

Chapter 1

Getting started with Node.js



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Outline

Web basics

- A brief history of JavaScript and Node.js
- Overview of modern Javascript (ES6, ES7, and ES8). TypeScript
- The Node.js Ecosystem
- Node.js architecture
- Installing Node.js
- Running the first application: Hello World!

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A brief history of JavaScript and Node.js

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Web basics

What is Node.js ?

- Node.js is an open-source and cross-platform JavaScript runtime environment.
- Node.js runs the V8 JavaScript engine, the core of Google Chrome, outside of the browser. This allows Node.js to be very performant.
- Node.js uses the JavaScript language which is used by millions of frontend developers that write for the browser. These are now able to write the server-side code in addition to the client-side code without the need to learn a completely different language

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What is exciting about Node.js ?

- Node.js is a JavaScript based open-source environnement which runs on various platforms (Windows, Linux, Unix, ...)
- Node.js provides a large libraries for I/O Streaming, HTTP, ...
- Node.js runs single-threaded, non blocking. This means all callbacks (functions) are charged to event loop are execute by different threads.
- It runs on the Chrome's V8 runtime engine. This engine converts JavaScript Code into a faster code (Low level code)
- Node.js uses NPM (Node Package Manager), which is the largest ecosystem source library in the world.

History of JavaScript

- **1995**
 - JavaScript was created at Netscape Communications by Brendan Eich.
- **1999**
 - The XMLHttpRequest specification defines an API that provides scripted client functionality for transferring data between a client and a server.
- **2001**
 - Douglas Crockford named and documented JSON (JavaScript Object Notation), a popular lightweight alternative to XML, 2008
 - Google's open-source Chrome V8 is created, a high-performance JavaScript engine, provided a crucial turning point for JavaScript.
- **2015**
 - ECMAScript 6 Classes and modules added

A brief history of Node.js

- **Node.js is 12 years old!** In comparison, JavaScript is 26 years old and the Internet is 32 years old.
- **In 2009, Ryan Dahl wrote Node.js.**
 - On November 8, 2009 at the inaugural European JSConf, the Node.js project was first demonstrated by Dahl. Node.js is a combination the V8 JavaScript Chrome engine, a low-level I/O API, and an event loop.
- **Web frameworks were developed by the Node.js open-source community to accelerate the development of applications.**
 - These frameworks include Connect, Sails.js, Koa.js, Express.js, Feathers.js, socket.io, Derby, Hapi.js, Meteor, and a lot more.

A brief history of Node.js

- **2009**
 - The beginning of Node.js
 - npm was created
- **2010**
 - The beginning of Express
 - The beginning of socket.io
- **2011**
 - Version 1.0 of npm was released
 - Companies Uber, LinkedIn, etc. started adopting Node.js
 - The beginning of hapi
- **2012**
 - Adoption continues and growing rapidly

A brief history of Node.js

■ 2018

- Node.js 10 (LTS)
- ES modules .mjs experimental support
- Node.js 11

■ 2019

- Node.js 12 (LTS)
- Node.js 13

■ 2020

- Node.js 14 (LTS)
- Node.js 15

After six months, odd-numbered releases (9, 11, etc.) become unsupported, and even-numbered releases (10, 12, etc.) move to *Active LTS* status and are ready for general use.

Overview of modern Javascript (ES6, ES7, and ES8) and TypeScript

What is JavaScript ?

■ A lightweight programming language ("scripting language")

- Client side processing
 - DOM Processing
 - Event Handling
 - Validation
 - Ajax
 - HTML 5 APIs
- Server-side development
 - Web applications and mobile applications
 - Micro-services
 - Database Access

■ A web standard (but not supported identically by all browsers)

- JavaScript is an implementation of ECMAScript which conforms to the ECMAScript specification.
 - ECMAScript is a programming language itself.
 - The last version is ECMAScript 2020 (ES2020)

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Overview of JavaScript History

■ JavaScript's origins

- Invented by [Brendan Eich](#) in 1995, to support client-side scripting in Netscape Navigator
 - First called LiveScript, then JavaScript, then standardized as ECMAScript
 - Microsoft "copied" JavaScript in IE JScript



■ ECMAScript: "Standard" JavaScript

- The JavaScript "standardisation committee" has representatives from major Internet companies, browser vendors, web organisations, popular JS libraries and academia. Meets bi-monthly.
- Current ECMAScript Engines



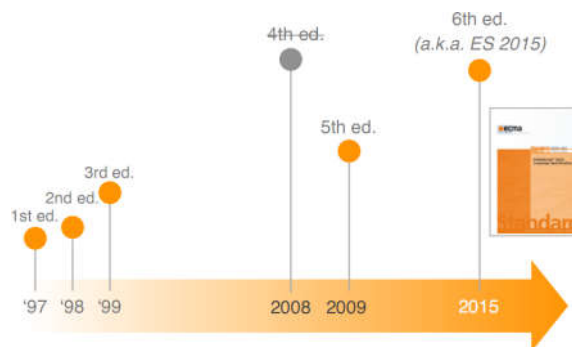
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Overview of JavaScript History

■ A Brief History of ECMAScript Specification



- ES 7 : EcmaScript 2016 (June 2016)
- ES 8 : EcmaScript 2017 (June 2017)
- ES 9 : EcmaScript 2018 (June 2018)
- ES 10 : EcmaScript 2019 (June 2019)
- ES 11: EcmaScript 2020 (June 2020)

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ECMAScript 6 new Features

■ let, const :

- Till ES5, JS has only function scope and global scope with the introduction of let keyword in ES6, JS can now have block scope.

```
1 var v=10;
2 fun();
3
4 function fun() {
5     console.log('v:', v);
6     let l=20;
7     console.log('l:', l);
8 }
9 console.log('v: ', v);
10 console.log('l:', l); //error: l is not defined
```

■ for .. Of

- for...of is an alternative for both for...in and forEach() and loops iterable data structures like Arrays, Maps, Sets, and strings

```
1 const arr = ['one', 'two', 'three'];
2 for (const a of arr) {
3     console.log(a);
4 }
```

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ECMAScript 6 new Features

■ Default parameter values:

- Provides default values to function parameters if no value or undefined is passed.

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```

■ Rest operator:

- Rest Operator is used to handle

```
1 function fun(a, ...b) {
2     console.log('a: ' + a + ' b: ' + b); //a: 1 b: 2,3,4
3 }
4 fun(1,2,3,4);
```

ECMAScript 6 new Features

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```

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ECMAScript 6 new Features

■ Destructuring

- Destructuring helps in unpacking values from an array or an object.

```
1 const arr = [1, 2];
2 const [x, y] = arr;
3 console.log('x: ' + x + ' y: ' + y);
```

■ ARROW FUNCTIONS:

- Arrow Functions use => as its token

```
1 const val = (x, y) => { return x * y };
2 console.log(val(2,3)); //6
```

■ Template strings:

- It allows embedded expressions, which makes print statements easy.

```
1 let a=1;
2 let b=2;
3 let c=3;
4 console.log('a: ' + a + ' b: ' + b + ' c: ' + c); //a: 1 b: 2 c: 3
5 console.log(`a: ${a} b: ${b} c: ${c}`); //a: 1 b: 2 c: 3
```

■ Other features : Classes, Promises, Modules, Proxies, ...

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ECMAScript 7 new Features

■ Exponentiation operator

- ES7 added an exponentiation operator (**) to already JavaScript supported arithmetic operations like +, -, *. This operator raises the first operand to the power second operand.

```
1 console.log(3 ** 2);    //3 to the power of 2 which is 9.
```

■ Includes

- Returns true if an array includes a value, if not returns false. Template strings:

```
1 var animals = ['cat', 'rat', 'bat'];
2 console.log(animals.includes('cat'));    //returns true
```

ECMAScript 8 new Features

■ padStart():

- This method pads a string with another string at the beginning.

```
1 let str='a3';
2 console.log(str.padStart(3,'#'));    // #a3
```

■ padEnd():

- This method pads a string with another string and makes the resulting string reach a given length. It adds spaces at the end of the string.

```
1 let str = 'Bat';
2 console.log(str.padEnd(6, '.'));    //Bat...
```

■ async/await

- Await operator, applied only inside an async function, waits to be rejected or resolved by a promise.

What is TypeScript?

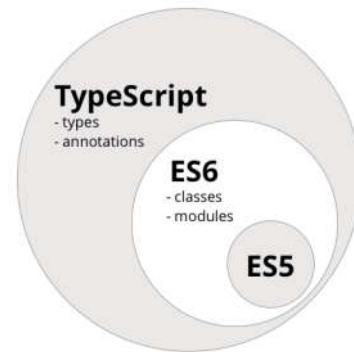
■ Superset of JavaScript

- It was designed by [Anders Hejlsberg](#) (designer of C#) at [Microsoft](#). The first version (0.8) was released in 2012. TypeScript is both a language and a set of tools

■ Compiles to plain JavaScript

■ Strongly typed

■ Class-based object-orientation



Strong Typing

JavaScript

```
let x;

x = 42;

let y = 'Hello';

let user =
  { id: 1111, name: 'guest' };
```

TypeScript

```
let x : number;
x = 42;

let y : string = 'Hello';

interface User {
  id: number;
  name: string;
};

let user: User =
  { id: 1111, name: 'guest' };
```

Interfaces

- An interface is a syntactical **contract** that an entity should conform to.
- Interfaces define **properties, methods, and events**, which are the members of the interface.
 - Interfaces contain only the declaration of the members. It is the responsibility of the deriving class to define the members. It often helps in providing a standard structure that the deriving classes would follow.
- Declaring Interfaces
 - The interface keyword is used to declare an interface. Here is the syntax to declare an interface
 - Example :


```
interface IPerson {
    firstName:string,
    lastName:string,
    sayHi: ()=>string
}
var customer:IPerson = { firstName:"Tom",
                          lastName:"Hanks",
                          sayHi: ():string'=>{return "Hi there"}
```

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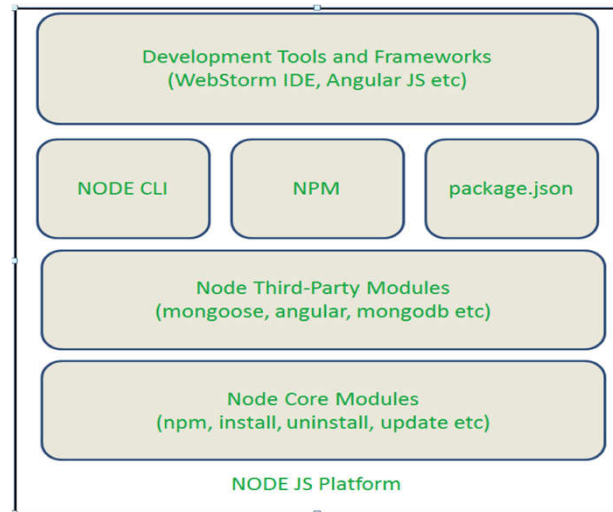
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The Node.js Ecosystem

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NodeJS Platform



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Node.js Modules

■ The node.js Modules

- Module in Node.js is a simple or complex functionality organized in single or multiple JavaScript files which can be reused throughout the Node.js application.

■ Types of modules

- Core modules
 - The core modules include bare minimum functionalities of Node.js. These core modules are compiled into its binary distribution and load automatically when Node.js process starts.
- Third-party modules
 - Additional Libraries and frameworks for web development, data access, etc.

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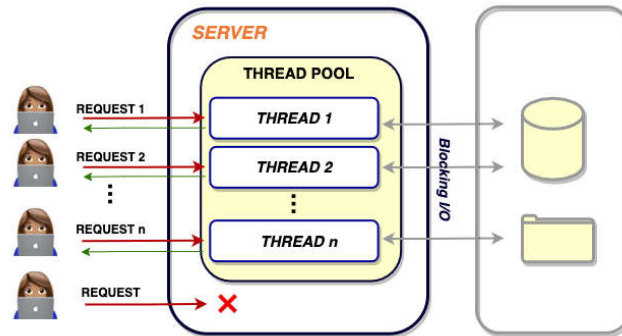
Node.js NPM

- **NPM is a package manager for Node.js packages, or modules if you like.**
 - The NPM program is installed on your computer when you install Node.js
- **www.npmjs.com hosts thousands of free packages to download and use.**
- **NPM is two things:**
 1. is an online repository for the publishing of open-source Node.js projects
 2. It is a command-line utility for interacting with said repository that aids in package installation, version management, and dependency management.

Node.js architecture

Traditional Multi-Threaded Processing Model in Web Frameworks

Web basics



- If the threadpool is exhausted, the server is forced to wait for at least one of the busy threads to be freed for the new request(s) to be catered to.
- The synchronous nature of processing inside each thread means that even though we can spin up multiple threads for concurrent requests, each thread, individually, will be slowed down

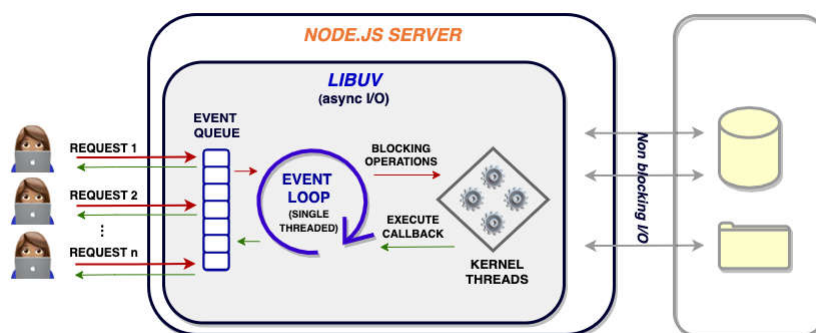
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Single-Threaded Event Loop Architecture in Node.js

Web basics



- The event loop can take care of basic processing itself, but for async I/O operations, involving modules such as fs (I/O-heavy) and crypto (CPU-heavy), it can offload the processing to the worker pool in the system kernel.
- While these threads work on their assigned operations, the event loop can continue operating as usual, concurrently catering to other requests.

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Installing Nodejs

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Installing Node.js

Web basics

■ Installation on Windows

- Nodejs Installer to install Node.js and npm
 - Installer available on <https://nodejs.org/en/download/>
- Install using Chocolatey
 - `choco install nodejs`
- Install using nvm
 - `nvm install 14.16.0`

■ Installation on MacOS

- Nodejs Installer to install Node.js and npm
 - Installer available on <https://nodejs.org/en/download/>
- Install using nvm

■ Installation on Linux/Unix

- Use the Platform Package manager to install Node.js and npm
 - `Apt-get, rpm, yum, ...`
- Install using nvm

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nvm use 10.16.3

|||||

■ Using nvm (Node.js Version Manager) makes it easier to install and manage multiple versions of Node.js on a single local environment.

■ Some nvm commands

■ `nvm install --lts` : Installs the latest LTS release of Node.js

■ `nvm install node`: Installs the latest release of Node.js

■ `nvm install 14.16.0` : Installs a specific version of Node.js

■ `nvm ls` : Lists all installed version of Node.js

■ `nvm use 14.16.0` : Uses a specific version of Node.js

■ Run the `nvm` command with no arguments and read through the list of sub-commands

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**Running the first application:
Hello World Node.js**

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Using the Node.js REPL

- REPL also known as Read Evaluate Print Loop is a programming language environment(Basically a console window) that takes single expression as user input and returns the result back to the console after execution
- The REPL mode is activated just by calling the node command.
 - REPL will wait for JavaScript expressions and Javascript code
 - REPL provides autocomplete (with TAB key)
- To exit REPL :
 - .exit command or CTRL-C twice

Hello World, Node.js

■ Display simple message

```
let message = 'Hello World';
console.log(message);

for (let index = 0; index < 10; index++) {
  console.log(`${index} : message`);
}
```

■ Simple Web Server

```
const http = require('http');

http.createServer(function (req, res) {
  res.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/html'});
  res.end('Hello World!');
}).listen(3000,
  ()=> console.log('The server is listening on port 3000'));
```

npm

- **npm (originally short for Node Package Manager) is the package manager for the JavaScript programming language.**
- **It consists of:**
 - a command line client, also called npm, and
 - an online database of public and paid-for private packages, called the npm registry.
- **Some npm commands :**
 - `npm init` : Creates a package.json in the project folder
 - `npm install --global @typescript` : Installs globally the typescript compiler
 - `npm install --save bootstrap` : Installs Bootstrap locally in the project
 - `npm install --save-dev mocha` : Installs the latest stable version of Bootstrap
 - `npm update axios` : updates the axios package
 - `npm uninstall axios` : uninstalls the axios package

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package.json

- **package.json file can be described as a manifest of your project that includes the packages and applications it depends on, information about its unique source control, and specific metadata like the project's name, description, and author.**
 - There are two kinds of dependencies :
 - **dev-dependencies** : which are needed for quality control and production
 - **dependencies** that are needed for development
- **Semantic versioning**
 - Semantic versioning is a formal convention for specifying compatibility using a three-part version number: major version; minor version; and patch.
 - `~version` "Approximately equivalent to version",
 - `~1.2.3` will use releases 1.2.*
 - `^version` "Compatible with version",
 - `^2.3.4` will use releases from 2.*.*



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Package-lock.json

■ Why package-lock.json is created ?

- package-lock.json is created for locking the dependency with the installed version.
- Also, it contains some other meta information which saves package.json: records the minimum version you app needs. If you update the versions of a particular package, the change is not going to be reflected here.
- describe a single representation of a dependency tree such that teammates, deployments, and continuous integration are guaranteed to install exactly the same dependencies.