TypeScript



TypeScript

TypeScript is JavaScript with syntax for types.

TypeScript is a strongly typed programming language that builds on JavaScript, giving you better tooling at any scale

Previous Tag-Lines on the project page:

- JavaScript that scales!
- TypeScript is a language for application-scale JavaScript development.

TypeScript is very Popular

Loved by Developers

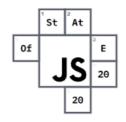


Rust **TypeScript** Python



Voted **2nd most loved programming language** in the

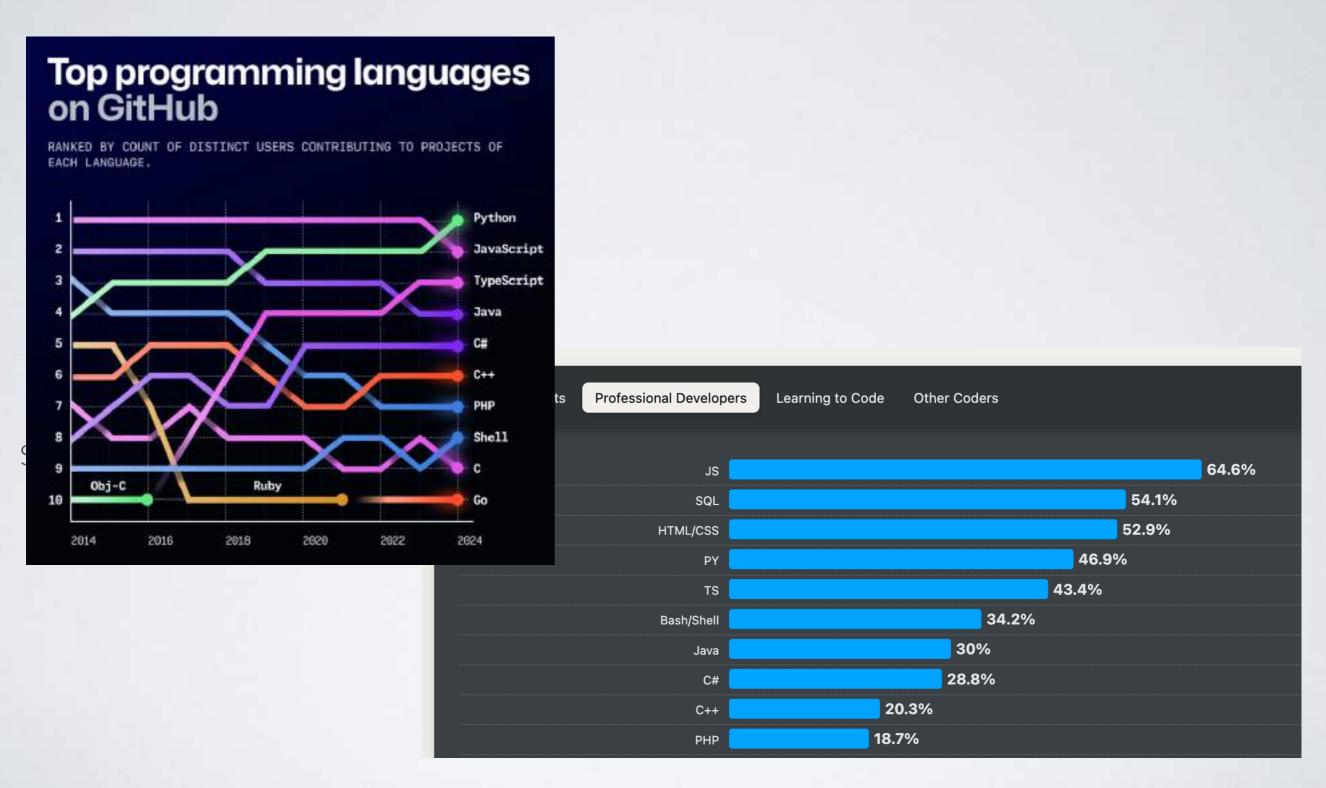
<u>Stack Overflow 2020 Developer</u>
<u>survey</u>



TypeScript was **used by 78%** of the <u>2020</u> <u>State of JS</u> respondents, with **93% saying they would use it again**.

TypeScript was given the award for "Most Adopted Technology" based on year-on-year growth.

The Rise of TypeScript



The History of TypeScript



The Story of TypeScript (6:26) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUIM3wx5460



TypeScript Origins: The Documentary (1:21:35)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6s2pdxebSo

TypeScript and the dawn of gradual types: https://github.com/readme/featured/typescript-gradual-types

There are Alternatives ...







https://www.purescript.org/



... but none of them has the momentum of TypeScript.

Developer platforms get better at a rate proportional to the number of developers using them.

Geoff Schmidt, JavaScript State of the Union 2015 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8G2SMVIUNNk

ECMAScript Versions

- JavaScript: Initial Release in Netscape 2, 1995
- ECMAScript 1: 1997
- ECMAScript 2: 1998
- ECMAScript 3: 1999
- ECMAScript 4: abandoned
- ECMAScript 5: 2009
- ECMAScript 2015: 2015
- ECMAScript 2016
- ECMAScript 2017
- •
- ECMAScript 2024
- ECMAScript 2025



JavaScript was never engineered for large applications. It was intended for 100-1000 lines of codes.

Today we build apps with millions of lines of code. Very large JavaScript code bases tend to become "read-only".

- Anders Hejlsberg, Build 2016

Why TypeScript?







TypeScript and the dawn of gradual types: https://github.com/readme/featured/typescript-gradual-types

Gradual Typing: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gradual_typing

ECMAScript Proposal (2022): type annotations https://github.com/tc39/proposal-type-annotations



...

I love TypeScript. It keeps me from coding too fast.

4:32 PM · Feb 19, 2021 · Twitter Web App

118 Retweets

23 Quote Tweets

1,615 Likes











David K. Feb 19

Replying to @DavidKPiano

JavaScript = move fast and break things

TypeScript = move slow and prevent things from breaking



15



33



280





Kent C. Dodds



@kentcdodds

"TypeScript isn't making your life worse. It's just showing you how bad your life already is"

— Me, in a workshop right now explaining how annoying form elements are to get actual runtime safety.

TypeScript is "abstract"!

You can't "fix" a bug with TypeScript!

```
interface Person {
  firstName: string;
  movies: string[];
async function fetchLuke(): Promise<Person> {
  const lukeResponse = await fetch(`https://swapi.info/api/people/1`);
  const luke = await lukeResponse.json() as Person;
  return luke
async function main() {
  console.log("Starting ...");
  const luke = await fetchLuke();
  // 🗱 KABOOM! - the following line throws a TypeError at runtime
  console.log(`Luke appears in ${luke.movies.length} movies.`);
main();
```

But correctly used TypeScript does prevent bugs ...

...

If you lie to TypeScript, TypeScript will lie to you.

7:23 PM · Aug 24, 2021 · Twitter Web App

https://twitter.com/donavon/status/1430219301500358658

```
using axios with TypeScript

const data = await axios.get<Person>(BACKEND_URL);

using ky with TypeScript

const data = await ky.get(BACKEND URL).json<Person>();
```

```
interface Person {
  firstName: string;
  lastName: string;
}
```

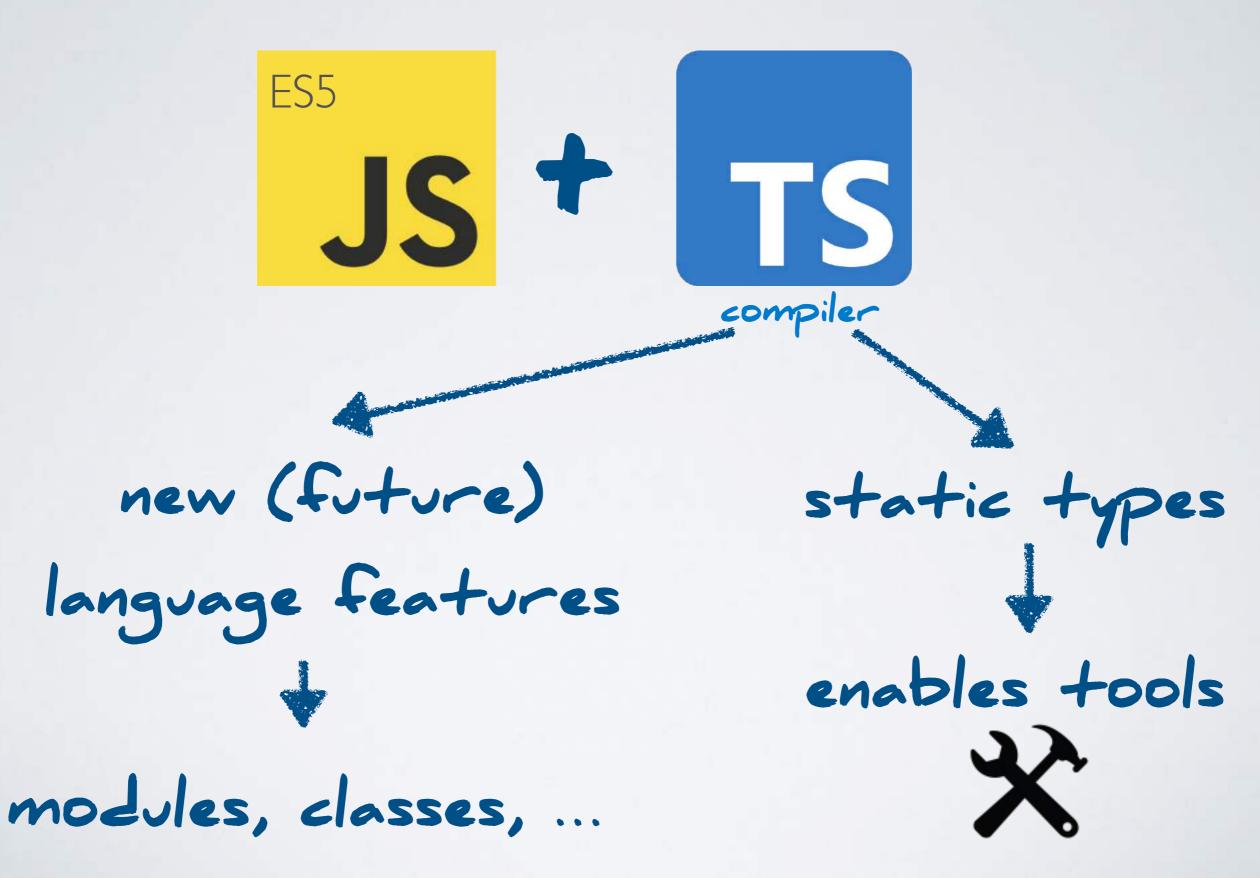
using Angular HttpClient

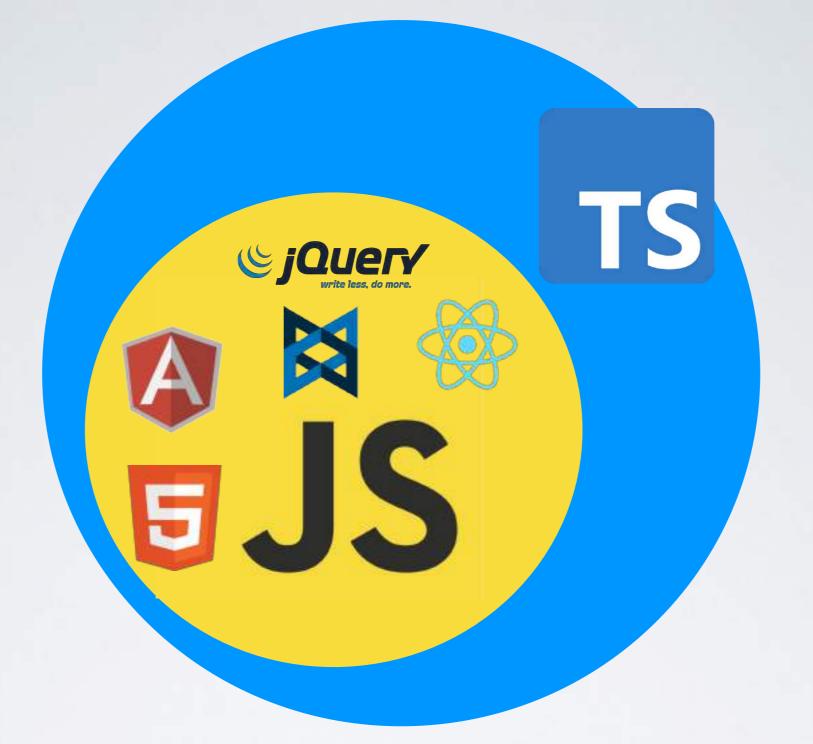
```
fetchData(): Observable<Person> {
  return this.http.get<Person>(BACKEND_URL);
}
```

The type information is only for the TypeScript compiler at build time. At runtime there is no guarantee or check that the network call really returns objects of the specified type.

You should only use interface or type as type arguments for backend access (not class).

The Goal of TypeScript in 2012





"TypeScript is a superset of JavaScript."

Any valid JavaScript (theoretically) is valid TypeScript. But TypeScript adds syntax for types, which is not valid JavaScript.

"TypeScript is a subset of JavaScript."

TypeScript throws buid-time errors for valid JavaScript, constraining the "flexibility" of JavaScript.

TS is a superset of JS. Start with your existing JS and "enhance" it ...

It starts with JavaScript.

It ends with JavaScript.

After transpilation it's pure JS again. At runtime there is nothing left of TS!

TypeScript "Compilation"

At runtime TypeScript is just JavaScript.

Type information is stripped before runtime, typically at build-time.

TypeScript becomes JavaScript via the delete key.

```
type Result = "pass" | "fail"

function verify(result: Result) {
  if (result == "pass") {
    console.log("Passed")
  } else {
    console.log("Failed")
  }
}
```

```
type Result = "pass" | "fail"

function verify(result: Result) {
  if (result == "pass") {
    console.log("Passed")
  } else {
    console.log("Failed")
  }
}
```

```
function verify(result) {
  if (result == "pass") {
    console.log("Passed")
  } else {
    console.log("Failed")
  }
}
```

TypeScript file.

Types are removed.

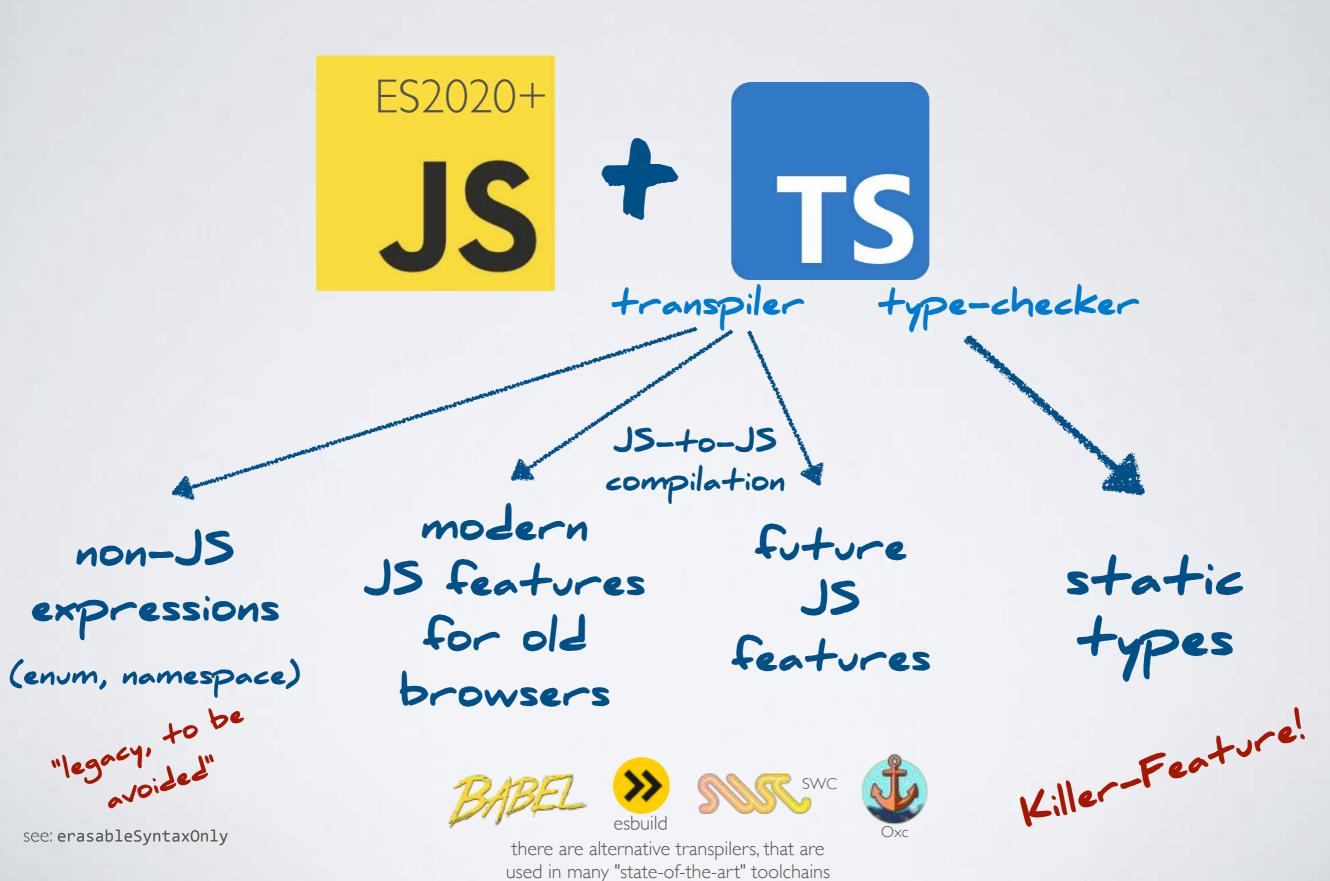
JavaScript file.

TypeScript Today

- ... is a compiler that provides modern (ES2015+) language features for older Browsers
- ... is a compiler that provides some future ESnext language features (i.e. decorators, **using** declarations ...)
- ... is a compiler that adds an optional static type system on top of JavaScript.
- ... is also compiler that provides a few constructs that are not available in JavaScript (enums, namespaces) however today it is "good practice" not to use these.
 - Since TypesScript 5.8 this can be switched of with erasableSyntaxOnly: true



TypeScript Today



TypeScript is currently rewritten in Go

(announced March 2025)

https://devblogs.microsoft.com/typescript/typescript-native-port/

Expectations:

- The TypeScript compilation step in the build pipeline becomes 10x faster
- The "IDE experience" will become 10x faster
- You code does not have to change

Try it: https://github.com/microsoft/typescript-go

TypeScript Design Goals

https://github.com/Microsoft/TypeScript/wiki/TypeScript-Design-Goals

Impose no runtime overhead on emitted programs.

Align with current and future ECMAScript proposals.

Preserve runtime behavior of all JavaScript code.

Avoid adding expression-level syntax.

Use a consistent, fully erasable, structural type system.

Consequences:

- integrating existing JavaScript is easy.
- migrating from JavaScript is easy.
- You can't be proficient in TypeScript without (deep) knowlege of JavaScript!



There can be only one ...

JavaScript VS TypeScript: Which is better? (2020 Updated)



Infinijith Apps & Technologies Mar 10, 2020 + 6 min read



Is JavaScript Becoming

TypeScript?

What might the future hold in store?





A Post-Mortem in 5 Acts, of How Microsoft Privatized Open Source, killing JavaScript in the Process

After Microsoft's blitzkrieg take-over, the Open Source JavaScript community, as we know it, is coming to an end.







It is TypeScript with JavaScript ...

... not TypeScript versus JavaScript!
... but TypeScript on top of JavaScript



A bet on TypeScript is a bet on JavaScript!

TypeScript and JavaScript are allies in trying to make cool things in JavaScript.

The TypeScript team doesn't want to be in-front of JavaScript development but to let JS lead and TS follow.

- Orta Therox from the TypeScript team https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gm49TyMUPI

We don't see it as our job to add new features in the core language. We closely track ECMA Script. We innovate in the type system, which is a "development-time-only-thing".



TypeScript is purely a build-time construct.

The TypeScript compiler ensures type safety for all the code it "sees" at compile time.

If your program interacts with code the TypeScript compiler can't see, like

- network
- local storage
- 3rd party libraries

... then you have the untyped behavior of JavaScript.

The type system of TypeScript is optional. Programmers can always "opt out" and work with untyped JavaScript.



Myth: Angular is the best choice if I want to use TypeScript.

TypeScript sees itself as the Switzerland for JavaScript Frameworks

- Anders Hejlsberg, TypeScript: Static types for JavaScript

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ET4kT88JRXs



Angular is written in TypeScript and the whole Angular ecosystem and its community has fully embraced TypeScript.

But Angular versions have a tighter coupling to TypeScript versions than other frameworks: https://angular.dev/reference/versions#actively-supported-versions



TypeScript support is especially strong for React, since React does not have it's own templating "language". JSX is directly supported by TypeScript in a typesafe way.



Vue 3 was a full rewrite in TypeScript
One of the goals was to provide better support for TypeScript projects.



The Challenge of TypeScript

The start is easy:

Component(f

```
export type Todo = {
      id: number;
      title: string;
       completed: boolean;
5
     const todoItem: Todo = {
       id: 1234, title: 'Buy milk', completed: false
9
    }
10
     const todoItem2 = {
12
      id: 5, title: 'Go to gym', completed: false
13
   1
14
15 const todos: Todo[] = [todoItem, todoItem2];
```

... but it can become quite complex:

```
export type OmitK<T, K> = Pick<T, Exclude<keyof T, K>>;

export interface BiBaseEvent {
    msgId: string;
    src: number;
    hosting: string;
}

export type BiBaseParams<T extends BiBaseEvent> = Omit<T, 'src' | 'hosting'> & { viewMode: string };

export interface BaseComponentProps {
    id: string;
    disabled: boolean;
    className?: string;
    onClick?: (id: string, event: React.MouseEvent<HTMLButtonElement>) => void;
}
```

https://medium.com/swlh/understanding-the-weird-parts-of-typescript-20c0fe26d314

```
Argument of type '(((control: AbstractControl) -> { [key: string]: boolean; }) | ((control:
tamplatabri: 'signup.component.html'. AbstractControl) -> { [...' is not assignable to parameter of type 'ValidatorFn[]'.
directives: [REACTIVE_FORM_DIRECTIVES, Type '((control: AbstractControl) => ( [key: string]: boolean; ]) | ((control: AbstractControl) => (
providers: [AuthenticationService] [k...' is not assignable to type 'ValidatorFn'.
                                         Type '(control: AbstractControl) -> { [key: string]: boolean; }' is not assignable to type
xport class SignupComponent implements Validatorfn'.
                                            Types of parameters 'control' and 'c' are incompatible.
                                              Type "AbstractControl' is not assignable to type 'AbstractControl'.
signupForm: Forwaroup:
submittee = false;
                                                Types of property 'validator' are incompatible.
                                                  Type 'Validatorfn' is not assignable to type 'Validatorfn'.
errorMessage: string.
                                                    Types of parameters 'c' and 'c' are incompatible.
accountlypes: Selectitem[];
                                                      Type 'AbstractControl' is not assignable to type 'AbstractControl'.
selectedType: iny;
                                                        Types of property 'validator' are incompatible.
constructor(public router:Router, priv
                                                          Type "ValidatorFn" is not assignable to type "ValidatorFn".
  this accountTypes = [];
                                                            Types of parameters 'c' and 'c' are incompatible.
  this accountTypes.push({label: 'Indl
                                                              Type 'AbstractControl' is not assignable to type 'AbstractControl'.
  thl:.accountTypes.push((label: 'Orgo (method) ValidationService.emailValidator(control: AbstractControl): {
                                          [key: string]: boolean;
  this signupForm = this fb.group({
     'enall' : ['', Validators.compose([Validators.required, ValidationService.emailValidator])].
     'usercome' : ['', Validators.compose([Validators.required, Validators.minLength(6)])],
```

```
[ts]
Argument of type '{ declarations: (typeof ConversationPage)[];
imports: (ModuleWithProviders | typeof moment)[]; en...' is no
t assignable to parameter of type 'NgModule'.
   Types of property 'imports' are incompatible.
    Type '(ModuleWithProviders | typeof moment)[]' is not assignable to type '(any[] | Type<any> | ModuleWithProviders)[]'.
    Type 'ModuleWithProviders | typeof moment' is not assignable to type 'any[] | Type<any> | ModuleWithProviders'.
    Type 'typeof moment' is not assignable to type 'any[] |
Type<any> | ModuleWithProviders'.
    Type 'typeof moment' is not assignable to type 'ModuleWithProviders'.
```

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/51081676/not-able-to-use-moment-mini-ts-lib



* wife flies to DC for the week *

Expectation: "Tons of free time. Gonna catch up on some reading. Gonna catch up on some TV 37"

Reality:

```
type TuplesOverlapPerfectly<T, U> = T extends []
  ? true
  : U extends []
  ? true
 : T extends [infer THead, ...infer TRest]
 7 U extends [infer UHead, ...infer URest]
    ? UHead extends Thead
      ? Thead extends Uhead
        ? TuplesOverlapPerfectly<TRest, URest>
        : false
      : false
    : false
  : false:
type TupleOneIsLongerOrEqual<T, U> = U extends []
  ? true
  : T extends []
  7 false
 : T extends [infer _, ...infer TRest]
 ? U extends [infer _, ...infer URest]
    ? TupleOneIsLongerOrEqual<TRest, URest>
    : never
  : never;
type GetBroaderTuple<T, U> = TuplesOverlapPerfectly<T, U> extends true
 ? TupleOneIsLongerOrEqual<T, U> extends true
    ? T
    : U
                                          DHH 🤣 🞛 @dhh · May 9
  : never;
```

Never seen a better ad for ditching TypeScript. You don't have to live like this!!

TypeScript

Project Setup

Global installation points and install -g typescript

Local installation:

npm init -y

npm install -D typescript

Configuration:

npx tsc --init

edit tsconfig.json

Usage:

run via: npx tsc or via npm script: tsc

(modern frontend templates are setting up TypeScript, so typically you don't have to do this manually today)

tsconfig setup

The TypeScript compiler is configured in tsconfig.json

```
"compilerOptions": {
    "strict": true,
        "noImplicitOverride": true,
        "noPropertyAccessFromIndexSignature": true,
        "noImplicitReturns": true,
        "noFallthroughCasesInSwitch": true,
        "skipLibCheck": true,
        "isolatedModules": true,
        "experimentalDecorators": true,
        "importHelpers": true,
        "target": "ES2022",
        "module": "preserve"
}
```

(example generated by Angular CLI v20)

Special mention: erasableSyntaxOnly

https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/release-notes/typescript-5-8.html#the---erasablesyntaxonly-option

Type System Features

- Zero Cost: Static types only during development time, no effect at runtime
- Type inference
- Gradual typing
- Configurable type checking

Using Basic Types

Types are an optional, opt-in feature in TypeScript.

Basic Types:

```
let b:boolean = true;
let n:number = 42;
let s:string = 'Hello!';
let a1: number[] = [1,2,3];
let a2:Array<string> = ['Hello','World', '!'];
enum ArrowDirection { Up, Down, Left, Right}
let e: ArrowDirection = ArrowDirection.Up;
```

Basic type checking:

```
let x:string = 'Hello World';
x = 42; // => compiler error
```

Type inference:

```
let x = 'Hello World'; // the type of x is 'string'
x = 42; // => compiler error
```

The compiler will infer types if possible. It's considered a 'good style' to omit type annotations if they can be derived.

Built-In Types

TypeScript has built-in support for JavaScript types:

```
[1,2,3,4].reduce(
     (\underline{acc} : \{sum: number\}, \underline{e} : number) => {
          return {sum: acc.sum + e}
     }, {sum: 0});
```

TypeScript has built-in support for browser APIs:

```
document.addEventListener(type: 'keydown', listener: function(event: KeyboardEvent) {
  console.log(event.clientX, event.clientY);
});
document.querySelector<HTMLDivElement>('#app')!.innerHtml = '';
                         TS2551: Property 'innerHtml' does not exist on type 'HTMLDivElement'. Did you mean 'innerHTML'?
                         lib.dom.d.ts(9130, 5): 'innerHTML' is declared here.
                         Rename reference \\O ← More actions... \\O
```

Installing 3rd-Party Type Definitions

Some libraries are not written in TypeScript.

Their type definitions can still be available via npm:

npm install @types/jquery

(@types is called a "scope" in npm)

The type definitions are maintained in the Definitely Typed repository:

- https://github.com/DefinitelyTyped/DefinitelyTyped/tree/master/types
- https://definitelytyped.org/

Advanced Types

Union Types:

```
let pet: IBird | IFish = {fly(){}, layEggs(){}};
pet = new Fish();
```

Intersection Types:

```
let flyingFish: IFish & IBird = {swim(){}, fly(){}, layEggs(){}};
flyingFish.swim();
```

Type Guards:

```
(pet as IFish).swim();
(<IFish>pet).swim();
if (pet instanceof Fish){
   pet.swim();
}
```

User defined type-guards:

```
function isFish(pet: Fish | Bird): pet is Fish {
  return (pet as any).swim !== undefined;
}

if (isFish(pet)) {
  pet.swim();
} else {
  pet.fly();
}
```

any Type

Types are optional. TypeScript allows you to to gradually opt-in and opt-out of type-checking during compilation.

```
let v: any = 42;
v = 'Hello!'; // anything can be assigned to v
let n:number = 43;
n = v; // v can be assigned to anything!!!
```

Variables have the implicit type any if TypeScript does not know it's type.

Typing can be enforced by setting noImplicitAny: true in tsconfig.json

never & unknown Types

Some functions *never* return a value:

```
function fail(msg: string): never {
  throw new Error(msg);
}
```

The unknown type represents any value. But it is not legal to do anything with an unknown value:

```
function f1(a: any) {
  a.b(); // OK
}
function f2(a: unknown) {
  a.b(); //ERROR: Object is of type 'unknown'.
}
```

Type Narrowing

```
function padLeft(padding: number | string, input: string): string {
  if (typeof padding === "number") {
    return " ".repeat(padding) + input; // -> padding is of type "number"
  }
  return padding + input; // -> padding is of type "string"
}
```

There are many mechanisms how TypeScript performs type narrowing:

https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/2/narrowing.html

```
function isFish(pet: Fish | Bird): pet is Fish {
  return (pet as Fish).swim !== undefined;
}
```

Function Types

A function has a type defined by its signature

```
let operation: string = 'add';
let mathFunc: (x: number, y:number) => number;
function add(x: number, y:number) : number {
 return x + y;
const subtract = (x: number, y:number):number => x - y;
if (operation === 'add')
 mathFunc = add;
else
 mathFunc = subtract;
console.log(mathFunc(4,2))
```

See also: https://kentcdodds.com/blog/typescript-function-syntaxes

Note: functions with fewer parameters are assignable to functions that take more parameters. https://github.com/Microsoft/TypeScript/wiki/FAQ#why-are-functions-with-fewer-parameters-assignable-to-functions-that-take-more-parameters

Function Overloads In my experiance a feature that is rarely used / useful. signatures // declaration function doIt(): number; 4 function doIt(arg1: number): number; \(\psi \) function doIt(arg1: number, arg2: string): number; function doIt(arg1?: number, arg2?: string): number { return 42; implementation // usage options doIt(); doIt(44);

The implementation signature must be compatible to all overlaod signatures.

doIt(44, 'test');

Classes & Interfaces

With classes & interfaces we can create custom types in TypeScript

```
interface IPerson {
    name: string,
class Person implements IPerson {
    name: string = 'Tyler';
    private age: number = 42;
    getInfo() {
        console.log(this.name); // inspect `this`
        return this.name + this.age;
    }
const p1: IPerson = new Person();
const p2: Person = new Person();
```

Interfaces are a pure build-time construct. They are not present at runtime!

TypeScript Classes

Differences to JavaScript classes:

(properties declared in constructor signature Note: not supported with erasableSyntaxOnly) class Car { private distanceDriven: number = 0; constructor(private engine: Engine){} drive(): number { this.engine.start(); this.increaseDistance(1); type anotations return this.distance; (optional) private increaseDistance(amount: number): void { this.distanceDriven + amount;

parameter property

modifiers (private, public,

protected)
(optional, default is public)

The Structural Type System

The structure of an objects defines the compatiblity with a type, the object does not have to be explicitly declaread as a type (aka. "Duck Typing")

```
interface IPerson {
    name: string,
    age: number
}

const p3: IPerson = {
    name: 'Tyler',
    age: 42
};
```

Type Aliases

https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/advanced-types.html#type-aliases

Type Aliases give a name to a type.

Describe the shape of an object:

```
type Person = {
  firstName: string;
  lastName: string;
  greet: (message: string) => string
}
```

Name a union type:

```
type ID = number | string;
```

Enums in TypeScript

In many cases Enums are not recommended!

Use union types instead!

```
enum Status {
                              type Status = "Admin"
                                                                   "User"
                                                                                 "Moderator";
  Admin,
  User,
  Moderator,
     enum Status {
        Admin = "Admin",
        User = "User",
        Moderator = "Moderator",
                                                                var Status;
                                                                (function (Status) {
                                                                  Status["Admin"] = "Admin";
                                                     emitted
                                                                  Status["User"] = "User";
                                                                  Status["Moderator"] = "Moderator";
                                                    lavaScript
```

Note:

enums can't be used native
Node / Bun / Deno and with
erasableSyntaxOnly: true

Reason: https://fettblog.eu/tidy-typescript-avoid-enums/ More Info: https://stackoverflow.com/a/60041791/32749

In modern TypeScript, you may not need an enum when an object with as const could suffice:

https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/enums.html#objects-vs-enums

```
const ODirection = {
   Up: 0,
   Down: 1,
   Left: 2,
   Right: 3,
} as const;
type Direction = typeof ODirection[keyof typeof ODirection];
```

```
function run(dir: Direction) {}
run(ODirection.Right);
```

Types Aliases vs. Interfaces

In most cases type alias is interchangeable with an interface.

```
type Person = {
  firstName: string;
  lastName: string;
  greet: (message: string) => string
}

Special cases, not possible with interfaces:
  type Second = number;  alias for primitive type

type Status = "Admin" | "User" | "Moderator";  union types
```

A simple strategy to decide what to use: use interfaces to describe objects, use types for everything else.

Main difference: Interfaces can be defined/extended in multiple files. Types can't.

Differences: https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/2/everyday-types.html#differences-between-type-aliases-and-interfaces

TypeScript recommends to use interfaces over type aliases:

Better error messages: https://www.typescriptlang.org/play?q=378#example/types-vs-interfaces
Performance: https://www.typescriptlang.org/play?q=378#example/types-vs-interfaces

Marking values as readonly with as const

```
const obj = {
  direction: "up" as const,
  foo: {
    bar: 42,
  },
} as const;
compile error

obj.foo.bar = 43;
console.log(obj.direction);
```

```
type is "up" not string!
```

https://www.totaltypescript.com/concepts/as-consthtps://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/typescript-in-5-minutes-func.html#readonly-and-consth

Creating Types from Types

"Metaprogramming with Types"

https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/2/types-from-types.html

Example:

```
const person = {
    firstName: 'Jonas',
    age:42,
    address: {street: 42}
};
type T1 = typeof person;
type T2 = keyof typeof person;
type T4 = T1['address']['street'];
function getVal(){
    return new Promise<T1>(resolve => {
        resolve(person)
    });
type T3 = keyof Awaited<ReturnType<typeof getVal>>;
```

Crazy: TypeScript Types can run DOOM!

(game from 1993)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0mCsluv5FXA

To prove that TypeScript Types ar Turing Complete, someone implemented a TypeScript program that is running DOOM:

calling **tsc** returns a TypeScript object that represents the ASCII-Art of a Frame of DOOM.

Rendering the first frame of DOOM took running the program for 12 days with 20 million type instatiations per second ...

https://github.com/MichiganTypeScript/typescript-types-only-wasmruntime

TypeScript Decorators

Decorators are an upcoming ECMAScript feature that allow us to customize classes and their members in a reusable way.

Decorators are heavily used in Angular.

```
class Person {
    name: string;
    constructor(name: string) {
        this.name = name;
    }

    @loggedMethod
    greet() {
        console.log(`Hello, my name is ${this.name}.`);
    }
}

const p = new Person("Ron");
p.greet();
```

```
// Output:
//
// LOG: Entering method.
// Hello, my name is Ron.
// LOG: Exiting method.
```

