



# Electron Express

A Look at Node.js, Packages and Desktop Apps

Stephen Downes

National Research Council Canada

February 28, 2019

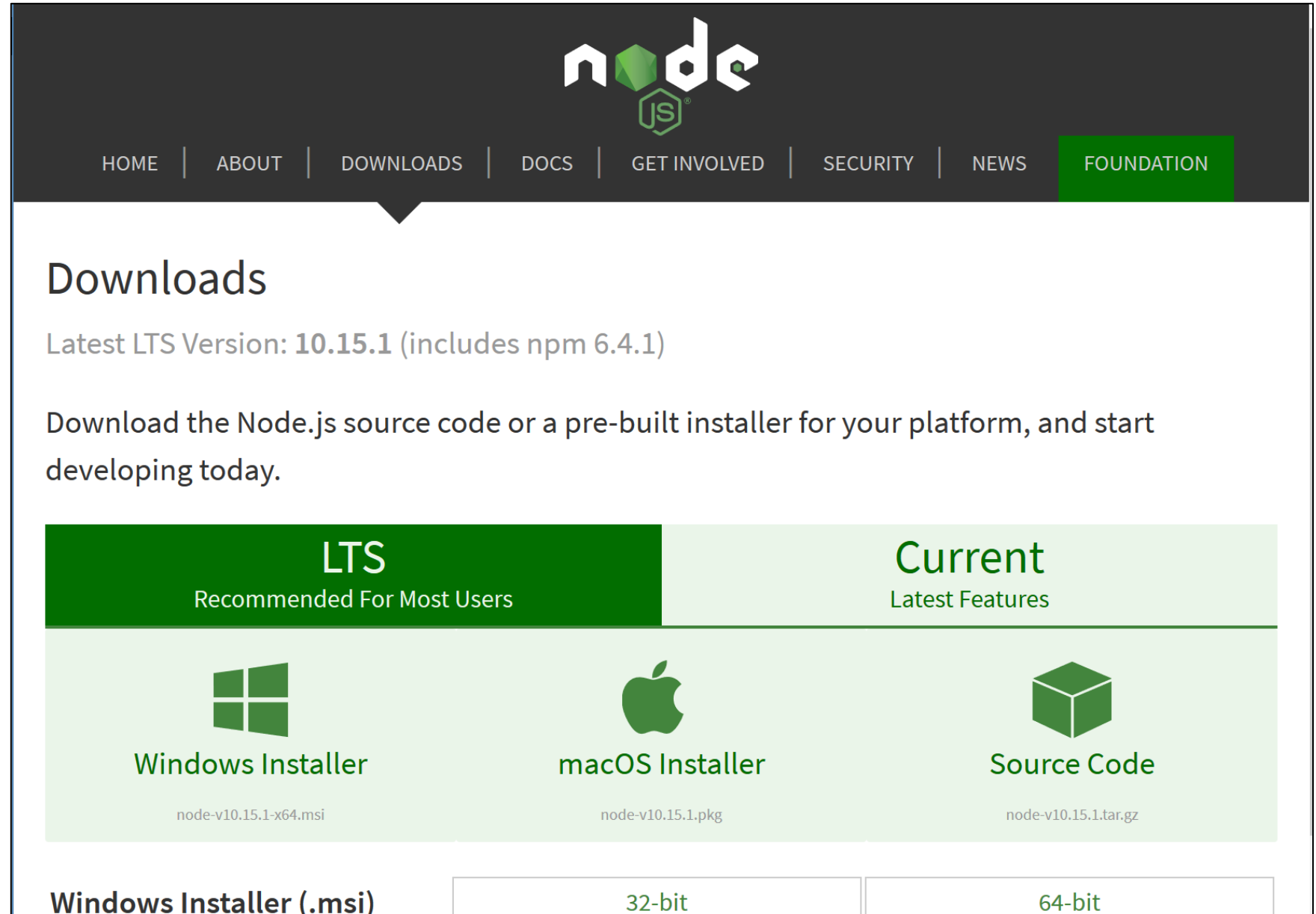
# Install...

## Node.js

Node.js is an environment that runs **Javascript** code.

Node can be used to run *web server* applications as well as *desktop* applications.

That's what this presentation is about.



The screenshot shows the Node.js website's 'Downloads' page. At the top is the Node.js logo and a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT, DOWNLOADS, DOCS, GET INVOLVED, SECURITY, NEWS, and FOUNDATION. The 'Downloads' section features a heading and text stating the latest LTS version is 10.15.1 (including npm 6.4.1). Below this, it instructs users to download source code or a pre-built installer. The page is divided into two main sections: 'LTS Recommended For Most Users' and 'Current Latest Features'. Under 'LTS', there are three options: 'Windows Installer' (node-v10.15.1-x64.msi), 'macOS Installer' (node-v10.15.1.pkg), and 'Source Code' (node-v10.15.1.tar.gz). At the bottom, there are filters for 'Windows Installer (.msi)', '32-bit', and '64-bit'.

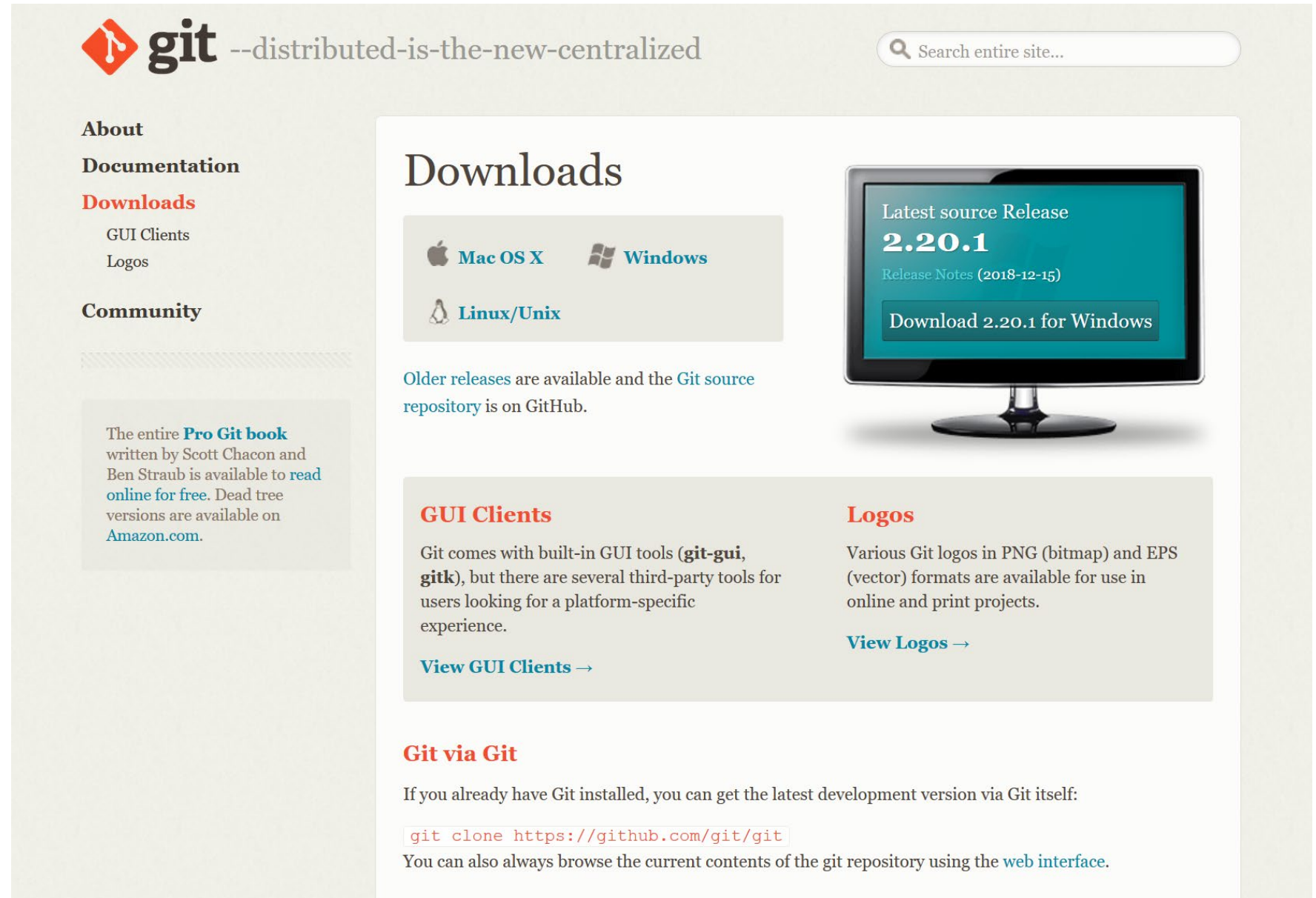
<https://nodejs.org/en/download/>

# Install...

## Git

Git allows to you access and update software from code versioning libraries.

We use it to get and run programs authored by other people.



The screenshot shows the Git website's Downloads page. At the top left is the Git logo and the tagline "--distributed-is-the-new-centralized". A search bar is in the top right. The left sidebar contains navigation links: About, Documentation, Downloads (highlighted), GUI Clients, Logos, and Community. Below the sidebar is a text box mentioning the "Pro Git book". The main content area has a "Downloads" heading and three platform-specific download buttons: Mac OS X, Windows, and Linux/Unix. To the right is a monitor displaying the latest source release "2.20.1" with a "Download 2.20.1 for Windows" button. Below the download buttons, text states "Older releases are available and the Git source repository is on GitHub." Further down are sections for "GUI Clients" and "Logos". At the bottom, a "Git via Git" section shows a terminal command to clone the repository.

**git** --distributed-is-the-new-centralized

Search entire site...

**About**  
**Documentation**  
**Downloads**  
GUI Clients  
Logos  
**Community**

The entire **Pro Git book** written by Scott Chacon and Ben Straub is available to [read online for free](#). Dead tree versions are available on [Amazon.com](#).

## Downloads

Mac OS X Windows Linux/Unix

Latest source Release  
**2.20.1**  
Release Notes (2018-12-15)  
Download 2.20.1 for Windows

Older releases are available and the [Git source repository](#) is on GitHub.

### GUI Clients

Git comes with built-in GUI tools (**git-gui**, **gitk**), but there are several third-party tools for users looking for a platform-specific experience.  
[View GUI Clients →](#)

### Logos

Various Git logos in PNG (bitmap) and EPS (vector) formats are available for use in online and print projects.  
[View Logos →](#)

### Git via Git

If you already have Git installed, you can get the latest development version via Git itself:

```
git clone https://github.com/git/git
```

You can also always browse the current contents of the git repository using the [web interface](#).

<https://git-scm.com/downloads>

# Install...

## Visual Studio Code


Visual Studio Code is an *Integrated Development Environment (IDE)*.

Visual Studio Code Docs Updates Blog API Extensions FAQ [Download](#)

Version 1.31 is now available! Read about the new features and fixes from January.

## Download Visual Studio Code

Free and open source. Integrated Git, debugging and extensions.



[Download Windows](#)  
Windows 7, 8, 10

|                  |        |        |
|------------------|--------|--------|
| User Installer   | 64 bit | 32 bit |
| System Installer | 64 bit | 32 bit |
| .zip             | 64 bit | 32 bit |



[Download .deb](#)  
Debian, Ubuntu

|         |        |        |
|---------|--------|--------|
| .deb    | 64 bit | 32 bit |
| .rpm    | 64 bit | 32 bit |
| .tar.gz | 64 bit | 32 bit |



[Download Mac](#)  
macOS 10.9+

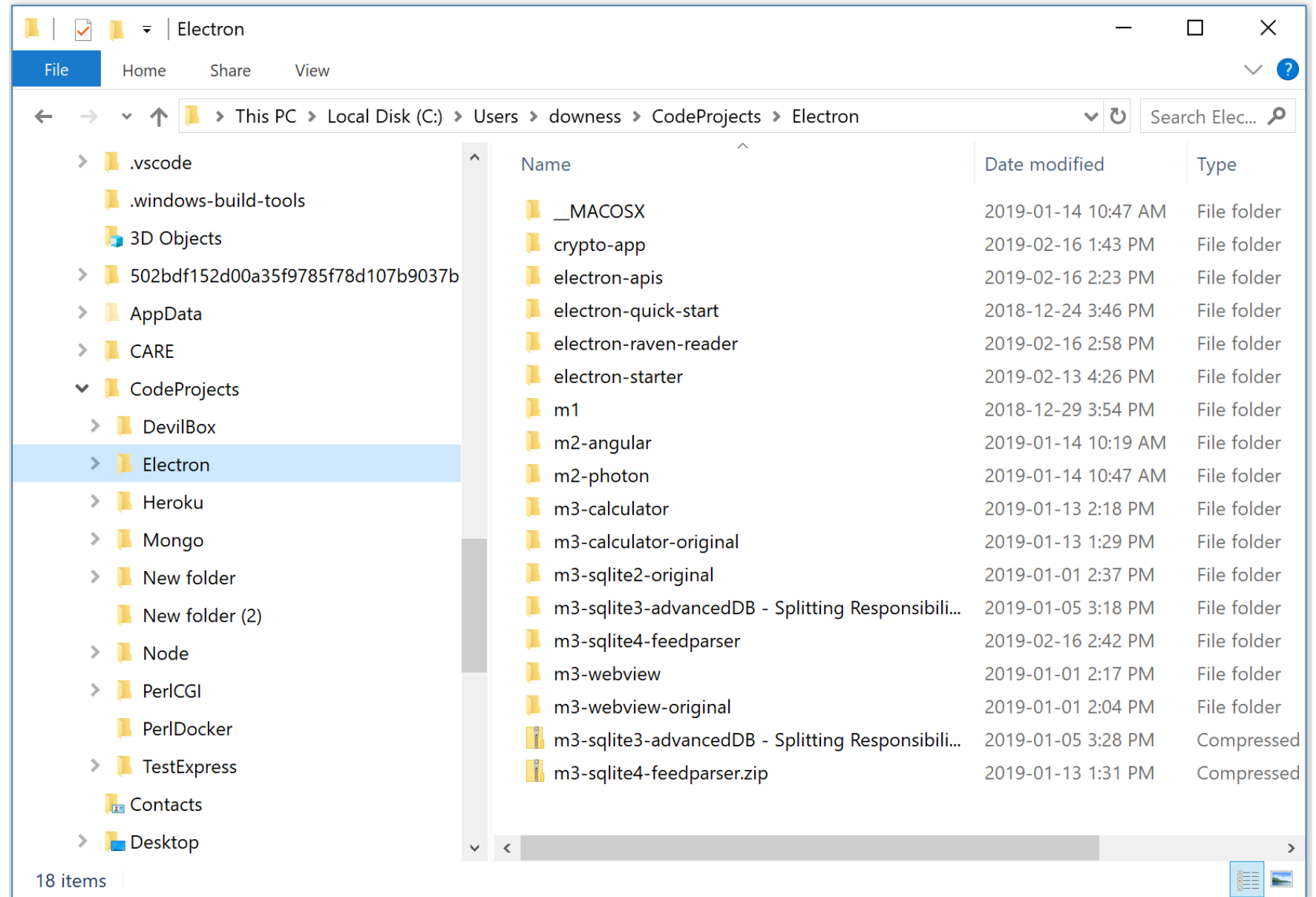
By downloading and using Visual Studio Code, you agree to the [license terms](#) and [privacy statement](#).

<https://code.visualstudio.com/download>

# Core Concepts

## Files and Folders

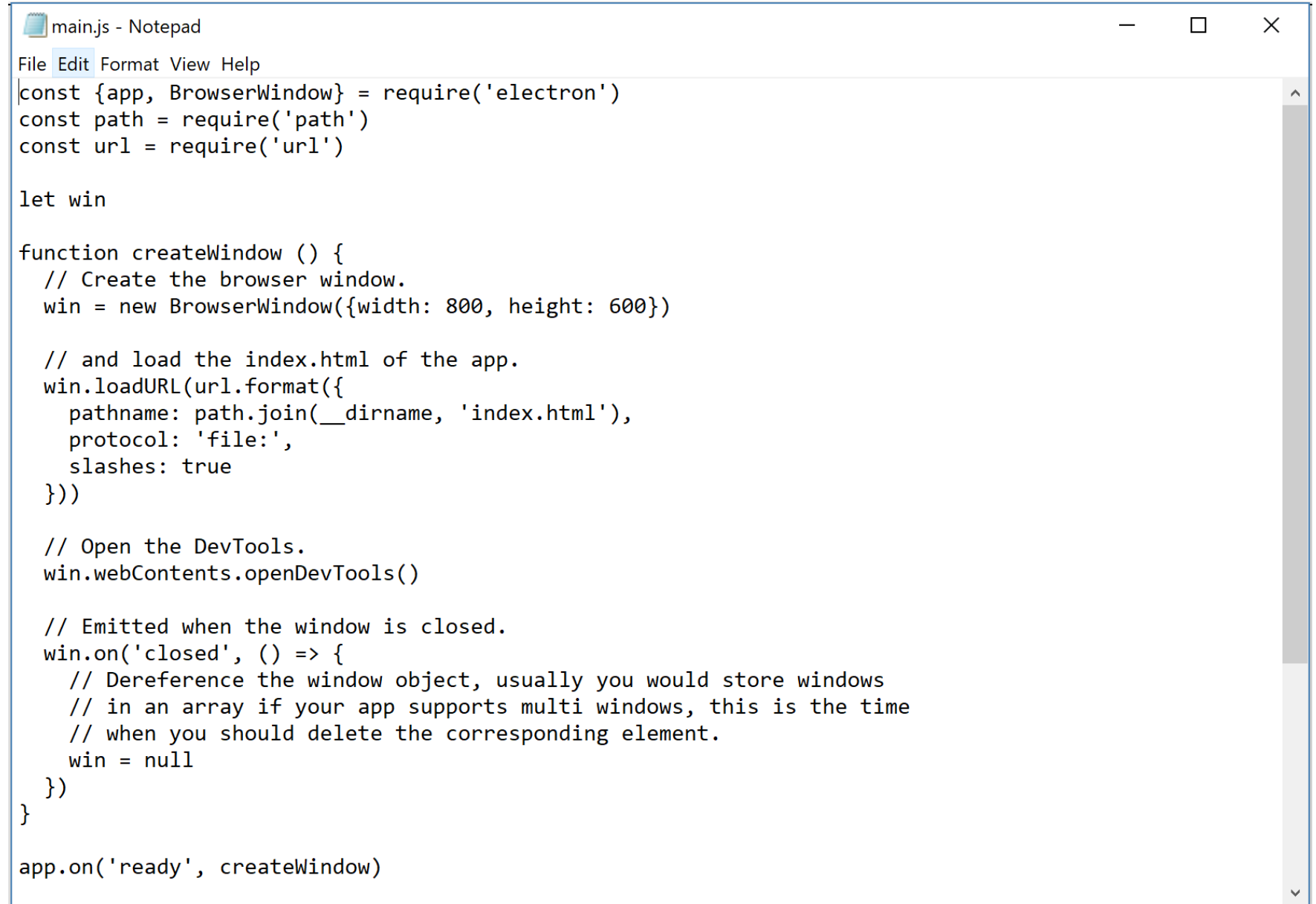
Like (say)  
Windows Explorer  
(pictured here)



# Core Concepts

## Text Editor

Like (say)  
Windows  
Notepad (pictured  
here)



```
main.js - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
const {app, BrowserWindow} = require('electron')
const path = require('path')
const url = require('url')

let win

function createWindow () {
  // Create the browser window.
  win = new BrowserWindow({width: 800, height: 600})

  // and load the index.html of the app.
  win.loadURL(url.format({
    pathname: path.join(__dirname, 'index.html'),
    protocol: 'file:',
    slashes: true
  }))

  // Open the DevTools.
  win.webContents.openDevTools()

  // Emitted when the window is closed.
  win.on('closed', () => {
    // Dereference the window object, usually you would store windows
    // in an array if your app supports multi windows, this is the time
    // when you should delete the corresponding element.
    win = null
  })
}

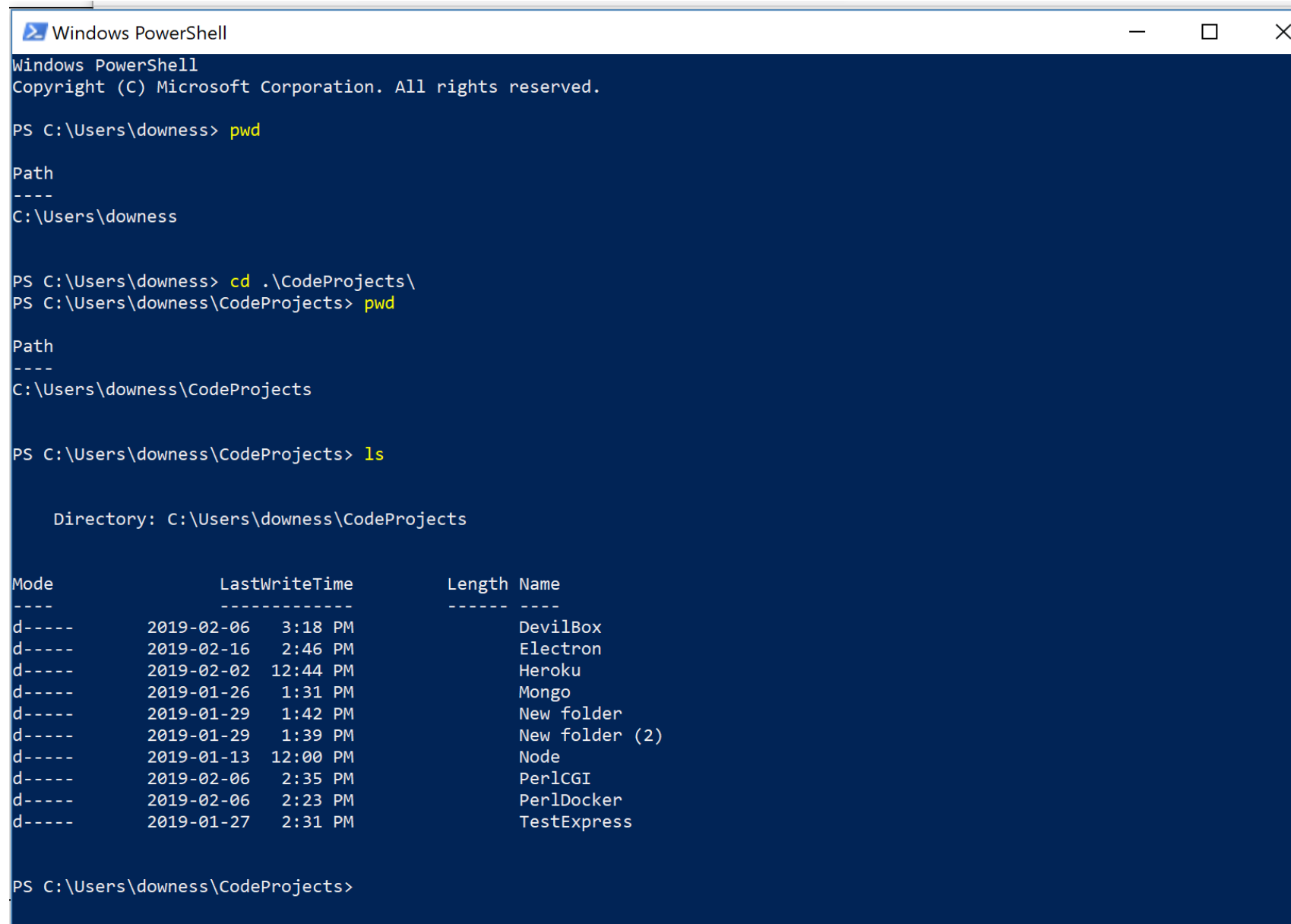
app.on('ready', createWindow)
```

# Core Concepts

## Command Shell

Like (say) Windows Command Prompt or Power Shell (pictured here).

Executes typed commands (instead of clicking on icons)



```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

PS C:\Users\downess> pwd

Path
----
C:\Users\downess

PS C:\Users\downess> cd .\CodeProjects\
PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects> pwd

Path
----
C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects

PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects> ls

        Directory: C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects

Mode                LastWriteTime         Length Name
----                -
d-----          2019-02-06   3:18 PM         DevilBox
d-----          2019-02-16   2:46 PM         Electron
d-----          2019-02-02  12:44 PM         Heroku
d-----          2019-01-26   1:31 PM         Mongo
d-----          2019-01-29   1:42 PM         New folder
d-----          2019-01-29   1:39 PM         New folder (2)
d-----          2019-01-13  12:00 PM         Node
d-----          2019-02-06   2:35 PM         PerlCGI
d-----          2019-02-06   2:23 PM         PerlDocker
d-----          2019-01-27   2:31 PM         TestExpress

PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects>
```

# Development Environment

Integrates explorer, text editor and command shell

The image shows a development environment with three main components:

- File Explorer:** Displays the file system structure for the 'Electron' project. The 'Electron' folder is selected, showing various subfolders and files.
- Code Editor (Notepad):** Shows the content of 'main.js', which is a JavaScript file for creating an Electron application window. The code includes imports for 'electron', 'path', and 'url', and defines a 'createWindow' function.
- Command Shell (PowerShell):** Shows the execution of 'pwd' and 'cd' commands to navigate to the project directory.

```
const {app, BrowserWindow} = require('electron')
const path = require('path')
const url = require('url')

let win

function createWindow () {
  // Create the browser window.
  win = new BrowserWindow({width: 800, height: 600})

  // and load the index.html of the app.
  win.loadURL(url.format({
    pathname: path.join(__dirname, 'index.html'),
    protocol: 'file:',
    slashes: true
  }))

  // Open the DevTools.
  win.webContents.openDevTools()

  // Emitted when the window is closed.
  win.on('closed', () => {
    // Dereference the window object, usually you would store windows
    // in an array if your app supports multi windows, this is the time
    // when you should delete the corresponding element.
    win = null
  })
}

app.on('ready', createWindow)
```

```
PS C:\Users\downess> pwd
Path
----
C:\Users\downess

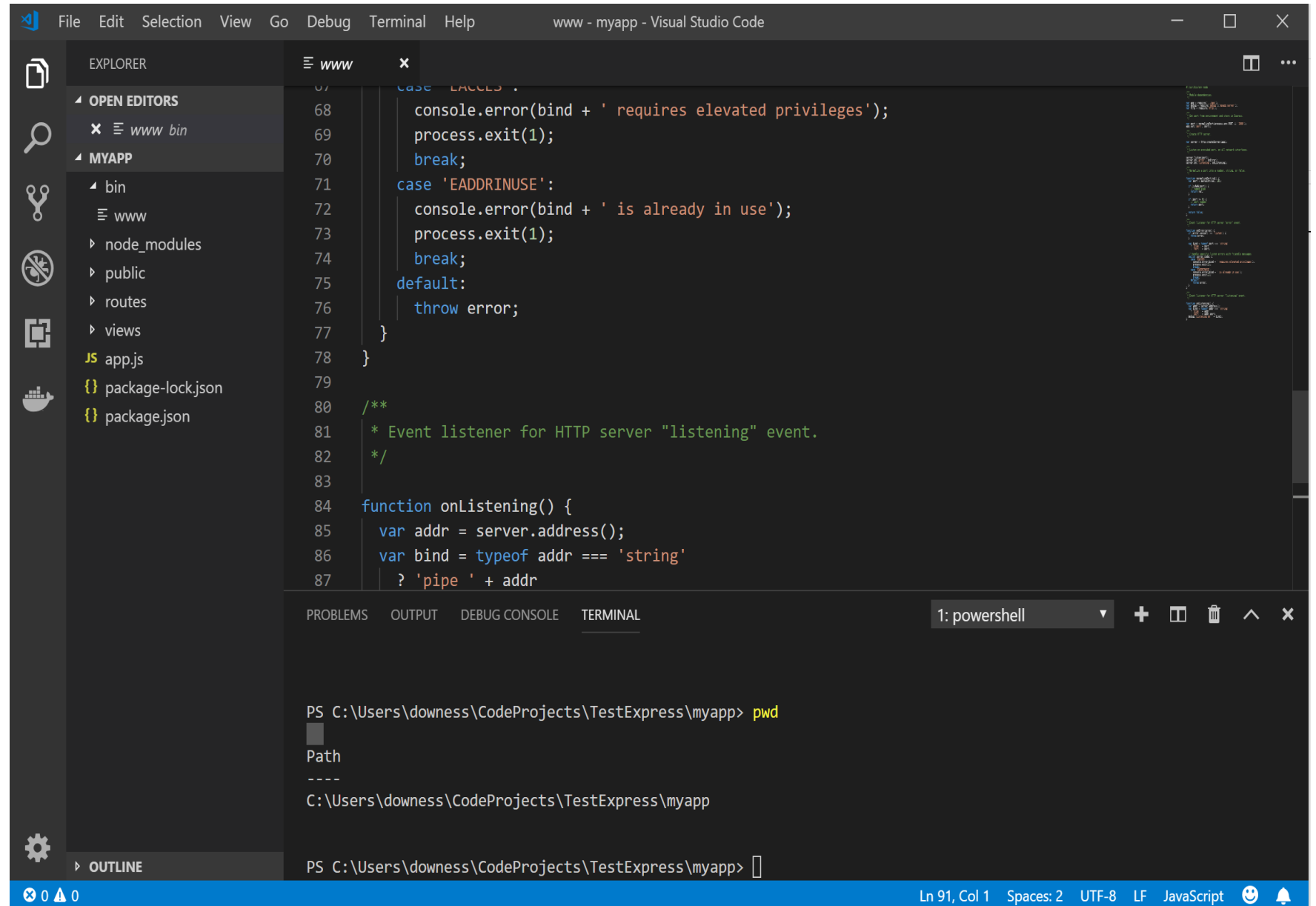
PS C:\Users\downess> cd .\CodeProjects\
PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects> pwd
Path
----
```



# Development Environment

## Visual Studio Code

Integrates and provides options for directories and files, text editor, and command window



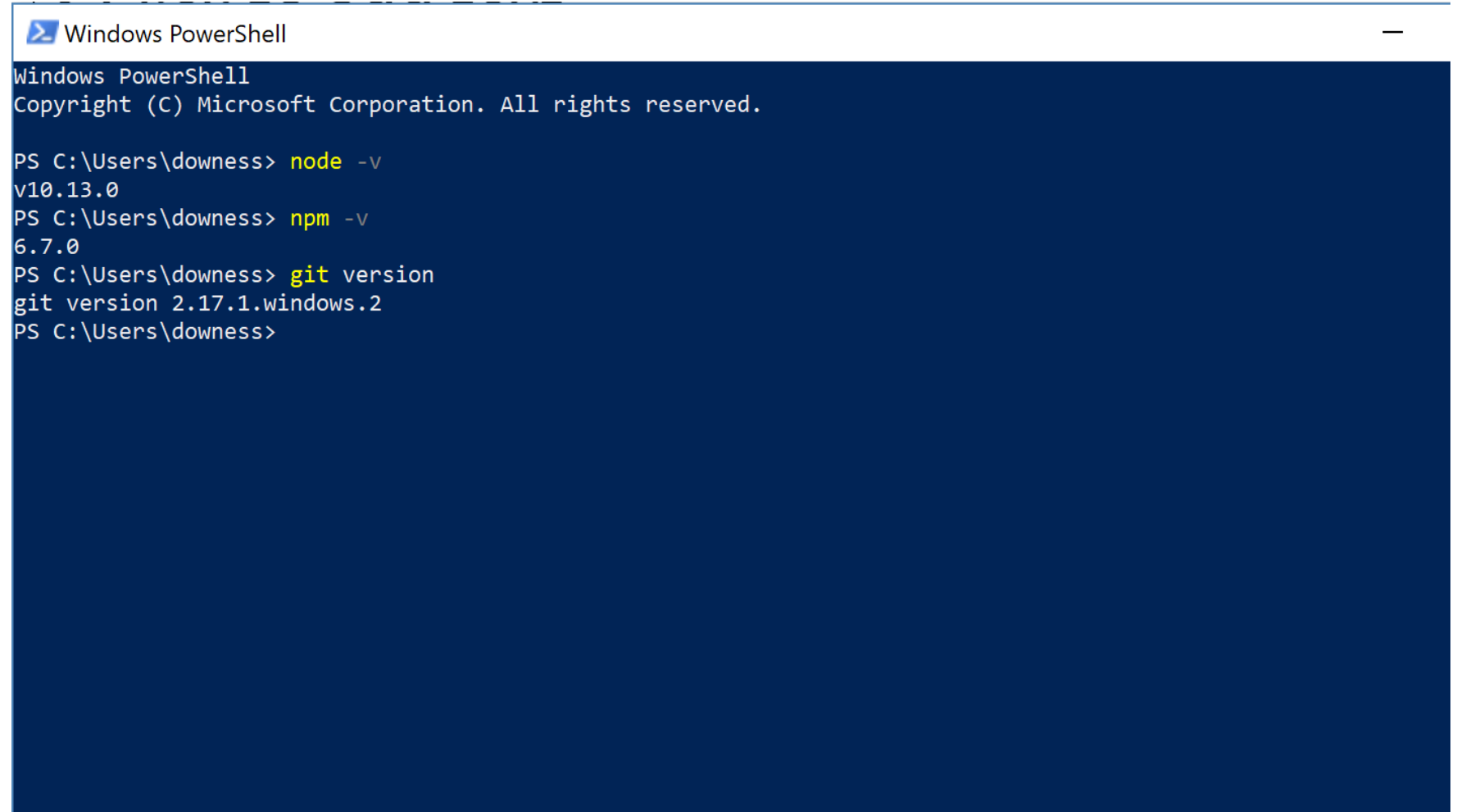
# Path

# Test

Git and Node  
run from the  
command line in  
the shell.

Test them in the  
command shell

If they don't  
work, they have  
to be added to  
the path  
(probably)



```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

PS C:\Users\downess> node -v
v10.13.0
PS C:\Users\downess> npm -v
6.7.0
PS C:\Users\downess> git version
git version 2.17.1.windows.2
PS C:\Users\downess>
```

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects>

# Path

## Add to Path

Use the Windows system settings to add Git and/or Node to the Windows path.

The path tells Windows where to look for a command line program.

### To add into **PATH**:

1. Right-Click on My Computer.
2. Click on Advanced System Settings.
3. Click on Environment Variables.
4. Then, under System Variables, look for the **path** variable and click edit.
5. **Add** the **path** to **git's** bin and cmd at the end of the string like this:  
`;C:\Program Files\Git\bin\git.exe;C:\Program Files\Git\cmd.`



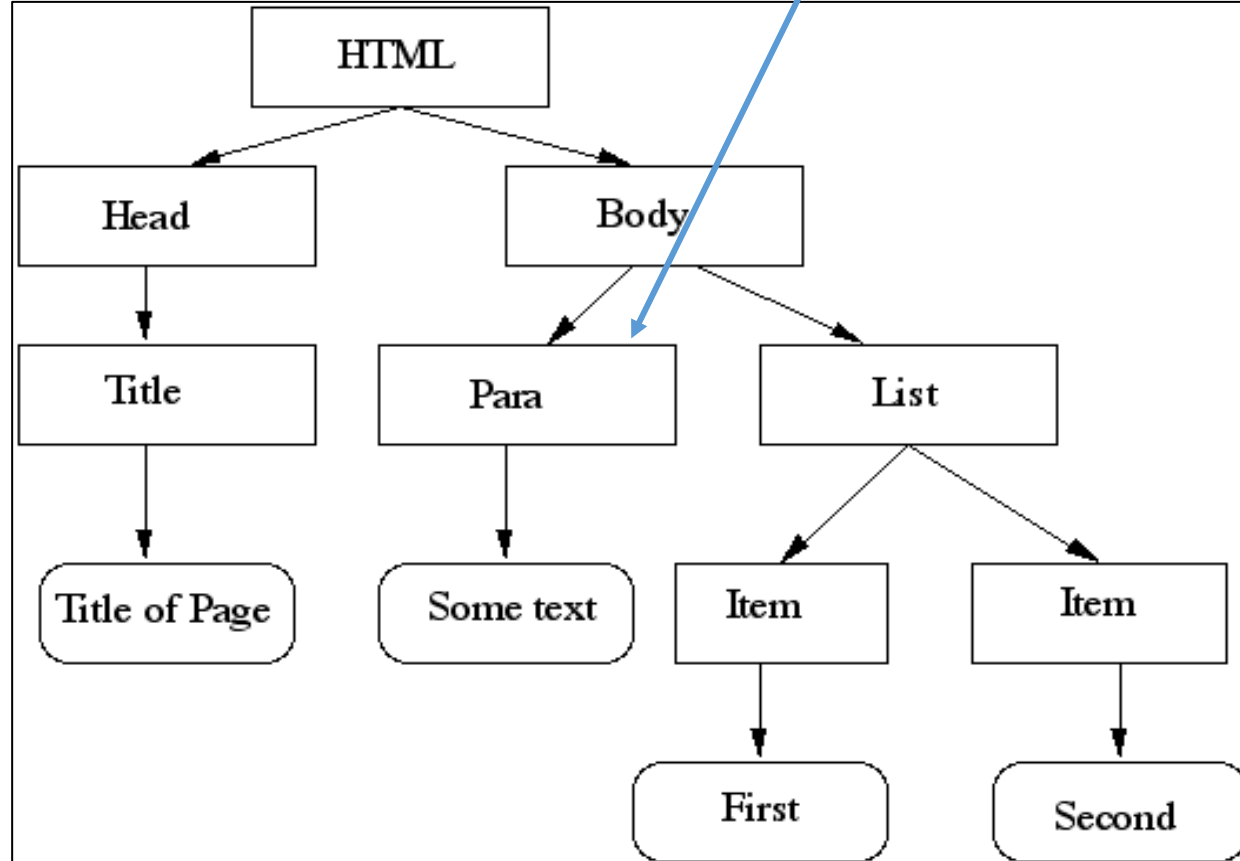
[Installing Git in PATH with GitHub client for Windows - Stack Overflow](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/.../installing-git-in-path-with-github-client-for-wind...)  
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/.../installing-git-in-path-with-github-client-for-wind...>

# Javascript

## DOM

Javascript uses *selectors* to interoperate with a web page Document Object Model (DOM) to get and manipulate web page values. There is also an analogous Browser Object Model (BOM).

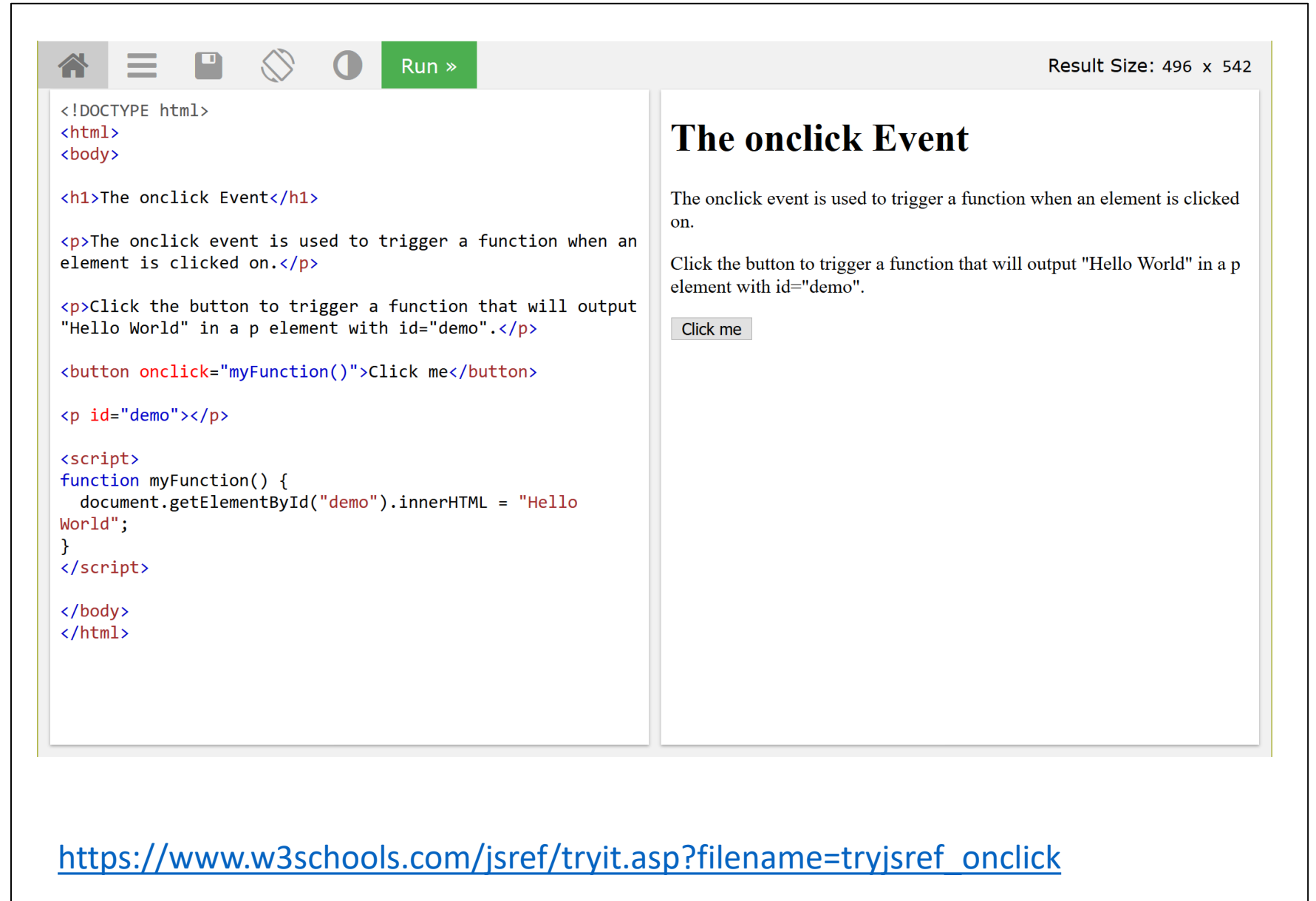
```
document.getElementById("p1").innerHTML = "New text!";
```



# Javascript

## Events

Javascript uses *listeners* to respond to events on a web page such as page loads, clicks, changes in forms, mouse hovers, etc.



Result Size: 496 x 542

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>

<h1>The onclick Event</h1>

<p>The onclick event is used to trigger a function when an
element is clicked on.</p>

<p>Click the button to trigger a function that will output
"Hello World" in a p element with id="demo".</p>

<button onclick="myFunction()">Click me</button>

<p id="demo"></p>

<script>
function myFunction() {
  document.getElementById("demo").innerHTML = "Hello
World";
}
</script>

</body>
</html>
```

### The onclick Event

The onclick event is used to trigger a function when an element is clicked on.

Click the button to trigger a function that will output "Hello World" in a p element with id="demo".

Click me

[https://www.w3schools.com/jsref/tryit.asp?filename=tryjsref\\_onclick](https://www.w3schools.com/jsref/tryit.asp?filename=tryjsref_onclick)

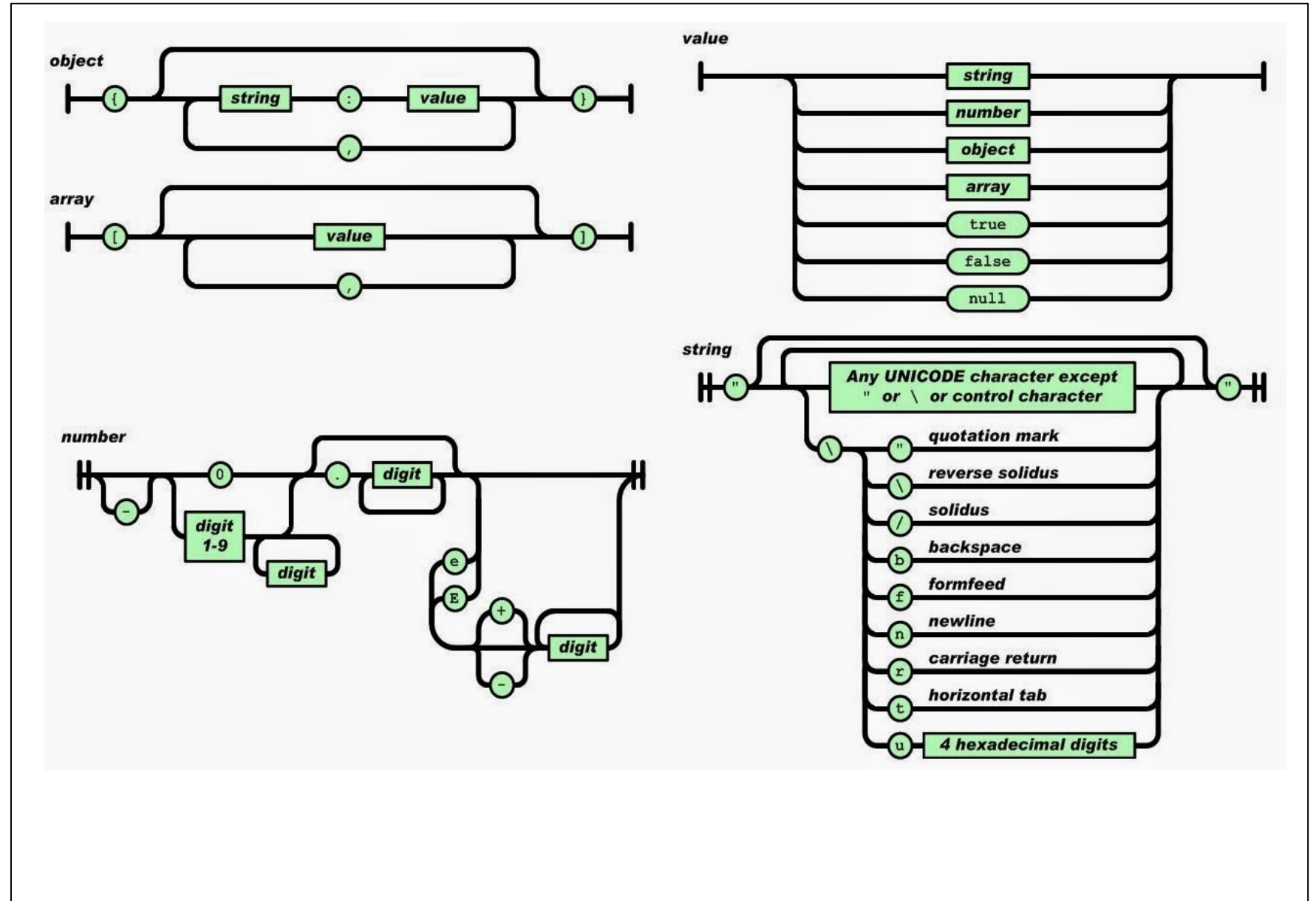
[https://www.w3schools.com/jsref/dom\\_obj\\_event.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/jsref/dom_obj_event.asp)

# Javascript

## JSON

In Javascript data structures are represented using text formatted as *Javascript Object Notation* (JSON).

Because JSON is text, it can be easily edited, and sent and stored almost anywhere.



# Javascript

## JSON

JSON is a *native* Javascript format. You can read and write to it directly using a selector.

So there is no complicated parsing of data being exchanged, as there is in XML.

### XML

```
<empinfo>
  <employees>
    <employee>
      <name>James Kirk</name>
      <age>40</age>
    </employee>
    <employee>
      <name>Jean-Luc Picard</name>
      <age>45</age>
    </employee>
    <employee>
      <name>Wesley Crusher</name>
      <age>27</age>
    </employee>
  </employees>
</empinfo>
```

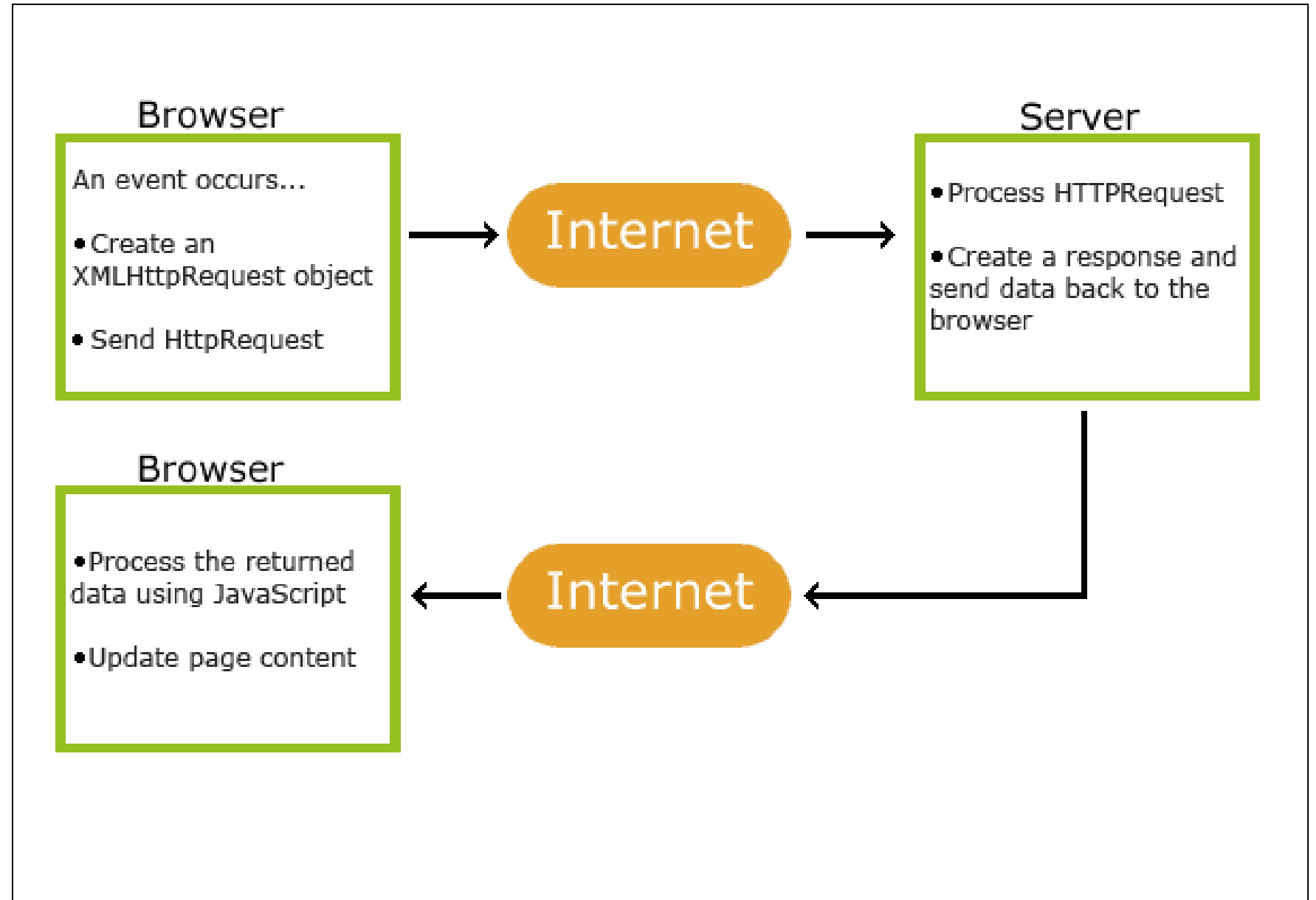
### JSON

```
{ "empinfo" :
  {
    "employees" : [
      {
        "name" : "James Kirk",
        "age" : 40,
      },
      {
        "name" : "Jean-Luc Picard",
        "age" : 45,
      },
      {
        "name" : "Wesley Crusher",
        "age" : 27,
      }
    ]
  }
}
```

# Javascript

## AJAX

Javascript uses *Asynchronous JavaScript And XML* (AJAX) to read data from a web server after the page has loaded, update a web page without reloading the page, and send data to a web server - in the background.





# Javascript

## AI Services

Send an API request using AJAX and API key to MS Cognitive Services (Computer Vision) to create alt text for images.

C:\Users\downes\CodeProjects\MS-API\Computer Vision

<https://www.downes.ca/files/msindex.html>

### Analyze image:

Enter the URL to an image, then click the **Analyze image** button.

Image to analyze: <http://upload.wikimedia>

Subscription Key [a178dfae365340c9b84a](#) (To get your key, go to [this page](#))

Analyze image

Image and Auto-generated Caption:



a large waterfall over a rocky cliff

Full Data from Response:

```
{
  "categories": [
    {
      "name": "outdoor_water",
      "score": 0.9921875,
      "detail": {
        "landmarks": []
      }
    }
  ],
  "color": {
    "dominantColorForeground": "Grey",
    "dominantColorBackground": "Green",
    "dominantColors": [
      "Grey",
      "Green"
    ],
    "accentColor": "4D5E2F",
    "isBwImg": false,
    "isBWImg": false
  },
  "description": {
    "tags": [
      "nature",
      "water",
      "waterfall",
      "outdoor",

```

Adapted from [this page](#).

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cognitive-services/Computer-vision/quickstarts/javascript-analyze>

# Javascript

## jQuery

jQuery is a Javascript library that simplifies Javascript (and especially selectors and listeners).

It's often included in web pages as a remote script (ie.,  
<script  
src="jquery.js">)

### jQuery

```
var myElement = $("#id01");
```

### JavaScript

```
var myElement = document.getElementById("id01");
```

### jQuery

```
$("#id").remove();
```

### JavaScript

```
element.parentNode.removeChild(element);
```

<https://www.w3schools.com/jquery/default.asp>

# Javascript

# Bootstrap

Bootstrap is a Javascript library built on top of jQuery that automates a lot of web page styling and interface elements. It makes it a lot easier to support mobile devices and accessibility standards (aka ARIA).

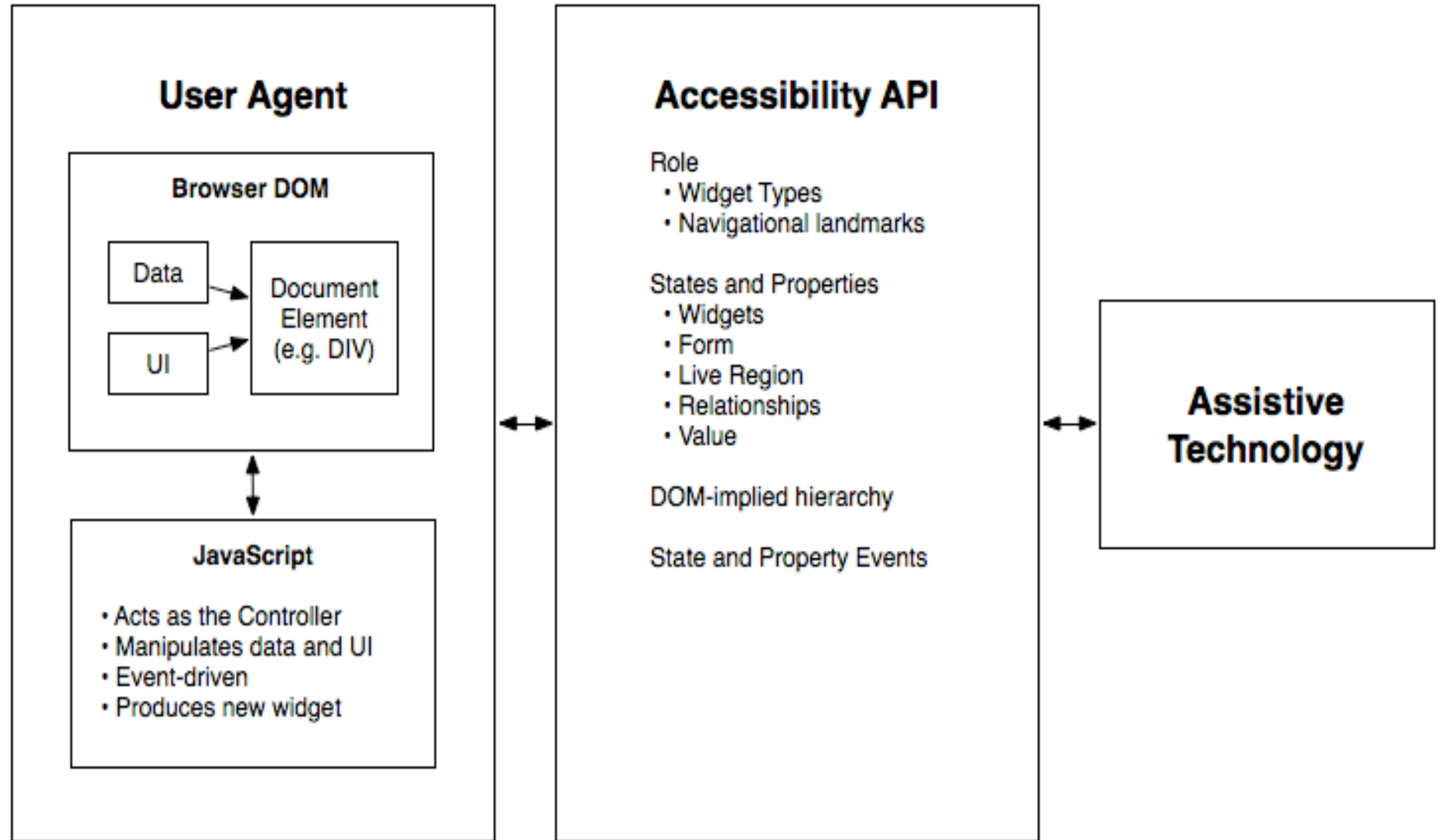
The screenshot shows the Bootstrap documentation page for Buttons. The page has a purple header with navigation links: Home, Documentation, Examples, Themes, Expo, Blog. There are social media icons and a Download button. A search bar is present. The main content area is titled 'Buttons' and includes a description: 'Use Bootstrap's custom button styles for actions in forms, dialogs, and more with support for multiple sizes, states, and more.' Below this is a 'papertrail' example showing a terminal window with a 'Start Logging' button. The 'Examples' section shows six predefined button styles: Primary (blue), Secondary (light blue), Success (green), Info (cyan), Warning (orange), and Danger (red), along with a Link button. Below the examples is a code block with HTML snippets for each style, and a 'Copy' button. A sidebar on the right lists various examples like Button tags, Outline buttons, Sizes, Active state, Disabled state, Button plugin, Toggle states, Checkbox and radio buttons, and Methods. A left sidebar lists components like Alerts, Badge, Breadcrumb, Buttons, Button group, Card, Carousel, Collapse, Dropdowns, Forms, Input group, Jumbotron, List group, Modal, Navs, Navbar, and Pagination.

<https://getbootstrap.com/>

# Javascript

## ARIA

The Accessible Rich Internet Applications (ARIA) standard provides an interface between Javascript DOM elements and assistive technologies.



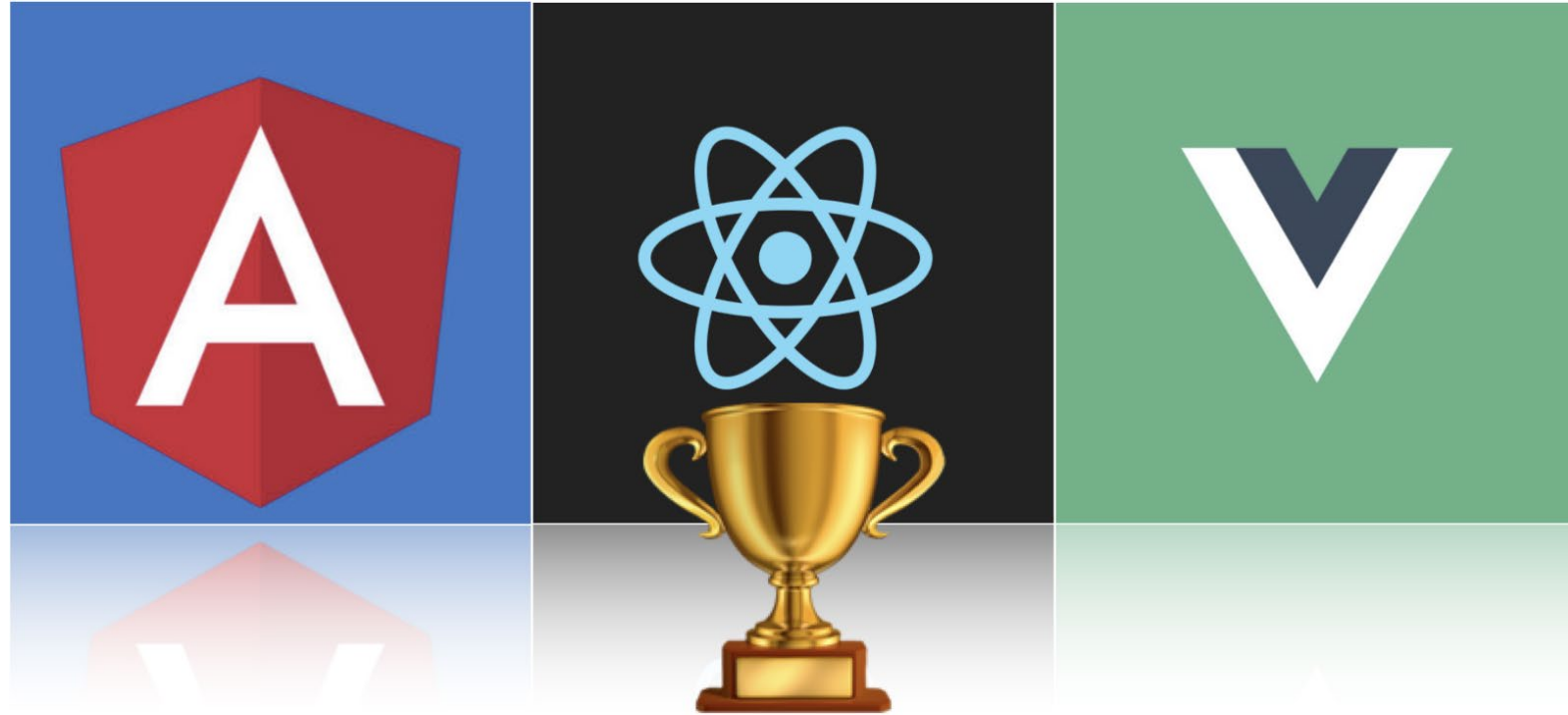
<https://www.w3.org/TR/wai-aria/>

<https://developers.google.com/web/fundamentals/accessibility/semantics-aria/>

# Javascript

## Frameworks

These are  
frontend libraries  
that manage  
interactions with  
backend services.



Angular: <https://angular.io/>

React: <https://reactjs.org/>

Vue: <https://vuejs.org/>

<https://medium.com/zerotomastery/tech-trends-showdown-react-vs-angular-vs-vue-61ffaf1d8706>

<https://www.codeinwp.com/blog/angular-vs-vue-vs-react/>

# Node.js

## Server

Node.js is a way of running Javascript on the server. In many ways, it *is* a web server. Node.js is run from the command line, and you can access it with a web browser.

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\nodejs\Node\app>

<http://localhost:8080>

### Script in text file: app.js (edit in the text editor)

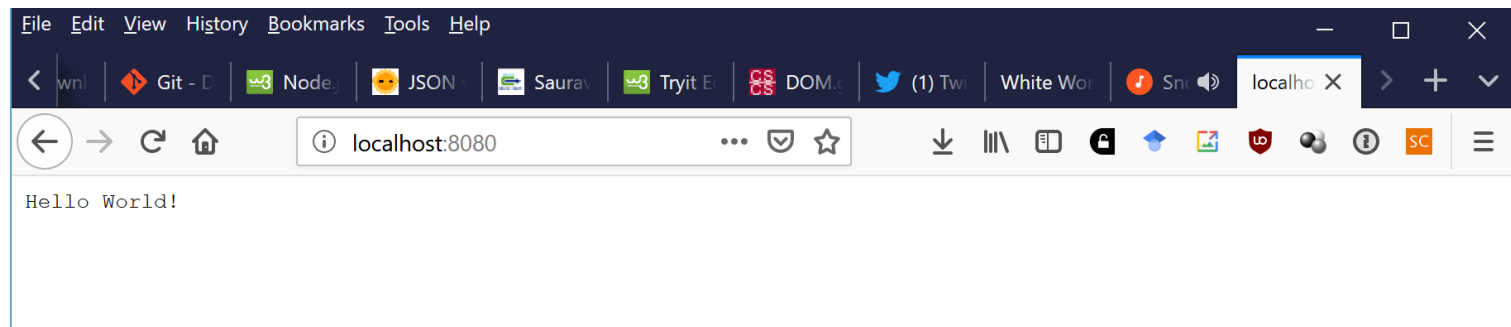
```
var http = require('http');
http.createServer(function (req, res) {
  res.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/plain'});
  res.end('Hello World!');
}).listen(8080);
```

### Run script (use the command line)

```
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\nodejs\Node\app> node app.js
```

### View in browser (http://localhost:8080)

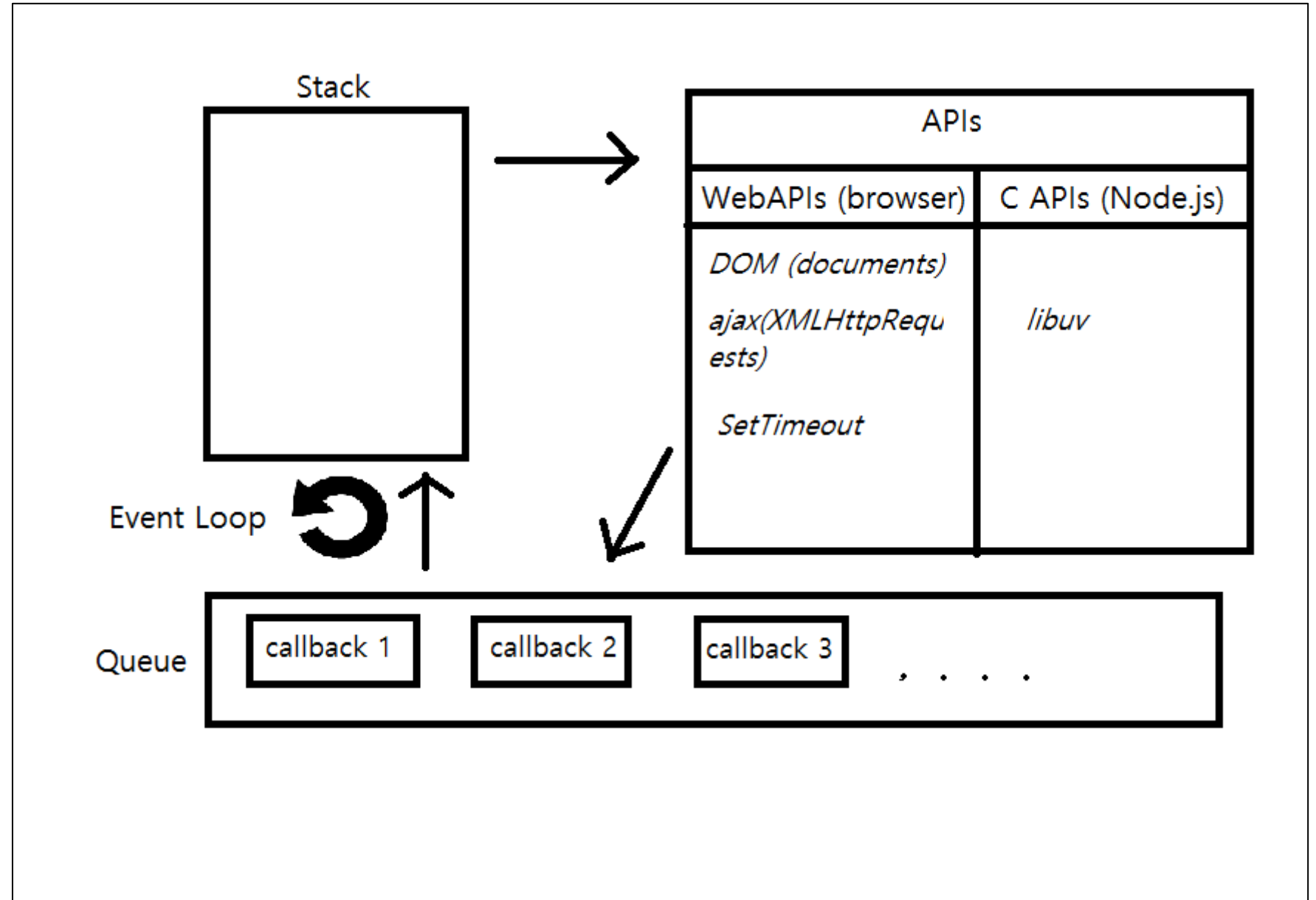


<https://www.w3schools.com/nodejs/default.asp>

# Node.js

## Event Loop

Node.js runs commands one-by-one in the stack, but puts API calls to one side instead of waiting for them. When the stack is completed, it executes the first response in the queue sent back from the APIs.



# Node.js

## Files

Node.js can read and write to files on the local machine.

Thus it can read files and make them available to a web browser.

[C:\Users\downess\CodeProjec  
ts\Node\w3schools](http://localhost:8080)

<http://localhost:8080>

```
demofile1.html
```

```
<html>  
<body>  
<h1>My Header</h1>  
<p>My paragraph.</p>  
</body>  
</html>
```

```
var http = require('http');  
var fs = require('fs');  
http.createServer(function (req, res) {  
  //Open a file on the server and return its  
  content:  
  fs.readFile('demofile1.html', function(err,  
  data) {  
    res.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type':  
'text/html'});  
    res.write(data);  
    return res.end();  
  });  
}).listen(8080);
```

Result Size: 398 x 342

http://localhost:8080

# My Header

My paragraph.

[https://www.w3schools.com/js/js\\_json\\_intro.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/js/js_json_intro.asp)

<https://www.json.org/>



# Node.js

## Modules

Other built-in Node.js modules include URL (for web requests), Events (for listeners), Upload Files, and Email.

[C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\node\w3schools](http://localhost:8080)

<http://localhost:8080>

```
var nodemailer = require('nodemailer');

var transporter = nodemailer.createTransport({
  service: 'gmail',
  auth: {
    user: 'youremail@gmail.com',
    pass: 'yourpassword'
  }
});

var mailOptions = {
  from: 'youremail@gmail.com',
  to: 'myfriend@yahoo.com',
  subject: 'Sending Email using Node.js',
  text: 'That was easy!'
};

transporter.sendMail(mailOptions, function(error, info){
  if (error) {
    console.log(error);
  } else {
    console.log('Email sent: ' + info.response);
  }
});
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/nodejs/nodejs\\_email.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/nodejs/nodejs_email.asp)

# Node.js










## NPM

NPM is the *Node Package Manager*. It comes with Node. It provides a way to obtain and install Node packages written by other developers.

NPM runs from the command line.

An alternative to NPM is Facebook's YARN.

### Packages people 'npm install' a lot

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|  <b>browserify</b><br>browser-side require() the node way<br>16.1.0 published 3 weeks ago by goto-bus-stop |  <b>gulp</b><br>The streaming build system<br>3.9.1 published 2 years ago by phated                             |  <b>npm</b><br>a package manager for JavaScript<br>5.7.1 published a week ago by zkat   |
|  <b>grunt-cli</b><br>The grunt command line interface<br>1.2.0 published 2 years ago by vladikoff          |  <b>grunt</b><br>The JavaScript Task Runner<br>1.0.2 published 4 weeks ago by vladikoff                         |  <b>cordova</b><br>Cordova command line interface tool<br>8.0.0 published 2 months ago by stevegill   |
|  <b>bower</b><br>The browser package manager<br>1.8.2 published 6 months ago by sheerun                    |  <b>express</b><br>Fast, unopinionated, minimalist web framework<br>4.16.2 published 5 months ago by dougwilson |  <b>forever</b><br>A simple CLI tool for ensuring that a given node script runs continuously (i.e. forever)<br>0.15.3 published a year ago by indexzero |

<https://www.npmjs.com/>

<https://yarnpkg.com/en/>

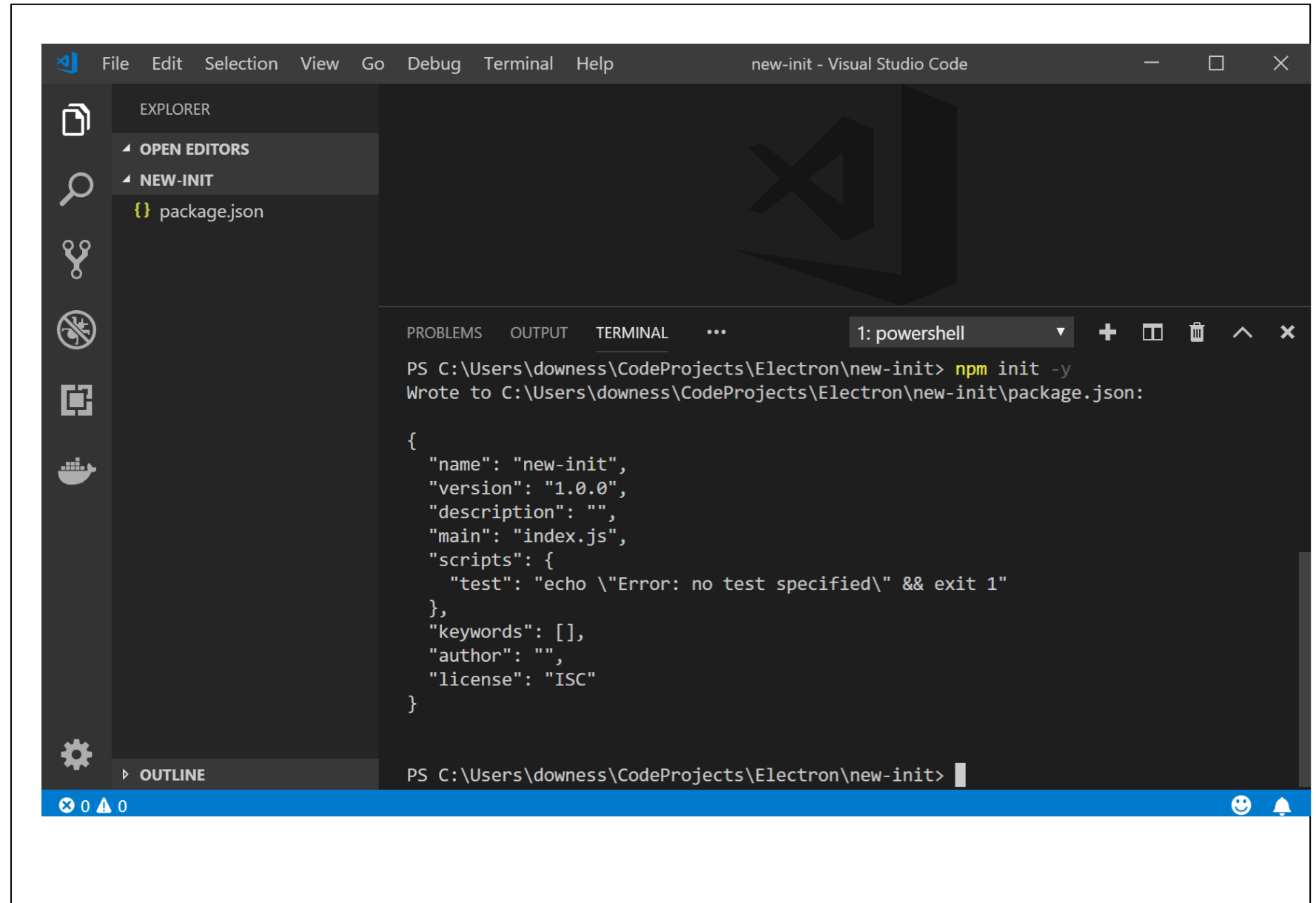
# NPM

## Init

NPM relies on a file called `package.json` to tell it what to do.

Create a new `package.json` file using the command `npm init`.

(You could also use a text editor but this is easier)



```
File Edit Selection View Go Debug Terminal Help new-init - Visual Studio Code

EXPLORER
  OPEN EDITORS
  NEW-INIT
    package.json

PROBLEMS OUTPUT TERMINAL ... 1: powershell
PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\new-init> npm init -y
Wrote to C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\new-init\package.json:

{
  "name": "new-init",
  "version": "1.0.0",
  "description": "",
  "main": "index.js",
  "scripts": {
    "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\" && exit 1"
  },
  "keywords": [],
  "author": "",
  "license": "ISC"
}

PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\new-init>
```

<https://docs.npmjs.com/creating-a-package-json-file>

# NPM

## Install

Install a new Node package using the npm install command.

For example, to install jQuery:  
npm install jQuery

This downloads files, and also adds a line in package.json, as shown.

The screenshot displays the Visual Studio Code interface for a project named 'new-init'. The Explorer sidebar on the left shows the file structure, with 'node\_modules' expanded to reveal the 'jquery' directory. The main editor window shows the 'package.json' file with the following content:

```
1 {
2   "name": "new-init",
3   "version": "1.0.0",
4   "description": "",
5   "main": "index.js",
6   "scripts": {
7     "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\" && exit 1"
8   },
9   "keywords": [],
10  "author": "",
11  "license": "ISC",
12  "dependencies": {
13    "jquery": "^3.3.1"
14  }
15 }
```

The Terminal window at the bottom shows the execution of the command `npm install jquery`. The output includes a notice about a lockfile, a warning about missing description and repository fields, and the successful installation of jQuery@3.3.1.

```
PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\new-init> npm install jquery
npm notice created a lockfile as package-lock.json. You should commit this file.
npm WARN new-init@1.0.0 No description
npm WARN new-init@1.0.0 No repository field.

+ jquery@3.3.1
added 1 package from 1 contributor and audited 1 package in 0.898s
found 0 vulnerabilities

PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\new-init>
```

<https://docs.npmjs.com/cli/install>

# NPM

## Const

Use a package by declaring a 'const' in a script. This makes objects and functions available to the script.

Node won't run the if-then in curl.get() until it gets a response from the web server.

The example uses jQuery to scrape the IMDB website for James Bond films.

```
1  const curl = require("curl");
2  const jsdom = require("jsdom");
3
4  const url = "http://www.imdb.com/list/ls004489992/";
5
6  curl.get(url, null, (err, resp, body)=>{
7    if(resp.statusCode == 200){
8      |   parseData(body);
9    }
10   else{
11     |   //some error handling
12     |   console.log("error while fetching url");
13   }
14 });
15
16 function parseData(html){
17   |   const {JSDOM} = jsdom;
18   |   const dom = new JSDOM(html);
19   |   const $ = (require('jquery'))(dom.window);
20
21   |   //let's start extracting the data
22 }
```

<https://medium.com/@asimmittal/using-jquery-nodejs-to-scrape-the-web-9bb5d439413b>

Updated script for example: <https://gist.github.com/Downes/630c639ca77e01a21782ce2e22b20ad8>

# NPM

## Windows

Save some heartache and run this. It installs Windows dev tools globally (-g) including Visual Studio Build and Python 2.7 (needed for some Node.js modules).

```
npm install --global --production windows-build-tools
```

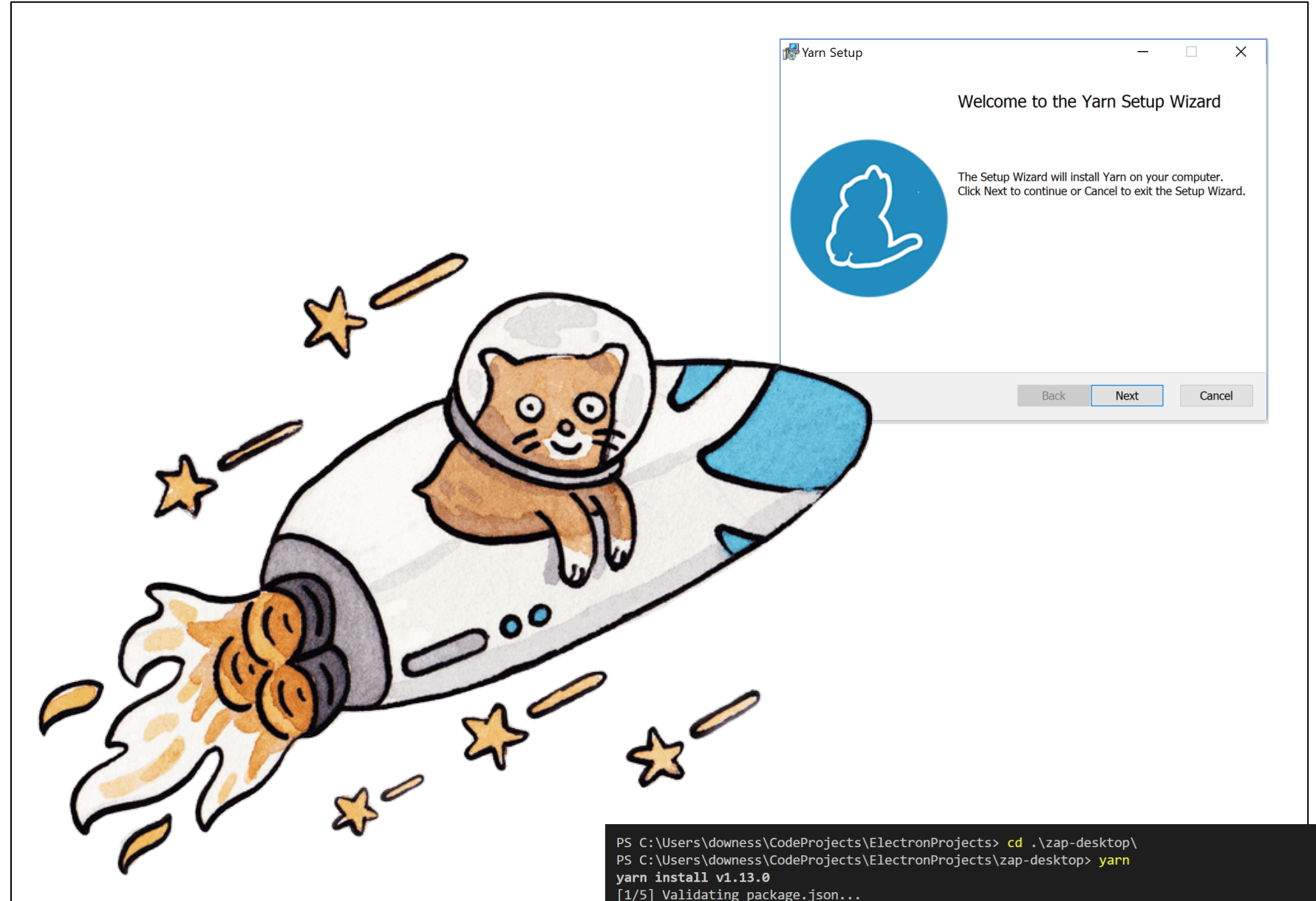


<https://github.com/tensorflow/tfjs/issues/741>

# Yarn

## Install

Yarn is an alternative to NPM.  
- builds package.json



<https://yarnpkg.com/>

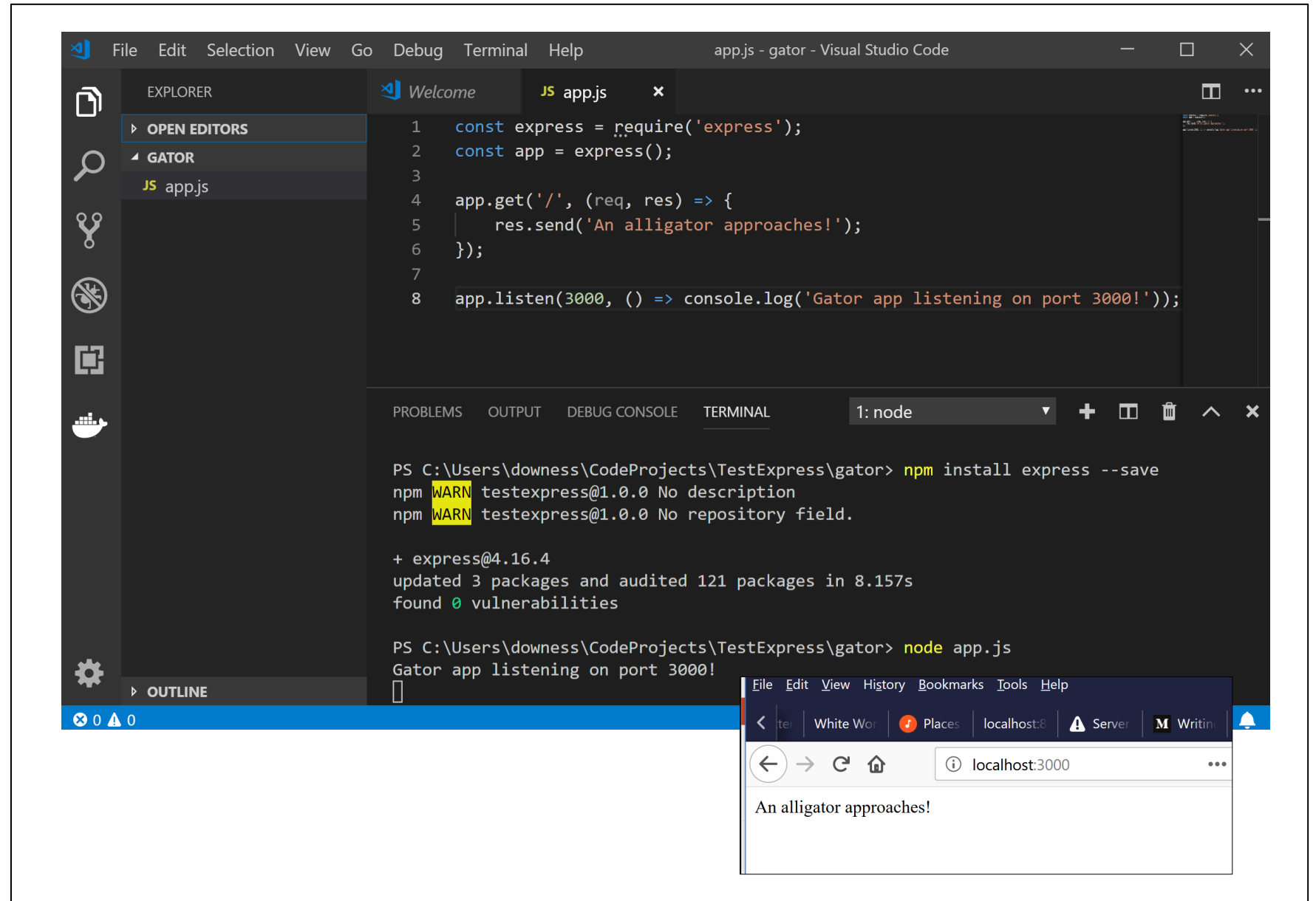
```
PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects> cd .\zap-desktop\  
PS C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects\zap-desktop> yarn  
yarn install v1.13.0  
[1/5] Validating package.json...  
[2/5] Resolving packages...  
[3/5] Fetching packages...  
[#####-----] 276/2152
```

# Express

## Install

The Express Node framework is a set of features for web and mobile applications. It is installed using npm.

It is launched and used like any other Node module using a pair of const declarations.



<https://expressjs.com/>

Other frameworks: Koa, Hapi

<https://www.airpair.com/node.js/posts/nodejs-framework-comparison-express-koa-hapi>



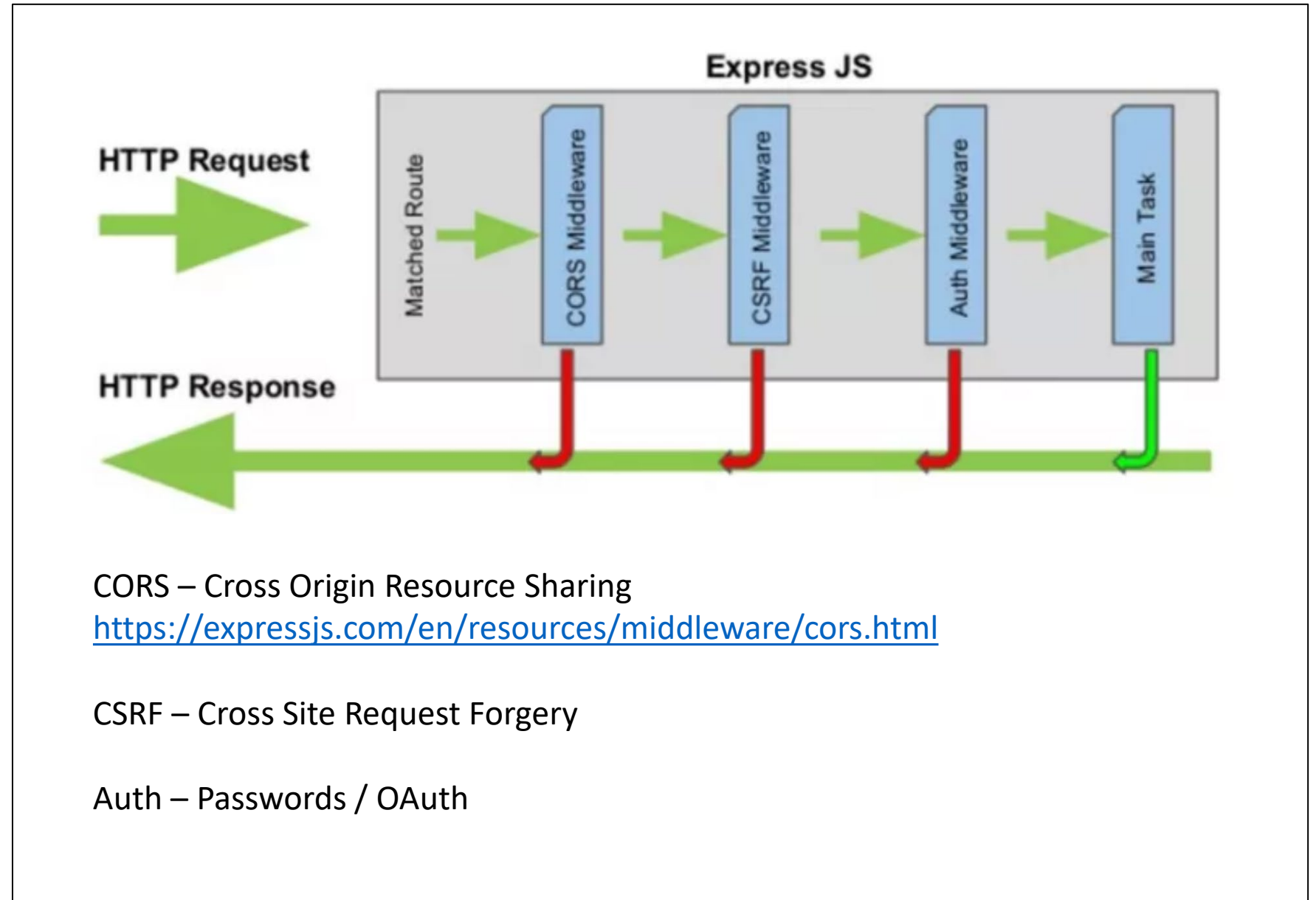
# Express

## Middleware

Express receives requests and returns a response.

Middleware is used to process the request before sending a response.

Eg. Is the user authorized to receive a response.



CORS – Cross Origin Resource Sharing

<https://expressjs.com/en/resources/middleware/cors.html>

CSRF – Cross Site Request Forgery

Auth – Passwords / OAuth

<https://blog.codeanalogies.com/2017/11/03/understanding-the-basics-of-express-js/>

# Express

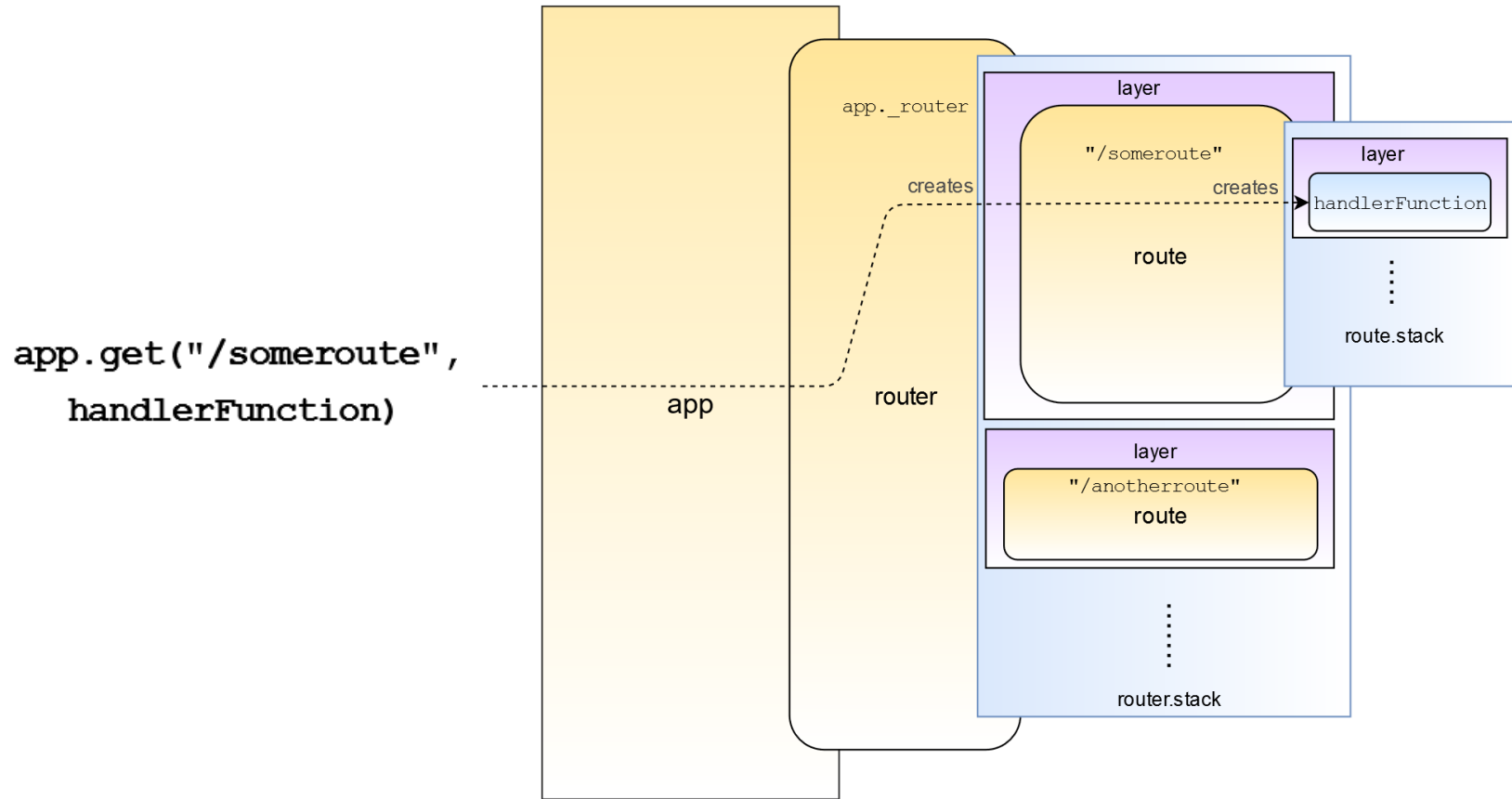
## Routes

Express requests are handled by various *routes* corresponding to a request type (GET, POST, PUT, etc) and an optional path.

```
const express = require('express')
const app = express()

app.get('/', (req, res) => res.send('Hello World!'))

app.listen(3000, () => console.log('Example app listening on port 3000!'))
```



# Express

## Response

Express responses are handled by the response object (res). For example, res.send() or res.json()

The response can also be formatted by template engines, eg. Pug

## The response object

```
1 app.get('/api/test', (req, res) => {  
2   res.send({ hello: 'world' });  
3 });
```

## Using a template engine

```
$ npm install pug --save
```

```
app.set('view engine', 'pug')
```

```
app.get('/', function (req, res) {  
  res.render('index', { title: 'Hey', message: 'Hello there!' })  
})
```

<https://expressjs.com/en/guide/using-template-engines.html>

<https://github.com/expressjs/express/wiki#template-engines>

<https://fullstack-developer.academy/res-json-vs-res-send-vs-res-end-in-express/>

# Express

## Generator

This is a single-command installer for a full Express application.

To run:  
\$ npm start

Then browse to:  
localhost:3000

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ExpressProjects\Generate>

<http://localhost:3000>

```
$ npm install express-generator -g
```

```
$ express --view=pug myapp
```

```
.
├─ app.js
├─ bin
│  └─ www
├─ package.json
├─ public
│  ├─ images
│  ├─ javascripts
│  └─ stylesheets
│     └─ style.css
├─ routes
│  ├─ index.js
│  └─ users.js
└─ views
   ├─ error.pug
   ├─ index.pug
   └─ layout.pug
```

7 directories, 9 files

<https://expressjs.com/en/starter/generator.html>

# Express

## REST/MySQL

DB Connection uses a MySQL module (and installed DB) and Express routes for Create, Read, Update and Delete (CRUD) operations.

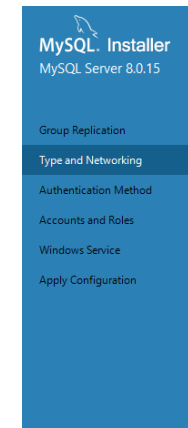
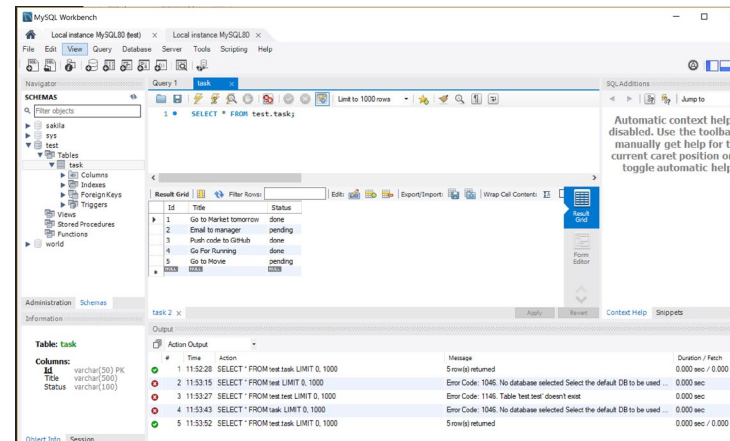
[C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ExpressProjects\MySQLAPI](http://localhost:3000/tasks)

<http://localhost:3000/tasks>

create **dbconnection.js**

```
1 var mysql=require('mysql');
2 var connection=mysql.createPool({
3
4 host:'localhost',
5 user:'root',
6 password:'',
7 database:'demo'
8
9 });
10 module.exports=connection;
```

| Path                          | Request Type             |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| http://localhost:3000/Tasks   | GET                      |
| http://localhost:3000/Tasks/1 | GET                      |
| http://localhost:3000/Tasks/1 | DELETE                   |
| http://localhost:3000/Tasks   | POST (pass data in body) |
| http://localhost:3000/Tasks/1 | PUT (pass data in body)  |



### Type and Networking

#### Server Configuration Type

Choose the correct server configuration type for this MySQL Server installation. This setting will define how much system resources are assigned to the MySQL Server instance.

Config Type: **Development Computer**

#### Connectivity

Use the following controls to select how you would like to connect to this server.

TCP/IP Port:  X Protocol Port:   
 Open Windows Firewall ports for network access  
 Named Pipe Pipe Name:   
 Shared Memory Memory Name:

#### Advanced Configuration

Select the check box below to get additional configuration pages where you can set advanced and logging options for this server instance.

Show Advanced and Logging Options

<https://jinalshahblog.wordpress.com/2016/10/06/rest-api-using-node-js-and-mysql/>

# Feathers

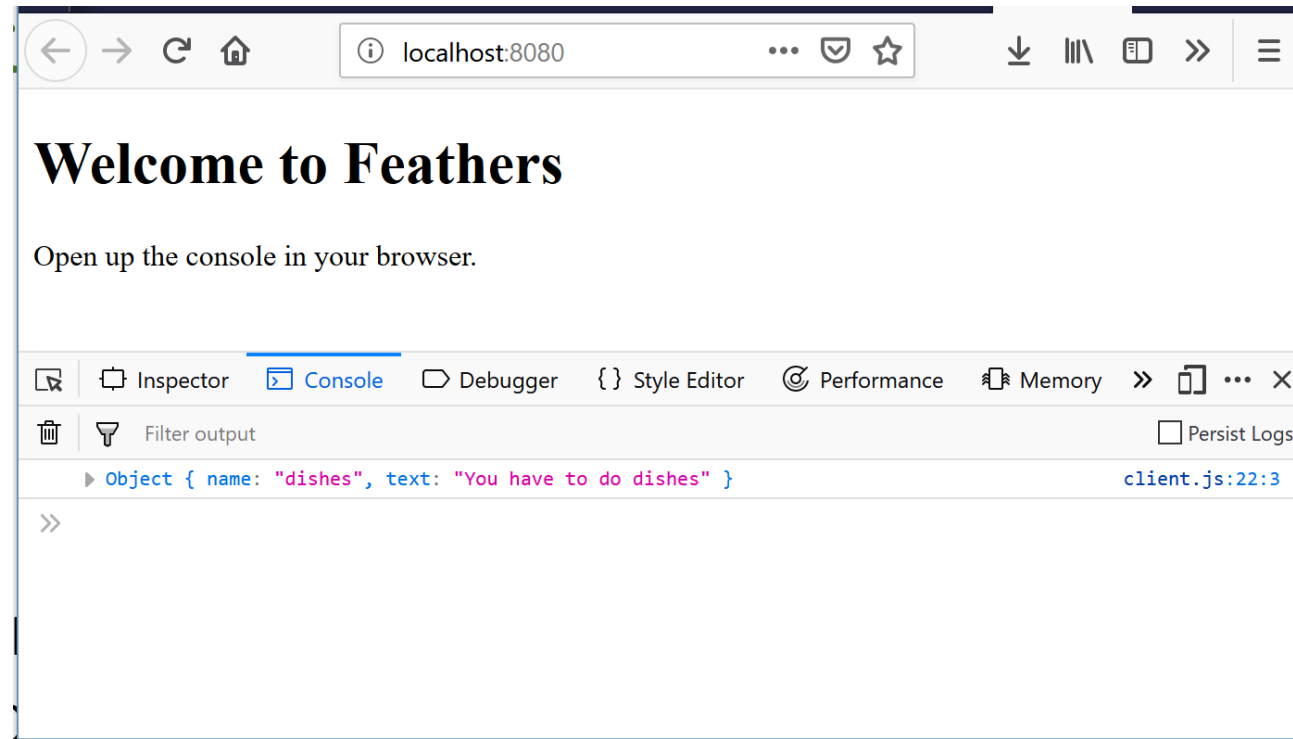
## Express

A REST and real-time API layer for Node.js, React Native and the browser that can be built on Express.

This example uses http

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ExpressProjects\Feathers>

<http://localhost:8080>



<https://feathersjs.com/>

<https://docs.feathersjs.com/api/express>

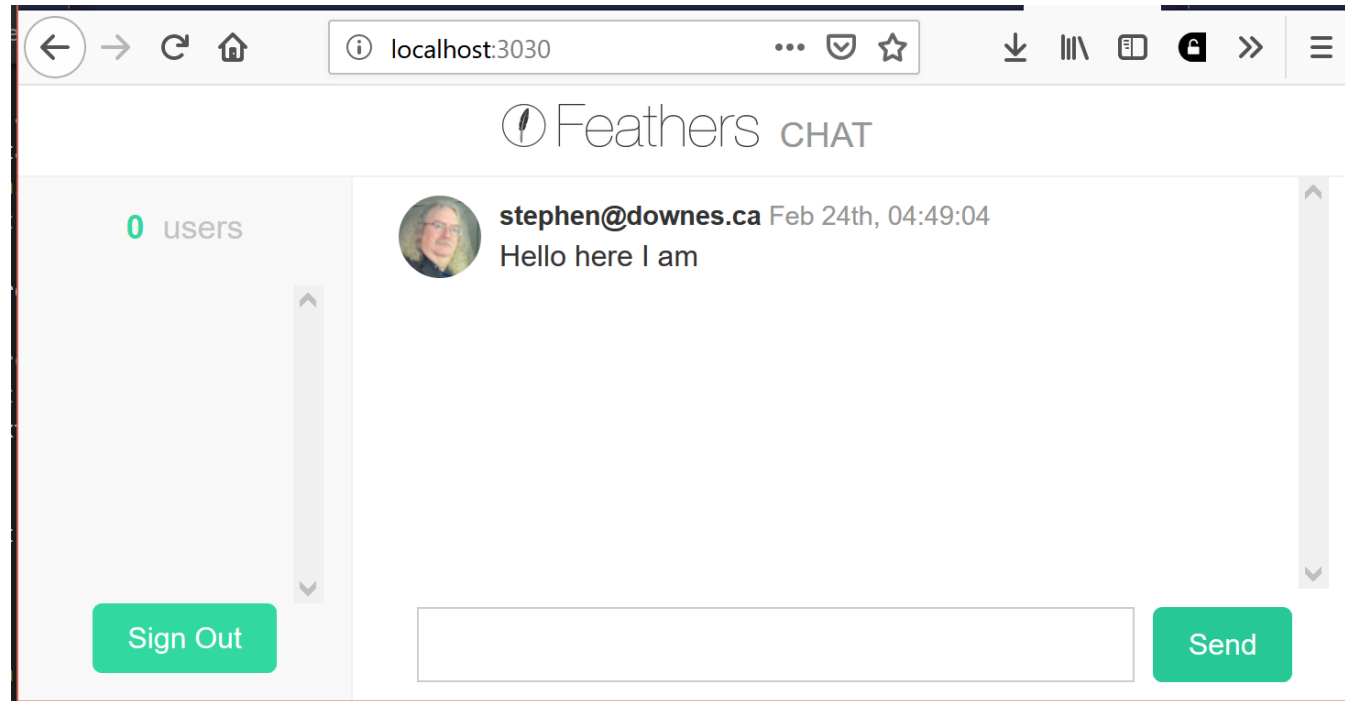
# Feathers

## Chat

This chat demonstrates the use of Feathers to create an app, services and hooks. The front-end is a longish Javascript (but could be a framework)

[C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ExpressProjects\Chat](http://localhost:3030/)

<http://localhost:3030/>



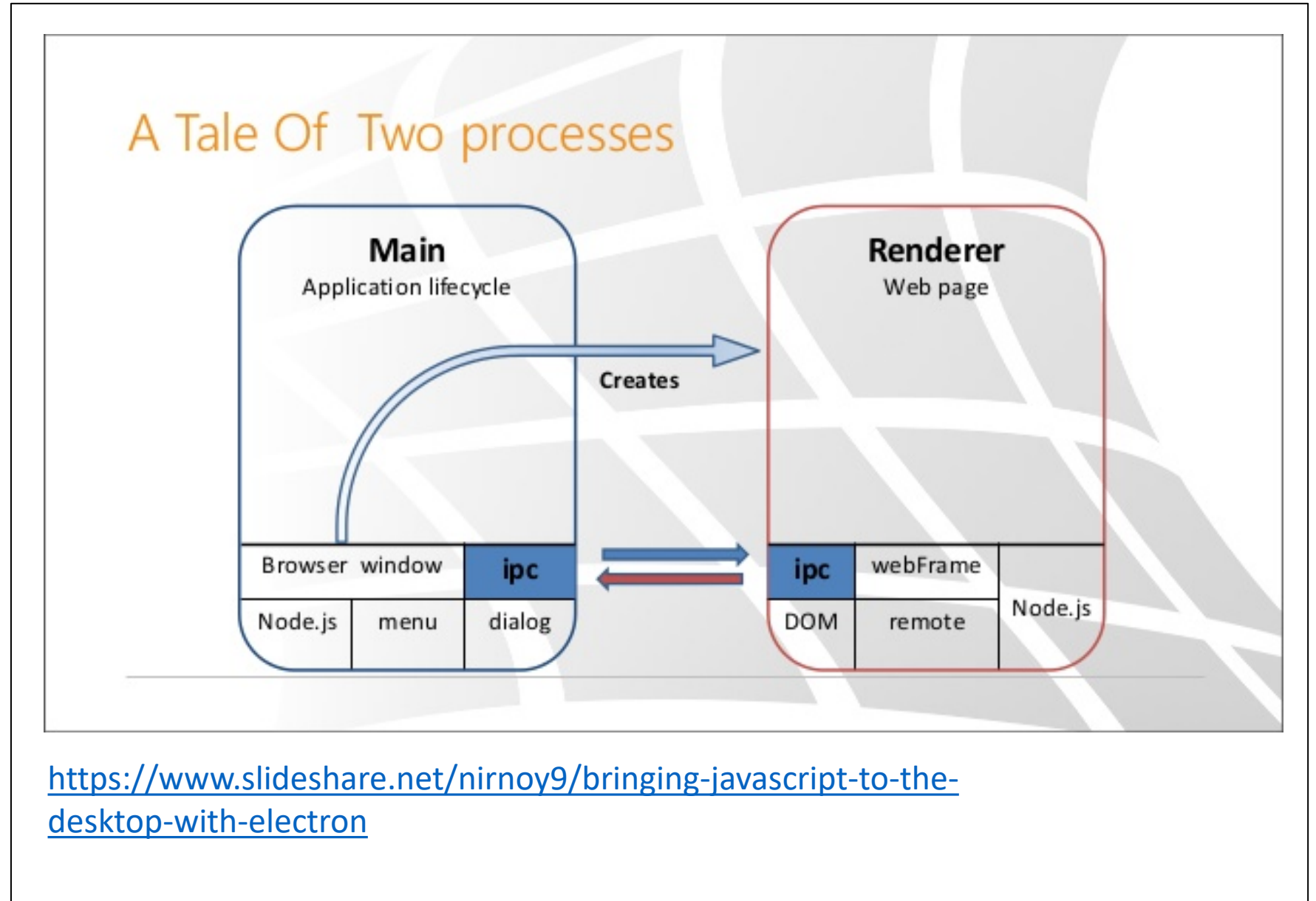
```
$ npm install @feathersjs/cli -g
$ mkdir feathers-app
$ cd feathers-app
$ feathers generate app (REST) (Postman: https://app.getpostman.com/ )
$ feathers generate service (NeDB) (https://github.com/louischatriot/nedb )
$ feathers generate authentication (JWT ) (https://auth0.com/docs/jwt )
$ feathers generate hook (x3)
```

<https://docs.feathersjs.com/guides/chat/creating.html>

# Electron

## Processes

Electron is based on a combination of two processes – the main Node.js application, and a Chromium engine as a display renderer. They communicate through Inter-Process Communication (IPC).



<https://www.slideshare.net/nirnoy9/bringing-javascript-to-the-desktop-with-electron>

<https://electronjs.org/>



# Electron

## Packaging

The Electron application is converted from a Node.js app to a free-standing Mac, Windows or Linux app using an electron-packager.

### Packaging and Distributing

- ★ Install Electron packager using npm.

```
$ npm install electron-packager --save-dev / -g
```

- ★ Run your app with the Electron Command

```
$ electron-packager app-name  
  --platform=win32  
  --arch=x64
```

<https://www.slideshare.net/nirnoy9/bringing-javascript-to-the-desktop-with-electron>

<https://electronjs.org/>

# Electron

## APIs

As an application (as opposed to a website) Electron has access to computer files and processes. The Electron API Demo shows these at work.

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\electron-apis\electron-api-demos>

**ELECTRON API DEMOS**

- WINDOWS
  - Create and manage windows**
  - Handling window **crashes and hangs**
- MENUS
  - Customize **menus**
  - Register keyboard **shortcuts**
- NATIVE USER INTERFACE
  - Open **external links** or system **file manager**
  - Use system **dialogs**
  - Put your app in the **tray**
- COMMUNICATION
  - Communicate between the **two processes**
- SYSTEM
  - Get app or user **system information**

### Create and Manage Windows

The `BrowserWindow` module in Electron allows you to create a new browser window or manage an existing one.

Each browser window is a separate process, known as the renderer process. This process, like the main process that controls the life cycle of the app, has full access to the Node.js APIs.

Open the [full API documentation](#) in your browser.

- Create a new window**  
SUPPORTS: WIN, OS X, LINUX | PROCESS: MAIN
- Manage window state**  
SUPPORTS: WIN, OS X, LINUX | PROCESS: MAIN
- Create a frameless window**  
SUPPORTS: WIN, OS X, LINUX | PROCESS: MAIN

```
$ git clone https://github.com/electron/electron-api-demos
$ cd electron-api-demos
$ npm install
$ npm start
```

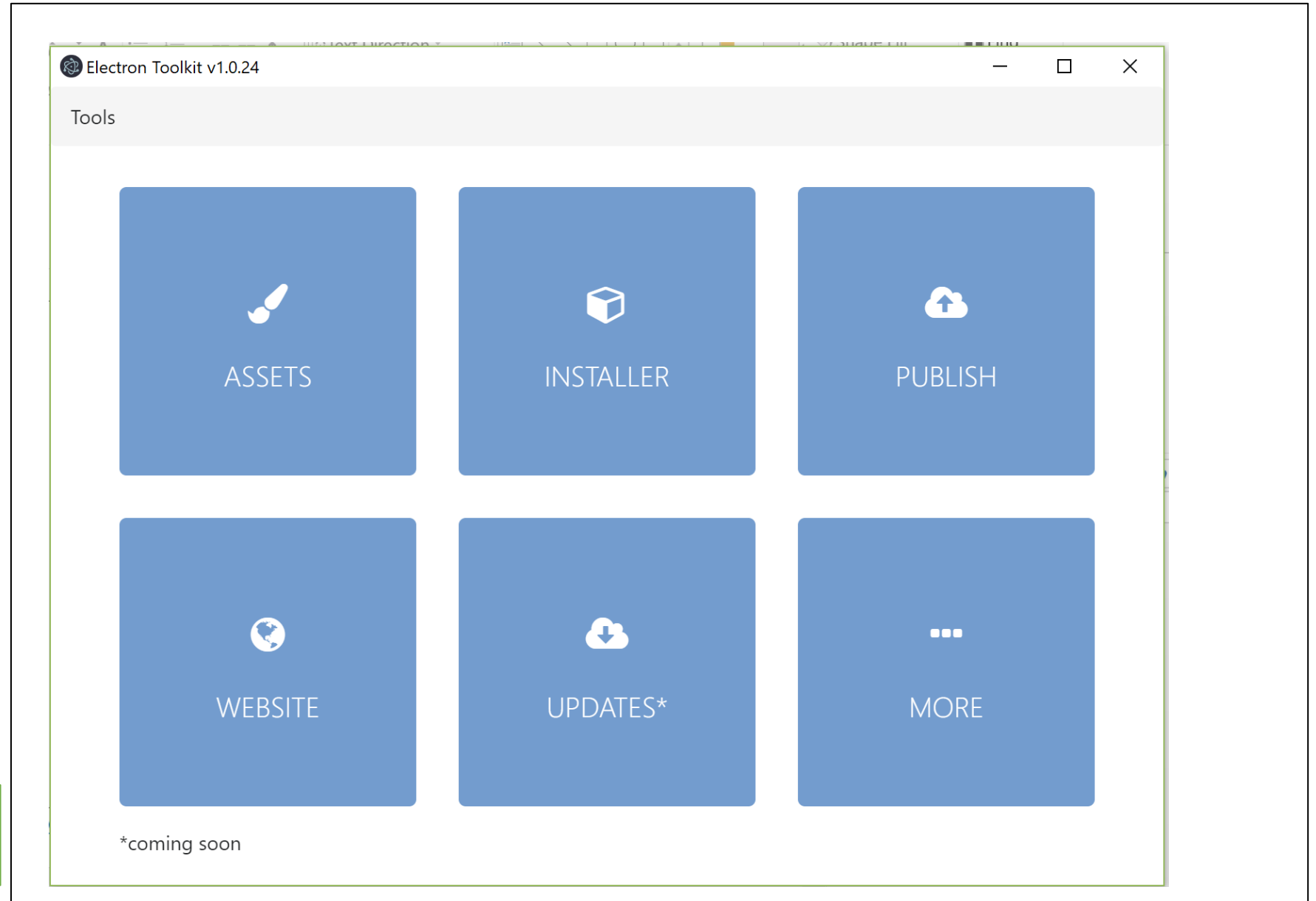
<https://github.com/electron/electron-api-demos>

# Electron

## Toolkit

The Electron Toolkit automates a number of the tasks involved in building Electron applications, including asset management, website, and publishing to GitHub.

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects\Toolkit>



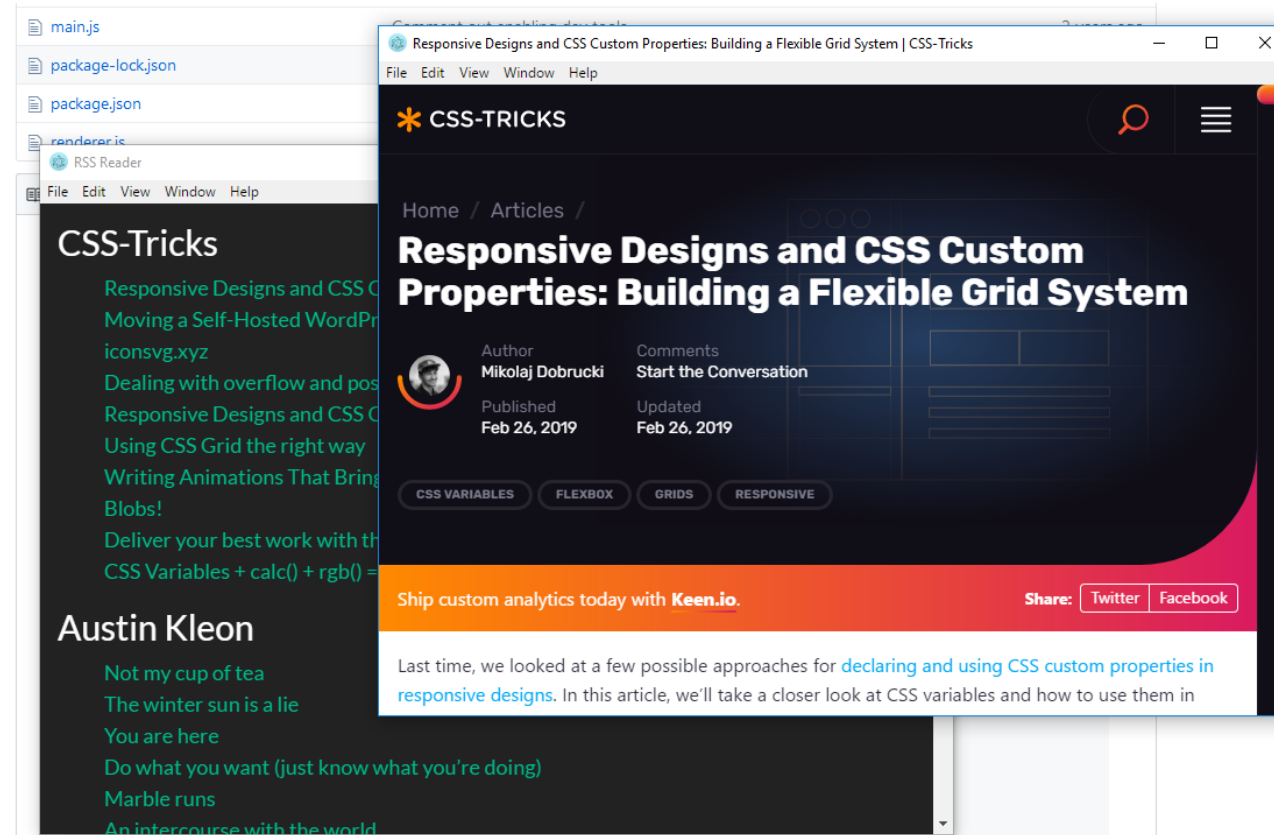
<https://www.npmjs.com/package/electron-toolkit>

# Electron

## RSS Reader

This demo harvests some predefined RSS feeds and allows you to read the articles. Note that because Chromium is a browser there's no problem loading external sites.

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\rss-reader-electron>



```
$ git clone https://github.com/timothyjellison/rss-reader-electron
```

```
$ cd rss-reader-electron
```

```
$ npm install
```

```
$ npm start
```

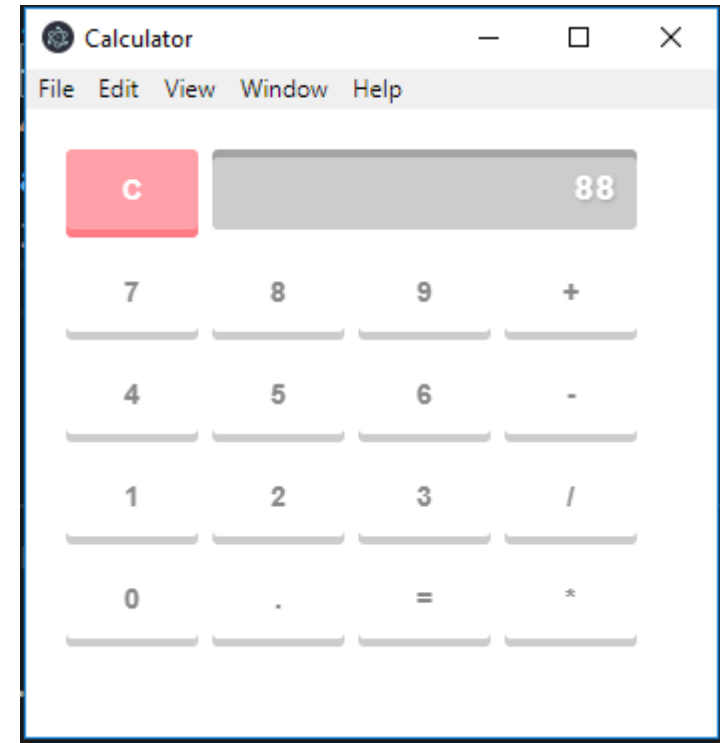
<https://github.com/timothyjellison/rss-reader-electron>

# Electron

## jQuery

This simple demo shows Electron using jQuery for formatting.

```
{ package.json x
1  {
2    "name": "m3-calculator",
3    "version": "1.0.0",
4    "description": "",
5    "main": "bootstrap.js",
6    "scripts": {
7      "start": "electron .",
8      "test": "echo \"Error: no
9    },
10   "author": "",
11   "license": "ISC",
12   "dependencies": {
13     "electron": "^4.0.1",
14     "electron-reload": "^1.2.1
15     "jquery": "^3.2.1"
16   }
17 }
```



[C:\Users\downs\CodeProjects\Electron\m3-calculator-original](https://github.com/downs/CodeProjects/tree/master/Electron/m3-calculator-original)

<https://halfanhour.blogspot.com/2019/01/learning-electron-part-2.html>

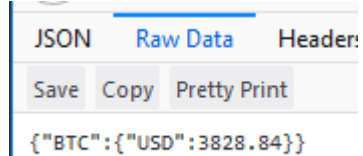
# Electron

## Web APIs

This demo accesses an external web service (in JSON, top) and displays a notification when it exceeds a set price.

Good course from Coursetro

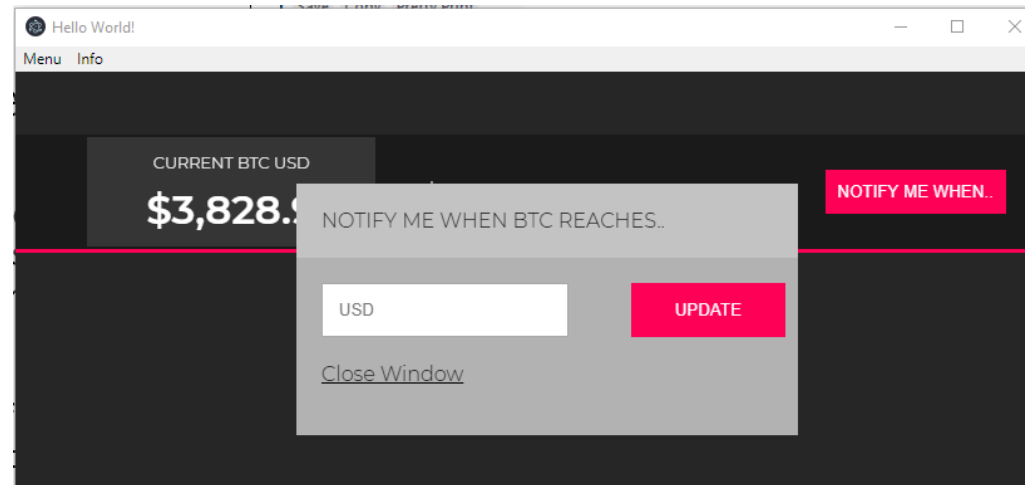
<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\Electron\crypto-app>



```
JSON  Raw Data  Headers
Save  Copy  Pretty Print
{"BTC":{"USD":3828.84}}
```

```
function getBTC() {
  axios.get('https://min-api.cryptocompare.com/data/pricemulti?fsyms=BTC&tsyms=USD')
    .then(res => {
      const cryptos = res.data.BTC.USD
      price.innerHTML = '$'+cryptos.toLocaleString('en')

      if (targetPrice.innerHTML !== '' && targetPriceVal < res.data.BTC.USD) {
        console.log('Notification should be sent')
      }
    })
}
```



<https://coursetro.com/courses/22/Creating-Desktop-Apps-with-Electron-Tutorial>

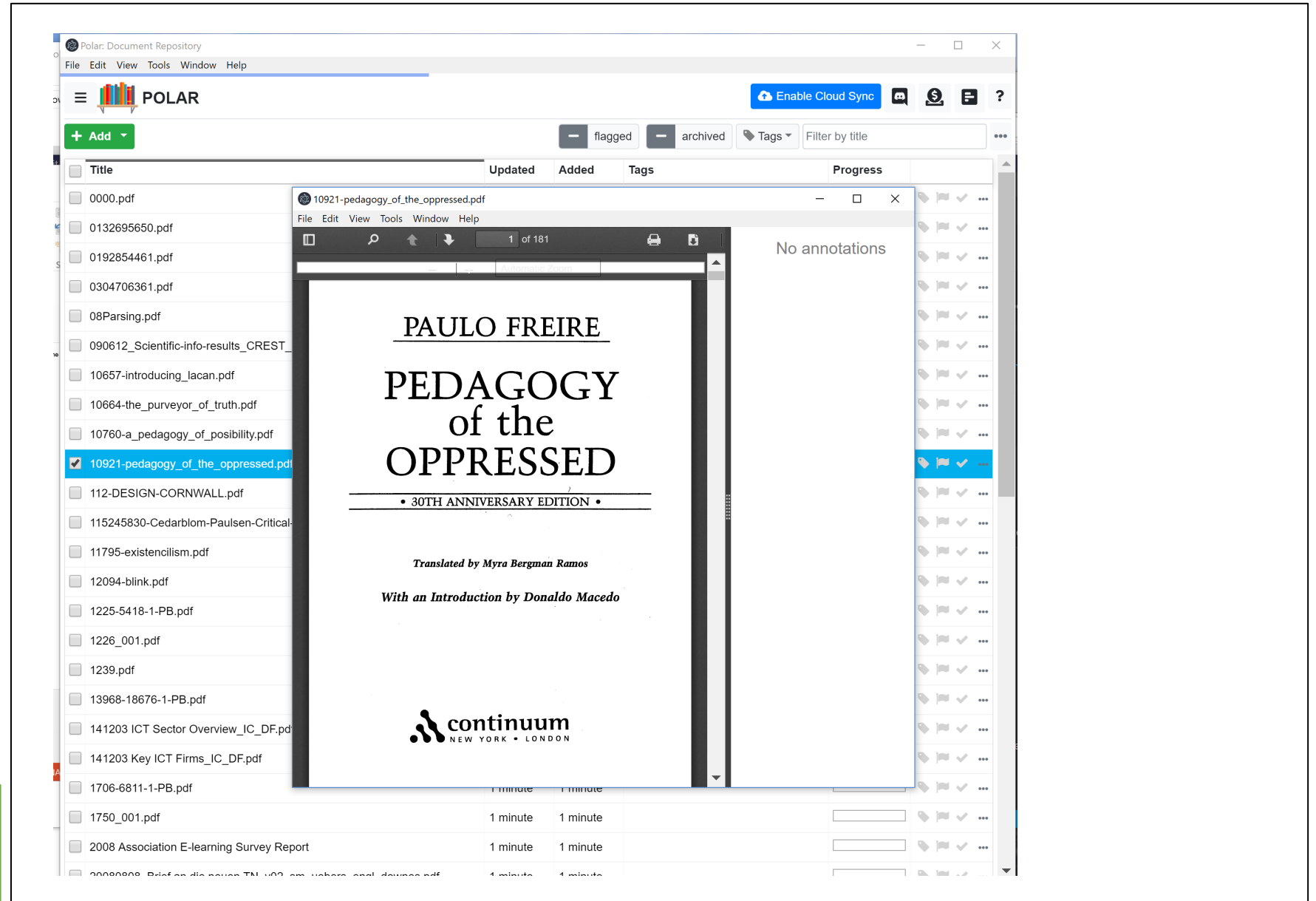
# Electron

## Bookshelf

Access and view PDF and other documents from a repository. Also has cloud sync, chat, annotations.

Frontend uses a Vue framework.

<C:\Users\downes\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects\polar-bookshelf>



<https://github.com/burtonator/polar-bookshelf>

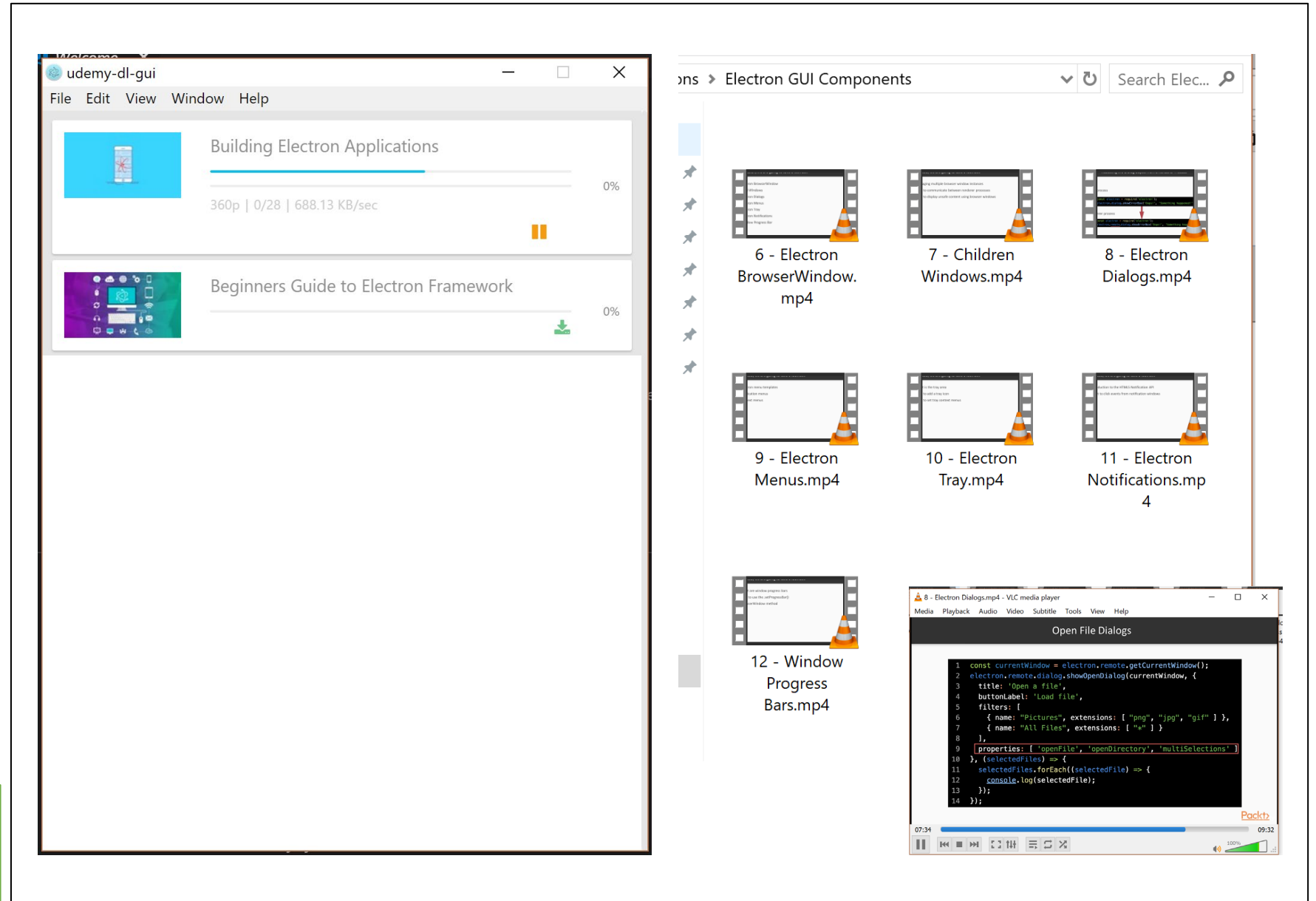
# Electron

## Udemy DL

Downloads Udemy courses for offline viewing on one's own computer.

Uses Udemy login credentials to access purchased courses.

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects\udemy-dl-gui>



<https://github.com/riazXrazor/udemy-dl-gui>

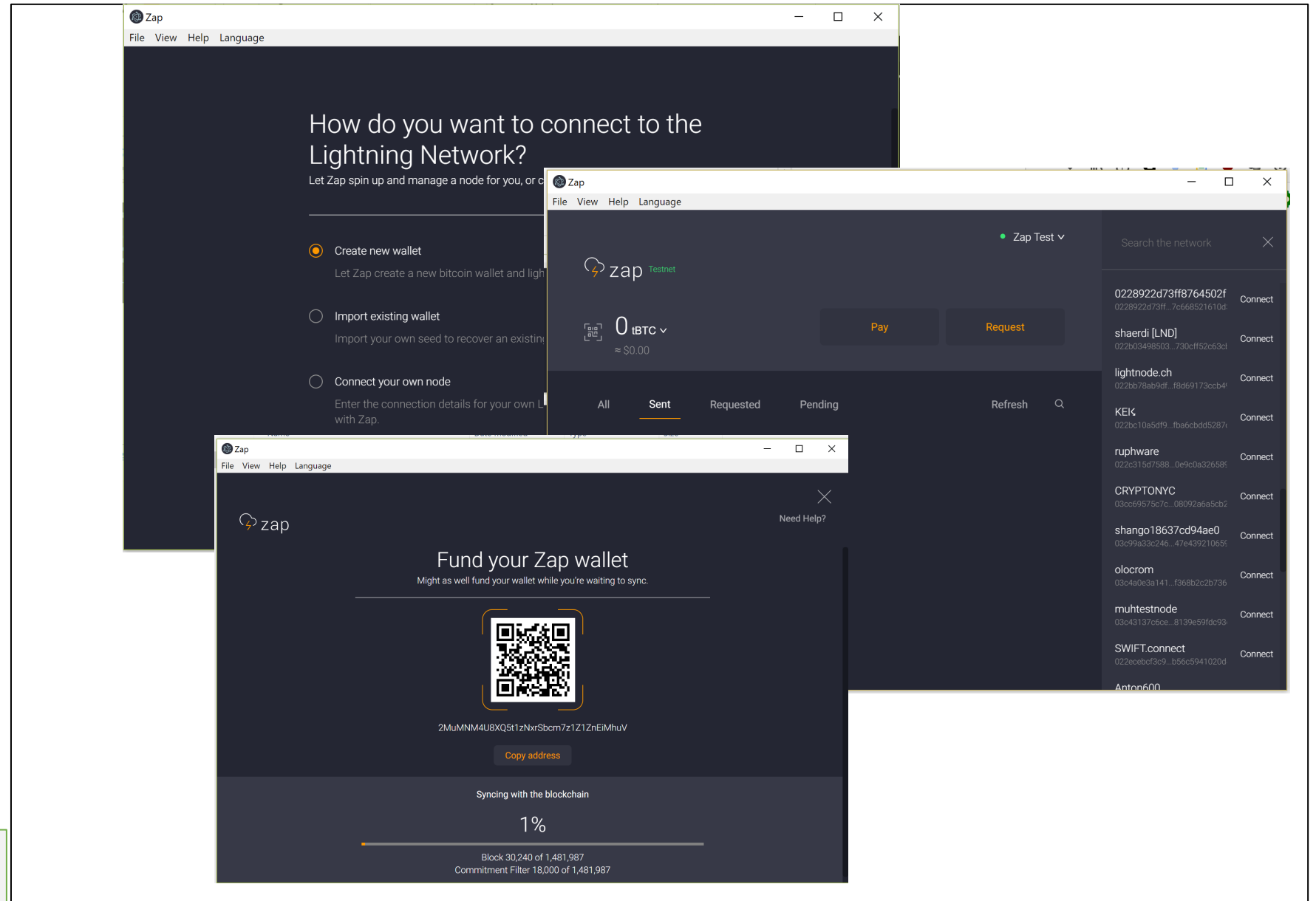


# Electron

## Zap

Client that connects to the Bitcoin Lightning Network (BLN) or the testnet version of the bitcoin network (tBTC). Runs on top of Lightning Network Daemon ([LDN](#)) and uses [Autopilot](#).

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects\zap-desktop>



<https://github.com/LN-Zap/zap-desktop>

<https://ln-zap.github.io/zap-tutorials/zap-desktop-getting-started>

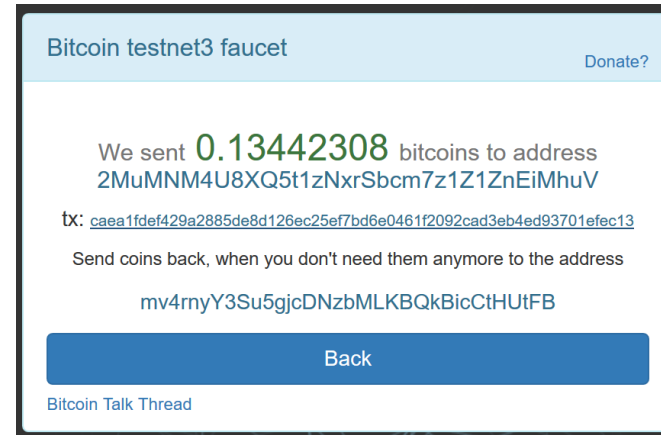
# Electron

## Testing Zap

I put tBTC into my wallet using a 'faucet' and then monitored the transaction.

Then connect with peers on the network, create a 'channel' with tBTC, then 'pay' to (eg) read article.

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects\zap-desktop>



Bitcoin testnet3 faucet Donate?

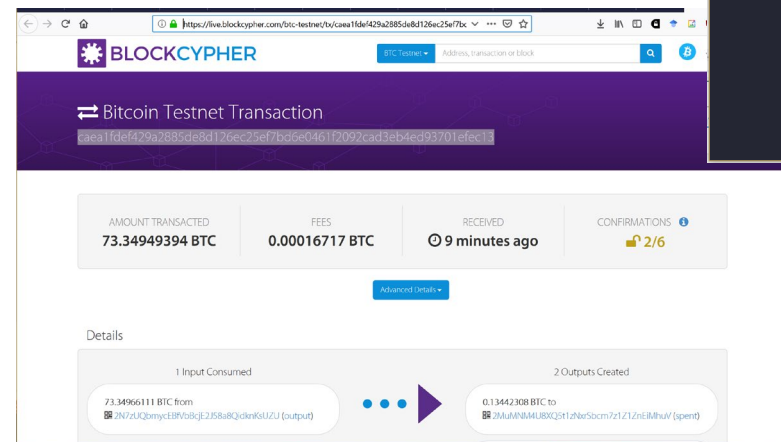
We sent **0.13442308** bitcoins to address  
2MuMNM4U8XQ5t1zNxrSbcm7z1Z1ZnEiMhuV

tx: [caea1fde429a2885de8d126ec25ef7bd6e0461f2092cad3eb4ed93701efec13](#)

Send coins back, when you don't need them anymore to the address  
mv4rnyY3Su5gjcDNzbMLKBQkBicCtHUtFB

[Back](#)

[Bitcoin Talk Thread](#)



BLOCKCYPHER

Bitcoin Testnet Transaction

caea1fde429a2885de8d126ec25ef7bd6e0461f2092cad3eb4ed93701efec13

|                   |                |               |               |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| AMOUNT TRANSACTED | FEES           | RECEIVED      | CONFIRMATIONS |
| 73.34949394 BTC   | 0.00016717 BTC | 9 minutes ago | 2/6           |

[Advanced Details](#)

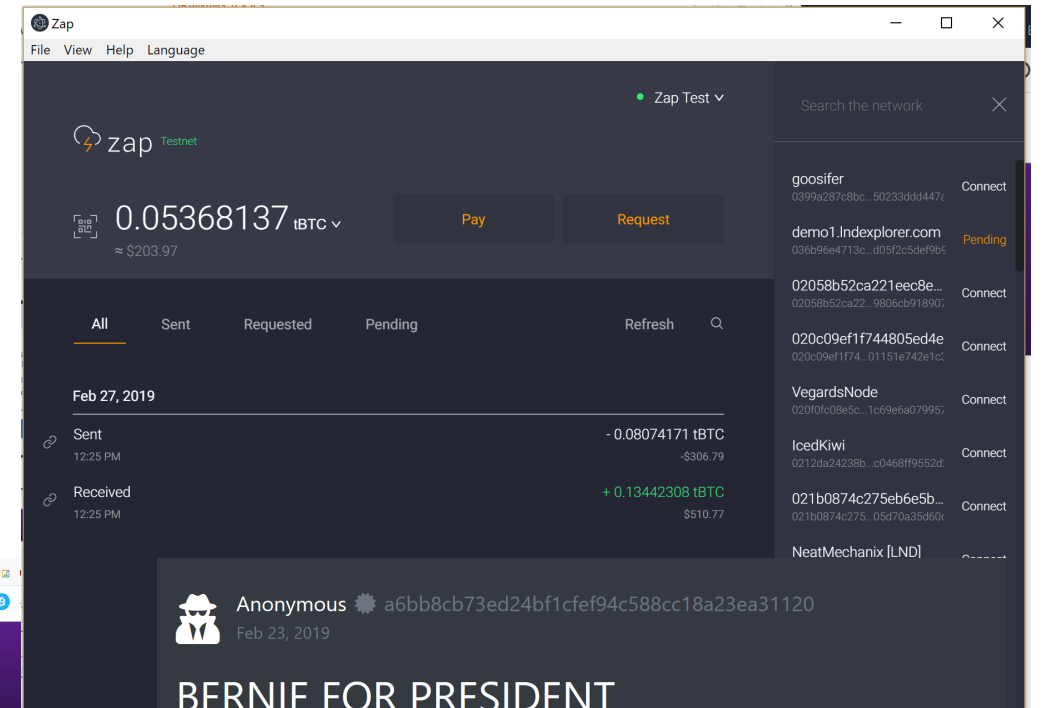
Details

1 Input Consumed

2 Outputs Created

73.34966111 BTC from [address] (output)

0.13442308 BTC to 2MuMNM4U8XQ5t1zNxrSbcm7z1Z1ZnEiMhuV (spent)



Zap Testnet

0.05368137 tBTC  $\approx$  \$203.97

[Pay](#) [Request](#)

All Sent Requested Pending Refresh

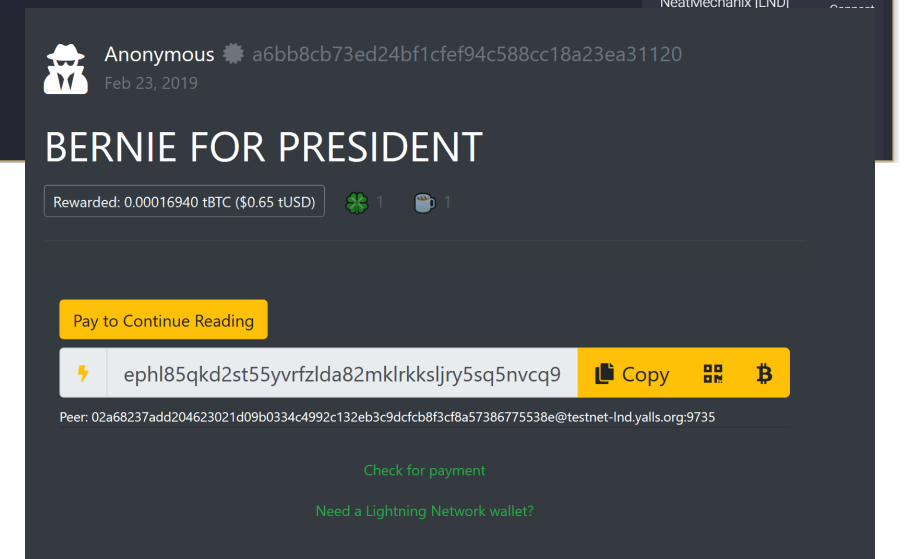
Feb 27, 2019

Sent 12:25 PM -0.08074171 tBTC -\$306.79

Received 12:25 PM +0.13442308 tBTC \$510.77

Search the network

- goosifer 036b96e4713c...d05f2c5def9b5 Connect
- demo1.Indexplorer.com 02058b52ca22...9806cb91890 Pending
- 02058b52ca221eec8e... 02058b52ca22...9806cb91890 Connect
- 020c09ef1f744805ed4e 020c09ef1f74...01151e742e1c Connect
- VegardsNode 020f0fc08e5c...1c69e6a07995 Connect
- IcedKiwi 0212da24238b...c0468f9552d Connect
- 021b0874c275eb6e5b... 021b0874c275...05d70a35d6d Connect
- NeatMechanic [LND]



Anonymous a6bb8cb73ed24bf1cfef94c588cc18a23ea31120 Feb 23, 2019

### BERNIE FOR PRESIDENT

Rewarded: 0.00016940 tBTC (\$0.65 tUSD) 1 1

[Pay to Continue Reading](#)

eph185qkd2st55yvrflzda82mklrkksljry5sq5nvcq9 [Copy](#)

Peer: 02a68237add204623021d09b0334c4992c132eb3c9dcbf83cf8a57386775538e@testnet-Ind.yalls.org:9735

[Check for payment](#)

Need a Lightning Network wallet?

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMj6UA3-f3cRfKmG1xRm3j0KBRCvbX4vW>  
<https://testnet.yalls.org/>

# Future

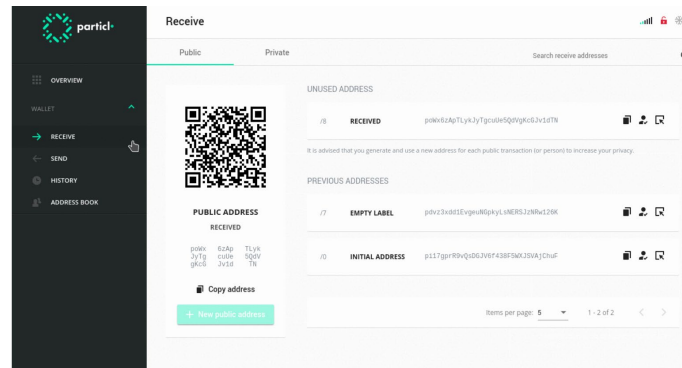
## Directions

Future directions range from social networks (Eg. Hyperspace for Mastodon), privacy (Particl), cloud (eg. Docker),

<C:\Users\downess\CodeProjects\ElectronProjects\zap-desktop>



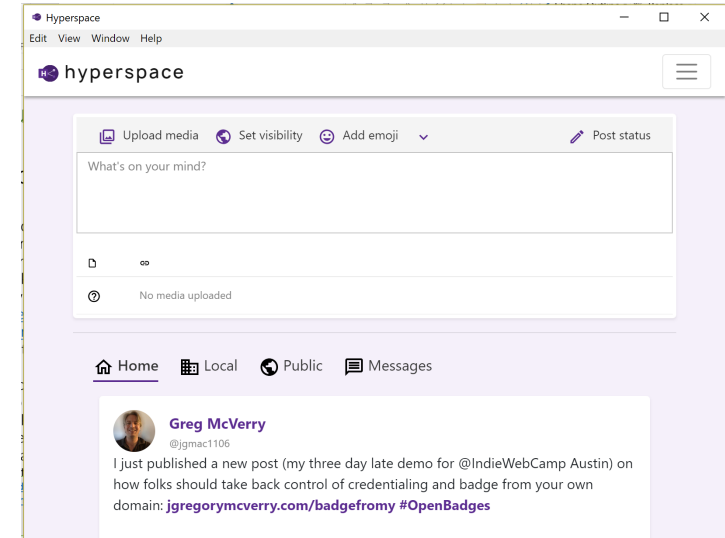
<https://nodejs.org/en/docs/guides/nodejs-docker-webapp/>



<https://electronjs.org/apps/particl>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMj6UA3-f3cRfKmG1xRm3j0KBRCvbX4vW>

<https://testnet.yalls.org/>



<https://electronjs.org/apps/hyperspace>

### Full Stack JavaScript Tools and Technologies

