# gatsby-transformer-javascript-frontmatter

Parses JavaScript files to extract frontmatter from exports.

#### Install

```
npm install gatsby-source-filesystem gatsby-transformer-javascript-frontmatter
```

#### How to use

To use this plugin you also need gatsby-source-filesystem installed and configured.

## **Parsing algorithm**

This plugin uses <a>@babel/parser</a> and <a>@babel/traverse</a> to statically read the frontmatter exports.

In a .js (or .jsx / .ts / .tsx ) file, export a frontmatter object to set your metadata variables, like so:

```
import React from "react"

exports.frontmatter = {
   title: "Choropleth on d3v4",
   written: "2017-05-04",
   layoutType: "post",
   path: "choropleth-on-d3v4",
   category: "data science",
   description: "Things about the choropleth.",
}

export default MyComponent
```

You can also use a named export for the frontmatter object:

```
export const frontmatter = {
  title: "Choropleth on d3v4",
```

```
written: "2017-05-04",
layoutType: "post",
path: "choropleth-on-d3v4",
category: "data science",
description: "Things about the choropleth.",
}
```

### How to query

You'd be able to query your frontmatter like:

```
allJavascriptFrontmatter {
  edges {
    node {
      frontmatter {
          error
          path
          title
          written
          category
          description
          updated
      }
    }
}
```

Which would return something like:

```
{
  "data": {
   "allJavascriptFrontmatter": {
     "edges": [
          "node": {
           "frontmatter": {
             "error": false,
              "path": "choropleth-on-d3v4",
              "title": "Choropleth on d3v4",
              "written": "2017-05-04",
              "category": "data science",
              "description": "Things about the choropleth.",
              "updated": null
           }
         }
       }
     ]
   }
```

```
}
```

Any attribute on "frontmatter" across your js files will be exported. If a file is missing it, the value will be null.

The error field will contain false or an object with error information just to give a surface level view of what the query is pulling out.

```
"error": {
    "err": true,
    "message": "we threw an error",
    "stack": "This is a stringified stack trace"
}
```