Interviewee: [redacted]
Computer Engineering PhD
[redacted]
JS experience: 2 years
Other languages: Java, Python
Builds new and maintains components.
JS Pros: Flexible. Tools and frameworks (Node.js, npm). Documentation. Ability to use both on front end and back end.
JS Cons: 'Asynchronous' programming can make the code very confusing (callbacks). Excess of flexibility, especially when reading other people's code, can make it difficult to understand. Not so good to work with mathematics and data science. For example, in Python you can integrate C code, but not so in JS.
Do you think JS leads to hard-to-understand code? Depends on who is programming. But yes, especially for inexperienced programmers. If you have good communication and standards within the team, you can make readable code. But its flexibility allows developers to solve problems in several ways, which can hinder readability. Sometimes you can not know the type of a variable unless you read a large chunk of the code, or run it.

Any JS construct that can be particularly difficult to understand? In the beginning, nested callbacks made it different to maintain code. Async/await, without being properly understood, can make it difficult to read JS code.

Atom	**Preferred version**
Arithmetic as Logic	Without atom
Assignment as Value	With atom
Automatic Semicolon Insertion	Without atom
Comma Operator**	Without atom
Ternary operator	With atom
Implicit predicate	Without atom
Logic as Control Flow*	Without atom
Omitted Curly Braces and Indentation	Without atom
Post Increment	With atom
Pre Increment	Without atom

*This programmer has faced complaints when he wrote code like in Side A
"Esse aqui é interessante, pq eu já fiz isto que está feito aqui no lado A, e reclamaram que estava ruim de entender. Então hoje eu prefiro o lado B."

**"Did not even know this worked."

Any relevant remarks about JS? Nested callbacks are very confusing. Even writing can be confusing, but maintaining is even worse.