Gmail

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Interim newsletter: I added the "orb" speedtest software to may raspberry pi4 iotsnoop project.

1 message

John D Loop <jdloop@imonitorg.com> Mon, Jun 9, 2025 at 10:11 AM
To: "pccitizen@gmail.com" <pccitizen@gmail.com>

Hello imonitorg/iotsnoop friends and supporters,

This is an interim newsletter on my latest project - adding the "orb" service to raspberry pi4 imonitorg/iotsnoop project. It represents a "short term" network performance monitoring which compliments the longer term imonitorg monitoring. [imonitorg/iotsnoop info here: https://imonitorg.com , with orb info to follow.]

I have successfully installed orb on iotsnoop raspberry pi4. You access it via a phone app pointed to the pi4 iotsnoop APN [or ethernet side on your LAN] , OR just the orb internet third party servers [speedtest founders project]. --I save you the trouble of installing it on your PC/MAC!

You can check out the orb app at orb.net .

"Orb" runs as a service, so it has to be installed on a PC/MAC/raspberryPi/Windows. The orb "service" connects to the orb.net Internet servers.
The orb phone "app" is needed to display results. The phone can connect directly to the orb service, over ethernet or wifi as long as it is on the same LAN.
In addition [or instead of], the orb service connects to the orb.net Internet servers, much like about ANY IOT gadget these days.
And it does NOT need an account on the third party server!

When you install the orb application on the PC/MAC/Windows, you need a user "orb" and you must supply a password. When you start the orb app on the phone, you initially have to supply this passwd. The ID of the orb instance is passed to the orb.net Internet server when the app checks in so it can correlate your orb service with your orb app.

The app grossly simplifies the network characterization, but in this day and age.... the closer our Interconnections get to "clear channels" -much like the old switched network connection-oriented/PVC connections- the closer it resembles reality.
E.g. they have a "time to Internet" which is completely dependent on the target.
And the latency, jitter and packet loss are likely with respect to this target.
--Looks like they are using simple pings to 8.8.8.8 and 1.1.1.1 for their "Internet" tests. Given that those appear on the edge of virtually every ISP, it is probably not a bad guess.

But it is a nice friendly phone app which seems everybody wants these days. Imonitorg/iotsnoop plots and stats are much more specific and configurable, tho not performed at the frequency of the orb app.

Now you have another reason to get a pi4 and get the iotsnoop image -just wait till July. The orb update will be in that release to come].
I will have a newsletter to announce updates and this feature.

I attached a screenshot showing the orb app running on my phone, connected to third party orb server, and reporting on my orb service running on my local pi4.

John

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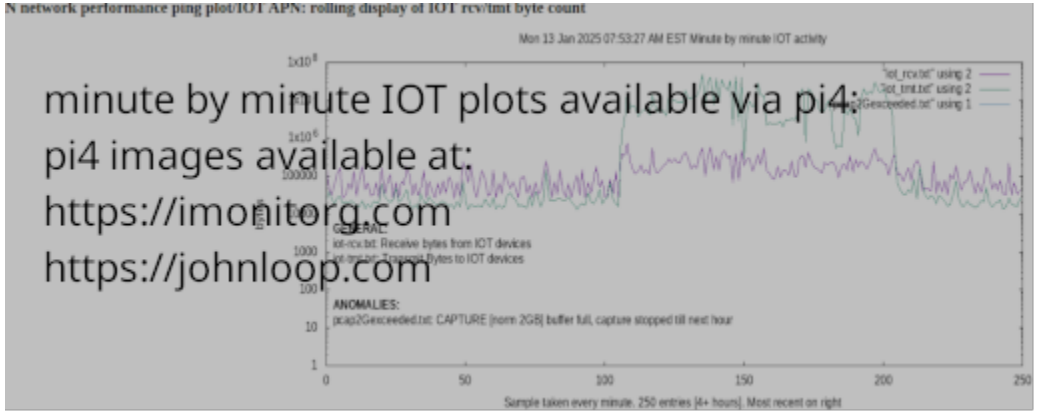

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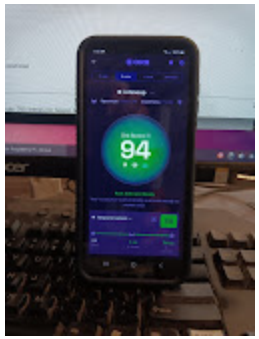

phone-orb.jpg
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