

Iterator Helpers update

...

Michael Ficarra · TC39 · November 2022

with special thanks to Gus Caplan, Kevin Gibbons, and Yulia Startsev

**resolutions to previously
discussed topics**



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fixes #207: add a counter parameter to Array.prototype methods that have indices #211

Edit

Code

Merged

main



GH-207



6 minutes ago



Conversation 7



Comments 3



Checks



Files

+48 -54

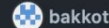


michaelficarra commented on Aug 9

Member



Reviewers – review now



bakkot



Assignees



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Labels



None yet

Projects



None yet

Fixes #207. Adds "counter" parameters to `Array.prototype` methods that have an `Array.prototype` method that passes an index to its callback. Also removes `Array.prototype.index` now that it's equivalent to `Array.prototype[0]`.

Feedback on #207 has been mixed. I am not yet convinced this is an improvement, but I am also not opposed to this change if that's what the committee decides.



2



ljharb commented on Aug 9

Member



The PR does what it claims to do, but I'm even less enthusiastic about it than "unconvinced".

fixes #115: @@toStringTag is an accessor now

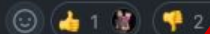
Open main

Conversation 2 Files changed 1



michaelificarra comm

Fixes #115. Option 1: make



fixes #115: @@toStringTag is an accessor now



ljharb

spec.html

Add more commits by pushing to the GH-115 branch on tc39/proposal-iterator-helpers



This branch has not been deployed

No deployments

fixes #115: @@toStringTag is writable now #2

Open main GH-115-2

Conversation 0 Checks 1 Files changed 1



michaelificarra comments 10 days ago

Fixes #115. Option 1: make @@toStringTag writable



fixes #115: @@toStringTag is writable now

Commits by pushing to the GH-115-2 branch on tc39/proposal-iterator-helpers



This branch has not been deployed

No deployments



At least 1 approving review is required by reviewers with write access



1 successful check



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fixes #173: add the new intrinsics as properties of .from something reachable #212

Edit

Code

Closed [main](#) ← [GH-173](#)

Conversation 8

Commits 2

Checks 1

Files

+20 -0



michaelficarra commented on Aug 9

Member



Fixes #173. I really do not want to merge this, but if the committee is

/cc @erights



[fixes #173: add the new intrinsics as properties of .from](#)

✓ b9df749



devsnec commented on Aug 9

Member



Reviewers – review now

bakkot

Assignees

No one—assign yourself

Labels

None yet

Projects

None yet

Milestone

No milestone

should flatMap flatten iterables or iterators? (#229)

1. `Iterator.prototype.flatMap` aligns with `Iterator.from`
 - a. non-Object: throw
 - b. has `Symbol.iterator`: call it, get sync iterator, iterate
 - c. has callable `"next"`: assume sync iterator, iterate
 - d. otherwise: throw
2. `AsyncIterator.prototype.flatMap` aligns with `AsyncIterator.from`
 - a. non-Object: throw
 - b. has `Symbol.asyncIterator`: call it, get async iterator, async iterate
 - c. has `Symbol.iterator`: call it, get sync iterator, lift to async iterator, async iterate
 - d. has callable `"next"`: assume async iterator, async iterate
 - e. otherwise: throw
3. notably:
 - a. flatMap now supports both iterators and iterables
 - behaviour aligns with respective `"from"` functions
 - because sync/async iterators are not distinguishable, no auto-lifting sync iterators to async
 - b. Strings and other iterable primitives are not iterated
 - exception to be made for Tuples in the future

handling bare sync iterators in async from/flatMap

- solution: don't worry about it
`for await (item of AsyncIterator.from(syncIterOfPromise)) print(item)`
will see promises (iff `syncIterOfPromises` does not have `Symbol.iterator`)
- unexplored alternative:
 - await `IteratorResult` object to see if it's a promise (i.e. `(await x) !== x`)
 - if it is, assume we have an async iterator, use the `.value` property from the awaited value
 - if it is not, await the `.value` property and use the result



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fixes #229: flatMap supports returning both iterables and iterators #233

Edit

<> Code

Merged

main ← GH-229 2 minutes ago

Conversation 11

Commits

Checks 1

Discussions

+43 -25



michaelficarra commented on Sep 9 • edited

Fixes #229.

update: Now also fixes #237, adding `flatMap` and `flatMapSync`.

Iterator.prototype.flatMap and **Iterator.from**:

- non-Object: throw
- has `Symbol.iterator`: call it, get sync iterator, iterate
- has callable `"next"`: assume sync iterator, iterate
- otherwise: throw

AsyncIterator.prototype.flatMap and **AsyncIterator.from**:

- non-Object: throw

Reviewers – review now

ljharb

bergus

bakkot

devsnek

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Does this pass through `return`/`throw` synchronously? #223

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glasser (David Glasser) on Aug 25



One challenge I have found with using async iteration is that it is challenging to get the synchronicity like `map` in a way that works properly with `return` / `throw`. For example, it would look like one might write:

```
async function* map(it, f) {
  for await (const x of it) {
    yield f(x);
  }
}
```

but calling `return` on the value returned from `map` doesn't actually call `it.return` immediately if it's blocked on reading from `it`, which can have poor results. You can build a `map` that does pass through `it.return` immediately but it's much harder than writing an async generator. Lots of discussion about that [on this issue](#).

So my question, having recently discovered this proposal, is: does this proposal help with this concern? If you `return` an async iterator returned by `.map(fn)` for example, is that passed through to the original iterator immediately, or only if it's currently yielding? I can't figure out the answer myself from README.md or DETAILS.md, and I don't understand the

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None yet

[Milestone](#)

No milestone

[Development](#)[Create a branch](#) for this issue or link a pull request.

proposal summary

- `Iterator()`
- `Iterator.from(O)`
- `Iterator.prototype`
 - `.constructor`
 - `.map(mapperWithCounter)`
 - `.filter(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `.take(limit)`
 - `.drop(limit)`
 - `.flatMap(mapperWithCounter)`
 - `.reduce(reducerWithCounter [, initialValue])`
 - `.toArray()`
 - `.forEach(effectWithCounter)`
 - `.some(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `.every(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `.find(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `[Symbol.toStringTag]`
 - `.toAsync()`
- `AsyncIterator()`
- `AsyncIterator.from(O)`
- `AsyncIterator.prototype`
 - `.constructor`
 - `.map(mapperWithCounter)`
 - `.filter(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `.take(limit)`
 - `.drop(limit)`
 - `.flatMap(mapperWithCounter)`
 - `.reduce(reducerWithCounter [, initialValue])`
 - `.toArray()`
 - `.forEach(effectWithCounter)`
 - `.some(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `.every(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `.find(predicateWithCounter)`
 - `[Symbol.toStringTag]`

other noteworthy changes

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fixes #230: don't await non-objects returned from functions passed to AsyncIterator HoFs #239

[Edit](#)[Code](#)[Merged](#) [main](#) ← [GH-230](#) 22 seconds ago[Conversation](#) 6[Commits](#) 4[Checks](#) 1[Files changed](#) 1

+22 -8



michaelficarra commented 23 days ago

[Member](#)

Fixes #230. This is only observable in the number of ticks taken to complete the method. It is always at least 1 because the async iteration protocol itself requires awaiting the IteratorResult object, so no Zalgo issues.

[Reviewers – review now](#) [bakkot](#)[Assignees](#)

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None yet

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None yet



bakkot approved these changes 23 days ago

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bakkot left a comment

[Member](#)

This is a little bit weird - we don't have any other fast paths like this - but it doesn't seem harmful, and I don't see a reason to take more time than necessary here

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13.7k

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Editorial: support built-in async functions #2942

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Open

main



add-builtin-async-function-objects

[Conversation](#) 1[Commits](#) 3[Checks](#) 6[Files changed](#) 1

+65 -5



michaelficarra 1 hour ago

Member



This adds support for built-in async functions, as needed by the [iterator helpers](#) and [Array.fromAsync](#) proposals.

Reviewers – review now

[jmdyck](#)[bakkot](#)Still in progress? [Convert to draft](#)

Assignees – assign yourself

Labels

[editorial change](#)

Projects

Milestone

[Editorial: support built-in async functions](#)

✓ 0667b31

[michaelficarra](#) added the [editorial change](#) label 1 hour ago[michaelficarra](#) requested a review from [bakkot](#) 1 hour ago

This was referenced 44 minutes ago

[remove built-in async function infrastructure from this proposal](#) [tc39/proposal-iterator-helpers#245](#)

[Merged](#)

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10.4 Built-in Async Function Objects

Built-in async function objects are built-in function objects that provide alternative `[[Call]]` and `[[Construct]]` internal methods that conform to the following definitions:

10.4.1 `[[Call]]` (*thisArgument*, *argumentsList*)

The `[[Call]]` internal method of a built-in async function object *F* takes arguments *thisArgument* (an ECMAScript language value) and *argumentsList* (a List of ECMAScript language values) and returns a normal completion containing an ECMAScript language value. It performs the following steps when called:

1. Let *callerContext* be the running execution context.
2. If *callerContext* is not already suspended, suspend *callerContext*.
3. Let *calleeContext* be a new execution context.
4. Set the Function of *calleeContext* to *F*.
5. Let *calleeRealm* be *F*.`[[Realm]]`.
6. Set the Realm of *calleeContext* to *calleeRealm*.
7. Set the ScriptOrModule of *calleeContext* to `null`.
8. Perform any necessary implementation-defined initialization of *calleeContext*.
9. Push *calleeContext* onto the execution context stack; *calleeContext* is now the running execution context.
10. Let *promiseCapability* be `! NewPromiseCapability(%Promise%)`.
11. Let *resultsClosure* be a new Abstract Closure that captures *F*, *thisArgument*, and *argumentsList* and performs the following steps when called:
 - a. Return the result of evaluating *F* in a manner that conforms to the specification of *F*. *thisArgument* is the `this` value, *argumentsList* provides the named parameters, and the `NewTarget` value is `undefined`.
12. Perform `AsyncFunctionStart(promiseCapability, resultsClosure)`.
13. Remove *calleeContext* from the execution context stack and restore *callerContext* as the running execution context.
14. Return *promiseCapability*.

10.4.2 `[[Construct]]` (*argumentsList*, *newTarget*)

The `[[Construct]]` internal method of a built-in async function object *F* takes arguments *argumentsList* (a List of ECMAScript language values) and *newTarget* (an Object or a `throw` completion). It performs the following steps when called:

▶ THIS IS A COMMIT SNAPSHOT OF THE SPECIFICATION

EXPAND

new open questions

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Should "async" methods inherit from AsyncFunction.prototype, rather than Function.prototype? #248

[Edit](#)[New issue](#)[Open](#) 2 comments

michaelficarra 21 days ago

Member



It seems to be a strictly editorial decision whether we specify a built-in as an async method or as a method that happens to always return a promise. Having it implicitly change the prototype just because of how we found it most convenient to spec the method seems pretty bad. That would make me lean toward not inheriting from `AsyncFunction.prototype`.

That said, you could make the same argument about ECMAScript functions and ECMAScript async functions...

So maybe the takeaway is that there's really no purpose for `AsyncFunction.prototype`? In that case, the decision really doesn't matter.



stage 3?