Direct Connect

Service Overview

Issue 01

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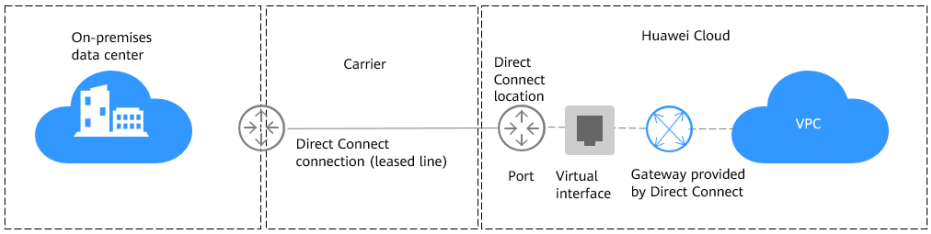
1 What Is Direct Connect?

Direct Connect allows you to establish a stable, high-speed, low-latency, secure dedicated network connection that connects your on-premises data center to Huawei Cloud. Direct Connect allows you to maximize legacy IT facilities and leverage cloud services to build a flexible, scalable hybrid cloud computing environment.

Figure 1-1 shows how Direct Connect connects an on-premises data center to the cloud.

Figure 1-1 How Direct Connect works



Why Direct Connect?

- Network quality: Direct Connect allows you to establish a dedicated network for data transmission, which brings high network performance, low latency, and excellent user experience.
- Security: Direct Connect establishes private connectivity between your on-premises data center and the cloud. Data is transmitted over a secure dedicated connection.
- Transmission speed: A single connection supports up to 100 Gbit/s of bandwidth.

Components

- **Connection**

  A dedicated network connection is established between your on-premises data center and a Direct Connect location over a line you leased from a carrier. You can create a standard connection by yourself or request a hosted connection from a partner.

  - A standard connection has a dedicated port for your exclusive use and can be associated with multiple virtual interfaces.
  - A hosted connection is created by a carrier (a partner of Huawei Cloud), who allocates VLAN and bandwidth resources for you. When using this type of connections, you share a port with other users, and can create only one virtual interface for a connection.

- **Virtual gateway**

  A virtual gateway is a logical gateway for accessing VPCs. A virtual gateway can be associated with only one VPC, and multiple connections can access a VPC through the same virtual gateway.

- **Global DC gateway**

  A global DC gateway enables your on-premises data center to access VPCs in multiple regions so you can use a single connection to provide high-speed access to cloud compute and storage resources in any region.

  A global DC gateway can only be associated with connections terminated at the same Direct Connect location. If there are multiple connections terminated at different Direct Connect locations, you need to create multiple global DC gateways.

- **Virtual interface**

  A virtual interface links a connection with one or more virtual gateways, so that your on-premises network can access all the VPCs.

Accessing Direct Connect

The public cloud provides a web-based user interface, the management console, for you to access the Direct Connect service.

2 Product Advantages

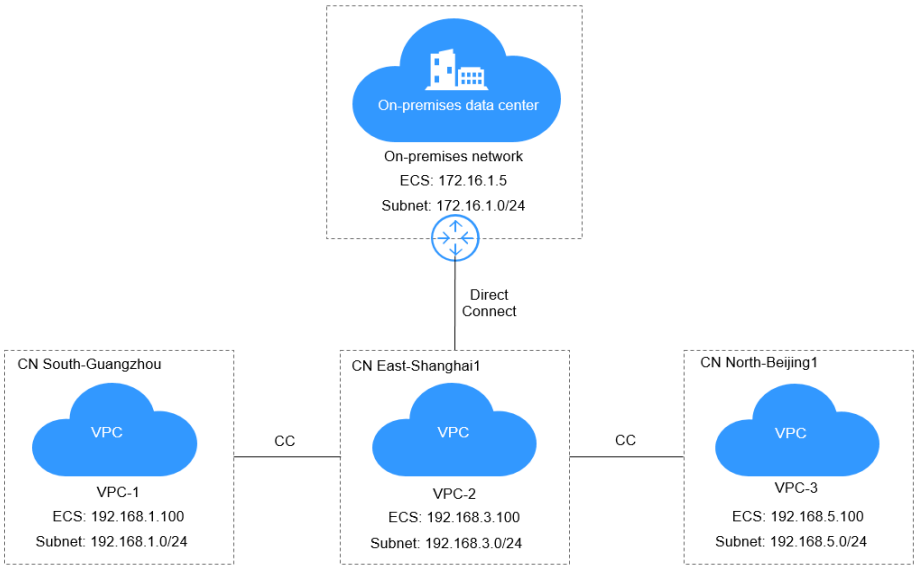
Direct Connect has the following advantages:

- **Dedicated Channels to Safeguard Data Security**
  - Establish private connectivity between your on-premises network and the cloud for stable data transmission without compromising privacy.
  - Secure your data using encrypted, dedicated connections, which provide higher security and more reliability.
- **Multiple Access Options**
  - You can select from optical bare fibers and other types of leased lines, such as MSTP and MPLS VPN.
  - There are a number of Direct Connect locations around the globe, so you can access the cloud from anywhere nearby.
- **Great Scalability for Flexible Service Deployment**
  - By building a hybrid cloud, you can gain access to virtually unlimited cloud resources for flexible, scalable deployment.
  - You can run workloads that span on-premises infrastructure and different cloud regions and flexibly connect networks across regions.
- **Ultra-low Latency and Stable Transmission**
  - Enjoy faster speeds with up to 100 Gbit/s of bandwidth, supporting diverse service needs.
  - Configure your connections in active/active or active/standby pairs for higher reliability.

3 Application Scenarios

Access to Multiple VPCs from an On-premises Data Center

After you connect your on-premises data center to the cloud using Direct Connect, you can use Cloud Connect to connect the VPC that your on-premises data center is accessing to those in other regions, so that your on-premises data center can access all connected VPCs.



Hybrid Cloud Deployment

Direct Connect allows you to build a hybrid environment for your on-premises data center and leverage the scalability of the cloud to expand the computing capability of your applications.

Figure 3-1 Hybrid cloud

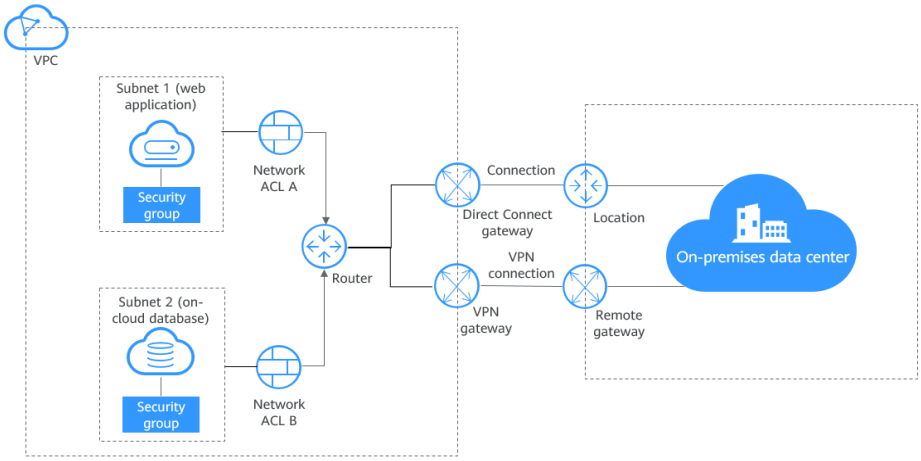


Table 3-1 Comparisons of Direct Connect and VPN in hybrid cloud deployment

Cloud Service	Scenario	Description
Virtual Private Network (VPN)	Connect an on-premises data center to the cloud through an IPsec tunnel.	VPN uses an encrypted communications tunnel to connect a VPC on the cloud to an on-premises data center and sends traffic over the Internet. It is inexpensive, easy to configure, and easy to use. However, VPN connections may be affected by the Internet quality.
Direct Connect	Connect an on-premises data center to the cloud using a dedicated network connection.	Direct Connect provides physical connections between VPCs and data centers. It has the advantages of low latency and is very secure. Direct Connect is a good choice when there are strict requirements on network transmission quality.

4 Functions

Standard Connection

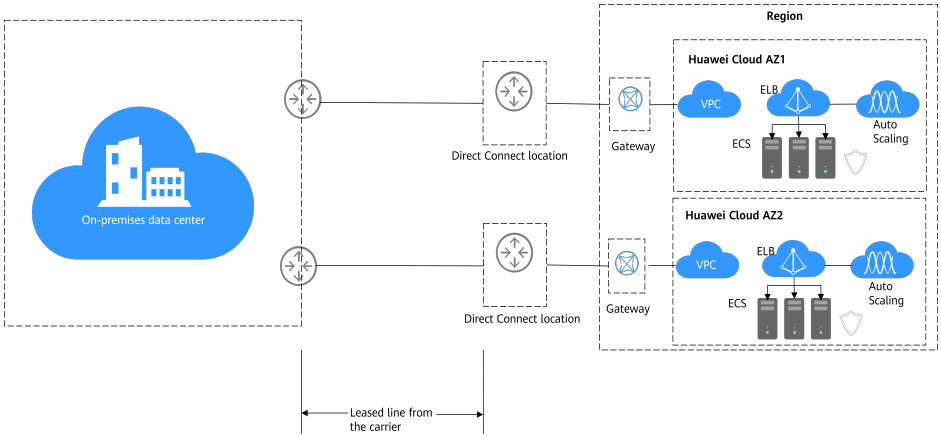
A standard connection provides an exclusive port. You can create standard connections on the management console. To improve reliability, you can create multiple connections terminated at different locations and allow them to serve as backups for each other. If you can select only one carrier due to special requirements, you must configure different physical routes for your connections.

You can choose self-service connections or full-service connections.

- Self-service connection: Huawei Cloud only provides the port. You need to create a connection on the console, and lease a line from a carrier.
- Full-service connection: You only need to create a connection on the console, and Huawei Cloud will complete all operations required for network connectivity.

Figure 4-1 shows an example of how standard connections work.

Figure 4-1 Accessing the cloud using standard connections



For details, see **Creating a Connection**.

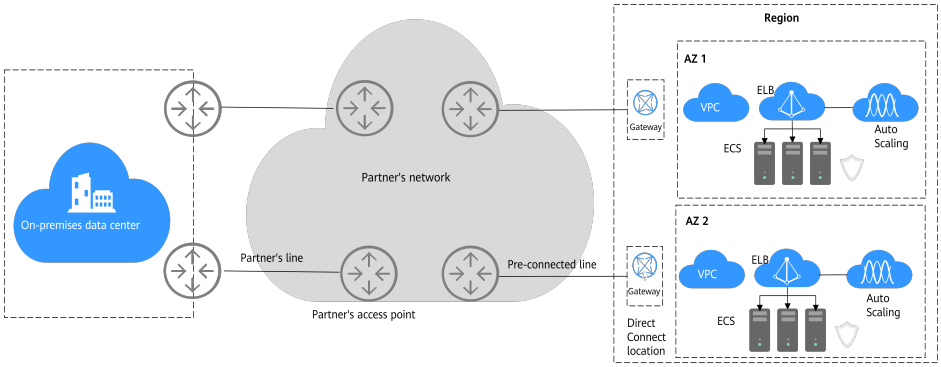
Hosted Connection

If you use a hosted connection to access the cloud, the port you use is shared with other users. You request a carrier (a partner of Huawei Cloud) to provide a

connection to connect to your on-premises data center to Huawei Cloud. The partner has pre-connected dedicated lines terminated at the Direct Connect locations of Huawei Cloud and allocates a connection port to you after receiving your request.

Figure 4-2 shows an example of how hosted connections work.

Figure 4-2 Accessing the cloud using hosted connections



The following table compares hosted connections with standard connections.

Item	Standard Connection	Hosted Connection
Port	Exclusive port	Shared port
Recommended bandwidth	1 Gbit/s to 100 Gbit/s	Less than 1 Gbit/s
Estimated construction period	Two to three months for local lines, and three to four months for long-distance lines	About one month
Parties involved	Connection user, leased line carrier, equipment room provider, and Huawei Cloud	Connection user, leased line carrier, and Huawei Cloud

Item	Standard Connection	Hosted Connection
Procedure	1. You create a connection on the console to order a port. 2. You contact the leased line carrier and supervise the line deployment from your on-premises data center to the equipment room at the location you choose. 3. You contact the carrier operating the equipment room at the location you choose to complete the cabling (inlet wire and jumper) inside the equipment room. 4. Your carrier works with Huawei Cloud to commission access devices. 5. You complete required network configuration on the console, including creating a virtual gateway and virtual interface.	1. The partner deploys the leased line from your on-premises data center to the Direct Connect location you select. 2. The carrier completes the commissioning of access devices. 3. You complete required network configuration on the console, including creating a virtual gateway and virtual interface.
Billing	• Pay for the port (by month or year) to Huawei Cloud. • Pay to the equipment room provider at the location for the cabling inside the equipment room. • Pay to the carrier of your on-premises data center for the cabling inside the equipment room. • Pay to the leased line carrier for other work and the bandwidth. For details, see **Billing**.	• You do not need to pay for the port to Huawei Cloud. • Pay to the carrier of your on-premises data center for the cabling inside the equipment room. • Pay to the leased line carrier for other work and the bandwidth.

For details, see **Partner Connections**.

Direct Connect Gateway

- **Virtual gateway**: A virtual gateway is a logical gateway that enables an on-premises data center to access a VPC over a connection. To enable an on-premises data center to access a VPC over a connection, you can associate the VPC with a virtual gateway. To access other VPCs, you can use VPC Peering or Cloud Connect to connect the VPC your on-premises data center is accessing to these VPCs.

  A virtual gateway can only have one VPC associated. An on-premises data center can access the same VPC over two connections through one virtual gateway.

  For details, see **Virtual Gateways**.
- **Global DC gateway**: A global DC gateway enables your on-premises data center to access VPCs in multiple regions so you can use a single connection

to provide high-speed access to cloud compute and storage resources in any region.

A global DC gateway can only be associated with connections terminated at the same Direct Connect location. If there are multiple connections terminated at different Direct Connect locations, you need to create multiple global DC gateways.

For details, see **Global DC Gateways**.

Virtual Interface

A virtual interface is a point of entry for an on-premises data center to access a VPC over a connection. A virtual interface associates a connection with a virtual gateway and connects the virtual gateway to a remote gateway, enabling communications between the on-premises data center and the VPC.

Virtual interfaces support static routing and BGP routing. During the establishment of network connectivity, you can use BGP to connect on-premises data centers to virtual gateways. BGP helps you build a hybrid cloud more efficiently, flexibly, and reliably.

For details, see **Virtual Interfaces**.

5 Direct Connect Locations

A Direct Connect location provides access to Huawei Cloud in a region. Before using Direct Connect to access Huawei Cloud, you need to obtain the details about each location.

Direct Connect provides a number of locations for you to choose from. You can **request a port** by creating a connection.

For more information, **submit a service ticket** or contact your Direct Connect manager.

Table 5-1 Direct Connect locations

Geographic Region	City	Region	Location
Europe	Dublin	EU-Dublin	Dublin

6 Billing

You can create a standard connection, which will give you exclusive access to the port. You can also request a hosted connection from a partner and share the port with other users.

Billed Items

- **Standard connection**

  The following figure shows the items that you need to pay for a standard connection.

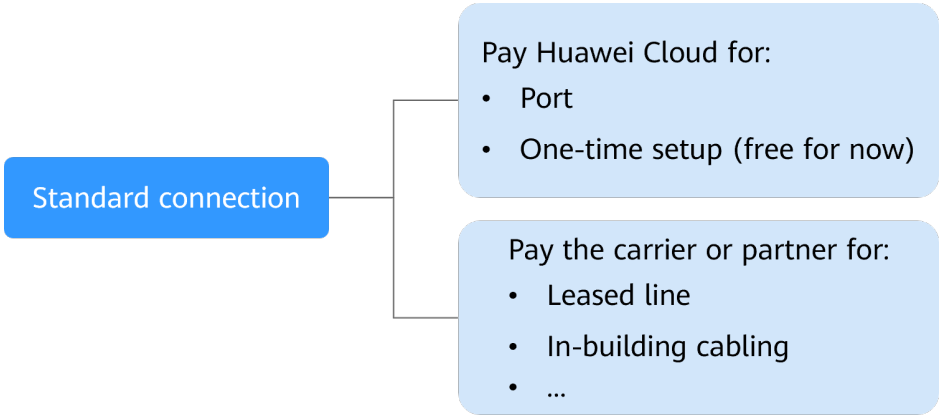


Table 6-1 Standard connection pricing

Payee	Billed Item	Description	Payment Method
Huawei Cloud	Port	The port is billed based on its specifications.	Prepaid (yearly/monthly subscription)
	One-time setup	Currently, the one-time setup is free.	-

Payee	Billed Item	Description	Payment Method
Carrier or Huawei Cloud partner	Leased line	To connect your on-premises data center to the cloud, you need to lease a line from a carrier.	-
	In-building cabling	A fiber may be required for connecting your leased line to the equipment room at the Direct Connect location you select if the data center at the Direct Connect location is a carrier-neutral data center. You pay to the property of the neutral data center.	-

- **Hosted connection**

  If you request a hosted connection from a Huawei Cloud partner, you share the port with other users and do not need to pay for one-time setup and the port to Huawei Cloud.

  The following figure shows the billed items of a hosted connection.

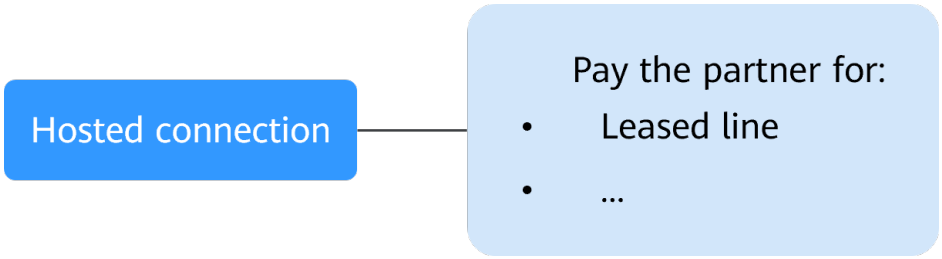


Table 6-2 Hosted connection billing details

Payee	Billed Item	Description	Payment Method
Carrier or Huawei Cloud partner	Leased line	To connect your on-premises data center to the cloud, you need to lease a line from a carrier.	-

For details, see **Product Pricing Details**.

Billing Mode

Yearly/Monthly

Changing Billing Mode

Only Yearly/Monthly billing is supported, and it cannot be changed.

Renewal

For details, see **Renewal Management**.

Expiration and Overdue Payment

For details, see **Service Suspension and Resource Release** and **Payment and Repayment**.

7 Permissions

If you need to assign different permissions to employees in your enterprise to access your Direct Connect resources, Identity and Access Management (IAM) is a good choice for fine-grained permissions management. IAM provides identity authentication, permissions management, and access control, helping you securely manage access to your Huawei Cloud resources.

With IAM, you can use your account to create IAM users for your employees, and assign permissions to the users to control their access to specific resource types. For example, some software developers in your enterprise need to use Direct Connect but should not be allowed to delete other Direct Connect resources or perform any other high-risk operations. In this scenario, you can create IAM users for the software developers and grant them only the required permissions.

Skip this part if your account does not require individual IAM users for permissions management.

IAM is a free service. You pay only for the resources in your account. For more information about IAM, see **What Is IAM?**

Direct Connect Permissions

By default, new IAM users do not have permissions assigned. You need to add a user to one or more groups, and attach permissions policies or roles to these groups. Users inherit permissions from the groups to which they are added and can perform specified operations on cloud services.

Direct Connect is a project-level service deployed and accessed in specific physical regions. To assign permissions to a user group, specify the scope as region-specific projects and select projects for the permissions to take effect. If **All projects** is selected, the permissions will take effect for the user group in all region-specific projects. When accessing Direct Connect, the users need to switch to a region where they have been authorized to use this service.

You can grant permissions by using roles or policies.

- Roles: A type of coarse-grained authorization mechanism that defines permissions related to user responsibilities. Only a limited number of service-level roles for authorization are available. When using roles to grant permissions, you need to also assign other roles that the permissions depend

on to take effect. However, roles are not an ideal choice for fine-grained authorization and secure access control.

- Policies: A fine-grained authorization mechanism that defines permissions required to perform operations on specific cloud resources under certain conditions. This mechanism allows for more flexible policy-based authorization, and meets the requirements for secure access control. For example, you can grant Direct Connect users the permissions for only managing a certain type of Direct Connect resources.

Table 7-1 lists all system-defined roles or policies supported by Direct Connect.

Table 7-1 Direct Connect roles or policies

Role/Policy Name	Description	Type	Dependency
Direct Connect Administrator	Has all permissions for Direct Connect resources. To have these permissions, users must also have the **Tenant Guest** and **VPC Administrator** permissions.	System-defined role	**Tenant Guest** and **VPC Administrator** • **VPC Administrator**: project-level policy, which must be assigned in the same project • **Tenant Guest**: project-level policy, which must be assigned in the same project
DCaaS Partner	Has permissions of Direct Connect partners. Users who have these permissions can create hosted operations for others. To have these permissions, users must also have the **Tenant Guest** and **VPC Administrator** permissions.	System-defined role	**Tenant Guest** and **VPC Administrator** • **VPC Administrator**: project-level policy, which must be assigned in the same project • **Tenant Guest**: project-level policy, which must be assigned in the same project
DCAAS FullAccess	Permissions: all permissions for Direct Connect Scope: project-level service	System-defined policy	None
DCAAS ReadOnlyAccess	Permissions: read-only permissions for Direct Connect Scope: project-level service	System-defined policy	None

Table 7-2 lists common operations supported by each system-defined role or policy for Direct Connect.

Table 7-2 Common operations supported by each system-defined role or policy

Operation	Direct Connect Administrator	DCaaS Partner	DCAAS FullAccess	DCAAS ReadOnlyAccess
Creating a connection	√	√	√	×
Viewing a connection	√	√	√	√
Modifying a connection	√	√	√	×
Deleting a connection	√	√	√	×
Creating a virtual gateway	√	√	√	×
Viewing a virtual gateway	√	√	√	√
Modifying a virtual gateway	√	√	√	×
Deleting a virtual gateway	√	√	√	×
Creating a global DC gateway	√	√	√	×
Viewing a global DC gateway	√	√	√	√
Modifying a global DC gateway	√	√	√	×
Deleting a global DC gateway	√	√	√	×
Creating a virtual interface	√	√	√	×

Operation	Direct Connect Administrator	DCaaS Partner	DCAAS FullAccess	DCAAS ReadOnlyAccess
Viewing a virtual interface	√	√	√	√
Modifying a virtual interface	√	√	√	×
Deleting a virtual interface	√	√	√	×
Creating an operations connection	√	√	√	×
Viewing an operations connection	√	√	√	√
Modifying an operations connection	√	√	√	×
Deleting an operations connection	√	√	√	×
Creating a hosted connection	√	√	√	×
Viewing a hosted connection	√	√	√	√
Modifying a hosted connection	√	√	√	×
Deleting a hosted connection	√	√	√	×

Reference

- **What Is IAM?**
- **Creating a User and Granting Permissions**

8 Notes and Constraints

Quotas

Resource	Default Quota	How to Increase Quota
Number of connections that can be created by an account in each region	10	**Submit a service ticket**.
Number of global DC gateways that can be created by an account in each region	5	**Submit a service ticket**.
Number of virtual interfaces that can be created by an account in each region	50	**Submit a service ticket**.
Number of local subnets for a virtual gateway	50	Increasing the quota is not allowed.
Number of routes for BGP sessions on a virtual interface	100	**Submit a service ticket**.
Number of remote subnets for a virtual interface	50	**Submit a service ticket**.

Restrictions on Locations

Before creating a connection, you need to select a location. Note the following restrictions:

- There may be more than one location in each region. In this case, network latency from each location to different AZs in the region should be less than 5 ms.

- If your workloads have demanding requirements for network latency, you can **submit a service ticket** to confirm which location is the nearest to the AZ where your cloud servers are running.

For details about the locations in each region, see **Direct Connect Locations**.

Product Use Restrictions

- The CIDR block of the VPC cannot overlap with the CIDR block used by the on-premises network.

  The on-premises network cannot use 100.64.0.0/10, 127.0.0.0/8, 169.254.0.0/16, and 224.0.0.0/3 because they are reserved for the VPC service.
- 1GE and 10GE single-mode optical ports can transmit data up to 10 km. If you need an optical port to transmit data for more than 10 km, or you need a 40GE or 100GE port, you need to purchase optical modules by yourself. For suggestions on optical module selection, **submit a service ticket**.
- If you use a Direct Connect connection to access ELB, you must select **Source IP hash** as the load balancing algorithm and disable sticky sessions for ELB.
- Direct Connect can respond to common ICMP packets (echo packets whose type is 8 and code is 0 and do not carry IP options) for ping detections.
- For each connection, a maximum of 30 ping detections can be performed on the local gateway IP address over the port per second.
- To connect on-premises data centers through enterprise routers, ensure that the on-premises data centers are connected to different devices. For details, see **submit a service ticket**.
- A virtual gateway can be associated with only two different devices.

Network Requirements

- Your on-premises network must use a single-mode fiber with a 1GE, 10GE, 40GE, or 100GE optical module to connect to the access device on Huawei Cloud. In addition, key parameters such as the LC, wavelength, and distance must be consistent with those of the access device on Huawei Cloud. Examples of optical module parameters: 1 GE, LC single-mode, 1,310 nm, and 10 km
- Auto-negotiation for the ports must be disabled. Port speed and full-duplex mode must be manually configured.
- 802.1Q VLAN encapsulation must be supported on all devices of the entire connection, including intermediate devices.
- Your device must support Border Gateway Protocol (BGP) and BGP MD5 authentication or static routing.
- (Optional) You can configure Bidirectional Forwarding Detection (BFD) on the network.
- A physical connection supports jumbo frames with a default maximum transmission unit (MTU) size of 8,500 bytes. If you need to configure a larger MTU, contact the Direct Connect manager.

  If you ping the IP address of the local gateway of a Direct Connect connection for connectivity test, the MTU is 1,500 bytes.
- Private IP addresses are recommended for cloud and on-premises servers, and the IP address ranges used for communications cannot overlap.

Construction Notes

- Your construction company must comply with the regulations presented by the equipment room provider and engineers. In case of any violation, the construction cannot be completed.
- No optical-to-electrical converters can be hosted or installed in the equipment room.
- Network blocking due to state policies or Huawei Cloud management will delay the construction. In the event of such situation, contact your Direct Connect manager.
- The equipment room at a location is operated by a telecom carrier or a third party. If there are fees for connecting your leased line to the equipment room or an in-building cable, pay the fees to the equipment room provider.
- You need to apply for a Letter of Authorization (LOA) and present the LOA when entering the equipment room for construction.

9 Direct Connect and Other Services

Figure 9-1 Direct Connect and other services

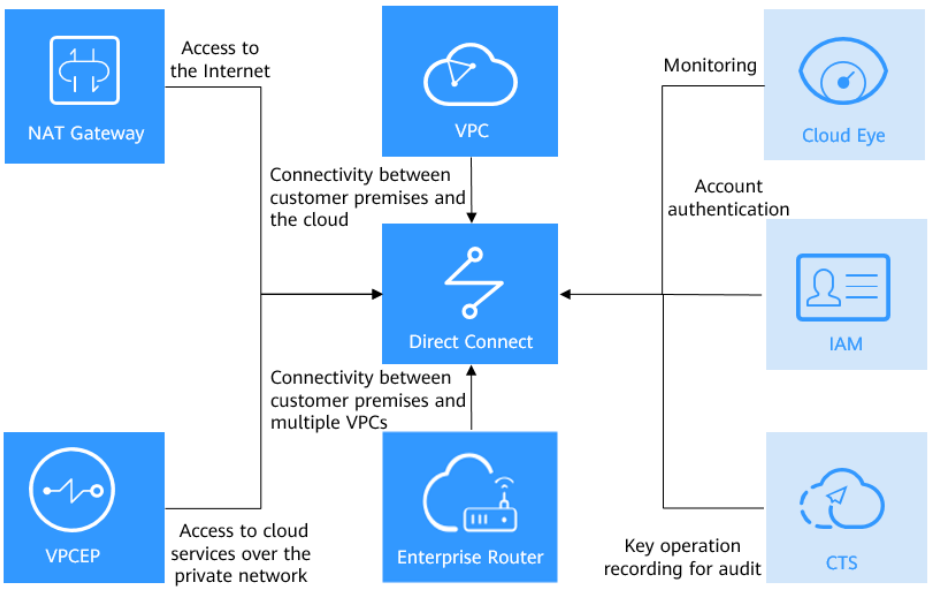


Table 9-1 Related services

Cloud Service	Interaction	Reference
Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)	Your on-premises data center can access the VPCs through Direct Connect.	**Creating a VPC with a Subnet**
	You can use VPC Peering to connect the VPC your on-premises data center is accessing to other VPCs in the same region so that your on-premises data center can access all these VPCs.	**Connecting an On-Premises Data Center to Multiple VPCs in the Same Region Using Direct Connect and VPC Peering**

Cloud Service	Interaction	Reference
Enterprise Router	You can connect your on-premises data center to an enterprise router, so that your on-premises data center can access the VPCs attached to the enterprise router.	-
NAT Gateway	On-premises servers can share a NAT gateway to access the Internet or provide services that are accessible from the Internet.	**NAT Gateway**
VPC Endpoint (VPCEP)	A VPC endpoint can connect your on-premises data center to a cloud service through a VPN or Direct Connect connection over a private network.	**Configuring a VPC Endpoint for Accessing the Private IP Address of OBS**
Cloud Eye	Cloud Eye monitors Direct Connect resources and allows you to view visualized graphs.	**Installing Metric Collection Plug-ins**
Identity and Access Management (IAM)	You can grant different permissions for users to control access to Direct Connect resources.	**Identity and Access Management**
Cloud Trace Service (CTS)	You can record operations performed on Direct Connect.	**Key Operations Recorded by CTS**

10 Basic Concepts

Connection

A **connection** is a dedicated channel that connects your on-premises data center to the cloud. Connections are more stable, reliable, and secure than Internet-based connections, and provide up to 100 Gbit/s of bandwidth. Direct Connect provides ports only. After you request a connection, you need to work with the carrier and Huawei Cloud to establish network connectivity between your on-premises data center and the cloud.

Direct Connect provides standard connections and hosted connections.

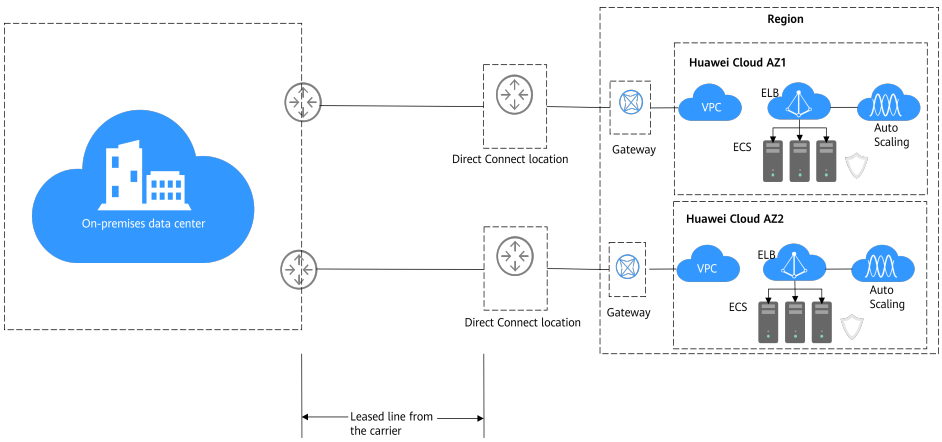
- Standard connection: A standard connection provides an exclusive port. You can create standard connections on the management console. To improve reliability, you can create multiple connections terminated at different locations and allow them to serve as backups for each other.

  You can choose self-service connections or full-service connections.

  - Self-service connection: Huawei Cloud only provides the port. You need to create a connection on the console, and lease a line from a carrier.
  - Full-service connection: You only need to create a connection on the console, and Huawei Cloud will complete all operations required for network connectivity.

  Figure 10-1 shows an example of how standard connections work.

  Figure 10-1 Accessing the cloud using standard connections

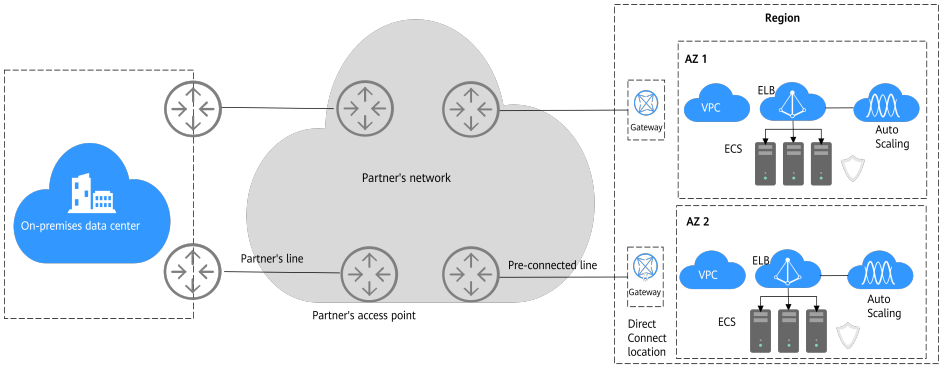


- Hosted connection: If you use a hosted connection to access the cloud, the port you use is shared with other users. These connections are created by a carrier (a partner of Huawei Cloud), who allocates the required VLAN and bandwidth for your connection. Only one virtual interface can be associated with each hosted connection.

  If you are a partner, you can request operations connections. If you are a common user, you can purchase a host connection from your partner. Hosted connections must be hosted on operations connections, and your partner will allocate VLAN and bandwidth resources to the connection.

  Figure 10-2 shows an example of how hosted connections work.

  Figure 10-2 Accessing the cloud using hosted connections



Connections support redundant configuration. If there are two connections terminated at different locations in the same region, they can work in an active/standby pair to back each other up. If one connection becomes faulty, the other will take over, ensuring stable services.

Virtual Gateway

A **virtual gateway** is a logical gateway that enables an on-premises data center to access a VPC over a connection. To enable an on-premises data center to access a VPC over a connection, you can associate the VPC with a virtual gateway. To access other VPCs, you can use VPC Peering or Cloud Connect to connect the VPC your on-premises data center is accessing to these VPCs.

A virtual gateway can only have one VPC associated. An on-premises data center can access the same VPC over two connections through one virtual gateway.

Global DC Gateway

A global DC gateway enables your on-premises data center to access VPCs in multiple regions so you can use a single connection to provide high-speed access to cloud compute and storage resources in any region.

A global DC gateway can be attached to different enterprise routers to build a central network so that your on-premises data center can access the VPCs in different regions over the Huawei backbone network. This reduces network latency, simplifies network topology, and improves O&M efficiency.

A global DC gateway can only be associated with connections terminated at the same Direct Connect location. If there are multiple connections terminated at

different Direct Connect locations, you need to create multiple global DC gateways.

Virtual Interface

A **virtual interface** is a point of entry for an on-premises data center to access a VPC over a connection. A virtual interface associates a connection with a virtual gateway and connects the virtual gateway to a remote gateway, enabling communications between the on-premises data center and the VPC.

Virtual interfaces support static routing and BGP routing. You can use BGP to connect your on-premises data center to the virtual gateway over a connection. BGP helps you build a hybrid cloud more efficiently, flexibly, and reliably.

11 Region and AZ

Concept

A region and availability zone (AZ) identify the location of a data center. You can create resources in a specific region and AZ.

- Regions are divided based on geographical location and network latency. Public services, such as Elastic Cloud Server (ECS), Elastic Volume Service (EVS), Object Storage Service (OBS), Virtual Private Cloud (VPC), Elastic IP (EIP), and Image Management Service (IMS), are shared within the same region. Regions are classified into universal regions and dedicated regions. A universal region provides universal cloud services for common tenants. A dedicated region provides specific services for specific tenants.
- An AZ contains one or more physical data centers. Each AZ has independent cooling, fire extinguishing, moisture-proof, and electricity facilities. Within an AZ, computing, network, storage, and other resources are logically divided into multiple clusters.

Selecting a Region

If your target users are in Europe, select the **EU-Dublin** region.

Selecting an AZ

When deploying resources, consider your applications' requirements on disaster recovery (DR) and network latency.

- For high DR capability, deploy resources in different AZs within the same region.
- For lower network latency, deploy resources in the same AZ.

