

# — Node.js

*Ch 3: Node Module System*

D. HOSTENS & M. DIMA



## — Wat is NPM?

Is a **command-line tool**

But also a

*Registry for third party libraries* which can be added to our projects

<https://www.npmjs.com/>

*Libraries are free and open-source, ~~+/- 500K~~ ~~- 2.3M~~ 3.4M*

## — Registry

Surf to <https://www.npmjs.com/>

+/- 500K ~~2.3M~~ 3.4M building blocks

You can create your own Node modules and push them to NPM

Via command-line tool

npm is installed together with Node

In the terminal:

```
~ > npm -v  
11.1.0  
~ > node -v  
v22.13.1  
~ >
```

## — Upgrade or downgrade npm

```
milan@~: ~$ npm i -g npm@7.4.3
```

npm = the package manager

i = short for install (install also works)

-g = global (not locally in the app)

npm = name of the npm package you want to install

@versie = optional, the version

Similar syntax to install all packages (not only npm)

sudo possibly needed on Mac/linux

## — package.json file

Keeps information about your application

When npm is used all Node apps have this file

```
milan@nodeVb ~$ mkdir npm-demo
```

```
milan@nodeVb ~$ cd npm-demo
```

```
milan@npm-demo ~$ npm init
```

This utility will walk you through creating a  
package.json file.

```
...
```

```
milan@npm-demo ~$ ls
```

```
package.json
```

```
milan@npm-demo ~$
```

npm init --yes (or -y if you want to skip the wizard)

## — Add a 3rd Party library to your app

We will install underscore (popular js library)

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/underscore>

in the terminal (mind the path)!

```
milan@npm-demo ~ $ npm i underscore
added 1 package, and audited 2 packages in 2s
found 0 vulnerabilities
milan@npm-demo ~ $
```

Before: `npm i package --save` : now not needed anymore!

Check the dependencies under your package.json file

```
"dependencies": {
  "underscore": "^1.12.0"
}
```

## — Import a 3rd party library in your app

In VS Code, we create a new file: index.js

```
var _ = require('underscore');
```

On require packages will be searched in this sequence:

1. node module `require('library')` or `require('node:library')`  
file or directory `require('./library')`
2. `node_modules require('library')`

See <http://underscorejs.org/> for more documentation

we use the `.contains()` operation on arrays

```
var result = _.contains([1,2,3], 2);
console.log(result);
milan@npm-demo: ~ node index.js
true
```

# — var, let or const?

*What to use?*

- Since ES6 let and const added
- Var variables can be redeclared and changed. They are function-scoped

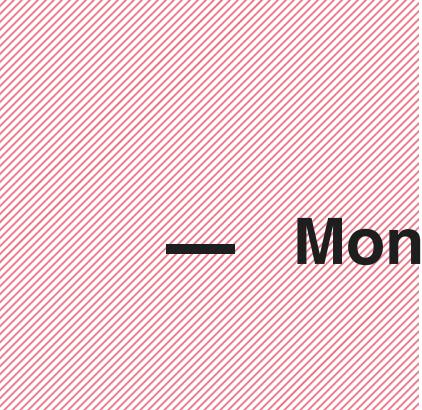
```
var greeter = "hey hi";
var greeter = "say Hello instead";
greeter = "say Hello instead";
```

- Let variables can be changed but not redeclared. Are also block-scoped, inside {}

```
let greeting = "say Hi";
let greeting = "say Hello instead"; // error: Identifier 'greeting' has already been declared
```

- Const variables can not be changed nor redeclared. Also block-scoped, inside {}

```
const greeting = "say Hi";
greeting = "say Hello instead"; // error: Assignment to constant variable.
const greeting = "say Hello instead"; // error: Identifier 'greeting' has already been declared
```



## — MongoDB Library - Lab

Install mongoose in a new application

What is the installed version?

Check the two package.json files (app and mongoose)

What do you see inside the node\_modules folder?

## — Dependencies and the `node_modules` directory

**Dependencies:** Some libraries also install their own dependencies.

**Before:** Dependencies were placed in the package folder.

**Problem:** Dependencies were installed multiple times in a nested structure.

**Additional problem:** Limited path length by Windows.

**Solution:** All dependencies are placed at the root level, unless a different version of a package is needed than an already installed dependency.

## — NPM en Source control

**Don't commit** node\_modules! (often 100+ MB)

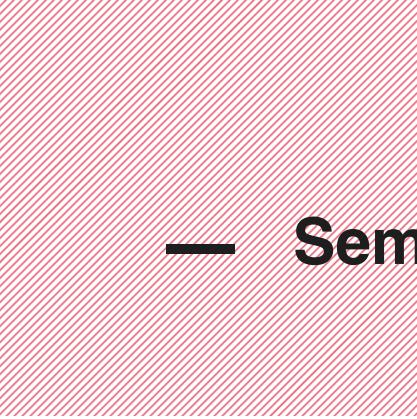
How? In `.gitignore` exclude all unwanted files  
`node_modules/`

You create the `.gitignore` file and add all files and directories you do NOT wish to commit to it.

Everything else will be *committed*

When you clone a new node project: `npm i` or `npm install`

**Tip:** with `git status` you can see what files will be committed



## — Semantic versioning

Semantic versioning (SemVer)

E.g.: ^1.8.3

^ : caret sign or roof, sometimes ~ (tilde) means at least this version or highest minor version

1 : Major (breaking update)

8 : Minor (non-breaking update)

3 : Patch (small bug-fixes)

Sometimes noted as: 1.X instead of ^1.8.3

Without caret ^ or ~ : 1.8.3 = only this version

## — Check version

in the `package.json` file in the root of the project

Or

With the following commands:

```
milan@npm-demo: ~ $ npm list
npm-demo@1.0.0 /Users/milan/Dev/nodeVb/npm-demo
  └── mongoose@5.11.17
    └── underscore@1.12.0
```

```
milan@npm-demo: ~ $ npm list --depth=1
npm-demo@1.0.0 /Users/milan/Dev/nodeVb/npm-demo
  └── mongoose@5.11.17
    ├── @types/mongodb@3.6.7
    └── bson@1.1.5
...
...
```

## — Dependencies

See [npmjs.org](https://npmjs.org) or

```
milan@npm-demo: ~ $ npm view mongoose
mongoose@5.11.17 | MIT | deps: 12 | versions: 641
Mongoose MongoDB ODM
https://mongoosejs.com
...
dependencies:
@types/mongodb: ^3.5.27          mquery: 3.2.4
bson: ^1.1.4                      ms: 2.1.2
...
...
```

## — Dependencies cont.

See only the dependencies:

```
milan@npm-demo ~$ npm view mongoose dependencies
{
  '@types/mongodb': '^3.5.27',
  bson: '^1.1.4',
  kareem: '2.3.2',
  mongodb: '3.6.4',
...
}
```

All *released* versions:

```
milan@npm-demo ~$ npm view mongoose versions
[
  '0.0.1',           '0.0.2',           '0.0.3',
  '0.0.4',           '0.0.5',           '0.0.6' ...
]
```

## — Upgrade and downgrade npm package

Install a specific version (up- or downgrade)

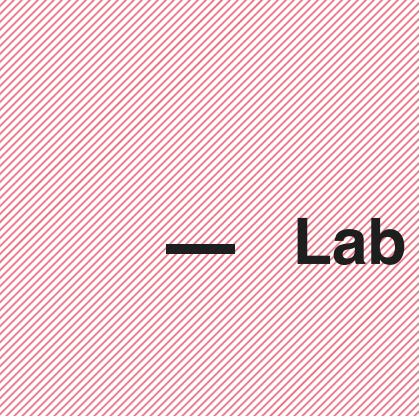
```
milan@npm-demo ~ $ npm i mongoose@2.4.2
added 2 packages, removed 34 packages, changed 2
packages, and audited 6 packages in 3s
found 0 vulnerabilities
```

in [package.json](#) of the mongoose package we can now see:

```
"name": "mongoose"
, "description": "Mongoose MongoDB ODM"
, "version": "2.4.2"
```

in [package.json](#) of the app:

```
"mongoose": "^2.4.2",
```



## — Lab

downgrade underscore to 1.4.0

## — Versions

What new packages versions are available in the meantime?

```
milan@npm-demo ~$ npm outdated
```

Package	Current	Wanted	Latest	Location	Depended by
mongoose	2.4.2	2.9.10	5.11.17	node_modules/mongoose	npm-demo
underscore	1.4.0	1.12.0	1.12.0	node_modules/underscore	npm-demo

```
milan@npm-demo ~$
```

npm update : only minor updates and patches!

```
milan@npm-demo ~$ npm outdated
```

Package	Current	Wanted	Latest	Location	Depended by
mongoose	2.9.10	2.9.10	5.11.17	node_modules/mongoose	npm-demo

Tip: also see the package: npm-check-updates

## — Dev dependencies

Until now: application dependencies

Sometimes also *development-only* dependencies needed

We install jshint (finds syntax errors inside your code)

```
milan@npm-demo ~ $ npm i jshint --save-dev
added 31 packages, and audited 37 packages in 4s
...
milan@npm-demo ~ $ jshint index.js
```

in package.json

```
"devDependencies": {
  "jshint": "^2.12.0"
```

## — Uninstall package

npm un *package* or npm uninstall *package*

```
milan@npm-demo ~ $ npm un mongoose
removed 4 packages, and audited 33 packages in 2s
...
milan@npm-demo ~ $
```

Gets deleted in `package.json` and from the `node_modules` folder

## — Global packages

Some packages are not app specific

Usually commandline-tools such as npm

npm i -g npm (update to latest version op npm)

```
milan@npm-demo ~$ npm -g outdated
Package   Current   Wanted   Latest   Location           Depended_by
npm       7.4.3     7.5.4    7.5.4   node_modules/npm  global
milan@npm-demo ~$
```

uninstall global package: npm un -g package

## — Publish package

We create a new project: `mkdir vives-lib + npm init`

We create a new file `index.js`

```
module.exports.add = function(a, b) { return a + b };
```

We log in `npm login`

If no account yet: `npm adduser` or register on [npmjs.com](https://npmjs.com)

```
milan@vives-lib ~ % npm login
npm notice Log in on https://registry.npmjs.org/
Username: vives
Password: [REDACTED]
Email: (this IS public) milan.dima@vives.be
Logged in as vives on https://registry.npmjs.org/.
milan@vives-lib ~ % npm publish
npm notice
npm notice [REDACTED] vives-lib@1.0.0
...
```

Note that the package name should be unique! Change package name in [package.json](#)

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/vives-lib>

The screenshot shows the npmjs.com website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Products, Pricing, Documentation, and Community. Below the navigation is a search bar with the text "Search packages" and a "Search" button. A message encourages users to check out the public roadmap. The main content area displays the package "vives-lib" version 1.0.0, which was published an hour ago. The package has 0 dependencies and 0 dependents. It features a "Readme" tab (which is currently active), an "Explore" tab (marked as BETA), and tabs for "Dependencies", "Dependents", "Versions", and "Settings". A note states that the package does not have a README and suggests adding one. The "Install" section contains the command "npm i vives-lib". Below this, detailed information is provided: Version 1.0.0, License ISC, Unpacked Size 258 B, Total Files 2, and the last publish time as "an hour ago". The "Collaborators" section is also visible.

vives-lib  
1.0.0 • Public • Published an hour ago

Readme Explore BETA 0 Dependencies 0 Dependents 1 Versions Settings

This package does not have a README. [Add a README](#) to your package so that users know how to get started.

Keywords

none

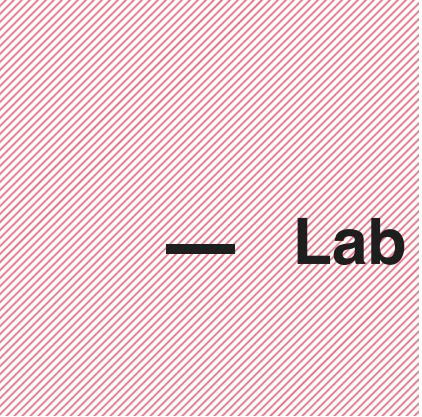
Version 1.0.0 License ISC

Unpacked Size 258 B Total Files 2

Last publish an hour ago

Collaborators

Figuur 1: screenshot van website [npmjs.com](https://www.npmjs.com) waar package vives-lib gepubliceerd is



## — Lab

Create a new folder "adder"

install the [vives-lib](#) package

Import my vives-lib package inside your index.js file and use the add function

## — Import package

```
milan@nodeVb ~ mkdir viveslib-vb
milan@nodeVb ~ cd viveslib-vb
milan@viveslib-vb ~ npm i vives-lib
added 1 package, and audited 2 packages in 3s
found 0 vulnerabilities
```

```
var vives = require('vives-lib');
var result = vives.add(1,2)
console.log(result);
```

```
milan@viveslib-vb ~ node index.js
```

3

```
milan@viveslib-vb ~
```



## — Publish update

in our vives-lib index.js file we add an extra function:

```
module.exports.multiply = function(a, b) { return a * b };
```

npm publish throws an error

in [package.json](#) change version number to 1.1.0 **or**

npm version major/minor/patch

```
milan@vives-lib: ~ npm version minor
```

```
1.1.0
```

```
milan@vives-lib: ~ npm publish
```

```
npm notice
```

```
npm notice  vives-lib@1.1.0
```

```
...
```



# — Lab

See Github Classroom Les 3