Heroku

+ Node.JS

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Learn how to build and deploy applications with Heroku and Node.js.

About Heroku

Heroku is a cloud platform as a service (PaaS) supporting several programming languages.

It's an easy and powerfull way to deploy applications on the cloud and scale it easily. Heroku supports many programming languages: Python, PHP, Java, Javascript (Node.js), Clojure and Scala.

In this book, we'll learn how to deploy Javascript/Node.JS application on Heroku.

About Node.JS

Node.js is a software platform for scalable server-side and networking applications. Node.js applications are written in JavaScript, and can be run within the Node.js runtime on Mac OS X, Windows and Linux with no changes.

In this book, we'll consider that you now the basics about We Applications and Javascript, and we'll be only focus on the heroku and deployment part.

Creating the Application

The first of this course is to create a Node.js application that can run on Heroku and locally (for testing).

Creation of a Git Repository

Our source code is going to be stored in a Git repository. Heroku uses Git for deployment, and it's also a better habit to use git.

To create a new empty repository, run on a terminal:

```
$ mkdir myapp
$ cd myapp
$ git init
```

We are now going to work on this `myapp` folder.

You can also host this repository on GitHub, this is optional but advised:

1. Create a repository on GitHub
2. On a terminal in the `myapp` folder run: `git remote set-url upstream <git url for the repository>`

The url for the repository on GitHub is in the format: `https://github.com/<username>/<repository>.git` .

Creation of a base for a Node.js application

Now that our git repository is ready, we can start working on writting our node.js application.

In a terminal in the `myapp` folder, run:

```
$ npm init
```

It will ask you for multiple questions and generate a `package.json` file. This file will contain the list of your dependencies (the librairies our program will depend on) and some others descriptives informations.

Commit our base

It's time to commit our first commit for this application:

```
$ git add package.json
$ git commit -m "Base package.json"
```

And push it to GitHub:

```
$ git push
```