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From Control to Chaos: The Dynamic SDN Control Plane

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Abstract: *Software-defined networking (SDN) has revolutionized the way networks are designed and managed, with the control plane being a critical component. The SDN control plane is responsible for managing and orchestrating network traffic flows, but its traditional static approach can be limiting in dynamic and complex network environments. This abstract explores the concept of a dynamic SDN control plane, which can adapt and respond to changing network conditions, leading to better network performance and efficiency. The dynamic control plane involves the use of machine learning algorithms, artificial intelligence, and network analytics to constantly monitor and adjust network policies in real-time. The dynamic SDN control plane empowers networks to move from a state of control to chaos, enabling greater flexibility, agility, and resilience in network management. This abstract provides insights into the potential benefits of a dynamic SDN control plane and highlights the challenges and opportunities in implementing this approach.*

Keywords: Control Plane, SDN.

I. INTRODUCTION

Software-defined networking (SDN) is a revolutionary approach to networking that has transformed the way networks are designed, operated, and managed. SDN separates the control plane from the data plane, allowing for greater flexibility and agility in network management. The control plane is responsible for configuring network policies and routing traffic flows across the network.The SDN control plane is a critical component in enabling network programmability and automation. It provides a centralized view of the network and allows network administrators to manage network policies and configurations from a single point. By decoupling the control plane from the data plane, network administrators can manage network traffic flows dynamically, responding to changing network conditions and traffic patterns in real-time.

The traditional approach to the SDN control plane has been a static, pre-defined set of rules and policies that are programmed into the network controller. However, in dynamic and complex network environments, this approach can be limiting. A dynamic SDN control plane can adapt and respond to changing network conditions, leading to better network performance and efficiency.

The dynamic SDN control plane involves the use of machine learning algorithms, artificial intelligence, and network analytics to constantly monitor and adjust network policies in real-time. This approach can improve network performance by reducing latency and packet loss, optimizing network utilization, and preventing network congestion. Moreover, the dynamic SDN control plane can enhance network security by detecting and mitigating network threats in real-time. It can also support the deployment of new network services and applications faster and with greater agility, as network administrators can easily update network policies and configurations in response to changing business requirements.

However, implementing a dynamic SDN control plane presents several challenges. For example, it requires significant computational resources and advanced networking skills to develop and maintain. Additionally, the use of machine learning algorithms and artificial intelligence introduces potential risks related to privacy and security.

The SDN control plane is a critical component in enabling network programmability and automation. The dynamic SDN control plane offers significant benefits in improving network performance, security, and agility. However, it also presents challenges that need to be addressed to fully realize its potential. In the following sections, we will explore the concept of a dynamic SDN control plane in more detail, including its benefits, challenges, and opportunities for future development.

II. SDN CONTROL PLANE ARCHITECTURE

The control plane architecture in SDN is a crucial component that enables the programmability and automation of networks. The control plane is responsible for configuring network policies, setting up forwarding rules, and managing the flow of network traffic.The architecture of the control plane in SDN is based on a centralized controller, which communicates with the switches in the network through a control protocol, such as OpenFlow. The controller is responsible for configuring the switches in the network, programming the forwarding tables, and collecting data from the switches.

The control plane architecture consists of three primary layers:

1. **Application layer:** This layer is responsible for managing the network applications and services, such as load balancing, firewall, and VPN. It provides APIs to enable third-party applications to interact with the network.
2. **Control layer:** This layer is responsible for managing the control logic of the network. It includes the network controller, which communicates with the switches in the network through a control protocol, such as OpenFlow. The control layer determines the routing policies, sets up the forwarding rules, and manages the network traffic.
3. **Infrastructure layer:** This layer is responsible for managing the physical network devices, such as switches, routers, and servers. It includes the data plane, which handles the forwarding of network traffic based on the rules programmed by the controller.

The control plane architecture in SDN enables network administrators to manage network policies and configurations from a central point, providing a single view of the network. It allows for greater flexibility and agility in network management, as administrators can dynamically adjust network policies in response to changing network conditions and traffic patterns.In addition to the three primary layers, the control plane architecture in SDN can also include other components such as network monitoring tools, analytics engines, and machine learning algorithms. These components can enable a more dynamic and adaptive control plane that can respond to changing network conditions in real-time.

One of the main advantages of the SDN control plane architecture is the ability to separate the control plane from the data plane. This allows network administrators to manage the network policies and configurations independently of the physical network devices. The use of a centralized controller provides a single point of management, reducing complexity and improving network visibility.Furthermore, the use of a standardized control protocol, such as OpenFlow, enables interoperability between different vendors' network devices, facilitating the deployment of a heterogeneous network infrastructure. This promotes innovation and competition in the networking industry, leading to better products and services for end-users.

However, there are also some challenges associated with the control plane architecture in SDN. The use of a centralized controller introduces a potential single point of failure, which can impact the availability and reliability of the network. Moreover, the use of a centralized controller can introduce latency in the network, as network traffic has to be routed through the controller.To address these challenges, researchers and industry professionals are exploring new approaches to control plane architecture, such as distributed control planes and hybrid control planes. These approaches aim to balance the benefits of a centralized control plane with the need for scalability, reliability, and low latency in the network.

The control plane architecture in SDN is a critical component that enables network programmability and automation. It consists of several layers and components that work together to manage network policies and traffic flows. While there are some challenges associated with the control plane architecture, ongoing research and development are exploring new approaches to address these challenges and enhance the benefits of SDN.

III. CONTROL PLANE FUNCTIONS

The control plane in SDN is responsible for several key functions that enable the programmability and automation of the network. These functions include:

1. **Network Configuration:** The control plane is responsible for configuring the network devices and establishing the policies for forwarding traffic through the network. This includes setting up forwarding rules, routing policies, and access control lists.

2. **Network Management:** The control plane is responsible for monitoring and managing the network devices and traffic flows. This includes collecting network statistics and analytics, detecting and mitigating network congestion, and managing the allocation of network resources.
3. **Service Management:** The control plane is responsible for managing the network services and applications that are running on top of the network. This includes load balancing, firewall, VPN, and other network services.
4. **Security Management:** The control plane is responsible for managing the security policies and configurations of the network. This includes monitoring network traffic for security threats, detecting and mitigating network attacks, and enforcing security policies and access control.
5. **Fault Management:** The control plane is responsible for detecting and responding to network faults and failures. This includes monitoring the network devices for faults, identifying the root cause of failures, and taking appropriate actions to restore network services.
6. **Network Virtualization:** The control plane is responsible for managing the virtualized network resources, including virtual switches, routers, and network functions. This includes configuring and managing the virtual network functions, establishing the network connections, and enforcing the network policies.

To perform these functions, the control plane in SDN relies on a centralized controller, which serves as the brain of the network. The controller communicates with the network devices, such as switches and routers, using a standardized control protocol, such as OpenFlow. This enables the controller to manage the network policies and configurations independently of the network devices and to dynamically reconfigure the network in response to changing network conditions.

The control plane is implemented using several layers, including the application layer, control layer, and infrastructure layer. The application layer provides the network services and applications that are running on top of the network, such as load balancing, firewall, and VPN. The control layer is responsible for managing the network policies and configurations and communicating with the network devices. The infrastructure layer consists of the network devices, such as switches and routers, and the physical network connections.

One of the key advantages of the control plane architecture in SDN is its ability to provide network programmability and automation. By separating the control plane from the data plane, network administrators can easily configure and manage the network policies and configurations, reducing the complexity and improving the network visibility. The use of a centralized controller also enables the network to be more agile and responsive, as the controller can quickly reconfigure the network in response to changing network conditions.

In addition, the control plane architecture in SDN enables the deployment of network virtualization, which allows multiple virtual networks to share a single physical network infrastructure. This can provide significant cost savings and flexibility in network management, as multiple virtual networks can be created and managed independently, without the need for dedicated physical network infrastructure.

The control plane architecture in SDN provides a flexible, programmable, and automated network management framework. By separating the control plane from the data plane, network administrators can easily configure and manage the network policies and configurations, reducing the complexity and improving the network visibility. The use of a centralized controller also enables the network to be more agile and responsive, while the deployment of network virtualization provides significant cost savings and flexibility in network management.

IV. SOUTHBOUND INTERFACE

In SDN, the southbound interface refers to the interface between the control plane and the network devices, such as switches and routers. The southbound interface is responsible for communicating the network policies and configurations from the control plane to the network devices, and for collecting network information and statistics from the network devices to the control plane. The southbound interface uses standardized protocols, such as OpenFlow, to enable communication between the controller and the network devices. OpenFlow is a protocol that enables the controller to configure the forwarding rules in the network devices, and to receive information about the network traffic and network topology.

The southbound interface provides several key benefits in SDN. First, it enables network administrators to configure and manage the network policies and configurations independently of the network devices, providing greater flexibility and agility in network management. Second, it enables the network to be more programmable and automated, as the controller can dynamically reconfigure the network in response to changing network conditions. Finally, it provides greater network visibility and control, as the controller can collect network statistics and analytics from the network devices, and use this information to optimize network performance and detect network anomalies.

There are several protocols that are commonly used as southbound interfaces in SDN, including OpenFlow, P4Runtime, NETCONF, and gRPC. Each of these protocols has its own strengths and weaknesses, and the choice of protocol depends on the specific requirements and use cases of the network. OpenFlow is the most widely used southbound interface in SDN. It provides a standardized protocol for configuring the forwarding rules in the network devices and for collecting network statistics and analytics. OpenFlow enables the controller to manage the network policies and configurations independently of the network devices, and to dynamically reconfigure the network in response to changing network conditions.

P4Runtime is a newer southbound interface that provides a more flexible and programmable approach to network configuration. It enables the controller to define custom forwarding behavior for the network devices, allowing for greater control and optimization of network traffic.

NETCONF is a protocol for configuring network devices using XML-based messages. It provides a standardized approach to network configuration that is vendor-neutral and platform-independent. NETCONF enables the controller to manage the network policies and configurations using a standardized set of operations, and to monitor network status and performance using real-time telemetry.

gRPC is a high-performance, open-source framework for remote procedure calls (RPCs) that enables efficient communication between the controller and the network devices. It provides a lightweight and efficient protocol for transmitting network policies and configurations, and for collecting network statistics and analytics.

The choice of southbound interface in SDN depends on the specific requirements and use cases of the network. OpenFlow is the most widely used southbound interface, but newer interfaces like P4Runtime, NETCONF, and gRPC provide more flexible and programmable approaches to network configuration and management.

V. NORTHBOUND INTERFACE

The northbound interface is a key component of the software-defined networking (SDN) architecture that enables communication between the SDN controller and the applications or services that are running on top of the network. In other words, the northbound interface serves as the interface between the SDN controller and the applications that consume the network services provided by the SDN infrastructure.The northbound interface provides a set of application programming interfaces (APIs) that enable the applications to interact with the SDN controller and to programmatically configure and manage the network services. The APIs provided by the northbound interface are typically standardized and abstracted, allowing the applications to access the network services in a vendor-neutral and consistent manner.

The northbound interface is a critical component of the SDN architecture, as it enables the SDN infrastructure to be easily integrated with the applications and services that are running on top of the network. This enables the applications to take advantage of the programmability and automation features of the SDN infrastructure, and to dynamically reconfigure the network in response to changing application requirements.Some examples of the applications that can utilize the northbound interface in SDN include load balancers, firewalls, intrusion detection and prevention systems, and traffic engineering applications. These applications can use the APIs provided by the northbound interface to programmatically configure and manage the network services, such as setting up traffic policies, configuring access control, and monitoring network traffic.

The northbound interface also enables the SDN infrastructure to be easily integrated with orchestration and automation tools, such as OpenStack, Kubernetes, and Ansible. These tools can utilize the APIs provided by the northbound interface to automate the deployment and configuration of network services and to manage the network infrastructure at scale. In addition, the northbound interface enables the development of custom applications and services that can take advantage of the programmability and automation features of the SDN infrastructure. For example, a network management application could use the APIs provided by the northbound interface to monitor network traffic and to dynamically reconfigure the network in response to congestion or other network events.

The northbound interface is typically designed to be vendor-neutral and standardized, allowing applications to interact with the SDN infrastructure in a consistent manner across different vendors and implementations. This helps to avoid vendor lock-in and enables greater flexibility and choice in network management.

The northbound interface is a critical component of the SDN architecture that enables greater flexibility, programmability, and automation in network management. By providing a standardized set of APIs that allow applications and services to programmatically configure and manage the network services, the northbound interface enables the SDN infrastructure to be easily integrated with other tools and systems, and enables the development of custom applications and services that can take advantage of the programmability and automation features of the network infrastructure.

VI. ROUTING

Routing is a fundamental function in networking that involves selecting the best path for network traffic to flow from a source to a destination. In traditional networking, routing is typically performed by the routers in the network, which use a variety of algorithms and protocols to determine the best path for traffic.

In software-defined networking (SDN), routing is performed by the SDN controller, which uses a centralized view of the network topology and traffic flow to make routing decisions. The SDN controller communicates with the network devices, such as switches and routers, using a standardized control protocol, such as OpenFlow, to configure and manage the network routing policies.

One of the key advantages of using SDN for routing is the ability to provide greater network flexibility and agility. Since the routing decisions are made centrally by the SDN controller, the network can be quickly reconfigured in response to changing network conditions or traffic patterns. For example, if there is congestion on a particular network link, the SDN controller can redirect traffic to an alternative path to avoid the congestion.

SDN also enables the deployment of network virtualization, which allows multiple virtual networks to share a single physical network infrastructure. This can provide significant cost savings and flexibility in network management, as multiple virtual networks can be created and managed independently, without the need for dedicated physical network infrastructure.

In addition, SDN enables the deployment of new routing algorithms and protocols that are specifically designed to work in a software-defined environment. For example, the Open Shortest Path First (OSPF) routing protocol has been extended to work with SDN, allowing for greater flexibility and control in network routing.

One of the key features of SDN routing is the ability to provide traffic engineering capabilities. Traffic engineering involves managing traffic flow on the network to optimize network performance and utilization. In traditional routing, traffic is often sent along the shortest path, which may not always be the most efficient or optimal path. With SDN routing, traffic can be dynamically routed along different paths based on network conditions and policies, which can improve network performance and utilization.

SDN routing also enables the deployment of network security policies and access control mechanisms. By centralizing the routing decisions in the SDN controller, network administrators can more easily manage and enforce security policies, such as firewalls, intrusion detection and prevention systems, and access control lists. This can help to improve network security and reduce the risk of unauthorized access or attacks.

Another benefit of SDN routing is the ability to perform network-wide analytics and monitoring. The centralized view of the network topology and traffic flow provided by the SDN controller enables network administrators to more easily monitor and analyze network performance, identify bottlenecks and congestion points, and make informed decisions about network optimization and troubleshooting.

SDN routing provides significant advantages over traditional routing, including greater network flexibility and agility, traffic engineering capabilities, improved network security, and network-wide analytics and monitoring. By centralizing the routing decisions in the SDN controller and using a standardized control protocol, SDN enables network administrators to more easily manage and control the network, and to optimize network performance and utilization.

VII. ITU-T MODEL

The ITU-T model, also known as the Telecommunications Management Network (TMN) model, is a hierarchical model for managing and monitoring telecommunications networks. The model was developed by the International Telecommunication Union Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and it provides a standardized framework for managing telecommunications networks.

The ITU-T model consists of four layers, each with a specific set of functions and responsibilities:

1. **Business management layer:** This layer includes the business processes and policies that govern the operation of the telecommunications network, including planning, budgeting, and resource allocation.
2. **Service management layer:** This layer is responsible for managing the services provided by the network, including service creation, delivery, and maintenance. It includes functions such as service provisioning, fault management, and service level management.
3. **Network management layer:** This layer is responsible for managing the network infrastructure, including the physical network devices such as routers, switches, and servers. It includes functions such as configuration management, performance management, and security management.
4. **Element management layer:** This layer is responsible for managing the individual network elements, such as routers, switches, and servers. It includes functions such as monitoring, control, and status reporting.

The ITU-T model provides a standardized framework for managing and monitoring telecommunications networks, which can help to improve network performance, reliability, and security. By dividing network management functions into distinct layers, the model allows network administrators to more easily manage and troubleshoot network issues, and to ensure that network resources are used efficiently and effectively.

In addition to the four layers, the ITU-T model also includes two other important components: the Operations System (OS) and the Network Element (NE). The Operations System is the centralized system that manages the network, while the Network Element is the individual device or component that makes up the network.

The Operations System is responsible for managing the network as a whole, and it typically includes a variety of software applications for network management, monitoring, and control. These applications may include network management systems (NMS), element management systems (EMS), and service management systems (SMS).

The Network Element, on the other hand, is responsible for performing specific functions within the network, such as routing packets, switching traffic, or providing network services. Examples of network elements include routers, switches, servers, and firewalls.

By dividing network management functions into distinct layers and components, the ITU-T model provides a clear and standardized framework for managing telecommunications networks. This can help to improve network performance, reliability, and security, and to ensure that network resources are used efficiently and effectively.

However, as networks have evolved and become more complex, the ITU-T model has been criticized for being too rigid and hierarchical. In particular, the model does not always account for the dynamic and rapidly changing nature of modern networks, which may require more flexible and agile management approaches. As a result, many organizations have adopted alternative network management models, such as the Software-Defined Networking (SDN) model, which provides greater flexibility and programmability.

VIII. OPEN DAY LIGHT

Open Day light (ODL) is an open-source software-defined networking (SDN) controller platform that provides a modular framework for building and deploying SDN applications. The platform is designed to be vendor-neutral and flexible, allowing users to customize and extend the functionality of the controller to meet their specific needs.

Open Day light is built on top of the Java programming language and is designed to be highly scalable and distributed. The platform includes a variety of core components, including a controller runtime, a plugin architecture, a northbound API, and a southbound API.

The controller runtime is the core of the Open Day light platform, providing the main logic for processing network data and events. The plugin architecture allows developers to easily add new features and functionality to the platform, such as new network protocols, traffic management policies, and security mechanisms. The northbound API provides a

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standardized interface for external applications and services to interact with the controller, while the southbound API provides a standardized interface for the controller to communicate with network devices and systems.
OpenDaylight supports a wide range of networking protocols and technologies, including OpenFlow, Border Gateway Protocol (BGP), Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS), and Virtual Extensible LAN (VXLAN), among others. The platform also includes a variety of tools and applications for network management and monitoring, such as network topology visualization, traffic engineering, and security policy enforcement.
OpenDaylight is a collaborative project supported by a number of industry organizations, including Cisco, Ericsson, IBM, and Red Hat. The platform is distributed under the Eclipse Public License and is freely available for download and use.
OpenDaylight offers a number of benefits for network operators and developers. One of the main advantages of the platform is its flexibility and extensibility. Because OpenDaylight is open-source and vendor-neutral, it can be customized and extended to meet the specific needs of different organizations and use cases. This can help to reduce costs and improve network efficiency by allowing organizations to leverage existing infrastructure and technologies.
Another key benefit of OpenDaylight is its support for a wide range of networking protocols and technologies. This allows network operators to deploy SDN solutions that are compatible with their existing network infrastructure, and to take advantage of the latest networking technologies to improve network performance and security.
OpenDaylight also provides a number of tools and applications for network management and monitoring, which can help to simplify network operations and improve network visibility. These tools include network topology visualization, traffic engineering, and security policy enforcement, among others.
Finally, because OpenDaylight is an open-source project, it benefits from a large and active community of developers and users. This community is constantly working to improve the platform and to develop new features and applications, ensuring that OpenDaylight remains a cutting-edge platform for software-defined networking.
OpenDaylight is a powerful and flexible platform for building and deploying software-defined networking applications. Whether you are a network operator or a developer, OpenDaylight can help you to improve network performance, reduce costs, and simplify network operations.

IX. REST

REST, or Representational State Transfer, is a software architectural style that defines a set of constraints and principles for designing and interacting with web services. RESTful services are typically implemented using the HTTP protocol and use standard HTTP methods, such as GET, POST, PUT, and DELETE, to perform CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) operations on resources.One of the key principles of REST is the separation of concerns between the client and server. In a RESTful architecture, the client and server are separate entities that communicate through a stateless interface. The server exposes a set of resources that the client can interact with using standard HTTP methods, while the client is responsible for managing its own state.
Another important principle of REST is the use of a uniform interface. This means that all resources are identified by a unique URI (Uniform Resource Identifier) and can be accessed using standard HTTP methods. Additionally, RESTful services use a standard set of media types, such as JSON or XML, to represent resources and data.RESTful services are widely used in web and mobile application development, as they provide a simple and flexible way to build and interact with web services. Because REST is based on standard HTTP methods and media types, it is also highly interoperable and can be used across a wide range of platforms and programming languages.
One of the key benefits of using RESTful services is their scalability. Because RESTful services are stateless, they can easily be scaled up or down to handle varying levels of traffic and demand. This makes RESTful services ideal for building large-scale web applications that need to handle a high volume of requests.Another advantage of RESTful services is their flexibility. Because REST is based on standard HTTP methods and media types, it can be easily integrated with other technologies and platforms. This allows developers to build RESTful services that can be used across a wide range of applications and devices.
In addition, RESTful services are highly maintainable and easy to update. Because the client and server are separated, changes to the server do not affect the client. This means that developers can update and evolve their services over time without disrupting the client application.

REST is a powerful and flexible architectural style that provides a standardized approach to building and interacting with web services. Whether you are building a simple web application or a large-scale enterprise system, REST can provide a simple, efficient, and scalable way to exchange data and resources between different components.

XI. COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AMONG CONTROLLERS

In a Software-Defined Networking (SDN) environment, cooperation and coordination among controllers are essential for ensuring that the network functions smoothly and efficiently. Controllers are responsible for managing different network elements and services, and they need to work together to ensure that the network is properly configured, optimized, and secured.

Cooperation and coordination among controllers can be achieved through various mechanisms, including centralized and distributed control architectures. In a centralized architecture, a single controller is responsible for managing the entire network, while in a distributed architecture, multiple controllers are deployed across the network, each responsible for managing a subset of network elements.

One of the key challenges in achieving cooperation and coordination among controllers is ensuring that they share a common view of the network. This can be achieved through various mechanisms, such as exchanging network topology information and forwarding state updates between controllers.

Another important aspect of cooperation and coordination among controllers is the ability to share resources and work together to optimize network performance. This can involve dynamically allocating network resources, such as bandwidth and computing power, to different controllers and services based on changing network conditions and traffic patterns.

Finally, cooperation and coordination among controllers also involves ensuring that security policies and protocols are properly enforced across the network. Controllers need to work together to detect and respond to security threats and to ensure that network traffic is properly authenticated, authorized, and encrypted.

There are various approaches to achieving cooperation and coordination among controllers in SDN environments. Some of the commonly used approaches are:

1. Hierarchical Control: In this approach, multiple controllers are deployed across the network, and they are organized in a hierarchical manner. A master controller is responsible for overall network management, while sub-controllers are responsible for managing specific domains or regions within the network. The sub-controllers report to the master controller, and the master controller makes high-level decisions based on the reports received.
2. Federation: In this approach, multiple controllers are deployed across the network, and they collaborate with each other to manage the network. Each controller is responsible for a specific subset of network elements, and they exchange information and coordinate their actions to ensure that the network functions smoothly. Federation is useful when there are multiple network operators or service providers, and they need to collaborate to provide end-to-end services.
3. Distributed Consensus: In this approach, multiple controllers are deployed across the network, and they use distributed consensus algorithms to make decisions. The controllers exchange information and vote on the best course of action, based on the information available to them. Distributed consensus is useful when there are multiple decision-making entities in the network, and they need to agree on a common course of action.
4. Centralized Control: In this approach, a single controller is responsible for managing the entire network. The controller is deployed at a central location, and it communicates with the network elements using standard protocols. Centralized control is useful when the network is relatively small and homogeneous, and there are no conflicting interests among different network operators.

Achieving cooperation and coordination among controllers in SDN environments is essential for building a highly efficient and secure network. By using a combination of hierarchical control, federation, distributed consensus, and centralized control, controllers can work together to manage the network and provide end-to-end services.

XI. CONCLUSION

the control plane is a critical component of Software-Defined Networking (SDN) that provides a centralized, programmable interface for managing network resources. The control plane architecture consists of various

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components, including the northbound interface, the southbound interface, and the control logic, which work together to manage network elements and services.One of the key functions of the control plane is routing, which involves selecting the best path for network traffic based on predefined criteria. Other functions of the control plane include network topology discovery, service provisioning, and security policy enforcement. Cooperation and coordination among controllers are essential for ensuring that SDN networks are properly configured, optimized, and secured. Different approaches, such as hierarchical control, federation, distributed consensus, and centralized control, can be used to achieve cooperation and coordination among controllers. The control plane is a critical component of SDN that enables network operators to manage network resources more efficiently and securely. By using a combination of control plane functions and cooperation and coordination among controllers, SDN networks can be highly efficient, flexible, and resilient.

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