

NAME

ovn-controller – Open Virtual Network local controller

SYNOPSIS

ovn-controller [*options*] [*ovs-database*]

DESCRIPTION

ovn-controller is the local controller daemon for OVN, the Open Virtual Network. It connects up to the OVN Southbound database (see **ovn-sb**(5)) over the OVSDB protocol, and down to the Open vSwitch database (see **ovs-vswitchd.conf.db**(5)) over the OVSDB protocol and to **ovs-vswitchd**(8) via OpenFlow. Each hypervisor and software gateway in an OVN deployment runs its own independent copy of **ovn-controller**; thus, **ovn-controller**'s downward connections are machine-local and do not run over a physical network.

CONFIGURATION

ovn-controller retrieves most of its configuration information from the local Open vSwitch's ovsdb-server instance. The default location is **db.sock** in the local Open vSwitch's "run" directory. It may be overridden by specifying the *ovs-database* argument in one of the following forms:

- **ssl:ip:port**
The specified SSL *port* on the host at the given *ip*, which must be expressed as an IP address (not a DNS name) in IPv4 or IPv6 address format. If *ip* is an IPv6 address, then wrap *ip* with square brackets, e.g.: **ssl:::1]:6640**. The **--private-key**, **--certificate** and either of **--ca-cert** or **--bootstrap-ca-cert** options are mandatory when this form is used.
- **tcp:ip:port**
Connect to the given TCP *port* on *ip*, where *ip* can be IPv4 or IPv6 address. If *ip* is an IPv6 address, then wrap *ip* with square brackets, e.g.: **tcp:::1]:6640**.
- **unix:file**
On POSIX, connect to the Unix domain server socket named *file*.
On Windows, connect to a localhost TCP port whose value is written in *file*.

ovn-controller assumes it gets configuration information from the following keys in the **Open_vSwitch** table of the local OVS instance:

external_ids:system-id

The chassis name to use in the Chassis table.

external_ids:ovn-bridge

The integration bridge to which logical ports are attached. The default is **br-int**. If this bridge does not exist when ovn-controller starts, it will be created automatically with the default configuration suggested in **ovn-architecture**(7).

external_ids:ovn-remote

The OVN database that this system should connect to for its configuration.

Currently, **ovn-controller** does not support changing this setting mid-run. If the value needs to change, the daemon must be restarted. (This behavior should be improved.)

external_ids:ovn-encap-type

The encapsulation type that a chassis should use to connect to this node. Supported tunnel types for connecting hypervisors are **geneve** and **stt**. Gateways may use **geneve**, **vxlan**, or **stt**.

external_ids:ovn-encap-ip

The IP address that a chassis should use to connect to this node using encapsulation type specified by **external_ids:ovn-encap-ip**.

external_ids:ovn-bridge-mappings

A list of key-value pairs that map a physical network name to a local ovs bridge that provides connectivity to that network. An example value mapping two physical network names to two ovs bridges would be: **physnet1:br-eth0,physnet2:br-eth1**.

OPEN VSWITCH DATABASE USAGE

ovn-controller uses a number of **external-ids** keys in the Open vSwitch database to keep track of ports and interfaces. For proper operation, users should not change or clear these keys:

external_ids:ovn-chassis-id in the **Port** table

The presence of this key identifies a tunnel port within the integration bridge as one created by **ovn-controller** to reach a remote chassis. Its value is the chassis ID of the remote chassis.

external-ids:ovn-patch-port in the **Port** table

The presence of this key identifies a patch port as one created by **ovn-controller** to connect the integration bridge and another bridge to implement a **localnet** logical port. Its value is the name of the physical network that the port implements. See **external_ids:ovn-bridge-mappings**, above, for more information.

Each **localnet** logical port is implemented as a pair of patch ports, one in the integration bridge, one in a different bridge, with the same **external-ids:ovn-patch-port** value.

RUNTIME MANAGEMENT COMMANDS

ovs-appctl can send commands to a running **ovn-controller** process. The currently supported commands are described below.

exit Causes **ovn-controller** to gracefully terminate.