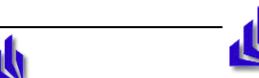
AINFV: Analysis of Isolation (memory/packet) in Network Function Virtualization

Abdul Ahad Ayaz





Network Function Virtualization (NFV)

- What is NFV?
- Why we use NFV?
- What are the requirement of NFV?
- Issues of Using NFV
 - Executing NFs
 - Developing NFs



Executing NFs

- Isolation vs Performance
- Types of Isolation
 - Memory Isolation
 - Packet Isolation
- Current Approach
 - Using VMs or Containers

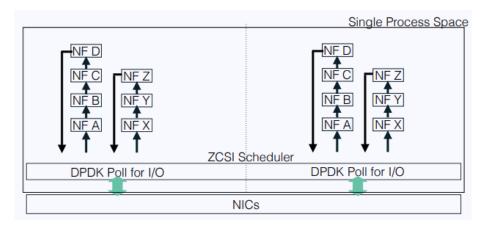






Executing NFs

- NetBricks[1]
- Execution Environment
 - Single Process Space
- Isolation using Zero Copy Soft Isolation (ZCSI)[1]
 - Packet Isolation : Unique Types
 - Memory Isolation : Type checks and array bounds checks



NetBricks Architecture[10]



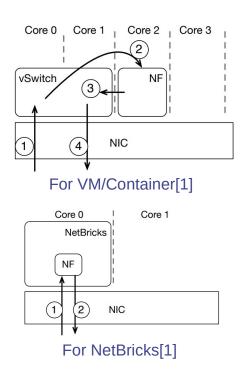
Developing NFs

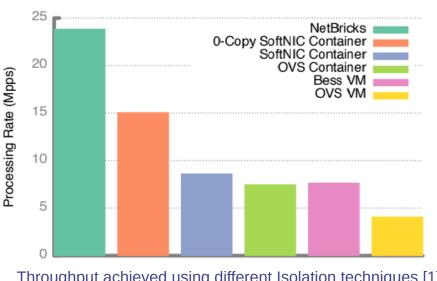
- High-Level Programming Language vs Performance
- Current Approach
 - More focused on Low-level code
 - Spending a lot of time on optimization
- NetBricks
 - Modular code
 - Separate common functionality and User-defined functionality



Isolation Analysis

- Simple NF vs NF chains vs Complex NF
- Simple NF
 - Swaps source and destination address of receiving packets.



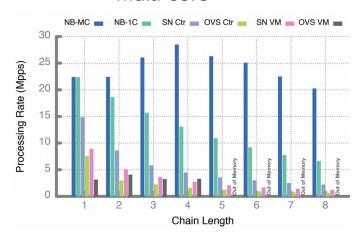


Throughput achieved using different Isolation techniques [1]

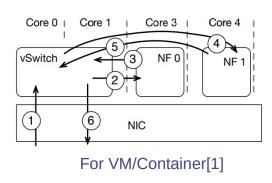


Isolation Analysis

- Simple NF vs NF chains vs Complex NF
- NF chains
 - Multiple instances of Packet TTL (time to live) = 0 NFs.
 - Two cases:
 - Single-core
 - Multi-core



Throughput analysis [1]



Core 0

NetBricks

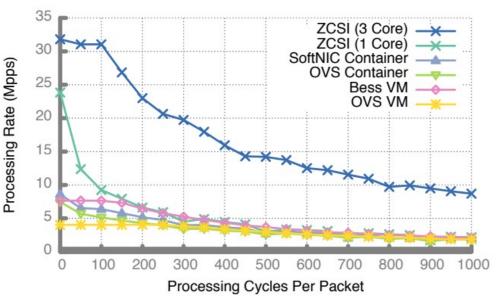
NF 0

NF 1



Isolation Analysis

- Simple NF vs NF chains vs Complex NF
- Complex NF
 - Simple NF used with increased computation time per packet.
 - Two cases:
 - Single-core
 - Three-cores



Throughput of complex NF using different technologies[1]



Related Frameworks

Developing NF

- YANFF[2]
- libVNF[3]
- FLICK[4]

Executing NF

- NetVm[5] / OpenNetVM[6]
- HyperNF[7]
- G-NET[8]

Isolation

- SafeBricks[9]



Conclusion & Further Research

Conclusion

- Isolation is necessary for NFV
- VM/Container ensures isolation but at the cost of Performance degradation
- NetBricks runs NF as a single process
 - Ensures both memory and packet isolation

Further Research

- Add control plane functionality to NetBricks
- NetBricks integration with MANO systems



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