

Spark Lab

Jeremy Sanders, CCIE 12332 R&S and Voice Senior System Engineer jsanders@teklinks.com

Lab Outline

- We've already been posting messages to Spark in our Tropo and Ansible labs
- Now we are going to take a message from Spark and push it to a bot
- Our bot will be a NodeJS app running on our Vagrant box
- The bot will run on the Flint framework
- NGROK will be used to expose our NodeJS server to the internet

Spark Bot Creation

- Goto <u>developer.ciscospark.com</u>
- Click "My Apps"
- Click the + sign to "Add App"
- Click "Create Bot"
- Give your bot a display name
- Give it a username
- Enter "https://github.com/jasonbarbee/TekLinksCodeCamp-Jan-2017/blob/master/tek-bot-logo.png?raw=true" for the Icon URL
- Click "Add Bot"
- Record Bot Token

NGROK

- Open a terminal or command window
- vagrant ssh

```
sudo su -
wget https://bin.equinox.io/c/4VmDzA7iaHb/ngrok-stable-linux-amd64.zip
apt-get install unzip
unzip ngrok-stable-linux-amd64.zip
./ngrok http 7001
```

- Record the HTTP URL displayed by NGROK
- Leave NGROK running. If you close it and restart it, you'll have to update your URL

Download Git Repo and NPM Modules

Open a second terminal or command window

```
cd <INSERT YOUR VAGRANT DIRECTORY PATH HERE>
git clone https://bitbucket.org/jeremypng/spark-demo-bot
cd spark-demo-bot
npm install node-flint
npm install express
npm install body-parser
npm install request
cp config.json.default config.json
```

Bot Configuration

- Edit the config.json file inside the vagrant terminal or in your native OS text editor
- Populate all of the config variables
- Start the bot

```
node --use-strict index.js
```

Bot Startup

A successful startup will look like this:

```
root@vagrant:/media/sf_vagrant/spark-demo-bot# node --use-strict index.js
Starting flint, please wait...
Flint initialized successfully! [Press CTRL-C to quit]
```

Test Your Bot

- Start a 1-1 chat with your bot
- Send him various commands (/hello, /help, /whoami, /echo)
- Test the /weather command following the syntax in /help

Successful Tests

```
Starting flint, please wait...
Flint initialized successfully! | Press CTRL-C to quit|
/help fired
/hello fired
/echo fired
/whoami fired
/weather fired
teklinks.com
35242
zip code found
```

Troubleshooting

- If you don't get any log output when you enter a command via Spark, doublecheck your NGROK url and make sure it is reflected in the config.json file.
- You can also check your Bot's registered webhooks on developer.ciscospark.com via the API. See if you can list them via the test interface.

Bonus

- Can you add a new static command to your bot?
- Can you add a command to fetch the forecast and not just the current weather?