

Introduction to LoopBack

InterConnect
2017



Nice to meet you!

- I'm Raymond Camden!
- Developer Advocate for IBM
- LoopBack, Bluemix, OpenWhisk, Cordova/PhoneGap, Node, and web stuff in general
- Blogging at www.raymondcamden.com
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- Warning: Star Wars/Cat person



Why LoopBack indeed....

- Built on Node
- Easy to Use
- Open Source
- Laser focused on API creation...
- But supports everything else too



Why Build APIs?

APIs give you...

- A way to share your data or processes with others
- A way to provide data for your client-side/mobile/hybrid/TV/etc app
- Or both!



LoopBack.io

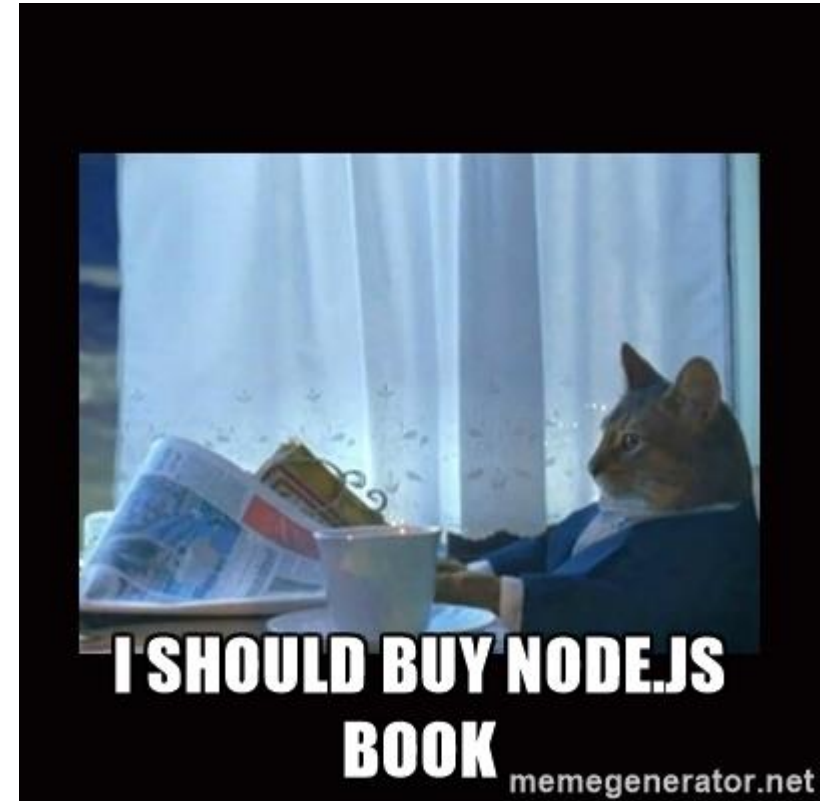
LoopBack

- Open source framework designed for APIs
- Rapid creation of Models and REST APIs
- Simple ORM system for CRUD
- Built on Express
- Very detailed/configurable security policies
- Web site: loopback.io

Getting Started

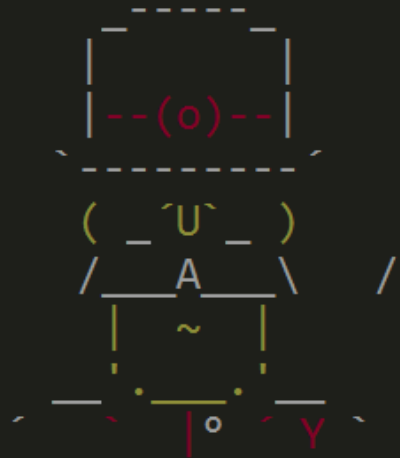
Installation

- Requires npm (Node Package Manager)
- Install Node.js (nodejs.org)
- `npm install -g loopback-cli`
- CLI: `lb`



```
c:\projects\raymondcamdendotcom (master)
```

```
λ lb
```



Let's create a LoopBack application!

```
? What's the name of your application? (raymondcamdendotcom) █
```

Creating an Application

- `lb`
- `lb app`
- Follow the prompts and run it

ENOUGH TALK

TIME TO DEMO

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LoopBack and APIs

- You aren't defining an API
 - I want to support GET /cats
 - I want to handle PUT /cats
- You are defining data
 - I work with Cats (they have names and weights)
- “Ok, let me handle the API for you!”

Models

- Models define your API
- You describe properties – LoopBack does the rest (get it – “REST” heh)
- Inheritance and Relationships
- Out of the box – full CRUD + search APIs

ENOUGH TALK

TIME TO DEMO

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Datasources

- Where LoopBack stores stuff
- Connectors define the connection (brilliant, I know)
- Cloudant, DB2, Memory, MongoDB, MySQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, Redis, SQL Server
- `npm install loopback-connector-mongodb --save`
- Roll your own

ENOUGH TALK

TIME TO DEMO

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Security

- Security system models built in
- Access Control List
- What users can do what
- Users can be grouped into Roles
- Methods can be grouped into read/write

Meh security system.



Let me showz u him!

Customizations

- Remote Hooks
- Operation Hooks
- Remote Methods
- Stuff for Express too

ENOUGH TALK

TIME TO DEMO

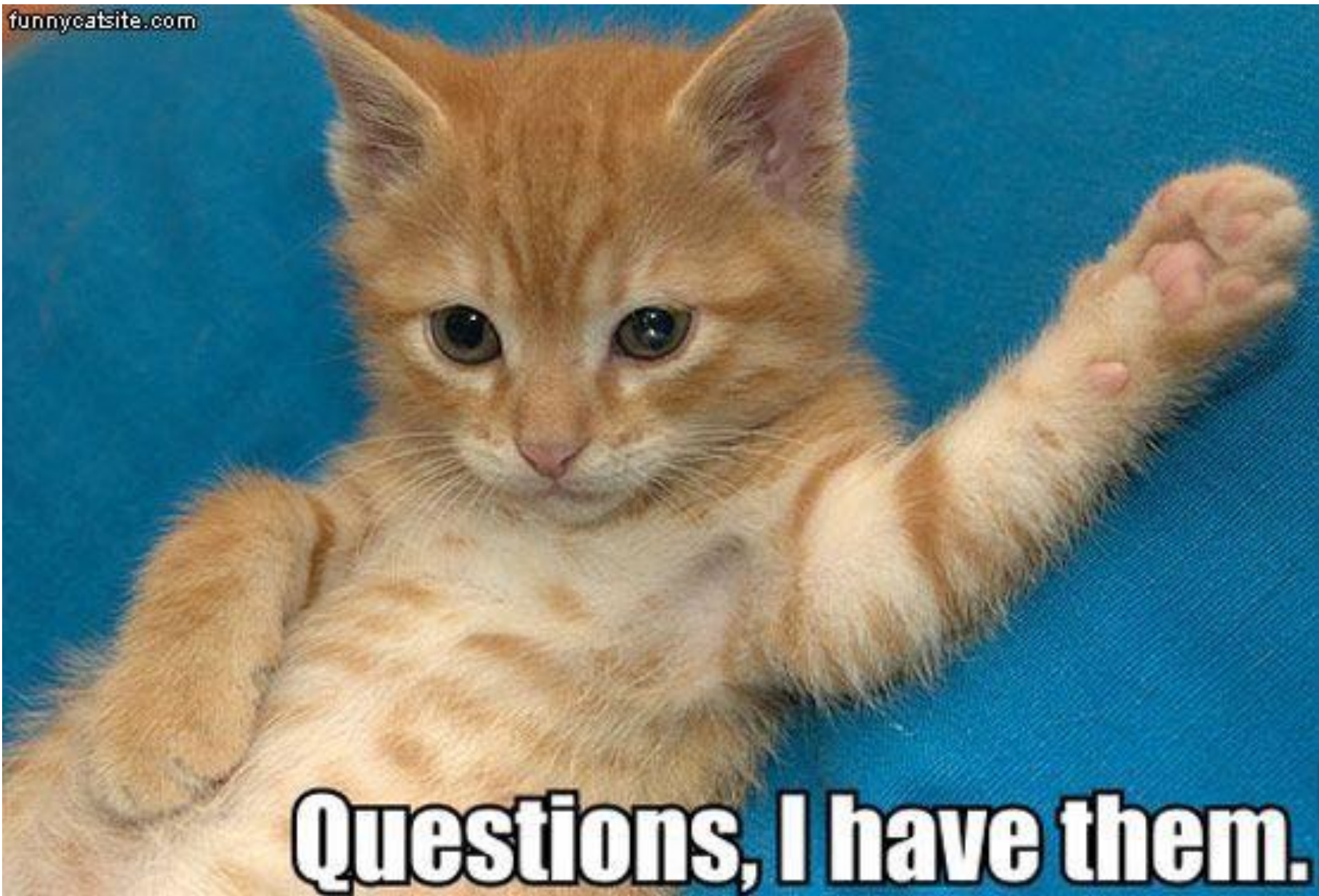
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Additional Random Stuff

- File Attachments
- Models based on APIs (an API for an API)
- And more...

Resources

- Main Site - <http://loopback.io/>
- Docs - <http://loopback.io/doc/>
- Random cool blog entries - <https://strongloop.com/strongblog/category/loopback-2/>



Questions, I have them.

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