Faucet Foundation takes Leadership of NTT Incorporated's Open Source Ryu SDN Framework

Supporting improvements to the SDN ecosystem, Faucet Foundation lays out the blueprint for ongoing maintenance and development of Ryu.

Contacts:
Dr. Richard Nelson
Board Co-Chair
richardn@waikato.ac.nz

Brad Cowie
Technical Lead
brad@waikato.ac.nz

Twitter @faucetsdn
Faucet user mailing list: faucet-users@lists.geant.org
Ryu-devel mailing list: Ryu-devel@lists.sourceforge.net

Hamilton, New Zealand, 25 September 2020 — To ensure active support and ongoing maintenance, Faucet Foundation has taken over the open source Ryu SDN framework from NTT Incorporated (NTT). The Faucet Foundation is taking leadership of Ryu to secure its continuing role in the SDN community as the OpenFlow controller framework of choice for teaching, prototyping, and its production capabilities as demonstrated with Faucet. Maintaining Ryu allows Faucet to continue delivering its sophisticated network tool kit giving operators the ability to build flexible and resilient topologies, centrally monitor and manage network devices, and define and deploy custom network policies.

Ryu has moved to a new domain and github repository both provided by the Faucet Foundation. The code base is being reviewed and pull requests are being reviewed and accepted by Foundation affiliated developers.

"Ryu has shown great staying power as a platform for innovation in the field of SDN, providing developers with a trusted framework," said Stephen Stuart, Distinguished Software Engineer at Google and co-chair of the Faucet Foundation board. "The Faucet Foundation thanks NTT Inc. for its contributions to the open source community in Ryu, and is honored to take responsibility for its journey going forward."

The Faucet Foundation has a history of working with the Software Innovation Centre at NTT Inc. and continues to collaborate with them during the handoff of the code base.

"Faucet has been building a strong open source community with users and network vendors. We have no doubt that the Faucet Foundation will continue to drive the community for the further growth and adoption of Faucet and Ryu," said Tomonori Fujita, Distinguished Engineer at NTT and the original author of Ryu.
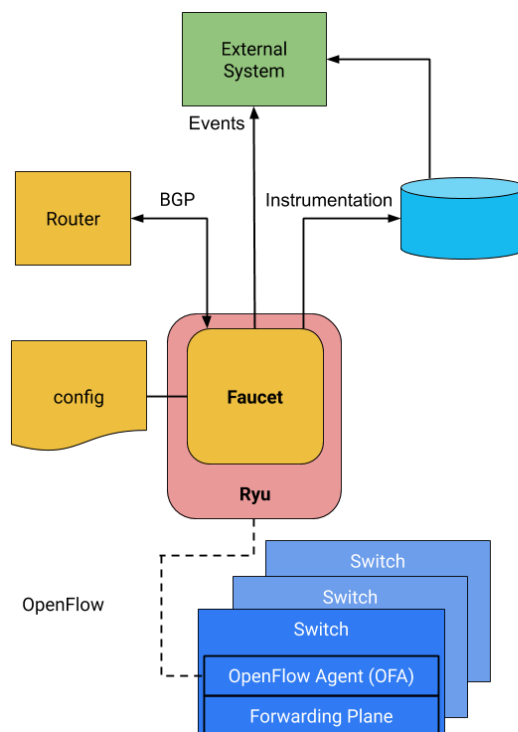

Image: Faucet architecture shows how it combines with Ryu to control network switches.

Combined, Faucet and Ryu provide the following key features to address enterprise network needs by:

• Allowing operators to build flexible and resilient topologies

• Managing many network devices centrally

• Providing a centralized view of the network for monitoring

• Giving operators tools to define and deploy custom network policies

Vendor Support

Building on Ryu, Faucet works on any switch supporting OpenFlow 1.3 with multiple tables and is supported by major switch manufacturers including Cisco, Allied Telesis, and Noviflow. The Ryu certification program conducted by the NTT team provided support for the Faucet OpenFlow multi-table pipeline compliance procedures. In turn, this work formed the basis of the Faucet test suite used by vendors to ensure their switches properly support Faucet. Collaborating this way strengthens the bond between the Faucet Foundation and network vendors. The Foundation aims to foster this development of Ryu and continue to strengthen its community.

About Faucet

Faucet provides control-plane security, high availability, and scalability along with 30-second installation and easy ongoing upgrades. It is a lightweight, open-source OpenFlow SDN controller built on the Ryu framework and developed from the ground up for enterprise networks. To be most useful in enterprise environments, Faucet allows network operators to run their networks the same way they run server clusters by moving the control plane implementation of network features from network hardware to general-purpose computing infrastructure. Faucet has now been deployed in numerous locations around the world.

About the Faucet Foundation

The Faucet Foundation is a non-profit governing body devoted to promoting the use of the Faucet SDN controller. It is incorporated in New Zealand and includes active members from multiple countries worldwide. For more information see https://faucet.nz. Ryu is available at https://ryu-sdn.org/.