Harmonizing APIs

A comparison of GraphQL and OpenAPI using the Spotify API

Fosdem 2025 Martin Bonnin



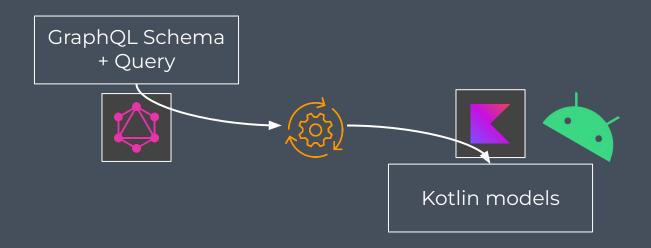






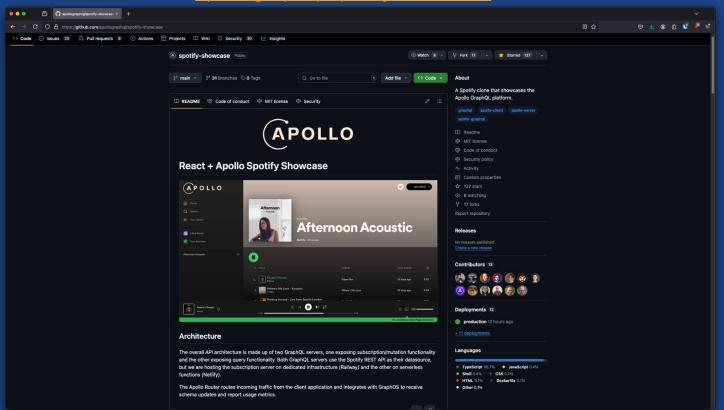
apollographql/apollo-kotlin

Apollo Kotlin

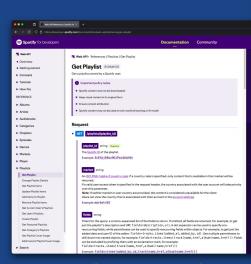


Spotify showcase

apollographql/spotify-showcase



Spotify REST API

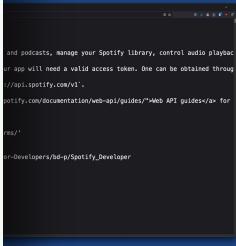


https://developer.spotify.com/document:



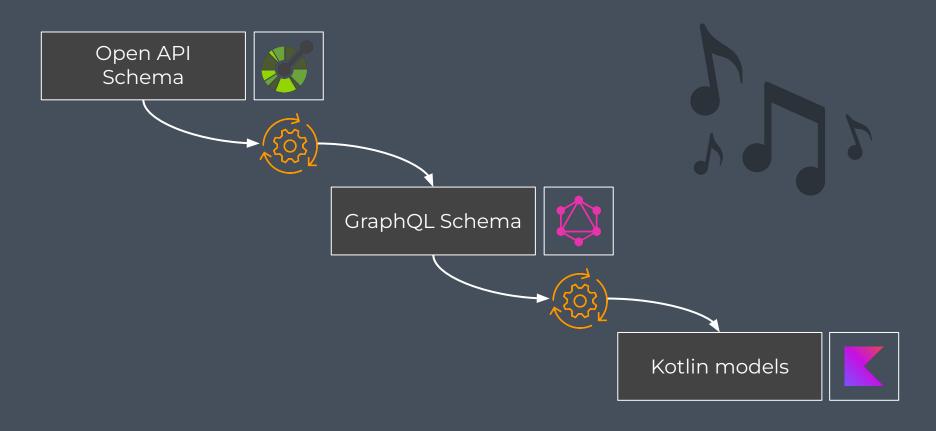
You deserve a round of API-lause!

But don't REST on your laurels



ference/web-ani/open-ani-schema vaml

Codegen all the things!



Let's dive in!

```
- url: https://api.spotify.com/v1
   operationId: get-playlist
   description: Get a playlist by id.
       in: path
          description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
       description: A playlist response
              description: A playlist
                  description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
                  description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified playlists, otherwise_ `null`.
                  description: The name of the playlist.
                  description: The tracks in the playlist.
                    description: A track.
```

Spotify schema



```
- url: https://api.spotify.com/v1
   operationId: get-playlist
   description: Get a playlist by id.
       in: path
          description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
       description: A playlist response
              description: A playlist
                 description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
                 description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified p
                 description: The name of the playlist.
                 type: array
                  description: The tracks in the playlist.
                    description: A track.
```

Our goal today







Metadata

```
openapi: '3.0.3'
info:
  version: '1.0.0'
  title: 'Spotify Web API'
servers:
  - url: https://api.spotify.com/v1
```



Metadata

```
openapi: '3.0.3'
info:
  version: '1.0.0'
  title: 'Spotify Web API'
servers:
  - url: https://api.spotify.com/v1
```

No metadata

```
schema {
  query: Query
}

type Query {
    # stuff goes here ...
}
```





```
Paths
paths:
/playlists/{id}:
   qet:
     operationId: get-playlist
     description: Get a playlist by id.
     parameters:
       - name: id
        in: path
           description: The Spotify ID of the
playlist.
           type: string
     responses:
       '200':
         description: A playlist response
         content:
           application/json:
             schema:
               type: object
               description: A playlist
```



```
Paths
paths:
/playlists/{id}:
  qet:
     operationId: get-playlist
     description: Get a playlist by id.
     parameters:
       - name: id
        in: path
           description: The Spotify ID of the
playlist.
          type: string
     responses:
       '200':
         description: A playlist response
         content:
           application/json:
             schema:
               type: object
               description: A playlist
```

Root fields

```
type Query {
    getPlaylist(id: String): GetPlaylist
}
"""
A playlist
"""
type GetPlaylist {
    # more fields ...
}
```



Properties

```
properties:
      id:
         type: string
         description: The Spotify ID for the
playlist.
       description:
         type: string
         description: The playlist description.
_Only returned for modified, verified
playlists, otherwise_ `null`.
       name:
         type: string
         description: The name of the playlist.
```

Fields





Properties

```
properties:
      id:
         type: string
         description: The Spotify ID for the
playlist.
       description:
         type: string
         description: The playlist description.
_Only returned for modified, verified
playlists, otherwise_ `null`.
       name:
         type: string
         description: The name of the playlist.
```

Fields

```
A playlist
type GetPlaylist {
   The Spotify ID of the playlist.
   id: String
   The playlist description. _Only returned for
modified, verified playlists, otherwise_ `null`
   description: String
   The name of the playlist.
   name: String
```





Arrays

```
name:
   type: string
   description: The name of the playlist.
tracks:
   type: array
   description: The tracks in the playlist.
   items:
     type: object
     description: A track.
     properties:
        id:
            type: string
        # more properties ...
```





Arrays

```
name:
   type: string
   description: The name of the playlist.
tracks:
   type: array
   description: The tracks in the playlist.
   items:
     type: object
     description: A track.
     properties:
        id:
            type: string
        # more properties ...
```

Lists

```
type GetPlaylist {
   The tracks in the playlist.
   tracks: [GetPlaylistTrack]
A track
type GetPlaylistTrack {
  id: String
```





```
operationId: get-playlist
description: Get a playlist by id.
      description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
    description: A playlist response
          type: object
          description: A playlist
              type: string
              description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
              description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified
              type: string
              description: The name of the playlist.
              description: The tracks in the playlist.
                description: A track.
```

```
schema {
type Query {
  getPlaylist(id: String): GetPlaylist
type GetPlaylist {
  id: String
  description: String
   tracks: [GetPlaylistTrack]
type GetPlaylistTrack {
  id: String
```





```
operationId: get-playlist
description: Get a playlist by id.
     description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
    description: A playlist response
         type: object
          description: A playlist
              description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
              description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified
             gescription: The name of the playlist.
              description: The tracks in the playlist.
                description: A track.
```

Nullability!

```
type Query {
  getPlaylist(id: String!): GetPlaylist
type GetPlaylist {
  tracks: [GetPlaylistTrack!]
type GetPlaylistTrack {
```



```
operationId: get-playlist
description: Get a playlist by id.
   in: path
      description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
          type: object
          description: A playlist
              description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
              type: string
              description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified
              type: string
              description: The name of the playlist.
              type: array
              description: The tracks in the playlist.
```

```
schema {
type Query {
  getPlaylist(id: String!): GetPlaylist
type GetPlaylist {
  tracks: [GetPlaylistTrack!]!
type GetPlaylistTrack {
```



```
- url: https://api.spotify.com/v1
    operationId: get-playlist
    description: Get a playlist by id.
       in: path
         description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
        description: A playlist response
              type: object
              description: A playlist
                  type: string
                  description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
                  description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified
                  type: string
                  description: The name of the playlist.
                  description: The tracks in the playlist.
                    type: object
                    description: A track.
```

```
schema {
query: Query
type Query H
  getPlaylist(id: String!): GetPlaylist
   GetPlaylist
  The Spotify ID of the playlist.
  The playlist description. Only returned for modified, verified playlists, otherwise_ `null
  name: String!
  tracks: [GetPlaylistTrack!]!
                            New objects for
    GetPlaylistTrack
                            every path?
```



OpenAPI components

§ 4.8.7 Components Object

Holds a set of reusable objects for different aspects of the OAS. All objects defined within the Components Object will have no effect on the API unless they are explicitly referenced from outside the Components Object.

§ 4.8.7.1 Fixed Fields

Field Name	Туре	Description
schemas	Map[string, Schema Object]	An object to hold reusable <u>Schema</u> <u>Objects</u> .
responses	Map[string, Response Object Reference Object]	An object to hold reusable Response Objects.
parameters	Map[string, Parameter Object Reference Object]	An object to hold reusable Parameter Objects.
examples	Map[string, Example Object Reference Object]	An object to hold reusable <u>Example</u> Objects.
requestBodies	Map[string, Request Body Object Reference Object]	An object to hold reusable Request Body Objects.
headers	Map[string, Header Object Reference Object]	An object to hold reusable <u>Header</u> <u>Objects</u> .
securitySchemes	Map[string, Security Scheme Object Reference Object]	An object to hold reusable Security Scheme Objects.
	Manistring Link Object I Reference	An object to hold reusable Link

```
operationId: get-playlist
description: Get a playlist by id.
    in: path
     description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
             description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified
             description: The name of the playlist.
             description: The tracks in the playlist.
```



```
operationId: get-playlist
description: Get a playlist by id.
   in: path
     description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
description: A playlist
x-spotify-docs-type: PlaylistObject
   description: The tracks of the playlist.
```



```
operationId: get-playlist
 description: Get a playlist by id.
     in: path
       description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
 description: A playlist
PlaylistObject:
 x-spotify-docs-type: PlaylistObject
     description: The tracks of the playlist.
PlaylistTrackObject:
```



```
operationId: get-playlist
  description: Get a playlist by id.
     in: path
       description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
  description: A playlist
PlaylistObject:
  x-spotify-docs-type: PlaylistObject
     description: The tracks of the playlist.
PlaylistTrackObject:
```

```
schema {
type Query {
  getPlaylist(id: String!) OnePlaylist
type OnePlaylist {
   id: String!
   description: String
```





allOf for interfaces

```
interface AlbumBase {
   id: String
   name: String
}

type SimplifiedlbumObject implements AlbumBase {
   id: String
   name: String
   artists: [SimplifiedArtistObject]
}
```





oneOf for unions

```
type QueueObject {
    currently_playing: CurrentlyPlaying
}
union CurrentlyPlaying = TrackObject | EpisodeObject
```





```
operationId: get-playlist
  description: Get a playlist by id.
     in: path
       description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
  description: A playlist
PlaylistObject:
  x-spotify-docs-type: PlaylistObject
     description: The tracks of the playlist.
PlaylistTrackObject:
```

```
schema {
type Query {
  getPlaylist(id: String!): GetPlaylist
type GetPlaylist {
  id: String!
  description: String
  tracks: [GetPlaylistTrack!]!
type GetPlaylistTrack {
```



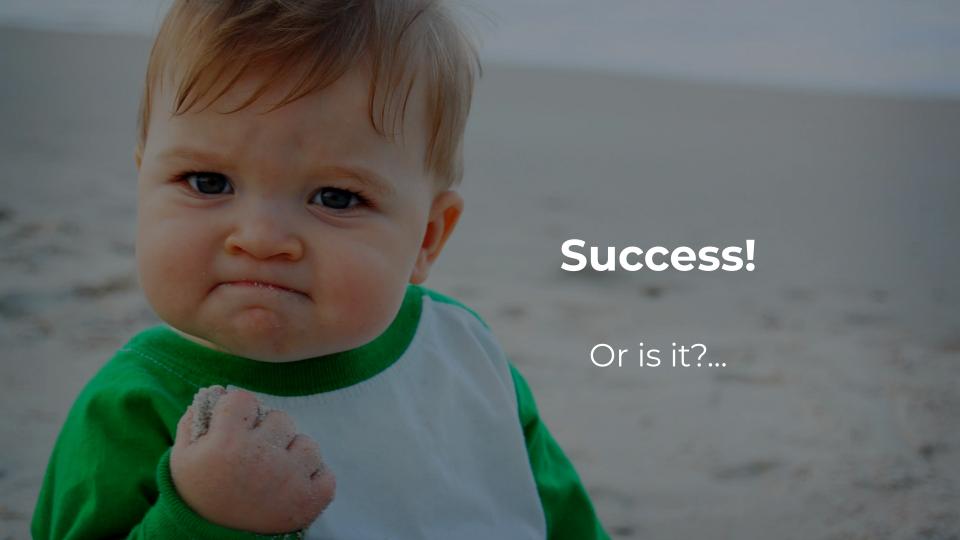


```
operationId: get-playlist
  description: Get a playlist by id.
     in: path
       description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
  description: A playlist
PlaylistObject:
  x-spotify-docs-type: PlaylistObject
     description: The tracks of the playlist.
PlaylistTrackObject:
```

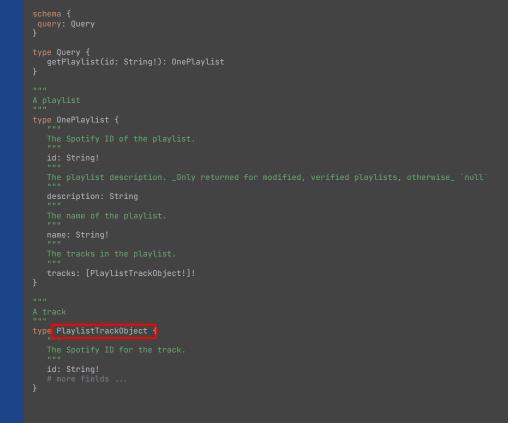
```
schema {
type Query {
  getPlaylist(id: String!) OnePlaylist
type OnePlaylist {
   id: String!
   description: String
```







```
operationId: get-playlist
  description: Get a playlist by id.
     in: path
       description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
OnePlaylist:
 description: A playlist
 x-spotify-docs-type: PlaylistObject
     description: The tracks of the playlist.
```



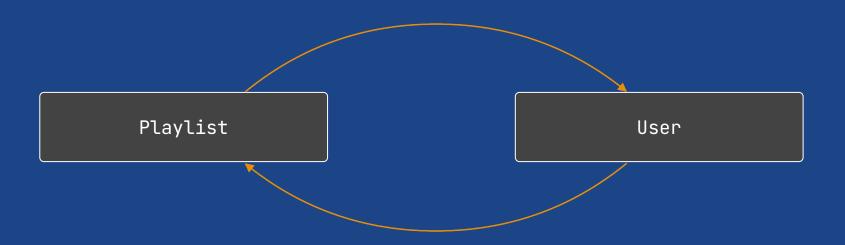




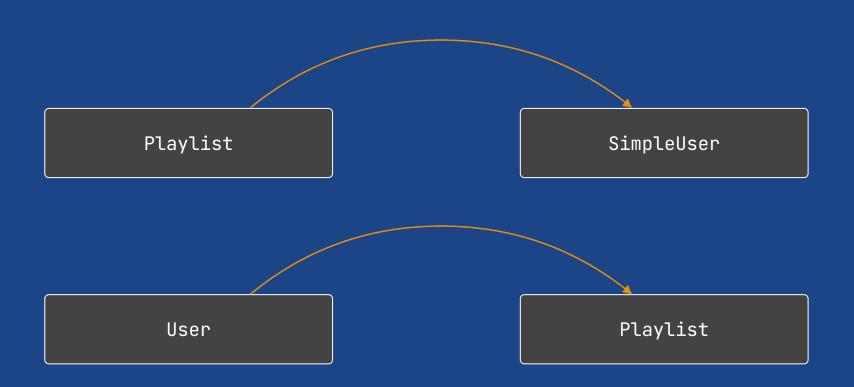
GraphQL is a "query" language

```
query GetPlaylist {
    getPlaylist(id: "42") {
        id
        name
        owner {
            name
            playlists {
                 name
        }
     }
}
```

Cycles everywhere!



Cycles everywhere!



REST is about resources

GET /v1/playlists/42

```
"name": "Belgian Classics | ",
```

Several variants

TrackObject

SimplifiedTrackObject

LinkedTrackObject

PlaylistTrackObject

Several variants

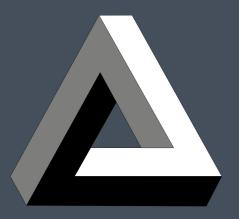
TrackObject

SimplifiedTrackObject

Same GraphQL entity

LinkedTrackObject

PlaylistTrackObject



"One does not simply automatically convert OpenAPI to idiomatic GraphQL"

- Martin Bonnin







operationId
Components
nullable
required: true
allOf for inheritance
oneOf for unions



any0f non-string enums nested one0f

Wrap up

GraphQL 😂	OpenAPI
Statically typed	Statically typed
Schema + query language	Schema language
No versioning	Versioned
Single endpoint	Multiple endpoints
Interfaces, unions	allOf, oneOf
Enums	enum
Concise	Flexible

Thanks!

GraphQL Conf 2025
September 08-10
Amsterdam
graphql.org/conf/2025

Mercil

- https://spec.graphql.org/draft/
- https://json-schema.org/specification
- https://spec.openapis.org/oas/latest.html
- https://developer.spotify.com/documentation/web-api/reference
- https://github.com/apollographql/spotify-showcase
- https://github.com/apollographgl/apollo-kotlin

Martin Bonnin



```
operationId: get-playlist
description: Get a playlist by id.
     description: The Spotify ID of the playlist.
   description: A playlist response
         description: A playlist
```

```
schema {
  query: Query
}

type Query {
    # stuff goes here ...
}
```





```
type: string
description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
type: string
description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified
type: string
description: The name of the playlist.
```

```
schema {
  query: Query
}

type Query {
    getPlaylist(id: String): GetPlaylist
}

"""
A playlist
"""

type GetPlaylist {
    # more fields ...
}
```





```
description: The Spotify ID for the playlist.
description: The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified
type: string
description: The name of the playlist.
```

```
schema {
   query: Query
}

type Query {
    getPlaylist(id: String): GetPlaylist
}

"""

A playlist

"""

The Spotify ID of the playlist.

"""

id: String

"""

The playlist description. _Only returned for modified, verified playlists, otherwise_ `null`

description: String

"""

The name of the playlist.

name: String
}
```





```
description: The tracks in the playlist.
  description: A track.
```

```
schema {
type Query {
  getPlaylist(id: String): GetPlaylist
type GetPlaylist {
  id: String
  description: String
type GetPlaylistTrack {
  id: String
```



