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Deploying your first Node.js Application to IBM Bluemix

Miracle Summer of Code Virtual Labs Series

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Miracle's SoC Series : Deploying your first Node Application to IBM Bluemix

Overview

In this lab we will be creating a sample node application in Cloud9(A Online Editor) and will then deploy this application to IBM Bluemix by using the Cloud Foundry CLI.

Prerequisites

You will need the following to complete this lab successfully,

- Active email ID for registering with Bluemix
- Up to date browser to access Cloud9 and Bluemix
- Registered and active accounts with Cloud9 and Bluemix

Note : You will not be required to download (or) install anything on your laptops for this lab, but this lab can be recreated on your laptop instead of using C9.

Technology Involved

The following technologies will be covered in this lab,

- IBM Bluemix(PaaS)
- Node.js and NPM
- Express.js(Routing Framework)
- Cloud9(Web IDE)
- Cloud Foundry CLI(Open PaaS)
- HTML/CSS/JavaScript

**Basic knowledge on web applications and using the command line will be beneficial but not entirely required*

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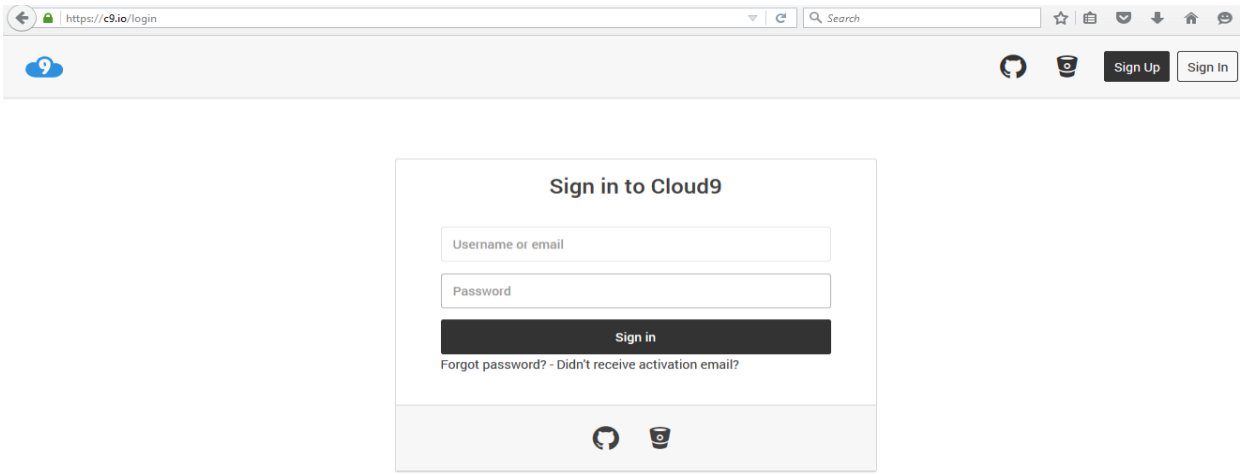
Lab Steps

So, let us get started with the lab!

#1 | Access Cloud9

The first step would be to access Cloud9 and either register (or) login to your account. Login at **https://c9.io/login** (or) register at **https://c9.io/signup**.



#2 | Create a new workspace

Create a new workspace in Cloud9 by clicking on the new workspace button(As Shown Below). When prompted fill in the following details,

- **Workspace Name** – Define what your workspace will contain
- **Description** – Describe the contents of your workspace
- Under Hosted Workspace, select the **public** option
- **Template** – Choose the Node.js template to get Node/NPM pre-installed

Click on **"Create Workspace"** to create your new workspace and initialize the terminal for you with Node.js and NPM pre-installed. You will be automatically taken to your new workspace.

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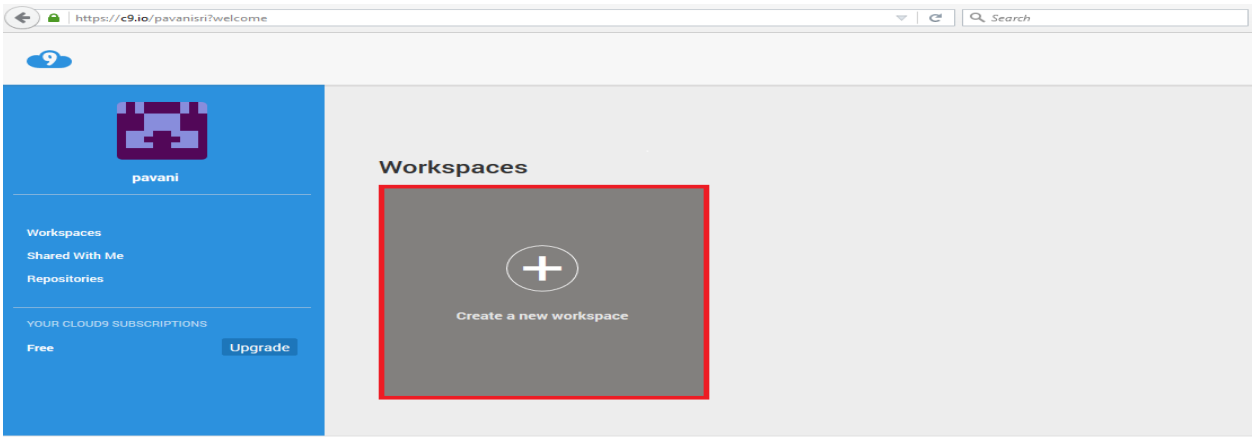
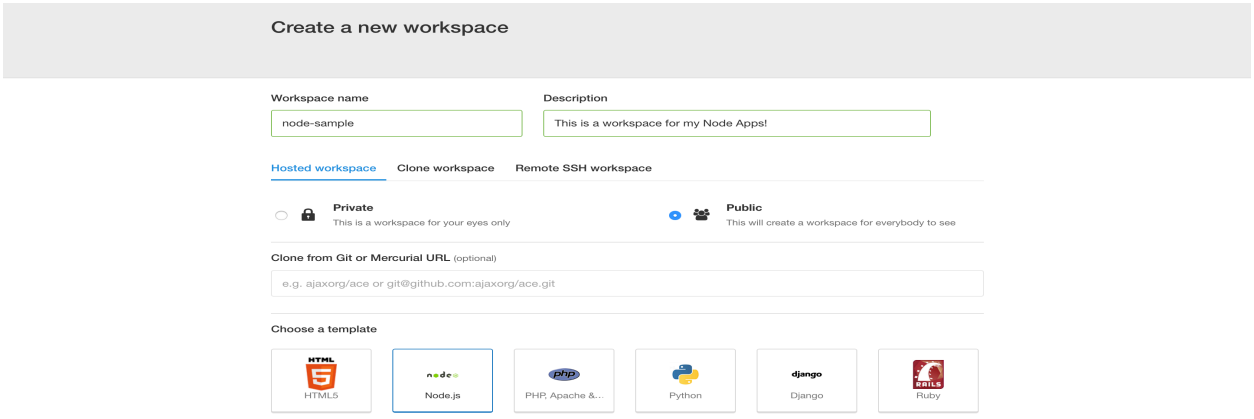
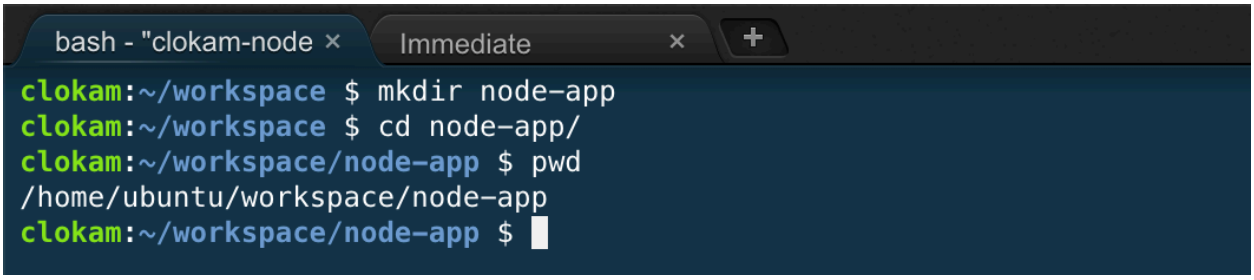




#3| Create a sample API Route using Express and Node

Create a new directory using the "**mkdir** <directory name>" command in the terminal provided at the bottom. Then navigate to that directory in current bash terminal using **cd** <directory name>.



Then initialize your Node Project by creating the **package.json** file with the **npm init** command. When prompted enter more information about your application.

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```
bash - "clokam-node ×   Immediate ×
clokam:~/workspace/node-app $ npm init
This utility will walk you through creating a package.json file.
It only covers the most common items, and tries to guess sensible defaults.

See `npm help json` for definitive documentation on these fields
and exactly what they do.

Use `npm install <pkg> --save` afterwards to install a package and
save it as a dependency in the package.json file.

Press ^C at any time to quit.
name: (node-app)
version: (1.0.0)
description: This is a sample node application!
entry point: (index.js) server.js
test command:
git repository:
keywords:
author: Chanakya Lokam
license: (ISC)
About to write to /home/ubuntu/workspace/node-app/package.json:

{
  "name": "node-app",
  "version": "1.0.0",
  "description": "This is a sample node application!",
  "main": "server.js",
  "scripts": {
    "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\" && exit 1"
  },
  "author": "Chanakya Lokam",
  "license": "ISC"
}


Is this ok? (yes) ye
```

Once created you can see the file with the **cat package.json** command.

```
bash - "clokam-node ×   Immediate ×
clokam:~/workspace/node-app $ cat package.json
{
  "name": "node-app",
  "version": "1.0.0",
  "description": "This is a sample node application!",
  "main": "server.js",
  "scripts": {
    "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\" && exit 1"
  },
  "author": "Chanakya Lokam",
  "license": "ISC"
}
```

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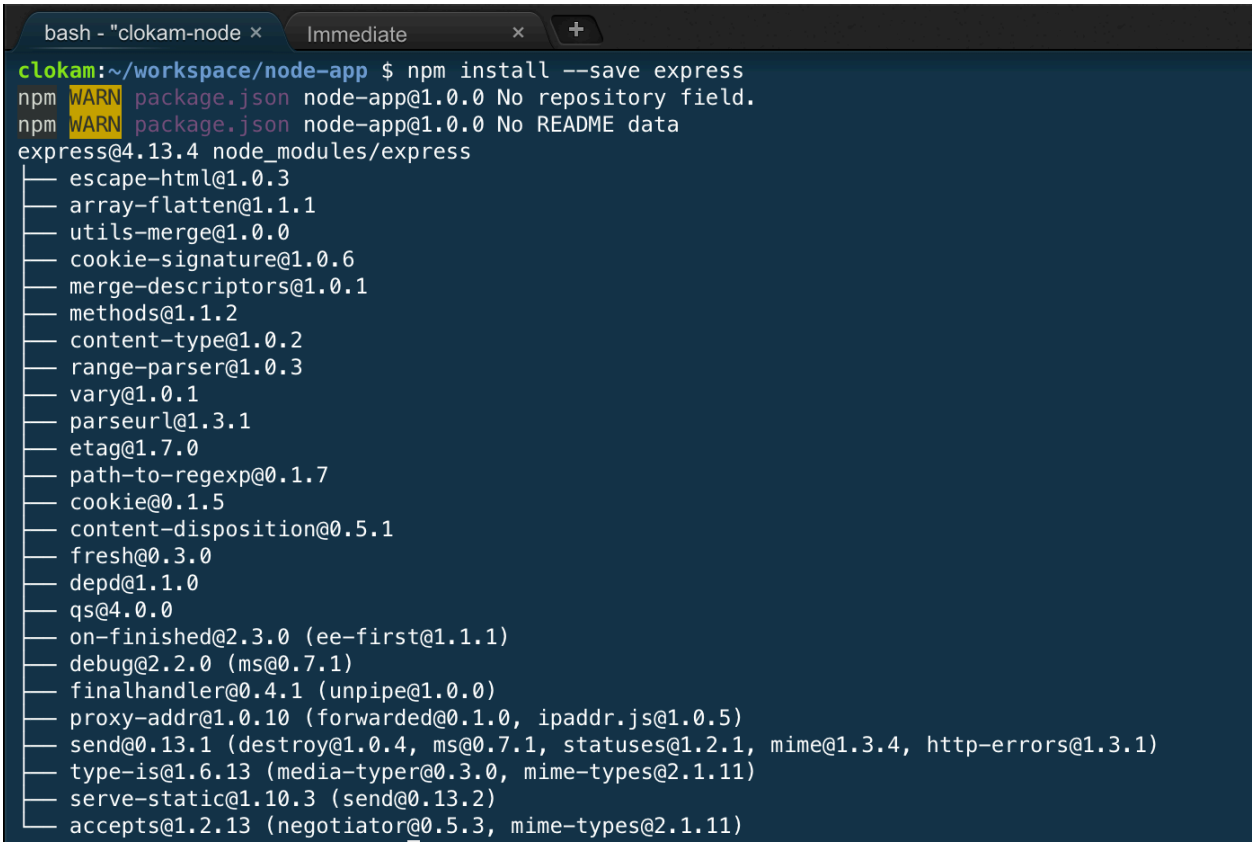
We will be using Express in this example to route our application and serve static HTML pages. To install dependencies and also add them to the package.json file, use the npm install command with the --save option. You can install express with the **npm install --save express** command.



You can now again see the **package.json** file and will notice that the express dependency has been added to the dependencies section.

#4 | Let's start coding!

Create the following files in your app directory, and add the given code. These files will form the base of your application.

- **index.html** : Your web page entry point
- **server.js** : Your Node.js Server File that will use Express to serve the index.html page

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index.html

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" Content="text/html;charset=utf-8"/>
<meta content="utf-8" http-equiv="encoding">
<head>
<body style="text-align:center">
<div style="background-color:#2368a0; color:white;  padding:10px; width:40%;
margin-left:30%;margin-top:10%; ">
<h1><center>MIRACLE SOFTWARE SYSTEMS</center></h1>
</div>
<div style="background-color:#00aae7 ; color:white;  padding:10px; width:40%;
margin-left:30%; text-align:center;  ">
<p align="justify">Founded in 1994, Miracle Software Systems, Inc. is a private
minority firm headquartered in Novi, MI(USA).For the past 2 decades teams at
Miracle have helped numerous customers rapidly transition their IT to a Service
Oriented Architecture. With over 1500 employees at Global Development Centers
in 8 countries, Miracle has been able to carve a mark into niche IT Services.</p>
</div>
</body>
</head>
</html>
```

---

server.js

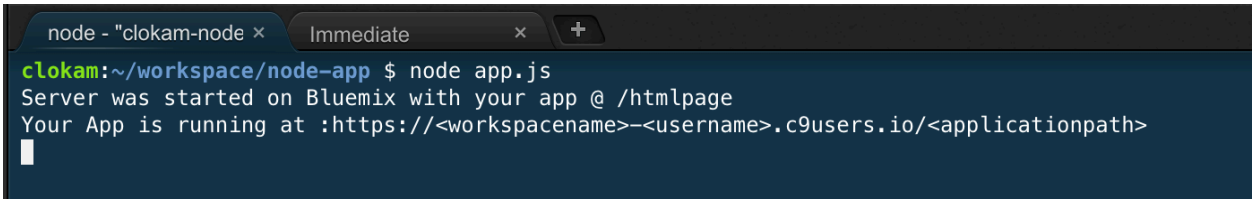
```
var express = require('express');
var app = express();
app.get("/htmlpage", function(req,res){
res.sendFile(__dirname + "/" + "index.html");
});

app.listen(process.env.PORT, process.env.IP, function(){
```

```
 console.log("Server was started on Bluemix with your app @ /htmlpage");
 console.log("You  App is running at :
https://<workspacename><username>.c9users.io/<applicationpath>");
});
```

#5 | Testing the application locally on C9

You can run your application from the terminal with the **node server.js** command.

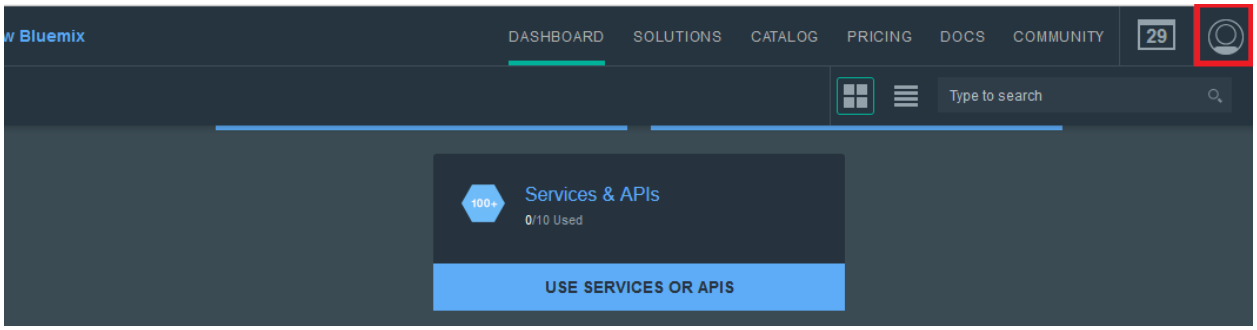


Specify your workspace name, user name and application path in the below URL format and see your application in your browser.

https://<workspacename>-<username>.c9users.io/<applicationpath>

#6 | Access Bluemix

The next step is to make sure that you have access for IBM Bluemix Console with either the free trial option (or) the paid subscription option. Login to Bluemix at **http://bluemix.net** (or) Create a new account today! After logging in you can see your dashboard with your services and applications.



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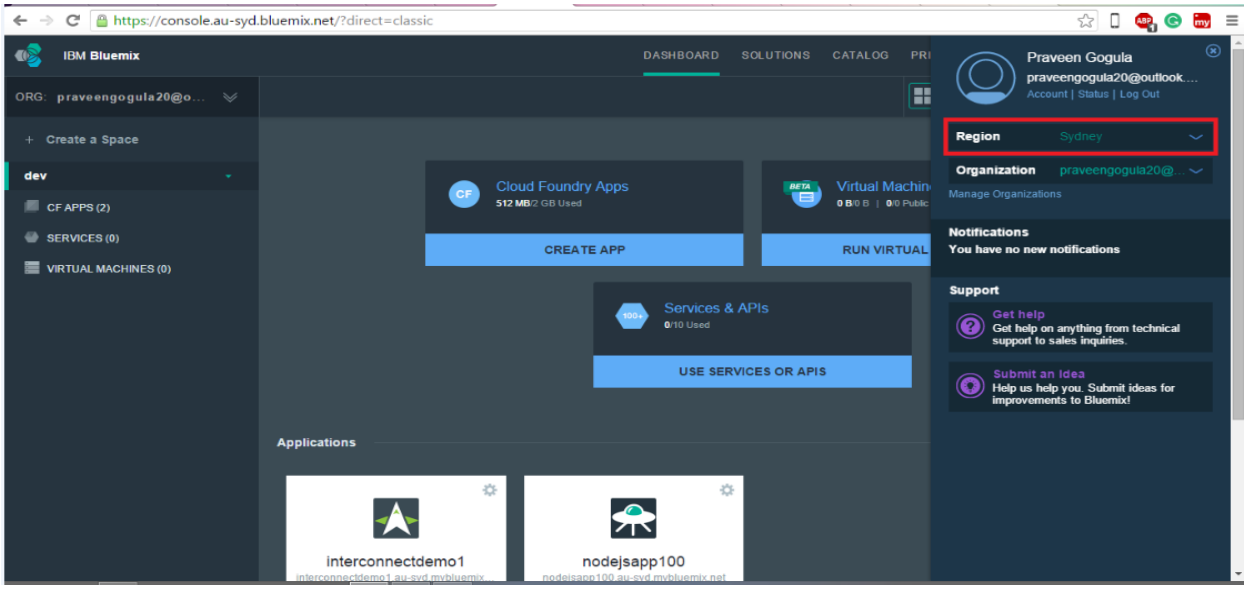
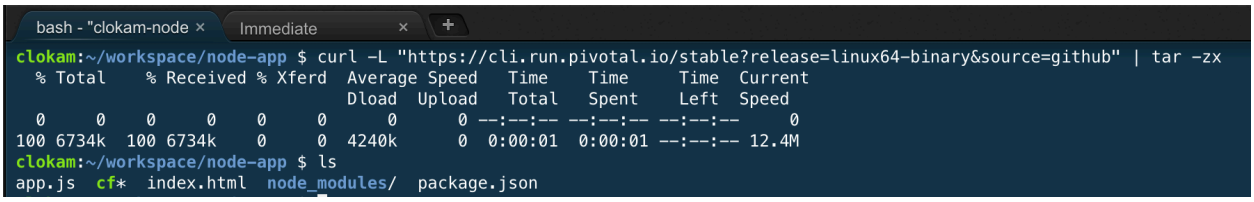
You can also access your profile and check your region as shown below,



#7 | Install CloudFoundry CLI in Cloud9

Download the **CloudFoundry CLI** in C9 terminal using **CURL**,

curl -L "https://cli.run.pivotal.io/stable?release=linux64-binary&source=github" | tar -zx



Login to Bluemix from C9 using "**./cf login** ", and when prompted enter the API endpoint along with Bluemix credentials.

- **For Sydney :** cf api https://api.au-syd.bluemix.net
- **For US South :** cf api https://api.ng.bluemix.net
- **For United Kingdom :** cf api https://api.eu-gb.bluemix.net

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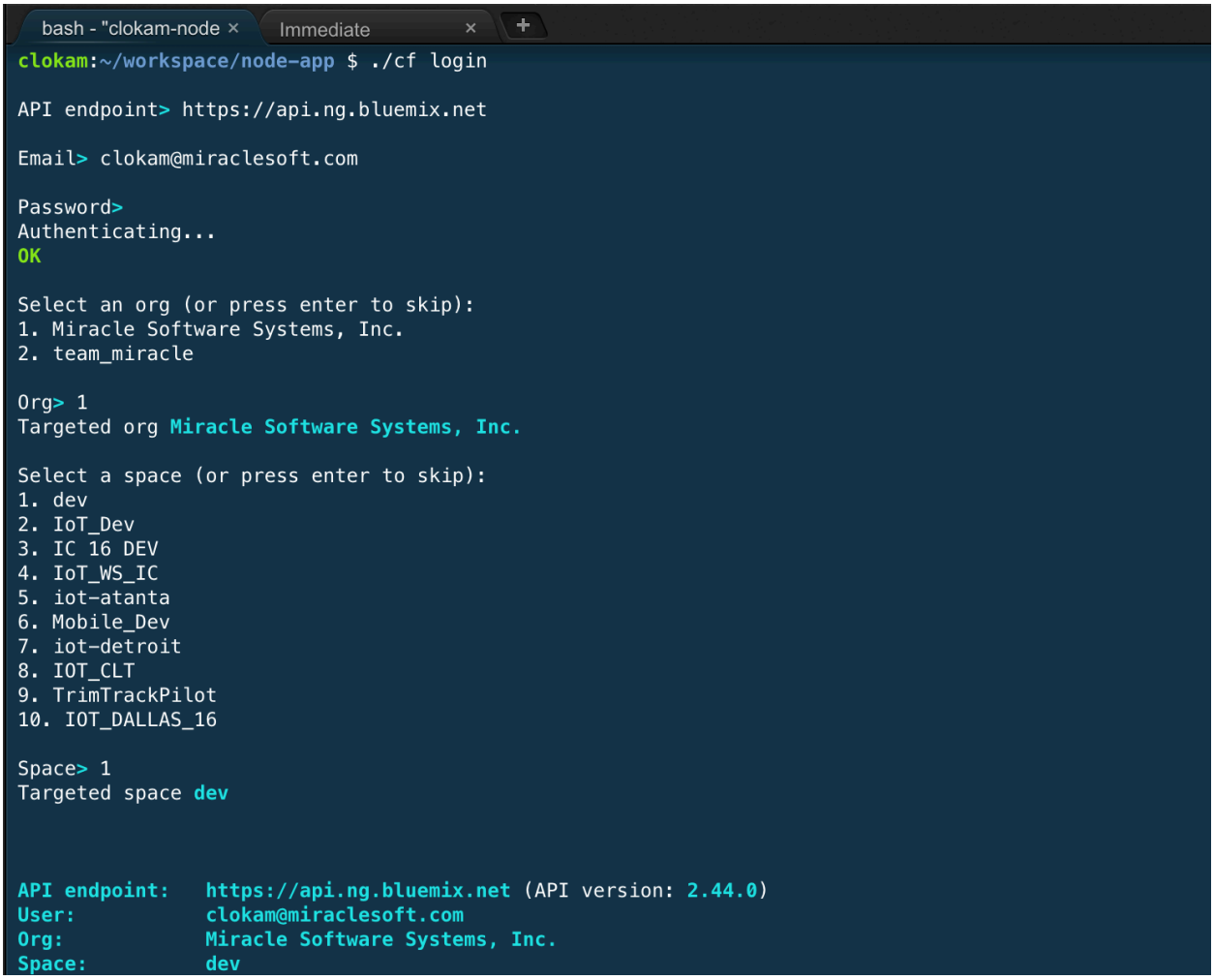

#8 | Create manifest.yml file and Push Application

You will next need to create a manifest file for Bluemix to recognize your application and deploy it to the Node Runtime. Bluemix is based on Cloud Foundry, and within CloudFoundry the Node Buildpack will be able to detect, compile and run the Node.js Application.

manifest.yml

---

applications:
- path: .
  memory: 256M

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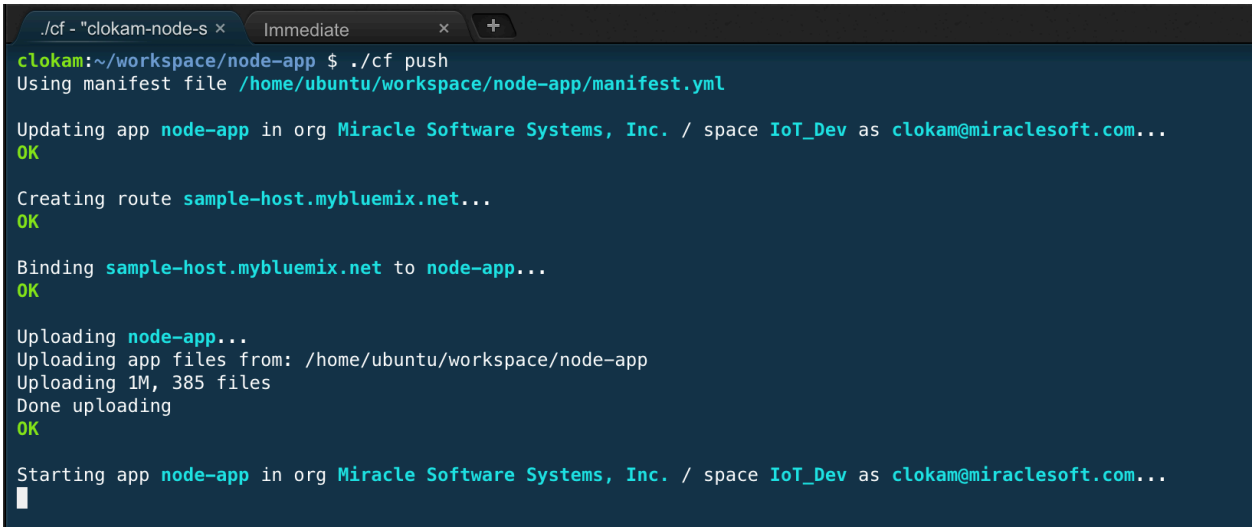
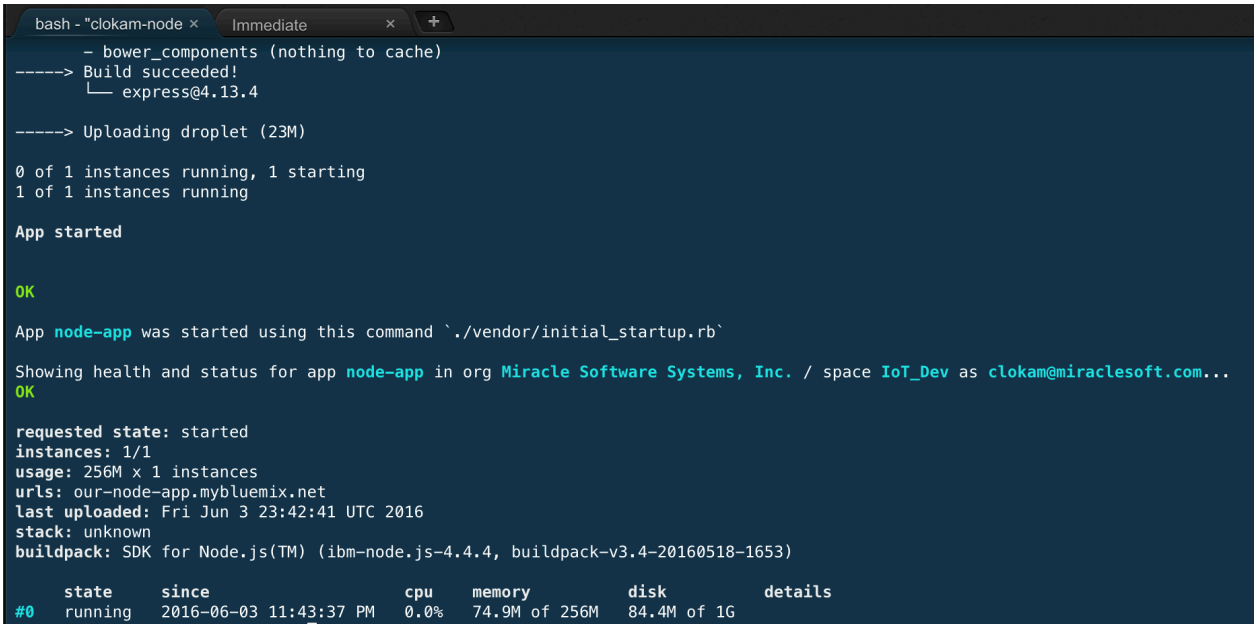
instances: 1
domain: mybluemix.net
name: node-app
host: sample-host
disk_quota: 1024M

Make sure that you are within your application's directory and use the " **./cf push**"command to push your application to you Bluemix Organization.





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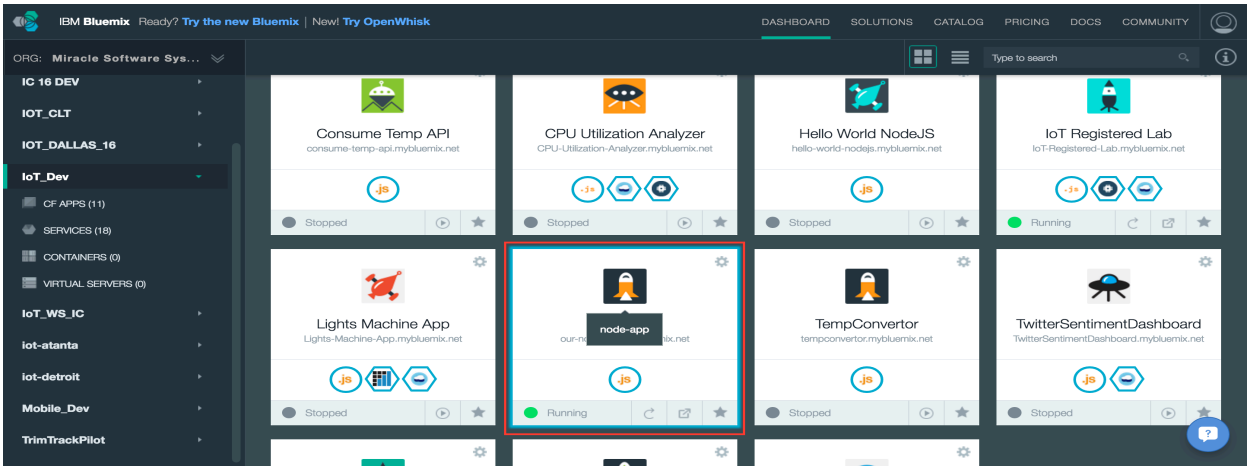
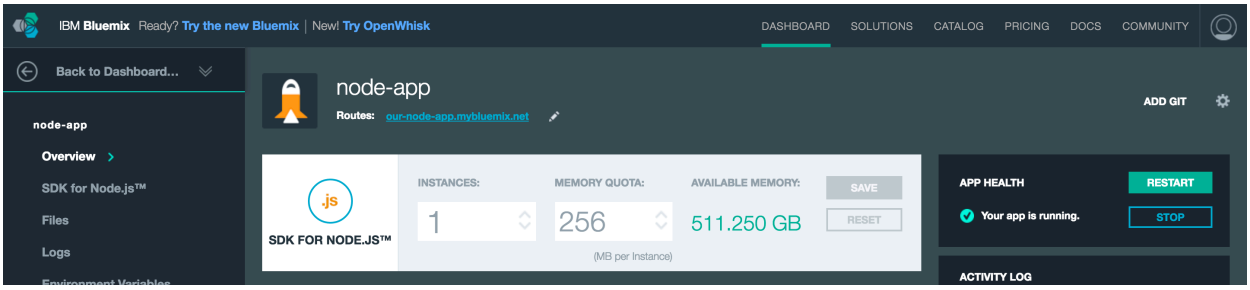
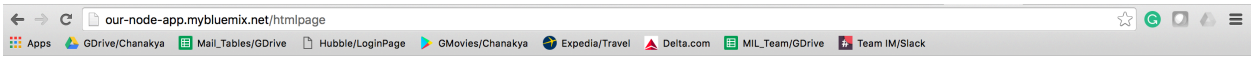
Go back to your Bluemix account in the browser and find your node application.



Click on your app and select your **app route** in the overview page.



Add **/htmlpage** to your Application Route to view your completed and deployed application. You mentioned /htmlpage as your express route in your server.js file and that is why you have to go to that route to access your application.



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