

Minimalist React

David Colgan
Less Boring
[@davidscolgan](#)

A parable



How do I build
complicated software?



I have no idea, build
simple software.

My influences

Prentice Hall Series in Artificial Intelligence



ANSI Common Lisp

Paul Graham

P R E N T I C E H A L L

Hammock Driven Development



Step Away from the Computer

Rich Hickey



0:24 / 39:48



The Zen of Python

The Zen of Python, by Tim Peters

Beautiful is better than ugly.

Explicit is better than implicit.

Simple is better than complex.

Complex is better than complicated.

Flat is better than nested.

Sparse is better than dense.

Readability counts.

Special cases aren't special enough to break the rules.

Although practicality beats purity.

Errors should never pass silently.

Unless explicitly silenced.

In the face of ambiguity, refuse the temptation to guess.

There should be one-- and preferably only one --obvious way to do it.

Although that way may not be obvious at first unless you're Dutch.

Now is better than never.

Although never is often better than **right** now.

If the implementation is hard to explain, it's a bad idea.

If the implementation is easy to explain, it may be a good idea.

Namespaces are one honking great idea -- let's do more of those!

Frontend dev is
complicated

Why is frontend dev
complicated?



vs



Cross browser testing





chrome

Thicker client apps

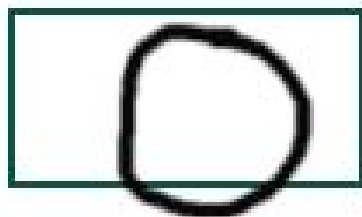


BACKBONE.JS

Knockout.



ANGULARJS
by Google



DAYS

**SINCE LAST NEW
JAVASCRIPT FRAMEWORK**



I Am Devloper

@iamdevloper



Follow

I think I've had milk last longer than some JavaScript frameworks.



RETWEETS

1,397

FAVORITES

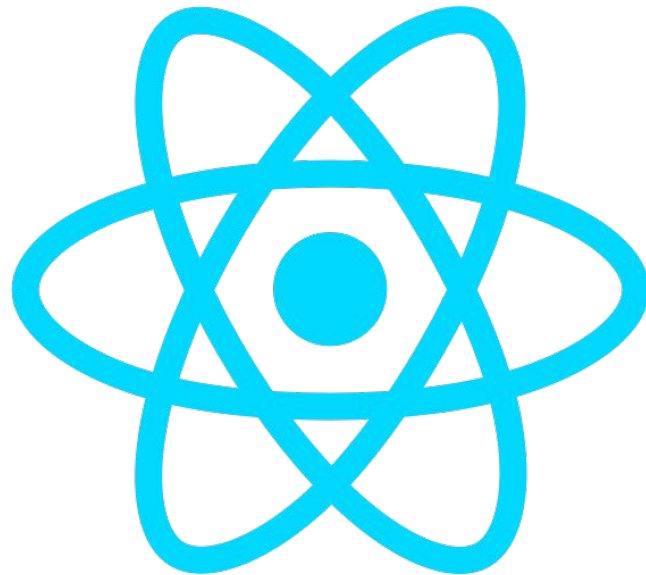
875

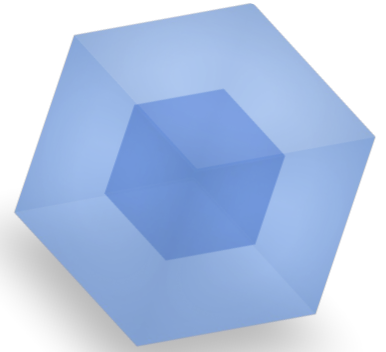
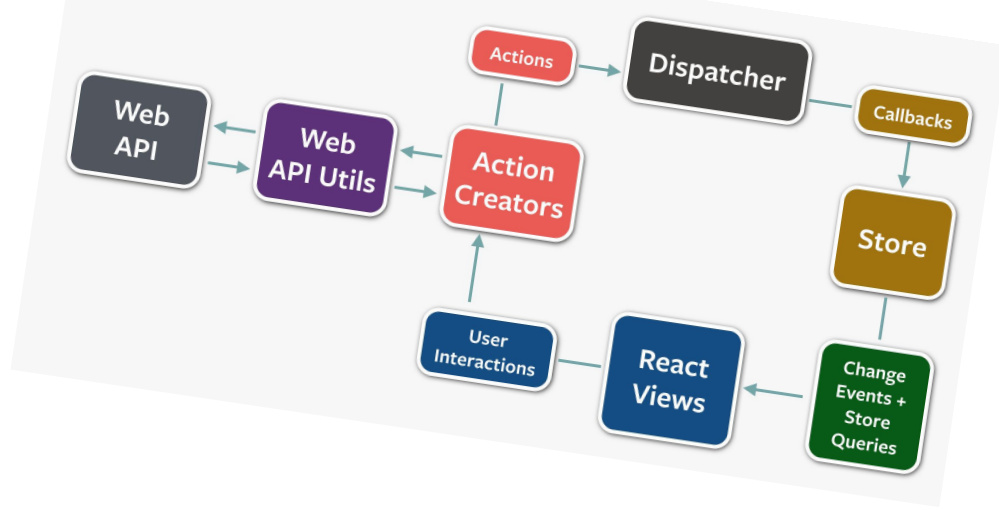


6:22 AM - 4 Dec 2014

Where are we now?

React is simple





webpack
MODULE BUNDLER

Stuff around React is complex



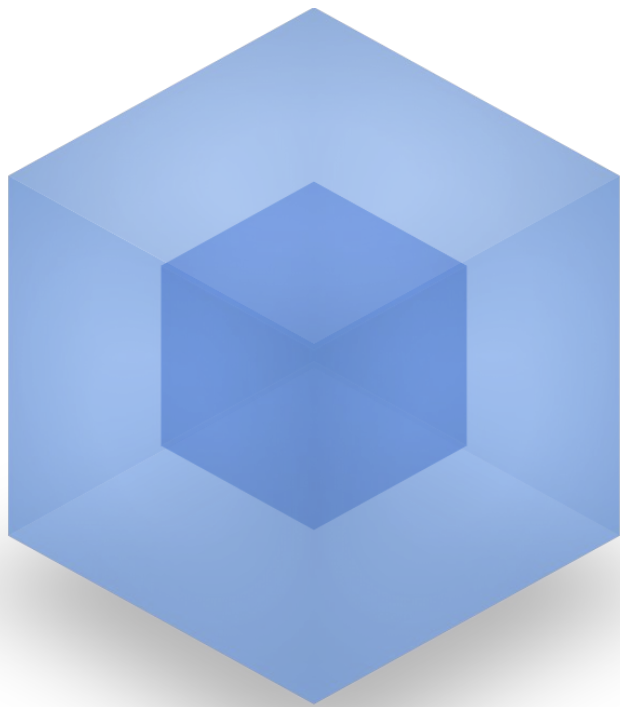
Redux



REACT ROUTER

3 ideas for ways to
simplify your React

1. Can you simplify
your (React) stack?



webpack
MODULE BUNDLER



Nader Dabit

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Software Developer Specializing in Teaching and Building React Native

Oct 28, 2015 · 11 min read

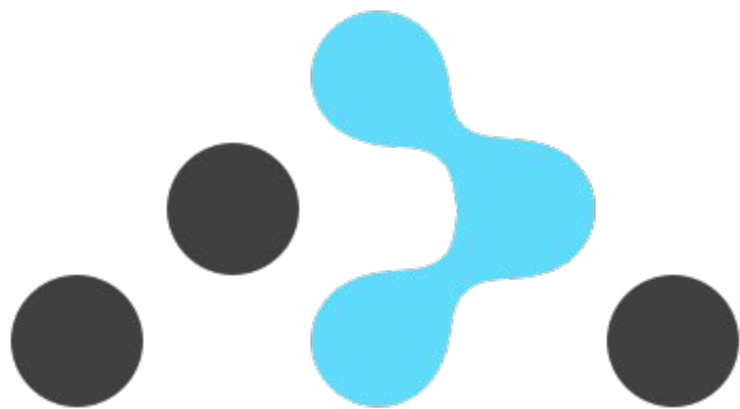
Introduction to Using NPM as a Build Tool

To learn more about this topic, I highly recommend [this](#) Pluralsight tutorial for a more detailed overview.

npm is gaining more and more steam as a replacement for other build tools such as Gulp, Grunt, Bower, and others. While the previously mentioned are great tools, node provides a great way to implement build processes with only npm and your package.json file. Here, we will go into an introduction

```
"scripts": {  
  "start": "npm run watch-client & npm run watch-scss",  
  "watch-client": "watchify --debug index.ts -p tsify -o assets/bundle.dev.js",  
  "watch-server": "nodemon --watch 'src/**/*' --exec 'fuser -k 8000/tcp; ts-node' src/server.tsx",  
  "watch-scss": "nodemon -e scss -x \"npm run build-scss\"",  
  "build-scss": "node-sass --include-path=scss scss/main.scss assets/styles.css",  
  "test": "ts-node tests/e2e/index.ts | faucet",  
  "prod": "NODE_ENV=prod browserify index.ts -p tsify | uglifyjs > assets/bundle.prod.min.js"  
},
```


Do you need a routing
library?



REACT **ROUTER**



Konstantin Tarkus

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Web developer, mentor, freelancer (@kriasoft), author of React Starter Kit—popular “isomorphic” web app b...

Jul 10, 2016 · 5 min read

You might not need React Router



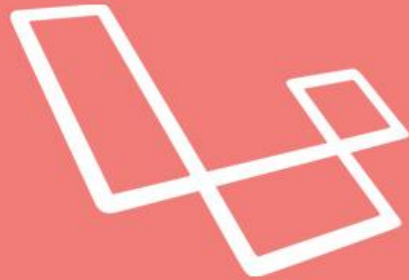
If you happened to work with Facebook’s React.js library for a while, you might notice a few misconceptions floating in the React community. One of them is the affirmation that React is just V from MVC architecture and needs to be mixed with a bunch of other libraries before it can be used as a framework for developing web applications.

Do you really need a
single page app?





django



Laravel

Do you really need a
model layer?



Redux



Dan Abramov

Follow

Librarian. Team @reactjs. Created Redux, React Hot Loader, React DnD. Personal opinions.

Sep 19, 2016 · 3 min read

You Might Not Need Redux

People often choose Redux before they need it. “What if our app doesn’t scale without it?” Later, developers frown at the indirection Redux introduced to their code. “Why do I have to touch three files to get a simple feature working?” Why indeed!

People blame Redux, React, functional programming, immutability, and many other things for their woes, and I understand them. It is natural to compare Redux to an approach that doesn’t require “boilerplate” code to update the state, and to conclude that Redux is just complicated. In a way,



Abstractions are not free,
but sometimes are worth it

Everything in software
is a tradeoff

2. Is your tech cutting
edge or bleeding
edge?

React

A JAVASCRIPT LIBRARY FOR BUILDING USER INTERFACES

[Get Started](#)

[Download React v0.4.1](#)

A red scribble consisting of multiple overlapping, circular and irregular lines, drawn over the 'Download React v0.4.1' button and extending slightly into the surrounding dark area.



Patrick McKenzie

@patio11

Following



If you build on a new stack you will end up bleeding all over it, and there are better topics to bleed over if you're small & scrappy.

RETWEETS

12

LIKES

37





Ricky Vetter [Follow](#)

@socialtables engineer, @chipotle advocate, @colorado native

May 18, 2015 · 4 min read

We Compared 13 Top Flux Implementations—You Won't Believe Who Came Out On Top!

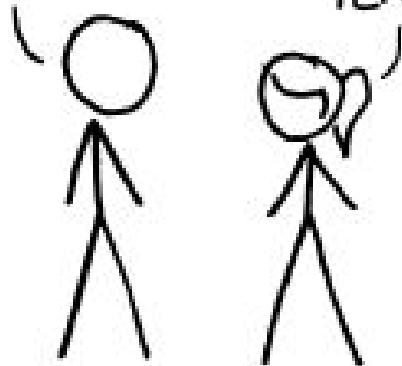
We've been using React with and without Flux for a little more than a year at Social Tables. Over this time we've implemented many flavors of state management from direct copies of Facebook's Flux tutorials to weird event-emitting-prop-passed-functions tied to callbacks... :facepalm:. But in the last couple of months the desire to have a standardized methodology for all of our products has grown. So, we decided it was time to sort through the massive list of flux libraries out there, put them to the test, and let the best

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:

(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC)

SITUATION:
THERE ARE
14 COMPETING
STANDARDS.

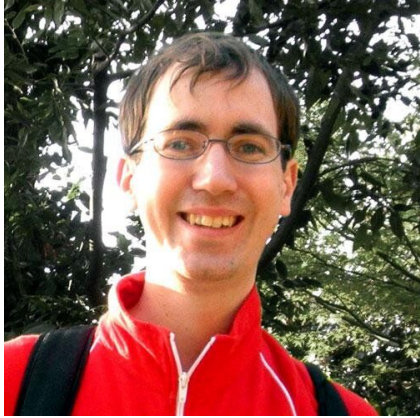
14?! RIDICULOUS!
WE NEED TO DEVELOP
ONE UNIVERSAL STANDARD
THAT COVERS EVERYONE'S
USE CASES.



SOON:

SITUATION:
THERE ARE
15 COMPETING
STANDARDS.

Stable technologies
may be simpler



Don't make the
technology the risk in
your business
-patio11





Nintendo's Little-Known Product Philosophy: Lateral Thinking with Withered (“Weathered”) Technology

Happiness is a Boring Stack

I spend way too much time on [Hacker News](#). It's a fun place, and a good way to keep up to date on all the new tech that us developer folk seem to need to know about. But it also leaves a fella feeling like he **really needs to keep up** with all this stuff. I mean, if you don't have a side project using the latest client-side framework, well, good luck ever finding a job again in this industry.

Thinking about it, I find that I straddle the line on this. As a long-time contractor, I try to stay up to date on the New Shiny and will happily run with whatever flavor of the month language, framework, and programming paradigm that a given gig wants. Yeah, sure, Node.js with tons of functional stuff mixed in pulling from a NoSQL store and React on the front end. I'm your guy. We're gonna change the world!

But for [my own stuff](#), there's no way I'd use any of that crap. Good old C#, SQL Server and a proper boring stack and tool set that I know won't just up and fall over on a Saturday morning and leave me debugging NPM dependencies all weekend instead of bouldering in the forest with the kids. This stuff is my

Just because a new tech
exists doesn't mean you
have to use it

3. Let the computer
hold your hand as
much as possible



Java EETM



Opinionated software



React on Rails!

Quick Overview

```
npm install -g create-react-app  
  
create-react-app my-app  
cd my-app/  
npm start
```

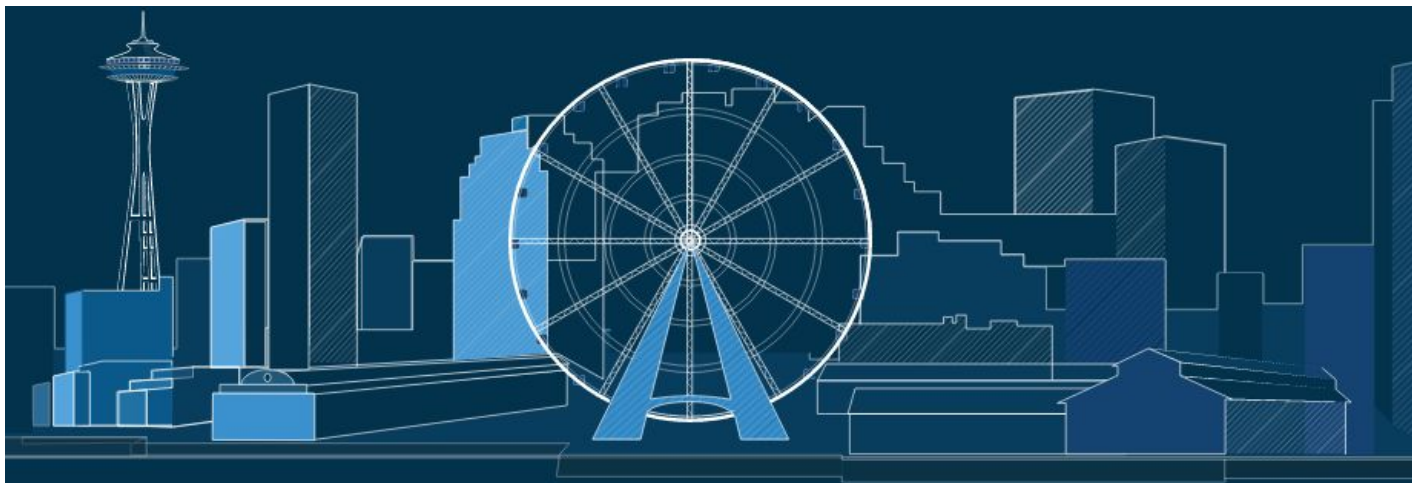
Use a linter


```

60
>> 61 @observer
>> 62 export default class Login extends React.Component<{location: {query: {next?: string}}}, {}> {
>> 63   store: LoginStore = new LoginStore();
64   componentWillMount() {
65     this.init();
66   }
>> 67   componentWillReceiveProps() {
68     this.init();
69   }
>> 70   init() {
71     this.store.init(this.props.location.query.next || '');
72
>> 73   handleSubmit = (e: any) => {
74     e.preventDefault();
75     this.store.login()
76   }
77
>> 78   handleChange = (name: keyof LoginCredentials) => (e: any) => {
79     this.store.credentials[name] = (e.target as any).value;
80   }
81
>> 82   render() {
83     return (

```

Static type checking?



TypeScript

JavaScript that scales.

TypeScript is a typed superset of JavaScript that compiles to plain JavaScript.

Any browser. Any host. Any OS. Open source.

[Download](#)

[Documentation](#)

Automated testing

Resources

- Hammock Driven Development by Rich Hickey
- Introduction to Using NPM as a Build Tool by Nader Dabit
- Nintendo's Little-Known Product Philosophy: Lateral Thinking with Withered ("Weathered") Technology by Adam Ghahramani
- Zen of Python: do ``import this``



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the best cat picture



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