RED element. A WRED allows us to define some ranges of bandwidth, each range has a particular probability of dropping packets. The idea of implementation: Packets are classified by their rate (or a range of rate), and then let them go through a RED element used for this rate. We check this idea by writing a WRED that support two ranges of rate, see figure 32.

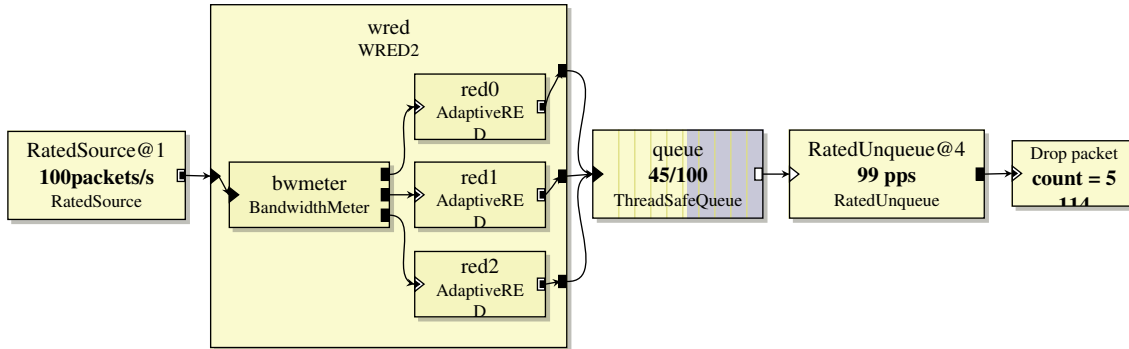


Figure 32: One simple implementation of WRED element

To test new element of WRED, we calculate probability of dropping packets by fraction of number of dropping packets over number of packets in a particular range of rate. Since RED element accumulates dropped packets over time, we have to use another counter to count number of dropped packets (be able to reset this counter for another average queue size). When observing the operations of RED element, we recognize that with a particular output link speed, the average queue size goes to a stable value. From that observation, our strategy is to estimate probability of dropped packets, which result is shown in figure 32, as following:

- Output link speed begins with input link speed.
- Reset all counters: number of input packets, number of dropped packets
- Restart input source, wait for stable average queue size (we let it wait for 10 second).
- Stop source, and then calculate probability of dropped packets.
- Print to log file information of this probability and average queue size.
- Change output link speed to another value and return to step 2.

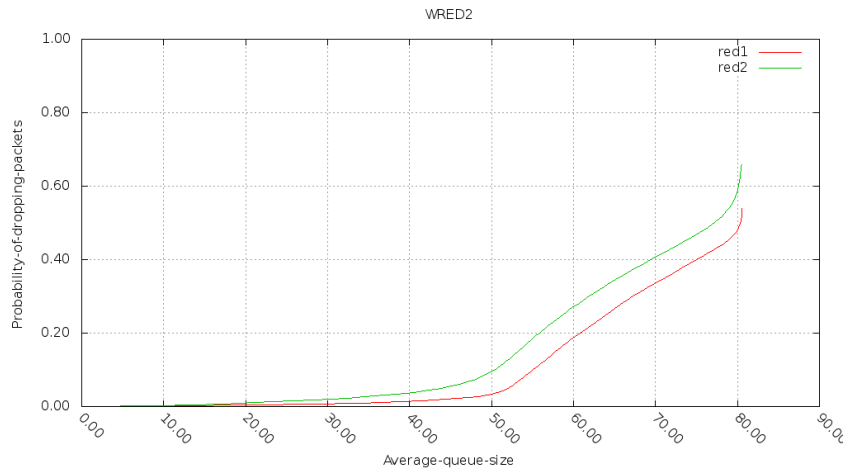


Figure 33: Testing WRED2