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How to use chart.js to create charts in React

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There are several **npm** packages that allow charts to be created in React; **chart.js** is one of the packages which makes the creation of charts and graphs very easy.


The latest version of `chart.js` is `react-chartjs-2`; both these packages need to be installed using **npm** before they can be used.

Types of charts:

1. Bar charts
2. Line graph
3. Pie charts

Examples

Let's look at some types of charts that can be created using this

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1. Bar chart

```
1 import React from 'react';
2 import {Bar} from 'react-chartjs-2';
3
4 const state = {
5   labels: ['January', 'February', 'March',
6           'April', 'May'],
7   datasets: [
8     {
```

```

9      label: 'Rainfall',
10     backgroundColor: 'rgba(75,192,192,1)',
11     borderColor: 'rgba(0,0,0,1)',
12     borderWidth: 2,
13     data: [65, 59, 80, 81, 56]
14   }
15 ]
16 }
17
18 export default class App extends React.Component {
19   render() {
20     return (
21       <div>
22         <Bar
23           data={state}
24           options={{
25             title:{
26               display:true,
27               text:'Average Rainfall per month',
28               fontSize:20
29             },
30             legend:{
31               display:true.

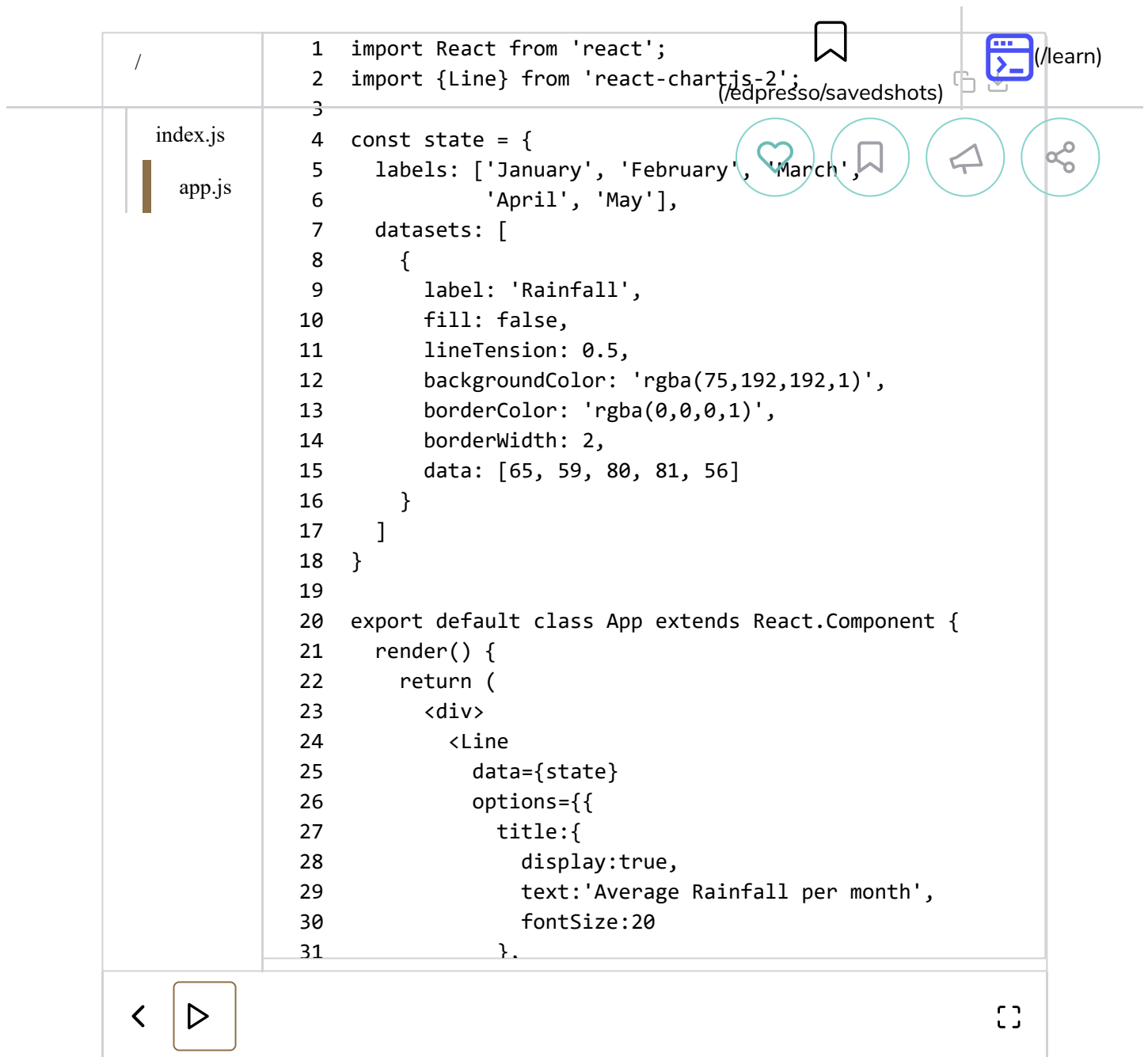
```

Explanation

- The `state` variable contains all the data and styling properties of the bar graph. The `labels` keyword assigns names to each bar, and the `dataset` sub-set contains information such as bar color, border width, and height of the bar.
- The **Bar** component is rendered using `<Bar />` inside the React App component. The defined state is assigned to the bar component on **line 22**. The `options` property allows further miscellaneous styling, such as the position of the heading and the chart legend.

2. Line graph

The syntax is similar to the one used for a bar chart. A new property, `lineTension`, is used here; it controls the curvature of the line joining the points.



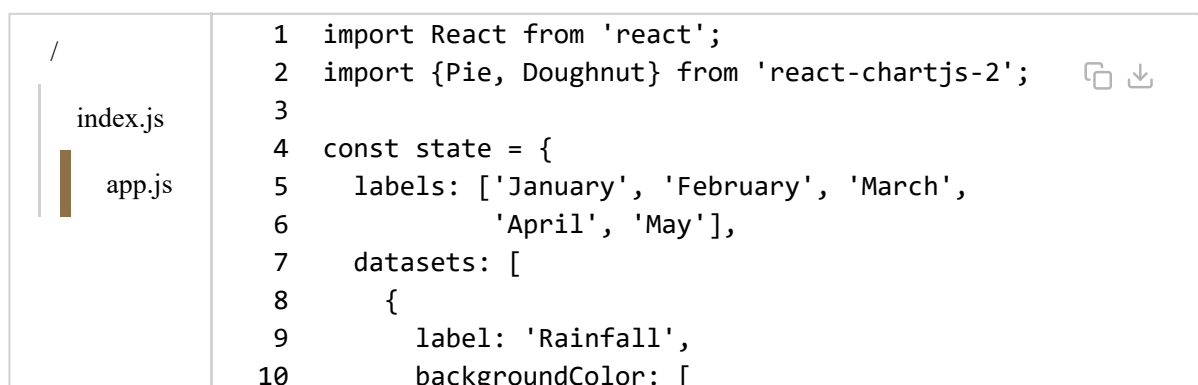
```

1  import React from 'react';
2  import {Line} from 'react-chartjs-2';
3
4  const state = {
5    labels: ['January', 'February', 'March',
6            'April', 'May'],
7    datasets: [
8      {
9        label: 'Rainfall',
10       fill: false,
11       lineTension: 0.5,
12       backgroundColor: 'rgba(75,192,192,1)',
13       borderColor: 'rgba(0,0,0,1)',
14       borderWidth: 2,
15       data: [65, 59, 80, 81, 56]
16     }
17   ]
18 }
19
20 export default class App extends React.Component {
21   render() {
22     return (
23       <div>
24         <Line
25           data={state}
26           options={{
27             title:{
28               display:true,
29               text:'Average Rainfall per month',
30               fontSize:20
31             }

```

2. Pie charts

In addition to the conventional pie chart, chart.js also has a **Doughnut** graph which stylizes the pie chart differently. Both of these charts are represented below.



```

1  import React from 'react';
2  import {Pie, Doughnut} from 'react-chartjs-2';
3
4  const state = {
5    labels: ['January', 'February', 'March',
6            'April', 'May'],
7    datasets: [
8      {
9        label: 'Rainfall',
10       backgroundColor: [

```

```


11      '#B21F00',
12      '#C9DE00',
13      '#2FDE00',
14      '#00A6B4',
15      '#6800B4'
16    ],
17    hoverBackgroundColor: [
18      '#501800',
19      '#4B5000',
20      '#175000',
21      '#003350',
22      '#35014F'
23    ],
24    data: [65, 59, 80, 81, 56]
25  }
26 ]
27 }
28
29 export default class App extends React.Component {
30   render() {
31     return (

```

Additional examples

More types of supported graphs and charts, along with the details about their properties, can be found on `chart.js`'s github (<https://github.com/jerairrest/react-chartjs-2>).

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