# MAWLANA BHASHANI SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY



# **DEPARTMENT OF ICT**

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Course Title : Network Planning and Designing Lab

Lab Report name : SDN Controllers and Mininet

Submitted by Submitted to

Md. Faruk Hosen Nazrul Islam

ID: IT-17035 Assistant Professor,

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#### **Objective:**

- Install and use traffic generators as powerful tools for testing network performance.
- Install and configure SDN controller.
- Install and understand how the mininet simulator works.
- Implement and run basic examples for understanding the role of the controller and how it interact with mininet.

# 1. What is iperf? Describe the features of iperf.

Ans: **iperf:** iperf is a tool for active measurements of the maximum achievable bandwidth on IP networks. It supports tuning of various parameters related to timing, buffers and protocols(TCP, UDP, SCTP with IPv4 and IPv6). For each test it reports the bandwidth, loss, and other parameters.

# **Features of iperf:**

- TCP and SCTP
  - Measure bandwidth
  - ➤ Report MSS/MTU size and observed read sizes.
- UDP
  - Client can create UDP streams of specified bandwidth.
  - Measure packet loss.
- Client and server can have multiple simultaneous connections (-P option).
- Server handles multiple connections, rather than quitting after a single test.
- Can run for specified time (-t option), rather than a set amount of data to transfer (-n or -k option).
- Run the server as a daemon (-D option).
- Use representative streams to test out how link layer compression affects your achievable bandwidth (-F option).

# 2. What is software defines networking(SDN)? What is the difference between software defined networking and traditional networking?

Ans: **SDN**: SDN is that by separating control of network functions from hardware devices, administrators acquire more power to route and direct traffic in response to changing requirements.

The key difference between traditional and software-defined networking is how SDNs handle data packets. In a traditional network, the way a switch handles an incoming data packet is written into its firmware. SDN provides admins with granular control over the way switches handle data, giving them the ability to automatically prioritize or block certain types of packets.

#### 3. What is mininet and Why we use mininet?

Ans: **Mininet**: Mininet is a network emulation software that allows one to launch a virtual network with switches, host and SDN controller all with a single command.

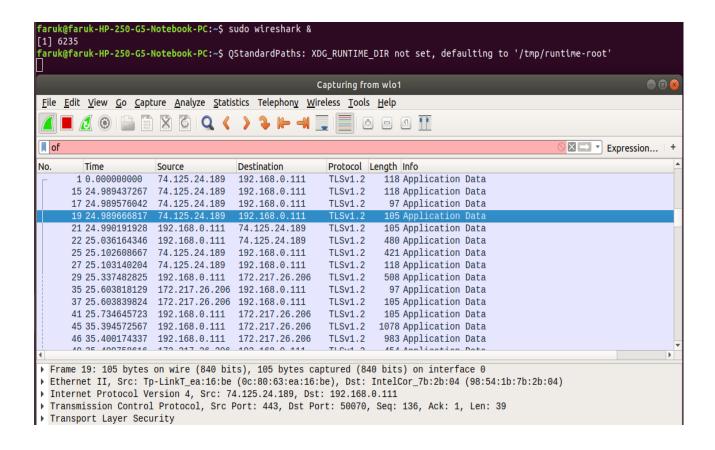
Mininet creates a realistic virtual network, running real kernel, switch and application code, on a single machine (VM, cloud or native) Because you can easily interactwith your network using the Mininet CLI (and API), customize it, share it with others, or deploy it on real hardware, Mininet is useful for the development, teaching, and research. Mininet is also a great way to develop, share, and experiment with OpenFlow and Software-Defined Networking systems.

# 4. Some important Mininet Commands:

<u>Display startup options</u>: Type the following command to display a help message describing Mininet's startup options:

```
faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~$ sudo mn -h
[sudo] password for faruk:
Usage: mn [options]
(type mn -h for details)
The mn utility creates Mininet network from the command line. It can create
parametrized topologies, invoke the Mininet CLI, and run tests.
Options:
  -h, --help
                          show this help message and exit
  --switch=SWITCH
                          default|ivs|lxbr|ovs|ovsbr|ovsk|user[,param=value...]
                          ovs=OVSSwitch default=OVSSwitch ovsk=OVSSwitch
                          lxbr=LinuxBridge user=UserSwitch ivs=IVSSwitch
                          ovsbr=OVSBridge
                          cfs|proc|rt[,param=value...]
rt=CPULimitedHost{'sched': 'rt'} proc=Host
cfs=CPULimitedHost{'sched': 'cfs'}
  --host=HOST
  --controller=CONTROLLER
                          default|none|nox|ovsc|ref|remote|ryu[,param=value...]
ovsc=OVSController none=NullController
                          remote=RemoteController default=DefaultController
                          nox=NOX ryu=Ryu ref=Controller
  --link=LINK
                          default|ovs|tc|tcu[,param=value...] default=Link
                          ovs=OVSLink tcu=TCULink tc=TCLink
  --topo=TOPO
                          linear|minimal|reversed|single|torus|tree[,param=value
                          ...] linear=LinearTopo torus=TorusTopo tree=TreeTopo
                          single=SingleSwitchTopo
                          reversed=SingleSwitchReversedTopo minimal=MinimalTopo
  -c, --clean
                          clean and exit
  --custom=CUSTOM
                          read custom classes or params from .py file(s)
                          none|build|all|iperf|pingpair|iperfudp|pingall
  --test=TEST
  -x, --xterms
                          spawn xterms for each node
  -i IPBASE, --ipbase=IPBASE
                          base IP address for hosts
                          automatically set host MACs
  --mac
```

<u>Start Wireshark:</u> To view control traffic using the OpenFlow Wireshark dissector, first open wireshark in the background:



#### Interact with Hosts and switches: Start a minimal topology and enter the CLI:

```
faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~$ sudo mn
*** Creating network
*** Adding controller
*** Adding hosts:
h1 h2
*** Adding switches:
s1
*** Adding links:
(h1, s1) (h2, s1)
*** Configuring hosts
h1 h2
*** Starting controller
c0
*** Starting 1 switches
s1 ...
*** Starting CLI:
mininet>
```

# **Display Mininet CLI commands:**

```
mininet> help
Documented commands (type help <topic>):
-----
EOF gterm iperfudp nodes
dpctl help link noecho
dump intfs links pingall
exit iperf net pingallf
                                                            switch
                                     pingpair
                                                    РУ
                                     pingpairfull quit
                                                            time
                        pingall
                                     ports
                                                    sh
                       pingallfull px
                                                    source xterm
You may also send a command to a node using:
 <node> command {args}
For example:
 mininet> h1 ifconfig
The interpreter automatically substitutes IP addresses
for node names when a node is the first arg, so commands
like
 mininet> h2 ping h3
should work.
Some character-oriented interactive commands require
  mininet> noecho h2 vi foo.py
However, starting up an xterm/gterm is generally better:
  mininet> xterm h2
```

# **Display nodes:**

```
mininet> nodes
available nodes are:
c0 h1 h2 s1
mininet>
```

# Display links:

```
mininet> net
h1 h1-eth0:s1-eth1
h2 h2-eth0:s1-eth2
s1 lo: s1-eth1:h1-eth0 s1-eth2:h2-eth0
c0
mininet>
```

#### **Dump information about all nodes:**

```
mininet> dump
<Host h1: h1-eth0:10.0.0.1 pid=6510>
<Host h2: h2-eth0:10.0.0.2 pid=6512>
<OVSSwitch s1: lo:127.0.0.1,s1-eth1:None,s1-eth2:None pid=6517>
<Controller c0: 127.0.0.1:6653 pid=6503>
mininet>
```

#### Run a command on a host process:

```
mininet> h1 ifconfig -a
h1-eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
       inet 10.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0 broadcast 10.255.255.255
       inet6 fe80::4bd:56ff:fe5a:cc84 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
       ether 06:bd:56:5a:cc:84 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
       RX packets 41 bytes 5241 (5.2 KB)
       RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
       TX packets 12 bytes 936 (936.0 B)
       TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
       inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
       inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
       loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
       RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
       RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
       TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
       TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
mininet>
```

This command will show the switch interfaces, plus the VM's connection out (eth0):

```
mininet> s1 ifconfig -a
eno1: flags=4099<UP,BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
ether 30:e1:71:91:75:23 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
    inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
    inet6::1 prefixlen 128 scopetd 0x10<host>
    loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
RX packets 4934 bytes 379645 (379.6 KB)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 4934 bytes 379645 (379.6 KB)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

ovs-system: flags=4098<BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
ether 26:43:6c:e3:7e:f0 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0

s1: flags=4098<BROADCAST,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
ether c2:36:f8:87:ac:4f txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 24 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
RX errors 0 dropped 24 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

<u>Test connectivity between hosts:</u> Now, verify that one can ping from host 0 to host 1:

```
mininet> h1 ping -c 1 h2
PING 10.0.0.2 (10.0.0.2) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=14.4 ms
--- 10.0.0.2 ping statistics ---
1 packets transmitted, 1 received, 0% packet loss, time 0ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 14.446/14.446/14.446/0.000 ms
mininet>
```

<u>Pingall command:</u> An easier way to run this test is to use the Mininet CLI built-in pingall command, which does an all-pairs ping:

```
mininet> pingall
*** Ping: testing ping reachability
h1 -> h2
h2 -> h1
*** Results: 0% dropped (2/2 received)
mininet>
```

#### Run a simple web server and client:

```
mininet> h1 python -m SimpleHTTPServer_80 &
mininet> h2 wget -O - h1
--2020-09-04 00:37:33-- http://10.0.0.1/
Connecting to 10.0.0.1:80... connected.
HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 12144 (12K) [text/html]
Saving to: 'STDOUT'
                                                   0 --.-KB/s
                                                                            <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC
<title>Directory listing for /</title>
<h2>Directory listing for /</h2>
<hr>
<l
<a href=".bash_history">.bash_history</a>
<a href=".bash_logout">.bash_logout</a>
<a href=".bashrc">.bashrc</a>
<a href=".cache/">.cache/</a>
<a href=".config/">.config/</a>
```

<u>Changing Topology Size and Type:</u> The default topology is a single switch connected to two hosts. You could change this to a different topo with --topo, and pass parameters for that topology's creation. For example, to verify all-pairs ping connectivity with one switch and three hosts:

```
mininet> sudo mn --test pingall --topo single,3
*** Unknown command: sudo mn --test pingall --topo single,3
mininet> sudo mn --test pingall --topo linear,4
*** Unknown command: sudo mn --test pingall --topo linear,4
mininet>
```

#### **Link variations:**

```
faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~$ sudo mn --link tc,bw=10,delay=10ms
[sudo] password for faruk:
 ** Creating network
*** Adding controller
*** Adding hosts:
h1 h2
*** Adding switches:
*** Adding links:
(10.00Mbit 10ms delay) (10.00Mbit 10ms delay) (h1, s1) (10.00Mbit 10ms delay) (10.00Mbit 10ms delay) (h2, s1)
*** Configuring hosts
h1 h2
*** Starting controller
*** Starting 1 switches
s1 ...(10.00Mbit 10ms delay) (10.00Mbit 10ms delay)
*** Starting CLI:
mininet> iperf
*** Iperf: testing TCP bandwidth between h1 and h2
*** Results: ['9.50 Mbits/sec', '11.9 Mbits/sec']
mininet> h1 ping -c10 h2
PING 10.0.0.2 (10.0.0.2) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=47.7 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=41.0 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=40.8 ms
^7
[1]+ Stopped
                              sudo mn --link tc,bw=10,delay=10ms
faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~$
```

#### ID = MAC:

#### Before:

```
mininet> h1 ifconfig
h1-eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
       inet 10.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0 broadcast 10.255.255.255
       inet6 fe80::d8d5:9fff:fe0c:b6ec prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
       ether da:d5:9f:0c:b6:ec txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
       RX packets 20 bytes 2689 (2.6 KB)
       RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
       TX packets 6 bytes 516 (516.0 B)
       TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
       inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
       inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
       loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
       RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
       RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
       TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
       TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
mininet>
```

#### After:

```
faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~$ sudo mn --mac
*** Creating network
*** Adding controller
*** Adding hosts:
h1 h2
*** Adding switches:
s1
*** Adding links:
(h1, s1) (h2, s1)
*** Configuring hosts
h1 h2
*** Starting controller
*** Starting 1 switches
s1 ...
*** Starting CLI:
mininet> h1 ifconfig
h1-eth0: flags=4163<UP,BROADCAST,RUNNING,MULTICAST> mtu 1500
        inet 10.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0 broadcast 10.255.255.255
        inet6 fe80::200:ff:fe00:1 prefixlen 64 scopeid 0x20<link>
        ether 00:00:00:00:00:01 txqueuelen 1000 (Ethernet)
        RX packets 25 bytes 3363 (3.3 KB)
        RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
        TX packets 8 bytes 716 (716.0 B)
        TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
lo: flags=73<UP,LOOPBACK,RUNNING> mtu 65536
        inet 127.0.0.1 netmask 255.0.0.0
        inet6 ::1 prefixlen 128 scopeid 0x10<host>
        loop txqueuelen 1000 (Local Loopback)
        RX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
        RX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 frame 0
        TX packets 0 bytes 0 (0.0 B)
        TX errors 0 dropped 0 overruns 0 carrier 0 collisions 0
```

# XTerm Display:

For more complex debugging, you can start Mininet so that it spawns one or more xterms.

```
mininet> xterm h1
mininet> h1 ping h2
PING 10.0.0.2 (10.0.0.2) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.237 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.122 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.113 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=4 ttl=64 time=0.211 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=5 ttl=64 time=0.166 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=6 ttl=64 time=0.121 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=7 ttl=64 time=0.124 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp seq=8 ttl=64 time=0.121 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=9 ttl=64 time=0.128 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=10 ttl=64 time=0.062 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=11 ttl=64 time=0.143 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=12 ttl=64 time=0.161 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=13 ttl=64 time=0.118 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=14 ttl=64 time=0.122 ms
```

```
"Node: h1"

root@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~# ping -c3 10.0.0.2
PING 10.0.0.2 (10.0.0.2) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=44.6 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=2 ttl=64 time=0.783 ms
64 bytes from 10.0.0.2: icmp_seq=3 ttl=64 time=0.123 ms

--- 10.0.0.2 ping statistics ---
3 packets transmitted, 3 received, 0% packet loss, time 2008ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.123/15.174/44.616/20.820 ms
root@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~#
```

# **Python Interpreter:**

If the first phrase on the Mininiet command line is py, then that command is executed with Python. This might be useful for extending Mininet, as well as probing its inner workings. Each host, switch, and controller has an associated Node object.

#### At the Mininet CLI, run:

```
*** Starting CLI:
mininet> py 'hello ' + 'world'
hello world
mininet>
```

#### **Creating a Network:**

You can create a network with a single command. For example:

```
faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~/mininet$ cd ..
faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~$ sudo mn --switch ovs --controller ref --topo tree,depth=2,fanout=8 --test pingall
*** Creating network
*** Adding controller
*** Adding hosts:
h1 h2 h3 h4 h5 h6 h7 h8 h9 h10 h11 h12 h13 h14 h15 h16 h17 h18 h19 h20 h21 h22 h23 h24 h25 h26 h27 h28 h29 h30 h31 h32 h33 h34 h35 h36 h37 h38
h39 h40 h41 h42 h43 h44 h45 h46 h47 h48 h49 h50 h51 h52 h53 h54 h55 h56 h57 h58 h59 h60 h61 h62 h63 h64
*** Adding switches:
s1 s2 s3 s4 s5 s6 s7 s8 s9
 *** Adding links:
(s1, s2) (s1, s3) (s1, s4) (s1, s5) (s1, s6) (s1, s7) (s1, s8) (s1, s9) (s2, h1) (s2, h2) (s2, h3) (s2, h4) (s2, h5) (s2, h6) (s2, h7) (s2, h8) (s3, h9) (s3, h10) (s3, h11) (s3, h12) (s3, h13) (s3, h14) (s3, h15) (s3, h16) (s4, h17) (s4, h18) (s4, h19) (s4, h20) (s4, h21) (s4, h22) (s4, h23) (s4, h24) (s5, h25) (s5, h26) (s5, h27) (s5, h28) (s5, h29) (s5, h30) (s5, h31) (s5, h32) (s6, h33) (s6, h34) (s6, h35) (s6, h36) (s6
, h37) (s6, h38) (s6, h39) (s6, h40) (s7, h41) (s7, h42) (s7, h43) (s7, h44) (s7, h45) (s7, h46) (s7, h47) (s7, h48) (s8, h49) (s8, h50) (s8, h51) (s8, h52) (s8, h53) (s8, h54) (s8, h55) (s8, h56) (s9, h57) (s9, h58) (s9, h59) (s9, h60) (s9, h61) (s9, h62) (s9, h63) (s9, h64)
*** Configuring hosts
h1 h2 h3 h4 h5 h6 h7 h8 h9 h10 h11 h12 h13 h14 h15 h16 h17 h18 h19 h20 h21 h22 h23 h24 h25 h26 h27 h28 h29 h30 h31 h32 h33 h34 h35 h36 h37 h38
 h39 h40 h41 h42 h43 h44 h45 h46 h47 h48 h49 h50 h51 h52 h53 h54 h55 h56 h57 h58 h59 h60 h61 h62 h63 h64
*** Starting controller
*** Starting 9 switches
s1 s2 s3 s4 s5 s6 s7 s8 s9 ...
 *** Waiting for switches to connect
s1 s2 s3 s4 s5 s6 s7 s8 s9
*** Ping: testing ping reachability
h1 -> h2 h3 h4 h5 h6 h7 h8 h9 h10 h11 h12 h13 h14 h15 h16 h17 h18 h19 h20 h21 h22 h23 h24 h25 h26 h27 h28 h29 h30 h31 h32 h33 h34 h35 h36 h37
h38 h39 h40 h41 h42 h43 h44 h45 h46 h47 h48 h49 h50 h51 h52 h53 h54 h55 h56 h57 h58 h59 h60 h61 h62 h63 h64
h2 -> h1 h3 h4 h5 h6 h7 h8 h9 h10 h11 h12 h13 h14 h15 h16 h17 h18 h19 h20 h21 h22 h23 h24 h25 h26 h27 h28 h29 h30 h31 h32 h33 h34 h35 h36 h37
h38 h39 h40 h41 h42 h43 h44 h45 h46 h47 h48 h49 h50 h51 h52 h53 h54 h55 h56 h57 h58 h59 h60 h61 h62 h63 h64
h3 -> h1 h2 h4 h5 h6 h7 h8 h9 h10 h11 h12 h13 h14 h15 h16 h17 h18 h19 h20 h21 h22 h23 h24 h25 h26 h27 h28 h29 h30 h31 h32 h33 h34 h35 h36 h37
h38 h39 h40 h41 h42 h43 h44 h45 h46 h47 h48 h49 h50 h51 h52 h53 h54 h55 h56 h57 h58 h59 h60 h61 h62 h63 h64
h4 -> h1 h2 h3 h5 h6 h7 h8 h9 h10 h11 h12 h13 h14 h15 h16 h17 h18 h19 h20 h21 h22 h23 h24 h25 h26 h27 h28 h29 h30 h31 h32 h33 h34 h35 h36 h37
h38 h39 h40 h41 h42 h43 h44 h45 h46 ^Z
[3]+ Stopped
                                   sudo mn --switch ovs --controller ref --topo tree,depth=2,fanout=8 --test pingall
 faruk@faruk-HP-250-G5-Notebook-PC:~$
```

<u>Conclusion</u>: Mininet is a network emulation software that allows one to launch a virtual network with switches, Host and SDN controller. Doing this lab, I learn a new technology mininet. One can easily interact with the network using Mininet.