

LEVERAGING IN-BAND
TELEMETRY AND ML FOR A
RESPONSIBLE INTERNET

ciena



UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY IN PRACTICE

BUILDING A RESPONSIBLE AND RESILIENT INTERNET

Preserving Digital Autonomy

- ▶ Ensure societal autonomy by protecting critical systems from external manipulation and surveillance.

User Empowerment and Choice

- ▶ Enable individuals and critical service providers to select and control the equipment managing their data.

Data Sovereignty

- ▶ Allow users to define clear requirements for their data, including trusted networking hardware and geographic preferences.

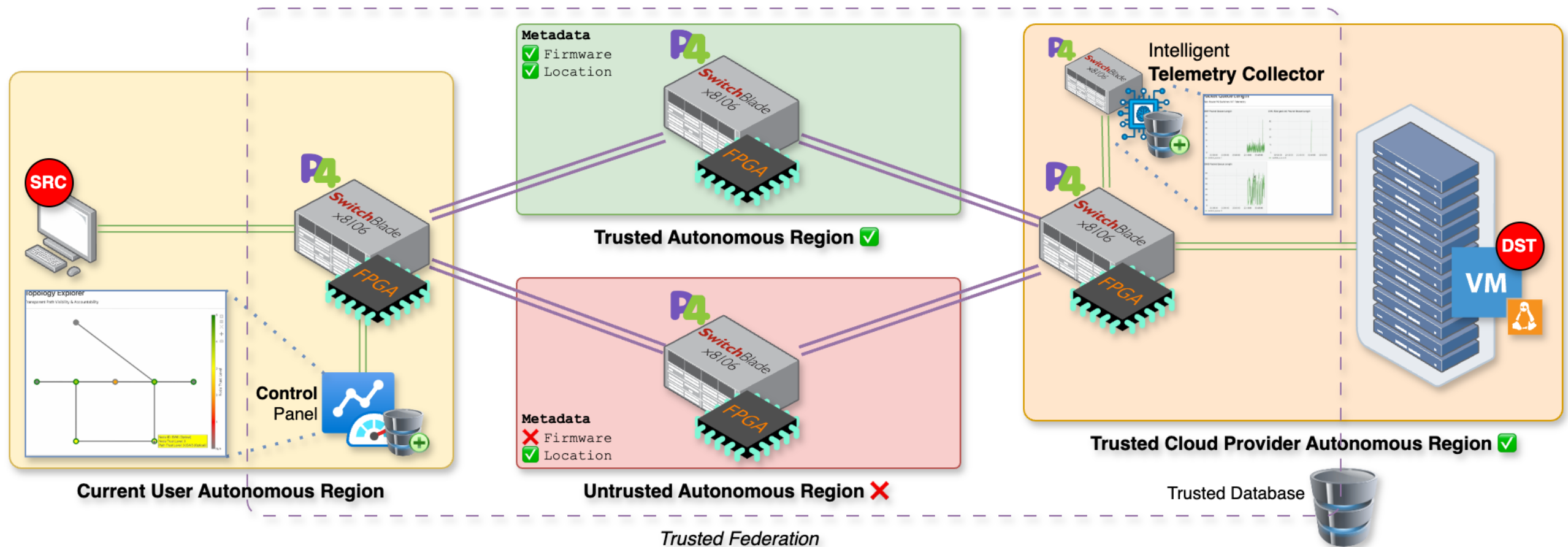
Transparency and Accountability

- ▶ Provide mechanisms for users to verify operator integrity and effectively trace incidents or cyber-attacks to their origins.

Resilient and Responsible Internet

- ▶ Promote an internet infrastructure that is resilient, secure, and aligned with users' privacy and security expectations.

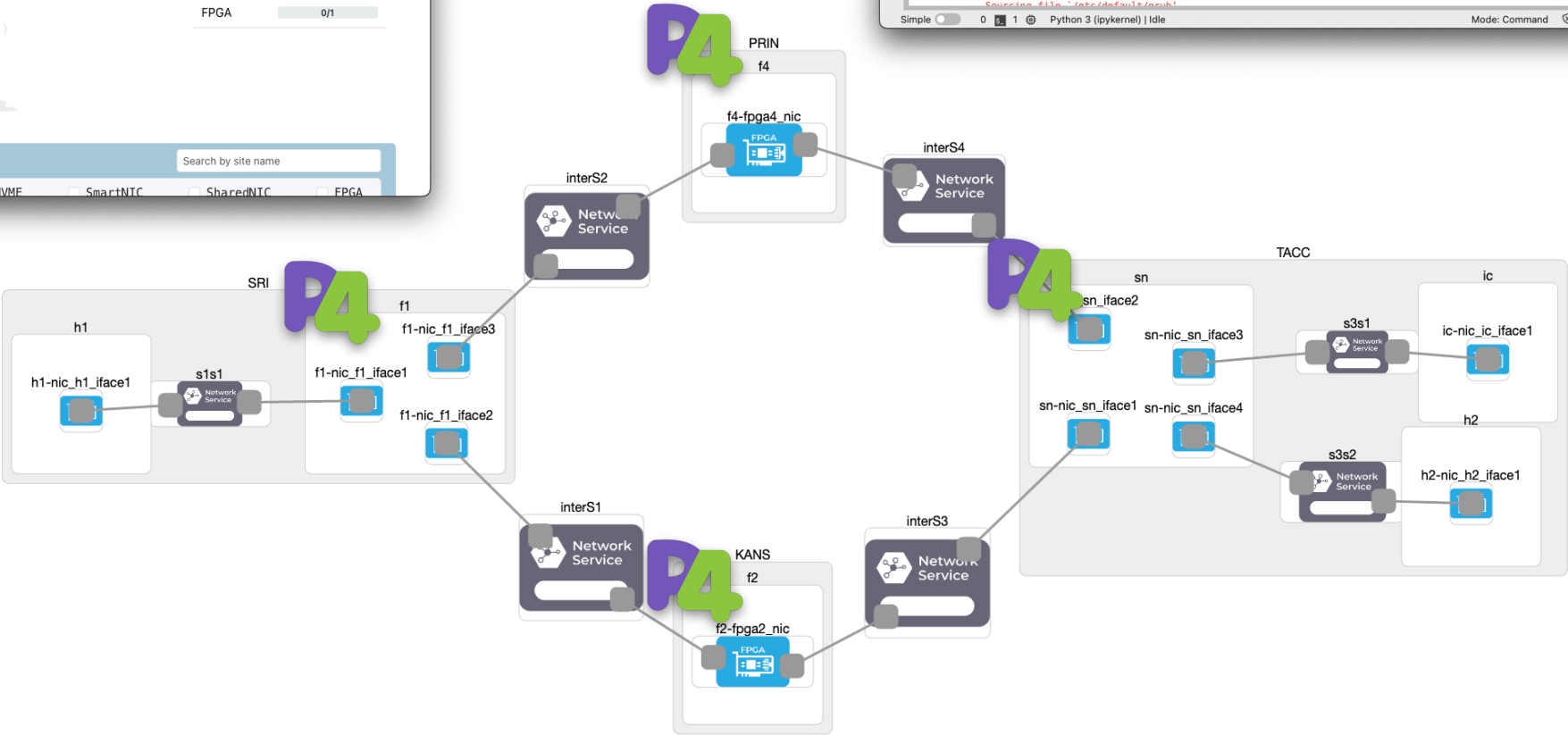
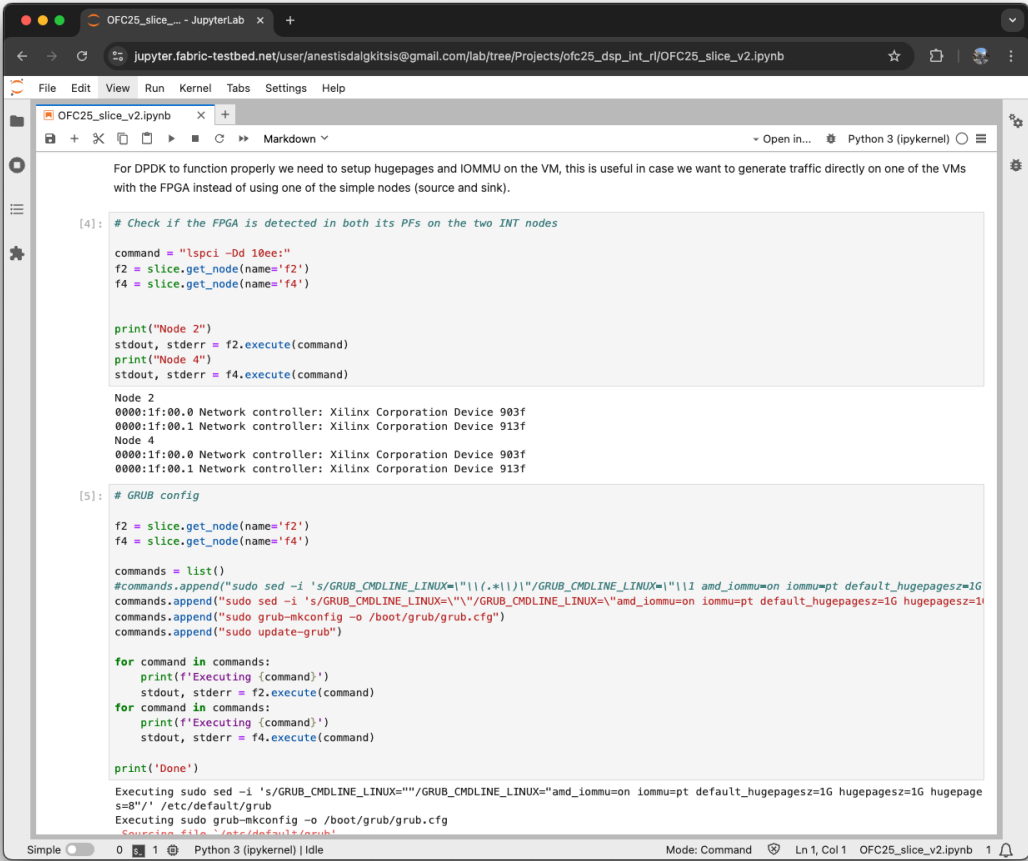
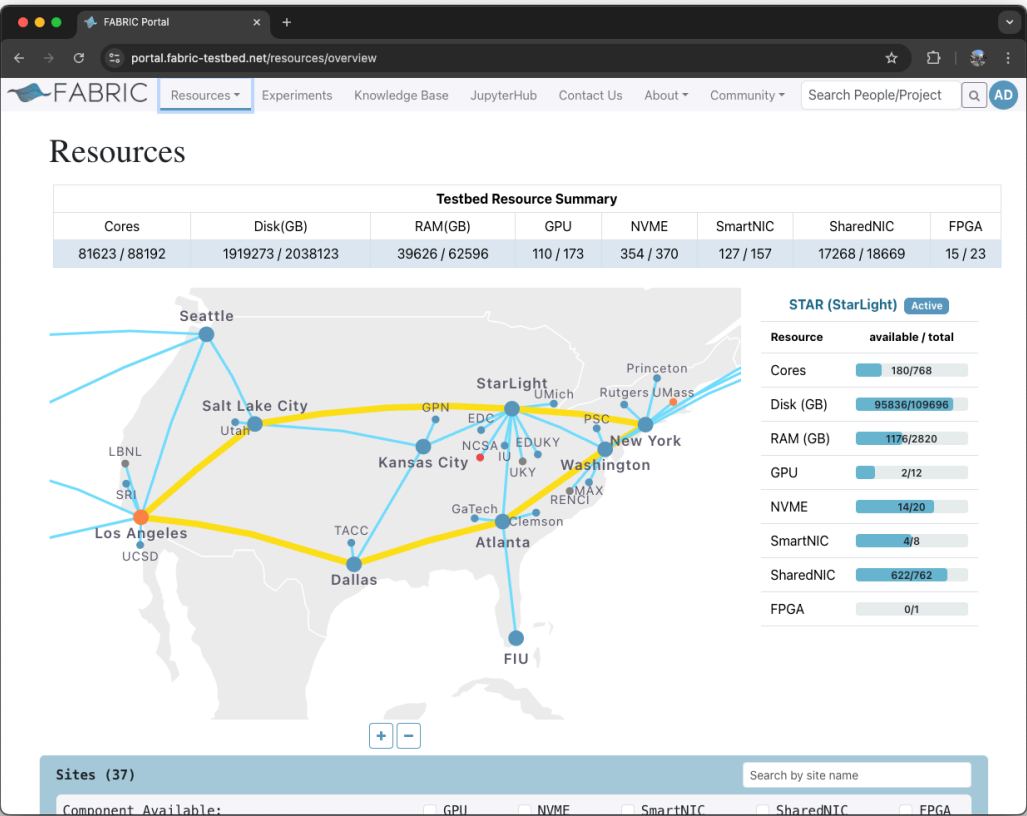
NETWORK ELEMENT TRUST LEVEL



DEMONSTRATOR DESCRIPTION &
OPERATION

PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

FABRIC TESTBED



NETWORK ELEMENT TRUST LEVEL



Trust Calculation

Location

Weight: .5

Vendor

Weight: .2

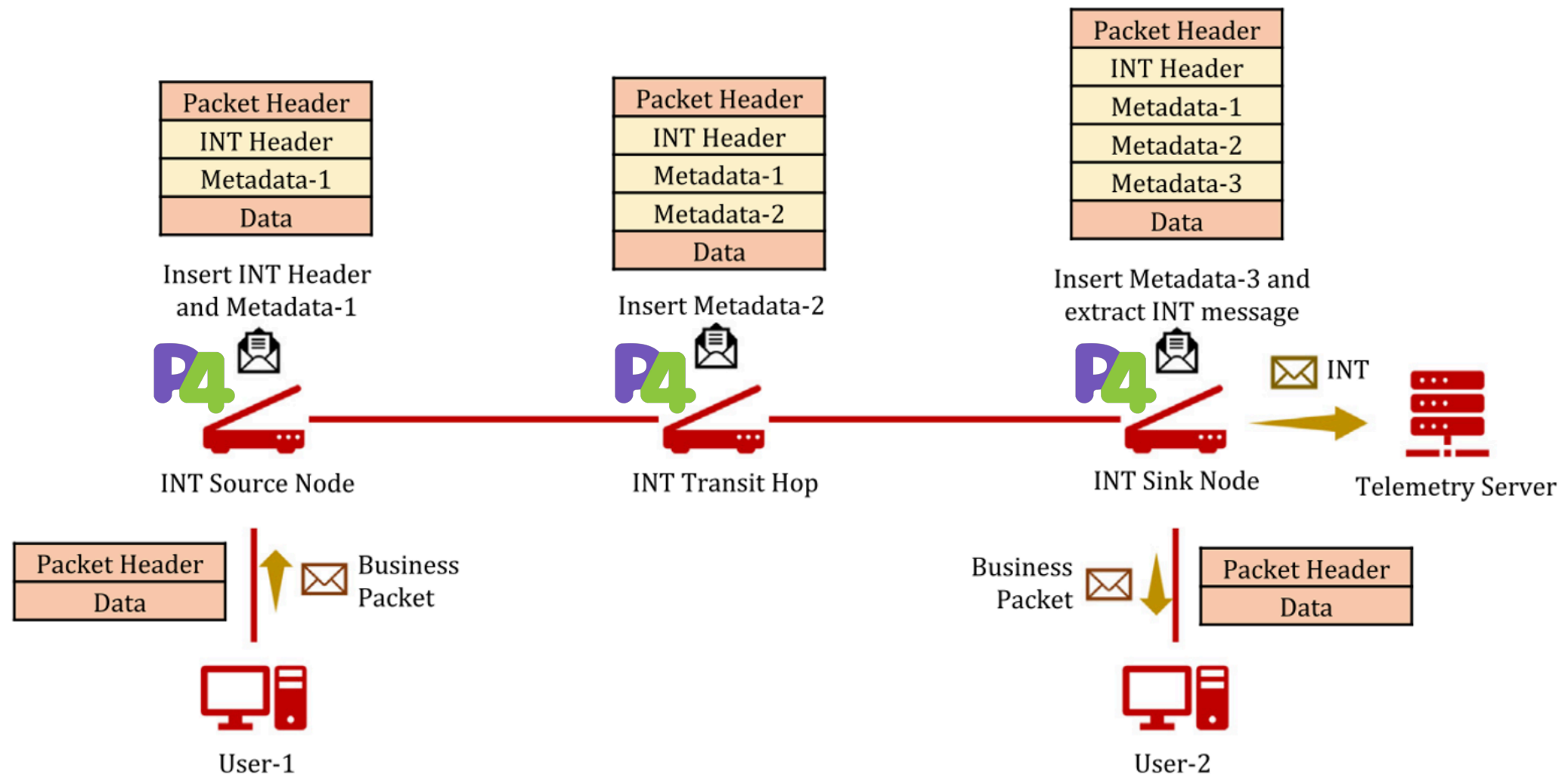
Firmware

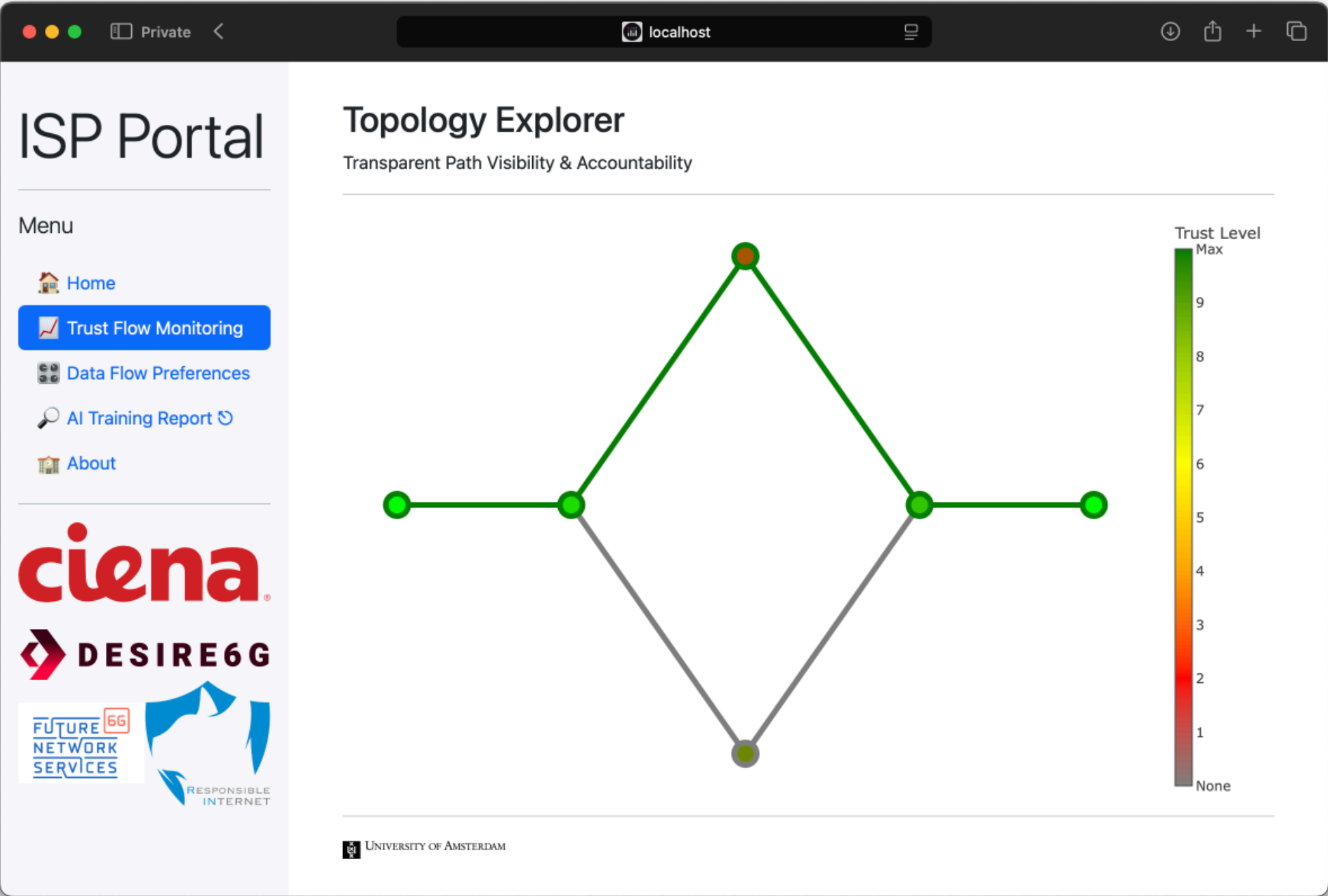
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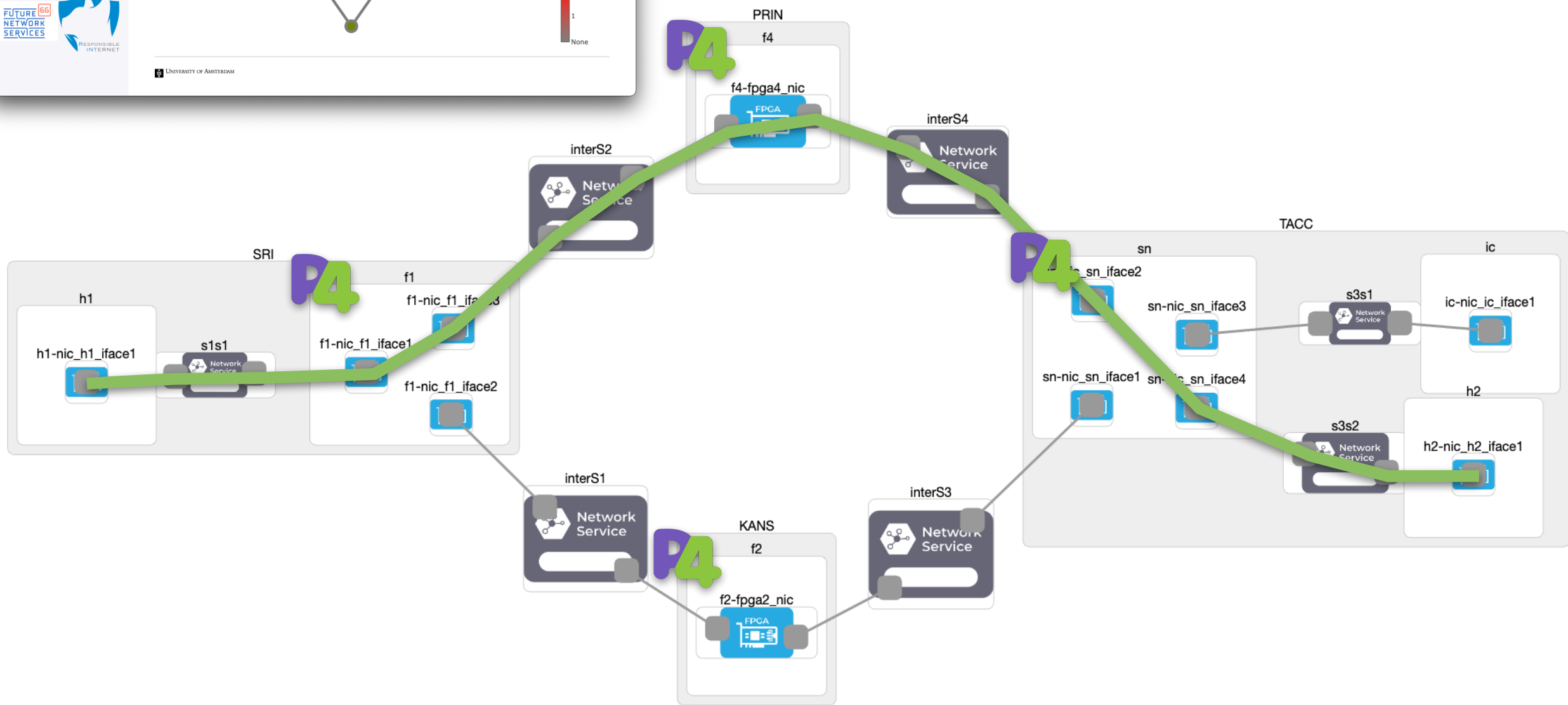
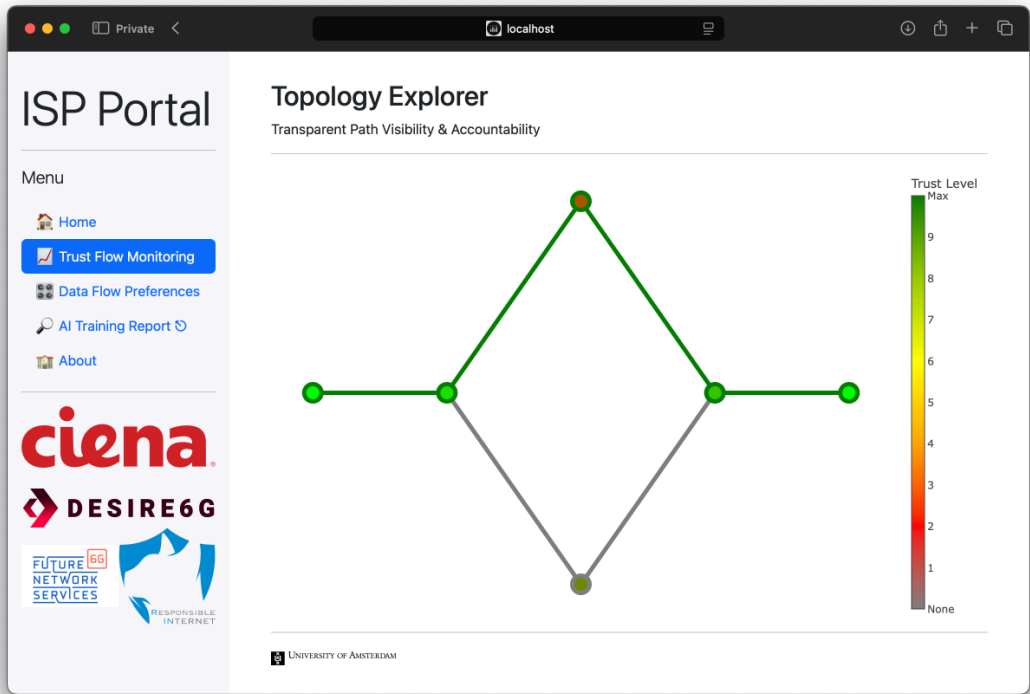
TRUST LEVEL

- ✓ INTERACTIONS WITH THE OTHER NETWORK ENTITIES
- ✓ LOCATION
- ✓ FIRMWARE VERSION
- ✓ LEVEL OF HARDWARE HARDENING
- ✓ ETC

IN-BAND NETWORK TELEMETRY



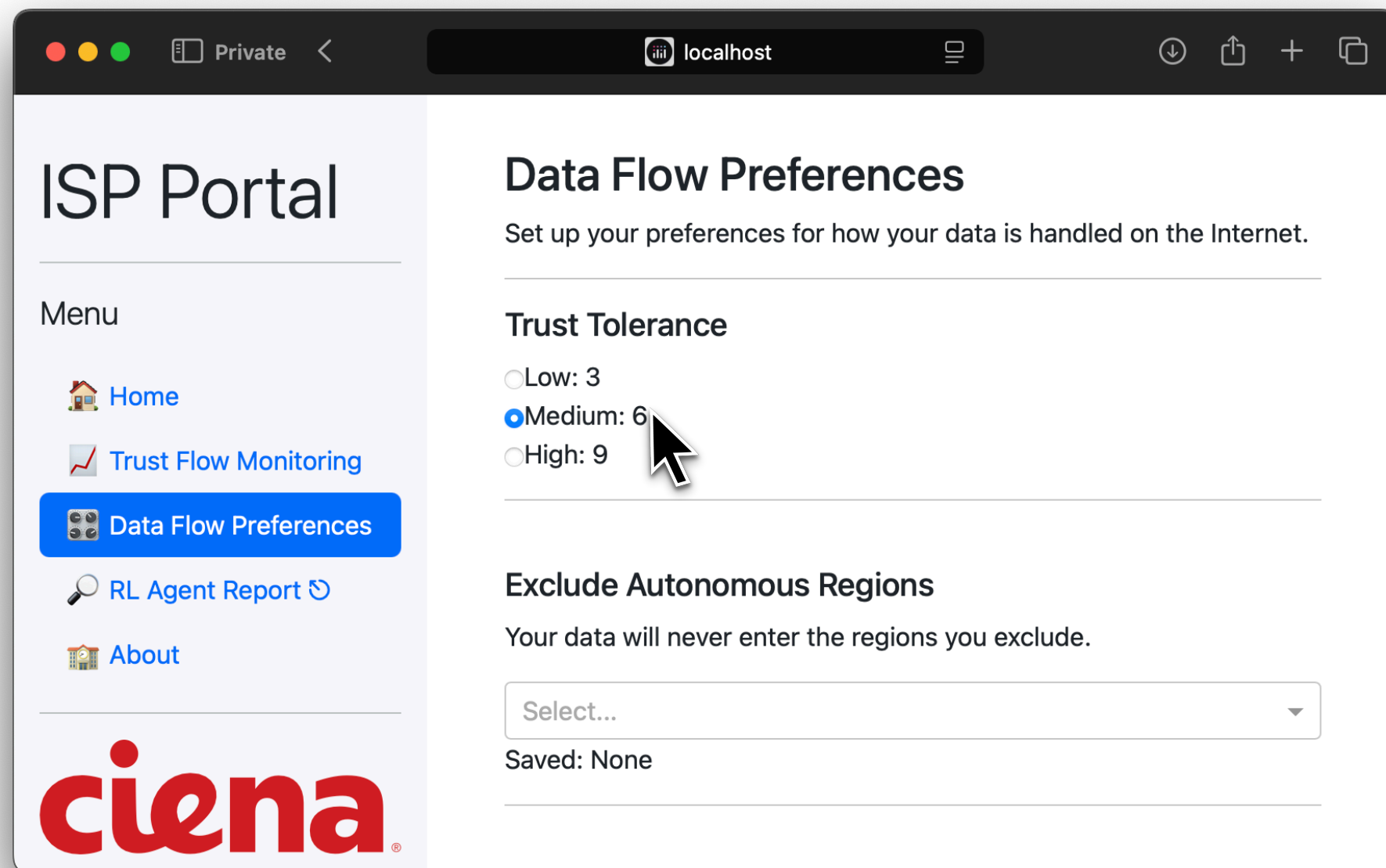




AUTONOMOUS LEARNING-DRIVEN IN-
NETWORK CONTROL

SCENARIO I

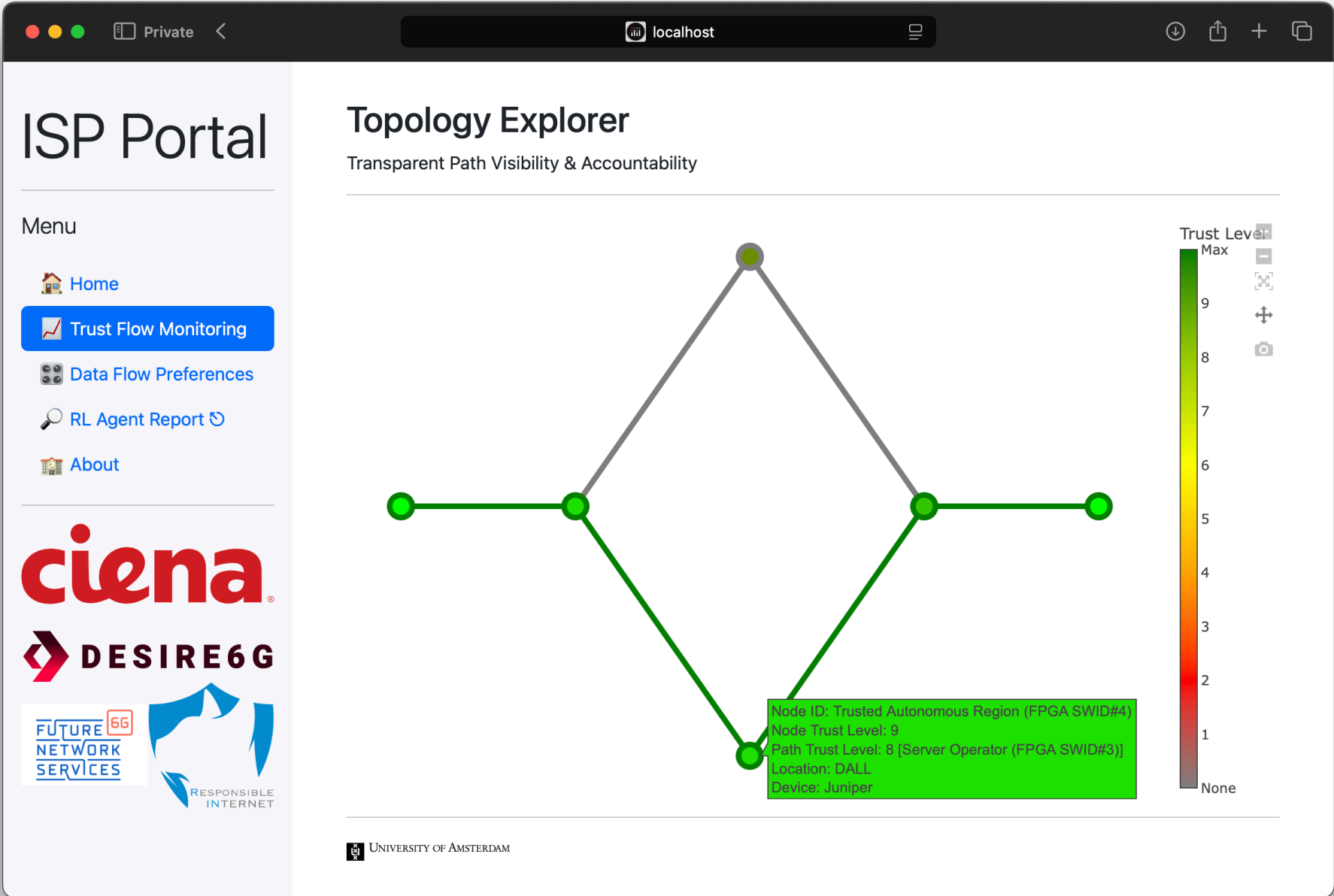
AUTONOMOUS LEARNING-DRIVEN IN-NETWORK CONTROL



AUTONOMOUS LEARNING-DRIVEN IN-NETWORK CONTROL

Trust Tolerance

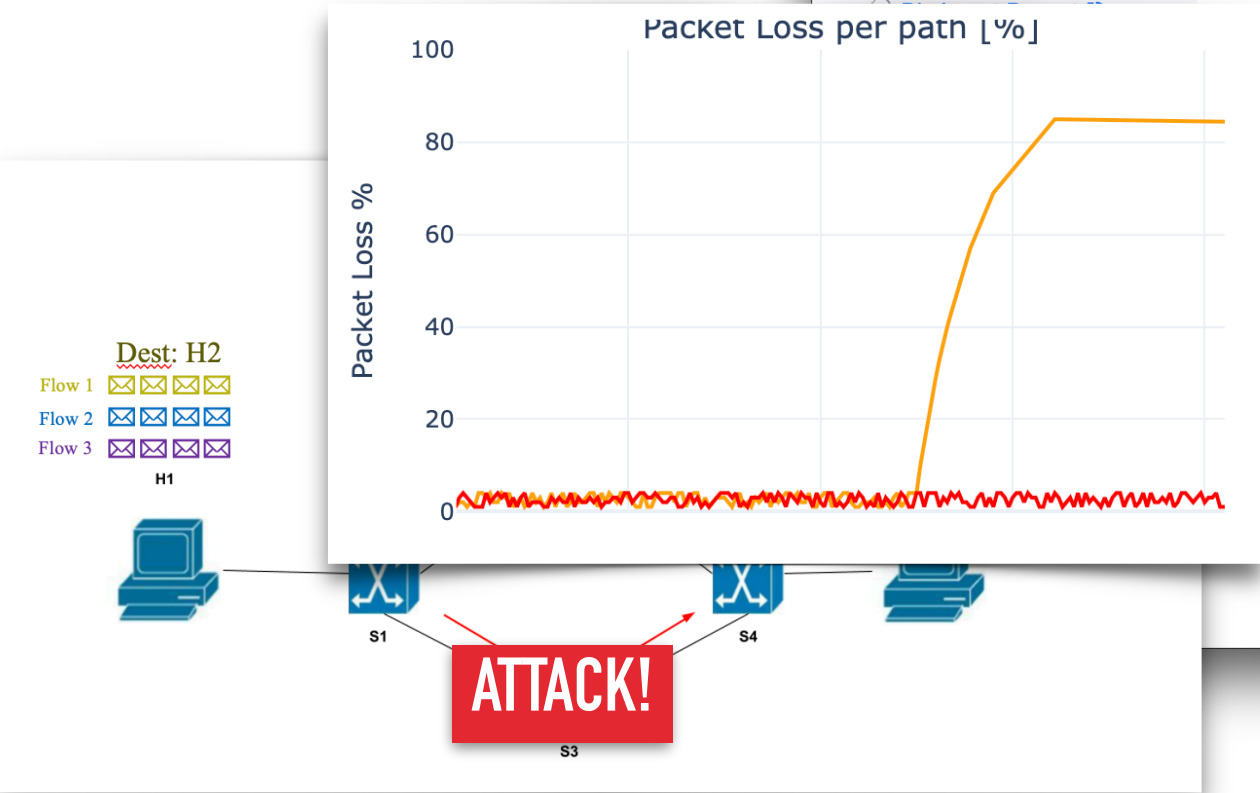
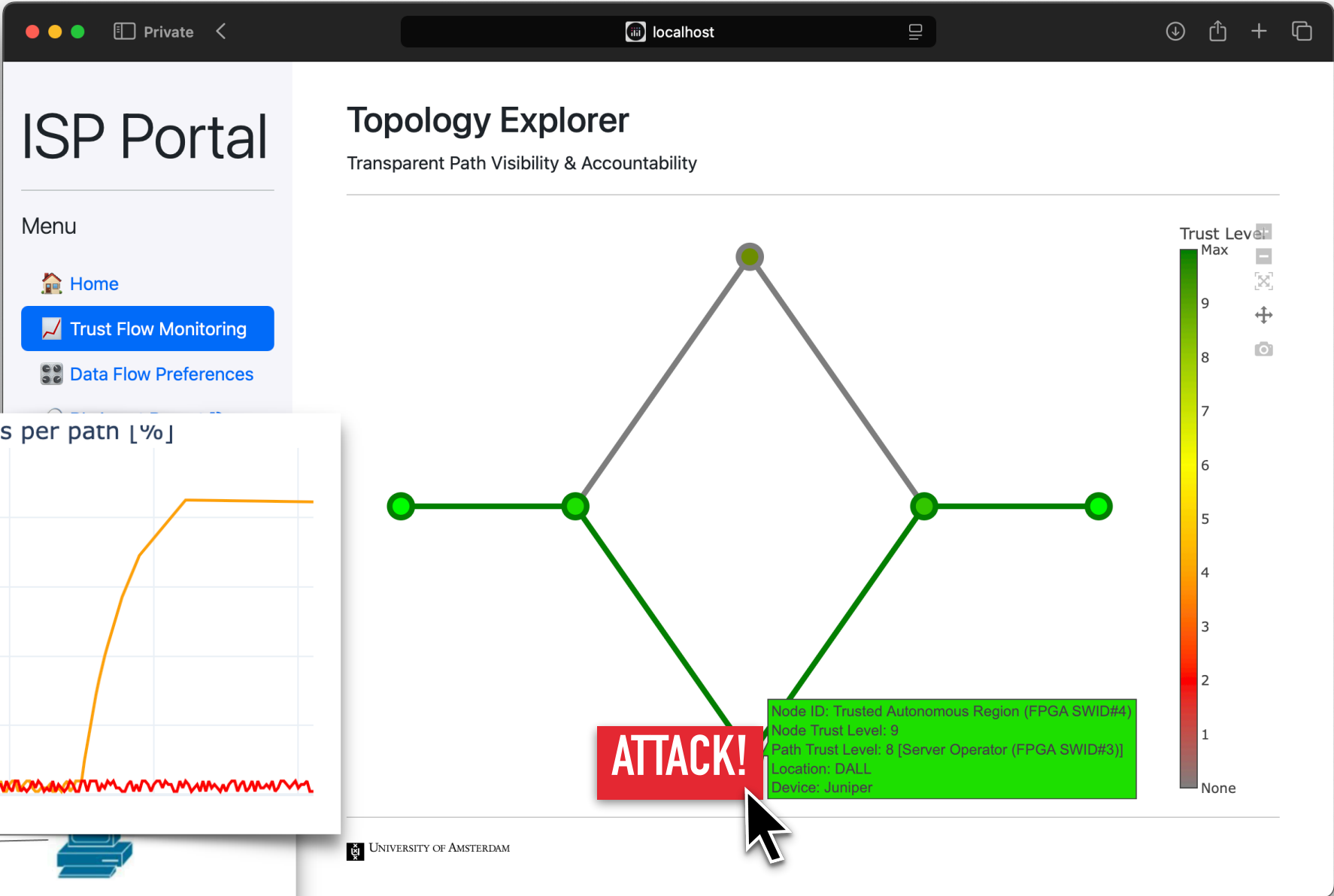
- ☐ Low: 3
- ☒ Medium: 6
- ☐ High: 9



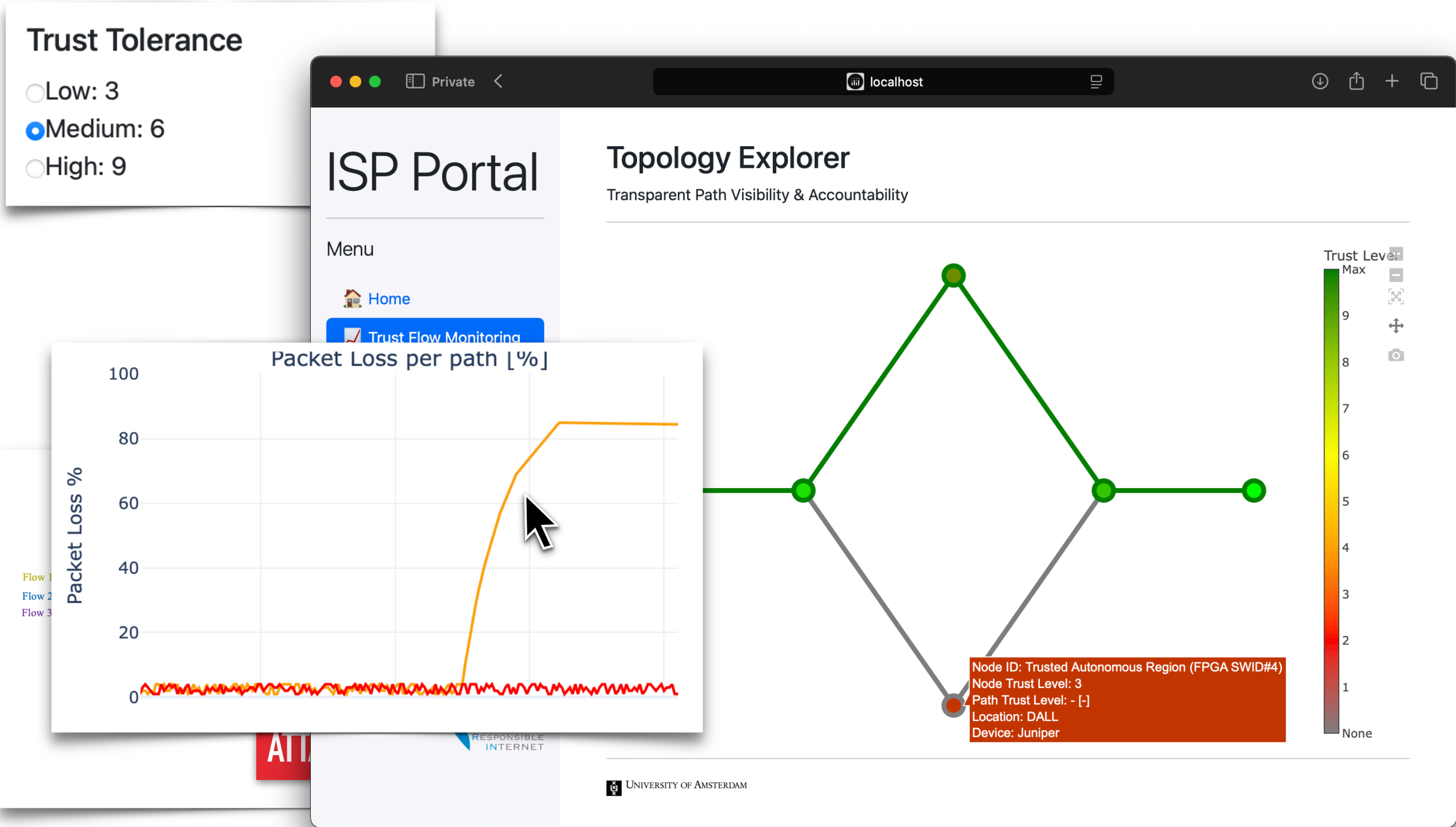
AUTONOMOUS LEARNING-DRIVEN IN-NETWORK CONTROL

Trust Tolerance

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- ☒ Medium: 6
- ☐ High: 9



AUTONOMOUS LEARNING-DRIVEN IN-NETWORK CONTROL



AUTONOMOUS LEARNING-DRIVEN IN-NETWORK CONTROL

Trust Tolerance

☐ Low: 3

☒ Medium: 6

☐ High: 9

ISP Portal

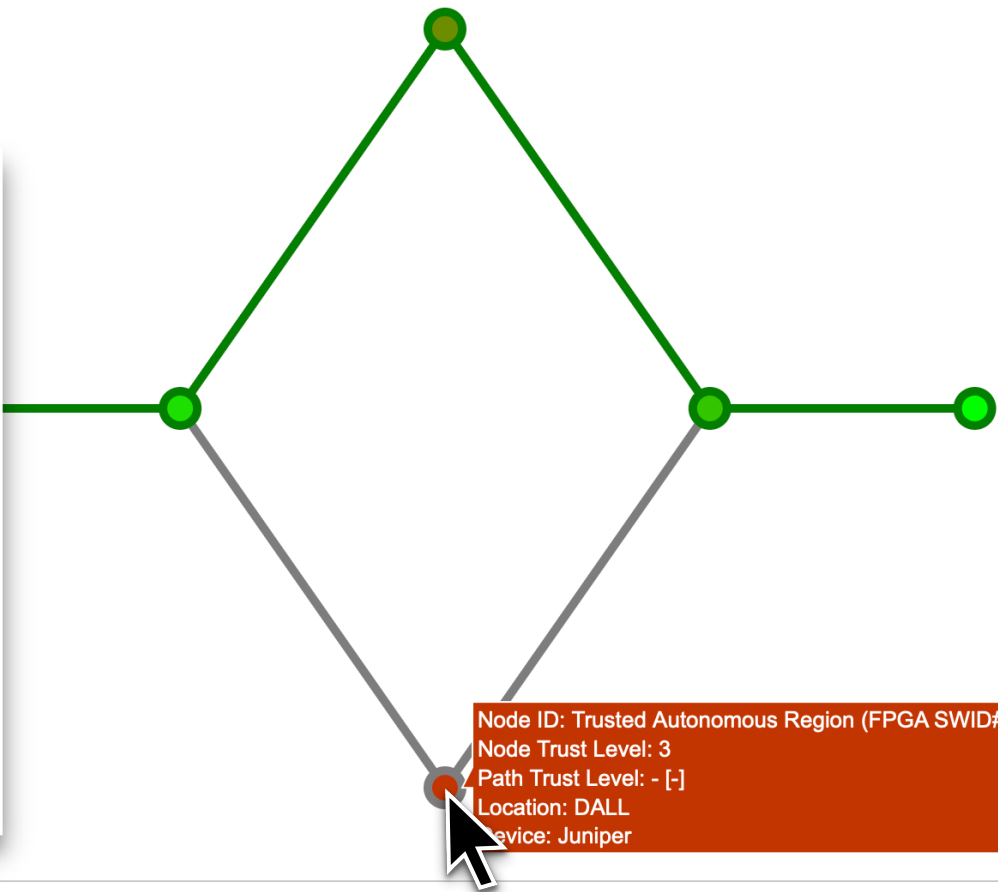
Menu

Home

Trust Flow Monitoring

Topology Explorer

Transparent Path Visibility & Accountability



Trust Level

Max

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

None

Node ID: Trusted Autonomous Region (FPGA SWID#4)

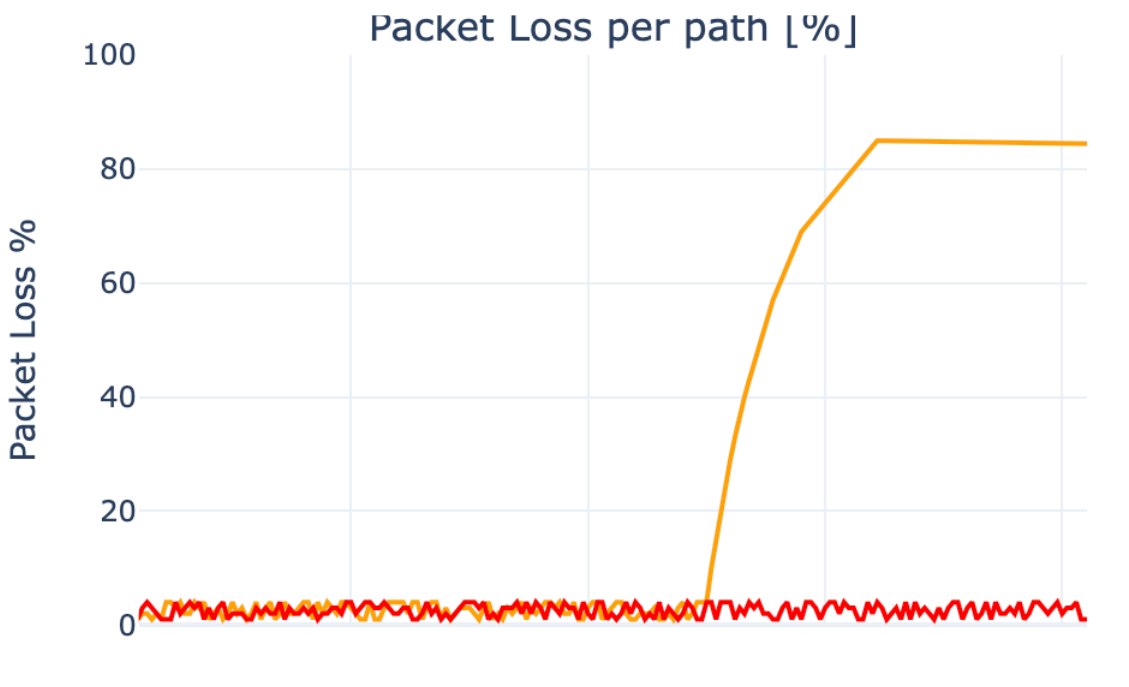
Node Trust Level: 3

Path Trust Level: - [-]

Location: DALL

Device: Juniper

Packet Loss per path [%]



Flow 1

Flow 2

Flow 3

ATT

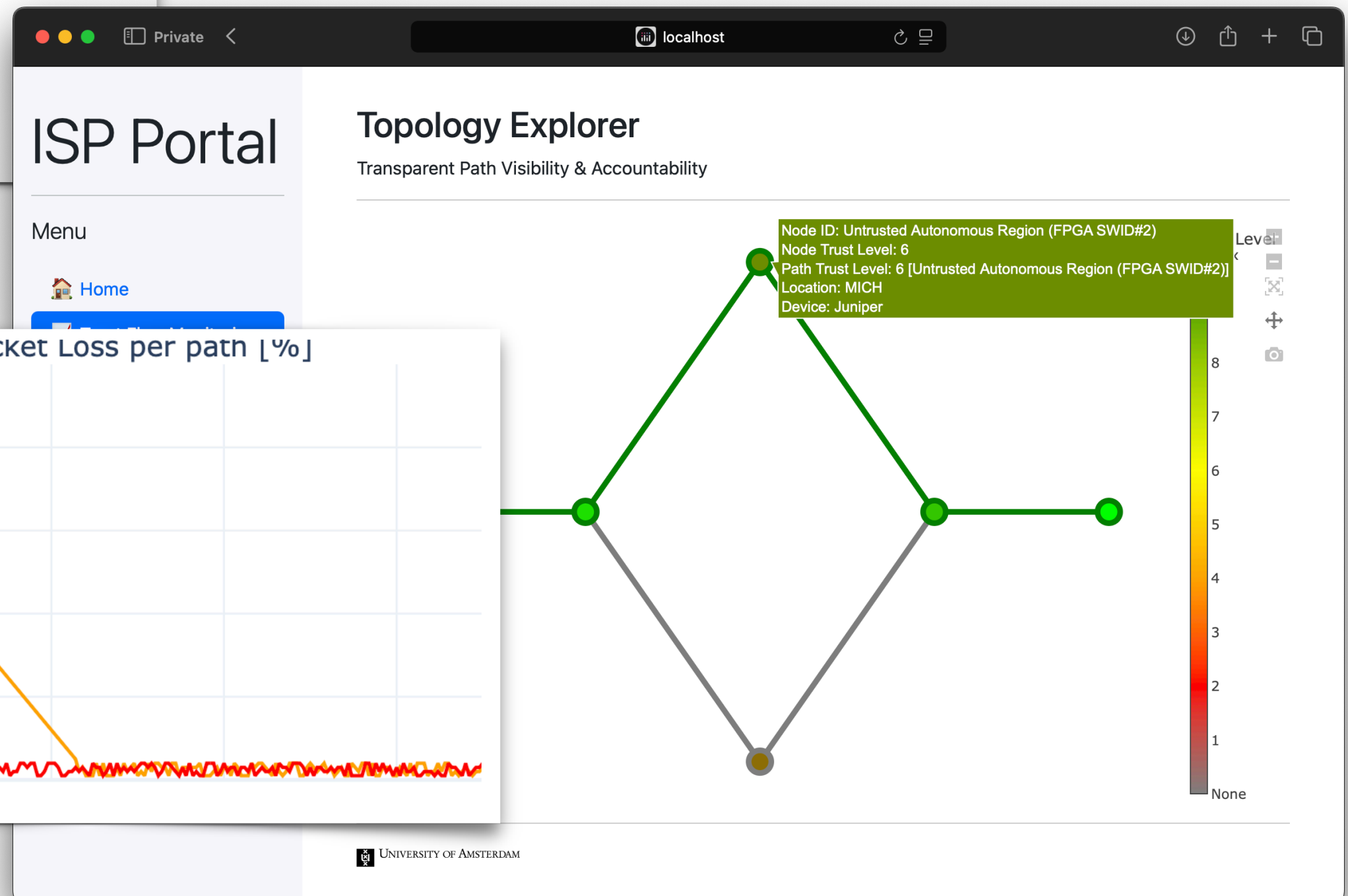
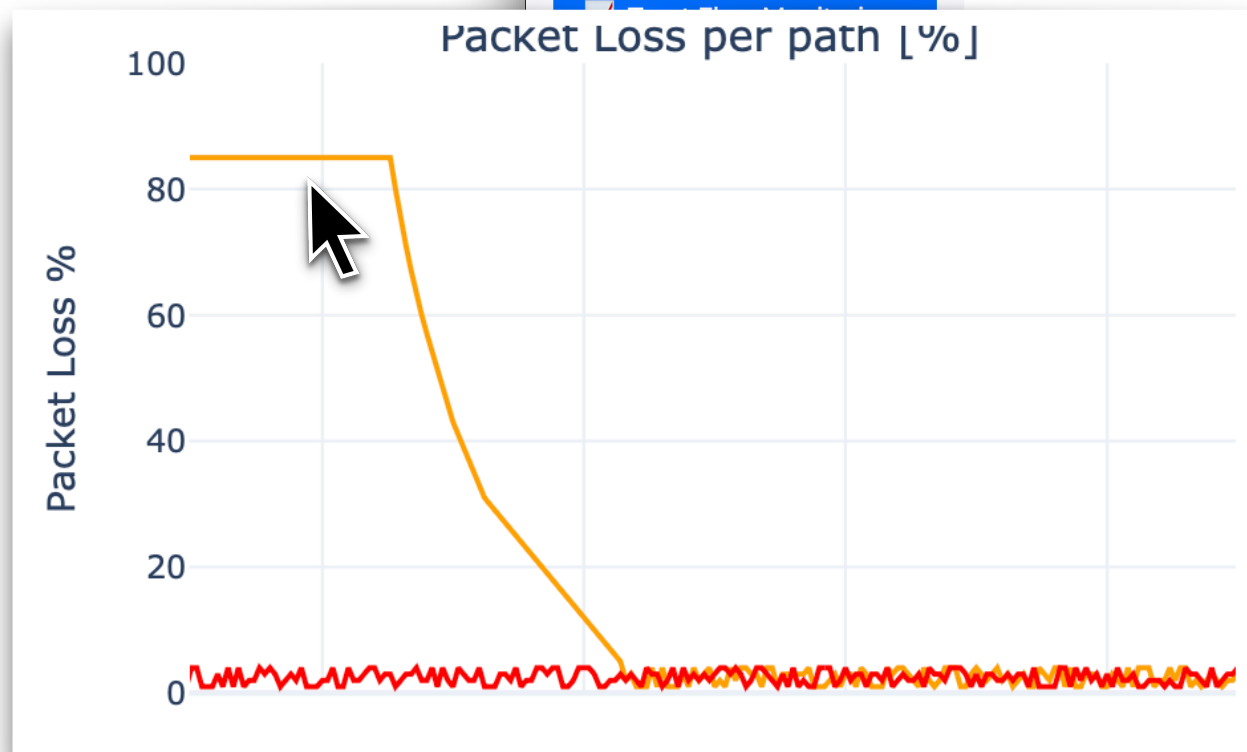
RESPONSIBLE
INTERNET

Trust Tolerance

☐ Low: 3

☒ Medium: 6

☐ High: 9



AUTONOMOUS LEARNING-DRIVEN IN-NETWORK CONTROL

Trust Tolerance

- ☐ Low: 3
- ☒ Medium: 6
- ☐ High: 9

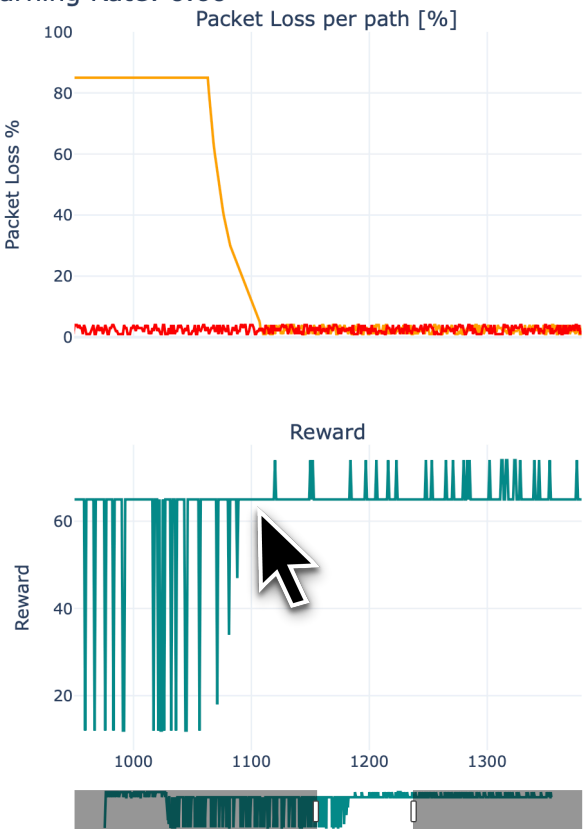
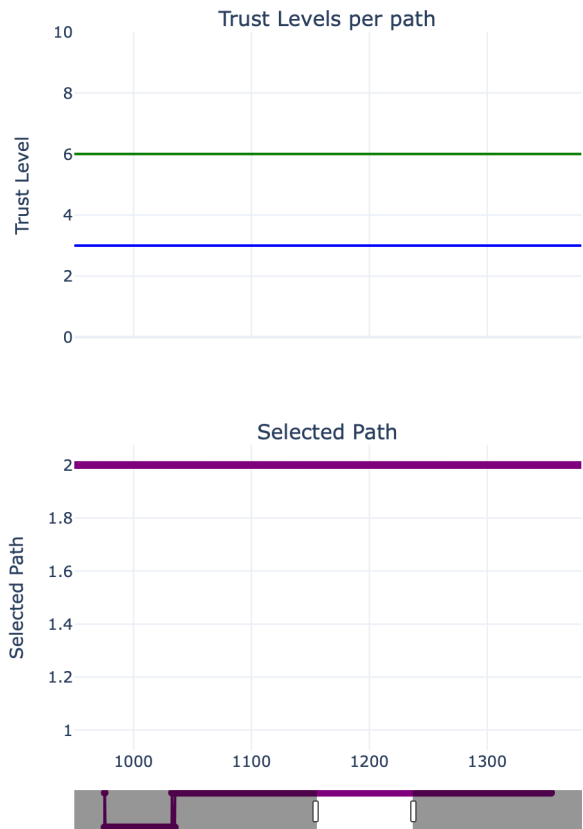
ISP Portal

Topology Explorer

Transparent Path Visibility & Accountability

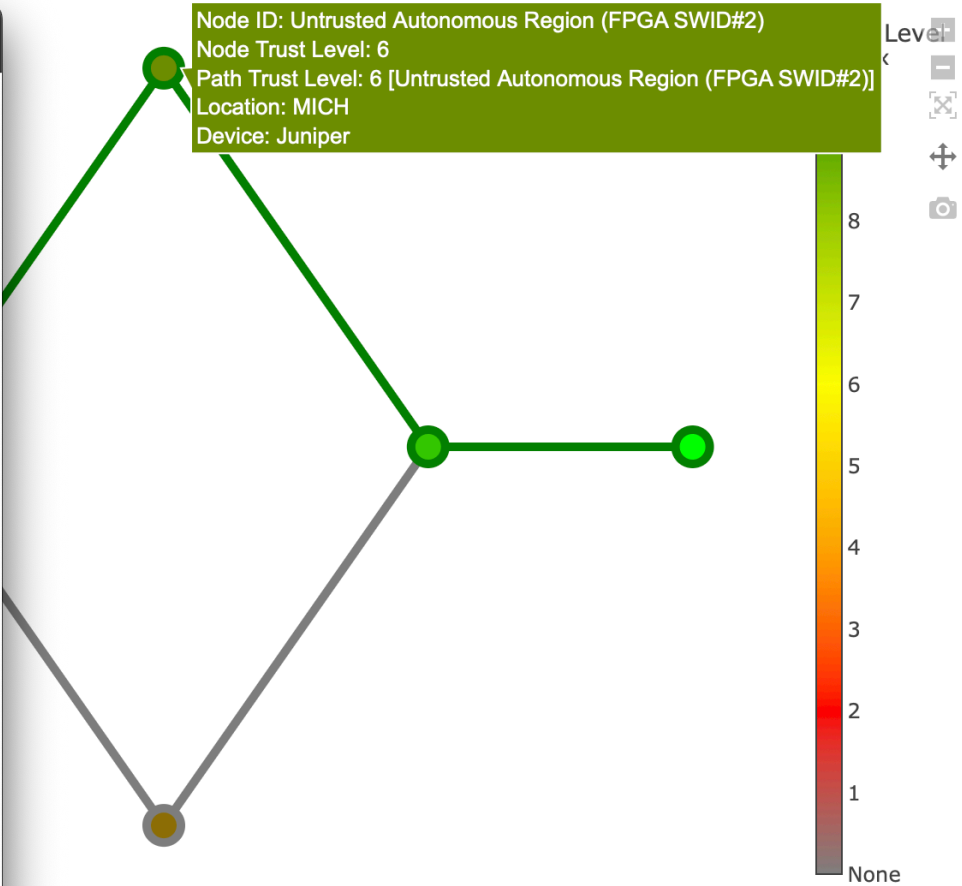
Adaptive Path Selection for Programmable Networks

Learning Rate: 0.60



- Legend
- Trust Path 1
 - Trust Path 2
 - Packet Loss % Path 1
 - Packet Loss % Path 2
 - Selected Path
 - Reward

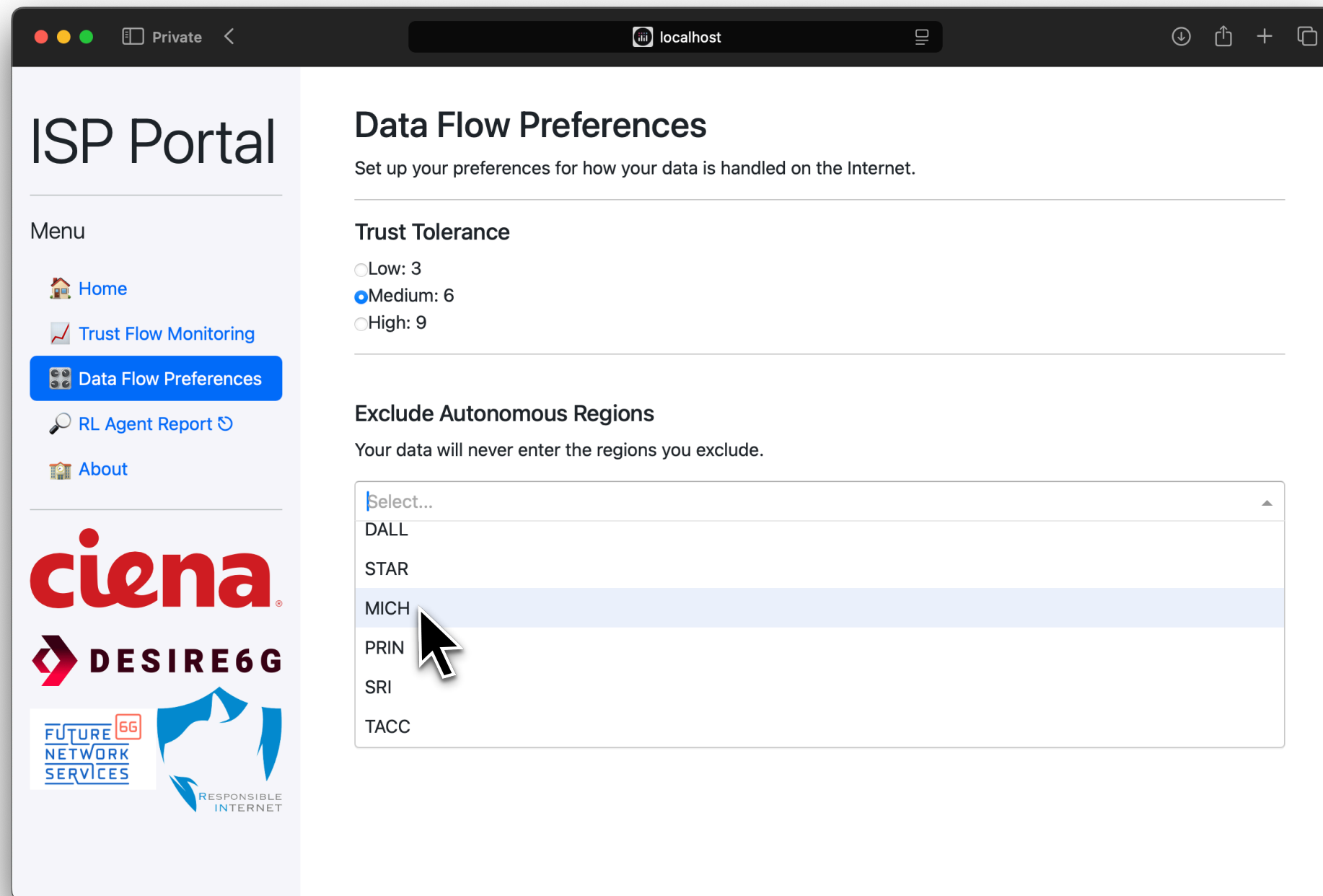
Node ID: Untrusted Autonomous Region (FPGA SWID#2)
Node Trust Level: 6
Path Trust Level: 6 [Untrusted Autonomous Region (FPGA SWID#2)]
Location: MICH
Device: Juniper



USER INTENT-DRIVEN NETWORK
CONTROL

SCENARIO II

USER INTENT-DRIVEN NETWORK CONTROL



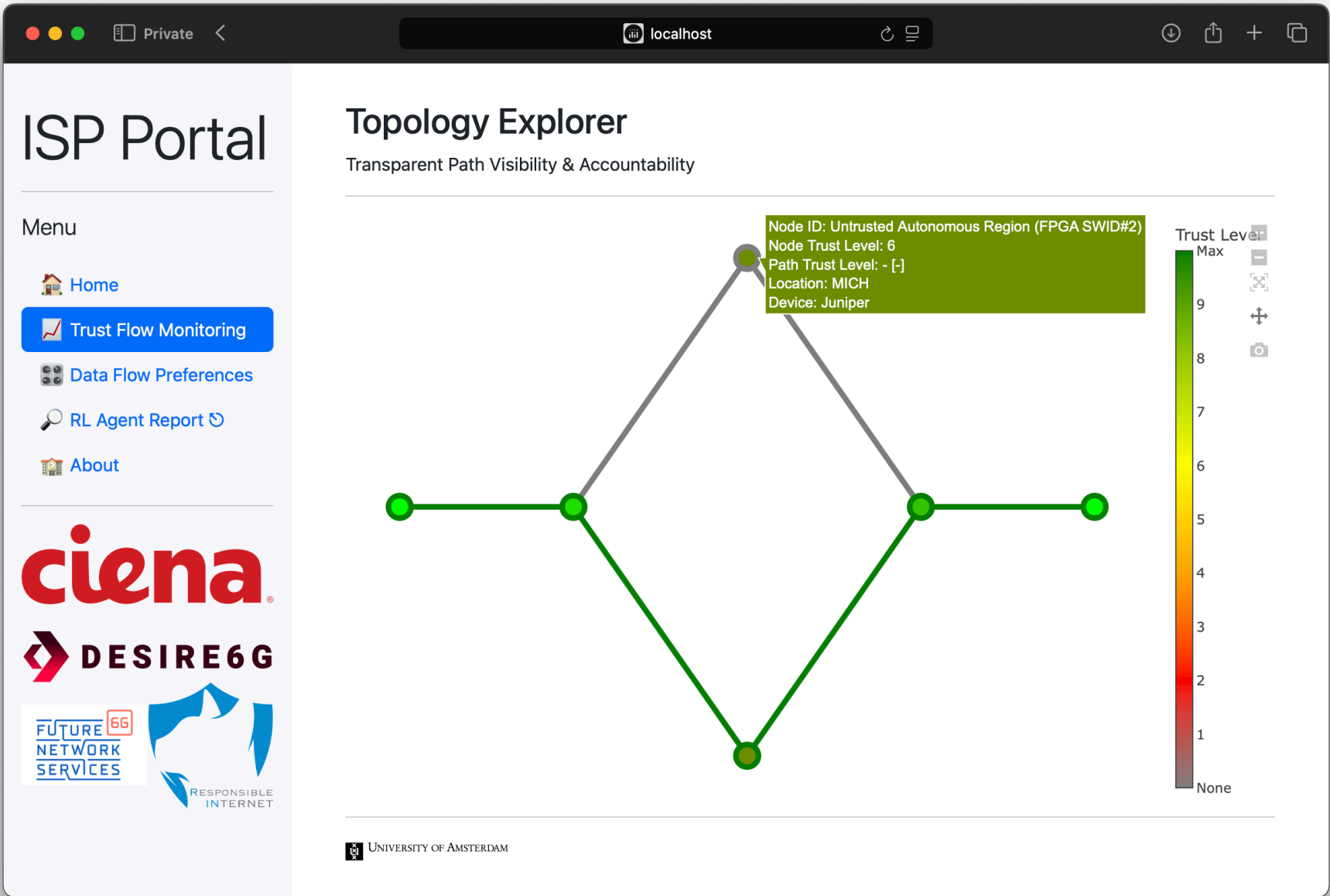
USER INTENT-DRIVEN NETWORK CONTROL

Manually Exclude Regions

Your data will never enter the region

×

MICH



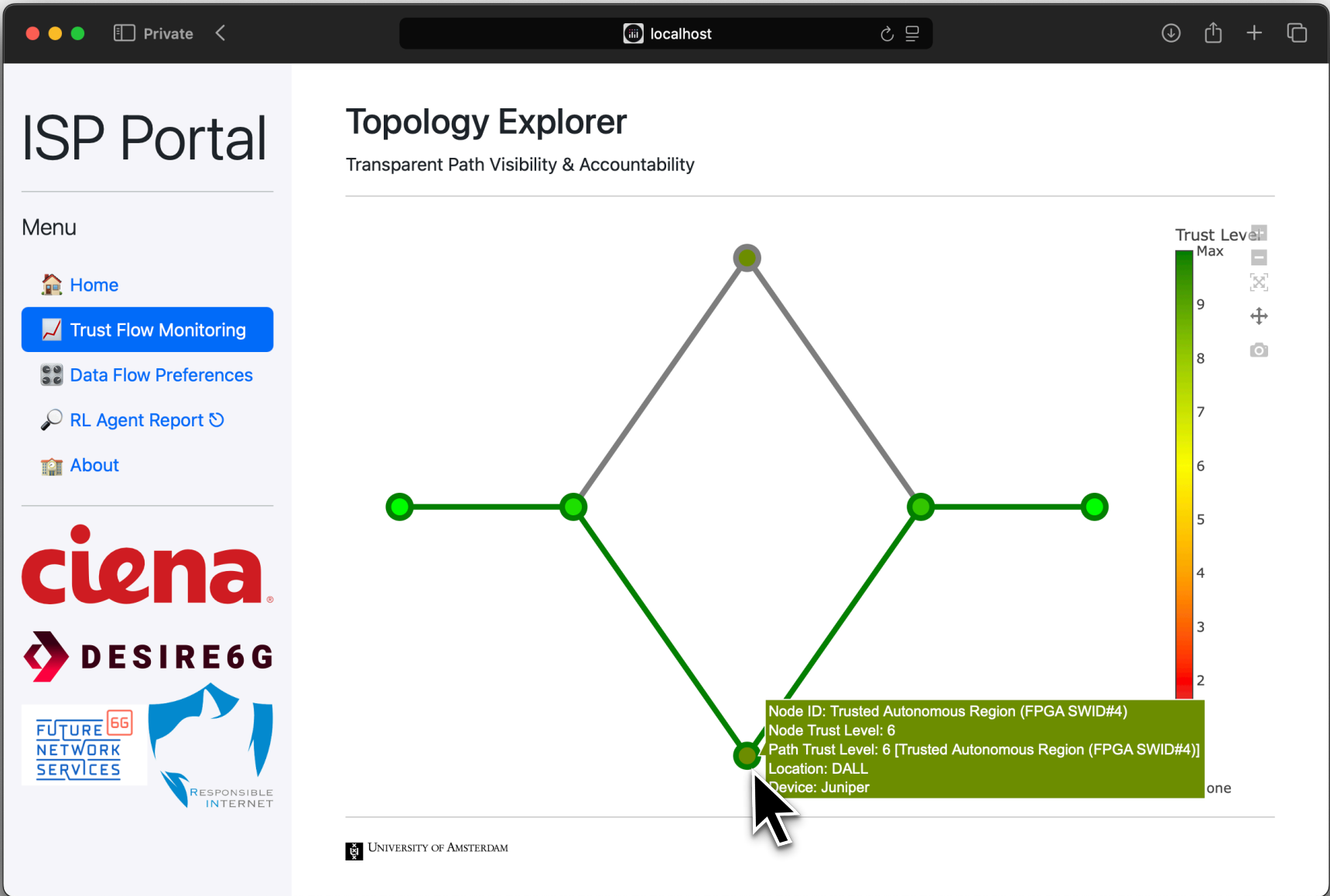
USER INTENT-DRIVEN NETWORK CONTROL

Manually Exclude Regions

Your data will never enter the region

×

MICH



CONTRIBUTIONS

Empowered Users via Transparency & Control

- ▶ Enabled users to specify their trust preferences and then verify the data path integrity in real-time using In-band Network Telemetry (INT).

In-Network RL Path Optimization in the Data Plane

- ▶ Integrated Reinforcement Learning (RL) agents directly into the programmable data plane, enabling autonomous, security-aware flow steering decisions, without control plane intervention.

Validated in a Realistic Infrastructure

- ▶ Deployed and tested on the FABRIC testbed programmable switches, demonstrating the feasibility of a secure, intent-driven data flow control and dynamic path optimization.

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GROSSO, CEES DE LAAT

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THANK YOU