

Ralph Hees



Managing APIs Effectively

API Management

Ralph Hees



Consultant & Architect
Software, Cloud, CI/CD, Enterprise
Hobby: Zeilen





Hoeveel API's gebruikt een
developer gemiddeld op een
dag?

Vraag

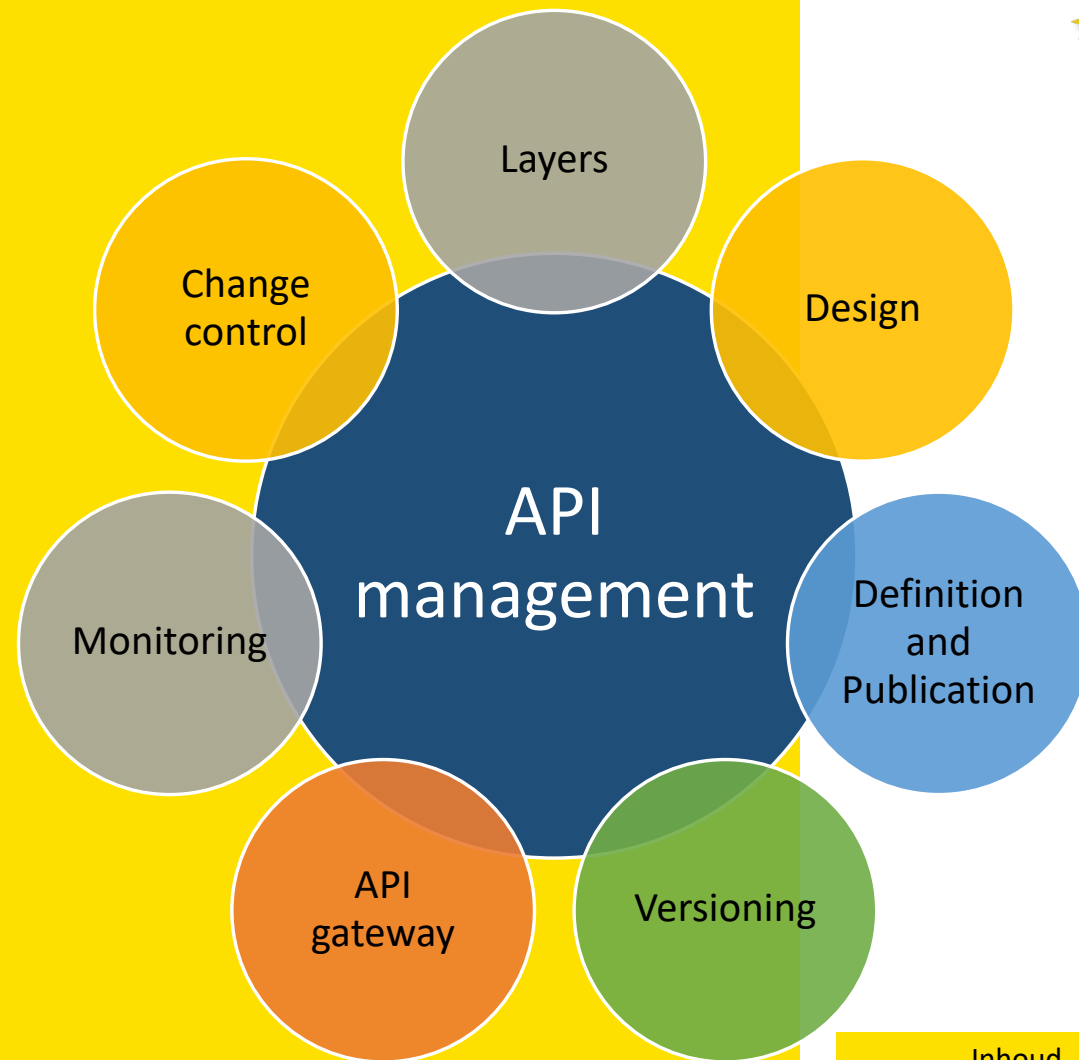


15 tot 50 API's Dagelijks

Vraag

INHOUD

- 1.API Lagen
- 2.Management technieken
- 3.Gebruik Best Practices
- 4.Test methoden



Inhoud



API soorten

Typen van API Protocollen and Interfaces

1. Web-Based API Protocols
2. Library APIs
3. Platform APIs
4. Hardware APIs
5. System APIs



API soorten

Web-Based API Protocollen

- a) REST (Representational State Transfer)
- b) SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol)
- c) GraphQL
- d) gRPC (Google Remote Procedure Call)
- e) WebSockets
- f) MQTT (Message Queuing Telemetry Transport)
- g) AMQP (Advanced Message Queuing Protocol)
- h) OData (Open Data Protocol)
- i) XML-RPC



API soorten

Platform & Library APIs

Herbruikbare functies en libraries binnen specifieke programmeer omgevingen.

- a) Java APIs & Libraries
- b) .NET APIs & Libraries
- c) Python APIs & Libraries
- d) JavaScript & Node.js APIs
- e) Mobile & Cloud APIs



API soorten

Hardware and Operating Systems

- a) Operating System APIs
- b) Graphics & Multimedia APIs
- c) AI & Machine Learning APIs



API soorten

Conclusie

Wide range

Web based

Programming

Hardware

Cloud computing

Mobile

AI

API begrip



API lagen

1. Presentation Layer APIs:

- These APIs interact with the user interface (UI) and facilitate communication between front-end applications and back-end systems.
- Examples: RESTful APIs for web applications, GraphQL APIs for fetching data.

2. Business Logic Layer APIs:

- These APIs encapsulate the core functionality and rules of a system, ensuring that business operations are executed consistently.
- Examples: APIs for order processing, inventory management, or payment processing.

3. Data Layer APIs:

- Provide access to databases and data storage systems, abstracting the underlying data models.
- Examples: SQL-based APIs, NoSQL database APIs, or data access libraries.

4. Infrastructure Layer APIs:

- Interaction with underlying infrastructure, such as servers, cloud platforms, and network components.
- Examples: AWS SDKs, Kubernetes APIs, or system monitoring APIs.

5. Library and Interface APIs:

- Java interfaces or libraries designed for reuse across multiple applications. Encapsulate reusable logic and functionalities, such as mathematical operations, logging, or communication protocols.
- Examples: Java standard libraries, third-party SDKs, or custom-built interfaces shared within an organization.



API Lagen

Generiek door alle lagen

1. Design
2. Documentatie
3. Versionering & Compatibiliteit
4. Authenticatie & Authorisatie
5. Monitoring & Performance analytics
6. Error Handling & Logging
7. Testing & Validatie
8. Lifecycle Management & Deprecatie



Design

Generiek door alle lagen

Heldere design principes

Best Practices:

1. Design first approach
2. API reference
3. Ensure backwards compatibility



Versionering & Compatibiliteit

Generiek door alle lagen

API's evolve

Version management verschilt per laag

Best Practices:

1. Semantic versioning.
2. Ondersteun oude versies een tijd.
3. Ondersteun meerder versies, indien nodig.



Authenticatie & Autorisatie

Generiek door alle lagen

Controleer toegang

Web API's Oauth, WebauthN, JWT, API Keys

Best Practices:

1. Gebruik RBAC of Permissie gebaseerde beveiliging
2. Gebruik IAM (Identity and Access Management)
3. Implementeer Oauth 2.0 of WebAuthN



Monitoring & Performance Analytics

Generiek door alle lagen

Monitor uptime, latency, error waardes & gebruiks patronen.

Best Practices:

1. Observability platform (logging & tracing).
2. SIEM (Security Information en Event Management).
3. Rate limiting.
4. API Gateway
5. Optimaliseer performance gebaseerd op statistieken.



Error Handling & Logging

Generiek door alle lagen

Consistent en duidelijke foutmeldingen

Best Practices:

1. Gebruik gestructureerde error meldingen
2. Implementeer resiliency (retry mechanismen)
3. Sla logs central op (debugging & auditing)



Testen & Validatie

Generiek door alle lagen

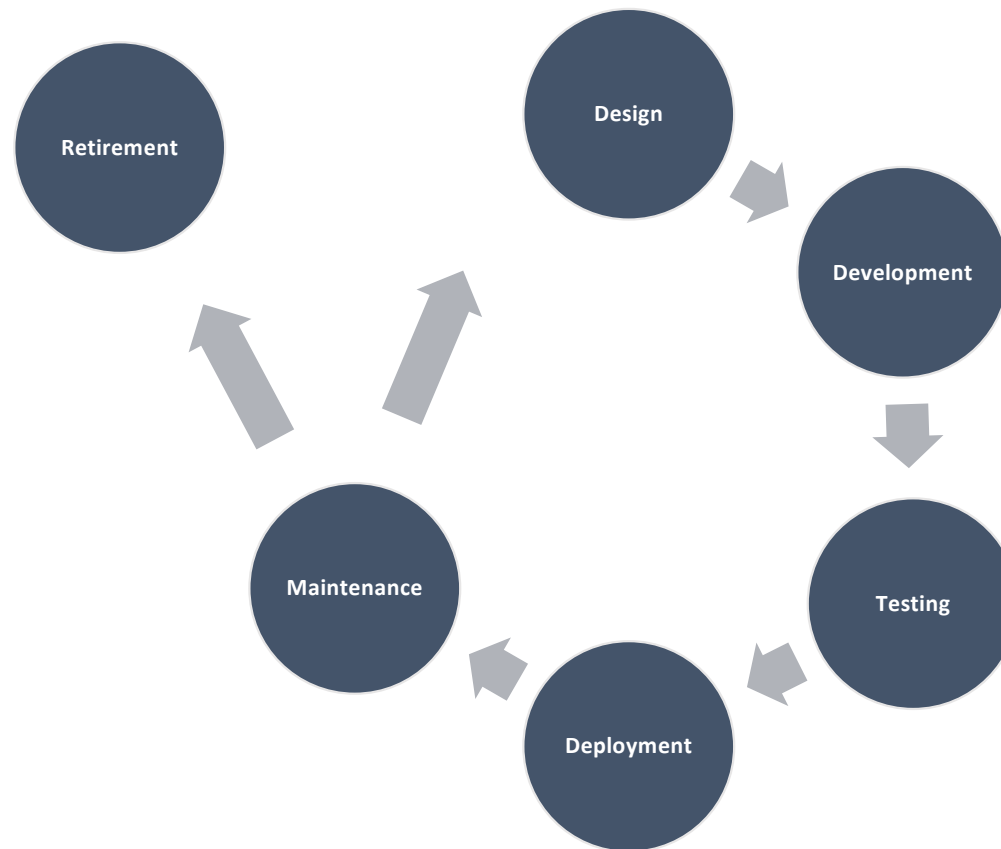
API's moeten getest worden.

Best Practices:

1. Contract testing.
2. API testing.
3. Schema validatie.
4. Automatische test in CI/CD pipelines.

Lifecycle Management & Deprecatie

Generiek door alle lagen



API begrip



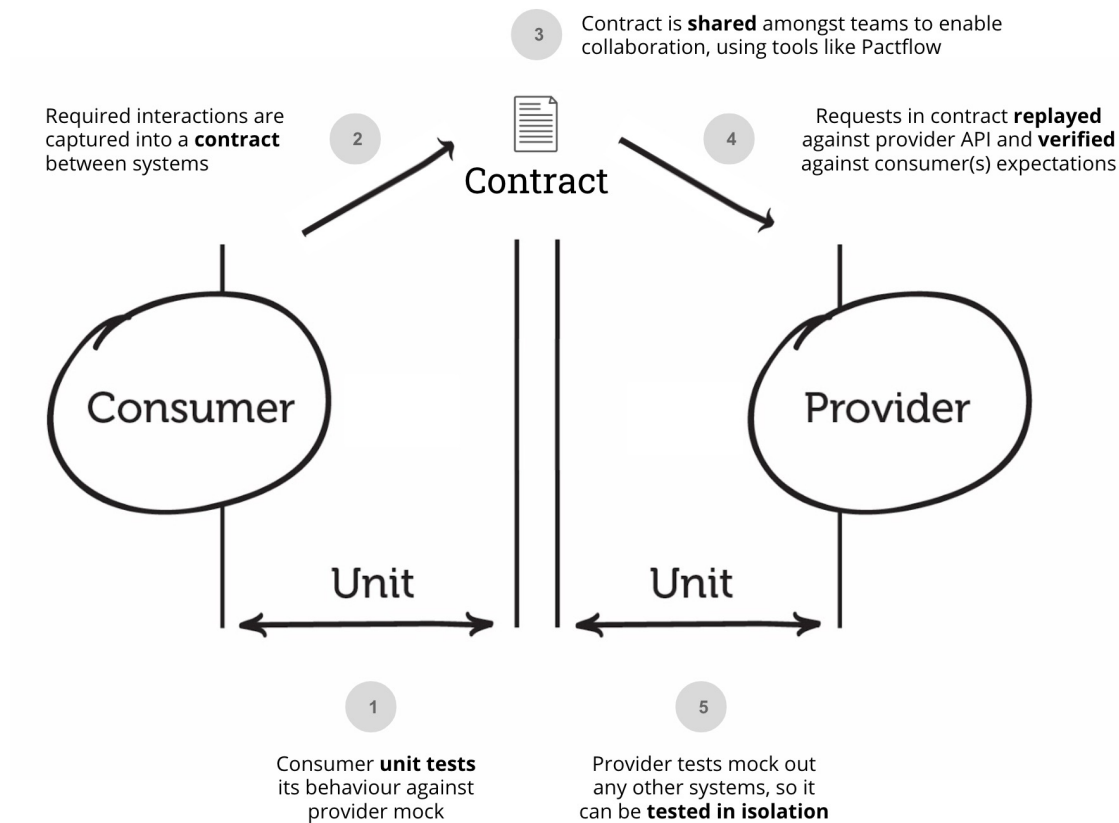
Lifecycle Management & Deprecatie

Generiek door alle lagen

Best Practices:

1. Onderhoud API registries.
2. Track binnenkomende en uitgaande dependencies.
3. Plan changes.
4. Publiseer deprecatie tijdlijnen.
5. Automatiseer deprecatie process
 1. Feature flags
 2. API gateways

Contract testing





Contract testing

Voordelen

1. Consistentie controle.
2. Verminderen risico op integratie problemen.
3. Verminderen cloud Kosten.
4. Sneller valideren.
5. Inzicht in gebruik.



Contract testing

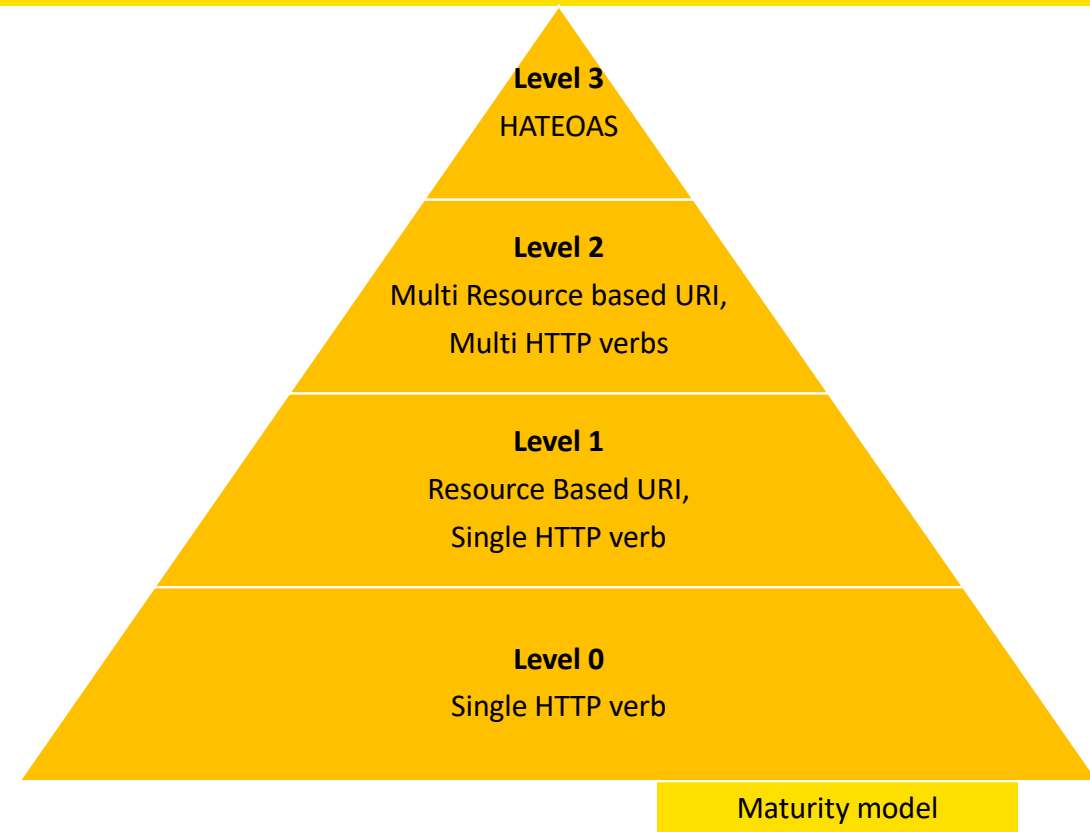
Aanpak

1. Consumer driven (CDCT) Assertible (OpenAPI specs)
2. Producer driven (PDCT)
 1. OpenAPI
 2. gRPC with Protobuf contracts
3. Usable in both or bidirectional
 1. Pact (wide range of languages supported)
 2. Spring Cloud Contract (YAML/Groovy, can interact with Pact)
 3. Specsmatic (OpenAPI specs, HTTP & Event-Driven)
 4. Contract Testing in Postman (OpenAPI specs)
 5. Dredd (OpenAPI specs)



REST Maturity model

Richardson Maturity Model (RMM)





REST Maturity model

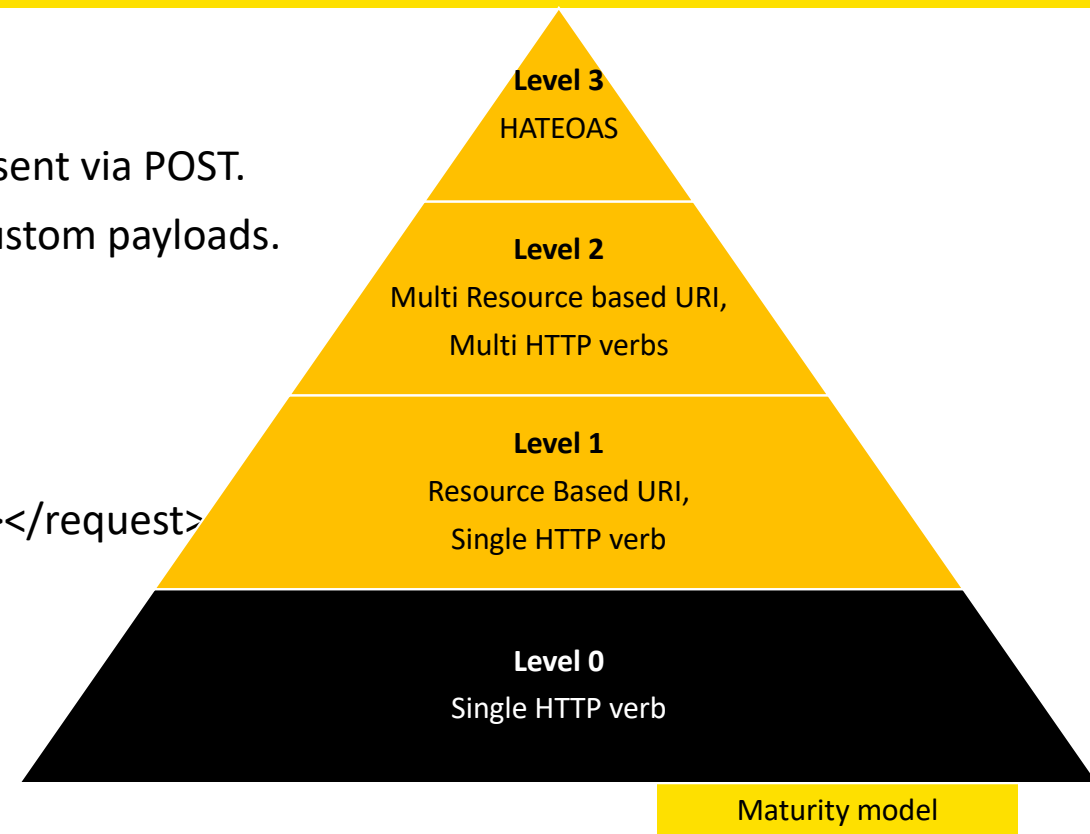
Level 0 The Swamp of POX

- Uses single endpoint (e.g., /api or /service).
- No proper use of HTTP methods; everything is sent via POST.
- No standard response formats, often XML or custom payloads.

POST /api

Content-Type: application/xml

<request><action>getUser</action><id>123</id></request>



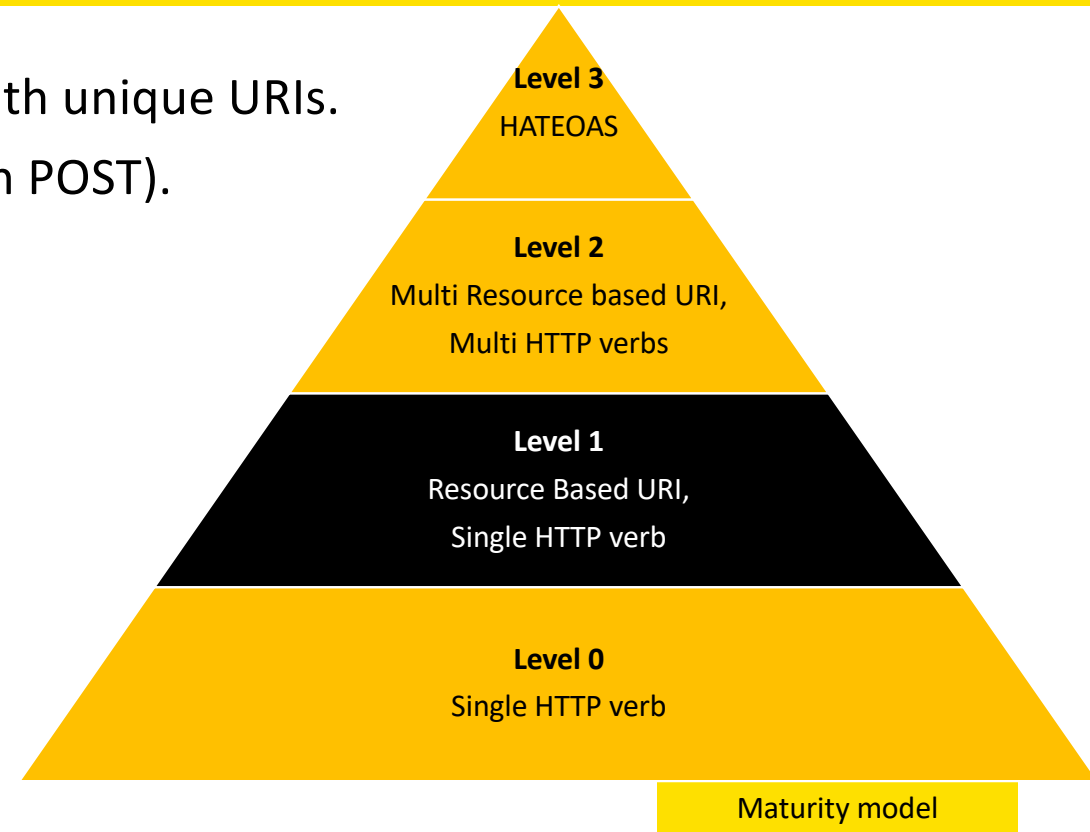


REST Maturity model

Level 1 Resource URI's, only GET or POST

- Introduces the concept of resources, with unique URIs.
- Still relies on single HTTP method (often POST).

POST /users/123





REST Maturity model

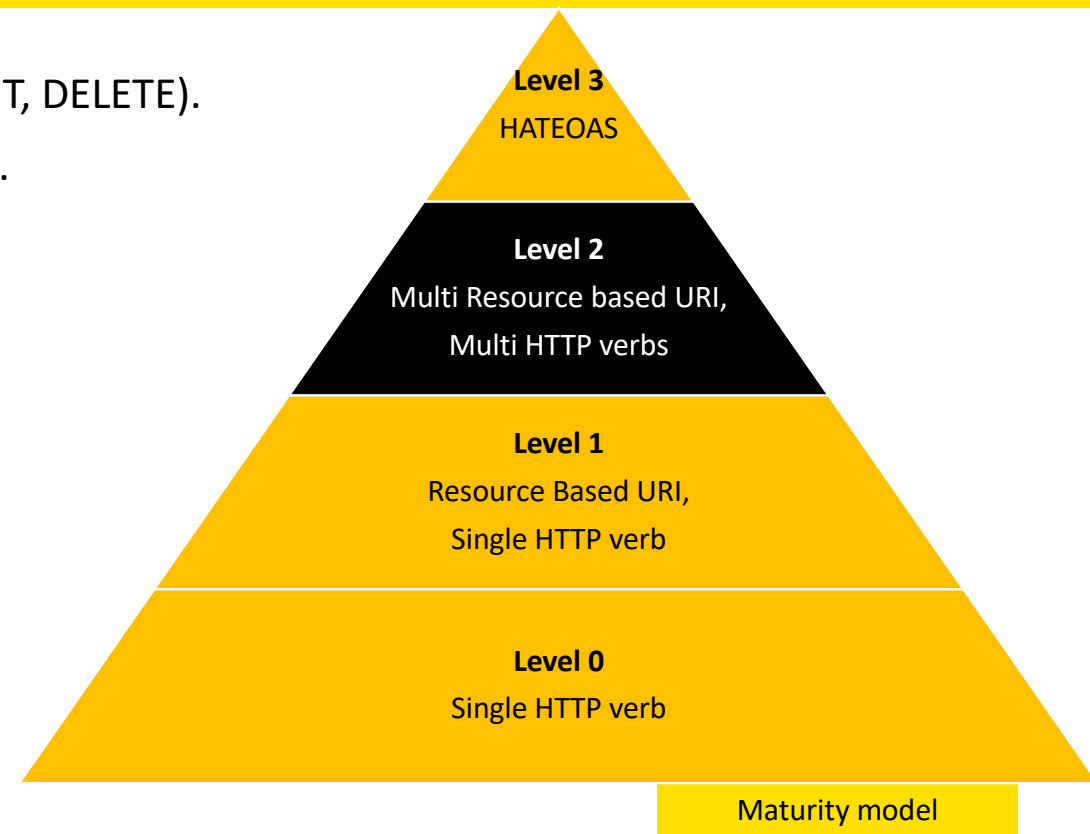
Level 2 Resource URI's and standard HTTP verbs

- Utilizes standard **HTTP methods** (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE).
- Uses proper **status codes** to indicate responses.

GET /users/123 → Retrieves user

PUT /users/123 → Updates user

DELETE /users/123 → Deletes user



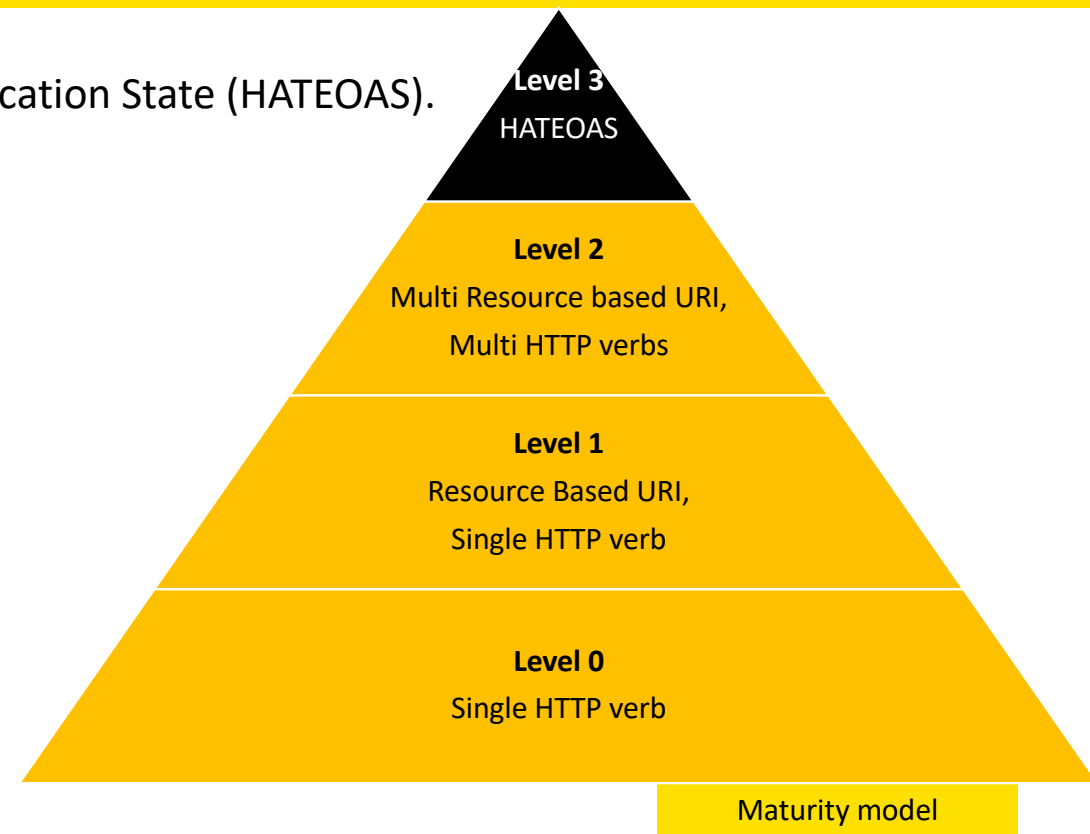


REST Maturity model

Level 3 Hypertext As The Engine Of Application State

- Implements Hypermedia as the Engine of Application State (HATEOAS).
- Responses include links to related resources, guiding clients dynamically.

```
{  
  "id": 123,  
  "name": "John Doe",  
  "links": [  
    { "rel": "self", "href": "/users/123" },  
    { "rel": "orders", "href": "/users/123/orders" }  
  ]  
}
```





Real world takeaways

Level 1 APIs (Twitter's early API)

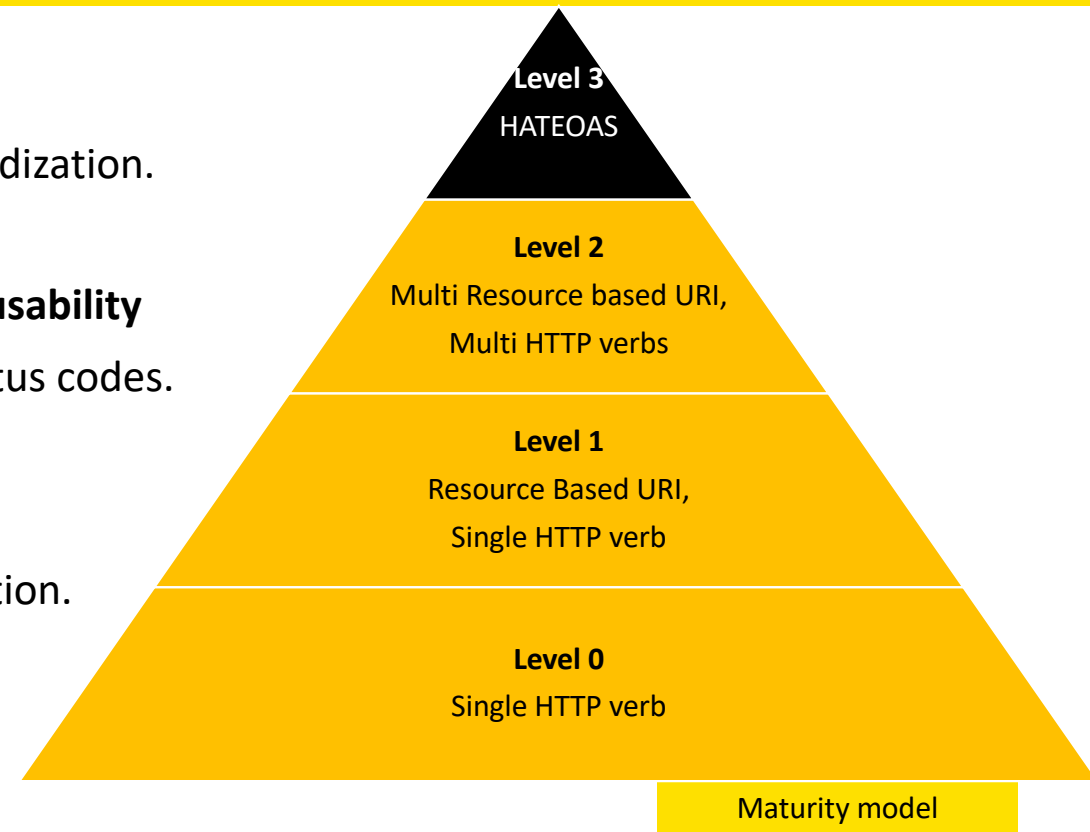
suffer from lack of structure and standardization.

Level 2 APIs (modern Twitter, PayPal)

provide **better caching, scalability, and usability**
by implementing HTTP methods and status codes.

Level 3 APIs (GitHub)

enhance **discoverability and flexibility**
with HATEOAS, allowing dynamic navigation.





Summary

Overzie API soorten

Zelfde onderdelen in architectuur

Best practices:

- API design first
- Lifecycle management
- Secure, Stable and Scaleble API's
- Monitoring
- Testing

AND NOW...

Let's build some API's!

