

APIs and Using them

Application Programming Interfaces





What the ...?

So what are these API thingys?

- API
- Application Programming Interface
 - specifies how components interact with each other
 - allows different software to communicate





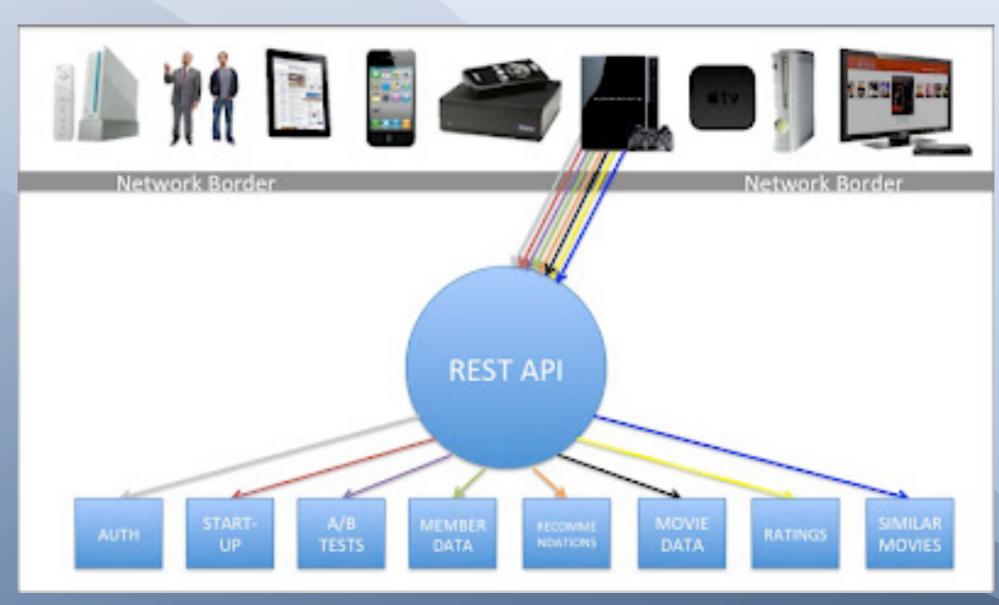








Conduit







REST API

Is it taking a nap?

- REST (aka RESTful API)
- Representational State Transfer
- Uses GET, POST, PUT, DELETE for different operations.
- In short: An API you can access through requests and responses.





Popular RESTful APIs

Which can you use?

- Programmable Web has a nice list:
- http://www.programmableweb.com/ apis





Popular RESTful APIs

Which can you use?

- Yahoo Finance
- Yahoo Weather
- FlickR
- Klout
- IMDB (unofficial)
- Oxford English Database
- Open Beer Database





Popular RESTful APIs

Which can you use?

- Government
 - USDA
 - CDC
 - Census
 - Public Record Search
 - City of New Orleans, Paolo Alto, San Jose, San Fransisco..etc





Yahoo Weather API

Is it cold in here, or is it just me?

Note: deprecated

http://xml.weather.yahoo.com/forecastrss?p=90210





Stuff to watch for

Is it cold in here, or is it just me?

- APIs that require keys
- O-AUTH

