



# Practical demonstration of Network Descriptions

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# Introduction

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## SARA Computing & Networking Services Departement High performance networking:

- SURFnet5 & SURFnet6 network operations centre (NOC)
- Netherlight network operations centre (NOC)
- Partner in Research on Networks GigaPort project



National Supercomputers



Visualization in the CAVE

# Resource Description Format (RDF)

- Presentation Jeroen van der Ham (UvA) Glif meeting september 2005  
See: <http://www.glif.is/meetings/2005/tech/vdham-rdf.pdf>
- Resource Description Format (RDF) is a Semantic Web technique.

Can be used to:

1. **Provide an overview of resources**
2. **Make path discovery easier**
3. Do simple problem detection

# Example network description

- Netherlight network description in RDF format:

```
<!-- Description of TDM3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net -->
<ndl:Device rdf:about="#tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net">
  <ndl:name>tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net</ndl:name>
  <ndl:locatedAt rdf:resource="#amsterdam1.netherlight.net"/>
  <ndl:hasInterface:rdf:resource="#tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net:503/3"/>
</ndl:Device>
```



# Example network description

- Netherlight network description in RDF format:

```

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<ndl:Device rdf:about="#tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net">
  <ndl:name>tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net</ndl:name>
  <ndl:locatedAt rdf:resource="#amsterdam1.netherlight.net"/>
  <ndl:hasInterface:rdf:resource="#tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net:503/3"/>
</ndl:Device>

<!-- Description of interfaces 503/3 TDM3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net -->
<ndl:Interface rdf:about="#tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net:503/3">
  <ndl:name>tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net:POS503/3</ndl:name>
  <ndl:connectedTo rdf:resource="#tdm1.geneva1.netherlight.net:5/1"/>
  <rdf:capacity rdf:resource="#OC192"/>
</ndl:Interface>

```



# Provide an overview of resources

- Create an overview / list of devices and interfaces
- Create an overview / list of connections (this is used for the dot file)
- Visualization of the network (demonstration)
- Create a graph (demonstration application)

This can all be done by using SPARQL queries

```
SELECT ?if1 ?if2
WHERE {
    ?if1 ndl:connectedTo ?if2
    ?if2 ndl:connectedTo ?if1
}
```



# Provide an overview of resources

- Provide an overview of resources by visualization
- Graphviz - Graph Visualization Software
  - uses .dot file as input
- Relatively easy to generate a .dot input file from an RDF file
- Python script to generate a .dot file from an RDF file\*
- Then generate a png,jpg,gif and lots more..
  - `dot -o netherlight.png -Tpng netherlight.dot`

Let's see the result.... ☺

\* Author: Jeroen van der Ham, University of Amsterdam





# Provide an overview of resources

Visualization of Netherlight network elements.  
(Netherlight elements only)

tdm4.amsterdam1.netherlight.net

5/1

501/1

tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net

12/1

6/1

501/2

505/1

tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net

504/4

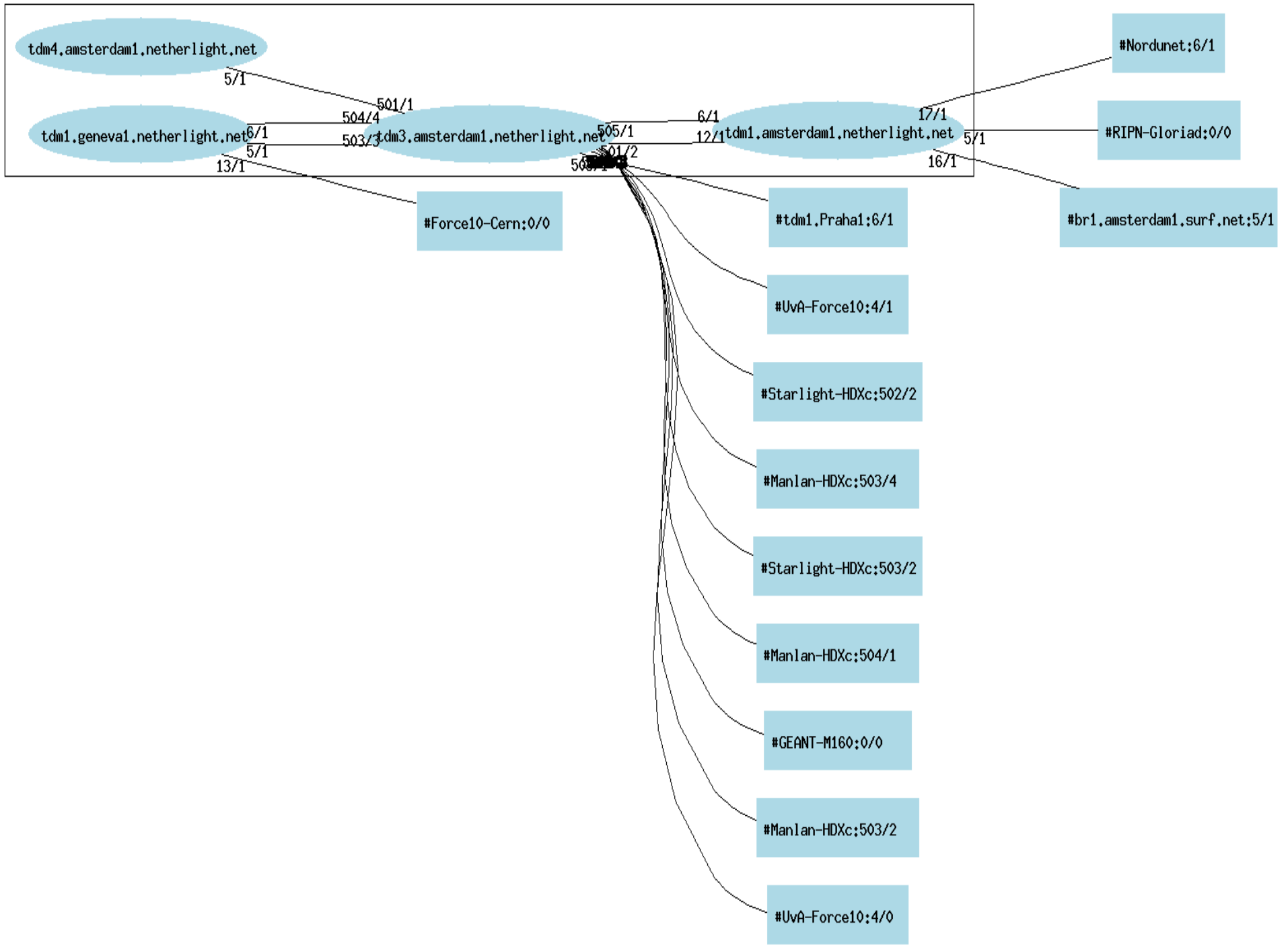
503/3

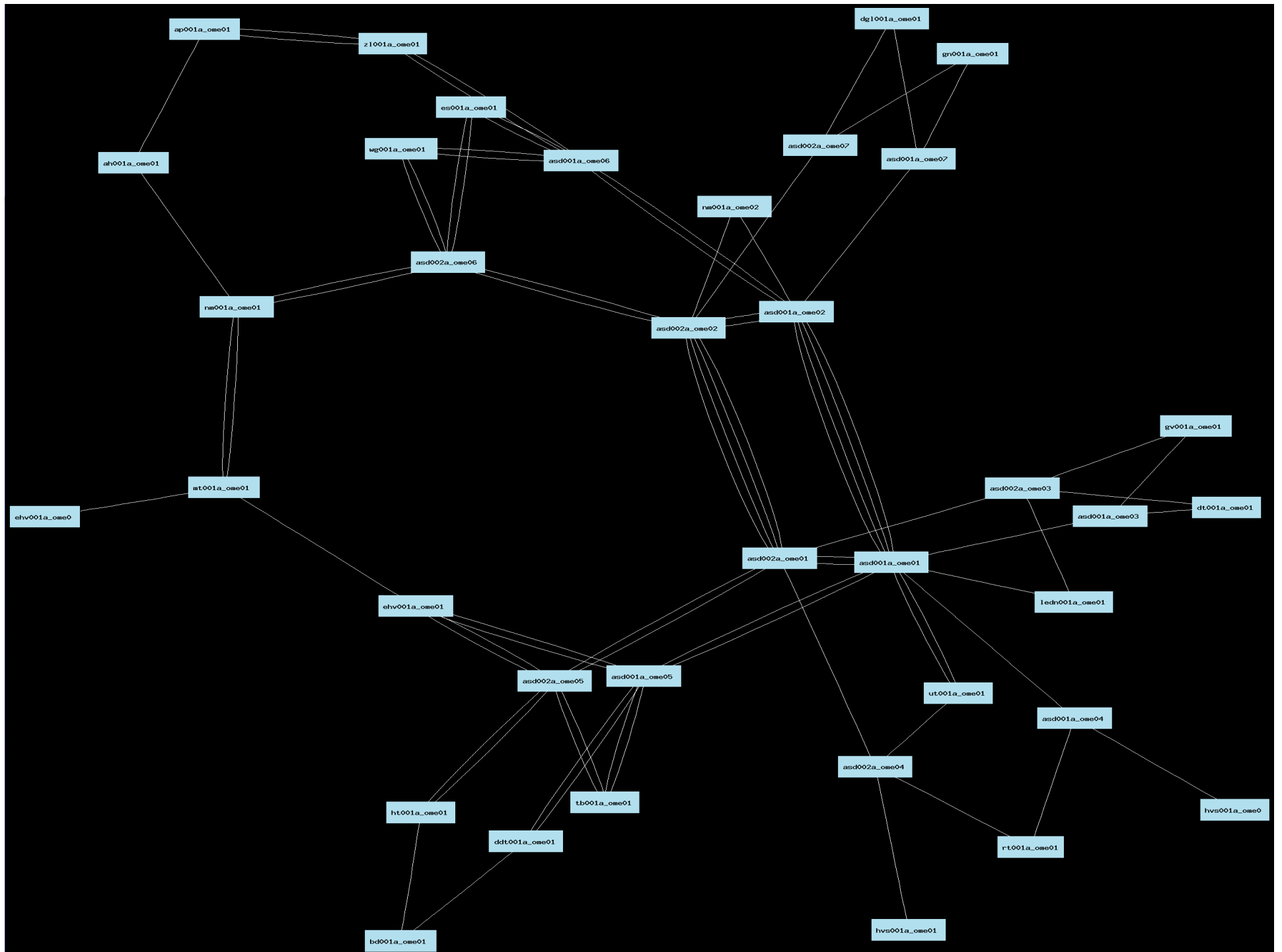
6/1

5/1

tdm1.geneva1.netherlight.net

Visualization of Netherlight network elements including edge devices on next slide

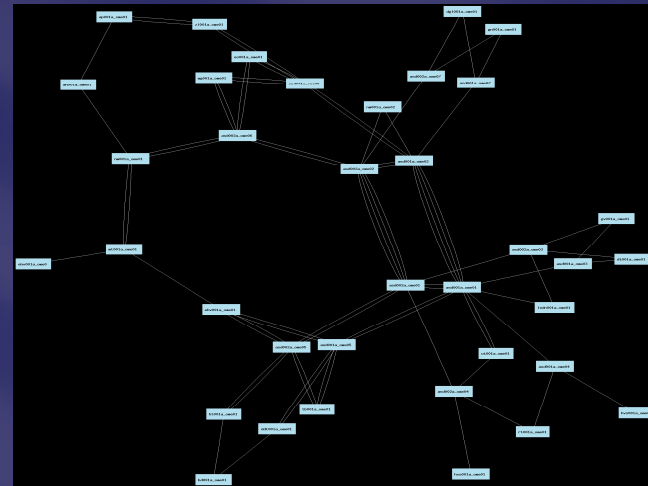




# Path discovery

- Provisioning a circuit through a 'big' network can be time consuming
  - 1) finding a (protected) path across the network
  - 2) enough time slots available?

Might sound easy but can be difficult →



- Tool written by SARA's network research group to automate this
- Uses an RDF network description as topology description
- Uses a MySQL database that has knowledge of all current cross connects in the network

## ■ Tool written in Perl \*

usage: `get_path ne1 slot1-port1 ne2 slot2-port2 #timeslots`

shortest path between ne1 and ne2

e.g. `./get_path.pl \`

`tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net 6-1 \`

`tdm1.geneva1.netherlight.net 3-5 \`

`21`

The example above will show you how to provision a circuit between `tdm1.geneva1.netherlight.net` interface: 6/1 and `tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net` interface 3/5 with a capacity of 21sts containers (1Gb/s using GFP/VCAT)

\*Authors:

- Ronald van der Pol (SARA's network research group)
- Andree Toonk (SARA's network research group)



- With the RDF information we build a graph representing the network.
  - SPARQL query that gets all connected interfaces
  - Check if these interfaces have enough free timeslots available (MySQL)
  - Add the two interfaces as vertices to the graph
  - Add the link between them as an edge of the graph
  - Add edges to the graph for all internal connections between all the interfaces of one network element
  
- **Now a graph representing the network has been built.**
  - Use the Dijkstra algorithm to find the shortest path
  - Returns all the information to create the (VC4 / STS3c) cross connects on the network elements,
    - ▶ Includes: network elements, slots, ports, timeslots (MySQL) all the information to create the cross connects on the network elements,



# Provisioning tool: Demo

```
$ ./get_path.pl tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net 504-3 tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net 17-1 9
```

path A:

-----

```
tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-504-3 1 tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-501-2 49
```

```
tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-504-3 4 tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-501-2 52
```

```
tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-504-3 7 tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-501-2 55
```

-----

```
tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-12-1 49 tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-17-1 25
```

```
tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-12-1 52 tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-17-1 28
```

```
tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-12-1 55 tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-17-1 31
```

path B:

-----

```
tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-504-3 1 tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-505-1 73
```

```
tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-504-3 4 tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-505-1 76
```

```
tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-504-3 7 tdm3.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-505-1 79
```

-----

```
tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-6-1 73 tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-17-1 25
```

```
tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-6-1 76 tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-17-1 28
```

```
tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-6-1 79 tdm1.amsterdam1.netherlight.net-17-1 31
```



# Future: Provisioning tool

- Next step is to generate the TL1 commands
  - All the necessary cross connect information is available

## Syntax:

```
ENT-CRS-ST3C:"NE-name":STS3C-shelf-slotA-portA-timeslotA,STS3C-shelf-slotB-portB-  
timeslotB:CTAG-NUMBER::2WAY:CKTID="name of Xconnect";
```

## Example:

```
ENT-CRS-ST3C:"tdm4.amsterdam1.netherlight.net":STS3C-1-6-1-22,STS3C-1-1-3-  
1:66::2WAY:CKTID="DEMO";
```

- Investigate Inter-domain possibility
- SARA already has developed a TL1 toolkit (Perl)\*
  - \* Easy to execute TL1 commands with TL1 toolkit
  - \* Specific functions for: OME6500, CPL, HDXc, ONS15454
  - \* Planning to add a `create_Xconnect()` function

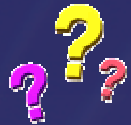
\* Based on TL1 Perl module of Arien Vijn, Amsterdam Internet Exchange

# URLs + Questions

- SARA's network research group:  
Information about TL1 toolkit & RDF tools.

<http://nrg.sara.nl/>

Email: [nrg@sara.nl](mailto:nrg@sara.nl)



- Network Description Language:

<http://staff.science.uva.nl/~vdham/research/ndl/>

That's all Folks!