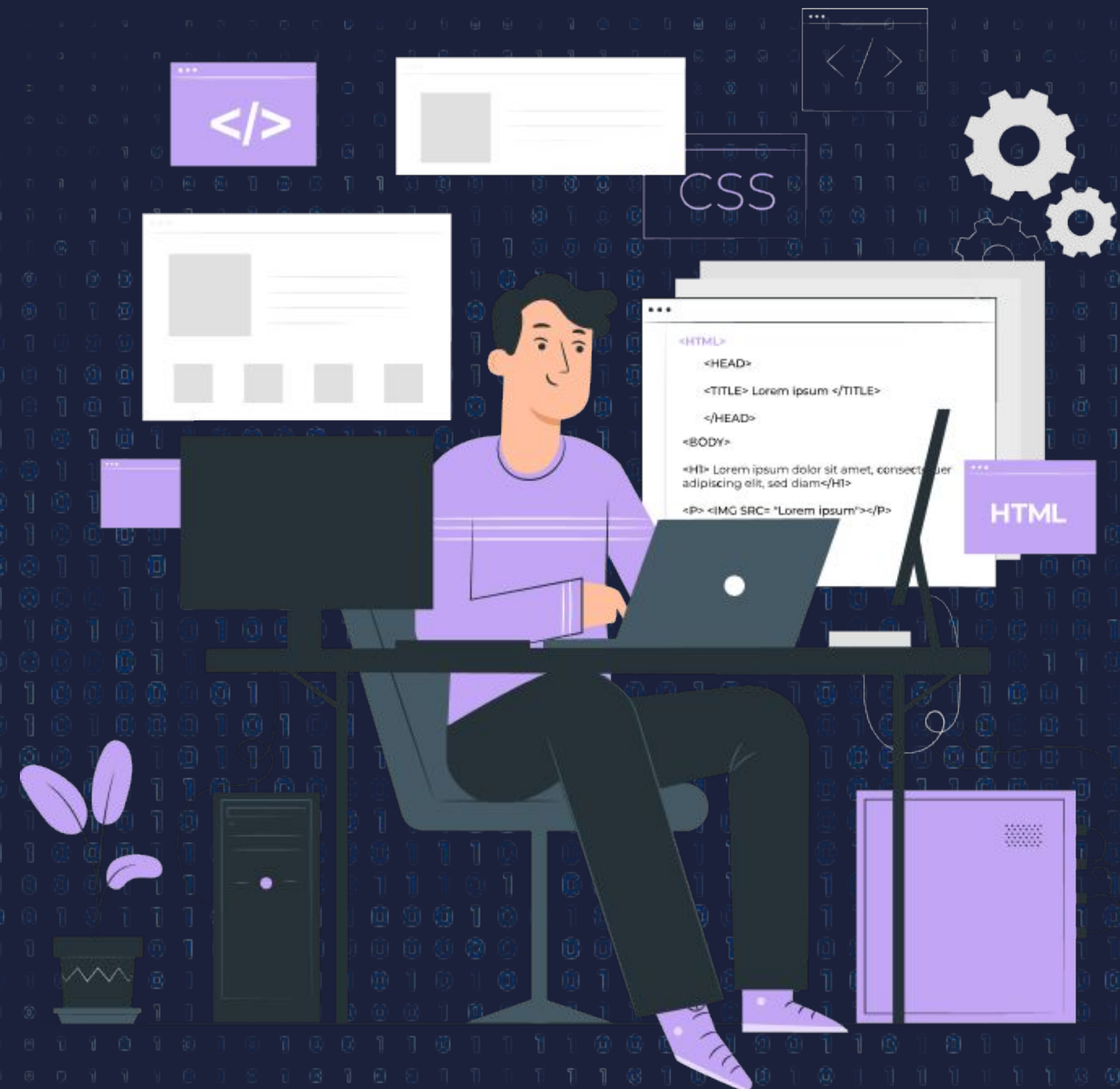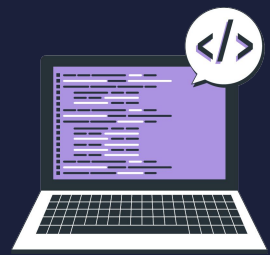# Intro to JavaScript

Topics Covered

- Introduction
- Advantages of learning Javascript
- History of JavaScript
- What is ECMAScript?
- Versions of ECMAScript
- Getting started with JavaScript – "Hello World"

Introduction to JavaScript

- JavaScript is a popular programming language that is widely used to build web applications.
- It is a client-side scripting language, which means that it is run by your web browser rather than on a server.
- JavaScript is also used to build mobile apps, create interactive documents, and build server-side applications with the help of runtime environments such as Node.js.

Advantages of learning Javascript

- Ease of Use
- Cross-Platform Compatibility
- A large Developer Community
- Powerful Capabilities
- Growing Demand

History of JavaScript

JavaScript was created in 1995 by Brendan Eich, a programmer at Netscape Communications Corporation. It was originally called Mocha, then changed to LiveScript, and finally, it was given the name JavaScript to leverage the popularity of Java, which was a popular programming language at the time. JavaScript was first introduced in Netscape Navigator 2.0, a popular web browser of the time.

In the early days of JavaScript, it was primarily used for simple things like form validation and simple mouse interactions, but as browsers became more powerful and web standards evolved, JavaScript became more widely used for building more complex web applications. With the introduction of popular libraries and frameworks like jQuery, AngularJS, React, and Vue.js, it has become easier to build complex and powerful web applications using JavaScript.

1996

2009

1995

2006

In 1996, JavaScript was submitted to the European Computer Manufacturers Association (ECMA) and it was standardized as ECMAScript. This standardized version of JavaScript is still used today and is supported by all modern web browsers like Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox,

The emergence of Node.js in 2009 made it possible to run JavaScript on the server side and it became more popular as a full-stack language, allowing for code reuse and sharing between the client side and the server side.

What is ECMAScript?

ECMAScript (often referred to as simply "JavaScript") is a programming language specification standardized by the European Computer Manufacturers Association (ECMA).

It was first published in 1997 and is used to create scripts for the web and other environments. JavaScript is the most widely-used implementation of ECMAScript and is supported by all major web browsers.

ECMAScript Specifications

ECMAScript defines the syntax, semantics, and features of the language, and specifies how it should be implemented. The specification includes things like:

- **Data types:** ECMAScript supports several data types such as numbers, strings, and objects.
- **Variables:** ECMAScript defines the way variables are declared and used.
- **Expressions and operators:** ECMAScript specifies the operators that can be used to manipulate data and create expressions.
- **Control flow:** ECMAScript defines the various control flow statements such as if-else, for, and while loops.
- **Functions:** ECMAScript defines how functions are created, called, and returned.
- **Objects:** ECMAScript specifies how to create and manipulate objects, including how to define properties and methods.

Versions of ECMAScript

ECMAScript has several versions, with the latest one being ECMAScript 2022 (ES13). Each new version of ECMAScript adds new features and updates the existing ones.

The first version was introduced in 1997 as ECMAScript 1. In which they introduced basic JavaScript syntax and features.

Major updates in JavaScript were introduced in ECMAScript 6 (2015) and they make JavaScript a more powerful, expressive, and efficient language, allowing developers to write more maintainable and scalable code.

Getting started with JavaScript – "Hello World"

Let's make our first program in JavaScript.

Step 1: Create a file index.js.

Step 2: Paste the following code in index.js

```
console.log("JavaScript - Hello World")
```

Step 3: Run the index.js using your terminal. node index.js

Output
JavaScript - Hello World

Note: node must be installed in your system to run the above command. **Download NodeJs.** We will study about Node.JS in detail in further modules.