Reference Architecture
Should there be only one?

Yes, an extensible one.

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Served on a NIST Subgroup to look at a few existing Reference Architectures...
What we saw (at first)...
- Many different ways to represent the same things
- Six models is too many!
A closer look revealed many common characteristics.

Tried to find a best-of-breed.
What if we exclude somebody?

What about mainframes?!!!

What about Gmail?!?

Too much detail!

Too little detail!

Healthy debates
The Reference Architecture should include enough detail to “distinguish”.

In the “automobile” RA, we don't want to genericize to accommodate motorcycles.
and **should be flexible enough for various implementations...**
The NIST RA strikes a good balance...
What's next? Extend it, and maintain the balance.

NIST RA for Cloud Computing
So, should there be only one Reference Architecture for cloud computing?

Yes. An extensible one.