# aws re: Invent

#### **NET410**

# Deep dive on DNS in the hybrid cloud

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Principal System Development Engineer
Amazon Route 53
Amazon Web Services





## Agenda

Route 53 Resolver in VPCs

Hybrid clouds

Route 53 Resolver inbound endpoints

Route 53 Resolver outbound endpoints & rules

Route 53 Resolver & Active Directory

Managing DNS across many VPCs

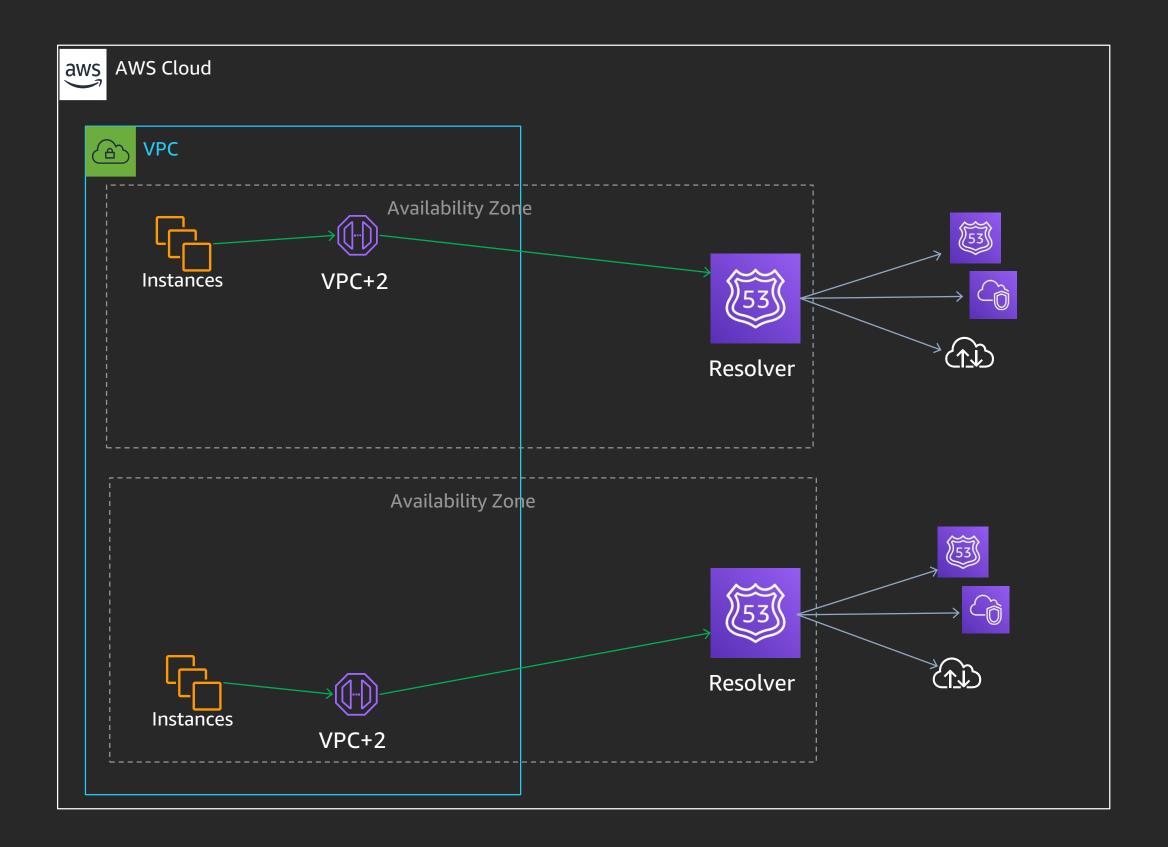
## Route 53 Resolver



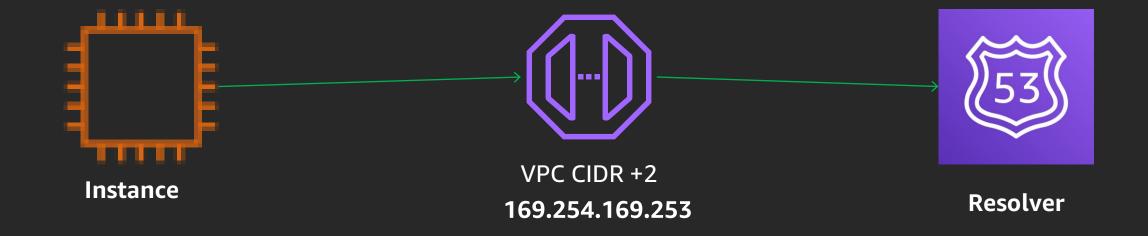


#### What is Route 53 Resolver?

- The EC2 DNS Resolver needed an official name
- Route 53 Resolver is sometimes known as:
  - AmazonProvidedDNS
  - VPC Resolver
  - +2 Resolver
  - .2 Resolver
  - EC2 DNS Resolver
- New features in Q4 2018:
  - Resolver endpoints
  - Resolver forwarding rules



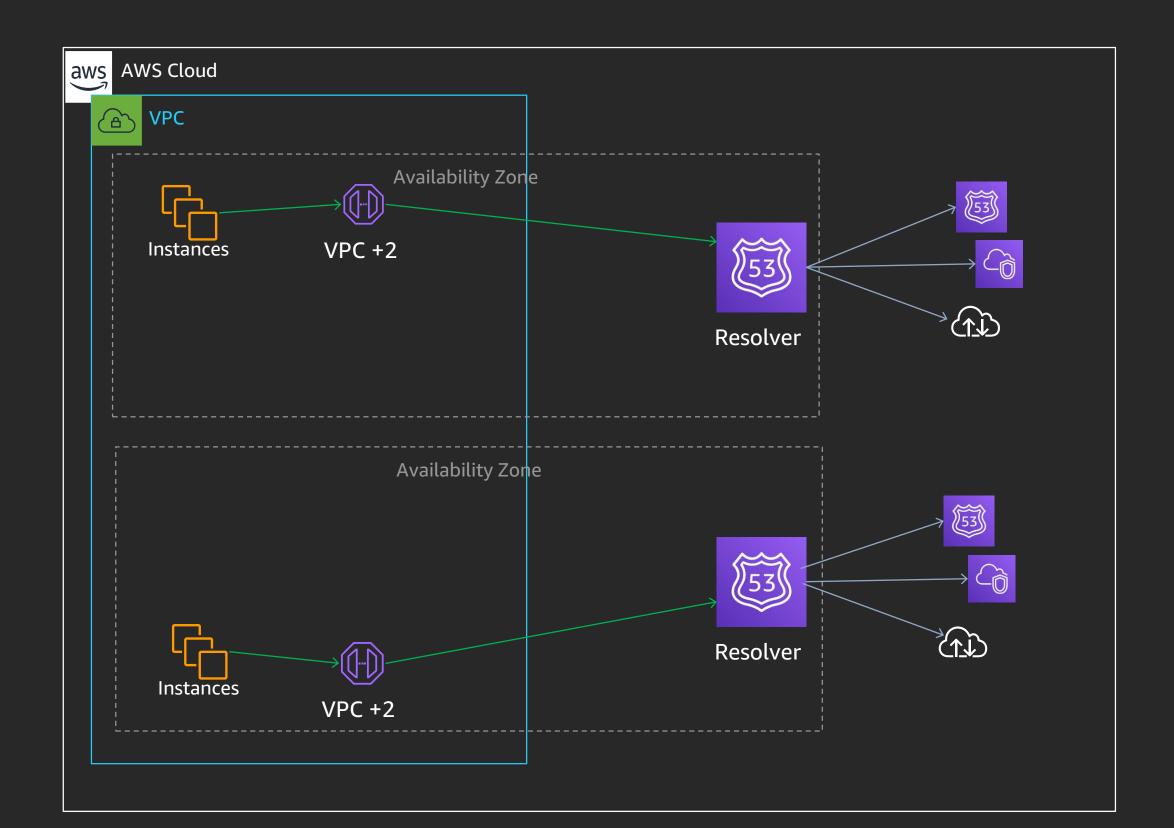
### Route 53 Resolver



### Route 53 Resolver



1024pps Limit Per ENI





1. Private DNS



Route 53

Resolver



2. VPC DNS



3. Public DNS

#### Route 53 Private DNS: How does it work?



1. Private DNS

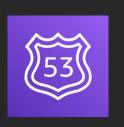
Route 53 Resolver consumes Private Hosted Zone (PHZ) associations

If qname matches a PHZ, direct the query to Route 53 Private DNS

Private DNS takes higher priority than VPC DNS records

If you create a zone called ".", all public and VPC DNS is overridden

## Private DNS – Overlapping Zone Support



1. Private DNS

Launched November 2019!

Private DNS now supports overlapping Private Hosted Zones

e.g. mycompany.com and service.mycompany.com PHZs in one VPC

#### VPC DNS Names



#### Defined special namespaces, e.g.:

2. VPC DNS

- eu-west-2.compute.internal.
- 10.in-addr.arpa., 168.192.in-addr.arpa., {16..31}.172.in-addr.arpa.
- eu-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com.

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-9-203:~$ dig SOA 1.16.172.in-addr.arpa @172.31.0.2 +noall +auth

; <<>> DiG 9.11.3-1ubuntu1.9-Ubuntu <<>> SOA 1.16.172.in-addr.arpa @172.31.0.2 +noall
+auth

;; global options: +cmd

in-addr.arpa. 60 IN SOA ns0.eu-west-2.compute.internal. hostmaster.amazon.com. 2012103100
3600 3600 3600 60
```

#### VPC DNS names



#### Defined special namespaces, e.g.:

2. VPC DNS

- eu-west-2.compute.internal.
- 10.in-addr.arpa., 168.192.in-addr.arpa., {16..31}.172.in-addr.arpa.
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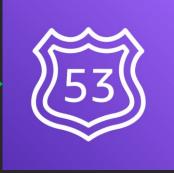
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1. Private DNS



Route 53

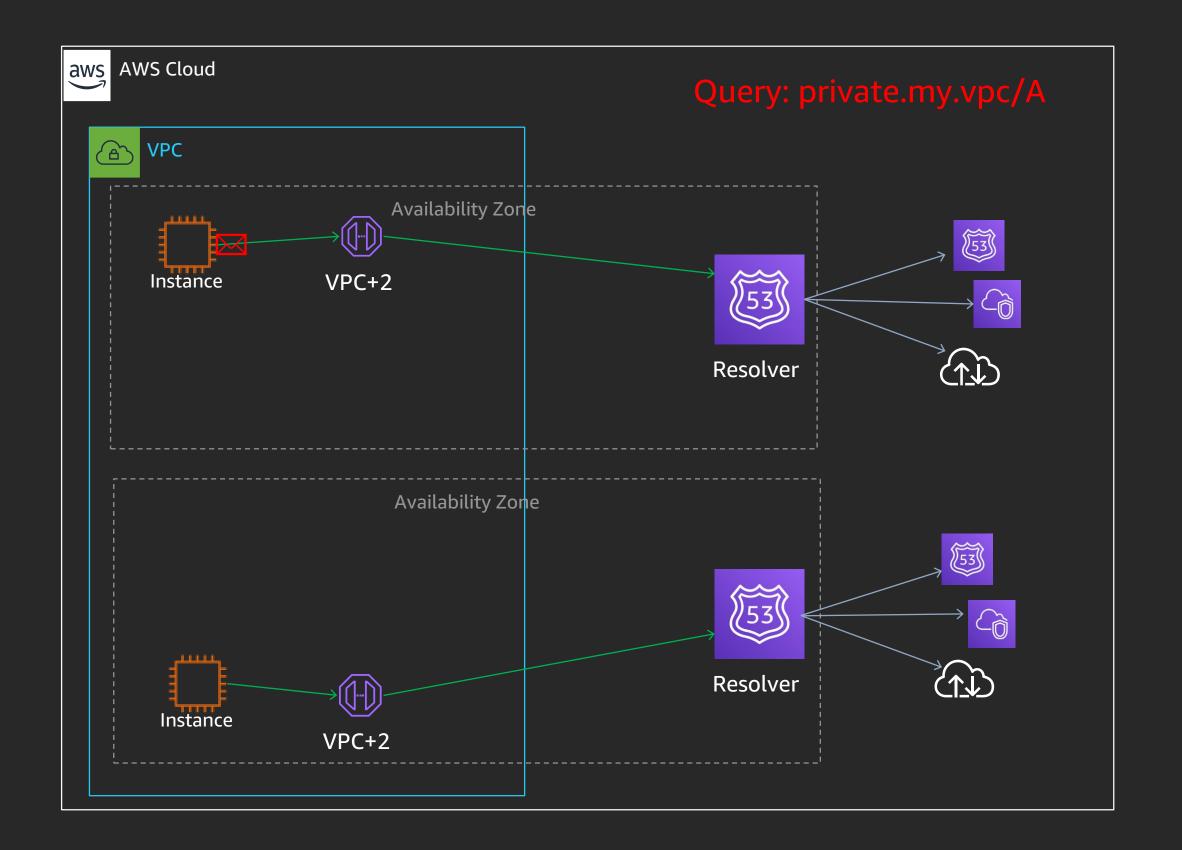
Resolver

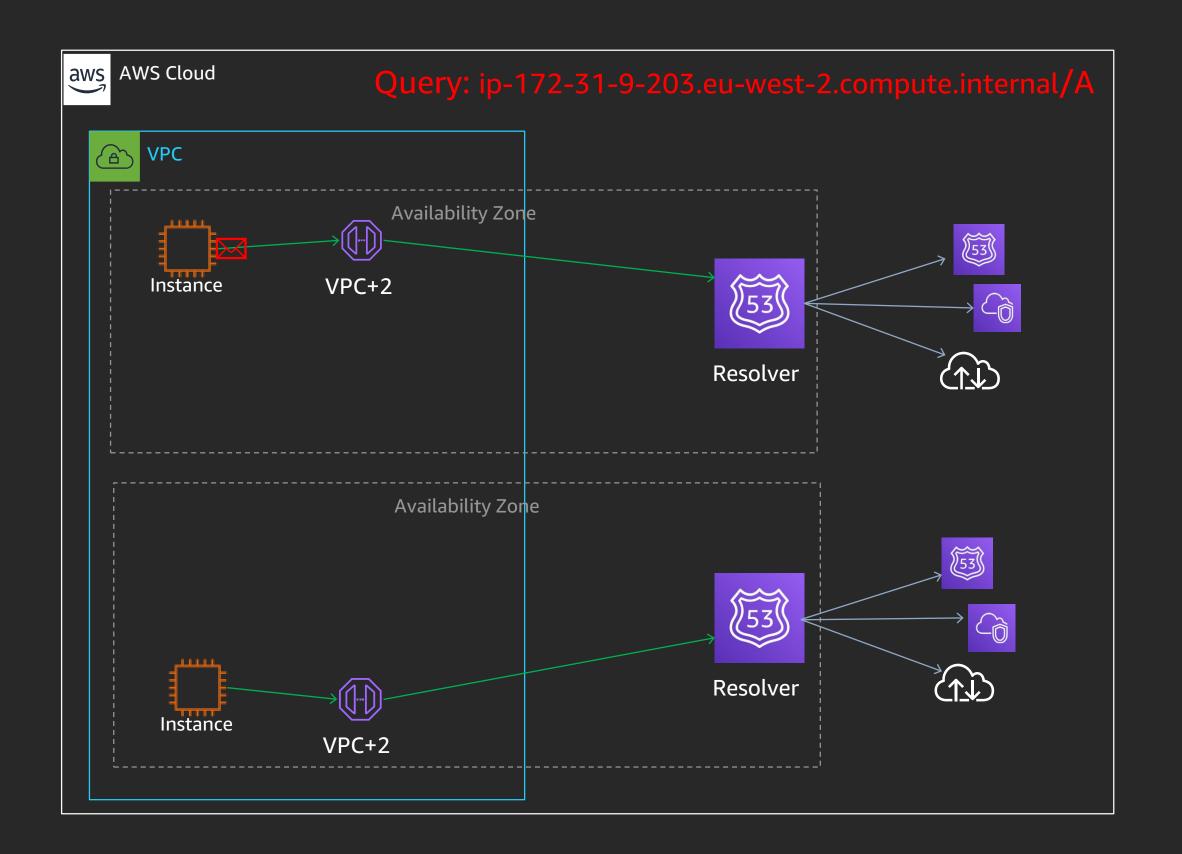


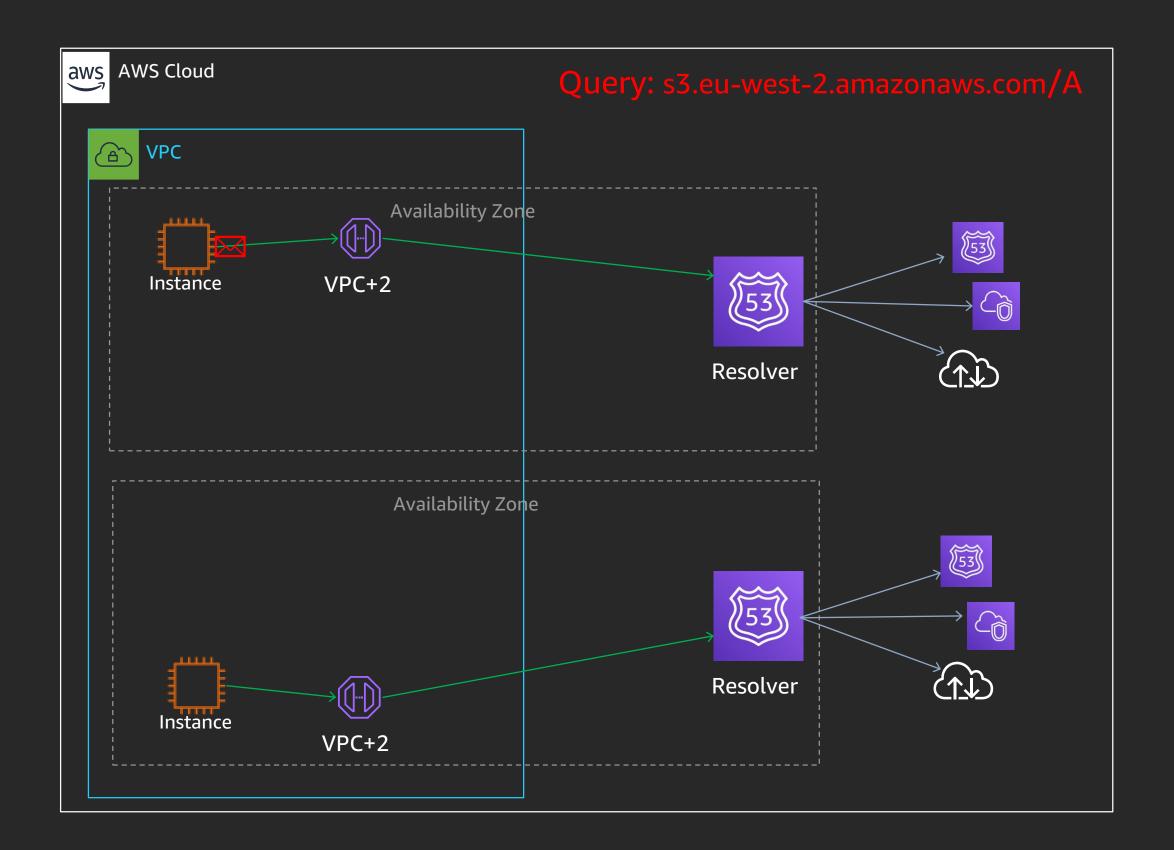
2. VPC DNS



3. Public DNS







## Route 53 Resolver (VPC+2)



Simple

Just works
Easy to
configure



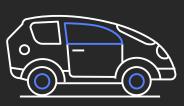
Scalable

Grows with your VPC



Fault tolerance

Each AZ operates independently



Performant

Caching improves latency



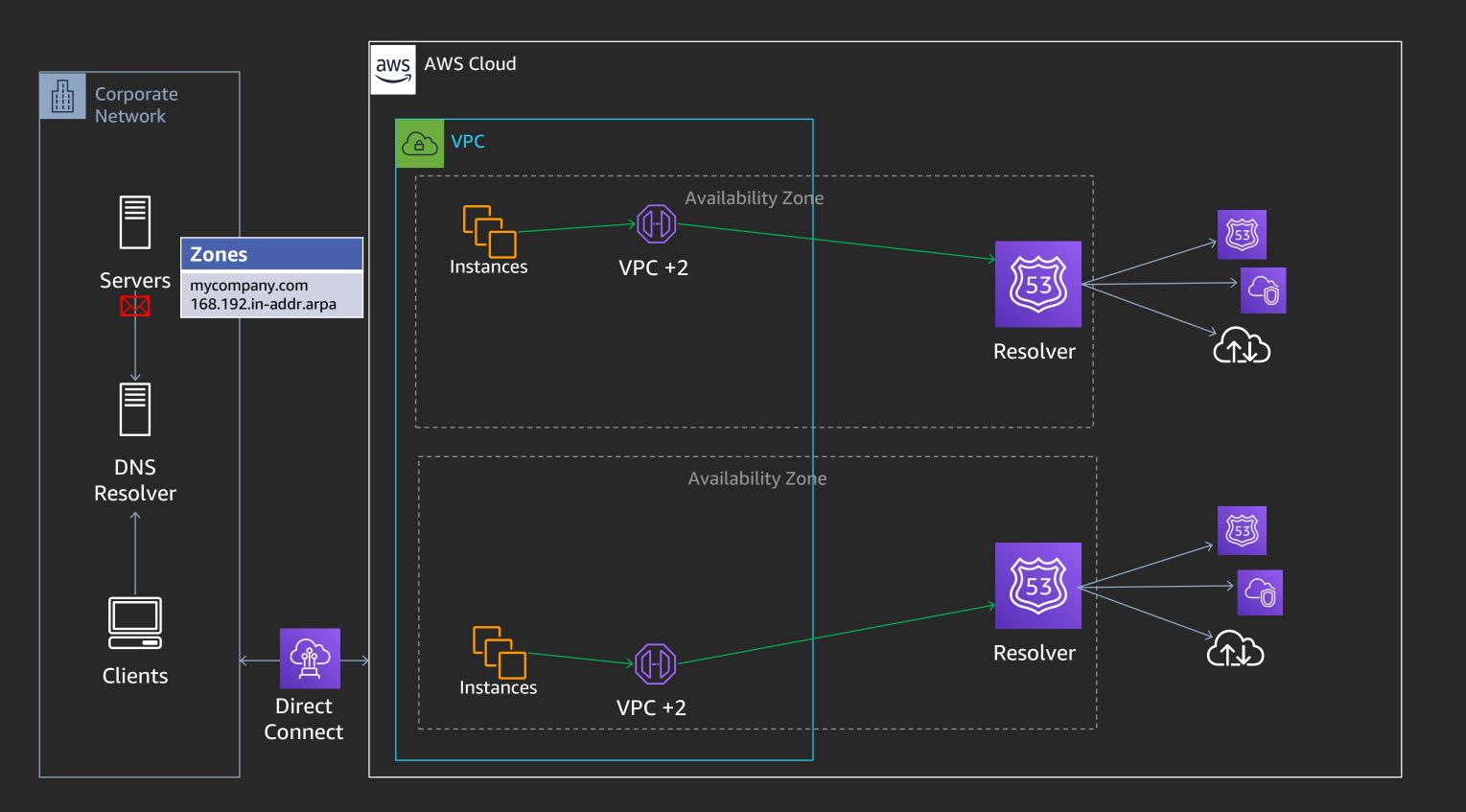
Low cost

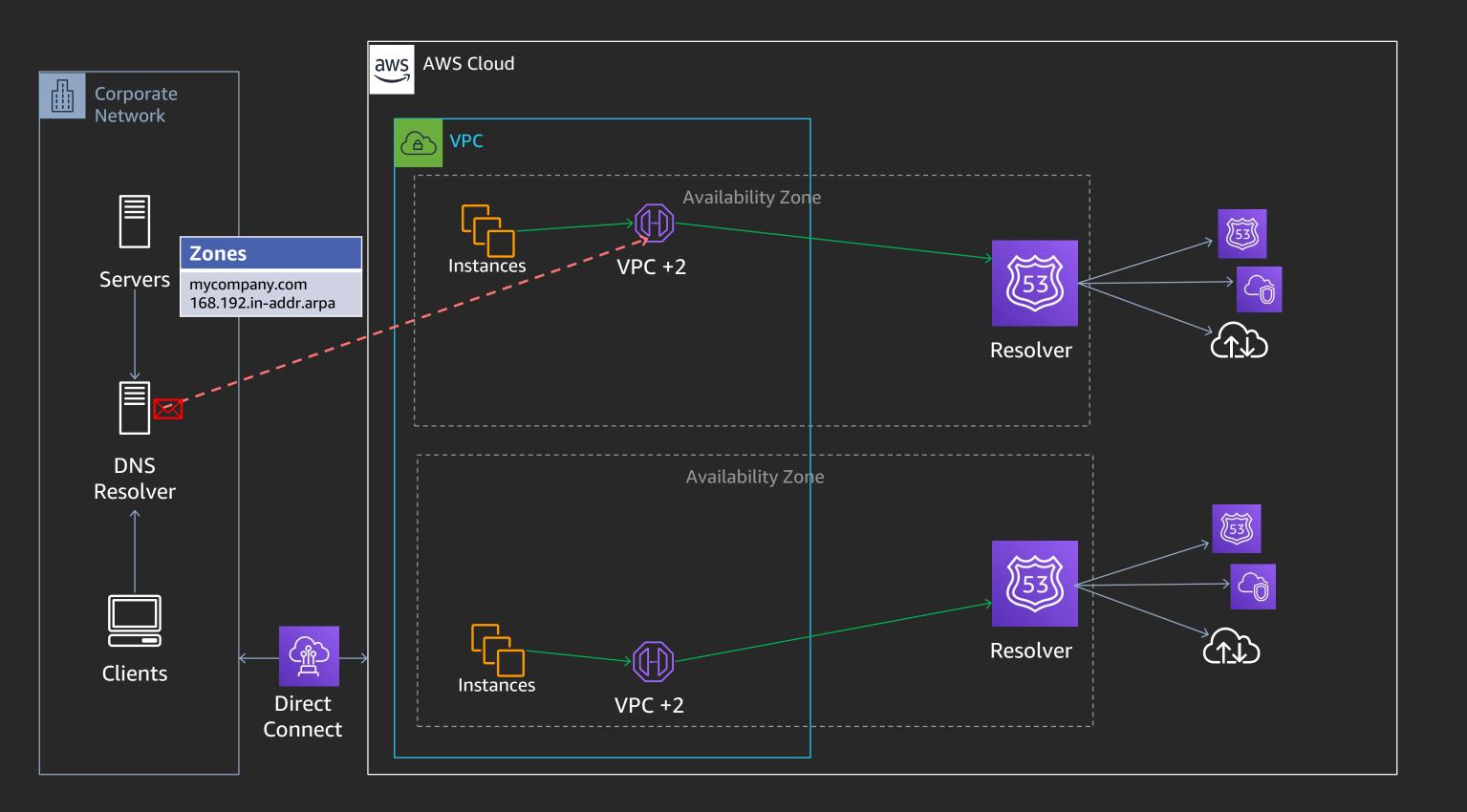
No query charges

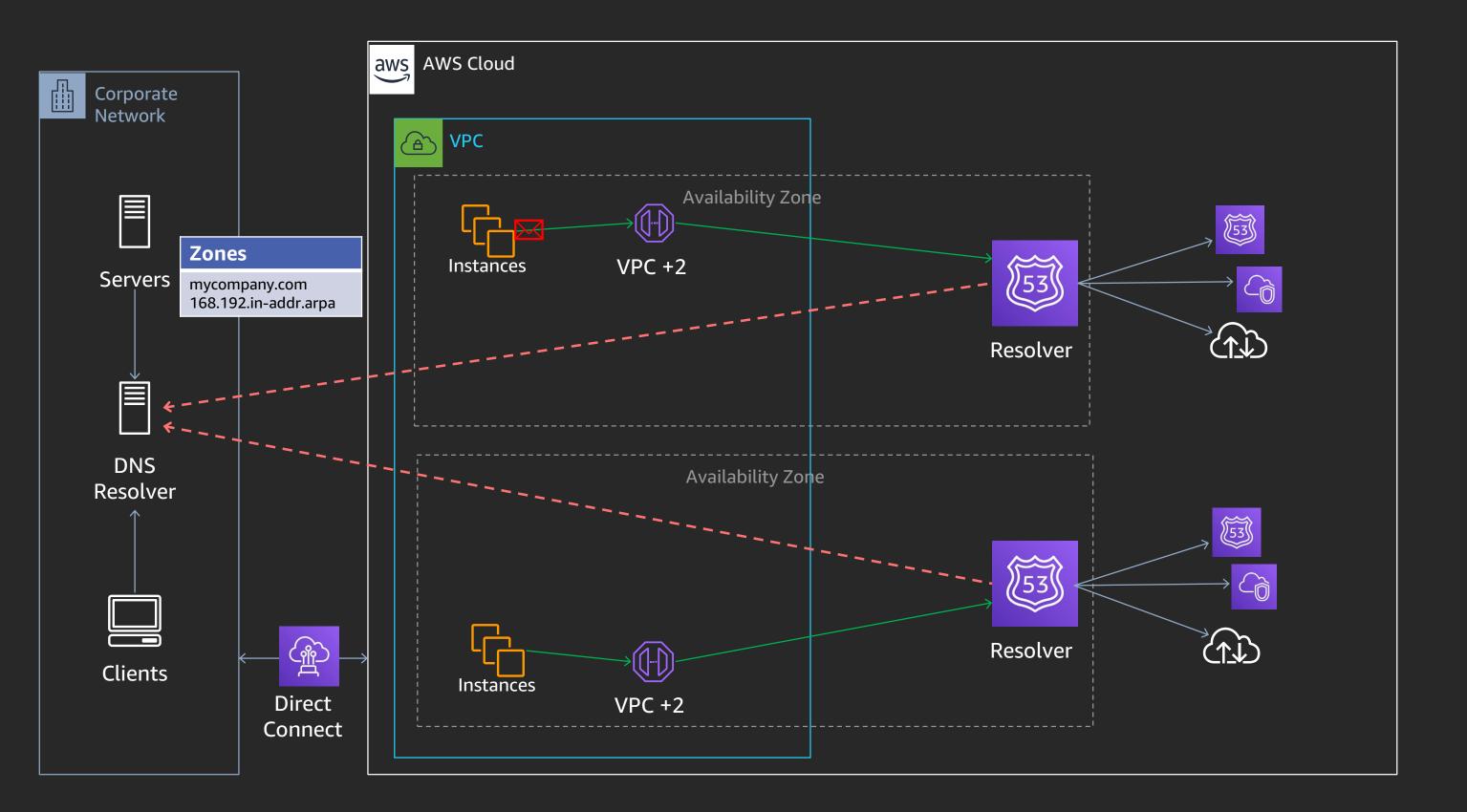
# **Hybrid Cloud**

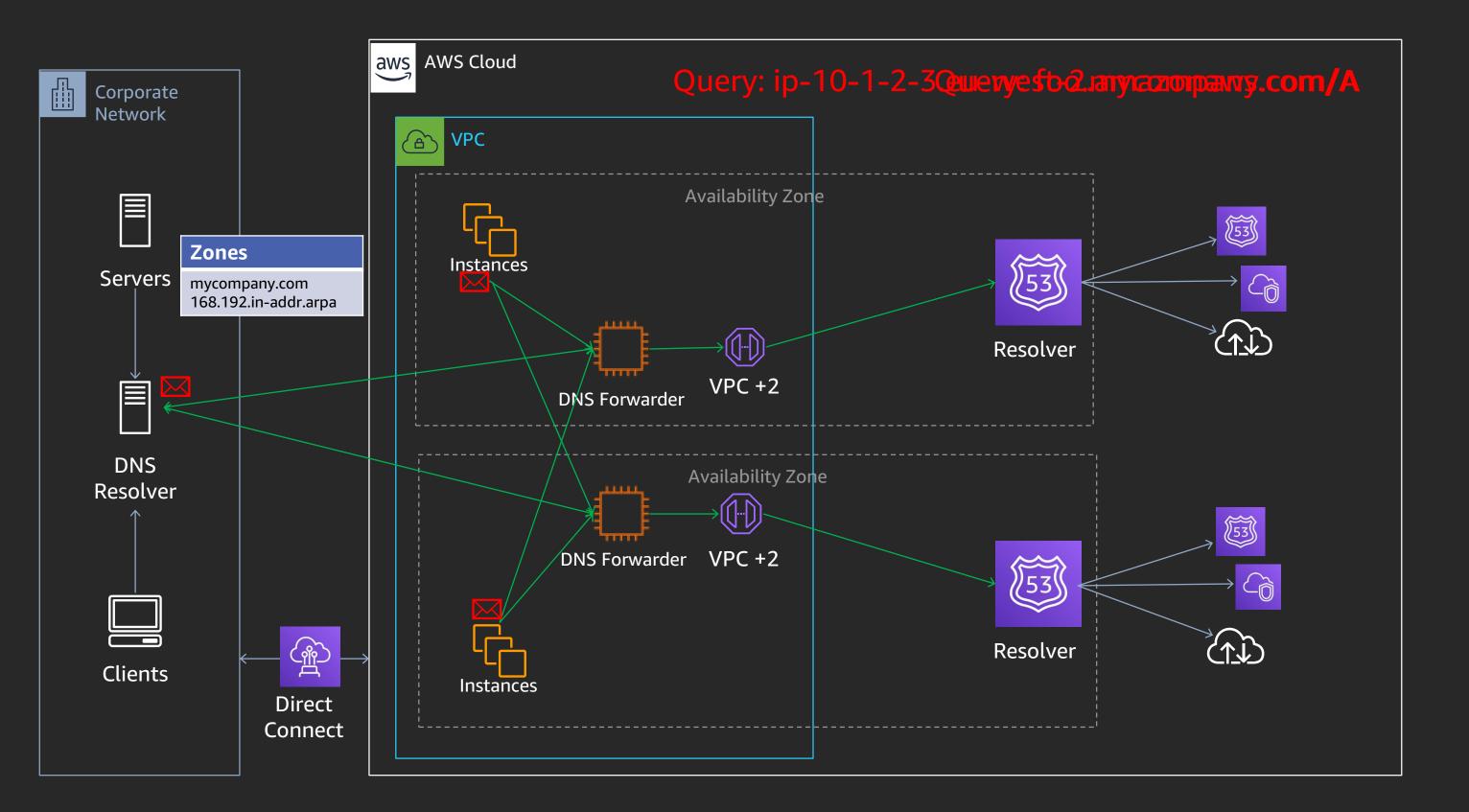






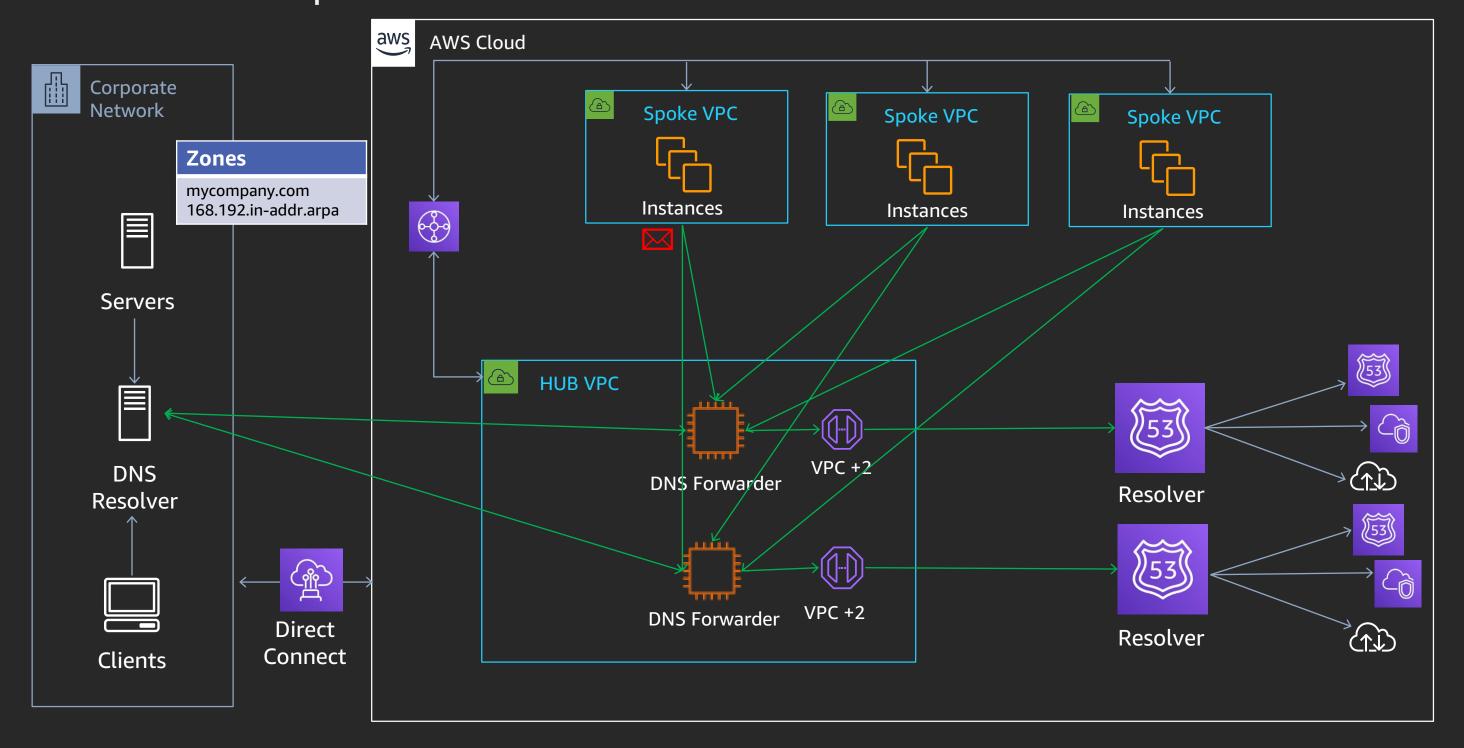






## Hub and spoke

#### Query: s3Quenyeto-2ragrazzopanys.com/A



## Forwarding instances: The good



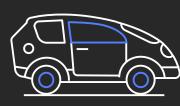
Works!

Integrates
VPC and onpremises
DNS



Cost

Reusable across VPCs



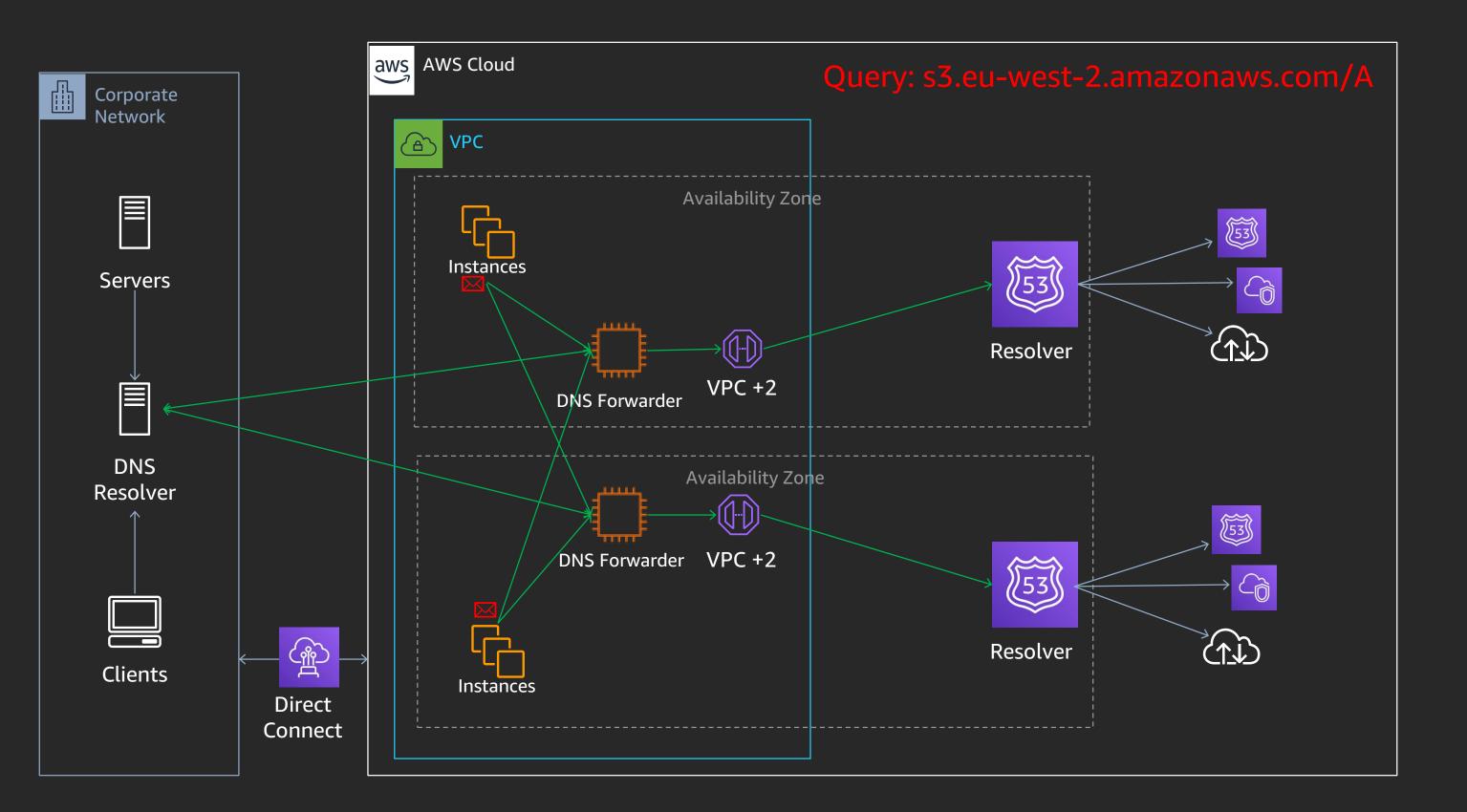
Performant

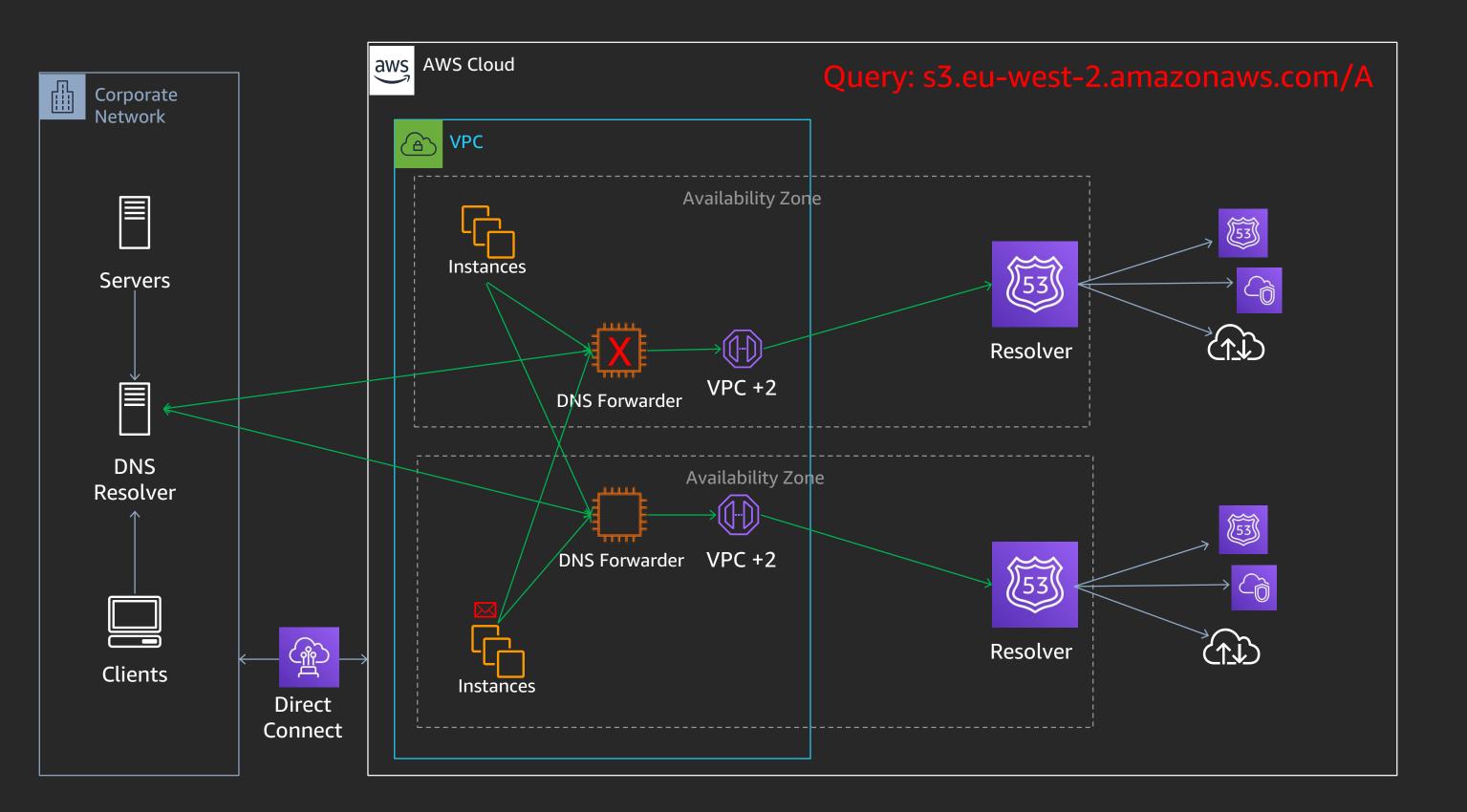
Caching improves latency



Flexible

Logging, RPZ, AXFR, etc.





#### Linux stub resolver

```
[ec2-user@ip-172-31-4-227 ~]$ cat /etc/resolv.conf
; generated by /usr/sbin/dhclient-script
search ap-southeast-2.compute.internal
options timeout:2 attempts:5
nameserver 172.31.4.10
nameserver 172.31.3.10
```

man resolv.conf:

"If there are multiple servers, the resolver library queries them in the order listed."

## Forwarding instances: Challenges



Self-Build

Undifferentiated heavy lifting



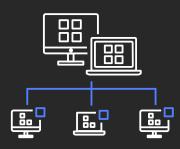
Limits

ENI Limit can be a bottleneck



**Failures** 

Instance failure impacts entire VPC



**Isolation** 

AZ problem can impact entire VPC

## CIDR+2 vs. forward instances (2018)

	Managed	Limits	Caching	Cost	Blast Radius	On- premises integration	Flexibility
VPC +2 Resolver	Fully Managed	1024x pps per ENI	Yes	None	Zonal	No	Private DNS
Forwarding instances	Self Install	1024pps per forwarding instance	Yes	Per instance	Regional	Yes	Local zones, logging, RPZ

## Route 53 Resolver Endpoints

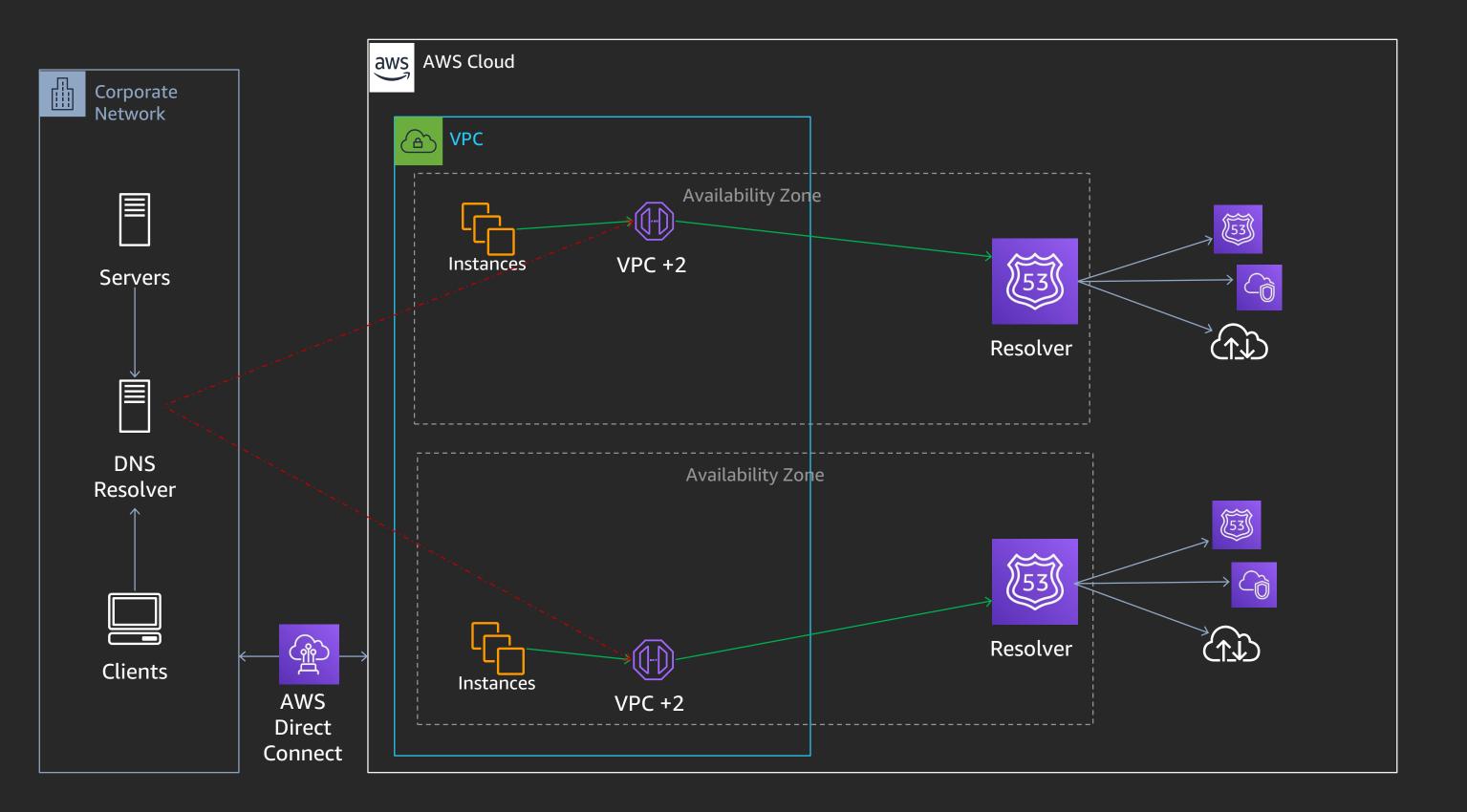




# Route 53 Resolver Inbound Endpoints







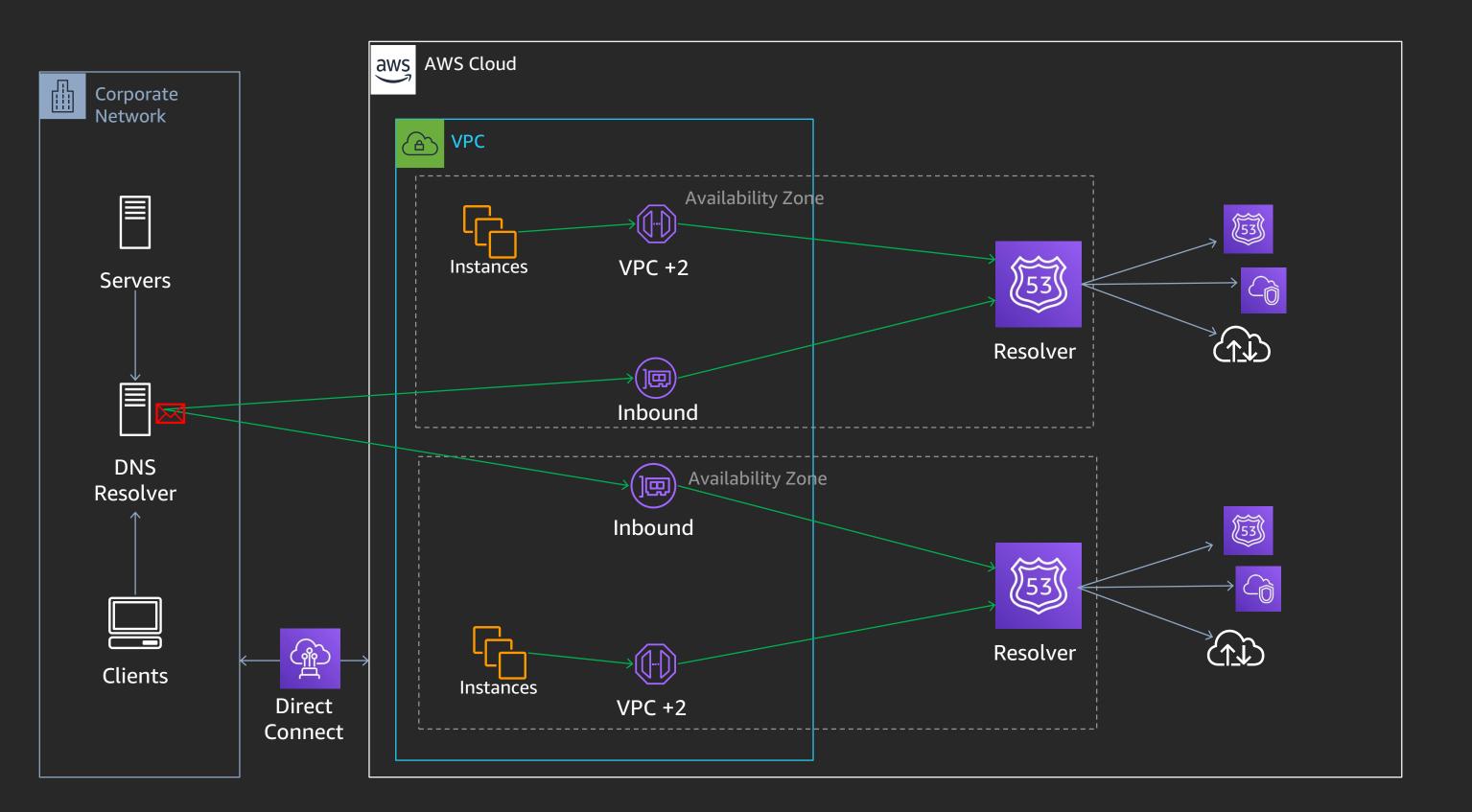
## Route 53 Resolver: Inbound endpoints

Allow on-premises resolvers query Route 53 Resolver

Creates routable ENIs in VPC reachable over AWS Direct Connect or VPN

Nomenclature: one "endpoint" == multiple ENIs

Limit: 10,000 QPS per ENI



# Inbound endpoints: Best practices

Use multiple ENIs in separate Availability Zones for high availability

Use a retrying DNS resolver on-premises

Specify your IPs

CloudWatch alarms on QPS

EC2 instances use VPC+2 Resolver not inbound endpoints

# Inbound endpoints: Multiple VPCs

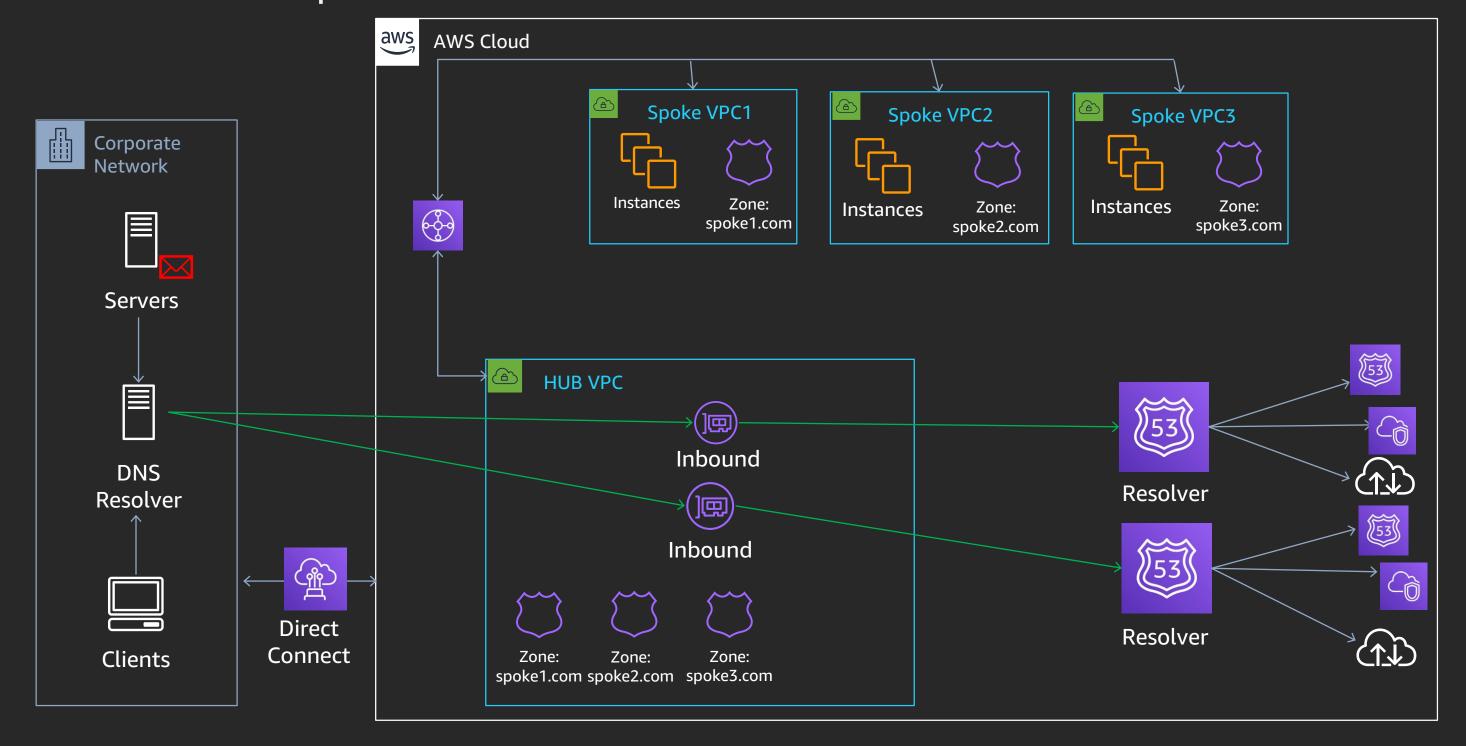
Do I need multiple endpoints for multiple VPCs?

#### Generally, no

- Associate all Private Hosted Zones to one VPC
- Internal Instance names resolve across all VPCs
- Public EC2 internal IPs resolve with peering/TGW

# Hub and spoke

#### Query: foo.spoke2.com/A



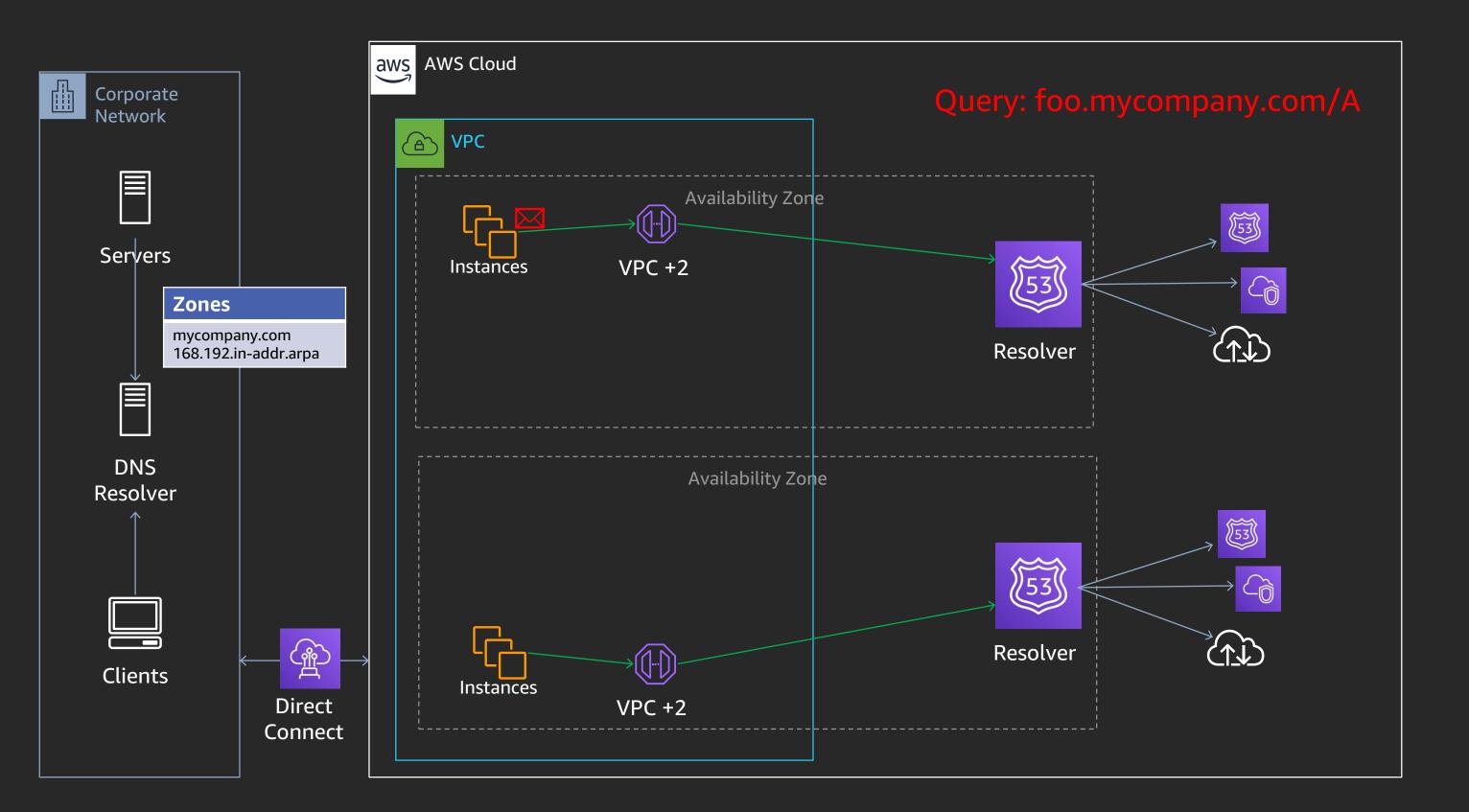
# Resolving EC2 domains from on-premises

	Managed	Limits	Caching	Cost	Blast Radius	Query Metrics
Inbound Endpoints	Fully Managed	10K QPS per ENI	At Resolver Service	\$0.125 per hour per ENI	Zonal	Yes
Forwarding Instances	Self- Managed	1024 PPS per Forward Instance	Yes	EC2 Instance pricing	Zonal	No

# Route 53 Resolver Outbound Endpoints & Rules







# Route 53 Resolver: Outbound endpoints

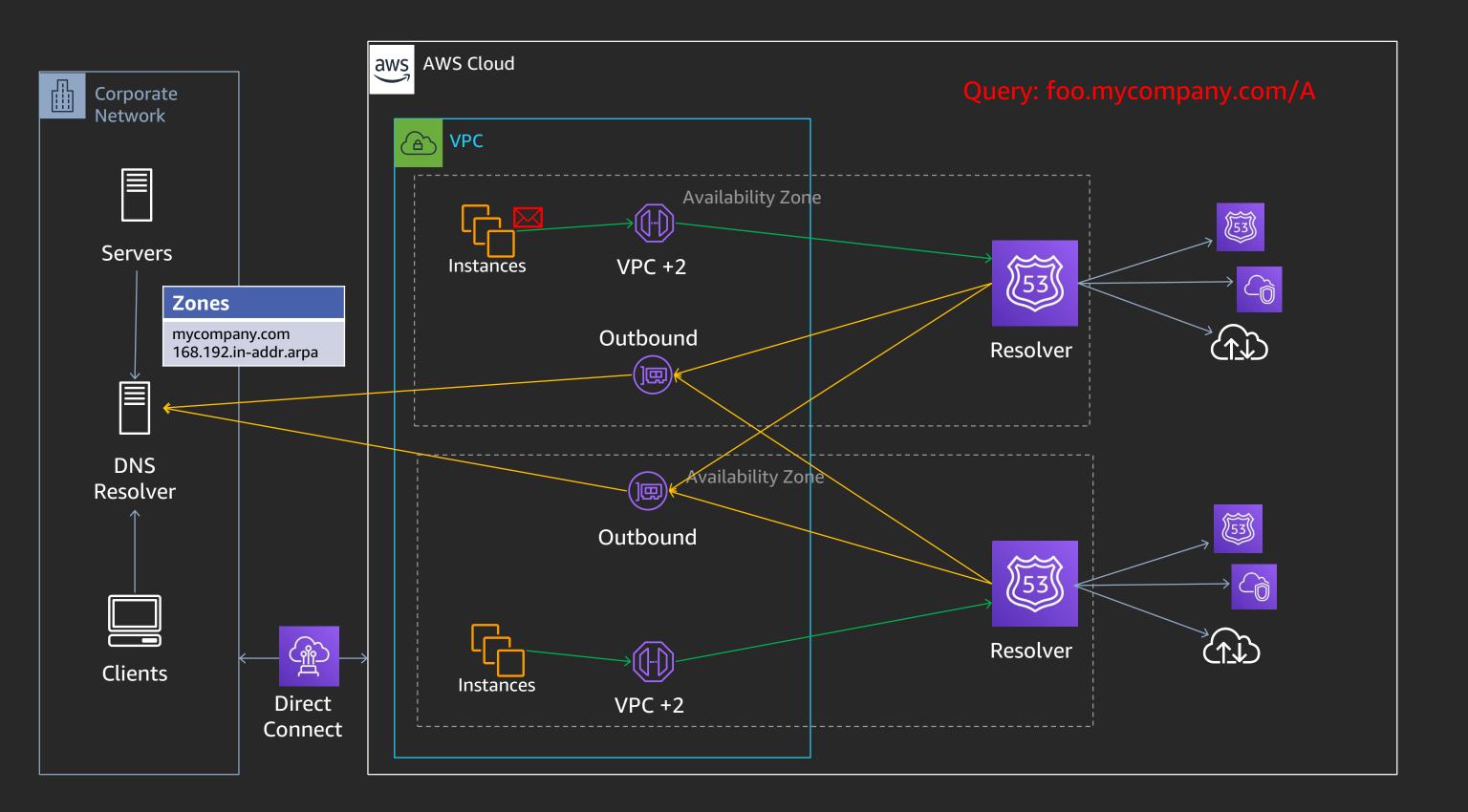
Path for the Route 53 Resolver to query your DNS Resolvers

Creates source ENIs in your VPC

Usable by many VPCs

Nomenclature: one "endpoint" == multiple ENIs

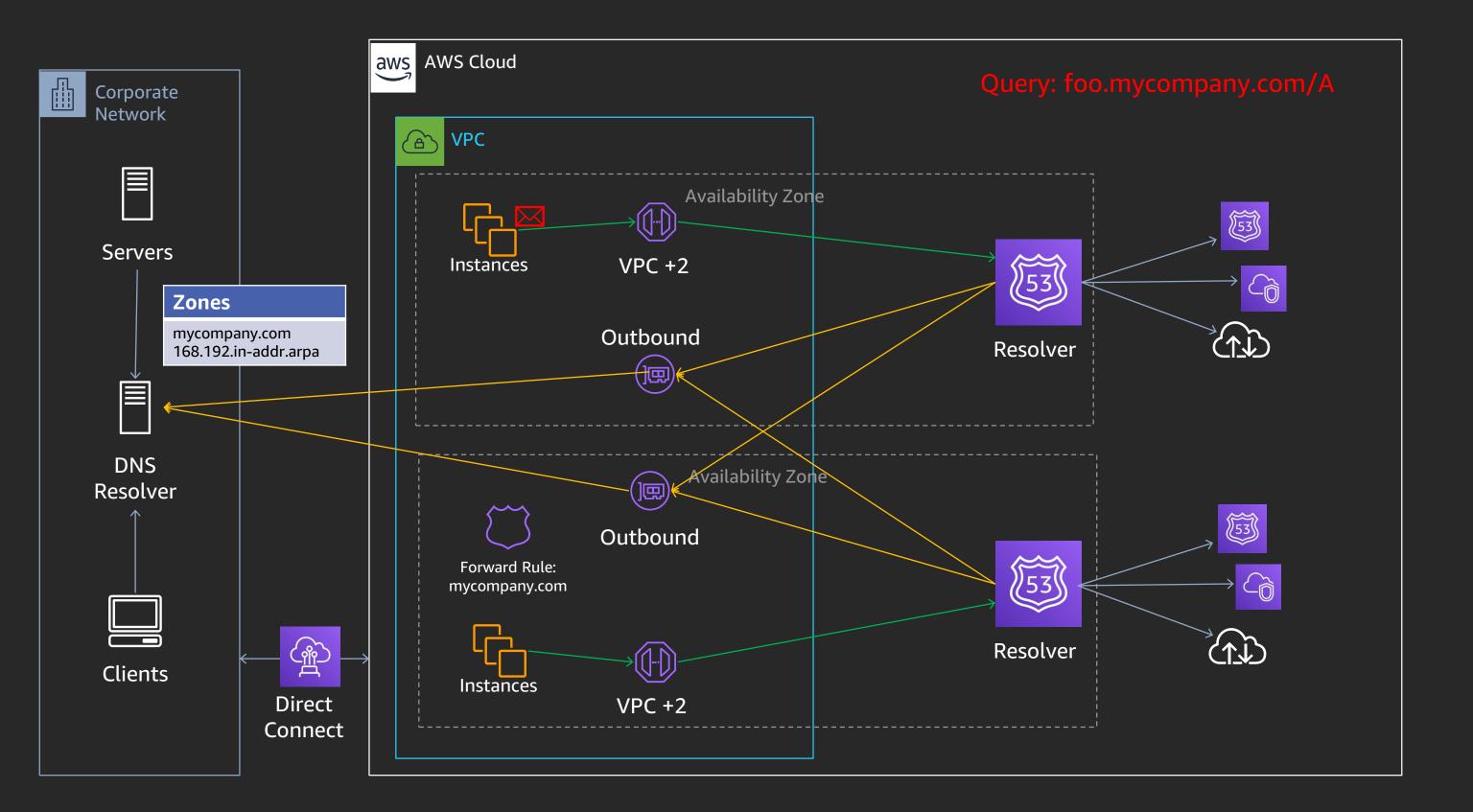
Limit: 10,000 QPS per ENI



### Route 53 Resolver – Resolver Rules

Configure how Route 53 Resolver makes queries

Two types: FORWARD and SYSTEM



# Outbound Endpoints: Multiple VPCs

Do I need multiple outbound endpoints for multiple VPCs?

No. Share and associate rules to many VPCs.

Do I need to share Outbound Endpoints between VPCs/Accounts?

No. When you associate a rule, the endpoint is shared implicitly.

What if the VPCs are in different AWS accounts?

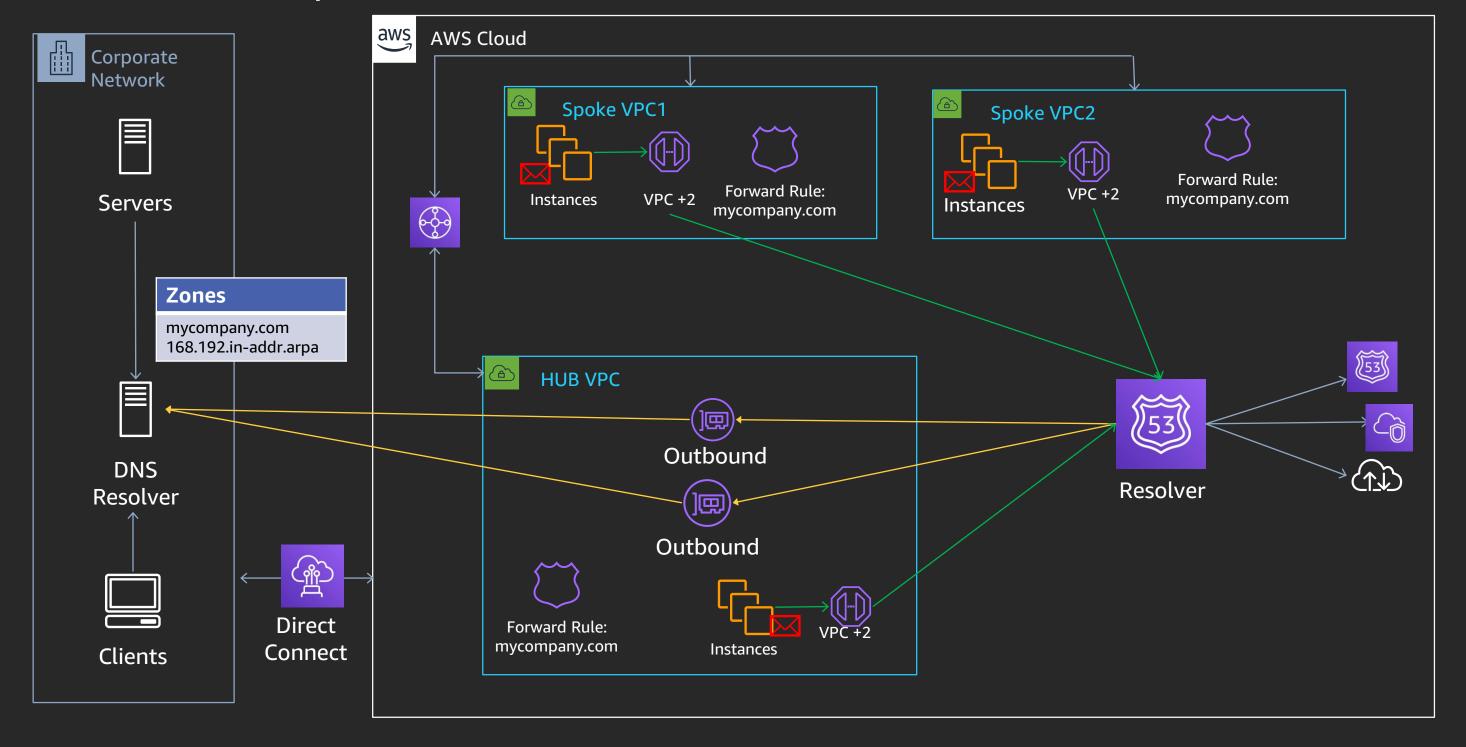
Resource Access Manager shares Resolver Rules cross-account.

Do I need VPC Peering or Transit Gateway?

No.

# Hub and spoke

#### Query: foo.mycompany.com/A



# Outbound Endpoints: Best practices

Use multiple ENIs in separate Availability Zone for high availability

Use forwarding sparingly

Maintain fixed IPs as targets

CloudWatch alarms on QPS

# Resolving on-premises domains from EC2

	Managed	Limits	Caching	Cost	Blast Radius	On-Premises Integration	Scope
VPC+2 Resolver + Outbound Endpoints	Fully Managed	1024 per ENI; 10K QPS per Outbound	Local	\$0.125 per hour per ENI	Zonal	Yes	Only Forwarded Queries
Forward Instances	Self-Install	Depends on Instance Size	Remote	EC2 Instance Pricing	Regional	Yes	All Queries

# Resolver rules: How do they work?

What if I create rules that overlap?

Most specific matching rule wins

FORWARD wins over SYSTEM on same domain

How do these Rules interact with Private Hosted Zones and VPC DNS?



1. Private DNS



Route 53

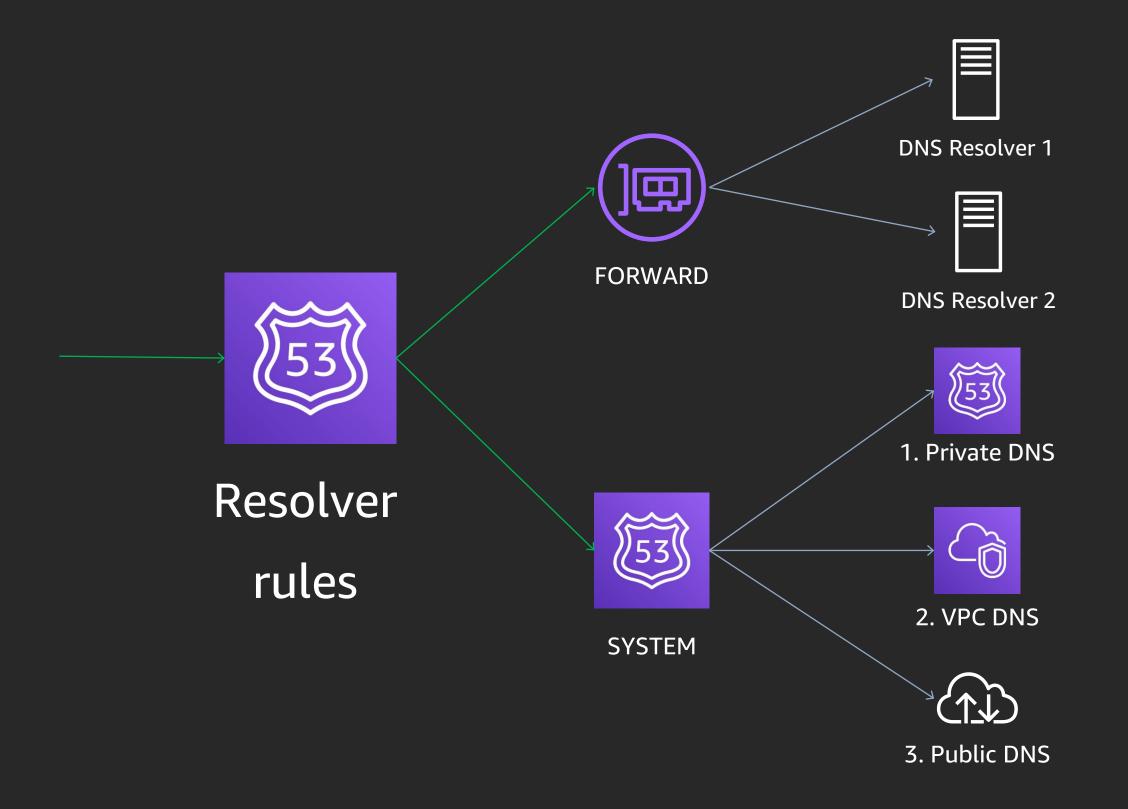
Resolver



2. VPC DNS



3. Public DNS



# Autodefined system rules

Suppose we create a FORWARD rule on "."

Would this override all VPC DNS and Private DNS?

Route 53 Resolver creates more specific "Autodefined System Rules"

# Autodefined system rules

*""* 

#### **VPC DNS:**

- eu-west-2.compute.internal (London)
- eu-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com (London)
- 10.in-addr.arpa, 168.192.in-addr.arpa, [16-31].172.in-addr.arpa
- Rules for each /24 in VPC CIDR

#### **Private DNS:**

All Private Hosted Zones associated with the VPC

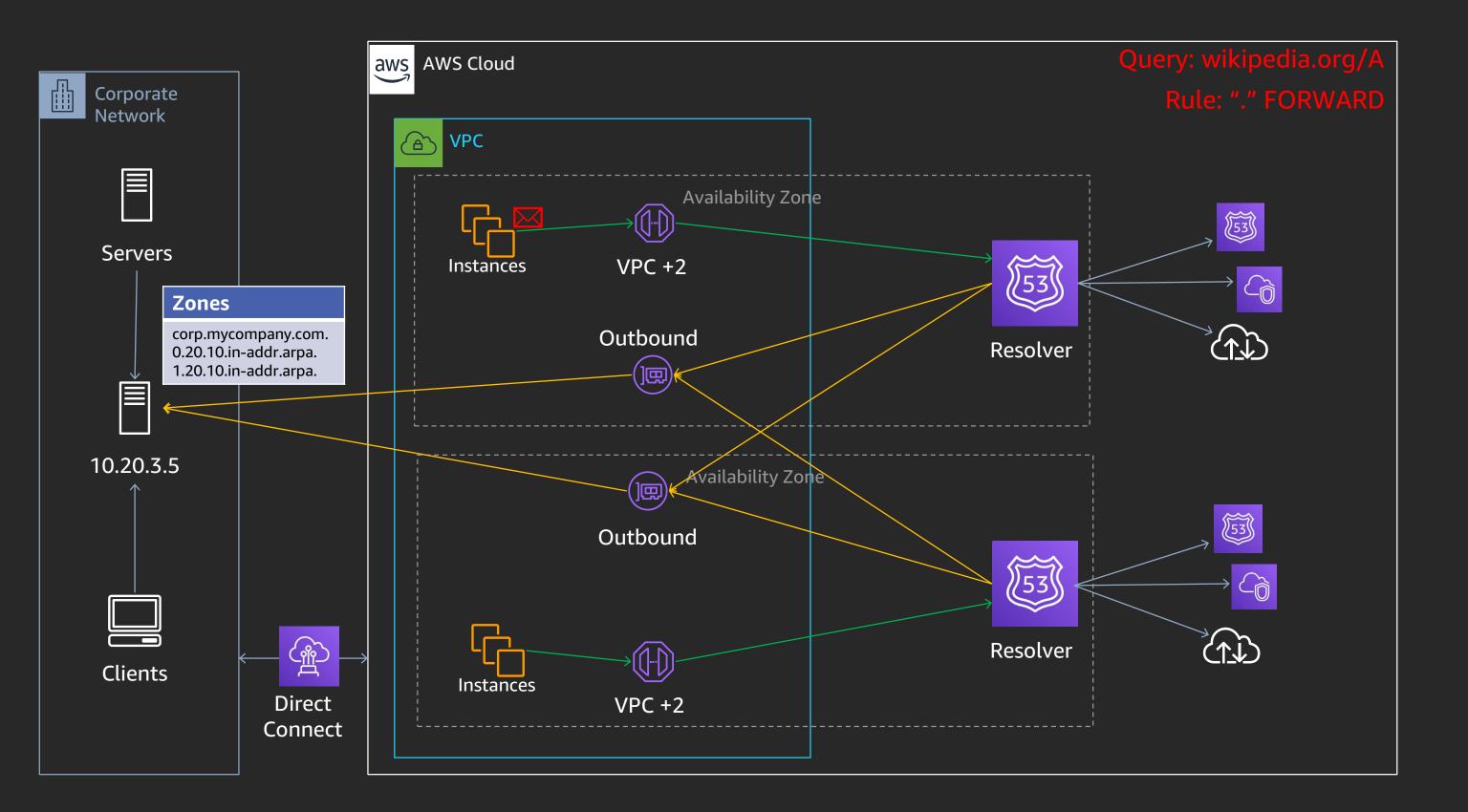
- Forward all public DNS resolution via on-premises resolvers
- Route 53 Resolver should answer: amazonaws.com.
- Private Hosted Zone: mycloud.com.
- AWS PrivateLink: kinesis.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com.
- Corp office namespace: corp.mycloud.com
- VPC CIDR: 10.10.0.0/23
- On-premises CIDR range: 10.20.0.0/23

Domain	Туре	Endpoint	Targets
<i>u n</i>	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		

Domain	Туре	Endpoint	Targets
u 11 •	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
mycloud.com.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
kinesis.eu-west-2.amazon	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.internal.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.amaz	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		

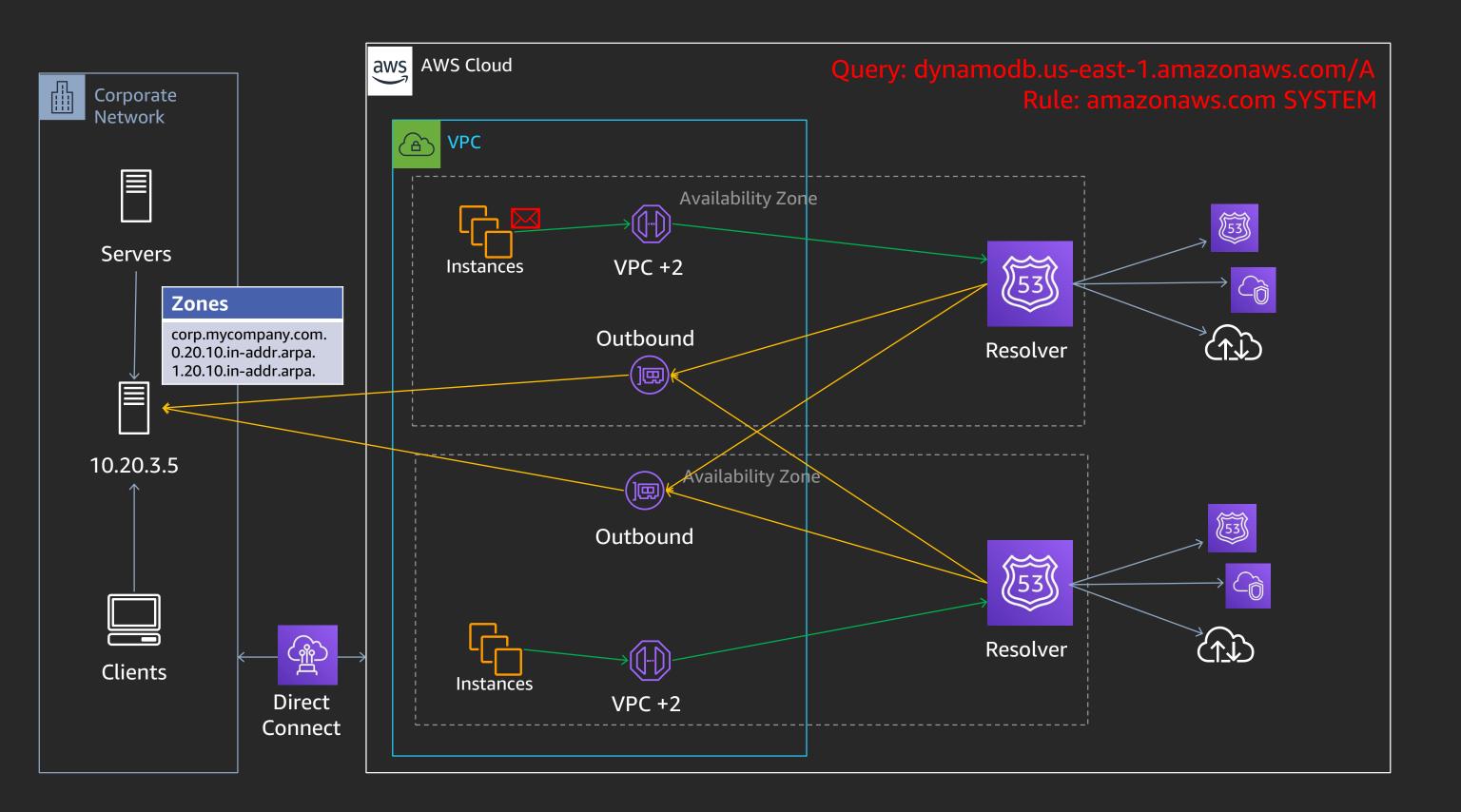
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Domain	Туре	Endpoint	Targets
<i>u n</i> •	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
u n	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5
mycloud.com.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
kinesis.eu-west-2.amazon	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.internal.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.amaz	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		



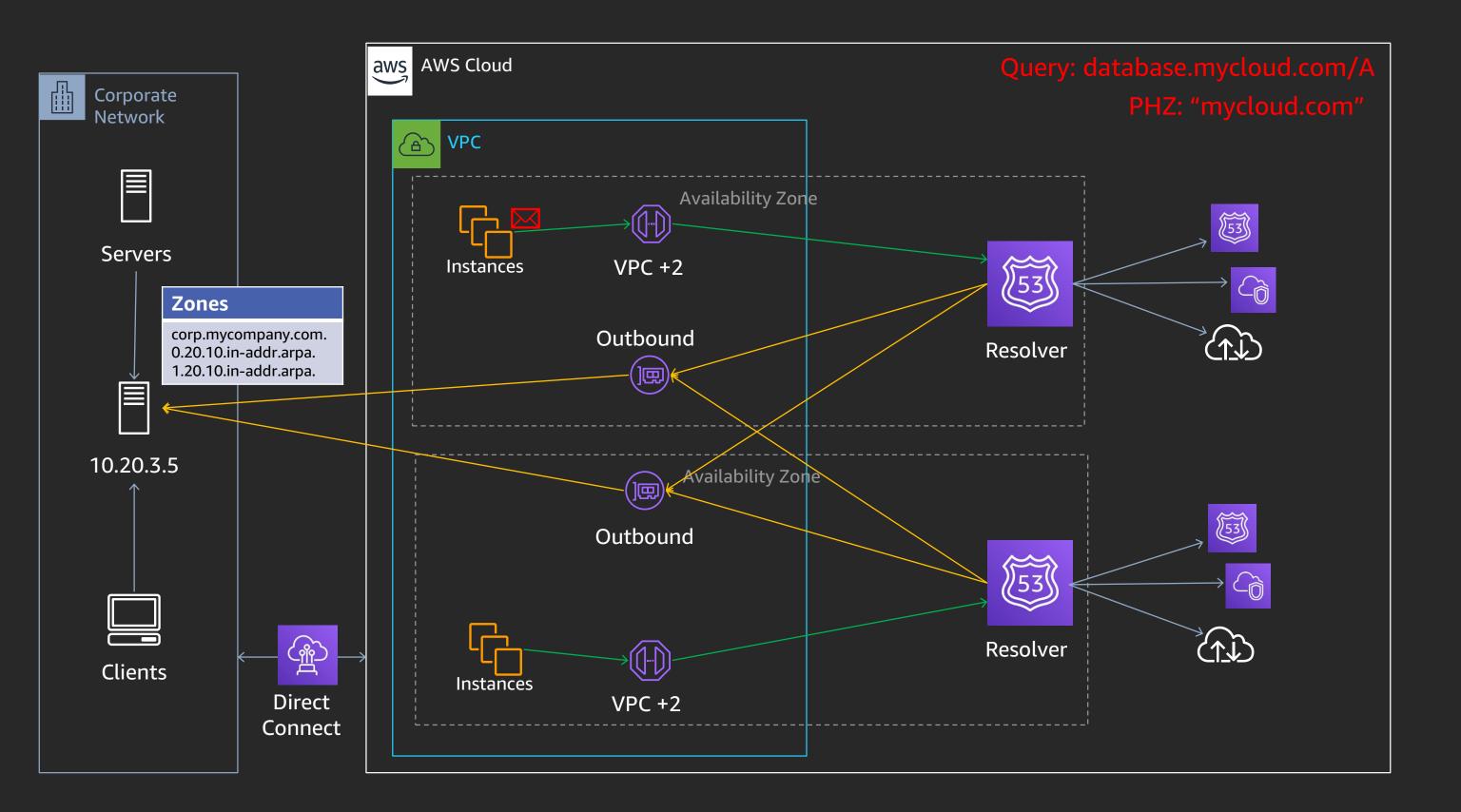
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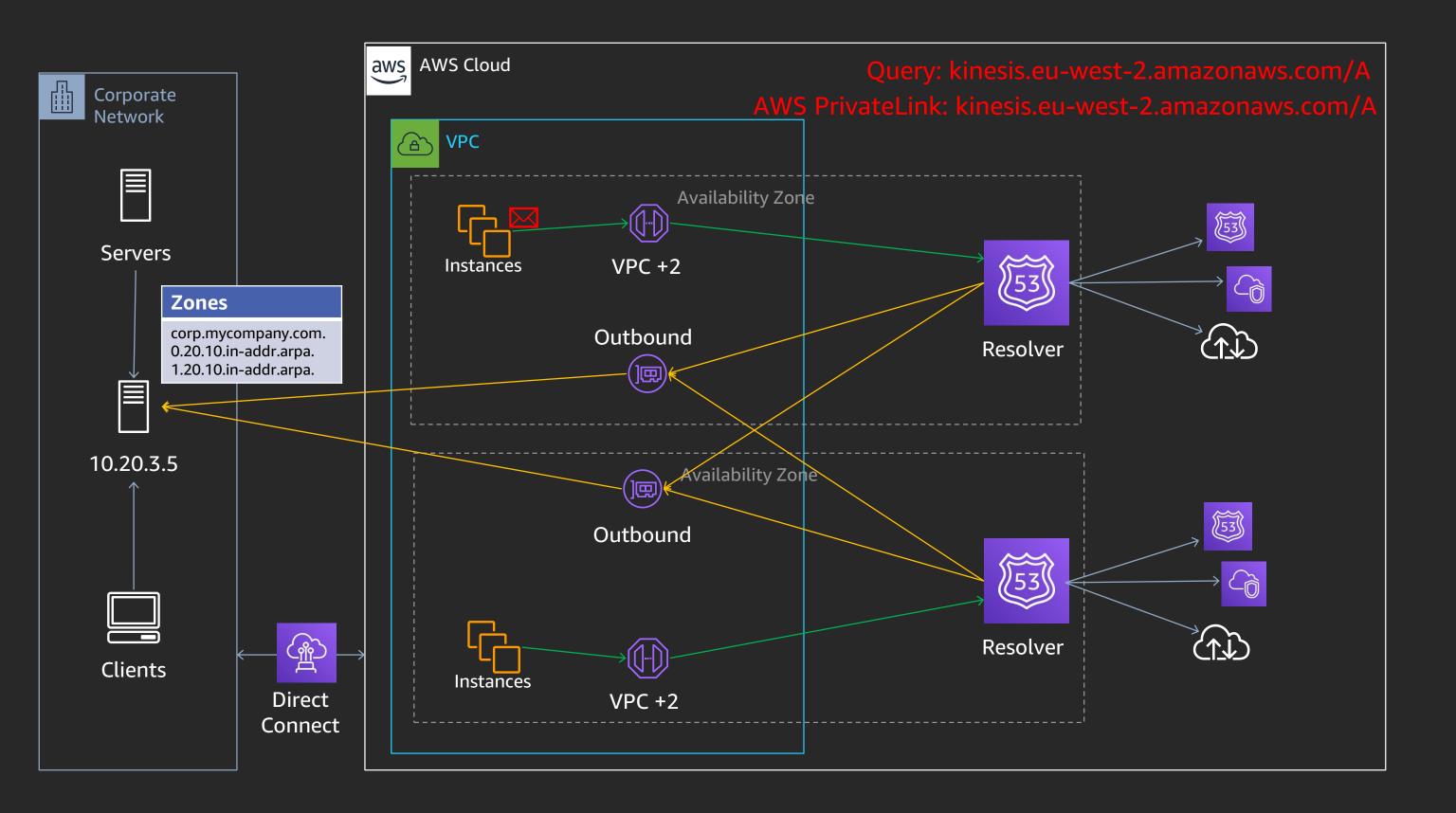
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amazonaws.com	SYSTEM		
mycloud.com.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
kinesis.eu-west-2.amazon	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.internal.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
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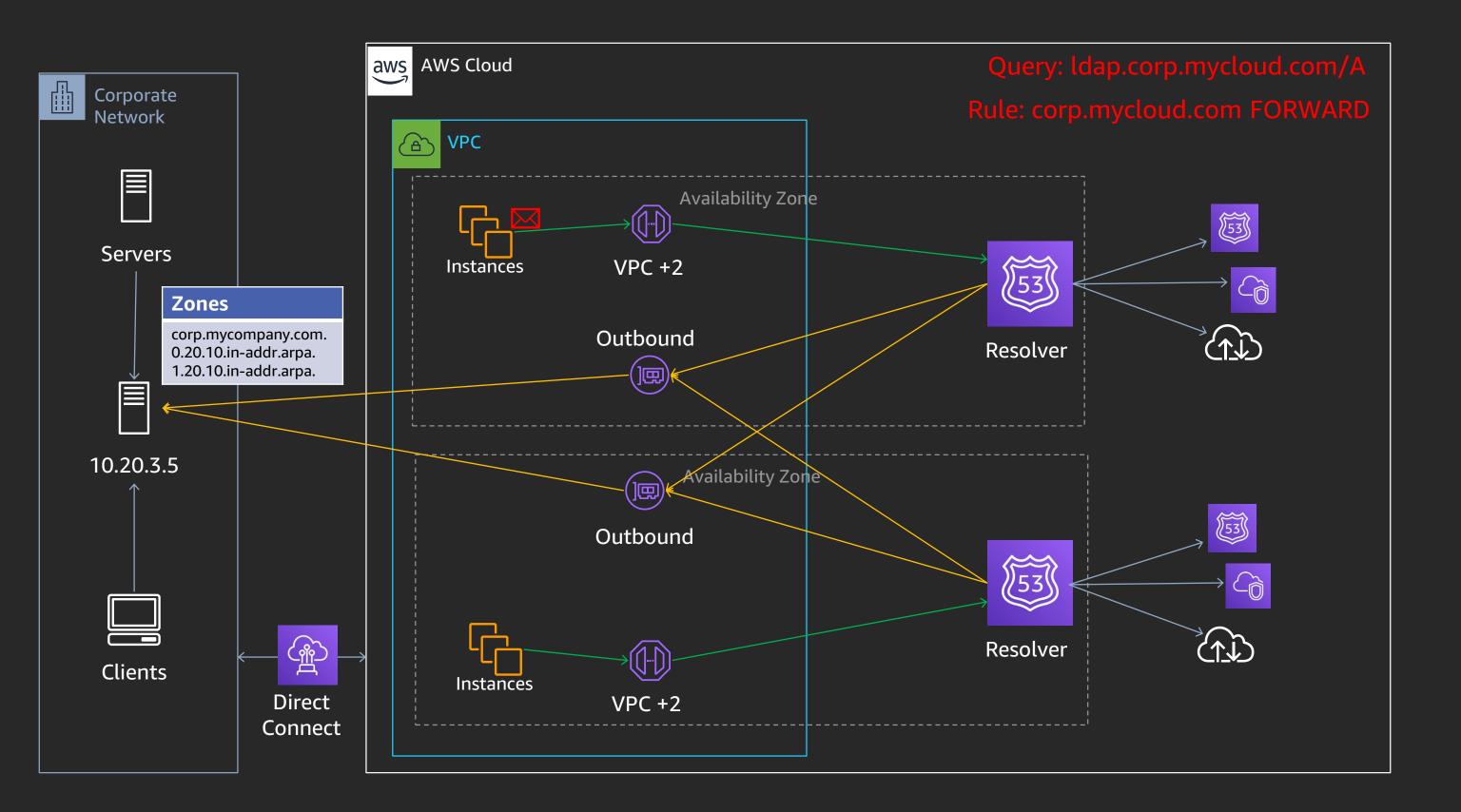
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amazonaws.com	SYSTEM		
mycloud.com.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
kinesis.eu-west-2.amazon	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.internal.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
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amazonaws.com	SYSTEM		
mycloud.com.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
corp.mycloud.com.	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5
kinesis.eu-west-2.amazon	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.internal.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
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## Resolver rules examples (reverse)

Domain	Туре	Endpoint	Targets
u n	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
<i>u n</i>	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5
10.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
0.10.10.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
1.10.10.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		

#### Resolver rules example

#### Requirements:

- Forward all public DNS resolution via on-premises resolvers
- Route 53 Resolver should answer: amazonaws.com.
- Private Hosted Zone: mycloud.com.
- AWS PrivateLink: kinesis.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com.
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# Resolver rules examples (reverse)

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10.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
0.10.10.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
1.10.20.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
0.20.10.in-addr.arpa.	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5
1.20.10.in-addr.arpa.	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5

#### Resolver rules summary

- Most specific rule wins
- Private DNS, PrivateLink endpoints, and VPC DNS get autodefined rules
  - You can override them
- Best practice to allow SYSTEM resolve amazonaws.com.
- Don't forget reverse records, e.g., for Kerberos
- VPC CIDR ranges get /24 rules (e.g., x.y.10.in-addr.arpa) autodefined
  - You can override them

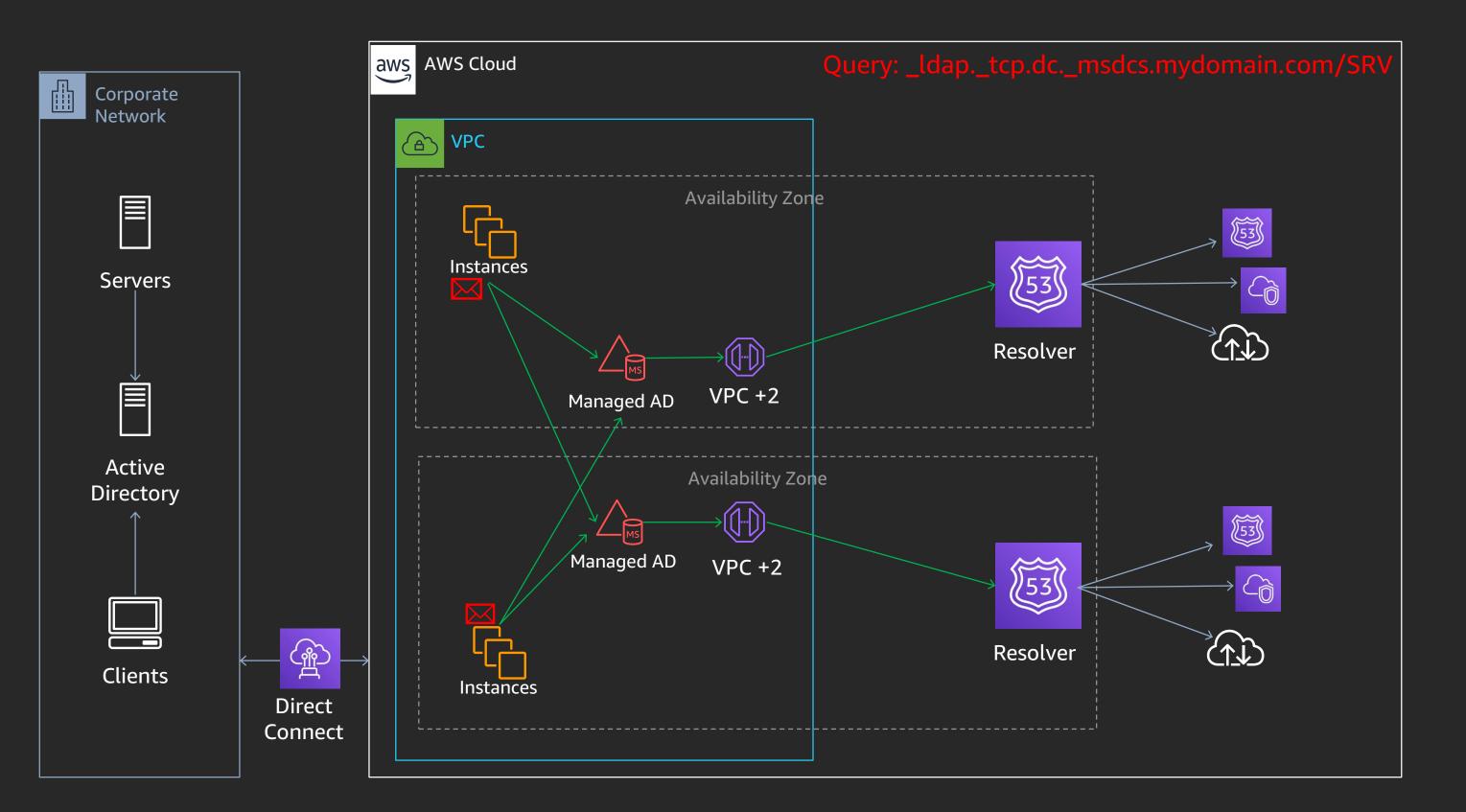
# Route 53 Resolver and Active Directory

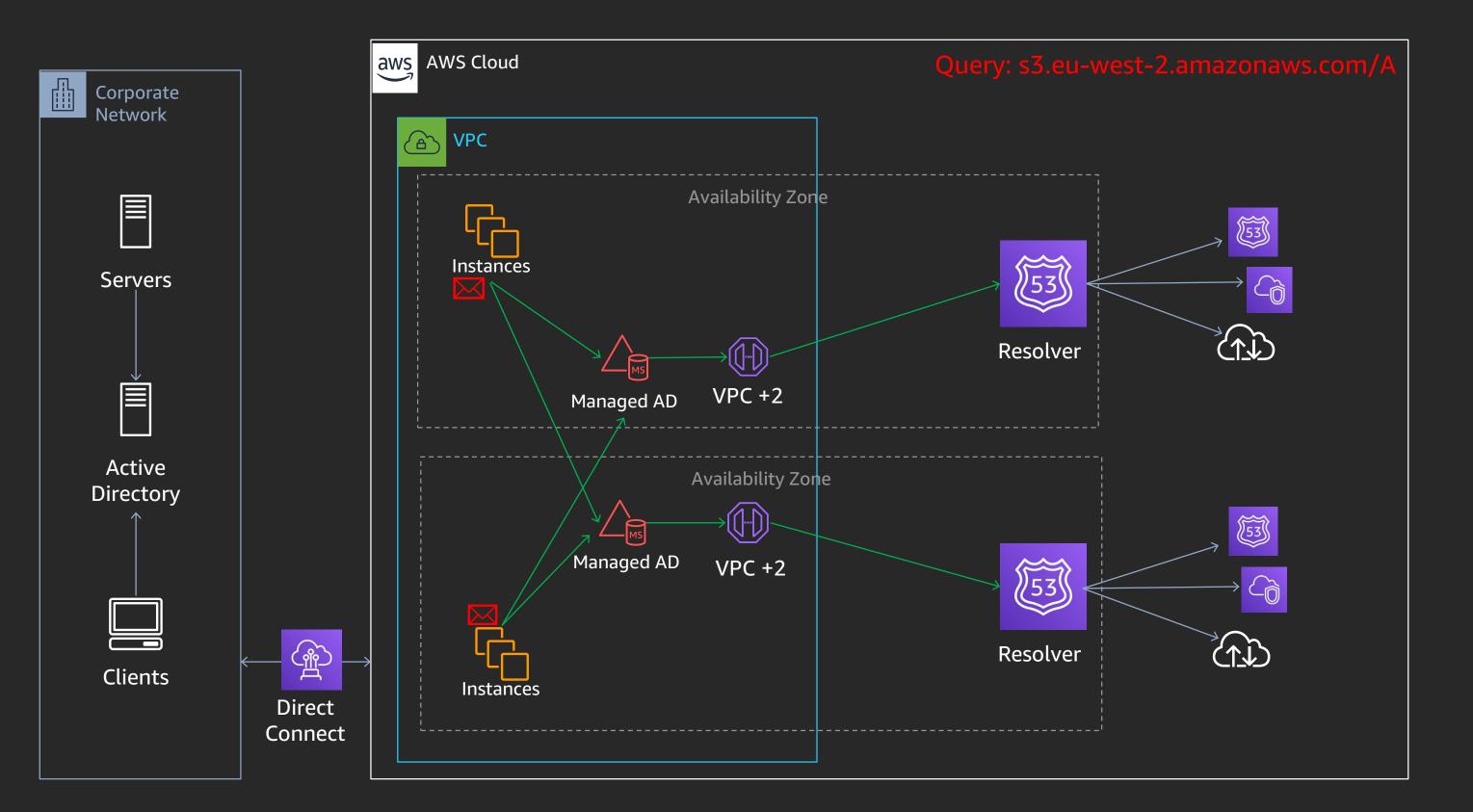




## Active Directory in EC2

- AWS Managed Microsoft AD, Simple AD and self-install
- Active Directory manages Dynamic DNS for hosts on Active Directory domain
  - Forward and Reverse DNS are important (e.g. for Kerberos)
- Standard practice is to update DHCP to point at DCs for DNS
  - DCs answer for Active Directory domain and reverse records
  - DCs typically forward to Route 53 Resolver (+2) for all else





## Active Directory in EC2

Like forward instances, this solution works well for many customers

#### Problems:

- Windows instances all tend to query the first name server in DHCP
- Scaling: 1024pps limit on VPC+2 applies
- Loss of Availability Zone isolation

#### Route 53 Resolver and Active Directory

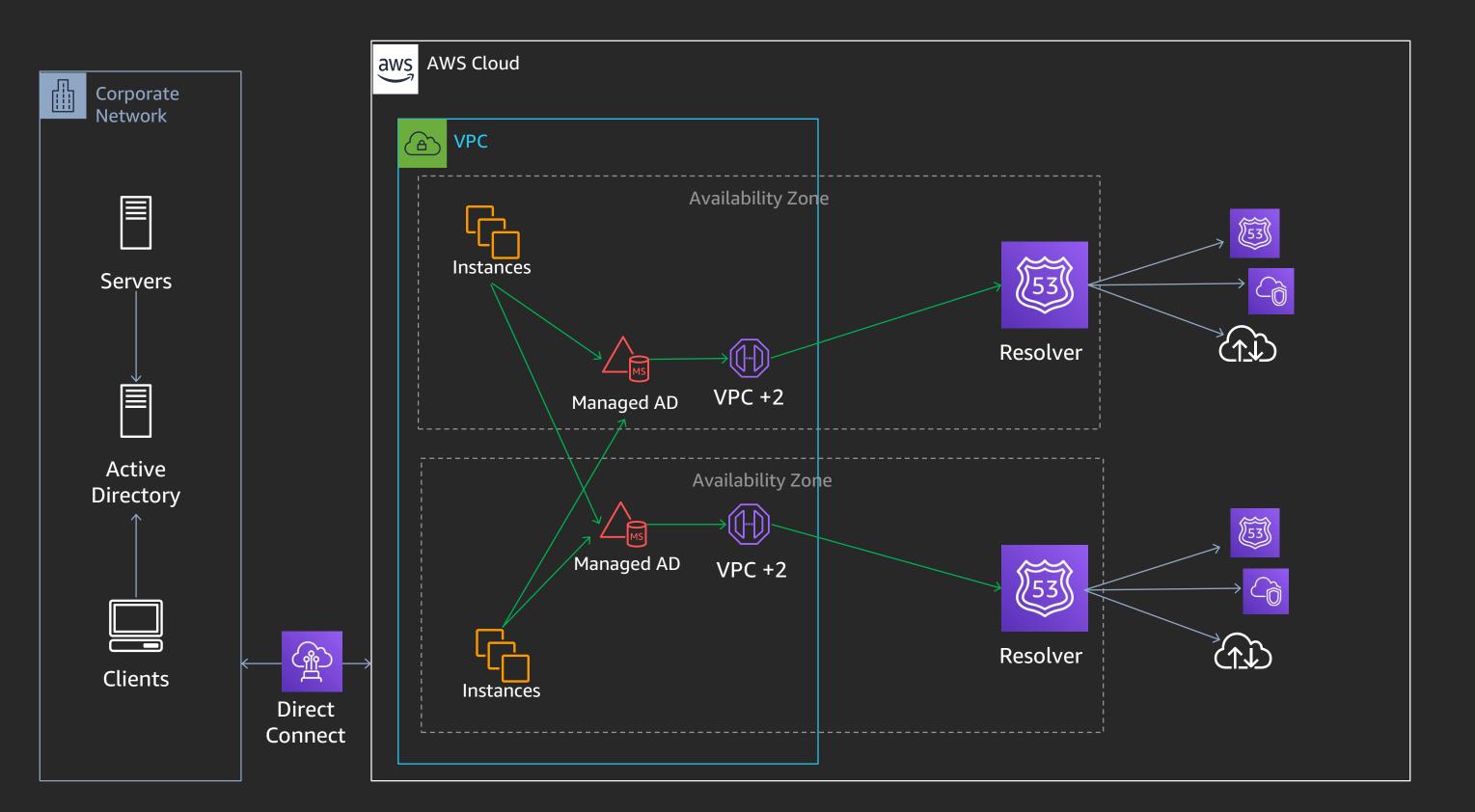
#### Steps:

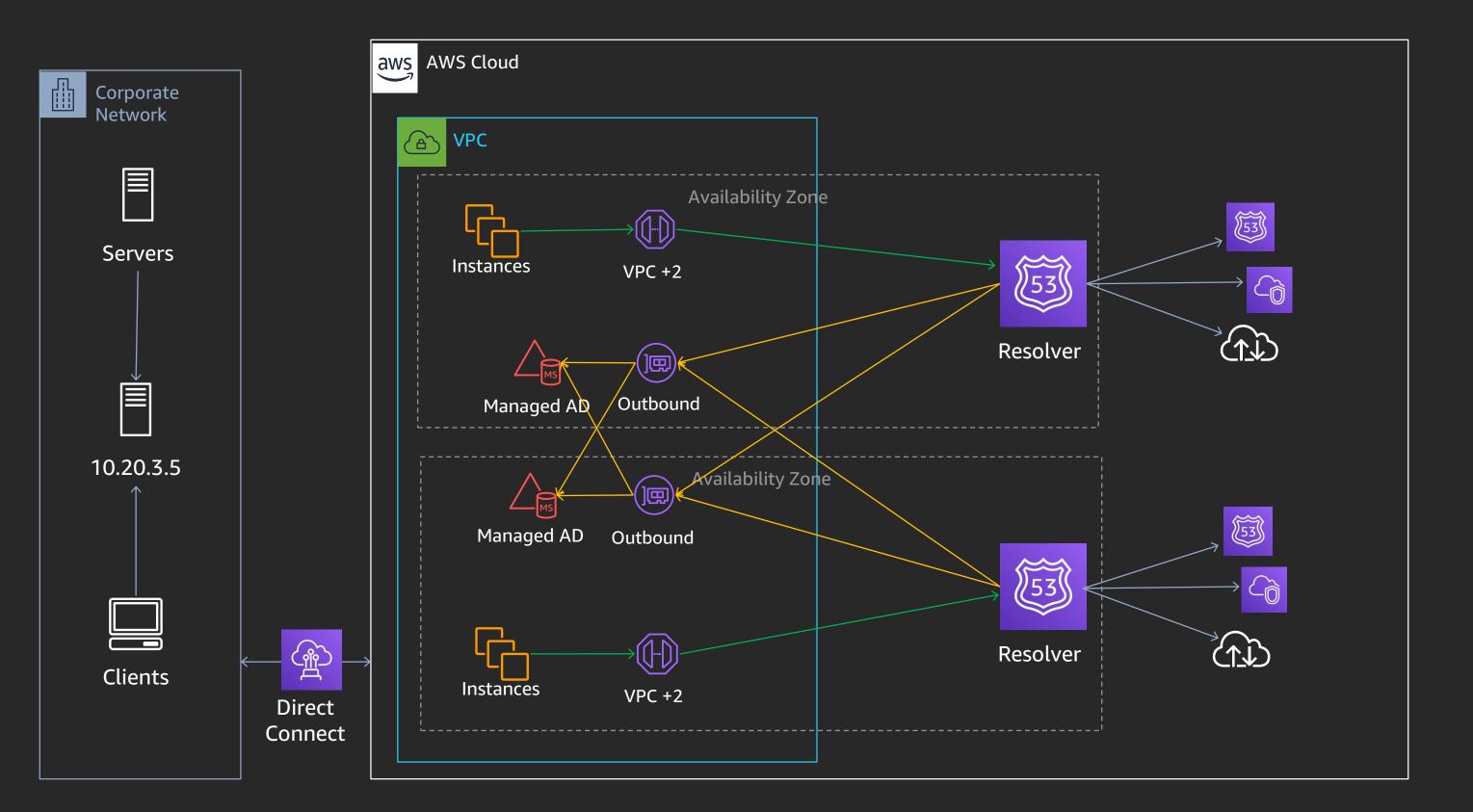
- 1. Create Route 53 Resolver outbound endpoint
- 2. Create Resolver rules
  - 1. Forward Active Directory domain to AWS Managed Microsoft AD DNS addresses
  - 2. Forward VPC subnets to AWS Managed Microsoft AD DNS addresses, overriding each autodefined rule (/24 IP ranges)
- 3. Change DHCP domain-name-servers back to AmazonProvidedDNS

## Active Directory in EC2

#### Requirements:

- Active Directory domain: mydomain.com
- VPC CIDR: 10.10.0.0/23



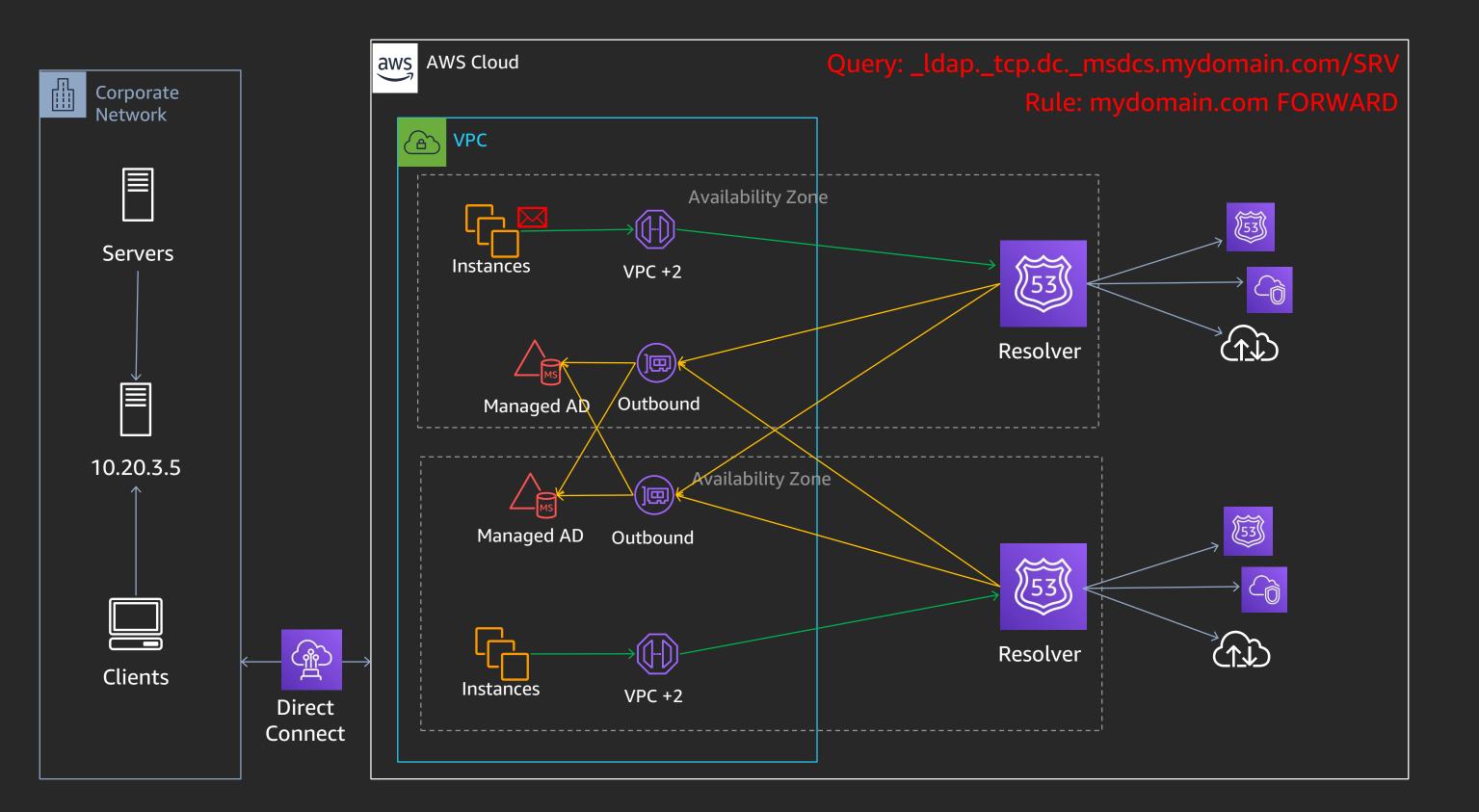


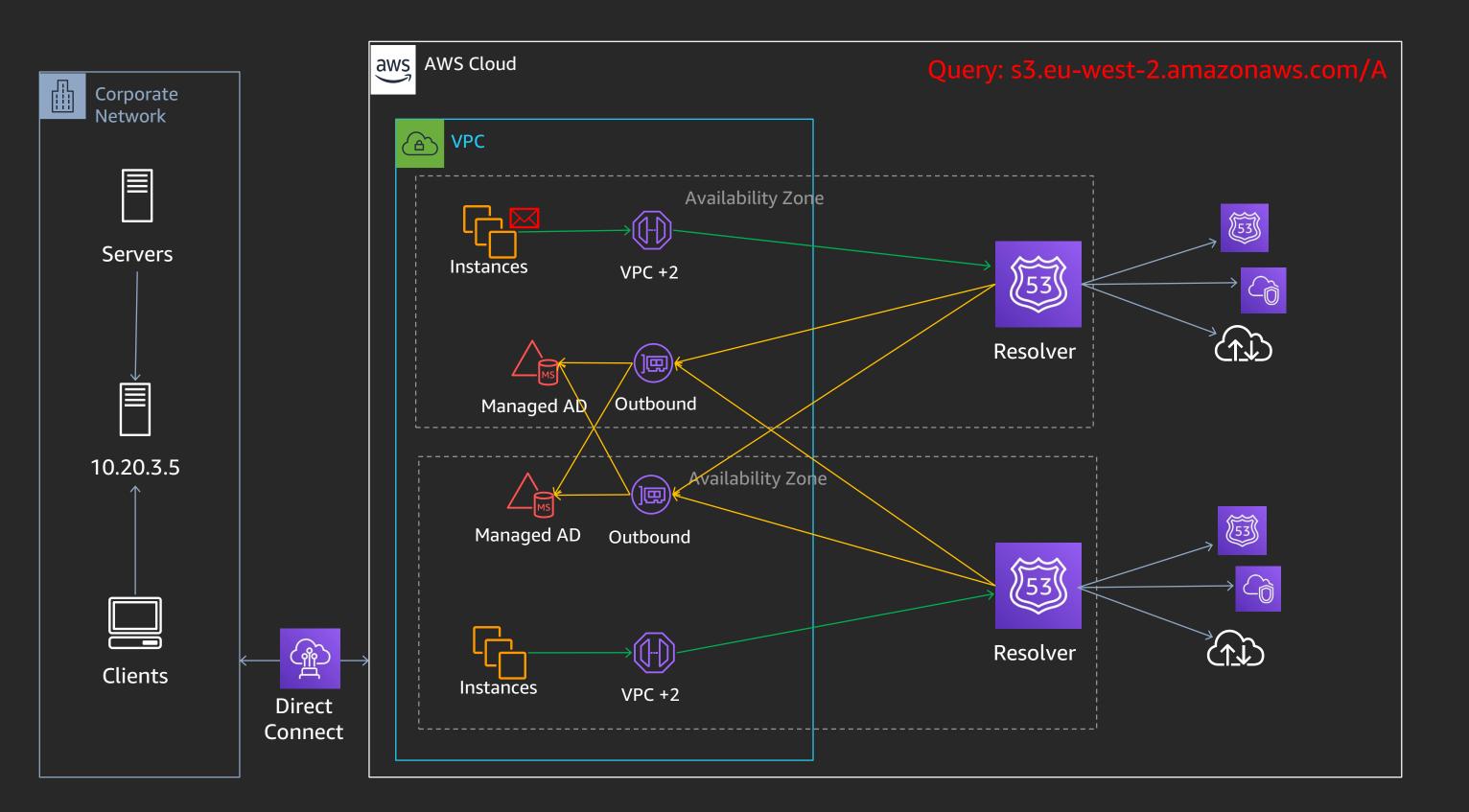
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mydomain.com.	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5
eu-west-2.compute.internal.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
eu-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		

## Active Directory in EC2 (reverse)

Domain	Туре	Endpoint	Targets
<i>u n</i>	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
<i>u</i> , <i>n</i>	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5
10.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
0.10.10.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
1.10.20.in-addr.arpa.	SYSTEM (auto-defined)		
0.10.10.in-addr.arpa.	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5
1.10.10.in-addr.arpa.	FORWARD	rslvr-out-d085c56	10.20.3.4, 10.20.3.5

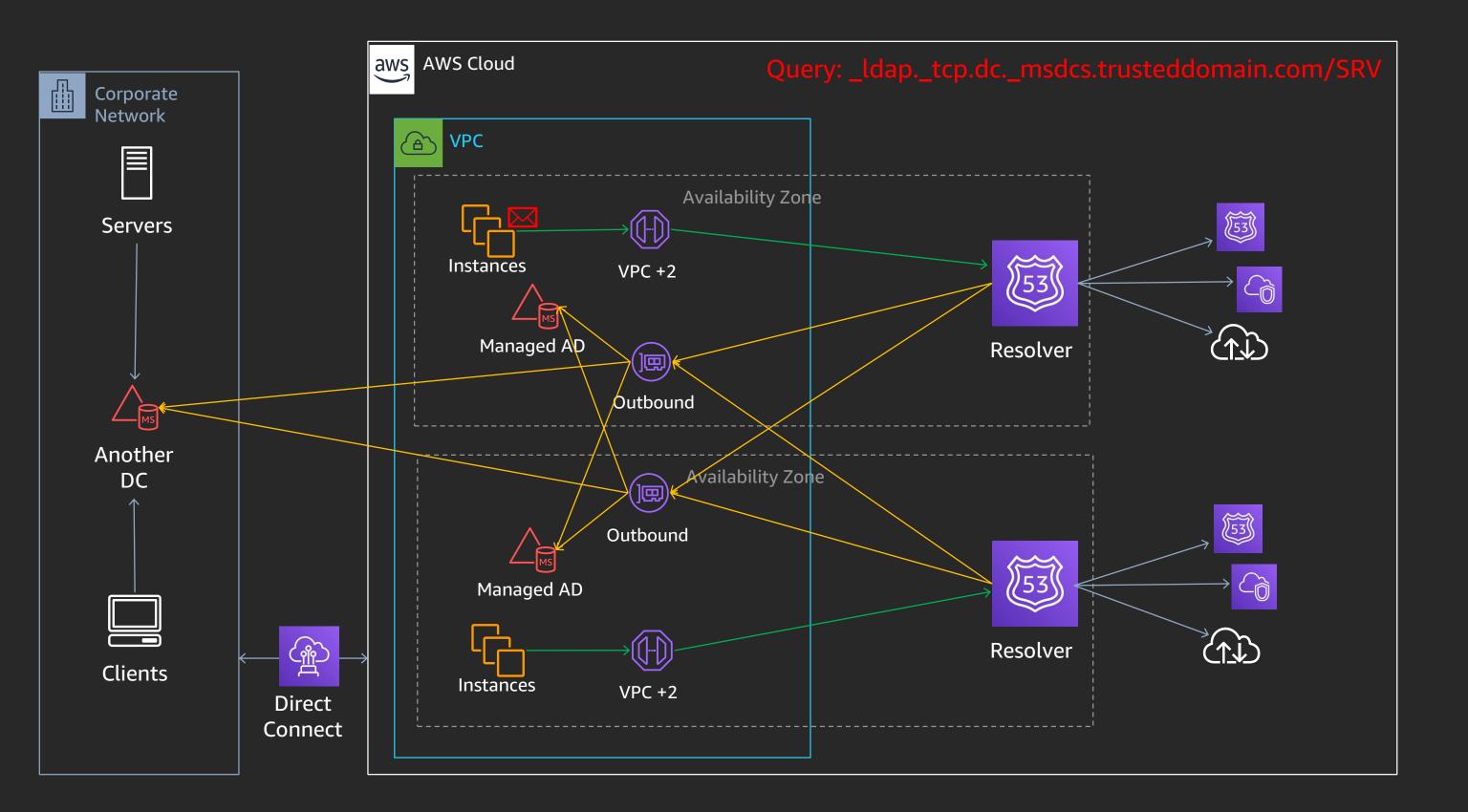




## Active Directory trusts

What if you have Active Directory trusts with an on-premises domain?

Typically prefer rules that forward direct to the trusted DC.



# Route 53 Resolver Managing many VPCs





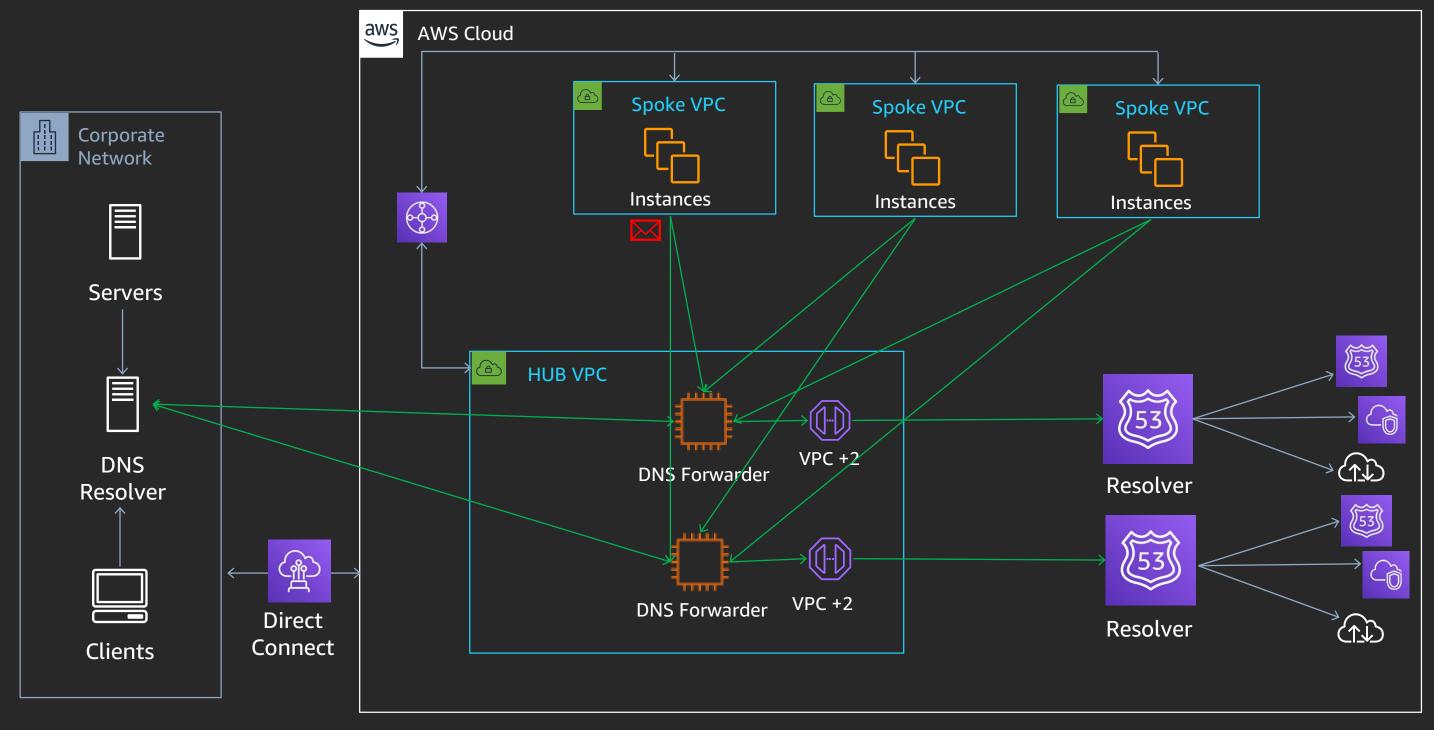
## Managing DNS across many VPCs

Often large customers have:

- Central infrastructure team managing networking and DNS
- Many dev teams, separate AWS accounts and VPCs
- VPC Peering or Transit Gateway interconnecting
- Hub and spoke network architecture
- Require a shared, coherent DNS view

Managing DNS centrally can be challenging.

# Hub and spoke strategy (forwarding instances)

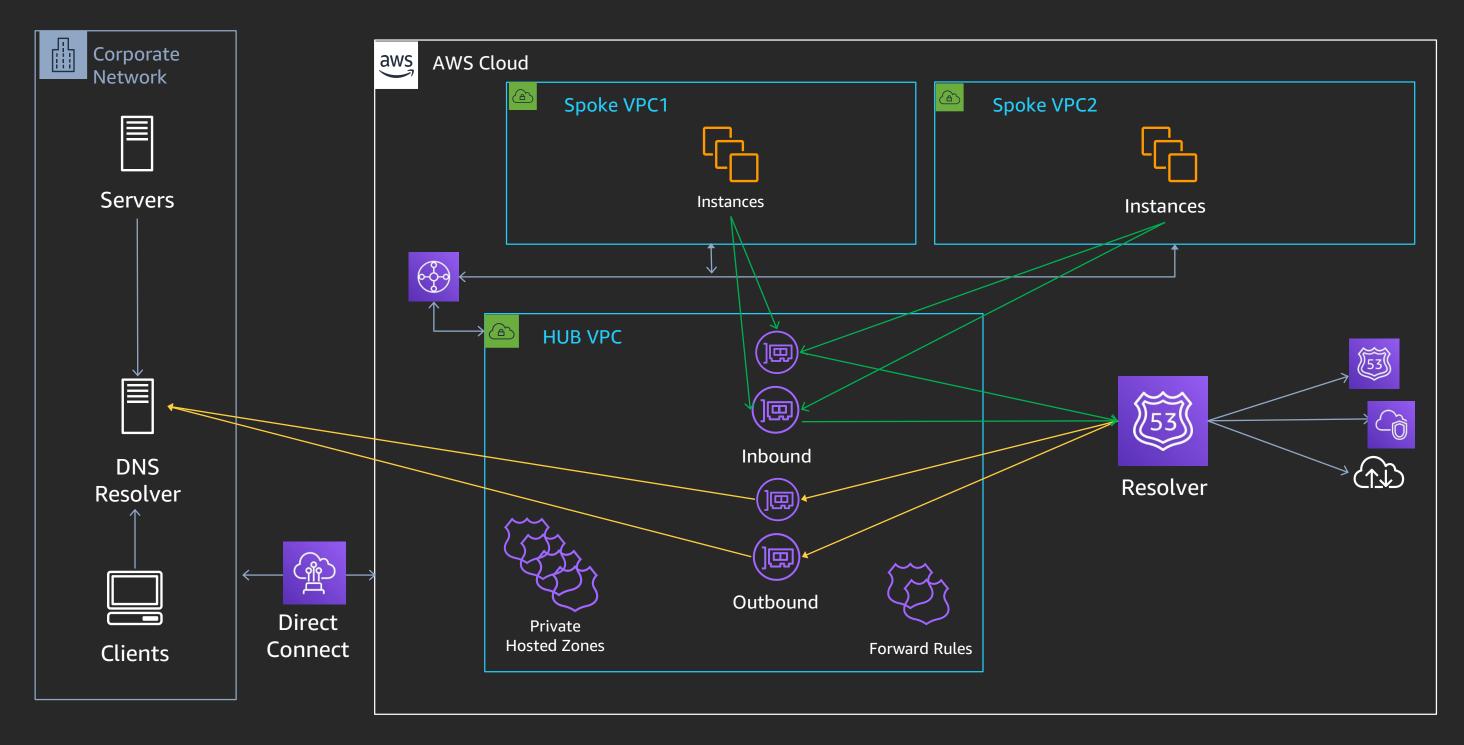


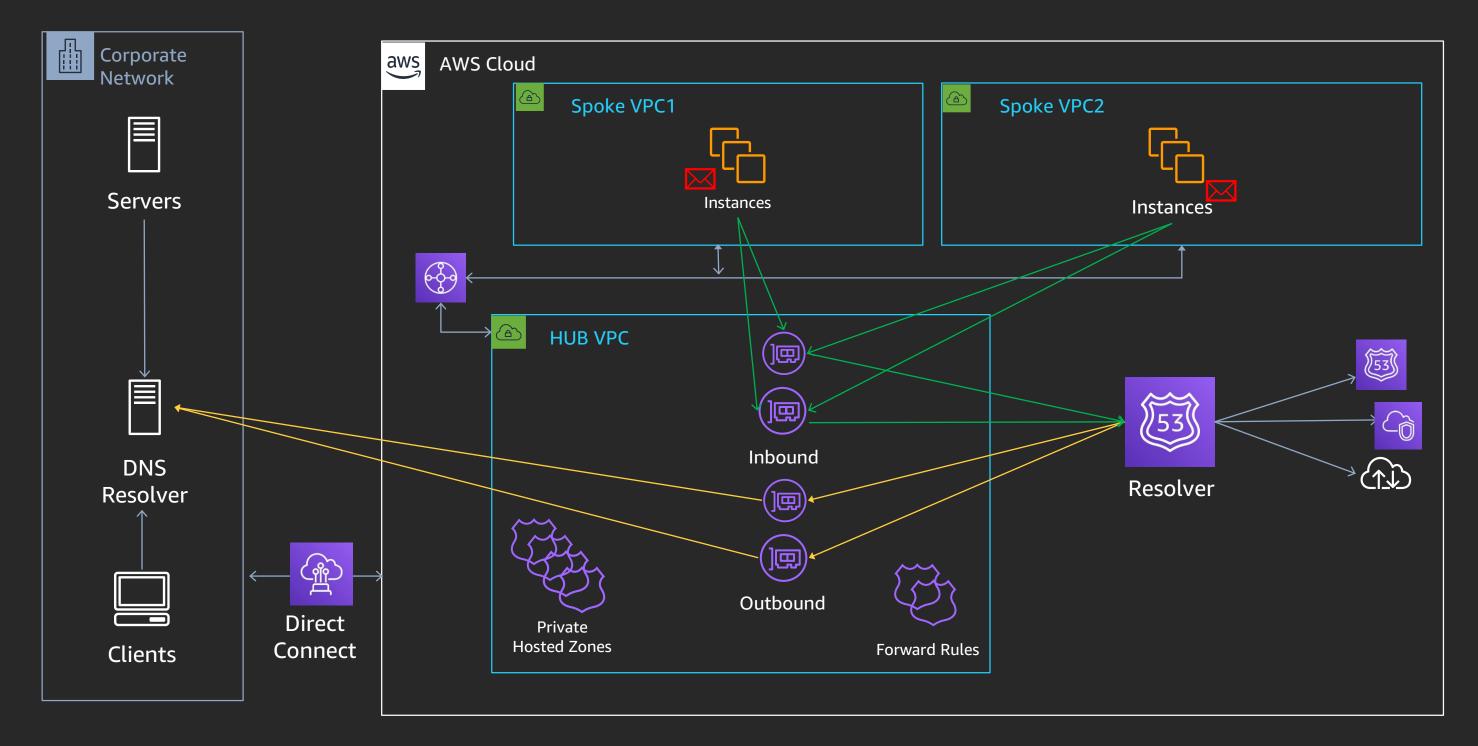
## Hub and spoke strategies (Resolver Endpoints)

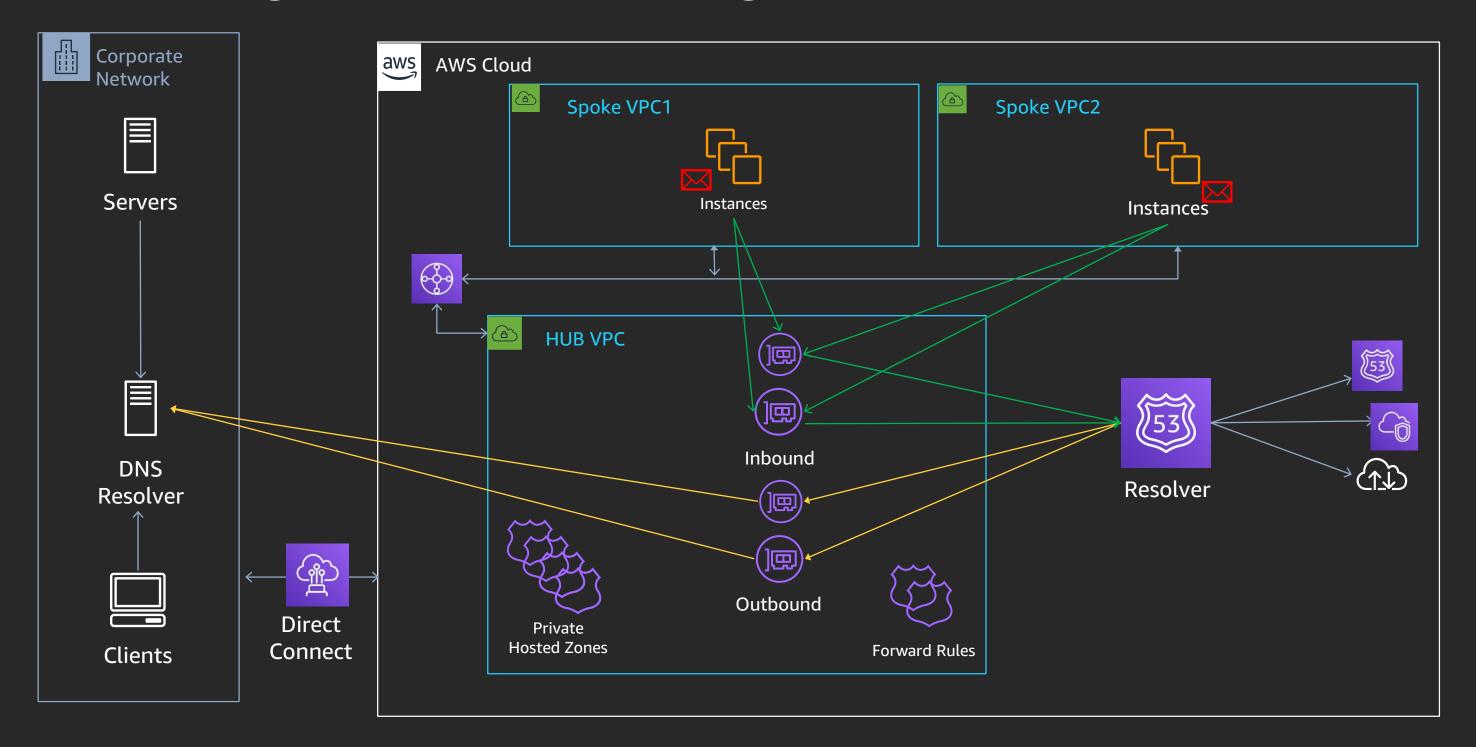
Four strategies have emerged in the community:

- 1. Manage hub DNS; change spoke DHCP domain-name-servers
- 2. Manage hub DNS; forward spoke queries to hub via endpoints
- 3. VPC sharing
- 4. Share and associate private hosted zones and resolver rules

How do they compare?







#### Pros:

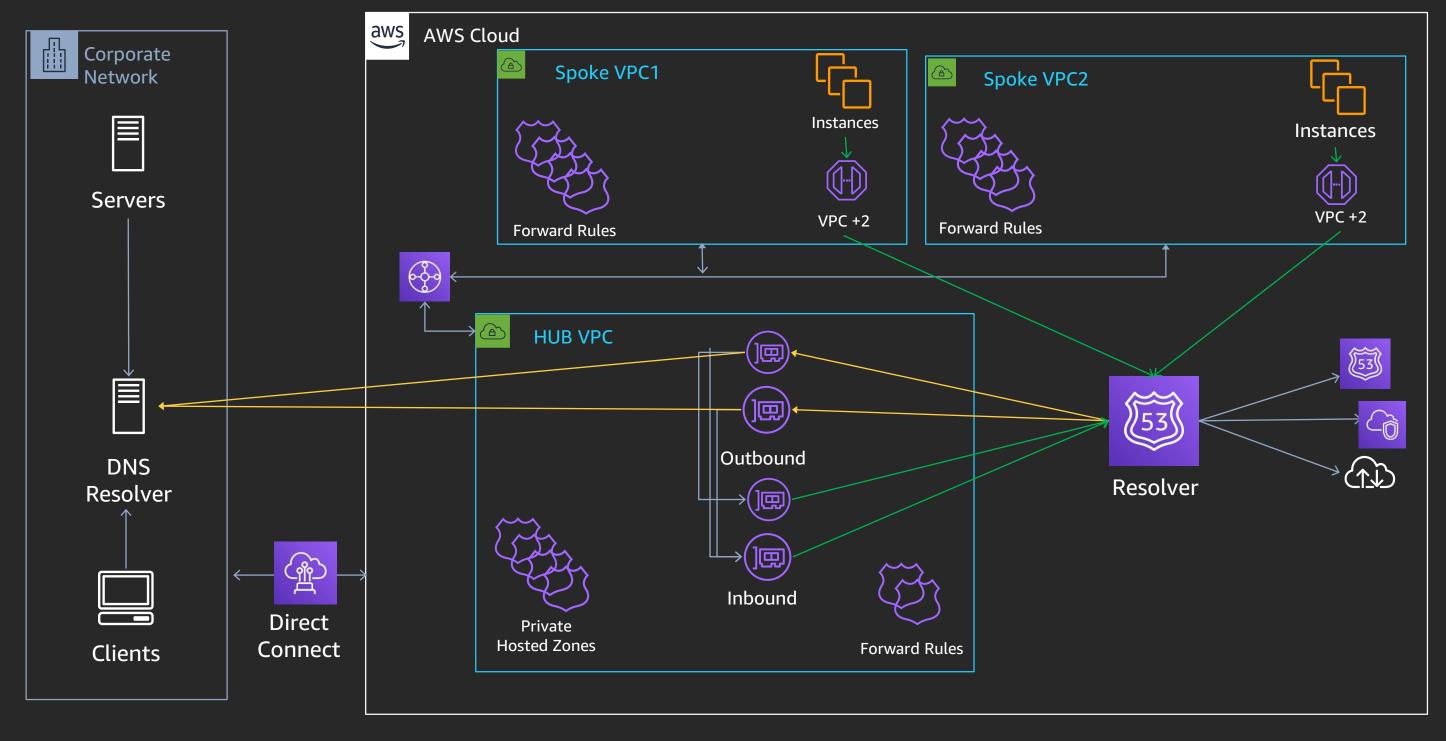
Familiar model (like Forwarding Instances)

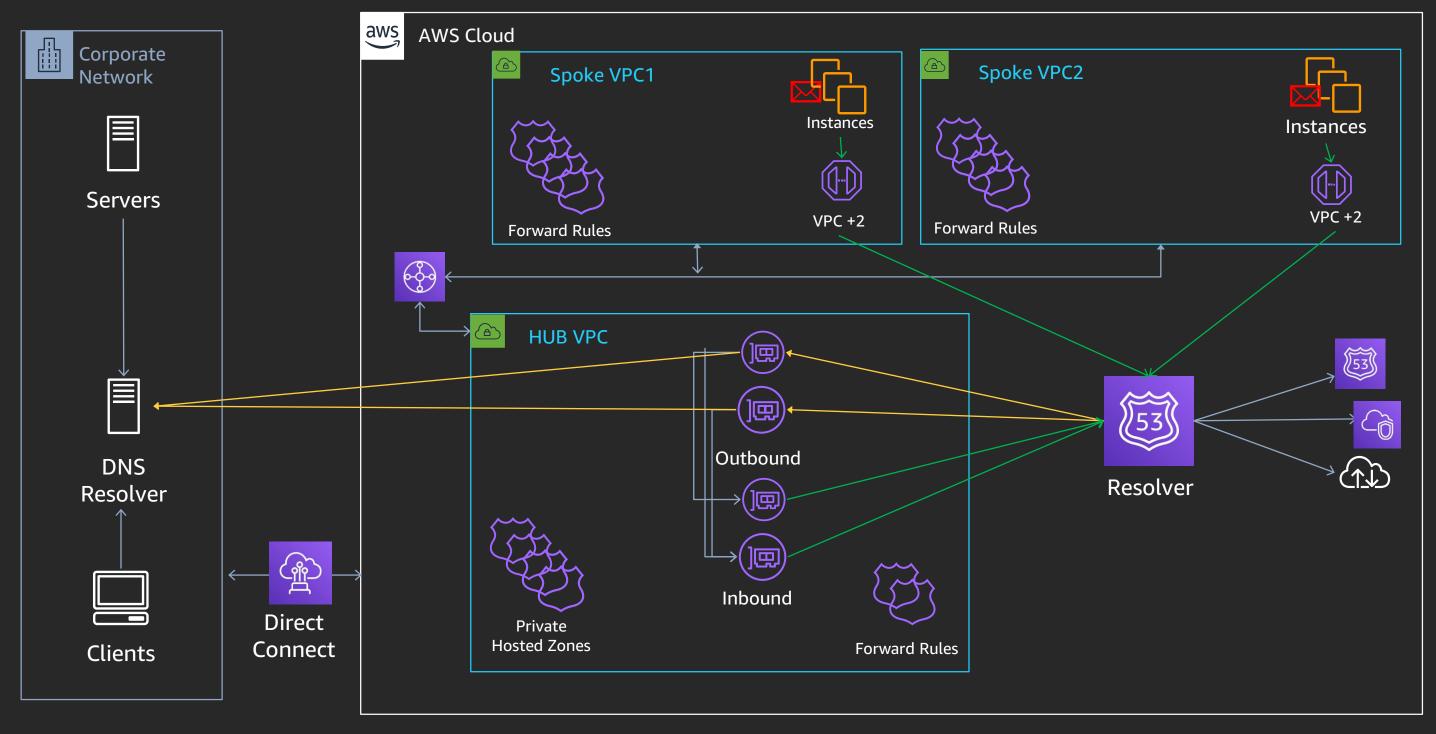
#### Cons:

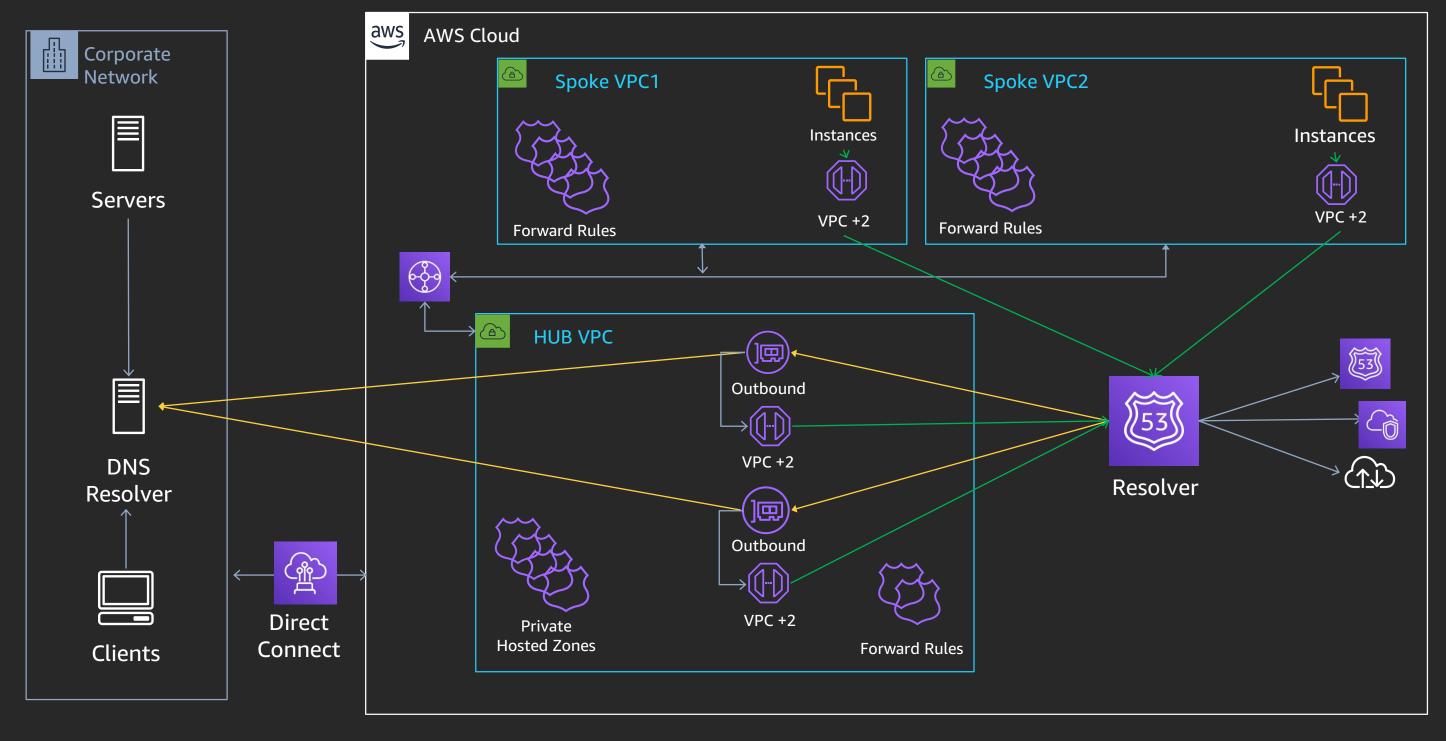
- Expect hot-spotting on single inbound ENI
- Not very fault tolerant
- No local instance cache
- All queries via 10K query/sec ENI limit
- Up to 4x inter-AZ hops per query
- Requires L3 connectivity between spokes and hub
- Higher query costs

**Verdict: Not recommended** 

- Associate private hosted zones to hub VPC
- Outbound and inbound endpoint in hub VPC
- Rules forward from outbound endpoint through inbound endpoint to resolver for private hosted zones
- Additional rules forward to on-premises
- Share and associate rules to spoke VPCs







#### Pros:

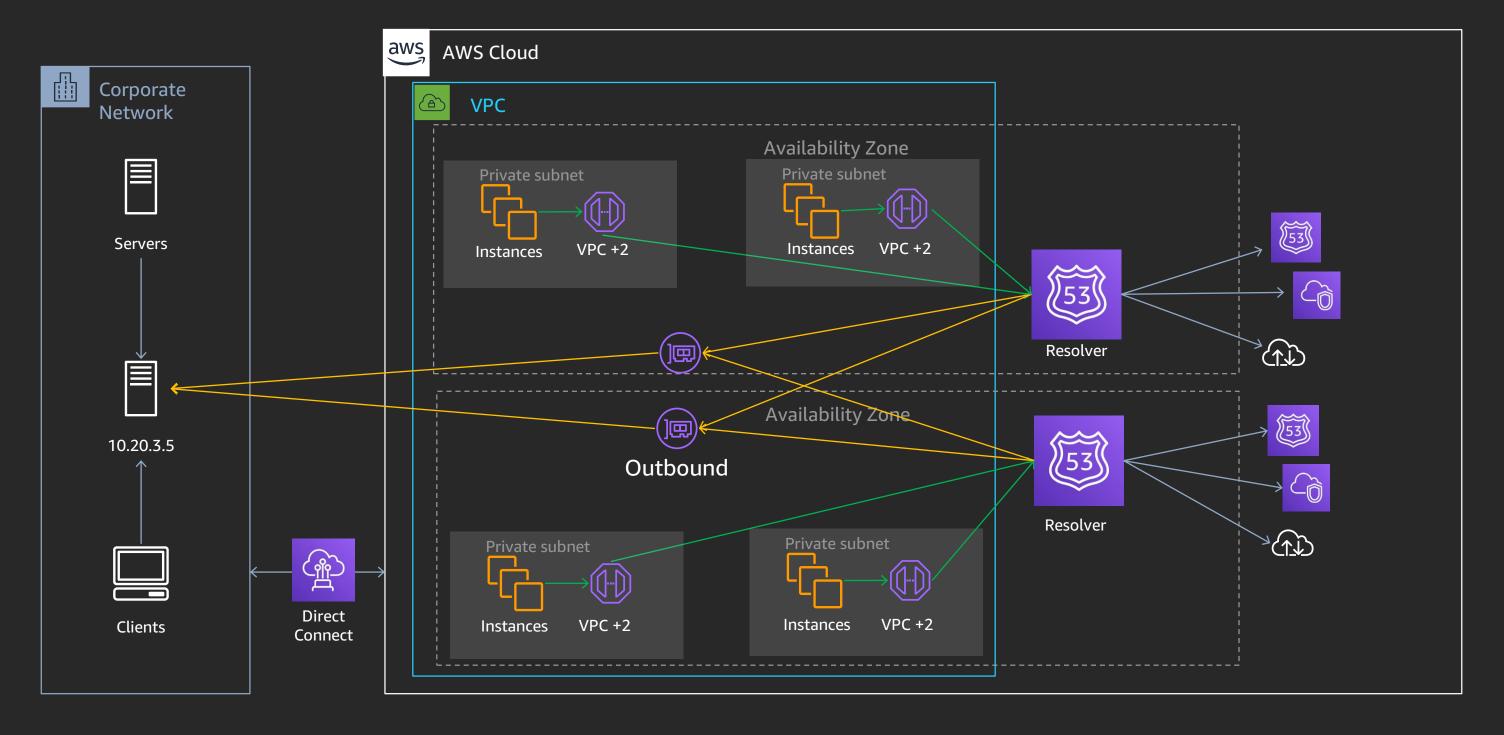
- Easier setup/maintenance
- Uses local +2 Resolver, cache
- Non-forwarded queries use scalable path

#### Cons:

- Less scalable (10K query/sec Limit; 1024pps if VPC+2)
- Each query crosses between Availability Zone up to four times
- Not as failure resilient
- Query costs

Verdict: Compromise but may be useful

# 3. VPC sharing



#### 3. VPC sharing

#### Pros:

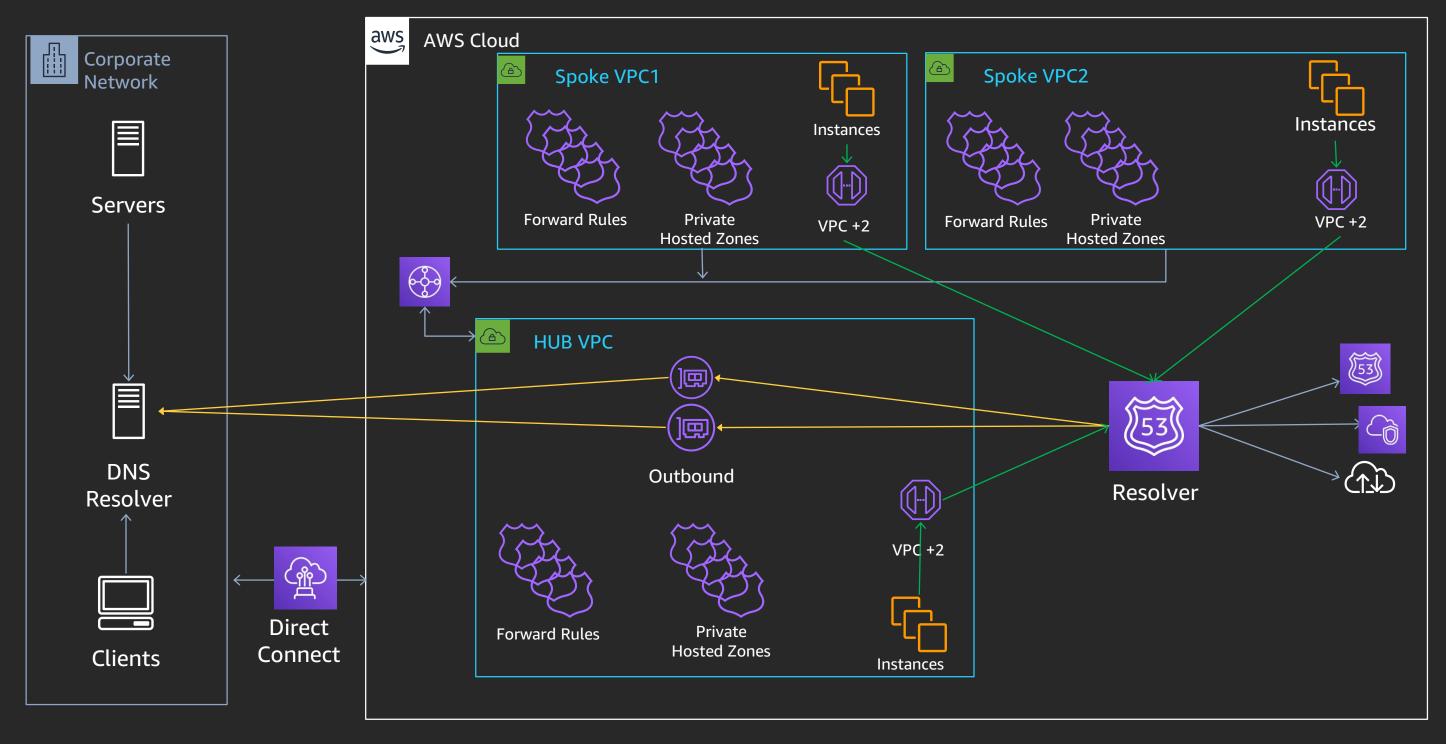
- Don't need 100s of VPCs!
- One VPC, guaranteed consistent view of DNS
- Simplified networking

#### Cons:

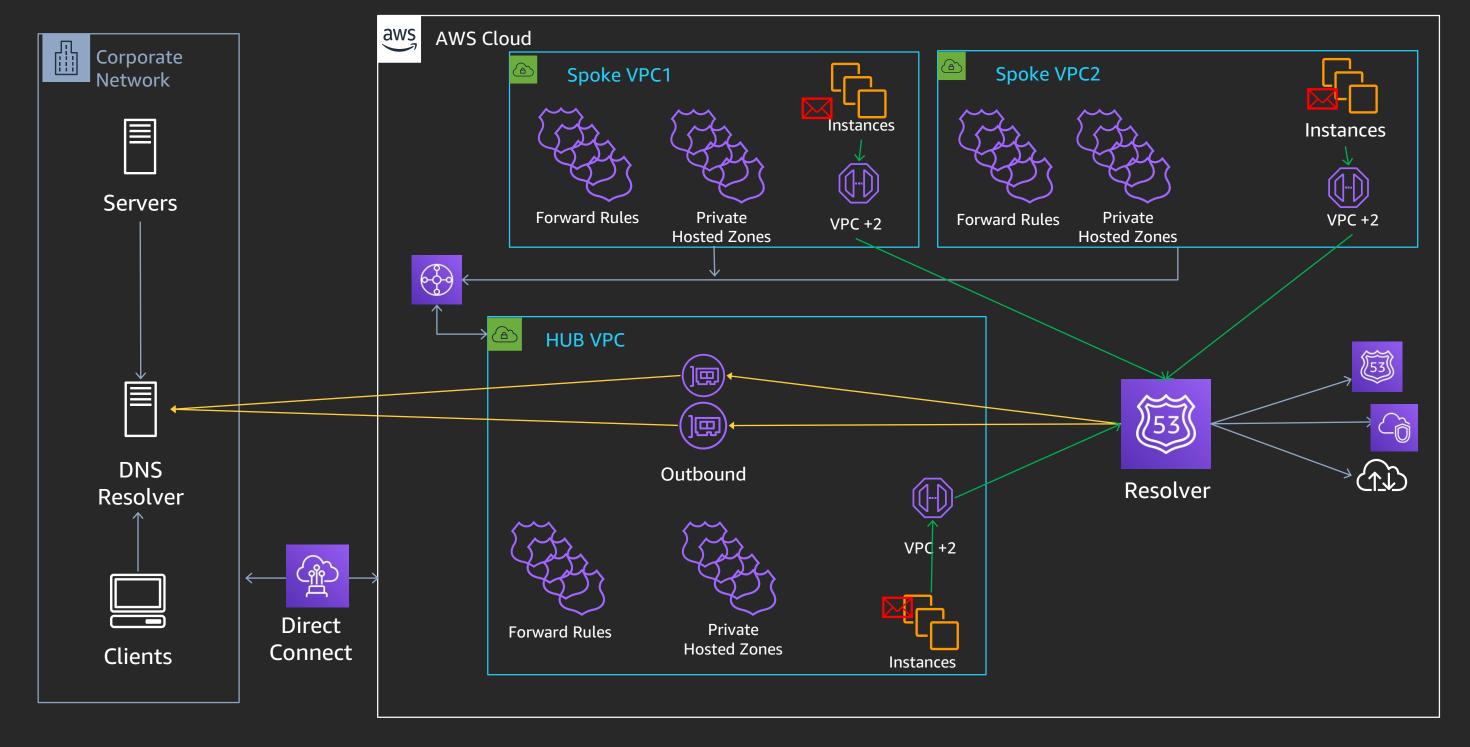
- Some feature gaps today
- Some reduced autonomy/isolation for dev teams

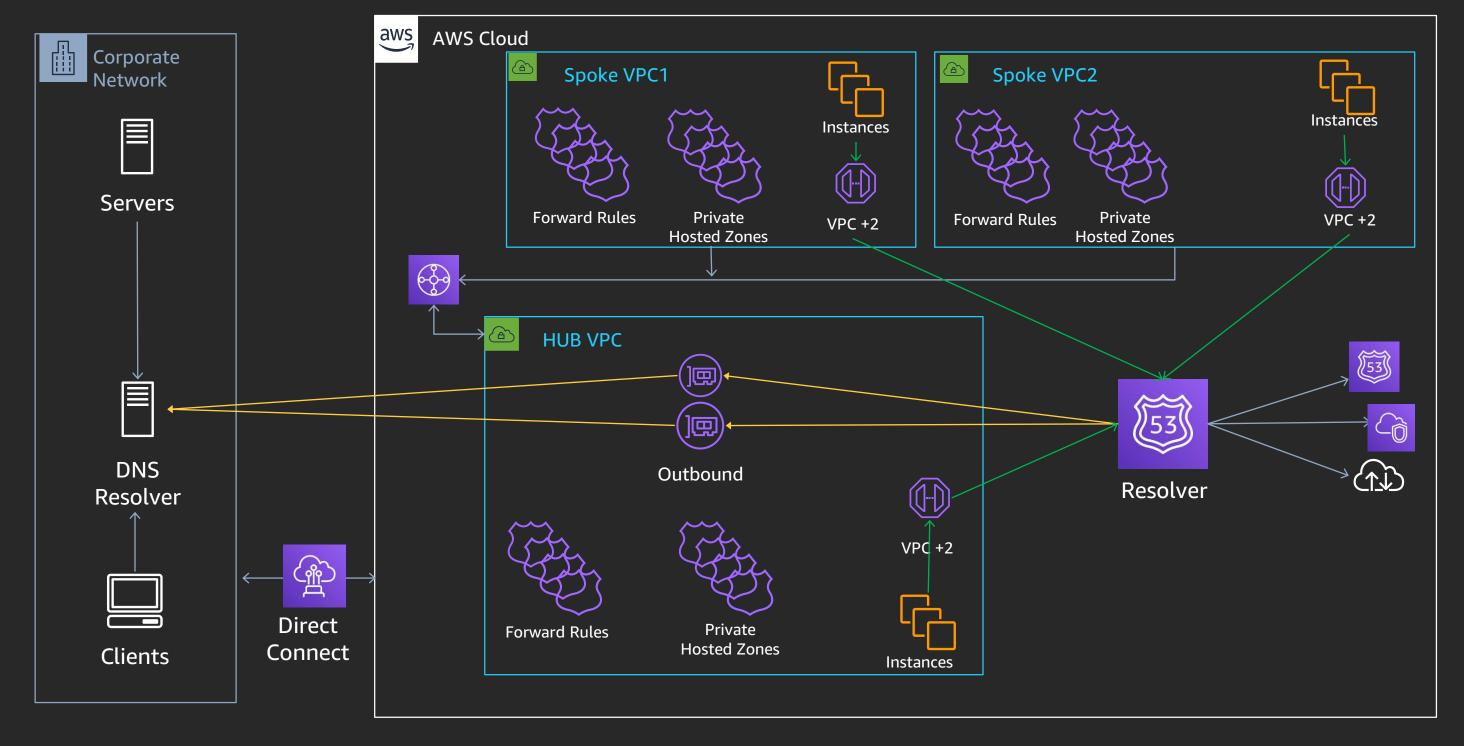
Verdict: Best practice

- Ensure that each VPC has correct view of DNS
- Share private hosted zones and rules
- Associate all private hosted zones and rules to every VPC
- Outbound/inbound endpoints only for on-premises resolution



#### Query: db.myprivatezone.com/





#### 4. Share and associate

How do we handle PrivateLink endpoints between VPCs?

Create a sharable private hosted zone with an alias

- Private zone called ssm.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com
- ssm.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com A (ALIAS) vpce-xxx....vpce.amazonaws.com.

Blog: "Integrating AWS Transit Gateway with AWS PrivateLink and Amazon Route 53 Resolver"

#### 4. Share and associate zones and rules

#### Pros:

- Most resilient and scalable
- Uses the VPC+2 endpoint, local caching, AZ Isolation
- Minimal forwarding hops
- Lower cost

#### Cons:

- PHZ Sharing is cumbersome and CLI/API only
- Limits on VPC Associations per Private Hosted Zone

Verdict: Best practice

# Route 53 Resolver Best Practices





#### Route 53 Resolver best practices

#### 1. High availability

1. Always use resolver ENIs in multiple Availability Zones

#### 2. Use forwarding sparingly

- 1. Use AmazonProvidedDNS for EC2 instances
- 2. Prefer associating private hosted zones/rules to all VPCs
- 3. Keep queries within the local Availability Zone where possible

#### 3. Monitoring

1. Set CloudWatch alarms on resolver endpoints approaching QPS limits

#### Related Sessions

NET411-R – Managing DNS across hundreds of VPCs

NET411-R1 – Managing DNS across hundreds of VPCs

NET204-R - Hybrid connectivity on AWS

NET204-R1 - Hybrid connectivity on AWS

NET321 - AWS PrivateLink deployments: DNS mechanisms for routing & resiliency

NET336-R - Amazon Route 53 Resolver: Centralized DNS management of hybrid cloud

NET336-R1 - Amazon Route 53 Resolver: Centralized DNS management of hybrid cloud

NET336-R - Amazon Route 53 Resolver: Centralized DNS management of hybrid cloud

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# Thank you!

**Gavin McCullagh** 

Amazon Route 53







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