Web Development

Setting up the Development Environment

# Description

This assignment describes setting up the development environment used throughout the semester. The development environment consists of a local Node.js HTTP server and a MongoDB database server where local development will be performed. You will commit and push your code to a remote Git code repositories. Configure the repository to auto deploy into a remote Node.js instance hosted at [Heroku](https://www.heroku.com/) that will make your Web application publicly available on the Web. Invite all the instructors and TAs as collaborators with read/write permission. Instructors and TAs will visit the hosted site periodically to see your assignments and project running on the Web. The GitHub repository will make your source code available to the TAs and the instructor so they can see how you implemented the Web application. In this assignment you will setup:

1. GitHub
2. Node.js
3. MongoDB (community edition)
4. Heroku
5. WebStorm

Complete the requirements shown below to successfully complete this assignment.

# Setting Up the Local Development Environment

## Setting Up Node.js Locally

Node.js will be used to run and debug Web applications on local machines. When satisfied with local development, the code will be committed and push to Heroku and GitHub. The code will be deployed to Heroku and executed on a remote Node.js server. [Download and install Node.js](https://nodejs.org) on the local development machine. Test that Node.js installed by typing the command **node** at the command line. A command prompt should appear waiting for additional commands. Type Ctrl+c twice to exit Node.js command line interpreter.

## Setting Up MongoDB Locally

MongoDB will be used to provide a local database to develop and debug database development. In a later assignment you will create a remote MongoDB instance on OpenShift where your data will be stored remotely. Your remote Node.js server will talk to your remote MongoDB instance. Your local Node.js server will talk to your local MongoDB instance. When you are content with your local development, you will push your code to Heroku for remote deployment, and to GitHub for us to grade. For now you will just download and install MongoDB locally. Later we will show you how to configure and integrate MongoDB with your Node.js Web application.

1. [Download MongoDB](https://www.mongodb.org/) and install on the local development machine as described in the [MongoDB documentation](https://docs.mongodb.org). These instructions assume MongoDB was installed in **/usr/local/mongo** on a Mac
2. At the root of the file system, create a directory called **data** and in there create a directory called **db**, e.g., **/data/db**. This directory is where MongoDB will store all files related to the databases managed by MongoDB
3. Add the MongoDB binaries to the system PATH environment variable so that the database can be executed from anywhere in the terminal command line. Assuming MongoDB was installed in **/usr/local/mongo**, add the **bin** directory to the system path by adding the following line to the **~/.bash\_property** file  
     
   **export PATH=/usr/local/mongo/bin:$PATH**
4. Test that MongoDB starts by typing **mongod** at the command line. The command line will print several lines. Some of the lines should say something similar to

MongoDB starting : pid=56659 port=27017 dbpath=/data/db

...

waiting for connections on port 27017

1. Make sure MongoDB is running before you start Node.js.

## Setting Up Git Locally

Git is a distributed source control system that allows developers collaborate and share source code. All assignments and the final project will be submitted using git. Install and configure git on your machine.

1. If on a windows machine, download, install, and configure a github client from any of the following sites. Be sure to install the command tools as well
   1. <https://git-scm.com/download/win> (preferred)
   2. <https://desktop.github.com>
   3. <https://github.com/blog/1127-github-for-windows>
2. If on a Mac git should already be installed. Verify that git is installed on your machine by typing git at a terminal window

## Setting Up the Template Project Locally

A template project has been created that can will used as the starting point for all development in this course. Using git the template will be cloned to the local development environment. All development for the assignments and final project will be done in the cloned project. To clone and test the template follow the steps below

1. Using the terminal change to the directory where all work will be done for this course, e.g., **~/neu**  
     
   **> mkdir ~/neu  
   > cd ~/neu**
2. Clone the template project by typing the following at the command line

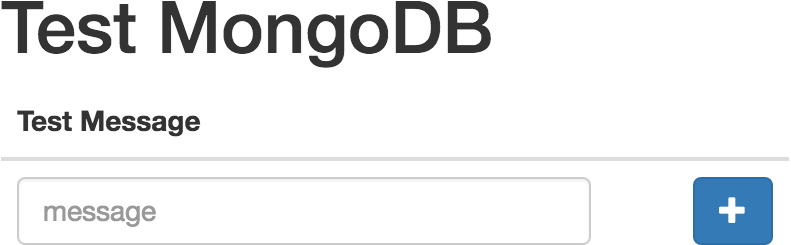
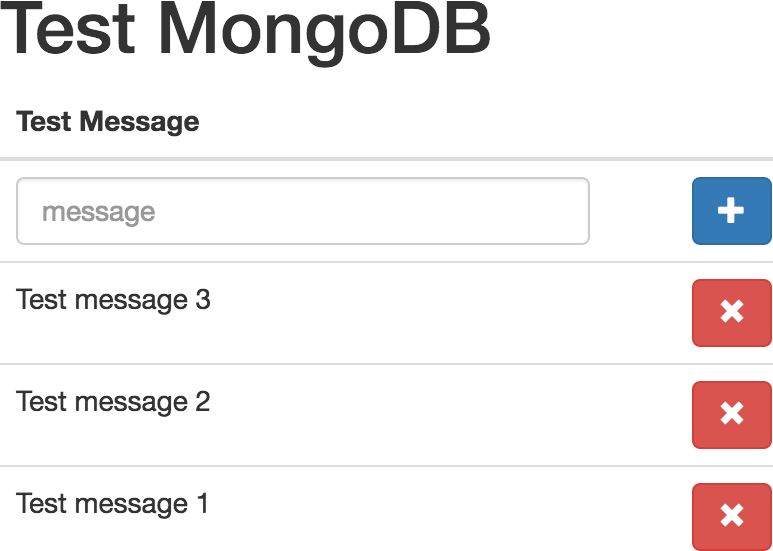
**> cd ~/neu  
 > git clone https://github.com/jannunzi/webdev-northeastern.git**

1. A directory called **webdev-northeastern** will be created. Check that it's there using **ls**  
     
   **> cd ~/neu  
   > ls  
   webdev-northeastern**
2. Optionally rename the directory to something else, e.g., **webdev**  
     
   **> cd ~/neu  
   > mv webdev-northeastern webdev**
3. Go into the directory and use **npm** to install the project  
     
   **> cd ~/neu/webdev  
   > npm install**
4. Once all Node.js modules have been installed, run the project using Node.js  
     
   **> cd ~/neu/webdev  
   > node server.js**
5. Test the application is running by navigating with the browser to the following URL  
     
   [**http://localhost:3000**](http://localhost:3000)
6. The browser should display something similar to  
     
   **Web Dev Course Home Page**

Customize this home page to your liking.

## **Required links**

* [Project](http://localhost:3000/project/index.html)
* [Assignment](http://localhost:3000/assignment/index.html)
* [Test MongoDB](http://localhost:3000/test/index.html)
* [Your public repository at GitHub.com](http://localhost:3000/#)

1. Test whether the local MongoDB database is working by clicking on Test MongoDB. The following page should appear  
     
   
2. Type several messages in the input field and press the blue plus button. The messages should be created on the local database and they should appear below the field. For instance  
     
   
3. Test deleting some of the messages. The messages should disappear as they are removed

## Setting Up GitHub

## GitHub will be used to keep track of all work. All code will be committed and pushed to a public GitHub repository. A private GitHub can be used, but it may not be free. The GitHub repository will allow TAs and instructors easy access to your work. When submitting an assignment, tag the latest commit with a particular tag for that assignment provided by the assignment. This will be used by the TAs and instructors to grade the correct version of your code.

## Create an account on [GitHub.com](https://github.com). If you already have a GitHub account, feel free to use the same account

## Create a repository called **LAST\_NAME-FIRST\_NAME-webdev**, where LAST\_NAME and FIRST\_NAME is YOUR last name and first name. For MY last and first name it would be **annunziato-jose-webdev**

1. Commit and push your code to GitHub. In this example jannunzi is my GitHub username, and the new repository is **annunziato-jose-webdev**. You would use YOUR GitHub username, and YOUR new repository name  
     
   > cd ~/neu/webdev  
   > git init  
   > git commit -m "first commit"  
   > git remote add github https://github.com/**jannunzi**/**annunziato-jose-webdev**.git  
   > git push -u github master
2. Click on the Code tab and verify that the source code is there
3. Invite the TAs and the instructors as administrators of the repository. This will allow them to help you debug your code if you run into trouble. It will also allow them to keep track of your progress
   1. Go into **Settings**, then **Collaborators**. Search for the instructors and TAs by their username, and then click on **Add collaborator**
   2. The instructor's GitHub username is **jannunzi**. The instructor's repository is located at <https://github.com/jannunzi>

## The TAs will provide their GitHub usernames on **Piazza**

## Setting Up Heroku

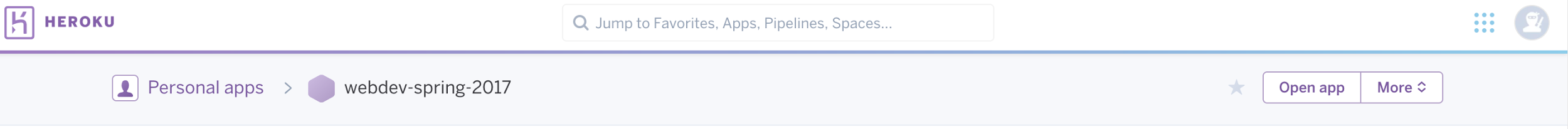
Create an account at [heroku.com](http://heroku.com) and create a Node.js application



Name your application as suggested earlier, e.g., alice-wonderland-webdev



Once the application has been created you can open the app by clicking on the ***Open app*** link



The default app is a simple placeholder we will be replacing shortly

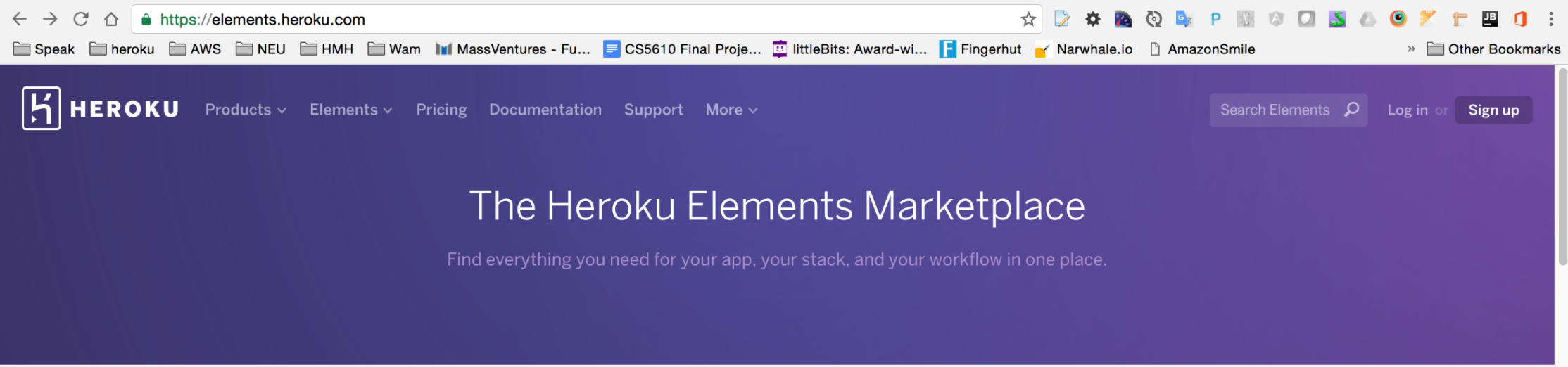
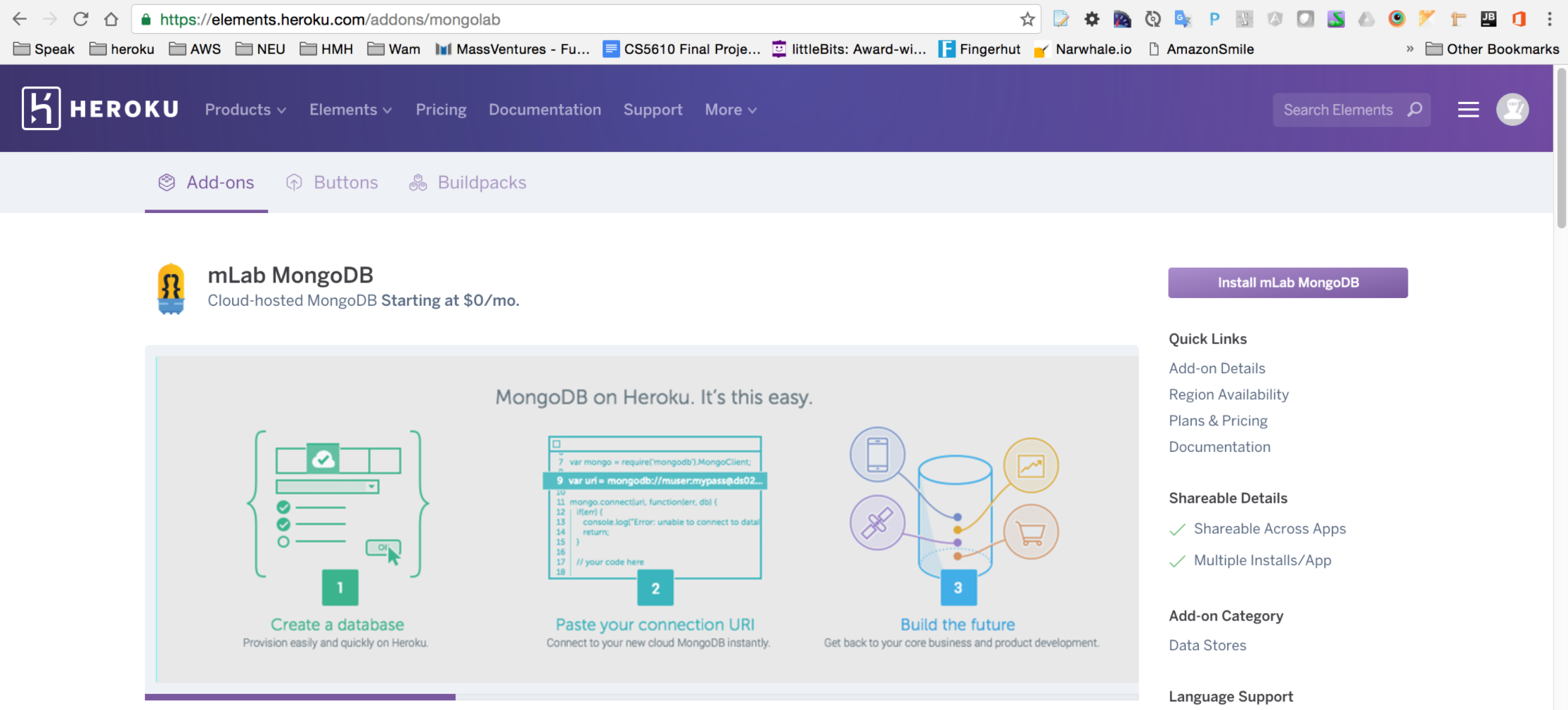
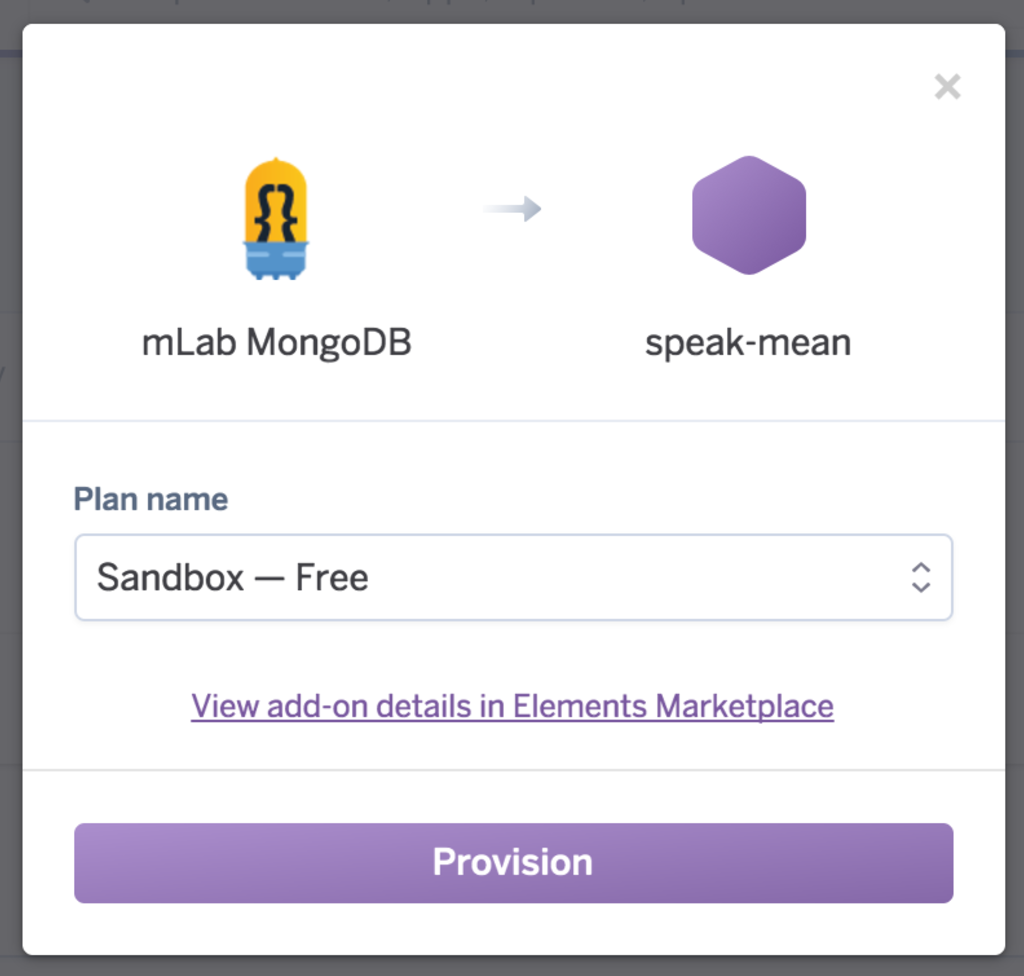
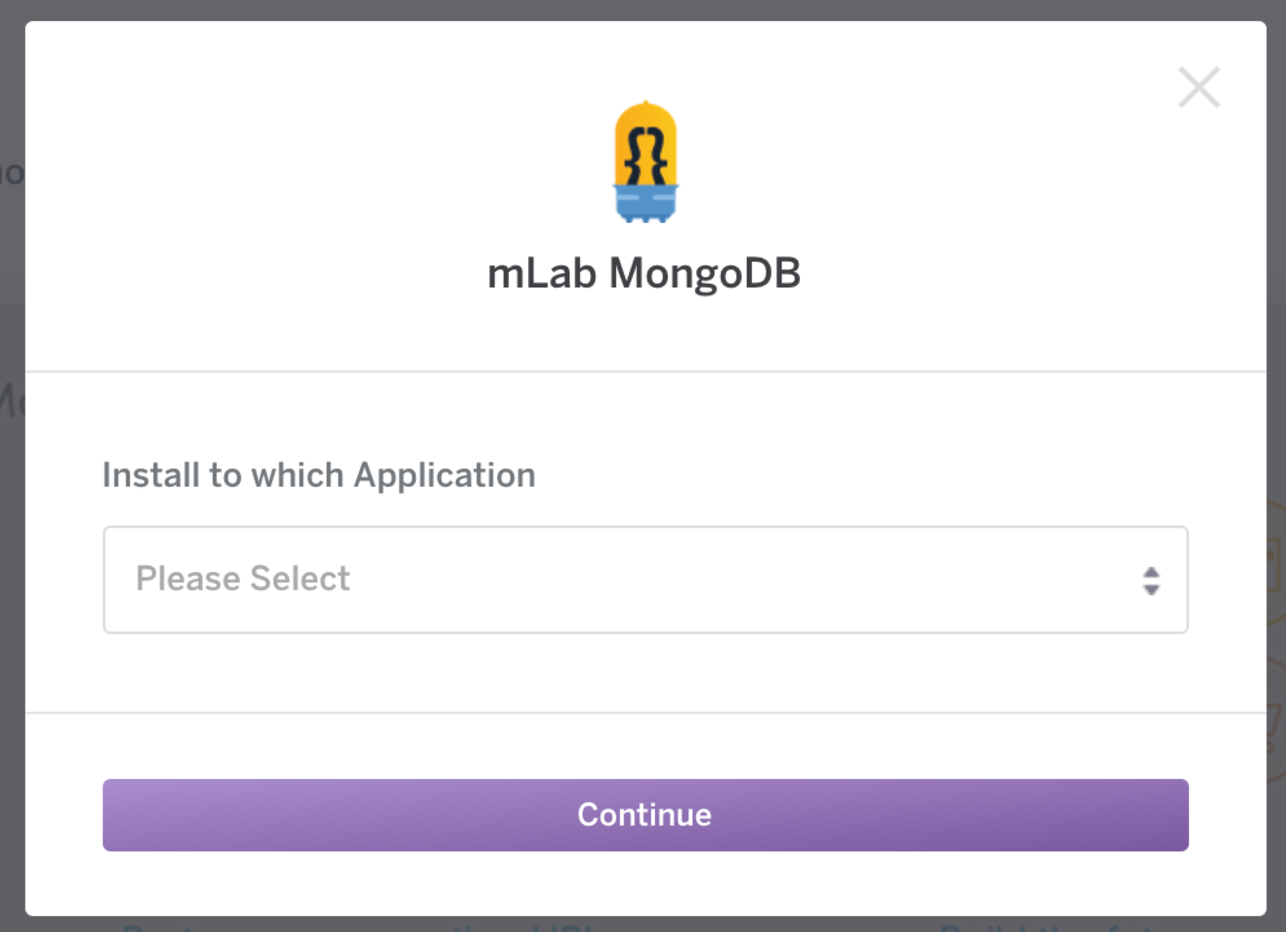
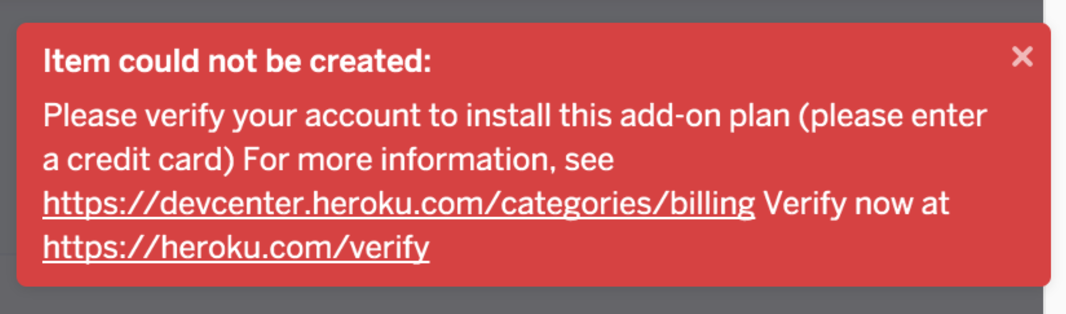
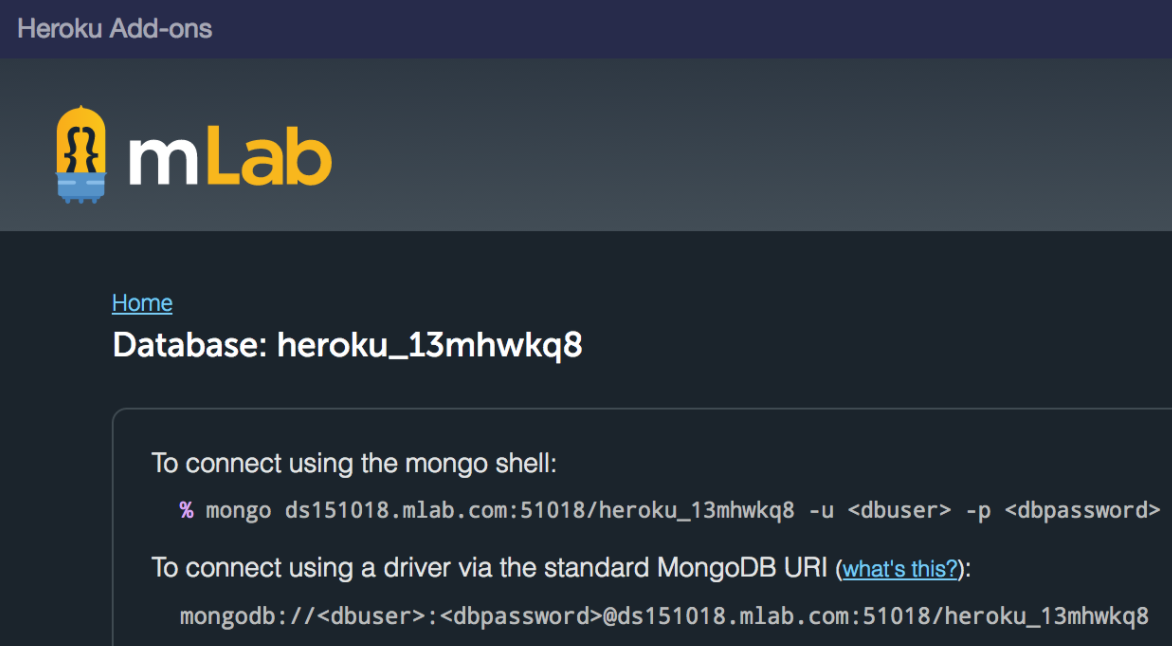
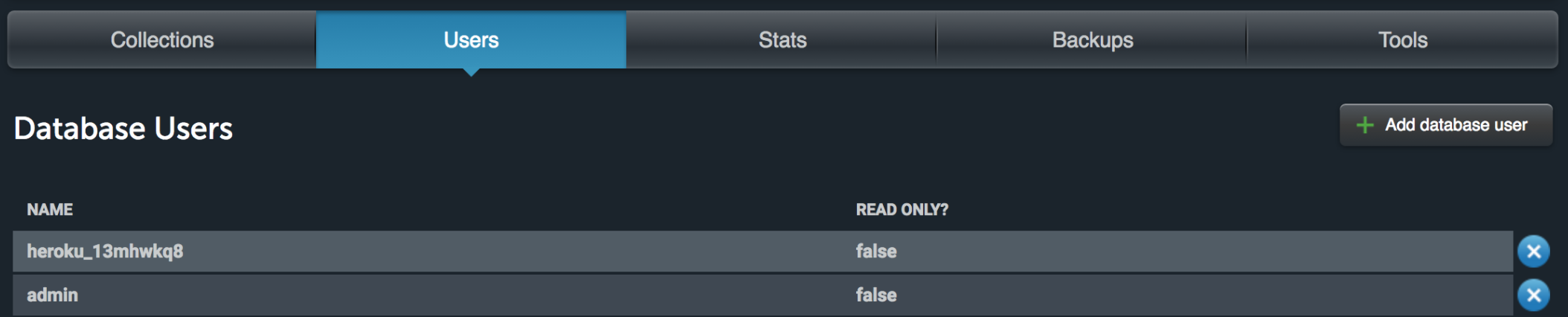
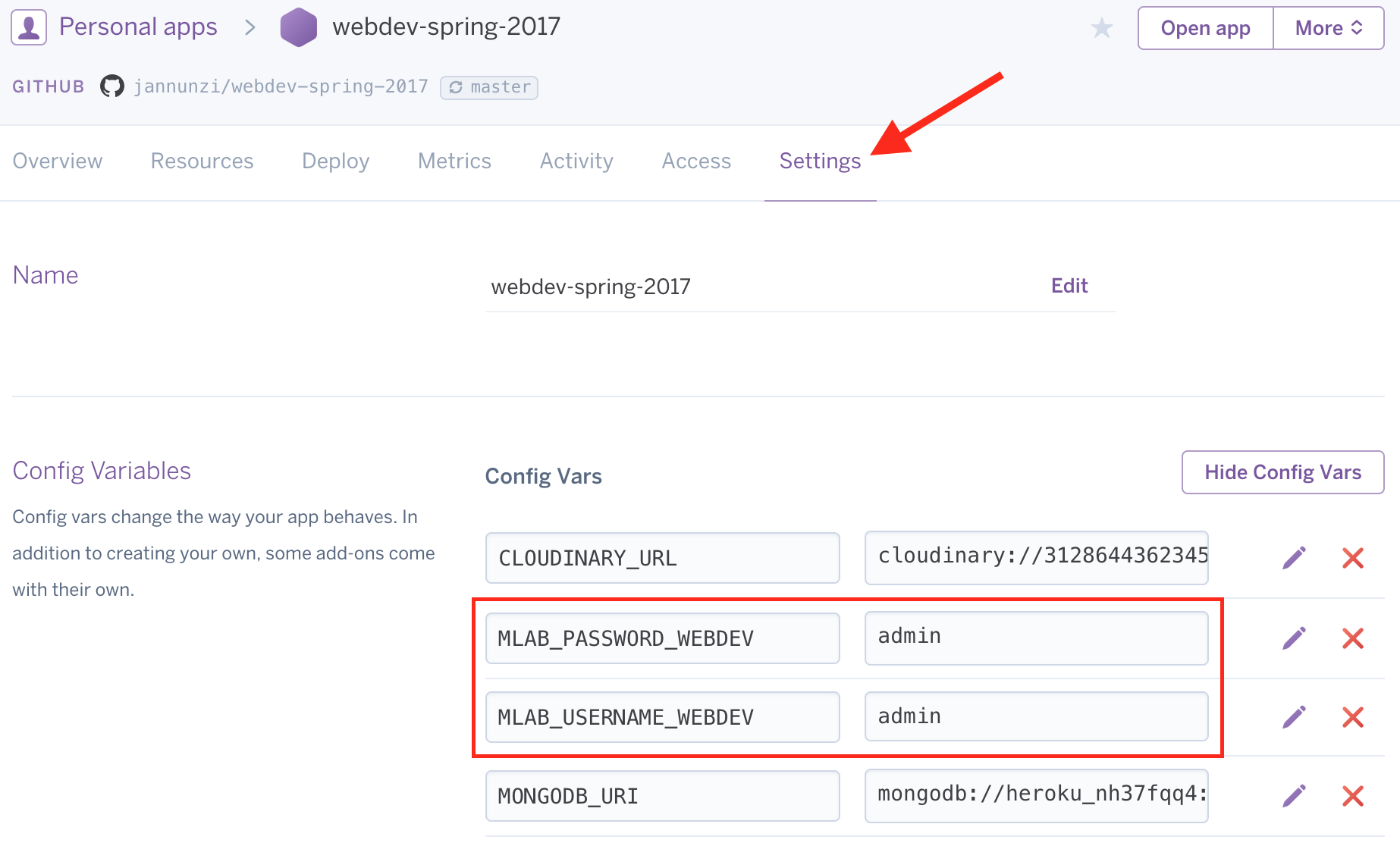


Back to the dashboard, navigate to the CLI page and install the heroku CLI



## Setting Up mLab

We will be using mLab as the remote mongo database. Follow the steps below to configure mLab from within Heroku

1. Login to Heroku
2. Navigate to Heroku's marketplace: <https://elements.heroku.com>  
   
3. Click on mLab MongoDB which should take you to: <https://elements.heroku.com/addons/mongolab>  
   
4. Click on Install mLab MongoDB and then choose the Heroku application you want to associate MongoDB with and then choose the Sandbox - Free plan  
   
5. If you get an error, you might need to enter a credit card, but it will not be charged  
   
6. mLab creates a free sandbox. Make note of the connection string which has the following pattern:  
   mongodb://<dbuser>:<dbpassword>@ds1234.mlab.com:12345/heroku\_1234xyz  
   
7. Create a username and password to fill in the <dbuser> and <dbpassword> in the connection string. Below I've created an admin user, but you can choose any username you please  
   
8. You could just copy and paste the connection string into your /test/app.js file and replace <dbuser> and <dbpassword> with the correct username and passwords, but that would be a bad idea since your source code would be publicly available on GitHub and everyone would be able to see your username and password for your database. Instead, store the username and password in environment variables in Heroku. Create environment variables in Heroku with the username and password. For instance, here are the username and password I'm using  
   
9. Them in your /test/app.js file, the connection string can be set localhost when you run the server locally, or mLab URL when running on Heroku. Use the following code in /test/app.js to check which environment you are running in and use the appropriate connection string  
     
   var connectionString = 'mongodb://127.0.0.1:27017/test'; // for local  
   if(process.env.MLAB\_USERNAME\_WEBDEV) { // check if running remotely  
    var username = process.env.MLAB\_USERNAME\_WEBDEV; // get from environment  
    var password = process.env.MLAB\_PASSWORD\_WEBDEV;  
    connectionString = 'mongodb://' + username + ':' + password;  
    connectionString += '@ds157268.mlab.com:57268/heroku\_nh37fqq4'; // user yours  
   }
10. Replace "**@ds157268.mlab.com:57268/heroku\_nh37fqq4**" above with your own URL given to you by mLab

## Setting Up WebStorm IDE

In this course we will be using the WebStorm IDE for developing MEAN stack Web applications. The IDE is free for users with an .edu email. Once you have downloaded and installed WebStorm, you will be able to clone and checkout the remote repositories from OpenShift. From within WebStorm you will be able to manage the repository by committing and pushing right from the IDE. The IDE will allow you to run and debug Node.js Web applications.

1. [Download and install the WebStorm IDE](https://www.jetbrains.com/webstorm/) on your local machine
2. Use your **.edu** email to register a free license
3. Start WebStorm and open the project created in earlier steps in ~/neu/webdev
4. Create a run configuration so you can run and debug NodeJS applications from within WebStorm
   1. Select from the menu Run, Edit Configurations...
   2. In the Run/Debug Configurations window click on the plus button on the top left
   3. Select Node.js
   4. Name the configuration **webdev**
   5. Verify the **Node interpreter** field has the directory of where Node.js is installed
   6. Verify the **Working directory** field has the directory of your project
   7. In the **JavaScript file** field type **server.js**, the file you edited previously
5. Verify the application works locally.
   1. From the top right of the IDE, select the dropdown and select webdev, the run time configuration you created earlier
   2. Click on the green play icon next to the dropdown to run your server
   3. Alternatively, you can start the local node.js server at the command line terminal at the bottom of the window typing the following:  
        
      > **node server.js**
   4. With a browser, navigate to <http://localhost:3000/index.html>

# Deliverables

For this course you will not be submitting any source code to Blackboard. All your source code should be available on GitHub. We only need to know the URL to the GitHub repository, and the URL to the hosted environment, e.g., Heroku, OpenShift, or AWS. You will submit the same two URLs as deliverables for all your assignments. Even though we will make note of these URLs, it will be convenient if you include them in all your submissions.

## Blackboard Deliverables

For this (and all other) assignment please submit the following in Blackboard:

1. Submit GitHub URL
2. Submit the URL to the root of your hosted environment Web application, e.g., Heroku, AWS, or OpenShift

## GitHub Deliverables

On GitHub

1. Invite the TAs and your instructor as a collaborator to your repository. TAs and instructors will provide their github usernames
2. Create a README.md file at the root of your github repository with the following information
   1. Say something about yourself, .e.g., you're a graduate student at Northeastern, past experience, if you are working, projects you've worked on, etc.
   2. Describe the purpose of repository, e.g., for webdev
   3. Create links to the following
      1. Root to the hosted environment on Heroku (or AWS, or OpenShift)
      2. Link to your project (you might need to come back to this)
      3. Link to your assignment (you might need to come back to this)
   4. Feel free to add more content
3. Create a Home page in your github wiki with the same information.
4. Upload an image of yourself to github (optional)
5. Update your bio on github, if you don't already have it