ArchivesSpace™
Powered by ATLAS SYSTEMS

Authenticate to an API with Postman

Supplement slides to the API Playbook

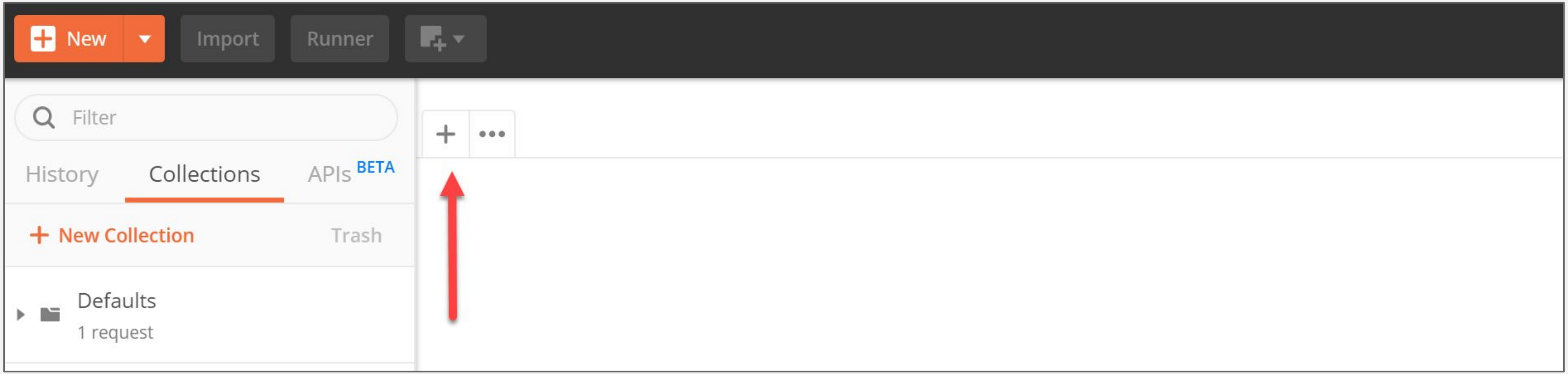
Authenticate to AS with Postman

There are plenty of API clients out there, this just happens to be the one I use and can make slides for.

https://www.postman.com/downloads/

Authenticate to AS with Postman

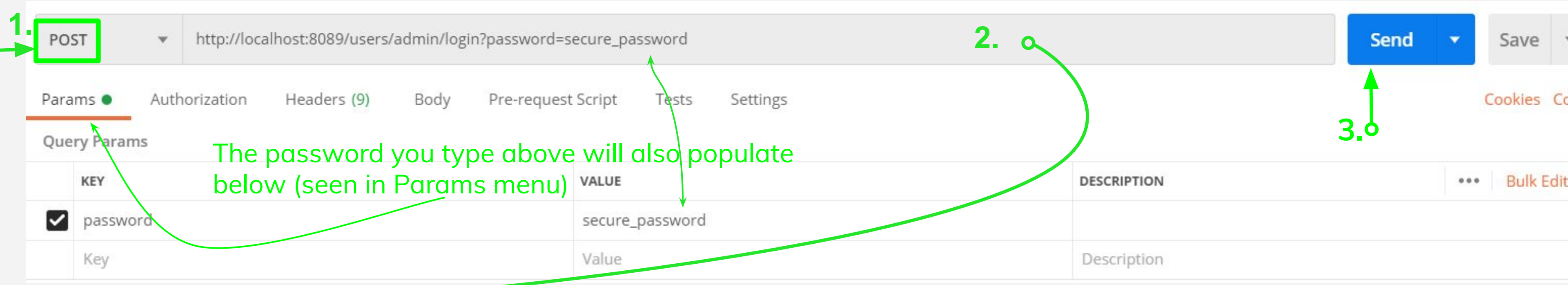
I don’t remember what Postman looks like when you open it for the first time, but after you click past any options, you’re looking to open a new tab if one isn’t open already:



Authenticate to AS with Postman

Before you do anything, you need to authenticate (just like you do when logging in) so let's do that in 3 steps. Remember to use your actual API address, username and password:

1. Change to POST if not already; **2.** Type or copy endpoint with your actual username and password; **3.** Hit Send



POST http://localhost:8089/users/admin/login?password=secure_password

Query Params

	KEY	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
☑	password	secure_password	
	Key	Value	Description

The password you type above will also populate below (seen in Params menu)

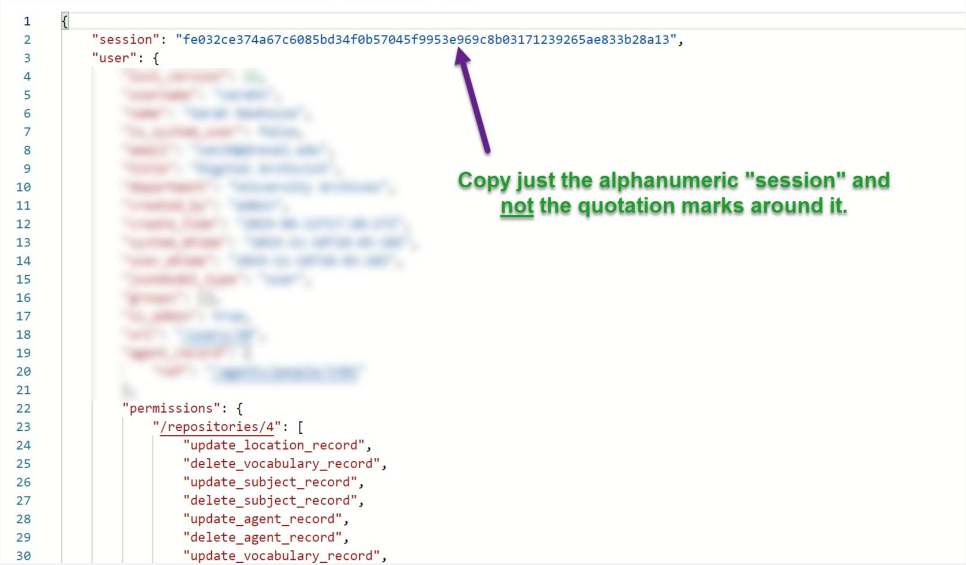
Follow steps 1-3, above.

Endpoint: https://localhost:8089/users/:your_username/login?password=:your_password

Authenticate to AS with Postman

Pause here: Did you get a result that looks like the below? If not, check spelling and review the prior slide, but also try this: In Postman, go to File > Settings > turn SSL certificate verification **OFF**. Try again.

If you did get a result, proceed to next slide.

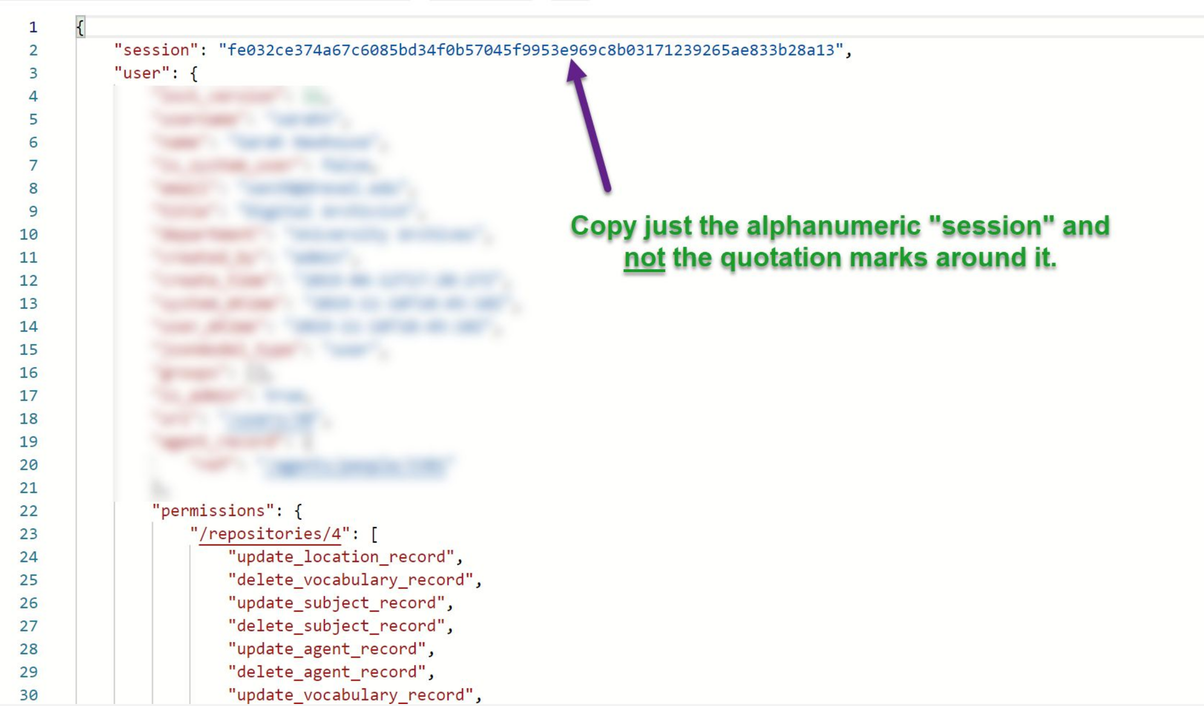


```
{
    "session": "fe032ce374a67c6085bd34f0b57045f9953e969c8b03171239265ae833b28a13",
    "user": {
        [redacted]
        "permissions": {
            "/repositories/4": [
                "update_location_record",
                "delete_vocabulary_record",
                "update_subject_record",
                "delete_subject_record",
                "update_agent_record",
                "delete_agent_record",
                "update_vocabulary_record",
```

Copy just the alphanumeric "session" and not the quotation marks around it.

Authenticate to AS with Postman

We just POSTed our username and password. In return, AS acknowledges that we have permission to proceed and provides a “session key.” We need to copy that.



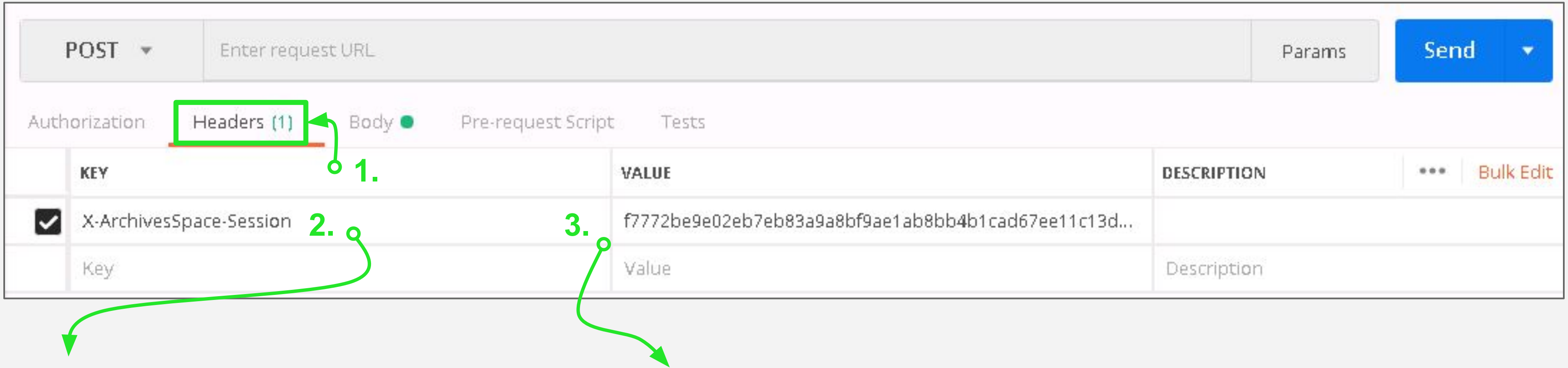
```
{
    "session": "fe032ce374a67c6085bd34f0b57045f9953e969c8b03171239265ae833b28a13",
    "user": {
        [redacted]
        "permissions": {
            "/repositories/4": [
                "update_location_record",
                "delete_vocabulary_record",
                "update_subject_record",
                "delete_subject_record",
                "update_agent_record",
                "delete_agent_record",
                "update_vocabulary_record",
```

Copy just the alphanumeric "session" and **not** the quotation marks around it.

Authenticate to AS with Postman

Now we're going to take our authentication info and put it where it should go, in **3** steps:

1. Switch to Headers; **2.** Type **X-ArchivesSpace-Session** under Key; **3.** Paste from the clipboard under Value

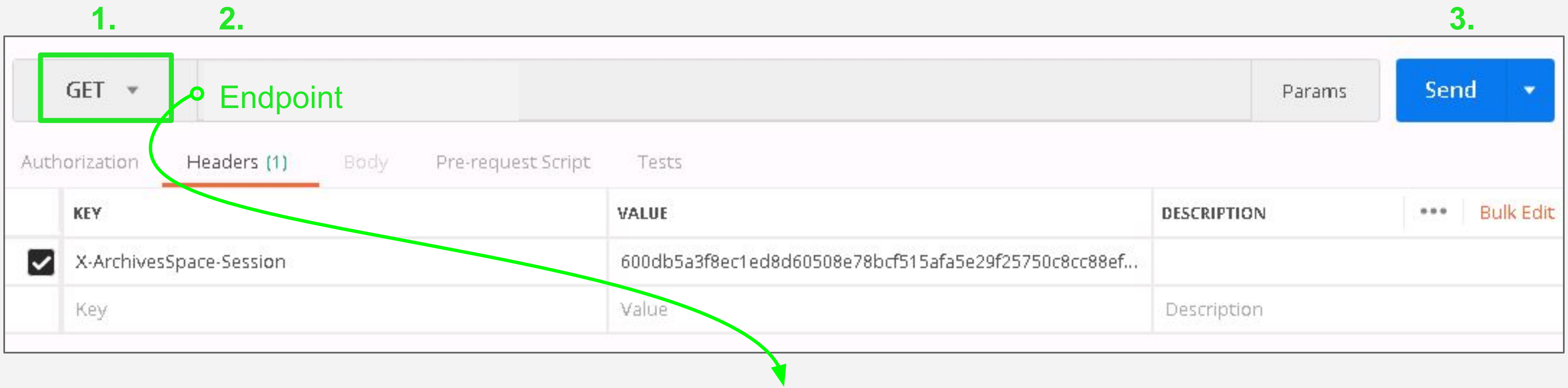


	KEY	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
☑	X-ArchivesSpace-Session	f7772be9e02eb7eb83a9a8bf9ae1ab8bb4b1cad67ee11c13d...	
	Key	Value	Description

Type **X-ArchivesSpace-Session** under Key ; paste from the clipboard under Value

GET from AS with Postman

With our authentication info in place, let's GET a resource record in **3 steps**.



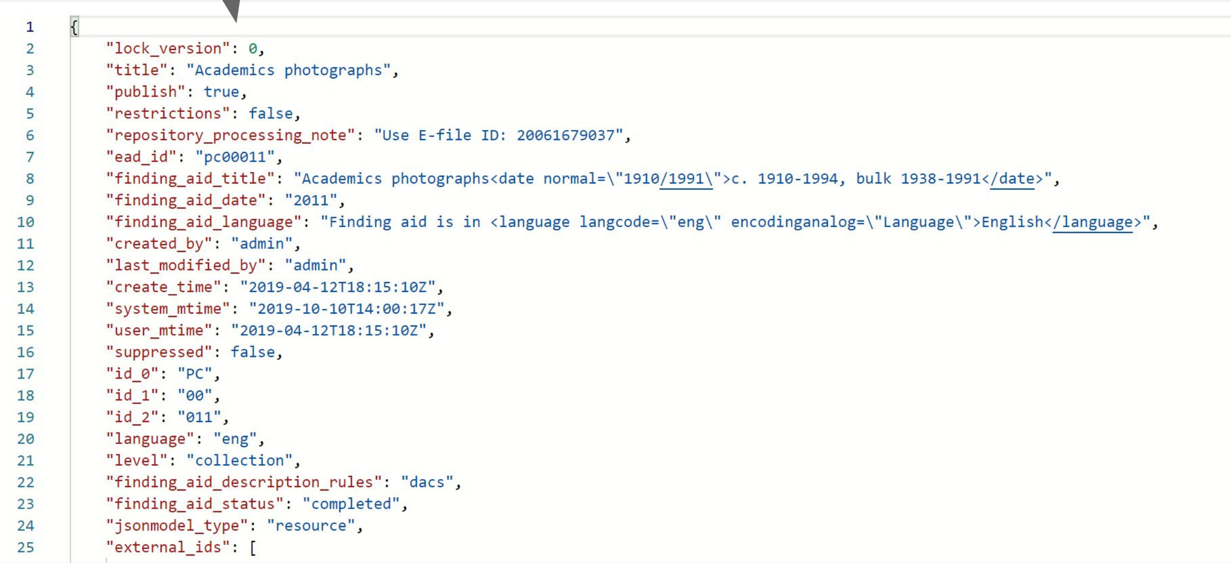
	KEY	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
☑	X-ArchivesSpace-Session	600db5a3f8ec1ed8d60508e78bcf515afa5e29f25750c8cc88ef...	
	Key	Value	Description

Endpoint: https://localhost:8089/repositories/2/resources/1

GET from AS with Postman

Did you get a result?

If you didn't get a result, check spelling, check POST versus GET, make sure there really is a resources/1 in ASpace, start over, or email me: vaddonizio@atlas-sys.com



```
{
    "lock_version": 0,
    "title": "Academics photographs",
    "publish": true,
    "restrictions": false,
    "repository_processing_note": "Use E-file ID: 20061679037",
    "ead_id": "pc00011",
    "finding_aid_title": "Academics photographs<date normal=\"1910/1991\">c. 1910-1994, bulk 1938-1991</date>",
    "finding_aid_date": "2011",
    "finding_aid_language": "Finding aid is in <language langcode=\"eng\" encodinganalog=\"Language\">English</language>",
    "created_by": "admin",
    "last_modified_by": "admin",
    "create_time": "2019-04-12T18:15:10Z",
    "system_mtime": "2019-10-10T14:00:17Z",
    "user_mtime": "2019-04-12T18:15:10Z",
    "suppressed": false,
    "id_0": "PC",
    "id_1": "00",
    "id_2": "011",
    "language": "eng",
    "level": "collection",
    "finding_aid_description_rules": "dacs",
    "finding_aid_status": "completed",
    "jsonmodel_type": "resource",
    "external_ids": [
```

GET from AS with Postman

Try a few more Endpoints. Compare the endpoints with the staff interface. Read the JSON.

https://localhost:8089/repositories/2/resources/1542

https://localhost:8089/repositories/2/accessions/900

Though these will only work if you have > 1542 resource records of 900 accessions. Try starting with a particular resource in mind.

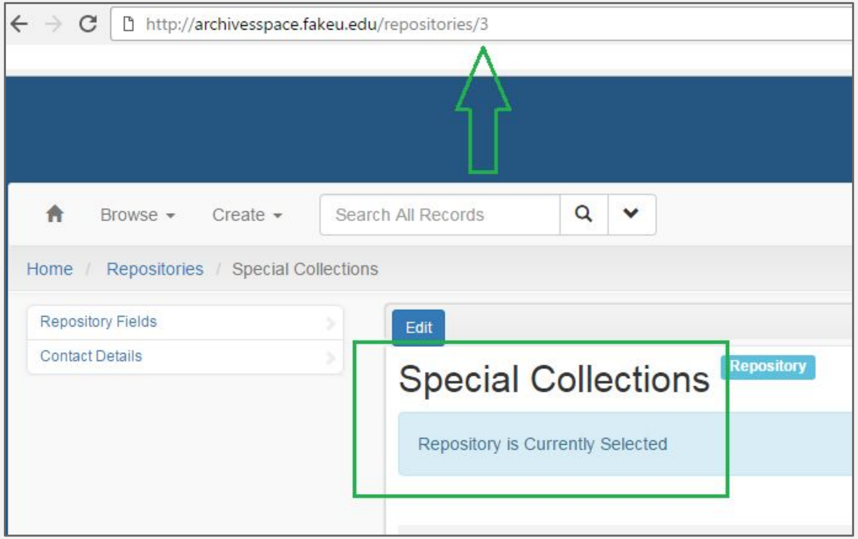
Go crazy and try an endpoint from scratch: https://archivesspace.github.io/archivesspace/api/

(helpful slides follow this slide)

The staff interface — just another lens on the same data — is helpful for constructing API requests.

If you have permissions to, go to Systems > Manage Repositories > View to determine repository numbers.

Determining the repository number:



http://archivesspace.fakeu.edu/repositories/3

Sample endpoint from documentation: [:GET] /repositories/:repo_id/resources/:id

Real life: https://archivesspace.fake.edu:8089/repositories/5/resources/1786

[:GET]	The command that this endpoint supports. This is not actually part of the endpoint. Do not use it when constructing an endpoint. Note that in Postman it is merely a selection of a command.
	This blank space is reserved for your API's address. In other documentation, you may see this given as http://localhost:8089. If you see "Localhost" in this context, it means "put your address here;" 8089 is the port number for the API, which is sometimes hidden behind your URL.
/repositories	The presence of "repositories" here means that this endpoint is repository-specific. Some endpoints are not repo-specific.
/:repo_id	The presence of this colon means this value must be added by you. How can you determine the repository number? You can use the repo endpoint, or, from within AS navigate Systems > Manage Repositories > View a repository and then look at the address bar. Ex. http://archivesspace.fake.edu:8089/repositories/**3**
/resources	Other examples are /accessions or /top_containers. Ex. http://archivesspace.fake.edu:8089/repositories/3**/accessions**
/:id	The presence of this colon means this value must be added by you. How can you determine resource numbers? Navigate to the resource in the interface and its number will be in the address bar. Ex. http://archivesspace.fake.edu:8089/repositories/3/resources/**143**