### Reinvent the wheel and build the most popular JSON-RPC library

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Technical Recruiter, Terminal 1

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### Journey started 4+ years ago Sep 30, 2013



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- 1. What is JSON-RPC
- 2. Reasons behind "json-rpc" library and why re-invent the wheel
- 3. Demo: Vanilla and Django API servers
- 4. How to make a good library

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1. What is JSON-RPC

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# "It is a very simple protocol<sup>1</sup>"

— Wikipedia

JSON-RPC = JavaScript Object Notation + Remote Procedure Call.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Wikipedia article https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JSON-RPC

### A brief history of JSON-RPC

- ▶ 1998 XML-RPC
- 2000 REST specification
- ▶ 2005 JSON-RPC 1.0
- 2007 JSON-RPC 1.1 http://json-rpc.org/
- 2010 JSON-RPC 2.0 http://www.jsonrpc.org/specification
- 2010 Django REST Framework
- 2017 This PyCon!

### JSON-RPC 2.0 Spec in 1 minute

1. Request:

```
{"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": METHOD, "params": PARAMS, "id": ID}
```

- 2. Notification Request without 'id', does not receive a response
- 3. Batch support
- 4. Response:

```
{"jsonrpc": "2.0", "result": RESULT, "id": ID}
```

5. Error:

```
{
  "jsonrpc": "2.0",
  "error": {
     "code": INT, "message": MESSAGE, "data": DATA
  },
  "id": ID
}
```

### JSON-RPC 2.0 Example 1: success

#### 1. Positional parameters:

```
--> {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "sub", "params": [42, 23], "id": 1} <-- {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "result": 19, "id": 1}
```

#### 2. Named parameters:

```
--> {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "sub", "params": {"b": 23, "a": 42}, "id": 2} <-- {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "result": 19, "id": 2}
```

#### 3. Notification:

```
--> {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "foobar"}
```

### JSON-RPC 2.0 Example 2: error

#### 4. Invalid JSON:

```
--> {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "foobar, "params": "bar", "baz] <-- {... "error": {"code": -32700, "message": "Parse error"}, "id": null}
```

#### 5. Method does not exist:

```
--> {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "foobar", "id": "1"} <-- {... "error": {"code": -32601, "message": "Method not found"}, "id": "1"}
```

#### 6. Invalid request:

```
--> {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": 1, "params": "bar"} <-- {... "error": {"code": -32600, "message": "Invalid Request"}, "id": null}
```

### JSON-RPC 2.0 Example 3: batch

```
--> [
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "sum", "params": [1,2,4], "id": "1"},
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "notifyHello", "params": [7]}.
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "subtract", "params": [42.23]. "id": "2"}.
      {"foo": "boo"}.
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "method": "getData", "id": "9"}
<__ [
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "result": 7, "id": "1"}.
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "result": 19, "id": "2"},
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "error": {"code": -32600, "message": "Invalid Request"},
        "id": null}.
      {"jsonrpc": "2.0", "result": ["hello", 5], "id": "9"}
```

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### Background

- ▶ Multichannel, 2012-2013. A lot ( $\sim$ 10) of micro services. 3 FTE to support.
- HTTP and AMQP (RabbitMQ) protocols.
- ▶ API is simple, reliable and easy to understand (has specification). REST is not strict.
- ► Fast to write servers and clients. Note: error handling takes 40%-60% of time.

### Think REST is simple?

- Could one create an object with PUT?
- Should one partially update with PUT or PATCH?
- ► How many HTTP response codes do you remember? 201/202/403/409/418<sup>2</sup>
- Should /resource/<id> return an object or list with one object?
- ▶ How to send a meta-information? E.g. total number of objects in pagination?

### Alternative implementations

Name	Initial release	*	<b>9</b>	ħ		Notes
python-json-rpc	Long time ago	-				No Maintenance Intended X
jsonrpclib	Oct 18, 2009	326	61	118	5	Own server, upd: Dec'15
jsonrpc2	~Oct 16, 2010	-				No Maintenance Intended X
jsonrpc	May 22, 2011	35	104	12	5	No Maintenance Intended X
python-jsonrpc	Jun 23, 2013	72	190	32	4	Client + CherryPy
json-rpc	Sep 29, 2013	129	418	47	15	<b>~</b>
jsonrpc-requests	Aug 17, 2014	15	40	7	4	Own server

Didn't have a good library pluggable to any backend. Alternatives had own http/queue servers.

### json-rpc feature summary

- ► Super portable. Solve one thing and solve it good. Supports all practical pythons.
- ▶ Implements 100% of standard (1.0 and 2.0). There is no reason to write another lib.
- 220+ test cases. In the beginning I thought would be 30. Lesson: implementation is not as easy even for simple json-rpc.
- Optional Django and Flask backends. No dependencies required.

Result: "most popular" json-rpc library. Was used in Ansible 1.0!

### Demo Time

Vanilla and Django API severs https://github.com/pavlov99/presentations/tree/master/2017-11-04-pycon

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### Checklist

- 1. 90% of functionality takes 10% of time. The other 10% takes all of your time.
- 2. Make something people want.
- 3. Must have: documentation (README), CI, green tests, quickstart and examples.
- 4. Create a community: Code of Conduct, Contributors, License, Issue/Pull request templates.
- 5. Low barier for testing, contribution and new release.

#### Checklist

✓ Description
✓ README
✓ Code of conduct
✓ Contributing
✓ License
✓ Issue template and pull request template

#### **Promotion**

- Choose a good name and description. Be an SEO expert!
- Link from "standard description" website and/or Wikipedia [24-06-2016].
- Bitcoin communities and crypto currencies exchanges, e.g. counterparty.io.
- StackOverflow questions.
- Code of Conduct (Contributor Convenant) adopters via Pull Requests.

#### What drives me to contribute



Hi, Kirill. Very glad to connect with you.



We have been using json-rpc in Ansible code for a while. Very useful!

6:20 PM

Great to know that! I'm using Ansible myself and very happy you found it useful!

Did you switch to an internal implementation? I'll be glad to hear your feedback on how to make json-rpc better.

6:26 PM



We wrote APIs and connection plugins that use json-rpc to send request to network devices. we use the APIS to send configurations and CLI commands to the devices. Using 2.0 now.



### Mateusz Pawlik

Contributions:

https://github.com/pavlov99/jsonrpc#contributors

https://github.com/pysimplesoap/pysi mplesoap/blob/master/AUTHORS.m

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## Thank you!

```
Kirill Pavlov <k@p99.io>, Recruiter, Terminal 1.
GitHub: @pavlov99 | Presentation: 2017-11-04-pycon | json-rpc
#jobs https://t1.gl/k
"Python & AWK" talk tomorrow 14:40-15:10
```