DEBUGGING

NODEJS



AGENDA

- Introduction
- Using the NodeJS build-in debugger
 - Watchers
 - Commands
- Using node-inspector
- Using VSCode
- Labs

INTRODUCTION

- V8 comes with an extensive debugger, accessible out-ofprocess via a simple TCP protocol.
 - https://github.com/v8/v8/wiki/Debugging%20Protocol
- Node.js has a built-in client for this debugger.
- Simple step and inspection is possible.

INTRODUCTION

```
% node debug myscript.js
< debugger listening on port 5858
connecting... ok
break in /home/indutny/Code/git/indutny/myscript.js:1
   1 x = 5;
   2 setTimeout(function () {
    3 debugger;
   debug>
```

INTRODUCTION

Set 'debugger;' statements as code-breakpoints in your script file to stop execution of the code.

```
// myscript.js
x = 5;
setTimeout(function () {
    debugger;
    console.log("world");
}, 1000);
console.log("hello");
```

Then once the debugger is run, it will break on line 4.

WATCHERS

- Watch expression and variable values while debugging
- On breakpoint each watcher will be evaluated and displayed before the breakpoint's source code listing.
- Start => watch("my_expr")
- Remove => unwatch("my_expr")
- List => watchers

```
debug> watch("requestcounter")
debug> cont
< server listening
break in app. is:6
Watchers:
 0: requestcounter = 0
  5 http.createServer((req, res) => {
        debugger;
        requestcounter++;
        res.end("hello world");
debug> cont
break in app.js:6
Watchers:
  0: requestcounter = 1
  5 http.createServer((req, res) => {
        debugger;
> 6
        requestcounter++;
        res.end("hello world");
debug>
```

DEMO WATCHERS

COMMANDS

- Command categories
 - Stepping commands
 - Breakpoint commands
 - Info commands
 - Execution control commands
 - Various commands

STEPPING COMMANDS

command	alias	explanation
cont	С	continue execution
next	n	step next
step	S	step into
out	0	step out
pause		pause execution

BREAKPOINT COMMANDS

command	alias	explanation
setBreakpoint()	sb()	Set breakpoint on current line
setBreakpoint(line)	sb(line)	Set breakpoint on specific line
setBreakpoint('fn()')	sb()	Set breakpoint on a first statement in functions body
setBreakpoint('script.js', 1)	sb()	Set breakpoint on first line of script.js
clearBreakpoint('script.js', 1)	cb()	Clear breakpoint in script.js on line 1

INFO COMMANDS

command	alias	explanation
backtrace	bt	Print backtrace of current execution frame
list(5)		List scripts source code with 5 line context (5 lines before and after)
watch(expr)		Add expression to watch list
unwatch(expr)		Remove expression from watch list
watchers		List all watchers and their values
repl		Open debugger's repl for evaluation in debugging script's context

EXECUTION CONTROL AND VARIOUS OTHER COMMANDS

commar	nd alias	explanation
run		Run script (automatically runs on debugger's start)
restart		restart script
kill		kill script
scripts		List all loaded scripts
versior)	Display v8's version

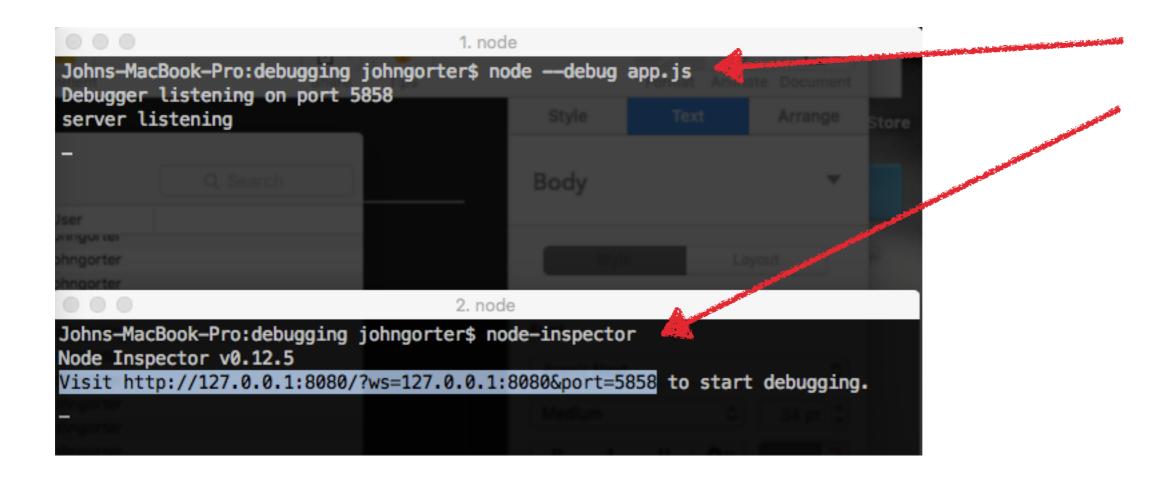
INFO COMMANDS

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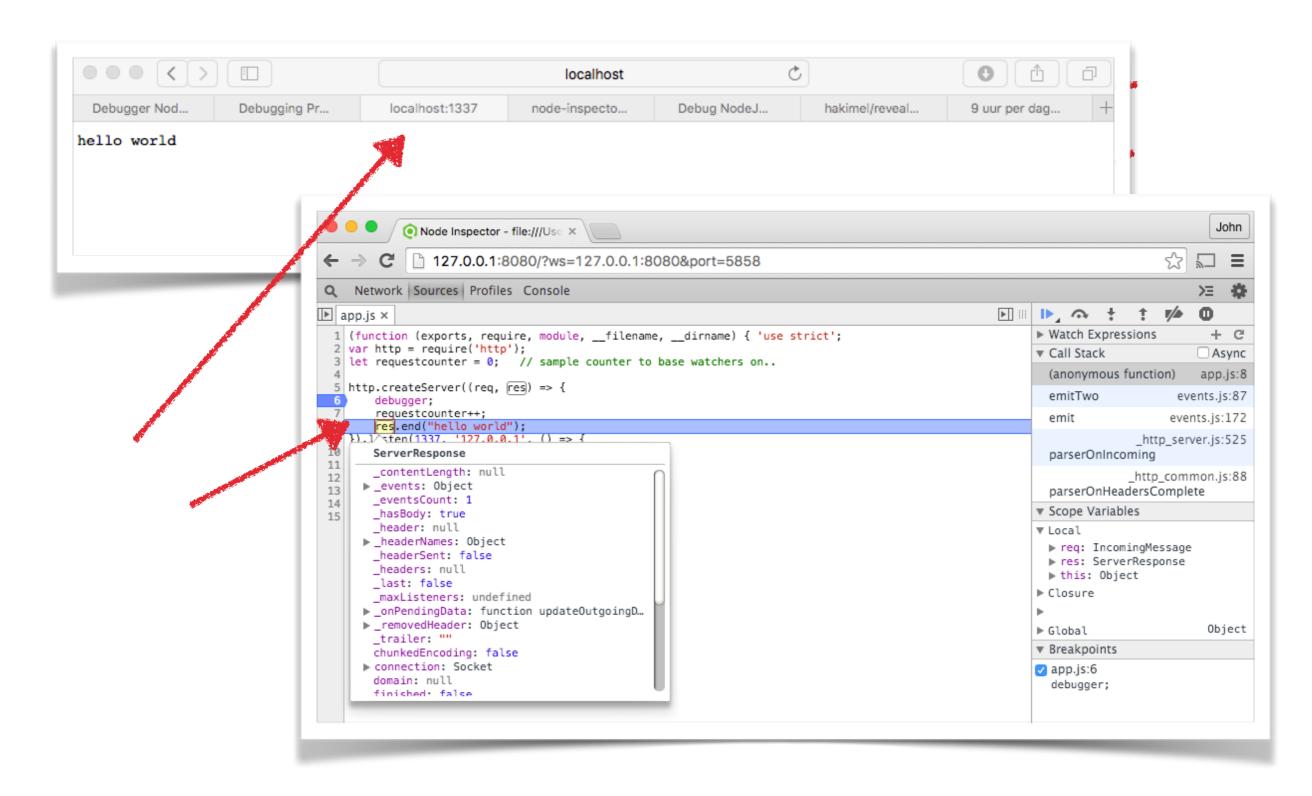
laat zien hoe je met repl een intermediate window achtige interface met de huidige sessie hebt

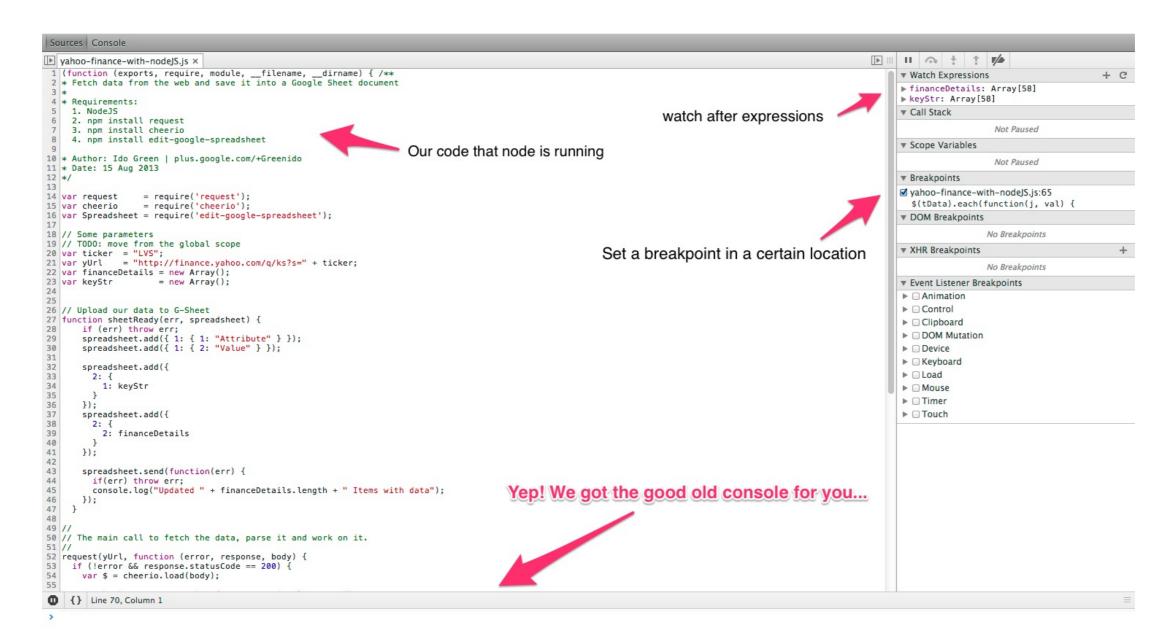
DEMO COMMANDS

- NPM module which enables Chrome Dev Tool (Blink) debugging of NodeJS code.
- steps
 - npm install node-inspector -g
 - in one terminal: start "node-inspector &"
 - in other terminal: start "node -debug script.js"
 - start Chrome and use address from first terminal



start the inspector before starting the script in debug mode..





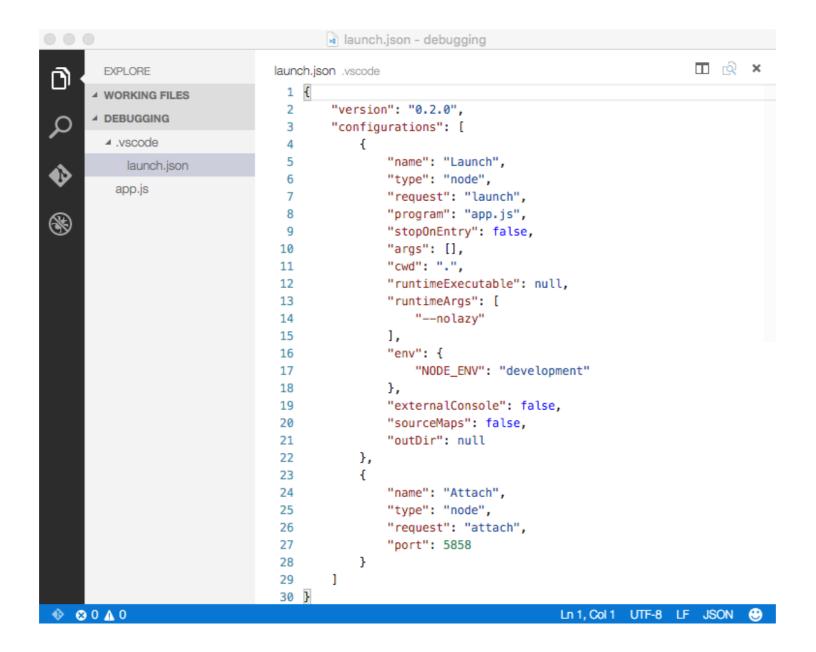
DEMONODE-INSPECTOR

USING VSCODE

- Lightweight IDE for web development from Microsoft
- Free download
- ▶ F5 experience

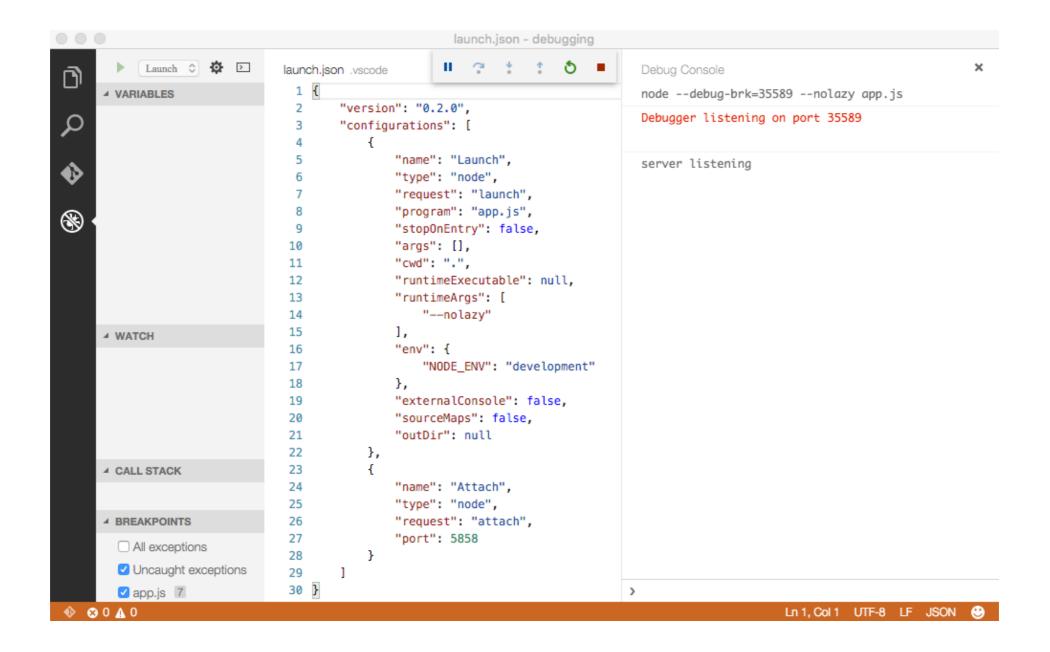
USING VSCODE

press F5 and let VSCODE generate startup configuration



USING VSCODE

press F5 again to start debugging



DEMO VSCODE