

Software Defined Networking: Distributed systems and Trust computation

What are Software Defined Networks?



- In a software-defined network, a network engineer or administrator can shape traffic from a centralized control console.
- The centralized SDN controller directs the switches to deliver network services wherever they're needed.
- A typical representation of SDN architecture comprises three layers: the application layer, the control layer and the infrastructure layer.

SDN Architecture

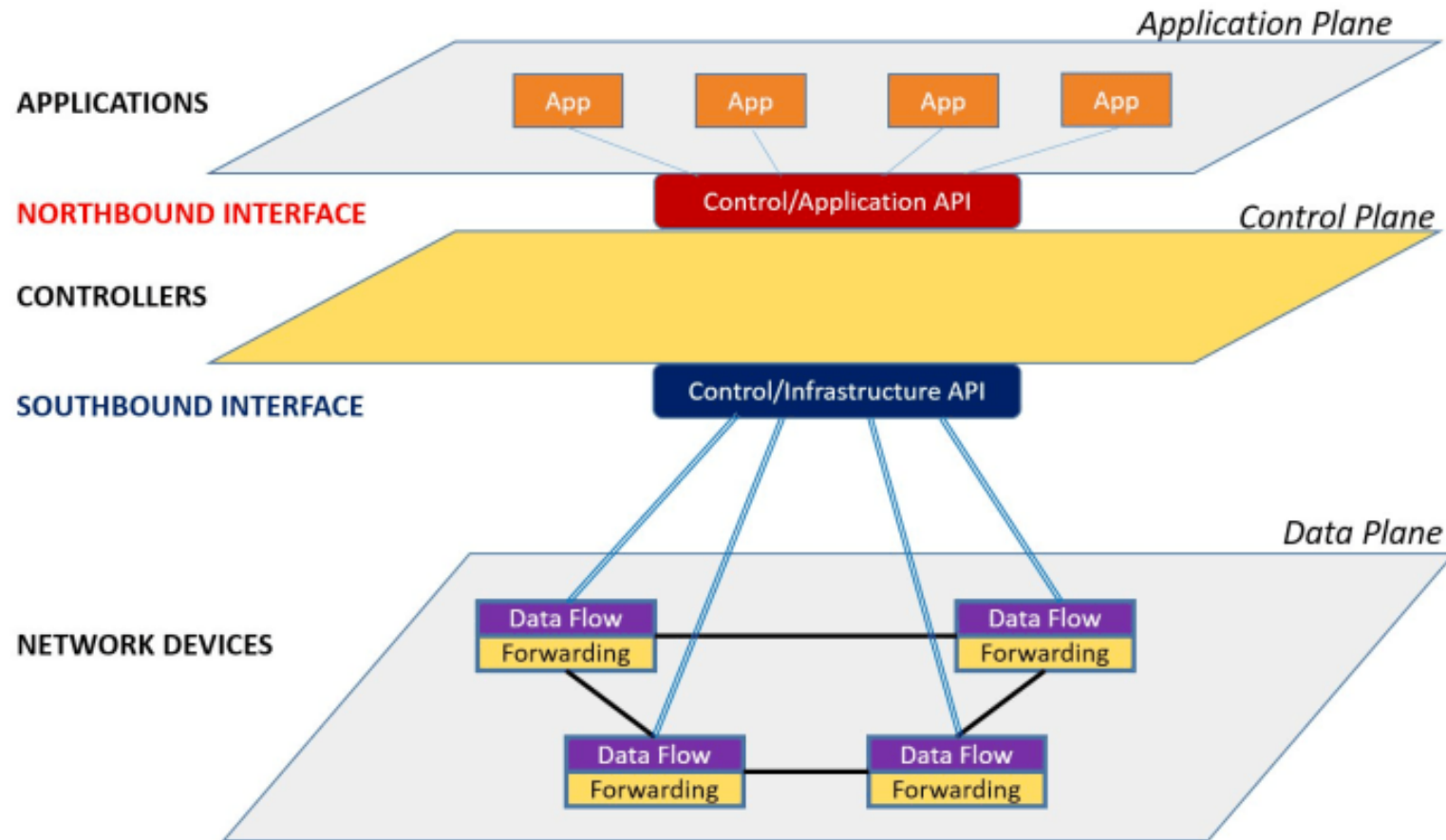


Figure 1 - Software-Defined Networking – A high level architecture

Introduction



- This is an initiative to redesign the current networking stack and compartmentalize into three main planes, the data plane, the control plane and the management plane.
- Using cleverly designed hybrid topologies, we demonstrate inter-controller connection in a distributed environment in first phase.
- The second phase acknowledges the need to secure such translations and we try to mitigate Denial of Service (DoS) attacks on the control plane.

Current Situation



- 1) Current SDN industry standard controller implementations do not inherently support distributed inter-controller communication.
- 2) Some of them who do, use infeasible and expensive mesh topologies.
- 3) SDN, thus, is limited to single controller and non-scalable networks.
- 4) Inter-controller communication of different types is also a problem.

Limitations of Current System

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- 1) Less scalability factor.
- 2) More energy consumption.
- 3) Greater expense for physical cables.
- 4) More vulnerable area to secure.
- 5) $(n-1)^n$ connections within controllers due to Mesh topology.

Proposed System

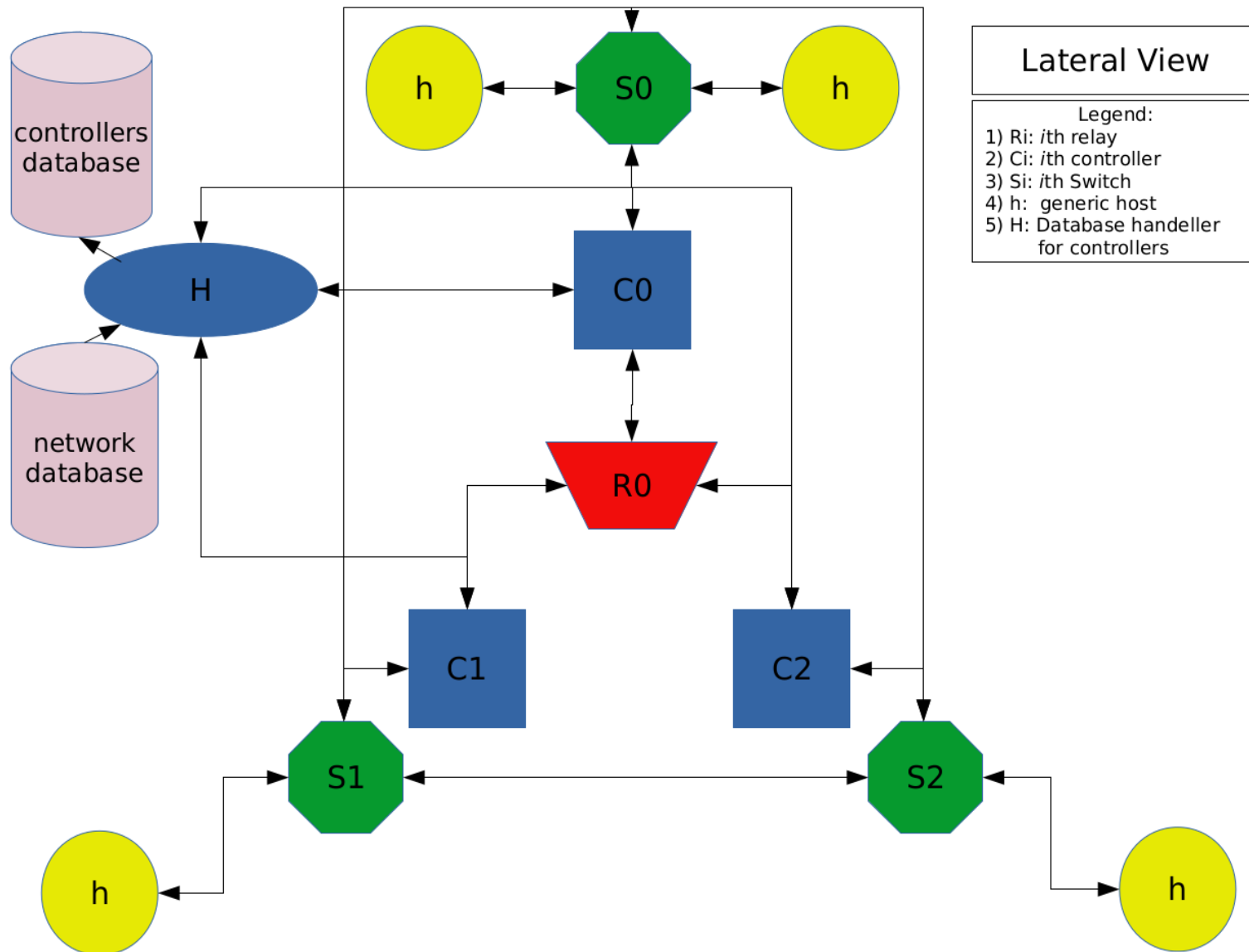


- 1) We propose a relay to act as a bridge between the controllers in a distributed system.
- 2) The relays can be sub-relayed as per geographical requirements.
- 3) Controllers use relay as proxy to broadcast flow query in the network.
- 4) A duplex connection between each controller and relay facilitates simultaneous broadcast and reply.
- 5) Bottlenecks are eliminated using frequent multi threaded constructs.
- 6) A TCP server listening for particular connections at controller handler, relay and controller as well for the duplex connection.
- 7) Python/java has been used as controller implementation language to interface with dynamic shared libraries coded in pure C, while relay engine remaining in pure C.

Review 1



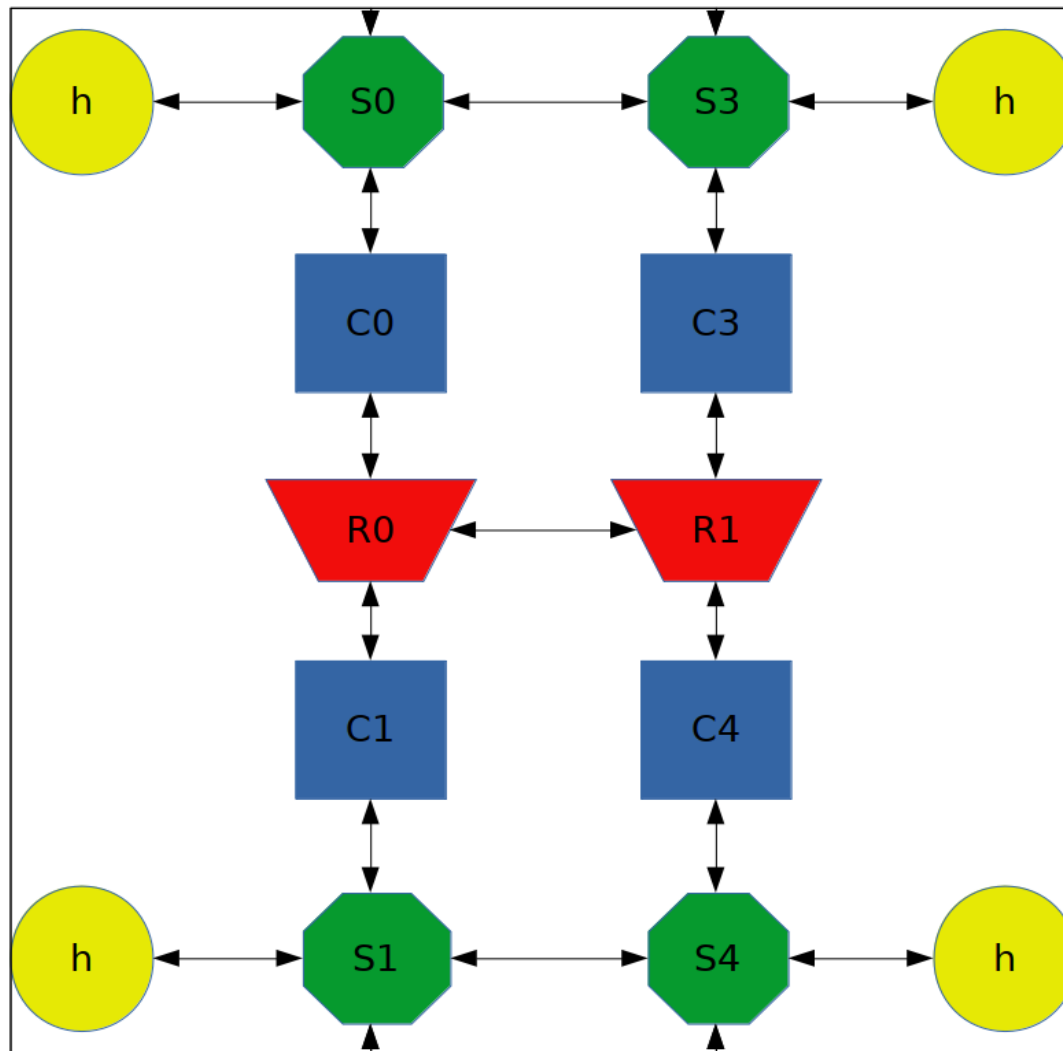
Designed Architecture



Cross-Sectional View (Observer's left)

Legend:

- 1) Ri: *i*th relay
- 2) Ci: *i*th controller
- 3) Si: *i*th Switch
- 4) h: generic host
- 5) H: Database handler for controllers

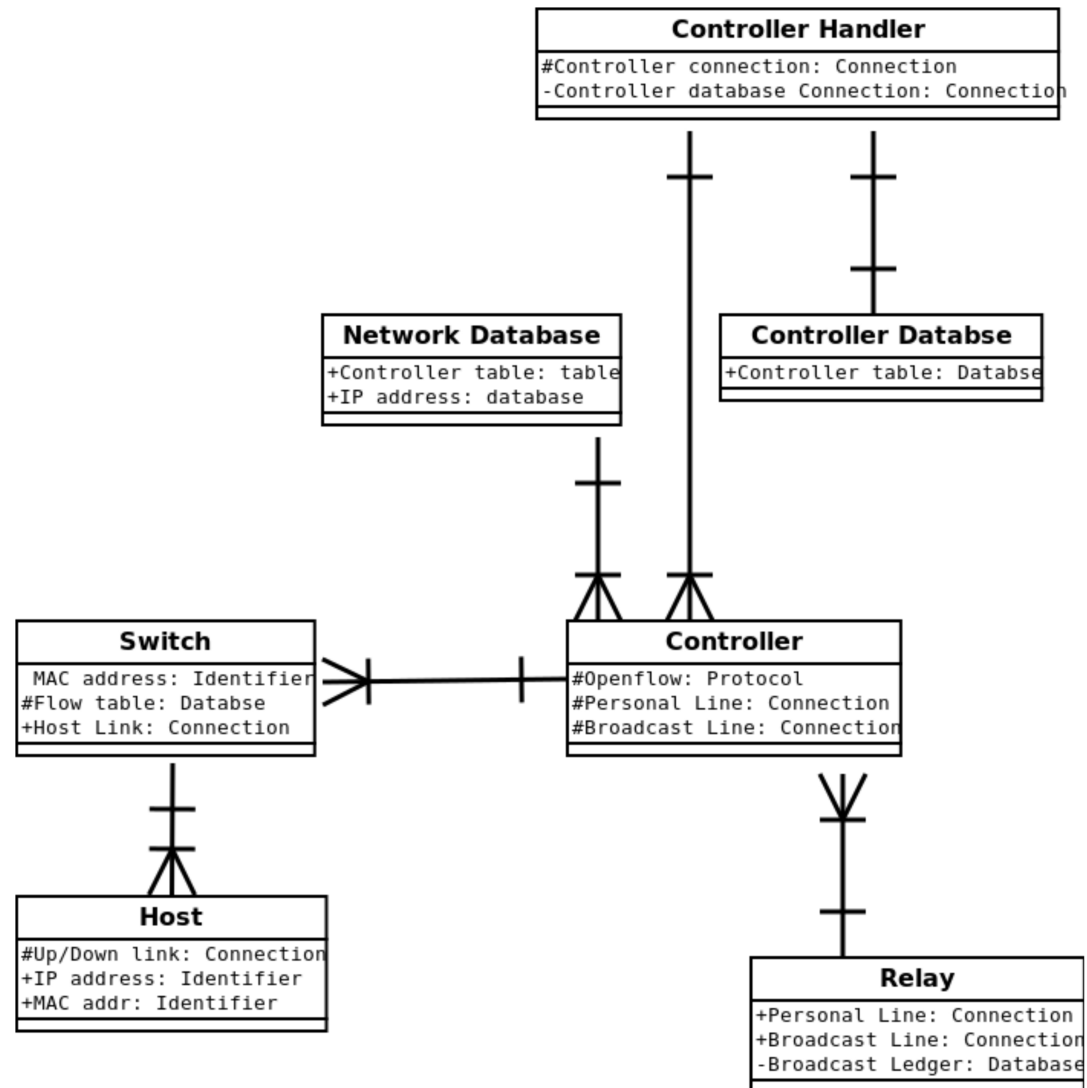


How the Architecture works?



- 1) Database docker image starts
- 2) Controller handler start connecting to 'controllers' database.
- 3) Controllers boot sending information to controller handler to be registered.
- 4) Mininet fetches the Controller Database
- 5) User Input for the required number of hosts and switches.
- 6) Random pairing for switches and hosts using the libsodium library.
- 7) Random number of hosts connected to the switches.
- 8) Topology is described as a 3d array, where the entries in database are separate tables with each controller has a separate table with its IP as the name for each table.
- 9) Class A Ips are automatically assigned by the Mininet.
- 10) Static Ips assigned to each controller on connection.
- 11) Standalone controller connection through relay.
- 12) Network database accessed by controller upon the connection.

ER Diagram





Thank You!

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