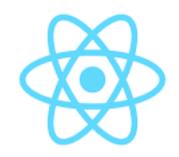
## Agenda

- Navigation.
- The Virtual DOM
- Design patterns.
- Custom Hooks.



# Navigation

**The React Router** 

#### Introduction

- Allows multiple views and flows in an app.
- Keeps the URL in sync with the UI.
- Supports traditional web principles:
  - 1. Addressability.
  - 2. Information sharing.
  - 3. Deep linking.
  - 1st generation AJAX apps violated these principles.
- Not part of the React framework A separate library.

# Basic routing configuration

	URL	Components
1	1	Home
2	/about	About
3	/inbox	Inbox

```
    Declarative routing.
```

```
const App = () \Rightarrow {
18
        return (
19
          <BrowserRouter>
20
            <Switch>
21
              <Route path="/about" component={About} />
              <Route path="/inbox" component={Inbox} />
22
              <Route exact path="/" component={Home} />
23
24
              <Redirect from="*" to="/" />
25
            </Switch>
26
          </BrowserRouter>
27
        );
28
      }:
29
      ReactDOM.render(<App />, document.getElementById("root"));
```

- <BrowserRouter> matchs browser's URL with a <Route> path.
- Matched <Route> declares component to be mounted.
- <Route> path supports regular expression pattern matching.
  - Use exact argument for precision.
- Use <Redirect> to avoid 404-type error.
- Switch> only one of the nested Routs can be active.
- ReactDOM.render() passed an app's Router component.
- Ref. src/sample1/. (see lecture archive)

## Hyperlinks

- Use the <Link> component for internal links.
  - Use anchor tag for external links <a href . . . . . >
- Ref. src/sample2/

```
← → C (i) localhost:3000
∴ About / Inbox
Home page
```

```
const Home = () \Rightarrow {
                             Absolute URL
       return (
         <>
           ul>
10
             <
11
               <Link to="/about">About</Link>
12
             13
               <Link to="/inbox">Inbox</Link>
14
             16
           <h1>Home page</h1>
18
19
```

- <Link> gives us access to other useful router properties.
- Use <LinlContainer> when link wraps other 3<sup>rd</sup> party component,
   e.g. Bootstrap-React <Button />

## Dynamic segments.

- Parameterized URLs, e.g. /users/22, /users/12/purchases
  - How do we declare a parameterized path in the routing configuration?
  - How does a component access the parameter value?
- Ex: Suppose the Inbox component shows messages for a specific user, where the user's id is part of the browser URL e.g /inbox/123 where 123 is the user's id.
- Solution: <Route path='/inbox/:userId' component={ Inbox } />
  - The colon (:) prefixes a parameter in the path; Parameter name is arbitrary.
  - Ref src/sample3

## Dynamic segments.

- withRouter() function: Returns a new, enriched component.
  - Injects routing props into a component:
    - props.match.params.(parameter-name)
    - props.history
- More than one parameter allowed.
  - e.g. /users/:userld/categories/:categoryName

#### **Nested Routes**

- Objective: A component's child is dynamically determined from the browser's URL (Addressability).
- EX.: (See src/sample4) Given the route:

```
<Route path='/inbox/:userId' component={ Inbox } />,
```

#### when the browser URL is:

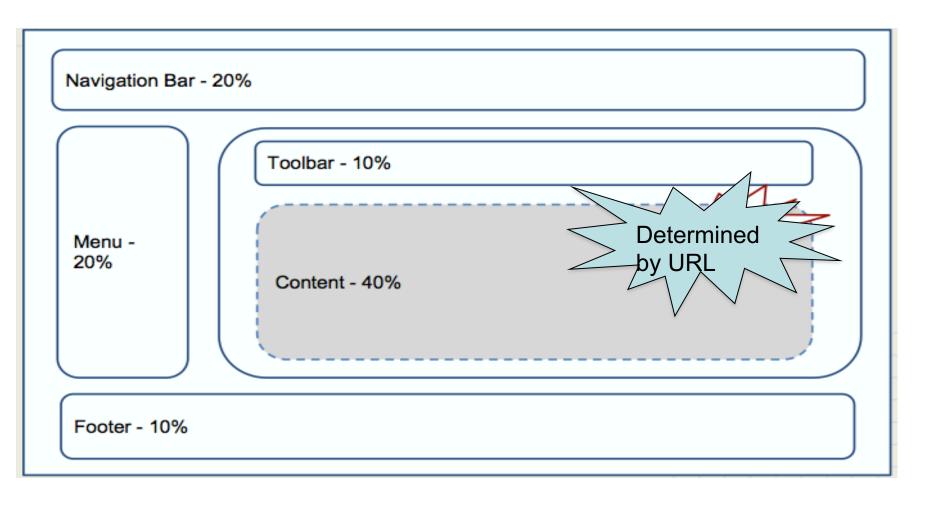
- /inbox/XXX/statistics render Inbox + Stats components.
- 2. /inbox/XXX/draft then render Inbox + Drafts components.

#### Extended <Link>

- Objective: Pass additional props via a <Link>.
- EX.: See /src/sample5/.

```
const userId = 'id1234'
← → C (i) localhost:3000
                                               const beta = 'something else'
                                               <Link
     About
                                                   to={{
     Inbox
                                                   pathname: "/inbox",
                                                   state: {
                                                       user: userId.
Home page
                                                       beta: beta
                                               >Inbox </Link>
 const Inbox = props => {
  const { user, beta } = props.location.state;
  return (
                                             <Route path="/inbox" component={Inbox} />
     <h2>Inbox page</h2>
     {`Link Props: ${user}, ${beta}`}
    </>
```

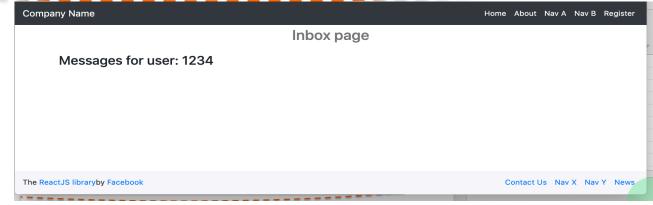
## Typical Web app layout



## Persistent elements/components

Use cases: Site-wide Headers. Footers. Side menus.





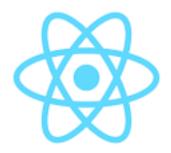
### Persistent elements/components

Ref. src/sample6

```
class Router extends Component {
    render() {
        return (
            <BrowserRouter>
               div_className="container">
                    <Switch>
                        <Route path='/about' component={ About } />
                        <Route path='/register' component={ Register } />
                        <Route path='/contact' component={ Contact } />
                        <Route path='/inbox/:userId' component={ Inbox } />
                        <Route exact path='/' component={ Home } />
                        <Redirect from='*' to='/' />
                    </Switch>
            </BrowserRouter>
```

## Routing.

 The remaining routing samples the archive will be discussed in later lectures.



## **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 access to the DOM.
  - 2. Avoid expensive DOM operations.
  - 3. Update elements offline, then reinsert into 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 <u>Virtual DOM</u> to shield developer from these concerns.

#### The Virtual DOM

- How React works:
  - 1. It create a lightweight, efficient form of the DOM the Virtual DOM.
  - 2. Your app changes the V. DOM via components' JSX.
  - 3. React engine:
    - 1. Perform a *diff* operation between current and previous V. DOM state.
    - 2. Compute 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.

#### Virtual DOM – Pre-commit & Commit phases

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.
- → (Pre=commit) Compute changes between the current and previous Virtual DOM (Diff).
- → (Commit) Batch updates the Real DOM.
- → Browser repaints screen

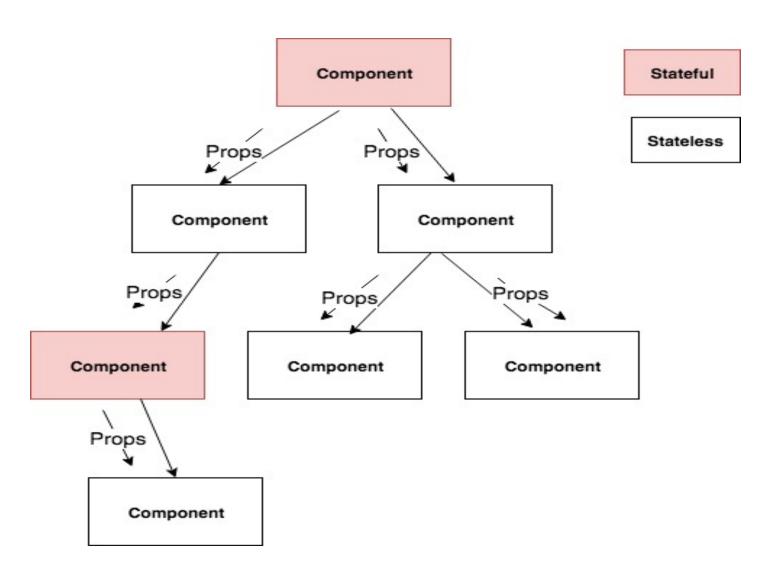
#### Virtual DOM – Performance

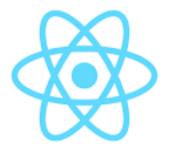
The Filter Friends App.

User types a character in text box

- → onChange event handler executes
  - → Handler changes state (FriendsApp component)
  - → Re-renders FriendsApp.
  - → Re-renders children (FilteredFriendList) with new prop values.
  - →.Re-renders children of FilteredFriendList. (Re-rendering completed)
  - → (Pre-commit) Computes the new Virtual DOM
    - + Perform diff on new and previous Virtual DOMs.
  - → Commit phase) Batch updates the Real DOM.
  - → Browser repaints screen

## Virtual DOM – The Diff operation





# **Design Patterns**

In software engineering, a **design pattern** is a general repeatable solution to a commonly occurring problem in software **design** 

## Reusability & Separation of Concerns.

- The DRY principle Don't Repeat Yourself.
- Techniques to improve DRY (increase reusability):
  - 1. Inheritance (is-a relationships, e.g. Car is an automabile)
  - 2. Composition (has-a relationships, e.g. Car has an Engine)
- React favors composition We build components from other components.
  - Generalized components are used in building many other components.
  - Props achieve varying complexity and specialization.
- Core React composition Patterns:
  - 1. Containers.
  - 2. Render Props.
  - 3. Higher Order Components.

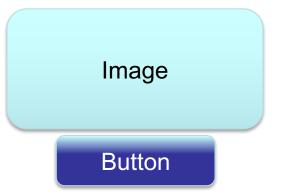
#### What are children

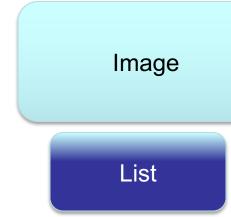
div has two children; ul has three children

## The Container pattern.

All React components have a special <u>children</u> prop so that <u>consumers can pass components</u> directly by nesting them inside the jsx.

 A Picture component displays its own JSX as well as that passed in by the consumer component using the children prop.





Picture is composed with other elements / components

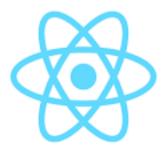
**Image** 

Complex Component

## The Container pattern.

- Benefits:
- 1. Greater reusability Generalized components that can be specialized with props (children)
- 2. Cleaner, simpler codebase Instead of many specialized components, create fewer generalized components.
- 3. Improved de-coupling between consumer and container.

More on patterns in a subsequent lecture.



## **Custom Hooks**

#### Custom Hooks.

- Custom Hooks let you extract component logic into reusable functions.
- Improves code readability and modularity.

Example:

```
const BookPage = props => {
  const isbm = props.isbn;

  const [book, setBook] = useState(null);
  useEffect(() => {
    fetch(
      `https://api.for.books?isbn=${isbn}`)
      .then(res => res.json())
      .then(book => {
        setBook(book);
      });
  }, [isbn]);
  . . . rest of component code . . . .
}
```

Objective – Extract the book-related state code into a custom hook.

27

## Custom Hook Example.

#### Solution:

```
const useBook = isbn => {
  const [book, setBook] = useState(null);
  useEffect(() => {
    fetch(
    `https://api.for.books?isbn=${isbn}`)
    .then(res => res.json())
    .then(book => {
        setBook(book);
    });
  }, [isbn]);
  return [book, setBook];
}:
```

```
const BookPage = props => {
  const isbm = props.isbn;
  const [book, setBook] = useBook(isbn);
  . . . rest of component code . . . .
}
```

- Custom Hook is an ordinary function BUT can only be called from a React component function.
- Prefix hook function name with use to leverage linting support.
- Function can return any collection type (array, object), with any number of entries.