



Securing Cloud Native Communication: From End User to Service

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Traditional IT approach to network security





tl;dr

Security is everyone's responsibility

Application modernisation leads to heterogeneous infra/networks

Defence in depth is vital: edge/service comms security is one part of this

Mind the gap(s)!

All security must have good UX / DevEx



Who are we?



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Security is everyone's responsibility

So, we don't want to scare you, but...



214

Records containing personal data are exploited every second

So, we don't want to scare you, but...



\$3,860,000

Is the average cost of a data breach

So, we don't want to scare you, but...



\$250 0


Tech news and analysis from around the world

BA hit by biggest GDPR fine so far



By Chris Nuttall in London
July 7, 2019

British Airways has suffered the [biggest fine](#) yet levied under the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), introduced in May last year to protect consumers' privacy and personal information.

The UK Information Commissioner's Office says it intends to fine BA £183m (€204m, \$229m) — 1.5 per cent of BA's worldwide turnover in 2017 — after it admitted that more than half a million customers' data had been [stolen by hackers](#) last August from its website and mobile app.

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\$700 Million Equifax Fine Is Still Too Little, Too Late

LILY HAY NEWMAN SECURITY 07.22.19 03:58 PM

\$700 MILLION EQUIFAX FINE IS STILL TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE



TAMI CHAPPELL/REUTERS

TWO YEARS AFTER its historic data breach, the credit bureau [Equifax](#) agreed Monday to pay at least \$575 million, and up to \$700 million, to settle enforcement actions with 50 US

So, we don't want to scare you, but...



72%

Increase in attacks between 2017 and 2018

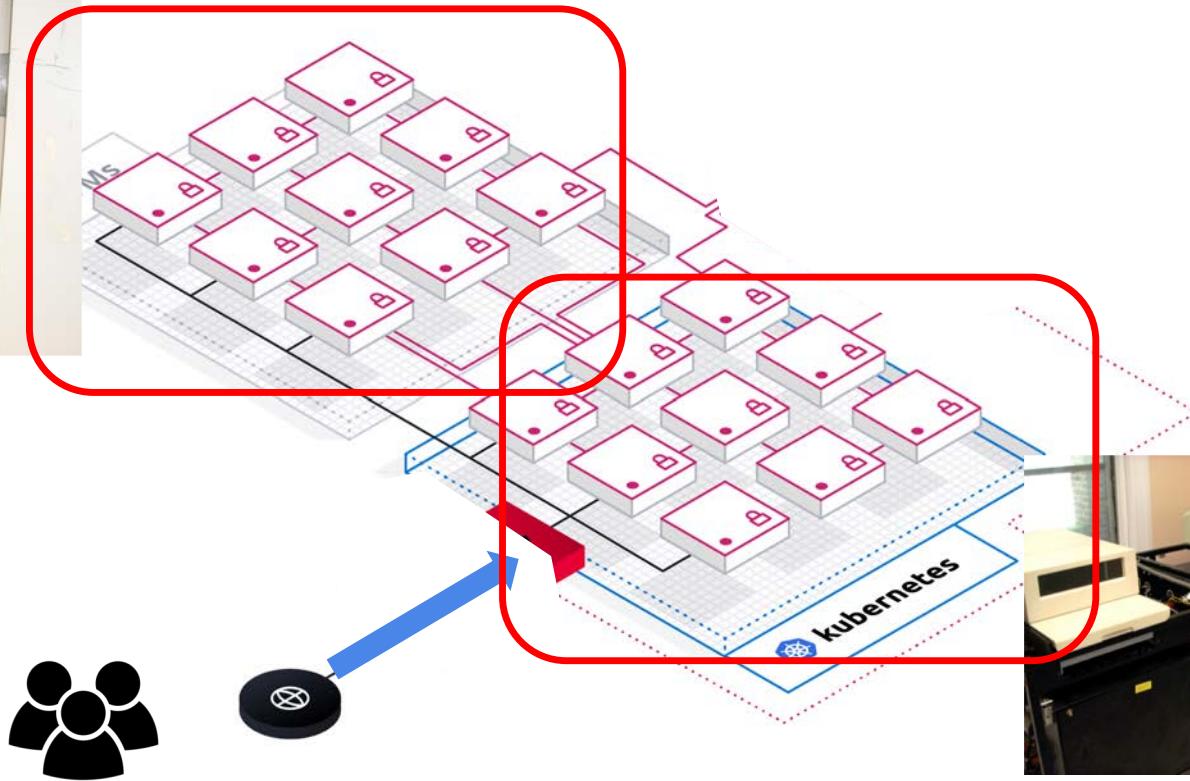
Gemalto Breach Level Index:

<https://breachlevelindex.com/>

IBM Cost of a Data Breach Study:

<https://www.ibm.com/security/data-breach>

Application modernisation: Gift and curse



Defence in depth

Defence in depth is vital



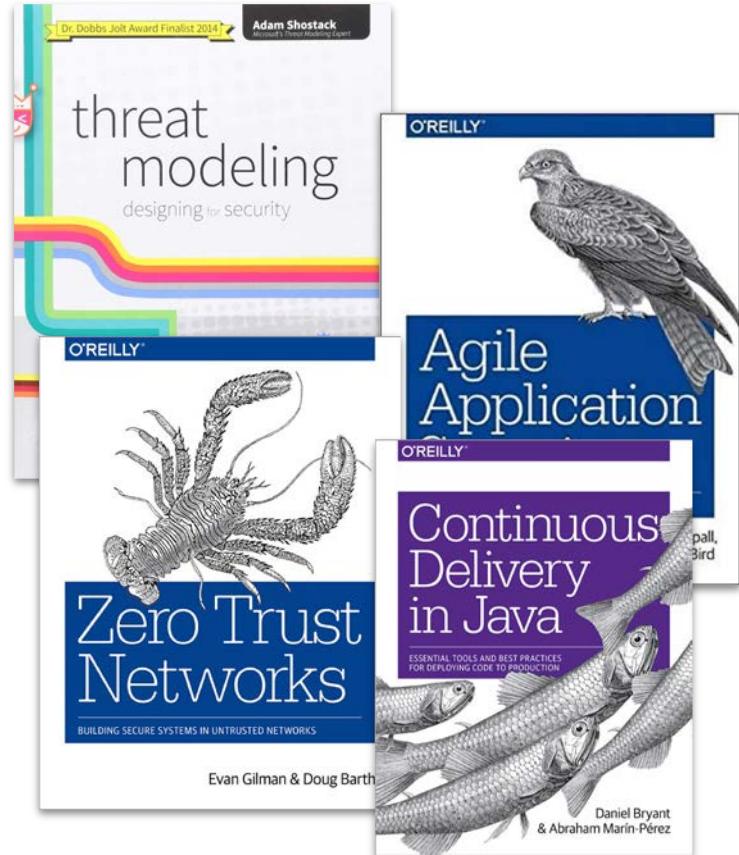
Harden and scan infrastructure

Scan code, dependencies, packages

Encrypt data at rest

Encrypt data in transit

Principle of least privilege



Defence in depth is vital



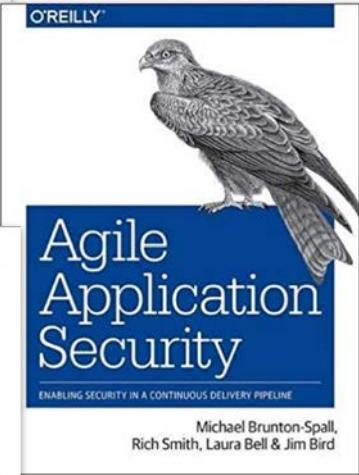
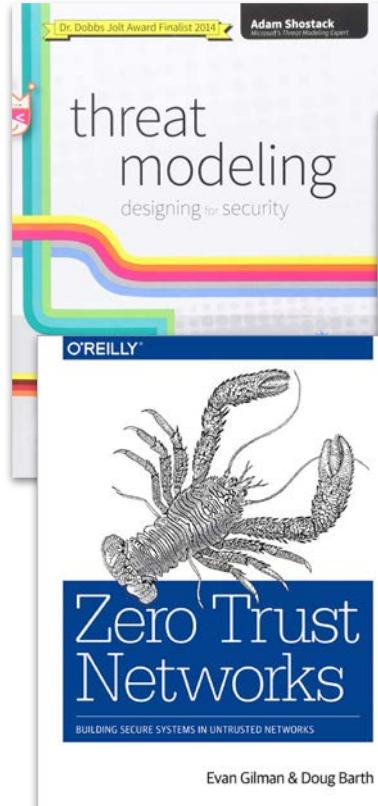
Harden and scan infrastructure

Scan code, dependencies, packages

Encrypt data at rest

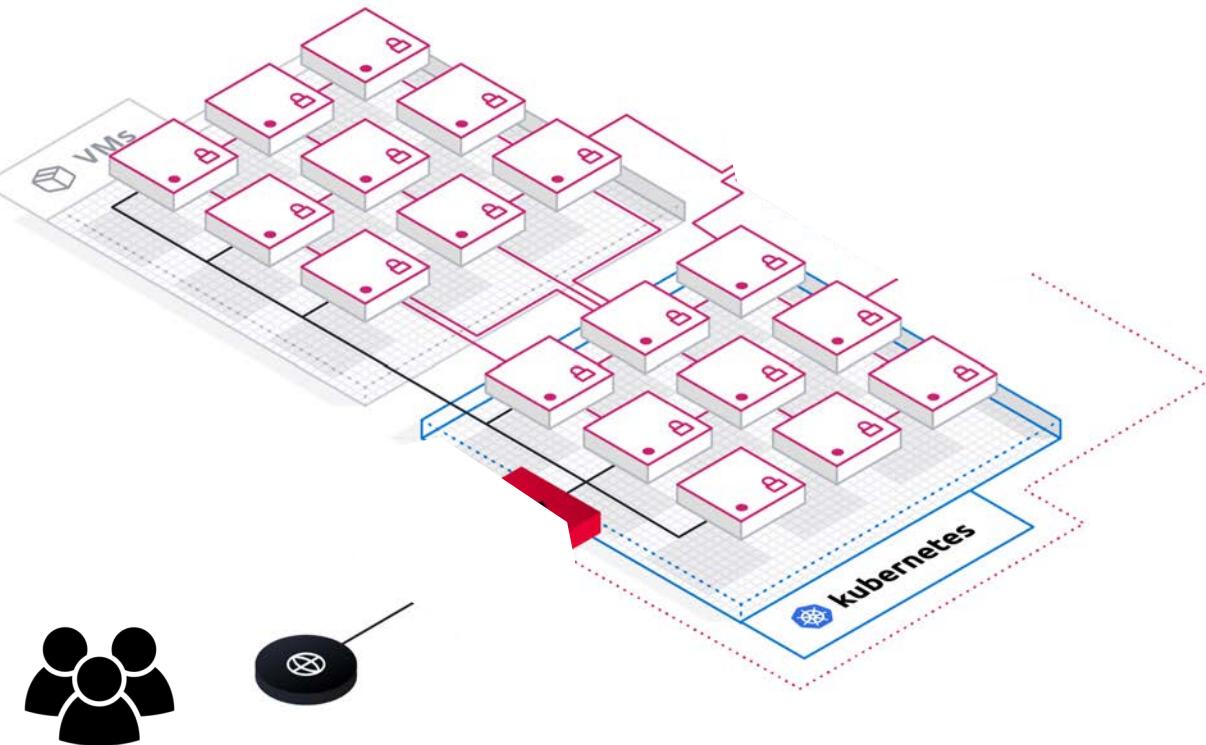
Encrypt data in transit

Principle of least privilege

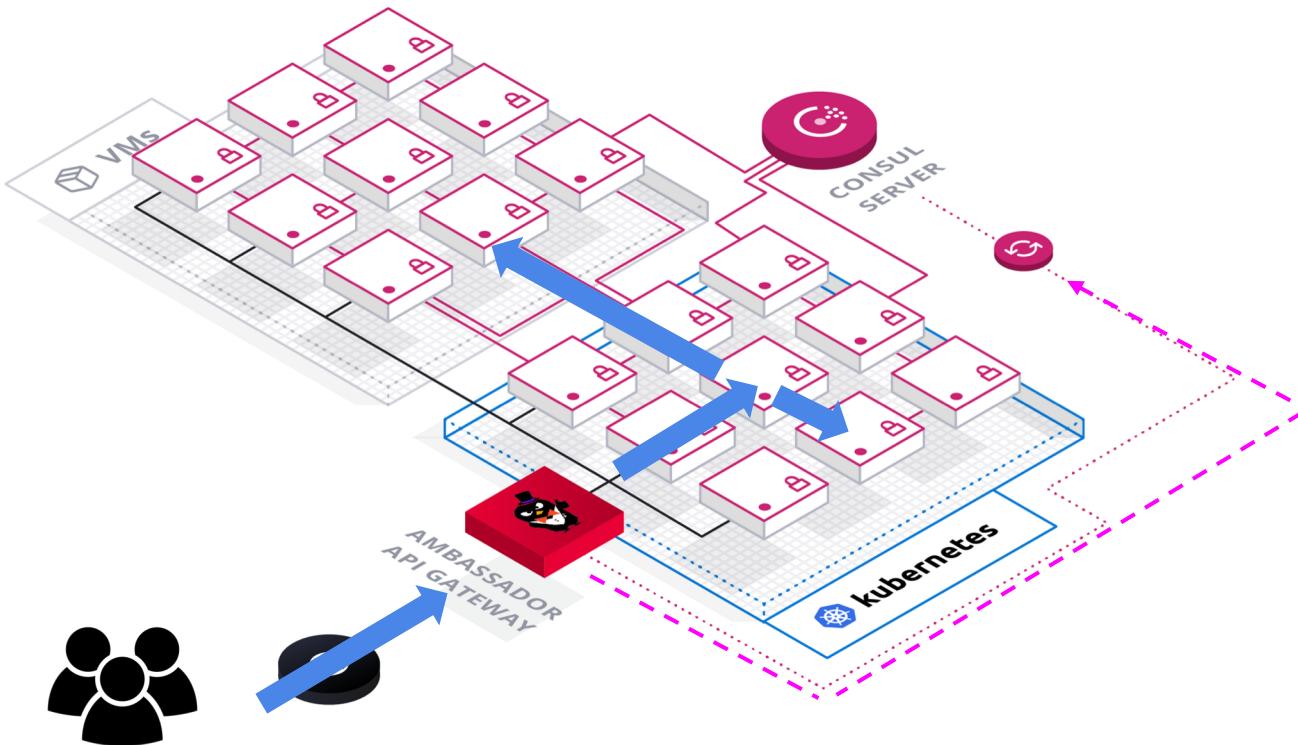




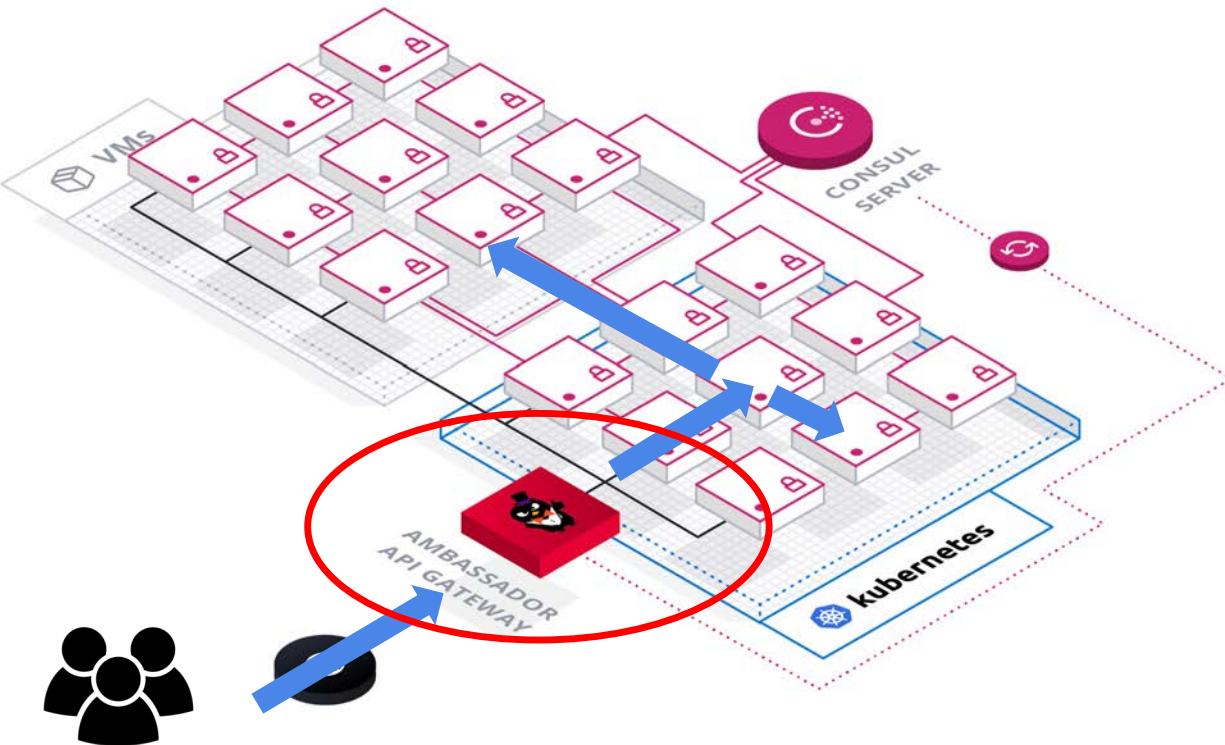
Exploring end-to-end communication



Exploring end-to-end communication



Exploring end-to-end communication





API Gateway: *Edge proxy, ingress, ADC...*

Exposes internal services to end-users (via multiple domains)

Encapsulates backends: k8s, VMs, bare metal etc

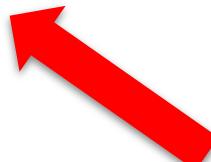
TLS termination: enforcing minimum TLS version

End-user authentication/authorization (add token/JWT for propagation)

Rate limiting: DDoS protection, etc

Ambassador config

```
---  
apiVersion: getambassador.io/v1  
kind: Mapping  
metadata:  
  name: consul-api-mapping  
  namespace: default  
spec:  
  prefix: /api/  
  timeout_ms: 20000  
  host: emojify.today  
  service: emojify-api-sidecar-proxy  
  resolver: consul-dc1  
  tls: ambassador-consul  
  load_balancer:  
    policy: round_robin
```



AMBASSADOR FEATURES DOCS PRO CASE STUDIES BLOG GITHUB NEED HELP? DATAWIRE

```
---  
apiVersion: getambassador.io/v1  
kind: Module  
metadata:  
  name: tls  
  namespace: default  
spec:  
  config:  
    server:  
      enabled: true  
      secret: ambassador-certs  
      redirect_cleartext_from: 8080
```

Friends don't let friends manually issue TLS certs...



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FROM OUR BLOG

May 15, 2019 Introducing Oak, a Free and Open Certificate Transparency Log

Today we are announcing a new Certificate Transparency log called Oak.

Read more

Apr 15, 2019 Transitioning to ISRG's Root

On July 8, 2020, we will change the default intermediate certificate we provide via ACME. Most subscribers don't need to do anything. Subscribers who support very old TLS/SST clients may want to manually configure the older intermediate to increase backwards compatibility.

Read more

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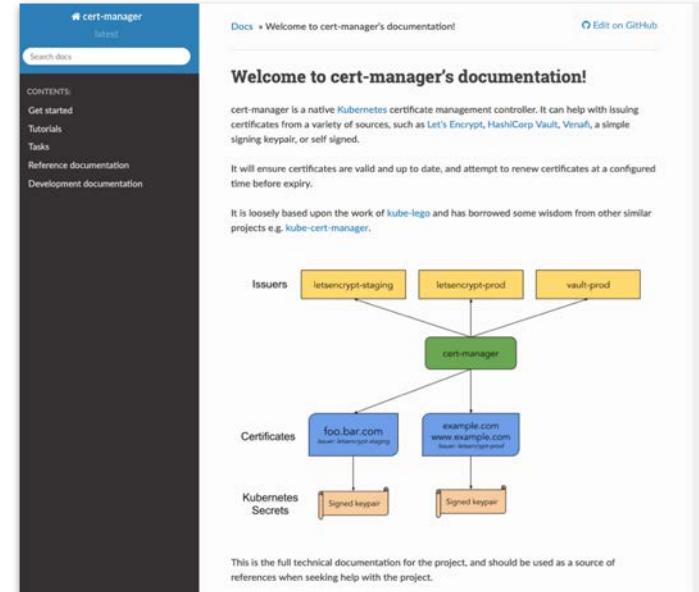
chrome Internet Society facebook IdenTrust

CloudFlare Akamai AUTOMATIC ALA

shopify CYON infomaniak HOSTPOINT

SitGround SUCURS VULTR PlanetHoster

云片 fastly 3CX





Quick Aside: CDNs

The screenshot shows the Cloudflare dashboard for the site danielbryantuk.com. The 'Origin Certificates' section is visible at the top. Below it, four sections are shown with red arrows pointing from the right side of the slide towards them:

- Always Use HTTPS**: A section to redirect all requests from "http" to "https". It has an "ON" toggle switch.
- HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS)**: A section to enforce web security policy. It has an "Enable HSTS" button.
- Authenticated Origin Pulls**: A section to present a TLS client certificate for authentication. It has an "ON" toggle switch.
- Minimum TLS Version**: A section to allow only HTTPS connections from visitors that support the selected TLS protocol version or newer. It has a dropdown menu set to "TLS 1.0 (default)".

<http://bit.ly/2JA0UAh>

https://www.securitee.org/files/cloudpiercer_ccs2015.pdf

**Maneuvering Around Clouds:
Bypassing Cloud-based Security Providers**

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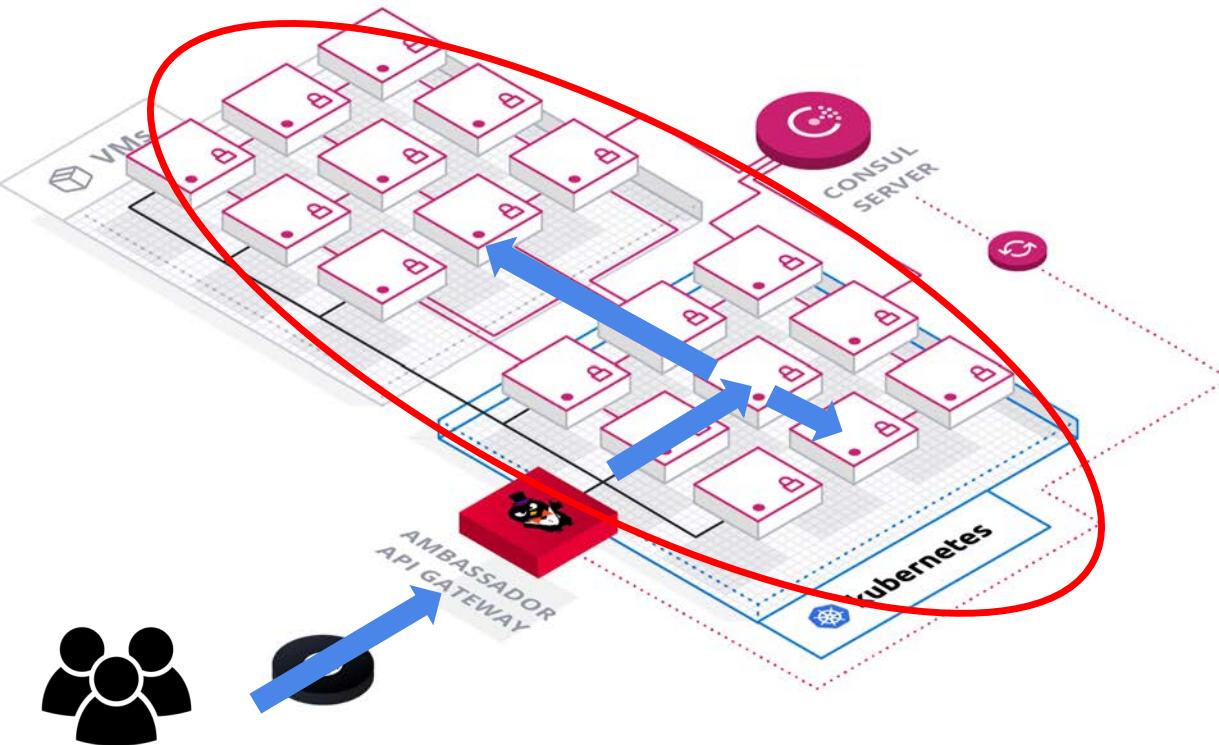
ABSTRACT
The increase of Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attacks in volume, frequency, and complexity, combined with the constant required alertness for mitigating web application threats, has caused many website owners to turn to Cloud-based Security Providers (CSPs) to protect their infrastructure. These solutions typically involve the rerouting of traffic from the original website through the CSP's network, where malicious traffic can be detected and absorbed before it ever reaches the website.
This research studies Cloud-based Security Providers do not require the purchase of dedicated traffic-rerouting hardware, but rely solely on changing the DNS settings of a domain name to reroute a website's traffic through their security infrastructure. Consequently, this rerouting mechanism can be completely circumvented by directly attacking the website's hosting IP address. Therefore, it is crucial for the security and availability of these websites that their real IP address remains hidden from potential attackers.

Categories and Subject Descriptors
C.2.0 [Computer-communication Networks]: [Security and protection]; K.6.5 [Security and Protection]: [Unauthorized access]

Keywords
Cloud-based security; DDoS attacks; Web attacks

1. INTRODUCTION
Although Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attacks have threatened the availability of online services for years, attacks are rapidly increasing in volume, complexity and frequency. Early 2014, the Network Time Protocol (NTP) was exploited in order to conduct amplification attacks [45] of previously unseen magnitudes, leading to multiple record-breaking volumetric attacks that reached up to 500 Gbps [35, 52]. Unfortunately, these powerful attacks are no longer ex-

Exploring end-to-end communication





Service Mesh: *Proxy mesh, Fabric model...*

Exposes internal services to internal consumers

Encapsulates service infra: across k8s, VMs, bare metal etc

mTLS: service identity and traffic encryption

ACLs and intentions: infra/service identity-based access

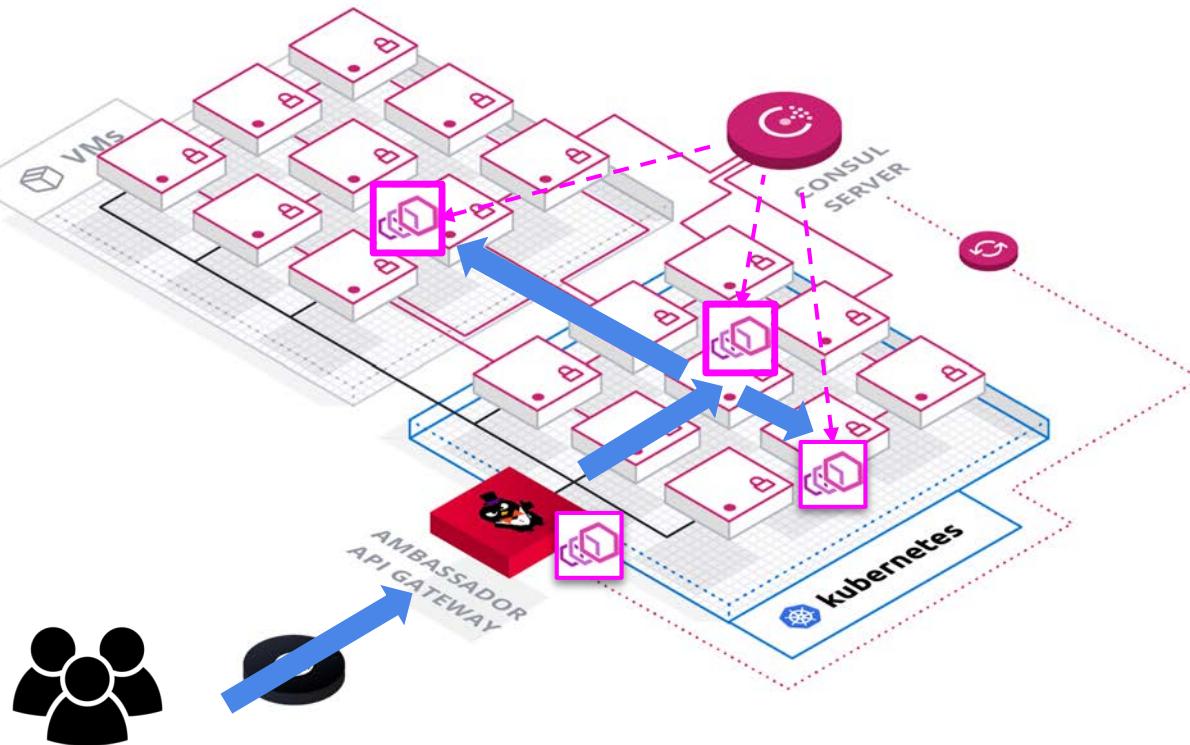
Enforce metadata (but apps need to propagate headers/tokens)



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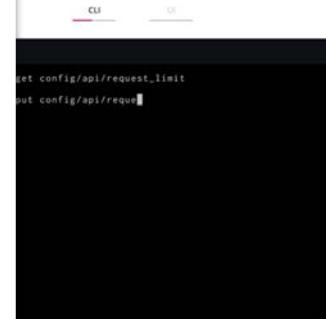
envoy



Consul config

```
---
```

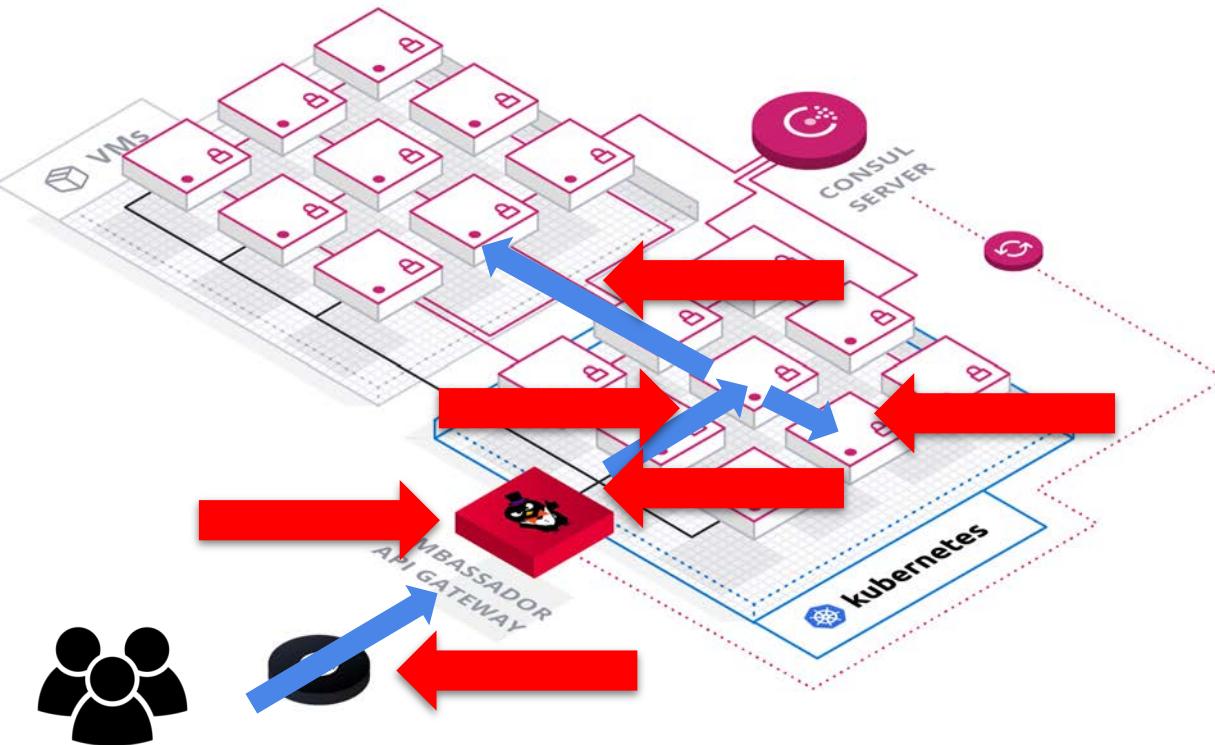
```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: emojify-api
  labels:
    app: emojify-api
spec:
  replicas: 1
  selector:
    matchLabels:
      app: emojify-api
  template:
    metadata:
      labels:
        app: emojify-api
    annotations:
      "consul.hashicorp.com/connect-inject": "true"
      "consul.hashicorp.com/connect-service-protocol": "http"
      "consul.hashicorp.com/connect-service-upstreams": "emojify-facetect:8003,emojify-cache:8005"
      "prometheus_io_scrape": "true"
  spec:
```



A blurred photograph of a subway platform. In the center, a black and yellow "Mind the Gap" safety sign is visible, mounted on a metal railing. The background is dark and out of focus.

MIND THE GAP

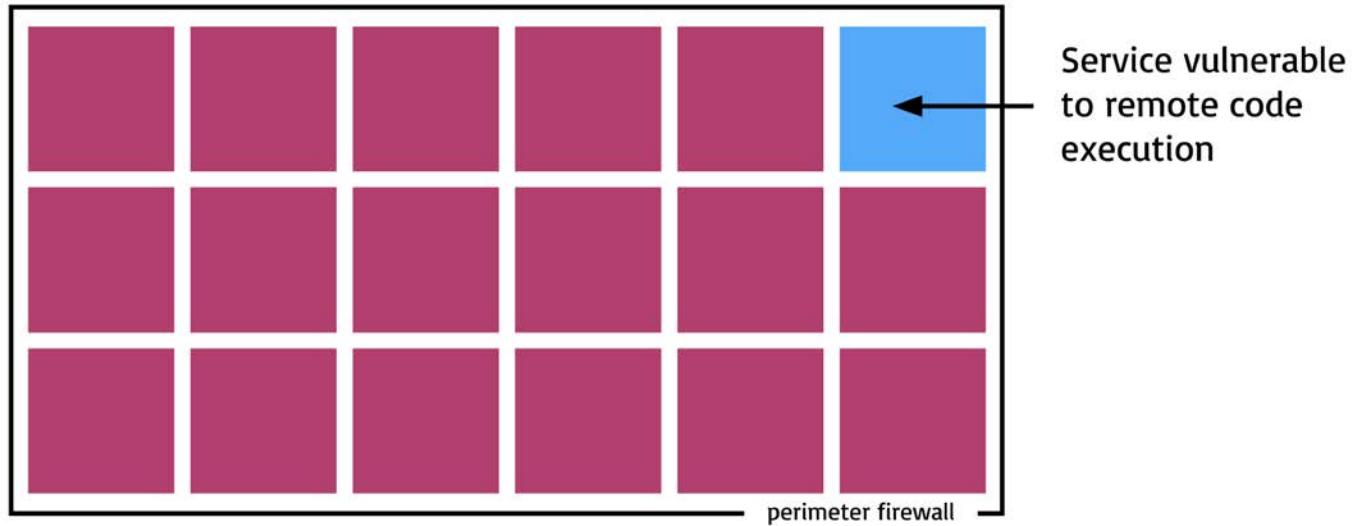
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Identity and network segmentation

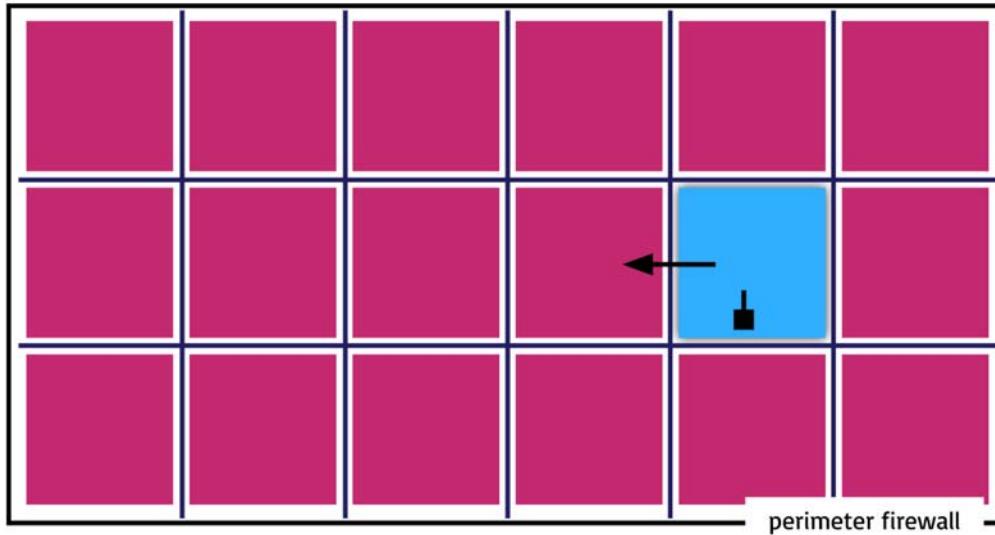


Bypass the perimeter by attacking services



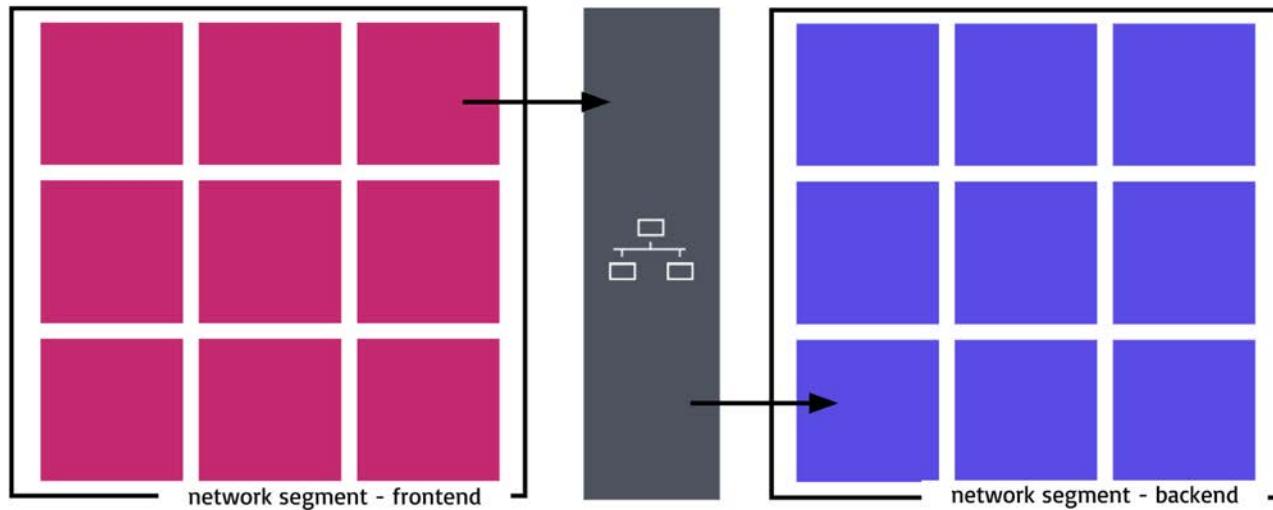


We need internal network isolation



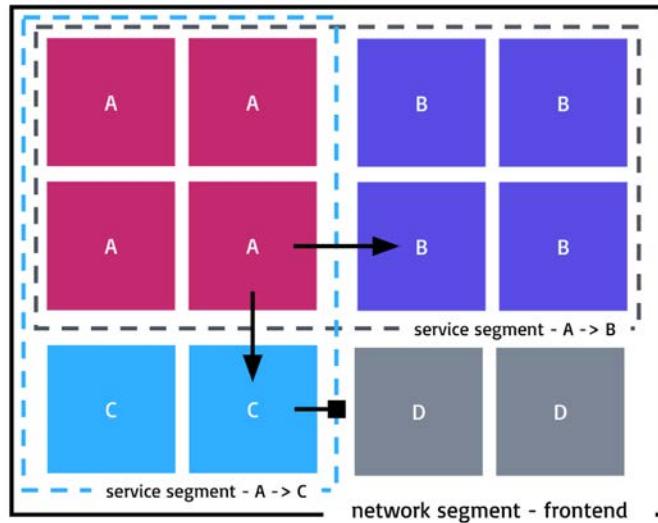


Network segmentation



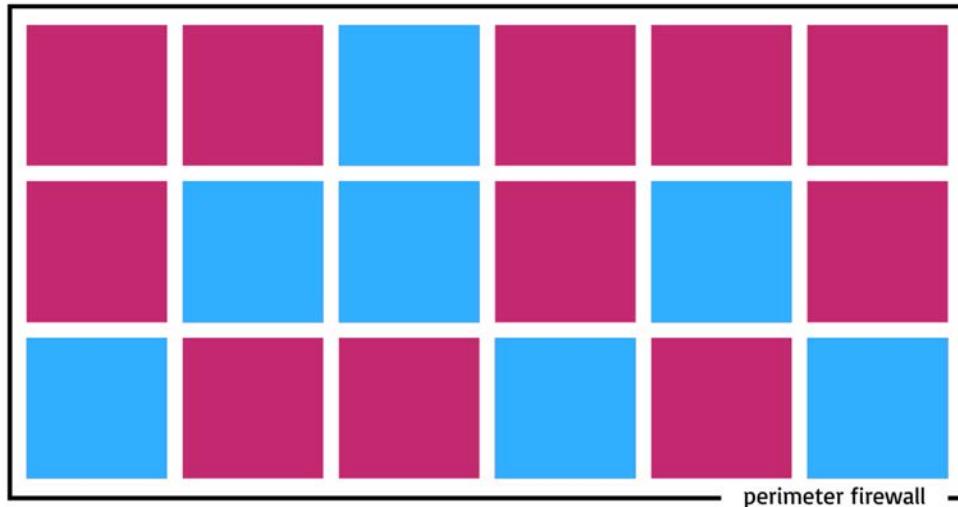


Service segmentation



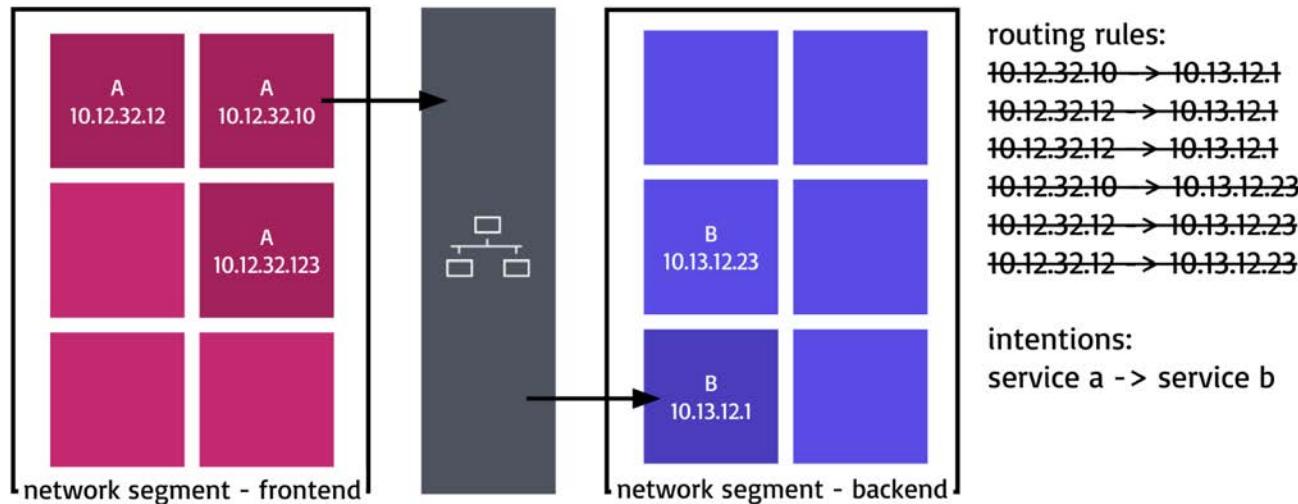


Problem: Dynamic environments...

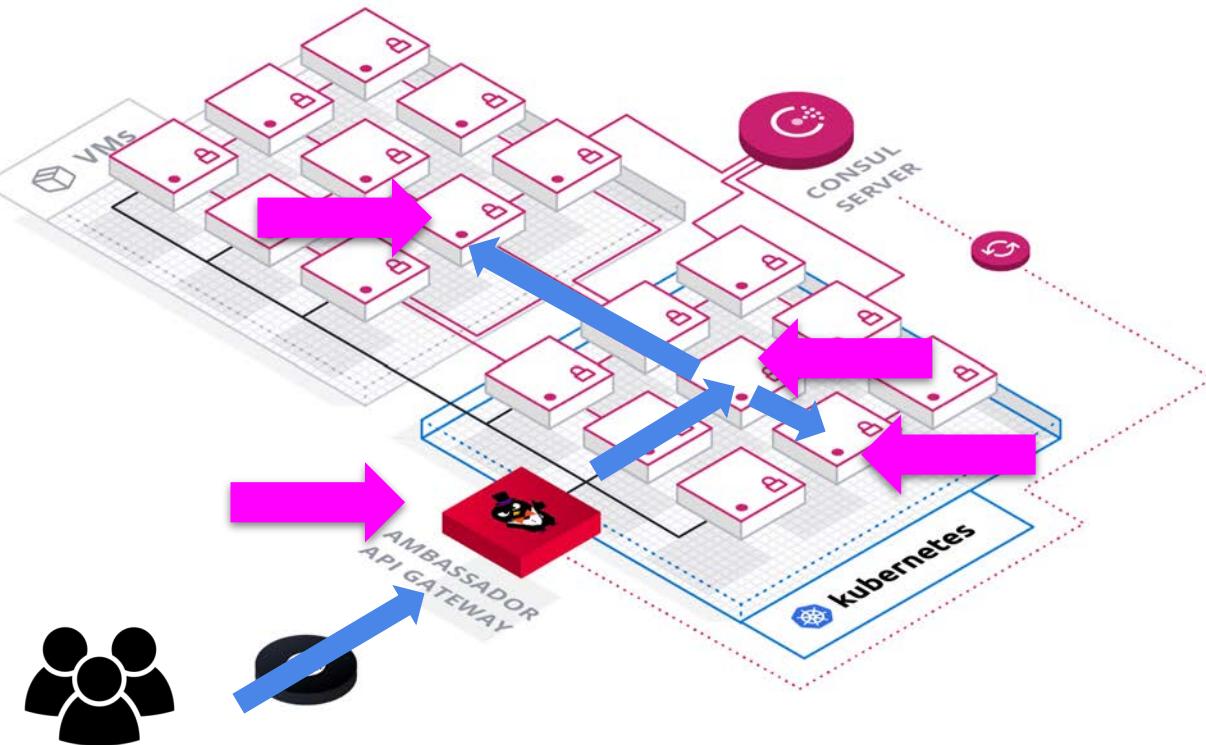




Network / Service segmentation with intention-based security



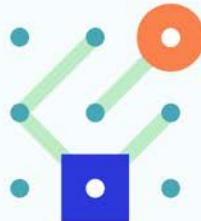
Exploring end-to-end communication



Consul config

```
---  
apiVersion: apps/v1  
kind: Deployment  
metadata:  
  name: emojify-api  
  labels:  
    app: emojify-api  
spec:
```

Service Mesh Interface



```
$ consul intention create -d  
Created: web => db (deny)
```

A standard interface for service meshes on Kubernetes.

```
---  
kind: TrafficTarget  
apiVersion: access.smi-spec.io/v1alpha1  
metadata:  
  name: emojify-website-targets  
  namespace: default  
destination:  
  kind: ServiceAccount  
  name: emojify-website  
  namespace: default  
sources:  
- kind: ServiceAccount  
  name: ambassador  
  namespace: default  
specs:  
- kind: TCPRoute  
  name: emojify-website-tcp-route
```





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Demo



Conclusion

Security is everyone's responsibility

Application modernisation leads to heterogeneous infra/networks

Defence in depth is vital: edge/service comms security is one part of this

Mind the gap(s)!

All security must have good UX / DevEx



References

Context:

- <https://www.infoq.com/articles/api-gateway-service-mesh-app-modernisation/>

Reference:

- <https://www.getambassador.io/user-guide/consul-connect-ambassador/>
- <https://www.getambassador.io/user-guide/consul/>
- <https://www.consul.io/docs/platform/k8s/ambassador.html>
- <https://www.hashicorp.com/blog/hashicorp-consul-supports-microsoft-s-new-service-mesh-framework>

Experiment in an Instruqt sandbox: <https://instruqt.com/hashicorp/tracks/sock-shop-tutorial>

Code examples: <https://github.com/emojify-app>



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Questions?



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Thanks!

@sheriffjackson | @danielbryantuk



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Bonus



Service Mesh: Three Pillars

Observability

- “Golden signals”: latency, errors, traffic, saturation (USE, RED)
- Both global and service-to-service

Reliability

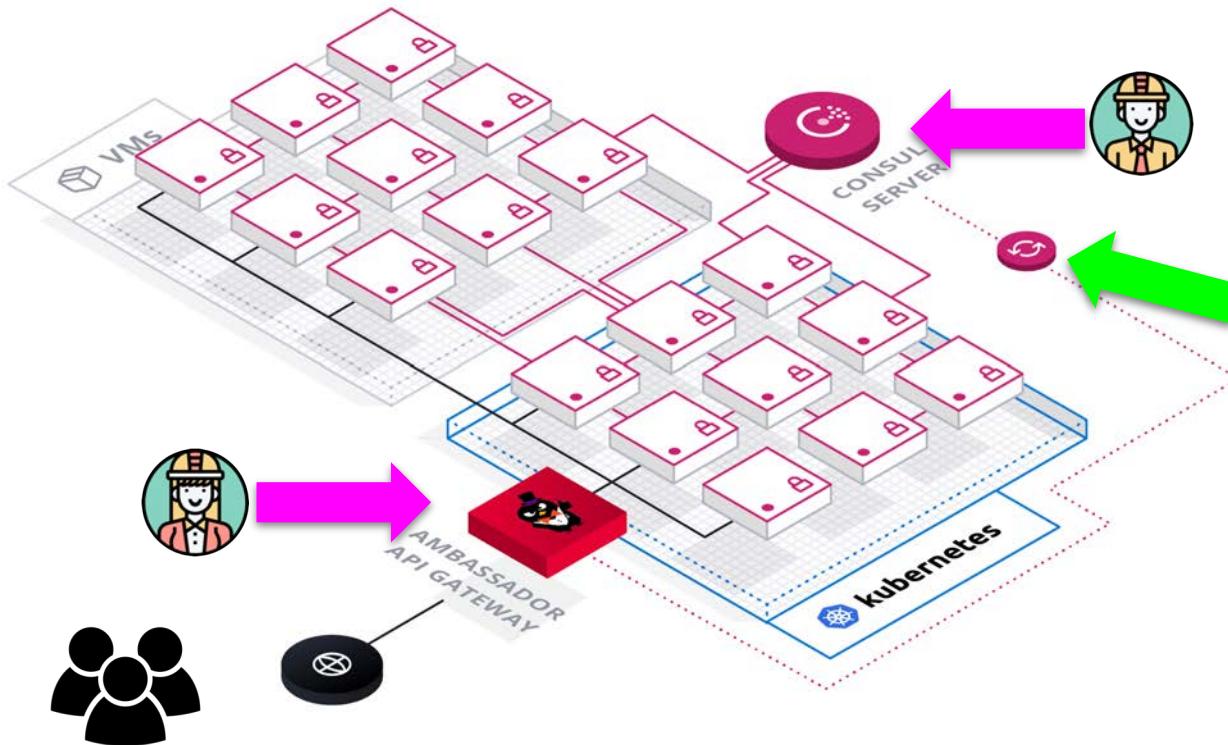
- Abstracting health checks, retries, circuit breakers etc.
- Providing sane default to protect system

Security

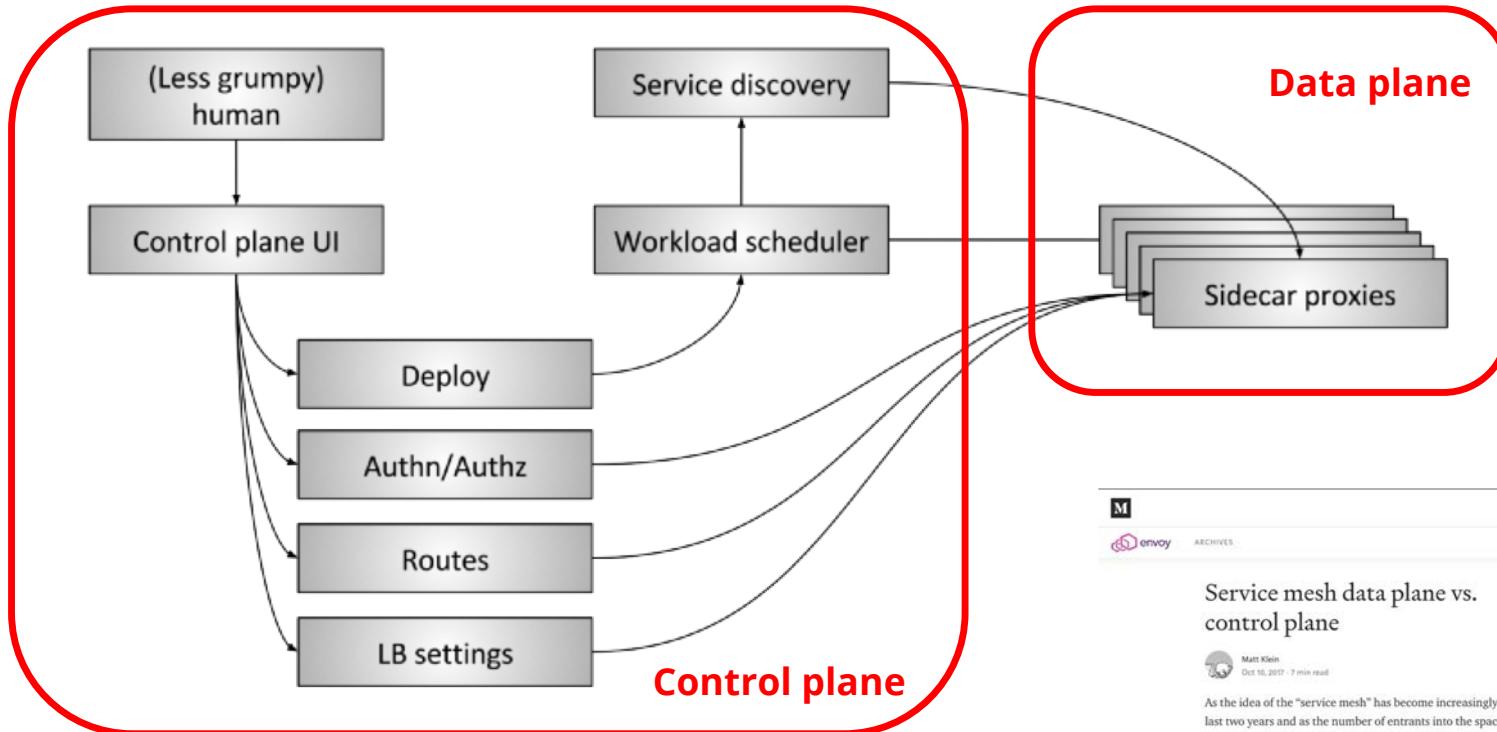
- Authn/z propagation, mTLS, network segmentation

Security must have good UX

Exploring end-to-end communication



Control planes and data planes



<https://blog.envoyproxy.io/service-mesh-data-plane-vs-control-plane-2774e720f7fc>



As the idea of the “service mesh” has become increasingly popular over the last two years and as the number of entrants into the space has swelled, I have seen a commensurate increase in confusion among the overall tech community around how to compare and contrast the different players.

The situation can best be summarized by the following series of tweets that I wrote in July:

Control planes: Differing use cases



North-south

- Unknown / untrusted clients
- Limited exposure of services (Mapping)
- Centralised ops ingress defaults + decentralised product team cfg

East-west

- Dynamic service information update required (multiple sources)
- Identity required for all services (mTLS + ACLs)
- “Sane” internal defaults + decentralised dev cfg



Ambassador + Consul

