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What is the difference between ASMX, WCF, and ASP.NET Web API? February 16, 2020 13 minute read Application architecture has evolved from monolithic architecture to SOA architecture in order to make better separation, then to more refined microservice architecture today. Applications need to communicate among themselves, and to achieve this purpose, Microsoft has developed technologies like ASMX, WCF, and ASP.NET Web API. Lets explore them together today. ASMX ASMX (ASP.NET Web Services) is the primary web service technology in .NET 1.0 and .NET 2.0. ASMX provides the ability to build web services that send SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) messages over HTTP protocol. SOAP message SOAP message is in XML format. SOAP message request sample: jiangong sun ASMX web service code sample using System.Web.Services;namespace AsmxWebService{ [WebService(Namespace = ")] [WebServiceBinding(ConformsTo = WsiProfiles.BasicProfile1_1)] [System.ComponentModel.ToolboxItem(false)] public class NameService : System.Web.Services.WebService { [WebMethod] public string GetFullName(string firstName, string lastName) { return $"{firstName} {lastName}"; } }} WSDL WSDL (Web Service Description Language) is a language to describe the service. WSDL structure WSDL Section Description types Defines the (XML Schema) data types used by the web service message Defines the data elements for each operation portType Describes the operations that can be performed and the messages involved binding Defines the protocol and data format for each port type PrintServices WSDL detail PrintServices WSDL code