UNIT 7.
ACTIVITY: CI/CD USING GITLAB ON HEROKU

Web Applications Deployment
CFGS DAW

Important: this activity is not mandatory and does not compute for the final grade.

Importante: esta actividad no es obligatoria y no cuenta para la nota final.

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License

Nomenclature

During this unit we are going to use special symbols to distinct some important elements.

This symbols are:

 Important

 Attention

 Interesting

INDEX

UT07. CONTINUOUS INTEGRATION
ACTIVITY: CI/CD USING GITLAB ON HEROKU

1. INTRODUCTION

In this activity we are going to practice how to deploy a Node.js application using CI/CD (continuous integration/continuous deployment) with GitLab on Heroku.

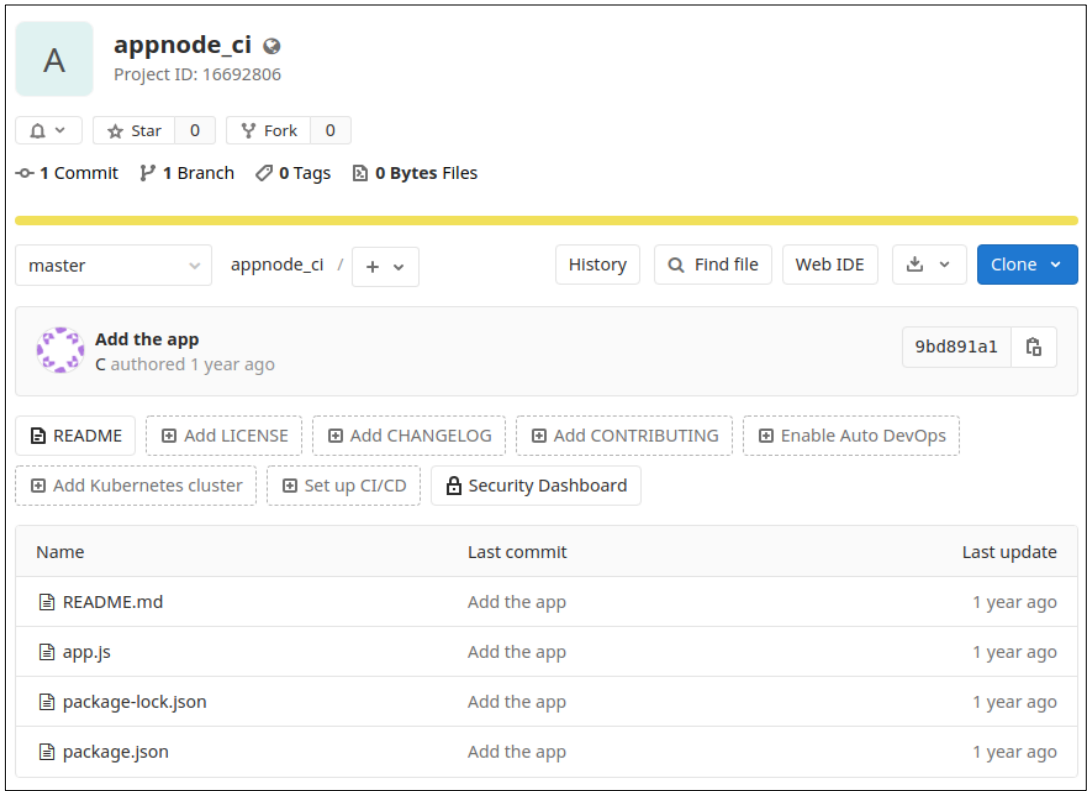
The goal is to configure a GitLab repository with a web application deployed in Heroku, so that every time we do changes to the repository (via git push) a pipeline of jobs will automatically start running (tipically code compilation and tests). If those jobs validate everything works properly, the changes will be deployed straight away to the Heroku app.

You can use your own physical machine or in a virtual machine. I will do it using Ubuntu. Remember you need an Internet connection.

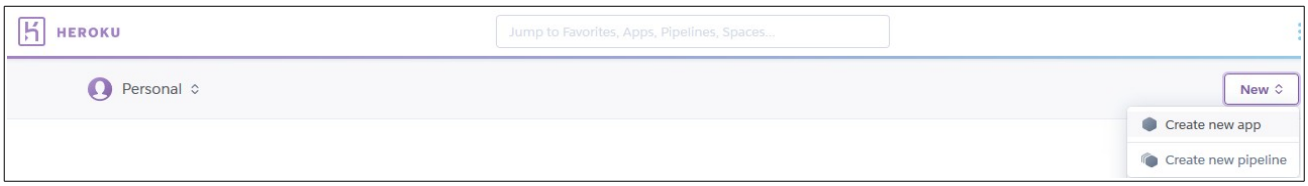
2. CI/CD USING GITLAB ON HEROKU

First of all we need a GitLab repository with the Node.js application we want to use. For this activity you can use this repository: https://gitlab.com/lionel_ceedcv/appnode_ci

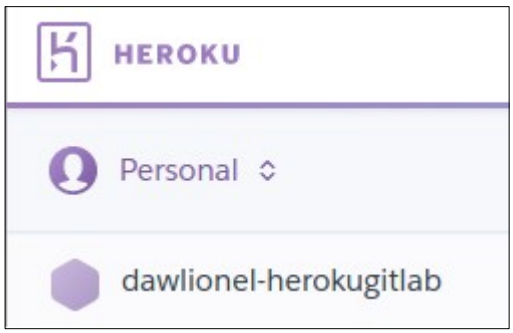
You will need your own repository (to do CI/CD you need privileged access). So you should download the repository above, create you own Gitlab repository and upload/push it there. Another option would be to create a fork of the repository, but as Lionel is not the working here this year I recommend against it.



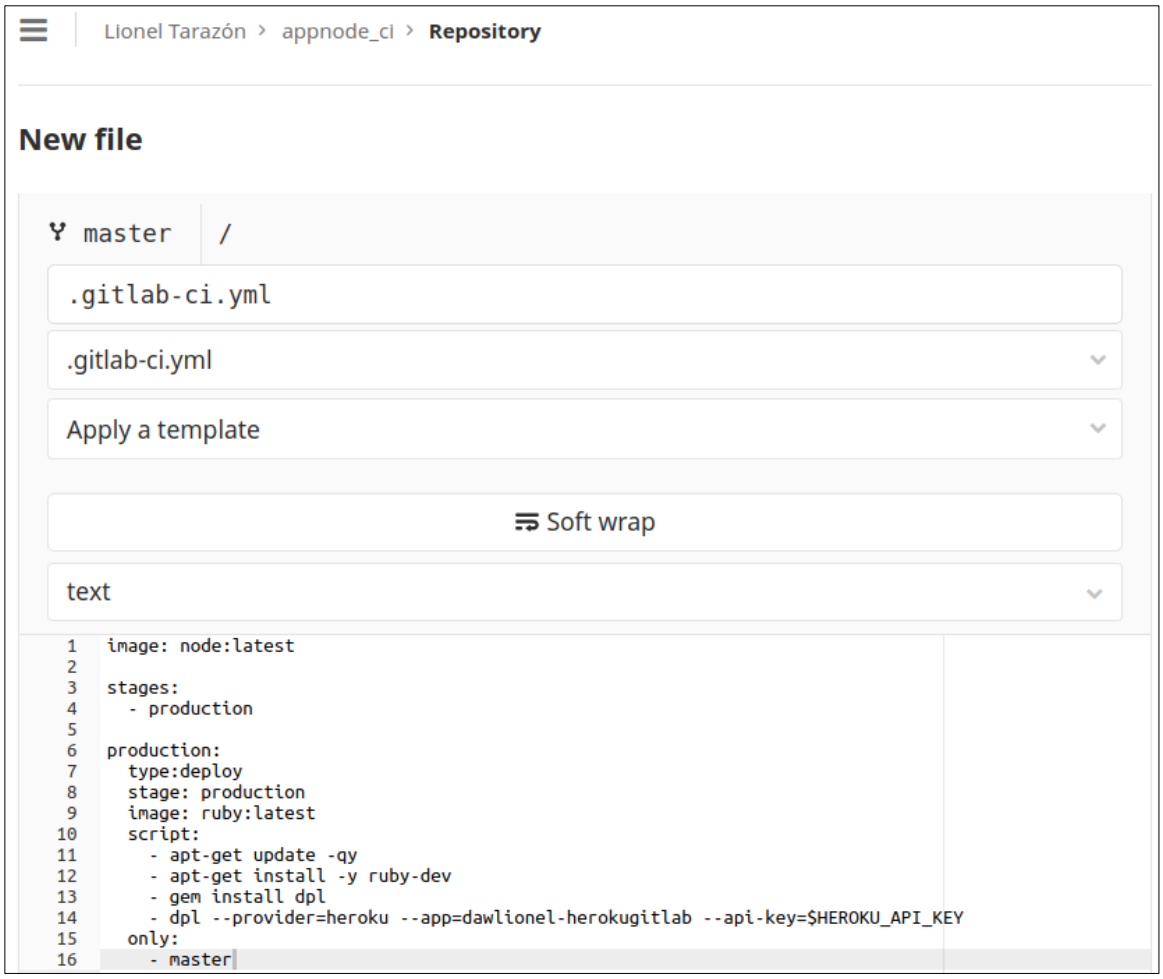
Now we have to create a new application in Heroku clicking on ***New > create new app***:



For instance, we will call it *dawlionel-herokugitlab*:



Now, in our GitLab repository, we need to create and commit a new file called *.gitlab-ci.yml* where we will configure the production stage of our CI pipeline:



A *YAML (Ain't Markup Language*) file is a human-readable data serialization language. It is commonly used for configuration files, but could be used in many applications where data is being stored (e.g. debugging output) or transmitted. Its extensions are *.yaml* or *.yml*.

The explanation of the lines is:

image: node:latest

Indicates the Docker image to use.

stages:
- production

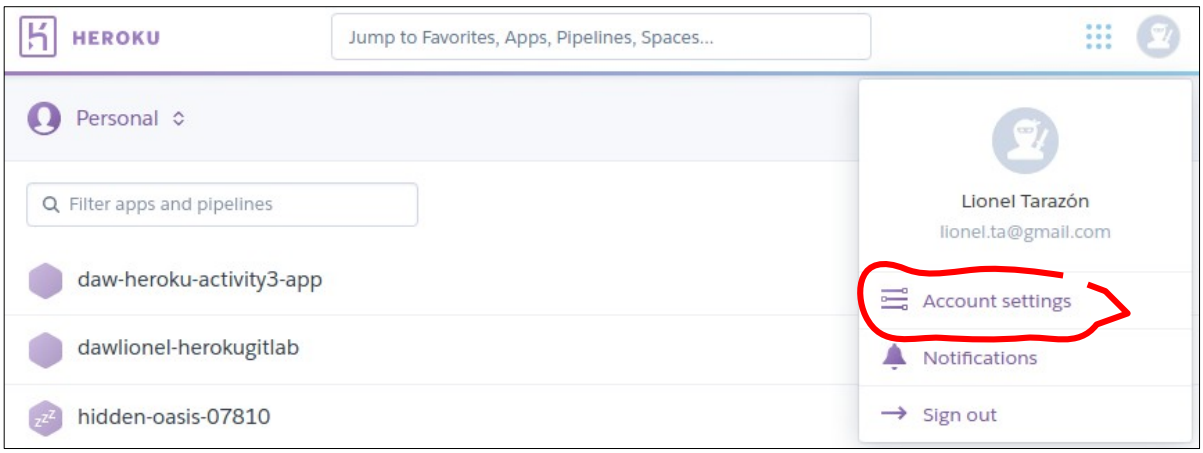
Define stages that the jobs will use them. In this case we define one stage called *production*.

```
production:
  type: deploy
  stage: production
  image: ruby:latest
  script:
    - apt-get update -qy
    - apt-get install -y ruby-dev
    - gem install dpl
    - dpl --provider=heroku --app=dawlionel-herokugitlab --api-key=$HEROKU_API_KEY
  only:
    - master
```

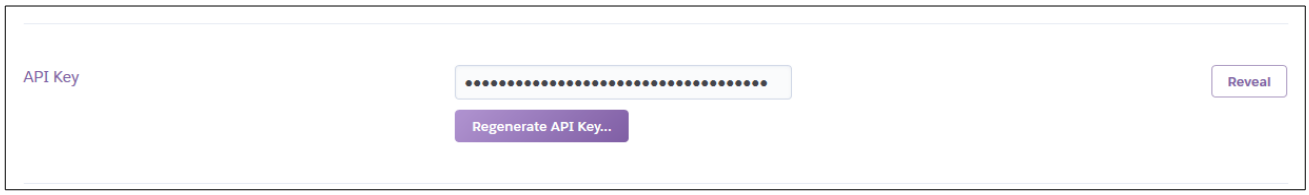
The *stage* production used to deploy uses the Docker image *ruby* and runs this four *scripts* to deploy the app to Heroku. It is important to see that in the provider option we have to write heroku, in app our app name (*dawlionel-herokugitlab* in this case) and in the api-key the environment variable we will create later. Finally we specify that we *only* work with the *master* branch.

You can find more information about *.gitlab-ci.yml* in this official documentation: https://docs.gitlab.com/ee/ci/yaml/

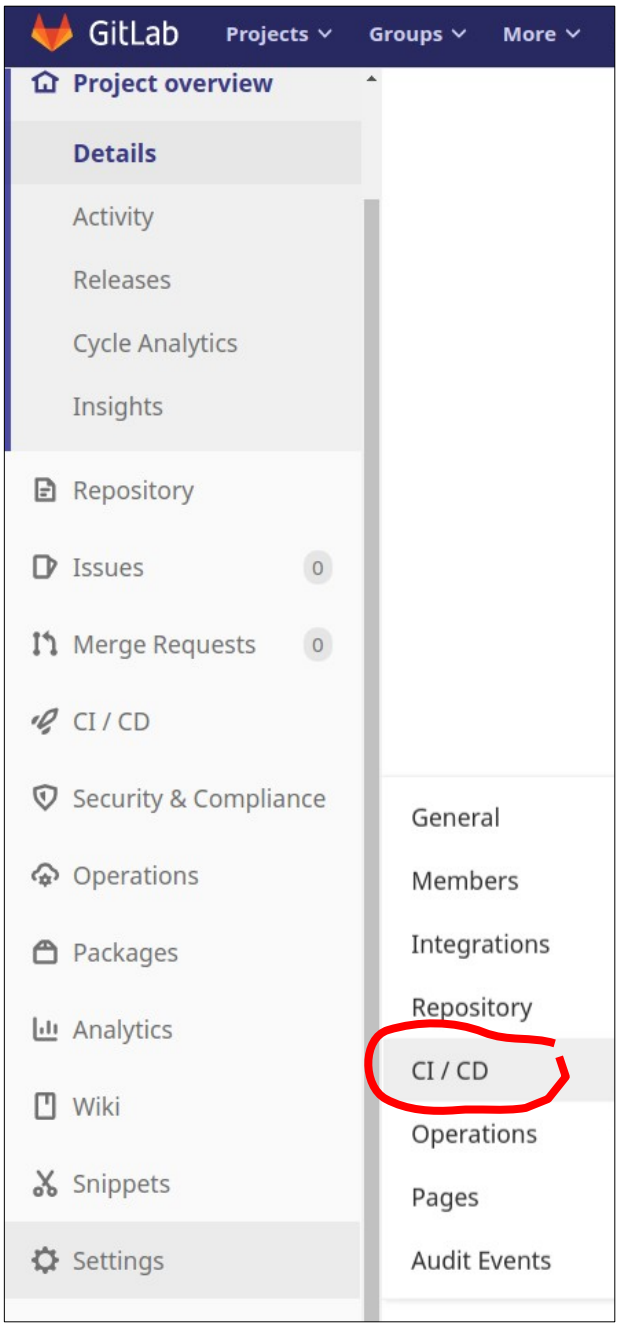
Now we have to store our Heroku API key in GitLab. We can find the key in ***Profile > Account settings***:



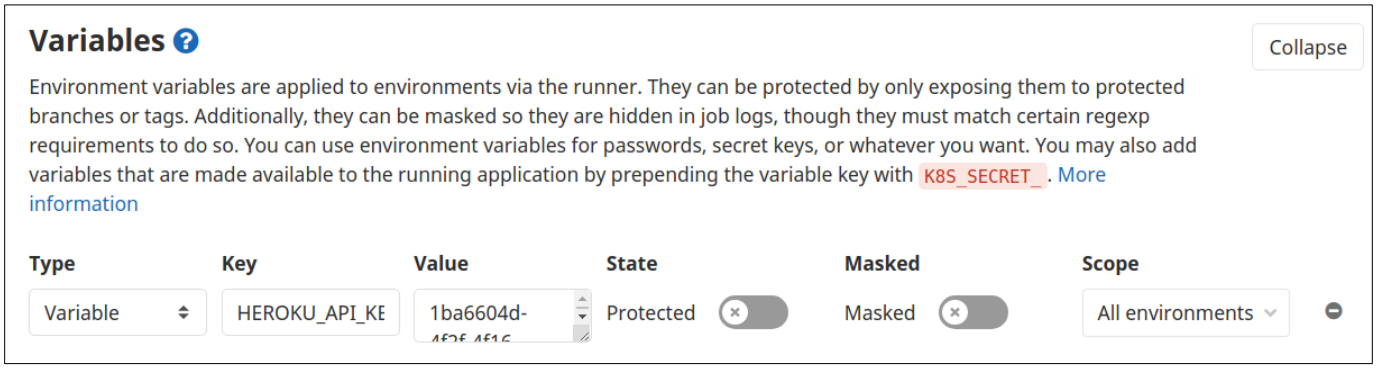
And in *API Key* section we can *Reveal* and copy it:



Now in the GitLab repository go to ***Settings > CI/CD***:



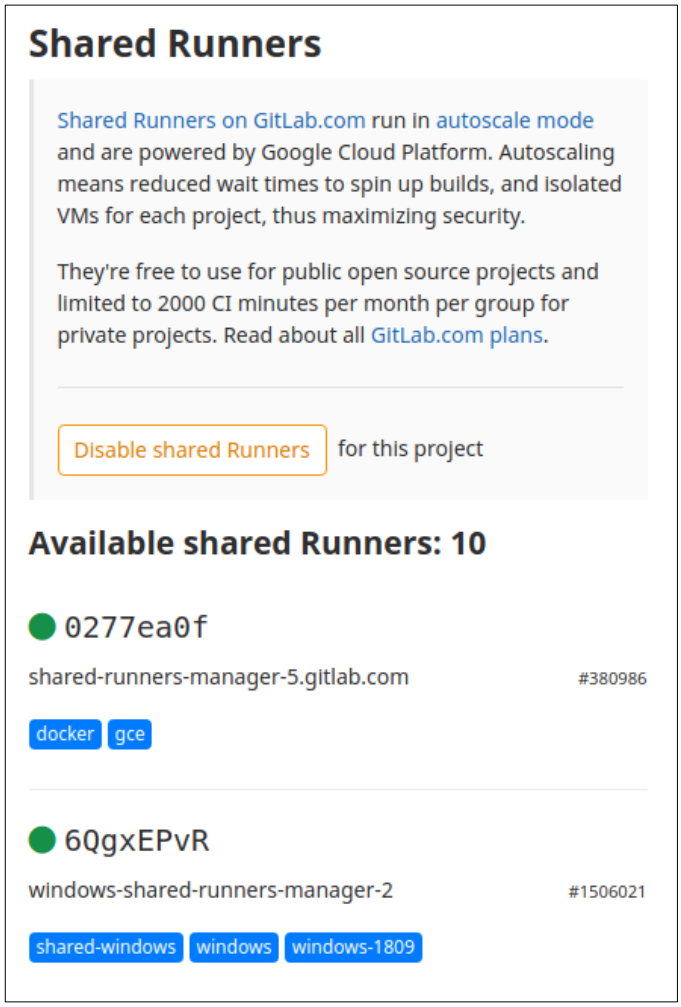
And in the *Variables* section create a new variable called **HEROKU_API_KEY** and paste the HerokuAPI Key as its value. Then click on ***Save variables*.**



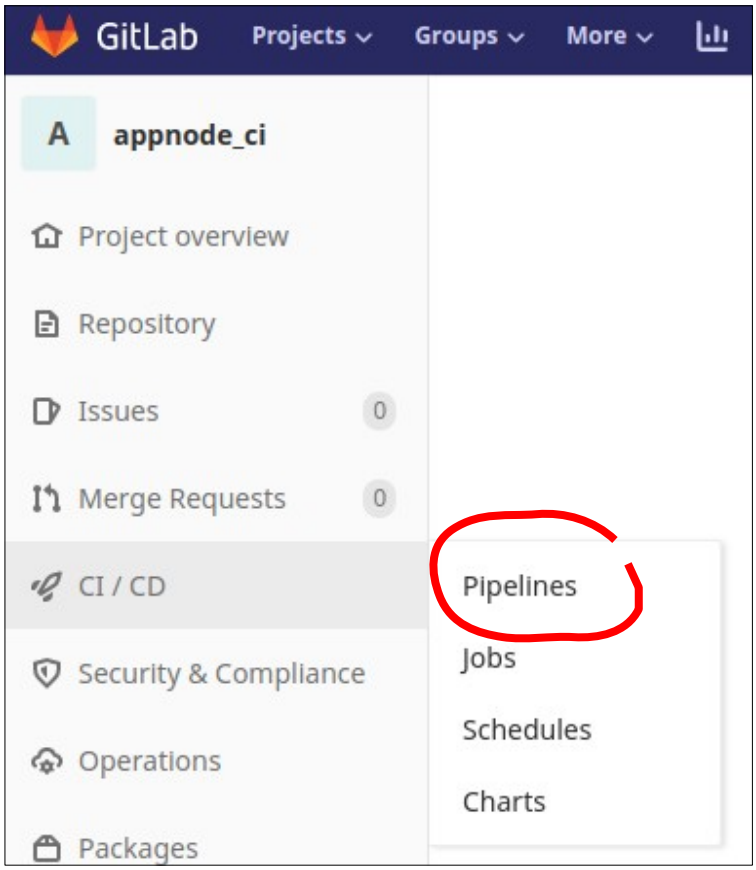
Now lets go to ***Settings > CI/CD*** (as before) and take a look at the ***Runners*** section. Runners are the machines that run the code in a CD/CI pipeline. In our case, they will run the *.gitlab-ci.yml* file script.

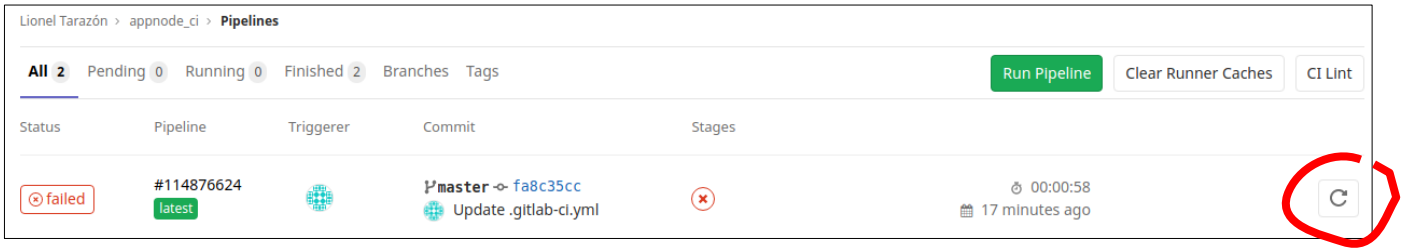
We are going to use Shared Runners. These are virtual machines provided by Google Cloud Platform that we can use for free (up to a maximum of 2000 minutes of CI/CD per month).

Shared Runners should already be activated.

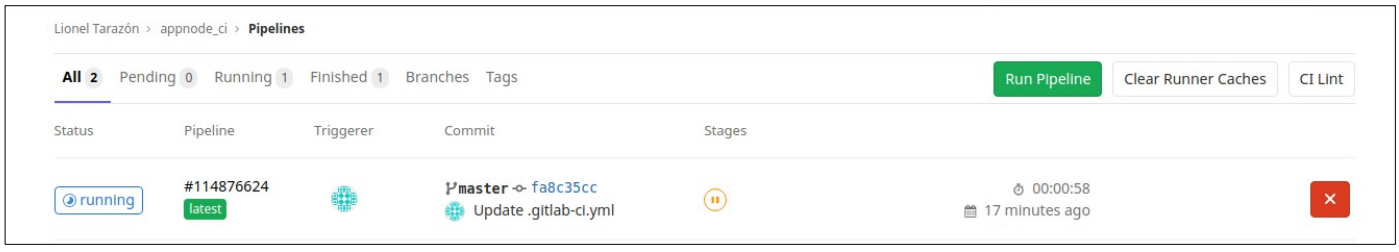


Now in ***CI/CD -> Pipelines*** we can see that it failed because the HEROKU_API_KEY was not set:

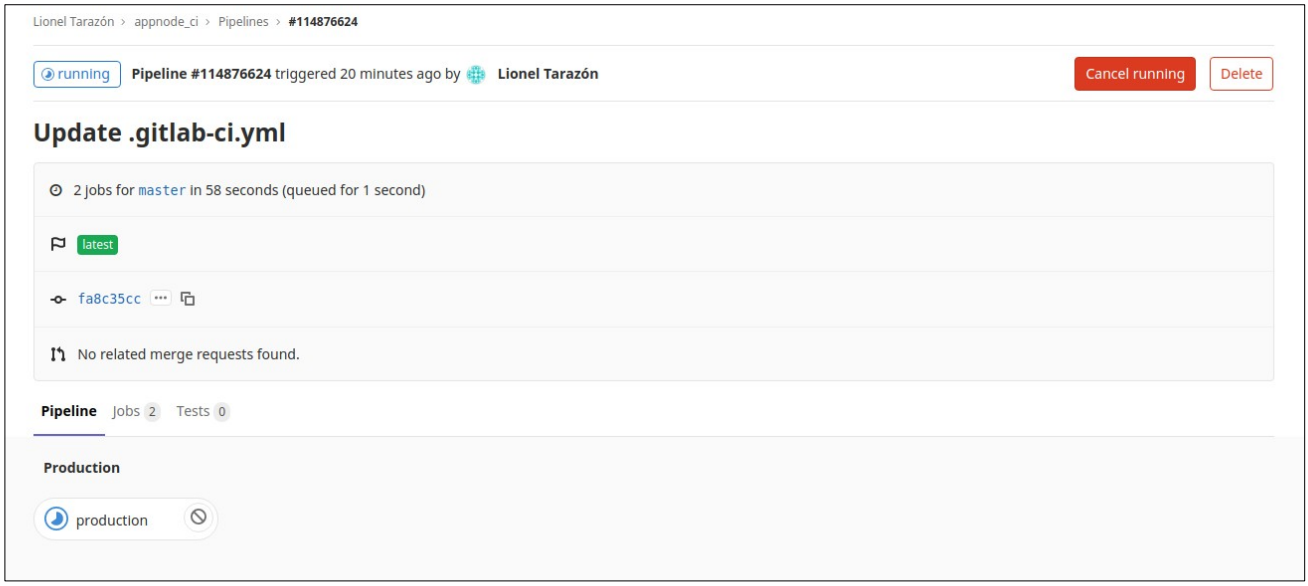




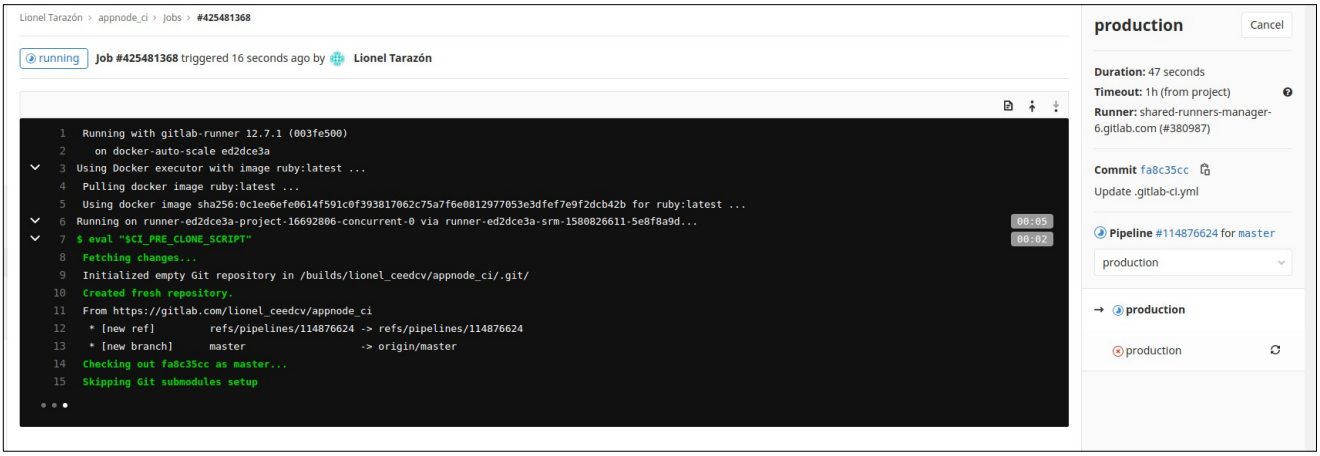
So we have to click on the refresh icon and it will start running.



If we click on ‘running’ we can see the Pipeline:

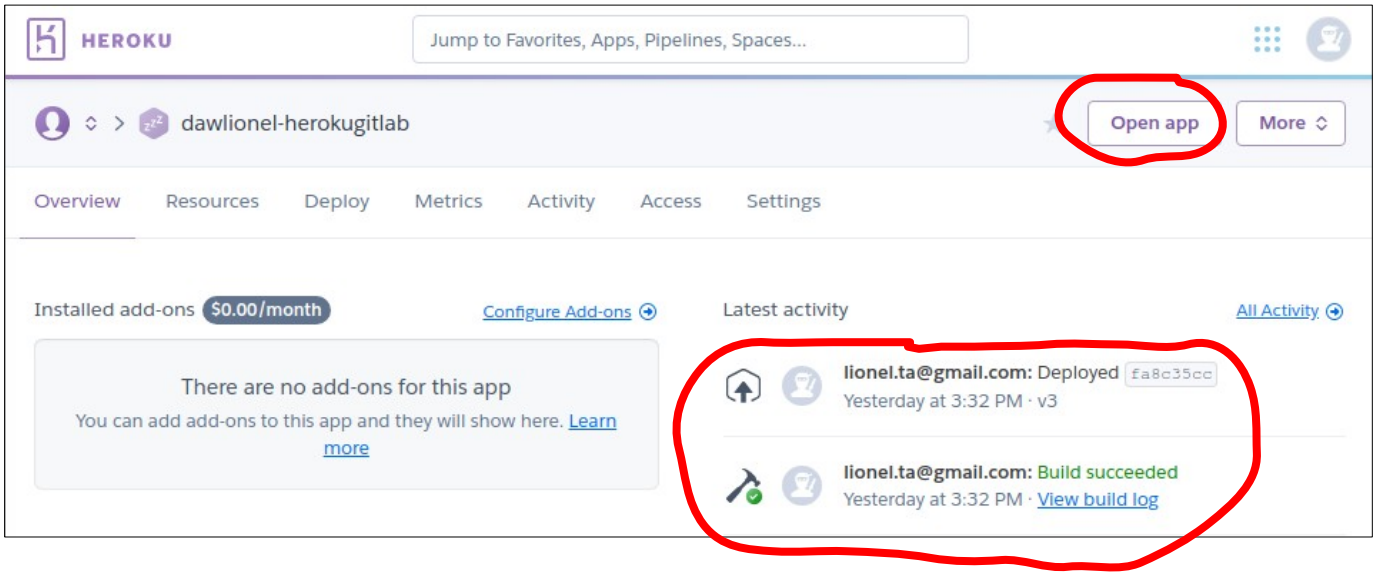


And if we click on ‘production’ we can see what is happening:

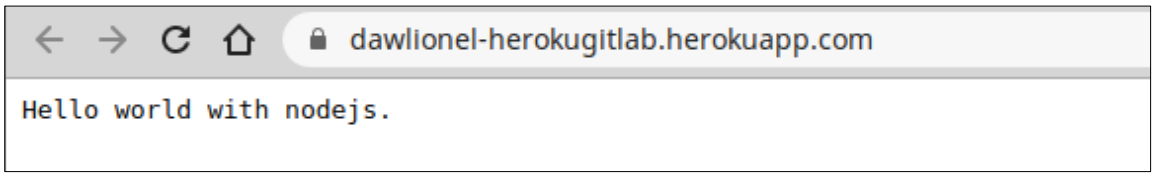


If everything works correctly it will show the message “Job succeeded”. The app hass been deployed to Heroku!

Go to Heroku and select the app. Notice the deployment will appear under “Latest Activity”. Click on ***Open app*** to test it.



And we will see our app online :)



If we make changes to the code repository and commit-push to GitLab, the CI/CD pipeline will start and automatically deploy it to Heroku!

```
lionel@lenovo-mint ~/appnode_ci $ gedit app.js
lionel@lenovo-mint ~/appnode_ci $ git add app.js
lionel@lenovo-mint ~/appnode_ci $ git commit -m "message changed"
[master 27faf46] message changed
 1 file changed, 1 insertion(+), 1 deletion(-)
lionel@lenovo-mint ~/appnode_ci $ git push origin master
Username for 'https://gitlab.com': lionel_ceedcv
Password for 'https://lionel_ceedcv@gitlab.com':
Counting objects: 3, done.
Delta compression using up to 4 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (3/3), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 326 bytes | 0 bytes/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 2), reused 0 (delta 0)
To https://gitlab.com/lionel_ceedcv/appnode_ci.git
   fa8c35c..27faf46  master -> master
```