Testing and Debugging

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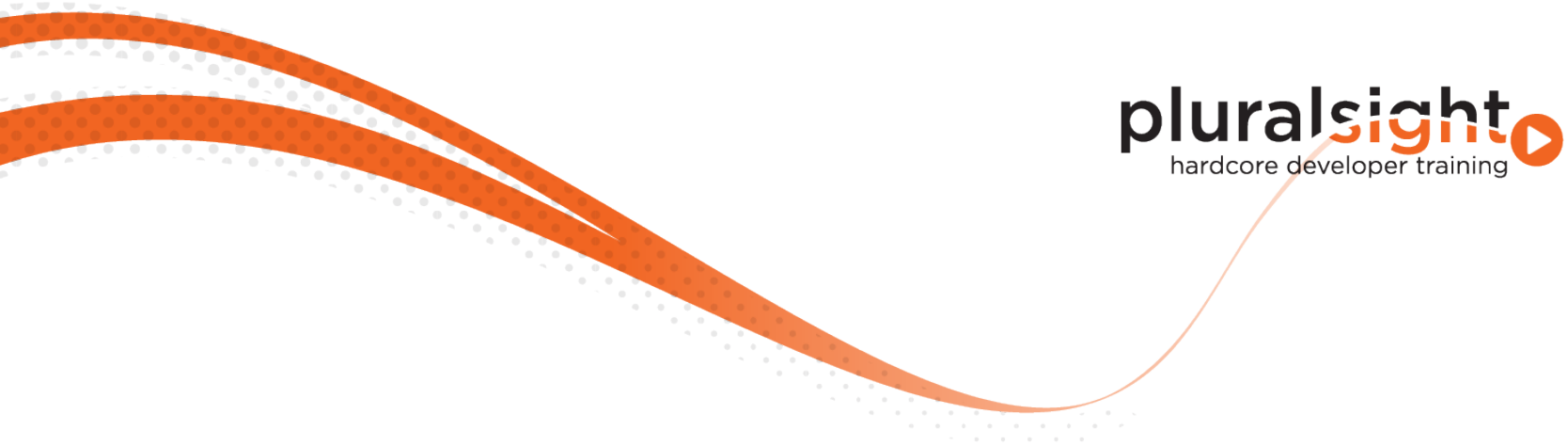

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Outline

- Basic testing with Node's built-in "assert" module
- More advanced testing with mocha and should.js
- Debugging Node.js apps in Cloud9 IDE

The “assert” module

- **Test for (in)equality between expected and actual values**
- **Test whether a block of code throws (or does not throw) an exception**
- **Test for the “truthiness” of a value**
- **Test whether the “error” parameter was passed to a callback**
- **Each assertion can contain a message to output on failure**

Types of equality

1. **assert.equal(): shallow, coercive equality, as determined by ==**
2. **assert.strictEqual(): strict equality, as determined by ===**
3. **assert.deepEqual():**
   - Identical values are equal (===)
   - Values that are not objects (typeof “object”) are determined by ==
   - Date objects are equal if both refer to the same date/time
   - Other objects (including Arrays) are equal if they have the same number of owned properties, equivalent values for every key and an identical “prototype”


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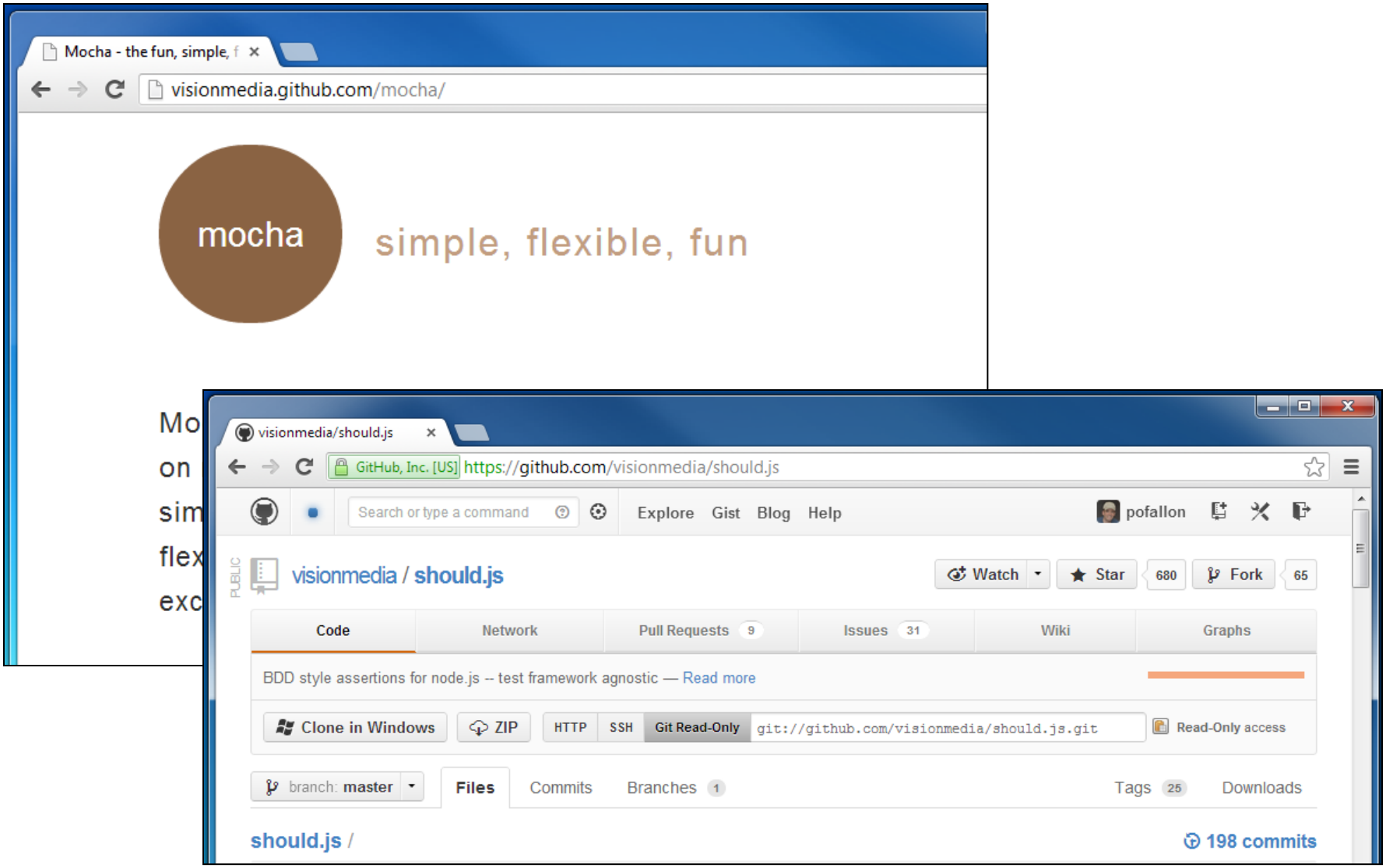
Testing with Mocha and should.js



Testing with Mocha

- Runs tests serially (both sync and async tests)
- Test cases are organized into test suites
- Includes before(), after(), beforeEach() and afterEach() hooks
- Support for pending, exclusive and inclusive tests
- Captures test duration, flagging tests that are slow
- Can watch a directory and re-run tests on changes
- Multiple “interfaces” for writing tests (BSD, TDD, Exports, QUnit)
- Multiple “reporters” for rendering test results

Asserting with should.js

Extends Node's "assert" module with BDD style assertions

```
var user = {
  name: 'tj' ,
  pets: ['tobi', 'loki', 'jane', 'bandit']
};
```

extends Object with 'should' function
syntactic sugar for readability
enhanced assertions

```
user.should.have.property('name', 'tj');
```

```
user.should.have.property('pets').with.lengthOf(4);
```

chainable assertions
(inc. volatile properties)

```
someAsyncTask(foo, function(err, result) {

  should.not.exist(err);
  should.exist(result);
```

'should' available statically
(to test for variable existence)

```
  result.bar.should.equal(foo);

});
```

Can assert properties of objects directly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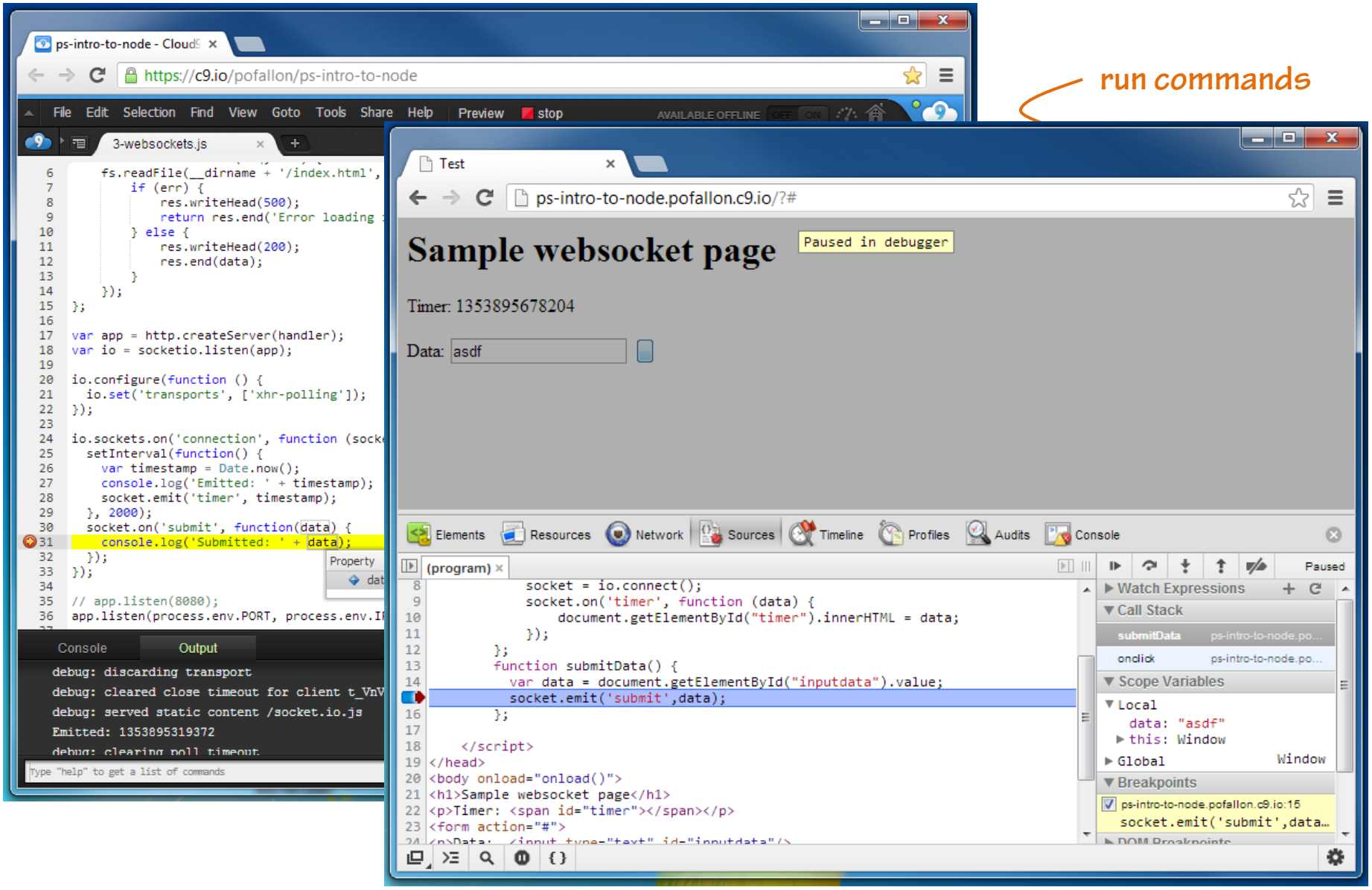
Debugging Node with Cloud9

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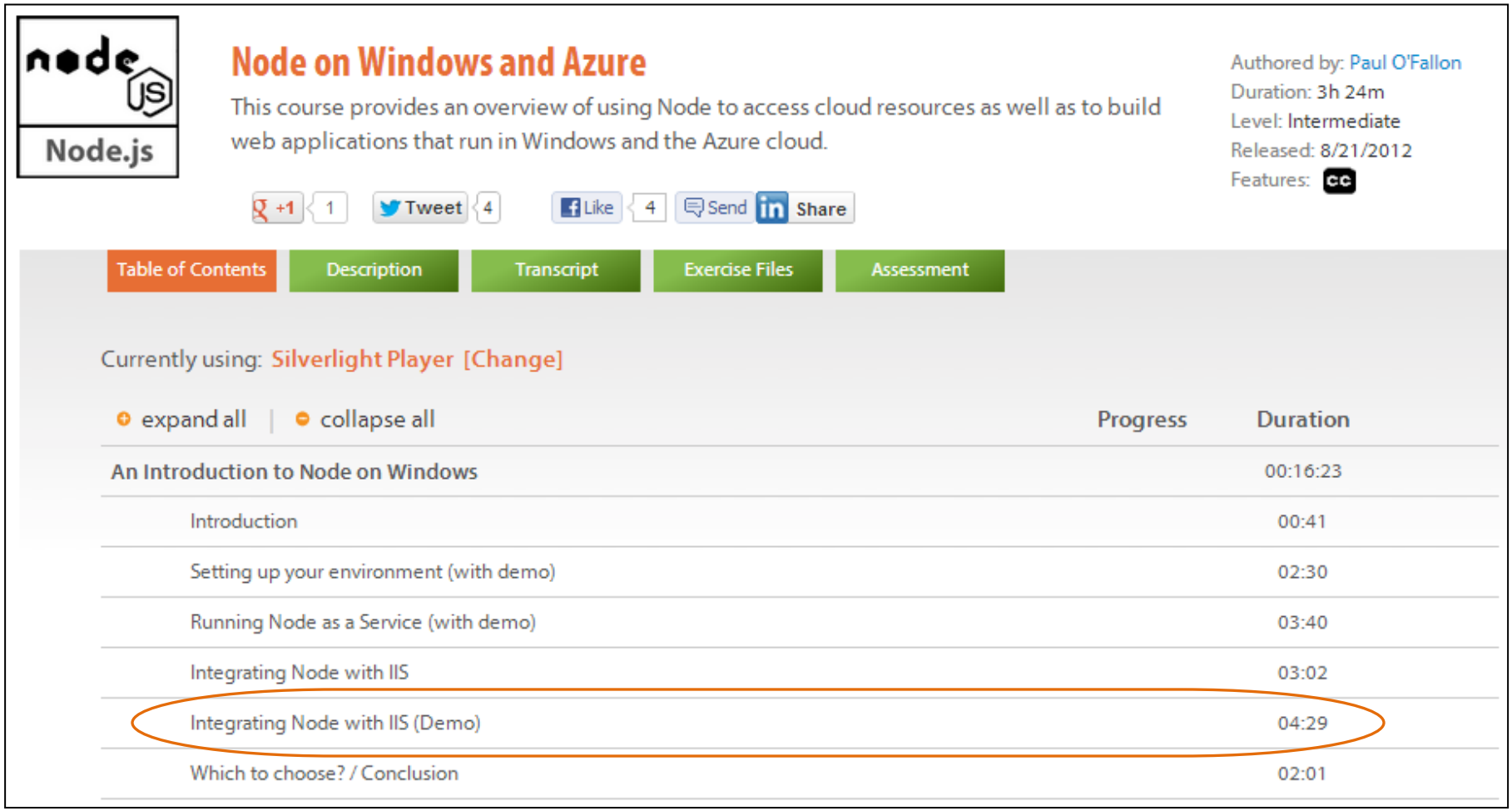
For more on debugging in Node



Conclusion

- Node's "assert" module
- Testing with Mocha and should.js
- Debugging with Cloud9 IDE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References

- CommonJS Unit Testing: http://wiki.commonjs.org/wiki/Unit_Testing/1.0
- JS101: Equality (DailyJS): http://dailyjs.com/2012/08/27/equality/
- Node.js Documentation http://nodejs.org/api/
- Mocha test framework http://visionmedia.github.com/mocha/
- Should.js https://github.com/visionmedia/should.js/