



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ  
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ

# Δίκτυα Καθοριζόμενα από Λογισμικό

Ενότητα 2.2: Modular Network Programming with  
Pyretic

Ξενοφώντας Δημητρόπουλος  
Τμήμα Επιστήμης Υπολογιστών

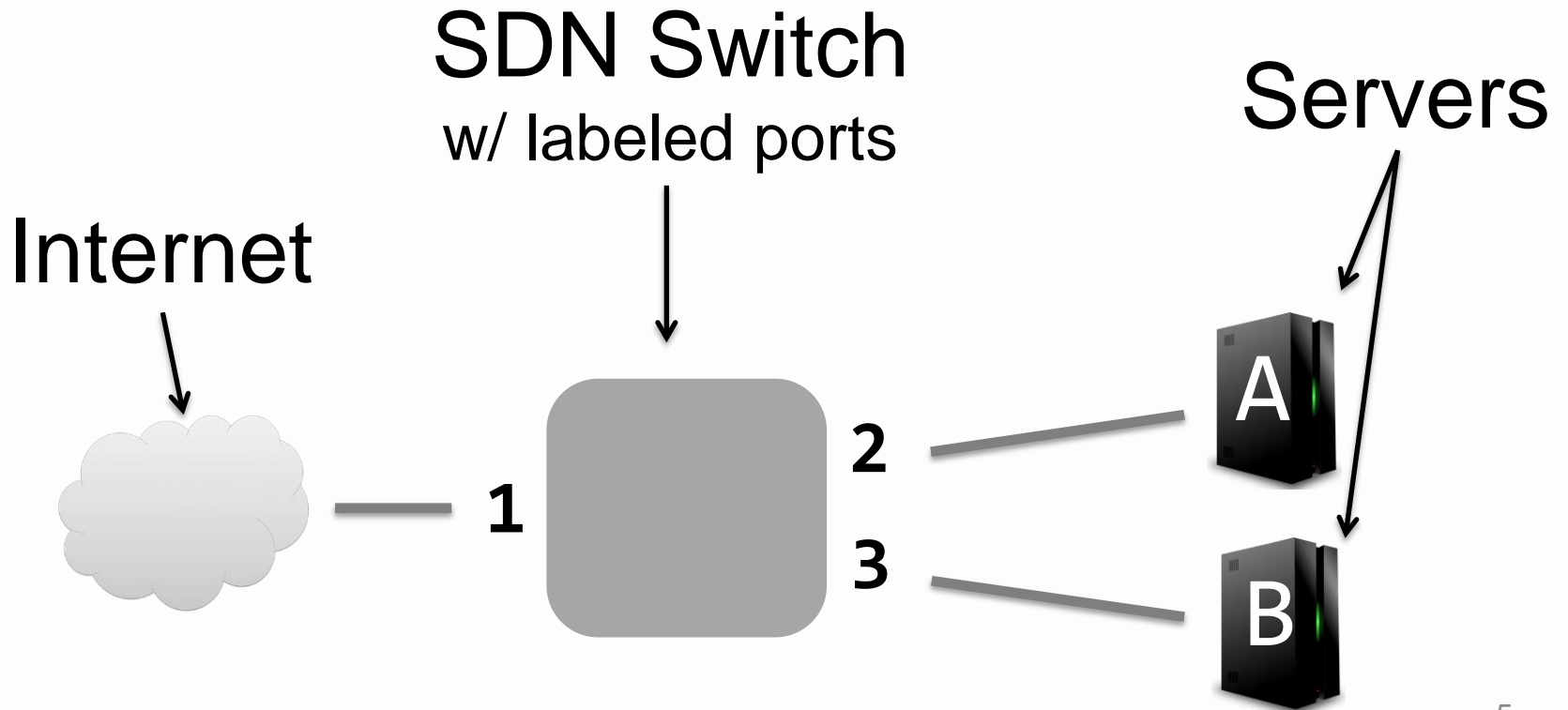
# HY436: Modular Network Programming with Pyretic

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27/10/2014

**Credits:** Slides modified from Joshua Reich's (Princeton) NSDI 13 talk on "Composing Software Defined Networks"

# Running Example Network



# Programming in OpenFlow

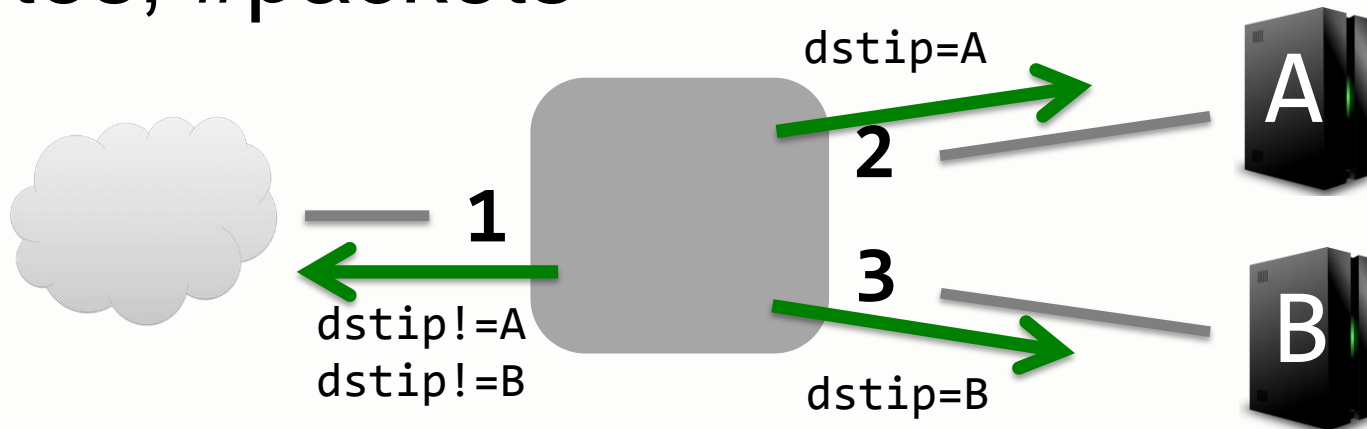
OpenFlow  
Priority  
Program

```
2:match(dstip=A)[fwd(2)]  
1:match(*      ) [fwd(1)]  
2:match(dstip=B)[fwd(3)]
```

↑                    ↑  
Pattern            Action

Counters for each rule

- #bytes, #packets  
**Route: IP/fwd**



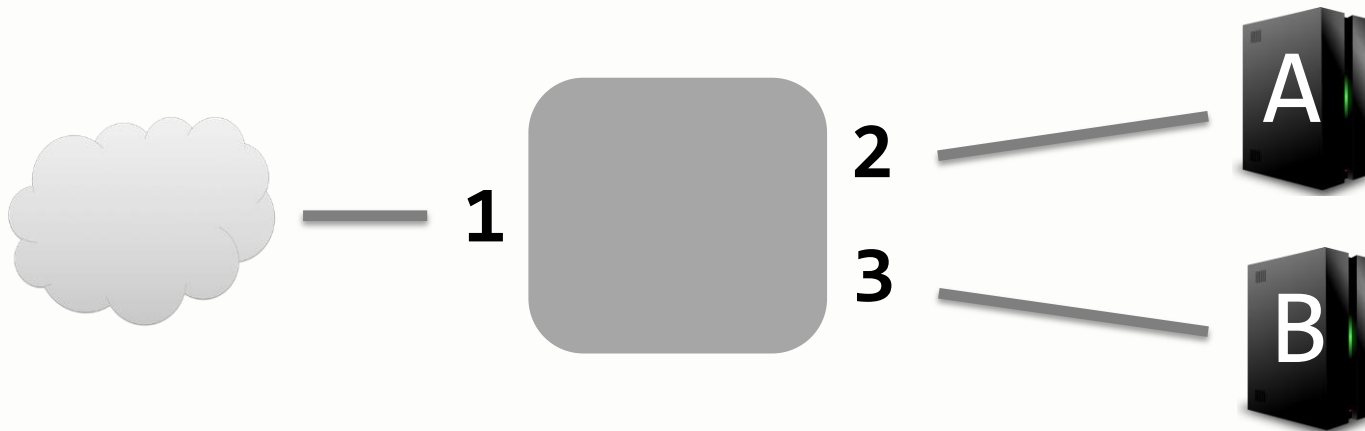
# One API, Many Uses

Priority  
Ordered

```
match(dstmac=A) [ fwd(2) ]  
match(dstmac=B) [ fwd(3) ]  
match(*) [ fwd(1) ]
```

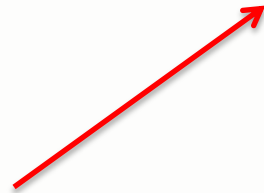
↑                    ↑  
Pattern            Action

**Switch: MAC/fwd**



# One API, Many Uses

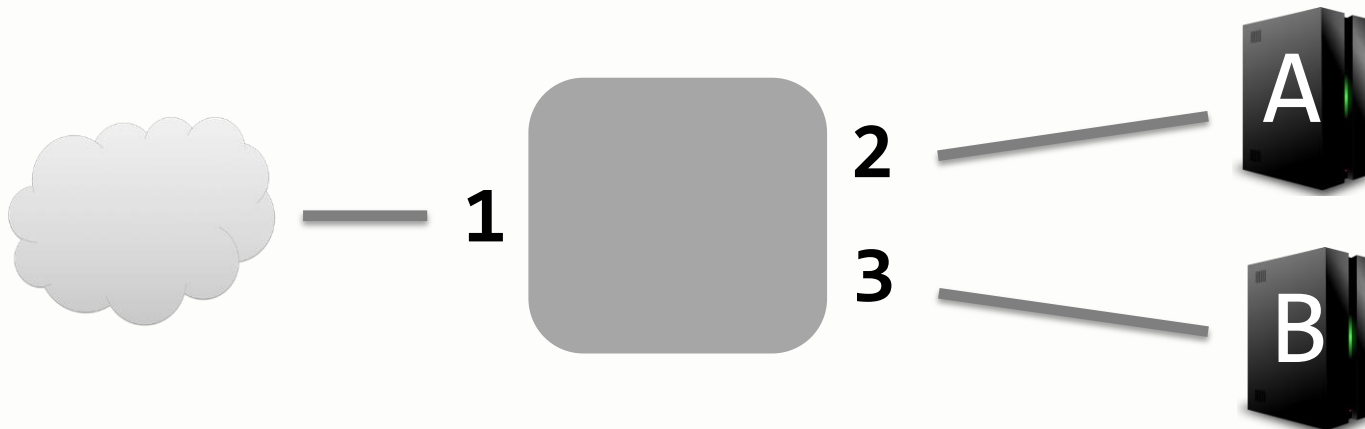
```
match(srcip=0*,dstip=P)[mod(dstip=A)]  
match(srcip=1*,dstip=P)[mod(dstip=B)]
```



↑  
Pattern

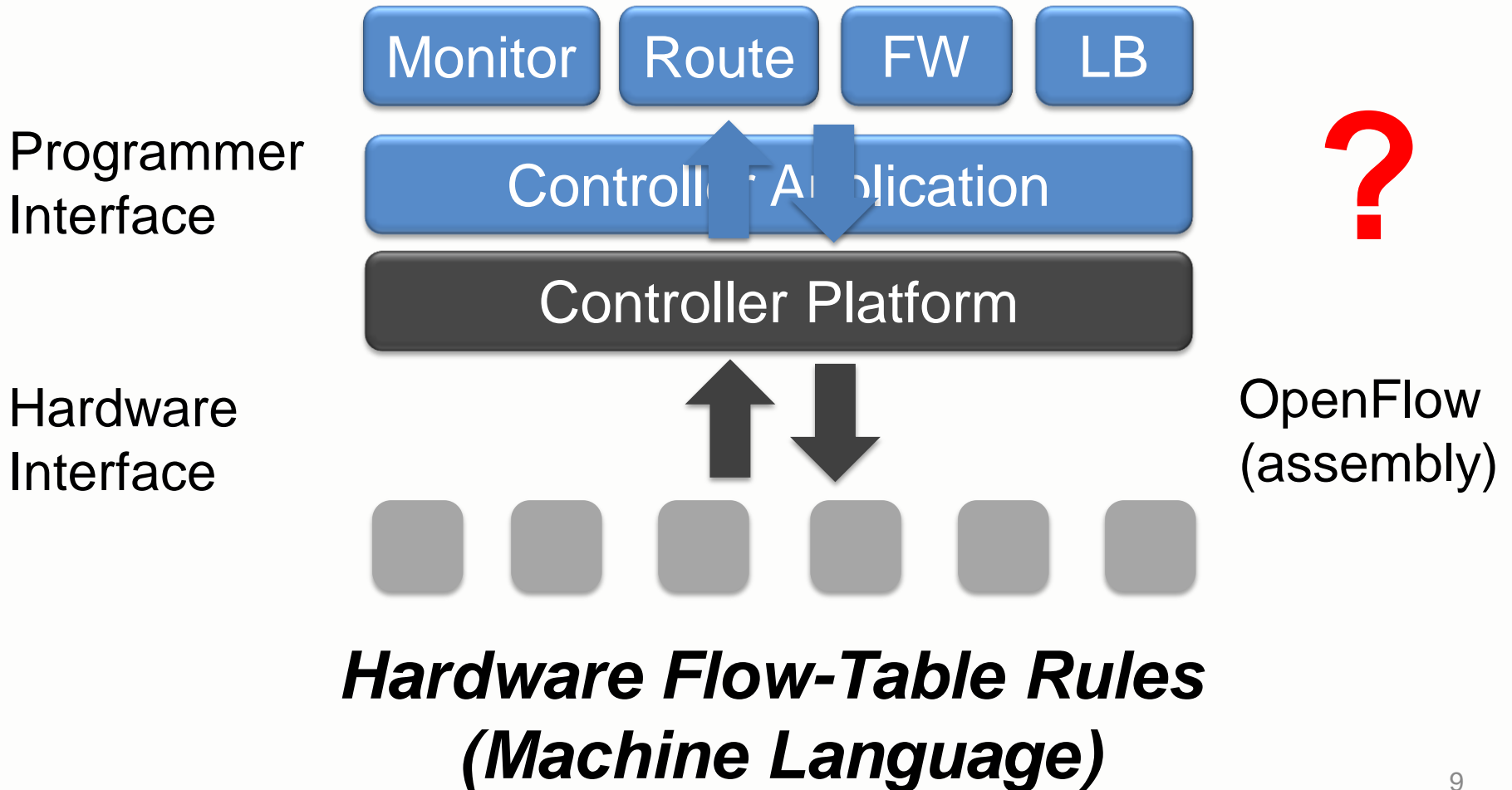
↑  
Action

## ***Load Balancer: IP/mod***



# But Only Half of the Story

## *Modular & Intuitive*



# OpenFlow Isn't Modular

**Balance** then **Route**

```
match(srcip=0*,dstip=P)[mod(dstip=A)]  
match(srcip=1*,dstip=P)[mod(dstip=B)]
```

```
match(dstip=A)[fwd(2)]  
match(dstip=B)[fwd(3)]  
match(* ) [fwd(1)]
```

Combined Rules?  
(only one match)

```
match(srcip=0*,dstip=A)[fwd(2)]  
match( dstip=B)[fwd(3) ]  
match(*srcip=1*,dstip=A)[fwd(1)]  
match(srcip=0*,dstip=P)[mod(dstip=A)]  
match(*srcip=1*,dstip=P)[mod(dstip=B)]
```

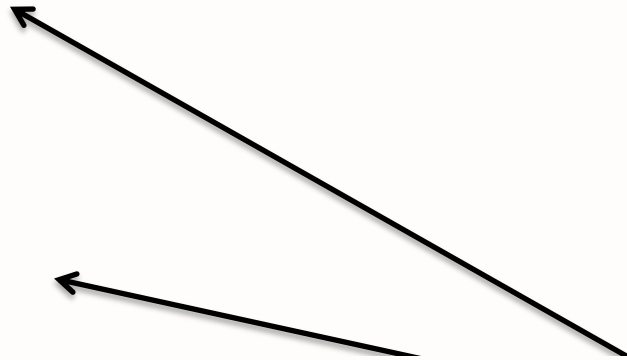
**Balance w/o  
Balancing!**



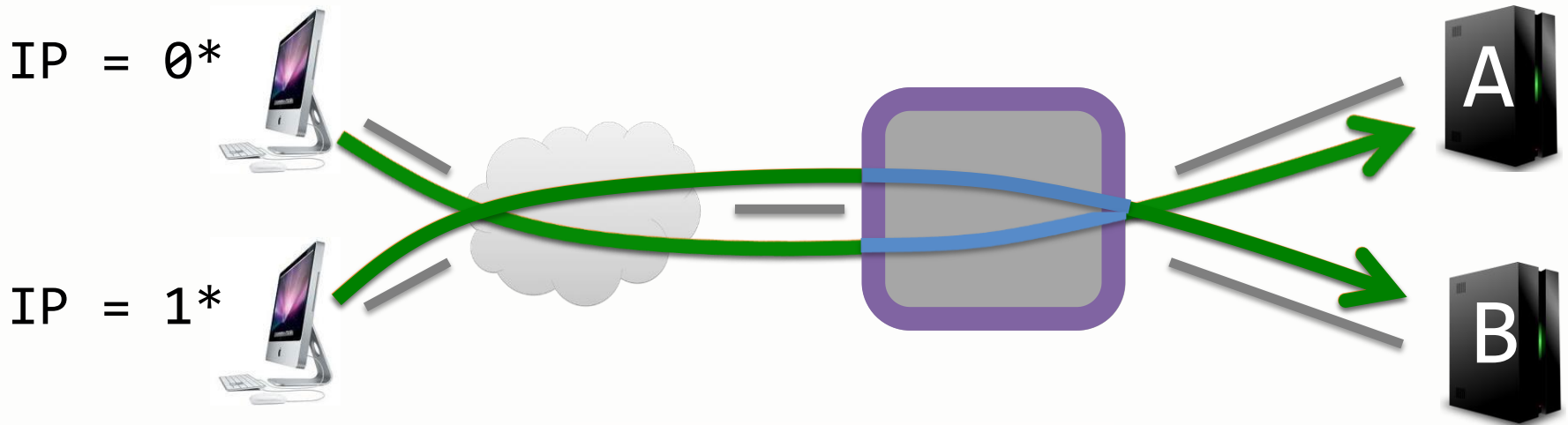


# Pyretic (Contributions)

<b>Abstracts</b>	<b>Providing</b>	<b>Supporting</b>
------------------	------------------	-------------------



# Compositional Operators: A Monitoring Load Balancer



Module 1:

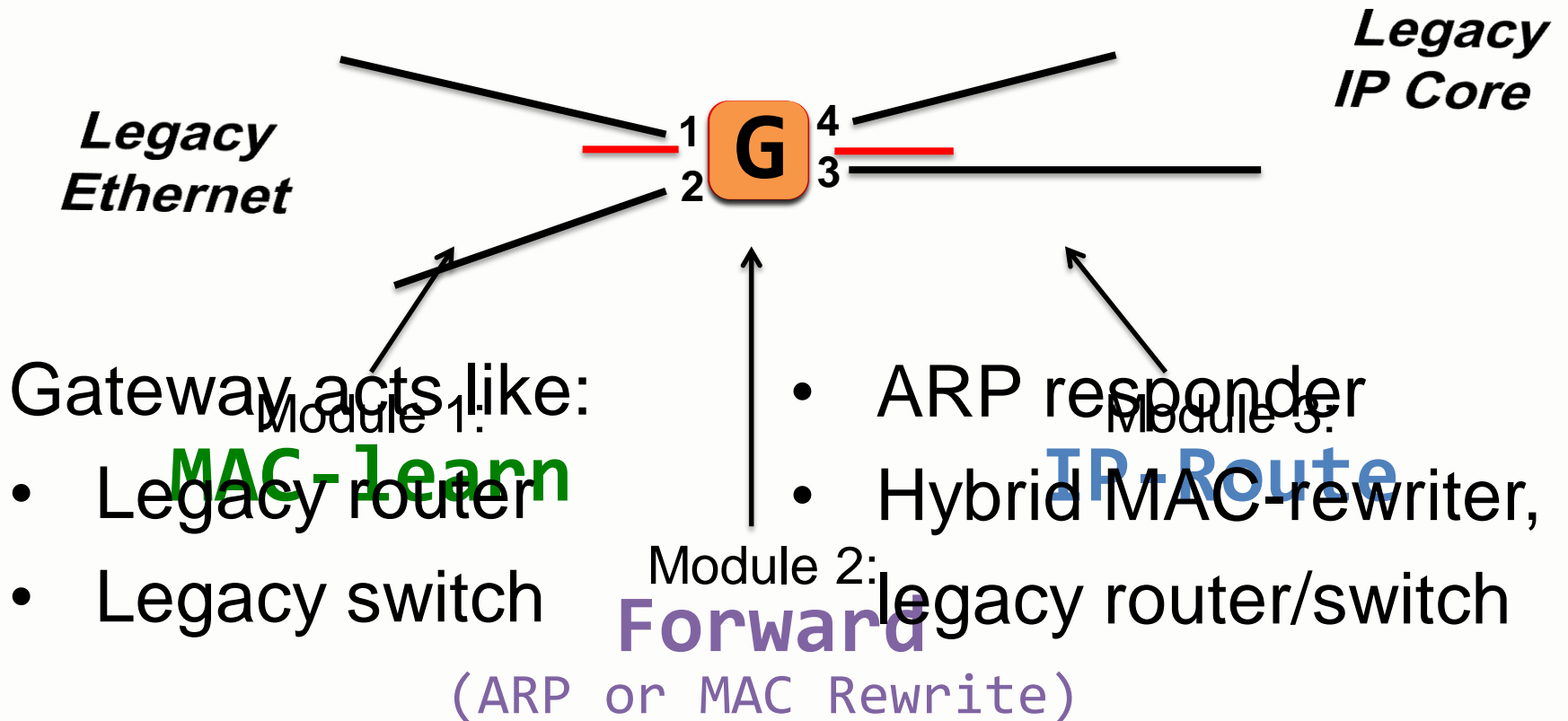
- **Balance** traffic to **P**, re-addressed and forwarded, **and**

Rewrite  $dstip = P$  to  
A, if  $srcip = 0^*$

- **Counted** if from source X

# Topology Abstraction:

## A Legacy Gateway Replacement



# Pyretic's Design



- Monitoring Load Balancer
  - Encode policies as functions
  - Compositional operators
  - Queries as forwarding policies
- MAC-Learning Module
  - Dynamic Policies
- “One Big Switch” Topology Abstraction
  - Extensible packet model

# Pyretic Drop Policy

Goal: Drop packets (i.e., OpenFlow drop)

Write: drop

Means:  $\text{eval}(\text{drop}, p) = \{\}$

evaluate

given policy

on packet

results in

# Pyretic Forward Policy

Goal: Forward packets out port a

Write: `fwd(a)`

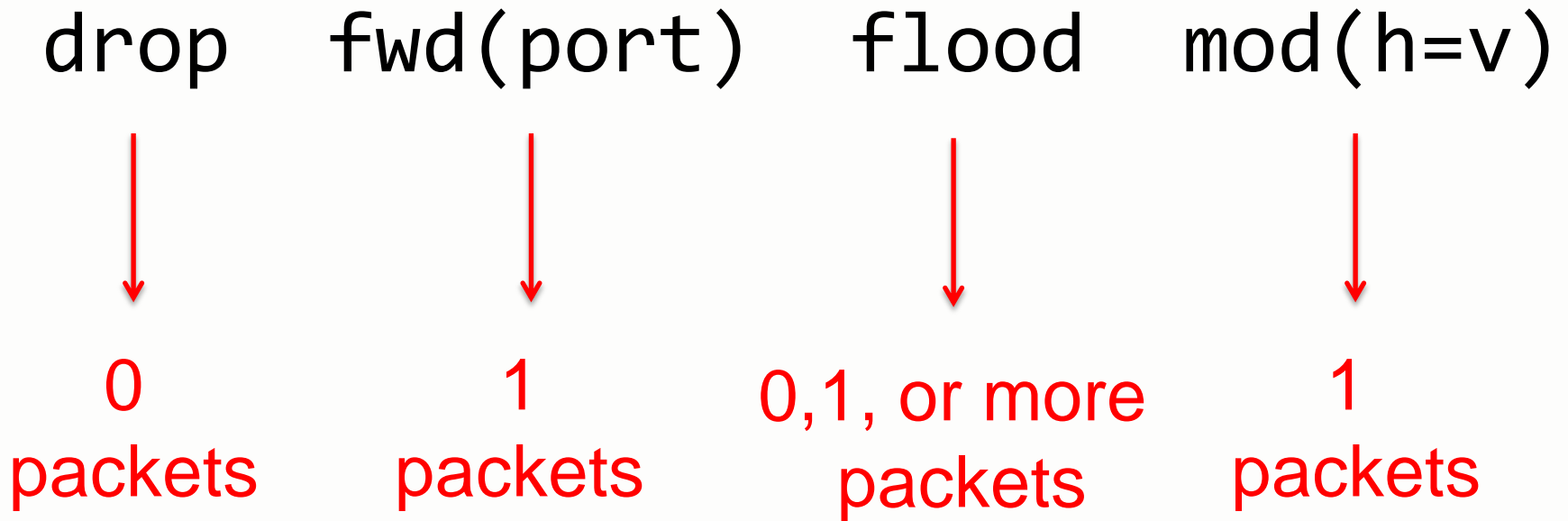
Means: `eval(fwd(a), p) = {p[outport:=a]}`



*located* packet w/ fields for

- `switch`
- `inport`
- `outport`

# One Pyretic Policy For Each OpenFlow Action



# Pyretic Policy

A function mapping a located packet to a set of located packets

```
eval(policy, packet) = {packet}
```

Puts focus on *meaning* instead of *mechanics*



# Enabling Compositional Operators

**Parallel '+'**: *Do both C1 and C2 simultaneously*

$$\text{eval}(C1 + C2, p) = \text{eval}(C1, p) \cup \text{eval}(C2, p)$$

**Sequential '>>'**: *First do C1 and then do C2*

$$\text{eval}(C1 \gg C2, p) = \cup \{ \text{eval}(C2, p') \mid p' \in \text{eval}(C1, p) \}$$

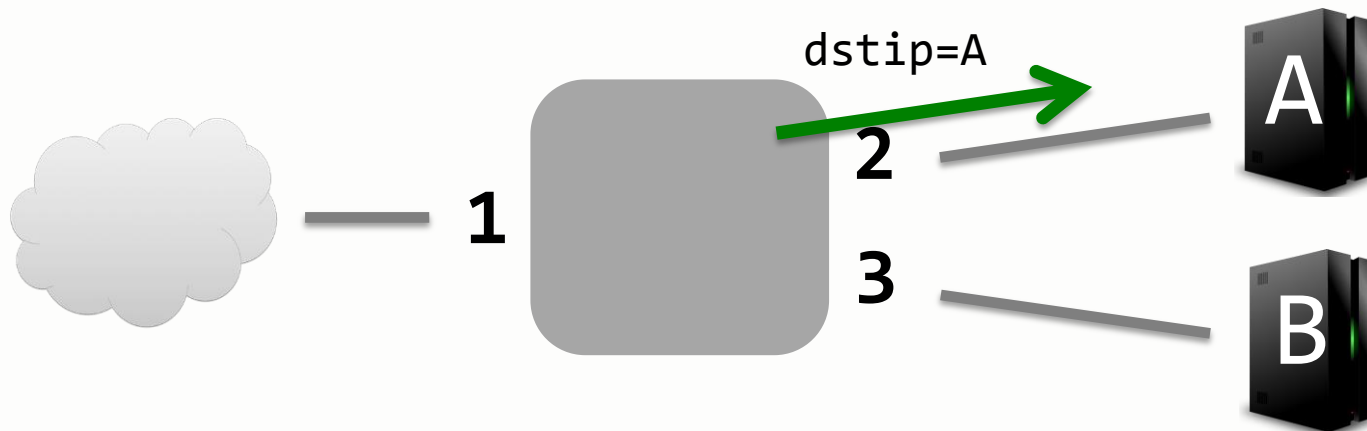
# Sequential Composition Example

- Code to forward to A ?

```
match(dstip=A) >> fwd(2)
```

- **The old syntax has been deprecated:**

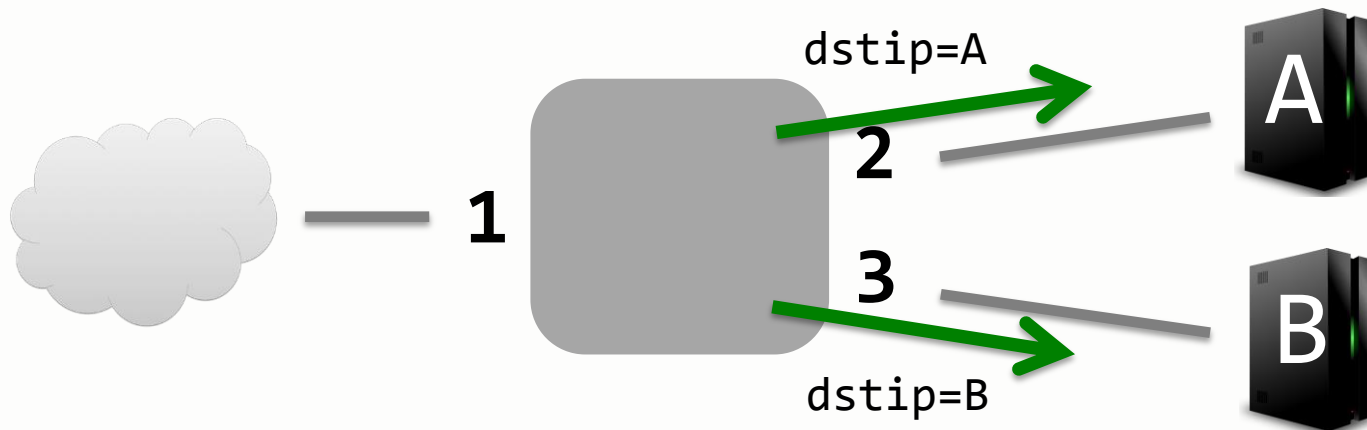
```
match(dstip=A)[fwd(2)]
```



# Parallel Composition Example

- Code to forward to A or B?

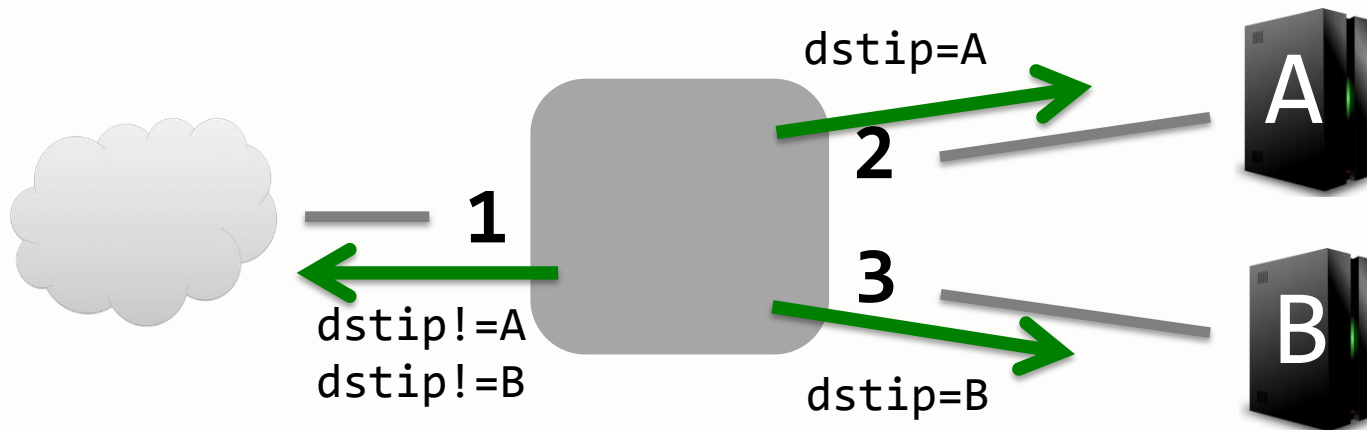
```
(match(dstip=A) >> fwd(2)) +  
(match(dstip=B) >> fwd(3))
```



# Pyretic program for routing?

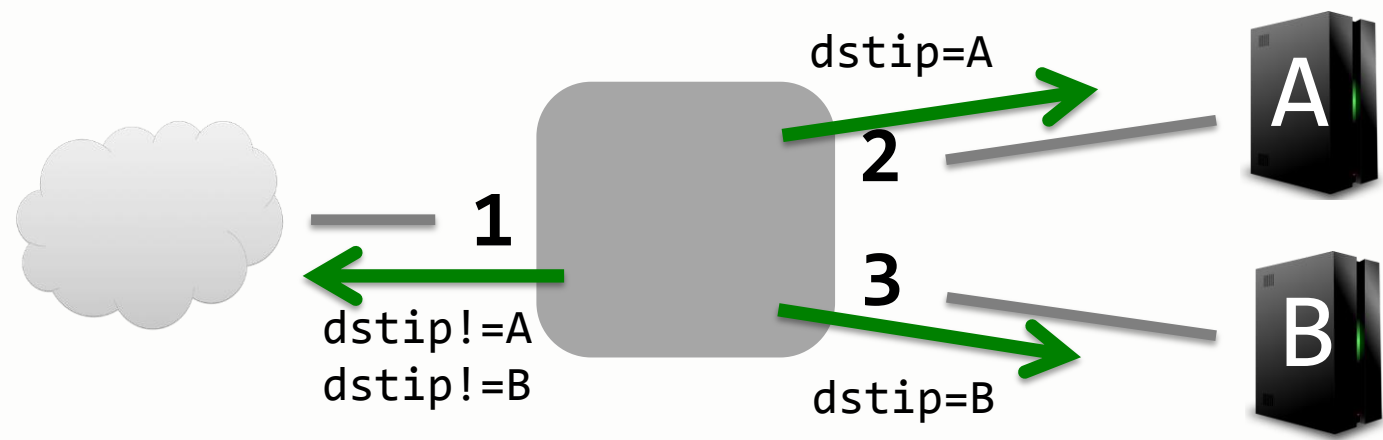
*No priorities needed!*

```
( match(dstip=A) >> fwd(2) ) +  
( match(dstip=B) >> fwd(3) ) +  
~(match(dstip=A) | match(dstip=B)) >> fwd(1)
```



# if\_ abbreviation

```
if_( match(dstip=A), fwd(2),  
      if_( match(dstip=B), fwd(3) , fwd(1) )  
    )
```



# Examples

- `flood`
  - ➔ Broadcasts every single packet on any inport of any switch
- `match(switch=s1, inport=2, srcip='1.2.3.4') >> flood`
  - ➔ Only broadcasts packets on switch s1 input 2 from srcip 1.2.3.4

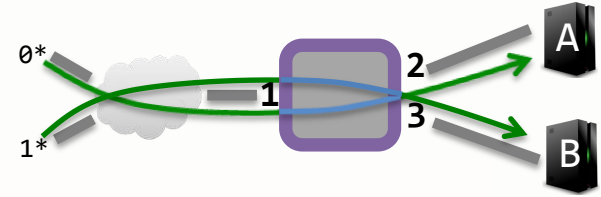
# Querying as Forwarding

```
packets(limit, [h])          count_packets(every, [h])
```

Abstract location corresponding to a data-structure that store packet-data and callback processing routines

```
b = count_packets(every=1)  
b.register_callback(print)  
match(srcip=X) >> fwd(b)
```

# Monitoring Load Balancer



```
eval(id,p) = {p}
```

```
route =
```

```
( match(dstip=A) >> fwd(2) ) +
```

```
( match(dstip=B) >> fwd(3) ) +
```

```
~(match(dstip=A) | match(dstip=B)) >> fwd(1)
```

```
b = count_packets(every=1)
```

```
b.register_callback(print)
```

```
monitor = match(srcip=X) >> fwd(b)
```



# Compared to

```
install_flowmod(5,srcip=X & dstip=P,[mod(dstip=A), fwd(2)])
install_flowmod(4,srcip=0* & dstip=P,[mod(dstip=A), fwd(2)])
install_flowmod(4,srcip=1* & dstip=P,[mod(dstip=B), fwd(3)])
install_flowmod(4,srcip=X & dstip=A ,[ fwd(2)])
install_flowmod(4,srcip=X & dstip=B,[ fwd(3)])
install_flowmod(3, dstip=A,[ fwd(2)])
install_flowmod(3, dstip=B,[ fwd(3)])
install_flowmod(2,srcip=X ,[ fwd(1)])
install_flowmod(1,* ,[ fwd(3)])
```

# Summary: Pyretic Policy Syntax

Check also Assignment for syntax changes

## 8 Actions

$A ::= \text{drop} \mid \text{fwd}(\text{port}) \mid \text{flood} \mid \text{mod}(h=v) \mid$   
 $\text{id} \mid \text{push}(h=v) \mid \text{pop}(h) \mid \text{move}(h1=h2)$

## 6 Predicates

$P ::= \text{all\_packets} \mid \text{no\_packets} \mid \text{match}(h=v) \mid$   
 $\mid P \& P \mid (P \mid P) \mid \sim P$

## 2 Query Buckets

$B ::= \text{packets}(\text{limit}, [h]) \mid \text{count\_packets}(\text{every}, [h])$

## 5 Policies

$C ::= A \mid \text{fwd}(B) \mid P[C] \mid (C \mid C) \mid C \gg C$

# New Actions Explained

- `passthrough`  
identity function (changed to `id`)
- `push(h=v)`  
pushes value `v` to field `h`
- `pop(h)`  
pops value out of field `h`
- `move(h1=h2)`  
pops top value from `h2` and pushes it to `h1`

# Pyretic's Design

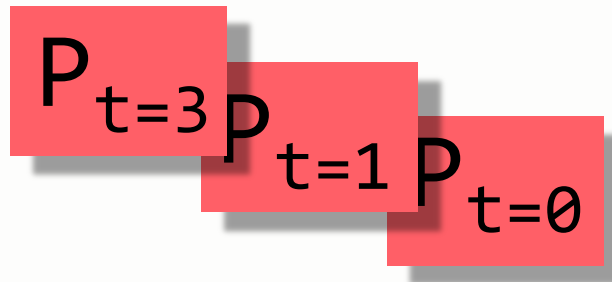


- Monitoring Load Balancer
  - Encode Policies as Functions
  - Compositional Operators
  - Queries as Forwarding Policies
- **MAC-Learning Module**
  - Dynamic Policies
- “One Big Switch” Topology Abstraction
  - Extensible packet model

# How Do We Change Policies?

*Dynamic policy*

a time-series of policies



# MAC-Learning Module

Time-series object

First packet with unique  
srcmac, switch

```
class learn():
    def init(self):
        b = bucket(limit=1, ['srcmac', 'switch'])
        b.register_callback(update)
        self.policy = flood + fwd(b)

    def update(self, pkt):
        self.policy = if_(match(dstmac=pkt['srcmac'],
                                switch=pkt['switch']),
                           fwd(pkt['inport']),
                           self.policy)
```

$if_(P, C1, C2) = (P \gg C1) + \sim(P \gg C2)$

Defined momentarily

Update current val to flood  
Initialize current  
value of time series

Otherwise, policy unchanged

If newly learned MAC

Forward directly to learned port

# Pyretic's Design



- Monitoring Load Balancer
  - Encode Policies as Functions
  - Compositional Operators
  - Queries as Forwarding Policies
- MAC-Learning Module
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  - Extensible packet model

# Extensible Pyretic Packet Model

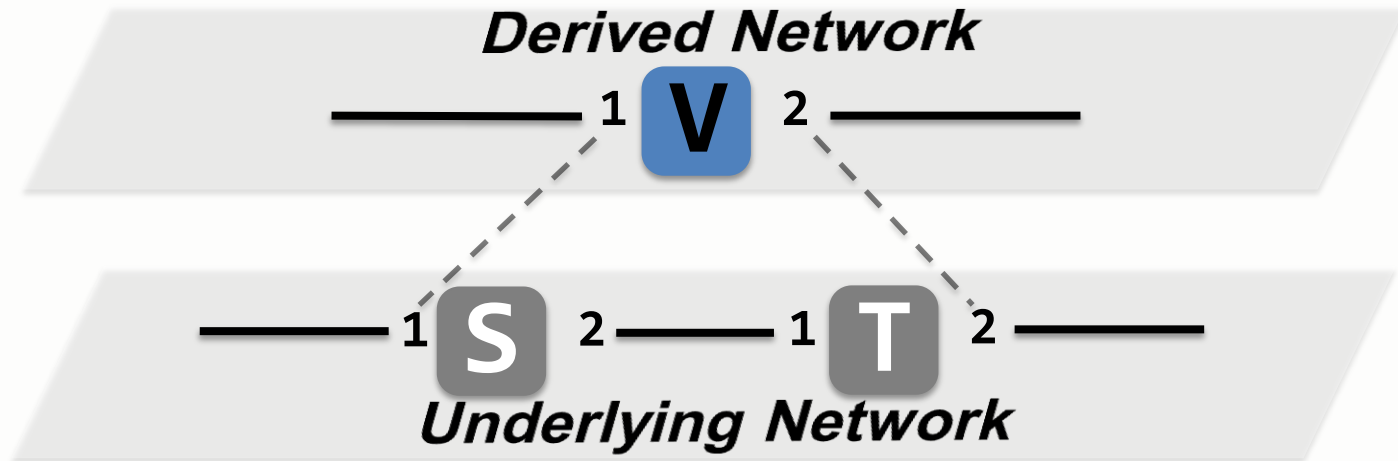
Field	Val[0]
srcmac	
dstmac	
proto	
srcip	

- All OpenFlow fields
- Location fields
- Virtual fields
- Stacks of values
  - push(h=v)
  - pop(h)
  - Actions and matches use (currently) top value

Implemented on OpenFlow by mapping extended field values to VLAN tags/MPLS labels



# “One Big Switch” Topology Abstraction



- Simplest of topology abstraction examples
- Build a distributed middlebox by running centralized middlebox app on V!

# Topology Virtualization

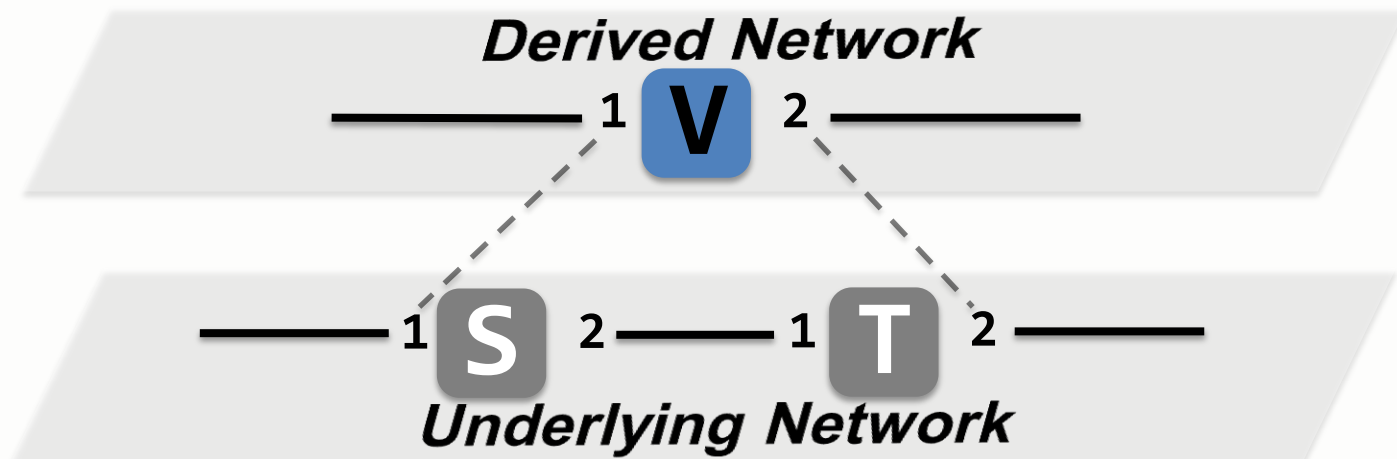
virtualize(**derived**, **transformation**)

that “does” the derived policy on the abstract topology (i.e., on node V)

Returns a new policy for the underlying network (i.e., on nodes S and T)

Defines transformation policies:

- **ingress\_policy** handles packets entering abstract switch
- **fabric\_policy** moves packets through abstract switch
- **egress\_policy** handles packets exiting abstract switch

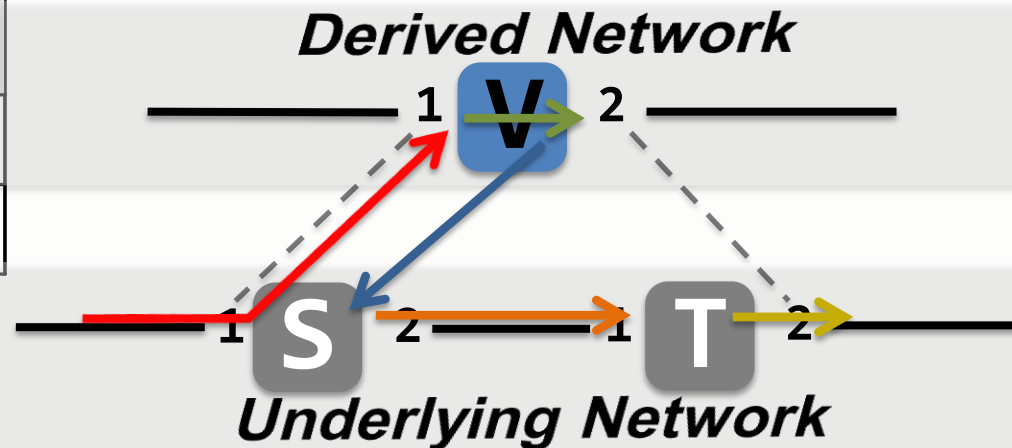


# Simplified implementation of virtualize(*derived*, *transformation*)

```

return ingress_policy >> # defines part of transform
      derived >> # app run on abstract topo
      lower_packet >> # built-in
      fabric_policy >> # defines part of transform
      egress_policy # defines part of transform
  
```

Field	V	V
	0	1
switch	\$	V
inport	1	1
outport	2	2
vinport	1	1
voutpor	2	2



# Summary: Abstractions

**Pyretic**

**Current APIs**

# Related Work:

[Frenetic, Maestro, FRESCO] / [Click]

	Pyretic	Current APIs
<i>Policy</i>	Rich Composition	<b>Some / Full</b> Composition
<i>Network</i>	Layered Abstract Topologies	Concrete Network
<i>Packet</i>	Extensible Headers	Fixed OpenFlow Headers

But only for a single software switch  
not multiple hardware switches

# Related Work:

[FlowVisor] / [Nicira NVP, OpenStack Quantum]

	Pyretic	Current APIs
<i>Policy</i>	Rich Composition	Little Composition
<i>Network</i>	Layered Abstract Topologies	<b>Disjoint Slices / Topology Hiding</b>
<i>Packet</i>	Extensible Headers	Fixed OpenFlow Headers

Both approaches support multi-tenancy,  
but not topological decomposition  
(or functional composition)

# Pyretic Interpreter and Suite of Apps

Available at [www.frenetic-lang.org/pyretic](http://www.frenetic-lang.org/pyretic)

- Monitoring & DPI
- Load Balancers
- Hub
- ARP
- Firewalls
- MAC learner



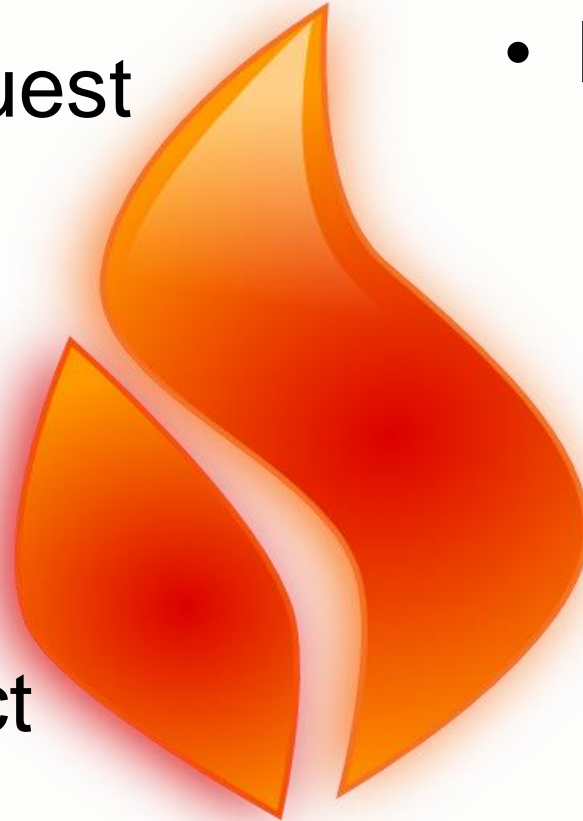
- Abstractions
  - Big switch  
(one-to-many)
  - Spanning tree  
(many-to-many)
  - Gateway  
(many-to-one)

And bigger applications built by combining these.

# And More!

Available at [www.frenetic-lang.org/pyretic](http://www.frenetic-lang.org/pyretic)

- Features Request
- Bug reporting
- Link to github
- Discuss list
- Join the project



- Dev Roadmap
  - Reactive (microflow) runtime
  - Proactive (compilation) runtime
  - Optimizations
  - Caching



# Further Reading

- Pyretic description (login article):  
<http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~jrex/papers/pyretic-login13.pdf>
- Pyretic tutorial:  
<http://youtu.be/hq7L4davQy8>
- Nick Feamster's course:  
<http://youtu.be/oa2KQ-b1SV4>  
<http://youtu.be/UKxjitMqn88>

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Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση  
Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινωνικό Ταμείο



ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ & ΘΡΗΣΚΕΥΜΑΤΩΝ, ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ & ΑΘΛΗΤΙΣΜΟΥ  
ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΔΙΑΧΕΙΡΙΣΗΣ

Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση της Ελλάδας και της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης



ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΚΟ ΤΑΜΕΙΟ

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