

# **CORD: Central Office Re-architected as a Datacenter**

Open Networking Lab and ONOS Partnership

# ONOS/CORD Community



- ON.Lab provides architecture shepherding and core engineering with focus
- Leading service providers make ONOS & SDN/NFV solutions relevant to them
- Leading vendors help make ONOS and SDN/NFV solutions real: ready for deployment
- Collaborating organizations help grow the community and grow the impact

# Agenda

- CORD Overview – Guru Parulkar, ON.Lab/Stanford
- M-CORD Overview –Tom Tofigh, ON.Lab/AT&T

# CORD Aims to Deliver to Service Providers



## Economies of a datacenter

Infrastructure built with a few commodity building blocks using open source software and white boxes

## Agility of a cloud provider

Software platforms that enable rapid creation of new services

# Telco Central Offices Have to be Reinvented



Large number of COs



Evolved over 40-50 years



300+ Types of equipment  
Huge source of CAPEX/OPEX

- Large number of complex facilities
  - AT&T alone operates 4-5k Central Offices
  - Each serves 10-100k residential, enterprise & mobile customers
- Evolved piecemeal over the past 40-50 years
  - Source of huge CAPEX/OPEX costs
  - Difficult to introduce new services
- Especially when compared to OTT cloud providers!

# CORD = SDN x NFV x Cloud



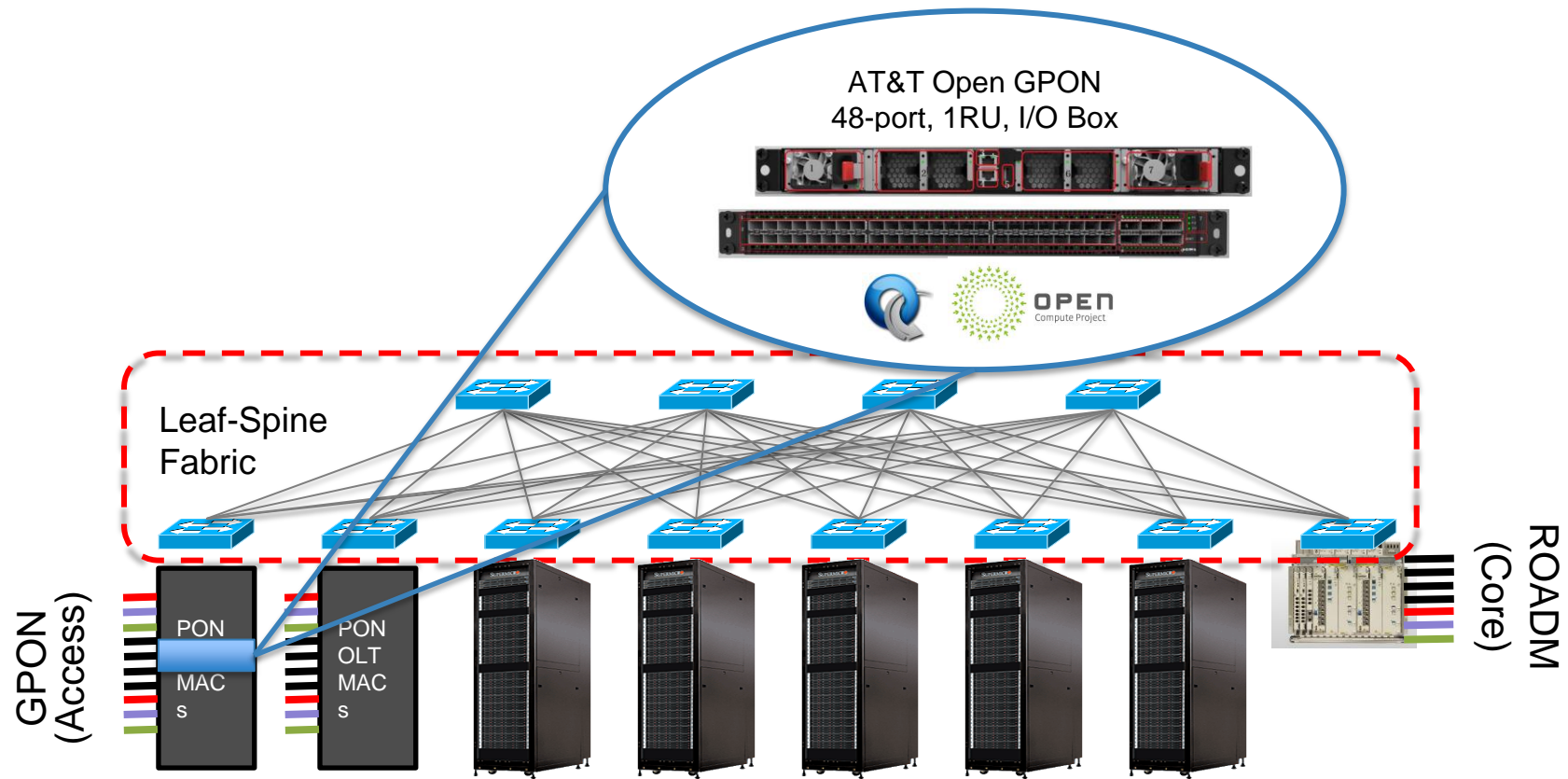
SDN  
NFV  
Cloud

Open Source Platforms:  
ONOS + OpenStack + XOS +  
VNFs



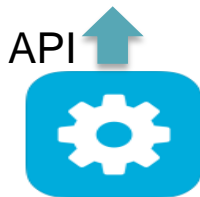
Commodity Hardware  
+  
Open Source Software

# CORD – Hardware Architecture



Commodity Servers, Storage, Switches, and I/O

# Open-Source Multi-Purpose Leaf-Spine Fabric



Fabric Control Application: Addressing,  
ECMP Routing, Recovery,  
Interoperability, API support

ONOS Controller Cluster

HA, scales to 16 racks, OF 1.3,  
Topo-Discovery, Configuration,  
GUI, CLI, Troubleshooting, ISSU

Open Source  
SDN-based  
Bare-metal

White Box

White Box

White Box

White Box

White Box  
White Box

White Box  
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White Box  
White Box

Fast  
I/O

Slow  
I/O:  
PON  
OLT  
MACs

Access  
Links

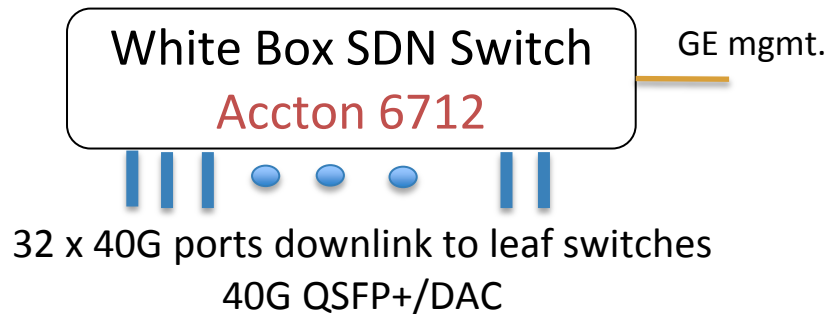
Metro  
Core  
Links

CORD fabric – designed to scale up to 16 Racks

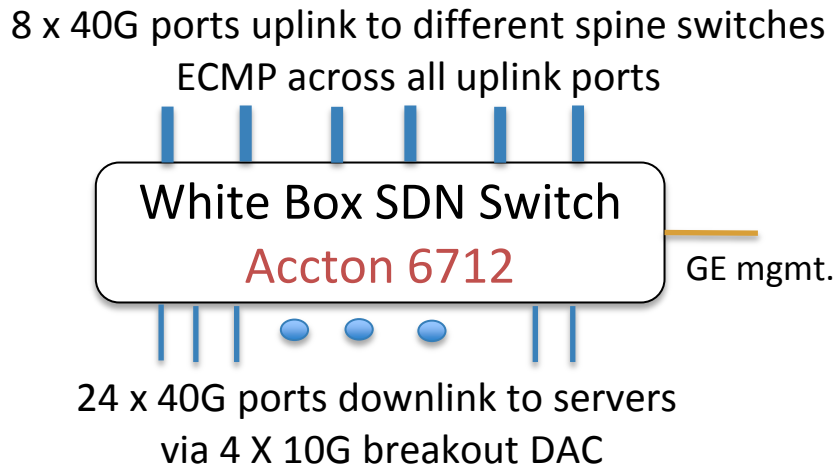


# Open Hardware & Software Stacks

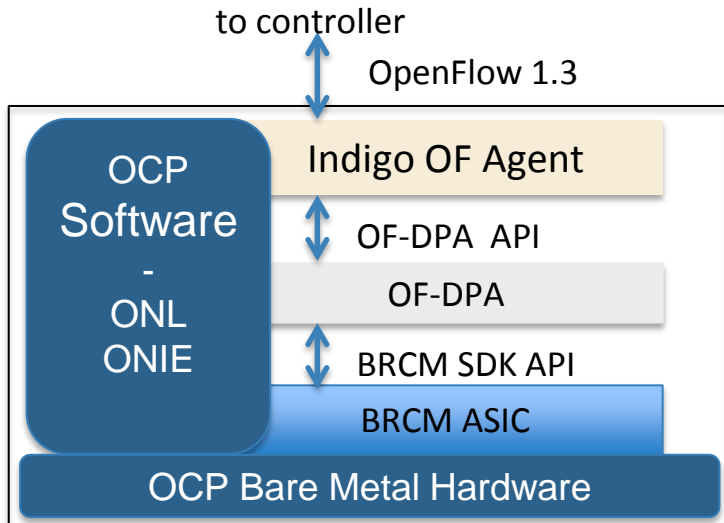
## Spine Switch



## Leaf Switch



## Leaf/Spine Switch Software Stack



OCP: Open Compute Project

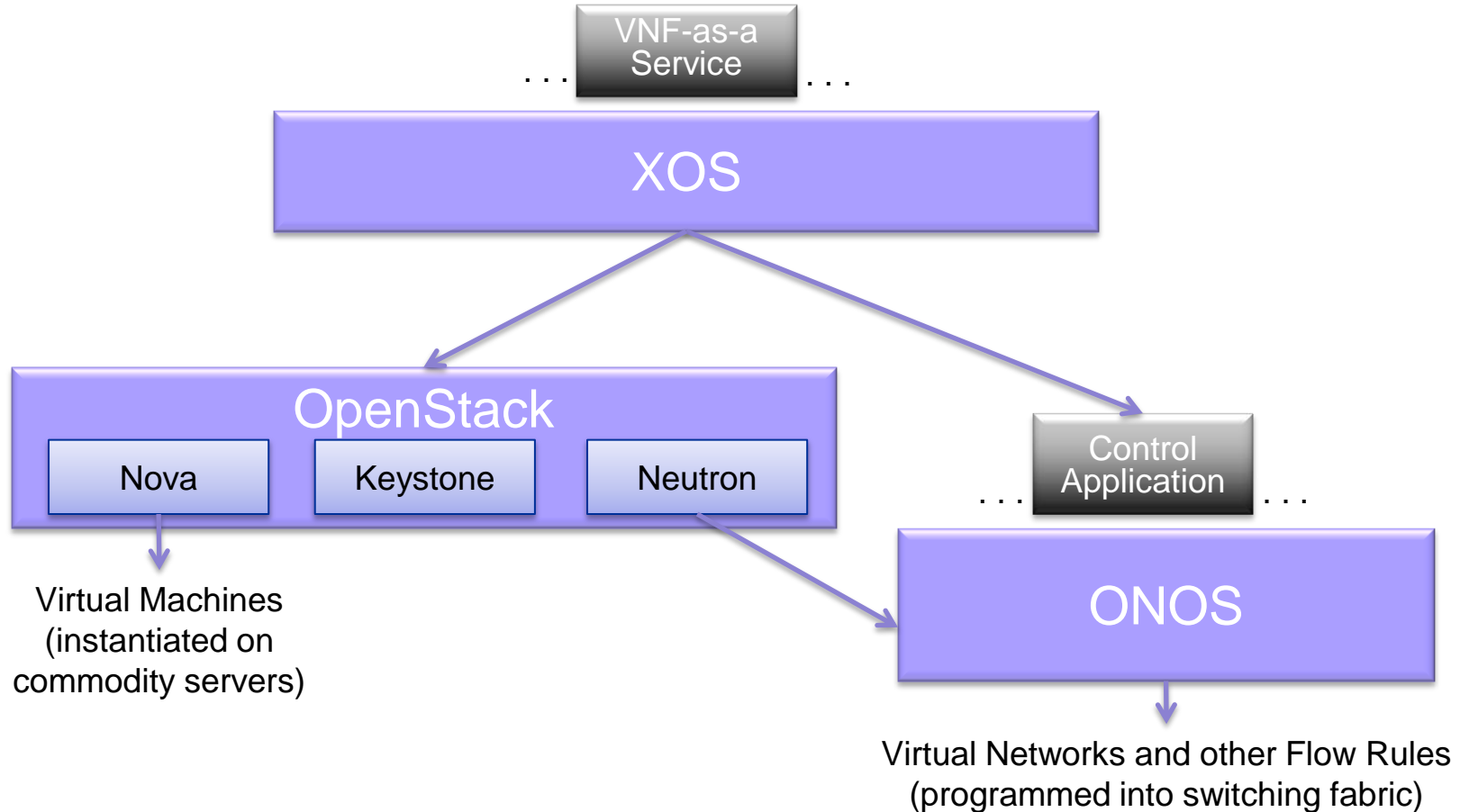
ONL: Open Network Linux

ONIE: Open Network Install Environment

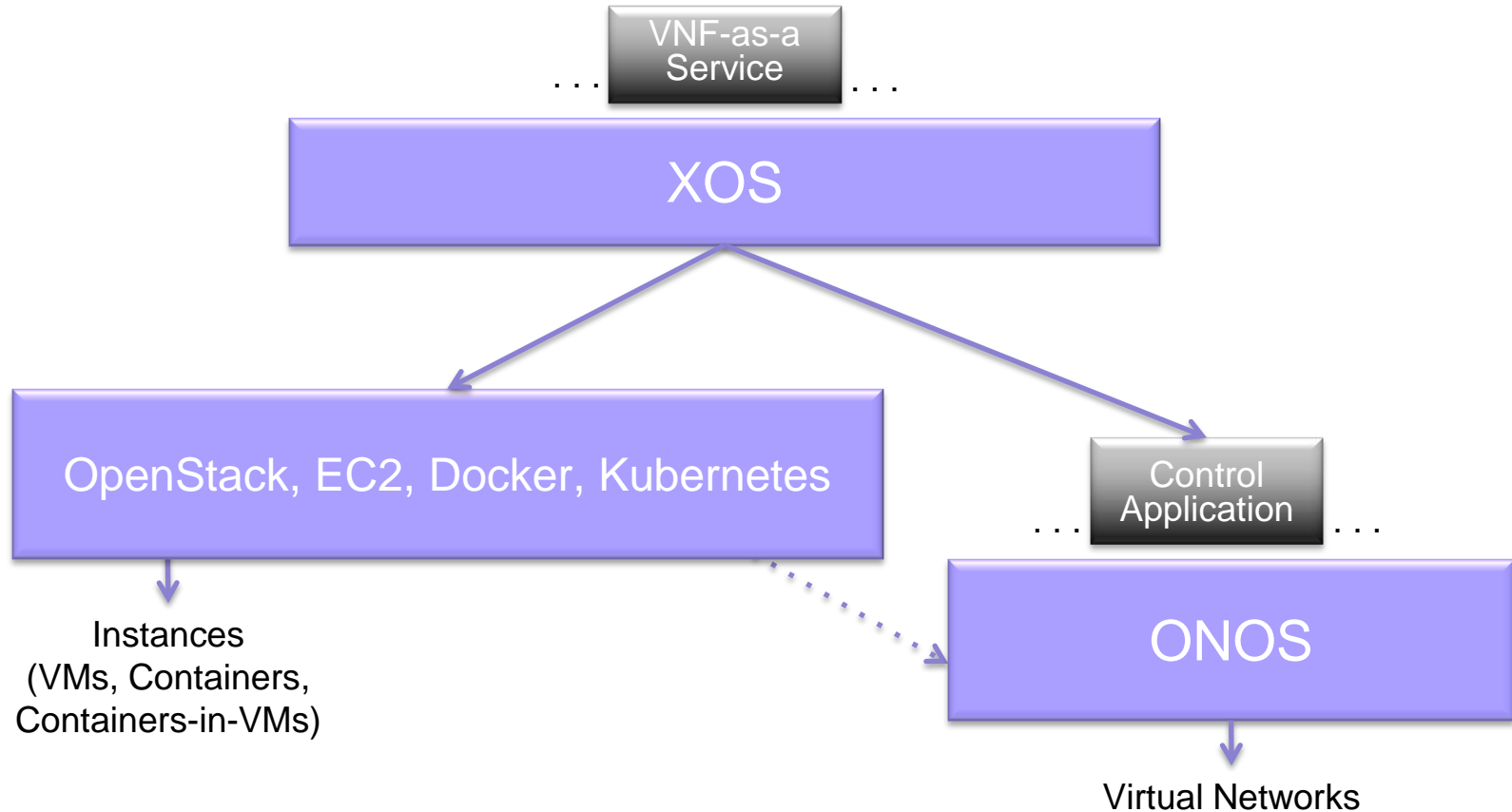
BRCM: Broadcom Merchant Silicon ASICs

OF-DPA: OpenFlow Datapath Abstraction

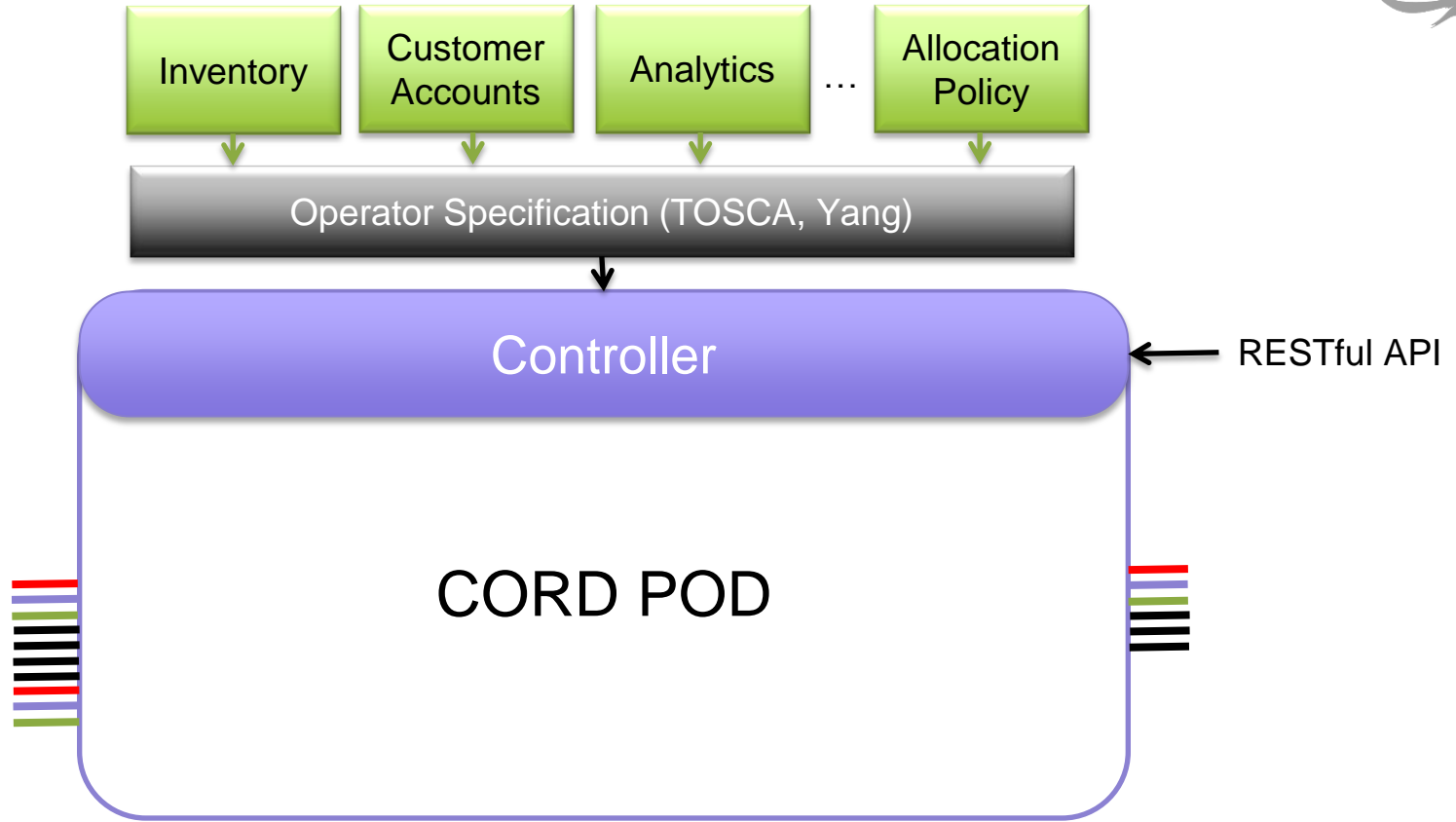
# CORD – Software Stack



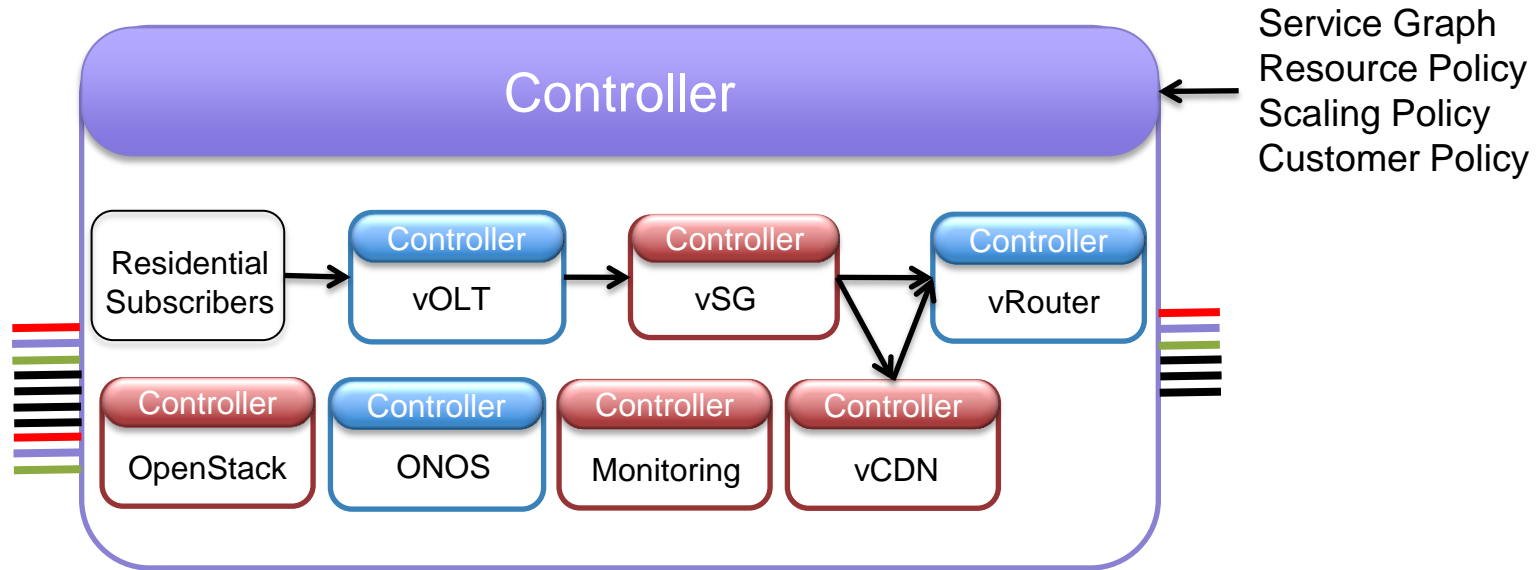
# CORD – Software Stack



# CORD – External View

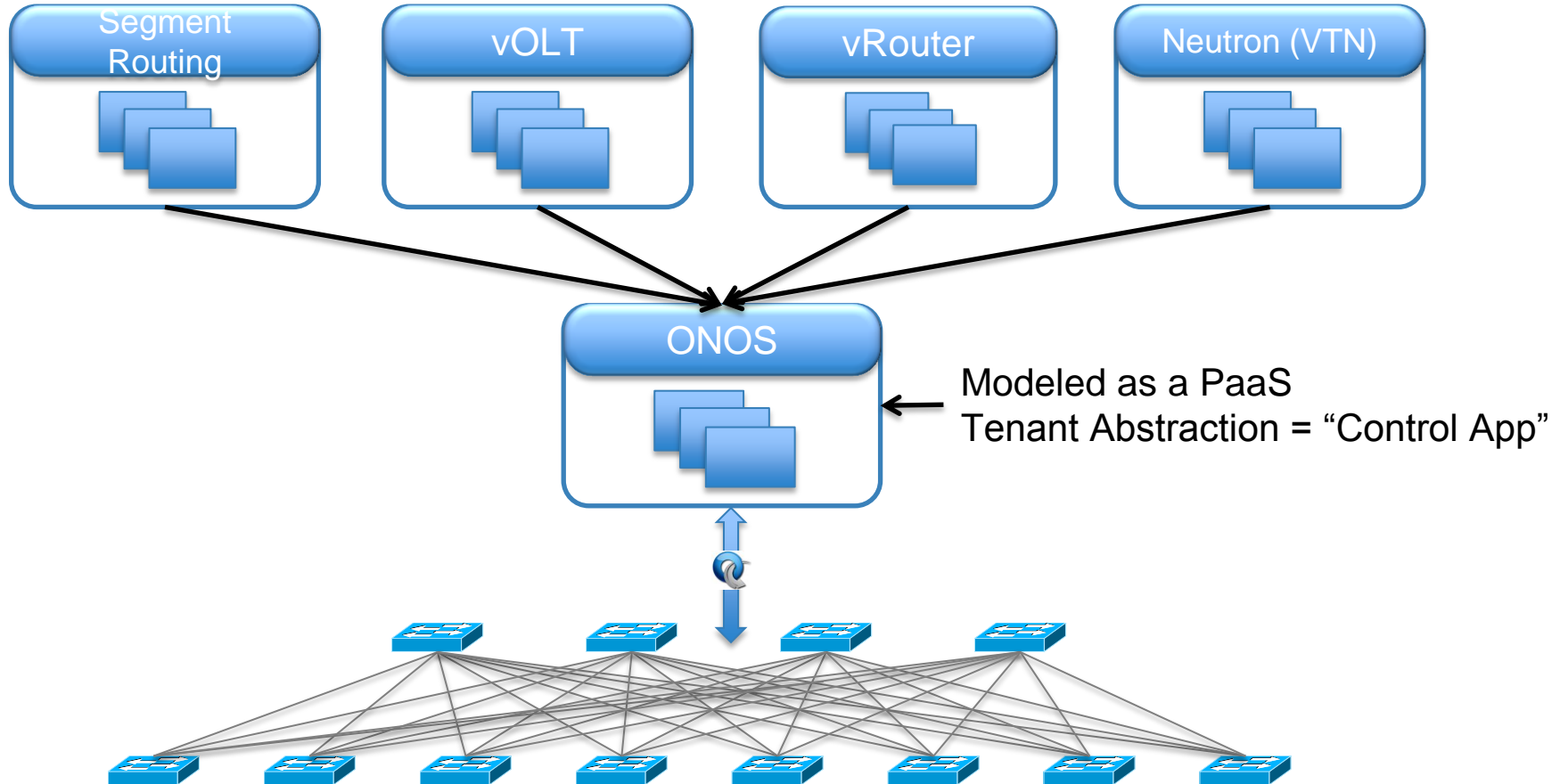


# CORD – Internal View

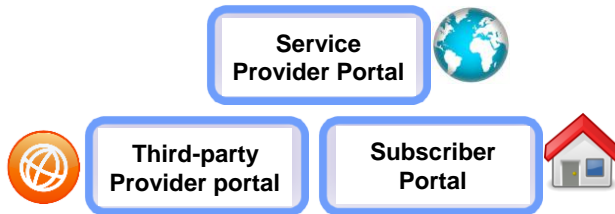


*Everything-as-a-Service (XaaS) / Micro-Services Architecture*

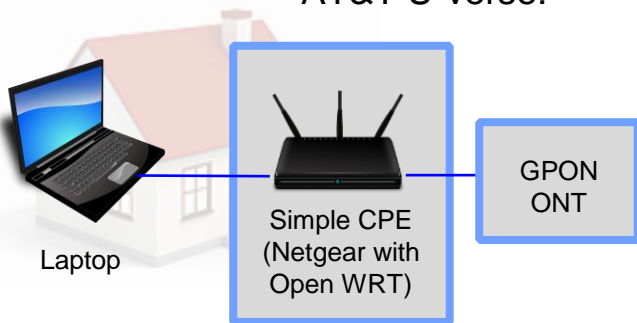
# CORD – Control Plane Services



# CORD Residential POC at ONS, June 2015



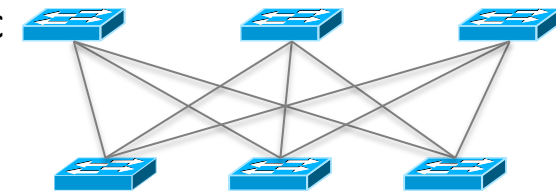
AT&T U-verse:



Residential: vOLT, vCPE, vBNG, vCDN

ONOS + OpenStack + XOS

Fabric



PON OLT  
MACs

Commodity Servers, Storage, Switches, and I/O

Details at <http://onosproject.org/resources/>

# CORD – Reference Implementation



## Hardware Blueprint ←

### Bill of Materials

- OCP Servers
- OCP Switches
- Access Devices

### Assembly Instructions

- ...

### Testing Infrastructure

- ...

## CORD POD

*An open virtualized service delivery **platform** that provides cloud economies and agility.*

*From FTTH-as-a-Service to Software-as-a-Service.*

## → Open Source Software

### Core Components

- OpenStack
- ONOS
- XOS
- OCP

### Access Services

- vOLT
- vSG
- vRouter
- ...

### Other Services

- Monitoring
- ...



# Open CORD Reference Implementations



## Hardware Blueprint

List of Goods, Assembly and Test Instructions

Server Racks



Access & Fabric  
Racks



White Boxes



## Open Source Software Distributions

Residential OLT Services

Mobile Services (later)

Enterprise Services (later)

Common Services

SW Infrastructure: ONOS, OpenStack, XOS

Embedded OS: Switch, OLT, BBU

# CORD Work in Progress

- Residential (GPON) CORD
  - Lab trial end of 2015
  - Field trial end of Q1, 2016
- Generalization of CORD
  - Mobile CORD: mobile subscribers and apps
  - Enterprise CORD: enterprise subscribers and apps
- Deliver open reference implementation of CORD
  - To allow the industry to build on it

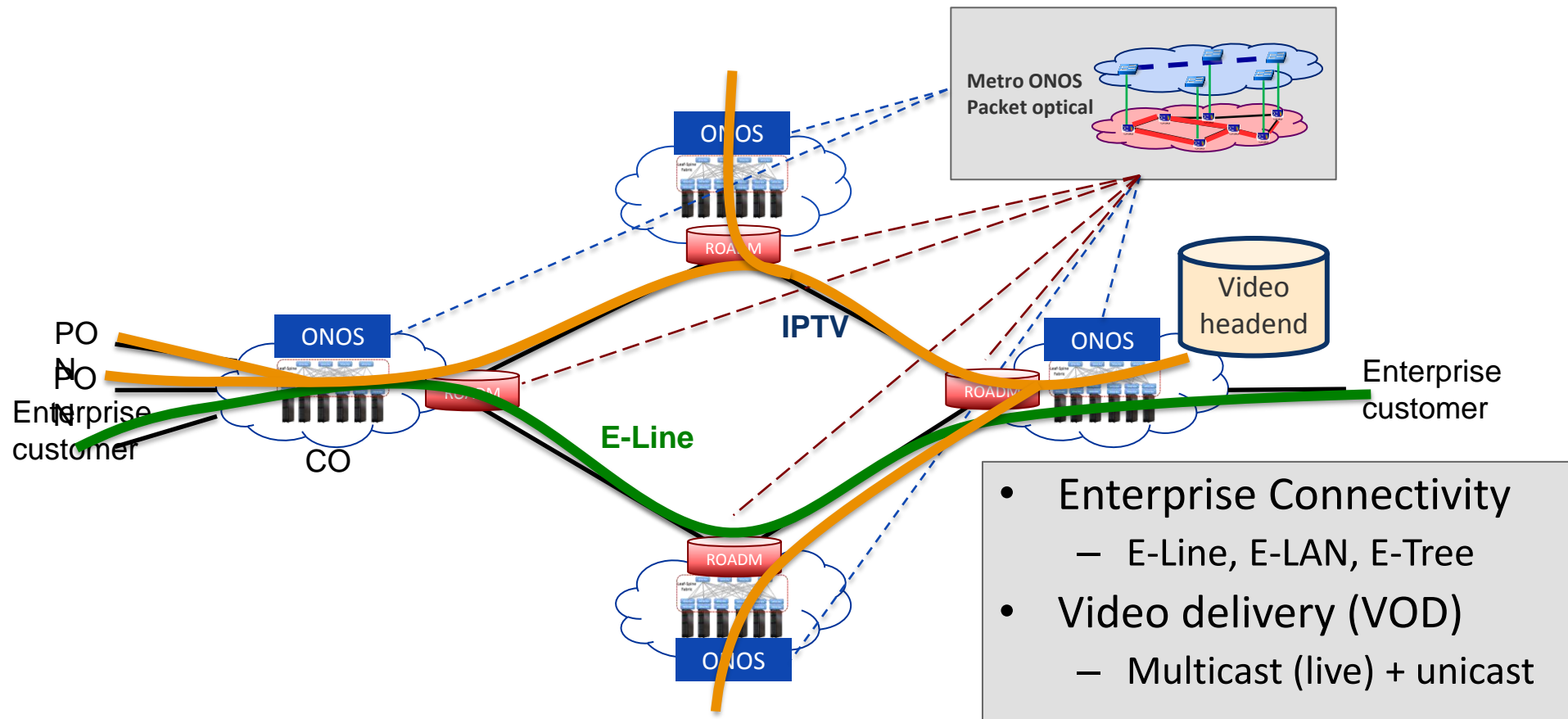
Enable service providers to turn on CORD POD in a day!

# E-CORD: Objectives

Demonstrate CORD can support enterprise customers and services

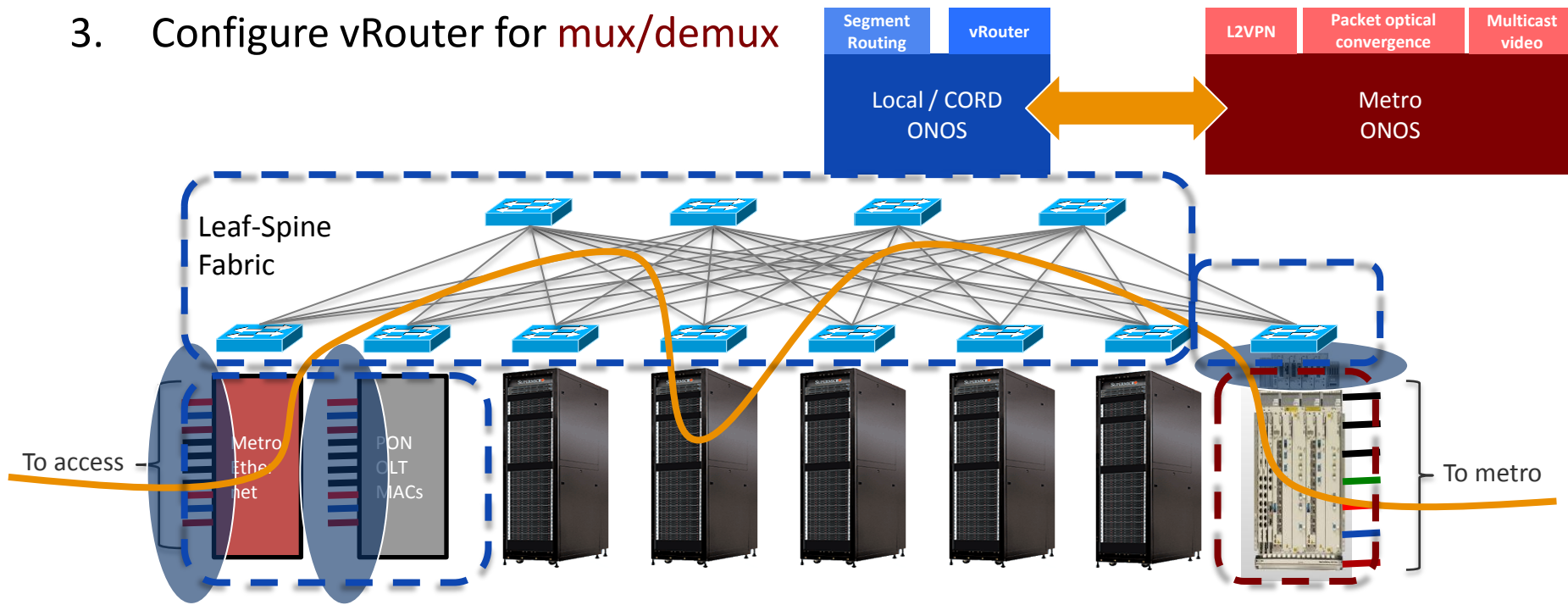
1. Demonstrate **converged packet optical** control in metro
  - Based on ROADM technology
  - Tied in with CORD architecture
2. Demonstrate relevant enterprise **metro services**
  - Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF): L2VPN services including network on demand
  - Video multicast and video on demand
  - Self-serve portal

# E-CORD POC: Support Enterprise Customers



# Implementation Details: Inter-ONOS API

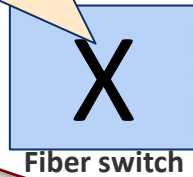
1. Represent CORD fabric as **big switch**
2. Instruct CORD to setup connectivity between big switch ports
  - **Pseudo-wire** policy for segment routing
3. Configure vRouter for **mux/demux**



# Disaggregated ROADM

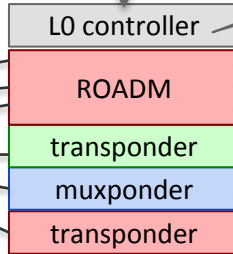
## OPTIONAL

1. Programmable backplane between ROADM and transponders
2. Optical bypass within CO



To ONOS  
(OpenFlow & NETCONF)

HAL, OF/NETCONF  
agent, alarm  
correlation, ...

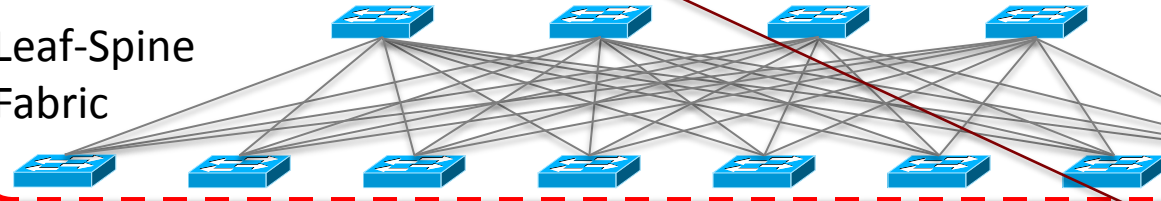


To metro

To spine  
switches

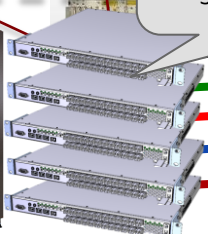
Vendor A  
Vendor B  
Vendor C

Leaf-Spine  
Fabric



- 20x20 ROADM, 1U
- 2x10 transponder, 1U
- 320x320 fiber switch, 4U

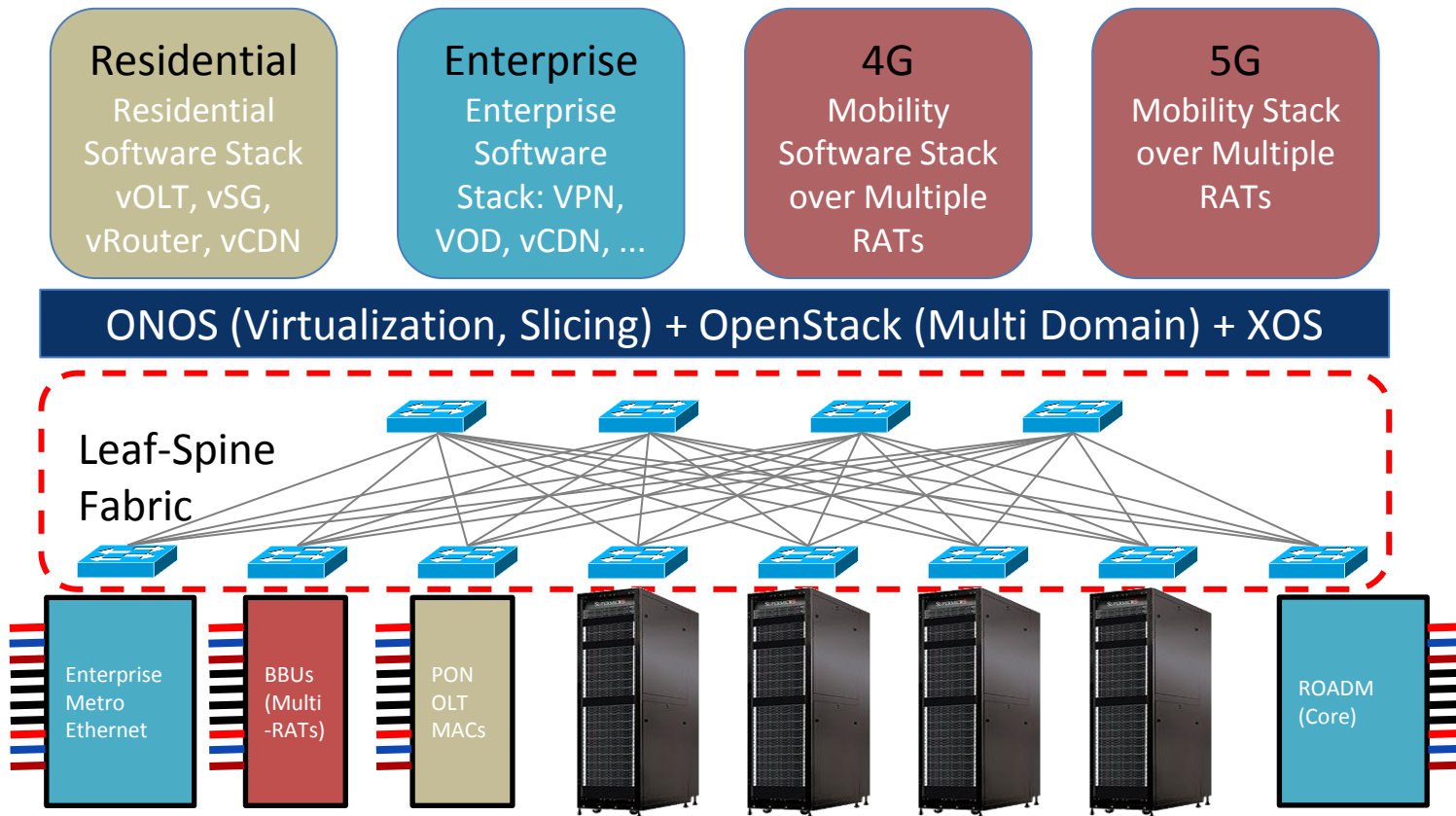
To access



To metro

# M-CORD: Support Mobile Customers and Services

# CORD Generalization



Commodity Servers, Storage, Switches, and I/O



# M-CORD Objectives and Challenges

- Realize CORD benefits for mobile customers and services
  - Data center economics and cloud agility
- Mobile Networks have their own challenges and opportunities
  - Fastest growing in terms of customers/devices (IOT), traffic, services
  - New requirements:
  - New technologies and solutions: Soft RAN, E-SON, 5G, ....
  - The technologies are not readily available in commodity hardware and open source

# Mobile Edge: A Few Possibilities

Adopt mobile network designs more akin to modern data centers

Scale up the mobile resources to specific functions:

Distribute micro data center ( Mobile Edge Cloud) to realize value proposition

Augment Reality

Lower Latency translates to lower battery life for UEs

Combines mobile & cloud with real times cognitive engines

Lawful interception

Conscious robots

Analytics @ the edge, Intelligent Video Analytics

Real time Control (IOT, Mhealth)

Real time city wide rapid face recognition

Direct video through transcoding & firewall functions

Higher Spectral Efficiencies , Flexible partitioning of RAN

Elastic traffic Management

Optimal HW-SW Partitioning, RF Tuners

# M-CORD: Two Pronged Approach

## 1. Mobile Edge (Backend)

**Bring service functionality of mobile core to the edge**

- L4-L7 Service chaining at the edge
- Cache @ Mobile Edge
- Distributed EPC & Services @ Mobile Edge
- Localized service customization
- Eliminate signaling and data inefficiencies
- Support for edge applications (IOT, smart cities, Mhealth)

**Shorter term with existing technologies**

**POC in Q1, 2016**

**Followed by Trials**

## 2. Frontend

**Realize Value of Soft RAN ( Sachin Katti)**

- Data plane programmability & increased flexibility
- Increased radio resource optimization
- Increased RAN performance

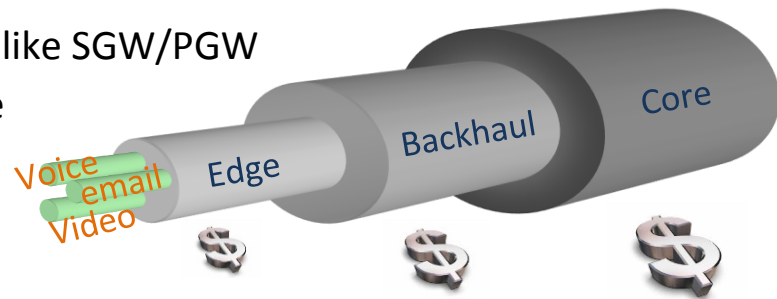
**Longer Term**

**Conceptual POC in Q1, 2016**

**POC and Trials to follow**

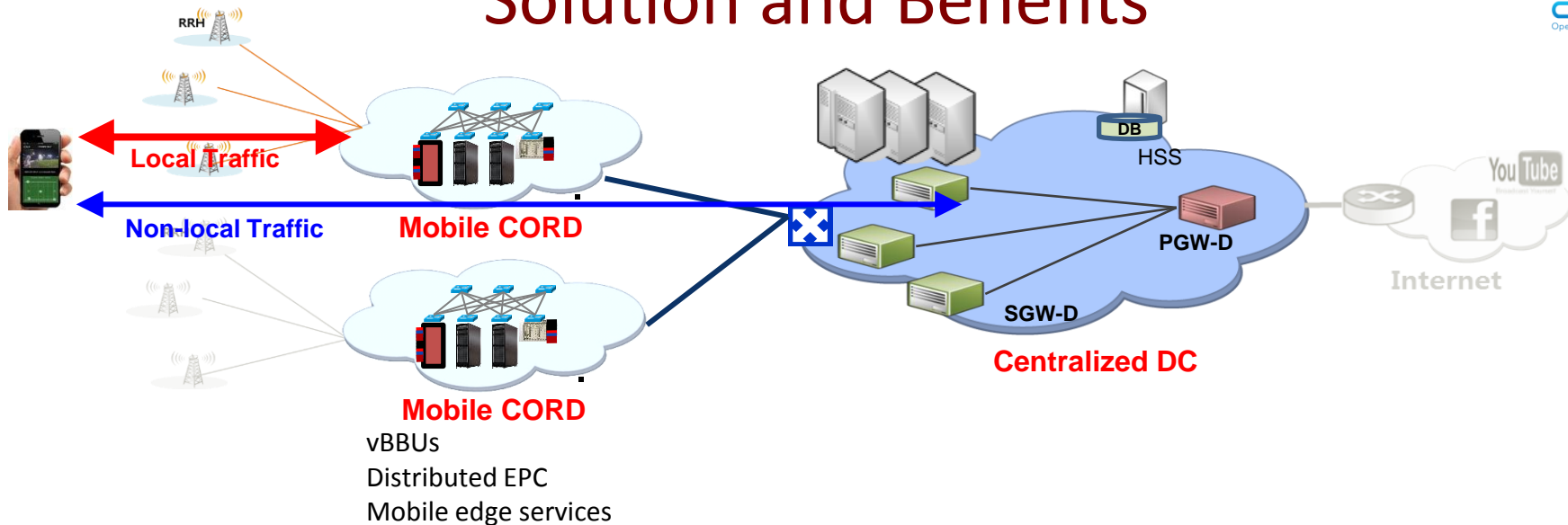
# Mobile Edge Problem Statement

- **All traffics are gathered to the center of mobile core, which cause**
  - load on backhaul, backbone transport and core systems like SGW/PGW
  - waste of network resources from operators' perspective
  - deterioration on QoE from users' perspective
- **Operators overprovision their infrastructure to cope with unpredictable peak traffic**
  - It is inefficient to have surplus capacity everywhere to handle peak traffic
  - Deploying new infrastructure takes long time to cope with ever increasing peak traffic
  - Traffic surge varies with time and location



Current architecture makes it too hard for an operator to achieve efficiency, agility and scalability that are so essential to cope with rapid growth and dynamic characteristics of mobile traffic

# Solution and Benefits



## ► On-demand provisioning

Virtualized infrastructure and services (e.g. vBBUs, Caching, EPC functions) can be deployed on demand

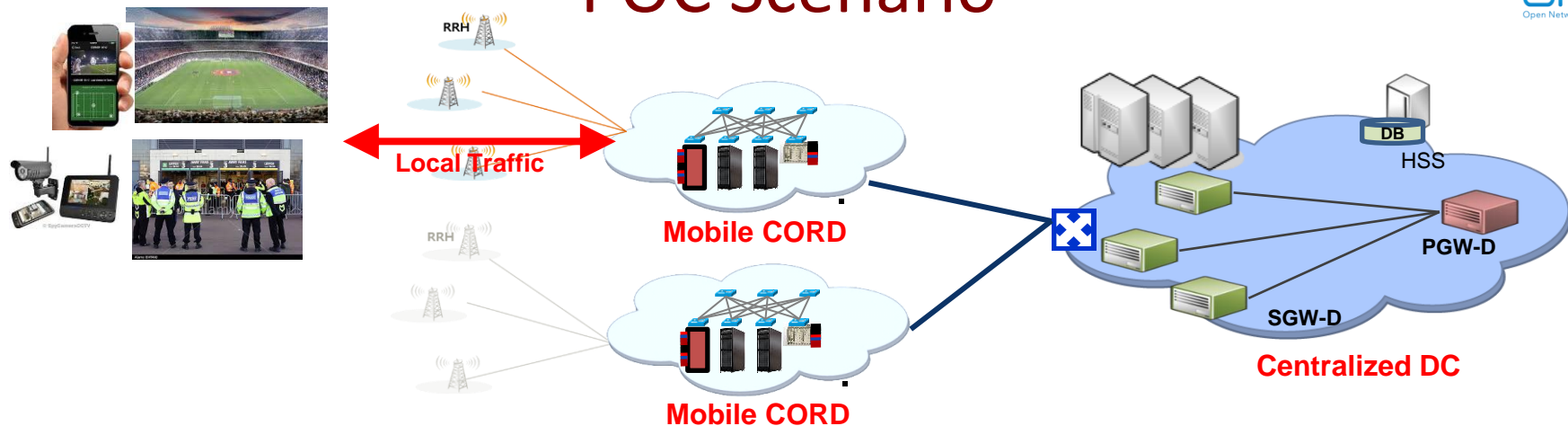
**Benefits:** Avoid inefficient provisioning of infrastructure & support agile action for dynamic traffic requests

## ► Services at mobile edge

Certain contents can be served from the mobile edge without the inefficiency of traversing mobile core

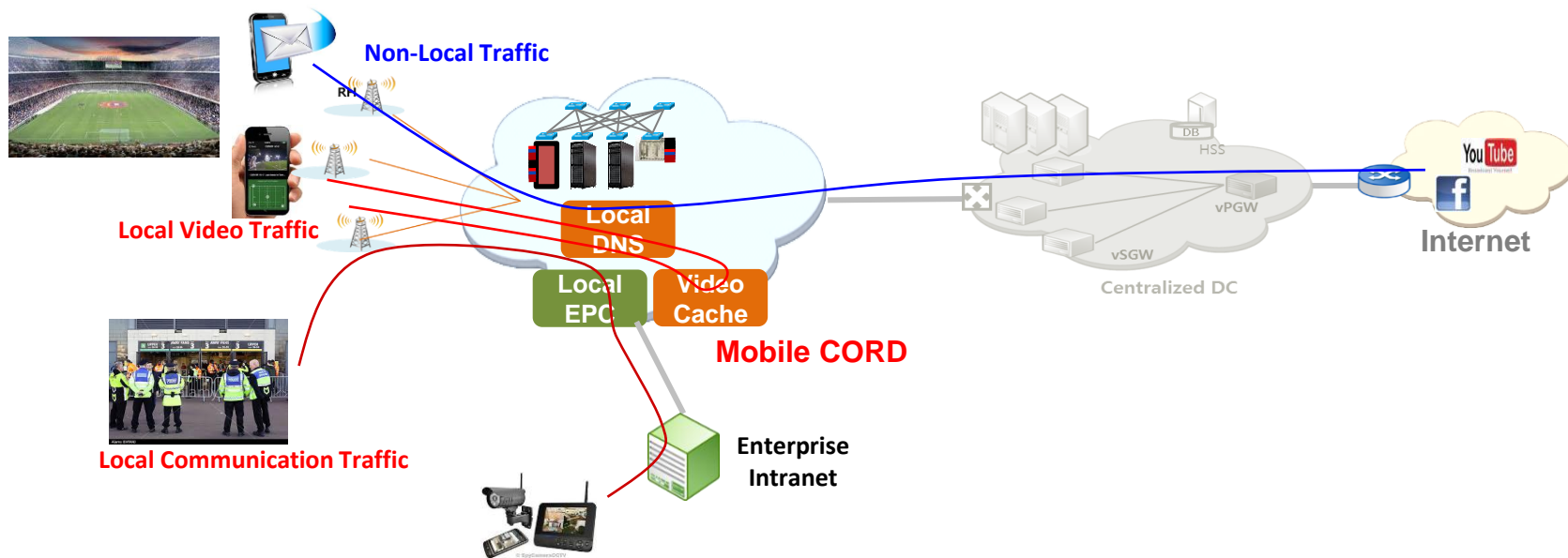
**Benefits:** Decrease burden on backhaul and mobile core; and increase QoE of users, Network slicing, MVNO, new

# POC Scenario



- **Local video streaming service at mobile edge**
  - On-demand provisioning of vBBUs at cell sites near big sport match
  - On-demand provisioning of video caching application(VM) for local video caching service
  - Functions like DNS and DPI also need to be deployed locally for traffic classification
  - Other traffic of spectators is treated same as before; traverse from and to the Centralized Core
- **Local communications hosted by distributed EPC**
  - Virtualized EPC can also be deployed to host local and internal communications
    - Communication between security staffs
    - Remote monitoring of Security CAM

# POC Scenario – Packet Flow



- Non-local traffic like web and email traverse to central core same as before
- Local video traffic is served by local cache
- Traffic of **Local communication** or **Intranet** is diverted to local network via local EPC

# POC Implementation: Mobile Edge Software Stack

- **XOS**

- Manage/orchestrate services provided by OpenStack and ONOS

- **OpenStack**

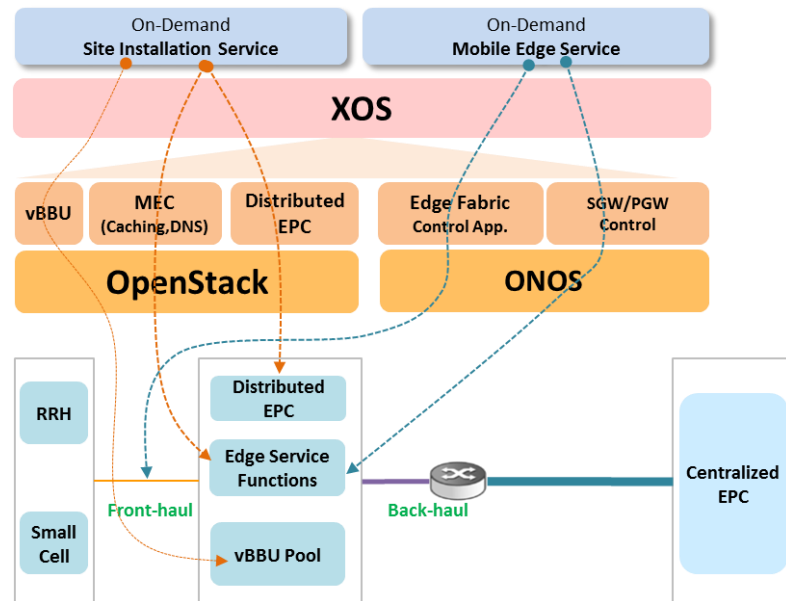
- Provision VMs and virtual networks

- **ONOS**

- Manage switching fabric
- Connectivity among virtual network functions  
'video traffic' to local edge service servers and distributed EPC  
and other traffic to centralized EPC

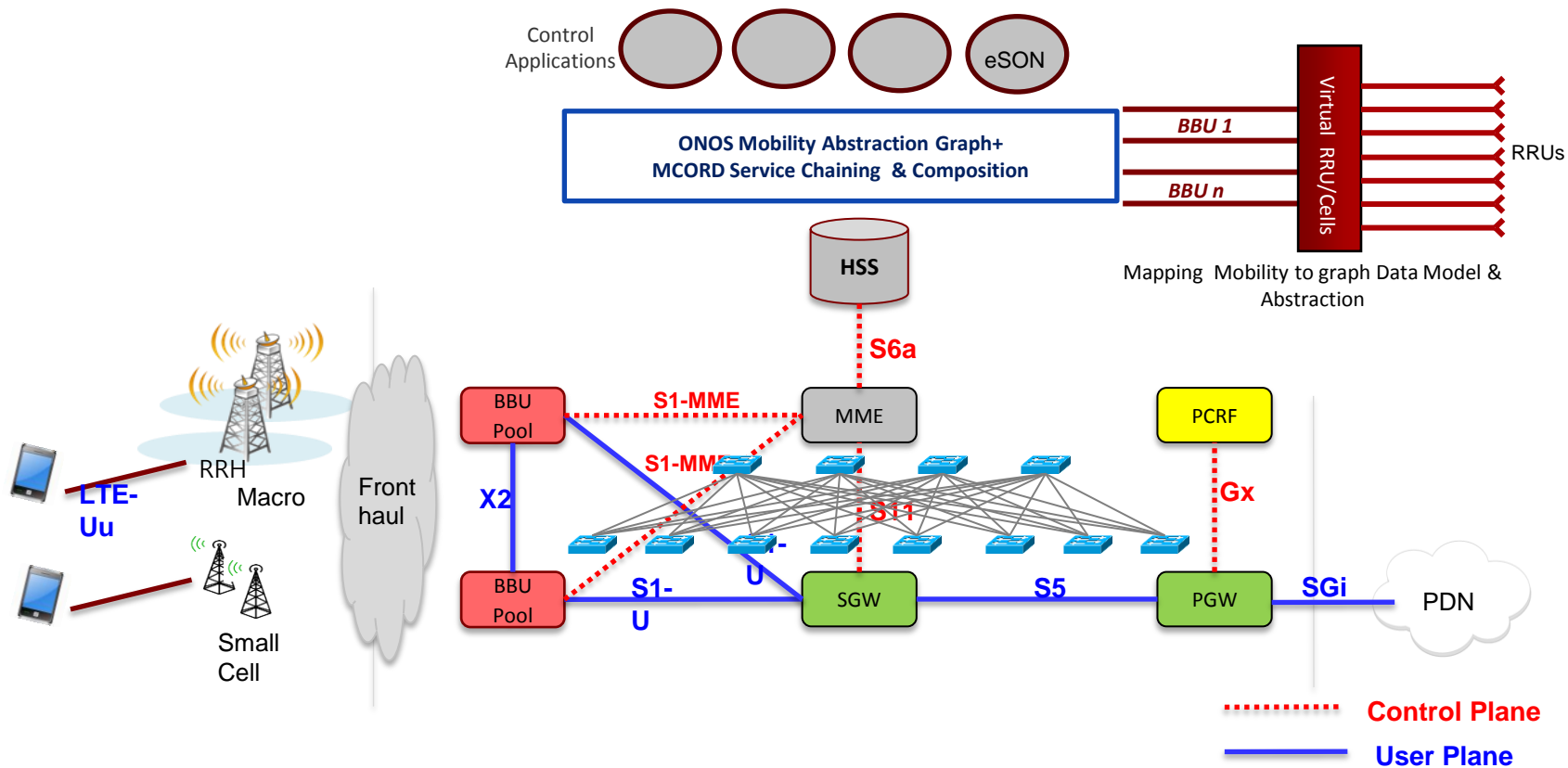
- **Control Applications**

- Video content caching
- DNS
- DPI
- MME, PCRF
- eSON



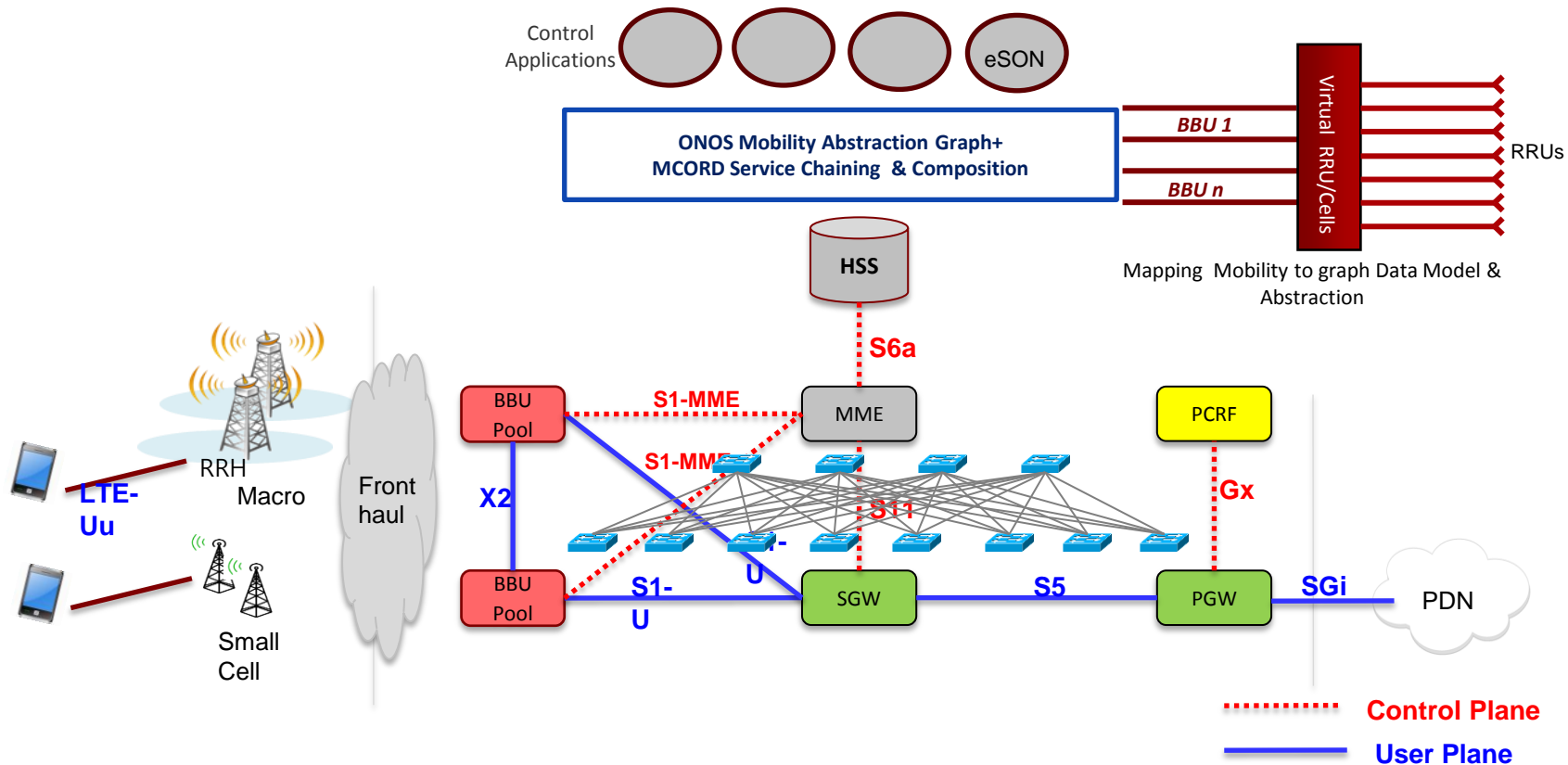


# Mobile Edge: Data Path



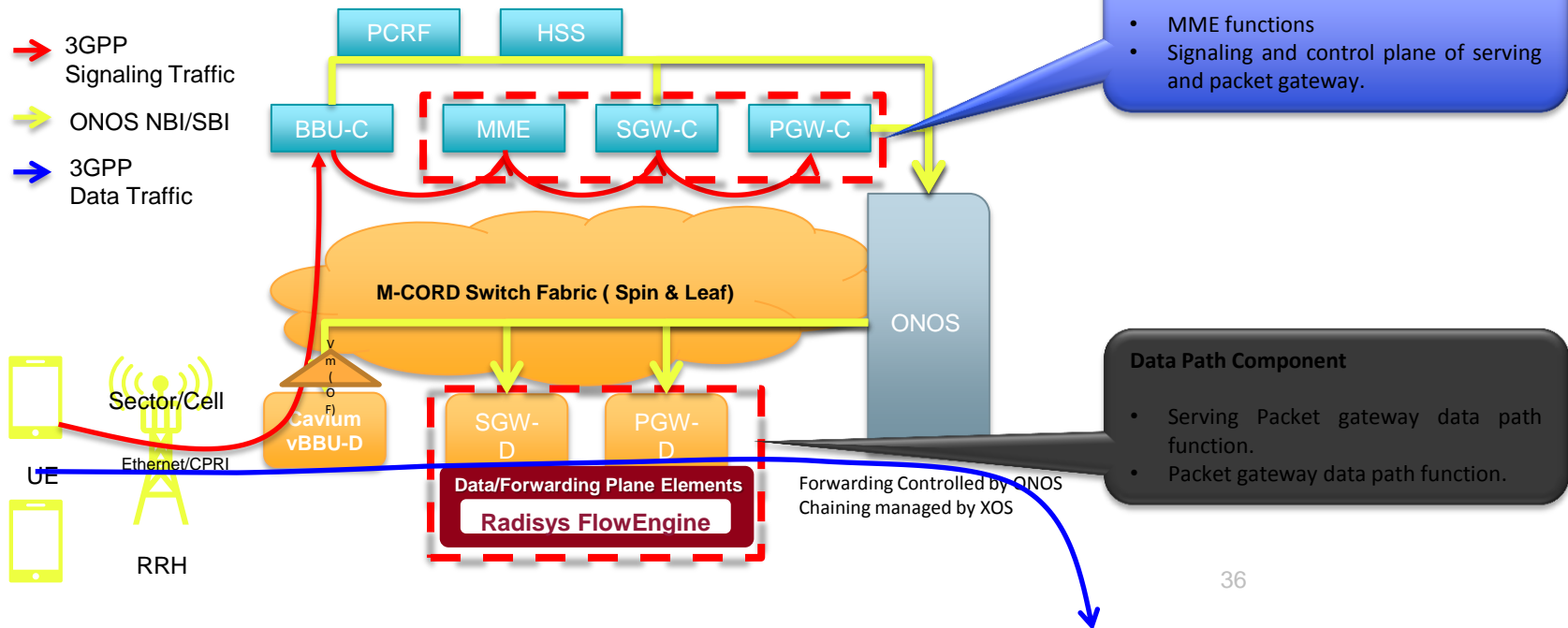
# Mobile Edge: Control Path

# Mobile Edge: CORD Control Path



# Mobile Edge Implementation Details

## Main Components of Segmented Gateway PoC

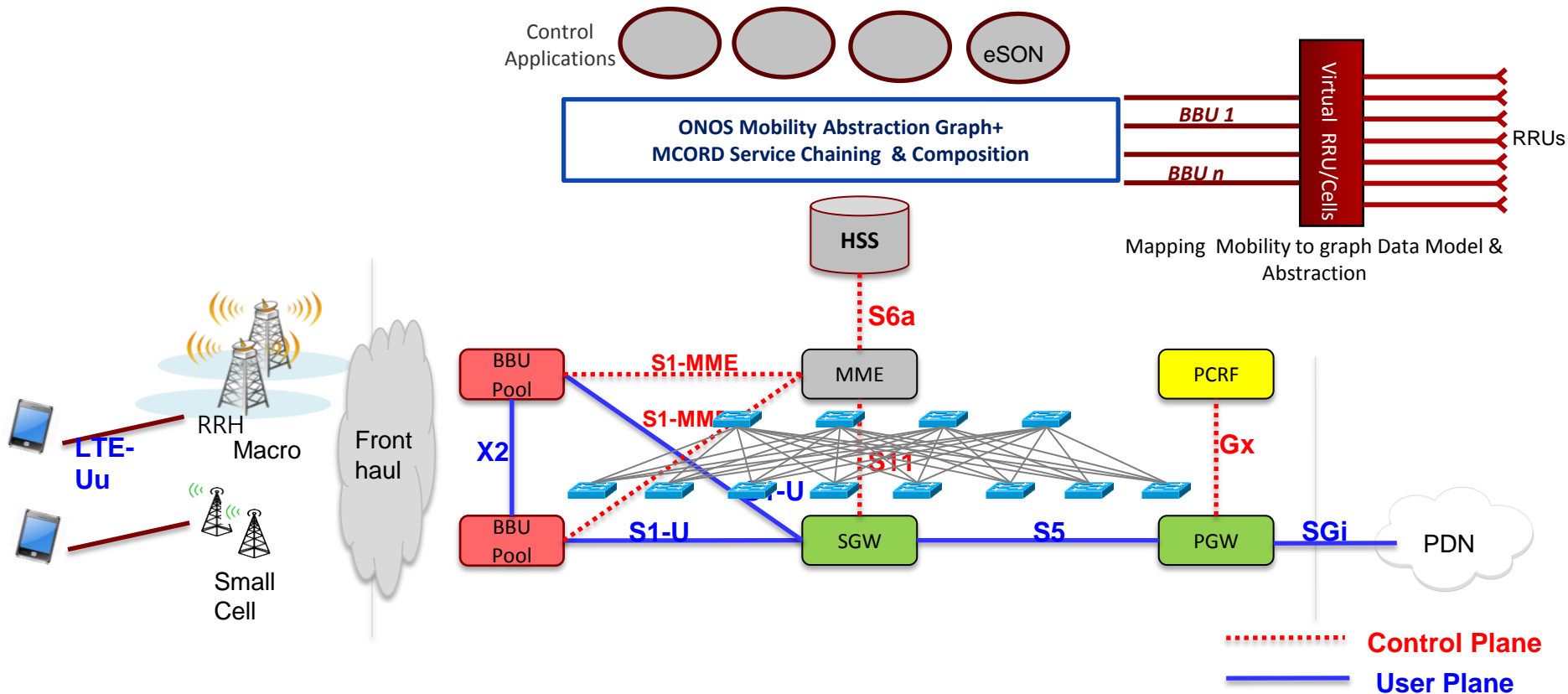


# Mobile Edge: Summary

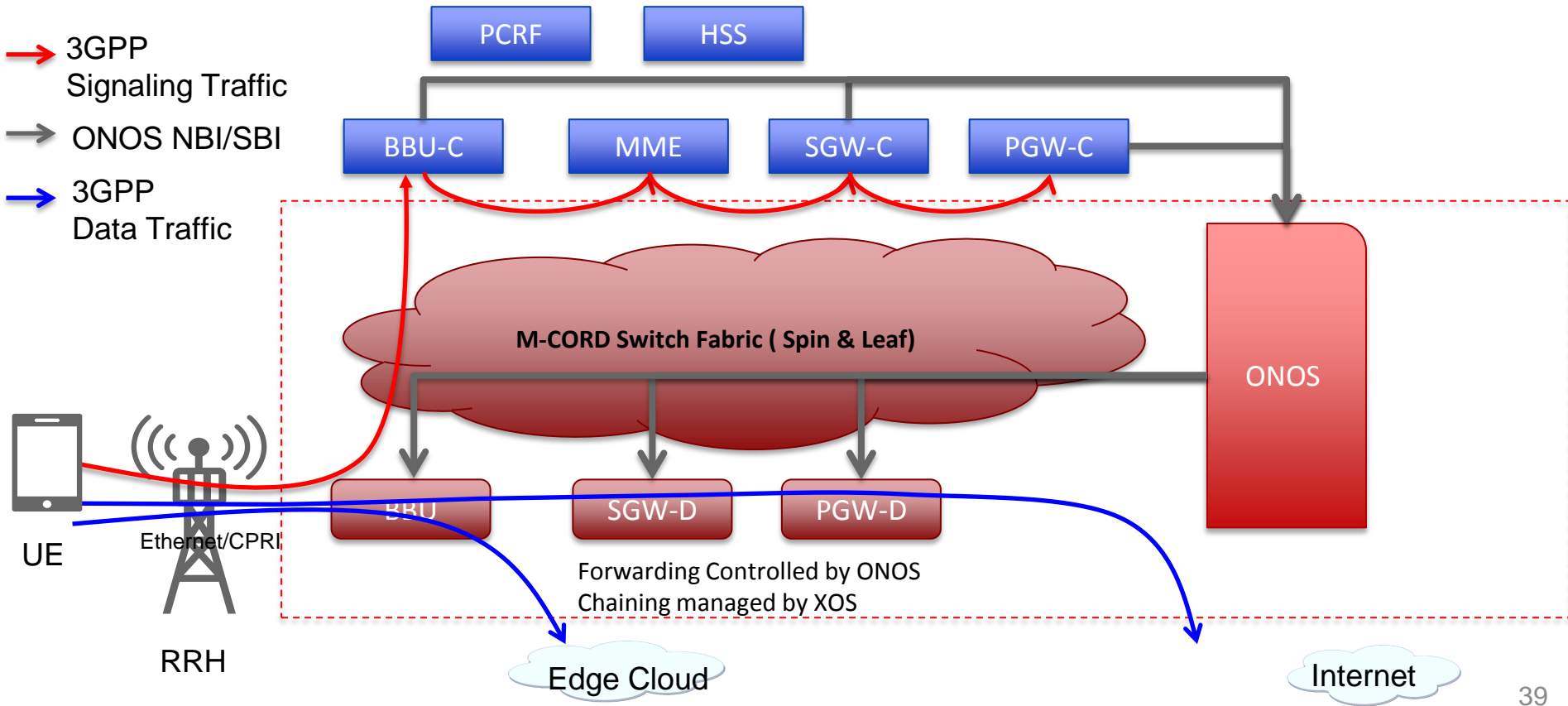
- POC at ONS in Mid March 2016
- Potential partners
  - Cavium (VBBU, Access)
  - NEC (Applications, Policy)
  - Radisys (Disaggregated PGWY)
  - Airhop (eSON application)
  - Ericcson (may be Central Core)
  - Aeroflex (Test and Integration)
- We will look for Applications to show benefits of Mobile Edge

# Mobile-CORD

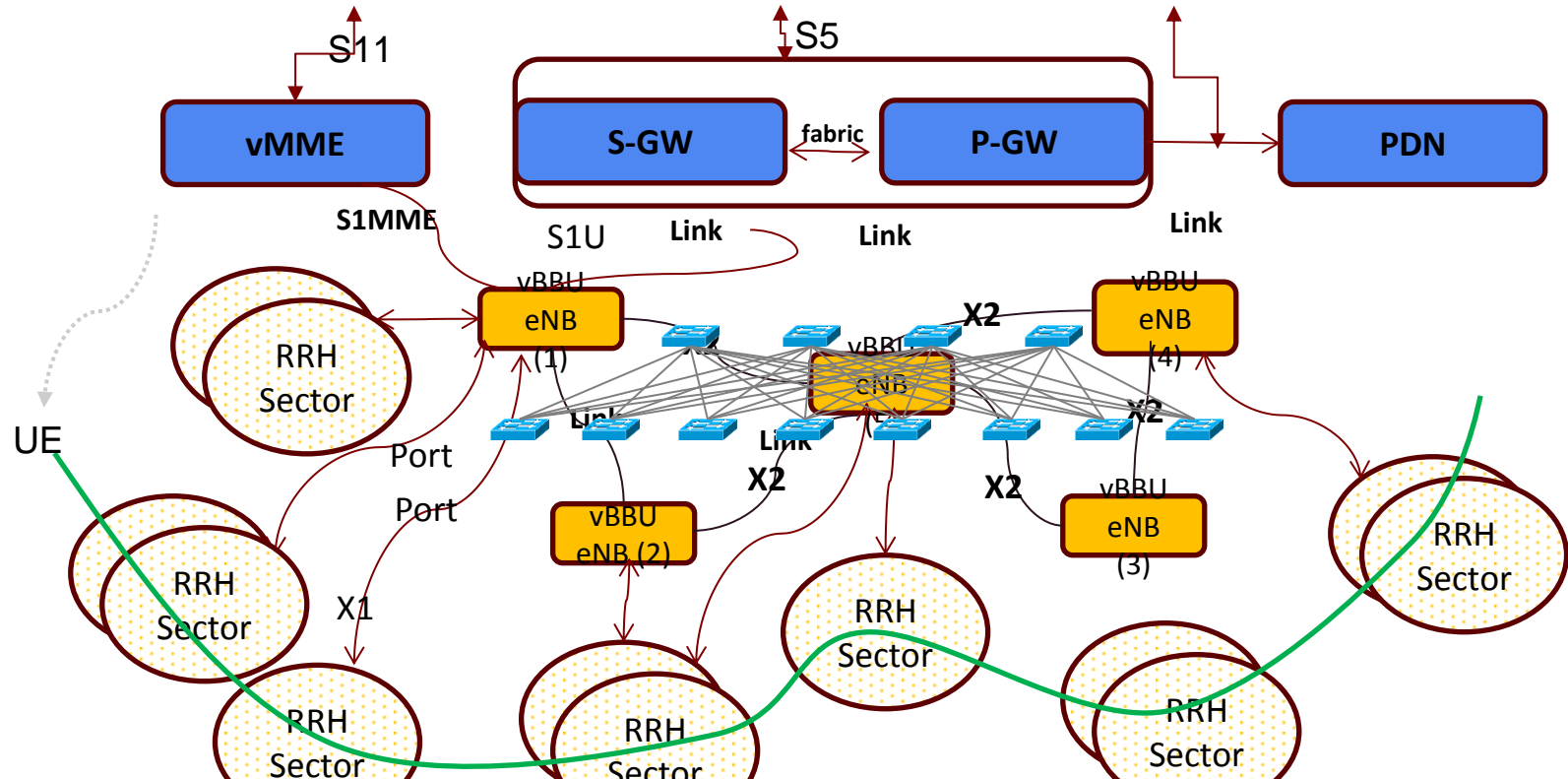
Simpler Deployment; Lower OPEX



# SDN(ONOS) Control for Mobile Network



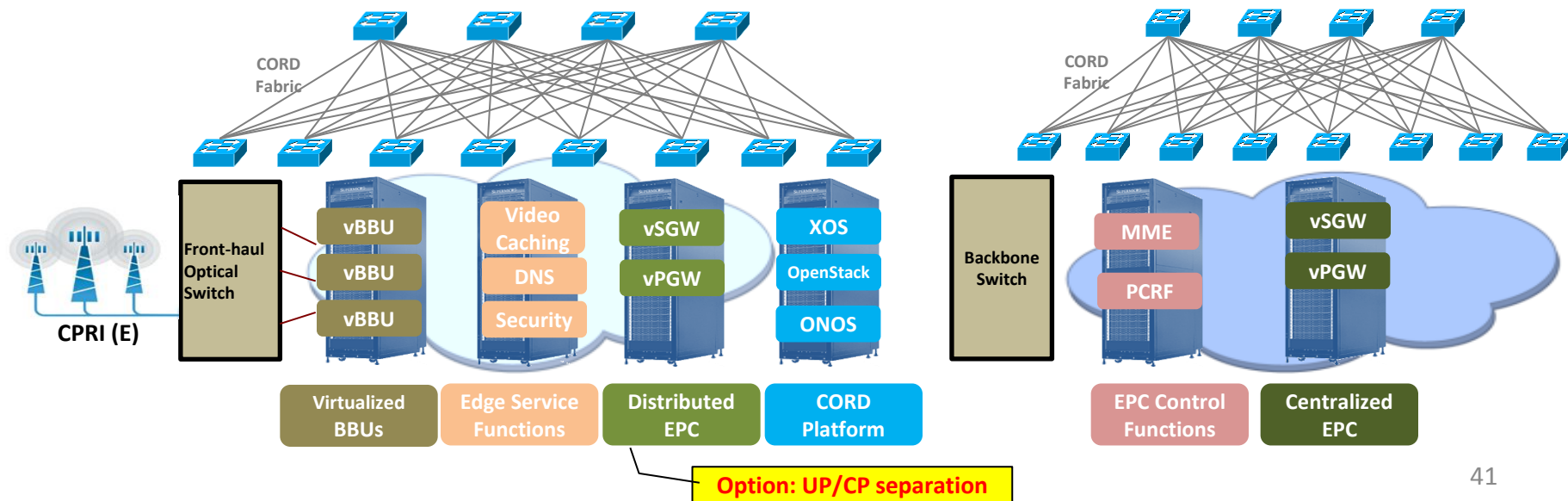
## Mobile CORD ONOS Data Model Graph





# POC Implementation

- **BBU:** Servers hosting VMs of BBU function
- **Edge Service Functions:** Servers hosting VMs of service functions like DPI, DNS and Video caching
- **Distributed EPC:** virtualized EPC (Decoupling of UP/CP is preferable)
- **EPC Control nodes:** Control nodes of EPC (MME, PCRF)
- **Mobile CORD Platform:** Servers hosting control software stack: XOS, Open Stack and ONOS
- **Mobile CORD Fabric:** White-box switches networking mobile edge components

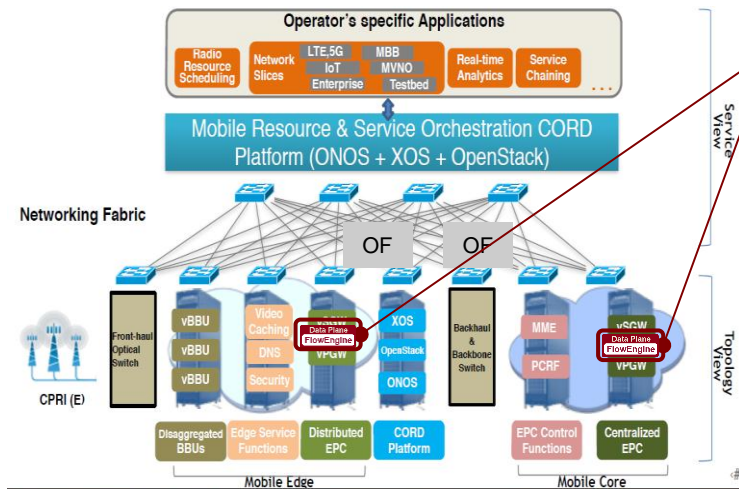


# Back-ups

# MCORD Mobile Edge POC

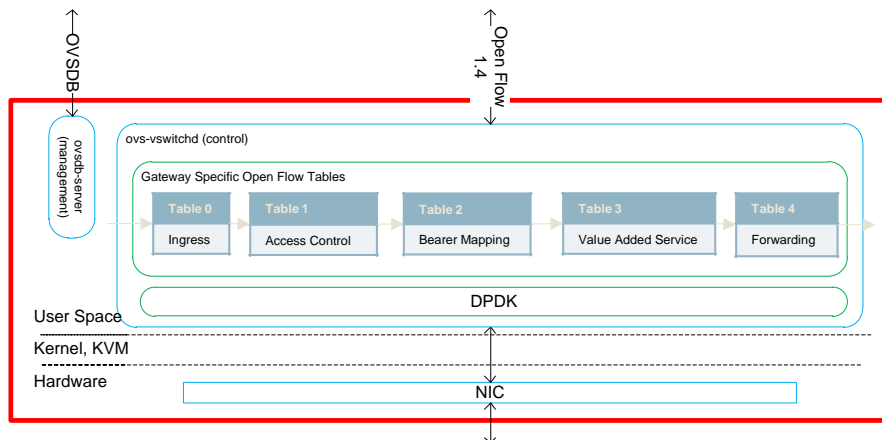
## - High Level Overview: Segmented GW (Data Path Component)

### Main Components of Segmented Gateway PoC: Data Path Component



**Component:** Radisys FlowEngine providing data/forwarding components for PGW and SGW  
**Location:** Distributed and Centralized EPC CORD Racks  
**Form Factor:** x86 COTS server (\*and EZchip NPU system for high scale/performance)  
 • \*NOTE: Radisys FlowEngine also supports deployment as leaf switch.

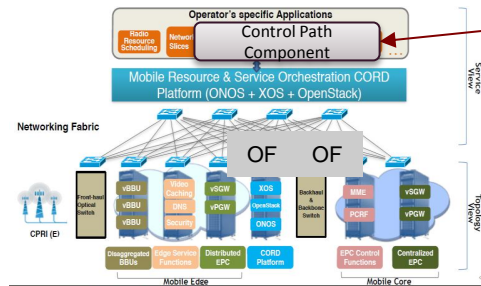
**High Level Block Diagram: Software switch, OVS based architecture**



# MCORD Mobile Edge POC

## High Level Overview: Segmented GW (Data Path Component)

### Main Components of Segmented Gateway PoC: Control Path Component



**Location :** Act as one of CORD application.

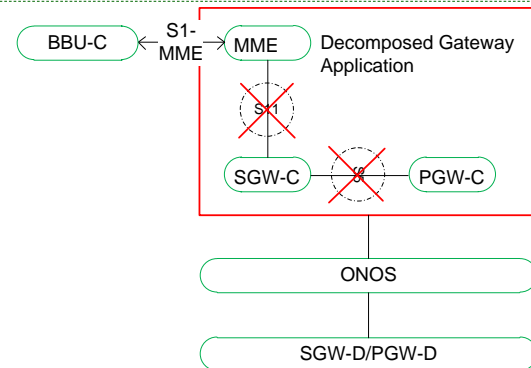
**Function:** Optimized, Colocated MME, SGW and PGW control plane function.

**Use Case:** Optimize LTE signaling overhead

**Why:** LTE core signaling (eNB -> MME, MME -> SGW) during idle to active (and vice versa) transition is not scalable for IoT deployments.

**How:** Make eNB to SGW bearer connection permanent, not to be teared down during UE idle state transition.

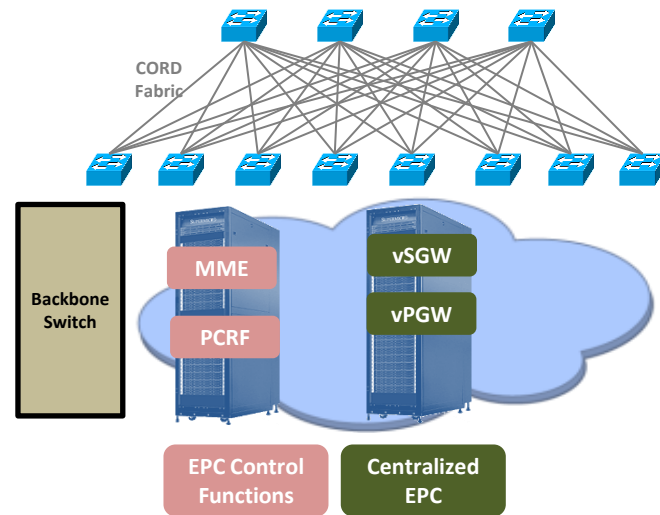
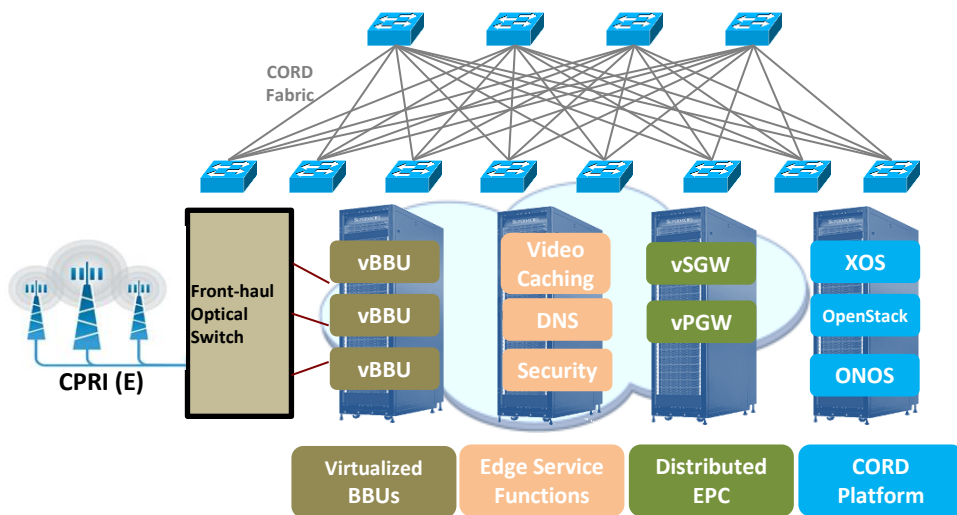
**Additional use case:** Connection less communication for IoT device, in case UE and eNB support it.  
[http://web2-clone.research.att.com/export/sites/att\\_labs/techdocs/TD\\_101553.pdf](http://web2-clone.research.att.com/export/sites/att_labs/techdocs/TD_101553.pdf)



- Optimize standard LTE interfaces S11, S1-C, S5-C and S8-C.
- During idle state transition SGW-C (and BBU-c) will not be asked to delete its S1-U bearer, SGW-D keeps the bearer information. OF flow timeout mechanism can be used to tune when bearer gets deleted in SGW-D.
  - (TBD) Interface with vBBU to keep GTP bearer intact during idle transition.
- When UE goes to active state and established RRC connection, no core signaling is needed to modify bearer in SGW-D.
- Form Factor: All of MME, SGW-C and PGW-C can be part of a VM with S11, S5-C/S8-C replaced by internal interface.

# Implementation Summary

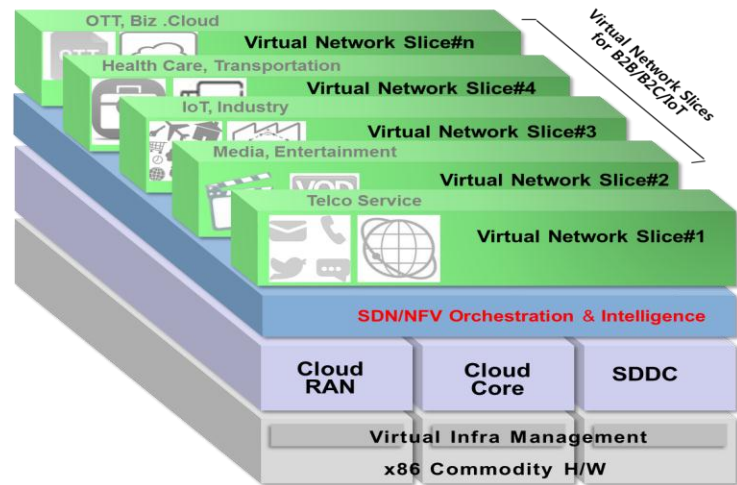
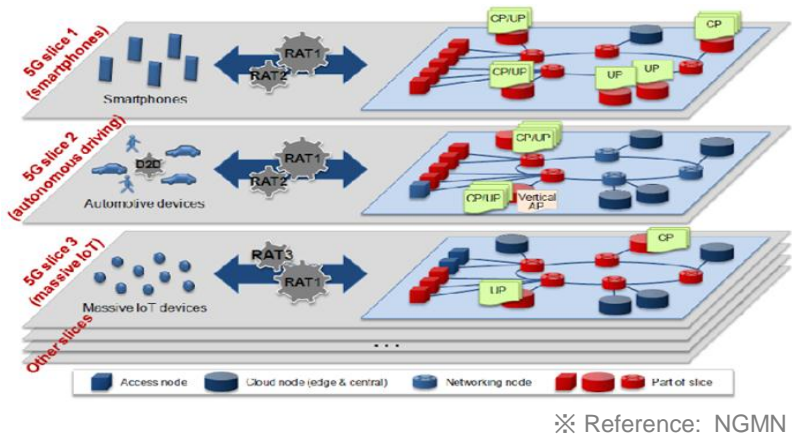
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# Network Slicing

- **Networks for the Customers' needs (SLA)**
  - Traditional: One network for all purpose with same architecture and configuration
  - Trend: **Network Slices to meet specific demands of customers and services (Network as a Service)**

## [ Concept References ]



※ Reference: SK Telecom

- **Key Enablers for Network Slicing**
  - Abstraction of network functions
  - Programmability of Networking
  - End to End Orchestration



**NFV**  
**SDN**