

Front-End Development with React

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ABOUT ME

Jonas Bandi

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- Freelancer, in den letzten 4 Jahren vor allem in Projekten im Spannungsfeld zwischen modernen Webentwicklung und traditionellen Geschäftsanwendungen.
- Dozent an der Berner Fachhochschule seit 2007
- In-House Kurse: Web-Technologien im Enterprise UBS, Postfinance, Mobiliar, BIT, SBB ...



JavaScript / Angular / React
Schulungen / Unterstützung / Reviews:
<http://ivorycode.com/#schulung>

Material

Git Repository:

<https://bitbucket.org/jonasbandi/react-axa-2018-2/>

Initial Checkout:

`git clone https://bitbucket.org/jonasbandi/react-axa-2018-2.git`

Update: `git pull`

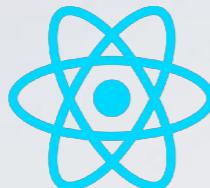
`git reset --hard
git pull`

(setzt alle lokalen Veränderungen zurück)

Slides & Exercises: <checkout>/00-CourseMaterial

AGENDA

DAY 1



Intro

Getting started quickly
with `create-react-app`

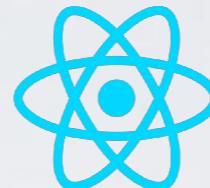
JSX and React
Components

Exercise: Your React
component

Components in Detail

Exercise: ToDo App

DAY 2



Routing

Backend Access

Advanced
Statemanagement

Using React with Flow
or TypeScript

SIDE-TRACK



Modern JavaScript
Development

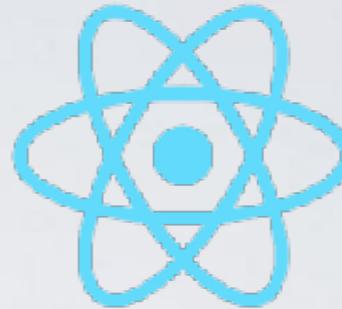


JavaScript:
ES5 & ES2015+



TypeScript & Flow

React



React is a JavaScript library for building user interfaces.

Created by Facebook in 2013.

Current Version: 16 (v16 "react fibre" was a complete rewrite)

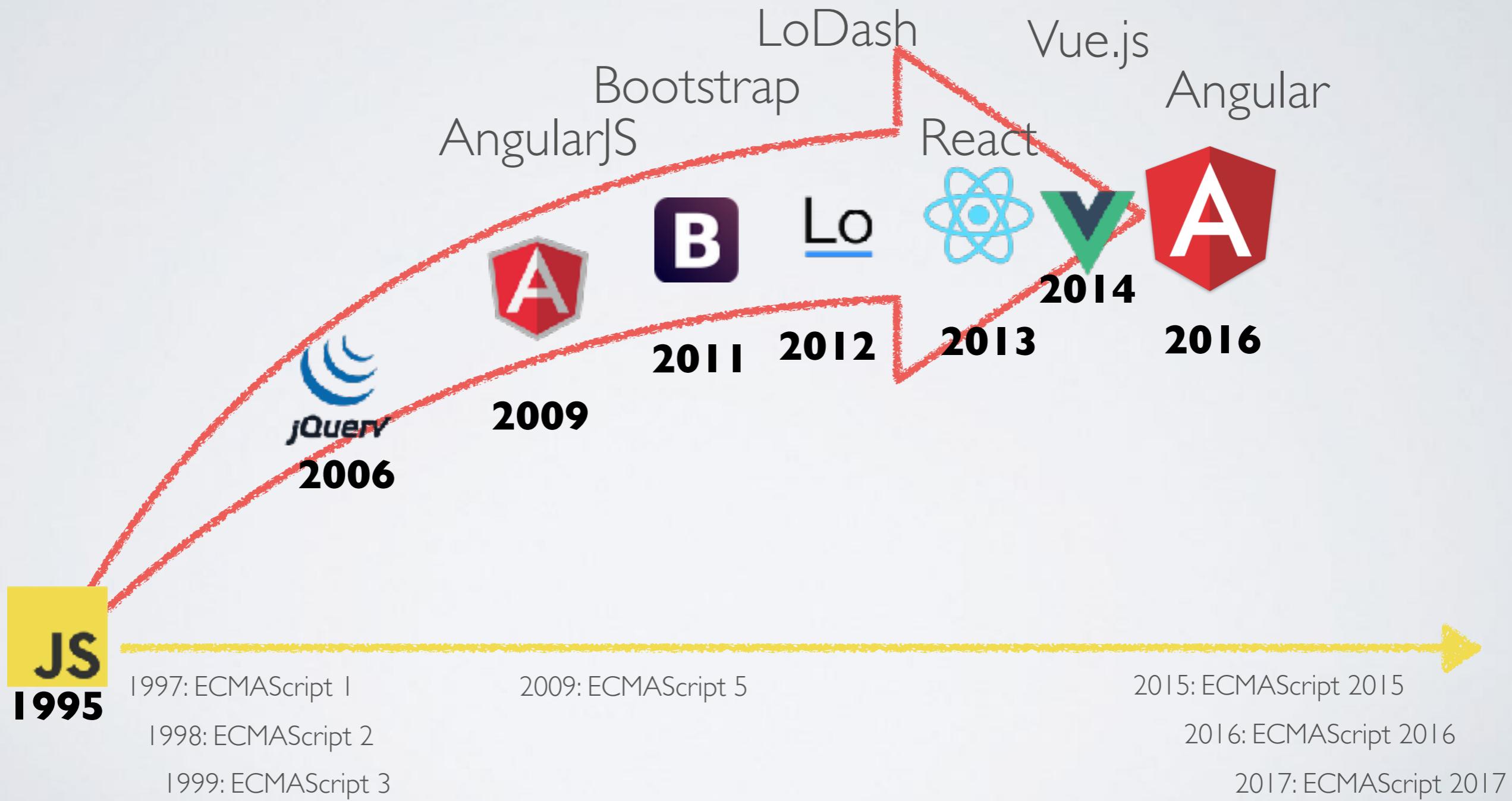
The DOM is created programmatically.

JSX enables declarative DOM programming.

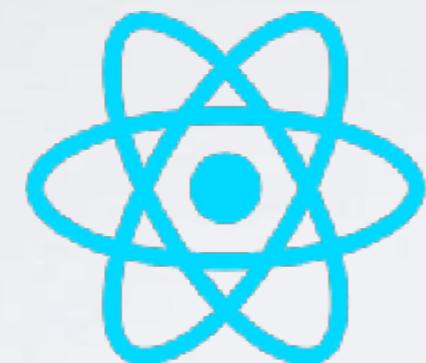
A virtual DOM abstracts the real DOM.

One-way data flow instead of two-way data binding.

History of JavaScript & Frameworks



The “Current Generation” of Frontend JavaScript Frameworks



React
2013



2015



- component architecture
- functional/reactive approaches
- unidirectional data-flow
- leveraging bleeding-edge technologies (ES2015, TypeScript, WebPack, npm)

React is very popular



 **Dropbox**



 facebook / react	 Star	75,060
 vuejs / vue	 Star	65,846
 angular / angular	 Star	27,553

amazon

 **zalando**

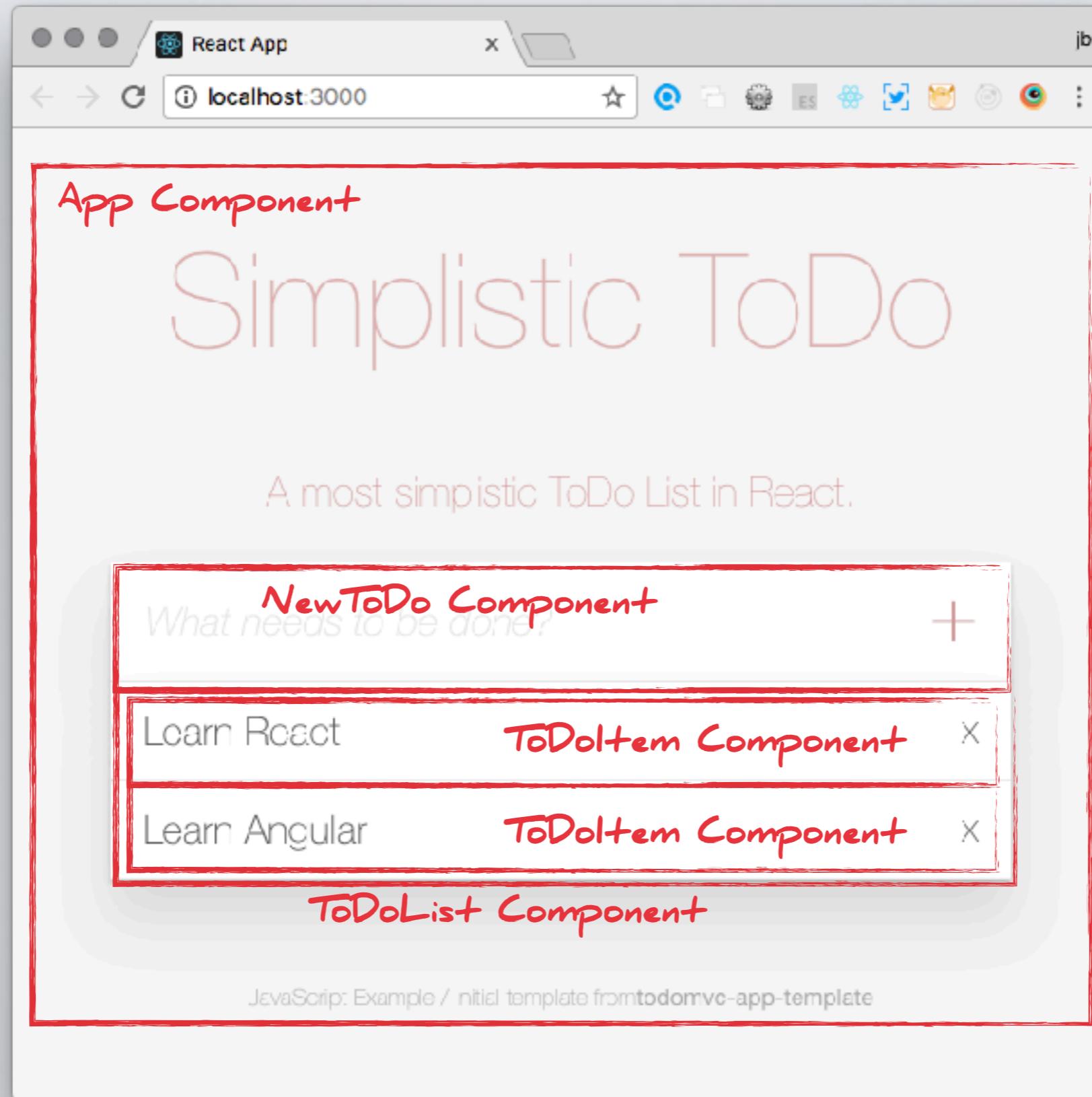
 **JIRA**

Microsoft
 [Outlook.com](#)

How does React help?

- Working with the DOM
 - declarative DOM programming instead of imperative manipulations
- “Componentization” of the UI
 - Provide Structure for the UI
 - Enable reuse of components
 - Manage state in components

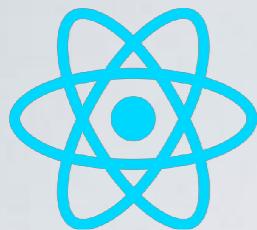
Everything is a Component



React is not a Framework

- React is "only" a view library.
- React needs to be combined with other Libraries/Frameworks to build a full Stack for building an Frontend-Application
 - Network-Access
 - Routing
 - State-Management
 - i18n
 - Components, Styling ...

React vs Angular



React and Angular have different scopes:

UI-Library

- UI-Components
- Unidirectional DataFlow
- Architecture

Complete SPA Framework

- UI-Components
- Unidirectional DataFlow
- Architecture
 - Services
 - Dependency-Injection
 - Modularization
- Routing
- Backend-Access



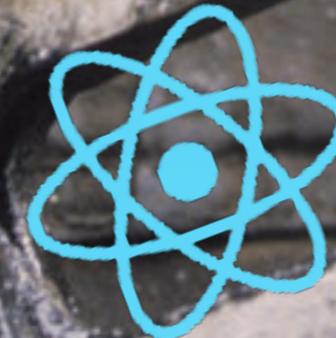
Getting started ...

<https://github.com/facebookincubator/create-react-app>

```
npm i -g create-react-app
create-react-app awesome-app
cd awesome-app
npm start
```

Note: using yarn instead of npm is popular in the React ecosystem: <https://yarnpkg.com/>

EXERCISES



Exercise 1 - Create React App

Dissecting a React App

<https://github.com/facebookincubator/create-react-app>

yarn start
yarn build
yarn test

Project Configuration:

- package.json
- node_modules
- package-lock.json / yarn.lock

Bootstrapping:

- public/index.html
- src/index.js
- service-worker.js

App Component:

- /src/App.js

Debugging & Testing:

- source-maps
- src/App.test.js

React Project Setup



ES2015+ & JSX

Write Code

BABEL TypeScript

Compile

Babel and TypeScript can compile JSX to JavaScript



webpack
MODULE BUNDLER



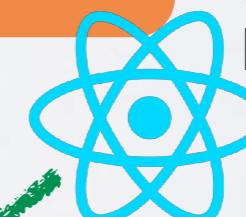
ES5

Run in Browser

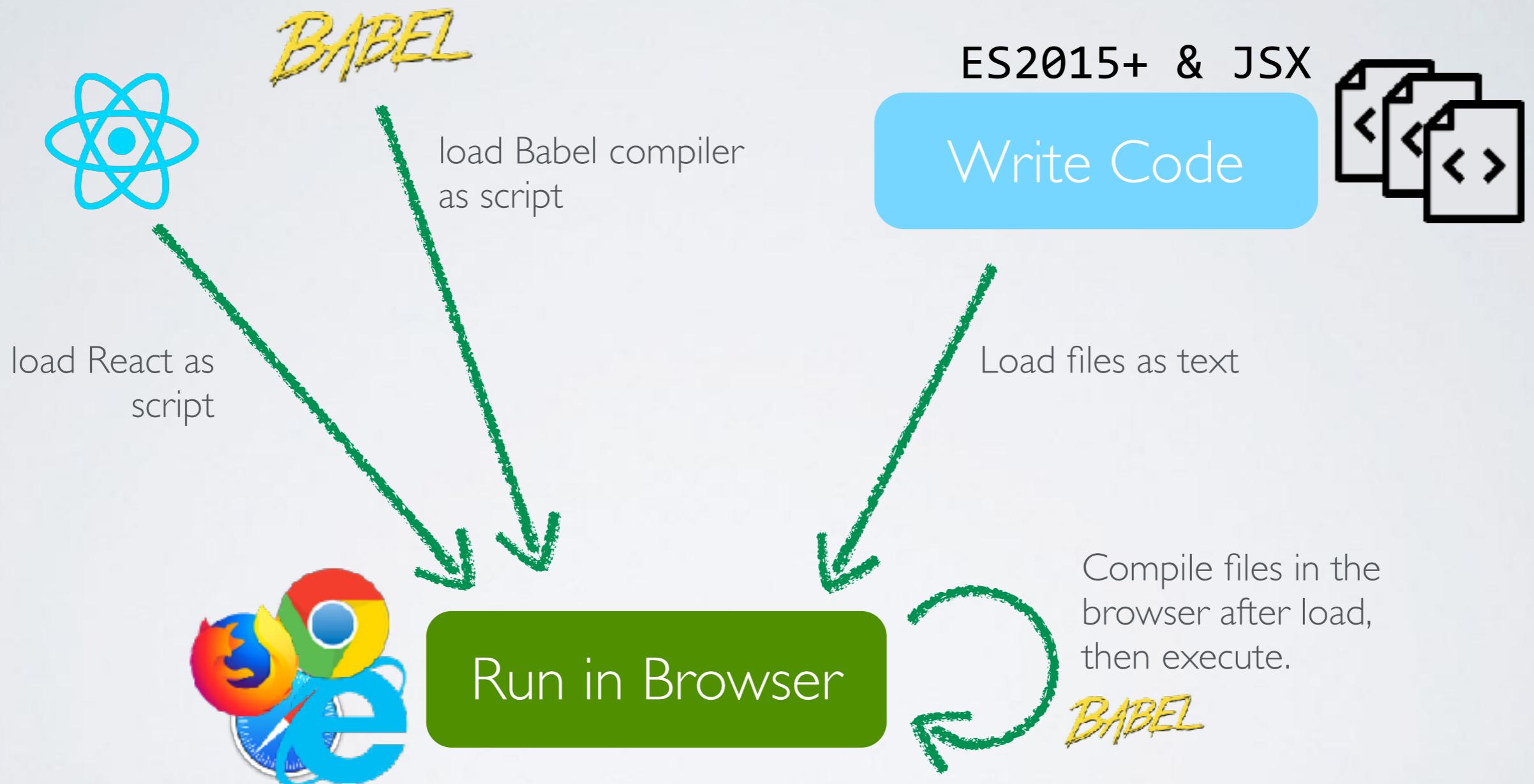
Bundle

Create coarse-grained & optimised bundles from many files and 3rd-party libraries-

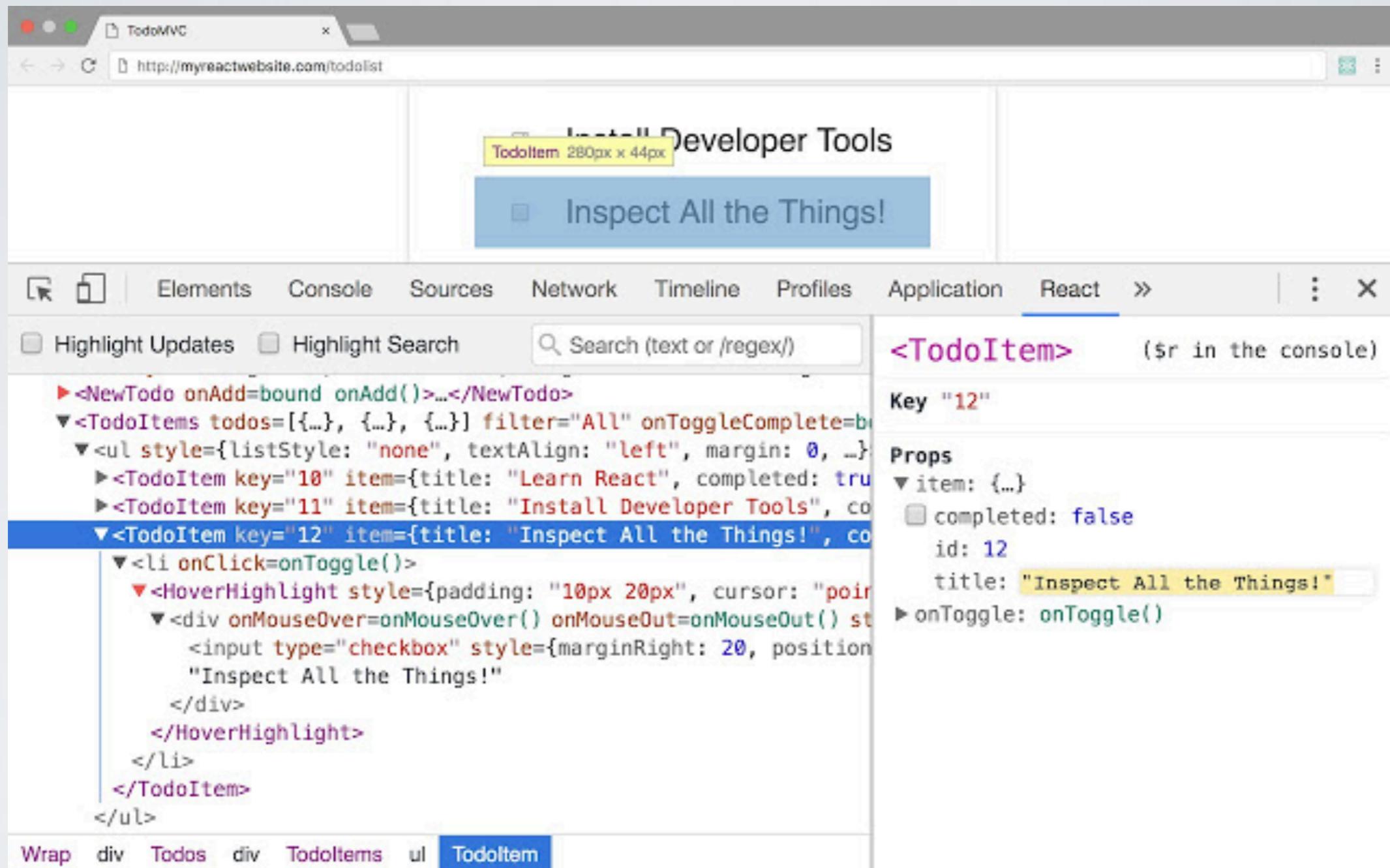
Load pure JavaScript bundles.



React Demo Setup



Debugging React



React Developer Tools for Chrome and Firefox

JSX

```
const button = <button color="blue">Click Me</button>;
const div = <div> {button} </div>;
render(div);
```

JSX is a XML-like syntax extension to ECMAScript. which defines a concise and familiar syntax for defining tree structures with attributes.

With JSX we can declare HTML structures in JavaScript.

JSX is not an embedded HTML template. It gets compiled to imperative JavaScript statements which use the React API to manipulate the DOM.

Other frameworks supporting JSX:
Vue.js, Cycle.js, Preact, Inferno, Stencil ...

<https://facebook.github.io/jsx/>

JSX

Fundamentally, JSX just provides syntactic sugar for the `React.createElement(component, props, ...children)` function.

```
function render() {  
  return <div color="red">Hello World</div>;  
}
```

compilation →

```
function render() {  
  return React.createElement(  
    "div",  
    { color: "red" },  
    "Hello World"  
  );  
}
```

Babel and TypeScript can compile JSX to JavaScript.
Try it in the Babel REPL: <https://babeljs.io/repl/>

React Components

React components are implemented as ES2015 classes.

```
class HelloMessage extends React.Component{  
  render() {  
    return <div>Hello {this.props.name}</div>;  
  }  
};
```

Depending on the setup this gets transpiled to ES5.

React 15 provided a `createClass` API for ES5. This is not supported in React 16 any more.

```
var HelloMessage = React.createClass({  
  render: function() {  
    return React.createElement(  
      "div", null, "Hello ", this.props.name  
    );  
  }  
});
```

HTML in JavaScript?

- Angular enhances HTML with a new language
("To read Angular: Learn a long list of Angular specific syntax")
- React enhances JavaScript in order to declare the UI ("To read React: Learn JavaScript")
 - Leverage the power of JavaScript
 - It makes sense to keep the component and the template in the same file, since they are highly coupled
 - build-time syntax checking and error messages
 - "Separation of concerns" is still possible

<https://medium.com/javascript-scene/jsx-looks-like-an-abomination-1c1ec351a918#.xwa2wfc2y>

<https://medium.com/@housecor/react-s-jsx-the-other-side-of-the-coin-2ace7ab62b98>

<https://medium.freecodecamp.com/angular-2-versus-react-there-will-be-blood-66595faafdf51>

Rendering a React Application

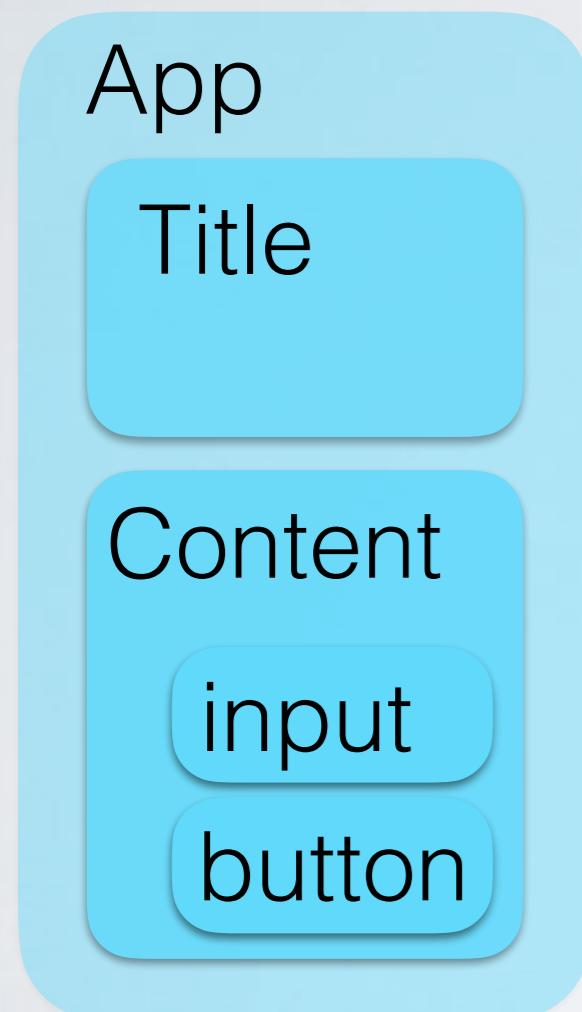
React does not render components, rendering is separated into the **react-dom** package:

```
ReactDOM.render(  
  <App/>,  
  document.getElementById('root')  
)
```

React Native provides other renderers for iOS & Android.
Server-Side Rendering of React renders into HTML-Text.

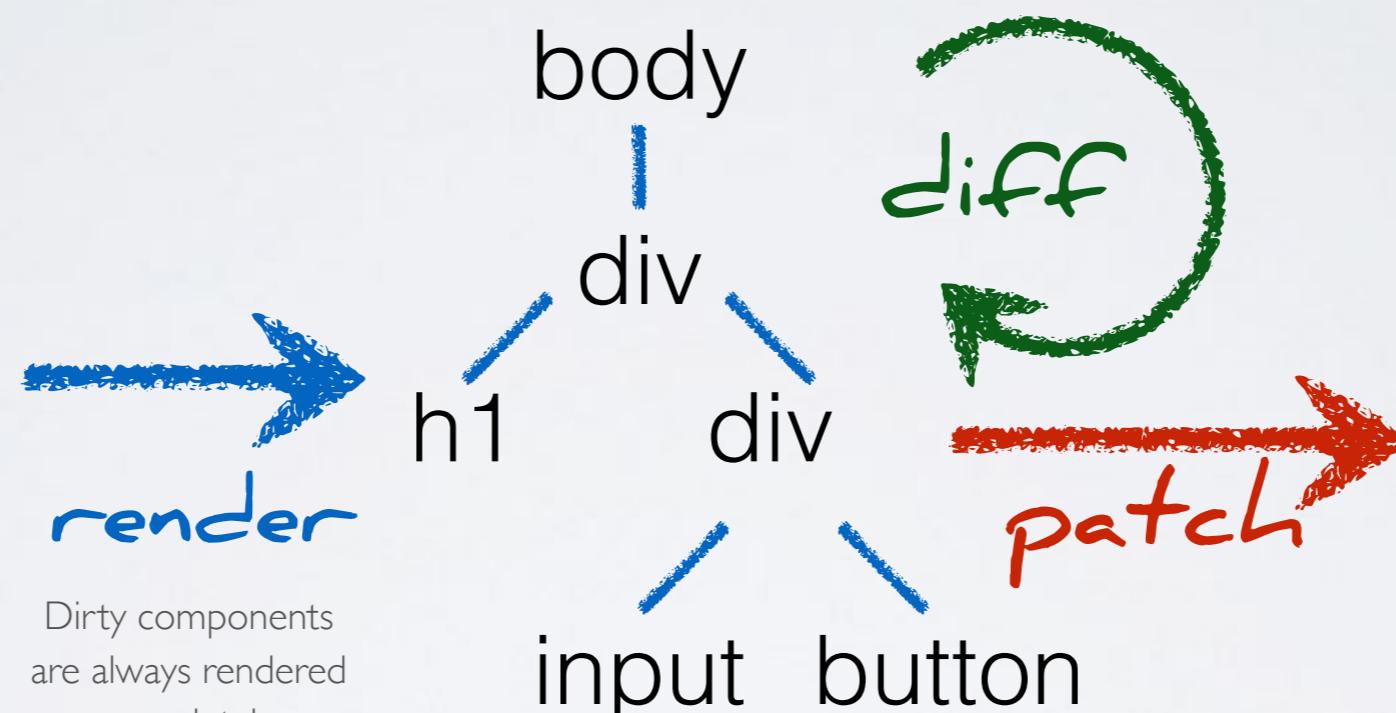
The Virtual DOM

Components



Virtual DOM

In-Memory, implemented in JavaScript



Browser DOM

```
<body>
  <div>
    <h1></h1>
    <div>
      <input/>
      <button>
        </button>
      </div>
    </div>
  </body>
```

Virtual DOM also enables server-side rendering (“isomorphic javascript”, “universal javascript”) or rendering to iOS/Android UIs.

React Component

JSX

Compilation

BABEL or
TypeScript



plain
JavaScript

Compilation
in React

→ React
virtual
DOM →

browser-
DOM

runtime



React Components

A Simple Component

```
import React from 'react';

class Greeter extends React.Component {
  render() {
    return <h1>Hello World!</h1>;
  }
}

export default Greeter;
```

The class name of a React components has to start with a uppercase letter.

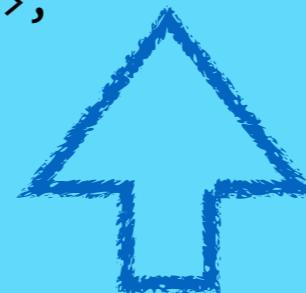
A React Component



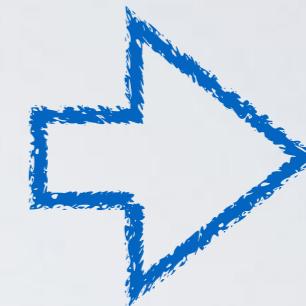
properties

properties represent data owned by someone else and should not be changed

```
class HelloMessage extends React.Component{  
  ...  
  render() {  
    return <div>  
      Hello {this.props.props}  
      + {this.state.name}  
    </div>;  
  }  
};
```



state



html

components can be stateful

state is managed and
changed by the component
itself

If properties or state change, the component is (re-)rendered

Event Handling

```
import React, {Component} from 'react';

class ClickMe extends Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <button onClick={(e) => this.handleClick(e)}>
        Click me!
      </button>
    );
  }

  handleClick(event) {
    alert('Event: ' + event.type);
  }
}

export default ClickMe;
```

Component State

```
import React, {Component} from 'react';

class Counter extends Component {
  constructor() {
    super();
    this.state = {count: 1};
  }

  render() {
    return (
      <div>
        <h1>Count {this.state.count}</h1>
        <button onClick={() => this.handleClick()}>
          Click me!
        </button>
      </div>
    );
  }

  handleClick() {
    this.setState({count: this.state.count + 1})
  }
}

export default Counter;
```

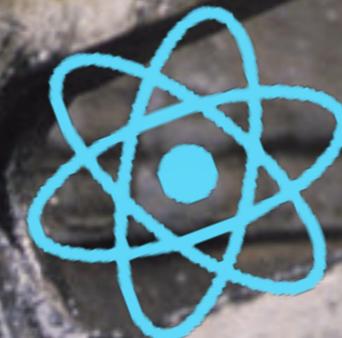
State is set up in the constructor by setting the **state** property.

State can be rendered in JSX

State-changes must be set via **this.setState**

- the passed object is merged with the current state
- it triggers a re-rendering

EXERCISES



Exercise 2 - Write your first component

Immutability

props & state should be treated as immutable

- props are owned by a parent and should only be changed by this parent ("unidirectional data-flow")
- state changes are easier to track if state is immutable

```
let newTodos = [...this.state.todos, newToDo];
this.setState({todos: newTodos});
```

Libraries: immutability-helper <https://github.com/kolodny/immutability-helper>
Immutable.js <https://facebook.github.io/immutable-js/>

Functional State Changes

Calls to **setState** can be batched, state changes may be asynchronous.

setState also accepts a function:

```
setState( (oldState, props) => "changes" )
```

This code does not work:

```
increaseScore () {  
  this.setState({score : this.state.score + 1});  
  this.setState({score : this.state.score + 1});  
}
```

This code does work:

```
increaseScore () {  
  this.setState( (state) => ({score : state.score + 1}) ),  
  this.setState( (state) => ({score : state.score + 1}) ),  
}
```

<https://facebook.github.io/react/docs/state-and-lifecycle.html>

<https://medium.freecodecamp.org/functional-setstate-is-the-future-of-react-374f30401b6b>

<https://www.robinwieruch.de/learn-react-before-using-redux/>

React Events

React provides a synthetic event system:

Event handlers are registered with React components and not on DOM elements. React listens to all DOM elements and calls the appropriate handlers.

React events work like DOM events: Inner components can trigger events and outer components can handle them.

```
class Parent extends React.Component{
  ...
  render() {
    return <Child
      onInnerClick={handler}>
      </Child>;
  }
};
```

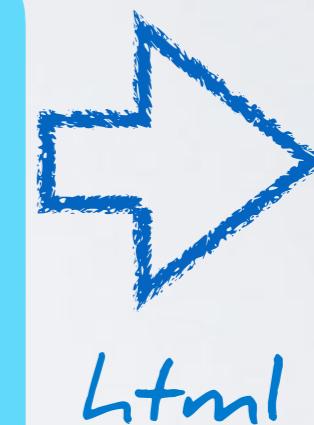
```
class Child extends React.Component{
  ...
  render() {
    return <button
      onClick={this.props.onInnerClick}>
      Click Me 1
    </button>;
  }
};
```

Stateless Functional Components

Stateless components can be written as plain JavaScript functions.



```
const AppComponent = props => (
  <div>
    <h1>{props.title}</h1>
    <p>{props.message}</p>
  </div>
);
```



Collections

In JavaScript you can transform arrays with `map`:

```
const a = [1,2,3];
const b = a.map(e => e * e); // b = [1,4,9]
```

In JSX expressions can produce dynamic "embedded" JSX:

```
<ul>
  {
    this.state.myArray.map(
      (e, index) => <li>Item {index} {e} </li>
    );
  }
</ul>
```

React Lifecycle

A component can provide hooks that are called by React during the lifecycle of the component:

`componentWillMount`

`componentDidMount`

`componentWillReceiveProps`

`componentWillUpdate`

`componentDidUpdate`

`componentWillUnmount`

Default Props & Prop Types

npm install prop-types

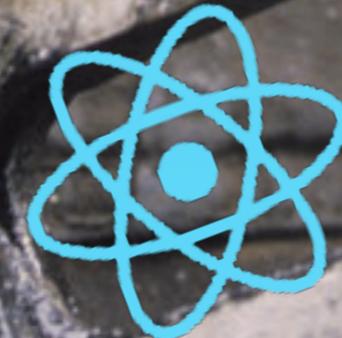
```
import {PropTypes} from 'prop-types';

class AppComponent extends React.Component {
  ...
}

AppComponent.propTypes = {
  title: PropTypes.string.isRequired,
  message: PropTypes.string.isRequired,
  onInnerClick: PropTypes.func.isRequired
};

AppComponent.defaultProps = {
  message: 'Hello',
  onInnerClick: () => alert('Hoppala!!!')
};
```

EXERCISES



Exercise 3 & 4- Components

DOM Access with Refs

```
class GreeterComponent extends React.Component {
  render() {
    return (
      <div>
        <button ref={domElement => this.button1 = domElement}>
          Button 1
        </button>
      </div>
    );
  }
  componentDidMount() {
    this.button1.focus();
  }
}
```

The **ref** attribute takes a callback function which is executed immediately after the component is mounted. The argument for the callback is the underlying DOM element.

Forms

There is no two-way databinding in React.

controlled components:

- state is managed by react
- value and onChange must be set

```
<input  
  name="numberOfGuests"  
  type="number"  
  value={this.state.numberOfGuests}  
  onChange={(e) => this.handleInputChange(e)} />
```

```
handleInputChange(event) {  
  const target = event.target;  
  const name = target.name;  
  this.setState({  
    [name]: target.value  
  });  
}
```

uncontrolled components:

- value must not be set
- use ref to access value from DOM element

```
<input  
  ref={elem => this.numberOfGuests = elem}  
  type="number"  
  defaultValue={this.props.initialNumber}  
/>
```

```
submitForm(e) {  
  e.preventDefault();  
  console.log(this.numberOfGuests.value);  
};
```

Binding Class Methods

- No "implicit" **this** binding. (reasoning: idiomatic javascript)
- Different solutions:
 - arrow functions or explicit bind in render method
 - bind in constructor
 - stage 3 class fields & arrow functions
 - <https://github.com/andreypopp/autobind-decorator>

For "normal" applications there should not be a performance implication of any of these approaches:

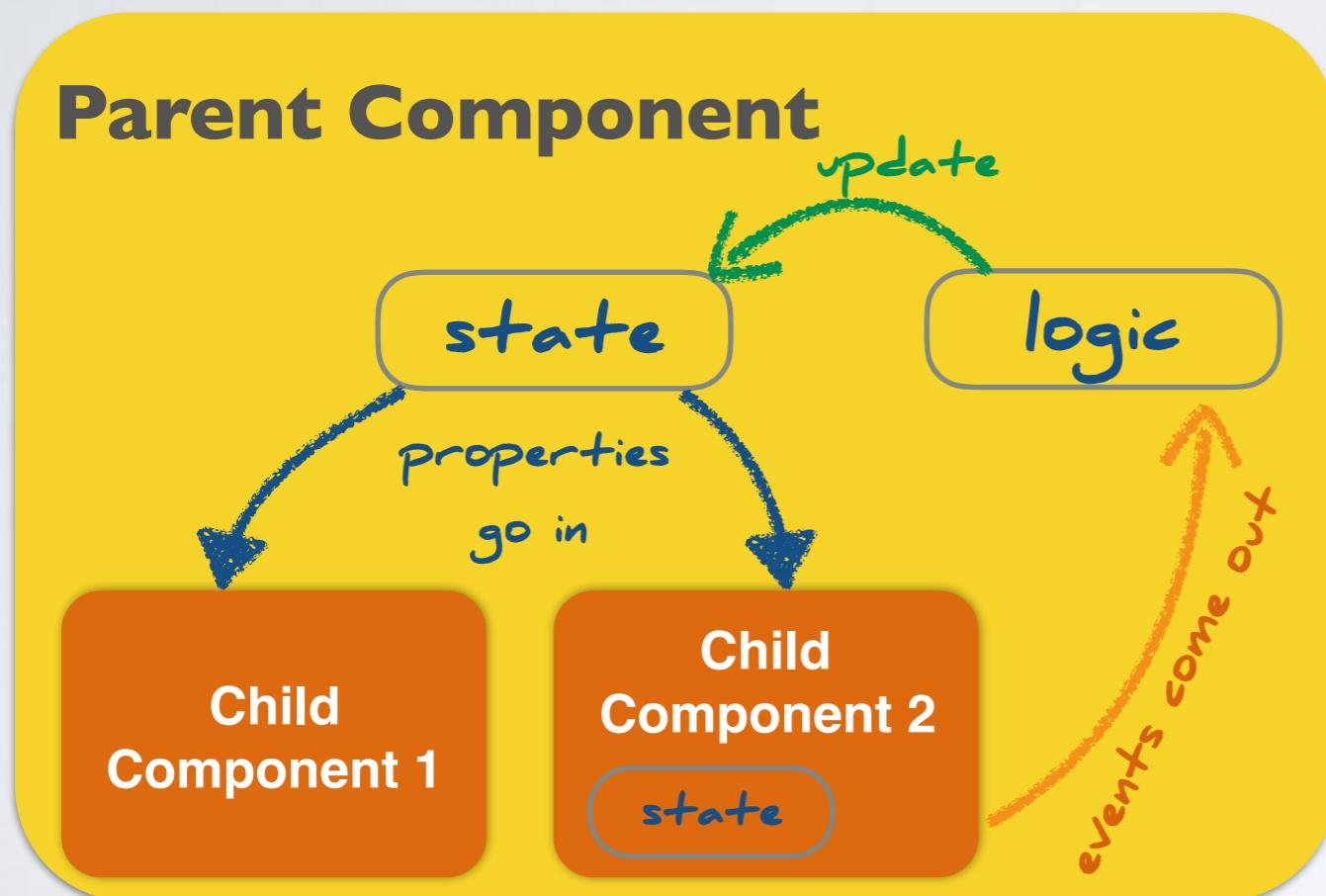
<https://twitter.com/bmeurer/status/938060007546945536>

<https://cdb.reacttraining.com/react-inline-functions-and-performance-bdff784f5578>

<https://medium.freecodecamp.com/react-binding-patterns-5-approaches-for-handling-this-92c651b5af56>

Nested Components: Data-Flow

State should be explicitly owned by a component.



- A parent component passes state to children
- Children should not edit state of their parent
- Children “notify” parents (events, actions ...)

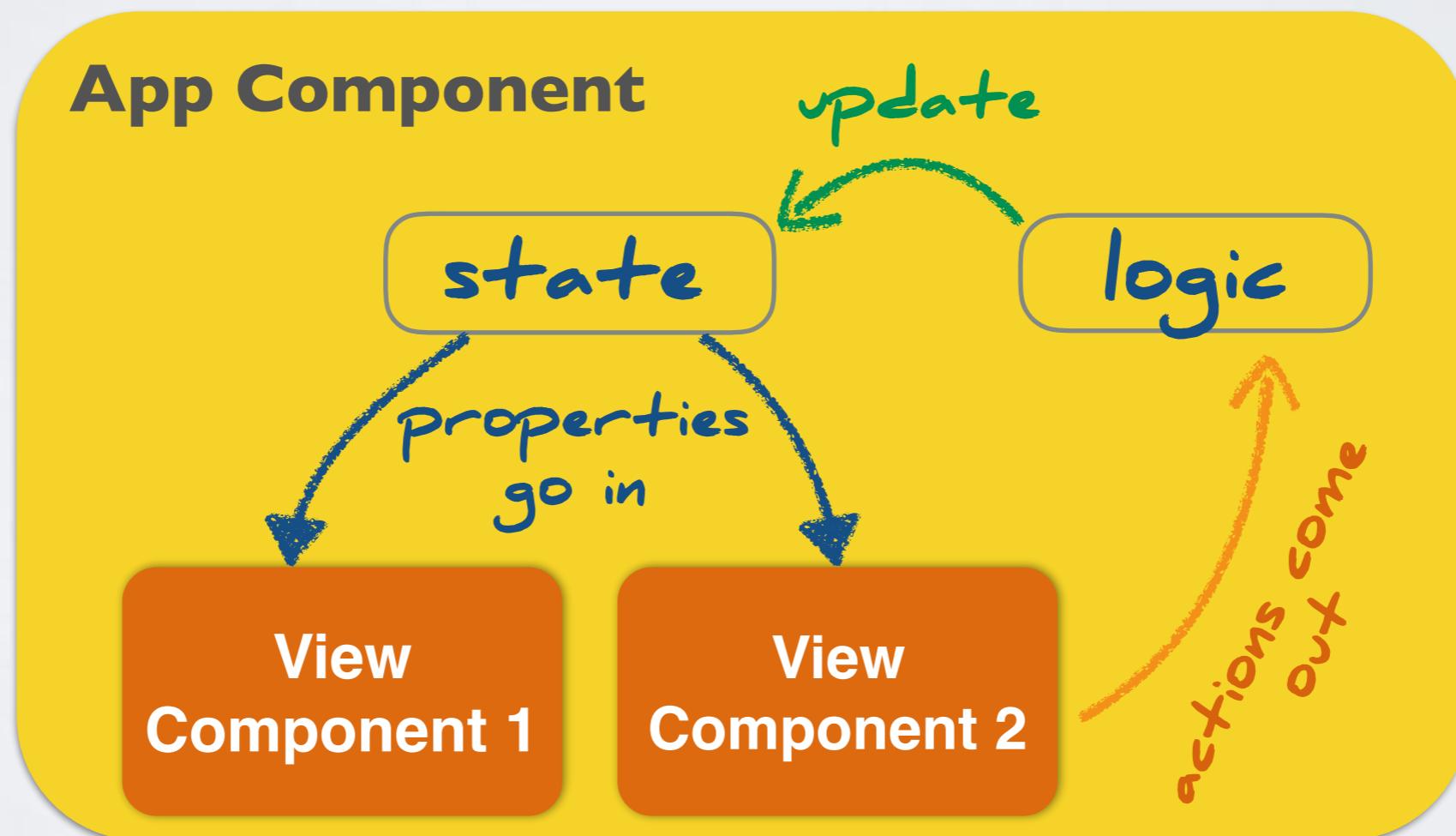
React formalises unidirectional data-flow via properties and events.

Unidirectional Data-Flow

State flows down the component tree / Actions flow up the component tree.

State can be passed to child components. Child components are not allowed to change the state. When the parent state is changed, the children are re-rendered.

No two-way databinding!



Data flows down / Events Flow Up

Passing props from parent to child:

```
class Parent extends React.Component{  
...  
render() {  
  return <Child  
    message={message}  
    onInnerClick={handler}>  
  </Child>;  
}  
};
```

Using props and emitting events:

```
class Child extends React.Component{  
...  
render() {  
  return (  
    <div>  
      <div>{this.props.message}</div>  
      <button  
        onClick={this.props.onInnerClick}>  
        Click Me  
      </button>;  
    </div>  
  );  
};
```

This programming model is very similar to the native DOM APIs.

Container vs. Presentation Components

Application should be decomposed in container- and presentation components:

Container	Presentation
Little to no markup	Mostly markup
Pass data and actions down	Receive data & actions via props
typically stateful / manage state	mostly stateless better reusability

aka: Smart- vs. Dumb Components

Separation of Concerns

Separation of concerns is not equal to
separation of file types!

Keep things together that change together.

You can split a component into a controller and a view:

```
import View from './View';

export class GiphySearch extends Component {
  ... // controller logic & state
  render(){
    return <View data={...} ...
  }
}
```

```
const View = ({data}) => (
  <div>
    {data.message}
  </div>
);
export default View;
```

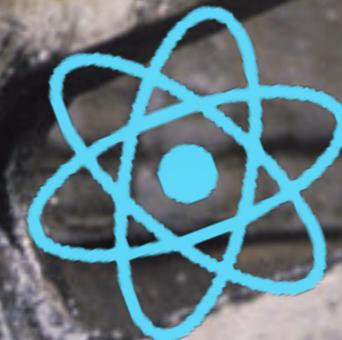
View.js

GiphySearch.js

<https://codesandbox.io/s/NxqMqyxID>

<https://medium.com/styled-components/component-folder-pattern-ee42df37ec68>

EXERCISES



Exercise 5 & 6 - ToDo App