



WSO2 API Manager 4.2.0 Developer Fundamentals

API Security



WSO2 Training

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Content

- Authentication Mechanisms
- Authorization Mechanisms
- Bot Detection
- One Time Token
- JSON Schema Validation
 - ◉ Request Validation
 - ◉ Response Validation
- Using Secured Endpoints
- Passing End User Attributes to Backend
- API Definition validation
- Validate Request with Open Policy Agent (OPA)



Authentication Mechanisms

Protecting API access from unidentified or anonymous access

- OAuth2 Access Tokens
 - ⊙ Direct Access Tokens
 - ⊙ Exchange Access Token
- API Key
- Mutual SSL
- Basic Auth

Documentation Link : [Authentication](#)



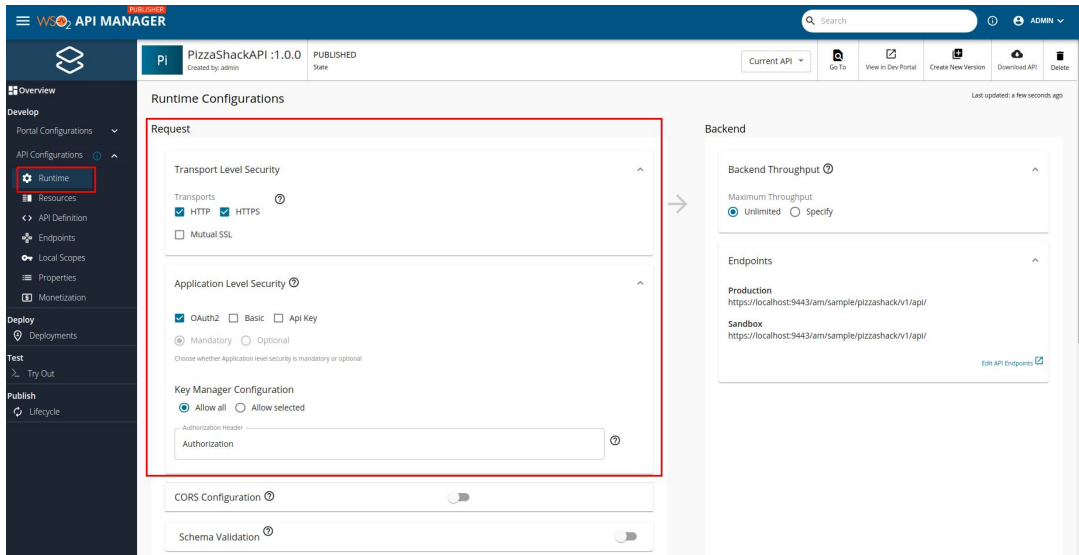
Authentication: Verification of the identity of the user/ party who is accessing the particular resource.

API Manager supports multiple types of API Authentication mechanisms. It is also possible to combine them as required through the Publisher portal.

E.g.,

- Configure only OAuth2/ API Key or Basic auth
- Configure Mutual SSL + OAuth2 (Both mechanisms are mandatory)
- Configure Mutual SSL + OAuth2 (either one mechanism is required)

Selecting Authentication Mechanism for API



Log into API Publisher, and select an API.

Go to the API Configurations page.

Under Runtime, expand the **Transport Level Security** and the **Application Level Security** in the Request section.

- Select the Required Application level security.
- Enable Mutual SSL if required and upload client certificate
- Change the default Authorization header name.

Authorization Mechanisms

- Limit API Access
- Only Authorized parties have access to respective resources/services.
- API access control mechanisms
 - ◉ Role based access control using Scopes
 - ◉ Fine grained access control using XACML

Documentation Link : [Authorization](#)



Authorization: Verifying whether the authenticated entity is permitted to access the particular resource.

Role-based access control using scopes

API Resources can be secured with scopes which are bound to specific user roles.

E.g.: In an Educational Institute, the lecturer role can add course content, admin-staff role can register new courses and students, student role can only get the course details.

Scope: course-content:add | **Associated Roles:** lecturer

Scope: course:create | **Associated Roles:** admin-staff

Scope: course:get | **Associated Roles:** student, lecturer, admin-staff

Applying scopes to resources.

POST	/course/content	-> scope: course-content:add
POST	/course	-> scope: course:create
GET	/course/{id}	-> scope: course:get

Fine-grained access control using XACML (eXtensible Access Control Markup Language)

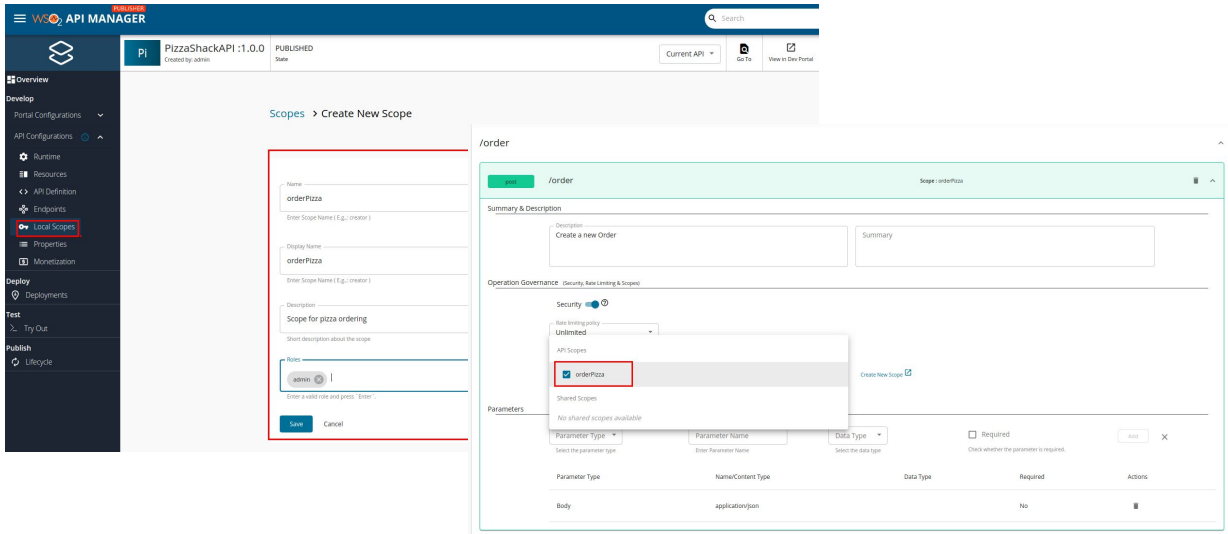
API Resources are secured with XACML policies. This mechanism can be used when IS as key manager is configured with API Manager.

In this mechanism, other user attributes such as Organization or any custom claim can be used to authorize the API request.

E.g.,:

- Allowing only the users who belong to the accounts department to access account resources
- Allow only the students that are registered to specific course codes to access those course details
- Deny any API Request from users who are under aged.

Creating Local Scopes and Assigning to Resources



Create a Local Scope

- Login to API Publisher and open an API by selecting it.
- Go to API configurations -> Local Scopes page from the left menu.
- Click on Create Scopes button
- Provide the name for the scope, display name, description and associated roles list.
- Click Save to create the scope.

Assign Scope to Resources

- Go to API Configurations -> Resources page.
- Expand the required resource.
- Select the created scope from the drop down list
- Save the changes

Creating Shared Scopes and Assigning to Resources

WSO2 API MANAGER

Scopes > Create New Scope

Name
createScope
Enter Scope Name (E.g., creator)

Display Name
createScope
Enter Scope Display Name (E.g., creator)

Description
Restricting create operations to users with admin role
Short description about the scope

Roles
admin

Save Cancel

/order

post /order Scope : createScope

Summary & Description

Description
Create a new Order

Summary

Operation Governance (Security, Rate Limiting & Scopes)

Security
Rate limiting policy
Unlimited
Select a rate limit policy for this operation

Operation Scope
createScope
Select a scope to restrict access to this operation

Create New Scope

In WSO2 API-M, an OAuth scope can be created before the API is created and shared across multiple APIs of the same tenant.

The API-M Publisher portal provides a scope management UI to view, create, edit and delete these shared scopes.

The shared scope need to be created before API creation/update time

Create a Scope

- Login to API Publisher.
- Go to Scopes page from the side menu
- Click on Scopes button
- Provide the name for the scope, description and associated roles list.
- Click Save to create the scope.

Assign Scope to Resources

- Go to API Configurations -> Resources page.
- Expand the required resource.
- Select the created scope from the drop down list
- Save the changes

Bot Detection

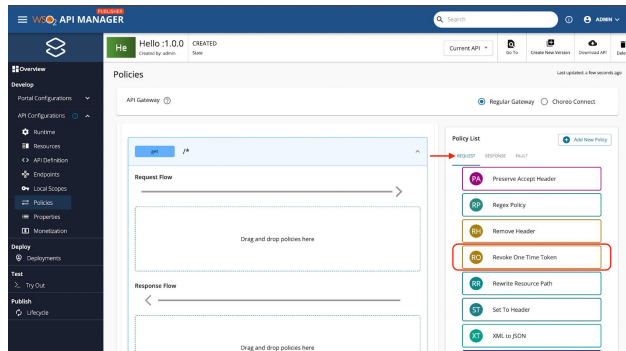
- Hackers can invoke the APIs without an access token by scanning the open ports of a system
- Bot detection mechanism
 - ◉ Traces and logs details of such unauthorized API calls in the <API-M_HOME>/repository/logs/wso2-BotDetectedData.log file.

Documentation Link: [Bot Detection](#)



One time token policy

- One Time Token is a JWT that will be revoked after single usage
- Enabled by attaching a policy to the resource

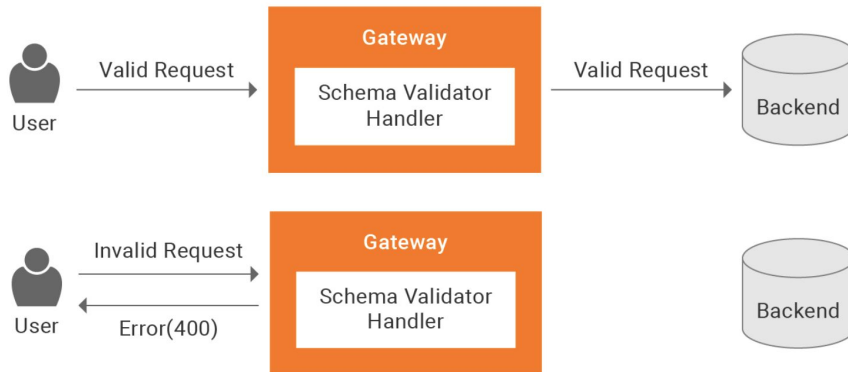


Documentation Link: [Revoke One Time Tokens Policy](#)



JSON Schema Validation

Request Validation



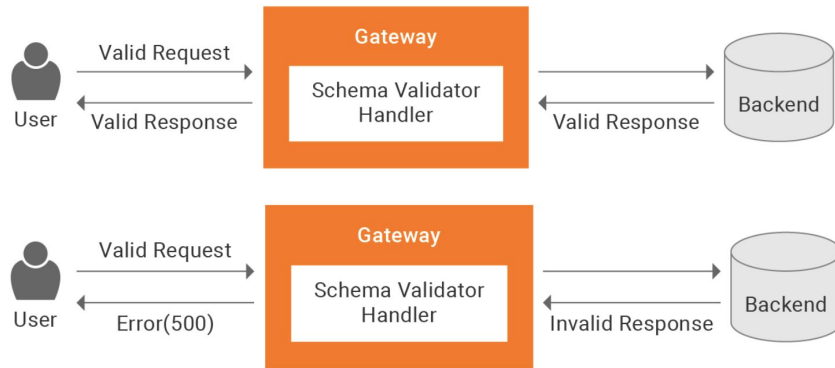
When creating APIs, it is possible to enable request/ response schema validation for API requests.

If enabled, the gateway will validate the request payload against the payload format defined in the swagger definition. If the payload did not match, (data types, missing required fields) gateway will return a 400 - Bad Request response back to the client.

If the validation is successful the request will be passed to the backend.

JSON Schema Validation

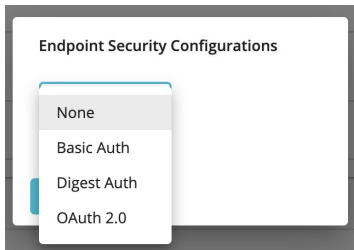
Response Validation



In the Response validation, if the returning response from the backend service does not match with the expected response object, a 500 response will be sent to the client.

Using Secured Endpoints

- Basic Auth
- Digest Auth
- OAuth 2.0



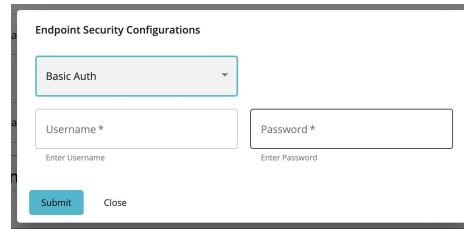
Endpoint Security Configurations

None

Basic Auth

Digest Auth

OAuth 2.0



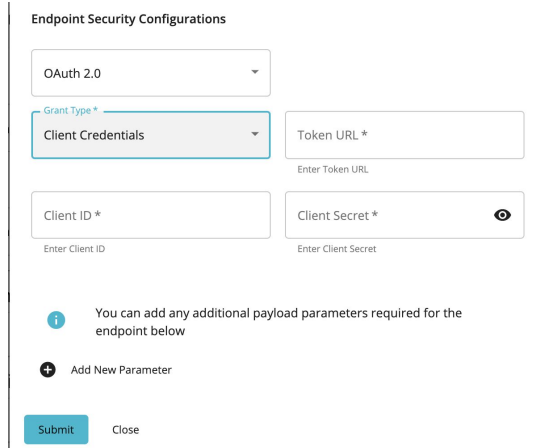
Endpoint Security Configurations

Basic Auth

Username *

Password *

Submit Close



Endpoint Security Configurations

OAuth 2.0

Grant Type *

Client Credentials

Token URL *

Client ID *

Client Secret *

You can add any additional payload parameters required for the endpoint below

Add New Parameter

Submit Close

Documentation Link: [Secure Endpoints](#)

When the back-end endpoints are secured with basic, digest or OAuth 2.0 authentication, it can be configured when adding the endpoints to the API.

These endpoint credentials can also be encrypted by enabling secure vault in `<APIM_HOME>/repository/conf/deployment.toml` file.

<https://apim.docs.wso2.com/en/4.2.0/install-and-setup/setup/security/logins-and-passwords/working-with-encrypted-passwords/#encrypting-secured-endpoint-passwords>

OAuth

2.0

OAuth brings in a separate authorization layer in order to separate the role of the client from that of the resource owner. In order to gain access to a protected resource, the client should obtain a set of properties including an access token, its lifetime, and scope instead of credentials of the resource owner, from the backend server.

The OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework specification declares 4 grant-types to obtain an access token. OAuth 2.0 Endpoint Security supports the following grant types:

1. Client Credentials
2. Resource Owner Password

Manage Backend Certificates

- When the API Backend is using TLS with self signed or, privately signed certificate, it's public certificate must be imported to the client-truststore.jks of the gateway.
- When doing this manually, API Manager must be restarted in order to load the new certificate.
- To avoid this, backend certificate can be uploaded in the General Configuration section in the Endpoints page.
- Once uploaded, the certificate will be loaded dynamically after some time, which can be configured in deployment.toml file.

Documentation link : [Manage Endpoint Certificates](#)



Configuring the certificate loading interval.

```
[transport.passthru_https.sender.ssl_profile]
interval = 600000
```

Upload Backend Certificates

General Endpoint Configurations

Certificates: 0

Certificates

+ Add Certificate

i You do not have any certificates uploaded

Upload Certificate

Endpoint *
https://localhost:9443/am/sample/pizzashack/v1/api/

Endpoint for the Certificate

Alias *
pizzashack

Alias for the Certificate

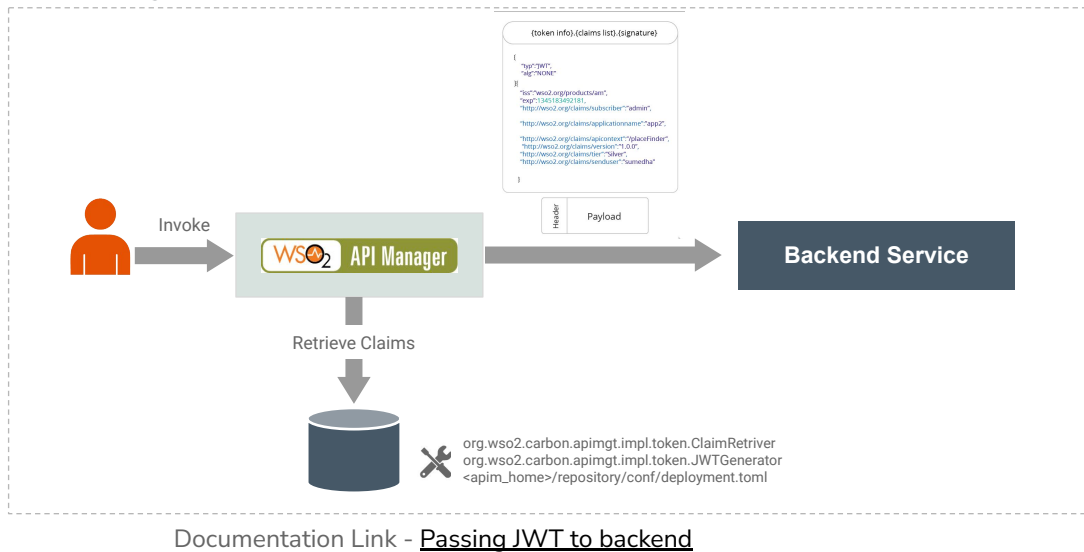
cert.crt

CLOSE SAVE

In the API Publisher portal,

- Click on an API and goto API configurations -> Endpoints
- Expand the General Endpoint Configuration
- In Certificate, click on Add Certificate
- In the Upload Certificate dialog box,
 - Select the Endpoint
 - Provide an Alias
 - Select the certificate file.
- Click on Save button to upload.

Passing End-User Attributes to Backend.



Documentation Link - [Passing JWT to backend](#)

JSON Web Token (JWT) is used to represent claims that are transferred between two parties such as the end user and the backend.

A claim is an attribute of the user that is mapped to the underlying user store. It is encoded as a JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) object that is used as the payload of a JSON Web Signature (JWS) structure, or as the plain text of a JSON Web Encryption (JWE) structure. This enables claims to be digitally signed.

When a request comes to the API Gateway, it retrieves the claims needed and builds a JWT token which is added to the header of the backend service request. The backend would get this and do the necessary validations.

The JWT that is generated by default has predefined attributes that are passed to the backend. These include basic application-specific details, subscription details, and user information that are defined in the JWT generation class that comes with the API Manager by the name `org.wso2.carbon.apimgt.impl.token.JWTGenerator`. If you want to pass additional attributes to the backend with the JWT or completely change the default JWT generation logic you can extend this process.

Securing APIs by Auditing API Definitions

WSO2 API-M has partnered with [42Crunch](#), to bring in the ability to conduct a security audit on the OpenAPI Specification definition and to obtain an audit report.

There are four sections to the Audit Report:

- Audit Score and Summary
- OpenAPI Format Requirements
- Security
- Data Validation

Documentation Link - [Auditing API Definitions](#)



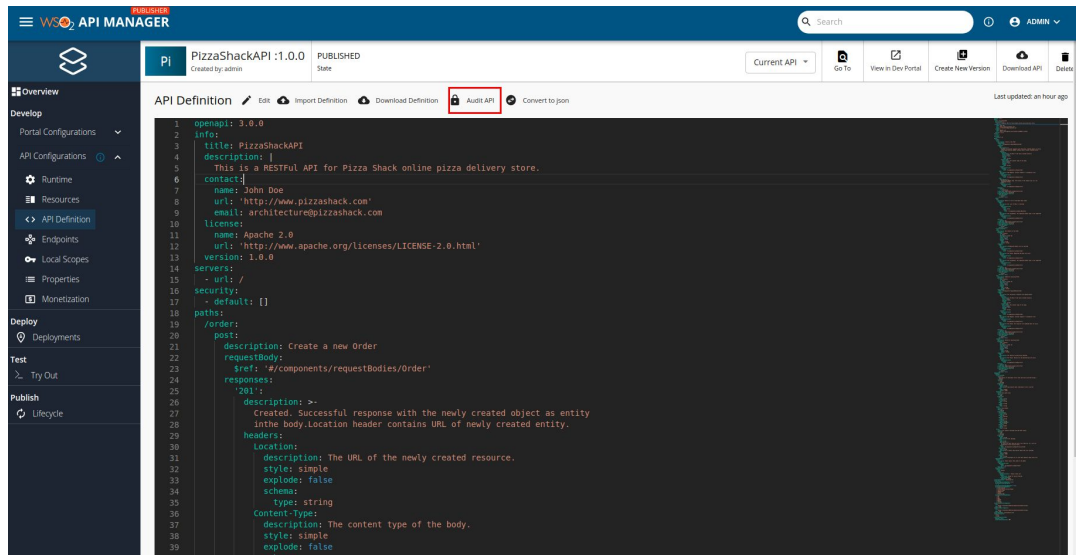
API Security has become an important concern in recent times as organizations are more cautious about exposing raw, sensitive data via APIs. Therefore, it is important that APIs adhere to the OpenAPI Specification (OAS) to ensure API security. WSO2 API-M has partnered with [42Crunch](#), the only enterprise API security platform, to bring in the ability to conduct a security audit on the OpenAPI Specification definition and to obtain an audit report.

Audit report sections

There are four sections to the Audit Report:

1. [Audit Score and Summary](#)
2. [OpenAPI Format Requirements](#)
3. [Security](#)
4. [Data Validation](#)

Securing APIs by Auditing API Definitions



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Refer

<https://apim.docs.wso2.com/en/4.2.0/design/api-security/configuring-api-security-audit/#securing-apis-by-auditing-api-definitions>

Audit report sections

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Validating API Definitions Against Custom Linter Rules

Create an API using an OpenAPI definition.

Create an API using an existing OpenAPI definition file or URL.

1 Provide OpenAPI 2 Create API

* Input Type

☒ OpenAPI URL

☐ OpenAPI File/Archive

OpenAPI URL ✓

Click away to validate the URL.

Linters Results 1 16 0 0

Cancel Next

Report Contents

```
1 {
2   "swagger": "2.0",
3   "paths": {
4     "/pets": {
5       "description": "This is a sample Pet Store Server based on the OpenAPI 3.0 spec",
6       "externalDocs": {
7         "url": "http://swagger.io/terms/"
8       },
9       "contact": {
10        "email": "mail@swagger.io"
11      },
12      "schemes": [
13        "https"
14      ],
15      "version": "1.0.0"
16    },
17    "/pet": {
18      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
19      "url": "http://swagger.io"
20    },
21    "/pet/findByStatus": {
22      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
23      "url": "http://swagger.io"
24    },
25    "/pet/findByTags": {
26      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
27      "url": "http://swagger.io"
28    },
29    "/pet/findByStatusAndTags": {
30      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
31      "url": "http://swagger.io"
32    },
33    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetId": {
34      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
35      "url": "http://swagger.io"
36    },
37    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetId": {
38      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
39      "url": "http://swagger.io"
40    },
41    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
42      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
43      "url": "http://swagger.io"
44    },
45    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
46      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
47      "url": "http://swagger.io"
48    },
49    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
50      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
51      "url": "http://swagger.io"
52    },
53    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
54      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
55      "url": "http://swagger.io"
56    },
57    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
58      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
59      "url": "http://swagger.io"
60    },
61    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
62      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
63      "url": "http://swagger.io"
64    },
65    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
66      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
67      "url": "http://swagger.io"
68    },
69    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
70      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
71      "url": "http://swagger.io"
72    },
73    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
74      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
75      "url": "http://swagger.io"
76    },
77    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
78      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
79      "url": "http://swagger.io"
80    },
81    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
82      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
83      "url": "http://swagger.io"
84    },
85    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
86      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
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89    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
90      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
91      "url": "http://swagger.io"
92    },
93    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
94      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
95      "url": "http://swagger.io"
96    },
97    "/pet/findByStatusAndTagsAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetIdAndPetId": {
98      "description": "Find out more about Swagger",
99      "url": "http://swagger.io"
100   },
101   "info": {
102     "title": "Swagger Petstore - OpenAPI 3.0",
103     "description": "This is a sample Pet Store Server based on the OpenAPI 3.0 spec",
104     "termsOfService": "http://swagger.io/terms/",
105     "contact": {
106       "email": "mail@swagger.io"
107     },
108     "schemes": [
109       "https"
110     ],
111     "version": "1.0.0"
112   }
113 }
```

Type	Line	Message
❌	8	Should be a valid email.
⚠️	303	Operation "description" must be present and non-empty string.
⚠️	389	Operation must have at least one "tag" or "tags" response.
⚠️	400	Operation "description" must be present and non-empty string.
⚠️	423	Operation must have at least one "tag" or "tags" response.
⚠️	444	Operation "description" must be present and non-empty string.
⚠️	627	Operation must have at least one "tag" or "tags" response.
⚠️	675	Operation must have at least one "tag" or "tags" response.
⚠️	742	Operation "description" must be present and non-empty string.
⚠️	808	Operation "description" must be present and non-empty string.

Documentation link : [Validate definitions with linters](#)



Open Policy Agent (OPA)

- The [Open Policy Agent \(OPA\)](#) is an open source, general-purpose policy engine that unifies policy enforcement.
- With the ability to define complex policies as a code, OPA provides much needed flexibility over standard static access control mechanisms such as role-based or attribute-based access control.
- Both WSO2 API Manager regular Gateway and Choreo Connect supports Open Policy Agent-based request validation

[Open Policy Agent\(OPA\)](#)

