

6th HPC Café

06.06.2025



Agenda HPC Café – 06.06.2025

1. HPC Job Performance Monitoring
2. User Support through Voucher Projects
3. Questions and Answers

2. User Support through Voucher Projects



User Support Structures

1. Workshops/Course

- Every semester: HPC introduction and advanced course

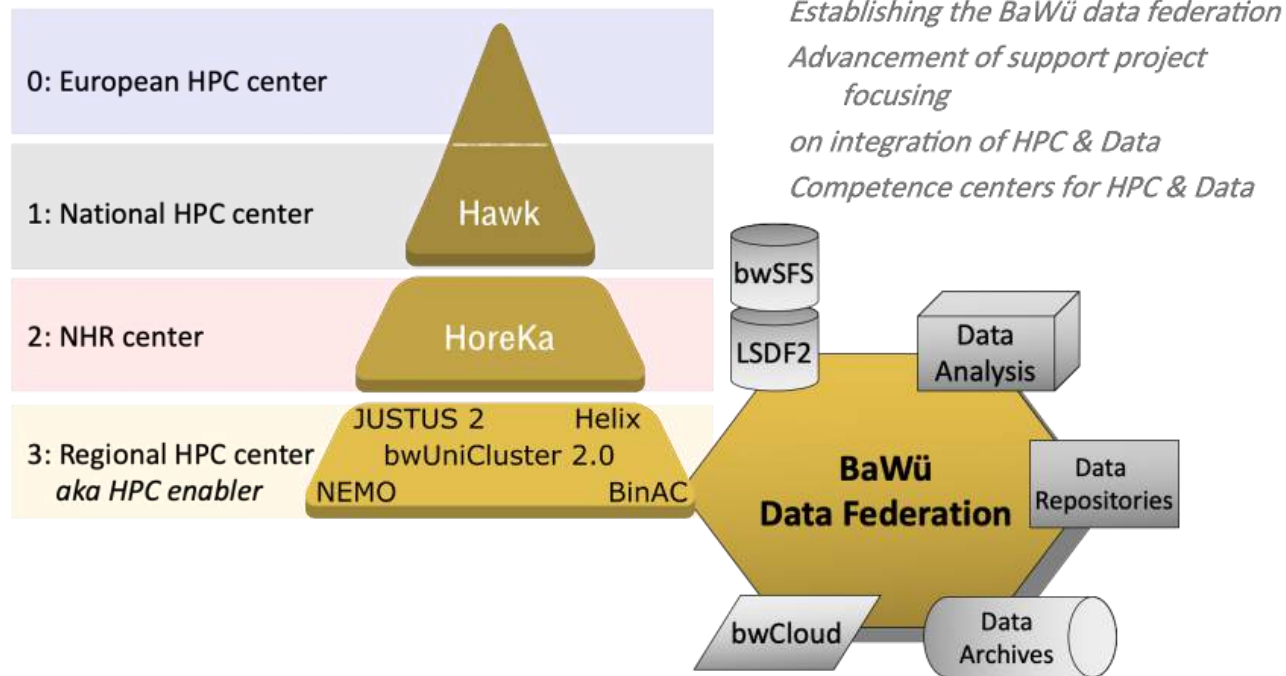
2. Wikis

- <https://www.nhr.kit.edu/userdocs>
- <https://wiki.bwhpc.de>

3. Support projects

- Voucher projects (-> NHR)
- Tiger team projects (-> bwHPC)

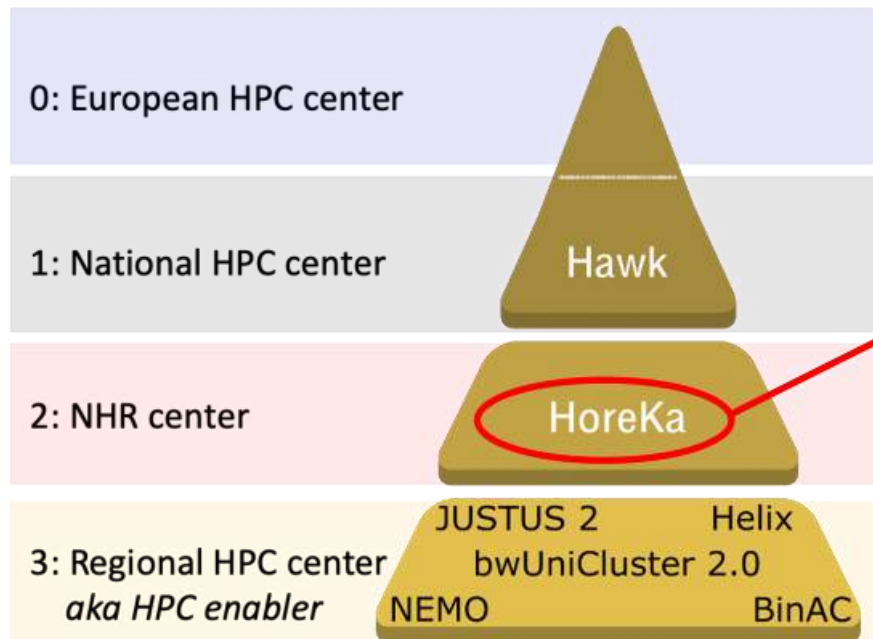
bwHPC: Baden-Württemberg's implementation strategy for HPC, Data Intensive Computing & Large Scale Scientific Data Management



NHR – Nation High Performance Computing

HPC in Baden-Württemberg

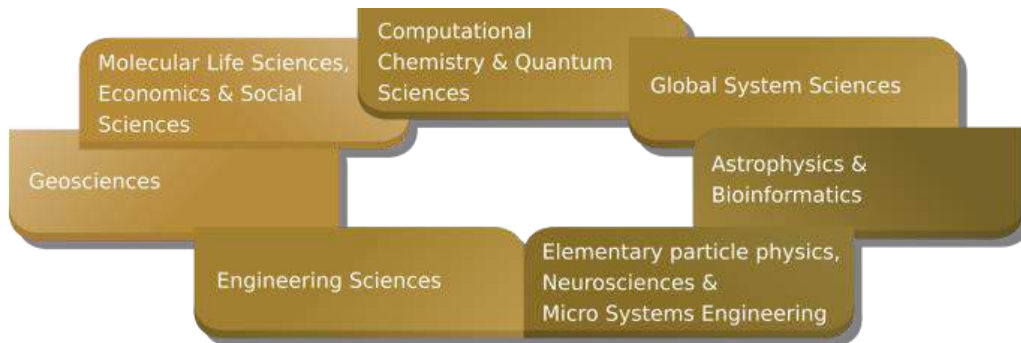
National HPC at Tier 2



Centers	Universities
NHR4CES@RWTH	RWTH Aachen
NHR4CES@TUDa	TU Darmstadt
NHR@FAU	Univ. Nürnberg-Erlangen
NHR@Göttingen	GWVG + Univ. Göttingen
NHR@KIT	KIT
NHR@TUD	TU Dresden
PC2	Univ. Paderborn
NHR@SW	Univ. Frankfurt a.M., Mainz, Kaiserslautern- Landau, Mainz, Saarland

bwHPC: How to get support?

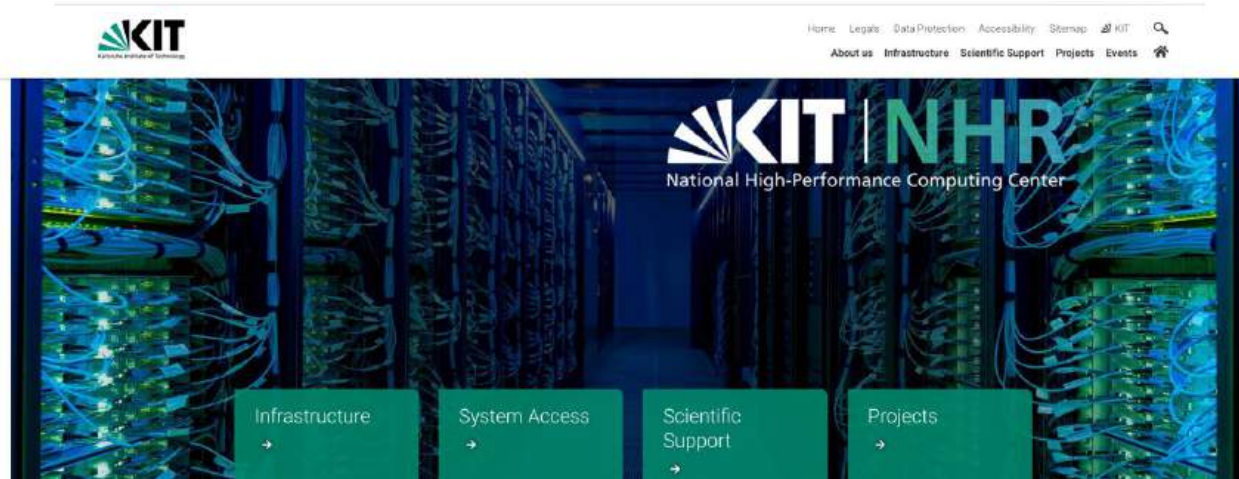
- User support projects:
 - bwHPC-S5 & bwRSE4HPC
- bwHPC-S5:
 - Organized by competence centers + cross-sectional support team
 - bwSupportPortal + Wiki + courses
 - Tiger team projects
- bwRSE4HPC:
 - cf. talk



NHR: How to get support?

■ Website, <https://www.nhr.kit.edu>

■ Resources, Documentation, Consulting, Training, Support ...



■ Voucher Projects

via. NHR support teams (e.g. SSPE) & bwRSE4HPC

3. Questions and Answers



Questions and Answers

- Did you every apply for a Voucher / Tiger Team project?

- Did you every attend a course?

- Did you every use our online documentation?
 - Or used different documentation sources?



Introduction to the Job Performance Monitoring JobMon at NHR@KIT

Holger Obermaier | 6. June 2025


- 1. JobMon - Overview**
- 2. Demo Application Workloads**
- 3. Login Page**
- 4. Welcome Page**
- 5. Jobs page**
- 6. Spider Plot**
- 7. Per job page**
- 8. Roofline Plot**

JobMon

History

- Started as a research project as part of J. Schmitt's Bachelor's thesis in 2021/2022
- Contributions from employees (B. Bytyqi, H. Obermaier) and student assistants (D. Schild, J. Schmitt, F. Wedler)
- Basis for D. Schild's master's thesis in 2024/2025

Overview

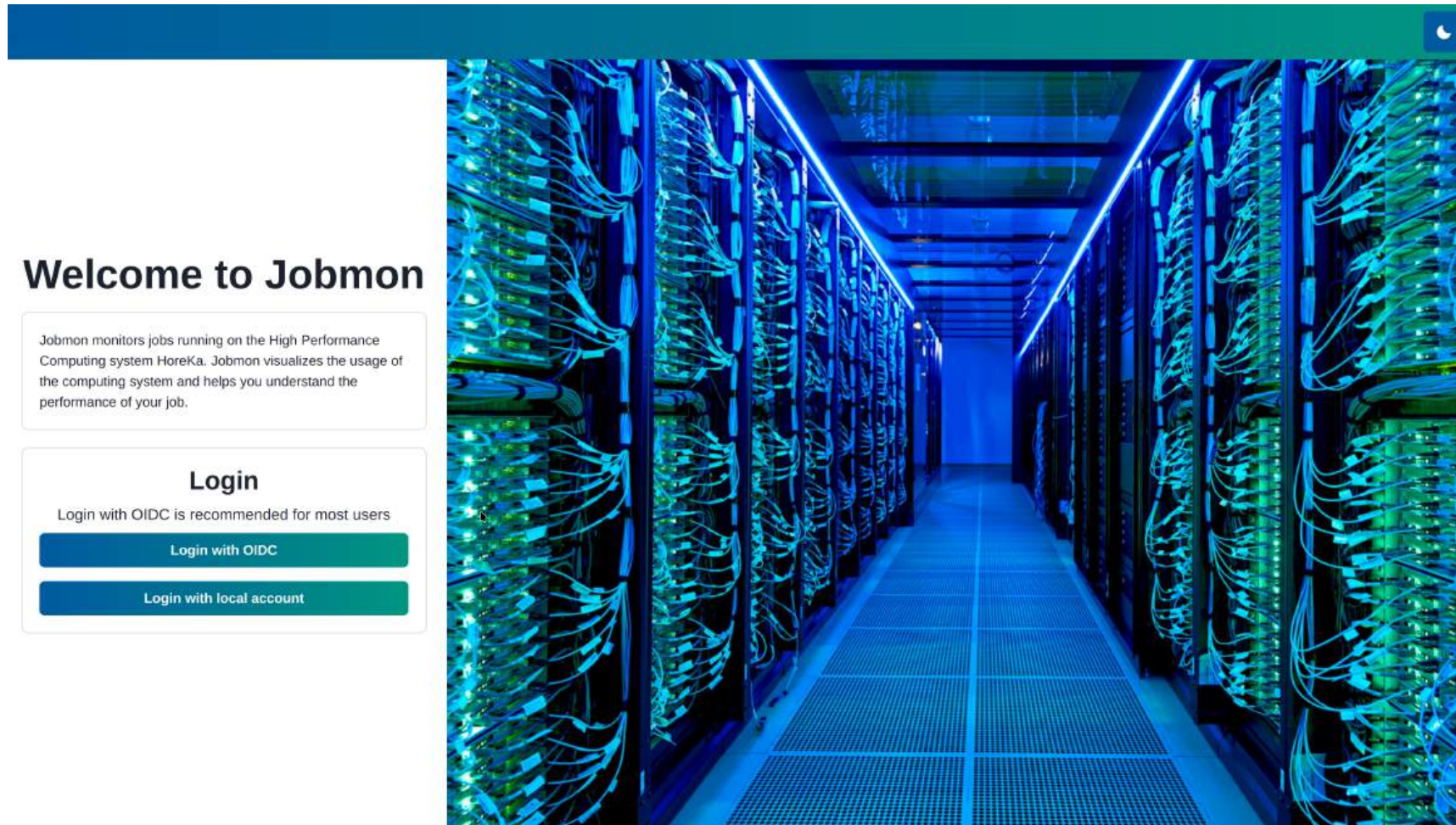
- Web Service: JobMon 
- Access with HoreKa user account
- Same network restrictions apply as for HoreKa (VPN)
- Visualizes performance metrics
- Aggregates performance metrics for improved clarity
- Metrics are continuously collected on cluster nodes
- Metrics are stored \Rightarrow Performance changes over time can be tracked.

Demo Application Workloads



Categories


- *Compute Bound*
 - Performance is limited by floating point performance
 - Benchmark *DGEMM*[↗](#) performs a matrix matrix multiplication
- *Memory bound*
 - Performance is limited by memory bandwidth
 - Benchmark *Stream*[↗](#) / *BabelStream*[↗](#) performs vector computations
 - Benchmark *HPCG* performs the conjugate gradients method with a sparse matrix
- *Communication bound*
 - Performance is limited by interconnect bandwidth or latency
 - Benchmark *OSU Micro-Benchmarks*[↗](#) performs MPI point to point communication
- *IO bound*
 - Performance is limited by filesystem throughput or metadata rate
 - Benchmark *IOR*[↗](#) performs parallel IO operations



Login page



Welcome Page








Welcome to Jobmon

Jobmon monitors jobs running on the High Performance Computing system HoreKa. Jobmon visualizes the usage of the computing system and helps you understand the performance of your job.

Your Activities



Running jobs

2


Jobs in the last 24 hours

5

Jobs in the last week

5


Your account



Username: bq0742

Role: user


Your jobs



This system monitors jobs. You can take a look at them in by using on the link below.

Your Jobs

Need Help?



You can find further information about jobmon by using the link below.

Further Information



Jobs page


⇒ Overview of the personal HoreKa batch jobs



Filter options

- Batch partition
- Number of nodes or GPUs
- Running or finished jobs
- Job execution time
- Exit code ⇒ successful or non-successful job run
- Tags assigned to the job ⇒ group jobs by your needs


Jobs page - Filter






Search user/job 





Users:


Partitions: All 


From: 







Nb. nodes 


Exit code:

Status: All 

To: 






Nb. GPUs 

Choose available tags... 

Reset

Apply

Jobs per page: 

Sort by:  

Compact view: ☒

Jobs page - Spider Plot

Spider Plot

- Plot that characterizes the overall job performance
- High level view on performance limitations
- Allows categorization as:
 - IO bound
 - Memory bound
 - Compute bound
 - Communication bound
- Average and maximum values for the metrics:
 - CPU floating point operations per second
 - CPU memory bandwidth
 - GPFS IO operations
 - GPFS metadata operations
 - GPU utilization
 - GPU memory utilization
 - InfiniBand bandwidth

Spider Plot - Compute Bound Workl. (cpuonly)

Id: **3015837**

User: bq0742 (hk-project-scs)

Partition: cpuonly

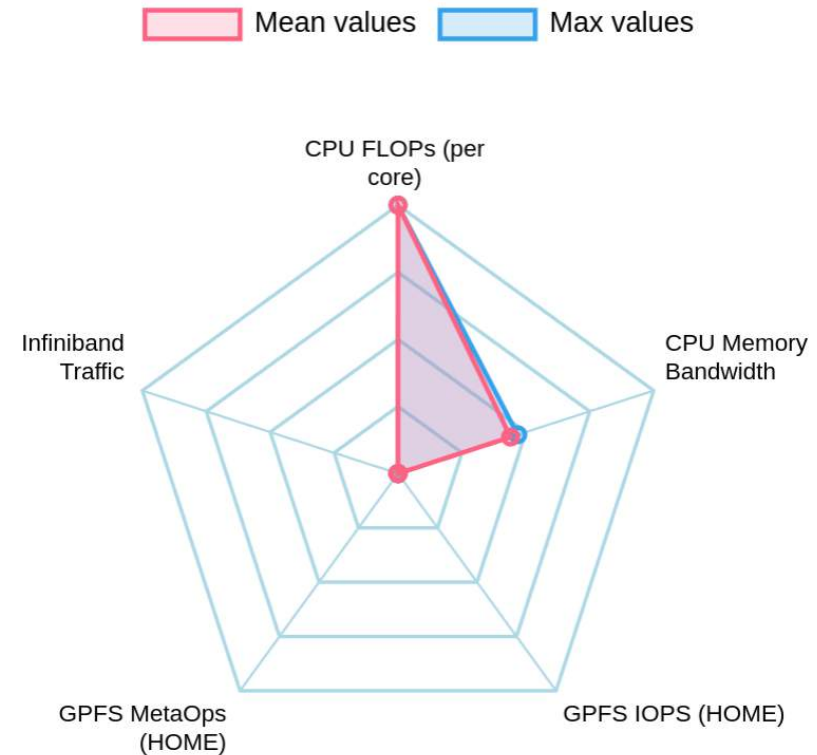
Name: cpu.dgemm

Nodes: 1

Start: 27.3.2025, 16:25:13

End: 27.3.2025, 17:21:28

Exit code: 0



Spider Plot - Memory Bound Workl. (cpuonly)

Id: **3015838**

User: bq0742 (hk-project-scs)

Partition: cpuonly

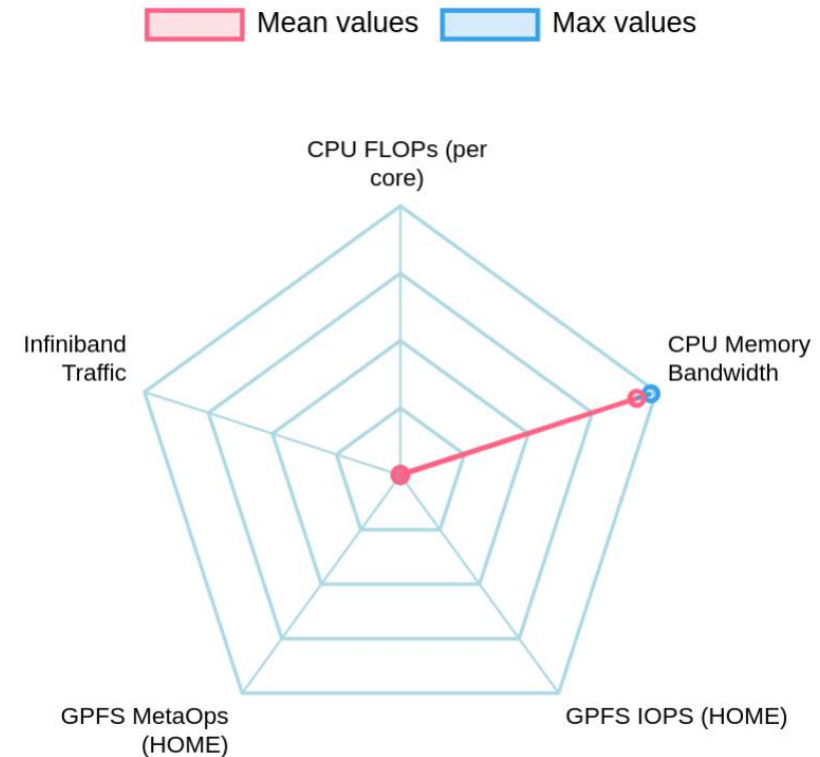
Name: cpu.stream

Nodes: 1

Start: 27.3.2025, 16:25:13

End: 27.3.2025, 17:27:08

Exit code: 0



Spider Plot - Communication Bound Workl. (cpuonly)

Id: **3019847**

User: bq0742 (hk-project-scs)

Partition: cpuonly

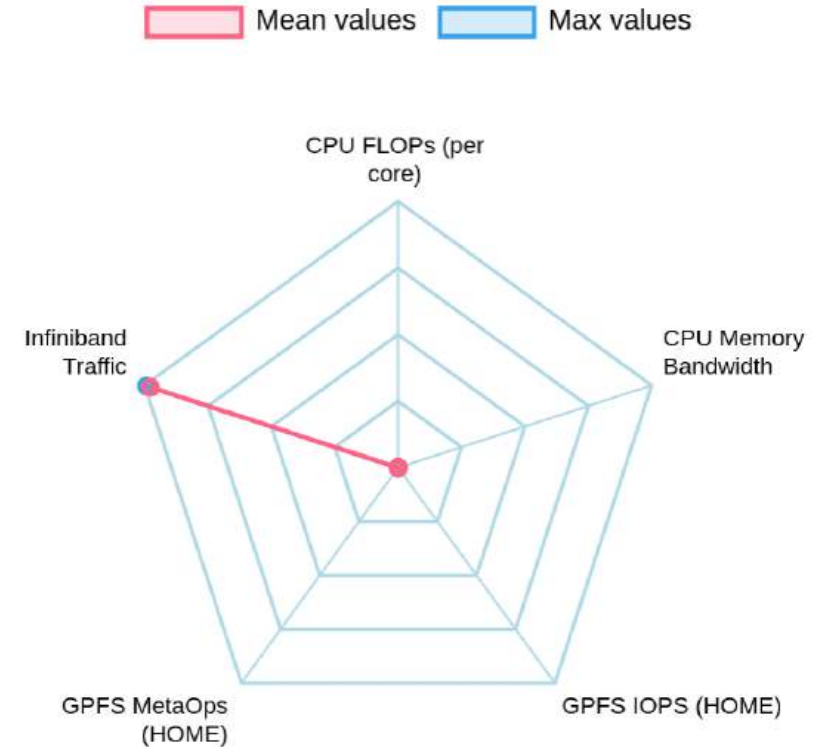
Name: cpu.omb,mpi,node

Nodes: 2

Start: 28.3.2025, 15:30:33

End: 28.3.2025, 16:28:00

Exit code: **0**



Spider Plot - Compute Bound Workl. (accelerated)

Id: **3015828**

User: bq0742 (hk-project-scs)

Partition: accelerated

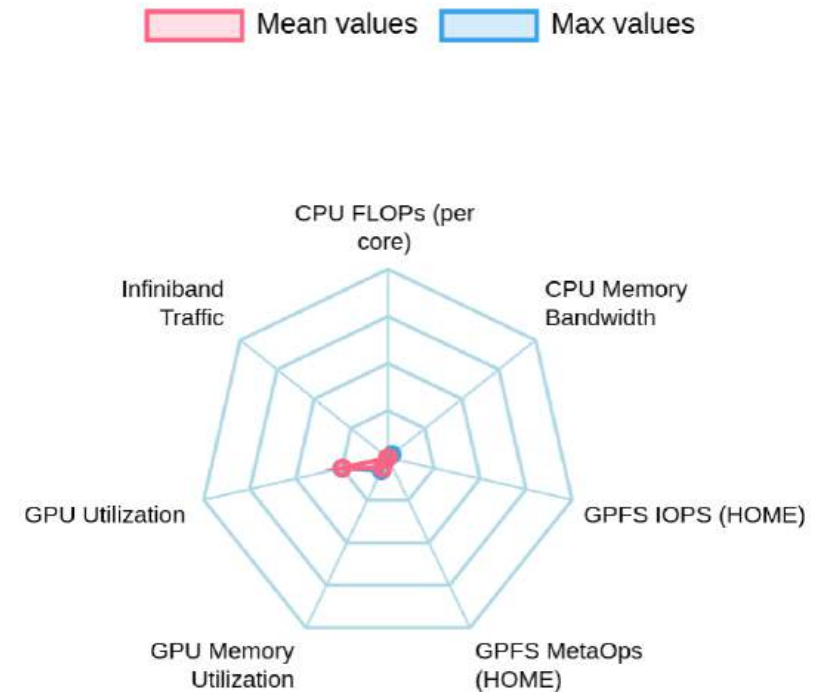
Name: gpu.dgemm

Nodes: 1 GPUs: 4

Start: 26.3.2025, 13:58:52

End: 26.3.2025, 14:57:36

Exit code: 0



Spider Plot - Memory Bound Workl. (accelerated)

Id: **3013359**

User: bq0742 (hk-project-scs)

Partition: accelerated

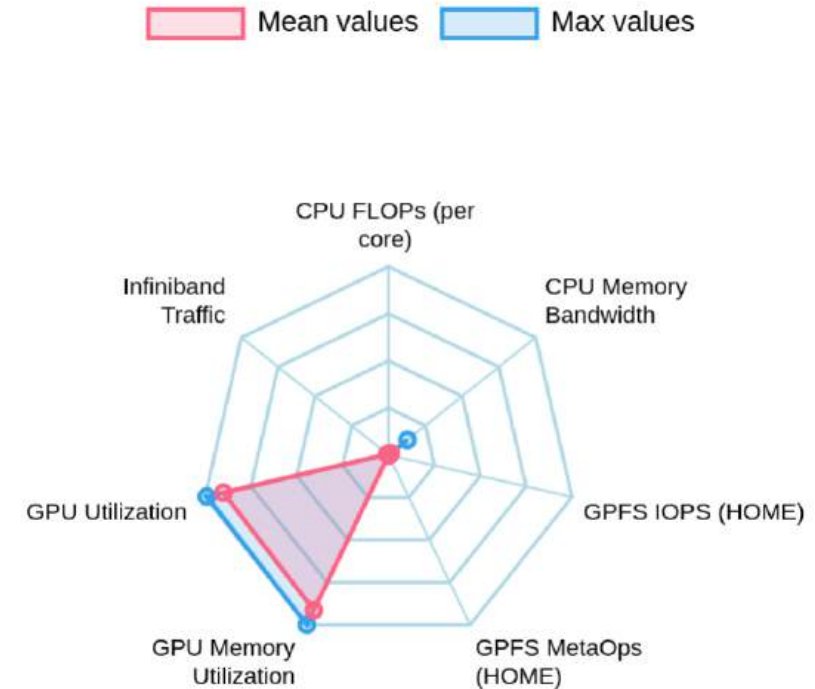
Name: gpu.hpcg,apptainer

Nodes: 1 GPUs: 4

Start: 25.3.2025, 11:56:12

End: 25.3.2025, 13:02:09

Exit code: **0**



Spider Plot - Comm. Bound Workl. (accelerated)

Id: **3016899**

User: bq0742 (hk-project-scs)

Partition: accelerated

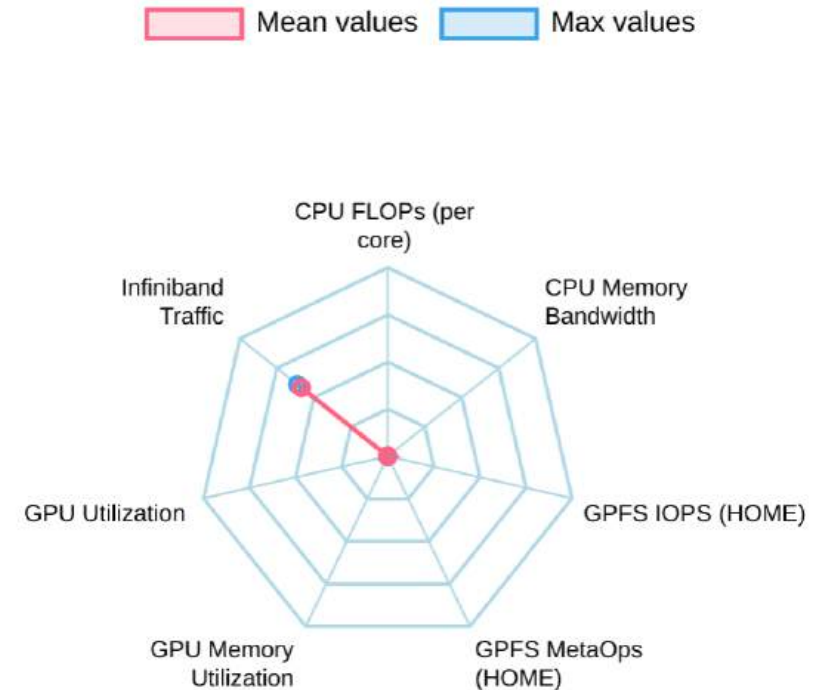
Name: gpu.osu,apptainer

Nodes: 2 GPUs: 2

Start: 27.3.2025, 10:36:13

End: 27.3.2025, 10:49:12

Exit code: **0**



Per job page

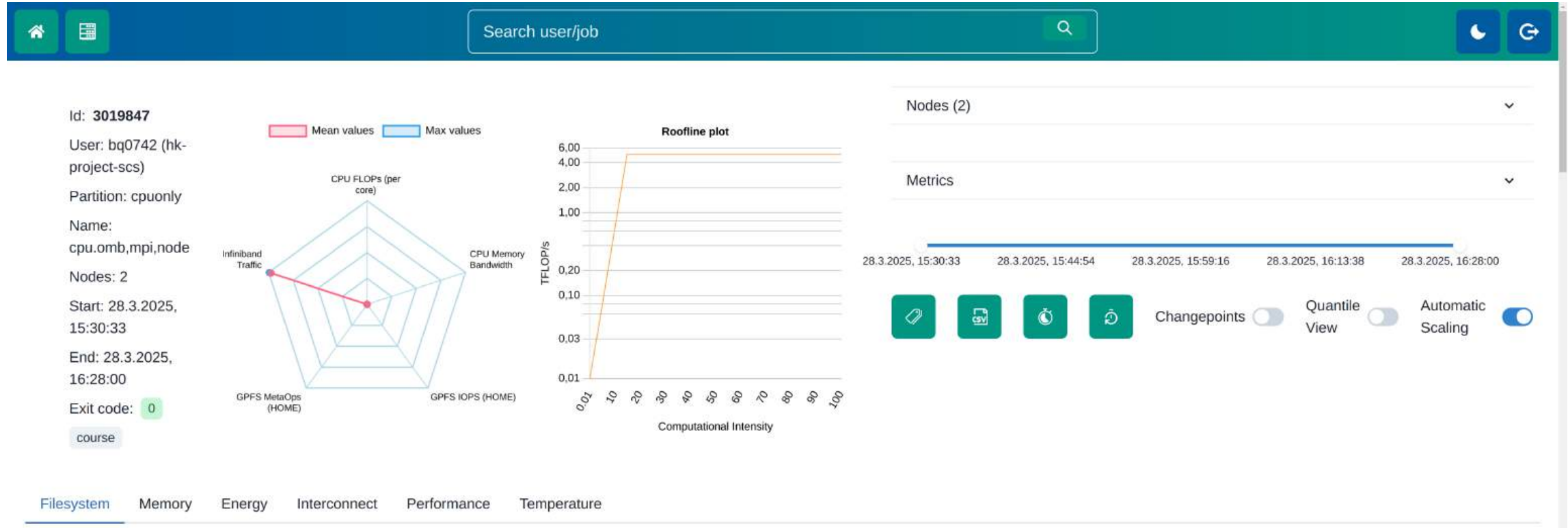
Configuration options

- Select subset of nodes
- Select time range
- Select subset of metrics
- Set tags \Rightarrow Mark jobs for quick access

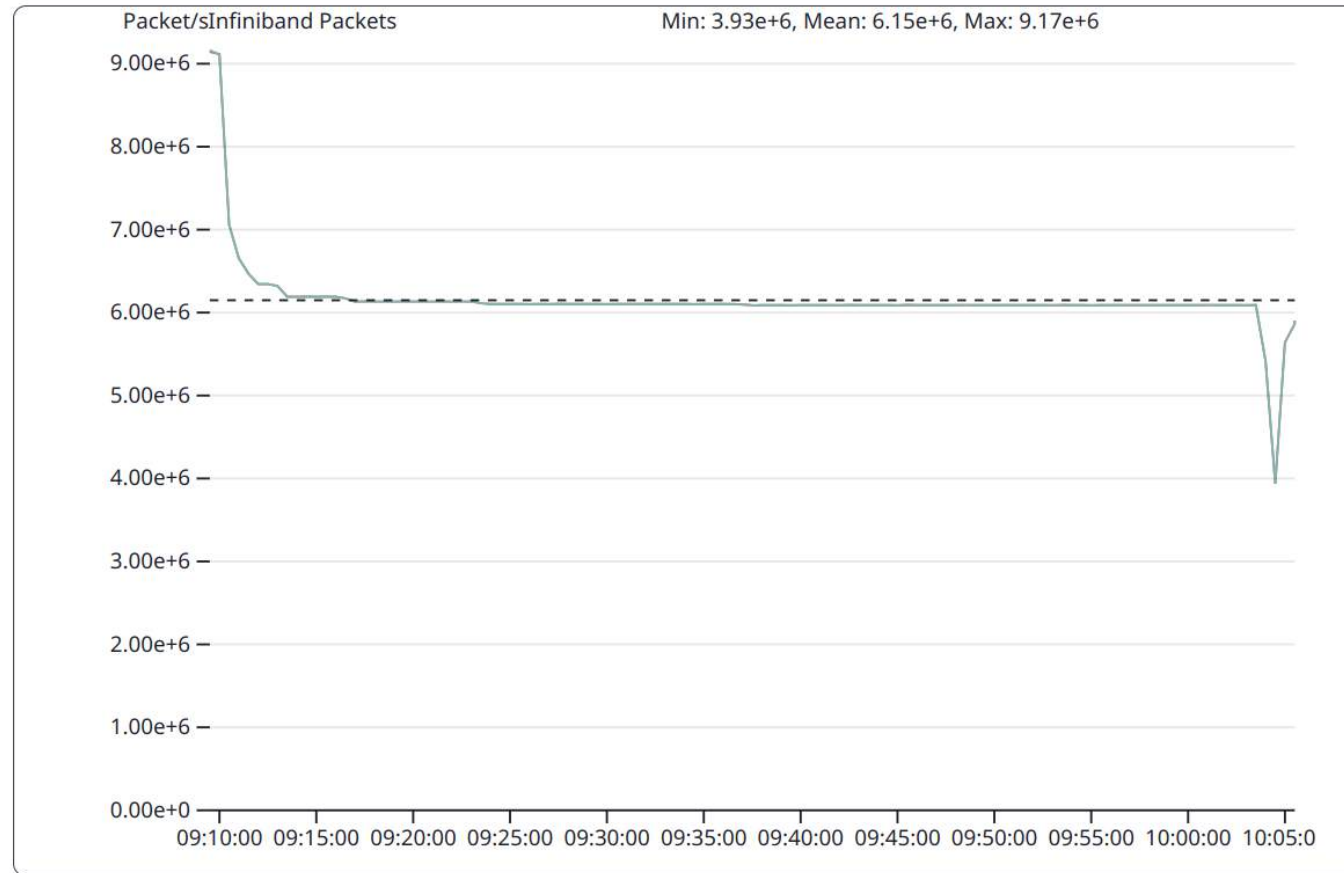
Toggles

- *Automatic Scaling* \Rightarrow Select y-axis limits depending on metrics limits
- *Quantile View* \Rightarrow Only plot quantiles
- *Changepoints* \Rightarrow Identify times where performance metric behavior changes

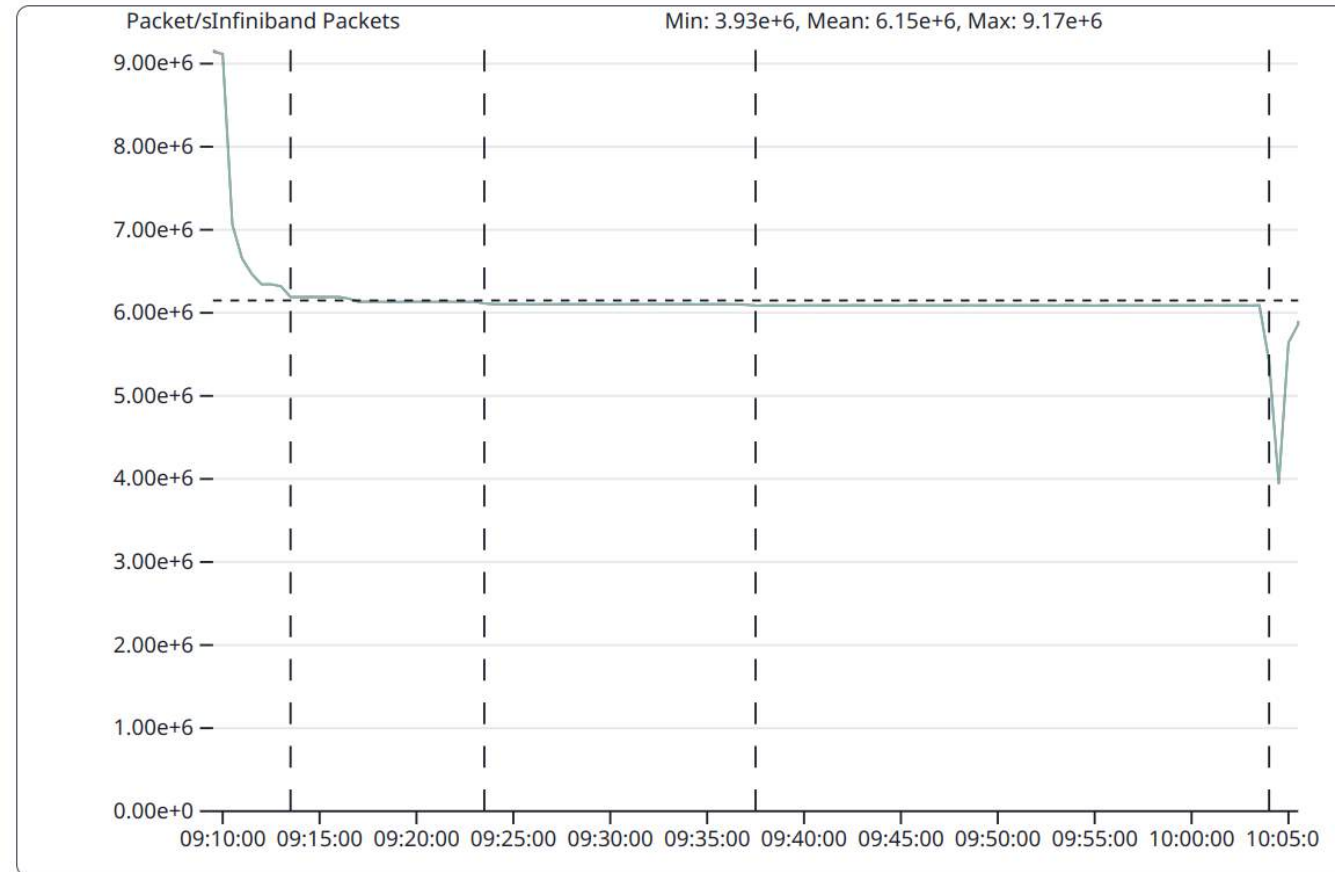
Per job page - Options, Toggles, ...



Toggle: Changepoints Off - Infiniband Packets



Toggle: Changepoints On - Infiniband Packets



Toggle: Changepoints - Insight

Insight

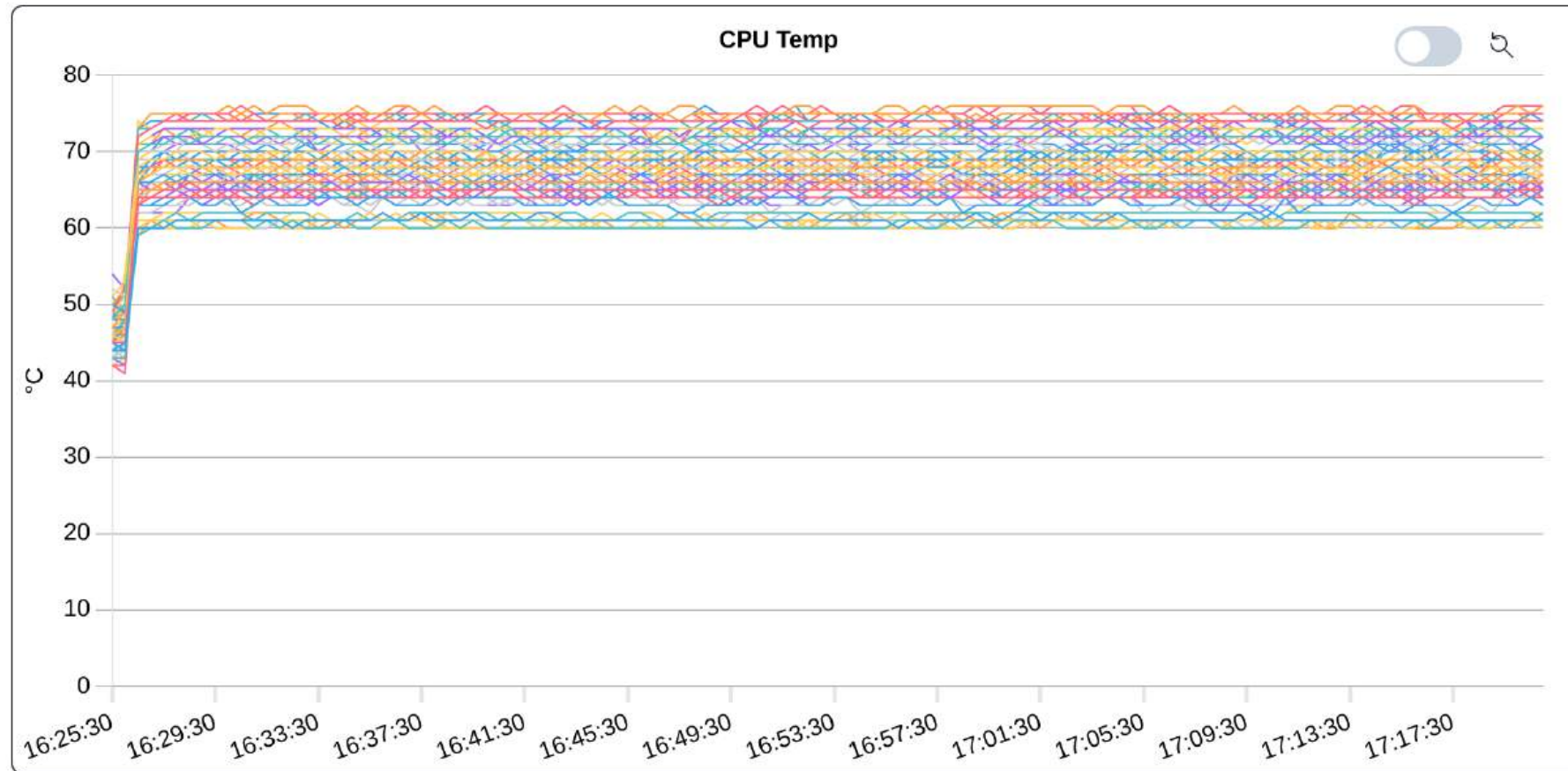
- OSU Micro-Benchmark performs communication with increasing message size
- Message size influences performance
⇒ Visible as steps in the graph
- Steps can be detected by *changepoint algorithm*
- *Changepoints* marked by vertical lines

Per Job Page - Toggle: Quantile View

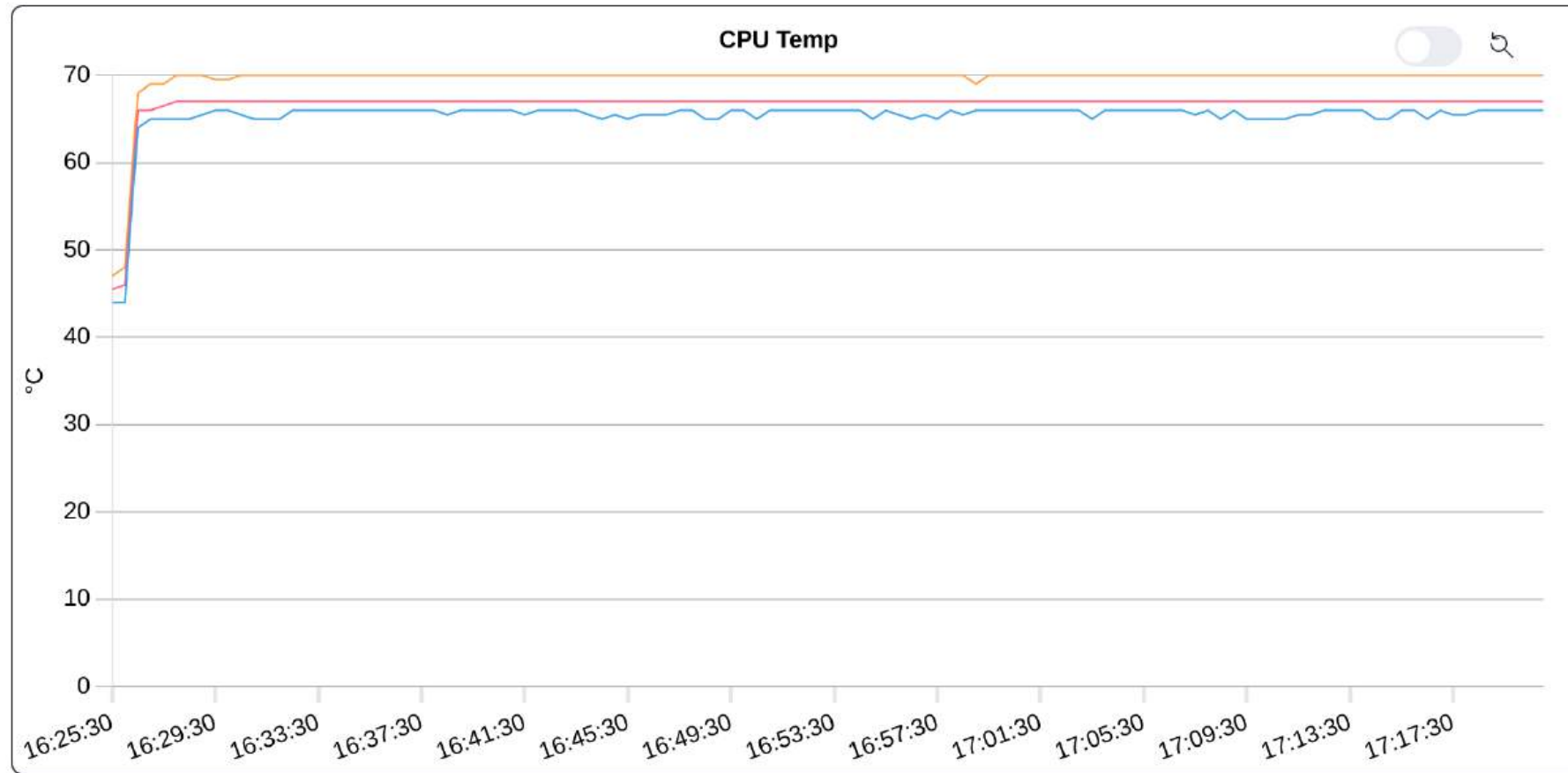
Quantile View

- Improve clarity when too many graphs are displayed in one diagram
- Only three graphs (25% / 50% / 75% Quantile = Quartiles) are drawn
- 25% Quantile \Rightarrow 25% of the measured values are below this graph
- 50% Quantile \Rightarrow Median
- Difference between upper and lower Quantile \Rightarrow Measure for the spread of the metrics

Toggle: Quantile View Off - CPU Temperature



Toggle: Quantile View On - CPU Temperature

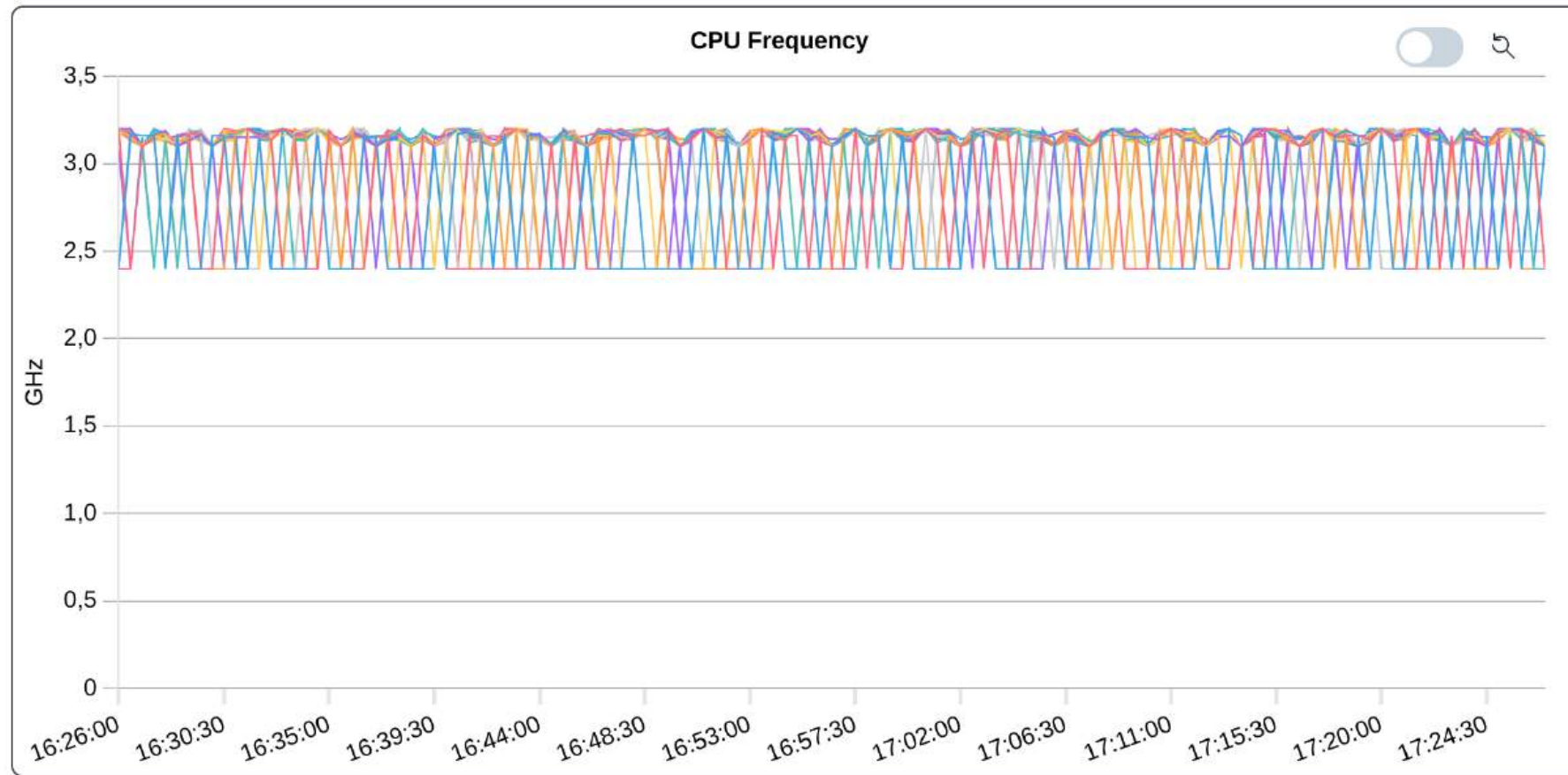


Quantile View - Insight

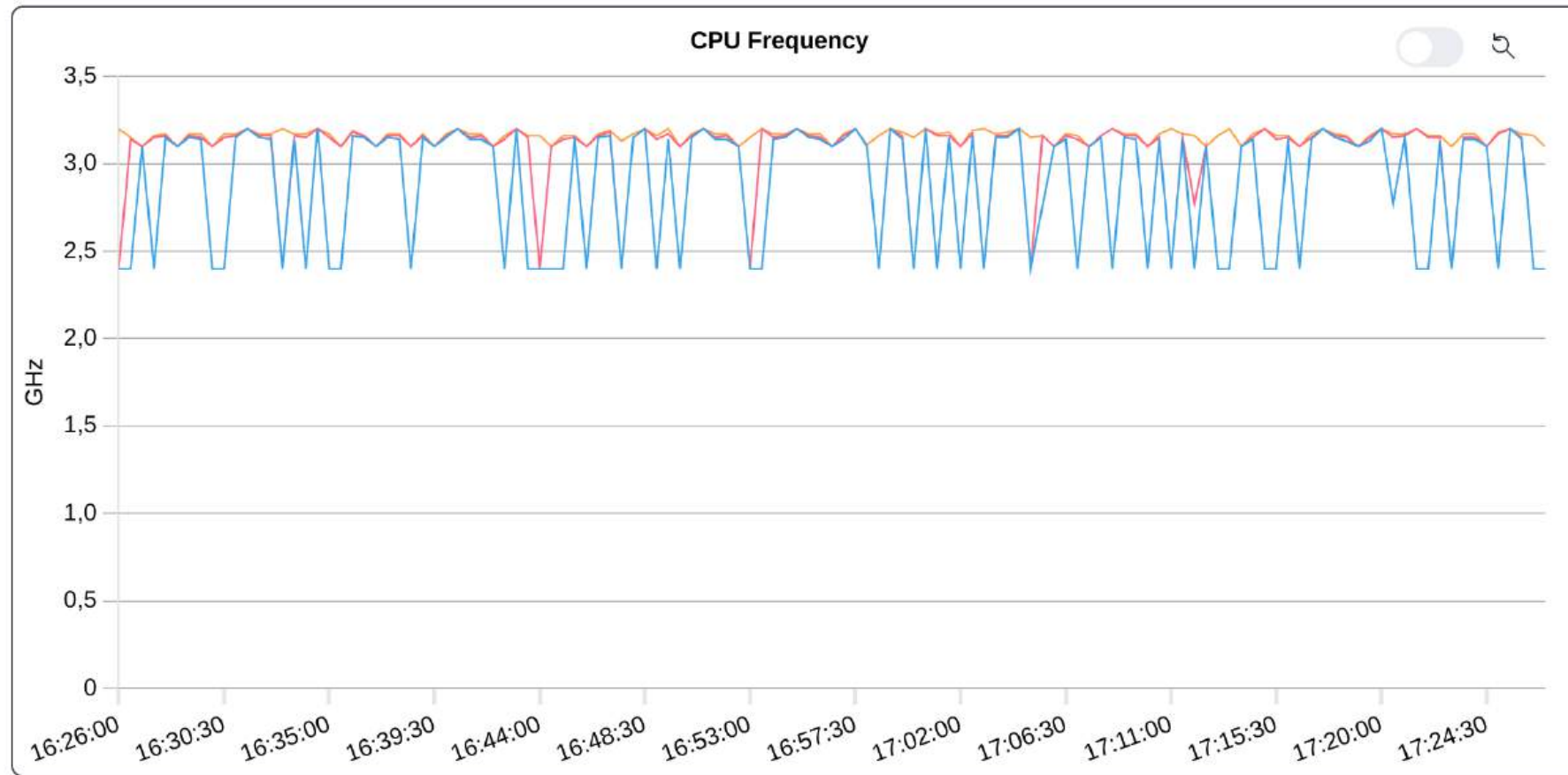
Insight

- CPU temperatures are collected per hardware thread
⇒ Diagram appears very cluttered
- Quantile View shows the distribution of the CPU temperatures much clearer

Toggle: Quantile View Off - CPU Frequency



Toggle: Quantile View On - CPU Frequency



Quantile View - CPU Frequency

Insight

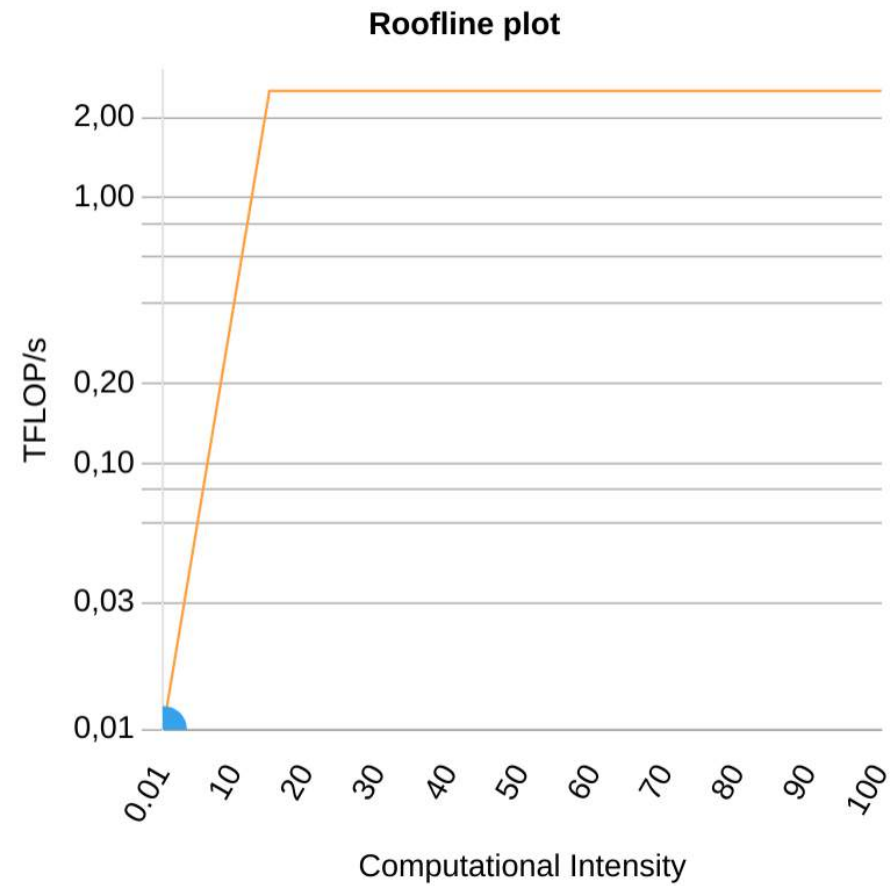
- CPU frequencies are collected per CPU core
⇒ Diagram appears very cluttered
- Quantile View shows the distribution of the CPU frequencies much clearer

Per Job Page - Roofline Plot

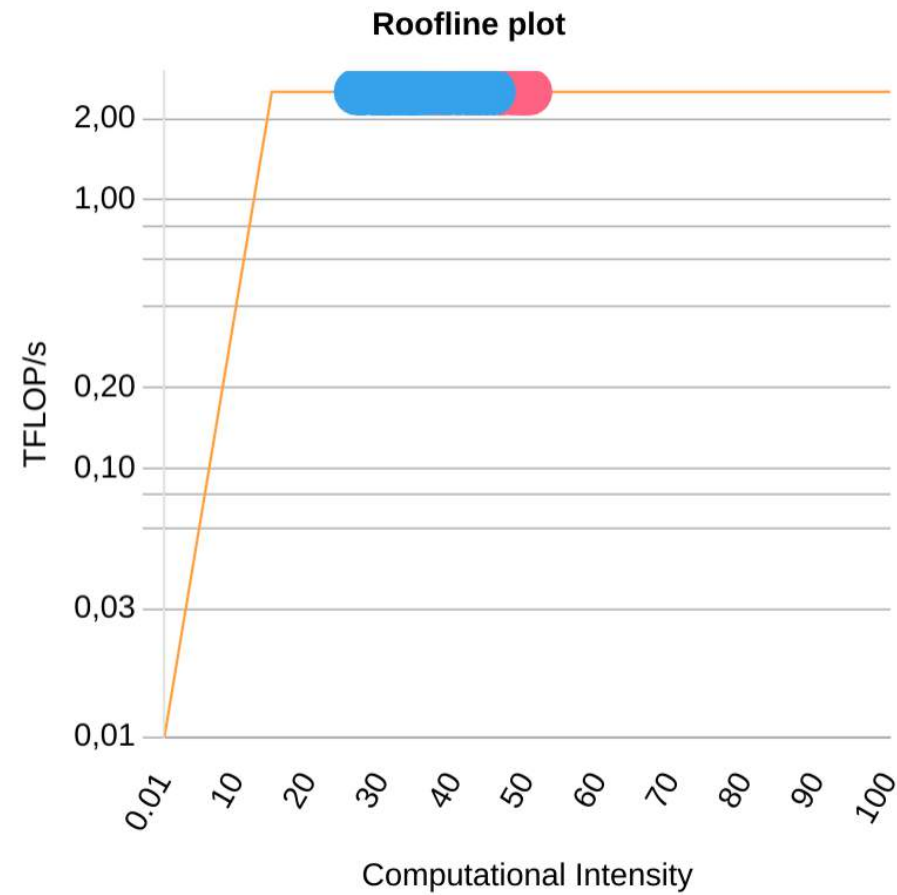
Roofline Plot

- Diagram with:
 - y-Axis: Floating point operations per second (FLOP/s)
 - x-Axis: Computational intensity (FLOP/s / byte)
- Roofline shows two performance limiting factors:
 - For *low* computational intensity: Memory bandwidth
 - For *high* computational intensity: Processor peak performance
- Plot point:
 - For each CPU package
 - For each measurement interval

Roofline Plot - Stream



Roofline Plot - DGEMM



Roofline Plot - Insight

Insight

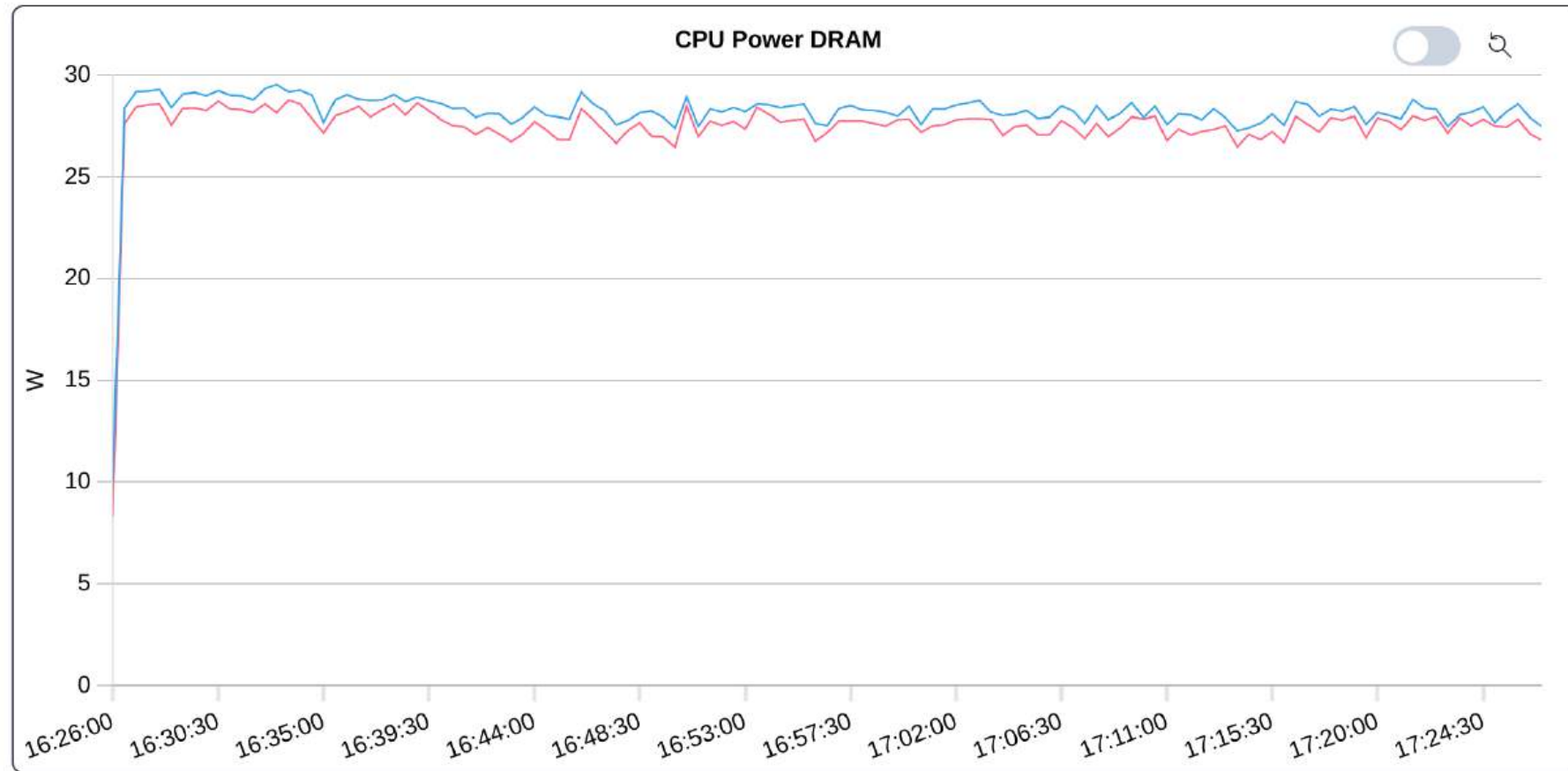
- Stream (memory bound)
 - ⇒ Low computational intensity
 - ⇒ Limiting factor: Memory bandwidth
- DGEMM (compute bound)
 - ⇒ High computational intensity
 - ⇒ Limiting factor: Processor peak performance

Per Job Page - Performance Category Energy

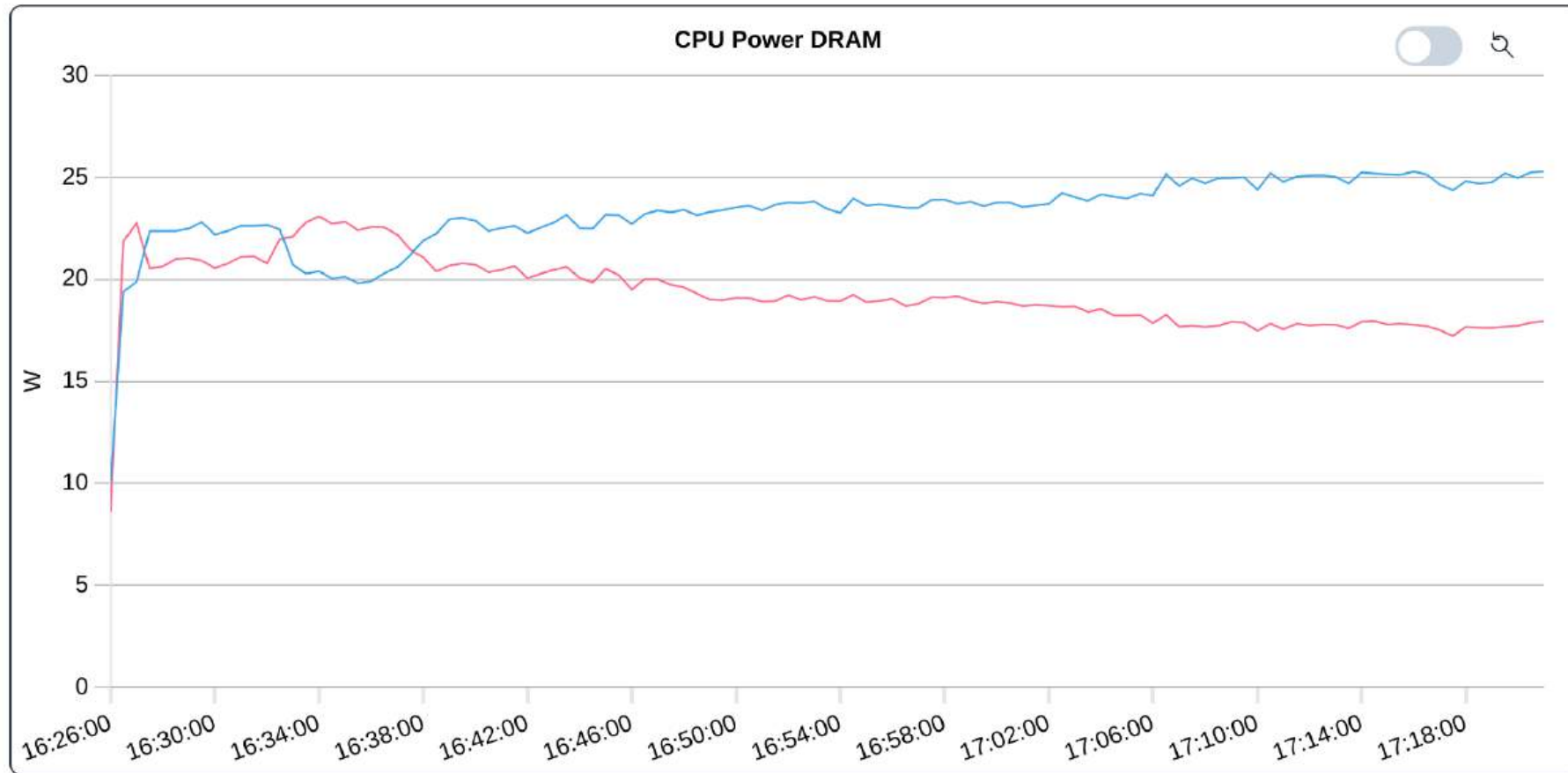
Performance Category Energy

- CPU power consumption of DRAM channels and the package
- GPU power consumption
- Server system power consumption

Performance Category Energy - Stream



Performance Category Energy - DGEMM

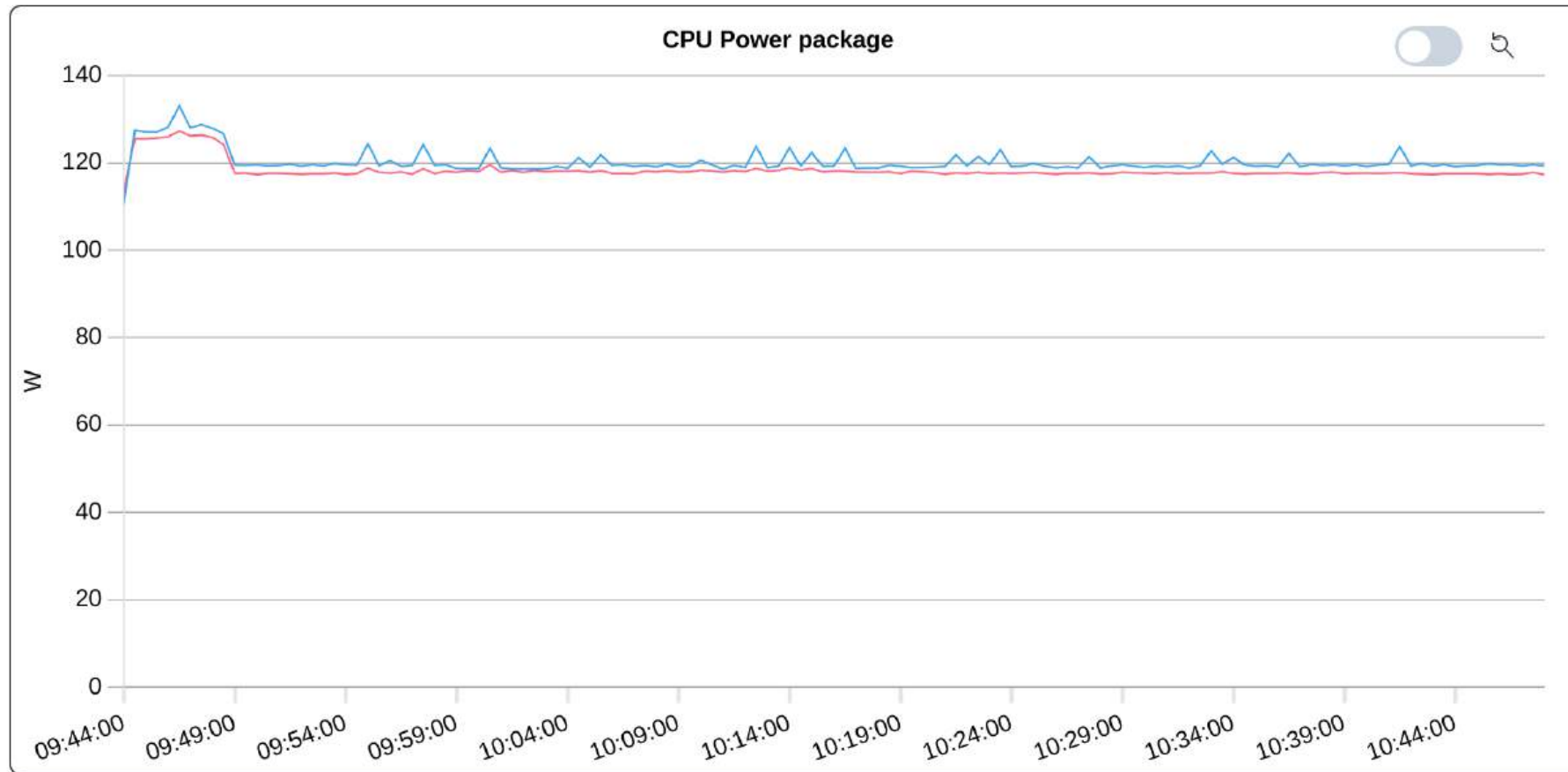


Performance Category Energy - Insight

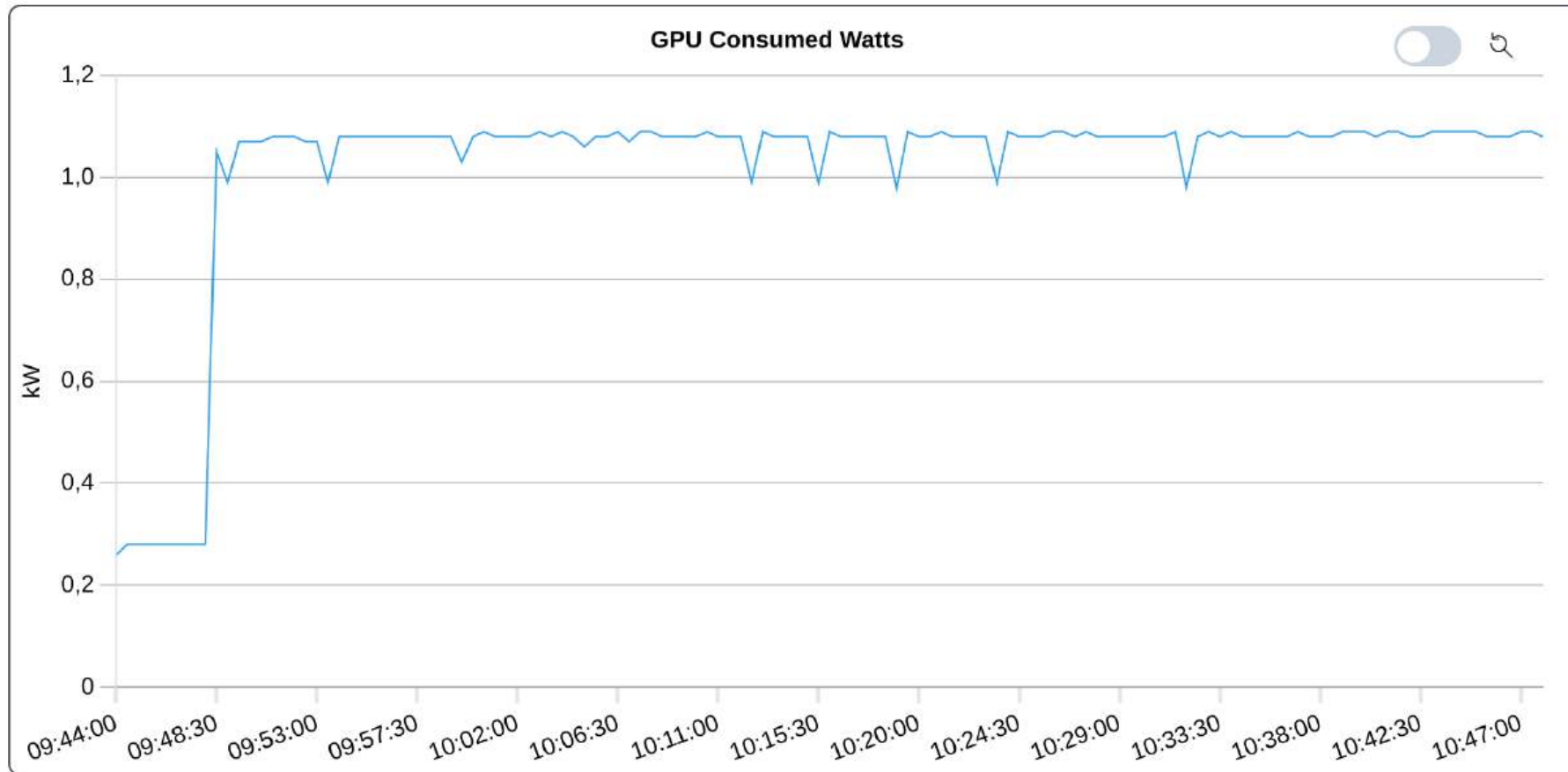
Insight

- Stream (memory bound)
 - ⇒ constantly high pressure on the DRAM subsystem
 - ⇒ Constantly high energy consumption
- DGEMM (compute bound)
 - ⇒ Less pressure on the DRAM subsystem
 - ⇒ Varying power consumption over time

Performance Category Energy - HPCG



Performance Category Energy - HPCG



Performance Category Energy - Insight

Insight

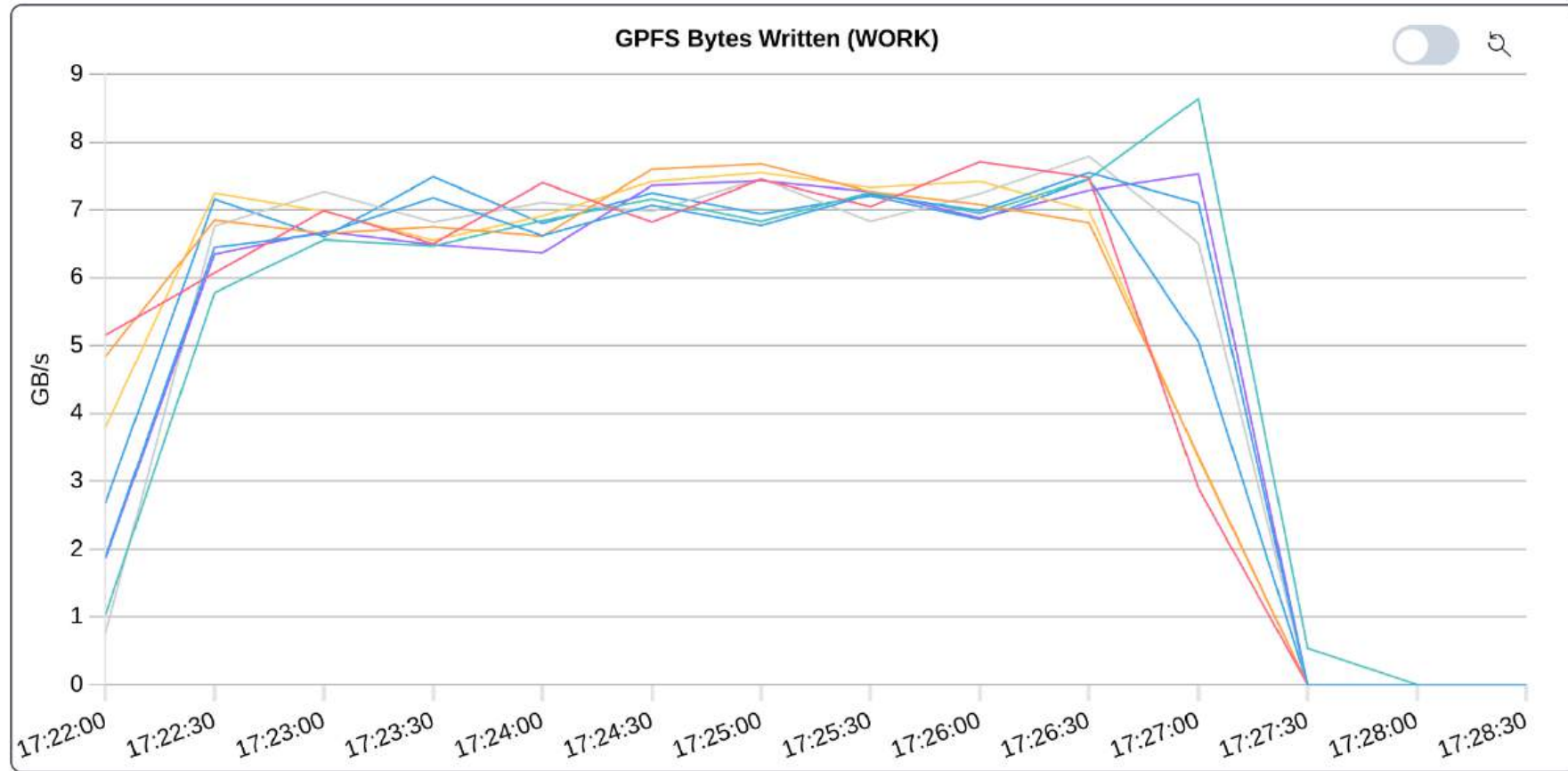
- GPU-HPCG benchmark
 - Preparation phase executed on the CPUs
 - Computation phase executed on the GPUs
- CPU package power consumption: Higher in preparation phase than in the compute phase
- GPU power consumption: Higher in compute phase than in preparation phase

Per Job Page - Performance Category Filesystem

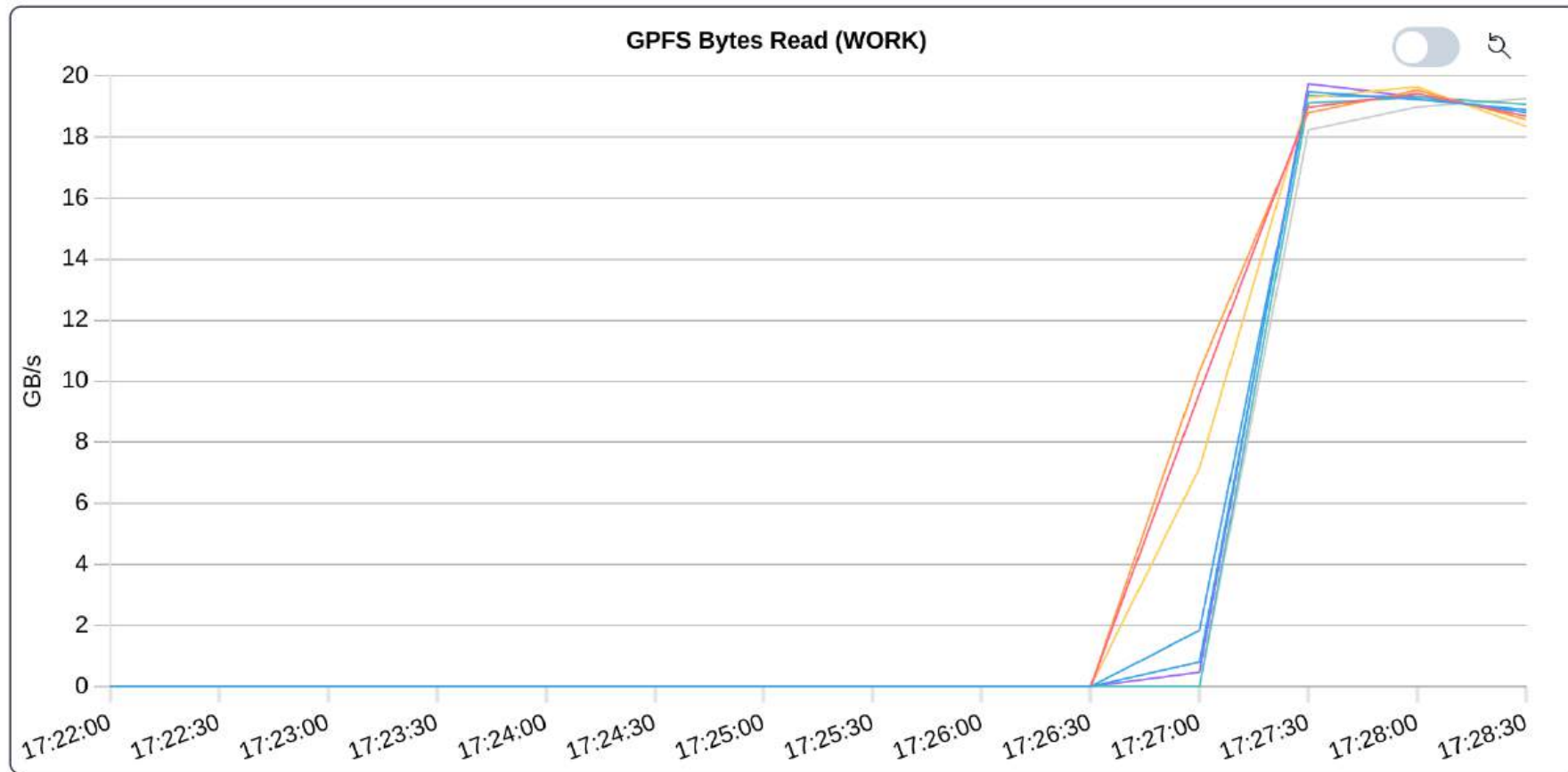
Performance Category Filesystem

- Meta data operation
 - Number of file open / closes
 - Number of directory reads
 - Number of inode updates
 - ...
- IO throughput
 - Bytes read / written
 - Number of read / writes

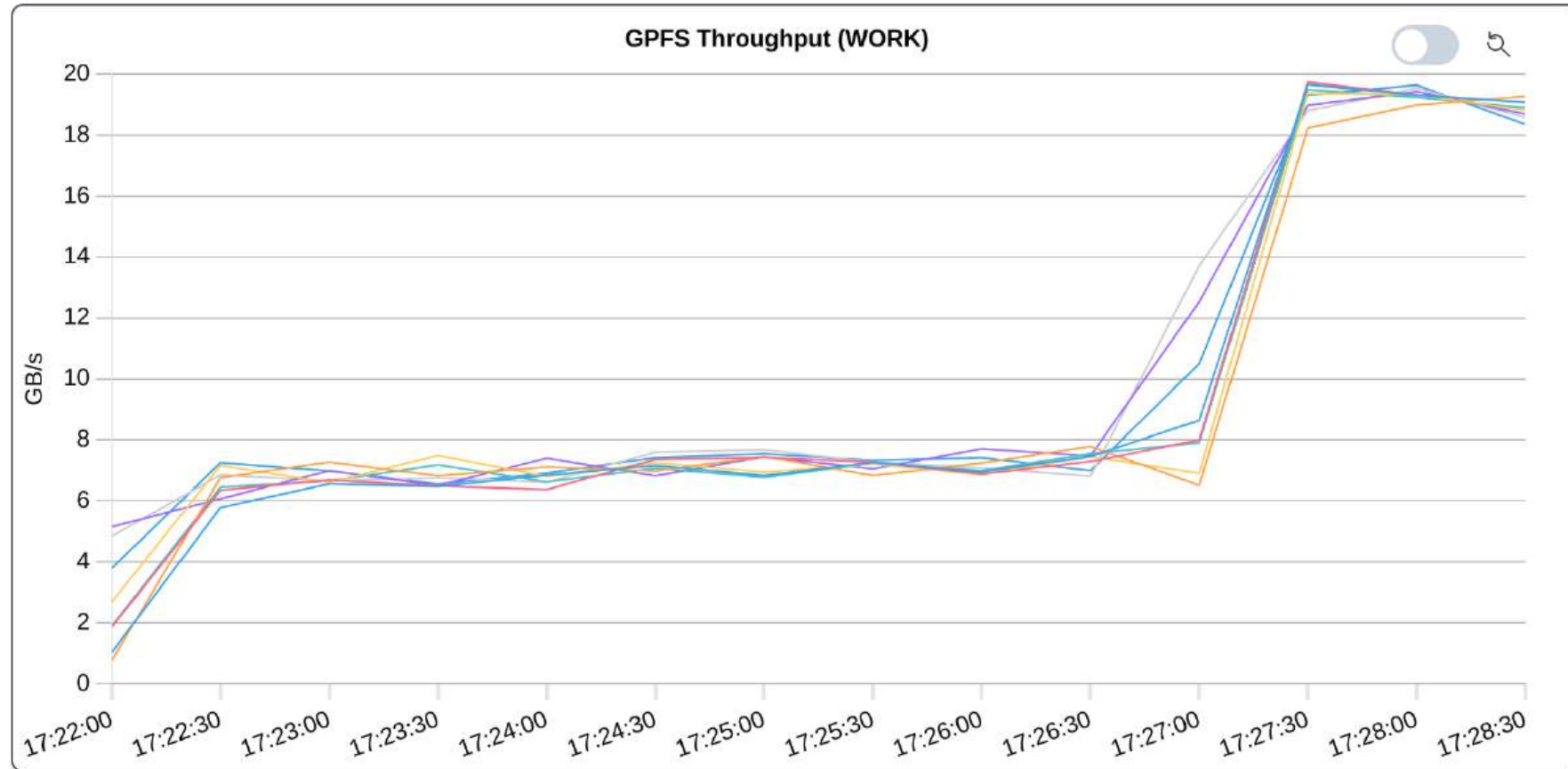
Performance Category Filesystem - IOR



Performance Category Filesystem - IOR



Performance Category Filesystem - IOR



Performance Category Filesystem - Insight

Insight

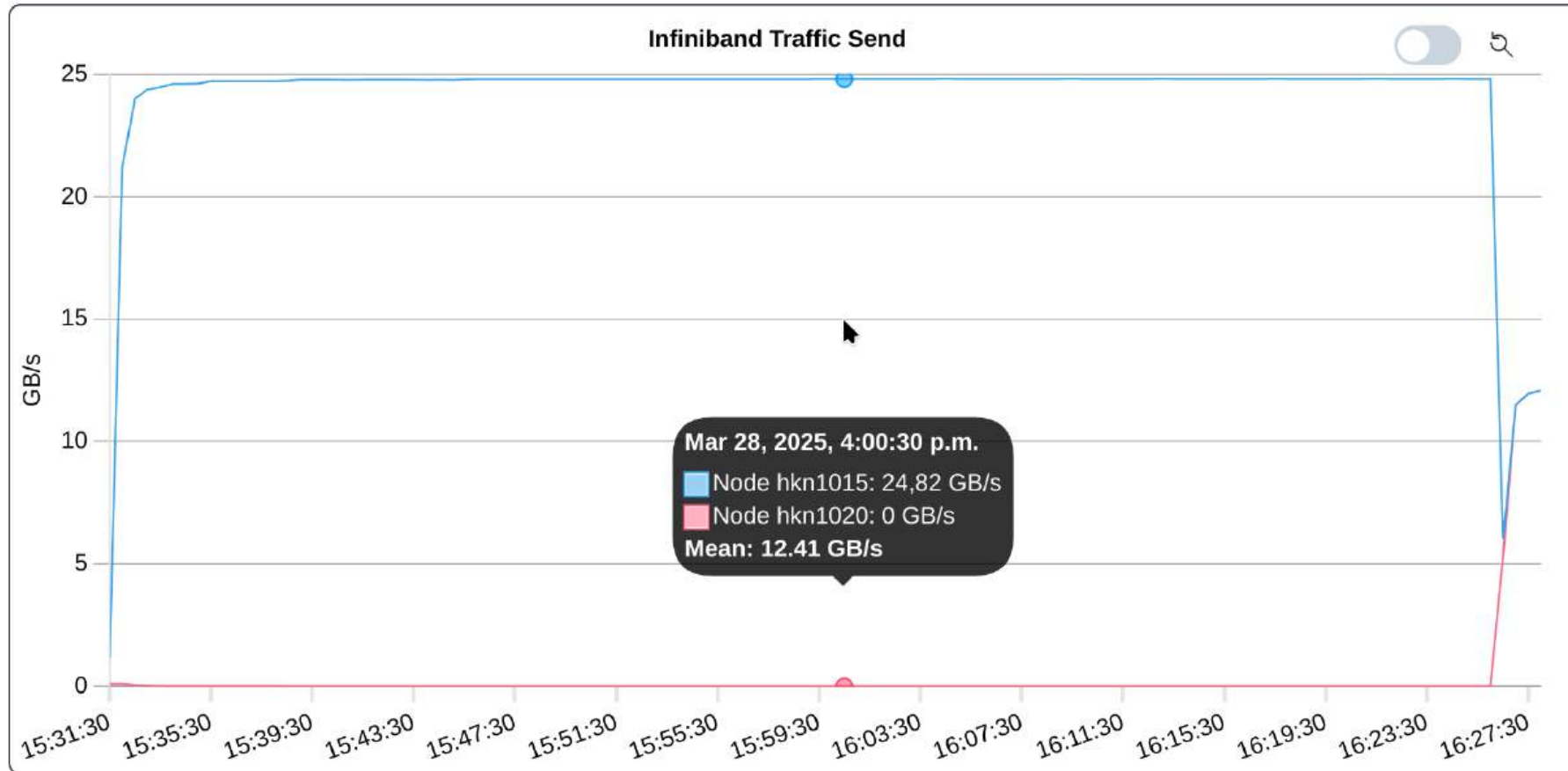
- Parallel IO: Performed from multiple nodes
- Two phases:
 - Phase 1: Files are written
 - Phase 2: Files are read
- Read throughput is higher than write throughput

Per Job Page - Performance Category Interconnect

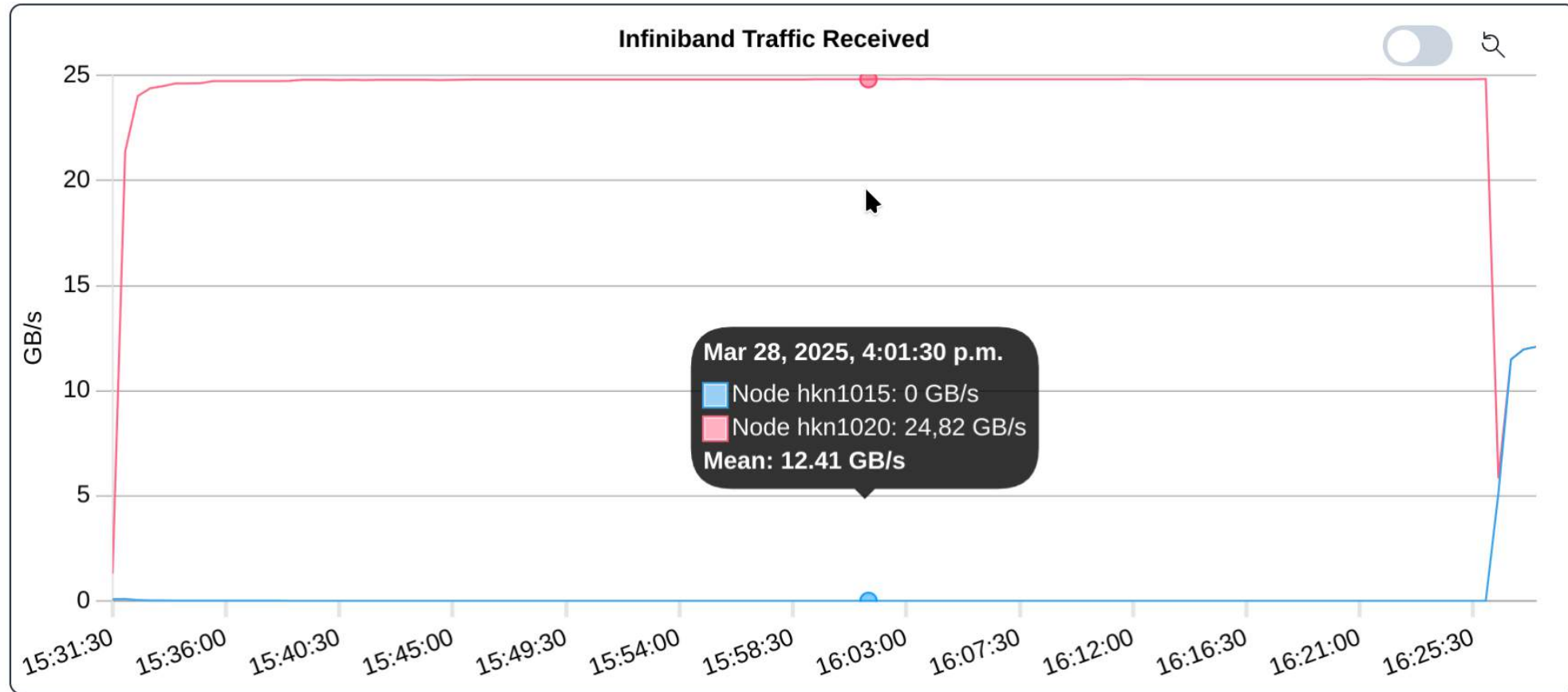
Performance Category Interconnect

- InfiniBand bandwidth
 - Sent
 - Received
 - Aggregated sent and received
- InfiniBand number of packages
 - Sent
 - Received
 - Aggregated sent and received

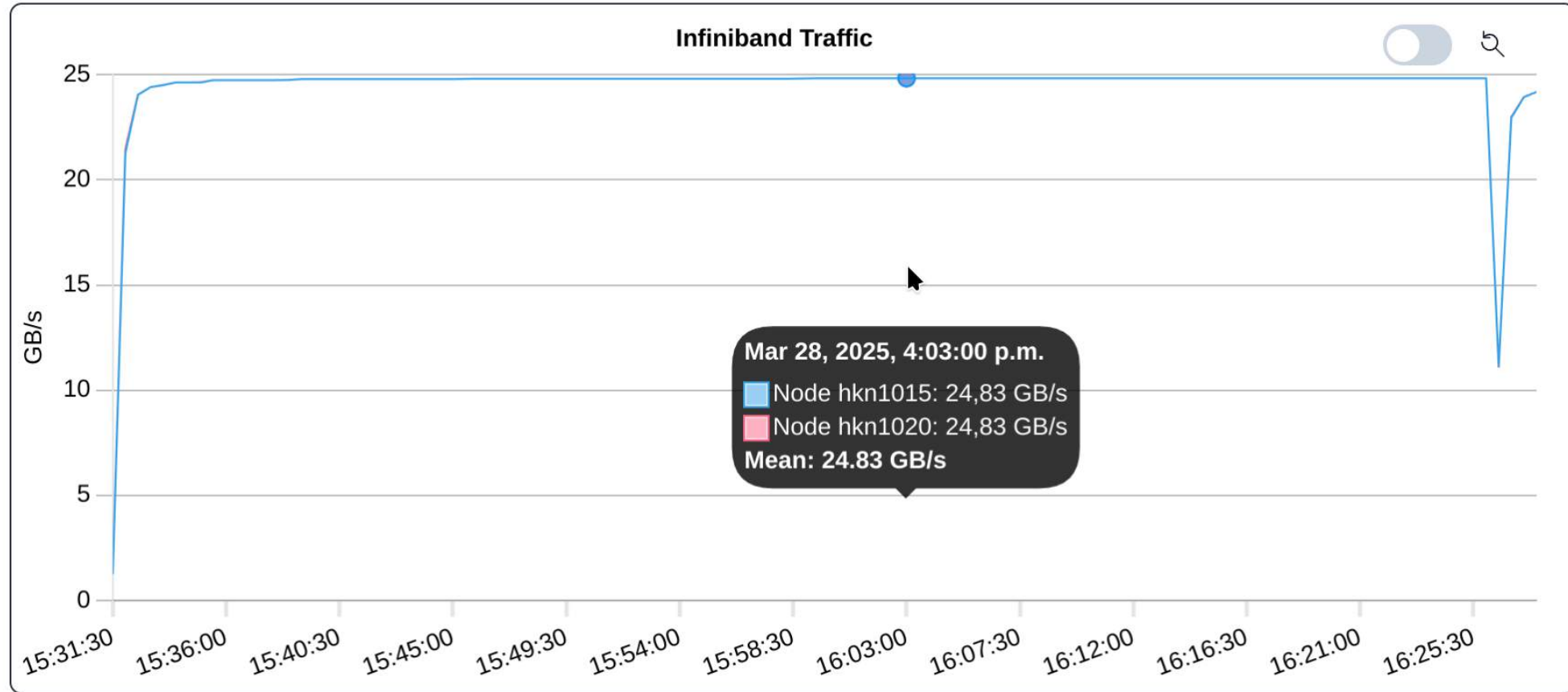
Performance Category Interconnect - OMB



Performance Category Interconnect - OMB



Performance Category Interconnect - OMB



Performance Category Interconnect - Insight

Insight

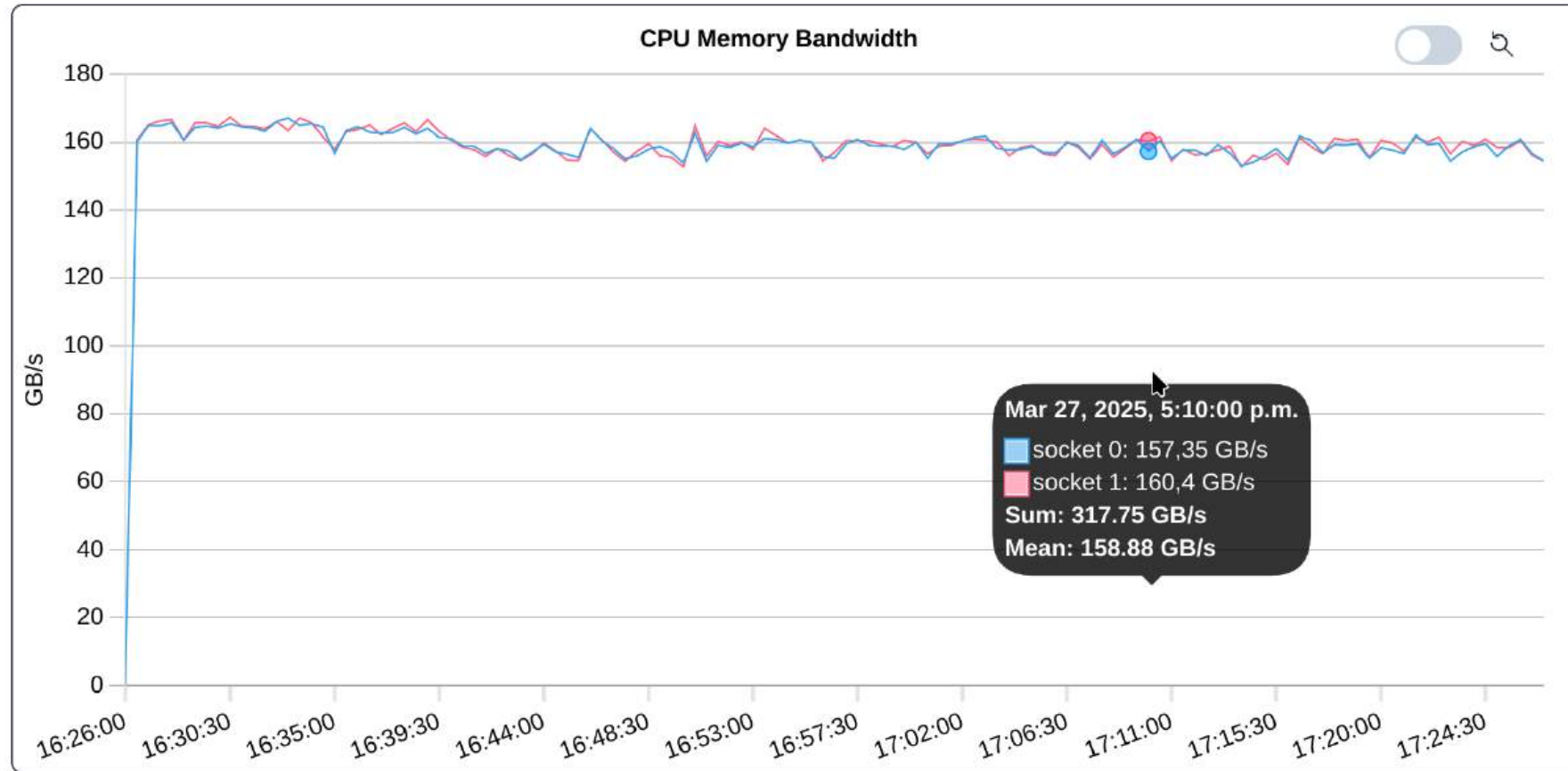
- OSU Micro-Benchmark performs MPI point to point communication:
 - Node hkn1015 only sends data (receive bandwidth is zero)
 - Node hkn1020 only receives data (send bandwidth is zero)

Per Job Page - Performance Category Memory

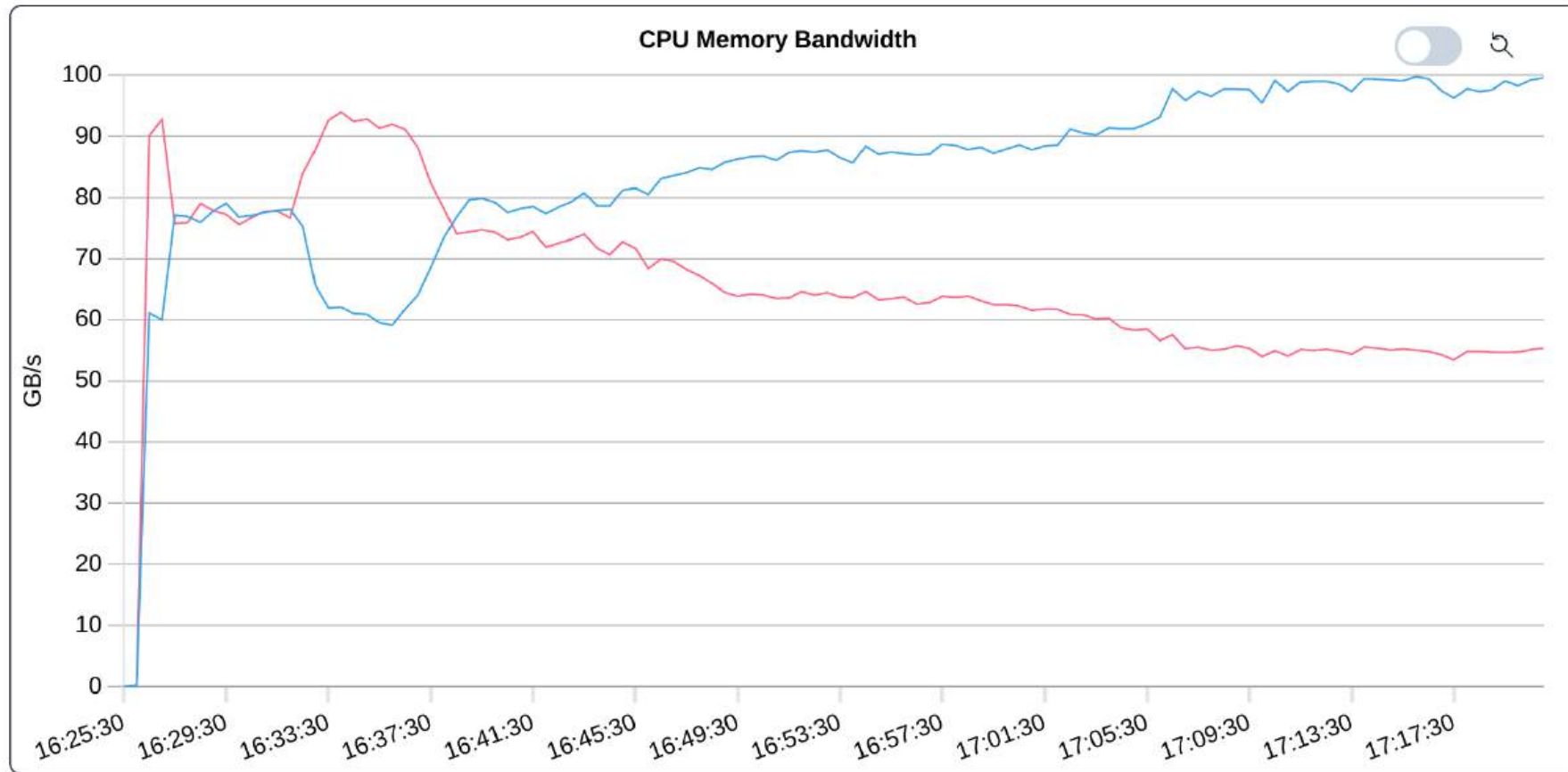
Performance Category Memory

- Amount of memory used
 - On the system
 - On the GPU
- CPU memory bandwidth
- GPU memory
 - Utilization (in %)
 - Frequency

Performance Category Memory - Stream



Performance Category Memory - DGEMM

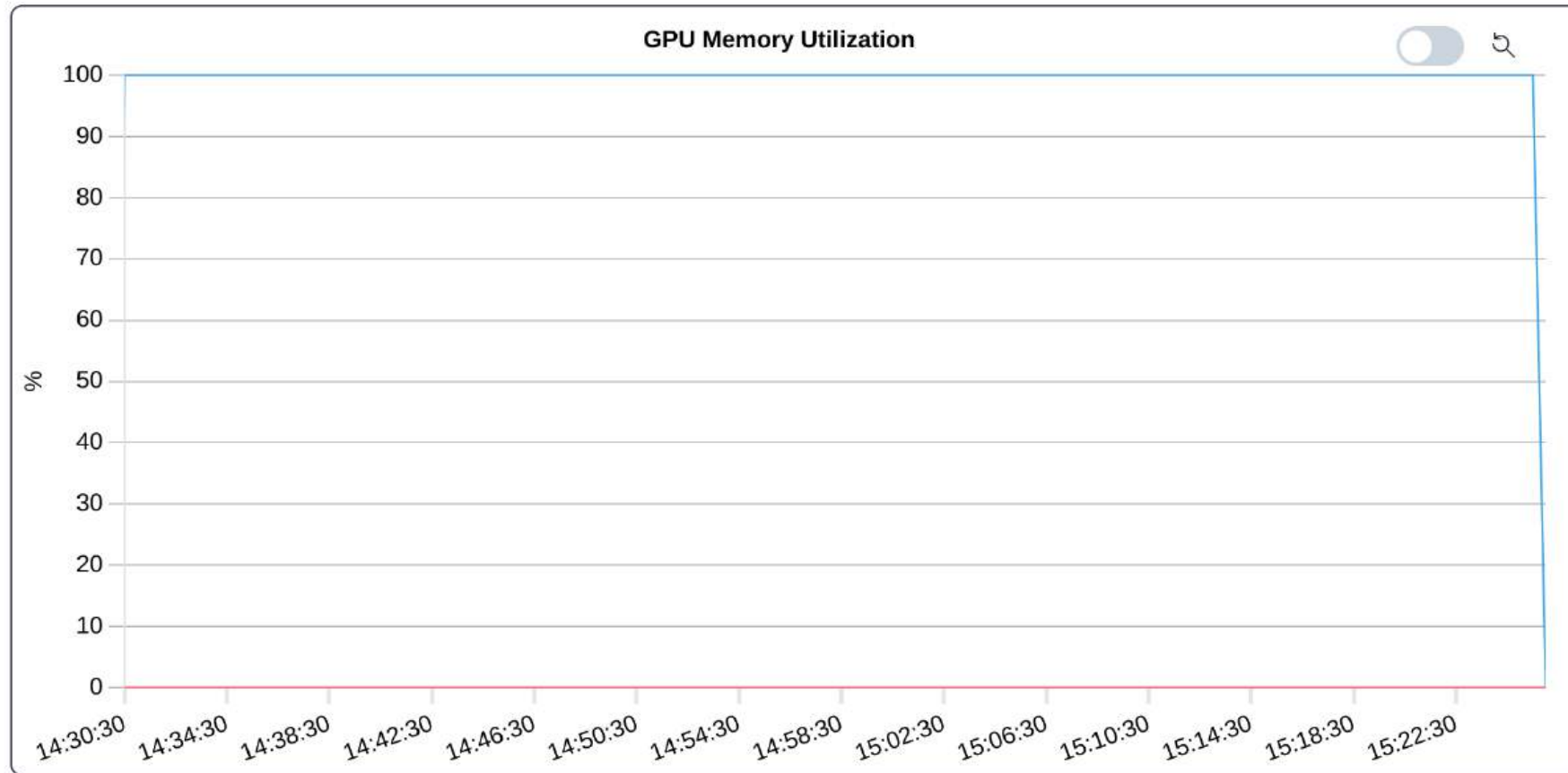


Performance Category Memory - Insight

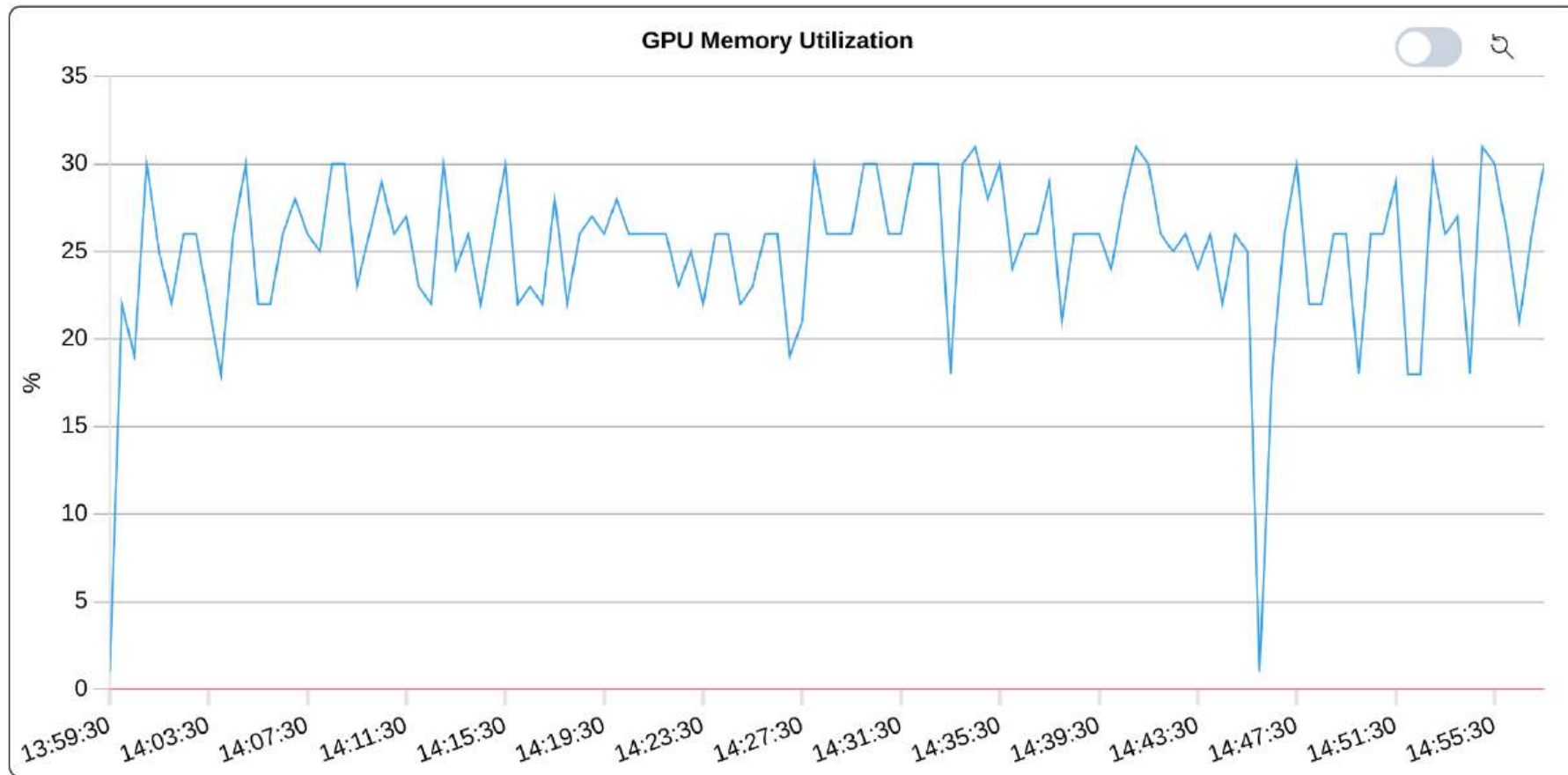
Insight

- Stream (memory bound):
 - ⇒ Constantly high pressure on the memory subsystem
- DGEMM (compute bound):
 - ⇒ Less pressure on the memory subsystem
 - ⇒ Varying bandwidth over time

Performance Category Memory - BabelStream



Performance Category Memory - DGEMM



Performance Category Memory - Insight

Insight

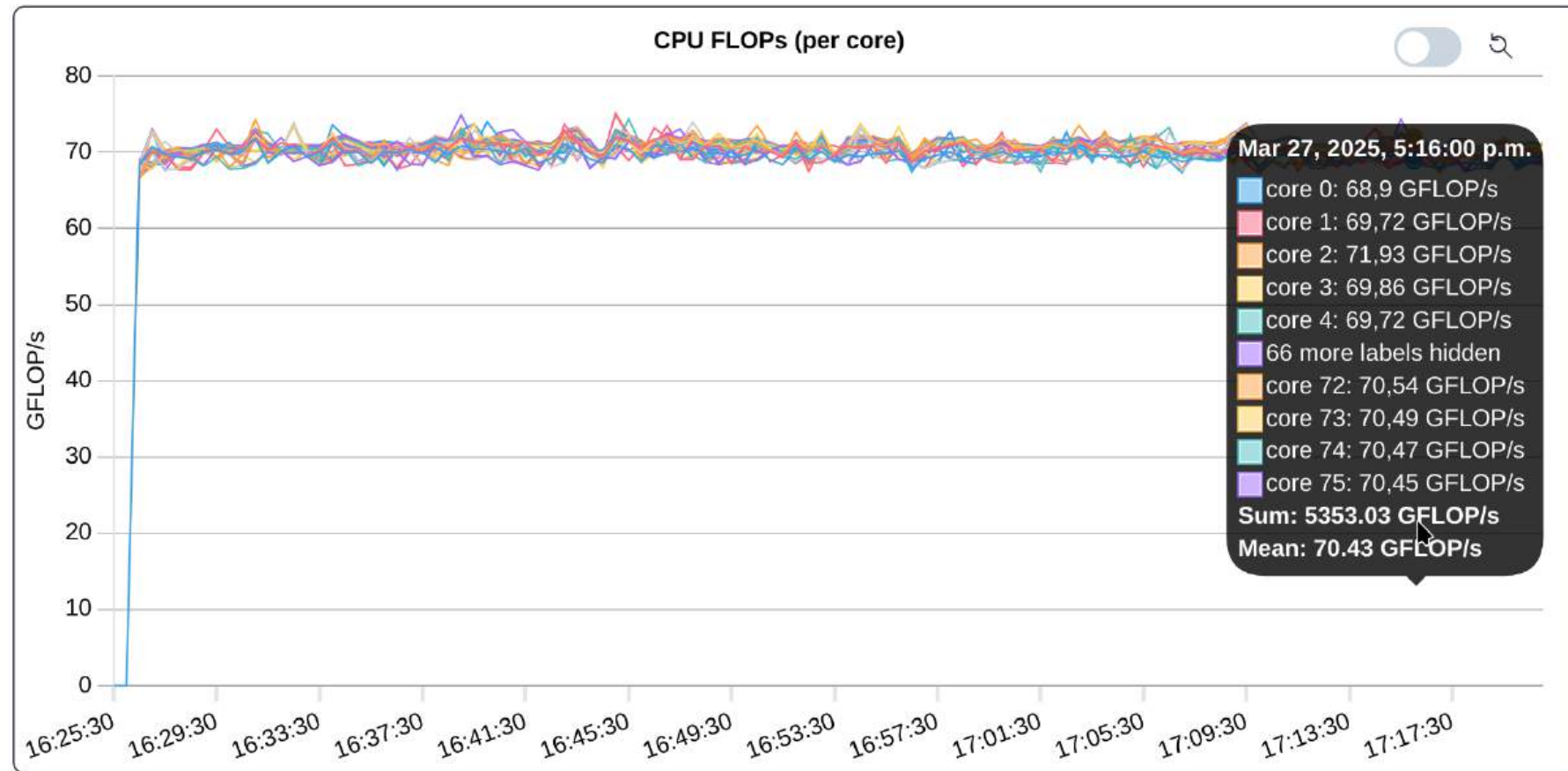
- BabelStream (memory bound):
 - ⇒ Fully utilizes the memory subsystem of the GPU
- GPU-DGEMM (compute bound):
 - ⇒ Less pressure on the GPU memory subsystem
 - ⇒ Varying utilization over time.

Per Job Page - Performance Category Performance

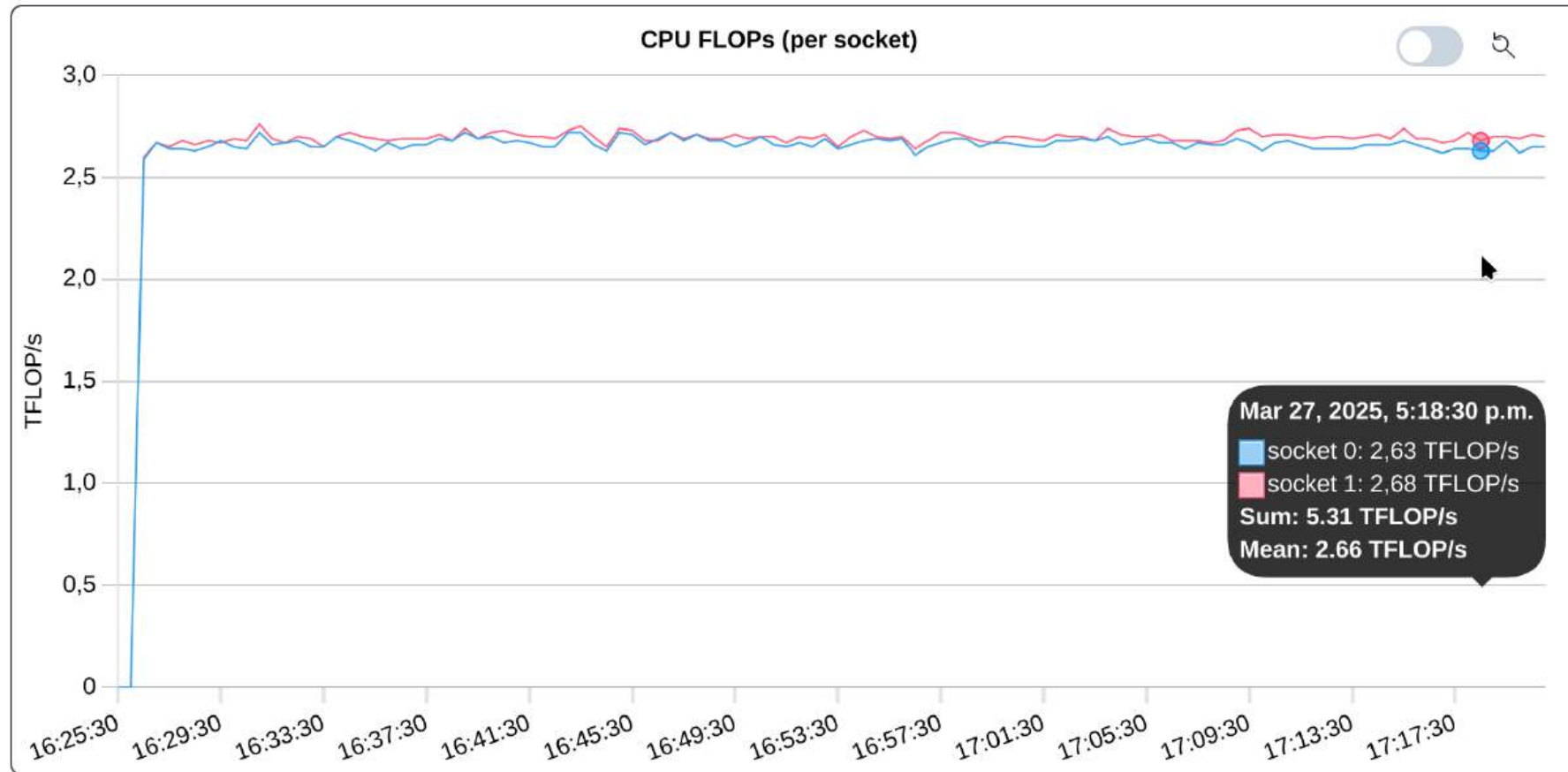
Performance Category Performance

- Floating point operation per second (FLOP/s), collected per *hardware thread*, aggregated per *core* or per *socket*
- Instructions per cycle (IPC), collected per *hardware thread*, aggregated per *core* or per *socket*
- CPU time spend in kernel and in user space
- One minute Linux load average
- GPU utilization
- CPU and GPU frequency

Performance Category Performance - DGEMM



Performance Category Performance - DGEMM



Performance Category Performance - Insight

Insight

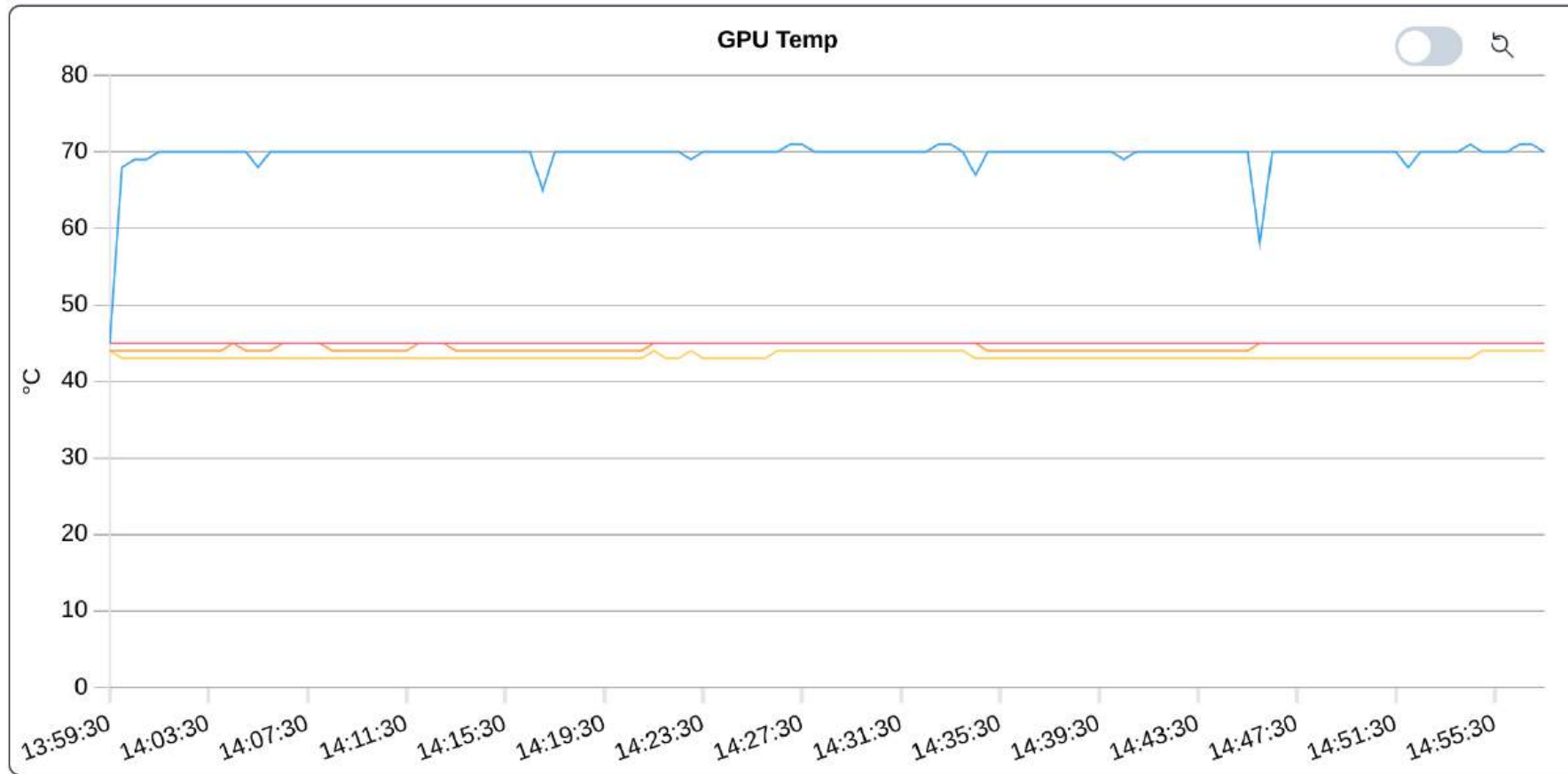
- Floating point operation per second (FLOP/s) are collected per hardware thread
- Examine even utilization of cores
 - ⇒ Aggregate per core
- Examine even utilization of CPU sockets
 - ⇒ Aggregate per socket
- Summed FLOP/s is the same in both diagrams

Per Job Page - Performance Category Temperature

Performance Category Temperature

- CPU
- GPU

Performance Category Temperature - DGEMM

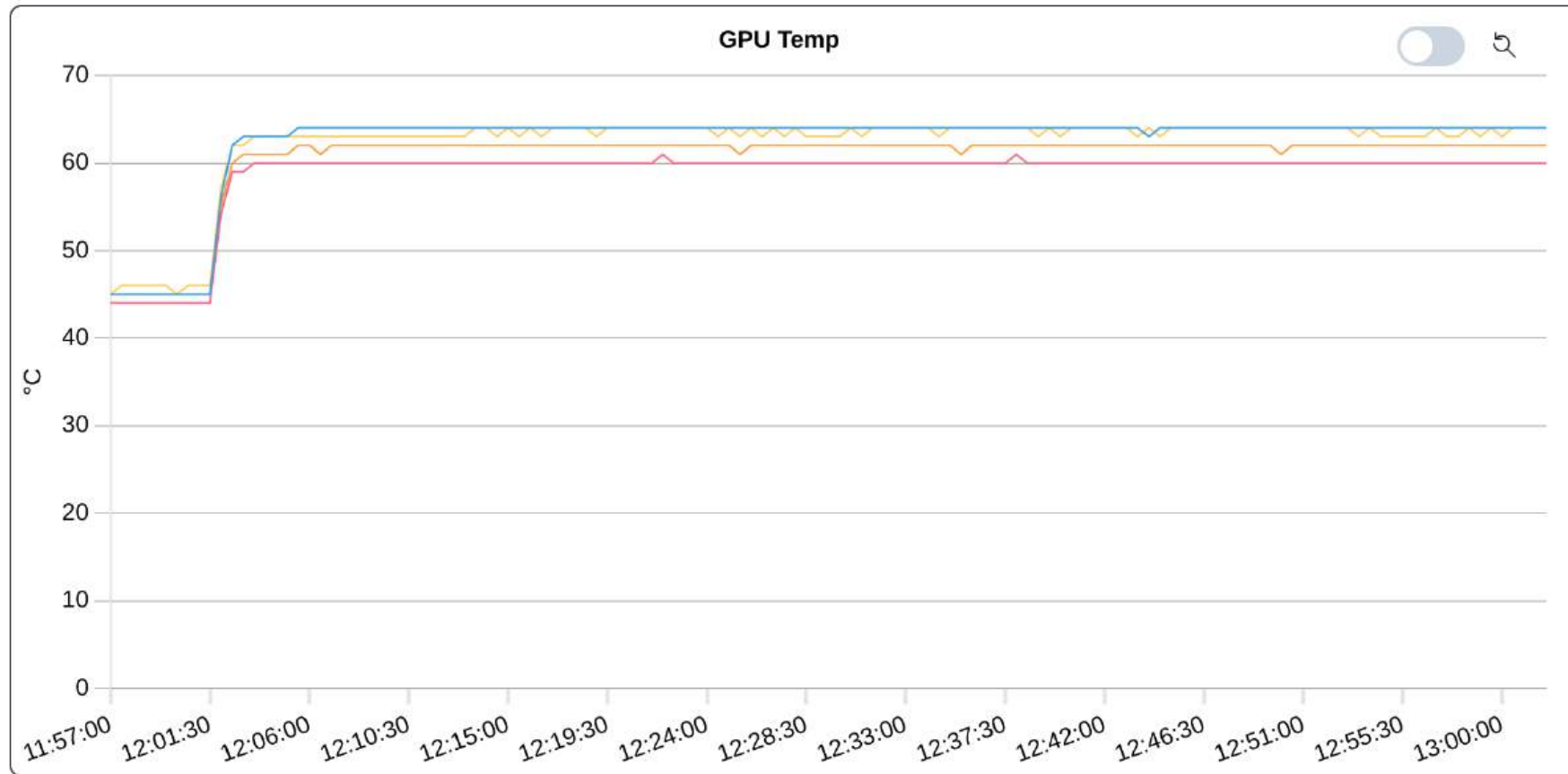


Performance Category Temperature - Insight

Insight

- GPU-DGEMM only utilizes one GPU
- Only this GPU gets hot
- Other GPUs maintain lower temperatures

Performance Category Temperature - HPCG



Performance Category Temperature - Insight

Insight

- GPU-HPCG
 - Preparation phase executed on the CPUs
 - ⇒ GPUs not utilized
 - ⇒ Low temperature
 - Computation phase executed on the GPUs
 - ⇒ Higher temperature

Per Job Page - Additional Features

Additional Features

- For multi-node jobs there is a configuration option to select the per-node aggregation function used (e.g. average, sum, maximum)
- Live view of running jobs
- Download CSV file
 - All metrics
 - Use in spread sheet application or Python
- Outlook
 - Availability for Cluster uc3
 - Automatic job analyzer
 - ⇒ Assign tags for detected characteristics

bwRSE4HPC

*Offering Research Software
Engineering (RSE) services for HPC
Users in Baden-Württemberg*

Jasmin Hörter, Dominic Kempf, René Caspart, Marcel Koch, Inga Ulusoy, Andreas Baer,
Glen Hunter, Thomas Isensee, Kai Riedmiller, Tim Schrader

Our Mission



Support researchers in achieving their goals through software development.

Why might this be of interest to you?

- You lack the man-power to realize the changes you want to see.
- You want better software but are unsure how. Your current software might be:
 - too slow
 - too unintuitive
 - too hard to use

Overview



Provide software development services.

Strengthen Research Software Engineering practices.

Aimed specifically at users of bwHPC clusters.

Our Services



Short term projects

- Less than 6 months, free of charge

Long term projects

- Longer than 6 months, requires third-party funding

Short Term Projects



Initiated by filling out our request form.

- We need contact information and a short description.

The next step is a consultation with us to refine the project.

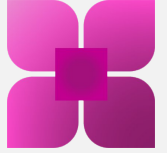
- We will create a concrete work plan based on the discussion.

After approval 1.5 RSEs provided by us will work on the project.

- We provide regular progress updates to the users.

We provide a final report to ensure the sustainability of our solution.

Long Term Projects



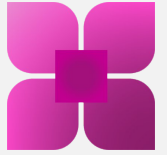
Initiated through third-party funded projects.

You want to pursue a new research idea:

- It has an integral software component
- Your team lacks the relevant software expertise
- We can collaborate with you to cover the RSE aspects

Might naturally evolve from a short term project.

Project Ideas



First short term project:

- Replace homegrown linear algebra backend with external HPC library.

Examples within our expertise:

- Adding GPU support
- Enable distributed computing
- ...
- Performance optimization
- Prototyping

Anything missing? Come talk to us!

Get in Touch



<https://www.bwrse4hpc.de/>

support@bwrse4hpc.de

