

ReactJS.

The Component model (Contd)

Topics

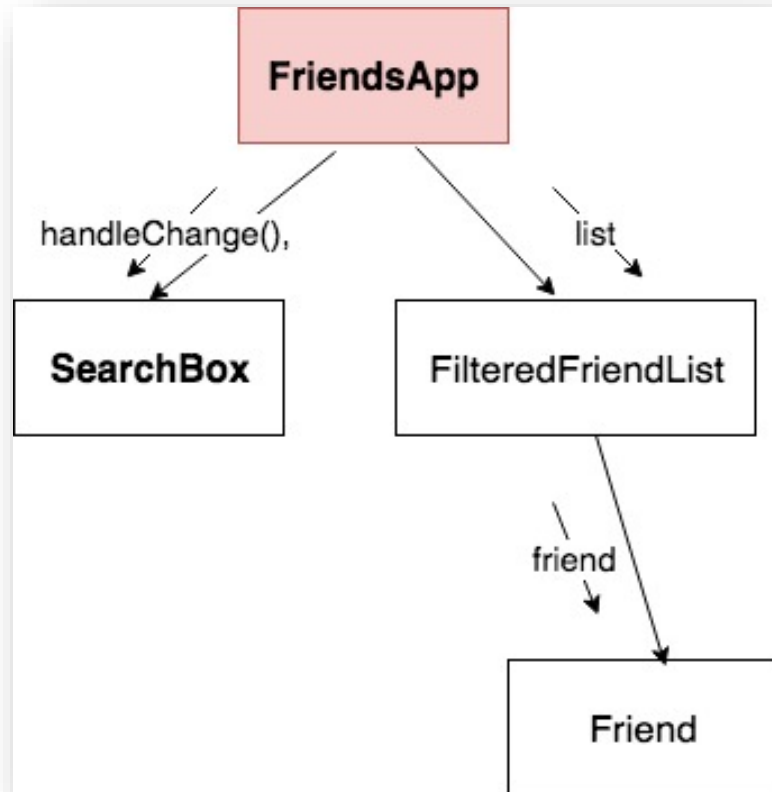
- **More Hooks and Component Lifecycle.**
- **Data Flow patterns – Data Down, Action Up pattern.**
- **The Virtual DOM**

Sample App 1 – Version 2



- App UI changes:
 1. A 'Reset' button – loads a new list of friends (overwriting the current list).
 2. Combine Reset button and search text into a new component, SearchBox.
 3. Browser tab title - shows # of matching friends (side effect).
- Ref. lecture archive for source code

Sample App 1 (v2) - Design



- **3 state variables:**
 1. **List of friends from API.**
 2. **Text box content.**
 3. *Reset button toggle.*
- **2 side effects, both with dependency arrays:**
 1. **'Fetch API data' - reset button toggle dependency.**
 2. **'Set browser tab title' - matching list length dependency.**

Sample App 1 (v2) - Events.

- On mounting of FriendsApp component:
Both effects execute (Set browser tab to '0 matches').
 - 'Fetch data' effect initializes 'friends list' state.
 - Component re-renders → 'Set browser tab' effect executes.
- On typing a character in the text box:
'Text box' state changes.
 - FriendsApp rerenders + recomputes matching friends list
 - 'Set browser title' effect executes.
- On clicking Reset button:
'Reset toggle' state changes.
 - FriendsApp re-renders.
 - 'Fetch data' effect executes.
 - 'Friends list' state changes.
 - FriendsApp re-renders + recomputes matching list
 - 'Set browser title' effect executes.



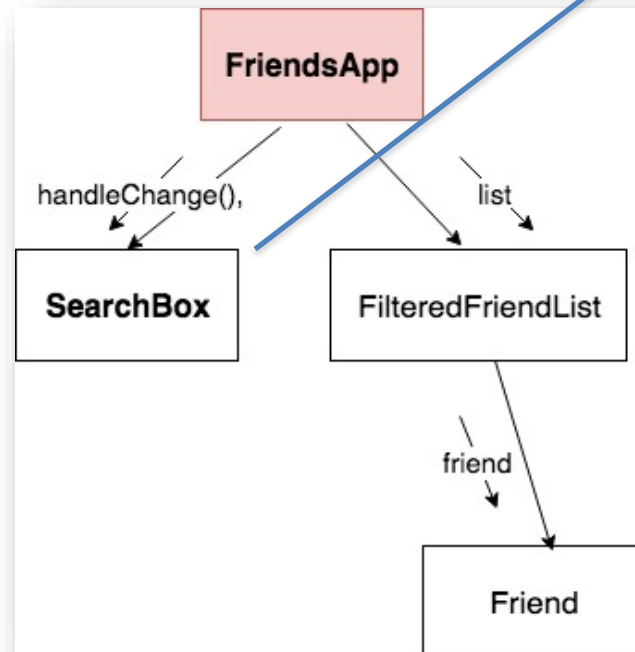
Topics

- **Hooks and Component Lifecycle.**
- **Data Flow patterns – Data Down, Action Up pattern.**
- **The Virtual DOM**

Sample App 2

(Data down, actions up pattern or Inverse data flow pattern)

- **Often a component's state change is caused by an event in a subordinate component.**
- **Solution: Use the data down, action up pattern.**



Friends List

Search

- **Joe Bloggs**
jbloggs@here.com
- **Paula Smith**
psmith@here.com
- **Catherine Dwyer**
cdwyer@here.com
- **Paul Briggs**
pbriggs@here.com

Data down, Action up.

Pattern:

1. Stateful component provides a callback to the subordinate.
2. Subordinate invokes callback when the event occurs.

```
const SearchBox: React.FC<SearchBoxProps> = props => {  
  const onChange = (e: ChangeEvent<HTMLInputElement>) => {  
    const newText = e.target.value.toLowerCase();  
    props.handleChange(newText);  
  };  
  
  const onReset = (e: MouseEvent<HTMLButtonElement>) => {  
    e.preventDefault();  
    props.handleReset();  
  };  
  
  return <><input type="text" placeholder="Search"  
    onChange={onChange} />  
    <button onClick={onReset}>Reset</button>  
  </>  
};
```

```
const FriendsApp: React.FC = () => {  
  const [searchText, setSearchText] = useState("");  
  const [friends, setFriends] = useState([]);  
  const [reset, setReset] = useState(false);  
  
  useEffect(() => { ...  
  }, [reset]);  
  
  const filterChange = (text: string) =>  
    setSearchText(text.toLowerCase());  
  
  const toggleReset = () =>  
    setReset(!reset);  
  
  const filteredList = friends.filter((friend: friendProps) => { ...  
  });  
  
  useEffect(() => { ...  
  }, [filteredList.length]);  
  
  console.log("Render FriendsApp");  
  return (  
    <>  
      <h1>Friends List</h1>  
      <SearchBox handleChange={filterChange} handleReset={toggleReset} />  
      <FilteredFriendList list={filteredList} />  
    </>  
  );  
};
```


Handling Events in Code:

React Event Handlers in Typescript

- Event handlers designed for value changes/mouse events atc.
- Event handler signature:
 - one argument, e, which has a corresponding generic type supplied by React Typescript libraries

event object that contains information about a change event on an HTML input element (e.g. textbox).

event object that contains information about a mouse event on an HTML button element.

```
const onChange = (e: ChangeEvent<HTMLInputElement>) => {  
  e.preventDefault();  
  const newText = e.target.value.toLowerCase();  
  props.handleChange(newText);  
};
```

```
const onReset = (e: MouseEvent<HTMLButtonElement>) => {  
  e.preventDefault();  
  props.handleReset();  
};
```

```
return  
<>  
  <input type="text" placeholder="Search" onChange={onChange} />  
  <Button onClick={onReset}>Reset</Button>  
</>
```

Topics

- **Hooks and Component Lifecycle.**
- **Data Flow patterns – Data Down, Action Up pattern.**
- **The Virtual DOM**

Modifying the DOM

- **DOM** – an internal data structure representing the browser's current 'display area' ; **DOM** always in sync with the display.
- **Traditional performance best practice:**
 1. Minimize direct accessing of the DOM.
 2. Avoid 'expensive' DOM operations.
 3. Update elements offline, then replace in the DOM.
 4. Avoid changing layouts in Javascript.
 5. . . . etc.
- **Should the developer be responsible for low-level DOM optimization? Probably not.**
 - React provides a *Virtual DOM* to shield developers from these concerns.

The Virtual DOM

- **How React works:**
 1. At app startup it create a lightweight, efficient form of the DOM, termed the *Virtual DOM*.
 2. The app changes the V. DOM whenever a component re-renders.
 3. When the re-rendering cycle is complete, the React engine:
 1. Performs a *diff* operation between the current and previous V. DOM instance.
 2. Computes the *set of changes* to apply to real DOM.
 3. Batch update the real DOM.
- **Benefits:**
 - a) Cleaner, more descriptive programming model.
 - b) Optimized DOM updates and reflows.

Automatic Re-rendering (detail)

- **EX.: The Counter component.**

User clicks button

→ *onClick event handler executed*

→ *component state is changed*

→ *component re-executed (re-renders)*

→ *The Virtual DOM has changed*

→ *React diffs the changes between the current and previous Virtual DOM*

→ *React batch updates the Real DOM*

Re-rendering & the real DOM

- What happens when the user types in the text box?

User types a character in text box

→ *onChange event handler executes*

→ *Handler changes a state variable*

→ *React re-renders FriendsApp component*

→ *React re-renders children (FilteredFriendList) with new prop values.*

→ *React re-renders children of FilteredFriendList.
(Re-rendering completed)*

→ *(Pre-commit phase) React computes the updates required to the browser's DOM*

→ *(Commit phase) React batch updates the DOM.*

→ *Browser repaints screen*

Summary

- **A state variable change always causes a component to re-render.**
 - **State change logic is usually part of an event handler function.**
 - **Event handler may be in a subordinate component.**
- **Side effects:**
 - **Always execute at mount time.**
 - **The dependency array will either reference a state variable, a value computed from a state variable, or a prop.**
 - **Can be multiple entries**
 - **Callback performs the side-effect, and may also cause a state change.**
- **Data flows downward, actions flow upward.**