

Understanding APIs - Application Programming Interfaces



LECTURE
SUMMARY

Covered in this lecture:

Taught by:



What APIs are and types of APIs

- ▶ **API: Application Programming Interface**
- ▶ **API is the messenger that takes requests and tells the system what you want to do, then it returns what you requested back to you**
- Public APIs are provided by companies to allow products or services to get data from their services
 - >> Example: Searching flights on kayak.com
 - they contact various companies' databases and display their data in the results
- Private APIs are available only to developers inside a company to get information from different internal systems
 - >> Example: Facebook
 - there are probably databases holding all the user information, where developers can get the data they need

See you next lecture!