What is Node.js?

* Node.js is an open source server environment
* Node.js is free
* Node.js runs on various platforms (Windows, Linux, Unix, Mac OS X, etc.)
* Node.js uses JavaScript on the server

Why Node.js?

**Node.js uses asynchronous programming!**

A common task for a web server can be to open a file on the server and return the content to the client.

Here is how PHP or ASP handles a file request:

1. Sends the task to the computer's file system.
2. Waits while the file system opens and reads the file.
3. Returns the content to the client.
4. Ready to handle the next request.

Here is how Node.js handles a file request:

1. Sends the task to the computer's file system.
2. Ready to handle the next request.
3. When the file system has opened and read the file, the server returns the content to the client.

Node.js eliminates the waiting, and simply continues with the next request.

Node.js runs single-threaded, non-blocking, asynchronous programming, which is very memory efficient.

What Can Node.js Do?

* Node.js can generate dynamic page content
* Node.js can create, open, read, write, delete, and close files on the server
* Node.js can collect form data
* Node.js can add, delete, modify data in your database

What is a Node.js File?

* Node.js files contain tasks that will be executed on certain events
* A typical event is someone trying to access a port on the server
* Node.js files must be initiated on the server before having any effect
* Node.js files have extension ".js"

## What is NPM?

NPM is a package manager for Node.js packages, or modules if you like.

[www.npmjs.com](https://www.npmjs.com/) hosts thousands of free packages to download and use.

The NPM program is installed on your computer when you install Node.js

NPM is already ready to run on your computer!

## What is a Package?

A package in Node.js contains all the files you need for a module.

Modules are JavaScript libraries you can include in your project.

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| Package.json | The package. json file is the heart of any Node project. It records important metadata about a project which is required before publishing to NPM, and also defines functional attributes of a project that npm uses to install dependencies, run scripts, and identify the entry point to our package. | npm init  npm init -y |
| .env file |  |  |
|  |  |  |