



Mellanox NIC's Performance Report with DPDK 18.08

Rev 1.0

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Document Revision History

Table 1: Document Revision History

Revision	Date	Description
1.0	18-Nov-2018	Initial report release

About this Report

The purpose of this report is to provide packet rate performance data for Mellanox ConnectX-4, ConnectX-4 Lx and ConnectX-5 Network Interface Cards (NICs) achieved with the specified Data Plane Development Kit (DPDK) release. The report provides both the measured packet rate performance and the procedures and configurations to replicate the results. This document does not cover all network speeds available with the ConnectX family of NICs and is intended as a general reference of achievable performance for the specified DPDK release.

Target Audience

This document is intended for engineers implementing applications with DPDK to guide and help achieving optimal performance.

1 Test Description

1.1 General

Setup is made up of the following components:

1. HPE® ProLiant DL380 Gen10 Server
2. Mellanox ConnectX® NIC
3. IXIA® XM12 packet generator

1.2 Zero Packet Loss Test

Zero Packet Loss tests utilize **l3fwd** (http://www.dpdk.org/doc/guides/sample_app_ug/l3_forward.html) as the test application for maximum throughput with zero packet loss at various frame sizes based on RFC2544 <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2544>.

The packet generator transmits a specified frame rate towards the DUT and counts the received frame rate sent back from the DUT. Throughput is determined with the maximum achievable transmit frame rate and is equal to the received frame rate i.e. zero packet loss.

- Duration for each test is 60 seconds.
- Traffic of 8192 IP flows is generated per port.
- IxNetwork (Version 8.00EA) is used with the IXIA packet generator.

1.3 Single Core Performance Test

Single Core performance tests utilize **testpmd** (http://www.dpdk.org/doc/guides/testpmd_app_ug), with this test the max throughput is tested with a single CPU core. Average throughput within test duration (60 seconds) are the results recorded in this test.

- Duration for each test is 60 seconds.
- Traffic of 8192 UDP flows is generated per port.
- IxNetwork (Version 8.00EA) is used with the IXIA packet generator.

Test #1 Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 25GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss (2x 25GbE)

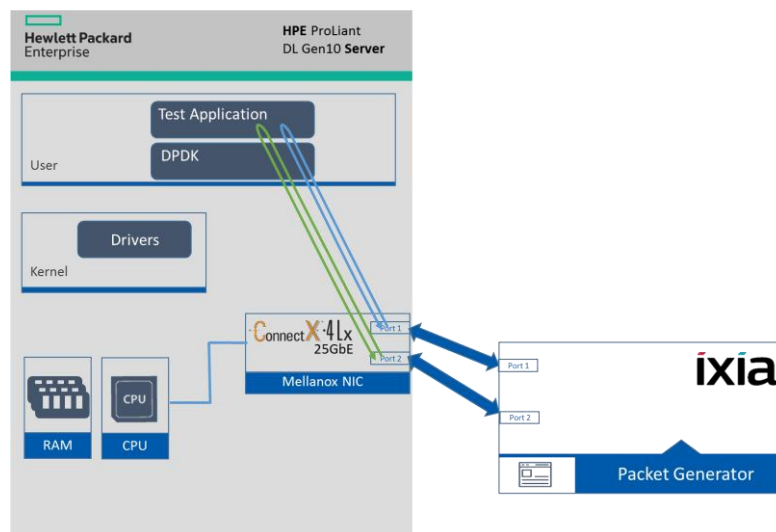
Table 2: Test #1 Setup

Item	Description
Test	Test #1 – Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 25GbE Dual-Port Throughput at zero packet loss
Server	HPE ProLiant DL380 Gen10
CPU	Intel(R) Xeon(R) Platinum 8168 CPU @ 2.70GHz 24 CPU cores * 2 NUMA nodes
RAM	384GB: 6 * 32GB DIMMs * 2 NUMA nodes @ 2666MHz
BIOS	U30 rev. 1.36 (02/15/2018)
NIC	One MCX4121A-ACAT - ConnectX-4 Lx network interface card 25GbE dual-port SFP28; PCIe3.0 x8; ROHS R6
Operating System	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.4 (Maipo)
Kernel Version	3.10.0-693.el7.x86_64
GCC version	4.8.5 20150623 (Red Hat 4.8.5-16) (GCC)
Mellanox NIC firmware version	14.23.1020
Mellanox OFED driver version	MLNX_OFED_LINUX-4.4-1.0.0
DPDK version	18.08
Test Configuration	1 NIC, 2 ports used on the NIC. Each port receives a stream of 8192 IP flows from the IXIA Each port has 4 queues assigned for a total of 8 queues 1 queue assigned per logical core with a total of 8 logical cores

Device Under Test (DUT) is made up of the HPE server and the Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx NIC with dual-port. The DUT is connected to the IXIA packet generator which generates traffic towards the ConnectX-4 Lx NIC.

The ConnectX-4 Lx data traffic is passed through DPDK to the test application **l3fwd** and is redirected to the opposite direction on the opposing port. IXIA measures throughput and packet loss.

Figure 1: Test #1 Setup – Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 25GbE Dual-Port connected to IXIA



2.1 Test Settings

Table 3: Test #1 Settings

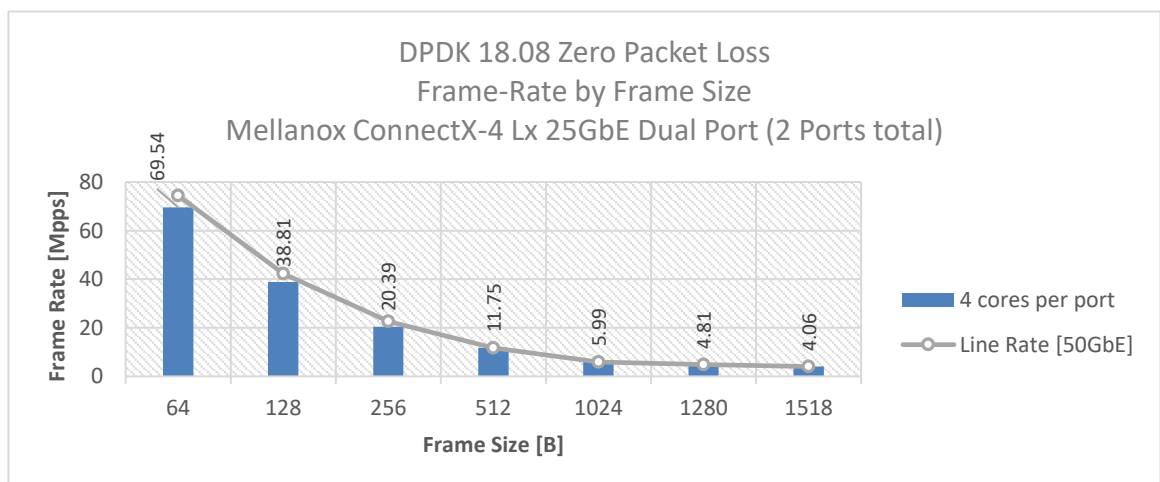
Item	Description
BIOS	1) Workload Profile = "Low Latency"; 2) Jitter Control = Manual, 3400. See "Configuring and tuning HPE ProLiant Servers for low-latency applications": hpe.com > Search "DL380 gen10 low latency"
BOOT Settings	isolcpus=24-47 intel_idle.max_cstate=0 processor.max_cstate=0 intel_pstate=disable nohz_full=24-47 rcu_nocbs=24-47 rcu_nocb_poll default_hugepagesz=1G hugepagesz=1G hugepages=64 audit=0 nosoftlockup
DPDK Settings	Enable mlx5 PMD before compiling DPDK: In .config file generated by "make config", set: "CONFIG_RTE_LIBRTE_MLX5_PMD=y" During testing, l3fwd was given real-time scheduling priority.
L3fwd settings	Added /l3fwd/main.c:85: #define RTE_TEST_RX_DESC_DEFAULT 4096 #define RTE_TEST_TX_DESC_DEFAULT 4096 Added /l3fwd/l3fwd.h:47: #define MAX_PKT_BURST 64
Command Line	./examples/l3fwd/build/app/l3fwd -c 0xff0000000000 -n 4 -w 86:00:0,txq_inline=200 -w 86:00:1,txq_inline=200 --socket-mem=8192 --p 0x3 -P --config='(0,0,47),(0,1,46),(0,2,45),(0,3,44),(1,0,43),(1,1,42),(1,2,41),(1,3,40)' --eth-dest=0,00:52:11:22:33:10 --eth-dest=1,00:52:11:22:33:20
Other optimizations	a) Flow Control OFF: "ethtool -A \$netdev rx off tx off" b) Memory optimizations: "sysctl -w vm.zone_reclaim_mode=0"; "sysctl -w vm.swappiness=0" c) Move all IRQs to far NUMA node: "IRQBALANCE_BANNED_CPUS=\$LOCAL_NUMA_CPUMAP irqbalance -oneshot" d) Disable irqbalance: "systemctl stop irqbalance" e) Change PCI MaxReadReq to 1024B for each port of each NIC: Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w", it will return 4 digits ABCD --> Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w=3BCD" f) Set CQE COMPRESSION to "AGGRESSIVE": mlxconfig -d \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS set CQE_COMPRESSION=1

2.2 Test Results

Table 4: Test #1 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 25GbE Dual-Port Throughput at Zero Packet Loss

Frame Size (Bytes)	Frame Rate (Mpps)	Line Rate [50G] (Mpps)	% Line Rate
64	69.54	74.4	93.47
128	38.81	42.23	91.90
256	20.39	22.64	90.06
512	11.75	11.75	100.00
1024	5.99	5.99	100.00
1280	4.81	4.81	100.00
1518	4.06	4.06	100.00

Figure 2: Test #1 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 25GbE Dual-Port Throughput at Zero Packet Loss



3

Test #2 Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss (2x 25GbE)

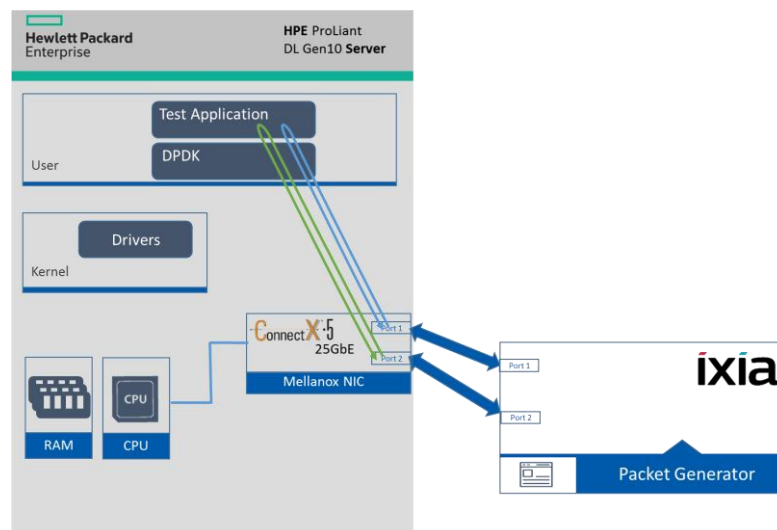
Table 5: Test #2 Setup

Item	Description
Test	Test #2 – Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Dual-Port Throughput at zero packet loss
Server	HPE ProLiant DL380 Gen10
CPU	Intel(R) Xeon(R) Platinum 8168 CPU @ 2.70GHz 24 CPU cores * 2 NUMA nodes
RAM	384GB: 6 * 32GB DIMMs * 2 NUMA nodes @ 2666MHz
BIOS	U30 rev. 1.36 (02/15/2018)
NIC	One MCX512A-ACA ConnectX-5 EN network interface card; 10/25GbE dual-port SFP28; PCIe3.0 x8; tall bracket; ROHS R6
Operating System	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.4 (Maipo)
Kernel Version	3.10.0-693.el7.x86_64
GCC version	4.8.5 20150623 (Red Hat 4.8.5-16) (GCC)
Mellanox NIC firmware version	16.23.1020
Mellanox OFED driver version	MLNX_OFED_LINUX-4.4-1.0.0
DPDK version	18.08
Test Configuration	1 NIC, 2 ports; Each port receives a stream of 8192 IP flows from the IXIA Each port has 4 queues assigned for a total of 8 queues 1 queue assigned per logical core with a total of 8 logical cores

Device Under Test (DUT) is made up of the HPE server and the Mellanox ConnectX-5 NIC with dual-port. The DUT is connected to the IXIA packet generator which generates traffic towards the ConnectX-5 NIC.

The ConnectX-5 data traffic is passed through DPDK to the test application **l3fwd** and is redirected to the opposite direction on the same port. IXIA measures throughput and packet loss.

Figure 3: Test #2 Setup – Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Dual-Port connected to IXIA



3.1 Test Settings

Table 6: Test #2 Settings

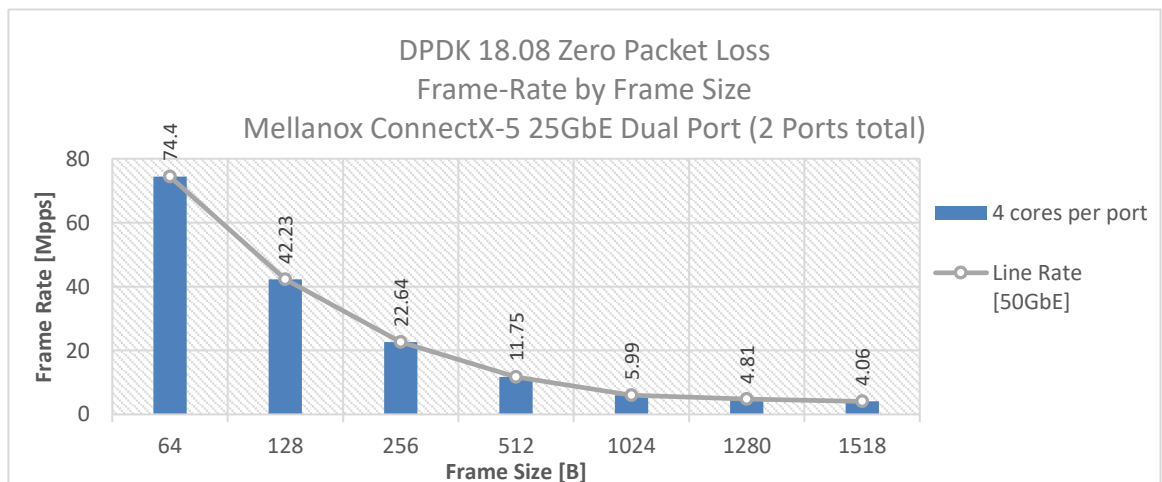
Item	Description
BIOS	1) Workload Profile = "Low Latency"; 2) Jitter Control = Manual, 3400. See "Configuring and tuning HPE ProLiant Servers for low-latency applications": hpe.com > Search "DL380 gen10 low latency"
BOOT Settings	isolcpus=24-47 intel_idle.max_cstate=0 processor.max_cstate=0 intel_pstate=disable nohz_full=24-47 rcu_nocbs=24-47 rcu_nocb_poll default_hugepagesz=1G hugepagesz=1G hugepages=64 audit=0 nosoftlockup
DPDK Settings	Enable mlx5 PMD before compiling DPDK: In .config file generated by "make config", set: "CONFIG_RTE_LIBRTE_MLX5_PMD=y" During testing, l3fwd was given real-time scheduling priority.
L3fwd settings	Added /l3fwd/main.c:85: #define RTE_TEST_RX_DESC_DEFAULT 4096 #define RTE_TEST_TX_DESC_DEFAULT 4096 Added /l3fwd/l3fwd.h:47: #define MAX_PKT_BURST 64
Command Line	./examples/l3fwd/build/app/l3fwd -c 0xff0000000000 -n 4 -w d9:00:0,mprq_en=1 -w d9:00:1,mprq_en=1 --socket-mem=8192 -- -p 0x3 -P --config='(0,0,47),(0,1,46),(0,2,45),(0,3,44),(1,0,43),(1,1,42),(1,2,41),(1,3,40)' --eth-dest=0,00:52:11:22:33:10 --eth-dest=1,00:52:11:22:33:20
Other optimizations	a) Flow Control OFF: "ethtool -A \$netdev rx off tx off" b) Memory optimizations: "sysctl -w vm.zone_reclaim_mode=0"; "sysctl -w vm.swappiness=0" c) Move all IRQs to far NUMA node: "IRQBALANCE_BANNED_CPUS=\$LOCAL_NUMA_CPUMAP irqbalance -oneshot" d) Disable irqbalance: "systemctl stop irqbalance" e) Change PCI MaxReadReq to 1024B for each port of each NIC: Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w", it will return 4 digits ABCD --> Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w=3936" f) Set CQE COMPRESSION to "AGGRESSIVE": mlxconfig -d \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS set CQE_COMPRESSION=1

3.2 Test Results

Table 7: Test #2 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Dual-Port Throughput at Zero Packet Loss

Frame Size (Bytes)	Frame Rate (Mpps)	Line Rate [50G] (Mpps)	% Line Rate
64	74.40	74.4	100
128	42.23	42.23	100
256	22.64	22.64	100
512	11.75	11.75	100
1024	5.99	5.99	100
1280	4.81	4.81	100
1518	4.06	4.06	100

Figure 4: Test #2 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Dual-Port Throughput at Zero Packet Loss



Test #3 Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 40GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss (2x 40GbE)

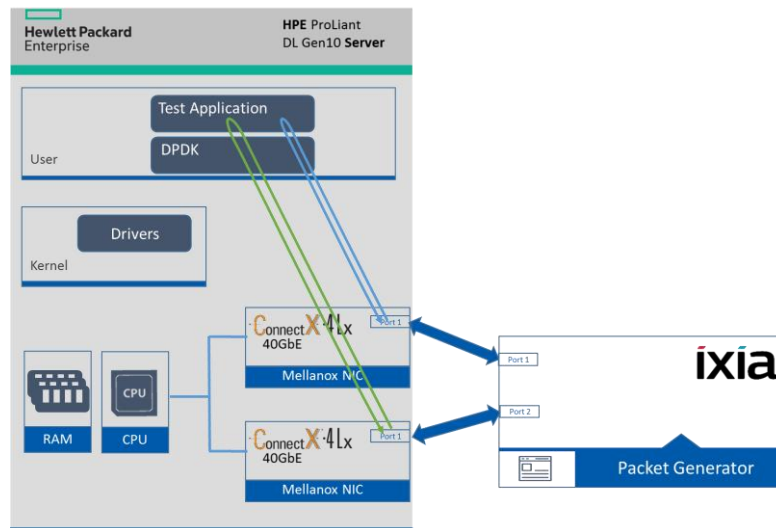
Table 8: Test #3 Setup

Item	Description
Test	Test #3 - Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 40GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss (2x 40GbE)
Server	HPE ProLiant DL380 Gen10
CPU	Intel(R) Xeon(R) Platinum 8168 CPU @ 2.70GHz 24 CPU cores * 2 NUMA nodes
RAM	384GB: 6 * 32GB DIMMs * 2 NUMA nodes @ 2666MHz
BIOS	U30 rev. 1.36 (02/15/2018)
NIC	Two MCX4131A-GCAT ConnectX®-4 Lx EN network interface card, 50GbE single-port QSFP28, PCIe3.0 x8, tall bracket, ROHS R6 (Connected to 40GbE Ixia ports)
Operating System	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.4 (Maipo)
Kernel Version	3.10.0-693.el7.x86_64
GCC version	4.8.5 20150623 (Red Hat 4.8.5-16) (GCC)
Mellanox NIC firmware version	14.23.1020
Mellanox OFED driver version	MLNX_OFED_LINUX-4.4-1.0.0
DPDK version	18.08
Test Configuration	2 NICs, 1 port used on each NIC, each port has 4 queues assigned to it, 1 queue per logical core for a total of 8 logical cores. Each port receives a stream of 8192 IP flows from the IXIA

Device Under Test (DUT) is made up of the HPE server and two Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx single-port NICs on the same NUMA node. The DUT is connected to the IXIA packet generator which generates traffic towards both ConnectX-4 Lx NICs.

The traffic is passed through DPDK to the test application **I3fwd** and is redirected to the opposite direction on the same port. IXIA measures throughput and packet loss.

Figure 5: Test #3 Setup – Two Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 40bE connected to IXIA



4.1 Test Settings

Table 9: Test #3 Settings

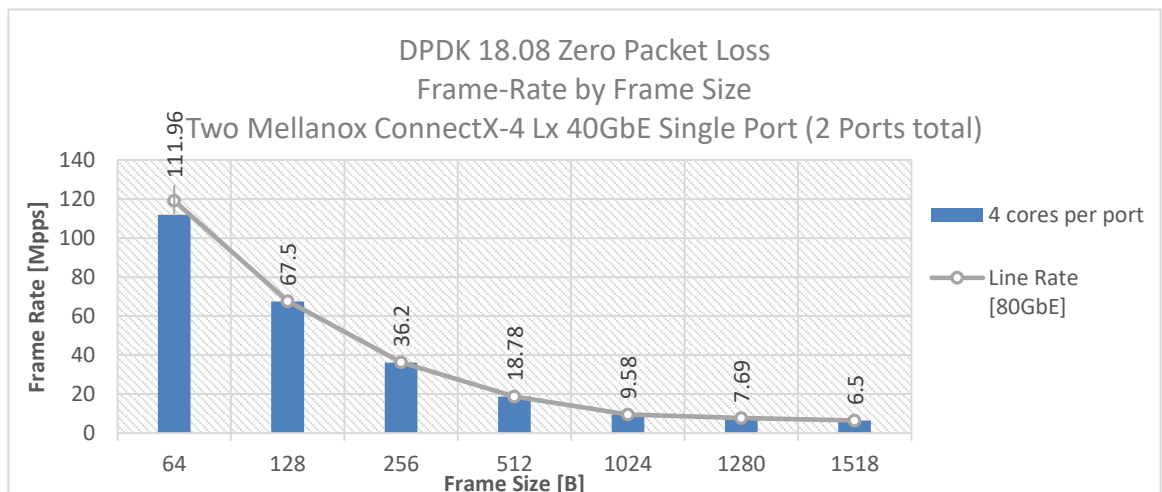
Item	Description
BIOS	1) Workload Profile = "Low Latency"; 2) Jitter Control = Manual, 3400. See "Configuring and tuning HPE ProLiant Servers for low-latency applications": hpe.com > Search "DL380 gen10 low latency"
BOOT Settings	isolcpus=0-23 intel_idle.max_cstate=0 processor.max_cstate=0 intel_pstate=disable nohz_full=0-23 rcu_nocbs=0-23 rcu_nocb_poll default_hugepagesz=1G hugepagesz=1G hugepages=64 audit=0 nosoftlockup
DPDK Settings	Enable mlx5 PMD before compiling DPDK: In .config file generated by "make config", set: "CONFIG_RTE_LIBRTE_MLX5_PMD=y" During testing, l3fwd was given real-time scheduling priority.
L3fwd settings	Added /l3fwd/main.c:85: #define RTE_TEST_RX_DESC_DEFAULT 4096 #define RTE_TEST_TX_DESC_DEFAULT 4096 Added /l3fwd/l3fwd.h:47: #define MAX_PKT_BURST 64
Command Line	./examples/l3fwd/build/app/l3fwd -c 0xff0000 -n 4 -w 37:00.0 -w 12:00.0 --socket-mem=8192 -- -p 0x3 -P - -config='(0,0,23),(0,1,22),(0,2,21),(0,3,20),(1,0,19),(1,1,18),(1,2,17),(1,3,16)' --eth-dest=0,00:52:11:22:33:10 --eth-dest=1,00:52:11:22:33:20
Other optimizations	a) Flow Control OFF: "ethtool -A \$netdev rx off tx off" b) Memory optimizations: "sysctl -w vm.zone_reclaim_mode=0"; "sysctl -w vm.swappiness=0" c) Move all IRQs to far NUMA node: "IRQBALANCE_BANNED_CPUS=\$LOCAL_NUMA_CPUMAP irqbalance --oneshot" d) Disable irqbalance: "systemctl stop irqbalance" e) Change PCI MaxReadReq to 1024B for each port of each NIC: Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w", it will return 4 digits ABCD --> Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w=3BCD" f) Set CQE COMPRESSION to "AGGRESSIVE": mlxconfig -d \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS set CQE_COMPRESSION=1

4.2 Test Results

Table 10: Test #3 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 40GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss

Frame Size (Bytes)	Frame Rate (Mpps)	Line Rate [2*40G] (Mpps)	% Line Rate
64	111.96	119.05	94.05
128	67.50	67.57	99.90
256	36.20	36.23	99.90
512	18.78	18.80	99.90
1024	9.58	9.58	100.00
1280	7.69	7.69	100.00
1518	6.50	6.50	100.00

Figure 6: Test #3 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-4 Lx 40GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss



Test #4 Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss (1x 100GbE)

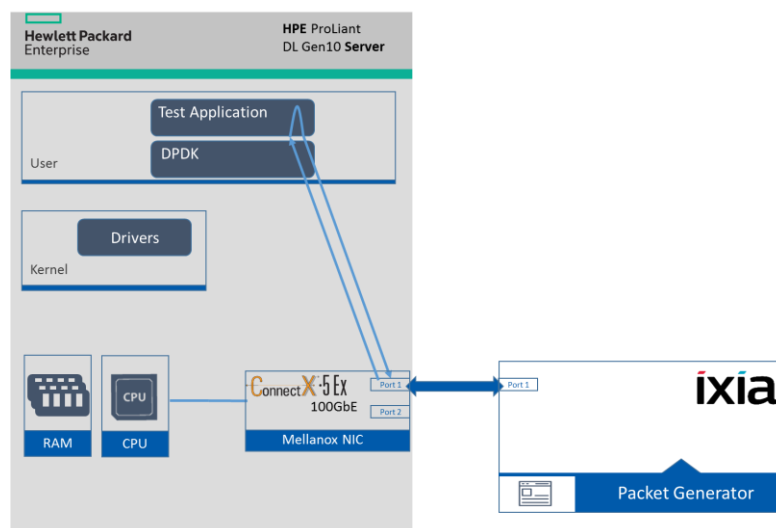
Table 11: Test #4 Setup

Item	Description
Test	Test #4 – Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Throughput at zero packet loss
Server	HPE ProLiant DL380 Gen10
CPU	Intel(R) Xeon(R) Platinum 8168 CPU @ 2.70GHz 24 CPU cores * 2 NUMA nodes
RAM	384GB: 6 * 32GB DIMMs * 2 NUMA nodes @ 2666MHz
BIOS	U30 rev. 1.36 (02/15/2018)
NIC	One MCX516A-CDAT- ConnectX-5 Ex network interface card 100GbE dual-port QSFP28; PCIe3.0/PCIe4 x16; ROHS R6
Operating System	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.4 (Maipo)
Kernel Version	3.10.0-693.el7.x86_64
GCC version	4.8.5 20150623 (Red Hat 4.8.5-16) (GCC)
Mellanox NIC firmware version	16.23.1020
Mellanox OFED driver version	MLNX_OFED_LINUX-4.4-1.0.0
DPDK version	18.08
Test Configuration	1 NIC, 1 port used on NIC; Port has 12 queues assigned to it, 1 queue per logical core for a total of 12 logical cores. Each port receives a stream of 8192 IP flows from the IXIA

Device Under Test (DUT) is made up of the HPE server and the Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex NIC with a dual-port (only first port used in this test). The DUT is connected to the IXIA packet generator which generates traffic towards the ConnectX-5 Ex NIC.

The ConnectX-5 Ex data traffic is passed through DPDK to the test application **l3fwd** and is redirected to the opposite direction on the same port. IXIA measures throughput and packet loss.

Figure 7: Test #4 Setup – Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE connected to IXIA



5.1 Test Settings

Table 12: Test #4 Settings

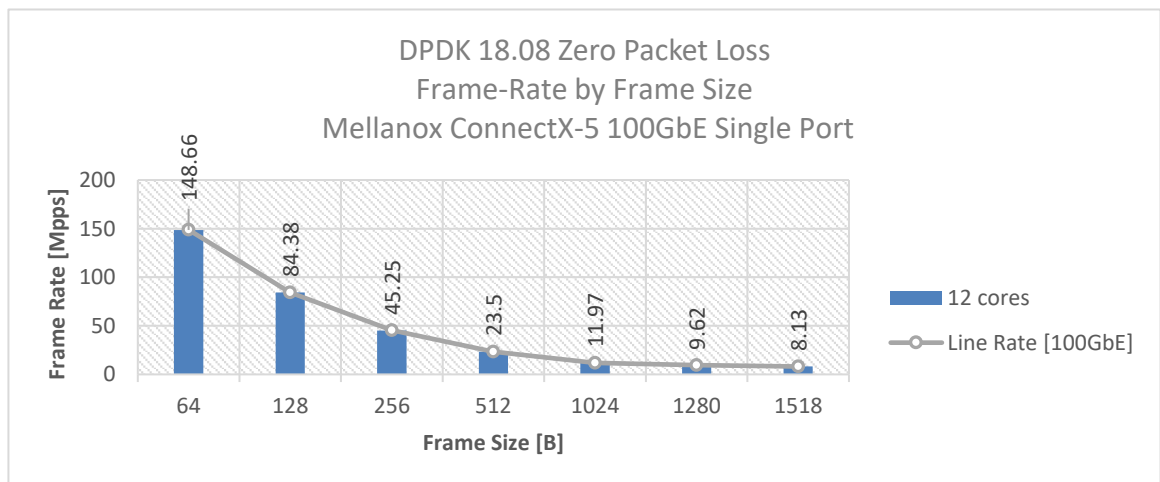
Item	Description
BIOS	1) Workload Profile = "Low Latency"; 2) Jitter Control = Manual, 3400. See "Configuring and tuning HPE ProLiant Servers for low-latency applications": hpe.com > Search "DL380 gen10 low latency"
BOOT Settings	isolcpus=0-23 intel_idle.max_cstate=0 processor.max_cstate=0 intel_pstate=disable nohz_full=0-23 rcu_nocbs=0-23 rcu_nocb_poll default_hugepagesz=1G hugepagesz=1G hugepages=64 audit=0 nosoftlockup
DPDK Settings	Enable mlx5 PMD before compiling DPDK: In .config file generated by "make config", set: "CONFIG_RTE_LIBRTE_MLX5_PMD=y" During testing, l3fwd was given real-time scheduling priority.
L3fwd settings	Added /l3fwd/main.c:85: #define RTE_TEST_RX_DESC_DEFAULT 2048 #define RTE_TEST_TX_DESC_DEFAULT 2048 Added /l3fwd/l3fwd.h:47: #define MAX_PKT_BURST 64
Command Line	./examples/l3fwd/build/app/l3fwd -c 0xffff000 -n 4 -w 37:00.0,mprq_en=1 --socket-mem=8192 --p 0x1 -P -- config='(0,0,23),(0,1,22),(0,2,21),(0,3,20),(0,4,19),(0,5,18),(0,6,17),(0,7,16),(0,8,15),(0,9,14),(0,10,13),(0,11,12)' --eth-dest=0,00:52:11:22:33:10
Other optimizations	a) Flow Control OFF: "ethtool -A \$netdev rx off tx off" b) Memory optimizations: "sysctl -w vm.zone_reclaim_mode=0"; "sysctl -w vm.swappiness=0" c) Move all IRQs to far NUMA node: "IRQBALANCE_BANNED_CPUS=\$LOCAL_NUMA_CPUMAP irqbalance --oneshot" d) Disable irqbalance: "systemctl stop irqbalance" e) Change PCI MaxReadReq to 1024B for each port of each NIC: Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w", it will return 4 digits ABCD --> Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w=3BCD" f) Set CQE COMPRESSION to "AGGRESSIVE": mlxconfig -d \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS set CQE_COMPRESSION=1

5.2 Test Results

Table 13: Test #4 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss

Frame Size (Bytes)	Frame Rate (Mpps)	Line Rate [100G] (Mpps)	% Line Rate
64	148.66	148.81	99.90
128	84.38	84.46	99.90
256	45.25	45.29	99.90
512	23.50	23.50	100.00
1024	11.97	11.97	100.00
1280	9.62	9.62	100.00
1518	8.13	8.13	100.00

Figure 8: Test #4 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Throughput at Zero Packet Loss



Test #5 Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Single Core Performance (2x 100GbE)

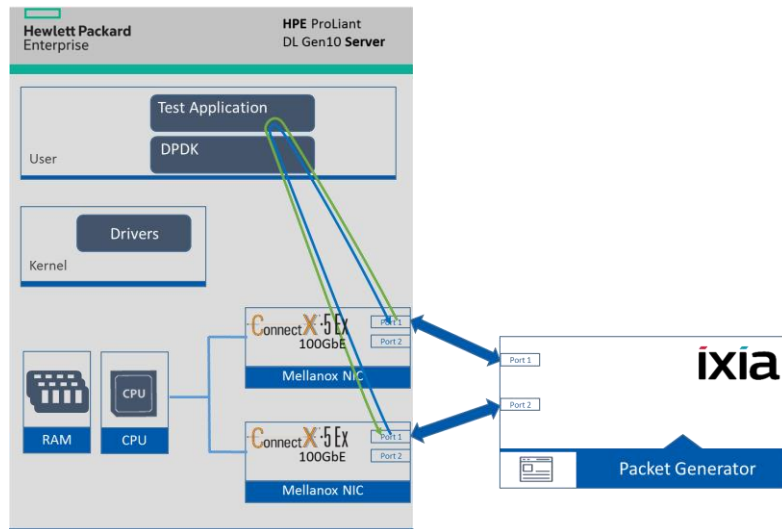
Table 14: Test #5 Setup

Item	Description
Test	Test #5 – Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Single Core Performance
Server	HPE ProLiant DL380 Gen10
CPU	Intel(R) Xeon(R) Platinum 8168 CPU @ 2.70GHz 24 CPU cores * 2 NUMA nodes
RAM	384GB: 6 * 32GB DIMMs * 2 NUMA nodes @ 2666MHz
BIOS	U30 rev. 1.36 (02/15/2018)
NIC	Two MCX516A-CDAT- ConnectX-5 Ex network interface card 100GbE dual-port QSFP28; PCIe3.0/PCIe4 x16; ROHS R6
Operating System	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.4 (Maipo)
Kernel Version	3.10.0-693.el7.x86_64
GCC version	4.8.5 20150623 (Red Hat 4.8.5-16) (GCC)
Mellanox NIC firmware version	16.23.1020
Mellanox OFED driver version	MLNX_OFED_LINUX-4.4-1.0.0
DPDK version	18.08
Test Configuration	2 NICs, each using 1 port Each port receives a stream of 8192 UDP flows from the IXIA Each port has 1 queue assigned, a total of two queues for two ports and both queues are assigned to the same single logical core.

Device Under Test (DUT) is made up of the HPE server and two Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex NICs utilizing one port each. The DUT is connected to the IXIA packet generator which generates traffic towards the first port of both ConnectX-5 Ex NICs.

The ConnectX-5 Ex data traffic is passed through DPDK to the test application **testpmd** and is redirected to the opposite direction on the opposing NIC’s port. IXIA measures throughput and packet loss.

Figure 9: Test #5 Setup – Two Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE connected to IXIA



6.1 Test Settings

Table 15: Test #5 Settings

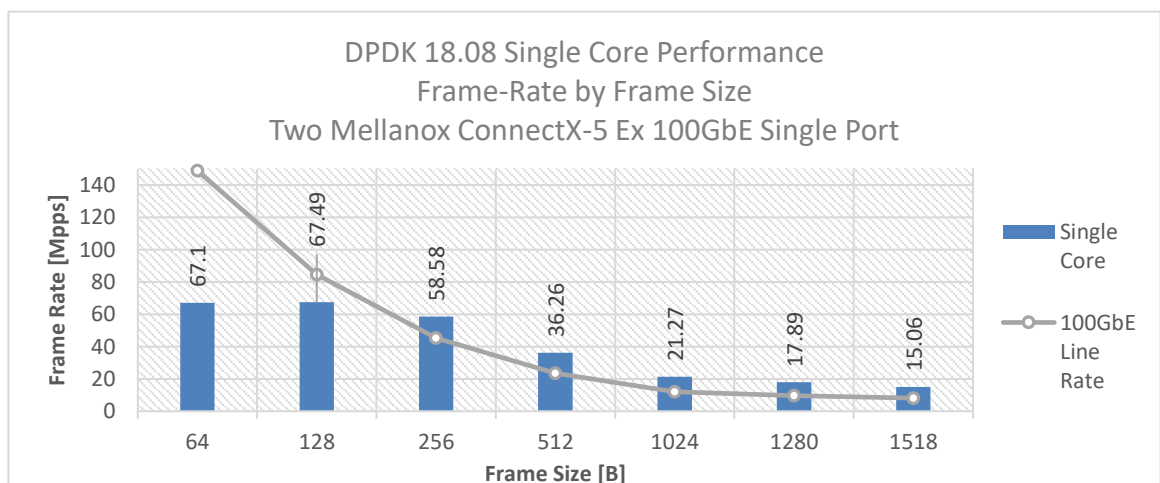
Item	Description
BIOS	1) Workload Profile = "Low Latency"; 2) Jitter Control = Manual, 3400. See "Configuring and tuning HPE ProLiant Servers for low-latency applications": hpe.com > Search "DL380 gen10 low latency"
BOOT Settings	isolcpus=0-23 intel_idle.max_cstate=0 processor.max_cstate=0 intel_pstate=disable nohz_full=0-23 rcu_nocbs=0-23 rcu_nocb_poll default_hugepagesz=1G hugepagesz=1G hugepages=64 audit=0 nosoftlockup
DPDK Settings	Enable mlx5 PMD before compiling DPDK: In .config file generated by "make config", set: "CONFIG_RTE_LIBRTE_MLX5_PMD=y" set: "CONFIG_RTE_TEST_PMD_RECORD_CORE_CYCLES=y" During testing, testpmd was given real-time scheduling priority.
Command Line	./build/app/testpmd -c 0xc00000 -n 4 -w 12:00.0 -w 37:00.0 --socket-mem=8192,0 --port-numa-config=0,0,1,0 --socket-num=0 --burst=64 --txd=1024 --rx=1024 --mbcache=512 --rxq=1 --txq=1 --nb-cores=1 -i -a --rss-udp --no-numa --disable-crc-strip
Other optimizations	a) Flow Control OFF: "ethtool -A \$netdev rx off tx off" b) Memory optimizations: "sysctl -w vm.zone_reclaim_mode=0"; "sysctl -w vm.swappiness=0" c) Move all IRQs to far NUMA node: "IRQBALANCE_BANNED_CPUS=\$LOCAL_NUMA_CPUMAP irqbalance -oneshot" d) Disable irqbalance: "systemctl stop irqbalance" e) Change PCI MaxReadReq to 1024B for each port of each NIC: Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w", it will return 4 digits ABCD --> Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w=3BCD" f) Set CQE COMPRESSION to "AGGRESSIVE": mlxconfig -d \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS set CQE_COMPRESSION=1

6.2 Test Results

Table 16: Test #5 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Single Core Performance

Frame Size (Bytes)	Frame Rate (Mpps)	Line Rate [100G] (Mpps)	Throughput (Gbps)	CPU Frequency (GHz)	CPU Cycles per packet
					NOTE: Lower is Better
64	67.10	148.81	34.35	3.4	39
128	67.49	84.46	69.11	3.4	39
256	58.58	45.29	119.97	3.4	37
512	36.26	23.50	148.50	3.4	38
1024	21.27	11.97	174.27	3.4	39
1280	17.89	9.62	183.23	3.4	39
1518	15.06	8.13	182.83	3.4	41

Figure 10: Test #5 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 Ex 100GbE Single Core Performance



Test #6 Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Single Core Performance (2x 25GbE)

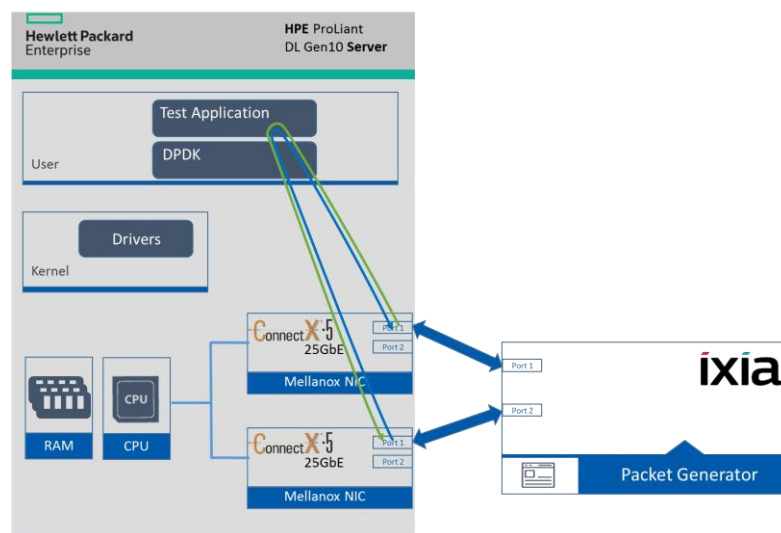
Table 17: Test #6 Setup

Item	Description
Test	Test #6 – Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Single Core Performance
Server	HPE ProLiant DL380 Gen10
CPU	Intel(R) Xeon(R) Platinum 8168 CPU @ 2.70GHz 24 CPU cores * 2 NUMA nodes
RAM	384GB: 6 * 32GB DIMMs * 2 NUMA nodes @ 2666MHz
BIOS	U30 rev. 1.36 (02/15/2018)
NIC	Two MCX512A-ACA ConnectX-5 EN network interface card; 10/25GbE dual-port SFP28; PCIe3.0 x8; tall bracket; ROHS R6
Operating System	Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server 7.4 (Maipo)
Kernel Version	3.10.0-693.el7.x86_64
GCC version	4.8.5 20150623 (Red Hat 4.8.5-16) (GCC)
Mellanox NIC firmware version	16.23.1020
Mellanox OFED driver version	MLNX_OFED_LINUX-4.4-1.0.0
DPDK version	18.08
Test Configuration	2 NICs; 1 port used on each. Each port receives a stream of 8192 UDP flows from the IXIA Each port has 1 queue assigned, a total of two queues for two ports, and both queues are assigned to the same single logical core.

Device Under Test (DUT) is made up of the HPE server and two Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE NICs utilizing one port each. The DUT is connected to the IXIA packet generator which generates traffic towards the first port of both ConnectX-5 25GbE NICs.

The ConnectX-5 25GbE data traffic is passed through DPDK to the test application **testpmd** and is redirected to the opposite direction on the opposing NIC's port. IXIA measures throughput and packet loss.

Figure 11: Test #6 Setup – Two Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE connected to IXIA



7.1 Test Settings

Table 18: Test #6 Settings

Item	Description
BIOS	1) Workload Profile = "Low Latency"; 2) Jitter Control = Manual, 3400. See "Configuring and tuning HPE ProLiant Servers for low-latency applications": hpe.com > Search "DL380 gen10 low latency"
BOOT Settings	isolcpus=24-47 intel_idle.max_cstate=0 processor.max_cstate=0 intel_pstate=disable nohz_full=24-47 rcu_nocbs=24-47 rcu_nocb_poll default_hugepagesz=1G hugepagesz=1G hugepages=64 audit=0 nosoftlockup
DPDK Settings	Enable mlx5 PMD before compiling DPDK: In .config file generated by "make config", set: "CONFIG_RTE_LIBRTE_MLX5_PMD=y" set: "CONFIG_RTE_TEST_PMD_RECORD_CORE_CYCLES=y" During testing, testpmd was given real-time scheduling priority.
Command Line	./build/app/testpmd -c 0xc00000000000 -n 4 -w d8:00.1 -w d9:00.0 --socket-mem=0,8192 --port-numa-config=0,1,1,1 --socket-num=1 --burst=64 --txd=1024 --rx=1024 --mbcache=512 --rxq=1 --txq=1 --nb-cores=1 -i -a --rss-udp --no-numa --disable-crc-strip
Other optimizations	a) Flow Control OFF: "ethtool -A \$netdev rx off tx off" b) Memory optimizations: "sysctl -w vm.zone_reclaim_mode=0"; "sysctl -w vm.swappiness=0" c) Move all IRQs to far NUMA node: "IRQBALANCE_BANNED_CPUS=\$LOCAL_NUMA_CPUMAP irqbalance -oneshot" d) Disable irqbalance: "systemctl stop irqbalance" e) Change PCI MaxReadReq to 1024B for each port of each NIC: Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w", it will return 4 digits ABCD --> Run "setpci -s \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS 68.w=3BCD" f) Set CQE COMPRESSION to "AGGRESSIVE": mlxconfig -d \$PORT_PCI_ADDRESS set CQE_COMPRESSION=1

7.2 Test Results

Table 19: Test #6 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Single Core Performance

Frame Size (Bytes)	Frame Rate (Mpps)	Line Rate [50G] (Mpps)	CPU Frequency (GHz)	CPU Cycles per packet
				NOTE: Lower is Better
64	66.57	74.4	3.4	39
128	42.23	42.23	3.4	34
256	22.64	22.64	3.4	35
512	11.75	11.75	3.4	36
1024	5.99	5.99	3.4	37
1280	4.81	4.81	3.4	37
1518	4.06	4.06	3.4	39

Figure 12: Test #6 Results – Mellanox ConnectX-5 25GbE Single Core Performance

