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Introduction to Cilium from Telco and On-premise Perspective

Speaker: Yutaro Hayakawa



Self Introduction

- Yutaro Hayakawa (@YutaroHayakawa)
- Software Engineer at Isovalent
- Dataplane, enterprise networking, etc...
- ex-LINE Verda Network Development Team





Isovalent

- The vendor company provides networking, security and observability solutions for Kubernetes
- The company behind Cilium, Hubble, Tetragon, and more...
- Puts **eBPF** as a company's key technology









Trivia: Isovalent and SDN



Thomas Graf Co-founder & CTO



- Long-term Linux kernel development leader
- OVS core contributor



Dan Wendlandt Co-founder & CEO

- ex-Nicira, VMWare
- The first PM of Nicira
 NVP and OVS
- PM of VMWare NSX



Martin Casado

Creator of SDN

- Cofounder & CTO of Nicira
- General partner at a16z
- Serves on the board of Isovalent from a16z

eBPF

- A way to implement Linux kernel extension
- Safety guarantee by static verification
- Backward compatibility guarantee
 - No "upstream to avoid breakage"
 - No mainline \Rightarrow distribution gap period
 - Can do anything specific to your business inside the kernel
- Dramatically speed-ups kernel extension programming/delivery/maintenance cycle



https://ebpf.io/

Originally, created by...



Cilium

- CNI, Load Balancer, Firewall, Network
 Observability, Multi-cluster Networking,
 Service Mesh, and more...
- Uses eBPF for DPlane implementation
 Easy to extend, rapid development cycle



https://cilium.io

Cilium from On-prem and Telco Perspective

- Traditional Infrastructure \Rightarrow Cloud native infrastructure transition
 - Static IP vs Dynamic IP
 - Egress Gateway, FQDN-based Network Policy Ο
- Integrating Cilium into DC network
 - How to make k8s network accessible from DC network?
 - BGP Integration
- Integrating Cilium into SRv6 L3 VPN
 - How to make k8s network accessible over VPN?
 - BGP Integration with SRv6 VPN Ο

Without Egress Gateway

Egress Gateway

- Routes all IPv4 connections originating from pods and destined to specific cluster-external CIDRs through particular nodes
- Use fixed source IP address for egressing the cluster





With Egress Gateway

cluster





Egress Gateway: Why and How





FQDN-based Network Policy

• Filtering egress traffic based on the FQDN (or FQDN pattern) instead of IP addresses





FQDN-based Network Policy Implementation: L7 DNS Blocking

- How to allow service1.internal?
- Intercept DNS query from Pod with transparent proxy ${ } \bullet$
- Transparent proxy checks the query and if matches to the allow policy





service1.internal (10.0.0.1)

service2.internal (10.0.2)

FQDN-based Network Policy Implementation: L7 DNS Blocking

- How to deny service2.internal?
- When the query didn't match to the allow policy, transparent proxy returns error



• How to deny service2.internal





DNS

Server

service1.internal (10.0.0.1)



service2.internal (10.0.2)

• How to allow service1.internal



DNS Server

service1.internal (10.0.0.1)

service2.internal (10.0.0.2)

• How to allow service1.internal



• The transparent proxy is TTL-aware



BGP Integration

 Cilium speaks BGP to advertise k8s network prefixes (e.g. PodCIDR, Service VIP, Egress Gateway IP, etc...)



SRv6 L3 VPN DPlane + BGP Control Plane

- Cilium speaks BGP to advertise PodCIDR over SRv6 L3 VPN
- Cilium implements eBPF-based SRv6 encap/decap and VRF DPIane
- Telco use case: k8s + Cilium as an SRv6-aware MEC platform





SRv6 L3 VPN DPlane + BGP Control Plane



Last Words

- We're use case driven community, so don't hesitate to file issues even if it is niche
- We are hiring





Join the Cilium community https://cilium.io/get-involved/



Join the Isovalent https://isovalent.com/careers/

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Thank you!



