



CLOUD NATIVE
COMPUTING FOUNDATION

Jaeger

Project Deep Dive

Annanay Agarwal (Grafana)
Pavol Loffay (Traceable.ai)
Yuri Shkuro (Facebook)

KubeCon + CloudNativeCon NA 2020 Virtual
Thu, Nov 19 • 2:55 pm - 3:30 pm

About

- Yuri Shkuro (<https://github.com/yurishkuro>)
 - Software engineer
 - Maintainer of Jaeger, OpenTracing, OpenTelemetry
 - Author of “[Mastering Distributed Tracing](#)” book

Agenda

- Observability and tracing
- Jaeger features
- Jaeger architecture
- Sampling
- Jaeger and OpenTelemetry
- Jaeger on Kubernetes

About

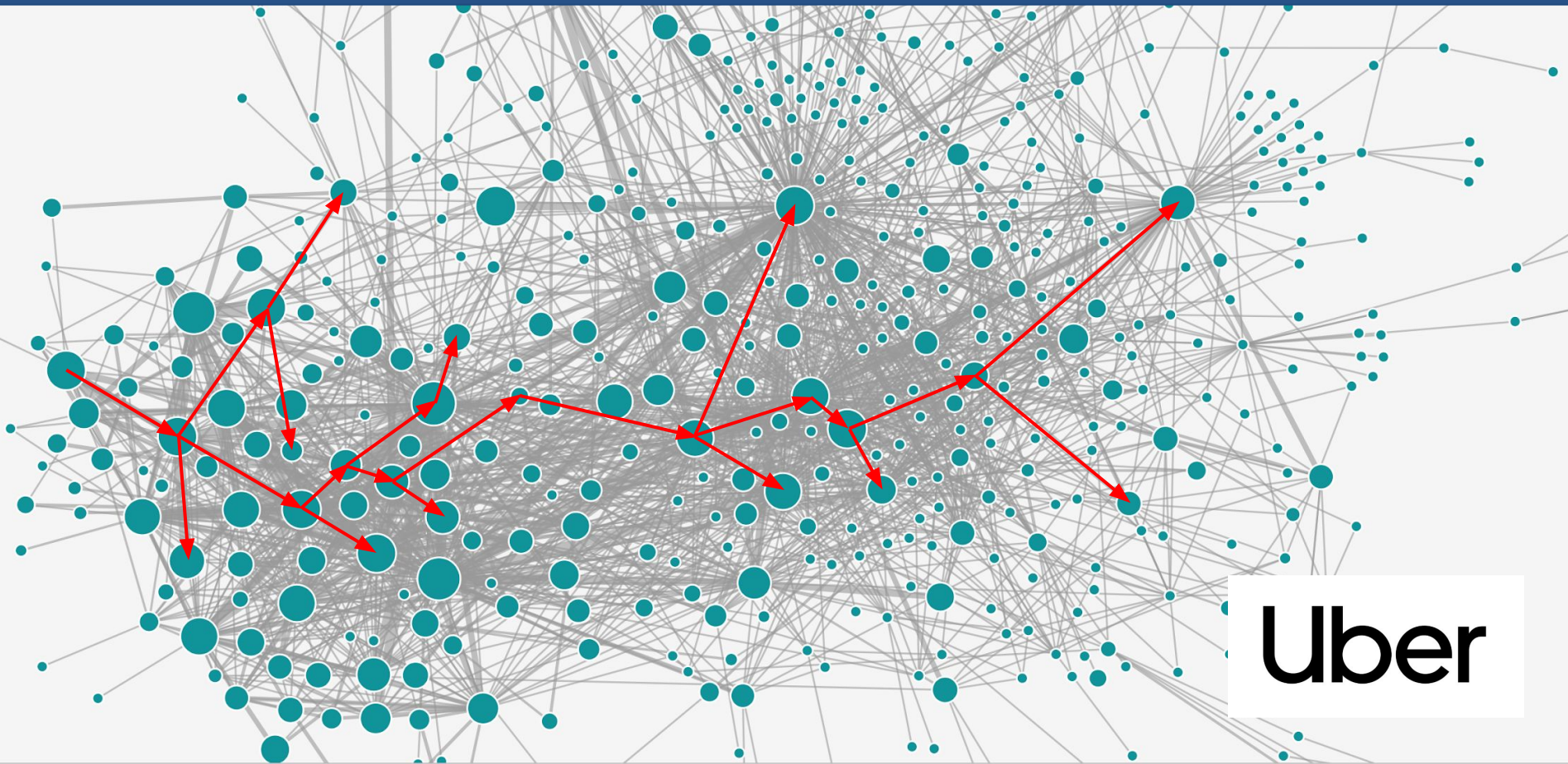
- Annanay Agarwal (<https://github.com/annanay25>)
 - Software developer at Grafana Labs
 - Contributor to Jaeger and OpenTelemetry projects



What is Tracing & Why?

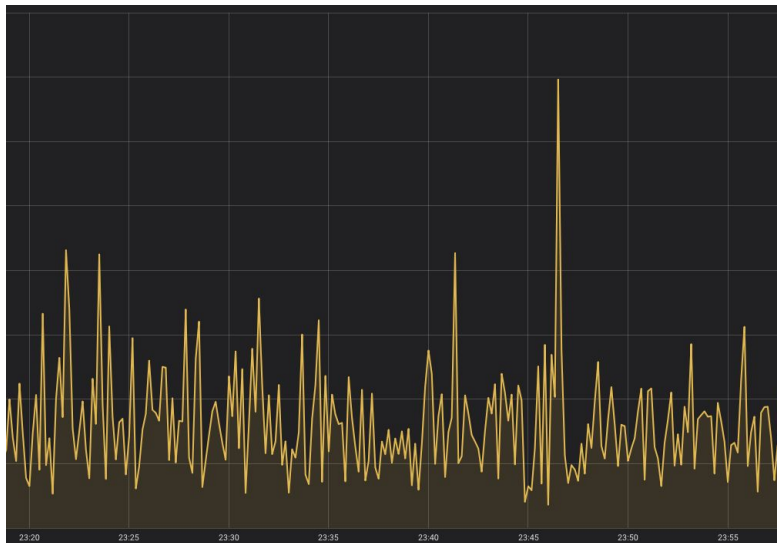
Concepts and terminology

BILLIONS of times a day!



Uber

Metrics



`http_request_duration_sec{"app=ice-cream-shop"} 10s`

Metrics - Cardinality

```
http_request_duration_sec{"app=ice-cream-shop"  
datacenter="us-central", env="production",  
service="cart-manager", path="/api/order",  
func_name="my-func"} 6s
```



Logs - stack trace?

[illegible]

Logs are a mess: concurrent requests, multiple hosts, impossible to correlate.

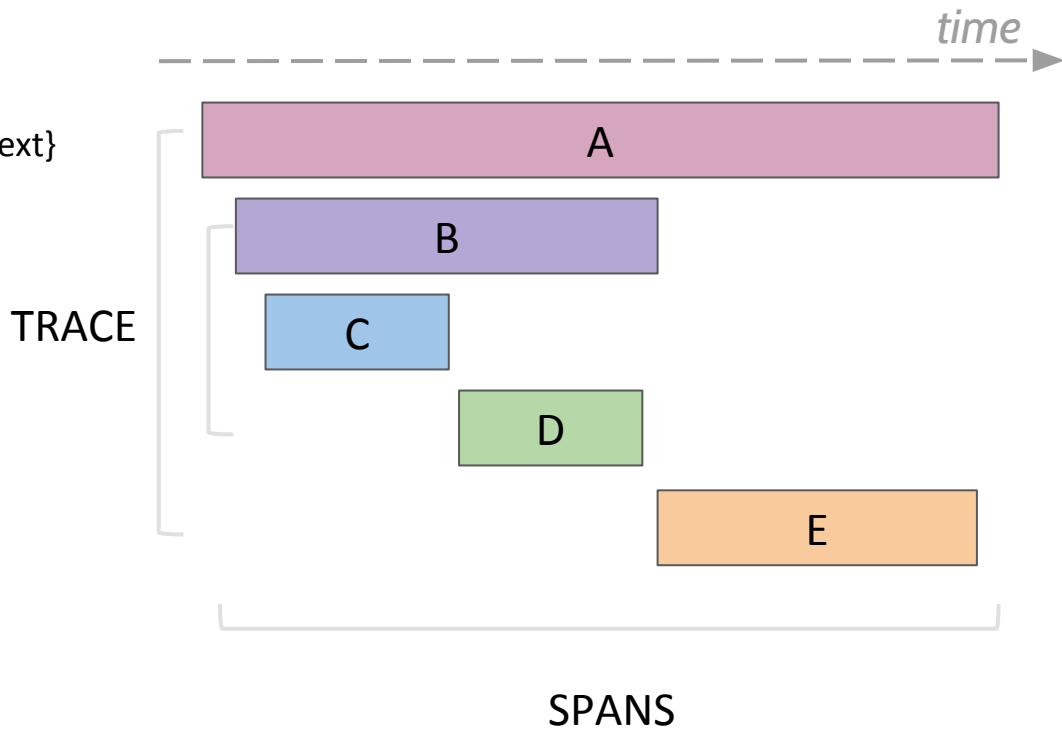
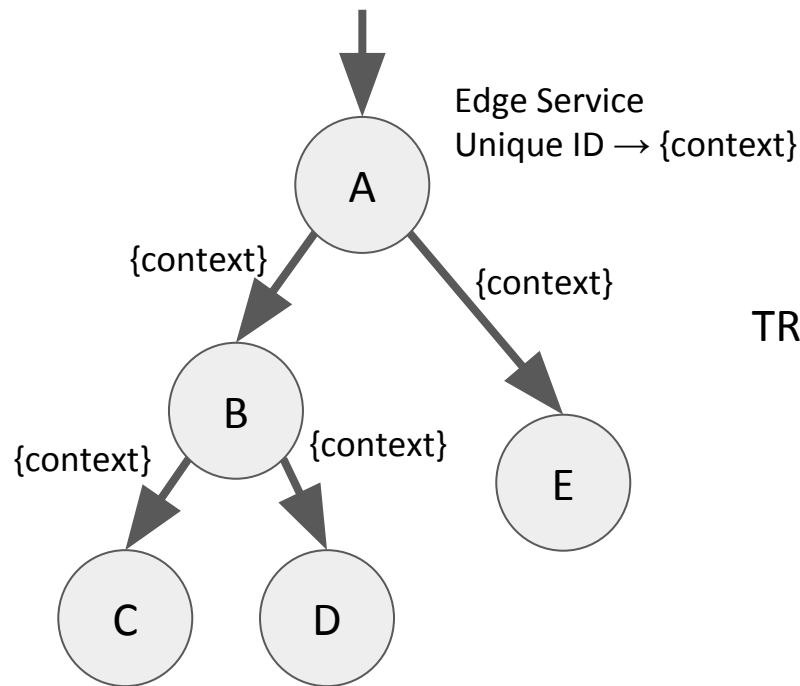
Monitoring tools must tell stories!

Do you like debugging
without a stack trace?

We need to monitor
distributed transactions
⇒ **distributed tracing!**



Context Propagation & Distributed Tracing





Let's look at some traces

<http://bit.do/jaeger-hotrod>



Service dependencies diagram

Jaeger UI

Lookup by Trace ID...

Search

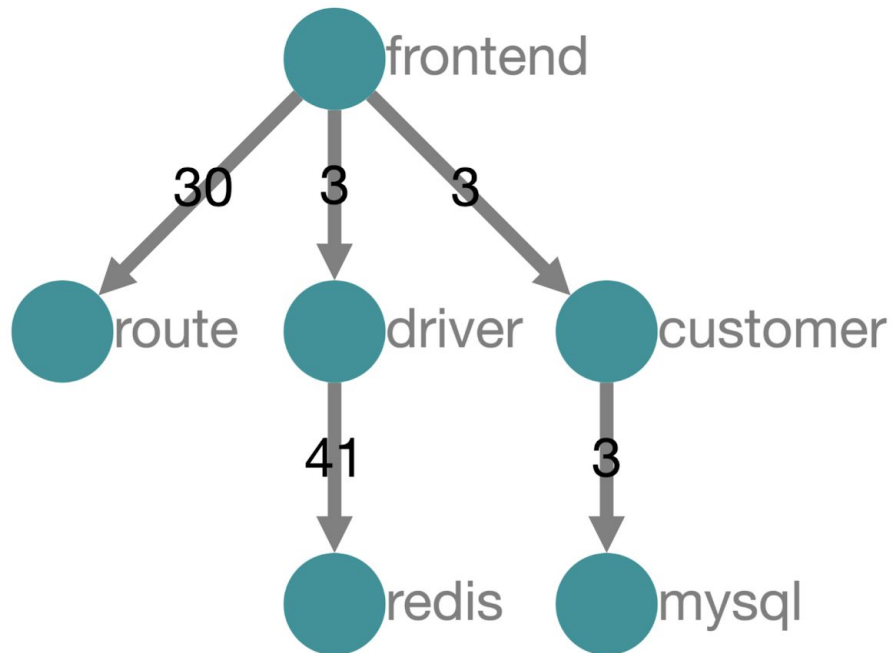
Compare

Dependencies

About Jaeger

Force Directed Graph

DAG



Transitive Service Graphs

4 Traces

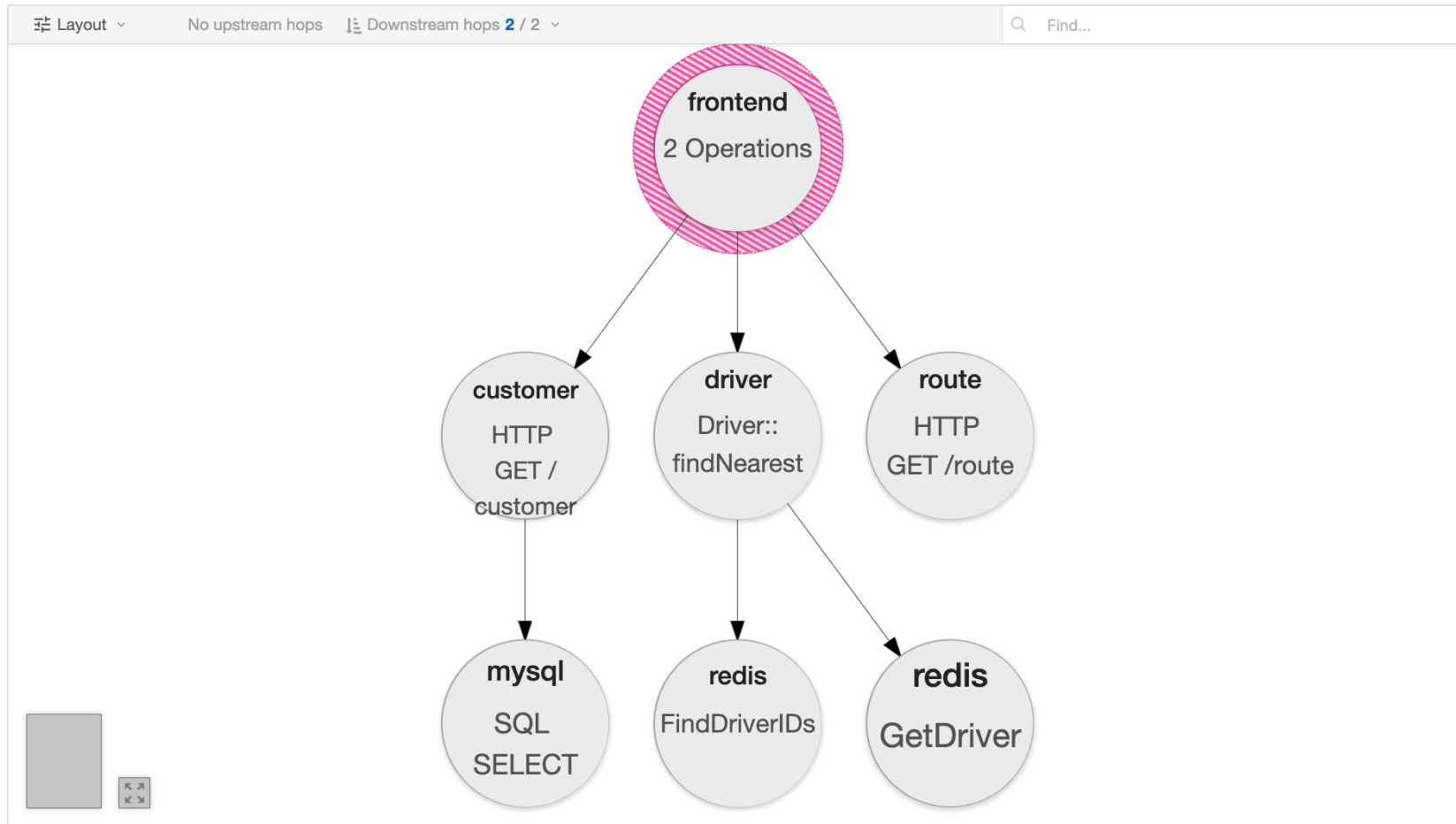
Sort: Most Recent ▾

Deep Dependency Graph

Compare traces by selecting result items

<input type="checkbox"/>	frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch 3688087	1.04s
51 Spans	3 Errors	customer (1) driver (1) frontend (24) mysql (1) redis (14) route (10)
		Today 5:39:56 pm 5 minutes ago
<input type="checkbox"/>	frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch 73e6e77	853.78ms
50 Spans	2 Errors	customer (1) driver (1) frontend (24) mysql (1) redis (13) route (10)
		Today 5:39:56 pm 5 minutes ago
<input type="checkbox"/>	frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch d84845f	702.29ms
51 Spans	3 Errors	customer (1) driver (1) frontend (24) mysql (1) redis (14) route (10)
		Today 5:39:56 pm 5 minutes ago

Transitive Service Graphs



Trace timeline

▼ frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch

[View Options](#) ▼

Trace Start: **December 8, 2018 6:51 PM** | Duration: **954.54ms** | Services: **6** | Depth: **5** | Total Spans: **50**



Service & Operation



0ms

238.63ms

477.27ms

715.9ms

954.54ms

▼ frontend HTTP GET /dispatch

▼ frontend HTTP GET: /customer

▼ frontend HTTP GET

▼ customer HTTP GET /customer

mysql SQL SELECT

▼ frontend Driver::findNearest

▼ driver Driver::findNearest

redis FindDriverIDs

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

540.22ms

540.18ms

539.62ms

539.54ms

191.41ms

191.12ms

24.38ms

11.61ms

29.97ms

10.46ms

11.9ms

11.46ms

10.96ms

8.89ms

9.93ms

16.52ms

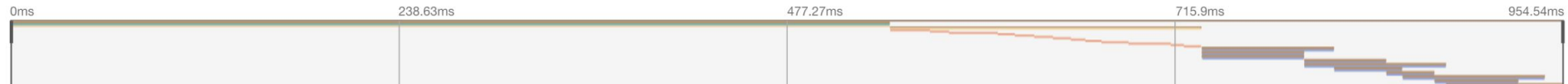
25.00ms

Trace timeline – Parent → Child → Grandchild

▼ frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch

[View Options](#) ▼

Trace Start: **December 8, 2018 6:51 PM** | Duration: **954.54ms** | Services: **6** | Depth: **5** | Total Spans: **50**



Service & Operation



0ms

238.63ms

477.27ms

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▼ frontend HTTP GET /customer

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▼ customer HTTP GET /customer

mysql SQL SELECT

▼ frontend Driver::findNearest

▼ driver Driver::findNearest

redis FindDriverIDs

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

1

540.22ms

540.18ms

539.62ms

539.54ms

191.41ms

191.12ms

24.38ms

11.61ms

29.97ms

10.46ms

11.9ms

11.46ms

10.96ms

8.89ms

9.93ms

16.52ms

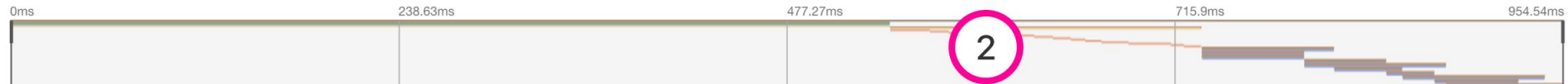
25.22ms

Trace timeline – Time + Mini-map

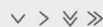
▼ frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch

[View Options](#) ▼

Trace Start: **December 8, 2018 6:51 PM** | Duration: **954.54ms** | Services: **6** | Depth: **5** | Total Spans: **50**



Service & Operation



0ms 238.63ms 477.27ms 715.9ms 954.54ms

▼ frontend HTTP GET /dispatch

▼ frontend HTTP GET /customer

▼ frontend HTTP GET

▼ customer HTTP GET /customer

mysql SQL SELECT

▼ frontend Driver::findNearest

▼ driver Driver::findNearest

redis FindDriverIDs

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

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redis GetDriver

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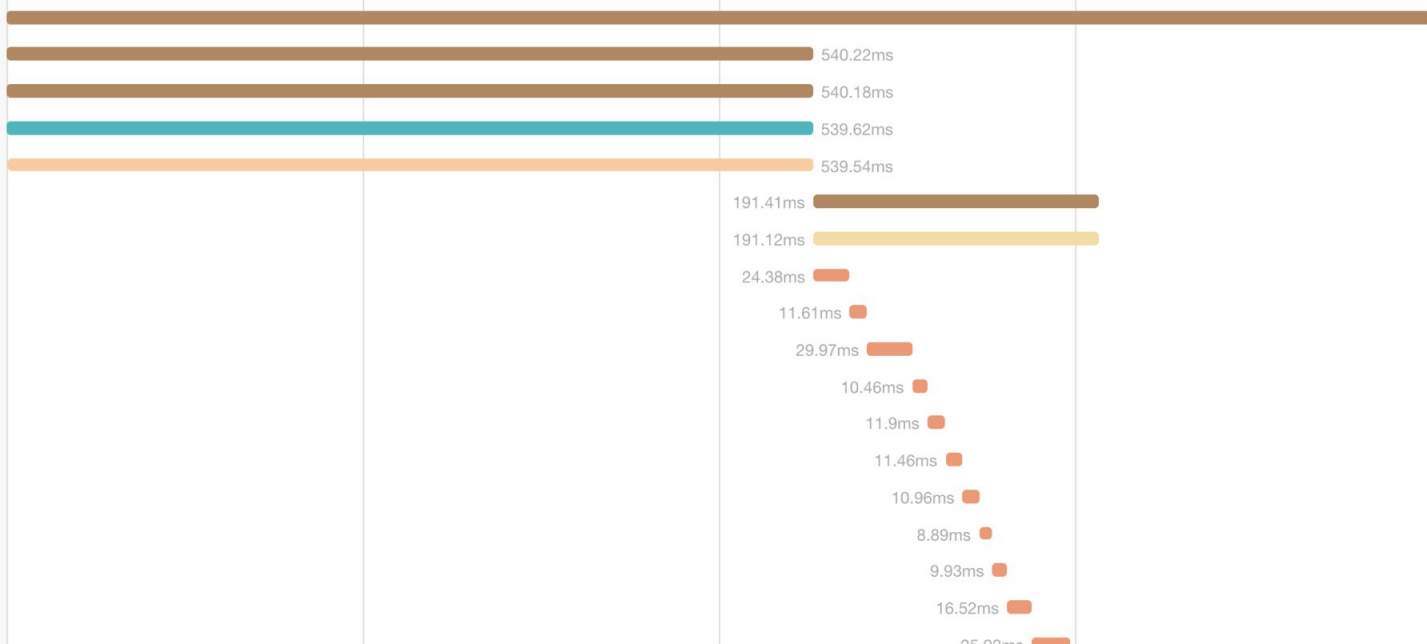
redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

1



Trace timeline – A blocking operation

▼ frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch

[View Options](#) ▼

Trace Start: December 8, 2018 6:51 PM | Duration: 954.54ms | Services: 6 | Depth: 5 | Total Spans: 50



Service & Operation



0ms 238.63ms 477.27ms 715.9ms 954.54ms

▼ frontend HTTP GET /dispatch

▼ frontend HTTP GET /customer

▼ frontend HTTP GET

▼ customer HTTP GET /customer

mysql SQL SELECT

▼ frontend Driver::findNearest

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redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

1

3

191.41ms

191.12ms

24.38ms

11.61ms

29.97ms

10.46ms

11.9ms

11.46ms

10.96ms

8.89ms

9.93ms

16.52ms

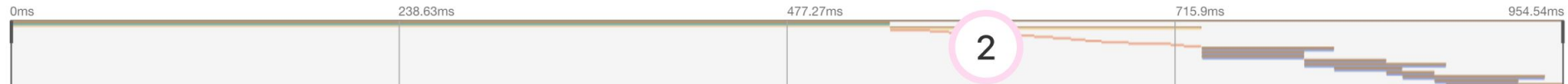
25.22ms

Trace timeline – Sequential operations

▼ frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch

[View Options](#) ▼

Trace Start: **December 8, 2018 6:51 PM** | Duration: **954.54ms** | Services: **6** | Depth: **5** | Total Spans: **50**



Service & Operation



0ms 238.63ms 477.27ms 715.9ms 954.54ms

▼ frontend HTTP GET /dispatch

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redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

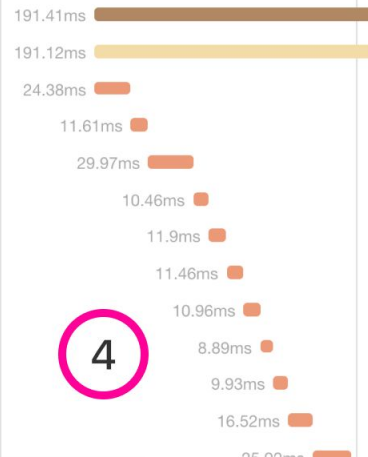
redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

1

3

4

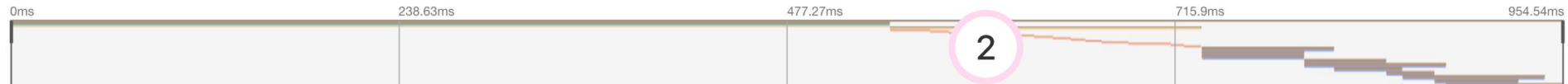


Trace timeline – Parents encompass descendents (generally)

▼ frontend: HTTP GET /dispatch

[View Options](#) ▼

Trace Start: **December 8, 2018 6:51 PM** | Duration: **954.54ms** | Services: **6** | Depth: **5** | Total Spans: **50**



Service & Operation



0ms 238.63ms 477.27ms 715.9ms 954.54ms

▼ frontend HTTP GET /dispatch

▼ frontend HTTP GET /customer

▼ frontend HTTP GET

▼ customer HTTP GET /customer

mysql SQL SELECT

▼ frontend Driver::findNearest

▼ driver Driver::findNearest

redis FindDriverIDs

redis GetDriver

! redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

redis GetDriver

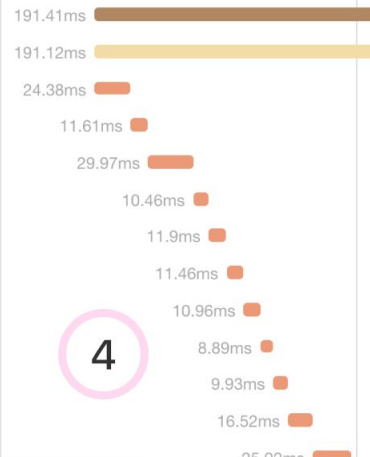
! redis GetDriver

1

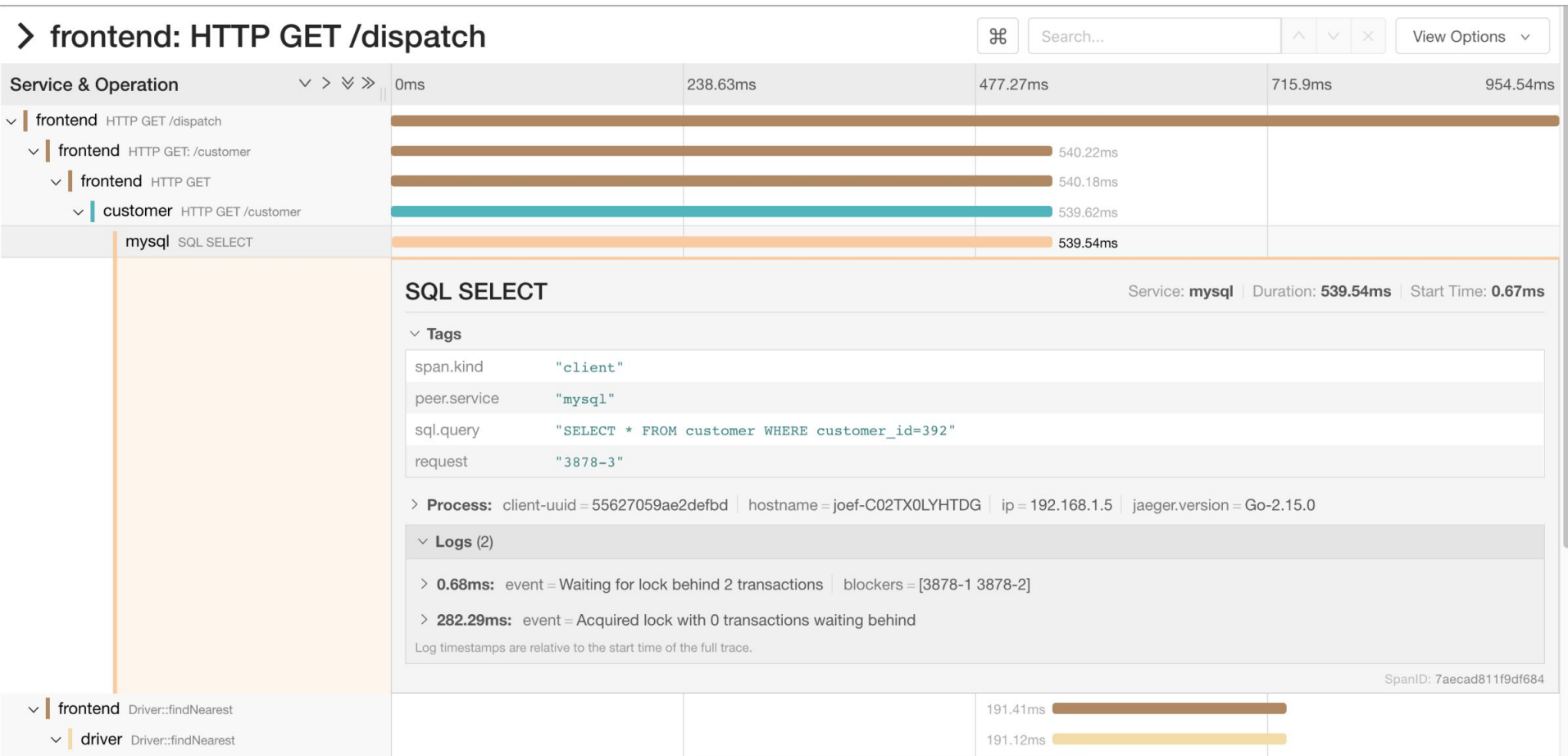
3

5

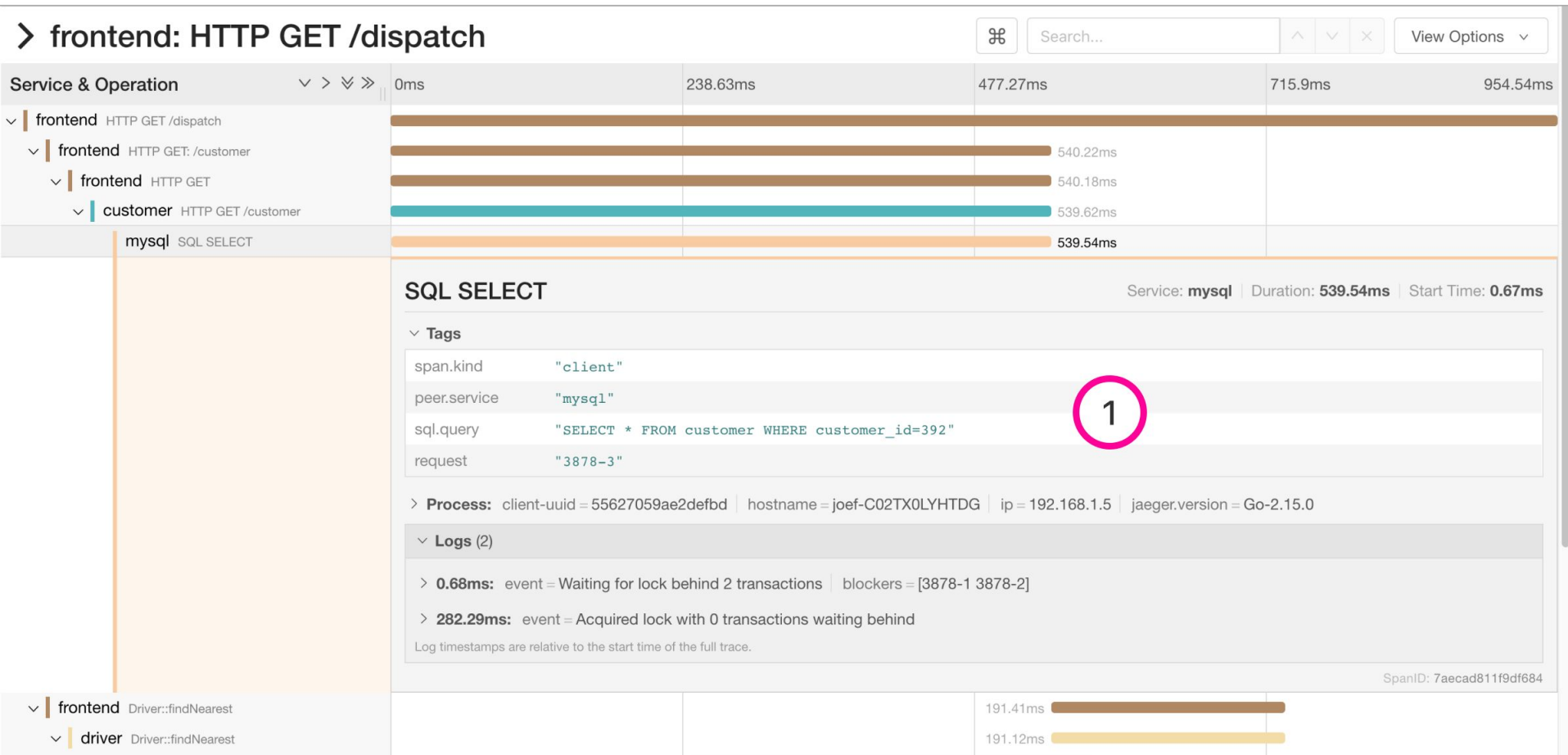
4



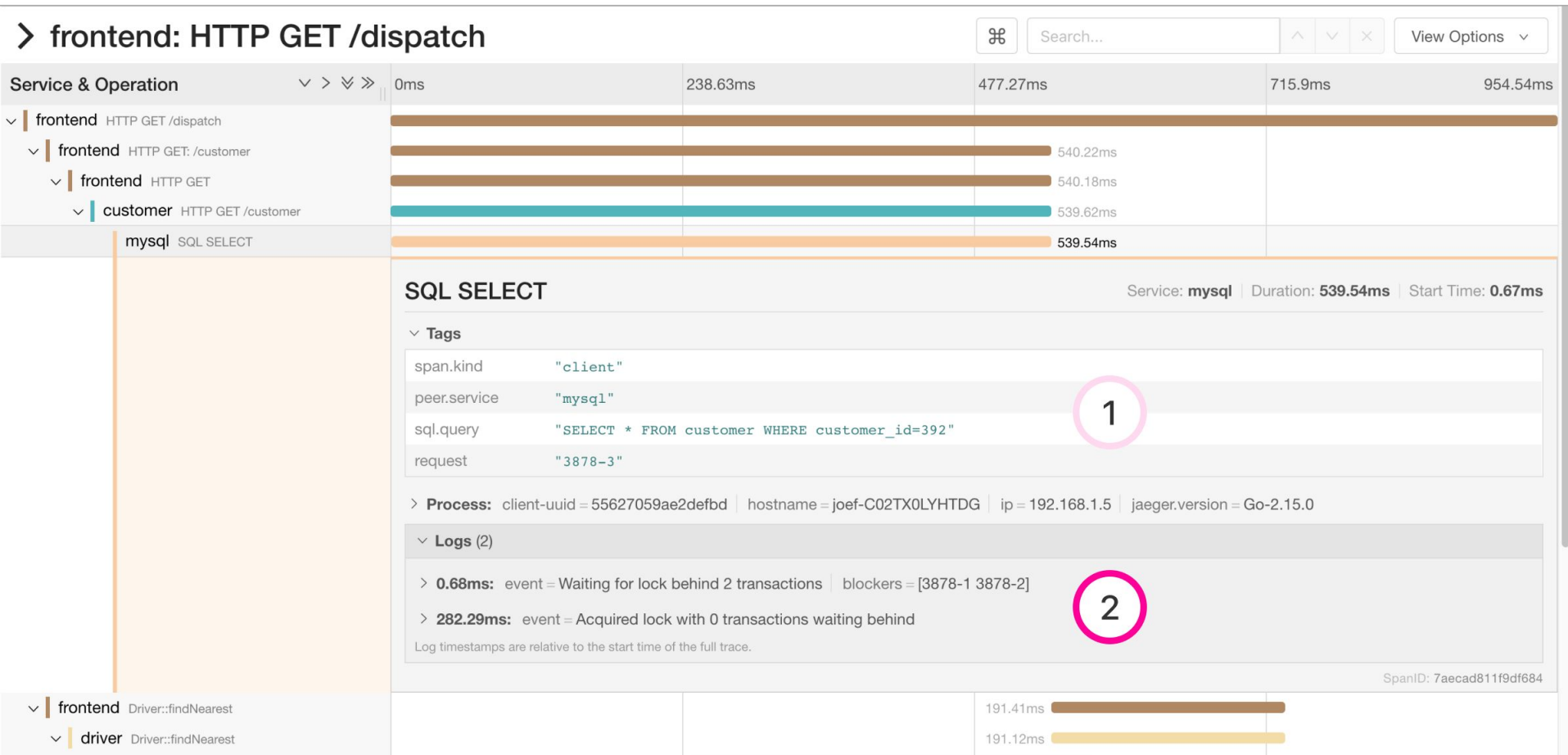
Span details



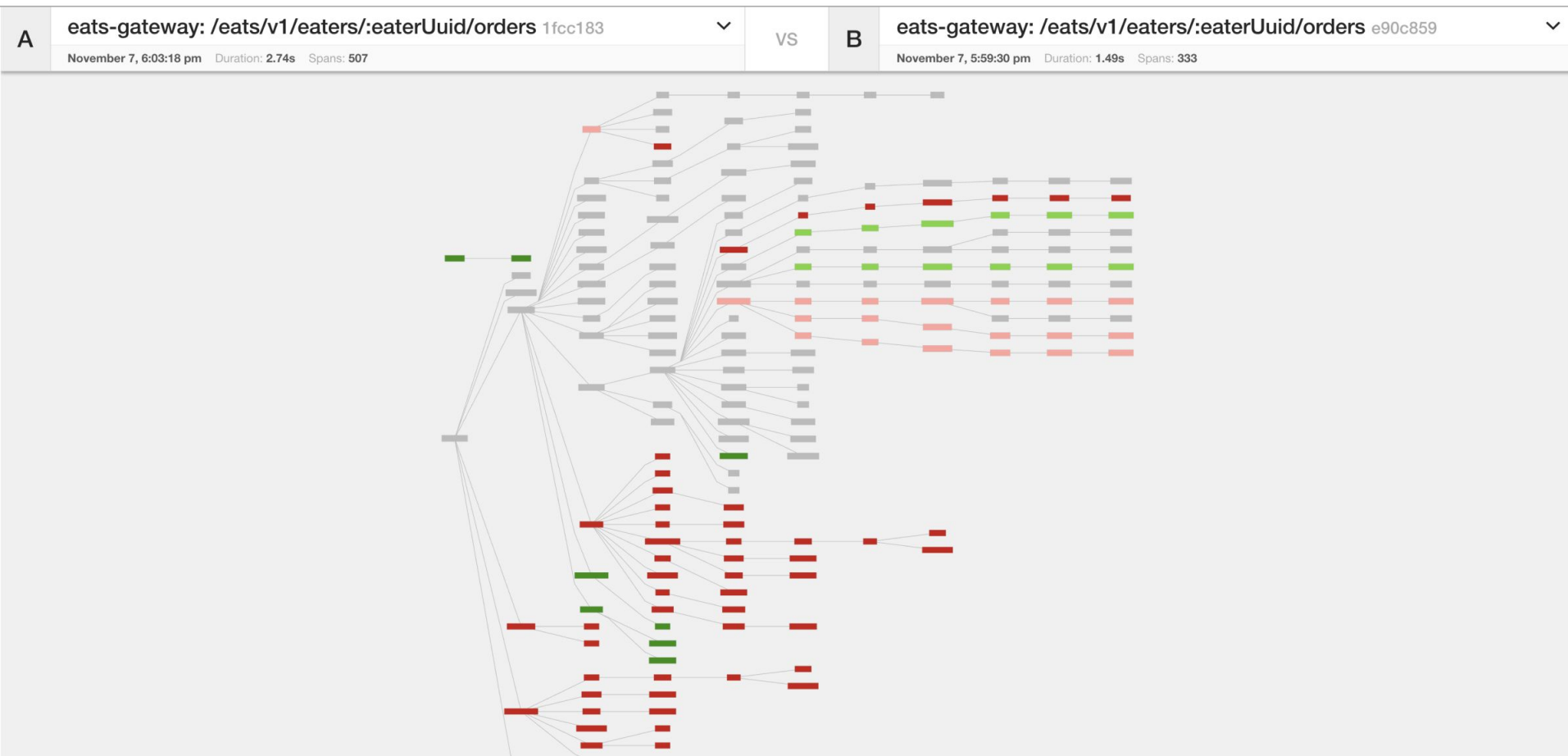
Span details – Database query



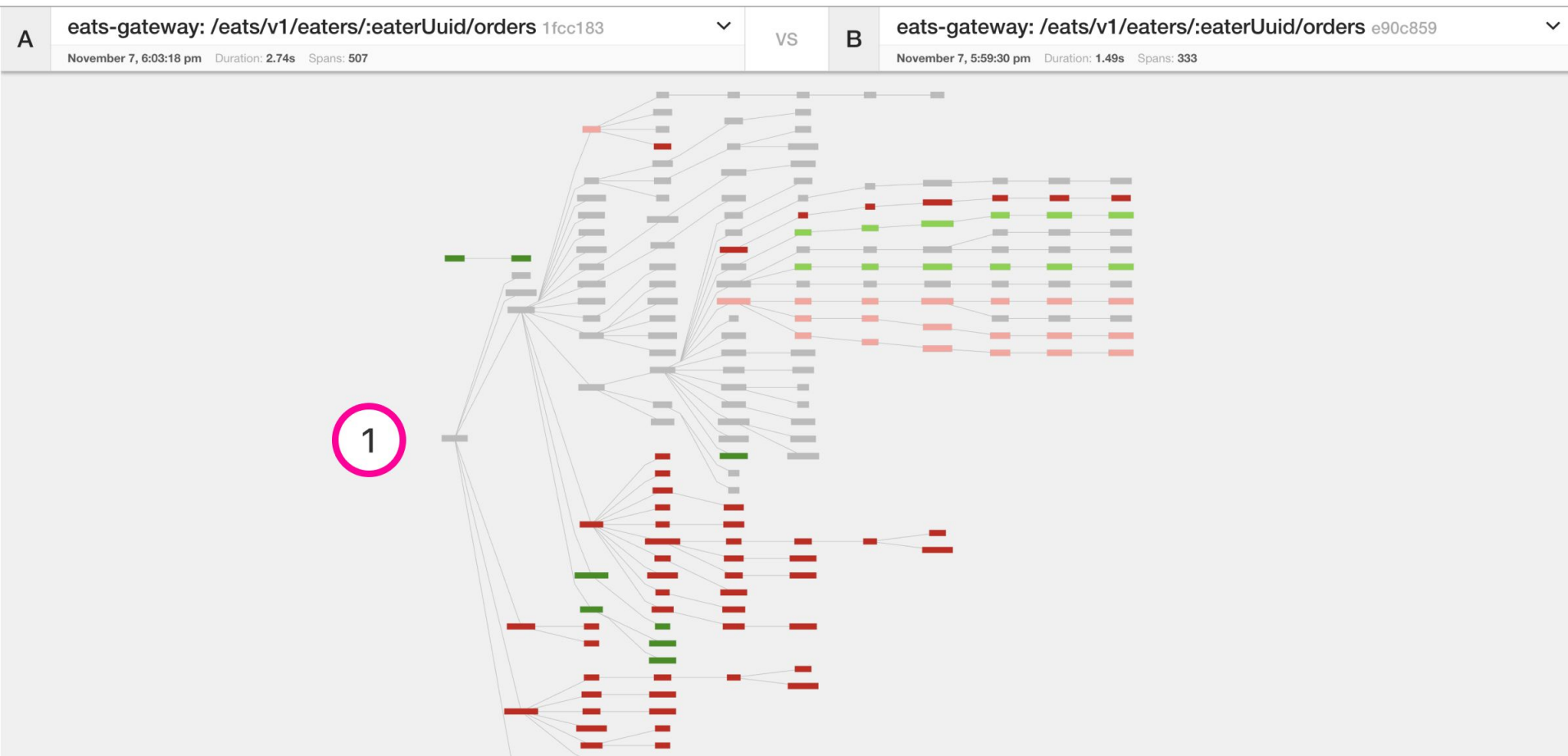
Span details – Lock contention



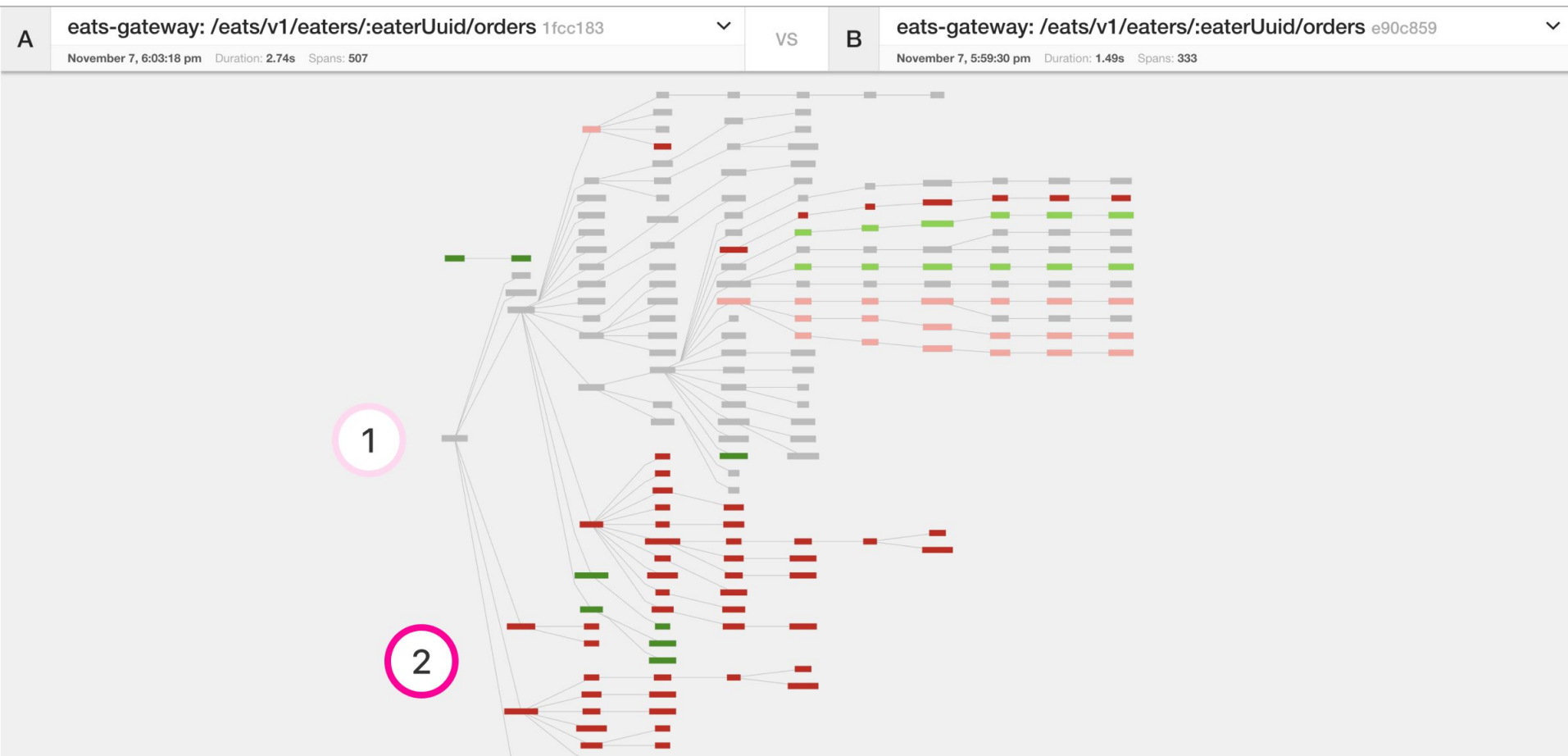
Comparing trace structures – Unified diff



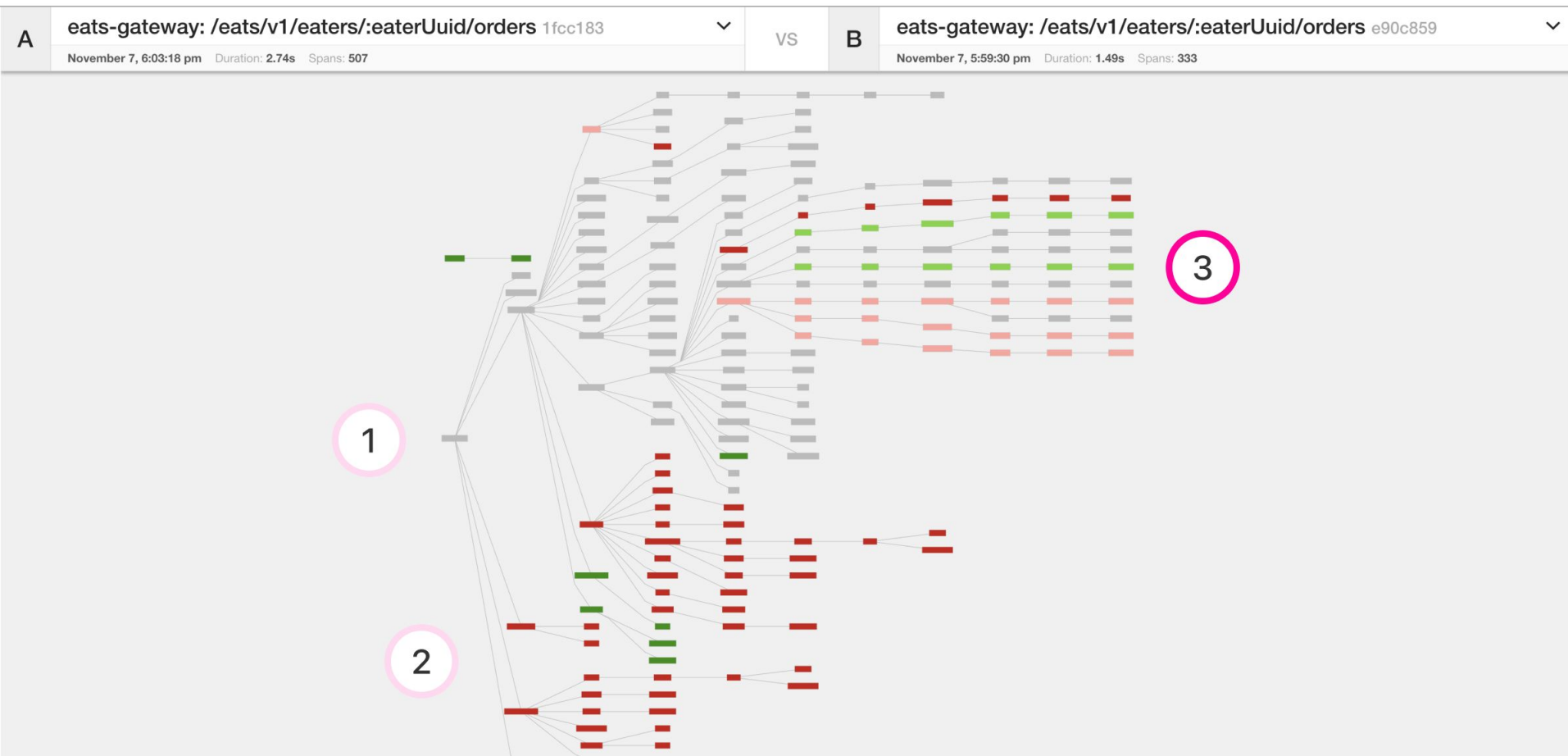
Comparing trace structures – Shared structure



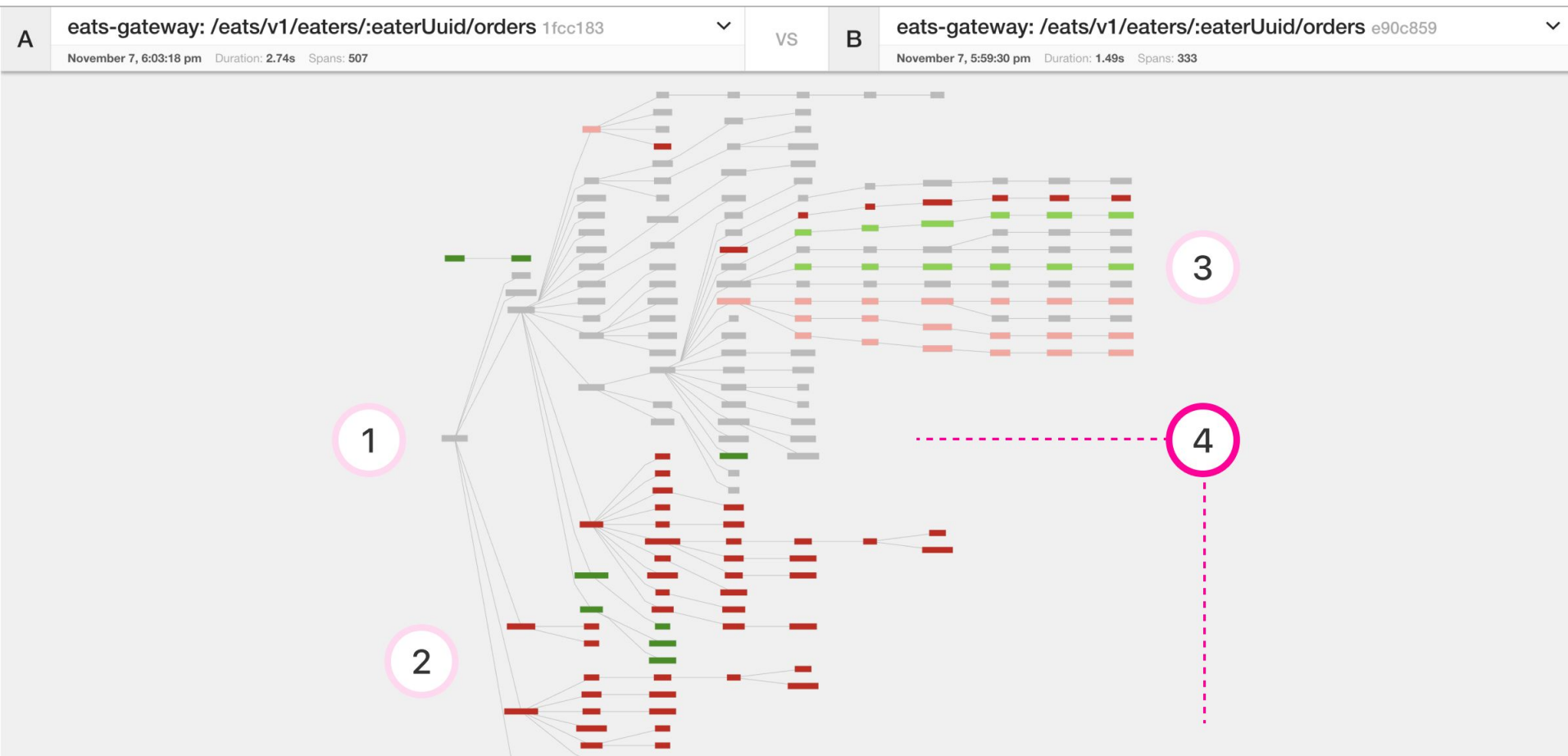
Comparing trace structures – Absent in one or the traces



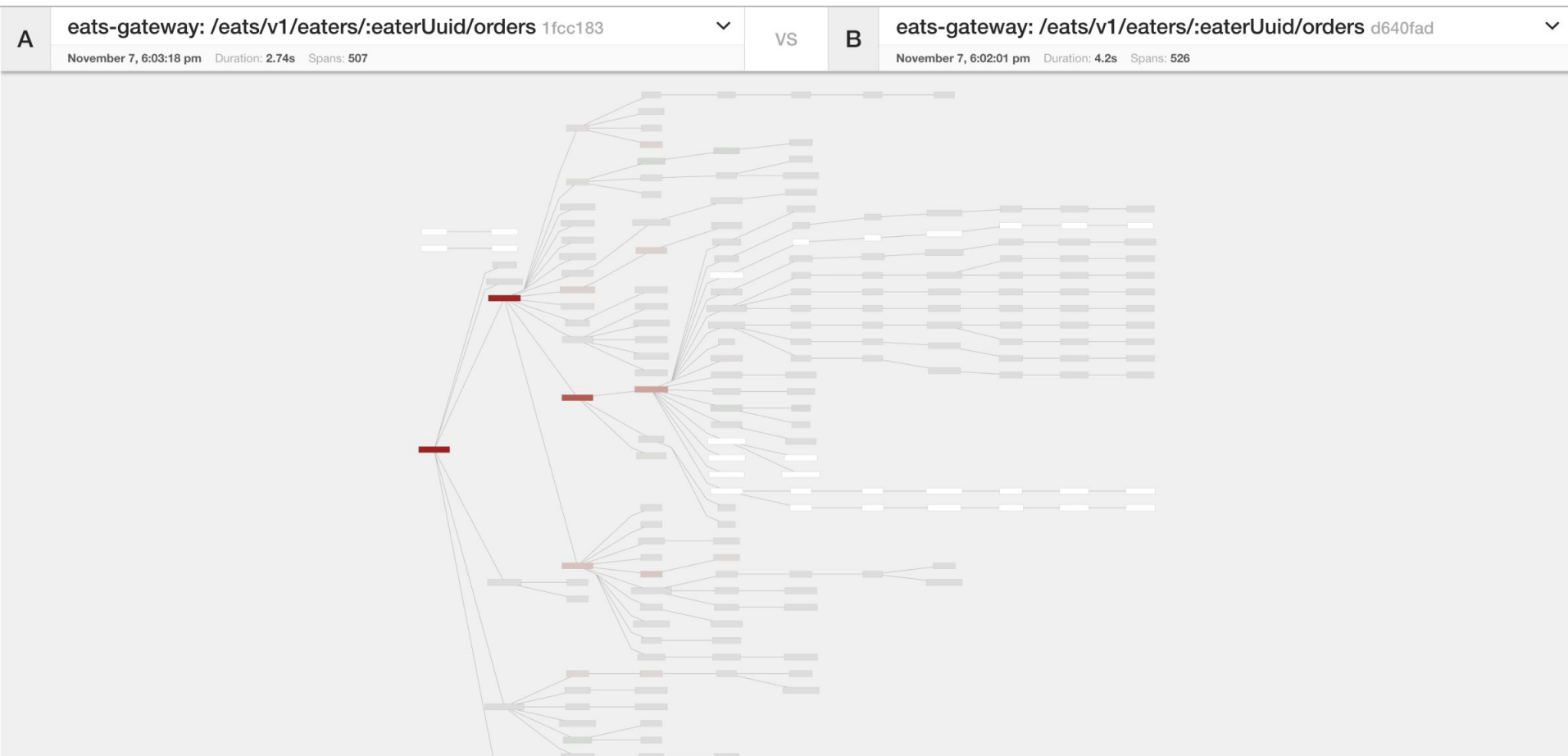
Comparing trace structures – More or less within a node



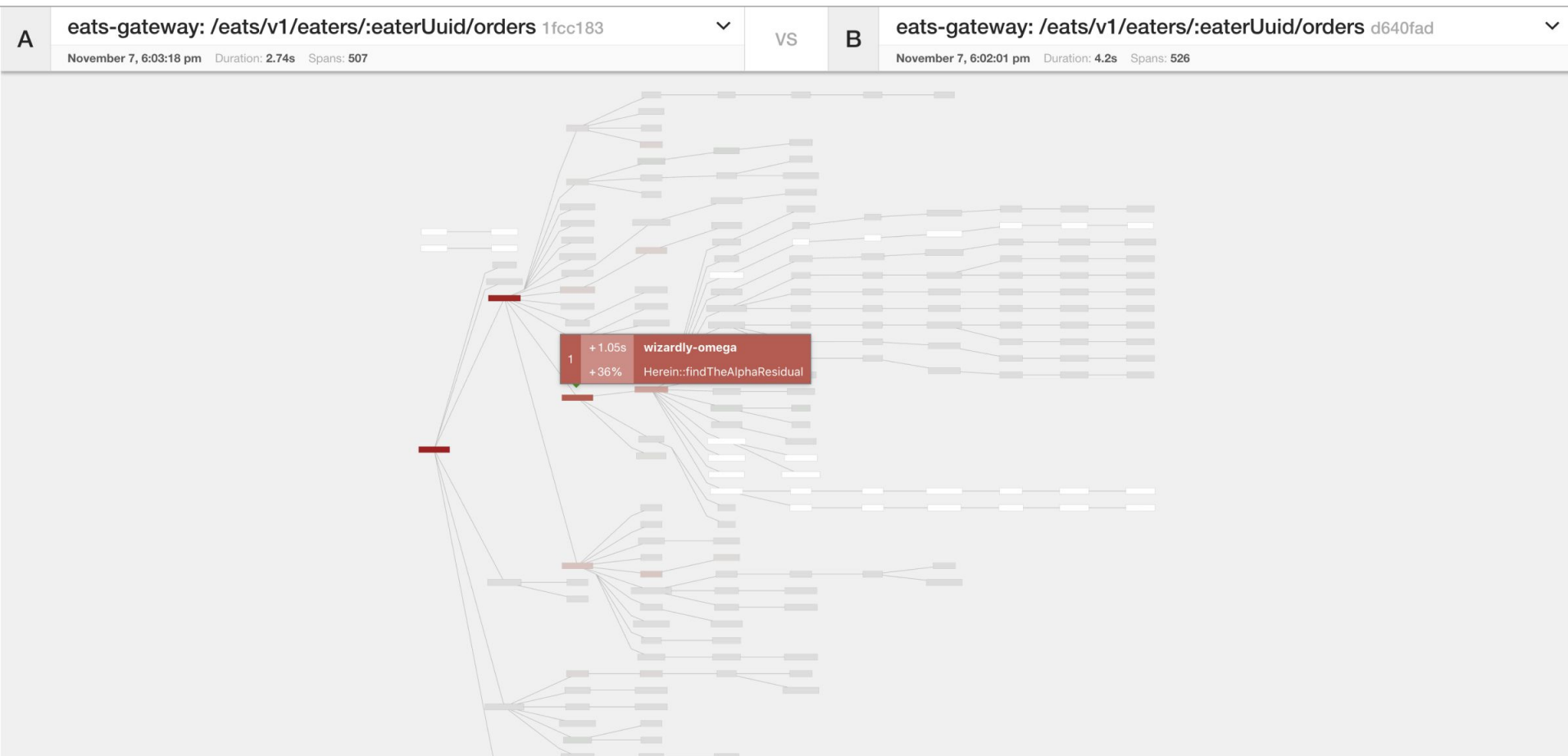
Comparing trace structures – Substantial divergence



Comparing span durations



Comparing span durations





Jaeger

Architecture

Jaeger, a Distributed Tracing Platform



Instrumentation not included

Jaeger project does not provide instrumentation!

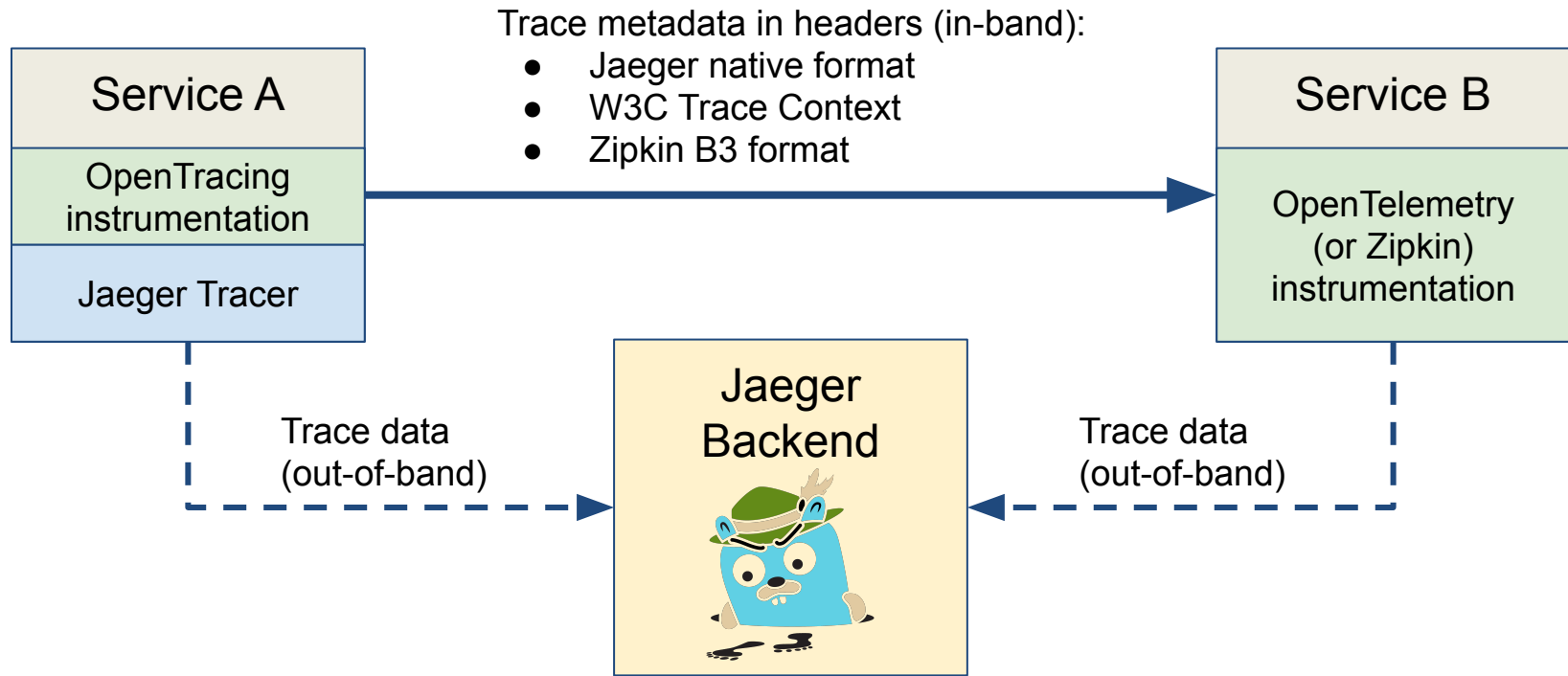
Use OpenTracing or OpenTelemetry.

Jaeger - /'yāgər/, *noun*: hunter

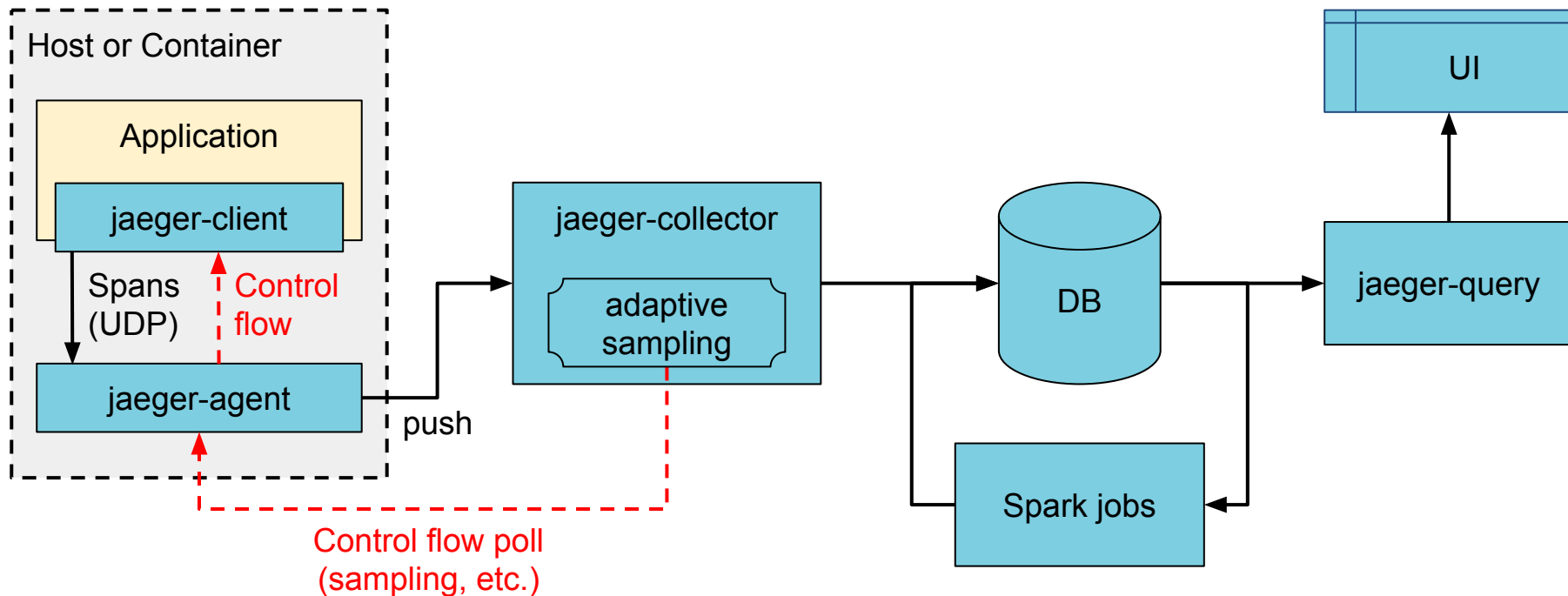
- Inspired by Google's Dapper and OpenZipkin
- Created at Uber in August 2015 ([blog](#))
- Open sourced in April 2017
- Joined CNCF in Sep 2017 (as incubating)
- Graduated to top-level CNCF project
Oct 2019 ([CNCF announcement](#))



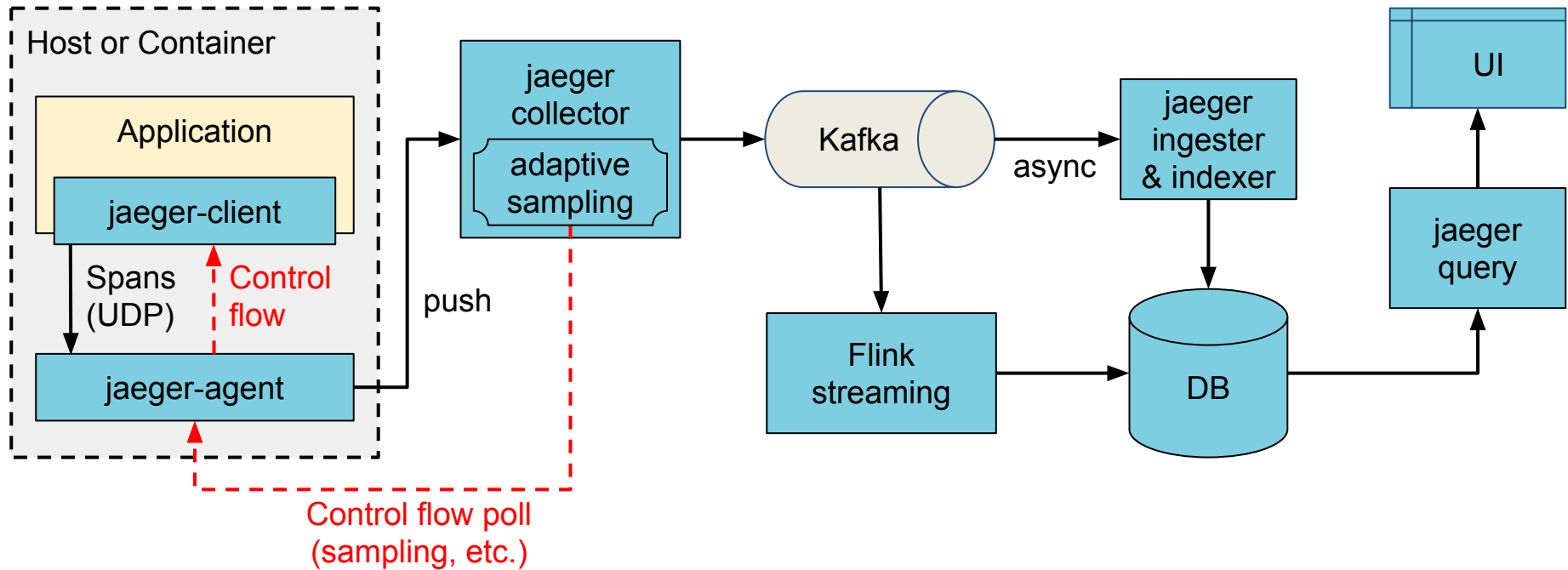
Jaeger and your system



Architecture 2017: Push



Architecture now: Push+Async+Streaming



Technology Stack

- Go backend
- Pluggable storage
 - Cassandra, Elasticsearch, badger, memory
- React/Javascript frontend
- OpenTracing Instrumentation libraries
- Integration with Kafka, Apache Flink



Go



POWERED



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Apache Cassandra® is a trademark of the [Apache Software Foundation](https://www.apache.org/) in the United States and/or other countries.



Jaeger

And Sampling



Sampling

Sampling is the selection of a subset (a statistical sample) of individuals from within a (statistical) population to estimate characteristics of the whole population.

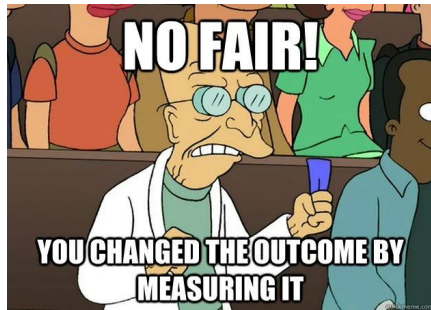
traces

all possible
traces

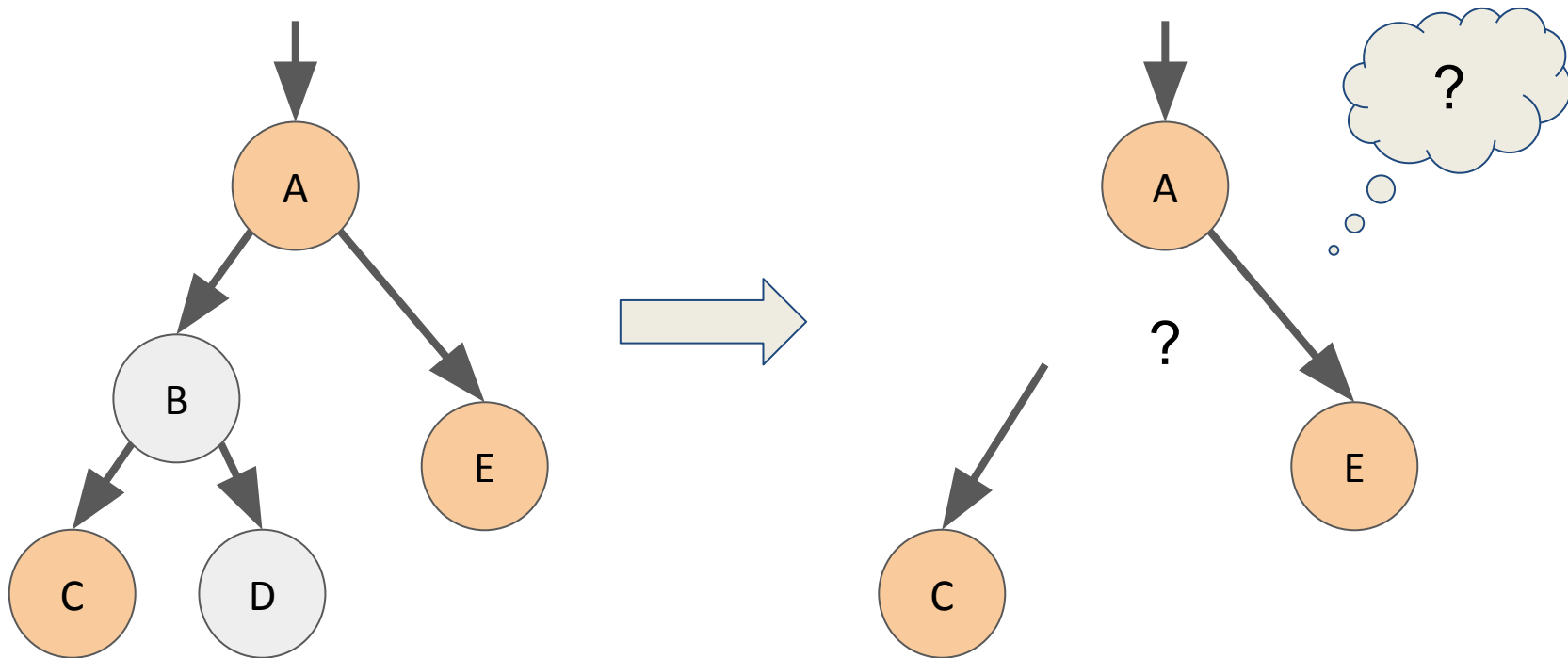
reason about
application
performance

Why do we sample

1. Saving everything incurs large storage costs
 - 2 KB / span on 10k QPS server \Rightarrow 20 MB/s
 - x100 instances \Rightarrow 2 GB/s \approx 170 PB/day (for one service!)
2. Performance overhead from instrumentation
 - 10k QPS server \Rightarrow 100 μ s / req budget
 - Trace instrumentation: 5 μ s \Rightarrow 5% overhead
3. Trace data is very repetitive



Goal: Consistent (all or nothing) Sampling



Sampling techniques

- Head-based sampling
 - Most popular in the industry
- Tail-based sampling
 - Gaining popularity recently

Head-based (upfront) sampling

Sampling decision is made at the start of the trace and propagated in the trace context.

- ✓ Minimal perf overhead when trace is not sampled
- ✓ Easy to implement, supported by Jaeger SDKs
- ✗ Can easily miss rare anomalies/outliers
 - Prob. of catching p99 latency with 1% sampling rate $\Rightarrow 1/10,000$
- ✗ Cannot “sample on errors”

Head-based sampling in Jaeger

- SDKs can be configured with different samplers (always on / off, probabilistic, rate limiting, etc.)
 - ✓ Easy to implement
 - ✗ Spread-out configuration in the hands of developers
- SDKs default to “remote” sampler that allows centralized configuration (polled from collectors)

Jaeger sampling configuration

```
"default_strategy": {  
  "type": "probabilistic",  
  "param": 0.5,  
  "operation_strategies": [  
    {  
      "operation": "/health",  
      "type": "probabilistic",  
      "param": 0.0  
    },  
    {  
      "operation": "/metrics",  
      "type": "probabilistic",  
      "param": 0.0  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

Applies to all other services

Overrides for specific endpoints

```
"service_strategies": [  
  {  
    "service": "foo",  
    "type": "probabilistic",  
    "param": 0.8,  
    "operation_strategies": [  
      {  
        "operation": "bar",  
        "type": "probabilistic",  
        "param": 0.2  
      }  
    ]  
  }  
]
```

Custom strategy per service

Overrides for specific endpoints

Tail-based (post-trace) sampling

Sampling decision is made at the end of the trace:

- ✓ Can be much more intelligent, based on observed latency, errors, unusual call patterns & graph shapes, etc.
- ✓ Can catch anomalies
- ✓ Can perform aggregations before sampling
- ✗ Requires temporary storage of all traces
- ✗ Applications incur performance overhead even for traces that may be later discarded

Tail-based sampling in Jaeger

- ✓ Supported in `jaeger-opentelemetry-collector`
- ✓ Configurable sampling rules: latency, certain tags
- ✗ Single-node mode only, multi-node sharded solution will be available in the future

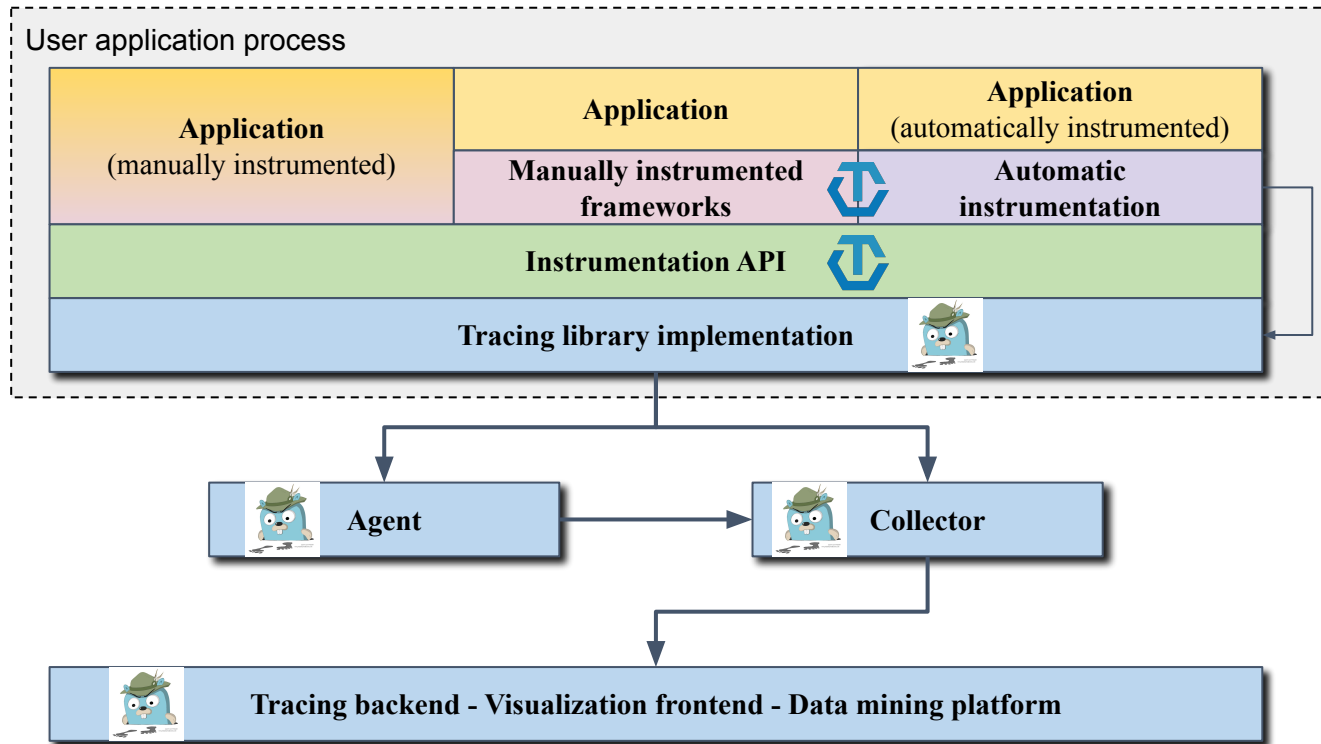


Jaeger

And OpenTelemetry



Jaeger with OpenTracing

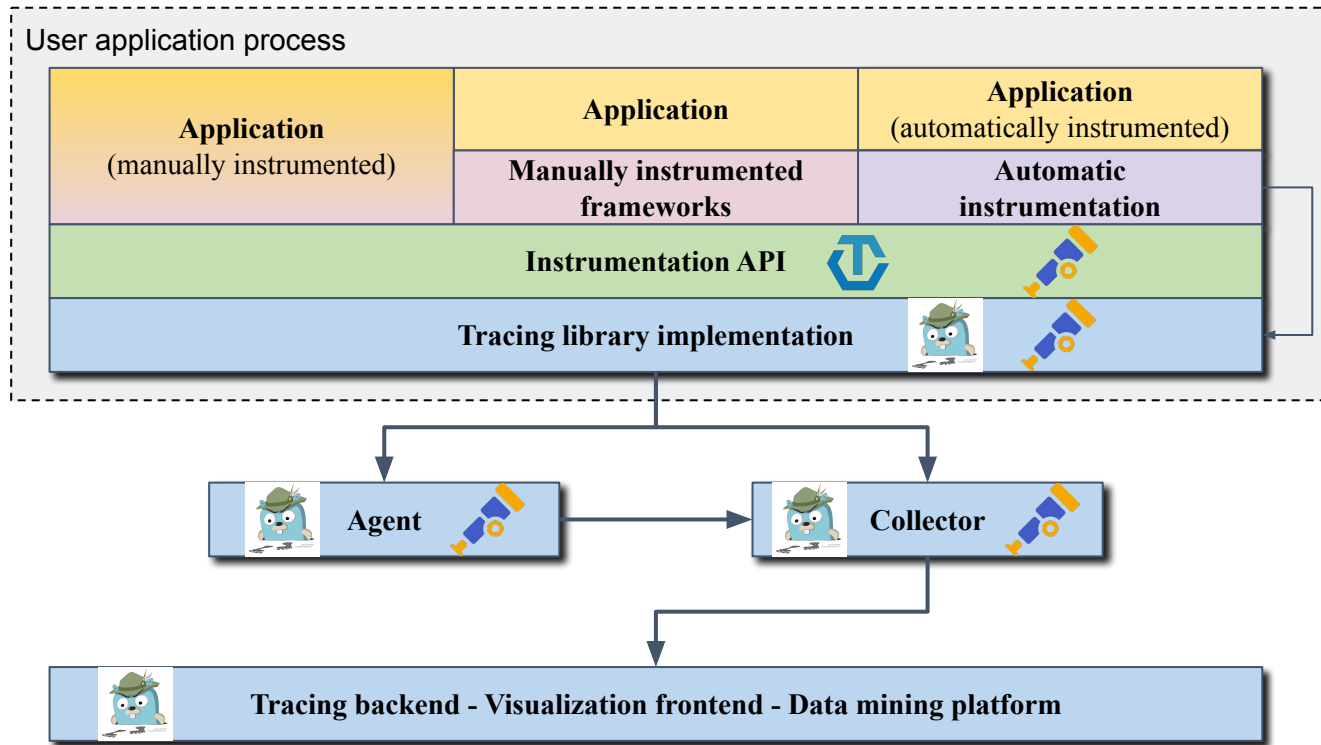


OPENTRACING

opentracing
contrib

API

Jaeger with OpenTelemetry



contrib

API

SDK

Agent &
Collector

Jaeger components on OpenTelemetry

- OpenTelemetry Collector is written in Go
- We built Jaeger-specific versions
 - Have the same capabilities as upstream OTel
 - With Jaeger extensions, e.g. storage
- We're converting Jaeger storage implementation to OTel data model for better compatibility



Jaeger

And OpenTelemetry SDKs



Jaeger and OpenTelemetry SDKs

- OpenTelemetry SDK support
 - Jaeger gRPC exporter
 - Jaeger propagation
- OpenTracing SHIM
 - use OTel SDK with OpenTracing instrumentations
- Jaeger client libraries support W3C Trace Context



Jaeger

And Kubernetes



Deploying Jaeger on Kubernetes

- Helm charts
- Jaeger Operator
 - allInOne and production deployment
 - auto provisioning of Kafka (Strimzi)
- Plain Kubernetes manifest files

Getting in Touch

- GitHub: <https://github.com/jaegertracing>
- Chat: <https://gitter.im/jaegertracing/>
- [Mailing List](mailto:jaeger-tracing@googlegroups.com) - jaeger-tracing@googlegroups.com
- Blog: <https://medium.com/jaegertracing>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/JaegerTracing>
- [Bi-Weekly Community Meetings](#)