

JAVASCRIPT

for Swift Developers

A screenshot of a web browser window showing the Realm Mobile Database product page. The URL in the address bar is `realm.io/products/realm-mobile-database/`. The page has a purple-to-red gradient header. On the left is the Realm logo. The main title is "Realm Mobile Database". Below it is a descriptive paragraph: "Loved by developers and more than a billion users, Realm Mobile Database is fast, easy to use, open source, and totally free." At the bottom are five icons for supported platforms: Android, C, React Native, Swift, and Xcode.

realm.io/products/realm-mobile-database/

realm

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Realm Mobile Database

Loved by developers and more than a billion users, Realm Mobile Database is fast, easy to use, open source, and totally free.

Android [C] React Native Swift Xcode

realm.io/products/realm-mobile-platform/

realm Mobile Platform

A flexible platform for creating offline-first, reactive mobile apps effortlessly.

Download the free Developer Edition

macOS

Linux

SWIFT

```
let dog = Dog(age: 3, furColor: "brown")
print(dog) // => "Dog(age: 3)"
```

JAVASCRIPT

```
let dog = new Dog(3, "brown");
console.log(dog); // => "Dog(age: 3)"
```



WOW

SOO EASY

PRETTY SWIFT

CALL ME

JS DEVELOPER

SUPERFICIAL

- ▶ Both have variable declarations with `let`.
 - ▶ Swift has parameter names.
 - ▶ Different calls to make console prints.
 - ▶ JavaScript has a new operator.
 - ▶ JavaScript has semicolons.

VARIABLE DECLARATIONS

- ▶ var
- ▶ let
- ▶ const

var

- ▶ In Swift: declares a mutable variable
- ▶ In JavaScript: declares a variable which is hoisted within the function or global scope

let

- ▶ In Swift: declares an immutable variable, enforced beyond re-assigments for value types
- ▶ In JavaScript: declares a variable which is block-scoped

const

- ▶ Only in JavaScript: declares a variable which is block-scoped and not re-assignable

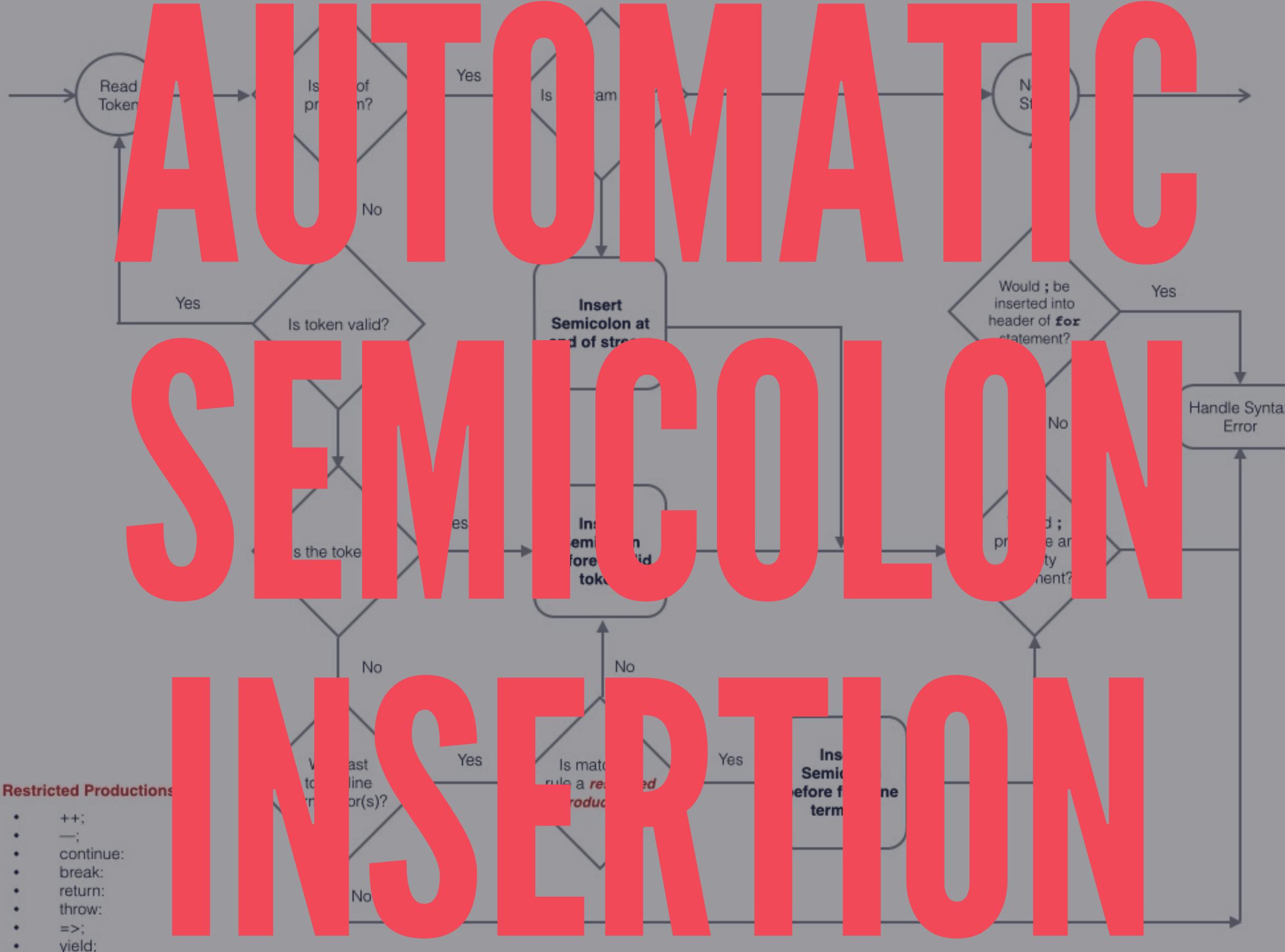


**WRITE MULTIPLE STATEMENTS
IN A SINGLE LINE**

IN SWIFT IT'S OPTIONAL.

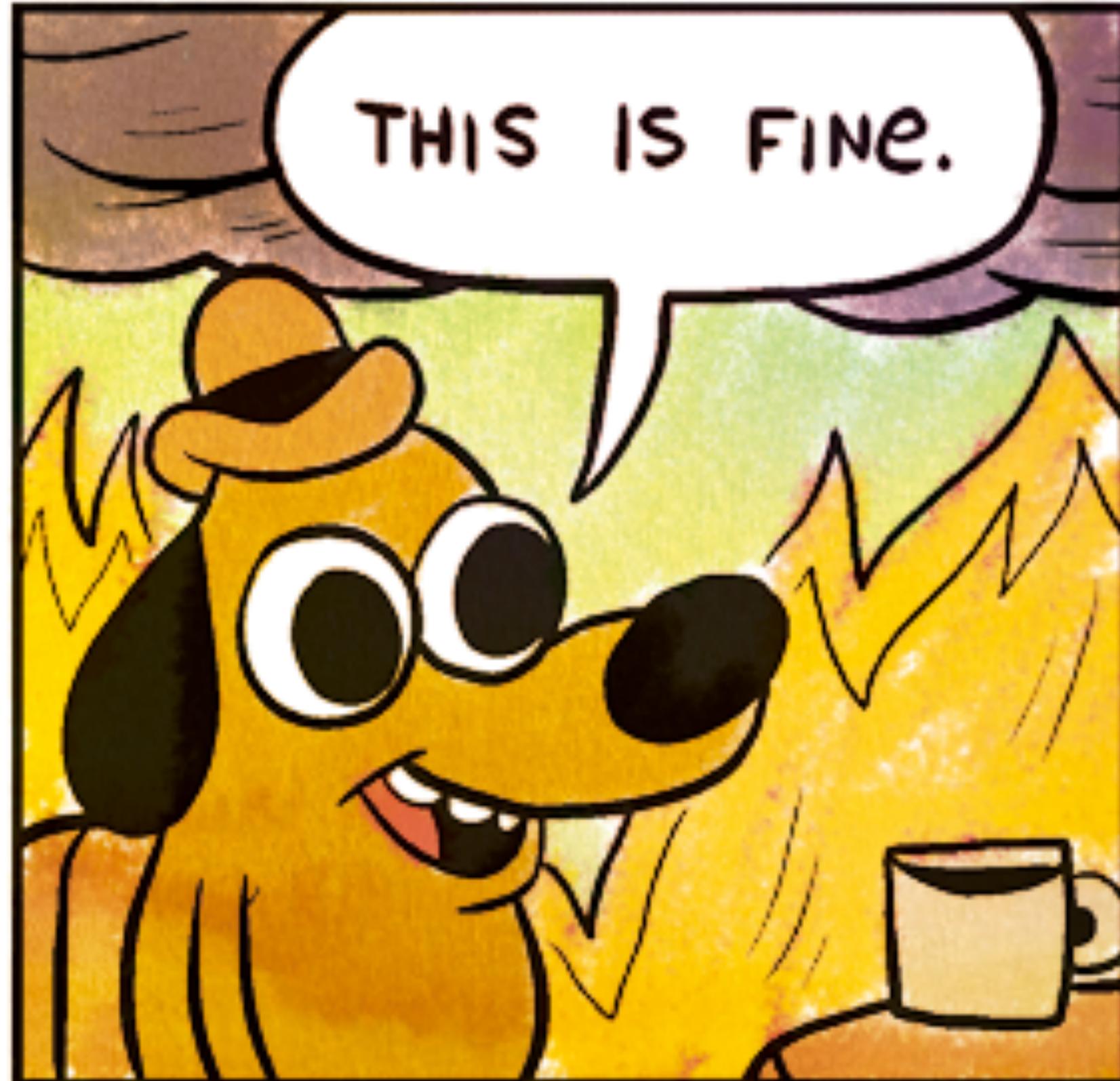
IN JAVASCRIPT IT'S *SOMETIMES* OPTIONAL.

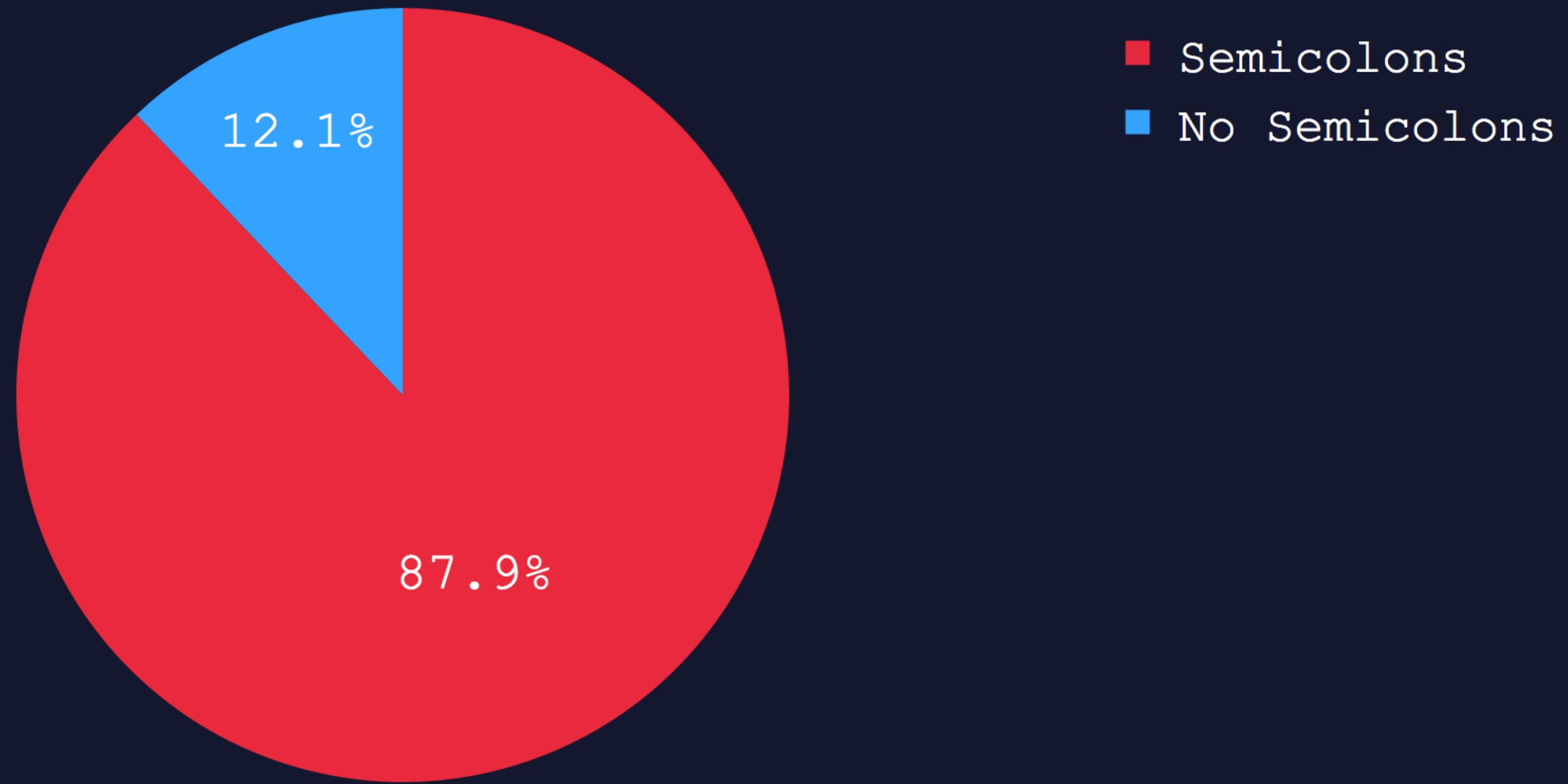
AUTOMATIC SEMICOLON INSERTION



```
return
{
    name: "This is fine."
};
```

```
return;  
{  
    name: "This is fine."  
};
```







ESLint

```
semi: ["error", "always"] // or: ["error", "never"]
```

BUT THERE IS
MORE THAN THE
SUPERFICIAL...

STEP BACK

What do we compare?

SWIFT

► 2014: 1.0



...

► 2017-03-27: 3.1

JAVASCRIPT

- ▶ 1996: 1.0
- ▶ 2000: 1.5 - ECMA 3rd edition
- ▶ 2010: ECMA 5th edition
- ▶ 2015: ECMA 6th edition - ES6 / ES2015

ENGINES

- ▶ JavaScriptCore
- ▶ V8
- ▶ SpiderMonkey, Chakra, Carakan, ...

AKB7

**SWIFT & JAVASCRIPT
SUPPORT DIFFERENT
PROGRAMMING PARADIGMS.**

- ▶ Imperative Programming
- ▶ Object-oriented Programming
- ▶ Declarative Programming
- ▶ Functional Programming
- ▶ Many things in between ...

Let's talk about
TYPES

**SWIFT HAS A
STRONG TYPE
SYSTEM.**

JAVASCRIPT HAS
A DYNAMIC TYPE
SYSTEM.

INHERITANCE

CLASSES IN SWIFT

```
class Animal : CustomStringConvertible {  
    var age: Int  
  
    init(age: Int) {  
        self.age = age  
    }  
  
    toString() {  
        let className = String(describing: type(of: self))  
        return "\(className)(age: \(age))"  
    }  
}  
  
class Dog : Animal {  
    var furColor: String  
  
    init(age: Int, furColor: String) {  
        super.init(age: age)  
        self.furColor = furColor;  
    }  
}
```

JAVASCRIPT HAS MANY



JAVASCRIPT'S PROTOTYPAL INHERITANCE

```
function Animal(age) {
  this._age = age;
}

Object.defineProperty(Animal.prototype, "age", {
  get: function() {
    return this._age;
  },
});

Animal.prototype.toString = function() {
  return this.constructor.name + "(age: " + this.age + ")";
}

function Dog(age, furColor) {
  Object.getPrototypeOf(Dog).call(this, age);
  this.furColor = furColor;
}

Dog.prototype = Object.create(Animal.prototype, {
  constructor: { value: Dog }
});
```

ES6 SYNTAX

```
class Animal {  
  constructor(age) {  
    this._age = age;  
  }  
  
  get age() {  
    return this._age;  
  }  
  
  toString() {  
    return `${this.constructor.name}(age: ${this.age})`;  
  }  
}  
  
class Dog extends Animal {  
  constructor(age, furColor) {  
    super(age);  
    this.furColor = furColor;  
  }  
}
```

TypeScript

TYPESCRIPT

```
class Animal {  
    age: number;  
  
    constructor(age: number) {  
        this.age = age;  
    }  
  
    toString() {  
        return `${this.constructor.name}(age: ${this.age})`;  
    }  
}  
  
class Dog extends Animal {  
    constructor(age: number, furColor: string) {  
        super(age);  
        this.furColor = furColor;  
    }  
}
```

**WHY THE UGLY?
UNDER THE HOOD IT'S STILL THE SAME!***

EQUALITY?

SWIFT HAS ==

SEMANTICS ARE
ENCODED IN THE STANDARD LIBRARY
AND EXTENSIBLE

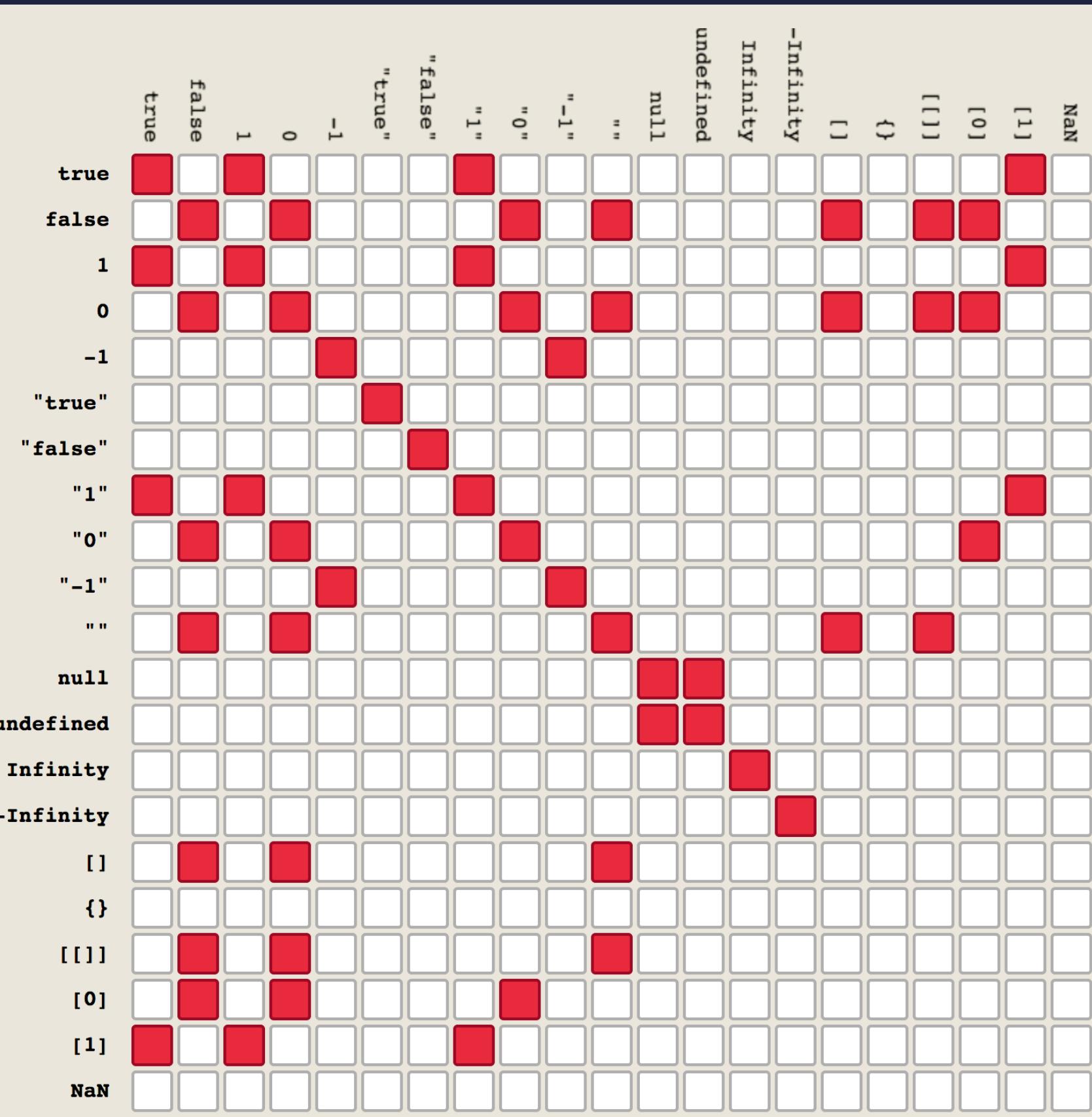
```
extension Animal : Equatable {}

public function ==(lhs: Animal, rhs: Animal) {
    return lhs.age == rhs.age;
}
```

JAVASCRIPT HAS MORE:



1 / 1



NaN

[1]

[0]

[[]]

{}

[]

-Infinity

Infinity

undefined

null

""

"-1"

"0"

"1"

"false"

"true"

-1

0

1

false

true



ROLL YOUR OWN

```
class Animal {  
    ...  
  
    isEqual(other) {  
        return this.age === other.age;  
    }  
}
```

Let's talk about

null

Swift has an explicit concept of nullability encoded in the type system.

JavaScript hasn't.

IN ADDITION TO null,

EVERYTHING CAN BE undefined.

null

- ▶ `typeof null` => "object"
 - ▶ Literal

undefined

- ▶ `typeof undefined` => "undefined"
- ▶ Property of the global object
- ▶ Can be overwritten 



TYPESCRIPT
TO THE RESCUE!

```
let u: undefined = undefined;  
let n: null = null;
```

```
// In Swift  
func greet(name: string) { ... }  
func greet(name: string?) { ... }
```

```
// In TypeScript
// when compiled with --strictNullChecks
function greet(name: string) { ... }
function greet(name: string | undefined = undefined) { ... }
```

A vibrant underwater scene featuring a large, healthy coral reef in shades of orange, yellow, and white. A large, healthy coral reef in shades of orange, yellow, and white. A large blue sea turtle swims gracefully across the frame, its body partially submerged in the clear blue water. The background is a deep, dark blue.

Ecosystem

SWIFT RUNS ON ...

- ▶ Mac and iOS devices
- ▶ Linux
- ▶ (Android)
- ▶ (Windows)

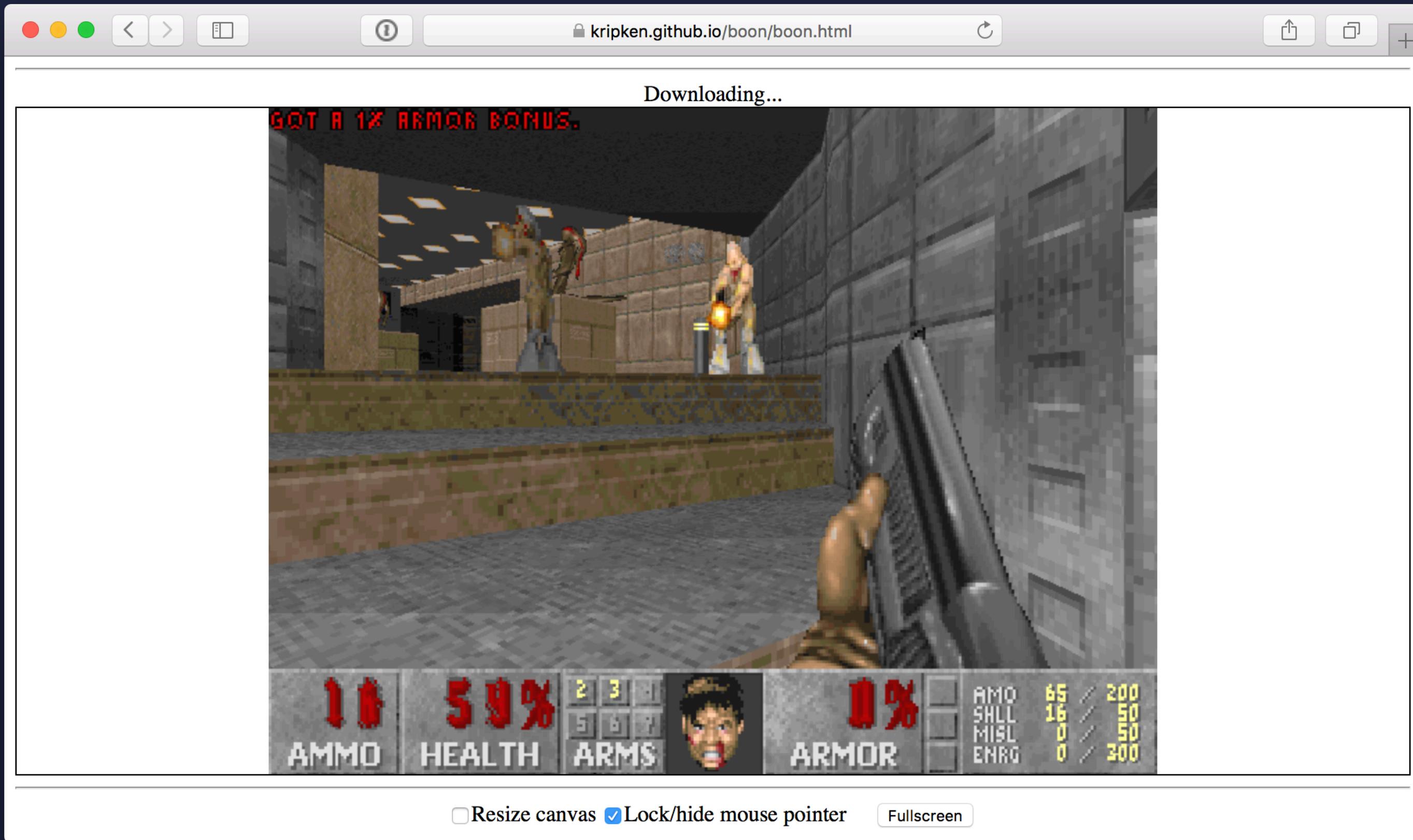
JAVASCRIPT RUNS ...

everywhere

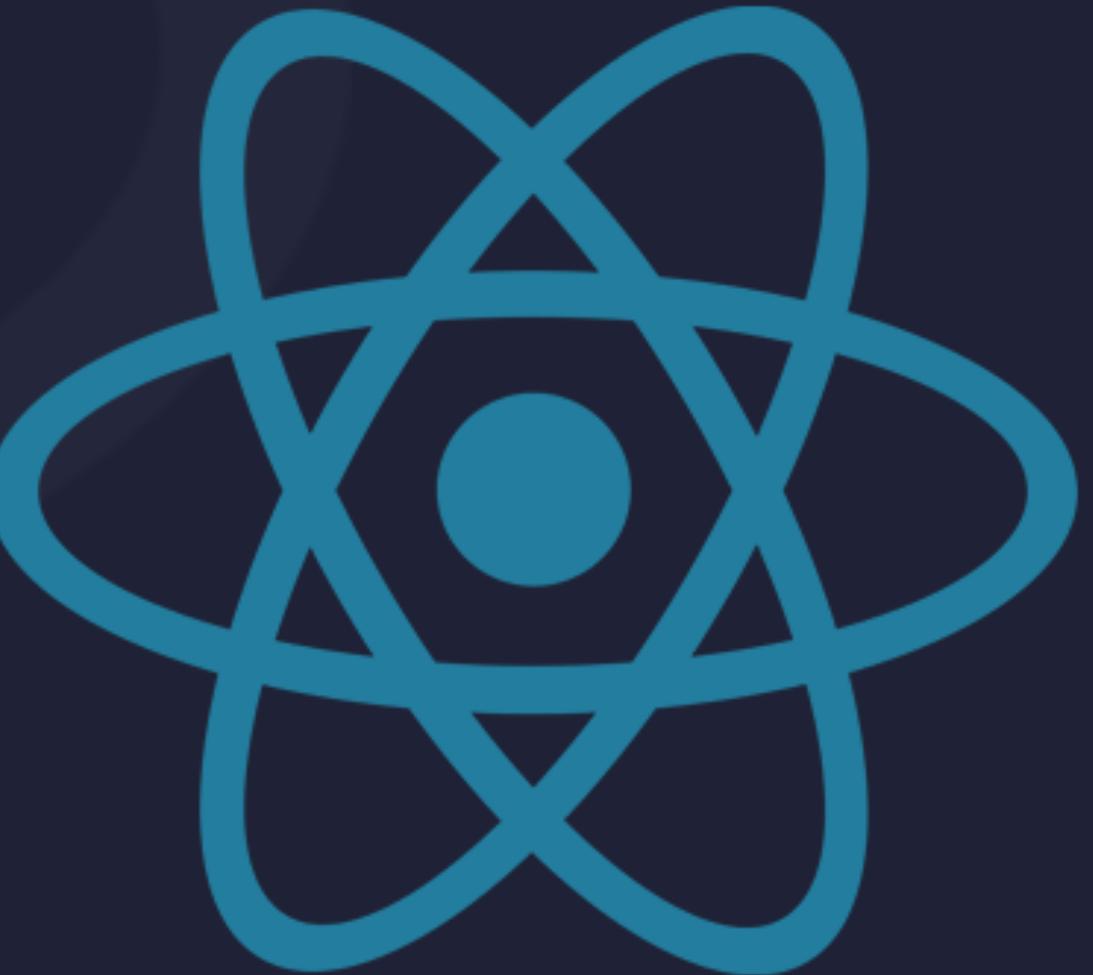
JavaScript is an assembly language.

- Erik Meijer

ASM.JS



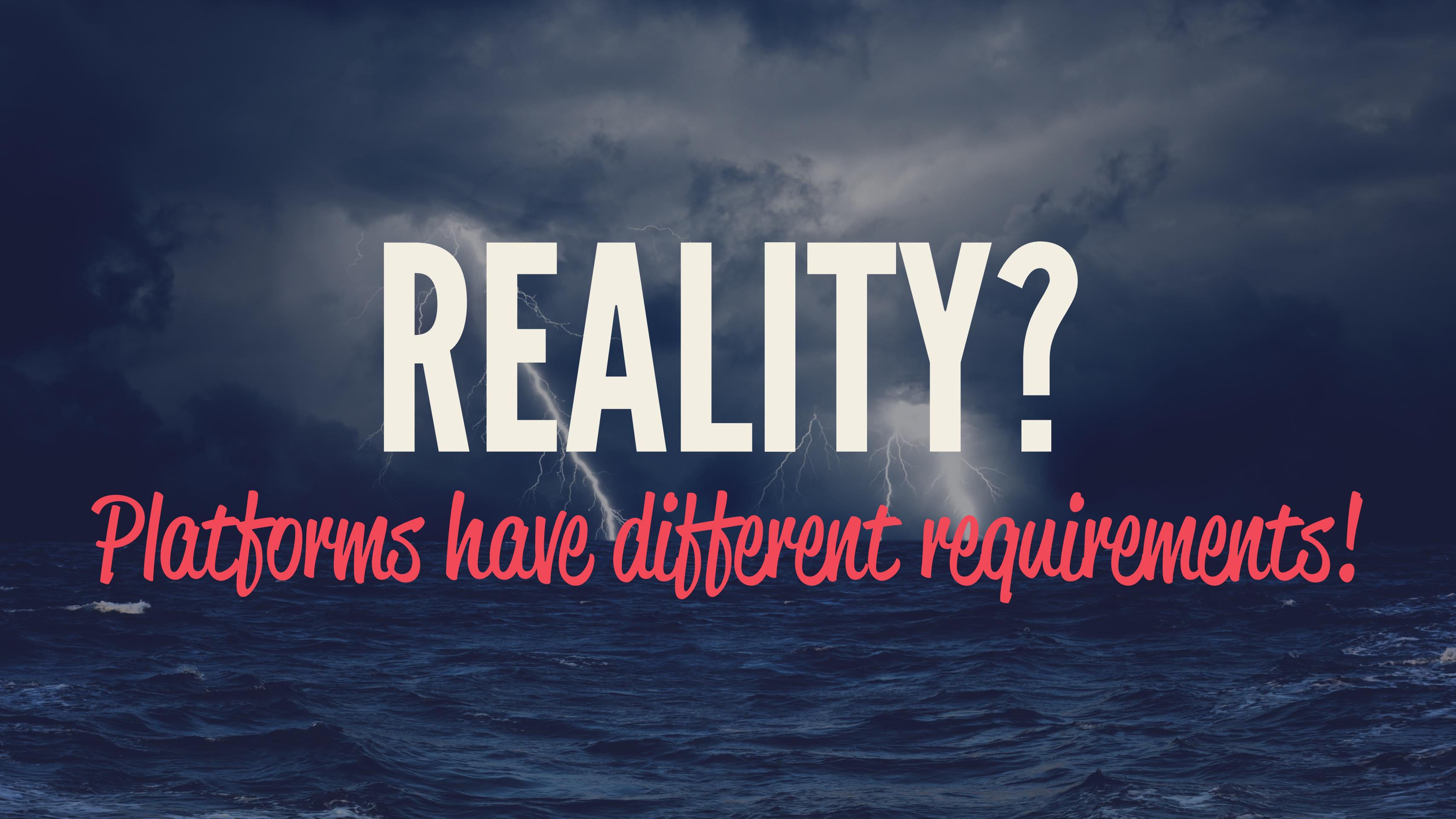
Let's talk about
React Native





The Dream

IMPLEMENT THE APP ONCE &
DEPLOY IT ON ALL PLATFORMS



REALITY?

Platforms have different requirements!

SHARE THE BUSINESS LOGIC

But not UI



DEPENDENCY MANAGEMENT

Reminder

SWIFT IS INTEROPERABLE WITH OBJECTIVE-C

OBJECTIVE-C DEVELOPERS HISTORICALLY USED ...

- ▶ No dependencies
- ▶ Git Submodules
- ▶ CocoaPods

WITH SWIFT, MOST USE:

- ▶ CocoaPods
- ▶ Carthage
- ▶ Swift Package Manager

**NO CENTRAL CODE REGISTRY,
YOU RELY ON PRIVATE HOSTED
REPOSITORIES.**

JAVASCRIPT HAS ...

- ▶ NPM for Node.js
- ▶ Different approaches for frontend code: Bower or Browserify / Webpack etc.

NPM IS A PACKAGE MANAGER AND A PLATFORM.

YOU SUBMIT ACTUAL CODE.



**NO FULL DEPENDENCY RESOLUTION
BY DEFAULT**

PITFALLS OF RECURSIVE RESOLUTION

```
MyApp@1.4.2
├─ BananaKit@1.3.2
|  └─ monkey@1.1.0
└─ monkey@1.0.7
```

```
import BananaKit from 'bananakit';
import Monkey from 'monkey';

const monkey = new Monkey();
const tree = new BananaKit.Tree();
monkey.visit(tree);
// => TypeError: m.climb is not a function
//      at tree.accept (bananakit.js)
//      at monkey.visit (monkey.js)
```

DIFFERENT APPROACHES FOR LOCKING YOUR DEPENDENCIES



- ▶ Commit `node_modules`
- ▶ `npm shrinkwrap`
- ▶ Yarn

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS?

O'REILLY®

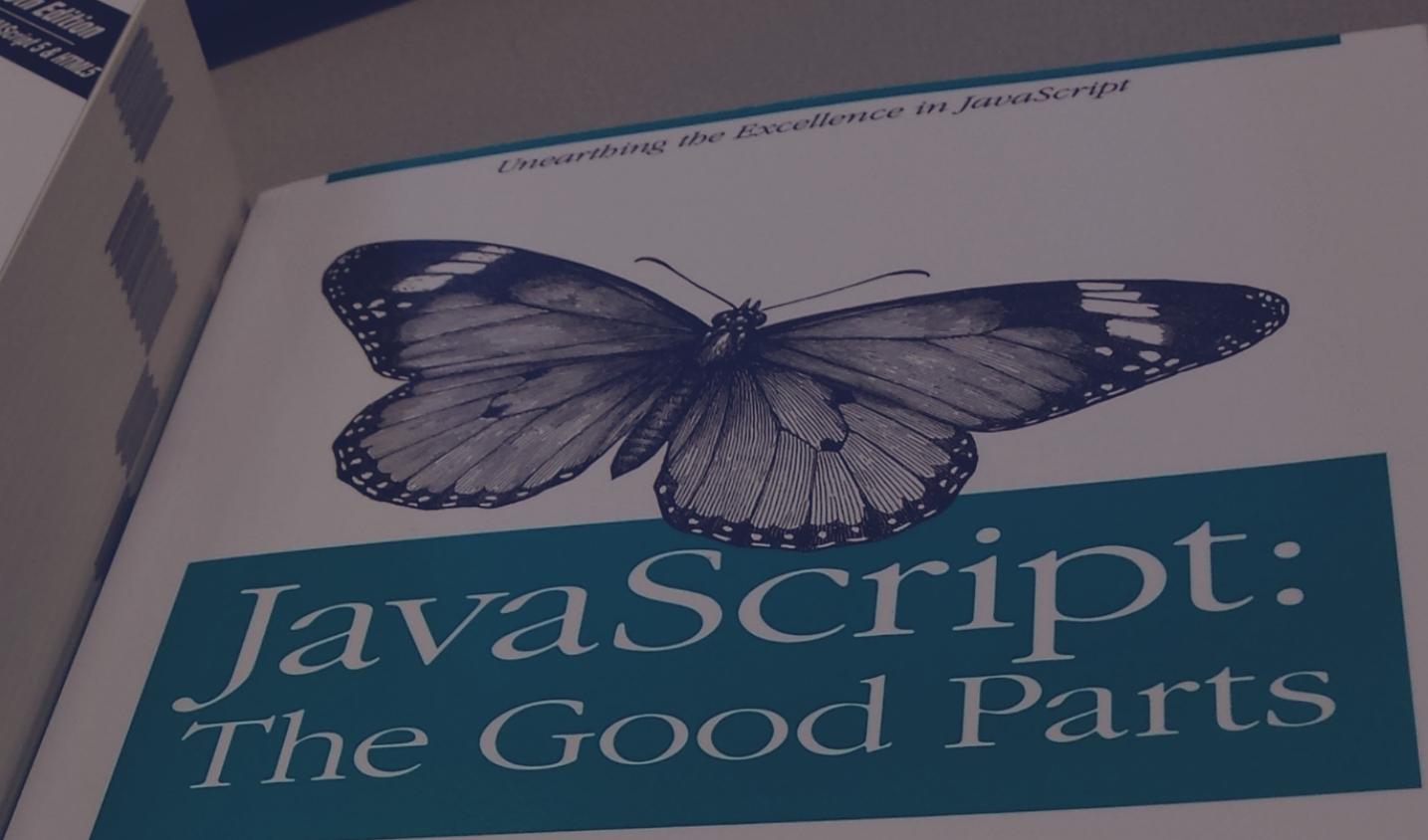
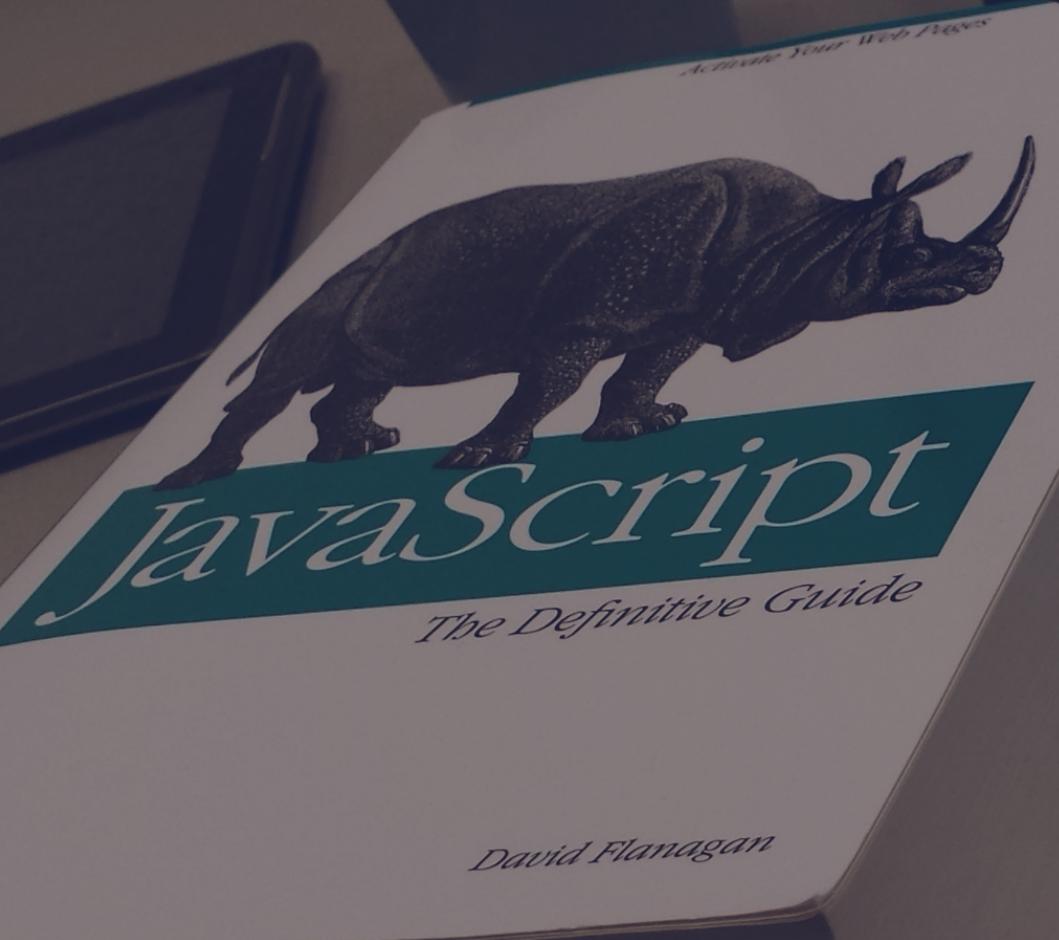
David Flanagan

JavaScript
The Definitive Guide

O'REILLY®

YAHOO! PRESS

Douglas Crockford



```
questions.forEach((question) => {  
    question.ask();  
});
```

**THANKS FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**

@MRACKWITZ
MR@REALM.IO