## lecture ||:

# composing controllers <br> 5590: software defined networking 

anduo wang, Temple University
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## Pyretic: composing policies



## composing controllers



challenges and technical contribution

- efficient algorithms


## CoVisor



## CoVisor



## assemble multiple controllers

- parallel, sequential, override


## CoVisor



## abstract topology

- customer virtual topology to each controller


## CoVisor



## protection

- fine-grained control over how a controller can operate


## administrator role

## administrator role

configure CoVisor to compose policies

## administrator role

## configure CoVisor to compose policies <br> - manual spec: $\mathrm{T}_{1}+\mathrm{T}_{2}, \mathrm{~T}_{1}>\mathrm{T}_{2}, \mathrm{~T}_{1} \triangleright \mathrm{~T}_{2}$

## administrator role

configure CoVisor to compose policies

- manual
- proactive incremental compilation, optimization


## administrator role

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- manual
- proactive
virtualize the network, sets packet-processing constraints


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- proactive
virtualize the network, sets packet-processing
constraints
- virtual topo: many-to-one, one-to-many (physical-to-virtual)


## administrator role

configure CoVisor to compose policies

- manual
- proactive
virtualize the network, sets packet-processing
constraints
- virtual topo: many-to-one, one-to-many (physical-to-virtual)
- packet handling: match, action


## the "efficiency" challenge

to host tens of controllers

- each installs tens of thousands rules
- constantly updated rules
naive approach - prohibitively expensive
-time to recompile new policy
-time to install new rules on swithes


## efficient CoVisor algorithms

 incrementally composing controller policies-priorities form a convenient algebra, obviating recompiling from scratch
devirtualization

- one(physical)-to-many(virtual)
optimizing composition
- smart data structure accelerate compilation


## incremental composition


update (OF rule) $r=(p m ; a)$
r.action
r.priority
r.match, r.mSet

## policy composition revisit

 comp+( $\left.\mathrm{R}_{1}, \mathrm{R}_{2}\right)$- for every ( $r_{1}, r_{2}$ ) in ( $R_{1} \times R_{2}$ )
- generate new $r$ if $r_{1}$.mSet intersects with $r_{2}$.mSet
- r.match $=$ intersection of $r_{1} . m S e t$ and $r_{2} . m S e t$
- r.action $=$ union of $r_{1}$.action and $r_{2}$.action


## policy composition revisit

 $\operatorname{comp}_{»}\left(R_{1}, R_{2}\right)$- for every ( $r_{1}, r_{2}$ ) in ( $R_{1} \times R_{2}$ )
- generate new $r$ if packets produced by $r_{1}$.action intersects with $r_{2}$.mSet
- r.match = ?
- r.action = ?


## policy composition revisit

$\operatorname{comp}_{\triangleright}\left(\mathrm{R}_{1}, \mathrm{R}_{2}\right)$
-stacking RI on top of R2 with higher priority

## role of priority

## ideally (goal)

- single rule addition in a member policy will NOT
- recomputing entire composed policy
- cleaning the physical switch's flow tables
i.e., reduce update overhead
- computation
- \# of rule pairs comp needs to iterate
- rule update
- \# of flowmods to update a switch


## strawman priority assignment

| Monitoring $M_{R}$ |
| :--- |
| $(1 ;$ srcip $=1.0 .0 .0 / 24 ;$ count $)$ |
| $(0 ; * ;$ drop $)$ |



$$
+\uparrow
$$

(1; dstip=2.0.0.3; $\mathbf{f w d}(3))$
position of the rule indicates relative priority

## strawman priority assignment

| Monitoring $M_{R}$ <br> $(1 ;$ srcip $=1.0 .0 .0 / 24 ;$ count $)$ <br> $(0 ; * ;$ drop $)$ |
| :--- |
| Routing $Q_{R}$ <br> $(1 ;$ dstip $=2.0 .0 .1 ; ~ f w d ~$ <br> $(1 ;$ dstip $=2.0 .0 .2 ; ~ f w d ~$ <br> $(1))$ <br> $(0 ; * ;$ drop $)$ |


| Parallel composition: $\operatorname{comp}_{+}\left(M_{R}, Q_{R}\right)$ |
| :---: |
| (7; srcip=1.0.0.0/24,dstip=2.0.0.1; fwd(1),count) |
| (6; srcip=1.0.0.0/24,dstip=2.0.0.2; fwd (2),count) |
| (5; srcip=1.0.0.0/24,dstip=2.0.0.3; fwd(3),count) |
| (4; srcip $=1.0 .0 .0 / 24$; count $)$ |
| (3; dstip=2.0.0.1; fwd(1)) |
| (2; dstip=2.0.0.2; fwd(2)) |
| (1; dstip=2.0.0.3; fwd(3)) |
| (0; *; drop) |

rules in bold count toward rule update overhead

## strawman priority assignment

| Monitoring $M_{R}$ <br> $(1 ;$ srcip $=1.0 .0 .0 / 24 ;$ count $)$ <br> $(0 ; * ;$ drop $)$ |
| :--- |
| Routing $Q_{R}$ <br> $(1 ;$ dstip $=2.0 .0 .1 ; f w d(1))$ <br> $(1 ;$ dstip $=2.0 .0 .2 ; f w d(2))$ <br> $(0 ; * ;$ drop $)$ |

## smartly set priority

- to make updates incremental


## incremental update and priority algebra

$r$ is computed from $r_{1}$ and $r_{2}$
-r.priority $\leftarrow r_{1}$.priority, r2.priority

- incremental update without modifying existing priorities


## incremental update and priority algebra

$r$ is computed from $r_{1}$ and $r_{2}$
-r.priority $\leftarrow r_{1}$.priority, r2.priority
comp+
-r.priority $=r_{1}$. priority $+r_{2}$.priority
comp<<
-r.priority $=r_{1 .}$ priority $X \mathrm{MAX}_{2}+$ r2.priority

## incremental update and priority algebra

$r$ is computed (comp $p_{*}$ ) from $R_{1}$ and $R_{2}$
$\begin{array}{ll}\text {-r.priority }=\text { r.priority }+\mathrm{MAX}_{2} & \text { if } r \text { in } R 1 \\ \text {-r.priority }=\text { r.priority } & \text { if } r \text { in } R 2\end{array}$

## algebra properties

## identify and prove properties

-the assignment schema ensures newly generated priority

- leaves existing priority unchanged
- together, the new and existing priorities are compliant with the straw man scheme


## devirtualization

## topology transformation for one-to-many

-generate symbolic path (from the virtual ingress to egress)

- on each virtual path, sequentially compose virtual policies to into a single (physical) rule



## devirtualization

## on the virtual topology, find symbolic paths

- inject wildcard packet * at ingress
- at each hop
- evaluate the virtual policy, resulting in new packets
- until all packets reach egress



## devirtualization

## on the virtual topology, find symbolic paths



## devirtualization

## on the virtual topology, find symbolic paths



## devirtualization

## on the virtual topology, find symbolic paths



## devirtualization

## sequentially compose policies on each path

priority
4

$$
\begin{aligned}
& * \longrightarrow A\left(R_{1}\right) \longrightarrow p_{1} \\
& * \longrightarrow A\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{2} \longrightarrow B\left(R_{1}\right) \rightarrow p_{21} \\
& * \longrightarrow A\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{2} \longrightarrow B\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{22} \rightarrow C\left(R_{1}\right) \rightarrow p_{22}
\end{aligned}
$$



## devirtualization

## sequentially compose policies on each path

## priority

4
$1 \circ 6$
$(=14)$

$$
* \longrightarrow \mathrm{~A}\left(\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{I}}\right) \longrightarrow \mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{I}}
$$

$$
* \longrightarrow A\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{2} \longrightarrow B\left(R_{1}\right) \longrightarrow p_{21}
$$

$$
* \longrightarrow \mathrm{~A}\left(\mathrm{R}_{2}\right) \rightarrow \mathrm{P}_{2} \longrightarrow \mathrm{~B}\left(\mathrm{R}_{2}\right) \rightarrow \mathrm{P}_{22} \rightarrow \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{R}_{1}\right) \rightarrow \mathrm{P}_{22}
$$



## devirtualization

## sequentially compose policies on each path

## priority

4
$\begin{array}{ll}1 \circ 6 & (=\mid 4) \\ 1 \circ \mid \circ 4 & (=76)\end{array}$

$$
* \longrightarrow \mathrm{~A}\left(\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{I}}\right) \longrightarrow \mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{I}}
$$

$$
* \longrightarrow A\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{2} \longrightarrow B\left(R_{1}\right) \longrightarrow p_{21}
$$

$$
* \longrightarrow A\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{2} \longrightarrow B\left(R_{2}\right) \rightarrow p_{22} \rightarrow C\left(R_{1}\right) \rightarrow p_{22}
$$



## devirtualization

## sequentially compose policies on each path

## priority

$4 \circ 0 \circ 0 \quad(=256)$
$* \longrightarrow A\left(R_{1}\right) \longrightarrow P_{1}$
$1 \circ 6 \circ 0 \quad(=1 \mid 2)$
$* \longrightarrow A\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{2} \longrightarrow B\left(R_{1}\right) \longrightarrow p_{21}$
| ○ \| ○ 4 (=76)

$$
* \longrightarrow A\left(R_{2}\right) \longrightarrow p_{2} \longrightarrow B\left(R_{2}\right) \rightarrow p_{22} \rightarrow C\left(R_{1}\right) \rightarrow p_{22}
$$



## optimization: indexing rules

 accelerate complication with smart data structure

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## accelerate complication with smart data structure



## optimization: indexing rules

## accelerate complication with smart data structure



example multi-layer index

- hash table for exact match
- trie for prefix match
- list for arbitrary wildcard-match


## optimization: indexing rules

## reduce index size by policy correlation


only index the "correlated" info
$R_{1}$.index $=R_{2}$.index
$=R_{1}$.fields $\cap R_{2}$.fields

