

API Design

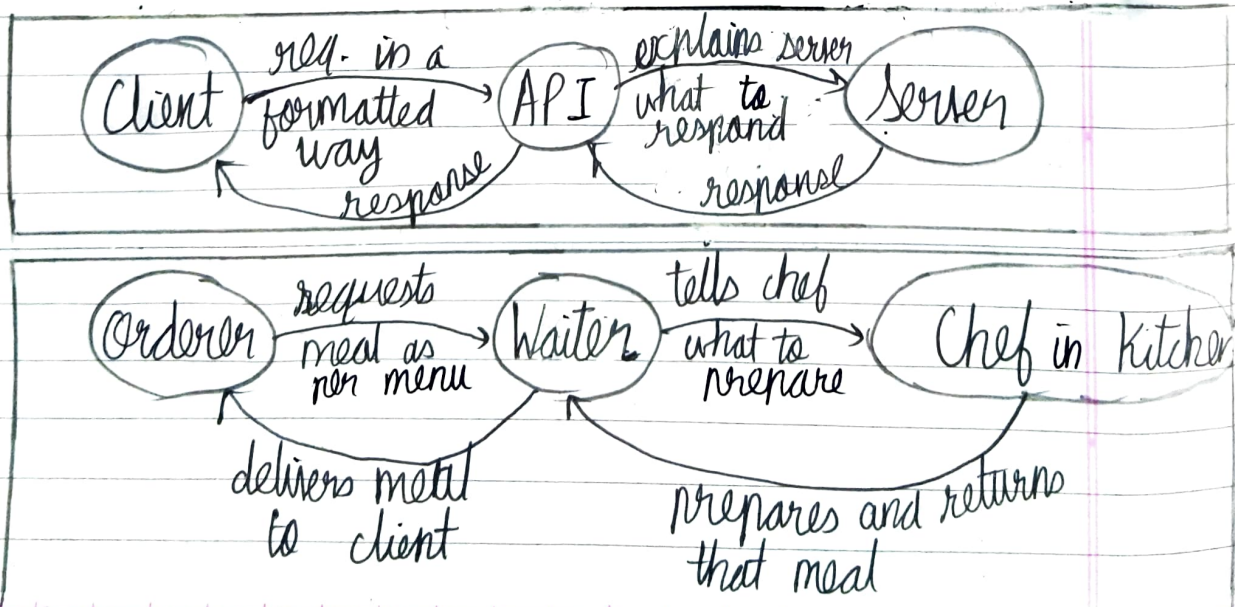
IMP: A "sibling" of sys. design and NOT a "subset"

Importance of API design:

API → Application Program Interface

- ↳ A contract provided by 1 piece of software to another piece of software
- ↳ Consists of structured req., res.
One piece of software says "gimme this info formatted in this way and I'll return this f"/data/whatever reqd. res. is

↳ Analogy: Ordering food in a restaurant



API is at the core of a service's backend.

Also certain software products like Stripe (payment transacⁿ authenticatⁿ and conducⁿ service) have the API as the core/main service (enablin payments)

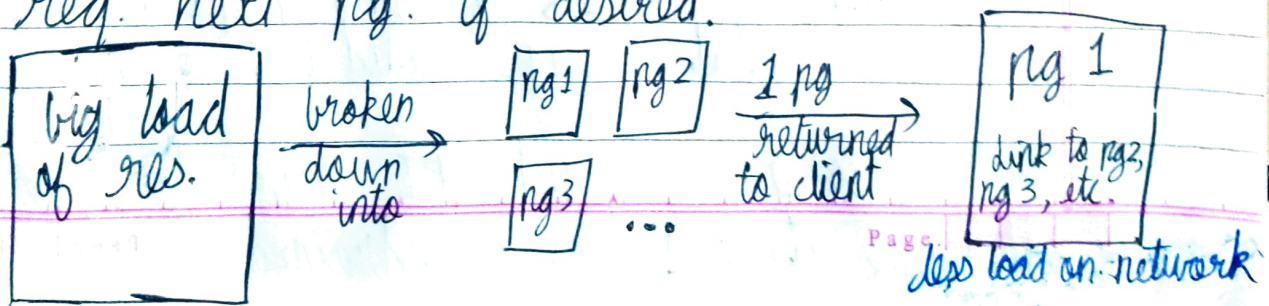
API Design Importance

- ① A lotta customers ^{or services} gonna use your API/depend on your API
- ② Any decision in its designing (eg:- name of param. in an endpt.) has huge impacts on users
- ③ ∴ When a new API is developed, its gotta go thru a rigorous design & review process to make it easy to use and update

Some salient API design features

Paginaⁿ:

When a network req potentially warrants a really large res., the relevant API might be designed to return only a single or couple page(s) of that res. (i.e. a "page" of the res. accompanied by the identifier/token for client to req. next pg. if desired.



Pagination is often used to list endpoints.
eg:- Endpoint to list videos on the YouTube
streaming page

1) Cannot expect just 1 endpoint to return a huge list of video.

ii) Reason - It wouldn't perform very well on mobile device due to lower network speeds (unoptimal)

Also, unoptimal cuz most users only scroll from 1st 10 or 20 video.

iii) API is designed to respond with only the 1st few video. of that list. i.e. API res. is paginated.

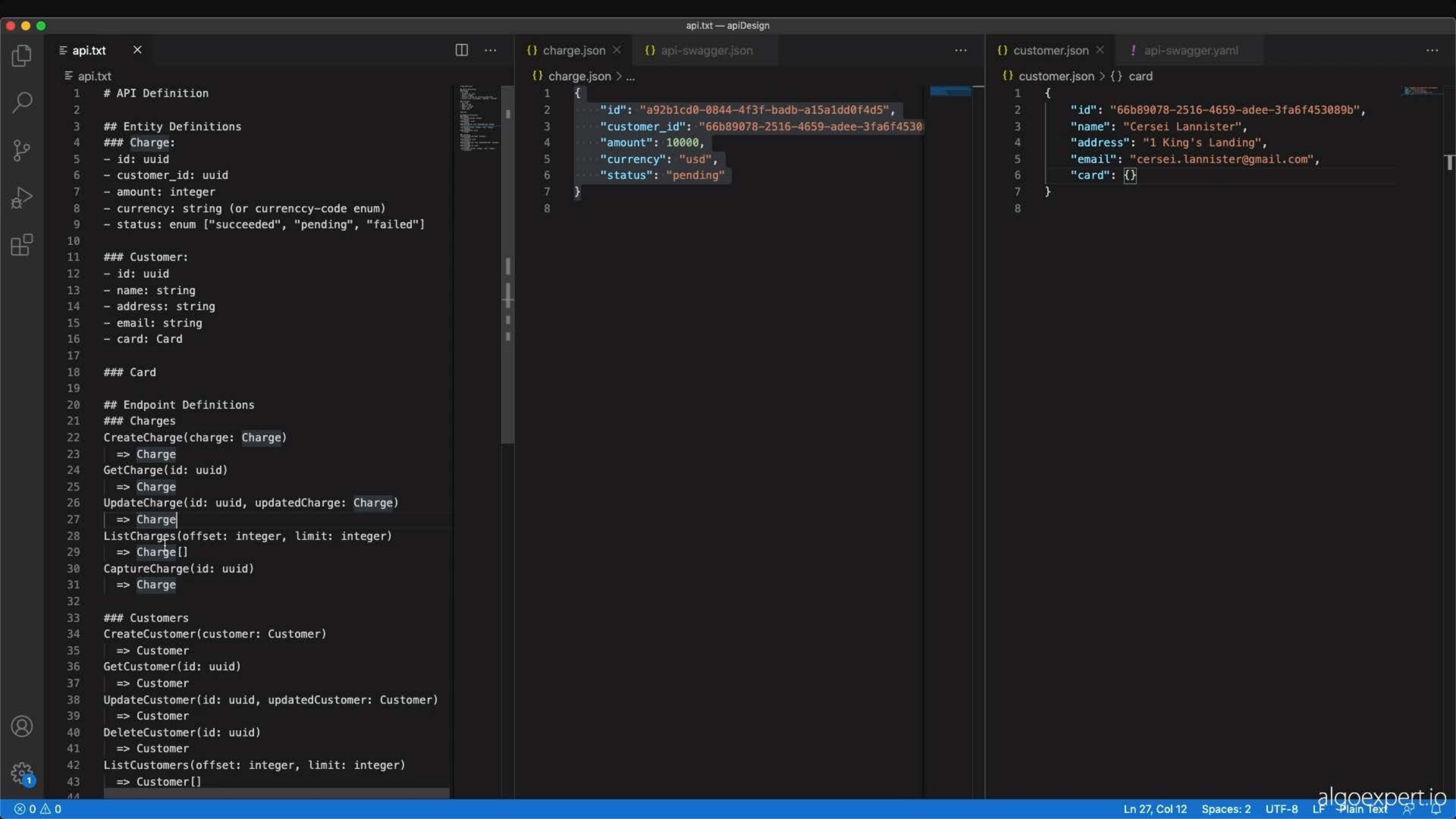
CRUD ops.

C - Create
R - Read
U - Update
D - Delete
4 ops. serve as a feedback of a fn's ops and. And themselves at the core of a lotta APIs.

PRO-TIPS :

① Read up APIs of some popular services.
eg:- Github, Google Cloud IoT

② Try to figure out API design for a service then see if API docs to understand how close you are.



api.txt

api.txt

```
1 # API Definition
2
3 ## Entity Definitions
4 ### Charge:
5 - id: uuid
6 - customer_id: uuid
7 - amount: integer
8 - currency: string (or currency-code enum)
9 - status: enum ["succeeded", "pending", "failed"]
10
11 ### Customer:
12 - id: uuid
13 - name: string
14 - address: string
15 - email: string
16 - card: Card
17
18 ### Card
19
20 ## Endpoint Definitions
21 ### Charges
22 CreateCharge(charge: Charge)
23   => Charge
24 GetCharge(id: uuid)
25   => Charge
26 UpdateCharge(id: uuid, updatedCharge: Charge)
27   => Charge
28 ListCharges(offset: integer, limit: integer)
29   => Charge[]
30 CaptureCharge(id: uuid)
31   => Charge
32
33 ### Customers
34 CreateCustomer(customer: Customer)
35   => Customer
36 GetCustomer(id: uuid)
37   => Customer
38 UpdateCustomer(id: uuid, updatedCustomer: Customer)
39   => Customer
40 DeleteCustomer(id: uuid)
41   => Customer
42 ListCustomers(offset: integer, limit: integer)
43   => Customer[]
44
```

charge.json

charge.json > ...

```
1 {
2   "id": "a92b1cd0-0844-4f3f-badb-a15a1dd0f4d5",
3   "customer_id": "66b89078-2516-4659-adee-3fa6f453089b",
4   "amount": 10000,
5   "currency": "usd",
6   "status": "pending"
7 }
8
```

api-swagger.json

customer.json

customer.json > {} card

```
1 {
2   "id": "66b89078-2516-4659-adee-3fa6f453089b",
3   "name": "Cersei Lannister",
4   "address": "1 King's Landing",
5   "email": "cersei.lannister@gmail.com",
6   "card": {}
7 }
8
```

api-swagger.yaml

