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🔗 Understanding HATEOAS

HATEOAS (Hypermedia as the Engine of Application State) is a constraint of the REST application architecture (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HATEOAS>).

A hypermedia-driven site provides information to navigate the site's REST (/understanding/rest) interfaces dynamically by including hypermedia links with the responses. This capability differs from that of SOA-based systems and WSDL-driven interfaces. With SOA, servers and clients usually must access a fixed specification that might be staged somewhere else on the website, on another website, or perhaps distributed by email.

Note: Pronunciations of HATEOAS vary. Some people pronounce it as "hate-ee-os," similar to "hideous," or as "hate O-A-S". People also refer to it as a hypermedia-driven system.

🔗 Examples

The following code represents a `Customer` object.

```
class Customer {  
    String name;  
}
```

A simple JSON presentation is traditionally rendered as:

```
{  
    "name" : "Alice"  
}
```

The customer data is there, but the data contains nothing about its relevant links.

A HATEOAS-based response would look like this: