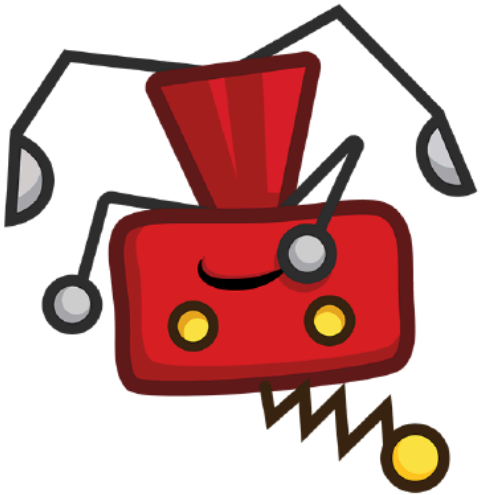


10 useful graphs you can't make with Grafana

David R. Morrison
Research Scientist, ACRL
2 November 2026

Who is drmorr?



- PhD Computer Science, UIUC
- Compute teams at Yelp and Airbnb
- Founder of Applied Computing Research Labs in 2023

For hot takes, click here: https://hachyderm.io/@drmorr

What is ACRL?



Open-source research and development in distributed systems

What is ACRL?



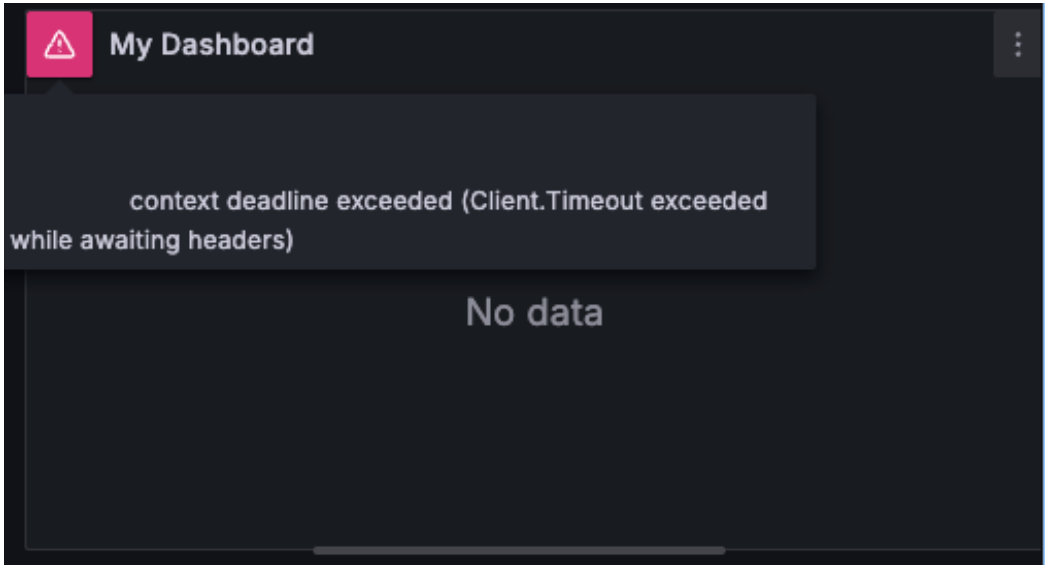
Open-source research and development in ~~distributed systems~~ Kubernetes

What is ACRL?



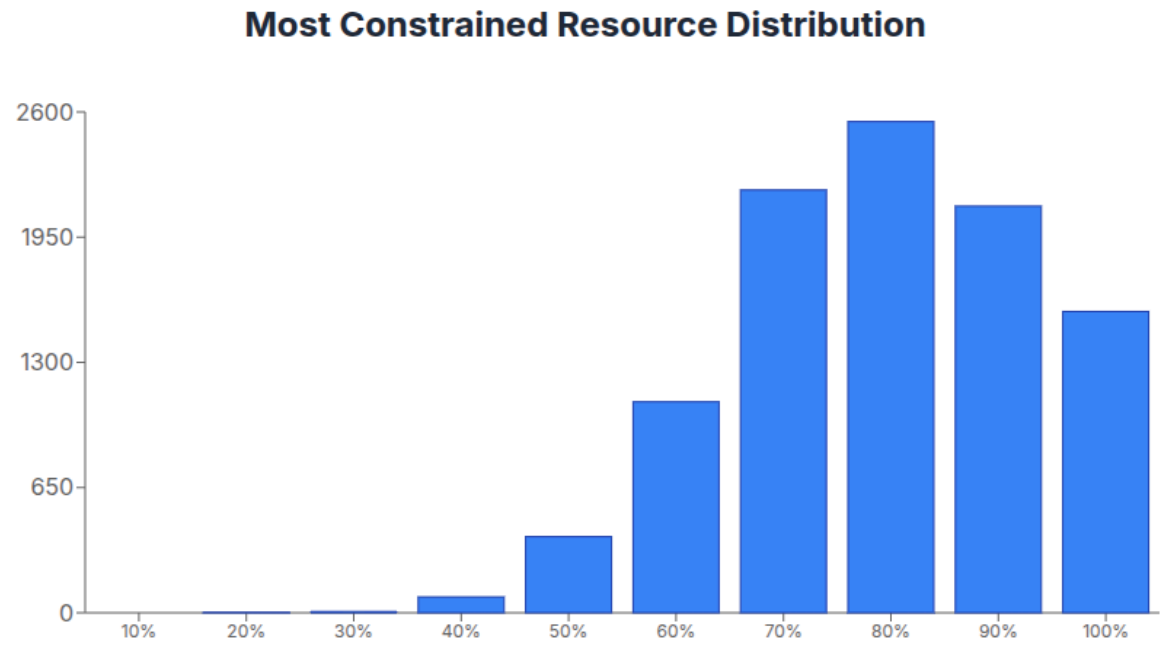
We make SimKube

Graph #1: Anything with a time window longer than 15 minutes



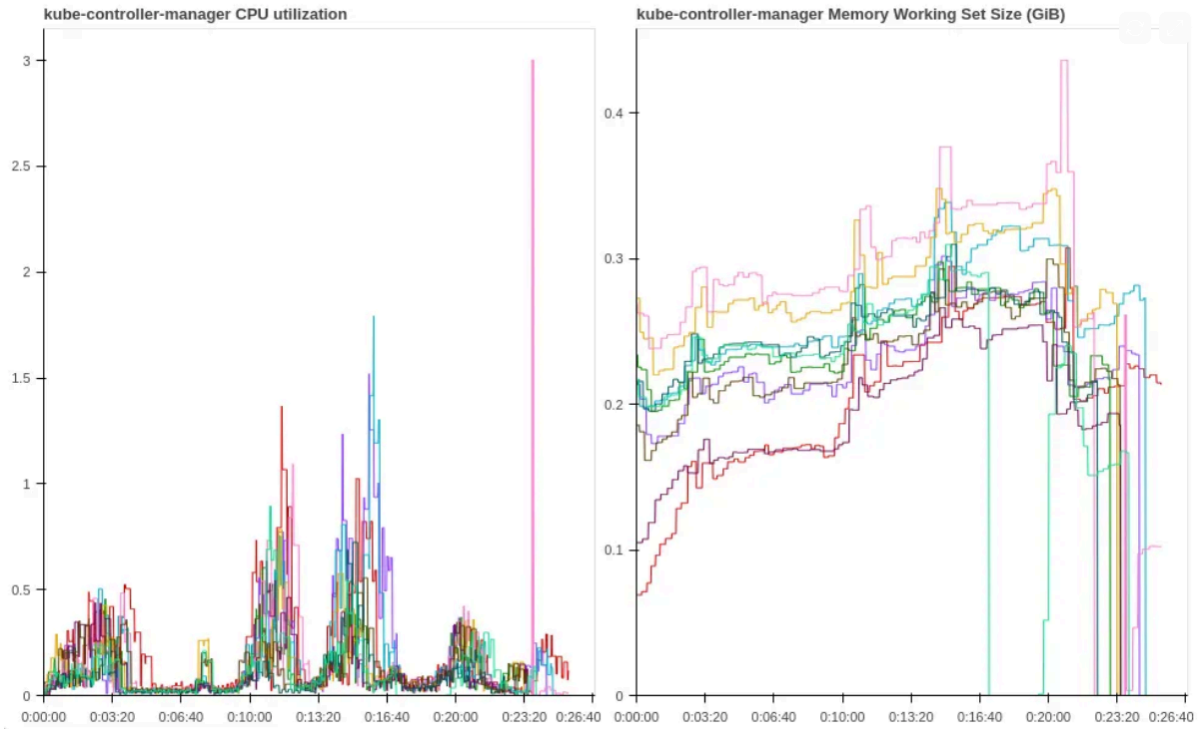
prom2parquet

Graph #2: Histograms



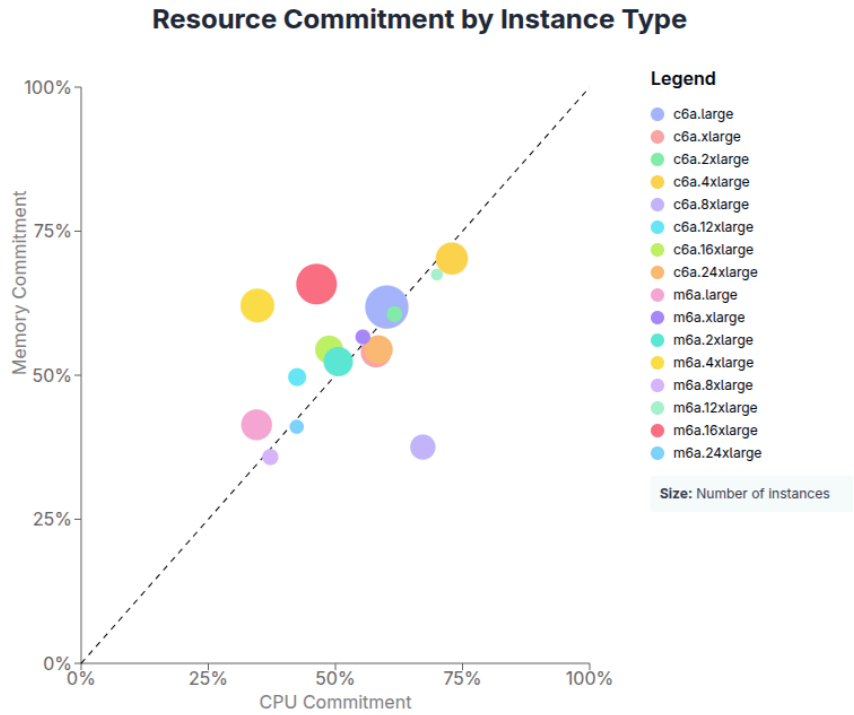
Saving Megabux with SQL and SimKube

Graph #3: Overlapping time series



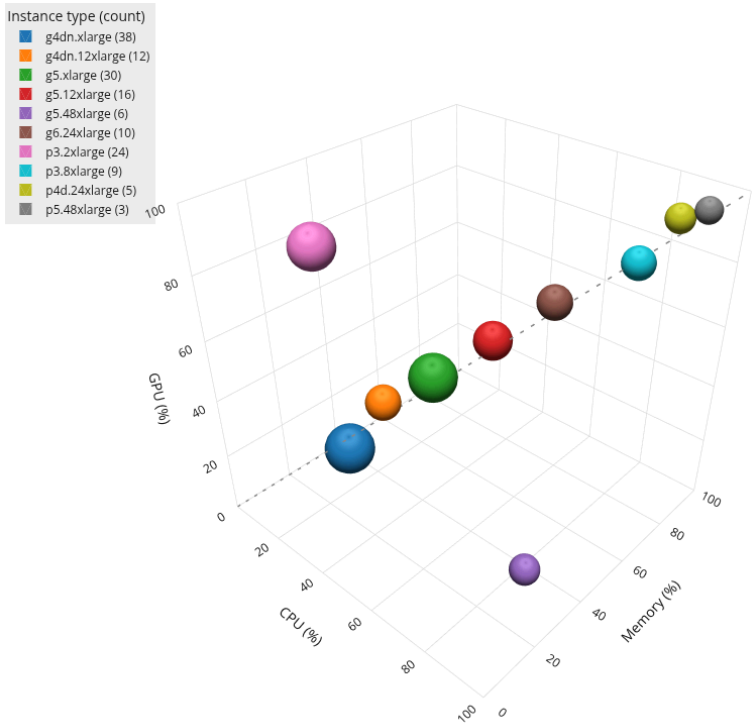
Analyzing SimKube

Graph #4: 2D scatter plot

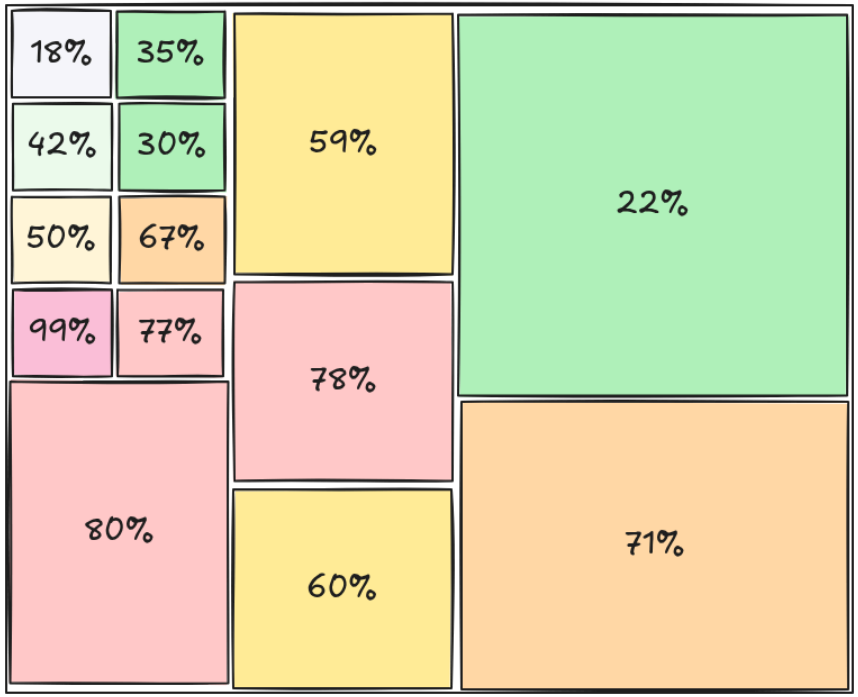


Saving Megabux with SQL and SimKube

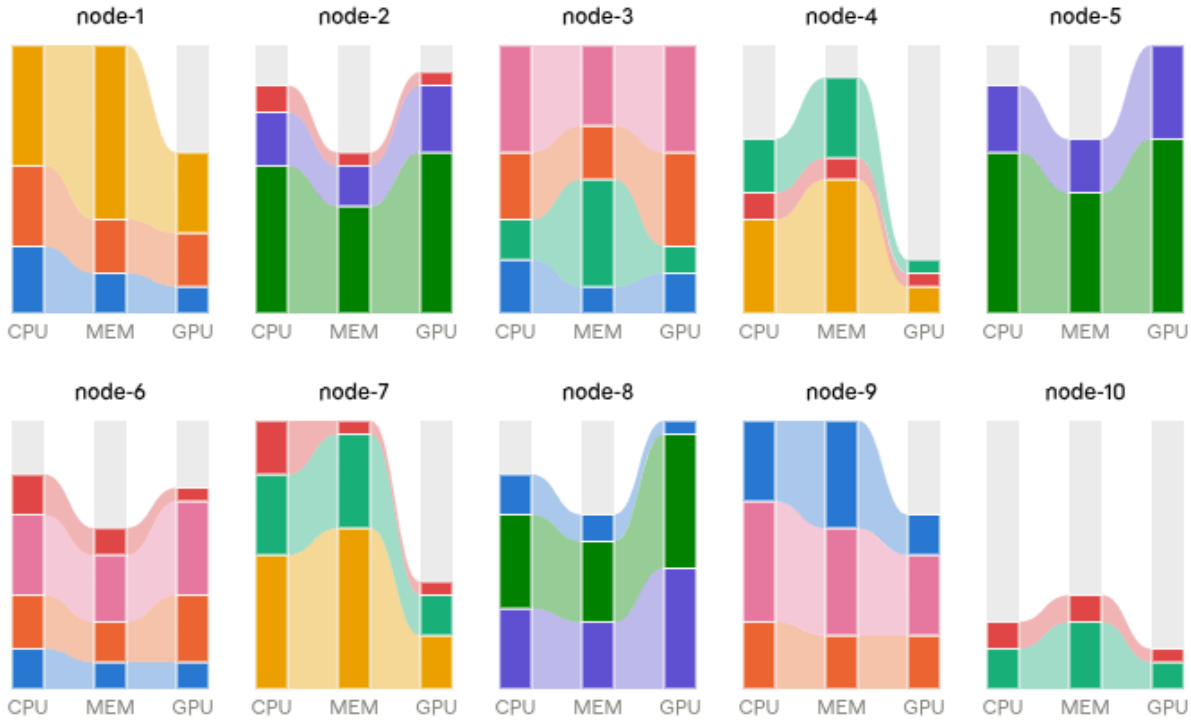
Graph #5: 3D scatter plot



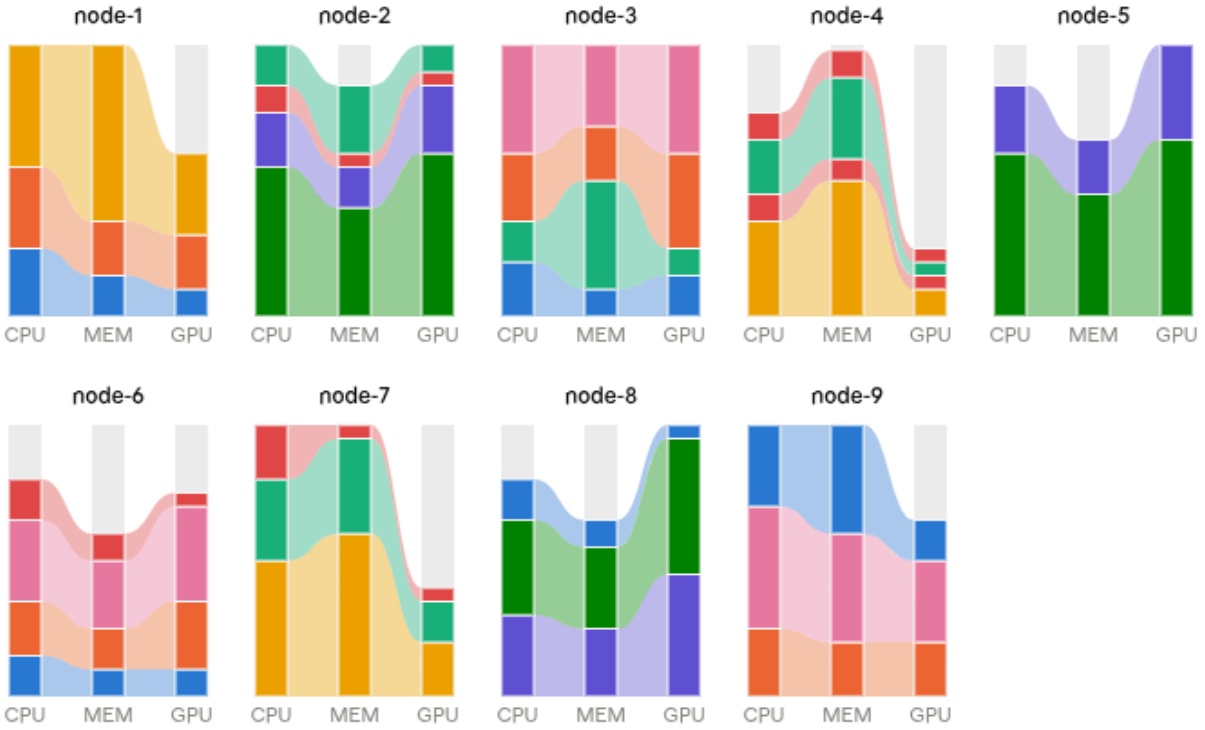
Graph #6: Heatmaps



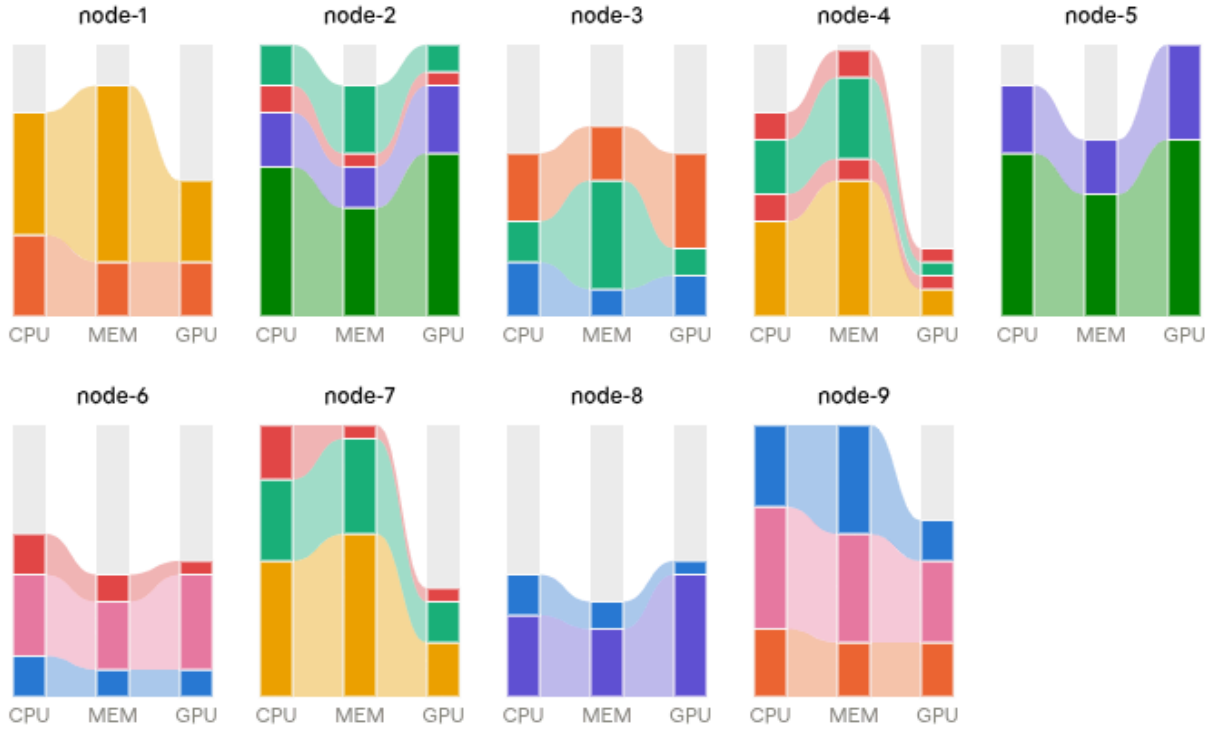
Graph #7: Whatever this is



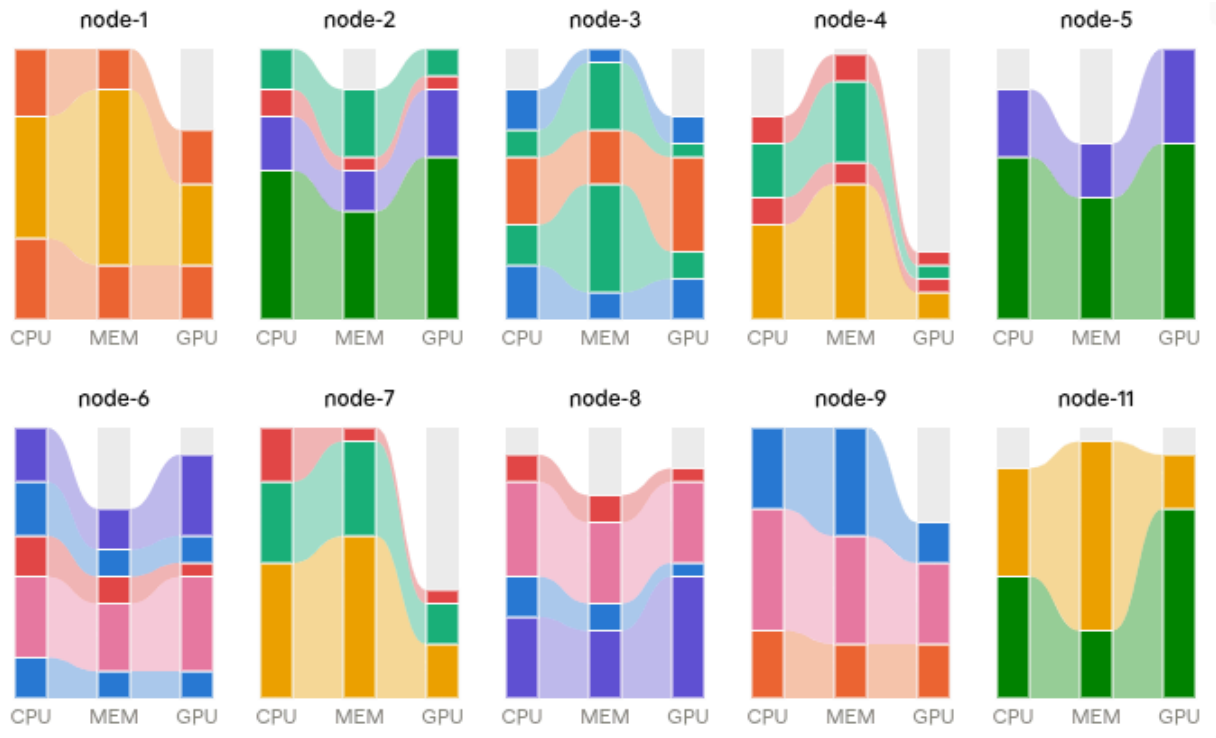
Graph #7: Whatever this is



Graph #7: Whatever this is



Graph #7: Whatever this is



What was the point of all this?



- Prometheus and Grafana are designed for *monitoring*, not *analytics*
- You can use something besides a timeseries chart—it's allowed!
- Build your visualizations for humans



Thank you for your time!

Some relevant (???) links



Read our blog!



Learn about SimKube!



Schedule a meeting!