Aparajithan Venkateswaran

Recitation 101

TA: Camilla Lambrocco

**What is an API?**

An API (Application Programming Interface) is an interface (a set of commands/subroutines) for a computer program to interact with an external application/server to collect data from it or create new data.

**What is an API Key?**

An API Key is a credential that is used to access the said server. This is enforced for security purposes and restrict the number of queries a program can make. Usually, it comes with an API Secret and both of these must be kept confidential – especially when sharing code on platforms like GitHub and deploying applications on a website. It must not be readable by another human.

**What can you accomplish with an API?**

Many interesting things can be done using API’s. We can collect data from external databases to analyze them (like the final project). We can also create new data – like posting on twitter without using a browser. For example, we can search for locations, display a map with a custom marker, calculate custom routes with the google maps API. With the Facebook API, we can create a custom bot to automate chatting with clients. Often, companies devise market strategies using Google analytics API. We can also create custom features for our product.

**Screenshot**

