react-native

PottJS Meetup, May 4th 2016, Christoph Jerolimov

Agenda

- Motivation & Concept
- Components / Native Components
- Stylesheets / Flexbox
- Demo

Write once, run anywhere Initially Java, but html5 too

Write once, run anywhere Learn once, use anywhere

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.

Get started with React Native

Native Components

With React Native, you can use the standard platform components such as UITabBar on iOS and Drawer on Android. This gives your app a consistent look and feel with the rest of the platform ecosystem, and keeps the quality bar high. These components are easily incorporated into your app using their React component counterparts, such as TabBarlOS and DrawerLayoutAndroid.

```
// i0S
var React = require('react-native');
var { TabBarIOS, NavigatorIOS } = React;
var App = React.createClass({
  render: function() {
    return (
      <TabBarIOS>
```



- Reuse react.js (web) to render the view hierarchy
- Renders native views (no WebView!)
- Polyfills for networking (fetch), Geolocation, ...
- (Easy) Integration options in *both* directions

Why react?

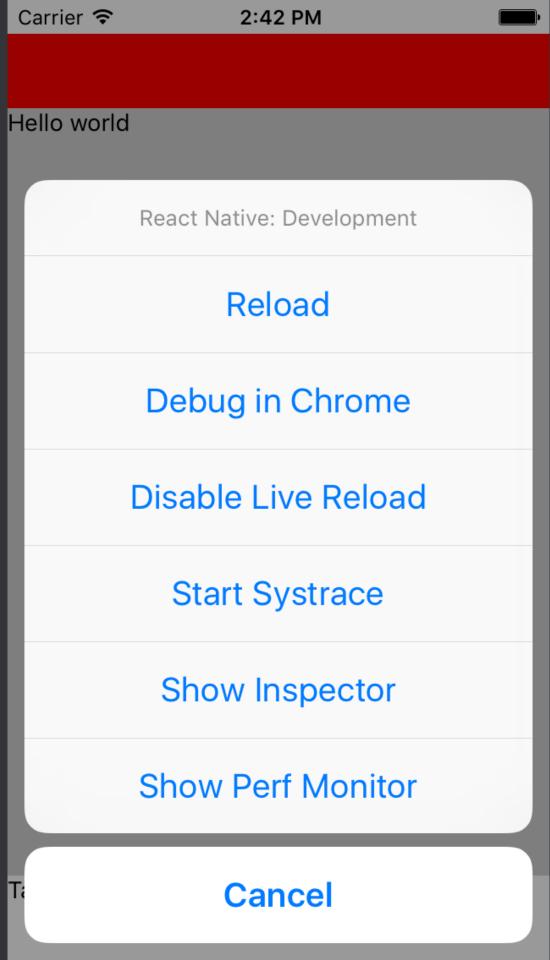
Declerative UI(Unidirectional data flow)

A view-only library (the view in MVC, but MVC is not required)

Automatically updates the view hierarchy

Developer Experience?

- "HTML- & CSS-like" => JSX + Flexbox
- Hot reloading (₩R) & Live Reload
- Debugger, Ul Inspector, Profiling



In development

- You write "modern" javascript in your favorited editor
- Babel transform the sources (ES6 and more...)
- App communicates with a local http server

In production

- Precompiled, minified JS bundled within the app
- Code updates are technical possible.. and allowed

Technical

- Based on a minimal JS VM: JavaScriptCore
- JS controls the native UI
- JS renders the "virtual DOM" as JSON
- JS <-> Native bridge (multithreaded)
- Native part renders UI based on this JSON

Supported platforms

- Android 4.1+, >= 93 % ¹
- $iOS 7+, >= 96 \%^{23}$

¹ https://developer.android.com/about/dashboards/index.html

² https://david-smith.org/iosversionstats/

³ https://developer.apple.com/support/app-store/

Getting Started⁴

- Requires Node.js 4+, nvm is recommended
- OSX is the common dev platform (at FB)
- Linux and Windows should work⁵
- Android SDK⁶ for Android / Xcode 7+ for iOS

⁴ http://facebook.github.io/react-native/docs/getting-started.html

⁵ http://facebook.github.io/react-native/docs/linux-windows-support.html

⁶ http://facebook.github.io/react-native/docs/android-setup.html

Hello world

JS + JSX

```
class HelloWorld extends Component {
    render() {
        return <Text>Hello World</Text>;
    }
}
```

AppRegistry.registerComponent('MyApp', () => HelloWorld);

Stylesheets

```
const bold = {
    fontWeight: 'bold' // A string!
};
const styles = StyleSheet.create({
    bold: {
        fontWeight: 'bold'
});
<View style={{ borderWidth: 1, borderColor: 'red' }}>
    <Text style={ bold }>Hello World</Text>
    <Text style={ styles.bold }>Hello World</Text>
</View>
```

Flexbox

```
// Grow 100% with childs 50%, 30% and 20%
<View style={{ flex: 1, flexDirection: 'row' }}>
    <View style={{ flex: 0.5, backgroundColor: 'red' }} />
    <View style={{ flex: 0.3, backgroundColor: 'blue' }} />
    <View style={{
                              backgroundColor: 'green' }} />
</View>;
// Grow 100% where first and last child is fix
<View style={{ flex: 1 }}>
    <View style={{ height: 64, backgroundColor: 'red' }} />
                               backgroundColor: 'blue' }} />
    <View style={{
    <View style={{ height: 50, backgroundColor: 'green' }} />
</View>;
```

View components

View, Text, TextInput, Image, Switch, ScrollView, PickerIOS, ProgressBarAndroid, ProgressViewIOS, WebView, ListView, NavigatorIOS, Modal, MapView, RefreshControl, TabBarIOS, ActivityIndicatorIOS, DatePickerIOS, DrawerLayoutAndroid, PullToRefreshViewAndroid, SegmentedControlIOS, SliderIOS, TouchableHighlight, TouchableOpacity, TouchableWithoutFeedback, ...

Other APIs / modules

ActionSheetIOS, Alert, AlertIOS, Animated, AppRegistry, AppState, AppStateIOS, AsyncStorage, BackAndroid, CameraRoll, Dimensions, IntentAndroid, InteractionManager, LayoutAnimation, LinkingIOS, NetInfo, PanResponder, PushNotificationIOS, StatusBarIOS, StyleSheet, ToastAndroid, VibrationIOS, ...

RefreshControl

Edit on GitHub

This component is used inside a ScrollView to add pull to refresh functionality. When the ScrollView is at scrolly: 0, swiping down triggers an onRefresh event.

Props

View props...

android colors [[object Object]]

The colors (at least one) that will be used to draw the refresh indicator.

android progressBackgroundColor color

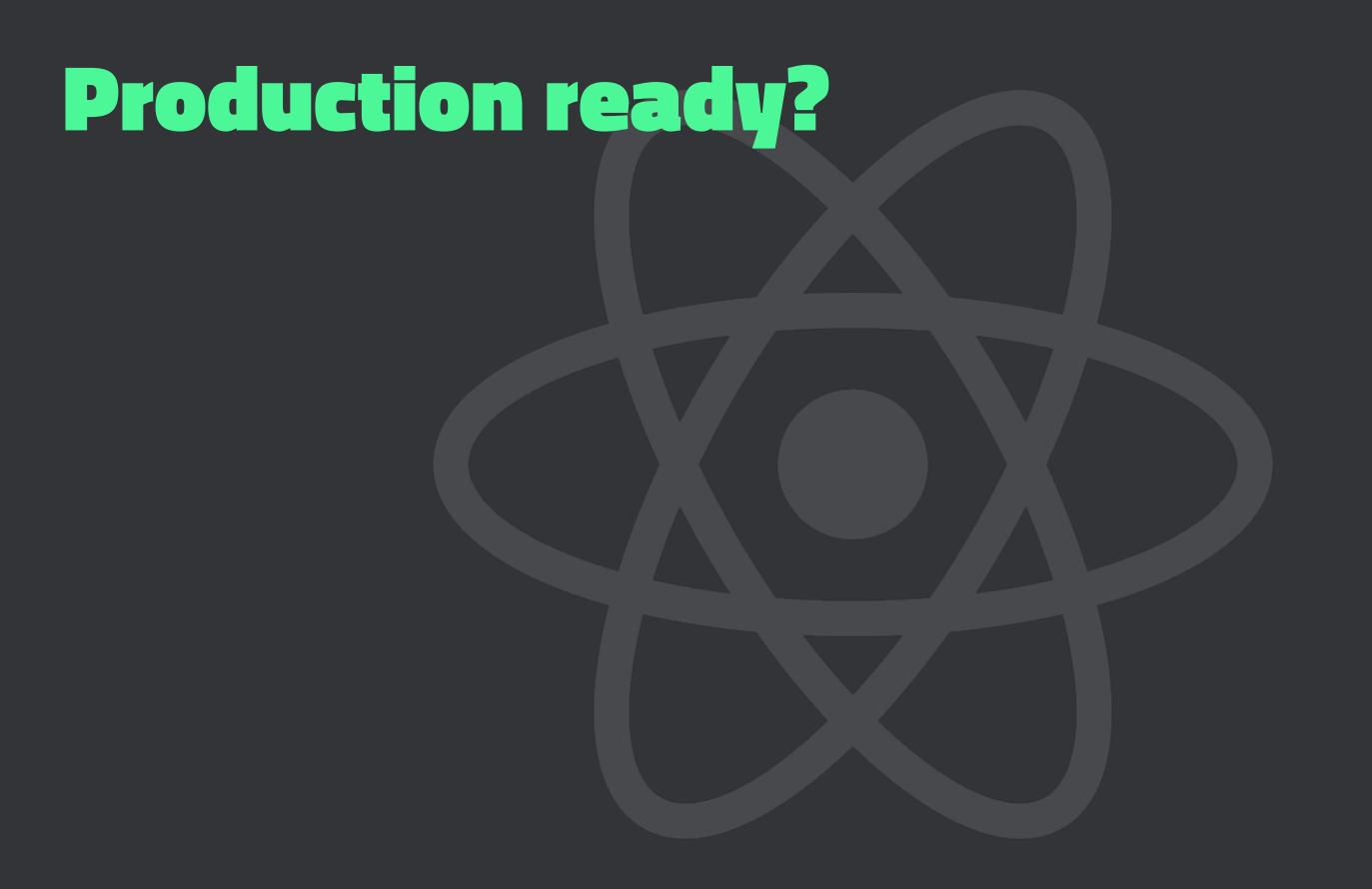
The background color of the refresh indicator.

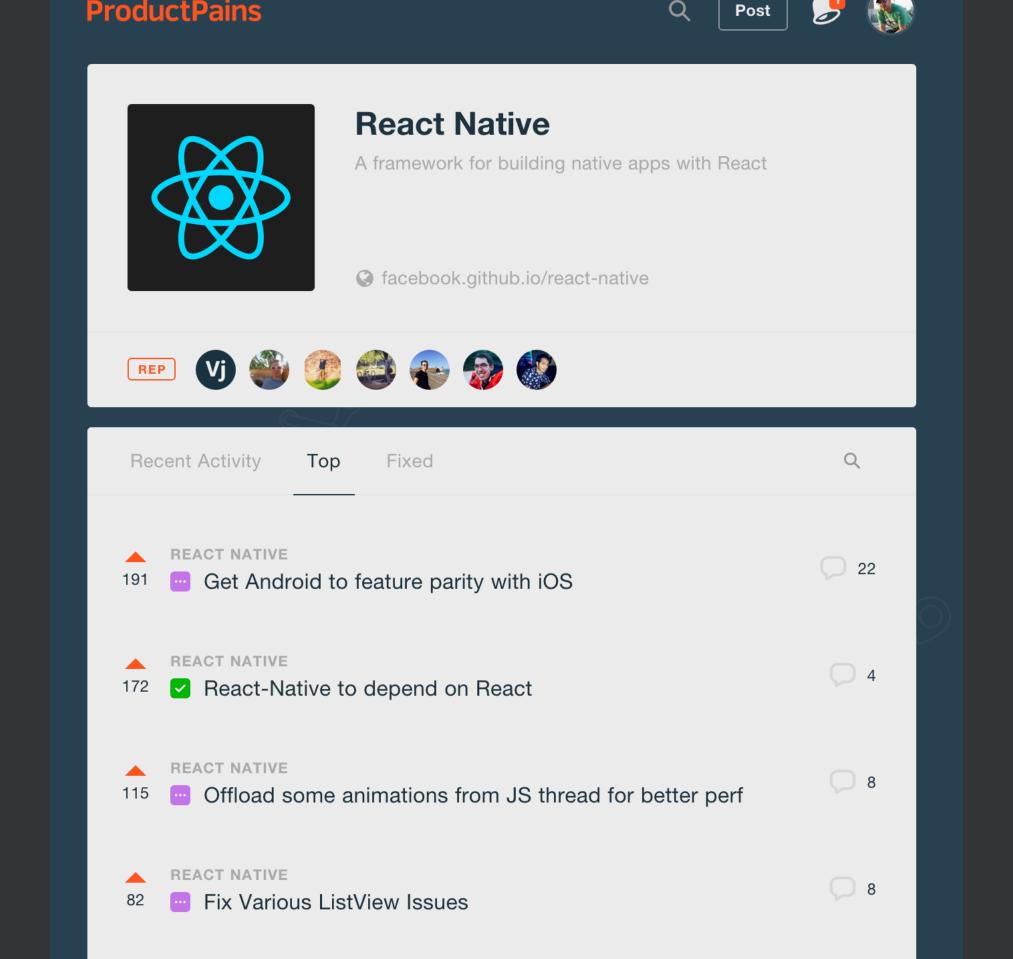
ios tintColor color

The color of the refresh indicator.

ios title string

The title displayed under the refresh indicator.





Status & Roadmap

- 0.x But production ready if your brave.
- Some components are not yet available on Android (MapView for example, but community projects are available for all common problems!)
- Android M permissions
- Performance and API improvements

Navigation

pain: Navigator / NavigatorIOS / DrawerLayoutAndroid

better: ExNavigator by James @Ide

upcoming: NavigationExperimental

tip: Make your navigation stack serializable

Performance

- Native UI, e.g. ScrollView
- Smooth animations
- Sometimes laggy, e.g. ListView, missing estimated cell height?
- Never as fast as optimized native code

Platform switch

Auto-select component based on a file suffix:

```
CustomShoppingCardItem.android.js
CustomShoppingCardItem.ios.js
```

Or a good old platform switch:

```
import { Platform } from 'react-native';
if (Platform.OS === 'android') {
    // ...
} else {
    // ...
}
```

Questions?

JUESIONS R Thankyou!