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https://fluxcd.io https://gitops.community



Strategies for Multi-Cluster Routing





Workload Proximity





Failure Domains





Tenancy / k8s API Complexity



Team A























Reporting, Billing





Reporting, Billing





Misc.

Multiple KaaS providers

Hybrid-cloud

Migrations

B2B Networks

Mergers / Acquisitions







So you wanna route some packetz ...









































Service Type: NodePort / LoadBalancer

Layer 4 abstraction

Expose Service vIP's to outside traffic via - Node IP's

- Cloud Provider Public or Private IP

Declarative Config: external-dns for stable DNS cert-manager for TLS within app Pods



Service Type: NodePort / LoadBalancer





Ingress controllers

Reverse Proxy Services based on protocol specifics. Allows **1:1** and **1:many** setups.

Primarily a Layer 7 abstraction, some support L4 protocols

1:many setups reduce external network churn



Cloud Provider Ingress controllers

Cloud Providers sometimes expose an internet or VPC accessible IP and Load Balancer **per-Ingress (1:1)**

Still possible to route multiple Services within a Namespace

Powerful, Often **\$\$\$**



Self-managed Ingress controllers

Third-party / Self-managed solutions are often deployed in-cluster for **(1:many)** controllers for a number of Ingress resources.

- Composes well behind an L4 NodePort/LoadBalancer
- In-cluster Ingresses can be used to form a mesh



Ingress controllers

Declarative Config: external-dns for stable DNS cert-manager for terminated TLS

Use wildcard DNS/TLS for lower deploy-latency

requires API-enabled
 DNS zone for ACMEv2



Ingress





Ingress



Ingress



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Make Pod IP's natively routable beyond kubernetes Nodes

Use-case: *Run an Ingress Controller outside the Cluster*



Make Pod IP's natively routable beyond kubernetes Nodes

Use-cases: Run an Ingress Controller outside the Cluster Run an Ingress Controller **inside another** Cluster ;)



It's possible using Endpoints to determine & share which **Nodes** a **Service** has **Ready Pods** on.

You can advertise all of these Nodes' IP's as available routes for the Service vIP's!

ECMP (equal-cost multi-path) routing: load-balance / failover to those Nodes



BGP - Border Gateway Protocol

Share routes between Autonomous Systems Makes the Internet work (it's not that scary)

OSPF - Open Shortest Path First

Popular protocol within private networks (Single AS)







Note:

Each cluster needs a **unique** Service-subnet and Pod-subnet for multi-cluster route-sharing to make sense!



BGP CNI's:

- Calico (bird)
- Kube-router (can replace kube-proxy)
- Romana

Also see:

- FRRouting / Quagga (OSPF)
- Your own router



What about DNS? app.web.svc.cluster.local



DNS Forwarding

CoreDNS is the primary resolver in many k8s clusters

CoreDNS is extensible and very configurable

Reachable via the 10th IP in the Service Subnet of a cluster



DNS Forwarding





Route Sharing + DNS Forwarding

Extends the native k8s service-discovery and routing mesh beyond the cluster

1-hop Service routing for cross-cluster and non-Kubernetes workloads



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Layer 4 abstraction No built-in TLS / mTLS Prereq. for multi-cluster Service Meshes



Node-network Overlays / VPN's

CNI

weave net multicast ok (L2) Cilium wireguard + multi-cluster mesh

2-way UDP hole-punching / multi-NAT traversal Tailscale wireguard slackhq/nebula multicast ok ZeroTier multicast ok



Going further:

Network Policy: Controllers can be made aware of Pod identity from other clusters

KEP-1645: kubernetes-sigs/mcs-api

Cross-Cluster Service Meshes

Inter-Cluster orchestration Ex: Flux dependencies + Flagger kStatus (WIP)

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https://github.com/ stealthybox/multicluster-gitops







