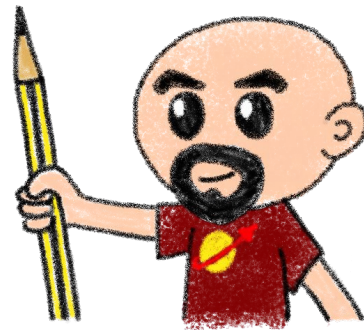


# Hands-on WebAssembly

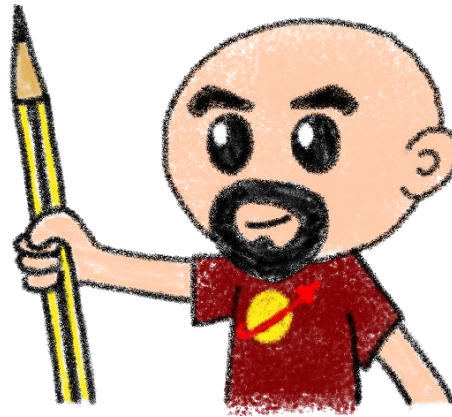
Horacio Gonzalez

2021-06-24



# Who are we?

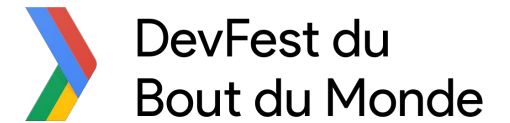
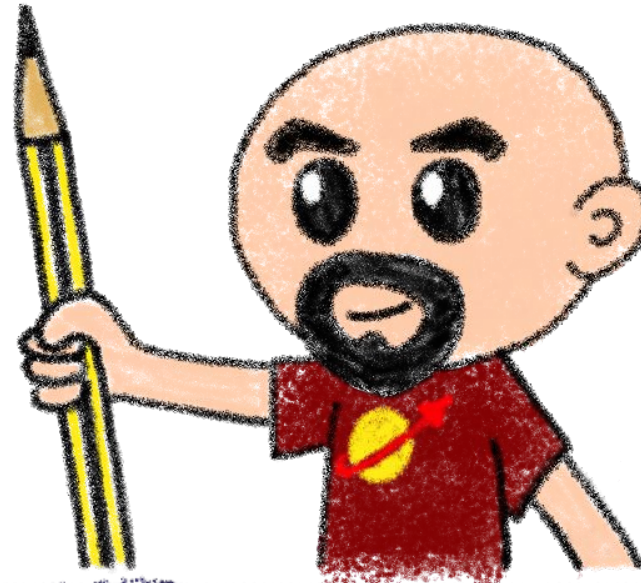
Introducing myself and  
introducing ~~OVH~~ OVHcloud



# Horacio Gonzalez

## @LostInBrittany

Spaniard lost in Brittany,  
developer, dreamer and  
all-around geek



# OVHcloud: A global leader



**Web Cloud & Telecom**



**Private Cloud**



**Public Cloud**



**Storage**



**Network & Security**



**30 Data Centers**  
in 12 locations



**34 Points of Presence**  
on a 20 TBPS Bandwidth Network



**2200 Employees**  
worldwide



**115K Private Cloud**  
VMS running



**300K Public Cloud**  
instances running



**380K Physical Servers**  
running in our data centers



**1 Million+ Servers**  
produced since 1999



**1.5 Million Customers**  
across 132 countries



**3.8 Million Websites**  
hosting



**1.5 Billion Euros Invested**  
since 2016



**P.U.E. 1.09**  
Energy efficiency indicator



**20+ Years in Business**  
Disrupting since 1999



# How is the codelab structured?

What are we coding today?

010101010  
011010101  
101100101



# A GitHub repository

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'wasm-codelab' by 'LostInBrittany'. The repository is private and has 2 watchers, 0 stars, and 0 forks. It contains 18 commits, 1 branch, 0 releases, and 2 contributors. The repository description is 'A repository for the WASM codelab at DevFest Nantes 2019'. The commit history shows a series of steps from 'Project README done' to 'Game of Life working, even in local'. The README file is visible, titled 'DevFest Nantes 2019 WebAssembly Codelab', and contains introductory text about the tutorial's objectives and required tools.

Commit	Message	Time	
28b108b	Game of Life working, even in local	1 hour ago	
	step-05	Game of Life working, even in local	1 hour ago
	step-04	Fixing bugs and typos, adding offline version of step-04	6 hours ago
	step-03	Fixing bugs and typos, adding offline version of step-04	6 hours ago
	step-02	Fixing links	8 hours ago
	step-01	Fixing typos	8 hours ago
	scripts	Project README done	14 hours ago
	app	Step-02 and init Step-01	10 hours ago

**DevFest Nantes 2019 WebAssembly Codelab**

We have built this [WebAssembly Codelab](#) as a quick entry point to [WebAssembly](#).

### What are the objectives of this tutorial

Follow the tutorial to learn the concepts behind WebAssembly (WASM), write your first WASM libraries, compile existing libraries to WASM and generally understand how WASM open new possibilities in the web development ecosystem.

### What do I need to use this tutorial?

The tools strictly needed for this tutorial are a modern web browser (ideally [Chrome](#) or [Chromium](#)), a text editor (we suggest the excellent [Visual Studio Code](#)), [Node JS](#), and a web-server to test your code.

<https://github.com/LostInBrittany/wasm-codelab>



# Nothing to install

C++11 -Os	COMPILE	Wat	ASSEMBLE	DOWNLOAD	Firefox x86 Assembly <
<pre>1 int squarer(int num) { 2     return num * num; 3 }</pre>		<pre>1 (module 2   (type \$type0 (func (param i32) 3     (result i32))) 4   (table 0 anyfunc) 5   (memory 1) 6   (export "memory" memory) 7   (export "_Z7squareri" \$func0) 8   (func \$func0 (param \$var0 i32) 9     (result i32) 10    get_local \$var0 11    get_local \$var0 12    i32.mul 13  ) 14 )</pre>			<pre>wasm-function[0]: sub rsp, 8 mov edx, edi mov ecx, edx mov eax, edx imul ecx, eax mov eax, ecx nop add rsp, 8 ret</pre>

Using WebAssembly Explorer  
and WebAssembly Studio



# Only additional tool: a web server



Because of the browser security model





# Procedure: follow the steps



Step by step



# But before coding, let's speak



What's this WebAssembly thing?



# Did I say WebAssembly?

Wasm for friends...



# WebAssembly, what's that?

What's WASM?



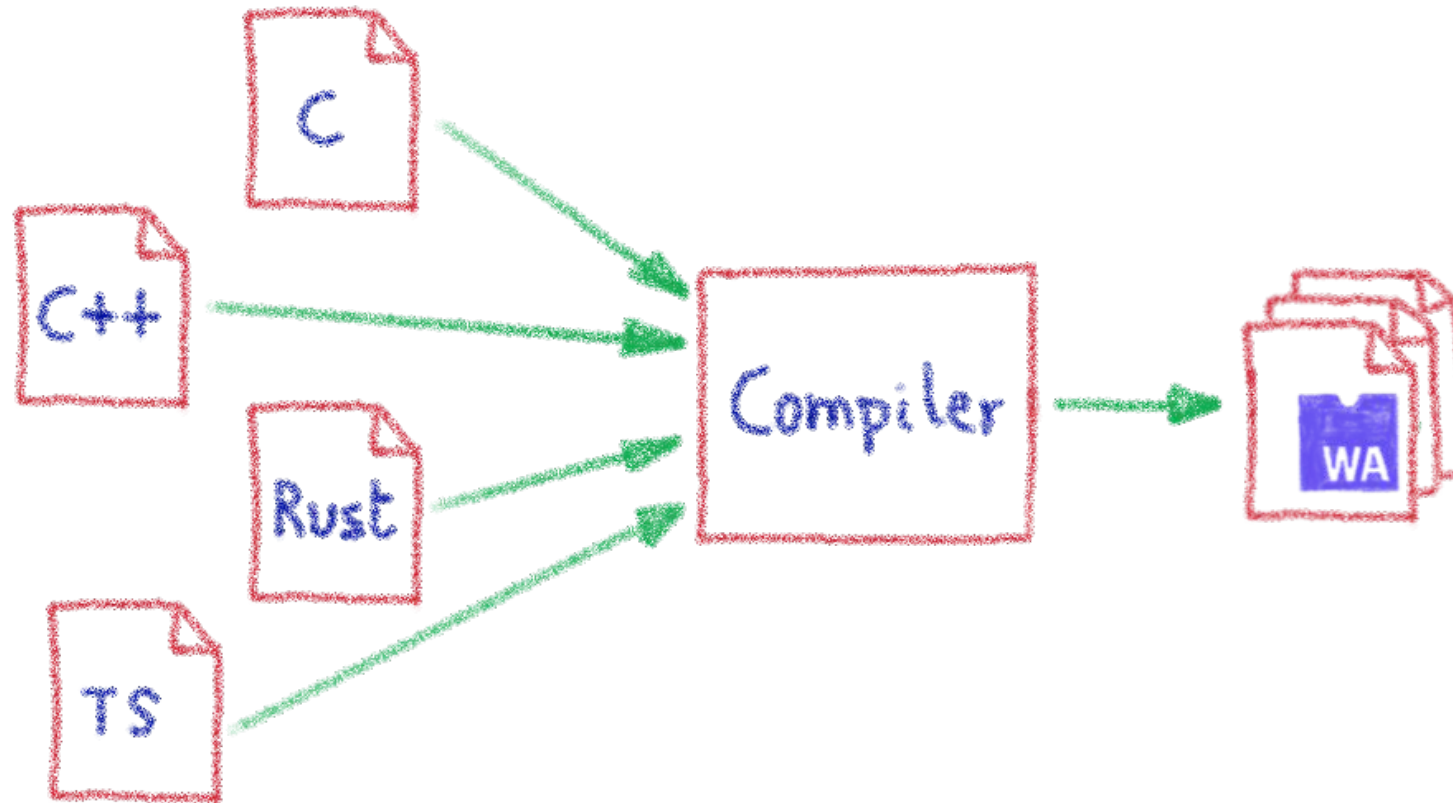
Does it replace JS?

Can I code webapps in Rust?

Is HTML/CSS/JS stack obsolete?



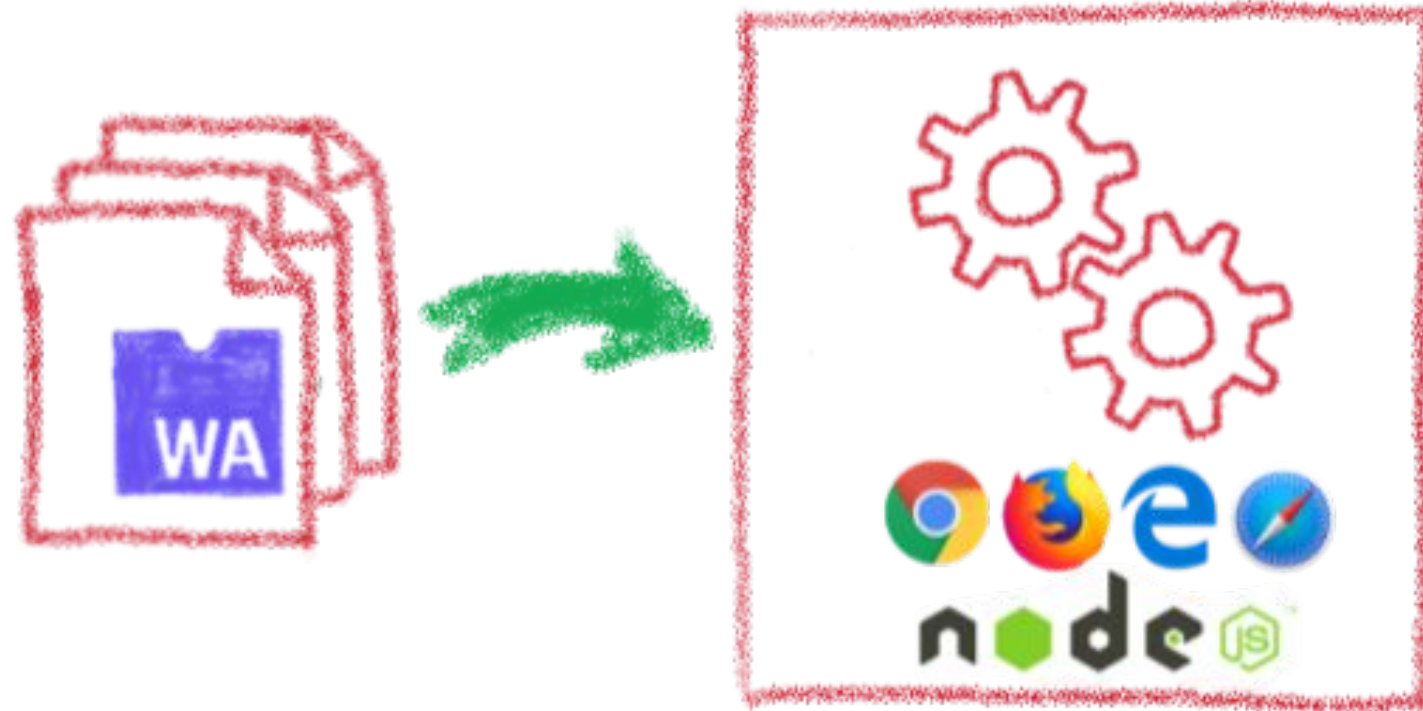
# A low-level binary format



Not a programming language, a compilation target



# That runs on a stack-based virtual machine



A portable binary format that runs on all modern browsers... but also on NodeJS and elsewhere!!



# With several key advantages

Fast & Efficient ⚡

🔒 Memory-safe & Sandboxed

Open & Debuggable 📄

WWW Part of the Web Platform



But above all...



Wasm is not meant to replace JavaScript





# Who is using WebAssembly today?



And many more others...





# A bit of history

Remembering the past  
to better understand the present



# Executing other languages in the browser

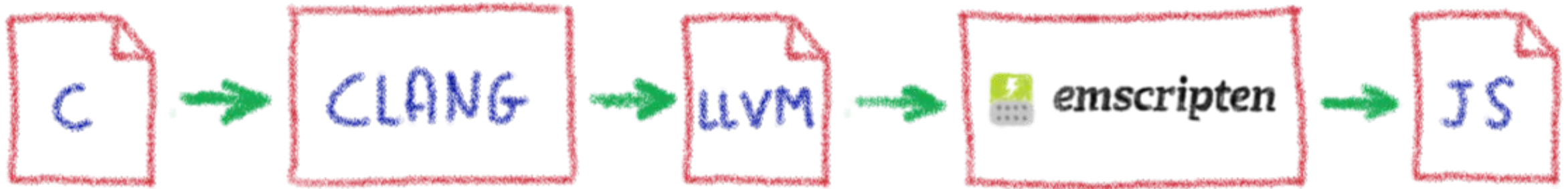


MACROMEDIA  
FLASH

A long story, with many failures...



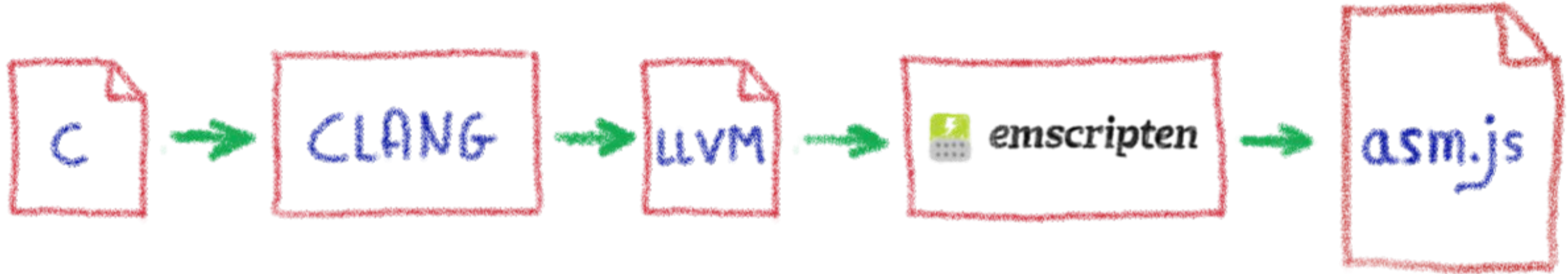
# 2012 - From C to JS: enter emscripten



Passing by LLVM pivot



# 2013 - Generated JS is slow...



Let's use only a strict subset of JS: asm.js  
Only features adapted to AOT optimization



# WebAssembly project

mozilla

Google

 Microsoft

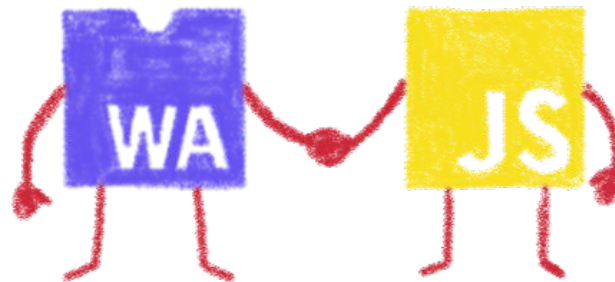
W3C

Joint effort

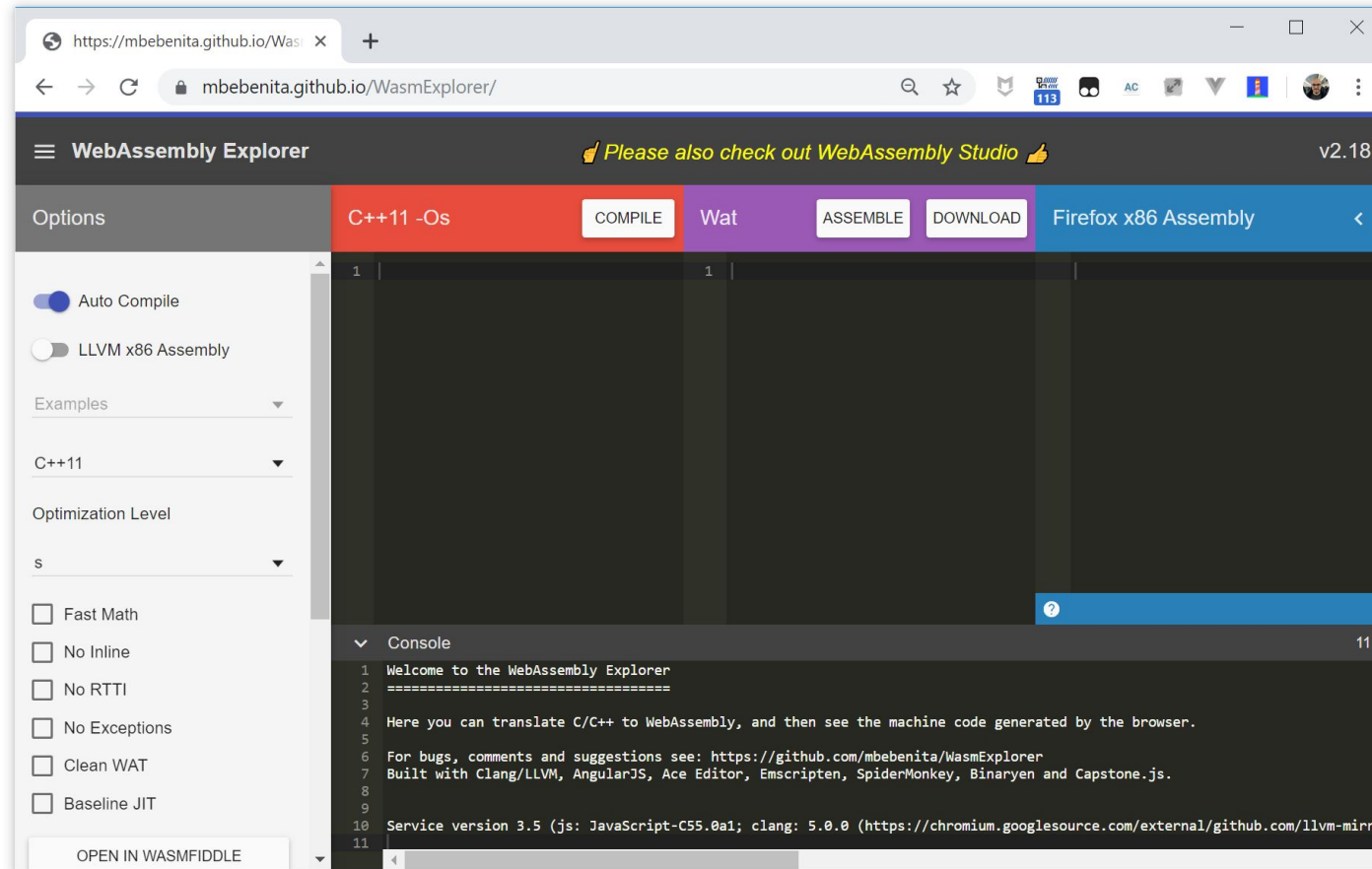


# Hello W(asm)orld

My first WebAssembly program



# I don't want to install a compiler now...



Let's use Wasm Explorer

<https://mbebenita.github.io/WasmExplorer/>





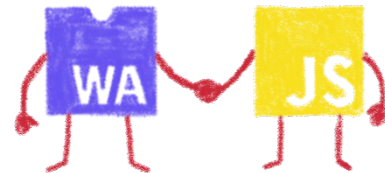
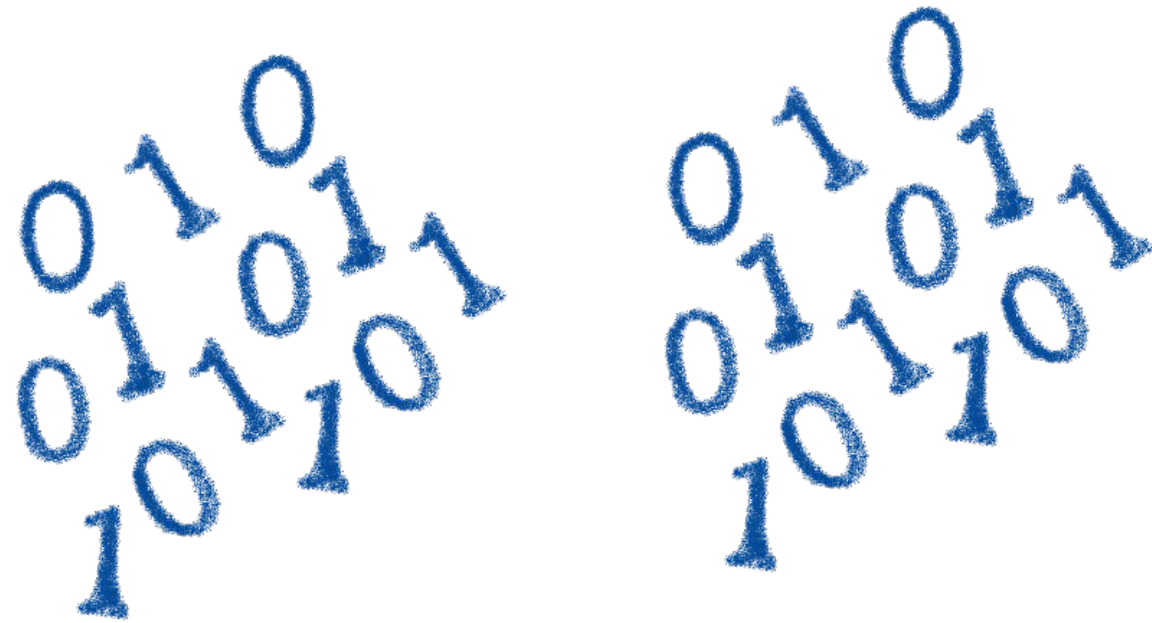
# Let's begin with the a simple function

C++11 -Os	COMPILE	Wat	ASSEMBLE	DOWNLOAD	Firefox x86 Assembly
<pre>1 int squarer(int num) { 2     return num * num; 3 }</pre>		<pre>1 (module 2   (type \$type0 (func (param i32) 3     (result i32))) 4   (table 0 anyfunc) 5   (memory 1) 6   (export "memory" memory) 7   (export "_Z7squareri" \$func0) 8   (func \$func0 (param \$var0 i32) 9     (result i32) 10    get_local \$var0 11    get_local \$var0 12    i32.mul 13  ) 14 )</pre>			<pre>wasm-function[0]: sub rsp, 8 mov edx, edi mov ecx, edx mov eax, edx imul ecx, eax mov eax, ecx nop add rsp, 8 ret</pre>

WAT: WebAssembly Text Format  
Human readable version of the .wasm binary



# Download the binary .wasm file



Now we need to call it from JS...



# Instantiating the Wasm

1. Get the .wasm binary file into an array buffer
2. Compile the bytes into a WebAssembly module
3. Instantiate the WebAssembly module



# Instantiating the WASM



```
wasm > squarer > JS squarer.js > ...  
3   var importObject = {  
4     imports: {  
5       imported_func: function(arg) {  
6         console.log(arg);  
7       }  
8     }  
9   };  
10  
11  async function loadWebAssembly() {  
12    let response = await fetch('squarer.wasm');  
13    let arrayBuffer = await response.arrayBuffer();  
14    let wasmModule = await WebAssembly.instantiate(arrayBuffer, importObject);  
15    squarer = await wasmModule.instance.exports._Z7squareri;  
16    console.log('Finished compiling! Ready when you are...');  
17  }  
18  
19  loadWebAssembly();  
20
```



# Loading the squarer function

```
wasm > squarer > <> squarer.html > ...
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="utf-8" />
5   <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
6   <title>WASM Squarer Function</title>
7   <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
8 </head>
9 <body>
10
11   <h1>WASM Squarer Function</h1>
12
13   <script src="squarer.js"></script>
14
15   <p>Use the browser console to calculate squares</p>
16 </body>
17 </html>
18
19
```



# Using it!

WASM Squarer Function

Use the browser console to calculate squares

```
Finished compiling! Ready when you are... squarer.js:16
> squarer(3)
< 9
> squarer(11)
< 121
>
```

Directly from the browser console  
(it's a simple demo...)



# You sold us a codelab!

Stop speaking and let us code

010101010  
010101010  
101010101



# You can do steps 01 and 02 now



Let's code, mates!





# Some use cases

What can I do with it?



# Tapping into other languages ecosystems



SQUOSH.APP

OptiPNG (C)

Resize (Rust)

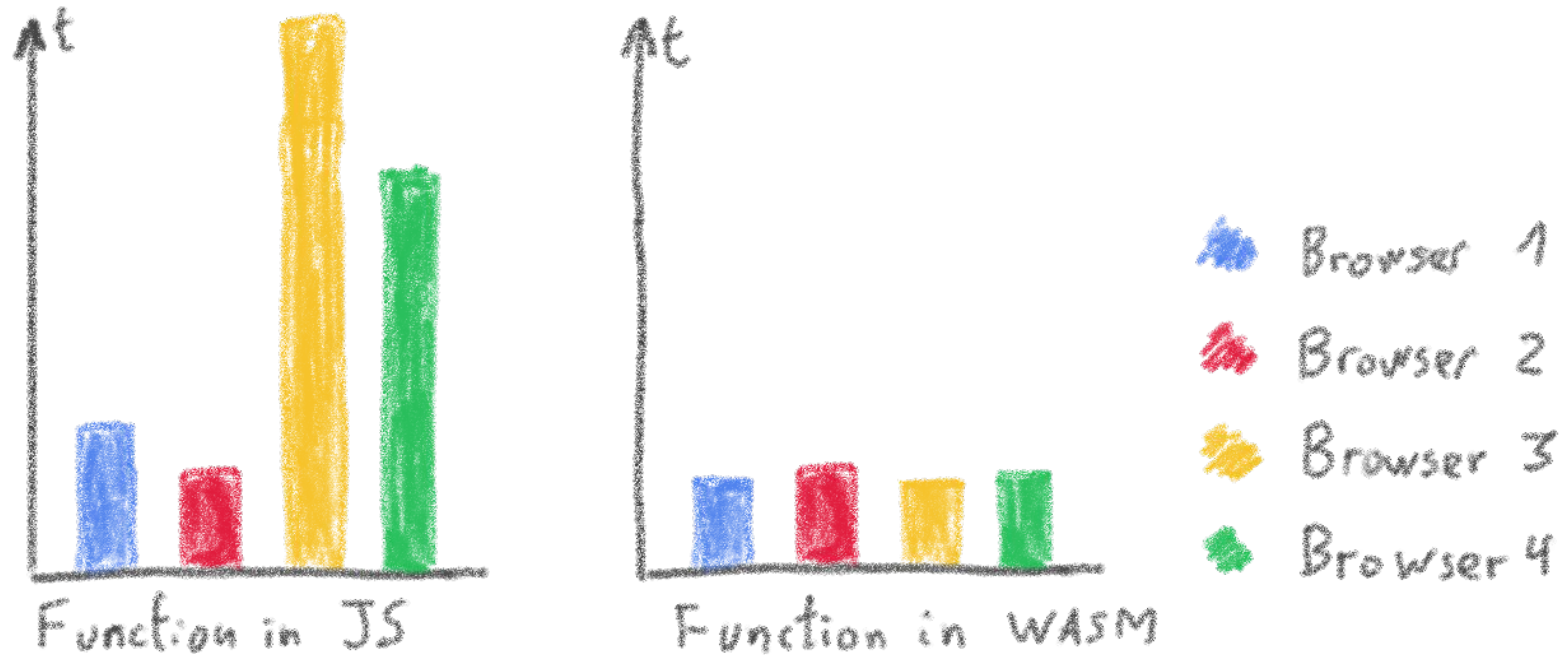
MozJPEG (C++)

webp (C)

Don't rewrite libs anymore



# Replacing problematic JS bits



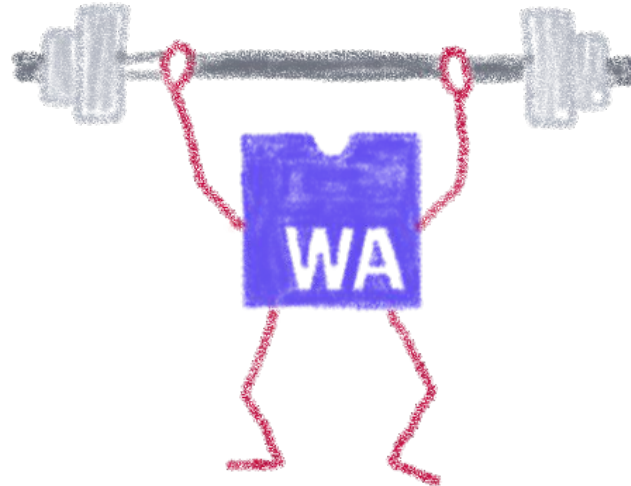
Predictable performance

Same peak performance, but less variation

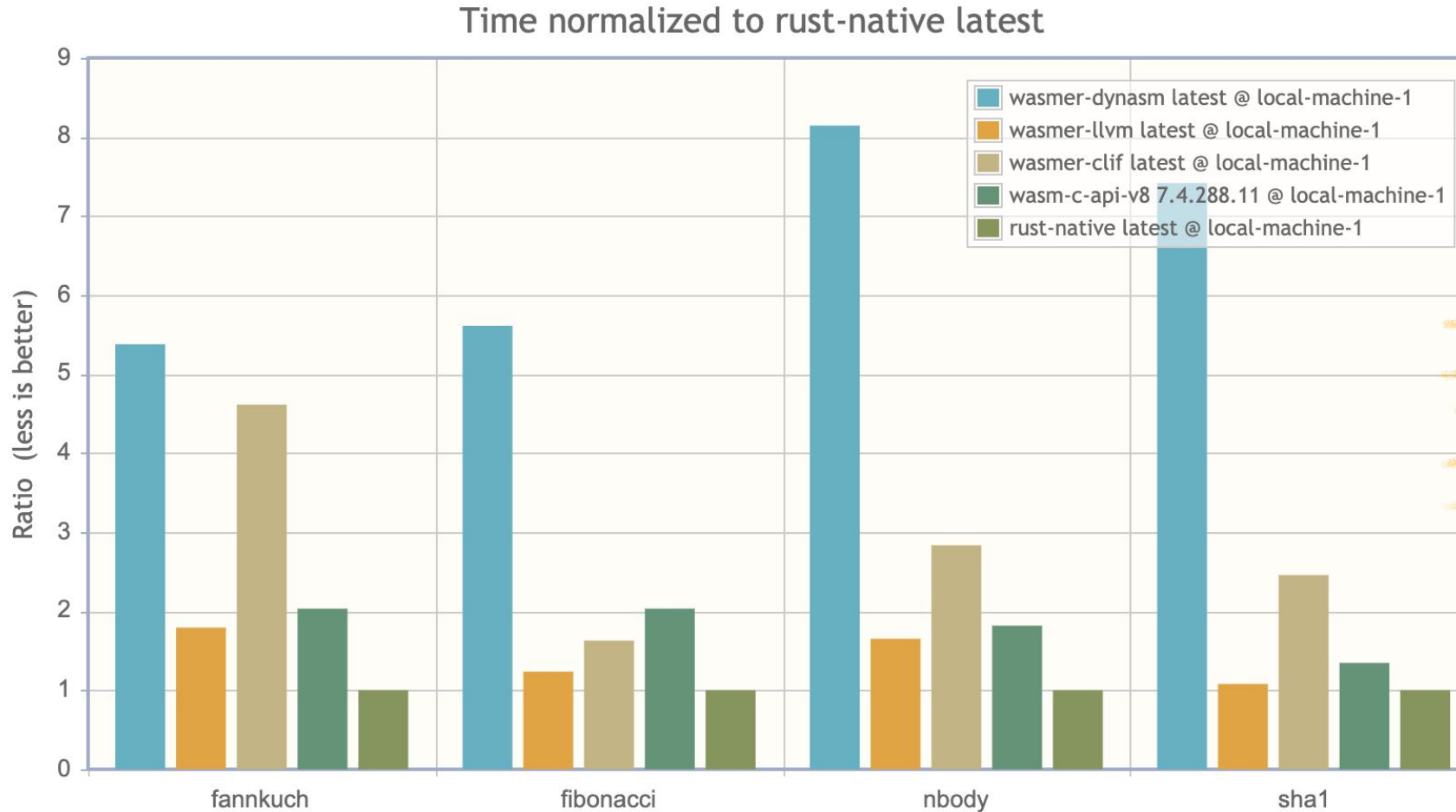


# Features of Wasm

Why is everybody looking at it?



# Near native speed



<https://medium.com/wasmer/benchmarking-webassembly-runtimes-18497ce0d76e>



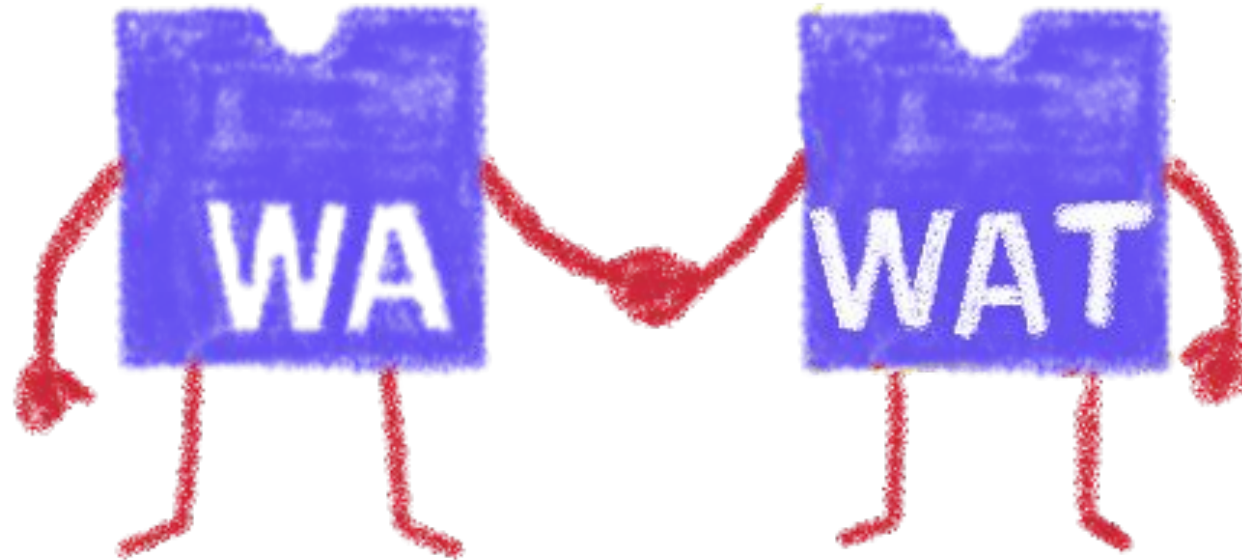
# Highly portable



It can be run almost everywhere...



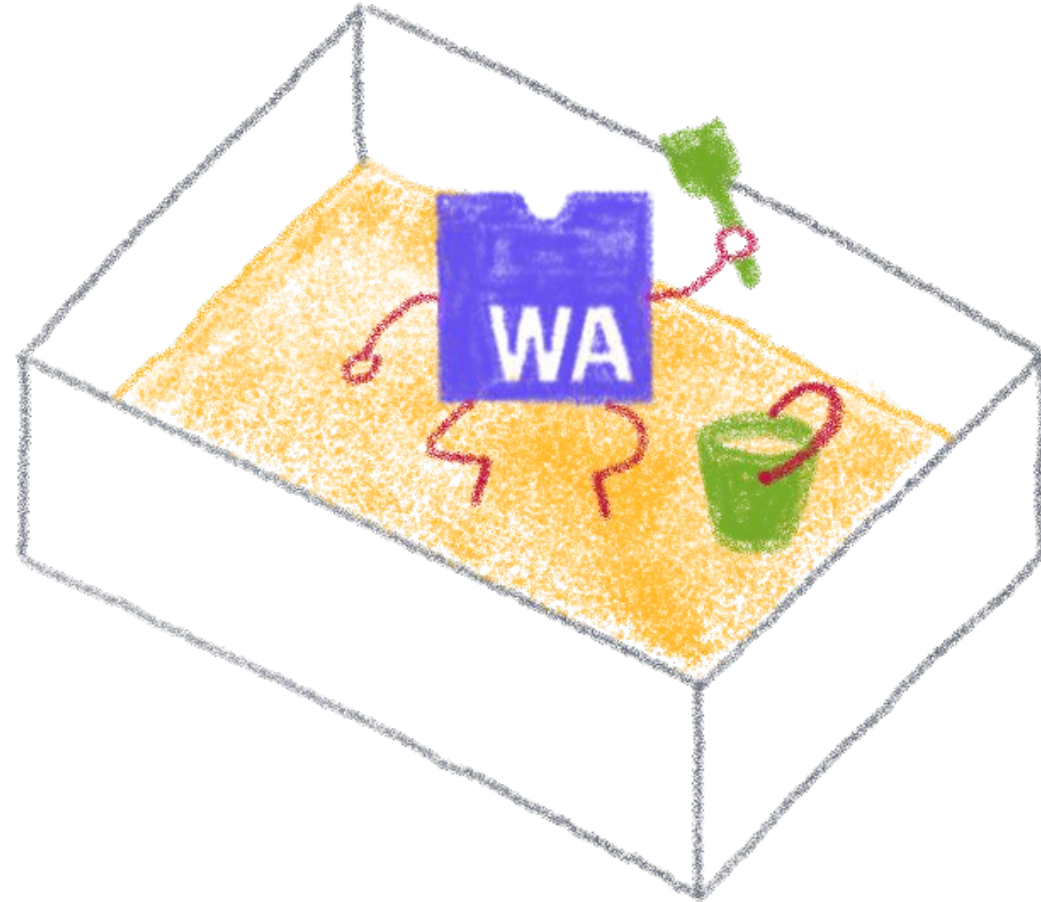
# Readable and debuggable



Each `.wasm` file with its `.wat` companion file



# Memory safe & secure

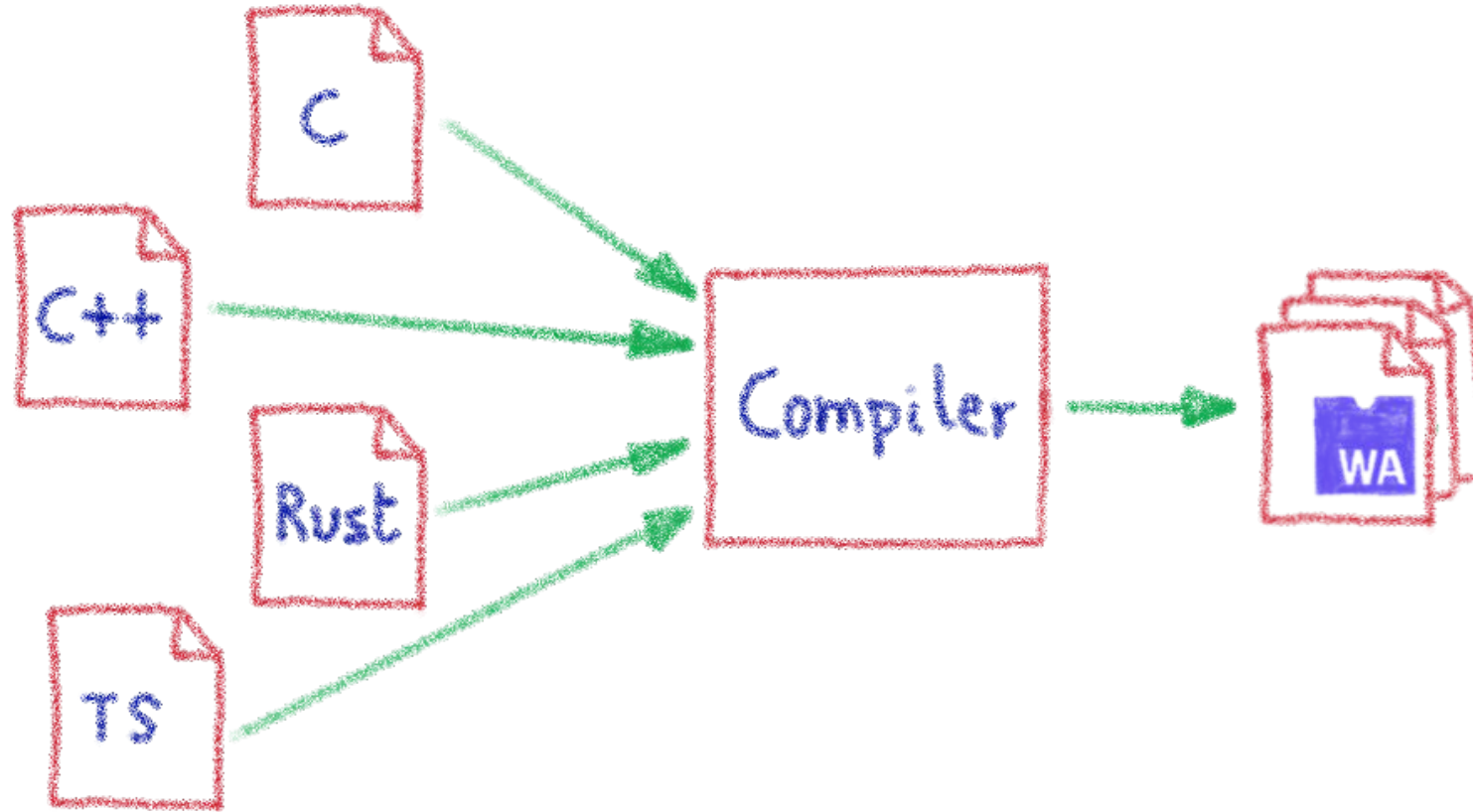


Running in a fully sandboxed environment





# Accepting many source languages



And more and more...



# Some constraints

Still a young platform...



# Native WASM types are limited

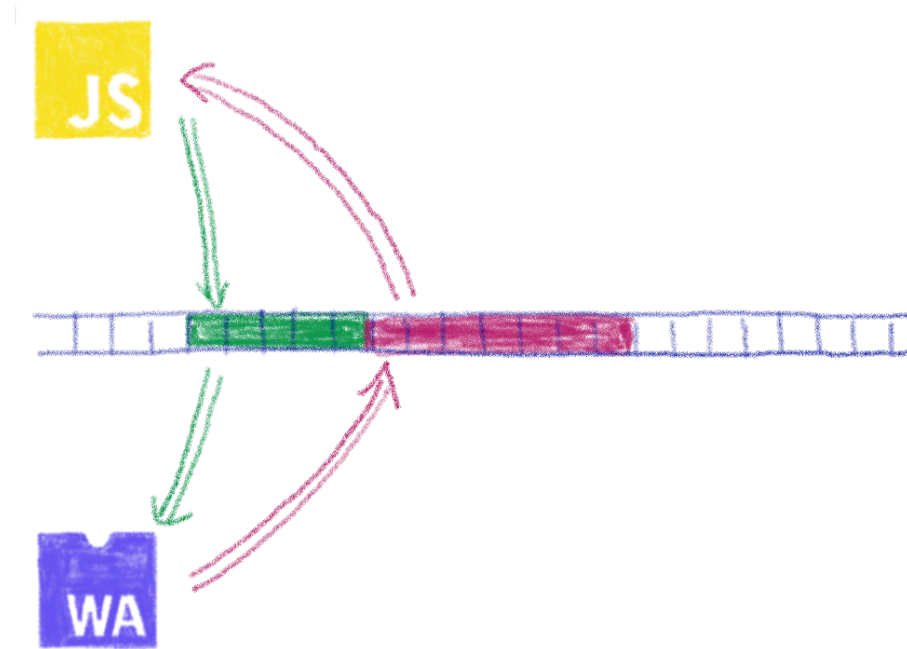
WASM currently has four available types:

- **i32**: 32-bit integer
- **i64**: 64-bit integer
- **f32**: 32-bit float
- **f64**: 64-bit float

Types from languages compiled to WASM are mapped to these types



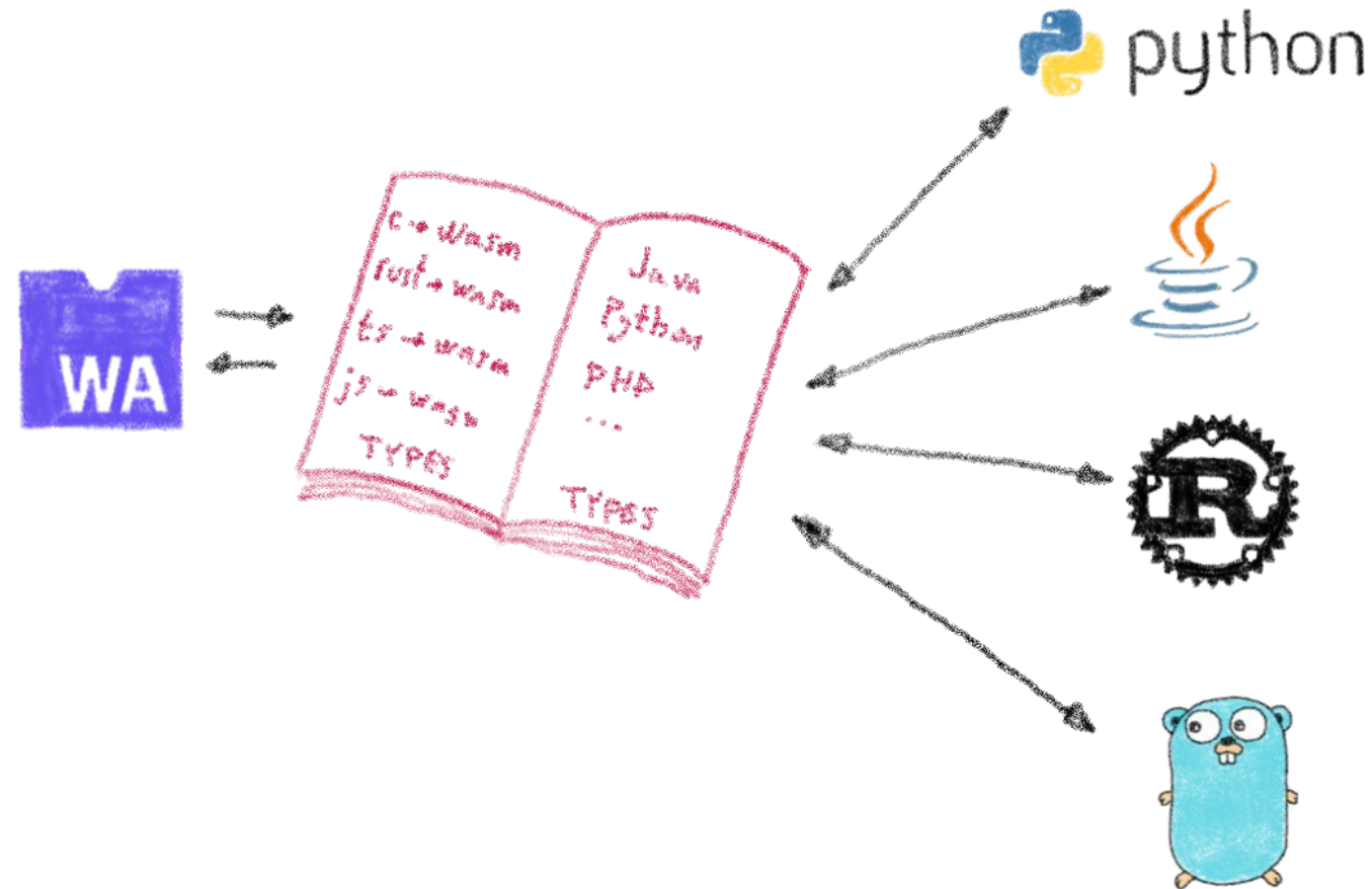
# How can we share data?



Using the same data in WASM and JS?  
Shared linear memory between them,  
and serializing the data to one Wasm types



# Solution is coming: Interface types



Beautiful description at:

<https://hacks.mozilla.org/2019/08/webassembly-interface-types>



# No outside access



By design, communication is done using the shared linear memory only



# Solution exists: WASI



The screenshot shows the WASI website with a blue background. At the top left is a small 'WASI' logo, and at the top right is the text 'WASI' with a search icon. The main heading is 'WASI' in large white letters, followed by the subtitle 'The WebAssembly System Interface'. Below this, there are five paragraphs of text, each starting with a link to further information.

WASI

The WebAssembly System Interface

WASI is a modular system interface for WebAssembly. As described in [the initial announcement](#), it's focused on security and portability.

WASI is being standardized in [a subgroup of the WebAssembly CG](#). Discussions happen in [GitHub issues](#), [pull requests](#), and [bi-weekly Zoom meetings](#).

For a quick intro to WASI, including getting started using it, see [the intro document](#).

The Wasmtime runtime's [tutorial](#) contains [examples](#) for how to target WASI from [C](#) and [Rust](#). The resulting `.wasm` modules can be run in any WASI-compliant runtime.

For more documentation, see [the documents guide](#).

Already available  
in  Wasmer



# Mono-thread and scalar operations only

Multiple scalar  
operations

$$\begin{array}{l} \boxed{A1} + \boxed{B1} = \boxed{C1} \\ \boxed{A2} + \boxed{B2} = \boxed{C2} \\ \boxed{A3} + \boxed{B3} = \boxed{C3} \end{array}$$

Not the most efficient way...





# Solution exists: SIMD

Multiple scalar  
operations

$$A1 + B1 = C1$$

$$A2 + B2 = C2$$

$$A3 + B3 = C3$$

Single vectorial  
operation

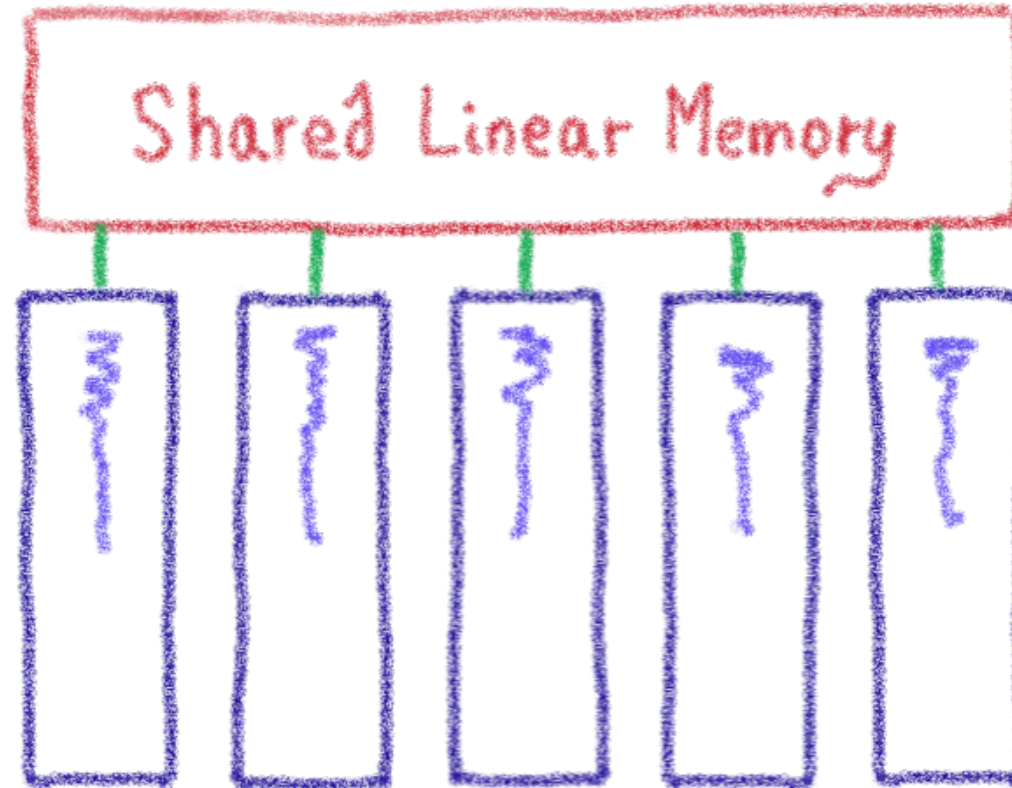
$$\begin{matrix} A1 \\ A2 \\ A3 \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} B1 \\ B2 \\ B3 \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} C1 \\ C2 \\ C3 \end{matrix}$$

Single Instruction, Multiple Data

Already available  
in Wasmer



# Solutions are coming too: Wasm Threads



Threads on Web Workers  
with shared linear memory



# Incoming proposals: Garbage collector



And exception handling



# You can do steps 03 and 04 now



Let's code, mates!

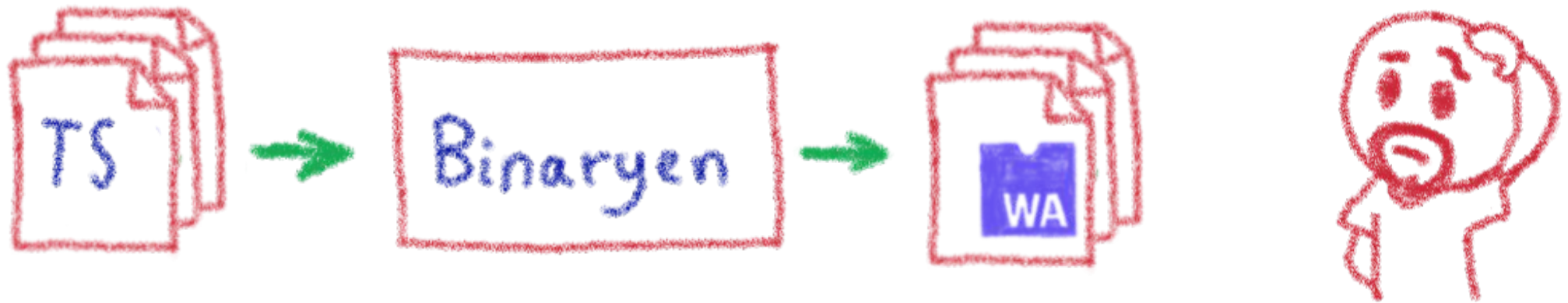


# AssemblyScript

Writing WASM without learning a new language



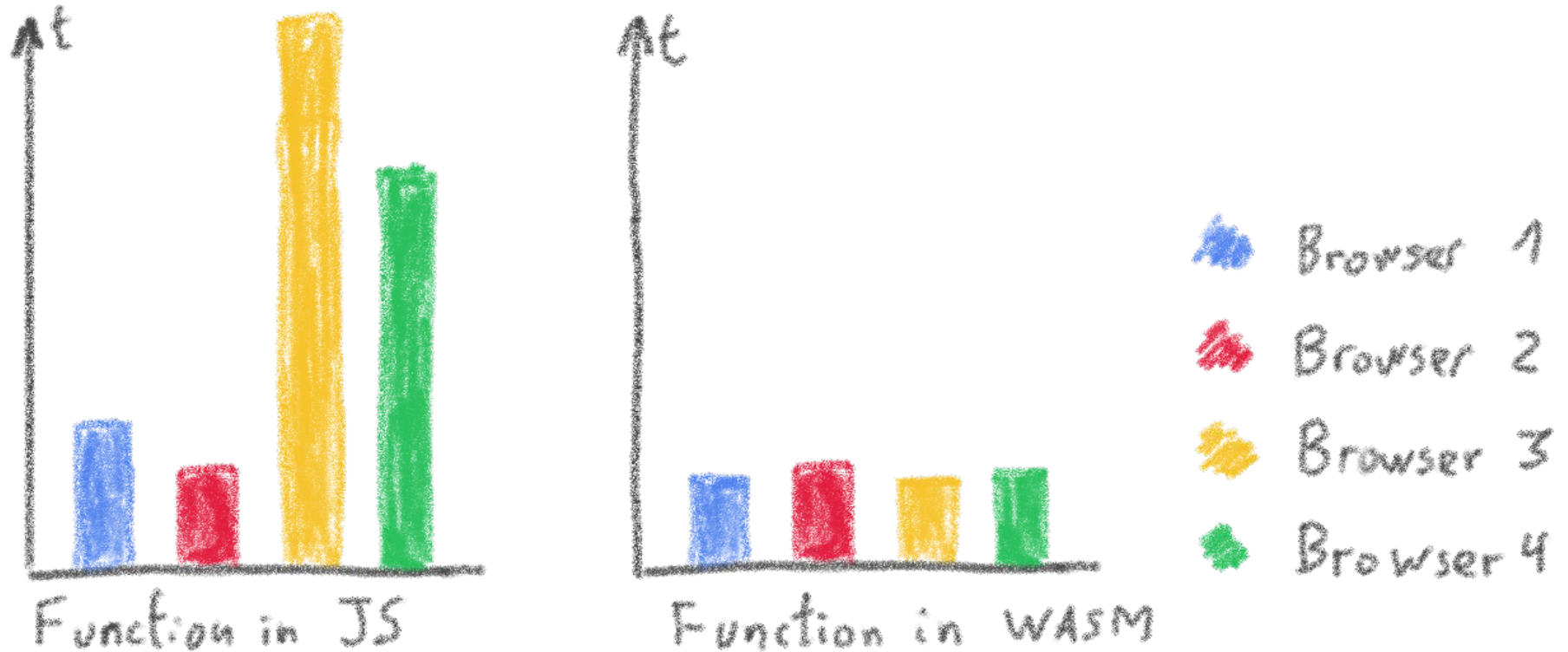
# TypeScript subset compiled to WASM



Why would I want to compile  
TypeScript to WASM?



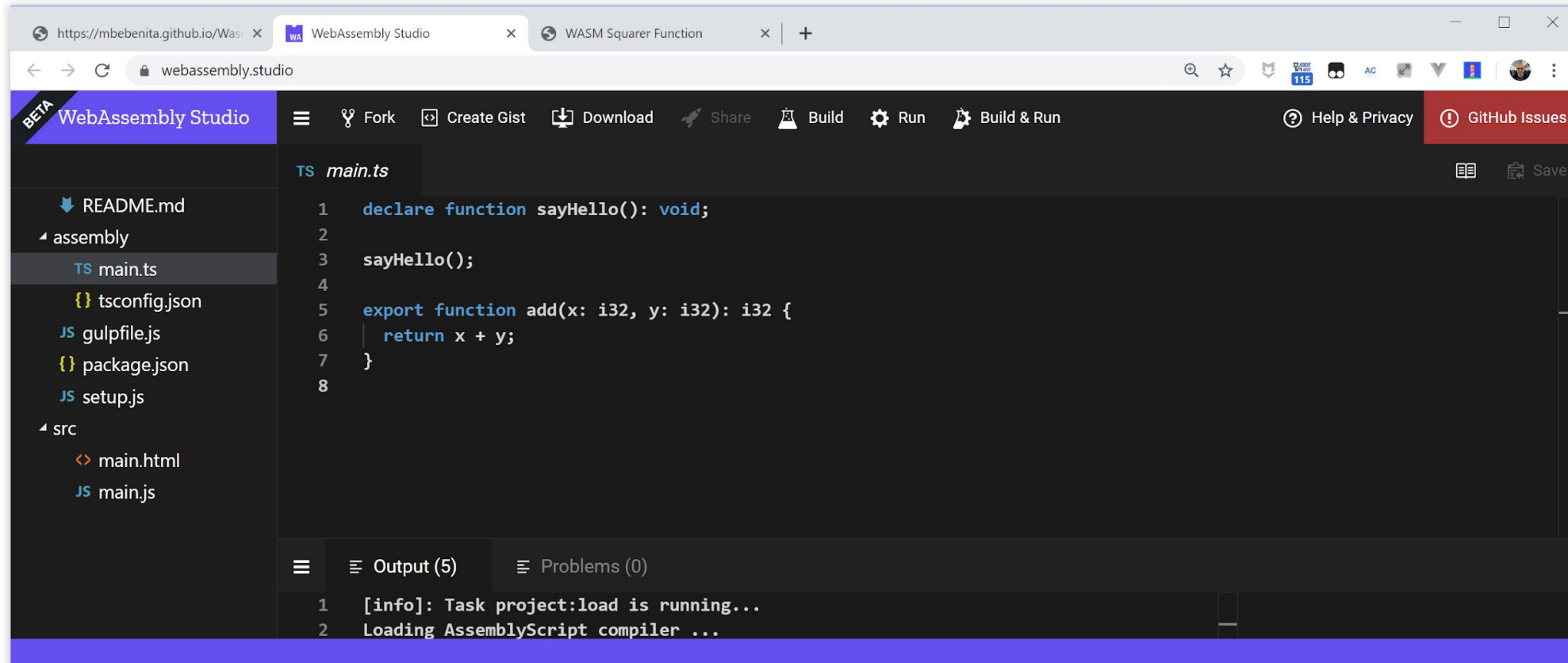
# Ahead of Time compiled TypeScript



More predictable performance



# Avoiding the dynamicness of JavaScript



The screenshot shows the WebAssembly Studio interface. The main editor displays the following TypeScript code in `main.ts`:

```
1 declare function sayHello(): void;
2
3 sayHello();
4
5 export function add(x: i32, y: i32): i32 {
6   return x + y;
7 }
8
```

The left sidebar shows a file explorer with the following structure:

- README.md
- assembly
  - main.ts
  - tsonfig.json
  - gulpfile.js
  - package.json
  - setup.js
- src
  - main.html
  - main.js

The bottom panel shows the Output window with the following log messages:

```
1 [info]: Task project:load is running...
2 Loading AssemblyScript compiler ...
```

More specific integer and floating point types





# Objects cannot flow in and out of WASM yet

```
1 WebAssembly.instantiateStreaming(fetch("../out/main.wasm"), {
2   main: {
3     sayHello() {
4       console.log("Hello from WebAssembly!");
5     }
6   },
7   env: {
8     abort(_msg, _file, line, column) {
9       console.error("abort called at main.ts:" + line + ":" + column);
10    }
11  },
12 }).then(result => {
13   const exports = result.instance.exports;
14   document.getElementById("container").textContent = "Result: " + exports.add(19, 23);
15 }).catch(console.error);
16
```

Output (15) Problems (0)

16 Result: 42

Using a loader to write/read them to/from memory



# No direct access to DOM

```
1 WebAssembly.instantiateStreaming(fetch("../out/main.wasm"), {
2   main: {
3     sayHello() {
4       console.log("Hello from WebAssembly!");
5     }
6   },
7   env: {
8     abort(_msg, _file, line, column) {
9       console.error("abort called at main.ts:" + line + ":" + column);
10    }
11  },
12 }).then(result => {
13   const exports = result.instance.exports;
14   document.getElementById("container").textContent = "Result: " + exports.add(19, 23);
15 }).catch(console.error);
16
```

Output (15) Problems (0)

16 Result: 42

Glue code using exports/imports to/from JavaScript



# You can do step 05 now



Let's code, mates!



# WebAssembly ❤️ Web Components

How to hide the complexity and remove friction



# The 3 minutes context



What the heck are web component?





Web standard W3C





Available in all modern browsers:  
Firefox, Safari, Chrome





Create your own HTML tags  
Encapsulating look and behavior







Fully interoperable

With other web components, with any framework



# Web Components



CUSTOM ELEMENTS



SHADOW DOM



TEMPLATES



# Custom Element



To define your own HTML tag

```
<body>
  ...
  <script>
    window.customElements.define('my-element',
      class extends HTMLElement {...});
  </script>
  <my-element></my-element>
</body>
```



# Shadow DOM



To encapsulate subtree and style in an element

```
<button>Hello, world!</button>
```

```
<script>
```

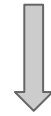
```
var host = document.querySelector('button');
```

```
const shadowRoot = host.attachShadow({mode: 'open'});
```

```
shadowRoot.textContent = 'こんにちは、影の世界!';
```

```
</script>
```

Hello, world!



こんにちは、影の世界!





To have clonable document template

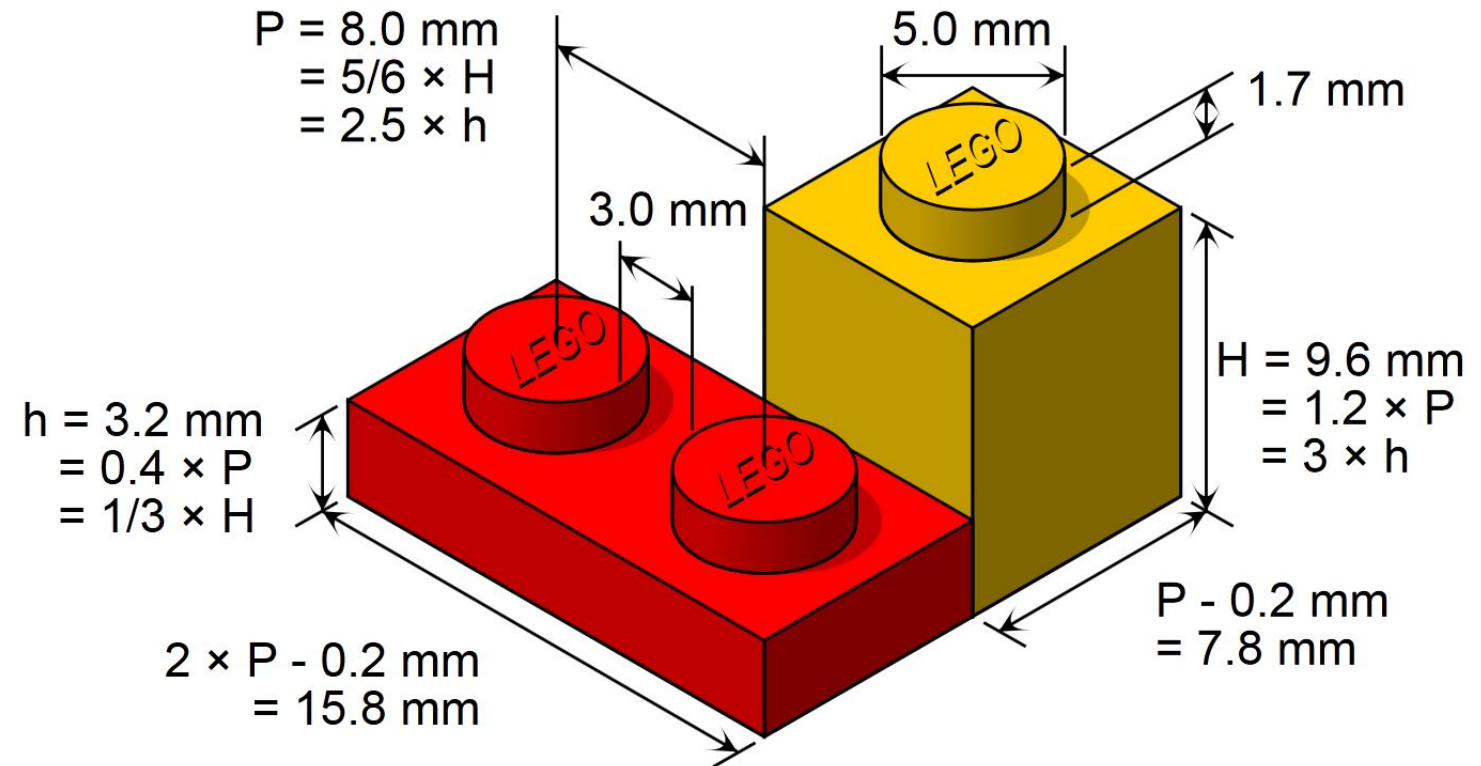
```
<template id="mytemplate">  
  <img src="" alt="great image">  
  <div class="comment"></div>  
</template>
```

```
var t = document.querySelector('#mytemplate');  
// Populate the src at runtime.  
t.content.querySelector('img').src = 'logo.png';  
var clone = document.importNode(t.content, true);  
document.body.appendChild(clone);
```



# But in fact, it's just an element...

- Attributes
- Properties
- Methods
- Events



# You can do step 06 and 07 now



# That's all, folks!

## Thank you all!

