Implementing a Packet Filter using a P4 Programmable Switch

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- Purpose
- Introduction
- Project Description
- Background
- Implementation
- Conclusion





- Understand Software Defined Networking
- Understand the P4 language
- Understand the BMv2 architecture
- Implement a packet filter



Introduction

- P4
- Mininet
- Topology Creation
- Filtering Decisions
- Executing commands at runtime









- Traditional Switches
 - I. Hard coded chips that have a predetermined instruction set
 - II. Manufacturer decides what the device will do



- Software Switches (BMV2)
 - I. Software code and architecture
 - II. Full control over the entire device

Project Description

- Program, compile, and run a P4 program on a programmable switch
- Block or forward packets based on certain criteria
- Creating a passive (stateless) firewall, ACL



Implementation

- Topology
- Headers

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Bit DSCP ECN Total Length Version IHL 0 32 Identifier Flags Fragment Offset 64 Time To Live Header Checksum Protocol Source IP Address 96 128 Destination IP Address Options (if IHL > 5) 160

- Parsing
- Tables
- Runtime





- Filter successfully drops or forwards based on the rules populated from the control plane
- Solution is fully customizable
- Why does this matter?
- Future research and projects

