

Types of APIs

1. Web APIs:

- a. APIs that are accessible over the web using HTTP/HTTPs protocols
- b. Allow applications to communicate over the internet.
- c. Data is usually shared in JSON/XML formats.
- d. Example:
 - i. Fetching weather data from OpenWeather API
 - ii. Embedding Google maps on a website

2. Library API:

- a. APIs provided by libraries or frameworks to expose specific functionality for developers.
- b. Allow developers to utilize predefined functions or methods without implementing them from scratch.
- c. Example:
 - i. Numpy API: Provides functions for numerical computations.
 - ii. Tensorflow API: Offers tools for building and training ML/DL models.
 - iii. Matplotlib API: Allows creating visualizations programmatically.

3. Remote API:

- a. APIs designed to interact with systems located on a different network or server, often over the internet.
- b. Web API is a subset of Remote API. All web APIs are remote APIs, but not all remote APIs are web APIs.
- c. Examples:
 - i. Deploying virtual machines using AWS EC2 API.
 - ii. Retrieving remote files stored in Google Drive through its API.

4. Database API:

- a. APIs that allow applications to interact with databases.
- b. Provides a structured way to perform CRUD operations on a database.
- c. Example:
 - i. MySQL connector API
 - ii. MongoDB API
 - iii. Firebase real-time database API

5. Hardware API:

- a. APIs that enable software to interact with physical hardware devices.
- b. Provide an abstraction layer to control and retrieve data from devices without needing low-level programming
- c. Examples:
 - i. GPU APIs like CUDA or OpenCL for performing parallel computations
 - ii. APIs for IoT devices such as sensors or smart appliances
 - iii. Using APIs to control drones or robots programmatically.

6. GUI API:

- a. API designed for building and interacting with graphical user interfaces.
- b. Allow developers to create and manage GUI components programmatically.
- c. Examples:
 - i. Java Swing API

ii. Android SDK