

Web3 Js and IPFS



Overview

- DApps needs to connect to Eth nodes over RPC
- Libraries available
 - Web3.js : Javascript library
 - Web3J : java library
 - **n**ethereum : .Net library
 - Web3.py : Python library



Web3 Js Overview

Exposes multiple APIs for connecting and using Ethereum network over RPC

- **eth** : Ethereum blockchain related methods
- **net** : Node's network related
- **personal** : Account related
- **db** : Level DB related methods
- **shh** : P2P messaging using Whisper



Steps to interact with contracts

1. Install Web3 js
 - ***`npm install web3 --save`***
2. Check if web3 object is already there, if not create one using HttpProvider

```
if (typeof web3 !== 'undefined') {  
  web3 = new Web3(web3.currentProvider);  
} else {  
  // set the provider you want from Web3.providers  
  web3 = new Web3(new Web3.providers.HttpProvider("http://localhost:8545"));  
}
```



Steps to interact with contracts

3. Specify the default ethereum account to use to

- `web3.eth.defaultAccount = web3.eth.accounts[0];`

4. Create contract object using ABI

- `var contractObj= web3.eth.contract(<paste ABI here>);`

5. Create contract instance using contract address

- `var contractInstance = contractObj.at(<Contract address>);`





Steps to interact with contracts

6. Now you can call contract methods

```
contractInstance.setterMethod(param1, param2, {  
  from : '<address of account>',  
  gas : 40000  
}).then(function(result){  
  //callback  
  console.log('Transaction Id = '+ result)  
})
```





IPFS

- Inter Planetary File System
- Peer to Peer distributed file system
- Protocol to create permanent and decentralize method of storing files
- Like any one run Ethereum, any one can run IPFS node and join the IPFS network to form global file system
- Files are replicated across many node
- No chances of losing them



Steps to use IPFS

1. Installation
 - *`npm install --save ipfs-api`*
2. Run the IPFS daemon (see the supported doc for details)
3. Upload files using ipfs object (see the next slide)

Steps to use IPFS

```
//import ipfs
import ipfsAPI from "ipfs-api";
//create ipfs object
const ipfs = ipfsAPI({host: 'localhost', port: '5001', protocol: 'http'})
//creating files object to store in ipfs
const files = [
  {
    path: '<file path>',
    content: '<Buffer or Readable stream>'
  }
];
//call ipfs add function to add files to ipfs
ipfs.files.add(files, function(err, files) {
  //print the hash
  console.log('File hash : ' + files[0].hash)
});
```





References

[Web3 Js API](#)

[Web3.net](#)

[Web3.eth](#)

[Web3.shh](#)

[Web3.db](#)

[Web3 Js Doc](#)

[IPFS Doc](#)

[IPFS API](#)