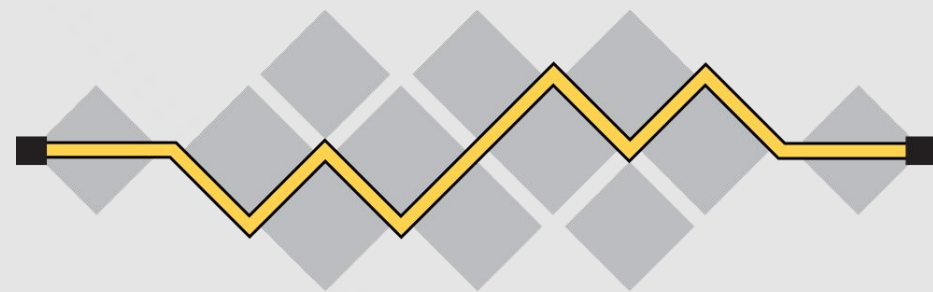




# Show me the Numbers Workshop on Analyzing IETF Data (AID)



**I E T F<sup>®</sup>**

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Making the Internet work better

**Thanks for working on this**  
**It matters!**



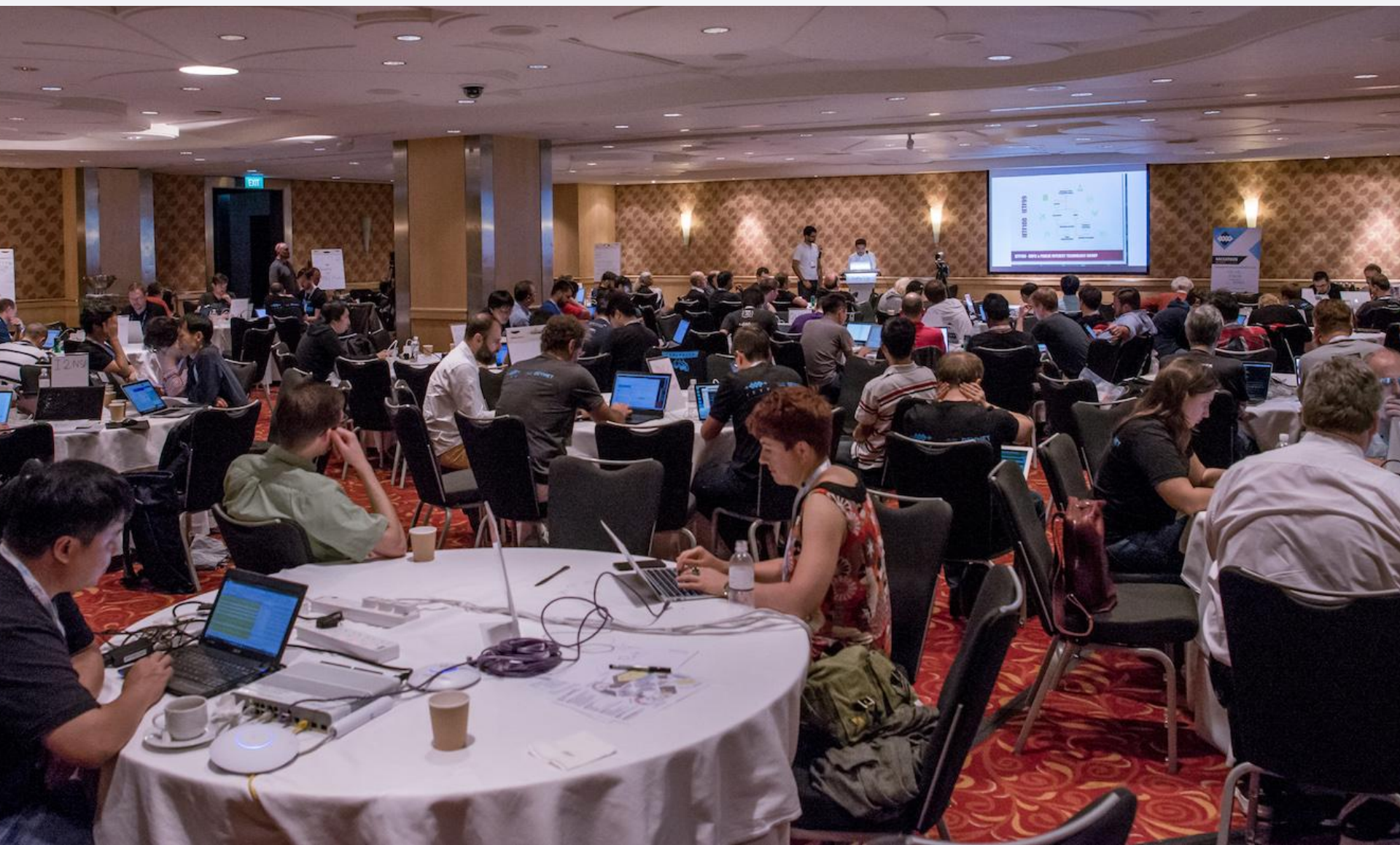
*Contact me if the IETF could provide or collect additional data that would help your efforts – we're happy to discuss proposals!*

**Lars Eggert, [lars@eggert.org](mailto:lars@eggert.org)**



# Community and diversity

## Who are we?





**33%**

**Time spent on IETF is personal time**  
**[2021 Community Survey]**

# Into the Future with the Internet Vendor Task Force A Very Curmudgeonly View or Testing Spaghetti — A Wall's Point of View

Randy Bush  
Internet Initiative Japan

It is said that many researchers think the Internet Vendor Task Force (IVTF, nee IETF) has become irrelevant. They are either measuring the real internet as a behavioral phenomenon, which is a bit scary if you think about it, or they are wanting to do research 'beyond' the internet. Neither involves the IETF.

This is partly because of the research community's inability to get deployment traction via the IETF path. The '90s poster children, QOS, DiffServ, IntServ, Self-Serv have a long history of attempts at relevance and deployment via the IETF, none successful in the face of a bandwidth glut and lack of end-to-end signaling in their designs. Whether economics will change sufficiently to give them legs is not clear; I would not bet on it.

But do not think that the direct researcher/operator interface is in the best of shape. For example, as it is widely believed that the majority of congestion is on customer access links, why is WRED not enabled on these links? Why have operators not asked the vendors to make it the default for some types of interfaces?

- The IETF has grown so large and so enamored of complexity and featuritis [1] that it is a full-time job to participate. Who can afford to spend full-time on the IETF? Vendors with more features to add to sell more baroque systems. It's not an evil conspiracy, but rather a consequence of being enamored of complexity and the vendors' need to keep selling 'new' 'better' products. This is the path the telcom industry took and we know how much radical technology it develops these decades and how profitable local and long distance minutes are.
- The IETF's vendor/market approach has engendered a 'let the market decide' culture. Instead of hard-thought, rigorous, and simple designs, every possible feature gets added and many competing proposals are approved. This last is like throwing spaghetti at the wall to see what sticks, an amusing tactic to everyone but the wall.

The operators are the wall. And they pay capital cost and operational expense to deploy complex features which

# So who *is* the IETF?

## And why do we care?



### our **profile**

“The IETF is a large, open, international community of network designers, operators, vendors, and researchers concerned with the evolution of the Internet architecture and the smooth operation of the Internet.”



### our **mission**

“The mission of the IETF is to make the Internet work better by producing high quality, relevant technical documents that influence the way people design, use, and manage the Internet.”



### our **challenge**

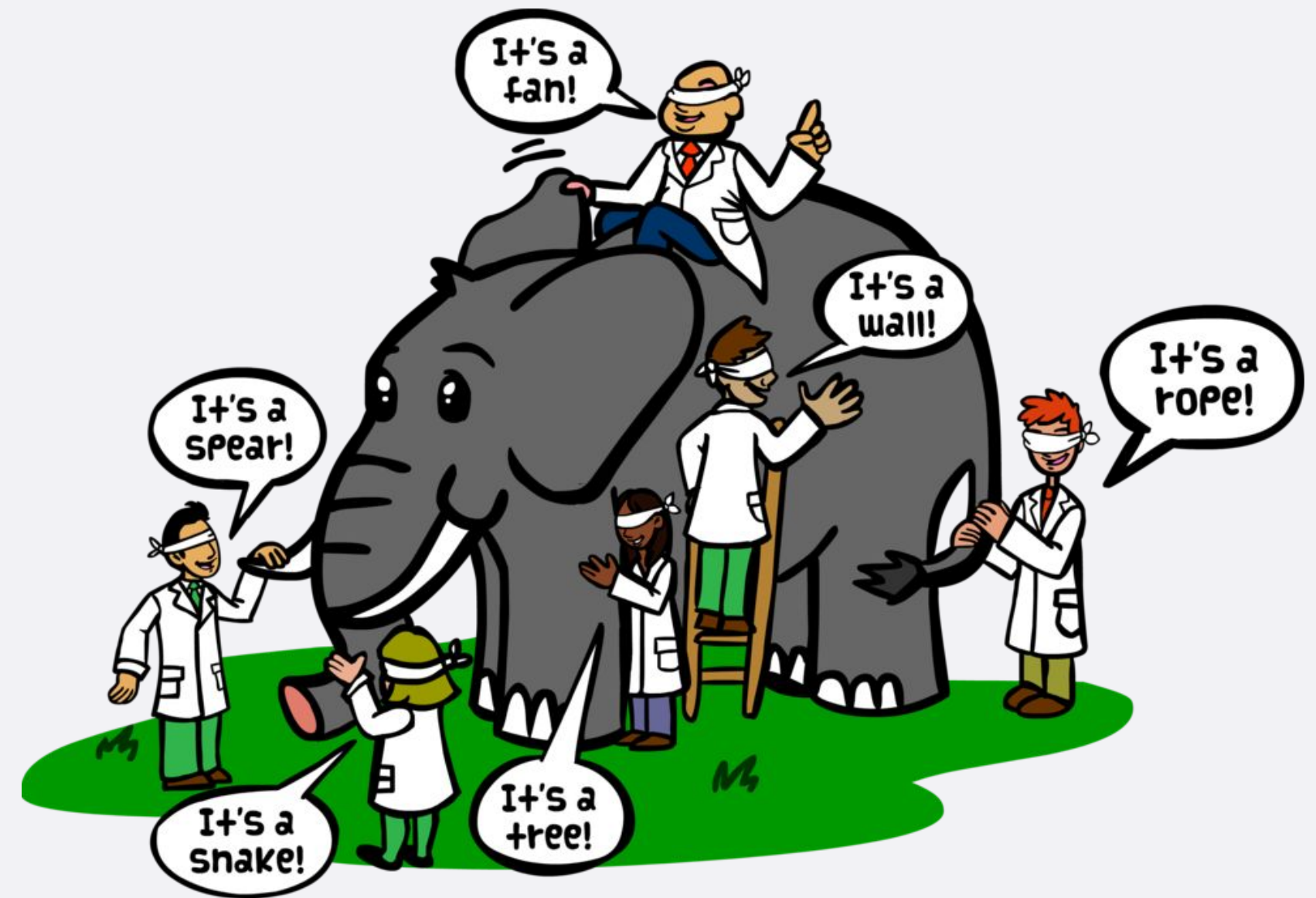
To enable the IETF to fulfill its self-given profile and mission as effectively as possible.

(And to enable evolution of those.)

*"If you can't measure it, you  
can't improve it."*

*"Management is doing  
things right; leadership is  
doing the right things."*

Peter Drucker





「thank you.」