
Subject: proxy_arp setting on host

Posted by [Dmitrijs Jerihovs](#) on Wed, 17 Oct 2012 12:51:25 GMT

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Hello,

Can someone explain when i need to use proxy_arp enabled on OpenVZ host and why ?

Subject: Re: proxy_arp setting on host

Posted by [Solar Designer](#) on Thu, 25 Oct 2012 10:55:20 GMT

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On Wed, Oct 17, 2012 at 03:51:25PM +0300, Dmitrijs Jerihovs wrote:

> Can someone explain when i need to use proxy_arp enabled on OpenVZ host and
> why ?

Looks like no one has replied, so let me try.

In my experience, proxy_arp may need to be enabled when a container is assigned an IP address not in a network that the host has a static route for on one of its interfaces. Configuring such static routes appears to be a better approach.

For example, if your server is initially on 192.168.100.0/24, and thus it has this network configured on its eth0, you may proceed to use IPs in this /24 for containers with no issues and no magic needed. However, if at a later time you need to use e.g. 192.168.101.101 for a container, you might have issues unless you either enable proxy_arp or add a static route on the host's eth0 for a network containing 192.168.101.101 (e.g., for 192.168.101.64/26 or whatever network address and netmask is right).

I observed this behavior on RHEL5'ish OpenVZ kernels.

Alexander
