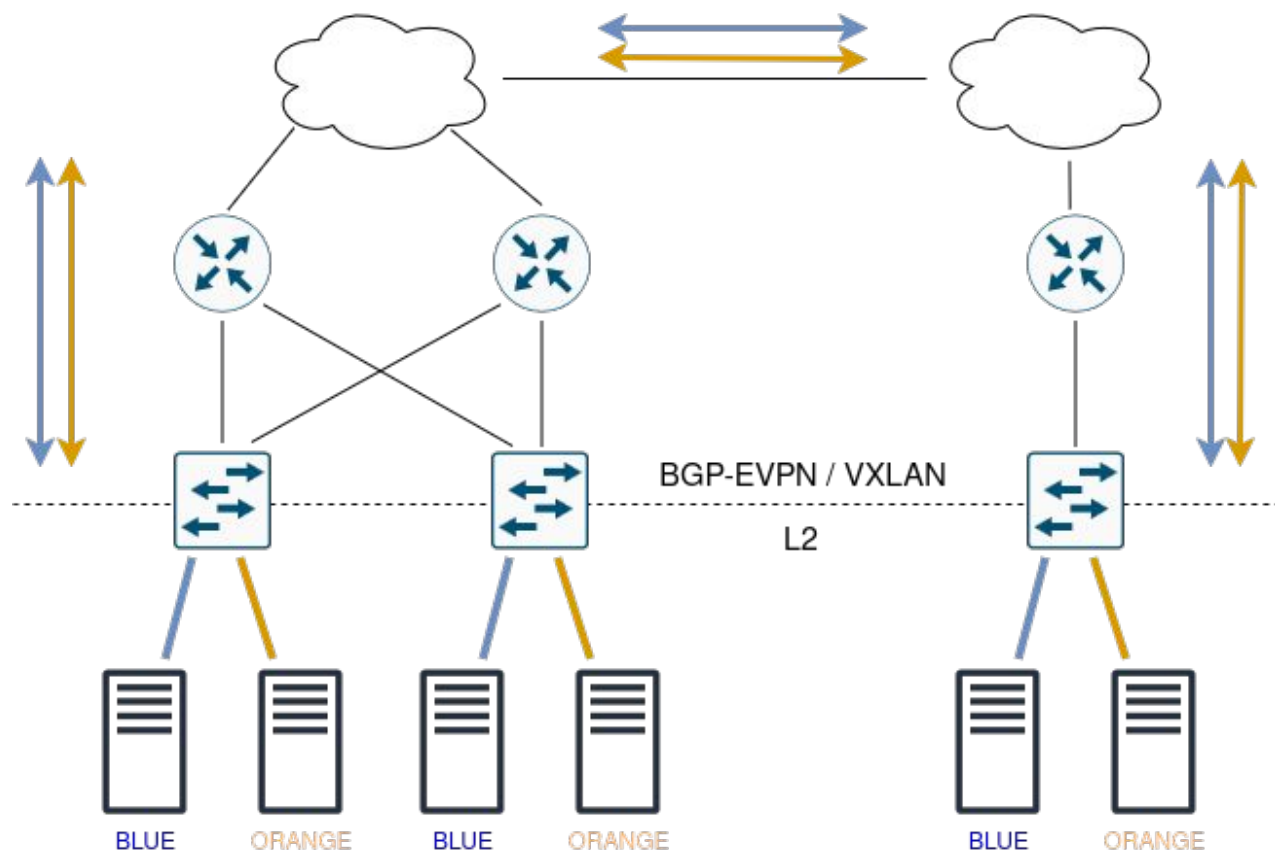


A native way of integrating OVN into the fabric through BGP-EVPN

Aleš Musil, Dumitru Ceară, 2025

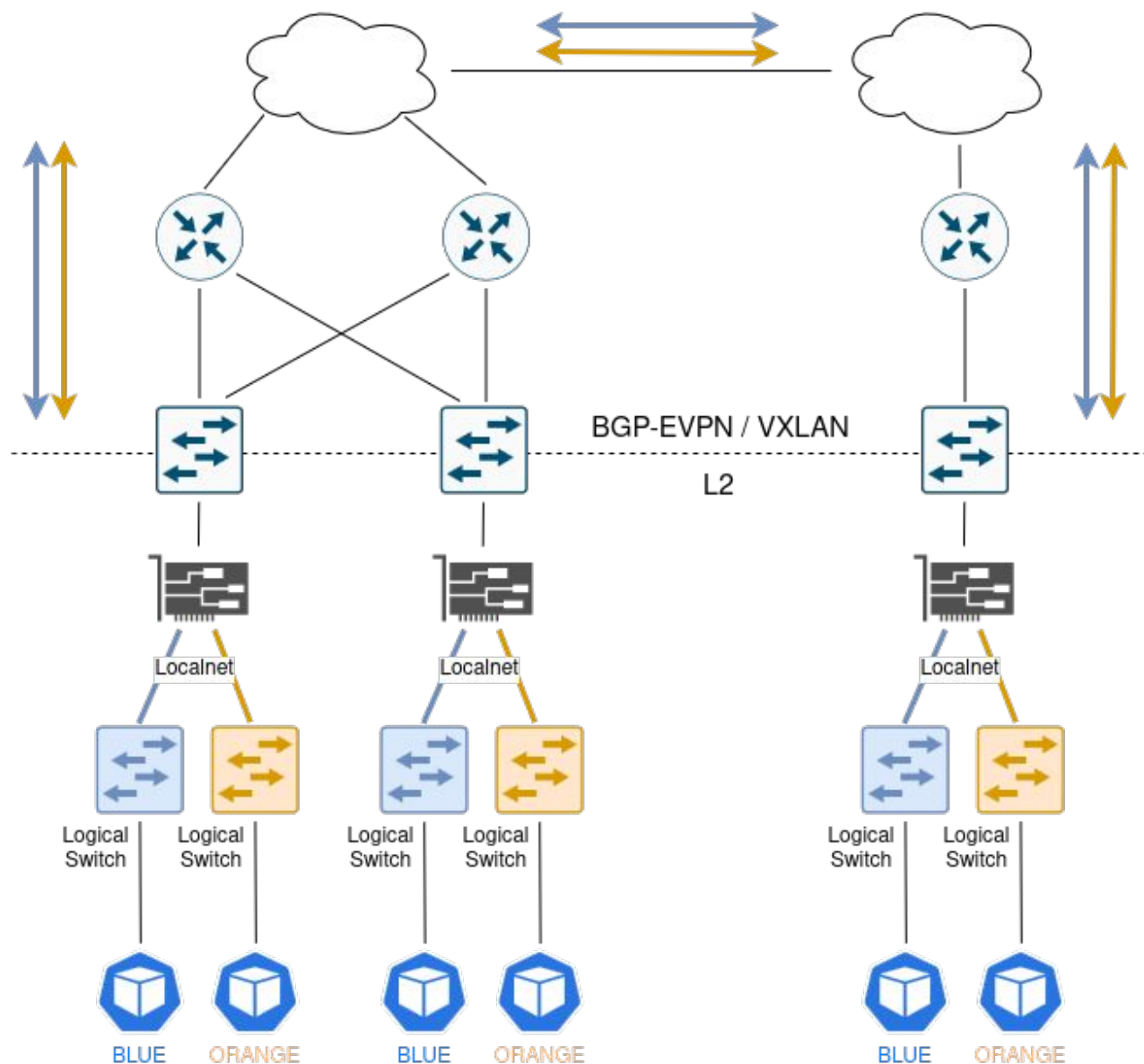
Introduction to BGP-EVPN with OVN

BGP-EVPN (extremely brief) summary



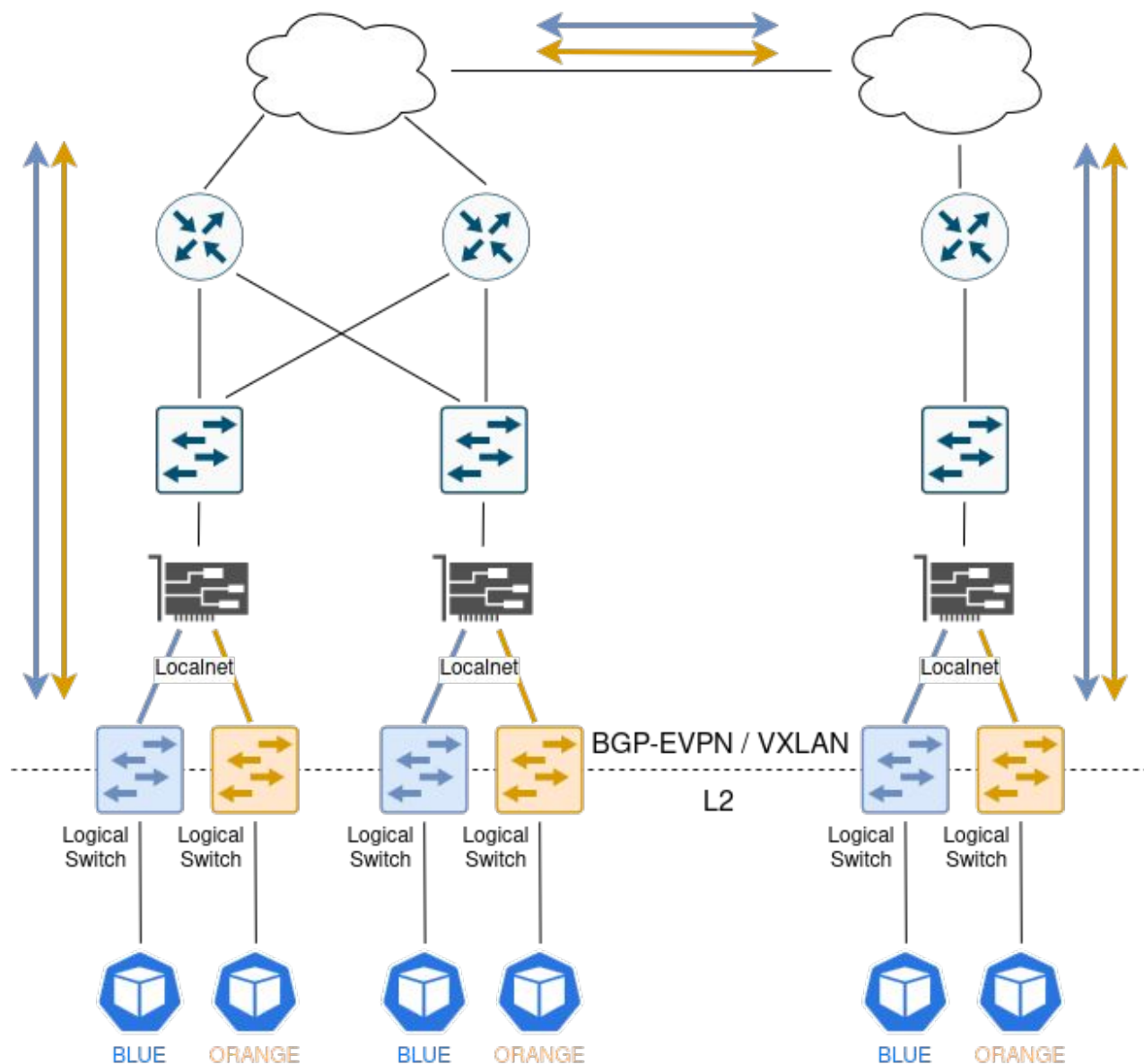
- (virtual) L2 broadcast domain stretched across IP underlays
- “seamless” moving of workloads across different geos
- BGP control plane distributes MAC/IP information (per VRF)
 - type-2 EVPN routes
 - reduces need for flooding broadcast (BUM) L2 frames to all remote sites of the L2 domain
- BGP control plane distributes IP route information (per VRF)
 - type-5 EVPN routes
- VXLAN tunnels used in the fabric to separate the different (virtual) L2 broadcast domains

OVN Localnet and reaching into the fabric



- They look similar but:
 - orange and blue **can't have** overlapping IP subnets!
(maybe with complex additional config on the ToRs)
 - **can't** distribute logical switches (blue/orange) across chassis unless there's L2 connectivity between the ToRs (not always the case)
 - **No encapsulation needed for E-W traffic**

OVN-native BGP-EVPN integration - WHY?



- orange and blue networks are now completely independent
- w/ OVN-native support all traffic processing happens in OVS
 - hwo! friendly
 - vxlan tunnels extended into ovn
- datapath agnostic:
 - OVS-kernel / OVS-userspace (DPDK) / OVS-?
- BGP-EVPN control plane state
 - maintained in the kernel (e.g., by FRR)
 - monitored by OVN through NetLink: VTEP learning, MAC(+IP) learning, route learning
 - updated by OVN through NetLink: workload MAC(+IP) advertisements, route advertisements

OVN implementation

Just set the **other_config:dynamic-routing-vni=\$vni**

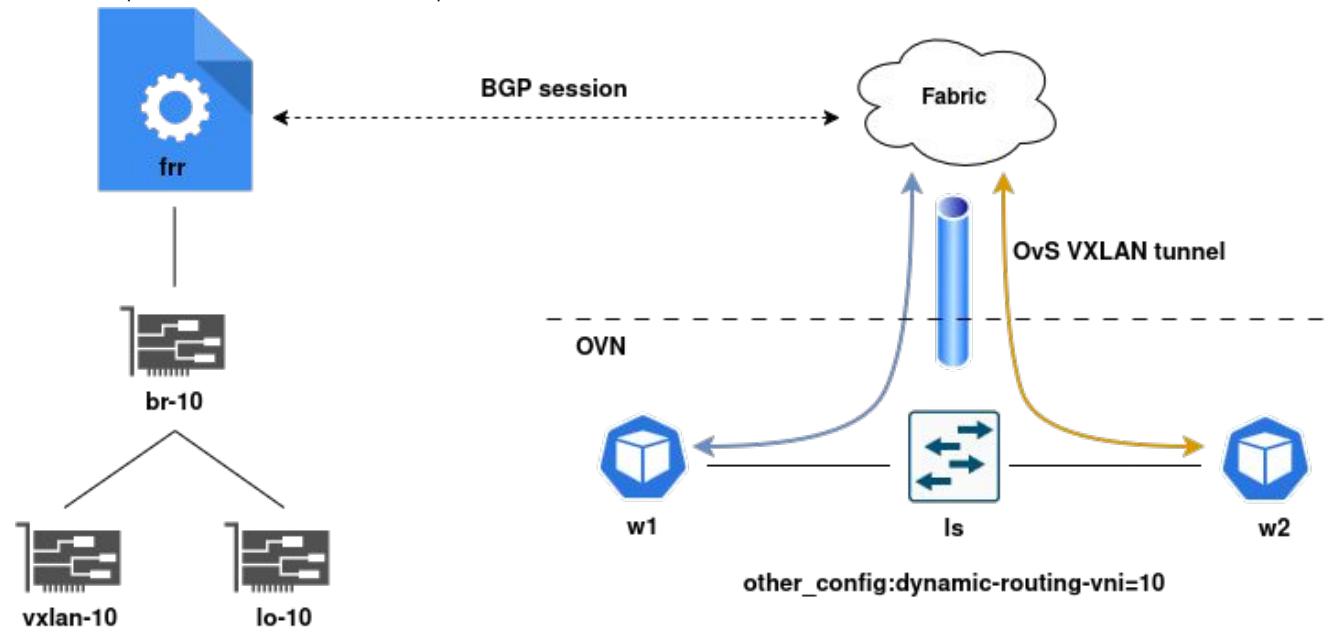
and

external-ids:ovn-evpn-local-ip=\$local_ip

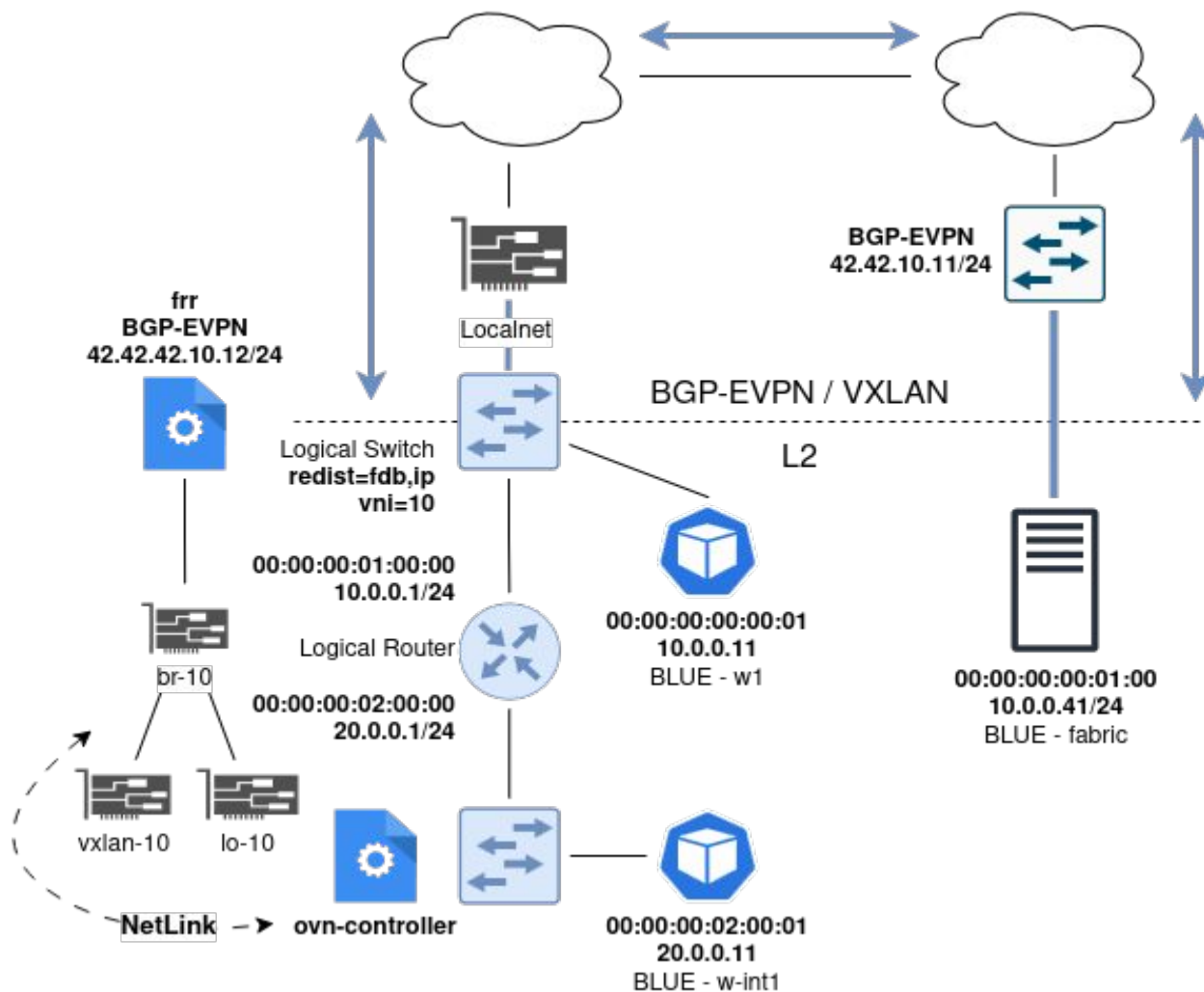
It's just that easy, or is it?

Configuration assumptions

- OVN expects the following interface configuration to be done by the CMS:
 - br-\$vni - Bridge interface used to learn and advertise static IP+MAC.
 - lo-\$vni - Loopback interface used to advertise static FDBs.
 - vxlan-\$vni - VXLAN interface used to learn the remote VTEPs and static FDBs.
 - Currently at most one local IP is allowed for EVPN tunnels.
 - **The vxlan-\$vni should have a different source port then the OvS tunnel uses to avoid clash.**
- All of the above interfaces should be in the default network namespace.
- The lo-\$vni and vxlan-\$vni should have br-\$vni as a master.



Traffic flow - L2 EVPN

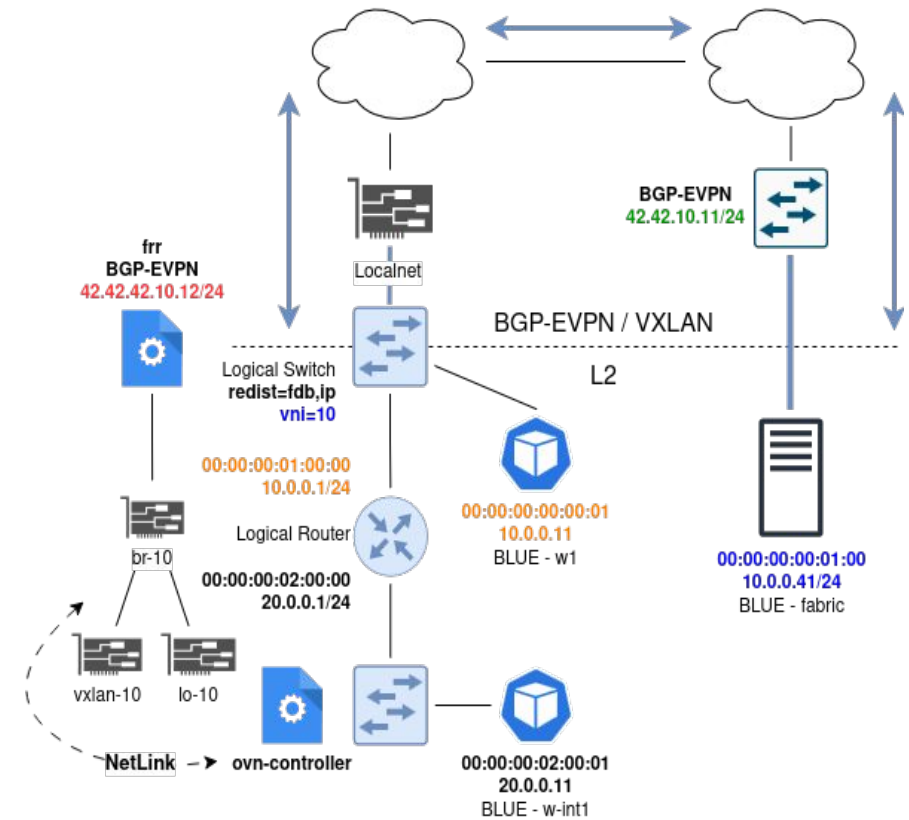


- Scenario used in the [multinode L2 EVPN test](#)
- One OVN cluster (left) with
 - provider logical switch configured to extend its L2 domain via EVPN using VXLAN VNI 10
 - workloads
 - directly attached to the provider logical switch
 - behind an OVN logical router
- One non-OVN part of the L2 domain (right)
 - hosts connected to a BGP-EVPN aware switch (non-OVN)
- Hosts on the right must be able to reach OVN workloads (at L2 level)

Remote IPs

- FRR learned external IPs
`$ show bgp l2vpn evpn`
Route Distinguisher: **42.42.10.12:2**
`*> [2]:[0]:[48]:[00:00:00:00:01:00]:[32]:[10.0.0.41]`
`$ ip neigh show dev br-10`
10.0.0.41 lladdr **00:00:00:00:01:00** **extern_learn** NOARP proto zebra
- OVN learned external IPs
`$ ovn-appctl evpn/vtep-arp-list`
UUID: **5992632a**, VNI: 10, MAC: **00:00:00:00:01:00**, IP: **10.0.0.41**, dp_key: **1**
- OVN learned IPs (on logical router) - ARP suppression
`$ ovs-ofctl dump-flows br-int cookie=0x5992632a`
cookie=**0x5992632a**, table=66, reg0=**10.0.0.41**, reg15=0x1, metadata=**0x3**
actions=mod_dl_dst:**00:00:00:00:01:00**, load:0x1->reg10[6]

cookie=**0x5992632a**, table=67, arp, reg0=**10.0.0.41**,
reg14=0x1, metadata=**0x3**, dl_src=**00:00:00:00:01:00**
actions=load:0x1->reg10[6]



Advertisement of FDBs

- OVN advertised FDBs

```
$ ovn-nbctl show ls
```

```
switch 92cd21cf (ls)
```

```
port w1 addresses: ["00:00:00:00:00:01 10.0.0.11"]
```

```
$ ovn-nbctl show lr
```

```
router 22cf207d (lr)
```

```
port lr-ls mac: "00:00:00:01:00:00" networks: ["10.0.0.1/24"]
```

```
$ bridge fdb show dev lo-10
```

```
00:00:00:01:00:00 master br-10 static
```

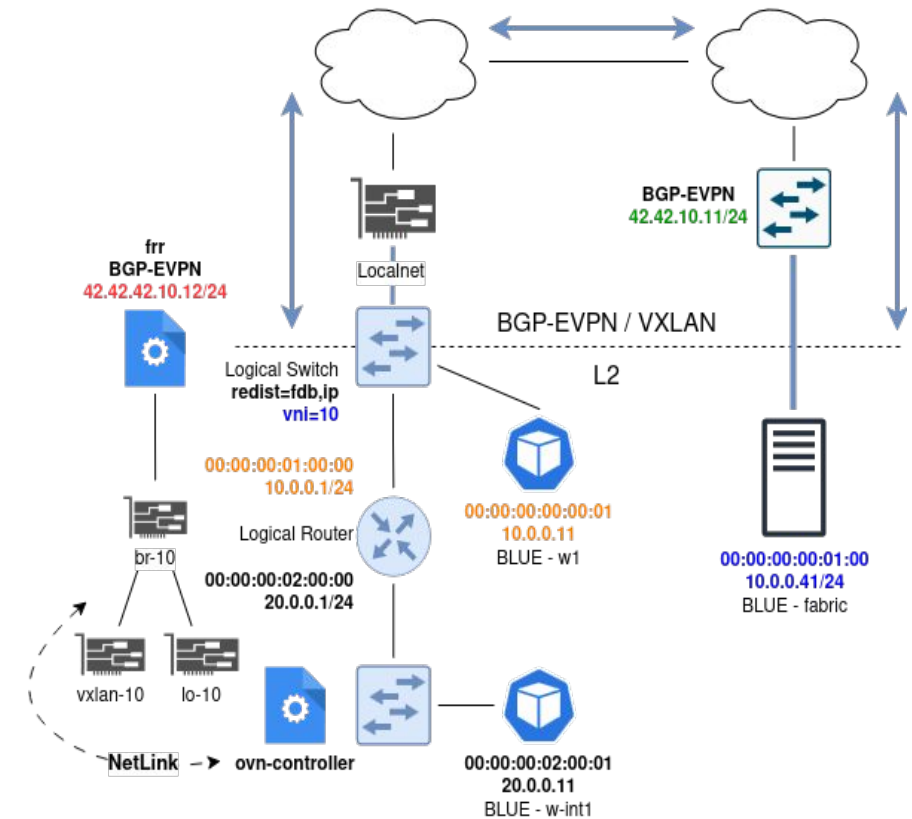
```
00:00:00:00:00:01 master br-10 static
```

- Fabric FRR learned FDBs

```
$ show evpn mac vni all
```

```
VNI 10 #MACs (local and remote) 2
```

MAC	Type	Intf/Remote	ES/VTEP
00:00:00:00:00:01	remote		42.42.10.12
00:00:00:01:00:00	remote		42.42.10.12
00:00:00:00:01:00	local		



Demo: Accessing OVN advertised IPs/MACs through VXLAN

- Fabric to workload w1

`$ ip netns exec fabric_workload ping 10.0.0.11`

64 bytes from 10.0.0.11: icmp_seq=1 ttl=64 time=0.523 ms

a6:c0:c5:53:70:d9 > 86:f6:e9:31:8f:44, proto UDP (17),
42.42.10.11.39747 > 42.42.10.12.4789: **VXLAN**, vni 10
00:00:00:00:01:00 > 00:00:00:00:00:01, proto ICMP (1)
10.0.0.41 > 10.0.0.11: ICMP echo request, id 1690, seq 1

86:f6:e9:31:8f:44 > a6:c0:c5:53:70:d9, proto UDP (17)
42.42.10.12.40290 > 42.42.10.11.4789: **VXLAN**, vni 10
00:00:00:00:00:01 > 00:00:00:00:01:00, proto ICMP (1)
10.0.0.11 > 10.0.0.41: ICMP echo reply, id 1690, seq 1

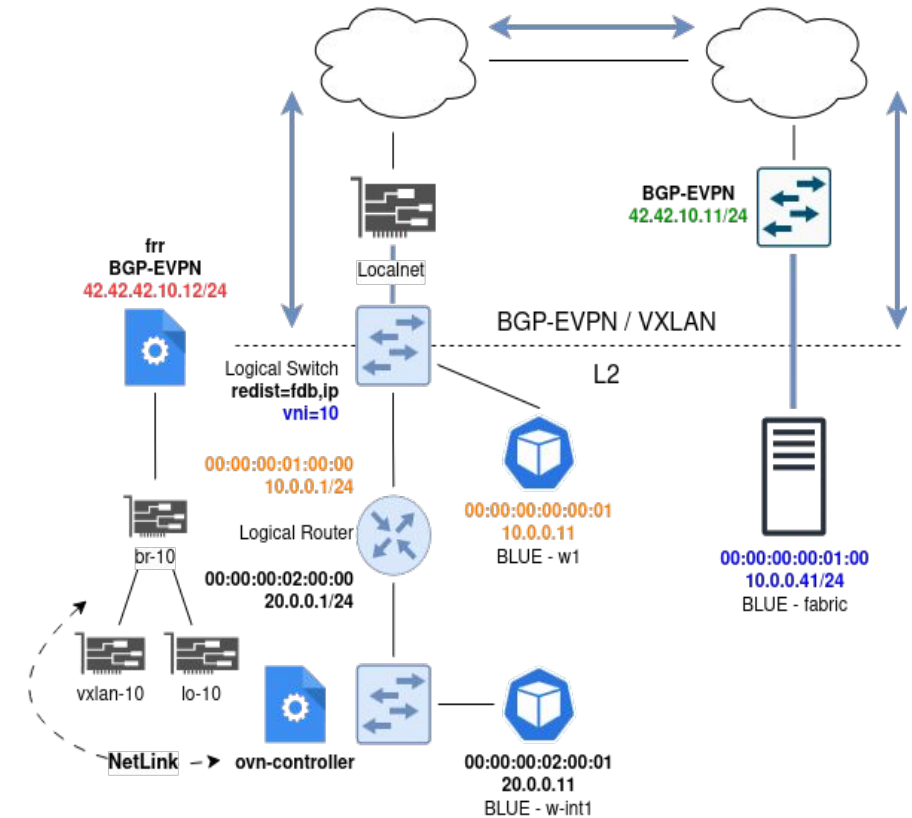
- Fabric to OVN LRP

`$ ip netns exec fabric_workload ping 10.0.0.1`

64 bytes from 10.0.0.1: icmp_seq=1 ttl=254 time=11.5 ms

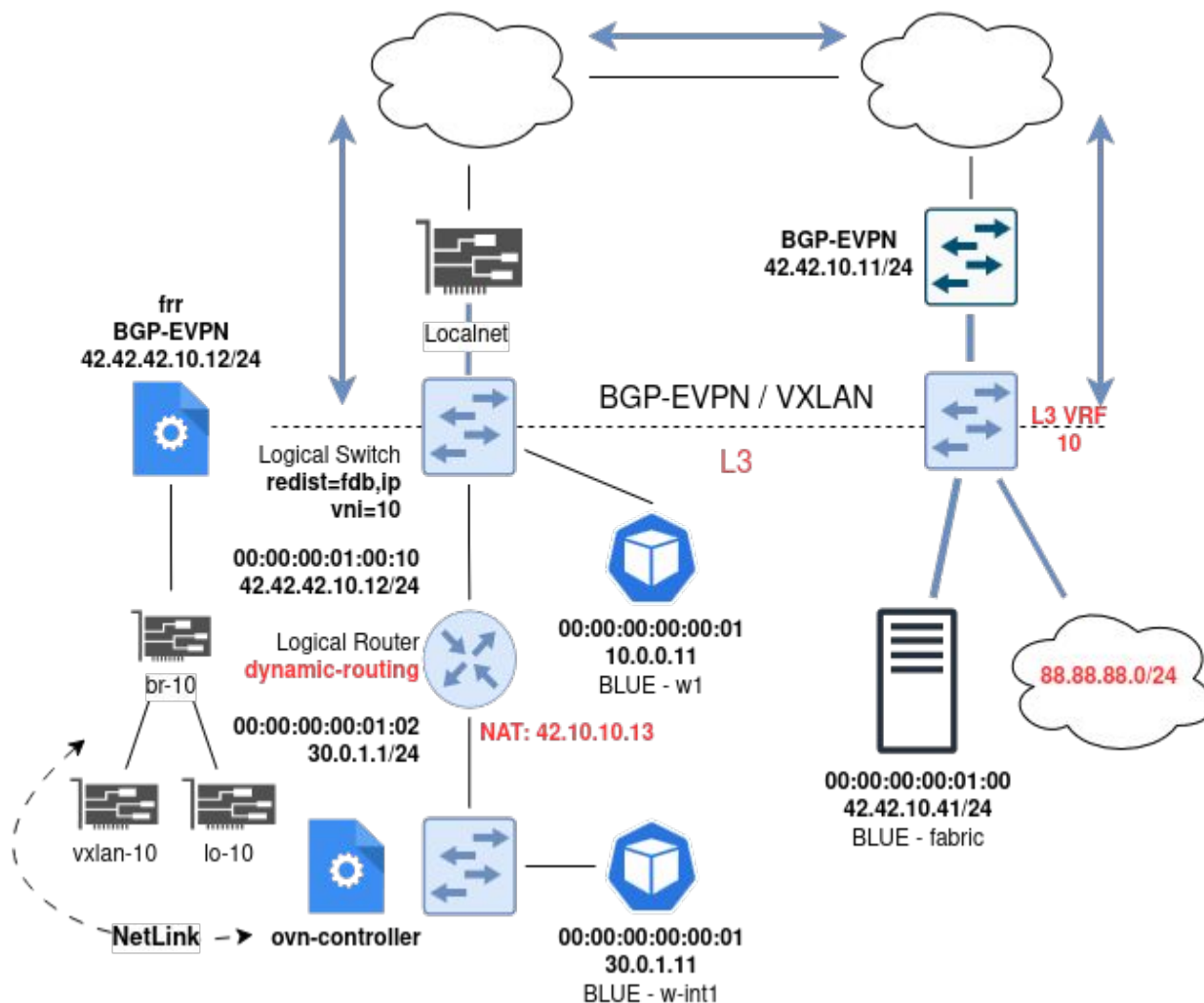
a6:c0:c5:53:70:d9 > 86:f6:e9:31:8f:44, proto UDP (17)
42.42.10.11.37026 > 42.42.10.12.4789: **VXLAN**, vni 10
00:00:00:00:01:00 > 00:00:00:01:00:00, proto ICMP (1)
10.0.0.41 > 10.0.0.1: ICMP echo request, id 1720, seq 1

86:f6:e9:31:8f:44 > a6:c0:c5:53:70:d9, proto UDP (17)
42.42.10.12.53560 > 42.42.10.11.4789: **VXLAN**, vni 10
00:00:00:01:00:00 > 00:00:00:00:01:00, proto ICMP (1)
10.0.0.1 > 10.0.0.41: ICMP echo reply, id 1720, seq 1



Future plans

Traffic flow - L3 EVPN - OVN 26.03



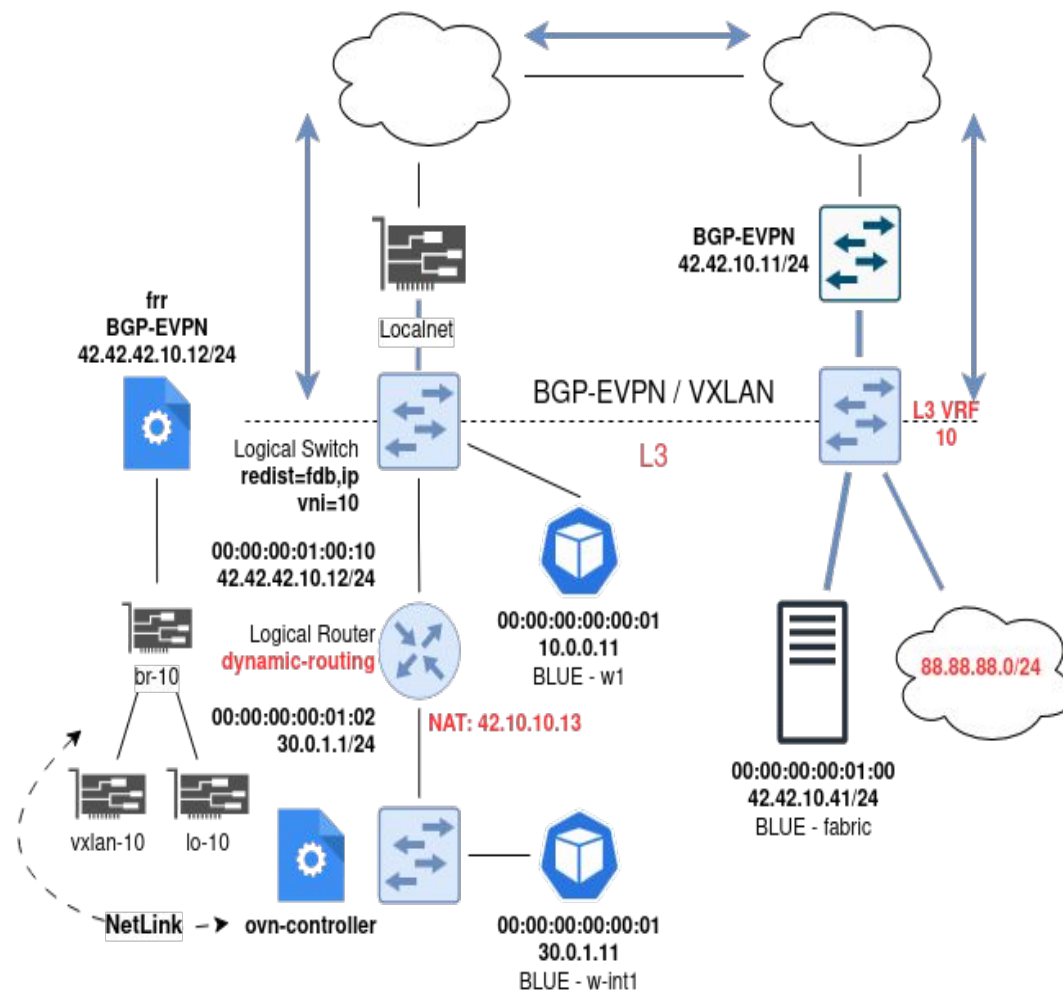
- Scenario used in the [multinode L3 EVPN test](#)
- One OVN cluster (left) with
 - provider logical switch configured to extend its L2 domain via EVPN using VXLAN VNI 10
 - workloads
 - directly attached to the provider logical switch
 - behind an OVN logical router **configured to dynamically learn/advertise routes in vrf 10**
- One non-OVN part of the L2 domain (right)
 - hosts connected to a BGP-EVPN aware switch/router (non-OVN) on **L3 VRF 10**
 - **other networks (88.88.88.0/24)**
- Hosts on the right must be able to reach OVN workloads (at L3 level)

Learning remote routes

- OVN learned VTEPs
`$ ovn-appctl evpn/remote-vtep-list`
 IP: **42.42.10.11**, port: 4789, vni: **10**
- FRR learned type-5 routes (on OVN node)
`$ show bgp l2vpn evpn`
 Route Distinguisher: **42.10.10.11:2**
 * > [5]:[0]:**[24]:[88.88.88.0]**
- OVN learned routes
`$ ip r l table 10`
88.88.88.0/24 nhid 24 via **42.10.10.11** dev br-10 proto **bgp**

`$ ovn-sbctl find learned_route ip_prefix=88.88.88.0/24`

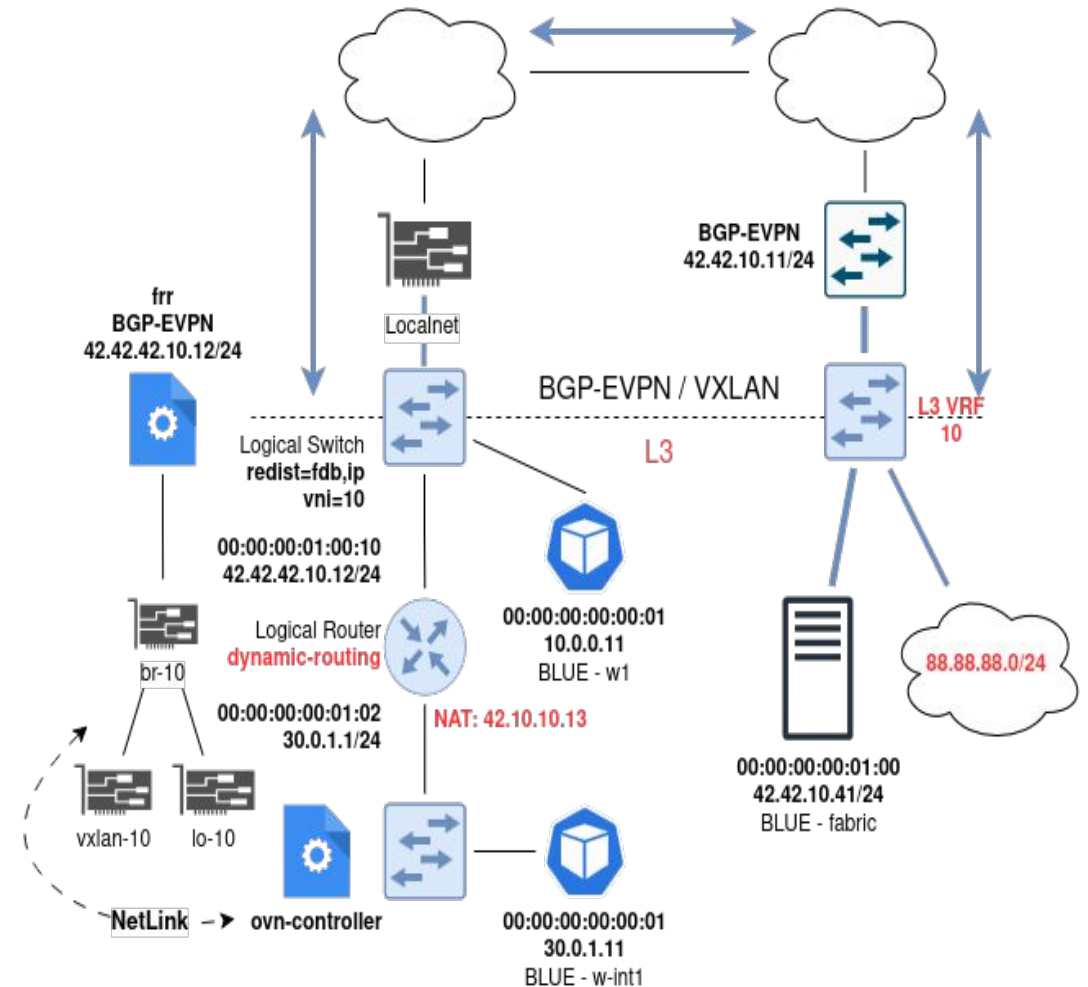
datapath	: < logical-router >
ip_prefix	: 88.88.88.0/24
logical_port	: lr-gw
nexthop	: 42.10.10.11



Advertising OVN routes

- OVN advertised connected internal networks
`$ ovn-sbctl find advertised_route ip_prefix=30.0.1.0/24`
datapath : **<logical-router>**
ip_prefix : **30.0.1.0/24**
logical_port : **lr-int1**
- OVN advertised NAT IPs
`$ ovn-sbctl find advertised_route ip_prefix=42.10.10.13`
datapath : **<logical-router>**
ip_prefix : **42.10.10.13**
logical_port : **lr-gw1**
tracked_port : **w1-int1**

`$ ip r l table 10 type blackhole`
blackhole 30.0.1.0/24 proto **ovn** metric 1000
blackhole 42.10.10.13 proto **ovn** metric 100
- Fabric FRR learned type-5 routes
`$ show bgp l2vpn evpn`
Route Distinguisher: **42.10.10.12:2**
*> [5]:[0]:[24]:[30.0.1.0]
*> [5]:[0]:[32]:[42.10.10.13]



Demo: Accessing OVN advertised routes through VXLAN

- fabric to workload w-int1

```
$ ip vrf exec vrf-10 ping -I 42.10.10.41 30.0.1.11
```

```
56:fa:77:64:54:b2 > 86:31:0f:0e:a1:4a, proto UDP (17),  
42.10.10.11.48193 > 42.10.10.12.4789: VXLAN, vni 10  
00:00:01:00:00:10 > 00:00:00:01:00:10, proto ICMP (1),  
42.10.10.41 > 30.0.1.11: ICMP echo request, id 2303, seq 1
```

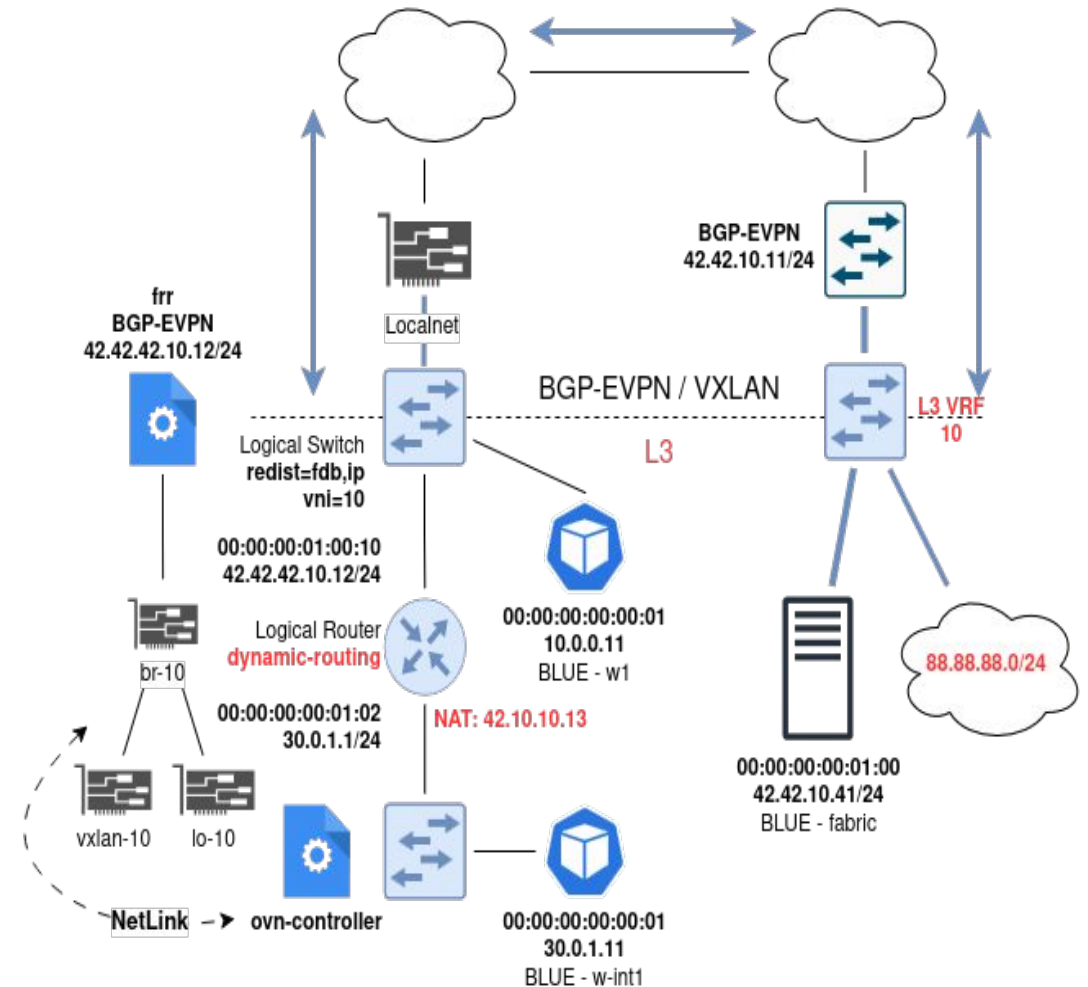
```
86:31:0f:0e:a1:4a > 56:fa:77:64:54:b2, proto UDP (17)  
42.10.10.12.39813 > 42.10.10.11.4789: VXLAN, vni 10  
00:00:00:01:00:10 > 00:00:01:00:00:10, proto ICMP (1)  
30.0.1.11 > 42.10.10.41: ICMP echo reply, id 2303, seq 1
```

- fabric to workload w-int1 NAT IP

```
$ ip vrf exec vrf-10 ping -I 42.10.10.41 42.10.10.13
```

```
56:fa:77:64:54:b2 > 86:31:0f:0e:a1:4a, proto UDP (17)  
42.10.10.11.60568 > 42.10.10.12.4789: VXLAN, vni 10  
00:00:01:00:00:10 > 00:00:00:01:00:10, proto ICMP (1)  
42.10.10.41 > 42.10.10.13: ICMP echo request, id 2311, seq 1  
(on w-int1)  
42.10.10.41 > 30.0.1.11: ICMP echo request, id 2311, seq 1
```

```
86:31:0f:0e:a1:4a > 56:fa:77:64:54:b2, proto UDP (17)  
42.10.10.12.39813 > 42.10.10.11.4789: VXLAN, vni 10  
00:00:00:01:00:10 > 00:00:01:00:00:10, proto ICMP (1)  
42.10.10.13 > 42.10.10.41: ICMP echo reply, id 2311, seq 1  
(on w-int1)  
30.0.1.11 > 42.10.10.41: ICMP echo reply, id 2311, seq 1
```



Other plans

- Make the native EVPN support non-experimental
- Fine-grain configuration of host-side bridge/vxlan/lo interface names?
- We would like to hear your opinion!

Thank you!