

Kinga Gaździńska

No REST for the weary. Or is it? Welcome GraphQL



Software engineer at



kinga.gazdzinska@pracuj.pl

https://www.linkedin.com/in/gazdzinskak/

https://github.com/gazdzinskak/GraphQL



## Agenda



REST API & growing requirements
possible solutions in REST world
GraphQL introduction
ways to adapt GraphQL in existing software
What Shakespeare can teach us about APIs?



+

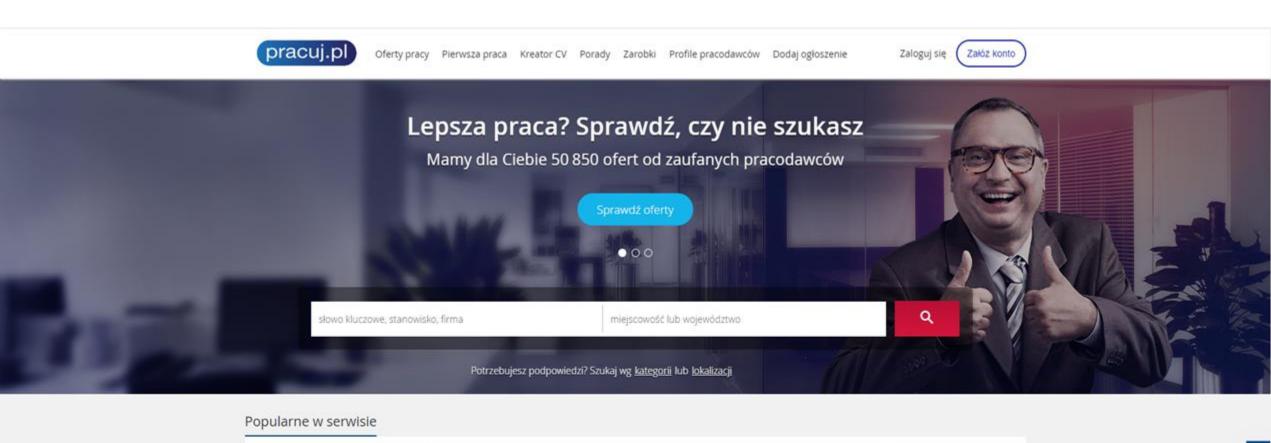
overall idea of GraphQL scenarios where using GraphQL can help

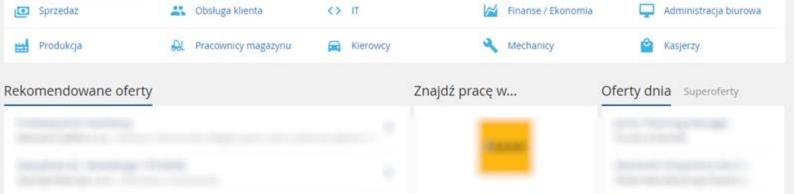


+

overall idea of GraphQL scenarios where using GraphQL can help

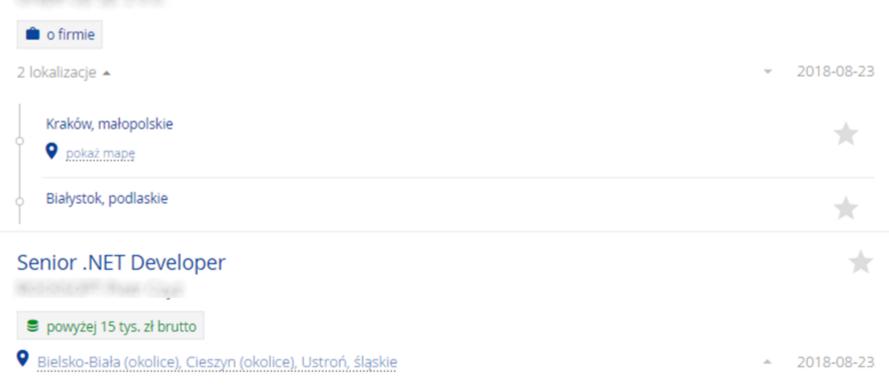
details and all features of GraphQL







#### Full Stack Developer



As our .NET Developer you goal will be to continuously develop and improve our mobile application written in Xamarin. You will be a part of a dynamic, dedicated and experienced team of mobile and .NET developers. ...

#### Job board



```
GET /offers/
GET /offers/search?jobTitle=.net
GET /offers/{id}
POST /offers/{id}/applications/{id}
```



```
public class Offer
{
    public Guid OfferId { get; set; }
    public string JobTitle { get; set; }
    public GeoLocation Location { get; set; }
    public Employer Employer { get; set; }
    public DateTime ExpirationDateUtc { get; set; }
    public Salary Salary { get; set; }
}
```



GET /offers/44aa15544ba643d6a078f6151e93894e



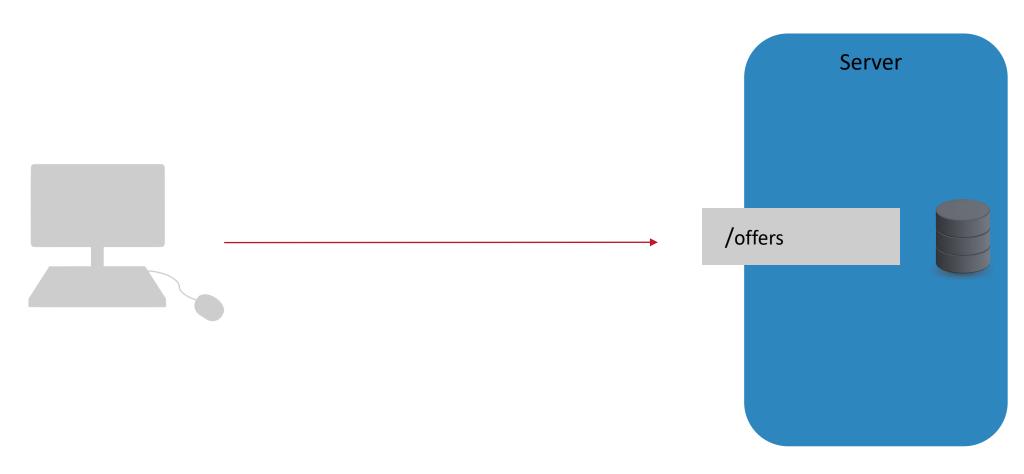
#### GET /offers/44aa15544ba643d6a078f6151e93894e



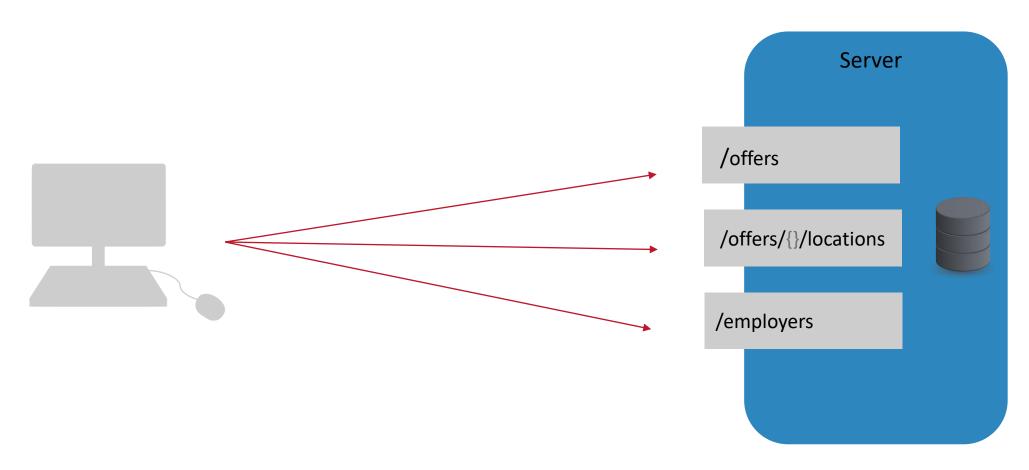
```
"offerId": "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e",
"jobTitle": "Frontend Developer",
"location": {
  "cityName": "Cracov",
  "countryName": "Poland"
"employer": {
  "name": " Pretty Software Company",
  "address": {
    "cityName": "Warsaw",
    "countryName": "Poland"
"expirationDateUtc": "2018-09-14T13:40:58.3467843Z",
"salary": {
  "range": "10k -12k PLN"
```









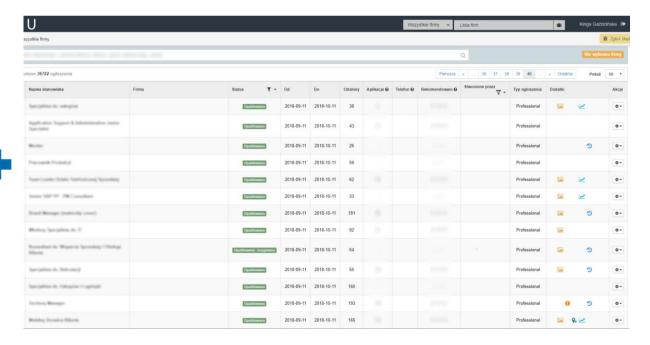




CC BY SA AzaToth / Wikimedia Commons











lp.	Nazwa stanowiska	Firma	Status T	Od - Do	Odsł.	Aplikacje	Tel.	Rek.	Stworzone przez	Typ ogłoszenia	Dodatki	Akcje
1.	States against associate	Firms become PO	Archiwalna	2017-03-28 2017-03-28	2	2		-/-/-	Kinga Gaždzińska	Basic		0-
2.	States spilling antonyon is	From Sussess TO	Archewalna	2017-01-26 2017-01-26	1			-/-/-	Kinga Gaždzińska	Basic	<u> </u>	0-
3.	State spring according Polices (See constant)	Frequistance, Chris	Archiwalna	2016-05-19 2016-05-19	2	0 <del>=</del> 0		-/-/-	Kinga Gaździńska	Basic		0.



```
GET /offers/
    /offers/search?
GET
  public class Offer
      public Guid OfferId { get; set; }
      public string JobTitle { get; set; }
      public GeoLocation Location { get; set; }
      public Employer Employer { get; set; }
      public DateTime ExpirationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public Salary Salary { get; set; }
```



```
GET /offers/
     /offers/search?
GET
  public class Offer
      public Guid OfferId { get; set; }
      public string JobTitle { get; set; }
      public GeoLocation Location { get; set; }
      public Employer Employer { get; set; }
      public DateTime CreationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public DateTime ExpirationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public Salary Salary { get; set; }
      public int ApplicationsNumber { get; set; }
```



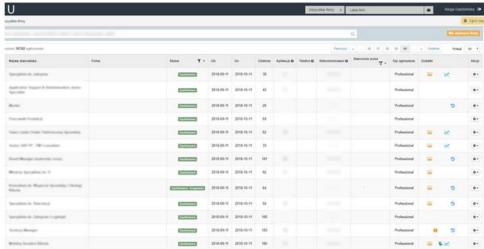
```
GET /offers/
    /offers/search?
GET
  public class Offer
      public Guid OfferId { get; set; }
      public string JobTitle { get; set; }
      public GeoLocation Location { get; set; }
      public Employer Employer { get; set; }
      public DateTime CreationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public DateTime ExpirationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public Salary Salary { get; set; }
      public int ApplicationsNumber { get; set; }
```



CC BY SA AzaToth / Wikimedia Commons

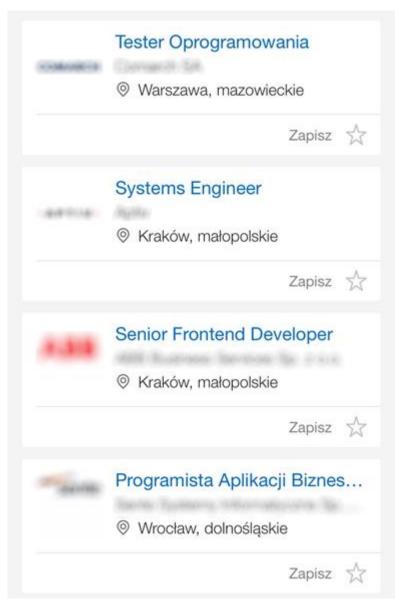














### Mobile App



```
/offers/
GET
     /offers/search?
GET
  public class Offer
      public Guid OfferId { get; set; }
      public string JobTitle { get; set; }
      public GeoLocation Location { get; set; }
      public Employer Employer { get; set; }
      public DateTime ExpirationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public Salary Salary { get; set; }
```

### Mobile App



```
/offers/
GET
     /offers/search?
GET
  public class Offer
      public Guid OfferId { get; set; }
      public string JobTitle { get; set; }
      public GeoLocation Location { get; set; }
      public Employer Employer { get; set; }
      public DateTime ExpirationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public Salary Salary { get; set; }
```

### Mobile App



```
/offers/
GET
     /offers/search?
GET
  public class Offer
      public Guid OfferId { get; set; }
      public string JobTitle { get; set; }
      public GeoLocation Location { get; set; }
      public Employer Employer { get; set; } → public string EmployerName { get; set; }
      public DateTime ExpirationDateUtc { get; set; }
      public Salary Salary { get; set; }
```

### Requirements



different set of information for each UI

no excessive data transfer usage

new features provided easily and quickly

change in one UI shouldn't force change in another one

# #1 One suit-them-all endpoint?



excessive data transfer usage too much information revealed entanglement between clients no fast changes +
one place to change and maintain

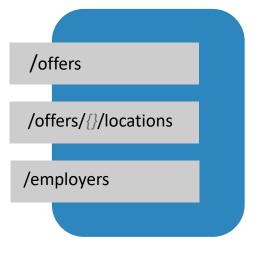


## #2 Separate endpoints



too much information revealed excessive data usage many calls to build a model

+ more elasticity in designing UI clean API



#### #3 Backends for frontends



messy API
maintenance problems
many places to change
UI driven backends

tailored data model client oriented control over what client gets

/offersForMobile









@DeveloperDaysPL net.developerdays.pl

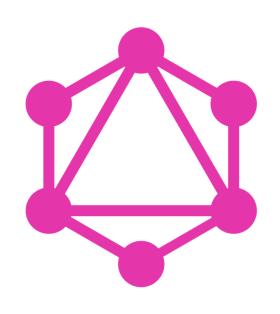


# GraphQL



query language specification for an API created by FB in 2012, announced 2015

implemented in a variety of programming languages not tied to any specific DB technology there may be no DB at all!



### Hello offer



```
{
    offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
        jobTitle
        expirationDateUtc
    }
}
```

#### Hello offer



```
offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
   jobTitle
   expirationDateUtc
"data": {
   "offer": {
           "jobTitle": "Frontend Developer",
           "expirationDateUtc": "2018-09-14"
```







#### POST /graphql



```
{
  "query": "{\n offer(id:\"44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e
     \") {\n jobTitle\n expirationDateUtc\n}\n}\n",
  "variables": null,
  "operationName": null
}
```



# API's capabilities definition



what kinds of operations are available? defined resources? structure of resources? relationships between objects?

# API's capabilities definition



what kinds of operations are available? defined resources? structure of resources? relationships between objects?

schema!



```
offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
  jobTitle
  employer {
    name
query MobileView {
  offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
    jobTitle
    employer {
      name
```

@DeveloperDaysPL



```
operation type
query MobileView {
  offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
    jobTitle
    employer {
      name
```

@DeveloperDaysPL



### operation name

```
query MobileView {
  offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
    jobTitle
    employer {
      name
    }
  }
}
```

@DeveloperDaysPL



```
query MobileView {
    offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
        jobTitle
        employer {
          name
        }
    }
}
```

@DeveloperDaysPL net.developerdays.pl





```
offer (id: ID!): Offer

name argument returned type
```

```
offers: [Offer]
name returned type
```



### offer(id: ID!): Offer

```
type Offer {
   "applicationsNumber": "Int",
   "creationDateUtc": "Date!",
   "employer": "EmployerType",
   "expirationDateUtc": "Date!",
   "jobTitle": "String!",
   "location": "GeoLocationType",
   "offerId": "ID",
   "salary": "SalaryType"
}
```



```
type Offer {
offer(id: ID!): Offer
                                                                  "applicationsNumber": "Int",
                                                                  "creationDateUtc": "Date!",
query MobileView {
                                                                  "employer": "EmployerType",
  offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
                                                                  "expirationDateUtc": "Date!",
    jobTitle
                                                                  "jobTitle": "String!",
    employer {
                                                                  "location": "GeoLocationType",
                                                                  "offerId": "ID",
      name
                                                                  "salary": "SalaryType"
                                                                type EmployerType {
                                                                  address: GeoLocationType
                                                                  name: String!
```



```
offer(id: ID!): Offer

query MobileView {
   offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
      jobTitle
      employer {
        name
      }
    }
}
```

```
type Offer {
  "applicationsNumber": "Int",
  "creationDateUtc": "Date!",
  "employer": "EmployerType",
  "expirationDateUtc": "Date!",
  "jobTitle": "String!",
  "location": "GeoLocationType",
  "offerId": "ID",
  "salary": "SalaryType"
type EmployerType {
  address: GeoLocationType
  name: String!
```



```
offer(id: ID!): Offer

query MobileView {
   offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
      jobTitle
      employer {
            name
      }
   }
}
```

```
type Offer {
  "applicationsNumber": "Int",
  "creationDateUtc": "Date!",
  "employer": "EmployerType",
  "expirationDateUtc": "Date!",
  "jobTitle": "String!",
  "location": "GeoLocationType",
  "offerId": "ID",
  "salary": "SalaryType"
type EmployerType {
  address: GeoLocationType
  name: String!
```

Q MobileView X

Q Introspection X

Q AllOffers X

GENERATE CODE

Q Aliases X

Q Aliases X +

& SHARE

⊕ ☆ @ ∀ ☆ @ ⊘ № | •

o ×

#### PRETTIFY

```
1 ₹ {
     offer(id: "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e") {
       offerId
       jobTitle
       employer {
         name
         address {
           cityName
       creationDateUtc
       expirationDateUtc
      location {
         cityName
         countryName
       applicationsNumber
       salary {
HTTP HEADERS (0)
```

```
"data": {
 "offer": {
   "offerId": "44aa1554-4ba6-43d6-a078-f6151e93894e",
   "jobTitle": "Frontend Developer",
   "employer": {
      "name": " Pretty Software Company",
     "address": {
       "cityName": "Warsaw"
   },
   "creationDateUtc": "2018-09-09",
   "expirationDateUtc": "2018-09-16",
   "location": {
     "cityName": "Opole",
      "countryName": "Poland"
   },
   "applicationsNumber": 6,
   "salary": {
      "range": "10k -12k PLN"
```

# GraphQL Server



https://graphql-dotnet.github.io/

dotnet add package GraphQL --version 2.0.0

or

dotnet new --install "Boxed.Templates::\*"
dotnet new graphql





```
public QueryObject(IOfferRepository offerRepository)
   this.Name = "Query";
   this. Description = "The query type, represents all of the entry points
       into our object graph.";
   this.FieldAsync<OfferType>(
       name: "offer",
       description: "Get an offer by it's unique identifier.",
       arguments: new QueryArguments(
           new QueryArgument<NonNullGraphType<IdGraphType>>()
              Name = "id",
              Description = "The unique identifier of the offer.",
           }),
       resolve: context => GetOffer(offerRepository,
                             context.GetArgument("id", Guid.Empty),
                             context.CancellationToken));
```



```
public QueryObject(IOfferRepository offerRepository)
   this.Name = "Query";
   this.Description = "The query type, represents all of the entry points
       into our object graph.";
   this.FieldAsync<OfferType>(
       name: "offer",
       description: "Get an offer by it's unique identifier.",
       arguments: new QueryArguments(
           new QueryArgument<NonNullGraphType<IdGraphType>>()
              Name = "id",
              Description = "The unique identifier of the offer.",
       resolve: context => GetOffer(offerRepository,
                             context.GetArgument("id", Guid.Empty),
                             context.CancellationToken));
```







```
public class OfferType : ObjectGraphType<Offer>
       public OfferType()
             Field(x => x.OfferId, type: typeof(IdGraphType));
             Field(x => x.JobTitle).Description("Job title");
             Field(x => x.ExpirationDateUtc);
             Field(x => x.CreationDateUtc)
                     .AuthorizeWith(AuthorizationPolicyName.Admin);
             Field(x => x.ApplicationsNumber, nullable: true);
             Field<EmployerType>("employer");
             Field<GeoLocationType>("location");
             Field<SalaryType>("salary");
```

# Other types of operation



```
mutation
  subscription
schema {
  query: Query
  mutation: Mutation
  subscription: Subscription
```

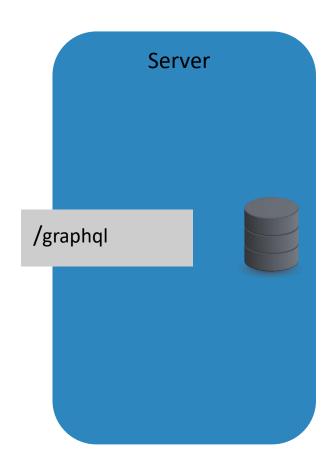
# When to use GraphQL?



readonly data
many UIs, single API
frontend not driven by backend
not knowing clients' exact needs – (e.g. public APIs)
frequent UI changes (agile environment)

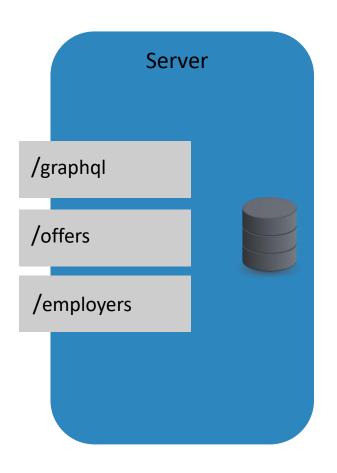
# Architecture possibilities #1





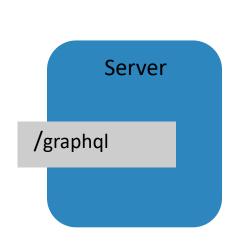
# Architecture possibilities #2

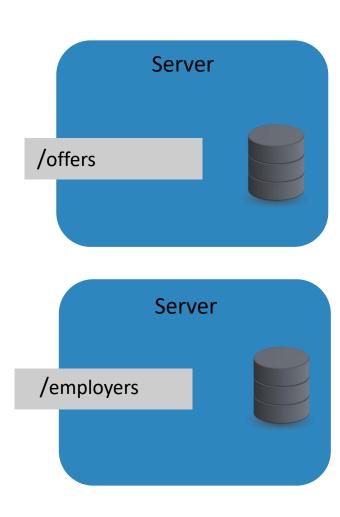




# Architecture possibilities #3









**REST** 

GraphQL

**RPC** 

**Authorization** 

**Business Logic Layer** 

**Persistence Layer** 

http://graphql.github.io/learn/thinking-in-graphs/#business-logic-layer



### Who's using GraphQL?

Facebook's mobile apps have been powered by GraphQL since 2012. A GraphQL spec was open sourced in 2015 and is now available in many environments and used by teams of all sizes.













https://graphql.org/

# Before rewriting every API to GraphQL...



understand the tradeoffs



## What about REST?



service to service communication
operations modifying resources
validation of provided data
optimization around resources not clients
caching
monitoring
constraints on client's behaviour

### Conclusion



presented with legitimate proof based on mathematics, literature and common sense

### lf...



Speech is silver and silence is golden

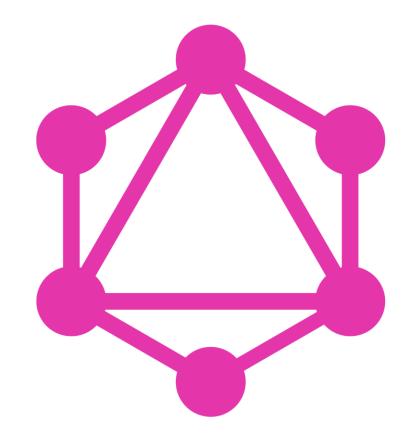
- proverb

## Where



Speech is silver and silence is golden

The speech was about GraphQL



## And

Speech is silver and silence is golden

speech = GraphQL

The rest is **silence** 

- W. Shakespeare



### Then



Speech is silver and silence is golden

speech = GraphQL

silence = rest

**GraphQL** is silver and **REST** is golden.



GraphQL, REST, gRPC, carrier pigeons...

Use whatever suits your needs!

### More resources...



https://graphql.org/

https://graphql-dotnet.github.io/

https://www.prisma.io/blog/introducing-graphql-playground-f1e0a018f05d/

https://developer.github.com/v4/

https://hackernoon.com/graphql-tips-after-a-year-in-production-419341db52e3/

https://no-kill-switch.ghost.io/graphql-is-awesome-you-should-probably-not-use-it/



### kinga.gazdzinska@pracuj.pl

https://www.linkedin.com/in/gazdzinskak/

https://github.com/gazdzinskak/GraphQL



Ask The Experts Zone

Meet me at the ATE zone:

- Wednesday at 17:15



# Please rate this session using



Developer Days Mobile App



login.developerdays.pl

or



at the booth in the Exhibition Hall