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TypeScript Fundamentals





March 5, 2019 Mike North

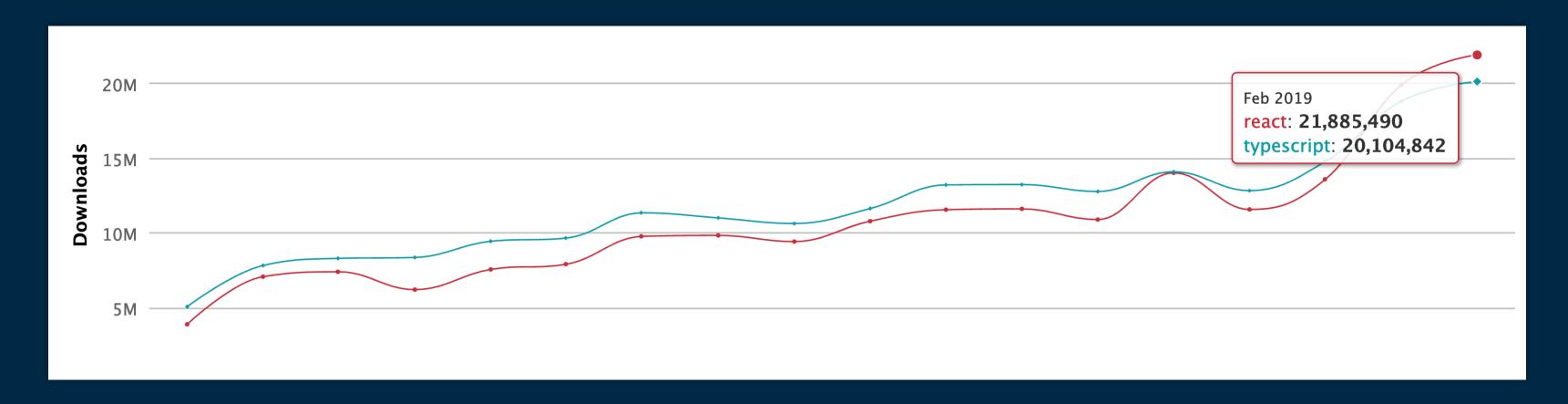


What's TypeScript?

- An open-source typed, syntactic superset of JavaScript, developed by Microsoft
- Compiles to readable JavaScript
- Comes in three parts: Language, Language Server and Compiler
- Works seamlessly with <u>Babel 7</u>

What's TypeScript?

- ▶ Since 2017....
 - +300% increase in downloads, now tied w/ React
 - ▶ 2018 NPM survey: 46% of respondents use TypeScript



...but why add types?

- Encode constraints and assumptions, as part of developer intent
- Catch common mistakes (i.e. incomplete refactors)
- Move some runtime errors to compile time
- Provide your consumers (including you) with a great DX

In this class, we'll learn about ...

- Adding type information to variables, functions and classes
- Configuring the compiler
- A practical strategy for incrementally converting JS to TS
- Parameterizing interfaces and type aliases with generics
- Conditional, mapped and branded types
- ▶ TS Compiler API basics

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Compiling

./examples/hello-ts/

tsconfig.json

```
Transform JSX
Enable "strict"
                        "compilerOptions": {
  features
                          "jsx": "react",
                          "strict": true,
Forbid implicit any
                          "sourceMap": true,
                          "noImplicitAny": true,
                          "strictNullChecks": true,
Check + compile JS_
                          "allowJs": true,
                          "types": [],
                          "experimentalDecorators": true,
                          "emitDecoratorMetadata": true,
Target environment
                          "moduleResolution": "node",
                          "target": "es2015"
```

hello: "TypeScript"

- Simple Variables
- Arrays & Tuples
- **Objects**
- Union & Intersection Types

./notes/1-basics.ts

Type Systems & Type Equivalence



```
function validateInputField(input: HTMLInputElement) {
   /* ... */
}
validateInputField(x);
Can we regard x as an
HTMLInputElement?
```

- Nominal Type Systems answer this question based on whether x is an instance of a class/type <u>named</u> HTMLInputElement
- Structural Type Systems only care about the shape of an object.
 This is how typescript works!

Object Shapes

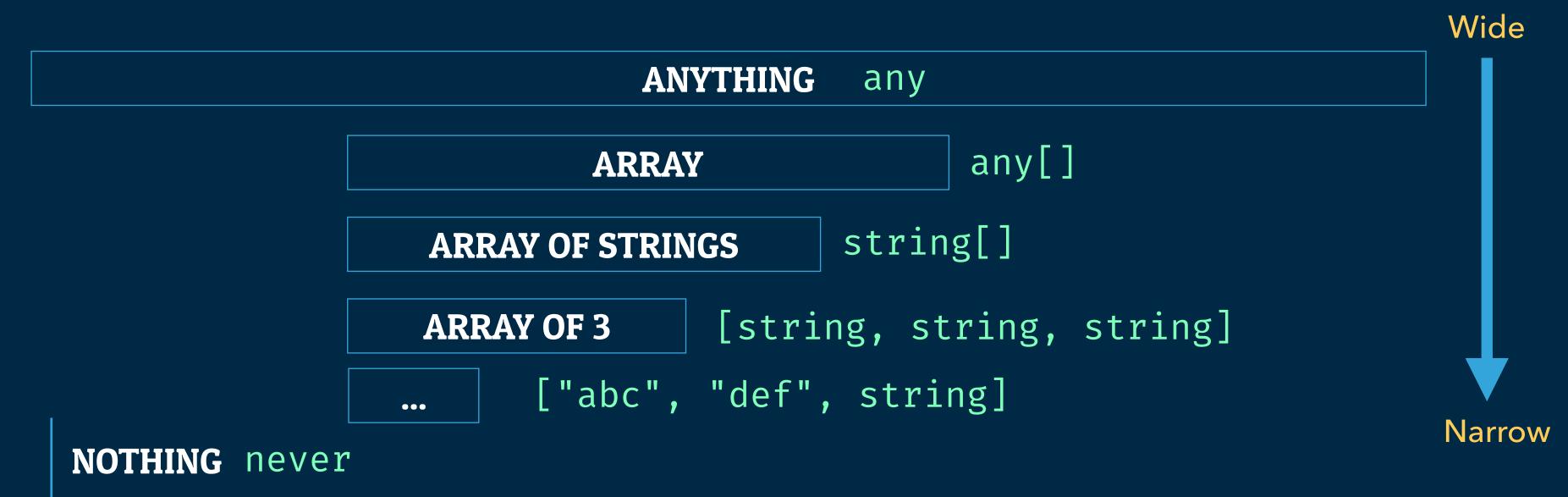
JS

When we talk about the **shape** of an object, we're referring to the names of properties and types of their values

Car
Make String
Model String
Year Number

Wider vs. Narrower

Describes: relative differences in range of a type's allowable values



function hello();

- Overloaded signatures
- This types
- Function declarations & expressions

./notes/2-function-basics.ts

interface hello {} type hello

- Call, Construct and Index signatures
- "Open interfaces"
- Access modifier keywords
- Heritage clauses ("extends", "implements")

./notes/3-interface-type-basics.ts

JSON Types

We'll want to implement types that describe arbitrary JSON value

```
2.1. Values
   A JSON value MUST be an object, array, number, or
string, or one of the following three literal names:
   false null true
```

 Export types JSONValue (any value), JSONArray (array value), JSONObject (object value)

./challenges/json-types/index.ts

class hi {}

- Implementing interfaces
- **Fields**
- Access modifier keywords (public, private, protected)
- **Param Properties**

./notes/4-class-basics.ts

Converting JS > TS 3 STEPS FOR SUCCESS

What not to do

- Functional changes at the same time
- Attempt this with low test coverage
- Let the perfect be the enemy of the good
- Forget to add tests for your types
- Publish types for consumer use while they're in a "weak" state

1. Compliling in "loose mode"

- Start with tests passing
- Rename all .js to .ts, allowing implicit any
- Fix only things that are not type-checking, or causing compile errors
- Be careful to avoid changing behavior
- Get tests passing again

2. Explicit Any

- Start with tests passing
- Ban implicit any (noImplicitAny": true,
- Where possible, provide a specific and appropriate type
 - ▶ Import types for dependencies from <u>DefinitelyTyped</u>
 - otherwise explicit any
- Get tests passing again

3. Squash explicit anys, enable strict mode

- Incrementally, in small chunks...
- Replace explicit anys w/ more appropriate types
- Try really hard to avoid unsafe casts

We have a address book program that we want to convert from JS to TS using our 3-step approach

./challenges/address-book/index.ts

hello<Generics>

- When to use them
- Type parameters
- Constraints

./notes/5-generics-basics.ts

A <u>Dictionary (a.k.a. Associative Array</u>) is a collection of key-value pairs,

that ensures key uniqueness.

Build a Dict that's generic over its value type

Higher-order functions on JS Arrays are awesome!

Let's also make a mapDict and reduceDict.

```
const fileExtensions = {
  typescript: ['ts'],
  javascript: ['js'],
  jpeg: ['jpg', 'jpeg'],
  html: ['html', 'htm']
}
```

```
mapDict(fileExtensions, exts ⇒
  exts.map(e ⇒ `*.${e}`).join(", ")
);
```

```
{ typescript: "*.ts",
   javascript: "*.js",
   jpeg: "*.jpg, *.jpeg",
   html: "*.html, *.htm" };
```

./challenges/dict/

Top and bottom types

- Passing private values through typed code
- **Exhaustive Conditionals**
- Type Guards
- Branded Types

./notes/6-guards-and-extreme-types.ts

Advanced Types

- Mapped Types
- Type Queries
- Conditional Types, and infer
- TypeScript's Built-in Utility Types

./notes/7-advanced-types.ts

- In the ./challenges/advanced-types folder, there are several JSDoc comments describing some types, but the types have been deleted!
- Do your best to implement the types again, and ensure all the tests pass

./challenges/advanced-types/

Declaration Merging

- How typescript understands your code
- Stacking values, types and namespaces

./notes/8-declaration-merging.ts

Compiler API BUILDING ON TOP OF TYPESCRIPT

./notes/9-compiler-api.ts