

# JavaScript data wrangling cheat sheet

Run this notebook with [Data-Forge Notebook](#)

Snippets of JS code that are good for working with data.

From the book [Data Wrangling with JavaScript](#)

## LOGGING

Logging is your best friend. It's the easiest way to inspect and check your data.

```
console.log("Your logging here"); // General text logging for debugging
```

```
Your logging here
```

```
const arr = [1, 2, 3];           // Your data.  
console.log(arr);
```

```
[ 1, 2, 3 ]
```

```
const obj = { A: 1, B: 2, C: 3 }; // Your data  
console.log(obj);
```

```
{ A: 1, B: 2, C: 3 }
```

In Data-Forge Notebook you can also use the `display` function for formatted output:

```
const obj = { A: 1, B: 2, C: 3 }; // Your data
```

```
display(obj);
```

```
"root" : { 3 items  
  "A" : 1  
  "B" : 2  
  "C" : 3  
}
```

## OBJECTS

Techniques for creating and modifying JavaScript objects

### Extract a field

```
let o = { A: 1, B: 2 };           // Your data  
let v1 = o["A"];                 // Extract field value  
display(v1);
```

```
let v2 = o.A;  
display(v2);
```

```
1
```

```
1
```

## Set a field

```
let o = {}; // Empty object
o["A"] = 3; // Set field value
o.A = 3;

display(o);
```

```
▼ "root" : { 1 item
  "A" : 3
}
```

## Delete a field

```
let o = { A: 1, B: 2 };
delete o["A"]; // Delete a field value
delete o.A;

display(o);
```

```
▼ "root" : { 1 item
  "B" : 2
}
```

## Clone an object

```
let o = { A: 1, B: 2 };
let c = Object.assign({}, o); // Clone an object
c.A = 300;
c.B = 500;

display(o); // Original object is unchanged
display(c); // Cloned object is modified
```

```
▼ "root" : { 2 items
  "A" : 1
  "B" : 2
}
```

```
▼ "root" : { 2 items
  "A" : 300
  "B" : 500
}
```

## Replace fields in an object

```
let o = { A: 1, B: 2 };
let ovr = { B: 200 };
```

```
let c = Object.assign({}, o, ovr);           // Clone and override fields

display(o);                                 // Original object is unchanged
display(c);                                 // Cloned object has specified
```

```

"root" : { 2 items
  "A" : 1
  "B" : 2
}

```

```

"root" : { 2 items
  "A" : 1
  "B" : 200
}

```

## ARRAYS

Techniques for creating and modifying JavaScript arrays

### Visit each item

```
let a = [1, 2, 3];                               // Your data
a.forEach(item => {                               // Visit each item in the array
  console.log(item);
});

// Or (old-style JS)
for (let i = 0; i < a.length; ++i) {
  const item = a[i];
  // Visit each item
}

// Or (using modern JS iterators)
for (const item of a) {
  // Visit each item
}
```

1

2

3

### Getting and setting values

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6];                     // Your data
let v = a[5];                                   // Get value at index
display(v);

a[3] = 32;                                       // Set value at index
display(a);
```

6

```

"root" : [ 6 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2

```

```
2 : 3
3 : 32
4 : 5
5 : 6
```

```
1
```

## Adding and removing items

```
let a = [1, 2, 3];

a.push("new end item");           // Add to end of array
display(a);

let last = a.pop();              // Remove last element
display(last);
display(a);

a.unshift("new start item");      // Add to start of array
display(a);

let first = a.shift();            // Remove first element
display(first);
display(a);
```

```
▼ "root" : [ 4 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2
  2 : 3
  3 : "new end item"
]
```

new end item

```
▼ "root" : [ 3 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2
  2 : 3
]
```

```
▼ "root" : [ 4 items
  0 : "new start item"
  1 : 1
  2 : 2
  3 : 3
]
```

new start item

```
▼ "root" : [ 3 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2
  2 : 3
]
```

## Concatenate arrays

```
let a1 = [1, 2, 3];
let a2 = [4, 5, 6];
```

```
let a = a1.concat(a2);           // Concatenate arrays
display(a);
```

```
"root" : [ 6 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2
  2 : 3
  3 : 4
  4 : 5
  5 : 6
]
```

## Extracting portions of an array

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];

let e = a.slice(0, 3);           // Extract first 3 elements
display(e);
```

```
"root" : [ 3 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2
  2 : 3
]
```

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13];

let e = a.slice(5, 11);          // Extract elements 5 to 10
display(e);
```

```
"root" : [ 6 items
  0 : 6
  1 : 7
  2 : 8
  3 : 9
  4 : 10
  5 : 11
]
```

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10];

let e = a.slice(-4, -1);         // Negative indices relative to end
display(e);
```

```
"root" : [ 3 items
  0 : 7
  1 : 8
  2 : 9
]
```

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10];
```

```
let e = a.slice(-3);           // Extract last three elements
display(e);
```

```
"root" : [ 3 items
  0 : 8
  1 : 9
  2 : 10
]
```

## Clone an array

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
let c = a.slice();           // Clone array
c[2] = 2230;
display(a);                   // Original array is unchanged
display(c);                   // Cloned array is modified
```

```
"root" : [ 5 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2
  2 : 3
  3 : 4
  4 : 5
]
```

```
"root" : [ 5 items
  0 : 1
  1 : 2
  2 : 2230
  3 : 4
  4 : 5
]
```

## Find an element in an array

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
let i = a.indexOf(3);         // Find index of item in array
if (i >= 0) {                 // The value exists, extract it
  let v = a[i];
  display(v);
}
```

```
3
```

## Sorting an array

```
let a = ["Pineapple", "Orange", "Apple", "Bananna"];
a.sort();
display(a);
```

```
"root" : [ 4 items
  0 : "Apple"
  1 : "Bananna"
  2 : "Orange"
]
```

```
  3 : "Pineapple"
]
```

```
let a = ["Pineapple", "Orange", "Apple", "Bananna"];
let c = a.slice(); // Clone the original
c.sort(); // Sort array without modifying
display(a); // Original array is unmodified
display(c); // Cloned array is sorted
```

```
"root" : [ 4 items
0 : "Pineapple"
1 : "Orange"
2 : "Apple"
3 : "Bananna"
]
```

```
"root" : [ 4 items
0 : "Apple"
1 : "Bananna"
2 : "Orange"
3 : "Pineapple"
]
```

```
let a = [10, 20, 8, 15, 12, 33];
a.sort((a, b) => b - a); // Customize sort with a user-defined function
display(a);
```

```
"root" : [ 6 items
0 : 33
1 : 20
2 : 15
3 : 12
4 : 10
5 : 8
]
```

## FUNCTIONAL JAVASCRIPT

Functional-style array manipulation techniques

### Filter

Filter an array with `filter` and a user-defined predicate function

```
let a = [10, 20, 8, 15, 12, 33];

function predicate(value) {
  return value > 10; // Retain values > 10
}

let f = a.filter(v => predicate(v)); // Filter array
display(f);
```

```
"root" : [ 4 items
```

```
0 : 20
1 : 15
2 : 12
3 : 33
]
```

## Transform

Transform an array with `map` and a user-defined transformation function

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];

function transform(value) {
    return value + 1;                // Increment all values by one.
}

let t = a.map(v => transform(v));    // Transform array
display(t);
```

```
"root" : [ 5 items
0 : 2
1 : 3
2 : 4
3 : 5
4 : 6
]
```

## Aggregation

Aggregate an array with `reduce` and a user-defined aggregation function

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];

function sum(a, b) {
    return a + b;                    // Produces the sum of all values
}

let t = a.reduce(sum, 0) // Reduce the array by summing the total of all values
display(t);

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```

## REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

Use regular expressions to match and extract search patterns in text

```
let re = /search pattern/;          // Define regular expression

// Or
re = new RegExp("search pattern");

// Or add options
re = /search pattern/ig              // Case insensitive + global
```



```
let source = "your text data that contains the search pattern";
let match = re.exec(source);           // Find first match.
display(match);

while ((match = re.exec(source)) !== null) {
    // Find each match in turn.
}
```

```
"root" : [ 1 item
  0 : "search pattern"
]
```

## READ AND WRITE TEXT FILES

In Node.js we can read and write text files using the functions `fs.readFileSync` and `fs.writeFileSync`.

After you run this code cell, check out the contents of the file `my-text-file.txt` that has been written out to your file system.

```
const fs = require('fs');

const textData = "My text data";
fs.writeFileSync("./my-text-file.txt", textData);

const loadedTextData = fs.readFileSync("./my-text-file.txt", "utf8");
display(loadedTextData);
```

```
My text data
```

## DATA FORMATS

### Serialize and deserialize JSON data

JavaScript already contains the functions you need to to serialize and deserialize data to and from the JSON format.

Use `JSON.stringify` to convert your data to JSON, then use `JSON.parse` to convert it back.

```
const data = [
    { item: "1" },
    { item: "2" },
    { item: "3" }
];
const jsonData = JSON.stringify(data);           // Serialize (encode) t
display(jsonData);

const deserialized = JSON.parse(jsonData);       // Deserialize (decode)
display(deserialized);

[{"item":"1"}, {"item":"2"}, {"item":"3"}]
```

```
"root" : [ 3 items
  0 : { 1 item
    "item" : "1"
  }
  1 : { 1 item
    "item" : "2"
  }
  2 : { 1 item
    "item" : "3"
  }
]
```

## Read and write JSON data files

If we combine the `fs` functions with the `JSON` functions we can now read and write JSON data files.

After you run this code cell, check out the contents of the file `my-json-file.json` that has been written out to your file system.

```
const fs = require('fs');

const data = [
  { item: "1" },
  { item: "2" },
  { item: "3" }
];
fs.writeFileSync("./my-json-file.json", JSON.stringify(data));

const deserialized = JSON.parse(fs.readFileSync("./my-json-file.json",
display(deserialized);
```

```
"root" : [ 3 items
  0 : { 1 item
    "item" : "1"
  }
  1 : { 1 item
    "item" : "2"
  }
  2 : { 1 item
    "item" : "3"
  }
]
```

## Serialize and deserialize CSV data

Let's not forget about working with CSV data, it's a staple of the data science community!

Unfortunately JavaScript doesn't provide us with functions to do this, so we'll turn to the excellent [PapaParse](#) library available via npm.

Note the use of the `dynamicTyping` option - this is quite important as it causes PapaParse to deserialize CSV columns that contain numbers and booleans (unfortunately it doesn't help with dates).

```
const Papa = require('papaparse');

const data = [
  { item: "1", val: 100 },
  { item: "2", val: 200 },
  { item: "3", val: 300 }
];
const csvData = Papa.unparse(data); // Serialize (e

display(csvData);

const options = { dynamicTyping: true, header: true };
const deserialized = Papa.parse(csvData, options); // Deserialize
display(deserialized.data);
```

```
item,val 1,100 2,200 3,300
```

```

"root" : [ 3 items
  0 : { 2 items
    "item" : 1
    "val" : 100
  }
  1 : { 2 items
    "item" : 2
    "val" : 200
  }
  2 : { 2 items
    "item" : 3
    "val" : 300
  }
]

```

## Read and write CSV data files

We can also combine the `fs` functions with PapaParse and be able to read and write CSV data files.

After you run this code cell, check out the contents of the file `my-csv-file.csv` that has been written out to your file system.

```
const fs = require('fs');
const Papa = require('papaparse');

const data = [
  { item: "1", val: 100 },
  { item: "2", val: 200 },
  { item: "3", val: 300 }
];
fs.writeFileSync("./my-csv-file.csv", Papa.unparse(data));

const options = { dynamicTyping: true, header: true };
const deserialized = Papa.parse(fs.readFileSync("./my-csv-file.csv", "u
display(deserialized.data);
```

```

"root" : [ 3 items
  0 : { 2 items

```

```
    "item" : 1
    "val" : 100
  }
  1 : { 2 items
    "item" : 2
    "val" : 200
  }
  2 : { 2 items
    "item" : 3
    "val" : 300
  }
}
```

1

This notebook exported from [Data-Forge Notebook](#)