OpenFlow, Software Defined Networking (SDN) and Network Function Virtualization (NFV)

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These slides and audio/video recordings of this tutorial are at:

http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/tutorials/icc14.htm
Overview

1. OpenFlow and Tools
2. Software Defined Networking (SDN)
3. Network Function Virtualization (NFV)
Part I: OpenFlow and Tools

- Planes of Networking
- OpenFlow
- OpenFlow Switches including Open vSwitch
- OpenFlow Evolution
- OpenFlow Configuration Protocol (OF-Config)
- OpenFlow Notification Framework
- OpenFlow Controllers
Part II: Software Defined Networking

- What is SDN?
- Alternative APIs: XMPP, PCE, ForCES, ALTO
- OpenDaylight SDN Controller Platform and Tools
Part III: Network Function Virtualization

- What is NFV?
- NFV and SDN Relationship
- ETSI NFV ISG Specifications
- Concepts, Architecture, Requirements, Use cases
- Proof-of-Concepts and Timeline
Part I: OpenFlow and Tools

- Planes of Networking
- OpenFlow
- OpenFlow Operation
- OpenFlow Evolution
- OpenFlow Configuration Protocol (OF-Config)
- OpenFlow Notification Framework
- OpenFlow Controllers
Planes of Networking

- **Data Plane**: All activities involving as well as resulting from data packets sent by the end user, e.g.,
  - Forwarding
  - Fragmentation and reassembly
  - Replication for multicasting

- **Control Plane**: All activities that are necessary to perform data plane activities but do not involve end-user data packets
  - Making routing tables
  - Setting packet handling policies (e.g., security)
  - Base station beacons announcing availability of services

Ref: Open Data Center Alliance Usage Model: Software Defined Networking Rev 1.0, “
Planes of Networking (Cont)

- **Management Plane**: All activities related to provisioning and monitoring of the networks
  - Fault, Configuration, Accounting, Performance and Security (**FCAPS**).
  - Instantiate new devices and protocols (Turn devices on/off)
  - **Optional** ⇒ May be handled manually for small networks.

- **Services Plane**: Middlebox services to improve performance or security, e.g.,
  - Load Balancers, Proxy Service, Intrusion Detection, Firewalls, SSL Off-loaders
  - **Optional** ⇒ Not required for small networks
Data vs. Control Logic

- Data plane runs at line rate, e.g., 100 Gbps for 100 Gbps Ethernet ⇒ Fast Path
  ⇒ Typically implemented using special hardware, e.g., Ternary Content Addressable Memories (TCAMs)
- Some exceptional data plane activities are handled by the CPU in the switch ⇒ Slow path
  e.g., Broadcast, Unknown, and Multicast (BUM) traffic
- All control activities are generally handled by CPU
OpenFlow: Key Ideas

1. Separation of control and data planes
2. Centralization of control
3. Flow based control


http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/tutorials/icc14.htm
History of OpenFlow

- 2006: Martin Casado, a PhD student at Stanford and team propose a clean-slate security architecture (SANE) which defines a centralized control of security (in stead of at the edge as normally done). Ethane generalizes it to all access policies.
- April 2008: OpenFlow paper in ACM SIGCOMM CCR
- 2009: Stanford publishes OpenFlow V1.0.0 specs
- June 2009: Martin Casado co-founds Nicira
- March 2010: Guido Appenzeller, head of clean slate lab at Stanford, co-founds Big Switch Networks
- March 2011: Open Networking Foundation is formed
- July 2012: VMware buys Nicira for $1.26B
- Nov 6, 2013: Cisco buys Insieme for $838M

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Separation of Control and Data Plane

- Control logic is moved to a controller
- Switches only have forwarding elements
- One expensive controller with a lot of cheap switches
- OpenFlow is the protocol to send/receive forwarding rules from controller to switches
OpenFlow V1.0

- On packet arrival, match the header fields with flow entries in a table, if any entry matches, update the counters indicated in that entry and perform indicated actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flow Table:</th>
<th>Header Fields</th>
<th>Counters</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Header Fields</td>
<td>Counters</td>
<td>Actions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Header Fields</td>
<td>Counters</td>
<td>Actions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ref: [http://archive.openflow.org/documents/openflow-spec-v1.0.0.pdf](http://archive.openflow.org/documents/openflow-spec-v1.0.0.pdf)
### Flow Table Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Port</th>
<th>Src MAC</th>
<th>Dst MAC</th>
<th>VLAN ID</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>EtherType</th>
<th>Src IP</th>
<th>Dst IP</th>
<th>IP Proto</th>
<th>IP ToS</th>
<th>Src L4 Port</th>
<th>Dst L4 Port</th>
<th>ICMP Type</th>
<th>ICMP Code</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Counter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>0A:C8:*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Port 1</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>192.168.*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Port 2</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>0x806</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Drop</td>
<td>420</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>0x1*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>Controller</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Idle timeout**: Remove entry if no packets received for this time
- **Hard timeout**: Remove entry after this time
- **If both are set, the entry is removed if either one expires.**


Matching

Set Input Port
Ether Src
Ether Dst
Ether Type
Set all others to zero

- **EtherType = 0x8100?**
  - Tagged
  - **Y**
    - Set VLAN ID
    - Set VLAN Priority
    - Use EtherType in VLAN tag for next EtherType Check
  - **N**

- **EtherType = 0x0806?**
  - ARP
  - **Y**
    - Set IP Src, IP Dst
    - IP Proto, IP ToS from within ARP
  - **N**

- **EtherType = 0x0800?**
  - IP
  - **Y**
    - Set IP Src, IP Dst
    - IP Proto, IP ToS
  - **N**

**Not IP Fragment?**

- **Y**
  - **IP Proto = 6 or 17**
    - TCP/UDP
    - **Y**
      - Set Src Port, Dst Port for L4 fields
    - **N**
      - IP Proto = 1?
        - ICMP
        - **Y**
          - Use ICMP Type and code for L4 Fields
        - **N**
          - Packet lookup using assigned header fields

- **N**
  - **Apply Actions**
    - **Match Table 0?**
      - **Y**
        - **Apply Actions**
      - **N**
        - **Match Table n?**
          - **Y**
            - **Apply Actions**
          - **N**
            - **Send to Controller**
# Counters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per Table</th>
<th>Per Flow</th>
<th>Per Port</th>
<th>Per Queue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Entries</td>
<td>Received Packets</td>
<td>Received Packets</td>
<td>Transmit Packets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packet Lookups</td>
<td>Received Bytes</td>
<td>Transmitted Packets</td>
<td>Transmit Bytes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packet Matches</td>
<td>Duration (Secs)</td>
<td>Received Bytes</td>
<td>Transmit overrun errors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duration (nanosecs)</td>
<td>Transmitted Bytes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Receive Drops</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Transmit Drops</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Receive Errors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Transmit Errors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Receive Frame</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alignment Errors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Receive Overrun</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>errors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Receive CRC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Errors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Collisions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Actions

- Forward to Physical Port $i$ or to *Virtual Port*:
  - **All**: to all interfaces *except* incoming interface
  - **Controller**: encapsulate and send to controller
  - **Local**: send to its local networking stack
  - **Table**: Perform actions in the flow table
  - **In_port**: Send back to input port
  - **Normal**: Forward using traditional Ethernet
  - **Flood**: Send along minimum spanning tree *except* the incoming interface

- Enqueue: To a particular queue in the port $\Rightarrow$ QoS
- Drop
- Modify Field: E.g., add/remove VLAN tags, ToS bits, Change TTL
Actions (Cont)

- Masking allows matching only selected fields, e.g., Dest. IP, Dest. MAC, etc.
- If header matches an entry, corresponding actions are performed and counters are updated.
- If no header match, the packet is queued and the header is sent to the controller, which sends a new rule. Subsequent packets of the flow are handled by this rule.
- Secure Channel: Between controller and the switch using TLS.
- Modern switches already implement flow tables, typically using Ternary Content Addressable Memories (TCAMs).
- Controller can change the forwarding rules if a client moves ⇒ Packets for mobile clients are forwarded correctly.
- Controller can send flow table entries beforehand (Proactive) or Send on demand (Reactive). OpenFlow allows both models.
Hardware OpenFlow Switches

- Arista 7050
- Brocade MLXe, Brocade CER, Brocade CES
- Extreme Summit x440, x460, x670
- Huawei openflow-capable router platforms
- HP 3500, 3500yl, 5400zl, 6200yl, 6600, and 8200zl (the old-style L3 hardware match platform)
- HP V2 line cards in the 5400zl and 8200zl (the newer L2 hardware match platform)
- IBM 8264
- Juniper (MX, EX)
- NEC IP8800, NEC PF5240, NEC PF5820
- NetGear 7328SO, NetGear 7352SO
- Pronto (3290, 3295, 3780) - runs the shipping pica8 software
- Switch Light platform
Software OpenFlow Switches

- **Indigo**: Open source implementation that runs on physical switches and uses features of the ASICs to run OpenFlow.
- **LINC**: Open source implementation that runs on Linux, Solaris, Windows, MacOS, and FreeBSD.
- **Pantou**: Turns a commercial wireless router/access point to an OpenFlow enabled switch. OpenFlow runs on OpenWRT. Supports generic Broadcom and some models of LinkSys and TP-Link access points with Broadcom and Atheros chipsets.
- **Of13softswitch**: User-space software switch based on Ericsson TrafficLab 1.1 softswitch.
- **XORPlus**: Open source switching software to drive high-performance ASICs. Supports STP/RSTP/MSTP, LCAP, QoS, VLAN, LLDP, ACL, OSPF/ECMP, RIP, IGMP, IPv6, PIM-SM.
- **Open vSwitch**

Open vSwitch

- Open Source Virtual Switch
- Nicira Concept
- Can Run as a stand alone hypervisor switch or as a distributed switch across multiple physical servers
- Default switch in XenServer 6.0, Xen Cloud Platform and supports Proxmox VE, VirtualBox, Xen KVM
- Integrated into many cloud management systems including OpenStack, openQRM, OpenNebula, and oVirt
- Distributed with Ubuntu, Debian, Fedora Linux. Also FreeBSD
- Intel has an accelerated version of Open vSwitch in its own Data Plane Development Kit (DPDK)

Ref: http://openvswitch.org/
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http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/tutorials/icc14.htm
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Open vSwitch Features

- Inter-VM communication monitoring via:
  - **NetFlow**: Cisco protocol for sampling and collecting traffic statistics (RFC 3954)
  - **sFlow**: Similar to NetFlow by sflow.org (RFC 3176)
  - **Jflow**: Juniper’s version of NetFlow
  - **NetStream**: Huawei’s version of NetFlow
  - **IPFIX**: IP Flow Information Export Protocol (RFC 7011) - IETF standard for NetFlow
  - **SPAN, RSPAN**: Remote Switch Port Analyzer – port mirroring by sending a copy of all packets to a monitor port
  - **GRE-tunneled mirrors**: Monitoring device is remotely connected to the switch via a GRE tunnel
Open vSwitch Features (Cont)

- Link Aggregation Control Protocol (LACP)
- IEEE 802.1Q VLAN
- IEEE 802.1ag Connectivity Fault Management (CFM)
- Bidirectional Forwarding Detection (BFD) to detect link faults (RFC 5880)
- IEEE 802.1D-1998 Spanning Tree Protocol (STP)
- Per-VM traffic policing
- OpenFlow
- Multi-table forwarding pipeline
- IPv6
- GRE, VXLAN, IPSec tunneling
- Kernel and user-space forwarding engine options
Open vSwitch Database Management Protocol (OVSDDB)
Monitoring capability using publish-subscribe mechanisms
Stores both provisioning and operational state
Java Script Object Notation (JSON) used for schema format and for JSON-RPC over TCP for wire protocol (RFC 4627)

```xml
<database-schema>
    "name": <id>
    "version": <version>
    "tables": {<id>: <table-schema>,…}
</database-schema>
```

RPC Methods: List databases, Get Schema, Update, Lock,…
Open vSwitch project includes open source OVSDDB client and server implementations

OpenFlow V1.1

- V1: Perform action on a match. Ethernet/IP only. Single Path
- Did not cover MPLS, Q-in-Q, ECMP, and efficient Multicast
- V1.1 Introduced Table chaining, Group Tables, and added MPLS Label and MPLS traffic class to match fields.

Table Chaining: On a match, instruction may be

- Immediate actions: modify packet, update match fields and/or
- Update action set, and/or
- Send match data and action set to Table \( n \),
- Go to Group Table entry \( n \)

![Diagram of OpenFlow V1.1](http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/tutorials/icc14.htm)
OpenFlow V1.1 (Cont)

- On a miss, the instruction may be to send packet to controller or continue processing with the sequentially next table
- Group Tables: each entry has a variable number of buckets
  - **All**: Execute each bucket. Used for Broadcast, Multicast.
  - **Select**: Execute one *switch selected* bucket. Used for port mirroring. Selection may be done by hashing some fields.
  - **Indirect**: Execute one *predefined* bucket.
  - **Fast Failover**: Execute the first live bucket ⇒ Live port
- New Features supported:
  - **Multipath**: A flow can be sent over one of several paths
  - **MPLS**: multiple labels, traffic class, TTL, push/pop labels
  - **Q-in-Q**: Multiple VLAN tags, push/pop VLAN headers
  - **Tunnels**: via virtual ports

OpenFlow V1.2

1. **IPv6 Support**: Matching fields include IPv6 source address, destination address, protocol number, traffic class. ICMPv6 type, ICMPv6 code, IPv6 neighbor discovery header fields, and IPv6 flow labels.

2. **Extensible Matches**: Type-Length-Value (TLV) structure. Previously the order and length of match fields was fixed.

3. **Experiment extensions** through dedicated fields and code points assigned by ONF


OpenFlow 1.3

- **IPv6 extension headers**: Can check if Hop-by-hop, Router, Fragmentation, Destination options, Authentication, Encrypted Security Payload (ESP), unknown extension headers are present
- **MPLS Bottom-of-Stack bit** matching
- **MAC-in-MAC** encapsulation
- **Tunnel ID meta data**: Support for tunnels (VxLAN, …)
- **Per-Connection Event Filtering**: Better filtering of connections to multiple controllers
- Many **auxiliary connections** to the controller allow to exploit parallelism
- Better **capability negotiation**: Requests can span multiple messages
- More general **experimenter capabilities** allowed
- A separate flow entry for **table miss actions**


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OpenFlow V1.3 (Cont)

- **Cookies**: A cookie field is added to messages containing new packets sent to the controller. This helps controller process the messages faster than if it had to search its entire database.
- **Duration**: Duration field has been added to most stats. Helps compute rates.
- Per-flow counters can be disabled to improve performance
- Per Flow Meters and meter bands
- **Meter**: Switch element that can measure and control the rate of packets/bytes.
  - **Meter Band**: If the packet/byte rate exceeds a pre-defined threshold $\Rightarrow$ the meter has triggered the band
  - A meter may have multiple bands
OpenFlow V1.3 (Cont)

- If on triggering a band the meter drops the packet, it is called rate limiter.
- Other QoS and policing mechanisms can be designed using these meters.
- Meters are attached to a flow entry not to a queue or a port.
- Multiple flow entries can all point to the same meter.

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match Fields</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Counters</th>
<th>Instructions</th>
<th>Timeouts</th>
<th>Timeouts</th>
<th>Cookie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Instruction: Meter Meter_ID</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meter ID</td>
<td>Meter Bands</td>
<td>Counters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band Type</td>
<td>Rate</td>
<td>Counters</td>
<td>Type Specific Arguments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Drop</td>
<td>kb/s</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Remark DSCP</td>
<td>Burst</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```
OpenFlow V1.4

- **Optical ports**: Configure and monitor transmit and receive frequencies of lasers and their power
- **Improved Extensibility**: Type-Length-Value (TLV) encodings at most places → Easy to add new features in future
- **Extended Experimenter Extension API**: Can easily add ports, tables, queues, instructions, actions, etc.
- More information when a packet is sent to controller, e.g., no match, invalid TTL, matching group bucket, matching action, ..
- Controllers can select a subset of flow tables for monitoring
- Switches can **evict** entries of lower importance if table full
- Switches can notify controller if table is getting full
- Atomic execution of a **bundle** of instructions


OpenFlow Evolution Summary

Dec 2009 V1.0

Single Flow Table Ethernet/IPv4

Feb 2011 V1.1

IPv6 TLV matching Multiple controllers

Dec 2011 V1.2

Bug Fix

MAC-in-MAC Multiple channels between switch and controller

Apr 2012 V1.3

MPLS, Q-in-Q Efficient multicast ECMP ⇒ Multiple Tables

Jun 2012 V1.3.1

Sep 2012 V1.3.2

OTN Experimenters Bundles Table full

Oct 2013 V1.4

Bug Fix

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Bootstrapping

- Switches require initial configuration: Switch IP address, Controller IP address, Default gateway
- Switches connect to the controller
- Switch provides configuration information about ports
- Controller installs a rule to forward LLDP packets to controller and then sends, one by one, LLDP packets to be sent out to port i (i=1, 2, ..., n) which are forwarded to respective neighbors. The neighbors send the packets back to controller.
- Controller determines the topology from LLDP packets
- LLDP is a one-way protocol to advertise the capabilities at fixed intervals.


OpenFlow Configuration Protocol (OF-Config)

- **OpenFlow Control Point**: Entity that configures OpenFlow switches
- **OF-Config**: Protocol used for configuration and management of OpenFlow Switches. Assignment of OF controllers so that switches can initiate connections to them:
  - IP address of controller
  - Port number at the controller
  - Transport protocol: TLS or TCP
  - Configuration of queues (min/max rates) and ports
  - Enable/disable receive/forward speed, media on ports

Ref: Cisco, “An Introduction to OpenFlow,” Feb 2013,
OF-Config (Cont)

- A physical switch = one or more logical switches each controlled by an OF Controller
- OF-Config allows configuration of logical switches.

OF-Config Concepts

- **OF Capable Switch**: Physical OF switch. Can contain one or more OF logical switches.
- **OpenFlow Configuration Point**: configuration service
- **OF Controller**: Controls logical switch via OF protocol
- **Operational Context**: OF logical switch
- **OF Queue**: Queues of packets waiting for forwarding
- **OF Port**: forwarding interface. May be physical or logical.
- **OF Resource**: ports, queues, certificates, flow tables and other resources of OF capable switches assigned to a logical switch
- **Datapath ID**: 64-ID of the switch. Lower 48-bit = Switch MAC address, Upper 16-bit assigned by the operator
OF-Config Evolution

- V1.0 (Jan 2012): Based on OpenFlow V1.2
  - Assign controllers to logical switches
  - Retrieve logical switch configurations
  - Configure ports and queues
- V1.1 (May 2012): Based on OpenFlow V1.3
  - Configuration of certificates
  - Capability Discovery: Retrieve logical switch capabilities
  - Configure logical tunnels (VXLAN, NVGRE, …)
- V1.1.1 (Jan 2013): Bug Fix. Versioning support
- V1.2: Based on OpenFlow V1.4
  - Simple topology Detection
  - Assigning resources to logical switches

OpenFlow Notification Framework

- **Notification**: Event triggered messages, e.g., link down
- **Publish/subscribe model**: Switch = publisher. OpenFlow controller or OpenFlow config points, and others can subscribe. They will be notified about the events they subscribe.
- Use **ITU-T M.3702** Notifications: Attribute value change, Communication alarm, Environmental alarm, Equipment alarm, QoS alarm, Processing error alarm, Security alarm, State change, Object creation and deletion
- **Pre-existing Notifications**: Do not fit in the framework but will be recognized.
  - OpenFlow: Packet-in, Flow removed, Port Status, Error, Hello, Echo request, Echo reply, Experimenter
  - OpenFlow Config: OpenFlow logical switch instantiation, OpenFlow capability switch capability change, Successful OpenFlow session establishment, Failed OpenFlow session establishment, Port failure or recovery

Implementation Issues

- 40+ matching fields in a flow
- Multiple tables, each with a large number of flow entries
- Instructions and actions for each table
- Need VXLAN, NVGRE, etc. support
- For a large network, flow level programming can take a long time


OpenFlow: Future Work Items

- Each controller has its own way to program. Need a common standard “Northbound API” (ONF NBI group)
- No standard API for communication between controllers of overlapping domain ⇒ Need an East-West API
- Ability to continue operation when the controller is down
- Many other packet formats (non-IP, non-Ethernet, …)
- Flow ⇒ Decide once, use many times ⇒ Performance
  - But does not help non-flow based request/response apps
- Need API to encrypt data plane packets, to inject packets, to instantiate a service, such as a firewall, IDS, on the switch
- Need to program an abstract view, e.g., source to destination, without knowing the physical network

Ref: http://onrc.stanford.edu/research_modern_sdn_stack.html
OpenFlow Controllers

1. NOX
2. POX
3. SNAC
4. Beacon
5. Trema
6. Maestro
7. Floodlight
8. ONIX
9. ONOS

Many more…This is not a complete list.
ONOS

- Open Network Operating System: Distributed OpenFlow OS for a large WAN
- 8-10 instances in a cluster. Each Instance responsible for a part of a network

Ref: http://tools.onlab.us/onos-learn-more.html

Distributed Network Graph/State (Cassandra in memory DHT)
Distributed Registry (Zookeeper)

Instances (Floodlight)

Forwarding Elements

OpenFlow Controller
OpenFlow Controller
OpenFlow Controller

Ref: http://tools.onlab.us/onos-learn-more.html
http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/tutorials/icci14.htm
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OpenVirteX (OVX)

- Transparent Proxy between OpenFlow switches and multiple OpenFlow Controllers. Slices defined by header fields.
- Creates network slices that can be managed by different controllers ⇒ Isolates slices from each other
- All control traffic goes through OVX ⇒ Slight latency

Ref: http://tools.onlab.us/ovx.html
Mininet

- Widely used open source network emulation environment.
- Can simulate a number of end-hosts, switches, routers, links on a Linux
- Used for rapid prototyping of software define networks
- Built-in Open vSwitch, and a OpenFlow capable switch
- Command line launcher and Python API for creating networks of varying sizes, e.g., \texttt{mn --topo tree,depth=2,fanout=3}
- Useful diagnostic commands like iperf, ping, and other commands in a host, e.g., \texttt{mininet> h11 ifconfig --a}
- Mininet code for several popular commercial switches are available.

Ref: [https://github.com/mininet/mininet](https://github.com/mininet/mininet)
Summary of Part I

1. Four planes of Networking: Data, Control, Management, Service
2. OpenFlow separates control plane and moves it to a central controller ⇒ Simplifies the forwarding element
3. Switches match incoming packets with flow entries in a table and handle it as instructed. The controller supplies the flow tables and other instructions.
4. OpenFlow has been extended to IPv4, MPLS, IPv6, and Optical Network. But more work ahead.
5. ONOS controller, OVX virtualization, Mininet for emulation
Part II: Software Defined Networking (SDN)

- What is SDN?
- Alternative APIs: XMPP, PCE, ForCES, ALTO
- OpenDaylight SDN Controller Platform and Tools
Origins of SDN

- SDN originated from OpenFlow
- Centralized Controller
  ⇒ Easy to program
  ⇒ Change routing policies on the fly
  ⇒ Software Defined Network (SDN)
- Initially, SDN=
  - Separation of Control and Data Plane
  - Centralization of Control
  - OpenFlow to talk to the data plane
- Now the definition has changed significantly.
ONF Definition of SDN

“What is SDN?

The physical separation of the network control plane from the forwarding plane, and where a control plane controls several devices.”

1. Directly programmable
2. Agile: Abstracting control from forwarding
3. Centrally managed
4. Programmatically configured
5. Open standards-based vendor neutral

The above definition includes How.
Now many different opinions about How.
⇒SDN has become more general.
Need to define by What?

What do We need SDN for?

1. **Virtualization**: Use network resource without worrying about where it is physically located, how much it is, how it is organized, etc.
2. **Orchestration**: Manage thousands of devices
3. **Programmable**: Should be able to change behavior on the fly.
4. **Dynamic Scaling**: Should be able to change size, quantity
5. **Automation**: Lower OpEx
6. **Visibility**: Monitor resources, connectivity
7. **Performance**: Optimize network device utilization
8. **Multi-tenancy**: Sharing expensive infrastructure
9. **Service Integration**
10. **Openness**: Full choice of Modular plug-ins
11. **Unified management** of computing, networking, and storage
**SDN 2.0: OpenDaylight Style SDN**

- **NO-OpenFlow (Not Only OpenFlow) Multi-Protocol**
- **New work in IETF XMPP, ALTO, I2RS, PCEP, ...**
- **Linux Foundation**

[Diagram of SDN 2.0 architecture with various components and protocols]
Current SDN Debate: What vs. How?

- SDN is easy if control plane is centralized but not necessary. Distributed solutions may be required for legacy equipment and for fail-safe operation.
- Complete removal of control plane may be harmful. Exact division of control plane between centralized controller and distributed forwarders is yet to be worked out.
- SDN is easy with a standard southbound protocol like OpenFlow but one protocol may not work/scale in all cases.
  - Diversity of protocols is a fact of life.
  - There are no standard operating systems, processors, routers, or Ethernet switches.
- If industry finds an easier way to solve the same problems by another method, that method may win. E.g., ATM vs. MPLS.
XMPP

- Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol
- **Extensible** ⇒ Using XML
- Similar to SMTP email protocol but for near real-time communication
- Each client has an ID, e.g., john@wustl.edu/mobile (John’s mobile phone)
- Client sets up a connection with the server ⇒ Client is online
- **Presence**: Server maintains contact addresses and may let other contacts know that this client is now on-line
- **Messaging**: When a client sends a “chat” message to another clients, it is forwarded to these other clients
- Messages are “pushed” (⇒ real-time) as opposed to “polled” as in SMTP/POP emails.

XMPP (Cont)

- XMPP is IETF standardization of Jabber protocol
- RFC 6121 defines XMPP using TCP connections. But HTTP is often used as transport to navigate firewalls
- All messages are XML encoded  
  ⇒ Not efficient for binary file transfers  
  ⇒ Out-of-band binary channels are often used with XMPP.
- A number of open-source implementations are available
- Variations of it are widely used in most instant messaging programs including Google, Skype, Facebook, …, many games
- Used in IoT and data centers for management. Network devices have XMPP clients that respond to XMPP messages containing CLI management requests  
  ⇒ You can manage your network using any other XMPP client, e.g., your mobile phone
- Arista switches can be managed by XMPP, Juniper uses XMPP as a southbound protocol for SDN

XMPP in Data Centers

- Everything is an XMPP entity.
  It has its own contact list and authorizations.

Ref: https://github.com/ArchipelProject/Archipel/wiki/Architecture-%26-Concepts

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Path Computation Element (PCE)

- MPLS and GMPLS require originating routers to find paths that satisfy multiple constraints including not using any backup routers and having a given bandwidth etc.
- This may require more computer power or network knowledge than a router may have.
- IETF PCE working group has developed a set of protocols that allow a Path computation client (PCC), i.e., router to get the path from path computation element (PCE).
- PCE may be centralized or may be distributed in many or every router.

What is the 1 Gbps route to New York not going through Boston?

Path Computation Client (PCC) \[\rightarrow\] Path Computation Element (PCE) \[\leftarrow\] Traffic Engineering Database
PCE (Cont)

- PCE separates the route computation function from the forwarding function.
- Both functions may be resident in the same box or different boxes.
- 25+ RFCs documenting protocols for:
  - PCE-to-PCC communication
  - PCE-to-PCE communication (Multiple PCEs)
  - PCE discovery

Ref: [http://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/pce/](http://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/pce/)
Ref: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Path_computation_element](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Path_computation_element)
Forwarding and Control Element Separation (ForCES)

- IETF working group since July 2001
- Control Elements (CEs) prepare the routing table for use by forwarding elements (FEs).
- Each CE may interact with one or more FEs
- There may be many CEs and FEs managed by a CE manager and a FE manager
ForCES (Cont)

- Idea of control and data plane separation was used in BSD 4.4 routing sockets in early 1990s. It allowed routing tables to be controlled by a simple command line or by a route daemon.

- ForCES protocol supports exchange of:
  - Port type, link speed, IP address
  - IPv4/IPv6 unicast/multicast forwarding
  - QoS including metering, policing, shaping, and queueing
  - Packet classification
  - High-touch functions, e.g., Network Address Translation (NAT), Application-level Gateways (ALG)
  - Encryptions to be applied to packets
  - Measurement and reporting of per-flow traffic information

Ref: http://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/rfc3654/?include_text=1
Sample ForCES Exchanges

Ref: [http://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/rfc3746/?include_text=1](http://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/rfc3746/?include_text=1)
Application Layer Traffic Optimization (ALTO)

- IETF working group to optimize P2P traffic
  ⇒ Better to get files from nearby peers
- Provide guidance in peer selection
- ALTO Server: Has knowledge of distributed resources
- ALTO Client: Requests information from servers about the appropriate peers
- Ratio Criteria: Topological distance, traffic charges, …
- ALTO Server could get information from providers or from nodes about their characteristics, e.g., flat-rate or volume based charging
- A client may get the list of potential peers and send it to the server, which can return a ordered list
- Also need a protocol for ALTO server discovery

Ref: J. Seedorf and E. Berger, “ALTO Problem Statement,” [http://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/rfc5693/?include_text=1](http://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/rfc5693/?include_text=1)
ALTO Extension

- Now being extended to locate resources in data centers
- Need to be able to express
  - resource (memory, storage, CPU, network) availability
  - Cost of these resources
  - Constraints on resources, e.g., bandwidth
  - Constraints on structure, e.g., Power consumption
- ALTO client gets the info from various providers
- Issue of privacy of resource and cost info for the provider

Diagram:

```
Application Orchestrator
    ↓
ALTO Client
  /  \  /
Data Center 1 Data Center 1 Data Center 1
```

Washington University in St. Louis
http://www.cse.wustl.edu/~jain/tutorials/icc14.htm
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Summary of Part II

1. SDN is the framework to automatically manage and control a large number of network devices and services in a multi-tenant environment

2. OpenFlow originated SDN but now many different southbound and northbound APIs, intermediate services and tools are being discussed and implemented by the industry, e.g., XMPP, ForCES, PCE, ALTO

3. OpenDaylight SDN Controller platform is the leading open source SDN controller project under Linux Foundation

4. It uses REST APIs and OSGI framework for modularity
Part III: Network Function Virtualization (NFV)

- What is NFV?
- NFV and SDN Relationship
- ETSI NFV ISG Specifications
- Concepts, Architecture, Requirements, Use cases
- Proof-of-Concepts and Timeline
Four Innovations of NFV

1. Software implementation of network
2. Network Function Modules
3. Implementation in Virtual Machines
4. Standard API’s between Modules
Network Function Virtualization (NFV)

1. Fast standard hardware ⇒ **Software based Devices**
   Routers, Firewalls, Broadband Remote Access Server (BRAS)
   ⇒ A.k.a. *white box* implementation

2. **Function Modules** (Both data plane and control plane)
   ⇒ DHCP (Dynamic Host control Protocol), NAT (Network Address Translation), Rate Limiting,

NFV (Cont)

3. Virtual Machine implementation
   ⇒ Virtual appliances
   ⇒ All advantages of virtualization (quick provisioning, scalability, mobility, Reduced CapEx, Reduced OpEx, …)

Why We need NFV?

1. **Virtualization**: Use network resource without worrying about where it is physically located, how much it is, how it is organized, etc.
2. **Orchestration**: Manage thousands of devices
3. **Programmable**: Should be able to change behavior on the fly.
4. **Dynamic Scaling**: Should be able to change size, quantity
5. **Automation**
6. **Visibility**: Monitor resources, connectivity
7. **Performance**: Optimize network device utilization
8. **Multi-tenancy**
9. **Service Integration**
10. **Openness**: Full choice of Modular plug-ins

Note: These are exactly the same reasons why we need SDN.
NFV and SDN Relationship

- Concept of NFV originated from SDN
  ⇒ First ETSI white paper showed overlapping Venn diagram
  ⇒ It was removed in the second version of the white paper
- NFV and SDN are complementary. One does not depend upon the other. You can do SDN only, NFV only, or SDN and NFV.
- Both have similar goals but approaches are very different.
- SDN needs new interfaces, control modules, applications. NFV requires moving network applications from dedicated hardware to virtual containers on commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) hardware
- NFV is present. SDN is the future.
- Virtualization alone provides many of the required features
- Not much debate about NFV.
Mobile Network Functions

- Switches, e.g., Open vSwitch
- Routers, e.g., Click
- Home Location Register (HLR),
- Serving GPRS Support Node (SGSN),
- Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN),
- Combined GPRS Support Node (CGSN),
- Radio Network Controller (RNC),
- Serving Gateway (SGW),
- Packet Data Network Gateway (PGW),
- Residential Gateway (RGW),
- Broadband Remote Access Server (BRAS),
- Carrier Grade Network Address Translator (CGNAT),
- Deep Packet Inspection (DPI),
- Provider Edge (PE) Router,
- Mobility Management Entity (MME),
- Element Management System (EMS)
- Industry Specification Group (ISG)’s goal is to define the requirements.
- Four Working Groups:
  - **INF**: Architecture for the virtualization Infrastructure
  - **MANO**: Management and orchestration
  - **SWA**: Software architecture
  - **REL**: Reliability and Availability, resilience and fault tolerance

ETSI NFV ISG (Cont)

- Two Expert Groups:
  - **Security** Expert Group: Security
  - **Performance and Portability** Expert Group: Scalability, efficiency, and performance VNFs relative to current dedicated hardware
NFV Specifications

1. NFV Use cases (GS NFV 001)
2. NFV Architectural Framework (GS NFV 002)
3. Terminology for Main Concepts in NFV (GS NFV 003)
4. NFV Virtualization Requirements (GS NFV 004)
5. NFV Proof of Concepts Framework (GS NFV-PER 002)

NFV Concepts

- **Network Function (NF):** Functional building block with a well-defined interfaces and well-defined functional behavior.

- **Virtualized Network Function (VNF):** Software implementation of NF that can be deployed in a virtualized infrastructure.

- **VNF Set:** Connectivity between VNFs is not specified, e.g., residential gateways.

- **VNF Forwarding Graph:** Service chain when network connectivity order is important, e.g., firewall, NAT, load balancer.

- **NFV Infrastructure (NFVI):** Hardware and software required to deploy, manage and execute VNFs including computation, networking, and storage.


Ref: ETSI, “NFV Terminology for Main Concepts in NFV,” Oct 2013, [http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_gs/NFV/001_099/003/01.01.01_60/gs_NFV003v010101p.pdf](http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_gs/NFV/001_099/003/01.01.01_60/gs_NFV003v010101p.pdf)


Network Forwarding Graph

- An end-to-end service may include nested forwarding graphs

NFV Architecture

http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_gs/NFV/001_099/002/01.01.01_60/gs_NFV002v010101p.pdf
NFV Reference Points

Reference Point: Points for inter-module specification

1. Virtualization Layer-Hardware Resources (VI-Ha)
2. VNF – NFVI (Vn-Nf)
3. Orchestrator – VNF Manager (Or-Vnfm)
4. Virtualized Infrastructure Manager – VNF Manager (Vi-Vnfm)
5. Orchestrator – Virtualized Infrastructure Manager (Or-Vi)
6. NFVI-Virtualized Infrastructure Manager (Nf-Vi)
8. VNF/ Element Management System (EMS) – VNF Manager (Ve-Vnfm)
9. Service, VNF and Infrastructure Description – NFV Management and Orchestration (Se-Ma): VNF Deployment template, VNF Forwarding Graph, service-related information, NFV infrastructure information

NFV Framework Requirements

1. General: Partial or full Virtualization, Predictable performance
2. Portability: Decoupled from underlying infrastructure
3. Performance: as described and facilities to monitor
4. Elasticity: Scalable to meet SLAs. Movable to other servers.
5. Resiliency: Be able to recreate after failure.
   Specified packet loss rate, calls drops, time to recover, etc.
6. Security: Role-based authorization, authentication
7. Service Continuity: Seamless or non-seamless continuity after failures or migration

Ref: ETSI, “NFV Virtualization Requirements,”, Oct 2013, 17 pp.,
http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_gs/NFV/001_099/004/01.01.01_60/gs_NFV004v010101p.pdf
NFV Framework Requirements (Cont)

8. **Service Assurance**: Time stamp and forward copies of packets for Fault detection

9. **Energy Efficiency Requirements**: Should be possible to put a subset of VNF in a power conserving sleep state

10. **Transition**: Coexistence with Legacy and Interoperability among multi-vendor implementations

11. **Service Models**: Operators may use NFV infrastructure operated by other operators
NFV Use Cases

- **Cloud:**
  1. NFV infrastructure as a service (NFVIaaS) like IaaS
  2. Virtual Network Functions (VNFs) as a service (VNFaaS) like SaaS
  3. VNF forwarding graphs (Service Chains)
  4. Virtual Network Platform as a Service (VNPaaS) like PaaS

- **Mobile:**
  5. Virtualization of the Mobile Core Network and IMS
  6. Virtualization of Mobile Base Station

- **Data Center:**
  7. Virtualization of CDNs

- **Access/Residential:**
  8. Virtualization of the Home environment
  9. Fixed Access NFV

Ref: ETSI, “NFV Use Cases,” [http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_gs/NFV/001_099/001/01.01.01_60/gs_NFV001v010101p.pdf](http://www.etsi.org/deliver/etsi_gs/NFV/001_099/001/01.01.01_60/gs_NFV001v010101p.pdf)
NFV Proof of Concepts (PoCs)

ETSI has formed and NFV ISG PoC Forum. Following modules have been demoed:

1. Virtual Broadband Remote Access Server (BRAS) by British Telecom
2. Virtual IP Multimedia System (IMS) by Deutsche Telekom
3. Virtual Evolved Packet Core (vEPC) by Orange Silicon Valley
4. Carrier-Grade Network Address Translator (CGNAT) and Deep Packet Inspection (DPI), Home Gateway by Telefonica
5. Perimeta Session Border Controller (SBC) from Metaswitch
6. Deep packet inspection from Procera

Most of these are based on Cloud technologies, e.g., OpenStack

Summary of Part III

1. NFV aims to reduce OpEx by automation and scalability provided by implementing network functions as virtual appliances
2. NFV allows all benefits of virtualization and cloud computing including orchestration, scaling, automation, hardware independence, pay-per-use, fault-tolerance, …
3. NFV and SDN are independent and complementary. You can do either or both.
4. NFV requires standardization of reference points and interfaces to be able to mix and match VNFs from different sources
5. NFV can be done now. Several of virtual functions have already been demonstrated by carriers.
Overall Summary

1. Four planes of Networking: Data, Control, Mgmt, Service
2. OpenFlow separates control plane and moves it to a central controller ⇒ Simplifies the forwarding element
3. SDN is the framework to automatically manage and control a large number of multi-tenant network devices and services
4. OpenFlow originated SDN but now many different southbound and northbound APIs, intermediate services and tools are being discussed and implemented by the industry,
5. OpenDaylight SDN Controller platform is the leading open source SDN controller project under Linux Foundation
6. NFV reduces OpEx by automation and scalability provided by implementing network functions as virtual appliances
Part I: OpenFlow

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