



## P4: Programming Protocol-independent Packet Processors

Dataplane programmability  
and P4

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# Introduction to P4: Programming Protocol-independent Packet Processors

- For this part, we will use the short course presented at SBRC 2018, which includes:
  - Presentation: [http://www.dcomp.ufscar.br/verdi/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/minicurso\\_p4\\_presentation.pdf](http://www.dcomp.ufscar.br/verdi/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/minicurso_p4_presentation.pdf)
  - Book chapter: <http://www.dcomp.ufscar.br/verdi/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Capitulo4.pdf>
  - VM with exercises: to be provided.
- How to get help related to the P4 language, after extensively reading and trying out:
  - Leandro (PhD student): [leandro.almeida@estudante.ufscar.br](mailto:leandro.almeida@estudante.ufscar.br)
  - Gustavo (master student): [gvenancioluz@gmail.com](mailto:gvenancioluz@gmail.com)
  - Guilherme (ex master student): [guilherme.matos@estudante.ufscar.br](mailto:guilherme.matos@estudante.ufscar.br)

# P4<sub>16</sub> Program Template (v1model)

```
#include <core.p4>
```

```
#include <v1model.p4>
```

```
const bit<16> TYPE_IPV4 = 0x800;
```

```
***** H E A D E R S
```

```
typedef bit<9> egressSpec_t;
```

```
typedef bit<48> macAddr_t;
```

```
typedef bit<32> ip4Addr_t;
```

```
header ethernet_t {  
    macAddr_t dstAddr;  
    macAddr_t srcAddr;  
    bit<16> etherType;  
}
```

```
header ipv4_t {  
    bit<4> version;  
    bit<4> ihl;  
    bit<8> diffserv;  
    bit<16> totalLen;  
    bit<16> identification;  
    bit<3> flags;  
    bit<13> fragOffset;  
    bit<8> ttl;  
    bit<8> protocol;  
    bit<16> hdrChecksum;  
    ip4Addr_t srcAddr;  
    ip4Addr_t dstAddr;  
}
```

# P4<sub>16</sub> Program Template (V1Model)

```
#include <core.p4>
#include <v1model.p4>
/* HEADERS */
struct metadata { ... }
struct headers {
  ethernet_t  ethernet;
  ipv4_t      ipv4;
}
/* PARSER */
parser MyParser(packet_in packet,
  out headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t smeta) {
  ...
}
/* CHECKSUM VERIFICATION */
control MyVerifyChecksum(in headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta) {
  ...
}
/* INGRESS PROCESSING */
control MyIngress(inout headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t std_meta) {
  ...
}
```

```
/* EGRESS PROCESSING */
control MyEgress(inout headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t std_meta) {
  ...
}
/* CHECKSUM UPDATE */
control MyComputeChecksum(inout headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta) {
  ...
}
/* DEPARSER */
control MyDeparser(inout headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta) {
  ...
}
/* SWITCH */
V1Switch(
  MyParser(),
  MyVerifyChecksum(),
  MyIngress(),
  MyEgress(),
  MyComputeChecksum(),
  MyDeparser()
) main;
```

```
*****
***** DEPARSER *****
*****
control MyDeparser(packet_out packet, in headers hdr) {
  apply {
    packet.emit(hdr.ethernet);
    packet.emit(hdr.ipv4);
  }
}
```

# P4<sub>16</sub> Hello World (V1Model)

```
#include <core.p4>
#include <v1model.p4>
struct metadata {}
struct headers {}

parser MyParser(packet_in packet,
  out headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t standard_metadata) {

  state start { transition accept; }
}

control MyVerifyChecksum(inout headers hdr, inout metadata
meta) { apply { } }

control MyIngress(inout headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t standard_metadata) {
apply {
  if (standard_metadata.ingress_port == 1) {
    standard_metadata.egress_spec = 2;
  } else if (standard_metadata.ingress_port == 2) {
    standard_metadata.egress_spec = 1;
  }
}
}
```

```
control MyEgress(inout headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t standard_metadata) {
  apply { }
}

control MyComputeChecksum(inout headers hdr, inout metadata
meta) {
  apply { }
}

control MyDeparser(packet_out packet, in headers hdr) {
  apply { }
}

V1Switch(
  MyParser(),
  MyVerifyChecksum(),
  MyIngress(),
  MyEgress(),
  MyComputeChecksum(),
  MyDeparser()
) main;
```



# P4<sub>16</sub> Hello World (V1Model)

```
#include <core.p4>
#include <v1model.p4>
struct metadata {}
struct headers {}

parser MyParser(packet_in packet, out headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t standard_metadata) {
  state start { transition accept; }
}

control MyIngress(inout headers hdr, inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t standard_metadata) {
  action set_egress_spec(bit<9> port) {
    standard_metadata.egress_spec = port;
  }
  table forward {
    key = { standard_metadata.ingress_port: exact; }
    actions = {
      set_egress_spec;
      NoAction;
    }
    size = 1024;
    default_action = NoAction();
  }
  apply { forward.apply(); }
```

```
control MyEgress(inout headers hdr,
  inout metadata meta,
  inout standard_metadata_t standard_metadata) {
  apply { }
}

control MyVerifyChecksum(inout headers hdr, inout metadata
meta) { apply { } }

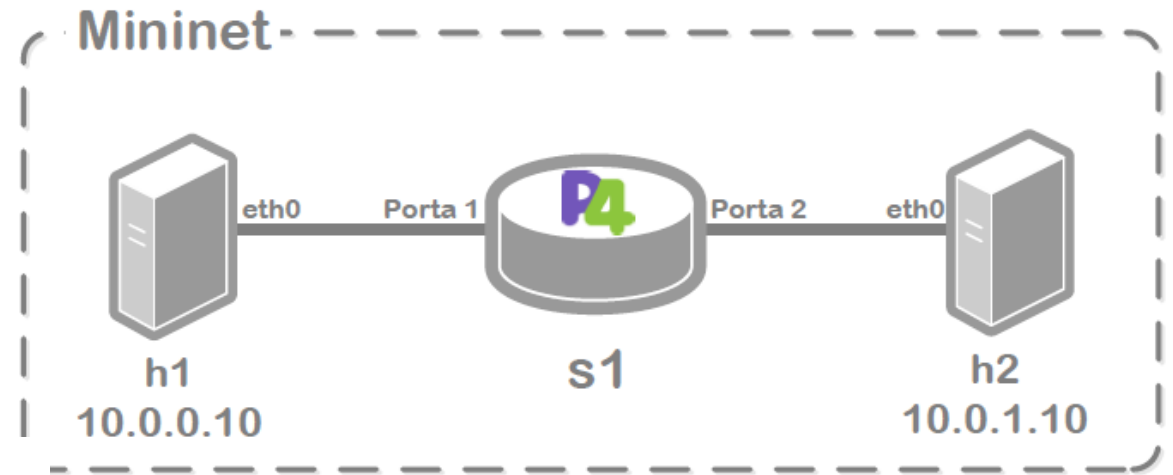
control MyComputeChecksum(inout headers hdr, inout metadata
meta) { apply { } }

control MyDeparser(packet_out packet, in headers hdr) {
  apply { }
}

V1Switch( MyParser(), MyVerifyChecksum(), MyIngress(),
MyEgress(), MyComputeChecksum(), MyDeparser() ) main;
```

Key	Action Name	Action Data
1	set_egress_spec	2
2	set_egress_spec	1

# First task: IP routing



These rules are defined in the commands\_s1.txt file

```
table_set_default ipv4_lpm drop
table_add ipv4_lpm ipv4_forward 10.0.0.10/32 => 00:04:00:00:00:00 1
table_add ipv4_lpm ipv4_forward 10.0.1.10/32 => 00:04:00:00:00:01 2
```

- Update the source and destination MAC address
- Decrease by 1 the TTL of the packet
- Forward the packet to the output port

# Download the VM...

- [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hGPzWU1nS0urE1sZh3ksayvrlgW\\_EGlh/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hGPzWU1nS0urE1sZh3ksayvrlgW_EGlh/view)
  - login: student
  - passwd: student



# Further Reading/watching

- **Minicurso SBRC 2018**
  - <http://www.dcomp.ufscar.br/verdi/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Capitulo4.pdf>
  - [http://www.dcomp.ufscar.br/verdi/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/minicurso\\_p4\\_presentation.pdf](http://www.dcomp.ufscar.br/verdi/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/minicurso_p4_presentation.pdf)
- **P4: programming protocol-independent packet processors**
  - <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/2656877.2656890>
- **P4<sub>16</sub> Language Specification**
  - <https://p4.org/p4-spec/docs/P4-16-v1.2.2.html>
- **P4 tutorials**
  - <https://github.com/p4lang/tutorials>
  - <https://github.com/nsg-ethz/p4-learning>
  - <https://carolinafernandez.github.io/development/2019/08/06/Recurrent-processing-in-P4>
- **Videos:**
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxT7DKOIk7Q&list=PLf7HGRMAIJBzGC58GcYpimyIs7D0nuSoo&index=2>