



# Twelve Patterns to Create Evolvable APIs

Mike Amundsen  
API Academy / CA  
@mamund

*Drawings by Diogo Lucas*  
*@diogoclucas*



**Mike Amundsen**  
**@mamund**

#mcaTravels



**Mike Amundsen**  
**@mamund**

# http://apiacademy.co

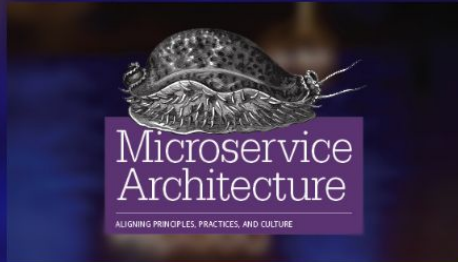
MENU



SERVICES

EVENTS

EBOOK



## MICROSERVICE ARCHITECTURE: ALIGNING PRINCIPLES, PRACTICES & CULTURE

DESIGN AND APPLY MICROSERVICES TO EMBRACE CONTINUAL  
CHANGE IN THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

READ MORE







**Changes Ahead**



**CHANGED  
TRAFFIC  
CONDITIONS**









UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

# **Architectural Styles and the Design of Network-based Software Architectures**

DISSERTATION

submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in Information and Computer Science

by

[Roy Thomas Fielding](#)

2000

Dissertation Committee:

Professor Richard N. Taylor, Chair

Professor Mark S. Ackerman

Professor David S. Rosenblum

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

# Architectural Styles and the Design of Network-based Software Architectures

DISSERTATION

submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in Information and Computer Science

by

[Roy Thomas Fielding](#)

2000

Dissertation Committee:

Professor Richard N. Taylor, Chair

Professor Mark S. Ackerman

Professor David S. Rosenblum



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

# Architectural Styles and the Design of Network-based Software Architectures

DISSERTATION

submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in Information and Computer Science

by

[Roy Thomas Fielding](#)

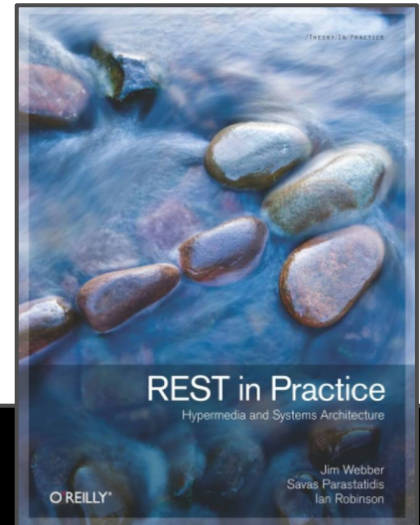
2000

Dissertation Committee:

Professor Richard N. Taylor, Chair

Professor Mark S. Ackerman

Professor David S. Rosenblum



# breaking change

---

English [ [edit](#) ]

---

**Noun** [ [edit](#) ]

**breaking change** (*plural breaking changes*)

1. (*computing*) A change in one part of a **software** system that potentially causes other components to **fail**; occurs most often in shared libraries of code used by multiple applications

*Not possible to fix old entries without a **breaking change**, so remap old to new in import lib.*

# breaking change

---

English [\[ edit \]](#)

---

**Noun** [\[ edit \]](#)

**breaking change** (*plural breaking changes*)

1. (*computing*) A change in one part of a [software](#) system that potentially causes other components to [fail](#); occurs most often in shared libraries of code used by multiple applications

*Not possible to fix old entries without a **breaking change**, so remap old to new in import lib.*

**See also** [\[ edit \]](#)

- [backward compatibility](#)



# breaking change

---

**Noun** [ [edit](#) ]

**backward compatibility** (*usually uncountable, plural backward compatibilities*)

1. (*software*) Capability of [interoperating](#) with older systems.

**Related terms** [ [edit](#) ]

- [backward compatible](#)
- [forward compatibility](#)

es other  
multiple

*Not possible to fix old entries without a **breaking change**, so remap old to new in import lib.*

**See also** [ [edit](#) ]

- [backward compatibility](#)

# breaking change

**Noun** [ [edit](#) ]

**backward compatibility** (*usually uncountable, plural backward compatibilities*)

1. (*software*) Capability of [interoperating](#) with older systems.

**Related terms** [ [edit](#) ]

- **forward compatibility** (*uncountable*)

1. (*software*) Capability of [interoperating](#) with anticipated future systems.

**Related terms** [ [edit](#) ]

- [backward compatibility](#)
- [forward compatible](#)

**See also** [ [edit](#) ]

- [backward compatibility](#)

# I want to be able to...

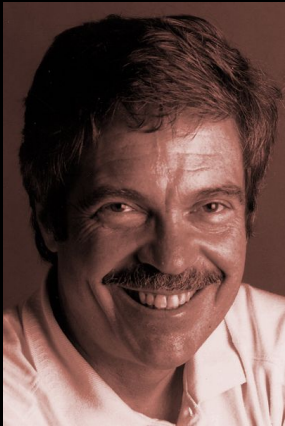
1. Change/Add Objects (payloads)
2. Change/Add Addresses (URLs)
3. Change/Add Actions (links and forms)

# The OAA Challenge

1. Change/Add **Objects** (payloads)
2. Change/Add **Addresses** (URLs)
3. Change/Add **Actions** (links and forms)

# The OAA Challenge

1. Change/Add **Objects** (payloads)
2. Change/Add **Addresses** (URLs)
3. Change/Add **Actions** (links and forms)



***"[A] dynamic system that has extreme late binding in all aspects." -- Alan Kay, 2003***

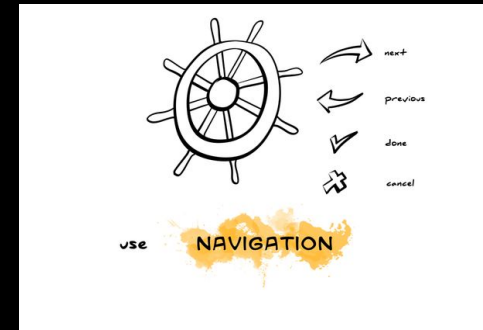
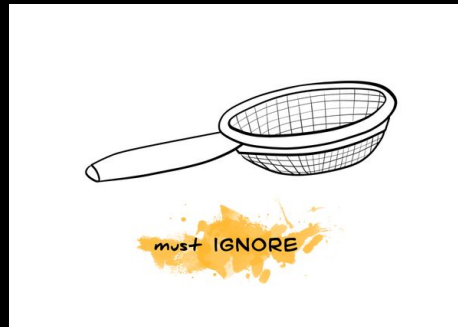
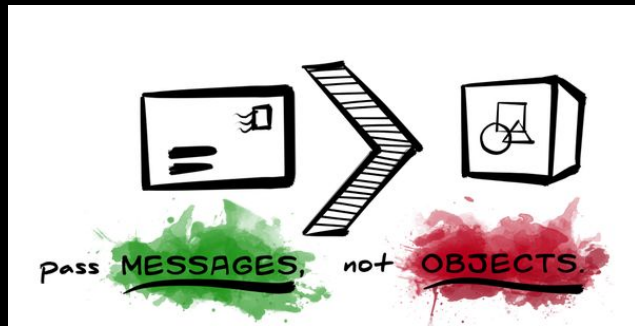
# **Evolvable API Patterns**

# Twelve Patterns for Evolvable APIs

Four Design Patterns

Four Basic Principles

Four Shared Agreements

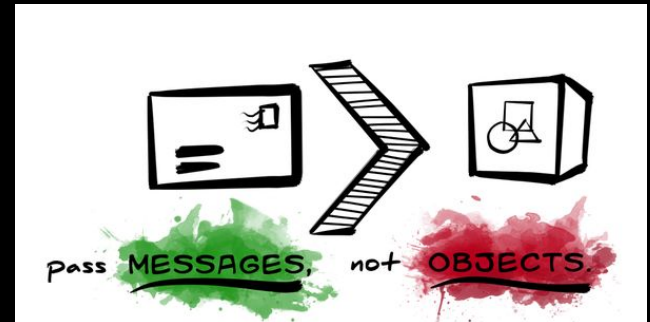


# Design Patterns



# Design Patterns

1. PASS MESSAGES, NOT OBJECTS
2. SHARE VOCABULARIES, NOT MODELS
3. USE THE REPRESENTOR PATTERN
4. PUBLISH PROFILES

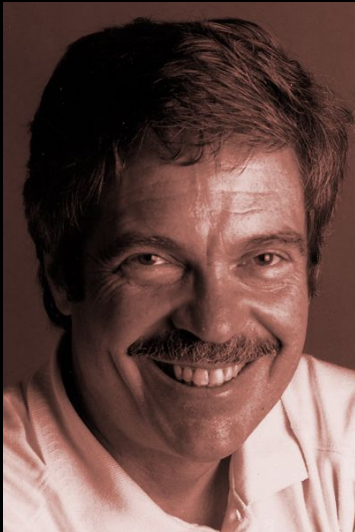




pass MESSAGES, not OBJECTS.

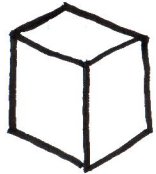
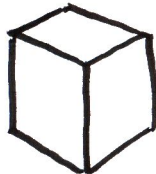
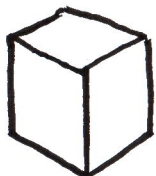
# Pass Messages, Not Objects

*"I'm sorry that coined the term 'objects' for this topic. The big idea is 'messaging'."*

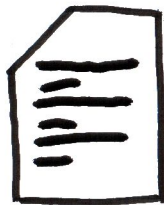


*Alan Kay, 1998*

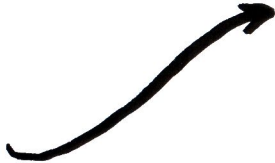
OBJECTS



MESSAGE



CLIENT



# Pass Messages, Not Objects

Bodies SHOULD be sent using a highly-structured metadata-rich format such as:

HAL

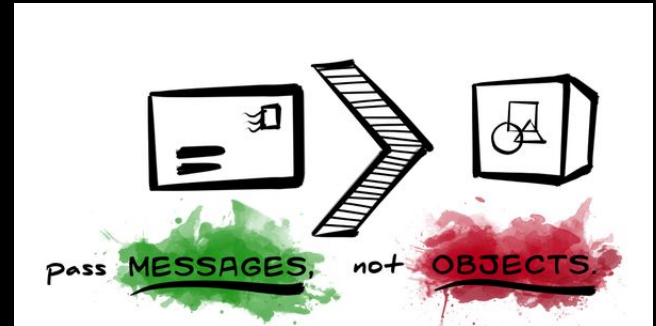
Collection+JSON

Siren

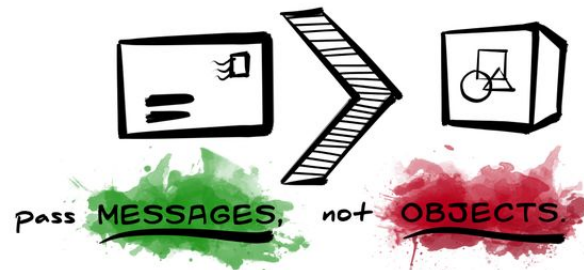
UBER

Atom,

etc.



```
var responseObject = {};  
var messageBody = "";  
responseObject.customerSummary =  
    datastore.getCustomerSummary(custId);  
responseObject.outstandingInvoices =  
    datastore.getInvoices(custId, status="outstanding");  
responseObject.shippingStatus =  
    datastore.getOrdersInTransit(custId);  
  
messageBody = messageTranslator(  
    responseObject,  
    "application/HTML"  
);  
  
HTTP.Send(messageBody);
```

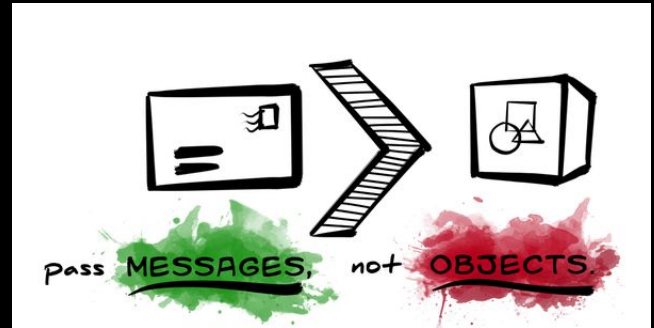


# Pass Messages, not Objects

*What problem does this solve?*

I don't need to share your object model to interact with you.

Machines can now manage their own internal models independently.





share VOCABULARIES, not MODELS.

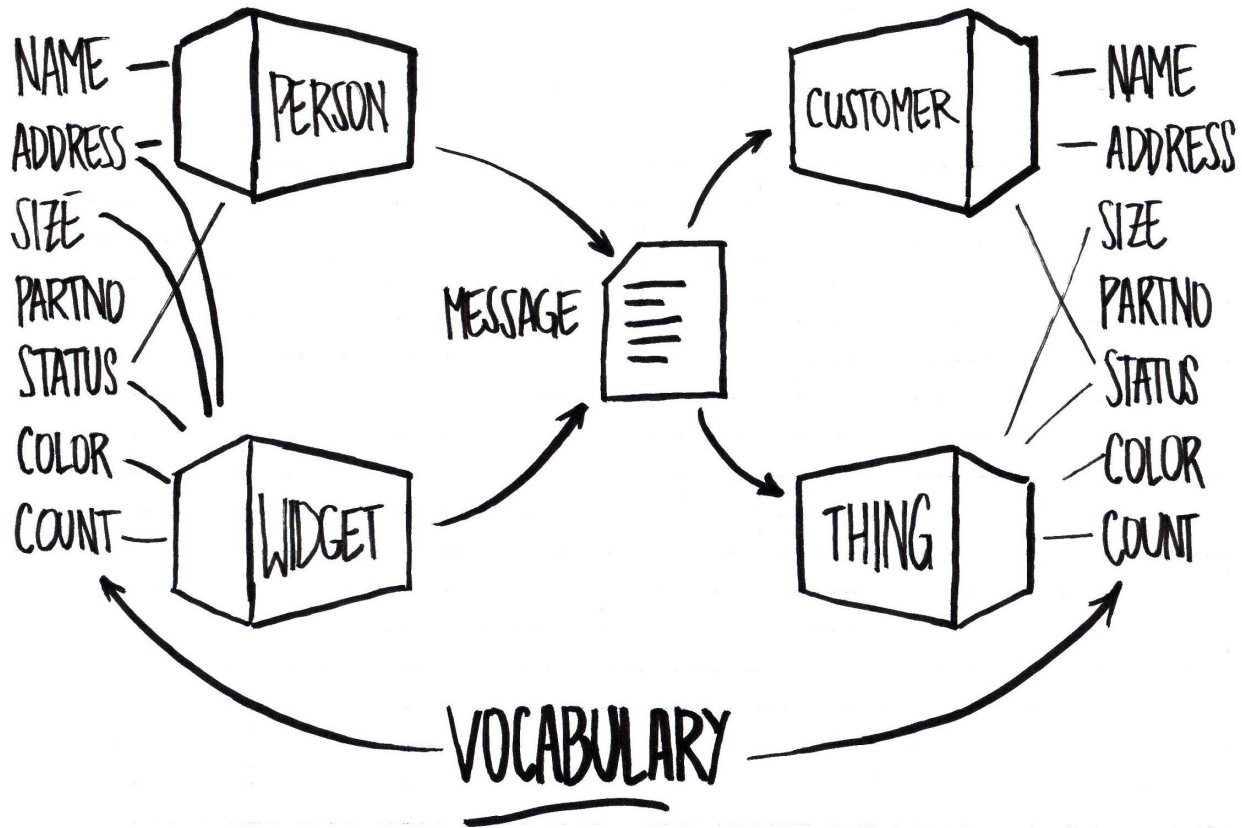


# Share Vocabularies, Not Models

*"It is easier to standardize representation and relation types than objects and object-specific interfaces."*

*-- Roy Fielding*





SHARE VOCABULARIES

# Share Vocabularies, Not Models

All messages SHOULD rely only on standardized identifiers (for data/action) based on shared vocabularies.

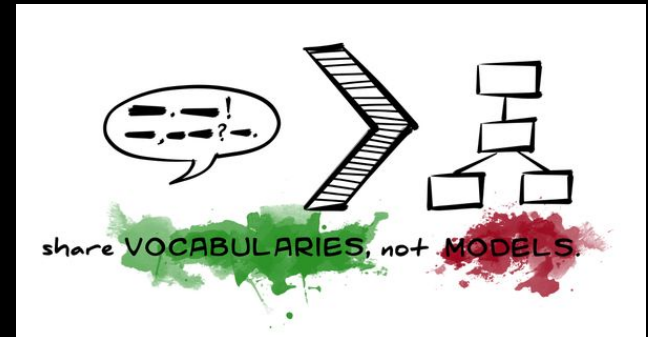
IANA Link Relation Values

Schema.org

Microformats

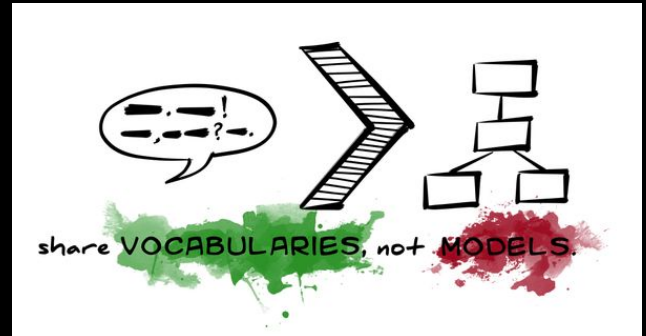
Dublin Core

Activity Streams



## Shared Public Vocabulary

- Name
- Address
- Size
- Status
- Color
- Partno
- Count

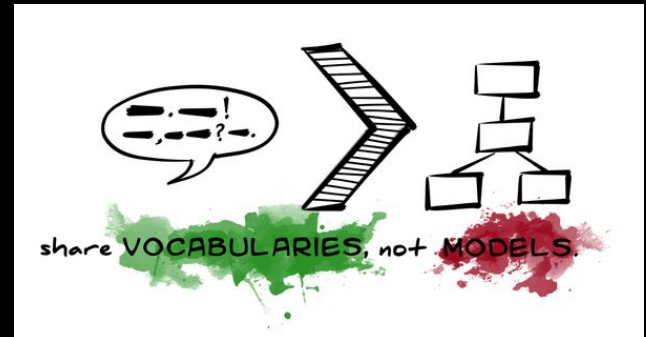


## Shared Public Vocabulary

- Name
- Address
- Size
- Status
- Color
- Partno
- Count

## Server's Internal Model

- Person
  - Name
  - Address
  - Status
- Widget
  - Address
  - Size
  - Status
  - Color
  - Count



## Shared Public Vocabulary

- Name
- Address
- Size
- Status
- Color
- Partno
- Count

## Server's Internal Model

- Person
  - Name
  - Address
  - Status
- Widget
  - Address
  - Size
  - Status
  - Color
  - Count

## Client's Internal Model

- Customer
  - Name
  - Address
  - Status
- Thing
  - Size
  - Status
  - Color
  - Count



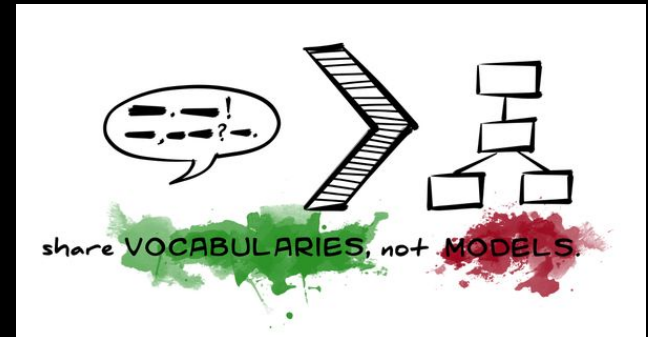
share VOCABULARIES, not MODELS.

# Share Vocabularies, Not Models

*What problem does this solve?*

Vocabulary is how we “evaluate and select”

Machines can now  
evaluate and select without  
direct human interaction.





on behalf of...

use

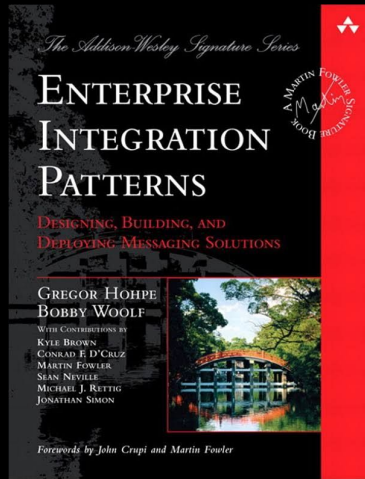
**REPRESENTER**



# Use the Representor Pattern

*"Use a special filter, a **Message Translator**, between other filters or applications to translate one data format into another."*

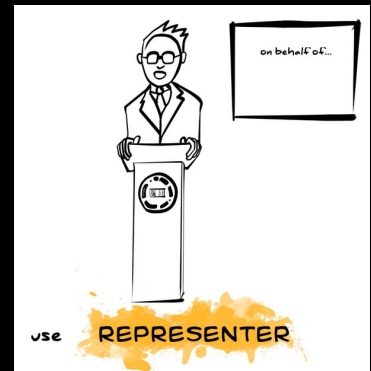
*- Gregor Hohpe*

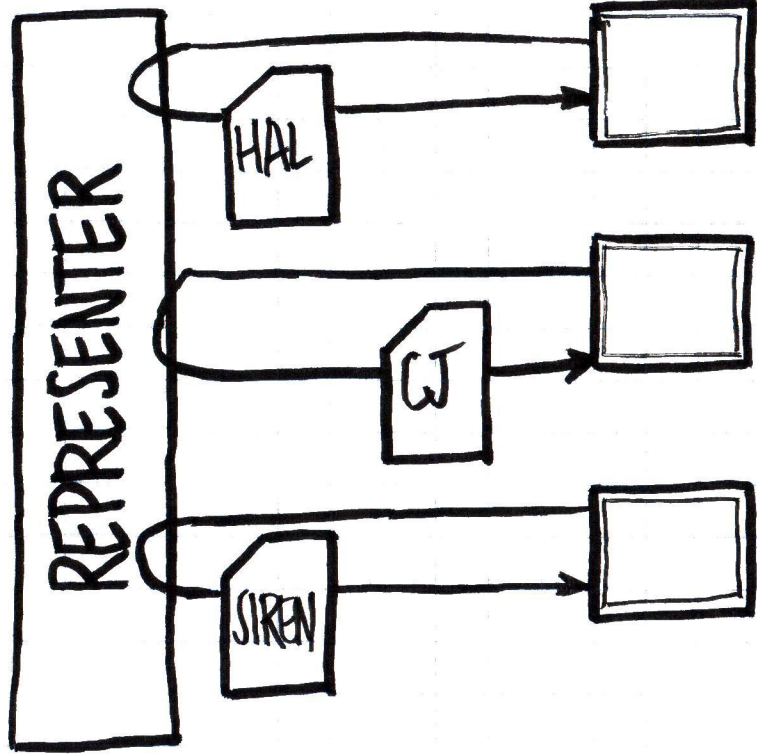
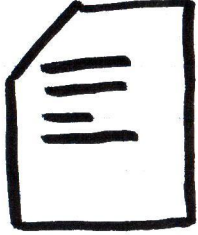


# Use the Representor Pattern

You SHOULD implement a message translator to convert internal models into public messages.

Standard Resource Model (WeSTL)  
Strategy Messages Format Dispatch



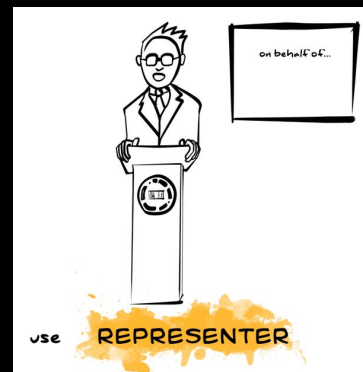


```
function representor(object, mimeType, root) {
  var doc;

  // clueless? assume JSON
  if (!mimeType) {
    mimeType = defaultFormat;
  }

  // dispatch to requested representor
  switch (mimeType.toLowerCase()) {
    case "application/vnd.wstl+json":
      doc = wstljson(object, root);
      break;
    case "application/json":
      doc = json(object, root);
      break;
    case "application/vnd.hal+json":
      doc = haljson(object, root);
      break;
    case "application/vnd.siren+json":
      doc = siren(object, root);
      break;
    case "application/vnd.collection+json":
      doc = cj(object, root);
      break;
    default:
      doc = cj(object, root);
      break;
  }

  return doc;
}
```

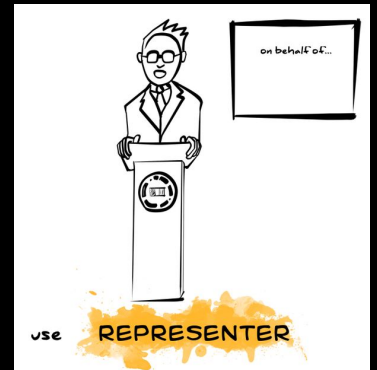


# Use the Representor Pattern

*What problem does this solve?*

Sometimes we need to translate our conversations in order to communicate.

Machines can now “negotiate” the language of a conversation.





publish **PROFILES**

# Publish Profiles

*"Profiles provide a way to create a ubiquitous language for talking about APIs (resources) for both humans and machines."*

*-- Mark Foster*



# Publish Profiles

All messages SHOULD be accompanied by one or more PROFILE identifiers.

Define all possible data and actions

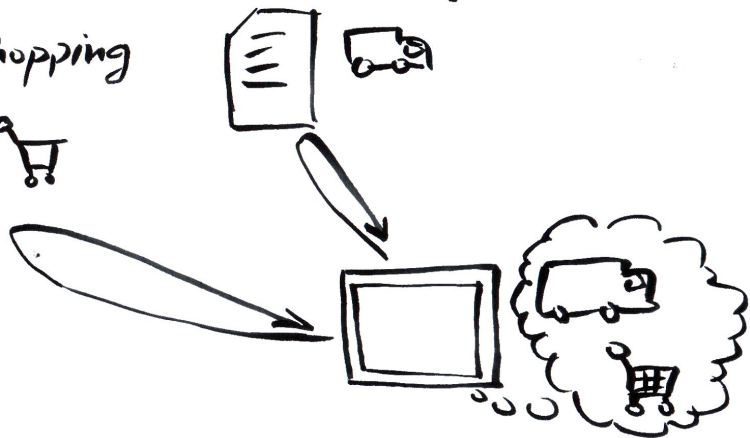
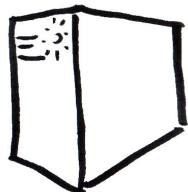
Use Profile Standard (RFC6906)

Servers emit profile URI

Clients validate profile URI







```
#### Successful Profile Negotiation
```

```
*** REQUEST
```

```
GET /accounts HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: example.org
```

```
Accept: application/vnd.uber+xml
```

```
Link: <http://alps.io/banking/v3>;rel="profile">
```

```
***RESPONSE
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Content-Type: application/vnd.uber+xml
```

```
Link: <http://alps.io/banking/v3>;rel="profile">
```

```
<uber version="1.0">
```

```
...
```

```
</uber>
```



publish **PROFILES**

```
#### Successful Profile Negotiation
```

```
*** REQUEST
```

```
GET /accounts HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: example.org
```

```
Accept: application/vnd.uber+xml
```

```
Link: <http://alps.io/banking/v3>;rel="profile">
```

```
***RESPONSE
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 GET /accounts HTTP/1.1
```

```
Content-Type: application/vnd.uber+xml
```

```
Link: <http://alps.io/banking/v3>;rel="profile">
```

```
<uber version="1.0">
```

```
...
```

```
</uber>
```

```
#### Failed Profile Negotiation
```

```
*** REQUEST
```

```
GET /accounts HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: example.org
```

```
Accept: application/vnd.uber+xml
```

```
Link: <http://alps.io/banking/v4>;rel="profile">
```

```
***RESPONSE
```

```
HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request
```

```
Content-Type: application/vnd.uber+xml
```

```
Link: <http://alps.io/banking/v2>;rel="profile">
```

```
<uber version="1.0">
```

```
<data id="error" text="Requested Profile Unsupported" />
```

```
</uber>
```



publish **PROFILES**

```
1 <alps version="1.0">
2   <link rel="help" href="http://example.org/documentation/products.html" />
3   <doc>
4     This is a prototype product API.
5   </doc>
6
7   <!-- transitions -->
8   <descriptor id="item" type="safe" rt="#product">
9     <doc>Retrieve A Single Product</doc>
10  </descriptor>
11
12  <descriptor id="collection" type="safe" rt="#product">
13    <doc>Provides access to all products</doc>
14  </descriptor>
15
16  <descriptor id="search" type="safe" rt="#product">
17    <doc>Provides access to all products</doc>
18    <descriptor href="#id" />
19  </descriptor>
20
21  <descriptor id="edit" type="idempotent" rt="#product">
22    <doc>Updates A Product</doc>
23    <descriptor href="#product" />
24  </descriptor>
25
26  <descriptor id="create" type="unsafe" rt="#product">
27    <doc>Allows the creation of a new product</doc>
28    <descriptor href="#product" />
29  </descriptor>
```



publish **PROFILES**

# Publish Profiles

*What problem does this solve?*

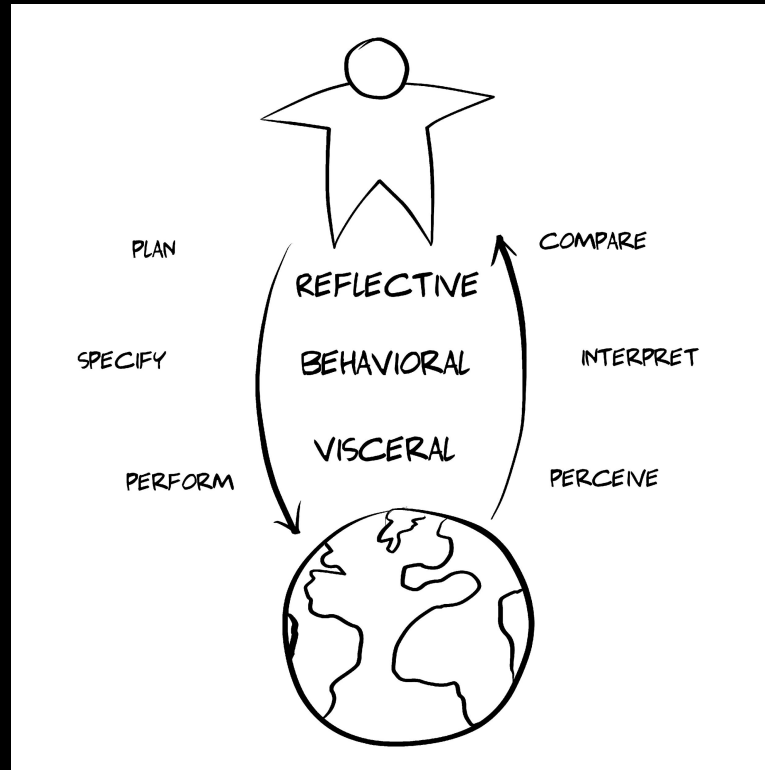
I need to know what we're talking about.

Machines can now  
validate domain topics easily



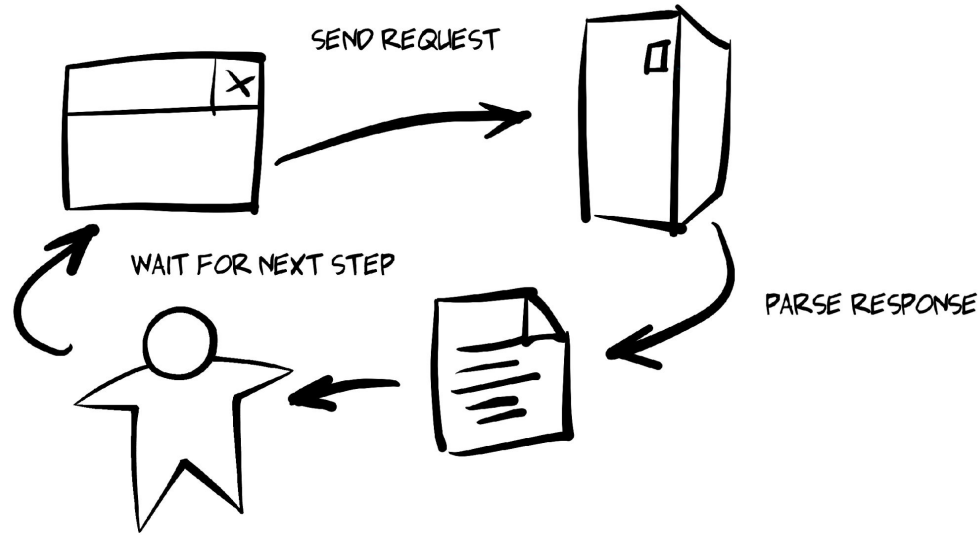
**Messages**

# Norman's Action Lifecycle



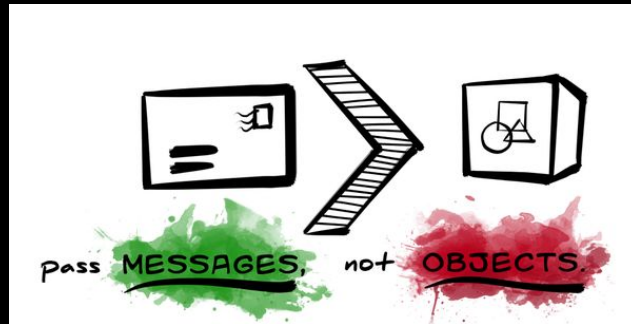
Donald Norman

# Employing the RPW Loop





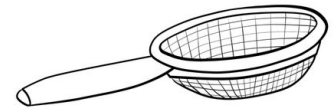
# *Design loosely-coupled interoperable services*



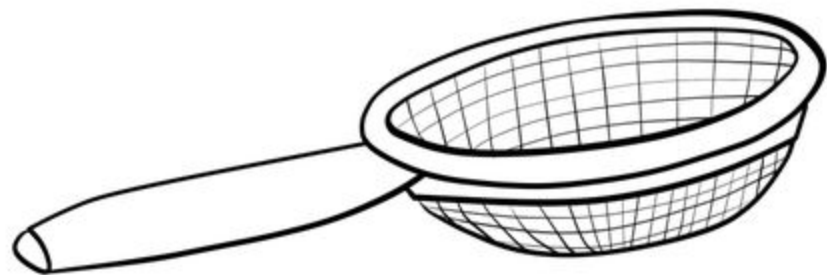
# Basic Principles

# Basic Principles

5. MUST IGNORE
6. MUST FORWARD
7. PROVIDE MRU
8. USE IDEMPOTENCE



must IGNORE



must IGNORE

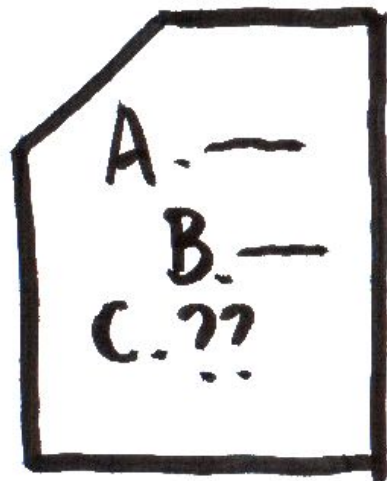
# Must Ignore

*“The main goal of the MUST IGNORE pattern of extensibility is to allow backwards- and forwards-compatible changes.”*

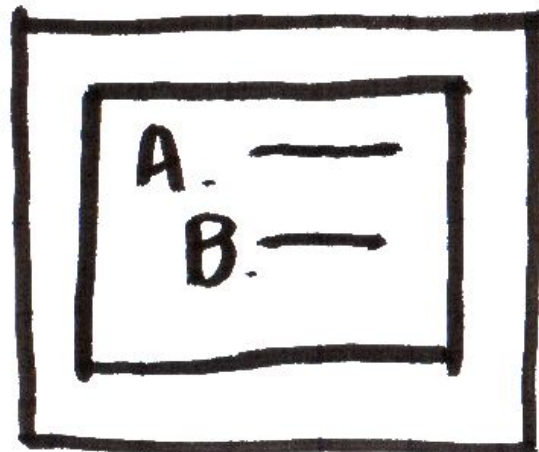
*- David Orchard*



MESSAGE

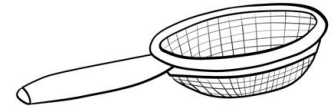


CLIENT



# Must Ignore

Clients **MUST IGNORE** any data/inputs that the client does not understand.

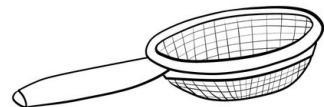


must IGNORE

```
<script>
  /* incoming responseBody */
  {
    familyName: "Markov",
    givenName: "Shayne",
    dimensione_del_cappello: 12
  }
  ...
</script>

...

<!-- Rendering -->
<ul class="user">
  <li class="familyName">Markov</li>
  <li class="givenName">Shayne</li>
</ul>
```



must IGNORE



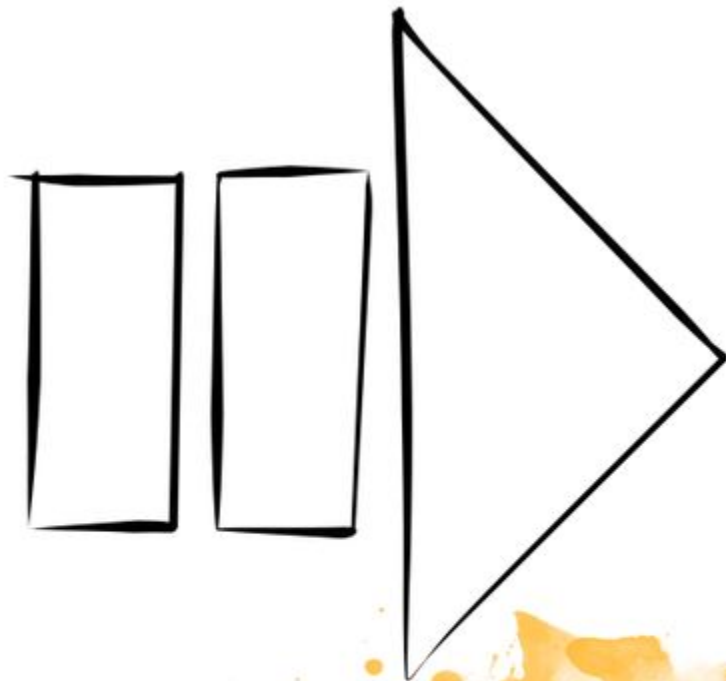
# Must Ignore

*What problem does this solve?*

Ignoring what we don't understand lets us “do our own thing” w/o knowing everyone's job

Machines can now focus on their own job, not everyone's job.





must

**FORWARD**

# MUST FORWARD

*“A proxy MUST forward unrecognized header fields...”*  
-- RFC 7230

[\[Docs\]](#) [\[txt\]](#) [\[pdf\]](#) [\[draft-ietf-httpbi...\]](#) [\[Diff1\]](#) [\[Diff2\]](#) [\[Errata\]](#)

PROPOSED STANDARD  
Errata Exist

Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)  
Request for Comments: 7230  
Obsoletes: [2145](#), [2616](#)  
Updates: [2817](#), [2818](#)  
Category: Standards Track  
ISSN: 2070-1721

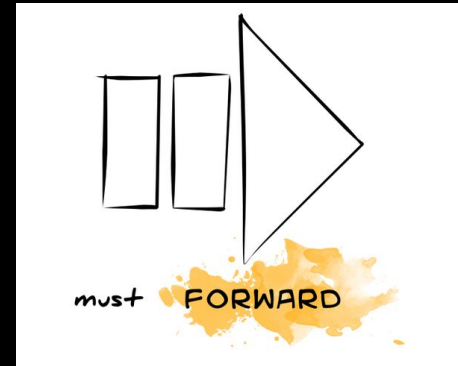
R. Fielding, Ed.  
Adobe  
J. Reschke, Ed.  
greenbytes  
June 2014

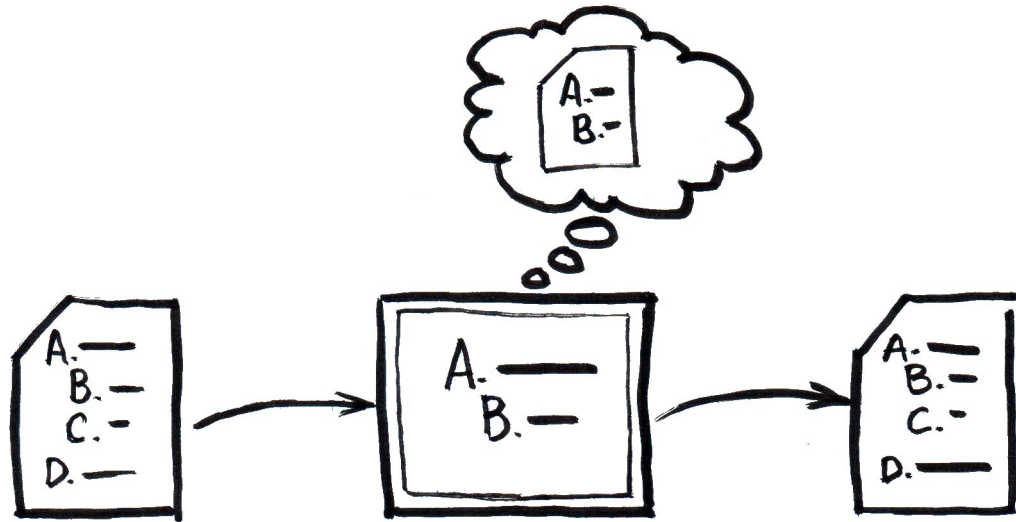
Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP/1.1): Message Syntax and Routing

Abstract

The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is a stateless application-level protocol for distributed, collaborative, hypertext information systems. This document provides an overview of HTTP architecture and its associated terminology, defines the "http" and "https" Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) schemes, defines the HTTP/1.1 message syntax and parsing requirements, and describes related security concerns for implementations.

Status of This Memo

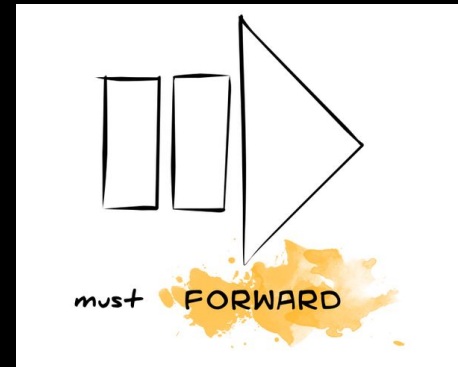




MUST FORWARD

# Must Forward

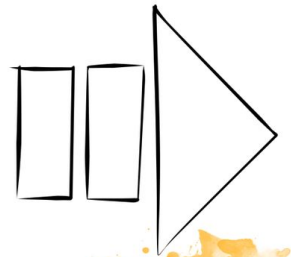
Clients **MUST FORWARD** (unchanged) any input fields (URL or FORM) that the client does not recognize.



```
<ul class="user">
  <li class="familyName">Markov</li>
  <li class="givenName">Shayne</li>
  <li class="checksum">1qw2t3e5rt4u5</li>
</ul>

<script>
  ...
  function updateUser() {
    var fields = getInputs(class="user")
    for(var f in fields) {
      switch(f.name) {
        case "familyName":
          f.value="Markus";
          break;
        case "givenName":
          f.value="Ryane";
          break;
      }
    }
    updateForm(fields, class="update");
    updateForm.Send();
  }
  ...
</script>

<form class="update" action="..." method="post">
  <input type="hidden" name="checksum" value="" />
  <input type="text" name="familyName" value="" />
  <input type="text" name="givenName" value="" />
  <input type="submit" />
</form>
```



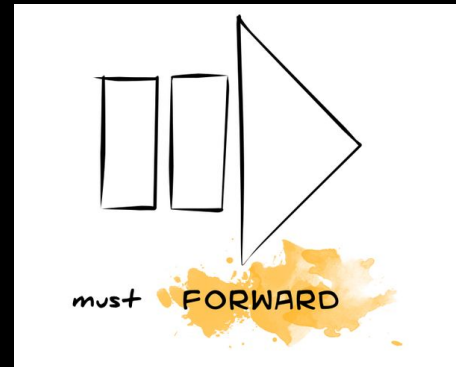
must FORWARD

# Must Forward

*What problem does this solve?*

We don't edit for others around us.

Machines can now co-operate w/o  
full understanding of other's work





provide MRU



# Provide MRU (Most-Recently-Used)

*“A feature of convenience allowing users to quickly see and access the last few used files and documents.”*

*-- Wikipedia*

Common menus in Microsoft Windows

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This is a list of commonly used Microsoft Windows menus.

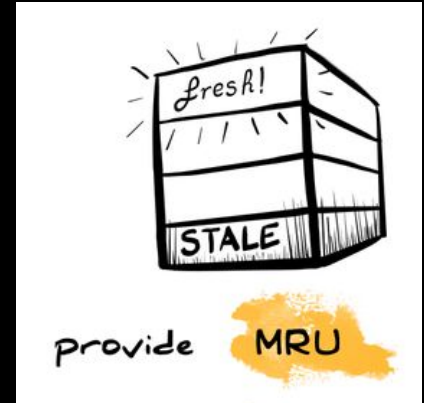
Contents [hide]

- 1 Microsoft menus
  - 1.1 Most Recently Used menu
  - 1.2 Properties menu
  - 1.3 System menu
- 2 References

Microsoft menus [edit]

**Most Recently Used menu** [edit]

Most Recently Used (MRU) is a term used in computing to refer to the list of programs that users can quickly see and access the last few used files and documents, but could also be c





New



Open



Close



Save



Save as



Save all



EPUB export



PDF export



Send

Open document

Pinned files

1. Invoice.docx



Unpinned files

2. Portfolio.docx



3. Order 11-2017.docx



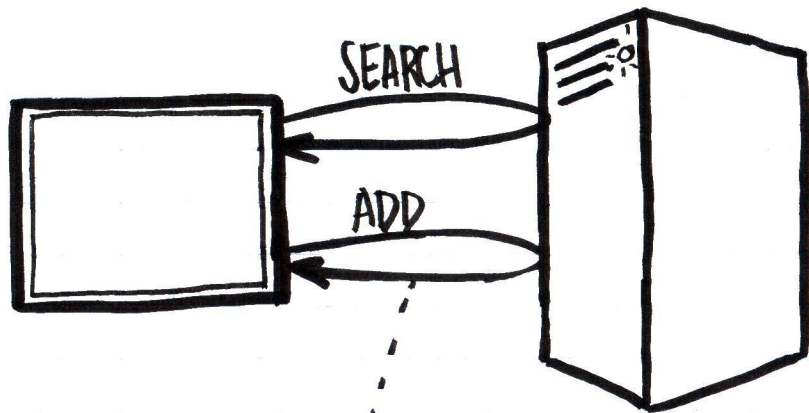
4. Delivery Note.docx



5. Letter.docx



Delete all unpinned items

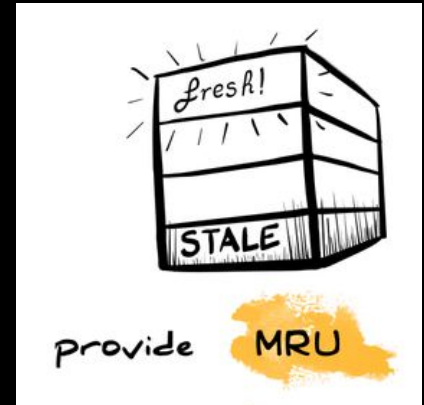


RESULTS  
+ ADD -  
+ SEARCH -

USE  
MRU

# Provide MRU

Services SHOULD return the most recently-used (MRU) LINKS and FORMS in all responses.



```
#### execute a SEARCH
*** REQUEST
GET /orders/search HTTP/1.1
  Host: example.org
  Accept: application/vnd.hal+json

*** RESPONSE
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
  Content-Type: application/vnd.hal+json
  Content-Length: XXXX

{
  "_links": {
    "self": {"href" : "..."},
    "search": {"href" : "/orders/search"}
    ...
  }
}
```



provide MRU

```
#### execute a SEARCH
*** REQUEST
GET /orders/search HTTP/1.1
Host: example.org
Accept: application/vnd.hal+json
```

```
*** RESPONSE
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/vnd.hal+json
Content-Length: XXXX
```

```
{
  "_links": {
    "self": {"href" : "..."},
    "search": {"href" : "..."}
    ...
  }
}
```

```
#### execute an ADD
*** REQUEST
POST /orders/ HTTP/1.1
Host: example.org
Accept: application/vnd.hal+json
```

```
*** RESPONSE
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/vnd.hal+json
Content-Length: XXXX
```

```
{
  "_links": {
    "self": {"href" : "..."},
    "search": {"href" : "..."},
    "add": {"href" : "..."}
    ...
  }
}
```



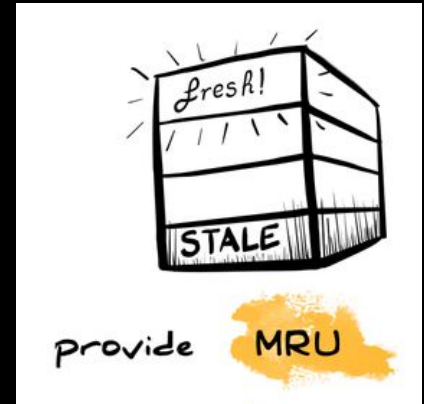
provide MRU

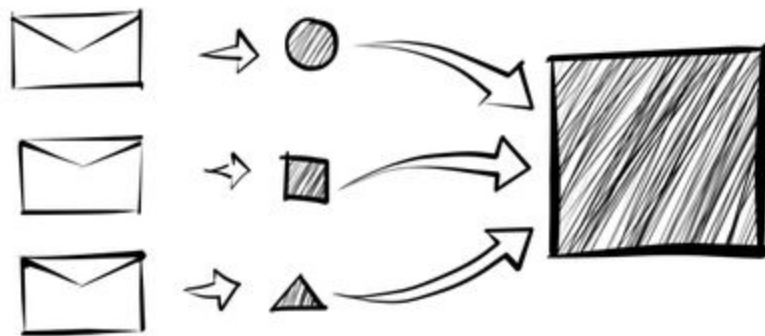
# Provide MRU

*What problem does this solve?*

We need most-used tools close at hand

Machines can now find most-used affordances easily





use

**IDEMPOTENCY**



# Use Idempotence

*“Can be applied multiple times without changing the result beyond the initial application.”*  
*-- Wikipedia*

## 4.2.2. Idempotent Methods

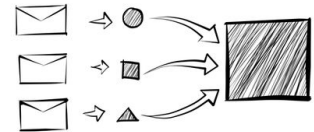
A request method is considered "idempotent" if the intended effect on the server of multiple identical requests with that method is the same as the effect for a single such request. Of the request methods defined by this specification, PUT, DELETE, and safe request methods are idempotent.

Fielding & Reschke      Standards Track      [Page 23]

[RFC 7231](#)      HTTP/1.1 Semantics and Content      June 2014

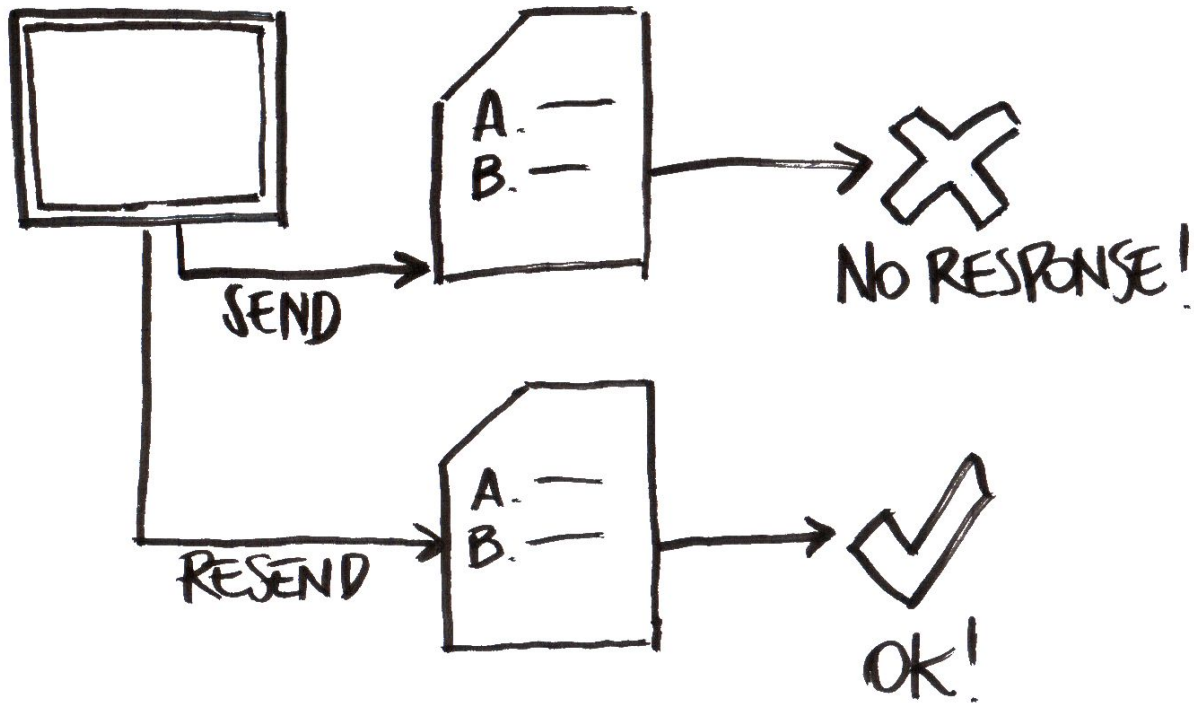
Like the definition of safe, the idempotent property only applies to what has been requested by the user; a server is free to log each request separately, retain a revision control history, or implement other non-idempotent side effects for each idempotent request.

Idempotent methods are distinguished because the request can be repeated automatically if a communication failure occurs before the



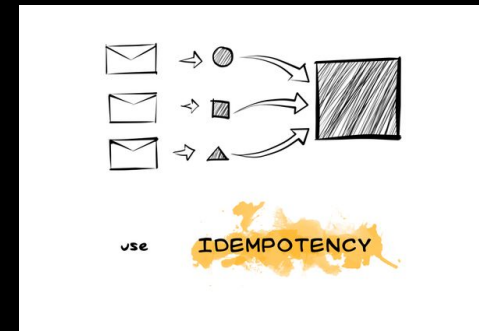
use

**IDEMPOTENCY**



# Use Idempotence

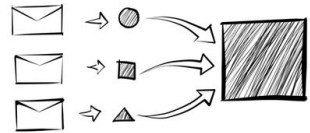
All network requests **SHOULD** be idempotent in order to allow clients to safely repeat them when response is unclear.



```
var maxRequests = 5;
var options = {
  url: 'http://www.example.org/users/123',
  method: "put",
  body = user.formFields();
  timeout: 5000
}

function idempotentRequest(attempt){
  request(options, function(error, response, body){
    if(error){
      console.log(error);
      if(attempt==maxRequests)
        return;
      else
        idempotentRequest(attempt+1);
    }
    else {
      //do something with result
    }
  });
}

idempotentRequest(1);
```



use

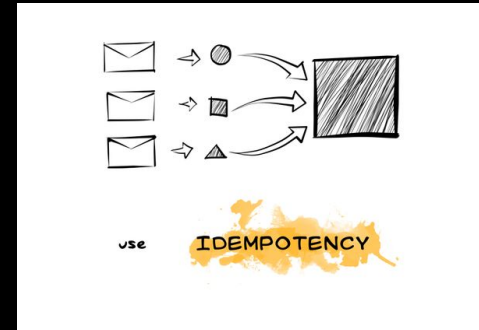
**IDEMPOTENCY**

# Use Idempotence

*What problem does this solve?*

If things didn't work right the first time, we need to try again.

Machines can now safely “try again”



***Networks***

# Programming the Network

There is no simultaneity at a distance!

- Similar to the speed of light bounding information
- By the time you see a distant object, it may have changed!
- By the time you see a message, the data may have changed!



**Pat Helland**

# Programming the Network

There is no simultaneity at a distance!

- Similar to the speed of light bounding information
- By the time you see a distant object, it may have changed!
- By the time you see a message, the data may have changed!



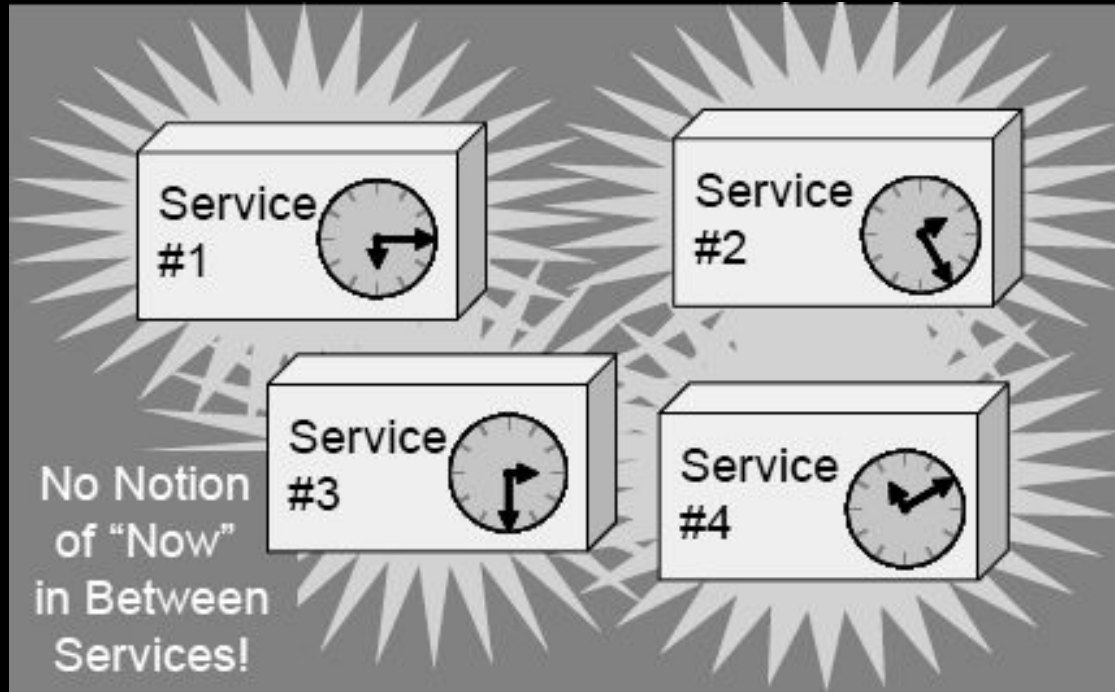
**Pat Helland**

Services, transactions, and locks bound simultaneity!

- Inside a transaction, things are simultaneous
- Simultaneity exists only inside a transaction!
- Simultaneity exists only inside a service!

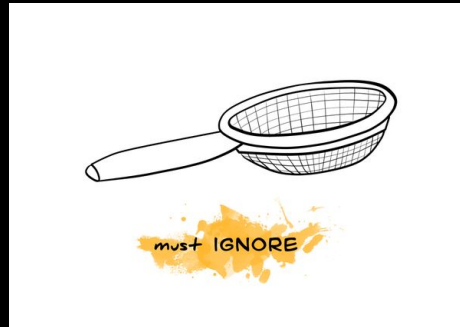


# Programming the Network



Pat Helland

# *Build Network-Aware Implementations*



# Shared Agreements

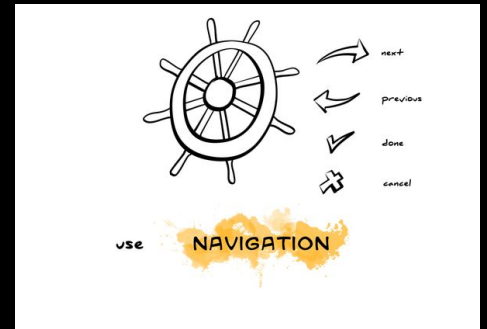
# Shared Agreements

9. USE RELATED

10. USE NAVIGATION

11. PARTIAL SUBMIT

12. STATE WATCH



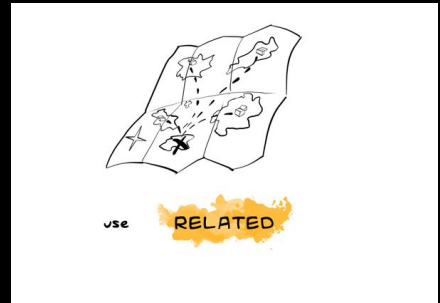


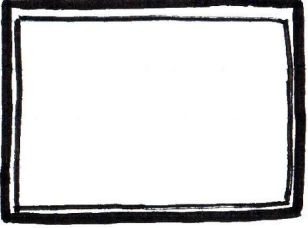
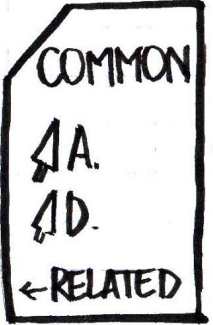
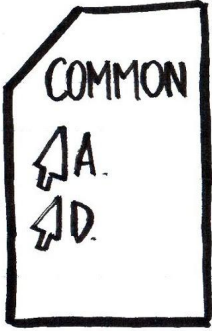
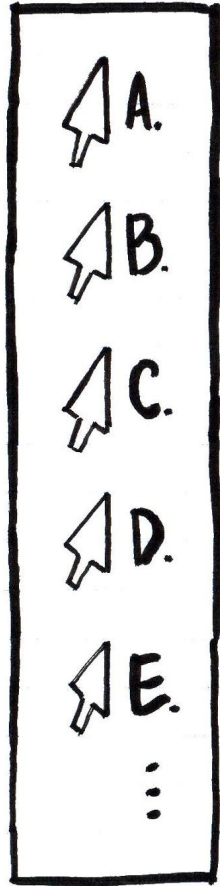
use

RELATED

# Use Related

*“By watching what you click on in search results, Google can learn that you favor particular sites.” – Danny Sullivan, 2009*

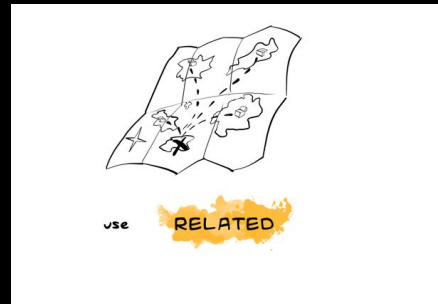




USE  
RELATED

# Use Related

Services SHOULD return a RELATED LINK that responds with ALL the possible actions for this context.





\*\*\* REQUEST

GET /orders/123 HTTP/1.1

Host: example.org

Accept: application/vnd.hal+json

\*\*\* RESPONSE

HTTP/1.1 200 OK

Content-Type: application/vnd.hal+json

Content-Length: XXXX

```
{
  "_links": {
    "self": {"href" : "..."},
    "approve": {"href" : "..."},
    "related": {"href" : "/orders/123?related"}
    ...
  }
}
```



use

RELATED

```
*** REQUEST
```

```
GET /orders/123 HTTP/1.1
```

```
Host: example.org
```

```
Accept: application/vnd.hal+json
```

```
*** RESPONSE
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Content-Type: applicat
```

```
Content-Length: XXXX
```

```
{
  "_links": {
    "self": {"href" : "..."},
    "approve": {"href" : "..."},
    "related": {"href" : "..."},
    ...
  }
}
```

```
*** RESPONSE
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
```

```
Content-Type: application/vnd.hal+json
```

```
Content-Length: XXXX
```

```
{
  "_links": {
    "self": {"href" : "..."},
    "approve": {"href" : "..."},
    "cancel": {"href" : "..."},
    "modify": {"href" : "..."},
    "transfer": {"href" : "..."},
    "review": {"href" : "..."},
    "rush": {"href" : "..."},
    "related": {"href" : "/orders/123?related"}
    ...
  }
}
```



use

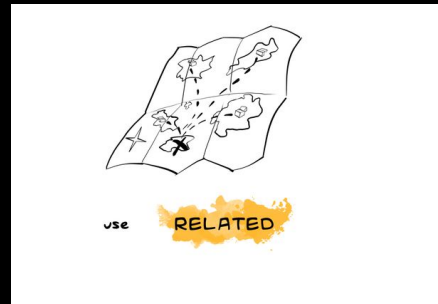
RELATED

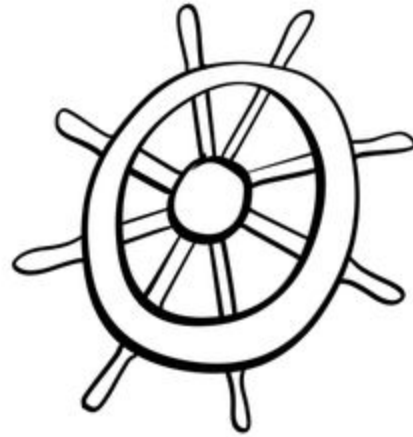
# Use Related

*What problem does this solve?*

I can't remember everything, need an easy way to look up instructions.

Machines can now “look up”  
the available affordances.





next



previous



done



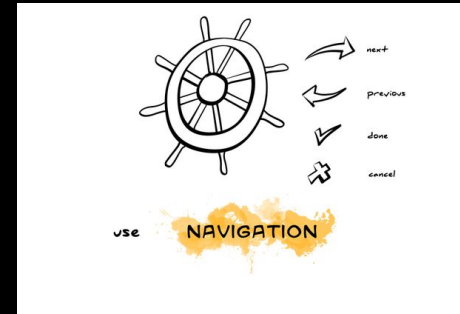
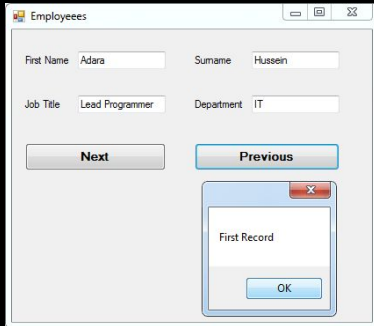
cancel

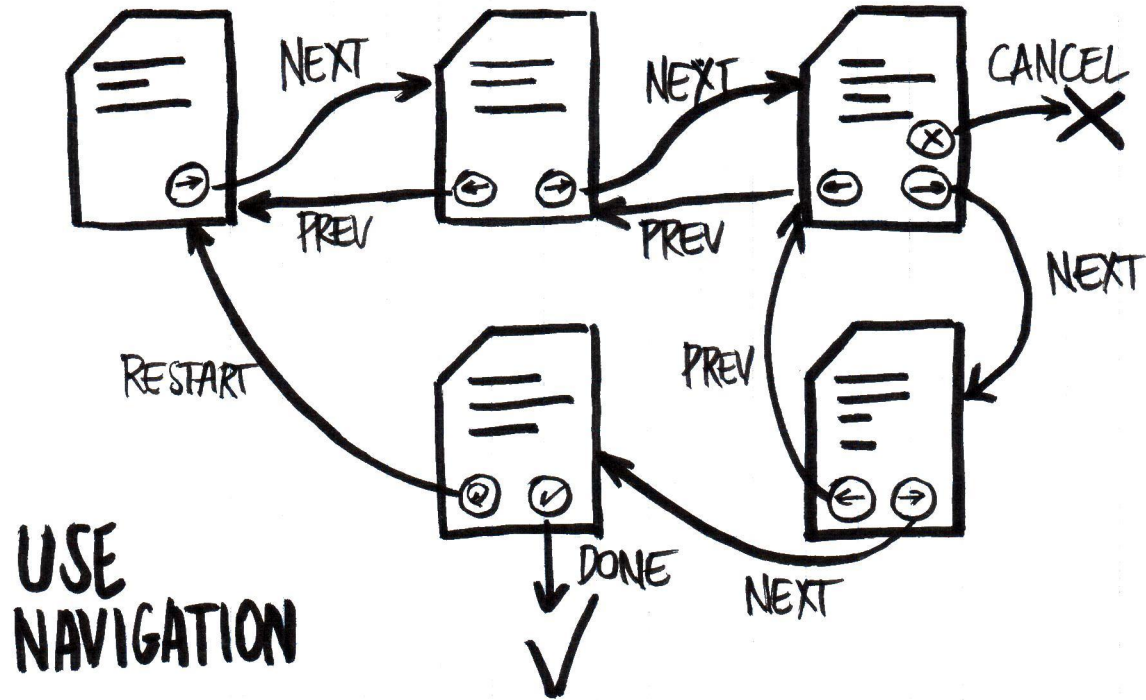
use

NAVIGATION

# Use Navigation

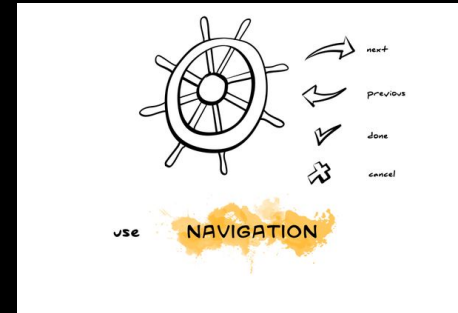
*“To achieve a single goal which can be broken down into dependable sub-tasks.”  
-- Design Patterns (@uipatterns)*





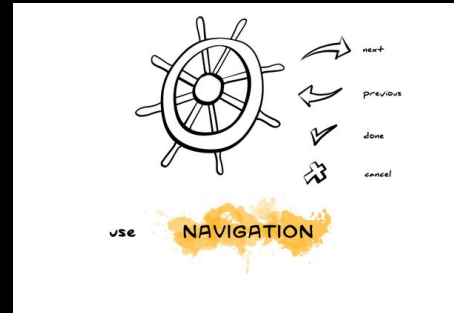
# Use Navigation

Services SHOULD provide "next/previous" LINK to handle multi-step workflow with "cancel", "restart", & "done."



```
// evaluate options
var lookingFor = "next";
var msg = getCurrentResponseBody();
switch (lookingFor) {
  case "done":
    if(msg.findNavigation(lookingFor)) {
      processDone(msg);
    }
    break;
  case "cancel":
    if(msg.findNavigation(lookingFor)) {
      processCancel(msg);
    }
    break;
  case "restart":
    if(msg.findNavigation("restart")) {
      processRestart(msg);
    }
    break;
  case "previous":
    if(msg.findNavigation("previous")) {
      processPrevious(msg);
    }
    break;
  case "next":
    if(msg.findNavigation("next")) {
      processNext(msg);
    }

```



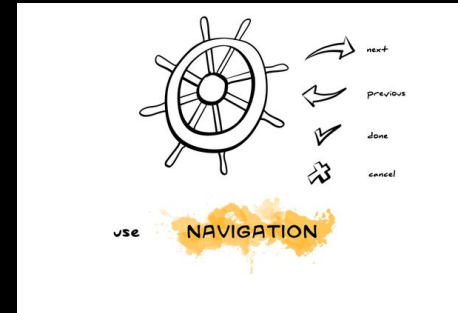


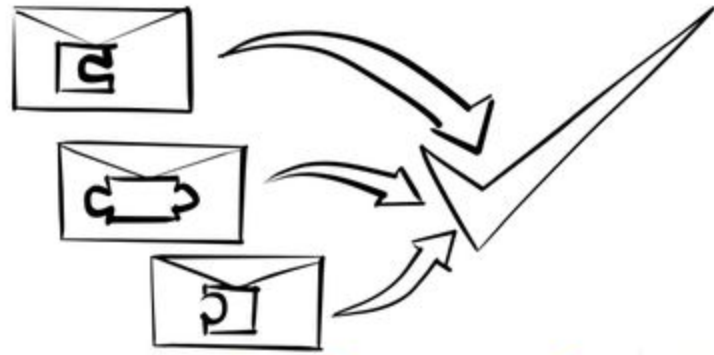
# Use Navigation

*What problem does this solve?*

I can't keep all the steps in my head

Machines can now navigate through a long series of steps safely.



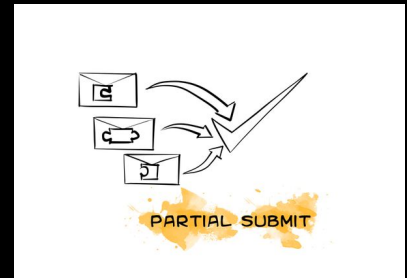


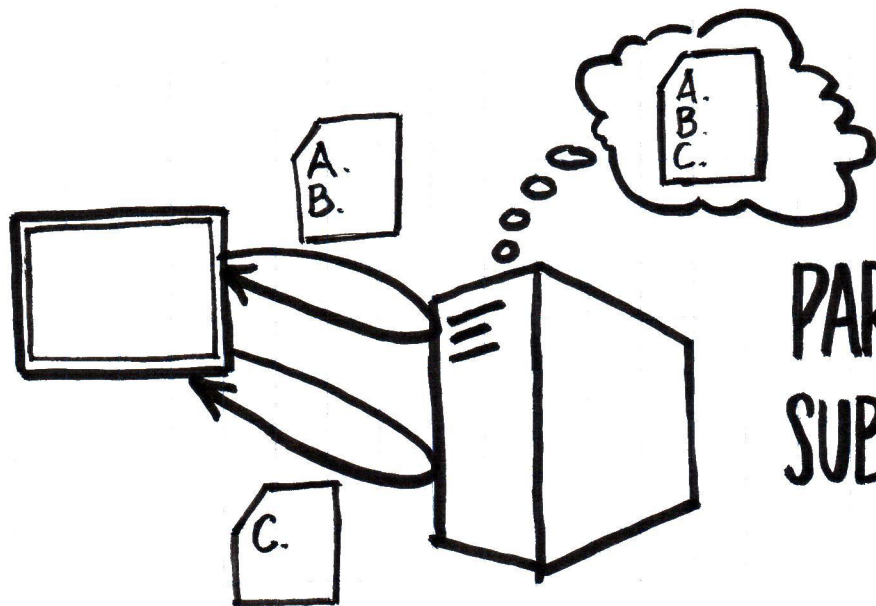
PARTIAL SUBMIT

# Partial Submit

*“Think of the actions as approximations of what is desired.”*

*-- Donald Norman*

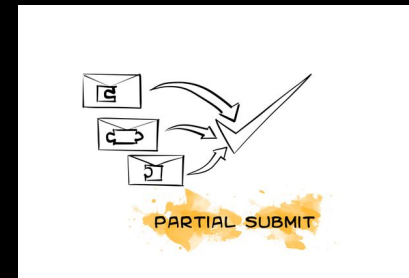




**PARTIAL  
SUBMIT**

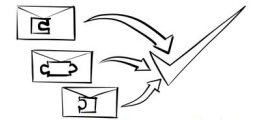
# Partial Submit

Services SHOULD accept partially filled-in FORM and return a new FORM with the remaining fields.



```
// partial submit processing
...
case "POST":
    neededInputs = processForm(suppliedInputs);
    if(neededInputs.length>0) {
        responseBody = generateForm(
            neededInputs,
            actions["done","cancel","restart","previous"]
        );
    }
    else {
        responseBody = generateResults();
    }
    break
...

```



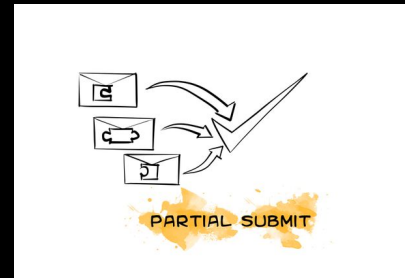
PARTIAL SUBMIT

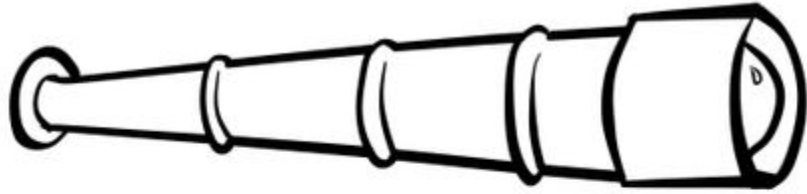
# Partial Submit

*What problem does this solve?*

I sometimes only know part of the story.

Machines can now interact in small parts and not always be perfect.





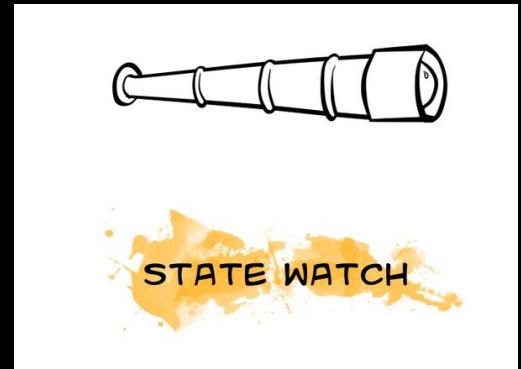
STATE WATCH



# State Watch

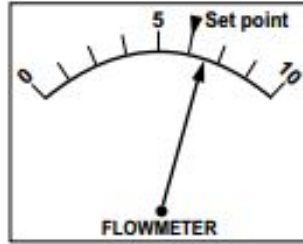
*“Data representing variables in a dynamical system...”*

*-- Jens Rasmussen*



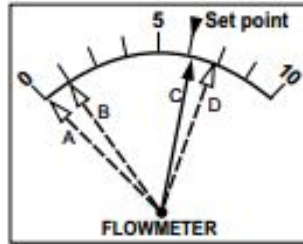
# State Watch

“Data rep



## SIGNAL

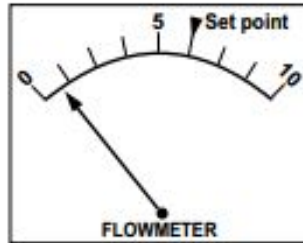
- Keep at set point
- Use deviation as error signal
- Track continuously



## SIGN

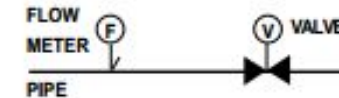
Stereotype acts

If	If C, ok
Valve	If D, adjust flow
Open	
If	If A, ok
Valve	If B, recalibrate
Closed	meter



## SYMBOL

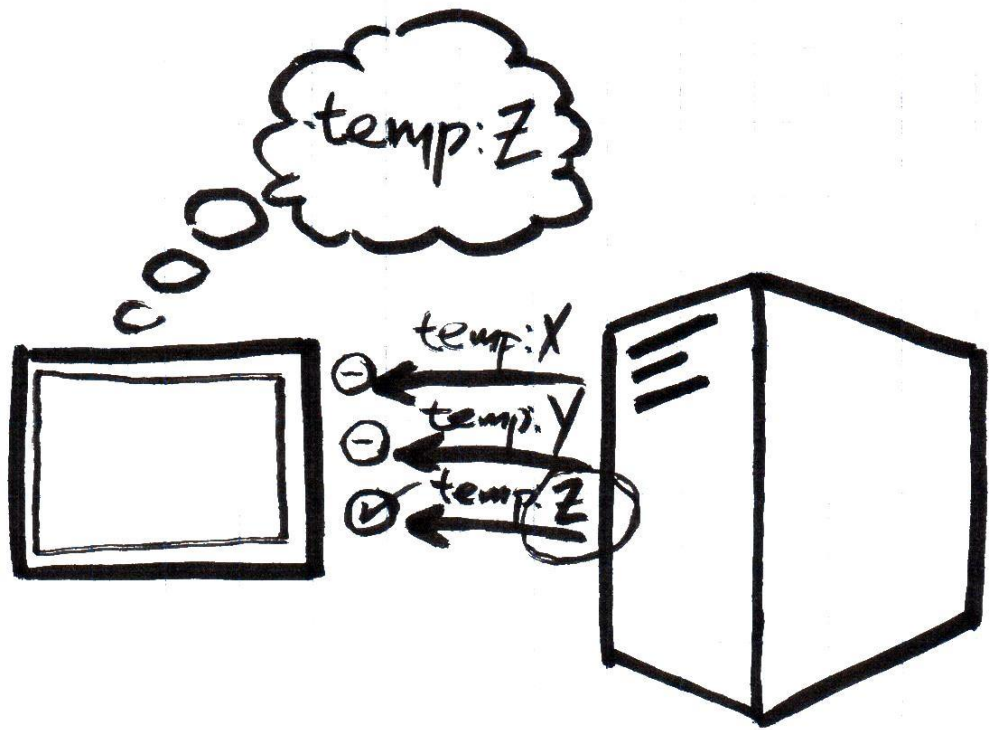
If, after calibration, is still B, begin to read meter and speculate functionally (could be a leak)



a dynamical  
system...”  
assmussen



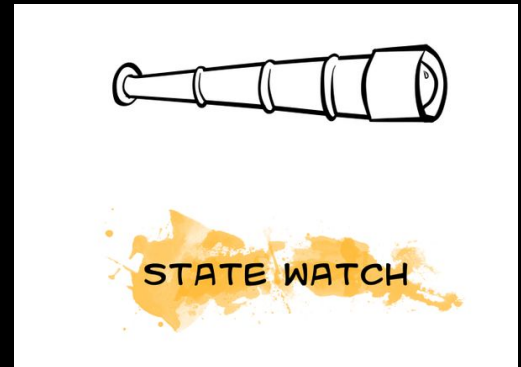
STATE WATCH



**STATE  
WATCH**

# State Watch

Services SHOULD allow clients to subscribe to WATCH VALUES so that clients can determine "done."



```
*** REQUEST
POST /heat-mgmt HTTP/1.1
  Host: example.org
  Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
  Accept: application/vnd.collection+json
  Prefer: state-watch="sensor5,temp13"

  sensor5=increase by .5c;

*** RESPONSE
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
  Content-Type: application/collection+json
  Preference-Applied: state-watch="sensor5,sensor13"
  Content-Location: /heat-mgmt

{"collection" :
  {
    "items" : [
      ...
      {
        "href" : "/heat-mgmt/sensor5",
        data: [
          {"name" : "device", "value" : "sensor5"},
          {"name" : "reading", "value" : "14.5c"}
        ]
      }
      ...
    ]
  }
}
```



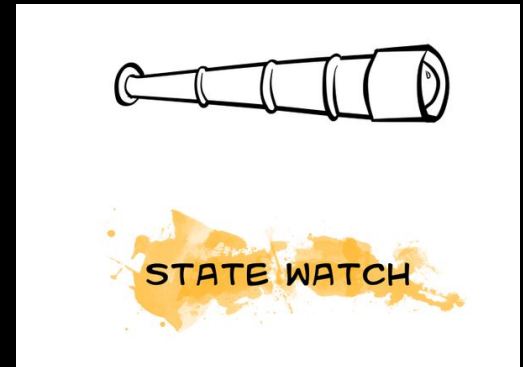
STATE WATCH

# Use State Watch

*What problem does this solve?*

My boss doesn't always set my goals.

Machines can now set their own goals and act accordingly.



***Hypermedia  
Affordance***

# Ted Nelson's hyperlinks (1965)

*The words hypertext, hyperlink, and hypermedia were coined by Ted Nelson around 1965.*



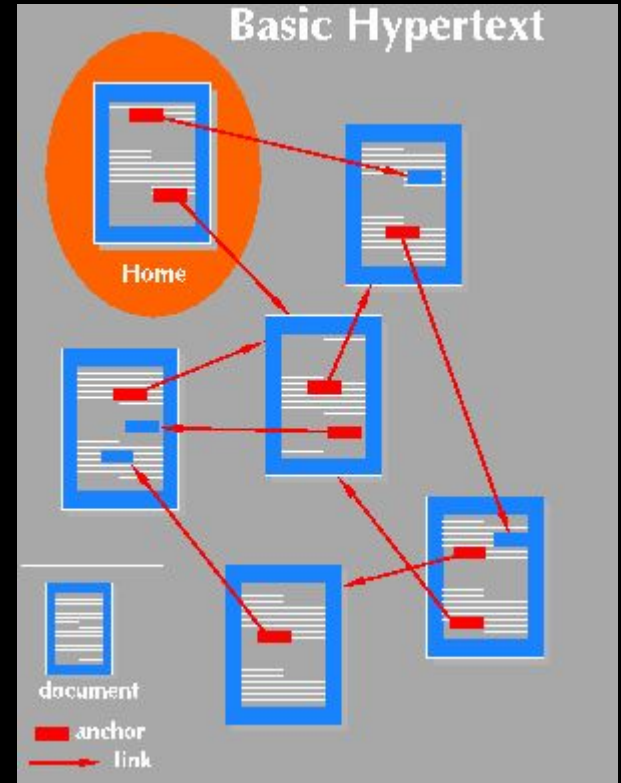
**Ted Nelson**



# What is Hypermedia?

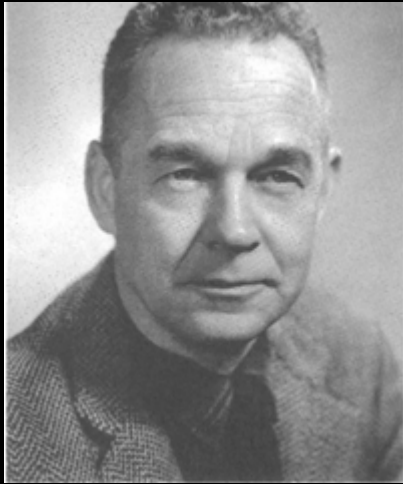
*[Hypermedia] is not constrained to be linear. Hypertext is text which contains links to other texts.*

<https://www.w3.org/WhatIs.html>



# Affordances

*"The affordances of the environment are what it offers ... what it provides or furnishes, either for good or ill.*



*James Gibson, 1977*

**James Gibson**

Ecological Approach to Visual Perception, Gibson, 1979

# Affordances

*“When I say Hypertext, I mean the simultaneous presentation of information and controls such that the information becomes the **affordance** through which the user obtains choices and selects actions.”*

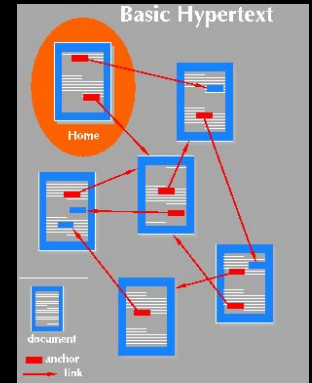


*Roy Fielding, 2008*

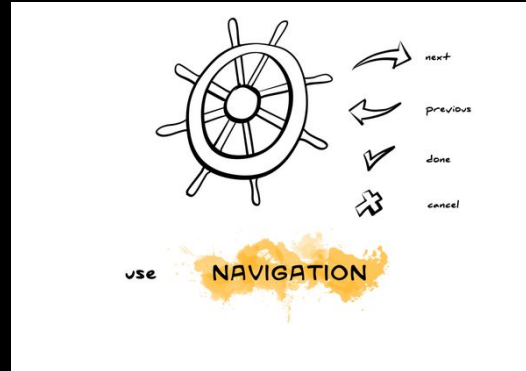
**Roy Fielding**

Architectural Styles and the Design of Network-based Software Architectures, Fielding, 2001

***Affordances are the  
reason for hypermedia***

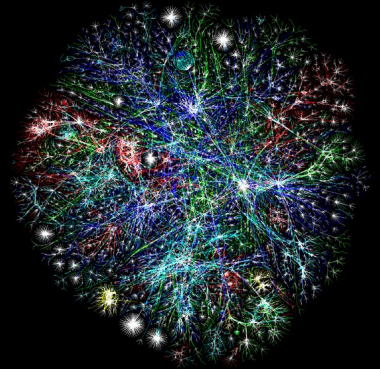


# *Enable Connected Services*



# Summary

***Programming the Network brings  
new challenges***

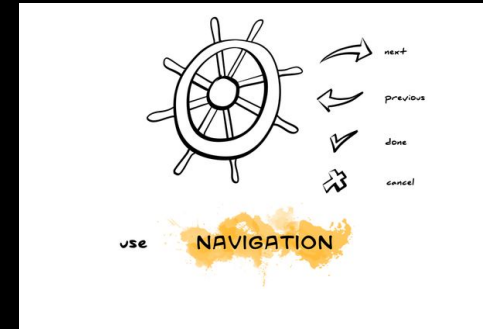
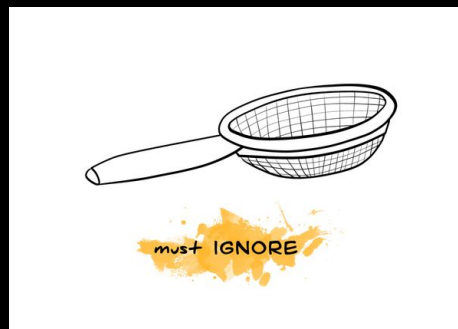
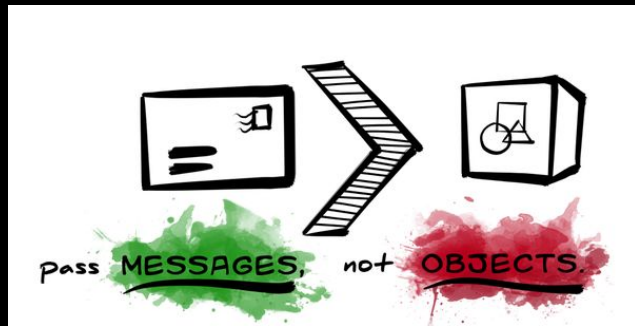


# Twelve Patterns for Evolvable APIs

Four Design Patterns

Four Basic Principles

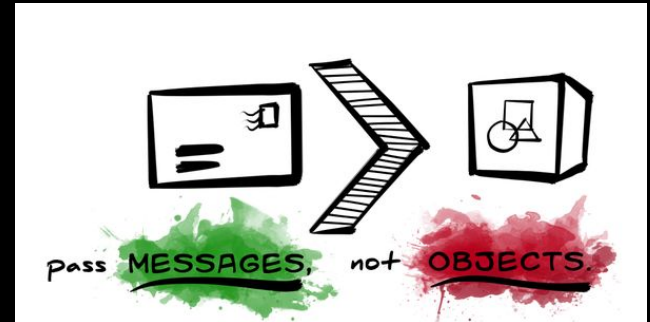
Four Shared Agreements





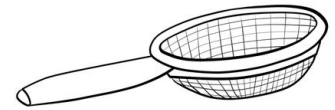
# Design Patterns (for interop)

1. PASS MESSAGES, NOT OBJECTS
2. SHARE VOCABULARIES, NOT MODELS
3. THE REPRESENTOR PATTERN
4. PUBLISH PROFILES



# Basic Principles (for networks)

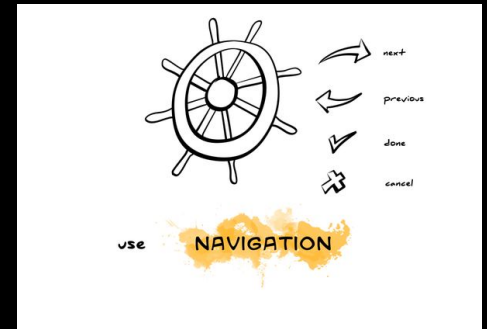
5. MUST IGNORE
6. MUST FORWARD
7. PROVIDE MRU
8. USE IDEMPOTENCE



must IGNORE

# Shared Agreements (for services)

- 9. USE RELATED
- 10. USE NAVIGATION
- 11. PARTIAL SUBMIT
- 12. STATE WATCH



## Twelve Patterns Materials

---

References and examples for the patterns covered in my YOW 2017 talk: "Twelve Patterns for Evolvable APIs"

1. [Pass Messages, Not Objects](#)
2. [Share Vocabularies, Not Models](#)
3. [Use the Representor Pattern](#)
4. [Publish Profiles](#)
5. [Must Ignore](#)
6. [Must Forward](#)
7. [Provide MRU](#)
8. [Use Idempotence](#)
9. [Related Links](#)
10. [Use Navigation](#)
11. [Partial Submit](#)
12. [State Watch](#)

<http://g.mamund.com/12-patterns>

A teal highway sign with a white border is mounted on a metal structure. The sign features the text "Changes Ahead" in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below the text are three white downward-pointing arrows. The sign is set against a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The sign is supported by two metal brackets on either side. Below the sign, two small white rectangular objects are visible on the metal structure.

Changes Ahead



An orange rectangular sign with a black border and rounded corners, mounted on a green metal post. The sign features the text "END DETOUR" in large, bold, black capital letters. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with a clear blue sky and some greenery.

**END  
DETOUR**



STRATEGY



PLAN





# Twelve Patterns to Create Evolvable APIs

Mike Amundsen  
API Academy / CA  
@mamund

*Drawings by Diogo Lucas*  
*@diogoclucas*