[Docs](#)[Support](#)[Download](#)[Blog](#)[GitHub](#)[React Native](#)

React

A JAVASCRIPT LIBRARY FOR BUILDING USER INTERFACES

[Get Started](#)[Download React v0.13.1](#)

Some React Users!

- [Facebook](#): comments, chat, search, notifications... + new JS development. React Native: f8 app, Facebook Groups, Facebook Ads Manager.
- [Instagram](#)
- [AirBnB](#): airbnb.com/resolutions
- [Asana](#): React + typescript
- [Atlassian](#): Hipchat
- [BBC](#): Homepage
- [Brackets](#): Project Tree (code editor)
- [Codecademy](#): Learning environment ([slides](#))
- [Flipboard](#): created [react-canvas](#)
- [Khan Academy](#): [equation editor](#), student exercises, admin panels.
- [Netflix](#)
- [Pivotal](#): Pivotal UI
- [Reddit](#): reddit gifts
- [The New York Times](#): 2014 Red Carpet Project, Festival de Cannes, world cup
- [WhatsApp](#): web app
- [Wired](#): using in articles for live updates
- [XKCD](#): [xkcloud](#)
- [Yahoo](#): Yahoo! mail
- [Zendesk](#)



The video player shows a stage presentation by Pete Hunt. A large pink 'JS' logo is in the top left corner. A large white 'S' is on the left side of the stage. A tweet from Ben Alman (@cowboy) is overlaid on the right side of the video. The tweet text is 'Facebook: Rethink established best practices™'. Below the tweet, it shows 10 retweets and 1 favorite. The video player controls at the bottom show a play button, a volume icon, a progress bar at 0:56 / 29:31, and icons for settings, closed captions, and a red 'HD' badge.

JS

Ben Alman
@cowboy

Facebook: Rethink established best practices™

10 RETWEETS 1 FAVORITE

5:40 PM - 29 May 13

Lets you write declarative, composable, simple UIs.

0:56 / 29:31

Pete Hunt: React: Rethinking best practices -- JSConf EU 2013



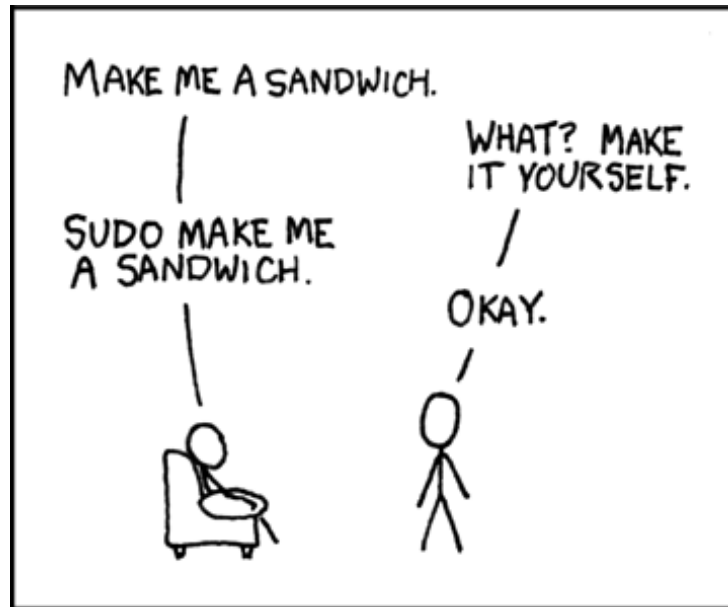
JSConf

✓ Subscribed



69,441

Declarative



Declarative vs. Imperative

- Focus on *what* needs to be done (not implementation details).

```
var numbers = [1,2,3,4,5];
```

```
// triple each number in the list and only get the even ones.
```

```
// imperative
var tripledEvens = [];
for (var i = 0; i < numbers.length; i++) {
    var newNumber = numbers[i] * 3;
    if (newNumber % 2 === 0) {
        tripledEvens.push(newNumber);
    }
}
```

```
// declarative/functional
function triple(n) { return n * 3; }
function evens(n) { return n % 2 === 0; }
var tripledEvens = numbers.map(triple).filter(evens);
```

- Allows us to talk about problems at a higher level (abstraction).

```
-- Declarative: describe what should happen
```

```
SELECT * from dogs
INNER JOIN owners
WHERE dogs.owner_id = owners.id
```

```
// Imperative: explain how it happens
```

```
// dogs = [{name: 'Fido', owner_id: 1}, {...}, ... ]
// owners = [{id: 1, name: 'Bob'}, {...}, ...]
var dogsWithOwners = [];
var dog, owner;

for (var di = 0; di < dogs.length; di++) {
  dog = dogs[di];

  for (var oi = 0; oi < owners.length; oi++) {
    owner = owners[oi];
    if (owner && dog.owner_id === owner.id) {
      dogsWithOwners.push({
        dog: dog,
        owner: owner
      });
    }
  }
}
}
```

- Easier to reason, maintain, test

<http://latentflip.com/imperative-vs-declarative/>

So what? We use imperatives to change the DOM.

```
var p = document.createElement("p");  
document.body.appendChild(elements);  
document.body.removeChild(elements);  
document.body.appendChild(elements123);  
// move elements, modify elements...
```



```
// Example of a notification UI

if (count > 99) {
    if (!hasFire()) {
        addFire();
    }
} else {
    if (hasFire()) {
        removeFire();
    }
}

if (count === 0) {
    if (hasBadge()) {
        removeBadge();
    }
    return;
}

if (!hasBadge()) {
    addBadge();
}

var countText = count > 99 ? '99+' : count.toString();
getBadge().setText(countText);

// Retained mode (DOM, svg)
```



```
// Can start at 10:10 in the video.
```



React wraps the imperative DOM with a declarative layer

```
if (count === 0) {
```

```
  return <div className="bell"></div>;
```

```
} else if (count < 99) {
```

```
  return (  
    <div className="bell">  
      <span className="badget">{count}</span>  
    </div>  
  );
```

```
} else {
```

```
  return (  
    <div className="bell onFire">  
      <span className="badge">99+</span>  
    </div>  
  );  
}
```

Virtual DOM

Diff Alg

```
var MyComponent = React.createClass({  
  // What is returned is just a javascript object.  
  render: function() {  
    if (this.props.first) {  
      return <div className="first"><span>A Span</span></div>;  
    } else {  
      return <div className="second"><p>A Paragraph</p></div>;  
    }  
  }  
});
```

```
// None to first  
Create node: <div className="first"><span>A Span</span></div>
```

```
// First to second  
Replace attribute: className="first" by className="second"  
Replace node: <span>A Span</span> by <p>A Paragraph</p>
```

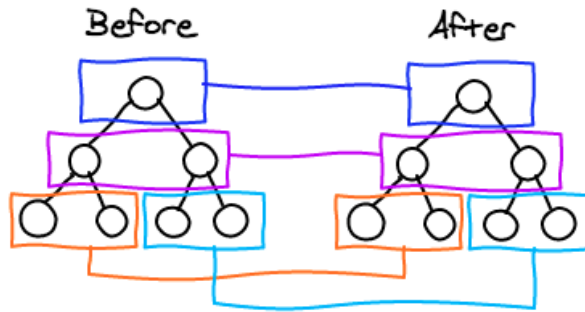
```
// Second to none  
Remove node: <div className="second"><p>A Paragraph</p></div>
```

React finds the minimal set of operations between the two render trees (previous and current state).

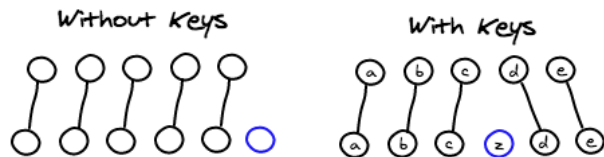
<http://calendar.perfplanet.com/2013/diff/>

Optimizations to go from $O(n^3)$ to $O(n)$

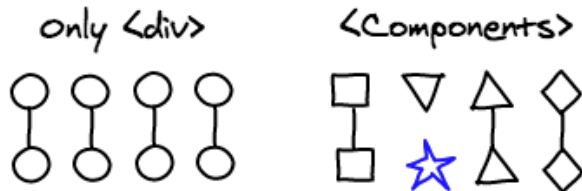
Level by Level



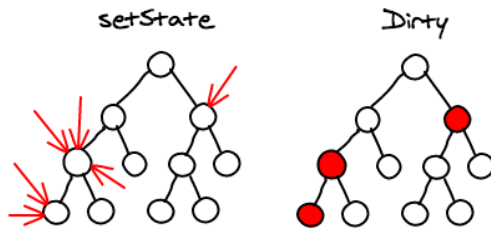
List Diffing



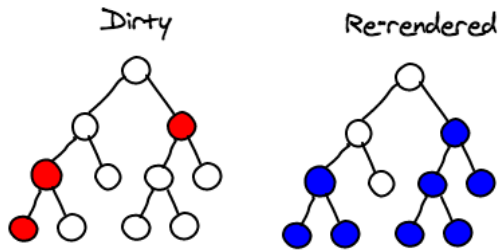
Component Diffing



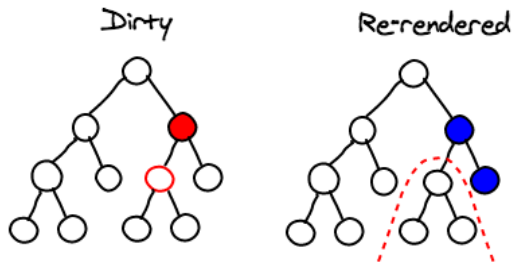
Batching



Sub-tree Rendering



Selective Sub-tree Rendering (`shouldComponentUpdate`)



Demo (4:47)



<https://youtu.be/z5e7kWSHWTg?t=4m47s>

React Inspired


- [Angular2 rendering engine](#) will use vDOM
- [Ember Glimmer engine](#) will use vDOM ([PR](#))
- [React Native](#): framework to write iOS (and later Android) apps using React.
- [ComponentKit](#): a iOS library by Facebook to make apps similar to React
- [React Canvas](#): adds the ability for React components to render to

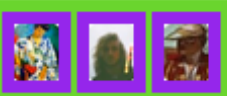
Similar to React

- [Riot.js](#)
- [Mithril](#)
- [Om](#): ClojureScript interface to React
- [Mercury](#): (uses virtual-dom)
- [Elm-html](#): HTML in Elm (uses virtual-dom)


Composition

InfoPanel

64




UserImage
UserLink


Share

LikeButton

POSTED BY



David Lekach

DAVIDLEKACH.COM
LOS ANGELES

Posted on May 13, 2014

Collection

IN COLLECTION

90's Nostalgia

Everything that represents the period from 1990 to 2000.

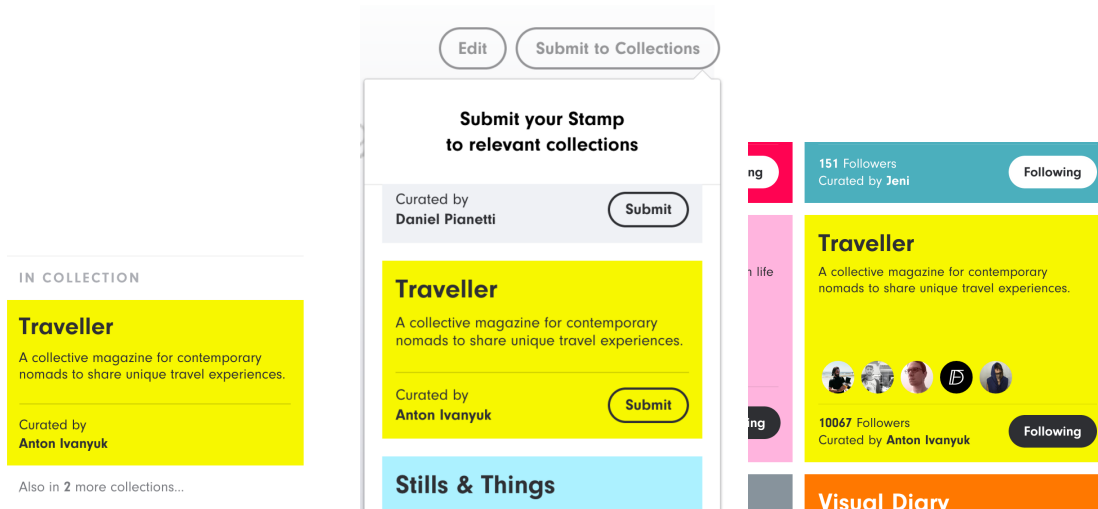
Curated by
Oskar Armonas

Also in 6 more collections...

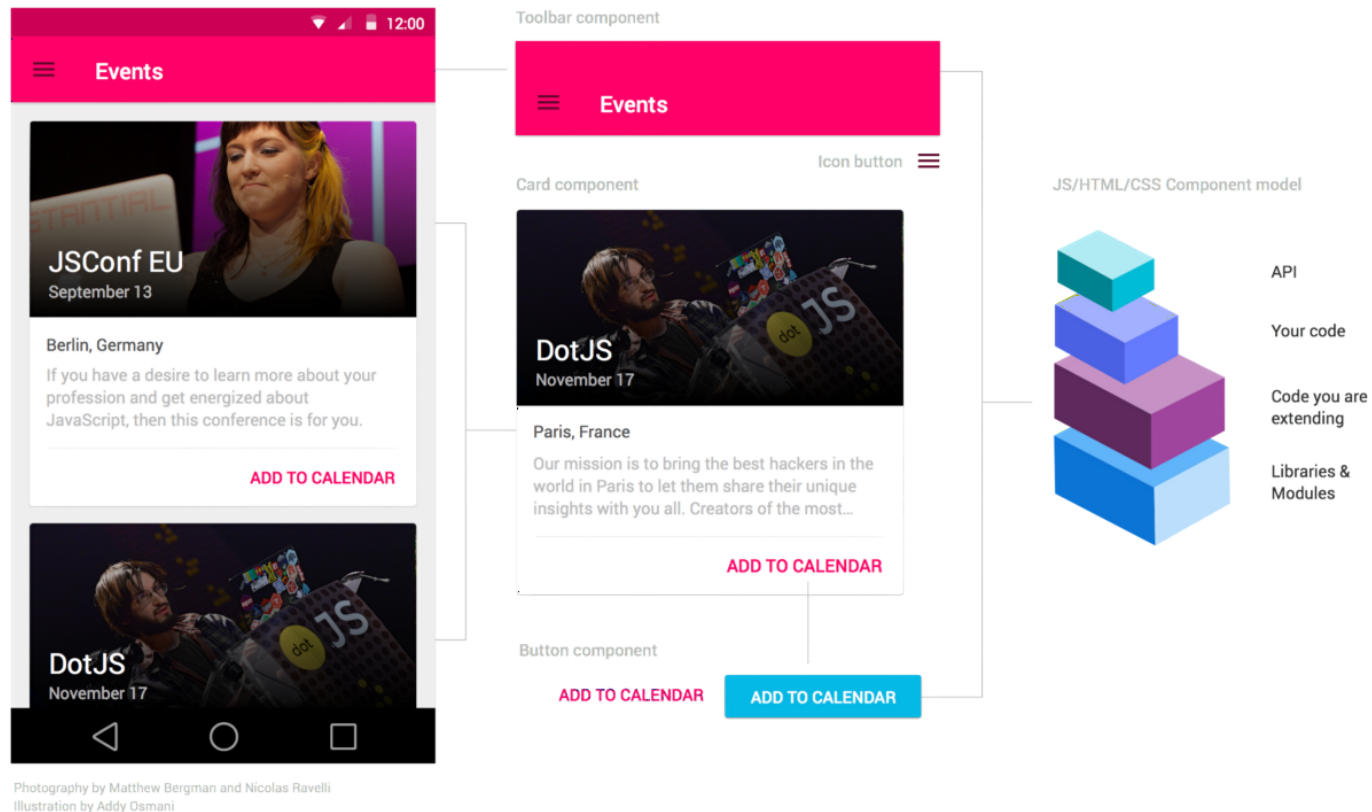
Components: similar to creating your own element (h1, select, img)

- An element has its own structure, default styles, and functionality (no interference between components).
- A component uses JSX/HTML, CSS, and JS.

```
// Allows you to use a component with a simple require
define(['components/toolbar'], function (Toolbar) {})  
  
// commonjs/node  
var Toolbar = require('components/toolbar');  
  
// es6 modules  
import Toolbar from 'components/toolbar';
```



An app can be broken down into simple components.



React components, Ember.Components, Angular directives, Web Components...

<https://medium.com/@addyosmani/javascript-application-architecture-on-the-road-to-2015-d8125811101b>

Templates (logic in HTML)

```
// Handlebars
<ul id="comments">
  {{#each comments}}
    <li>{{text}}</li>
  {{/each}}
</ul>
```

```
// Kendo
<script id="javascriptTemplate" type="text/x-kendo-template">
  <ul>
    # for (var i = 0; i < data.length; i++) { #
      <li>#= data[i] #</li>
    } #
  </ul>
</script>
```

```
// Manual DOM creation
var out = "<ul>";
for(var i=0, l=items.length; i<l; i++) {
  out = out + "<li>" + options.fn(items[i]) + "</li>";
}
return out + "</ul>";
```

Write HTML-like syntax for structure (rather than learning another DSL)

```
// React (ES5)
return (
  var items = this.props.items;
  var listItems = items.map(function(i) {
    return <li>{i}</li>;
  });
  <ul>
    {listItems}
  </ul>
);
```

```
// React (ES6)
return (
  <ul>
    {this.props.items.map((i) => <li>{i}</li>)}
  </ul>
);
```

```

var Avatar = React.createClass({
  render: function() {
    return (
      <div>
        <ProfilePic username={this.props.username} />
        <ProfileLink username={this.props.username} />
      </div>
    );
  }
});

var ProfilePic = React.createClass({
  render: function() {
    return (
      <img src={'http://graph.facebook.com/' + this.props.username + '/picture'} />
    );
  }
});

var ProfileLink = React.createClass({
  render: function() {
    return (
      <a href={'http://www.facebook.com/' + this.props.username}>
        {this.props.username}
      </a>
    );
  }
});

React.render(
  <Avatar username="pwh" />,
  document.getElementById('example')
);

```

React Dev Tools (Github)

```
▼<div class="spa">
  ▼<div class="landing-header" data-bind="element: headerDOM">...</div>
  ▼<div class="landing-body" data-bind="element: bodyDOM">
    ▼<div class="cf-body-wrapper" style="opacity: 1;">
      ▼<div class="cf-body-container width-constrain">
        ▶<div class="page-column page-left-column page-column-inactive" data-bind="element: leftContainerDOM">...</div>
        ▼<div class="page-column page-center-column" data-bind="element: centerContainerDOM">
          ▼<div class="page-center-column-inner js-3-wise-guys" data-bind="element: contentContainerDOM">
            ▶<div class="column-header">...</div>
            ▼<div class="middle-right-wrap" data-bind="element: scrollingContainerDOM">
              ▼<div class="module-column module-middle-column" data-bind="element: middleContainerDOM">
                ▼<section class="no-padding drive-resource-list">
                  ▼<div class="cf-list-controls" data-bind="visible: showControl">
                    ▼<form class="link-text">
                      ▼<div class="form-column" data-bind="invisible: isEmptyList">
                        ▶<span class="k-widget k-dropdown k-header js-dropdown unselectable="on" role="listbox" aria-haspopup="true" aria-expanded="false" tabindex="0" aria-owns aria-disabled="false" aria-readonly="false" aria-busy="false" style="...</span>
                      </div>
                    </form>
                  ▶<button class="list-thumb" data-bind="click: toggleTileView, invisible: isEmptyList">...</button>
                </div>
              </div>
            </div>
          </div>
        </div>
      </div>
    </div>
  </div>
```

... div div div div div div div section div form div span.k-widget.k-dropdown.k-header.js-dropdown

The screenshot displays the React Dev Tools interface for a 'todos' application. The left pane shows the application's UI, which includes a header 'What needs to be done?', a list of todos ('Test 1', 'Test 2', 'Test 3'), and a footer showing '2 items left' and buttons for 'All', 'Active', 'Completed', and 'Clear completed'. The middle pane shows the component tree, with 'TodoApp' and 'TodoItem' selected. The right pane shows the props and state for the selected component, including 'editing', 'onCancel', 'onDestroy', 'onEdit', 'onSave', 'onToggle', 'todo', 'state', 'editText', and 'component'.

JSX Specification

- HTML to JSX Converter

```
<div class="awesome" style="border: 1px solid red">
  <label for="name">Enter your name: </label>
  <input type="text" id="name" />
</div>

<div className="awesome" style={{border: '1px solid red'}}>
  <label htmlFor="name">Enter your name: </label>
  <input type="text" id="name" />
</div>
```

- Supported tags/attributes
- Differences from HTML (reserved words in JS; React matches the JS DOM API)
 - for -> htmlFor,
 - class -> className

JSX Compiler

- It's just syntax. You can use anything in javascript!
- [JSX Compiler](#)

Turns

```
<div>Hello {this.props.name}</div>;
```

into

```
ReactDOM.div(null, "Hello ", this.props.name),  
React.createElement("div", null, "Hello ", this.props.name);
```

- Just another build step like uglify
 - Can use [jsx-transform](#), [react-tools](#), [babel](#)

Example

The image shows a web application interface on the left and the React DevTools component inspector on the right.

Web Application Interface:

- Input field: Email or Username
- Input field: Password
- Button: Log In
- Text: Or
- Button: Log in with Office365
- Button: Log in with Google
- Button: Log in with Facebook

React DevTools Component Inspector:

The component tree shows the following structure:

```
<Top Level>
  <App>
    <div className="App">
      <Header>
        <div className="Header">
          <div>Icon</div>
        </div>
      </Header>
      <Menu>
        <div className="Menu">
          <LoginForm>...</LoginForm>
          <TextLine text="Or">...</TextLine>
          <Button style="office" content="Log in with Office365">
            <ReactDOMButton className="Button Button--office">Log in with Office365</ReactDOMButton>
          </Button>
          <Button style="google" content="Log in with Google">...</Button>
          <Button style="facebook" content="Log in with Facebook">...</Button>
        </div>
      </Menu>
    </div>
  </App>
</Top Level>
```

The selected component is `Button` (style="office" content="Log in with Office365").

Props:

- content: "Log in with Office365"
- style: "office"
- proto: Object

State:

- No State

Component:

- Event Listeners

Component Hierarchy:

- App
- Menu
- Button
- ReactDOMButton

Simple

React API

(Demo: <http://jsbin.com/yefabumixi/1/edit>), increment the number.

So the next would be <http://jsbin.com/yefabumixi/2/edit>

Create a custom component (your own select):

```
var NewButton = React.createClass({});
```

Render a component to a container:

```
React.render(<NewButton />, document.body);
```

Props

```
// Props are like html attributes and are seen as immutable  
<NewButton color={ 'red' } />
```

```
getDefaultProps: function() { return { color: 'green' } }
```

```
// Validate component usage (only in development)  
propTypes: { color: React.PropTypes.string }
```

<https://facebook.github.io/react/docs/top-level-api.html>

State

```
// Unlike props, state can change over time  
this.state.numClicks
```

```
getInitialState: function () { return { numClicks: 0 } }
```

Change State

```
// from handleClick()  
this.setState({  
  numClicks: this.state.numClicks + 1  
})
```

Render Function

```
// render function  
render: function() {  
  return (<div onClick={this.handleClick}>  
    Num clicks: {this.state.numClicks}  
  </div>);  
}
```

- Mixins (React 0.12), React.renderToString, statics, contexts, ES6 Classes

Component Lifecycle methods

```
// beforeRender
componentWillMount: function() {
  // initial code to be invoked once
}

// afterRender
componentDidMount: function() {
  // can use 3rd-party libraries like Kendo, setTimeout, AJAX
  var node = thisDOMNode(); // get access to the actual DOM
}

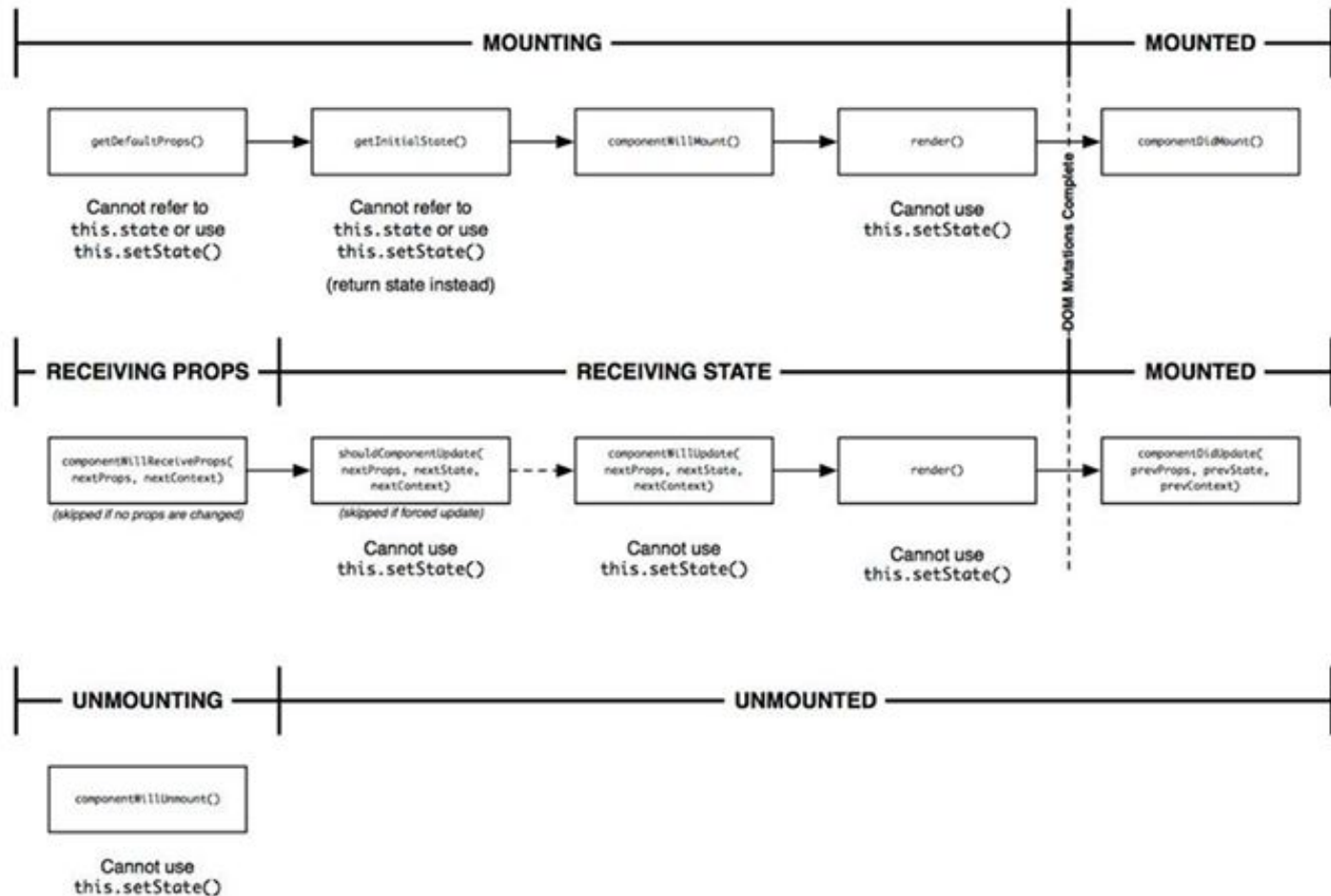
// Destroy
componentWillUnmount: function() {
  // can unbind/remove event listeners here
}

// Before props change
componentWillReceiveProps: function(nextProps) {}

// Before state change
componentWillUpdate: function(nextProps) {}

// after DOM is updated
componentDidUpdate: function(prevProps, prevState) {}

// Whether to re-render or not
shouldComponentUpdate: function(nextProps, nextState) {
  // return true or false
}
```



Misc

Seperate data-fetching and rendering concerns (see [Relay](#))

```
class CommentListContainer extends React.Component {
  constructor() { this.state = { comments: [] } }
  componentDidMount() {
    $.ajax({
      url: "/my-comments.json",
      dataType: 'json',
      success: function(comments) {
        this.setState({comments: comments});
      }.bind(this)
    });
  }
  render() {
    return <CommentList comments={this.state.comments} />;
  }
}
```

```
class CommentList extends React.Component {
  constructor(props) { super(props); }
  renderComment({body, author}) {
    return <li>{body}-{author}</li>;
  }
  render() {
    return <ul> {this.props.comments.map(renderComment)} </ul>;
  }
}
```

<https://medium.com/@learnreact/container-components-c0e67432e005>

Seperation of concerns: props (immutable) vs. state (changable)

- Encourages less state in less places
 - "shared mutable state is the root of all evil"
 - Can have stateless components and stateful components
- Simpler to test: [Jest](#)
 - Test a component by rendering as a string and comparing the output. (Events can be created synthetically)

Immutable data structures: [immutable-js](#)

- Can optimize rendering with `shouldComponentUpdate` (check equality by reference)

The word "IMMUTABLE" is displayed in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The letters are dark blue with a red outline. Below the main text, there is a lighter blue, semi-transparent version of the same word, creating a layered effect.

Star

6032

Immutable collections for JavaScript

[Immutable](#) data cannot be changed once created, leading to much simpler application development, no defensive copying, and enabling advanced memoization and change detection techniques with simple logic. [Persistent](#) data presents a mutative API which does not update the data in-place, but instead always yields new updated data.

- Easy to snapshot (the view is a function of the state)
- Easy to incorporate undo/redo

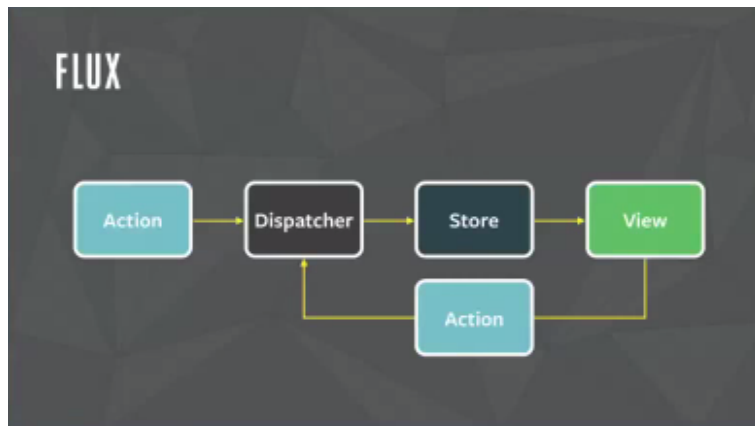
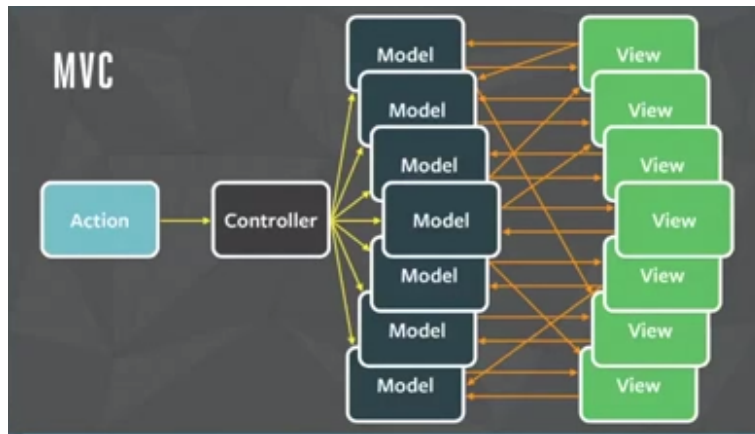


Server rendering (`React.renderToString`)

- A faster initial experience for the user (remove extra http requests).
- Isomorphic JavaScript: shared javascript code (on client and server)
- Was difficult to do SEO for client apps since they render on DOM load until [google bot changed](#)

Data

- Normally data is passed down through components and events flow up
- Flux: a global event system with one way data flow



React Native

A FRAMEWORK FOR BUILDING NATIVE APPS USING REACT

React Native enables you to build world-class application experiences on native platforms using a consistent developer experience based on JavaScript and [React](#). The focus of React Native is on developer efficiency across all the platforms you care about — learn once, write anywhere. Facebook uses React Native in multiple production apps and will continue investing in React Native.

- Ability to push updates without review

3.3.2 An Application may not download or install executable code. Interpreted code may only be used in an Application if all scripts, code and interpreters are packaged in the Application and not downloaded. The only exception to the foregoing is scripts and code downloaded and run by Apple's built-in WebKit framework **or JavascriptCore**, provided that such scripts and code do not change the primary purpose of the Application by providing features or functionality that are inconsistent with the intended and advertised purpose of the Application as submitted to the App Store.

- Native iOS Components, Asynchronous Execution, Flexbox, Polyfills, Extensible