Free Python Hosting

Heroku Ubuntu Flask

Heroku Definition

Heroku is a web hosting concept, company, and offering at www.heroku.com that instead of relying on the widely used Apache, Sun and IIS, is geared toward the 'http server' being 'just another plug and play component'

PEP 333

http://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0333/

Abstract

This document specifies a proposed standard interface between web servers and Python web applications or frameworks, to promote web application portability across a variety of web servers.

Heroku Web Servers

This Heroku example will do http requests.

Python examples use Flask or Django. **Rails** stacks - probably Mongrel.

Other Languages

Java, Scala, Clojure

Handling Web Requests, the Heroku Procfile

Or, Having something other than Apache 'Listen' for http requests.

Procfile

web: python hello.py
worker: python nextpidigit.py
dowjones: python getdowfromyahoo.py

Heroku pluses and weakness

Good stuff

- A natural for WSGI
- Free (for one dyno)
- $35.00 / month (2nd)
- Scalable
- Works with Git
- Postgresql free 10k rows

Drawbacks

- Expensive
- Works with Git
- No MySql
- No Sqlite3

Python & Ubuntu 11.04 - setup

sudo apt-get install python-setuptools
sudo apt-get install python-pip
sudo apt-get install python-dev # optional
sudo apt-get install python-virtualenv
ssh-keygen -t rsa

wget -qO- https://toolbelt.heroku.com/install-ubuntu.sh | sh

mkdir MyHerokuPyProject
mkdir MyHerokuPyProject/source

log out and back in or sudo su - ubuntu

Start using the Heroku Toolbelt

```
heroku login
heroku keys:add

cd MyHerokuPyProject
virtualenv vedir --distribute
source vedir/bin/activate

pip install Flask
pip install pil
pip install BeautifulSoup
```

Python Heroku Parameters

pip freeze > requirements.txt
cat >Procfile
web: python hello.py

Now write hello.py, or copy it. It's on google

git init
git add .
git commit -m 'init'
heroku create
git push heroku master

Sample requirements file

BeautifulSoup==3.2.1
Flask==0.9
Jinja2==2.6
PIL==1.1.7
Werkzeug==0.8.3
argparse==1.2.1
distribute==0.6.24
wsgiref==0.1.2