Southampton



REST in Practice

COMP3220 Web Infrastructure

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Web Services as state machines

Consider a hypothetical online bookseller: Orinoco Books

When we create an order, the order may be in one of a number of discrete states:

- Open: we can add or remove items to our order
- Paid: we have successfully sent payment to Orinoco, and can no longer change our order
- Shipping: Orinoco is preparing and dispatching our order
- Delivered: we have received our order

The order moves between states in response to our interactions with Orinoco

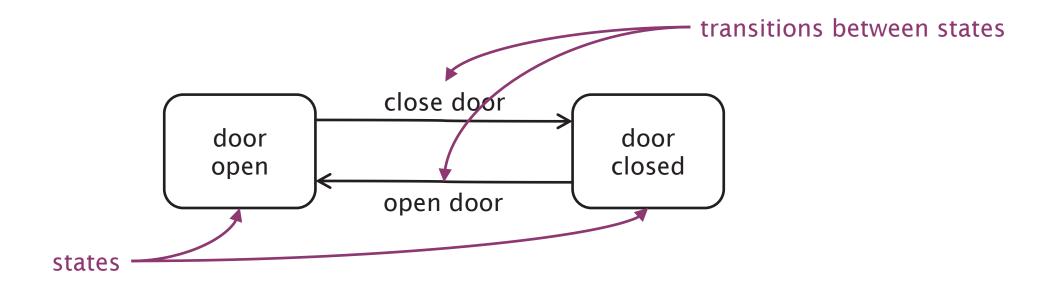


UML Statecharts: states and transitions

Common graphical notation for describing state machines

- Object-oriented extension to Harel's statechart
- (you'll need this for your coursework!)

Tip: label states with nouns or adjectives and transitions with verbs or verb phrases





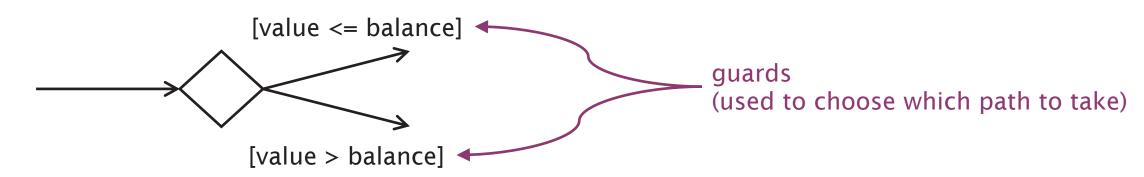
UML Statecharts: pseudostates

Two distinguished pseudostates:

- Initial state
- Final state

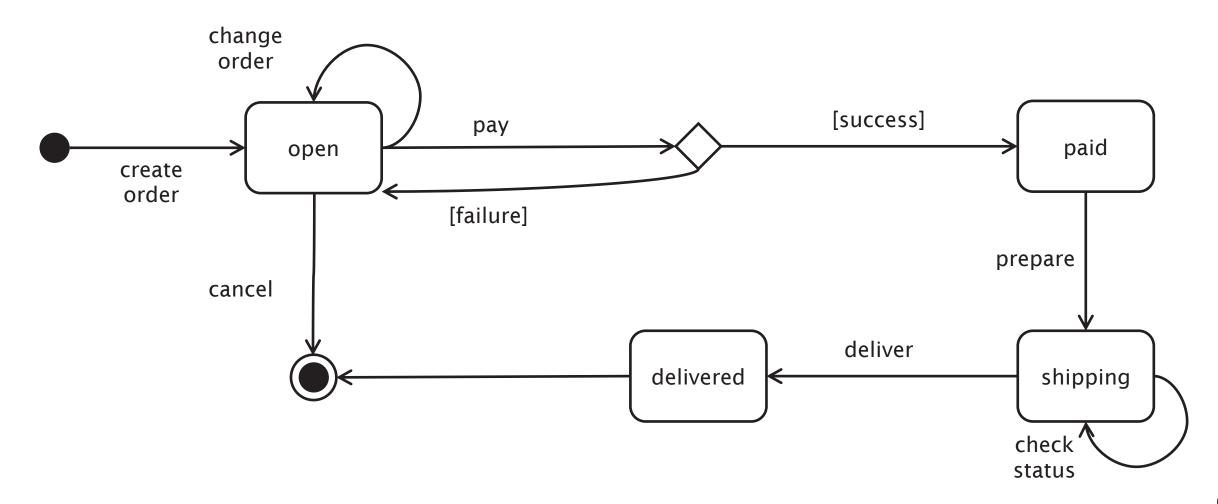


Choice pseudostate:





Orinoco Workflow

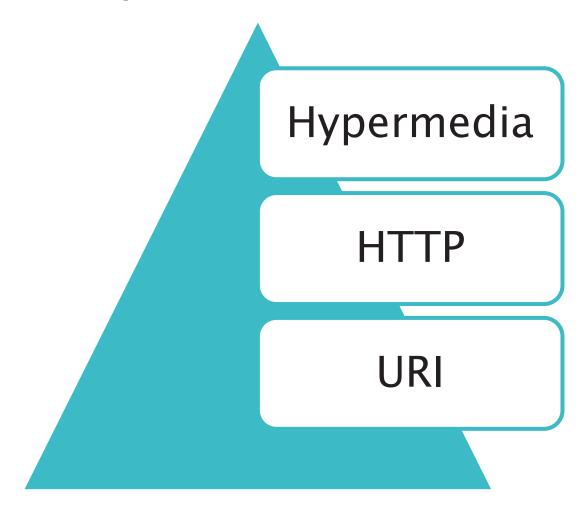




Revisiting the Richardson Maturity Model



Richardson Maturity Model





Richardson Level 1

Multiple URIs used for resources

Key resource type from the workflow is an *order*

http://orinoco.com/order/{order_id}



Richardson Level 2

We have different URIs for each order (resource)

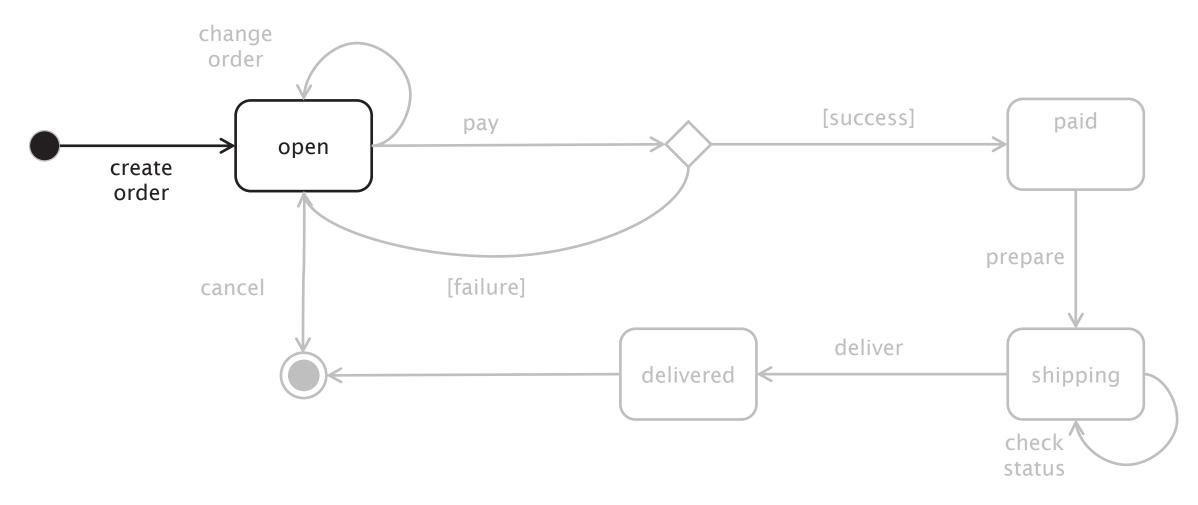
How do we interact with the orders?

- create a new order
- change order (add/remove items)
- cancel an order
- checkout and payment (submit order)
- check order status

Use appropriate HTTP methods!



Create an order





Create an order

Can use either PUT or POST:

PUT to a new URI

- new URI: http://orinoco.com/order/{order_id}
- client chooses order id

POST to an existing URI

- existing URI: http://orinoco.com/order/
- server chooses order id



PUT to a new URI



HTTP/1.1 201 Created Date: Tue, 29 Oct 2019 17:10:00 GMT Content-Length: 0

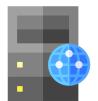




POST to an existing URI



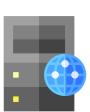
```
HTTP/1.1 201 Created
Location: /order/1234
Date: Tue, 29 Oct 2019 17:10:00 GMT
```





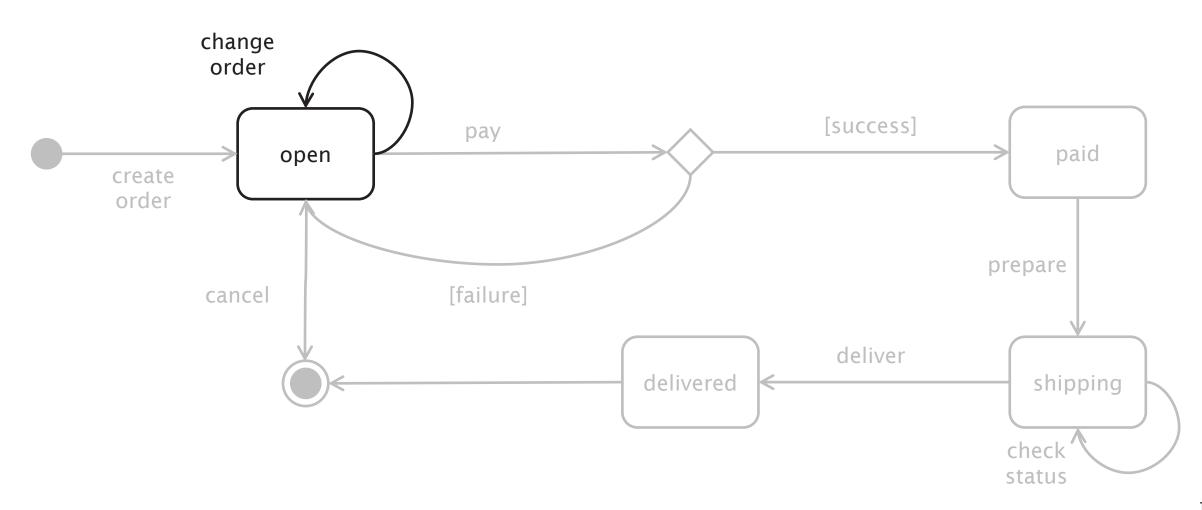
POST to an existing URI







Change order





PUT to an existing URI



HTTP/1.1 200 OK Date: Tue, 29 Oct 2019 17:15:00 GMT

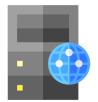




Conditional PUT

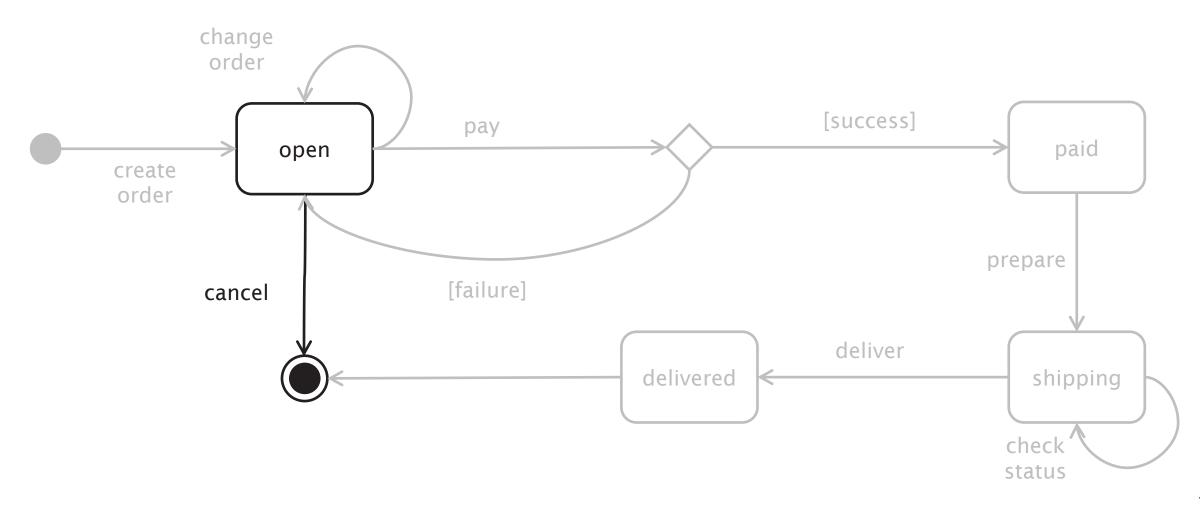


HTTP/1.1 412 Precondition Failed Date: Tue, 29 Oct 2019 17:20:00 GMT Content-Length: 0





Cancel an order





Cancel an order

Use DELETE

DELETE is idempotent

- Repeated DELETEs have the same effect as a single DELETE
- Status codes may change (e.g. 404 for subsequent DELETEs)



DELETE



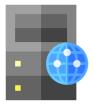
DELETE /order/1234 HTTP/1.1

Host: orinoco.com

HTTP/1.1 204 No Content

Content-Length: 0

Date: Tue, 29 Oct 2019 17:25:00 GMT





DELETE



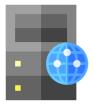
DELETE /order/1234 HTTP/1.1

Host: orinoco.com

 $\mathsf{HTTP}/1.1$ 404 Not Found

Content-Length: 0

Date: Tue, 29 Oct 2019 17:25:00 GMT





DELETE

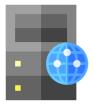


DELETE /order/1234 HTTP/1.1

Host: orinoco.com

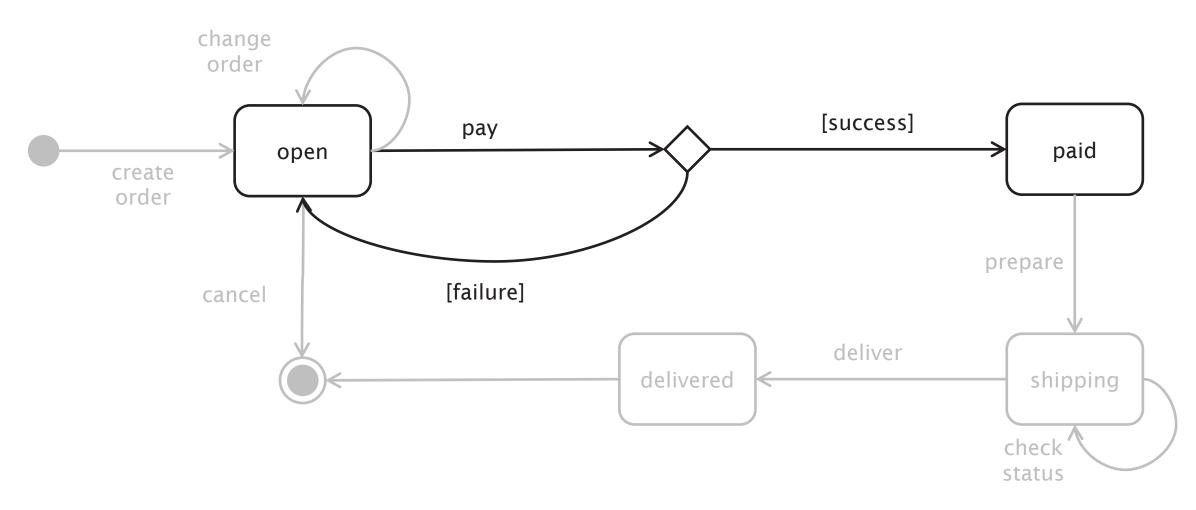
HTTP/1.1 410 Gone Content-Length: 0

Date: Tue, 29 Oct 2019 17:25:00 GMT





Payment





Richardson Level Three

CRUD isn't everything!

- Limited application model
- In our scenario, payment doesn't fit cleanly into the CRUD model
- Encourages tight coupling through URI templates
- Simple pattern

Use hypertext links to indicate protocols

- What are the next steps that you can take?
- What are the next resources?



Where are the links?

What can you do next?



Media Types

application/xml doesn't have specific link semantics

Can adopt standard hypermedia format (HTML, Atom, etc)

- Widely understood by software agents
- Needs to be adapted to domain

Can create domain-specific format that supports application

- Direct supports domain
- Maintains visibility of messages at the protocol level
- Not widely understood

Use link types to define protocols



text/html

Use OPTIONS to determine the right HTTP method to use with links

Allow: header in response lists allowed methods (for payment, PUT?)

Need to define link types for use with rel: microformats, RDF, etc



application/vnd.orinoco+xml

Proprietary (vendor-specific) media type

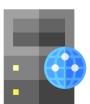
- Uses POX for business data
- Uses (e.g.) Atom link elements for hypermedia control



Link: header

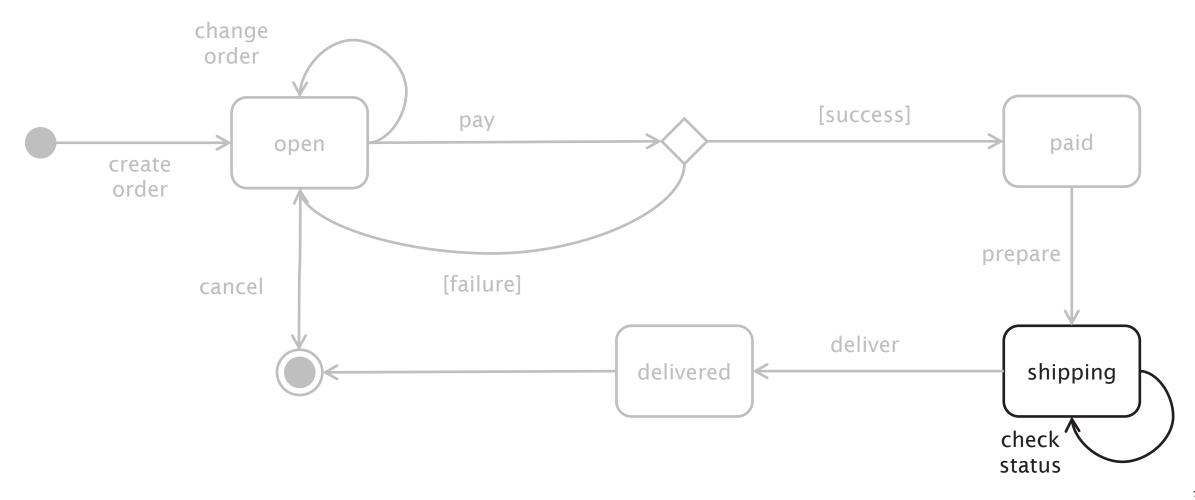


```
GET /order/1234 HTTP/1.1
Host: orinoco.com
```





Check order status





Check order status

Use GET

- GET is idempotent
- GET has no side-effects!



GET



```
GET /order/1234 HTTP/1.1
Host: orinoco.com
```





GET



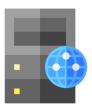
GET /order/9999 HTTP/1.1

Host: orinoco.com

HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found

Content-Length: 0

Date: Tue, 30 Oct 2018 16:30:00 GMT





Collections and Elements

Extra conventions for talking about collections of elements

- An order can be considered to be a collection
- An item in the order is an element of that collection.

Some consensus of semantics of HTTP methods for these

In our case:

- http://orinoco.com/order/ is a collection
- http://orinoco.com/order/{order_id} is an element



RESTful Methods for Collections

Method	Behaviour
GET	List the members of the collection (list of URIs)
PUT	Replace the entire collection with another collection
POST	Create a new member in the collection and automatically assign it a URI
DELETE	Delete the entire collection

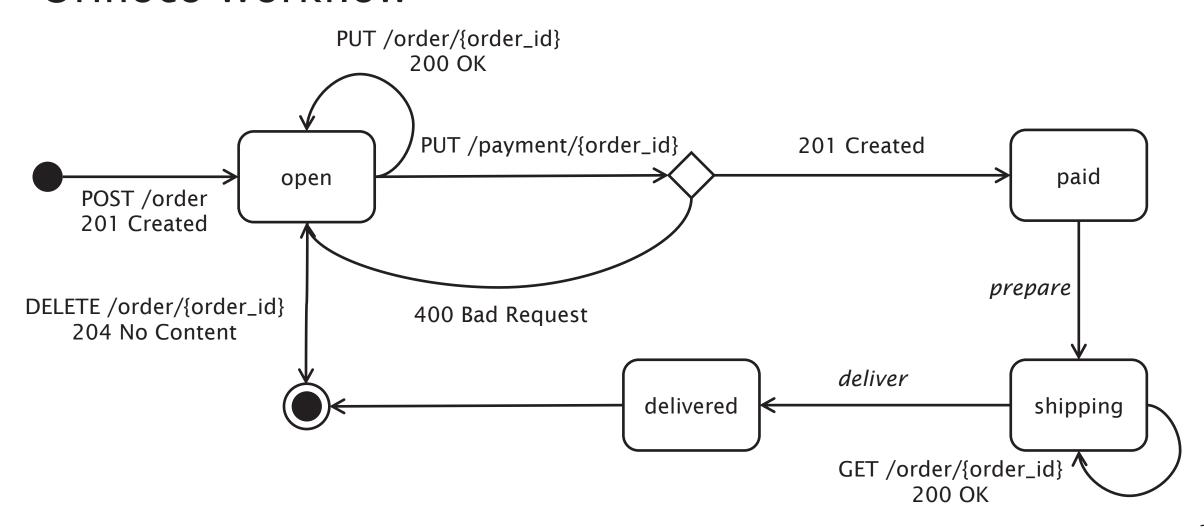


RESTful Methods for Collection Elements

Method	Behaviour
GET	Retrieve a representation of the specified element
PUT	Replace the specified element of the collection, or if it doesn't exist create it
POST	Treat the specified member as a collection and create a new element in it
DELETE	Delete the specified member of the collection



Orinoco Workflow



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Further Reading



Further Reading

REST in Practice tutorial slides

http://www.slideshare.net/guilhermecaelum/rest-in-practice

Webber et al (2010) REST in Practice. Sebastopol, CA: O'Reilly Media

Documenting REST



Documentation

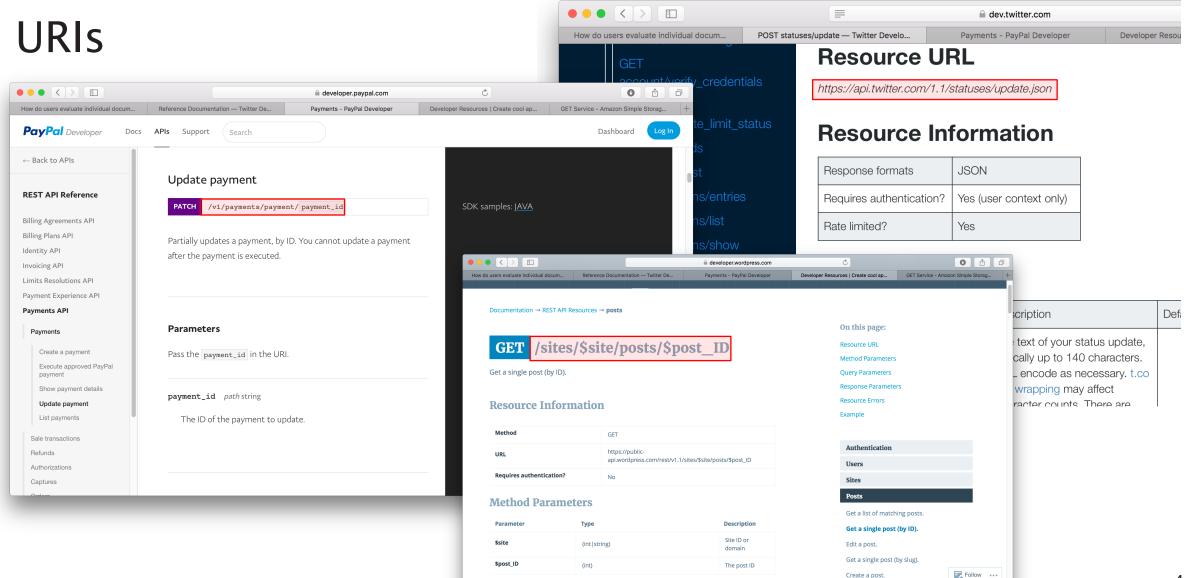
What are the key aspects of a RESTful interface?

How should we document each of these?

What does a developer need to know to use our service?

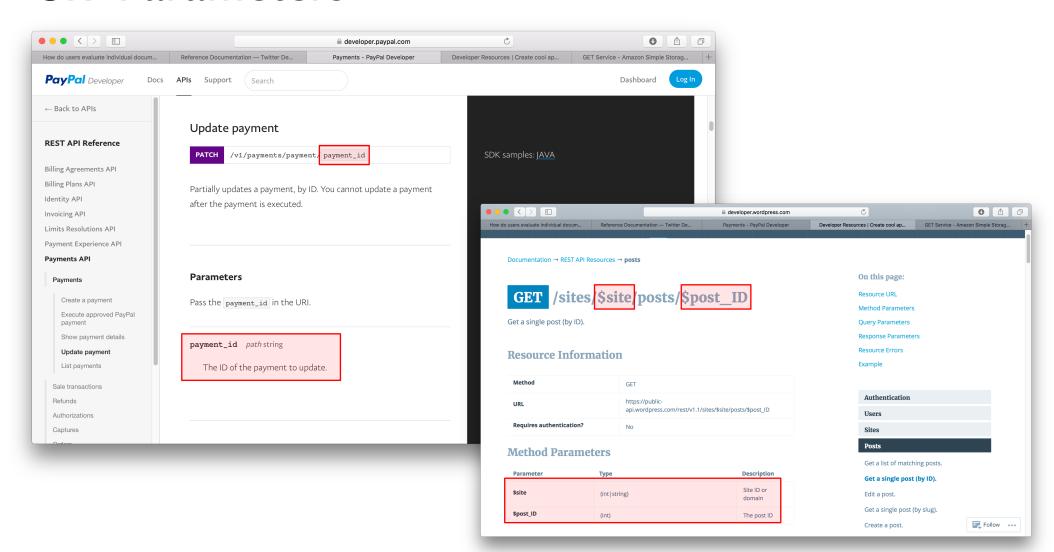
Identification







URI Parameters





Interaction



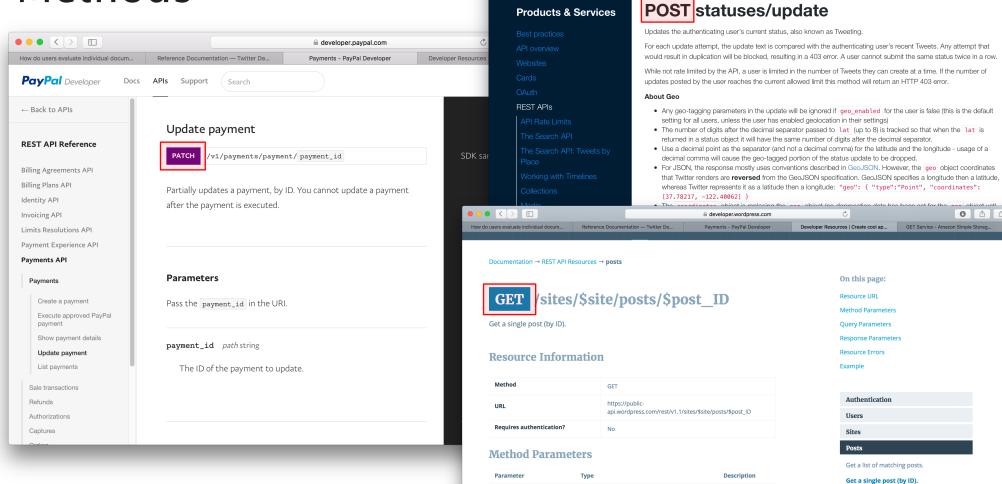
0 1 0

GET Service - Amazon Simple Storag...

0 0 0

Follow •••

Methods



How do users evaluate individual docum... POST statuses/update — Twitter Develo...

(int|string)

(int)

\$post ID

Docs / REST APIs / Reference Documentation / POST statuses/update

dev.twitter.com

Payments - PayPal Developer

Site ID or

domain

The post ID

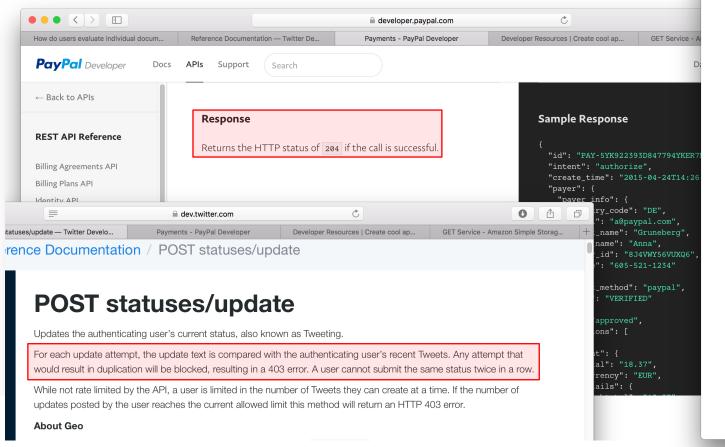
Developer Resources | Create cool ap...

Edit a post.

Create a post.

Get a single post (by slug).

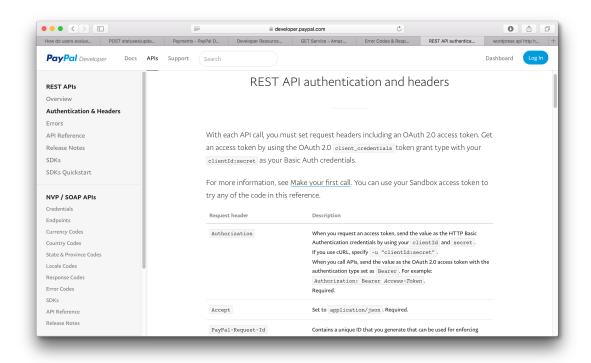
Status Codes







Headers



Mostly for Authorisation

• OAuth 2.0, etc

Consider how the various Accept-*: headers might be used.



Representation

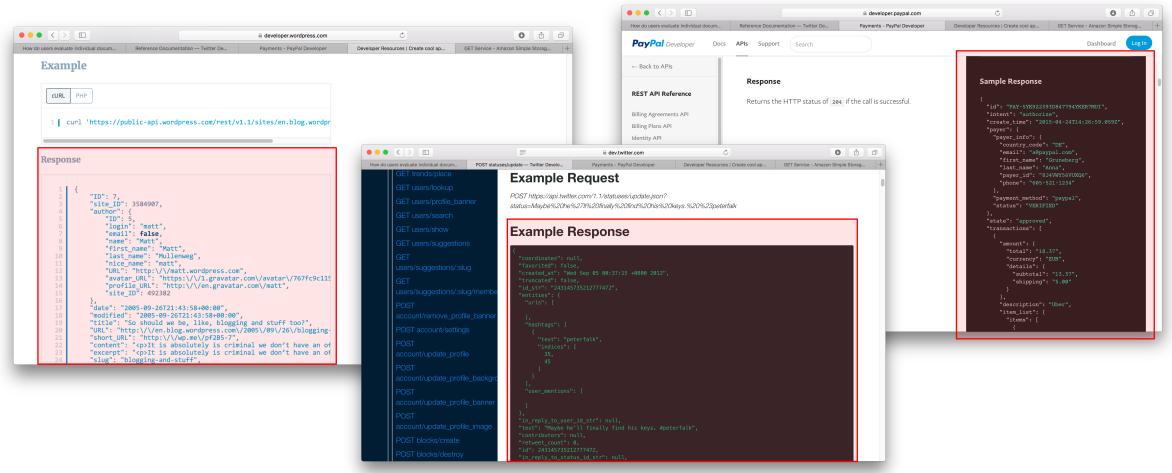


Representation

Parameter	Туре	Description
	.,,,,,	
ID	(int)	The post ID.
site_ID	(int)	The site ID.
author	(object)	The author of the post.
date	(iso 8601 datetime)	The post's creation time.
modified	(iso 8601 datetime)	The post's most recent update time.
title	(html)	context dependent.
URL	(url)	The full permalink URL to the post.
short_URL	(url)	The wp.me short URL.
content	(html)	context dependent.
excerpt	(html)	context dependent.
slug	(string)	The name (slug) for the post, used in URLs.
guid	(string)	The GUID for the post.
		<pre>publish: The post is published. draft: The post is saved as a draft. pending:</pre>



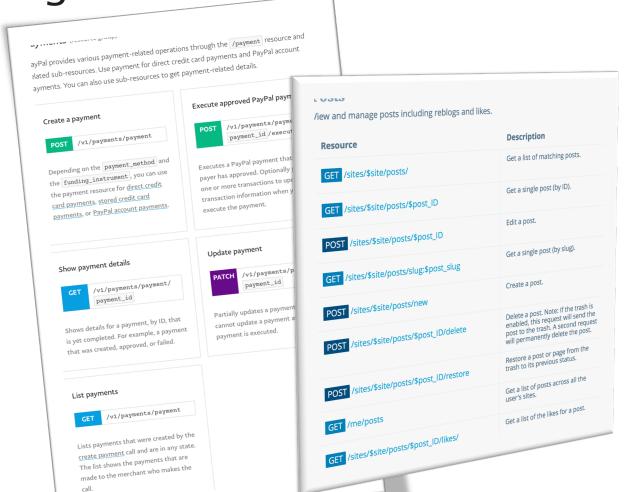
Examples



HATEOAS

```
"description": "Uber",
      "item_list": {
        "items": [
            "currency": "EUR",
            "name": "iPad",
            "price": "13.37",
            "quantity": "1"
        "shipping_address": {
          "recipient_name": "Gruneberg, Anna",
          "line1": "Kathwarinenhof 1",
          "city": "Flensburg",
          "postal_code": "24939",
          "country_code": "DE"
      "payee": {
        "email": "paypal-de@paypal.com"
  "links": [
      "href":
"https://api.paypal.com/v1/payments/payment/PA
Y-5YK922393D847794YKER7MUI",
      "method": "GET",
      "rel": "self"
```

Listings



	GET statuses/retweeters/ids
	GET statuses/retweets/:id
	GET statuses/retweets_of_me
	GET statuses/show/:id
	GET statuses/user_timelineGET trends/available
	GET trends/available GET trends/closest
	GET trends/place
	GET users/lookup
	GET users/profile_bapper
	GET users/search
	• GET users/show
	• GET users/suggestions
	GET users/suggestions/:slug GET users/suggestions/:slug
	GET users/suggestions/:slug/members POST
	 POST account/remove_profile_banner
	POST account/settings POST account/settings
	POST access profile background
	POST account/update_profile_background_image POST account/update_profile_banner POST blocks/create
	POST block in action profile image
	FUST blood
	POST collections/create
	POST actions/destroy
GET lists/ownerships	POST coll lis/entries/add
	POST collection of the transfer of the property of the propert
	soliections/entries/move

OpenAPI



OpenAPI

Originated with Swagger tool for designing RESTful APIs

Represents API descriptions in JSON or YAML (Yet Another Markup Language)

We'll concentrate on the YAML serialization



OpenAPI metadata

OpenAPI description starts with:

- Version number of OpenAPI in use
- Simple metadata about the service in the info: block

```
openapi: 3.0.0
info:
   version: 1.0.0
   title: Orinoco API
   description: The API for the Orinoco online bookseller
```



Servers

API endpoints are defined relative to a base URI

• Defined in OpenAPI using the servers: block

servers:

```
- url: https://orinoco.com
  description: Live server
_ url: https://test.orinoco.com
  description: Test server (uses dummy data)
```



Components

components: block used to define repeatedly-used information

Most often used to define format of message bodies

```
components:
    schemas:
    order:
        type: object
        properties:
        items:
        type: array
        item:
        type: string
    status:
        type: string
```



Paths

Lists available paths on the server

• e.g. https://orinoco.com/order/1234

For each path, lists:

- The methods which can be used on that path
- The content of any request body which should accompany the method (for PUT, POST)
- The responses which may be received from the method (including response bodies)



Path Example

```
paths:
    /order{order_id}:
        get:
        description: Obtain information about an order
        parameters:
        - name: order_id
        in: path
        required: true
        schema:
            type: string
```



Path Example



Summary

Documentation should cover all the bases of the web architecture

- Identification parameterised URIs
- Interaction HTTP methods, status codes and headers
- Representation formats for request and response, with examples

Listings of all of the above



RESTful API Examples

Twitter

https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs/api-reference-index

Paypal

https://developer.paypal.com/docs/api/payments/

Imgur

https://apidocs.imgur.com

Wordpress

https://developer.wordpress.org/rest-api/



Tools and Further Reading

Swagger API development tool

https://swagger.io/

Overview of OpenAPI

https://swagger.io/docs/specification/about/

OpenAPI Specification

https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification

Southampton :

Next Lecture: Trailblazers