

An Introduction to GraphQL  
Tutorial at ISWC 2019, October 27, 2019

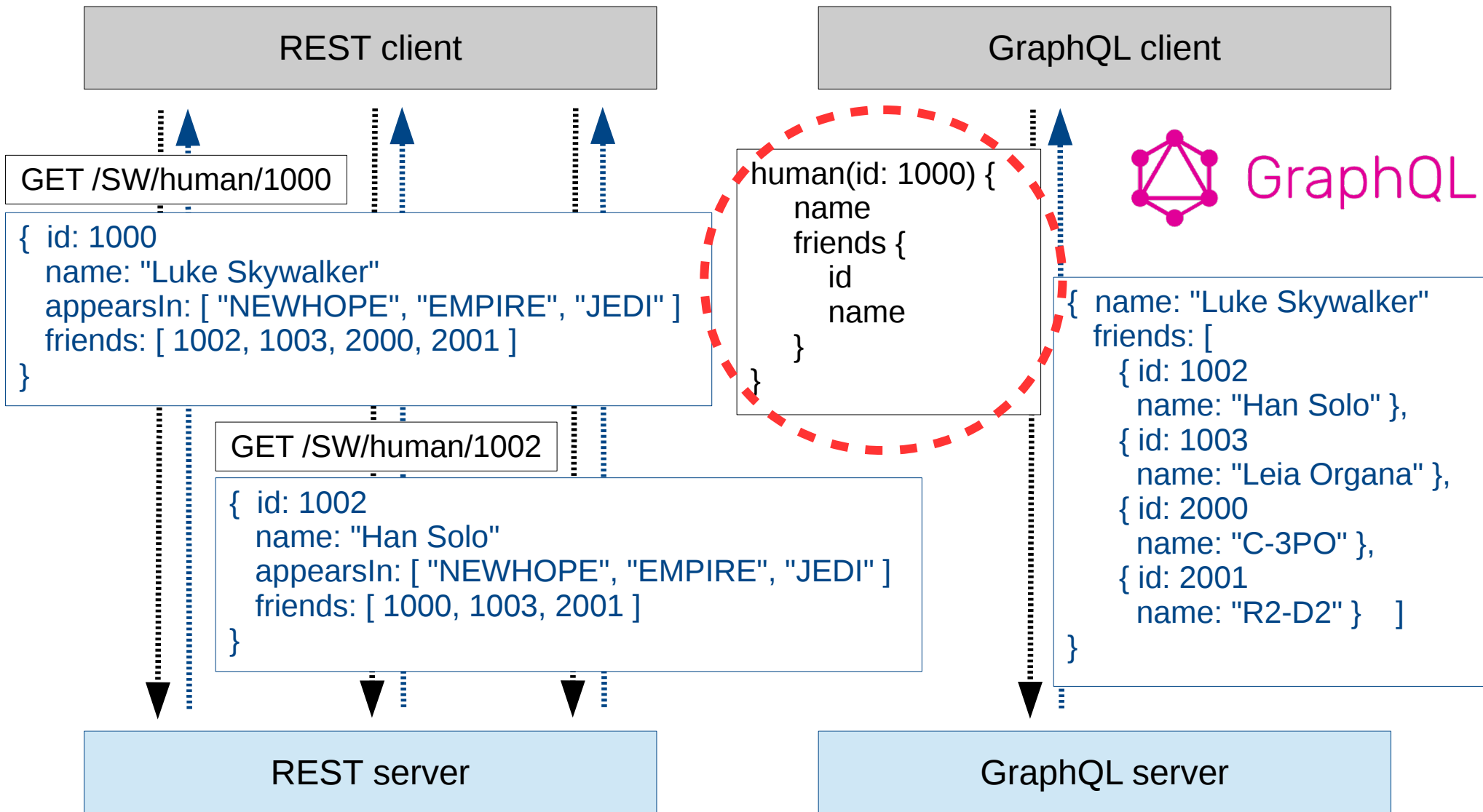
## 2. Schemas and the Query Language

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# GraphQL Example (in Comparison to REST)



# Example Query

```
{  
  hero (episode: EMPIRE) {  
    name  
    friends {  
      name  
      appearsIn  
    }  
  }  
}
```

“fields”

“argument”

# GraphQL Schema

declaration of an object type with its fields and their types

(built-in) scalar type

declaration of an interface type and an implementation

declaration of a union type

argument

declaration of the query type  
(possible root fields of queries)

```
type Starship {  
  id: ID!  
  name: String!  
  length(unit: String): Float  
}
```

```
interface Character {  
  id: ID!  
  name: String!  
  friends: [Character]  
  appearsIn: [Episode]!  
}
```

```
type Droid implements Character {  
  id: ID!  
  name: String!  
  friends: [Character]  
  appearsIn: [Episode]!  
  primaryFunction: String  
}
```

```
type Human implements Character {  
  id: ID!  
  name: String!  
  friends: [Character]  
  appearsIn: [Episode]!  
  starships: [Starship]  
  totalCredits: Int  
}
```

```
union SearchResult = Human | Droid | Starship  
  
enum Episode { NEWHOPE, EMPIRE, JEDI }
```

```
type Query {  
  hero(episode: Episode!): Character  
  droid(id: ID!): Droid  
  node(id: ID!): SearchResult  
}
```

# Implementation Type-Specific Fields

```
{
  hero(episode: EMPIRE) {
    name
    friends {
      name
      appearsIn
    }
    totalCredits
  }
}
```

```
type Human implements Character {
  id: ID!
  name: String!
  friends: [Character]
  appearsIn: [Episode]!
  starships: [Starship]
  totalCredits: Int
}

union SearchResult = Human | Droid | Starship

enum Episode { NEWHOPE, EMPIRE, JEDI }

type Query {
  hero(episode: Episode!): Character
  droid(id: ID!): Droid
  node(id: ID!): SearchResult
}
```

# Implementation Type-Specific Fields

```
{  
  hero (episode: EMPIRE) {  
    name  
    friends {  
      name  
      appearsIn  
    }  
    ... on Human {  
      totalCredits  
    }  
  }  
}
```

“inline fragment”  
↓

```
type Human implements Character {  
  id: ID!  
  name: String!  
  friends: [Character]  
  appearsIn: [Episode]!  
  starships: [Starship]  
  totalCredits: Int  
}  
  
union SearchResult = Human | Droid | Starship  
  
enum Episode { NEWHOPE, EMPIRE, JEDI }  
  
type Query {  
  hero(episode: Episode!): Character  
  droid(id: ID!): Droid  
  node(id: ID!): SearchResult  
}
```

# Example Query with *Inline Fragments*

```
{
  hero(episode: EMPIRE) {
    name
    friends {
      name
      ... on Droid {
        primaryFunction
      }
    }
  }
}
```

```
Result:
{
  hero {
    name: "Luke Skywalker"
    friends: [
      {name: "Han Solo"}
      {name: "Leia Organa"}
      {name: "C-3PO"
        primaryFunction: "Protocol"}
      {name: "R2-D2"
        primaryFunction: "Astromech"}
    ]
  }
}
```

# Example Query with *Aliases*

```
{
  hero(episode: EMPIRE) {
    heroname: name
    ... on Human {
      starships {
        name
        feet: length(unit: FOOT)
        meters: length(unit: METER)
      }
    }
  }
}
```

*Diagram:* Dashed arrows labeled "alias" point from the `Human` type in the query to the `length` fields (`length(unit: FOOT)` and `length(unit: METER)`).

Result:

```
{
  hero {
    heroname: "Luke Skywalker"
    starships: [
      { name: "X-wing"
        feet: 41.0
        meters: 12.5 }
      { name: "Imperial shuttle"
        feet: 65.6
        meters: 20.0 }
    ]
  }
}
```



# Query with Name

```
query myExampleQuery {  
  hero(episode: EMPIRE) {  
    name  
    friends {  
      name  
      appearsIn  
    }  
  }  
}
```

# Variables

```
query myExampleQuery($ep: Episode) {  
  hero(episode: $ep) {  
    name  
    friends {  
      name  
      appearsIn  
    }  
  }  
}
```

passed in a separate,  
transport-specific variables  
dictionary (usually JSON)

---

```
{  
  "ep": "EMPIRE"  
}
```

# Default Values

```
query myExampleQuery($ep: Episode = EMPIRE) {  
  hero(episode: $ep) {  
    name  
    friends {  
      name  
      appearsIn  
    }  
  }  
}
```

# Meta Fields

```
{  
  hero (episode: EMPIRE) {  
    name  
    friends {  
      name  
      __typename  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Result:

```
{  
  hero {  
    name: "Luke Skywalker"  
    friends: [  
      { name: "Han Solo"  
        __typename: "Human" }  
      { name: "Leia Organa"  
        __typename: "Human" }  
      { name: "C-3PO"  
        __typename: "Droid" }  
      { name: "R2-D2"  
        __typename: "Droid" }  
    ]  
  }  
}
```

# Introspection

```
{  
  __schema {  
    types {  
      name  
    }  
  }  
  
  __type(episode: "Droid") {  
    name  
    fields { name }  
  }  
}
```

# Definition of Mutation Operations

```
{  
  type Mutation {  
    createRatingForEpisode(ep: Episode!,  
                           rating: Int!): Rat  
  }  
  
  type Rat {  
    ep: Episode  
    rating: Int  
  }  
}
```

# Using Mutations

```
{
  type Mutation {
    createRatingForEpisode(ep: Episode!,
                          rating: Int!): Rat
  }

  type Rat {
    ep: Episode
    rating: Int
  }
}

mutation {
  createRatingForEpisode(
    ep: HERO,
    rating: 2
  ) {
    rating
  }
}
```

# Input Types

```
{  
  type Mutation {  
    addReviewForEpisode(ep: Episode!,  
                        review: ReviewInput!) :  
                          Review  
  }  
  input ReviewInput {  
    stars: Int!  
    comment: String  
  }  
  type Review {  
    stars: Int!  
    comment: String  
  }  
}
```



# Input Types

```
{
  type Mutation {
    addReviewForEpisode(ep: Episode!,
                       review: ReviewInput!):
                          Review
  }
  input ReviewInput {
    stars: Int!
    comment: String
  }
  type Review {
    stars: Int!
    comment: String
  }
}
```

```
mutation {
  addReviewForEpisode(
    ep: HERO,
    review: { stars: 2 }
  ) {
    stars
    comment
  }
}
```

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