

**left-padding the npm  
eco system**

**I have opinions**

**Did you bring yours?**

# Perquisites

- I like Ruby a lot
- I like Bundler a lot (but it has issues, of course)
- I write much JavaScript, wow
- I have a love/hate relationship with npm

**the leftpad situation,  
an outside view**

**IANAL**

# **The discussion in a nutshell**

**left-pad: a module with  
11 lines of code.**



**Much Snark, no  
substance**

**very helpful!**

# **Why does left-pad exist**

**(In Contrast to "15".rjust(4, "0") )**

**Because Brendan Eich**

**JavaScript has a terribly small API  
Surface**

# Slowly improving

(There's a string padding proposal, so there's that.)

**Why does left-pad exist?**



**(In contrast to `stringlib.leftpad()`)**

**Now we're talking**

Some years ago. Before Node.js and npm. I had a large database of code snippets I used to copy-paste into projects when I needed it. They were small utilities that sometimes came in handy. npm is now my snippet database.

-- *Sindre Sorhus*

**npm *is* the standard library**

**But is it a good one?**

**Consistent design?**

**Consistent structure?**

**Discoverability / Accessibility?**

**Will it get better?**

1. JavaScript API Surface *is* improving
2. Some things are inherently complicated in JS
3. The community doesn't (yet?) have a shared set of values/vision



