**Assignment 2**

**Characteristics of Microservices Architecture:**

* The application is broken into small, independent services.
* Each service focuses on a single task and can be developed, deployed, and scaled separately.
* Services communicate through lightweight protocols like HTTP or messaging queues.
* Teams can use different tech stacks for different services.
* Easier to test and update individual parts without affecting the whole system.

**Smart Endpoints and Dumb Pipes:**  
In microservices, **smart endpoints** handle the logic — they know how to process and respond to requests.  
**Dumb pipes** just pass messages between services without any logic. This keeps the system clean and avoids complex communication handling.