

Enterprise API Management Platform - Architecture Diagrams & Component Interactions

1. REQUEST FLOW DIAGRAM (End-to-End)

CLIENT APPLICATION (Internal Service, Workflow Engine, CLI, etc.)

1. HTTP/gRPC Request

Headers: Authorization, X-Tenant-ID, Content-Type

GLOBAL CDN / DDoS Protection

(CloudFlare, AWS Shield)

- Rate limit (DDoS mitigation)

- Cache static content

- Redirect to nearest region

2. Forward to Regional Ingress LB

KUBERNETES INGRESS (NLB / ALB)

- TLS Termination

- Path-based routing

- Route to Kong Service

KONG DATA PLANE (Reverse Proxy)

Request Processing Pipeline

1. TLS Termination (1.3+)

└─ Extract client cert (if mTLS)

2. Tenant Context Extraction

└─ Parse X-Tenant-ID header

└─ Or extract from JWT claims

└─ Store in request context

3. Correlation ID Generation

└─ Generate or extract from X-Request-ID

└─ Add to all logs/traces

4. AUTHENTICATION (Kong Plugins)

└─ Validate API Key / OAuth2 / JWT / mTLS

└─ Check token expiry

- └─ Cache validation result (2 min TTL)
- └─ If invalid: Return 401 + Log to Kafka

5. AUTHORIZATION (RBAC/ABAC)

- └─ Check tenant access to route
- └─ Check user permissions
- └─ Attribute-based policy evaluation
- └─ If denied: Return 403 + Log violation

6. RATE LIMITING

- └─ Fetch current rate limit counter
- └─ Increment counter (distributed state)
- └─ Compare against configured limits
- └─ If exceeded: Return 429 + Retry-After
- └─ Log rate limit event to Kafka

7. REQUEST TRANSFORMATION

- └─ Add headers (X-User-ID, X-Tenant-ID)
- └─ Rewrite path if needed
- └─ Transform body (JSON ↔ XML)
- └─ Add metadata headers

8. WORKFLOW TRIGGER CHECK

- └─ Check if route matches any trigger
- └─ If match: Send trigger event to NATS
- └─ Attach X-Workflow-Execution-ID header
- └─ Continue request processing (async)

9. OBSERVABILITY HOOKS

- └─ Create OpenTelemetry span
- └─ Set span attributes (tenant, user, path)
- └─ Start request timer

10. LOAD BALANCING TO UPSTREAM SERVICE

- └─ Lookup service by route
- └─ Round-robin or least-connections
- └─ Use connection pool (keep-alive)
- └─ Set upstream service headers

3. Forward to Upstream Service

Headers: X-User-ID, X-Tenant-ID, X-Request-ID, X-Trace-ID

UPSTREAM SERVICE (Backend API)

- Process request
- Return response (200, 400, 500, etc.)

4. Response from Upstream

KONG DATA PLANE (Response Processing)

Response Processing Pipeline

1. Status Code Validation

- └─ Log response status

2. Response Transformation

- └─ Add security headers (HSTS, CSP, etc.)
- └─ Remove sensitive headers
- └─ Transform body if needed
- └─ Set cache-control headers

3. PII Masking

- └─ Detect & redact sensitive data
- └─ Log masked version to audit trail

4. Compression

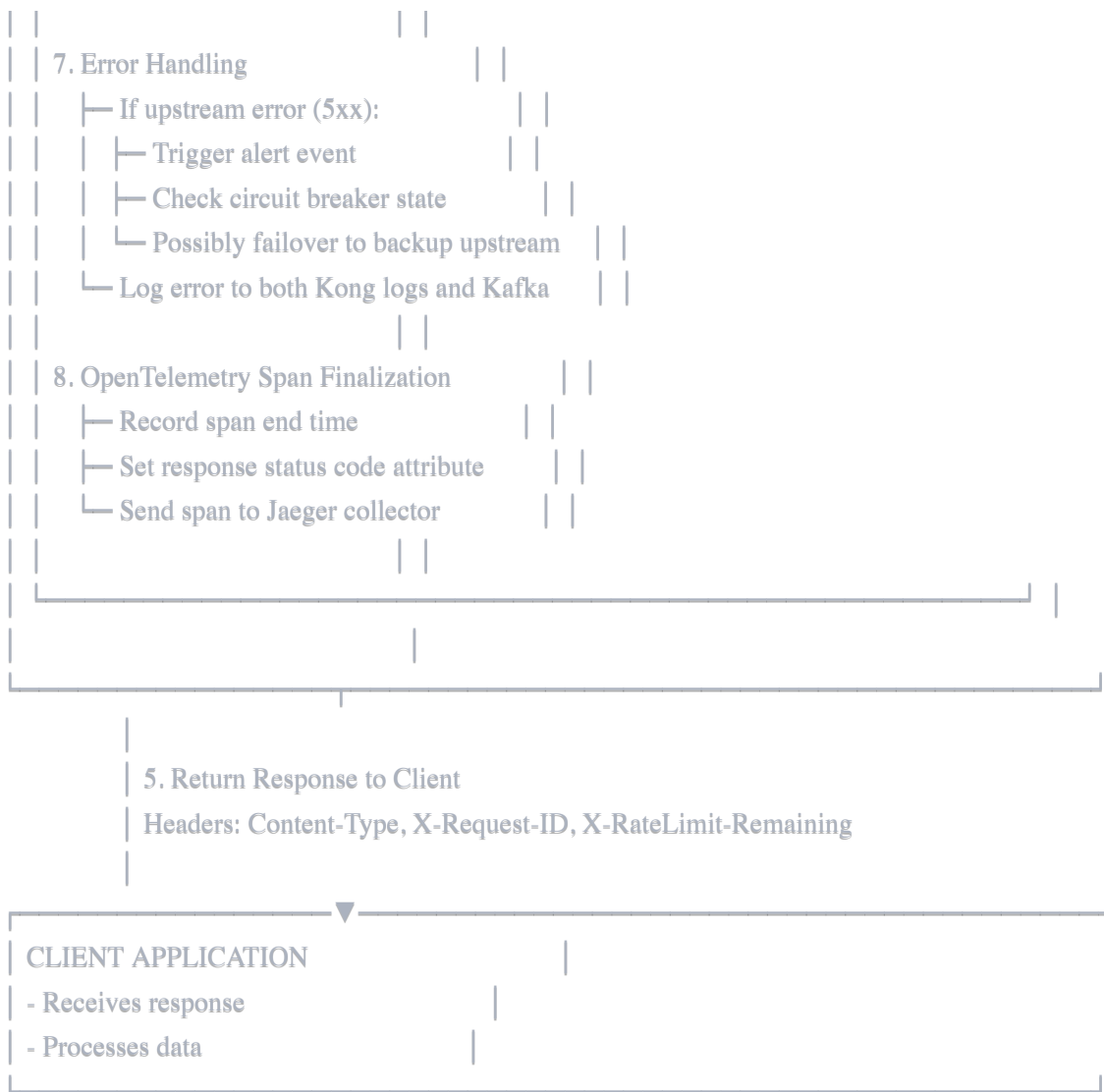
- └─ gzip or brotli compress
- └─ Add Content-Encoding header
- └─ Reduce response size

5. Metrics Recording

- └─ Stop request timer
- └─ Calculate latency percentiles
- └─ Record status code distribution
- └─ Update error counters if needed
- └─ Export to Prometheus /metrics endpoint

6. Audit Logging (Async)

- └─ Prepare structured log entry
- └─ Include: timestamp, tenant, user, path, method, status, latency
- └─ Send to Kafka topic (async, buffered)



BACKGROUND ASYNC OPERATIONS (Non-blocking):

- └─ Rate limit counter sync to distributed store (every 10-30 sec)
- └─ Workflow trigger event processing (NATS → Temporal)
- └─ Audit log batch write to Kafka (every 5-10 sec)
- └─ Metrics aggregation and export (every 10 sec)
- └─ Config cache refresh from control plane (every 30 sec)

2. ARCHITECTURE COMPONENT INTERACTIONS

KONG DATA PLANE (Stateless, Horizontal Scaling)

REQUEST → Authentication → Authorization → Rate Limiting →
Transformation → Logging → Upstream → Response

↓ Dependencies:

- Control Plane (Pull config every 30 sec)
- Vault (Fetch API keys/credentials, cache 1-5 min)
- Redis (Distributed rate limit state, TTL 1 min)
- Kafka (Send audit logs async)
- NATS (Receive config invalidation, send workflow triggers)
- Upstream Services (Route requests)
 - Circuit breaker: Fail fast if service down
(State: Last failure timestamp, trip status)

KONG CONTROL PLANE

Admin API:

- POST /services (Create API service)
- POST /routes (Create API endpoint)
- POST /plugins (Configure plugins)
- GET /config (Return current state)
- DELETE / PATCH (Modify entities)

↓ Storage:

- PostgreSQL HA (Primary + 2-3 replicas)
 - Synchronous replication (zero RPO)
 - Automatic failover via Patroni

↓ Integration:

- Data Plane: Pull changes (pull-based, no push load)
- Vault: Store credentials, fetch as needed
- Kafka: Publish config change events
- NATS: Broadcast invalidation signals

TEMPORAL WORKFLOW ENGINE

Workflow: Long-running business process

Activity: Individual step (can fail & retry)

Examples:

└─ Workflow: Process payment (validate → charge → notify)

└─ Activity: Call payment API (can timeout/fail)

└─ Automatic Retry: Exponential backoff up to max attempts

↓ Components:

└─ Frontend: gRPC endpoint for workflow clients

└─ History Service: Event store in PostgreSQL

└─ Matching Service: Task queue management

└─ Worker: Execute activities (custom code)

└─ Visibility Store: Query workflow state

↓ Integration:

└─ Kong: Receive trigger events (API call → workflow)

└─ NATS: Listen for signals (pause/resume/cancel)

└─ PostgreSQL: Persist workflow state

└─ Kafka: Log all workflow events (audit)

└─ Jaeger: Send traces for distributed tracing

KAFKA EVENT BUS (Global, Multi-Region)

Topics (Immutable Log Structure):

└─ api.audit-trail (Compacted)

└─ Producer: Kong data planes

└─ Consumer: Analytics, Compliance archiver

└─ Retention: 2 years (immutable audit log)

└─ Partition Key: tenant_id (co-locate tenant events)

└─ api.events (High-volume, workflow triggers)

└─ Producer: Kong plugins, 3rd-party adapters

└─ Consumer: Temporal trigger consumer, Alerting

└─ Retention: 7 days

└─ Partition Key: tenant_id, event_type

└─ third-party.interactions (3rd-party API calls)

└─ Producer: Kong outbound proxy plugin

└─ Consumer: Analytics, Monitoring

└─ Retention: 30 days

└─ Partition Key: tenant_id, service_name

└─ api.config-changes (Control plane events)

└─ Producer: Kong control plane

└─ Consumer: Data planes (pull trigger), Audit

└─ Retention: 30 days

└─ Partition Key: tenant_id

↓ Replication:

└─ Multi-region: Replication factor 2-3 across regions

└─ Failover: Broker loss tolerance = replication - 1

NATS JETSTREAM (Local Per-Region, Low-Latency)

Subjects (Stream Subjects):

- └─ workflow.triggers.{tenant_id}

- └─ Producer: Kong when API matches trigger rule

- └─ Consumer: Temporal (subscribe to trigger events)

- └─ Latency: Sub-millisecond

- └─ workflow.signals.{tenant_id}

- └─ Producer: External systems, APIs

- └─ Consumer: Temporal (send signal to workflow)

- └─ Use case: Approve/reject workflow manually

- └─ config.invalidations

- └─ Producer: Kong control plane (config changed)

- └─ Consumer: All Kong data planes (broadcast)

- └─ Action: Purge local cache, fetch fresh config

- └─ Delivery: Exactly-once guarantees

- └─ health.heartbeats

- └─ Producer: All services (every 30 sec)

- └─ Consumer: Monitoring/alerting system

- └─ Action: Detect service failures in <10 sec

↓ Multi-Tenancy:

- └─ Subjects scoped per tenant → No cross-tenant leakage

- └─ Subjects: workflow.triggers.tenant-123

- └─ Authorization: JWT-based per-tenant

- └─ Isolation: Complete (no way to access other tenants)

VAULT (Secrets Management)

Secret Types:

└─ API Keys (for 3rd-party services)

└─ Path: secret/data/3rdparty/{service}/{api_key}

└─ Rotation: Every 30-90 days

└─ Accessed by: Kong plugins (via HTTP API)

└─ Cache: 5 minutes in-memory

└─ OAuth Secrets

└─ Path: secret/data/oauth/{provider}/{client_secret}

└─ Accessed by: OAuth2 plugin

└─ mTLS Certificates

└─ Path: secret/data/certs/{service}/{cert_pem}

└─ Rotation: Automatic via cert-manager (1 week before)

└─ Cached: In Kong worker memory

└─ Database Credentials

└─ Path: secret/data/db/{environment}/{role}

└─ Rotation: Every 30 days

↓ High Availability:

└─ 5-node HA cluster (Raft consensus)

└─ Automatic failover

└─ Encrypted storage (KMS + encryption at rest)

└─ Backup: Daily snapshots to S3 (encrypted)

↓ Audit:

└─ All secret access logged with: who, what, when, result

POSTGRESQL (Operational State Store)

Tables:

└─ workspaces (Tenant definitions)

└─ id, name, description, created_at

└─ Used for multi-tenancy isolation

└─ rbac_roles (Permission definitions)

└─ admin, operator, developer, viewer, custom

└─ Assigned to users per workspace

└─ services (API backend definitions)

└─ name, url, protocol, health_check_url

└─ Partitioned by workspace_id

└─ Referenced by routes

└─ routes (API endpoints exposed to clients)

└─ name, service_id, path, methods, hosts

└─ upstream_url, transformations

└─ Indexed by: workspace_id, path, method

└─ Returns by GET /api/routes?workspace=X

└─ plugins (Functionality extensions)

└─ name (auth, ratelimit, transform, etc.)

└─ service_id or route_id (applies to which entity)

└─ config (JSON) - plugin-specific settings

└─ enabled (boolean)

└─ rate_limiting_policies (Traffic control)

└─ workspace_id, route_id, user_id (optional)

└─ limit (e.g., 1000 requests)

└─ window (e.g., 1 hour)

└─ algorithm (sliding window, token bucket)

└─ Cached in Redis for performance

└─ audit_logs (Immutable change log)

└─ timestamp, user_id, action, entity_type, entity_id

└─ before, after (JSON snapshots)

└─ Partitioned by (workspace_id, date)

└─ Immutable: INSERT only, no DELETE

└─ TTL-based purging (default 2 years)

	└─ api_calls (Request audit trail)	
	└─ timestamp, tenant_id, user_id, method, path	
	└─ status_code, latency_ms, upstream_url	
	└─ error_message (if any), response_size	
	└─ Partitioned by (tenant_id, date)	
	└─ Sampled logging (100% errors, 1% success)	
	└─ TTL-based purging (default 90 days)	
	└─ workflow_triggers (Event → Workflow mappings)	
	└─ workspace_id, route_id, event_type	
	└─ workflow_name, workflow_input (JSON template)	
	└─ enabled (boolean)	
	└─ Created via UI/API	
	↓ High Availability:	
	└─ Primary + 2-3 Replicas	
	└─ Synchronous replication (zero RPO)	
	└─ Automatic failover via Patroni	
	└─ WAL archiving to S3 (point-in-time recovery)	
	└─ Daily snapshots (backed up to S3)	

3. MULTI-TENANT ISOLATION FLOW

REQUEST ARRIVES WITH TENANT CONTEXT



TENANT EXTRACTION (Priority Order)

1. X-Tenant-ID Header

└─ Explicit tenant ID from client

2. JWT Claims

└─ Extract tenant from JWT token (exp: tenant_id)

3. Host Header (Subdomain)

└─ {tenant-id}.api.example.com → tenant-id

4. API Key Lookup

└─ Query DB: API key → workspace_id

5. mTLS Certificate Subject

└─ Extract tenant from cert CN or SAN



STORE TENANT IN REQUEST CONTEXT

```
context.tenant_id = "tenant-123"
```

```
context.workspace_id = 42
```

ALL DOWNSTREAM OPERATIONS USE THIS CONTEXT



DATA PLANE OPERATIONS (All Tenant-Scoped)

1. Authentication

└─ Validate creds belong to tenant

2. Authorization

└─ Query RBAC: user_id + tenant_id → permissions

3. Route Resolution

- └─ SELECT * FROM routes WHERE workspace_id = 42

4. Rate Limiting

- └─ KEY = "tenant-123:user-id:endpoint" in Redis

5. Logging

- └─ Write to Kafka: {tenant_id: "tenant-123", ...}

- └─ Partition by tenant_id (co-locate events)



RESPONSE PHASE (Tenant Context Preserved)

1. Add Response Headers

- └─ X-Tenant-ID: tenant-123 (for client audit)

2. Log Response

- └─ Include tenant_id in all logs

3. Send to Kafka

- └─ Partition: tenant-123 (keeps logs together)

- └─ Consumer sees only tenant's logs

4. Trigger Workflow (If Applicable)

- └─ NATS subject: workflow.triggers.tenant-123
(tenant-scoped visibility)

KEY ISOLATION PRINCIPLES:

- └─ Tenant ID in all queries (no global scope access)
- └─ Kafka partitioned by tenant_id (co-location)
- └─ NATS subjects scoped per tenant (ACL-enforced)
- └─ RBAC enforces cross-tenant access denial
- └─ Row-level security in DB (tenant_id filter)
- └─ Audit logs capture all cross-boundary attempts

4. WORKFLOW INTEGRATION FLOW

API REQUEST ARRIVES AT KONG



WORKFLOW TRIGGER PLUGIN (In Kong Chain)

if route.id matches workflow_trigger rule:

{

 workflow_name: "process_payment"

 tenant_id: extract_from_request()

 input: {

 user_id: request.user_id,

 amount: request.body.amount,

 currency: request.body.currency

 }

}



TRIGGER EVENT PUBLISHED TO NATS

(Async, non-blocking)

Subject: workflow.triggers.tenant-123

Message: {

 workflow_name: "process_payment",

 workflow_id: "uuid-generated",

 tenant_id: "tenant-123",

 input: {...},

 api_call_id: "request-id-from-header"

}



ADD TO RESPONSE HEADERS

X-Workflow-Execution-ID: uuid-generated

X-Workflow-Status-Endpoint: /workflow/status/{uuid}

Client can poll for workflow status



REQUEST CONTINUES TO UPSTREAM (Doesn't Wait)

Response is returned to client

Workflow executes in parallel

▼ (Async, parallel execution)



KONG/CLIENT | TEMPORAL WORKFLOW EXECUTION

CONTINUES | (Separate thread/process)

Returns 200 | Workflow: process_payment

Response

Steps:

1. Validate input (Activity)

2. Call payment gateway (Activity)

3. Log transaction (Activity)

4. Send confirmation (Activity)

Automatic Retries:

└─ Transient failures: Exp backoff

└─ Service unavailable: Retry up to 3x

└─ Permanent failures: Alert operator

State Persistence:

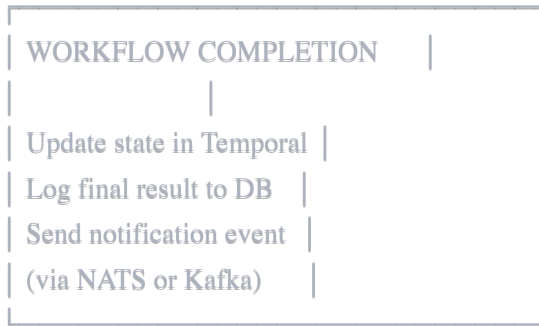
└─ Events logged to PostgreSQL

(can replay from last known state)

Audit Trail:

└─ Each activity logged to Kafka

(workflow.events topic)



CLIENT CAN QUERY WORKFLOW STATUS:

- GET /api/workflows/{execution_id}
- Returns: current_step, status, progress, last_update
- Webhook callback available (when workflow completes)

5. THIRD-PARTY API INTEGRATION FLOW

INTERNAL SERVICE NEEDS TO CALL 3RD-PARTY API



SERVICE CALLS KONG OUTBOUND PROXY

POST /outbound/3rdparty/stripe/charges

```
{  
  "internal_api_key": "xxx",  
  "request_body": {...},  
  "tenant_id": "tenant-123"  
}
```



KONG OUTBOUND PROXY PLUGIN

1. AUTHENTICATE INTERNAL CALLER

- └ Verify internal_api_key
(can be service-to-service mTLS)

2. FETCH 3RD-PARTY CREDENTIALS FROM VAULT

- └ Service account: Kong process
- └ Path: secret/data/3rdparty/stripe/api_key
- └ Cache: 5 min in memory

3. PREPARE REQUEST TO 3RD-PARTY

- └ Add Stripe API key to header
- └ Add correlation ID for tracing
- └ Add X-Tenant-ID for logging
- └ Validate request against schema



CIRCUIT BREAKER LOGIC

Check State:

- └ CLOSED: Normal operation. forward request

— OPEN: Service down, return cached error

— HALF_OPEN: Testing if recovered

Thresholds:

— Failure rate > 50% for 30 sec → OPEN

— Timeout > 5 sec (3 consecutive) → OPEN

— Recovery test every 60 sec → HALF_OPEN

▼ (If not open)

CALL 3RD-PARTY SERVICE

HTTP POST <https://api.stripe.com/v1/charges>

Headers:

Authorization: Bearer {api_key_from_vault}

X-Correlation-ID: {from_request}

X-Tenant-ID: tenant-123

X-Request-Timeout: 5s

With Timeout:

— 5 second timeout (fail fast)



RESPONSE HANDLING

2xx (Success):

— Update circuit breaker (success)

— Cache successful response (if applicable)

— Log to Kafka topic: third-party.interactions

4xx (Client Error):

— Return error to caller (bad request)

— Log for debugging (alert if suspicious)

— Circuit breaker: Don't penalize (client issue)

5xx (Service Error):

— Increment failure counter

— Check circuit breaker state

— If failures > threshold → OPEN circuit

- └─ Retry logic (with exponential backoff)

- └─ Retry 1: Wait 100ms

- └─ Retry 2: Wait 200ms

- └─ Retry 3: Wait 400ms

- └─ If all retries fail → Return error

Timeout:

- └─ Treat as service error

- └─ Increment failure counter

- └─ Retry with backoff

- └─ Circuit breaker may open if too many



LOG TO KAFKA (Async)

Topic: third-party.interactions

Partition Key: tenant_id + service_name

Message:

{

timestamp: ISO8601,

tenant_id: "tenant-123",

service: "stripe",

method: "POST",

endpoint: "/v1/charges",

request_id: "req-xxx",

status_code: 200,

latency_ms: 234,

request_size: 512,

response_size: 2048,

error_code: null,

circuit_breaker_state: "CLOSED"

}

Consumers:

- └─ Analytics: Aggregate metrics per service

- └─ Monitoring: Alert on high failure rates

- └─ Billing: Track API usage for chargeback

- └─ Audit: Immutable record for compliance



RETURN RESPONSE TO CALLER

HTTP 200 OK

```
{  
  "status": "success",  
  "data": {...}, (3rd-party response)  
  "correlation_id": "req-xxx"  
}
```

Or on failure:

HTTP 502 Bad Gateway / 503 Service Unavailable

```
{  
  "error": "3rd-party service unavailable",  
  "correlation_id": "req-xxx",  
  "retry_after": 60 (seconds)  
}
```

6. SCALABILITY FLOW (Auto-Scaling in Action)

TIME: 10:00 AM - BASELINE LOAD

- |
- └─ Kong Data Plane: 3 nodes (1 per AZ)
- └─ CPU usage: ~40% per node
- └─ Memory: ~200MB per node
- └─ Status: Healthy

TIME: 10:15 AM - TRAFFIC SPIKE DETECTED

- |
- └─ Requests/sec jump from 5K to 12K
- └─ CPU usage rises to 75% on all nodes
- └─ Memory usage increases to ~400MB
- |
- └─ HPA (Horizontal Pod Autoscaler) triggered:
 - └─ Threshold: CPU > 70% for 30 sec
 - └─ Action: Scale from 3 → 6 replicas

TIME: 10:18 AM - KUBERNETES SCALING

- |
- └─ Cluster Autoscaler checks available capacity
- |
- └─ Scenario 1: Capacity available on existing nodes
 - └─ Deploy pods to free slots (1-2 sec)
- |
- └─ Scenario 2: No available capacity
 - └─ Trigger cluster autoscaler:
 - └─ Request new worker node from cloud
 - └─ AWS/GCP: Provision takes 1-2 minutes
 - └─ KEDA: Scale based on Kafka lag (if applicable)

TIME: 10:20 AM - STEADY STATE AT HIGH LOAD

- |
- └─ Kong Data Plane: 6 nodes (+ extras may be provisioning)
- └─ CPU usage: ~45% per node (balanced across 6)
- └─ Memory: ~250MB per node
- └─ Requests distributed evenly (load balancer)
- └─ Status: Healthy, fully scaled

TIME: 10:35 AM - TRAFFIC SUBSIDES

- |
- └─ Requests/sec drops back to 6K
- └─ CPU usage: ~35% per node
- └─ HPA scale-down: Enabled after 5 min of low CPU
- |

- |
- └─ Action: Scale from 6 → 4 replicas
 - └─ Wait for graceful termination (30 sec drain)
 - └─ Existing requests complete
 - └─ Pods drain connections

TIME: 10:40 AM - BACK TO BASELINE

- |
- └─ Kong Data Plane: 4 nodes (consolidating)
- └─ Cluster Autoscaler: May remove excess node (5 min delay)
- └─ CPU usage: ~40% per node
- └─ Status: Normal

SCALING METRICS:

- └─ CPU Utilization: 40-80% target range
- └─ Memory Usage: 200-500MB per node
- └─ Kafka Consumer Lag: <10 sec (for event processing)
- └─ Request Latency (p99): <500ms
- └─ Error Rate: <0.1%

AUTOSCALING CONFIGURATION:

- |
- └─ HPA Min Replicas: 3 (HA requirement)
- └─ HPA Max Replicas: 50 (cost control)
- └─ CPU Threshold: 70%
- └─ Memory Threshold: 80%
- └─ Scale-up delay: 30 sec
- └─ Scale-down delay: 5 min
- └─ KEDA enabled: YES (for Kafka lag-based scaling)
- └─ Graceful termination period: 30 sec

7. OBSERVABILITY INTEGRATION MAP

KONG DATA PLANE

(Every request passes through here)



Prometheus

Metrics

/metrics

OpenTelemetry

Tracing

/traces

Kafka

Logs

Topics

Jaeger

Traces

Collector

Observability Stack (Central Region)

Prometheus Server (HA)

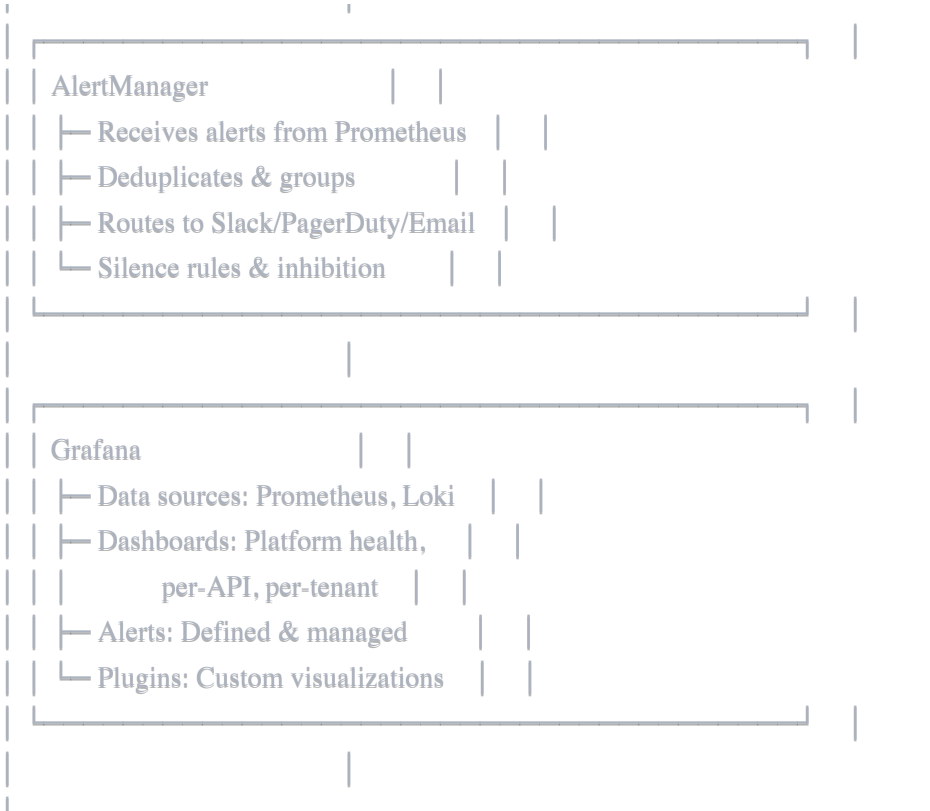
- Scrapes metrics every 15 sec
- Retention: 15 days hot
- Remote storage: Thanos (long-term)
- Queries: Grafana dashboards

Jaeger (Distributed Tracing)

- Collector: Receives spans
- Query Service: UI for traces
- Storage: Elasticsearch
- Sampling: 1-10% + 100% on errors

ELK Stack (Log Aggregation)

- Elasticsearch: Indexed storage
- Logstash: Log parsing
- Kibana: UI + dashboards
- Retention: 90 days hot, 2y cold



METRIC EXAMPLES (Exported by Kong):

- └─ http_requests_total{method="POST", path="/api/users", status="200", tenant="tenant-123"}
- └─ http_request_duration_seconds{quantile="0.99", path="/api/users"}
- └─ kong_upstream_target_health{upstream="backend-service", target="10.0.1.5:8080", state="up"}
- └─ rate_limit_check_duration_seconds (custom)
- └─ auth_token_validation_duration_seconds (custom)

TRACE EXAMPLES (Sent to Jaeger):

- └─ Trace: 4a2c461b1d6a3b5e
 - └─ Span 1: Kong Request Processing (10ms)
 - └─ Event: TLS Handshake (2ms)
 - └─ Event: Auth Plugin (1ms)
 - └─ Event: Rate Limit Check (0.5ms)
 - └─ Event: Route Resolution (0.1ms)
 - └─ Span 2: Upstream Service Call (45ms)
 - └─ Event: DNS Lookup (1ms) [if needed]
 - └─ Event: Connect (2ms)
 - └─ Event: Request/Response (42ms)
 - └─ Span 3: Kong Response Processing (5ms)
 - └─ Event: Transformation (2ms)
 - └─ Event: Logging (3ms)
- Total Trace: 60ms (visible in Jaeger UI)

LOG EXAMPLES (Sent to ELK):

- └─ {timestamp: "2025-10-22T14:30:15Z", tenant: "tenant-123", user: "user-456", method: "POST", path: "/api/payments", status: 200, latency_ms: 234, request_id: "req-abc"}
- └─ {timestamp: "2025-10-22T14:30:20Z", tenant: "tenant-123", error: "Rate limit exceeded", limit: 1000, window: "1h"}
- └─ {timestamp: "2025-10-22T14:30:25Z", tenant: "tenant-123", auth_error: "Invalid API key"}

ALERT EXAMPLES (Triggered from Prometheus):

- └─ CRITICAL: Kong Data Plane Down
 - └─ Condition: No nodes responding for 1+ min
- └─ WARNING: High Error Rate
 - └─ Condition: Error rate > 1% for 5 min
- └─ CRITICAL: P99 Latency High
 - └─ Condition: p99 latency > 500ms for 5 min
- └─ WARNING: Kafka Lag High
 - └─ Condition: Consumer lag > 10K messages
- └─ INFO: Scaling Event
 - └─ Triggered: 6 nodes (up from 3)

8. FAILOVER & DISASTER RECOVERY FLOW

SCENARIO 1: SINGLE DATA PLANE NODE FAILURE

- |
- | — 10:15 AM: Node crashes (OOM, kernel panic, etc.)
- |
- | — Detection (K8s)
 - | — Liveness probe fails (3 consecutive failures)
 - | — Latency: ~30 seconds
- |
- | — Action (K8s)
 - | — Mark pod as "Not Ready"
 - | — Load balancer removes from target group
 - | — Pod evicted
 - | — Replica set spawns new pod on different node
- |
- | — Recovery
 - | — New pod starts (~10 sec)
 - | — Rejoins load balancer (~5 sec)
 - | — RTO: ~45 seconds total
 - | — Data loss: ZERO (stateless data plane)
- |
- | — Impact: Minimal (traffic distributed to other 4 nodes)

SCENARIO 2: ENTIRE KUBERNETES CLUSTER FAILURE (Regional)

- |
- | — 10:15 AM: Cluster networking failure
 - | — etcd cluster becomes unavailable
- |
- | — Detection
 - | — Multiple services report high latency
 - | — Prometheus scrapers timeout
 - | — Alerting: Critical alert fires
- |
- | — Action (Manual or Automatic)
 - | — Automatic: DNS failover to secondary region
 - | — Manual: Update Route 53 to secondary region
 - | — Latency: 30-60 sec (TTL propagation)
- |
- | — Secondary Region Activation
 - | — Kong data planes in secondary region already running
 - | — PostgreSQL: Promote secondary replica to primary
 - | — Current replication lag: <100ms
 - | — Data loss: Zero to minimal
 - | — Promotion time: ~30 sec

- └ Temporal: Workflow state in replicated DB
 - └ Workflows resume from last persisted state
- └ Kafka: Multi-region replication (RF=2)
 - └ Secondary cluster already has events

└ Recovery Steps

- └ 1. Detect primary region unavailable (2 min)
- └ 2. DNS failover to secondary (1 min)
- └ 3. Promote secondary DB (1 min)
- └ 4. Validate secondary region health (1 min)
- └ Total RTO: ~5 minutes

└ Data Consistency

- └ In-flight requests: May be lost (acceptable)
- └ Persisted state: Recovered from replicas
- └ Workflows: Replay from last committed state
- └ RPO: <5 minutes (sync replication to secondary)

└ Post-Recovery

- └ Investigate root cause (human)
- └ Restore primary region (if applicable)
- └ Failback to primary (planned)

SCENARIO 3: POSTGRESQL PRIMARY FAILURE

- └ 10:15 AM: Primary DB becomes unavailable
- └ Detection (Patroni)
 - └ Replica loses connection to primary
 - └ Quorum broken (can't reach primary)
 - └ Latency: ~10 seconds
- └ Automatic Failover (Patroni)
 - └ Quorum elects best replica as new primary
 - └ Promotion: Secondary → Primary (with standby)
 - └ TTL: <30 seconds
 - └ Write operations resume on new primary
- └ Impact
 - └ Read operations: Minimal impact (secondary already handling)
 - └ Write operations: Brief pause (<30 sec)

- | — In-flight transactions: May roll back
- | — Data loss: Zero (synchronous replication)
- |
- └ Post-Failover
 - | — Verify replication to remaining secondaries
 - | — Spin up new standby (from backup or rebuild)
 - └ Update Route 53 (already updated by Patroni)

SCENARIO 4: KAFKA BROKER FAILURE

- |
- | — 10:15 AM: Kafka broker 2/3 fails
- |
- | — Kafka Cluster State
 - | — Cluster: 3 brokers (RF=3 by default)
 - | — Leader election: New broker elected
 - | — Replication: Continues on healthy brokers
 - └ Latency: ~5 seconds (Zookeeper/KRaft election)
- |
- | — Impact
 - | — Audit logs: Continue writing to other brokers
 - | — Event stream: No data loss (RF=3)
 - | — Producers: May see increased latency
 - └ Consumers: No impact
- |
- | — Recovery
 - | — Identify failed broker
 - | — Replace/restart broker
 - | — Wait for replication catch-up (5-30 min depending on backlog)
 - └ RTO: <5 min to regain full capacity
- |
- └ Data Protection
 - └ Backups: Daily snapshots to S3 (cross-region)
 - └ Can restore entire cluster if needed

DISASTER RECOVERY PROCEDURES:

- |
- | — Backup Strategy
 - | — PostgreSQL: Daily snapshot to S3 (cross-region)
 - | — Kafka: Replication RF=2-3 (no explicit backups needed)
 - | — Vault: Daily snapshots encrypted to S3
 - └ Recovery: Can restore to any point in time
- |

- └─ RPO (Recovery Point Objective)
 - | └─ PostgreSQL: <5 min (sync replication)
 - | └─ Kafka: Real-time (3 replicas)
 - | └─ Configuration: <30 sec (config caching)
 - | └─ Audit logs: <1 sec (buffered writes)
- |
- └─ RTO (Recovery Time Objective)
 - | └─ Data plane failure: <1 min (auto-recovery)
 - | └─ Regional failure: <5 min (DNS + promotion)
 - | └─ Database failure: <1 min (Patroni promotion)
 - | └─ Full cluster rebuild: <30 min (from backups)
- |
- └─ Testing & Validation
 - | └─ Quarterly: Run full DR simulation
 - | └─ Monthly: Test individual component failure
 - | └─ After deploy: Chaos engineering tests
 - | └─ Monthly: Backup restoration test

End of Architecture Diagrams Document

This document provides visual flows and detailed component interactions to complement the main architectural documentation.