

This example shows how the sideEffects flag for library authors works.

The example contains a large library, big-module . big-module contains multiple child modules: a, b and c. The exports from the child modules are re-exported in the entry module (index.js) of the library. A consumer uses some of the exports, importing them from the library via import { a, b } from "big-module". According to the EcmaScript spec, all child modules must be evaluated because they could contain side effects.

The "sideEffects": false flag in big-module 's package.json indicates that the package's modules have no side effects (on evaluation) and only expose exports. This allows tools like webpack to optimize re-exports. In the case import { a, b } from "big-module-with-flag" is rewritten to import { a } from "big-module-with-flag/a"; import { b } from "big-module-with-flag/b".

The example contains two variants of big-module . big-module has no sideEffects flag and big-module-with-flag has the sideEffects flag. The example client imports a and b from each of the variants.

After being built by webpack, the output bundle contains index.js a.js b.js c.js from big-module, but only a.js and b.js from big-module-with-flag.

Advantages:

- Smaller bundles
- Faster bootup

example.js

```
import { a as a1, b as b1 } from "big-module";
import { a as a2, b as b2 } from "big-module-with-flag";

console.log(
   a1,
   b1,
   a2,
   b2
);
```

node_modules/big-module/package.json

```
{
  "name": "big-module"
}
```

node_modules/big-module-with-flag/package.json

```
{
  "name": "big-module-with-flag",
  "sideEffects": false
}
```

node_modules/big-module(-with-flag)/index.js

```
export { a } from "./a";
export { b } from "./b";
export { c } from "./c";
```

dist/output.js

```
/******/ (function(modules) { /* webpackBootstrap */ })
 /*****/ ([
 /* 0 */
 /*!******************
   !*** ./example.js ***!
 /*! no exports provided */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
 __webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony import */ var big_module__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_0_ = __webpack_require__(/*! big-module */
 /* harmony import */ var big_module_with_flag__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_1_ = __webpack_require__(/*! big
 console.log(
  big_module__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_0_["a"],
  big_module__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_0_["b"],
  big_module_with_flag__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_1__["a"],
  big_module_with_flag__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_1__["b"]
 );
 /***/ }),
 /* 1 */
 /*!*********************************
   !*** ./node_modules/big-module/index.js ***!
   /*! exports provided: a, b, c */
```

```
/***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
 __webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony import */ var _a_WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_0_ = _webpack_require__(/*! ./a */ 2);
 /* harmony reexport (safe) */ _webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "a", function() { return _a__WEI
 /* harmony import */ var _b_WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_1_ = _webpack_require__(/*! ./b */ 3);
 /* harmony reexport (safe) */ _webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "b", function() { return _b__WEI
 /* harmony import */ var _c__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_2_ = __webpack_require__(/*! ./c */ 4);
 /* harmony reexport (safe) */ _webpack_require_.d(_webpack_exports__, "c", function() { return _c_WEI
 /***/ }),
 /* 2 */
           **********
   !*** ./node_modules/big-module/a.js ***!
  \*********
 /*! exports provided: a */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
  _webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony export (binding) */ __webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "a", function() { return a; })
 const a = "a";
 /***/ }),
 /* 3 */
  !*** ./node_modules/big-module/b.js ***!
  \**********************************
 /*! exports provided: b */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
  _webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony export (binding) */ _webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "b", function() { return b; })
 const b = "b";
 /***/ }),
 /* 4 */
   !*** ./node_modules/big-module/c.js ***!
 /*! exports provided: c */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
 __webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony export (binding) */ __webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "c", function() { return c; })
 const c = "c":
 /***/ }),
 /* 5 */
  !*** ./node_modules/big-module-with-flag/index.js ***!
  /*! exports provided: a, b, c */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
 __webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony import */ var _a__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_0_ = __webpack_require__(/*! ./a */ 6);
 /* harmony reexport (safe) */ _webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "a", function() { return _a__WEI
 /* harmony import */ var _b_WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_1_ = __webpack_require__(/*! ./b */ 7);
   harmany recognant (asfa) */ wahaal require d/
```

```
/" narmony reexport (sale) "/ __webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "b", runction() {    return _b__web
 /* harmony import */ var _c__WEBPACK_IMPORTED_MODULE_2_ = __webpack_require__(/*! ./c */ 8);
 /* harmony reexport (safe) */ _webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "c", function() { return _c__WEI
 /***/ }),
 /* 6 */
 !*** ./node_modules/big-module-with-flag/a.js ***!
 /*! exports provided: a */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
 __webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony export (binding) */ __webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "a", function() { return a; })
 const a = "a";
 /***/ }),
 /* 7 */
 !*** ./node_modules/big-module-with-flag/b.js ***!
 /*! exports provided: b */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
 __webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony export (binding) */ __webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "b", function() { return b; })
 const b = "b";
 /***/ }),
 /* 8 */
 !*** ./node_modules/big-module-with-flag/c.js ***!
 /*! exports provided: c */
 /***/ (function(module, __webpack_exports__, __webpack_require__) {
 "use strict";
 __webpack_require__.r(__webpack_exports__);
 /* harmony export (binding) */ _webpack_require__.d(__webpack_exports__, "c", function() { return c; })
 const c = "c";
 /***/ })
 /*****/ ]);
```

Info

Unoptimized

```
Hash: 0a1b2c3d4e5f6a7b8c9d

Version: webpack 4.8.0

Asset Size Chunks Chunk Names

output.js 7.89 KiB 0 [emitted] main

Entrypoint main = output.js

chunk {0} output.js (main) 422 bytes [entry] [rendered]

> .\example.js main

[0] ./example.js 140 bytes {0} [built]

    [no exports]

    single entry .\example.js main

+ 8 hidden modules
```

Production mode

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