

React Workshop

9/9/17

What is React?

- React is a front-end Javascript framework developed by Facebook for building more complex user interfaces

What does React do well?

- Allows you to easily design reusable html components
- Efficiently updates and renders just the right elements in your application in response to user inputs and updates in data
- React does this by creating a “Virtual DOM” that keeps track of changes in application state, and then updating the only necessary elements in the actual DOM accordingly

When should I use React

Use React...

- If you are building a web app where the data changes frequently, you will ideally want your view to be a function of the data. When the data changes, the view should be able to update itself and reflect the changes.
- If you have a complicated GUI with many different interactive components

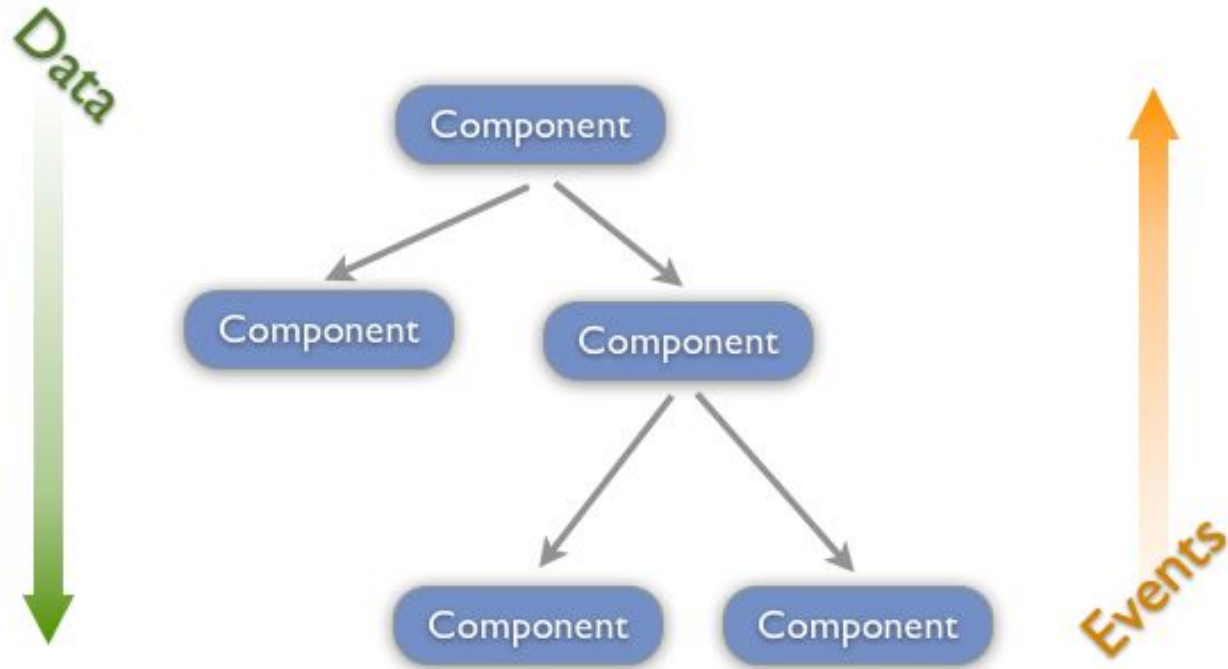
Don't use React...

- If you are building something like a static site or a blog where the data change is minimal React may NOT be the right choice

What we'll do today

- Build A Basic Website, but from a React perspective
- Understand how information is passed in React, and thinking about your app design accordingly
- Learn what component state and props are
- Learn about the component lifecycle

Passing information in React



Component LifeCycle

- `componentWillMount` - first method that gets called (immediately before initial rendering)
- `componentDidMount` - runs immediately after initial rendering
- `componentWillReceiveProps` - runs when components receives new props
- `shouldComponentUpdate` - runs before rendering, after receiving new props or state, can return false to prevent rendering
- `componentWillUpdate` - runs after `shouldComponentUpdate` returns true, runs before rendering, after receiving new props or state
- `componentDidUpdate` - runs after components updates are flushed to the DOM
- `componentWillUnmount` - runs immediately before removing component from DOM