# Alice

Through The Looking Glass

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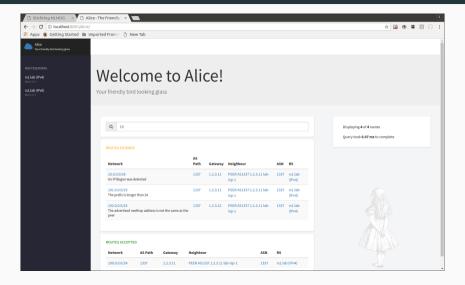
November 25, 2021

RIPE83



# **Alice**

#### This is Alice



# A little bit of history

- RIPE73 An approach for an API for Bird (API + Birdseye Looking Glass)
- Implementation of the API in Go: birdwatcher
- Port of the birdseye backend to Go at ECIX



# What happened next?

- Put it in production
- We added support for human readable filter and reject reasons through BGP large communites
- Changed the name to Alice

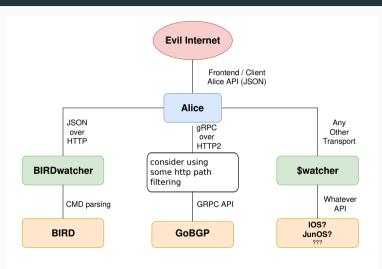
**Some Technical Stuff** 

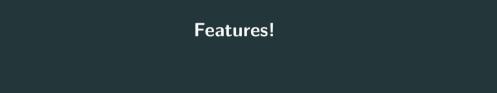
## **Alice Principles**

- Modular: Other BGP daemons can be easily<sup>1</sup> supported
- API first: Alice can be used in scripts!
- Open Source: Built by the community for the community

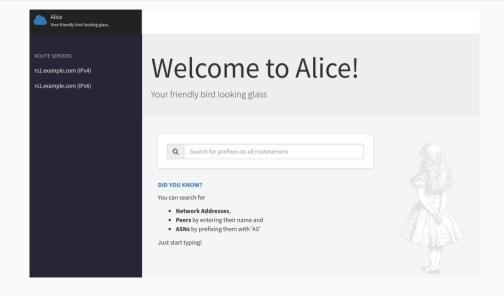
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>some programming work required

#### Alice Architecture

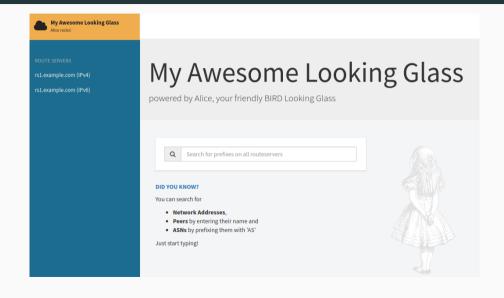




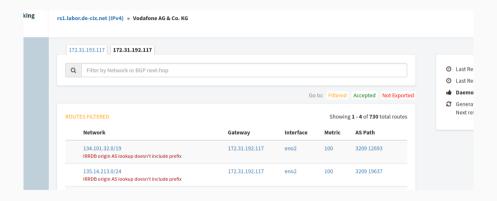
#### Turn Alice from this...



#### Into this!



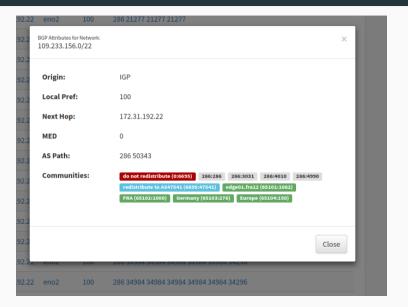
#### **Related Peers**



# Routes Flags

★       65.22.197.0/24       172.31.194.42       eno2       100       42         ★       65.22.19.0/24       172.31.194.62       eno2       100       42         ★       65.22.195.0/24       172.31.194.42       eno2       100       42         ★       65.22.199.0/24       172.31.194.42       eno2       100       42	*	65.22.183.0/24	172.31.194.42	eno2	100	42
★       65.22.191.0/24       172.31.194.42       eno2       100       42         ★       65.22.195.0/24       172.31.194.42       eno2       100       42	*	65.22.187.0/24	172.31.194.42	eno2	100	42
★ 65.22.195.0/24 172.31.194.42 eno2 100 42	* 0	65.22.19.0/24	172.31.193.66	eno2	100	42
	*	65.22.191.0/24	172.31.194.42	eno2	100	42
★ 65.22.199.0/24 172.31.194.42 eno2 100 42	*	65.22.195.0/24	172.31.194.42	eno2	100	42
	*	65.22.199.0/24	172.31.194.42	eno2	100	42

#### **Human Readable BGP Communities**

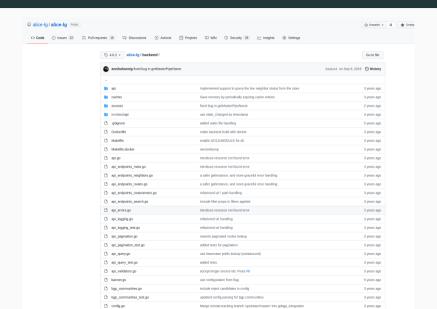


What's new?

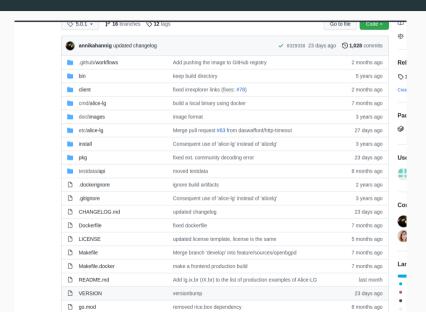
## What's new?

- Improved GoBGP support
- Bugfixes
- Improved Bird 2.x support

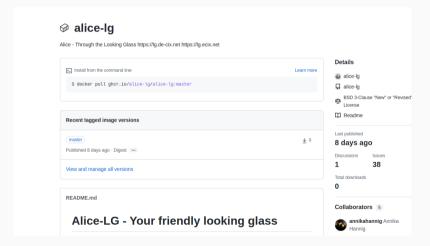
# **Modernized Project Structure**



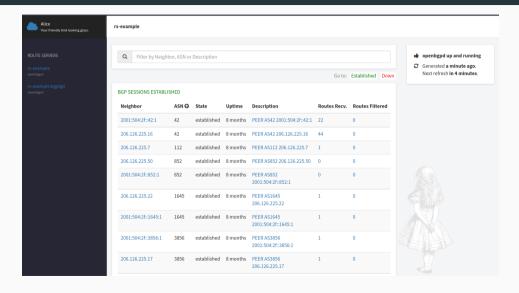
# **Modernized Project Structure**



\$ podman pull ghcr.io/alice-lg/alice-lg:master



# **OpenBGPD**



What's next?

# Refactoring

- 5 year old code base
- Some ideas just have not aged well
- A ton of linter errors needed fixing

```
--var AliceConfig *Config
--var AliceRoutesStore *RoutesStore
--var AliceNeighboursStore *NeighboursStore

fun main() {
   var err error
```

## Cleanup

```
Make route
                                                                   // Make route
lookup := &api.LookupRoute{
                                                                   lookup := &api.LookupRoute{
   Id: route.Id,
                                                                       Route:
                                                                                 route,
                                                                       State:
                                                                                 state,
   NeighbourId: route.NeighbourId.
                                                                       Neighbor: neighbor.
   Neighbour:
                neighbour.
                                                                       RouteServer: &api.RouteServer{
                                                                                 source.ID.
   Routeserver: api.Routeserver{
                                                                           Name: source.Name,
       Id: source.Id.
       Name: source.Name.
   State: state,
   Network:
              route.Network.
   Interface: route.Interface.
   Gateway:
              route.Gateway,
   Metric:
              route.Metric.
              route.Bgp.
   Bgp:
   Age:
              route.Age.
   Type:
              route.Type,
   Primary:
              route.Primary,
```

### What's next?

- Parallel refresh of Route Server backends
- Postgres backend for improved memory footprint and fast recovery after crashes
- Migrating the frontend to modern React

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