**Discussion 3.1 – Service Oriented Architectures (SOA)**  
WEB-340

***What are Service-Oriented Architectures?***

As stated by Systems Innovation, Service-Oriented Architectures, or SOA, “is and approach for distributed systems architecture that employs loosely coupled services, stand interfaces and protocols, to deliver seamless cross platform integration.”2 This basically means that when developing a new web application, you don’t have to start from the ground up to develop every component to your own specifications. You can actually just use integrated services that are already developed by other companies, such a log-in services, payment portal services, and more. This will vastly decrease the development time for your web app and also simplify the development process with services that are proven to work and also familiar to the public.

***What are Microservices?***

A microservice is basically a self-contained process that provides a unique business capability.1 This means that a web application is broken up into smaller bits that represent what we call microservices. By using microservices we allow the web app to be run all of the microservices at once while each microservice is self-contained and independent. If you need to fix or rewrite part of a web app, microservices make it much simpler and less destructive to do so because you won’t have to break down the whole app.

***How does Node.js with Express fit into this discussion?***

When it comes to microservices, you can actually create your very own microservice with only node.js. They require zero-configuration and are self-healing and very simple to use with node.js.

***Sources***

1. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PY9xSykods4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PY9xSykods41) 1
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4. [https://arm.ag/microservices-made-easy-with-node-js-f41bb2be2d3c](https://arm.ag/microservices-made-easy-with-node-js-f41bb2be2d3c%204) 4