COS30049 – Computing Technology Innovation Project

Week 8 - Web Development Basics: Front-End with React

(Lecture – 02)

Ningran Li (Icey)
ningranli@swin.edu.au

Acknowledgement of Country

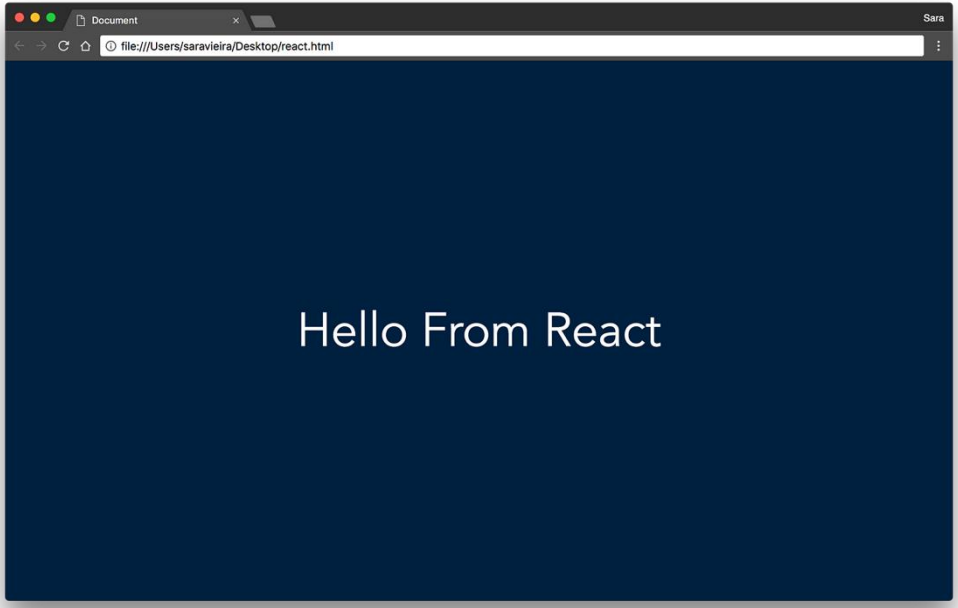
We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Swinburne's Australian campuses are located in Melbourne's east and outer-east, and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We are honoured to recognise our connection to Wurundjeri Country, history, culture, and spirituality through these locations, and strive to ensure that we operate in a manner that respects and honours the Elders and Ancestors of these lands.

We also respectfully acknowledge Swinburne's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, students, alumni, partners and visitors.

We also acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of lands across Australia, their Elders, Ancestors, cultures, and heritage, and recognise the continuing sovereignties of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nations.

Key Usage of React



Enriching the UI

1. Component-based UI
   - Allows developer to break down the UI into reusable and modular components
   - Easily compose them to build complex and dynamic UI
2. Styling and CSS
   - Style components using CSS
   - Either through inline styles or by importing external CSS files
3. UI libraries and frameworks
   - By leveraging these libraries, we can quickly build modern and professional-looking UI without starting from scratch
4. Responsive Design
   - Adapt to different screen sizes and devices (e.g. web app)
5. Animations and transitions

Building Interactive Pages

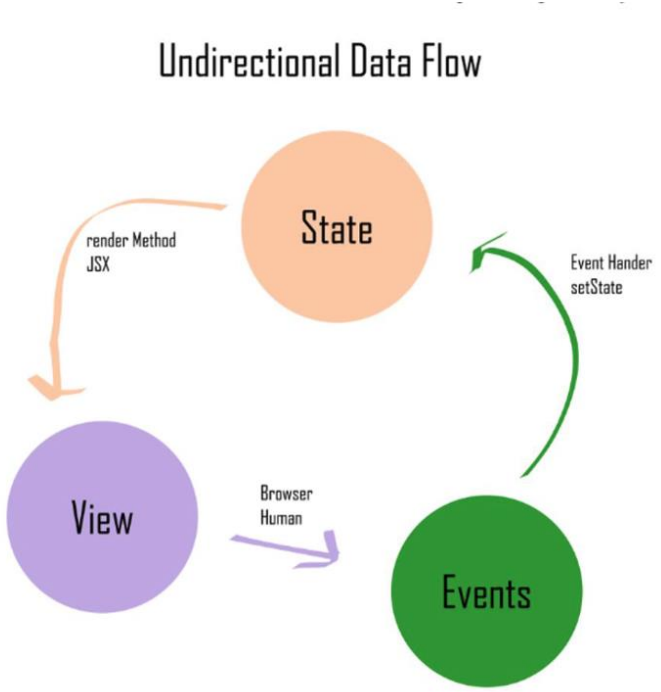
1. Event handling
   - Attach event handlers to components, enabling interactivity and user input
   - Define functions that respond to user events like clicks, key presses, form submissions, and more
   - Trigger actions, update component stat or initiate data fetching based on user interactions
2. State management
   - Reacts uses state to manage and update the data within components
   - Each component can have is own local state
3. Conditional rendering
4. Real-time updates

Understanding React’s Unidirectional Data Flow

In React, data flows in one direction, ensuring predictability and consistency. Here’s how it works:

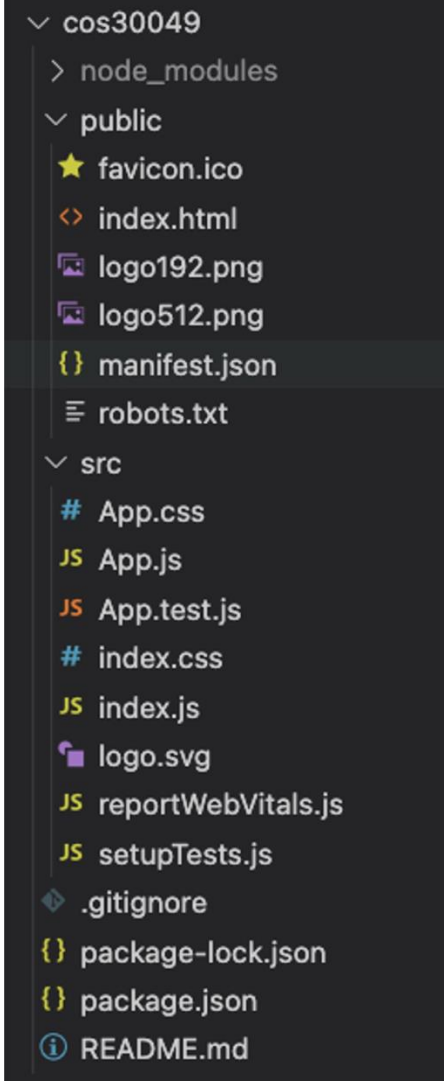
1. **State**: Stores data and determines the UI.
2. **View**: Displays the UI based on the state.
3. **Events**: User actions trigger events, which update the state.

The cycle continues as updated state triggers a re-render of the view. This flow simplifies debugging and ensures that changes are easily traceable from state to view and back through events.

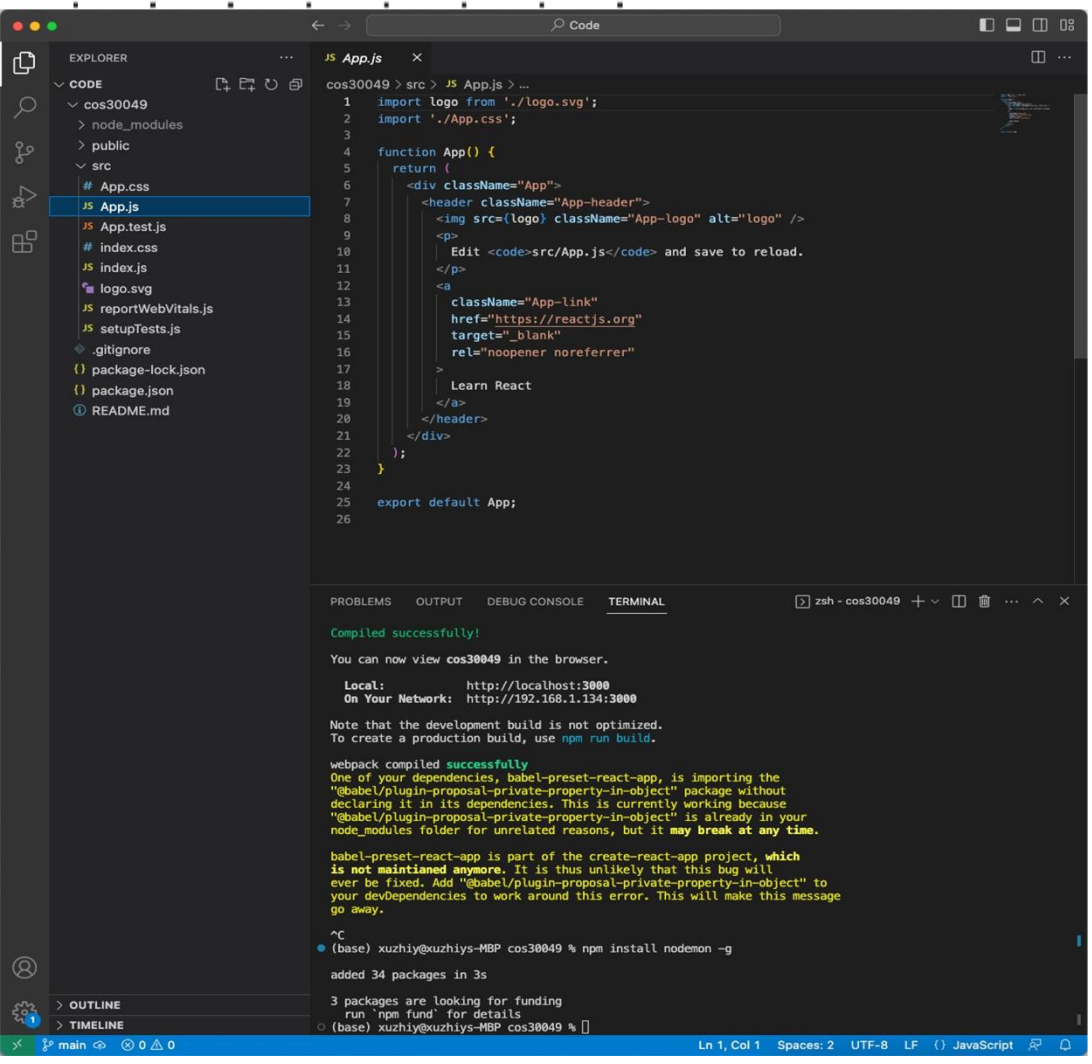


Structure of React

- **node_modules**: dependencies
- **public folder**: store static file (html, img, video …..)
- **src folder**: React source code, most of your codes should be here



Structure of React



App.js: The **main root component** where you build your app's structure and logic, which is imported and rendered by index.j

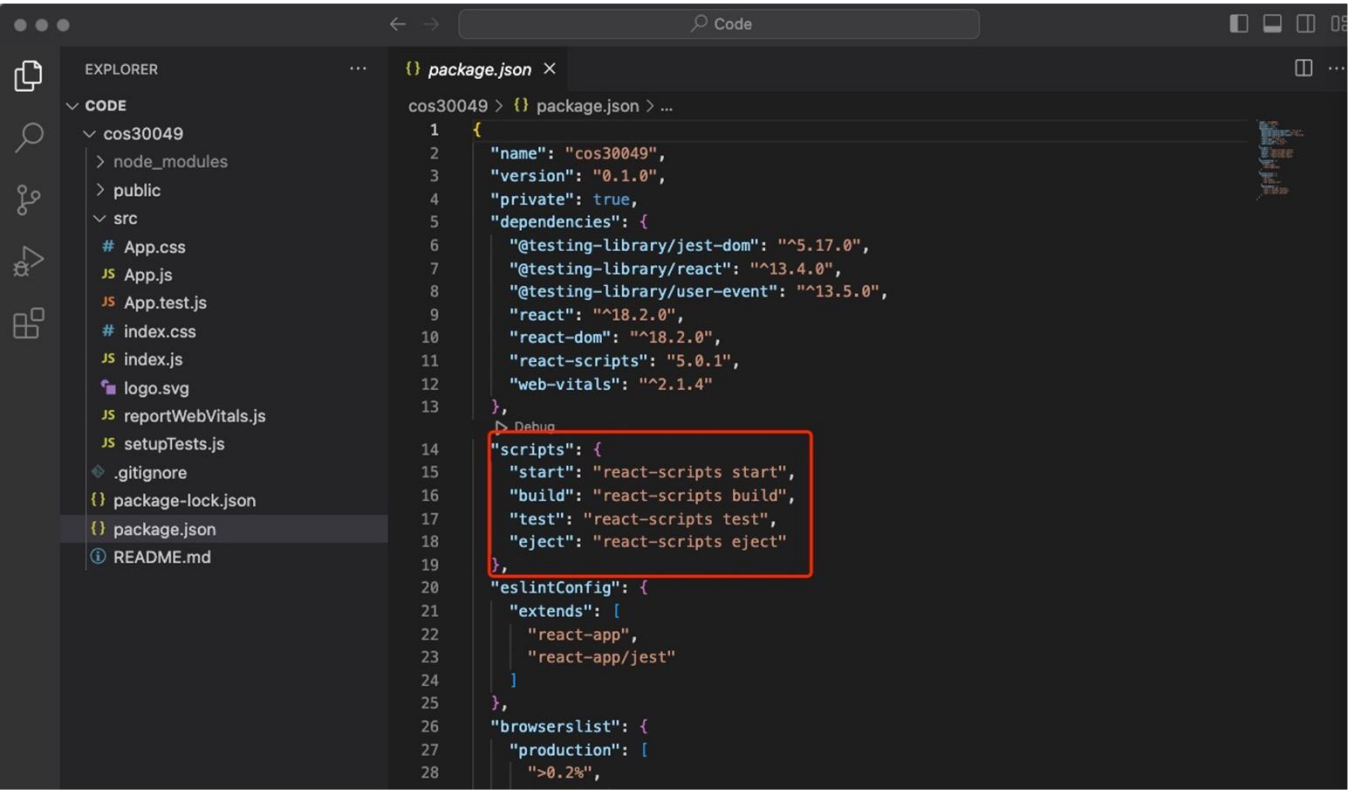
Run the project: npm start

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Image from CRVS Digitisation Guidebook

Structure of React

package.json - a key file in any React project

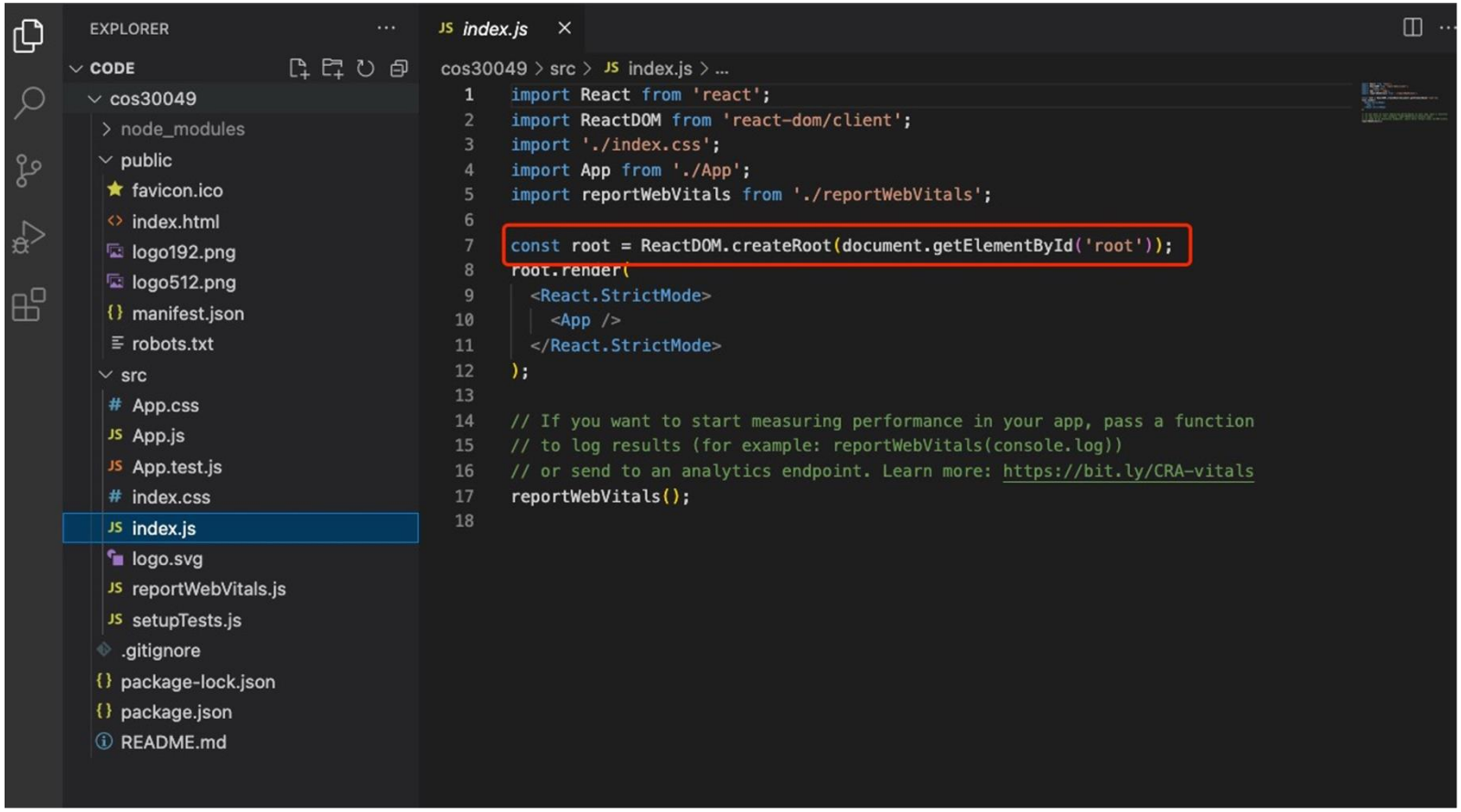


More commands can be found in package.json

Image from CRVS Digitisation Guidebook

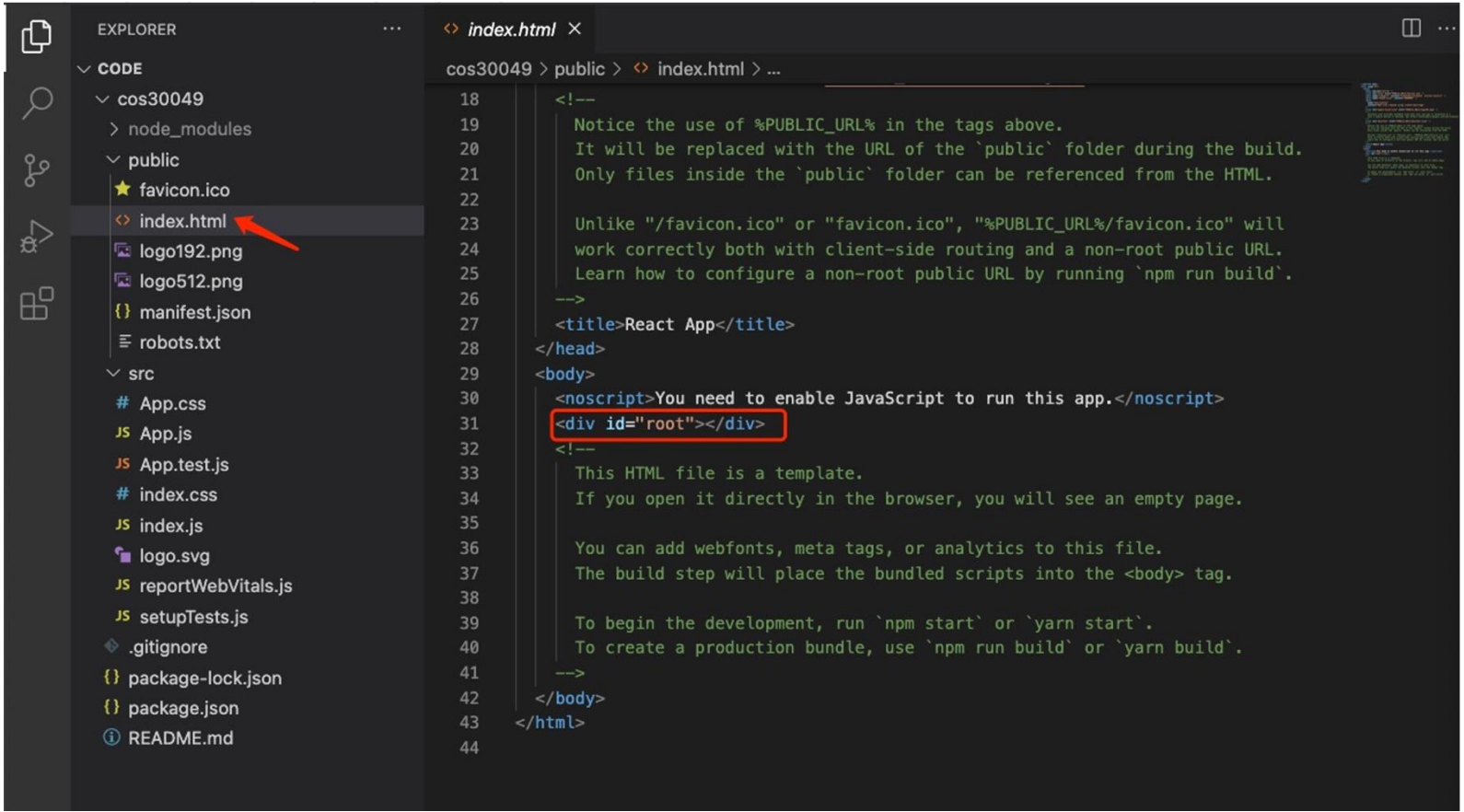
Structure of React

Index.js - true entry point of the React application



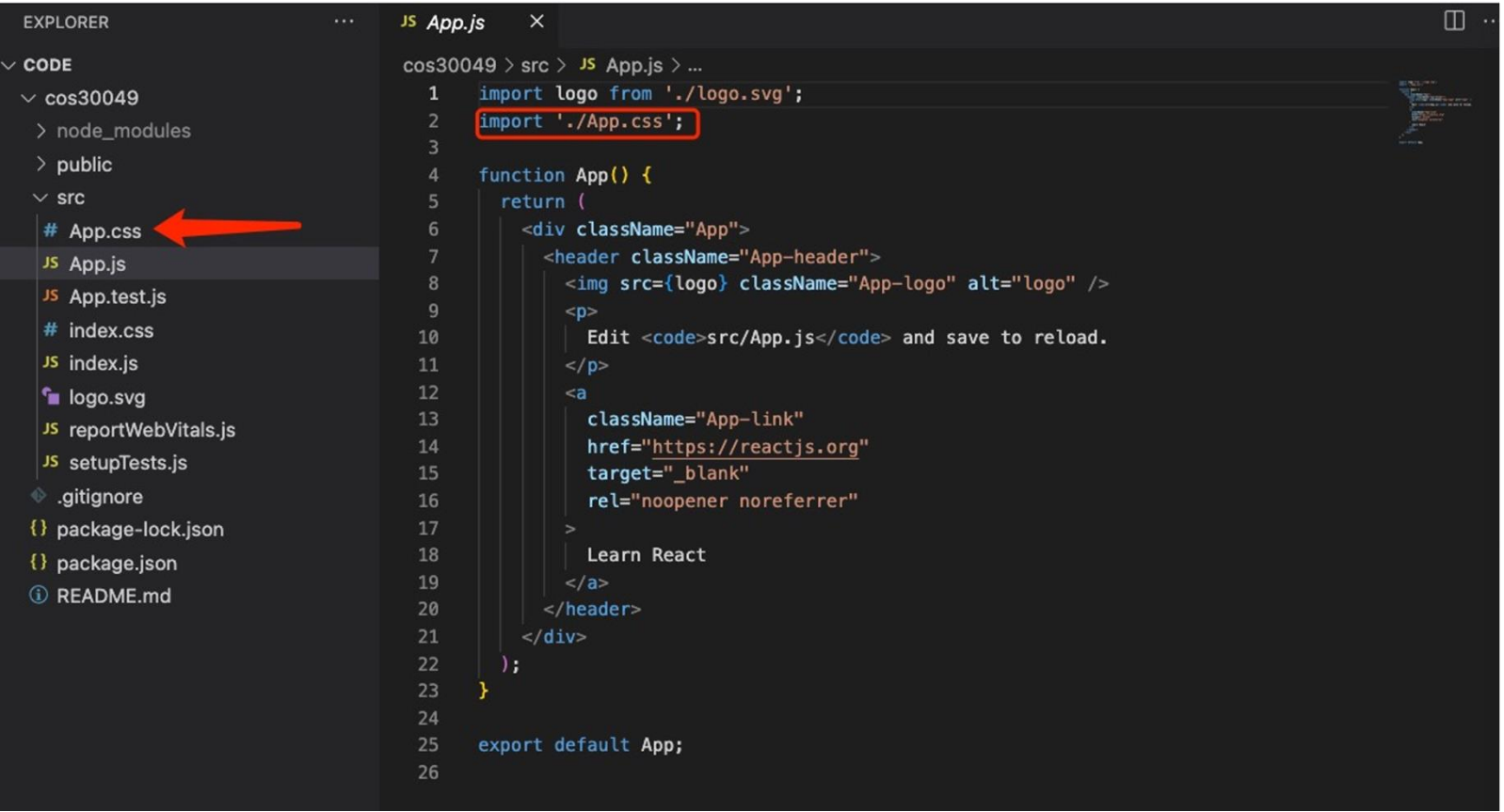
Structure of React

Index.html- the **base HTML file** for your entire React application



Styling in React

App.css: You can define the elements' CSS in separate files.



Basic Concept of React

JSX (JavaScript XML) is a JavaScript syntax extension that allows you to write XML or HTML-like structures within your JavaScript code. In the context of React, JSX is widely used to describe the structure and appearance of UI components.

The purpose of JSX is to simplify the process of creating and rendering React components, making the code more readable and writable. It enables developers to write markup similar to HTML directly within JavaScript, without the need to manually construct virtual DOM elements.

App.js

cos30049 > src > App.js > App

```
1   import logo from './logo.svg';
2   import './App.css';
3
4   function App() {
5     return (
6       <div className="App">
7         <header className="App-header">
8           <img src={logo} className="App-logo" alt="logo" />
9           <p>
10            Edit <code>src/App.js</code> and save to reload.
11          </p>
12          <a
13            className="App-link"
14            href="https://reactjs.org"
15            target="_blank"
16            rel="noopener noreferrer"
17          >
18            Learn React
19          </a>
20        </header>
21      </div>
22    );
23  }
24
25  export default App;
26
```

Basic Concept of React

cos30049 > src > App.js > App

```
1   import logo from './logo.svg';
2   import './App.css';
3
4   function App() {
5
6     let test_text = "this is test text"
7
8     return (
9       <div className="App">
10        <header className="App-header">
11          <img src={logo} className="App-logo" alt="logo" />
12          <p>
13            Edit <code>src/App.js</code> and save to reload.
14          </p>
15          <a
16            className="App-link"
17            href="https://reactjs.org"
18            target="_blank"
19            rel="noopener noreferrer"
20          >
21            {test_text}
22          </a>
23        </header>
24      </div>
25    );
26  }
27
28  export default App;
29
```

State in React.js

What is State:

State is an object in React that stores dynamic data about the component. It represents the **current status** of the component.

- State allows React components to keep track of changing information—like user input, timers, or other data that might change over time.
- When the state of a component changes, React **re-renders** the component to update the UI with the latest values

State in React.js

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

```jsx
import React, { useState } from 'react';

function Counter() {
  // Declare a state variable called "count" with an initial value of 0
  const [count, setCount] = useState(0);

  return (
    <div>
      <p>Current count: {count}</p>
      {/* Button to update the state */}
      <button onClick={() => setCount(count + 1)}>Increase Count</button>
    </div>
  );
}

export default Counter;
```

Declare a **state variable called "count"** with an initial value of 0

Render in React.js

- The **render** process is how React takes the JSX code (the HTML-like structure inside your JavaScript) and **turns it into actual HTML** that gets displayed in the browser.
- Whenever a React component's **state** or **props** change, React automatically triggers a **re-render** to update the UI.

Render Cycle:

- The **render** method in React describes what the UI should look like at any given time. React then uses this information to update the **DOM**.
- Every time the component's state changes, React **re-renders** the component to ensure that the DOM stays in sync with the current state.

Example of Re-render:

- In the previous example, when the count state is updated, React **re-renders** the component to show the new count on the screen.
- The re-render happens because React **detects the state change** (in this case, when setCount is called).

Render in React.js

```
import React from 'react';
import ReactDOM from 'react-dom';

function App() {
  return (
    <div>
      <h1>Hello, this is a simple render example!</h1>
    </div>
  );
}

// Rendering the App component to the root div in the HTML file
ReactDOM.render(<App />, document.getElementById('root'));
```

HTML file should have a div with an id of root, like this:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
  <title>React App</title>
</head>
<body>
  <div id="root"></div>
  <script src="src/index.js"></script>
</body>
</html>
```

How State and Render Work Together?

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

• React uses **state** to store and manage dynamic data. When the state changes, React **re-renders** the component to update the UI with the new state.
• This automatic re-rendering is what makes React apps **interactive** and **responsive** to user input or other dynamic events.

Summary:

• **State**: Holds dynamic data that can change over time (e.g., user inputs, API responses).
• **Render**: The process React uses to convert JSX into actual HTML elements and update the browser when the state or props change.

How State and Render Work Together?

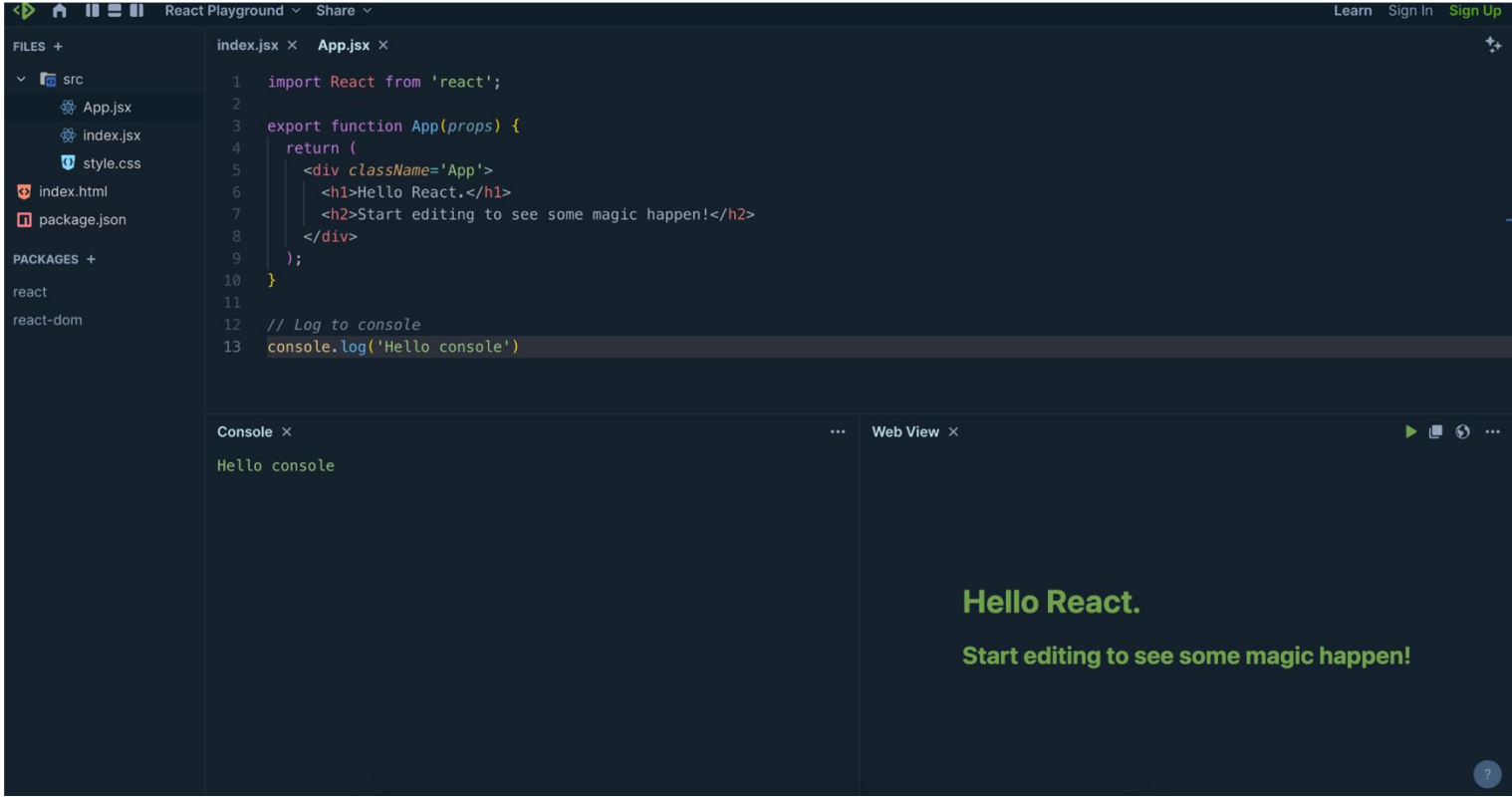
SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

```jsx
import React, { useState } from 'react';

function App() {
  // Declare a state variable "count" and a function "setCount" to update it
  const [count, setCount] = useState(0);

  return (
    <div className="App">
      <h1>Simple Counter</h1>
      {/* Display the current value of count */}
      <p>Count: {count}</p>

      {/* Buttons to increase or decrease the count */}
      <button onClick={() => setCount(count + 1)}>Increase</button>
      <button onClick={() => setCount(count - 1)}>Decrease</button>
    </div>
  );
}

export default App;
```

Web Design: Building Your Web with React.js

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

React Playground : playcode.io/react



Web Design: Building Your Web with React.js

In React, the ***render*** function is a required method to define the output of a component. Every React component must contain a render function that is responsible for returning a React element or a set of React elements that describe the output of the component on the screen.

The main purpose of the render function is to generate a virtual DOM based on the component's current state (state) and properties (props) and render it into the actual DOM.

index.jsx × App.jsx ×

```jsx
import React from 'react';
import ReactDOM from 'react-dom/client';

import { App } from './App.jsx'

ReactDOM.createRoot(
  document.querySelector('#root')
).render(<App />)
```

index.jsx × App.jsx ×

```jsx
import React from 'react';

export function App(props) {
  return (
    <div className='App'>
      <h1>Hello React.</h1>
      <h2>Start editing to see some magic happen!</h2>
    </div>
  );
}

// Log to console
console.log('Hello console')
```

Web Design: Integrating HTML in React.js

In React, HTML elements are also support in the React.js

index.jsx × App.jsx ×

```jsx
import React from 'react';

export function App(props) {
  return (
    <div className='App'>
      <p>This is a paragraph</p>
      <hr />
      <p>This is a paragraph</p>
      <hr />
      <p>This is a paragraph</p>
    </div>
  );
}

// Log to console
console.log('Hello world')
```

Console ×

```
Hello world
```

Web View ×

This is a paragraph

This is a paragraph

This is a paragraph

Web Design: Integrating HTML in React.js

In React, HTML elements are also support in the React.js

index.jsx × App.jsx ×

```jsx
import React from 'react';

export function App(props) {
  return (
    <div className='App'>
      <h1>This is a heading</h1>
      <h2>This is a heading</h2>
      <h3>This is a heading</h3>
    </div>
  );
}

// Log to console
console.log('Hello world')
```

Console ×

```
Hello world
```

Web View ×

This is a heading

This is a heading

This is a heading

Web Design: Integrating HTML in React.js

In React, HTML elements are also support in the React.js

Any Questions?

Top Text

BEST CODE IS THE CODE

Bottom Text

THAT's

Download Meme!

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Image Source:[React for Beginners: Building a Meme Maker with React. (2023). *FreeCodeCamp*]

Learning Resources

MUI Documentation
https://mui.com/material-ui/getting-started/

What is Flexbox ?
https://css-tricks.com/snippets/css/a-guide-to-flexbox/

What is the Grid system ?
https://mui.com/material-ui/react-grid/

Breakpoints in MUI
https://mui.com/material-ui/customization/breakpoints/

Link in MUI
https://mui.com/material-ui/react-link/

Image from CRVS Digitisation Guidebook