

Motivation

Imperative vs Functional programming

- Functional programming is recommended
- But world (IO) is not functional
- You need a backdoor to access world in an imperative way
 - For example : `unsafePerformIO` (Haskell)
- `useRef` is related to this idea

useRef

<https://reactjs.org/docs/refs-and-the-dom.html>

- ref means the memory reference
- Refs provide a way to access **DOM nodes** or React elements
- In the typical React dataflow, props are the only way that parent components interact with their children.
- To modify a child, you re-render it with new props.
- However, there are a few cases where you need to **imperatively modify a child** outside of the typical dataflow.

When to Use Refs

There are a few good use cases for refs:

- Managing focus, text selection, or media playback.
- Triggering imperative animations.
- Integrating with third-party DOM libraries.

Avoid using refs for anything that can be done declaratively.

```
const ref = useRef(value)
```

- Object property : **current**
{ **current**: value }
- To read the value :
 - ref.current
- To update the value:
 - ref.current = newValue // using assignment

useRef : imperative programming

- The values of ref variables are **address**:
 - `<Tag ref={refVar} ... />`
 - Similar to `const refVar = document.getElementById`
- Update is made by **assignment**

```
const refVar = useRef("hi")  
refVar.current = "hello"  
refVar.current = "nice"
```

Values of variables

- File : **UseRefStarEx2.jsx**
- ordinary variables, useState, useRef
- Values of Variables
 - State change => Rendering -> Re-initialization for **ordinary** variables
 - State Change => Rendering => values of **ref** variables are preserved
 - Ref change => No Rendering => values of ordinary variables are preserved
 - Variables of useState and useRef are not re-initialized by re-rendering