

Using JavaScript Transforms

An exploration of the JavaScript ecosystem in Gatsby

Demo at <https://using-javascript-transforms.netlify.app> The example mixes JavaScript and remark, uses scss and bulma.io, has use case examples for graphql in layouts, and some “manual” page creation with the help of the jsFrontmatter transformer aka gatsby-transformer-static-exports.

There are two “root” data types that we use. There are routes that are based in markdown such as `/a-first-post/` found at `src/articles/2017-01-22-a-first-post/index.md`. Of greater interest are routes based on JavaScript. This is not to be confused with the JavaScript react components in `src/templates/*` or even `src/components/*`. In this example, we use JavaScript for some articles. Check out `src/articles/2017-03-09-choropleth-on-d3v4/index.js`. Typically most examples will use a JavaScript root data type for the homepage.

Most sources including our markdown based routes will be processed through a template (`src/templates/*`). In the template, we can include dumb components to compose our structure in a DRY manner. The JavaScript routes are used directly which means you will need to include some of the route specific structure on every JavaScript page. This can be painful, but it can be managed with good use of higher order components (see `src/components/BlogPostChrome` and `src/components/Layouts`) and graphql fragments. For further discussion and relevant prototypes see #1866.

The last thing of note is this example’s `gatsby-node.js`. Gatsby by default will createPage on any JavaScript file within `src/pages`. This example does not use that folder to opt for more control in how pages are created.