

# Kong Meetup

How Automation Changed  
the Game in API Management

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June 2023

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# The days before web-based APIs

In-app and in-memory based APIs, custom network protocols

## Concepts

- Monolithic applications
- Function calls within the same application in memory or sockets on the same machine
- Exchange with external applications rare and in “crazy ways” (thing about floppy discs and FTP copied CSV files)

## Developer

-  Everything within the app  
-> no need to worry about extra security layers
-  Next to no agility  
-> slow and complex development

# ESB and SOAP

Applications split into services / sub-components

## Concepts

- Network used to have cross service communication
- SOAP as major communication protocol
- All security, routing and even transformation done by the ESB
- One big central carrier as single-point-of-failure

## Developer

- 🟡 Need to adopt SOAP and it's complex security model
- 🟢 Creating client software very easy thanks to WSDL
- 🔴 Services need to be registered in ESB
- 🟡 ESB administration in charge of permissions and routing
- 🔴 Configuration changes by experts only - long processes and waiting time
- 🔴 A lot of business logic embedded





# API Gateways

Offload the external communication to a more lightweight tool

## Concepts

- API Gateway more lightweight and easier to use - in comparison to an ESB(!)
- User interface driven
- Automation capabilities for specific use cases - most notable propagation from one environment to another (dump & restore)

## Developer

-  Does not need to reinvent the wheel for authentication, logging, ...
-  Services need to be registered in gateway
-  Gateway administration in charge of permissions and routing
-  Configuration changes by experts only - long processes and waiting time






# API First / REST APIs

“Everything is an API” - the game changer for full automation

## Concepts

- API Gateway very lightweight
- Every functionality automatable
- Designed to be automated

## Developer

-  Can automate whole configuration using scripts (curl, httpie, ...)
-  After pipeline is created no more extra work needed
-  No need to go through a centralized API Gateway team
-  **APIOps come true**
-  Needs to create / use shell scripts

## Admin API

**BETA** Kong Gateway API specs now available!

SPEC	DEVELOPER PORTAL LINK	INSOMNIA LINK
Enterprise beta API spec	<a href="#">Developer Portal</a>	<a href="#">Run in Insomnia</a>
Open source beta API spec	<a href="#">Developer Portal</a>	<a href="#">Run in Insomnia</a>

Kong Gateway comes with an **internal** RESTful Admin API for administration purposes. Requests to the Admin API can be sent to any node in the cluster, and Kong will keep the configuration consistent across all nodes.

- 8001 is the default port on which the Admin API listens.
- 8444 is the default port for HTTPS traffic to the Admin API.

This API is designed for internal use and provides full control over Kong, so care should be taken when setting up Kong environments to avoid undue public exposure of this API. See [this document](#) for a discussion of methods to secure the Admin API.

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- 8444 is the default port for HTTPS traffic to the Admin API.
- 8001 is the default port on which the Admin API listens.

```

$ http :8001/services name=berlinMeetup url=http://httpin.apim.eu/anything
HTTP/1.1 201 Created
Access-Control-Allow-Credentials: true
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: http://localhost:8002
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Length: 383
Content-Type: application/json; charset=utf-8
Date: Wed, 31 May 2023 11:26:37 GMT
Server: kong/3.3.0-enterprise-edition
X-Kong-Admin-Latency: 373
X-Kong-Admin-Request-ID: VfYaN7v5FtPgDxXaw5kR4P7LUMmv8gIk
vary: Origin

```

```

{
  "ca_certificates": null,
  "client_certificate": null,
  "connect_timeout": 60000,
  "created_at": 1685532397,
  "enabled": true,
  "host": "httpin.apim.eu",
  "id": "2d29d661-bd81-47de-a553-3817c298f106",
  "name": "berlinMeetup",
  "path": "/anything",
  "port": 80,
  "protocol": "http",
  "b640f0c0j": "u4fb",
  "b0lf": 80,
  "b9fp": "9uafpju3",
  "u9w6": "peltjuw66fnb",
  "tq": "3q5a9e0j-pq8j-41q6-9223-38j1c5a8t10e",
  "p02k": "u4fbju3btw6n",
  "kubstet": "kong"
}

```

<https://docs.konghq.com/gateway/latest/admin-api/>




# Declarative (deck)

Becoming non-imperative removes complexity

## Concepts

- Instead of telling the gateway exactly what you want in this second describe the desired state
- YAML files are very readable
- YAML files can easily be stored and diff'ed in a version control system

## Developer

-  Just needs to (auto-)generate a YAML file
-  Publishing pipelines based on easy readable YAML files
-  Needs to only know the structure and possible values in the YAML file



```
AWS: sandbox sven@NCC-1701-E ~/konnct/2-create-contents/subScripts/deck main
$ ls
info.yaml hmacAuth.yaml ratelimiting.yaml
acl.yaml jq.yaml regex.yaml
awsLambda.yaml jwt-signer.yaml requestValidation.yaml
azureFunction.yaml jwt.yaml responseTransformerAdvanced.yaml
basicAuth.yaml keyAuth.yaml routeByHeader.yaml
caching.yaml ldap.yaml routeTransformerAdvanced.yaml
canary.yaml mesh.yaml saml-azure.yaml
combined.yaml oidc-auth0.yaml services.yaml
consumer_groups.yaml oidc-azure.yaml session.yaml
consumer_groups_rate_limiting.yaml oidc-cidass.yaml soap.yaml
consumers.yaml oidc-cognito.yaml status.yaml
contactForm.yaml oidc-google.yaml tcpUpstream.yaml
correlationId.yaml oidc-keycloak.yaml transformJsonBody.yaml
cors.yaml oidc-okta.yaml transformerAdvanced.yaml
degraphql.yaml oidc-ping.yaml udp.yaml
exit-transformer.yaml oidcIntrospection.yaml upstreams.yaml
goldSilverFree.yaml orchestrated.yaml xml-threat-protection.yaml
graphql.yaml pre-function.yaml
hashicorp-vault.yaml proxy.yaml
```

```
AWS: sandbox sven@NCC-1701-E ~/konnct/2-create-contents/subScripts/deck main
$ deck sync -s .
```

```
VM2: 290qprox 2Λ6U6UCC-1J0J-E w\K0Uu6Cf\5-C169f6-C0Uf6Uf2\2np2CLfBf2\q6CK w9TJ
μ92μT COLB-A9NJTf' 99WT b10xh' 99WT
Δ19bμdT' 99WT b16- fNucfTou' 99WT
Δ0TQ2TJΛ6U6L66' 99WT o1Cμ62fL9f6q' 99WT xWT-fμ169f-b10f6CfTou' 99WT
6XTf-fL9U2f0LW6L' 99WT OTQCfUfL02b6CfTou' 99WT n62fL69WT' 99WT
n62fL69WT' 99WT OTQCfUfL02b6CfTou' 99WT n62fL69WT' 99WT
```

```
services:
- connect_timeout: 60000
  enabled: true
  host: swapi-graphql.netlify.app
  name: StarWars
  path: /.netlify/functions/index
  port: 443
  protocol: https
  read_timeout: 60000
  retries: 5
  routes:
  - https_redirect_status_code: 426
    name: StarWars
    path_handling: v0
    paths:
    - /starWars
  plugins:
  - config:
      credentials: false
      exposed_headers: null
      headers: null
      max_age: null
      methods:
      - GET
      - GET1
      wefμoqs:
      w9x'9d6: uNJT
      μ99q61s: uNJT
      exb09eq'μ99q61s: uNJT
      c169f6Uf19T6: f9T66
```

<https://docs.konghq.com/deck/latest/>







# Kubernetes Ingress Controller

Follow the de-facto standard of modern software deployment

## Concepts

- Instead of telling the gateway exactly what you want in this second describe the desired state
- YAML files are very readable
- YAML files can easily be stored and diff'ed in a version control system
- Ingress ressources are standardized and well known

## Developer

-  Just needs to (auto-)generate a YAML file
-  Publishing pipelines based on easy readable YAML files
-  Needs to only know the structure and possible values in the YAML file
-  Only available when Kubernetes or Openshift are being used



```
$ cat keyAuth.yaml
apiVersion: configuration.konghq.com/v1
kind: KongPlugin
metadata:
  name: demo-key-auth
  namespace: backends
  plugin: key-auth
---
apiVersion: networking.k8s.io/v1
kind: Ingress
metadata:
  name: demo-key-auth
  namespace: backends
  annotations:
    konghq.com/plugins: demo-key-auth
    konghq.com/strip-path: "true"
    kubernetes.io/ingress.class: kong
spec:
  rules:
  - http:
      paths:
      - path: /kic/keyAuth
        pathType: Prefix
        backend:
          service:
            name: httpbin
            port:
              number: 8080
```

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kubernetes\\_logo\\_without\\_workmark.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kubernetes_logo_without_workmark.svg)  
<https://docs.konghq.com/kubernetes-ingress-controller/latest/>

```
aws sandbox sven@NCC-1701-E ~/connect/5-flows/kong-ingress-controller/definitions main
$ kubectl apply -f keyAuth.yaml
```

```
krpccfj ebbjl -t kelyngm·λswj
ym2: sduqpoX slevuNCC-1701-E
unwpeL: 8080
  bolg:
    uswe: μrigrpu
    seLAtce:
      packeuc:
        ba,μi/be: μrigrpu
        bolg: sduqpoX
```

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kubernetes\\_logo\\_without\\_workmark.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kubernetes_logo_without_workmark.svg)  
<https://docs.konghq.com/kubernetes-ingress-controller/latest/>

# OpenAPI as source of truth

## Re-use already being created documentation

### Concepts

- OpenAPI (Swagger) has won the documentation wars and is the standard to describe (REST) APIs
- In a documentation first approach an API is only created when OpenAPI already has been designed
- Alternative are auto-generated OpenAPI specs from the code

### Developer

- 🟢 Can use a file format being used every day anyway
- 🟢 In best case does not even need to know that an API Gateway even exists and what to do about it
- 🟢 Automation based on existing assets
- 🟢 Documentation and implementation are in sync by design
- 🟡 A lot of moving parts / tools



**Insomnia**

OpenAPI  
Design

Test Case  
generation



**GitHub  
Actions**

CI/CD  
Pipeline



**inso-cli**

Execute test  
cases

Generate  
declarative  
configuration



**yq**

Patch  
generated  
YAML

Update URLs

Include  
plugins

...



**Kong/deck**

deck: Configuration management and drift  
detection for Kong

<https://insomnia.rest/>  
<https://github.com/features/actions>  
<https://github.com/mikefarah/yq>



# OpenAPI - Titan level

## Heading off for the next stage

### Concepts

- OpenAPI (Swagger) has won the documentation wars and is the standard to describe (REST) APIs
- In a documentation first approach an API is only created when OpenAPI already has been designed
- Alternative are auto-generated OpenAPI specs from the code

### Developer

- ❤️ Can use a file format being used every day anyway
- ❤️ In best case does not even need to know that an API Gateway even exists and what to do about it
- ❤️ Automation based existing assets
- ❤️ Documentation and implementation are in sync by design
- ❤️❤️ **Revamped focused tooling set**

## Kong/deck

deck: Configuration management and drift detection for Kong



# kced

<https://github.com/Kong/go-apiops>



# Thank You

GitHub link to CI/CD examples:

<https://github.com/svenwal/kong-meetup-berlin-june-2023>

