

HTTP and REST Services

HTTP, Request Headers, RESTful Web Services



REST API

SoftUni Team

Technical Trainers



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Software University

<https://softuni.bg>

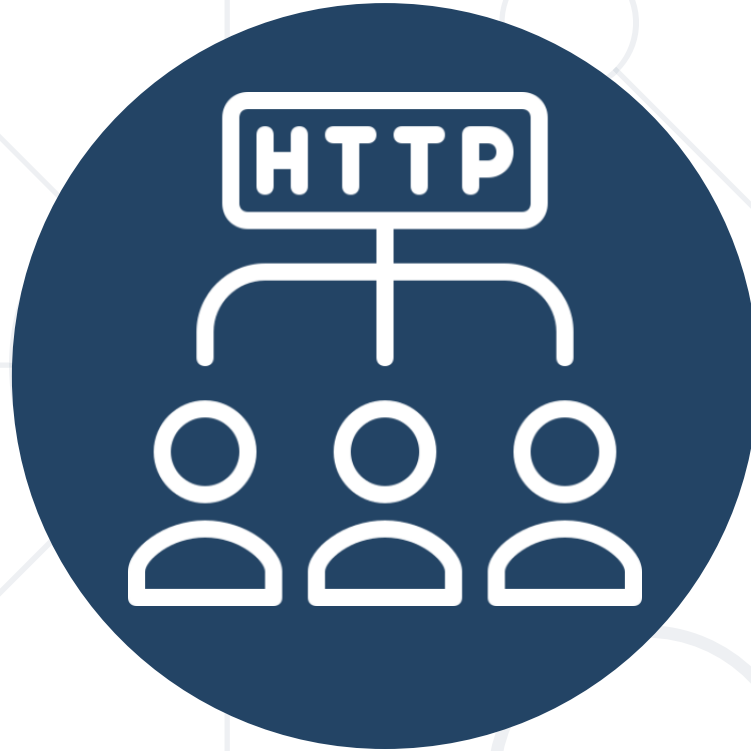
sli.do

#js-advanced

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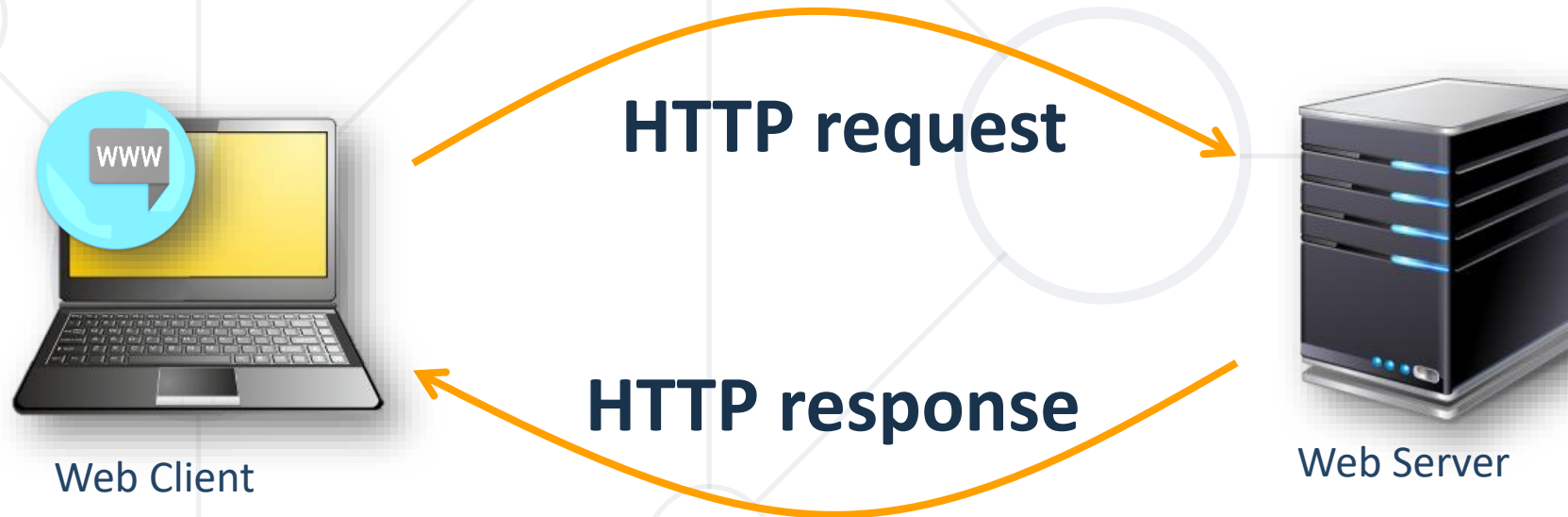










HTTP Overview

Hypertext Transfer Protocol

- HTTP (**H**yper **T**ext **T**ransfer **P**rotocol)
 - Text-based client-server protocol for the Internet
 - For transferring Web resources (HTML files, images, styles, etc.)
 - Request-response based



- **HTTP** defines **methods** to indicate the desired action to be performed on the identified resource

Method		Description
GET		Retrieve / load a resource
POST		Create / store a resource
PUT		Update a resource
DELETE		Delete (remove) a resource
PATCH		Update resource partially
HEAD		Retrieve the resource's headers
OPTIONS		Returns the HTTP methods that the server supports for the specified URL

HTTP GET Request – Example

GET /users/testnakov/repos **HTTP/1.1**

HTTP request line

Host: api.github.com

Accept: */*

Accept-Language: en

HTTP headers

Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate

User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; WOW64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/54.0.2840.71 Safari/537.36

Connection: Keep-Alive

Cache-Control: no-cache

<CRLF>

The request body is empty

HTTP POST Request – Example

POST /repos/testnakov/test-nakov-repo/issues **HTTP/1.1**

Host: api.github.com

Accept: */*

Accept-Language: en

Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate

User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible;MSIE 6.0; Windows NT 5.0)

Connection: Keep-Alive

Cache-Control: no-cache

<CRLF>

{"title": "Found a bug",

"body": "I'm having a problem with this.",

"labels": ["bug", "minor"]}

<CRLF>

HTTP request line

HTTP headers

The request body holds
the submitted data

HTTP Response – Example

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

HTTP response status line

Date: Fri, 11 Nov 2016 16:09:18 GMT+2

Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Linux)

Accept-Ranges: bytes

Content-Length: 84

Content-Type: text/html

HTTP response headers

<CRLF>

<html>

<head><title>Test</title></head>

HTTP response body

<body>Test HTML page.</body>

</html>

HTTP Response Status Codes

Status Code	Action	Description
200	OK	Successfully retrieved resource
201	Created	A new resource was created
204	No Content	Request has nothing to return
301 / 302	Moved	Moved to another location (redirect)
400	Bad Request	Invalid request / syntax error
401 / 403	Unauthorized	Authentication failed / Access denied
404	Not Found	Invalid resource
409	Conflict	Conflict was detected, e.g. duplicated email
500 / 503	Server Error	Internal server error / Service unavailable

Content-Type and Disposition

- The **Content-Type** / **Content-Disposition** headers specify how the HTTP request / response body should be processed

JSON-encoded data

Content-Type: **application/json**

UTF-8 encoded HTML page.
Will be shown in the browser

Content-Type: **text/html; charset=utf-8**

Content-Type: **application/pdf**
Content-Disposition: attachment;
filename="Financial-Report-April-2016.pdf"

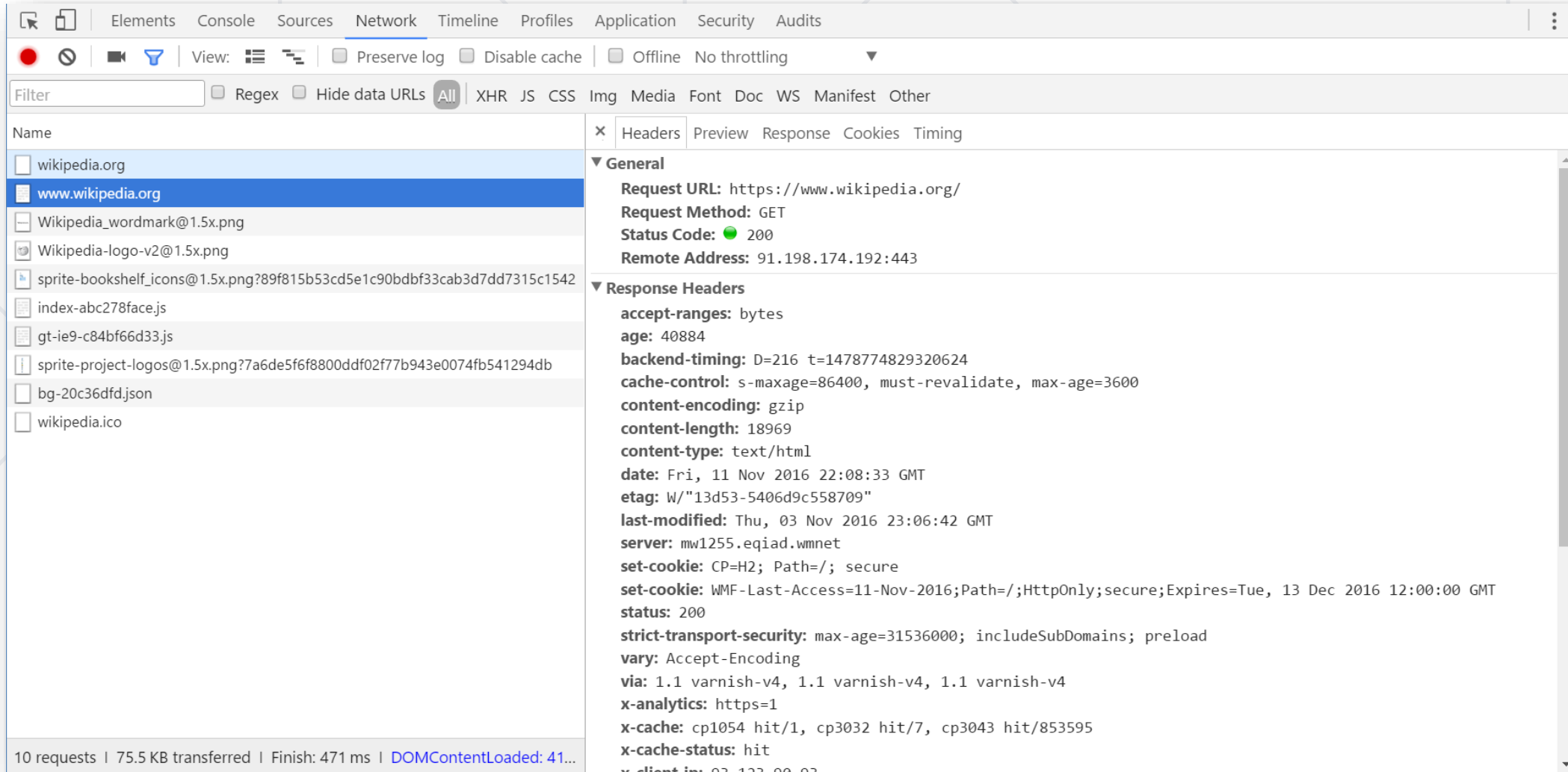
This will download a PDF file named
Financial-Report-April-2016.pdf



HTTP Developer Tools

Browser Dev Tools, Postman

Browser Developer Tools



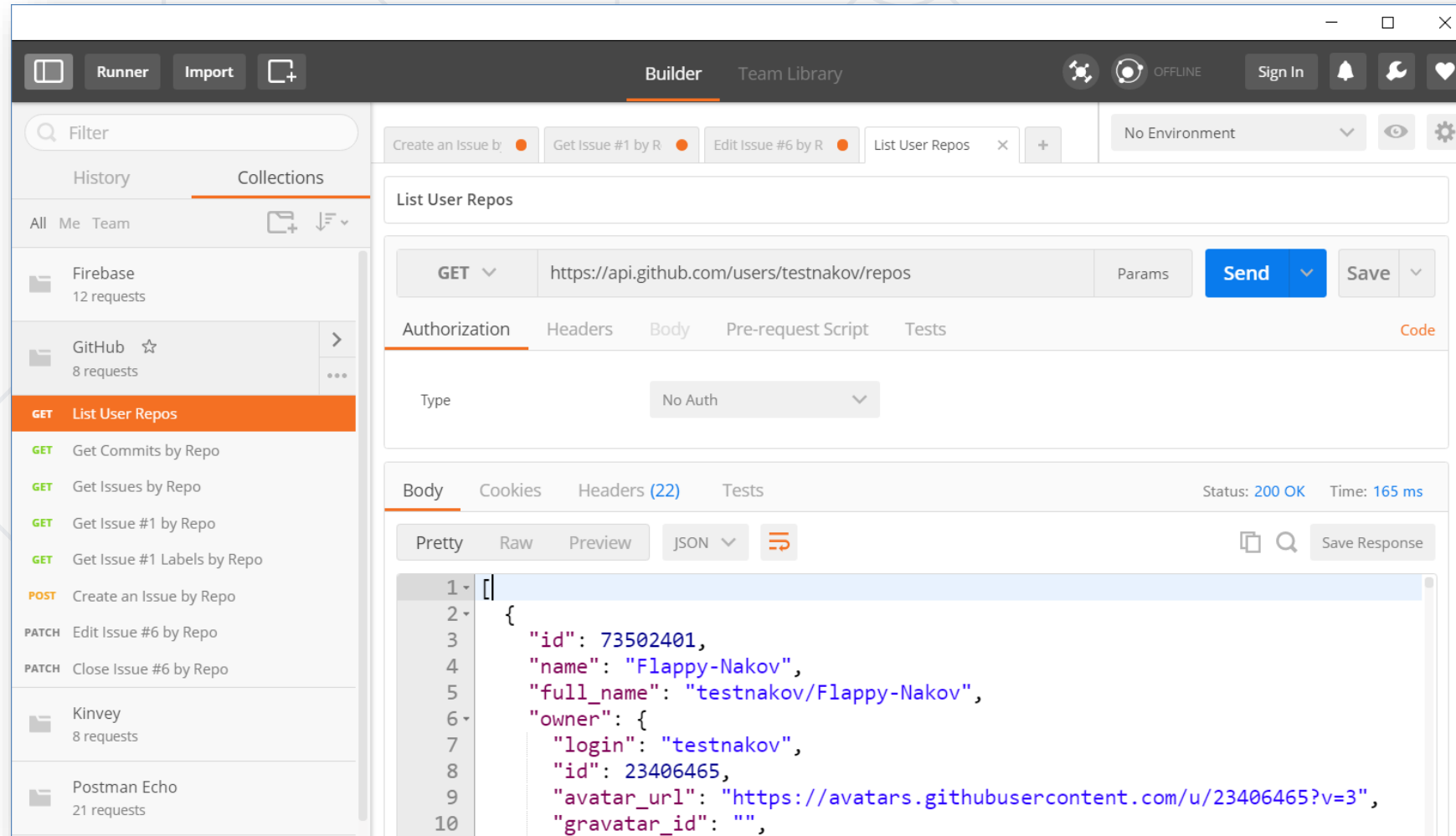
The screenshot shows the Chrome DevTools Network tab. The left sidebar lists the network requests, with `www.wikipedia.org` selected. The right pane displays the details for this request, including the General tab with the following information:

- Request URL:** `https://www.wikipedia.org/`
- Request Method:** `GET`
- Status Code:** `200`
- Remote Address:** `91.198.174.192:443`

The **Response Headers** section shows the following details:

- accept-ranges:** `bytes`
- age:** `40884`
- backend-timing:** `D=216 t=1478774829320624`
- cache-control:** `s-maxage=86400, must-revalidate, max-age=3600`
- content-encoding:** `gzip`
- content-length:** `18969`
- content-type:** `text/html`
- date:** `Fri, 11 Nov 2016 22:08:33 GMT`
- etag:** `W/"13d53-5406d9c558709"`
- last-modified:** `Thu, 03 Nov 2016 23:06:42 GMT`
- server:** `mw1255.eqiad.wmnet`
- set-cookie:** `CP=H2; Path=/; secure`
- set-cookie:** `WMF-Last-Access=11-Nov-2016; Path=/; HttpOnly; secure; Expires=Tue, 13 Dec 2016 12:00:00 GMT`
- status:** `200`
- strict-transport-security:** `max-age=31536000; includeSubDomains; preload`
- vary:** `Accept-Encoding`
- via:** `1.1 varnish-v4, 1.1 varnish-v4, 1.1 varnish-v4`
- x-analytics:** `https=1`
- x-cache:** `cp1054 hit/1, cp3032 hit/7, cp3043 hit/853595`
- x-cache-status:** `hit`
- x-client-ip:** `92.122.80.92`

The bottom status bar indicates: 10 requests | 75.5 KB transferred | Finish: 471 ms | DOMContentLoaded: 41...



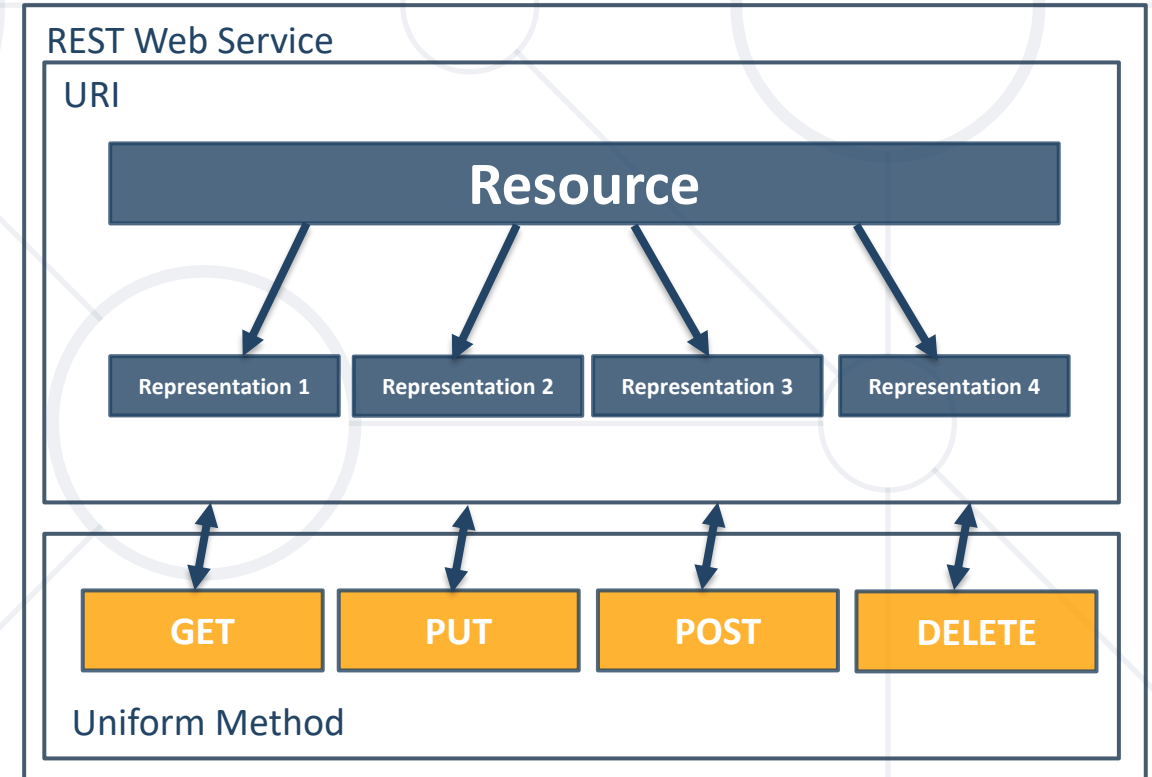
[Read more about Postman REST Client](#)



{REST}

REST and RESTful Services

- **Re**presentational **S**tate **T**ransfer (**REST**)
 - Architecture for **client-server communication** over HTTP
 - Resources have **URI** (address)
 - Can be **created/retrieved/modified/deleted**/etc.
- RESTful API/RESTful Service
 - Provides access to **server-side resources** via **HTTP** and **REST**



- REST defines **6 architectural constraints** which make any web service a true RESTful API
 - Client-server architecture
 - Statelessness
 - Cacheable
 - Layered system
 - Code on demand (optional)
 - Uniform interface



[Read more about REST Architectural Constraints](#)

REST and RESTful Services – Example

- Create a new post

POST	http://some-service.org/api/posts
------	---

- Get all posts / specific post

GET	http://some-service.org/api/posts
-----	---

GET	http://some-service.org/api/posts/17
-----	---

- Delete existing post

DELETE	http://some-service.org/api/posts/17
--------	---

- Replace / modify existing post

PUT/PATCH	http://some-service.org/api/posts/17
-----------	---



Accessing GitHub Through HTTP

GitHub REST API

- List user's all public repositories:

GET	https://api.github.com/users/testnakov/repos
-----	---

- Get all commits from a public repository:

GET	https://api.github.com/repos/testnakov/softuniada-2016/commits
-----	---

- Get all issues/issue #1 from a public repository

GET	/repos/testnakov/test-nakov-repo/issues
-----	---

GET	/repos/testnakov/test-nakov-repo/issues/1
-----	---

- Get the first issue from the "**test-nakov-repo**" repository
- Send a **GET** request to:
 - <https://api.github.com/repos/testnakov/test-nakov-repo/issues/:id>
 - Where **:id** is the current issue



- Get all labels for certain issue from a public repository:

GET	https://api.github.com/repos/testnakov/test-nakov-repo/issues/1/labels
-----	---

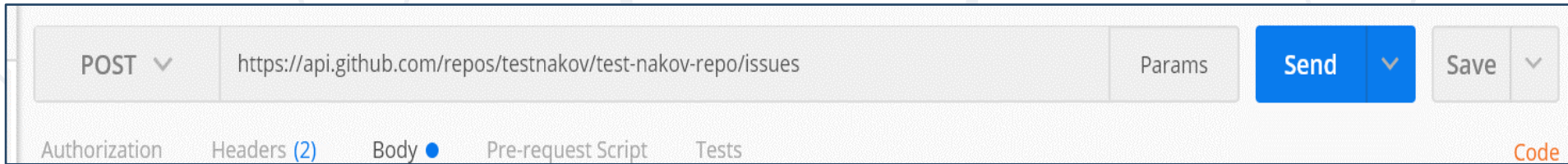
- Create a new issue to certain repository (with authentication)

POST	https://api.github.com/repos/testnakov/test-nakov-repo/issues
------	---

Headers	Authorization: Basic base64(user:pass)
---------	--

Body	<pre>{"title": "Found a bug", "body": "I'm having a problem with this."}</pre>
------	--

- Create an issue when you send a "**POST**" request
- Use your Github account **credentials** to submit the issue





Popular Providers

Back-end as a Service

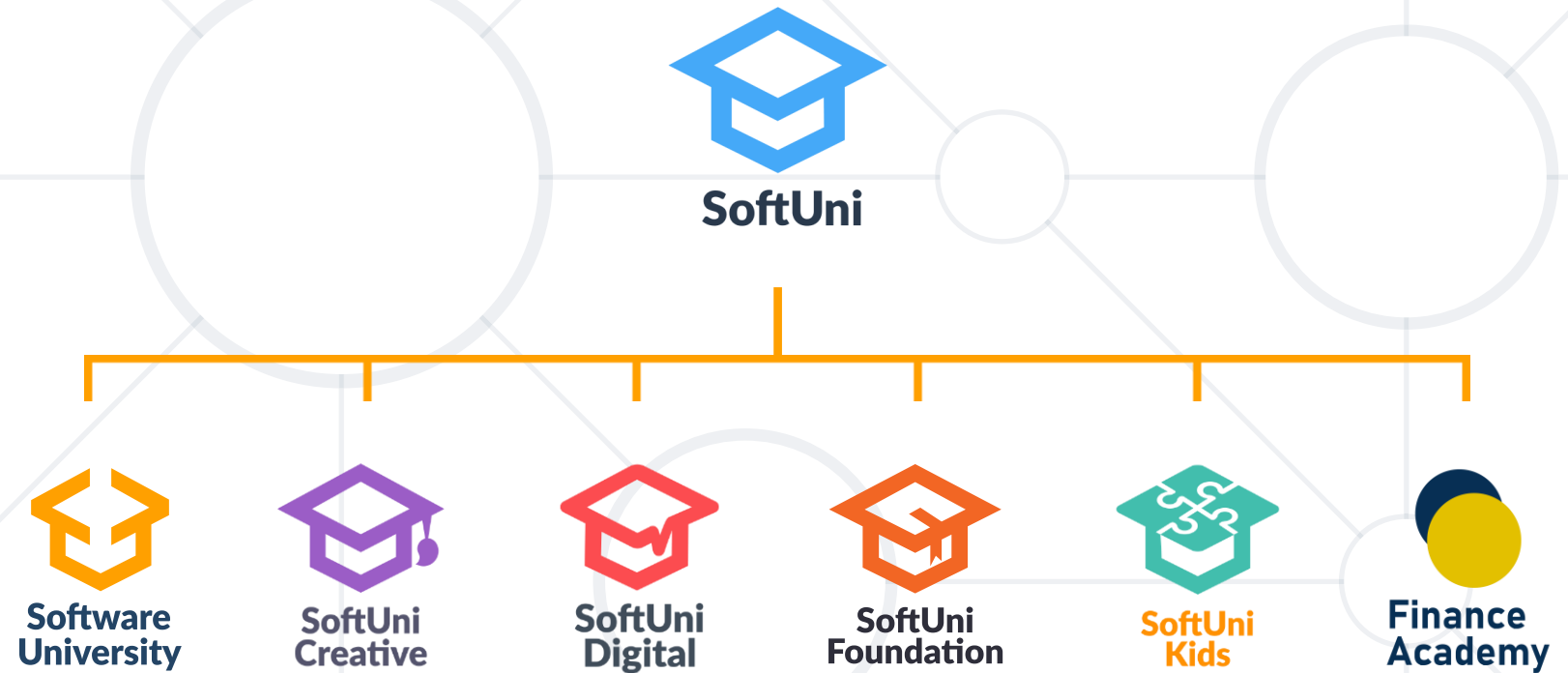
- Web applications require a **back-end** to **store** information
 - User profiles, settings, content, etc.
- **Creating** a back-end can be very **time consuming**
- **Ready to use** back-end services are available (free trial):
 - **Firebase**
 - **Backendless**
 - **Back4App**
 - And more



- **HTTP** is text-based request-response protocol
- **REST** uses **GET, POST, PUT, PATCH, DELETE**
- **RESTful** services address resources by URL
 - Provide **CRUD** operations over HTTP
- Many **BaaS** providers have **free trials**



Questions?



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