

# REST and API Styles

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**RESTful  
Web Clients**

ENABLING REUSE THROUGH HYPERMEDIA

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*Services for a Changing World*

**RESTful  
Web APIs**



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*Leonard Richardson,  
Mike Amundsen & Sam Ruby*

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# Morning Agenda

- REST: *a starting point*
- CRUD: *for the masses*
- BREAK
- GraphQL: *for the new kids*
- Hypermedia: *for the dedicated*
- Summary

# **REST: A Starting Point**

# REST - The Short Story



# Fielding's Dissertation

*"This dissertation defines a framework for understanding software architecture via architectural styles and demonstrates how styles can be used to guide the architectural design of network-based application software."*

- Fielding, 2000



# REST in one slide

## Properties

- Performance
- Scalability
- Simplicity
- Modifiability
- Visibility
- Portability
- Reliability



# REST in one slide

## Properties + Requirements

- Performance
- Scalability
- Simplicity
- Modifiability
- Visibility
- Portability
- Reliability
- Low-Entry Barrier
- Extensibility
- Distributed Hypermedia
- Internet Scale



# REST in one slide

Properties	+ Requirements	= Constraints
• Performance	• Low-Entry Barrier	• Client-Server
• Scalability	• Extensibility	• Stateless
• Simplicity	• Distributed Hypermedia	• Cache
• Modifiability	• Internet Scale	• Uniform Interface
• Visibility		• Layered System
• Portability		• Code on Demand
• Reliability		



# Affordances

*"When I say hypertext, I mean the simultaneous presentation of information and controls such that the information becomes the affordance through which the user (or automaton) obtains choices and selects actions." - Fielding, 2008*



# Affordances

*"When I say hypertext, I mean the simultaneous presentation of information and controls such that **the information becomes the affordance** through which the user (or automaton) obtains choices and selects actions."* - Fielding, 2008



# **CRUD: For the Masses**

# HTTP APIs - The Shared Story



# RESTful Web Services - 2007

*"Our ultimate goal in this book is to reunite the programmable web with the human web. We envision a single interconnected network: a World Wide Web that runs on one set of servers, uses one set of protocols, and obeys one set of design principles."*

- Richardson & Ruby, 2008



# Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)



# Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)

Level 0: The Swamp of POX



# Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)

Level 1: Resources

Level 0: The Swamp of POX



# Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)

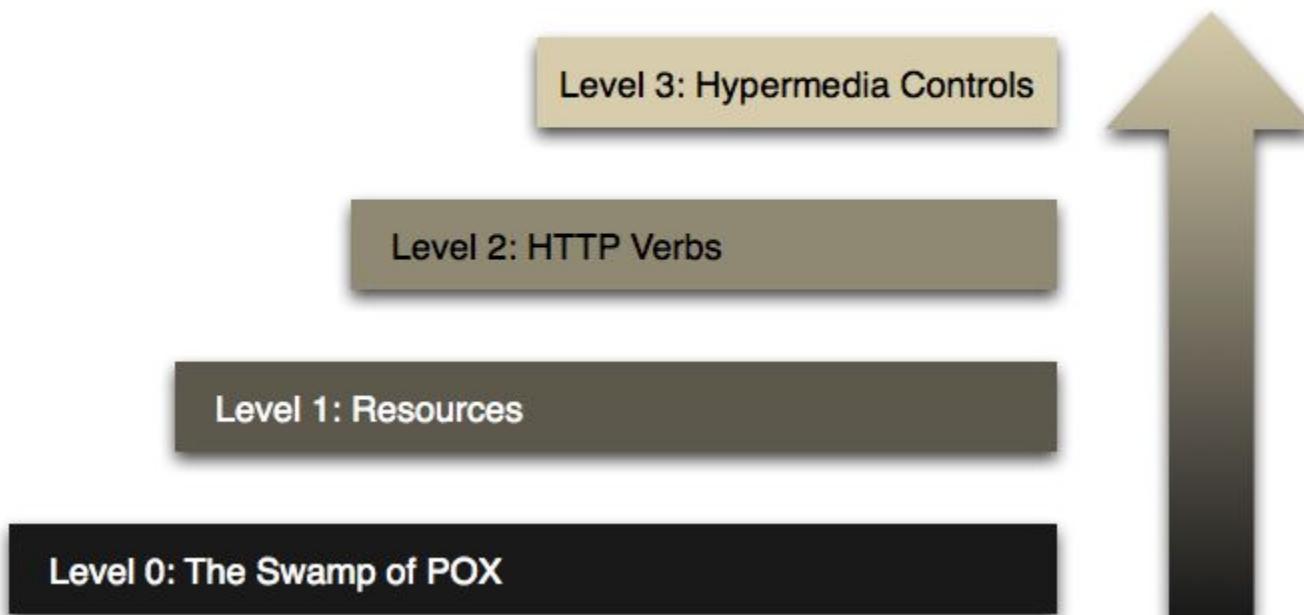
Level 2: HTTP Verbs

Level 1: Resources

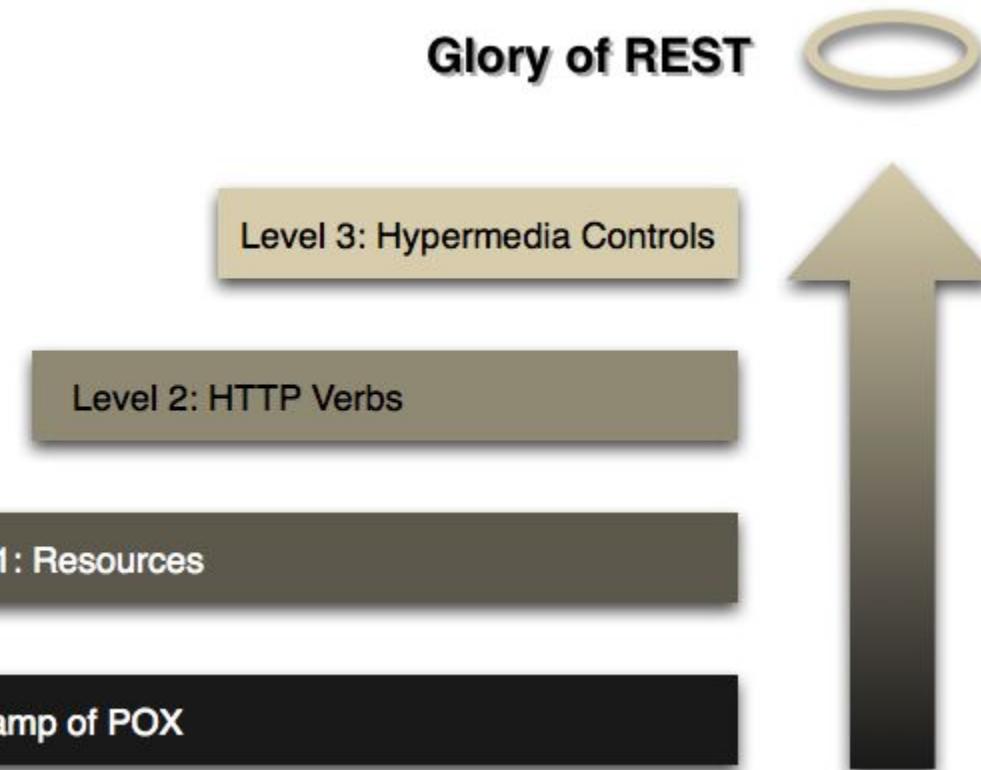
Level 0: The Swamp of POX



# Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)



# Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)



# Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)

Level 2: HTTP Verbs



# CRUD in one slide

Resource	Method	Representation	Status Codes
Employee	GET	Employee Format	200, 301, 410
Employee	PUT	Employee Format	200, 301, 400, 410
Employee	DELETE	N/A	200, 204
All Employees	GET	Employee List Format	200, 301
All Employees	POST	Employee Format	201, 400



# Gregorio's Four Questions (2006)

1. What are the URIs?
2. What are the formats?
3. What methods are supported at each URI?
4. What status codes could be returned?



# Common CRUD Guidance

- URI design is the primary task

`http://{server}/{collection}/{id}`

- Focus on serializing domain objects

`{customer: {name:"mike",...}}`

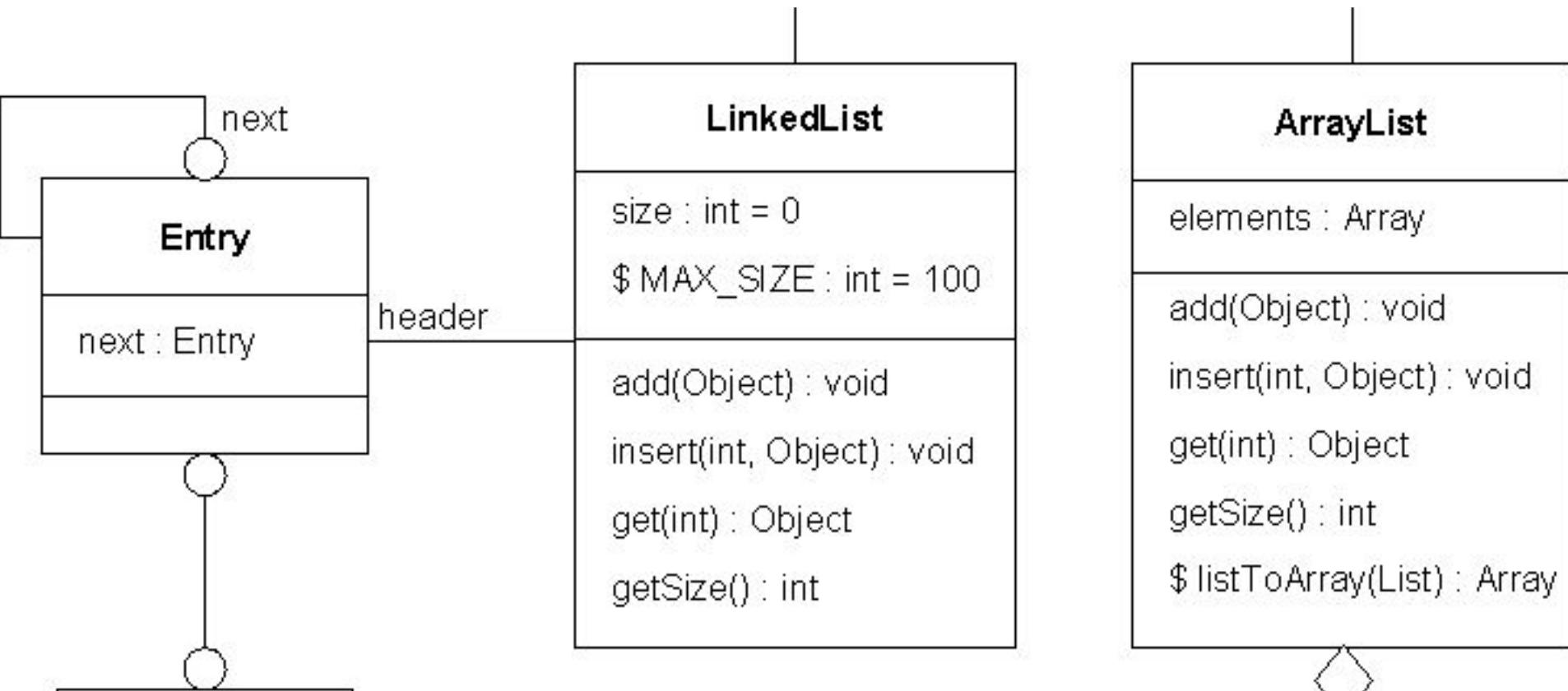
- Use URIs to express object relationships

`http://example.com/users/abc/friends/xyz`

- Use controller URIs to handle service tasks

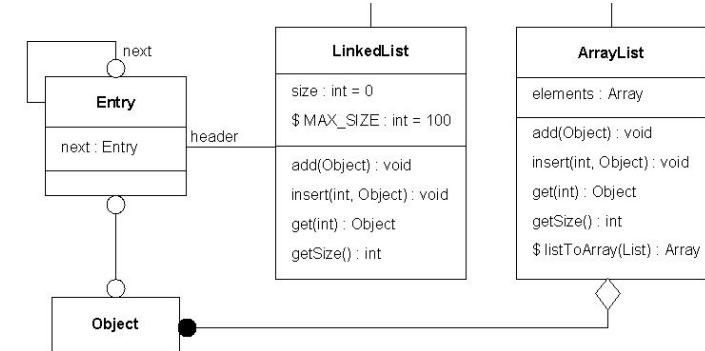
`http://example.com/reports/1`

# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)



# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- CRUD Server Responses
- HTML SPA Container
- URIs, Objects, and Actions



# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- CRUD Server Responses

```
- tasks: [
  - {
    id: 0,
    text: "this is some item"
  },
  - {
    id: 1,
    text: "this is another item"
  },
  - {
```

# CRUD Server Responses

# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- HTML SPA Container

```
<body>
  <h1>Tasks CRUD</h1>

  <!-- data goes here -->
  <ul id="list-data"></ul>

  <input id="add" type="button" value="Add" class=
  <input id="search" type="button" value="Search"
  <input id="list" type="button" value="List" clas

</body>
```

# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- URIs, Objects, and Actions

```
var g = {};  
g.msg = {};  
  
g.addUrl = '/tasks/';  
g.listUrl = '/tasks/';  
g.searchUrl = '/tasks/search{text=@text}';  
g.completeUrl = '/tasks/complete/';
```

# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- URIs, Objects, and Actions

```
// fill in the list
elm = document.getElementById('list-data');
if(elm) {
    elm.innerHTML = '';
    for(i=0,x=g.msg.tasks.length;i<x;i++) {
        li = document.createElement('li');
        li.id = g.msg.tasks[i].id;
        li.title = 'click to delete';
        li.appendChild(document.createTextNode(g.msg.tasks[i].te
        li.onclick = completeItem;

        elm.appendChild(li);
    }
}
```

# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- URIs, Objects, and Actions

```
// handle "search"
function searchList() {
    var text;

    text = prompt('Enter search:');
    if(text) {
        makeRequest(g.searchUrl.replace('{@text}', encodeURIComponent(text))
    }
}

// handle "add"
function addToList() {
    var text;

    text = prompt('Enter text:');
    if(text) {
```

# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- Composed HTML

```
<ul id="list-data">
  <li id="0" title="click to delete">this is some item</li>
  <li id="1" title="click to delete">this is another item</li>
  <li id="2" title="click to delete">this is one more item</li>
  <li id="3" title="click to delete">this is possibly an item</li>
</ul>
<input id="add" type="button" value="Add" class="button">
<input id="search" type="button" value="Search" class="button">
<input id="list" type="button" value="List" class="button">
```

# URI-Style Clients (CRUD)

- JS Summary

```
g.addUrl = '/tasks/';
g.listUrl = '/tasks/';
g.searchUrl = '/tasks/search?text={@text}';
g.completeUrl = '/tasks/complete/';

// prime system
function init() {➡➡}

// handle "list"
function refreshList() {➡➡}

// handle "search"
function searchList() {➡➡}

// handle "add"
function addToList() {➡➡}

// handle "complete"
function completeItem() {➡➡}

/* parse the returned document */
function showList() {➡➡}

function initButtons() {➡➡}
function clickButton() {➡➡}

// handle network request/response
function makeRequest(href, context, body) {➡➡}
function processResponse.ajax, context) {➡➡}
```

# URI-Style Client

*Exercise: Design the CRUD ToDo API*

# **GraphQL: For the New Kids**

# Query APIs (GraphQL)



# Learning GraphQL - 2018

*"GraphQL is a query language for your APIs. It's also a runtime for fulfilling queries with your data. The GraphQL service is transport agnostic but is typically served over HTTP." -- Eve Porcello and Alex Banks*



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# GraphQL Basics

- Queries
- Schemas
- Resolvers
- Mutations



# GraphQL Queries

```
{  
  todoSearch(title : "tasks") {  
    id, title, completed  
  }  
}
```



# GraphQL Schemas

```
# Todo object

type ToDo {
    # Unique ID of the record
    id: String

    # Title of the record
    title: String

    # Completed flag (true/false)
    completed: Boolean
}
```



# GraphQL Resolvers

```
todoStatus : function({completed}) {  
    var output = [], item;  
    for(var x in storage) {  
        if(storage[x].completed==completed) {  
            item = {};  
            item.id = storage[x].id;  
            item.title = storage[x].title;  
            item.completed = storage[x].completed;  
            output.push(item);  
        }  
    }  
    return output;  
},
```



# GraphQL Mutations

```
const mutation = new GraphQLObjectType({
```

```
  name: 'Mutation',
```

```
  fields: {
```

```
    create: {
```

```
      type: todoType,
```

```
      args: {
```

```
        id: { type: GraphQLString },
```

```
        title: { type: GraphQLString },
```

```
        completed: { type: GraphQLInt }
```

```
    },
```

```
    async resolve (parentValue, { title, body, userId }) {
```

```
      const response =
```

```
        await fetch('https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/todo', {
```

```
          method: 'POST',
```

```
          body: JSON.stringify({
```

```
            id,
```

```
            title,
```

```
            completed
```

```
          }),
```

```
          headers: {
```

```
            'Content-type': 'application/json; charset=UTF-8'
```

```
          }
```

```
        })
```

```
        const todo = await response.json
```

```
        return todo
```

```
}
```

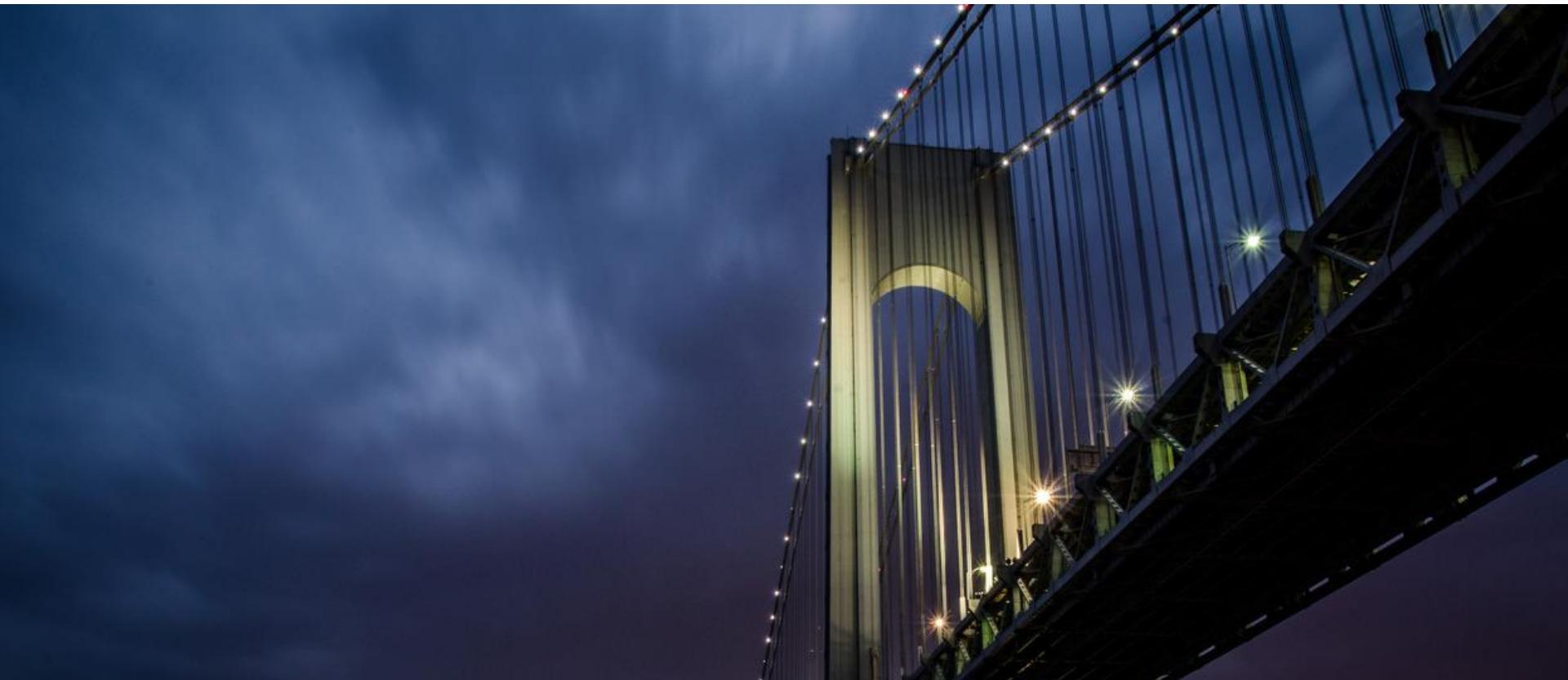


# *Exercise: Design the GraphQL ToDo API*



# **Hypermedia: For the Dedicated**

# Hypermedia APIs - The Linked Story



# RESTful Web APIs - 2013

*"RESTful Web Services covered hypermedia, but it wasn't central to the book. It was possible to skip the hypermedia parts of the book and still design a functioning API. By contrast, RESTful Web APIs is effectively a book about hypermedia." - Richardson & Amundsen*



# H-Factors (2010)

## Link Factors

- LO
- LE
- LT
- LN
- LI

```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
```

```

```

```
<form method="get">
  <label>Search term:</label>
  <input name="query" type="text" value="" />
  <input type="submit" />
</form>
```

```
<form method="post" action="http://www.example.org/my-keywords"/>
```

```
  <label>Keywords:</label>
  <input name="keywords" type="text" value="" />
  <input type="submit" />
</form>
```

```
function delete(id)
{
  var client = new XMLHttpRequest();
  client.open("DELETE", "/records/" + id);
}
```



# H-Factors

## Control Factors

- CR
- CU
- CM
- CL

```
<xsl:include href="http://www.exmaple.org/newsfeed" accept="application/rss" />
```

```
<form method="post" action="http://www.example.org/my-keywords" enctype="application/x-www-form-urlencoded" />

    <label>Keywords:</label>
    <input name="keywords" type="text" value="" />
    <input type="submit" />
</form>
```

```
<form method="post" action="http://www.example.org/my-keywords" />
    <label>Keywords:</label>
```

```
    <input name="keywords" type="text" value="" />
    <input type="submit" />
</form>
```

```
<entry xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom">
    <title>Atom-Powered Robots Run Amok</title>

    <id>urn:uuid:1225c695-cfb8-4ebb-aaaa-80da344efa6a</id>
    <updated>2003-12-13T18:30:02Z</updated>
    <author><name>John Doe</name></author>

    <content>Some text.</content>
    <link rel="edit" href="http://example.org/edit/first-post.atom"/>
</entry>
```



# H-Factors

**Hypermedia Factors**

		CL		
CR	CU	CM		
LE	LO	LT	LN	LI

SVG

**Hypermedia Factors**

		CL		
CR	CU	CM		
LE	LO	LT	LN	LI

Atom

**Hypermedia Factors**

		CL		
CR	CU	CM		
LE	LO	LT	LN	LI

HTML

# Hypermedia in one slide

- {"link" :  
      {"rel" : "help", "href" : "..."}  
}
- {"image" :  
      {"rel" : "logo", "href" : "..."}  
}
- {"form" :  
      {"rel" : "edit",  
      "href" : "...",  
      "method" : "put",  
      "data" : [{"name": "...", "value": "..."}]}  
}



# Hypermedia Client (REST)



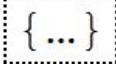
# Hypermedia Client (REST)

- REST Server Responses
- HTML FSM Container
- Media Types and Controls



# Hypermedia Client (REST)

- REST Server Responses

```
- links: [
    + {...},
    - {
        rel: "list",
        href: "/tasks/",
        method: "get"
    },
    + 
],
- collection: [
    - {
```

# REST Server Responses

# Hypermedia Client (REST)

- HTML FSM Container

```
<body>
  <h1>Tasks Hypermedia</h1>

  <!-- response data goes here -->
  <ul id="data"></ul>

  <!-- actions go here -->
  <div id="actions"></div>

</body>
<script src="tasks.js" type="text/ja
```

# Hypermedia Client (REST)

- Media Types and Controls

```
/* parse the response */
function showResponse() {
    var elm, li, i, x;

    // fill in the list
    elm = document.getElementById('data');
    if(elm) {
        elm.innerHTML = '';
        for(i=0,x=g.msg.collection.length;i<x;i++) {
            li = document.createElement('li');
            li.appendChild(document.createTextNode(g.msg.collection[i]

                // see if we have an affordance here
                try {
                    if(g.msg.collection[i].link.rel==='complete') {
                        if(g.msg.collection[i].link.data) {
                            li.setAttribute('data', g.msg.collection[i].link.dat
```

# Hypermedia Client (REST)

- Media Types and Controls

```
// handle possible hypermedia controls
function showControls() {
    var elm, inp, i, x;

    // find and render controls
    elm = document.getElementById('actions');
    if(elm) {
        elm.innerHTML = '';
        for(i=0,x=g.msg.links.length;i<x;i++) {
            inp = document.createElement('input');
            inp.type = "button";
            inp.className = "button";
            inp.id = g.msg.links[i].rel;
            inp.setAttribute('method',g.msg.links[i].method);
            elm.appendChild(inp);
        }
    }
}
```

# Hypermedia Client (REST)

- Composed HTML

```
<h1>Tasks Hypermedia</h1>
<!-- response data goes here --&gt;
▼ &lt;ul id="data"&gt;
  &lt;li data="id" dvalue="0" id="complete" href="/tasks/complete/" method="post"&gt;this is some item&lt;/li&gt;
  &lt;li data="id" dvalue="1" id="complete" href="/tasks/complete/" method="post"&gt;this is another
    item&lt;/li&gt;
  &lt;li data="id" dvalue="2" id="complete" href="/tasks/complete/" method="post"&gt;this is one more
    item&lt;/li&gt;
  &lt;li data="id" dvalue="3" id="complete" href="/tasks/complete/" method="post"&gt;this is possibly an
    item&lt;/li&gt;
&lt;/ul&gt;
<!-- actions go here --&gt;
▼ &lt;div id="actions"&gt;
  &lt;input type="button" class="button" id="add" method="post" href="/tasks/" value="add" data="text"&gt;
  &lt;input type="button" class="button" id="list" method="get" href="/tasks/" value="list"&gt;
  &lt;input type="button" class="button" id="search" method="get" href="/tasks/search" value="search"
    data="text"&gt;</pre>
```

# Hypermedia Client (REST)

- Summary JS

```
var thisPage = function() {  
  
    var g = {};  
    g.msg = {};  
    g.listUrl = '/tasks/';  
  
    // prime the system  
    function init() {➡➡} // Clicked  
  
    /* parse the response */  
    function showResponse() {➡➡} // Clicked  
  
    // handle possible hypermedia controls  
    function showControls() {⬅➡} // Clicked  
    function clickButton() {➡➡} // Clicked  
  
    // handle network request/response  
    function makeRequest(href, context, body) {➡➡} // Clicked  
    function processResponse.ajax, context) {➡➡} // Clicked  
  
    var that = {};  
    that.init = init;  
    return that;  
};
```

*Exercise: Design the Hypermedia ToDo API*

# **Summary**

# REST in one slide

Properties	+ Requirements	= Constraints
• Performance	• Low-Entry Barrier	• Client-Server
• Scalability	• Extensibility	• Stateless
• Simplicity	• Distributed Hypermedia	• Cache
• Modifiability	• Internet Scale	• Uniform Interface
• Visibility		• Layered System
• Portability		• Code on Demand
• Reliability		



# CRUD in one slide

- URI design is the primary task

`http://{server}/{collection}/{id}`

- Focus on serializing domain objects

`{customer: {name:"mike",...}}`

- Use URIs to express object relationships

`http://example.com/users/abc/friends/xyz`

- Use controller URIs to handle service tasks

`http://example.com/reports/1`

# GraphQL in one slide

- Queries
- Schemas
- Resolvers
- Mutations



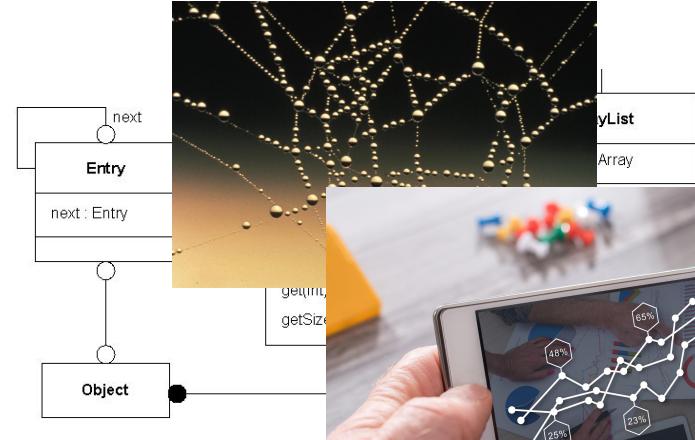
# Hypermedia in one slide

- {"link" :  
      {"rel" : "help", "href" : "..."}  
}
- {"image" :  
      {"rel" : "logo", "href" : "..."}  
}
- {"form" :  
      {"rel" : "edit",  
      "href" : "...",  
      "method" : "put",  
      "data" : [{"name": "...", "value": "..."}]}  
}



# REST and API Styles

- REST Style
  - System Properties and Implementation Constraints
- URI-Style Clients (CRUD)
  - URLs, Objects, and Actions
- Query Clients (GraphQL)
  - Schema, Resolvers, Mutations
- Hypermedia Clients (REST)
  - Media Types and Controls



***What's Next?***

# REST and API Styles

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