

The Problem :-

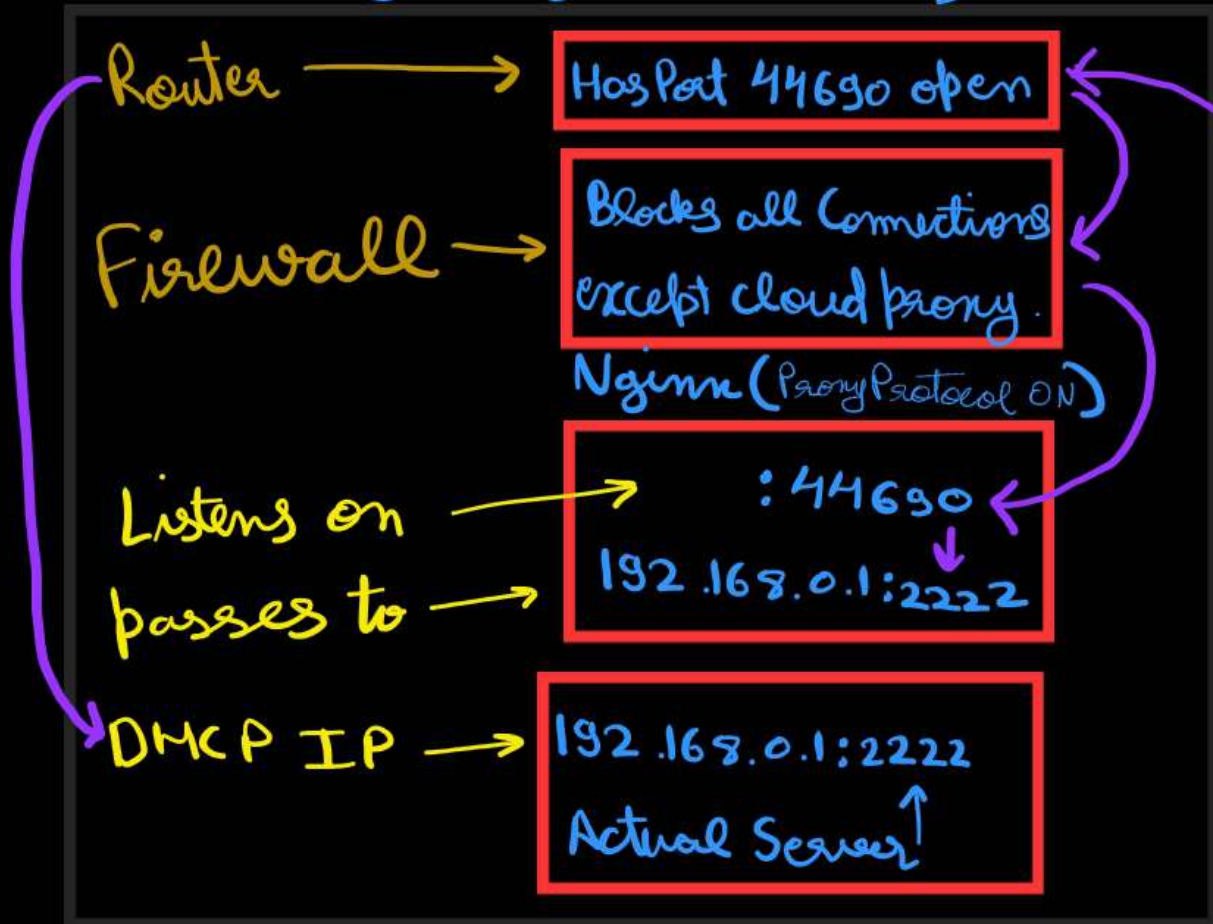
Obfuscate a public facing business service that is located on premise that runs multiple different applications where inbound and outbound traffic is generated. (Around 20TB bandwidth has been transferred till now).

The Solution :-

Reverse Proxies!! I chose NGINX as it offered Load Balancing, performance optimisation and flexibility built in.

Next there is a diagram of the setup and my thought process 😊

Home-Server (Isolated)



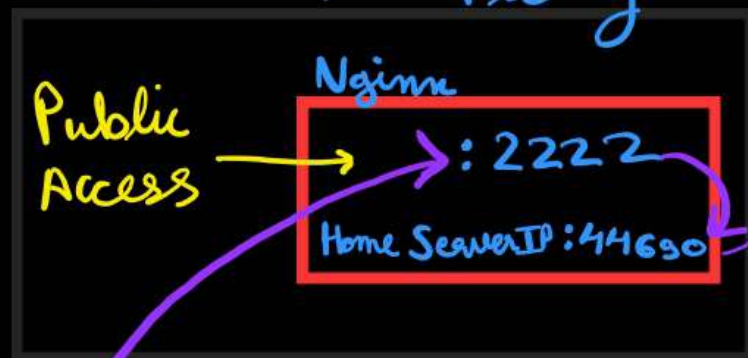
what ppl see

people {

Domain

Cloud. IP

Cloud - Proxy (Public)



* The reason why traffic isn't directly sent to the actual application is due to it being in a docker container which is configured in a way that if firewall rules are applied on the container it will break.

* If you noticed that the Business - Proxy has the same port as the Home Server, it is intentional and used for obfuscation

Now, the problem.

As it is a on premise machine AKA hosted on a business location due to security reasons. The IP changed quite frequently.
(Static IP was not possible)

The Solution,

ANSIBLE!!, Now if you are asking what is ansible, then in a nutshell it is a OPEN-SOURCE automation tool that automates various IT Processes.

The Approach,

- Set up ansible environment
 - Setting up SSH Keys
 - The Playbook!!
- ↓

Runs On
On
Premise {

- Step 1: Gathers facts
- Step 2: Gets the current IP Address of the machine.
- Step 3: Saves it as a fact

Runs On
Cloud
Proxy {

- Step 4: Gathers facts
- Step 5: Ensures all packages exist
- Step 6: Gets the IP of On premise-machine and saves it
- Step 7-10: Updates all config files with the new IP's
- Step 11: Reloads NGINX

* If you took note of step 5. The playbook is designed with the thought process that if the proxy machine is changed, no extra setup is required except setting up SSH Keys!

A pretty neat detail huh '!

If you have read this far, thank you from the bottom of my heart for sticking with me. I truly appreciate you being here.