"Means of querying a database using a language provided by a vendor"

"No idea"

"Advanced something interface"

"Not sure, haven’t heard of it. A private investigator?"

"Interface a user interacts with, like a graphic user interface"

"A pea’s eye"
Application programming interface

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"API" redirects here. For other uses, see API (disambiguation).

In computer programming, an Application Programming Interface (API) is a set of subroutine definitions, protocols, and tools for building application software. In general terms, it is a set of clearly defined methods of communication between various software components. A good API makes it easier to develop a computer program by providing all the building blocks, which are then put together

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Application_programming_interface
API

noun  COMPUTING

a set of functions and procedures that allow the creation of applications which access the features or data of an operating system, application, or other service.

Translate api to Spanish

1. api
Y U NO UNDERSTAND?
Web API

a mechanism to allow applications to speak with each other for a defined purpose
APIs help us to solve problems by re-using data from applications to enhance or create new applications.
Problem:
I want to migrate over 10,000 records from another source to the library catalogue
Possible Solutions:

1. Manually copy and paste 10,000 records from source to Adlib/Alma
2. Import the data from the source and using APIs load to Adlib/Alma
SOLUTION 2

Read CSV

Script or tool

Alma API

Adlib API
Problem:
I want to implement a digital image viewer, which requires information from different sources
Possible Solutions:

1. Duplicate information from all the sources into the new viewer
2. Use APIs to do a live look-up from the different sources
Examples APIs available for solution

**Rosetta**
- Get images
- Upload images
- Check access rights

**Axiell**
- Get metadata
- Import metadata

**ExLibris Alma**
- Get metadata (bib)
- Import metadata
If applications could talk… it might go something like Rosetta
What's up?

Nuthin much, sup with u?

I heard you got some images

No worries, I need your key first

Sure, key is abc12345

Anything which belongs to this IE

What you after?

Packaged together please

Yep, found them – packaged as a whole or individually?
What's up?

Nuthin much, sup with u?

I heard you got some images

No worries, I need your key first

What you after?

Sure, key is abc12345

Yep, found them – packaged as a whole or individually?

Anything which belongs to this IE

Packaged together please

Get Image API

Authorisation and access

Connect and handshake

Download as / content negotiation
APIs in everyday life
Smart home and devices
Recipe

**if** Instagram photos
**then** Dropbox
**Description:** Save my Instagram photos to Dropbox

**Trigger Channel:**

**Action Channel:**

Some example Recipes

- **if** Twitter
  - **then** email
  - **Description:** Nearly home? Direct message the person who should know

- **if** Instagram photos
  - **then** email
  - **Description:** Email your new iPhone photos to yourself

- **if** contacts
  - **then** Google Spreadsheet
  - **Description:** Backup your contacts to a Google Spreadsheet
APIs – principles

Data should be:
• Accessible
• Structured & interchangeable
• Documented

Communication should be:
• Agreed via protocol
• Reliable
• Documented
Linked Open Data

- Accessible under a re-use licence
- Structured using identifiers, vocabularies and taxonomies (triples)
- Linked to other data and datasets using these structures
- Available via APIs, direct download or end-points
- Documented
Now what?

Build your capabilities:

- data science, scripting/programming, tutorials

Tools:

- IFTTT.com, REST clients, XML/JSON viewers
- Vendor websites
Rethink the way you would solve a problem

“If there’s data & APIs, there’s a way to automate”
Are there any APIs available?

What data is available?

Can I use computers to do this?

I’m not a programmer, what tools can I use?
Thank you!