

Code(Her) Conference 2014

## Building APIs for Web & Mobile

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#### Introductions

### Your Turn

## Workshop Organization

## Workshop Organization

- \* Setup / Following Along (5-15 mins)
- \* The Value of APIs (15 mins)
- \* API Building Blocks (15 mins)
- \* Building our first API (30 mins)
- \* Deploying our first API (10-15 mins)
- \* Challenge: Build an API based on the Code(Her) Conference website (45 mins)

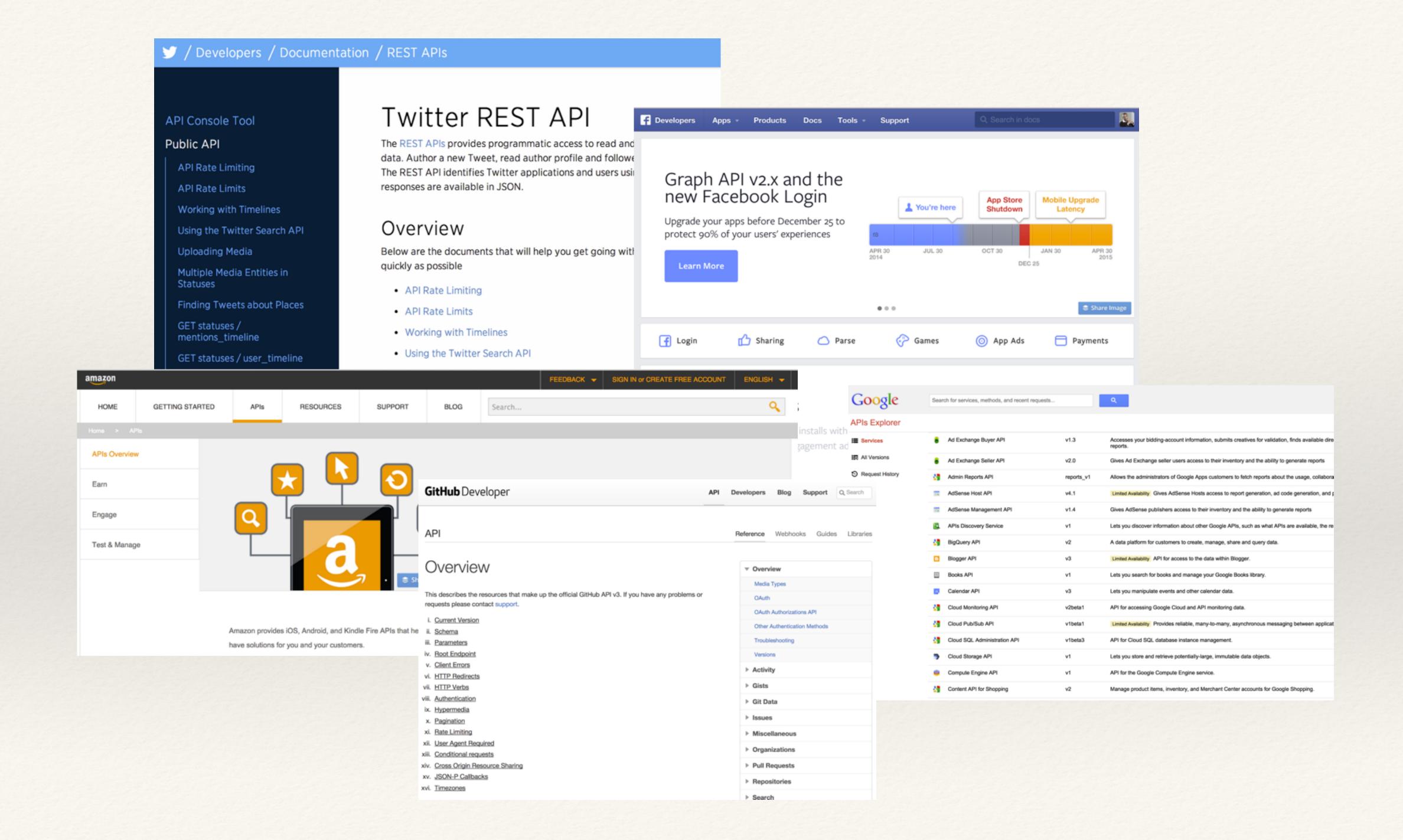
Setup / Following Along

## https://github.com/jboursiquot/codeherconf/ wiki/Setup

#### The Value of APIs

So, what's an API?

## Let's look at some examples



## Let's explore GitHub's API

#### The Value of APIs

"APIs [have become] a primary customer interface for technologydriven products and services and a key channel for driving revenue and brand engagement."

Forbes article

"APIs: building blocks for the future of digital marketing"

Headline from The Guardian

"If you want to get a glimpse into the future of banking, consider a simple acronym: API"

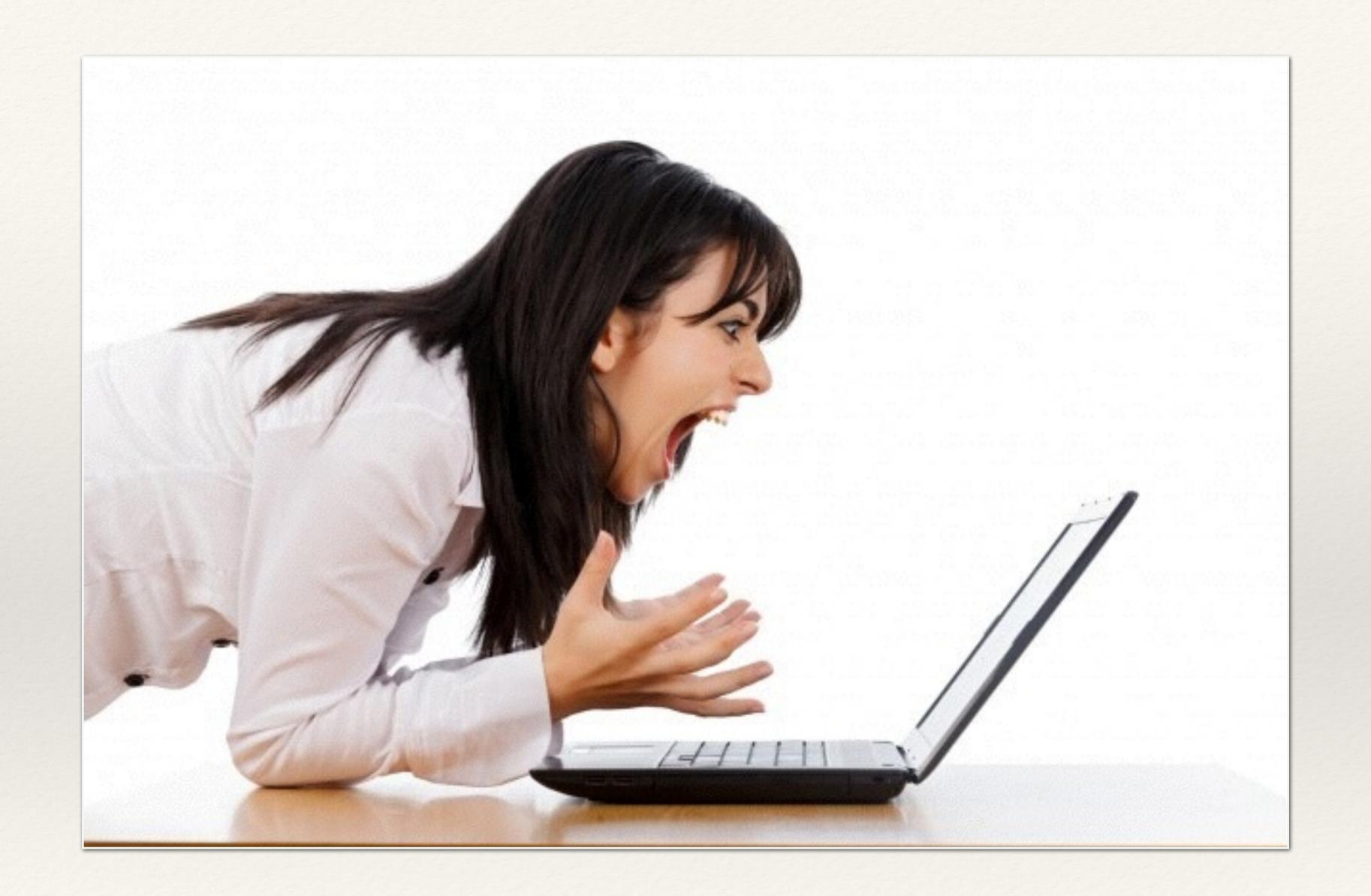
Information Week article



Why all the excitement?

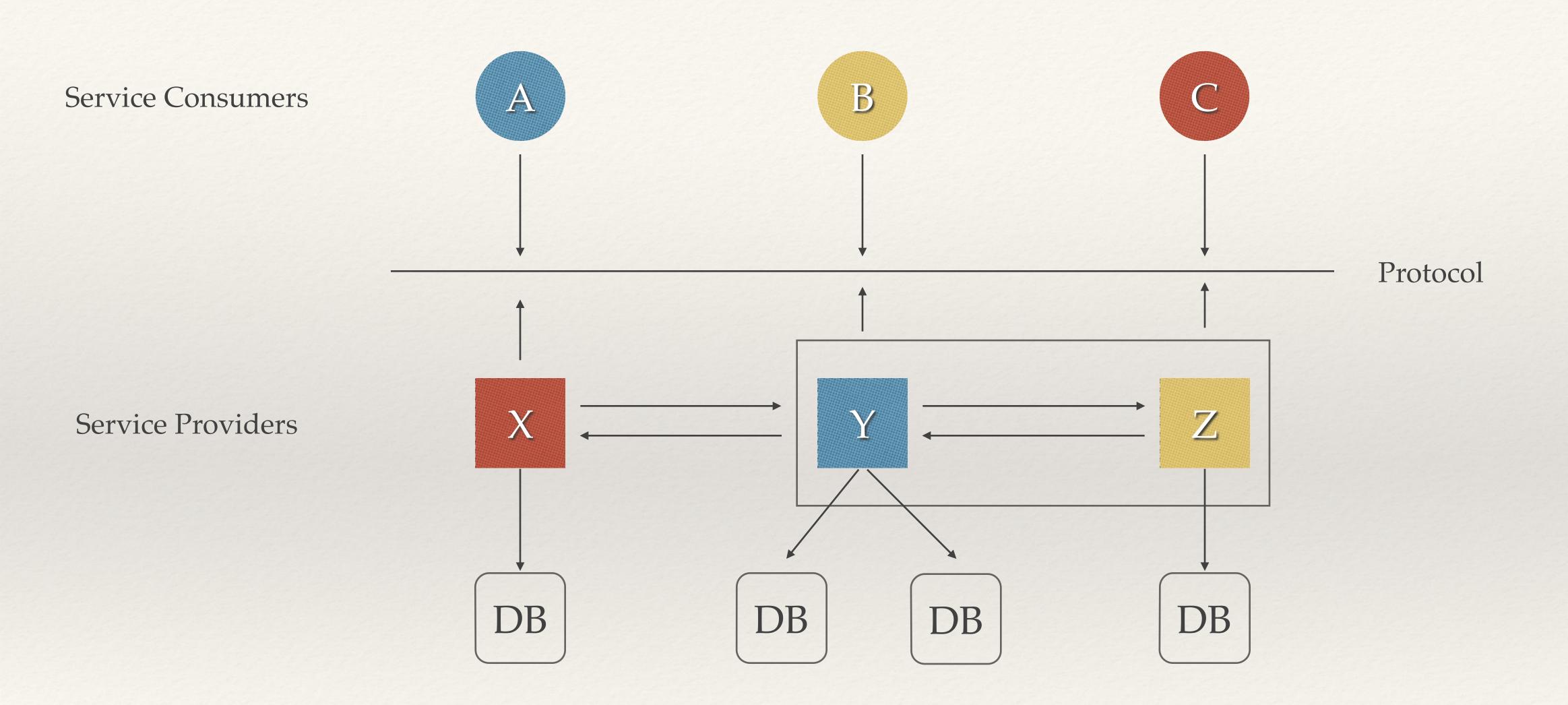
### Before APIs (an extremely brief look back)

- \* In the early 1990's, distributed computing is prolific
- \* Communication between heterogeneous systems is hard
- \* Technologies like CORBA, Java RMI and Microsoft's DCOM are created in an attempt to ease cross-network interaction between systems
- \* Each new "standard" created to replace the old simply adds to the fragmentation



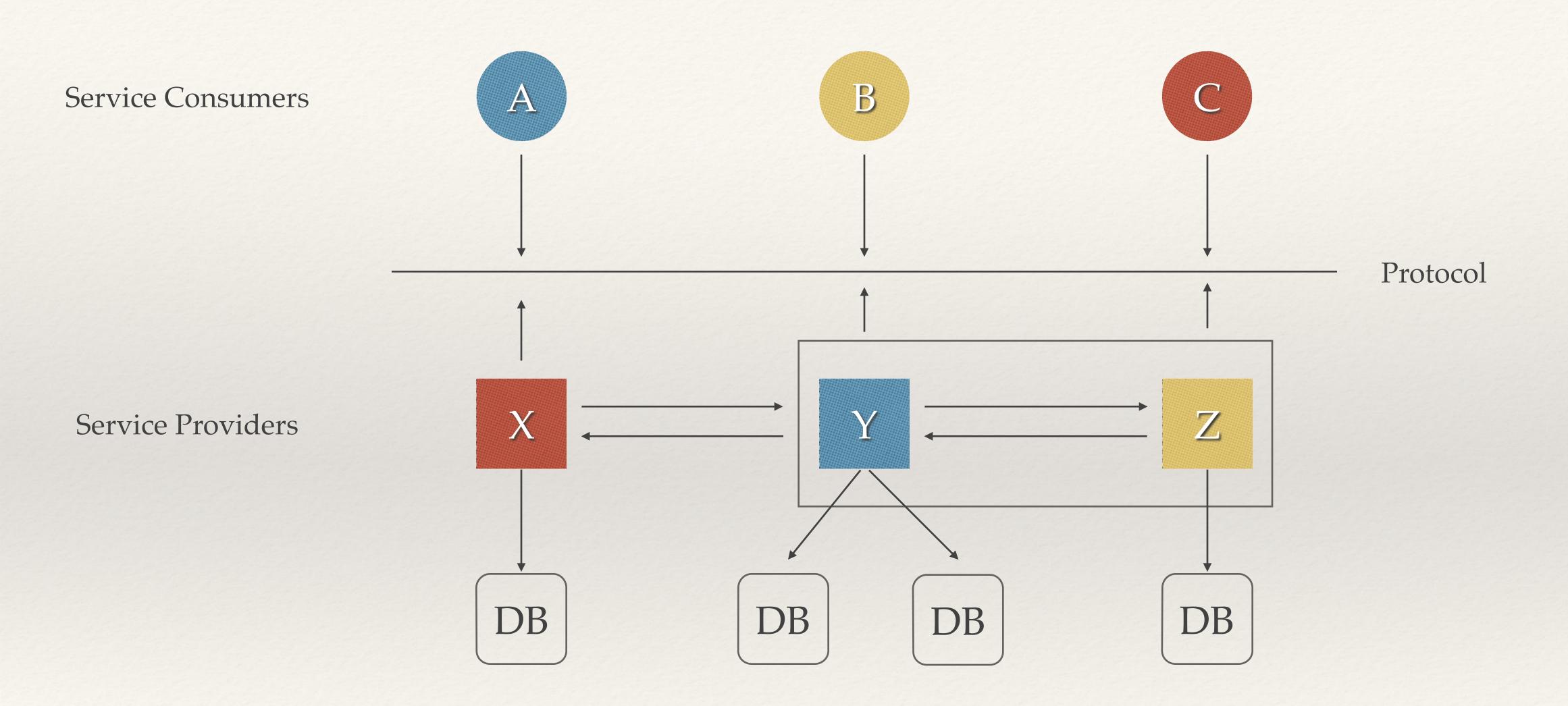
So, what happened?

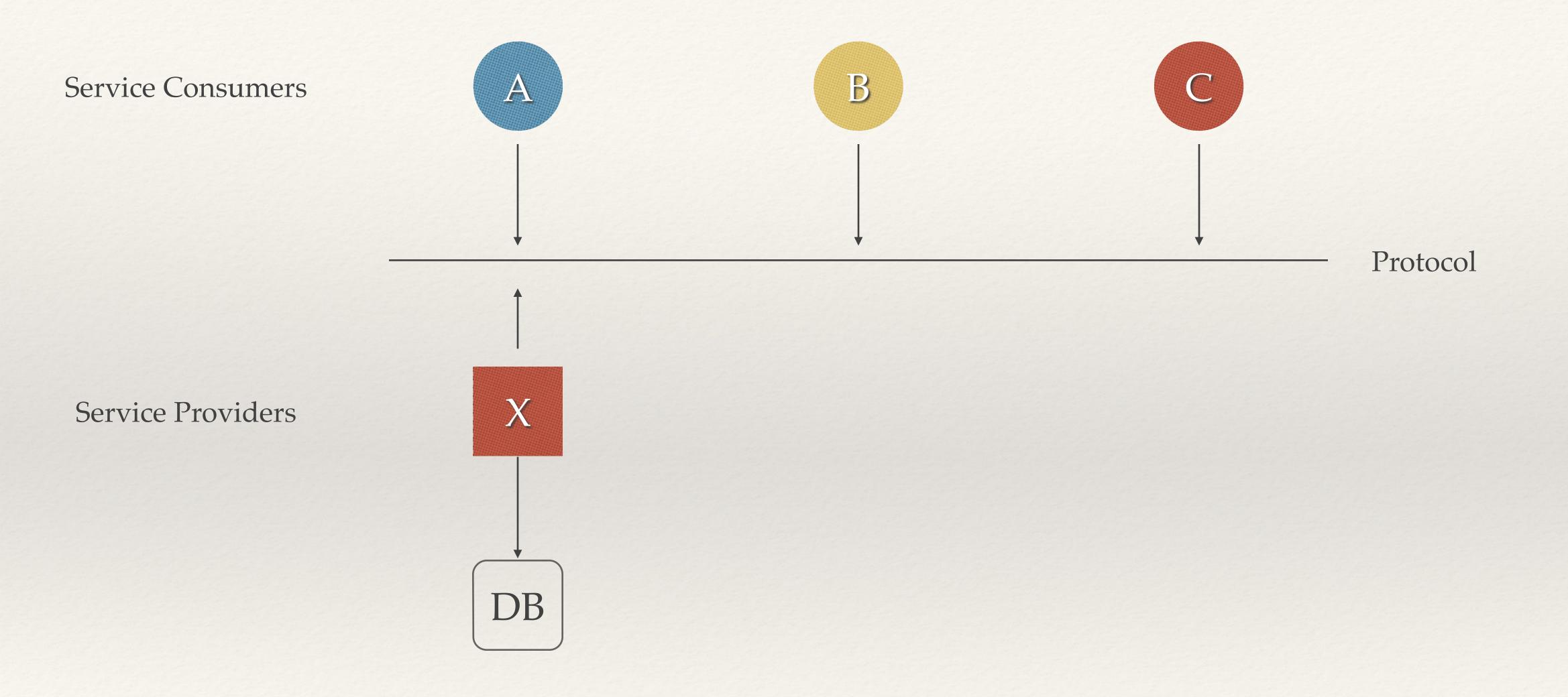
## "Service Oriented Architecture" aka SOA

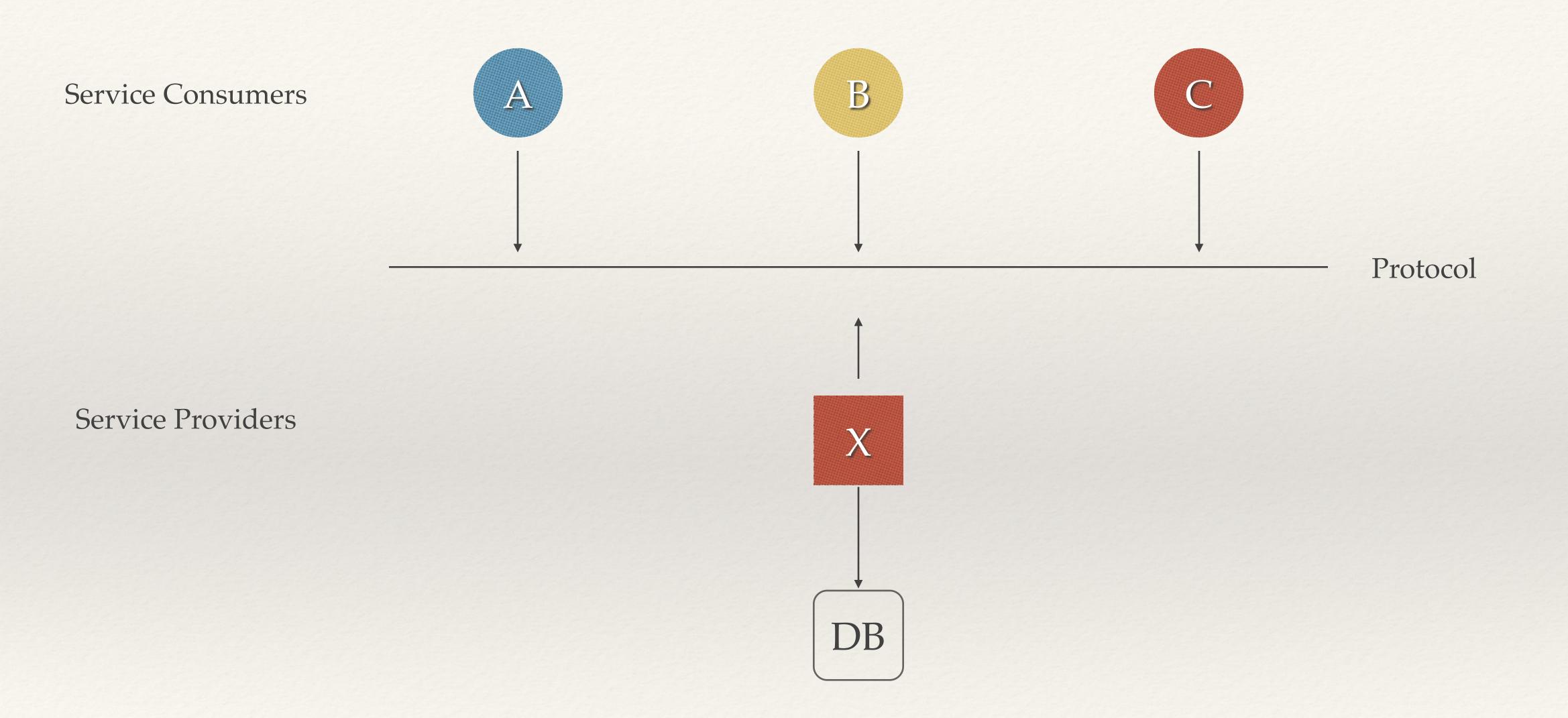


## Fast Forward to 2008 App Store Release

# We take what we've learned from building SOAs and apply/extend it to Web APIs









Service Providers

Service Consumers

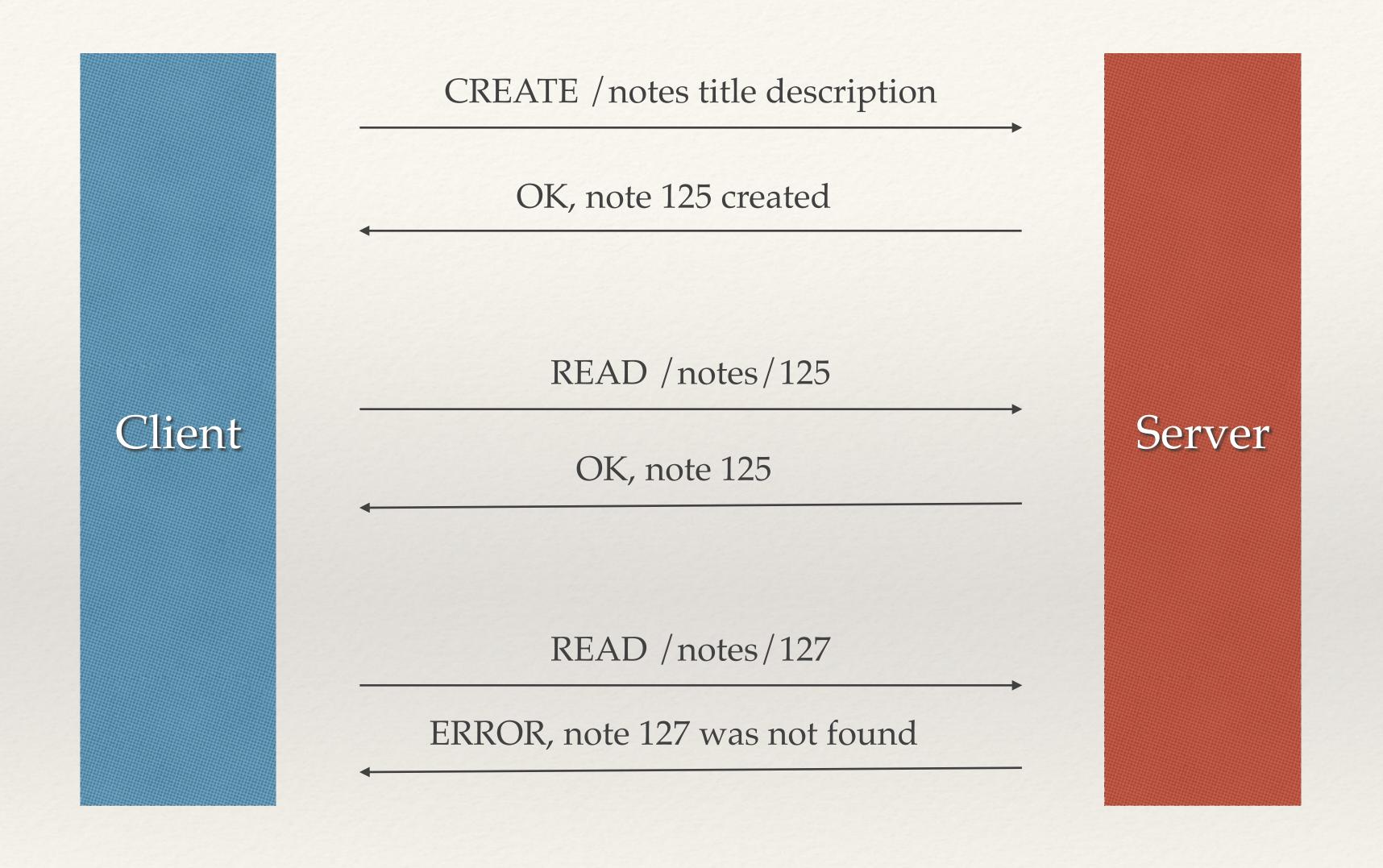


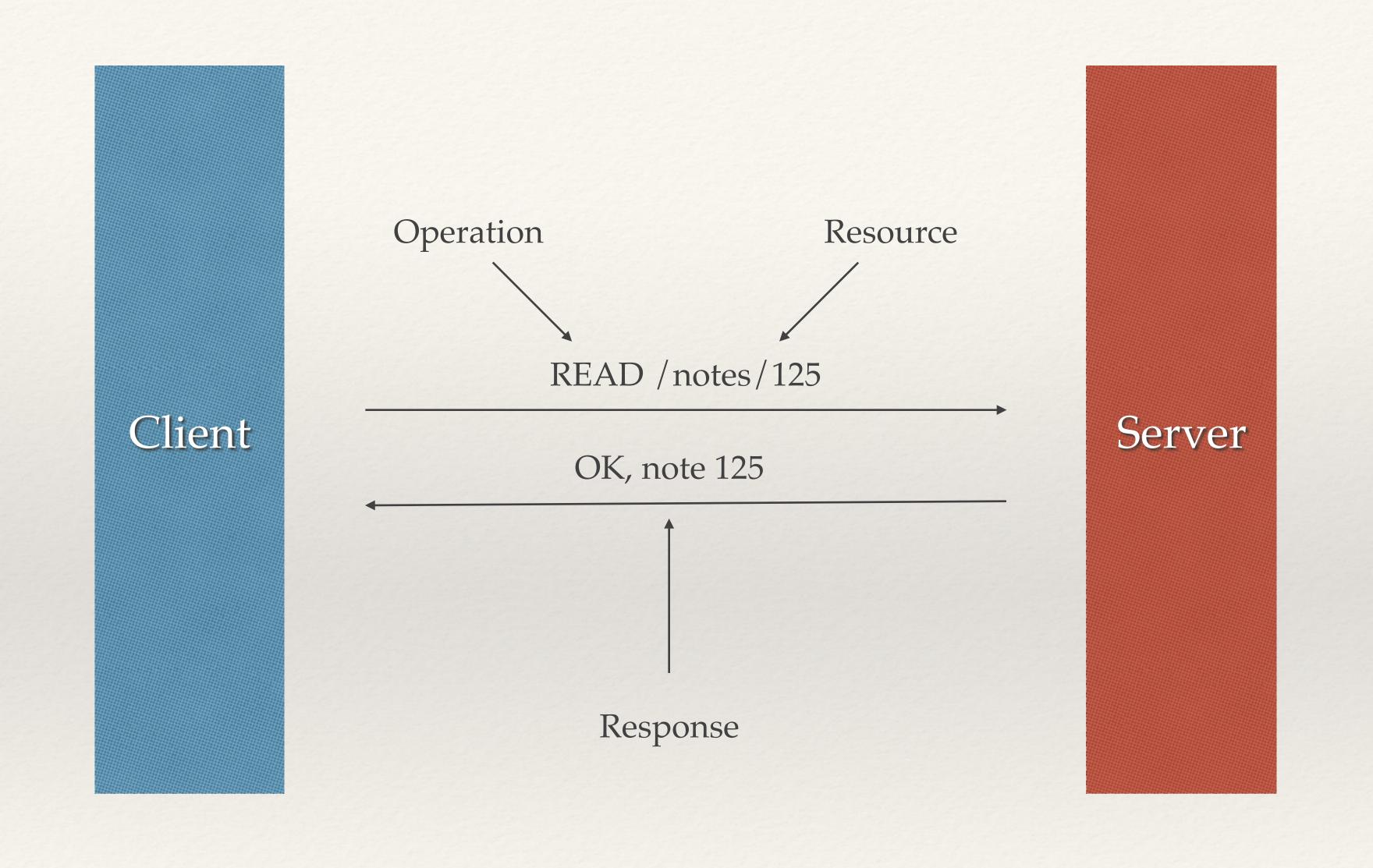
### 11,973 Public APIs

As of 9/13/14 - Source: Programmable Web

## API Building Blocks

#### Client-Server Communication





#### REST

- \* REpresentational State Transfer allows us to build web apps (and APIs) that follow a strict set of **operations on resources**.
- \* REST is an architectural style of designing networked applications
- \* Uses HTTP protocol verbs: GET, PUT, PATCH, POST, DELETE
- \* In many ways, the Web itself can be viewed as a REST-based architecture

#### JSON

- \* JSON: JavaScript Object Notation
- \* Lightweight data-interchange format
- \* Easy for humans to read
- \* Efficient for machines to parse and generate
- \* Majority of APIs today support JSON for both input and output data

#### Let's Build One

Follow instructions on <a href="https://github.com/jboursiquot/codeherconf/wiki/Walkthrough-1">https://github.com/jboursiquot/codeherconf/wiki/Walkthrough-1</a>

#### Reference

- \* <a href="http://www.forbes.com/sites/ciocentral/2012/08/29/welcome-to-the-api-economy/">http://www.forbes.com/sites/ciocentral/2012/08/29/welcome-to-the-api-economy/</a>
- \* http://www.banktech.com/channels/api-entry-point-to-the-new-open-world-of-banking/a/d-id/1296313?
- \* http://www.3scale.net/api-economy/
- \* http://www.sis.pitt.edu/~mbsclass/standards/fischer/corbaintro.html
- \* http://rest.elkstein.org/

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