REST API REPORT

Jack kelly

K00236610 K00236610

Contents

NOTE: For the API Documentation I have provided screenshots of each function in the documentation I created with Swagger and HAL Explorer. I used the HAL explorer for functions that contain a lot of JSON Data. Swagger UI works for smaller functions like getting a beer by an ID. Swagger UI is slower to load data than the HAL explorer

Start-up URLs:

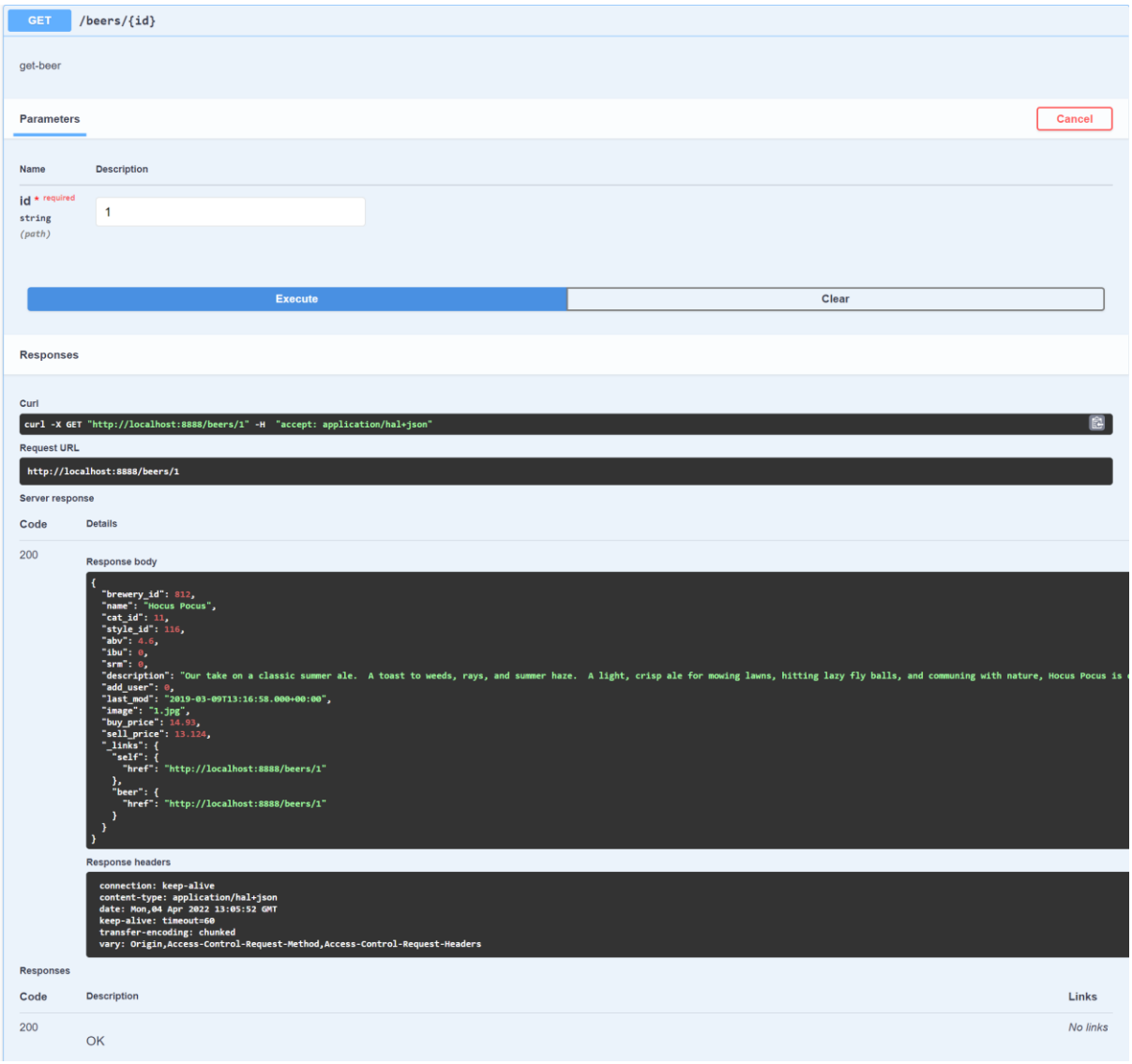
Hal Explorer: http://localhost:8888/explorer/index.html#uri=/

Swagger UI: http://localhost:8888/swagger-ui/index.html?configUrl=/v3/api-docs/swagger-config#/

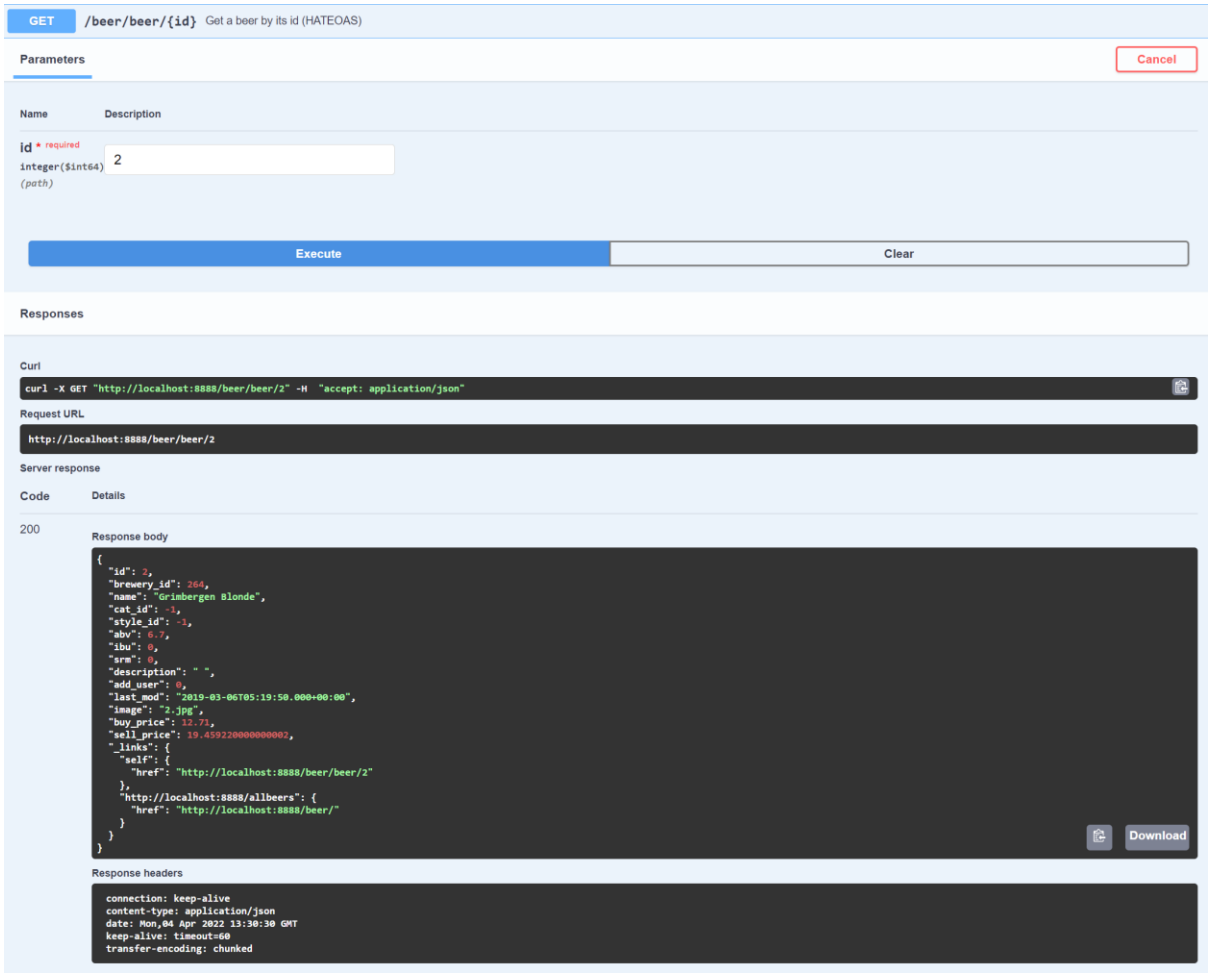
API function screenshots and documentation

Example using swagger UI

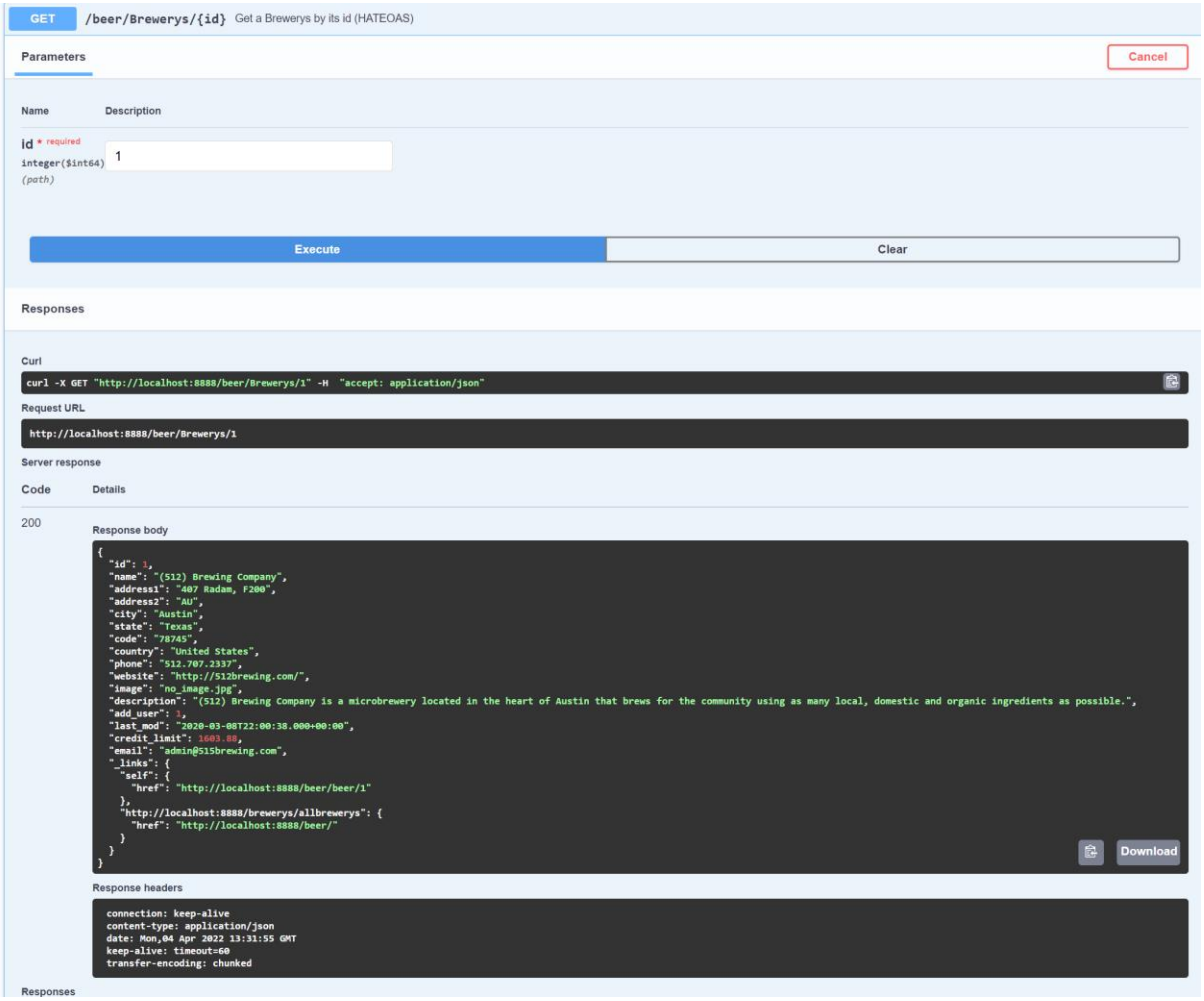
Get a beer by ID



Get a beer by ID using HATEAS principles



Get a Brewerys by ID using HATEAS principles

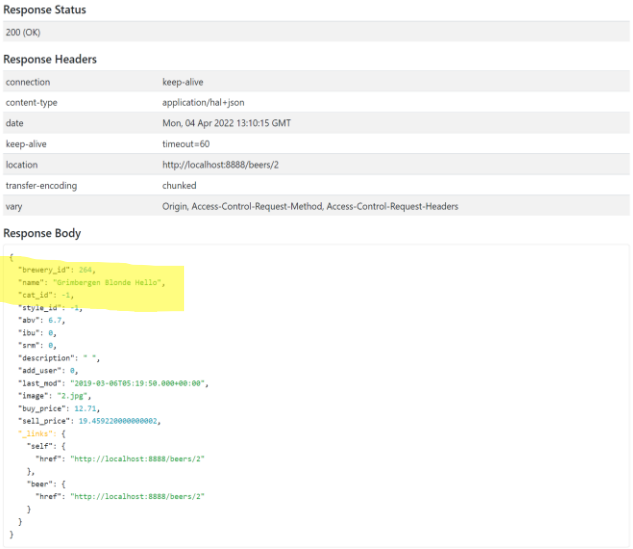


Examples Using HAL Explorer

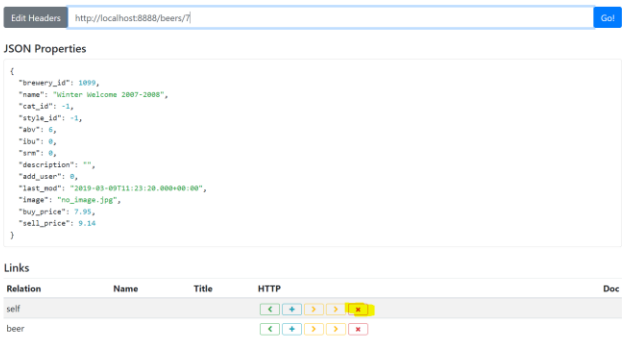
PUT Request a beer by ID

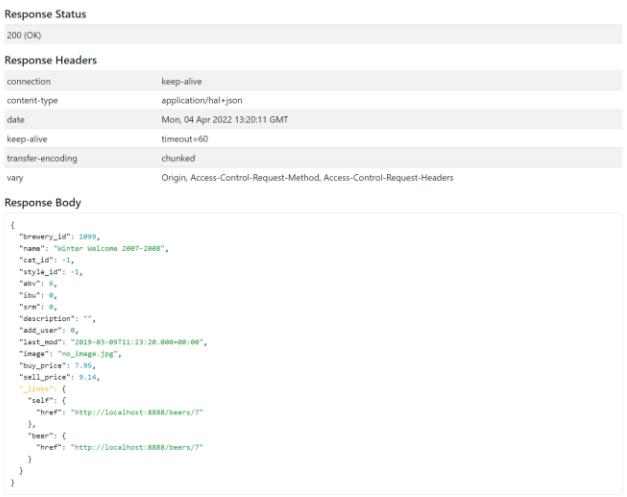
Change the beer name to include hello

Hello, is just test data

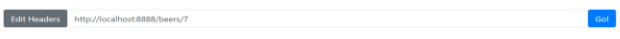


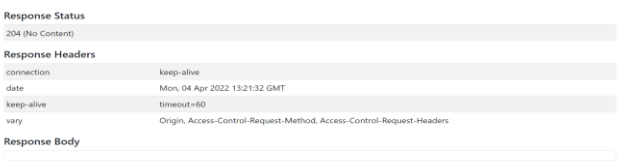
Delete Request a beer by ID





After the Delete button is pressed the beer is deleted



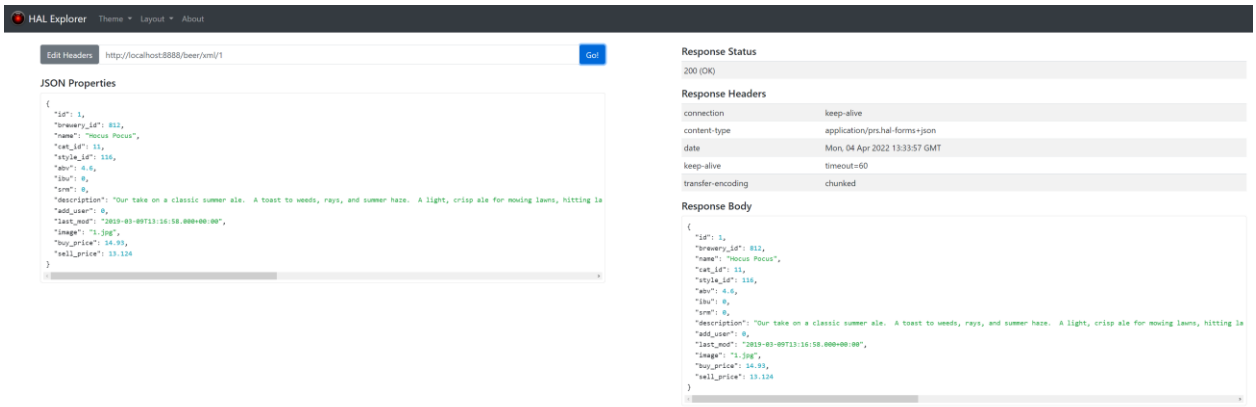


Getting a beer by ID in XML Format for the different language question

The XML format is displayed in the response body

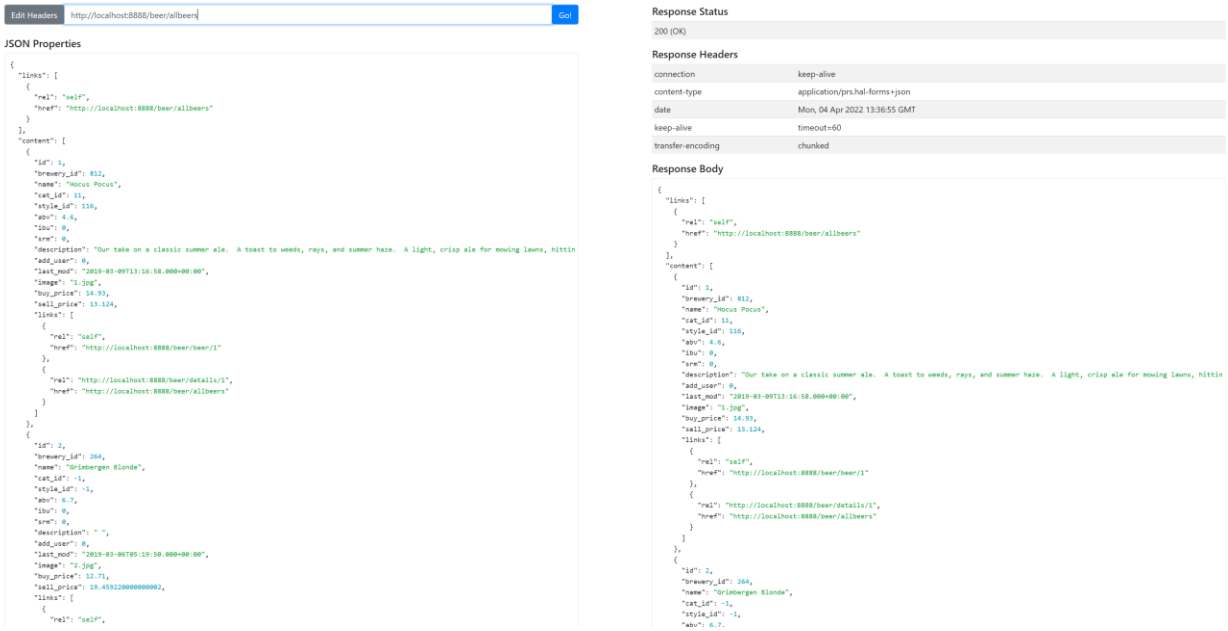
Link just displays the XML without using HAL Explorer

http://localhost:8888/beer/xml/1



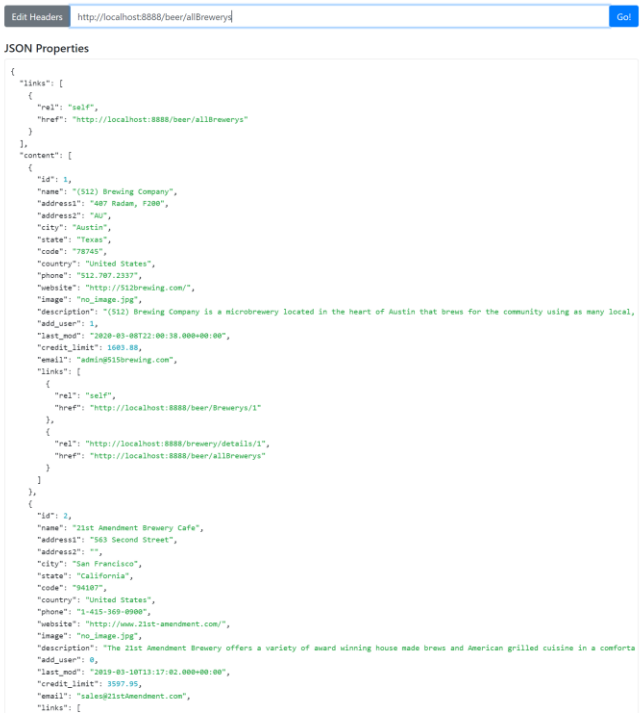
Get all beers using HATEAS principles

Self-link and HREF link included in the JSON

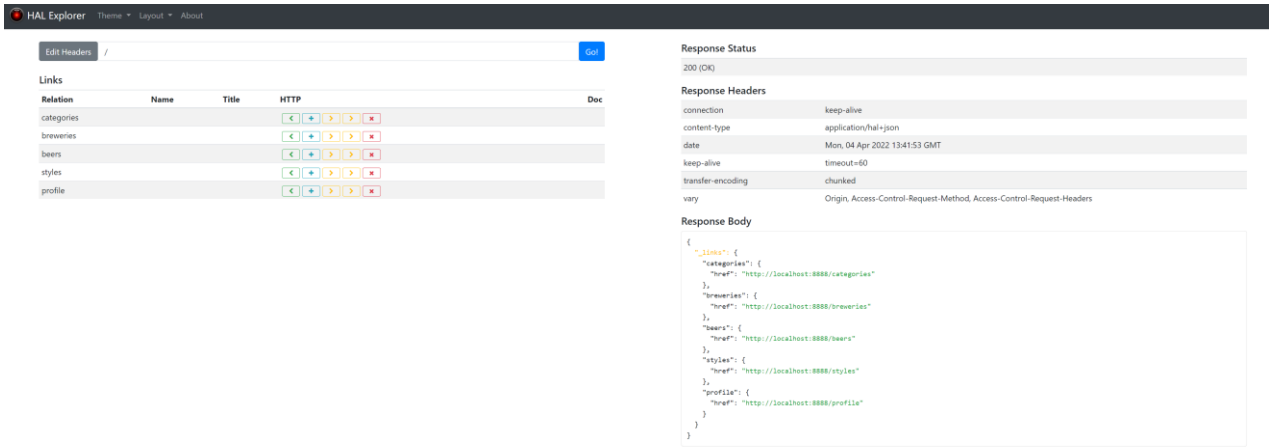


Get all Brewerys using HATEAS principles

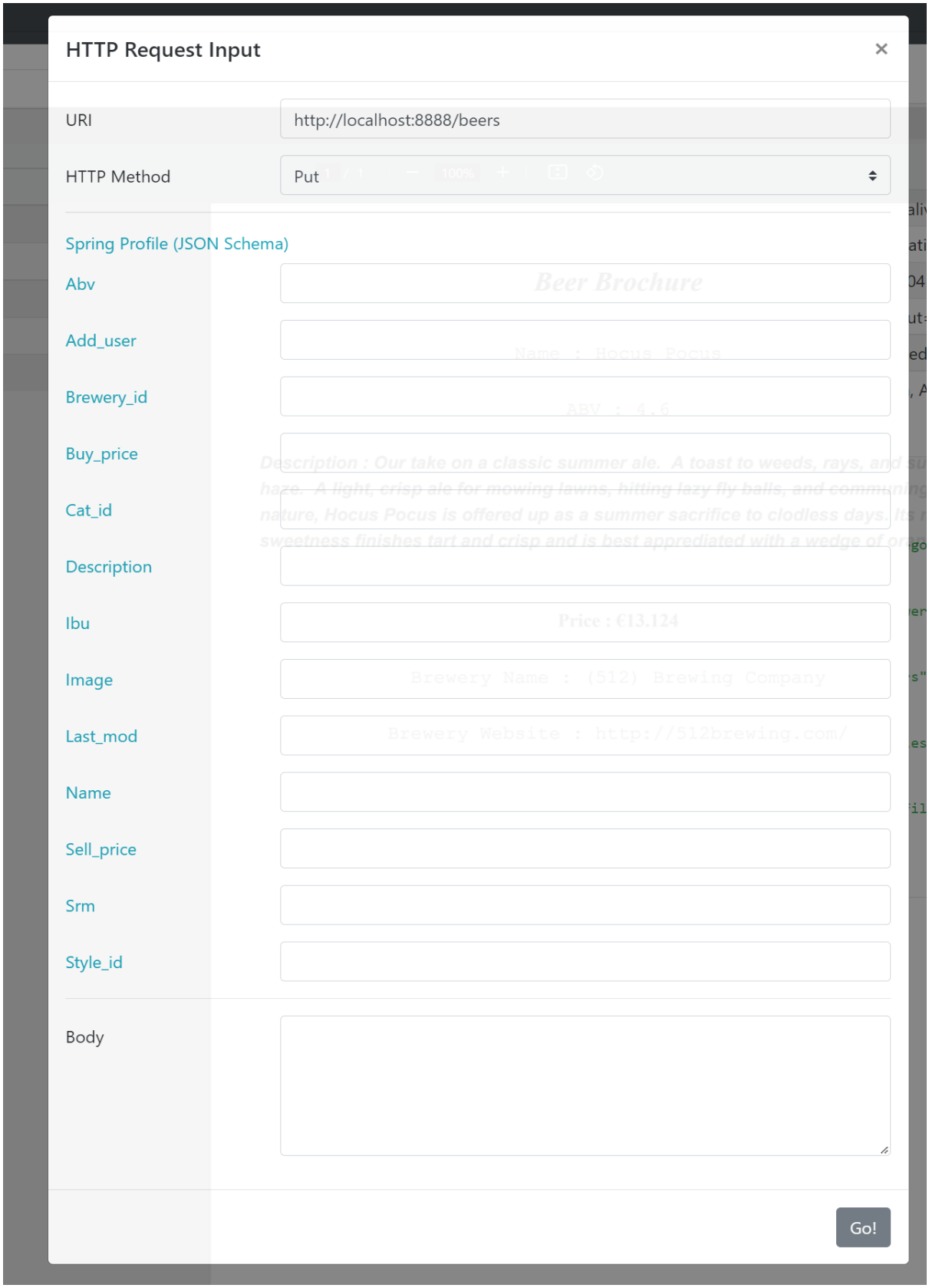
Self-link and HREF link included in the JSON



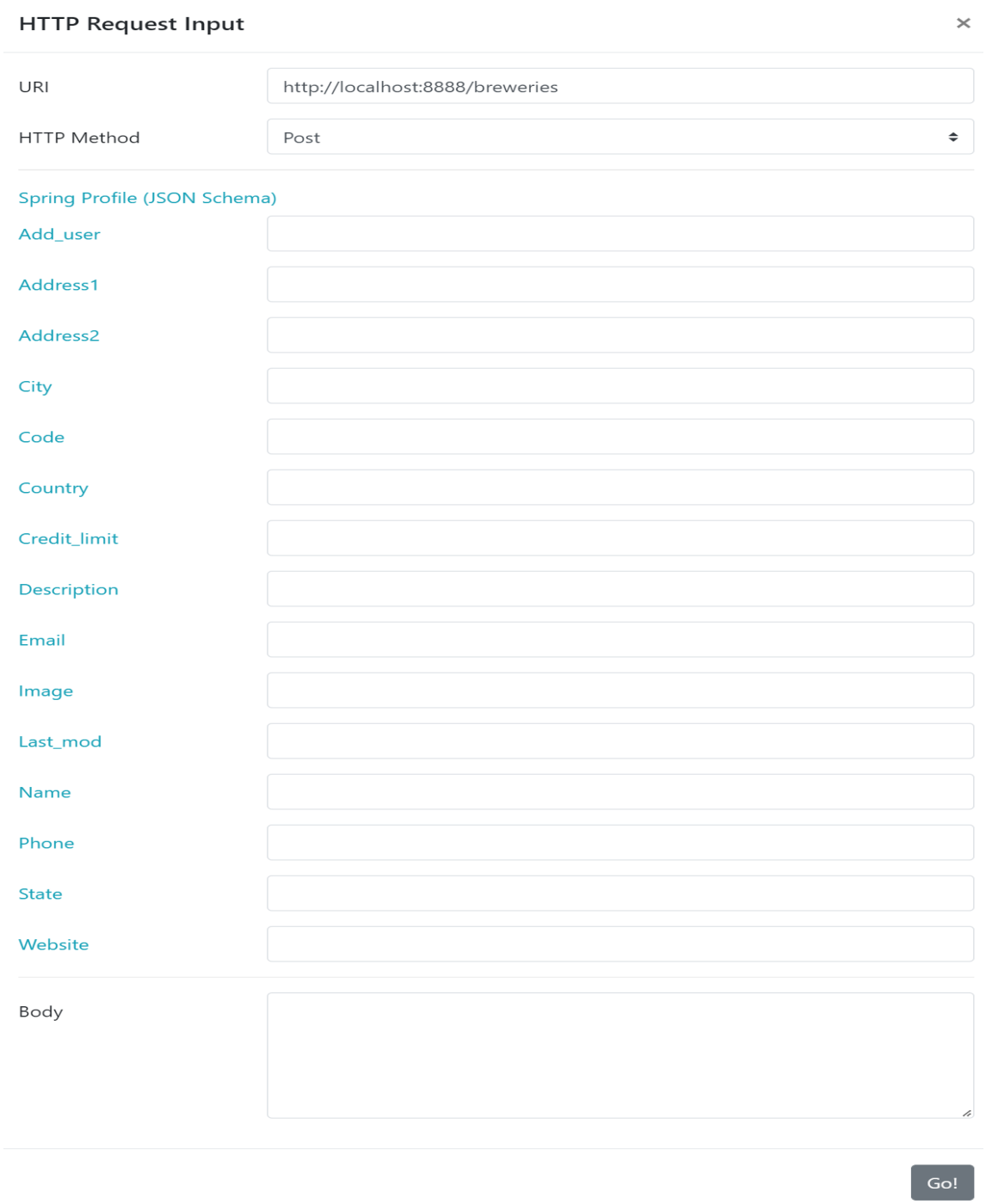
Exposing tables like Beer and Brewery



POST Request for beers



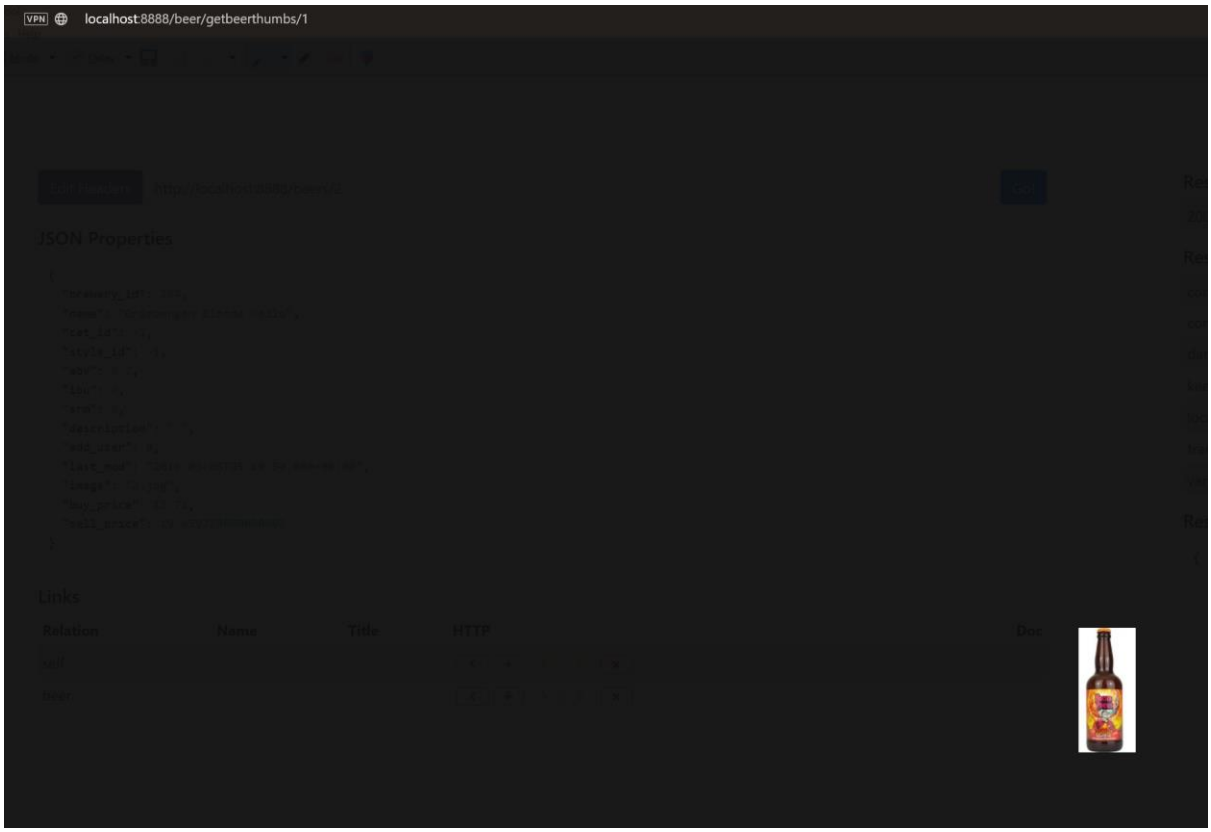
POST Request for Brewery



Other Functions with no UI Needed

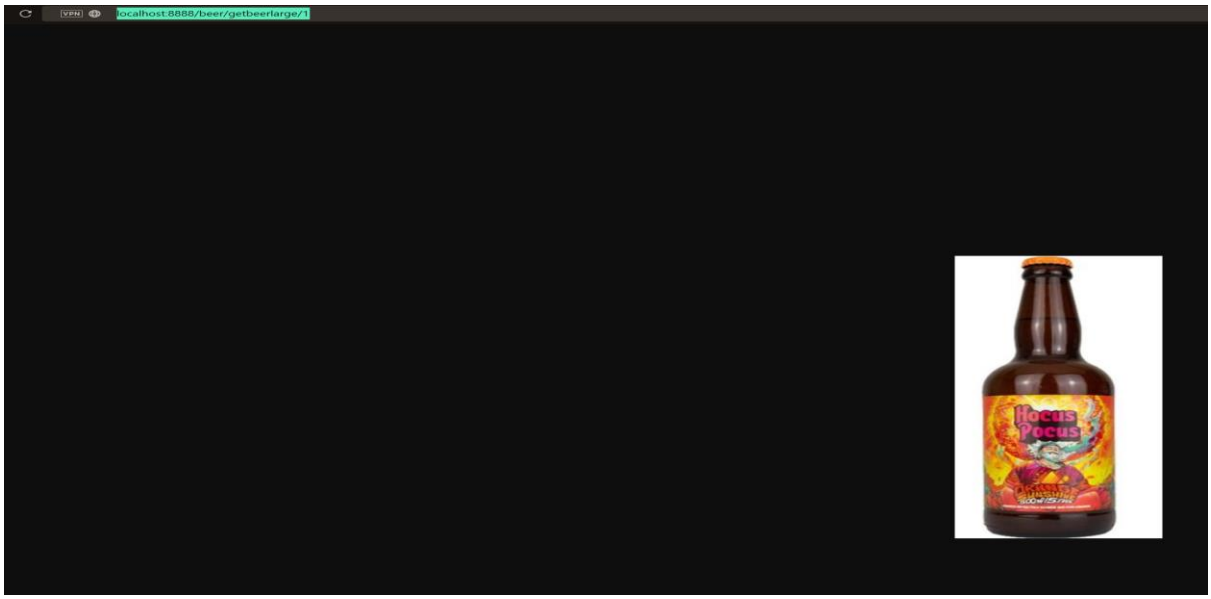
Get a beer thumbnail by ID

http://localhost:8888/beer/getbeerthumbs/1



Get a beer larger image by ID

http://localhost:8888/beer/getbeerlarge/1



Get a beer thumbnail by ID when the beer has no thumbnail image

http://localhost:8888/beer/getbeerthumbs/500

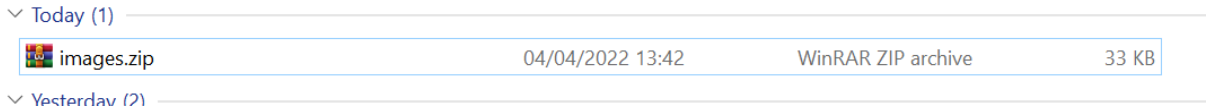
Get a beer large image by ID when the beer has no large image

http://localhost:8888/beer/getbeerlarge/500

Downloads all beer images

http://localhost:8888/beer/zip

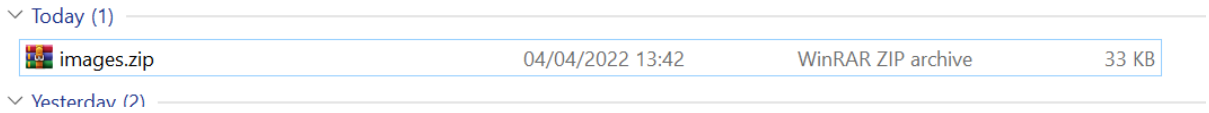
Output



Can also be done for using a beer ID to download a specific image

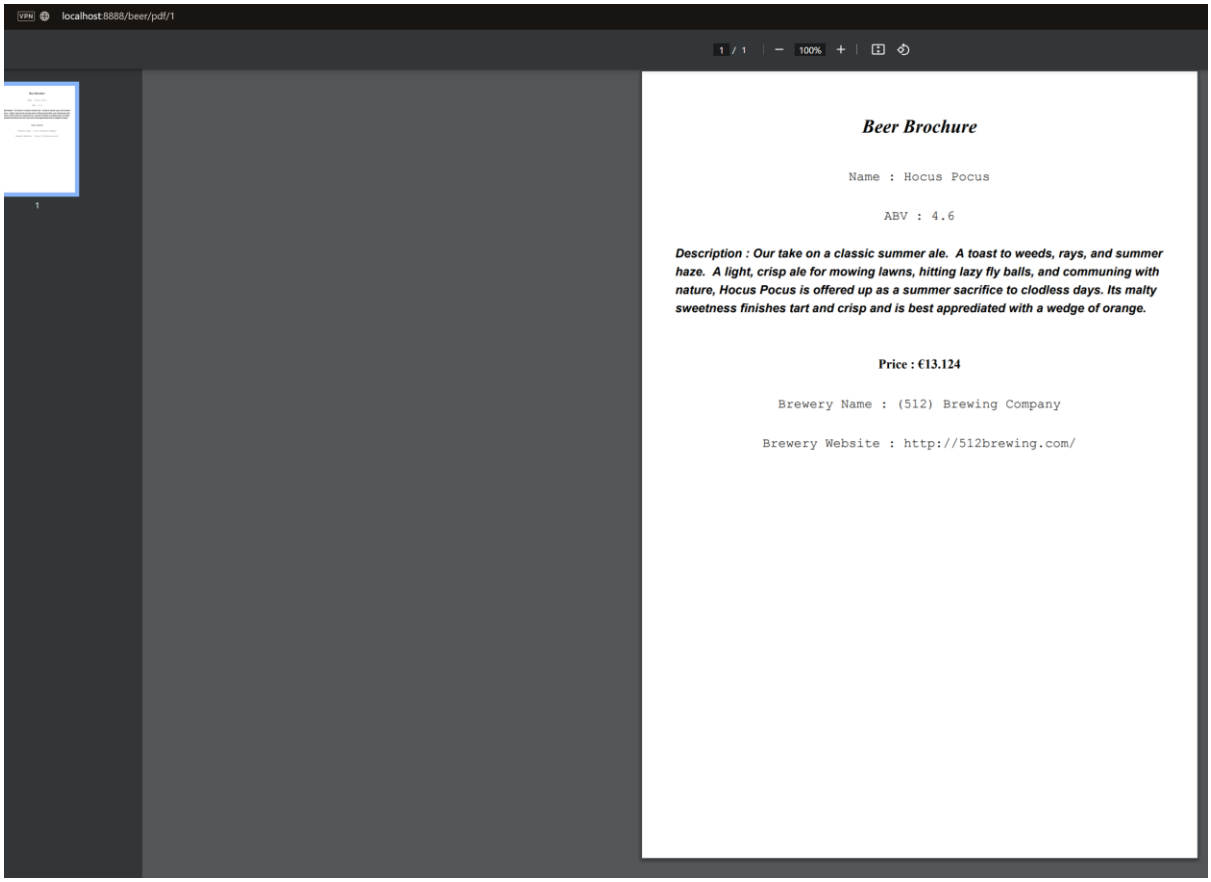
http://localhost:8888/beer/zip/1

Output



PDF Generator

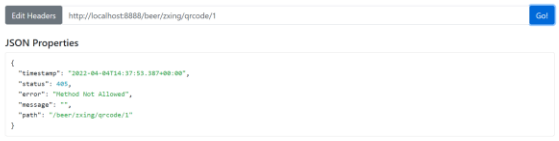
http://localhost:8888/beer/pdf/1

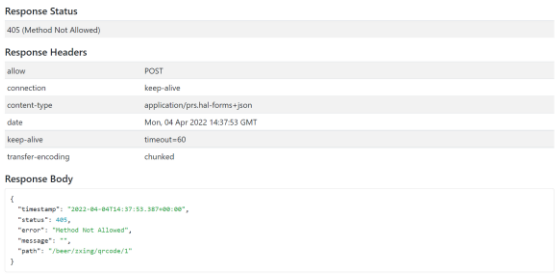


PDF Generator

http://localhost:8888/explorer/index.html#uri=http://localhost:8888/beer/zxing/qrcode/1

An error occurs where the method is not allowed





Self-evaluation

While creating the REST API for this assignment I uncovered some strengths and weaknesses along the way. Below are a few of the main strengths and weaknesses I have discovered. The strength of my API would be the exception handling. I have implemented what I believe to be a well-structured exception handler that clearly states what the exception is. I found that having a well-structured exception handler lets me debug the programme faster as when my code fails I got errors explaining where the problem was.

The API I created has a lot of functionality and is not just a basic API with delete, update and add functionality. I can generate PDF files, download zip files and display images of certain beers in the browser. I also created functions that use the HATEAS principles. The API can automatically create a PDF file with related information on a given beer. This is a feature that I think would be of particular use in the real world. Customers in the real world will be able to view information about the beer. The API also lets the user download images of the beers which allows customers to see images of the beers they want.

The weakness of my REST API is the inability to perform more than one operation at a time. For Example, for delete operations, I must perform each delete on a specific beer so if I had to delete 100 beers this could take a very long time. In the future when creating a REST API, I would think about making CRUD operations less tedious.

My REST API has an issue with generating a QR Code which I have not managed to figure out. I also did not implement the Google Maps location for each brewery. The PDF file does not show all the data that was asked for the assignment. I have not gotten these parts of the assignment finished as I struggled with the functionality of these questions. I also ran out of time to finish these questions. I need to do more research to get these functions to work.

My API currently does not have much security implemented. There is no proper protection of the data and from a security standpoint, I would have to say my API is vulnerable. I have not implemented any security system in the API this could be something implemented in the future.

Overall, I believe I have learned about the general strengths and weaknesses when it comes to the creation of API. I think this assignment has helped me understand the potential uses of REST API and how I can use REST API in the future.

Benchmarking and Enhancements.

A RESTful API is an architectural style for an application program interface (API) that uses HTTP requests to access and use data. That data can be used to GET, PUT, POST and DELETE data types, which refers to the reading, updating, creating and deleting of operations concerning resources.

Using an API or Rest API brings a lot of benefits to a software project.

Why I am Using Rest

Scalability. This protocol stands out due to its scalability. Thanks to the separation between client and server, a product may be scaled by a development team without much difficulty.

Independence. With the separation between client and server, the protocol makes it easy for developments across a project to take place independently. In addition, the **REST API** always adapts to the working syntax and platform. This offers the opportunity to use multiple environments while developing.

Flexibility and portability. With the indispensable requirement for data from one of the requests to be properly sent, it is possible to perform a migration from one server to another or carry out changes on the database at any time. Front and back can therefore be hosted on different servers, which is a significant management advantage.

Advantages of Rest API Development over SOAP

REST overcomes many of the disadvantages of **SOAP**, such as the need for clients to know the operation semantics as a pre-requisite for its use, or the use of different ports for different types of notifications. In addition, **REST** can handle many resources, while **SOAP** needs many operations to accomplish that.

These are some of the **advantages of REST**:

- It is usually simple to build and adapt.
- Low use of resources.
- Process instances are created explicitly.
- With the initial URI, the client does not require routing information.
- Clients can have a generic ‘listener’ interface for notifications