

Liberating K8s from kube-proxy and iptables (and netfilter)

Martynas Pumputis, Cilium

(Daniel Borkmann, Thomas Graf, André Martins)



Performance

```
# perf top -a -e cycles:k
```

PerfTop: 16326 irqs/sec (all, 4 CPUs)

8.79% [kernel]	[k] native_sched_clock
4.99% [ip_tables]	[k] ipt_do_table
3.09% [e1000e]	[k] e1000_irq_enable
2.51% [nf_conntrack]	[k] __nf_conntrack_find_get
2.03% [kernel]	[k] fib_table_lookup
1.98% [kernel]	[k] sched_clock_cpu
1.75% [nf_conntrack]	[k] tcp_packet
1.65% [nf_conntrack]	[k] nf_conntrack_tuple_taken
[...]	

Reliability

DNS intermittent delays of 5s #56903

Closed mikkoone opened this issue on Dec 6, 2017 · 230 comments

mikkoone commented on Dec 6, 2017 • edited

+ ...

Is this a BUG REPORT or FEATURE REQUEST?:
/kind bug

What happened:
DNS lookup is sometimes taking 5 seconds.

What you expected to happen:
No delays in DNS.

Assignees
No one assigned

Labels

area/dns
kind/bug
sig/network



Reliability

DNS intermittent delays of 5s #56903

 Closed

mikksoone opened this issue on Dec 6, 2017 · 230 comments



mikksoone commented on Dec 6, 2017 • edited

+ ...

Is this a BUG REPORT or FEATURE REQUEST?:

/kind bug

What happened:

DNS lookup is sometimes taking 5 seconds.

What you expected to happen:

No delays in DNS.

Assignees

No one assigned

Labels

area/dns

kind/bug

sig/network

First occurrence
of bug

Nov 11, 2010

Patches
merged

Feb 11, 2019

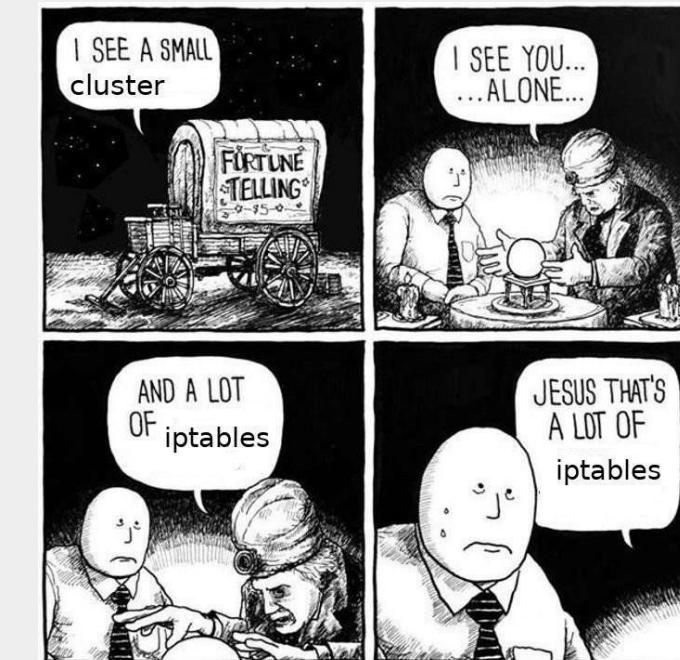


Debuggability

```
# iptables-save -c

*filter
:INPUT ACCEPT [0:0]
:FORWARD ACCEPT [0:0]
:OUTPUT ACCEPT [0:0]
[1:10] -A FORWARD -i eth0 -s 172.17.0.0/16 -j DROP
```

Debuggability



https://www.reddit.com/r/networkingmemes/comments/8u7jyz/container_networking/

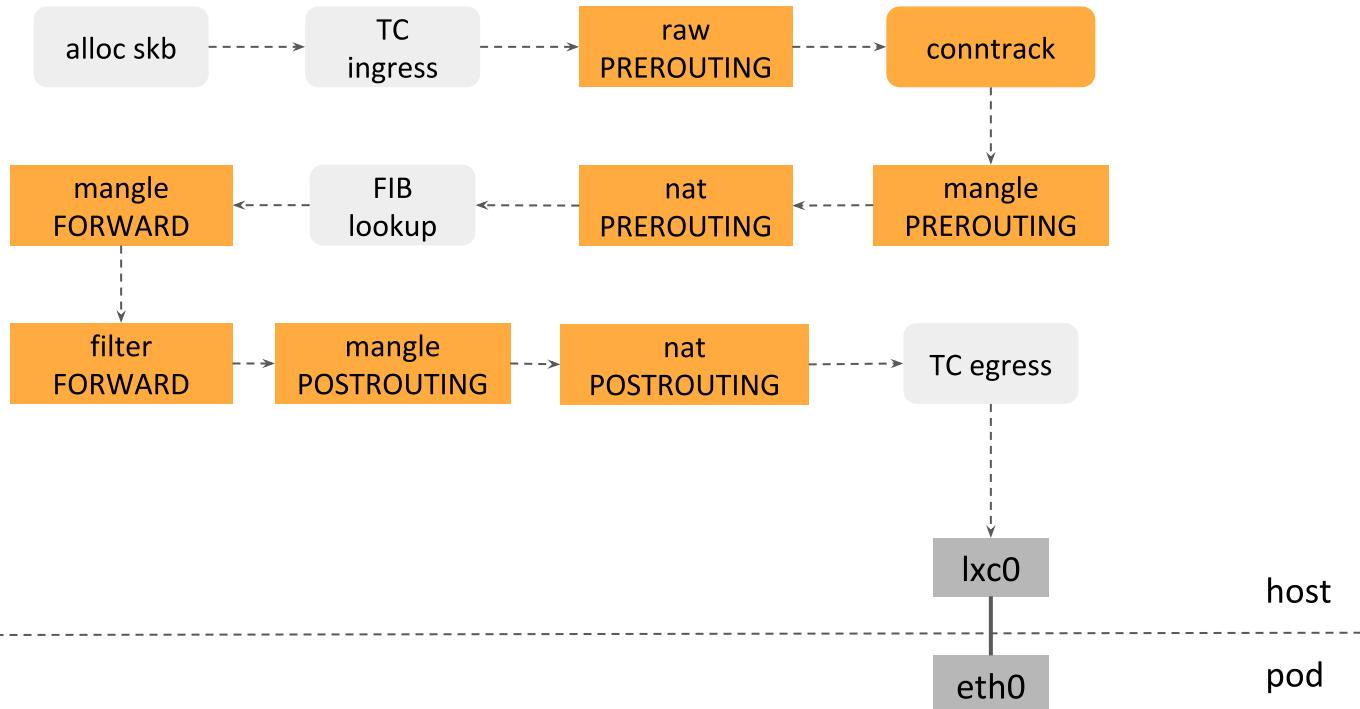
Compatibility

kube-proxy currently incompatible with `iptables >= 1.8`
[#71305](#)

 Open

drags opened this issue on Nov 21, 2018 · 75 comments · May be fixed by [#82966](#) or [#84420](#)

Packet flow



ClusterIP with iptables

```
$ kubectl get svc nginx
NAME      TYPE        CLUSTER-IP    EXTERNAL-IP   PORT(S)
nginx    ClusterIP   3.3.3.3       <none>        80/TCP
```

```
$ kubectl get endpoints nginx
NAME      ENDPOINTS
nginx    1.1.1.1:80, 1.1.2.2:80
```

```
-t nat -A PREROUTING -m conntrack --ctstate NEW -j KUBE-SERVICES

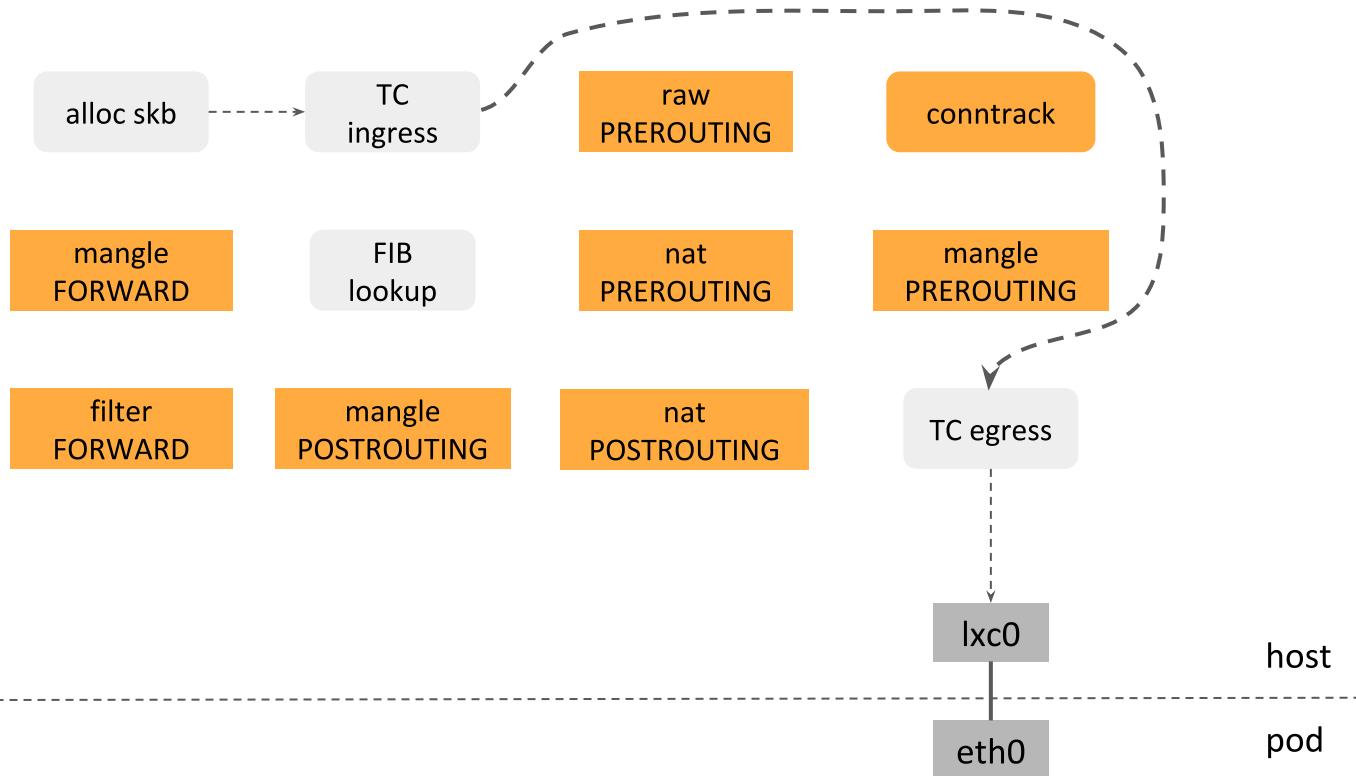
-A KUBE-SERVICES ! -s 1.1.0.0/16 -d 3.3.3.3/32 -p tcp -m tcp --dport 80 -j KUBE-MARK-MASQ
-A KUBE-SERVICES -d 3.3.3.3/32 -p tcp -m tcp --dport 80 -j KUBE-SVC-NGINX

-A KUBE-SVC-NGINX -m statistic --mode random --probability 0.50 -j KUBE-SEP-NGINX1
-A KUBE-SVC-NGINX -j KUBE-SEP-NGINX2

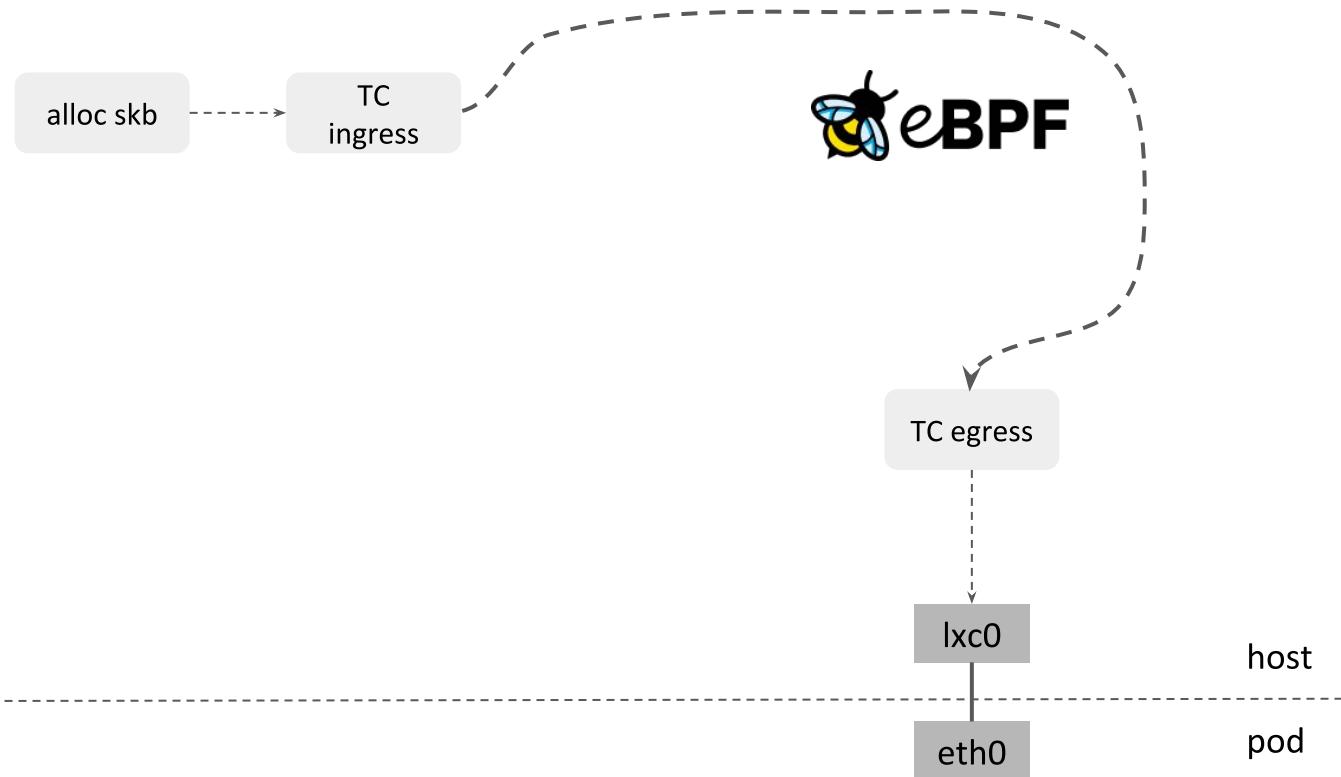
-A KUBE-SEP-NGINX1 -s 1.1.1.1/32 -j KUBE-MARK-MASQ
-A KUBE-SEP-NGINX1 -p tcp -m tcp -j DNAT --to-destination 1.1.1.1:80
-A KUBE-SEP-NGINX2 -s 1.1.2.2/32 -j KUBE-MARK-MASQ
-A KUBE-SEP-NGINX2 -p tcp -m tcp -j DNAT --to-destination 1.1.2.2:80
```

nat
PREROUTING

Packet flow



Packet flow





```
SEC("to_netdev")
int handle(struct sk_buff *skb) {
    ...
    if (tcp->dport == 80)
        redirect(nginx_pod);
    ...
}
```

```
clang -target bpf [...]
```

```
foo.o
```

```
eBPF loader
```

```
bpf(BPF_PPROG_LOAD, ...)
```

```
agent
```

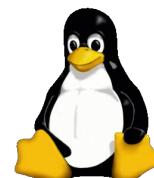
```
BPF  
maps
```

```
native code
```

```
JIT
```

```
eBPF  
verifier
```

```
eth0
```



userspace

kernel



268 contributors (Jan 2016 to Nov 2019):

- 443 Daniel Borkmann (Cilium; maintainer)
- 242 Alexei Starovoitov (Facebook; maintainer)
- 210 Jakub Kicinski (Netronome)
- 195 Andrii Nakryiko (Facebook)
- 161 Yonghong Song (Facebook)
- 151 Stanislav Fomichev (Google)
- 145 Quentin Monnet (Netronome)
- 144 Martin KaFai Lau (Facebook)
- 139 John Fastabend (Cilium)
- 118 Jesper Dangaard Brouer (Red Hat)
- [...]

Users:



Replies to [@LaFOrge](#)

Well, iptables perf used to be "mostly good enough". Replacing it has taken so long because it requires a radically different approach; nice to see it finally happening!

12:46 AM · Apr 18, 2018 · [Twitter for Android](#)

```
$ kubectl -n kube-system delete ds kube-proxy
```

kube-proxy

1. ClusterIP

- In-cluster access via virtual IP

2. NodePort

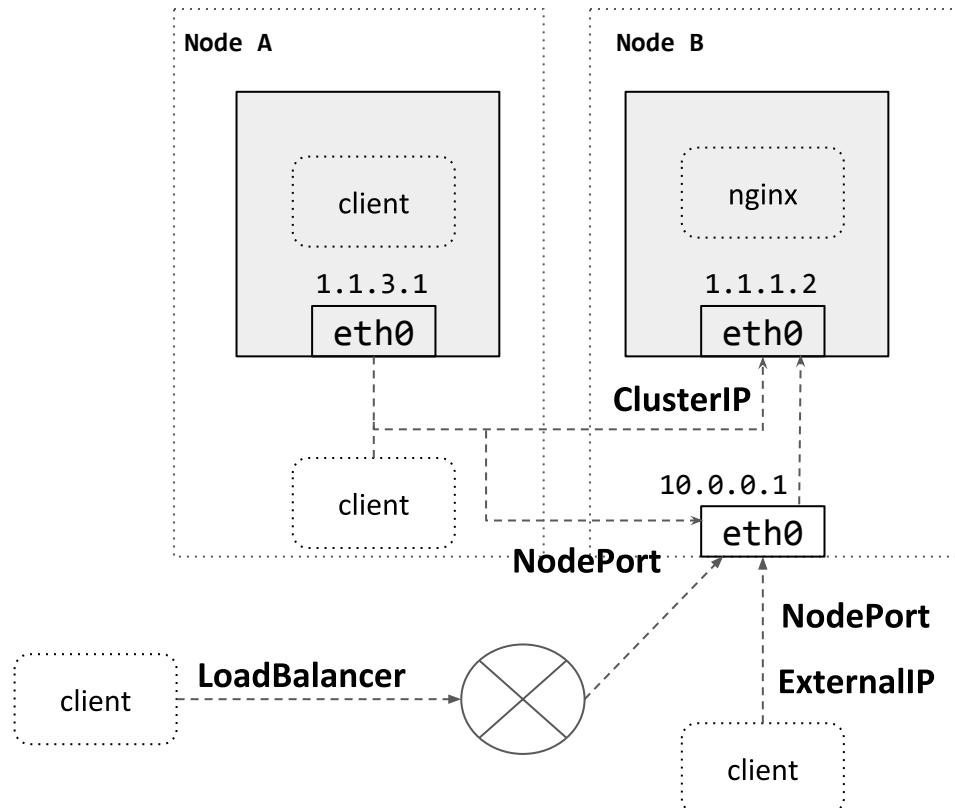
- Access from outside / inside via node IP + port

3. ExternalIP

- Access from outside via external IP

4. LoadBalancer

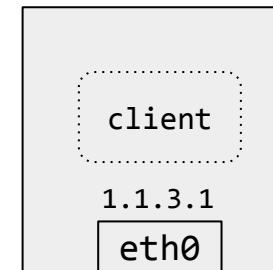
- Access from outside via external LB



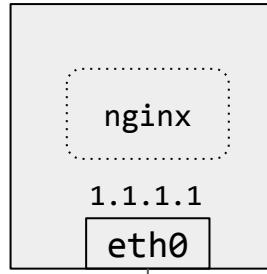
ClusterIP (pod to pod) in Cilium

1. Lookup dst in SVC map
2. If found:
 - a. Create SVC CT
 - b. DNAT
3. Create Egress CT

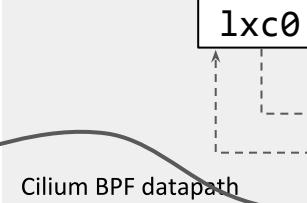
1. Lookup Egress CT
2. If found:
 - a. Rev-NAT xlation
3. Redirect to lxc0



Node A



Node B

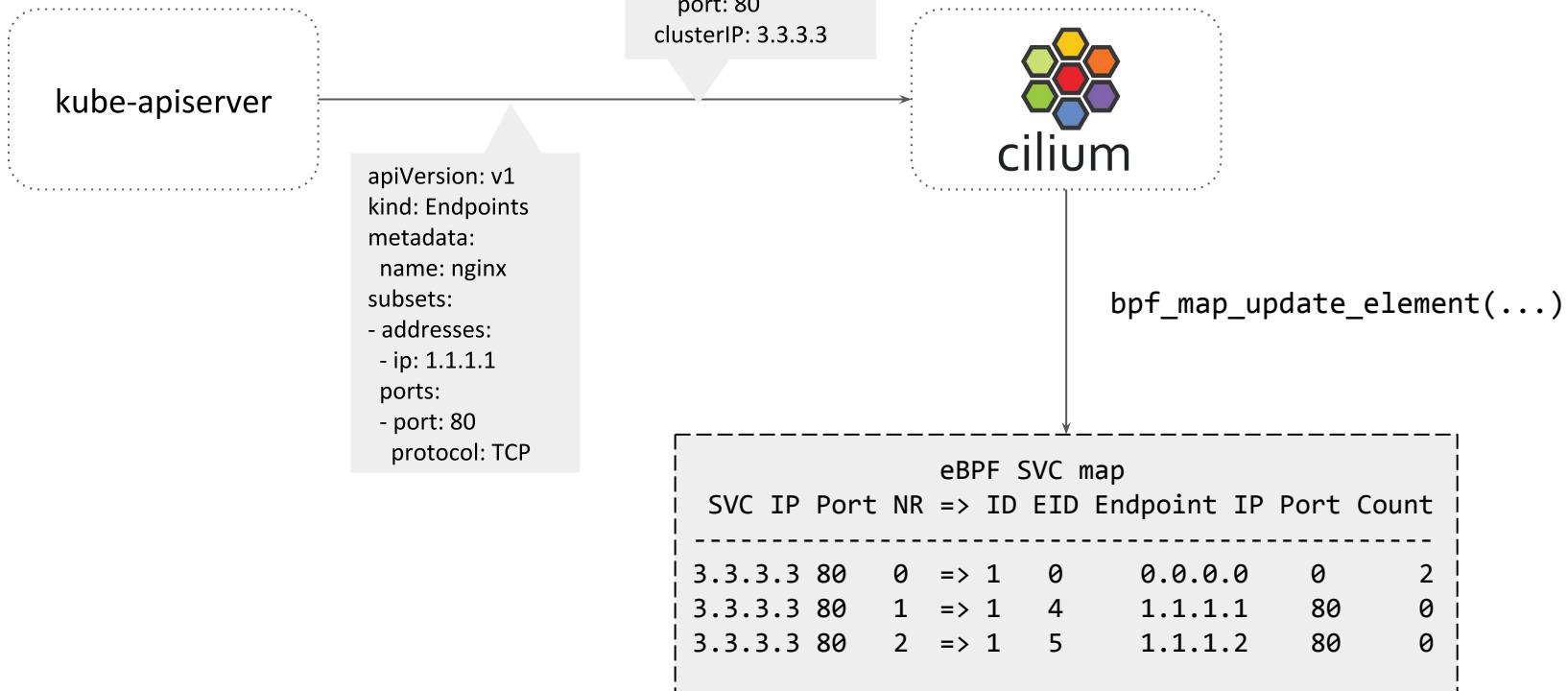


3.3.3.3:80 (ClusterIP)

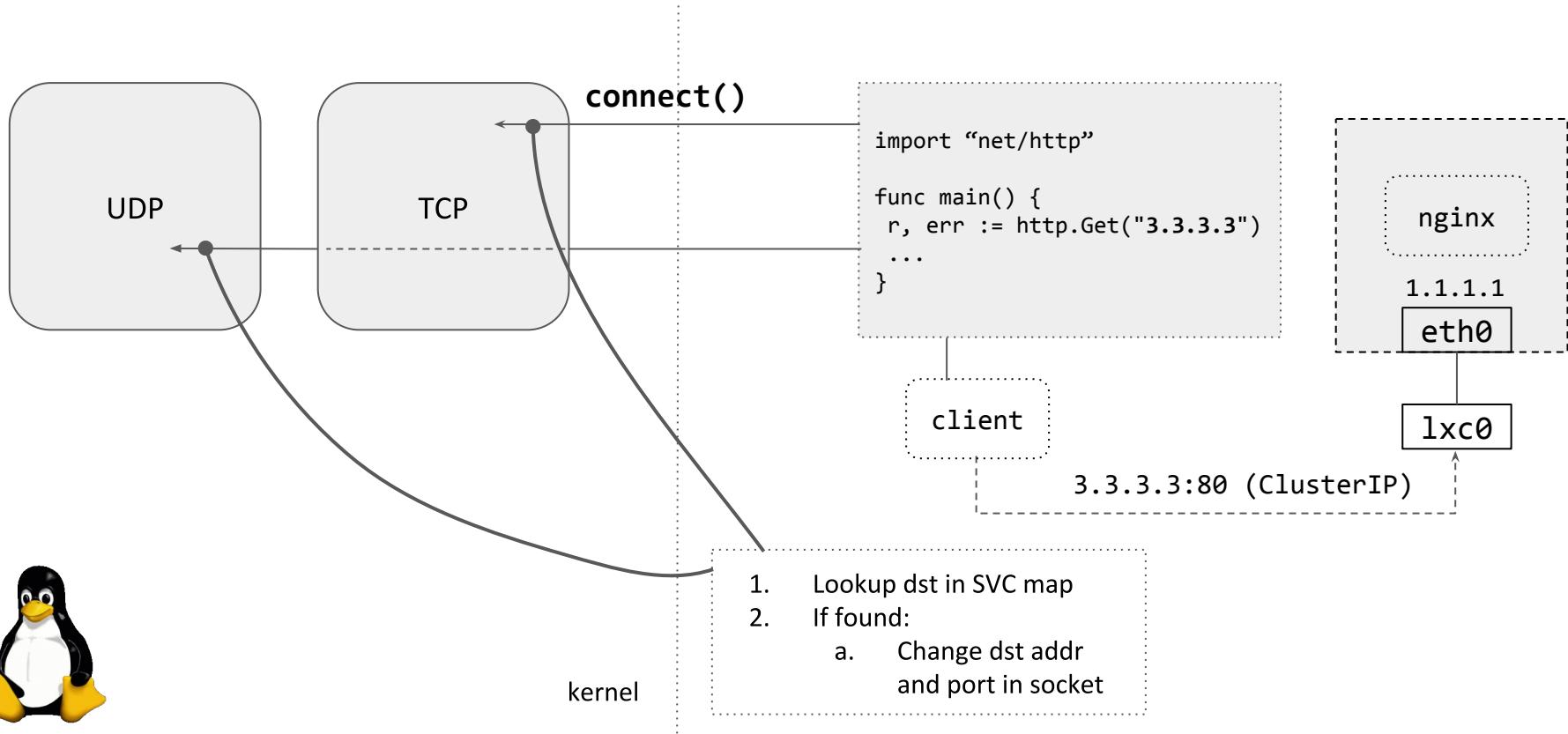
eBPF SVC map						
SVC IP	Port	NR	=>	ID	EID	Endpoint IP
3.3.3.3	80	0	=>	1	0	0.0.0.0
3.3.3.3	80	1	=>	1	4	1.1.1.1
3.3.3.3	80	2	=>	1	5	1.1.1.2
						Port Count
						0 2
						0 0
						0 0

eBPF conntrack LRU map						
srcIP	sPort	dstIP	dPort	Type	=>	EID SVCID
1.1.3.1	4321	3.3.3.3	80	SVC	=>	4
1.1.3.1	4321	1.1.1.1	80	Egress	=>	1
1.1.1.1	80	1.1.3.1	4321	Ingress	=>	

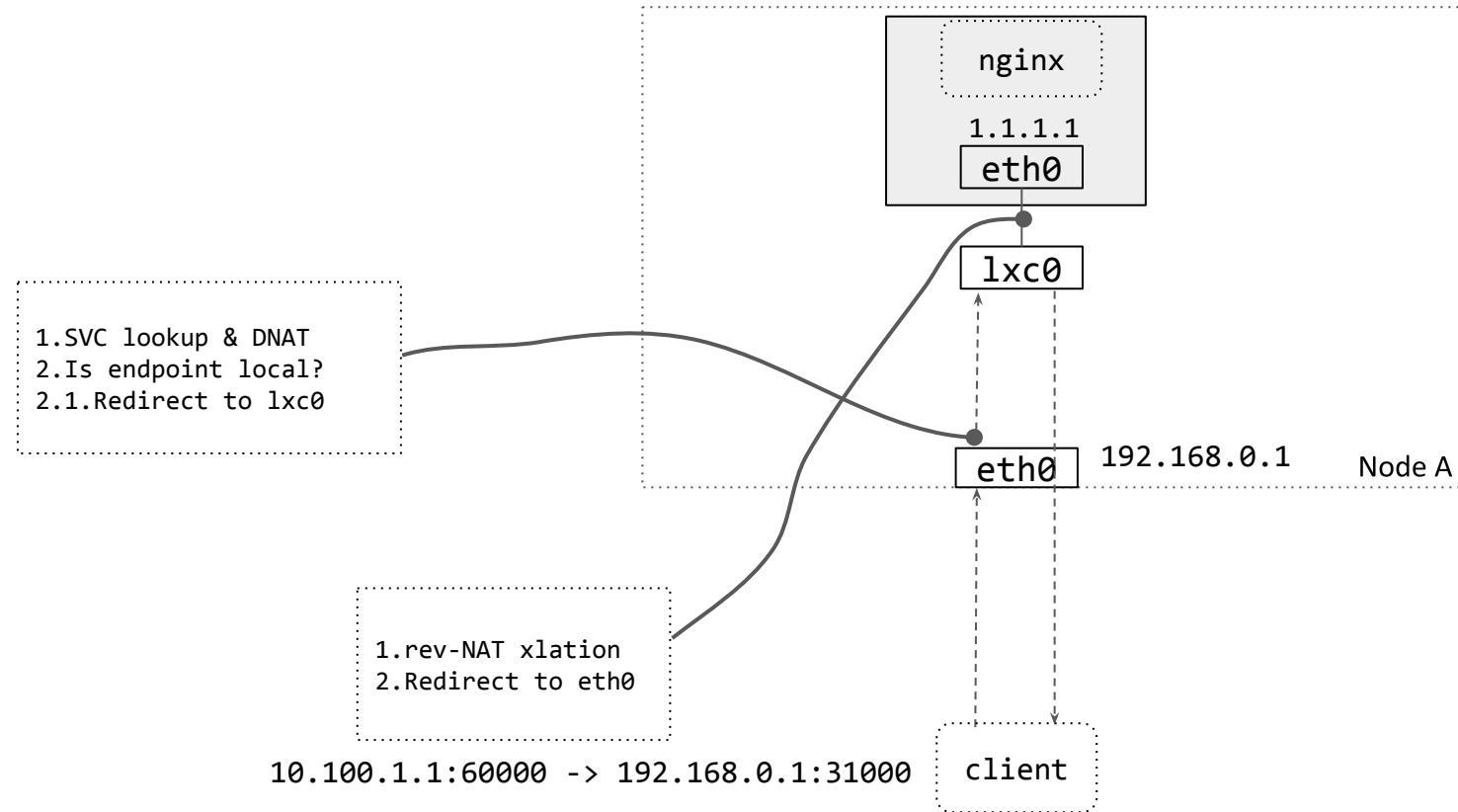
Cilium service maps



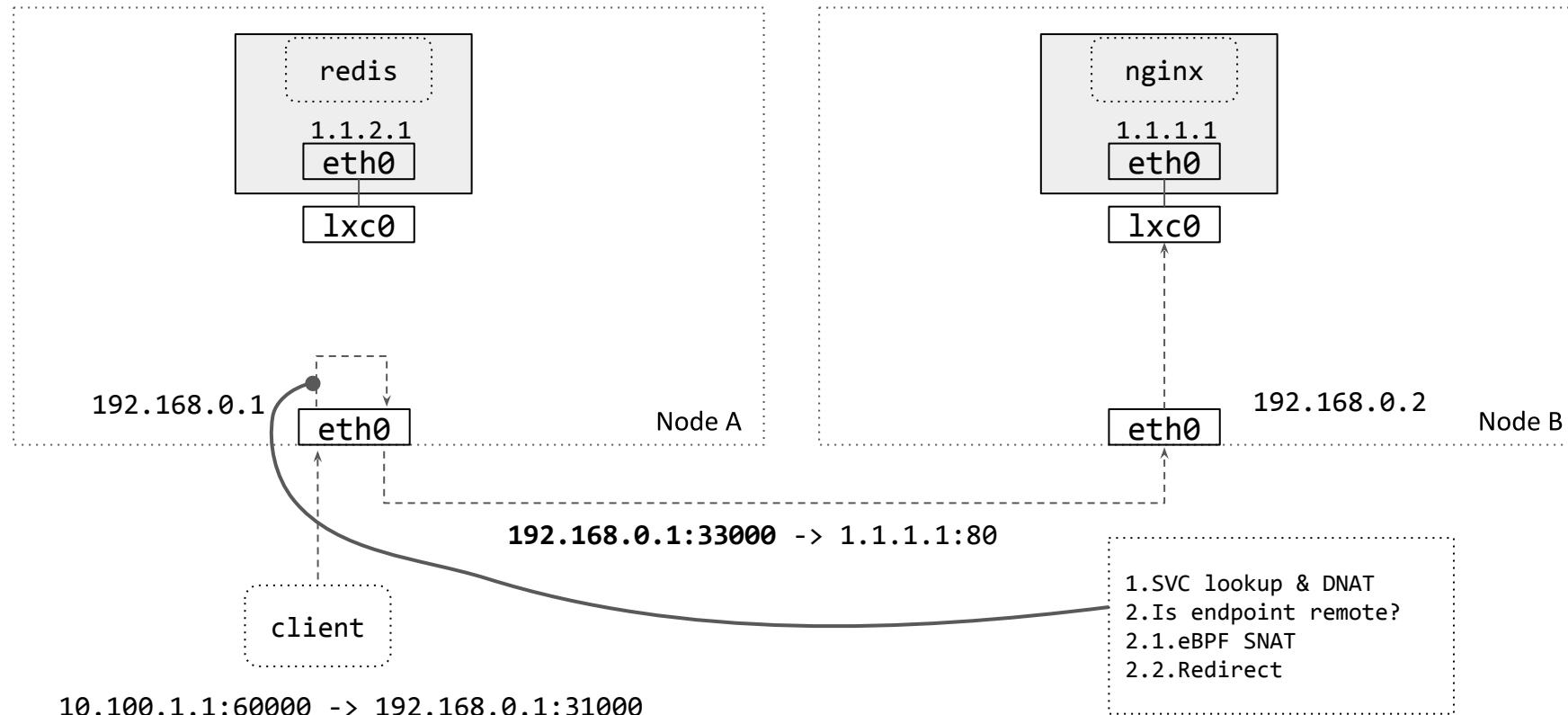
ClusterIP (host or pod to pod) in Cilium



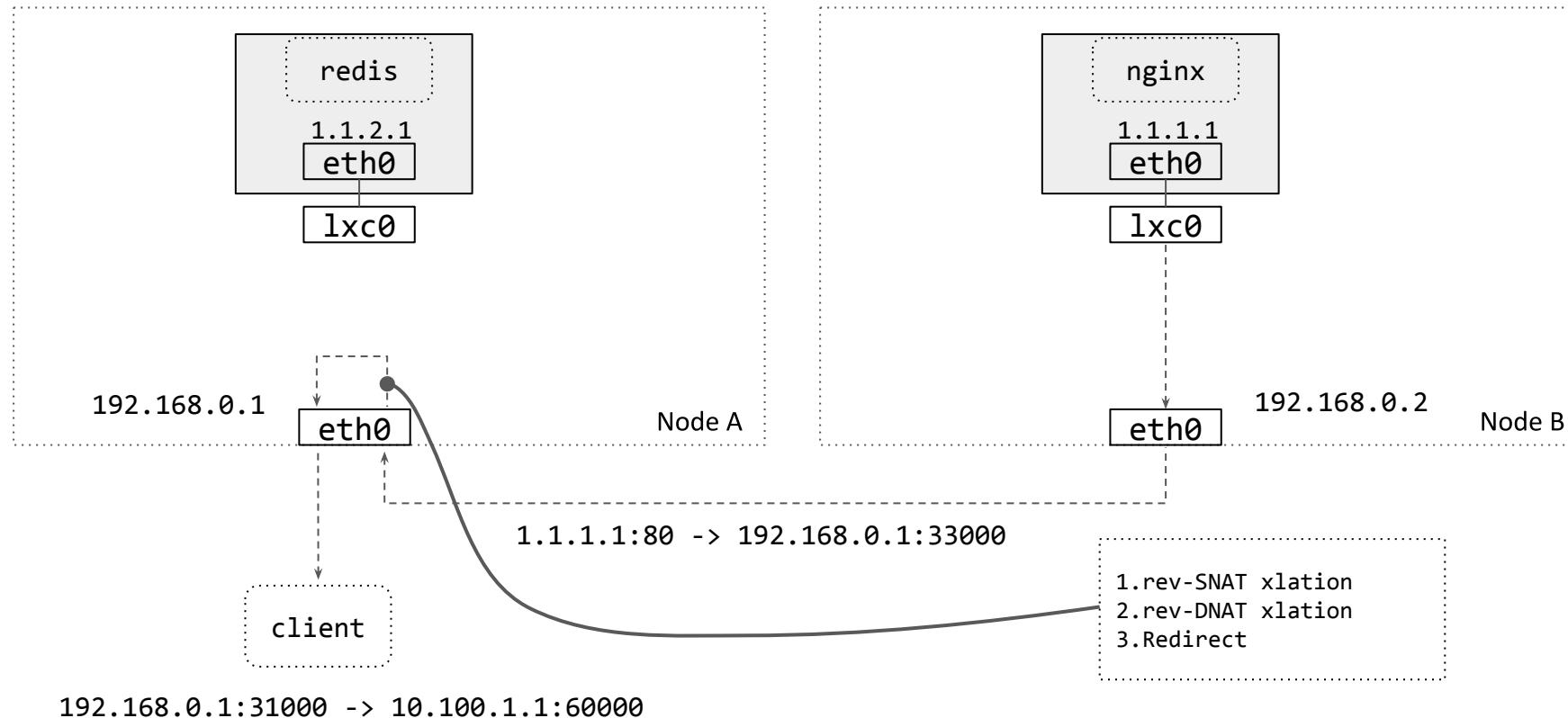
NodePort with service endpoint on local node in Cilium



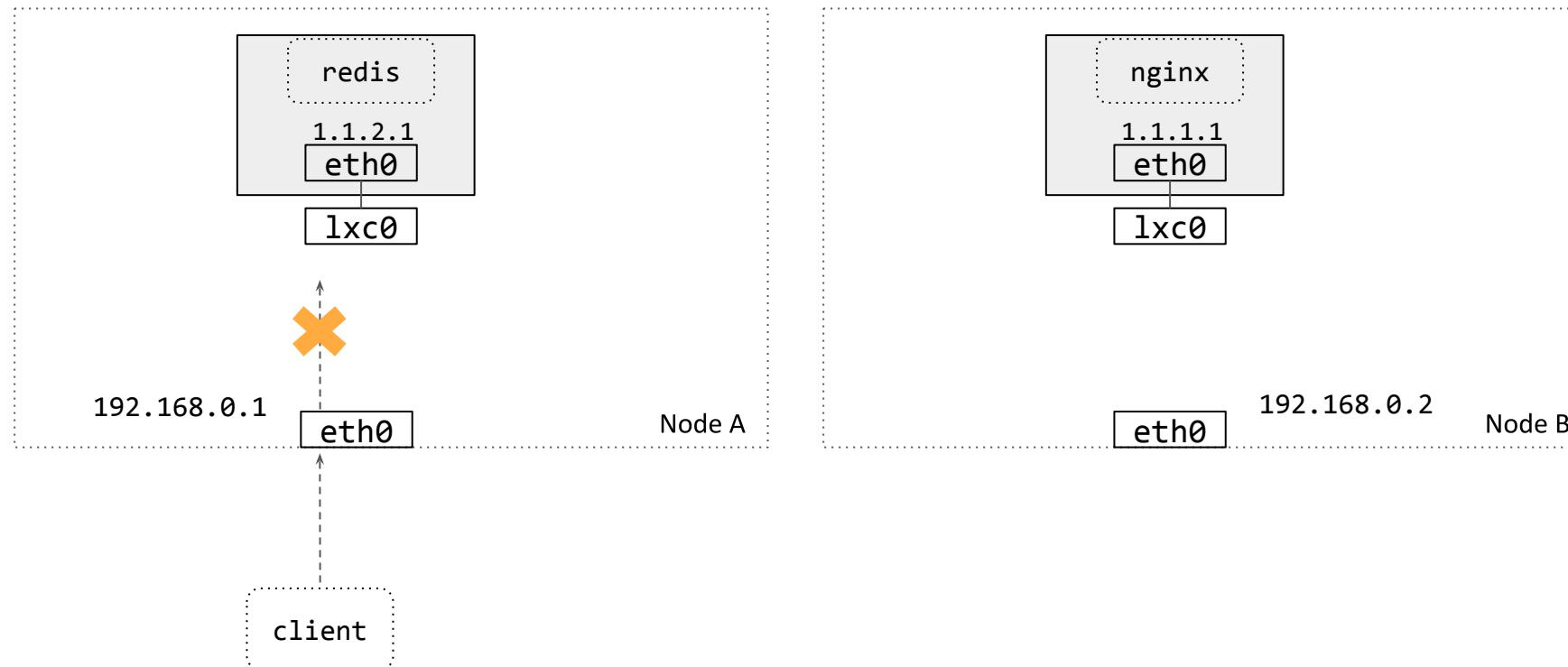
NodePort with service endpoint on remote node in Cilium



NodePort with service endpoint on remote node in Cilium

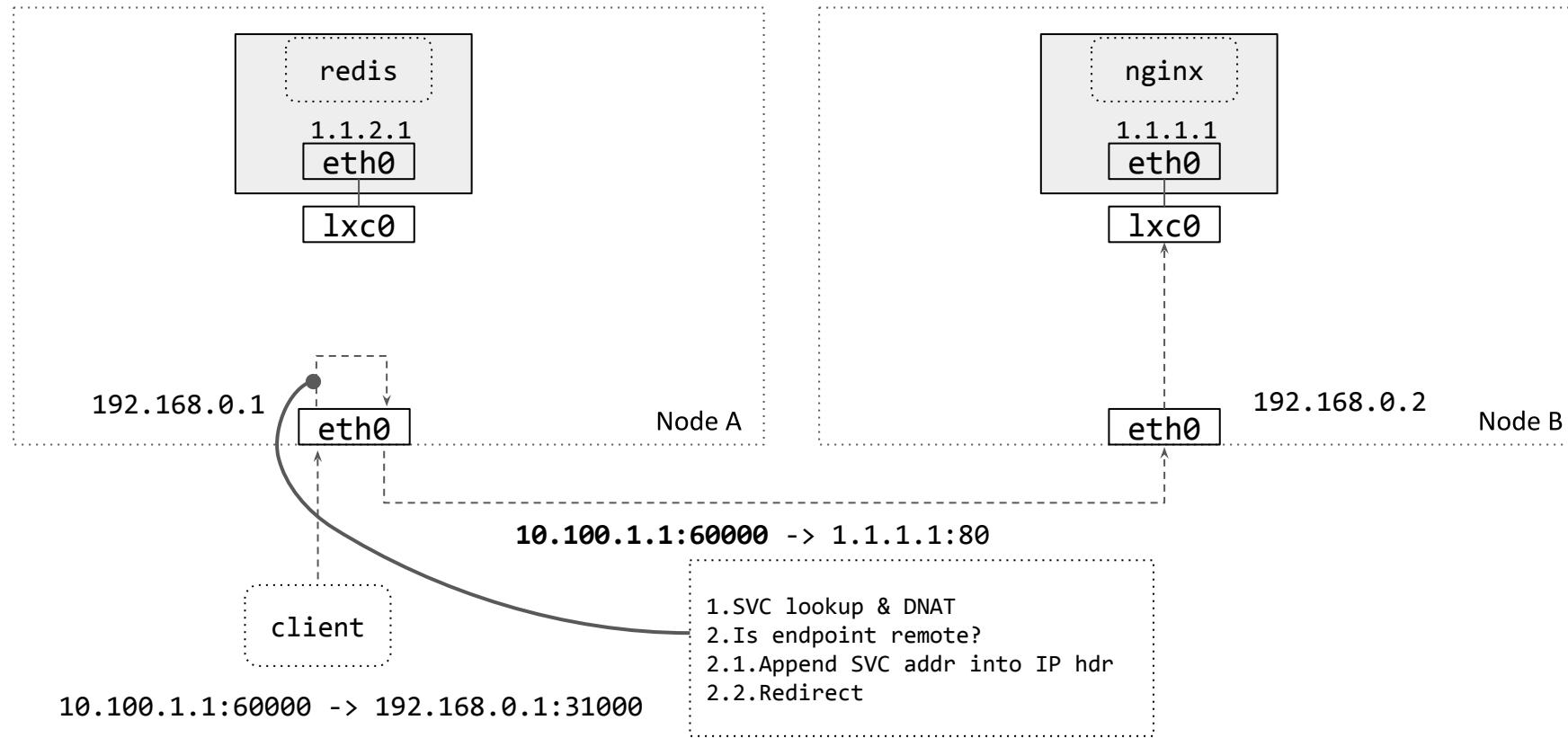


NodePort externalTrafficPolicy=Local

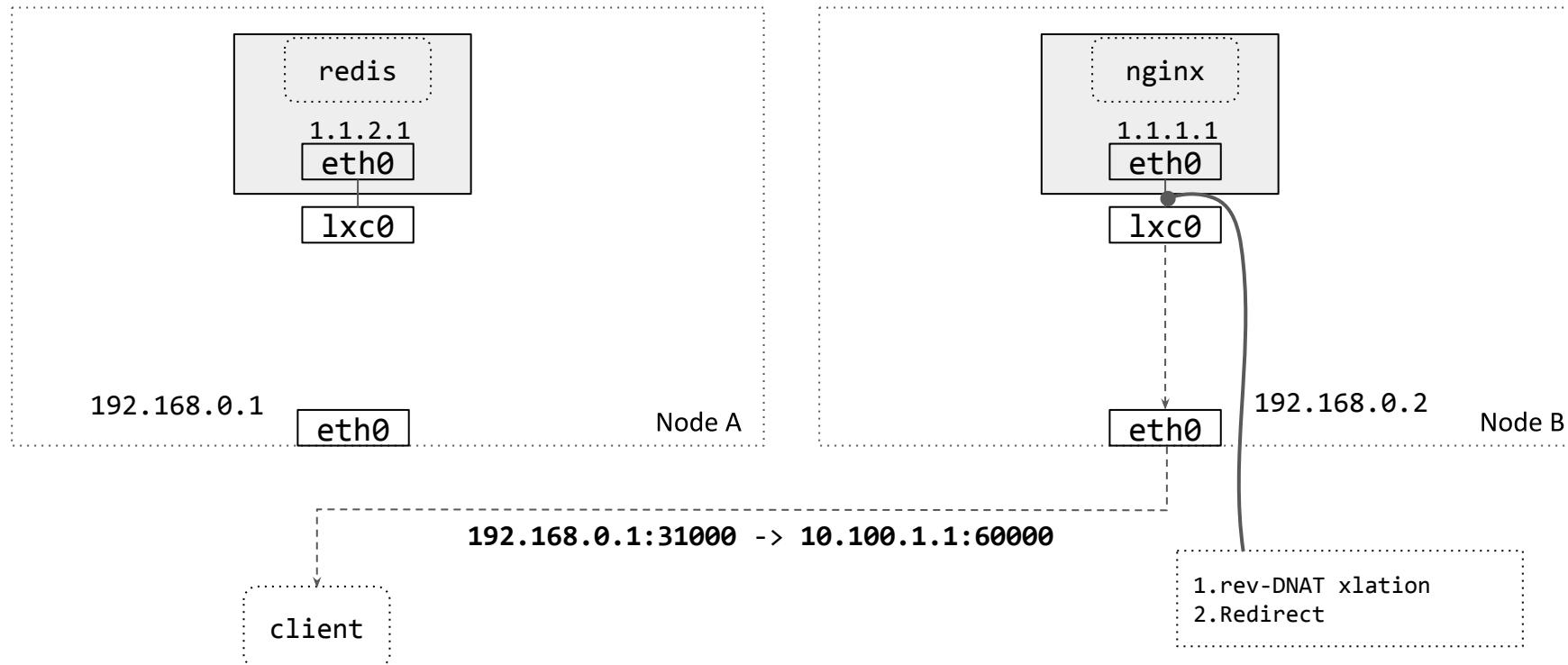


10.100.1.1:60000 -> 192.168.0.1:31000

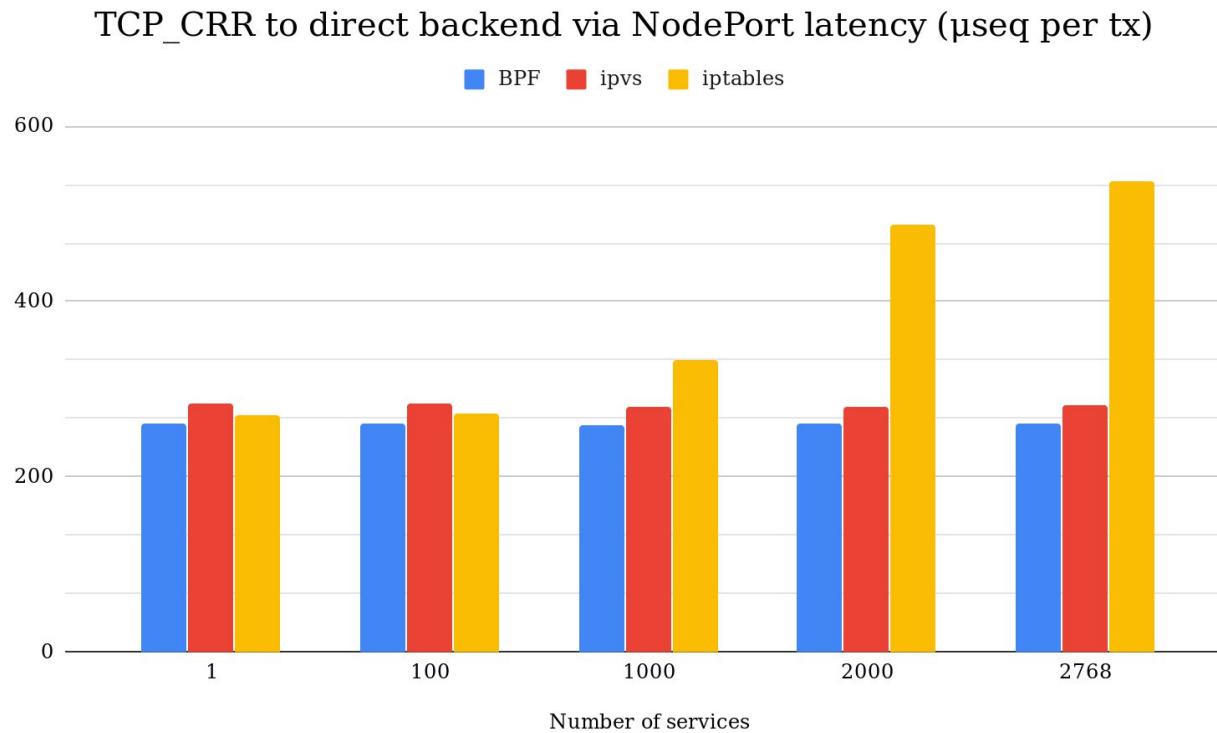
NodePort (DSR) in Cilium



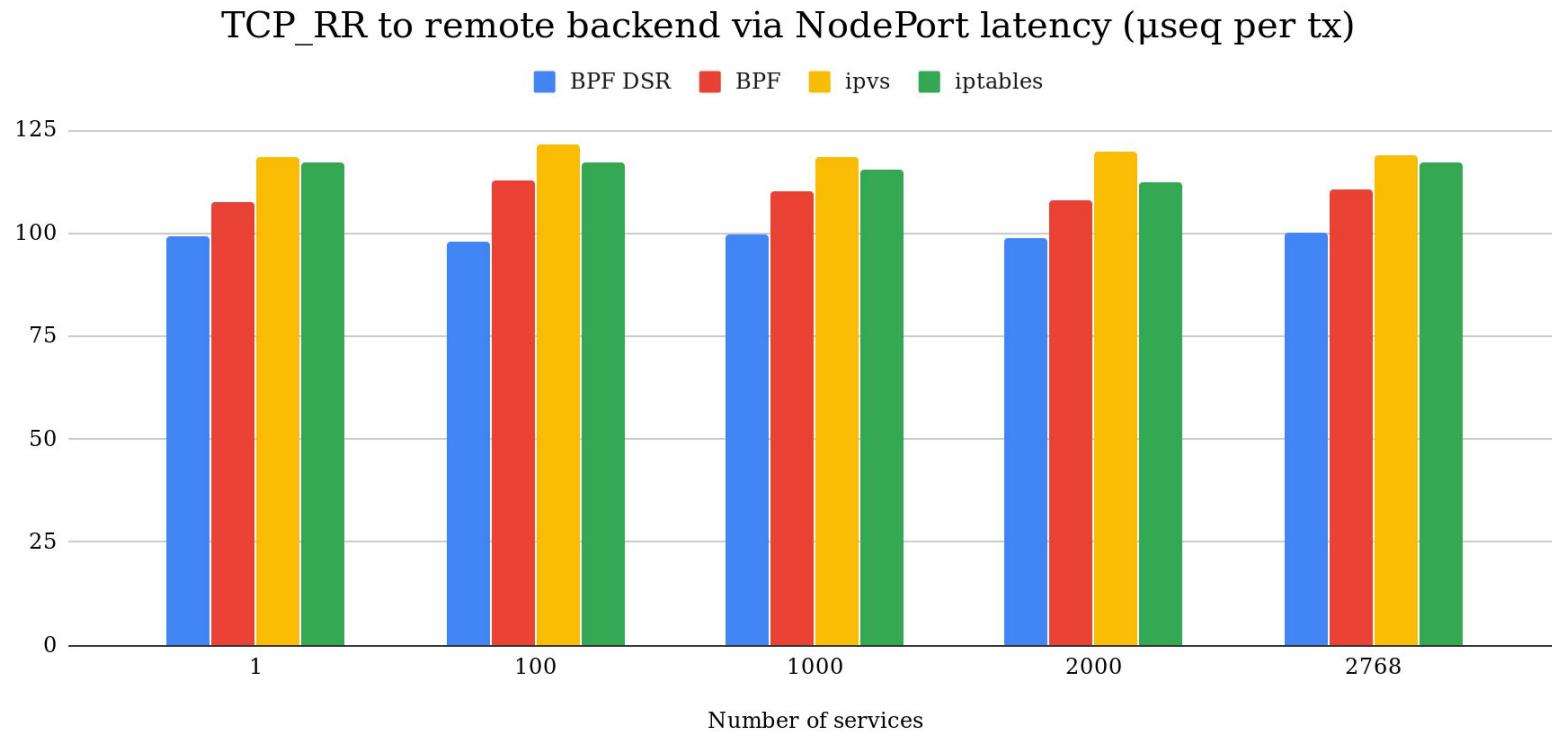
NodePort (DSR) in Cilium



Performance (lower is better)



Performance (lower is better)



Summary

Performance

- Better performance and latency over kube-proxy (ipvs and iptables)

Reliability

- Less LOC in datapath
- No need to wait for a new kernel release to fix a bug

Debuggability

- Better tooling for introspection and troubleshooting

Compatibility

- No more exec iptables

Customization

- Ability to change LB behaviour

**Want to liberate yourself from kube-proxy?
Come to our booth (S93)!**

<https://cilium.link/kubeproxy-free>

<https://github.com/cilium/cilium>



ClusterIP (host to pod)

