We classify state updates into two categories:  
Urgent updates reflect direct interaction, like typing, clicking, pressing, and so on.  
  
Transition updates transition the UI from one view to another.  
Urgent updates like typing, clicking, or pressing, need immediate response to match our intuitions about how physical objects behave. Otherwise they feel “wrong”. However, transitions are different because the user doesn’t expect to see every intermediate value on screen.  
  
For example, when you select a filter in a dropdown, you expect the filter button itself to respond immediately when you click. However, the actual results may transition separately. A small delay would be imperceptible and often expected. And if you change the filter again before the results are done rendering, you only care to see the latest results.  
  
In a typical React app, most updates are conceptually transition updates. But for backwards compatibility reasons, transitions are opt-in. By default, React 18 still handles updates as urgent, and you can mark an update as a transition by wrapping it into startTransition.