



# Automatically Deriving JavaScript Static Analyzers from Specifications using Meta-level Static Analysis

**Jihyeok Park** <sup>1</sup>, Seungmin An <sup>2</sup>, and Sukyoung Ryu <sup>2</sup>

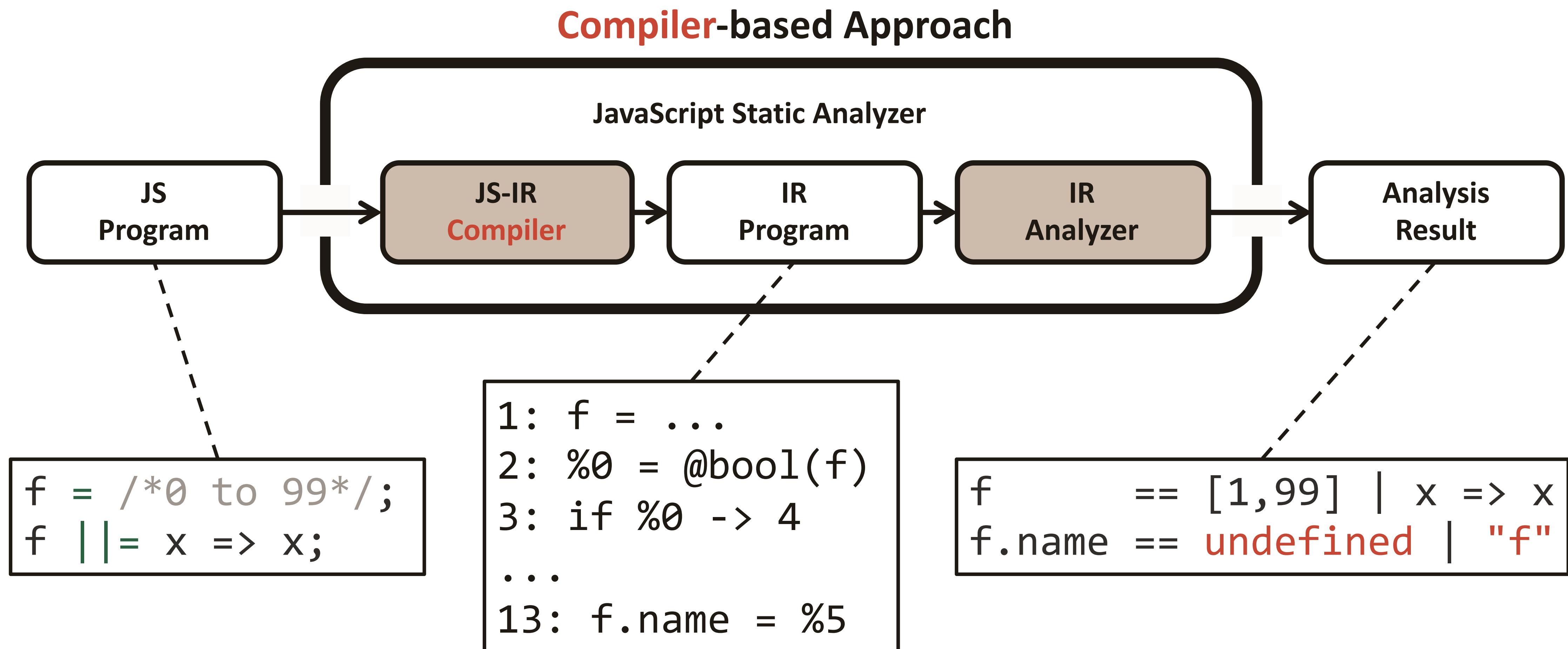
<sup>1</sup> Oracle Labs, Australia and <sup>2</sup> KAIST, South Korea

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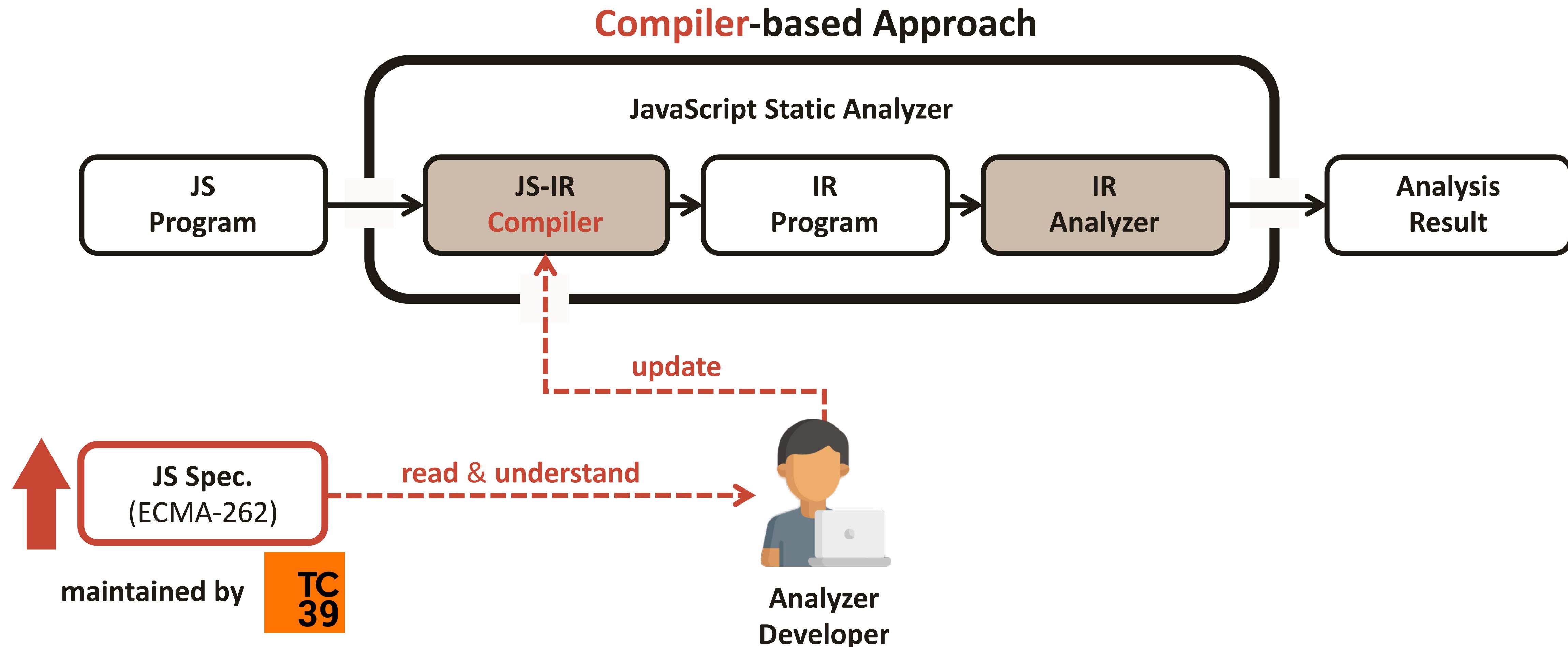
학회명: ESEC/FSE 2022

December 23, 2022

# Background - JavaScript Static Analysis



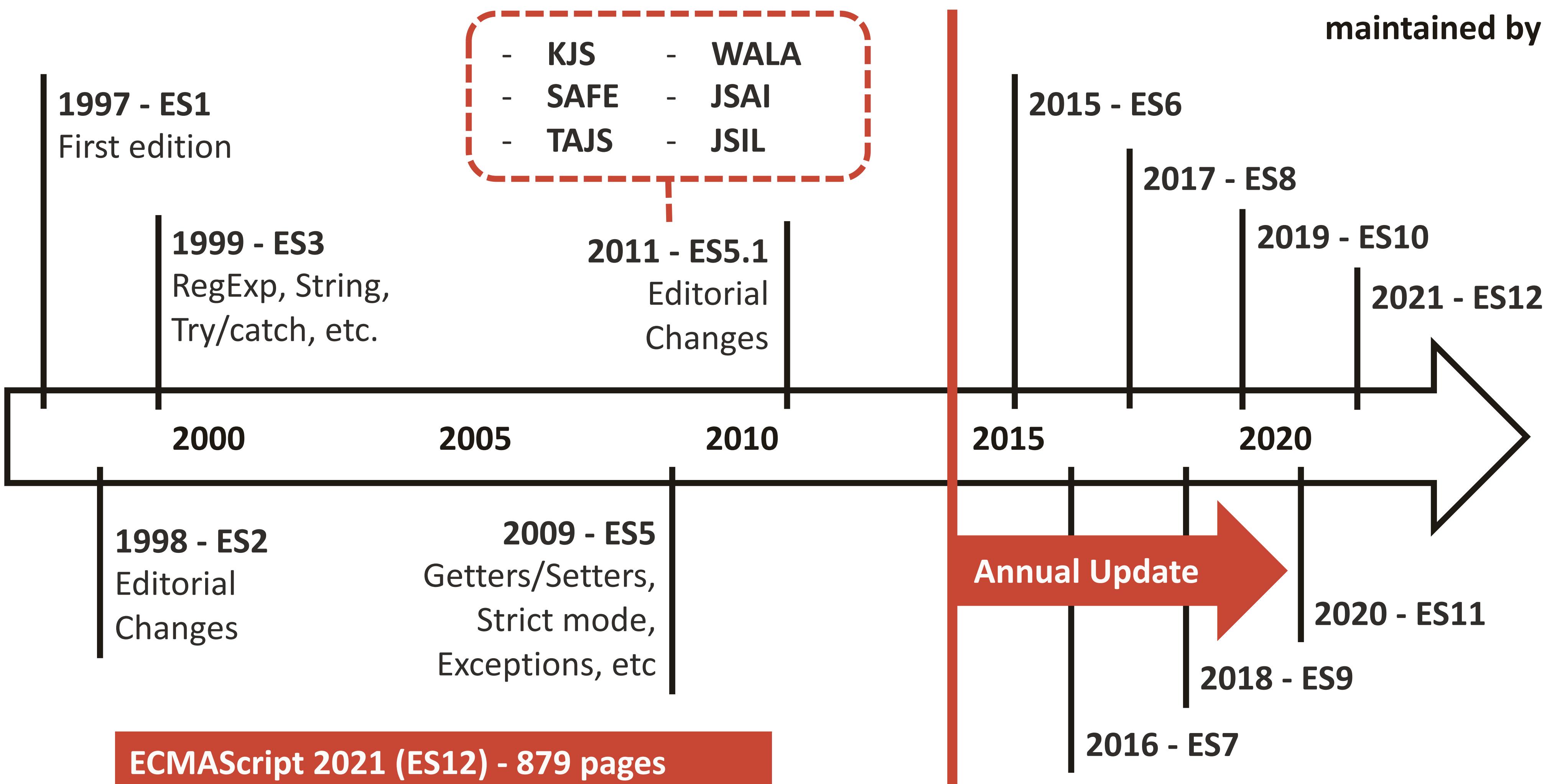
# Problem - Manual Update of JS-IR Compiler



# Problem - Fast Evolving JavaScript

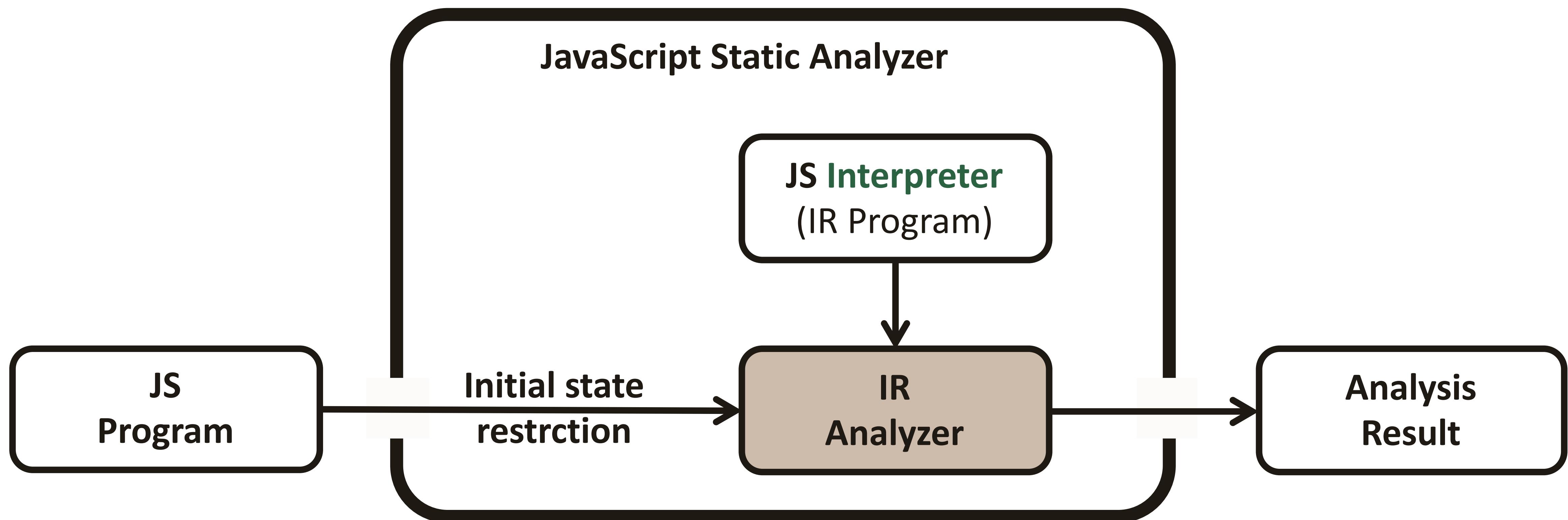
JS Spec.  
(ECMA-262)

maintained by  
**TC  
39**



# Core Idea - Meta-level Static Analysis

## Interpreter-based Approach



# Core Idea - Meta-level Static Analysis

- Why Interpreter-based Approach?
  - JavaScript specifications are written in an interpreter-based style

## 13.15.2 Runtime Semantics: Evaluation

*AssignmentExpression* : *LeftHandSideExpression*  $\mid\mid=$  *AssignmentExpression*

1. Let *lref* be the result of evaluating *LeftHandSideExpression*.
2. Let *lval* be ? *GetValue(lref)*.
3. Let *lbool* be ! *ToBoolean(lval)*.
4. If *lbool* is **true**, return *lval*.
5. If *IsAnonymousFunctionDefinition(AssignmentExpression)* is **true** and *IsIdentifierRef* of *LeftHandSideExpression* is **true**, then
  - a. Let *rval* be *NamedEvaluation* of *AssignmentExpression* with argument *lref*. $[[\text{ReferencedName}]]$ .
6. Else,
  - a. Let *rref* be the result of evaluating *AssignmentExpression*.
  - b. Let *rval* be ? *GetValue(rref)*.
7. Perform ? *PutValue(lref, rval)*.
8. Return *rval*.

Evaluation algorithm for *logical OR assignments* in **ES12 (ES2021)**

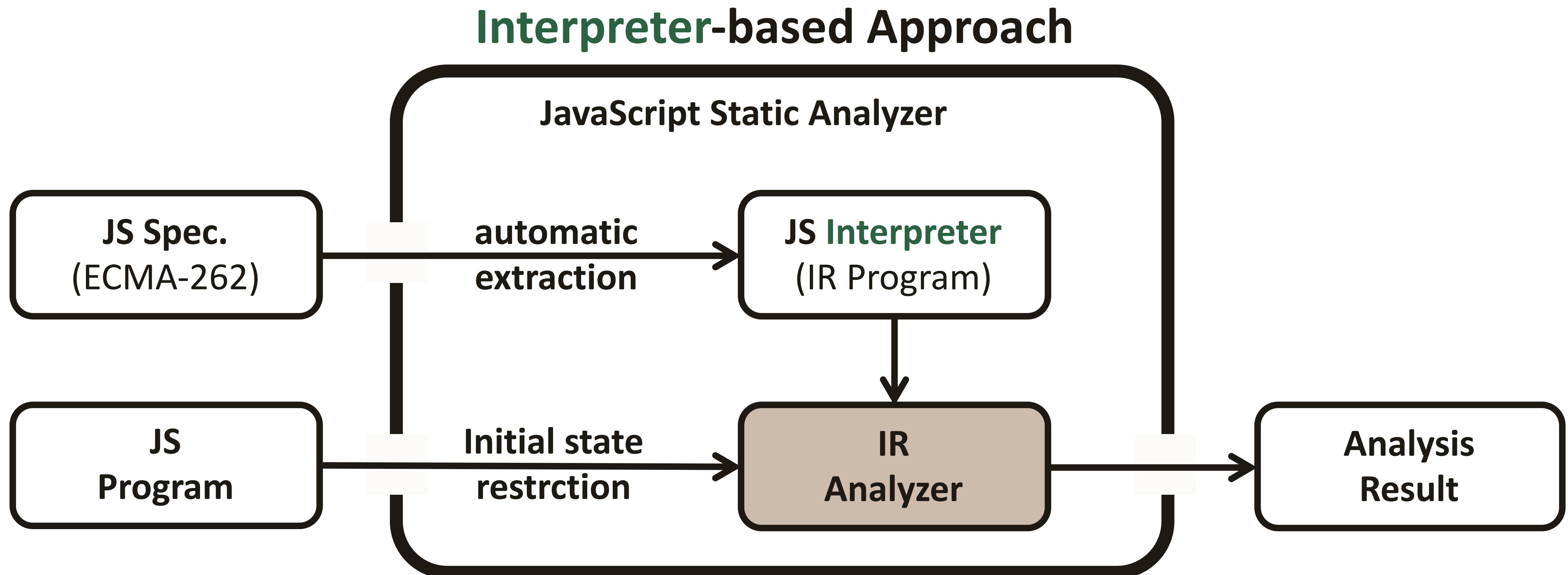
# Core Idea - Meta-level Static Analysis

- Why Interpreter-based Approach?
  - JavaScript specifications are written in an interpreter-based style
  - JISET: JavaScript IR-based Semantics Extraction (ASE 2020)
    - Extracting JavaScript definitional interpreters as **IR<sub>ES</sub> programs** from JS Lang. Spec. (ECMA-262).

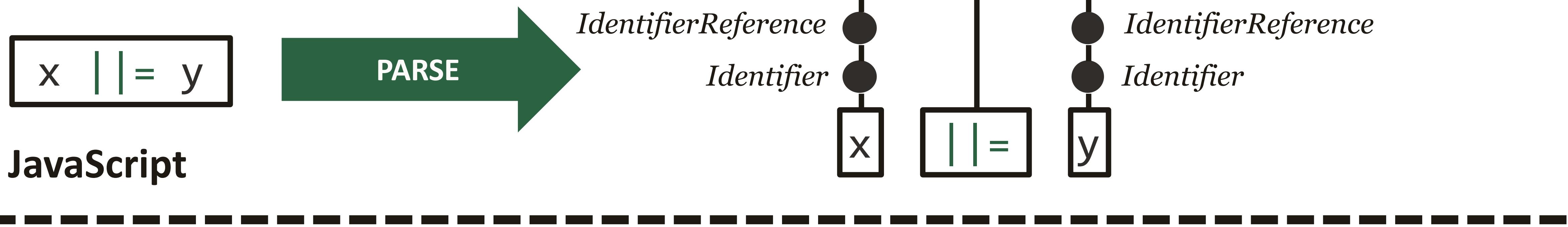
```
1 syntax def AssignmentExpression[8].Evaluation(
2   this, LeftHandSideExpression, AssignmentExpression
3 ) { /* entry */
4   let lref = (LeftHandSideExpression.Evaluation)
5   let lval = [? (GetValue lref)]
6   let lbool = [! (ToBoolean lval)] /* #1 */
7   if (= lbool true) { /* #2 */ return lval } else {} /* #3 */
8   if (&& (IsAnonymousFunctionDefinition AssignmentExpression)
9     (LeftHandSideExpression.IsIdentifierRef)) { /* #4 */
10    let rval = (AssignmentExpression.NamedEvaluation
11      lref.ReferencedName)
12  } else { /* #5 */
13    let rref = (AssignmentExpression.Evaluation)
14    let rval = [? (GetValue rref)]
15  } /* #6 */
16  [? (PutValue lref rval)]
17  return rval
18 } /* exit */
```

Extracted **IR<sub>ES</sub>** function for *logical OR assignments* via **JISET**

# Core Idea - Meta-level Static Analysis



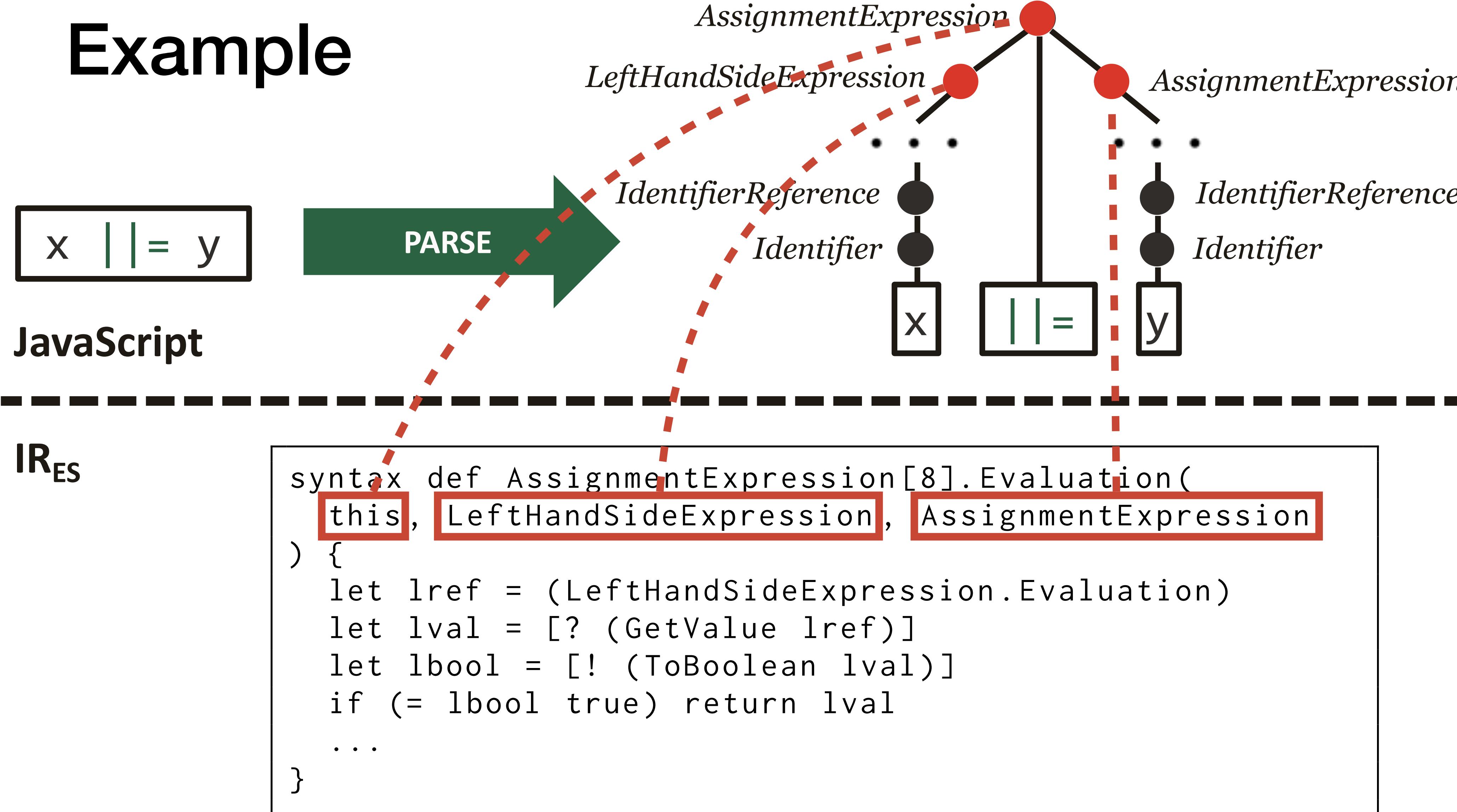
# Example



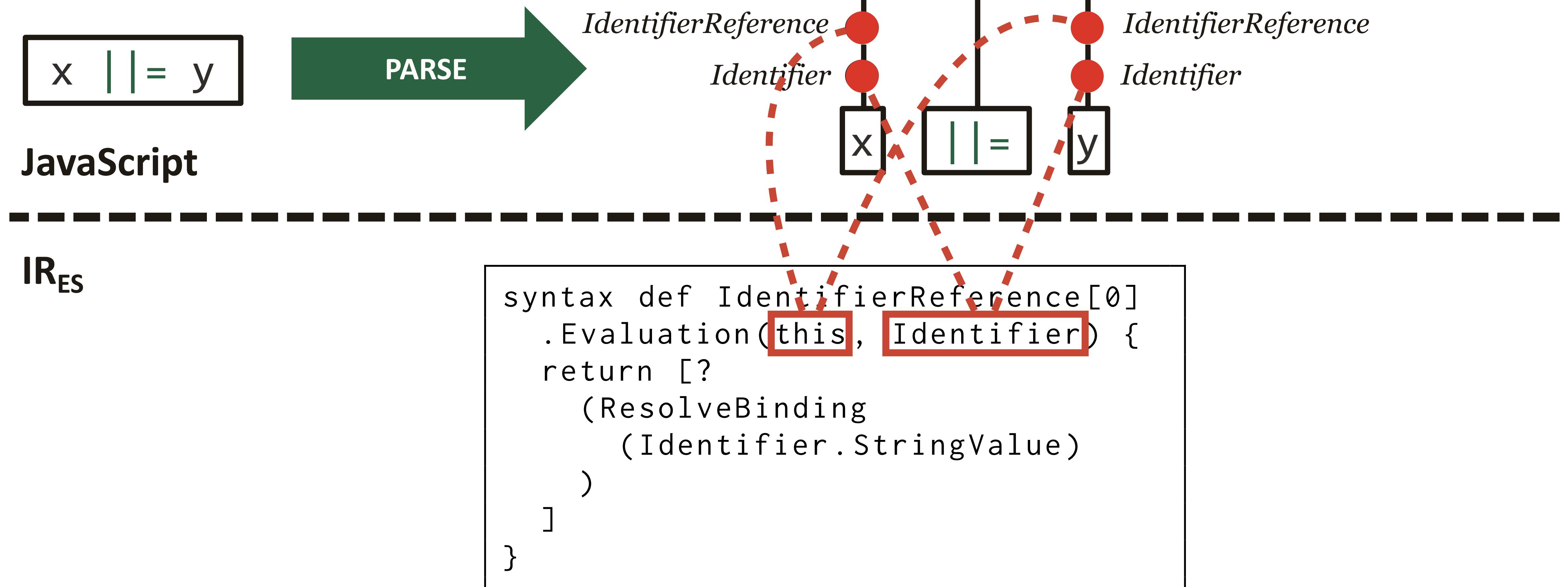
IR<sub>ES</sub>

```
syntax def AssignmentExpression[8].Evaluation(
    this, LeftHandSideExpression , AssignmentExpression
) {
    let lref = (LeftHandSideExpression.Evaluation)
    let lval = [? (GetValue lref)]
    let lbool = [! (ToBoolean lval)]
    if (= lbool true) return lval
    ...
}
```

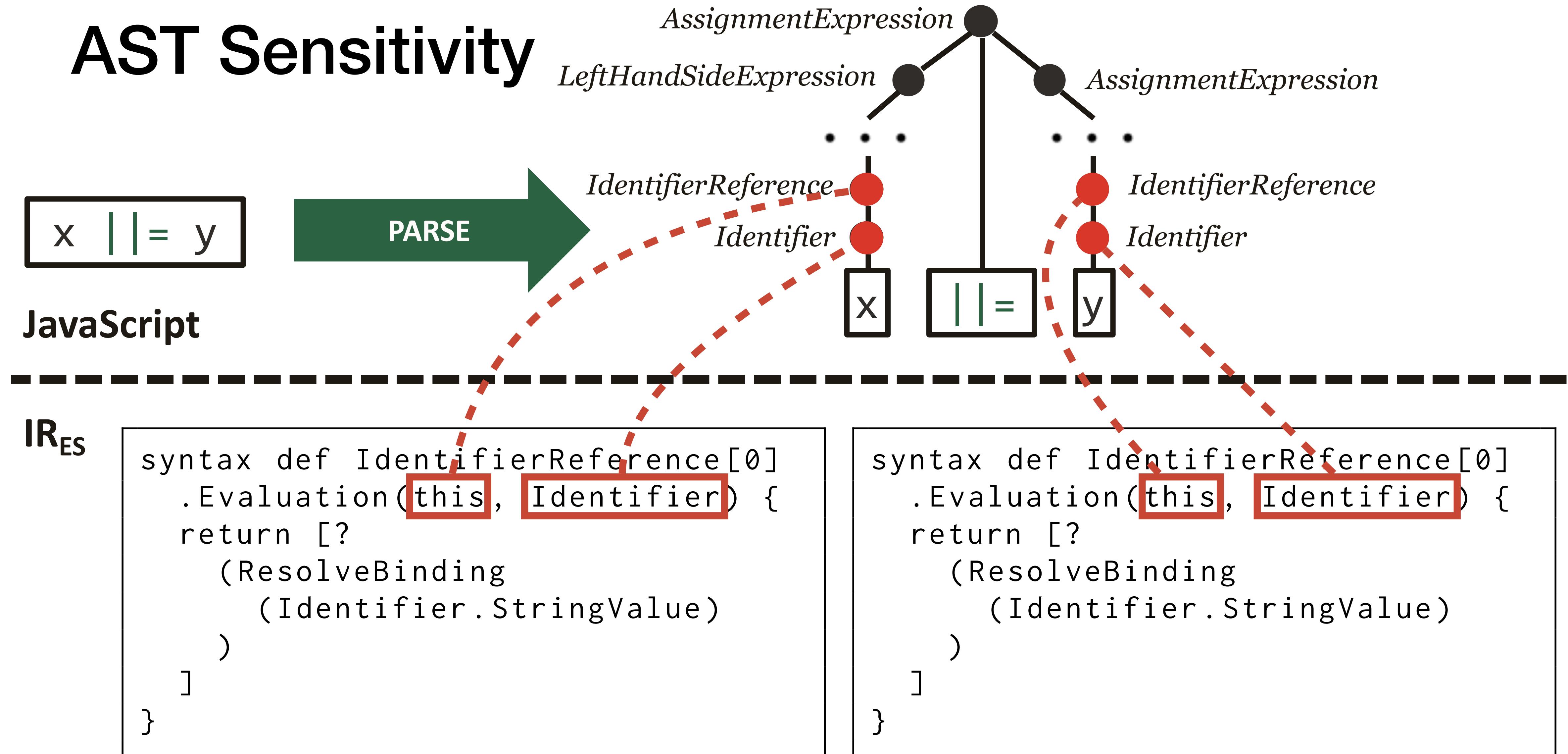
# Example



# AST Sensitivity



# AST Sensitivity

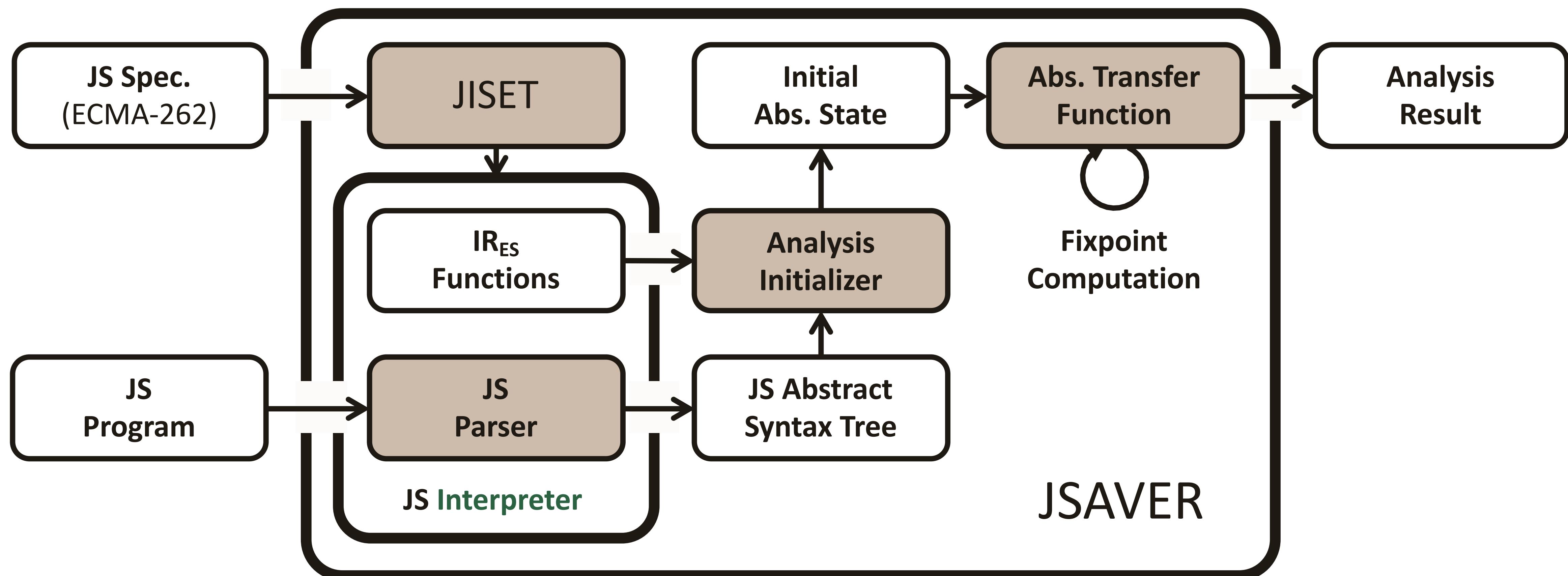


# AST Sensitivity

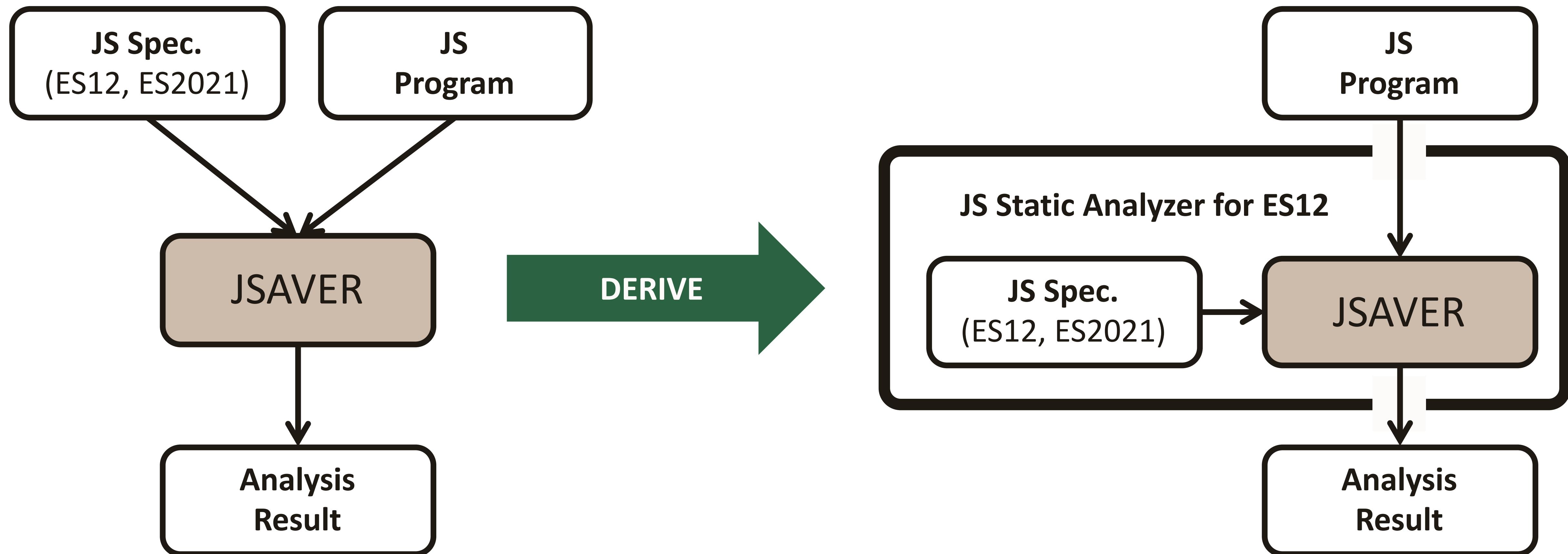
JavaScript	AST Sensitivity in $\text{IR}_{\text{ES}}$
Flow-Sensitivity	$\delta^{\text{js-flow}}(t_{\perp}) = \{\sigma = (\_, \_, \bar{c}, \_) \in \mathbb{S} \mid \text{ast}(\bar{c}) = t_{\perp}\}$
$k$ -Callsite-Sensitivity	$\delta^{\text{js-}k\text{-cfa}}([t_1, \dots, t_n]) = \{\sigma = (\_, \_, \bar{c}, \_) \in \mathbb{S} \mid n \leq k \wedge (n = k \vee \text{js-ctxt}^{n+1}(\bar{c}) = \perp) \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq n. \text{ast} \circ \text{js-ctxt}^i(\bar{c}) = t_i\}$

# Our Tool - JSAVER

- JavaScript Static Analyzer via ECMAScript Representation



# JS Static Analyzer Derivation via JSAVER

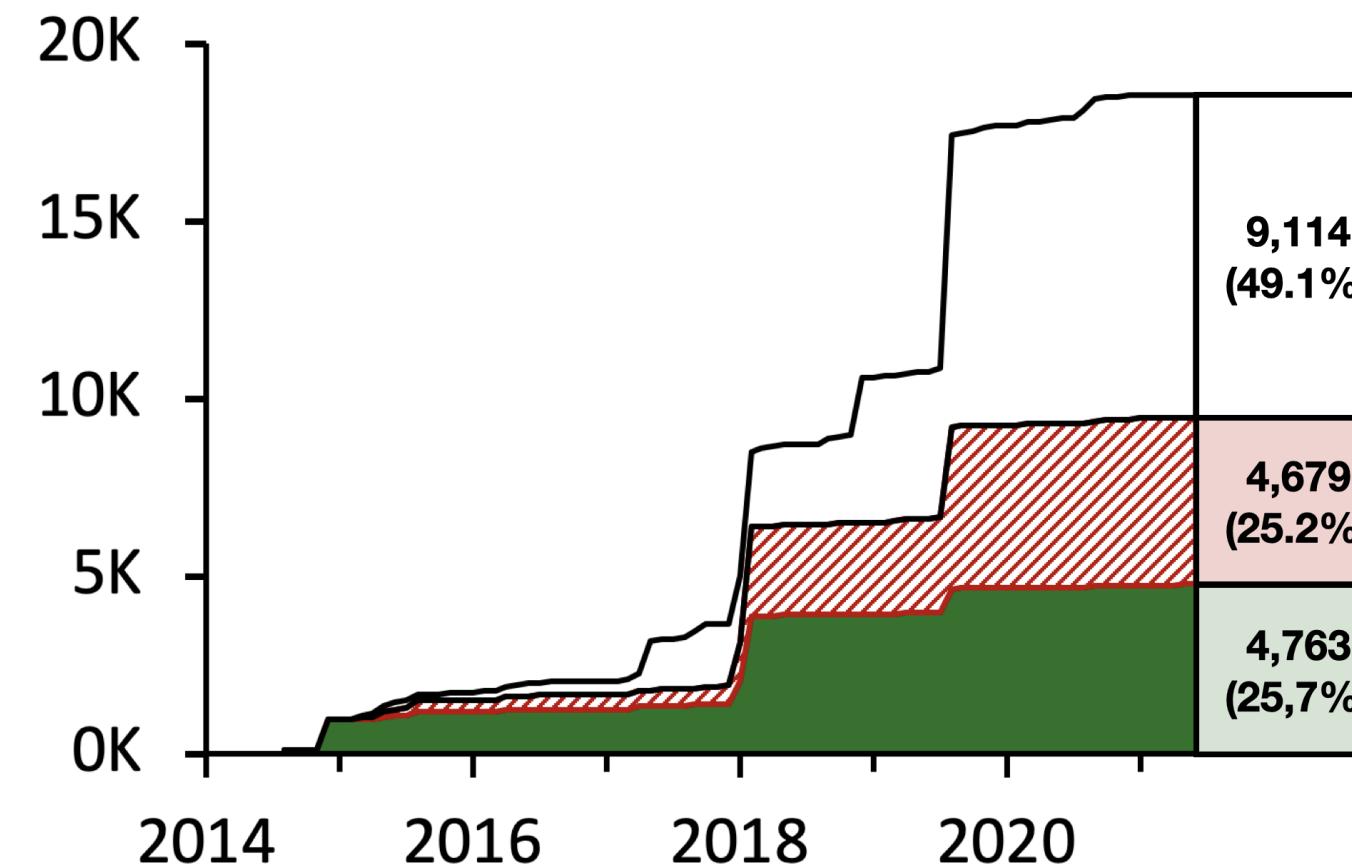


# Evaluation Setting

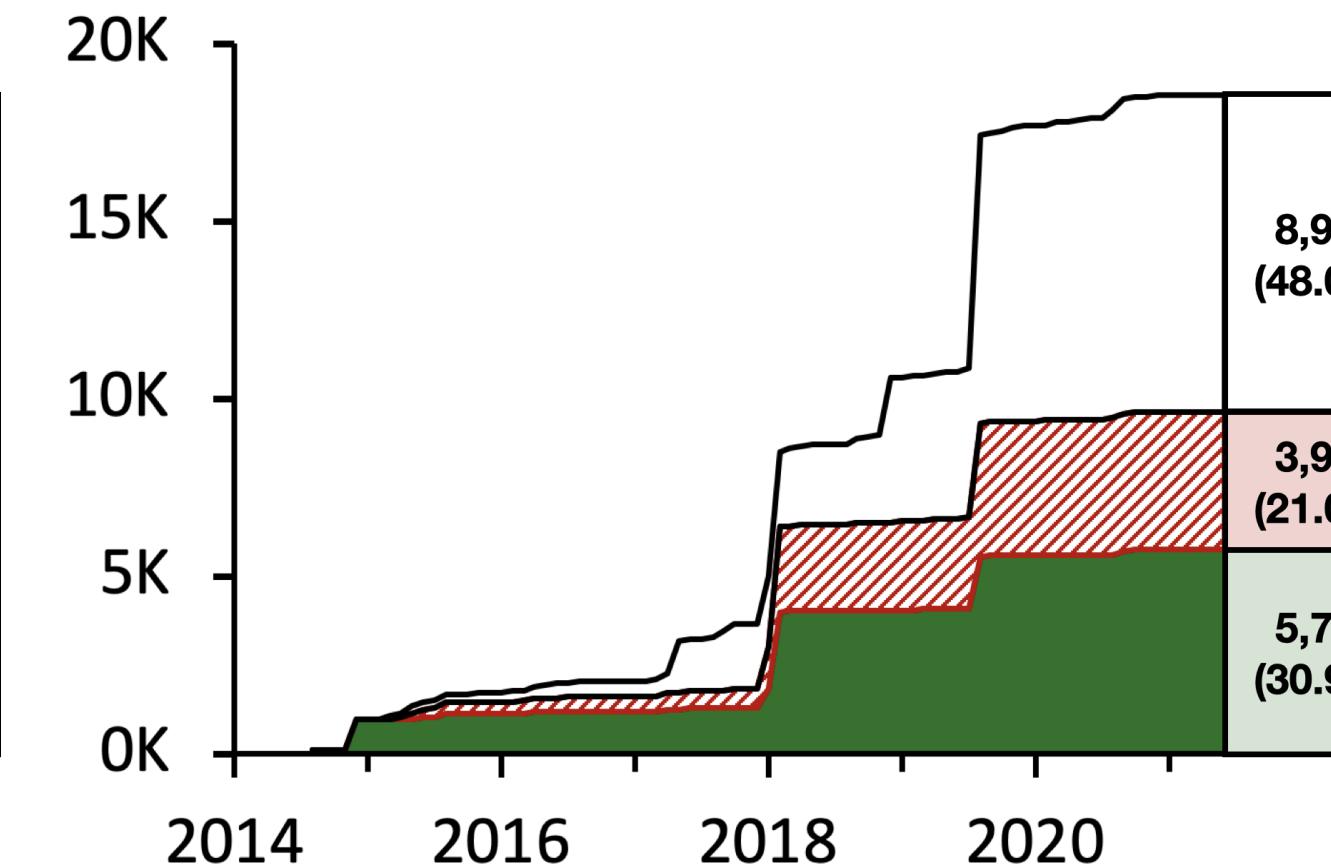
- **Derived Analyzer - JSA<sub>ES12</sub>**
  - JavaScript Static Analyzer derived from **ES12** (ES2021) via **JSAVER**
- **Comparison Targets**
  - State-of-the-art JavaScript Static Analyzers + JavaScript Transpiler
    - TAJS / SAFE + Babel
- **Analysis Targets**
  - **Test262** (Official Conformance Test Suite) maintained by TC39
    - Used 18,556 applicable conformance tests
- **Experiment Environment**
  - An Ubuntu machine
    - 4.2GHz Quad-Core Intel Core i7 and 32GB of RAM.

# RQ1) Soundness

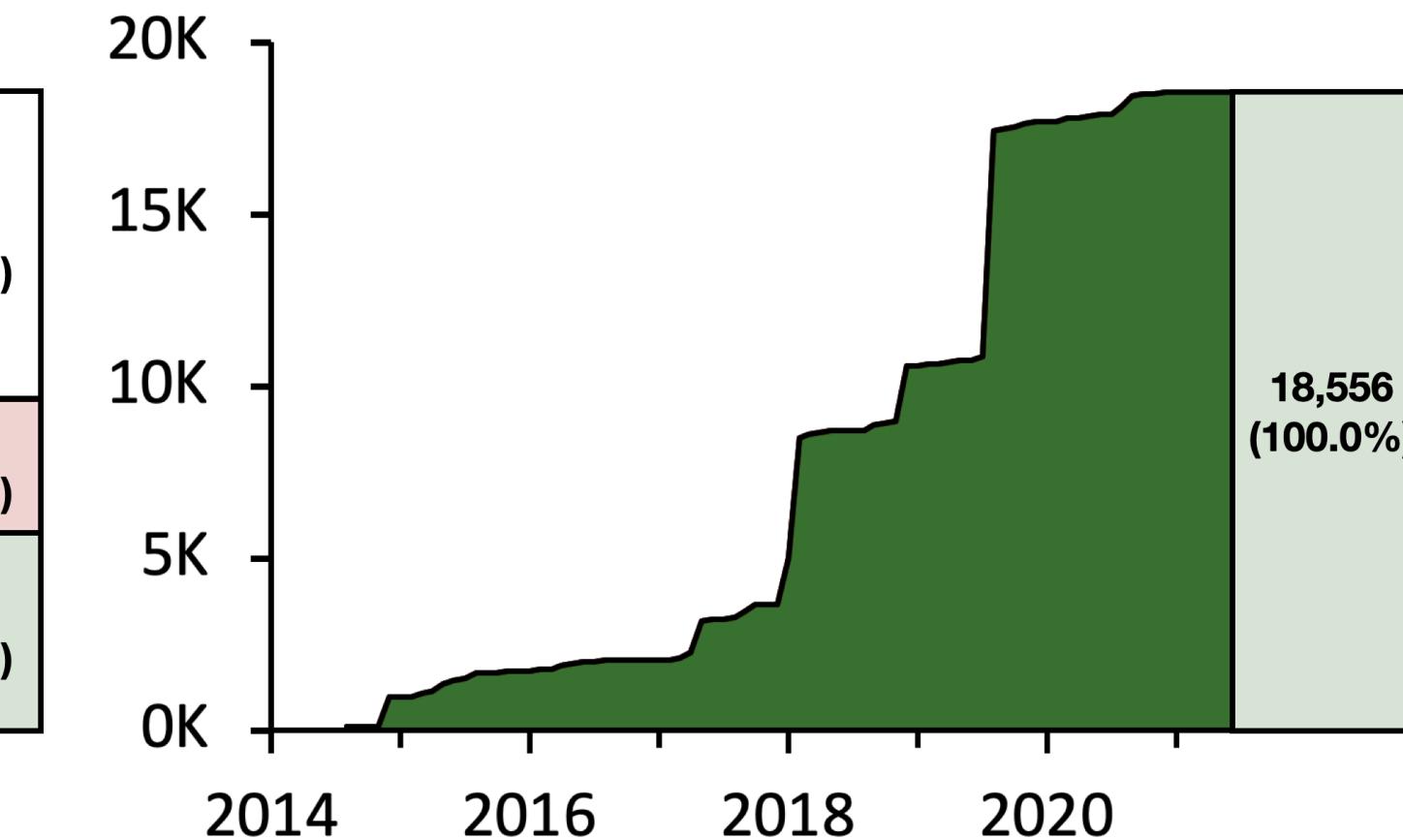
- Can  $\text{JSA}_{\text{ES12}}$  analyze JavaScript programs using new language features in a sound way?



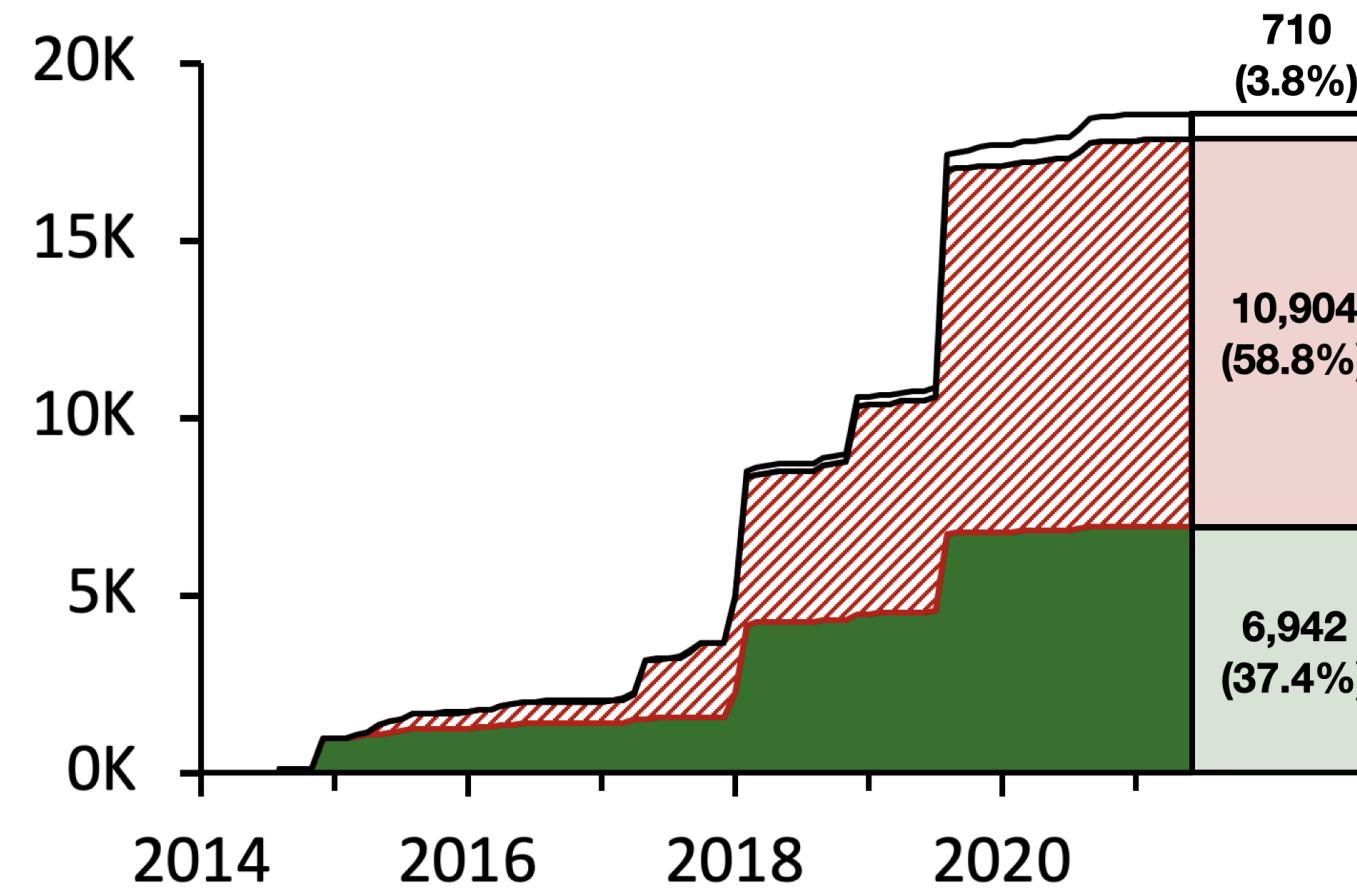
(a) Analysis results of TAJJS



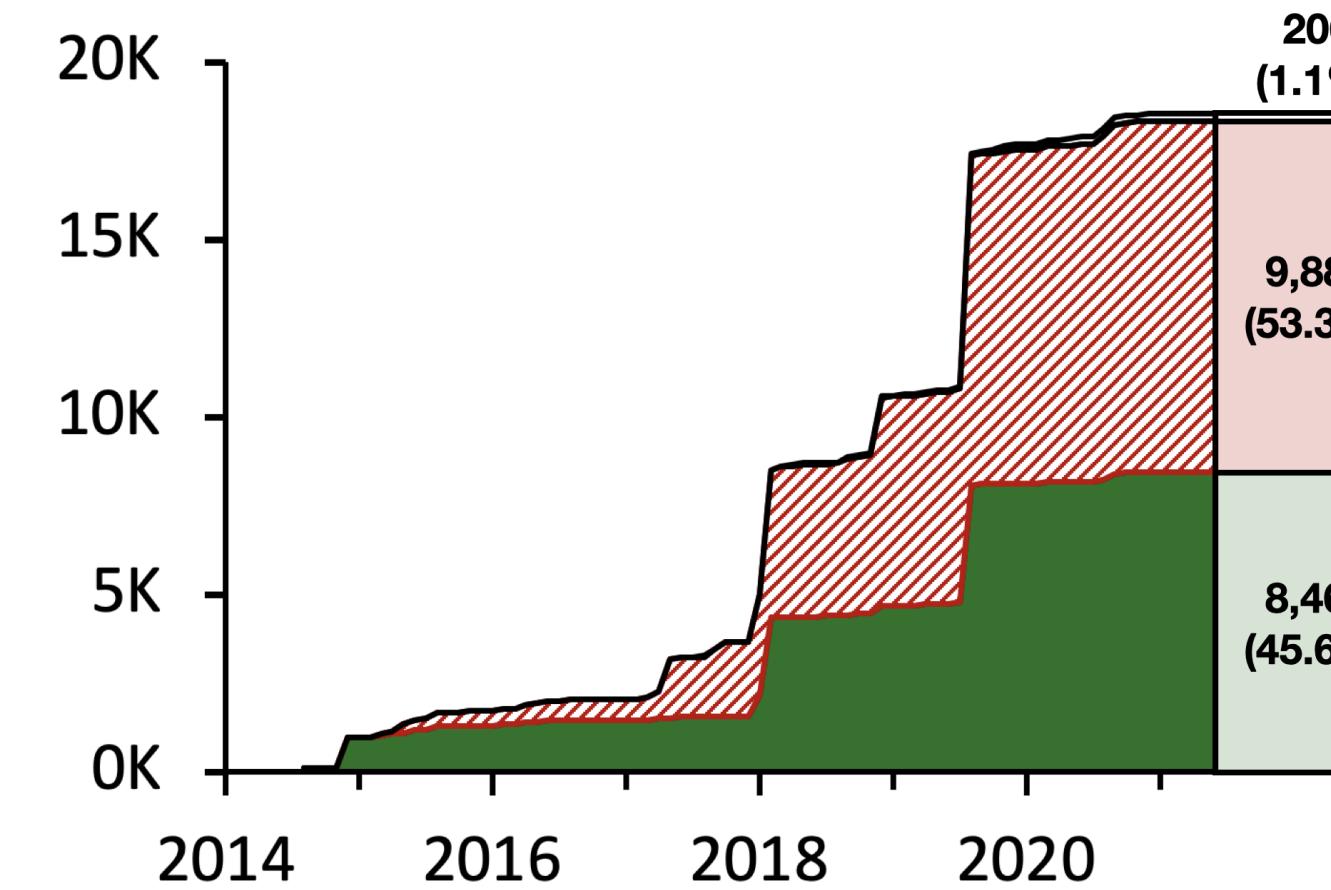
(b) Analysis results of SAFE



(c) Analysis results of  $\text{JSA}_{\text{ES12}}$



(d) Analysis results of TAJJS with Babel



(e) Analysis results of SAFE with Babel

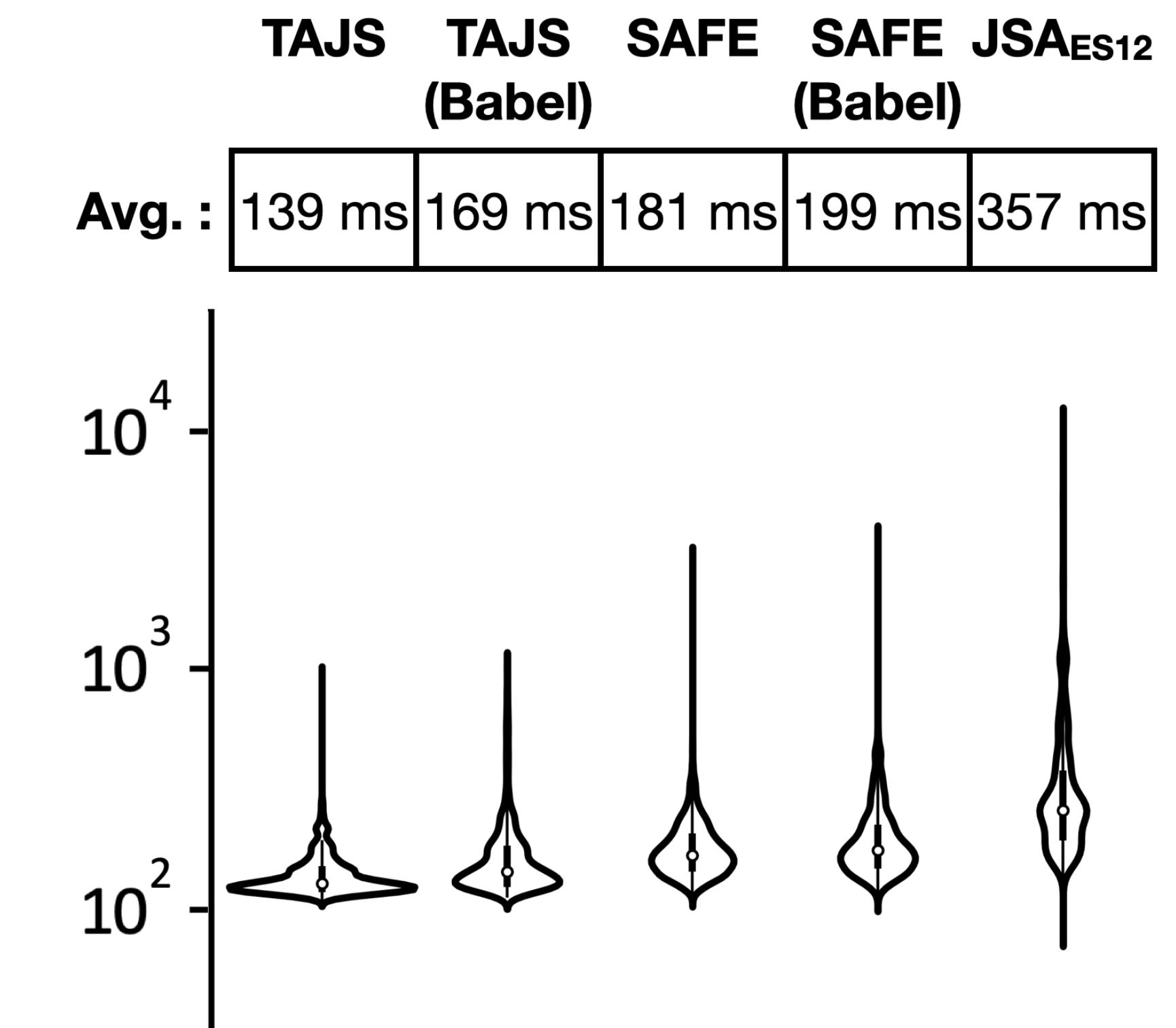
legend :  
□ error  
▨ unsound  
■ sound  
x-axis : creation time (year)  
y-axis : # tests

# RQ2) Precision & Performance

- Can  $\text{JSA}_{\text{ES12}}$  precisely analyze JavaScript programs compared to the existing static analyzers?
  - Targets: 3,878 programs soundly analyzable by all of five analyzers

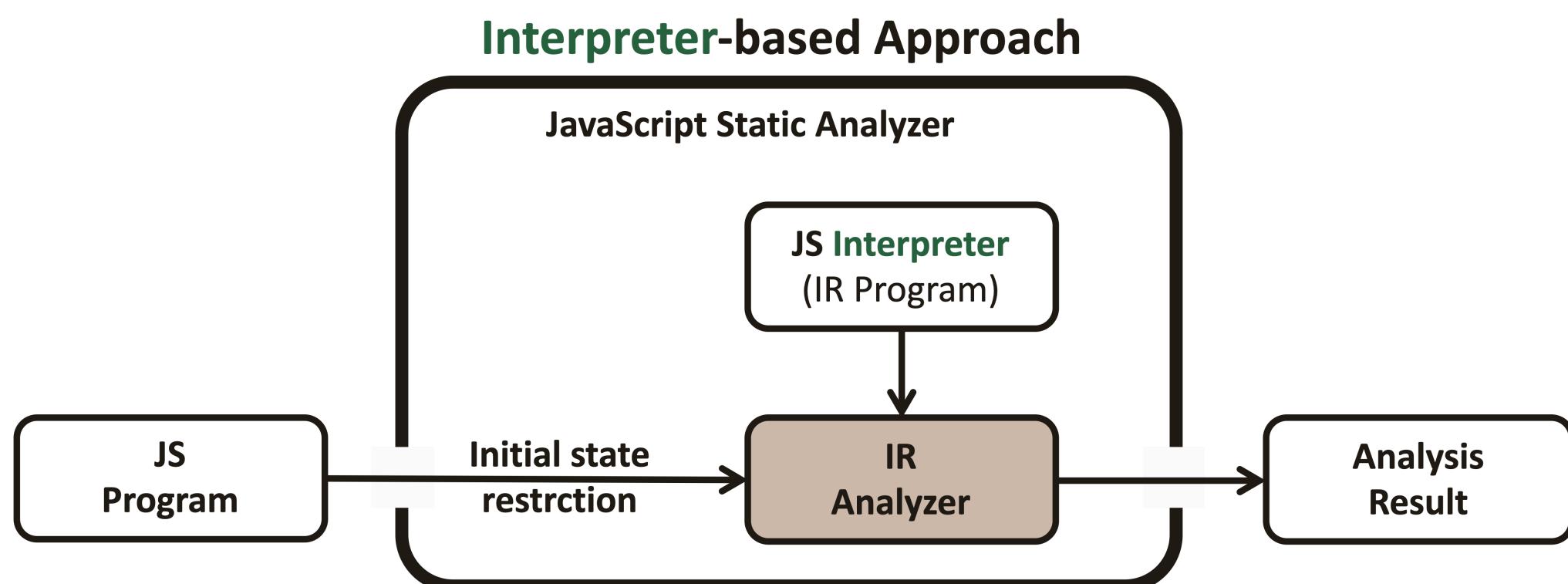


(a) The analysis precision



(b) The analysis performance

## Core Idea - Meta-level Static Analysis



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## AST Sensitivity

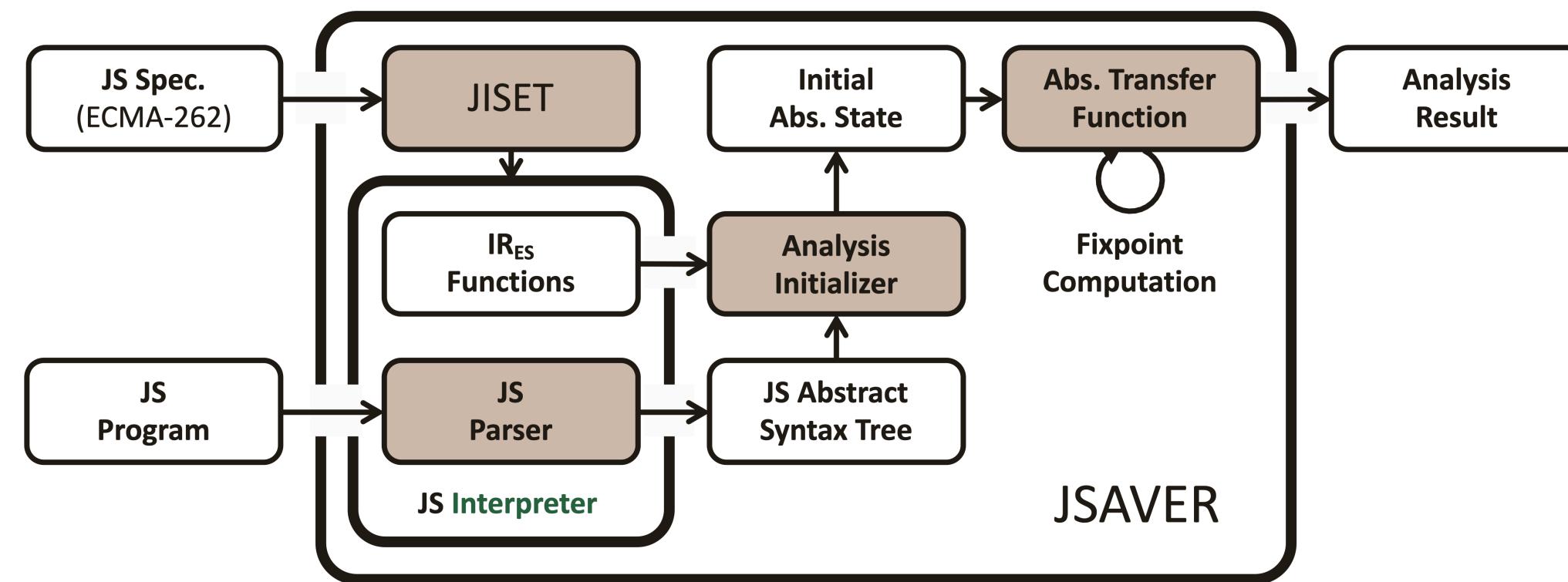
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## Our Tool - JSAVER

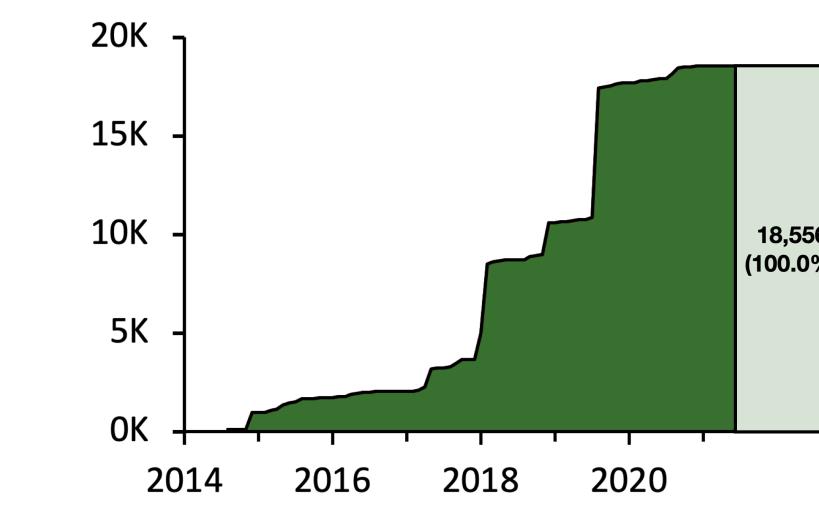
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## RQ1) Soundness



## RQ2) Precision & Performance

