JS Syntax Fundamentals

Syntax, Conditional Statements, Loops, Data
Type and Variables



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#js-front-end

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JavaScript Overview

Definition, Execution, IDE Setup

What is JavaScript?





- One of the core technologies of the World Wide Web
- Enables interactive web pages and applications
- Can be executed on the server and on the client
- Features:
 - C-like syntax (curly-brackets, identifiers, operator)
 - Multi-paradigm (imperative, functional, OOP)
 - Dynamic typing



Dynamic Programming Language



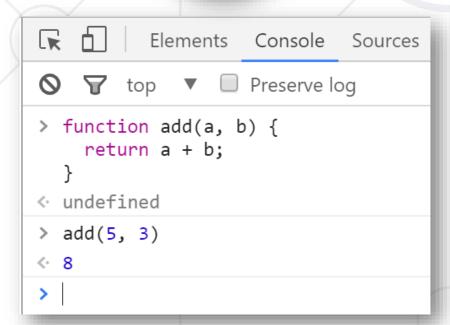
- JavaScript is a dynamic programming language
 - Operations otherwise done at compile-time can be done at run-time
- It is possible to change the type of a variable or add new properties or methods to an object while the program is running
- In static programming languages, such changes are normally not possible

Chrome Web Browser

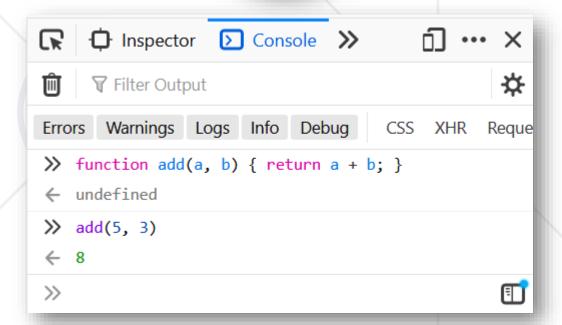


Developer Console: [F12]









Node.js



What is Node.js?

- Server-side JavaScript runtime
- Chrome V8 JavaScript engine
- NPM package manager
- Install node packages



Install the Latest Node.js



Downloads

Latest LTS Version: 14.15.4 (includes npm 6.14.10)

Download the Node.js source code or a pre-built installer for your platform, and start developing today.



Windows Installer (.msi)

Windows Binary (.zip)

macOS Installer (.pkg)

macOS Binary (.tar.gz)

Linux Binaries (x64)

Linux Binaries (ARM)

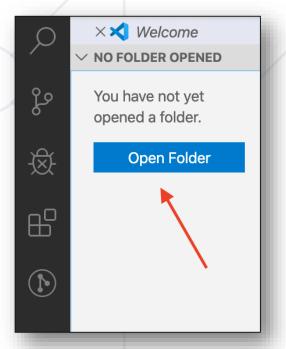
Source Code

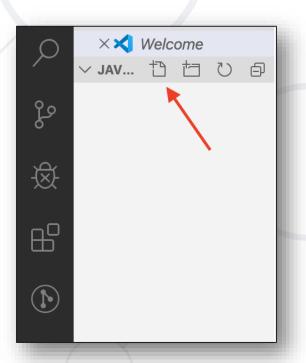
32-bit	64-bit
32-bit	64-bit
	64-bit
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	64-bit
ARMv7	ARMv8
no	de-v14.15.4.tar.gz

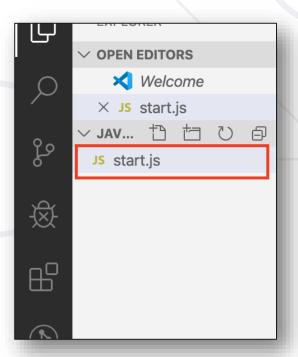
Using Visual Studio Code



- Visual Studio Code is powerful text editor for JavaScript and other projects
- In order to create your first project:









JavaScript Syntax

Functions, Operators, Input and Output

JavaScript Syntax



- C-like syntax (curly-brackets, identifiers, operator)
- Defining and Initializing variables:

Declare a variable with let

```
Variable name

let a = 5;

let b = 10;

Variable value
```

Conditional statement:

```
if (b > a) {
  console.log(b);
}
```

Body of the conditional statement

Functions and Input Parameters



- In order to solve different problems, we are going to use functions and the input will come as parameters
- A function is similar to a procedure, that executes when called

```
declaration
    parameters

function solve (num1, num2) {
    //some logic
}

solve(2, 3); calling the function
```

Printing to the Console



• We use the console.log() method to print to console:

```
function solve (name, grade) {
  console.log('The name is: ' + name + ', grade: ' + grade);
}
solve('Peter', 3.555);
//The name is: Peter, grade: 3.555
```

Text can be composed easier using interpolated strings:

```
console.log(`The name is: ${name}, grade: ${grade}`);
```

To format a number, use the toFixed() method (converts to string):

```
grade.toFixed(2); //The name is: Petar, grade: 3.56
```



Data Types and Variables

Definition and Examples

What is a Data Type?

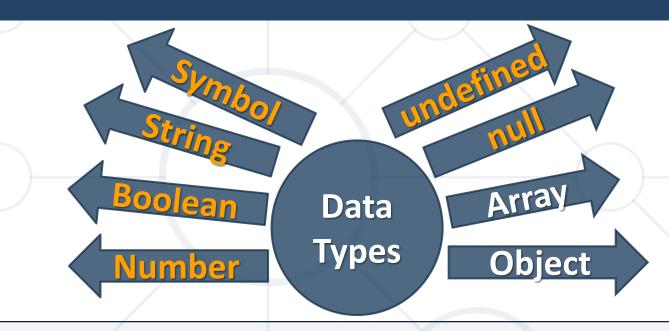


- A data type is a classification that specifies what type of operations can be applied to it and the way values of that type are stored
- After ECMAScript 2015 there are seven primitive data types:
 - Seven primitive: Boolean, null, undefined, Number, String, Symbol, BigInt
 - and Objects (including Functions and Arrays)



Examples





Variable Scope



var – use function scope – can be accessed anywhere in the function, including outside the initial block

```
let and const—use block
scope – when declared inside
a block {} can NOT be
accessed from outside
the block
```

```
var x = 2;
console.log(x); // 2
```



```
let x = 2;
console.log(x); // Error
```

Variable Comparison let vs const



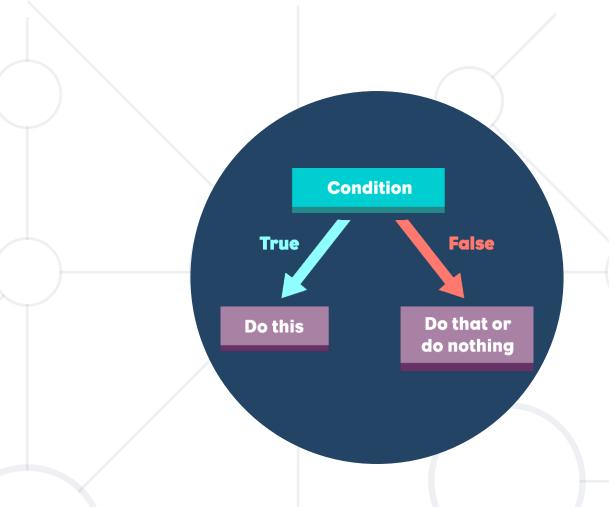
let

- Can be reassigned after initial assignment
- Variable's value can change
- let is used when reassignment is necessary

const

- Cannot be reassigned after initial assignment, remains constant
- Variable's value remains fixed
- const is used when variable will not be reassingned





Conditional Statements

Implementing Control-Flow Logic

Arithmetic Operators



 Arithmetic operators - take numerical values (either literals or variables) as their operands



- Addition (+)
- Subtraction (-)
- Multiplication (*)
- Division (/)
- Remainder (%)
- Exponentiation (**)

```
let a = 15;
let b = 5;
let c;
c = a + b; // 20
c = a - b; // 10
c = a * b; // 75
c = a / b; // 3
c = a % b; // 0
c = a ** b; //15^5
 759375c
```

Comparison Operators



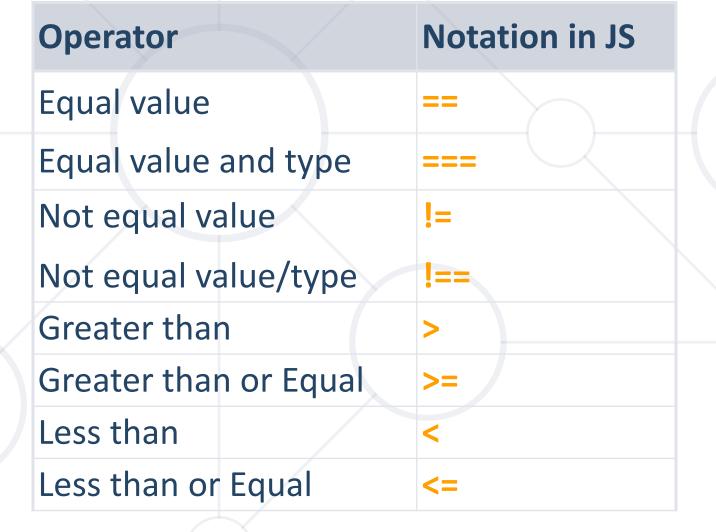
```
console.log(1 == '1'); // true
console.log(1 === '1'); // false
console.log(3 != '3'); // false
console.log(3 !== '3'); // true
console.log(5 < 5.5); // true</pre>
console.log(5 <= 4); // false</pre>
console.log(2 > 1.5); // true
console.log(2 \ge 2); // true
console.log((5 > 7) ? 4 : 10); // 10
```



Ternary operator

Comparison Operators







Comparison Operators



Values can be compared:

```
let a = 5;
let b = 10;
console.log(a < b);</pre>
                           // true
console.log(a > 0);
                          // true
console.log(a > 100); // false
console.log(a < a);</pre>
                          // false
console.log(a <= 5);</pre>
                    // true
console.log(b == 2 * a); // true
console.log("2" === 2); // false
```

Assignment Operators

Operator



		_	x - y	X — y	
		+=	x += y	x = x + y	
		-=	x -= y	x = x - y	
< >	>	*=	x *= y	x = x * y	
		/=	x /= y	x = x / y	
		%=	x %= y	x = x % y	
		**=	x **= y	x = x ** y	

Example

Same As



What is a Conditional Statement?



- The if-else statement:
 - Do action depending on condition

```
let a = 5;
if (a >= 5) {
  console.log(a);
}
```

If the condition is met, the code will execute

You can chain conditions

```
else {
  console.log('no');
}
```

Continue on the next condition, if the first is not met



Chained Conditional Statements



■ The if / else - if / else... construct is a series of checks

```
let a = 5;
if (a > 10)
  console.log("Bigger than 10");
else if (a < 10)
  console.log("Less than 10");
                                     Only "Less than 10"
else
                                       will be printed
  console.log("Equal to 10");
```

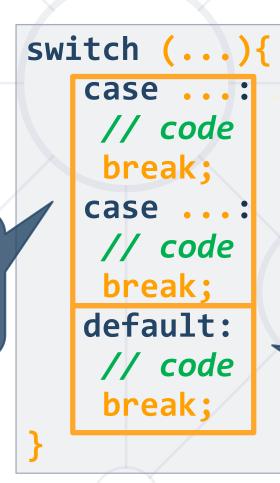
 If one condition is true, it does not proceed to verify the following conditions

The Switch-case Statement



Works as a series of if / else if / else if...

List of conditions (values) for the inspection



The condition in the switch case is a value

Code to be executed if there is no match with any case

Logical Operators



 Logical operators are used to determine the logic between variables or values. They return the value of one of the operands based on certain rules, not always just (true or false).

Operator	Description	Example
	NOT	!false -> true
&&	AND	true && false -> false
	OR	true false -> true

Logical Operators: Examples



- Logical "AND"
 - Checks the fulfillment of several conditions simultaneously

```
let a = 3;
let b = -2;
console.log(a > 0 && b > 0); // expected output: false
```

- Logical "OR"
 - Checks that at least one of several conditions is met

```
let a = 3;
let b = -2;
console.log(a > 0 | b > 0); // expected output: true
```

Logical Operators: Examples



- Logical "NOT"
 - Checks if a condition is not met

```
let a = 3;
let b = -2;
console.log(!(a > 0 || b > 0));
// expected output: false
```

Typeof Operator



 The typeof operator returns a string indicating the type of an operand



```
const val = 5;
console.log(typeof val); // number

const str = 'hello';
console.log(typeof str); // string

const obj = {name: 'Maria', age:18};
console.log(typeof obj); // object
```

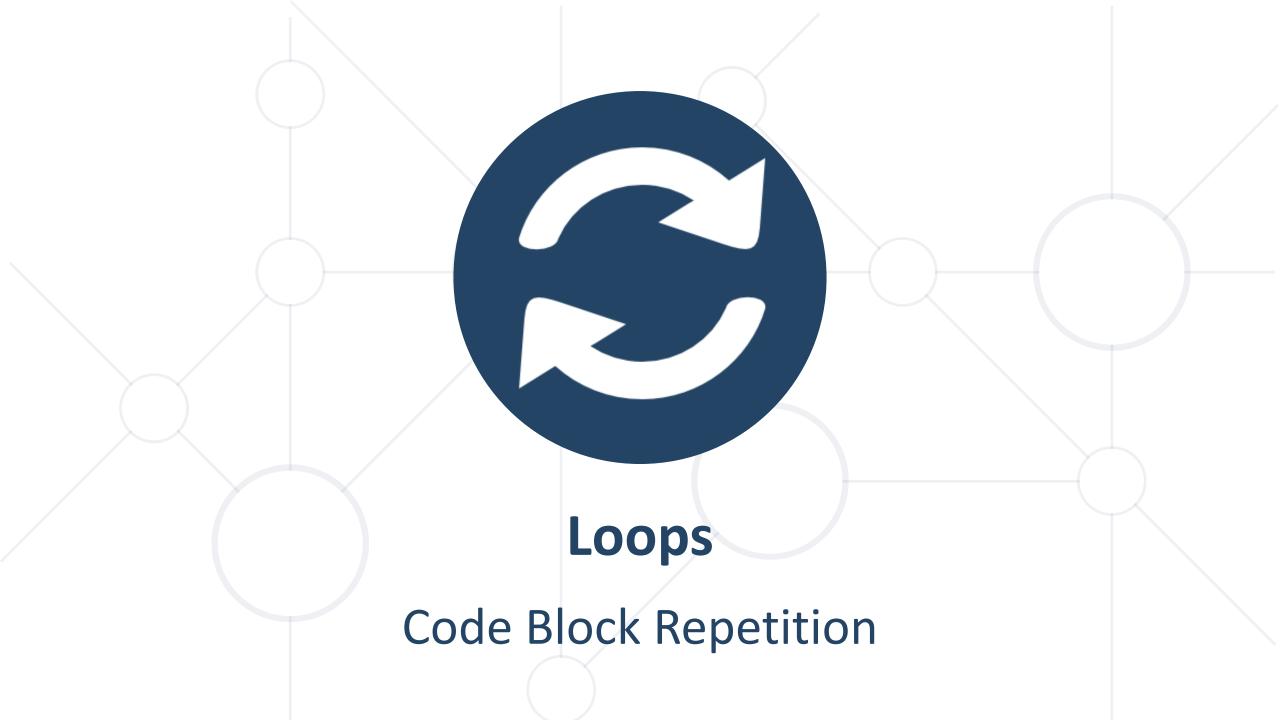
Truthy and Falsy Values



- "truthy" a value that coerces to true when evaluated in a boolean context
- The following values are "falsy" false, null, undefined, NaN, 0, 0n and ""

```
function logTruthiness (val) {
   if (val) {
      console.log("Truthy!");
   } else {
      console.log("Falsy.");
   }
}
```

```
logTruthiness (3.14);
                           //Truthy!
logTruthiness ({});
                           //Truthy!
logTruthiness (NaN);
                           //Falsy.
logTruthiness ("NaN");
                           //Truthy!
logTruthiness ([]);
                           //Truthy!
logTruthiness (null);
                           //Falsy.
logTruthiness ("");
                           //Falsy.
logTruthiness (undefined); //Falsy.
logTruthiness (∅);
                           //Falsy.
```



What is a Loop?



- The for loop:
 - Repeats until the condition is evaluated

```
for (let i = 1; i <= 5; i++){
  console.log(i)
}</pre>
```

Incrementation in the condition

- The while loop:
 - Does the same, but has different structure

```
let i = 1
while (i <= 5) {
  console.log(i)
  i++
}</pre>
```

Incrementation outside the condition

Undefined Null

Undefined and Null

Non-Existent and Empty

Undefined



A variable without a value has the value undefined.
 The typeof is also undefined

```
let car; // Value is undefined, type is undefined
```

 A variable can be emptied, by setting the value to undefined. The type will also be undefined

```
let car = undefined;
// Value is undefined, type is undefined
```



Null



• Null is "nothing". It is supposed to be something that doesn't exist.

The typeof null is an object

```
let person = {
  firstName:"John",
  lastName:"Doe",
  age:50
person = null;
console.log(person);
                             // null
console.log(typeof(person)); // object
```

Null and Undefined



- Null is an assigned value. It means nothing
- Undefined typically means a variable has been declared but not defined yet
- Null and Undefined are falsy values
- Undefined and Null are equal in value but different in type:

```
null !== undefined // true
null == undefined // true
```



Debugging Techniques

Strict Mode, IDE Debugging Tools

Strict Mode



- Strict mode limits certain "sloppy" language features
 - Silent errors will throw Exception instead

```
'use strict';  // File-Level
mistypeVariable = 17; // ReferenceError

function strict() {
    'use strict';  // Function-Level
    mistypeVariable = 17;
}
```

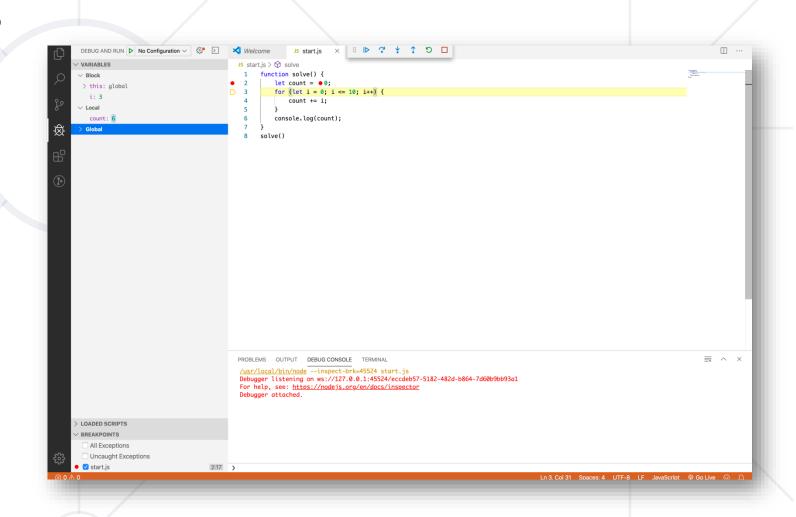
Enabled by default in modules



Debugging in Visual Studio Code



- Visual Studio Code has a built-in debugger
- It provides:
 - Breakpoints
 - Ability to trace the code execution
 - Ability to inspect variables at runtime



Using the Debugger in Visual Studio Code



- Start without Debugger: [Ctrl+F5]
- Start with Debugger: [F5]
- Toggle a breakpoint: [F9]
- Trace step by step: [F10]
- Force step into: [F11]

Summary



- JS is a high-level programming language
- Conditional statement If-else, Switch-case
- Loops For-loop, While-loop
- Data Types
 - String, Number, Boolean, Null, Undefined





Questions?



















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