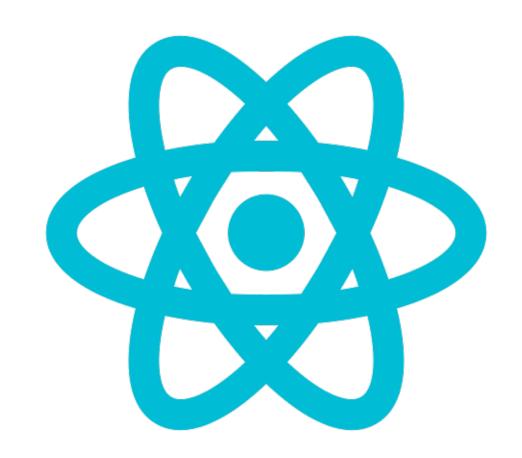
Introduction to React



React libraries

This link after Javascript revision
 https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/A re-introduction to JavaScript

React: https://reactjs.org/docs/react-api.html

ReactDom: https://reactjs.org/docs/react-dom.html

Create React App

- <u>Create React App</u> is a comfortable environment for **learning React**, and is the best way to start building a new single-page application in React.
- It sets up your development environment so that you can use the latest JavaScript features, provides a nice developer experience, and optimizes your app for production. You'll need to have Node >= 10.16 and npm >= 5.6 on your machine. To create a project, run:

```
npx create-react-app my-app
cd my-app
npm start
```

JavaScript build toolchain

- A package manager, such as Yarn or npm. It lets you take advantage of a vast ecosystem of third-party packages, and easily install or update them.
- A **bundler**, such as webpack or Parcel. It lets you write modular code and bundle it together into small packages to optimize load time.
- A **compiler** (transpiler) such as Babel. It lets you write modern JavaScript code that still works in older browsers.

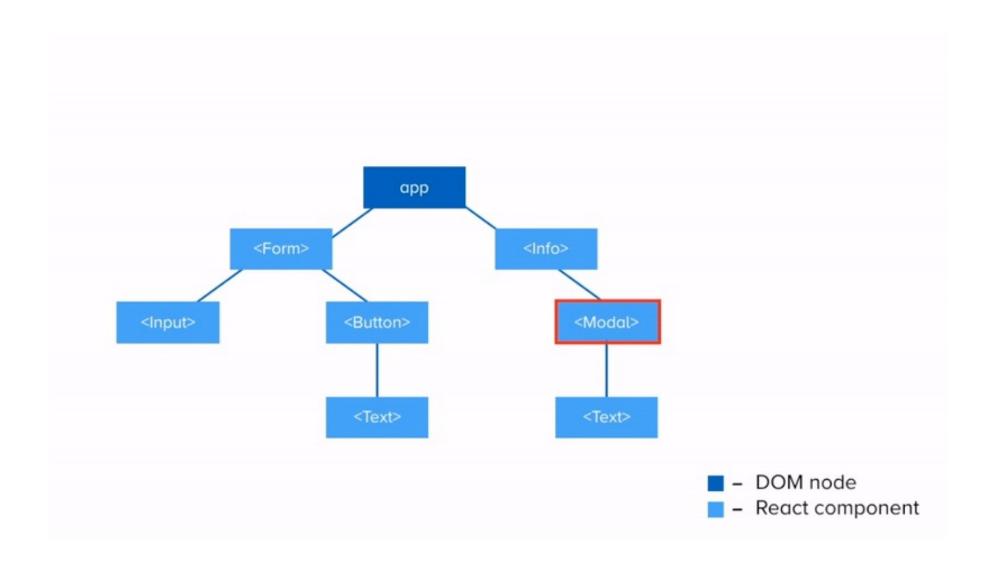
How does It work

What is the Virtual DOM?

• The virtual DOM (VDOM) is a programming concept where an ideal, or "virtual", representation of a UI is kept in memory and synced with the "real" DOM by a library such as ReactDOM. This process is called <u>reconciliation</u>.

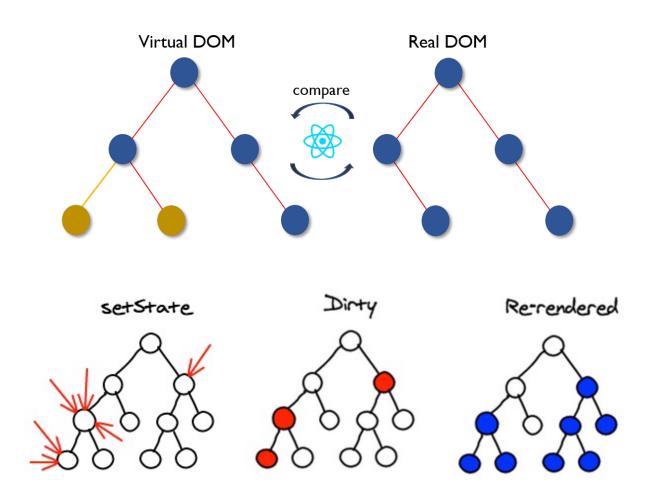
• When you use React, at a single point in time you can think of the render() function as creating a tree of React elements. On the next state or props update, that render() function will return a different tree of React elements. React then needs to figure out how to efficiently update the UI to match the most recent tree.

Virtual DOM Update



Virtual DOM Update

React follows the observable pattern and listens for state changes. When the state of a component changes, React updates the virtual DOM tree. Once the virtual DOM has been updated, React then compares the current version of the virtual DOM with the previous version of the virtual DOM. This process is called "diffing".



Main concepts

Hello World

• The smallest React example looks like this:

```
ReactDOM.render(
    <h1>Hello, world!</h1>,
    document.getElementById('root')
);
```

It displays a heading saying "Hello, world!" on the page.

Introducing JSX

JSX

```
const element = <h1>Hello, world!</h1>;
```

- This funny tag syntax is neither a string nor HTML.
- It is called JSX, and it is a syntax extension to JavaScript. It is recommend using it with React to describe what the UI should look like. JSX may remind you of a template language, but it comes with the full power of JavaScript.

Embedding Expressions in JSX

 In the example below, we declare a variable called name and then use it inside JSX by wrapping it in curly braces:

```
const name = 'Josh Perez';
const element = <h1>Hello, {name}</h1>;

ReactDOM.render(
   element,
   document.getElementById('root')
);
```

JSX is an Expression Too

- After compilation, JSX expressions become regular JavaScript function calls and evaluate to JavaScript objects.
- This means that you can use JSX inside of if statements and for loops, assign it to variables, accept it as arguments, and return it from functions:

```
function getGreeting(user) {
   if (user) {
     return <h1>Hello, {formatName(user)}!</h1>;
   }
   return <h1>Hello, Stranger.</h1>;
}
```

Specifying Attributes with JSX

You may use quotes to specify string literals as attributes:

```
const element = <div tabIndex="0"></div>;
```

You may also use curly braces to embed a JavaScript expression in an attribute:

```
const element = <img src={user.avatarUrl}></img>;
```

 Don't put quotes around curly braces when embedding a JavaScript expression in an attribute. You should either use quotes (for string values) or curly braces (for expressions), but not both in the same attribute.

Warning

 Since JSX is closer to JavaScript than to HTML, React DOM uses camelCase property naming convention instead of HTML attribute names.

• For example, class becomes className in JSX, and tabindex becomes tabindex.

Specifying Children with JSX

• If a tag is empty, you may close it immediately with />, like XML:

```
const element = <img src={user.avatarUrl} />;
```

JSX tags may contain children:

JSX Represents Objects

Babel compiles JSX down to React.createElement() calls.
 These two examples are identical:

```
const element = (
    <h1 className="greeting">
        Hello, world!
    </h1>
);
```

```
const element = React.createElement(
   'h1',
   {className: 'greeting'},
   'Hello, world!'
);
```

Rendering Elements

Element to render

• An element describes what you want to see on the screen:

```
const element = <h1>Hello, world!</h1>;
```

 Unlike browser DOM elements, React elements are plain objects, and are cheap to create. React DOM takes care of updating the DOM to match the React elements.

Elements are not components!

Rendering an element

• Let's say there is a <div> somewhere in your HTML file:

```
<div id="root"></div>
```

- We call this a "root" DOM node because everything inside it will be managed by React DOM.
- Applications built with just React usually have a single root DOM node. If you are integrating React into an existing app, you may have as many isolated root DOM nodes as you like.
- To render a React element into a root DOM node, pass both to <u>ReactDOM.render()</u>:

```
const element = <h1>Hello, world</h1>;
ReactDOM.render(element, document.getElementById('root'));
```

Updating the Rendered Element

- React elements are <u>immutable</u>. Once you create an element, you can't change its children or attributes. An element is like a single frame in a movie: it represents the UI at a certain point in time.
- With our knowledge so far, the only way to update the UI is to create a new element, and pass it to ReactDOM.render().
- Consider this ticking clock example: