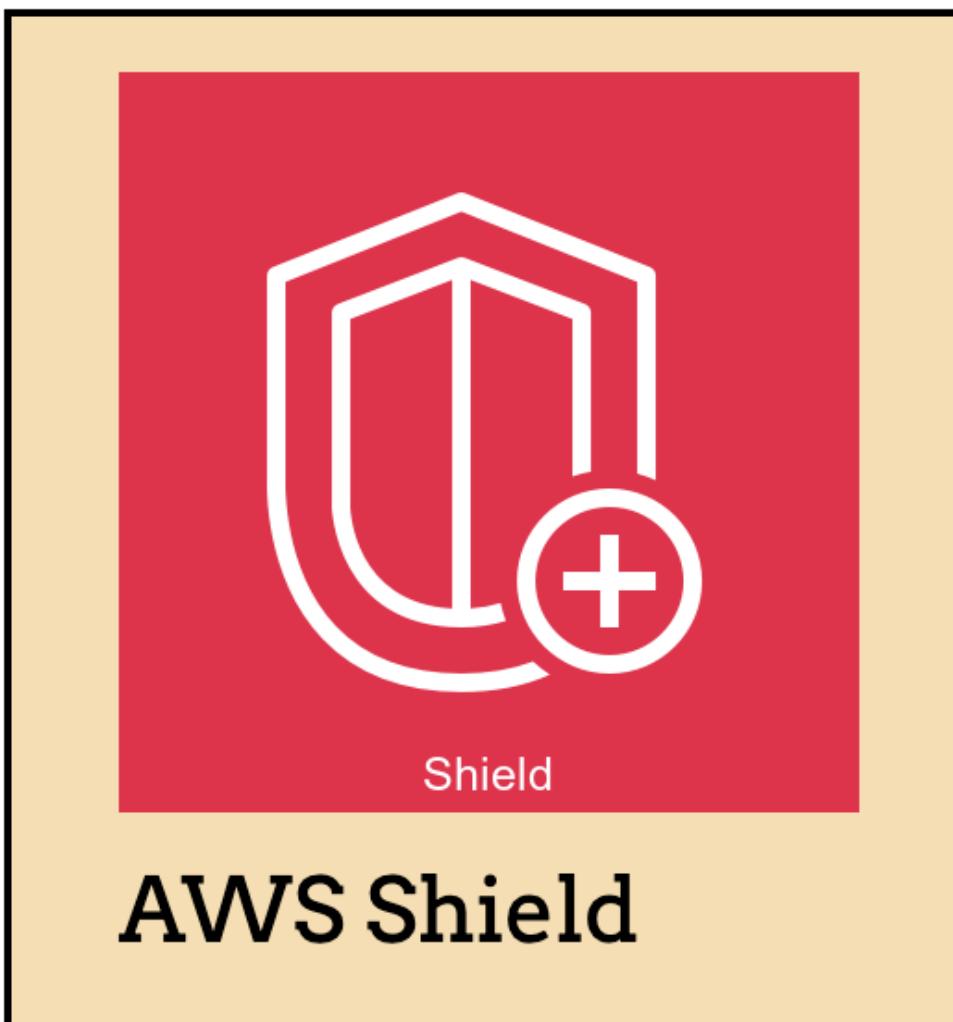




# AWS Shield

# Table of Contents



- 1. What is AWS Shield?
- 2. How AWS Shield and Shield Advanced work

■ 3. AWS Shield Standard Overview

■ 4. AWS Shield Advanced Overview

■ 5. Examples of DDoS Attacks

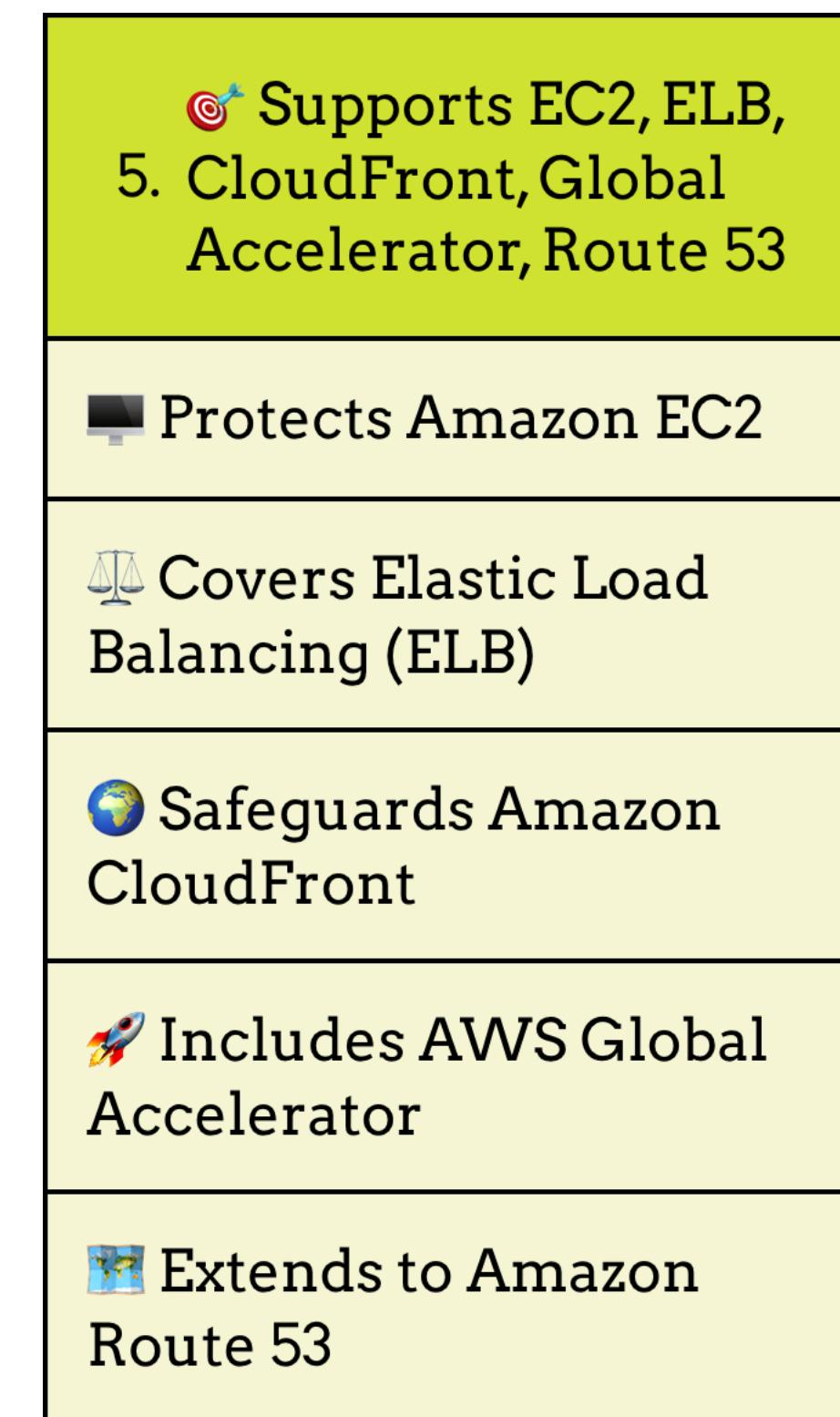
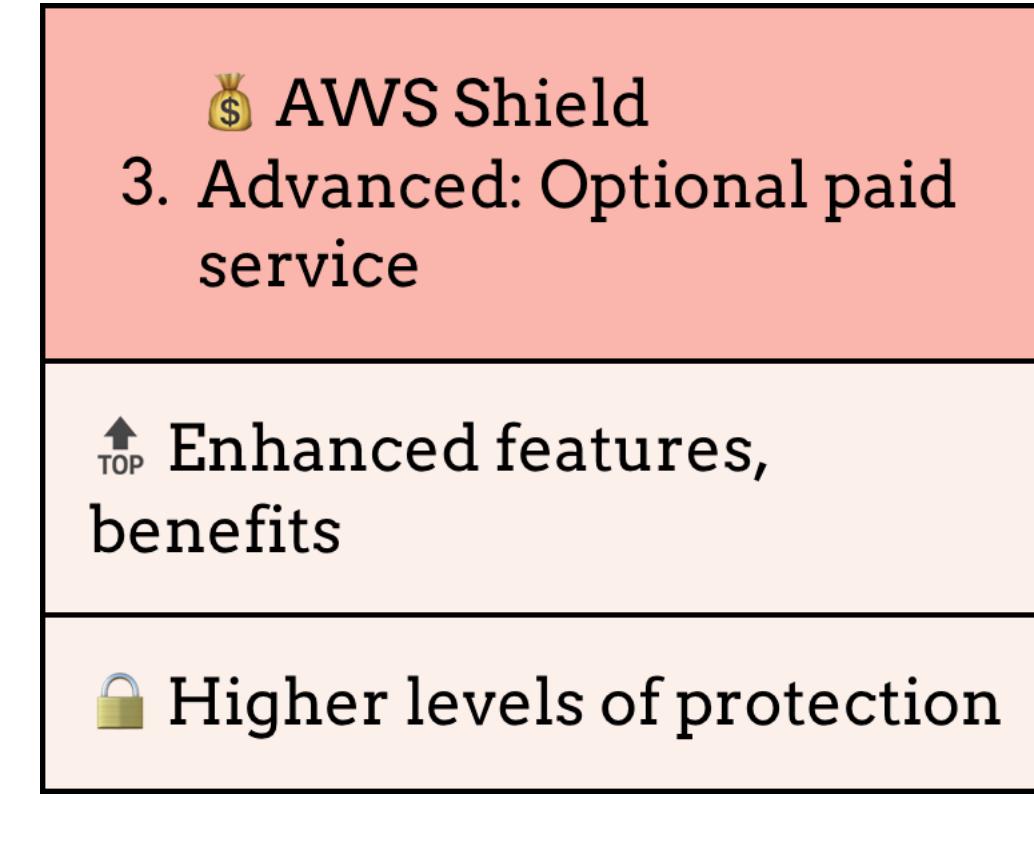
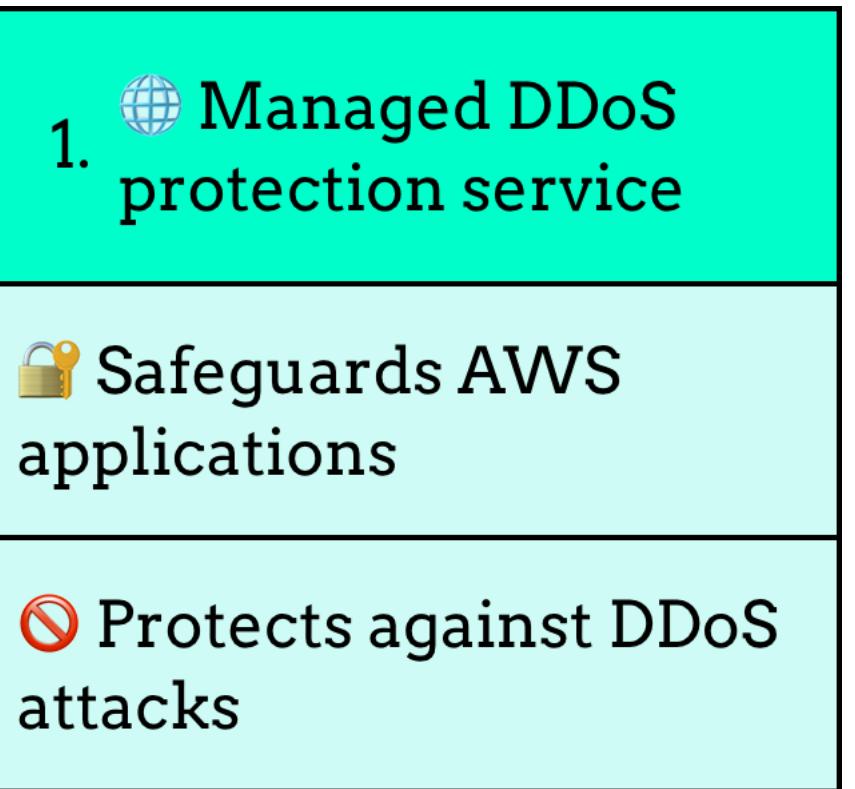
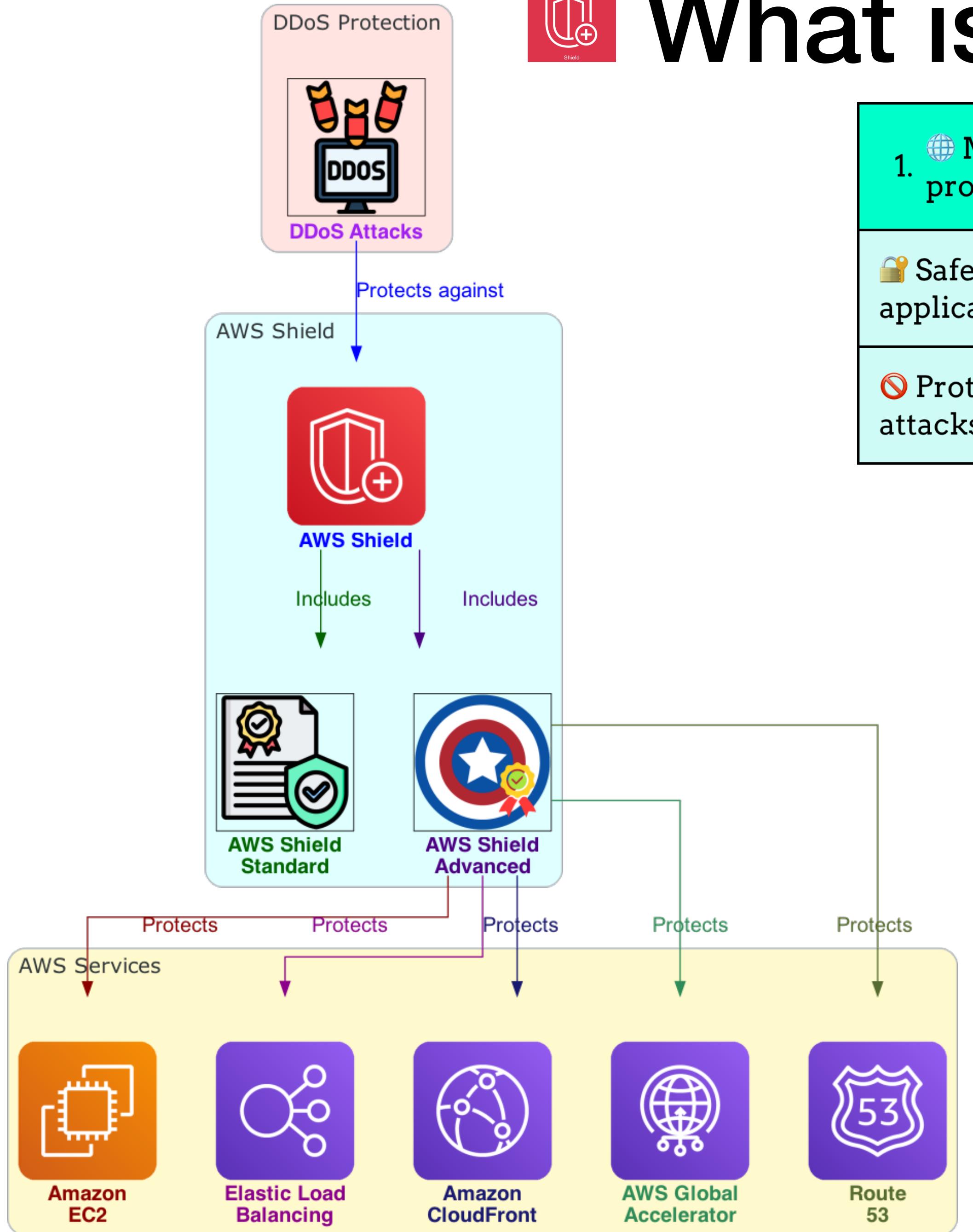
■ 6. How AWS Shield Detects Events

■ 7. How AWS Shield Mitigates Events

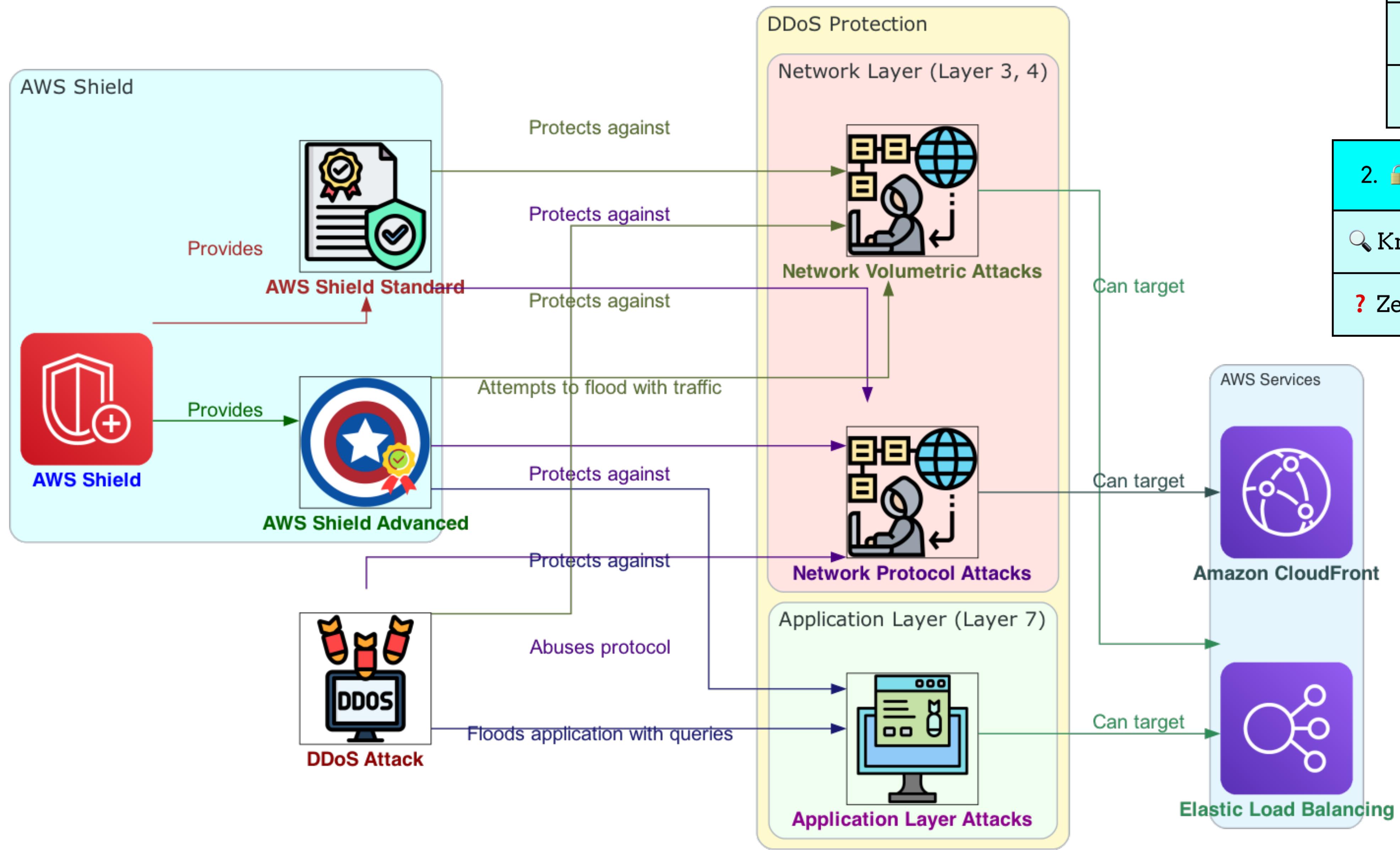
■ 8. Mitigation Features



# What is AWS Shield?

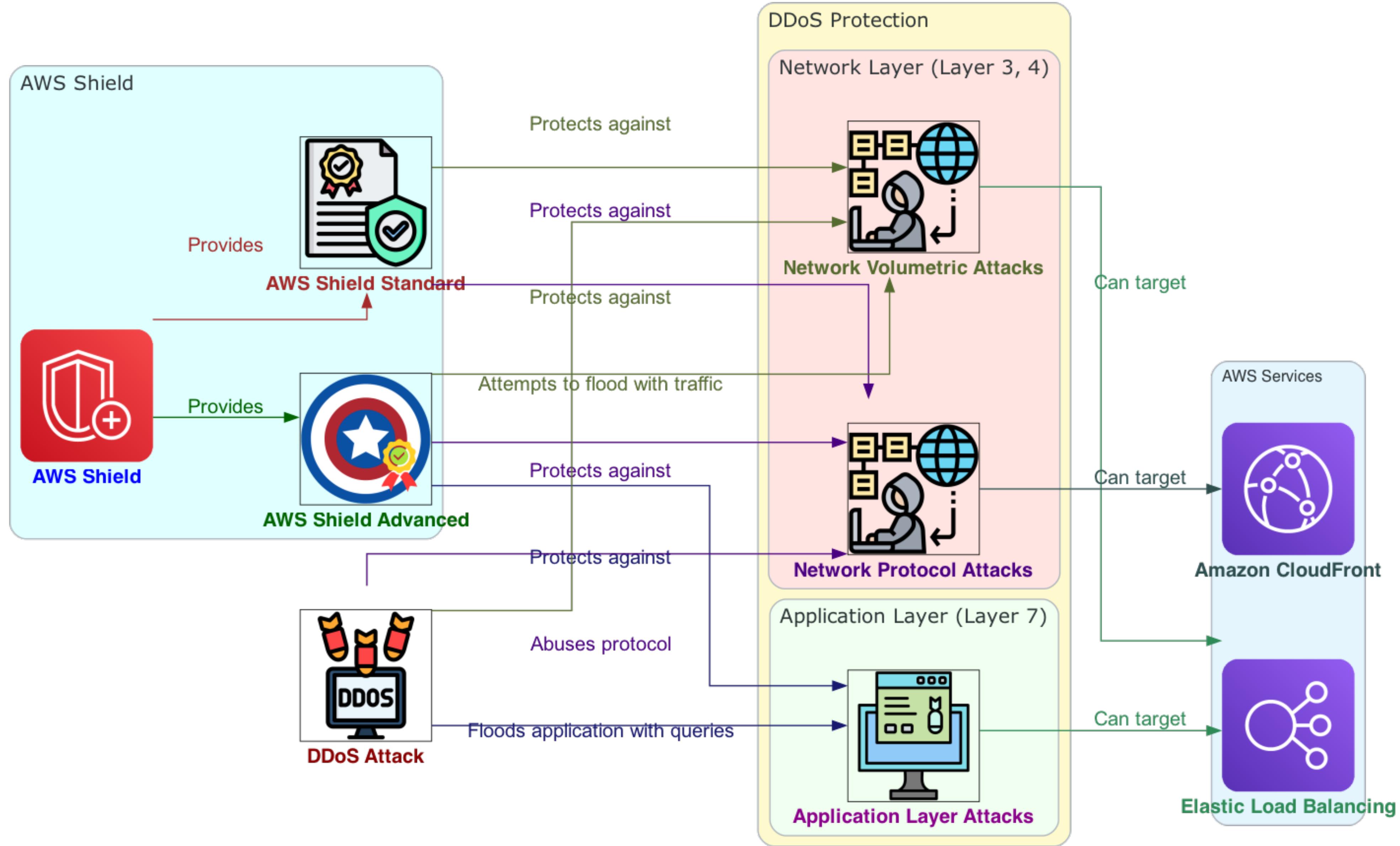


# How AWS Shield and Shield Advanced work



1. Protects AWS resources
  - Network layer
  - Transport layer
  - Application layer
2. Defends against DDoS attacks
  - Known attack vectors
  - ? Zero-day attack vectors
3. Shield Standard
  - Automatic enablement
  - Free protection
  - Basic DDoS protection
4. Shield Advanced
  - Optional paid service
  - Enhanced features
  - Higher security levels

# How AWS Shield and Shield Advanced work



5. Detects network volumetric attacks (Layer 3)

Attempts to saturate network capacity

Denies service to legitimate users

6. Detects network protocol attacks (Layer 4)

Example: TCP SYN floods

Exhausts connection states on resources

7. Safeguards against application layer attacks (Layer 7)

Example: Web request floods

Denies service to legitimate users



# AWS Shield Standard Overview

1. Protects application perimeter

Managed threat protection service

Safeguards first point of entry

2. Determines perimeter based on user entry point

AWS Region

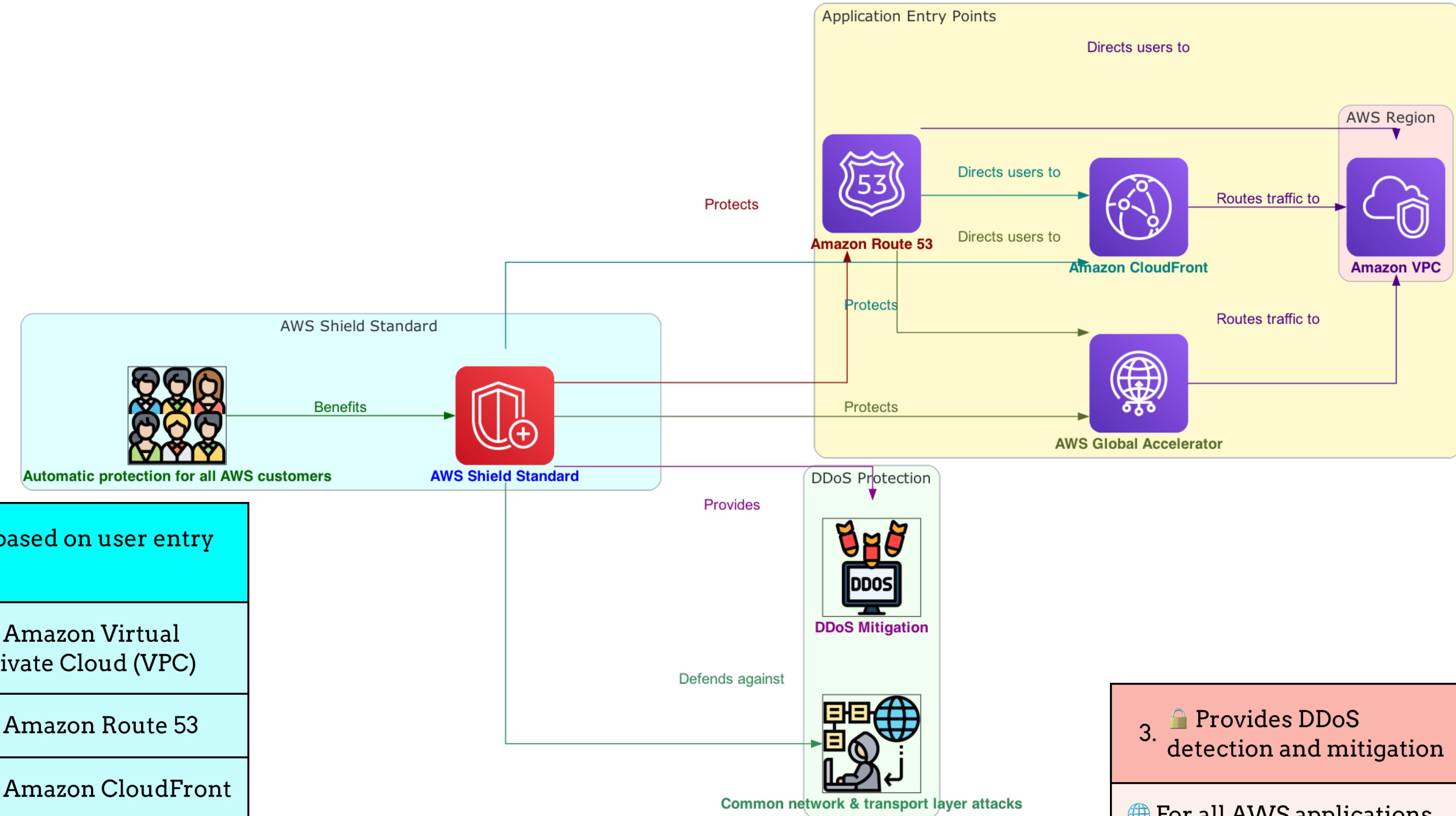
Amazon Virtual Private Cloud (VPC)

Edge of AWS network

Amazon Route 53

Amazon CloudFront

AWS Global Accelerator



3. Provides DDoS detection and mitigation

For all AWS applications

Protects against threats



# AWS Shield Standard Overview

Application

4. architecture influences  
DDoS resiliency

Design decisions impact  
resiliency

Ability to operate during  
an attack

5. FREE Automatic protection  
for all AWS customers

No additional charge

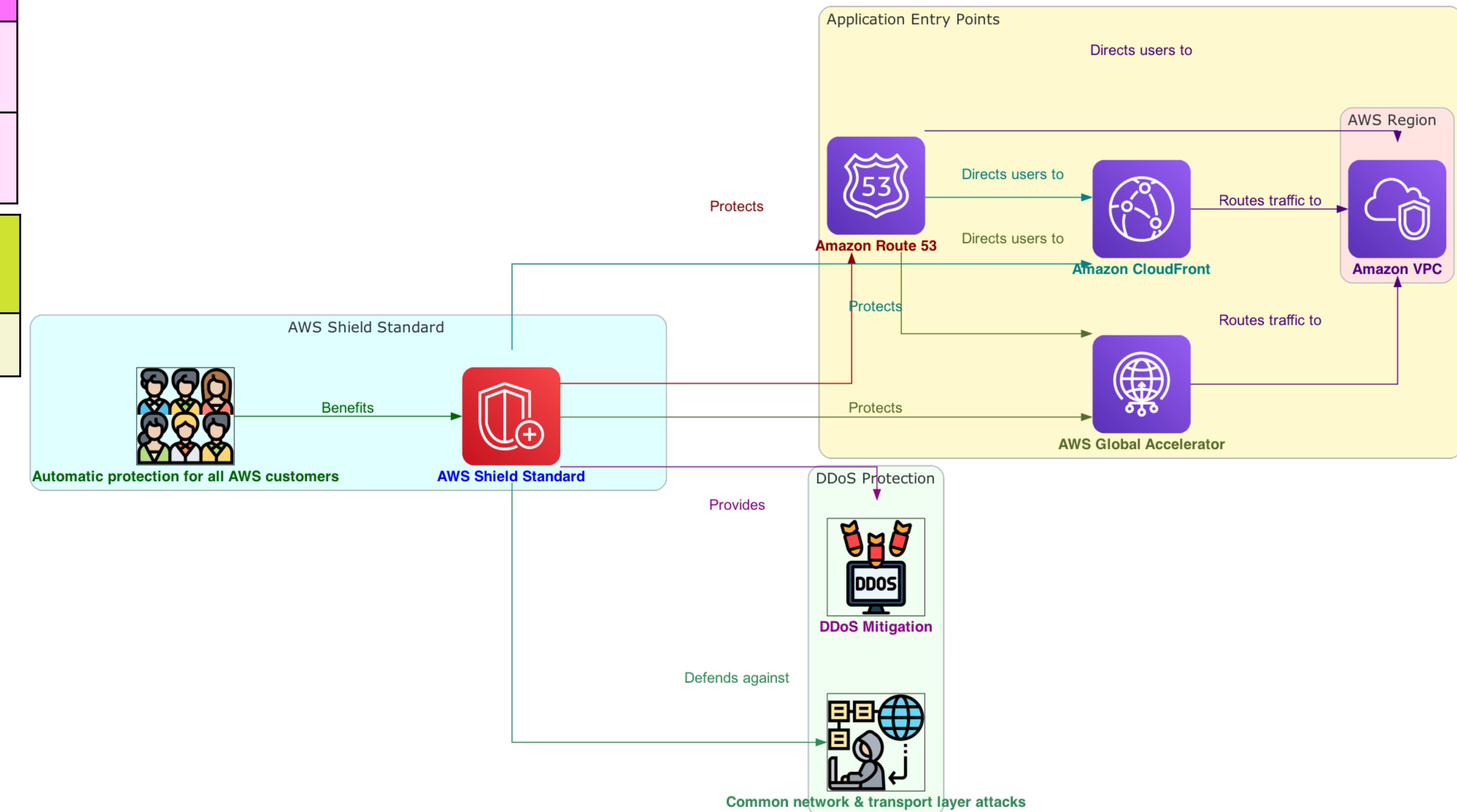
6. TOP Comprehensive  
protection

Amazon Route 53  
hosted zones

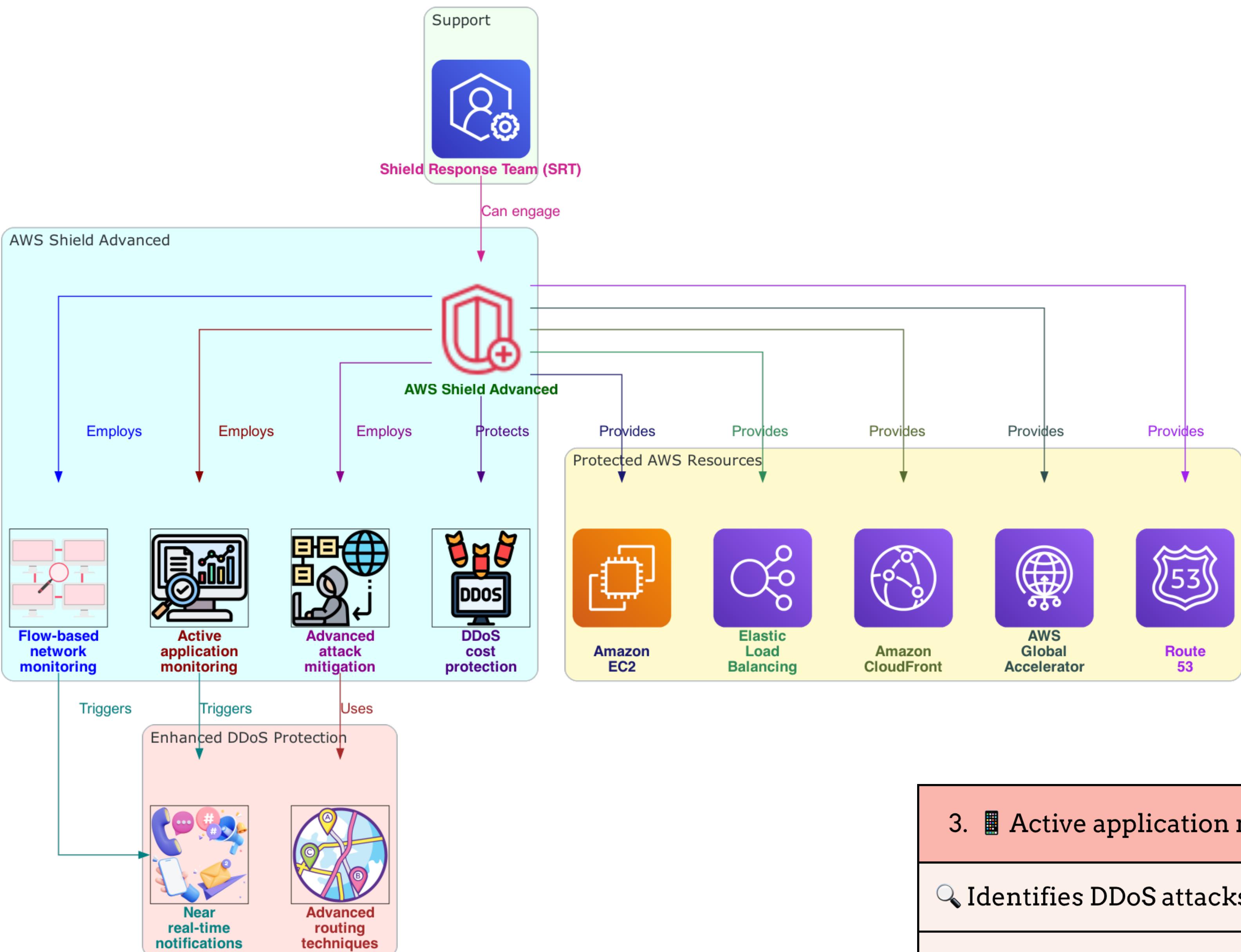
Amazon CloudFront  
distributions

AWS Global  
Accelerator standard  
accelerators

Against known  
network and transport  
layer attacks



# AWS Shield Advanced Overview



1. 🔒 Protects AWS resources

Amazon EC2

Elastic Load Balancing (ELB)

Amazon CloudFront

AWS Global Accelerator

Route 53

2. 🌐 Always-on, flow-based network monitoring

🔍 Continuous monitoring

💥 Detects potential DDoS threats

4. 💥 Near real-time notifications

⏰ Timely alerts

🔍 Detects potential DDoS attacks

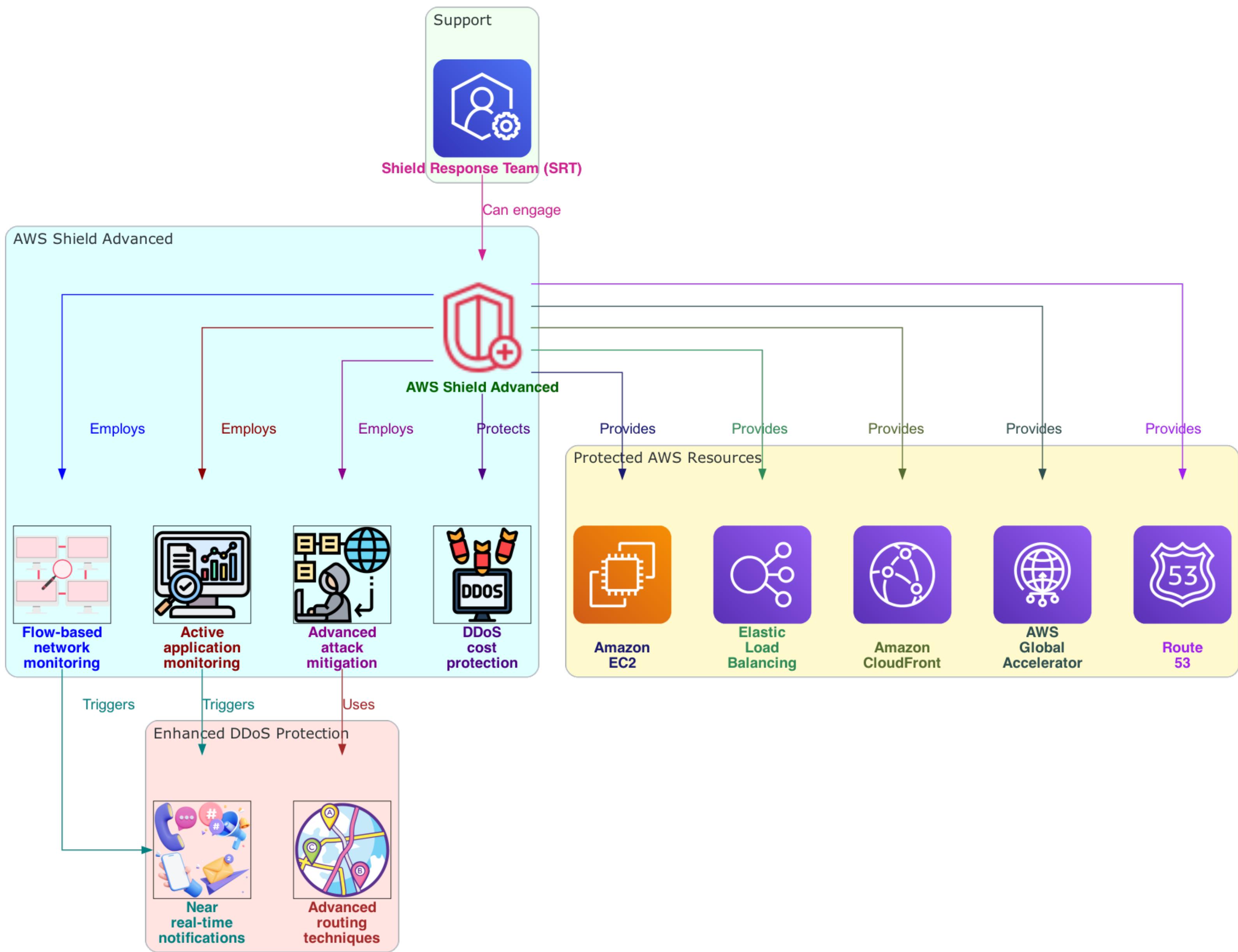
🏃 Allows quick response and mitigation

3. 📱 Active application monitoring

🔍 Identifies DDoS attacks

🛡 Mitigates DDoS attacks

# AWS Shield Advanced Overview



Advanced attack  
5. mitigation and routing techniques

Automatically mitigates DDoS attacks

Optimizes traffic routing

6. 24x7 Shield Response Team (SRT) support

For Business or Enterprise customers

Around-the-clock support

Manages and mitigates application layer DDoS attacks

7. DDoS cost protection for scaling during attacks

Protects AWS bill against higher fees

Due to usage spikes from protected resources

Ensures cost control and predictability

# Examples of DDoS Attacks

## User Datagram

### 1. Protocol (UDP) reflection attacks

Attackers spoof request source

Uses UDP to elicit large response from server

Extra traffic slows targeted server

Prevents access for legitimate users

## TCP SYN flood

Exhausts system resources

Leaves connections half-open

Exploits three-way handshake

Prevents other users from connecting

### 3. DNS query flood

Attacker uses multiple DNS queries

Exhausts DNS server resources

AWS Shield Advanced protects Route 53

### 4. HTTP flood/cache-busting (layer 7) attacks

Attacker sends multiple HTTP requests

Requests appear from real user

Cache-busting prevents use of cached content

Forces content to be served from origin server

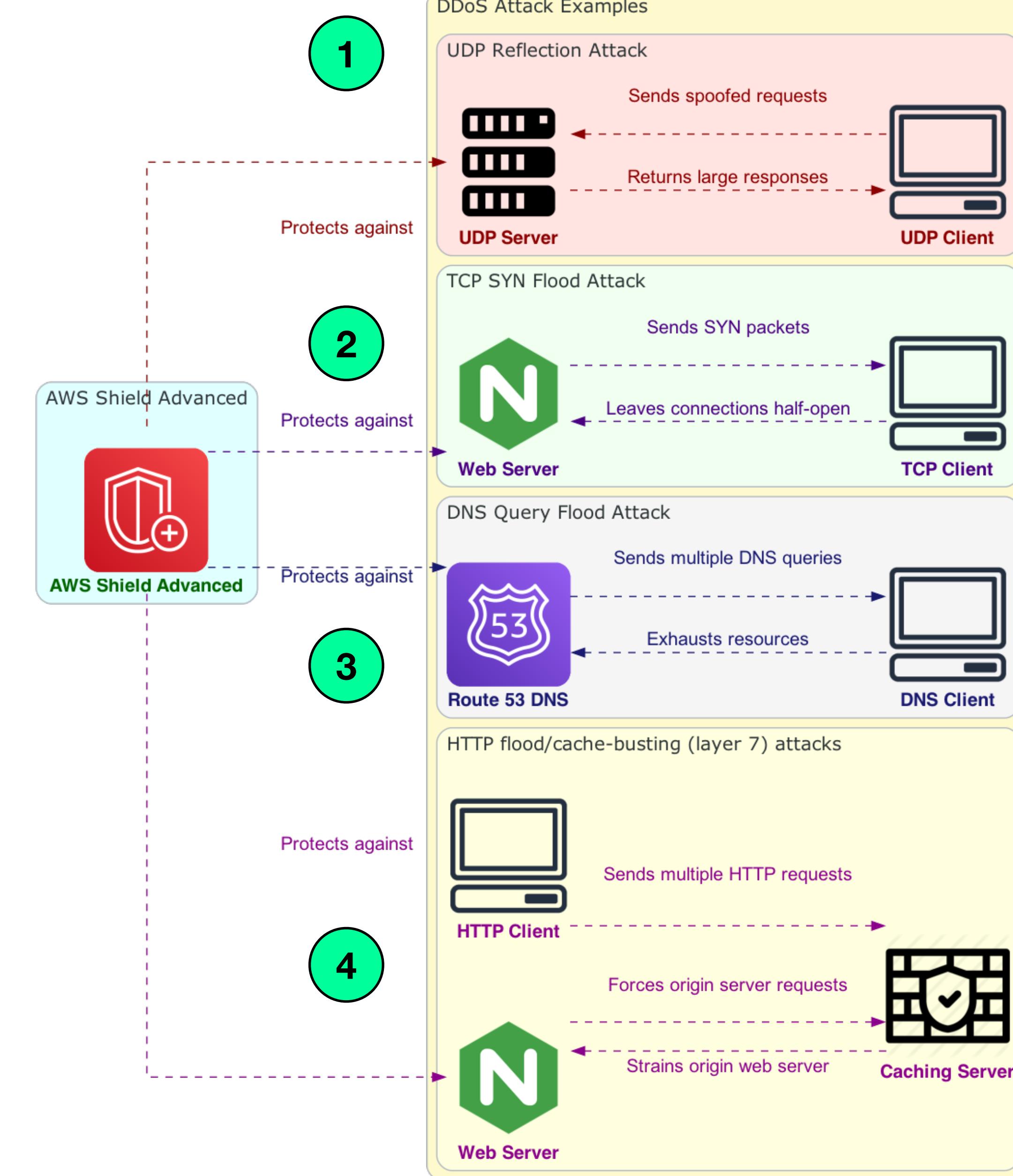
Strains origin web server

1

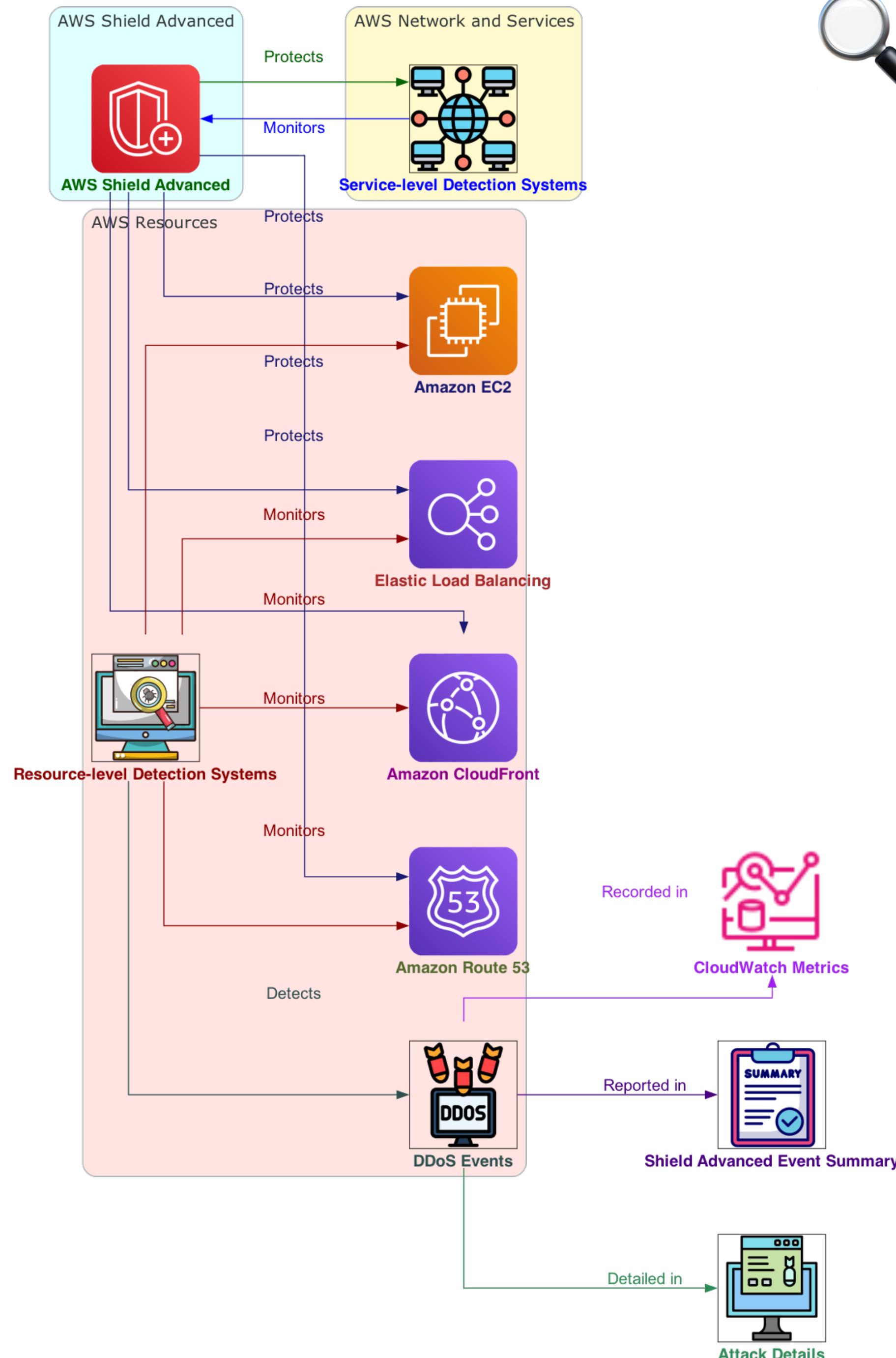
2

3

4



# How AWS Shield Detects Events



## 1. Service-level detection systems

For AWS network and services

Ensures availability during DDoS attacks

## 2. Resource-level detection systems

For individual AWS resources

Ensures traffic remains within expected parameters

Combination protects targeted resources and services

Drops known bad packets

Highlights potentially malicious traffic

Prioritizes traffic from end users

## 4. Detected events appear in

Shield Advanced event summaries

Attack details

CloudWatch metrics

## 5. Events labeled with

DDoS attack vector name

'Volumetric' if based on traffic volume



# How AWS Shield Mitigates Events

🌐 Mitigation logic varies

1. by application architecture

🎯 Adapts based on application architecture

2. 🌎 Web and DNS use case mitigations

Amazon CloudFront

Route 53

🔒 Protects all associated services

⭐ Resource-specific

3. mitigations in AWS Regions

▣ Based on service and resource type

🛠 Infrastructure

4. mitigations for layer attacks

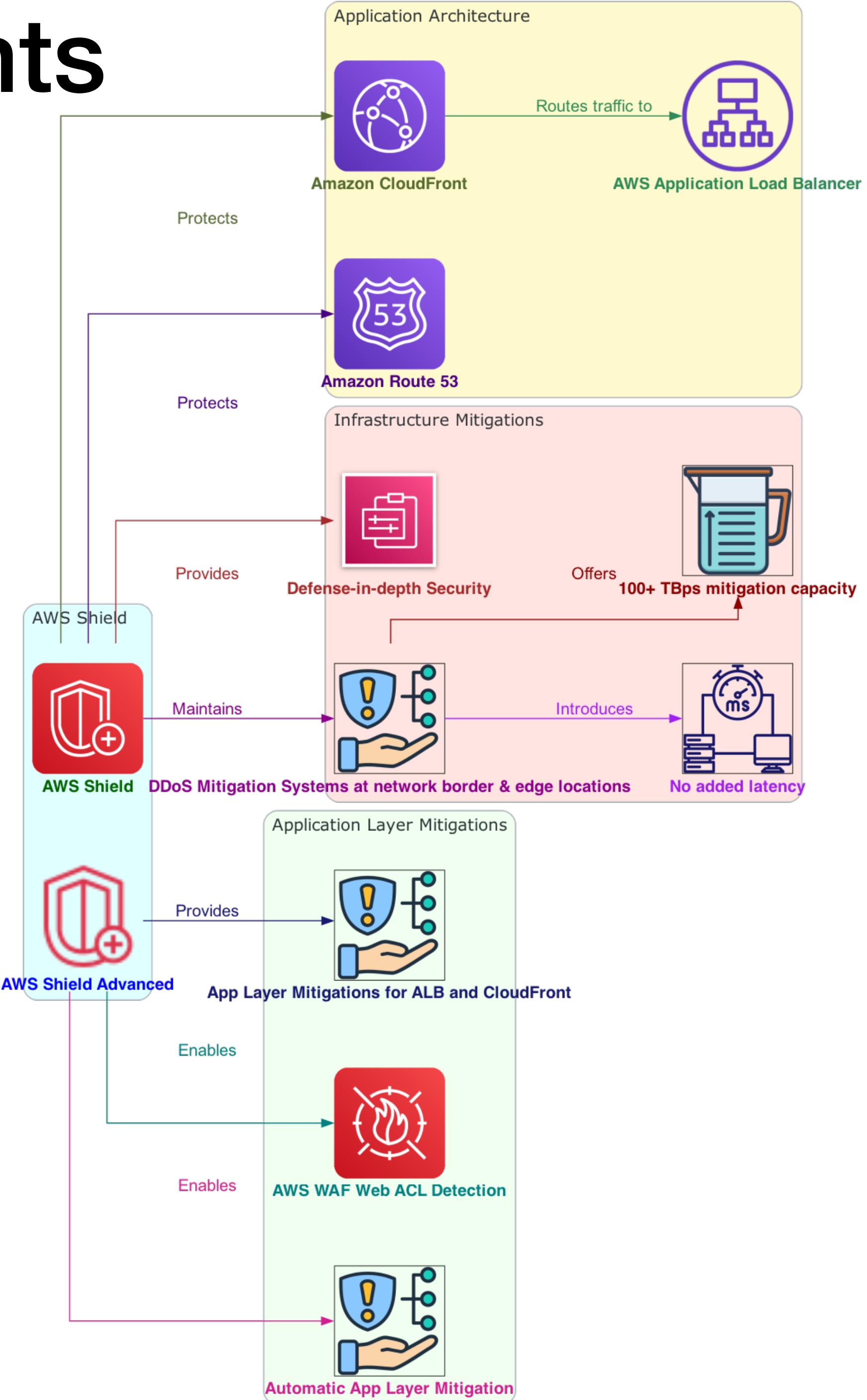
🔒 DDoS mitigation systems

🔄 DDoS mitigation

5. systems at network border

🌐 Present at AWS network borders and edge locations

🔄 Reroutes traffic through mitigation systems





# How AWS Shield Mitigates Events

6. 🚫 No additional latency or traffic rerouting

⚡ Reroutes traffic without latency

🚫 No external scrubbing centers

🔒 Web ACL and  
9. automatic application layer mitigation

🤖 Enables automatic application layer mitigation

🔒 Uses AWS WAF web ACLs

🛡️ Manages protections during DDoS attacks

7. 💪 Over 100 Tbps mitigation capacity

🌐 Across all AWS Regions and edge locations

🛡️ Application layer  
8. mitigations with Shield Advanced

☁️ Protects CloudFront distributions

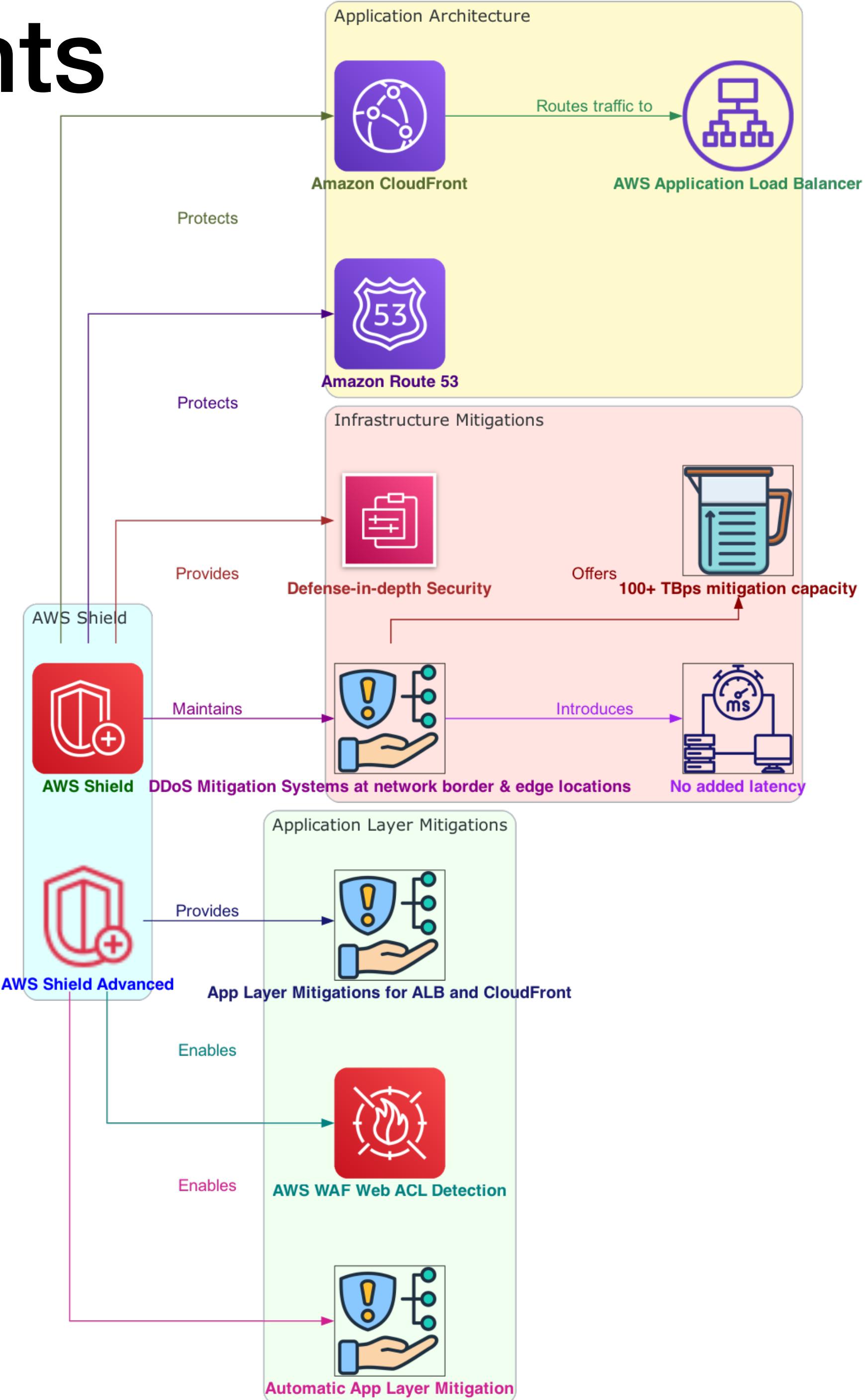
⚖️ Protects Application Load Balancers

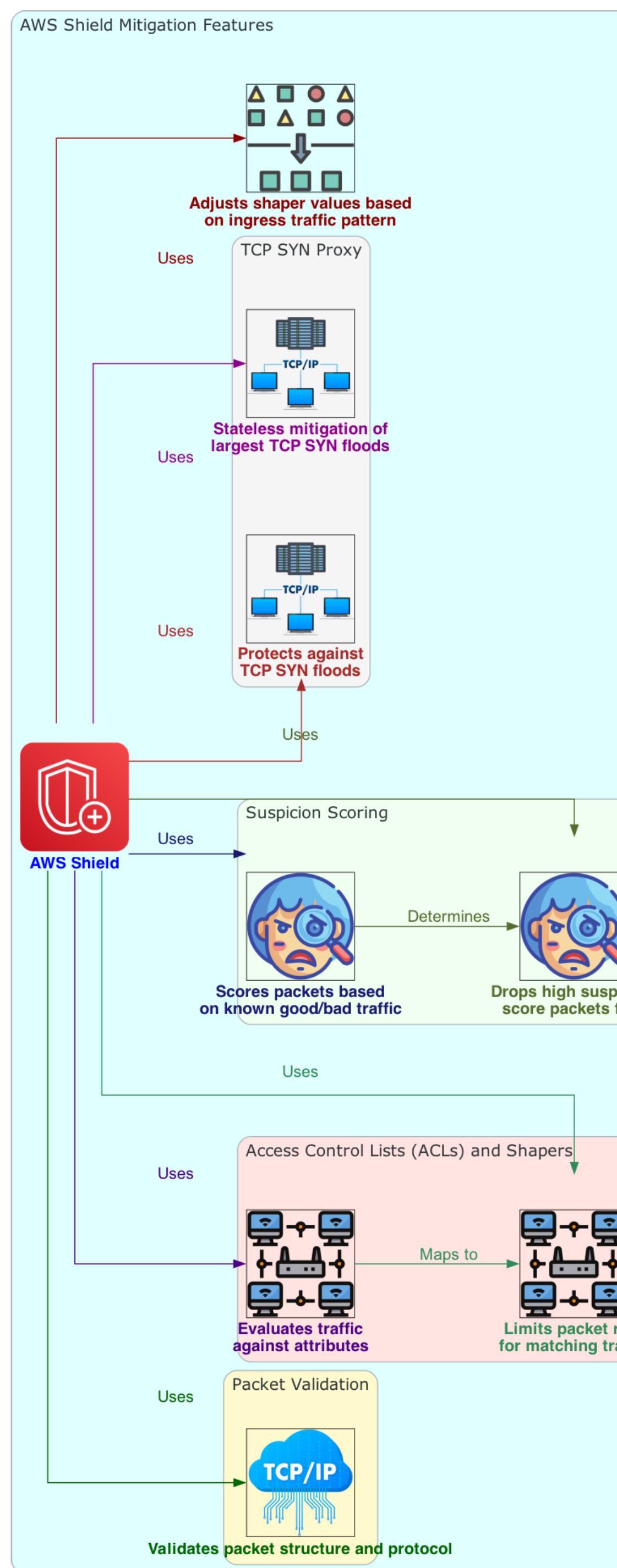
10. 🚀 Custom mitigations for specific resources

🛡️ Provides custom mitigations

🚦 Enforces rate limiting for application layer attacks

🔒 Protects specific resources





# Mitigation Features

## 1. 📦 Packet validation

🔍 Inspects packet structure and protocol

✓ Supported protocols: IP, TCP, UDP, ICMP, DNS, NTP

## 2. ✎ Access Control Lists (ACLs) and shapers

🔍 ACL evaluates traffic against attributes

🚫 Drops matching traffic or maps to shaper

⬆️ Shaper limits packet rate, drops excess

🎯 Dedicated rate allocations for expected/known DDoS traffic

🔍 ACL matches port, protocol, TCP flags, destination, source country, payload patterns

## 3. 🕵️ Suspicion scoring

📊 Scores packets based on expected traffic knowledge

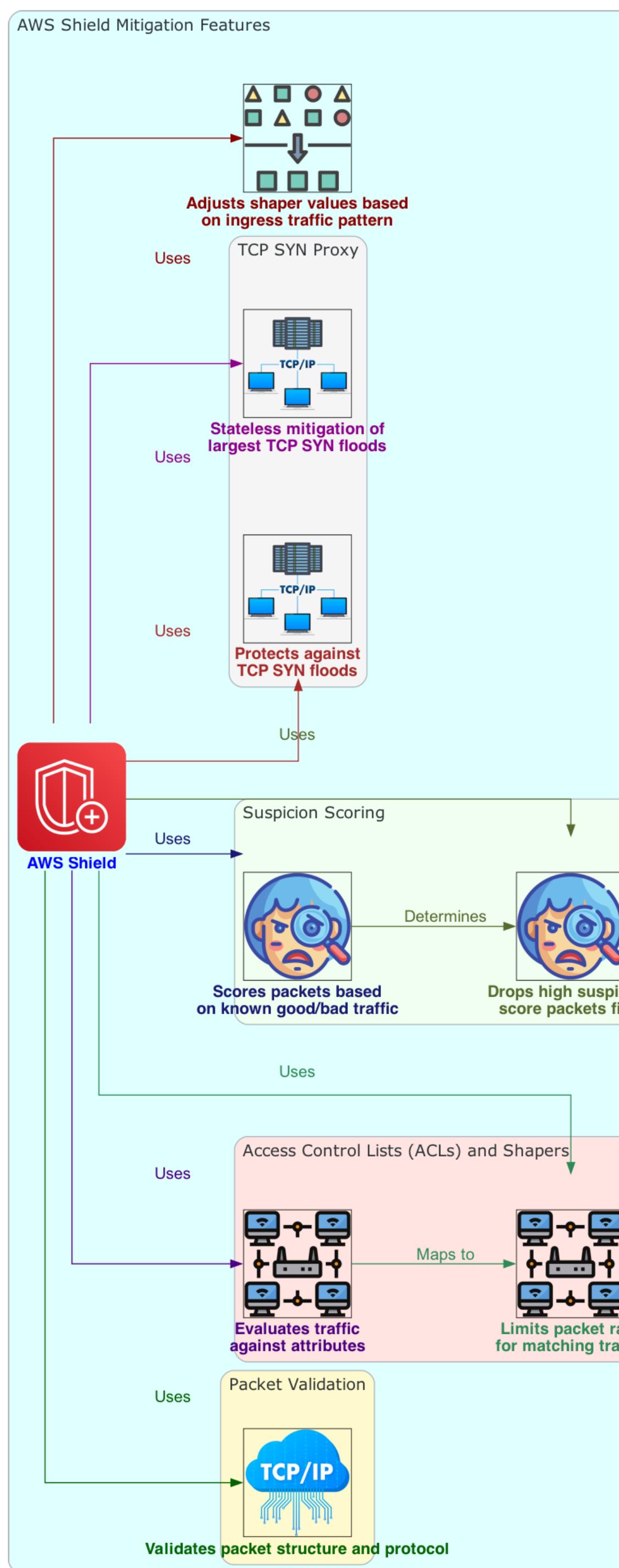
👍 Lower score for known good traffic patterns

👎 Higher score for known bad traffic attributes

🚫 Drops high suspicion score packets first when rate limiting

🛡️ Mitigates known and zero-day DDoS attacks

✖️ Avoids false positives



# Mitigation Features

## 4. 🔒 TCP SYN proxy

🛡️ Protects against TCP SYN floods

🍪 Sends TCP SYN cookies to challenge new connections

📦 Stateless mitigation of largest TCP SYN flood attacks

🤝 Integrates with AWS services to hand off connection state

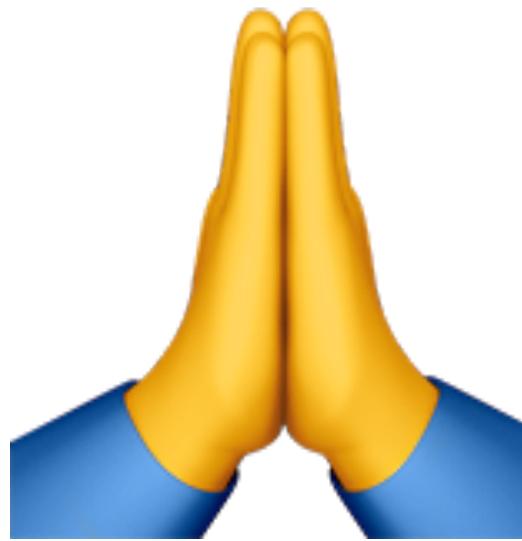
☁️ Available on Amazon CloudFront and Route 53

## 5. 📊 Rate distribution

🔄 Continuously adjusts per-location shaper values

🚦 Based on ingress traffic pattern toward protected resource

🚫 Prevents rate limiting of unevenly distributed customer traffic



**Thanks  
for  
Watching**