

HTTP 5122

Front-end Web Development

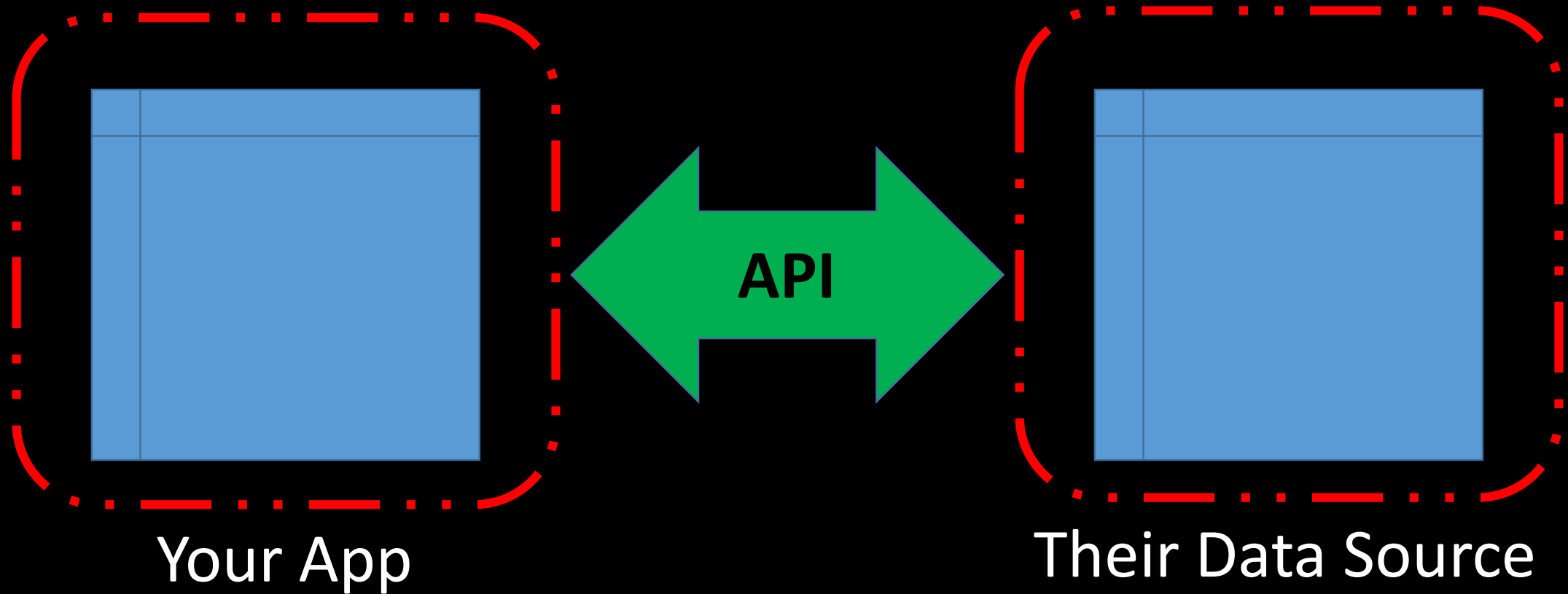
Working with APIs



What is an Application Programming Interface?

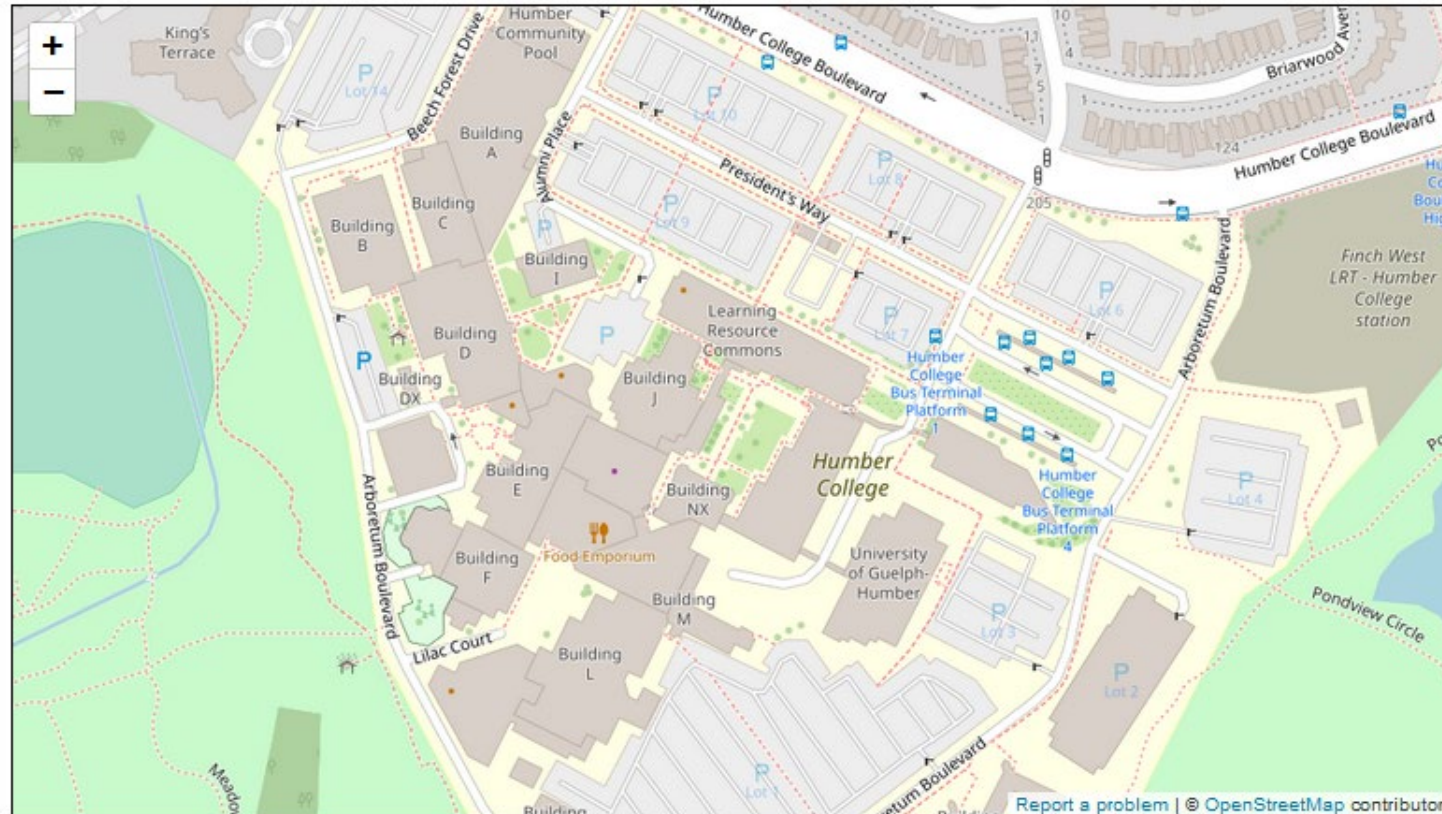
- An application programming interface (API) is a method for one application to include the output from another "third-party" application.
- Examples:
 - The Humber College application includes content from the OpenStreetMap application
 - a Google map on a web page
 - Like and subscribe buttons
 - Embedded video or audio from a streaming platform (Blackboard uses Panopto)

Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)



The Humber College Maps Page

NORTH CAMPUS



[View Larger Map](#)

- [Humber North Campus - Parking](#)
- [Humber North Campus - Main Floor Plan](#)
- [Humber North Campus - Virtual Tour](#)



How an API Works

- An application wishing to share its content or service creates a list of programming commands that another application can use to retrieve data
- Your app wishing to use the data sends a request through a URL using the commands made available through the API.
- Sometimes using this service requires registration or fees for the service
- While there are standards and traditions, each API typically provides its own documentation



How to Work with an API

Read the documentation!!!

- What data is available?
- What format(s) does it provide?
- What are the costs or requirements?
- What are the limitations?
- What are the access commands (“end points”)?

Test it!

Retrieving JSON Data from an API

Toronto

2.81
clear sky

Elements Console Application >>

top Filter Default levels

No Issues

[apis.js:25](#)
▼ {coord: {...}, weather: Array(1), base: 'stations', main: {...}, visibility: 10000, ...} ⓘ
 base: "stations"
 ▶ clouds: {all: 0}
 cod: 200
 ▶ coord: {lon: -79.4163, lat: 43.7001}
 dt: 1700943204
 id: 6167865
 ▶ main: {temp: 2.81, feels_like: -1.47, temp_min: 1.83, tem
 name: "Toronto"

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