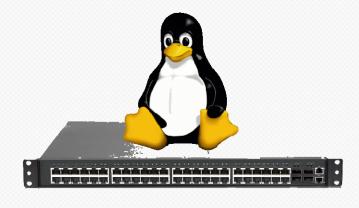


# Open Network Linux

A Network Operating System (NOS) for OCP

Rob Sherwood
Big Switch Networks
CTO







# Outline: Open Network Linux (ONL)

- What is ONL?
- Contributors and Community
- What does ONL provide?
- ONIE Compatible NOS Installer
- Second stage more featureful loader
- "Server-like" Management
- Platform Abstraction Layer ONLP
- Supported Hardware

#### What is Open Network Linux?

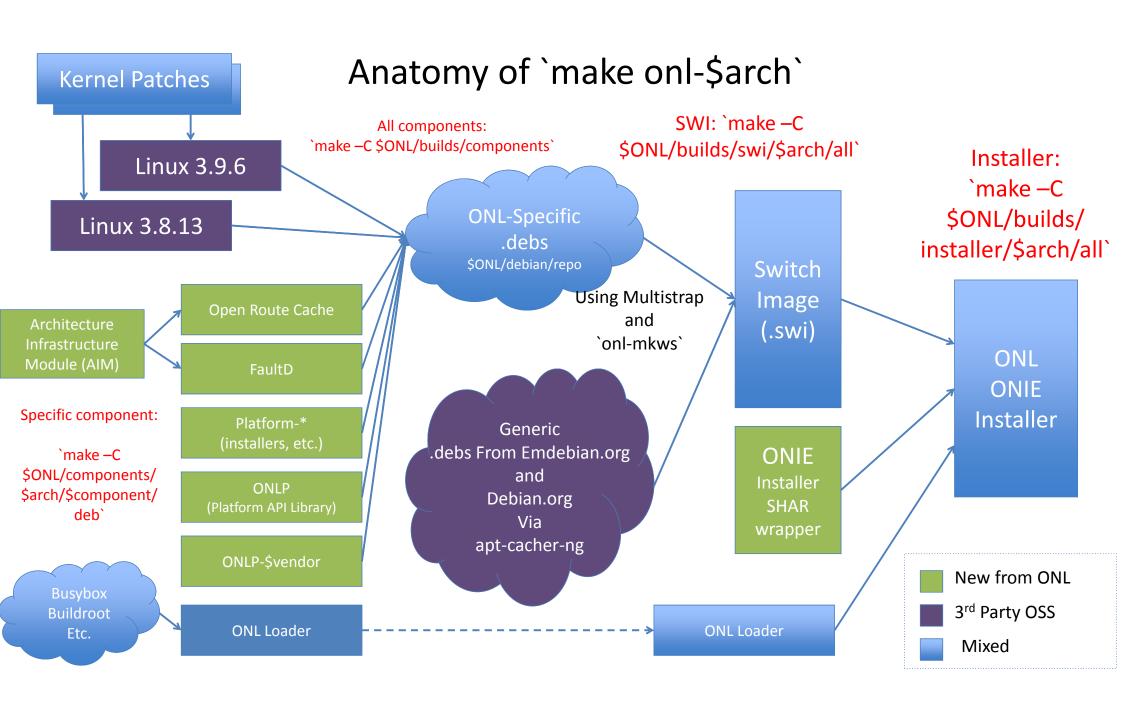
- A collection of software packages, utilities, drivers, and abstractions to run on OCP Switch hardware
  - i.e., a "NOS" that ONIE would install
- Why not use an existing Linux distribution?
  - Does build on existing distribution Debian Wheezy
  - Need to create ONIE installers for many platforms
  - Need to manage switch-specific hardware (e.g.,SFPs)
  - Switches are very similar to servers, but not quite



#### ONL Example Use-Cases

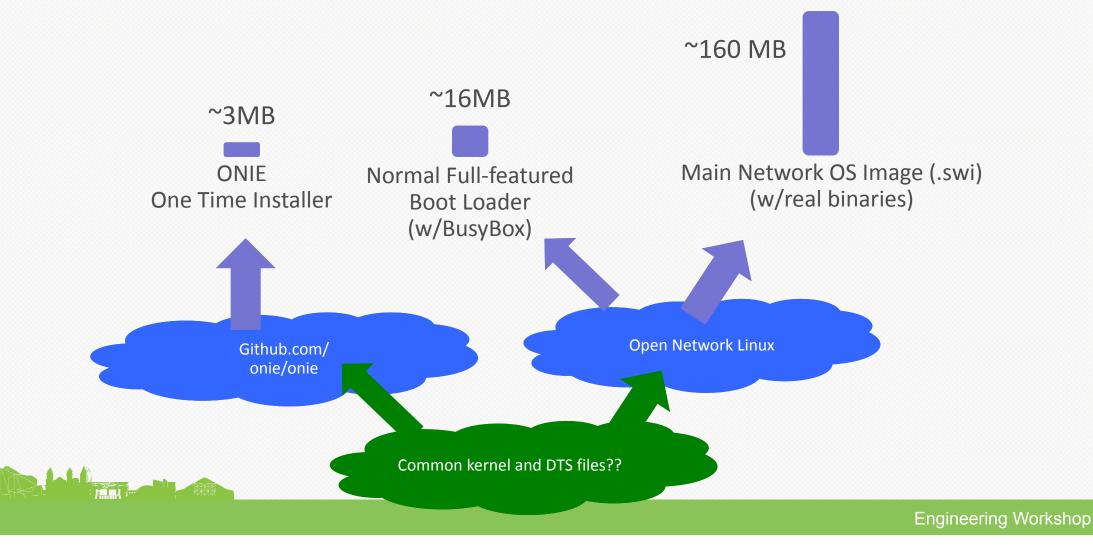
- 1. DIY packet forwarding platform, e.g., for students
- Platform driver code too complicated for most hobbyists
- 2. OCP Certification Reference testing platform
  - Common core in open source for verification, reference
- 3. Building Block for Commercial Software
  - Pull ONL in to a larger, commercially supported solution





#### **ONL** Relative to **ONIE**

"An Installer Needs a NOS"



# Why Use ONL?

- Help ecosystem focus on innovation
  - Many annoying software details to run an OCP switch
  - Building platform drivers not high value asset; should be common
- Enables a reference NOS implementation
  - Hardware without software is not useful
  - Package up details and best practices into one place
- Help bootstrap the Open ecosystem and OCP adoption
- Allows commercial companies and DYI-folks to build OCP-based products faster



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#### Background: Generic NOS Architecture

**Applications** 

Environment Agent(s) Forwarding Agent

**Platform** 

Platform Abstraction Layer

ASIC SDK

OS Distribution (Linux kernel, etc.)

Hardware

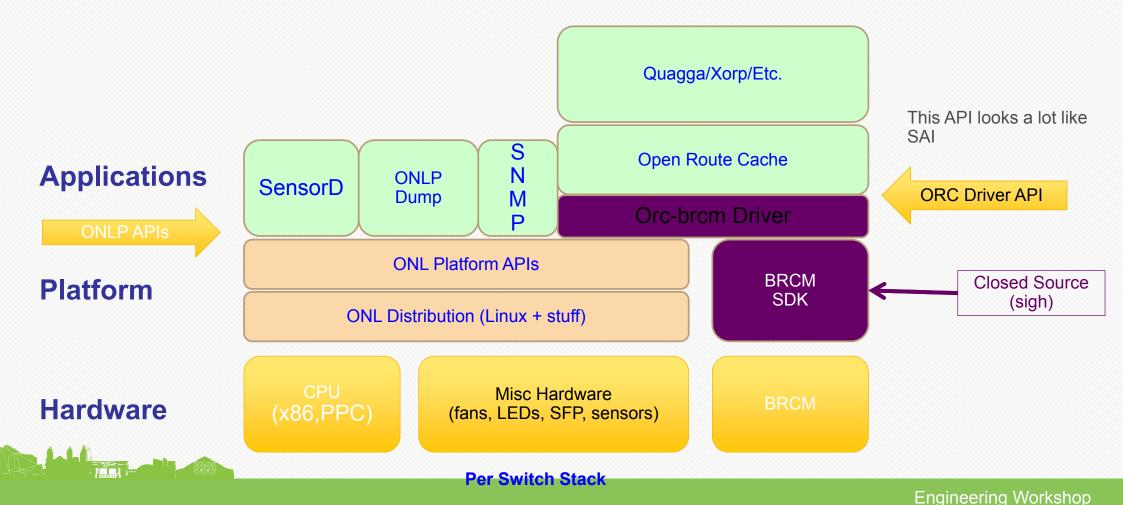
Misc Hardware (fans, LEDs, SFP, sensors)

**ASIC** 

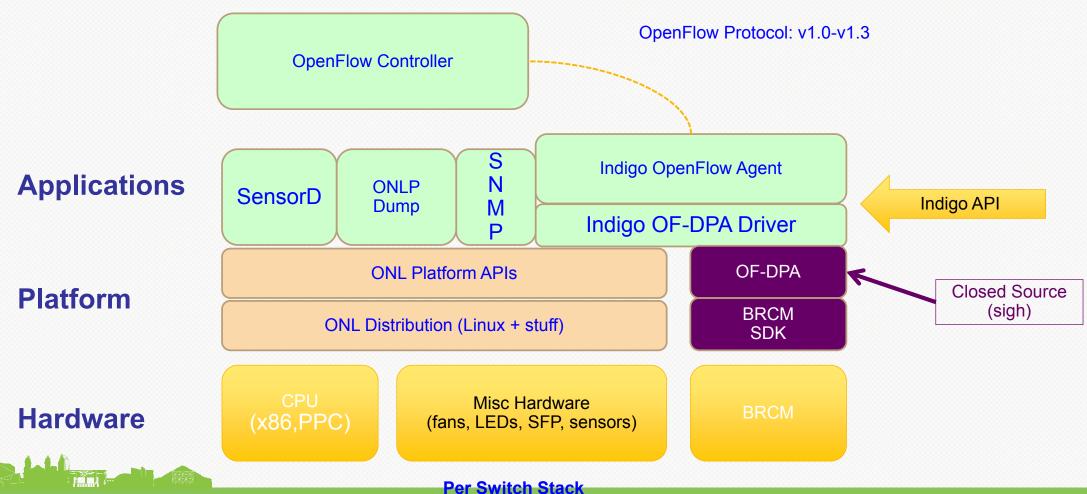


Per Switch Stack

# Shipping now: ONL + Open Route Cache



# Next Target: ONL + OpenFlow Agent



**Engineering Workshop** 

# ONL Contributors/Supporters (So Far)

Adds Forwarding Agents





Open Network Linux







Additional Drivers

Provides Platform Drivers



**Interface Masters** 



**Innovative Network Solutions** 

**OTHERS** 



#### Open Network Linux Community

- Project has been public for 10 months
  - Code http://github.com/opennetworklinux/ONL
  - Website http://opennetlinux.org
  - ~50K LOC (without Linux patches); 56K Makefile lines
- Community Traction
  - Five six platforms added by community; more coming
  - Three companies have commercial projects w/ONL
- ~14 code contributors from four companies

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#### ONL Provides an ONIE-Compatible Installer

- ONIE is great but needs an installer
  - Installer packages entire NOS into a single image
- Installer is the glue between Platform and NOS
  - Sets the \$nos\_bootcmd magic
  - e.g., nos\_bootcmd= diskboot 0x10000000 0:1; bootm 0x10000000
  - Formats local storage, e.g., flash or local disk
  - Installs ONL loader onto local storage (see next)



#### ONL Provides A Second-Stage Loader

- uBoot (PPC) or Grub (x86) is the first stage loader
  - ONIE is a 2<sup>nd</sup>-stage loader; only runs at install-time
- ONL 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Loader
  - Runs every time before NOS boots
  - Built on Linux enables a full shell for rescue mode
  - Load NOS via ssh/scp/http/tftp/nfs/ftp/local flash
    - Net boot allows centralized NOS image management
  - (future) Initialize ASIC/front panel ports inline boot



# ONL Provides "Server-like" Management

- Switches have flash, not hard drives
  - Problem 1: Maximum flash cycle time limit disk writes
  - Problem 2: Flash and ram more limited than typical servers
  - · Fix: Use overlayfs to overlay copy-on-write ram disk over flash

#### ONL uses full-featured binaries

- For size, most switch OS's use stripped binaries, e.g., busybox
- Bigger binaries uses additional space, but ok with overlayfs
- Install/use proper Debian binaries using apt-get
- Useful for development or operations, e.g., gcc or Chef/Puppet

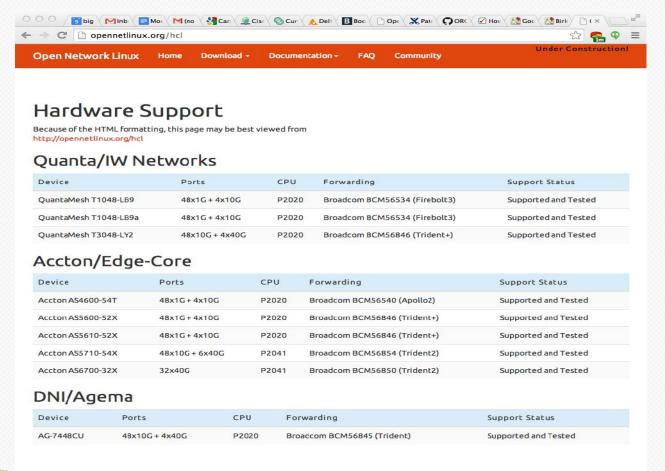


#### ONL has a Platform Abstraction Layer

- BIOS does not provide inventory/drivers for all devices
  - SFP has a life cycle, like USB; F2B vs. B2F power supplies
  - Hot Pluggable devices: PSU, Fan trays, AC/DC power
- Not all platforms have BIOSs
  - Need for per-platform memory maps of LEDs, Fans, Temp
- ONL Platform provides an Platform Abstraction Layer
  - Not tied to Linux subsystem (but could be integrated)
  - Goal is for trivial driver impls; leverage existing diag code
  - OID based; single threaded, multi-application
  - https://github.com/opennetworklinux/ONLP/tree/master/modules/onlp/module/inc/onlp

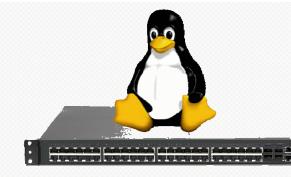


#### ONL - Supported Hardware



- Already supports
   Accton OCP
   boxes
- Working on OCP box with x86 with support from Interface Masters
- Going to work with other ODMs

#### Conclusion



- ONL is a Linux Distribution for bare metal switches
- Growing support for OCP and non-OCP switches
- Now supports ORC forwarding agent
- Indigo-based OpenFlow agent in progress
- Find out more at http://opennetlinux.org
- Documentations, videos, pre-compiled binaries