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CS493 Cloud Dev

Assignment 2

<u>Do you think GitHub API is RESTful?</u>

Yes, I do think the GitHub API possesses properties that categorizes an API as RESTful. We learned the two main properties of a RESTful API are as follows:

1. URL identifies resources when addressing a RESTful API.
   I found this property to be true of the GitHub API. When looking at the documentation for the API, it explained how to reach different resources by changing the URL and request type. The URLs used by this API did not use action words(verbs) and only referred to resources(nouns).

2. API is stateless.
   I found this property to also be true of the API. All information must be sent in the request to the API, and the server did not keep any states. One example I experienced was when I attempted to retrieve all my gists, as I had already done previously, but the response I got back was a whole list of gists that weren't mine. Somehow the authentication was turned off and the API did not know I was a registered user, because I did not send my token in the header of the request. This shows that the API did not remember who I was from previous requests, and that all information must be contained in the request due to the server being stateless.