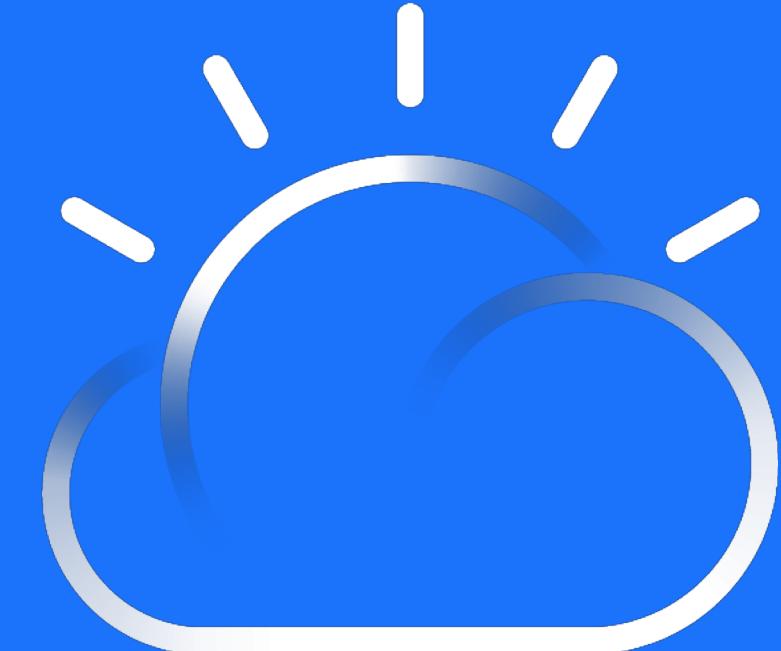


Machine Learning Cybersecurity for IBM API Connect



Francois Lascelles
Field CTO
Ping Identity



IBM Cloud

IBM

My API Security Journey

IBM.

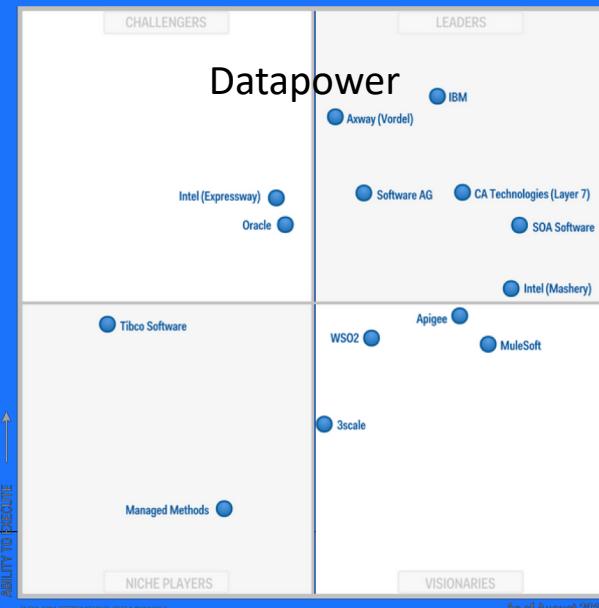
2002 Layer 7 Technologies



2013 CA API Management

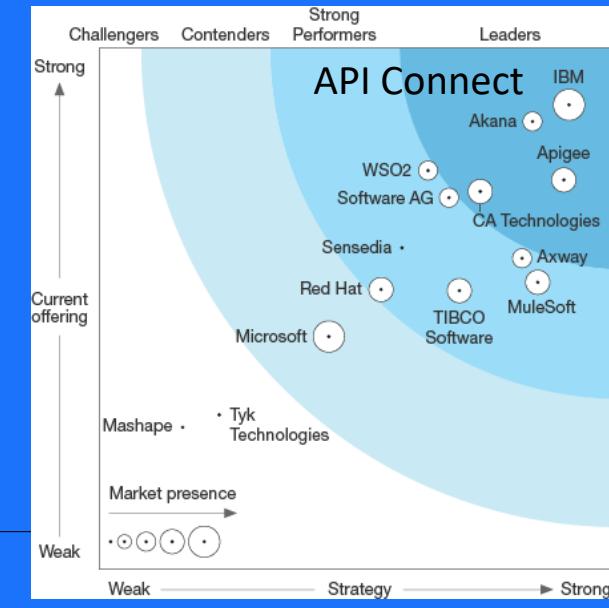


Today Ping Identity

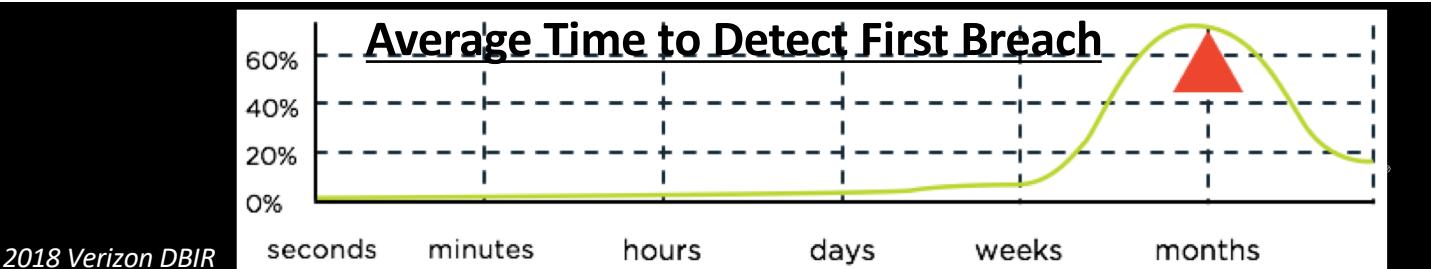


Integration Technical Conference 2019

Gartner Application Service Governance
2013



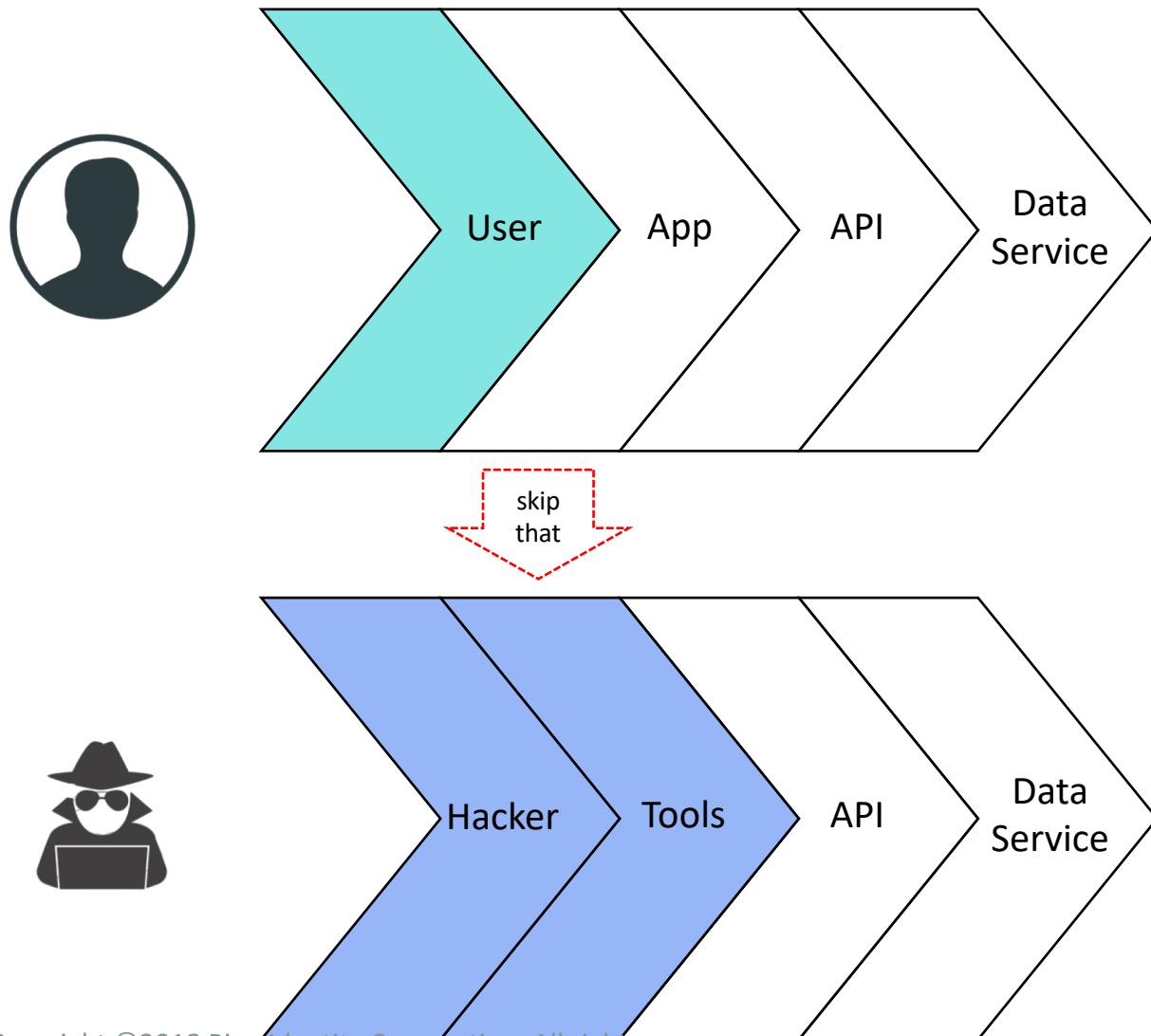
Forrester APIM Wave
2016



- API Breaches go **undetected** for months, years
- Enterprises need our help to improve API cybersecurity
- Gartner: “by 2020, API abuses will be the most frequent attack vector that result in breaches”
- Some attacks can’t be detected with traditional API security
- Help is on the way from  and 



HACKERS USE YOUR API OUTSIDE OF YOUR APP



- Client-side rules skipped
- Unexpected and untested-for API abuse scenarios
- Freedom to poke around and find vulnerabilities

YES, HACKERS KNOW ABOUT YOUR API

Your API is either well documented, easily reverse-engineered, or both.

Developer portal



- https proxy
- JS, browser tools
- Debug tools, APKtool, etc
- GitHub
- Some documented/some hidden features
- Nothing is hidden if it can be reverse-engineered

API Breach Impact



- Client and Patient accounts taken over ...
- Industrial control systems taken hostage or worse ...
- Services, mobile apps shut down or disrupted ...
- Data breaches – theft of customer records, private data, credit cards, ...
- Fraud for banks, retailers, payment processors, ...
- Ransom, jobs lost, ...

APIs Not secured

IBM

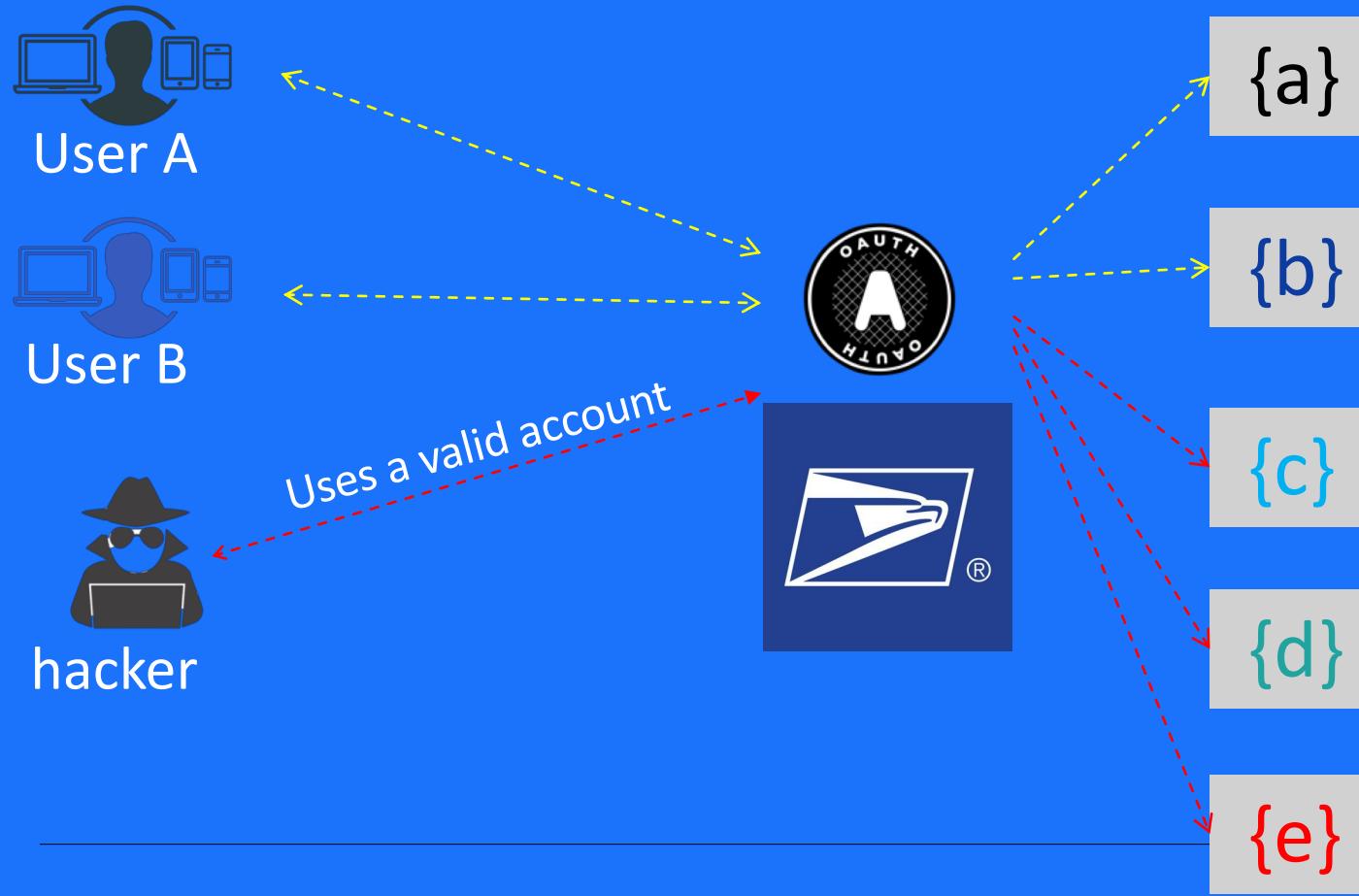


- An API that was designed for internal use became accessible from outside.
 - Property valuation details and contact information was leaked.
 - Reputation damaged
 - CEO now looking for work
-
- “Connect with your friends” social API
 - Not expected to be called outside app
 - Data breach
 - Ransom



API Takeover

IBM.

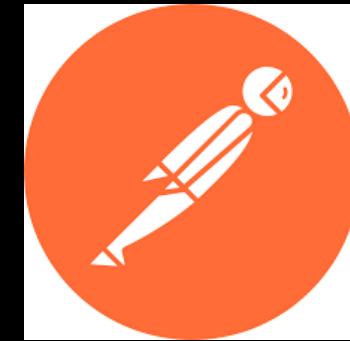


- **Hacker uses valid account to access API**
- **Uses discovered vulnerabilities to access other accounts**
- **Takes over accounts and steal data, photos, private information**
- Continues undetected for months
- USPS, t-Mobile, Verizon,...

Demo



attack.start();



Denial of service

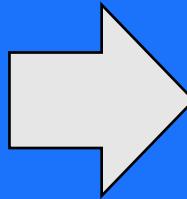


kubernetes

February 2019



json-patch
{ 10s of thousands
of instructions }



{apiserver}

- Exhaust process
- DOS

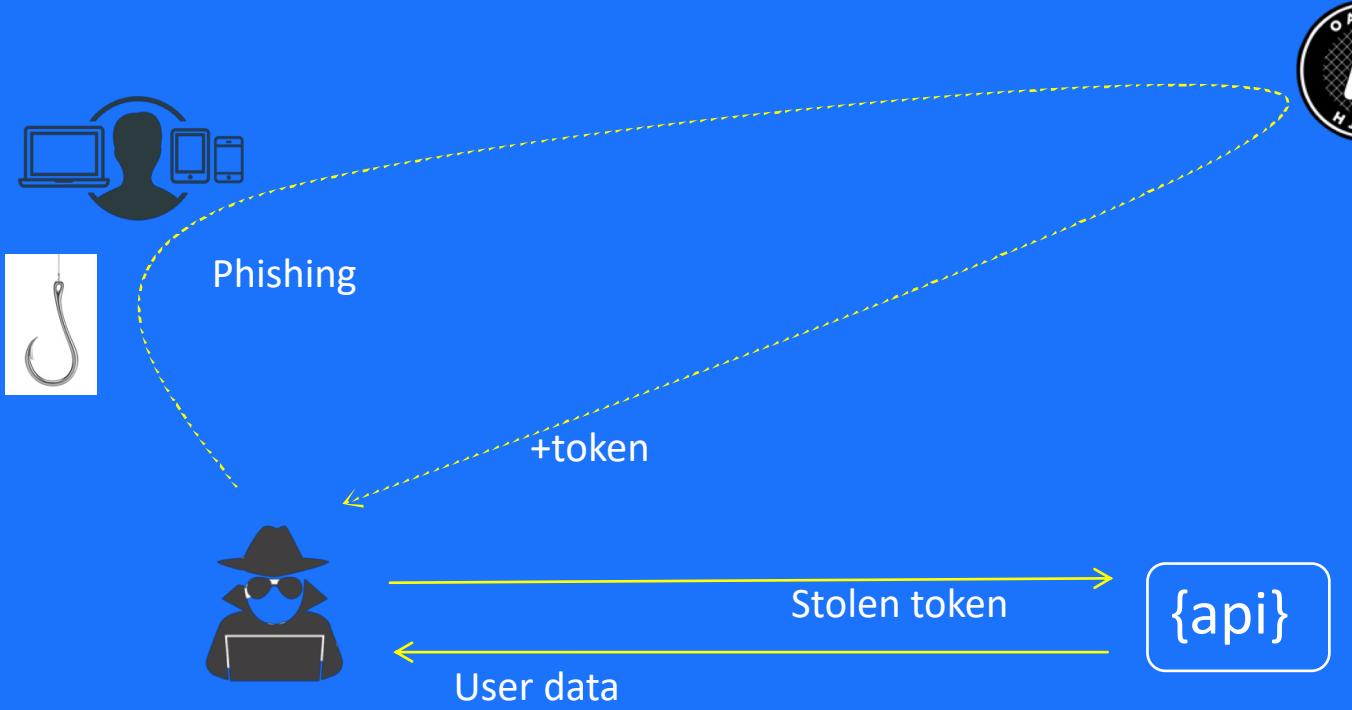
Fix: apiserver will now return 413 RequestEntityTooLarge error if a json patch contains more than 10,000 operations



What are the chances of you missing such rules
in your gateway?

Stolen tokens

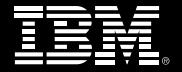
IBM



Authorization Server

- Exploit user and/or client weakness
- Immune to meticulous security practices (entitlement checks, mfa, content validation) because token is valid and is associated to user data being breached
- Stolen token are then used for data exfiltration, account take-over and other exploits

Indirect stolen tokens



```
>collections  
-
```



GitHub leaking
client secrets

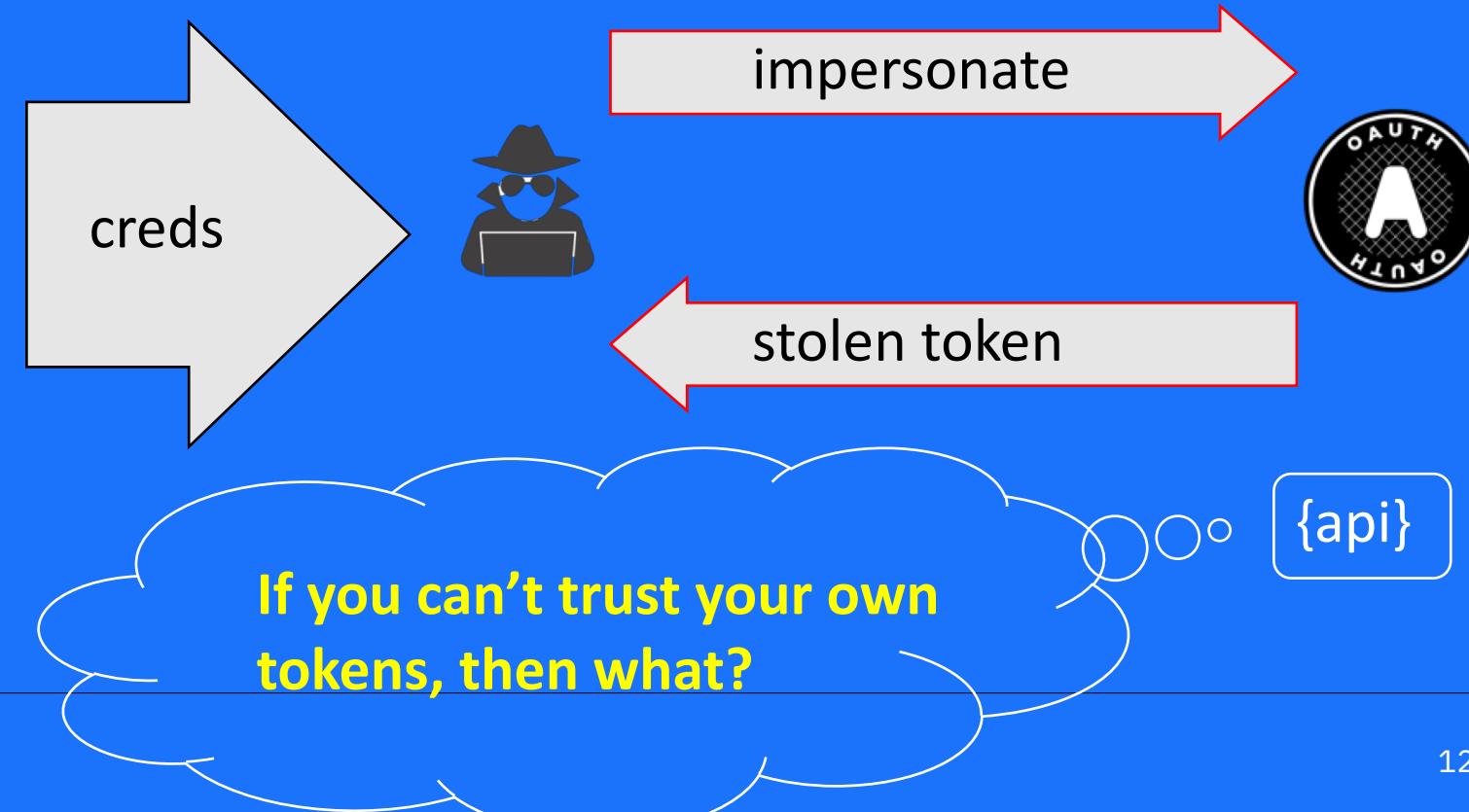
Default
creds

Password
spraying



Remote Access Trojan

Mimikatz



API Security vs API cybersecurity

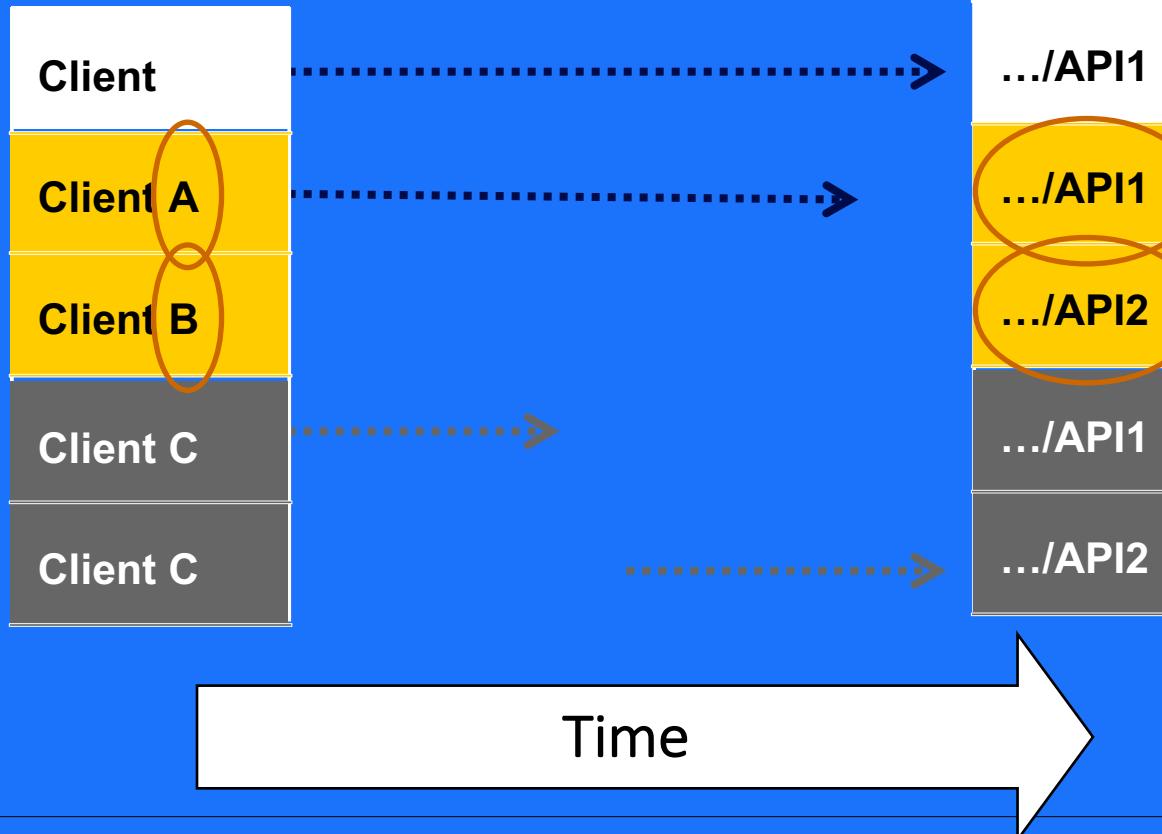


- Traditional API Security is mostly transactional scope
- No visibility on high-level activity and behavioral patterns
- Advanced tooling, but hard to configure and test
- Relies on knowledgeable human operators
- Expects tokens to not be compromised

API traffic pattern analysis with machine learning

IBM

API Attacks



APIs

- Analyze API activity against normal use
- Detect attacks based on behavior and not just user-defined rules
- Identify probing activity
- Monitor excessive error activity
- Etc.

API Modeling Considerations



- Per-API models
- Request/response correlation
- Allow human input
- Model lifecycle across environments

Model training and human input

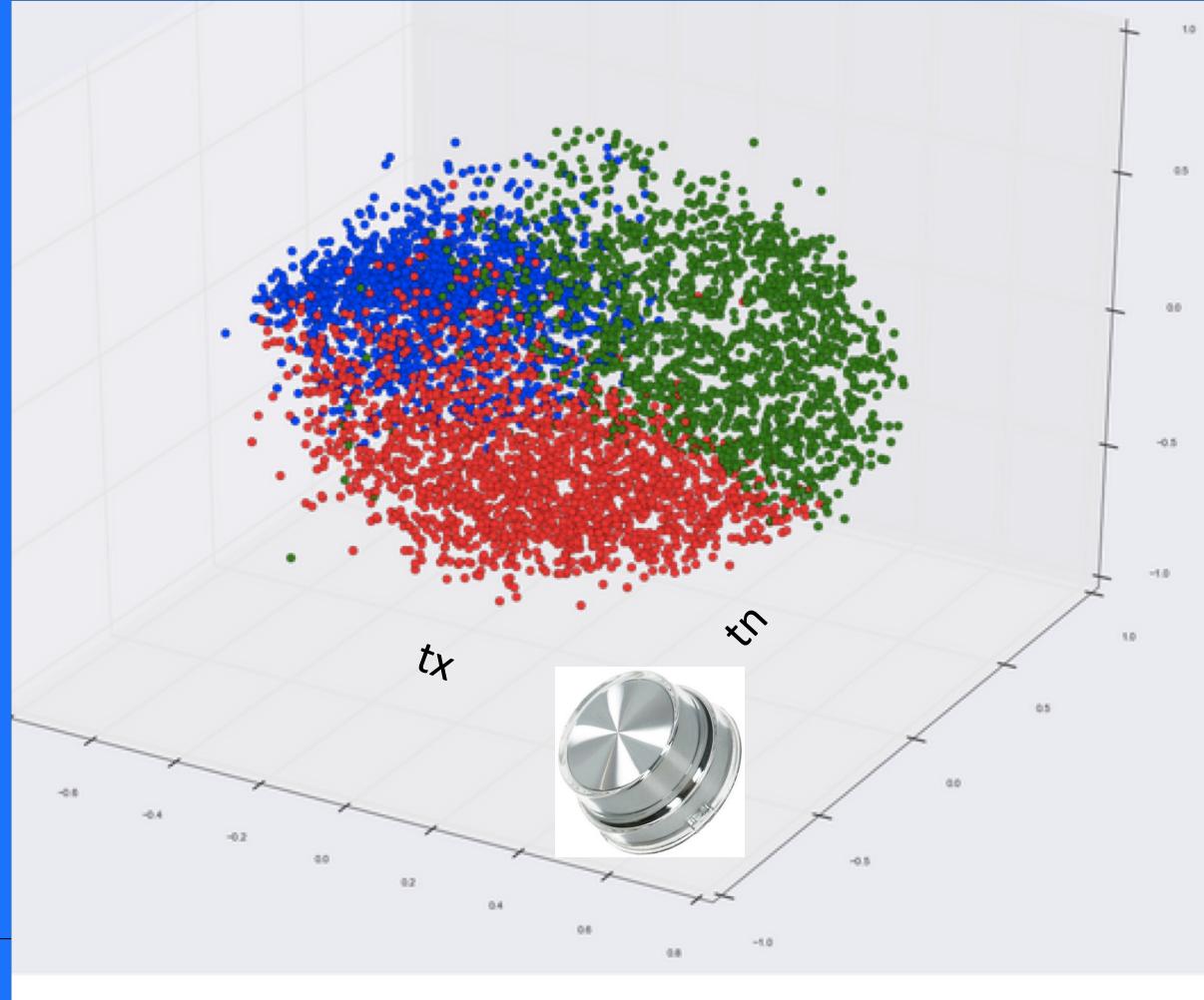
IBM

1. Training creates models

- Good data is key
- Output: normal and extreme threshold characteristics

2. Human tweaks

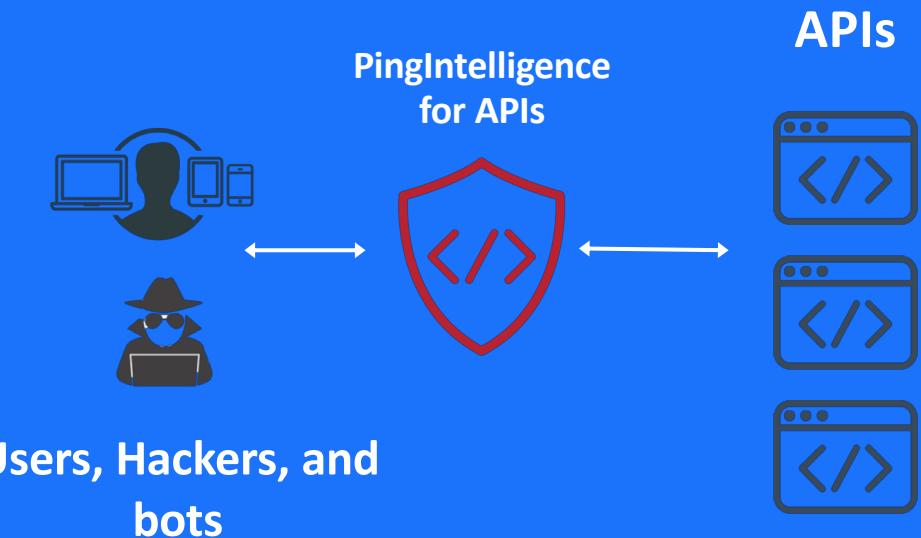
- Knobs to fine-tune



Introducing PingIntelligence for APIs

IBM

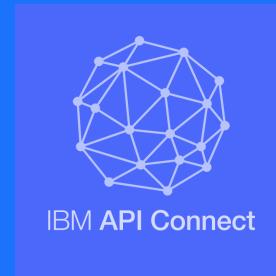
- **Advanced API security** with artificial intelligence for REST and WebSocket APIs
- **Self-learned security** – no policies or rules to write
- Automatic detection and blocking of attacks
- **Forensics reporting**



Design time

IBM

Governance
implementor

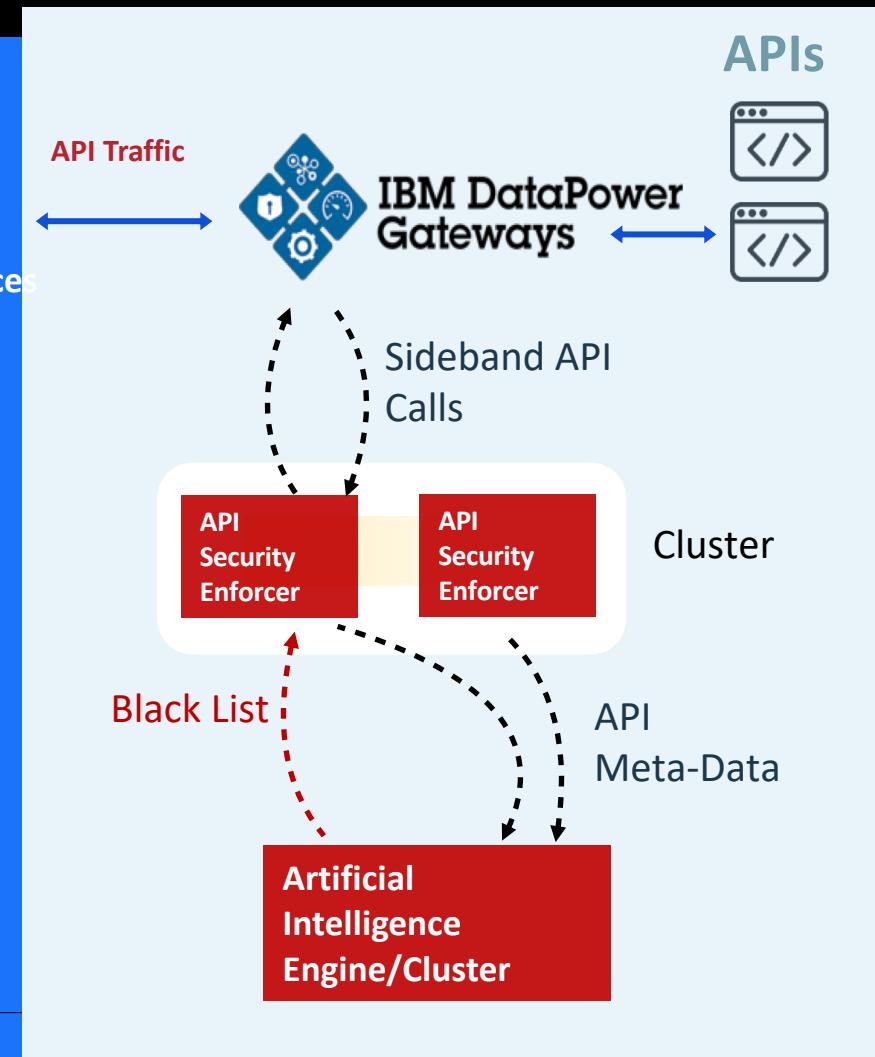


2. API Connect provisions
rules to Datapower
instances



1. Global policies attached
to API at catalog level

Request path
Response path



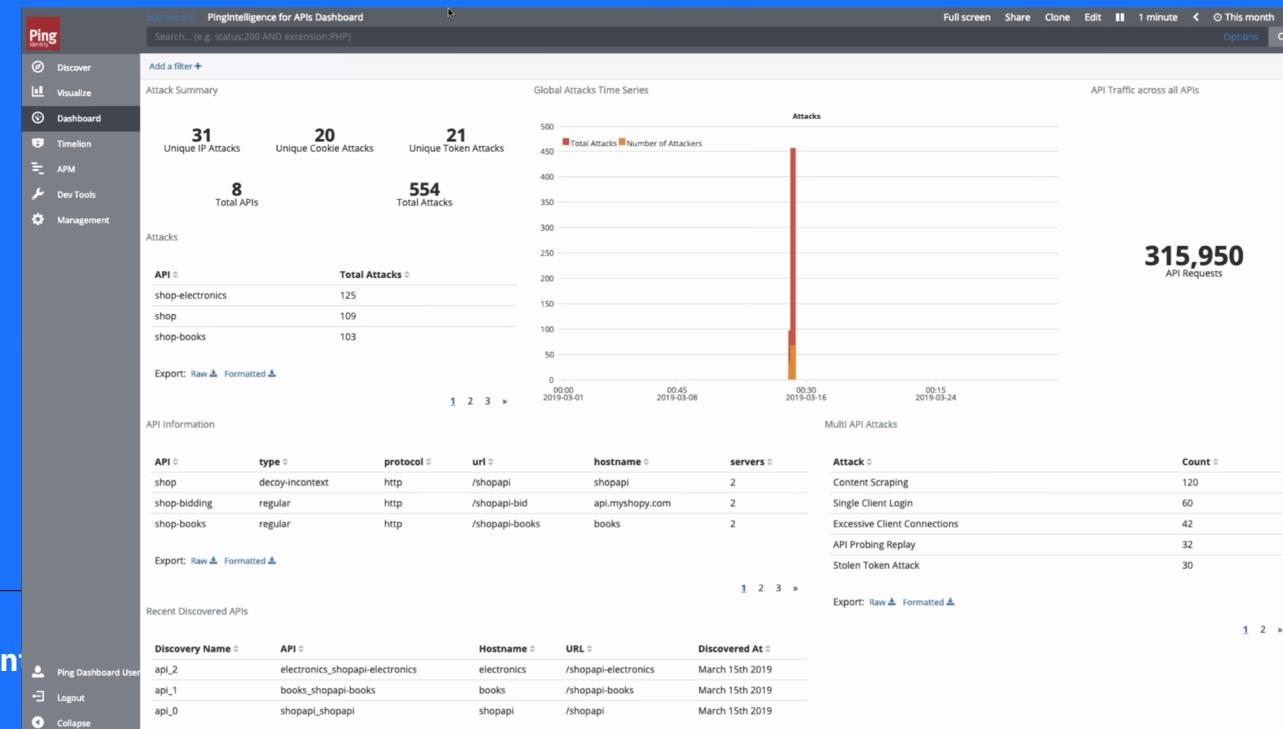
Sideband Architecture

- Datapower inline of API traffic
- Datapower makes the following calls:
 - Synchronous sideband API call to pass **Request** meta-data to **ASE** which responds with:
 - **OK** – send API request to App servers
 - **403** – block client request (or not)
 - Synch/Asynch sideband API call to pass **Response** meta-data to **ASE** which always responds with **OK**
- ASE works out-of-band with AI Engine to detect API attacks
 - **API meta-data** sent from each **ASE** node to **AI Engine** for attack detection and reporting
 - **AI Engine** updates black list when blocking is enabled

After the attack: forensics

IBM

- Repair damage
- Inform affected users
- Comply with regulations



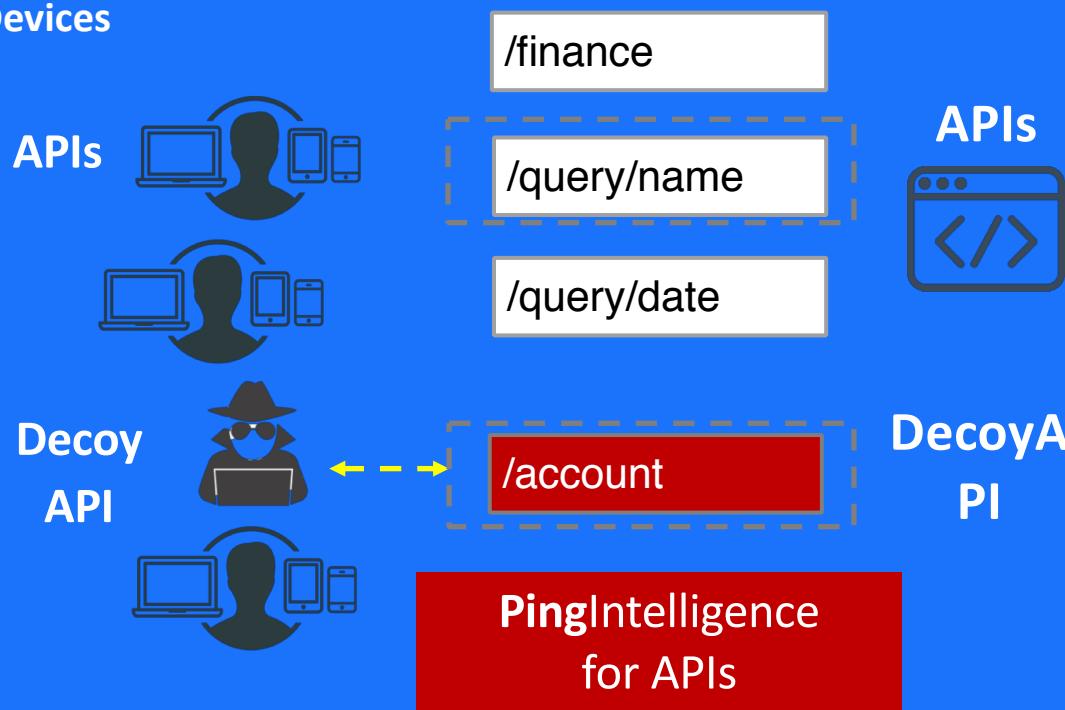
```
"details": {  
  "metrics": {  
    "token": "jk4278rjk98.3229.0dskjfdg6743kj",  
    "total_requests": 33,  
    "ip_list": [  
      {  
        "ip": "100.100.1.10",  
        "total_requests": 27,  
        ....  
      },  
      "methods": {  
        "PUT": 27  
      },  
      "urls": {  
        "/shopapi-bid/order": 27  
      },  
      "apis": {  
        "shop-bidding": 27  
      }  
    },  
    "ip": "100.100.21.21",  
    "total_requests": 6,  
    ....  
  }  
}
```

API Deceptions

Leverage Hacking Behaviors Against Attackers



Users and Devices



Instant Hacking Detection

1. Decoy APIs attract probing hackers
2. Source identified instantly
3. Blocks access to production APIs

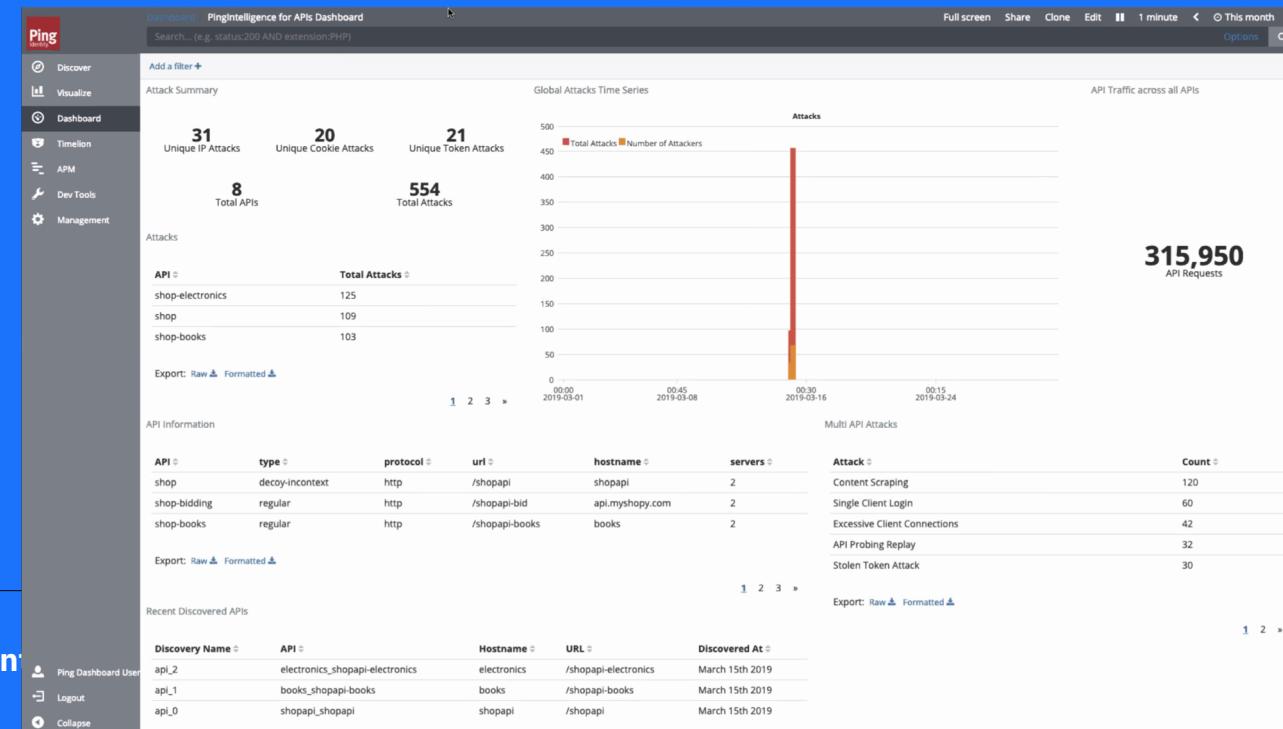
attack.stop();



After the attack: forensics

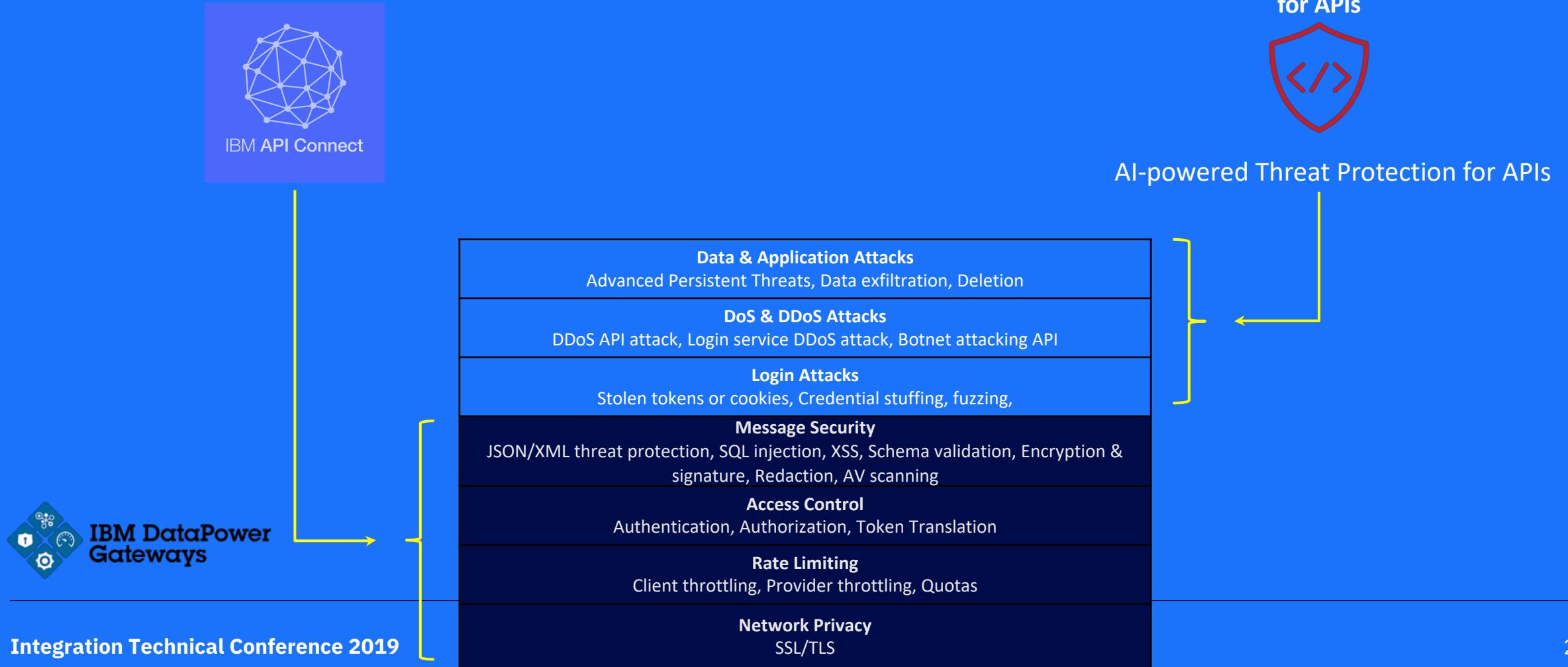
IBM

- Repair damage
- Inform affected users
- Comply with regulations



```
"details": {  
  "metrics": {  
    "token": "jk4278rjk98.3229.0dskjfdg6743kj",  
    "total_requests": 33,  
    "ip_list": [  
      {  
        "ip": "100.100.1.10",  
        "total_requests": 27,  
        ...  
      },  
      "methods": {  
        "PUT": 27  
      },  
      "urls": {  
        "/shopapi-bid/order": 27  
      },  
      "apis": {  
        "shop-bidding": 27  
      }  
    },  
    "ip": "100.100.21.21",  
    "total_requests": 6,  
    ...  
  }  
}
```

Comprehensive API Security with Ping and IBM



Kin lane, API evangelist



Evolving API Security Landscape white paper

- <https://www.pingidentity.com/en/resources/client-library/white-papers/2018/evolving-api-security-landscape.html>

Thank You

