

Spirent Network Emulator

Get Predictable Infrastructure Performance with Industry's Highest Port Density

Test with Real-world Network Conditions in Your Lab

Real-life networks are a complex system of changing conditions, flexible routes and competing applications. And the only way to get predictable infrastructure performance is to test before deployment.

The Spirent Network Emulator provides industry-leading flexibility in building and modelling these complex real-life systems enabling you to simulate networks and emulate the real world conditions under which applications and platforms need to perform.

Extreme Flexibility — Multi-port and Multi-user

Spirent Network Emulator is a highly flexible solution for both network emulation and network simulation. Whether you want to emulate point-to-point links, simulate complex data-centers with multiple gateways or extract out analytical information on video systems, with the Spirent Network Emulator you can build your network in seconds.

And because every network and project requirement is different — depending on factors such as location, connectivity, quality of service, number of services and the applications being used across it — reaching beyond simple delay, jitter and bandwidth emulation is essential for any business.

Further, Network Emulator offers a multi-user, multi-port environment. Each user can be allocated a pair of ports, or a number of ports, and can password protect these ports for their own exclusive use. This ensures a very cost effective and flexible means of providing test resources to a team or department.



Spirent Network Emulator is available with multiple hardware options, including:

- Multi-port — market leading port density with up to 16 ports 1GbE, up to 12 ports 10GbE, and up to 4 ports 25GbE
- Flexible configuration—mix and match interface cards to meet your needs
- Flexible interfaces; RJ-45, SFP+ or SFP28 (or a mixture)
- Wireshark integration
- Easy automation via remote control using RESTful API
- Flow packets between any port, no limitations
- Up to 12 minutes of storage for wire-rate recording at 10Gbps
- Delay emulation up to 4 seconds at 10GbE/1GbE
- Fast visual emulation design creates networks in seconds

Key Highlights

- Multi-user
- Multi-port — best-in-class port density with up to 16 ports 1GbE, up to 12 ports 10GbE, and up to 4 ports 25GbE
- 1GbE, 10GbE and 25GbE interfaces supported
- Network simulation — using virtual routers for cloud, data-center and WAN simulation
- Connect any-port to any-port without limitations
- Delay emulation up to 30 seconds
- Over 55+ impairments and tools
- Audio and video MPEG (H.264 & H.265) modification and corruption
- Packet fragmentation and reordering
- Includes generic full packet inspection and filtering
- Packet modification; change any bits or bytes of any packet
- Load generators
- Non-volatile capture and replay
- RESTful API
- Link flapping
- Markov random packet prop
- 20M bandwidth throttle buffer for video applications

Applications

Spirent Network Emulator is a total solution to the problem of real-world Ethernet testing. It combines comprehensive and highly-accurate network emulation to enable you to:

Troubleshoot — Investigate reported problems and test resolutions without disrupting production traffic. Moreover, test specific scenarios and gain insight and data about where and when problems arise to identify effective resolutions before they become live issues.

Design Networks — Create ‘what if?’ scenarios to evaluate network changes; evaluate different topologies and technologies before expensive implementation. For example, evaluate WAN Acceleration Technology by determining how different WAN optimization products will perform under the best/average/worst conditions of your network.

Test Application Performance — Determine how your software will perform for the end user on their network before deployment; troubleshoot and resolve issues before the need for re-work, release delay or failure.

Optimize Performance — Adjust application and software settings under replicated network characteristics to optimize performance for different user groups.

Use Network Emulator to test:

- Video/voice applications (IPTV, VoIP, etc.)
- Mobile subscriber networks (VoLTE, eMBMS, etc.)
- Content delivery networks
- Cloud computing/migration
- CoS/QoS levels
- WAN acceleration/network optimization
- LAN/WAN enterprise networks
- ADSL/FTTH
- SLA verification
- ITU-T Y.1731/IEEE 802.1ag operations and maintenance
- Satellite links
- Storage networks
- Telecom/Federal network applications
- Carrier Wi-Fi
- Cable/broadband networks
- SD-WAN
- Broadcast quality video networks

Emulate Real Network Conditions

- Busy peak times
- Long distance
- Jittery connections
- Duplication of data
- Fragmentation of data
- Traffic re-routing
- Limited bandwidth
- Packet corruption
- De-sequencing of data
- Network traffic bursts
- Partial or total outage
- Back-up switchovers

Visual Design

Using Network Emulator’s unique visual design to build emulations, you take control by linking together impairments in the order you require while directly controlling the flow of packets around your simulated network.

The user interface (UI) provides a fast and responsive graphical environment for you to build emulations. The flexible UI enables you to drag and drop from the extensive list of impairments into your network to create specific scenarios to meet your testing needs.



Features

Wire Rate — The Spirent Network Emulator supports wire rate performance. All 10GbE ports are dual rate, supporting 10GbE and 1GbE operation. All 25GbE ports are multi-rate, supporting 25GbE, 10GbE and 1GbE operation. This makes the Network Emulator very flexible and can be tailored to your individual throughput needs.

“Any Port to Any Port”™ Capabilities — Network Emulator comes with true “Any Port to Any Port”™ capabilities. Whether you are using 4, 8 or 16 ports they will all communicate with each other without limitation.

Many emulate products may state you are buying a ‘4 port emulator’ but often what you actually get is two ‘emulators’ each with two ports inside a single box. There may be four ports on the outside, but the reality is that you have two independent emulators and you won’t be able to send packets between each. So effectively you have got two emulators with two ports, not the four ports you need.

Fragmentation and Reordering — When packets cross network boundaries they can become fragmented. Network Emulator can fragment packets to simulate MTU changes down to 64 bytes. Packets can also be reordered either by displacing the packets “X” number of frames or time into the future.

Automation Ready — We understand that everyone’s automation environments are different. Network Emulator can be controlled externally through a variety of methods. A RESTful API is provided offering powerful and efficient web-based automation. In addition, a Timeline (auto-change) feature allows you to easily automate emulation via the GUI. Developers can also directly issue XML requests to the emulator to gain deeper and full control of its operation.

Features (cont'd)

Load Generation — Very few networks are silent as there is always a certain amount of background traffic. Whether it is file servers, printers or other devices generating traffic, it is important to model it correctly.

Network Emulator provides a number of ways of generating this traffic including background traffic generation (contention), TCP load generators, PCAP file replay, etc.

Switchover and Back-up Circuits — Built on top of our powerful filtering system, you can easily simulate multiple paths in any network and switch between them in real-time (or using an external trigger). This allows you to model a 'good' and 'poor' network and switch between them in real time, plus you can create an unlimited number of paths.

Video and Audio — Dedicated impairments allow smart degradation of video (H.264), audio streaming, RTP, RTCP and much more. Understand how robust your AV equipment is to corruption of video or audio framing, and view analytics information on video format internals.

Impairments — Network Emulator provides all the common impairments including delay, jitter, throttle, and so on. Furthermore, it also provides advanced impairments including fragmentation, video corruption, BER corruption, reordering and many more.

Comprehensive Settings — Not only do you get 55+ impairments, but each one of those impairments has extensive options and settings to uniquely control their operation. This gives you an unparalleled level of fine tuning such as buffer and burst management on bandwidth throttles, or affecting only B-Frames in H.264 video streams.

Filtering — It's very important to be able to identify and target certain streams of data on an emulated network. Network Emulator provides a host of built-in filters to identify packets for impairment or analysis. Moreover, you can join filters together to create more complex filters (for example, you could find HTTP traffic going to Port 8080 on VLAN ID 90 with only two filters).

Flexible UI with Wizards and Easy Licensing — The Windows user interface provides a fast and responsive environment for you to build emulations. We've included some handy wizards to help you quickly create example networks and which don't lock you down to restrictive licensing (plus, install them on as many machines as you want).

Virtual Routers — Routers typically sit at the edge of most networks; they provide your ADSL connection in your business or accessibility to a cloud server through an ISP backbone.

Network Emulator contains full Virtual Router simulation, providing a method for simulating multi-hop WAN networks. These Virtual Routers provide DHCP or Static IP address assignment, automatic and manual routing table and multiple virtual interfaces. They will respond to both local and WAN pings and provide detailed analysis on packets received.

Use the Spirent Network Emulator to accurately simulate:

- SD-WAN
- Broadcast quality video networks
- VoIP
- Microwave
- Wi-Fi and WiMAX
- Satellite
- RoIP
- Cloud
- 3G and 4G
- GPRS
- Dial Up
- DSL, ADSL and XDSL

Technical Specifications	PRODUCT RANGE		
	1G	10G	25G
Physical			
Network Interfaces	up to 16	up to 12	up to 4
Standard Network Interfaces	GbE Copper	SFP+	SFP28
Optional Network Interfaces	RJ45	SFP+	SFP28
Max. Packet Rate Per Port (bi-directional)	2.96 million	29.6 million	33.5 million
Dimensions	2u Rack	2u Rack	2u Rack
Intrinsic Latency	<20µs	<20µs	<20µs
Max. Frame Size – Jumbo Mode 9219 bytes; Non-jumbo Mode 1542 bytes	✓	✓	✓
General			
Timing Precision	10µs	10µs	10µs
Any Port to Any Port™ 4, 8, 16 ports – packets can be sent between any port for complete flexibility	✓	✓	✓
Live Changes – Real-time modification of any impairment setting or network map	✓	✓	✓
Traffic Capture and Replay with Looping Option			
Volatile Storage (4G RAM)	✓	✓	✓
Non-volatile Storage (1TB SSD)	optional	optional	optional
Bi-directional, Independent Emulations	✓	✓	✓
Timeline – Schedule changes to emulation settings with no manual intervention required. Option: loop timeline for continuous playback	✓	✓	✓
Link Flap	✓	✓	✓
Modes of Operation			
Virtual Routing (Simulate routers / ADSL Gateways) Protocols – DHCP, ARP, ICMP, IGMP, etc DHCP – Enable / Disable Routing Table – Auto generate, manual Multiple WAN Links	✓	✓	✓
Bridged Mode – Option to impair all traffic sent and received (protocol filtering available)	✓	✓	✓
Delay Emulation – up to 4s at 25GbE; up to 4s at 10GbE; up to 10s at 1GbE; up to 30s (all rates at reduced bandwidth)			
1GbE Delay Emulation – up to 1.25secs	✓	✓	✓
10GbE Delay Emulation – up to 0.5secs	n/a	✓	✓
25GbE Delay Emulation – up to 0.5secs	n/a	n/a	✓
Delay Emulation (at reduced bandwidth) – up to 30secs	✓	✓	✓
1GbE Extended Delay Emulation – up to 10secs	optional	optional	optional
10GbE Extended Delay Emulation – up to 4secs	n/a	optional	optional
25GbE Extended Delay Emulation – up to 4secs	n/a	n/a	optional
Fixed Latency	✓	✓	✓
Variable Latency	✓	✓	✓
Ramp	✓	✓	✓
Normal / Gaussian	✓	✓	✓
Sinusoidal Wave	✓	✓	✓
Jitter – 0.1ms to 100ms or 0.1 to 100% of constant delay	✓	✓	✓
Timing Constraints (specify start and duration of impairments activity) Start / Duration 0.1ms to 360,000ms (in 0.1ms increments)	✓	✓	✓

✓ Provided as Standard

Technical Specifications (cont'd)	PRODUCT RANGE		
	1G	10G	25G
Bandwidth Emulation (with user configurable buffer size up to 20Mbytes for video)			
Constant Throttle	500byte/sec to 1G	500byte/sec to 10G	500byte/sec to 10G
Random Range (min to max with time constraints)	500byte/sec to 1G	500byte/sec to 10G	500byte/sec to 10G
Random Range Duration – 1000ms to 60 minutes (in 0.1ms increments)	✓	✓	✓
Background Traffic Generation			
Fixed Data Rate Percentage of available link: 1 to 99% Generate broadcast packets Range (min to max with time constraints)	500byte/sec to 1G	500byte/sec to 10G	500byte/sec to 10G
Range Duration 0.1ms to 360,000ms (in 0.1ms increments)	✓	✓	✓
Reordering			
Time Based Re-order Displace packet from 0.1ms to 500 ms	✓	✓	✓
Position Base Re-order Displace packet up to 1,000,000 places	✓	✓	✓
Corruption			
Bitflips Start and end position (first byte to last byte), 1 to 100%	✓	✓	✓
Byte Overwrites Start and end position (first byte to last byte), 1 to 100%	✓	✓	✓
Ethernet Fragmentation MTU: 128 to 1580	✓	✓	✓
Bit Error Rate (Per) Simulation x bits in y received (1 bit to IE-14)	✓	✓	✓
Enable/Disable FCS	✓	✓	✓
Duplication			
Simple (single duplication) Packets received on link will be immediately duplicated once	✓	✓	✓
Timed (duplicated every x seconds) Single duplication after specified delay (1ms to 1,000ms)	✓	✓	✓
Complex (multiple, timed duplication) Specified multiple duplications after specified time delay (1ms to 1,000ms)	✓	✓	✓
Loss			
Standard – Drop x packets in y received	✓	✓	✓
Percentage – Drop 1% to 100% (in increments of 1%)	✓	✓	✓
Markov – 2 state random packet drop (as per ITU-T G.1050 Appendix II - Gilbert-Elliott model)	✓	✓	✓
Outage – Drop all packets received on specified link	✓	✓	✓
Drop Evenly – Packets will be dropped regularly throughout emulation	✓	✓	✓
Drops in Bursts – Packets will be dropped in continuous groups	✓	✓	✓
Timing Constraints – Start / Duration 0.1ms to 360,000ms (in 0.1ms increments)	✓	✓	✓

✓ Provided as Standard

Technical Specifications (cont'd)	PRODUCT RANGE		
	1G	10G	25G
Modification			
Generic Packet Modifier Modify up to 6 bit / byte sections per packet	✓	✓	✓
TAP (Test Access Point) Devices (Extract analysis information from any part of the emulation)			
Bandwidth Graph Show bandwidth utilization – export, clipboard, peak and averaging, etc.	✓	✓	✓
Packet Rates Show packet utilization, Inter Packet Gap	✓	✓	✓
RTP Analyser Output detailed information on RTP streams	optional	optional	optional
RTCP Analyser Output detailed information on RTCP streams	optional	optional	optional
Stateless load generation with multiple load distribution models			
Generic / RAW Load Generator Generic any type of load with extensive stream options	optional	optional	optional
TCP Client Simulate clients with data streams	optional	optional	optional
TCP Server Simulate servers with data streams	optional	optional	optional
DDOS Simulation Simulate extremely stressful DDOS environments	optional	optional	optional
Audio Visual (AV) Pack			
RTP Filter	optional	optional	optional
MPEG H.264 and H.265 Filter	optional	optional	optional
MPEG H.264 and H.265 Corruptor	optional	optional	optional
G.1050 Wizard (TIA-921)	✓	✓	✓
Management			
Drag and Drop User Interface Simple User Interface, allowing user to draw out their target network on screen, drop impairments as required and visualise the network-under-test	✓	✓	✓
Open XML for Test Automation Easy integration with test environments to schedule, run and report on emulations without recourse to user interface	✓	✓	✓
RESTful API for Test Automation	✓	✓	✓
SNMP Operational based SNMP traps and alerts	✓	✓	✓
Smart Start-up Automatically launch previous map on boot	✓	✓	✓
Multi-user Support Unlimited users / GUI instances, share maps, admin password control, assign ports to individual users	✓	✓	✓
Hardware NTP / PTPv2 Time Stamping Lock hardware and packet timings to accurate internal / external clocks	✓	✓	✓

✓ Provided as Standard

Technical Specifications (cont'd)	PRODUCT RANGE		
	1G	10G	25G
Filtering (UDP, TCP, Packet count)			
Maximum Filter – Connect multiple filters in any way to create complex filter rules	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited
IP Source / destination address filtering (impair specific traffic flows)	✓	✓	✓
TCP – Advanced: Source and destination port filtering (including range) TCP Packet length filtering	✓	✓	✓
UDP – Advanced: Source and destination port filtering (including range) TCP Packet length filtering	✓	✓	✓
MAC Address – Src / Dst single or range	✓	✓	✓
Ethernet Payload	✓	✓	✓
Packet Counting – Fail or Pass filters based on packet count or percentage	✓	✓	✓
Advanced Filtering			
Generic Filter – Filter on multiple bit / byte values with logic operations	✓	✓	✓
IP Protocol – Payload Type and Value	✓	✓	✓
MPLS – MPLS Label, QoS Value, TTL Value	✓	✓	✓
VLAN – VLAN ID, User Priority	✓	✓	✓
MPEG Video	optional	optional	optional
RTP A/V	optional	optional	optional
Flow Control (simulation link switching)			
Output Switcher – Up to 4 available outputs	✓	✓	✓
Input Switcher – Up to 4 available inputs	✓	✓	✓
Merge Tool	✓	✓	✓
Instancers (create unique impairments for hundreds of streams)			
VLAN Instancer	✓	✓	✓
MPLS Instancer	✓	✓	✓
Reporting			
Live Monitoring – Bandwidth monitoring, packets per second, export to CSV max / average values, etc.	✓	✓	✓
Wireshark Integration (on up to 200 protocols) Allows for live traffic capture and root cause analysis; replay third-party traffic streams under impairments, record traffic and replay at a later date	✓	✓	✓

✓ Provided as Standard

Port Configuration and Performance:

1. Select the number of SNE ports required at each interface rate
2. The standard specification performance is labelled 'STD' in the configuration table below
3. The high port count specifications is labelled 'HPC' in the configuration table below.

10GbE Configuration Table

		10GbE/1GbE Optical Ports (SFP+)							
		No. of Ports	0	2	4	6	8	10	12
1GbE Electrical Ports (RJ45)	0			STD	STD	STD	STD	HPC	HPC
	2	STD	STD	STD	STD	STD	HPC	HPC	HPC
	4	STD	STD	STD	STD	STD	HPC	HPC	HPC
	6	STD	STD	STD	STD	HPC	HPC		
	8	STD	STD	STD	STD	HPC	HPC		
	10	STD	STD	STD	HPC				
	12	STD	STD	HPC					
	14	STD							
	16	STD							

25GbE (2 Ports) Configuration Table

		2 ports of 25GbE SFP28 and see line below for number of 10GbE SFP+ Optical Ports				
		No. of Ports	0	2	4	6
1GbE Electrical Ports (RJ45)	0			STD	STD	STD
	2	STD	STD	STD		
	4	STD	STD	STD		
	6	STD	STD			
	8	STD	STD			
	10	STD				
	12	STD				

25GbE (4 Ports) Configuration Table

4 ports of 25GbE SFP28 and see line below for number of 10GbE SFP+ Optical Ports				
	No. of Ports	0	2	4
1GbE Electrical Ports (RJ45)	0		STD	STD
	2	STD	STD	
	4	STD	STD	
	6	STD		
	8	STD		

- STD** Combination of 2-port 10G modules and 4-port 1G modules – “Standard” performance specification
- HPC** Combination of 4-port 10G modules and 4-port 1G modules – “High Port Count” performance specification

STD (10GbE/1GbE Standard Specification)

- Wire Rate with 128 byte traffic on all ports (up to eight 10GbE ports)
- Wire Rate with 64 byte traffic on any four 10GbE ports or all 1GbE ports

HPC (10GbE/1GbE High Port Count Performance)

- Wire Rate with iMix traffic on all ports (up to twelve 10GbE ports)
- Wire Rate with 64 byte traffic on any two 10GbE ports or all 1GbE ports

25GbE Specification

- 90% Wire Rate with iMix traffic on all 25GbE ports (up to four 25GbE ports)
- 97% Wire Rate with 512 byte traffic on all 25GbE ports (up to four 25GbE ports)

NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE mixing 4 port 10G modules and 2 port 10G modules – NOT CURRENTLY PERMITTED

About Spirent Communications

Spirent Communications (LSE: SPT) is a global leader with deep expertise and decades of experience in testing, assurance, analytics and security, serving developers, service providers, and enterprise networks. We help bring clarity to increasingly complex technological and business challenges. Spirent’s customers have made a promise to their customers to deliver superior performance. Spirent assures that those promises are fulfilled. For more information visit: www.spirent.com

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