

WEBPACK

ReactJS Setup

Sreekanth M. E.

Freelance Trainer & Consultant

<http://www.SreekanthME.com>

ReactJS SPA are typically written with a special HTMLish syntax of JS called JSX and latest versions of JS (like ES6 & ES7).

Browsers cannot understand JSX and their support for ES6/7 is not yet up to the mark.

A transpiler named Babel is needed to convert JSX and ES6/7 to ES5 that most modern browsers can understand.

A Babel loader is needed by webpack to preprocess ReactJS modules.

The following NPM modules need to be installed:

- babel-core
- babel-loader

Babel doesn't transpile code without explicitly being told what to do.

Babel is told what to transpile with the help of something called babel presets.

Babel presets can be specified either in `webpack.config.js` file or in a separate Babel config file named `.babelrc`

```
{  
  "presets": ["es2015", "react", "stage-2"]  
}
```

A NPM module has to be installed for each preset.
Below is the list:

- babel-preset-es2015
- babel-preset-react
- babel-preset-stage-2

babel-preset-es2015 → Transpiles ES6/7 to ES5

babel-preset-react → Transpiles JSX to ES5

babel-preset-stage-2 → Needed to transpile some JS stage-2 proposals like the “spread operator” typically used in redux reducers.

END OF CHAPTER

Several thin, white, parallel diagonal lines are positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide, extending from the right edge towards the center.

APPENDIX