

@m34ra

AN ADVENTURE IN JAVASCRIPT
ADDITION AND TYPE COERCION

HOW DOES JAVASCRIPT MATH?



javascript addition



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JavaScript Operators - W3Schools

https://www.w3schools.com/js/js_operators.asp ▾

Adding Strings and Numbers. Adding two numbers, will return the sum, but adding a number and a string will return a string: ...

JavaScript Arithmetic - W3Schools

https://www.w3schools.com/js/js_arithmetic.asp ▾

Is the result of example above the same as $150 * 3$, or is it the same as $100 + 150$? Is the addition or the multiplication done first? As in traditional school ...

Addition is not working in JavaScript - Stack Overflow

[stack overflow.com/questions/8377410/addition-is-not-working-in-javascript](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/8377410/addition-is-not-working-in-javascript) ▾

Dec 4, 2011 - I am trying to learn Javascript. Here I am confused with the following ... One or both of the variables is a string instead of a number. This makes the ...

math - Javascript (+) sign concatenates instead of giving sum of ...

[stack overflow.com/.../javascript-sign-concatenates-instead-of-giving-sum-of-variables](https://stackoverflow.com/.../javascript-sign-concatenates-instead-of-giving-sum-of-variables) ▾

May 11, 2011 - Why when i use this: (assuming $i=1$) $divID = "question-" + i+1;$... Use this instead: $var divID = "question-" + (i+1)$. It's a fairly common problem and ...

Arithmetic operators - JavaScript | MDN

<https://developer.mozilla.org/.../JavaScript reference/Expressions and operators> ▾

Jump to **Addition (+)** - The addition operator produces the sum of numeric operands or ... Number + Number -> addition $1 + 2 // 3 //$ Boolean + Number ...



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Addition is not working in JavaScript



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Windows 10

Create unique experiences in your apps
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I am trying to learn Javascript. Here I am confused with the following code.

12

<http://rendera.herokuapp.com/usercode/eae2b0f40cf503b36ee346f5c511b0e29fc82f9e>



When I put `x+y` in the function it is going wrong. For example `2+2=22` , `5+7=57`



But `/` , `*` , `-` are working. Why is `+` not working? Please help me. Thanks a lot in advance

3

javascript addition



```
failbowl:~(master!?) $ jsc
> [] + []
> []
> [] + {}
[object Object]
> {} + []
0
> {} + {}
NaN
> □
```



“Wat” - @garybernhardt

GIF





HI, I'M MEARA



@m34ra



A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

OBJECT TYPES



PRIMITIVE TYPES

- ▶ Boolean
- ▶ Number
- ▶ String
- ▶ Object
- ▶ Null
- ▶ Undefined

BOOLEAN

- ▶ true
- ▶ false

NUMBER

- ▶ 0
- ▶ 537
- ▶ 102.20349587
- ▶ NaN
- ▶ 8
- ▶ +Infinity
- ▶ -24.2
- ▶ -Infinity

STRING

- ▶ “apples”
- ▶ “2”
- ▶ “table, noun – a piece of furniture with a flat top and one or more legs”
- ▶ “pretty much anything you put in quotes”
- ▶ “/2p234u a;sldfj09345;”
- ▶ “;D”

OBJECT

```
{
```

```
  firstName: "Meara",
```

```
  lastName: "Charnetzki",
```

```
  company: "TableXI",
```

```
  numberOfToes: 10,
```

```
  fullName: function() {return this.firstName + " " + this.lastName;}
```

```
}
```

NULL

► null

UNDEFINED

► undefined

DATA STRUCTURES

ARRAY

- ▶ [1, 2, 3, 4]
- ▶ ["apples", 2, true, null]

LET'S DO MATH!



ADDING NUMBERS AND STRINGS

- ▶ $2 + 2$
- ▶ "apples" + "bananas"
- ▶ "2" + "2"
- ▶ 4
- ▶ "applesbananas"
- ▶ "22"

**"+" ACTUALLY MEANS TWO
DIFFERENT THINGS**

NUMBER ADDITION

$$2 + 2 = 4$$

STRING CONCATENATION

“Hello” + “ ” + “Midwest JS!”

=

“Hello Midwest JS!”



ADDING NUMBERS TO STRINGS

- ▶ "2" + 2 ▶ "22"
 - ▶ 2 + "2" ▶ "22"
 - ▶ 2 + "apples" ▶ "2apples"

**COERCION, N. – IMPLICITLY
CONVERTING A VALUE FROM ONE
TYPE TO ANOTHER**

THE ADDITION OPERATOR (+)

$$a + b$$

- ▶ If either a or b is a string
 - ▶ We're doing string concatenation (with coercion if necessary)
- ▶ Otherwise, if both a and b are NOT strings
 - ▶ We're doing number addition



WHAT IF I WANT TO ADD OTHER THINGS?

- ▶ [1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6] ▶ "1,2,3,45,6"
- ▶ true + true ▶ 2
- ▶ undefined + null ▶ NaN
- ▶ null + null ▶ 0
- ▶ [] + {} ▶ "[object Object]"
- ▶ {} + [] ▶ 0





> 9 x 8 5 7 x 3 9

7.367

~~97.367~~

7.367

7.367

97.367



11.6.1 The Addition operator (+)

The addition operator either performs string concatenation or numeric addition.

The production *AdditiveExpression* : *AdditiveExpression* + *MultiplicativeExpression* is evaluated as follows:

1. Let *lref* be the result of evaluating *AdditiveExpression*.
2. Let *lval* be **GetValue**(*lref*).
3. Let *rref* be the result of evaluating *MultiplicativeExpression*.
4. Let *rval* be **GetValue**(*rref*).
5. Let *lprim* be **ToPrimitive**(*lval*).
6. Let *rprim* be **ToPrimitive**(*rval*).
7. If **Type**(*lprim*) is String or **Type**(*rprim*) is String, then
 - a. Return the String that is the result of concatenating **ToString**(*lprim*) followed by **ToString**(*rprim*)
8. Return the result of applying the addition operation to **ToNumber**(*lprim*) and **ToNumber**(*rprim*). See the Note below 11.6.3.

NOTE 1 No hint is provided in the calls to **ToPrimitive** in steps 5 and 6. All native ECMAScript objects except Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint Number were given; Date objects handle the absence of a hint as if the hint String were given. Host objects may handle the absence of a hint in some other manner.

NOTE 2 Step 7 differs from step 3 of the comparison algorithm for the relational operators (11.8.5), by using the logical-or operation instead of the logical-and operation.

THE ADDITION OPERATOR (+)

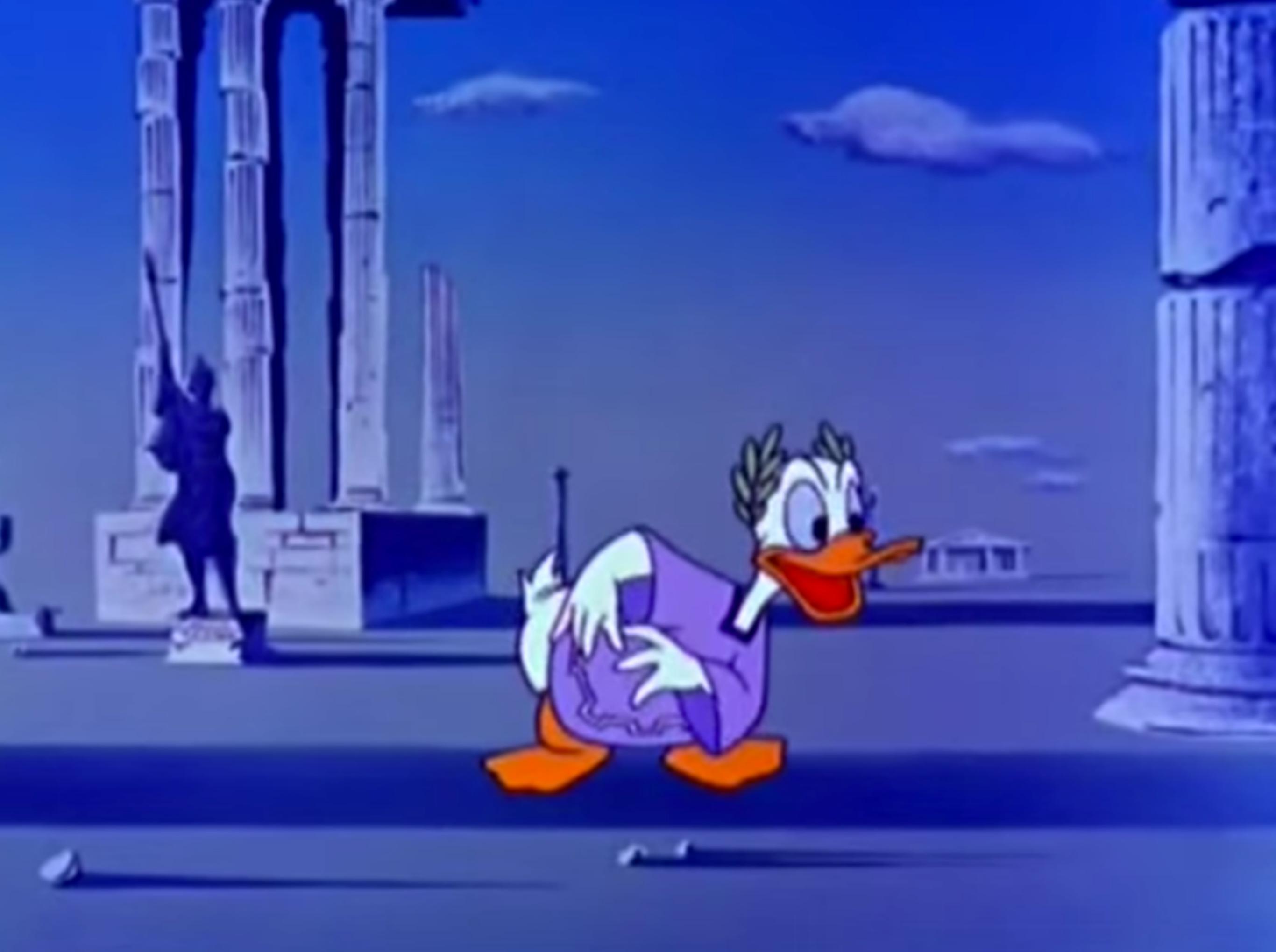
$$a + b$$

- ▶ If either a or b is a string (OR its primitive's default value is a string)
 - ▶ string concatenation
 - ▶ $a.toString() + b.toString()$

THE ADDITION OPERATOR (+)

$$a + b$$

- ▶ Otherwise, if both a and b are NOT strings
 - ▶ number addition
 - ▶ $a.\text{toNumber}() + b.\text{toNumber}()$

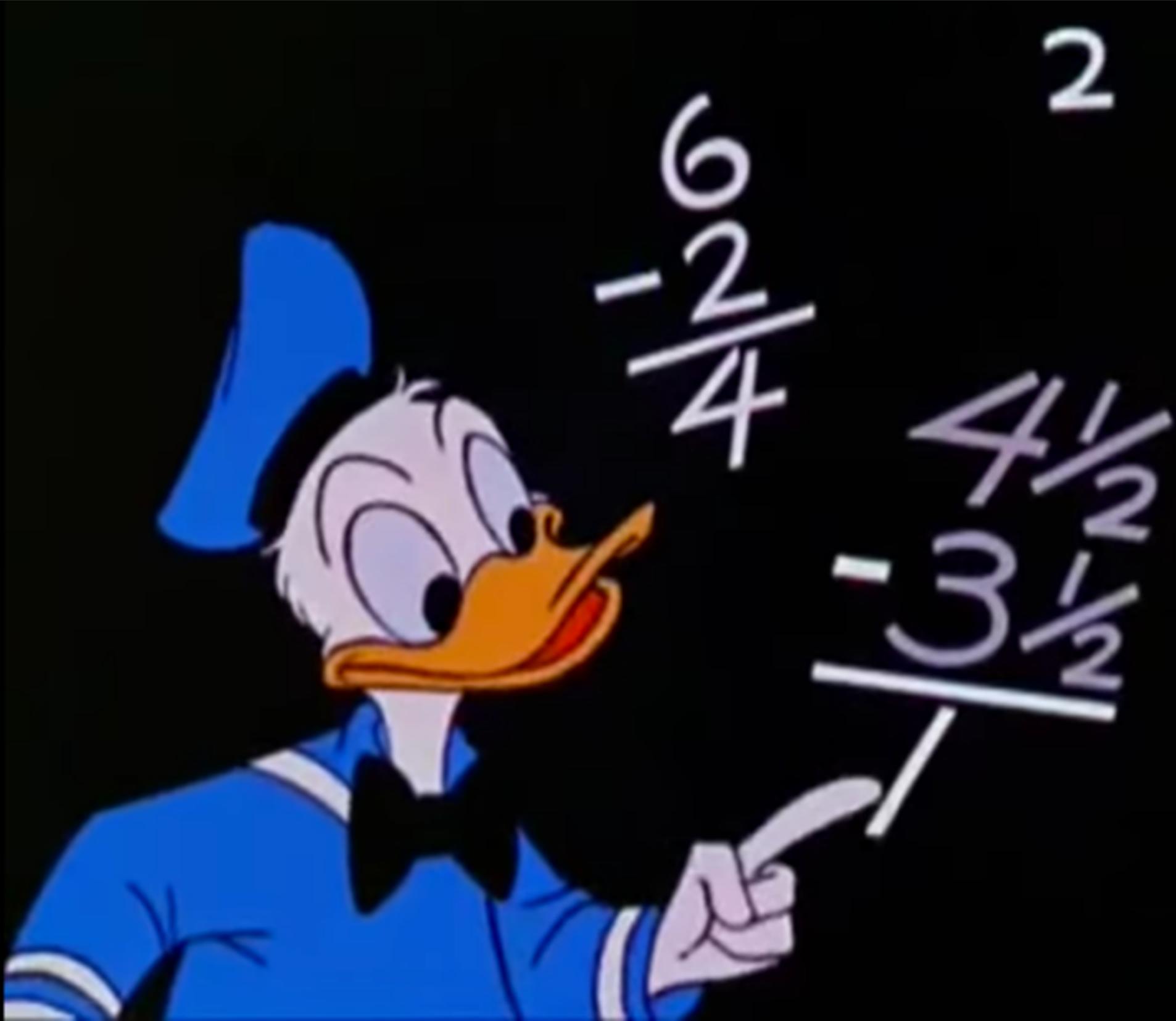


WHAT IF I WANT TO ADD OTHER THINGS?

- ▶ [1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6] ▶ "1,2,3,45,6"
- ▶ true + true ▶ 2
- ▶ undefined + null ▶ NaN
- ▶ null + null ▶ 0
- ▶ [] + {} ▶ "[object Object]"
- ▶ {} + [] ▶ 0

Table 12 — To Number Conversions

Argument Type	Result
Undefined	NaN
Null	+0
Boolean	The result is 1 if the argument is true . The result is +0 if the argument is false .
Number	The result equals the input argument (no conversion).
String	See grammar and note below.
Object	Apply the following steps: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Let <i>primValue</i> be ToPrimitive(<i>input argument</i>, hint Number).2. Return ToNumber(<i>primValue</i>).



WHAT IF I WANT TO ADD OTHER THINGS?

- ▶ `[1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6]` ▶ "1,2,3,45,6"
- ✓ `true + true` ▶ 2
- ✓ `undefined + null` ▶ NaN
- ✓ `null + null` ▶ 0
- ▶ `[] + {}` ▶ "[object Object]"
- ▶ `{ } + []` ▶ 0

THE ADDITION OPERATOR (+)

$$a + b$$

- ▶ If either a or b is a string (OR its primitive's default value is a string)
 - ▶ string concatenation
 - ▶ $a.toString() + b.toString()$

Table 10 — ToPrimitive Conversions

Input Type	Result
Undefined	The result equals the <i>input</i> argument (no conversion).
Null	The result equals the <i>input</i> argument (no conversion).
Boolean	The result equals the <i>input</i> argument (no conversion).
Number	The result equals the <i>input</i> argument (no conversion).
String	The result equals the <i>input</i> argument (no conversion).
Object	Return a default value for the Object. The default value of an object is retrieved by calling the <code>[[DefaultValue]]</code> internal method of the object, passing the optional hint <i>PreferredType</i> . The behaviour of the <code>[[DefaultValue]]</code> internal method is defined by this specification for all native ECMAScript objects in 8.12.8 .

8.12.8 [[DefaultValue]] (hint)

When the [[DefaultValue]] internal method of O is called with hint String, the following steps are taken:

1. Let $toString$ be the result of calling the [[Get]] internal method of object O with argument "toString".
2. If IsCallable($toString$) is true then,
 - a. Let str be the result of calling the [[Call]] internal method of $toString$, with O as the this value and an empty argument list.
 - b. If str is a primitive value, return str .
3. Let $valueOf$ be the result of calling the [[Get]] internal method of object O with argument "valueOf".
4. If IsCallable($valueOf$) is true then,
 - a. Let val be the result of calling the [[Call]] internal method of $valueOf$, with O as the this value and an empty argument list.
 - b. If val is a primitive value, return val .
5. Throw a TypeError exception.

When the [[DefaultValue]] internal method of O is called with hint Number, the following steps are taken:

1. Let $valueOf$ be the result of calling the [[Get]] internal method of object O with argument "valueOf".
2. If IsCallable($valueOf$) is true then,
 - a. Let val be the result of calling the [[Call]] internal method of $valueOf$, with O as the this value and an empty argument list.
 - b. If val is a primitive value, return val .
3. Let $toString$ be the result of calling the [[Get]] internal method of object O with argument "toString".
4. If IsCallable($toString$) is true then,
 - a. Let str be the result of calling the [[Call]] internal method of $toString$, with O as the this value and an empty argument list.
 - b. If str is a primitive value, return str .
5. Throw a TypeError exception.

When the [[DefaultValue]] internal method of O is called with no hint, then it behaves as if the hint were Number, unless O is a Date object (see 15.9.6), in which case it behaves as if the hint were String.

The above specification of [[DefaultValue]] for native objects can return only primitive values. If a host object implements its own [[DefaultValue]] internal method, it must ensure that its [[DefaultValue]] internal method can return only primitive values.

- ▶ `[1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6]`
- ▶ `[] + {}`
- ▶ `"1,2,3,4" + "5,6"`
- ▶ `"" + "[object Object]"`
- ▶ `"1,2,3,45,6"`
- ▶ `"[object Object]"`

WHAT IF I WANT TO ADD OTHER THINGS?

- ✓ `[1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6]` ▶ "1,2,3,45,6"
- ✓ `true + true` ▶ 2
- ✓ `undefined + null` ▶ NaN
- ✓ `null + null` ▶ 0
- ✓ `[] + {}` ▶ "[object Object]"
- ▶ `{ } + []` ▶ 0

WHAT IF I WANT TO ADD OTHER THINGS?

- ✓ `[1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6]` ▶ "1,2,3,45,6"
- ✓ `true + true` ▶ 2
- ✓ `undefined + null` ▶ NaN
- ✓ `null + null` ▶ 0
- ✓ `[] + {}` ▶ "[object Object]"
- ! ? `{ } + []` ▶ 0

BUT WAIT!
THERE'S MORE!

**“+” CASTS ANYTHING
TO A NUMBER**



WHAT IF I WANT TO ADD OTHER THINGS?

- ✓ `[1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6]` ▶ "1,2,3,45,6"
- ✓ `true + true` ▶ 2
- ✓ `undefined + null` ▶ NaN
- ✓ `null + null` ▶ 0
- ✓ `[] + {}` ▶ "[object Object]"
- ➡ `{ } + []` ▶ 0

{}

{ } + []

WHAT IF I WANT TO ADD OTHER THINGS?

- ✓ `[1, 2, 3, 4] + [5, 6]` ▶ "1,2,3,45,6"
- ✓ `true + true` ▶ 2
- ✓ `undefined + null` ▶ NaN
- ✓ `null + null` ▶ 0
- ✓ `[] + {}` ▶ "[object Object]"
- ✓ `{ } + []` ▶ 0





11.5 Multiplicative Operators

Syntax

MultiplicativeExpression :

UnaryExpression

MultiplicativeExpression * *UnaryExpression*

MultiplicativeExpression / *UnaryExpression*

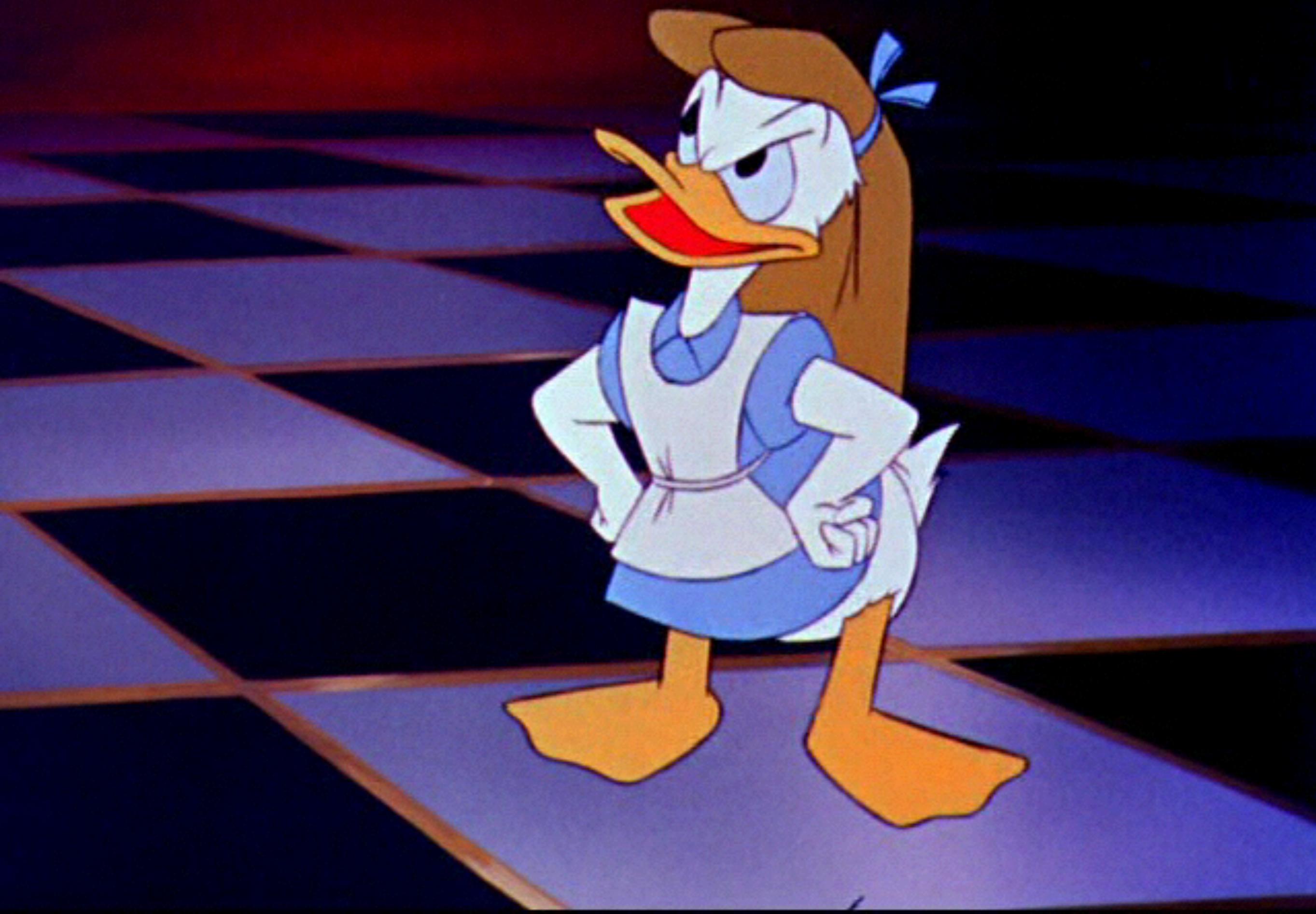
MultiplicativeExpression % *UnaryExpression*

Semantics

The production *MultiplicativeExpression* : *MultiplicativeExpression* @ *UnaryExpression* , where @ stands for one of the operators in the above definitions, is evaluated as follows:

1. Let *left* be the result of evaluating *MultiplicativeExpression*.
2. Let *leftValue* be **GetValue**(*left*).
3. Let *right* be the result of evaluating *UnaryExpression*.
4. Let *rightValue* be **GetValue**(*right*).
5. Let *leftNum* be **ToNumber**(*leftValue*).
6. Let *rightNum* be **ToNumber**(*rightValue*).
7. Return the result of applying the specified operation (*, /, or %) to *leftNum* and *rightNum*. See the Notes below 11.5.1, 11.5.2, 11.5.3.











**STEP 1:
EXPERIMENT!**



STEP 2: GUESS



STEP 3: ITERATE AND RESEARCH



STEP 4: UNDERSTAND





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



tableX

REFERENCES

- ▶ “Wat” by Gary Bernhardt, <https://www.destroyallsoftware.com/talks/wat>
- ▶ You Don't Know JS by Kyle Simpson, <http://shop.oreilly.com/category/get/kyle-simpson-kit.do>
- ▶ ES5 Specification, <http://ecma-international.org/ecma-262/5.1/>
- ▶ Disney's *Mathmagic Land*, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_ZHsk0-eF0

Thanks!

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