

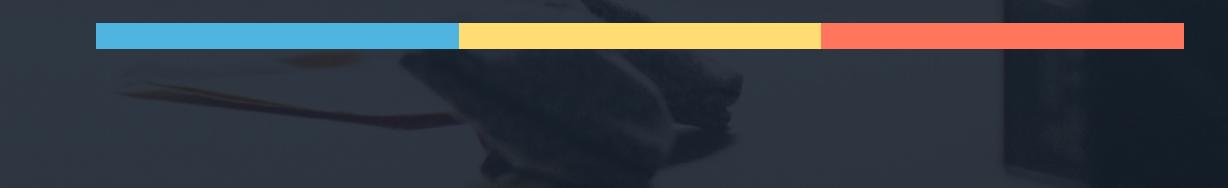


API Mashup

Combining APIs using GraphQL Schema Stitching

By Rouven Wessling

Hi, I'm Rouven



Developer Evangelist, lover of APIs and cake

@RouvenWessling





Don't let a CMS get in the way of
shipping software.

Contentful provides a content infrastructure that enables
teams to power content in any digital product.





Let's talk about APIs

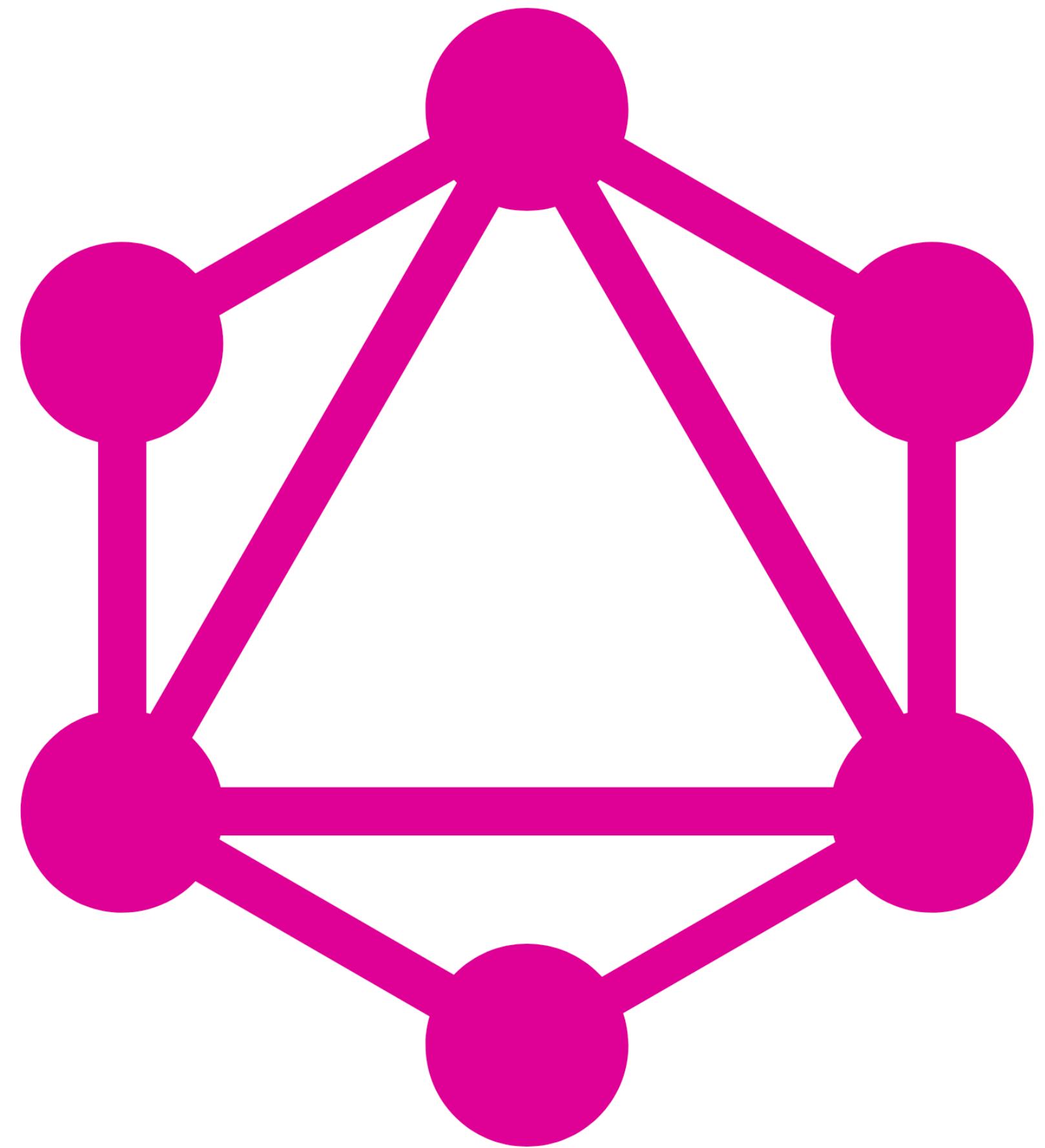




I like to call APIs
“Lego for Developers”

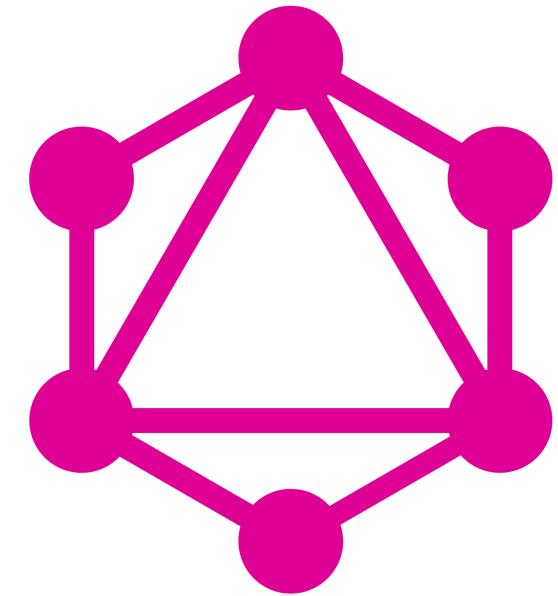
Developers ❤️ APIs





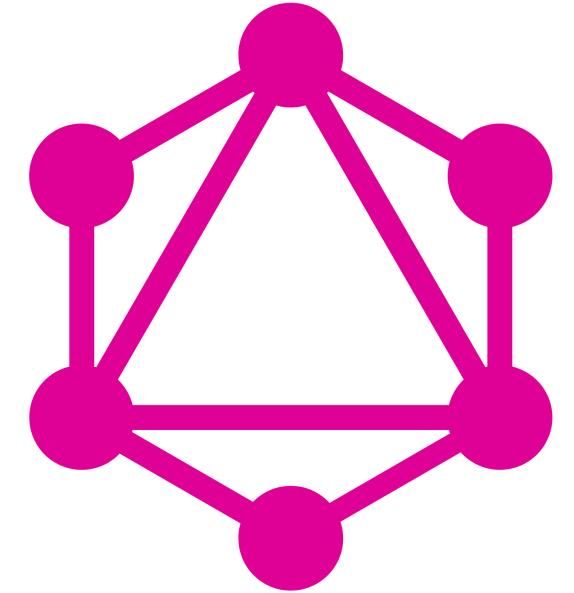
GraphQL

A short introduction



GraphQL Advantages

- Strongly typed schema
- Introspectable
- Get just the data you want
- Get *all* the data you want
- Frontend-driven data selection
- Composable



GraphQL

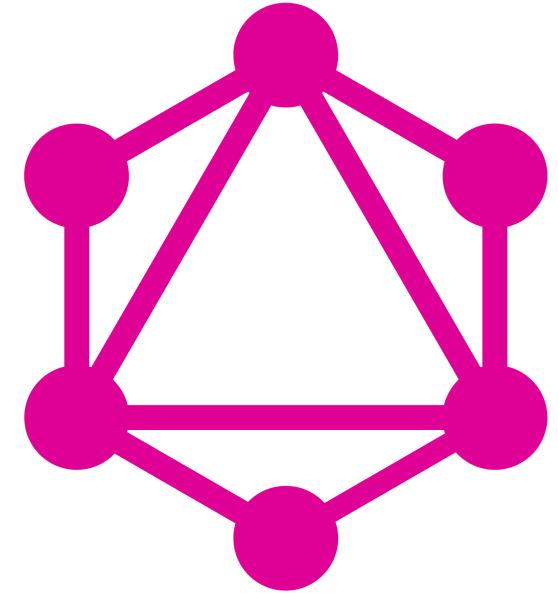
Backend Engineer: Hmm. So you're saying this "GraphQL" will allow any web or native engineer to arbitrarily query basically any field in any backend service, recursively, however they want, without any backend engineers involved?



Adam Neary [Follow](#)

Software engineer @airbnb. Dad, pizzaiolo.
May 29 · 9 min read

<https://medium.com/airbnb-engineering/reconciling-graphql-and-thrift-at-airbnb-a97e8d290712>



GraphQL

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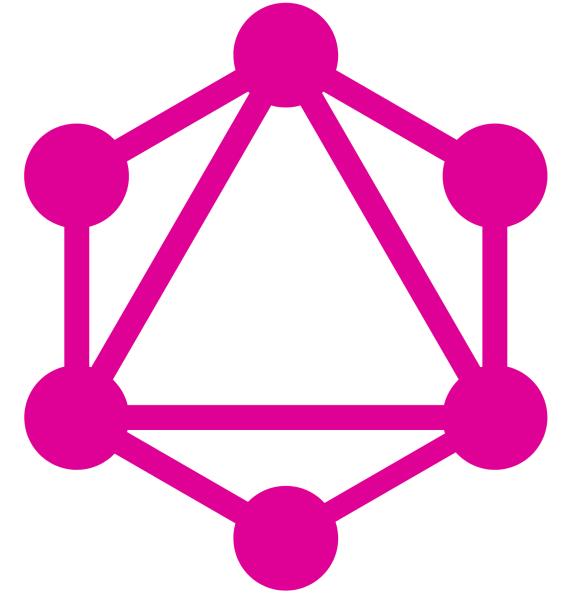
Frontend Engineer: Yeah, right? It's amazing!



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GraphQL

Backend Engineer: Hmm. So you're saying this "GraphQL" will allow any web or native engineer to arbitrarily query basically any field in any backend service, recursively, however they want, without any backend engineers involved?

Frontend Engineer: Yeah, right? It's amazing!

[...silence...]

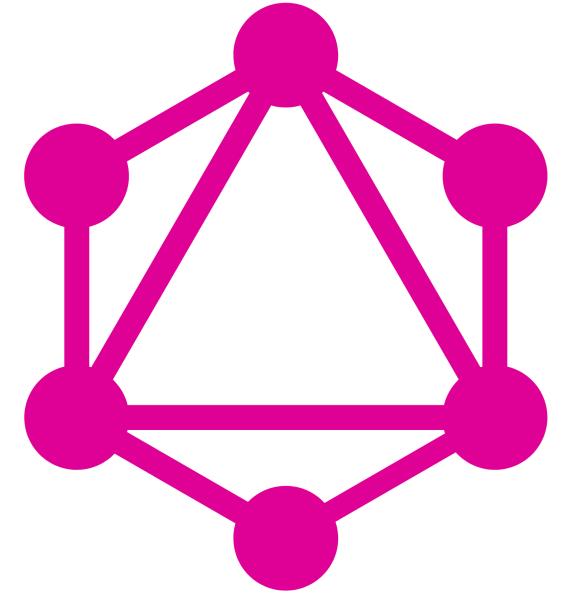


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GraphQL

Backend Engineer: Hmm. So you're saying this "GraphQL" will allow any web or native engineer to arbitrarily query basically any field in any backend service, recursively, however they want, without any backend engineers involved?

Frontend Engineer: Yeah, right? It's amazing!

[...silence...]

Backend Engineer: Guards, seize this person.

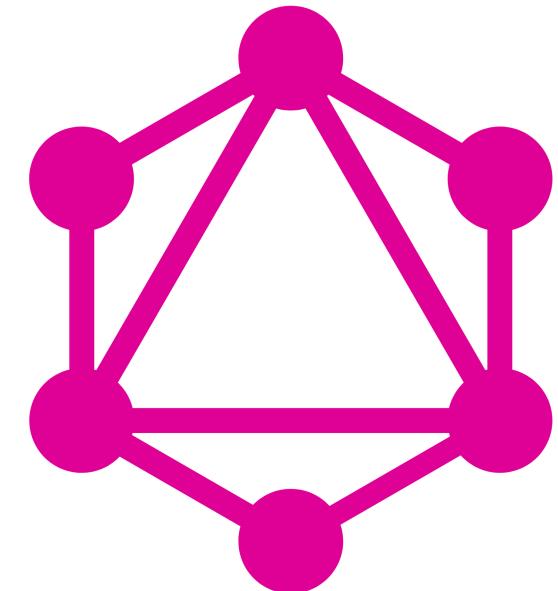


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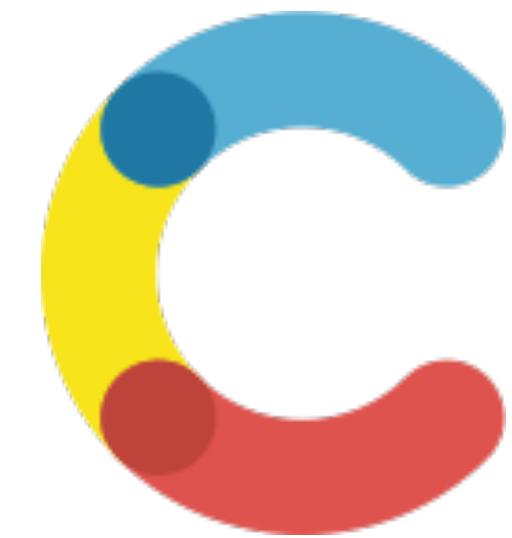
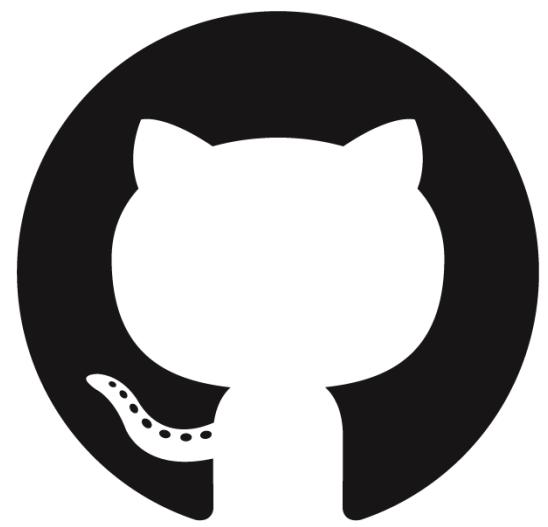
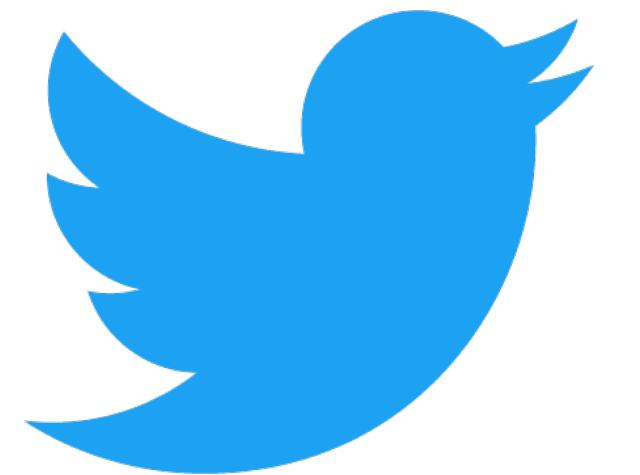
Who uses GraphQL?



Amplitude

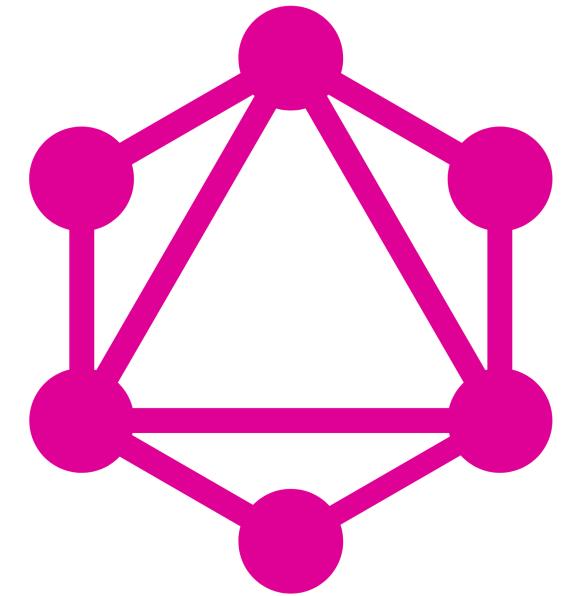


Prisma

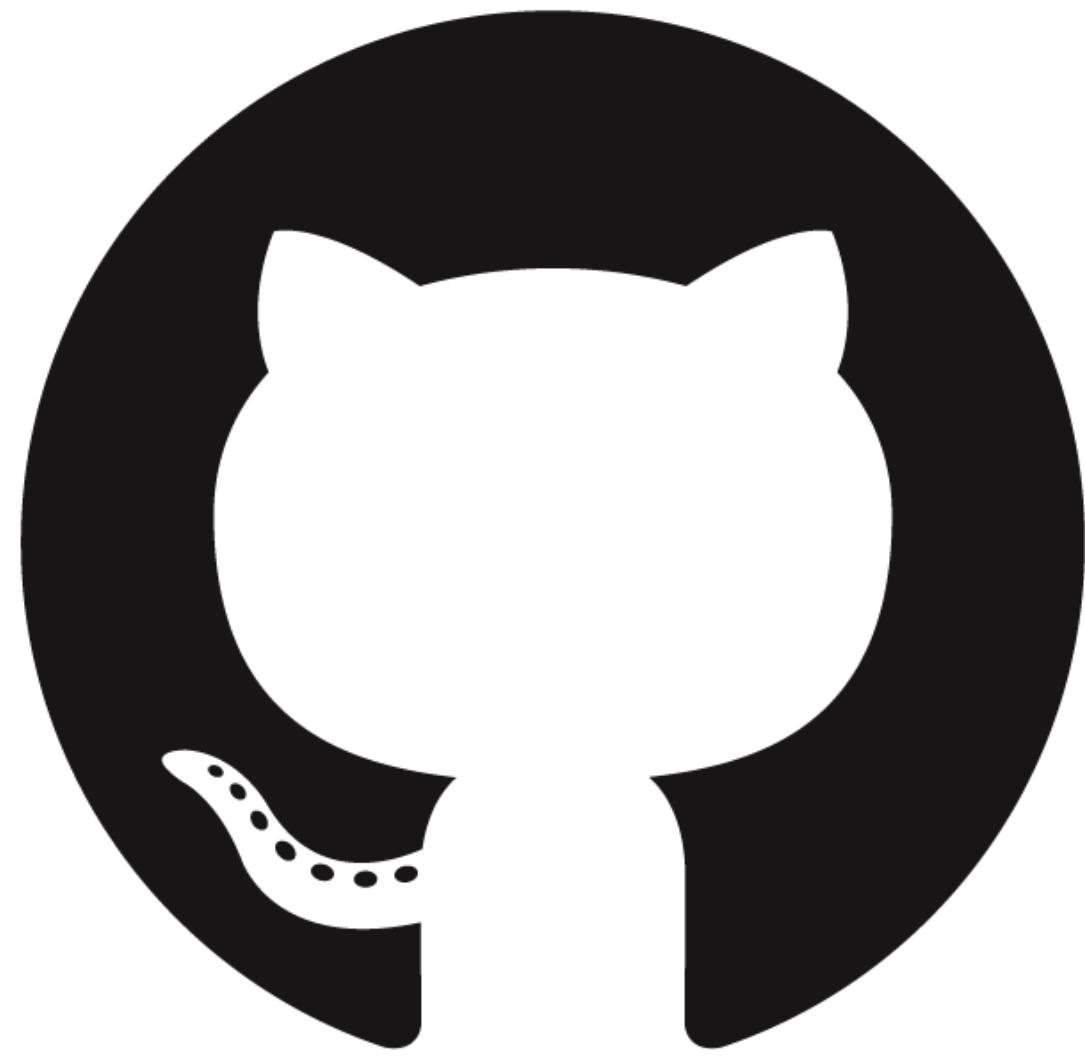


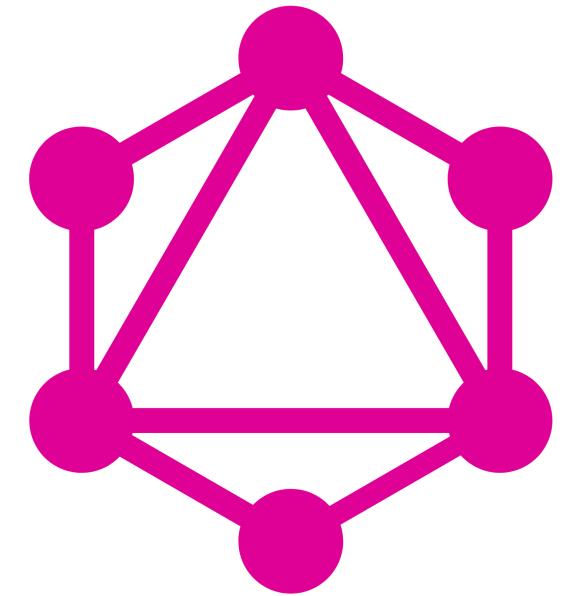
Product Hunt





Who uses GraphQL?

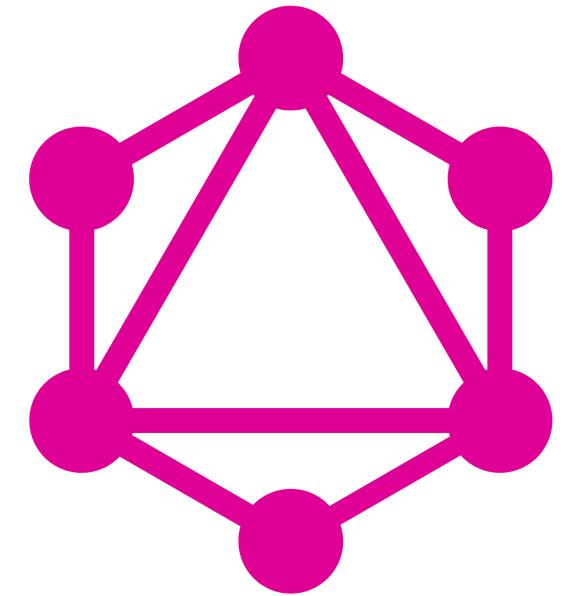




GraphQL Example

```
type Repository implements Node {  
    owner: RepositoryOwner!  
  
    url: URI!  
  
    stargazers(  
        first: Int  
  
        after: String  
  
        last: Int  
  
        before: String  
  
        orderBy: StarOrder  
    ): StargazerConnection!  
}
```

Schema



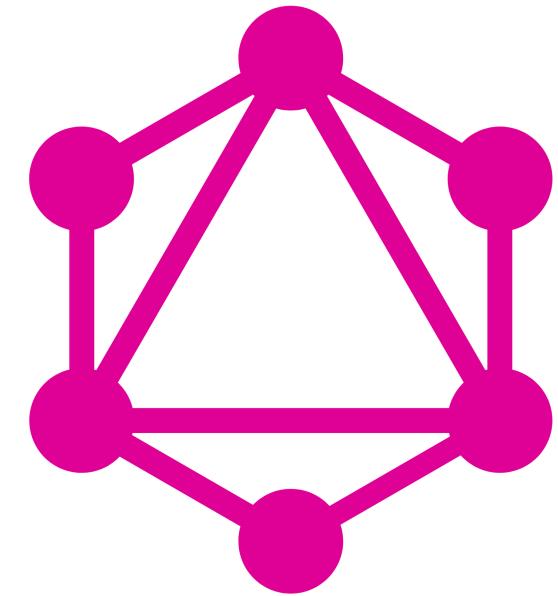
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    stargazers(  
        first: Int  
        after: String  
        last: Int  
        before: String  
        orderBy: StarOrder  
    ): StargazerConnection!  
}
```

Schema

```
query {  
    repository(  
        owner: "contentful",  
        name: "contentful.js"  
    ) {  
        url  
        stargazers {  
            totalCount  
        }  
        owner {  
            login  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Query



GraphQL Example

```
type Repository implements Node {  
    owner: RepositoryOwner!  
  
    url: URI!  
  
    stargazers(  
        first: Int  
  
        after: String  
  
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}
```

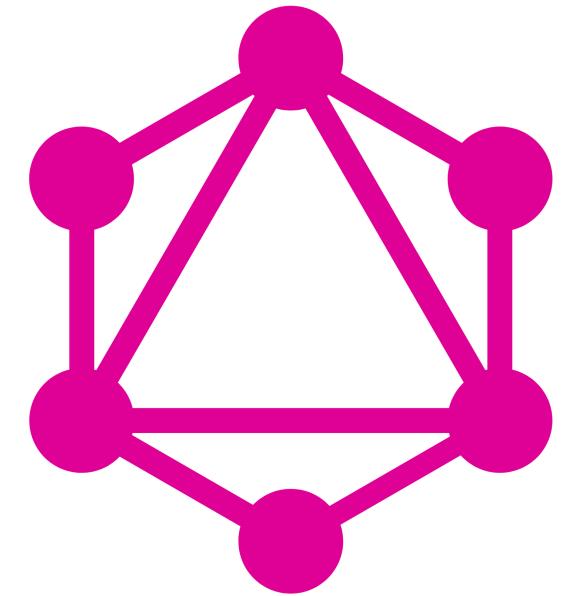
Schema

```
query {  
    repository(  
        owner: "contentful",  
        name: "contentful.js"  
    ) {  
        url  
        stargazers {  
            totalCount  
        }  
        owner {  
            login  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Query

```
{  
    "data": {  
        "repository": {  
            "url": "https://github.com/...",  
            "stargazers": {  
                "totalCount": 412  
            },  
            "owner": {  
                "login": "contentful"  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

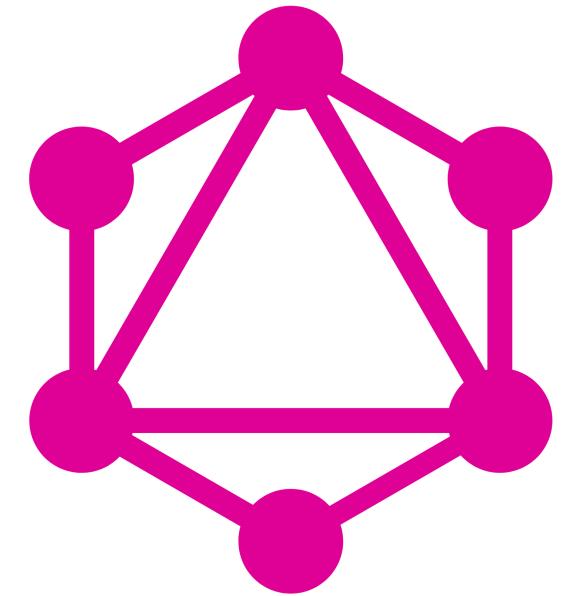
Result



Hello World

```
'use strict';

const {ApolloServer, gql} = require('apollo-server');
```

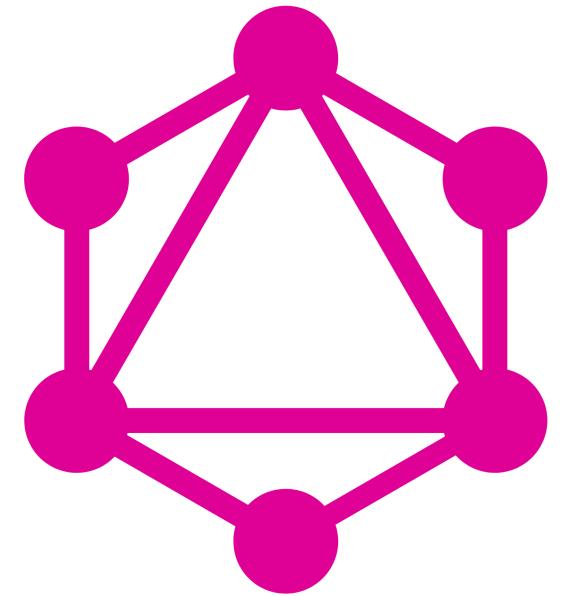


Hello World

```
'use strict';

const {ApolloServer, gql} = require('apollo-server');

// The GraphQL schema
const typeDefs = gql`  
  type Query {  
    hello: String  
  }  
`;
```

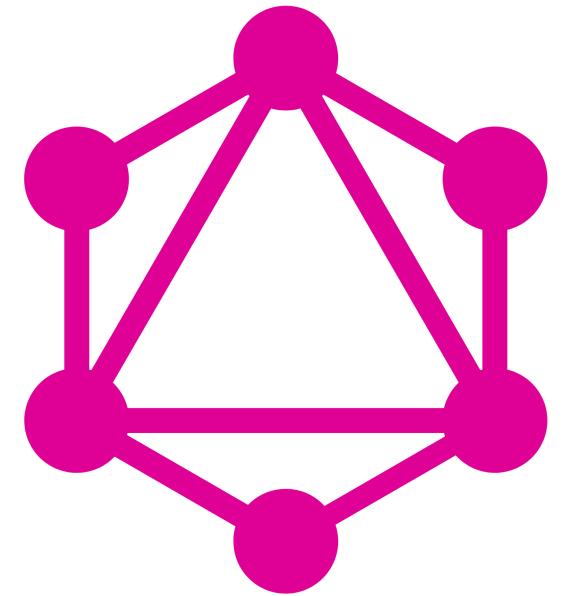


Hello World

```
'use strict';

const {ApolloServer, gql} = require('apollo-server');

// The GraphQL schema
const typeDefs = gql`  
  type Query {  
    hello: String  
  }  
`;  
  
// A map of functions which return data for the schema.
const resolvers = {
  Query: {
    hello: () => 'world'
  }
};
```

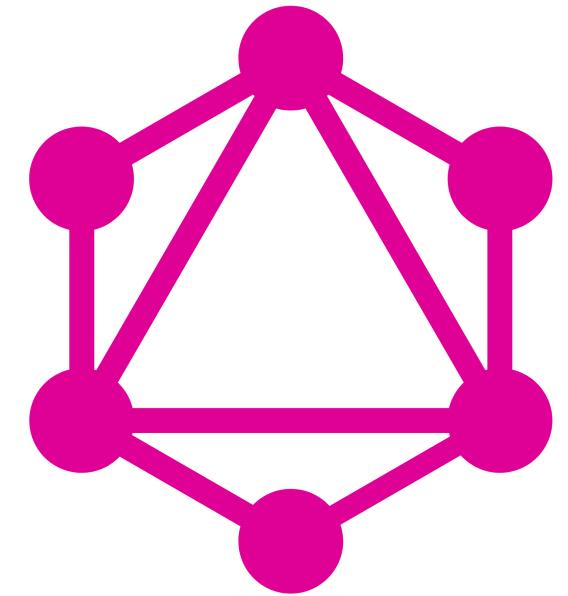


Hello World

```
'use strict';

const {ApolloServer, gql} = require('apollo-server');

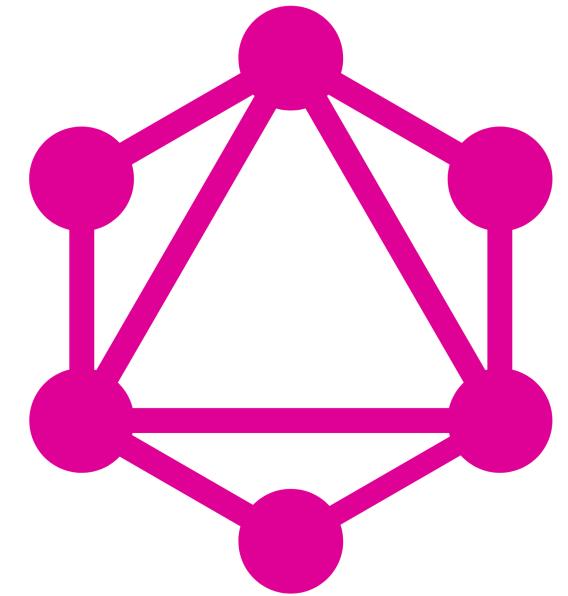
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  }  
`;  
  
// A map of functions which return data for the schema.
const resolvers = {  
  Query: {  
    hello: () => 'world'  
  }  
};  
  
async function startServer() {  
  const server = new ApolloServer({ typeDefs, resolvers });  
  
  return await server.listen();  
}
```



Hello World

```
type Query {  
  hello: String  
}
```

Schema



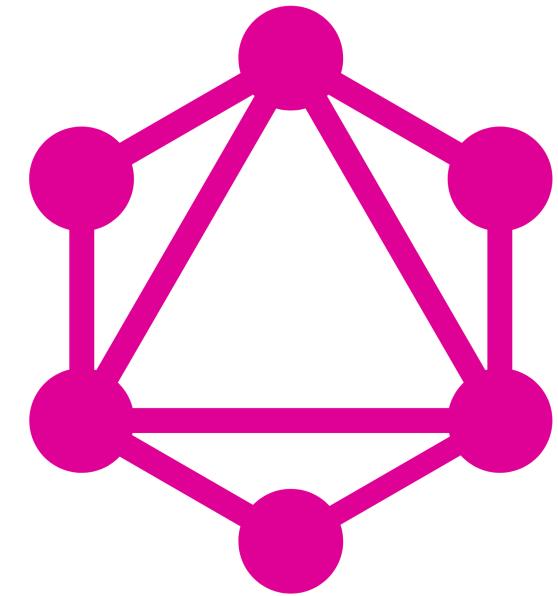
Hello World

```
type Query {  
  hello: String  
}
```

```
query {  
  hello  
}
```

Schema

Query



Hello World

type *Query* {
 hello: String
}

query {
 hello
}

{
 "data": {
 "hello": "world"
 }
}

Schema

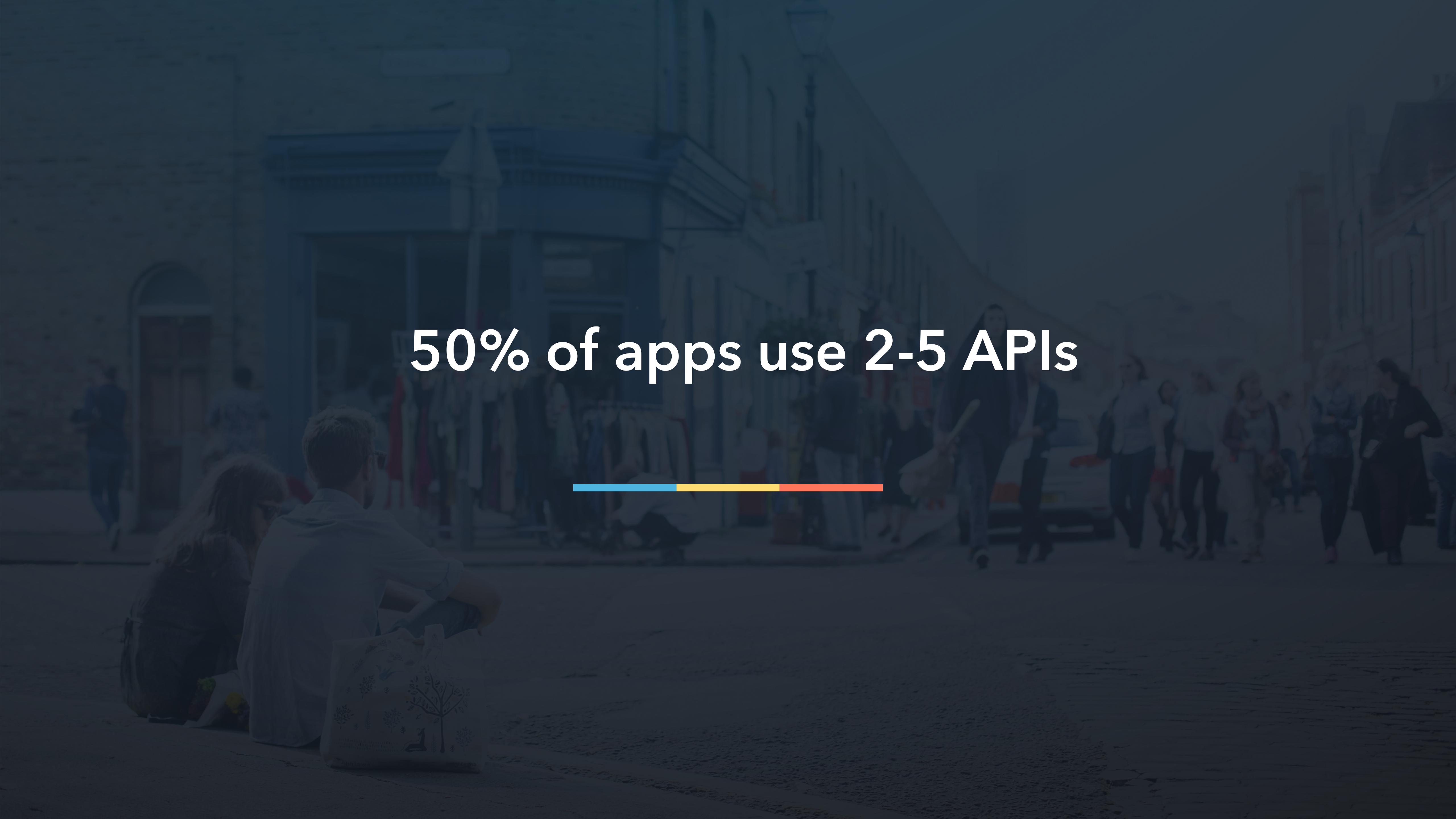
Query

Result

Back to the Legos APIs

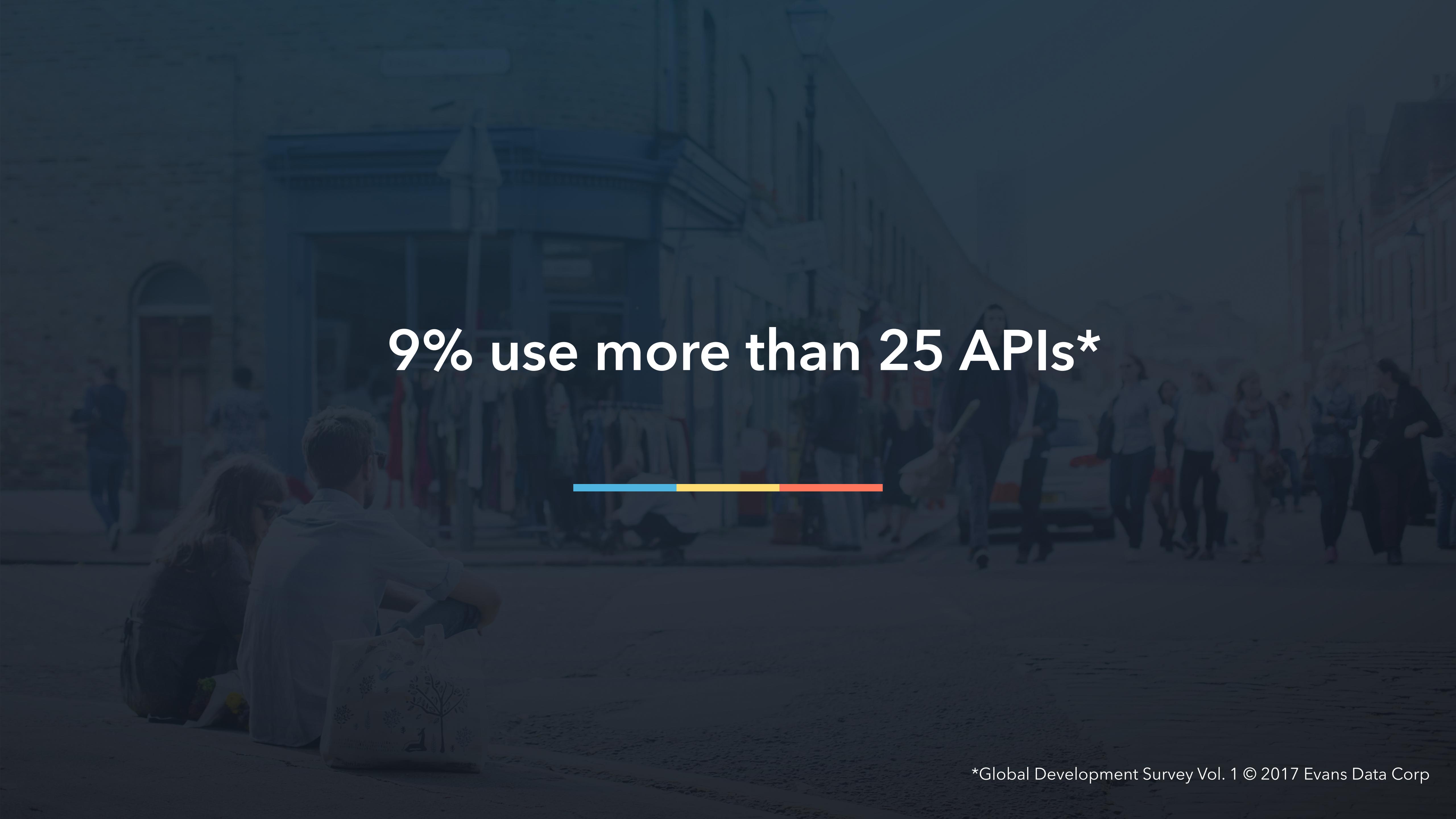
Developers ❤️ APIs





50% of apps use 2-5 APIs





9% use more than 25 APIs*





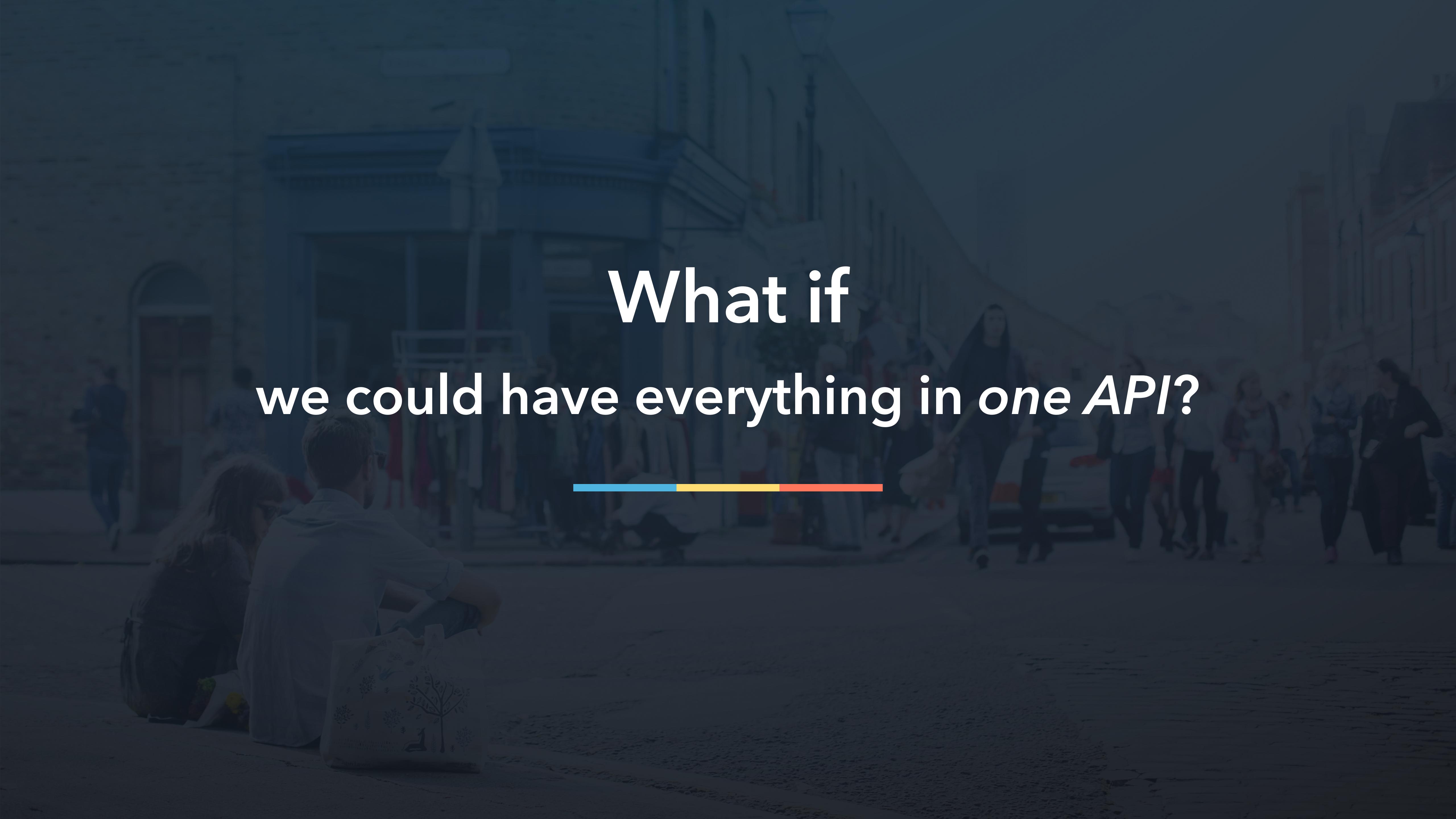
That's a *lot* of Legos

You need to know...

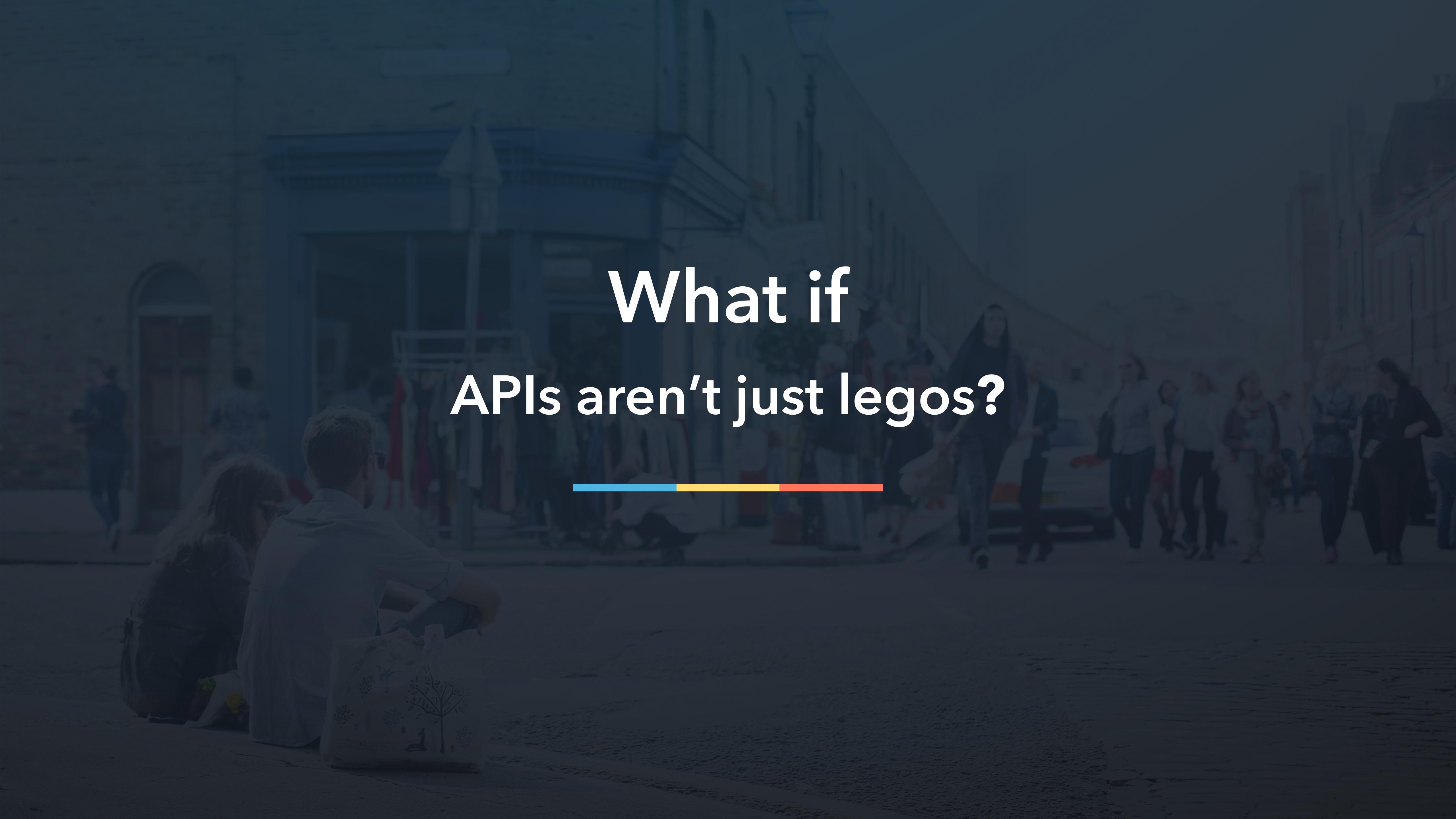
- ...which API holds which data
- ...how to authenticate against each API
- ...which fields indicate a reference to another API

A herculean task

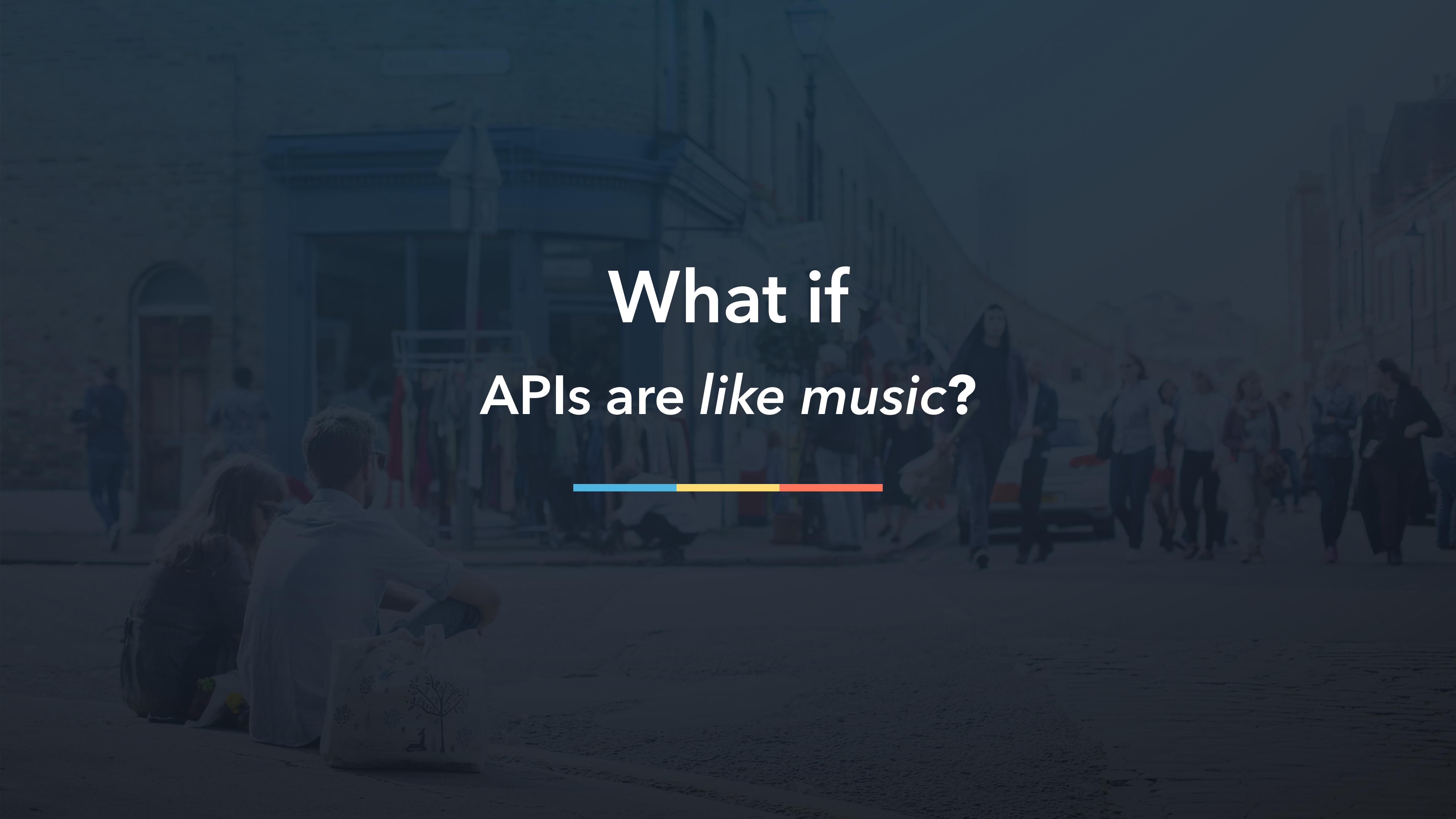




What if
we could have everything in one API?



What if
APIs aren't just legos?



What if
APIs are *like music*?





A **mashup**
is a song that's created
by blending two existing
songs together.



A great mashup
is a good song in
itself, but also leaves its
sources recognizable .

Say you have two songs

Some indie rock



Say you have two songs

Some indie rock

and an electronic track



Say you have two songs

Some indie rock

and an electronic track

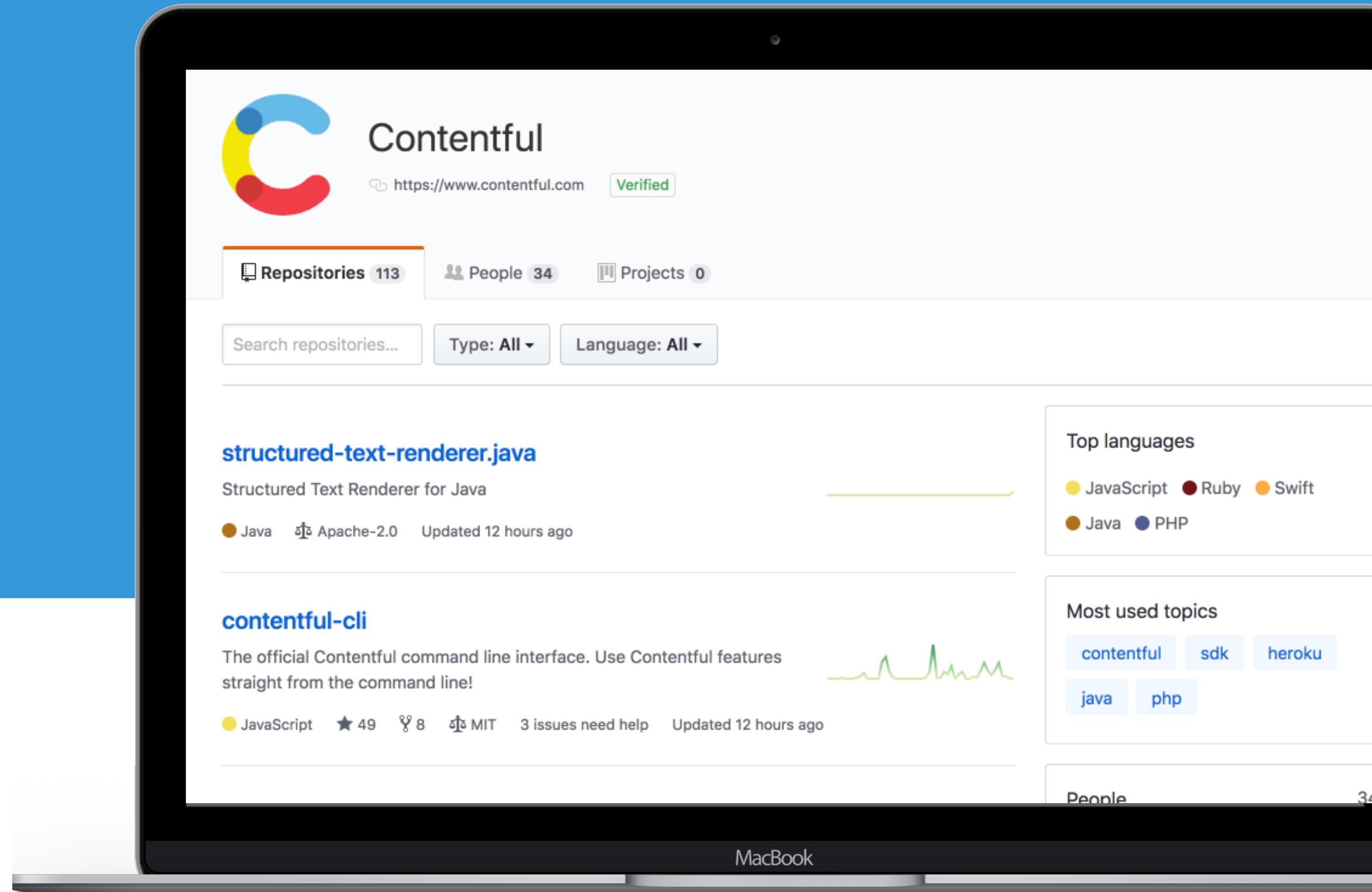
can make for a great mashup



An Example

We got a lot of Open Source projects

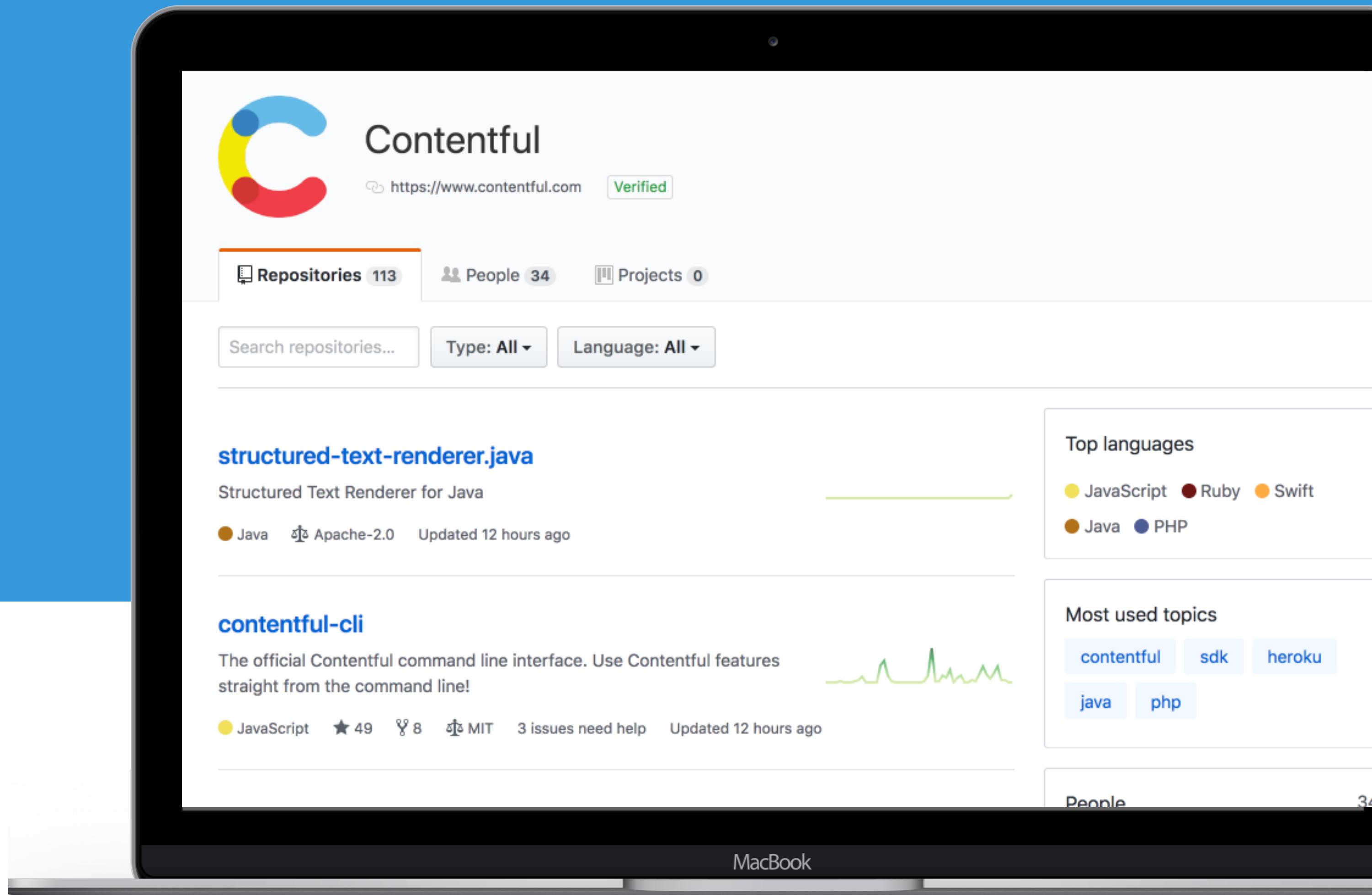
And it's getting hard to keep track of them.



We need a dashboard

- Pull information from GitHub
- Store metadata in Contentful
- Pull information from other services, e.g.

TravisCI



Content model

The screenshot shows the Contentful Content model interface. At the top, there's a dark header bar with the Contentful logo, the space name "Rouven Weßling Contentful Teams", and navigation links for "Space home", "Content model" (which is underlined in blue), "Content", "Media", and "Settings". On the far right of the header is a user profile icon.

Below the header is a search bar with the placeholder "Search for a content type" and a magnifying glass icon. To its right is a blue button with a plus sign and the text "Add content type".

On the left side, there's a sidebar titled "FILTER BY STATUS" with four options: "All" (selected and highlighted in grey), "Changed", "Draft", and "Active".

The main area displays a table of content types:

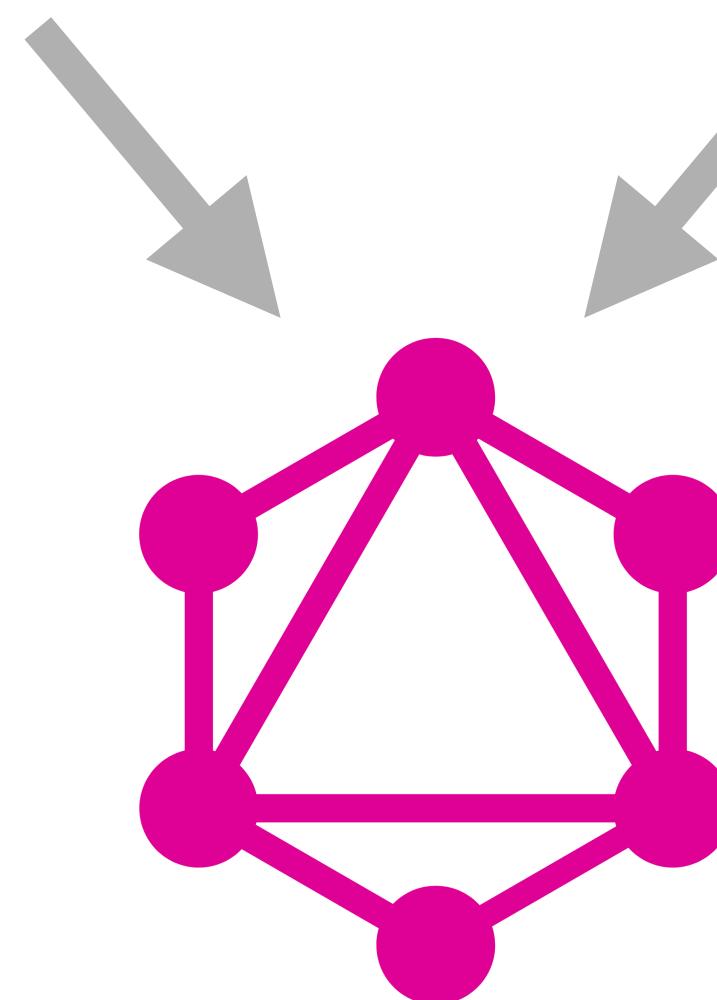
	Name	Description	Fields	Updated	By	Status
All	Department		1	Thu, 4:46 PM	Me	ACTIVE
Changed	Group		1	Thu, 4:44 PM	Me	ACTIVE
Draft	Repository		3	Thu, 5:20 PM	Me	ACTIVE
Active	Team		3	Thu, 4:47 PM	Me	ACTIVE

Setup



GitHub

Contentful



Stitching Proxy



Let's take it Step by Step

Step 1

A young child with light brown hair, wearing a blue patterned shirt, is looking upwards and to the right with a thoughtful expression. In the foreground, a chocolate muffin with a single candle shaped like the number '1' is on a white plate. The candle is lit, and its flame is visible. The background is softly blurred.

A remote schema

A remote schema

```
const {GITHUB_TOKEN} = require('./config.json');

const gitHubLink = setContext((request) => ({
  headers: {
    'Authorization': `Bearer ${GITHUB_TOKEN}`,
  }
}).concat(new HttpLink({uri: 'https://api.github.com/graphql', fetch})));
```

A remote schema

```
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const gitHubLink = setContext((request) => ({
  headers: {
    'Authorization': `Bearer ${GITHUB_TOKEN}`,
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}).concat(new HttpLink({uri: 'https://api.github.com/graphql', fetch})));

async function startServer() {
  const gitHubRemoteSchema = await introspectSchema(gitHubLink);
```

A remote schema

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const gitHubLink = setContext((request) => ({
  headers: {
    'Authorization': `Bearer ${GITHUB_TOKEN}`,
  }
}).concat(new HttpLink({uri: 'https://api.github.com/graphql', fetch})));

async function startServer() {
  const gitHubRemoteSchema = await introspectSchema(gitHubLink);

  const gitHubSchema = makeRemoteExecutableSchema({
    schema: gitHubRemoteSchema,
    link: gitHubLink,
  });
}
```

A remote schema

```
const {GITHUB_TOKEN} = require('./config.json');

const gitHubLink = setContext((request) => ({
  headers: {
    'Authorization': `Bearer ${GITHUB_TOKEN}`,
  }
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async function startServer() {
  const gitHubRemoteSchema = await introspectSchema(gitHubLink);

  const gitHubSchema = makeRemoteExecutableSchema({
    schema: gitHubRemoteSchema,
    link: gitHubLink,
  });

  const server = new ApolloServer({schema: gitHubSchema});

  return await server.listen();
}

startServer().then(({url}) => {
  console.log(`🚀 Server ready at ${url}`);
});
```

¿Por qué no los dos?

Step 2



¿Por qué no los dos?

```
const {mergeSchemas} = require('graphql-tools');

const getGitHubSchema = require('./github.js');
const getContentfulSchema = require('./contentful.js');
```

¿Por qué no los dos?

```
const {mergeSchemas} = require('graphql-tools');

const getGitHubSchema = require('./github.js');
const getContentfulSchema = require('./contentful.js');

async function startServer() {
  const gitHubSchema = await getGitHubSchema();
  const contentfulSchema = await getContentfulSchema();
```

¿Por qué no los dos?

```
const {mergeSchemas} = require('graphql-tools');

const getGitHubSchema = require('./github.js');
const getContentfulSchema = require('./contentful.js');

async function startServer() {
  const gitHubSchema = await getGitHubSchema();
  const contentfulSchema = await getContentfulSchema();

  const schema = mergeSchemas({
    schemas: [
      gitHubSchema,
      contentfulSchema
    ]
  });
}
```

¿Por qué no los dos?

```
const {mergeSchemas} = require('graphql-tools');

const getGitHubSchema = require('./github.js');
const getContentfulSchema = require('./contentful.js');

async function startServer() {
  const gitHubSchema = await getGitHubSchema();
  const contentfulSchema = await getContentfulSchema();

  const schema = mergeSchemas({
    schemas: [
      gitHubSchema,
      contentfulSchema
    ]
  });

  const server = new ApolloServer({schema});

  return await server.listen();
}

startServer().then(({ url }) => {
  console.log(`🚀 Server ready at ${url}`);
});
```

Schemas

```
type Repository implements Node {  
  owner: RepositoryOwner!  
  
  url: URI!  
  
  stargazers(  
    first: Int  
  
    after: String  
  
    last: Int  
  
    before: String  
  
    orderBy: StarOrder  
  ): StargazerConnection!  
}
```

GitHub

```
type Repository implements Entry {  
  gitHubLogin: String  
  
  gitHubName: String  
  
  owningTeam(  
    preview: Boolean,  
  
    locale: String  
  ): Team  
}
```

Contentful

Problem



Photo by Joao Tzanno on [Unsplash](#)

Our schemas conflict

```
type Repository implements Node {  
  owner: RepositoryOwner!  
  
  url: URI!  
  
  stargazers(  
    first: Int  
  
    after: String  
  
    last: Int  
  
    before: String  
  
    orderBy: StarOrder  
  ): StargazerConnection!  
}
```

GitHub

```
type Repository implements Entry {  
  gitHubLogin: String  
  
  gitHubName: String  
  
  owningTeam(  
    preview: Boolean,  
  
    locale: String  
  ): Team  
}
```

Contentful

Step 3

Schema transformation



Schema transformation

```
const {
  introspectSchema,
  makeRemoteExecutableSchema,
  transformSchema,
  RenameTypes,
  RenameRootFields
} = require('graphql-tools');

async function getContentfulSchema() {
  const contentfulRemoteSchema = await introspectSchema(contentfulLink);

  const contentfulSchema = makeRemoteExecutableSchema({
    schema: contentfulRemoteSchema,
    link: contentfulLink,
  });

  return transformSchema(contentfulSchema, [
    {
      type: 'Root',
      fields: [
        {
          name: 'content',
          type: 'ContentfulContent',
          resolve: async () => {
            const contentfulContent = await contentfulClient.getEntries();
            return contentfulContent.items.map(item => ({
              id: item.sys.id,
              title: item.fields.title,
              description: item.fields.description,
              media: item.fields.media,
            }));
          }
        }
      ]
    }
  ]);
}
```

Schema transformation

```
const {
  introspectSchema,
  makeRemoteExecutableSchema,
  transformSchema,
  RenameTypes,
  RenameRootFields
} = require('graphql-tools');

async function getContentfulSchema() {
  const contentfulRemoteSchema = await introspectSchema(contentfulLink);

  const contentfulSchema = makeRemoteExecutableSchema({
    schema: contentfulRemoteSchema,
    link: contentfulLink,
  });

  return transformSchema(contentfulSchema, [
    new RenameTypes((name) => {
      if (name.includes('Repository')) {
        return name.replace('Repository', 'RepositoryMetadata');
      }

      return name;
    }),
  ],
}
```

Schema transformation

```
const {
  introspectSchema,
  makeRemoteExecutableSchema,
  transformSchema,
  RenameTypes,
  RenameRootFields
} = require('graphql-tools');

async function getContentfulSchema() {
  const contentfulRemoteSchema = await introspectSchema(contentfulLink);

  const contentfulSchema = makeRemoteExecutableSchema({
    schema: contentfulRemoteSchema,
    link: contentfulLink,
  });

  return transformSchema(contentfulSchema, [
    new RenameTypes((name) => {
      if (name.includes('Repository')) {
        return name.replace('Repository', 'RepositoryMetadata');
      }

      return name;
    }),
    new RenameRootFields((operation, fieldName) => {
      if (fieldName.includes('repository')) {
        return fieldName.replace('repository', 'repositoryMetadata');
      }

      return fieldName;
    })
  ]);
}
```

Schemas transformed

```
type Repository implements Node {  
    owner: RepositoryOwner!  
  
    url: URI!  
  
    stargazers(  
        first: Int  
  
        after: String  
  
        last: Int  
  
        before: String  
  
        orderBy: StarOrder  
    ): StargazerConnection!  
}
```

GitHub

```
type RepositoryMetadata implements Entry {  
    gitHubLogin: String  
  
    gitHubName: String  
  
    owningTeam(  
        preview: Boolean,  
  
        locale: String  
    ): Team  
}
```

Contentful

Step 4



Snitches get stitches

Snitches get stitches

```
const linkTypeDefs = `
extend type Repository {
  contentfulMetadata: RepositoryMetadata
}

extend type RepositoryMetadata {
  gitHubRepository: Repository
}
`;
```

Snitches get stitches

```
RepositoryMetadata: {  
  |   gitHubRepository: {
```

Snitches get stitches

```
RepositoryMetadata: {  
  gitHubRepository: {  
    fragment: '... on RepositoryMetadata { gitHubName gitHubLogin }',  
    resolve(repositoryMetadata, args, context, info) {  
      return info.mergeInfo.delegateToSchema({  
        schema: gitHubSchema,  
      })  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Snitches get stitches

```
RepositoryMetadata: {  
  gitHubRepository: {  
    fragment: '... on RepositoryMetadata { gitHubName gitHubLogin }',  
    resolve(repositoryMetadata, args, context, info) {  
      return info.mergeInfo.delegateToSchema({  
        schema: gitHubSchema,  
        operation: 'query',  
        fieldName: 'repository',  
        args: {  
          owner: repositoryMetadata.gitHubLogin,  
          name: repositoryMetadata.gitHubName  
        },  
        context,  
        info  
      });  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Too Easy?



Snitches get stitches - part 2

```
Repository: {  
  | contentfulMetadata: {
```

Snitches get stitches - part 2

```
Repository: {  
  | contentfulMetadata: {  
  |   | fragment: '... on Repository { name owner { login } }',
```

Snitches get stitches - part 2

```
Repository: {  
  | contentfulMetadata: {  
  |   | fragment: '... on Repository { name owner { login } }',
```

Snitches get stitches - part 2

```
Repository: {  
  contentfulMetadata: {  
    fragment: '... on Repository { name owner { login } }',  
    resolve(repository, args, context, info) {  
      return info.mergeInfo.delegateToSchema({  
        schema: transformedContentfulSchema,  
        operation: 'query',  
        fieldName: 'repositoryMetadataCollection',  
        args: {  
          where: {  
            gitHubLogin: repository.owner.login,  
            gitHubName: repository.name  
          },  
          limit: 1  
        },  
        context,  
        info,  
      })  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Snitches get stitches - part 2

```
transforms: [
  new WrapQuery(
    ['repositoryMetadataCollection'],
    (subtree) => ({
      kind: Kind.FIELD,
      name: {
        kind: Kind.NAME,
        value: 'items'
      },
      selectionSet: subtree,
    })),
  result => result && result.items && result.items[0]
],
},
});
```

Schemas stitched

```
type Repository implements Node {  
  owner: RepositoryOwner!  
  
  url: URI!  
  
  contentfulMetadata: RepositoryMetadata  
  
  stargazers(  
    first: Int  
  
    after: String  
  
    last: Int  
  
    before: String  
  
    orderBy: StarOrder  
  ): StargazerConnection!  
}
```

GitHub

```
type RepositoryMetadata implements Entry {  
  gitHubLogin: String  
  
  gitHubName: String  
  
  gitHubRepository: Repository  
  
  owningTeam(  
    preview: Boolean,  
  
    locale: String  
  ): Team  
}
```

Contentful

Bonus

Enrich data



Enrich data

```
const expandGitHubTypeDefs = `  
extend type Repository {  
  hasTravisCi: Boolean!  
}  
`;
```

Enrich data

```
Repository: {  
    hasTravisCi: {  
        fragment: '... on Repository { travisYml: object(expression:"master:.travis.yml") {... on Blob { text } } }',  
        resolve(repository) {  
            return Boolean(repository.travisYml && repository.travisYml.text.length > 0);  
        }  
    },  
},
```

Demo



Stop treating your APIs like silos.

FARM SHOP



Use schema stitching to
allow developers to
seamlessly access data
across APIs.

And make some music.





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