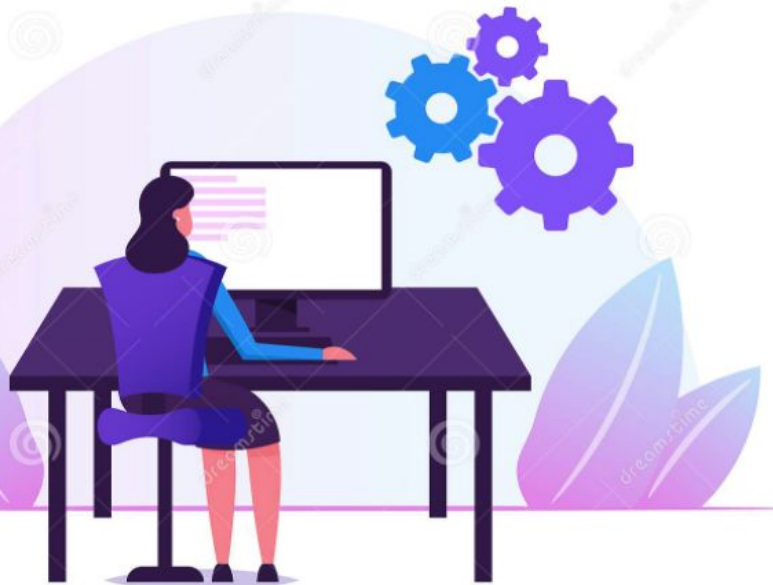


Welcome!



WWCode Digital + Backend Backend Study Group

May 25, 2022

- We'll start in a moment :)
- We are NOT recording tonight's event. We may plan to take screenshots for social media.
- ***If you want to remain anonymous***, change your name & keep video off.
- We'll introduce the hosts & might break in-between for Q/A.
- We will make some time for Q&A at the end of the presentation as well.
- You can come prepared with questions.
- Feel free to take notes.
- Online event best practices:
 - Don't multitask. Distractions reduce your ability to remember concepts.
 - Mute yourself when you aren't talking.
 - We want the session to be interactive.
 - Feel free to unmute & ask questions.
- Turn on your video if you feel comfortable.
- *Disclaimer: Speaker doesn't know everything!*

Introduction & Agenda

- Welcome from WWCode!
- Our mission: Inspiring women to excel in technology careers.
- Our vision: A world where women are representative as technical executives, founders, VCs, board members and software engineers.
- Improve your code debugging skills.
- What is code debugging?
- Why is debugging an important skill?
- Live code debugging.
- Q/A.



Prachi Shah
Speaker,
Senior Software Engineer,
Metromile
Director, WWCode SF



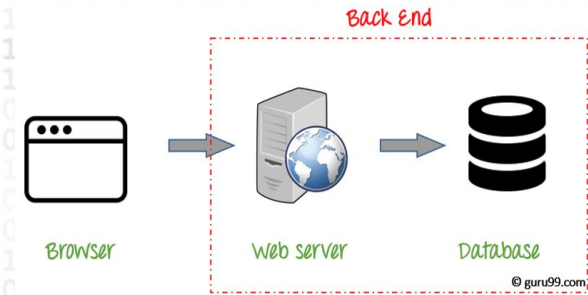
Harini Rajendran
Co-host,
Software Engineer,
Confluent
Lead, WWCode SF

Disclaimer:

- Sessions can be heavy!
- Lots of acronyms.
- Speaker doesn't know everything.

Backend Engineering

- Design, build and maintain server-side web applications.
- Common terms: Client-server architecture, networking, API, web frameworks, platform, micro-service, database engineering, web fundamentals, etc.
- Other domains: Front end engineering, full stack engineering, design & user experience, mobile development, devOps engineering, machine learning, etc. *
- Examples: Amazon Online Shopping, Instagram, Weather website.



* *Disclaimer: Roles and responsibilities can vary per company and industry.*

Code Debugging

- **Code debugging:**

- Run the code step-by-step.
- Understand the program flow and data flow.
- Find problems in the code: errors and exceptions.
- Find, fix and test for bugs.
- Test the functionality (business logic).



Code Debugging



- **Code debugging is an important skill:**

- All code has bugs. For quality code, we want the application to be bug-free.
- Bugs can introduce serious flaws in the functionality and cause serious effects. Ex.
- Functionality (business logic) should work as designed and expected.
- Best practices for coding support bug-free development.
- External integration development should be bug-free and tested thoroughly.
- Understand someone else's code.
- Explain your code to someone else.
- Explaining application functionalities (business logic) to others.
- Essential skill for engineers to design, write, execute and test quality code.

Code Debugging

- When debugging:

- Observe the error messages and exceptions. Review the stack trace.

Exception in thread "main" java.lang. **NullPointerException**: Cannot invoke "java.util.HashSet.contains(Object)" because " **roots**" is **null** at com.wcodesf.backendstudygroup.codedebugging.ReplaceWords. **replaceWordsInSentence**(ReplaceWords.java: 58) at com.wcodesf.backendstudygroup.codedebugging.ReplaceWords. **main**(ReplaceWords.java: 38)

- Write clean code. Use best practices (can be language-specific).
- “DRY” principle: don’t repeat yourself – don’t repeat the code.
- “KISS” principle: keep it simple stupid – write simple code that is easy to read and test.
- Ask for help: from a co-worker, the internet, books, etc. Revise or study. :)

Code Debugging

• How to debug code (with examples):

- Print statements after running the application. Logging statements using loggers.
- Insert *assert* statements in the functions to check for correct conditions.

```
for (int i = 1; i <= word.length(); ++i) {  
    prefix = word.substring(0, i);  
    if (words.contains(prefix)) {  
        System.out.println(i);           // i=3  
        System.out.println(word.length()); // word="cattle" and length=6  
        logger.info(prefix);             // prefix="cat"  
        assert i != 0;  
        break;  
    }  
}
```

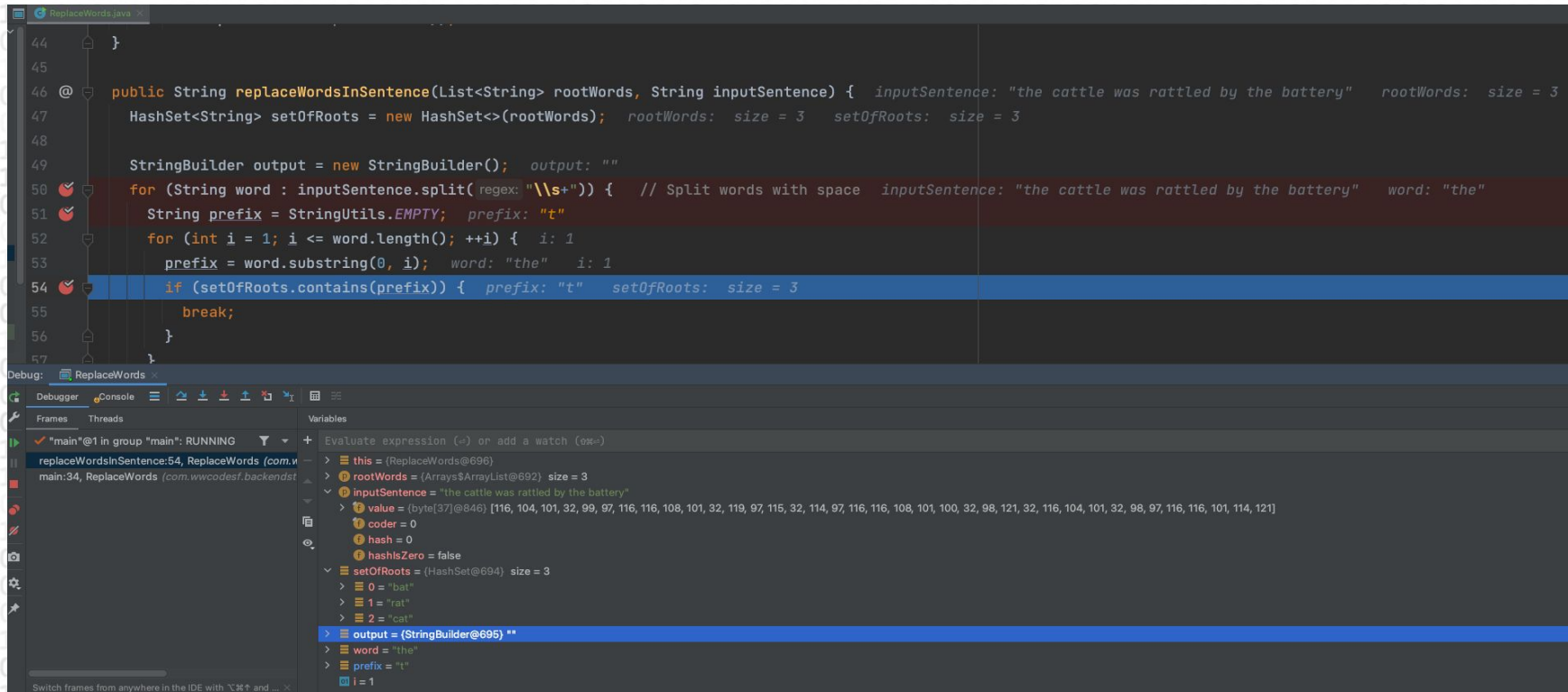
Output:

```
3  
6
```

```
Apr 02, 2022 1:45:27 AM com.wvcodesf.backendstudygroup.codedebugging.ReplaceWords  
replaceWordsInSentence  
INFO: cat
```

- IDEs has debugger to debug through the code and view objects, data and errors.
- Unit testing.

Code Debugging



```
44 }
45
46 @ public String replaceWordsInSentence(List<String> rootWords, String inputSentence) { inputSentence: "the cattle was rattled by the battery" rootWords: size = 3
47     HashSet<String> setOfRoots = new HashSet<>(rootWords); rootWords: size = 3 setOfRoots: size = 3
48
49     StringBuilder output = new StringBuilder(); output: ""
50     for (String word : inputSentence.split(regex: "\\s+")) { // Split words with space inputSentence: "the cattle was rattled by the battery" word: "the"
51         String prefix = StringUtils.EMPTY; prefix: "t"
52         for (int i = 1; i <= word.length(); ++i) { i: 1
53             prefix = word.substring(0, i); word: "the" i: 1
54             if (setOfRoots.contains(prefix)) { prefix: "t" setOfRoots: size = 3
55                 break;
56             }
57         }
58     }
59     return output.toString();
60 }
```

Debug: ReplaceWords

Debugger Console

Frames Threads Variables

✓ "main" @ 1 in group "main": RUNNING

replaceWordsInSentence:54, ReplaceWords (com.v...)

main:34, ReplaceWords (com.wvcodeef.backendst...)

Evaluate expression (-) or add a watch (ow-)

- > this = (ReplaceWords@696)
- > rootWords = (ArrayList@692) size = 3
 - > 0 = "bat"
 - > 1 = "rat"
 - > 2 = "cat"
- > inputSentence = "the cattle was rattled by the battery"
- > value = (byte[37]@846) [116, 104, 101, 32, 99, 97, 116, 116, 108, 101, 32, 119, 97, 115, 32, 114, 116, 116, 108, 101, 100, 32, 98, 121, 32, 116, 104, 101, 32, 98, 97, 116, 101, 114, 121]
- > coder = 0
- > hash = 0
- > hashesZero = false
- > setOfRoots = (HashSet@694) size = 3
 - > 0 = "bat"
 - > 1 = "rat"
 - > 2 = "cat"
- > output = (StringBuilder@695) ""
- > word = "the"
- > prefix = "t"
- > i = 1

Code Debugging



- **Code debugging tools:**

- IDE (Integrated Development Environment) provides debugging functionality.
Example: IntelliJ IDEA, Eclipse, MS Visual Code Studio, etc.

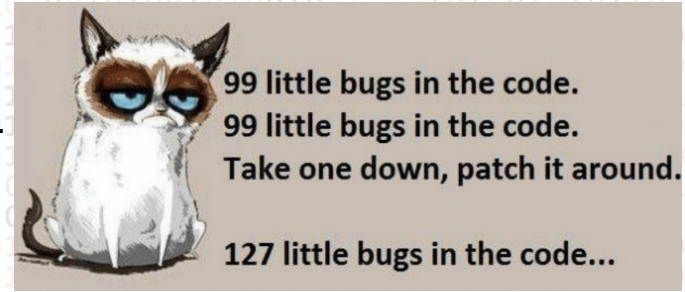
Add *breakpoints* to statements and the *debugger* will debug step-by-step.

- Frontend code: TypeScript auto-detects errors and bad syntax.
- In the browser: `console.log()` or `console.debug()` to debug frontend code.
- node.js has a *debugger* that does stepping and code inspections.
- Python has a built-in debugger called *pdb*.
- Java has a built-in command-line debugger called *jdb*.
- Sentry logging prints out useful debugging information about the application.
- More: GNU Debugger *gdb*, CodeLite for C/C++, Xcode debugger for iOS, etc.

Code Debugging

• Debugging as an engineer at a workplace:

- Debugging code locally for development.
- Debugging code locally for testing.
- Debugging code locally for integration (external).
- Fix production bugs.
- Pair programming with another engineer.
- Understand fellow engineer's code.
- Explain your code to fellow engineers.
- Explaining application functionalities (business logic) to others.
- When setting up a new project, debugging & running tests is the best way to learn!



Code Debugging

Demo

Java Code, Program Flow, Unit Tests



Code Debugging

• Key Takeaways:

- Run the code step-by-step.
- Understand the program flow and data flow.
- Find problems in the code: errors and exceptions.
- Find, fix and test for bugs.
- Test the functionality (business logic).
- All code has bugs. For quality code, we want the application to be bug-free.
- Write clean code. Use best practices (can be language-specific).
- Understand existing applications, explain code functionality and write good tests.
- IDEs, and languages have in-built debuggers & independent debugger tools.
- Essential skill for engineers!
- Ask for help: from a co-worker, the internet, books, etc. Revise or study. :)



Backend Engineering

Resources:

- [What is Debugging? How to Debug Your Code for Beginners](#)
- [Debugger](#)
- [Debug_code](#)

Backend Study Group:

- [Presentations](#) on GitHub and session recordings are found on [WWCode YouTube channel](#)
- Upcoming session: June 30th, 2022 about

Transition from a Frontend Engineer to a Backend Engineer.

- [Technical Tracks](#) and [Digital Events](#).
- Get updates – join the [Digital mailing list!](#)
- Have questions?
 - Contacts us at: contact@womenwhocode.com
 - Join our [Slack](#) workspace and join `#backend-study-group`!

You can unmute and talk or use the chat.



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