

Communication bandwidth considerations for digital substations applications

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Introduction

- Digital substations, instead of copper wiring, rely on the exchange of electrical signals represented as values in data communication streams
- Understanding communication bandwidth requirements and proper selection of communication technologies and equipment are critical in achieving required availability and reliability levels dictated by the protection and control applications
- Review and guidance on communication bandwidth utilization in digital substations is very timely, as the number of projects grows

Paper Content

- Communication Technologies in Digital Substations
 - IEC 61850 Sampled Values
 - IEC 61850 GOOSE messages
- Communication bandwidth calculations for
 - IEC 61850 Sampled Values
 - IEC 61850 GOOSE messages
- Traffic review from deployed projects and lab installations
 - IEC 61850 Sampled Values Captures
 - IEC 61850 GOOSE messages Captures
- Considerations on efficient bandwidth utilization
 - Handling background traffic and bursts of data
 - Selection of capable communication devices

Communication Technologies in Digital Substations

IEC 61850 Client-Server

- Point-to-point communication TCP/IP/Ethernet com for central monitoring and control
- Commands, reporting, logs, file transfer, etc

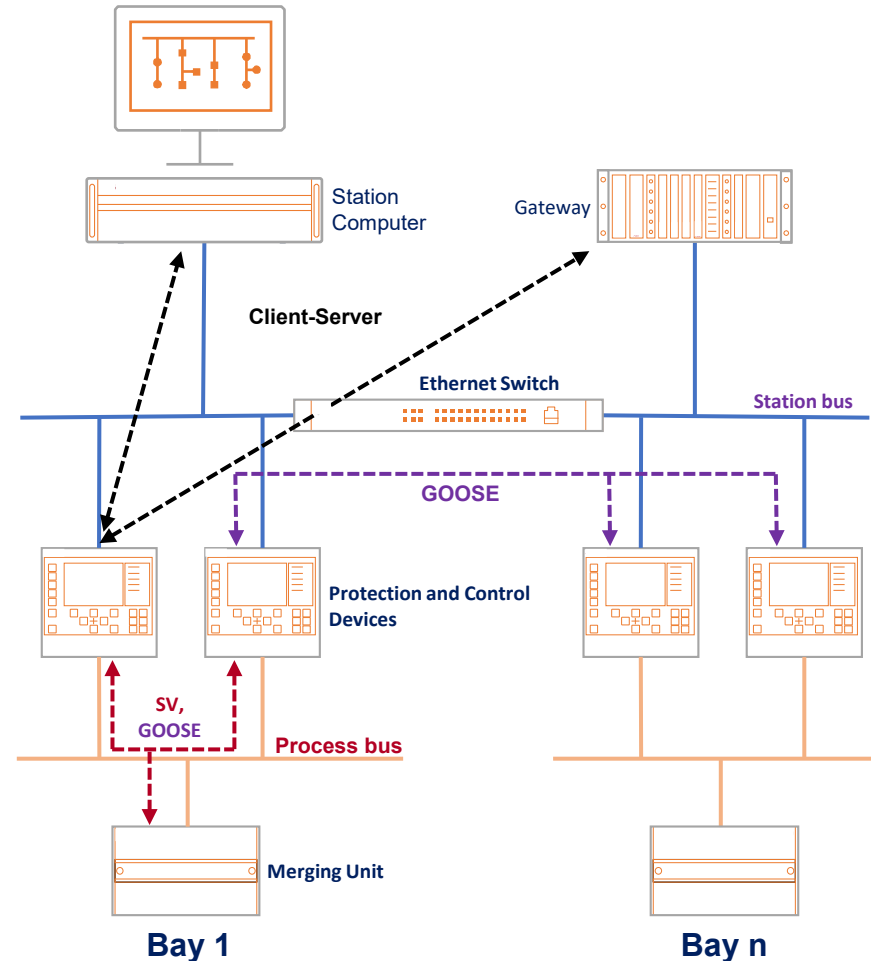
IEC 61850 GOOSE

- **Layer 2 Ethernet** real-time multicast com for station-wide monitoring, control, protection
- Binary data, indications, trip commands

IEC 61850 Sampled Values (SV)

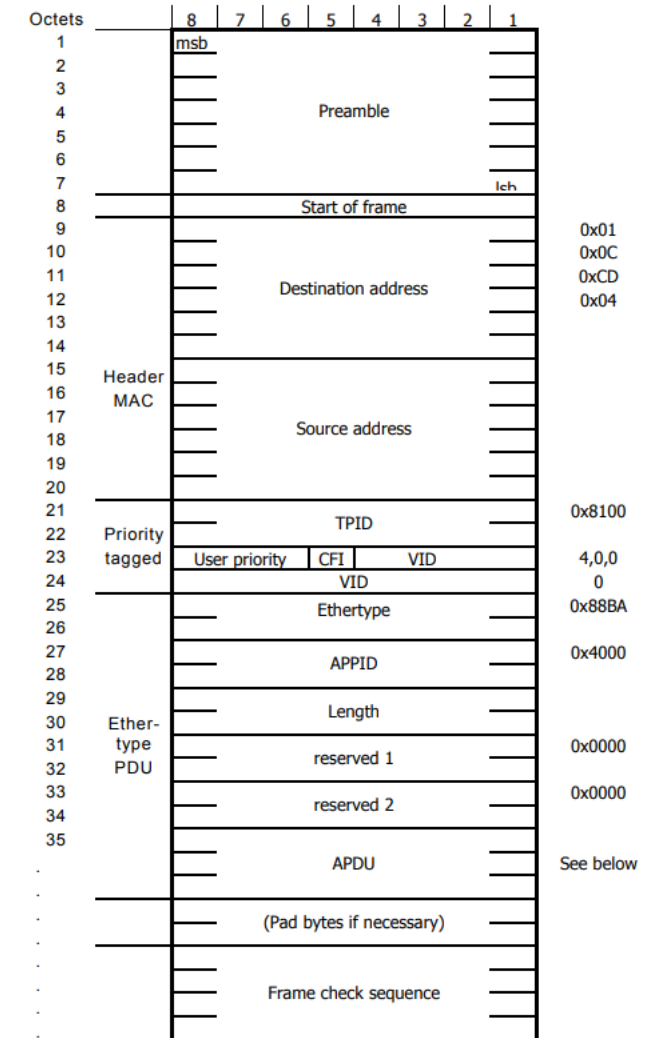
- **Layer 2 Ethernet** real data multicast com for analog measurements for control and protection
- Analog sampled values for currents and voltages

GOOSE = Generic Object-Oriented Substation Event



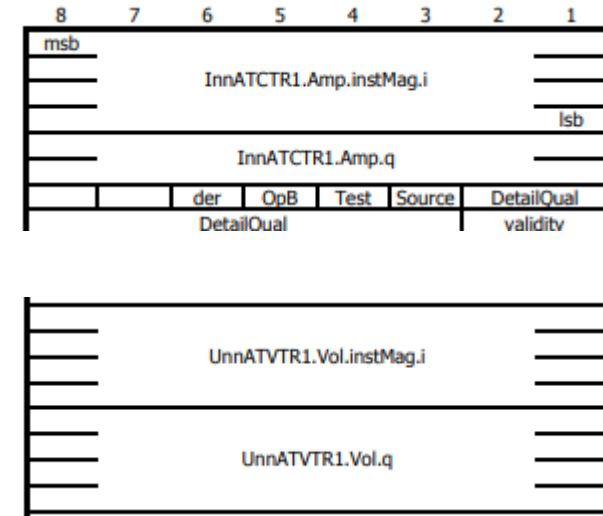
Sampled Values and GOOSE Ethernet Mapping

- Sampled Values and GOOSE data is mapped into Layer 2 Ethernet frames
- Data is wrapped by an Ethernet Header with
 - 6-byte Multicast Destination MAC Address
MAC = 01-0C-CD-04-00-xx for SV
MAC = 01-0C-CD-01-00-xx for GOOSE
 - 6-byte Source MAC Address
 - 4-byte IEEE 802.1Q Tag
 - 2-byte Ethernet type = 88-BA for SV
= 88-B8 for GOOSE
 - 4-byte Frame Check sequence
- 7-byte Preamble and 1-byte Start of Frame are also present on the wire, so total wrapper is **23 bytes**



Sampled Values Data Set

- Sampled Values consist of 8 bytes
 - 4-byte magnitude value for current or voltage
 - 4-byte quality

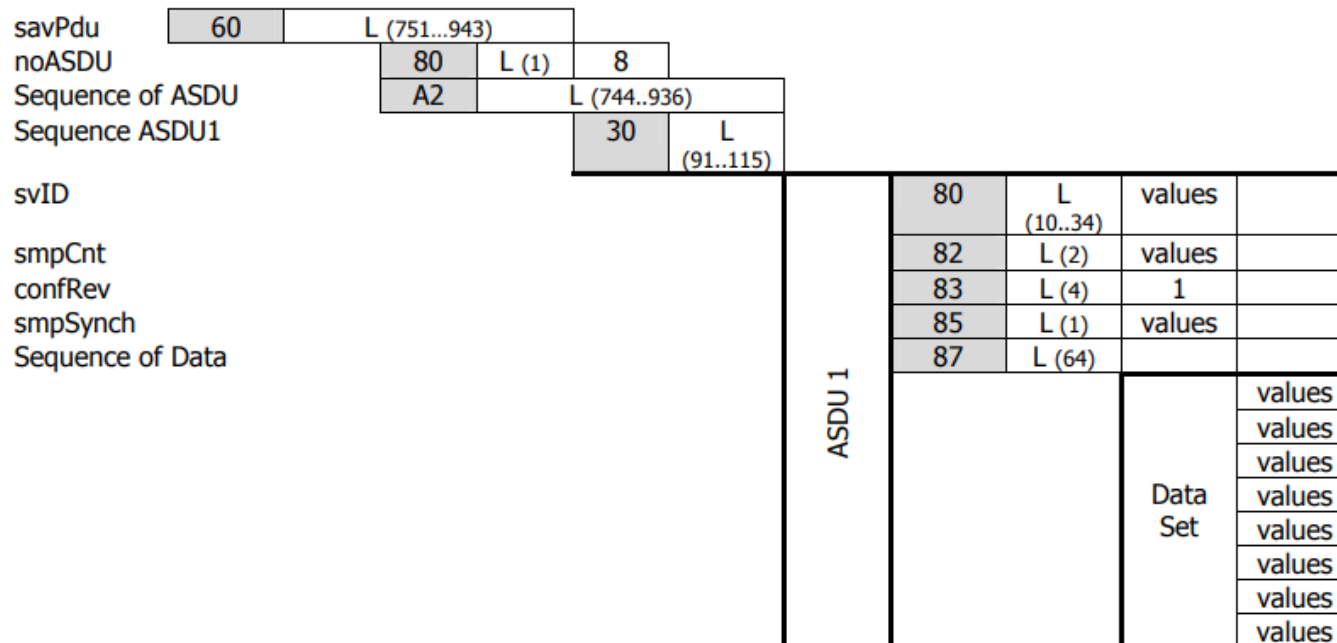


- IEC 61850-9-2LE Implementation Agreement defines transmission of
 - 4 current samples (3 phases and neutral) 32 bytes
 - 4 voltage samples (3 phases and neutral) 32 bytes

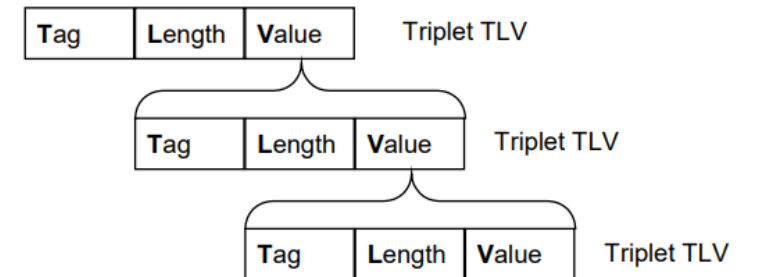
So, there are **64 bytes** per IEC 61850-9-2LE Data Set

Sampled Values Data Set Mapping

- Tag, Length, Value encoding is used, which adds additional **44 bytes** Resulting in **131-byte** SV frames on the wire, assuming 10-byte **svID**



svID can be 10 -34 bytes



Bandwidth Calculations for Sampled Values

- IEC 61850-9-2LE defines 2 sample rates:
 - **80 samples per power cycle** (mostly used)
 - 256 samples per power cycle
- For 80 samples for cycle of 60 Hz system is equal to **4800 samples/s**
- Each sample contains **131 byte** or **1048 bits** on the wire
- $1048 \text{ bits} \times 4800 \text{ samples/s} = 5,030,400 \text{ bits/s} = 4,912.5 \text{ Kbits/s}^1 \sim \mathbf{4.9 \text{ Mb/s}}$
- Thus, one (1) IEC 61850-9-2LE stream takes **4.9 Mb/s**
two (2) IEC 61850-9-2LE streams take **9.8 Mb/s, etc.**

¹ Note that 1Kbit is equal to 1024 bits.

GOOSE Data Set

- GOOSE Data is fully configurable by the User (thus, data size is variable)
- Each data point
 - contains a defined for its data type number of bytes
 - may also include a 3-byte Quality (1 byte padding plus 2 byte quality bit string)
- Data encodings are defined by IEC 61850-8-1, Table A.1
- Like for SV, both data and quality are sent as Tag, Length, Value
- For GOOSE bandwidth calculation, let's use 1 Boolean value & Quality. Per Fixed-length mapping, it will occupy **8 bytes**:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
83	01	FF	84	03			
Tag	Length	Value	Tag	Length	Value		

Tag = 0x83 identifies Boolean data, Tag = 0x84 is assigned for Quality

GOOSE Data Set Mapping

- GOOSE Header is specified by IEC 61850-8-1 Table A.2
- For Fixed-length encoding, it contains the following fields, Tags and Lengths
 - goCBRef 0x80 Length determined by SCL configuration
 - timeAllowedToLive 0x81 5
 - datSet 0x82 Length determined by SCL configuration
 - goID 0x83 Length determined by SCL configuration
 - T 0x84 8
 - stNum 0x85 5
 - sqNum 0x86 5
 - Simulation 0x87 1
 - confRev 0x88 5
 - ndsCom 0x89 1
 - numDatSetEntries 0x8a 5
- For GOOSE bandwidth calculation, let's assume that variable-length fields is **10-bytes**. Then GOOSE Header will contain **87 bytes**

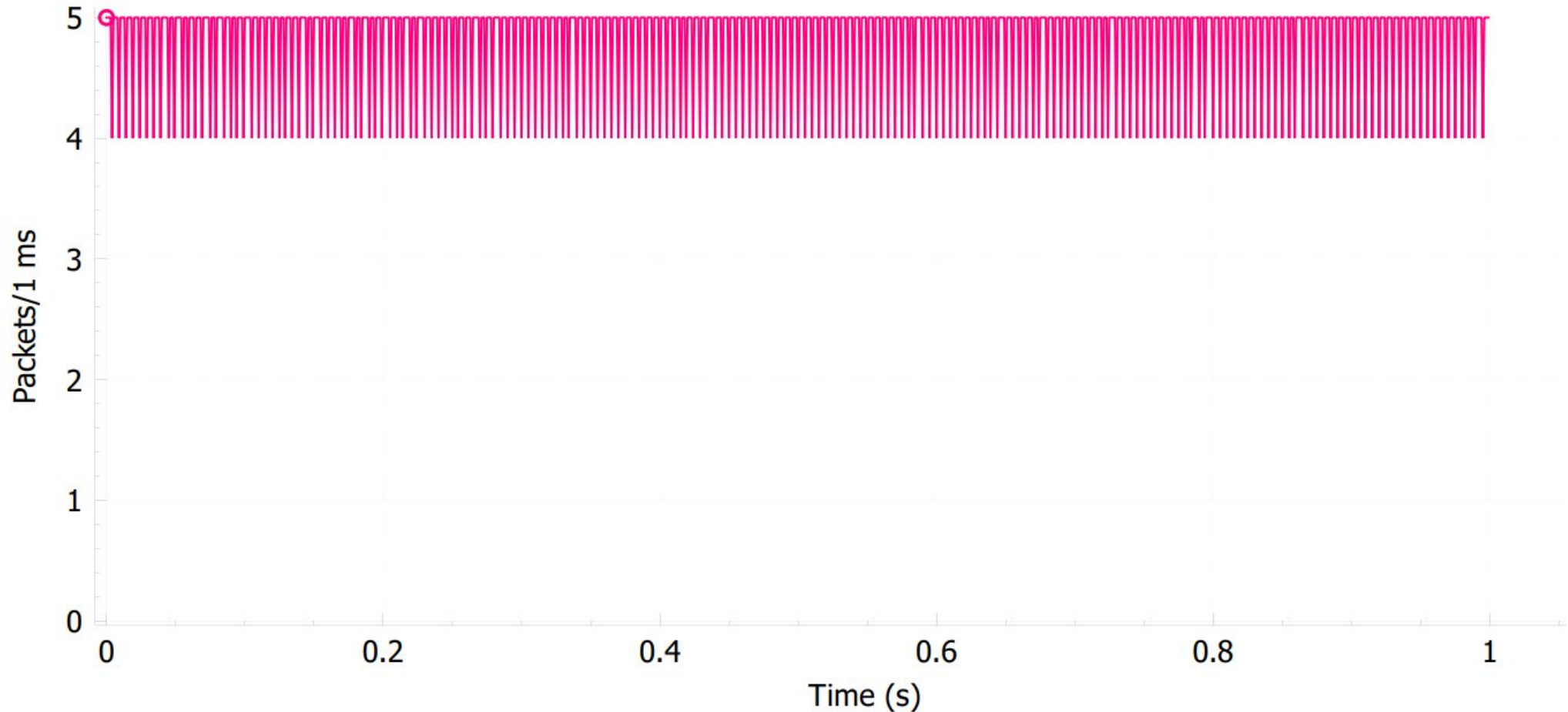
Note that each field is preceded by 1-byte Tag and 1-byte Length

Bandwidth Calculations for GOOSE

- Adding **23-bytes** of Ethernet wrapper to **8-byte** data and **87-byte** GOOSE Header, results in GOOSE frames containing **118 bytes** or **944 bits**.
- GOOSE messages have 2 configurable transmission times¹
 - MaxTime a period for heartbeat-like transmissions, with no state changes
 - MinTime a period for transmissions when a state change occurs
- Assuming MinTime of 1ms, GOOSE peak transmission rate is 944,000¹ bits/s or 921.875 Kbits/s ~ **922 Kbits/s**
- Assuming MaxTime of 10s, GOOSE background transmission rate is **94.4 bits/s**
- Thus, with the above assumptions
 - GOOSE background traffic with no state changes only takes **94.4 bits/s**
 - GOOSE traffic during state changes takes ~ **922 Kbits/s**

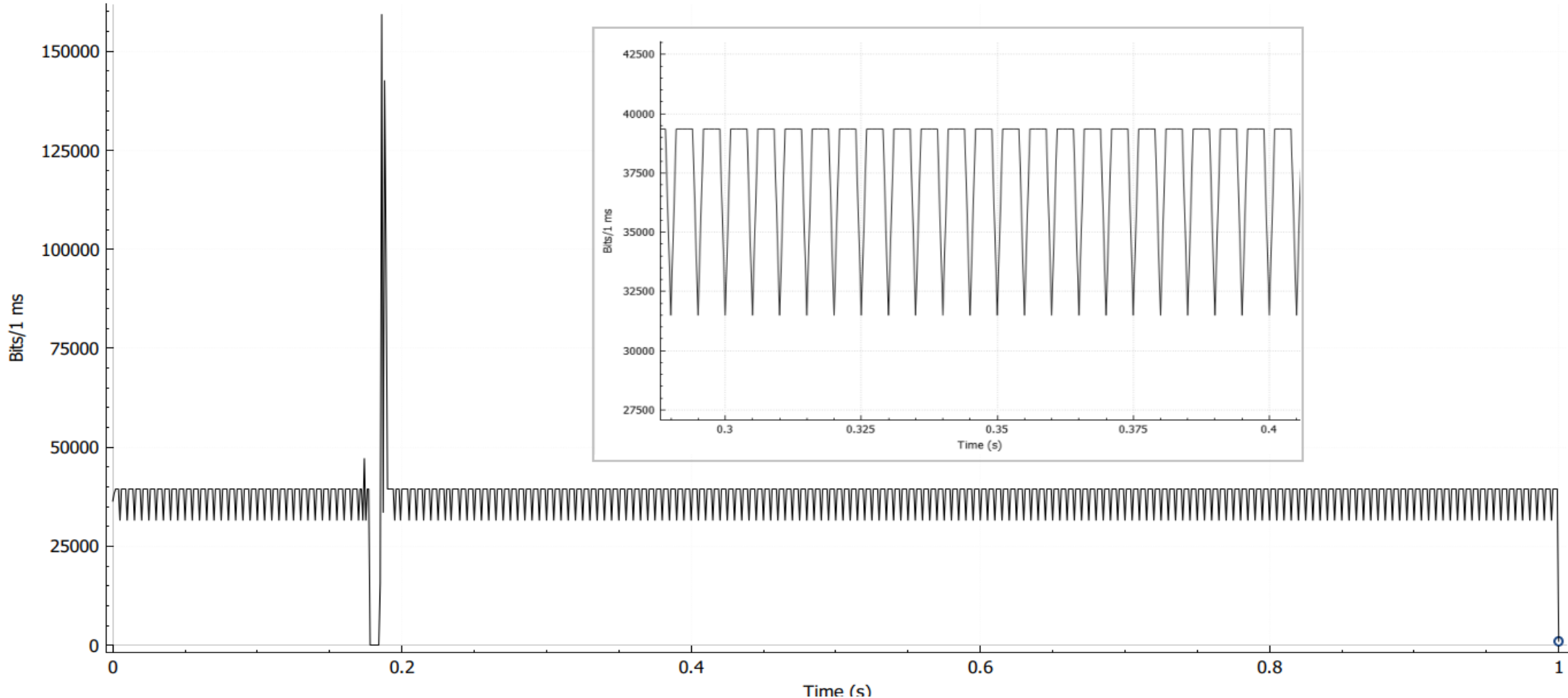
¹ Mechanisms to increase period from MinTime to MaxTime are implementation-specific

Traffic Capture 1: Single 9-2LE stream, 80 s/cycle



One IEC 61850-9-2LE publisher at 80 samples per cycle uses $\sim 5\text{Mb/s}$, same as calculated

Traffic Capture 2: 8 Sampled Values Streams



8 IEC 61850-9-2LE publisher at 80 samples per cycle uses ~40Mb/s, aligns with calculations

GOOSE Data Set

- GOOSE data consists of protection, control, status and alarm digitals
- Breaker status (DPS): 2-bits
- Size of the dataset is variable: Depends on application
- Less is more

```
<DataSet name="PRO_Goose" desc="Protection GOOSE">
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind1" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind1" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind2" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind2" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind3" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind3" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind4" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind4" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind5" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind5" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="SMP" lnClass="PTRC" lnInst="1" doName="Op" daName="general" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="SMP" lnClass="PTRC" lnInst="1" doName="Op" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="PROT" prefix="CC" lnClass="RBRF" lnInst="1" doName="OpEx" daName="general" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="PROT" prefix="CC" lnClass="RBRF" lnInst="1" doName="OpEx" daName="q" fc="ST" />
</DataSet>
```

```
<DataSet name="GOOSE_Test" desc="GOOSE Test Dataset">
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind1" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind1" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind2" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind2" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind3" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind3" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind4" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind4" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind5" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="MON" prefix="SP16" lnClass="GAPC" lnInst="1" doName="Ind5" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="SMP" lnClass="PTRC" lnInst="1" doName="Op" daName="general" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="SMP" lnClass="PTRC" lnInst="1" doName="Op" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="SMP" lnClass="PTRC" lnInst="1" doName="Str" daName="general" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="SMP" lnClass="PTRC" lnInst="1" doName="Str" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="PROT" prefix="CC" lnClass="RBRF" lnInst="1" doName="OpEx" daName="general" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="PROT" prefix="CC" lnClass="RBRF" lnInst="1" doName="OpEx" daName="q" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="PROT" prefix="CC" lnClass="RBRF" lnInst="1" doName="OpIn" daName="general" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="PROT" prefix="CC" lnClass="RBRF" lnInst="1" doName="OpIn" daName="q" fc="ST" />
</DataSet>
```

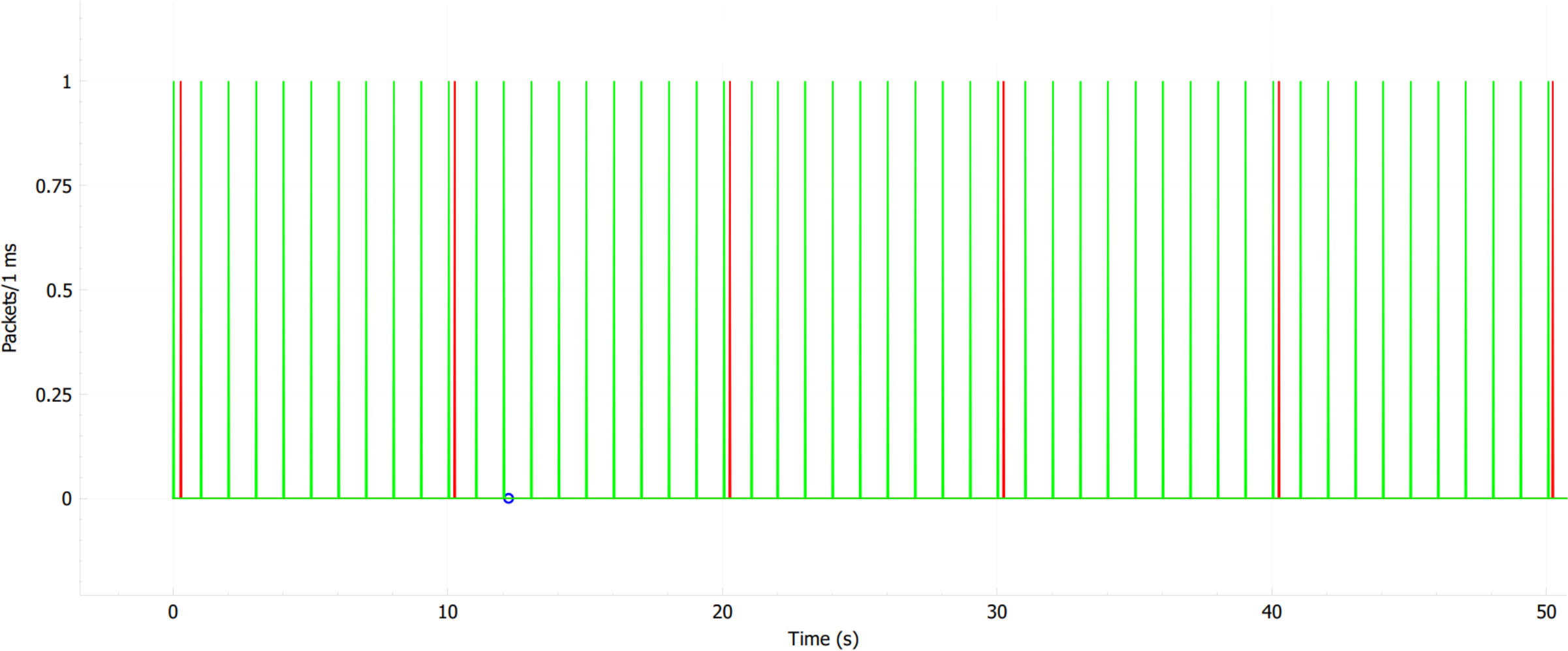
```
<DataSet name="Bkr_POS" desc="Breaker Status">
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="S" lnClass="XCBR" lnInst="1" doName="Pos" daName="stVal" fc="ST" />
  <FCDA ldInst="CTRL" prefix="S" lnClass="XCBR" lnInst="1" doName="Pos" daName="q" fc="ST" />
</DataSet>
```

GOOSE Data Model

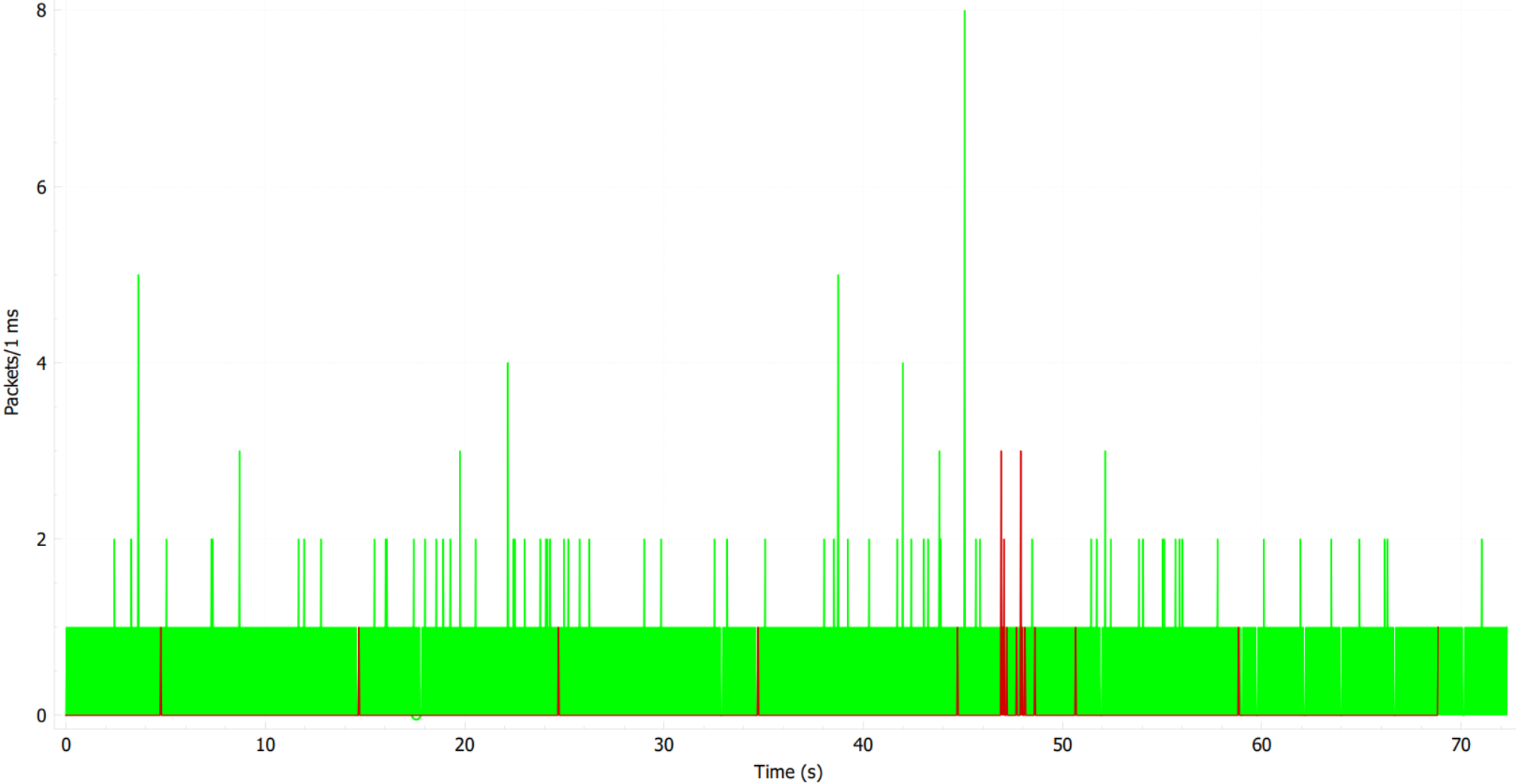
- Logical Device
 - CTRL
- Logical Node
 - XCBR
- Data Object
 - Pos
- Data Attribute
 - stVal

```
> Frame 15455: 179 bytes on wire (1432 bits), 179 bytes captured (1432 bits) on interface \Device\NPF...
  Ethernet II, Src: [REDACTED] (c2), Dst: Iec-Tc57_01:00:09 (01:0c:cd:01:00:09)
    > Destination: Iec-Tc57_01:00:09 (01:0c:cd:01:00:09)
    > Source: [REDACTED] (c2)
    Type: IEC 61850/GOOSE (0x88b8)
  GOOSE
    APPID: 0x3009 (12297)
    Length: 165
    Reserved 1: 0x0000 (0)
      0... .. = Simulated: False
    Reserved 2: 0x0000 (0)
    goosePdu
      gocbRef: [REDACTED]
      timeAllowedtoLive: 11000
      datSet: [REDACTED]
      goID: [REDACTED]
      t: Mar 1, 2023 17:37:40.960798740 UTC
      stNum: 69
      sqNum: 708
      simulation: False
      confRev: 100
      ndsCom: False
      numDatSetEntries: 4
    allData: 4 items
      Data: bit-string (4)
        Padding: 6
        bit-string: 00
      Data: bit-string (4)
        Padding: 3
        bit-string: 4020
      Data: bit-string (4)
        Padding: 6
        bit-string: 00
      Data: bit-string (4)
        Padding: 3
        bit-string: 4020
  [BER encoded protocol, to see BER internal fields set protocol BER preferences]
```

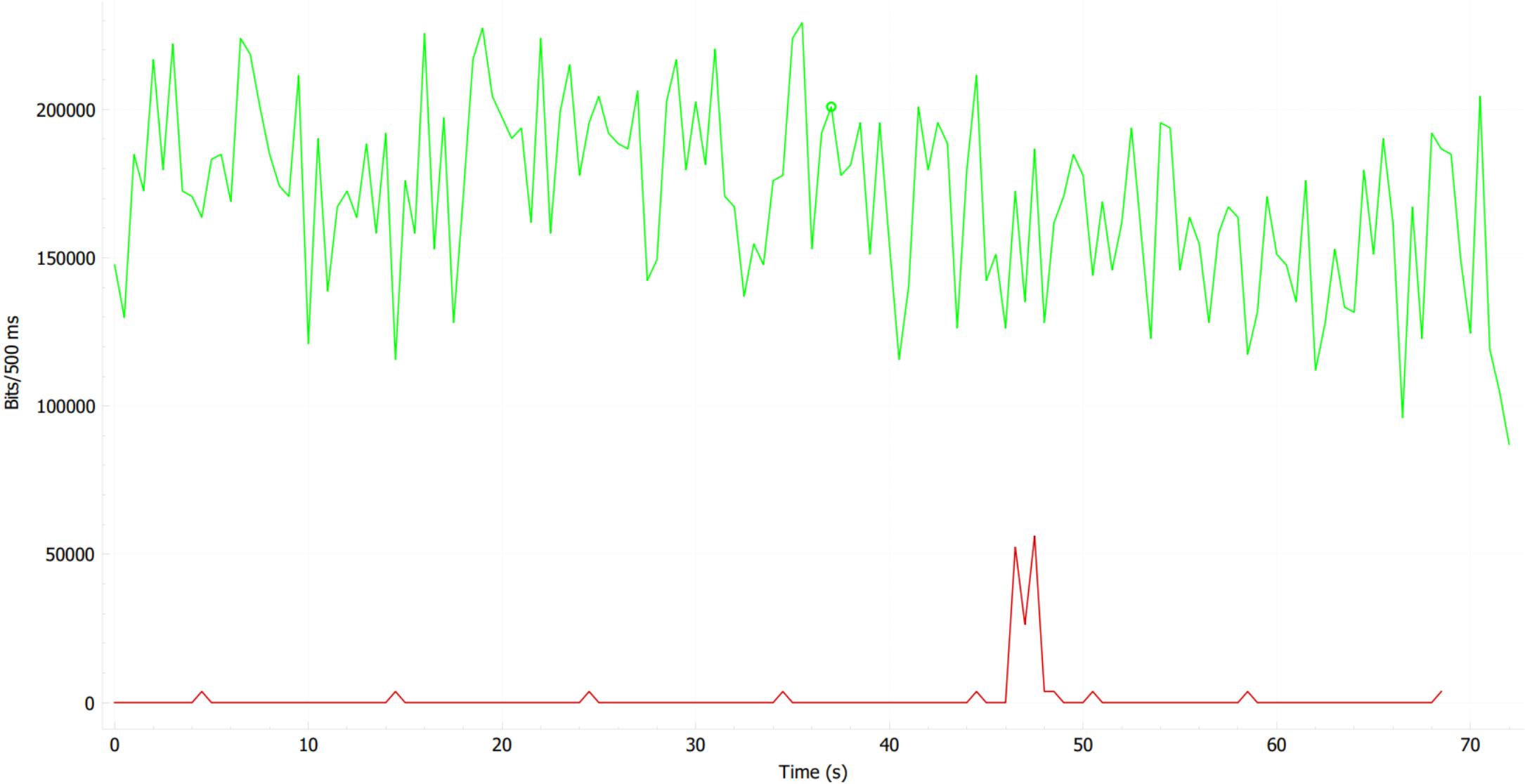
Traffic Capture 3: Two GOOSE publishers



Traffic Capture 4: GOOSE State Change



Traffic Capture 5: Bandwidth on State Change



Bandwidth Calculations for GOOSE Captures

- 2 different frames every 10 sec from Publisher 1, 2 GOOSE messages
 - Long frame has 469 bytes, and short frame has 202 bytes
 - Steady state transmission: $(469 \times 8) + (202 \times 8) / 10\text{sec} = \mathbf{536.8 \text{ bits/s}}$
 - Event Transmission: over 50 frames in 5 seconds
 - Initial event: ~ 30 short frames in 1 sec: $202 \times 30 \times 8 = \mathbf{48,480 \text{ bits/s}}$
- 400 frames per sec from Publisher 2, 2 GOOSE messages
 - ~ 220 bytes per frame: $220 \text{ bytes} \times 8 \text{ bits} \times 400 \text{ s}^{-1} = \mathbf{704,000 \text{ bits/s}}$
 - Event transmission is indistinguishable from steady state traffic

Considerations on efficient bandwidth utilization

- Once communication bandwidth requirement was assessed and met, utilization of the available bandwidth can be improved.
- For stable background traffic pattern, IEDs with regular evenly spaced data transmissions should be selected
- Communication devices (Ethernet switches) selected should be capable of handling both background and expected during events burst traffic
- Communication devices should also have robust forwarding that minimizes unnecessary data broadcasting for MAC address learning
- Communication devices can also be configured for multicast filtering, rate limiting, as well as VLANs for traffic segregation

Conclusions

- Knowing theoretically and practically how much bandwidth is actually used for data exchange in normal conditions and during a state change is an important consideration for proper design and optimization of Ethernet communication infrastructure, including selection of suitable com devices
- Bandwidth utilization by SV is 4.9Mbits/s per IEC 61850-9-2LE stream
- Bandwidth utilization by GOOSE depends on application, calculated example showed ~95bits/s in normal state and 922Kbits/s during an event
- To reduce bandwidth usage and use available bandwidth efficiently mindful GOOSE engineering, IED and communication device selections are the key.

Thank you !