



Visual Computing
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Insite

A Generalized Pipeline for In-transit Visualization and Analysis

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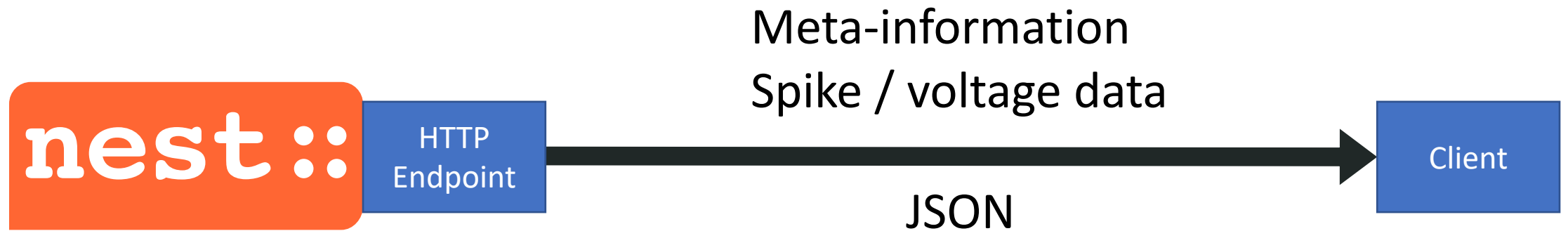
Co-funded by
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NEST Conference 2020

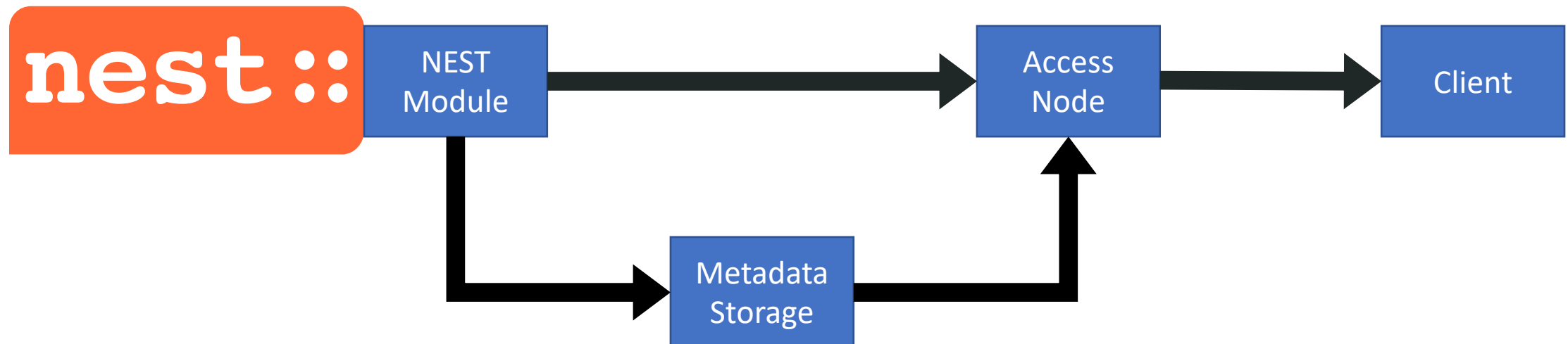


What's Insite?





What's Insite?



API

- Closely developed for visualization needs with focus on ease of use



API

- Closely developed for visualization needs with focus on ease of use

Features

- Query simulation time

```
GET /simulation_time_info

{
  "start":      1000.0,
  "end":        2000.0,
  "time_step":  0.1,
  "current":    1140.1
}
```



API

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Features

- Query simulation time
- Query neuron IDs

```
GET /gids
```

```
[ 0, 1, ..., 10000 ]
```



API

- Closely developed for visualization needs with focus on ease of use

Features

- Query simulation time
- Query neuron IDs
- Query populations

```
GET /populations
```

```
[ 0, 1, 2, 3 ]
```

```
GET /population/0/gids
```

```
[ 0, 1, ..., 2499, 2500]
```



API

- Closely developed for visualization needs with focus on ease of use

Features

- Query simulation time
- Query neuron IDs
- Query populations
- Query positions

```
GET /neuron_properties?gids=1,2
```

```
[  
  {  
    "position": [0.12, 0.57, 0.13]  
  },  
  {  
    "position": [0.22, 0.57, 0.13]  
  }  
]
```




API

- Closely developed for visualization needs with focus on ease of use

Features

- Query simulation time
- Query neuron IDs
- Query populations
- Query positions
- Query spikes

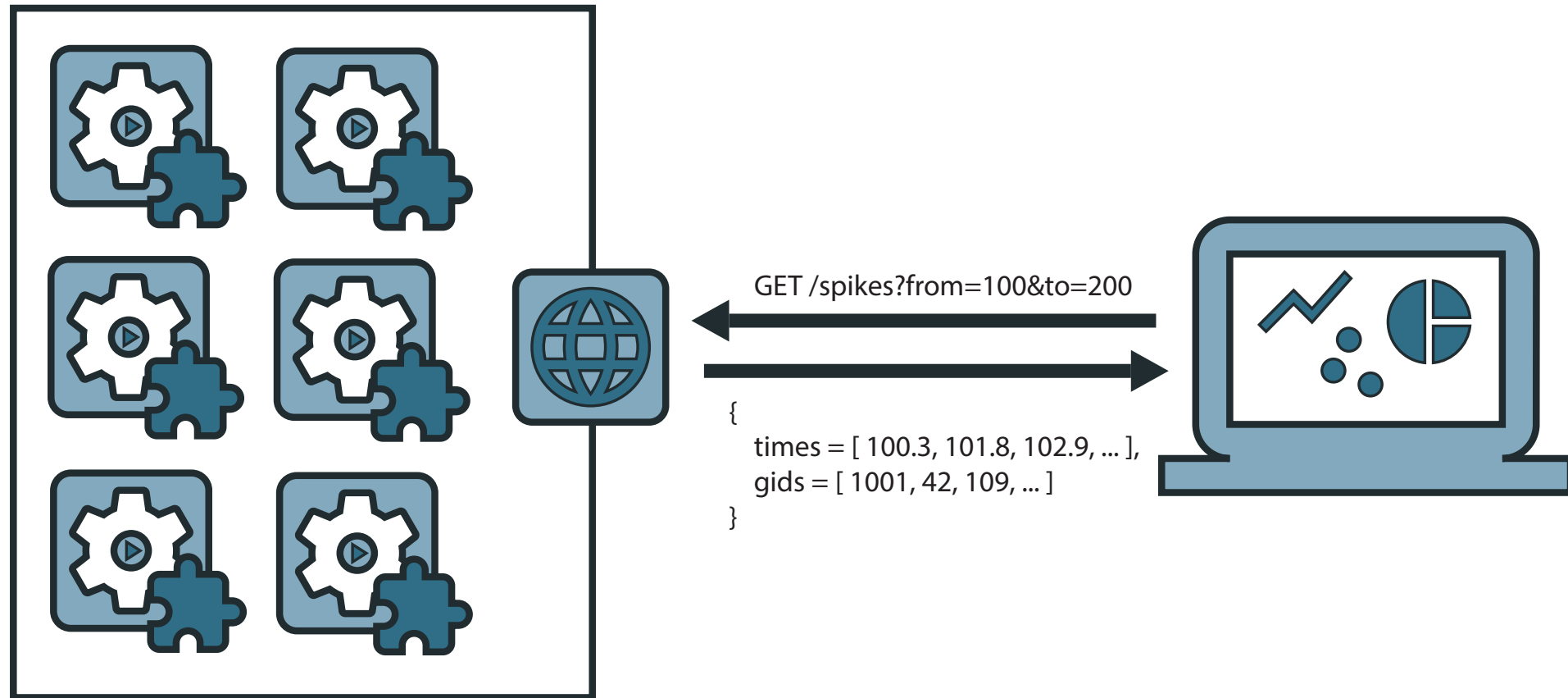
```
GET /spikes?from=1050&to=1070&gids=1,2,3
```

```
{  
  "times": [ 1050.4, 1055.8, 1061.8 ]  
  "gids":  [      1,      3,      1 ]  
}
```

```
GET /population/0/spikes
```

```
...
```

Large Scale Simulations





Simulation Integration

```
nest.Install("insitemodule")
```

```
spike_detector = nest.Create("spike_detector")
```

```
nest.SetStatus(  
    spike_detector,  
    [{"record_to": "insite"}])
```



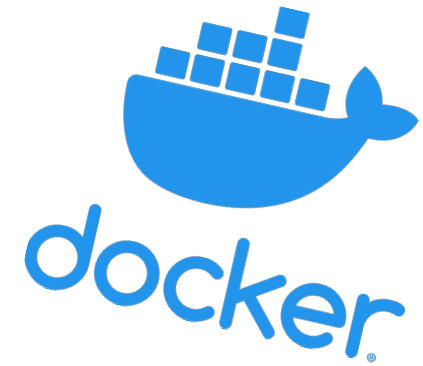
Module Installation

Option 1: Build it yourself

- Somewhat cumbersome

Option 2: Use docker-compose

- Clone <https://github.com/VRGroupRWTH/insite>
- Run “docker-compose run ...”
- The simulation data is accessible via <http://localhost:8080>
- Workflow can be optimized using NEST Server (PR 1415)



...ite — fish /Users/simon/Code/insite — -fish
...osforge.xquartz:0 HOME=/Users/simon

Problem loading page

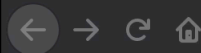
localhost:8080/simulation_time 300%

Unable to connect

Firefox can't establish a connection to the server at localhost:8080.

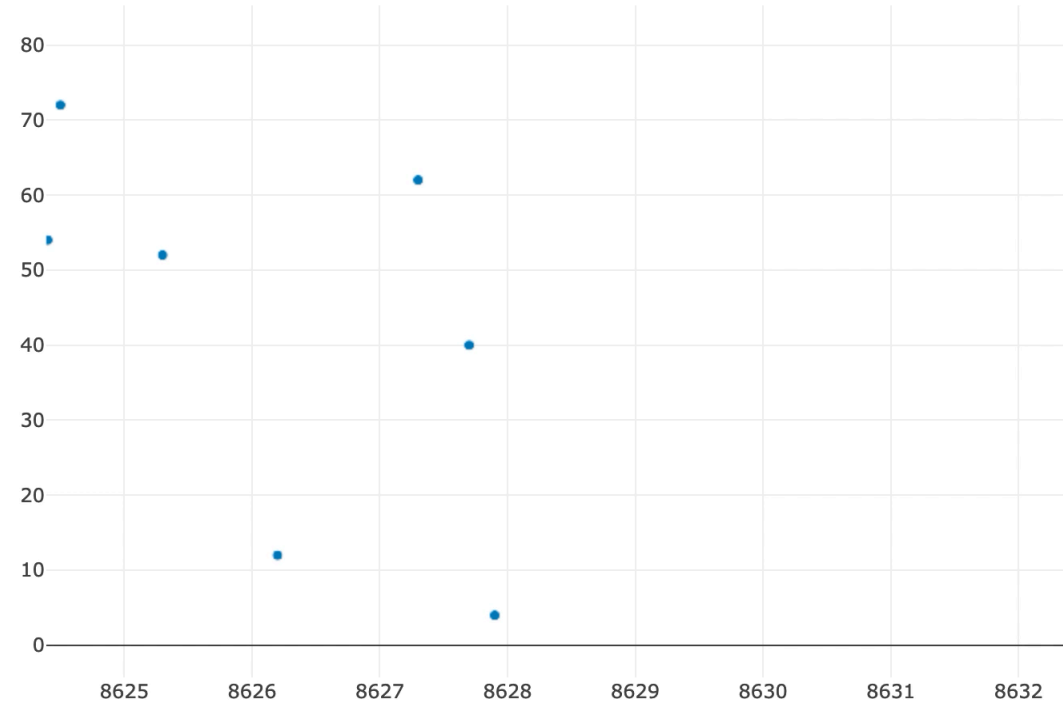
- The site could be temporarily unavailable or too busy. Try again in a few moments.
- If you are unable to load any pages, check your computer's network connection.

simon@Simons-MacBook-Pro ~/C/insite> docker-compose up



☐ Update

☐ Follow



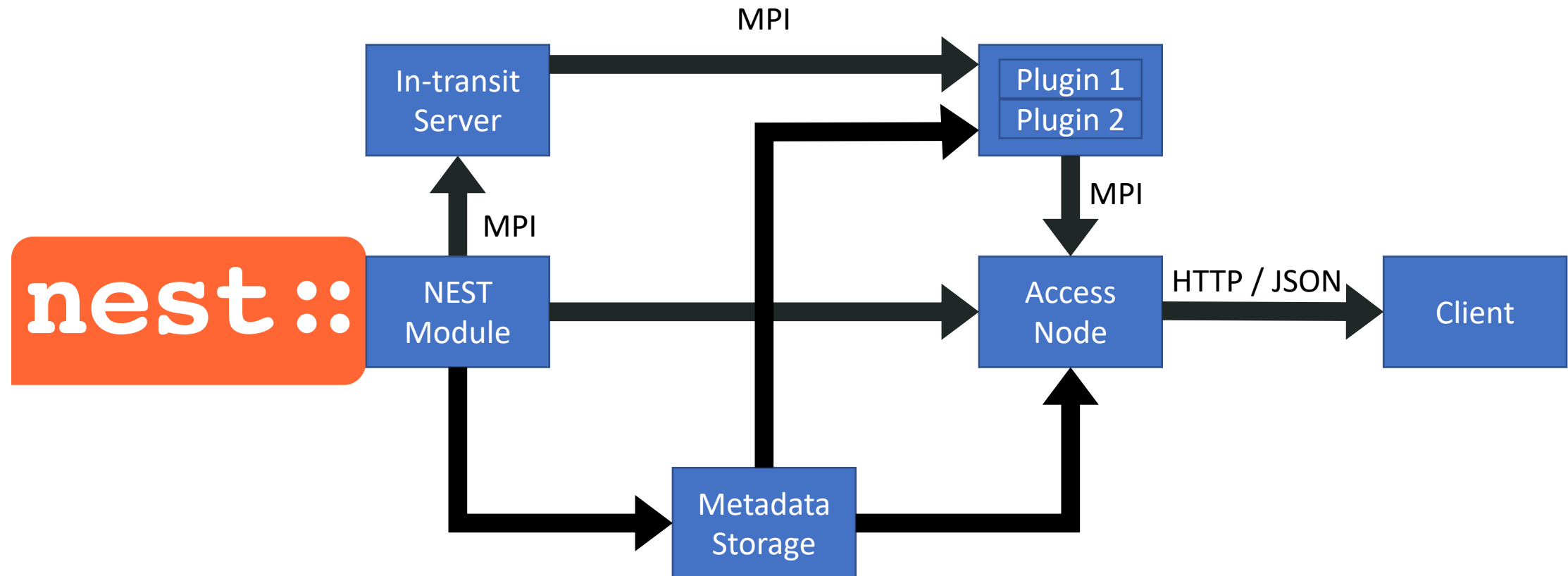
url

http://localhost

Http failure response for http://localhost:8080/spikes: 0 Unknown Error

Current simulation time: 1000 ms

In-transit Analysis





Analysis API (WIP)

Features

- Query plugin list

```
GET /analysis
```

```
[  
  {  
    "id": "mfr",  
    "short_desc": "Calculates the  
                   mean firing rate  
                   for all neurons."  
  },  
  ...  
]
```




Analysis API (WIP)

Features

- Query plugin list
- Query plugin details

```
GET /analysis/mfr
```

```
{
  "name": "Mean Firing Rate",
  "short_desc": "Calculates the ...",
  "long_desc": "...",
  "parameters": [
    {
      "name": "window_size",
      "type": "float"
    },
    ...
  ]
}
```



Analysis API (WIP)

Features

- Query plugin list
- Query plugin details
- (De-)Activate plugins

```
GET /analysis/mfr/activate
```

```
{  
  "is_active": false  
}
```

```
PUT /analysis/mfr/active?is_active=true
```



Analysis API (WIP)

Features

- Query plugin list
- Query plugin details
- (De-)Activate plugins
- **Set/get parameters**

```
GET /analysis/mfr/params
```

```
{  
  "window_size": 2  
}
```

```
PUT /analysis/mfr/params?window_size=3
```



Analysis API (WIP)

Features

- Query plugin list
- Query plugin details
- (De-)Activate plugins
- Set/get parameters
- Query data

```
GET /analysis/mfr/data
```

```
{  
  "0": [12.3, 10.1, 10.3],  
  "1": [4.0, 1.0, 0.1],  
  ...  
}
```



What's Next?

- Documentation
- Improved data formats
 - E.g., Google FlatBuffers
- Steering
 - POST /pause
 - POST /resume
 - ...



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Thank you for your attention!

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