



IP-Switch: network security by SDN

BMBF project vmFire

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November 15, 2013

The vmFire project

vmFire: a BMBF funded research project
startet July 2012 until June 2014



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vmFire: Firewalling in virtualized environments



Security threats

Are there any new security threats induced by virtualization?



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⇒ Yes, of course!



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Security threats

Are there any new security threats induced by virtualization?

⇒ **Yes, of course!**

Which of these threats are exploitable by network and can be prevented by a firewall?

⇒ **Basically none!**



Relevant threats

1. MAC spoofing
2. ARP spoofing
3. ARP flooding
4. Rogue DHCP server
5. Insecure system services



Relevant threats

1. MAC spoofing
2. ARP spoofing
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⇒ standard network flaws



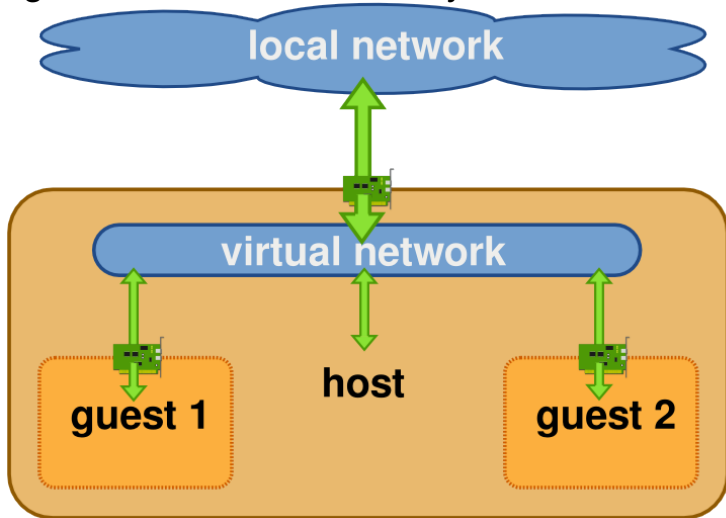
Solutions in physical systems

dividing the network in smaller chunks by using:

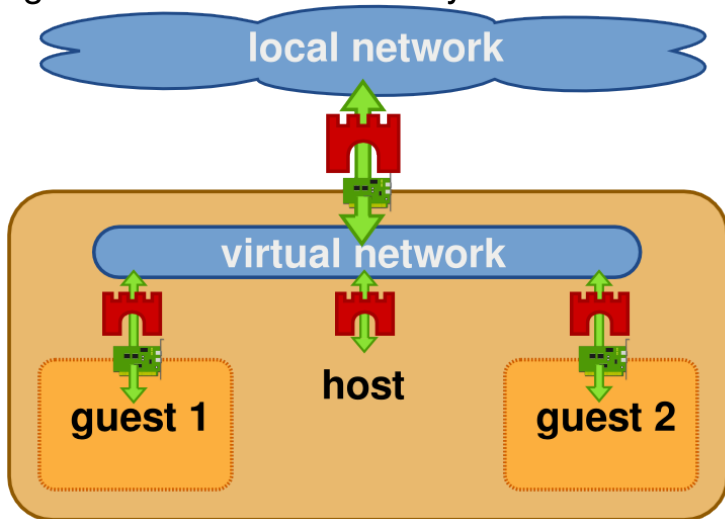
- .. cabling
- .. configuring subnets
- .. intelligent switches
- .. router
- .. packet filter
- .. statefull firewalls
- .. application level gateways
- .. intrusion prevention systems



Using firewalls in virtualized systems



Using firewalls in virtualized systems



IP-Switch

Security by using SDN

a special OpenFlow controller which implements

- .. ARP server
- .. DHCP server
- .. topology detection
- .. shortest path routing
- .. authorisation

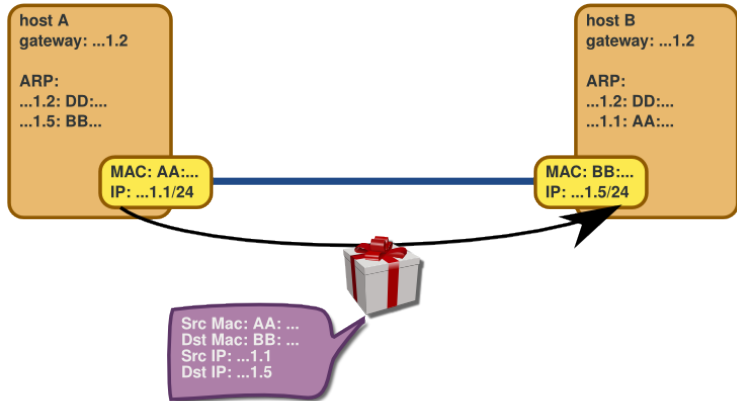
OpenFlow switches act as gateways.



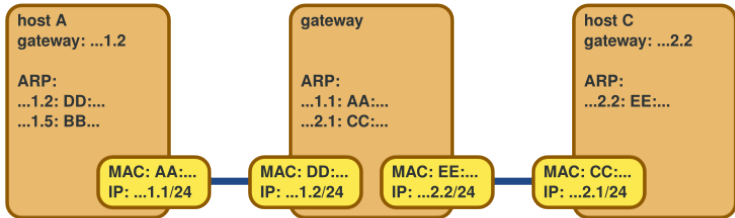
Same subnet



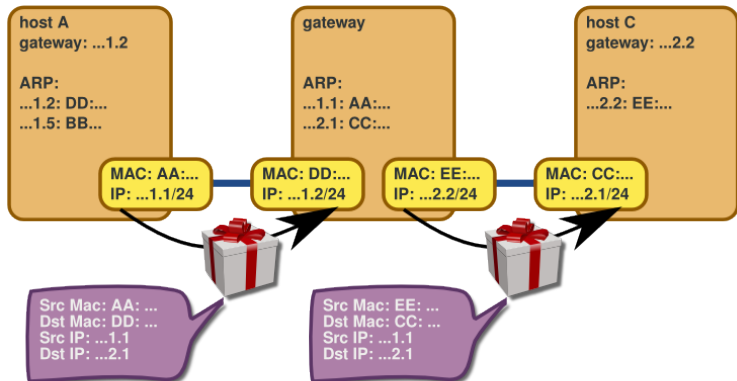
Same subnet



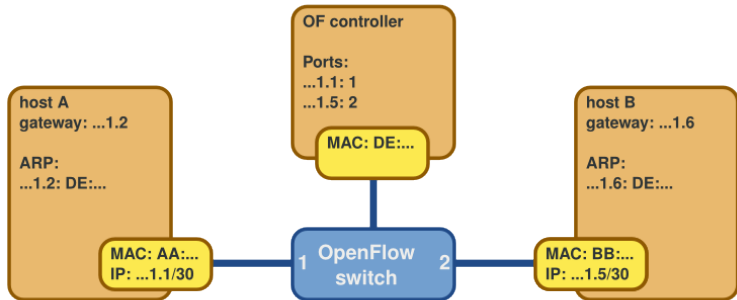
Different subnets connected by a gateway



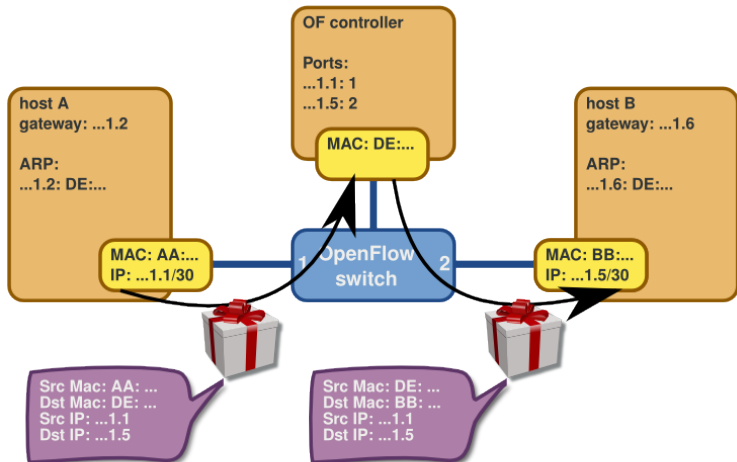
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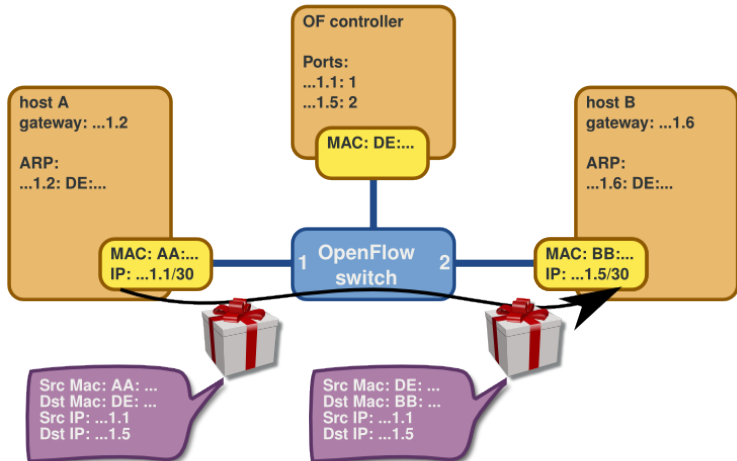
IP Switching



IP Switching



IP Switching



Evaluation: goals achieved?

dividing the network in smaller chunks by using:

- .. cabling
- .. configuring subnets
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- .. router
- .. packet filter

- .. statefull firewalls

- .. application level gateways

- .. intrusion prevention systems



Evaluation: goals achieved?

dividing the network in smaller chunks by using:

- .. cabling ⇒ **setting up connections with Open vSwitch**
- .. configuring subnets
- .. intelligent switches

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Evaluation: goals achieved?

dividing the network in smaller chunks by using:

- .. cabling ⇒ setting up connections with Open vSwitch
- .. configuring subnets ⇒ not applicable
- .. intelligent switches

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Evaluation: goals achieved?

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- .. packet filter ⇒ easy to implement with special flow entries in the OF switches
- .. statefull firewalls ⇒ can be implemented by the OpenFlow controller
- .. application level gateways ⇒ can be implemented by the OpenFlow controller
- .. intrusion prevention systems ⇒ can be implemented by the OpenFlow controller



Feasibility studies

- performance measurements
- testing the counteractions
- simulation with Mininet
- real world tests with a physical WiFi

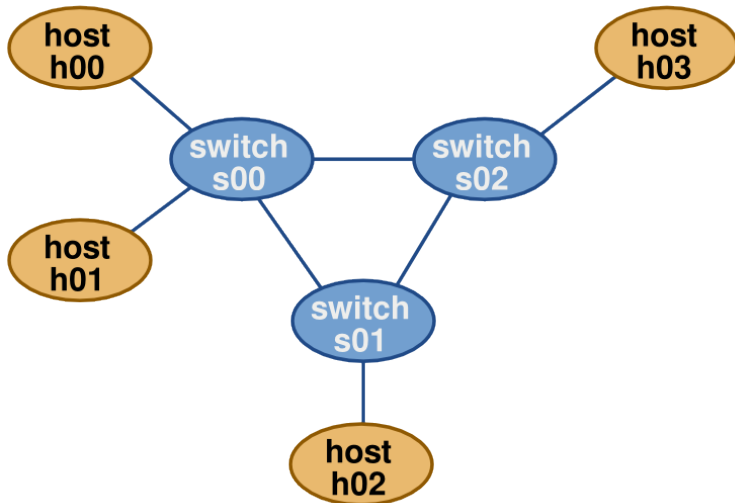


Testing with Mininet

- .. rapid prototyping for Software Defined Networks
- .. network emulation with hosts, switches and links
- .. Python based
- .. uses process based virtualization and network namespaces



Demonstration OpenFlow Controller



Questions?

