



<https://astra-sim.github.io>



<https://github.com/mlcommons/chakra>

ASTRA-sim Tutorial  
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# ASTRA-Sim and Chakra Tutorial:

## *Demo – Supplementary: The NS3 Network Backend*

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# Available Network Backends

- Network backends are maintained separately and imported as **submodule**.
- We currently have **2 network backends** which implement NetworkAPI

| Backend                      | Purpose                              | Notable Feature                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>analytical/analytical</b> | analytical equation-based simulation | fast simulation, hierarchical topologies |
| <b>ns-3</b>                  | inter-network simulation             | large parallel GPU clusters              |

NS3 Simulator: <https://github.com/astra-sim/astra-network-ns3/>

- Based on study for Congestion Control on general-purpose RDMA network
  - [Yuliang Li, et. al., PCC: High Precision Congestion Control \(SIGCOMM' 2019\)](#)
- Packet level, event-based simulator modelling network features such as:
  - RDMA, Congestion Control, Load Balancing (ECMP), etc
  - On arbitrarily defined topologies

# Cloning Tutorial Repository

- We provide sandboxed Chakra/ASTRA-sim for tutorial purposes

```
$ git clone git@github.com:astra-sim/tutorials.git
$ cd tutorials/micro2024
$ git rev-parse --short HEAD
ead2d5d
$ ./clone_repos.sh
```

# Launching Execution Environment (Docker)

- Download Docker Image

```
$ docker pull astrasim/tutorial-micro2024
```

- Start a Docker Container and **link current directory into**

```
$ docker run -i -t \  
  -v $(pwd) : /app/micro2024 \ ← Mount  
  astrasim/tutorial-micro2024  
[docker]$ cd ../micro2024/ ← Mounted directory
```

# Install Chakra

- Install Chakra utilities that comes with ASTRA-sim

```
[docker]$ ./install_chakra.sh
```

## *install\_chakra.sh:*

```
$ cd astra-sim/extern/graph_frontend/chakra  
$ pip3 install .  
$ pip3 install --upgrade protobuf
```

# Compile ASTRA-sim

- Compile ASTRA-sim with analytical & ns3 network backend
  - Different network backend = different binaries

```
[docker]$ ./compile_astra_sim.sh  
          ./compile_astra_sim_ns3.sh
```

## *compile\_astra\_sim.sh:*

```
$ cd astra-sim/build/astra_analytical  
$ ./build.sh
```

## *compile\_astra\_sim\_ns3.sh:*

```
$ cd astra-sim  
$ ./build/astra_ns3/build.sh
```

# Running Simulation: 1D Ring across Fat-Tree

- Execute ASTRA-sim Simulation on NS3

```
[docker]$ cd astra-sim-demo/demo3; ./run_demo3-1.sh
```

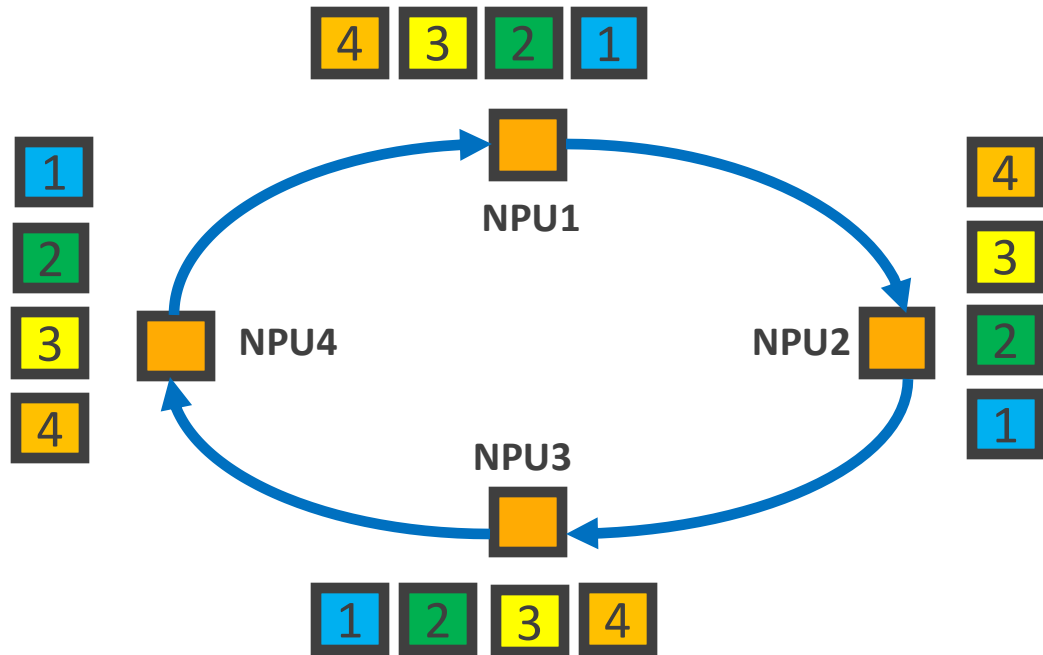
*run\_demo3-1.sh:*

```
cd ${NS3_DIR}
./ns3.42-AstraSimNetwork-default \
  --workload-configuration=./allreduce_1D/allreduce_128 \
  --system-configuration=./inputs/Ring_sys.json \
  --network-configuration=../../../../../ns-3/scratch/config.txt \
  --logical-topology=./inputs/128nodes_1D.json
```

Note, For NS-3, we have a new option, **'logical-topology'**

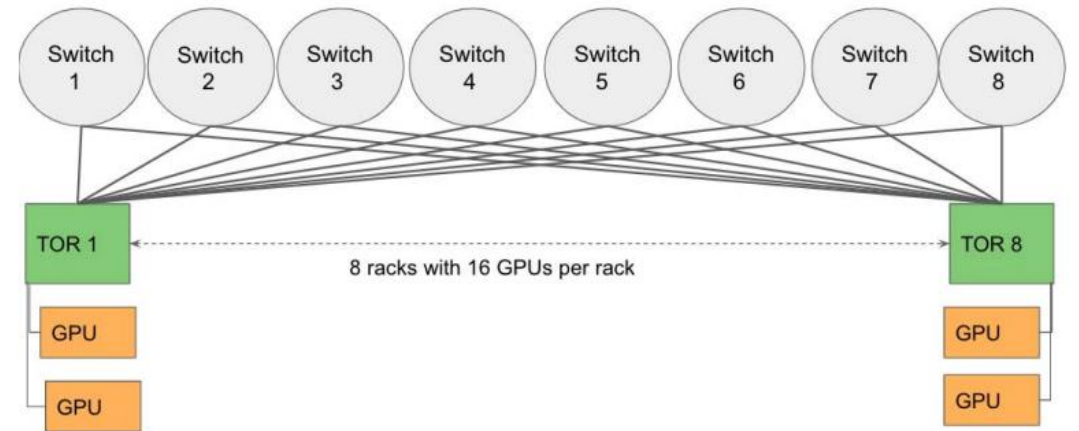
# Logical Topology v. Physical Topology

## Logical Topology



Which NPUs will NPU X communicate with?

## Physical Topology



Actual connectivity between wires, switches, etc.



# Logical Topology v. Physical Topology

## Logical Topology

*demo3/inputs/128\_nodes\_1D.json:*

```
{  
  "logical-dims": ["128"]  
}
```

*demo3/inputs/128\_nodes\_2D.json:*

```
{  
  "logical-dims": ["8", "16"]  
}
```

## Network(ns-3) configuration

*demo3/.../config.txt:*

```
TOPOLOGY_FILE \  
../8_nodes_1_switch.txt
```

## Physical Topology

*demo3/.../8\_nodes\_1\_switch.txt:*

```
9 1 8  
8  
8 0 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0  
8 1 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0  
8 2 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0  
8 3 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0  
...
```

# Logical Topology v. Physical Topology

In Analytical backend, logical dimensions **automatically matches** physical dimension

In NS-3, we **decouple** the logical dimension and the physical dimension

- e.g. We could run a 1D Ring AllReduce across all 128 nodes in a physical Fat-Tree topology  
And compare with a 2D Ring AllReduce

# Running Simulation: 2D Ring across Fat-Tree

- Execute ASTRA-sim Simulation on NS3

```
[docker]$ ./run_demo3-2.sh
```

## *run\_demo3-3.sh:*

```
cd ${NS3_DIR}
./ns3.42-AstraSimNetwork-default \
  --workload-configuration=./allreduce_2D/allreduce_128 \
  --system-configuration=./inputs/Ring_Ring_sys.json \
  --network-configuration=../../../../../ns-3/scratch/config_clos.txt \
  --logical-topology=./inputs/128nodes_2D.json
```

Must use relative directory in script for network config

# Physical Topology Setup

*demo3/inputs/128\_nodes\_16\_switch.txt:*

Total # node(NPU) + Switch

#Switches

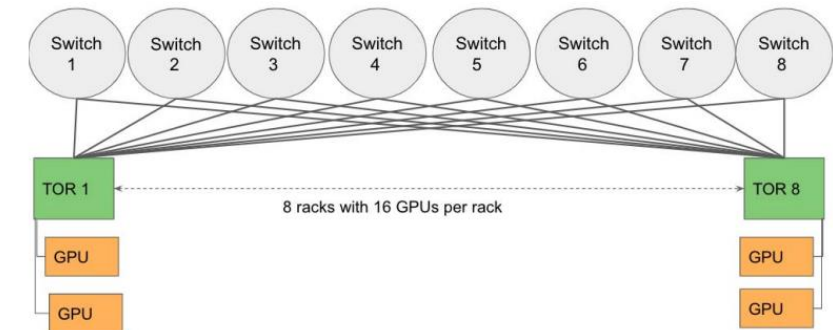
#Links

List of Switch ID

List of

- Endpoint ID 1
- Endpoint ID 2
- Bandwidth
- Latency
- Error Rate

| Total # node(NPU) + Switch | #Switches | #Links             |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 144                        | 16        | 192                |
| 128                        | 129       | 130 ... 142 143    |
| 0                          | 128       | 200Gbps 0.005ms 0  |
| 1                          | 128       | 200Gbps 0.005ms 0  |
| 2                          | 128       | 200Gbps 0.005ms 0  |
| 3                          | 128       | 200Gbps 0.005ms 0  |
| 128                        | 136       | 200Gbps 0.0125ms 0 |
| 128                        | 137       | 200Gbps 0.0125ms 0 |
| 128                        | 138       | 200Gbps 0.0125ms 0 |



# Physical Topology Setup

*demo3/inputs/8\_nodes\_1\_switch.txt:*

Total # node(NPU) + Switch

#Switches

#Links

List of Switch ID

List of

- Endpoint ID 1
- Endpoint ID 2
- Bandwidth
- Latency
- Error Rate

| Total # node(NPU) + Switch | #Switches | #Links             |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 9                          | 1         | 8                  |
| 8                          |           |                    |
| 8                          | 0         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |
| 8                          | 1         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |
| 8                          | 2         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |
| 8                          | 3         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |
| 8                          | 4         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |
| 8                          | 5         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |
| 8                          | 6         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |
| 8                          | 7         | 400Gbps 0.0005ms 0 |

# Running Simulation: 1D Ring across Switch

- Execute ASTRA-sim Simulation on NS3

```
[docker]$ cd astra-sim-demo/demo3; ./run_demo3-3.sh
```

*run\_demo3-3.sh:*

```
cd ${NS3_DIR}
./ns3.42-AstraSimNetwork-default \
  --workload-configuration=./allreduce_1D/allreduce_8 \
  --system-configuration=./inputs/Ring_sys.json \
  --network-configuration=../../../../../ns-3/scratch/config.txt \
  --logical-topology=./inputs/8nodes_1D.json
```