



# Service Proxy, API Gateway, Service Mesh

What's the difference?  
What do I need?

Ahmet Soormally, Carol Cheung



KubeCon



CloudNativeCon

North America 2023

WHAT'S TO COME

# Intro

01

## The rise of microservices

and the challenges they bring

02

## Service proxy

What is it? How is it used? Deployment topologies

03

## Service mesh

What is it and how is it used? Deployment topologies

04

## API gateway

What is it and how is it used? Deployment topologies

05

## Summary

What's the difference? What do I need?



WELCOME

# Speakers



**Ahmet Soormally**

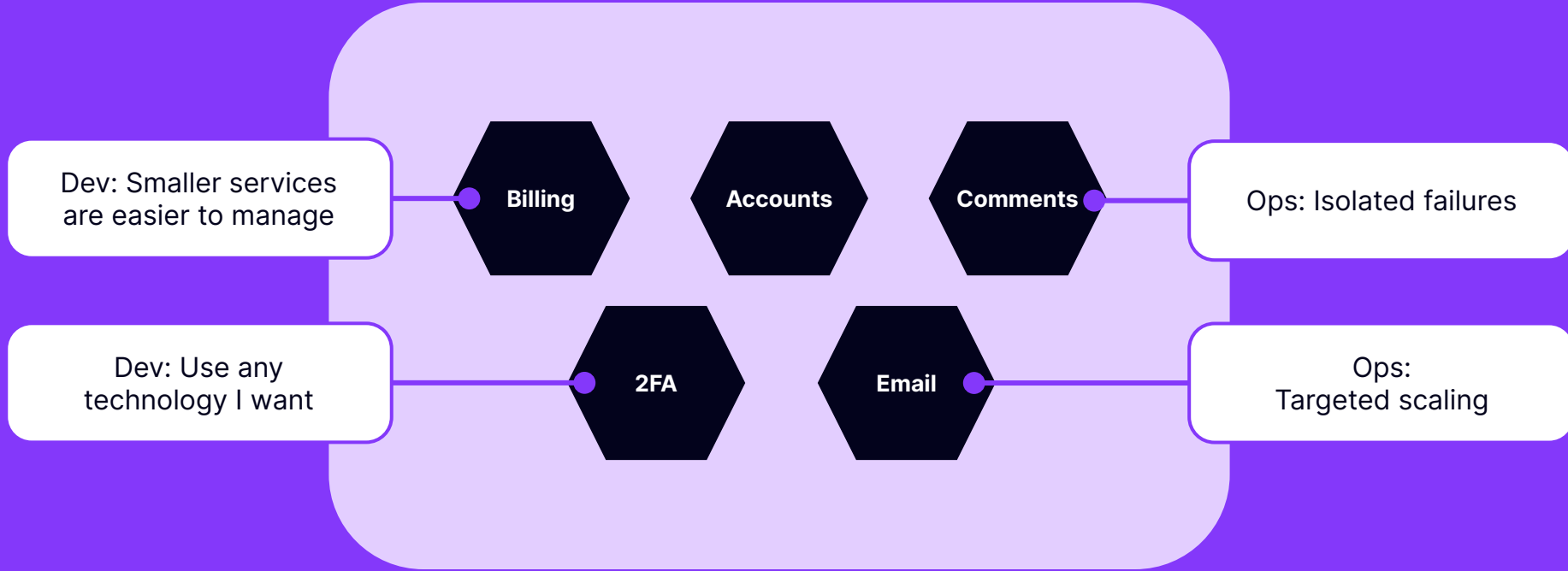
Head of R&D,  
*Tyk Technologies*



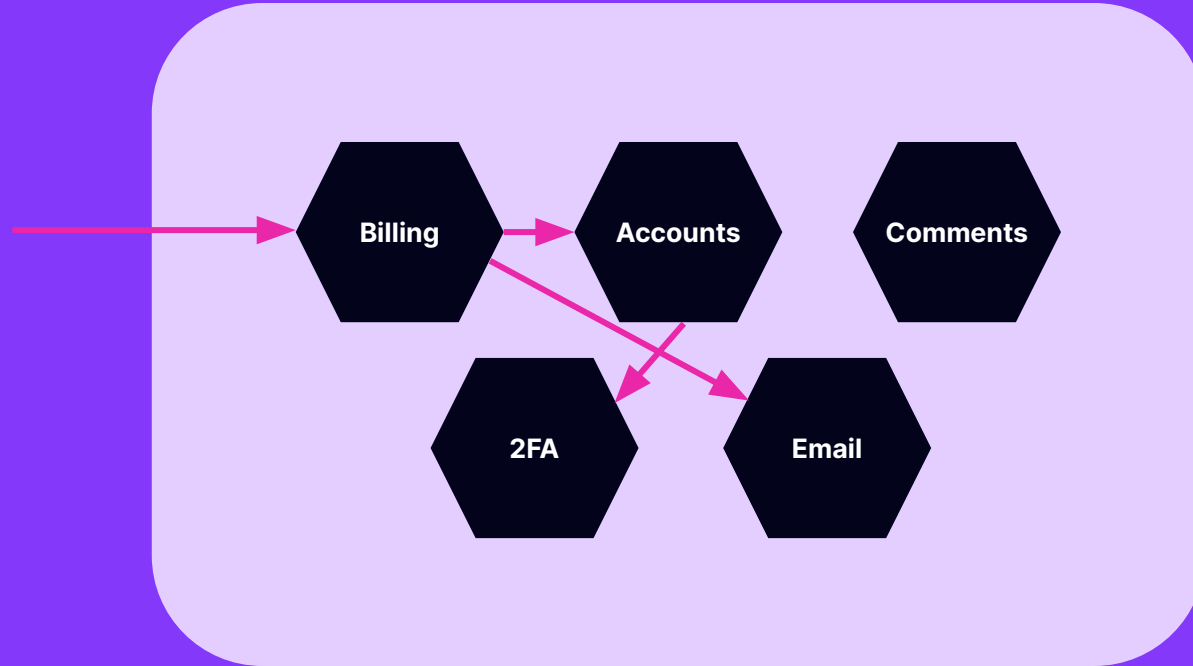
**Carol Cheung**

Senior Product  
Manager -  
Platform & Ops,  
*Tyk Technologies*

# The **rise** of microservices



# The rise of **microservices**



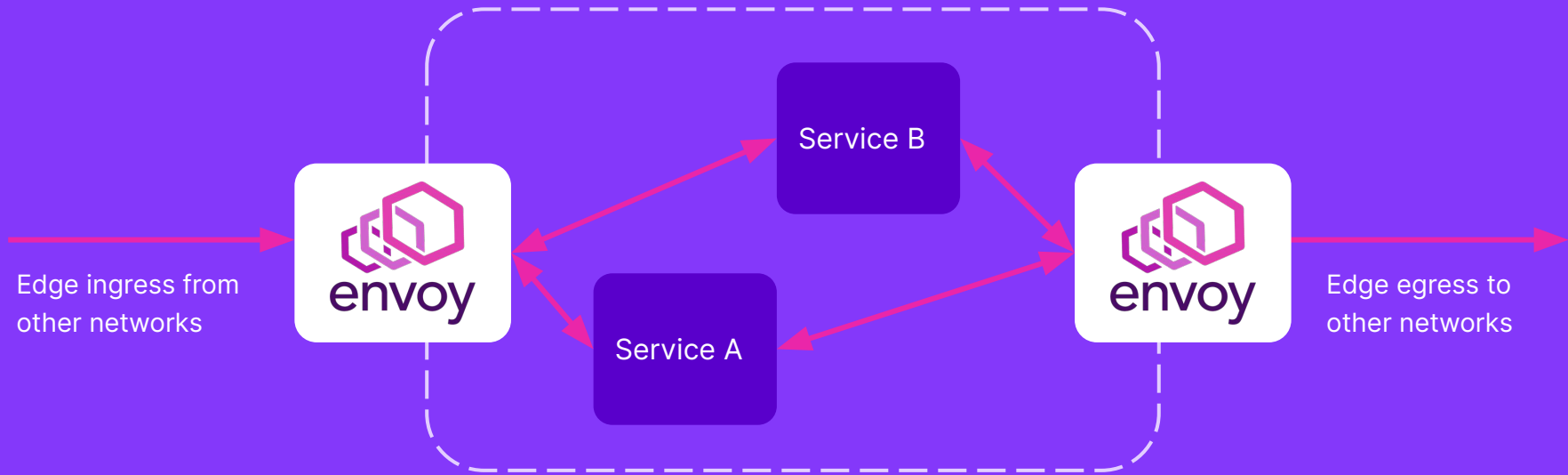
- Increased number of microservices
- Increased number of service to service communications
- Network communication is unreliable, takes time, and susceptible to attack

# Service proxy

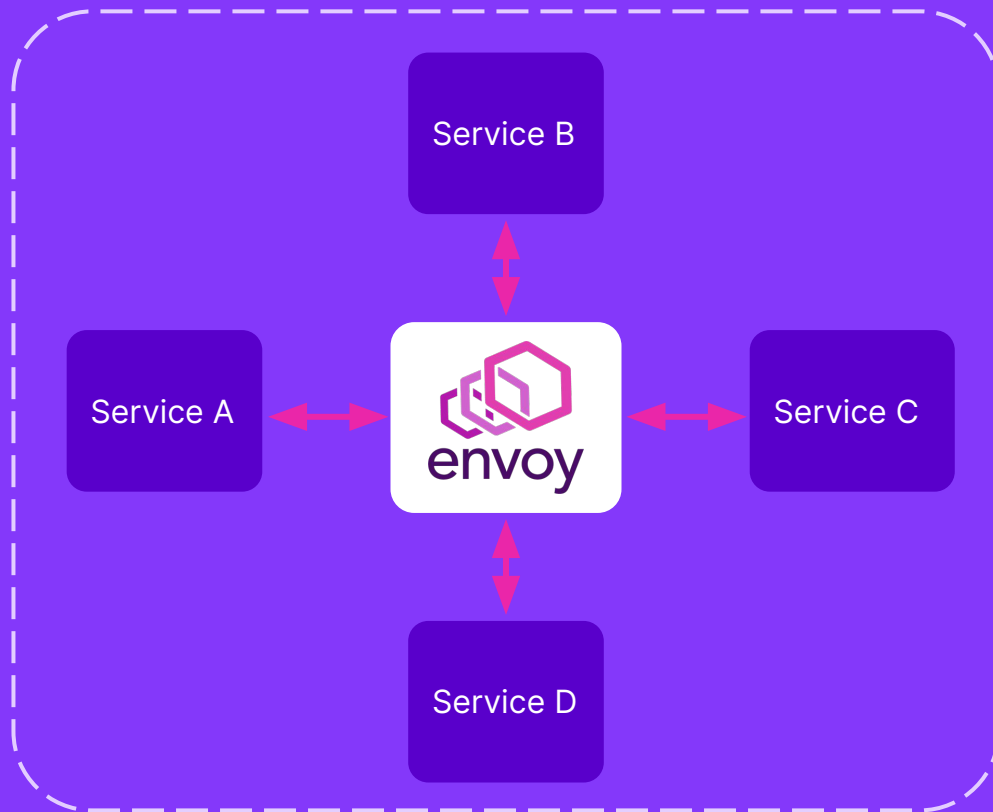
A **service proxy** intercepts traffic to or from a given service, applies some logic to it, then forwards that traffic to another service. It essentially acts as a **"go-between"** that collects information about network traffic and/or applies rules to it.



# Ingress/egress reverse proxy

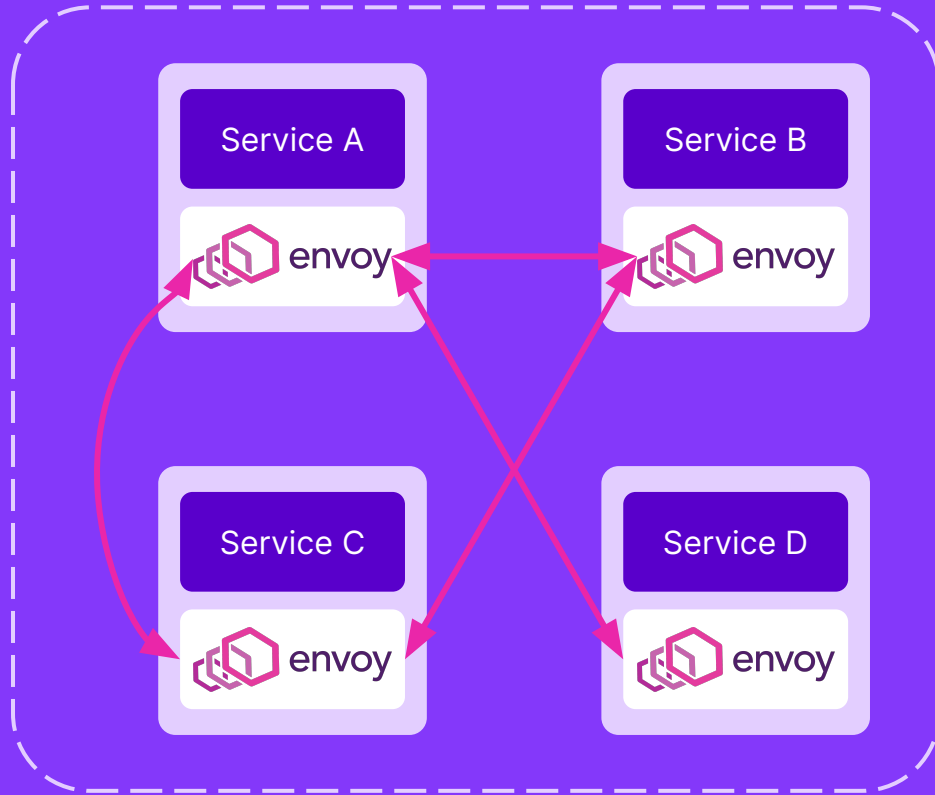


# Internal load balancer



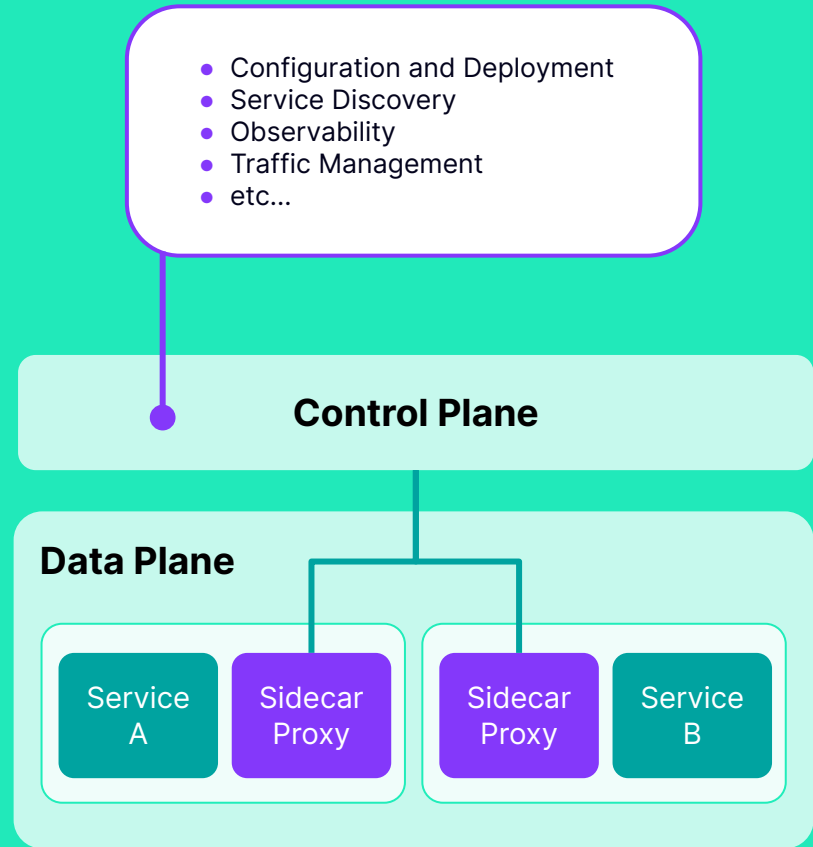


# Sidecar proxy



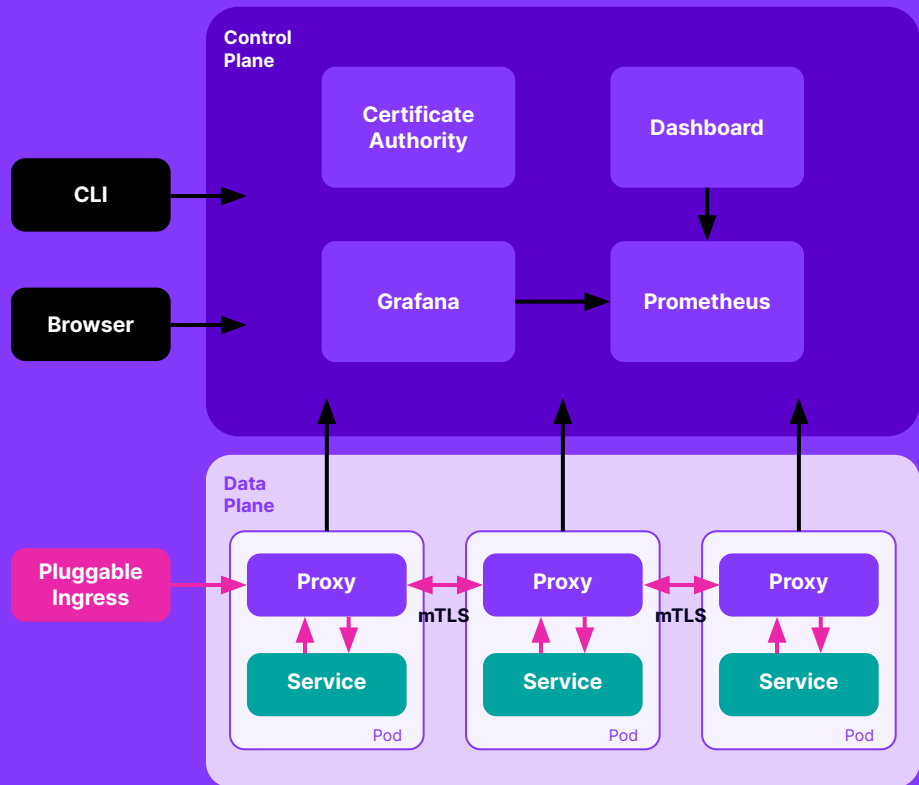
# Service mesh

**Service meshes** manage traffic (i.e. communication) between services. They enable platform teams to add reliability, observability, and security features **uniformly** across all services running within a cluster without requiring any code changes.

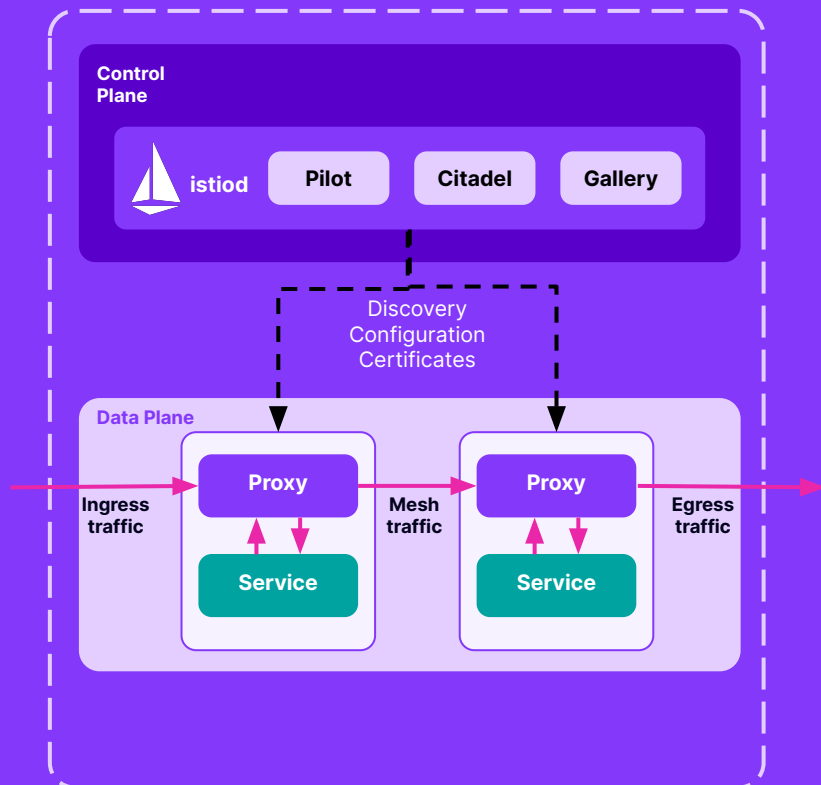


# Service mesh

## Linkerd



## Istio



MAIN FEATURES

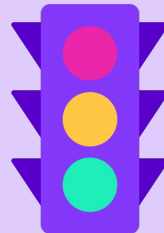
# Service mesh



**Dynamic service  
discovery**



**Service to service  
communication  
security**



**Traffic  
management**

Overview

Graph

Applications

Workloads

Services

Istio Config

Namespace: bookinfo

Traffic

Versioned app graph



Last 1m



Every 1m



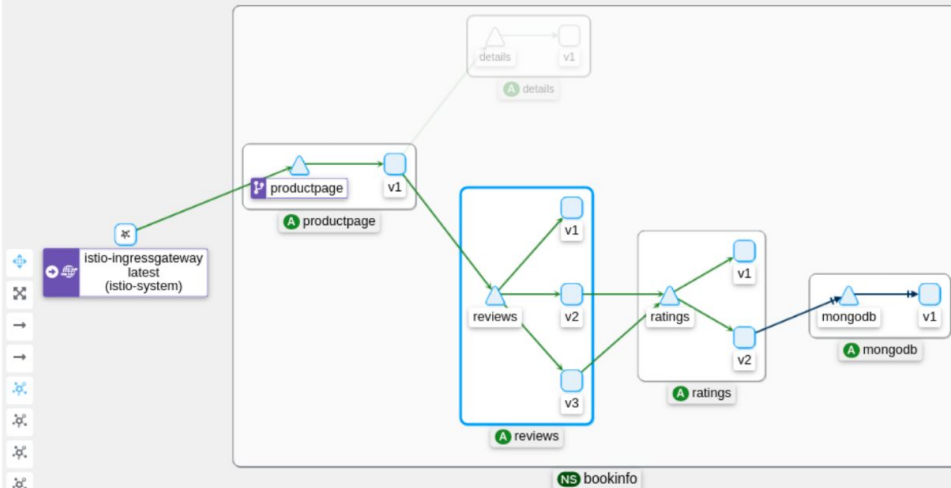
Display

Find...

Hide...



Nov 15, 02:06:02 PM ... 02:07:02 PM

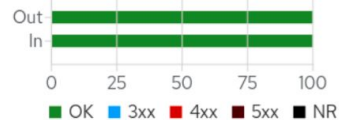


### Application

- NS bookinfo
- A reviews
- health
- S reviews
- W reviews-v1
- W reviews-v2
- W reviews-v3

### HTTP (requests per second):

	Total	%Success	%Error
In	0.89	100.00	0.00
Out	0.55	100.00	0.00



### HTTP - Inbound Request Traffic min / max:

RPS: 0.87 / 1.13, %Error 0.00 / 0.00

Hide



## MAIN BENEFITS

# Service mesh

Automate DevSecOps needs like observability, security, and traffic management.

### Reduce Troubleshooting Time

Provides observability data about how microservices communicate, including metrics, logs and traces.

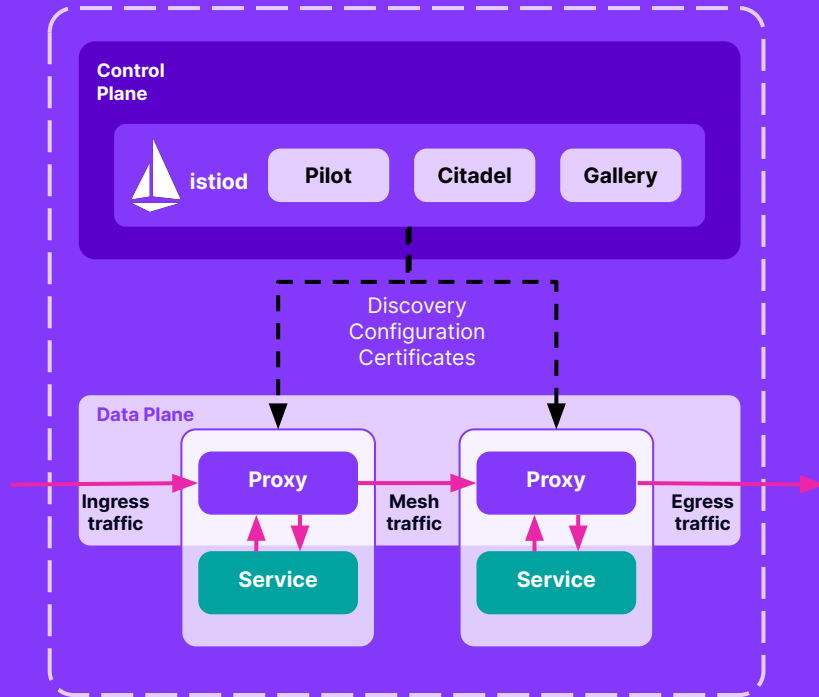
### Zero Trust Security

Provides end-to-end encryption and mutual authentication between microservices, helping to secure communication channels. RBAC rules.

### Resilience

Provides advanced traffic management like load balancing, retries, timeouts, which can help optimize traffic flow between microservices, and ensure better resource utilization and fault tolerance.

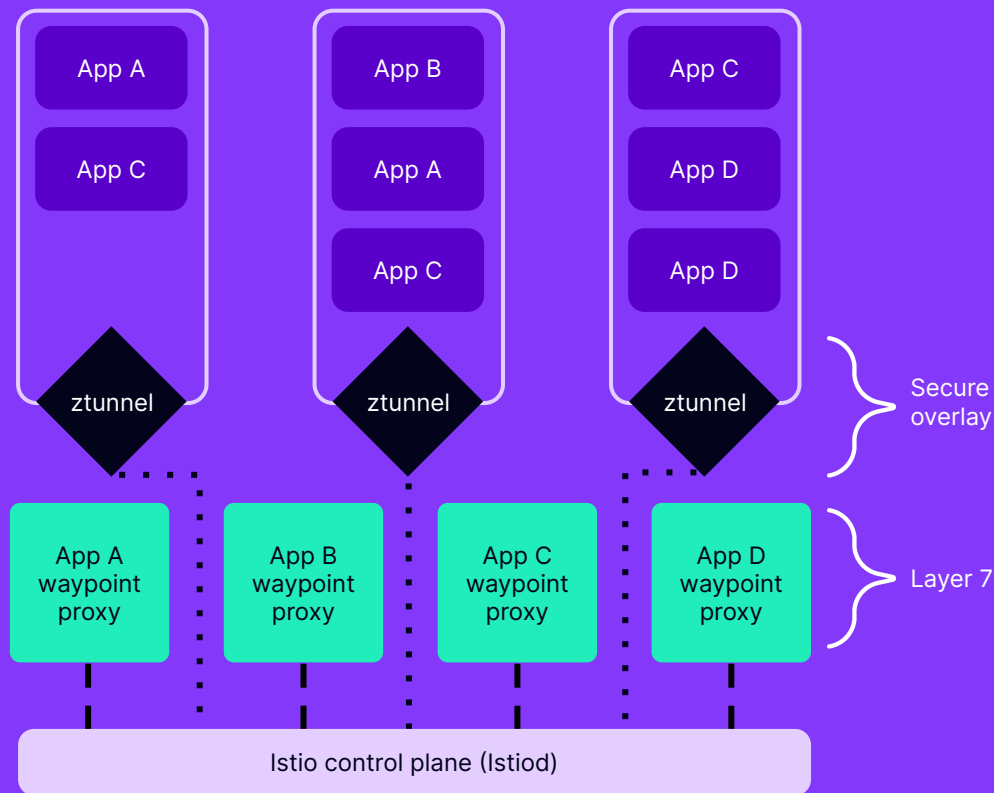
# Service mesh



- Container race conditions during startup
- Performance impact
- Resource and Cost impact

# Sidecarless architecture (Istio Ambient Mesh)

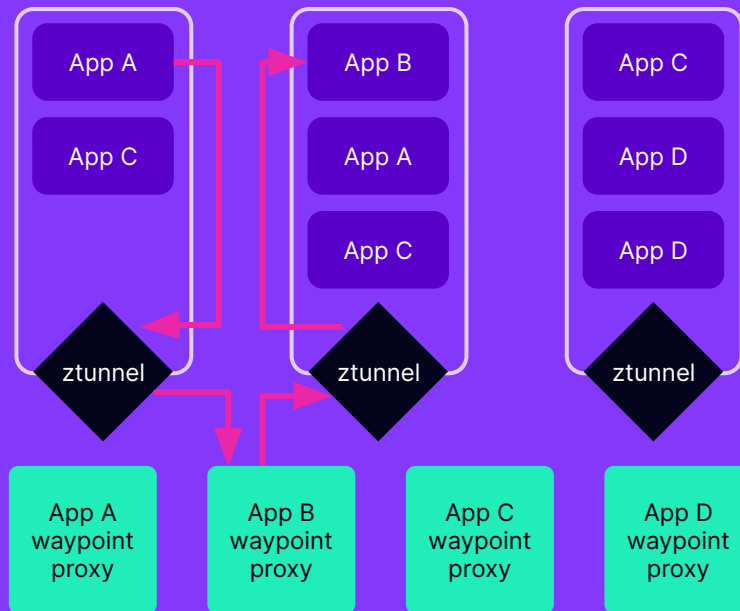
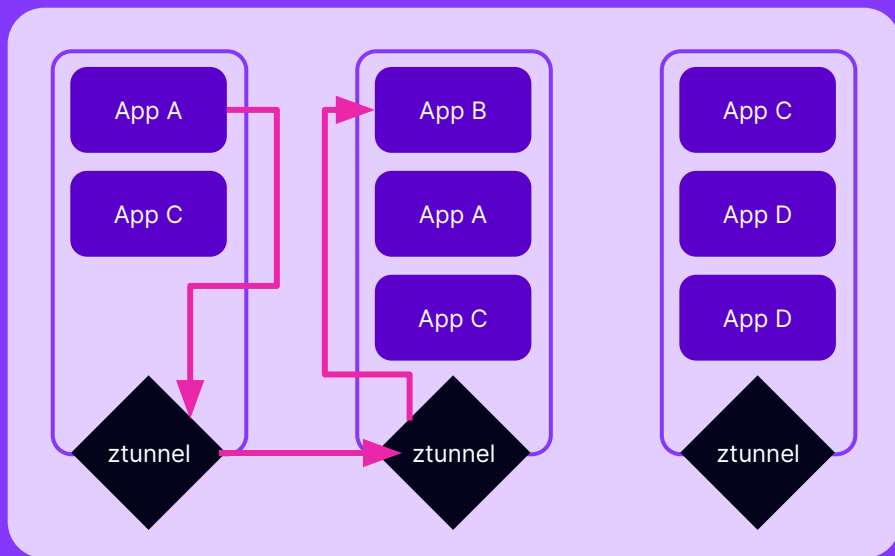
- **Secure overlay layer (L4)**  
TCP Routing, mTLS tunneling, simple authorization policies, TCP metrics & logic
- **Waypoint proxy (L7)**  
HTTP routing & load balancing, circuit breaking, rate limiting, rich authorization policies, HTTP metrics, access logging, tracing





# Sidecarless architecture

(Istio Ambient Mesh)



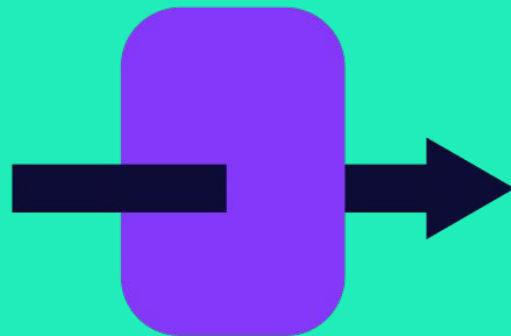
WHAT'S TO COME

# API Gateways

01 Key capabilities and use-cases

02 Deployment architectures & topologies

03 API management



## 01 Key capabilities

## 02 Deployment architectures

## 03 API management

# L4 security

- TLS
- mTLS
- IP allow / deny
- WAF
- TCP routing
- IP Rate limiting

**01**

**Key capabilities**

**02**

Deployment  
architectures

**03**

API  
management

# L7 security

- External authentication & authorization
- REST
  - Method / path protection
  - Request / response validation
- GraphQL
  - Operation protection
  - Field-based permissions
  - Query depth limiting
  - Query complexity limiting
  - Enable / disable introspection
- gRPC
  - Service & service method authorization
- Asynchronous APIs
  - Rate limiting based on number of events or data
  - Pub/sub authorization
  - Webhooks

# Endpoint optimization

## 01 Key capabilities

## 02 Deployment architectures

## 03 API management

- BFF Pattern / Optimizing endpoints
- Request & Response composition
- API Transformation
- Migrating from monolithic to microservice architecture

# Shared gateway

01

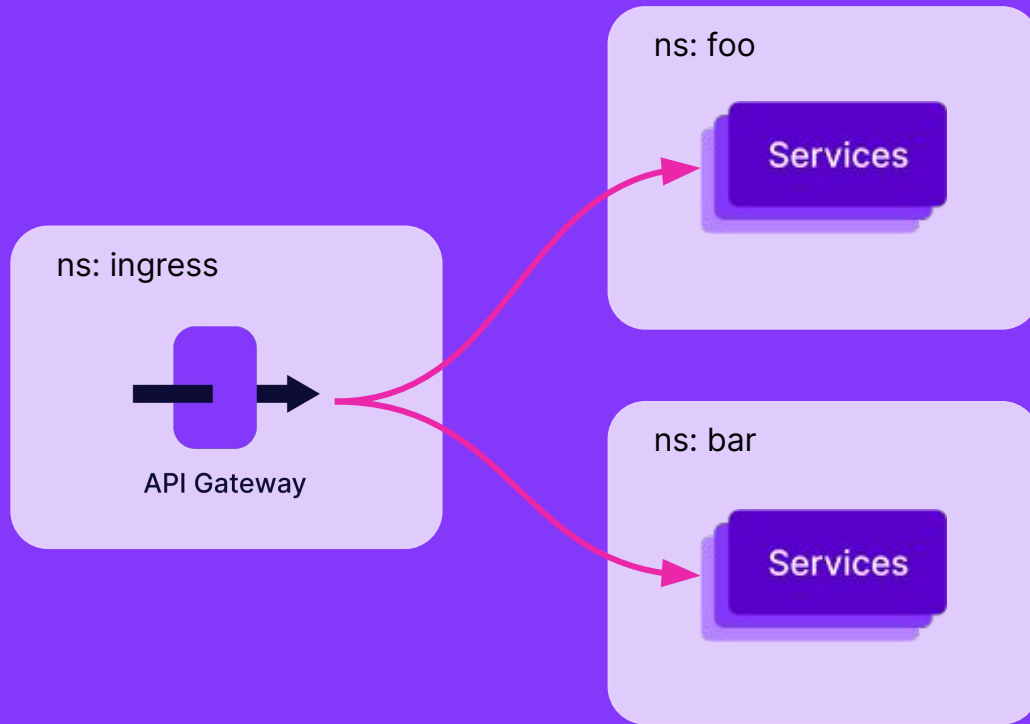
Key capabilities

02

Deployment architectures

03

API management

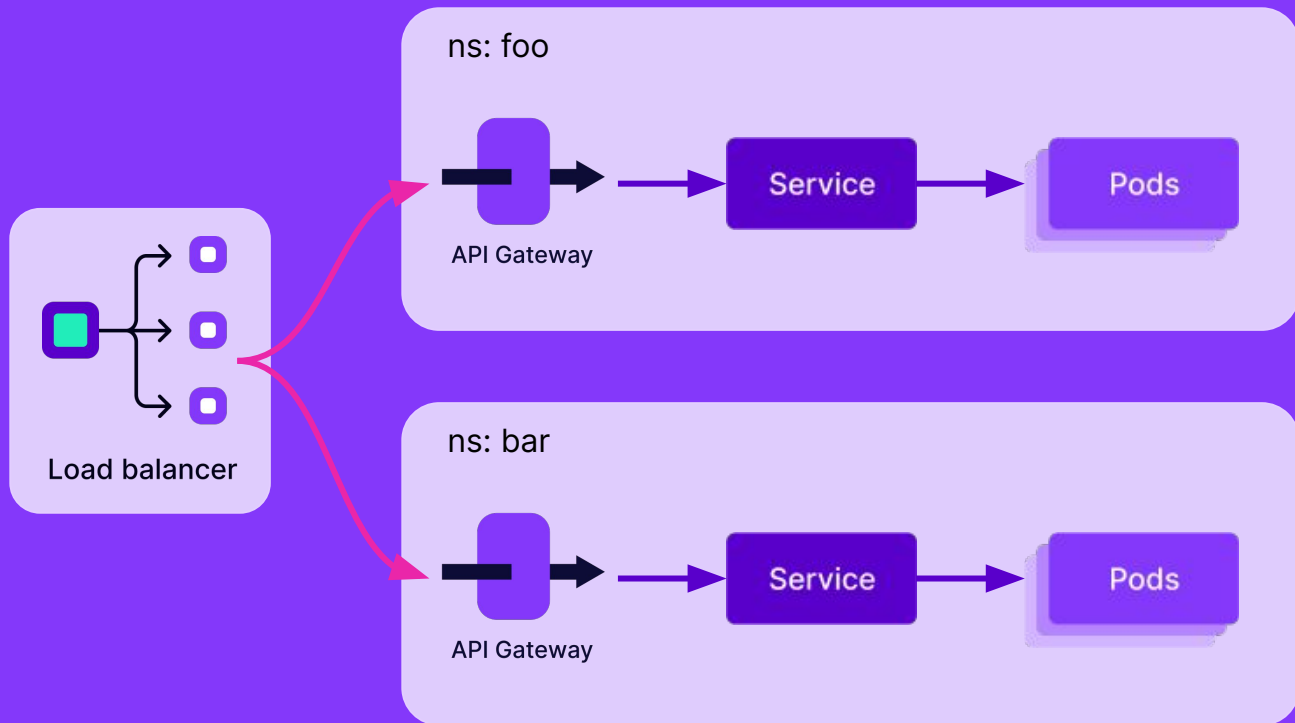


# Gateway per service

**01** Key capabilities

**02** Deployment architectures

**03** API management



01

Key capabilities

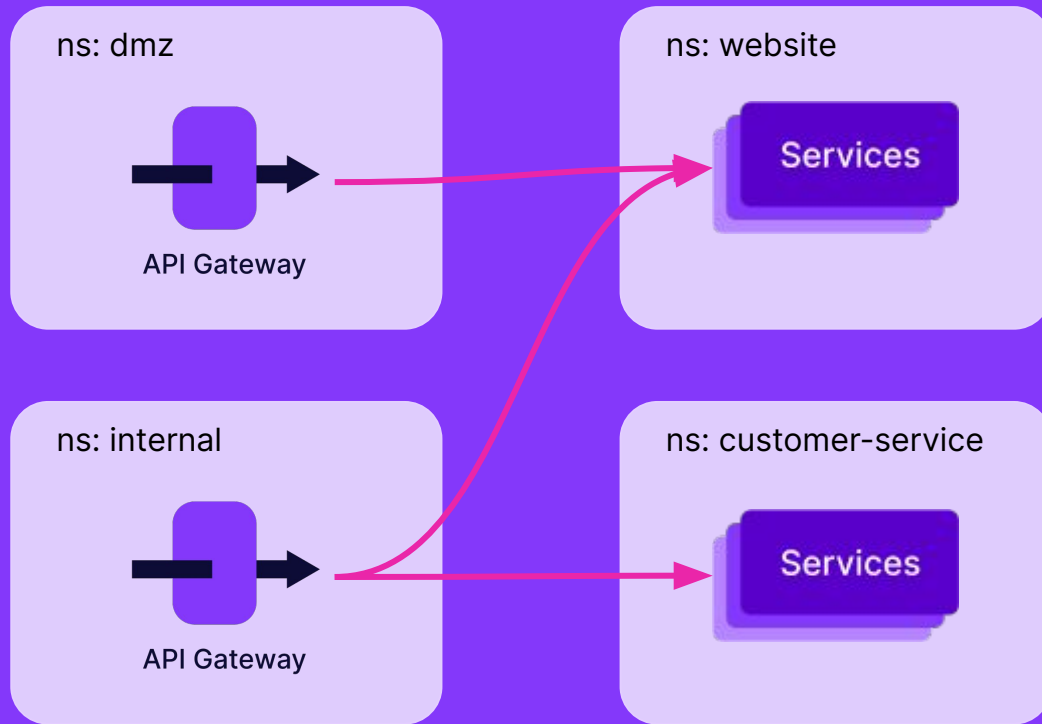
02

Deployment  
architectures

03

API  
management

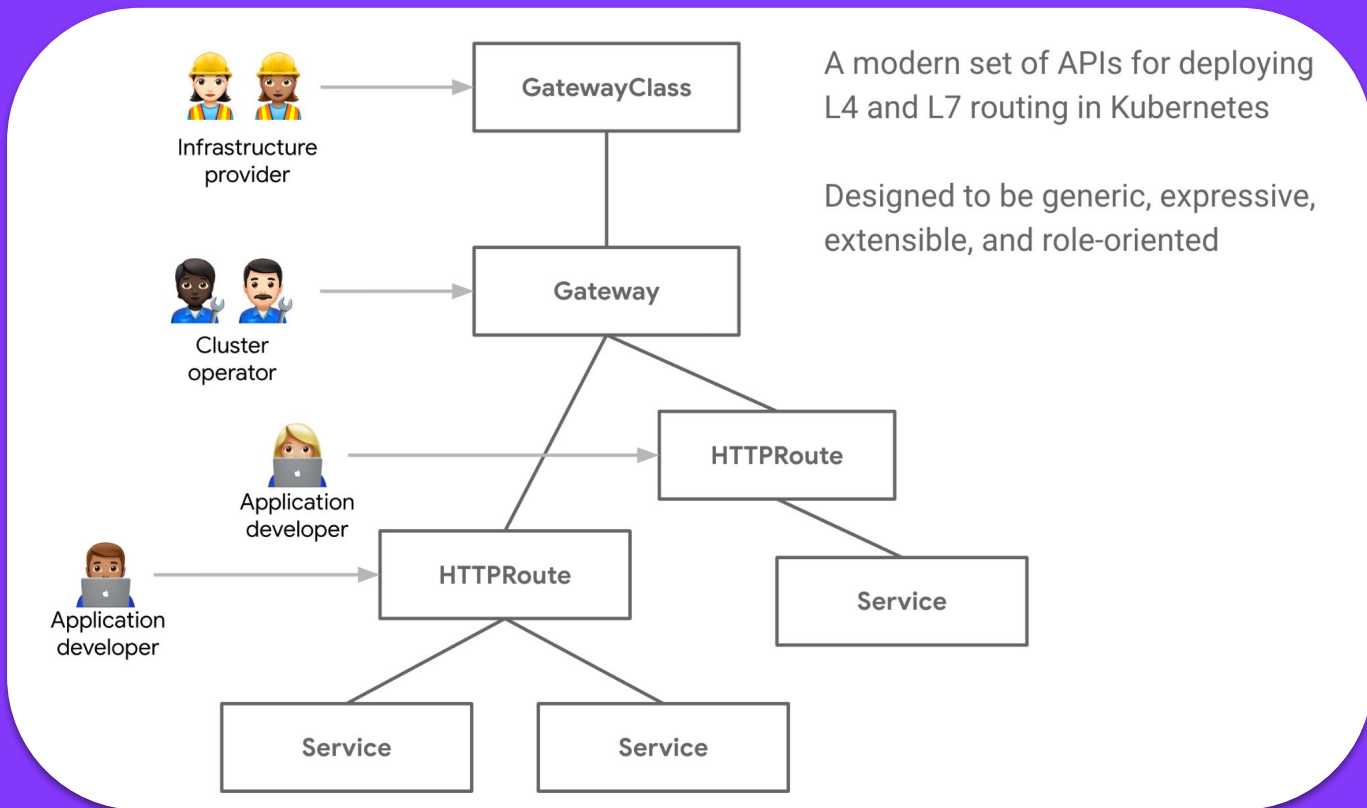
# Gateway sharding





# Gateway API

<https://sched.co/1R2qM>



**01**

Key capabilities

**02**

Deployment  
architectures

**03**

**API  
management**

- Development workflows and testing
- Discovery, subscriptions, documentation, specifications
- Version Management & routing
- API analytics

TO SUM IT UP

# What's the difference?

## What do I need?

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### Service Proxy

General Service Proxy

### Service Mesh

For Platform Engineers / DevOps / SREs

- Uniformly apply policies for security and governance needs
- Gain detailed insights into application performance for better troubleshooting and optimization

### API Gateway

For API Developers and API Product Owners

- Leverage APIs to drive innovations
- APIs as strategic business asset



# Thank you!

Come talk to us to continue the discussion or reach out:

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