- An *initialization function* that is called when the ACE begins.
- An *exception handler* to receive packets sent by the microblock component and (optionally) an NCL program.
- A set of *action functions* that each correspond to one possible packet classification.
- A set of *crosscalls* the ACE is willing to accept.
- A set of *timer functions* used to handle timed events.
- A set of *callback functions* used to handle returned values.
- A *termination function* that is called when the ACE terminates.