Common JavaScript Data Types

- Numbers (no integers). Arithmetic based on 64-bit IEEE-754 standard.
- Strings.
- `undefined` and `null`.
- Booleans: `true` and `false`.
- Objects (which include functions).

Objects are non-primitive. All other types are primitive types.

Numbers

No integers. Can be problematic for financial calculations.
Showing REPL log of interaction with nodejs.
NODE_NO_READLINE env var used to get a clean prompt under emacs.

```
$ NODE_NO_READLINE=1 nodejs
> 1/0
Infinity
> 0/0
NaN
> NaN === NaN //IEEE behavior; in other languages too
false
> 2**53
9007199254740992
> 2**53 + 1
9007199254740992   //IEEE 64 bit floats have a 53-bit mantissa.
> (2**53 + 1) === 2**53
```

Normal Arithmetic and Bitwise Operators

- Usual *arithmetic operators* + (both infix and prefix), - (both infix and prefix), *, / and % (remainder, has sign of dividend).
- *Bitwise operators* &, |, ^, ~, <<, >> (arith), >>> (logical).
- Bitwise operators always work with 32-bit 2's-complement integers.
- Previous property used in asm.js to obtain access to more efficient machine integer operations.

Arithmetic and Bitwise Operators Examples

```
> 18*2 + 77%13/2
42
> 1 | 2          //bitwise-or
3
> 0x99 & 0x3 //bitwise-and; hex notation
1
> 5 ^ 7          //bitwise-xor
2
> ~0              //bitwise-complement
-1              //0xffffffff is -1
> 3 << 4         //left-shift
48              //x << n === x * 2**n
> 100 >> 3      //arithmetic right-shift
12              // x>> n == x / 2**n
>
```

More on Shift Operators

Distinguish between >> (sign-propagating or arithmetic right-shift) and >>> (zero-fill or logical right-shift). No difference for non-negative numbers, but different results for negative numbers:

```
> -9 >> 1
-5
> -9 >>> 1
2147483643
> (-9 >>> 1).toString(16)
'7ffffffb'
>
```

Strings

- Strings are immutable.
- Classically, string literals are delimited using either double quotes " or single quotes '. Prefer ' delimiters since easier to type on normal keyboards. Backslashes interpreted as usual. Cannot span multiple lines.

```
> 'a' + 'b'
'ab'
> 'abc'[1]
'b'
> 'hello world'.indexOf('o')
4
> 'hello world'.lastIndexOf('o')
7
> 'hello world'.substr(3, 4)
'lo w'
```

Strings Continued

```
> 'hello world'.substring(3, 4)
'l'
> 'hello world'.slice(6)
'world'
> 'hello world'.slice(1, 4)
'ell'
> 'hello world'.slice(-3)
'rld'
> 'hello world'.slice(-3, -1)
'rl'
```

Template String Literals

Enclosed within back-quotes ‘. Relatively new addition. Can contain direct newlines. All popular scripting languages have similar concepts (though introduced relatively recently to Python).

```
> const x = 22
undefined
> ‘The answer is ${x + 20}‘
’The answer is 42’
> ‘Betty bought a bit of butter
... ‘
’Betty bought a bit of butter\n’
> ‘Twas brillig and the slithy toves
... Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:‘
’Twas brillig and the slithy toves\nDid gyre and
gimble in the wabe:’
>
```

undefined

`undefined` Means lack of a value.

- Uninitialized variables are `undefined`.
- Missing parameters are `undefined`.
- Non-existent properties are `undefined`.
- Functions return `undefined` if no explicit return value.
- Use `x === undefined` to check if `x` is undefined.

undefined Continued

```
> let x
undefined
> x
undefined
> x = {}            //empty object
{}
> x.a
undefined
> undefined
undefined
> undefined = 1  //not a reserved word
1
> undefined       //immutable in global scope
undefined
```

`null`

`null` is a special value used to denote *no object*.
Can be used wherever an object is expected to indicate absence of an object. Examples:

- Parameters.
- Last object in a object chain.
- Use `x === null` to check if `x` is null.

typeof

Operator `typeof` used for categorizing primitives:

```
> typeof null
'object'
> typeof undefined
'undefined'
> typeof ""
'string'
> typeof 1
'number'
> typeof 1.2
'number'
> typeof true
'boolean'
```

typeof Continued

```
> typeof {}
'object'
> typeof []
'object'
> typeof (new Date())
'object'
>
```

instanceof

The `typeof` operator does not distinguish between different object types. Use `instanceof` operator for categorizing objects. The expression *v* `instanceof` *Type* returns true iff the constructor function Type was used to create *v*.

```
> ({} instanceof Object)
true
> [] instanceof Array
true
> (new Date()) instanceof Date
true
> (new Date()) instanceof Array
false
>
```

What is Truth

Many languages, particularly scripting languages, treat some set of values as *false* and **all other values** as *true*.
The *falsy* values in js are the following:

1. `undefined`.
2. `null`.
3. `false`.
4. 0.
5. "" (empty string).
6. `NaN` (Not-a-Number).

All other values are *truthy* and considered equivalent to true when used in a boolean context.

Booleans

Boolean value returned by !, short-circuit && and || logical operators return truthy booleans, equality operators ==, !=, ===, !==, comparison operators >, <, >=, <=.

```
> !true
false
> !1
false
> !!1   //common idiom used to convert to proper boolean
true
> !!0
false
> 0 == false //one reason why '==' should not be used
true
> 0 === false
false
```

Booleans Continued

```
> 'hello' || 'world'
'hello'
> 'hello' && 'world'
'world'
> defaultValue = 42
42
> let x
undefined
> let y = x || defaultValue //common idiom for default init
undefined
> y
42
```

Booleans Continued

Default initialization idiom should only be used if a valid value is not one of the falsy values.

```
> x = 0   //0 is falsy
0
> let z = x || defaultValue
undefined
> z
42  //z assigned defaultValue despite x having a value
```

Control Constructs

- *Condition-based selection* using `if` and `if-else` statements. No surprises except truthy interpretation of condition.
- *Multiway selection* on a value using `switch-case-default`. Value compared with case-values using ===. Control will fall-through from one case to the next, unless there is a `break` statement.
- Looping using while. Body may not execute at all if condition is initially falsy.
- Looping using do-while statement executes its body at least once, irrespective of the value of the condition.

For Loops

- *Traditional for* loop with initialization expression, condition expression and increment expression. Any of the three expressions can be omitted.
- Looping through *object properties* using `for-each-in`.
- Looping over *iterable objects* like arrays using `for-of`.

For Loop Examples

Summing positive elements of array a (better to use `filter` and `reduce`):
Using traditional `for`:

```
let sum = 0;
for (let i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {
  if (a[i] > 0) sum += a[i];
}
```

Using `for-'of'`:

```
let sum = 0;
for (const v of a) {
  if (v > 0) sum += v;
}
```

A Glimpse At Objects

An object is merely a named collection of name-value pairs (which include functions). Values are referred to as object **properties**.

```
> x = { a: 9 }  //Object literal notation
{ a: 9 }
> x.a
9
> x['abc'[0]] //index by arbitrary expression
42            //same as x.a
> x = { a: 9,   //anon function is value for f
... f: function(a, b) { return a + b; } }
{ a: 9, f: [Function: f] }
> x.f(3, 5)
8
> x = 'a'
'a'
> { [x]: 42 }  //variable as name; same as { a: 42 }
```

Functions

- Functions are **first-class**: need not have a name ("anonymous"), can be passed as parameters, returned as results, stored in data structure.
- Functions can be nested within one another.
- **Closures** preserve the referencing environment of a function.
- During execution of a function, there is always an implicit object, referred to using `this`.

Traditional Function Definition

```
> function max1(a, b) { return a > b ? a : b }
undefined
> max1(4, 3)
4
> x = max1 //storing function in variable
[Function: max1]
> x.name
'max1'
> x.length
2
```

Defining Function Using a Function Expression

```
> x = max2 = function(a, b) { return a > b ? a : b }
[Function: max2]
> max2(4, 3)
4
> x(4, 3)
4
> x.name
'max2'
> x.length
2
>
```

Arrow Functions

```
> x = max4 = (a, b) => a > b ? a : b
[Function: max4]
> x(4, 3)
4
> x.name
'max4'
> x.length
2
>
```

Newer feature, does not bind `this` or other function "variables".
Cannot be used for constructors; best for non-method functions.

Arrays

Arrays (AKA lists) are like objects except:

- It has an auto-maintained `length` property (always set to 1 greater than the largest array index).
- Arrays have their prototype set to `Array.prototype` ('Array.prototype' has its prototype set to `Object.prototype`, hence arrays inherit object methods).

Arrays vs Objects Examples

```
> a = []
[]
> o = {}
{}
> a.length
0
> o.length
undefined
> a[2] = 22
22
> a.length
3
> a[2]
22
```

Arrays vs Objects Examples Continued

```
> a.join('|')
'||22'
> a.length = 1 //truncates
1
> a[2]
undefined
> a.length
1
> a.constructor
[Function: Array]
> o.constructor
[Function: Object]
>
```

Mapping Arrays

The `map()` function returns a new array which is the result of calling its argument array on each element of the calling array.

```
> function times3(x) { return 3*x; }
undefined
> [1, 2, 3].map(times3)
[ 3, 6, 9 ]
> [1, 2, 3].map(x => 7*x);
[ 7, 14, 21 ]
> [7, 3, 2, 4].map(x => x % 2 === 0)
[ false, false, true, true ]
>
```

Reducing Arrays

The `reduce()` function using a function `f(accumulator, element)` to reduce an array to a single value.

```
> [1,2,3,4,5].reduce((acc, value) => acc + value)
15
> [1,2,3,4,5].reduce ((acc, value) => acc + value, 7 )
22
> [12].reduce((acc, value) => acc + value)
12
> > [].reduce((acc, value) => acc + value, 15)
15
> [].reduce((acc, value) => acc + value)
TypeError: Reduce of empty array with no initial value
...
```

Applying a Function to Each Array Element

`forEach()` applies function to each element. Like many other functions callback takes 3 arguments: elementValue, elementIndex plus full array.

```
indexes = []
[]
> [1, 2, 3, 4].forEach(( v, i ) => {
    if (v%2 === 0) indexes.push (i);
  })
undefined
> indexes
[ 1, 3 ]
>
```

Other Higher-Order Array Functions

Includes `every()`, `find()`, `findIndex()`, `filter()`, `reduceRight()`, `some()`.

```
> [1, 2, 3, 4].find(x => x%2 === 0)
2
> [1, 2, 3, 4].findIndex(x => x%2 === 0)
1
> [1, 2, 3, 4].every(x => x%2 === 0)
false
> [1, 2, 3, 4].some(x => x%2 === 0)
true
> [1, 2, 3, 4].reduce((acc, v) => acc - v)
-8                  //(((1-2)-3)-4
> [1, 2, 3, 4].reduceRight((acc, v) => acc - v)
-2                  //1-(2-(3-4))
>
```

Other Higher-Order Array Functions

Summing positive elements of array:

```
> [1, -2, 3, -4].filter((e) => e > 0).
    reduce((acc, e) => acc + e, 0)
4
```