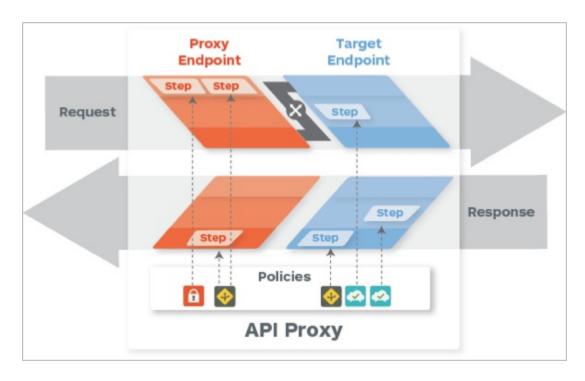




Lab 1: API Services - Creating an API Proxy

Overview

Apigee Edge enables you to quickly expose backend services as APIs. You do this by creating an API proxy that provides a facade for the backend service that you want to expose. The API proxy that you create on Edge decouples your backend service implementation from the API that developers consume. This shields developers from future changes to your backend services. As you update backend services, developers, insulated from those changes, can continue to call the API uninterrupted.



In this lab you will get a first-hand exposure of configuring proxies using a wizard from the user interface. You will build an API Proxy on Apigee Edge and add a few policies including caching. You will also learn to use the tracing tool to perform troubleshooting on the proxy as needed during development

Objective

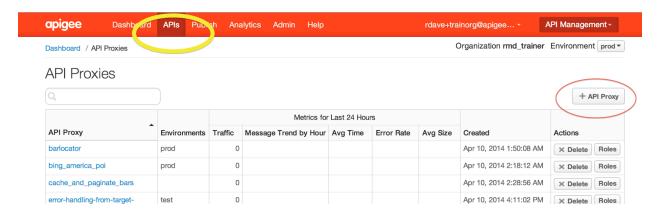
After this In this lab you should be able to create API proxies on Apigee Edge for different targets and be able to configure simple policies.

Estimated Time: 45 mins

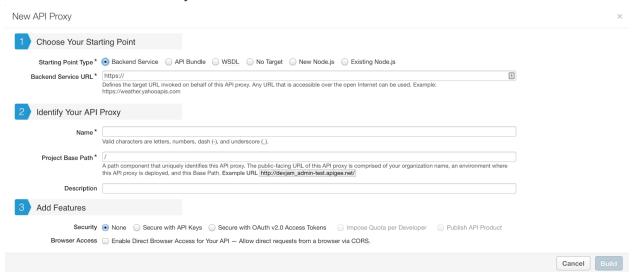




 Login to the Apigee Edge Management User Interface (Management UI). On the top menu, click on the APIs item and you will see the API Proxies page (as below). When on that page click on the '+ API Proxy' button on the top right.



2. Define the API Proxy / Facade

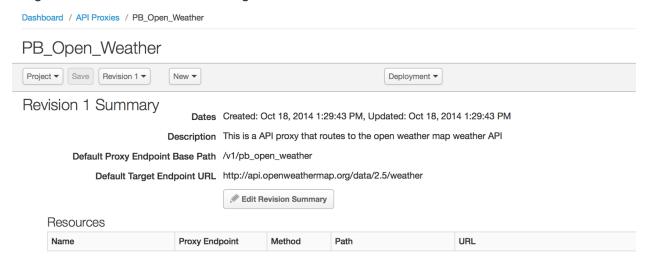


- a. Backend Service URL:
 - http://api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather
- b. Name: {Your Initials}_Open Weather
- c. Base Path: Change the base path of the proxy to /v1/{your initials}_open_weather (It's a good idea to start including versioning as part of API development best practices).
- d. Description: This is a API proxy that routes to the open weather map weather API
- e. Do not select any other options





- f. Click on 'Build' to create the API Proxy, once built click on 'Done'
- g. You should see the following:



3. Lets do a quick test of the backend target endpoint. Invoke it a browser; you will see an error:

a.

```
api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather

{
    "message": "Error: Not found city",
    "cod": "404"
}
```

b. Or, Invoke it from the <u>POSTMAN</u> (or curl, REST client, etc.) tool; you will see an error (POSTMAN is a popular REST client that is available as an Chrome extension. It make is easy to test APIs, set query params, headers and variety of authentication schemes. You are free to use any tool of your choice.)







Could not get any response

This seems to be like an error connecting to http://api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather. The response status was 0. Check out the W3C XMLHttpRequest Level 2 spec for more details about when this happens.

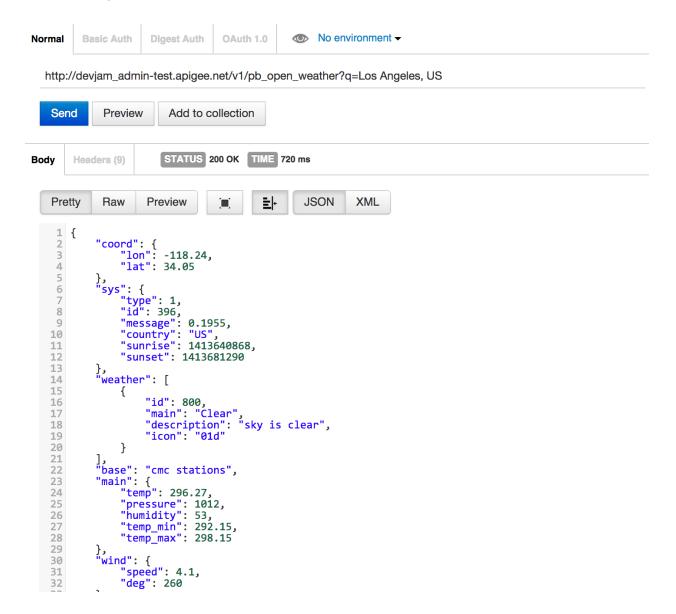
c. Now, specify the city and country at the end of the URL for e.g. q=Los Angeles, USA from POSTMAN and you will see:

```
Direct OpenWeather Call
   http://api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather?q=Los Angeles, US
      Send
                      Save
                                      Preview
                                                          Add to collection
                                        STATUS 200 OK TIME 746 ms
            Headers (9)
Body
      Pretty
                      Raw
                                   Preview
                                                                                    JSON
                                                                                                     XML
                                                          ₽
       1 {
                   "coord": {
    "lon": -118.24,
    "lat": 34.05
       3
       4
5
                  },
"sys": {
    "message": 0.0888,
    "country": "US",
    "sunrise": 1403527358,
    "cunset": 1403579285
       6
       8
       9
      10
                   },
"weather": [
     11
     12
     13
                          {
                                  "id": 800,
"main": "Clear",
"description": "Sky is Clear",
"icon": "01d"
     14
     15
     16
     17
     18
                          }
                   ],
"base": "cmc stations",
"main": {
    "temp": 298.06,
    "humidity": 61,
    "pressure": 1014,
    "temp_min": 293.15,
    "temp_max": 304.26
     19
     20
21
22
23
     24
     25
     26
                  },
"wind": {
    "speed": 2.06,
    "gust": 4.11.
     28
```





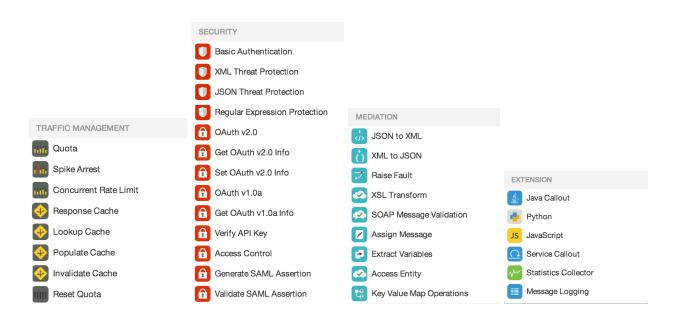
- 4. Now, let's call the API Proxy you just created
 - a. You will issue 'http://{org_name}-{env_name}.apigee.net/v1/{your
 initials}_open_weather?q=Los Angeles, US' from POSTMAN
 - b. And, you will see:



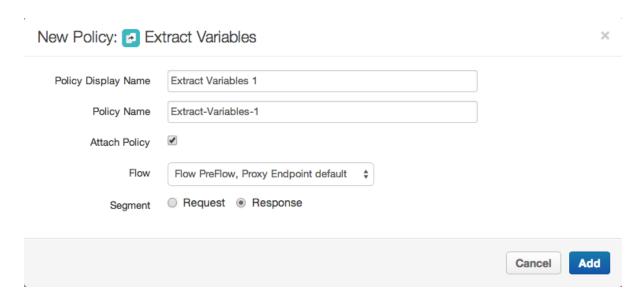
5. See the picture below for all available policies that can be attached to proxies.







- 6. Now we will enhance the proxy to start collecting some statistics from the response payload. As part of this we will add a couple of policies including a <u>Statistics Collector</u> to the existing proxy that we have just created. Lets add a policy
 - Go back to the API Management UI and make sure you are still on the same proxy. (If not click on APIs\API Proxies from the top menu and select the specific proxy). Click on the "Develop" button
 - Click on "New Policy" and select "Extract Variables" from the "Mediation" category.







Attach it to the "Response" segment of the Proxy Post Flow. Click on the "Add" button

Make sure the XML snippet in the bottom window looks like this:

You can also copy/paste the xml snippet from here into your policy editor.

(https://gist.githubusercontent.com/prithpal/4d06b581423854 4f6eae/raw/7e08121cd190d20295f98dbf8206815f38620639/API%20 Services%20-%20Creating%20an%20API%20Proxy%20-%20Extract%2 0Variables)

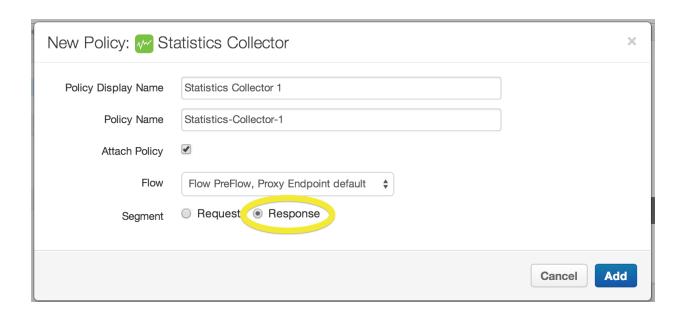
The JSONPath expression above extracts the name of the city from the response returned the OpenWeatherMap API and assigns it to a variable named "city_name". You can also extract similarly from an XML payload by providing XPATH expression.

c. Click on "New Policy" and select "Statistics Collector" from the "Extension" category. Attach it to the "Response" segment of the Proxy Post Flow.

<u>Statistics Collector</u> - Enables you to collect statistical data for messages processed in a flow, such as product ID, price, REST action, client and target URL, and message length (predefined flow variables as well as custom variables). The data is then provided to the analytics server, which analyzes the statistics and generates reports.







Click on the "Add" button Make sure the XML snippet in the bottom window looks like this:

* If you copy the XML snippet from the link, remember to change the statistic name to use your initials (as mentioned above) instead of the one in the snippet.

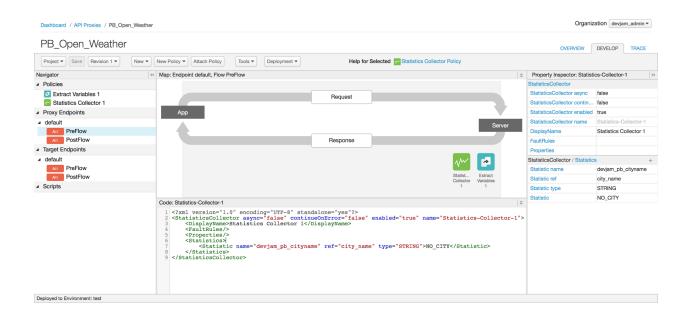
You can also copy/paste the xml snippet from here into your policy editor.

(https://gist.githubusercontent.com/prithpal/0f5ec55c2bf13f9e5985/raw/58a24bb7f6885521a6a87e742b0c8ae107380e16/API%20Services%20-%20Creating%20an%20API%20Proxy%20-%20Statistics%20Collector)

d. Once the 2 policies have been added and you have clicked "Save", you should see something similar to this:







- 7. Lets go ahead and add a <u>Response Cache</u> policy. ResponseCache can be configured to save and periodically refresh copies of response messages. As apps make requests to the same URI, Apigee Edge can be configured to return cached responses, rather than forwarding those requests to the backend server.
 - a. Click on "New Policy" and select "Response Cache" from the "Traffic Management" category. Make sure the "Attach Policy" checkbox is selected.







b. Click on the Add + button and make sure the XML snippet looks like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>
<ResponseCache async="false" continueOnError="false"</pre>
enabled="true" name="Response-Cache-1">
    <DisplayName>Response Cache 1/DisplayName>
    <FaultRules/>
    <Properties/>
    <CacheKey>
        <Prefix/>
        <KeyFragment ref="request.uri" type="string"/>
    </CacheKey>
    <Scope>Exclusive</Scope>
    <ExpirySettings>
        <ExpiryDate/>
        <TimeOfDay/>
        <TimeoutInSec ref="">60</TimeoutInSec>
    </ExpirySettings>
    <SkipCacheLookup/>
    <SkipCachePopulation/>
</ResponseCache>
```

You can also copy/paste the xml snippet from here into your policy editor.

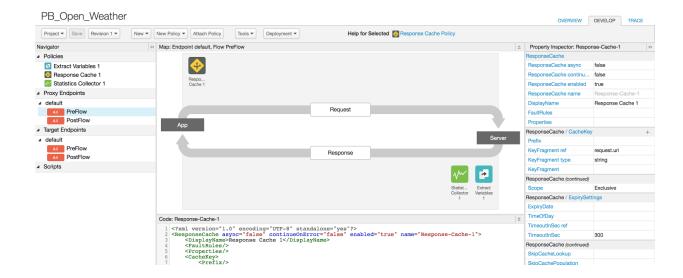
(https://gist.githubusercontent.com/prithpal/354e972a50450861ec0e/raw/a3c1c0ed9203f60936777f5717393c4ed60523f7/API%20Services%20-%20Creating%20an%20API%20Proxy%20-%20Response%20Cache)

We have changed the timeout property on the Response Cache policy to 60 seconds for demonstration purposes so the cache expires sooner. Your cache expiration setting may be different in production scenarios.

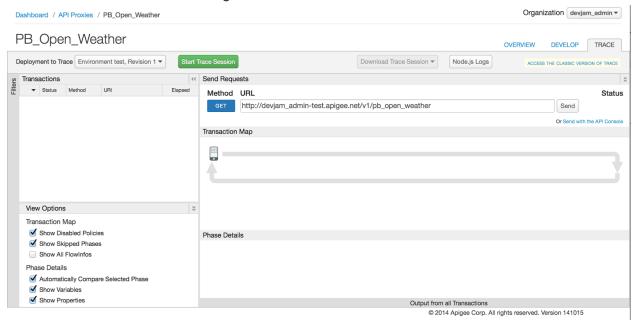
c. Click on "Save" and you should see something similar to this:







- 8. Click on the "Trace" button (top right)
 - a. You should see something like this:



9. Tracing - <u>Trace</u> is a tool for troubleshooting and monitoring API proxies running on Apigee Edge.

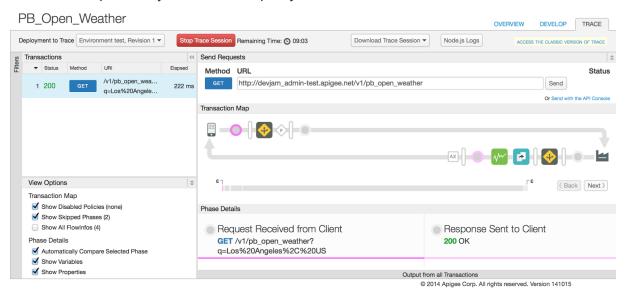
Trace lets you probe the details of each step through an API proxy flow. In this step you will use the trace tool in the background to see the request(s) and details in each step of





the proxy to help troubleshoot errors if any and to see what is happening with the request every step of the way.

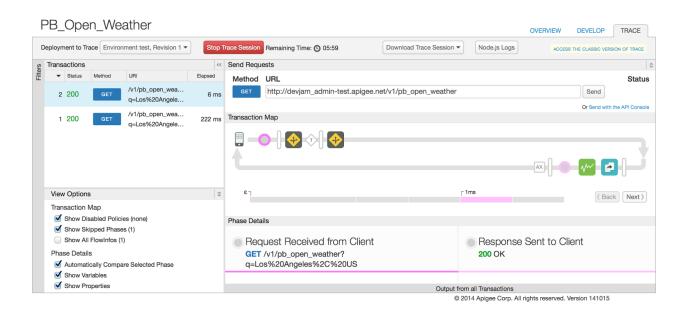
- a. Click on the "Start Trace Session" green button. The button should turn red and have the text displayed as "Stop Trace Session".
- b. In another browser tab or window open the POSTMAN tool and invoke the API end-point (http://{org_name}-{env_name}.apigee.net/v1/{your initials}_open_weather?q=Los Angeles) as before.
- c. Come back to the Management UI and see the trace window reflect details about the request we just sent to the proxy:



- d. Pay attention to the time taken for the request to process. Now lets see if our Response Cache policy kicks in.
- e. Go back to the POSTMAN client and re-send the same request to the API proxy.
- f. Go back to the Trace tool and you will see that this time the response was served from the cache (see the "T"which stands for true for a cache hit) as opposed to hitting the back-end target endpoint. Also see the response time reduce considerably as a result of caching.







- 10. Next we will add a <u>Spike Arrest</u> policy. The Spike Arrest policy protects against traffic spikes. It throttles the number of requests processed by an API proxy and sent to a backend, protecting against performance lags and downtime.
 - a. Go back to the "Develop" tab on the proxy editor. Click on "New Policy" and add a new "Spike Arrest" policy to the request segment of the Pre-Flow.



Click on the Add button and make sure that the XML snippet looks like this:





<Rate>10pm</Rate></SpikeArrest>

You can also copy/paste the xml snippet from here into your policy editor.

(https://gist.githubusercontent.com/prithpal/bf291171b37be7
169287/raw/ce49ce2dfe73d58a74d4cd46d9a2478251d30d2e/API%20
Services%20-%20Creating%20a%20Proxy%20-%20Spike%20Arrest)

The runtime Spike Arrest behavior differs from what you might expect to see from the literal per-minute or per-second values you enter.

For example, say you enter a rate of 20pm (20 requests per minute). In testing, you might think you could send 20 requests in 1 second, as long as they came within a minute. But that's not how the policy enforces the setting. If you think about it, 20 requests inside a 1-second period could be considered a mini spike in some environments.

What actually happens, then? To prevent spike-like behavior, Spike Arrest smooths the allowed traffic by dividing your settings into smaller intervals:

Per-minute rates get smoothed into requests allowed intervals of seconds. For example, 10pm gets smoothed like this:

60 seconds (1 minute) / 10pm = 6-second intervals, or about 1 request allowed every 6 seconds. A second request inside of 6 seconds will fail. Also, a 11th request within a minute will fail.

Per-second rates get smoothed into requests allowed in intervals of milliseconds.

For example, 10ps gets smoothed like this:

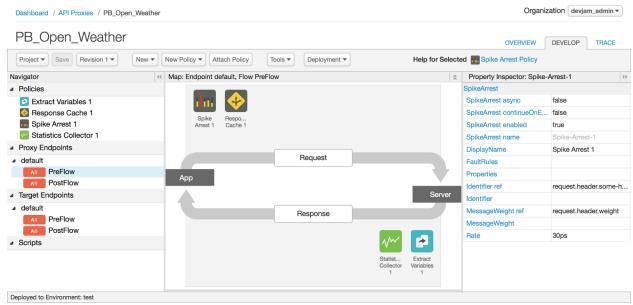
1000 milliseconds (1 second) / 10ps = 100-millisecond intervals, or about 1 request allowed every 100 milliseconds . A second request inside of 100ms will fail. Also, an 11th request within a second will fail.

Visit this <u>link</u> "How it works" section for additional details.

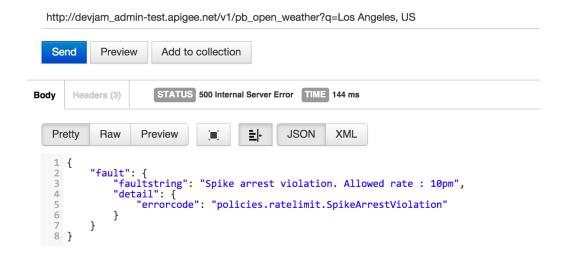
b. Now drag and move the "Spike Arrest" policy to before the "Response Cache" policy. (Best Practice - The Spike Arrest policy should normally be the first policy in the request pipeline as a best practice). You should see the screen like this:





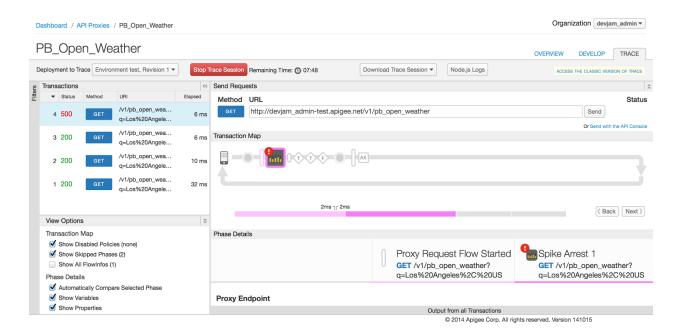


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- c. Now lets go and put the Spike Arrest policy to test. Click on the "Trace Section" and click the "Start Trace Session" button so that it turns red in color.
- d. Go to POSTMAN and hit the proxy endpoint a few times, you should see that in sometime the Spike Arrest policy kicks in and prevents additional requests from hitting the backend target endpoint. You can see the trace tool which captures the Spike Arrest policy violation event.









Summary

In this lab you created a simple API proxy and added a few policies including Extract Variables, Response Caching, Statistics Collector and Spike Arrest. You used the trace tool to troubleshoot how the proxy responds to a request. Please visit the <u>documentation</u> to see the different kinds of policies you can decorate your proxies with.