

The Art
of the AST

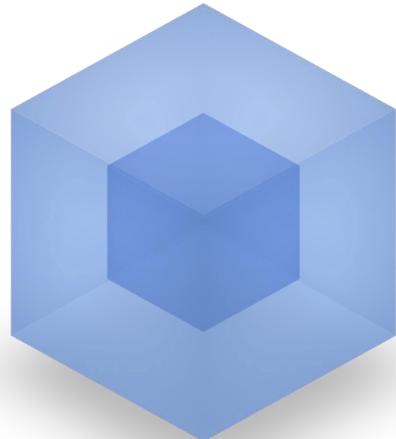


A promotional image featuring the character Bane from the movie 'The Dark Knight Rises'. He is standing in a grand hall with large stone columns, wearing his signature black cowl and brown fur-trimmed coat. He holds a bright yellow rectangular sign with the letters 'JS' printed on it in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

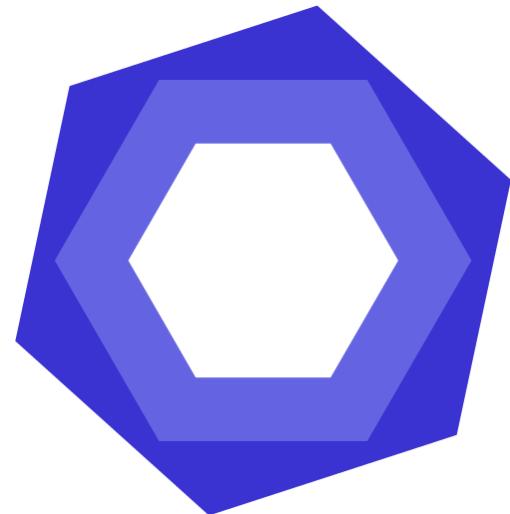
JS

**TAKE
CONTROL
OF YOUR
JAVASCRIPT**

Webpack



Babel



Uglifyjs

Rollup

ESLint

Istanbul

Ternjs

jscodeshift



//TODO

Write linting rules to enforce
your team's code conventions



ESLint

Write your own javascript
transpiling code



Write powerful “code-mods”
to automatically refactor
thousands of legacy scripts
from ES5 to ES6

jscodeshift

ESTree-
based AST

+

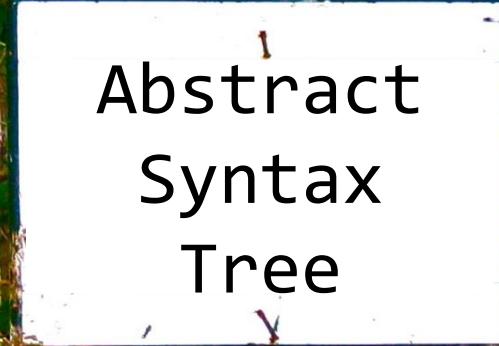
Visitor
Pattern

Yonatan Mevorach

Front-End
Tech-Lead
at **sears**
.israel



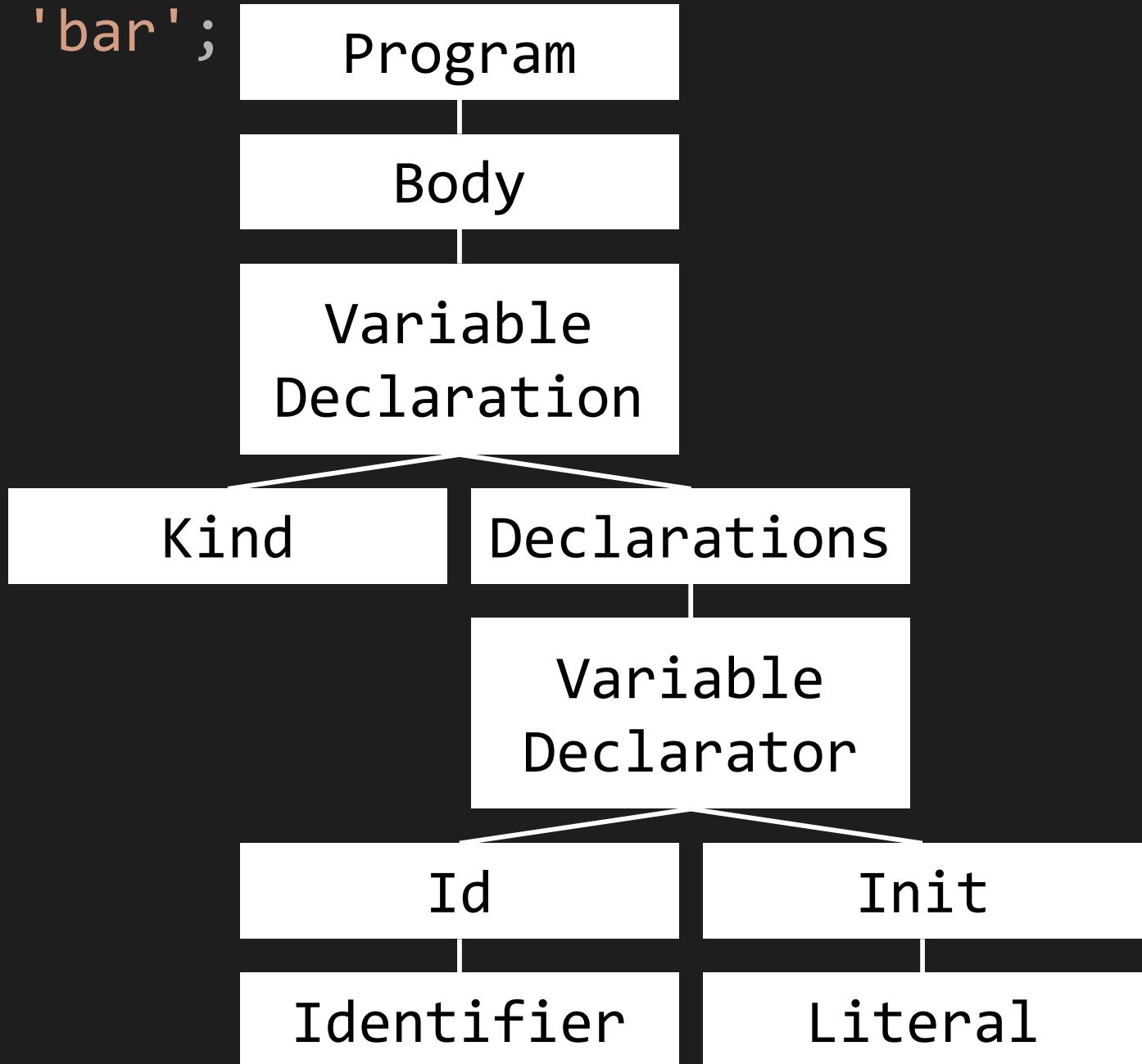
blog.cowchimp.com
github.com/cowchimp
[@cowchimp](https://twitter.com/cowchimp)



Abstract
Syntax
Tree



```
var foo = 'bar';
```



```
var foo = 'bar';  {  
    "type": "Program",  
    "body": [  
        {  
            "type": "VariableDeclaration",  
            "declarations": [  
                {  
                    "type": "VariableDeclarator",  
                    "id": {  
                        "type": "Identifier",  
                        "name": "foo"  
                    },  
                    "init": {  
                        "type": "Literal",  
                        "value": "bar"  
                    }  
                }  
            ],  
            "kind": "var"  
        }  
    ]  
}
```

```
var foo = 'bar';    {  
  "type": "Program",  
  "body": [  
    {  
      "type": "VariableDeclaration",  
      "declarations": [  
        {  
          "type": "VariableDeclarator",  
          "id": {  
            "type": "Identifier",  
            "name": "foo"  
          },  
          "init": {  
            "type": "Literal",  
            "value": "bar"  
          }  
        }  
      ],  
      "kind": "var"  
    }  
  ]  
}
```

**I / { Parse
O { Traverse
Manipulate
Generate code**

I / { Parse

O {

AST Explorer Save Fork JavaScript acorn Parser Settings Transform Help

Parser: acorn-

```
1 /**
2 * Paste or drop some JavaScript here and explore
3 * the syntax tree created by chosen parser.
4 * You can use all the cool new features from ES6
5 * and even more. Enjoy!
6 */
7
8 let tips = [
9   "Click on any AST node with a '+' to expand it",
10
11  "Hovering over a node highlights the \
12    corresponding part in the source code",
13
14  "Shift click on an AST node expands the whole substr",
15 ];
16
17 function printTips() {
18   tips.forEach((tip, i) => console.log(`Tip ${i}:` + tip));
19 }
20
```

Tree JSON

Autofocus Hide methods Hide empty keys Hide local data

- Program {
 type: "Program"
 start: 0
 end: 476
 + range: [2 elements]
 - body: [
 + VariableDeclaration {type, start, end, range, declarations, ... +1}
 + FunctionDeclaration {type, start, end, range, ... +4}
]
 sourceType: "module"
}

astexplorer.net

I / {
O {
Traverse



ESLint

ESLint rule

This code is a simplified version of the `eslint-plugin-piggyback` plugin:
<https://github.com/cowchimp/eslint-plugin-piggyback>

```
1. module.exports = function(context) {
2.   var globalScope;
3.
4.   return {
5.     "MemberExpression": function(node) {
6.       if(
7.         node.object.type === "Identifier" &&
8.         node.object.name === "window" &&
9.         !isValidGlobalProperty(node.property.name)
10.      ) {
```

```
1. module.exports = function(context) {  
2.   var globalScope;  
3.  
4.   return {  
5.     "MemberExpression": function(node) {  
6.       if(  
7.         node.object.type === "Identifier" &&  
8.         node.object.name === "window" &&  
9.         !isValidGlobalProperty(node.property.name)  
10.      ) {  
11.        context.report(  
12.          {  
13.            message: `${node.object.name} global scope`  
14.          }  
15.        )  
16.      }  
17.    }  
18.  }  
19.}
```

Visit all {{foo}}.{{bar}} nodes

```
1. module.exports = function(context) {  
2.   var globalScope;  
3.  
4.   return {  
5.     "MemberExpression": function(node) {  
6.       if(  
7.         node.object.type === "Identifier" &&  
8.         node.object.name == "window" &&  
9.         !isValidGlobalProperty(node.property.name)  
10.      ) {  
11.        context.report(  
12.          node,  
13.          `${node.property.name} piggybacks on the  
14.            ${node.object.name} global scope`,  
15.          ).  
16.      }  
17.    }  
18.  }  
19.}
```

Check if it's a naughty node

```
3.  
4.     return {  
5.       "MemberExpression": function(node) {  
6.         if(  
7.           node.object.type === "Identifier" &&  
8.           node.object.name == "window" &&  
9.           !isValidGlobalProperty(node.property.name)  
10.        ) {  
11.          context.report(  
12.            node,  
13.            `${node.property.name} piggybacks on the  
14.              ${node.object.name} global scope`,  
15.            );  
16.        }  
17.      },  
18.  
19.      "Program": function() {  
20.  
21.  
22.    };
```

Report the violation

```
14.           `${node.object.name} global scope`  
15.       );  
16.     }  
17.   },  
18.  
19. "Program": function() {  
20.   globalScope = context.getScope();  
21. }  
22. };  
23.  
24. function isValidGlobalProperty(propertyName) {  
25.   return globalScope.variables.some(  
26.     v => v.name === propertyName  
27.   );  
28. }  
29. };
```

Querying scope

VISITOR



I/{
O{ Manipulate

BABEL

Babel plugin

```
1. // Babel babel-plugin-transform-remove-debugger
2. // Author: Sebastian McKenzie
3. // License: MIT
4. // Url: https://github.com/babel
5.
6. export default function () {
7.   return {
8.     visitor: {
9.       "DebuggerStatement": function(path) {
10.         path.remove();
11.       }
12.     }
13.   }
14. }
```



```
1. // Babel babel-plugin-transform-remove-debugger
2. // Author: Sebastian McKenzie
3. // License: MIT
4. // Url: https://github.com/babel
5.
6. export default function () {
7.   return {
8.     visitor: {
9.       "DebuggerStatement": function(path) {
10.         path.remove();
11.       }
12.     }
13.   };
14. }
```

Find any `debugger` statement nodes

```
1. // Babel babel-plugin-transform-remove-debugger
2. // Author: Sebastian McKenzie
3. // License: MIT
4. // Url: https://github.com/babel
5.
6. export default function () {
7.   return {
8.     visitor: {
9.       "DebuggerStatement": function(path) {
10.         path.remove();
11.       }
12.     }
13.   };
14. }
```

Remove the node from the AST

**I/{
o{ Generate code**

jscodeshift

jscodeshift transform

```
1. module.exports = function(file, api) {
2.   var j = api.jscodeshift;
3.   var root = j(file.source);
4.
5.   root.find(j.VariableDeclaration, { kind: 'var' })
6.     .forEach(function(p) {
7.       var letStatement = j.variableDeclaration(
8.         'let',
9.         p.value.declarations
10.        );
```

```
1. module.exports = function(file, api) {  
2.   var j = api.jscodeshift;  
3.   var root = j(file.source);  
4.  
5.   root.find(j.VariableDeclaration, { kind: 'var' })  
6.     .forEach(function(p) {  
7.       var letStatement = j.variableDeclaration(  
8.         'let',  
9.         p.value.declarations  
10.        ).  
11.      }).  
12.    }).  
13.  };
```

Convert the source code to an AST

```
1. module.exports = function(file, api) {  
2.   var j = apijscodeshift;  
3.   var root = j(file.source);  
4.  
5.   root.find(j.VariableDeclaration, { kind: 'var' })  
6.     .forEach(function(p) {  
7.       var letStatement = j.variableDeclaration(  
8.         'let',  
9.         p.value.declarations  
10.        );  
11.       return j(p).replaceWith(letStatement);  
12.     }).  
13.   }.
```

Find all `var` declaration nodes

```
1. module.exports = function(file, api) {  
2.   var j = api.jscodeshift;  
3.   var root = j(file.source);  
4.  
5.   root.find(j.VariableDeclaration, { kind: 'var' })  
6.     .forEach(function(p) {  
7.       var letStatement = j.variableDeclaration(  
8.         'let',  
9.         p.value.declarations  
10.        );  
11.       return j(p).replaceWith(letStatement);  
12.     });  
13.
```

...and for each one...

```
1. module.exports = function(file, api) {  
2.   var j = apijscodeshift;  
3.   var root = j(file.source);  
4.  
5.   root.find(j.VariableDeclaration, { kind: 'var' })  
6.     .forEach(function(p) {  
7.       var letStatement = j.variableDeclaration(  
8.         'let',  
9.         p.value.declarations  
10.        );  
11.       return j(p).replaceWith(letStatement);  
12.     });  
13.  
14.   return root.toSource();  
15. };
```

Create a copy node but make it a `let` declaration

```
2. var j = api.jscodeshift;
3. var root = j(file.source);
4.
5. root.find(j.VariableDeclaration, { kind: 'var' })
   .forEach(function(p) {
7.     var letStatement = j.variableDeclaration(
8.       'let',
9.       p.value.declarations
10. );
11.    return j(p).replaceWith(letStatement);
12. });
13.
14. return root.toSource();
15. };
```

Replace the original node with the new one

```
4.  
5.  root.find(j.VariableDeclaration, { kind: 'var'  
6.    .forEach(function(p) {  
7.      var letStatement = j.variableDeclaration(  
8.        'let',  
9.        p.value.declarations  
10.       );  
11.      return j(p).replaceWith(letStatement);  
12.    });  
13.  
14.  return root.toSource();  
15.};
```

Convert the AST back into source code



{codemotion}

github.com/cowchimp/awesome-ast



blog.cowchimp.com



@cowchimp



yonatan@sears.co.il