

Debugging with Visual Studio Code

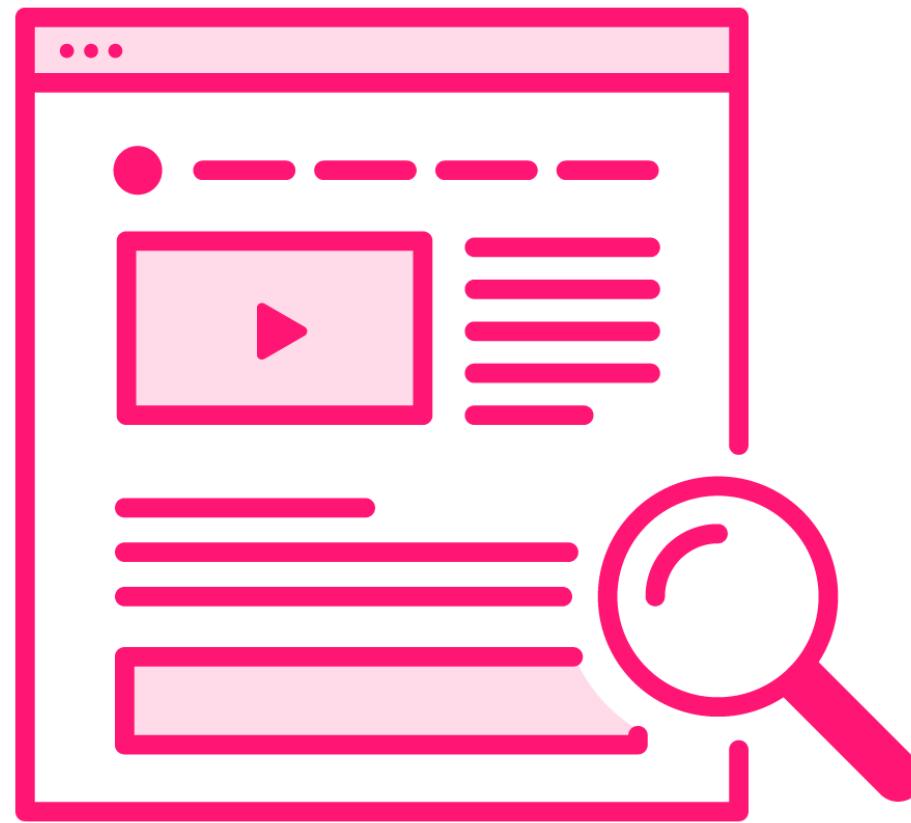


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Debugging in JavaScript Applications



Browser
Client-side debugging



Node.js
Server-side debugging



```
console.log(someVar);
```



Demo: Browser-based Debugging

The screenshot shows a browser window displaying the Home Depot homepage. The developer tools are open, specifically the Sources tab, which is currently active. The code editor in the Sources tab shows a file named `App.js`. A yellow box highlights the line of code where the debugger is paused:

```
const slugCustomerType = customerType === 'b2c-guest' ? 'guest-b2c' : customerType;
```

The right side of the developer tools interface shows the Call Stack, which is currently expanded to show the stack trace for the current frame. The top frame in the call stack is `App.js:20`, which corresponds to the line of code above.

Demo: Node.js-based Debugging

DevTools

Devices

- Devices
- Pages
- Extensions
- Apps
- Shared workers
- Service workers
- Shared storage worklets
- Other

Discover USB devices Port forwarding...

Discover network targets Configure...

Open dedicated DevTools for Node

Remote Target #LOCALHOST

Target (v18.16.0) trace

index.js file:///C/_Dev_Junk_demo-npm_index.js inspect

DevTools

Console Sources Performance Memory

Scripts Workspace >> index.js

(no domain) file://

1 const yargs = require("yargs");
2 console.log("hello world");

Debugger paused

Watch Breakpoints

Pause on uncaught exceptions
Pause on caught exceptions

index.js
console.log("hello ...")

Scope

Local

this: Object
exports: {}
module: Module {id: '.', pa...
require: f require(path)
yargs: undefined
_dirname: "C:\\Dev\\Junk\\...
_filename: "C:\\Dev\\Junk\\...
Global global

Line 2, Column 1 (From index.js:1) Coverage: n/a

Console

C:\WINDOWS\System32\cmd.exe

>



Demo: Debugging JavaScript in IDEs

The screenshot shows a debugger interface with the following details:

- File:** index.js
- Breakpoint:** A yellow highlight covers the line `console.log("hello world");`, indicating it is the current line of execution.
- VARIABLES:** Local variables include `_dirname`, `_filename`, `exports`, `module`, `require`, `this`, `yargs`, and `Global`.
- WATCH:** No items are listed.
- CALL STACK:** The stack shows a Node.js Process paused at line 21 of index.js, with the message "PAUSED ON BREAKPOINT".
- TERMINAL:** The terminal output includes:
 - Weather: 69.82°F (broken clouds) in Minneapolis
 - C:\Dev\Junk\demo-npm [69.82°F]
 - > node index.js
 - Debugger attached.



Launching the JavaScript Debugger



Demo

Setting breakpoints

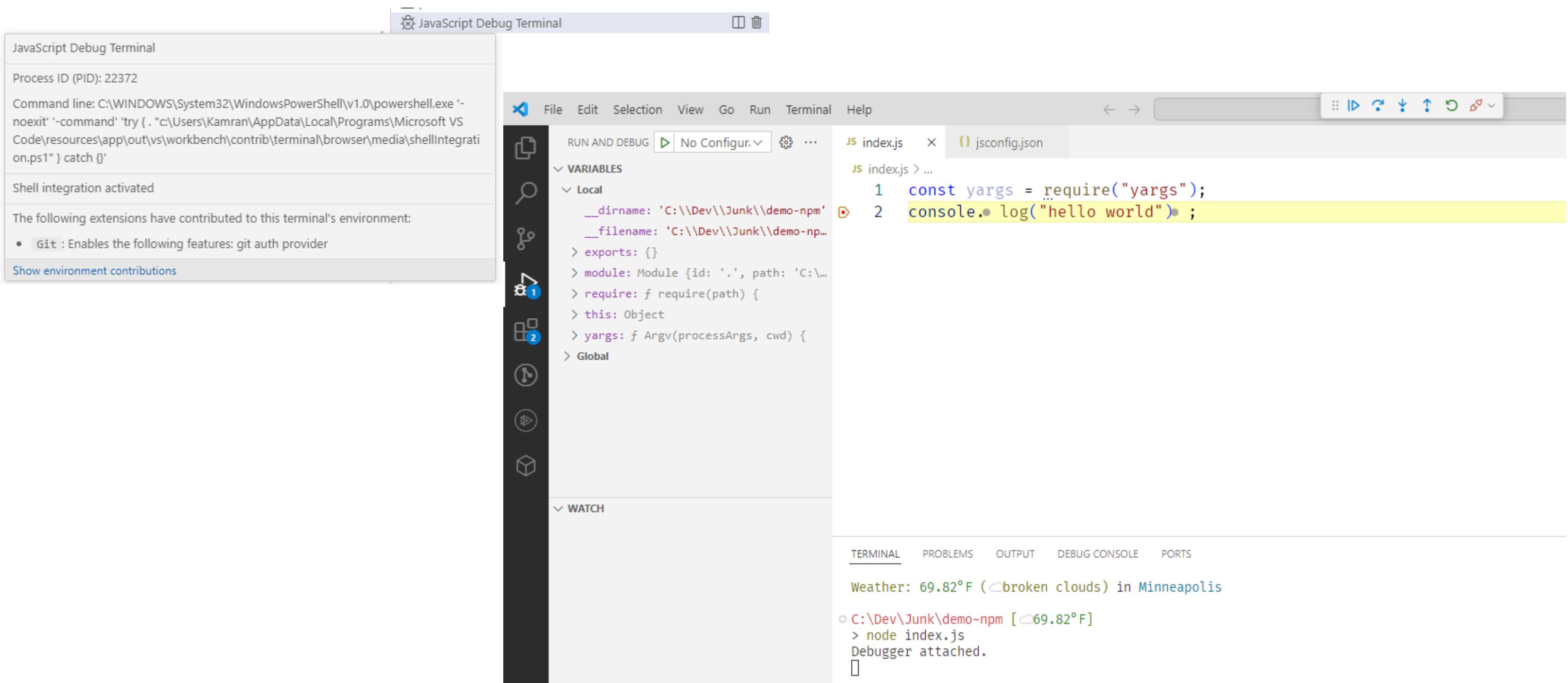
Debug a Node.js app

Debug a browser app

Create a debug configuration



Demo: JavaScript Debug Terminal



Demo: Setting a Breakpoint

The screenshot shows the Visual Studio Code interface with the following components visible:

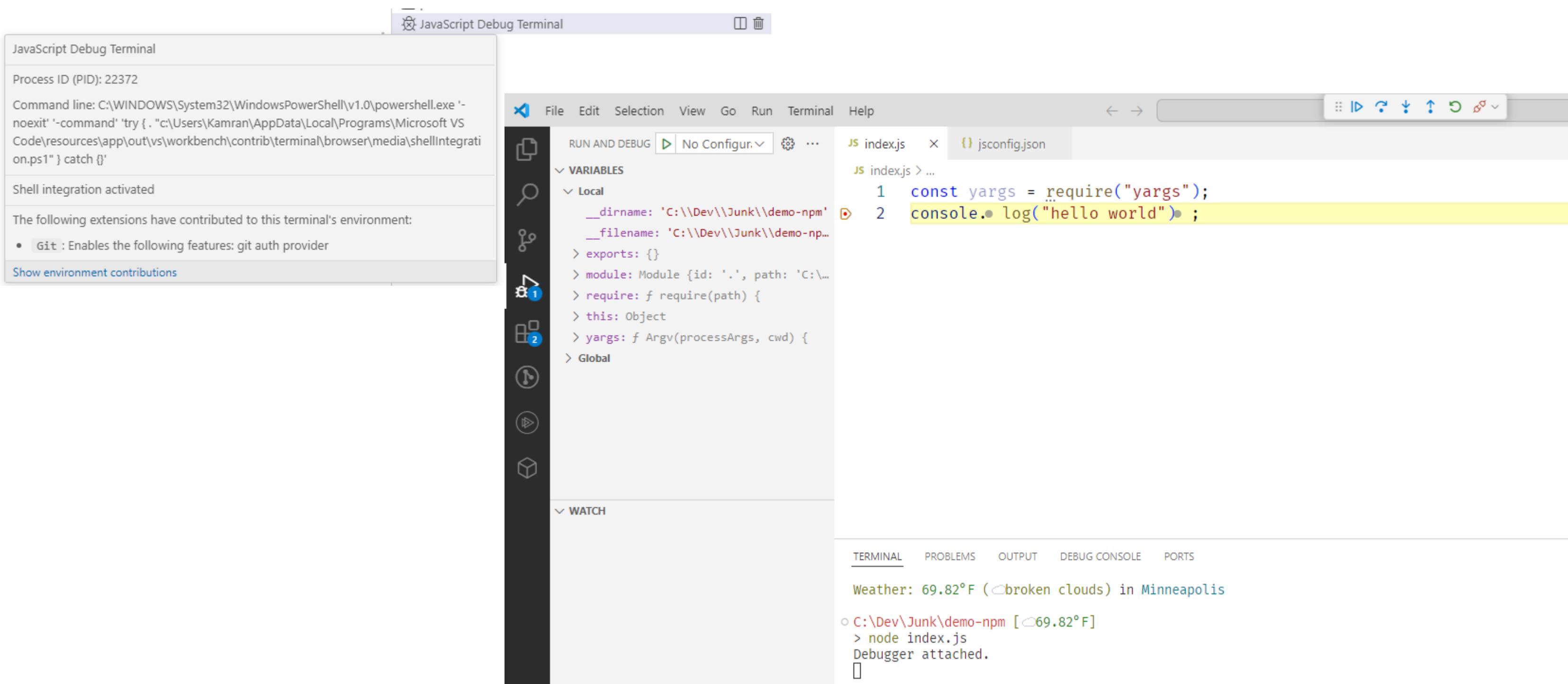
- JavaScript Debug Terminal**: Located on the left, it displays the process ID (PID) as 22372 and the command line as C:\WINDOWS\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe -noexit '-command' 'try { . "c:\Users\Kamran\AppData\Local\Programs\Microsoft VS Code\resources\app\out\vs\workbench\contrib\terminal\browser\media\shellIntegration.ps1" } catch {}'. It also shows shell integration activated and environment contributions from Git.
- Variables Panel**: Located on the right, it shows the current variable state for the 'Local' scope. The 'index.js' file is open, and the code is:

```
1 const yargs = require("yargs");
2 console.log("hello world");
```

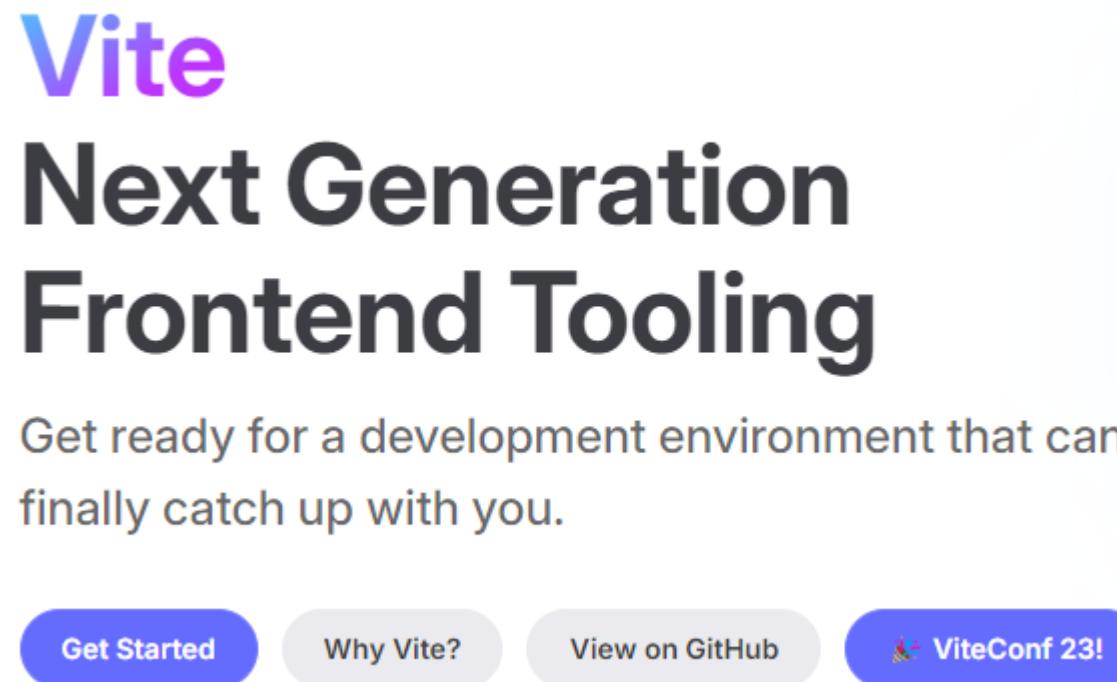
The second line, `console.log("hello world")`, has a yellow background, indicating it is the current line of execution or a breakpoint.
- Terminal**: At the bottom, it shows the weather in Minneapolis: "Weather: 69.82°F (broken clouds) in Minneapolis".



Demo: VS Code Debugger



Demo: Debugging Browser-Based Projects



The image shows a screenshot of the Vite website. At the top, there's a large dark blue header with the word "Vite" in white. Below the header, the main title "Next Generation Frontend Tooling" is displayed in a large, bold, dark font. Underneath the title, a subtitle reads "Get ready for a development environment that can finally catch up with you." At the bottom of the screenshot, there are four buttons: "Get Started" (blue), "Why Vite?" (light gray), "View on GitHub" (light gray), and "ViteConf 23!" (blue).

Vite

Next Generation Frontend Tooling

Get ready for a development environment that can finally catch up with you.

Get Started Why Vite? View on GitHub ViteConf 23!



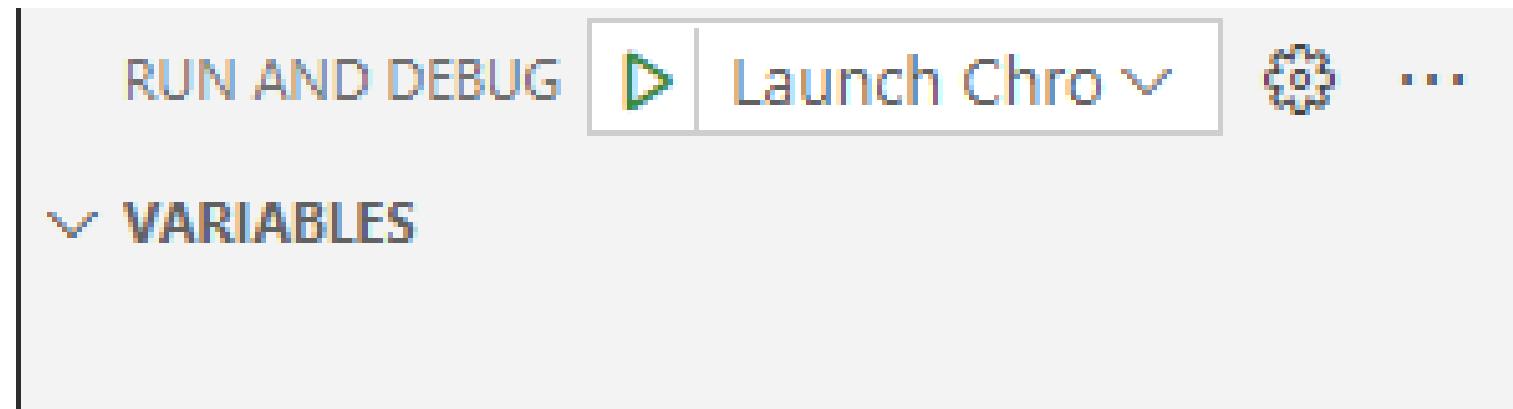
Demo: Creating a launch.json

Use Chrome configuration for browser-based projects

```
{  
  "version": "0.2.0",  
  "configurations": [  
    {  
      "type": "chrome",  
      "request": "launch",  
      "name": "Launch Chrome against localhost",  
      "url": "http://localhost:5173",  
      "webRoot": "${workspaceFolder}"  
    }  
  ]  
}
```



Demo: Debugging Browser-Based Projects



TERMINAL PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE PORTS

```
VITE v5.2.11 ready in 617 ms

→ Local: http://localhost:5173/
→ Network: use --host to expose
→ press h + enter to show help
```



Debugging Resources

Debugging in Visual Studio Code

<https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/editor/debugging>

Configuring JavaScript Debugger in WebStorm

<https://www.jetbrains.com/help/webstorm/configuring-javascript-debugger.html>

Configuring JavaScript Debugger in IntelliJ IDEA

<https://www.jetbrains.com/help/idea/configuring-javascript-debugger.html>



Controlling the Debugger



Demo

Step over, into, and out of code

Understand the call stack

Setting multiple breakpoints



Demo: Step over code

```
JS index.js > ...
1  function add(a, b) {
2    return a + b;
3  }
4
5  function multiply(a, b) {
6    return a * b;
7  }
8
9  console.log(add(5, 2));
10 console.log(multiply(5, 2));
11
```



Demo: Step into

The screenshot shows a code editor with a debugger interface overlaid. The file is `index.js`. A yellow highlight covers the line `return a + b;`, indicating it is the current line of execution. A red dot on line 9 marks the point where the `add` function is called from the `console.log` statement. The left sidebar shows variable values: `a: 5` and `b: 2` under the `Local: add` section.

```
function add(a, b) {  
  return a + b;  
}  
  
function multiply(a, b) {  
  return a * b;  
}  
  
console.log(add(5, 2));  
console.log(multiply(5, 2));
```



Demo: Call stack

▼ CALL STACK

▼ Node.js Process: index.js [12868] PAUSED

global.add	index.js	2:3
<anonymous>	index.js	9:13

Show 6 More: Skipped by skipFiles

js index.js > ...

```
1 function add(a, b) {  
2   return a + b;  
3 }  
4  
5 function multiply(a, b) {  
6   return a * b;  
7 }  
8  
▷ 9 console.log(add(5, 2));  
10 console.log(multiply(5, 2));  
11
```



Demo: Step out

```
js index.js > ...
1  function add(a, b) {
2    return a + b;
3  }
4
5  function multiply(a, b) {
6    return a * b;
7  }
8  ↴
9  console.log(add(5, 2));
10 console.log(multiply(5, 2));
11
```



Demo: Continue

```
js index.js > ...
1  function add(a, b) {
2    return a + b;
3  }
4
5  function multiply(a, b) {
6    return a * b;
7  }
8
9  console.log(add(5, 2));
10 console.log(multiply(5, 2));
11
```



Inspecting and Watching Variables



Demo

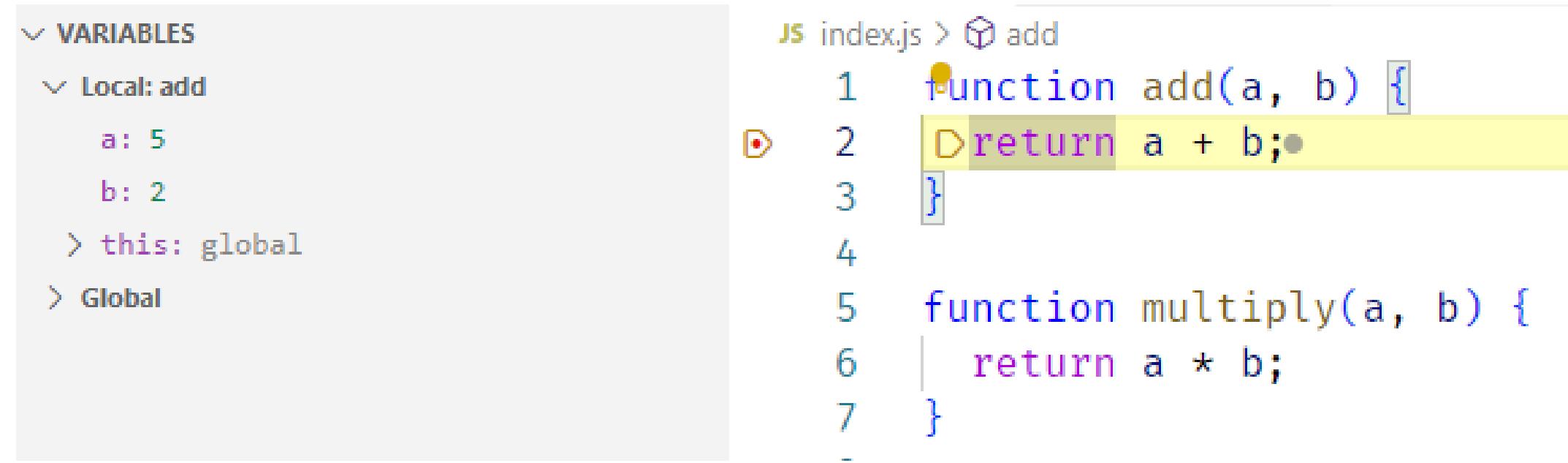
Inspecting variables

Watching variables

Executing ad-hoc code



Demo: Variables list

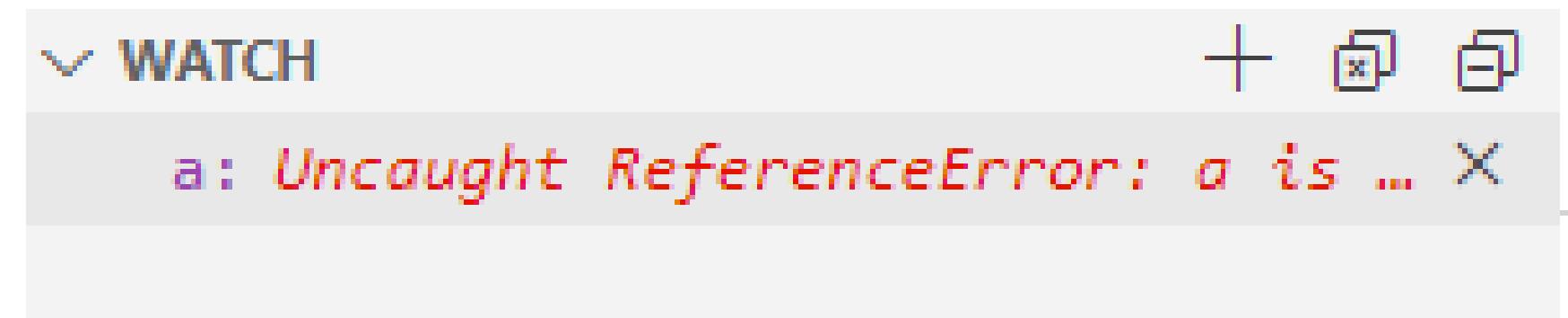
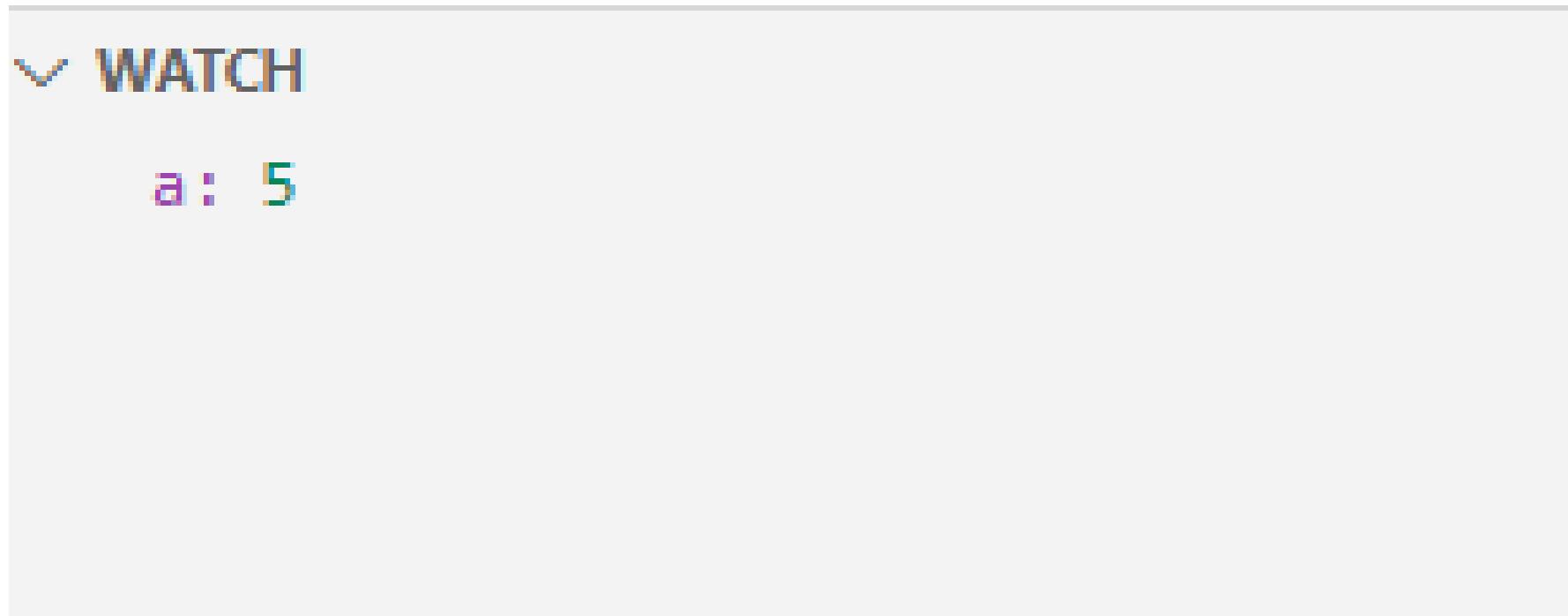


The screenshot shows a debugger interface with two main panes. The left pane displays a variable hierarchy under the 'VARIABLES' section. It includes a local variable 'add' with values 'a: 5' and 'b: 2', and global variables 'this' and 'Global'. The right pane shows the source code of 'index.js' with two functions: 'add' and 'multiply'. The 'add' function is highlighted with a yellow background, and its second line ('return a + b;') has a red circle with a dot icon above it, indicating a break point or a specific point of interest.

```
JS index.js > add
1  function add(a, b) {
2  ⚡ return a + b;●
3  }
4
5  function multiply(a, b) {
6  |   return a * b;
7  }
```



Demo: Watching variables



Demo: Immediate execution

TERMINAL

PROBLEMS

OUTPUT

DEBUG CONSOLE

PORTS

7

→ console.log(a * 10)

undefined

50



Summary

IDEs provide powerful debugging capabilities to figure out issues quickly

You can debug both Node.js and browser apps with the same tools

Sharing debug configuration and tooling makes your whole team more effective



**You're now equipped to be
more productive on your
JavaScript learning journey**



Where to Go from Here

Course GitHub repository with files
<https://bit.ly/PSJSDEnvRepo>

Like VS Code? Dive in deeper
<https://code.visualstudio.com>

JavaScript Learning Path on Pluralsight
[https://app.pluralsight.com\(paths/skill/javascript-2022](https://app.pluralsight.com(paths/skill/javascript-2022)



Thank You!

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