

Introducing



in



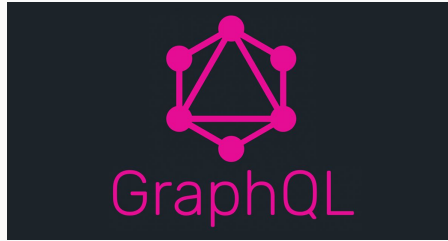
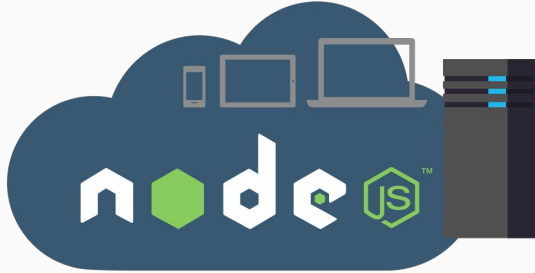
Ivar Conradi Østhus
@ivarconr

Trygve Lie
@trygve_lie

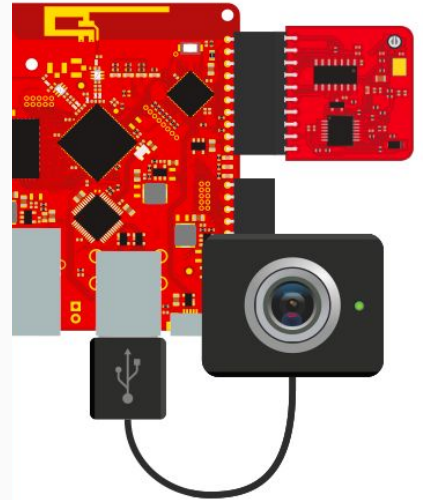
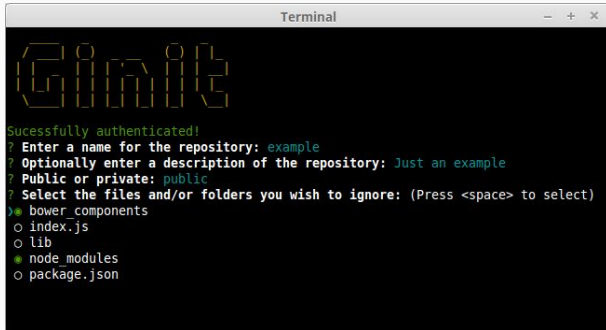
Agenda

- What is Node.js?
- Why Node.js?
- How did we Introduce Node.js in FINN?
- Standardizing Node.js

Where is Node.js used?



express



What is Node.js?

- Server-Side JavaScript
- Built on Google's V8
- Created by Ryan Dahl in 2009
- First version 2011
- Written i C, C++ and JavaScript



Non-blocking I/O

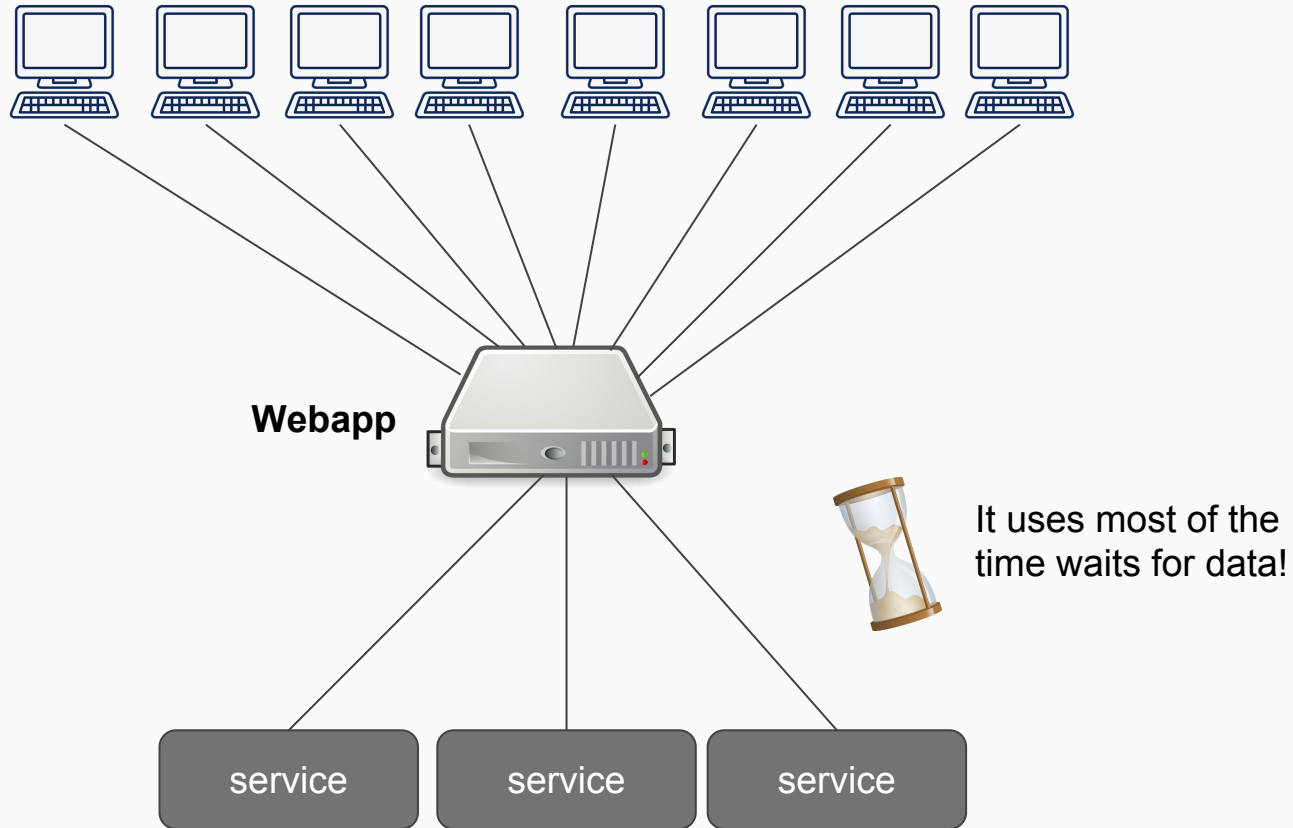
Blocking I/O

```
1.  const result = db.query('select x from table_y');  
2.  doSomethingWithResult(result);  
3.  doSomethingWithoutResult();
```

Non-blocking I/O

```
1.  const result = db.query('select x from table_y', (result) => {  
2.    doSomethingWithResult(result);  
3.  });  
4.  doSomethingWithoutResult();
```

What do a webapp typically do?



Threads are expensive!

Threads have significant overhead

- Context switches
- Memory footprint
- CPU cycles

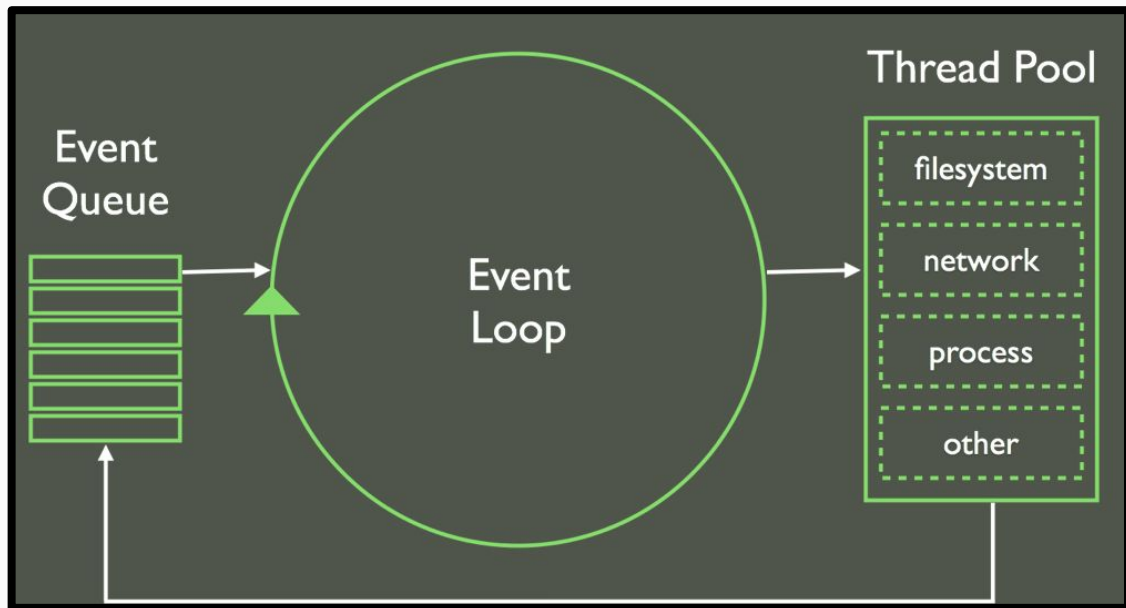
Why waste resources on **waiting**?



Node.js event-driven architecture

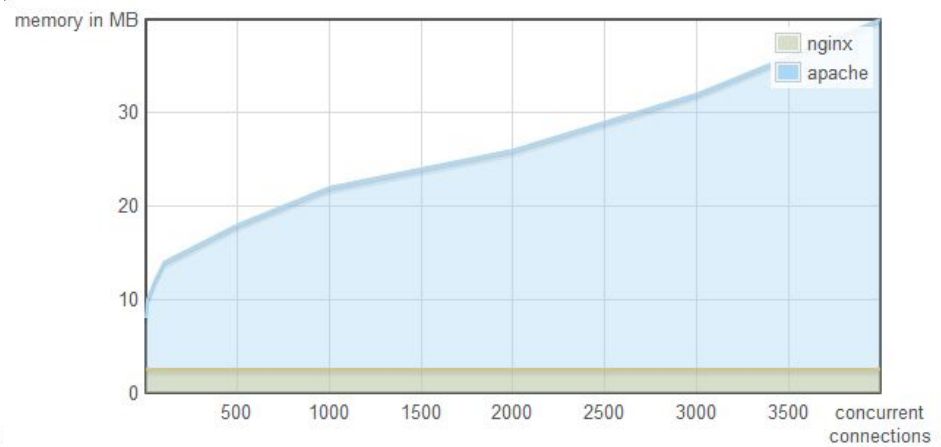
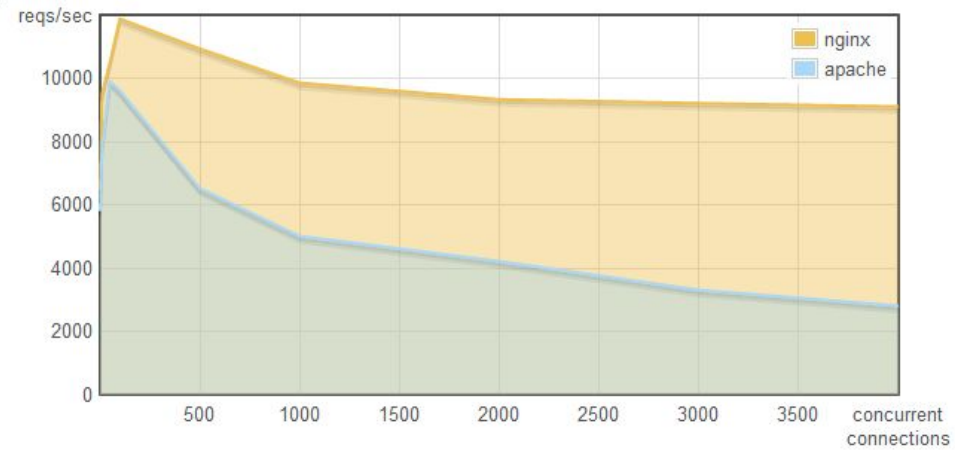
The main **event loop**

- “Single threaded”
- Non-blocking I/O



Handles thousands of concurrent connections with minimal overhead (CPU/Memory) on a single process

Threads vs. Event loop



Why Node.js?

- ❑ Already use JavaScript in the browser
- ❑ Mental switching
- ❑ Simplicity
- ❑ Modularity
- ❑ Scaling Node.js

We already use Node.js!

JavaScript in the browser



Tools build upon the Node.js ecosystem



Fewer mental context switches

- Client-side and server-side in same language
- Possible to reuse code
- Learning Node.js is easy
 - **Learning JavaScript is the hard part!**



Browser



!=

Node.js



Simplicity!

- Fast start-up time, typically less than **1 second**.
- **We don't deal with threads in our code!**
- JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) support built in!
- Great conventions
 - `npm install`
 - `npm run start`
 - `npm run test`
- Few abstractions, close to “web”!

Setting up a web server in Node.js

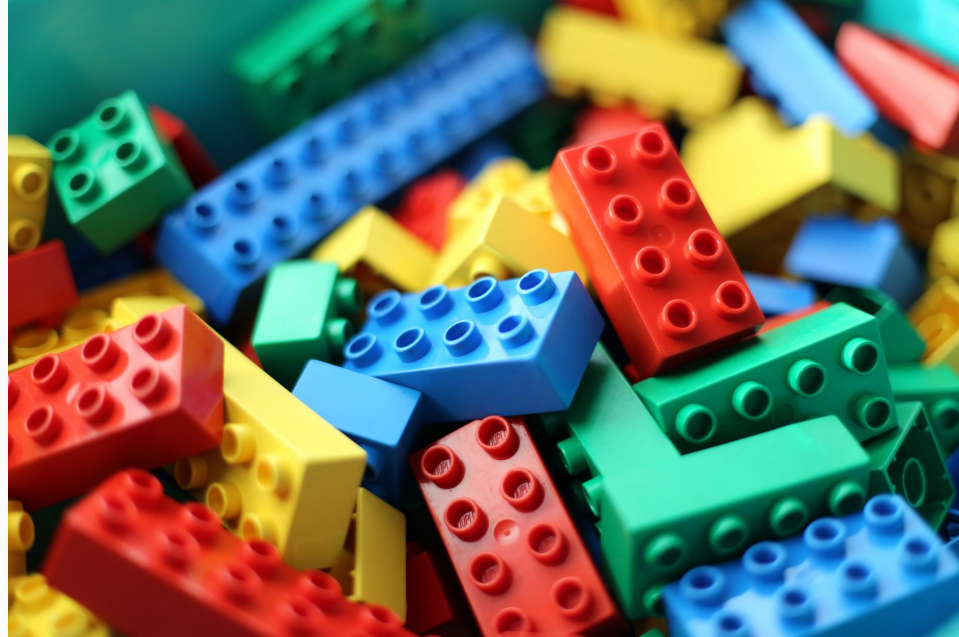
```
1.  const http = require('http');  
2.  
3.  const server = http.createServer((req, res) => {  
4.    res.statusCode = 200;  
5.    res.setHeader('Content-Type', 'text/plain');  
6.    res.end('Hello World\n');  
7.  }).listen(3000);
```

Node.js has a modular ecosystem!

Core Modules

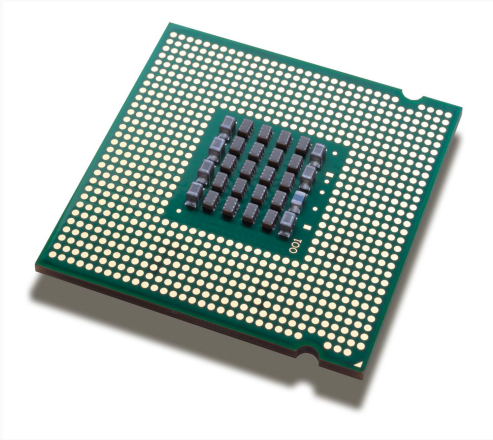
File Modules

Packages



Scaling Node.js!

1. Multiple cores



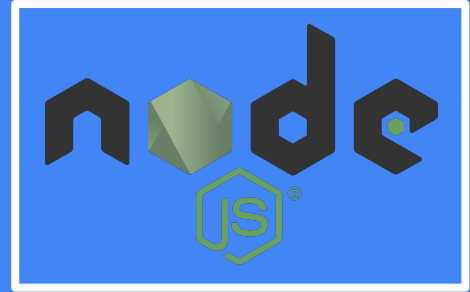
2. Multiple servers



3. Perfect for cloud!



How did we introduce



?

Step 1: The Trojan Horse!

Started using Node.js to process frontend resources.

frontend-maven-plugin

- Downloads & installs Node and NPM locally
- Correct Node & npm versions in all build environments.



Step 2: FINN Technology Governance

- We also wanted to use it to build webapps
- Define it as an experiment in “FINN technology governance” model
 - Use on a few new non-critical services (Unleash, FINN Hjørner, Bedriftsprofiler)
 - Needed to reimplement tools (already implemented for java)
- Set-up internal npm repository

Step 3: Node Performance Rescue Squad



Step 4: Learn From the Best

Node Performance Workshop

- How to write performant Node.js applications
- How to debug Node.js in production?
 - Heap dumps
 - Flame charts
 - Remote debugging
- How to safely run Node.js applications in production

Step 5: Educate the Organisation



Step 6: Standardize