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P4-Based In-Band Telemetry for OSM-Orchestrated 4G/5G Testbeds

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Motivation

• 4G/5G networks need monitoring: Detect problems, evaluate performance, etc.

• Basic performance: metrics in OSM, via Juju and NFVI Useful, but not very fine-granular

• In-Band Telemetry:
  − Fine-granular monitoring at packet level
  − Possibility to add custom information into packets (additional headers, etc.) and process them elsewhere

• Our approach:
  − Usage of Programming Protocol-independent Packet Processors (P4)
  − Custom P4 software switches as VDUs in our testbed
OpenAirInterface (OAI)

- OpenAirInterface (OAI):
  - Open Source software for EPC and eNodeB (i.e. packet core and base stations)
  - Details: https://www.openairinterface.org
  - 4G LTE available, 5G under development
  - Ongoing work, with many different Git branches

- Idea:
  - Manage OAI setups in OSM (at least, the EPC part)
    - Automatic setup and deployment
  - Easy to add additional features (e.g. Mobile Edge Computing components)
  - Open Source, of course! → https://github.com/simula/5gvinni-oai-ns
Basic Testbed Setup

OpenSource MANO

Juju containers
- MME
- HSS
- SPGW-C
- SPGW-U

SimulaMet EPC NS

UEs eNodeBs

The Internet

PDN

S1-C

S1-U

SGi

S6a

S11

SXab

sysstat

sysstat

sysstat

MME

HSS

SPGW-U

EPC

SPGW-C

OpenStack Cluster
Telemetry Testbed
P4 Program at Switch at S1U Interface

CLONE PACKET AT THE EGRESS, AND STORE THE NEEDED METADATA INFORMATION, TO BE USED FOR THE CLONE PACKET, IN REGISTERS

```c
if(standard_metadata.instance_type==0){
    reg_packet_length.write(0, standard_metadata.packet_length);
    reg_deq_qdepth.write(0, standard_metadata.deq_qdepth);
    reg_deq_timedelta.write(0, standard_metadata.deq_timedelta);
    clone(CloneType.E2E, 100);
}
```

DERIVE TELEMETRY DATA AT EGRESS

```c
// RUN MIN COUNT SKETCH, TO COUNT PACKETS OF THE FLOW
compute_flowid();
compute_index();
increment_count();
compute_mincount(meta.count1, meta.count2, meta.count3);

//CHECK IF PACKET IS PART OF BURST
meta.marker=0;
isHeavyHitter();
```
ADD INT TELEMETRY USING IP OPTION HEADER, TO THE CLONE PACKET

```c
// SET IP OPTIONS VALID
hdr.ipv4_option.setValid();
hdr.gre.setValid();

//Set UDP, GTP INVALID
hdr.gtp.setInvalid();
hdr.udp_outer.setInvalid();

hdr.ipv4_option.copyFlag = 1;
hdr.ipv4_option.optClass = 0;
hdr.ipv4_option.option = 31; // 1 byte
hdr.ipv4_option.swid = 1; // 3 bits
hdr.ipv4_option.flow_packet_count = (bit<16>) meta.min_count; // 2 bytes
hdr.ipv4_option.packets_in_queue = (bit<10>) var_deq_qdepth;
hdr.ipv4_option.hitter = meta.marker; // 1 bit
hdr.ipv4_option.queue_timedelta = var_deq_timedelta;
hdr.ipv4_option.packet_length = (bit<18>)var_packet_length;
hdr.ipv4_option.optionLength = 12; // total number of byte
```
P4 Program at Switch at S1U Interface

1. Parse these headers.

2. Remove the UDP and GTP headers for cloned packet.

3. Add GRE tunnel, and IP option header for cloned packet.
Collector collects the data for further analysis

### Ethernet ###

dst = fa:16:3e:47:c4:89
src = fa:16:3e:a8:17:95
type = IPv4

### IP ###

version = 4
ihl = 5
tos = 0x0
len = 1406
id = 19522
flags = DF
frag = 0
ttl = 30
proto = gre
chksum = 0xf489
src = 10.208.0.214
dst = 10.208.0.16

\options \

### GRE ###

checksum_present= 0
routing_present= 0
key_present= 0
sequence_present= 0
strict_route_source= 0
recursion_control= 0
flags = 0
version = 0
proto = IPv4

### TELEMETRY ###

copy_flag = 1
optclass = control
option = 31
length = 12
swid = 1
flow_packet_count= 6762
packets_in_queue= 0
queue_timedelta= 49
hitter = 0
packet_length= 1420
Live Demo!
Any Questions?

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