#ASLI ENGINEERING

Can we send data in HTTP GET payload?

SWIPE

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Data in HTTP GET request payload

Client

GET /users/1729 ⟶ Fetches information about the requested user

We have been told that we **cannot** send data in GET
⤷ should not

Recent

HTTP 1·1 specifications, does not mention anything about it !!
∨
RFC 7231

Earlier specifications used to have a comment
⤷
Now deleted

"Message-body should be ignored while handling requests"

HTTP GET ⬚ ↙ payload

Client ⟶ API ⟶ 🛢

RESP ⟵

So, it is upto our webserver to interpret and process
or ignore

So, any popular libraries, tools doing it?

YES, earlier version of ElasticSearch we used to
send the complex JSON based search query
in HTTP GET body

This practice is now discouraged, but
you can read body in HTTP GET & process

Recommended to not update while handling GET req
and just keep it idempotent

So, can we do it? YES

So, where can you use it?

If you are modelling an endpoint that fetches some data
but specifying the requirements is <u>complex</u>
         ↓   ↓
        user input   maybe a big JSON

eg: Analytics — Google Analytics, MixPanel,

Serializing JSON in query param is a pain!
  instead make people pass it in request payload!