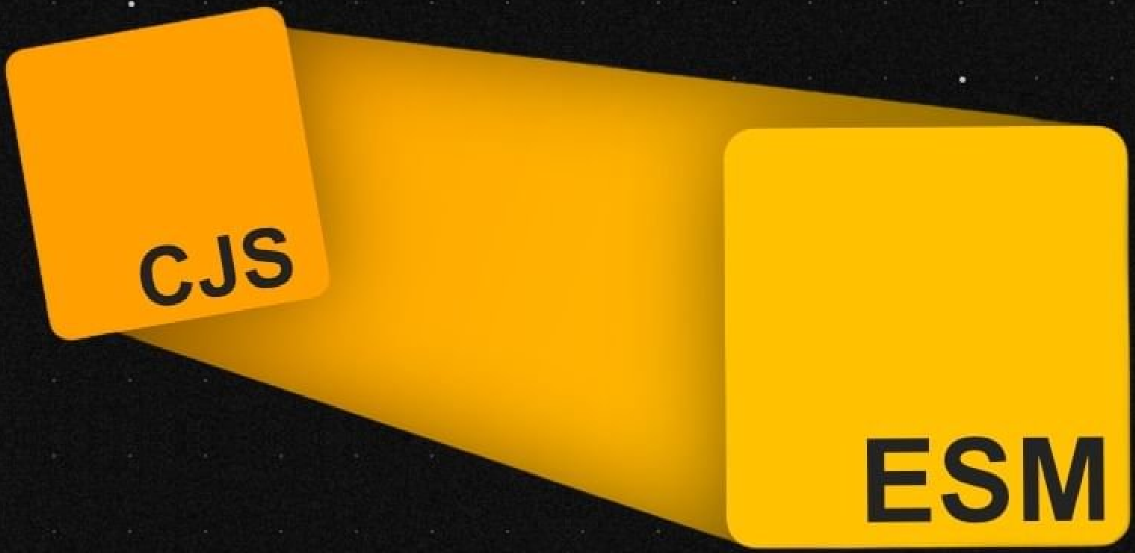
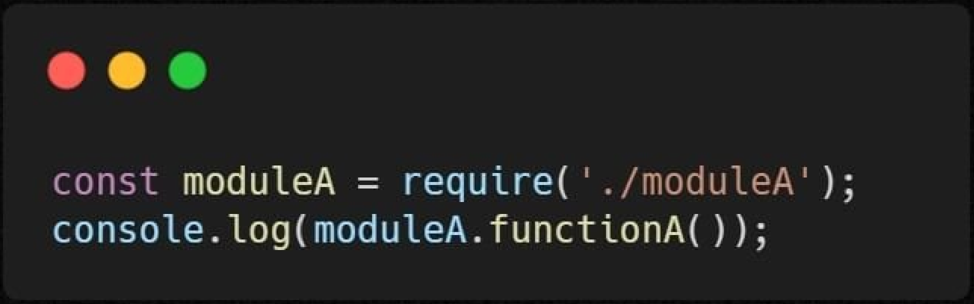
JS

ECMAScript Modules vs CommonJS



CommonJS

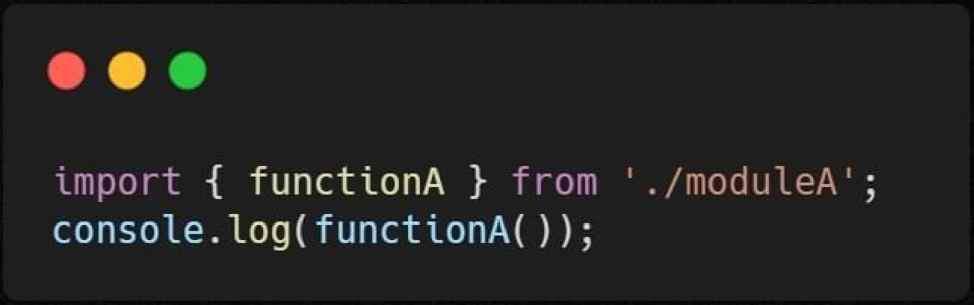
Introduced by Node.js in 2009
Uses the require function to import modules
Example:



```
const moduleA = require('./moduleA');
console.log(moduleA.functionA());
```

ECMAScript Modules (ESM)

Introduced with ES6 in 2015
Uses the import and export statements to import and export modules
Example:



```
import { functionA } from './moduleA';
console.log(functionA());
```

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Syntax

CommonJS uses require to import modules, while ESM uses import.

Support

ESM has better support in modern browsers, while CommonJS is traditionally used in Node.js environments. However, Node.js now has full support for ESM.

Importing between module systems

CommonJS modules can be imported into ESM projects, but ESM modules cannot be imported into CommonJS projects without using the asynchronous import function.

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Choosing a Module System

If you are working on a modern project that uses a bundler like Webpack, ESM is a good choice.

If you are working on a Node.js project that uses an older version of Node.js, CommonJS may be a better choice. However, Node.js now has full support for ESM, so ESM is becoming an increasingly popular option.

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