Possibilities

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Coding 1001: REST APIs

HTTP for more than just web browsing

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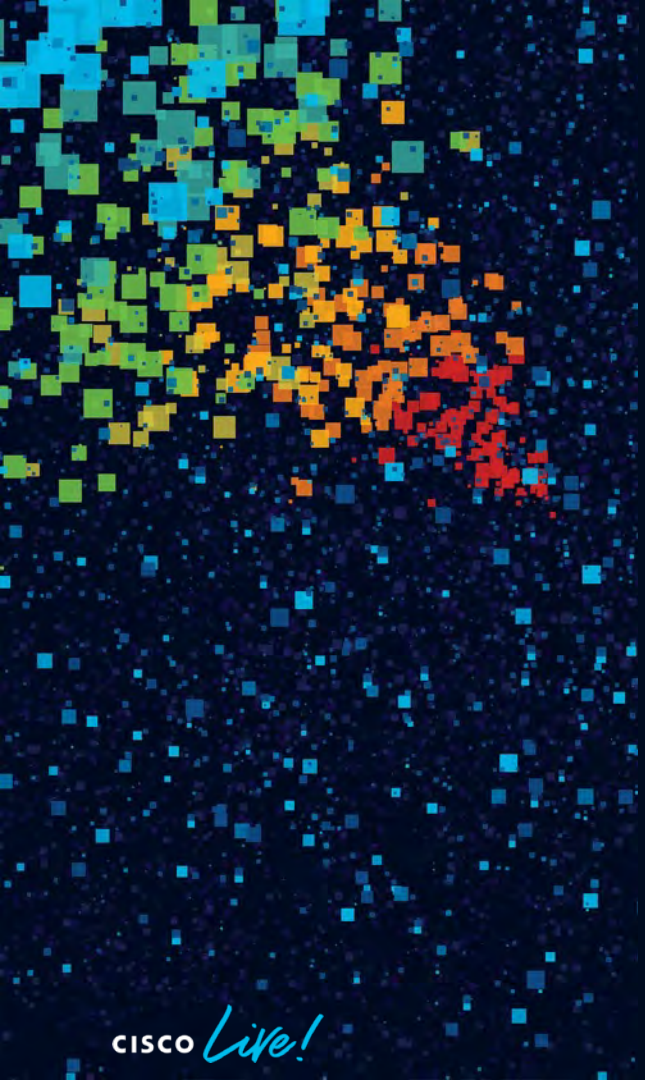
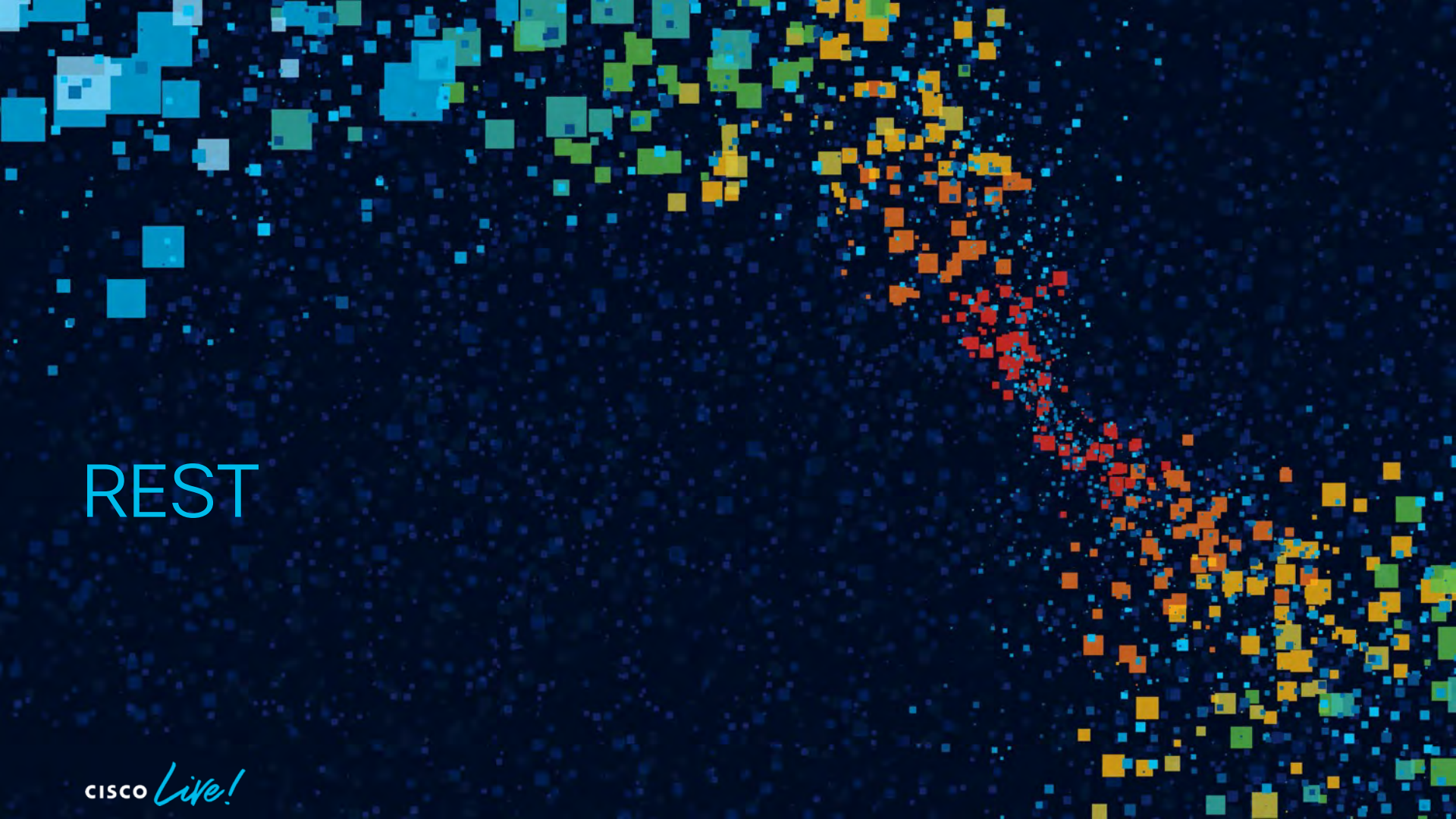


Agenda

- REST
- Anatomy of a REST request
- Authorization
- Tools
- Real World
- Conclusion

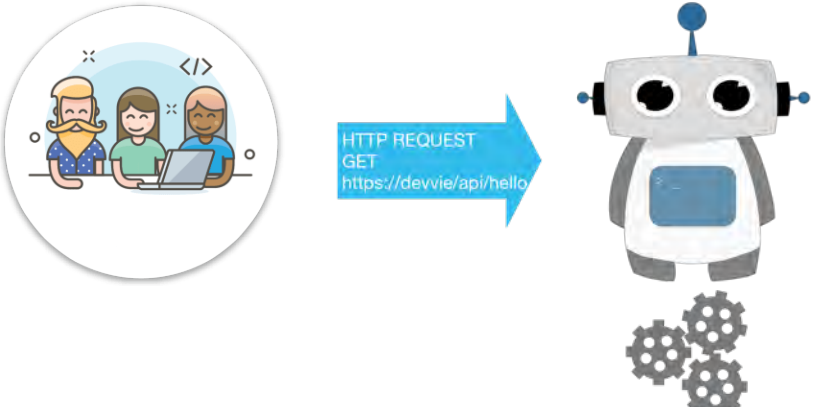

REST

REST Web service

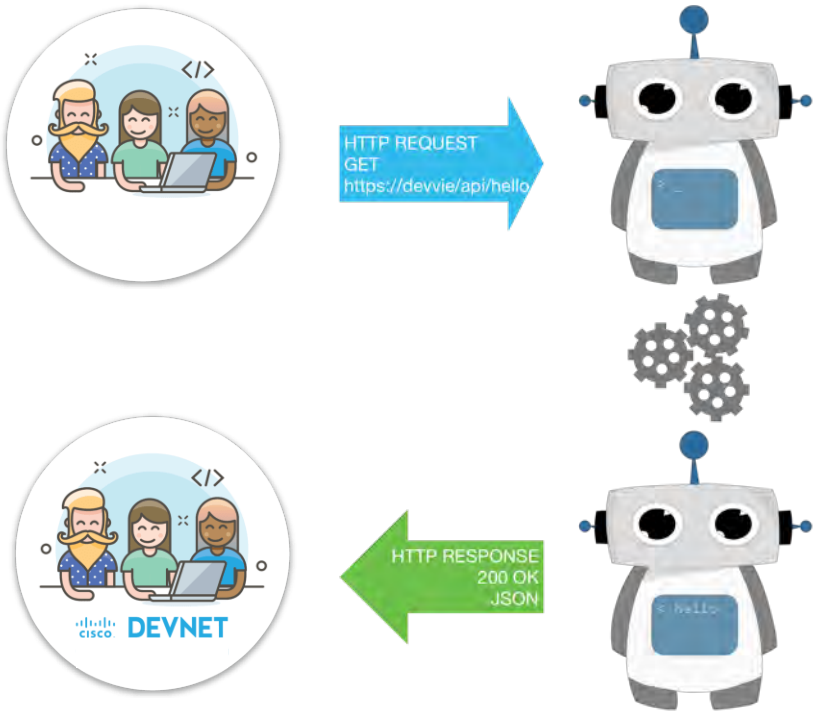
- What is REST?
  - REpresentational State Transfer (REST)
  - API framework built on HTTP
- What is a REST Web Service?
  - REST is *an architecture style* for designing networked applications.
  - Popular due to performance, scale, simplicity, and reliability

Request and Response, the REST API Flow

Requests and Response, the REST API Flow



Requests and Response, the REST API Flow



HTTP Methods: What to do?

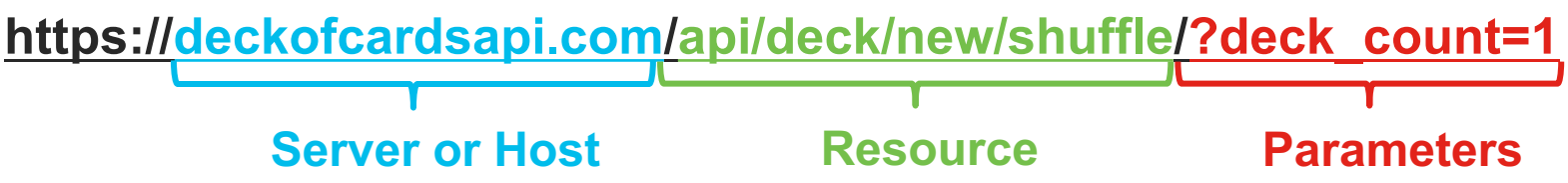
HTTP Verb	Typical Purpose (CRUD)	Description
POST	Create	Used to create a new object, or resource. Example: Add new book to library
GET	Read	Retrieve resource details from the system. Example: Get list of books from the library
PUT	Update	Typically used to replace or update a resource. Can be used to modify or create. Example: Update the borrower details for a book
PATCH	Update	Used to modify some details about a resource. Example: Change the author of a book
DELETE	Delete	Remove a resource from the system. Example: Delete a book from the library.

Response Status Codes: Did it work?

	Status Code	Status Message	Meaning
2xx	200	OK	All looks good
	201	Created	New resource created
	202	Accepted	Accepted for processing, but processing not completed
	204	No Content	Request succeeded, but no message body returned
4xx	400	Bad Request	Request was invalid
	401	Unauthorized	Authentication missing or incorrect
	403	Forbidden	Request was understood, but not allowed
	404	Not Found	Resource not found
5xx	500	Internal Server Error	Something wrong with the server
	503	Service Unavailable	Server is unable to complete request

Request Anatomy

The URI: What are you Requesting?



- http:// or https://
  - Protocol over which data is sent between client and server
  - ‘s’ in https stands for secure
- Server or Host
  - Resolves to the IP and port to which to connect
- Resource
  - The location of the data or object of interest
- Parameters
  - Details to scope, filter, or clarify a request. Often optional.

Data: Sending and Receiving

- Contained in the message body
- GET responses will include a message body
- POST, PUT, PATCH requests typically include a message body
- Format typically JSON or XML
  - Check “Content-Type” header

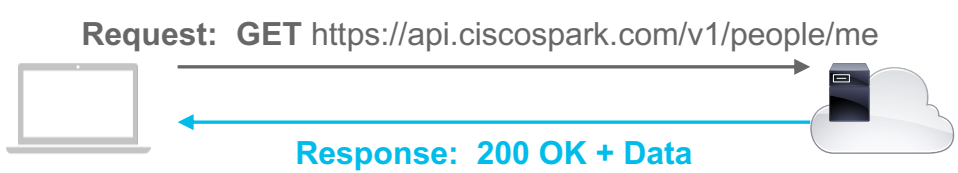
```
{
    "success": true,
    "deck_id": "3p40paa87x90",
    "shuffled": true,
    "remaining": 52
}
```

Headers:
What additional details and metadata can I use?

Header	Example Value	Purpose
Content-Type	application/json	Specify the format of the data in the body
Accept	application/json	Specify the requested format for returned data
Authorization	Basic dmFncmFudDp2YWdyYW50	Provide credentials to authorize a request
Date	Tue, 25 Jul 2017 19:26:00 GMT	Date and time of the message

- Used to pass information between client and server
- Included in both REQUEST and RESPONSE
- Some APIs use custom headers for authentication or other purpose

Review: Request/Response



HTTPS Request

Request Headers

HTTPS Response

Response Headers

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Response Payload

```
GET /v1/people/me HTTPS/1.1
Host: api.ciscospark.com
Authorization: Bearer <redacted>
Accept: */*
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, sdch
Connection: keep-alive
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_11_4) AppleWebKit/537.36
(KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/49.0.2623.112 Safari/537.36
```

```
HTTPS/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 23 Jan 2019 23:12:11 GMT
Content-Type: application/json;charset=UTF-8
Content-Encoding: gzip
Content-Length: 323
Trackingid: ROUTER_5C48F4B1-9789-01BB-4148-xxxxxxxxx
Vary: Accept-Encoding
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=63072000; includeSubDomains; preload

{
"id":
"Y2lzY29zcGFyazovL3VzL1BFT1BMRS9iODBjM2NmOC01ZGIwLTQyNzAtOThiZS1mYzFhYjA3MzE1YWE",
"emails": ["mdenapol@cisco.com"],
"displayName": "Matt DeNapoli",
"nickName": "Matthew",
"firstName": "Matt",
"lastName": "DeNapoli",
:
"status": "active",
"type": "person"
}
```

Note: This is all exchanged as simple text over a TCP/TLS connection.

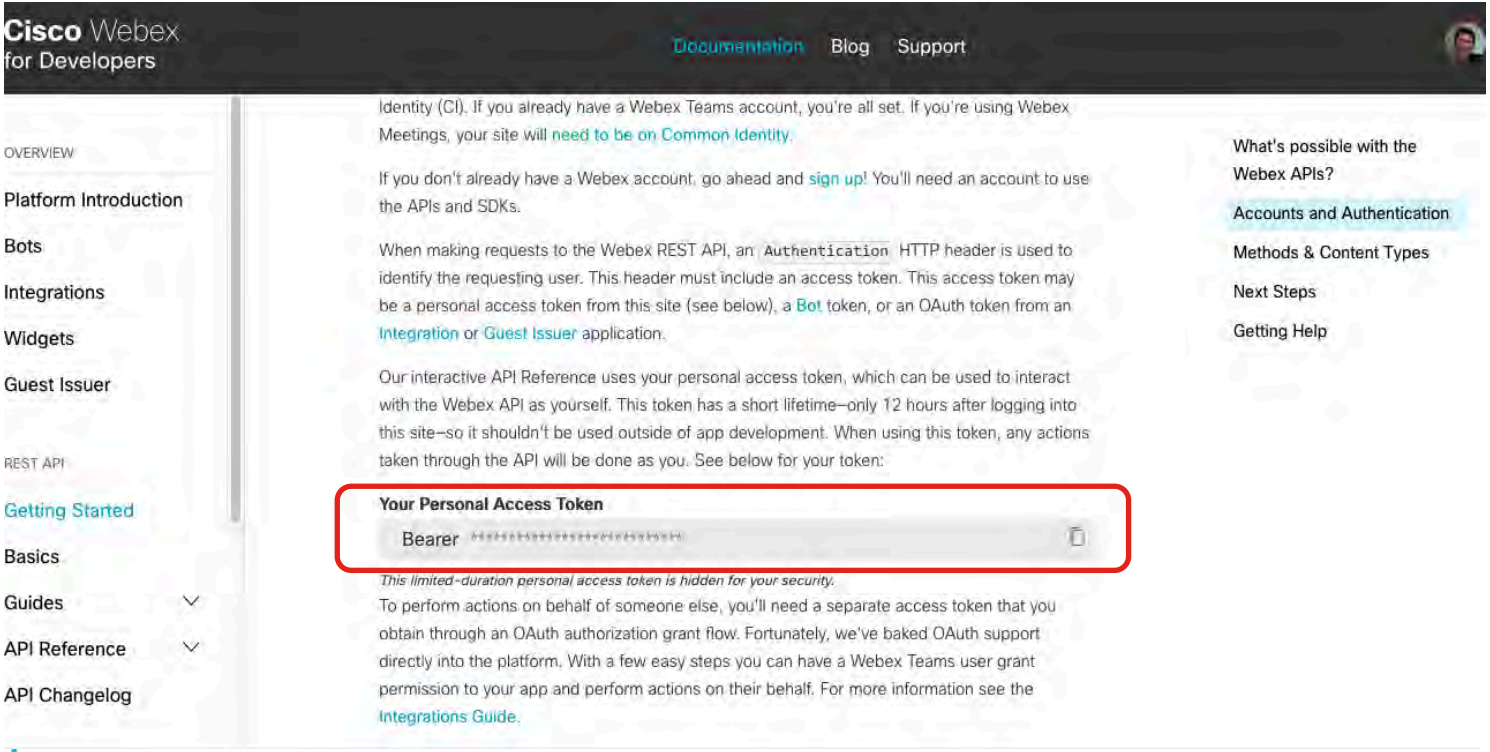
Authorization

HTTP Authentication and Security

- **None**: Web API resource is public, anybody can place requests
- **Syntax**
  - Authorization: <type> <credentials>
- **Basic**: username and password passed to server in encoded string
  - Authorization: Basic ENCODEDSTRING
- **OAuth**: Standard framework to retrieve access token from Identity Provider
  - Authorization: Bearer ENCODEDSTRING
- Authorization can be short-lived and require refreshing of token

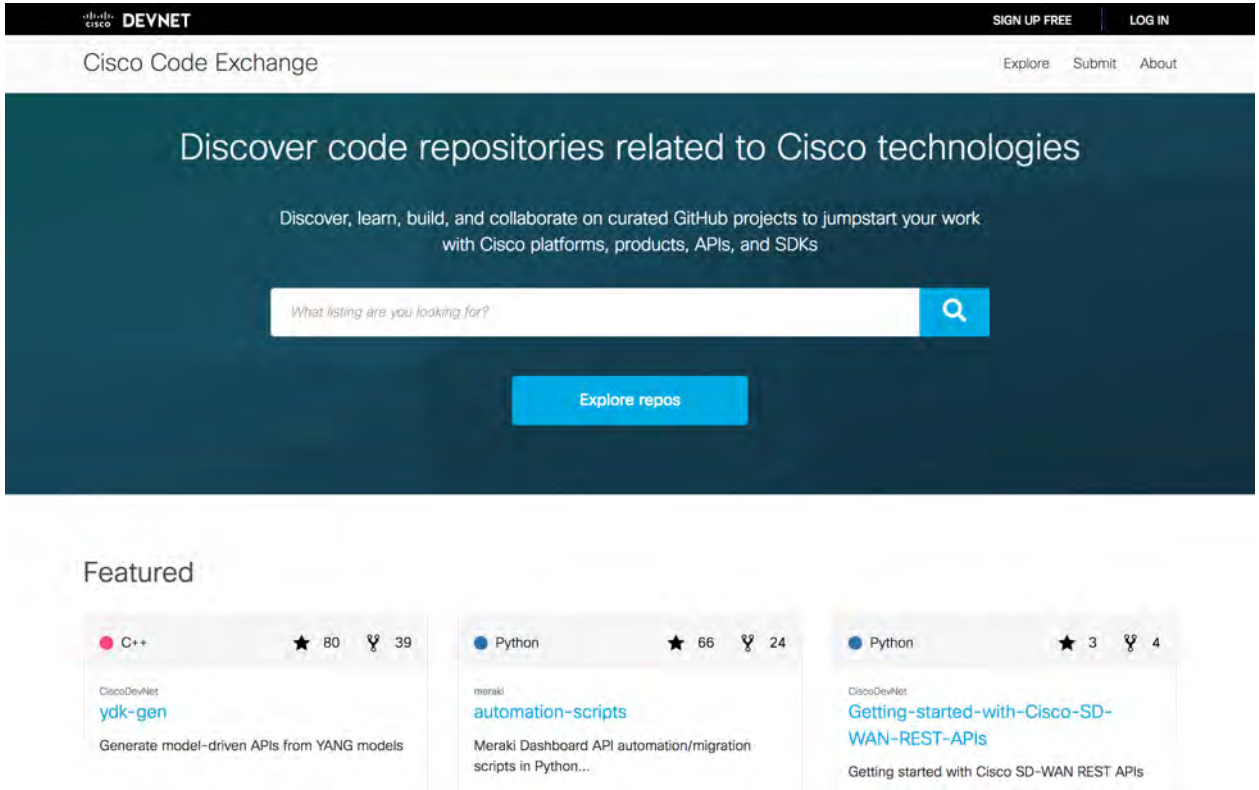
Token example – Webex Teams

https://developer.webex.com/docs/api/getting-started/accounts-and-authentication



OAuth example: Code Exchange

https://developer.cisco.com/codeexchange/



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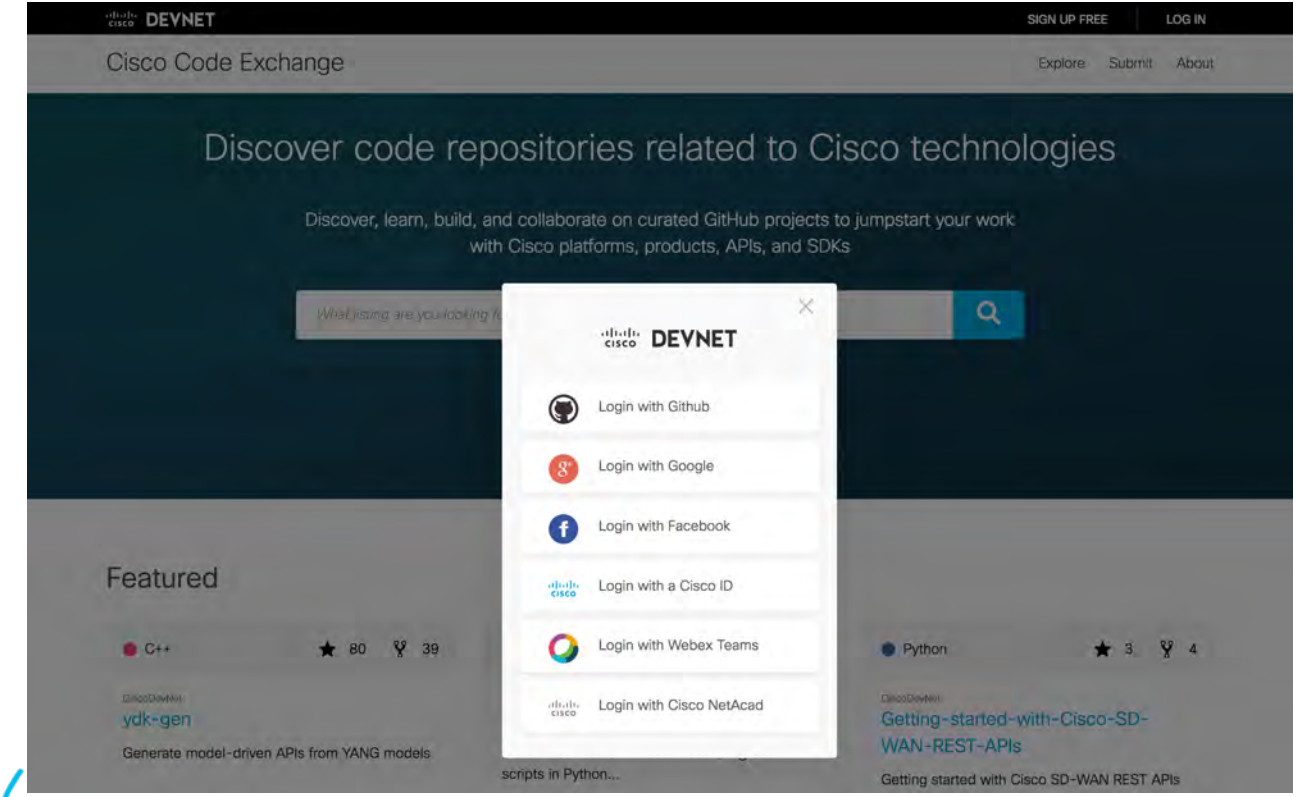
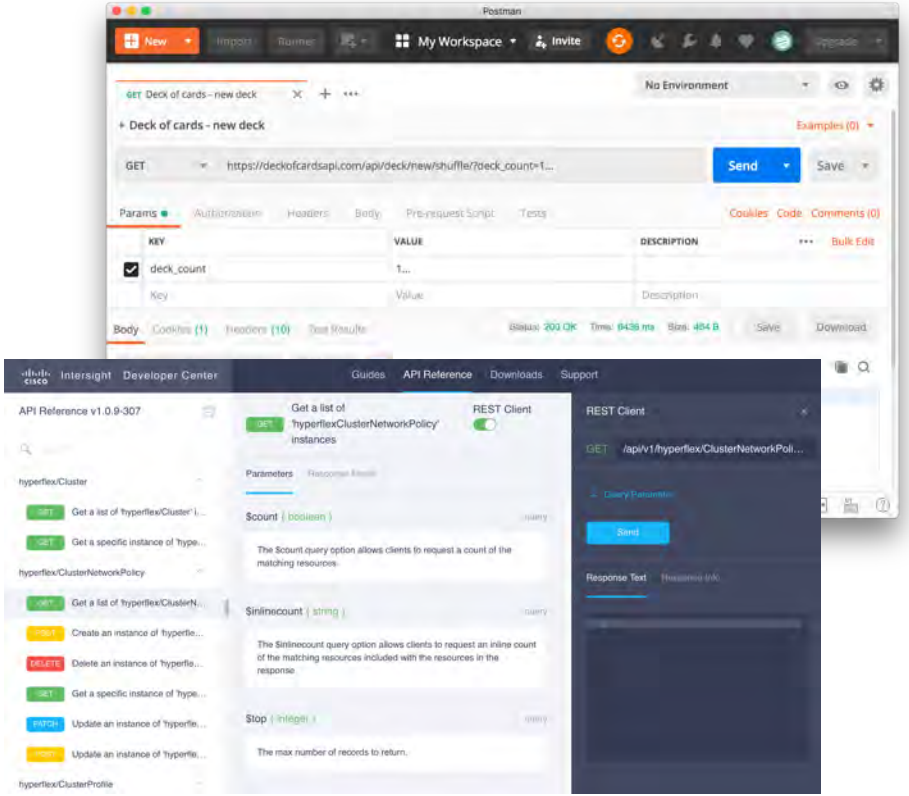


Tools

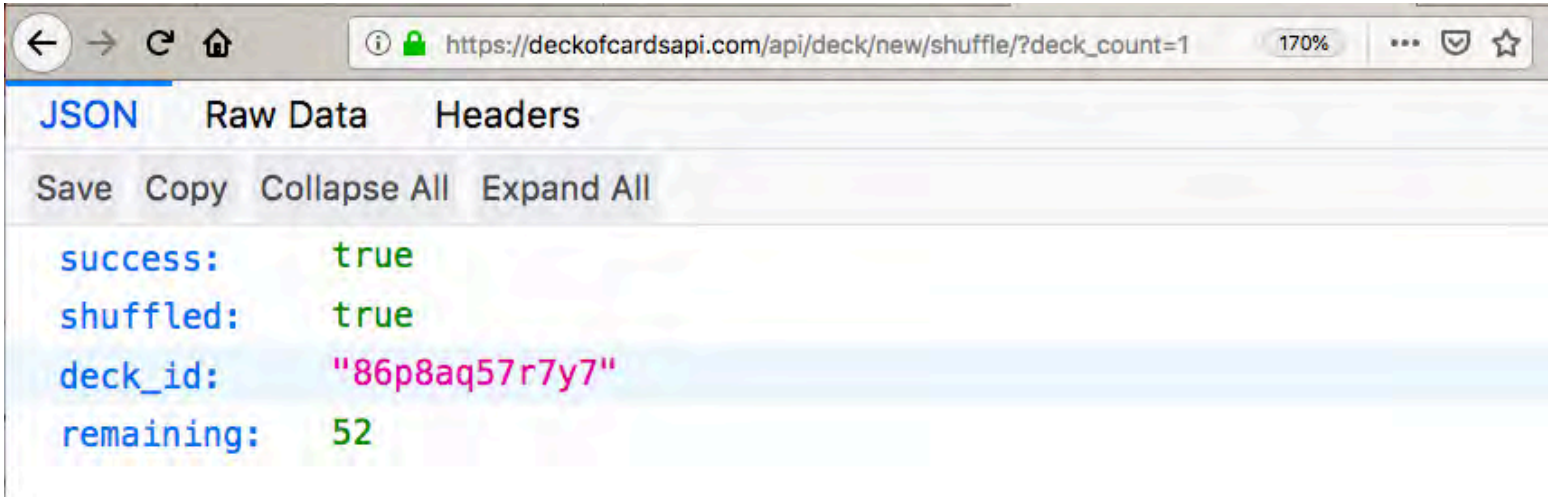
Many Options for Working with REST APIs

- Web browser
  - Chrome, Firefox, etc.
- curl
  - Linux command line application
- Postman
  - API testing application and framework
- Requests
  - Python library for scripting
- OpenAPI/Swagger
  - Dynamic API Documentation



Web Browser

https://deckofcardsapi.com/api/deck/new/shuffle/?deck_count=1



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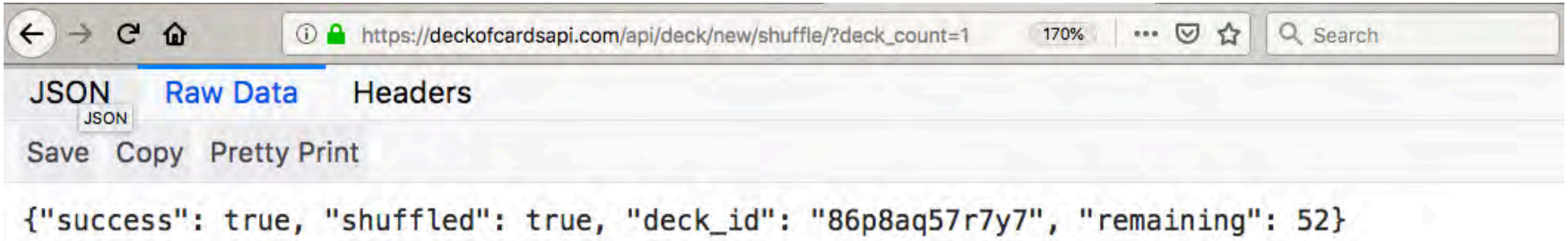

Web Browser

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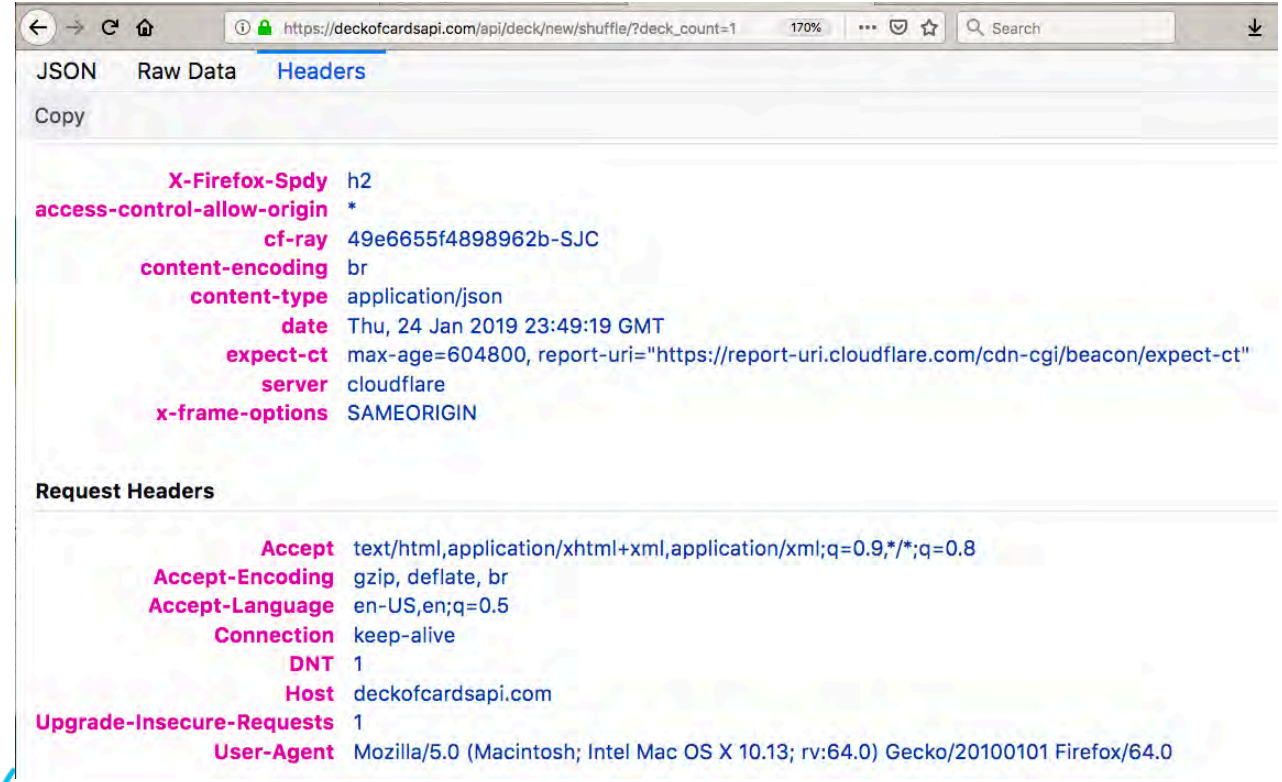
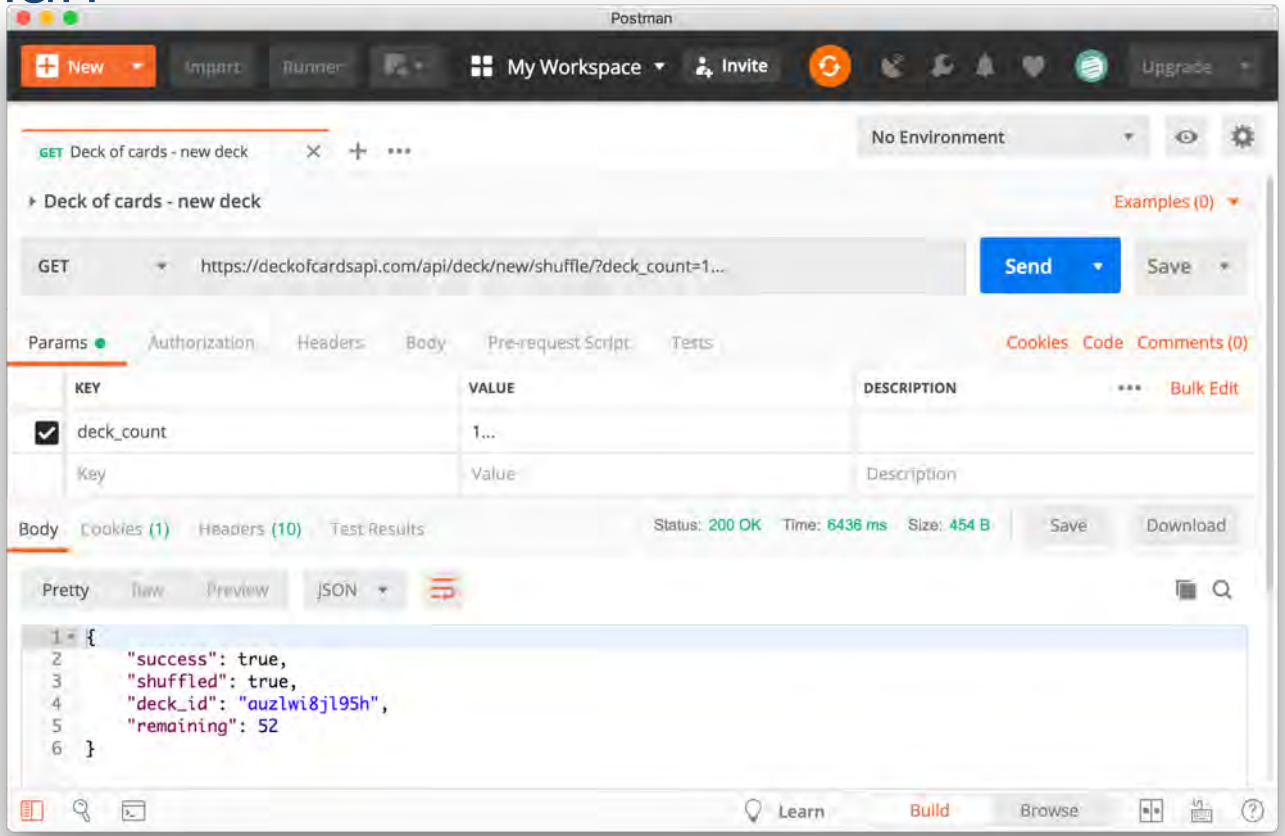


curl

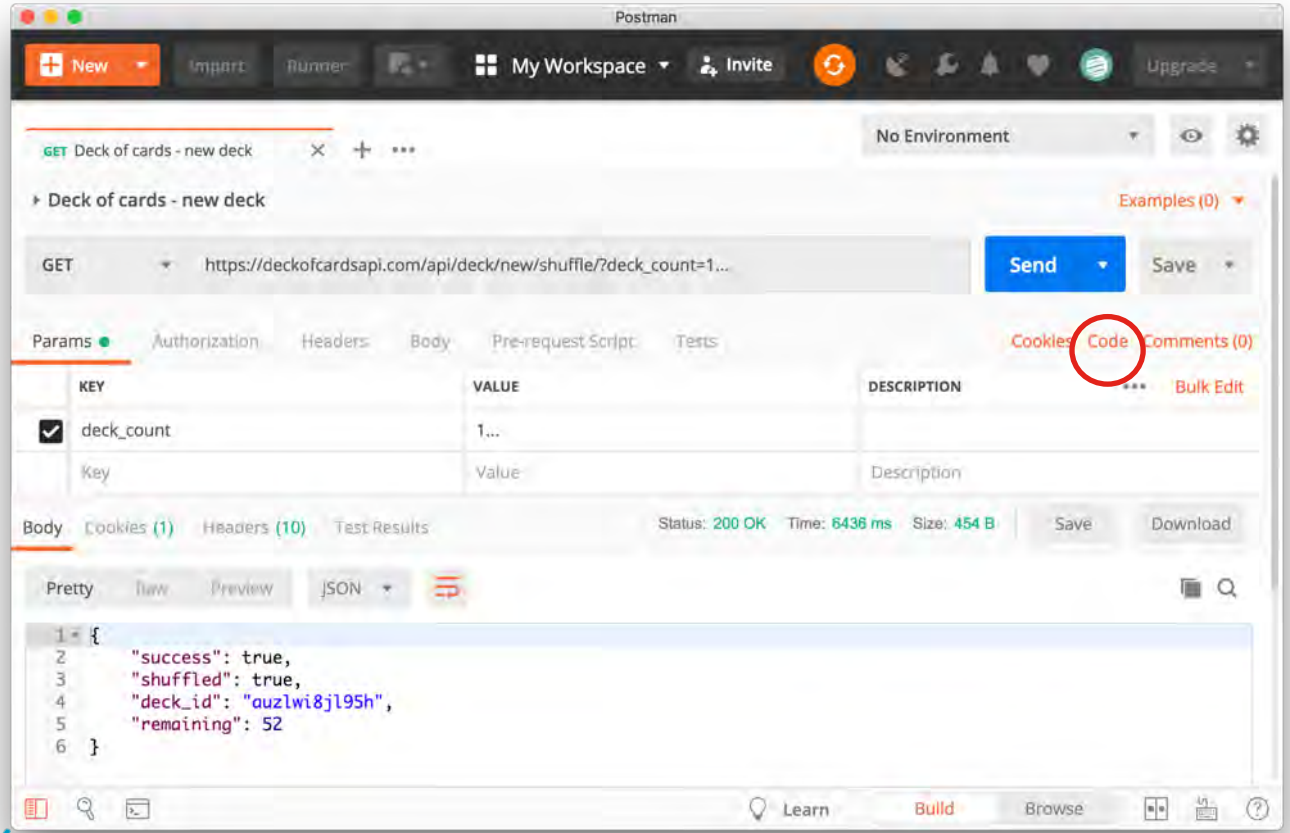
$ curl https://deckofcardsapi.com/api/deck/new/shuffle/?deck_count=1

{"success": true, "shuffled": true, "deck_id": "sr405eihisjl", "remaining": 52}

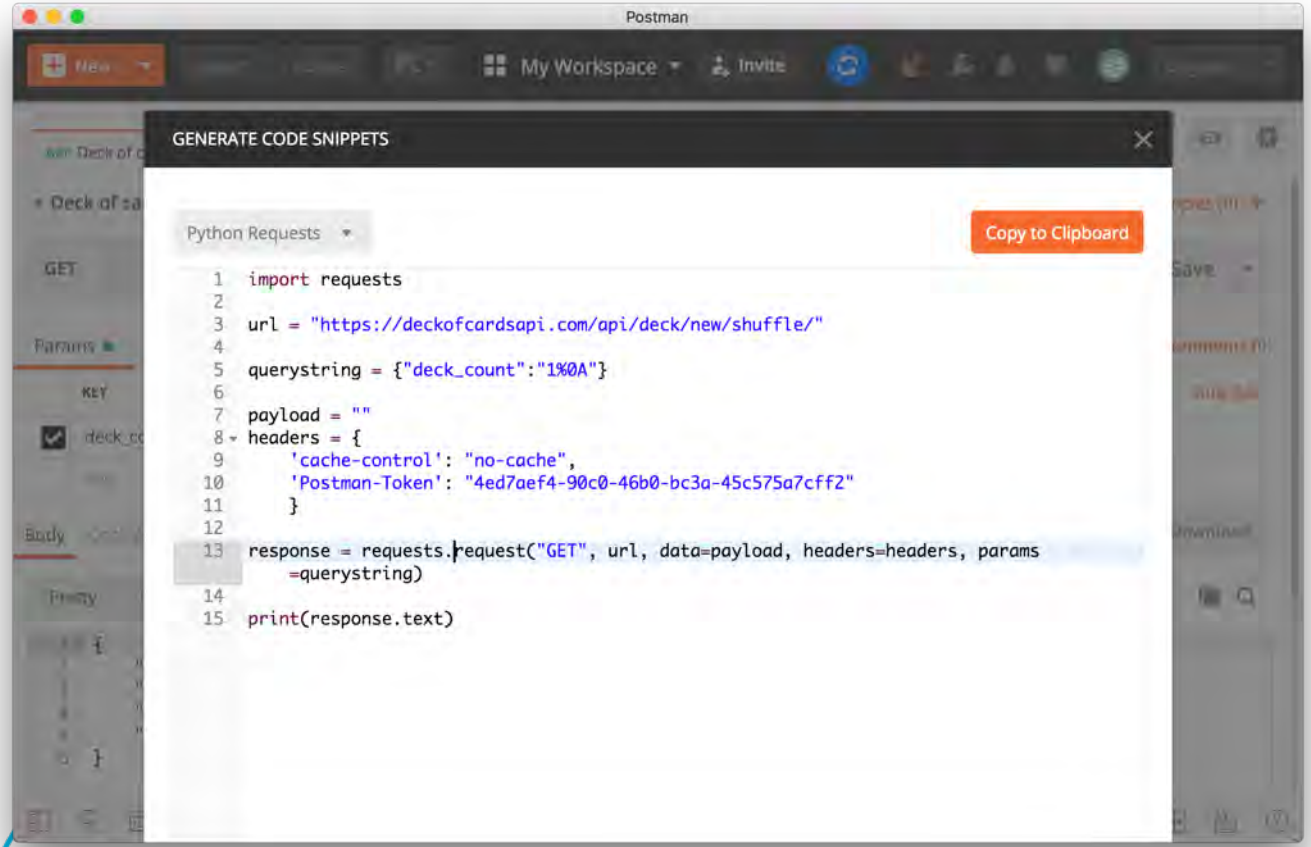
Postman



Postman

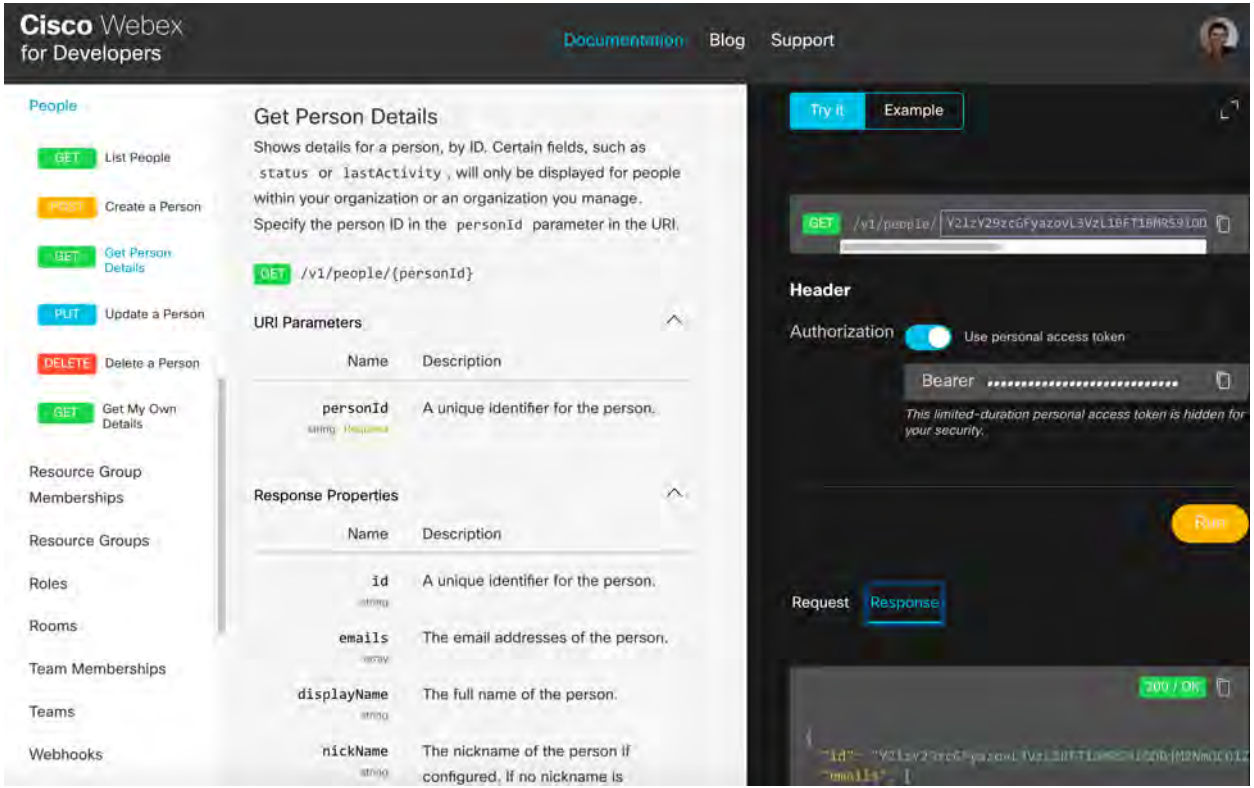


Python



OpenAPI example: Webex Teams

https://developer.webex.com/docs/api/v1/people/get-person-details



Requests in the Real World

Network Programmability with RESTCONF

The Request

```
$ curl -vk \
  -u root:D_Vay\!_10\& \
  -H 'accept: application/yang-data+json' \
https://ios-xe-mgmt.cisco.com:9443/restconf/data/ietf-interfaces:interfaces/interface=GigabitEthernet1

> GET /restconf/data/ietf-interfaces:interfaces/interface=GigabitEthernet1 HTTP/1.1
> Host: ios-xe-mgmt.cisco.com:9443
> Authorization: Basic cm9vdDpEX1ZheSFfMTAm
> User-Agent: curl/7.54.0
> accept: application/yang-data+json
>
```

- -u provides `user:password` for Basic Authentication
- -H to set headers
- Lines beginning with “>” indicate Request elements
- Lines beginning with “<” indicate Response elements (next slide)

Network Programmability with RESTCONF

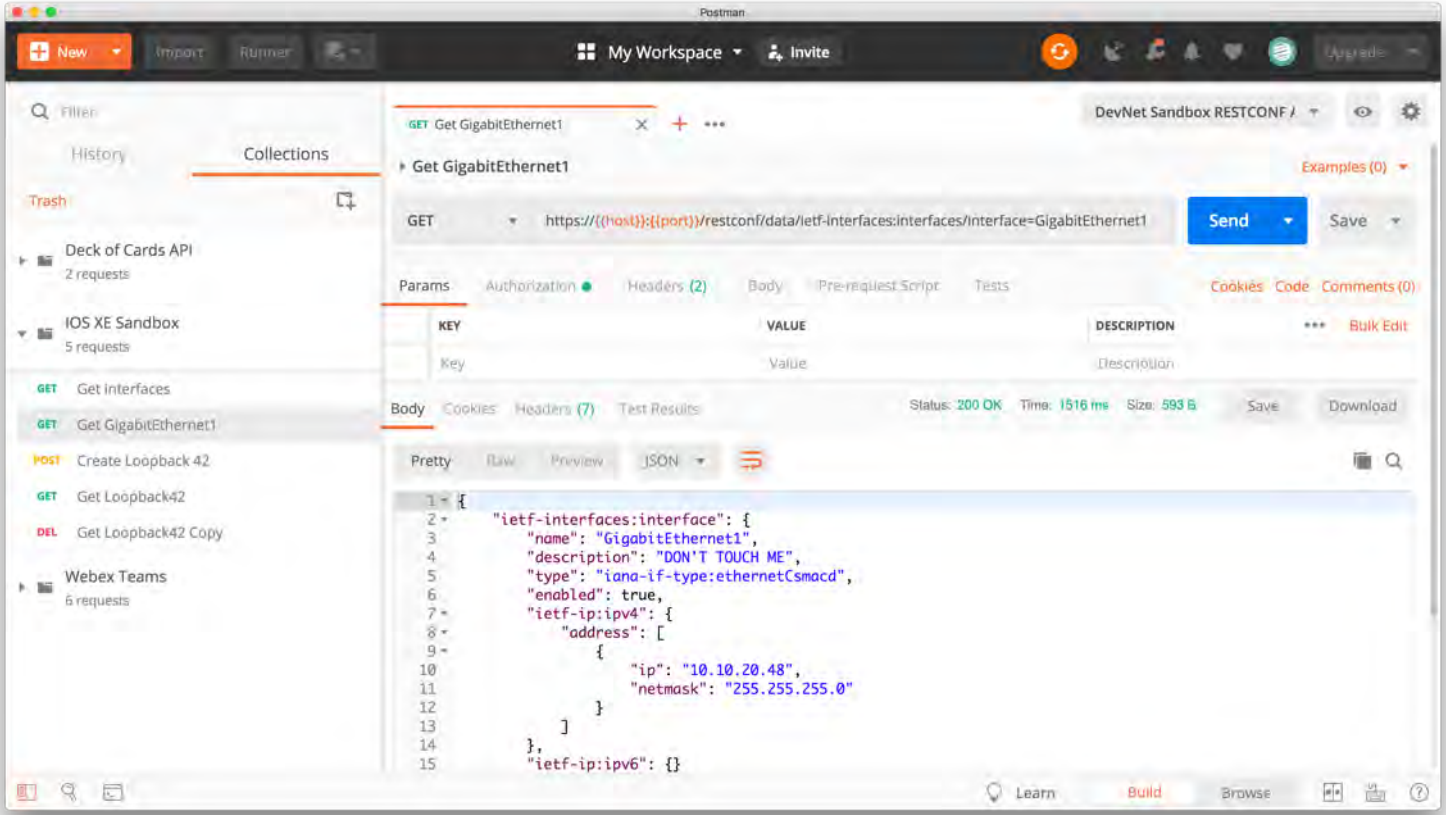
The Response - Headers

```
< HTTP/1.1 200 OK
< Server: nginx
< Date: Fri, 25 Jan 2019 17:37:43 GMT
< Content-Type: application/yang-data+json
< Transfer-Encoding: chunked
< Connection: close
< Cache-Control: private, no-cache, …
< Pragma: no-cache
<
```

The Response - Body

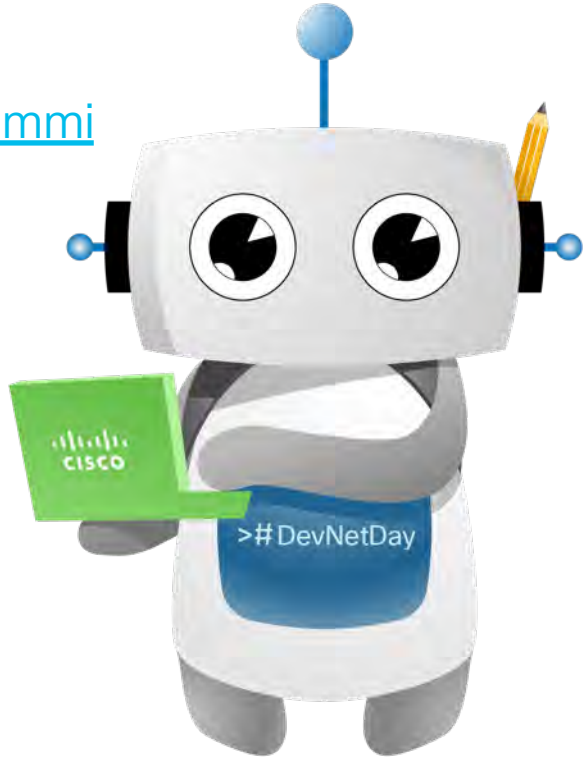
```
{
  "ietf-interfaces:interface": {
    "name": "GigabitEthernet1",
    "description": "DON'T TOUCH ME",
    "type": "iana-if-type:ethernetCsmacd",
    "enabled": true,
    "ietf-ip:ipv4": {
      "address": [
        {
          "ip": "10.10.20.48",
          "netmask": "255.255.255.0"
        }
      ]
    },
    "ietf-ip:ipv6": {
    }
  }
}
```

Postman Collections and Environments



Explore More

- Programming Fundamentals: https://developer.cisco.com/learning/modules/programming-fundamentals



Thank you

Possibilities

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