Learning Client Hypermedia from the Ground Up

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Introduction







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Your Guide to API Design & Implementation Best Practices

API Academy delivers free online lessons and in-person consulting services covering essential API techniques and tools for business managers, interface designers and enterprise architects





What is an API?

Get an overview of what an API is and what it does, to help you realize the business value of APIs



API Design Basics

Understand the API architecture process and learn basic design and implementation best practices



Web API Architectural Styles

Get a detailed overview of the main architectural styles for Web and mobile API design



Choosing a Solution

Choose between the various solutions that offer the basic components for enterprise API Management

Goals

- Understand Hypermedia for applications
- Refactor a "plain/json" app into Hypermedia app
- Learn how to add features w/o versioning your app
- Identify the diff. between hypermedia Links and Templates
- Review two existing Hypermedia formats
- See how Hypermedia and Microservices work together

Show that you can increase client adaptability w/o increasing the code complexity/size

BROADCAST INTERRUPTED

Hypermedia

Hypermedia?

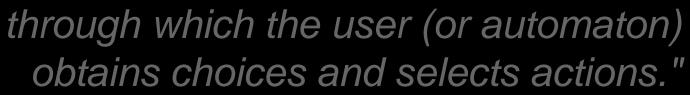


"When I say hypertext, I mean the simultaneous presentation of information and controls such that the information becomes the affordance through which the user (or automaton)

obtains choices and selects actions."

- Roy Fielding, 2009

"When I say hypertext, I mean the simultaneous presentation of information and controls such that the information becomes the affordance





"When I say hypertext, I mean the simultaneous presentation of information and controls such that the information becomes the affordance through which the user (or automaton)

through which the user (or automaton) obtains choices and selects actions."





Can you could just show me some examples?



```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
```

```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
```

```
<img src="http://www.example.org/images/logo" title="company logo" />
```

```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
<img src="http://www.example.org/images/logo" title="company logo" />
```

```
<form method="get">
   <label>Search term:</label>
   <input name="query" type="text" value="" />
   <input type="submit" />
</form>
```

```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
    <img src="http://www.example.org/images/logo" title="company logo" />
 <form method="get">
   <label>Search term:</label>
   <input name="query" type="text" value="" />
   <input type="submit" />
 </form>
         <form method="post" action="http://www.example.org/mv-kevwords"/>
           <label>Keywords:</label>
           <input name="keywords" type="text" value="" />
           <input type="submit" />
         </form>
```

"http://www.example.org/search"

"http://www.example.org/images/logo"

"http://www.example.org/mv-kevwords"

```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
```

"http://www.example.org/images/logo"

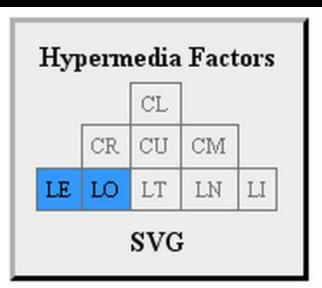
"http://www.example.org/mv-kevwords"

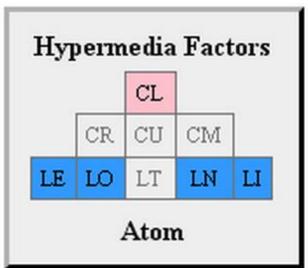
```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
```

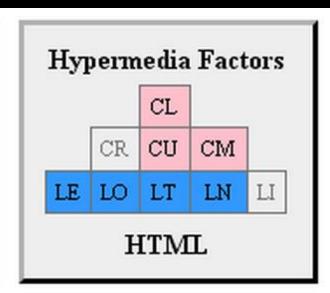
```
<img src="http://www.example.org/images/logo" title="company logo" />
```

"http://www.example.org/mv-kevwords"

```
<a href="http://www.example.org/search" title="view search page">Search</a>
    <img src="http://www.example.org/images/logo" title="company logo" />
 <form method="get">
   <label>Search term:</label>
   <input name="query" type="text" value="" />
   <input type="submit" />
 </form>
         <form method="post" action="http://www.example.org/mv-kevwords"/>
           <label>Keywords:</label>
           <input name="keywords" type="text" value="" />
           <input type="submit" />
         </form>
```







H-Factors and Hypermedia Types http://amundsen.com/hypermedia/

Hypermedia controls provide inline descriptions

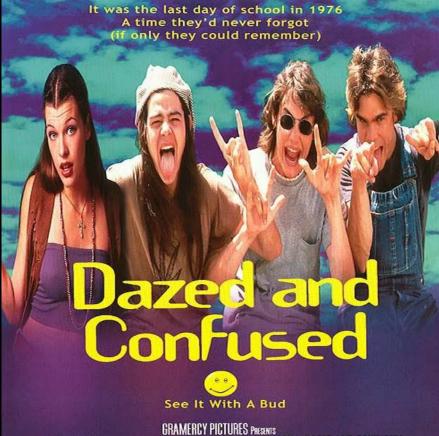
of your application's actions.

Yeah, so why would you do that?



"Hypermedia as the engine of application state."





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GET THE MODIFIED THE CONTROL TRAINING AND CONTROL THE MODIFIED CARREST CONTROL ON THE MODIFIED CARREST

Featuring Music From Aerosmith, Block Sabbath, Deep Purple, ZZ Top, Alice Cooper, Bob Dylan, Kiss, War, Peter Frampton & More



A GRANGERCY BRICASE @1993 DHIMEISAL CITY STUDIOS, INC. ALL EGONTS RESERVED. [R] (GEE)



"Hypermedia as the engine of application state." HATEOAS



"Hypermedia as the engine of application state."

"Hypermedia as the engine of application state." Hypermedia Constraint



Wait, Hypermedia Constraint?



In software architecture models,

constraints are selected to promote

system properties.

As part of the **Uniform Interface** constraint,

Fielding selected the Hypermedia

to promote:

As part of the **Uniform Interface** constraint, Fielding selected the Hypermedia to promote:

Evolvability

Evolvability

"Evolvability represents the degree to which a component implementation can be changed without negatively impacting other components."



Fielding, Section 2.3.4.1

"Hypermedia as the engine of application state."



"Use Hypermedia to execute application actions."



Use Hypermedia



Use Hypermedia



Use Hypermedia



to execute application actions.

AND NOW BACK TO OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING

A Client w/o Hypermedia

Disclaimer...

"No frameworks or libraries where harmed in the making of these apps."

These example are NOT:

- Production-Ready
- Robust
- Pretty



TL;DNR...

"I don't have time right now, can I just download the code?"

https://github.com/apiacademy/ndcoslo2015



Client w/o Hypermedia

- Get JSON objects/collections from server
- Put Read/Write semantics in the client Code

```
"todo": [
    "id": "1b361exznny",
    "title": "one more test again"
    "id": "sw26zcf6ve",
    "title": "one more simple test"
```

```
// all URLs & action details
g.actions = {
  collection: {href:"/", prompt:"All ToDos"},
  item:
              {href:"/{id}", prompt:"Item"},
              {href:"/", prompt:"Add ToDo", method:"POST",
  add:
                args:{
                  title: {value:"", prompt:"Title", required:true}
              {href:"/{id}", prompt:"Edit", method:"PUT",
  edit:
                args:{
                  id: {value:"{id}", prompt:"Id", readOnly:true},
                  title: {value:"{title}", prompt:"Title", required:true}
```

Put Read/Write Semantics in the Client Code

```
// add
li = d.node("li");
link = g.actions.add;
a = d.anchor({
  href:link.href,
  rel: "create-form",
  className:"action",
  text:link.prompt
});
a.onclick = jsonForm;
a.setAttribute("method",link.method);
a.setAttribute("args", JSON.stringify(link.args));
d.push(a,li);
d.push(li, ul);
```

Read/Write Semantics in the Client Code

ToDo



<u>Item</u>

ld: 1b361exznny

Title: one more test again

<u>Item</u>

ld: 1bgjgezcjwb

Title: danny boy

Live Demo of Client w/o Hypermedia

Then you want to add some features...

```
"todo": [
       "id": "1b361exznny",
       "title": "one more test again",
       "completed": "true"
     },
       <u>"id":</u> "sw26zcf6ve",
       "title": "one more simple test",
       "completed": "false"
Let's add a new field ("completed") and some filters
```

But the installed app IGNORES the new stuff!



Oh, right. Now I need a new VERSION!



```
// the only fields to process
g.fields = ["id","title","completed"];
// all URLs & action details
g.actions = {
  collection: {href:"/", prompt:"All ToDos"},
  active:
              {href:"/?completed=false", prompt:"Active ToDos"},
  completed: {href:"/?completed=true", prompt:"Completed ToDos"},
  item:
             {href:"/{id}", prompt:"Item"},
  add:
              {href:"/", prompt:"Add ToDo", method:"POST",
                args:{
                  title: {value:"", prompt:"Title", required:true},
                  completed: {value:"false", prompt:"Completed", pattern:"^(true|false)$"}
  edit:
              {href:"/{id}", prompt:"Edit", method:"PUT",
                args:{
                  id: {value:"{id}", prompt:"Id", readOnly:true},
                  title: {value:"{title}", prompt:"Title", required:true},
                  completed: {value:"{completed}", prompt:"Completed", pattern:"^(true|false)$"}
```

NEW Read/Write Semantics in the Client Code

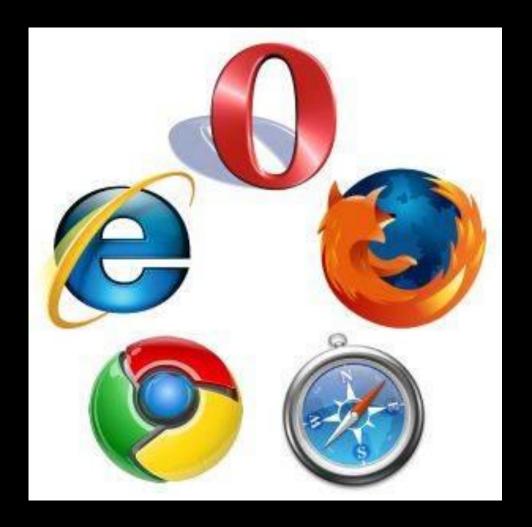
OK, V2 code/test is done, RE-DEPLOY!



ToDo

All ToDos	Active ToDos	Completed ToDos	Add ToDo
Add ToDo—			
	Title:		
Compl	eted: false		
	Submit Can	cel	
	Item : 1b361exznny	n	
Completed	: one more test agai : true	II	
	<u>Item</u>		
	: 1bgjgezcjwb : danny boy		
Completed:	• •		

Live Demo of VERSIONED Client w/o Hypermedia



Well, that's not too bad in the browser.



Well, that's not too bad in the browser.

But those App Stores will be a pain!

Client w/o Hypermedia (Review)

- Get JSON objects/collections from server
- Put Read/Write semantics in the client Code

- Changing URLs == new version
- Adding new URLs == new version
- Adding new features == new version

Hey, what would Roy Do?

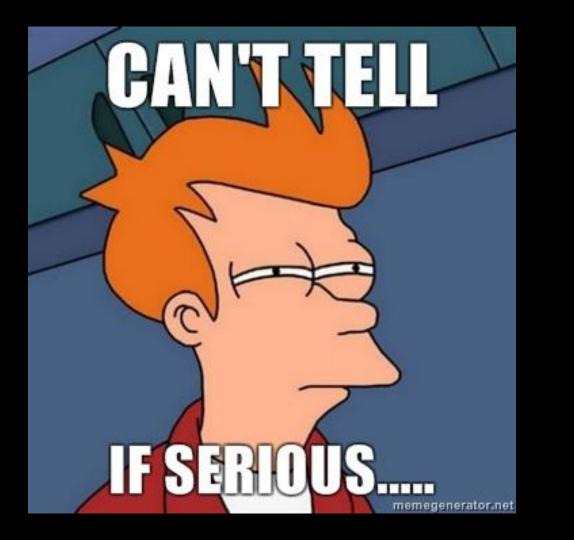


REST

What is the best practice for **versioning** a REST API?

DON'T

Versioning an interface is just a "polite" way to kill deployed applications



Huh, OK. Show me.



A Client with Hypermedia Links

Client with Hypermedia Links

- Get the server to emit URLs
- Get the client to use the server's URLs

```
"todo": [
    "id": "1b361exznny",
    "title": "one more test again",
    "completed": "true",
    "href": "//localhost:8181/1b361exznny"
  },
    "id": "sw26zcf6ve",
    "title": "one more simple test",
    "completed": "false",
    "href": "//localhost:8181/sw26zcf6ve"
"actions": {
  "collection": "//localhost:8181/",
  "active": "//localhost:8181/?completed=false",
  "completed": "//localhost:8181/?completed=true"
```

```
// pull actions from message
for(var link in g.msg.actions) {
  li = d.node("li");
  a = d.anchor({
    href:g.msg.actions[link],
    rel:link,
    className:"action",
    text:link
  });
  a.onclick = httpGet;
  a.style.textTransform="capitalize";
  d.push(a,li);
  d.push(li, ul);
```

Client now pulls the URLs from the message.

ToDo

All ToDos	Active ToDos	Completed ToDos	Add ToDo	
	Title: eted: false Submit Cand	el		
Item Id: 1b361exznny Title: one more test again Completed: true Item				

ld: 1bgjgezcjwb Title: danny boy

Completed: false

Live Demo of Client with Hypermedia Links

Hold on. I think you skipped something!



ToDo All ToDos Active ToDos Completed ToDos Add ToDo Add ToDo Title: "todo": [Completed: false "id": "1b361exznny", Submit Cancel "title": "one more test again", "completed": "true", "href": "//localhost:8181/1b361exznny" Item }, Id: 1b361exznny Title: one more test again Completed: true "id": "sw26zcf6ve", "title": "one more simple test", Item "completed": "false", ld: 1bgjgezcjwb "href": "//localhost:8181/sw26zcf6ve" **Title:** danny boy Completed: false "actions": { "collection": "//localhost:8181/", "active": "//localhost:8181/?completed=false", "completed": "//localhost:8181/?completed=true"

Where did the "Add ToDo" come from?

```
// all URLs & action details
g.actions = {
              {href:"/", prompt:"Add ToDo", method:"POST",
  add:
                args:{
                  title: {value:"", prompt:"Title", required:true},
                  completed: {value: "false", prompt: "Completed", pattern: "^(true | false)$"}
  edit:
              {href:"/{id}", prompt:"Edit", method:"PUT",
                args:{
                  id: {value:"{id}", prompt:"Id", readOnly:true},
                  title: {value:"{title}", prompt:"Title", required:true},
                  completed: {value:"{completed}", prompt:"Completed", pattern:"^(true|false)$"}
```

We're only sending empty links. We still need to code all the payload operations!

How about "Remove ToDo"?

Then you want to add some features...

But the installed app IGNORES the new stuff!



Oh, right. Now I need a new VERSION!



```
// all URLs & action details
g.actions = {
              {href:"/", prompt:"Add ToDo", method:"POST",
  add:
                args:{
                  title: {value:"", prompt:"Title", required:true},
                  completed: {value: "false", prompt: "Completed", pattern: "^(true | false)$"}
  edit:
              {href:"/{id}", prompt:"Edit", method:"PUT",
                args:{
                  id: {value:"{id}", prompt:"Id", readOnly:true},
                  title: {value:"{title}", prompt:"Title", required:true},
                  completed: {value:"{completed}", prompt:"Completed", pattern:"^(true|false)$"}
              {href:"/{id}", prompt:"Delete", method:"DELETE"}
  remove:
};
```

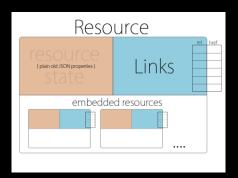
Changes in payload operations are NOT FREE

Client with Hypermedia Links (Review)

- Get the server to emit URLs
- Get the client to use the server's URLs

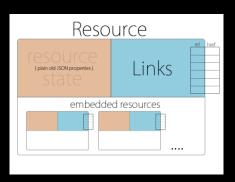
- Changing URLs is "free"
- Adding new URLs is "free"
- Adding new payload operations === new version

SIDEBAR: HAL Media Type



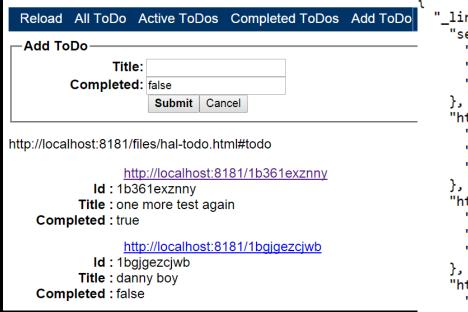
HAL Media Type

- Designed by Mike Kelly, 2011
- Makes sending LINKS easy, standardized
- Lots of library support
- Used by Amazon and others



```
" links": {
    "self": { "href": "/orders" },
    "curies": [{ "name": "ea", "href": "http://example.com/docs/rels/{rel}", "templated": true }],
    "next": { "href": "/orders?page=2" },
    "ea:find": {
        "href": "/orders{?id}",
        "templated": true
    },
    "ea:admin": [{
        "href": "/admins/2",
        "title": "Fred"
   }, {
        "href": "/admins/5",
        "title": "Kate"
    }]
},
"currentlyProcessing": 14,
"shippedToday": 20,
" embedded": {
   "ea:order": [{
        " links": {
            "self": { "href": "/orders/123" },
            "ea:basket": { "href": "/baskets/98712" },
            "ea:customer": { "href": "/customers/7809" }
        },
        "total": 30.00,
        "currency": "USD",
        "status": "shipped"
   }, {
        " links": {
            "self": { "href": "/orders/124" },
            "ea:basket": { "href": "/baskets/97213" }.
```

ToDo



```
"_links": {
  "self": {
    "href": "http://localhost:8181/",
    "title": "Reload",
    "templated": false
  "http://localhost:8181/files/hal-todo.html#collection": {
    "href": "http://localhost:8181/",
    "title": "All ToDo",
    "templated": false
  "http://localhost:8181/files/hal-todo.html#active": {
    "href": "http://localhost:8181/{?completed}",
    "title": "Active ToDos",
    "templated": true
  "http://localhost:8181/files/hal-todo.html#completed": {
    "href": "http://localhost:8181/{?completed}",
    "title": "Completed ToDos",
    "templated": true
  },
```

OK, how can I get all new features for "free"?



A Client with Hypermedia Templates

Client with Hypermedia Templates

- Get the server to emit Templates
- Get the client to use the server's Templates

```
"add": {
  "href": "//localhost:8181/",
  "prompt": "Add ToDo",
  "rel": [
    "create-form"
  ],
  "method": "POST",
  "args": {
    "title": {
      "value": "",
      "prompt": "Title",
      "required": true
    },
    "completed": {
      "value": "false",
      "prompt": "Completed",
      "pattern": "^(true|false)$"
```

Get Server to emit templates.

```
li = d.node("li");
   a = d.anchor({
     href:link.href,
     rel:link.rel.split(" ")||"action",
     className:"action",
     text:link.prompt
   });
   if(link.method) {
     a.onclick = jsonForm;
     a.setAttribute("args", JSON.stringify(link.args));
     a.setAttribute("method",link.method);
   else {
     a.onclick = httpGet;
Client pulls all payload operation details from the message
```

// pull actions from message

for(var idx in g.msg.actions) {
 link = g.msg.actions[idx];

ToDo

All ToDos	Active ToDos	Completed ToDos	Add ToDo
⊢Add ToDo			
	Title:		
Comp	leted: false		
	Submit Cano	eel	
	Item I: 1b361exznny E: one more test agair I: true	1	
	Item I: 1bgjgezcjwb I: danny boy I: false		

Live Demo of Client with Hypermedia Templates

How about "Search ToDo"?

Then you want to add some features...

```
"search": {
 "href": "//localhost:8181/",
  "prompt": "Search ToDos",
  "rel": [
    "search"
  "method": "GET",
  "args": {
    "title": {
      "value": "",
      "prompt": "Title",
      "required": true
```

Get Server to emit the new Search template.

ToDo

	All ToDo	Activ	re ToDos		Compl	eted ToD	os	A	dd ToE	00	5	Search	ToDos	
	−Search ToDo	· S — —												
l	ocarcii 1000					7								
l		Title:												
			Submit	Cance										
ı														

<u>Item</u>

Id: 1b361exznny

Title: one more test again

Completed: true

<u>Item</u>

ld: 1bgjgezcjwb

Title: danny boy

Completed: false

Bask in the awesomeness of hypermedia.

No Re-deploy.

No Re-deploy.

Just Hypermedia!

No Re-deploy.



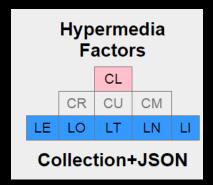
Just Hypermedia!

Client with Hypermedia Templates (Review)

- Get the server to emit Templates
- Get the client to use the server's Templates

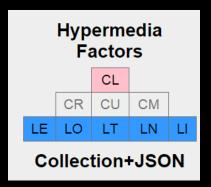
- Changing Templates are "free"
- Adding new Templates is "free"
- Adding new payload operations is "free"

SIDEBAR: Collection+JSON



Collection+JSON Media Type

- Designed by Mike Amundsen, 2011
- Makes sending TEMPLATES easy, standardized
- Decent library support
- Used by NPR and others



```
"version" : "1.0".
"href" : "http://example.org/friends/",
"links" : [
 {"rel" : "feed", "href" : "http://example.org/friends/rss"}
Ъ
"items" : [
   "href" : "http://example.org/friends/jdoe".
   "data" : [
     {"name" : "full-name", "value" : "J. Doe", "prompt" : "Full Name"},
      {"name" : "email", "value" : "jdoe@example.org", "prompt" : "Email"}
   "links" : [
     {"rel": "blog", "href": "http://examples.org/blogs/jdoe", "prompt": "Blog"},
      {"rel" : "avatar", "href" : "http://examples.org/images/jdoe", "prompt" : "Avatar", "render" : "image"}
"queries" : [
 {"rel" : "search", "href" : "http://example.org/friends/search", "prompt" : "Search",
   "data" : [
     {"name" : "search", "value" : ""}
"template" : {
 "data" : [
    {"name" : "full-name", "value" : "", "prompt" : "Full Name"},
    {"name" : "email", "value" : "", "prompt" : "Email"},
    {"name" : "blog", "value" : "", "prompt" : "Blog"},
    {"name" : "avatar", "value" : "", "prompt" : "Avatar"}
```

"collection" :

ToDo

All ToDo

Item Edit Delete

Title : one more test again

Completed: true

Item Edit Delete

Title: danny boy

Completed : false

<u>Item Edit Delete</u>

Title: fishing Completed: false

Item Edit Delete

Title: goofing around

Completed: false

Item Edit Delete

Title : one more simple test

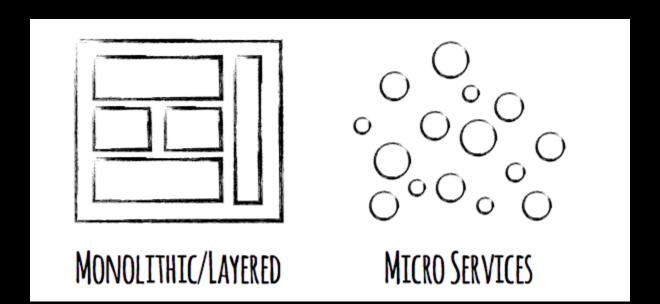
Completed: false

Item Edit Delete

Active ToDos —	
Complete:	false {
	Submit
Completed ToDos	
Complete:	true
	Submit
Search ToDos —	
Title:	
	Submit
Add	
Title :	
Complete :	false
	Submit

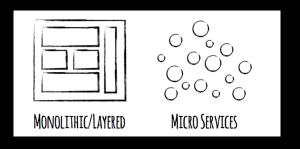
```
collection: {
    version: "1.0",
    href: "http://localhost:8181",
    title: "ToDo",
  - links: [
            href: "http://localhost:8181/",
            rel: "collection",
            prompt: "All ToDo"
  - items: [
            rel: "item",
            href: "http://localhost:8181/1b361exznny",
              - {
                    name: "id",
                    value: "1b361exznny",
                    prompt: "id"
                },
                    name: "title",
                    value: "one more test again",
                    prompt: "title"
                },
                    name: "completed",
                    value: "true".
```

Microservice Bonus Slides

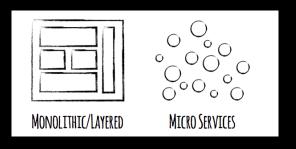


Microservices and Hypermedia

- Relocating Components
- Refactoring Features
- Re-Deploying Clients



Hypermedia with Links Supports Dynamic Relocating

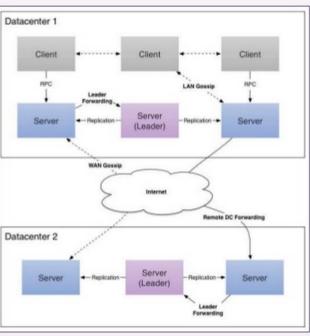






HashiCorp

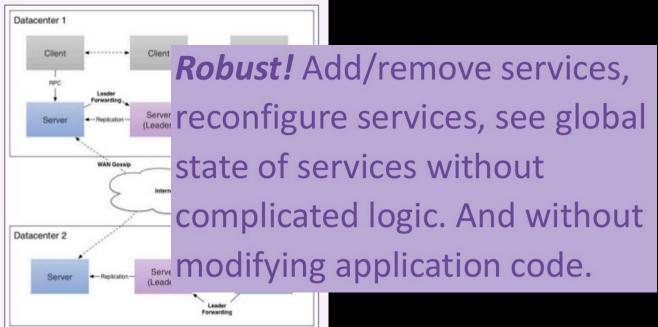
Towards Software





HashiCorp

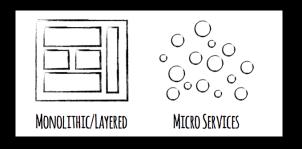
Towards Software



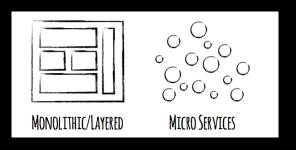
When Services Relocate...

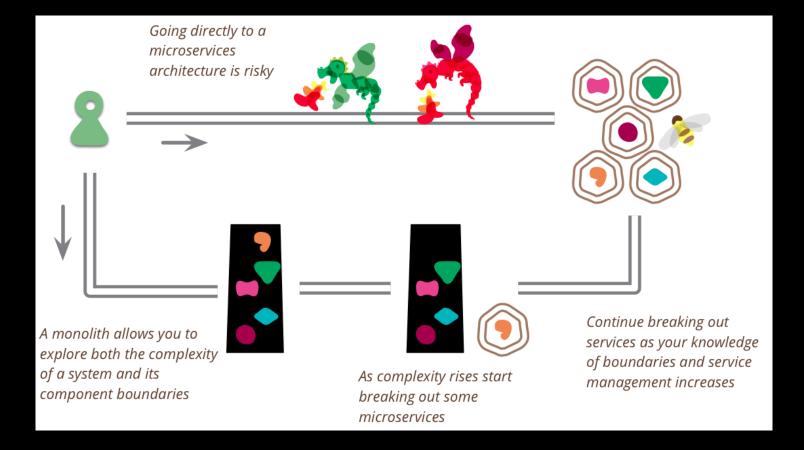
... URLs can change

Using Hypermedia Links in responses makes it easier/safer to relocate services



Hypermedia with Templates Supports Runtime Refactoring



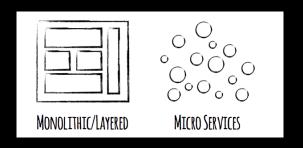


http://martinfowler.com/bliki/MonolithFirst.html Martin Fowler

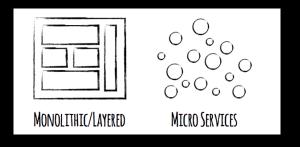
Refactoring Running Systems...

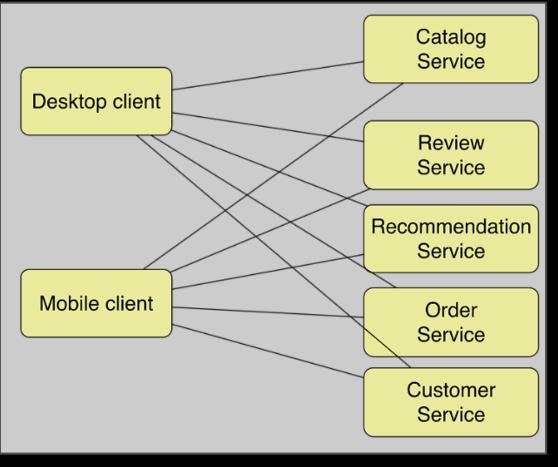
... Can change functions and arguments

Using Hypermedia Templates in responses makes it easier/safer to refactor services



Hypermedia Clients Reduce Continuous Deployment



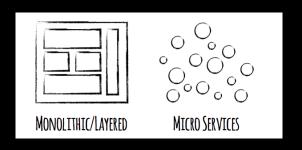


http://www.infoq.com/articles/microservices-intro Chris Richardson

Changes in workflow...

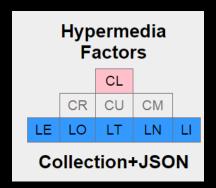
... Can break clients/consumer apps

Using Hypermedia-style apps makes it easier/safer to support new workflows without re-deployment.



Summary

Hypermedia controls provide inline descriptions of your application's actions.



"Hypermedia as the engine of application state." Hypermedia Constraint



Use Hypermedia

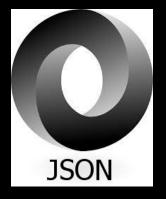


to execute application actions.

Client w/o Hypermedia (Review)

- Get JSON objects/collections from server
- Put Read/Write semantics in the client Code

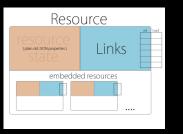
- Changing URLs == new version
- Adding new URLs == new version
- Adding new features == new version



Client with Hypermedia Links (Review)

- Get the server to emit URLs
- Get the client to use the server's URLs

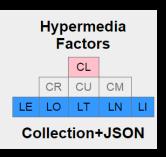
- Changing URLs is "free"
- Adding new URLs is "free"
- Adding new payload operations === new version
- Relocating services is "free"



Client with Hypermedia Templates (Review)

- Get the server to emit Templates
- Get the client to use the server's Templates

- Changing Templates are "free"
- Adding new Templates is "free"
- Adding new payload operations is "free"
- Refactoring at Runtime MAY be "free"

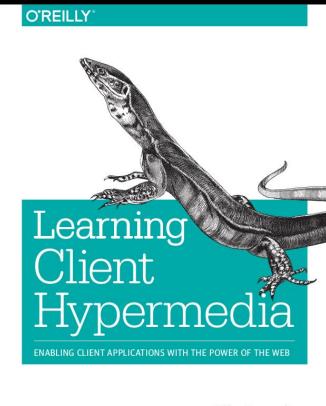


No Versions.

No Re-deploy.



Just Hypermedia!



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