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Qualitative Analysis of Open-Source SDN Controllers

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**Abstract:**

The adaptation of software-defined networks (SDN) technologies promises significant benefits and cost reductions to operators of data networks. Telecommunication companies with expensive networks may become the biggest beneficiaries of SDN; however, in contrast to traditional routers, the development of SDN controllers is driven by open source projects with involvement of the industry. Two prevalent projects in SDN development are the OpenDaylight and the ONOS controller. These SDN controllers are advanced in their development - having gone through a number of releases - and have been described as being useful for a large number of use-cases. In this work, we compare and evaluate these controllers in our evaluation environment by configuring them for a representative use-case, port mirroring.